

Typed 5/4/67
FMV:RCN:dod
129-11

D.A.K.

May 5, 1967

RECORD

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

Dear Mr. Vice President:

This is in response to your communication of April 25, 1967 transmitting a letter from [REDACTED] regarding the assassination of President Kennedy. 7

The authors who have criticized the conclusions of the Warren Commission do not claim to have any significant new evidence, so far as we are aware. Rather, their criticisms and demands for a new inquiry are based upon different conclusions they have drawn from parts of the same body of evidence that was examined by the Commission. The Commission made a thorough inquiry and detailed analysis of the facts concerning the assassination. The evidence amply supports the basic conclusions of the Commission. In these circumstances, we see no basis for a new inquiry.

(file)

The Warren Commission gathered a vast amount of material, much of it having only remote connection with the assassination. The bulk of the material that was before the Commission either was published in its 26-volume Hearings or is available to researchers at the National Archives. The relatively small portion which is not now available to the public consists primarily of national security intelligence or investigative reports -- dealing largely with activities far removed from the assassination itself -- which if disclosed might compromise confidential sources or techniques, or in some cases jeopardize the lives of individuals abroad. Public availability of other information had been delayed pending completion of the prosecution of Jack Ruby, but this information will now be released. All of the Commission material which has not yet been released will be reviewed periodically until all of it has been made available to the public.

Records
Chrono
Nalley (2)
Vinson
~~JAE~~

2.

With respect to the New Orleans matter, we can only point out that Mr. Garrison has not discussed his proceedings with Federal authorities. It would not be proper for us to comment on the evidence in a case pending before a state court.

As always, it is a pleasure to be of assistance. Your enclosure is returned herewith.

Sincerely,

FRED M. VINSON, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General



OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

April 25, 1967

20510

TO: Congressional Liaison
Department of Justice

FROM: William B. Welsh
Administrative Assistant

Enclosed is correspondence received by the Vice President. Could you provide a report on this matter? If ~~the action called for can~~ appropriately be taken, this would be appreciated.

Please return the correspondence and your reply with one copy, addressed to the Vice President.

RECEIVED

APR 25 1967

CORRES. MAJ

Enclosure from:



7C 6-7-4

RECEIVED

APR 28 1967

CRIMINAL DIVISION

127-11
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
27 APR 28 1967
R.A.D.
CRIMINAL-GEN. CRIME SEC.

S-4

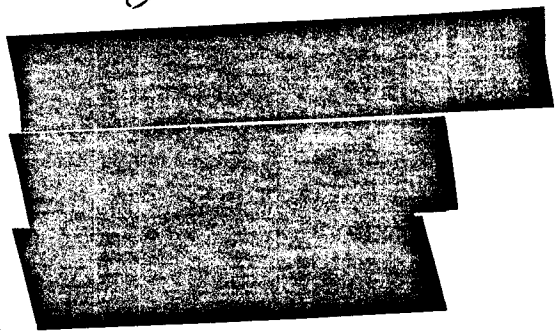
April 15, 1967

RECEIVED

Dear Vice President Humphrey,

Jim Garrison is sincere and in the right. He was explained personally on tapes broadcast here on Mort Sahl's programs. Please help him to get the information in the archives that he needs. Mark Lane is right too. I checked it out in detail. Rush to Judgment is much better verified than the Wasson Report and its conclusions. We, the American people, need a new investigation by congress, our representatives. What should you do? Will you send me an answer, please?

Sincerely yours,



7C

na

FMW:DCS:em
File: 129-11

4/29

cc: Files ✓
Stephenson
Copeland

[Redacted]

-7C
mt 5/16

Dear [Redacted] -7C

Your letter to the President of April 29, 1967, concerning the play "Mac Bird," has been referred to me for reply. You ask a number of questions of opinion concerning the production of this play, and note that you are writing a research paper on public reaction to it.

We can only point out that there is no basis in Federal law to seek injunction of the publication or performance of a play which purports to be a political satire, regardless of how unfair and tasteless it may be.

Sincerely yours,

Frank M. Wozencraft
Assistant Attorney General
Office of Legal Counsel

RECEIVED AND SEARCHED
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 16 1967 C

S.
D.
W.

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

To: The Attorney General

Date: May 2, 1967

ACTION REQUESTED

- Draft reply for:
- President's signature.
- Undersigned's signature.
- Memorandum for use as enclosure to reply.
- Direct reply.
- Furnish information copy.
- Suitable acknowledgment or other appropriate handling.
- Furnish copy of reply, if any.
- For your information.
- For comment.

NOTE

Prompt action is essential.

If more than 48 hours' delay is encountered, please telephone the undersigned immediately, Code 1450.

Basic correspondence should be returned when draft reply, memorandum, or comment is requested.

REMARKS:

Description:

Letter; Telegram; Other:

To: The President

From: [Redacted] - 7C

Date: 4/29/67

Subject: The play "MacBird".

129-11

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	R
MAY 4 1967	O
R.A.O.	R
OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL	D

By direction of the President:

Paul M. Popple
 Paul M. Popple
 Assistant to the President

mg

(Copy to remain with correspondence)

([REDACTED])
April 29, 1967

The Hon. Lyndon B. Johnson
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Johnson:

You undoubtedly have heard of the play "MacBird," currently being performed in New York City. The play, written by Barbara Garscn, follows the plot of Shakespeare's "MacBeth" and is a loose parody in which the title character is meant to be President Johnson who is designated in the play as the arranger of the murder of President Kennedy.

Much of the public reaction to Mrs. Garscn's writing has been quite severe. For instance, Edith Oliver, writing in the March 11, 1967, issue of the New Yorker, called "MacBird" such things as a "vulgarity of cheaply written lines" and "libel thinly disguised as a high-spirited undergraduate prank." Earlier this month, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, writing in the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, referred to "MacBird" as "a 'satirical' piece of trash that maliciously defames the President."

My purpose in writing to you is to respectfully solicit your opinion regarding the production of "MacBird." I am a graduate student in journalism at the University of Minnesota and am writing a research paper on public reaction to "MacBird." I am concerned with freedom of speech, but I also am concerned with the responsibility of those who speak or, as in the case of the author of "MacBird," those who write.

America is perhaps the only country on this earth where such a play could have been produced at all. Do you agree with this? Do you think that some government agency should have made an effort to suppress the play? Do you think that freedom of speech should be extended to a play such as this which has been described as "vulgarity"?

I hope that you will not consider this letter too grave an imposition on your valuable time. I do hope, however, that I may hear from you soon. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

([REDACTED])
[REDACTED]

129-11
7C
APR 29 1967
OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL

FMW:DCS:em
File: 129-11

4/27

cc:Files ✓
Stephenson
Dep.A.G.
Copeland

Honorable George Murphy,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C. 20510

ant 5/5

Dear Senator Murphy:

This refers to your memorandum of April 27, 1967, requesting the Department's comments on a letter to you dated April 8, 1967, from [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] letter urges that the National Archives be opened to release all the evidence concerning the assassination of President Kennedy and also criticises the conclusions reached by the Warren Commission.

The Warren Commission gathered a vast amount of material, much of it having only remote connection with the assassination. The bulk of the material that was before the Commission either was published in its 26-volume Hearings or is available to researchers at the National Archives. The relatively small portion which is not now available to the public consists primarily of national security intelligence or investigative reports -- dealing largely with activities far removed from the assassination itself -- which if disclosed might compromise confidential sources or techniques, or in some cases jeopardize the lives of individuals abroad. Public availability of other information had been delayed pending completion of the prosecution of Jack Ruby, but this information will now be released. All of the Commission material which has not yet been released will be reviewed periodically until all of it has been made available to the public.

INSPTD AND MAILED
COMMUNICATIONS SEC.
MAY 5 1967 9

- 7

As to [REDACTED] criticism of the Warren Commission report, it should be noted that the authors who have criticized the conclusions of the Warren Commission do not claim to have any significant new evidence, so far as we are aware. Rather, their criticisms and demands for a new inquiry are based upon different conclusions they have drawn from parts of the same body of evidence that was examined by the Commission. The Commission made a thorough inquiry and detailed analysis of the facts concerning the assassination. The evidence amply supports the basic conclusions of the Commission.

Sincerely yours,

Frank M. Wozencraft
Assistant Attorney General
Office of Legal Counsel

United States Senate

April 27, 1967

Respectfully referred to

Department of Justice

for such consideration as the communication
herewith submitted may warrant, and for a report
thereon, in duplicate to accompany return of
inclosure.

By direction of

George Murphy, U. S. S.

27 APR 28 1967 P.F.L.

R.A.O.

OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL

Stephenson
GPO (11-71) 1967

as sent

This is an interesting summary
by a well-informed correspondent.
His editorial conclusions are enlightening--
at least in part.

WV
5/5

5/5/67
FMV:RCN:dod
129-11

4/25

May 3, 1967

Honorable James C. Corman
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman:

This is in response to your communication of April 25, 1967 transmitting a letter from [redacted] regarding the assassination of President Kennedy. 7C

The Warren Commission gathered a vast amount of material, much of it having only remote connection with the assassination. The bulk of the material that was before the Commission either was published in its 26-volume Hearings or is available to researchers at the National Archives. The relatively small portion which is not now available to the public consists primarily of national security intelligence or investigative reports -- dealing largely with activities far removed from the assassination itself -- which if disclosed might compromise confidential sources or techniques, or in some cases jeopardize the lives of individuals abroad. Public availability of other information had been delayed pending completion of the prosecution of Jack Ruby, but this information will now be released. All of the Commission material which has not yet been released will be reviewed periodically until all of it has been made available to the public.

With respect to the New Orleans matter, we can only point out that Mr. Garrison has not discussed his proceedings with Federal authorities. It would not be proper for us to comment on the evidence in a case pending before a state court.

As always, it is a pleasure to be of assistance. Your enclosure is returned herewith.

Sincerely,

✓
Encl.

Records ✓
Chrono
Halley (2)
Vinson
DAG

FRED M. VINSON
Assistant Attorney General

SENT BY MESSENGER
COMMUNICATIONS SEC.
MAY 8 1967 W.D.B.

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C.

April 25, 1967

Congressional Liaison Office
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

The attached communication
is sent for your consideration.
Please investigate the statements
contained therein and forward me
the necessary information for re-
ply, returning the enclosed corre-
spondence with your answer.

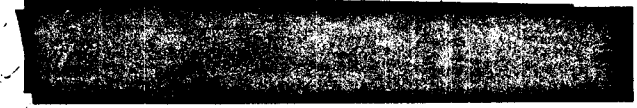
Yours truly,

James C. Corman
JAMES C. CORMAN, M. C.

129-11
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SEP 26 1967

1. *Corman* M. C. R.
CRIMINAL-GEN. CRIME SEC.



-7c

April 5, 1967

Mr. Jim Corman, Congressman
22nd District, Calif.
Room 232, House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Corman:

7-4

My husband and I firmly believe that
Mr. Jim Garrison of New Orleans is on the right
track with his investigation of our former President's
murder. We would like to see a favorable
attitude toward him from the Federal Govt.
We still believe the American people are trust-
worthy and should be given all the facts
so that they can know. They need the facts
in all matters so that they can make respon-
sible decisions. Now Jim Garrison needs
the facts for the American people and these
facts are in the National Archives. We
would like for you to support us, consequently
support Garrison, and use your influence in
Washington to open the Archives. The American
people need the truth - it will make us
free again.

Sincerely,
L. ...

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ROUTING SLIP

TO:	NAME	DIVISION	BUILDING	ROOM
1.	Miss Thurman,			
2.				
3.				
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 _____ | | |

4/25

REMARKS

Kay, I
Here are 3 items
I did in your style which
you may find of interest.
Thanks for yours.

FROM:	NAME	BUILDING, ROOM, EXT.	DATE
	Jee Oliver	4th Flr	436 FTB X 2321

Handwritten signature

Office of the Attorney General
Washington

1968 APR 23 AM 5 33

WA010 NL PDC

[Redacted]

22
7C

THE PRESIDENT
THE WHITE HOUSE

WHY HAVEN'T THEY GOT RESULTS ON ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
KENNEDY AND THE GOVERNOR OF TEXAS PLEASE REPLY TO ME

FILE 129-11

[Redacted]

7C

129-11	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
27	APR 24 1968
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
GEN. CRIME SEC.	

3

2

Typed: 4/28/67
FMV:KET:bkg
129-11

4/19

6

Honorable Abraham Ribicoff
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

May 1 1967

Dear Senator:

This responds to your communication of April 19, 1967 requesting this Department's comments on certain articles in the "National Enquirer" concerning the assassination of the late President Kennedy.

With respect to the investigation currently being conducted in New Orleans, we can only point out that Mr. Garrison has not discussed his proceedings with Federal authorities. It would not be proper for us to comment on the evidence in a case pending before a state court.

It is a pleasure to serve you in this matter. We enclose the newspaper clippings you forwarded.

Sincerely,

FRED M. VINSON, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General

Enclosure

Records
Chron
Thurman
Crim. Div. Corres. Unit
Vinson

RECEIVED
MAY 1 1967
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
SEC. 1

W

4/28

4/28

3/28

Handwritten initials

United States Senate

Washington, D. C., April 19, 1967

Respectfully referred to

Congressional Liaison
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

I would appreciate your
comments on the articles in
the attached paper.

Handwritten: 129-11

129-11		
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE		R
27 APR MAY 1967 1967		E
INCU IV. A. I.		S
CRIMINAL-GEN. CRIME SEC.		R
		D

Handwritten signature: Alan Kilpatrick
U.S.S.

Typed: 4/29/68
FMV:MSB:bks
129-11

4/1/68

May 1, 1968

[Redacted]

7C

Dear [Redacted]

7C

The Attorney General has asked me to respond to your recent inquiry concerning the assassination of the late President John F. Kennedy.

The Warren Commission gathered and considered a vast amount of material, much of it having only remote connection with the assassination. The authors who have criticized the conclusions of the Commission do not claim to have any significant new evidence, so far as we are aware. Rather, their criticisms and demands for a new inquiry are based upon different conclusions they have drawn from parts of the same body of evidence that was examined by the Commission. The Commission made a thorough inquiry and detailed analysis of the facts, and the evidence, as presented in the one-volume Report, amply supports its conclusions. In those circumstances, we see no basis for a new inquiry.

Your confidence in bringing your views to the attention of the Attorney General is appreciated.

Sincerely,

FRED M. VINSON, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General

Records
Chron
Block

FW
NK
5/1

6/11/68
4/30

Wife
4/24

(typed: 4/10/68)

FMV:NEK:elb

146-1-13620

Director

Federal Bureau of Investigation

April 10 1968

Fred M. Vinson, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
Laboratory Matter

The attached carton containing a cartridge of magnetic tape has been received by the Attorney General's office through the United States mails. Please process and advise us of the contents.

Attachment

cc: Records

✓ Chrono

Mr. Kossack

Mr. Vinson

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ROUTING SLIP

TO:	NAME	DIVISION	BUILDING	ROOM
1.	<i>Mr. Block</i>			<i>2114</i>
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

What's this all about?
It's re our memo of 4/10
(If you don't know, ask Phillips to get Chen e.e. of our 4/10 outgoing to Fed)
WJ
4/19

FROM:	NAME	BUILDING & ROOM	EXT.	DATE

Typed 5/4/67

FMV:RCN:dod
129-11

4/18

May 5, 1967

Honorable Catherine May
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. May:

This is in response to your communication of April 13, 1967 transmitting a letter from your constituent, [redacted] concerning the assassination of President Kennedy. 7C

RCN
5/4

The authors who have criticized the conclusions of the Warren Commission do not claim to have any significant new evidence, so far as we are aware. Rather, their criticisms and demands for a new inquiry are based upon different conclusions they have drawn from parts of the same body of evidence that was examined by the Commission. The Commission made a thorough inquiry and detailed analysis of the facts concerning the assassination. The evidence amply supports the basic conclusions of the Commission. In these circumstances, we see no basis for a new inquiry.

MCG
5/5

Of course, the Warren Commission's proceedings were not the equivalent of a criminal trial of Oswald. In view of his death, it was impossible to establish the facts by a trial or equivalent adversary proceeding. The function of the Commission, in any event, was not limited to issues that would have been appropriate in a criminal trial of Oswald. These considerations are more fully developed in the evaluation by the Commission of its function set forth at pages xiv to xv of its report, which you may find helpful in assessing its procedures and results.

10
74

With respect to the New Orleans matter, we can only point out that Mr. Garrison has not discussed his proceedings with Federal authorities. It would not be proper for us to comment on the evidence in a case pending before a state court.

MAY 5 1967

Records' ✓
Chrono
Nalley - 2
Vinson
DAG -2

2.

As always, it is a pleasure to be of assistance. Your enclosure is returned herewith.

Sincerely,

FRED M. VINSON, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General

Encl.

CATHERINE MAY
4TH DISTRICT
STATE OF WASHINGTON

MEMBER OF
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
SUBCOMMITTEES:
LIVESTOCK AND GRAINS
FARM LABOR
CONSUMER RELATIONS
FORESTS

COUNTIES:
ADAMS GRANT
ASOTIN KITTITAS
BENTON KLUCKITAT
COLUMBIA WALLA WALLA
FRANKLIN WHITMAN
GARFIELD YAKIMA

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

APR 23 1967

April 18, 1967

OFFICE OF THE
RECEIVED
APR 19 1967

Honorable Ramsey Clark
Attorney General
Washington, D. C. 20530

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

7C The enclosed letter from [redacted] of [redacted] requesting that the investigation into the assassination of President Kennedy be reopened is forwarded for your attention.

Thank you for your response which I may transmit to [redacted]

Sincerely yours,

CATHERINE MAY
Member of Congress

Enclosure

CM:kmb

129-11

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE		R
3	APR 19 1967	F
		O
		R
		D
R.A.O.		
ATTORNEY GENERAL		

OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL
CRIMINAL-GEN. CRIME SEC.

4-25-67
MS C/K

2
1

ae

([REDACTED]) 7c
April 6, 1967

The Honorable Catherine May
Representative from the 4th
Wash. State Congressional District
to the 90th U.S. Congress
Washington D.C.

Dear Representative May,

After reading the text of the Warren Commission Report, "Inquest" by Edward Jay Epstein, and "Rush to Judgement" by Mark Lane, I have come to the firm conclusion that an investigation into the facts surrounding the death of President Kennedy be reinstated. The Warren Commission investigation was conducted in a manner that made a mockery of the American concept of justice. Had someone been allowed to defend the interests of the accused slayer, the commission would have never come to the conclusion that President Kennedy was in fact killed by Lee Harvey Oswald.

With the forthcoming Garrison trials, it becomes even more critical for an investigation to be reopened. The outcome of the Garrison case will have a profound affect on the prestige of several federal institutions, among these are the FBI, CIA, Secret Service, and the office of President itself. If the district attorneys office in New Orleans is able to do what the above mentioned institutions could not or would not do, the respect of the American citizens will be lost to these and other federal agencies for years to come.

As one of your constituents*, I ask you and even plead with you to request that an investigation into the assassination be reopened before it is too late.

Respectively yours,

([REDACTED]) 7c

* college student from Yakima

ROUTING SLIP

TO:	NAME	DIVISION	BUILDING	ROOM
1.	Mrs. [unclear]			
2.	Mrs. Copeland			
3.				
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 letter relates to the Garrison investigation and, therefore, should be answered by the Crim. Div.

D-S
4/25/67

FROM:	NAME	BUILDING & ROOM	EXT.	DATE