

Memorandum

MS
 Tolson _____
 DeLoach _____
 Mohr _____
 Bishop _____
 Casper _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 Evans _____
 Gale _____
 Rosen _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 11-19-65

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: CONGRESSMAN GERALD R. FORD;
INQUIRY CONCERNING RESTRICTIONS
ON FBI DOCUMENTS FURNISHED THE
WARREN COMMISSION

Per your instructions, SA David W. Bowers, on 11-19-65, contacted Miss Mildred Leonard, Executive Secretary to Congressman Ford, who had telephonically contacted your office requesting an FBI representative stop by to see her.

Miss Leonard stated former Congressman John H. Ray, of New York, has conducted research concerning the Warren Commission investigation for Congressman Ford in the past and currently is reviewing the various documents which comprise the Commission files. He has determined a number of documents are "restricted" and not available for inspection. He requested Congressman Ford determine if the FBI might lift its restrictions on the documents for his review. He stated "any items I find of interest will be reported only to you" (Congressman Ford). A copy of Mr. Ray's statement regarding this matter is enclosed; the original and his notes concerning the documents he has been unable to review being returned to Miss Leonard.

The Domestic Intelligence Division has advised it has conducted a review of all FBI documents in the main Warren Commission file and by letters dated 8-10, 25-65, advised the Attorney General as to which documents and/or pages of documents should be restricted. Guidelines for the restrictions were established by the Attorney General and approved by the White House; hence, any exceptions would have to be approved by the Attorney General and the White House.

RECOMMENDATION:

That someone from your office advise Miss Leonard that no exceptions can be made to the restrictions imposed on the documents since these were made in accordance with guidelines approved by the White House

- Enclosure
- 1 - Mr. Tolson
 - 1 - Mr. Belmont
 - 1 - Mr. DeLoach
 - 1 - Mr. Sullivan

Handled with Miss Leonard
 11-26-65
 REG-58
 62-109090-470
 CRIMINAL RESEARCH
 DWB:lok/nal
 (8)

ENCLOSURE

Through the courtesy of Dr. Rhodes and his assistant, Marion Johnson, as arranged by Frank Meyer, I have had opportunity to examine the list of documents sent to the Hall of Records by the Warren Commission. Most of the documents came originally from the F.B.I., the Secret Service, and the C.I.A.

There are approximately 2500 listed documents. A few of them are marked "missing," and about 25% of the 2500 are marked "restricted," - that is, not available for inspection by me or any other researcher. Dr. Rhodes told me that those restrictions were imposed by the various agencies from which the documents had been received.

A substantial number of the restricted documents relate to Ruby. His case is still before the courts and I can understand the restrictions as to those documents.

I send you herewith the notes I made of missing or restricted documents.

Since most of the restricted documents originated in F.B.I., I suggest you talk with Mr. De Loach of that organization. It may be that F.B.I. will lift its restrictions at your instance. You can give assurance that any items I find of interest will be reported only to you.

I suggest that no inquiry be addressed to other departments until we have the R.B.I. answers.

62-104-41

ENCLOSURE

PLH ITEM # 404

RECORDS OF THE WARREN COMMISSION
 INVESTIGATIVE DOCUMENTS OPENED AND WITHHELD

| <u>Source</u> | <u>Approximate Number of Pages</u> | <u>Percent Opened</u> | <u>Percent Withheld</u> |
|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Department of Defense | 1,200 | 96% | 4% |
| Department of State | 2,000 | 69% | 31% ✓ |
| Central Intelligence Agency | 2,900 | 7% | 93% ✓ |
| Federal Bureau of Investigation | 54,400 | 81% | 19% |
| U.S. Secret Service | 8,100 | 76% | 24% |
| Other Federal Agencies | 3,500 | 76% | 24% |
| State and Other Sources | <u>2,900</u> | <u>51%</u> | <u>49%</u> * |
| TOTAL | 75,000 | 76% | 24% |

|| *Most of these documents are withheld because their release would reveal information pertinent to the prosecution of Jack Ruby.

62-11111-118
 ENCLOSURE