

1 - Belmont
1 - Rosen
1 - Sullivan
1 - Malley
1 - Branigan
September 9, 1964

BY COURIER SERVICE

1 - Lenihan

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

*Assassination of
President John F.
Kennedy*

Dear Mr. Rankin:

Reference is made to my letter of September 4, 1964, which set forth results of our inquiries concerning a speech made by Professor Revilo P. Oliver of the University of Illinois before an audience in the auditorium of the Santa Ana Valley High School, Santa Ana, California. In my letter I indicated we were obtaining a copy of a newspaper article which appeared in the February 21, 1964, issue of the "Clarion Ledger," Jackson, Mississippi, which Professor Oliver indicated he used as a basis for some of his remarks in his speech in Santa Ana, California.

Enclosed for the Commission are two copies of the newspaper article in question which appeared in the "Clarion Ledger" for February 21, 1964.

Sincerely yours,

REC-3 62-109660-3720

J. Edgar Hoover

BY COURIER SVC.
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Enclosures (2)

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- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Gale _____
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- Holmes _____
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NOTE:

Professor Revilo, an avid member of the John Birch Society, made a speech in Santa Ana, California, wherein he made a number of false and vicious remarks in connection with the assassination of President Kennedy. We interviewed Oliver

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Honorable J. Lee Rankin

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and pinned him down on the basis for some of his remarks. One of his remarks was to the effect that Secretary of Defense McNamara ordered the Department of the Army to rehearse for the President's funeral one week before the funeral took place. Oliver claimed he obtained this data from a newspaper article in the "Clarion Ledger." We reviewed such article and noted that there was nothing to substantiate Oliver's statement. Instead, an Army officer indicated the Army was in a state of readiness for the funeral because it had finished funeral rehearsal because there was grave concern for President Hoover's health at that time. Obviously Oliver has given the article a vicious and extremely false twist. Commission is preparing to question Oliver under oath and the enclosed newspaper clipping will be of value to the Commission in such testimony.