

# Memorandum

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO : J. Edgar Hoover  
 Director  
 Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: JUL 8

FROM : Nicholas deB. Katzenbach  
 Attorney General

SUBJECT: Public disclosure of Warren Commission records

In a memorandum of February 8, 1965, I requested an expression of your views with regard to public disclosure of unpublished documents that were furnished to the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy by the Bureau.

Following a review of your recommendations and the recommendations of the heads of other interested departments and agencies, I submitted a memorandum to McGeorge Bundy, Special Assistant to the President, proposing certain guidelines for determining which of those documents should be made available to the public. By a memorandum of April 19, 1965, Mr. Bundy approved those guidelines and asked me, in coordination with the National Archives, to instruct the appropriate agencies to conduct a review of pertinent documents in accordance with those guidelines and to complete that review by September 1965.

In order to facilitate this review, the National Archives has prepared a list of the documents which are in the files of the President's Commission which were submitted by, or originated in, the Bureau. This list includes only the documents that were not published by the Commission and those that could readily be determined to have been published only in part.

It is requested that you arrange for the prompt examination of the listed documents with a view to authorizing the removal of existing restrictions on public availability of as many of those documents as possible.

62-109090-44-2401  
 100-100000-100000

62-109090-44-2401

XEROX  
 JUL 22 1965  
 EXP. PROC.  
 JUL 8 1965  
 AUG 18 1965  
 79-65 EA:SS

REC-462-109090-459  
 10 JUL 22 1965  
 detailed to...  
 Liaison...  
 770 St. Louis office 7/14/65

The guidelines approved by Mr. Bundy, which are set forth in the attachment to this letter, should be applied in making the required determinations.

The document-by-document review that this procedure requires may be undertaken on the basis of file copies of documents which were retained in the files of the Bureau, or, since all records of the President's Commission have been transferred to the National Archives, the Archivist will arrange to give your representative access to the listed documents if that procedure would be more convenient. At the conclusion of your review, a copy of the enclosed list, marked so as to show which documents may be made public and which must remain closed for the time being, is to be sent to Dr. Wayne C. Grover, Archivist of the United States. With respect to items that must be withheld from the public, please indicate the letter or number of the item in the attached guidelines that best describes the Bureau's reason for such withholding..

It is essential that the Archivist of the United States receive a reply by August 15, 1965, since a report to the White House must be prepared and submitted by September 1 on the overall status of accessibility to the records of the Commission. In order to avoid any unnecessary delay in this regard, I suggest that you send your reply to the Archivist. If any questions or problems arise in the course of the review, your representative should contact Dr. James B. Rhoads, Assistant Archivist for Civil Archives, whose telephone number is code 13, extension 22442.

I am aware of the difficulties inherent in this undertaking, but the public interest in these documents, and the determination of the White House Office that they be disclosed to the fullest extent consistent with the national security, sound public administration, and the rights of individual privacy, require that this assignment be accomplished with care and dispatch.