

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson	_____
DeLoach	_____
Mohr	_____
Bishop	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
Felt	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : Mr. Rosen *J.R.M.*

DATE: January 8, 1968

FROM : J. I. Shroder *J.I.S.*

- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Shroder
- 1 - Mr. Raupach

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
 JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY
 NOVEMBER 22, 1963, DALLAS, TEXAS
 MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION
 CONCERNING

By letter dated 12-1-67, the Department furnished us copies of two civil actions; one, filed by John J. King of Colorado for just compensation in the amount of \$5,000,000 for the 6.5 Millimeter Mannlicher - Carcano Rifle (assassination rifle) and the .38 Smith and Wesson Revolver used by Lee Harvey Oswald to kill Dallas Police Officer J. D. Tippit; two, a civil complaint filed by Marina N. Oswald Porter for just compensation in the amount of \$500,000 for property taken pursuant to Public Law 89-318. This law was enacted so the Government could acquire evidence obtained during the assassination investigation.

Concerning these civil complaints the Department desired to know: 1) The time at which each exhibit was originally taken into custody; 2) The persons who obtained original custody; 3) The time at which custody was initially obtained by Federal officers; and 4) The location at the time of original custody. The Department needed this information to defend the Government but indicated they desired to know whether the above information was easily ascertainable from records of either the Bureau or the Dallas Police Department. Copies of these complaints and the Department's letter were furnished to Dallas for action.

On 1-2-68, [redacted], Civil Division, telephonically contacted the Bureau to advise it was his understanding that John J. King intended to file motions in the near future, and the Civil Division desired to file motions to precede King's motion. He indicated that he was not too concerned over the civil action filed by Marina Porter as he had received information that in all probability Mrs. Porter would accept any settlement the Government would offer; however, his primary concern dealt with the civil complaint filed by King. [redacted] was advised that an inquiry would be made to determine the status of this matter.

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Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY

SAC Shanklin, Dallas, advised that the research to comply with the Department's request in connection with Mrs. Porter's civil action required extensive research and progress was being made. Concerning the civil complaint of King's, we previously had prepared a chronology of the location of the weapons which was furnished to the Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) in Dallas when the Department had filed forfeiture proceedings to acquire these weapons. It had been ascertained that John J. King had purchased the right for these weapons from Marina Porter previously.

On 1-3-68, Mr. Gershuny was advised of the extensive nature of research which had to be conducted to comply with the Department's request. He indicated that he did not believe that it would be necessary to do this extensive research whereupon he was requested to submit a written communication to the Bureau setting forth his views so these facts would be a matter of record, and we could instruct our Dallas Office to discontinue. He said this would be done. In view of his interest concerning the suit filed by Mr. King, he was referred to a letter the Bureau previously furnished Assistant Attorney General Fred M. Vinson, Jr., dated 11-23-65, (Bufile 62-109060, Serial 4079), furnishing the Department a chronology of the location of the weapons involved. He indicated this information would be satisfactory for the present. On the same date [redacted] called and said he had contacted the AUSA in Dallas who informed him that receipts concerning these weapons were in possession of the Dallas Office. He requested copies of these receipts. He was advised this matter would be handled. Dallas furnished copies of these receipts and they will be furnished to [redacted]

On 1/4 & 5/68, [redacted] briefly contacted the Bureau and desired to know in which report information is contained revealing the transfer of the two weapons involved from the Dallas Police Department to our Dallas Office. This information was furnished to him, and he was also informed the reports are a matter of public record in the National Archives. He said he did not need a copy of this report; however, he was advised if a copy was needed, it could be prepared. [redacted] was advised any requests for information from the Bureau regarding this matter should be furnished in writing so that an official record could be kept and that a determination regarding his request could be made.

ACTION: This is submitted for information. The receipts previously referred to which were obtained from Dallas will be submitted to the Department by separate communication.