

FBI

Date: June 22, 1964

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-109060)
 FROM: SAC, HOUSTON (62-2115) (P)
 SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
 JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY,
 11/22/63, DALLAS, TEXAS
 MISCELLANEOUS-INFORMATION
 CONCERNING

Enclosed for the Bureau are 10 copies of a letterhead memorandum captioned LEWIS EDWARD BERRY, JR., MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION CONCERNING which is self-explanatory. 3 copies of this memo are furnished to Dallas for its information and 2 copies are furnished to San Antonio since that office may, at a later date, be requested to interview LEWIS EDWARD BERRY, SR.

A copy of this memo has been made available to Secret Service, Houston.

LEADSHOUSTON DIVISIONAT HOUSTON, TEXAS

1. Will conduct investigation to establish the activities of LEWIS EDWARD BERRY, JR., and to state extent, if any, the alleged organization exists.
2. Will attempt to identify the individual known as the "Nazi" and when identified interview him regarding his knowledge of the assassination of President Kennedy.

3 - Bureau (Encl. 10) (AM)
 2 - Dallas (89-43) (Encl. 3) (AM)
 2 - San Antonio (89-67) (Encl. 2) (AM)
 2 - Houston
 GWK/mem
 (9)

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

C. C. Wick

15 JUL 1964



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Houston, Texas

June 22, 1964

LEWIS EDWARD BERRY, JR.
MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION
CONCERNING

On June 20, 1964, Mrs. Lewis Edward Berry, Jr., 705 Harold Street, Houston, Texas, telephone number JACKSON 3-6410, was interviewed at her request and she furnished the following information:

Mrs. Berry stated she wanted to call certain activities of her husband, Lewis Edward Berry, Jr., whom she is divorcing, to the attention of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. She stated Berry is mentally disturbed and extremely violent in nature.

Mrs. Berry advised that at the outset she wanted to point out that she has been hospitalized in the past for psychiatric treatment following the loss of a child. She stated that after taking treatments for 6 or 8 months she has completely recovered.

Mrs. Berry stated that her husband made a statement to Bill Rudersdorf, who resides on Hawthorne Street (possibly identical with William M. Rudersdorf, 215 Hawthorne), to the effect that in the event Robert Kennedy is elected as Vice President in 1964 it will not be necessary to find another Oswald for he would be it. This statement was made about the last week in May, 1964.

Mrs. Berry advised that on June 19, 1964, Bill Rudersdorf told her that Lewis Berry had either asked him to get for Berry a book on explosives or to get some explosives. She stated she did not recall exactly which he asked for at this time. She explained that Lewis Berry had a book on explosives and since she cannot find it in the house she believes he has it with him.

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44 JAN 3 1973

RE: LEWIS EDWARD BERRY, JR.

According to Mrs. Berry, Lewis Berry has a loosely knit group which he is trying to further organize to carry out various acts of violence. He has told her that some of this group will go to Cuba to "get Castro." He has pointed out that if Senator Goldwater is not elected in 1964 there will be riots in the streets in this country just like in Hungary. This group, as far as she knows, has no name at present. She has heard her husband and others talk of the "Minute Men" organization which she understands is an extremely right wing group but she does not believe Berry's group is associated with this organization. During the last three or four months, Lewis Berry has not discussed these matters in her presence since he does not now trust her. He appears, however, to be getting more violent in his nature.

During the 1963-1964 school year, Lewis Berry was President of the Young Republicans at the University of Houston. He is now a Precinct Judge for the Republican Party and was a delegate to the Republican state convention which was just held in Dallas, Texas. Mrs. Berry advised that she was also a delegate to this convention but her husband would not allow her to attend. He has stated he has a job to do in politics and will not let anything stand in his way. He stated that he was going to kill Mrs. Berry since she has in the past been divorced and he has to be a widower to further his political ambitions. Lewis Berry has been divorced in the past and does not want another divorce which could be held against him.

Mrs. Berry further stated that her husband has not been working and has very little money. He sold some antique furniture they had to pay his expenses to the convention in Dallas, Texas. While in Dallas, he stayed with a friend of his from the University of Houston whose family resides in that city. This individual's name she could not recall but he is called the "Nazi" by his friends and associates at the University of Houston. The "Nazi" claims to have knowledge of the assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy but she thinks this is only talk. Mrs. Berry stated that her husband does not believe in the political feelings of the "Nazi" but does use him for what he can get out of him.

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Mrs. Berry advised that according to her husband the "Nazi" claims that there is a group of "right wingers" in Dallas who paid Oswald to kill President Kennedy. They also paid Jack Ruby to kill Oswald. The "Nazi" claims H. L. Hunt of Dallas is involved and that Oswald was hired due to his communist connections since this would throw suspicion off of this group. Mrs. Berry advised that her husband is cultivating the "Nazi" to get an entree into this wealthy group in Dallas in order to obtain financial backing for the revolutionary group he is organizing. She pointed out that Lewis Berry is a leader and organizer and can get followers and convince them to do anything. She stated she does not know the names of those who are members of Lewis Berry's group. She stated, however, that Lewis Berry has on several occasions stated that there are many men in Houston, Texas, who would have killed President Kennedy.

Mrs. Berry advised that John Killgore is a friend of Lewis Berry's who may know something about this group; however, she does not think John Killgore is a member. She stated that a girl named Cheryle Beck, a student at the University of Houston, is a friend of Lewis Berry's who may be involved. Cheryle Beck was outspoken in favor of riots at the University of Mississippi and is extremely conservative. Mrs. Berry advised that on June 19, 1964, Cheryle Beck came by her residence looking for Lewis Berry. Mrs. Berry stated there was nothing between her husband and Cheryle Beck other than the fact her husband used her to do secretarial work for his organization.

Another individual who may be connected with this group, according to Mrs. Berry, is Dick Kerr, who has gone around Houston showing films to various groups. He was a close associate of Lewis Berry's although she has not seen him for a number of months.

Mrs. Berry stated that Baker Rob, who lives somewhere on the north side of Houston, is also a member of this group.

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Mrs. Berry stated that one of Lewis Berry's followers in the organization is James Parrott. She stated that Parrott has told them that he was interviewed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation on November 22, 1963, in connection with the assassination of President Kennedy.

The files of the Houston Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation reflect that on November 22, 1963, George H. W. Bush, 5525 Briar Street, Houston, Texas, advised that James Parrott had been talking of killing the President when he came to Houston, Texas.

On November 22, 1963, James Milton Parrott, 1711 Park, advised that he was a member of the Young Republicans and had been active in picketing members of the present administration who came to Houston. He advised he was one of the pickets at the Rice Hotel when Secretary of State Rusk was in Houston.

Parrott also advised he has never made threats against the life of President Kennedy and had no knowledge of the assassination except what he had read in the newspapers. He stated he was born on April 16, 1939, in Raton, New Mexico. He was in the United States Air Force for 8 months in 1959 and received a General Discharge under honorable conditions, recommended by psychiatrists.

Mrs. Berry advised that another individual closely associated with her husband is Carlyle Culver, a student at the University of Houston.

Mrs. Berry further stated that Madeline and Berry Morris were close friends of Lewis Berry at one time and have dropped their association with him. She stated that these two individuals possibly know something about his organization. The same is true of Charles Leftowich, another University of Houston student. Mrs. Berry thinks that Leftowich knows of this organization but is not a member.

Mrs. Berry stated that Lewis Berry is the son of Lewis Berry, Sr., who is head of the Texas Sheriff's

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Association, who lives in Austin, Texas. He has a mother and a sister residing in Houston. His sister is Mrs. Dick Wilcoxon, wife of a Houston florist. Mrs. Wilcoxon is reported to have written her father about the mental condition of Lewis Berry but since Lewis and his father are not very close to each other Mr. Berry, Sr., only wrote his son he should make every effort possible to finish law school.

✓ Mrs. Berry advised that her husband has said he has an undisclosed hideout to operate from when he gets financial backing and further organized. At that time he will go into hiding and no one will be able to find him. He hopes to finish law school before this happens and wants to take his child by Mrs. Berry as well as his ✓ children by his first wife with them in order to protect them when violence breaks out. At first he claimed he ✓ would take Mrs. Berry with him to look after their child, age ten months, until he reaches two years of age. After that, he would have no further use for Mrs. Berry and would kill her. He now says he cannot trust her and cannot keep her around that long.

Lewis Berry told his wife that his group would steal, kill, and take any other action necessary to gain their aims and eradicate those who are opposed to them.

According to Mrs. Berry, her husband was the leader of the pickets who demonstrated when Secretary of State Dean Rusk was in Houston in 1963. She stated that she also carried a picket sign at that time. She stated that Lewis Berry also participated in the picketing of a Russian ship which came to the Port of Houston to load wheat.

Mrs. Berry advised that in February, 1964, Lewis Berry ran away with their son and she had to obtain an attorney to obtain his return. She stated that she tried to get her husband to submit to medical treatment but he only went one time to a doctor and did not cooperate further. She stated that Bob Overstreet, Executive Secretary of the Republican Party, Houston, Texas, knows of Berry's mental condition.

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Mrs. Berry advised that her husband recently threatened to burn their home at 705 Harold Street. She stated that due to their child she does not think he will do this while they are residing in the house. However, she stated she is moving to her father's home in Baytown, Texas, and after this move Lewis Berry may carry out this threat.

Mrs. Berry advised she filed divorce proceedings against Lewis Berry in May, 1964. On June 2, 1964, her husband came to her residence and took money from her and beat her. She filed aggravated assault charges against him on June 3, 1964, and on June 20, 1964, obtained a restraining order against his further contact with her. She stated that she waited until she obtained this order before bringing the above information to the attention of authorities. She advised that Berry has not been arrested on the assault charges to her knowledge.

Mrs. Berry stated that she was selling the book store she now operates in the downstairs of their home and would then reside at the home of her father, M. E. Kelly, 607 Gaillard, Baytown, Texas.

Mrs. Berry furnished the following descriptive data regarding Lewis Berry:

Name
Date of Birth
Place of Birth
Age
Height
Weight
Hair
Eyes
Father

Mother
Residence
Sister

Arrests

Lewis Edward Berry, Jr.
December 17, 1939
Houston, Texas
25
5 feet 10 inches
165 - 175 pounds
Light brown
Blue
Lewis Edward Berry, Sr.
Austin, Texas
Divorced
Houston, Texas
Mrs. Dick Wilcoxon
Houston, Texas
1958 in Houston with
gun after threatening
life of his then father-
in-law

6-29-64

Airtel

EX-7
To: SAC Houston (62-2115)
From: Director, FBI (15-109060) - 3379

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY
11-22-63, DALLAS, TEXAS
MISC. - INFO CONCERNING

Re: Airtel 6-22-64.

In view of the President's Commission's anticipated early conclusion of the investigation of the assassination, Houston is instructed to expedite the leads set forth in referenced communication.

The letterhead memorandum enclosed with referenced airtel is being furnished to Secret Service Headquarters and to the Department.

Although it may be possible that Mrs. Berry was furnishing the information concerning her husband Lewis Edward Berry, Jr., due to their present marital difficulties, comments furnished by her regarding the "Nazi" and his alleged knowledge of the assassination, must be completely resolved.

Bureau files are negative regarding Bill Rudersdorf based on information furnished, and Bureau files are also negative regarding Lewis Edward Berry, Jr. However, Bureau files reveal previous correspondence with Mr. Lewis E. Berry, Executive Secretary, Sheriffs' Association of Texas, Austin, Texas, who according to Mrs. Berry is the father of her husband.

This matter should be handled promptly. Insure accuracy in your communications to preclude revisions or corrections by the Bureau.

1 - Dallas (89-43)

KMR:las
(5)

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

AUG 12 1964

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

NOTE:

By airtel 6-22-64, Houston furnished an LHM regarding an interview with Mrs. Lewis Edward Berry, Jr., who wanted to relate information concerning activities of her husband, whom she is divorcing. She made numerous allegations that Berry, Jr., is mentally disturbed, active in politics, familiar with numerous people, and allegedly is associated with a loosely knit group trying to organize to carry out various acts of violence. She claimed Berry was in contact with an individual only known as the "Nazi," who is an associate of his at the University of Houston, and this Nazi has information relating to the assassination. Mrs. Berry has admitted that she has been hospitalized in the past for psychiatric treatment following the loss of her child; however, claims complete recovery after six or eight months treatment. Bureau files reveal Mr. Lewis E. Berry, Senior, Executive Secretary, Sheriffs' Association of Texas, Austin, Texas, is on the correspondents mailing list. (94-1-3309)