
Agency Information

AGENCY : FBI
RECORD NUMBER : 124-10372-10099

RECORD SERIES : HQ

AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 62C-HQ-1029205-925

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : FBI
FROM : CI
TO : HQ

TITLE :

DATE : 09/15/1995
PAGES : 11

SUBJECTS :
JFKARCA OF 1992

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : Unclassified
RESTRICTIONS : 3
CURRENT STATUS : Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 03/04/1999

OPENING CRITERIA : INDEFINITE

COMMENTS :



FBI FACSIMILE
COVERSHEET

PRECEDENCE

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

CLASSIFICATION

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Sensitive
- Unclassified

Time Transmitted: _____
 Sender's Initials: _____
 Number of Pages: _____
 (including coversheet)

To: FBIHQ - BY SECURE FAX
Name of Office

Date: 9/15/95

Facsimile Number: 202-324-6851

Attn: John Harting 5849 265441
Name Room Telephone

From: Cincinnati FBI
Name of Office

Subject: _____

Special Handling Instructions: Classified and sensitive material
62c-HQ-1029205-925

Originator's Name: Ed Boldt Telephone: 513 421-4310

Originator's Facsimile Number: _____

Approved: [Signature]

Brief Description of Communication Faxed: _____

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SEP 15 10 43 AM '95

Date of transcription 9/13/95RECEIVED
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OTHER 3

[redacted] (protect identity), 154 1/2 Maple Avenue, Smithfield, Ohio, was interviewed and furnished the following information:

He considers now, as he always has, that the specific, direct and unequivocal promise of confidentiality that he requested and received from the United States Government and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) regarding his identity and information which he may have provided to the FBI to be binding forever. He firmly believes that his children, his grandchildren, and his great-grandchildren could be subjected to physical harm or embarrassment were his relationship with the FBI ever made a matter of public record. He has never told his children of his relationship with the FBI, and would consider it devastating if that relationship were to be made public in any way.

He has a clear recollection that when he first agreed to become an FBI informant, he requested and was given a form to sign which specifically and expressly promised and guaranteed that his identity as an FBI informant would never be revealed by the FBI, and that that promise extended beyond his death, but was to be in effect forever. He also clearly recalls conversations that he had had with various FBI Agents who were assigned as his contact Agent, in which that same promise and guarantee of permanent confidentiality was repeated and emphasized. He would not have become an FBI informant without such an express promise of confidentiality.

He expressly requested that his identity continue to be protected for all time, and that any documents that would identify him, or tend to identify him as the source of that information, be withheld from public release for all time.

Investigation on 9/11/95 at Smithfield, Ohio

File # 62B-109060

by SA J. ROCKNE WILSON

Date dictated 9/11/95

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 9/13/95

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[redacted] (protect identity throughout this document), 154 1/2 Maple Avenue, Smithfield, Ohio, was interviewed and furnished the following information:

She served as a confidential informant for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for many years. As a condition precedent to her association with the FBI, and without which she would not have agreed to serve as an informant, she recalls that she signed a document in which the FBI promised and assured her that her identity as an informant would never be divulged, that there were no exceptions to this guarantee, and that the promise would extend beyond her death and would last for all time. This promise was express and explicit and was not subject to interpretation. Throughout her tenure as an FBI informant, she discussed the confidential status of her relationship with the FBI with each of the FBI Agents who were assigned as her contact Agent. Each of these Agents affirmed the confidential nature of her relationship with the FBI.

She has never told her children or closest friends of her relationship with the FBI, would be personally devastated should they ever learn of it, and believes that her family could be put in grave physical danger in the event it were made public that she was an FBI informant. She ensured that all contacts she had with the FBI were conducted in such a manner that they would be secret. She has never been identified as an informant, and believes she has never even been suspected of being an FBI informant.

She expressly requested that her identity continue to be protected at all times, and that any documents that would identify her, or tend to identify her as the source of that information, be withheld from public release for all time.

Investigation on 9/8/95 at Smithfield, Ohio

File # 62B-109060

by SA J. ROCKNE WILSON

Date dictated 9/11/95

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 9/14/95

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[redacted] 300 Packer Street, Uhrichville, Ohio, was interviewed and furnished the following information:

She is the widow of [redacted] (protect identity throughout this document), who died in 1992, having been married to him for more than 50 years. In response to a question concerning her knowledge of any relationship her husband may have had with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), she knew there was some kind of relationship, but indicated that [redacted] had never confided to her the specifics of exactly what it was and what it entailed. She described her husband as being a very quiet individual and one who valued his privacy above all else. Because she was unaware of the scope and full nature of the relationship that [redacted] had had with the FBI, she very firmly believes that he would not have told his children or friends of such a relationship, and believes that since he never told anyone of it, he would want such a relationship to remain a secret. She has always been somewhat afraid that [redacted] relationship with the FBI would be made public, and fears that there could be some kind of retaliation taken against her, her children, or grandchildren, if it were.

While she was somewhat aware of her husband's relationship with the FBI, she would not want it to be made known now, as it could cause embarrassment, criticism or contempt for herself, her children, or grandchildren, or it could put them in danger, and would request that the relationship never be made public.

Investigation on 9/12/95 at Cincinnati, Ohio

(telephonically)

File # 62B-109060

by SSA EDWIN H. BOLDT

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 9/15/95

[redacted] 330 Claymont, Uhrichville, Ohio, telephone number (614) 922-3521, was interviewed and furnished the following information:

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She is the daughter of [redacted] (protect identity throughout this document) and [redacted]. Her father died in 1992, and her mother, while in ill health, continues to reside in Uhrichville, Ohio.

Her mother contacted her on Tuesday, September 12, 1995, and told her that an Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) had telephonically contacted her that evening and questioned her as to her late husband's relationship with the FBI many years earlier, and that it had greatly worried her mother. Her mother told her that she had lived in fear for many years that [redacted] relationship with the FBI would be made public, and her mother had been looking over her shoulder for years in the fear that she, her children, or grandchildren would be physically harmed in retaliation for the work that [redacted] had done for the FBI. Her mother told her that because of this fear, she hoped with all her heart that [redacted] [redacted] would never be identified as an FBI informant.

While she was growing up in the 1940's, -50's and -60's, she had a non-specific knowledge that her father had some kind of relationship with the FBI, but it was one he never talked about, and never discussed with her or her brother or sister. She believes this is true because he wanted to protect her from knowledge that could have somehow caused her harm or put her in danger. She too, along with her mother, has had a long-time fear that her father's informant status with the FBI would somehow be made public, and that she or other members of her family would be in very real physical danger from unknown persons who would want to retaliate against her father for his FBI involvement. Since the FBI contact with her mother on September 12, 1995, she has discussed this issue with her brother, [redacted] and he has told her that he feels the same way, and that he believes the threat of physical harm is a very real one if their father's FBI informant status were ever to be made public in any way.

Investigation on 9/14/95 at Cincinnati, Ohio (telephonically)

File # 62B-109060

by SSA EDWIN H. BOLDT

Date dictated 9/15/95

FD-302a (Rev. 11-15-83)

62B-109060

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

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On 9/14/95 Page 2

Her mother is due to enter the hospital during the week of September 18, 1995 for heart surgery, and believes that the added pressure of the possibility that [REDACTED] identity as an FBI informant might be made known can have only a most negative impact on her prognosis for recovery. She requested that if the FBI needs to recontact her mother, that the contact be made through her, to lessen the anxiety such a contact would occasion.

While her father was alive, and since his death, he has never been suspected as an FBI informant, and has never been surfaced in any way. Speaking for her whole family as well as for herself, she expressed the strongest wish that her father would never, in any fashion, be identified as an FBI informant.1

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 9/13/95

B. GENE WYATT, 289 Westview Drive, Winchester, Virginia, telephone number (540) 667-4725, was interviewed and furnished the following information:

He is a retired Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). As part of his responsibilities as an FBI Agent, while assigned to the Cincinnati Division of the FBI, he met with various individuals who provided information to the FBI on a regular or intermittent basis, and who were designated as confidential informants of the FBI.

From the late 1960's, until approximately 1972, he was assigned as the contact Agent for [redacted] (protect identity throughout this document) and [redacted] (protect identity throughout this document), husband and wife, who were each formal confidential informants of the Cincinnati Division of the FBI. Each had been informants of the FBI before he became his/her contact Agent, but he was the assigned contact Agent when they each were closed as informants. While each of the [redacted] knew the other was an FBI informant, they were each very much concerned that the confidential nature of their relationship with the FBI, and their identities as FBI informants, be maintained in the strictest confidence by the FBI, and noted this desire with him on several occasions. To the best of his knowledge, neither of the [redacted] was ever suspected of being an FBI informant, and neither was ever publicly surfaced or identified as an FBI informant.

OTHER 3

All meetings that he held with the [redacted] were conducted in private places so that that relationship would remain confidential. To the best of his knowledge, neither of the [redacted] even told their children of their informant status with the FBI. While he can no longer remember specifics, but because he made it a practice with all informants he contacted, he believes he specifically and expressly promised that the relationship of the [redacted] with the FBI would forever be kept secret, and he believes the [redacted] relied on these assurances to maintain their informant status.

Investigation on 9/7/95 at Cincinnati, Ohio (telephonically)

File # 62B-109060

by EDWIN H. BOLDT

Date dictated 9/12/95

62B-109060

Continuation of FD-302 of B. GENE WYATT, On 9/7/95, Page 2

OTHER 3

He believes that [redacted] terminated her relationship with the FBI some time before [redacted] did, and he does not specifically recall what she may have said at that time, but does recall [redacted] statements and wishes at the time [redacted] relationship with the FBI was terminated, and is confident that [redacted] wishes mirrored those of her husband's. He recalled that one of the reasons that [redacted] wished to end his informant status with the FBI was because of his desire to become involved in local politics, and he was quite emphatic that it was his express desire that his informant status, and that of his wife, be kept confidential, as it was his belief that disclosure would effectively ruin his chances for a political career. In fact, [redacted] was elected mayor of Smithfield, Ohio after his relationship with the FBI was terminated. He also recalls that [redacted] had indicated that he would not testify in open court, as to do so would identify him as an informant.

He recalls that also during his tenure as an FBI Agent assigned to the Cincinnati FBI Division, from approximately 1969 until he was transferred out of the Cincinnati Division in 1975, he was the contact Agent for another Cincinnati Division informant named [redacted] (protect identity throughout this document). He characterized [redacted] as a very private, close-mouthed and secretive individual who repeatedly stressed the importance of maintaining the confidential nature of his relationship with the FBI. He does not know if [redacted] ever confided in his wife as to his FBI informant status. All meetings and contacts he had with [redacted] were held in private places, for the express reason to maintain the confidential nature of the relationship. While he is unable to recall specifically, he believes that he would have expressly and specifically promised to [redacted] that the FBI informant status of [redacted] would be protected for all time by the FBI. During the time he was assigned as [redacted] contact Agent, he is sure that [redacted] was never suspected of being an FBI informant, nor was he ever identified as such by the FBI, himself or others.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 9/13/95

DONALD R. REESE, 159 Keethler Drive South, Westerville, Ohio, telephone number (614) 882-3131, was interviewed and furnished the following information:

He is a retired Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). As part of his responsibilities as an FBI Agent, while assigned to the Cincinnati Division of the FBI, he met with various individuals who provided information to the FBI on a regular or intermittent basis, and who were designated as informants of the FBI.

Among those people he was assigned to contact on a regular basis was [redacted] (protect identity throughout this document), who had had a formal informant status with the FBI for many years prior to his assignment to [redacted]. From approximately 1975 until approximately 1977, when [redacted] was discontinued as an FBI informant, he met with [redacted] on a regular basis, during which meetings he would debrief [redacted] as to the information provided to the FBI. These meetings were always held clandestinely, in places selected for their private nature, because [redacted] did not want his relationship with the FBI made a matter of public record, a desire that [redacted] explicitly and specifically related to him on several occasions. To the best of his knowledge and remembrance, [redacted] was never surfaced or even suspected of being an FBI informant during the more than 30 years of his association with the FBI. He characterized [redacted] as a very close-mouthed and private individual.

OTHER 3

As an example of how seriously [redacted] viewed the secret and confidential nature of his relationship with the FBI, he recalled that when [redacted] was closed as an FBI informant, [redacted] indicated that he would never testify in open court or before administrative hearing boards where he would be identified, or potentially identified, as an FBI informant.

Investigation on 9/7/95 at Cincinnati, Ohio (telephonically)

File # 62B-109060

by EDWIN H. BOLDT

Date dictated 9/12/95

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 9/13/95

ARTHUR J. HOLDER, 1306 E. Grove Street, Bloomington, Illinois, telephone number (309) 766-2311, was interviewed and furnished the following information:

He is a retired Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). As part of his responsibilities as an FBI Agent, while assigned to the Cincinnati Division of the FBI, he met with various individuals who provided information to the FBI on a regular or intermittent basis, and who were designated as confidential informants of the FBI.

For approximately a two year period, from 1967 to 1969, he was assigned as the contact Agent for [redacted] (protect identity throughout this document) and [redacted] (protect identity throughout this document), husband and wife, who were each formal confidential informants of the Cincinnati FBI Division. Each had been confidential informants before he became his/her contact Agent, and another Agent became their contact Agent when he was reassigned to other duties. Each of the [redacted] knew the other was an FBI informant, but it was his understanding that no one else in their family, including their own children, knew of their informant relationship with the FBI, and to the best of his knowledge, neither of the [redacted] were ever surfaced as FBI informants, nor ever suspected of such activity.

OTHER 3

All of his contacts with the [redacted] were conducted in a secretive and confidential manner to ensure that the informant relationship the [redacted] had with the FBI would not become known, not only by the people on whom the [redacted] were providing information, but also by their family, friends, neighbors and others in their community and elsewhere. The [redacted] were very much concerned with this issue, relied on the assurances of the FBI as to their confidentiality, and would not have provided information and otherwise assisted the FBI if such an express and specific promise of confidentiality had not been given. It is his understanding that the assurances of confidentiality that the FBI made to the [redacted] were meant to be effective for all time, and not for some lesser period of time. When he discussed the matter of confidentiality with the [redacted] he certainly meant for that promise to be permanent.

Investigation on 9/8/95 at Cincinnati, Ohio (telephonically)

File # 62B-109060

372-10099

by SSA EDWIN H. BOLDT

Date dictated 9/13/95

FD-302a (Rev. 11-15-83)

62B-109060

Continuation of FD-302 of ARTHUR J. HOLDER, On 9/8/95, Page 2

OTHER 3

During approximately the same period of time that he was assigned as the contact Agent for the [redacted] from 1967 to 1969, he was also assigned as the contact Agent for another confidential Cincinnati Division informant, [redacted] (protect identity throughout this document). [redacted] had been an informant for some time before he was assigned as the contact Agent, and continued on as an informant after he was reassigned to other duties and another FBI Agent was designated as [redacted] contact Agent. He described [redacted] as exceptionally private and security conscious, and he would not be surprised if even [redacted] wife did not know of [redacted] informant status with the FBI. He is sure that [redacted] would never have agreed to become an FBI informant had there not been an express promise of permanent confidentiality, and he believes he would have given [redacted] such assurances when he was PALMER's contact Agent. All of his contacts with [redacted] were conducted in such a manner as to ensure that [redacted] status as an informant would not be compromised. During the time he was [redacted] contact Agent, [redacted] was never suspected of being an FBI informant, and to the best of his knowledge, [redacted] was never surfaced or otherwise identified as an informant for the FBI.

372-10099