

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE
TREASURY DEPARTMENT

OFFICE New Orleans

FILE NO. 62-234,030

TYPE OF CASE Assassination of President John F. Kennedy	STATUS Continued	TITLE OR CAPTION Lee Harvey Oswald
INVESTIGATION MADE AT New Orleans, La.	PERIOD COVERED 11/26/63 - 12/2/63	ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY
INVESTIGATION MADE BY SA Anthony S. Garrett and SAIC John W. Rice		

DETAILS
SUMMARY

Photographs and film clips of Oswald and the other subjects passing his fair play for Cuba Committee circulars in New Orleans on 8/12/63 were obtained from local television stations and from other identified interested offices. Charles Hall Steele, Jr., was identified as being one of the subjects. The other subject has not been identified. Steele was interviewed 11/27/63 and he stated that Oswald had contacted him at an employment office and paid him \$2.00 for passing out the circulars. He said he saw Oswald on only the one occasion.

Data recording, and also a transcript, of debate on WMAZ Radio, New Orleans, on 8/21/63, involving Oswald, et al, furnished Chief's Office on 12/2/63.

SCOPE OF INVESTIGATION

Reference is made to previous reports in this case, particularly report dated 11/25/63 by SA L. H. Novakides, San Antonio, and by memorandum to SAIC Novakides dated 11/26/63.

On 11/26/63 this office obtained from Mr. John J. [redacted], Photographer, WMAZ Television (Channel 6), New Orleans, photograph of Oswald and an unidentified companion handing out fair play for Cuba Committee circulars in front of the International Trade Mart in New Orleans, Louisiana, on August 12, 1963.

In accordance with telephonic instructions from Inspector Thomas J. Kelly at Dallas, Texas, the above mentioned photograph was sent to SAIC L. H. Novakides, San Antonio, and report of 11/25/63 by Dallas and San Antonio divisions please be submitted to Mr. John J. [redacted], San Antonio, who is referred to in SAIC Novakides' report dated 11/26/63.

DISTRIBUTION	COPIES	REPORT MADE BY	DATE
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Dallas	cc		
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New Orleans	cc		12-11-63
		<i>John W. Rice</i>	
		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	

CONTINUE ON PLAIN PAPER

STATEMENT BY SAIC JOHN W. RICE

November 25, 1963. SAIC [redacted] said that the subject in the photograph in question was the same young man who had been in a television scene initially carried on WMAZ (Channel 6), New Orleans, and it was requested that photographs of the WMAZ film depicting Oswald and another young man passing out circulars be obtained.

Subsequently this office obtained from WMAZ-TV (Channel 6) photographs of Oswald and another young man passing out circulars, and it was ascertained on 11/26/63 from the local FBI office that this young man was Charles Hall Steele, Jr., son of a local deputy sheriff, who resides with his parents at 1216 Maple Street, Dumbell, having heard that his photograph had been shown on a television program, contacted the FBI office, and with his father, visited the office and was interviewed. Steele told FBI agents that he had been approached by Oswald at an employment office in New Orleans and was offered \$2.00 to pass out the circulars; that he stopped passing out circulars when he discovered the content of the material; and that he saw Oswald on only the one occasion.

The above information was furnished SAIC Novakides by telephone on 11/26/63, and a copy of the photograph of Steele was furnished the San Antonio office the same date by office memorandum, to be submitted to Mr. [redacted], if deemed necessary. Copies of three different photographs of Steele and Oswald, which were obtained from WMAZ-TV the same date were also furnished SAIC Novakides for identification purposes. Copies of the photograph obtained from WMAZ-TV were also furnished Chief's Office and the New York by copies of the memorandum dated 11/26/63.

On 11/26/63 this office obtained from Photographer Johann [redacted], WMAZ-TV a total of thirteen photo-clips, showing three different scenes of Oswald and another young unidentified man passing out circulars. He also obtained a short film clip from Mr. [redacted] from which the still photographs were made. One set of each of these three photographs, together with the film clip, were furnished Chief's Office with our memorandum dated 11/26/63, and copies were also furnished Dallas.

The WMAZ-TV film negative, which Oswald had given to Charles [redacted], anti-Castro Cuban, 107 Decker Street, New Orleans, referred to in SA L. H. Rice's report dated 11/23/63, pages 13 & 14, was also forwarded to Chief's Office with the above mentioned memorandum dated 11/26/63.

On 11/27/63 SA Garrett and SAIC Rice interviewed Charles Hall Steele, Jr., 1165 Maple Street, New Orleans, who identified his photograph mentioned above. He said that he first met Oswald on 8/12/63 when he was at the Continental Development Office, 107 Canal Street, New Orleans, at about 11:30 AM. He said Oswald walked into the place and asked him and at least one other man if they would be interested in making \$2.00 passing out leaflets connected with a group at Louisiana University. He said that Oswald was young and fairly neatly dressed and he thought he might be a college student. He said that he made arrangements to meet Oswald at 12:00 noon the same date in front of the International Trade Mart, corner of Camp and Common Streets, to pass out the circulars.

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Steadle further advised that he arrived at the above location at 12:00 noon, and checked Ambassador Oswald walked up with another young man, about 20 years of age, 5 feet tall, brown hair, olive complexion, wearing sport shirt, without tie. He said this woman was not the same person as the unidentified subject shown in above mentioned photo with Oswald and circulatory with Oswald. He also advised that Oswald gave him a handful of leaflets which he passed out over a period of approximately 15 minutes; that then he received a second batch of the leaflets he dismissed them and three days away; that he then walked up to Oswald and told him the leaflets looked like Communist literature, whereupon Oswald said it was not, and that the leaflets were connected with a group at Tulane University. He said he told Oswald that he did not want anything further to do with the leaflets, and that Oswald then paid him \$1.00 and he left.

Steadle is undoubtedly the same young man, Mrs. Franklin, of San Antonio, alleged she saw in a televised scene where the assassination occurred. Steadle advised, and his father verified, that he had not been away from New Orleans and was not in Dallas on the date of the assassination.

A few days prior to 11/17/63, Charles Brinkner, anti-Castro agent, mentioned in paragraph 5, page 2 of this report, advised this office he was recording a debate involving Oswald, Brinkner, Dr. Armaso Rodriguez, Jr., of the INFORMATION COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAS, and Bill Gaudin, member of the Communist Party, New Orleans, which was broadcast on WJAC-TV over that radio, New Orleans. Brinkner advised that he was in the process of obtaining a transcript of the debate and would deliver same to this office the following day. On 11/2/63, Brinkner advised by telephone that Dr. Armaso Rodriguez, Jr., who operates the Spanish Language Institute, 1200 St. Charles Street, New Orleans, had a copy of the transcript. Dr. Rodriguez was contacted this week and by letter of D. Counts and he agreed to furnish us with three verbatim copies of the transcript, stating that he was in the process of translating same in Spanish.

At approximately 1:00 PM (CST) on 12/2/63, Deputy Chief Paul J. Petrowski advised by telephone that information has been received in Dallas Office this date indicating that Dr. Armaso Rodriguez, mentioned above, has a tape recording of the debate in question. Deputy Chief Petrowski was informed that he had the tape and that Armaso Rodriguez was in the process of preparing copies of the transcript. It was requested that the tape, and copy of transcript be sent to SAIC Embark I. Souick, Protective Research Section, as soon as possible by an airplane pilot.

The tape, together with copy of transcript, was delivered by SA Roger D. Counts on 12/7/63 to the Captain of Western Air Lines Flight 570, which departed New Orleans at 6:00 P.M., to be picked up at Dallas Airport, Fort Worth, D. C., by a special agent of the Protective Research Section upon arrival at 7:55 P.M., said agent having been previously advised by telephone of the method of delivery.

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UNIDENTIFIED SUBJECT

All phases of the investigation conducted by the New Orleans office under the receipt of Chief's memorandum dated December 3, 1963, have now been reported.

The case remains open in this office pending completion of additional investigation as requested in report dated 12/12/63 by SA Gary A. Kralic, Dallas.

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