
Agency Information

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Document Information

ORIGINATOR : HSCA
FROM : TODD, JAMES ROBERT
TO :

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SUBJECTS :
HAMMOND, SUE
TODD, JAMES ROBERT
RUBY, JACK; BACKGROUND; DESCRIPTION AND
IDENTIFICATION
LEADS AND INFORMATION

DOCUMENT TYPE : SUMMARY
CLASSIFICATION : Unclassified
RESTRICTIONS : Open in Full
CURRENT STATUS : Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 08/08/1993

OPENING CRITERIA :

COMMENTS : Attached copy of criminal record. Box 258.

INVESTIGATION INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

014447

1. Identifying Information:

Name JAMES ROBERT TODD

Date MAY 9, 1978

Address 2834 OATES DR.

Place 267 N. EXCHANGE PL.

City/State DALLAS TX

Telephone 214 369-6585

Date of Birth 12-10-19

M or S M

Social Security JFK Act 6 (3)

Spouse M

Children 2

2. Physical Description:

Height 5-6

Color Eyes Blue Hair Grey

Weight 165

Special Characteristics _____

Ethnic Group W

3. Personal History:

a. Present Employment: Self Employed (OIL LEASES)

Address 6116 N. EXPRESSWAY

Telephone _____

b. Criminal Record

1. Arrests MANY

2. Convictions AT LEAST TWO

4. Additional Personal Information:

a. Relative(s): Name JERRY BIESEL

Address 267 N. EXCHANGE PARK

DALLAS TX.

b. Area frequented: _____

c. Remarks: _____

Investigator AL MAXWELL & J.E. BASTENY

Date MAY 9, 1978

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

Name James Robert Todd Date May 9, 1978 Time 10:15 a.m.
 Address 2834 Gates Dr Place Offices of his attorney
2438 Oak Drive 267 N. Exchange St.
Dallas, Texas (357-5676)

Interview: On May 9, 1978 Staff Investigators Joseph J. Basteri and Albert Maxwell interviewed James Robert Todd in the offices of his attorney Jerry Biesel. Mr. Todd states that he is self-employed and heads the Todd Oil and Investment Co. Inc., located at 6116 North Central Expressway, Dallas, Texas. (Tel:214/369-6585).

Todd states that he was born in Groesbeck, Texas and came to Dallas in 1939 and was arrested soon after as he was mistaken for Henry Noble, a known criminal in the area. While in jail he met Lois Green and their friendship continued until Lois Green was killed by an unknown assailant on December 24, 1949.

While mention was made that Lois Green headed a gang that was operating in and about the Dallas area, Todd did not subscribe to this description of Lois Green. Todd states that the Green gang is nothing but propaganda generated by the local press. There was no such organized crime but only a group of fellows who hung out together. These men may have committed crimes together but it was not under the direction of Lois Green. A few minutes later, while denying organized crime existed in Dallas, he remarked that whenever anyone tried to move in we would visit

Interviewer Signature

Joseph J. Basteri
Albert Maxwell

Typed Signature Joseph J. Basteri and Albert Maxwell

Date transcribed Rife 5-24-78

By: _____ Form #4-A

these persons to inform them that Dallas is their territory and for them to get out of town and find their own territory.

Todd admitted that in the 30's and early 40's Dallas was a wide open town until a reform district attorney by the name of Will Wilson cleaned up the town.

To illustrate how he and Lois Green had no law enforcement or political connections, Todd suggested we check their arrest records which will disclose the countless times they had been arrested for vagrancy. He pointed out that if anyone had any connections they would certainly not be harrassed by the police department in such a manner.

Todd answered that he does not know the following named persons: Irwin Weiner, Lenny Patrick, Sam Yaras, Barney Baker, Harry Hall, Alex Gruber, Ralph Paul, Robert Ray McKeown, Andrew Armstrong, Tom Eli Davis III, William Cies, Harry Olsen and James Braden. His answer as to his relationship with the following persons are:

Lewis McWillie - Only knew him as a crap player and gambler. Never associated with him.

George Senator - Only knew him as a person who would sell clothing; has bought a few suits from him.

George Butler - Only knew him as a police officer and he was always "tailing me."

Morgan Brown - Todd said he met him for the first time two or three months ago in Dallas. The meeting concerns some

oil properties that a doctor friend of his invested \$30,000 in. After some negotiations by Todd, Morgan returned the \$30,000 back to the doctor.

William Decker - Only knew him as a police officer. He had a reputation of being a good, firm man. Word was also out that Fritz was not a man to fool around with.

Jettie Bass - He is dead now. Died of a heart attack a few years ago. He was an Indian. Todd knew him as a burglar.

Nick Cascio - Describes him as a very nice guy until someone crosses him and then he could be very tough. Has known him for 35 years. Todd last saw him three or four months ago and is in bad health with cancer. He said Cascio was a burglar.

Angelo Thomas Casten -- States he only knows him from the Dallas area.

Hollis de Lois Green - Has known him since 1939 and lists him as one of his best friends. He would not go into too much detail as to what type association they had but only constantly praised Lois Green as being a "great guy."

Ray Brondo - A used car salesman; hasn't seen him in 25 years.

R.D. Mathews - Todd states he knew Mathews very well. When we attempted to question him regarding any illegal activity he and Mathews were engaged in during the Green

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Todd replied, "Let's just say we were social friends

and leave it at that."

James Henry Dolan - Only knew him as a casual friend.

Paul Roland Jones - Had known him for two or three years.

Did not know too much about him but questioned the fact that Ruby associated with Jones. Todd said that Jones was not the type to have Ruby around him because of his (Ruby's) association with the police.

Joe Bonds - Todd said he knew him as a night club operator and that Lois Green was killed outside of Bond's night club.

Campisi - Todd said he is just a guy who runs a restaurant. Never associates with him but has eaten in his restaurant.

It must be noted that Todd was purposely vague about describing details of the persons that he was associated with. He also would not go into too many facts concerning any illegal activities with the exception of admitting to two crimes that he had committed. One was for the crime of homicide and the other was a burglary. He was convicted and served time for both crimes. The details Todd gave concerning his homicide arrest was as follows: Todd stated that on September 3, 1953, while seated in a restaurant, a man entered, and without any provocation, proceeded to cut Todd on the side of his throat and other parts of his body. Todd ran outside, bleeding profusely, obtained a gun from R.D. MATHEWS, fired one shot into the air to make certain the gun was in working order and then entered the premises and

shot said assailant to death. He was arrested and served two years for this crime. On November 22, 1961 he received a full pardon for this crime. The other crime Todd admitted to was when he was arrested for burglary by throwing a rock through a window and stealing \$500 which he gave to a friend who needed the money.

Todd denied ever being engaged in safe cracking activities although his arrest record discloses 4 arrests for transporting explosives indicating the arrests may have been for carrying nitro, an explosive commonly used by safe crackers for blowing up safes.

Since the death of Lois Green in 1949 Todd said he began to break away from what he was doing and decided to get a job. He worked at different places until finally he went into the oil business and has been extremely successful in that field. Mr. Biesel, Todd's attorney, had quoted to us during an earlier interview that Todd is now a millionaire. He heads the _____ located at 6116 North Expressway, Dallas, Texas.

When asked about Sue's Used Car Lot, Todd replied that he was very familiar with the place as he worked there as a salesman for several years. The car lot was operated by Sue Southerland who later married Harry Hammond. They are still married and she is presently the Vice President of the Merchants Bank.

Todd described Sue Hammond as an extremely honest person who would never be involved in any dishonest act. Todd denied that the Sue's Used Car Lot was used as a hangout for his cronies and that while there they planned illegal activities. Todd denied these charges, explaining that the purpose he obtained this job for was to offset the frequent arrests for vagrancy that he was receiving from the Dallas Police Department. He also would not allow any of his friends to use these premises for a hangout out of respect for Sue Hammond as he knew she would not approve of it and he did not want her to get into trouble.

According to Todd, he does not remember what year or under what circumstances he met Jack Ruby. He describes their association as being so casual that he really cannot recall any details of even when he last saw him. Todd could not explain or understand how Ruby would have his phone number in his possession as he does not believe he ever gave his phone number to Ruby. Todd admits to being in the Silver Spur several times and had visited the Vegas Club. He thinks he remembers Eva Grant as being at the door of the Vegas Club. Todd strongly denied having any dealings or associations with Ruby. He would explain that when he met Ruby in the street he would exchange greetings and continue to walk as Ruby would always try to stop and engage him in a social conversation. Todd characterized Ruby as always being in the police station on social calls and he was

extremely friendly with police officers. On the other hand, Todd said he and his friends wanted nothing to do with police officers and stayed as far away from them as possible. Todd could not conceive of Ruby being associated with anyone involved in any criminal organization with him (Ruby) being so closely associated with the police department. The fear was always there that Ruby could be a police informant, so stated Todd.

Todd answered the questions rather freely and we were never cautioned by his attorney, Jerry Biesel, as to the type of questions being asked. The interview ended with Todd suggesting, if needed, we can again call him and he would be willing to speak to us again.

THE STATE OF TEXAS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
AUSTIN

The following is a transcript of the record, including the most recently reported date of conviction, for the following names of Manufacture and Records concerning car number 1966, 1967

11 9 66 0 17
Y 13 13 01 19

Case Number 1802889

Geo. H. McLaughlin
Chief of Manufacture and Records

DATE	CITY AND COUNTY OF RECORD	NUMBER	NAME	STATUS
11-13-66	Newport, N. Y.	FD-100	James Robert Todd	V.G.
11-13-66	Smith, N. Y.	8001376	James R. Todd	V.G. of 1st A. 1966
11-13-66	Wash., D. C. MIL. ST. (JAGR-345)		James Robert Todd	Atty.
11-13-66	Shreveport, La.	10718710	Jack Todd	I.V.
11-13-66	Dallas, Texas	FD/22259	James Robert Todd	I.V.
11-13-66	Dallas, Texas	40/17660	James Robert Todd	Registry
11-13-66	Ft. Worth, Texas	FD/15754	James Robert Todd	V.G.
11-13-66	Shreveport, La.	8015754	James Robert Todd	I.V.
11-13-66	Houston, Texas	FD/31863	James Robert Todd	I.V.
11-13-66	Dallas, Texas	50/11193	James Robert Todd	Registry & V.G. 1966
11-13-66	Dallas, Texas	USP/5944	James Robert Todd	REG. 1966
11-13-66	Dallas Range, La.	SP/14401	J. R. Todd	I.V.
11-13-66	Dallas Range, La.	8024872	James R. Todd	I.V.
11-13-66	Dallas, Texas	FD/22259	James Robert Todd	I.V.

NOV 19 1971

THE STATE OF TEXAS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
AUSTIN

Page 1

The following is a transcript of the record, including the most recently reported data, as shown on the files of the State Bureau of Identification and Records concerning our number 206, 192.

NOV 19 1971
M 5 Pt 0 IV
I 17 Et 01 19

F. B. I. Number 1809303

Clas. H. McLaughlin
Bureau of Identification and Records

ARREST OR RECEIVED	CITY AND STATE OF ARREST	NUMBER	NAME	CHARGE	DATE OF ARREST
1-20-39	Brooklyn, N. Y.	ERIC RR 574	James Robert Todd	Vag.	31 Aug 39
2-20-39	Bath, N. Y.	SO#1376	James R. Todd	Viol. Sec. 987 A. C.S.P.	20 Aug 39
1-26-41	Wash., D. C. Mil. In.	ANAR-565	James Robert Todd	Appl.	
2-1-42	Shreveport, La.	FD#52710	Jack Todd	D.V.	
1-18-43	Dallas, Texas	FD#27259	James Robert Todd	D.V.	Rel.
1-2-43	Dallas, Texas	NO#17660	James Robert Todd	Burglary	Rel. to Bond
10-10-43	Ft. Worth, Texas	FD#13754	James Robert Todd	Vag.	Rel. on \$1000 B. 10-11-43
5-21-44	Shreveport, La.	SO#2756	James Robert Todd	D.V.	Rel. to Bond
11-10-44	Houston, Texas	FD#31863	James Robert Todd	D.V.	
1-18-47	Dallas, Texas	SO#74135	James Robert Todd	Burglary & Vag. FV U.S. Treasury	
2-14-47	Dallas, Texas	USM#5844	James Robert Todd	FV W.D. Wisconsin, Criminal Flight to Avoid Arrest	
5-6-47	Baton Rouge, La.	SP#14251	J. R. Todd	D.V.	
5-6-47	Baton Rouge, La.	SO#36477	James R. Todd	D.V.	Rel. to Bond
11-6-47	Dallas, Texas	FD#27259	James Robert Todd	D.V.	Rel. to Bond

THE STATE OF TEXAS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
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The following is a transcript of the record, including the most recently reported data as shown on the form of the State Bureau of Identification and Records concerning our number 401 529

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F. B. I. Number 100-1803

Chas. H. McLaughlin, Chief
Bureau of Identification and Records

ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CITY/TOWN OF FINGERPRINT	NUMBER	NAME	CRIME	DATE
12-9-48	Dallas, Texas	FD#22255	James Robert Todd	Rev. Burglary	Not on MC book
1-11-50	Waco, Texas	FD#17669	James Robert Todd	Rev. armed with a burglary	Not on MC book
2-12-50	Dallas, Texas	SO#17669	James Robert Todd	D. of. peace	Not on MC book
1-20-51	Dallas, Texas	HS#4001	James Robert Todd	Vio. Sec. 832 Title 18 Explosives in Interstate Commerce	
1-27-51	Dallas, Texas	SO#17669	James Robert Todd	Trans explosives in common carrier	
1-24-51	Dallas, Texas	SO#17669	James Robert Todd	Vio. Mar. 2. Sec 18	
5-8-51	Dallas, Texas	SO#17669	James Robert Todd	Trans Exp in common carrier	1 yr - Fed 441120 fine
6-27-51	Seagrville, Texas	FCI#2916-SI	James Robert Todd	Trans Explosives by 1st class Carrier	
9-4-51	Tarrant, Texas	FCI#6667-IT	James Robert Todd	Trans carrier by 1st class carrier	1 yr - 5.0000 Reg. fine
6-25-52	Dallas, Texas	FD#22255	James Robert Todd	Rev.	Not on MC book
10-1-55	Dallas, Texas	FD#22255	James Robert Todd	1st. Party	Not on MC book
9-2-55	Dallas, Texas	FD#22255	James Robert Todd	Murder	Not on MC book
9-1-55	Dallas, Texas	SO#17669	James Robert Todd	Murder	Not on MC book
1-1-54	Huntsville, Texas	FCI#18222	James Robert Todd	Murder with a	Not on MC book

THE STATE OF TEXAS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
AUSTIN

The undersigned hereby certifies that the following is a true and correct copy of the records of the Department of Public Safety...

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F. B. I. Number : 92-945

In accordance with the provisions of Article 1706c, Texas Constitution

ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CITY OR COUNTY OF ARREST	CHARGE	NAME	STATUS	REMARKS
3-4-54	Huntsville, Tex.	...			...
10-26-58	Dallas, Tex.	...	...	...	...
1-14-62	Dallas, Tex.	...	...	...	...

ADDITIONAL DALLAS PD INFORMATION:
 3-2-47 County Vag, JP Court 8-2-47
 5-6-56 Vag Dismissed 12-2-56
 5-9-56 Vag Dismissed 6-29-56
 9-13-57 Vag \$1 5-28-58
 1-6-58 Vag Dismissed 9-26-58
 6-19-58 Vag Not Guilty 8-5-58
 10-12-58 Ch Swindle 0/50 Dismissed 9-18-59
 4-2-43 Burglary, 5 yrs. PSP suspended 5-17-43

NAME JAMES ROBERT WILSON

SEX MALE

RACE W

UNIT 4

400 4

JFK Act 6 (3)

AGE 28 HT 5-7 WT 150 HAIR BRN EYES BRN COMP 100

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH 12-10-1912

PRESENT ADDRESS 2341 Octoe Dr.

SCARS AND MARKS None

DATE OF ARREST 7-24-1962

ARRESTED BY H. J. HERRON S. H. HERRON

PRINTED BY *bf* CHANGED BY

NEAREST RELATIVE AND ADDRESS CLASSIFIED BY

JFK Act 6 (3)