

XIV. Name Searches

A. John Abt (FBI-11)

John Abt was an attorney who represented the CPUSA.¹ Following his arrest on November 22, 1963, Lee Harvey Oswald stated to representatives of the media, that he wanted to be represented by John Abt. The Review Board requested access to review references to John Abt in the files of FBI headquarters, and the New York and New Haven field offices. Abt's primary residence was in New York City, but he was spending the weekend of November 22, 1963 at his cabin in Connecticut. The FBI provided records from headquarters and from the New York field office. Records from the New Haven field office have been destroyed. The Review Board designated twenty-four serials (all dated after November 22, 1963) for processing under the JFK Act. The records concerned Communist Party meetings at which the Kennedy assassination was discussed, or allegations that Abt knew Oswald prior to the assassination

B. Sergio Arcacha-Smith, Antonio Veciana and Bernardo de Torres (FBI-28)

Sergio Arcacha-Smith, Antonio Veciana and Bernardo de Torres were anti-Castro Cuban activists in the early 1960s. Arcacha-Smith was the New Orleans representative to the Cuban Revolutionary Council until 1962, and in that capacity used an office in the building at 544 Camp Street. The 544 Camp Street address was printed on FPCC literature distributed by Lee Harvey Oswald in New Orleans in August of 1963. Veciana was the head of Alpha-66, a violent anti-Castro organization that was in paramilitary operations against Castro's Cuba as well as assassination attempts against Castro himself. Veciana testified to the HSCA that he was an agent of the US government, and that he met Lee Harvey Oswald in Dallas in 1963 in the presence of his American handler. Torres was a Cuban exile living in Miami who later worked with New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison in his investigation of the assassination. The HSCA reviewed the Headquarters files on Arcacha-Smith, Veciana, and Torres. The Review Board requested an additional search for files from Headquarters, New Orleans, Houston, and Dallas field office files to determine whether the FBI had any other assassination related information on these three individuals. The Review Board designated 33 documents for processing as assassination records from the many files produced responsive to this request. The designated documents were primarily concerned with reactions to assassination within the Cuban exile community.

C. Edward Becker (FBI-41)

The HSCA reviewed the headquarters file on Edward Becker (92-9927), and as such it

¹Abt was often mentioned in *The Worker* newspaper, to which Oswald subscribed.

was processed under the JFK Act. Becker alleged that Carlos Marcello threatened to have President Kennedy killed in September of 1962. The Review Board requested access to the Los Angeles field office file on Edward Becker, as well as access to the control file on the informant file on the LA informant who discredited Becker's allegation. The Review Board designated two documents from the LA field office file on Becker and one document from the LA informant file. All of the Review Board designated records concerned Becker's allegation that Marcello threatened President Kennedy.

F. Ed Butler & INCA (FBI-27)

Ed Butler was Executive Vice-President of the Information Council of the Americas (INCA). INCA was/is a clearing house for anti-communist information. Butler debated Lee Harvey Oswald on WDSU radio in New Orleans following Oswald's arrest for disturbing the peace in August 1963. Following the events in Dallas November 22-24, 1963, but before the formation of the Warren Commission, Butler testified before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee regarding his contact with Oswald. The Review Board requested access to all FBI headquarters and New Orleans field office files on Edward Scannell Butler and the Information Council of the Americas. The Review Board designated five additional records to be processed under the JFK Act. All of these records concerned Butler's contact with Oswald in August of 1963.

H. Lawrence X. Cusack

Lawrence Cusack was prominent New York attorney in the 1950s and 1960s who represented, among other clients, the Archdiocese of New York. The Review Board received information that Mr. Cusack was the private attorney for Joseph P. Kennedy and that a cache of salacious documents regarding Mr. Cusack's professional (but secret) relationship with John F. Kennedy were being peddled to rare document collectors by Mr. Cusack's son. The documents allegedly contained information regarding JFK's relationship with Marilyn Monroe and various mafia figures. The authenticity of the documents was questioned and eventually the document were determined to be forgeries. The Review Board requested access to all FBI headquarters and New York field office files on Lawrence X. Cusack. No assassination records were found in the records provided by the FBI.

I. Adele Edisen (FBI-21)

In public testimony before the Review Board and on other occasions, Dr. Edison has stated that, in New Orleans on November 24, 1963, she recounted to an FBI agent and a Secret Service agent her knowledge of apparent dealings that Dr. Jose Rivera and Mr. Winston de Monsabert had with Lee Harvey Oswald in 1963. The Review Board requested

FBI records on these individuals from FBI headquarters and field offices in Baltimore, Dallas, Denver, New Orleans and Washington, D.C.

J. Billie Sol Estes (FBI-47)

Billie Sol Estes was a wheeler-dealer who had some financial relationship with Lyndon Johnson. In the 1980s, Estes made allegations that Johnson played some role in the assassination of President Kennedy. The Review Board requested access to all FBI headquarters files on Billie Sol Estes. The Review Board designated eight serials for processing as assassination records under the JFK Act. All of the designated records concern Estes' alleged knowledge of persons connected to the assassination of President Kennedy.

K. Judith Campbell Exner (FBI-42)

Judith Campbell Exner claims to have been the link between President Kennedy and the Mafia, specifically Sam Giancana and Johnny Roselli. She was introduced to JFK by Frank Sinatra during the Presidential primary campaign in the spring of 1960. She claims to have had a love affair with JFK that lasted from January (**February?**) of 1960 until March of 1962. In 1975 she gained attention in the national media when she made these allegations in testimony before the Church Committee in its investigation of the CIA plots to assassinate Fidel Castro. Between 1976 and 1997, Ms. Exner filed numerous lawsuits against the FBI seeking access to all information held in government records on her. The Review Board requested access to all FBI headquarters and field office main files on Judith Campbell Exner.

The FBI produced several small field office files containing press clipping collected on Ms. Exner, as well as several files which reflect Ms. Campbell's efforts to gain access to information on her in the FBI's files. The FBI also produced several files with references women with names similar to Judith Campbell Exner. The Review Board designated as assassination records all serials which were either main files on Ms. Exner, or made reference to Ms. Exner. The Review Board also designated the entire FBI file on the murder of Johnny Roselli which was produced under this request.

L. H.L. Hunt and family/Clint Murchison and family (FBI-38)

There have been allegations that the assassination of President Kennedy was masterminded by wealthy Dallas oilmen H.L. Hunt and Clint Murchison. The Review Board requested access to all FBI headquarters and Dallas field office files on the following individuals during the period 1960 through 1969: H.L. Hunt; Nelson Bunker Hunt; Lamar Hunt; Clint Murchison, Sr.; Clint Murchison, Jr.; and Paul M. Rothermel. There were many documents with references to the Hunts, the Murchisons and Rothermel, but the documents were primarily concerned with their business dealings or their political activities. The

Review Board designated ten documents from the files produced in response to this request. Each of these newly designated assassination records were dated after President Kennedy's assassination, and were concerned with allegations that either the Hunts or the Murchisons were involved in the assassination.

M. Joseph P. Kennedy (FBI-43)

There have been many allegations in the years following the assassination of President Kennedy that the 1960 campaign for the Democratic nomination and the Presidency were heavily influenced by money raised through Joseph P. Kennedy's organized crime connections. With the understanding that Joseph P. Kennedy was a prominent American who served in many high-level government positions, the Review Board limited its request for files on Joseph P. Kennedy to: 1) a list of file numbers and case captions of files where Mr. Kennedy was the main subject of the file; and 2) field office files for the 1956 FBI investigations for Mr. Kennedy in connection with his appointment to the Presidential Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities of the U.S. Government. The Review Board singled out the 1956 background investigation because of its proximity to the 1960 presidential election, and the allegations of organized crime influence during that election. The Review Board also requested that the FBI provide a list of file numbers and case captions that contained documents mentioning Mr. Kennedy. The Review Board designated three serials produced in response to this request, each of which concerned threats to Joseph P. Kennedy and his family.

N. Oswald LeWinter--Michelle

O. John Thomas Masen (FBI-22)

John Thomas Masen was a Dallas area gun dealer who was arrested on gun smuggling charges two days before the assassination of President Kennedy. During the fall of 1963, he was supplying arms to the Directorio Revolucionario Estudiantial (DRE), an anti-Castro group based in Miami. Masen was interviewed by the FBI during the assassination investigation regarding allegations that he may have sold 6.5 mm Mannlicher-Carcano ammunition to Lee Harvey Oswald. Masen's alleged connections to Lee Harvey Oswald are detailed *Oswald Talked* by Mary and Ray La Fontaine, which was published during the Review Board's tenure. The Review Board requested access to FBI files on John Thomas Masen from the following locations: Headquarters (105-12547); San Antonio (105-2886); Dallas (105-1686); and Miami (105-8229). The Review Board designated each of these files in their entirety except for the Miami file which has been destroyed. These files describe the FBI's investigation of Masen in 1963 and 1964, and his association with the DRE.

P. John McVickar

Q. Winston de Monsabert (see Adele Edison, FBI-21)

R. Elizabeth Catlett Mora (FBI-13)

Elizabeth Catlett Mora was a prominent American communist who lived in Mexico City in the early 1960s. Mora was an associate of Vincent T. Lee, head of the FPCC, and traveled to Cuba with him in December of 1962. The Review Board requested access to Headquarters and Mexico City files references to Mora to determine if the Communist community in Mexico City had any contact with Oswald during his trip to Mexico City in the fall of 1963. The Review Board designated twelve serials from the Headquarters file on Mora which concerned the Oswald investigation in Mexico City.

S. Clint Murchison and family (see H.L. Hunt and family, FBI-38)

T. Richard Case Nagel

U. Gordon Novel

V. Orest Pena (FBI-3)

Orest Pena was an anti-Castro activist and bar owner in New Orleans in the late 1950s and early 1960s. Lee Harvey Oswald visited his bar in the summer of 1963. Pena claimed he was an informant for the FBI. Pena testified before the Warren Commission, and in interviews with the HSCA alleged that he knew that Oswald was an FBI informant and that Special Agent Warren de Brueys was The Review Board requested access to any headquarters or field office files under the "134" or "137" classification (the FBI file classification for its informant source files). The FBI found no files responsive to this request.

W. Carlos Quiroga

Carlos Quiroga was an anti-Castro Cuban activist in New Orleans who had some contact with Lee Harvey Oswald in the summer of 1963. Quiroga received Oswald's flyer on the FPCC, contacted Oswald, and feigned interest in the group. He spent time with Oswald to determine whether there was a serious pro-Castro group in New Orleans. The Review Board requested access to all Headquarters and New Orleans field office files regarding Carlos Quiroga. The Review Board designated six serials from New Orleans file 105-1095.

X. Jose Rivera (see Adele Edison, FBI-21)

Y. Charles Small (FBI-15)

Charles Small was a prominent American communist who lived in Mexico City in the early 1960s. The Review Board requested access to Headquarters and Mexico City files references to Small to determine if the Communist community in Mexico City had any contact with Oswald during his trip to Mexico City in the fall of 1963. The Review Board designated as assassination records eighteen serials from the files produced in response to this request. These documents were primarily concerned with the Mexico City communist community's reaction to the assassination and to the fact that Oswald had visited Mexico City shortly before the assassination.

Z. Clarence Daniel Smelley (FBI-18)

Clarence Daniel Smelley was a member of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters in Birmingham, Alabama who alleged in 1964 that he had information in his possession that Teamster President Jimmy Hoffa had conspired to and carried out the assassination of President Kennedy. The Review Board requested access to FBI Headquarters file 72-1561, "James Riddle Hoffa; Clarence Daniel Smelley; Unknown Subjects", as well as the corresponding Memphis and Birmingham field office files. The Review Board designated the entire headquarters file, 72-1561, for processing under the JFK Act. This file documented the Bureau's investigation of Smelley and his allegation. The corresponding Memphis and Birmingham field office files were destroyed in the 1970s.

AA. Richard Snyder- Michelle

BB. Bernardo de Torres (see Sergio Arcacha-Smith, FBI-28)

CC. Antonio Veciana (see Sergio Arcacha-Smith, FBI-28)

DD. Marty Underwood (FBI-44)

Marty Underwood was a political operative who worked for both President Kennedy and President Johnson. He traveled to Texas with President Kennedy in November of 1963.

It has been alleged that Mr. Underwood was charged with following Judith Campbell on a trip she made in April of 1960 from Washington to Chicago carrying a satchel full of cash to be delivered from then-candidate Kennedy to Chicago mafia boss Sam Giancana. The Review Board requested access to any and all file references to Marty Underwood. The FBI produced two documents responsive to this request, and neither records contained any assassination related information.

EE. General Edwin Walker and the Minutemen

General Edwin Walker was a retired Major General who was a right-wing political activist. He was forced into retirement from the U.S. Army in 1961 for distributing right-wing literature to soldiers under his command. General Walker was involved in organizing the protests of James Merideth's matriculation to the University of Mississippi in the fall of 1962, as well as protests of Adlai Stevenson's visit to Dallas in October of 1963. General Walker lived in Dallas in 1963, and after the events of November 22-24, 1963, Marina Oswald alleged that it was Lee Harvey Oswald who shot at General Walker's home in April of 1963. The Review Board was interested in whether the FBI had any information which indicated that Walker or his followers had: 1) expressed any desire to assassinate President Kennedy; 2) any contact with Lee Harvey Oswald; or 3) any information regarding Walker shooting. The Review Board requested access to Headquarters and Dallas field office files on General Walker, the Minutemen, the Headquarters file number 100-439412 and the Dallas field office file number 105-1475. The FBI produced numerous files in response to this request, and the Review Board recommended 191 documents from the various files produced. These documents concerned threats against President Kennedy and members of the Kennedy administration, or reactions within the right-wing political community to the assassination of President Kennedy.