

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE
TREASURY DEPARTMENT

ORIGIN Field	OFFICE New Orleans	FILE NO. 00-2-34,030
TYPE OF CASE Assassination of President	STATUS Continued	TITLE OR CAPTION Lee Harvey Oswald Assassination of President Kennedy
INVESTIGATION MADE AT Goldonna & Natchitoches, La.	PERIOD COVERED 11-22-63	
INVESTIGATION MADE BY SAIC John W. Rice		
<u>SYNOPSIS</u>		
<p>Discreet inquiries were made in Goldonna and Natchitoches, Louisiana, on 11/22/63 regarding possible suspect Jack Martin at request of Dallas Office, this investigation having been initiated prior to the arrest of Lee Harvey Oswald.</p>		
<u>DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION</u>		
<p>At approximately 2:00 PM on 11/22/63, while at the Barksdale Air Force Base in Bossier City, Louisiana, I received telephone call from SA Anthony E. Gorretts in New Orleans. He advised that he had just received telephone call from Clerk Lillian L. Rhyan, Dallas, who stated that SA Robert A. Stewart had requested that this office conduct discreet inquiries relative to Jack Martin, Route 1, Goldonna, Louisiana, who at that time was considered a possible suspect in the assassination of President Kennedy. No further information was then available to Clerk Rhyan.</p>		
<p>I immediately proceeded to Goldonna, Louisiana, arriving at approximately 5:00 PM, and interviewed Mrs. Irene McGee, Postmaster, Mr. G. C. Quarles, Rural Carrier, and Willie Frazier, Constable and Deputy Sheriff, all of whom are well acquainted with Jack W. Martin, son of Ben and Thelma Martin, Route 1, Box 4, Goldonna.</p>		
<p>The Martin family has resided in this area for a great many years. The family is poor and Ben Martin is a worker in the logging business in this backwoods community. Jack W. Martin reportedly grew up in the community and did not finish high school. For several years the subject has been traveling around the country, and apparently has been connected with an unidentified religious cult. It has been rumored, according to Mr. Quarles, that Martin desires to become a preacher.</p>		
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		DATE 450 12-4-63

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Robert Richter called this report to my attention. How strange it is that neither the Commission nor those lawyers it sent to New Orleans and Dallas, nor the FBI or Secret Service, had any subsequent interest in - and that the Report and the testimony and the printed exhibits totally ignore - the immediate interest in one Jack Martin as "a possible suspect in the assassination". Aside from the remarkable similarity in names, how can it be called an investigation when there is no investigation of or Report mention of a man suspected before Oswald was arrested?

Constable Frazier said that apparently Martin had never been in any trouble in Goldonna or vicinity, but that he did leave the area about 8 or 10 years ago and was gone for several years. He said he heard that he was either in the armed forces or possibly in prison in another State.

Martin reportedly has never married, and so far as is known he has never been gainfully employed. He has communicated with his parents by mail from various places throughout the country, and always uses a general delivery address. He reportedly has been in Massachusetts, New Jersey, California, Texas, and other states.

Constable Frazier said he last saw Martin in Goldonna approximately three or four weeks ago. Rural Carrier Quarles said that he believed that Martin's mother had been writing to him in Texas, city unrecalled, recently.

All of the persons interviewed indicated that Martin is quiet and does not have any close friends in the area. He apparently does not hunt or fish, and is not interested in sports. There was no indication that he had a gun or rifle. He is said to be neat in appearance and rather soft spoken.

Constable Frazier said that a brother, Bobbie Martin, age about 19 years, has been a problem in the community.

Jack W. Martin was described as follows: white; male; 25-30; 5-6 to 5-8; 150; dark eyes; dark hair; olive complexion; stocky build.

At Natchitoches, Louisiana, inquiries were made at the Sheriff's Office, and no record of Jack W. Martin was located.

At approximately 9:00 PM on 11/22/63 I contacted SA Robert A. Stewart, Dallas, by telephone from Natchitoches, Louisiana, furnishing him the results of the investigation. SA Stewart advised that Lee Harvey Oswald had been arrested in Dallas in connection with the assassination of President Kennedy. He said that Oswald, who was connected with the Fair Play for Cuba Committee in New Orleans, had filed change of address from Dallas to 4907 Magazine Street, New Orleans, on 5/15/63; that he again rented a box in Dallas on 11/2/63. SA Stewart requested further investigation in New Orleans. He also advised that Jack Martin had been previously considered a possible suspect due to suspicious remarks which he had made in Dallas following the assassination of the President.

At 9:30 PM on 11/22/63 I contacted SA Gerrets by telephone at his residence in New Orleans and requested that he and SA Vial conduct immediate investigation relative to Oswald's activities in New Orleans.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

Additional reports will be submitted by Special Agents conducting other phases of this investigation.