

[REDACTED]

62-PH-4485

Volume Number

Serials

Department of Justice

FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE

BUREAU

SECTION

FBI - CENTRAL RECORDS CENTER

PH - PHILADELPHIA

Class / Case #	Sub	Vol.	Serial #
0062 4485		1	1 OPEN

4/10/327856



RRP0024G5Y

See also Nos.

[REDACTED]

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F B I

Date: 8/21/64

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TELETYPE

URGENT

Via _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO DIRECTOR, FBI
ATTENTION: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR EVANS

FROM SAC, PHILADELPHIA (62-*Other*)

ALLEGED THREATS AGAINST THE LIFE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL
ROBERT F. KENNEDY; INFORMATION CONCERNING

RE PHILADELPHIA PHONE CALL TO BUREAU THIS DATE, AND
REPORT SA T. HOWARD WALDRON, AUGUST SIX, LAST, NEWARK, ENTITLED
FRANCIS L. PHELAN, AKA; ET AL."

FOR INFO OF BUREAU, JACK RUST, NEWS COMMENTATOR, RADIO
STATION WIP, PHILADELPHIA, ADVISED INFO RECEIVED FROM
RELIABLE SOURCES THAT JAMES PATRICK WALSH, PROMINENT ATTORNEY
THIS AREA, MADE PUBLICLY A STATEMENT TO THE EFFECT THAT FRANCIS
PAREN THE HATCHET PAREN PHELAN HAD CONTEMPLATED KILLING AG.
RUST CONFIRMED THIS STATEMENT THROUGH RELIABLE SOURCES.

WALSH REPRESENTS PHELAN WHO WAS ARRESTED BY PHILADELPHIA
PD FOR THE DOUBLE QUOTE EXECUTION QUOTE MURDER OF MRS. JUDITH
LOPINSON AND JOE PAREN JOE FLOWERS PAREN MALITO, JUNE NINETEEN,
LAST, AT DANTE'S RESTAURANT, PHILADELPHIA. PHELAN ADMITTED

1 - 62-0
GCB/cas
(1)

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

3:34

P M

Per

28

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
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PAGE TWO

THESE KILLINGS AND MAINTAINED THAT JACK LOPINSON, HUSBAND OF JUDITH AND OWNER OF DANTE'S, GAVE HIM LARGE SUM OF MONEY TO KILL AFOREMENTIONED. PHELAN DISCARDED WEAPONS USED IN THESE KILLINGS IN DELAWARE RIVER WHICH WERE LOCATED BY POLICE. BALLISTIC EXAM DISCLOSED THESE WERE THE WEAPONS USED IN THE KILLINGS.

PHELAN CONFINED AND PRESENTLY UNDER PSYCHIATRIC EXAM. TRAIL SET FOR OCTOBER FIVE, NEXT.

SA GEORGE C. BRIGHT TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED WALSH WHO IS ON VACATION AND HE CATEGORICALLY DENIED HE MADE AFOREMENTIONED STATEMENT AND FURTHER DENIED THAT PHELAN HAD SAID HE WAS GOING TO KILL THE AG.

WALSH ^{WOULD NOT} ~~RELUCTANT TO~~ ALLOW FBI TO INTERVIEW PHELAN RE ALLEGATION AS HE MAINTAINS PHELAN IS MENTALLY INCOMPETENT TO WITHSTAND INTERVIEW.

WIP BROADCASTED AT NOON THIS DATE THAT PHELAN, ACCORDING TO HIS ATTORNEY, HAD SAID HE CONTEMPLATED KILLING AG. FURTHER WIP REPORTED THAT THEY HAD ~~CONFIRMED~~ PHELAN'S ATTORNEY HAD MADE SUCH A STATEMENT. RUST OF OPINION WALSH ATTEMPTING TO

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date:

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PAGE THREE

LAY GROUND WORK FOR PURPOSE OF PLEADING INSANITY ON PART OF
PHELAN.

WALSH HAS BEEN KNOWN TO HAVE MADE SIMILAR STATEMENTS IN
THE PAST WITHOUT FOUNDATION AND IT IS BELIEVED THIS IS A
PUBLICITY TACTIC ON THE PART OF WALSH. WALSH IS REGARDED
AS AN UNRELIABLE PERSON,

PHILADELPHIA OFFICE IS TAKING NO FURTHER ACTION IN THIS
MATTER AND PRESS INQUIRIES WILL BE ANSWERED BY NO COMMENT.

LHM TO FOLLOW.

REFERENCED REPORT SET FORTH SOME INFO RE DOUBLE EXECUTION
MURDER.

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

FBI WASH DC

FBI PHILA
334PM EDST URGENT 8-21-64 ELP

TO DIRECTOR ATTN: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR EVANS
FROM PHILADELPHIA (62-0) -3P-

ALLEGED THREATS AGAINST THE LIFE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL
ROBERT F. KENNEDY; INFORMATION CONCERNING

RE PHILADELPHIA PHONE CALL TO BUREAU THIS DATE, AND
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LAST, AT DANTE'S RESTAURANT, PHILADELPHIA. PHELAN ADMITTED
END PAGE ONE

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PAGE TWO PH 62-0

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WALSH WOULD NOT ALLOW FBI TO INTERVIEW PHELAN RE ALLEGATION AS HE MAINTAINS PHELAN IS MENTALLY INCOMPENTENT TO WITHSTAND INTERVIEW.

WIP BROADCASTED AT NOON THIS DATE THAT PHELAN, ACCORDING TO HIS ATTORNEY, HAD SAID HE CONTEMPLATED KILLING AG. FURTHER WIP REPORTED THAT THEY HAD CONFIRMED PHELAN'S ATTORNEY HAD MADE SUCH A STATEMENT. RUST OF OPIONION WALSH ATTEMPTING TO LAY GROUND WORK FOR PURPOSE OF PLEADING INSANITY ON PART OF PHELAN.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE PH 62-0

WALSH HAS BEEN KNOWN TO HAVE MADE SIMILAR STATEMENTS IN THE PAST WITHOUT FOUNDATION AND IT IS BELIEVED THIS IS A PUBLICITY TACTIC ON THE PART OF WALSH. WALSH IS REGARDED AS AN UNRELIABLE PERSON.

PHILADELPHIA OFFICE IS TAKING NO FURTHER ACTION IN THIS MATTER AND PRESS INQUIRIES WILL BE ANSWERED BY NO COMMENT.

LHM FOLLOWS.

REFERENCED REPORT SET FORTH SOME INFO RE DOUBLE EXECUTION MURDER.

END

JRL

FBI WASH DC

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

August 21, 1964

ALLEGED THREATS AGAINST THE
LIFE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
ROBERT F. KENNEDY

Mr. PAUL RUST, news commentator, Radio Station WIP, Philadelphia, Pa., advised on August 21, 1964, that he received information from reliable attorneys EMANUEL ROMM and WILLIAM HARRIS, Philadelphia, that JAMES PATRICK WALSH, attorney, this area, had made publicly a statement to the effect that FRANCIS (The Hatchet) PHELAN had contemplated killing the Honorable Attorney General if he had not been arrested for the double "execution" murder of Mrs. JUDITH LOPINSON and JOE (JOE FLOWERS) MALITO.

In this regard, PHELAN was arrested by the Philadelphia Police Department on July 25, 1964, and admitted the killing of the aforementioned on June 19, 1964, at Dante's Restaurant, Philadelphia, Pa. PHELAN maintained that JACK LOPINSON, husband of JUDITH and owner of Dante's Restaurant, allegedly gave him a large sum of money to kill the aforementioned. PHELAN advised the Philadelphia Police that he discarded the weapons used in these killings in the Delaware River subsequent to the murders. These weapons were located by the police and the ballistics examinations disclosed that these were the weapons used in the killings. PHELAN is confined and presently undergoing psychiatric examinations.

Mr. JAMES PATRICK WALSH is representing PHELAN in connection with these murders.

On August 21, 1964, SA GEORGE C. BRIGHT telephonically contacted Mr. WALSH who is on vacation in the Atlantic City, N.J., area, and WALSH categorically denied that he made the statement that PHELAN had said he was going to kill the Attorney General. He also denied that PHELAN had ever made such a statement in his presence.

It was requested of Mr. WALSH to allow Special Agents of the FBI to interview PHELAN in an effort to verify or disprove this statement that he was going to kill the

4 - Bureau
1 - Philadelphia (62-0)

GCB/cas

(5)

62-4480-3

**ALLEGED THREATS
AGAINST THE LIFE
OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
ROBERT F. KENNEDY**

Attorney General; however, WALSH would not allow his client to be interviewed by anyone regarding this allegation as WALSH maintains PHELAN is mentally incompetent to withstand any interview.

WALSH has allegedly made statements, in the past, which were without foundation in fact. Mr. RUST was of the opinion that this statement by WALSH was a publicity stunt to involve the U. S. Government and to lay the groundwork for an insanity defense for his client.

WALSH is considered by reliable attorneys in this area to be an unreliable and unstable person.

Mr. RUST also reported that WIP broadcasted at noon, August 21, 1964, that PHELAN, according to his attorney, had said he was contemplating killing the Attorney General. Mr. RUST stated it was also put on the radio that it had been confirmed that PHELAN's attorney had made such a statement.

In view of the refusal by WALSH to permit an interview of his client, no effort is being made to contact PHELAN.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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8-24-64
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8/21/64

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TO DIRECTOR, FBI
ATTENTION: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR EVANS

FROM SAC, PHILADELPHIA (62-0) (XOC)

SUBJECT ALLEGED THREATS AGAINST THE
LIFE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
ROBERT F. KENNEDY
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Re Philadelphia phone call and teletype to Bureau,
8/21/64.

Enclosed herewith are the original and three copies
of a letterhead memorandum regarding threats to the life
of the Honorable Attorney General which the Bureau may desire
to disseminate.

3 - Bureau (Encls. 4)
1 - Philadelphia (62-0)

GCB/cas
(4)

Close

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62-4486-4