

DRAFT OF PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT

The Majority and Minority Leaders of the Senate have agreed to join me in establishing one Board of Inquiry, for the whole government, to make a public report upon the circumstances of the assassination of the late President and the murder of his assassin. John F. Kennedy. The Chief Justice of the United States, upon our urgent request, has agreed to serve as Chairman.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is making a complete factual investigation into the identity and associations of the assassin. ~~No stone is being left unturned.~~ Both this country and foreign nations share our confidence that the Bureau will uncover all the facts. Its report, which will be published promptly, will quiet all rumors and speculation about the evidence.

The final word upon this tragic event cannot be solely the work of an investigative agency. The whole government, indeed the whole people, is too intimately concerned. The evidence brought out by the Bureau's investigation, plus any additional evidence that may come to light in the pending trial of Rubenstein, in the Texas Board of or be uncovered, must be examined and appraised. It is essential that this task be confided, on behalf of the entire government, to a board of the highest standing speaking for the entire Nation.

The Board of Inquiry will have before it all the evidence uncovered by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and also any new evidence or leads to evidence that may hereafter develop. The Board will conduct any further investigation it finds desirable. All executive officers and agencies

Inquiry, or through the efforts of investigative agencies

62-109090-1

are being directed to furnish the Board such services and cooperation as it may request. In due course the Board will make and publish a full statement of its findings and conclusions.

Thus, we and all the world can be confident that the ultimate responsibility for the assassination will be fairly fixed.