

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WASHINGTON, B. C. 20301

October 25, 1966

ADMINISTRATION

Frank M. Wozencraft, Esq. Assistant Attorney General Office of Legal Counsel Department of Justice Washington, D. C. 20530

Dear Mr. Wozencraft:

I understand that your office is responding to inquiries concerning allegations that some of the documentary material made available by government agencies to the Warren Commission still is not being released to the general public. In order to assist your office in making these responses, I should like to furnish the following information.

some months ago members of my staff examined all of the documentary material of the Warren Commission stored in Archives which was identified by Archives personnel as being of Department of Defense origin. I am told that as a result of ensuing actions taken, all of this Department of Defense material was made available for release to the general public with the exception of two documents which still are classified CONFIDENTIAL. One of these documents is an Edgewood Arsenal Report about 55 pages in length. It is classified to protect certain techniques and methods for evaluating lethality of ammunition. The information involved is of continuing value in developmental research. The other is a one page document which the Navy Department has determined should remain classified and retained in Group-3 because of information contained therein concerning U.S. intelligence and reconnaissance operations.

I understand that the term "classified defense information" is used in responding to some of these inquiries. It seems to me that the unexplained use of that term might mislead a reader to conclude that all of the classified information involved was classified by the Department of Defense when as a matter of fact it could have been, and much of it was, originated and classified by other agencies such

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Please let us know if we can be of further help in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Walter T. Skallerup, Jr.
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense
Security Policy

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