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PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDEN

Mr. Howard Willens of the President's Commission staff telephonically advised Malley today that Mr. Samuel Stern of the staff had been making inquiries of several Government agencies concerning the records system utilized by each agency. He specifically mentioned that Mr. Stern had been to CIA on several occasions and more recently, as a result of his contacts with CIA, Chief Justice Warren had gone to CIA headquarters and had been thoroughly briefed in connection with the system being used by CIA.

Mr. Willens indicated that the President's Commission would like for Mr. Stern to get in touch with a Bureau official concerning the records system utilized by the Bureau and to be briefed relative to the collection of information, the organization of same, and the general manner of handling information, in order to see that it is properly correlated.

Mr. Willens was asked if he could be more specific in explaining the request. Mr. Willens advised that the Commission was interested in knowing to what extent the Bureau was using data-processing machines and to what degree it had been successful in utilizing machines in our work. He indicated that he would be glad to put the request in writing but he was not in a position at the time of the call to furnish additional information concerning the request.

The purpose of this request is not known. During the past week Mr. Rankin on one occasion asked the question as to whether or not the Bureau made use of data-processing machines in connection with the Bureau's work. On that occasion he was advised that Bureau officials had kept up to date concerning the latest machines being developed and that in any instance where it was practical, the most modern equipment was being utilized.

RECOMMENDATION:

If approved, it is recommended Mr. Willens be advised that Assistant Director Tavel of the Records Division would be the proper person for Mr. Stern to contact concerning the Bureau's records system. He would also be requested to furnish the Eureau a letter outlining the general nature of the information desired concerning the Bureau's records.

1 - Mr. Mohr
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