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27 NOV 1963

Mr. Lewis T. Huff
 U.S. Secret Service
 P.O. Box 245
 Columbia, S.C.

Dear Mr. Huff:

Shortly after the shooting of President John F. KENNEDY on November 22, 1963, the District Intelligence Office, Charleston, S.C. was informed that one Robert C. RAWLS had information relative to the assassination. RAWLS was then a patient at the U.S. Naval Hospital, Charleston, S.C. He was interviewed by a representative of the Office of Naval Intelligence from about 1610 to about 1645, and stated substantially as follows:

He was in a bar in New Orleans, La. ten days to two weeks ago when he heard a man try to bet \$100.00 that President KENNEDY would be dead within three weeks. He does not recall ever seeing the man before and is not certain he would recognize the man if he saw him again. He admits being somewhat intoxicated and said the man also was in an intoxicated condition. He advised that, at the time, he paid no attention to the man because he thought "it was just drunk talk and a drunk will bet on anything." However, he said after the shooting of the President, it occurred to him there may have been meaning to the remark and he thought it should be reported to authorities. Recalling, he said the man who was attempting to place the bet was dressed like "a working man", but beyond that he could offer no description. He stated he does not recall a bet was actually made. Further, he advised he does not recall the name of the bar he was in when he heard the remark. He said he frequents bars within a four or five block radius of the 2200/2300-block of Canal Street, New Orleans, La., and he often goes to two or three bars in an evening. He thinks this particular bar was just off Canal Street, and he knows he frequently goes to Freddie's Bar and the Straight Day Bar in this area. He said on the particular night he heard the remark, he remembers an ex-Navy friend, Bob TANNER, and TANNER's girl friend were with him. He does not know if either of them heard the bet attempt, and he does not recall that they discussed it. He thinks TANNER and his girl friend may have been away from the table or the booth at the time the remark was made. The man offering the bet was not at a table, but was at the bar. He did not hear anyone call the man by name. He does not know TANNER's New Orleans address and does not know the name of TANNER's girl friend. He said, however, she works as a waitress at the Meal-a-Minute on Canal Street. RAWLS, a white male, gave his full name as Robert Collum RAWLS, and his address as 2037 Cleveland St., New Orleans, La. He said he is a former Navy quartermaster third class and

No DoD objection to public disclosure
 pursuant to P.L. 102-526, ~~amendment~~

all per Sec 6 (3)

ND6/OC10D/INP/emo
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his serial number is 636-84-38. He stated he is presently employed as an attendant at Mayfield's Gulf Service Station, Canal and Broad Streets, New Orleans, La. He said he generally does not get off from work in the evenings until 2000 at which time he usually visits the bars. He said it was about 2100 or 2200 on the evening in question, when the man attempted to place the bet on the life of the President.

U.S. Naval Hospital authorities at Charleston, S.C. indicated [RAWLS] was at Charleston to undergo an evaluation physical. They stated when results of this physical are compiled, a disability evaluation board will study said results to determine the extent of [RAWLS]' handicap. The authorities advise [RAWLS]' medical problem was mainly orthopedic, however, they said he does have a psychiatric past of "passive-aggressive reaction with hostile tendencies." They stated persons with this psychiatric problem are generally reliable and are considered to be sane.

[RAWLS] was scheduled to return to his home at New Orleans on about November 22, 1963.

Forwarded for information and as a "follow-up" to the telephonic briefing made on November 22, 1963.

E. L. McINTOSH, JR.

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