

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date February 24, 1965~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED] was at the rally in New York City on February 21, 1965 at the Audubon Ballroom, where MALCOLM X was killed. This meeting was sponsored by the Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU).

[REDACTED] arrived at the ballroom BENJAMIN X was speaking. MALCOLM X was not in sight. About 3 p.m., MALCOLM X appeared on stage right and walked to the podium. BENJAMIN X then left the stage.

MALCOLM X gave the Muslim greeting, "As Salaam Alaiken," and then said "Brothers and Sisters." At this time a Negro male, wearing a three-quarter length black leather coat, pushed his chair back, stood up, and said to the Negro male sitting on his left "Get your hand out of my pocket."

The Negro male who stood up was very dark complected, slender build, about 5'10" tall, weighing 180 pounds, age in the late 20's, lean face, with medium length straight hair.

This man then pushed his coat back and produced an object which looked to be metallic and raised his arm. At this point, people from the audience, which consisted of about 400 individuals, began jumping to their feet. MALCOLM X told everyone to "take it easy."

The next thing [REDACTED] was that [REDACTED] heard about four gun shots, which were fired in rapid order, and which sounded like they came from a semi-automatic pistol.

[REDACTED] then fell to the floor and [REDACTED] believed [REDACTED] blood on MALCOLM X's face. While lying on the floor about five minutes later [REDACTED] heard at least ten or 11 more gun shots, which sounded like they came from the same type gun mentioned above and from the same location.

While still lying on the floor and immediately after the last burst of gun fire, [REDACTED] a man

On 2/21/65 at Philadelphia, Pa. File # Philadelphia 100-39918

by SA [REDACTED] and SA [REDACTED] /djs

Date dictated APR 1 1965

[REDACTED]

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from the waist down walk [REDACTED] loading a gun. [REDACTED] believed this clip to be smaller than a .45 caliber clip but could not be more specific. [REDACTED] did not believe this man to be the one wearing the black leather jacket, as his hands appeared to be those of a light-skinned Negro.

This man wore brown or Cordovan-colored shoes and had medium-sized feet. [REDACTED] he could furnish no further information regarding the murder of MALCOLM X, as the scene was, by this time, "utter confusion."

[REDACTED] possessed no information concerning any plans of retaliation by the followers of MALCOLM X or any other individuals.

[REDACTED] did not know who shot MALCOLM nor did he see any firearms. [REDACTED] it appeared to him there was a definite lack of security at this rally. In addition, [REDACTED] there did not appear to be enough guards in the front of the hall nor any guards near the exits.

[REDACTED] The Audubon Ballroom is rectangular shaped, with exits at the left center side and left rear side. He said that chairs were set up in rows for the audience to sit in, with aisles on either side and an aisle down the middle. [REDACTED] the podium behind which MALCOLM X stood was directly in front of the center aisle.

[REDACTED] The man who stood up, mentioned above, sat about in the middle of the left row of chairs, about three rows [REDACTED] and about four rows from the front row of chairs.

[REDACTED] that MALCOLM X was the leader of the OAAU and Muslim Mosque, Inc., (MMI).

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67D [redacted] was at the rally in New York City on February 21, 1965, when MALCOLM X was killed. The rally was held at the Audubon Ballroom, 185th Street, at Broadway. U

[redacted] at the Ballroom about 2:45 p.m., at which time BENJAMIN X was speaking and he was alone on the stage. About 3 p.m., MALCOLM X appeared on stage right and walked to the podium. BENJAMIN X then left the stage to the right wing, through the door MALCOLM X had just entered. U

MALCOLM stood on the podium and said something to the effect "Good afternoon Brothers and Sisters." At this time a Negro male, wearing a suitcoat length black leather coat, stood up and loudly told a Negro male on his left, "Get your hand out of my pocket." The man standing up wore khaki pants, white shirt, open at the collar. He was about 5'11" tall, weighed about 165 pounds, slender build, age about 29, slight beard and moustache which was trimmed in a circle around mouth and chin, looked "African" with short-cut woolly hair, with medium-dark complexion. U

MALCOLM then stepped to the right side of the podium (MALCOLM's left) and said "We will have none of that." The man standing put his left hand in the left pocket of his jacket and removed something. He then extended his arm toward MALCOLM. MALCOLM said, excitedly, "Don't do it," and stepped further to his left. U

67D [redacted] four or five rapid gun shots and saw what appeared to be gun flashes from the standing man's extended left arm. Red stains appeared on MALCOLM's shirt front and he slumped and fell to the floor. U

[redacted] a gun directly at source. U

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On 2/22/65 at Philadelphia, Pa. File # Philadelphia 100-3991

67C by SA [redacted] and SA [redacted] /djs Date dictated 2/24/65

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b1 [REDACTED] (CR)
This man then ran to the left aisle and was last seen turning into the middle exit. [REDACTED] was then pulled to the floor by the person sitting next to him and he saw no more. U

[REDACTED] that when the shooting started people in the audience began falling to the floor, yelling and screaming. U

[REDACTED] heard a "lot more" gun shots. They sounded as if people were shooting at each other from opposite sides of the room. U

b7D [REDACTED] did not get a good look at the man on the left who was accused of putting his hand into the standing man's pocket but believes this person may be identical with THOMAS HAGAN, whose photograph he saw in the AP Wire Photograph of February 22, 1965. [REDACTED] this man wore a dark suit and white shirt. U

[REDACTED] that before MALCOLM came on the stage the man whom [REDACTED] said shot MALCOLM appeared to be acquainted with the man on his left and the man on his right, as the three were engaged in conversation. U

The man on the right was a light-skinned Negro, with close-cut hair and wore a beige or light-brown silk-looking suit. [REDACTED] could furnish no further description of these men and possessed no information concerning them. U

[REDACTED] there were aisles on either side of the Ballroom but there was no center aisle. [REDACTED] sat about middle of the sixth row and the three above-mentioned men sat just to the right of center in the third row from the front. U

b7D [REDACTED] possessed no information concerning any plans of retaliation by the followers of MALCOLM X or any other individuals or groups. U

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
who has identified [REDACTED] as a close friend of MALCOLM LITTLE and the leader of Muslim Mosque, Inc., (MMI) and Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU) in Philadelphia, advised he was present at the Audubon Ballroom, 166th Street at Broadway, New York, N. Y., on the afternoon of February 21, 1965, at the meeting of the OAAU.

[REDACTED] arrived in the Ballroom late and that at the time of his arrival the Ballroom was slightly over half full. He obtained a seat in the rear of the Ballroom and observed MALCOLM LITTLE when he entered at about 3 p.m. to give his talk.

[REDACTED] a commotion in the front of the hall but he could not see anyone who was involved in the commotion, as everyone stood up. He stated he heard MALCOLM say to "be calm" and that shortly afterwards he heard gun shots.

At the first sound of gun shots, people started screaming and running in all directions. He ended up being pushed into the "toilet," where there were both men and women screaming.

[REDACTED] did not see any guns and that he was pushed with the crowd outside the auditorium,

[REDACTED] knew nothing concerning any plans of reprisals by members of the MMI or OAAU against any organization including the Nation of Islam (NOI).

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b7c

by SA [REDACTED] and SA [REDACTED] /djs

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