

5:15 p. m.

November 22, 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
 MR. BELMONT
 MR. MOHR
 MR. CONRAD
 MR. DE LOACH
 MR. EVANS
 MR. ROSEN
 MR. SULLIVAN

PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY

Assistant Attorney General Norbert A. Schlei, Office of Legal Counsel, called. He stated he was drafting various forms of a proclamation for use by the new President and wondered if I could tell him whether I had any knowledge as to what kind of people murdered the President. He indicated the form of the proclamation might depend on whether these were madmen, disappointed office seekers, represented some political point of view, were segregationist madmen, or just who they were.

I told Mr. Schlei I thought very probably we had in custody the man who killed the President in Dallas but this had not definitely been established. I advised Mr. Schlei that Lee Harvey Oswald spent some years in Russia, although he was born in America; that he tried unsuccessfully to renounce his American citizenship, and then came back here. I stated our interest in Oswald came about from the fact that he had been associated with the Fair Play for Cuba Committee; that he was arrested in New Orleans some months ago for handing out leaflets in behalf of that committee. I told Mr. Schlei that Oswald was working in the building from which the shots were fired; that we have the rifle and 8 empty shells found in the building in which the man was employed. I said Oswald apparently left this building and a block or two away two police officers moved toward him, and for no good reason he opened fire on them and killed one. I told Mr. Schlei that the police have Oswald in custody and we are interrogating him at the present time. I stated he would be in the category of a nut and the extremist pro-Castro crowd.

EX-101 REC-16 62-112060-5-7

As to other Presidents assassinated, I indicated I had knowledge concerning only two of them. I listed the attempted assassination of

JEH:fm (12)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

- Tele. Room _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____