

Memorandum

TO: J. Lee Martin, General Counsel
President's Commission on the
Assassination of President Kennedy
FROM: W. Griffin
J. James J. Rowley, Chief
U. S. Secret Service
SUBJECT: "Minute Men"

DATE: 11-1-70
PAGE TWO

JJR

There is forwarded herewith information concerning Donnell
D. Whittier and the "Minute Men" which was received by this
office from the Director of Law Enforcement Coordination in
the Treasury Department.

Commission No. 847a

CITY OF DALLAS
TEXAS

POLICE DEPARTMENT

April 17, 1964

The Honorable Waggoner Carr
Attorney General
State of Texas
Austin, Texas

Subject: Check of Garages and Service
Stations Patronized by Jack Ruby

Dear Sir:

Several days ago I was contacted by Mr. Vince Drain, of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, regarding a check of garages and service stations patronized by Jack Ruby.

On April 5, Lieutenant E. L. Cunningham contacted four such places which, from papers found in Ruby's car, indicated he might have patronized. A copy of Lieutenant Cunningham's report is enclosed.

Donnell D. Whittier, named in the enclosed report, formerly worked at the Texaco Service Station, Clarendon and Ewing, serviced Ruby's car when he came to the station. As you will recall, Whittier was arrested by officers of this department on November 18, 1963, at which time two machine guns and two Browning automatic rifles were recovered which had been taken in a burglary of the National Guard Headquarters at Terrell, Texas. According to our records he was convicted in Federal Court and is now serving time for this offense.

Very truly yours,

M. W. Stevenson
M. W. Stevenson
Deputy Chief Commanding
Criminal Investigation Division

MWS/as
Enc.

April 5, 1934

W. J. J. J. J.
 Chief of Police
 Dallas, Texas

Subject: Rapese found in Jack Ruby's car

Sir:

I contacted Mr. Leo Navarro, 1305 Claude, who owns the Navarro Garage at 415 South Denney Drive. He stated he had never met Mr. Ruby, but that a friend of his, a Mr. V. E. Moralli, had given Ruby his name and the address of his garage when Ruby asked him where he could find a good mechanic. Ruby never brought his car to Navarro for repair work.

Mr. V. E. Moralli, 715 West Pembroke, W 3-776, states that Jack Ruby traded at his Texaco Service Station at Ewing and Clarendon for about one year. However, he did not know Ruby very well. He gave Ruby a card with Leo Navarro's address on it when Jack asked him where he could find a honest mechanic. Moralli never did so Ruby with anyone that fit Moralli's description.

Danrell D. Wittler worked at Moralli's service station and took care of Ruby's work for him. Moralli states he does not know if they were friends or had relations other than that of customer and station attendant or not. Wittler was arrested November 1, 1931 for larceny of national guard money in Dallas, Texas. I understand that he has been convicted of this larceny in Federal Court.

Mr. A. J. Wilson, 3000 Hutchinson, A 1-7141 was contacted. He stated that he knew Jack Ruby when he ran the Silver Star in 1931. He met Jack about two weeks prior to November 22 on the merchants state bank. They greeted each other and Jack asked Wilson what he was doing for a living. Mr. Wilson gave Ruby his business card and told him to come to see him. Mr. Wilson states that to his knowledge Ruby was never in his place.

The Texaco Service Station at Ewing and Clarendon there was purchased by Mr. J. Howard on the 19th of March, 1934 from Mr. E. W. Harris. Mr. Howard does not know where Mr. Harris could be contacted.

Respectfully

W. J. Cunningham
 Lieutenant of Police
 For City of Dallas

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TREASURY DEPARTMENT
Washington, D.C.

Memorandum

TO : Inspector Thomas J. Kelley
U. S. Secret Service

DATE: April 29, 1964

FROM : Arnold Sagalyn, Director
Law Enforcement Coordination

SUBJECT: Investigation of Donnell D. Whittier re allegation
of possession of firearms

In response to your request the following information was obtained from Mr. Thomas F. Casey, Assistant Chief, Enforcement Branch, Alcohol & Tobacco Tax Division, Internal Revenue Service.

Mr. Casey said that the firearms case involving Donnell D. Whittier was handled by the F.B.I. and Alcohol & Tobacco Tax was not involved in any way. However, in charging Whittier one of the offenses cited was a violation of the National Firearms Act and Alcohol & Tobacco Tax only learned about this when it received a telephone call from the U. S. Attorney concerned. According to Alcohol & Tobacco Tax's report on this matter, the Dallas police on November 18, 1963 arrested Whittier and one Lawrence R. Miller in connection with the robbery of a National Guard Armory at Terrell, Texas, on the same date. Whittier and Miller were accused of stealing two Browning submachine guns, serial number 624227 and number 110961; also two 30 caliber machine guns, numbers 655097 and 889439; and one grease gun number GR-GL-B 301456. When arrested, the guns were found in their possession. Since the guns were government property, the Dallas police turned the case over to the F.B.I.

Miller was sentenced to 4 years imprisonment. Whittier was transferred to Springfield for psychiatric examination and had been scheduled for trial on Monday, April 27.



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

Date August 11, 1964

1

JOHN FRANKLIN ELROD, an inmate of the Shelby County, Tennessee, Jail, as of August 11, 1964, furnished the following information:

ELROD currently lives at Memphis, Tennessee, and has been staying at the Harbor House, Memphis, prior to the time of his arrest for which he was placed in jail on August 11, 1964. The Harbor House, 1369 Court Avenue, Memphis, is a home for alcoholics, and ELROD stated that he, himself, is an alcoholic.

ELROD had come to the Shelby County Sheriff's Office during the early morning hours of August 11, 1964, after having consumed some beer and vodka. He was at that time in possession of a sawed-off 12 gauge shotgun which had a pistol grip. He stated that he had begun to think of the possibilities of killing his wife from whom he is now separated. Inasmuch as he had the sawed-off shotgun and the desire to kill her was known to him, he decided he should come to the Sheriff's Office and talk, which he did.

He further advised that he had been somewhat troubled by events which occurred immediately following the assassination of President JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY at Dallas, Texas, on November 11, 1963.

Shortly after the assassination of the President, ELROD, who had been about two and one half miles from the scene of the assassination at Lemon and Oaklawn Streets in Dallas, was arrested by the Dallas Police Department and placed in the City Jail. His arrest had nothing to do with the assassination of the President, and he knew nothing concerning the assassination of the President. At the City Jail in Dallas, he was placed in Cell 10 on the fifth floor, and at that time his cellmate was a man whose identity he could not recall. An individual, whose face was smashed up, was brought into the hallway of the jail where ELROD and his cellmate could observe him. At that time the unknown cellmate made some mention that he had known this man with the injured face as a result of meeting him at a motel. The cellmate stated that five men had met at a motel, and they had been advanced some money under some type contract. One of these men was reported to have

116

On 8/11/64 at Memphis, Tennessee File # DL 44-1639
ME 44-1165
by SA FRANCIS B. COLE and
SA NORMAN L. CASEY/lh Date dictated 8/11/64

DL 44-1639

ME 44-1165

2

received \$5,000. The man with the injured face had received some money, and he was reported to have been driving a Thunderbird automobile with a large quantity of guns contained therein. ELROD advised he was confined in the Dallas City Jail for a period of 72 hours, and he was confused at this time concerning the events which occurred. He stated he could not recall whether JACK RUBY's name had been mentioned prior to the time of the killing of LEE HARVEY OSWALD, but that this cellmate at some time had told him that one of the men who had been at the motel referred to above, name and location unknown, had been JACK RUBY. This was all the information which ELROD could recall.

He stated that on several occasions he has had difficulty remembering due to his extreme use of alcohol. He knew nothing concerning the assassination of the President, the involvement of JACK RUBY in the killing of HARVEY LEE OSWALD, or of any information concerning the possibility of the receipt of money by JACK RUBY, except the hearsay information he had received from his unknown cellmate.

ELROD is described as follows:

Race	white
Sex	male
Date of birth	November 12, 1932
Place of birth	Bassett, Arkansas
Height	5'11½"
Weight	180 lbs.
Complexion	medium
Occupation	cook
Wife	JACKIE PAT ELROD nee Richards, 2816 Morris, Dallas, Texas
Father	HOBSON ELROD, Bassett, Arkansas
Scars and marks	one and one-half inch cut scar on forehead; little finger, left hand, off at first joint; left arm is undersized.

DL 44-1639

The identification record of JOHN FRANKLIN ELROD, FBI number 91 666 E, dated August 12, 1964, which follows, does not reflect incarceration of ELROD in the Dallas City Jail as claimed:

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME & NO.	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
PD Dallas Texas	John Franklin Elrod #E-17848	5/23/61	DWI & Inv (vio State Barb Law)	
SO Dallas	John Franklin Elrod #116211	2/14/62	DWI #15345-C	3 das jail & F & C Pd in JOL
SO Dallas Texas	James F. O. Elrod #116211	11/15/62	T/over #9921	no billed GJ
SO Quitman Texas	John Elrod #1057	3/19/63	Simple aslt	
SO Memphis Tenn	John Franklin Elrod #29001	8/11/64	inv Hom Div	hold for Fed Auth

Police property room clerk B. J. Smith checked in the arsenal recovered by officers J. B. Allen, center, and J. R. Sales, Monday night.

Police Nab 2 Ex-Convicts With Load of Stolen Guns

By JOHN RUTLEDGE
 A 40-mile-an-hour police chase as 128 S. Edgefield ended in the capture of two ex-convicts having a load of stolen machine guns in a swank sports car at 6:40 p.m. Monday at Gasometer and Hall.

Nabbed were Lawrence Reginald Miller, 33, who gave police his address as Route 4, Canton, and Pierce address as Route 4, Canton, and automatic rifles. The weapons were identified as part of the loot from the Wednesday burglary of the Texas National Guard armory's shop at Terrell.

The chase started, patrolmen J. B. Allen and J. R. Sales said, when they saw the northbound car run a red light on Hall at Allen. When they tried to stop the car, it veered north at speed up to 60 miles an hour. Five blocks away at Hall and Jones, the contraband-laden convertible plowed between two autos halted for a red light. It skidded back and squealed on toward Gasometer. There the outlaws' car crashed head-on into a utility pole. Sales said Walter scrambled from behind the steering wheel and ran 20 feet on foot before Sales tackled him. Miller, his face lashed by glass when his head plunged through the windshield, remained in his seat. He was treated at the Parkland Hospital emergency room, then held along with Walter for burglary. Walter was later taken to Parkland under guard when he claimed he was ill.

Allen and Sales found the stolen guns piled on the back floor boards covered by a layer of top bottom, and a gas heating stove.

ing on Sunday Law Awaited

day he DeFusco, said its customers "normal Sunday sales" by signing these certificates and, as a result, it did not violate the law. Wade, who is scheduled to return Tuesday from a Southwest Texas trip, contends a store still violates the law if it resorts to "a subterfuge" and allows customers to sign the emergency certificates in wholesale fashion.

First Assistant Dist. Atty. A. D. Jim Bowie noted the appeals court has scheduled a hearing this Wednesday before making any decision about Atlantic Mills. Prosecutors could file criminal charges against Atlantic Mills of ill-fated at a civil court on the law, but the law is not clear on that.

Carried officers in Dallas and other cities from interfering with Sunday. al. R. J. other cities from interfering with Sunday.

that Dallas master plan for Love Field "was the most publicized traffic 10 years ago to be held. After 18 months, New Jersey had lost 30 per cent of its area highways were planned."

Litigation by adjacent property owners held back the construction of the new 5,000-foot parking runway for many months; also, the city hesitated to sell revenue bonds for almost \$1,000,000 worth of extra parking in the form of a second deck at the airport, Coker said.

Love Field is a healthy operation financially, Coker said. The annual revenue for the field is a little more than \$1,000,000 in concession revenues.

Expenses of \$750,000 a year at the airport should improve after the low day healthy balance to go to directed in use a separate terminal building, of revenue bonds, temporary use, Coker said.

But the big financial hit for Dallas is in the airport tenants, such as commercial airlines, service companies, etc.

"They give Dallas a \$50,000,000 annual payroll," said Coker. "Our Fort Worth opponents believe."

There's no way to park 2,000 cars within 50 feet of the front to absorb the council.

City Manager Monday the area too directly will.

Dunaway can convene best water services. The area has been Dallas on the making either Dallas said.

Informative H. file a representative.

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LAWRENCE B. MILLER DONNELL D. WHITTIER

11/19/63
 Dallas Morning News