



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

February 27, 1964

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

Dear Mr. Rankin:

Reference is made to your letter of February 20, 1964, wherein you requested to be advised of the circumstances surrounding the omission of Special Agent James P. Kostly's name and related data as appearing in Lee Harvey Oswald's address book in our report of Special Agent Robert P. Gemberling dated December 23, 1963, at Dallas, Texas, in the Oswald case. You indicated it would assist the Commission in appraising the significance of this matter if it knew the names of the Agents, including supervisors, who prepared this portion of the report or made any decision to omit information from the report.

You indicated also that you would like a full explanation.

For your information, I have determined that Special Agent Robert P. Gemberling made the decision as to what information should be included in his report of December 23, 1963. I also determined that Special Agent John T. Kesler had responsibility for reviewing photographic copies of the pages of Lee Harvey Oswald's address book to determine which items needed investigative attention. Such items were set forth as investigative leads to be covered and it was such lead material that was incorporated in Special Agent Gemberling's report of December 23, 1963.

I am enclosing herewith affidavits executed by Special Agents Robert P. Gemberling and John T. Kesler wherein each sets forth his explanation regarding his handling of Lee Harvey Oswald's address book.

Honorable J. Lee Rankin

I want you to know that I feel our reporting procedures in this matter are completely logical and sound. This Bureau never purported that Special Agent Gemberling's report of December 23, 1963, contained the complete listing of Lee Harvey Oswald's address book and, as you know, additional items in Oswald's address book not previously reported were furnished to the Commission in the report of Special Agent Robert P. Gemberling dated February 11, 1964, at Dallas, Texas.

This Bureau from the beginning of this investigation has developed and reported all available and relevant facts and it will continue to do so.

I trust that this letter and the enclosures thereto will satisfy the requirements of the Commission.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosures (2)