

DATE: 11-14-2017

JFK Assassination System  
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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **SAN FRANCISCO**

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NY FILE NO. 100-88368 SMS

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>2/9/48</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>1/5, 6, 23, 26-29/48</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>JOSEPH V. WATERS</b>
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TITLE <b>JOHN PITTMAN</b>	CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b>
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**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

JOHN PITTMAN is presently employed by the DAILY WORKER at NYC as a writer and he resides at 370 Manhattan Ave., NYC. PITTMAN has written a series of articles on his 1946-47 European tour. These articles appeared in the DAILY WORKER and PEOPLES VOICE in the first part of 1947. In April and May, 1947 PITTMAN made a speaking tour of Indiana and Chicago on behalf of the Educational-Organizational Dept. of the CPUSA.

*Yes*  
9-29-94  
Classified by *SP8 mrc/ude*  
Declassify on: OADR *JFK*

- RUC -

DECLASSIFIED BY *566834/ude*  
ON *1/10/87*

**REFERENCE:**

Report of SA Cecil James Fleming, San Francisco, 11/17/47

**DETAILS:**

In a report dated July 11, 1946 ~~Confidential~~ Informant ND-183 advised that JOHN PITTMAN was going overseas shortly as a correspondent for the DAILY WORKER, and on September 13, 1946 he advised that PITTMAN was going to travel to Africa via Moscow. In a further report dated November 14, 1946, this informant advised that PITTMAN was then in Paris, France and had requested money of the DAILY WORKER in order to go to Roumania to report on the elections in that country.

*cc - AEC by let  
in 100-15828  
4-28-64 amb  
HEJ 1-27-54*

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COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau 3 San Francisco (100-1465) 3 New York		100-30067-44	RECORDED & INDEXED 19
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discrimination against Jews and other minorities in those countries. The general tenor of his articles was to the effect that these "new democracies" had been quite successful in eliminating that evil.

In his article in the PEOPLES VOICE of June 21, 1947 on Page 17, PITTMAN relates his interview with VASILE LUCA, a Roumanian leader. According to LUCA, American military and press representatives in Roumania tried to create hostility between Roumanians and Hungarians in order that Transilvania would not be kept by Roumania. PITTMAN reported that LUCA said there was a tendency of nationalities to form alliances among themselves and suggested that idea as a possible solution for minorities in the United States.

Confidential Informant ND-183 in a report dated April 24, 1947 advised that JOHN PITTMAN from the Pacific Coast had returned from Europe with his wife, the former PAUL FOX, and according to this informant PITTMAN was to replace ROBERT MINOR on a mid-west speaking tour and following this would return to the Pacific Coast.

Confidential Informant T-1 on November 10, 1947 supplied SA Everett K. Deane with a signed copy of JOHN PITTMAN'S report to the Educational-Organizational Department of the Communist Party U.S.A. regarding his speaking tour in Indiana and Chicago made by him between April 27th and May 7, 1947. He reported on his attendance at Communist meetings in Indianapolis, Evansville, Fort Wayne, South Bend, Gary, and Chicago, giving a few details on each meeting.

In a paragraph entitled "OVERALL OBSERVATIONS" he said that his impression was that the Comrades in Indiana are still hampered by left sectarianism and that they lack bold approach to any persons but the working class and failed to attempt to popularize the Communist Party line.

Regarding Chicago he said that he had heard from Negro comrades there that white chauvinism is rampant there and that Negro organizations are left to shift for themselves. He concluded his report with an expression of gratitude to the Ed-Org Commission for the opportunity to meet Party and non-Party people in that center of industrial America and he described it as a re-orienting experience necessary to get him back quickly into the

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sense of things. PITTMAN's financial account, which was part of this report, reflected that he spent a total of \$110 on the tour in addition to the price of an airplane ticket to Indianapolis.

On July 18, 1947 Confidential Informant T-1 furnished SA Herbert P. Larson with a memorandum dated July 15, 1947 submitted by JOHN PITTMAN and HOWARD BOLDT to the Editorial Board of the DAILY WORKER. This memorandum outlined their proposals to increase the circulation of the SUNDAY WORKER. They suggested mass subscription drives in trade unions plus mass organizations, and other groups, and a program in which Communist Party leaders would implement this drive with the DAILY WORKER printing stories of their efforts. There was also suggested a number of journalistic improvements, such as an increase in features and human interest stories and improvement of the "Fun Page" of the SUNDAY WORKER.

On July 18, 1947 T-1 furnished SE J. O'Shaughnessy with a pay envelope of ~~FREEDOM OF THE PRESS, INC.~~ which publishes the DAILY WORKER. This envelope was made out to PATTERSON, presumably the subject, indicating a weekly salary of \$70 with a net payment to him of \$59.10. From information previously furnished by this informant it may be assumed that this was the weekly salary of JOHN PITTMAN.

Confidential Informant ND-183 on August 7, 1947 reported that JOHN PITTMAN was then working for the ~~DAILY WORKER~~ with ~~BOWARD~~ BOLDT.

On November 2, 1947 ND-183 advised that JOHN PITTMAN was residing at 370 Manhattan Avenue, New York City, apartment 5G, telephone Monument 2-8643, and that PAULA PITTMAN was residing at 66 West 69th Street, New York City, telephone Trafalgar 7-1700.

According to the Telephone Directory Monument 2-8643 is listed for S.O. ~~RUTHERFORD~~ who, according to the election records, is more fully identified as SEPTIMUS ~~RUTHERFORD~~.

SEPTIMUS RUTHERFORD was mentioned in copies of the PILOT dated March 21, 1946 and December 3, 1946 which described him as a candidate for the general elections being held by the National Maritime Union in that year. According to ~~Confidential Informant ND-399~~ RUTHERFORD ran for Field Patrolman and was defeated. ND-399 has stated that RUTHERFORD was a member of the Communist Party until about 1942, when he dropped out.

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The DAILY WORKER of January 4, 1948, page 11, Section 1, features a review of the Book "Russia's Europe" by HAL LEHRMAN. This review, written by JOHN PITTMAN, denounces LEHRMAN's book as "more grist for the warmongers' mill" and PITTMAN declares that LEHRMAN'S book is filled with misstatements. PITTMAN ends his review with the statement of regret that "a LEHRMAN rather than a HENRY WALLACE, is typical of what has come to be known as an American Liberal".

Confidential Informant ND-183 advised that on January 26, 1948 JOHN PITTMAN dispatched a telegram to CLAIRE GRAHAM, apartment 63, 244 Kearney Street, San Francisco, California, reading as follows:

"YOUR DECISION WISE. YOU WILL PULL THROUGH EVEN IF NEXT  
SHORT PERIOD IS TOUGH. WRITING SPECIAL DELIVERY TONIGHT.  
TAKE IT EASY TIL GET OKAY FROM ME.

/s/ JOHN "

Inasmuch as the nature and extent of JOHN PITTMAN's activities in connection with the Communist Party have been determined, and his employment and residence address established, no further investigation is being conducted at this time.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

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CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

Confidential Informant T-1 mentioned in the report of SA Joseph V. Waters dated February 9, 1948 at New York, N.Y. is:

T-1 ~~Confidential Informant ND-426~~<sup>7024</sup> who is being designated by a temporary symbol to further protect his identity.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: 11-14-2017

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **SAN FRANCISCO**BY FILE NO. **100-88860** **8MS**

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>2/9/48</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>1/8-8-28 28-29/48</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>JAMES C. WATSON</b>
TITLE <b>JOHN PITTMAN</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b>	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:  <p><b>JOHN PITTMAN</b> is presently employed by the <b>DAILY WORKER</b> at <b>NYC</b> as a writer and he resides at <b>370 Manhattan Ave., NYC</b>. <b>PITTMAN</b> has written a series of articles on his <b>1946-47</b> European tour. These articles appeared in the <b>DAILY WORKER</b> and <b>PEOPLES VOICE</b> in the first part of <b>1947</b>. In <b>April</b> and <b>May, 1947</b> <b>PITTMAN</b> made a speaking tour of <b>Indiana</b> and <b>Chicago</b> on behalf of the <b>Educational-Organisational Dept. of the CPUSA</b>.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- RUC -</p> <p>REFERENCE: Report of SA Cecil James Fleming, San Francisco, 11/17/47</p> <p>DETAILS: In a report dated July 11, 1946 Confidential Informant <b>ED-183</b> advised that <b>JOHN PITTMAN</b> was going overseas shortly as a correspondent for the <b>DAILY WORKER</b>, and on September 13, 1946 he advised that <b>PITTMAN</b> was going to travel to Africa via Moscow. In a further report dated November 14, 1946, this informant advised that <b>PITTMAN</b> was then in Paris, France and had requested money of the <b>DAILY WORKER</b> in order to go to Roumania to report on the elections in that country.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9-19-94 BY SP8 Muc/ude (JFK)</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
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FPI-1K-7, 11-47-900M-4825

