

1/6/70

CD151:3-6, Elmer Joyce, Elmer Joyce Gun Shop, Covington, La.

How convenient it is for a business to have no records and find satisfaction, nothing else, with the federal government.

When I first glanced at this report, I did so too hastily and, on noticing Covington, did not notice Kentucky. There is a remarkable coincidence, of the G/5 ammo, the name Joyce and a gun shop, for all these figure in two reports Garrison got from brothers named Campbell, dealing with a Covington, La. gun shop, one Joyce, among others, and the Cuban camps north of the lake.

These two Garrison reports are probative. One stacks up very well, the other contains what I take as a certain amount of improvisation but based upon some knowledge.

Covington, La., is the general area of all four known camps and is the largest community in that area, although a small city.

Another coincidence: when I did a TF spot on a Dayton, Ohio station in early 1963, the son of one of the gunsmiths named in this report had some of that ammo and was out ballistics expert in a demonstration of timing. I still have the remnants of the bullets and two empty cases.

It is of these pages and CD405:17-22 that I have and am glad to have duplicates.

My recollection here is not to be depended upon, but I think I saw a copy of this report in the WIOC file, where it does not seem to be.

Date December 9, 1963

1.

ELMER JOYCE, Proprietor of Elmer Joyce Gun Shop, 306 Scott Street, Covington, Kentucky, furnished the following information:

In about February, 1962, he purchased from the Centry Arms Company, Saint Albans, Vermont, one lot of 6.5 mm Manlicher-Carcano cartridges, these being loaded with non-magnetic full metal case bullets, and being manufactured by the Western Cartridge Corporation, East Alton, Illinois. He advised that he believed that the lot was about 100,000 rounds. He said that this purchase was arranged with him through GEORGE ZUKER, a representative of the Centry Arms Company, Saint Albans, Vermont.

He could locate no exact record of this purchase to indicate the exact date or the exact amount but by reference to a record of his rent payments on the warehouse of one BURT RICH in Covington, in which warehouse he stored the ammunition, he could determine that as of February 6, 1962, his rent was raised. It is his recollection that he received this big shipment of ammunition on that date and that was the cause of his rent being raised by Mr. RICH.

Some time after he had purchased this ammunition from the Centry Arms Company, Saint Albans, Vermont, he was recontacted by Mr. ZUKER, who advised him that he, Mr. ZUKER, could sell some of this ammunition to Aldens Mail Order House and Spiegels Mail Order House, in Chicago, Illinois. As the Centry Arms Company did not have this ammunition in stock, Mr. ZUKER desired to get the ammunition from him. He let Mr. ZUKER have a total of approximately 44,000 rounds, which ammunition was shipped to the above two mentioned companies. He said, however, that in fact it was a sale made by Mr. ZUKER.

On 12/5/63 at Covington, Kentucky File # LS 105-620
by SA CHARLES V. SHIPLEY:slm Date dictated 12/5/63

- 3 -
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.

LS 105-620
2.

He could locate no records which would give the exact date and amounts of these shipments.

He had approximately 10,000 rounds of this ammunition left in stock, and he sold a great amount of the ammunition over the counter. He pointed out that he did practically all of the work connected with his business. His wife, who is now being treated in a hospital for a mental disorder, had until recently helped him to some extent. He kept no running inventory nor did he have any records whatsoever as to the identity of the individuals to whom he had sold this ammunition over the counter. He pointed out that he then had in his store, a carton originally containing 1,000 rounds of this ammunition which he had had opened only a short time before and that most of this 1,000 rounds was sold. He said the ammunition in question is a good seller.

JOYCE observed in the press and on television, photographs of LEE HARVEY OSWALD. He said that he was sure he had never seen this individual in person, had had no dealings with him, and had not sold him any ammunition.

Mr. JOYCE said he did not have accurate records as to whom he had sold this ammunition on a wholesale basis, but would gladly go through all available records to determine what he could.

He produced little booklets of duplicates of the sales slips, which he said had been kept by him for the purpose of showing to the State of Kentucky that he did not owe sales tax on certain sales due to the fact that they were wholesale deals rather than retail. He also had some assorted correspondence which he had received over the years from various individuals ordering merchandise from his shop.

From a review of all available records, Mr. JOYCE was able to furnish information as to whom he had sold the 6.5 mm ammunition as follows:

LS 105-620
3.

Thurston Gun Exchange, Dayton, Ohio, 1,000 rounds,
on June 15, 1962.

Charlie Grossman's Gun Shop, 115 Catherine Drive,
Cincinnati, Ohio, 100 rounds, May 29, 1962.

It was his belief that he had sold more ammunition
at other dates to this Gun Shop, but he could not locate
any records to establish such.

Trade Wind Trading Post, Manchester, Ohio, 100 rounds,
June 7, 1963.

Mr. JOYCE ran an ad in "Shotgun News" a by-monthly
newspaper published in Columbus, Nebraska, on April 1, 1962
advertising the above described ammunition for sale as a
result of this ad. he had received orders and sold the following:

JAMES E. McCOY, Gunsmith, 5183 Wood Avenue, South
Gate, California, 300 rounds, on April 2, 1962.

C. H. ARNOLD, Rural Free Delivery number 2, Winstead,
Connecticut (this to be delivered to ARNOID at General Gilbert
Corporation, Winstead, Connecticut) 100 rounds, on March 21,
1962.

TIMOTHY RICORDAN, Middleport, New York, (no street
address indicated) 100 rounds on February 12, 1962.

J. BELCHA, 4701 North 50 Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin,
100 rounds February 6, 1962.

He was able to establish that he had sold this ammuni-
tion due to the fact that he still retained the letter by which
these individuals had ordered this ammunition.

Mr. JOYCE stated that although he had no record of
such sales he does business with the following firms or
individuals and had probably sold some of the above mentioned
ammunition to each of them, and in fact believes that he has.
He said however that he could not say how much or on what dates.

LS 105-620

4.

George Burrier Gun Shop, Norwood, Ohio.

Pioneer Gun Shop, 5147 Montgomery Road, Norwood,
Ohio.

Caditz Arsenal, 7388 North Center, Mentor, Ohio.

Homer Johnson's Shooters Supply, Sharonville, Ohio.

Mason Gun Shop, Mason, Ohio.

MARTIN HOLLANDER, a gun dealer, 3947 North Clerose,
Cincinnati, Ohio.