

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : MR. TOLSON

DATE: 3/27/67

FROM : C. D. DeLoach

cc Mr. DeLoach  
Mr. Sullivan  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Wick

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT  
JOHN F. KENNEDY

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

Request of District Attorney Garrison,  
New Orleans, for Unlawful Flight  
Investigation concerning Gordon Novel

Assistant AG Barefoot Sanders called at 4:05 p.m. today. He made reference to the captioned matter and stated that, within the last thirty minutes, District Attorney Garrison had referred to US Attorney Louis LaCour, New Orleans, a request for an unlawful flight investigation, based on a material witness matter involving one Gordon Novel. Garrison is seeking Novel as an important witness.

Novel called FBI headquarters in Washington on Saturday night, 3/25/67, and indicated he was solidly against Garrison's hypocritical investigation and he felt Garrison had no basis for continuing the investigation. He stated he had taken a lie detector test, which proved he was correct in his assumptions.

AAG Sanders told me that the Unlawful Flight Statute does provide for investigation regarding the disappearance of a material witness; nevertheless the Criminal Division is searching for ways and means whereby Garrison's request can be turned down. He stated he thought it would be a deplorable situation if the Department of Justice and the FBI had to be of assistance to Garrison.

I told Sanders that, despite the interpretation of the Department regarding the Unlawful Flight Statute, I thought it would be indeed stretching a point if the FBI was requested to look for any of Garrison's witnesses. I stated we by all means should keep out of this situation, inasmuch as Garrison was definitely looking for a scapegoat. Sanders agreed and stated he would be back in touch with us regarding the matter. I told him we were taking no action whatsoever.

ACTION: For record purposes

CDD:CSH (5)

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MAY 29 1967

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A...

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