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Commission No.

997

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Chicago, Illinois
May 25, 1964

PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON THE
ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
KENNEDY - INTERVIEW WITH
ABRAHAM BOLDEN

On May 22, 1964, Mr. Howard Willens of the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy requested the Federal Bureau of Investigation to interview Abraham Bolden. Mr. Willens advised that the President's Commission desires that a complete detailed statement be obtained from Mr. Bolden setting forth all the specific information in his possession concerning misfeasance and malfeasance on the part of Secret Service Agents assigned to the protection of the President. Mr. Willens further asked that the interview include any knowledge on Bolden's part concerning any derelictions in protecting the President at any place, at any time.

At 3:15 p.m., May 22, 1964, Mr. George Howard, attorney for Abraham Bolden, advised the Federal Bureau of Investigation that he would cooperate in making Mr. Bolden available for interview by Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Mr. Howard advised that it would be impossible, due to other commitments, for him to arrange this interview until 1:30 p.m., May 25, 1964. Mr. Howard stated that certain statements had been made by Abraham Bolden reflecting on the protection of President Kennedy by the Secret Service, particularly at Hyannis Port, Massachusetts. He stated that these statements had been made outside of his presence and before he entered the case as attorney for Mr. Bolden. He said that he felt it would have been better if these statements had not been made in connection with the

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case pending against his client, Bolden. He said that he did not want to do anything to damage the reputation of the Secret Service as both he and his client, Bolden, have great respect for that agency.

Abraham Bolden, accompanied by his attorney, George Howard, came to the Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation at Chicago, Illinois, at 1:30 p.m., May 25, 1964.

Mr. Bolden and Mr. Howard were advised that the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy had requested the Federal Bureau of Investigation to obtain from Mr. Bolden any information in his possession pertaining to the protection of the President.

Mr. Howard stated he had given this matter careful thought since Friday, May 22, 1964. He said that certain statements had been made by Mr. Bolden which had appeared in newspapers. He said that he had not been aware of these statements at the time they were made. He said his primary object is to take care of his client in connection with the criminal matter with which Mr. Bolden is charged. Howard said that Mr. Bolden is still an agent of the Secret Service and he did not care to have Mr. Bolden say anything further at this time.

Mr. Howard advised that Mr. Bolden is scheduled for arraignment in Federal Court on May 28, 1964, in connection with the matter with which he is charged. He said that any statement made by Mr. Bolden at this time might have some effect in connection with this pending case.

Mr. Howard advised that the position of his client might change in the future and that if such change does occur, he and Mr. Bolden will contact the Chicago Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in order to furnish all information in Mr. Bolden's possession concerning the protection of the President.

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Mr. Howard advised that his client, Mr. Bolden, had no specific information whatsoever concerning the actual assassination of President Kennedy. Mr. Bolden expressed agreement with his attorney's statement on this point.