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Classified
7-6-83

July 19, 1978

- 1 - Mr. Bailey
- 1 - Mr. Ryan
- 1 - Mr. Foster

Dr. Trudy H. Peterson
 Assistant to the Deputy Archivist
 National Archives and Records Services
 Room 111
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Peterson:

I have reviewed a copy of the document identified as having been originated by Mr. Walter Jenkins for the President of the United States on November 24, 1963. It bears the time 4:00 P.M. and purports to set forth the conversation of former FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover concerning the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

With the exception of the last paragraph on page 2 ending on line 13, page 3 which should be classified Secret I find the other paragraphs are not classifiable.

Of particular concern in the classifiable paragraph is the language beginning with the word [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (S) This language raises matters tending to disclose intelligence sources or methods, the continued protection of which is essential to national security and, therefore, such information is exempt from the General Declassification Schedule as provided under Executive Order 11652.

Your courtesy in bringing this matter to our attention is greatly appreciated. I am enclosing a copy of the document appropriately marked for classification and would ask that you ensure that the original document is protected accordingly.

Very truly yours,
 David Ryan
 Document Classification Officer

NR 997x3
 NOT RECORDED
 167 JUL 20 1978

Classified by [signature]
 Declassify on: OADR 3/2/83
 #211,326

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
 OTHERWISE

SECRET MATERIAL ATTACHED

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 BY LTR
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Dr. Trudy H. Peterson
Assistant to the Deputy Archivist

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NOTE: On 7/17/79, Dr. Peterson contacted SA Drew J. Clark, Congressional Inquiry Unit, Records Management Division, regarding attached document stating that the House Select Committee on Assassinations had requested immediate access and delivery of the document. Upon review of the document at National Archives and Records Services, it was felt that a classifiable portion of the document should be classified before Committee access. This is to effect compliance with the request of Dr. Peterson for a letter setting forth our action since the original document resides in the Johnson Memorial Library, Texas.

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The attached was requested by the Church Committee in May, 1976. NLJ submitted it to NL for a determination as to whether or not it should be closed. NL (Jacobs) later reported by telephone that the FBI had classified the document.

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May 7, 1976

De Classification

HLJ (Corkran)

Document requested by Mr. Michael Epstein, staff member, Senate Select Committee to Study Government Operations

HL (Jacobs)

Per your instructions, enclosed is HLJ to the President, 11/24/63, which has been restricted by HLJ because the last paragraph of page two and first paragraph of page 3 discuss national security methods. The document is closed under donor restrictions. Mr. Epstein requested this item be submitted immediately. Other classified items will follow.

CHARLES W. CORKRAN
Assistant Director

Enclosure

CWC:jl

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INFO #2

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COPT

November 24, 1963

4:00 P.M.

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Mr. J. Edgar Hoover said as follows:

There is nothing farther on the Oswald case except that he is dead. Last night we received a call in our Dallas office from a man talking in a calm voice and saying he was a member of a committee organized to kill Oswald. U

We at once notified the Chief of Police and he assured us Oswald would be given sufficient protection. This morning we called the Chief of Police again warning of the possibility of some effort against Oswald and he again assured us adequate protection would be given. However, this was not done. U

They brought him out of the City Jail and were taking him to the County Jail when a man stepped out and shot him in the stomach. This man was arrested at once. He goes under the name of Jack Leon Ruby but his real name is Rubenstein. He runs two night clubs in Dallas and has the reputation of being a homosexual. Immediately after the shooting, he (Oswald) was moved to Parkland Hospital and died about 45 minutes ago. We had an agent at the hospital in the hope that he might make some kind of a confession before he died but he did not do so. U

Ruby says no one was associated with him and denies having made the telephone call to our Dallas office last night. He says he bought the gun about three years ago and that he guessed his grief over the killing of the President made him insane. That was a pretty smart move on his part because it might lay the foundation for a plea of insanity later. U

I dispatched to Dallas one of my top assistants in the hope that he U

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might stop the Chief of Police and his staff from doing so damned much talking on television. They did not really have a case against Oswald until we gave them our information. We traced the weapon, we identified the handwriting, we identified the fingerprints on the brown bag. U

We were able to identify the bullets as coming from that gun. All the Dallas Police had was three witnesses who tentatively identified him as the man who shot the policeman and boarded a bus to go home shortly after the President was killed. He got on a bus to go home to get a shirt and the bus conductor tentatively identified him as the man who boarded the bus. U

Oswald had been saying he wanted John Abt as his lawyer and Abt, with only that kind of evidence, could have turned the case around, I'm afraid. All the talking down there might have required a change of venue on the basis that Oswald could not have gotten a fair trial in Dallas. If they keep on talking, perhaps the same will be true of Ruby. U

Chief of Police Curry I understand cannot control Capt. Fritz of the Homicide Squad, who is giving much information to the press. Since we now think it involves the Criminal Code on a conspiracy charge under Section 2-11, we want them to shut up. Furthermore, I have ordered the evidence be secured by the Police Department. We sent most of the evidence back to them. We still have the bullets that were fired and will keep them. U

The thing I am concerned about, and so is Mr. Katzenbach, is having something issued so we can convince the public that Oswald is the real assassin. Mr. Katzenbach thinks that the President might appoint a Presidential Commission of three outstanding citizens to make a determination. I countered with a suggestion that we make an investigative report to the Attorney General with pictures, laboratory work, etc. Then the Attorney General can make the report to the President and the President can decide whether to make it public. I felt this was better because there are several aspects which would complicate our foreign relations. U

*Ruby part of a
investigation
JEH*

[REDACTED]

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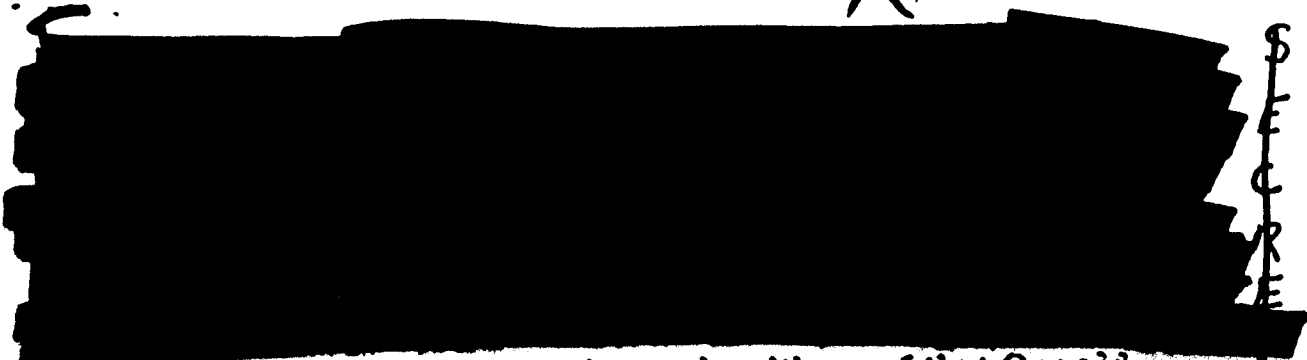
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And since this has nothing to do with proof that Oswald committed the murder, I made the suggestion to Mr. Katzenbach that instead of a Presidential Commission, we do it with a Justice Department report based on an FBI report.

Oswald having been killed today after our warnings to the Dallas Police Department, was inexcusable. It will allow, I am afraid, a lot of civil rights people to raise a lot of hell because he was handcuffed and had no weapon. There are bound to be some elements of our society who will holler their heads off that his civil rights were violated -- which they were. U

We have no information on Ruby that is firm, although there are some rumors of underworld activity in Chicago. Of his two night clubs, one is a strip tease joint and the other is a liquor place. U

WJ:yb

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September 1, 1978

Dr. Trudy H. Peterson
Assistant to the Deputy Archivist
National Archives and Records Services
Room 111
Washington, D. C.

- 1 - Mr. Bailey
- 1 - Mr. Ryan
- 1 - Mr. Foster

House Select Committee on Assassinations

Dear Dr. Peterson:

In response to your inquiry of August 29, 1978, and with reference to my letter of July 18, 1978, I have again reviewed the document identified as having been originated by Mr. Walter Jenkins for the President of the United States on November 24, 1963.

Please refer to the copy of the document previously furnished which was appropriately marked for classification. Additionally, please note the vertical line appearing in the left margin, next to the classified paragraph. As I previously advised, the language beginning with the words

[REDACTED] is of particular concern for the reasons stated. This language must remain classified and its 'Secret' classification is not negotiable. I have further taken the liberty of confirming this classification with the originator of a part of the protected language.

Accordingly, you may consider the first four sentences of the questioned paragraph on page 2 and the last sentence of the questioned paragraph on page 3 as unclassified.

Thank you for your continued interest and cooperation. Since Deputy Assistant Attorney General Robert L. Keuch is the Department of Justice official cognizant of matters relating to the House Select Committee on Assassinations, I am forwarding a copy of this response to him.

Very truly yours,

David Ryan
Security Officer

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OTHERWISE

NOT RECORDED

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Declassify on: OADR 5/11/87
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cc: p. Baugh, Attorney General
Attention: Mr. Robert L. Keuch
76 SEP 2

NR 1140

Dr. Trudy H. Peterson
Assistant to the Deputy Archivist
National Archives and Records Services

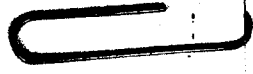
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NOTE: On 8-31-78 this matter was coordinated with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), who in turn coordinated with Scott D. Breckinridge, Principal Coordinator for the House Select Committee on Assassinations, Office of Legislation Council, CIA. [These gentlemen agreed that the language related to Mexico City must remain classified "Secret".] (S)(u)

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