

MO 89-25

1

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent SPENCER H. ROBB at Montgomery, Alabama:

On March 25, 1964, JOHN D. CHAPMAN, Contact Officer, Veterans Administration Regional Office, Montgomery, made available the claim file of BENJAMIN C. WARD under Number C21637384. A review of this file reflected the following:

A report dated February 9, 1962, by Dr. C. C. ALLEN of the VA Hospital at Tuskegee, Alabama, reflected that the patient, a 24 year old white male, who was admitted to the hospital on September 27, 1961, shortly after his release from the Alabama State Mental Hospital in Tuscaloosa, had a history of uncontrollable violent and destructive behavior involving the destruction of two radios at different times and there was a suggestion that he may have been out of touch with his environment at least temporarily.

This report continues that WARD's intelligence, judgment, mental capacity and trend of general knowledge appear well maintained but insight is lacking. This report reflected the diagnosis of Schizophrenic Reaction, Undifferentiated Type, manifested by rigid affect, impaired memory, poor insight, history of irresistible to destructiveness and uncontrollable temper, now in remission.

The report of Dr. C. C. ALLEN of the Tuskegee VA Hospital, dated June 28, 1962, reflected WARD was discharged on that date against medical advice for refusal to submit to disciplinary action after committing an infraction of the hospital rules. This report reflected that the patient was adjudged competent.

Another report in this file was that of Dr. T. J. THOMAS, dated October 22, 1962, reflecting a Neuro-psychiatric examination at the VA Hospital in Montgomery, Alabama. This report reflected as follows:

The veteran is incompetent. He is very limited in his social adaptation and has made no economic adjustment. It is probable he will soon need to be hospitalized on account of the problem he creates in the parental situation. Patient was diagnosed as Schizophrenic Reaction, Undifferentiated.

A report dated January 10, 1963, by Dr. C. C. ALLEN of the Tuskegee VA Hospital reflected WARD was admitted

MO 89-25

2

November 21, 1962, and discharged December 20, 1962. The psychiatric diagnosis this time was Schizophrenic Reaction - Undifferentiated Type, manifested by history of episodes of impulsive behavior of a destructive nature, and insomnia, chronic and moderate. The report continued that the patient was considered to be competent, although it was doubted that he would make a sustained social adjustment.

Mr. CHAPMAN advised that it was clear from WARD's file that WARD should be hospitalized for mental treatment and care; however, WARD's mother constantly declined to permit WARD to be hospitalized for a sustained length of time. Mr. CHAPMAN stated it appears the only way WARD can maintain any semblance of fitting into society is through a constant use of strong tranquilizer drugs.

On March 25, 1964, a check of the records of the Montgomery Police Department and the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, failed to reflect any record of BENJAMIN C. WARD.

On March 25, 1964, Assistant Chief of Police E. P. BROWN, Detective Division, Montgomery Police Department, advised that WARD has not engaged in any activities which have come to his attention.