

DATE 7/17/10

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Re: Gr  
Box 110

March 13, 1964

By Courier Service

Honorable J. Lee Rankin  
General Counsel  
The President's Commission  
200 Maryland Avenue, N. E.  
Washington, D. C. 20002

cc's Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Sullivan  
Mr. Malley  
Mr. Rogge  
Mr. Conrad

J. Edgar

Dear Mr. Rankin:

During the course of the discussion of the firearms evidence in this matter on March 12, 1964, between Mr. Melvin Eisenberg of your staff and representatives of this Bureau, Mr. Eisenberg indicated that the Commission desired that the firearms evidence be delivered by this Bureau to Mr. Ronald Simmons, Weapons System Division, Fort Meade, Maryland, on a date in the near future to be specified by the Commission, for the purpose of having an independent re-examination made of the evidence by Mr. Simmons. This, of course, raises the question of similar independent technical re-examinations of other evidence in the case, such as the handwriting and fabric evidence.

Inasmuch as the apparent theory behind any such re-examination is to completely divorce the examination from the FBI, it is suggested that in order to achieve this objective, the FBI should deliver the evidence to the Commission and that arrangements for independent examination and delivery to the independent examiner should be handled by the Commission. This course of action will eliminate any possible subsequent allegation that the FBI exerted influence on the independent examiner selected by the Commission.

You may wish to consider this evidence delivery factor in connection with any decision made by the Commission relative to re-examination of the physical evidence.

Sincerely yours,

WDG:mn  
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(memo 2/12/64 from R. H. Jevons to Mr. Conrad  
re Assassination of President John F. Kennedy  
11/22/63, Dallas, Texas)