

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

FROM : Mr. W. A. Branigan

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

- 1 - Mr. C. D. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Wick
- 1 - Mr. Rosen

DATE: 4/26/67

- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Branigan
- 1 - Mr. Raupach
- 1 - Mr. Lenihan

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Wick \_\_\_\_\_  
 Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
 Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
 Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

~~SECRET~~

Classified by 2040  
 Exempt from GDS, Category 2  
 Date of Declassification Indefinite 6/25/77

The purpose of this memorandum is to briefly analyze data appearing in a New Orleans newspaper 4/25/67 regarding the assassination.

The New Orleans "States-Item" for 4/25/67 carried an article entitled "Mounting Evidence Links CIA to 'Plot Probe.'" The article reports that an Italian newspaper alleged that Clay Shaw was linked to CIA through the World Trade Center Corporation, allegedly a CIA front operation. The article also reported that Gordon Novel, "fugitive witness" of the Garrison investigation, had informed friends and intimates that he was a CIA operative and would use this role to battle Garrison's charges. The article states that Novel claimed he operated the Evergreen Advertising Agency as a front for CIA communication and that funds were channeled to him by CIA. Novel also claims, according to the article, that his CIA contact instructed him to join a group to remove munitions from a bunker at Houma, Louisiana, reportedly owned by the Schumberger Well Service Company. Novel claims that David William Ferrie, Sergio Arcacha Smith, several Cubans and another figure in the case were all acting for CIA in removing munitions from this bunker.

We have contacted CIA to determine whether CIA had any association with Clay Shaw. CIA has informed us that CIA's Domestic Contact Service had a relationship with Shaw from December, 1948, through May, 1956. CIA was interested in Shaw's international contacts in connection with CIA responsibility to collect positive foreign intelligence. CIA has not been in contact with Shaw since May, 1956.

The last record in CIA files concerning Shaw reflects that on May 9, 1961, Deputy Director Cabell of CIA spoke before the Foreign Policy Association in New Orleans. On the occasion of this speech Cabell was introduced by Clay Shaw who was the Program Director.

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55 MAY 9 1967

memo to AG 4/27/67  
REL: as

DECLASSIFIED  
ON 11/18/84 BY 20939  
Mr. CIA/DOA 9/23/85

5- [Signature]

Memorandum to Mr. W. C. Sullivan  
RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY  
62-109060

On 4/25/67 Mr. Howard Osborn, Director of Security, CIA, informed Bureau liaison that Novel's alleged claim that he was associated with CIA is completely false. Mr. Osborn stated that Gordon Novel, David William Ferrie and Sergio Arcacha Smith have never been of operational interest to CIA. He also stated that the Evergreen Advertising Agency has no connection whatsoever with CIA operations. Mr. Osborn also stated that CIA has never utilized bunkers belonging to the Schumberger Well Service Company for storage of munitions.

Of further interest in this particular matter is an Associated Press news item for 4/25/67 which quotes Mr. Jerry Weiner, Columbus, Ohio, attorney for Gordon Novel, in speaking of a CIA link with Novel: "It's utterly ridiculous. Novel is not now and has never been a CIA agent."

ACTION:

None. For information.

*del* *ok* *P* *✓* *112*

*X*