

Memorandum

TO : Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: JAN 15 1968

FROM : Edwin L. Weisl, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Division

ELWJr:MAO
145-12/91
78-13-29
78-73-131

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Bishop	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. Felt	✓
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

SUBJECT: John J. King v. Ramsey Clark, Civil Action No. 9168 (U.S.D.C. D. Colo.); John J. King v. United States, Civil Action No. 67-C-518 (U.S.D.C. D. Colo.); Marina N. Oswald Porter, et al. v. United States, Civil Action No. CA-3-2282 (U.S.D.C. N.D. Texas)

In connection with the defense of the two actions involving the Oswald rifle, our examination of the Warren Commission files has disclosed a letter dated August 14, 1964, written in Russian by Marina Oswald and addressed to Mr. Rankin, General Counsel of the Commission and a translation of that letter prepared by the Federal Bureau of Investigation for the Commission. Copies of each are enclosed herewith.

The final sentence of the letter appears to indicate an intention on the part of Marina Oswald to make a gift or immediate transfer of the weapon to the United States at the time the letter was dated. Since the present translation ("it is my wish that the rifle become the property of the United States Government") may be subject to differing interpretations, it would be appreciated if you would review the original letter to ascertain whether the original Russian is susceptible of a translation which would constitute a present gift or transfer as opposed to an expression of intent.

Enclosures

*to Alan Libby,
noted with Gen.
Smith (2)
WE:cap
1/9/68*

ENCLOSURE
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