

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: 12/20/63

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDENT

Reference is made to the memorandum from DeLoach to Mohr dated 12/19/63, referring to pressure by the "New York Times" on the Department relative to interviewing Mrs. Marina Oswald. The addendum to this memorandum pointed out that Mr. James Martin, at whose residence Mrs. Marina Oswald was residing was also pushing to make arrangements for Mrs. Oswald to be interviewed.

*President's Commission*

Mr. James Lee Rankin was contacted on 12/20/63 and this matter was discussed with him in detail. Mr. Rankin advised that James Martin, along with Attorney John M. Thorne, had been in to see him on 12/19/63, at which time Martin stated that Mrs. Oswald had received an offer of \$25,000 for her story. Martin and Thorne requested to know what position the Commission would take relative to making Mrs. Oswald available for interview. Mr. Rankin stated that he had discussed the matter with Chief Justice Warren who had commented that whether she was interviewed or not interviewed was not up to the Commission and that the Commission had no control of any kind over this particular matter. The Chief Justice suggested to Mr. Rankin that in handling this matter with Martin and Thorne an effort be made to obtain any story which might be written, as furnished by Marina Oswald, in order that it could be reviewed prior to actual publication.

Mr. Rankin inquired if the Bureau could see any objection to any interviews being handled with Mrs. Oswald in this matter. Mr. Rankin was advised that the manner in which Mrs. Oswald was handled was not one for the Bureau to decide but that in the event she did give a story for publication and such was obtained, the Bureau would be very happy to check the story against information available. Mr. Rankin stated he did not know at this time what action would be taken concerning making Mrs. Oswald available for interview.

Mr. Rankin was advised that the Bureau has conducted a number of interviews with Mrs. Oswald in trying to obtain complete information in her possession from her and that while the original material was obtained some time ago, we are continuing to interview her whenever additional information is received from our investigation which needs clarification.

ACTION: None - for information.

NOT RECORDED  
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- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Evans
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan

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