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#DCBDMB DC48-EUR CONSPIRACY

BY RONALD J. OSTROW THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON -- A NEW GROUP PROBING AMERICAN POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS SUGGESTED MONDAY THAT CONSPIRATORS -- SOME OF THEM POSSIBLY THE SAME PERSONS -- WERE BEHIND THE MURDERS OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY AND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING.

THE CONSPIRACY ALLEGATIONS -- SOME NEW AND SOME OLD -- WERE MADE AT A PRESS CONFERENCE BY THE COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE

ASSASSINATIONS (CAP C,1,A)

THE COMMITTEE, DECLINING TO REVEAL THE SOURCE OF ITS FINANCES, CHARGED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS DELIBERATELY WITHHOLDING FACTS ABOUT THE ASSASSINATIONS FOR FEAR THE AMERICAN PUBLIC WAS NOT PREPARED TO ACCEPT THEM.

BERNARD FENSTERWALD JR., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COMMITTEE WHOSE DIRECTORS INCLUDE NEW ORLEANS DIST. ATTY. JIM GARRISON, SAID ONE PURPOSE IN HOLDING THE PRESS CONFERENCE WAS GET OUR NAMES BEFORE THE PUBLIC" TO HELP RAISE FUNDS.

FENSTERWALD, FORMER COUNSEL TO THE SENATE JUDICIARY SUBCOMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES, SAID THE NEW COMMITTEE HAS RAISED "A RELATIVELY SMALL SUM" -- ENOUGH TO RUN A TWO-MAN OFFICE HERE BUT NOT ENOUGH TO SUPPORT THE

STAFF OF PROFESSIONAL INVESTIGATORS IT WANTS TO EMPLOY.
HE SAID THE COMMITTEE "ULTIMATELY HOPES TO FORCE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT INTO THE THOROUGH AND HONEST INQUIRY WHICH IT HAS

AVOIDED" SINCE THE DEATH OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY.

FENSTERWALD SAID THERE WAS "A MOST REMARKABLE RESEMBLANCE" BETWEEN THE PHOTOGRAPH OF A TRAMP PICKED UP BY DALLAS

POLICE AN HOUR AFTER PRESIDENT KENNEDY WAS SHOT AND A MEXICAN POLICE ARTIST'S DRAWING OF A MAN SOUGHT IN DR. KING'S SLAYING. FENSTERWALD AND RICHARD SPRAGUE, ANOTHER OF THE COMMITTEE'S NINE DIRECTORS, WHO SPECIALIZES IN COLLECTING AND ANALYZING ASSASSINATION PHOTOGRAPHS, DISPLAYED A BLOWUP OF ONE OF THE MEN IN THE PHOTO AND THE DRAWING WHICH HAVE SIMILAR FEATURES, PARTICULARLY AROUND THE NOSE AND MOUTH.

THE PHOTOGRAPH SHOWS TWO POORLY DRESSED MEN BEING LED AWAY BY DALLAS POLICE. SPRAGUE, A SELF-EMPLOYED HARTSDALE, N.Y., MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT, SAID THE MEN WERE BEING MARCHED FROM THE DIRECTION OF THE TEXAS SCHOOLEOOK DEPOSITORY BUILDING TO THE DALLAS SHERIFF'S OFFICE.

HOWEVER, IN TESTIMONY BEFORE THE WARREN COMMISSION, DALLAS POLICE SGT. D. V. HARKNESS INDICATED THE MEN WERE TRAMPS HE AND OTHER POLICE FOUND IN FREIGHT CARS THAT WERE ABOUT TO PULL OUT OF THE DALLAS RATIROAD YARD.

THERE IS NO RECORD IN THE WARREN COMMISSIC VOLUMES OF WHAT BECAME OF THE EN, "AND THE FBI CONFISCATED ALL OF THE DALLAS POLICE BOOKING RECORDS," SPRAGUE SAID.

THE MEXICAN ARTIST'S CONCEPTION WAS DRAWN THE MORMING AFTER DR. KING'S DEATH AT THE REQUEST OF THE FBI WHICH RELAYED BY TELEPHONE DESCRIPTIONS OF A MAN WANTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE SLAYING, SPRAGUE SAID.

HOWEVER WHEN THE DRAWING WAS CIRCULATED LAST APRIL BY UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL, THE FBI WAS REPORTED AS STATING IT HAD AUTHORIZED NO SUCH SKETCH. THE FBI DECLINED COMMENT

MONDAY ON THE DRAWING OR ANY OF THE COMMITTEE'S ALLEGATIONS.
A SOURCE CLOSE TO THE BUREAU SAID THERE WAS NO DRAWING CIRCULATED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE ASSASSINATION BECAUSE WITNESSES COULD NOT AGREE ON THE SUSPECT'S FEATURES.

SPRAGUE SAID HIS INFORMATION ON THE DRAWING CAME FROM SERGIO JAUBERT WHO HE SAID DREW THE SKETCH FOR

THE MEXICO CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT.

THIS MARKS AT LEAST THE SECOND TIME THAT SPRAGUE HAS
DISPLAYED THE PHOTOGRAPH AND DRAWING AND POINTED OUT THE SIMILARITY TO REPORTERS.

LAST MAY 24, THE NEW YORK TIMES PUBLISHED THE ENLARGED PHOTO AND THE DRAWING OF THE THIN-LIPPED, LONG-NOSED MAN AND SAID SPRAGUE DISPLAYED THEM FOR A GROUP CALLING ITSELF THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION INQUIRY COMMITTEE.

THAT COMMITTEE, WHICH APPARENTLY IS NOT RELATED TO THE GROUP DIRECTED BY FENSTÉRWALD, WAS HEADED BY TRENT GOUGH, A

CANADIAN ACTOR.
FENSTERWALD SAID THAT IN ADDITION TO THE SIMILARITY OF THE MAN IN THE PHOTOGRAPH AND DRAWING, THERE ARE OTHER "COMMON FACTORS WHICH SUGGEST A CONNECTION" BETWEEN THE TWO ASSASSINATIONS.

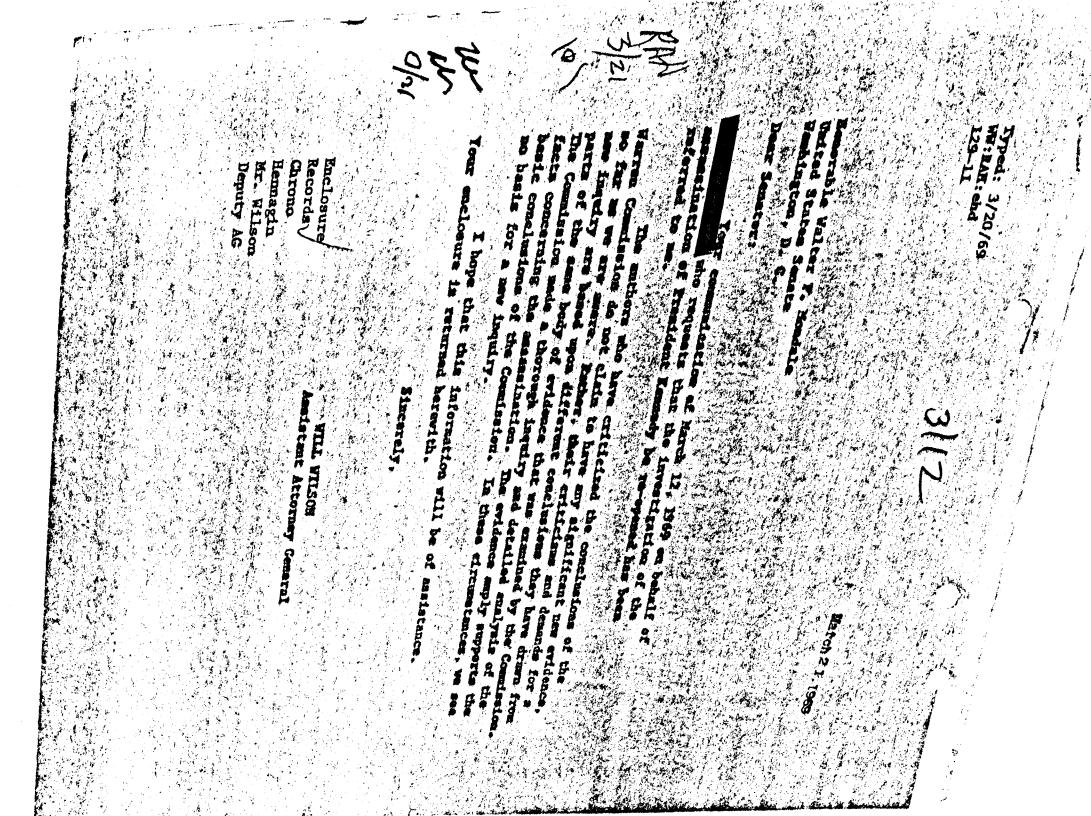
THESE, HE SAID, INCLUDE "EASILY IDENTIFIABLE GUNS CONVENIENTLY LEFT AT BOTH ASSASSINATION SCENES," AND THE FACT THAT LEE HARVEY OSWALD AND JAMES EARL RAY BOTH USED TWO OR THREE IDENTITIES.

FENSTERWALD SAID THERE IS "A CONSIDERABLE BODY OF EVIDENCE" THAT SCOTLAND YARD ARRESTED AT LONDON AIRPORT NOT ONE BUT TWO MEN IN THE KING ASSASSINATION PROPE, TRAVELING UNDER THE

ALIAS OF RAYMON GEORGE SNEYD. "IF WE COULD ANSWER" THE QUESTION OF WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SECOND MAN, FENSTERWALD SAID, "WE COULD HAVE THE ANSWER" TO THE MYSTERY THAT STILL SHROUDS THE ASSASSINATION.

FENSTERWALD STEPPED DOWN AS THE SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE'S COUNSEL LAST JAN. 1 AFTER THE CHAIRMAN, SEN. EDWARD V. LONG (D-MO.), LOST HIS BID FOR RE-ELECTION. HE SET UP THE PRIVATE ASSASSINATION PROBE THE NEXT DAY.

SENT MARCH 17...JM947PE



Receipt was acknowledged

Correspondence Section Records Administration Office Administrative Division

DATE:

March 12, 1969

### United States Senate

RE:



Respectfully referred to

Office of Congressional Liaison Department of Justice

For your constantion of the attached letter, and for a report.

MAN 1 / 198)

To be forwarded directly to the constitutional limit a copy to me for my information and records.

To me, in duplicate to accompany return of enclosure.

10

As requested below.

Additional comments: | DEPARTMENT

MAR 17 1969

CRIMINAL CIN. CRIME SEC.

Please refer response to attention of

Mr. Avery

, of my staff,

on the outside of the envelope only.

Thank you.

WALTER F. MONDALE U.S. SENATE

March 2, 1969

The Honorable Einster Mandale United States Senate Washington D.C.

Dear Senator Mandale,

Because of the information recently brought into light by the trial of clay Shaw in New Orleans, I feel a full reinvestigation of the Kennedy Assination should be made.

As representative of my state in the senate, I feel that it is up to you to begin the action.

Until there exists no doubt about the Warren Report, no person in the United States is truly free. Respectfully,

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA NEW OFLEARS DIVISION DOCKET:

DEAN A. ANDRESS, JR.

REREUS

JAMES J. CARRISON, DISTRICT ATTORNEY, STATE OF LOUISIANA LEADING RESERVED

FILED:

TO THE HOMORARDE THE JUDGES OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR THE BASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA, HER CHEEKS DIVISION:

#### DAHAGES

The potition of Deen A. Antrews, Jr., of ege and majority, and a recisent of the Parish of Jefferson, with respect represents that:

JUMESDICTION: This Court has jurisdiction of this cause pursuant to the provisions of

- a) Title 23 USC section 1331; b) Title USC 1343(3)(4); c) Title 28 USC 2281 d) Title 28 USC section 2282; c) Title 28 USC 2283; f) Title 28 USC 2284;
- 8) Title 42 USC section 1983;

Title 42 000 1983, provides: "Every person, who under color of any stabute, ordinance, regulation, custom, orders, of any deate or Territory, subjects, or exace to be subjected, any citizen of the United States or other person within the juricale ion thereof to the deprivation of any rights, privileges, or immunities occurred by the Constitution and laws, shall be liable to the party injured in an action at law, said in equity, or other proper proceeding to regress."

3.

James J. Gerrison, District Attorney of Orleges Pasish, -hereinsteer referred to descendent, is the duly elected and considerable District Attorney of Orleges Product purcuent to the powers invested in his office and conferred upon him by law, has each backed upon an investigation of a "complicacy to number John P. Kennedy ", a public disclosure of which was made public by an article appearing in the New Orleges—Jahles Item neception, on Feb. 17, 1967;

Then prior to the investigation of a completely to nurser John F. Kennety, the Asiensant called the plaintiff by phone on or about Jaturapy, Cet. 29, 1966, and invited plaintiff to meet him at Brandsonate Rest., on Iberville St., New Colema, he on in important matter that could not be Alexander by phone; Ibether, plaintiff on Asiensand not in promoterate meet. On the otherwise, on or these test.

Further, during the conversation, so set out in paragraph & supra, defendent had in his pessession a copy of " whitewash ", by Habeld weisberg, and the defendent in-dienced that according to the author of "whitewash" your plaintiff was a evarlooked witness; further, the defendant produced a copy of "whitewash" and your plaintiff, during the discussion broused through the book;

It was during the initial conference/discussion with the defendent that the defendent information and some information and some good class in connection with the accessination of John F. Remody and has turned to have over to a U.S. Agency and nothing had ever happended; further, that he was going to re-open his investigation since he had reason to believe that a comparacy to nurser John F. Remody existed in New Orleans prior to the assessination of the 35Til President of the United States;

There were frequent conventations between plaintiff and defendant from on or about Cet. 29, 1966, through the first week of seb. 1967 concerning the identity of Clay Bortrand and the unknown labin/mexican person who had appeared in plaintiff's office with Lod Causid, also the possibility of a so-called respective training cappers across the lake (Lake Pontchartrain) consisting of Cubras & other nationalities, the Alexalution of the said cusp, exceination of numerous photographs, the possibility of telementation of gunfire, a solide unit from New Orleans to Dallas, possibility of telementation of gunfire, a solide unit from New Orleans to Dallas, possibility of telementation parked on street, possibility of rare than one person being involved in the cetual Assessination; all of the above on a hypothetical basis;

Just prior to Christman, 19th, the Lane Clay Chan was premented by the Actorent to the person Clay Bertrana, and your plaintiff informed the defendant that the Clay Bertrana referred to by the plaintiff in his tentimony before the motor member of the warren Cormission, had no connection with Clay Show; the conflicts in the testimony were pointed out and all possibilities of Lantification were discussed to yourseleintiff informed the defendant the two persons were not one out the arms;

Further, the defendant knows personally, that the plaintiff does not have any evidence or knowledge of evidence that would be of value to his investigation into a conspiracy to marier Julia? Remarcy, yet the defendant did continue to pressure your plaintiff by the use of rutual Pricute, and failing in that by use of a placetal Allerance of a character to of the louinization Calebrat Core of Procure to Supera before the distance Procure of Supera before the distance Allerance Procure of Supera before the distance Allerance Researches.

Art. 66 of the LCCP province: " Usen written notice of the bintriet Abborray satting forth responsible grounds therefor, the Court May order the clash to leave unappeared director to the percons mand in the rotice, ordering them to appear at a time tended and adjusted in the order for questioning by the district alterney concerning to offense under investigation by him. . . .

Your plaintiff files cortein recurrents to compel the District Returns to Emery Vi, subposes gorved upon him for the reason that the subposes served was not a subposes ditioning under Ardicle 66; the motion was filed and by Syromant with Manket. District Attorney Richard Durns the subposes leaved was modified to conform with the provisions of Article 66; further, plaintiff appeared with his attorney and answered all questions to the best of his ability; further, plaintiff requested to was not furnished a transcript of the questions and amounts before the District Attorney; further, plaintiff requested as was not granted the return of his tooking many before a staff member of the Worren Connission which was lant to the delevant by the plaintiff acquestion in November of 1966;

The recentent was not autisted with the personal interviews as not out supen, or to questions and convert in his affice, he coused a "Grand Jury "subposed to be served upon your plaintiff pursuant to: Art. "The Grand Jury shall inquire into all captures of captures of the partial. It may implies into other offenses triable within the partial. It may implies into such effenses triable by the district court of the partial. And shall inquire into such effenses when requested to do so by the district attends or entered to do so by the court.

AND Art. 64 of the LCOP: "The district Attendey or entered to do so by the court."

before the grand jury and its logal advisor. He shall be notified of and has the right to be present at all assistence of the grand jury, except when it is delibered ing and voting. He shall examine winesses before the grand jury on farther, for the loop: "A grand jury shall hear all evidence presented by the district atterney. It may hear evidence for the delendant, but is under no duty to so. When the grand jury has reason to helicave that other evaluable contents.

As so, When the grand jury has reason to helicave that other evaluable contents.

A gread jury chould receive only logal evidence and each as is given by witnesses produced, or furnished by documents and other physical evidence. Verence no indictment shall be quadred or conviction reversed on the ground what the indictment was have disclose or in past on illegal evidence; or on the ground the Creat Jury we ricked a provioled of this article.

Your plaintiff appeared of ore the Grand Jury for the Post of Orleans; further, after a brief session he was discharged;

Your plaintiff was served another subpoens to appear before the Grand Jury for the second time, and appeared on March 16, 1967, and question were propounded by the assistant District Attorney and by some of the grand Jurors;

The defendant appeared before the Grand Jury sometime during the afternoon of the 16TH of Earth, 1967, and shortly there after your plaintiff was indicted for parjury; a uncertified copy of the body of the indictment is annexed hereto and made a part hereof the same as if copied in extensio, and marked for the purposes of intentification, AMDREMS WAR:

On Thursday, March13, 1967, the defendant dismissed the indictment docketed in the Clerk of Court's Office, Criminal District Court under # 197-998, ellotted to Section "G", for the reason that enother indictment was handed down by the same Grand Jury containing about 11 feet of words under docket # 198-483:

Your plaintiff evers that the defendent, personally, is of the opinion that your plaints I can indentify Clay Show and others, who he has reason to believe are involved in a conspiracy to murder John F. Kennedy; this belief of the defendant being arbitrary, capricious, and not founded on any fact, but to the contrary, founded on the defendant's conclusions; further, plaintiff told the defendant during the many conferences held between plaintiff and defendent from on or about Oct.29, 1966 through the first week of Feb., 1967, and the defendant even assigned to your plaintiff, a code name, the mane of an arry associate, which was written in the defendant's han writing including two private phone numberes, cald instrument is summared hereto and made a part hereof the same as if copied in extensio and marked ARRENS, MBM, that there was no connection between Clay Shew and Clay Bertrand;

There is ennexed hereto and made a part hereof the same as if copied in extension, and marked ANDREAS 'C", an envelope marked C-1, mugshot of Emilio Calindo Same as marked -C-3; photograph marked C-2; photograph marked C-4; photograph marked C-5; photograph marked C-5; photograph marked C-5, delivered by associates of the defendant to plaintiff for plaintiff to study; further, plaintiff examined numerous mug shots in addition to the above;

Plaintiff evers that the defendent has arbitrarily used the powers of his office a) district attorney subpoens; b) grand jury subpoens(list Time); c) grand jury subpoens(2nd time); d) indictment for perjury to pressure your plaintiff into a identification of Clay Shaw as Clay Bertrand and an indentification of Julian Bushoss the Mexicano/latin type who appeared with Les Oswald; further, defendent has some to discredit and pillar plaintiff in the community by offering to him the following:

a) sodium penethol test; b) hypnosis; c) lie dector test;
ond melding seme known to the public and the defendant did arbitrarily and capricious do this knowing that none of the systems are of any legal value whatsover; and last but not least, in causing the plaintiff to be indicted two separate time for parjury and the defendant knowing that the plaintiff has and did not commit parjury at any time; further, plaintiff avera that any and all information the defendant could obtain from plaintiff was obtained from plaintiff voluntarily in the discussions that took place form on or about Oct 29, 1966 through the first wask of Feb. 1967;

Plaintiff avers that the defendant and his associates under his instructions, soized uppn obvious discrepancies existing the the sworn testimony of your plaintiff before a staff member of the Warren Commission, and deliberately placed your plaintiff before the Grand Jury so that either plaintiff indentified Caly Shaw and Julian Busendo or he(plaintiff) must contradict the previous sworn testimony;

Plaintiff evers that the cots of the defendant as set out above are abbitrary, capricious, done under color of state statutes and the plaintiff has been subjected under color of law to the deprivation of his rights, privileges and immunities, more particularly, but not exclusively, the defendant has used sworn testimony of the plaintiff contained in the Warren Report and then placed plaintiff before a grand jury and compelled him to answer questions designed to trap him, full knowing that plaintiff had no knowledge of any conspiracy or any facts naterial to a conspiracy to murder John F. Kennedy.

Plaintiff overs that he has been demaged in the amount of \$100000.00; William ORE, plaintiff prays that the defendant be cited and served in the manner set out by Iow, and that after all legal formalities be complied with, there be judgment in favor of Dean A. Andrews, Jr. in the amount of \$100,000.00, together with costs and interest and against Jones J. Carrison, individually and in his capability as District Attorney, Parish of Orleans; a total by judy, and for all such general and equitable relief to the cause may pendit.

UNITED TES GOVER. JENT

DL ARTMENT OF JUSTICE

### Memorandum

то

Mr. Carl Eardley

DATE: March 3, 1969

Deputy Assistant Attorney General Civil Division

FROM:

Harland F. Leathers, Chief General Litigation Section

HFL:mmo

Civil Division

129-11

SUBJECT:

Response to Congressman Reid

on Clay Shaw

We have drafted the attached letter in response to the specific request of Congressman Reid, If you have no objection, please initial and we will correct the typographical error.

Note that the first main paragraph incorporates the substance of answers to other letters which you have previously sent. The following paragraph merely recites the history of the litigation.

F. Le

WDR:JFAxelrad:bd 129-11 2/27

MAR 6 1969

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

Dear Senator Marphy:

isted February 19, 1969, from the denial of

certain evidence for the Clay Show trial has been referred to me for reply.

The Department of Justice has not taken any action to interfere improperly with the prosecution of Clay Shaw, and has cooperated with the District Attorney when he requested the presence
in New Orleans of FMI agents, and a retired Secret Service agent
as prosecution witnesses. The Department did defend an action
brought by the District Attorney for the purpose of requiring the
Archivist of the United States to produce the autopsy photographs
and x-rays at the trial of Clay Shaw. These materials, by statute
and by agreement with the Executors of the Estate of John F.
Kennedy, are to remain in Archives, with access limited to official federal agencies or committees, and to technical experts
provided that such access is approved by the authorized representative of the Kennedy family. There has been no such consent
given, insular as we are informed.

I hope that this information will be helpful to you.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM D. RUCKELSHAUS Assistant Attorney General

60 DA

The



# SPECIAL

From WILLIAM D. RUCKELSHAUS Assistant Attorney General

Date 3/3/69

Receipt of this letter has been acknowledged. Please furnish complete response within ten to fourteen days.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter within two days and furnish complete response within ten to four-teen days.

PLEASE PREPARE A REPLY FOR MY SIGNATURE AND MARK A COPY FOR THE DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL.

MARK A COPY FOR THE DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

2/27/69 ref fr Senator George Murphy

w/attached ltr fr

urging for release
of all pertinent photographs, x-rays, etc.
relative to the Kennedy assassination for
use in Clay Shaw trial.

129-11 Civil Division Mr. Arnold General Litigation Section

Receipt was acknowledged

Correspondence Section Records Administration Office Administrative Division

233279-190

1969

### United States Senate

February 27, 1969

Respectfully referred to:

Department of Justice

Because of the desire of this office of the responsive to all inquiries and communicate your consideration of the attached is requested. Your findings and views, in duplicate form, along with return of the enclosure, will be appreciated by

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE R

E

10 FEB 28 1969

R.A.O.

D

CIVIL DIV.

General Ligitigation Sec.

\*\*

tebriary 19,1969 Hor . George Musphy U.S. Serate Westington D.C. Dear Sir; I am writing to urge you to press for the release of all perterent photos, X roup and items of clothey sow locked in the national archives, relative to the Kennely assaistration and the current trish proguesch New Oileans. The of thousands of Coleforniane who are well informed of the facts, are fel up with the Governments machinetions to person pertinest evidence from the light of day -It seems that her Gurison of Lette enough to peus for the theth.

I speak for many friends and relatives, all Colepania voters, who demand some action!

open the archives and lets fave Competent, independent and expect study of the secretal end-clicles. (Momore Good, Ency-clicles)

Senerely faces,

76

RECORDS

HEH:HMD:njf

2/26

March 11, 1969

129-11 B.T.R

Henorable John L. McClellan United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senstor:

Upon receipt of your letter of February 26, I made some inquiries concerning the autopsy report and other materials relating to President Kennedy.

I find that the report itself has been made public and appears in full in the Warren Commission Report. As for the autopsy photographs, x-rays, etc., enclosed is a copy of an agreement between the Administrator of General Services, acting pursuant to the authority granted him by section 397(e)(1) of title 44 of the United States Code, and the executors of the estate of the late President, dated October 29, 1966. The agreement contains the limitations pursuant to which the items in question were deposited in the Mational Archives and may be examined.

If I can be of any further service to you or your constituents in this or any other matter, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Herbert E. Hoffman Chief, Legislative & Legal Section

Enclosure

JOHN L. V. CLELLAN, ARK., CHAIRMAN

MENRY M. JACKSON, SH.
SAM J. ERVIM, JR., N.C.
ERNEST GRUENING, ALASKA
EDMUND S, MUSKTE, MÄINE
ABRARAM RISICOPF, CON.,
FRED R. HARRIS, OKLA.
ROBERT F. KENNEDY, N.Y.
LEE METCALF, MONT.
JOSEPH M. MONTOYA. N. MEX.

JAMES R. CALLOWAY CHIEF COUNSEL AND STAFF DIRECTOR

#### United States Senate

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510
February 26, 1969

Sign of the party

Mr. Herbert E. Hoffman Chief Legislative and Legal Section Office of the Deputy Attorney General Room 4117 Main Justice Washington, D. C. 20530

Dear Mr. Hoffman:

I have recently received several letters from constituents regarding the controversy involving the release of the autopsy report on President Kennedy.

In order that I may be fully apprised of all the facts with regard to this matter, I would appreciate your providing me with a complete report outlining the reasons why the autopsy report was not released.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

John L. McClellan

JLMc/wsk

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE 11

10 MAR 21 1969 D. P.

1.DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

LEGISLATIVE ATT

DF ARTMENT OF JUSTICE

UNITED STATES GOVER

*Aemorandum* 

то

Mr. Herbert E. Hoffman

Chief, Legislative and Legal Section Office of the Deputy Attorney General

WDR:JFAxelrad:bd

129-11

DATE: MAR 1 0 1969

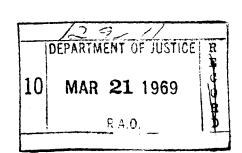
FROM : William D. Ruckelshaus

Assistant Attorney General

Civil Division

SUBJECT: Senator McClellan's February 26, 1969 letter

Attached is a draft reply to Senator McClellan's February 26, 1969 letter as requested by your memorandum to Stanley Rose dated March 3, 1969. We are forwarding herewith your request and its attachment.



WDR:JFAxelrad:bd 129-11

Honorable John L. McClellan United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator McClellan:

This replies to your February 26, 1969, letter to me regarding release of the autopsy report on former President Kennedy.

The autopsy report on President Kennedy has been made public and appears in full in the Warren Commission report. The Department of Justice did defend an action brought by the District Attorney of Orleans Parish, Louisiana for the purpose of requiring the Archivist of the United States to produce the autopsy photographs and x-rays at the trial of Clay Shaw. These materials, by statute and by agreement with the Executors of the Estate of John F. Kennedy, are to remain in Archives, with access limited to official federal agencies or committees, and to technical experts provided that such access is approved by the authorized representative of the Kennedy family. There has been no such consent given, insofar as we are informed. A copy of the letteragreement, dated October 29, 1966, is enclosed.

I hope that this information will be helpful to you.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE R

MAR 21 1969

R.A.O.

Sincerely,

HERBERT E. HOFFMAN Chief, Legislative and Legal Section

From WILLIAM D. RUCKELSHAUS Assistant Attorney General

Receipt of this letter has been acknowledged. Please furnish complete response within ten to fourteen days.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter within two days and furnish complete response within ten to four-teen days.

SE DEEDADE A DEDIVE

PLEASE PREPARE A DRAFT REPLY FOR HERBERT E. HOFFMAN, ROOM 4117.

3/3/69 ref fr Mr. Hoffman w/attached ltr to Mr. Hoffman fr Senator John L. McClellan re release of autopsy report on President Kennedy.

129-11 Civil Division Mr. Arnold General Litigation Section

|          | DATE: <u>March 3, 1969</u>   |
|----------|--|
| To:      | Stanley Rose<br>Civil Division   |
|          |  |
| From:    | Herbert E. Hoffman  Chief, Legislative & Legal Section  Office of the Deputy Attorney General  |
| Subject  | : Correspondence from:   |
|          | Sen. McClellan re release of the autopsy report on   |
|          | President Kennedy.   |
| fo<br>Ma | draft Herbert E. Hoffman repare/reply for MINITERIAL ROOM 4117, Main Justice.  ake an appropriate reply with a copy to Herbert E. Hoffman, com 4117, Main Justice. |
| Departme | ent File No.:  |
| Miscella | aneous Information:  |
| I1       | nterim reply is being/has been made.   |
| X No     | o interim reply is being made.   |
| X Co     | opy of incoming correspondence attached.   |
| 0:       | riginal of incoming correspondence attached.   |
| P:       | lease return attachment.   |

JOHNEL MC CLENEM, ARK. CHAIRMAN

JENNY M. AGREGOV WASH.

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GENET, CHAIRS, FOR.

JACOB K. JANYS, N.Y.

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JOSEPH M. MONTON, N.Y.

LEC MCTCALF, MONT.

JACOB K. JANYS, N.Y.

HOWARD H. BAKER, JR., TCHM.

JOSEPH M. MONTONA, N. MEX.

LIMES R. CALLOWAY

CHIEF GOUNGEL AND STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510 February 26, 1969

C. Sa Kark

Mr. Herbert E. Hoffman Chief Legislative and Legal Section Office of the Deputy Attorney General Room 4117 Main Justice Washington, D. C. 20530

Dear Mr. Hoffman:

I have recently received several letters from constituents regarding the controversy involving the release of the autopsy report on President Kennedy.

In order that I may be fully apprised of all the facts with regard to this matter, I would appreciate your providing me with a complete report outlining the reasons why the autopsy report was not released.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

John L. McClellan

JLMc/wsk

UNITED STATES GOVEI 1ENT

ARTMENT OF JUSTICE

### Memorandum

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: Nathaniel E. Kossack

Deputy Assistant Attorney General

Criminal Division

:/ James R. Robinson

Attorney, General Crimes Section

SUBJECT: Report on Garrison trial

of Clay Shaw, New Orleans, La.

DATE: February 25, 1969

Last night, (February 24) Bill Block reported that the cross-examination of Colonel Finck severely damaged the reliability of Colonel Finck's findings and conclusions at the autopsy. Bill is convinced that unless the photos, x-rays and autopsy report are released, the net result of the crossexamination of Frazier and Finck will be to discredit the Commission Report in the minds of the jury and lead to Shaw's conviction. He says reporters are now of the opinion that the Report is open to grave criticism and its validity doubtful, but they understand this has no direct bearing on Shaw's guilt. Bill feels the jurors will not be inclined to draw such a distinction, rather they will reason: if the Report is wrong, Garrison is right.

LU:DHC:fei 129-11

20530

cc FILES Mrs. Copel*a*nd Mr. Chapman

FEB 2 5 1969

Dear

Your letter to the Mational Security Council concarning information or pictures relating to the Warren Commission has been referred to this Office for reply.

All the evidence pertaining to the assassination of President Kennedy gathered by the Warren Commission was transferred to the National Archives, where the bulk of the evidence is available for investigation by researchers. Accordingly, your request should be addressed to the National Archives, 8th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20408.

Sincerely,

Leon Ulman
Deputy Assistant Attorney General
Office of Legal Counsel

trou

### TE WHITE HOUSE OFFIC

### REFERRAL

To: Department of Justice

Date: February 15, 1969

| 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 X 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:  | es available for writing report on   |  |  |  |
|   | By direction of the President:   |  |  |  |

Richard Moose

(Copy to remain with correspondence)



January 27, 1969

National Security Council Executive Office Building Washington D.C.

Dear Sirs:

I am writing a report on the Warren Report, and I would appreciate any information or pictures you might have that could be compiled into my report.

If your department has no information available, I would be grateful if you could refer me to the department that does have this information. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

70

H. S. C. L. A. S. C. A. S. C.

WDR:JFAxelrad:bd 129-11 2/25

MAR 6 1969

Honorable Ogdan R. Held House of Representatives Washington, B.C. 20515

Attention: Miss Edith Vilkie
Office of Congressmen Baid
PhO Carmon House Office Building

Bear Congressman Reids

Your February 25, 1969, memorandum to Congressional Limison, Department of Justice, regarding the denial of certain evidence for the Clay Show trial has been referred to me for reply.

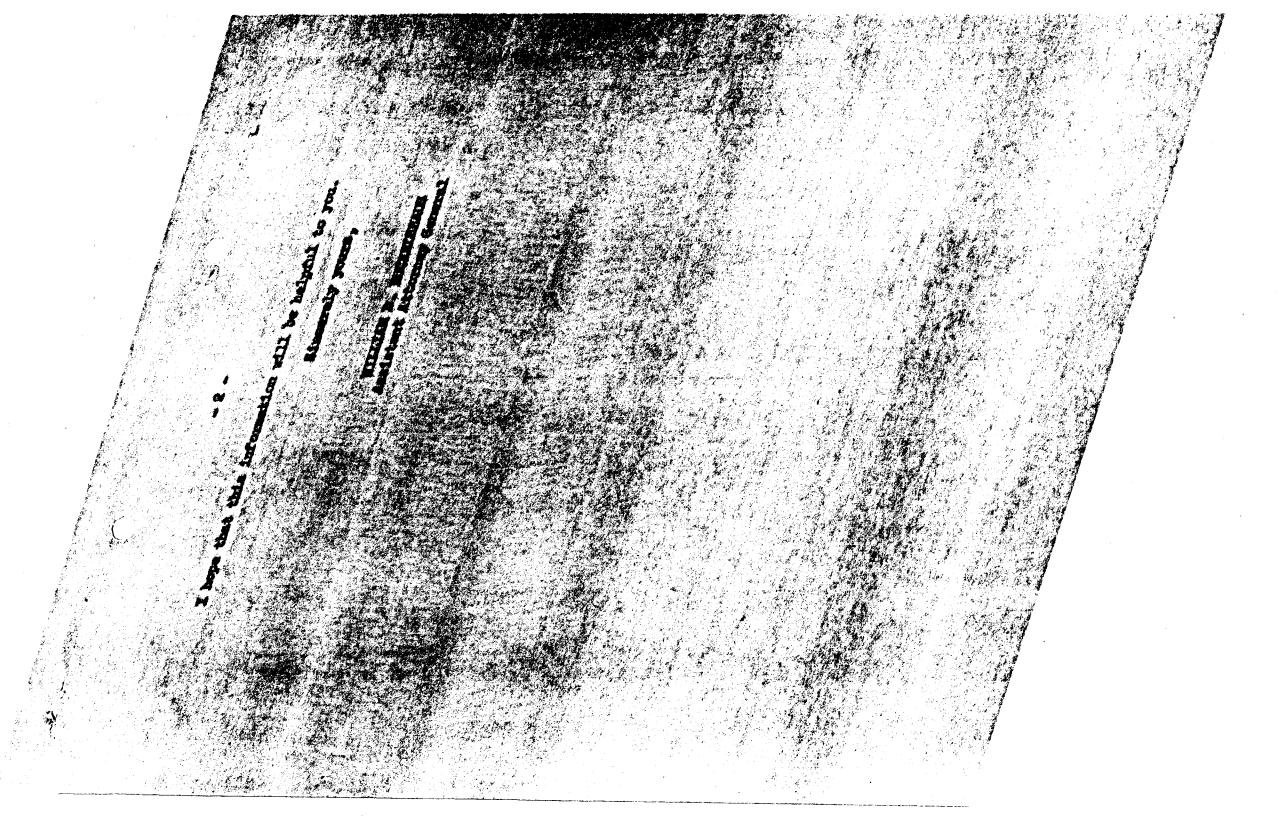
The Department of Justice has not taken any action to interfere improperly with the prosecution of Glay Shaw, and has co-operated with the District Attorney when he requested the presence in New Orleans of YML agents, and a retired Secret Service agent as prosecution witnesses. The Department did defend an action brought by the District Attorney for the purpose of requiring the Archivist of the United States to produce the autopsy photographs and x-rays at the trial of Glay Shaw. These materials, by statute and by agreement with the Executors of the Estate of John F. Ennedy, are to remain in Archives, with access limited to official federal agencies or committees, and to technical experts provided that such access is approved by the authorized representative of the Kennedy family. There has been no such consent given, insofar as we are informed.

Judge Charles Hallack of the District of Columbia Court of General Sessions entered an order on February 17, 1969 requiring the Archivist of the United States to take the autopsy photographs and x-rays to New Oxioens, Louisians. On the following day a Notice of Appeal to the District of Columbia Court of Appeals was filled on behalf of the Archivist. Shortly thereafter by telegram to the Clerk of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, the Louisiana District Attorney's office informed the Court that it was withdrawing its request for the x-rays and photographs.

W/E

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From WILLIAM D. RUCKELSHAUS Assistant Attorney General

> Date 2/28/69

Receipt of this letter has been acknowledged. Please furnish complete response

within ten to fourteen days.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter within two days and furnish complete response within ten to fourteen days.

PLEASE PREPARE A REPLY FOR MY SIGNATURE AND MARK A COPY FOR THE DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL.

2/25/69 memo fr Ofc of Congressman Ogden R. Reid re Clay Shaw trial.

> 129-11 Civil Division Mr. Arnold General Litigation Section

PLFASE EXPEDITE
THIS MAIL SHOULD 1

Answered within 48 hours

Receipt was acknowledged

Correspondence Section
Records Administration Office
Administrative Division

233279, /90

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MEMO

Feb. 25, 1969

TO: CONGRESSIONAL LIAISON, DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FROM: THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN OGDEN R. REID

RE: THE DENIAL OF CERTAIN EVIDENCE FOR THE CLAY SHAW TRIAL

Congressman Reid would very much appreciate your appropriate assistance in finding the official reasons for the denial of certain materials which could be used as evidence in the Clay Shaw conspiracy trial now in session in New Orleans. We have received a request from a constituent for this information.

In addition, we would appreciate knowing the status of the Feb. 17(?) order by the Court of General Sessions that the Government provide the medical autopsy report for use as evidence in the Shaw trial. Specifically, is this order being appealed?

Those decision was it to withhold the information which is being withheld? Mould a reversal of the decision be the responsibility of "the Kennedy family," Mrs. Jacqueline Onassis, Senator Edward Kennedy, or would it be a matter for the courts to decide with the "advice and consent" of one or all of the above? I.E. who, in this case, has the appropriate authority?

Thank you for your attention to these matters. Mould you kindly address any return correspondence to the attention of Miss Edith Wilkie, Office of Congressman Reid, 240 Cannon M.O.B.

Thank you.

FEB 23 553

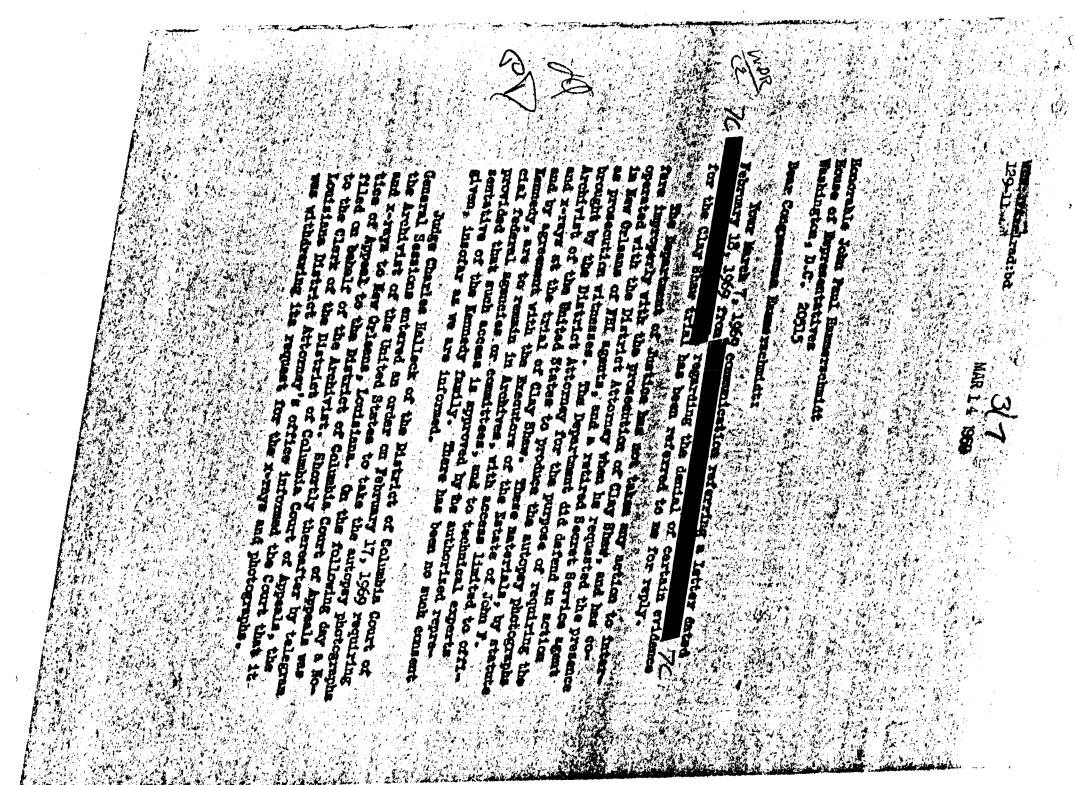
chapl 2-27-69 p28

129-11 233279-190 10 FEB 27 1969 **1.E.G.** 

CIVIL DIV.

General Ligtigation Sec.

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## SPECIAL

From WILLIAM D. RUCKELSHAUS Assistant Attorney General

Date 3/11/69

Receipt of this letter has been acknowledged. Please furnish complete response within ten to fourteen days.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter within two days and furnish complete response within ten to fourteen days.

PLEASE PREPARE A REPLY FOR MY SIGNATURE AND MARK A COPY FOR THE DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL.

3/7/69 ref fr Congressman John Paul Hammerschmidt w/attached ltr fr re release of autopsy report on President Kennedy.

> 129-11 Civil Division Mr. Arnold General Litigation Section

> > Form CV-146 (Ed. 2-27-69)

#### ANSWERED WITHIN 48 HOURS

Receipt was acknowledged 3-10-69

Correspondence Section
Records Administration Office
Administrative Division

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Mashington, B.C.

March 7

196

Office of Congressional Liaison Department of Justice

Sir:

The attached communication is sent for your consideration.

Please investigate the statements contained therein and forward me the necessary information for reply, returning the enclosed door spondence with your angular unit for the formation for the ply, returning the enclosed door spondence with your angular unit for the formation for the ply, returning the enclosed door for the ply, returning the enclosed door for the ply that the plant of the plant of

JOHN PAUL HAMMERSCHMIDT M.C. THIRD DISTRICT, ARKANSAS

for 1

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE DE LA CIVIL DIV.

CIVIL DIV.

General Ligtigation Sec.

The Honorable John Paul Hammerschmidt of Port House of Representatives Washington 25, D.C.

Ser:

A federal judge has ordered the release of President Kennedyn autopsy report for use in the trial of Clay Show. The federal government Plans to block the release of this information. Why would the government seek to block this release if the Warren report is true? This action by the government only weater more doubt in the public mind and less confidence in the government, I unge you to throughly investigate this motter. The Presidential arder, which keeps the assination information from the Public for seventy years, has appeared to many people as a white-wash of the actual facts of the assination. I unge you to take the necessary steps to release all this information to the public that our trust night be either restored on that our government might be cleaned up.

RECEIVED

FEB 21 1839

Sincerely,