

MEMORANDUM

August 5, 1997

To: Laura Denk
Kevin Tiernan
cc: Jeremy Gunn
From: Marie Fagnant

Subject: Summary of FBI HQ and Dallas Field Office Files on General Edwin A. Walker, the Minutemen, and Unnamed Organization of Dallas, FBI Request Number 34

I have completed my review of 25 sections of 8 FBI HQ files and 12 "See" reference documents, and 13 sections of 11 Dallas field office files and 5 "See" reference documents that the FBI produced as part of our request for additional information on Walker, the Minutemen Organization, and the Unnamed Organization of Dallas. I have not reviewed section 3 of the General Edwin Walker HQ file 116-165494; and I have yet to review Minutemen file 62-107261, sections 1-14, 16, 20-25, 35, 38-40, 42-44, and 46 as the FBI is still trying to locate them. I will update this memo as soon as the files are found and my review of these sections is complete.

General Edwin A. Walker, after resigning from the Army over an incident involving distribution of John Birch Society literature, becomes an outspoken instrument of the anti-communist movement in Dallas. He lectured around the country, published much anti-communist literature, and for a short time, ran for governor of Texas. He is also involved in a libel suit with the press for statements made against him. In April 1963, General Walker is shot at while in his home, but no would-be assassin is found. After the Kennedy assassination, using Marina Oswald's testimony and bullet analysis, it is believed that Lee Harvey Oswald may have shot at Walker that night in April. I found 72 assassination records were found for designation.

The Minutemen were dedicated to helping the government protect America against a Communist invasion when one occurred. This underground organization believed that most of the government had been infiltrated by the communists already, and so it would be necessary to protect the citizenry from its own government at the appropriate time. The majority of the documents produced by the FBI contained background information on members, their location, and activities. Literature, including the group's newsletter, "On Target," is often enclosed. I found 22 assassination records for designation.

FBI 4.16.4 (FBI-34) Fagnant e:\wp-docs\fbf\summary\walker2

The Unnamed Organization of Dallas, TX was affiliated with General Walker, although it is not apparent that he headed this group. The Dallas field office was investigating the group in order to determine if they posed a threat to internal security. Several documents are relevant in terms of linking possible nefarious characters to one another in Dallas in the years prior to and around the time of the assassination and a couple years before. The information is interesting, although I am not entirely sure if it merits designation as assassination records. I found 19 assassination records for designation.

The following is a list of all FBI HQ and Dallas field office files and See References that I have reviewed on General Edwin A. Walker, the Minutemen, and the Unnamed Organization of Dallas.

FBI HQ Files on Edwin A. Walker

Section 1 • 163-11998-(1);
not an assassination record

No Section • 44-34673-(1-3);
no assassination records (The records contained in this Edwin Walker file did not relate to the General Edwin Walker with whom we are concerned.)

Section 1 116-165494-(1-75); 1/30/50 through 3/12/64

- 116-165494-(51, 52, 54-57, 59)

All seven serial numbers are duplicate documents. The originals are filed in 62-109060. These documents relate the Dallas Police Department's investigation into LHO's alleged attempt to assassinate General Walker, Marina's testimony in this regard, and the possibility of the same rifle being used in the assassination attempt on Walker and the assassination of JFK.

- 116-165494-(53, 1st NR after 54, 1st NR after 56, 60, 1st NR after 60, 61, 62, 1st NR after 62, 63, 1st NR after 63, 2nd NR after 63, 64, 1st NR after 64, 2nd NR after 64, 65, 66, 71-74, 1st NR after 74, 2nd NR after 74, 75)

All 23 serial numbers are duplicate documents. The originals are filed in 105-82555. These documents relate the Dallas Police Department's investigation into LHO's alleged attempt to

assassinate General Walker, Marina's testimony in this regard, and possibility of the same rifle being used in the assassination the assassination of JFK.

the attempt on Walker and

- **116-165494-45**
4/24/63 postcard to Mr. Hoover from David Cavaness requesting that the FBI investigate the attempted assassination of Walker. General

- **116-165494-42**
This is a duplicate document. The original document is filed as 157-970-16. 3/15/63 memo to Director, FBI from SAC, Memphis regarding a speech of Walker's in which he states they (the anti-communists) would "fight the Kennedys wherever they could." that

- **116-165494-48**
This is a duplicate document. The original document is filed as 157-970-109. 8/2/63 memo to Director, FBI from SAC, Oklahoma City regarding a speech of Walker's in which he states that they (the anti-communists) would "fight the Kennedys wherever they could".

- **116-165494-58**
This is a duplicate document. The original document is filed as 94-1-2593. 12/06/63 memo to DeLoach from M.A. Jones regarding Walker's complaint against United Press coverage and that LHO was Walker's assassin as well as JFK.

Section 2 **116-165494-(76-114); 5/27/64-10/2/65**

- **116-165494-(76, 77,78, 1st NR 79, 2nd NR 79, 3rd NR 79, 80, 84, 90)**
These nine documents are duplicates. The originals are filed in 105-82555. These documents generally relate testimony given, the possibility of LHO as the would-be assassin of General Walker, and the possibility of LHO using the same rifle to kill JFK as in his attempt to kill Walker. Note: Serial number 76 may have missing enclosures.

- **116-165494-(82, 85-87, 91, 1st NR after 91)**
 These six documents are duplicates. The originals are filed in 62-109060. These documents generally relate testimony given, the possibility of LHO as the would-be assassin of General Walker, and the possibility of LHO using the same rifle to kill JFK as in his attempt to kill Walker.

- **116-165494-79**
 This is a duplicate document. The original is filed as 44-24016-1552. 5/21/64 memo to Director, FBI from SAC, Boston mentions Walker's allegation that the Warren Commission is supressing the relationship between LHO and Jack Ruby.

- **116-165494-81**
 This is a duplicate document. The original is filed as 44-24016-1552. 6/12/64 memo from J. Lee Rankin to Mr. J. Edgar Hoover regarding assassination issues and Duff's statement that Jack Ruby called General Walker monthly from 12/62 to 3/63.

- **116-165494-92**
 This correlation summary dated 7/01/64 on General Edwin A. Walker summarizes his whole past file. This document may or may not be useful to assassination records.

- **116-165494-104**
 2/11/65 memo to Director, FBI from SAC, Tampa regarding news clip in which General Walker mentions the JFK administration in a negative light.

- **116-165494-114**
 10/2/65 memo to Director, FBI from SAC, Tampa regarding news clip mentioning the Warren Commission Report and Walker. General

Dallas Field Office Files on General Edwin A. Walker

Volume 1 **62-3422-(1-4)**; October 1963 through April 1964

File 4.16.4 (FBI-34) Fagnant e:\wp-docs\fbi\summary\fbi34.fol

- **62-3422-(1A, 3)**
 Originals located in 62-3422-AI and 157-329-1I. 3/4/64 memo from SAC, Richmond to SAC, Dallas enclosing news clippings that attempt to connect Walker to JFK assassination as well as a translation of a German article on the assassination.

- **62-3422-4**
 4/22/64 memo from SA Hosty to SAC, Dallas reflects that the Walker file is considered closed.

Volume 1 **157-203-(1-120)**; October 1962

- **157-203-40**
 10/6/62 memo relates that H.L. Hunt will pledge support for Walker if he runs for governor. Employee under Hunt retains attorney for Ashland Burchwell, an old employee of Walker.

- **157-203-54**
 Walker receives financial backing from H.L. Hunt, Clyde Watts and J. Evetts Haley.

Volume 2 • **157-203-(121-314)**; November 1962-October 1962
 no assassination records

Volume A • **157-203**; November 1962-April 1963
 no assassination records (news clippings from local papers)

Volume 1 **157-218-(1-258)**; February 1963 through July 1975

- **157-218-6**
 3/21/63 memo from SA Brown to SAC, Dallas regarding 3/7/63 speech in which Walker puts down Kennedy's policy with Cuba.

- **157-218-8**
 3/29/63 memo to Director, FBI from SAC, Denver regarding another Walker speech regarding Kennedy's Cuban policy.

- **157-218-17**
 Hosty makes 6/6/63 report regarding interview with Walker's ex-chauffeur, Duff. Duff states that sometime before the attempt

on Walker, but after he was fired, two men, Bill
to help with assassination attempt on Walker.
rifle with him and a car with OK plates.

and Cliff, asked Duff
One of the men had a 30.06

- **157-218-44**

12/2/63 memo from Director, FBI (Attn: Lab) to SAC, Dallas
instructs Dallas to check slug found in General Walker's home in
with metal from slugs found in JFK. April

- **157-218-45**

12/4/63 memo SA Joseph J. Loeffler to SAC, Dallas regarding
Dallas files lack of information on the General Walker shooting from
April when it took place.

- **157-218-46**

12/4/63 memo Director, FBI to SAC, Dallas stating that the bullet
markings are the same in both shootings, but it is unable to be
determined if they were fired from the same gun.

- **157-218-47**

12/5/63 memo asking if Chief of Police Jesse Curry was given a
report regarding the bullet findings and authorizing SA Bardwell Odun
the tell Captain W. P. Jones, but no one else.

- **157-218-49**

12/9/63 full report from Director, FBI to Chief Curry regarding
bullet lab results.

- **157-218-51**

Original filed in 9-(no other numbers recorded). Copy of threat
note to Walker: "You'll get yours" just like the President. It goes on
to state that Oswald was not nuts enough to kill the President, but the
author of the note felt that Walker and those like him did kill the President.

- **157-218-(53-54)**

12/16/63 memo from SAC, Dallas to SAC, Miami regarding letter
sent to Detective Van Cleave by M.S. Murias formerly of Cubas
counter-espionage agency stating that the attempt on General Walker had
been done by Pro-Castro Cubans.

- **157-218-58**
1/2/64 memo from SAC, Miami to SAC, Dallas confirming that M.S. Murias is mentally unstable and that his information is questionable.
- **157-218-69**
2/14/64 memo SAC, Dallas to Director, FBI regarding a radio interview with Walker in which he states that LHO was part of a communist cell in Dallas and the Feds knew about it.
- **157-218-73**
2/20/64 memo from SAC, Dallas to D, FBI regarding *The Assassination Story* printed by General Walker's firm, American Publishing Company. Eagle

FBI HQ Files on the Minutemen

- Section 15 **62-107261-(491-500)**; July 1964
- **62-107261-500**
7/16/64 memo relayed from Kansas City to Los Angeles to HQ containing a copy of "On Target." This monthly newsletter contained one anti-Kennedy administration comment (p. 19).
- Section 17 **62-107261-(534-559)**; July/August 1964
- no assassination records
- Section 18 **62-107261-(560-579)**; September 1964
- **62-107261-577**
9/30/64 memo from SAC, Seattle to Director, FBI enclosing one copy of "On Target" which contained an excerpt from the testimony of Jack Rubenstein to the Warren Commission (p. 3).
- Section 19 **62-107261-(580-601)**; October/November 1964
- **62-107261-583**
10/8/64 memo to Director, FBI from SAC, Kansas City enclosing a copy of "On Target" which contains a reference to JFK's 1963 appointment of Robert S. Benjamin, a "known communist" (p. 4).

- **62-107261-592**
10/21/64 memo to Director, FBI from SAC, Dallas enclosing Minutemen literature which refers to an assassination on (p. 4).
 - **62-107261-596**
10/22/64 memo to Director, FBI from SAC, Dallas enclosing Minutemen literature which makes reference to the first membership drive since the Kennedy assassination (assuming they had to “go underground” for awhile) (p. 2).
- Section 26 **62-107261-(782-817)**; February 1965
- **62-107261-806**
2/17/65 memo to Director, FBI from SAC, St. Louis names a Cuban exile as FBI informant and member of Minutemen.
- Section 27 **62-107261-(818-859)**; March 1965
- no assassination records
- Section 28 **62-107261-(860-918)**; March 1965 (file miss recorded as serials 830-918)
- no assassination records
- Section 29 **62-107261-(919-929)**; March 1965
- **62-107261-920**
2/3/65 report by SA William Lawrence at Memphis quotes an article regarding a communist plot to frame the JFK assassination on right-wing groups, and possibly directly on the Minutemen (p. 25).
- Section 30 **62-107261-(930-953)**; March 1965
- **62-107261-938**
Collection of photocopied letters, threat mail, and memorandum regarding a threat mailed to Jack Hall from Commandant O'Donnell of the Minutemen in Hawaii. The Minutemen used an envelope which states in the lower left corner “A gun did not assassinate Kennedy - A communist did.”

bedroom wall.

Section 41 **62-107261-(1281-1320)**; October/November 1965

- no assassination records

Section 45 **62-107261-(1416-1452)**; January/February 1966

- **62-107261-1418**

1/21/66 memo to Director, FBI from SAC, Kansas City enclosed an issue of "On Target". The issue comments on President Kennedy's soft policy toward communist countries.

- **62-107261-1435**

2/25/65 Minutemen literature asserts that contains President Kennedy did not support the Constitution.

- **62-107261-1452**

2/11/66 report by SAC Robert Stranger, Los Angeles tells of a teen who joins right-wing groups after becoming disillusioned with President Kennedy over the Cuban missile crisis (p. 25).

Section 1 **100-74596-(1-14)**; 1/42 through 12/64; Serial Scope 1-14

- **100-74596-(12-14)**

These three documents all relate to a letter and envelope sent to Mrs. Beverly Terry by G.P.M. of the Minutemen directing her to help with a plan to "take care of" President Johnson. Contains derogatory remarks toward the late President Kennedy. Enclosures include the original letter and envelope, and photographs of the fingerprints.

Section 1 **62-11086-(1-9)**; February/March 1966

- **62-110086-1**

This document is a duplicate. The original is filed as 62-107261-966. 3/26/65 report regarding 3/18/65 correspondence from SAC, Dallas to Director, FBI. Several Minutemen members, referred to as American Underground of Dallas, TX, are believed to be personally acquainted with General Walker, revere him, and wish that he guide the group. Also, some members feel that the organization is moving too slow. They would like to see more action taken (pp. 4, 12, 14).

Section 1 • **157-420-(1-1st NR after 10)**
no assassination records (The documents dealt with the connection between one Harry Hart of Atlanta and his claimed connection to the Minutemen. There was no evidence that he was a part of the Minutemen or that he was the leader of a group of Minutemen in Atlanta. Hart talked of bombing the Mayor of Atlanta's yard and of killing various city officials, but there are no records to suggest that he took action.)

FBI HQ "See" references to the Minutemen.

Section 1 • **94-33369-11; March 27, 1962**
not an assassination record (Correspondence between attorney friend of Hoover and Hoover regarding concern that some San Diego National Guardsmen maybe Minutemen members.)

Section 1 • **157-2194-2; December 17, 1964**
not an assassination record (Memo from Tampa to Director, FBI reporting on suspected Florida Minuteman J.F. Owen.)

Section 33 • **62-352546-2052; February 16, 1965**
not an assassination record (Document deals with request for the latest monograph on Minutemen and other groups suspected of plotting against Johnson's life. There was no monograph as of 2/65 on the Minutemen.)

Section 12 • **100-3-106-505; January 26, 1962**
not an assassination record (Document deals with the Communist Party's perceived antagonism between the Minutemen and the Communist Party.)

Section 1 • **62-109337-3; April 6, 1964**
not an assassination record (A Paul Revere Society publication endorses joining the Minutemen.)

Section 6 • **62-109078-369; September 15, 1964**
not an assassination record (Document deals with threat to President Johnson's life in call placed by Minutemen member to

Northwest Orient Airline.)

- Section 1 • **62-104427-12**; October 10, 1961
not an assassination record (Copies of Minutemen application forms enclosed in a memo to Director, FBI.)
- Section 34 • **105-70374-1723**; August 31, 1962
not an assassination record (Document deals with members of the American Nazi Party and some members mutual association with the Minutemen.)
- Section 2 • **157-2039-31**; November 12, 1964
not an assassination record (Document deals with bombing of the Mayor's yard in Jackson, MS.)
- No Section • **157-2194-2**; December 17, 1964
not an assassination record (Document deals with John Franklin Owen, suspect in bombing of the Mayor's yard in Jackson, MS and possible Minutemen involvement.)
- No Section • **94-33369-11**; 3/27/64
not an assassination record (Document is correspondence between Max Gilford and J. Edgar Hoover requesting and responding to his request for information regarding the Minutemen and their possible infiltration into the National Guard.)
- Section 1 • **157-2764-x4**; January 6, 1965
This leaflet disseminated by the Christian Youth Corps in St. Petersburg, FL is a fine example of hate literature. Reference is made to the Minutemen being a "brother-in-arms" organization and to the assassination of the "late Christian President" by an "Anti-Christ Jew Communist".

Dallas Field Office Files and "See" references on the Minutemen

- Volume 1 • **100-00-sub E-(85, 94, 115, 154, 286)**; July 1962 through July 1974
not assassination records (Documents relate to characterization of

various subversive groups including Minutemen.)

- Volume 1 • 100-11578-(1-26); July 1969 - February 1971
no assassination records
- Volume 1 • 100-12881-(1-46); December 1979 - June 1981
after date scope of request
- Volume 1 • 100A-12923-(1A-11); April 1985 - October 1985
after date scope of request
- Volume 1 • 105-801-(1-14); January 1959 - October 1958
before date scope of request
- Volume 1 • 105-896-(1-32); June 1959 - December 1959
before date scope of request
- Volume 1 • 105-1956-(1-4); November 1964 - January 1965
no assassination records (receipt of Minutemen material and memo
regarding San Antonio Minutemen members)
- Volume 1 • 105-2027-(1-36); March 1965 - February 1966
no assassination records (American Underground aka Minutemen
of Ft. Worth membership information)

FBI HQ File on the Unnamed Organization of Dallas, TX

Section 1 100-439412 -(1-1 NR 6); 10/62 through 6/70

- 100-439412-1

10/4/62 report regarding Unnamed Organization of Dallas, TX.

The group is strongly opposed to JFK and RFK. Informant denies that H.L. Hunt is a member or that there is a connection with General Walker. SA Hosty is in charge of the investigation of Ashland F. Burchwell who was arrested with a carload of guns and ammunition on the way out of town to join General Walker at the University of Mississippi. Burchwell, a member of the

Unnamed Organization, also served under General Walker in Germany and as a civilian employee of Walkers in Dallas. Also found in the car is a box of coded index cards with member names and telephone numbers. This was sent to the crypto analysis lab; the results are also a part of serial one.

- **100-439412-2**
10/16/62 report to Mr. Conrad from C.F. Downing regarding the above incident.
- **100-439412-3**
11/23/62 Note to interview former informant regarding General Walker and the University of Mississippi incident.
- **100-439412-4**
12/5/62 Report regarding Unnamed Organization's conviction that communists have infiltrated the US State Department. They are prepared to defend themselves against this influx. Belief based upon General Walker's analysis in his pamphlet, "Victory Purge."
- **100-439412-5**
1/24/63 report from SAC, Dallas to Director, FBI re affiliation between Minutemen and Unnamed Organization. By this time, the Unnamed Organization is not as violently opposed to the JFK administration because of the administrations strong policy towards Cuba.
- **100-439412-1st NR after 5**
9/9/63 report from SAC, Dallas to Director, FBI regarding SA Hosty's close personal relationship with informant (name given in document) and informant's job as undercover investigator for the Republican party of Dallas County. Informant advised Hosty of a large stockpile of ammuniton held by Unnamed Organization leader (?) Schwille. Burchwell got his trunkful of arms from Schwille.
- **100-439412-2nd NR after 5**
This is a duplicate document. The original is filed in 63-6563-21.
9/12/63 Report to Mr. Sullivan from Smith regarding Schwille.

Schwille had been in contact with Bureau and had been given information in the past. Sullivan recommends Schwille be denied any further information. Also mentions Schwille's connection to H.L. Hunt and his organization, Life Line; Edgar Bundy and the Church League of America; and to Myers Lowman and his organization, Circuit Riders.

Dallas Field Office File on Unnamed Organization of Dallas, TX

Volume 1 105-1475-(1-25); 10/64 through 12/64

- 105-1475-(1A, 1,2)
10/4/62 memo regarding member of Unnamed Organization
Ashland Burchwell's arrest, finding of guns and military type "necessities"
list for members.
- 105-1475-3
10/12/62 memo connecting Walker to the Unnamed Organization
and desegregation at the University of Mississippi.
- 105-1475-4
10/13/62 Dallas Morning News article connecting General Walker
to Unnamed Organization and the file box of coded members.
- 105-1475-(5-6)
10/16/62 memo from FBI Lab to FBI, Dallas describing coded
information contained on cards from box.
- 105-1475-7
10/23/62 instructions from Director, FBI to Dallas to investigate
Unnamed Organization's connection to racial matters.
- 105-1475-18
12/13/62 SA Hosty and SA Heitman interviewed Burchwell
regarding all information he had on Walker and Unnamed
Organization.
- 105-1475-19

1/8/63 report of interview with Burchwell and others regarding Unnamed Organization. Find that UO is similar in scope to Minutemen.

- **105-1475-20**

1/24/63 memo from Director, FBI to SAC, Dallas: no need to investigate Unnamed Organization further, but let informant keep field office updated. Dallas

- **105-1475-21**

9/9/63 memo from SAC, Dallas to D, FBI (Attn: Sullivan) regarding information SA Hosty received that Schwille of Dallas has huge cache of weapons for sale in his house in Dallas. Burchwell got his weapons here. Hosty's informant is also his close friend, a guy who works undercover for Republican party in Dallas.

- **105-1475-(22-25)**

Not assassination related documents.