

## MEMORANDUM

March 6, 1998

To: Laura Denk

cc: Jeremy Gunn

From: Sarah Ahmed, Marie Fagnant, and Carrie Fletcher

Subject: Review of Headquarters and New York files regarding John Abt; FBI-11(2)

This memorandum is to inform you of the review of the FBI files provided to the Board in response to our request for additional information on John Abt. Sarah Ahmed, Marie Fagnant, and Carrie Fletcher reviewed the Headquarters and New York files. The FBI has informed us that the New Haven file was destroyed, but we are awaiting evidence of the destruction.

### Headquarters files

100-HQ-236194 Serials 246-258; June 1961 to January 1964

Volume 9 Serial 258: A statement which included how Abt received nationwide publicity because Lee Harvey Oswald had requested his services- January 17, 1964. An investigative report in which Abt hands over six letters written by Lee Harvey Oswald to the FBI. The letters were directed to The Worker and ask for assistance in activities and employment- January 3, 1964. In the same report there is a reference to a New York Times article from November 24, 1963 which mentions Mr. Abt. The article describes the assassination and any evidence which may be available.

Serial 257: Letters between J. Edgar Hoover and Rep. Clifford Davis of Tennessee regarding an

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article in the Nashville Banner, dated November 25, 1963, which insinuates there was a plot and the assassination could not have been done by one man alone.

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Serial 100-236194-A NR: An article from The Worker which refers to a resolution, part of which is addressed to President Kennedy- praising his State of the Union address and urging him to cease enforcing the Un-American McCarran Act. The article is dated February 4, 1962.

100-HQ-236194  
Section 10 Serials 259-263; January 1964-July 1964  
Serial 100-136194 NR: A memo which mentions Lee Harvey Oswald attempting to contact John Abt- January 31, 1964. This memo refers to the report in Serial 258.

100-HQ-236194  
Section 11 Serials 264-292; August 1964-August 1967.  
Serial 100-236194 NR: A report which includes Abt being asked on television if Lee Harvey Oswald requested his services. Abt replied he hadn't heard of Oswald until the assassination and he had heard that Oswald requested him but never got the chance to find out. This report is dated April 3, 1964.

### New York Files

Cross Reference Serial 65-14825-B1-19, containing a response to Margarita Oswald's press conference, should be designated an assassination record.

229C-9 Volume 24 Serial 100-54965-2072, containing references to President Kennedy during a Communist Party meeting, should be designated an assassination record.  
Serial 100-54965-2058, containing references to President Kennedy during a Communist Party meeting, should be designated an assassination record.

Volume 25 Serial 100-54965-2128, containing allegations that the Pentagon forced President Kennedy to issue a blockade on Cuba, should be designated an assassination record.

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Volume 26	Serials 100-54965-(2134-2201); 12/6/62-1/29/63 No assassination records
Volume 27	Serials 100-54965-(2202-2276); 1/31/63-9/16/63 No assassination records
Volume 28	Serials 100-54965-(2279-2385); 7/16/63-6/17/64

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Serial 100-54965-2353 a 4/15/64 teletype from SAC, New York to Director, FBI regarding Abt's calls to different persons to appear before the President's Commission because of suspected contact with LHO.

Serial 100-54965-2350 a 3/26/64 report from SA Charles Davis to SAC, New York mentions disagreement at CP meeting as to whether President Kennedy's killer being from the right or the left (p.2).

Serial 100-54965-2345 a 3/11/64 report from SA Joseph T. O'Leary to SAC, New York mentions at a CP meeting Henry Winston's opinion that Kennedy is dead because he tried to help Negro people (p.3).

Serial 100-54965-2321 a 2/13/64 report from SA John Di March to SAC, New York regarding Abt mention of an article identifying that the FBI did not report Oswald to Secret Service because it would be a waste of manpower at a CP meeting (p. 2).

Serial 100-54965-2310 a 1/31/64 memo from SAC, New York to Director, FBI stating that information on LHO's attempt to contact John Abt is listed on p. 1a and 10 of SA John L. Fagan's 1/3/64 report.

Serial 100-54965-2308 a 1/29/64 report from SA Bernard T. McCabe to SAC, New York regarding Abt mention of an article identifying that the FBI did not report Oswald to Secret Service because it would be a waste of manpower at a CP meeting (p. 2).

Serial 100-54965-2305 a 1/17/64 memo from Director, FBI to SAC, New York mentions Abt receiving nationwide attention when LHO wanted Abt as his attorney.

Serial 100-54965-2304 a 1/16/64 report from SA Sebastian S. Mignosa to SAC, New York regarding CP meeting where attendees discussed the effects Kennedy's death has had on the CP.

Serial 100-54965-2300 a 1/7/64 report from SA Victor A. Lemaitre to SAC, New York regarding the possible placing of an ad in the "New York Times" denouncing "assassination fever" and other communist agenda items.

Serial 100-54965-2298 a 1/3/64 report of John L. Fagan at New York announces that Abt handed over 6 letters from LHO to CP and "The Worker," 2 letters from Arnold Johnson to LHO, letter from LHO to the Hall-Davis Defense Committee (cover p. B); LHO tries to contact Abt while in Dallas (p. 1a); and LHO allegedly makes a phone call to Abt in New York and Abt denies receiving call or knowing LHO (p. 10).

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Serials 100-54965-(2386-2466); 6/15/64-11/10/64

No assassination records

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