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DATE: 11-14-2017

JFK Assassination System
Identification Form

Date: 4/21/201

Agency Information

AGENCY: FBI
RECORD NUMBER: 124-10298-10073

RECORD SERIES: HQ

AGENCY FILE NUMBER: 29-31889-152

Document Information

ORIGINATOR: FBI
FROM: WALTERS, VERNON G.
TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

TITLE:

DATE: 10/30/1963
PAGES: 17

SUBJECTS:

DEB, ASSOC, BKG, B/F INT, FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, EMP,
REL, INTV, HORIST, CHARLES A., TOLL CALLSDOCUMENT TYPE: PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION: Unclassified
RESTRICTIONS: Consulted; 4
CURRENT STATUS: Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW: 05/26/1998

OPENING CRITERIA: INDEFINITE, APPROVAL OF DOJ

COMMENTS: REFERRED TO DOJ

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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|---|------------------------------------|---|---|
| REPORTING OFFICE DETROIT | OFFICE OF ORIGIN DETROIT | DATE 10/30/63 | INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 10/8-28/63 |
| TITLE OF CASE JAMES RIDDLE HOFFA; DOMINICK EDWARD BARTONE, aka; ET AL | | REPORT MADE BY VERNON G. WALTERS (A) | TYPED BY SKF |
| | | CHARACTER OF CASE FRA; ITSP; MF; FBW; CONSPIRACY (ACCOUNTING INVESTIGATION) | |

REFERENCE: Report of SA(A) VERNON G. WALTERS, Detroit, 10/15/63.
Detroit airtel to Bureau 10/28/63.

- P -

LEADS

DETROIT DIVISION

AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN: Upon return of Department Attorney WILLIAM FRENCH to Detroit, will discuss this matter with him to determine what further investigation or other action is contemplated.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Department Attorney FRENCH has confidentially advised that the source of the information set out in the first paragraph of the details of this report is HERBERT L. GROSBERG, Detroit accountant, who is believed to have received part of the information from RICHARD CROWTHER, a Teamsters Business Agent

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| APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i> | SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW | |
| COPIES MADE: 3 - Bureau (29-31889) 1 - Dept. Attorney WILLIAM FRENCH 2 - Detroit (29-1432) | | 29-31889-152 | REC-53 |
| | | 5 NOV 1 1963 | EX-103 |
| DISSEMINATION RECORD OF ATTACHED REPORT | | | |
| AGENCY | Criminal Division | | |
| REQUEST RECD | | | |
| DATE FWD | 11/4/63 | | |
| HOW FWD | Attention: Mr. Walter J. Sheridan Room 2509 | | |
| BY | [Signature] | | |

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U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-76324-1

928-10013

DATE: 11-14-2017

DE 29-1432

in Detroit. FRENCH advised that GROSBERG apparently had no first-hand knowledge of the matter and could not provide more specific information; and it was believed that CROWTHER's information was hearsay.

On 10/21/63, DE 643-C, who is familiar with local bankruptcy matters, advised that CHARLES A. HORIST, former president of Redford Iron Works, Inc. (RIW), had been discharged in bankruptcy in U.S. District Court, Detroit; and among the debts so discharged was a \$240,000.00 guaranty by HORIST to Public Bank in regard to indebtedness of RIW. Informant was advised by HORIST that he had lost his stock in RIW through a "fast shuffle" involving HARRY LEVINE; IRWIN KASOFF, an attorney characterized as LEVINE's "boy"; and JOSEPH VERHELLE, former president of Public Bank. VERHELLE allegedly had exerted pressure upon HORIST by calling for payment of loans made by the bank to RIW. Informant did not have specific information as to the dealings between the above-mentioned individuals but believed HORIST might be willing to discuss the matter.

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COVER PAGE

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Department Attorney WILLIAM P. FRENCH, Detroit, advised that the Department of Justice had received hearsay information from a confidential source to the effect that about the time of an FDIC examination of Public Bank (PB) in 1961 or 1962, a substantial loan from PB to Redford Iron Works, Inc. (RIW) was in serious difficulty. For the sake of appearances during the FDIC examination, JOSEPH E. VERHELLE, President of PB, allegedly caused HARRY LEVINE of Ewald Steel Sales and Supply Company (Ewald) to assume liability for the above-mentioned loan. It was further alleged that LEVINE understood he would be relieved of this liability after the examination was ended but VERHELLE failed to do so. Mr. FRENCH requested that a preliminary investigation be made to ascertain whether there was any basis for the above allegations and whether there was any connection indicated with the matters under investigation in this case.

Mich *Mich* *HARRY LEVINE* *Mich*

The following information was included in the FDIC report of examination of PB which began December 26, 1961:

Indebtedness of RIW to PB at the time of examination totaled \$470,138.47, consisting of direct borrowing of \$440,000.00 and overdrafts of \$30,138.47. IRWIN J. KASOFF, HARRY S. LEVINE and CHARLES A. HORIST had signed continuing guaranties for any and all indebtedness of RIW to PB. HORIST had been president of RIW prior to the fall of 1961 when KASOFF reportedly purchased control of RIW and became president. Borrowing by RIW from PB originated in July, 1960, at \$60,000.00 and regularly increased to the total of \$440,000.00. RIW "filed for dissolution" January 11, 1962, but was adjudicated bankrupt January 15, 1962. In addition to the above-mentioned guaranties, PB held as collateral for its loans to RIW \$68,481.48 in cash; assignment of accounts receivable; 1,375 shares of capital stock of RIW; an unrecorded chattel mortgage for \$230,000.00 covering inventory; and a real estate mortgage dated October 6, 1961, for \$200,000.00. The FDIC examiner concluded there was an apparent violation of Section 74,

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