

Last page says that as of the middle of
1968 the N.O. FBI had a "squad"
assigned to the JFK assassination.
This memo ~~is~~ also to Garrison

NEW ORLEANS POLICE DEPARTMENT
FIRST DISTRICT POLICE STATION
JUNE 27, 1968

F-21947-68

Statement of Laural Ecks, WF, age 21, residing 728 Dumaine St., Apt 401, relative to the Attempt Murder of Darryl Gerstenschlager, WM, 29, of 728 Dumaine St., Apt 401, which occurred at about 9:20PM, June 27, 1968, at 1205 Bourbon St.

-----STATEMENT-----

Darryl and I have lived together for the past two years. Last night he started hitting me and wouldn't let me out of the house. We woke up at about 5:30PM, this evening and he started hitting me again, and telling me that if he can't have me, no other man can, and if he can't have me, the only way I would leave him would be in a pine box. He kept it up and I climbed out of the window and went downstairs to my friends apartment. Her name is Kay Strickland. She had her boyfriend there, I don't know his name. Then Darryl came down the stairs and walked into Kay's apartment. He started hitting me. Kay tried to stop him, but he had a knife. He kept putting it to my throat. He tried to get me to go upstairs by putting the knife in my back. Then Layton, John Whalen, and Kay's brother inlaw, whose name I don't know, came to the apartment. I went over to Layton. Darryl jumped on Layton and put the knife to him. Layton didn't fight back. I jumped in between them and tried to stop them. Darryl hit me a few more times and told Layton that if he can't have me, no man can have me. Also, if he [Layton] ever talked to me again, he would be dead. I told the three boys to leave because I didn't want any further trouble, and I hoped they would call the police. About ten minutes later, two policemen came to Kay's apartment, which is in Number 303. They looked at me and I was cut and everything. They wanted to know where the knife was and who did what, and did I want press charges against Darryl. They talked to him. Kay and Layton wanted press charges, but wouldn't unless I did, and I told them and the police that I didn't want to. I did so because I was afraid of what he would do when he got out of jail. The police could have arrested him if I wanted. I knew I would be dead if I did anything. I left Darryl in Kay's apartment and went down the street and met Layton and John. We talked to the police. When the police left, I went with Layton to his house. John went home. We were there for no more than ten minutes when Darryl came. He knocked on the door and I let him in. Darryl told Layton that he was going to kill Layton and I so that Layton couldn't have me. Then Darryl started hitting me and Layton didn't do anything, he just sat there. Darryl went over to Layton and started hitting him, and told him to stand up, calling him a coward, and everything, trying to provoke him. Layton stood up. Then Darryl ran into Layton. This happened as I was on the stairs, enroute to call the police. Then I saw blood. I went over to Darryl and he was bleeding from the stomach. I stayed with Darryl. John came in and he called the police. At this time I would like to state that Darryl has held me by force for two years. I have told Darryl that if I had to marry Layton to get away from him, I would. I was with Darryl after he was cut and I saw a large knife laying by his left foot. There was blood on this knife. I picked up the knife and threw it away in the kitchen. This statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and made of my own free will.

Statement taken in the First District Station by D/Sgt. Charles LaDell,
Witnessed by Ptn. William Townsend and completed at 11:30PM, 6/27/68.

page two of statement of John E. Whelan

"Q" Had Darryl Gertenschlager ever threatened you or any of the others any time in the past?

"A" Yes.

"Q" What was the nature of these threats?

"A" He told Layton that he was a marked man, about three or four times both in my presence and in Laural's presence.

"Q" Do you know the reason that Darryl went to Layton's house tonight?

"A" To get Laural, I would assume.

"Q" Is this statement true and correct to the best of your knowledge?

"A" Yes.

"Q" Is there anything you wish to add, change or delete from your statement?

"A" Not at this time.

John E. Whelan
I
I
XXXX
John E. Whelan
428 Hillary

The above statement was typed by Patn. Simon A. Haydel Jr. in the First District Police Station in the presence of Patn. Lorenza Knight and was completed at 11:15PM June 27, 1968.

Lorenza A. Knight

Simon A. Haydel

Memorandum

TO : SAC, NEW ORLEANS (89-69)

DATE: 6/28/68

FROM : SA CLEMENT J. WOOD

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN F. KENNEDY,
DALLAS, TEXAS,
11/22/63
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

RE: LAYTON MARTENS
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

Mr. JOHN E. WHELAN, 428 Hillary St., New Orleans, La., whose phone number is 866-7609, who is employed by the New Orleans Juvenile Court System, contacted the New Orleans Office of the FBI at 1:10 P.M., 6/28/68, and advised that LAYTON MARTENS was involved in a police case during the evening of 6/27/68, wherein MARTENS stabbed one DARRYL GERSTENSCHLOGER as a result of a neighborhood dispute which involved a so-called "love triangle" over the affections of one LAURAL ECKE. The stabbing occurred in the French Quarter and according to the news account, appeared to have been an act of self-defense.

Mr. WHELAN stated that LAYTON MARTENS is currently indictment in local court by District Attorney JIM GARRISON, stemming out of GARRISON's investigation of captioned matter. The indictment is on a charge of perjury.

WHELAN stated that right after the stabbing incident, but before the police had taken MARTENS in to the Central Lockup, MARTENS asked that WHELAN make certain that the U. S. Attorney at New Orleans, the FBI, and MARTENS' attorney, MILTON E. BRENNER, offices at 1304 NBC Building, home phone TW 9-5887, home phone 524-1171, were notified of his being arrested by the police, and being placed in local custody. He stated that he has already notified the USA by letter, and that he notified BRENNER early this morning of the arrest and BRENNER claimed he was going to try to get MARTENS out on bond on the local charge.



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He stated that MARTENS in the past had told him that during 1962, MARTENS was employed by the FRD (Revolutionary Democratic Front), which he thinks was a CIA project and that although MARTENS did not tell him exactly why he wanted this notification passed on, he believes that MARTENS may possibly have been apprehensive at the time of his arrest that something unusual might happen to him also while in custody, as a result of MARTENS past involvement with GARRISON. Mr. WHELAN stated that when MARTENS asked him to tell the FBI, his attorney, and the USA about the impending custody, they were in the presence of police officers and that possibly MARTENS at that time did not want to be more specific. MARTENS is supposed to have told WHELAN that the Agent to notify had a name beginning with a "C" or "K" and although the name was mentioned at the time, WHELAN now does not recall the name.

Mr. WHELAN stated that he was also picked up along with LAURAL ECKE and taken to the First District Police Station, where they gave statements to the police about the stabbing incident last night. He furnished copies of the statement of LAURAL ECKE and his statement, which are attached to this memo for our additional information.

WHELAN claimed that he is afraid his being a witness to the stabbing may adversely effect his own employment ~~professionally~~ with the New Orleans Juvenile Court. WHELAN also mentioned that recently he has made application to the CIA for employment in view of his own Russian language ability and that he is also concerned less his being a witness in last night's stabbing may adversely effect his future employment by the CIA. WHELAN stated that this is another reason that he wanted to contact the FBI and be placed on record with having furnished the information in this memo and the copies of the statements attached.

WHELAN promised to notify us in the event he later learns from MARTENS or others anything about last night's stabbing incident which might be within the FBI's investigative jurisdiction. He said that if MARTENS gets out on bond, he may have occasion to talk to him in greater detail and that if there is any allegation in connection with the incident to indicate a possible FBI violation, the FBI will be notified.

NO 89-69

The foregoing is for the information of the Supervisor of Squad 4, who is following captioned matter and also to make certain that all the names mentioned in this memo and the attached signed statements are indexed so that the substance of this information is available for future reference.