

Warren Commission

December 26, 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

On December 17, 1963, I saw Inspector James R. Malley, together with Assistant to the Director Belmont. Mr. Malley had recently returned from Dallas, Texas, where he had been coordinating the investigation into the assassination of President Kennedy.

I commended Mr. Malley for the work which he had done at Dallas and told him I had now selected him to be the liaison representative between the Bureau and the Presidential Commission looking into the assassination of President Kennedy. I told him I had already advised Mr. Lee Rankin, General Counsel for the Presidential Commission, Mr. Malley was being so designated and would serve as the contact of the Bureau with him, Mr. Rankin.

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I told Mr. Malley that I wanted him to establish the closest and most amicable working relationship with Mr. Rankin. I told him that I had personally known Mr. Rankin quite well since he had served as Solicitor General under Attorneys General Brownell and Rogers.

Earl Warren rep. D.C. copy

I also alerted Mr. Malley that there were indications that the Chief Justice, who headed the Presidential Commission, was endeavoring to find fault with the FBI and certain information had been leaked by the Chief Justice to Drew Pearson which was critical of the FBI's functioning in Dallas prior to the assassination.

I told Mr. Malley and Mr. Belmont that the Chief Justice has now demanded all of the so-called "raw" reports upon which the FBI report of the assassination was predicated, and in doing so the Chief Justice had characterized the FBI report as being in "skeleton form." I stated the Chief Justice had further added in his statement to the press: "In order to evaluate it we have to see the material on which the report was prepared."

I stated that this statement by the Chief Justice I felt was entirely unwarranted and could certainly have been phrased better so as not to leave the impression, at least by innuendo, that the FBI had not done a thorough job.

- Tolson
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Casper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- DeLoach
- Evans
- Gale
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holmes
- Gandy

JEH:RM (5)

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I stated that, therefore, I wanted all reports pertaining to the assassination to be transmitted to Mr. Rankin. I stated the first reports which should be sent to him were those from which we drew material included in our report to the President. I stated following that I wanted all reports whether of substantial nature or so-called "nut" reports to be sent to Mr. Rankin. In other words I wanted nothing to be withheld irrespective of what the volume might amount to as I realized it would run into the thousands of reports but, since the Chief Justice had asked for it, we should give it to him.

I stated I wanted Mr. Malley to personally review any material that he transmitted to Mr. Rankin and, after he had reviewed it, for Mr. Belmont to personally review such material. I said this was imperative since Mr. Tolson was now unable to be at the office in view of illness and I would have to count upon Mr. Belmont and Mr. Malley to see that the proper material was sent to Mr. Rankin and that it was thoroughly reviewed before being transmitted by both Mr. Belmont and Mr. Malley.

Very truly yours,

J. E. H.
John Edgar Hoover
Director

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TIME 2:37 PM
DATE 12/27/63
BY RET