

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. Shroder
- 1 - Mr. Rogge
- 1 - Mr. J. W. Lines
- 1 - Mr. R. E. Lenihan

February 4, 1964

Honorable J. Lee Rankin
 General Counsel
 The President's Commission
 200 Maryland Avenue, Northeast
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rankin:

This is in response to your letter dated January 15, 1964, requesting this Bureau interview the Reverend William H. Dickinson, Jr., concerning an alleged statement reportedly made in his presence prior to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Enclosed for your assistance are two copies of a communication prepared by our Dallas Office dated February 2, 1964, incorporating the interview of Reverend Dickinson as well as the results of our investigation. Since a copy of your original request was furnished to the Honorable James J. Rowley, Chief, United States Secret Service, I have also sent a copy of the enclosed communication to him.

This concludes our inquiry into this particular matter.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosures (2)

144-2-1016-
 NOT RECORDED
 199 FEB 5 1964

- 62-109090
- 1 - 62-109060 (Assassination of President John F. Kennedy)
- 1 - 44-24016 (Jack Leon Ruby)

RDR:mt

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DUPLICATE YELLOW

(SEE NOTE ON PAGE 2.)

ORIGINAL FILED IN 44-109060 - 2357

NOTE:

This matter previously on Director's "Special List" and has been receiving close attention at the Bureau. Marshall W. Malone, San Diego, California, directed a letter to the President's Commission dated 12-10-63 in which he quoted part of an article appearing in the western edition of the "New York Times," datelined Dallas, Texas, 11-25-63. In the article the writer quotes the Reverend H. Dickerson, Jr., as having stated "a bright young" couple had made a statement two days prior to President Kennedy's visit to Dallas that "they hated the President of the United States and that they would not care one bit if someone did take a pot shot at him." Mr. Rankin requested interview of the Reverend Dickinson for the purpose of identifying the couple responsible for this statement and thereafter conduct appropriate investigation.

Dallas by airtel 2-1-64 enclosed an eight-page letterhead memorandum incorporating the results of investigation in this matter. It would appear the statement referred to above was taken out of context when made by Mr. Frank Caldwell during a dinner in Dallas on 8-9-63. Only two other couples were present at this time, during which a discussion relating to racial matters was gone into.

The wife of another member of the dinner party has acknowledged she probably perpetuated this rumor by repeating it shortly after the President's assassination, which in turn was picked up by still another party and hence used by the Reverend Dickinson in a sermon without further documentation. All parties involved have acknowledged regret over this unfortunate statement. It does not appear the statement as quoted in the newspaper was ever actually said.

It is interesting to note that one of the individuals interviewed knew Jack Ruby in 1956 in connection with the individual's business as a tax consultant. There appears to be no further connection between this individual and Jack Ruby.