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4-837 (Rev. 2-2-70)

08/1/68

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

FROM : Mr. W. A. Branigan

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

- 1 - Mr. C. D. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. J. P. Mohr
- DATE: February 1, 1968
- 1 - Mr. N. P. Callahan  
1 - Mr. T. E. Bishop  
1 - Mr. A. Rosen  
1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan  
1 - Mr. W. A. Branigan  
1 - Mr. R. E. Lenihan  
1 - 67-581608 (Walter)

On January 31-February 1, 1968, Johnny Carson had as his guest on his television show New Orleans District Attorney James C. Garrison. Toward the end of the show, where Carson was pressing him for the new evidence he supposedly had to offer, Garrison referred to Mark Lane, who had been helping him in the investigation, and said that Lane had interviewed William S. Walter, a former Security Clerk of the New Orleans Office of the FBI, in January, 1968. Lane and his wife submitted an affidavit to Garrison with results of the interview.

Walter informed Lane that he had been employed by the FBI in 1963 as a Security Clerk of the New Orleans Office. On the morning of 11/17/63 he received a TWX message directed to all southern regional offices of the FBI. The message advised that an attempt to assassinate President Kennedy would be made in Dallas on 11/22/63. Walter stated he was alone on duty on the Midnight to 8:00 a.m. shift. He immediately called the SAC of New Orleans, Mr. Maynor, and informed him of the message. He was advised or informed to call a number of agents in New Orleans and tell them to maintain contact with various informants.

Walter also said that an FBI directive ordered the New Orleans Office to direct the various agents who had conducted interviews concerning the assassination of President Kennedy to examine those interview reports to make sure there were no conflicts contained within them. The agents were ordered to resolve the conflicts, prepare new reports, and to destroy the old ones.

William S. Walter was employed as a file clerk by our New Orleans Office from June, 1961, until he was separated for military service on December 4, 1961. He

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10 ENCLOSURE

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*Topo recording of Carson show made by FBI & other one attached for filing - rel*

*2/2/68  
Rel: an*

*Robt*

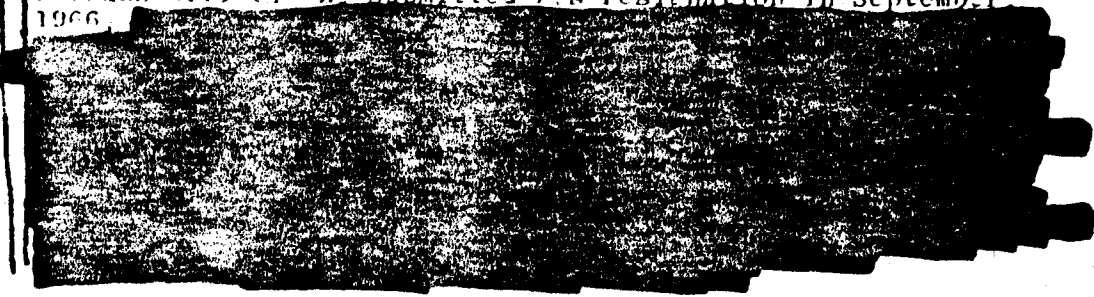
*L.A. FBI*

*5/1/68  
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Bell*

(2)

Memo to Mr. ( ) Sullivan  
Re: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY

was reinstated on August 14, 1962, and in August, 1963, he was designated as a Security Patrol Clerk in the New Orleans Office. He submitted his resignation in September 1966.



SAC Rightmyer of the New Orleans Office, on February 1, 1968, advised that they had received a call from ASAC J. O'Connor of the Jacksonville Office, who reported that at 8:00 a.m. this morning an individual identifying himself as William S. Walter called SAC D. K. Brown. Walter said that he was the person who was mentioned by Garrison on the Johnny Carson Show last night. According to Walter, he was contacted three weeks ago by Mark Lane. He advised that he did not give any signed statement. Briefly, Walter related that about three weeks ago he was contacted by Mark Lane and was queried as to whether or not there was a TWX that went to all offices reporting that President Kennedy was to be killed. Walter said he told Lane he did not know whether he was on duty or not and, even if he was on duty, he would not be in a position to give Lane any information. Walter told SAC Brown that he was currently in a travel status in Jacksonville and was wondering whether someone had tried to contact him on the matter. He said he would call the Jacksonville Office later this morning.

Walter recontacted the Jacksonville Office and spoke to ASAC O'Connor at approximately 9:00 a.m. and indicated that, while he would be moving about, he would recheck with the office later today.

Since Walter has made contact with us and indicated a desire to set the record straight, our Jacksonville Office has been instructed to interview him concerning the statements attributed to him by Garrison.

Memo to Mr. J. E. Sullivan  
Re: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY

SAC Rightmyer advised that a search of the files of the New Orleans Office had been conducted and there was absolutely no teletype received alleging that President Kennedy would be assassinated in Dallas on November 22, 1963. Garrison has previously made that same allegation and we have made a very thorough, penetrating review of our files at the Seat of Government and at Dallas, and no teletype of this type was located.

In connection with this matter, SAC Rightmyer noted that the New Orleans Office, along with all other Bureau Offices, received a teletype from the Bureau at 9:22 p.m. on the night of November 22, 1963. This teletype instructed all Offices to immediately contact all informants, security, racial, and criminal, as well as other sources, to develop any information bearing on the assassination of President Kennedy. All offices were instructed to immediately determine the whereabouts of all bombing suspects, all known Klan members, and members of hate groups and known racial extremists.

*I want to know more about this -/A*  
SAC Rightmyer also noted that employees of the New Orleans Office had ascertained some gossip that former Clerk Walter [REDACTED]

ACTION:

Jacksonville Office will advise us of the results of their interview and we will keep you informed in this matter. When full details of this matter are received, appropriate dissemination will be made.

Enclosure  
Memorandum Mr. W. A. Branigan to Mr. W. C. Sullivan  
RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT  
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY  
NOVEMBER 22, 1963,  
DALLAS, TEXAS  
62-109060  
2/1/68

62-109060-6103

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# AMPEX

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641-13ET19

*374 Spide*

*Tapes Recording of James -  
Feb 1, 1968, John Carson  
Television show. See  
memo & notes to Dallas  
2/1/68 re: assassination of  
President Kennedy, 11/22/63,  
Dallas, Texas. WAB: lck.*

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# Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

FROM : Mr. W. A. Branigan

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

1 - Mr. C. D. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. J. P. Mohr  
1 - Mr. T. E. Bishop

DATE : January 4, 1968

1 - Mr. A. Rosen  
1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan  
1 - Mr. W. A. Branigan  
1 - Mr. R. E. Lenihan

REC-69

Tolson	
DeLoach	
Mohr	
Bishop	
Casper	
Callahan	
Conrad	
Felt	
Gale	
Rosen	
Sullivan	
Tavel	
Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Holmes	
Gandy	

11/14/68  
Rosen

The January, 1968, issue of "Ramparts" magazine contains an article entitled "The Garrison Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy," which was authored by former Special Agent William W. Turner

Turner is the self-centered, embittered individual who has made frequent scurrilous attacks upon the Director and the Bureau since his dismissal.

Turner also wrote an article in the June, 1967, issue of "Ramparts" magazine entitled "The Inquest." In such article, Turner summarized the wild accusations of New Orleans District Attorney James C. Garrison and used information from individuals whom we found to be completely unreliable during the course of our investigation of the assassination. In such article, Turner's arguments consisted of innuendoes, part facts and numerous outright falsehoods.

Turner's current article in the January, 1968, issue of "Ramparts" magazine is largely a rehash of the allegations made by New Orleans District Attorney Garrison during the last ten months. The vast majority of such data has previously been analyzed by us and appropriate dissemination made to the White House and to the Attorney General.

In the first three pages of his current article, Turner goes to great length to praise Garrison and to alert his readers that Garrison is conducting his probe under most difficult conditions. At one point, Turner states that Garrison "tried the life of an FBI Agent but found the role too circumscribed to be stimulating." Turner fails to point out Garrison was a Special Agent for less than five months and that after he resigned from the FBI to enter military service on July 24, 1951, he wrote a letter to the Bureau

Enclosure

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Memorandum to Mr. W. C. Sullivan  
RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY  
62-109060

approximately two weeks later asking the Bureau to get him released from Army duty so he could again resume his duties in the FBI. Turner also fails to note that when the Bureau informed Garrison it would take no action to interfere with his military duties, approximately two weeks thereafter Garrison contacted Army medical authorities and disclosed his psychiatric background and obtained an Army medical release.

Surprisingly, Turner identifies Jack S. Martin as the individual who informed Garrison of an alleged association between Lee Harvey Oswald and David William Ferrie. It was this information which caused Garrison to launch his intensive probe of the assassination. We have previously pointed out Martin is well known as an alcoholic and was previously committed to a hospital in New Orleans for a mental condition.

Throughout his article, Turner speculates that Oswald was a Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) agent and was in frequent contact with CIA and individuals who were being used by CIA in various secret endeavors. He also is critical of the FBI and accuses the FBI of disregarding information from various individuals interviewed whereas Garrison has found the information furnished by such individuals highly significant. Such allegation is completely false since our investigation was extremely thorough and every attempt was made to verify the information involved. Actually, Garrison has constantly used this type of information (rejected by the Warren Commission) to build his case.

Turner makes a plea to his readers that they join with him in demanding that President Johnson release documents in National Archives which are now withheld from the public. He falsely alleges that such documents include evidence of Oswald's role as a CIA "double agent." Other authors critical of the Warren Commission have made similar demands that the data withheld from the public at National Archives be made available to them. Included are Mark Lane and Harold Weisberg, [redacted] who have continually attacked the Warren Commission, President Johnson, the Director and other high Government officials. Lane and Weisberg are in frequent contact with Garrison in New Orleans.

ACTION:

For information. We are sending a copy of Turner's article to the Dallas and New Orleans Offices for review and analyses to determine if any new material is contained therein. A copy of "Ramparts" magazine containing Turner's article is attached.