

**JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
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89-35

Miami, Florida
December 11, 1978

RE: ASSASSINATION OF
JOHN F. KENNEDY
NOVEMBER 22, 1963
DALLAS, TEXAS

12-15-78
By letter dated October 20, 1978, the United States Secret Service, Miami, Florida, furnished to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Miami, a copy of a letter sent to that agency by the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Miami, Florida, dated October 13, 1978. The DEA letter advised that an informant for DEA had indicated that he was acquainted with Frank Sturgis of Watergate Notoriety, and during a conversation Sturgis told the informant that he had killed President John F. Kennedy. This remark was supposed to have been made in the presence of an individual by the name of Bill Johnson. DEA advised that this informant could be made available for interview.

On November 7, 1978, Peter F. Gruden, Inspector in Charge, DEA, Miami, Florida, advised that the informant in this matter was Thomas Joseph Holt. Gruden stated that Holt was of questionable reliability, irrational, unpredictable, and described him further as a murderer and perjurer. He advised that the only reason Holt was an informant for DEA at this time was that Holt had furnished information of internal nature. Gruden advised that David R. Wiser, Inspector, DEA, Miami, could furnish more details concerning Holt.

On November 8, 1978, David R. Wiser advised that Holt had come to DEA and had made allegations of wrongdoings against a DEA Agent. Wiser advised that to date the internal investigation in this DEA matter has not uncovered any evidence to indicate any truth to the allegations of Holt. He advised that the evidence to date indicates to the contrary. Wiser advised that Holt had stated that during the late summer 1978, he (Holt) was on Discayne Boulevard in the downtown Miami area, when he came upon Frank Sturgis, who was accompanied by one Bill Johnson. Wiser advised that Holt stated that during

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- 1 - Dallas (89-43) (Enc. 1)
5 - Bureau (62-10960) (Enc. 1)
1 - Miami (Enc. 1)

P.W. 89-35-545

RE: ASSASSINATION OF
JOHN F. KENNEDY
NOVEMBER 22, 1978
DALLAS, TEXAS

this encounter, Sturgis stated that he had killed John F. Kennedy. Wiser stated that he asked Holt "Why would Sturgis impart this interesting bit of news to Holt who was a known government witness and publicized DEA informant from the past?" And Holt replied that it was "one hit man to another". Wiser advised that Holt had indicated an intention to go to the news media regarding his allegations against the DEA. Wiser further stated that he thought it likely that Holt would also make mention of the Sturgis comment, in that he had reported this to DEA, and that they had done nothing about it. Wiser advised for this very reason he wrote a memo concerning what Holt had reported, and for this reason it was furnished to the Secret Service.

Wiser made available a copy of this memo dated October 4, 1978, which is attached.

Wiser further stated that in a case in which Holt was a witness for the prosecution Holt had allegedly called a defendant during a trial and told him he was going to "get him". The defendant in this matter, at the time of the call, had a recording of his telephone call made which was played for the presiding judge. Holt denied making the call to the defendant, and the judge ruled that Holt's testimony could not be permitted.

On November 9, 1978, Wiser had advised that Bill Johnson was William J. Johnson, date of birth March 11, 1931, FBI number 133677C, last known address 1890 N.E. 118th Road, Miami, Florida.

On November 31, 1978, Wiser advised that Holt had been polygraphed on three occasions by DEA on November 30, 1978, and he had failed the three polygraphs concerning his allegations about DEA.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

12/11/78

Date of transcription

THOMAS J. HOLT appeared at the office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), 3801 Biscayne Boulevard, Miami, Florida, where he was interviewed by Special Agents PETER B. SCHOPPERLE and DON J. DUMFORD, FBI. Prior to the interview, Special Agent (SA) SCHOPPERLE had explained to Mr. HOLT that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) was desirous of knowing any information concerning remarks made by one FRANK STURGIS in his presence concerning the assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY at Dallas, Texas.

HOLT advised that he is not that well acquainted with FRANK STURGIS, but that he met him approximately one year ago at a party given at Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He stated that he was introduced to STURGIS by a friend of his, BILLY JOHNSON. HOLT advised that at this party STURGIS had told him that he had been a hit man for FIDEL CASTRO, and that both CASTRO and he (STURGIS) had both worked for the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

At this point in the interview, HOLT stated that ROCKEFELLER, meaning NELSON ROCKEFELLER, had been in charge of the Warren Commission, and that it had been a cover up as far as the assassination of KENNEDY was concerned. HOLT next stated that the "hit" was done in Texas to make it look like JOHNSON (President LYNDON JOHNSON) was at fault.

HOLT stated that he believed BILLY JOHNSON may have told STURGIS to say the above things, just to impress HOLT.

HOLT next stated that while at this party, STURGIS had named many people whom he stated were "big", and that he knew these people. HOLT stated that he thinks STURGIS may have killed KENNEDY because STURGIS had said that he could "shoot a person's brains out at 1,000 yards with a simple rifle and imagine what I could do with a Scope." HOLT next stated that if STURGIS had made these comments to him concerning the assassination of KENNEDY he was sure that he had probably told them to other people. HOLT stated that STURGIS was a man approximately 50 years old. HOLT next stated that he advised BILL JOHNSON had worked as an informant for the FBI, CIA and

Investigation on 12/6/78 at Miami, Florida File # Miami 89-35

by SAs PETER B. SCHOPPERLE and DON J. DUMFORD PRS/pj Date dictated 12/8/78

DEA. He stated that he knew BILL JOHNSON on and off for a couple of years, and that JOHNSON was in his late forties. He further described him as a flim flam man who likes to try to swindle money from wealthy women.

HOLT advised that in regards to the remark made by STURGIS, it was during the latter part of the summer that he was on Biscayne Boulevard, at approximately 125th Street near Denny's Restaurant and Steve's Pizza, when BILLY JOHNSON drove up in his car accompanied by FRANK STURGIS. HOLT advised that at this time BILLY JOHNSON told STURGIS that he (HOLT) was a Boston boy. At this time HOLT advised STURGIS said "I killed a boy from Boston named KENNEDY." HOLT advised that he said, "Do you mean the President?" and STURGIS said "Yes." HOLT advised that JOHNSON next laughed and said "Ain't that heavy." HOLT advised that STURGIS then said "I'll tell you, nobody else." HOLT advised that that was the end of the conversation, and STURGIS and JOHNSON left. HOLT next advised that he was facing murder charges in Broward County, but that no trial date had been set. HOLT next stated that he wanted to become an informant for the FBI, but that he would have to have it in writing. HOLT further related that he had been screwed by DEA and his conversation became rambling making no further sense. Interview was terminated at this point.

The following is background information concerning

HOLT:

Name	THOMAS JOSEPH HOLT
Date of birth	March 23, 1941
Race	White male
FBI Number	320 23 F
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Brown
Height	5 feet 10 1/2 inches
Weight	240 Pounds
Place of Birth	Boston, Massachusetts
Current Address	1627 North Swinton Avenue Delray Beach, Florida
Telephone number	278-0190

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

PAS
Nov 8, 1978

TO : Peter F. Gruden, Inspector-in-Charge

DATE: Oct. 4, 1978

FROM : David R. Wiser, Inspector

SUBJECT: Allegation by Thomas HOLT regarding the Assassination of President Kennedy

1. On October 3, 1978, Inspector Donald Clements and I were interviewing Thomas HOLT regarding an integrity matter. During a rambling discourse on his belief that the drug traffic is a mammoth conspiracy headed by DEA, HOLT mentioned that he was acquainted with Frank STURGIS of Watergate notoriety. HOLT stated that STURGIS once told him (in the presence of one Bill JOHNSON) that he (STURGIS) had killed President John F. Kennedy. When asked why STURGIS would impart this interesting bit of news to a known government witness, HOLT replied that it was said by "one hit man to another."

2. STURGIS' alleged involvement in the late President's assassination has been widely reported by the news media. HOLT had previously stated his intention to go to the news media regarding his allegations against DEA. Therefore, he is likely to mention the STURGIS allegation as well. Assuming that he would also tell them that he had reported the allegation to two DEA Inspectors, I feel this memo is necessary.

3. Should another government agency wish to pursue HOLT's allegation, he said he was willing to meet with JOHNSON and discuss the matter on tape to corroborate STURGIS' statement.


David R. Wiser

DRW/lh



Airtel

December 11, 1978

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-109060)
(ATTENTION: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY UNIT)

FROM: SAC, MIAMI (89-35) (RUC)

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF
PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY,
NOVEMBER 22, 1978
DALLAS, TEXAS

Re Miami teletype to the Bureau dated 11/9/78.

Enclosed for the Bureau are five copies of an LHM dated 12/11/78, as captioned-above. Enclosed for Dallas is one copy of same LHM and original interview notes for THOMAS J. HOLT.

For the information of the Bureau and Dallas, in the opinion of the interviewing Agents, THOMAS J. HOLT is a mentally unstable individual, and DEA suspects that he was a one time heavy user of cocaine.

DEA has no objections to identity of HOLT (Name) being set forth in LHM.

No further investigation is being conducted by the Miami Office, and this matter is being considered RUC.

3 - Bureau (Encs. 5)
1 - Dallas (89-43) (Info.) (Encs. 2)

1 - Miami
PES/pj
(5) *ps*

89-35-546

[Handwritten signatures]

[Handwritten initials]