

69-45574
147
FRC

October 29, 1966

Honorable Lawson B. Knott, Jr.
Administrator of General Services
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Knott:

The family of the late President John F. Kennedy shares the concern of the Government of the United States that the personal effects of the late President which were gathered as evidence by the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy, as well as certain other materials relating to the assassination, should be deposited, safeguarded and preserved in the Archives of the United States as materials of historical importance. The family desires to prevent the undignified or sensational use of these materials (such as public display) or any other use which would tend in any way to dishonor the memory of the late President or cause unnecessary grief or suffering to the members of his family and those closely associated with him. We know the Government respects these desires.

Accordingly, pursuant to the provisions of 44 U.S.C. 397(e)(1), the executors of the estate of the late President John F. Kennedy hereby transfer to the Administrator of General Services, acting for and on behalf of the United States of America, for deposit in the National Archives of the United States, all of their right, title, and interest in all of the personal clothing of the late President now in the possession of the United States Government and identified in Appendix A, and in certain x-rays and photographs connected with the autopsy of the

Dr

78-9-11

11 AUG 1966

OFFICE OF GENERAL SERVICES

late President referred to in Appendix B, and the Administrator accepts the same for and in the name of the United States, for deposit in the National Archives of the United States, subject to the following restrictions, which shall continue in effect during the lives of the late President's widow, daughter, son, parents, brothers and sisters, or any of them:

I

(1) None of the materials identified in Appendix A ("the Appendix A materials") shall be placed on public display.

(2) Access to the Appendix A materials shall be permitted only to:

(a) Any person authorized to act for a committee of the Congress, for a Presidential committee or commission, or for any other official agency of the United States Government, having authority to investigate matters relating to the death of the late President, for purposes within the investigative jurisdiction of such committee, commission or agency.

(b) Any serious scholar or investigator of matters relating to the death of the late President, for purposes relevant to his study thereof. The Administrator shall have full authority to deny requests for access, or to impose conditions he deems appropriate on access, in order to prevent undignified or sensational reproduction of the Appendix A materials. The Administrator may seek the advice of the Attorney General or any person designated by the Attorney General with respect to the Administrator's responsibilities under this paragraph I(2)(b).

II

(1) None of the materials referred to in Appendix B ("the Appendix B materials") shall be placed on public display.

(2) Access to the Appendix B materials shall be permitted only to:

(a) Any person authorized to act for a committee of the Congress, for a Presidential Commission or Commission, or for any other official body of the United States Government, having authority to investigate matters relating to the death of the late President, for purposes within the investigative jurisdiction of such committee, commission or agency.

(b) Any recognized expert in the field of pathology or related areas of science or technology, for serious purposes relevant to the investigation of matters relating to the death of the late President; provided, however, that no access to the Appendix B materials pursuant to this paragraph II(2)(b) shall be authorized until five years after the date of this agreement except with the consent of the Kennedy Family Representative designated pursuant to paragraph IV(2). For the purposes of this paragraph, the determination of whether such an expert has suitable qualifications and serious purposes shall be made by the Kennedy Family Representative. No access shall be authorized pursuant to this paragraph II(2)(b) during the lives of any individuals referred to in the second paragraph of this agreement for any purpose involving reproduction or publication of the Appendix B materials without the consent of the Kennedy Family Representative, who shall have full authority to deny requests for

access, or to impose conditions he deems appropriate on access, in order to prevent such use of the Appendix B materials.

III

(1) In order to preserve the Appendix A materials and the Appendix B materials against possible damage, the Administrator is authorized to photograph or otherwise reproduce any of such materials for purposes of examination in lieu of the originals by persons authorized to have access pursuant to paragraph I(2) or paragraph II(2).

(2) The Administrator may condition access under paragraph I(2)(b) or paragraph II(2)(b) to any of the materials transferred hereunder, or any reproduction thereof, upon agreement to comply with applicable restrictions specified in this agreement.

IV

(1) The Administrator shall be entitled to consult with the Kennedy family representative designated pursuant to paragraph IV(2), and to rely upon such representative's statements in writing as representing the views of the Kennedy family, in connection with the construction or application of this agreement in a particular case.

(2) The Kennedy family representative for the purposes of this agreement shall be
A successor representative of the Kennedy family may be designated in writing to the Administrator from time to time by Mrs. John F. Kennedy. In the event of the death or disability of Mrs. John F. Kennedy, any successor shall be designated by Robert F. Kennedy. In the event of the death or disability of both Mrs. John F. Kennedy and

Robert F. Kennedy any such designation shall be made by Edward M. Kennedy. In the event of the death or disability of all three of them, any such designation shall be made by any adult child of the late President John F. Kennedy or by any of the late President's sisters, with the advice of other members of the family. Any representative designated hereunder will serve until a successor is designated.

V

This agreement may be amended, modified, or terminated only by written consent of the Administrator and the Kennedy family representative designated pursuant to paragraph IV(2).

VI

The Administrator shall impose such other restrictions on access to and inspection of the materials transferred hereunder, and take such further actions as he deems necessary and appropriate (including referral to the Department of Justice for appropriate legal action), to fulfill the objectives of this agreement and his statutory responsibility under the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended, to provide for the preservation, arrangement and use of materials transferred to his custody for archival administration.

VII

All duties, obligations and discretions herein conferred upon the Administrator shall inure to each holder of the office of Administrator of General Services from time to time, and to any official of the United States Government who may become successor to the functions of archival administration vested in the Administrator under

the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended. All such duties, obligations and discretions may be delegated to the Archivist of the United States, or to any successor to his functions of archival administration.

Please indicate your acceptance on behalf of the United States of America by executing the acceptance clause below.

Sincerely,

Burke Marshall, on behalf
of the Executors of the
Estate of John F. Kennedy

Accepted:

United States of America
by Lawson B. Knott, Jr.
Administrator of General Services

COMPLETE SOLUTION

KENNEDY MURDER MYSTERY

GEORGE C. THOMSON
Registered Civil Engineer
Post Office Box 489
Glendale, Calif. 91209

Jan. 4, 1967 (Revised)

(Including the identity of the murder suspect)
HIGH IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

To Whom It May Concern:

Since writing the book, THE QUEST FOR TRUTH, in January 1965, my office has developed additional material in unpublished form. This work is being made available in the unbound condition due to the author's conviction that time is of the essence. I have been advised that millions of dollars are being spent to suppress it.

Following is a list of work and their prices:

TITLE	TRANSCRIPT	1/2 HR. TAPE
#1 THE WINDSHIELD BULLET	\$1.00	\$7.00
#2 THE STRANGE DEATH OF OFFICER TIPPIT	\$1.00	\$7.00
#3 THE STRANGE "DEATH" OF LEE HARVEY OSWALD	\$1.00	\$7.00
#4 THE STRANGER IN ARLINGTON CEMETERY	\$1.00	\$7.00
#5 THE THIRD MAN IN THE CAR	\$1.00	\$7.00
#6 THE WALL OF SILENCE	\$1.00	\$7.00
#7 THE REAL REASON FOR THE ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY ***	\$1.00	\$7.00
#8 THE TALE OF THE THERAPEUTIC TAPE RECORDER	\$1.00	\$7.00
#9 DALLAS AMBUSH	\$1.00	\$7.00
#10 DALLAS CROSS FIRE	\$1.00	\$7.00
#11 CONSPIRACY - U.S.A.	\$1.00	\$7.00
#12 MUNICH	\$1.00	\$7.00
#13 TRIGGERMAN - Identifies by name the real suspect.	\$1.00	\$7.00
#14 MURDER DIAGRAM, 20"x34" - 22 Bullets, 5 Bodies showing position of gunman with silencer guns.	\$2.00	

Currently under review by the United States Secret Service.

For your information, a series of thirteen (13) one-half hour programs, including the above, is currently being broadcast over several U.S. Radio Stations.

All work will be mailed "Third Class, Postage Prepaid," unless additional postage is included to cover First Class mailing cost.

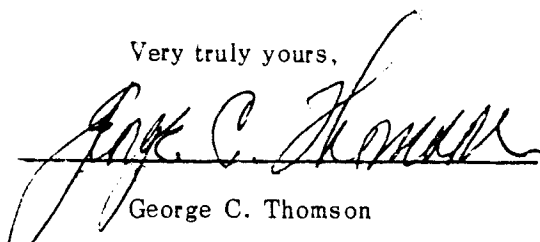
Tapes are one-half hour - 3 3/4 speed - single track with theme music suitable for mass playing to private groups.

- * (2) This is a 10 page report with an amazing new concept of Officer J. D. Tippit's role, disguised as J.F.K. in presidential automobile and killed.
- * (3) This is a 10 page report with factual details that show Lee Harvey Oswald was NOT shot in the Dallas Police basement as shown so dramatically on television, but photographically eliminated.

The original book, THE QUEST FOR TRUTH, is still available for \$2.00,

For those desiring the 13 transcripts plus the book "THE QUEST FOR TRUTH", plus the murder diagram, All are available for \$10.00 including postage.

Very truly yours,


George C. Thomson

*** Contrary to reports President Kennedy was not in the Presidential Automobile and consequently, was not shot.

Tippit was in the car with TWO other Secret Service men in the back seat. Photographs doctored.

How's another one to cover up.

NdeBK:RC:HEH:NVP:eme

129-11

G.A.P.

JUN 17 1965

RECORD
P.F.U.

The Vice President
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Vice President:

Enclosed for your consideration and appropriate reference is a legislative proposal "Providing for the acquisition and preservation by the United States of certain items of evidence pertaining to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy."

In its investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy, the Commission appointed by President Johnson examined numerous items of physical evidence which were used to form the basis for its report. These items included the assassination weapon, the revolver involved in the murder of Patrolman J. D. Tippit, and many other exhibits. This evidence and the investigative reports, transcripts and other working papers of the Commission, have been officially transmitted to the National Archives by the Commission. Pending final decision as to the disposition to be made of these exhibits, the physical evidence has been retained in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Prior to the completion of its work, the Commission requested that this Department take the necessary steps to provide for the retention of the essential items of physical evidence in the possession of the United States Government for an indefinite period of time. After full consideration of the alternatives, I am persuaded that the national interest requires legislation which will provide a valid legal basis for the permanent retention of these critical exhibits.

cc: Criminal
Civil
Budget
Mr. Rosenthal
Mr. Sanders

NOT INSPECTED FOR MAILING BY R.A.O.

129-11
DEPARTMENT OF
FILED 24 1965 Special
6/17/65
R.A.O. D

message

file

129-11

re
DUP
HEH

In the first place, I think it is important to recognize that in the years ahead allegations and theories regarding the assassination of President Kennedy may continue to abound. This has certainly been the case abroad and, to some degree within the United States, since the publication of the Commission's report, despite the impressive documentation and presentation of the Commission's conclusions. To a considerable extent, such allegations and theories feed on secrecy and uncertainty, as is demonstrated, I believe, by the historical literature during the past 100 years relating to the assassination of President Lincoln. We should securely preserve the physical evidence to eliminate questions and doubts. In my judgment, a failure to retain the critical physical exhibits and the resultant possibility of their loss, destruction, or alteration will serve to encourage irresponsible rumors and allegations designed to destroy the widespread public confidence in the work and conclusions of the President's Commission.

Furthermore, retention of these items would permit an accurate and complete reassessment of the conclusions of the President's Commission if at any time in the future this was considered desirable. Many of the items, such as the weapons, cartridges and various documents, were the subject of testimony before the Commission, during the course of which expert and other witnesses testified about their vital characteristics, ownership, use, and relationship to the assassination.

For these reasons, I am submitting the enclosed measure which would establish a procedure under which selected items of evidence could be retained and protected from dispersal and exploitation. The proposed legislation would authorize the Attorney General to determine which of the items considered by the President's Commission are required by the national interest to be acquired and preserved by the United States. When the

Attorney General makes a determination that an item should be acquired, all right and title to it would be vested in the United States upon the filing of his determination with the Office of the Federal Register for publication in the Federal Register. The Attorney General's acquisition authority would expire one year after the enactment of the proposed legislation, and title to only those items described in determinations filed with the Office of the Federal Register within such one-year period would vest in the United States. The Court of Claims would be granted exclusive jurisdiction over claims for just compensation for any item acquired by the United States pursuant to the procedure proposed in the legislation.

In order to meet the requirements of the national interest as indicated, I urge the early and favorable consideration of the enclosed proposal.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that there is no objection to the submission of this legislation from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely,



Attorney General

NdeBK:RC:HEH:DVP:pat
129-11

2.A.M.
JUN 17 1965

The Speaker
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Enclosed for your consideration and appropriate reference is a legislative proposal "Providing for the acquisition and preservation by the United States of certain items of evidence pertaining to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy."

In its investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy, the Commission appointed by President Johnson examined numerous items of physical evidence which were used to form the basis for its report. These items included the assassination weapon, the revolver involved in the murder of Patrolman J. D. Tippit, and many other exhibits. This evidence and the investigative reports, transcripts and other working papers of the Commission, have been officially transmitted to the National Archives by the Commission. Pending final decision as to the disposition to be made of these exhibits, the physical evidence has been retained in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Prior to the completion of its work, the Commission requested that this Department take the necessary steps to provide for the retention of the essential items of physical evidence in the possession of the United States Government for an indefinite period of time. After full consideration of the alternatives, I am persuaded that the national interest requires legislation which will provide a valid legal basis for the permanent retention of these critical exhibits.

cc: Criminal
Civil
Budget
Mr. Rosenthal
Mr. Sanders

NOT INSPECTED FOR
MAILING BY R.A.O.

*Signed + Mailed
by Special Messenger
6/17/65*

*RC
DVP
HEH*

In the first place, I think it is important to recognize that in the years ahead allegations and theories regarding the assassination of President Kennedy may continue to abound. This has certainly been the case abroad and, to some degree within the United States, since the publication of the Commission's report, despite the impressive documentation and presentation of the Commission's conclusions. To a considerable extent, such allegations and theories feed on secrecy and uncertainty, as is demonstrated, I believe, by the historical literature during the past 100 years relating to the assassination of President Lincoln. We should securely preserve the physical evidence to eliminate questions and doubts. In my judgment, a failure to retain the critical physical exhibits and the resultant possibility of their loss, destruction, or alteration will serve to encourage irresponsible rumors and allegations designed to destroy the widespread public confidence in the work and conclusions of the President's Commission.

Furthermore, retention of these items would permit an accurate and complete reassessment of the conclusions of the President's Commission if at any time in the future this was considered desirable. Many of the items, such as the weapons, cartridges and various documents, were the subject of testimony before the Commission, during the course of which expert and other witnesses testified about their vital characteristics, ownership, use, and relationship to the assassination.

For these reasons, I am submitting the enclosed measure which would establish a procedure under which selected items of evidence could be retained and protected from dispersal and exploitation. The proposed legislation would authorize the Attorney General to determine which of the items considered by the President's Commission are required by the national interest to be acquired and preserved by the United States. When the

Attorney General makes a determination that an item should be acquired, all right and title to it would be vested in the United States upon the filing of his determination with the Office of the Federal Register for publication in the Federal Register. The Attorney General's acquisition authority would expire one year after the enactment of the proposed legislation, and title to only those items described in determinations filed with the Office of the Federal Register within such one-year period would vest in the United States. The Court of Claims would be granted exclusive jurisdiction over claims for just compensation for any item acquired by the United States pursuant to the procedure proposed in the legislation.

In order to meet the requirements of the national interest as indicated, I urge the early and favorable consideration of the enclosed proposal.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that there is no objection to the submission of this legislation from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely,

Attorney General

..... CONGRESS
..... SESSION

H. R.

(Note.—Fill in all blank lines except those provided for the date and number of bill.)

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. introduced the following bill; which was referred to
the Committee on

A BILL

Providing for the acquisition and preservation by the United States of certain items of evidence pertaining to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

- 1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the*
2 *United States of America in Congress assembled,*

That it is hereby declared that the national interest requires that the United States acquire all right, title, and interest, in and to, certain items of evidence, to be designated by the Attorney General pursuant to section 2 of this Act, which were considered by the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy (hereinafter referred to as "items"), and requires that those items be preserved by the United States.

SEC. 2(a) The Attorney General is authorized to determine, from time to time, which items should, in conformity with the declaration contained in the first section of this Act, be acquired and preserved

by the United States. Each such determination shall be published in the Federal Register.

(b) Whenever the Attorney General determines that an item should be acquired and preserved by the United States, all right, title, and interest in and to, that item shall be vested in the United States upon the filing of that determination with the Office of the Federal Register for publication in the Federal Register.

(c) The authority conferred upon the Attorney General by subsection (a) of this section to make determinations shall expire one year from the date of enactment of this Act, and the vesting provisions of subsection (b) of this section shall be valid only with respect to items described in determinations filed with the Office of the Federal Register within that one-year period.

SEC. 3. The United States Court of Claims shall have exclusive jurisdiction to hear, determine, and render judgment upon any claim for just compensation for any item or interest therein acquired by the United States pursuant to section 2 of this Act: Provided, That the claim is filed within one year from date of the filing with the Office of the Federal Register of the determination by the Attorney General with respect to such item.

SEC. 4. All items acquired by the United States pursuant to section 2 of this Act shall be placed

under the jurisdiction of the Administrator of General Services for preservation under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe.

SEC. 5. All items acquired by the United States pursuant to section 2 of this Act shall be deemed to be personal property and records of the United States for the purposes of laws relating to the custody, administration, and protection of personal property and records of the United States, including, but not limited to, sections 2071 and 2112 of title 18 of the United States Code.

SEC. 6. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.

June 10, 1965

Re: Leg. Prog. #304 - Providing for the acquisition and preservation by the United States of certain items of evidence pertaining to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Mr. Burrus, Bureau of the Budget, today gave me a no objection clearance on the above legislative proposal from the standpoint of the Administration's program, provided that the proposal is amended to delete the references to the preservation for "public use" of the items and substitute references to the preservation "by the United States" (sections 1, 2(a) and (b), and 4), as suggested by G.S.A.

Nancy A. Thompson

C L E A R A N C E

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
BUREAU OF THE BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

JUN 10 1965

#34
Honorable Nicholas deB. Katzenbach
Attorney General
Washington, D. C. 20530

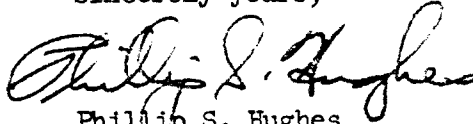
Attention: Mr. Herbert E. Hoffman
4117 Justice Building

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

This will acknowledge Mr. Clark's letter of May 10, 1965, transmitting copies of a draft bill "Providing for the acquisition and preservation by the United States of certain items of evidence pertaining to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy," which you desire to present to the Congress.

You are advised that subject to the agreement between your Department and the General Services Administration there is no objection to the presentation of your proposed draft bill from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely yours,



Phillip S. Hughes
Assistant Director for
Legislative Reference

JUN 11 1965

rec'd N. A. T.



Department of Justice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, June 17, 1965

All the items of evidence brought as evidence before the Warren Commission in its investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy would become subject to acquisition by the federal government under a bill proposed to Congress today by the Department of Justice. *AR*

Attorney General Nicholas deB. Katzenbach said the bill, submitted to the Vice President and the Speaker of the House, sought to meet the Commission's request that the government be empowered to retain the essential physical evidence.

Under the legislation, the Attorney General would be authorized to determine at any time within a year after the bill's passage that a specific item should be acquired. The bill also would permit persons who claim ownership to sue the government for compensation.

In a letter accompanying the bill to the House and Senate, Mr. Katzenbach said that government possession of the items of evidence, including the assassination rifle and the revolver that killed Dallas Patrolman J. D. Tippit, would save them from "dispersal and exploitation."

"In my judgment," Mr. Katzenbach's letter said, "a failure to retain the critical physical exhibits and the resultant possibility of their loss, destruction or alteration will serve to encourage irresponsible rumors and allegations designed to destroy the widespread public confidence in the work and conclusions of the President's Commission."

The Commission's investigative reports, transcripts and other working papers have been officially transmitted to the National Archives by the Commission.

Dozens of items of physical evidence, from the personal papers that Lee Harvey Oswald carried in his wallet on November 22, 1963, to wooden crates from the assassin's perch in the Texas School Book Depository, have been retained, pending final disposition, by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Under the terms of the new legislation, any items which the Attorney General designated for acquisition and preservation by the government would thereby become federal property.

Claims for just compensation could be brought in the United States Court of Claims, which would have exclusive jurisdiction to hear the claims and render judgment.

FILE

129-11
JUN 21 1965

Form No. DJ-96a
(Rev. 7-17-63)

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
ROUTING SLIP

TO:	NAME	DIVISION	BUILDING	ROOM
1.	Mr. Kossack			
2.				
3.				
4.				

Received Fraud Section
JUN 11 1965
Criminal Division

- SIGNATURE
- APPROVAL
- SEE ME
- RECOMMENDATION
- ANSWER OR ACKNOWLEDGE ON OR BEFORE _____
- PREPARE REPLY FOR THE SIGNATURE OF _____
- COMMENT
- NECESSARY ACTION
- NOTE AND RETURN
- CALL ME
- PER CONVERSATION
- AS REQUESTED
- NOTE AND FILE
- YOUR INFORMATION

REMARKS

Can you check to see whether the FBI has this circular, has paid the \$10.00 to obtain the evidence or has interviewed the writer?

File
HPW

FROM:	NAME	BUILDING, ROOM, EXT.	DATE
	Howard P. Willens	2107	6/10/65

Form No. DJ-96a
(Rev. 7-17-63)

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ROUTING SLIP

TO:	NAME	DIVISION	BUILDING	ROOM
1.	Mr. Welles			
2.				
3.				
4.				

SIGNATURE COMMENT PER CONVERSATION
 APPROVAL NECESSARY ACTION AS REQUESTED
 SEE ME NOTE AND RETURN NOTE AND FILE
 RECOMMENDATION CALL ME YOUR INFORMATION

ANSWER OR ACKNOWLEDGE ON OR BEFORE _____
 PREPARE REPLY FOR THE SIGNATURE OF _____

REMARKS:
Something rattling around in my mind tells me we should do something about this - I don't know what yet. Do we or the Commission know anything about a civil case in the District Court? What are these "exhibits"? I'd like to know more before I write this off - if that needs to be done

File
JPW

FROM:	NAME	BUILDING, ROOM, EXT.	DATE
	Korson	6/9	

Form No. DJ-96a
(Rev. 7-17-63)

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ROUTINE SLIP

TO:	NAME	DIVISION	BUILDING	ROOM
1.	Mr. Edelhartz	Crim	Ad.	1221
2.				
3.				
4.				

- SIGNATURE
- APPROVAL
- SEE ME
- RECOMMENDATION
- ANSWER OR ACKNOWLEDGE ON OR BEFORE _____
- PREPARE REPLY FOR THE SIGNATURE OF _____
- COMMENT
- NECESSARY ACTION
- NOTE AND RETURN
- CALL ME
- PER CONVERSATION
- AS REQUESTED
- NOTE AND FILE
- YOUR INFORMATION

REMARKS

Note last P. They're soliciting by mail \$10.00 for the "court filed evidence." We received back these flyers on yesterday's mail from Coos Bay, Oregon.

Mil

File
HPW.

FROM:	NAME	BUILDING, ROOM, EXT.	DATE
	MILDRED A. JOHNSON		6/8

written letters, as every conceivable subject
and about many firms and writers.
Re FDI has been filing his material
Re FDI has advised the P.O. and
others of their evaluation.
Include the circumstances of
used file.

I comm - How
6/15/15

RECEIVED

CRIMINAL DIVISION



IN THE DISTRICT COURT
SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Civil Action No. 27451

The American

IN ALL FIFTY STATES

EVIDENCE EXCLUDED FROM THE
WARREN REPORT.

FILED
MAR 15 1965
HARRY MCCRAKEN
Clerk of District Court
MARGARET PATTERSON
DEPUTY

*Evidence Excluded
from the
Warren Report*

HERE IS THE EVIDENCE THAT CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN SAID WOULD NEVER BE MADE PUBLIC DURING OUR LIFE TIME.

IN THIS COURT FILED DOCUMENT, THE ORGANIZATION THAT WAS IN DALLAS IN AUGUST OF 1963 MAKING PLANS FOR THE ASSASSINATION IS NAMED. THE FIVE MEN WHO CARRIED OUT THE ACTUAL ASSASSINATION ARE NAMED. THE WHY OF THE TRAGEDY AND WHY THIS EVIDENCE WAS EXCLUDED FROM THE WARREN REPORT.

THIS COURT DOCUMENT CONTAINS MANY PHOTOSTATS OF LETTERS WRITTEN TO AND RECEIVED FROM HIGH NAVAL AND GOVERNMENT SHOWING THAT THE ENTIRE DETAILS OF THE DALLAS PLOT WAS KNOWN TO THEM MANY MONTHS PRIOR TO THE TRAGEDY.

PHOTOSTATS OF LETTERS SHOWING THAT THE NEWS MEDIA AND LEADING TV NEWS COMMENTATORS CO-OPERATED WITH THE COMMISSION IN WITHOLDING THIS EVIDENCE FROM THE PUBLIC.

THIS VOLUME OF COURT FILED EVIDENCE WILL BE SENT TO YOU, POSTPAID UPON RECEIPT OF \$10.00.

THE AMERICAN
POST OFFICE BOX 2924
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

File
HPW

A NONPROFIT, NONSECTARIAN GROUP OF DEDICATED AMERICANS DRIVING FOR JUN 7, 1965
THE RETURN OF THE AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE UNDER GOD AND THE CONSTITUTION

Civ. RIGHTS DIV.

PAGES OF PHOTOSTATS SHOWING THE PART PLAYED BY NAVAL OFFICIALS AND THE BENDIX CORP. IN THE DALLAS TRAGEDY AND THE ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDENT -

296

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION



National Archives and Records Service
Washington, D.C. 20408

May 28, 1965

IN REPLY REFER TO: NNA

Acc. No. NN- 365-121

Mr. Melvin M. Diggs
United States Attorney
Northern District of Texas
Dallas, Texas 75221

Dear Mr. Diggs:

This will acknowledge receipt of the four cartons of depositions referred to in your letter of May 21, 1965.

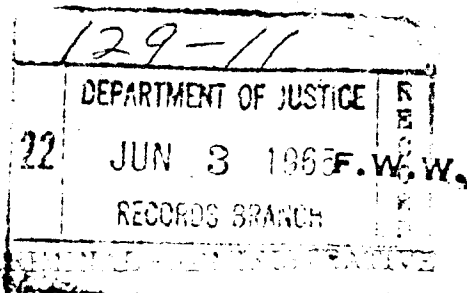
Thank you for forwarding the records to us. They will be placed with the other records of The President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Lewis J. Darter, Jr.

Lewis J. Darter, Jr.
Director
Records Appraisal Division

cc:
Mr. Howard Willens
Dept. of Justice



File
HPM

Keep Freedom in Your Future With U.S. Savings Bonds

RECORDS

HEH:njk

May 25, 1965

John W. Douglas
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Division
Attention: Stanley D. Rose
Herbert E. Hoffman
Chief, Legislative & Legal Section
Office of the Deputy Attorney General
Legislation to provide for the
acquisition by the United States
of items related to the assassination
of President Kennedy (Leg. Prog. 304)

129-11

REH

I understand that litigation has been instituted in Denver, Colorado, to require the United States to turn over to the alleged owners the rifle and handgun used by Lee Harvey Oswald on the occasion of the assassination of President Kennedy and the murder of officer Tippett.

As you know, the subject legislative proposal was submitted to the Bureau of the Budget for clearance on May 10, 1965. We anticipate an early clearance and submission of the legislation to the Congress.

Please keep us informed as to developments in the litigation.

NOT INSPECTED FOR
MAILING BY R.A.Q.

Form 100
(Rev. 7-17-60)

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ROUTIN LIP

TO:	NAME	DIVISION	BUILDING	ROOM
1.	<i>Mr. Callahan</i>			
2.				
3.	<i>Mr. Callahan</i>			
4.				

SIGNATURE COMMENT PER CONVERSATION
 APPROVAL NECESSARY ACTION AS REQUESTED
 SEE ME NOTE AND RETURN NOTE AND FILE
 RECOMMENDATION CALL ME YOUR INFORMATION
 ANSWER OR ACKNOWLEDGE ON OR BEFORE _____
 PREPARE REPLY FOR THE SIGNATURE OF _____

REMARKS

Callahan
7/24

Not - just file -
So far as I know
Callahan
7/25

FROM:	NAME	BUILDING, ROOM, EXT.	DATE

NJS:lc

May 18, 1965

RECEIVED

May 18 1965
CRIMINAL DIVISION

Mr. Wayne C. Grover
Archivist of the United States
National Archives Bldg.
Washington, D. C.

Re: The President's Commission on the
Assassination of President Kennedy

Dear Mr. Grover:

Under separate cover I am sending four cartons by registered mail. These cartons contain copies of the unedited depositions of the witnesses who testified for the Commission here in Dallas.

I consider these work papers of the Commission and believe they should be included with the other materials of the Commission which have been placed in the Archives.

Please acknowledge receipt of these cartons.

Sincerely yours

Malvin M. Diggs
United States Attorney

Martha Joe Stroud
Martha Joe Stroud, Assistant
United States Attorney

c.c. Mr. Howard Willens
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C. 20530

File
Off

129-11

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
CRIMINAL DIVISION

RC:HEH:DVP:pat
129-11

P. W.
E. N.

MAY 10 1965

Honorable Kermit Gordon
Director, Bureau of the Budget
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Gordon:

In compliance with the provisions of the Bureau of the Budget Circular Number A-19, there are enclosed copies of a legislative proposal to be transmitted to the Congress "Providing for the acquisition and preservation by the United States of certain items of evidence pertaining to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy."

It will be appreciated if you will advise this office as to the relationship of the proposed communication to the Program of the President.

Sincerely,

Ramsey Clark
Deputy Attorney General

RF
EQ
NTP

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Jack Rosenthal
Mr. Barefoot Sanders

INDEXED AND SERIALIZED
MAY 10 1965

Form No. DJ-96a
(Rev. 7-17-63)

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ROUTING SLIP

TO:	NAME	DIVISION	BUILDING	ROOM
1.	Mr. Vinson			
2.				
3.				
4.	<i>Mail Room</i>			

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> SIGNATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PER CONVERSATION |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> RECOMMENDATION | <input type="checkbox"/> CALL ME | <input type="checkbox"/> YOUR INFORMATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ANSWER OR ACKNOWLEDGE ON OR BEFORE _____ | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREPARE REPLY FOR THE SIGNATURE OF _____ | | |

REMARKS

I don't think we need be as curt as I first thought. This letter will placate the proud wife only slightly & she will still wonder why the President didn't write personally or award her husband a medal.

129-11

FROM:	NAME	BUILDING, ROOM, EXT.	DATE
	Howard P. Willens	2107	<i>B.D.B.</i> 6/4/68

Form No. DJ-96a
(Rev. 7-17-63)

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
ROUTING SLIP

TO:	NAME	DIVISION	BUILDING	ROOM
1.	Mr. Latta			2118
2.	Mr. Willens			
3.				
4.				

- | | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> ANSWER OR ACKNOWLEDGE ON OR BEFORE _____ | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREPARE REPLY FOR THE SIGNATURE OF _____ | | |

REMARKS

Please prep letter to wife that our wife cleared from Commission rept. indicates husband well performed his duties as an officer in connection with Oswald matter. ELL 9/17

FROM:	NAME	BUILDING, ROOM, EXT.	DATE
			129-11
			B DB

July, 5/11

Mr. Belcher

Nothing in our
cards, service unit,
a mail room in
this. Mr. Willes
tried up this afternoon.
Presumably, he will
want to talk about
it in m.m.

BFT
Pub Association

Form No. DJ-96a
(Rev. 7-17-63)

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ROUTINE SLIP

TO:	NAME	DIVISION	BUILDING	ROOM
1.	Mr. Belcher			
2.				
3.				
4.				

- | | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> ANSWER OR ACKNOWLEDGE ON OR BEFORE _____ | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREPARE REPLY FOR THE SIGNATURE OF _____ | | |

REMARKS

Carl: I think there is a previous record of correspondence on this. After you have checked that, let's talk about it.

*Not adding to records
w/ my other source
JPC*

129-11

FROM:	NAME	BUILDING, ROOM, EXT.	DATE
	Howard P. Willens	2107	5/14/65

FMV:JJC:mtg 5 5/28/65
129-11
ret 6/4/65 FMV:HPW:al

B & B

JUNE 4 1965

Mrs. M. N. McDonald
530 Southport Drive
Dallas, Texas

Dear Mrs. McDonald:

I am glad to acknowledge your letter of April 30, 1965, addressed to the President.

It is apparent from the accounts of your husband's actions in connection with the apprehension of Lee Harvey Oswald, as set forth at length in the Hearings before the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy, that he performed his duties as a law enforcement officer in the best tradition of the public service. The people of this Nation are indeed indebted to Patrolman McDonald and his courageous colleagues in the Dallas Police Department for their prompt arrest of Oswald in the Texas Theatre on November 22, 1963.

Please extend my congratulations to your husband.

Sincerely,

FRED M. VINSON, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General

cc: Mr. Rosenthal
Chrono.
Records ✓
Mr. Vinson
Mr. Cella
Mr. Willens

*fm-6
6/4/65*

*76
6/4*

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

ROUTE SLIP

(To remain with correspondence)

Date: May 10, 1965

Mr. Jack Rosenthal
TO: Department of Justice

Prompt handling is essential. Correspondence should be answered or other necessary action taken within 48 hours after arrival at the department or agency. If any delay is encountered, please telephone office of the undersigned.

Please handle the attached correspondence as indicated below:

- A. Reply on behalf of the President
- B. Draft for presidential signature
- C. Draft for undersigned's signature
- D. Other:
 - (1) For background briefing on which to base reply from this office
 - (2) For suitable acknowledgement or other appropriate handling **XX**
 - (3) For your information
 - (4) For comment

Furnish this office with a copy of your reply. Yes No **X**.....

Return the original correspondence to this office. Yes No **X**.....

REMARKS:

*ask Howard Willens for his advice.
My guess is we should discuss this
rather curtly.*

GPO 16-70420-1

By direction of the President:

Frederick L. Holborn
Special Assistant in the White House

129-11

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
40	JUN 10 1965
RECORDS BRANCH	

530 Southport Drive
Dallas, Texas, 75201
April 30, 1965

The President
Lyndon B. Johnson
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

My husband is Patrolman M. N. McDonald, who is the police officer who risked his life and was accredited with the capture of the Presidential assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald, in the Texas Theatre on that terrible day here in Dallas.

Sir, I have wondered many times why you haven't acknowledged my husband's devotion to duty. I am respectfully requesting that you take notice of this fact and make it known, to our Country and to the World, that our government recognizes bravery and the deed that he accomplished without hesitation. The job is thankless enough as it is.

File
So far, my husband has been honored by the Colorado Police Protective Association, The National Police Officers Association of America, The One-Hundred Club of Boston, Massachusetts, The Dallas Citizens Traffic Commission and the Dallas Police Department's Medal of Honor.

Sir, many, many people throughout the country have asked me and wondered why the Federal Government hasn't brought forth recognition, as I have also wondered.

Sir, would you please satisfy my curiosity, as well as the curiosity of many other people?

You might think this letter to be unethical, coming from the wife, but I must be reassured that my husband is worthy and receives the honors that are surely his.

Thank you Mr. President, for taking a few minutes of your valuable time to read my letter.

I have the honor to remain,

129-11

40	DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	RECORDED
	JUN 10 1965	INDEXED
	RECORDS BRANCH	S. M.
	<i>Pub Info</i>	
	CRIMINAL-GEN. CRIME SEC.	

Yours faithfully,

Mrs. M. N. McDonald
Mrs. M. N. McDonald

l. 5/4/65
129-11

BDB

May 10, 1965

Mr. J. Lee Rankin
36 West 44th Street
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Rankin:

Thank you for your letter of April 27, 1965,
enclosing a copy of a letter to you from the Chief Justice.

I am glad to have this indication of the Commission's strong desire that the physical evidence relating to the proof of the participation of Lee Harvey Oswald in the assassination of President Kennedy should be retained by the United States Government. Once the Department's proposed legislation is transmitted to the Congress, I believe it would definitely be desirable for an appropriate statement of the Commission's position to be made to the responsible Committees.

I shall be glad to send you a copy of the proposed legislation as soon as it is finalized within the Department.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Good

Attorney General

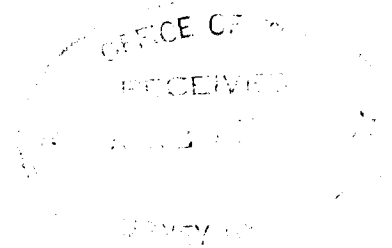
cc: Records ✓
Chrono.
The Attorney General
Mr. Vinson
Mr. Willens
Mr. Belcher

INSPECTED AND MARKED
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 10 1965

*1/25
5/14/65
7/1
5/14/65*

J. LEE RANKIN
36 WEST 44TH STREET
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10036
MURRAY HILL 7-2924

April 27, 1965



Hon. Nicholas deB. Katzenbach
Attorney General of the United States
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

I am enclosing a copy of the letter that I received from the Chief Justice with regard to a letter he received from attorneys Kilgore & Kilgore of Dallas, Texas, regarding the Oswald guns, together with my response to Messrs. Kilgore.

I talked to Mr. Waggoner Carr about these letters and my proposed response, and he said he was in complete agreement with the Commission's position that all of the physical evidence relating to the proof of the participation of Lee Oswald in the assassination of President Kennedy should be retained by the United States Government for an indefinite period.

Should you decide to recommend legislation on this subject, I am sure that the members of the Commission, or myself if they desire it, will be pleased to cooperate in urging that such legislation be passed.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

J. Lee Rankin
J. Lee Rankin

129-11

31	DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	REC
	APR 28 1965	CG
	RECORDS BRANCH	P. FILE
		D
ATTORNEY GENERAL		
CRIMINAL-GEN. CRIME SEC.		

CHAMBERS OF
THE CHIEF JUSTICE

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

April 20, 1965

①

Honorable J. Lee Rankin,
33 West 44th Street,
New York, New York.

Dear Lee:

Enclosed is a copy of the letter I received from Kilgore & Kilgore which I talked to you about yesterday. It concerns the two weapons of Lee Harvey Oswald.

I do hope that the Department of Justice will not relinquish the weapons because it is important to have them in their present condition in order to support the testimony of the experts before the Commission. Also, I have no doubt that if released they will find their way to some collection which will be used commercially to exploit the assassination of our President.

I would appreciate it if you would make whatever reply is necessary to Kilgore & Kilgore.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,



RECEIVED

APR 19 8 57 AM '55

CHAMBERS OF THE
CHIEF JUSTICE

LAW OFFICES
KILGORE & KILGORE
24TH FLOOR ADOLPHUS TOWER
DALLAS 2, TEXAS

April 16, 1965

AREA CODE 214
RIVERSIDE 4-6784
CABLE ADDRESS: KILGORE

The Honorable Earl Warren
Chief Justice of the Supreme Court
of the United States
Washington, D. C.

Re: The Oswald Guns

Dear Justice Warren:

Our client Mr. John J. King has purchased from the Estate of Lee Harvey Oswald two weapons and related equipment which were exhibits in the Warren Commission hearings.

We are writing to you because the Justice Department has indicated in conversations with our client that it is not certain it has any authority to deliver the weapons to the owner. We would hope that you, as Chairman of the Warren Commission, or the Commission as a body would be willing to make some disposition of these Commission exhibits which are no longer needed for the Commission's purposes.

It is our understanding that the guns in question were received by the Federal Bureau of Investigation upon its receipt to the Dallas Police Department. It is also our understanding that it is customary for law enforcement officials so receiving property to return it to the other officials to whom the receipt was given. We believe that the simplest disposition of the matter for the Warren Commission would be to give instructions that the agencies assisting it return exhibits to the parties from whom they were obtained—in this case, the Dallas Police Department. We would like to take up the matter of delivery to Mr. King here in Dallas.

KILGORE & KILGORE

The Honorable Earl Warren
April 16, 1965
page 2

So far as we can determine, the only claim which any governmental agency may have had with respect to the weapons in question was the right of temporary custody in the Warren Commission while these guns were pertinent to its investigation, and that investigation has been completed.

We find it difficult to believe that any governmental agency will require Mr. King to go to the expense and difficulty of bringing an action to recover his property. It nevertheless appears that such an action may be necessary. If the Commission does not plan to take any action with respect to the return of the exhibits, we suggest that it would be desirable from the Commission's point of view as well as Mr. King's to have a disclaimer by the Warren Commission so as to avoid joining any parties who actually make no claim to ownership. If this matter is to be left in the hands of the Justice Department for its inaction, would the Commission kindly furnish a disclaimer or some order affirmatively indicating that it no longer claims the right to custody of these exhibits?

In the event that your Commission should itself desire to determine the proper owners to whom the exhibits should be returned, we will be most happy to furnish all necessary documentation of Mr. King's ownership.

Respectfully yours,

William C. Garrett

William C. Garrett

WCG/rm

cc: Mr. Joseph J. Cella, Jr.
Criminal Division
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Mr. John J. King
The Alaska Company
1616 Glenarm
Denver, Colorado

April 27, 1965

Kilgore & Kilgore
24th Floor Adolphus Tower
Dallas 2, Texas

Attention: Mr. William C. Garrett

Re: Oswald Guns

Gentlemen:

I have been asked to respond to your letter of April 16th to the Chief Justice of the United States.

On behalf of the President's Commission for the Assassination of President John F. Kennedy, I wish to advise that all of the physical evidence relating to the proof of the participation of Lee Oswald in the assassination of President Kennedy was returned by the Commission to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The Commission did inform the Bureau that it was its view that all of such physical evidence should be retained by the United States Government for an indefinite period.

The Attorney General of the United States has been advised of this position of the Commission and is being sent a copy of your letter and this response.

Very truly yours,

J. Lee Rankin

Mr. Ramsey Clark
Deputy Attorney General

APR 14 1966

John W. Douglas
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Division

JWD:SDR:egn

129-11

Leg. Prop. 304, 89th Cong. Draft Bill
for acquisition of items involved in
President Kennedy's assassination

Pursuant to your request, the above draft bill has been examined. A summary of the bill and this Division's views on its merits are set forth below:

Civil Division Position: This Division has no objection to the submission of this bill.

A Summary of the Bill: The bill begins with a declaration that the national interest requires that the United States acquire and retain title in certain items of evidence which were considered by the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy. The Attorney General is to determine which items shall be acquired and the list is to be published in the Federal Register. Upon such publication, title vests in the United States. Jurisdiction is conferred upon the Court of Claims to hear and render judgment upon any claim for just compensation for any item so acquired by the United States. Suit must be brought within one year of the date of publication in the Federal Register of the determination of the Attorney General. All items so acquired are to be turned over to the General Services Administration.

Views on the Merits: This Division would probably be charged with responsibility for defending the suits in the Court of Claims filed under this bill for just compensation. There would be no peculiar litigation problems in this type of litigation. However, we do assume that the actual vesting program would be under the supervision of either the Attorney General's office or the Criminal Division.

One comment appears appropriate. When property is taken by the United States for public use, the ordinary practice is for the Government to make a tender of payment. The Office of Legal Counsel appears to believe that this practice should be avoided in this instance because of the potentially

JWD
SDR

embarrassing and unwelcome negotiations that might arise over specific objects. Certainly these situations can be imagined. With respect to those objects which may have developed a significant commercial value, such as the rifle of Lee Oswald, it is clear that the Court of Claims would be the most desirable forum in which to reach a fair value. Accordingly, we agree that no administrative claims program should be established for this purpose.

Sec. 3 of the draft which confers jurisdiction on the Court of Claims to render judgment on claims for just compensation does not make it clear that this jurisdiction is to be exclusive and not concurrent with the District Courts up to \$10,000. Since we believe the intent is to make this jurisdiction exclusive, it seems best to add the word "Exclusive" as the opening word of the section.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ROUTING SLIP

TO:	NAME	DIVISION	BUILDING	ROOM
1.	Mr. Williams			
2.	Mr. DeLoach			
3.	Mr. Lella			
4.				

<input type="checkbox"/> SIGNATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PER CONVERSATION
<input type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL	<input type="checkbox"/> NECESSARY ACTION	<input type="checkbox"/> AS REQUESTED
<input type="checkbox"/> SEE ME	<input type="checkbox"/> NOTE AND RETURN	<input type="checkbox"/> NOTE AND FILE
<input type="checkbox"/> RECOMMENDATION	<input type="checkbox"/> CALL ME	<input type="checkbox"/> YOUR INFORMATION
<input type="checkbox"/> ANSWER OR ACKNOWLEDGE ON OR BEFORE _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> PREPARE REPLY FOR THE SIGNATURE OF _____		

REMARKS:

This is a copy which was received by Mr Lella -

Doc, you'll recall, had telephone conversations with the attorney; and the client came by in person to see Doc.

FROM:	NAME	BUILDING, ROOM, EXT.	DATE
	<i>Shelton</i>		
	<i>to this +</i>		
	<i>copy to [unclear]</i>		
			<i>4/20</i>

Form No. DJ-96a
(Rev. 7-17-63)

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ROUTE SLIP

TO:	NAME	DIVISION	BUILDING	ROOM
1	Mr. Harold Reis			
2				
3				
4				

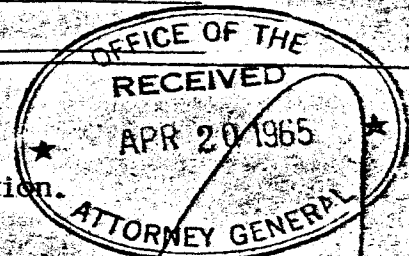
- SIGNATURE
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- SEE ME
- RECOMMENDATION
- ANSWER OR ACKNOWLEDGE ON OR BEFORE _____
- PREPARE REPLY FOR THE SIGNATURE OF _____
- COMMENT
- NECESSARY ACTION
- NOTE AND RETURN
- CALL ME
- PER CONVERSATION
- AS REQUESTED
- NOTE AND FILE
- YOUR INFORMATION

REMARKS

AG

For your information.

We really should move the legislation I understand the letter to the Speaker is being drafted.



File
HPW

FROM:	NAME	BUILDING, ROOM, EXT.	DATE
	Howard P. Willens	2107	4/19/65

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Memorandum

TO : The Files

DATE: April 13, 1965
MAJ:ehd

MAJ FROM : Mildred A. Johnson
Attorney

SUBJECT: George Cecil Thomson
1528 Canada Boulevard
Glendale, California

On April 13, 1965 I talked to Mr. Kenneth Raupach concerning the subject individual. He said the F.B.I. had numerous contacts with the subject individual commencing in October 1964. He has written various books including one entitled "The Quest of Truth" and another "A Critical Look At The Warren Report". Mr. Raupach said that the F.B.I. sent a communication to all its field divisions in December 1964 concerning this individual. It seems he prepared a 106 page treatise in an attempt to prove his theory concerning the Kennedy assassination. This treatise was entitled "How President Kennedy Really Was Killed" and it takes issue with the scientific examination conducted by the Commission, etc. His work is completely fallacious and it was of no value to the assassination investigation. The F.B.I. has interviewed him in the past and

[REDACTED]
The information was furnished to the President's Commission.

Mr. Raupach of the F.B.I. was of the opinion that [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

129-11

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
4 APR 20 1965
RECEIVED