

HOUSE SELECT
COMMITTEE
ON ASSASSINATIONS
(H.S.C.A.)

62-117290 SECTION #25

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

_____ Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

2 Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):
Material contained in this serial refers exclusively to the investigation of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

For your information: These pages are considered to be outside the scope of your request for JFK materials.

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Memorandum

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- Adm. Servs. _____
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- Director's Sec'y _____

TO : The Director

DATE: 9/18/79

FROM : Legal Counsel

SUBJECT: HEARINGS AND FINAL REPORT
SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
95TH CONGRESS

PURPOSE: To advise of receipt of captioned report and hearings concerning the assassinations of Martin Luther King, Jr., and President John F. Kennedy.

DETAILS: Legal Counsel Division (LCD), is in receipt of one copy of the Final Report of the former House Select Committee on Assassinations together with 13 volumes comprising hearings into the assassination of Dr. King and 12 volumes relating to President Kennedy. Additionally, LCD has received a set of two volumes of hearings published by the Select Committee which contain recommendations for legislative and administrative reform (Volume I) and an appendix (Volume II) which is a compilation of legal memoranda and documents pertaining to the Select Committee investigation.

It is noted the Criminal Investigative Division is presently conferring with the Department of Justice regarding Select Committee recommendations for additional investigations into the Kennedy and King matters.

LCD has placed purchase order with the Government Printing Office for an additional copy of the foregoing materials.

RECOMMENDATION:

Records Management Division will review the final report and hearings to determine the accuracy of corrections to materials previously submitted to FBIHQ by the Select Committee.

APPROVED:

[Signature]

[Signature]

Director _____
 Exec. AD-Adm. _____
 Exec. AD-Inv. _____
 Exec. AD-LES _____

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- 1 - Mr. Bruemmer
- 1 - Mr. Steel
- 1 - Mr. Bailey
- 1 - Mr. Mullen

- 1 - Mr. Mintz
- 2 - Mr. Moschella
- 1 - Mr. Taylor

OCT 10 1979

See Addendum, RMD, page 2. ||



BTH:ldr (9)
 OCT 10 1979

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Memorandum Legal Counsel to The Director
Re: Hearings and Final Report
Select Committee on Assassinations
U. S. House of Representatives
95th Congress

ADDENDUM RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION FXO:mjl 9/24/79

Records Management Division (RMD) concurs with the recommendation of Legal Counsel. In this regard, RMD also recommends that the review be undertaken by SA Drew J. Clark, currently serving as Supervisor, Washington Field Office. Clark is the most knowledgeable individual available concerning this matter and handled the final discussions with House Select Committee representatives prior to publication of the final report. SA Clark has been contacted and stated he could commence this review 10/1/79. SAC McKinnon, WFO, concurs in this recommendation.

APPROVED:	Adm. Serv. _____	Legal Coun. _____
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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

- 1 - Mr. Steel
- 1 - Mr. Colwell

Assoc. Dir. _____
 Dep. AD Adm. _____
 Dep. AD Inv. _____
 Asst. Dir.:

- Adm. Servs. _____
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- Public Affs. Off. _____
- Telephone Rm. _____
- Director's Sec'y _____

TO : Mr. Mullen *EMK*

DATE: 9/17/79

FROM : W. D. Gow *WDF*

- 1 - Mr. Bayse (Attn: Mr. Killian)
- 1 - Mr. Mintz (Attn: Mr. Moschella)
- 1 - Mr. Herndon (Attn: Mr. Richards)
- 1 - Mr. Mullen
- 1 - Mr. Ingram
- 1 - Mr. Gow
- 1 - Mr. Dennis
- 1 - Mr. Lawn

SUBJECT: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS - FINAL REPORT

WDF

Reference is made to a memorandum from Jack C. Lawn to Mr. Mullen, dated 9/7/79, captioned as above. *WDF*

PURPOSE: To advise of a request from Departmental Attorney Roger B. Cabbage, Criminal Division, that the FBI secure a particular film in connection with captioned matter.

RECOMMENDATION: None. For information.

WDF
GLP

APPROVED: *WDF*

Director _____	Adm. Serv. _____	Legal Coun. _____
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WDF

11/10

DETAILS: On 9/14/79, Departmental Attorney Roger B. Cabbage, Criminal Division, contacted Section Chief Jack C. Lawn, Civil Rights and Special Inquiry Section, asking that the FBI secure the "Charles L. Bronson" film for further examination as described in reference memorandum.

Cabbage was recontacted by SA Richard C. Dennis, Jr., Personal Crimes Unit. Cabbage advised film was in the possession of Dallas Attorneys, John Sigilos and Hal Levine, 1300 Republic National Bank Building, Dallas, Texas. He said he, Cabbage, had a letter from Congressman Stokes addressed to the Attorney General, indicating Sigilos was amenable to furnishing the film to the FBI for further examination. Cabbage stated that if there is any difficulty in obtaining the film, he should be notified.

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RCD:sjy (11)

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Memo Gow to Mr. Mullen
Re: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE
ON ASSASSINATIONS -
FINAL REPORT

On that same date, Udo Specht, Principle Legal Officer, Dallas Division, was apprised of the foregoing, and instructed to attempt to obtain the film as soon as possible in order that Section Chief W. Douglas Gow, who will be in Dallas on 9/17/79, would be able to bring the film back with him to Headquarters.

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 Telephone Rm. _____
 Director's Sec'y _____

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Bailey *wrf*

DATE: 10/3/79

FROM : D. J. Clark *djc*

6' Br...
7/24/79
#243
WJB

SUBJECT: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)
PARTIAL REVIEW OF PUBLISHED REPORT, HEARINGS
AND APPENDICES

mj

REFERENCES:

(1) Legal Counsel to Director memo of 9/18/79
 captioned "Hearings and Final Report, Select Committee on
 Assassinations, U. S. House of Representatives, 95th Congress."

(2) D. Ryan to Mr. Bailey memo of 6/20/79 captioned
 "House Select Committee on Assassinations, U. S. House of
 Representatives (HSCA)."

PURPOSE:

To record the results of a partial review of HSCA published material "to determine the accuracy of corrections to materials previously submitted to FBIHQ by the HSCA."

SYNOPSIS:

On 6/12/79 the FBI received approximately 4,463 pages of material which the HSCA intended to disclose (publish). The material was furnished in accordance with the 10/5/77 Memorandum of Understanding (MU) between the Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Committee. The material was reviewed by the FBI in order to identify items of information, the categories of which might constitute permissible objections to disclosure of same under the MU. On 6/15/79 the objectionable items of information were discussed with former HSCA Chief Counsel G. Robert Blakey, who agreed to make certain modifications or corrections to resolve the objections. He declined to do so in two instances wherein

- 1 - Mr. Bruemmer
- 1 - Mr. Steel
- 1 - Mr. Boynton
- 1 - Mr. Bailey

- 1 - Mr. Mintz
- 2 - Mr. Mullen
- (1 - Mr. Lawn; 1 - Mr. Gow)
- 1 - Mr. Moschella

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Memorandum D. J. Clark to Mr. Bailey
 Re: House Select Committee on Assassinations

the items of information did not qualify as permissible objections under the MU. The current, partial review of the published HSCA material has been conducted to confirm that the HSCA executed the modifications or corrections agreed to by Blakey. The review discloses that all modifications or corrections were executed as agreed, some with minor variations, and therefore all permissible objections are effectively resolved. The two items Blakey declined to modify were not modified and neither qualify as a permissible objection under the MU.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

efm. *JOT* *WBR* *MDF* *WLB* *FDB*

APPROVED	Adm. Serv. _____	Legal Coun. _____
Director _____	Crim. Inv. _____	Plan. & Insp. _____
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Exec. AD-LES _____	Laboratory _____	Training _____
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JCF

DETAILS:

WARNING: SHOULD THIS DOCUMENT OR REFERENCE (2) BE PROCESSED FOR PRODUCTION UNDER FOI-PA, PARTICULAR CARE SHOULD BE EXERCISED TO EXCLUDE "ORIGINAL LANGUAGE" OF THE HSCA WHICH TENDS TO COMPROMISE FBI SOURCES OR SENSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS.

Reference (2) recorded the details of the FBI's review of material furnished by the captioned Committee in accordance with the 10/5/77 MU between the DOJ and the HSCA. That review, involving approximately 4,463 pages, commenced 6/12/79 and concluded 6/15/79 at which time items of information to be disclosed by the HSCA, the categories of which qualified as permissible objections under the MU or factual errors, were discussed with HSCA former Chief Counsel G. Robert Blakey. On 6/15/79 Blakey agreed to accept alternative language for all items which qualified as permissible objections under the MU. The items of information which he declined to modify did not qualify as permissible objections.

Memorandum D. J. Clark to Mr. Bailey
Re: House Select Committee on Assassinations

The current FBI review by Supervisor Drew J. Clark, just concluded, was undertaken to confirm that the HSCA did in fact make certain modifications or corrections to those items of information as agreed to on 6/15/79.

The results of the review are as follows:

RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY (JFK)

ITEM (1):

Original Language: "...The FBI did attempt to alleviate the 'problems.' In a report dated September 26, it produced the story of Loran Eugene Hall who claimed he had been in Dallas in September, 1963..."

FBI Objection: To say "produced the story" tends to connote a fabrication which is not the case according to Bureau files.

Published Language: "...The FBI did attempt to alleviate the "problems." In a report dated September 26, it reported the interview of Loran Eugene Hall who claimed he had been in Dallas in September 1963,..." (Report, page 138, paragraph 3)

Note: The substantive objection is removed by the published language.

ITEM (2):

Original Language: "...Third, shortly after the assassination, Dallas FBI Agent Hosty destroyed a note that had been delivered to his office allegedly by Oswald, shortly before the assassination. When that conduct was finally made public in 1975, it aroused great suspicions, especially since it had been previously revealed, even to the Warren Commission..."

FBI Objection: Bureau files disclose this information had not been disseminated to the Warren Commission because it was not known at FBIHQ in 1963 and 1964. It did not come to the attention of FBIHQ until 1975.

Memorandum D. J. Clark to Mr. Bailey
Re: House Select Committee on Assassinations

Published Language: "...When that conduct was finally made public in 1975 it aroused great suspicions, especially since it had not been previously revealed, even to the Warren Commission..." (Report, page 185, paragraph 5)

Note: The substantive objection is removed by the published language.

ITEM (3):

Original Language: "...approximately 2 or 3 weeks before the assassination of President Kennedy, Oswald allegedly delivered a note addressed to Hosty at the FBI office in Dallas... Between 1963 and 1975, the existence of the note and its destruction were kept secret within the Bureau..."

FBI Objection: Such language connotes an institutional cover-up of the information. This directly opposes a correct interpretation of the recorded facts which indicate the secret was kept only in the Dallas Office by certain individuals, including SA Hosty, until 1975.

Published Language: "...Between 1963 and 1975, the existence of the note and its destruction were kept secret by the Dallas FBI Office..." (Report, page 195, paragraph 3)

Note: Although the FBI recommended that the language state "...kept secret within the Dallas Office..." and while the HSCA saw fit to change the language to "...kept secret by the Dallas FBI Office..." it is felt that the substantive objection is removed by the published language.

It should be noted that "within" was sought in lieu of "by" so as to preclude the misconception that the entire Dallas Office, as an entity, was involved in or partook of the "cover-up," since the facts or testimony to date reveal that personal knowledge of the note was limited to several persons and not disseminated to the entire Dallas Office.

Memorandum D. J. Clark to Mr. Bailey
Re: House Select Committee on Assassinations

ITEM (4):

The published Report corrects a previous lapse in continuity occasioned by the misnumbering of original pages 263 and 264. Continuity is established on page 471 of the published Report.

ITEM (5):

The J. H. Gale to Mr. Tolson memoranda of 12/10/63 and 9/30/64 (HSCA JFK Exhibits F460 and F461) are published in HSCA Hearings, JFK Volume III, pages 514 and following and 531 and following, respectively. The memoranda are published with excisions to eliminate the names of Agents who were disciplined and some third agency information. The excisions appear to have originated at FBIHQ prior to delivery of the documents to the HSCA. While SA Hosty's name does appear on page 535 and the names of Lundquist and Hoeg appear on page 523, these appear to have resulted from excising decisions made at FBIHQ and not through omissions by the HSCA.

The 12/10/63 memorandum, beginning on page 514 of JFK Volume III, is marked "Secret." Although that classification may have been valid when the document was originally classified, it has since been determined that the document is not now classifiable because the information it sought to protect has found its way into the public forum via other channels, including Book V, The Final Report of the Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities, U. S. Senate (published April, 1976).

ITEM (6):

Original Language: JFK Appendix, Volume XI, speaks of the FBI's surveillance of Marina Oswald from 2/29/64 to 3/12/64 and states, "...No indication was found that the Warren Commission staff members were ever informed of the FBI's electronic surveillance of Marina Oswald..."

Memorandum D. J. Clark to Mr. Bailey
Re: House Select Committee on Assassinations

FBI Objection: The above language connotes a Sub Rosa operation by the FBI when, in fact, the surveillance (physical and technical) was instituted following a request of the Commission, which was furnished the results of the surveillance. The Attorney General's Office approved the telephone surveillance. (See Bureau file 105-126032-66 and following.)

Published Language: "...Nevertheless, the committee learned that the results of the surveillance which was in fact requested by the Commission, were given to the Commission and senior staff members..." (JFK Appendix, Volume XI, page 66, paragraph 248)

Note: The substantive objection is removed by the published language.

ITEM (7):

Published Language: Page 422, JFK Appendix, Volume XII, sets forth the Committee's interview (testimony) of Marina Oswald Porter, wherein the following question is asked of her by Committee Counsel: "...Q. You stated on one occasion you saw Lee discuss with Mr. Hosty outside the house for at least one-half an hour information, have a discussion that lasted at least one-half hour. What could have been discussed for that length of time if Lee was not giving information to Mr. Hosty?..."

FBI Objection: Bureau files record that Oswald was not interviewed by Hosty until after Oswald's arrest by the Dallas PD on 11/22/63.

Note: The objection cannot be removed since HSCA former Chief Counsel Blakey has previously advised that the Committee Counsel's question, above, constitutes an unfortunate error that cannot be corrected since it is a part of the HSCA's official, recorded interview of Marina Oswald Porter.

ITEM (8):

Original Language: Page 589, JFK Appendix, Volume IX, paragraph 1123, set forth information received from FBI sources with objectionable specificity.

Memorandum D. J. Clark to Mr. Bailey
Re: House Select Committee on Assassinations

FBI Objection: The specificity of the information tended to compromise FBI sources.

Published Language: Page 589, supra, now states "...The FBI learned that the July 26 Movement was planning a raid on Cuba from Texas. In connection with this raid, armaments shipments were sent to McKeown. (1704)..."

Note: The substantive objection is removed by the published language which sets forth the identical wording recommended by the FBI.

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Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

Material contained in this serial refers exclusively to the investigation of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

For your information: These pages are considered to be outside the scope of your request for JFK materials.

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Memorandum

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 Asst. Dir.:
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 Telephone Rm. _____
 Director's Sec'y _____

TO : Mr. Cochran *cc*

DATE: 2/26/79

FROM : W. D. Campbell *WDC*

SUBJECT: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE
ON ASSASSINATIONS
95TH CONGRESS

REFERENCE:

1. Memorandum from Legal Counsel to the Director dated 1/9/79, captioned as above.
2. Memorandum from W. D. Campbell to Mr. Cochran, dated 1/11/79, captioned "Testimony of Acoustics Experts Before The House Select Committee On Assassinations."

PURPOSE:

To set forth the results of the Engineering Section review of the "Summary of Findings and Recommendations," of the House Select Committee on Assassinations.

SYNOPSIS:

"The Summary of Findings and Recommendations" of the House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA) has been reviewed by the Engineering Section and comments are set forth. Comments of the Engineering Section relate to findings and recommendations of the HSCA concerning the scientific acoustical evidence; (1) that in the opinion of Committee-retained experts, there was a high probability that two gunmen fired at President John F. Kennedy, (2) that the Department of Justice should ensure it takes full advantage of advances in science and technology, (3) that a study of the theory and application of the principles of acoustics to forensic questions be conducted by the National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice and the National Science Foundation.

- 1 - Mr. Herndon
- 1 - Mr. Mintz
- 1 - Mr. Cochran
- 1 - Mr. Campbell
- 1 - Mr. Killian
- 1 - Mr. Reames

1 - Mr. Bassett

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Memorandum W. D. Campbell to Mr. Cochran
 RE: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE
 ON ASSASSINATIONS,
 95TH CONGRESS

The Engineering Section is of the opinion that the forensic community would not significantly benefit from the research study in forensic acoustics as proposed by the Committee. A research study would be necessary to properly address the kinds of technical acoustic issues raised in the analysis of the alleged Kennedy assassination recording, however, a study should not be conducted under the auspices of the National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice or the National Science Foundation or any other similar organization not directly involved in forensic acoustic evidence. Instead, this study should be undertaken and coordinated by a major forensic laboratory having extensive experience in analysis of acoustic evidence. An estimation of the resources required should the FBI, specifically the Technical Services Division, be tasked to conduct the proposed study, is set forth.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

WDC
SAK

APPROVED *WDC*

Director	Adm. Serv.	Legal Coun.
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DETAILS:

The "Summary of Findings and Recommendations" of the House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA) has been reviewed by the Engineering Section. Engineering Section comments relating to the findings and recommendations concerning the acoustic analysis of a dictabelt recording, are based only on the oral testimony offered in public hearings on September 11, and December 29, 1978. The Engineering Section does not presently possess written reports or raw data pertaining to these acoustical analyses.

Memorandum W. D. Campbell to Mr. Cochran
RE: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE
ON ASSASSINATIONS,
95TH CONGRESS

Finding I.B. of "The Summary of Findings And
Recommendations" of the HSCA states:

Scientific acoustical evidence establishes a high probability that two gunmen fired at President John F. Kennedy. Other scientific evidence does not preclude the possibility of two gunmen firing at the President. Scientific evidence negates some specific conspiracy allegations.

As set forth in detail in referenced memorandum W. D. Campbell to Mr. Cochran, dated 1/11/79, acoustic experts, Mr. Weiss and Mr. Aschkenasy, testified before the Committee that with a certainty of 95% or better the third sound on the alleged Dealy Plaza recording was a rifle shot and that it originated from a specific point on the "grassy knoll." Dr. Barger of Bolt, Beranek, and Newman, Inc., later testified that he agreed with the assertion of Mr. Weiss that a third sound originated from the grassy knoll, but Dr. Barger could only ascribe an approximately 78% certainty that the sound was a rifle shot. Although it may be argumentative, none of the experts could state with any degree of certainty that the shot was specifically aimed at the President, just that it was fired in the general direction of the motorcade.

Stating "Other scientific evidence does not preclude the possibility of two gunmen firing at the President," implies that other scientific evidence exists, but does not indicate the relevance of this evidence to the issue of the two gunmen. It is conjectured that the meaning of this statement is that the Committee has concluded that two gunmen fired at the President and the previous scientific examinations, for example, firearms, pathology, etc. conducted by the FBI and others do not contradict this conclusion. It is noted, however, that they do not support this conclusion.

Memorandum W. D. Campbell to Mr. Cochran
RE: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE
ON ASSASSINATIONS,
95TH CONGRESS

The Committee states "Scientific evidence negates some specific conspiracy allegations."

In the approximately 15 years since the assassination, theories have been proposed by various individuals claiming the existence of other gunmen firing at the President from various locations from within Dealy Plaza. The results of the tests performed on the dictabelt recording, in the conclusion of the analysts, indicate a shot being fired from the grassy knoll and others fired from the School Book Depository Building. This conclusion, if valid, eliminates a shot having occurred from any other location.

Finding I.C. of "The Summary of Findings and Recommendations" of the HSCA states:

The Committee believes, on the basis of the evidence available to it, that President John F. Kennedy was probably assassinated as a result of a conspiracy. The Committee is unable to identify the other gunman or the extent of the conspiracy.

It is believed the Committee draws the above conclusion primarily from the scientific analysis of the acoustic events recorded on the dictabelt recording. A detailed discussion of the scientific tests performed which led to this belief may be found in referenced W.D. Campbell to Mr. Cochran memorandum, dated 1/11/79.

Recommendation II.B. of "The Summary of Findings and Recommendations" of the HSCA states:

II. Administrative Recommendations Executive

The Department of Justice should re-examine its contingency plans for the handling of assassinations and federally cognizable

Memorandum W. D. Campbell to Mr. Cochran
RE: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE
ON ASSASSINATIONS,
95TH CONGRESS

homicides in light of the record and findings of the Committee. Such an examination should consider the following issues.

B. Insuring that its response takes full advantage of the advances of science and technology, and determining when it should secure independent panels of scientists to review or perform necessary scientific tasks, or secure qualified independent forensic pathologists to perform a forensic autopsy.

The Engineering Section comments regarding Recommendation II. B are offered from the viewpoint of the science and technology of acoustics and related engineering disciplines as they are used to examine evidence.

It is the opinion of the Engineering Section that Recommendation II.B as set forth by the HSCA is not fully appreciative of the tedious and often lengthy process by which advances in science and technology evolve into legally acceptable forensic techniques. The Engineering Section's experiences in other areas of acoustic analysis and audio signal processing indicate that many of these scientific advances do not directly apply to the forensic situation and, therefore, they must go through a period of modification, testing, and evaluation before they can be routinely used by a forensic laboratory. In acoustics as with many other forensic disciplines, this technology can often come from unsuspected areas. For example, the very sophisticated analytical equipment used by the FBI in audio magnetic tape enhancement originally was developed in industry to study mechanical vibration modes in machinery such as gas turbines.

Memorandum W. D. Campbell to Mr. Cochran
RE: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE
ON ASSASSINATIONS,
95TH CONGRESS

Since "advances in science and technology" are constantly occurring, the only way the FBI can reasonably assure continued compliance with Recommendation II. B is by instituting formal, continuing efforts to explore the relevant sciences and engineering disciplines, evaluate their applicability and modify and adopt their technology. Further, there is the problem of accomplishing these efforts, which are essentially research in nature, while simultaneously meeting the on-going activities that cannot be ignored. In light of the current ranking of FBI priorities and severe personnel restrictions placed upon the Engineering Section, the Government will have no alternative to contracting out certain high technology, time-consuming examinations and related tasks.

[REDACTED]

(b)(2)

We acknowledge and support the suggestion that outside resources be solicited when required, but only when an in-house capability does not exist or cannot be developed in a reasonable period of time. However, it should be left to the discretion of the FBI to make the determination that outside resources are required for certain tasks. Also we can envision that outside contracts can become quite expensive, requiring realignment of significant financial resources which otherwise would have supported necessary technical activities in the field.

Memorandum W. D. Campbell to Mr. Cochran
RE: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE
ON ASSASSINATIONS,
95TH CONGRESS

Recommendation IV.B. of "The Summary of Findings and Recommendations" of the HSCA states:

The National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice of the Department of Justice and the National Science Foundation should make a study of the theory and application of the principles of acoustics to forensic questions, using the materials available in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy as a case study.

Very little foundation has been laid regarding the kinds of acoustic tests that are meaningful and should be conducted in a forensic situation. This has been pointed out in detail in referenced memorandum W. D. Campbell to Mr. Cochran. It is apparent that the analysis of the JFK assassination will not be the last time these examination techniques will be needed. Increasingly, there will be live, on-the-scene media coverage involving motion pictures, television, and audio recordings of newsworthy events. In future incidents it is expected that recordings will be subjected to forensic examinations to resolve similar questions, such as, the direction of a shot, the number of shots, who fired first, the kind of weapon fired, etc.

The Engineering Section does not agree that funding research on forensic examination techniques through the National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice or the National Science Foundation or any similar organization is necessarily the best method to transmit knowledge and expertise to the forensic community. We have witnessed, first hand, through the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors the miserably poor record of National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice support of the forensic science community.


Memorandum W. D. Campbell to Mr. Cochran
RE: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE
ON ASSASSINATIONS,
95TH CONGRESS

Two problems are seen: (1) a nonforensic organization does not possess the thorough exposure to evidentiary material with all its variations that a forensic laboratory commonly encounters, (2) the experience gained in applying the analytical techniques remains with the experimenters. The question is raised that once the research has been done and the report has been issued, who is left to perform future examinations?

The organization that conducts a relevant and meaningful study of the theory and application of principles of acoustics to these forensic questions needs expertise in acoustics, physics, geometry, ballistics, firearms, audio and video recording techniques and radio transmission path theory. In addition to these diverse areas of expertise, the examining organization must have extensive experience in analyzing and resolving forensic problems in the practical, real world as opposed to a sterile laboratory environment. The only facilities possessing all these capabilities are those of the FBI. A much preferable approach from the standpoint of transferring this capability to the forensic community would be for the FBI to conduct this research study in-house and contract for those areas of technology which could be better explored outside the FBI. The direct benefits to the FBI might not be tangible for many years since, fortunately, incidents of the magnitude of a Kent State University shooting or a Presidential assassination occur rarely. However, the spinoff benefits gained from this research through improvements in our audio enhancement capabilities, our general signal analysis methods and improved knowledge in radio and audio propagation matters would be immediately realized in our daily forensic case examinations and other activities in the TSD.

(b)(2)

Memorandum W. D. Campbell to Mr. Cochran
RE: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE
ON ASSASSINATIONS,
95TH CONGRESS

 (b)(2)
We estimate that a complete and thorough analysis of the acoustic material obtained by the HSCA would take 1 1/2 years to complete, would consume 7 man-years of effort and would cost several hundred thousand dollars. A general "study of the theory and application of the principles of acoustics to forensic questions," as proposed by the Committee, would likely require twice the above-described commitment of time and resources.

ALTERNATIVES:

A) An orderly start towards implementing HSCA Recommendations II. B and IV. B could be made through the appropriate budget process. This could occur as enhancements of funding and personnel levels in the FY 1981 budget which is yet to be completed. It is envisioned that such a request would provide for sufficient manpower to 1) provide additional case examination depth thereby permitting transfer of cases to other examiners already on the staff should a special request occur, and 2) permit an active, continuing effort of acoustic research and technology application to meet forensic requirements. Implementing the above actions prior to FY 1981 would require reprogramming of existing budgeted resources at the expense of a considerable reduction in on-going Engineering Section activities in field technical equipment support. Whether implemented in the FY 1981 Budget or through FY 1980 reprogramming, approximately 1 1/2 years would be required to locate, train, and qualify suitable examiner personnel.

B) As an alternative to A) with regard to Recommendation II. B, the FBI could perform in-house only those examinations which are based upon techniques and methods which it has established. The FBI would contract

Memorandum W. D. Campbell to Mr. Cochran
RE: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE
ON ASSASSINATIONS,
95TH CONGRESS

for technical assistance, examination activities, and additional tasks in new areas of technology. Although feasible, this alternative is not desirable due to 1) time constraints that might be imposed due to investigative considerations, 2) difficulty in locating appropriate facilities with relevant capabilities that are willing to get involved in matters requiring expert testimony, 3) possible duplication of effort and attendant inefficiency among facilities and the FBI, 4) problems of "chain of custody" and potential damage to the evidence which might occur if handled by inexperienced personnel, 5) personnel requirements in the Engineering Section necessary to monitor the contracts and work activities of the outside facilities.

Regarding Recommendation IV. B, an alternative to A) would be for the FBI to pursue its present course and not initiate any new research efforts in the application of acoustics to forensic questions. We would attempt to extract as much useful information as possible from studies conducted by other organizations, assuming these studies are conducted.

Past experience with similar research conducted by outside facilities, for example the report of the analysis of the Kent State shooting, and the analysis of the "18 1/2 minute gap" in the Watergate Investigation, has shown that although these efforts provide useful information on new analysis concepts, they do not significantly improve the training and capabilities of FBI examiner personnel nor do they reduce the amount of time required for the FBI to conduct its analyses on a particular case. These improvements occur only through the experience gained in in-house participation in testing and research activities.

File Copy

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Ce

TO : Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

DATE: October 19, 1978

FROM : Director, FBI (62-¹¹⁷²⁹⁰~~205060~~)

ATTENTION: MR. ROBERT L. KEUCH

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

SUBJECT: ⁰ HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)

Reference is made to _____ memorandum dated _____
(your file _____).

There is enclosed ^{TWO COPIES OF A} ~~one copy of the report of Special Agent~~ letter _____
dated 9/20/78 at _____

(b)(6)

A. This covers the preliminary investigation and no further action concerning a full investigation will be taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs.

B. The investigation is continuing and you will be furnished copies of reports as they are received.

C. The investigation requested by you has now been completed. Unless advised to the contrary no further inquiries will be made by this Bureau.

D. Pursuant to instructions issued by the Department, no investigation will be conducted in this matter unless specifically directed by the Department.

E. Please advise whether you desire any further investigation.

F. This is submitted for your information and you will be advised of further developments.

G. This is submitted for your information and no further investigation will be conducted unless specifically requested by the Department.

H. This covers the receipt of a complaint and no further action will be taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs.

Enc. (2)

62-117290-
SEE NOTE PAGE TWO.

66 JUL 1980

NOT RECORDED
17 JUL 8 1980

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)

NOTE: The enclosed letter from [REDACTED] is being
furnished for your information. You are requested to
furnish a copy of same to the HSCA if deemed appropriate.

(b)(6)

October 16, 1978

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

(b)(6)

Reference is made to your letter dated September 20, 1978, together with enclosures.

I wish to advise that your fingerprints submitted with your letter under the name of [Redacted] were searched through our identification files and were found to be identical with the fingerprints of [Redacted]. The date and place of birth are given as [Redacted], at [Redacted].

Since this information was obtained from an arrest fingerprint card submitted to this Bureau, it cannot be considered as conclusive proof of birth data. I am enclosing form entitled "Establishment of Date of Birth in Connection with Civil Service Record" for possible assistance in this matter.

In view of your statement regarding the assassination of President Kennedy, I have taken the liberty of forwarding a copy of your letter, along with a copy of my reply, to the House Select Committee on Assassinations for any action they deem appropriate.

Your enclosures are returned.

Sincerely yours,

Robert E. Kent
Robert E. Kent
Assistant Director
Identification Division

Enclosures (3)

1 - Mr. John S. Giaquinto (Enclosure)
Room 8988, Division 4

For delivery to the House Select Committee on Assassinations.

62-117290-
1-2-78
1-3-78
1-4-78
1-5-78

62-117290 -

4 J. Kent

Sept 20, 1978

Federal Bureau of Investigation
U. S. Dept of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20535

Gentlemen:

I am sending you the enclosed
fingerprint cards to establish my
true identity. I am the daughter
of the late President Herbert Hoover
and his wife Lou Henry. There are
a few errors on the cards but I
thought it best not to alter them.

Item 12 should read [REDACTED]
Item 24 I thought this meant the
place I work. I had been finger-
printed before when I got a job
with the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] they constructed
the [REDACTED] building there

(b)(6)

62-117290

ENCLOSURE

2.

at the age of 3 weeks I was kidnapped from the Methodist Hospital in Brooklyn where I had been born. The woman who took me had been involved in the Lindbergh murder. Her boyfriend at that time did it and a former boyfriend built the ladder and was the man with the guttural German who picked up the ransom.

She took her hostility and frustration out on me and experienced much abuse. Naturally I had many traumatic losses of memory and had been a psychiatric patient for many years. I believe I have sufficiently recovered to be able to discuss these matters.

PSYCHIC 3

I am psychic and knew Lee Harvey Oswald, having learned at the assassination plot years before it happened. I found out that if President Kennedy was not killed his entire cabinet would be blown up in session and I discovered that such a thing was entirely possible. I knew I would not recover my memory about these things and myself until I was 46. For these details I cannot recall I suggest I be hypnotized by a doctor.

I am the #1 F.B.I. Agent having worked closely with the late Dr. Edgar Hoover for many years using Extra Sensory Perception. I was born ready to use it.

4

I was given the name [redacted]
[redacted] as a child and
continued to use it until
[redacted] when I became
the common-law wife
of [redacted] After
that I used the name [redacted]
[redacted]

(b)(6)

The man who engineered the
Kennedy assassination was a Dallas
millionaire, H L Hires. He had a
deep hatred of Joseph Kennedy.

I would appreciate your confirming
my identity so I can use my
real name

I would be glad to cooperate
with you in any way I can

Sincerely,

[redacted] (b)(6)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-117290-1457 PAGE 1

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

SIGALOS & LEVINE, P.C.
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW
1300 REPUBLIC NATIONAL BANK TOWER
DALLAS, TEXAS 75201
(214) 745-1751

March 28, 1980

JOHN L. SIGALOS
HAROLD LEVINE
ALFRED E. HALL

15 APR '80
ATTORNEY GENERAL

CABLE ADDRESS: SIGLEVPAV
TELEX 722528
WASHINGTON OFFICE
400 FIRST STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001

PATENT, TRADEMARK, COPYRIGHT
& UNFAIR COMPETITION CAUSES

Robert L. Keuch, Esq.
Special Counsel To The Attorney General
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C. 20530

Dear Mr. Keuch:

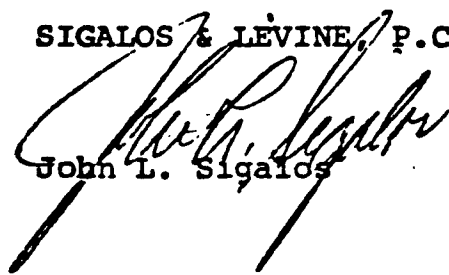
In response to your inquiry, our clients, Mr. Charles L. Bronson and Mr. Jack Daniel, are willing to release a copy of their respective films to the Department of Justice under terms and conditions previously agreed to by the Select Committee on Assassinations of the U. S. House of Representatives.

Enclosed is a copy of the letter directed to our firm by Mr. G. Robert Blakey, Chief Counsel of that Committee, setting forth the terms and conditions.

Kindly advise me if this procedure is agreeable to you and we can prepare and forward a suitable agreement.

Very truly yours,

SIGALOS & LEVINE, P.C.


John L. Sigalos

Enclosure
JLS/as
cc: Udo H. Specht

62-111290-1457

LEWIS BRUCE, CHIEF, CHAIRMAN
RICHARD P. POTTS, JR., D.C.
WALTER F. PARRIS, JR., D.C.
TUDOR W. BRATHWAITE, SENIOR, BALDWIN
CHARLES W. J. FORD, CONN.
CAROL E. FORD, VA. REP.
FLOYD J. PITMAN, IND.
ROBERT W. EDGAR, PA.
BARRY L. DEWITT, OHIO
STEWART B. SICKERT, CONN.
CHARLES THORNTON, NEW YORK
BAROLD S. SANDY, MICH.

Select Committee on Assassinations

U.S. House of Representatives

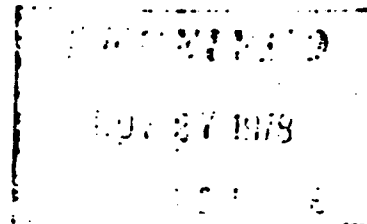
3031 HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING, ANNEX 2

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

(202) 225-2634

November 27, 1978

Sigalos & Levine
Attn: Hal Levine, Esq.
1300 Republic National
Bank Building
Dallas, Texas 75201



Dear Mr. Levine:

In connection with the investigation of the House Select Committee on Assassinations into the death of President John F. Kennedy, I am writing to confirm the understanding that was reached on this date between your firm, acting on behalf of your client, Charles L. Bronson, and Michael Goldsmith, Senior Staff Counsel, concerning the original movie film that was taken by Bronson of events in Dealey Plaza on the day of the assassination. In essence, my understanding is that your client will voluntarily release the film to the Committee so that it may be analyzed through the use of various image enhancement processes related to our investigative mandate under the provisions of House Resolutions 222 and 433, 95th Congress, 1st Session (copy attached). It is understood that the film will be used solely in connection with the investigative mandate referred to above, and for no other purpose; no copies of the film or any part thereof will be circulated, distributed or otherwise made available for viewing by any persons other than members of Congress, the Committee's staff, and duly authorized photographic analysts appointed by the Committee; all persons receiving copies shall be prohibited from making copies for any purpose other than the investigative mandate referred to above; and all copies shall be returned to and kept by the Committee. Any copies of the film retained by the Committee will be immune from public inquiry under the Freedom of Information Act. This Congressional immunity will continue to be operative after these copies are delivered to the National Archives once the Committee has terminated its existence.

The Committee will make certain that no use of the film or copies made or authorized by it, including materials derived therefrom, shall adversely affect the copyright of the copyright owner, Charles L. Bronson. All copies of the film will bear the following copyright notice: © Charles L. Bronson, 1978, all rights reserved. A similar notice will be attached to any materials derived from the film.

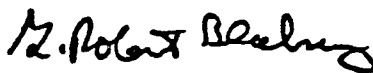
The film itself will be subjected to digital image processing at the facilities of one of the Committee's photographic contractors. You will be informed of which contractor will be doing the image enhancement analysis prior to the commencement of any work. The computer scanning process will take approximately one week, and the film will be returned to your possession immediately thereafter.

At any time that the film is in the actual possession of the Committee in our Washington, D. C. offices, it will be retained in our secure facilities. Any photographic contractor in possession of the film will likewise be required to take appropriate precautions in handling and storing the film.

Any work commissioned by the Committee will be regarded as work-for-hire within the meaning of the Copyright Act of 1976, Public Law 94-553, Oct. 1976, Title 17, U.S.C.

The Committee is very appreciative of the cooperative spirit that you have evinced with regard to this matter.

Sincerely,



G. Robert Blakey
Chief Counsel and Staff Director

Encl

- 1 - Mr. Greenleaf
- 1 - Mr. Strain
- Attn: Mr. Mones
- 1 - Mr. Creamer

May 13, 1980

Mr. Robert L. Keuch
Associate Deputy Attorney General

Director, FBI

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- 1 - Mr. Noblett
- 1 - Mr. Richards

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE
ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)-FINAL
REPORT

In response to your memorandum dated April 23, 1980, captioned "John F. Kennedy Assassination; Bronson, Daniel Films," it is the opinion of the FBI Laboratory that the technical conditions presented by the representatives for Mr. Bronson and Mr. Daniels, in particular the approximate one-week examination period of their films, could only be adequately answered by the contractors engaged to conduct the examinations. This is due to the many variables such as manpower, equipment availability, preliminary copy work, etc., that can only be ascertained by the contractors once the scope and limitations of the examinations are determined.

The conditions regarding restrictions on copies, reports, data, etc., resulting from these films, particularly as they apply to the owners' copyrights, are legal or contractual conditions to be addressed by the Department, the contractors and the owners of the film. These conditions have minimal bearing on the technical aspects of the examination.

It is the Bureau's position and one in which you concurred during a meeting of Department and Bureau officials held on September 6, 1979, that should additional scientific analysis be desired by the Department of Justice, such analysis should be handled independently of the FBI since the House Select Committee on Assassinations had concluded, in part, that "... the Federal Bureau of Investigation failed to investigate adequately the possibility of a conspiracy to assassinate the President."

In the opinion of the FBI Laboratory, its role regarding this examination should be as an observer. This posture will allow the Department to have a technical observer who has closely followed the examination of the evidence, to assist in evaluating the contractor's interim and final reports, and further allow the Laboratory to gain experience and expertise in this technical field without in any way biasing the objectivity of the examination. This experience would offset some of the Department's expenditure in the event the examination results are inconclusive.

MAILED 14
MAY 14 1980

62-117290-1458
MAY 21 1980

- Exec AD Inv. _____
- Exec AD Adm. _____
- Exec AD LES _____
- Asst. Dir.:
- Adm. Servs. _____
- Crim. Inv. _____
- Ident. _____
- Intell. _____
- Laboratory _____
- Legal Coun. _____
- Plan. & Insp. _____
- Rec. Mgnt. _____
- Tech. Servs. _____
- Training _____
- Public Affs. _____
- Telephone Rm. _____
- Director's Sec'y _____

JUN 18 1980
MAIL ROOM

NOTE: See memo Greenleaf to Joseph, 5/9/80, same caption, GBR:djt

- 1 - Mr. Joseph
- 1 - Mr. Mintz
- 1 - Mr. Drew Clark
- 1 - Mr. Joel Dean

APPROVED
3814
Director

- Adm. Serv. _____
- Crim. Inv. _____
- Legal Coun. _____
- Plan. & Insp. _____
- Rec. Mgnt. _____
- Tech. Servs. _____

Memorandum

Exec AD Inv. _____
 Exec AD Adm. _____
 Exec AD LES _____
 Asst. Dir.:
 Adm. Servs. _____
 Crim. Inv. _____
 Ident. _____
 Intell. _____
 Laboratory _____
 Legal Coun. _____
 Plan. & Insp. _____
 Rec. Mgnt. _____
 Tech. Servs. _____
 Training _____
 Public Affs. Off. _____
 Telephone Rm. _____
 Director's Sec'y _____

TO : Mr. Joseph *[Signature]*

1 - Mr. Greenleaf

DATE: 5-9-80

FROM : J.W. Greenleaf *[Signature]*

1 - Mr. Strain
Attn: Mr. Mones

SUBJECT: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE
ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)-FINAL
REPORT

1 - Mr. Creamer
1 - Mr. Noblett
1 - Mr. Richards

Richards
Rm 3218

REFERENCES:

Memoranda, Legal Counsel to Director dated 1/12/79; B.P. Herndon to McDermott dated 1/16/79; J.C. Lawn to Mullen dated 9/7/79; Robert L. Keuch, Associate Deputy Attorney General, to the Director dated 4/23/80 captioned "John F. Kennedy Assassination; Bronson, Daniel Films"; and meeting held 4/29/80 between Mr. Roger Cabbage and Mr. Jeffery Fogel, Criminal Division, Department of Justice; SA Joel Dean, Criminal Investigation Division; and SAs Michael G. Noblett and Gerald B. Richards, Laboratory Division.

PURPOSE:

To advise the Director of the Laboratory's views regarding the examination of the Bronson and Daniel films, and provide a reply to the referenced Keuch to Director memorandum dated 4/23/80.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. In view of our limited capability in the field of digital image enhancement and the fact that FBI conclusions could be considered self-serving, it is recommended that should the Department agree to examine the Bronson and Daniel films, they should be contracted to outside experts by the Department.

APPROVED: *[Signature]*

Adm. Serv. _____
Crim. Inv. *[Signature]*

Legal Coun. _____
Plan. & Insp. _____
Rec. Mgnt. _____
Tech. Servs. _____
Training _____
Public Affs. Off. _____

Director _____
Exec. AD-Inv. _____
Exec. AD-Adm. _____
Exec. AD-LES _____
Ident. _____
Intell. _____
Laboratory *[Signature]*

DE-21

62-117290-22 *1459*

15 MAY 1980

Enclosure - Sent 5/13/80
56
1 - Mr. Joseph
1 - Mr. Mintz
1 - Mr. Mullen
1 - Mr. Drew Clark, Rm. 3814
1 - Mr. Joel Dean

GBR:djt*
(11)

CONTINUED - OVER

10/1/80

SEVEN

MEMORANDUM TO MR. JOSEPH
 HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON
 ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)-FINAL REPORT

2. If the Department agrees to such an examination, an FBI Laboratory expert be permitted to serve as an observer on behalf of the Department and Bureau to further enhance the Laboratory's capability in the area of digital image enhancement, and to more effectively evaluate the contractor's final conclusions.

APPROVED: <i>WJW</i>	Adm. Serv. _____	Legal Coun. _____
Director _____	Crim. Inv. <i>WJW</i>	Plan. & Insp. _____
Exec. AD-Inv. _____	Ident. _____	Rec. Mgmt. _____
Exec. AD-Adm. _____	Intell. _____	Tech. Servs. _____
Exec. AD-LEG <i>WJW</i>	Laboratory <i>WJW</i>	Training _____
		Public Affs. Off. _____

3. The attached memorandum from the Director to Mr. Keuch be sent.

APPROVED: <i>WJW</i>	Adm. Serv. _____	Legal Coun. _____
Director _____	Crim. Inv. <i>WJW</i>	Plan. & Insp. _____
Exec. AD-Inv. _____	Ident. _____	Rec. Mgmt. _____
Exec. AD-Adm. _____	Intell. _____	Tech. Servs. _____
Exec. AD-LEG <i>WJW</i>	Laboratory <i>WJW</i>	Training _____
		Public Affs. Off. _____

DETAILS:

The Director received a memorandum from Mr. Robert L. Keuch, Associate Deputy Attorney General, dated 4/23/80, requesting that the FBI Laboratory review the conditions for release and examination of the Charles L. Bronson and Jack Daniel films taken of the Texas School Book Depository (TSBD) a few minutes before the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

The Laboratory maintains its previous position that in view of our limited capability in the field of digital image enhancement, the fact that FBI conclusions could be considered self-serving and the availability of extremely unique and sophisticated equipment and expertise at other facilities, the Laboratory should not be involved in the direct examination of this evidence. This attitude is further reflected in the Lawn to Mullen memorandum dated 9/7/79 wherein "Mr. Keuch concurred that should additional scientific analysis be desired by the Department of Justice, that such analysis should be handled independent of the FBI since the HSCA has concluded, in part, that (...the Federal Bureau of Investigation failed to investigate adequately the possibility of a conspiracy to assassinate the President.)"

MEMORANDUM TO MR. JOSEPH
HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON
ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)-FINAL REPORT

The only obvious benefit to the Bureau regarding the examination of these films, as perceived by the Laboratory, is the experience and analytical knowledge gained by observing the techniques used in the examination of this material with the goal in mind of possible direct application to the Bureau's own image processing efforts. This can be accomplished by permitting the Laboratory to have an observer monitor the examinations on behalf of the Department and the Bureau. This arrangement would allow the Department and Bureau to better analyze the results of the examination without any taint of bias or accusations of an incomplete examination. Furthermore, it would allow the Department to obtain some return on their expenditure in the event the examination results are inconclusive.

The conditions set for the release of the Bronson and Daniel films are in two general categories: a) distribution, circulation, viewing, marking and security of all copies, prints, reports, documentations, etc., resulting from the examination of the films, with particular attention to the copyrights of the owners of these films; and, b) processing of the film at one of the contractor facilities during an approximate one week period, with the owners of the films being notified of which contractor was selected prior to the commencement of any work.

It is the opinion of the Laboratory that neither of these issues should be formally addressed by the Laboratory, inasmuch as the first matter does not appear to be a technical concern as opposed to a legal or contractual concern. The second issue is dependent on numerous factors such as what type of examinations are to be conducted, how many contractors will be needed since it is unlikely one facility will have all the equipment and expertise necessary for a thorough examination, what are the staff and equipment limitations of the contractors, etc. Since the Laboratory's position is not to conduct the examination on these films we cannot properly respond to the above variables. These questions can only be answered by the contracted agencies.

During the referenced 4/29/80 meeting the most obvious options noted by Department personnel as to who would obtain the contractors and pay for the examination were: a) the Bureau would obtain the contractors and pay for the examination; b) the Bureau would obtain the contractors and the Department would pay for the examinations; c) the Department would

MEMORANDUM TO MR. JOSEPH
HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON
ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)-FINAL REPORT

obtain the contractors and pay for the examinations with the Bureau acting as an observer; and, d) the Department would obtain the contractors and Congress, through the acquisition of supplemental appropriations, would pay for the examinations, with the Bureau acting as an observer. It is the Laboratory's position that the latter two options are the only ones that should be acceptable to the Bureau.

Messrs. Cabbage and Fogel requested that the FBI comment as to the improbability of any new findings resulting from an analysis of these films. They were advised that any such negative assessment by the FBI would be inappropriate.

At this point in time it is roughly estimated by the Laboratory that it probably will cost in excess of \$100,000 to properly examine these films.

Memorandum

Exec AD Inv. _____
 Exec AD Adm. _____
 Exec AD LES _____
 Asst. Dir.:
 Adm. Servs. _____
 Crim. Inv. _____
 Ident. _____
 Intell. _____
 Laboratory _____
 Legal Coun. _____
 Plan. & Insp. _____
 Rec. Mgnt. _____
 Tech. Servs. _____
 Training _____
 Public Affs. Off. _____
 Telephone Rm. _____
 Director's Sec'y _____

TO : Mr. Mullen

DATE: 5/20/80

FROM : J. C. Lawn *JCL*

SUBJECT: SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PURPOSE: To furnish a copy of Congressman Louis Stokes' 3/26/79 letter to the Attorney General, concerning release of Departmental materials, prepared for the House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA) under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

RECOMMENDATIONS:

(1) That this memorandum and attached letter be furnished to Bufile 62-117290 (HSCA).

APPROVED:	Adm. Serv. _____	Legal Coun. _____
Director _____	Crim. Inv. <i>FM/ST</i>	Plan. & Insp. _____
Exec. AD-Inv. _____	Ident. _____	Rec. Mgnt. <i>WLB/12</i>
Exec. AD-Adm. _____	Intell. _____	Tech. Servs. _____
Exec. AD-LES _____	Laboratory _____	Training _____
		Public Affs. Off. _____

(Handwritten initials in a circle)

(2) That Records Management Division (RMD) review the attached letter for any action deemed appropriate by it.

APPROVED:	Adm. Serv. _____	Legal Coun. _____
Director _____	Crim. Inv. <i>FM/ST</i>	Plan. & Insp. _____
Exec. AD-Inv. _____	Ident. _____	Rec. Mgnt. <i>WLB/12</i>
Exec. AD-Adm. _____	Intell. _____	Tech. Servs. _____
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Enclosure

- DJC:bam (5) *bam*
- 1 - Mr. Mullen
 - 2 - Mr. Bailey
(ATTN: MR. BRESSON
MS. FRUITT)
 - 1 - Mr. Chadwick
 - 1 - Mr. Lawn

DETAILS - OVER

62-117210-1460

F-107-2B

17 MAY 23 1980

Memorandum from J. C. Lawn to Mr. Mullen
RE: SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

DETAILS: Contact with G. Robert Blakey, former Chief Counsel, HSCA, on 5/6/80, by SA Drew J. Clark, Criminal Investigative Division, concerning separate matters, raised the existence and applicability of an HSCA letter to the Attorney General, which claimed Congressional control of all Departmental and, therefore Bureau, materials prepared for HSCA as these materials may be subject to future FOIA requests.

Searches through logical Bureau files and records failed to locate such a letter. Contact was effected with Mr. Roger Cabbage, Department of Justice, which resulted in locating the attached letter on 5/20/80.

Since the letter was not previously retrievable from the HSCA Bufile, it is being recommended that it now be furnished to same and that it be reviewed by RMD for appropriate action.

XXXXXX
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

_____ Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

1 Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):
HSCA communication - outside the purview of the FOIA per
Court Order

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62- 117290- 1460 ENCLOSURE PAGE 1

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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- 1 - Mr. Revell
- 1 - Mr. Monroe
- 1 - Mr. Gilbert

August 1, 1980

Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

Director, FBI

- 1 - Mr. Dennis
- 1 - Mr. Dean

EUGENE HALE BRADING,
Also Known As: Jim Braden
JOHN F. KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

I am enclosing for your information a copy of a July 21, 1980, letter with enclosures which was received by our agency from Mr. Jim Braden. As you are aware, Mr. Braden has corresponded with both the Department of Justice and the FBI, on numerous past occasions concerning the divulgence of confidential House Select Committee on Assassinations information.

I have also enclosed a copy of our response to Mr. Braden.

Enclosures (6)

MAILED 15
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~~62-11603~~
~~AUG 1 1980~~

NOTE: Reply furnished by SA Joel Dean, Personal Crimes Unit, Criminal Investigative Division.

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[Signature]

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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Honorable Robert L. Keuch
Special Counsel to the
Attorney General
Director, FBI

USA

By: Francis M. Mullen, Jr., Acting Director

- 1 - Mr. Colwell
- 1 - Mr. Mullen
- 1 - Mr. Steel
- 1 - Mr. Revell
- 1 - Mr. Monroe
- 1 - Mr. Gilbert

November 25, 1980

- 1 - Mr. Dennis
- 1 - Mr. Dhan
- 1 - Mr. Bayse
- 1 - Mr. Clark
- 1 - Mr. Young

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION'S
REVIEW OF THE ACOUSTICAL REPORTS
PUBLISHED BY THE HOUSE SELECT
COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

In response to your memorandum of November 8, 1979, we have enclosed two copies of our Technical Services Division's review of the acoustical reports published by the House Select Committee on Assassinations.

We request that the U. S. Department of Justice consider making the appropriate notification to Chairman Louis Stokes, House Select Committee on Assassinations, prior to making any results of our review public.

Enclosures (2)

NOTE: By memorandum dated 11/8/79, Mr. Robert L. Keuch, Special Counsel to the Attorney General, requested that the FBI's Technical Services Division (TSD) review the acoustical reports published by the House Select Committee on Assassinations. The TSD had originally planned to complete their review by mid May, 1980.

Due to the experience being gained by the TSD in the field of forensic acoustics as a result of the GREENKIL investigation, the DOJ agreed to the review being completed by mid November, 1980.

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ENCLOSURE

REVIEW REQUESTED BY

THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

OF

THE ACOUSTICAL REPORTS PUBLISHED BY

THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

Review Prepared By The Technical Services Division
Federal Bureau of Investigation
November 19, 1980

69-11729 - 146

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ABBREVIATIONS USED IN REVIEW

BBN	Bolt Beranek and Newman, Inc.
The Committee	The House Select Committee on Assassinations
dB	Decibels
DPD	Dallas Police Department
ft	Feet
mph	Miles Per Hour
sec	Seconds
TSBD	Texas School Book Depository

I. THE FINDINGS OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION'S REVIEW OF THE ACOUSTICAL REPORTS PUBLISHED BY THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

1. The analyses of acoustical evidence by Bolt Beranek and Newman, Inc., Mark R. Weiss, and Ernest Aschkenasy did not scientifically prove that a gunshot was fired by a second gunman from the grassy knoll area of Dealey Plaza during the assassination of President Kennedy on November 22, 1963. Therefore, the House Select Committee on Assassination's finding that "scientific acoustical evidence establishes a high probability that two gunmen fired at President John F. Kennedy" is invalid.

2. The analyses of acoustical evidence by Bolt Beranek and Newman, Inc., Mark R. Weiss, and Ernest Aschkenasy did not scientifically prove that the Dictabelt recording of Channel 1 of the Dallas Police Department radio system contains the sounds of gunshots or any other sounds originating in Dealey Plaza during the assassination of President Kennedy on November 22, 1963.

II. SUMMARY OF BOLT BERANEK AND NEWMAN, INC., REPORT ENTITLED
"ANALYSIS OF RECORDED SOUNDS RELATING TO THE ASSASSINATION
OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY," DATED JANUARY 1979

In May, 1978, the House Select Committee on Assassinations (the Committee) asked Bolt Beranek and Newman, Incorporated, (BBN) to conduct an examination of several items of evidence involved in the assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy in Dealey Plaza, Dallas, Texas, on November 22, 1963. One of the items of evidence was a recording made on a Dictabelt recorder which had continuously recorded Dallas Police Department (DPD) radio traffic on channel 1 directly before, during, and after the assassination of President Kennedy. During the assassination the radio of a DPD motorcycle, that may have been in the Presidential motorcade, was thought to have been stuck in the transmitting mode for approximately five minutes. BBN was asked to analyze the recording to determine if it contained the sounds of gunfire, and if so, how many gunshots were recorded by the DPD Dictabelt recorder and from what locations did the gunshots originate.

BBN used a bandpass and a digital adaptive filter to process the DPD channel 1 recording during the specified five minutes, and then displayed this enhanced signal in the form of a time-continuous waveform. This waveform displayed five impulsive noise patterns thought to be different from motorcycle sounds, according to BBN, and then the report reflects that four of these patterns appeared to be "similar to the expected characteristics of a shock wave and of a muzzle blast" of a discharged weapon. The other pattern was eliminated as a possible gunshot, according to the report, since it "was sufficiently different in amplitude and duration as to have been caused by a different source."

The BBN report states that a discharge from a rifle firing a supersonic bullet creates two sources of impulsive sound - the muzzle blast and the shock wave of the projectile as it travels faster than the speed of sound. These two sounds plus the proceeding echoes of these sounds reflecting and diffracting off surfaces, such as the sides of buildings, the ground, and automobiles, result in a particular echo pattern of sound impulses.

If a gunshot had been sensed by a DPD motorcycle microphone then "all sound impulses arriving at the [DPD motorcycle] microphone that are loud enough to be heard over the environmental noise would be transmitted over the radio connected to the microphone. In this case, the environmental noise consisted primarily of the very loud, repetitive noise made by the engine of a moving motorcycle..."

"The loudest sound impulses from gunfire are considerably louder than the loudness of speech, for which the [DPD] radio was designed to operate. These loud impulses overdrive the radio circuitry. Because of the limiting circuits in the radio transmitter, very loud sounds are recorded in distorted fashion and appear as much weaker signals than they really are..."

"After the sounds that are picked up at the microphone had been transmitted to the DPD radio receiver, the output of the receiver was recorded on a Dictabelt recorder. The circuitry of the receiver and the characteristics of the recorder also affected the transmitted signals. The recorded loudness of the sounds transmitted from the motorcycle radio with the stuck microphone were additionally affected somewhat by simultaneous transmissions from other officers in the motorcade. An FM radio receiver, such as the one in DPD headquarters, receives best from the transmitting radio having the strongest transmitted signal..."

"Thus, the effects of severe environmental noise, of the limiting circuitry of the radio transmitter, of simultaneous radio transmissions, and of the recording characteristics of a Dictabelt recorder were such that any waveforms that would emerge from an analysis of the tape would be severely distorted."

Tests performed by BBN on a radio system similar to that used by the DPD and depicted in Figure 10 of the BBN report showed considerable distortion of loud impulsive sounds, such as gunshots, which resulted in elimination of impulse peaks, changing the position of peaks, and even producing new peaks where no impulse peaks previously existed.

Preliminary tests by BBN determined that the four chosen impulse patterns occurred at approximately the same time as the known gunshots in Dealey Plaza, that no other sufficiently characteristic patterns were located in the pertinent five-minute segment, that the time span between the first and fourth patterns did not contradict photographic evidence concerning the timing of the first and last gunshots, that the distorted patterns approximated test patterns of gunshots, and that the amplitudes of the impulse patterns were in the same range as test gunshots.

On August 20, 1978, BBN fired a total of 12 test gunshots with weapons located only in the Texas School Book Depository (TSBD) and on the grassy knoll area in Dealey Plaza. Using 36 microphones located 18 feet apart on Houston and Elm Streets in Dealey Plaza, BBN recorded these test gunshot blasts in an effort to reconstruct acoustically the impulse patterns recorded by the DPD radio system during the assassination of President Kennedy. Even though few physical changes had been made in Dealey Plaza since 1963, producing comparable test patterns was very difficult since the impulse patterns on the DPD recording were like "badly smudged 'fingerprints'," due to the noisy environment in the vicinity of the transmitting DPD radio microphone, the poor quality of the DPD recording system, and a number of other problems.

Using the 12 different test gunshots from the TSBD and the grassy knoll and the 36 different microphone locations used by BBN, a total of 432 gunshot patterns were recorded (12x36=432). These 432 test gunshot patterns were then compared to the impulse patterns isolated on the channel 1 DPD recording using the statistical analysis technique of binary correlation. "The binary correlation coefficient of two sequences is a number that is exactly 1.0 if the sequences are identical and that rapidly approaches zero as they grow more dissimilar." This comparison provided a total of 15 matches with a correlation coefficient equal to or exceeding 0.6; however, the expected average number of false matches for such a comparison was 13, due to random noise impulses present throughout the DPD tape.

BBN then stated that at least six of the 15 correlations were false matches, because one gunshot would have been fired at the wrong target, one would have occurred only 1.05 seconds after earlier correlations which is too fast a firing rate for the tested rifle, three would have required a motorcycle with the open microphone to travel at 16 mph, and one would have required the motorcycle to travel at 55 mph. The motorcade was thought to have been traveling at approximately 11 mph. The remaining nine correlations sufficiently matched the four designated impulse patterns on the DPD recording to show a DPD microphone location varying between 120 and 160 feet behind the Presidential limousine. Further, the BBN analysis found that the four impulse patterns may have been gunshots fired as follows:

- "1. time 0.0 sec - one shot from the [TSBD] . . . "
- "2. time 1.6 sec - one shot from the TSBD . . . "
- "3. time 7.8 sec - one shot from behind the fence on the knoll . . . "
- "4. time 8.3 sec - one shot from the TSBD . . . "

The BBN conclusions were presented in oral testimony to the Committee on September 11, 1978, reflecting that the radio on a DPD motorcycle in the Presidential motorcade had received and transmitted the four specified impulse sounds, and that each of these impulse sounds was possibly a gunshot. Due to the false matches produced by the binary correlation detector at a "50%" rate per match, the probabilities, according to BBN, that a gunshot occurred at the four times are:

- "Shot 1. 88% based on three matches
- Shot 2. 88% based on three matches
- Shot 3. 50% based on one match
- Shot 4. 75% based on two matches."

BBN stated that the probability that all four gunshots occurred is only 29%.

The final findings of the BBN analysis, which also includes a review of the work of Weiss and Aschkenasy (summarized in Section III) are:

1. The impulse patterns on channel 1 of the DPD radio system recording probably include the sounds of four gunshots fired in Dealey Plaza on November 22, 1963.
2. The impulse patterns were received and transmitted by a radio mounted on a DPD motorcycle in the Presidential motorcade and the motorcycle was located from 120 to 160 feet behind the Presidential limousine.
3. "The first probable shot was fired at about 12:30:47 from the TSBD . . . [but] no conclusion can be drawn about whether this first acoustic disturbance was due to a rifle or to a sound impulse as loud as the report of a rifle . . ."
4. "The second probable shot was fired about 1.6 sec after the first one, also from the TSBD . . ."
5. "The third probable shot was fired about 7.6 sec after the first one, and it was fired from behind the fence upon the 'grassy knoll' . . . [and] the third shot is probably from a rifle."
6. "The fourth probable shot was fired about 8.3 sec after the first one, and it was fired from the TSBD . . . [and] the fourth shot is probably from a rifle."
7. "Additional police radio transmissions are intermittently recorded on the tape during and after the last two probable shots. These transmissions contribute a few electrical impulses to the noise background in which the impulses of gunfire are set. However, these noise impulses are too few in number to have a material effect on the accuracy by which the echo patterns of the acoustical reconstruction match the impulse patterns on the DPD tape."

III. SUMMARY OF MR. MARK R. WEISS AND MR. ERNEST ASCHKENASY'S REPORT ENTITLED "AN ANALYSIS OF RECORDED SOUNDS RELATING TO THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY," DATED FEBRUARY 1979

On October 24, 1978, the Committee authorized Mark R. Weiss and Ernest Aschkenasy, Department of Computer Science, Queens College, City University of New York, to conduct an independent analysis of specified sounds recorded on channel 1 of the DPD radio system. The purpose of the analysis was to determine with greater accuracy whether certain sounds on the DPD recording were indicative of a gunshot from the grassy knoll in Dealey Plaza, Dallas, Texas, on November 22, 1963, during the assassination of President Kennedy. The BBN report (summarized in Section II) had reflected "that, with a probability of 50 percent, the recording contains sounds of a gunshot, or at least sounds as loud as a gunshot, fired from the so-called grassy knoll area of Dealey Plaza in Dallas; they were received by a microphone on a DPD motorcycle that was moving on Elm Street at a speed of about 11 mph in the same direction as the Presidential motorcade."

To conduct their analysis, Weiss and Aschkenasy received from the Committee high quality magnetic tape copies of the DPD recording, a high quality tape copy of the gunshot sounds recorded by BBN during the acoustical reconstruction tests performed in Dealey Plaza on August 20, 1978, a topographical survey map of Dealey Plaza (scale: 1 inch to 10 feet), a map of Dealey Plaza (scale: 1 inch to 40 feet) with microphone locations used by BBN in their gunshot reconstruction tests, and aerial and ground-level photographs of Dealey Plaza and the surrounding areas. The Committee also provided them with additional information "such as the heights of buildings in Dealey Plaza, the distance to objects not shown on the maps, the location of the DPD shooter during the BBN reconstruction experiment and the air temperature in Dealey Plaza at the time of the assassination and during the reconstruction experiment."

Weiss and Aschkenasy's report reflects that during the assassination of President Kennedy the radio of a DPD motorcycle, that may have been in the Presidential motorcade, was thought to have been stuck in the transmitting mode for approximately five minutes. During this five-minute interval, staticlike sounds that might be distorted gunshots were heard, including the impulse pattern that BBN had identified as having a 50% probability of being a gunshot or an equally loud sound in the area of the grassy knoll in Dealey Plaza. Weiss and Aschkenasy attempted to determine whether these staticlike sounds represented a gunshot sound and not another type of loud sound, whether the origin of these sounds could be more precisely located on the map, and whether a higher probability value could be computed.

Their report states that "the DPD recording [being examined] contains a wide range of sounds - speech, clicks, whistles, motor noises, sirens, and even the sound of a carillon bell. Mostly the recording contains sounds generated during normal communications on channel 1 of the DPD radio dispatching system . . . At the time that the BBN analysis estimates to have been about 12:28 p.m., a microphone on a mobile unit apparently became stuck in the 'on' position and began to transmit a continuous noise that is believed to be the sound of a motorcycle engine."

Weiss and Aschkenasy state that the staticlike sounds on the DPD recording could be distorted gunshot sounds, since the DPD radio system would have "...compress[ed] the peak amplitude of the sounds of the muzzle blast and of its strongest echoes, making them only slightly louder than those of some of the weaker echoes. Furthermore, if the microphone was on a DPD motorcycle in the motorcade, most of the many very weak echoes of the muzzle blast would have been obscured by the noise of the motorcycle engine (which is possibly the source of the continuous noise on the DPD recording). Consequently, the sounds of a gunshot would have been recorded as a sequence of very brief impulse sounds (the muzzle blast and its loudest echoes), only a few of which would have been larger than the accompanying engine noise, and none of which would have sounded to the ear like gunshots after being distorted by the limiting circuitry of the DPD radio and recording equipment."

The report states that the higher impulse sounds on the DPD recording could be generated by a number of sources including misfiring of a motorcycle engine, noise produced by the motorcycle's ignition system, radio on-and-off clicks, scratches on the Dictabelt and electrical or mechanical disturbances in the system. Weiss and Aschkenasy, in an effort to differentiate these sounds from a gunshot, stated that "the most effective and most reliable" characteristic to determine if a sound is a gunshot is the presence or absence of an array of echo-delay times of the muzzle blast. This array is produced since firing a gun produces a loud impulse sound about 5 milliseconds (5/1000 of a second) in length that spreads out in all directions. This sound is then reflected and diffracted off any structures in the area, producing echoes which arrive at the microphone later than the direct muzzle blast impulse. Weiss and Aschkenasy's report states that the specified impulse pattern on the DPD recording had this array of echo delay times, thus reflecting that it was a gunshot. However, in public testimony before the Committee on December 29, 1978, Weiss stated that it is "...not so much the echo pattern as the evidence of a [supersonic] shock wave" that would characterize a gunshot sound, and eliminate other sounds like the backfire of a motorcycle. Weiss further stated he "...cannot think of any [other sound] that might resemble..." the pattern he determined to be a gunshot due to the presence of the supersonic shock wave and the muzzle blast impulses.

