

JFK assassination records appeals

Harold Weisberg 11/29/79

Withholding of the public domain

Violation of 5/5/77 FOIA policy and historical case standards

Garrison- Mafia threat against, fed to me and included in FBI's records

By RA request

The name withheld from 62-109050-5042 is that of Richard Rye. From the most casual reading of this record it should have been apparent that withholding the name from me is ridiculous because I am very much involved in the reported underlying matter, a reported Mafia threat against Jim Garrison fed to me via Richard Rye.

Moreover, the FBI here is withholding from itself, the apparent purpose being deniability. There is no reference to other existing records, especially the published details of the flap Rye created in New Orleans. There is no reference to Tom Sanders, on whom the FBI has files and had interest. There is no reference to (what I have if NOT from the FBI) an affidavit Rye gave to the FBI and Secret Service relating to the assassination of President Kennedy, prior to this incident and the underlying matter.

The withholdings are not justified. They also violate the 5/5/77 policy on FOIA and historical case standards. In addition, there is no need for them under any circumstances because the entire matter was within the public domain.

Here the FBI even ignores reference to earlier records, those including my reporting of the affair to the New Orleans field office.

And, of course, the FBI never asked me anything about any of this and as other records disclose, did not accept my offer of the tape recording I made of the initial reports to me, by phone. If it interviewed Rye when he was available and had gone public I have seen no such report. The attached LHM appears to include some of the information obtained from Rye but the wholesale omissions preclude certainty and in any event the LHM's are not complete and are designed for what the FBI elects to make available to others to be the only matter included in them.

Page 1 of this Serial is attached.

FBI

Date: 1/8/68

REC-35

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority)

H. L. ...

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-109060)

BRANNAN

FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (89-69)

GALE

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY
DALLAS, TEXAS
11/22/63
MISC - INFO CONCERNING
(OO: DALLAS)

Enclosed for the Bureau and interested offices
is an LHM which is self-explanatory.

For the information of the Bureau, [redacted] contacted
BOB BLAIR, News Commentator, WVUE-TV, New Orleans, La.,
during the early evening of 1/6/68. After BLAIR had
talked to [redacted], [redacted] advised BLAIR that he wished to talk
to a representative of the FBI relative to La Cosa Nostra.

BLAIR contacted the New Orleans Office of the
FBI and [redacted] were directed to the New Orleans
Office. The interview was conducted by SA PATRICK J.
COLLINS, JR.

Copies of this LHM furnished San Francisco
for information purposes only.

San Francisco [redacted] conduct no inquiry of any kind
unless directed to do so by the Bureau.

EX-109

cc LHM fm 5732 REC-35

6042

C. C. Bishop

- 3 - Bureau (Encs. 6)
- 2 - Dallas (Encs. 2) (89-43)
- 2 - San Francisco (Encs. 2)
- 2 - New Orleans

12 JAN 11 1968

32 JAN 29 1968

PJC:emh
(8)

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____

Special Agent in Charge

Section 149 - Richard Ryan

WBSL 1/12/68 C-KMP

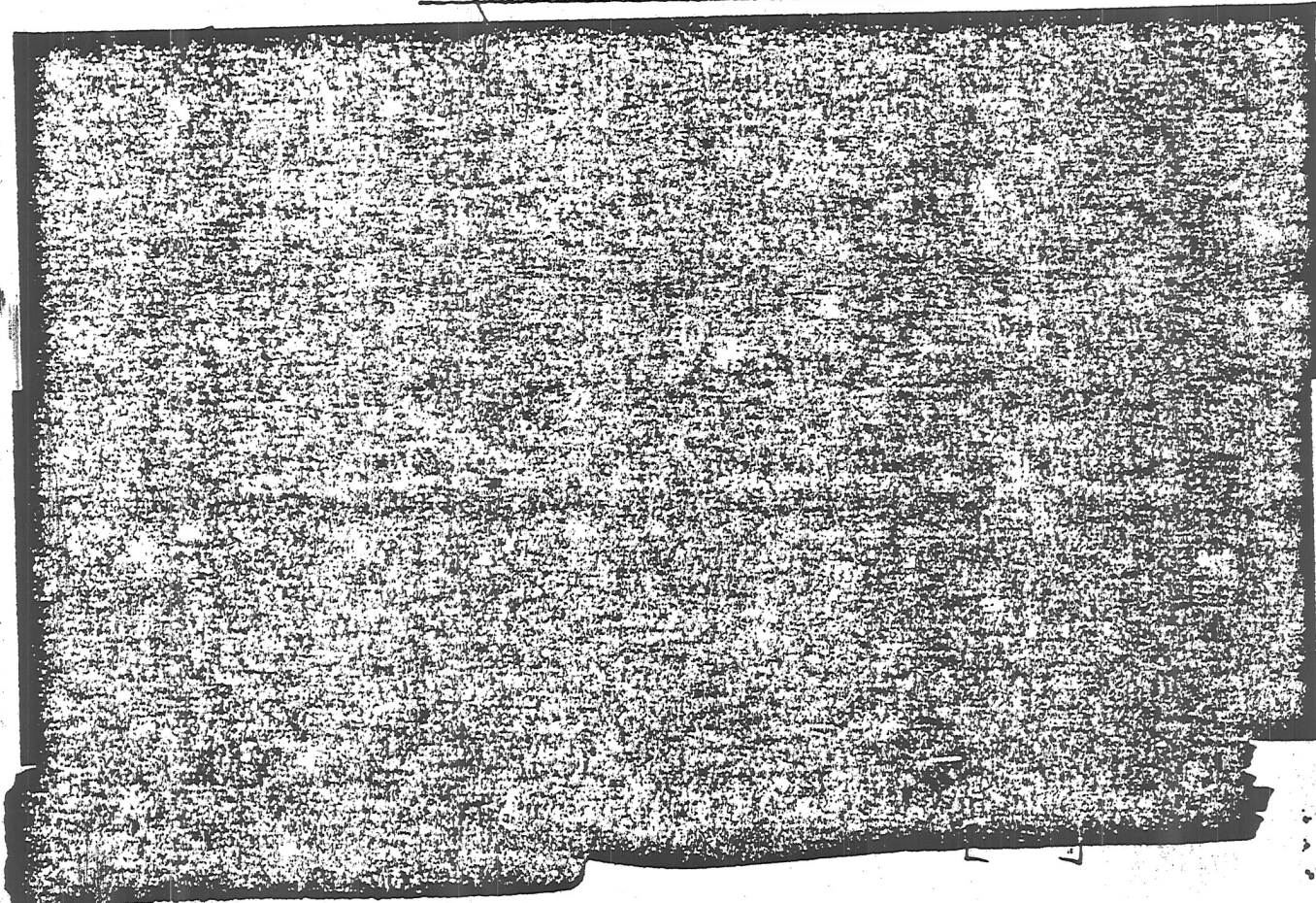


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New Orleans, Louisiana
January 8, 1968

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY
DALLAS, TEXAS
NOVEMBER 22, 1963



On January 6, 1968, [redacted] advised that he frequents the Idlewood Lounge, 970 Sutter Street, San Francisco. [redacted] stated that this club is owned and operated by [redacted] whom [redacted] described as a well known real estate

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

man in the San Francisco area. Rye stated that [redacted] claims to have contacts with "La Cosa Nostra" and that through Zimmerman [redacted] met one [redacted] [redacted] uses the name [redacted] and his wife Elena works at the Idlewood Lounge.

Approximately six weeks ago [redacted] advised [redacted] that he was the adopted son of [redacted] whom [redacted] described as a deceased La Cosa Nostra leader in San Francisco. [redacted] further advised [redacted] that a friend of [redacted] in the La Cosa Nostra has a "contract" to kill New Orleans District Attorney James Garrison.

[redacted] stated that he furnished this information to news reporter Harvey Morgan, television station KCBS, San Francisco, California. Morgan contacted one Harold Weisberg who in turn contacted Garrison and made arrangements for [redacted] to travel to New Orleans to be interviewed by Garrison. At the same time, Morgan made a national press release relative to this matter.

On the basis of the above promise [redacted] traveled to New Orleans, Louisiana, with one Thomas William Sanders. [redacted] stated that they traveled in Sanders' automobile from San Francisco to New Orleans. [redacted] described Sanders as a political writer in San Francisco. Sanders' purpose in making the trip with [redacted] was to interview James Garrison.

[redacted] stated that he gave a two-hour taped statement to Garrison and his assistant, one Mr. Alcock. Alcock stated he would arrange to pay [redacted] roundtrip expenses. Alcock advised [redacted] that he believed [redacted] story was a "CIA plant" in case anything happens to Garrison.

[redacted] stated that Alcock has furnished him no money to date and that on January 5, 1968, Sanders abruptly departed New Orleans, taking all of [redacted] clothing, personal papers and their car.