

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

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Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
DeLoach	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
Felt	_____
Gale	_____
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Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : MR. BELMONT *Uhr*

DATE: November 29, 1963

FROM : G. A. EVANS *Can*

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

Deputy Attorney General Katzenbach made available a draft statement to be issued by the President as soon as possible with reference to the formation of a Presidential Commission to look into the assassination of President Kennedy. This has previously been forwarded to the Director's office.

The following additional information was received from Katzenbach. He wanted to deliver the draft statement to the Director himself but could not because he had to see the Chief Justice immediately at the President's request to determine if the Chief Justice were agreeable to heading up the President's Commission. The President wanted Warren to act in this capacity because of his international reputation in judicial circles.

Katzenbach said that the President came to the conclusion he would have to appoint a Commission in this matter because Senator Eastland was adamant in the Senate Judiciary Committee going forward with its own investigation. It was only a Presidential Commission that could forestall action by the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Katzenbach said that from his contacts at the White House, it was obvious that the appointment of this Commission represented no lack of confidence whatsoever in the FBI; that, in fact, the early publication of the FBI report is still most urgent and most important.

Katzenbach also said that any change the Director desired in the proposed Presidential statement could be made and he would be in touch with us just as soon as he returned from the Supreme Court. Since Representative Boggs jumped the gun and put out a press release about the Presidential Commission, the White House feels it essential to announce this publicly later today.

**ADDENDUM:** Katzenbach advised the Chief Justice had declined to head the Commission. He does not know who may be selected as a replacement. The White House will clear any revised statement with the Director before it is issued.

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

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