

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

*Viper*

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

TO: Mr. Belmont *MB* DATE: April 24, 1964

FROM: A. Rosen *AR* *was being evasive and was being to his own position in Secret Service. Rankin stated in the Comm. Bouck a very hard time concerning his D.E. Moore say that under certain conditions certain actions would be taken by the Commission*

SUBJECT: THE PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION

My memorandum of 4-22-64 set forth details concerning the discussion by Malley with J. Lee Rankin wherein Mr. Rankin was advised of the official position of Secret Service Chief Rowley indicating that Oswald would not have been placed under surveillance based on the information that was known concerning Oswald. *that at this time I do not know where*

On April 24, 1964, while Malley was talking to Mr. Rankin, he inquired whether SAC Robert L. Bouck of the Protective Research Section, Secret Service, had testified before the Commission. Mr. Rankin stated he had testified on April 23, 1964. Rankin did not volunteer any information and was asked whether or not he had stated the position of Secret Service as had been given to the Bureau by Mr. Rowley.

Mr. Rankin stated he would classify Bouck's testimony before the Commission as a "push." He stated that Bouck's testimony before the Commission was heard by Commissioners McCloy, Dulles and Congressman Ford and that he, Rankin, was not present during all of the testimony. Bouck stated that Secret Service had never requested the FBI or any Government agency in writing to furnish any particular type of information to Secret Service. Bouck stated it was sort of an unwritten understanding that all Government agencies would furnish to Secret Service that information which they felt would be beneficial to Secret Service and that it was sort of an unwritten understanding that this type of information would deal with any information where violence was indicated. Bouck, when questioned as to whether Oswald would have been under surveillance on November 22, 1963, in Dallas if information then available had been known to Secret Service, indicated that some action probably would have been taken. Rankin stated the three Commission members present did not "buy" the testimony of Bouck on this point and

- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Branigan

JRM:hw

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Memorandum to Mr. Belmont  
RE: THE PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION

definitely felt that Bouck was being evasive and was attempting to look after his own position in Secret Service. Rankin stated the three Commission members gave Bouck a very hard time concerning his testimony. He stated Bouck attempted to say that under certain conditions certain action would have been taken, but when pinned down by the Commission, he became extremely evasive.

Mr. Rankin stated that he does not feel that Bouck furnished to the Commission the official position of Secret Service as indicated by Mr. Rowley and that the Commission definitely feels Bouck's testimony was evasive.

Mr. Rankin advised that at this time he did not know whether further testimony would be taken concerning this matter.

Submitted for information.

*Rankin* *[Signature]* *[Signature]*