

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, NEW ORLEANS (89-69)

DATE: 11/25/63

FROM : ASAC J. T. SYLVESTER, JR.

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT  
 JOHN F. KENNEDY, 11/22/63,  
 DALLAS, TEXAS

Re: DAVID WILLIAM FERRIE

P. J. TROSCLAIR, Intelligence Unit, at 8:32 p.m., 11/22/63 telephonically contacted ASAC J. T. SYLVESTER at home. He inquired as to whether or not the gun had been identified and whether this office had any information concerning the gun that was used to shoot the President. He stated the reason he was asking was because they had received no request from the Dallas police or anyone; that the only information he had was via the radio and T. V. concerning this gun. He advised there were a lot of outlets in New Orleans that could be checked as LEE HARVEY OSWALD had lived here. He was advised that I had no definite information concerning this and that all of our leads would be coming out of Dallas if they desired any check.

He referred to DAVID WILLIAM FERRIE, advising he was tied in with a Cuban movement; was an ex-pilot of Eastern Airlines; had flown planes into Central America and was currently employed by G. WRAY GILL, an attorney. He stated he understood but he had to back it up that OSWALD was possibly friendly with FERRIE in view of his Cuban activities. I advised Mr. TROSCLAIR that we were interested in any information he might have which would indicate that OSWALD was friendly with FERRIE.

BILL REED of WWL T. V. on 11/24/63 at 12:25 p.m. stated they were running a check on DAVID FERRIE of 3303 Louisiana Ave. Pkwy., formerly connected with the Civil Air Patrol and Eastern Airlines, who allegedly a few years ago was a friend of LEE HARVEY OSWALD and that OSWALD might be connected with the Civil Air Patrol. He stated they were looking to interview FERRIE who is employed by G. WRAY GILL but were unsuccessful and FERRIE had an unlisted telephone.

5 - New Orleans

JTS:lil

*(Handwritten initials)*

89-69-169

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
NOV 25 1963	
FBI - NEW ORLEANS	

RECEIVED FBI P.L. 102-536 (PK ACN)  
 DATE 11-20-63

At 8:28 a.m. on 11/25/63, a reporter from the States-Item, Mr. HUTSON, appeared at the New Orleans Office and advised the 2nd District had a ~~PATRICK L. MERTENS~~<sup>MARTENS</sup>, age 20, of 3303 Louisiana Avenue Parkway and a ROLAND BEAUBAUF, age 18, of 2427 Alvar, in custody in the 2nd District booked for vagrancy and marked "hold for Secret Service and FBI." I advised BILL MANNING we were in no position to comment on this but the FBI had at no time asked police to mark anybody "hold for the FBI" unless there was a warrant of arrest outstanding for an individual.

I stated this was something that was always done and then said we had no comment concerning these men.

At 8:35 a.m., 11/25/63 I telephonically contacted the PD and talked to Patrolman WEINSTEIN of the Intelligence Unit, New Orleans PD, and asked what information he had concerning MERTENS and BEAUBAUF. He advised he had checked the records and they had no information concerning them.

At 8:38 a.m. I received a telephone call from SA REGIS L. KENNEDY at home and stated ~~1/11~~ he had received a telephone call from an officer in the DA's Office, RAYMOND COMSTOCK who called and asked SA KENNEDY where DAVID WILLIAM FERRIE could be located as they were looking for him in connection with the slaying in Dallas. He did not say why they were looking for him.

At 8:45 a.m. BILL MANNING, States-Item, advised it was their understanding although they had no source for this that DAVID FERRIE flew to Dallas on the day the President was assassinated, 11/22/63.

JTS:jab

At 9:02 AM, 11/25/63, P. J. TROSCLAIR of the Intelligence Unit, New Orleans PD, advised they had no information concerning the arrests made by District Attorney's office and that the police had not marked the records "hold for the FBI or Secret Service" concerning the arrest of MARTENS or BEAUF, that this was done by the District Attorney's office.

RELEASED PER P.L. 102-526 (JFK ACT)  
DATE 6-20-95  
NARA

NO 89-69

At 9:05 AM, ASAC SYLVESTER contacted JOHN RICE, Special Agent in Charge of the Secret Service by telephone. He advised he had no information concerning these arrests and they were interested in interviewing FERRIE if located.

At 10:40 AM, I talked to Supervisor RICHARD GALLAGHER of Division 6 and referred him to correspondence contained in the DAVID WILLIAM FERRIE file forwarded from this office by airtel and a letter forwarded from the Bureau to New Orleans concerning FERRIE. I advised him of the arrest of MARTENS and pointed out I would check with Assistant Director DeLOACH concerning any comments we should make concerning this arrest and the police arrest to the newspaper upon query.

At 10:55 AM, HAROLD LEINBAUGH of Assistant Director DeLOACH's Division was furnished with information as furnished to SA GALLAGHER at which time it was agreed that this office should advise the newspapers the FBI does not ask anyone to "hold for the FBI unless a warrant is outstanding" and we have no warrant outstanding for either PATRICK MARTENS or BEAUF.

At 11:13 AM, reporter DONALD HUDSON of the New Orleans States Item newspaper, telephonically contacted this office and was furnished with this quote; at 11:16 AM GORDON EZELL of the Times Picayune newspaper was furnished with this quote. At 11:40 AM, CARROLL TROSCLAIR of the UPI telephonically contacted this office and was furnished with this same quote.

For their use and no further dissemination, it is noted that the Bureau has no comment to be made concerning this

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RELEASED PER P.L. 102-526 (JFK ACT)  
DATE 6-20-95  
MARIA

RELEASED PER P.L. 103-526 (P.R. ACT) DATE 11/29/98

Date: 01/26/94  
Page: 1

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

IDENTIFICATION FORM

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AGENCY INFORMATION

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RECORDS SERIES :  
HQ

AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 105-82555-72  
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DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR : FBI  
FROM : ROSEN, A.  
TO : BELMONT

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DATE : 11/29/63  
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SUBJECTS :  
FERRIE, DAVID, ASSOC, JG, INVESTIGATION

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DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 01/25/94

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COMMENTS :

RELEASED PER P.L. 103-528 (PUB. L. 103-528) (JFK ACT) DATE 11/29/98 NARA W31

Form NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont *above*

DATE: 11/29/63

FROM : A. Rosen *below*

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY

- Tolson
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Cooper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- DeLoach
- Evans
- Gale
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holmes
- Gandy

V.

The office of the District Attorney, New Orleans arrested one David William Ferrie and two associates for vagrancy on the basis of information indicating Ferrie taught Lee Harvey Oswald how to use a telescopic rifle sight. This has been disproven.

David William Ferrie is employed as a research man for New Orleans attorney G. Wray Gill. Mr. Gill reportedly stated that Oswald when arrested at Dallas possessed a library card bearing the name of David William Ferrie. This is not true as the card which Oswald possessed was in his own name.

Gill also reportedly said that Ferrie had stated in the presence of one Jack S. Martin that the President should be killed and had outlined plans to accomplish this.

It has been determined that Jack S. Martin, a private investigator in New Orleans, is the source of all these allegations. Martin is well-known to the New Orleans Office and has been confined as a psychiatric patient and is considered thoroughly unreliable.

Martin, on interview, advised Agents he had witnessed a television program November 23, 1963, on which several individuals reported an association of Lee Oswald and David Ferrie. Martin said as he knew that Ferrie was a former commander of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) and had been active in training members of the CAP, he surmised that Ferrie may have trained Oswald in the use of a telescopic rifle. He reported this suspicion to the District Attorney's Office, New Orleans, and on this basis members of that office proceeded to Ferrie's residence and in his absence arrested two associates and subsequently arrested Ferrie, charging all with vagrancy. Martin denied he had ever said that Ferrie made a statement that the President should be killed.

REC 30

1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DAS:tak *tak*  
(7)

*105-82355-72*  
*DEC 29 1963*

*1 XEROX 116*  
*DEC 3 1963 ONE*

DEC 2 1963

53 DEC 4 1963

*HSCA Request 1/30/78*

UNRECORDED COPY

RELEASED PER P.L. 103-526 (JFK ACT)  
 DATE 11/24/98  
 NARA (WBI)

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont  
 RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT  
 JOHN F. KENNEDY

*Lee*

Edward Voebel, New Orleans, was the person who in a television appearance on November 23, 1963, stated he knew Oswald as a former member of the Civil Air Patrol in New Orleans. During this same television presentation it was mentioned that David William Ferrie was a former commander of the CAP, however, there was no mention of any association between Ferrie and Oswald.

Edward Voebel, on interview, said he had been a member of the CAP, New Orleans, for approximately one year, 1955-1956. David William Ferrie took over as commander of the CAP unit during this time. Voebel took Oswald to one of the meetings and stated Oswald attended several meetings, possibly four meetings at the most. According to Voebel, Oswald lost interest as he disliked the authority and discipline in connection with the CAP activity.

David William Ferrie upon interview acknowledged he had been a member and past commander of the CAP unit in New Orleans. He said he does not know anyone named Lee Harvey Oswald and could not identify a photograph of him. Ferrie said he had never instructed Oswald or anyone else in the use of American-made or foreign-made firearms. While in the CAP he assisted in firearms instruction for range safety only. Ferrie denied ever having made a statement that the President should be killed. He said he was associated with the Cuban Revolutionary Front in New Orleans, which is an anti-Castro organization. Ferrie at the time of the Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba said he was very much concerned at the lack of air cover provided and at that time criticized President Kennedy both in public and in private. He said he may have used a offhand or colloquial expression, "He ought to be shot," in connection with his feelings about the Cuban situation at that time. Ferrie said he has also been called a worshiper of Kennedy because he is a strong believer in many of the programs of the Kennedy administration.

RECOMMENDATION:

Above for information. New Orleans Division vigorously pursuing investigation and development of all possible information concerning the activities of Lee Harvey Oswald in that area.

*APL*

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*