

Memorandum

TO : Carl W. Belcher, Chief
General Crimes Section
Criminal Division

DATE: November 20, 1964

JJC:bf

129-11

FROM : Joseph J. Cella

SUBJECT: Return of items pertaining to the
assassination of President Kennedy.

By letter dated November 7, 1964 J. Lee Rankin, General Counsel, President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy, advised the Acting Attorney General that Marina Oswald and Robert Oswald have requested the return of the items belonging to Lee Harvey Oswald or to them that was in the possession of the Commission or the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

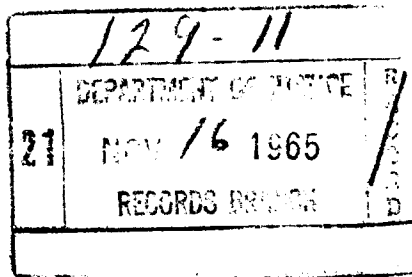
The Commission is of the opinion that a substantial number of physical items of evidence, particularly those pertaining to the actual assassination of the President and the murder of Patrolman J. D. Tippit should remain in the possession of the United States.

Transmitted with the above letter was a list of fifty (50) items which the Commission believes should be retained and the opinion of this Department with respect to the legality of such retention is requested.

Late in the afternoon of November 18, Mr. Rankin sent to the Department, at my request, copies of the following documents:

1. Letter of August 20, 1964 from J. Edgar Hoover to Mr. Rankin with attached copy of a translation from Russian of a letter, dated August 14, 1964, from Mrs. Oswald to Mr. Rankin.

2. Letter of September 17, 1964 from J. Edgar Hoover to Mr. Rankin forwarding a translation from Russian of the letter, dated September 9, 1964, from Mrs. Oswald to Mr. Rankin.



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