UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

1 - Mr. Conrad
1 - Mr. Griffith
1 - Mr. Shaneyfelt

TO : Mr. Conrad

DATE: 12/27/67

FROM : W. D. Griffith

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

Memo from W. D. Griffith to Mr. Conrad 12/20/67 summarized allegations Mark Lane recently made in New Orleans regarding photographs of Oswald holding the rifle which Life Magazine featured on the front of its 2/21/64 issue. Our memo refers to a test photograph which the Laboratory made for comparison purposes and inappropriately referred to it as a "re-enactment." The Director has noted "I don't re-call ever authorizing this so-called "re-enactment." Did I?" H.

The test photograph was made as a necessary part of our Laboratory examination of the Oswald camera and of the photograph of Oswald holding the gun. This provided a known standard for use in the comparison just as a gun is test fired to provide known bullets for comparison. (Based on this comparison we were able to positively determine that the photograph in question was made with Oswald's camera.)

The test photograph was made on the roof of the Justice Building by the case examiner because outside lighting and similar shadow effect was needed and it provided a private location. No specific authorization was requested for the taking of this photograph since it was actually a part of the examination procedure required to fulfill the request of the Commission for this comparison and is a normal technique followed in obtaining known standards in camera comparisons of this type.

We now realize the word "re-enactment" used in my 12/20/67 memo was misleading and sincerely regret the use of this term.

REC 49 6022

RECOMMENDATION: None. For information.

62-109060

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Rosen

WDG:mb (7)

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SENT DIRECTOR
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