

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: January 8, 1968

FROM : A. Rosen

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Shroder
- 1 - Mr. Raupach
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Conrad

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DeLoach	
Mohr	
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SUBJECT: JOSIAH THOMPSON
 AUTHOR OF THE BOOK,
 "SIX SECONDS IN DALLAS"
 PERSONAL APPEARANCE
 WTOP - TV (CBS)
 11:30 a. m.
 JANUARY 7, 1968

Josiah Thompson, author of the book, "Six Seconds in Dallas," appeared on WTOP - TV, January 7, 1968, at 11:30 a. m. The program was entitled "Capital Conversation," whose host was Roy Meecham.

This was a question and answer type show in which Thompson was interviewed. It was initiated by Roy Meecham who questioned Thompson regarding his background and the reason for writing his book.

Thompson indicated he became interested in the assassination of President Kennedy shortly after the incident occurred and following his review of the Commission's report and the 26 volumes of hearings supporting Commission's report, interpreted it as a case for the prosecution. Subsequently, other books appeared which were critical of the Commission and so consequently he wrote another book which he termed an alternative theory which showed the act of the assassination in a different light.

He said that he was disillusioned in the results of the Commission's findings and after studying records in the National Archives and especially a copy of the Zapruder film, he came to another conclusion as to how the assassination was committed. He criticized the President's Commission and members of the Commission Staff who he said were passive individuals and whose staff was a group of young lawyers trained in building a case. He also said he became involved in the

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Mr. Rosen to Mr. DeLoach Memo
RE: JOSIAH THOMPSON, AUTHOR OF
THE BOOK, "SIX SECONDS IN
DALLAS"

assassination investigation due to the fact he felt he had
been "conned by my Government."

Thompson mentioned he became associated with
Life Magazine, and studied 4" by 5" transparencies of the
Zapruder film which clearly indicated to him that Governor
Connally of Texas was struck by a separate bullet. Therefore,
the President's Commission was in error when it concluded
President Kennedy and Governor Connally were struck by the
same bullet.

Thompson mentioned the FBI and Special Agent
Lyndal L. Schaneyfelt when he referred to the Zapruder film.
He said a copy of a copy of the Zapruder film was studied
both by the FBI and the Commission on which conclusions were
based. This is an entirely false statement by Thompson since
only the initial study of the Zapruder film was made from a
copy. Later, during the investigation, both the FBI and the
Commission had an opportunity to examine the original Zapruder
film when it was brought to Washington by a representative of
Life Magazine.

Thompson mentioned that Life Magazine had refused
to allow him to utilize copies of various frames of the
Zapruder film for his book, therefore, he had charcoal sketches
made. As a result, Life Magazine filed a suit against him and
Bernard Gies Associates, publisher, to prevent them from
publishing the book and requesting all copies be destroyed,
based on a copyright infringement.

Thompson mentioned that he has had no reaction by
any member of the Commission or Staff as a result of his
book. The program terminated when he and Roy Meecham mentioned
it was felt that the investigation of the assassination should
be reopened so that a final conclusion could be made.

Thompson's book was previously reviewed and the
results of this review are contained in a memorandum, Mr. Rosen
to Mr. DeLoach dated 12/7/67. There was nothing new revealed
in this program.

ACTION:

For information.

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