



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

July 31, 1964

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY
NOVEMBER 22, 1963, DALLAS, TEXAS

The following supplements information furnished concerning WILLIAM MC EWAN DUFF, formerly employed as a batman by General EDWIN A. WALKER, and of whom allegations of association with LEE HARVEY OSWALD have been received, and an allegation by DUFF of possible association between General WALKER and JACK L. RUBY. The previous information furnished has been by memoranda dated June 26, 1964, July 16, 1964, and in report dated January 23, 1964, at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

The matter at hand concerns two of three rifle shells which CLYDE J. WATTS, Attorney and counsel for General EDWIN A. WALKER, produced on July 27, 1964, ascribing their source to WILLIAM MC EWAN DUFF, as obtained without his knowledge by WILLIAM KEESTER and CLIFF ROBERTS, private investigators retained by Mr. WATTS. The shells were reported to have been obtained in the spring of 1963, when KEESTER and ROBERTS had investigated DUFF as a suspect in the attempt to assassinate General WALKER. Mr. WATTS had been given the shells on conclusion of the investigation in the spring of 1963 and had retained them to this time, continuing to retain one of the three shells found.

The results of interviews concerning these shells with CLYDE J. WATTS, WILLIAM ROSS KEESTER, and CLIFF ROBERTS follow:

On July 27, 1964, Mr. CLYDE J. WATTS, Attorney, was contacted at his request at his office, 219 Couch Drive, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He furnished the following items:

Two (2) cartridges, approximately .30 caliber, three and one-fourth (3 1/4) inches in length, steel jacketed. Stamped on base of each cartridge is "i" "c" "53."

Mr. WATTS advised as follows:

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He obtained the above described cartridges (plus a third identical cartridge, which he, himself, is maintaining in his possession), from WILLIAM KEESTER. In the spring of 1963, he had hired WILLIAM KEESTER and CLIFF ROBERTS, Private Investigators of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, to go to Dallas, Texas, to investigate the matter of somebody shooting at EDWIN A. WALKER, a former General of the United States Army. An individual named WILLIAM DUFF, a former employee of WALKER, was developed as a suspect in the shooting by KEESTER and ROBERTS. The three cartridges were obtained by KEESTER and ROBERTS from DUFF's residence without DUFF's knowledge. KEESTER delivered the three cartridges to him at his office in Oklahoma City, 219 Couch Drive, sometime during the summer of 1963. He placed the three cartridges in an envelope and put them in his desk at his office and they have been there ever since that time.

WATTS had completely forgotten about the three cartridges until a recent visit to Dallas, Texas, when he appeared before the Warren Commission. During this recent trip to Dallas, he talked with one Mr. LIEBLER (Phonetic), an attorney for the Warren Commission, at which time he recalled and mentioned to Mr. LIEBLER the incident concerning his obtaining the three cartridges.

Mr. LIEBLER told him to give the three cartridges to the FBI in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, so that they could be forwarded to the Warren Commission in Washington, D. C.

WATTS desires to maintain possession of one of the cartridges. He believes KEESTER should be able to furnish specific details as to how he and ROBERTS came into possession of the three cartridges.

Mr. WATTS did not place any marks on the cartridges by which to identify them. He does not know if KEESTER or ROBERTS placed any identification marks on the cartridges. The two cartridges need not be returned to him.

Regarding WILLIAM DUFF, DUFF came to Oklahoma City about two months ago and told him he was being discharged from military service due to a fraudulent enlistment. He wanted to keep tabs on DUFF, so he prevailed upon a friend of his, H. W. THOMPSON, of the Oklahoma Paving Company, Oklahoma City, to give DUFF a job. As far as WATTS knows, DUFF is presently working for the Oklahoma Paving Company in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

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COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 1997—Continued

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On July 28, 1964, WILLIAM ROSS KEESTER, 2224 Southwest 61st Terrace, telephone Mutual 5-2745, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, operator of the K & R Investigation Service, 417 Leonhardt Building, telephone Central 2-0233, Oklahoma City, advised of the following relative to three rifle shells supplied on July 27, 1964, by Mr. CLYDE J. WATTS, Attorney, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, who stated that he had obtained them from Mr. KEESTER in mid-1963 and that the shells related to the investigation of suspect WILLIAM MC EWAN DUFF in the attempted assassination of General EDWIN A. WALKER:

Mr. KEESTER advised that it is his recollection that the shells in question were obtained by CLIFF ROBERTS, with whom he had been associated in the investigation of DUFF at Dallas, Texas; that ROBERTS had delivered the shells to Mr. WATTS. Mr. KEESTER said he had no other recollection concerning the shells, suggesting contact with Mr. ROBERTS, now employed by the Oklahoma Bureau of Investigation, Oklahoma City, as an investigator.

On July 28, 1964, Mr. CLIFF ROBERTS, Investigator, Oklahoma State Crime Bureau, Oklahoma City, advised that in the spring of 1963 he had been associated with WILLIAM ROSS KEESTER in the operation of the K & R Investigation Service, 417 Leonhardt Building, Oklahoma City; that the partnership had been retained by Attorney CLYDE J. WATTS, counsel for General EDWIN A. WALKER, for purposes of conducting investigation relating to WILLIAM MC EWAN DUFF as a suspect in the attempted assassination of General WALKER.

In connection with the investigation concerning DUFF, as previously reported, ROBERTS said he and KEESTER had moved into the same apartment building with DUFF and, on an undercover basis, had established an acquaintanceship and then his confidence in a proposal that DUFF kill General WALKER for them. This was done in an effort to establish what knowledge DUFF might have had concerning the earlier attempt to assassinate General WALKER.

In the development of this proposal to DUFF, ROBERTS said he had obtained some rifle shells from DUFF's apartment without DUFF's knowledge. He did not recall how many he had obtained or how many he had found. As he recalled, he had found these shells in a shoe box in a closet located in DUFF's apartment. There were two other men, names not recalled, who were living at that time in the same apartment with DUFF. ROBERTS stated he cannot now recall how

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he had identified the shells with DUFF, as opposed to the two others. There were two closets in the apartment and the effects of these individuals were commingled. It was ROBERTS' recollection that he had found something else in the shoe box which had identified the shoe box, containing the shells, with DUFF.

ROBERTS stated that he had not marked the shells with anything which he could identify when the shells were found, nor does he believe he now could identify the shells, except through a chain of evidence by testimony that he had given the shells to Mr. CLYDE J. WATTS, counsel for WALKER.

ROBERTS stated that he had found no evidence in his contacts with DUFF, nor when he had located the shells, that DUFF had a rifle, a firearm of any other type, or had any particular knowledge of the use of firearms.

Never, ROBERTS said, had he or KEESTER confronted DUFF with their knowledge of his possession of rifle ammunition, nor had they intimated this to DUFF. Not having discussed the ammunition with DUFF, ROBERTS said neither he nor KEESTER has any information as to its origin, or why DUFF might have retained it, unless as a souvenir of his military experience.