

3/48-3149

- 1-Mr. Belmont
- 1-Mr. Rosen
- 1-Mr. Sullivan
- 1-Mr. Malley
- 1-Mr. Raupach, Room 5730

May 28, 1964

By Courier Service

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Honorable J. Lee Rankin  
 General Counsel  
 The President's Commission  
 200 Maryland Avenue, Northeast  
 Washington, D. C.

*Assassination of  
 President John F.  
 Kennedy*

Dear Mr. Rankin:

This is in response to your letter of April 30, 1964, requesting a reinterview of Mr. Robert Adrian Taylor concerning the rifle he purchased either in March or April, 1963. Enclosed are two copies of a letterhead memorandum dated May 19, 1964, Dallas, Texas, which sets out this information.

It has been determined in the Laboratory from an examination of Taylor's rifle that it is a U. S. Rifle, caliber .30-06, Model 1903, serial number 36601, manufactured at the Rock Island Arsenal, Rock Island, Illinois. The upper and lower bands have been removed; the front portion of the stock has been cut off; the wooden hand guard originally covering the top of the barrel has been removed; the rear sight has been removed and replaced with telescopic sight mount blocks and the bolt handle has been ground down and bent so that it would not strike the telescopic sight tube when the bolt is operated. All other parts appear to be original, unaltered parts. The rifle has the standard length of 43 1/4". The barrel has not been shortened. The length of the longest portion (barrel and receiver) is 31 7/8". The stock portion is 28 3/4" long which is less than the standard length of 40 1/2" for a "non-sporterized" stock.

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105-82555-3941

ORIGINAL DESTROYED

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malley \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

62-109060  
 CBC:ch (11)

1-General Investigative Division (route through for review)

53 JUN 8 1964

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

62-109060-  
 NOT RECORDED  
 199 JUN 3 1964

REC'D - MAIL ROOM  
 JUN 28 1964  
 F. B. I.

Honorable J. Lee Rankin

Enclosed are two photographs of Taylor's rifle assembled and two photographs of his rifle disassembled, along with similar photographs of a U. S. Rifle, caliber .30-06, Model 1903 (Rock Island), from this Bureau's Reference Firearms Collection.

With the submission of the attached enclosures, your request of April 30, 1964, is completed.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosures (10)

NOTE: Letter received from the Commission 4/30/64, requesting reinterview of Taylor who purchased a .30-06 rifle from an individual who he thought was Oswald. The Commission wanted Taylor reinterviewed to determine where the rifle was located on 11/22/63, as well as determining the date on which Taylor obtained the rifle and whether he had seen Oswald on any other occasion. The Commission desired specific information regarding the Taylor rifle's measurements and photographs in an assembled and disassembled condition. They also wanted the same technical information of a similar rifle as well as similar photographs of this rifle. The Laboratory handled the technical data and coordinated this matter with the Assassination Desk in Division VI.

This letter based on memorandum 5/27/64, Mr. Belmont to Mr. Rosen re: "ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY; 11-22-63, DALLAS, TEXAS; MISC.-INFO CONCERNING."