

Gordon Novel

JFK assassination records appeals  
has various records  
files not searched  
Cards: Novel appeals

11/25/79

Novel, a heavy character, was a H.C. FBI until his involvement in the Garrison matter appears to have caused the FBI to terminate that official assignment. However, multitudinous records reveal that it was in touch with him extensively and through many field offices, including at the time he was a fugitive, a <sup>charge</sup> under the FBI did not lay on him. It was content, for its own political purposes, to receive information that often enough was misinformation, which it promptly used as real fact.

62-10300-5014, not attached, is of eight pages. I appeal the withholdings from it. Novel was very much a public person.

The last paragraph on page two refers to records not provided, a file captioned "TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE CENTER MEMBERS, MEMORANDUMS - INFORMATION CONCERNING ESPIONAGE." Novel's involvement in such matters, which is within the public domain, are pertinent to the JFK investigation and to the Garrison case.

The most recent report of Novel in such a role, of which I have knowledge, is the plan to erase the White House tapes for Charles Olson.

Other files including Novel not searched but referred to in other records include files relating to Carlos Marcellis, again pertinent, more so since the HSCA's report.

Also for your information, when Novel was arrested and left three attache cases full of gear and tapes in a rental car and the FBI obtained them it did nothing. The records I've seen make no reference to any question of any law violation.

5014 discloses that Novel had been a "Miami Steam Trooper."

F B I

Date: 3/30/67

REC 59

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

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-109060)

FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (89-69)

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT  
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY  
NOVEMBER 22, 1963,  
DALLAS, TEXAS  
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION  
CONCERNING

Re Bureau airtel, 3/29/67.

There is attached a summary of the  
information in the New Orleans files regarding GORDON  
DWANE NOVEL.

Additional information regarding  
NOVEL has been submitted to the Bureau in LHM by  
airtels dated 2/21/67, and 3/29/67.

- 3 - Bureau
- 2 - New Orleans

GMA:med  
(5)

4/2/67

FBI Ident Record  
Attached. REC-59

REL

62-109060-5014

APR 3 1967

61 APR 17 1967

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Section 124

NO 89-69  
GMA:med

Gordon DWANE E 2  
Novel

7-15-58  
New Orleans

RE: GORDON DWANE NOVEL (Gordon)

Summary

Novel

Results of indices check, New Orleans Office:

G.D. NOVEL

On 8/27/53, GORDON D. NOVEL, age 15, and other juveniles were arrested by the Louisiana State Police in Jefferson Parish, La., for placing a piece of iron in the Illinois Central Railroad switch at East Bridge, Jefferson Parish, La. Investigation reflected that the iron actually placed in the switch by [redacted] age 16, and other juveniles and NOVEL were aware that the iron had been placed in the switch.

DC  
WA  
11/10

FBI#

212503D

On 9/17/53, GORDON D. NOVEL and the six other juveniles were found guilty in Juvenile Court, Gretna, La., and were placed on probation for a period of six months.

During this investigation Deputy Sheriff GEORGE GILESPIE, Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office, advised that he had had previous trouble with GORDON D. NOVEL in that NOVEL had been a member of the "Nazi Storm Troopers" but had dropped out of that organization when the Sheriff's Office started an investigation of this outfit.

By letter dated 7/6/65, to the Bureau and New Orleans captioned "TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE COUNTER MEASURES; MISCELLANEOUS- INFORMATION CONCERNING, ESPIONAGE," the San Francisco Office advised that on 7/2/65, LEO H. JONES, Fargo Co., 1162 Bryant Street, San Francisco, advised he was in receipt of a letter dated 4/14/65, from International Electronic Systems, Corporation, 1107 Poydras Street, New Orleans, La., signed by GORDON NOVEL, President, Actions International Corporation. This letter requested that the latest brochures be sent to the attention of Mr. GORDON NOVEL, 230 Duplessis St., Apartment A, Metairie, La.

NO 89-69  
GMA;med

Mr. JONES stated that his Washington, D. C., representative, JAMES OBERDICK, had recently visited New Orleans and had been unable to locate the International Electronic Systems Corporation. LA

On 9/8/66, DOUGLAS SMITH, Lost and Found Department, Delta Airlines, New Orleans, La., advised the New Orleans, La. Office that three attache cases of electronic equipment were checked as baggage by passenger G. D. NOVEL on 9/1/66, for a Delta flight from Washington, D. C., to New Orleans, La. Upon arriving in New Orleans, NOVEL was unable to locate the three attache cases.

GORDON D. NOVEL was interviewed on 9/8/66, by the New Orleans Office, at which time he stated he was a field engineer and consultant Electronics Systems International Corporation, 822 Perdido Street, New Orleans, La.

NOVEL stated that he checked three black "Evans" attache cases plus one "Samsonite" suitcase at the Delta ticket office, 12th and K Streets, Washington, D. C., and upon arriving in New Orleans, when he went to claim his baggage the three attache cases were missing. He stated that the three attache cases contained three advanced prototypes of sophisticated electronic intelligence recording and transmission gear. He stated that they are known as "Mark-Check" systems and were designed primarily for use in industrial, Governmental, and police intelligence work. He stated he had been in Washington, D. C., to demonstrate this and other equipment to the State Department.

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NOVEL advised that the three attache cases which were missing were to be retailed for \$1,975, \$2,650, and \$2,975 a piece, and totaled in value \$7,600.

On 11/10/66, the <sup>Mrs Gordon Dwan</sup> ~~New Orleans~~ Retailers Credit Bureau, Inc. advised that NOVEL was then residing at 1106 Lake Avenue, Apartment 36, New Orleans, La., that he had two accounts listed as being satisfactory, and one account listed as being unsatisfactory. He was reported to be owner of International Dynamics and owner of Auto-Rama, Inc. The file indicated one divorce suit was recorded, #97384, dated 7/15/66, and his former wife was listed as MARIENE NOVEL. LA.

On 11/10/66, a check of the Identification Bureau and Record Room, New Orleans Police Department, reflected that GORDON D. NOVEL had been arrested for driving without a vehicle operator's license on his person eight times and for other traffic offenses, including speeding, running a stop sign, and expired vehicle license five times.

On 7/18/58, NOVEL was arrested in New Orleans for refusing to move on and on 8/14/65, he was arrested for making a threat against his father-in-law; the charge was subsequently dismissed.

According to the Identification Bureau, New Orleans Police Department, NOVEL has FBI Number 212503D.

Identification record of NOVEL received from the Bureau on 11/17/66, reflects the following arrests:

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
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[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
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CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
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[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

On 2/21/67, GORDON DWANE NOVEL telephonically contacted the New Orleans Office and furnished the following information:

NOVEL advised that he had been contacted during the late afternoon on 2/21/67, by WILLARD ROBERTSON, a New Orleans businessman whom NOVEL described as being the money behind District Attorney GARRISON. According to NOVEL, ROBERTSON told him it was imperative they meet immediately and arrangements were made to meet in ROBERTSON's office in the 225 Baronne Building. Upon meeting ROBERTSON, NOVEL was advised by ROBERTSON that District Attorney GARRISON wanted to meet him and ROBERTSON called GARRISON, arranging this meeting. NOVEL said he and ROBERTSON proceeded to the eleventh floor of the 225 Baronne Building to the facilities of an insurance firm and there awaited the arrival of GARRISON who finally appeared at approximately 5:30 PM.

NOVEL said GARRISON opened the conversation with inquiries concerning possible places where he (GARRISON) and his staff could hold conferences. According to NOVEL, GARRISON stated that he feels the FBI is carefully scrutinizing every move he makes and even possibly has sources within his own ranks. NOVEL said GARRISON discussed several methods he felt he would utilize in the future in order to keep his investigation into the assassination of President KENNEDY a secret. GARRISON advised NOVEL that the purpose of his

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contact was that he knew of NOVEL's ability to obtain information and further that NOVEL was very knowledgeable as to happenings in the New Orleans area.

NOVEL related that GARRISON inquired of him as to whether he had been interviewed by the FBI and that he had informed GARRISON that he, NOVEL, had contacted the FBI. GARRISON then inquired as to whether his name had come up during the contact with the FBI, to which NOVEL said he replied in the negative. GARRISON then began to question him about people or names he might know and specifically inquired about DAVID LOUIS, "ROLLAND," DAVID FERRIE, and MARTIN LAYTON (possibly identical with LAYTON P. MARTENS), associate of FERRIE. NOVEL informed he told GARRISON he knew only DAVID FERRIE of those mentioned. GARRISON then asked him if he knew anyone with the Riley Coffee Company and that he told GARRISON he knew an individual named TEX MEYER, a person with whom he had worked in the past. GARRISON asked him if he had any knowledge of where SERGIO ARCACHA SMITH obtained his financial support while in New Orleans, to which he replied that he did not know with the exception of supporting contributions that SMITH obtained from various individuals.

GARRISON asked NOVEL whether SERGIO ARCACHA SMITH or FERRIE owned a laundry truck. NOVEL said he told GARRISON that he had observed a step van laundry truck, dark in color, on one occasion parked in front of the Balter Building where SERGIO ARCACHA SMITH had his office. NOVEL said GARRISON then commented "there is a laundry truck mentioned in the files of the FBI in Dalks."

NOVEL stated GARRISON also asked him if he was acquainted with a girl by the name of SANDRA LARSON. He advised that he told GARRISON he knew a SANDRA LARSON, who was a "sharp gal" who sometimes dated BOB SONGE (phonetic) one of his, NOVEL's, associates in the Jamaican Village Lounge on North Rampart Street. NOVEL said he told GARRISON he had personally heard SANDRA LARSON say she was intimately acquainted with President KENNEDY.



NOVEL stated that District Attorney GARRISON had stated or at least implied that he felt DAVID FERRIE and his "Nutty" associates were involved in a conspiracy in the assassination of President KENNEDY. NOVEL reiterated that GARRISON repeatedly emphasized the name "ROLLAND" as being a possible clue in the conspiracy. NOVEL stated that it is GARRISON's contention that the conspirators were anti-CASTRO who hoped through the assassination of President KENNEDY to be able to, through national publicity, place the blame for the assassination on FIDEL CASTRO, which would result in influencing public opinion to the point where national retribution would be directed against CASTRO.

NOVEL advised GARRISON expressed concern about contamination of his investigation by other investigative agencies, namely, the FBI. NOVEL quoted GARRISON as saying that he would arrest and handcuff any Agent he caught becoming involved in his investigation and would submit him to public scrutiny. NOVEL said GARRISON stated "if they want my files that bad they can buy them." NOVEL stated that he did not furnish GARRISON information concerning his involvement with SERGIO ARCACHA SMITH at the blimp base at Houma, La., which he had previously furnished to the FBI. However, since GARRISON plans to interview his, NOVEL's, partner, RANCIER *La* ENLINGER, aka Ranny, at 9:30 AM, 2/22/67, he felt he would tell GARRISON the whole story prior to the interview with his partner because he felt that RANNY would probably tell GARRISON about it and, secondly, because he felt that by telling GARRISON he would gain his confidence and would be in better graces with GARRISON. NOVEL advised that since he planned to tell GARRISON everything concerning his involvement with SERGIO ARCACHA SMITH, he desired to mention something he had not previously furnished to the FBI concerning the ammunition bunker on the Houma Air Base. NOVEL advised that he and his partner, RANNY, approximately two weeks before taking ARCACHA SMITH and his party to the bunker had cased the bunker and knew pretty well what SMITH would find.



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NOVEL telephonically contacted the New Orleans Office on the late afternoon of 2/22/67, and advised that he and EHLINGER met with District Attorney GARRISON on that date and had furnished GARRISON the information that he had previously furnished to the FBI. NOVEL said GARRISON questioned them concerning any knowledge that they possessed of any relationship between CLAY SHAW and DAVID FERRIE. NOVEL said that GARRISON implied that SHAW was identical with a CLAY BERTRAND who had contacted Attorney DEAN ANDREWS to represent LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

NOVEL further informed that GARRISON and his associates felt the FBI was monitoring their switchboard and that it appears that if things go badly with GARRISON's investigation they may be looking for a "scrape goat," possibly the FBI.

GARRISON, according to NOVEL, inquired as to the meaning of the words "Daquiri" and "Larti." GARRISON also asked for any knowledge NOVEL and his partner had concerning anti-CASTRO assassination camps in the Slidell and Covington, La., area.

NOVEL quoted GARRISON as saying that he was six months ahead of the FBI in his investigation and indicated that he planned to arrest FERRIE in five days as the leader in the plot to assassinate President KENNEDY. GARRISON also questioned NOVEL concerning quick ways of making FERRIE confess and mentioned the use of sodium penathal. According to NOVEL, GARRISON is obsessed with the theory that a laundry or milk truck is in some way involved in the assassination.