

Memorandum

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

TO : Mr. Conrad

DATE: April 23, 1964

FROM : W. D. Griffith

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY
REQUEST OF PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION

At the request of The President's Commission, Special Agent Lyndal L. Shaneyfelt testified before members of the Commission on the morning of April 23, 1964, regarding Laboratory examinations made in this case. He testified from approximately 9:15 A.M. until 10:30 A.M.

SA Shaneyfelt testified on the identification of a negative of one of the photographs of Oswald holding the rifle with a duo lens Imperial Reflex camera recovered during the investigation and reported to be the property of Oswald. He testified that the negative was exposed in Oswald's camera. It should be noted that Marina Oswald has previously testified that she took these two photographs with this camera. SA Shaneyfelt also testified that he had examined the photographs to determine whether or not they were "fake" or composite photographs and stated that he found no evidence that they were composites. It is reported that Oswald, before his death, stated that they were fake photographs and the face was his and had been put on a photograph of the body of some other individual.

Testimony was also given regarding the comparison of the rifle in the photograph of Oswald with the actual rifle and SA Shaneyfelt testified that he compared the rifle with the rifle in the photograph and found them to be the same in all visible characteristics. He found no differences, but found no specific individual characteristics on which to base a positive identification to the exclusion of all other rifles of the same general configuration as to contour of weapon and telescopic sight.

SA Shaneyfelt then testified regarding the reproduction of the photograph of Oswald holding the rifle that appeared on the cover of Life Magazine. He stated that in his opinion this photograph on the cover was the same as the photograph recovered from one of Oswald's residences. However, some retouching had been added to the photograph before making the half tone engraving for the printed picture. He further testified that this is a normal procedure in reproduction of photographs in publications.

RECOMMENDATION: None. For information only.

62-109060
LLS:oo (4)

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Rosen (Malley)
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan (Lenihan)