

FBI

Date: 2/26/73

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL  
(Priority)

TO: ACTING DIRECTOR, FBI (62-109060)  
FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (89-69) (P)  
SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF  
PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY,  
DALLAS, TEXAS,  
11/23/63  
MISC. - INFO CONCERNING  
(OO: DALLAS)

Enclosed for the Bureau are original and five copies  
of a self-explanatory LHM.

One copy of instant LHM is being furnished to  
Dallas for information purposes.

ST-105

*1-tickler  
1cc RE: LHM & RAC (Crim) BTO-6  
AH: LARA Belcher Room 2113  
HWA/177 3-2-73*

REC-2

62-109060-7077

- 2 - Bureau (Encs. 6)
  - 1 - Dallas (89-43) (Enc. 1) (Info)
  - 2 - New Orleans
- SNC:pd  
(5)

21 MAR 1 1973

*SIX*

58 MAR 13 1973

Approved: *[Signature]*  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

*Section 176*



U. S. STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

New Orleans, Louisiana  
February 26, 1973

ASSASSINATION OF  
PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY,  
DALLAS, TEXAS, NOVEMBER 22, 1963

Reference is made to a memorandum of the New Orleans Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) dated January 15, 1969, captioned as above.

Referenced memorandum set forth the results of information furnished by Layton Martens, 718 Frenchmen Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, on January 14, 1969. At that time Martens indicated that he might be called as a defense witness for Clay Shaw at Shaw's forthcoming trial. Martens expressed hesitancy in testifying in view of possible prosecution cross-examination concerning the details of Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) affiliation with the Cuban Revolutionary Front (FCR) in 1961 and the late Attorney General Robert Kennedy's involvement with FCR.

On February 26, 1973, Layton Martens, now residing at 1161 Lake Avenue, Metairie, Louisiana, telephone 837-5995, again appeared at the New Orleans Office of the FBI, at which time he provided the following information:

Martens stated that during Orleans Parish District Attorney Jim Garrison's investigation of captioned matter Martens had been subpoenaed to testify before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury. As a result, he subsequently had been indicted for perjury.

Martens stated he currently operates Edwards Pipe and Tobacco Shop, 3000 Severn Avenue, Metairie, Louisiana, telephone 887-5483.

ENCLOSURE

62-109160-1097

ASSASSINATION OF  
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DALLAS, TEXAS, NOVEMBER 22, 1963

A few days ago the owner of the building in which Martens operates his business told Martens that two men had contacted him. He related to Martens that these two men asked many questions as to whether Martens associated with Cubans, belonged to any Cuban organizations, and whether any Cubans ever visited Martens' place of business. They also exhibited an old photograph of Martens to the owner of the building and indicated they were associated with a law enforcement agency, however, did not specifically identify the agency for which they worked.

Martens related he believes these two men may have been from the Office of Orleans Parish District Attorney Jim Garrison, although he could furnish no specific information that they were. Martens stated he believes this because as far as he knows the old perjury charge against him is still outstanding and he believes that District Attorney Garrison may be considering prosecuting him and several others previously indicted for perjury as a "smoke screen" to take some of the heat off of Garrison as Garrison is under Federal indictment for allegedly accepting kickbacks from local pinball operators and is scheduled for trial in Federal court in New Orleans in the near future.

Martens stated that after the ill-fated Bay of Pigs invasion in 1961 he was personally working on plans for a second invasion. He claimed he was personally working for the late Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy and that subsequently the plans for this second invasion were dropped.

Martens claimed that during the Garrison investigation into the shooting of President Kennedy and subsequent Grand Jury hearings held in New Orleans, he had been requested by the then Attorney General Ramsey Clark to leave Louisiana and come to Washington, D. C., so that Martens would not be subpoenaed and, therefore, would not have to testify as to his knowledge of Cuban invasion plans.

Martens stated he declined Clark's offer.

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Martens stated that his purpose in contacting the FBI at this time was that he wanted the United States Department of Justice to be aware of his suspicion of possible prosecution for perjury by Garrison. He stated that he knew the FBI could not offer him any guidance as to his possible testimony but that he wanted to seek guidance of the Department of Justice in the event he should be prosecuted. This guidance would be as to what he should or should not testify to in regards to his dealings with the late Attorney General Kennedy and subsequent discontinuing of plans for a second invasion of Cuba. He said such testimony would lend credence to District Attorney Garrison's contention that anti-Castro elements were responsible for the assassination of President Kennedy.

Martens was advised that the information he had supplied would be provided to the Department of Justice, and that the FBI had no comment to make.

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, nor duplicated within your agency.