

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

cc: Belmont
Sullivan
Rosen
Malley
D.J. Brennan
DeLoach

DATE: November 24, 1953

TO : MR. TOLSON

FROM : A. H. BELMONT

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

| | |
|------------|-------------------------------------|
| Tolson | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Belmont | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Mohr | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| DeLoach | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Casper | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Callahan | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Conrad | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| DeLoach | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Evans | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Malley | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Rosen | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Sullivan | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Tavel | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Trotter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Tele. Room | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Holmes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Gandy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Mr. James Rowley of Secret Service asked liaison if the Bureau had or would alert all offices of the Bureau to arrange for surveillance coverage of all "crack pots" and members of subversive or lunatic groups between now and noon tomorrow to know if any such persons come to Washington to attend the funeral at noon.

I instructed Supervisor Bartlett to advise Mr. Rowley that this request is completely impractical and the Bureau cannot take the responsibility for such coverage. Our sources have been alerted and we will of course advise of any information we receive but we cannot accept responsibility for the coverage of persons coming to this funeral regardless of who they are.

At 6 p.m. Mr. Bartlett advised that Mr. Rowley asked him if the Director would feel that the Director was put on the spot if Rowley requested 40 men from the Bureau to assist in the route between the White House and St. Matthews Cathedral tomorrow. The President's casket will leave the Capitol and proceed by the White House at which point Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy, Robert Kennedy and immediate members of the family and other dignitaries will walk behind the casket to the Cathedral. The President will ride to the Cathedral in an automobile and foreign dignitaries will go direct to the church. Rowley said he was calling men in from as far away as Los Angeles and the State Department, whose responsibility covers the foreign dignitaries, is pressing CIA men into service. Rowley said he would not make the request if it would be embarrassing to the Bureau.

After checking, I advised Bartlett to tell Mr. Rowley that the Director would make these 40 men available to him and Rowley could place them where he saw fit. Bartlett was also instructed to advise Rowley that the Director considered it very unwise for the Kennedys and dignitaries to be walking in this procession, that they ought to be in cars so they would not be so open to attack and that the Director has so advised the Attorney General. Bartlett advised Rowley per instructions. Rowley was very appreciative. He said he agreed completely with the Director about the walking procession and had

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Enclosure

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RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

strongly expressed himself and would again express his opposition.

Arrangements were made with SAC Gillies at the Washington Field Office to make the 40 men available to Rowley.

A teletype was sent out to all field offices tonight (copy attached) instructed that informants and sources be checked for any information indicating possible violence on the part of persons or organizations coincidental to the President's funeral and to advise the Bureau immediately of any such information.

