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Mr. J. Fdger Hoover Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation Department of Justice Washington, D. C. 20535

Dear Mr. Hoover:

While Messrs. William T. Coleman, Jr., Howard P. Willens and W. David Slavson of the Commission staff were in Mexico recently they discussed with your representatives additional investigation in Mexico which would be of assistance to the Commission. This letter is in confirmation of those discussions.

We requested further investigation along the following lines:

1. Contact is to be maintained with the Mexican authorities to ascertain whether Albert Alexander Qaborne, also known as John Howard (Bowen, will be available on reasonably short notice should the Commission decide to request his voluntary or involuntary appearance for the taking of testimony. We would like to be advised whether Mr. Osborne has been placed on a "two-week reporting schedule" by the responsible Mexican authorities.

2. If possible, the actual time of arrival of the Flecha Roja bus in Mexico City on September 27 upon which Lee Harvey Oswald was riding, rather than its scheduled time of arrival, should be ascertained.

3. The Commission would like an itemized estimate of Lee Harvey Oswald's probable expenses in traveling to Mexico City from New Orleans, Louisiana, in staying in Mexico City, and in traveling back from Mexico City to Dallas, Texas. This estimate would include at least the following items:

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- Bus fare, both southbound and northbound, in Mexico and in the United States.
- b. The additional fee paid to the travel agency, if any, for the northbound bus travel.
- c. The cost of Oswald's room at the Hotel del Comercio.
- d. The approximate cost of food, including food he ate while traveling by bus in Mexico.
- e. The cost of a ticket to the bull fight for the section in which Oswald probably sat.
- f. The cost, if any, of any visits to museums.
- g. Various transportation costs by bus and/or taxicab incurred on the trips he probably made in Mexico City. (Our information is that he probably went from his hotel to the neighborhood of the Cuban and Soviet Embassies on two days, Friday and Saturday, September 27 and 28. In addition, he may have gone to the bull fight on Sunday, and we know that he was engaged in making travel arrangements at various bus stations and a travel agency on Monday, September 30.)
- h. The cost of a local telephone call.
- i. The cost of purchasing six picture postcards of the kind found in his possession after the assassination.

4. The Commission would like a large, clear map of Mexico City with the places visited by Oswald clearly identified thereon. In addition, if it is still convenient to do so, the Commission would like the location of the Hotel Cuba indicated on this map.

5. We would like a copy of the "dossier" on Lee Harvey Oswald furnished by the Bureau to Ambassador Thomas Mann shortly after the assassination.

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6. Certain telephone numbers and addresses pertaining to Mexico City which were listed on the 47th page of Lee Harvey Oswald's address took were shown to a representative of the Bureau in Mexico City by representatives of the Commission. The Bureau representatives were requested to check whether the telephone numbers and addresses are in fact those of the Cuban and Soviet Consulates and/or Embassies and, if they are not, ascertain whose telephone numbers or addresses they are.

7. After discussing the matter with the Commission representatives while they were in Mexico City, the agents of the Bureau determined that there were two or three museums in Mexico City which Lee Harvey Oswald may have visited. They are to inquire at these places and attempt to obtain evidence of his visits there and all available information about any such visits.

On behalf of the Commission I would like to thank you for the cooperation extended to Messrs. Coleman, Slawson, and Willens during their visit to Mexico City. Based on the reports of these representatives, I am confident that this phase of the Commission's work will be satisfactorily completed in the near future.

Sincerely,

J. Lee Rankin General Counsel