

Mr. Belmont

1/3/64

A. Rosen

LEE HARVEY OSWALD
INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA
105-82555

JACK LEON RUBY
CIVIL RIGHTS

The matter of searching of Postal Money Orders as well as Western Union Money Orders was discussed in detail today with Mr. J. Lee Rankin of the President's Commission. Information previously set forth in letterhead memorandum form showing Mr. Rankin that it would be necessary to check between four and five million money orders on a daily basis at the Washington headquarters of the U. S. Post Office Department was discussed with him and Mr. Rankin indicated that for the time being no further check on Postal Money Orders would be necessary.

In connection with Western Union Money Orders, Mr. Rankin was advised that a check had been made by our Dallas Office of Western Union Money Orders and that the same type of check was being made by our New Orleans Office for a six-month period, this being the length of time money orders are kept in the various area offices of Western Union. Mr. Rankin was advised that to search Western Union records which are maintained at Minneapolis, Minnesota, for outgoing Western Union Money Orders from Dallas alone for a period of three years would require the time of ten persons at a cost of \$2.50 per hour for approximately one month. Mr. Rankin was advised that these records are filed under the city of origin of the money order; then chronologically under the date they were sent; and then alphabetically under the name of the payee. Mr. Rankin was advised that without this data a search for a money order would have to cover the entire Western Union system on a day-to-day basis and that Western Union was unable to furnish an accurate estimate of the number of hours such a search would require.

Mr. Rankin was also advised that in view of the manner in which the records are handled, a check at Minneapolis for the cities in which Oswald lived would only be a half-way check in that any money orders sent to him from anywhere else in the city would not be picked up on such a check as was described above.

Mr. Rankin advised that in view of the foregoing, no further check should be made at this time but that the Commission would appreciate receiving the results of the six-month check that had been initiated. He was assured this information would appear in report form in the near future.

Mr. Sullivan, Rm. 807 RB
Mr. Turner, Rm. 649 RB

44 24115 - UNREC
NOT RECORDED
199 JAN 7 1964

ORIGINAL FILED IN 105-82555-12711

Memo to Mr. Belmont from A. Rosen
Re: Lee Harvey Oswald, et al

Following the above discussion, Mr. Rankin mentioned that Oswald had been in Mexico for a brief period in late September and the first day or two of October 1963. He inquired as to whether or not it was possible to check on any money orders which Oswald may have sent or received while he was in Mexico and whether or not any such check had been made up to this time. Mr. Rankin was advised this matter would be looked into and he would be subsequently advised. Supervisor E. T. Turner in the Domestic Intelligence Division was contacted and is handling this check.

ACTION: When information is received as to the possibility of making the above check requested by Mr. Rankin, he will be advised.