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1 - Mr. Rogge

June 17, 1964

BY COURIER SERVICE

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

*Assassination of President
John F. Kennedy*

Dear Mr. Rankin:

The following is submitted in reply to a request received from Mr. Norman Redlich of the President's Commission on June 16, 1964. Mr. Redlich requested this Bureau to attempt to identify the source of an incident in which General Edwin A. Walker allegedly flew flags upside down at his residence.

On June 16, 1964, Agents of our Dallas Office interviewed Mr. Eddy Barker, News Manager, Station KRLD TV-Radio, Dallas, Texas. Mr. Barker recalled that Adlai Stevenson gave a speech in Dallas on the night of October 24, 1963. The following day, one of General Walker's aides, identity presently unrecalled, called Mr. Barker and advised him that General Walker was flying three American flags upside down in front of his house. This aide indicated that this was being done because "Dallas was a city in distress."

Mr. Barker said that this aide called him each day for three days thereafter and was perturbed because he had not provided any publicity for this stunt. On the following Monday, October 28, 1963, United Press International ran a picture on the news wires showing these flags being flown at General Walker's residence. On the same day, a representative of the Columbia Broadcasting System called Mr. Barker and requested him to interview General Walker in front of his residence and take movies showing the flying of the American flags in their incorrect position.

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1 - 62-109090 (President's Commission)

MRS:AOB

NOTE: Mr. Redlich's request was telephonically received by Inspector J. R. Malley on 6/16/64.

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Mr. J. Lee Rankin

Mr. Barker contacted General Walker at his residence, and after explaining the purpose of his visit, the General went into a "raving rage," got into his car and drove off. Mr. Barker did not interview General Walker nor did he take any photographs. Mr. Barker recalls that General Walker flew these flags for approximately five days and it is Mr. Barker's opinion that due to the absence of publicity regarding this matter, General Walker removed the flags from his residence.

Mr. Barker stated that he could not locate a photograph of the flags flying at General Walker's residence, and he is certain that the photograph transmitted on the United Press International news wire was not published in the Dallas area.

The above information was furnished telephonically to Mr. Redlich on June 16, 1964, and unless advised to the contrary, no additional inquiries will be conducted concerning this matter.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover