

November 15, 1967

Frank [unclear]

I contacted the San Francisco Bar Association (922-4461) by telephone and was told they have no records of a San Francisco attorney named J-O-N(N) C-H-R-I-S-T-I-A-N. I then called the California State Bar Association (922-1440) and was advised that no individual named C-H-R-I-S-T-I-A-N was currently practicing law in the state of California. A search was conducted for records of practicing attorneys with ~~similar sounding~~ names phonetically similar to Christian. There are several people whose last names sound similar, but I did not pursue the matter.

Late in the afternoon, I again contacted the San Francisco Bar Association in order to verify what I had been told. I caused a search to be made of their back files. Their records disclosed no current or past mention of ~~xxxx~~ a San Francisco attorney named J-O-H-N C-H-R-I-S-T-I-A-N. An effort was made to locate individuals with phonetically similar last names but to no avail. The California State Bar Association - Records Division - was contacted next. An extensive search was made of their current and past files for mention of persons named Christian, Christianson, Christiansen, etc. No records exist of a J-O-H-N/C-H-R-I-S-T-I-A-N. Mention was found of one John Christianson, born March, 1926, but not currently residing in San Francisco. He is with the 8th U.S. Army Support Command I have not pursued this matter.

After my first conversations with the San Francisco and California Bar Associations, I telephonically contacted the San Francisco offices of the American Broadcasting Company's television affiliate (867-0077) and was referred to the personnel department. My call was quickly routed to the news room. A male voice answered but did not identify himself. I inquired if a J-O-N(N) Christian had been employed by ABC. I stated that I had been ~~XX~~ informed that Mr. Christian was ~~involved in~~ the gathering of news in the western United States. ~~XXXXXX~~ stated that CHRISTIAN IS A FORMER ASSOCIATE OF MELVIN BELLI.

My informant claimed no knowledge of Christian's present address but stated he could be contacted through a Mr. Harold Weisberg. The person I talked to grew increasingly suspicious and ~~XXXXXX~~ terminated our short discussion by referring me ~~XXXX~~ to the personnel department of ABC. I journeyed to a different telephone booth and again contacted ABC and was put in touch with the personnel department. They could furnish no information on Christian and referred me to their Los Angeles office which supposedly maintains employment records for the ~~XXXXXX~~ western region. No effort was made to contact Los Angeles.

I called the offices of the San Francisco EXAMINER and the San Francisco CHRONICLE. cursory searches were conducted for articles about Christian. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ The ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Examiner found mention of several ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ J-O-H-N C-H-R-I-S-T-I-A-N-~~X~~ but the person named librarian refused to carefully examine the material. He stated that no one named J-O-N(N) C-H-R-I-S-T-I-A-N was listed in their files. Our conversation was shortly terminated. The librarian at the Chronicle could find no mention of a J-O-H-N C-H-R-I-S-T-I-A-N being associated with either Melvin Belli or the American Broadcasting Company. ~~XXX~~ An extensive inquiry was not conducted and our conversation was terminated. No further efforts have been made to locate pertinent newspaper stories.

* He further stated that Christian's name is spelled J-O-N(N)

Dear Hal:

I sent a communication to the DEFENSES COMMITTEE OF THE FBI in New York as you requested.

Many weeks ago I promised to send a letter to the Chicago Postmaster concerning your dealings with Ponzalier Press. I failed to send the letter. Would you send me a copy of the correspondence you sent them along with a copy of the brief note they sent me. Also include the XI brochure they distributed in which the book on John Kennedy's murder is announced. Did you send them cash or a check? If you have a cancelled check, please send me a copy. If you dispatched a ~~XXXXX~~ U.S. Postal Money Order, send me a copy of the stub. If the previously cited material is available, I would like to see it.