

CD 1481

1

Date 7/7/64

Mr. JOHN CHRISTMAS, 1145 Seaford Drive, Dallas, Texas, telephone EXpress 1-5029, appeared in the Dallas Office and furnished the following information:

For the past few years CHRISTMAS has been employed in the real estate business and has handled as a sideline the sale of Electro Way garbage disposal units for one FRANK KNIGHT, 7016 Clemson, Dallas, Texas. CHRISTMAS stated that KNIGHT is a very outspoken individual with little education and, prior to the assassination of President JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY, made statements indicating that he did not like KENNEDY and if there was a group that wanted to kill the President he would be honored to be a part of it. CHRISTMAS stated he believes KNIGHT made the statement at one time that he would be glad to pull the trigger.

CHRISTMAS advised that HERMAN RIPLEY, a member of the Dallas Philatelic Society, 11122 Midway Road, Dallas, Texas, has also been known to make radical statements against former President KENNEDY.

In addition, CHRISTMAS stated he has information that ROBERT B. HERSHEY, an attorney with offices on Ervay Street in Dallas, Texas, made the statement prior to the assassination of President KENNEDY that, "Wouldn't it be easy to kill the President. All it would take would be a rifle." CHRISTMAS advised at a meeting of the Dallas Philatelic Society on a recent night HERSHEY was extremely critical of KENNEDY as an individual.

CHRISTMAS advised he is a member of the Dallas Philatelic Society and that KNIGHT, RIPLEY and HERSHEY are also members of this society.

CHRISTMAS further advised that a source who declined to be identified had furnished him information concerning these individuals, as follows:

on 7/6/64 at Dallas, Texas 31 File # DL 89-43
by Special Agent IC ROBERT G. RENFRO/ds Date dictated 7/6/64

2

DL 89-43

On the night before the assassination of President KENNEDY, this source was at the home of Mr. ROBERT B. HERSHEY, 4729 Alta Vista Lane, Dallas, Texas, whose profession is attorney at law, and whose office is located at 211 North Ervay, Dallas. This source advised that after trading of postage stamps was completed between HERSHEY and himself, HERSHEY made conversation on how easy it would be for the President to be killed on his visit to Dallas or anywhere else. Before this conversation, the source stated he had never given a second thought to any reference HERSHEY made about the KENNEDY Administration, for he thought HERSHEY was just "popping off" about the way the government is being run, as various people do all the time.

The source also quoted HERSHEY as stating it would be a good thing for the country if he (the President) was killed and also made a statement that a rifle would be the most logical weapon to be used and the easiest.

The source identified Mr. HERSHEY as a member of the Dallas Philatelic Society which meets the first and third Fridays of each month at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 11122 Midway Road, Dallas, Texas. This society issued a cachet cover with the first day of issue of the KENNEDY commemorative postage stamp, dated May 29, 1964, and when HERSHEY was contacted concerning this cachet cover, a memorial to President KENNEDY, he made a statement to the effect that KENNEDY was not any good anyway and that he was sure not going to waste his money on the commemorative stamp or the cachet.

1Date 8/3/64

FRANK THOMAS KNIGHT, 7016 Clemson Drive, telephone No. DI 8-0650, advised he is the owner of K and A Distributors (kitchen appliances) and operates this business from his home.

KNIGHT stated that on November 22, 1963, his business was located at 4810A Greenville Avenue, Dallas, Texas. KNIGHT stated he was in his office at this address at the time of the assassination of President KENNEDY. KNIGHT advised that he held different political views than President KENNEDY and did not vote for him. He stated, however, that he never desired that President KENNEDY be killed and certainly would not do anything to cause anyone's death. He said the assassination of President KENNEDY was stupid and a great tragedy.

KNIGHT advised he admired President KENNEDY and considered him a tremendous speaker, in the same category as former President FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

KNIGHT stated he had no information which would assist in the investigation of the assassination of President KENNEDY.

on 7/29/64 at Dallas, Texas 35 File # DL 89-43

by Special Agent A. RAYMOND SWITZER:vm Date dictated 7/31/64