

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Conrad *JWE*

DATE: 3/20/64

FROM : R. H. Jevons *RHJ*

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN F. KENNEDY; 11/22/63;
DALLAS, TEXAS

Tolson	
Belmont	
Mohr	
Casper	
Callahan	
Conrad	
Felt	
Gale	
Rosen	
Sullivan	
Tavel	
Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Holmes	
Gandy	

In my memorandum of 3/12/64, I advised that during a discussion with representatives of the President's Commission, they advised that the Commission was contemplating having the firearms evidence in this matter examined by some other organization.

Today during the course of the prearranged conference with our firearms examiners, Mr. Melvin Eisenberg of the Commission stated that they contemplated using the testimony concerning the firearms evidence on or about 3/30/64. In this regard, he stated that the only testimony required on this date would be that concerning the assassination rifle, the identification of the bullet from the stretcher and the two bullet fragments recovered from the President's limousine and the significance of the diphenylamine tests on paraffin casts taken of Oswald's hands and face by the Dallas Police Department. Also, he desired testimony concerning the general characteristics of the bullet recovered from the residence of General Walker, which bullet was found in the Laboratory to have the same general rifling characteristics as test specimens from the assassination rifle, and the auditory effect of a bullet passing near an observer. As a matter of experience, two sounds will be heard by an observer close to the passage of a bullet, first the "crack" of the bullet passing and secondly, the sound of the report from the gun. This latter testimony would be pertinent to the fact that some observers reported hearing a number of shots fired during the assassination. He advised that the testimony concerning the remaining firearms evidence would be taken by deposition or before him and a court recorder at some time in the near future. This latter evidence includes the evidence received in the murder of Officer J. Tippit.

62-109060

- 1-Mr. Belmont
- 1-Mr. Rosen
- 1-Mr. Sullivan
- 1-Mr. Malley

RHJ:ich (10)

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APR 15 1964
James Rosen to Belmont
3/24/64
JJM

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Memorandum to Mr. Conrad
Re: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN F. KENNEDY; 11/22/63;
DALLAS, TEXAS
62-109060

Independent Examinations
of evidence in subject & related
Cases

During the course of the above discussion, Mr. Eisenberg stated that he would like to have the firearms evidence in our possession and pertaining to the assassination delivered to his office Saturday, 3/21/64, so that he could make arrangements to have it delivered to Mr. Ronald Simmons, Weapons System Division of the Defense Department at Aberdeen, Maryland, for re-examination. Mr. Eisenberg advised that he would request that the remaining firearms evidence be delivered to his office at a later time for the same purpose. This indicates that the Commission is complying with the Bureau's position that the evidence be delivered by the FBI to the Commission rather than directly to the outside expert.

It is obvious the Commission does not have confidence in our Laboratory.
As you will recall, a tiny tuft of fibers was found adhering to the butt of the assassination rifle that matched the fabric composing the shirt worn by Oswald on the date of the assassination. Various fibers were also found in the paper bag found in the Texas Book Depository Building that matched the blanket reportedly having belonged to Oswald. Also, body and pubic hairs were found in the blanket that matched hair specimens from Oswald. Mr. Eisenberg says that the Commission expects to use testimony on this subject on or about 4/1/64.

ACTION:

For information.

Laboratory examinations for
President's Commission

11-9-64

I don't see why they don't call the Aberdeen authorities instead of wasting our time. Talk me with Frank and see if we can get from the picture. Our Laboratory is greatly overloaded & since the Commission is not satisfied with our findings, let them go. The Army or anyone else they want.

[Handwritten signatures]