

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

DATE: May 11, 1964

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

#16
S-B
new

Leah

My memorandum of May 8, 1964, referred to the letter from the President's Commission dated May 7, 1964, advising that Mr. J. Lee Rankin would be personally available in Dallas to supervise additional work the Commission desired with reference to the taking of films, measurements and other items which would deal with the placing of an automobile on the Elm Street thoroughfare which would simulate the location of the President's car at the time the shots were fired.

As a result of the visit of Commission members on May 8 and 9, 1964, they were satisfied from their personal observation that events could have taken place as had been described but they still desired additional photographs and measurements to be taken in order to pinpoint as nearly as possible the locations where the shots were actually fired.

Messrs. Gauthier and Shaneyfelt have studied the letter of May 7 from Mr. Rankin and estimate that the work desired will require a maximum of two to three working days. This would include preliminary work being done prior to Mr. Rankin's arrival in order that the actual checks requested by the Commission could be made in the shortest possible time and with the least amount of inconvenience from the standpoint of traffic control. It is noted that the letter from the Commission refers to plotting trajectories from the railroad overpass. This work should be handled by a firearms expert and Assistant Director Conrad has indicated that SA Robert Frazier would be available for this purpose.

With regard to the actual request of Mr. Rankin, it is noted that Mr. Rankin was previously advised that the Bureau did not desire to participate in a re-enactment of the President's assassination. Instant request is not for a re-enactment as such, but does request additional technical data for the Commission's use in their final report. Mr. Rankin feels the steps requested are necessary to properly complete this project. Mr. Rankin, in his letter,

62-109060

- 1 - 105-82555
- 1 - Mr. Branigan
- 1 - Mr. Callahan
- 1 - Mr. Gauthier
- 1 - Mr. Conrad
- 1 - Mr. Shaneyfelt
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan

JRM:AQB
(13)

62-109090
NOT RECORDED
1964 MAY 22 10 40 AM '64

15 MAY 22 1964

MAY 28 1964
5/12/64

ORIGINAL FILED IN

SIX

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
Re: Assassination of President Kennedy

has requested the FBI to make all the necessary arrangements for this project and has directed a copy to Chief Rowley of the Secret Service in order that they will be aware of the request as well as to furnish any assistance that the Bureau might desire. If the Bureau refuses to carry out this request it places the Bureau in a position where considerable criticism may result.

In handling this request it will be necessary to utilize an automobile similar to the car that the President was traveling in, namely, a seven-passenger open car and Inspector Kelly of Secret Service has indicated that Secret Service will make arrangements to have such a car available in Dallas if desired.

It will also be necessary to have available a qualified surveyor and in previous work done in Dallas, a county surveyor, Robert H. West, was utilized and arrangements for this were made by Secret Service.

RECOMMENDATIONS: (3)

1. That Mr. Rankin be advised the Bureau will make arrangements to handle the request set forth in his letter of May 7, 1964. If approved, the Dallas Office will be issued necessary instructions for arrangements that will have to be made in Dallas, including the arrangements for handling traffic while photographs are being taken and other work is being performed. Because of traffic conditions on this busy thoroughfare, efforts will be made to perform this work in the early morning hours of Sunday, May 17, 1964, providing it can be worked out with Mr. Rankin.

2. That Messrs. Gauthier, Shaneyfelt, and Frazier, along with whatever technical assistants Messrs. Gauthier need, be utilized to proceed to Dallas to handle this project.

3. Inspector Kelly of Secret Service will be requested to make necessary arrangements to have an appropriate seven-passenger open automobile available in Dallas.