



Sighttext Publications

division of

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NOTICE

TO: Librarians, students of the assassination of President Kennedy, and other interested parties.

FROM: Sighttext Publications

RE: *Document Addendum to the Warren Report*, a new paperback book containing the recently declassified (Feb. 1968) transcript of the Executive Sessions of the Warren Commission.

In the past year, more and more material has been declassified, at the U. S. National Archives, pertaining to the assassination of President Kennedy. This material was deposited with the Archives by the Warren Commission, when it concluded its work and disbanded in the fall of 1964, after the publication of the Warren Report.

Of considerable importance are three documents, which will be described in some detail in this notice:

- 1) The transcript of the Executive Sessions of the Warren Commission (290 pages).
- 2) The transcript of the "original" questioning of Marina Oswald by agents of the U. S. Secret Service on the weekend of the assassination (Commission Document 344; 46 pages).
- 3) The Liebler Memorandum of September 6, 1964 (26 pages).

Sighttext Publications is publishing these three documents, for the first time, in the form of a 7" x 9" softcover bound paperback book entitled *Document Addendum to the Warren Report*. The book includes a table of contents for reference purposes, as well as an informative introduction. It should be an ideal companion piece to the 26 volumes of the Warren Commission, and will be of prime interest to students of the assassination of President Kennedy and the investigation that was conducted by the Warren Commission.

1) Transcript of the Executive Sessions of the Warren Commission

This is a 290 page stenographic record of the closed meetings, held throughout the course of the Warren Commission's existence, in which the seven members of the Commission itself (no staff present, except for their Chief Counsel) convened to discuss the organization of the Commission, as well as details of the investigation. These details ranged from important policy questions such as how to deal with the autopsy x-rays and photographs of President Kennedy to more lighthearted matters such as who might be responsible for various news leaks about their work which appeared from time to time. David Wise's article in the Saturday Evening Post ("Secret Evidence on the Kennedy Assassination," SEP, 4/6/68) was largely based on his perusal of this transcript.

The Executive Session transcript is a most unique historical document. Here are recorded the conversations, frequently on a first name basis, amongst Chief Justice Earl Warren, Allen Dulles, former head of the CIA, Senators Cooper and Russell, Representatives Boggs and Ford, and John McCloy. The close perspective of the Commission at work that is afforded by this transcript is revealing, and this document is probably the most important single item of source material necessary to study how the Commission functioned, and what attitudes the Commissioners brought to bear, as individual investigators, to the task of determining who murdered the former President of the United States.

Other conversations recorded in the transcript, in addition to those already mentioned, include: what to do about Mark Lane; the suspicions of Commissioner John McCloy's wife regarding Oswald's "defection" to Russia, and rapid return; the possibility of Marina Oswald skipping the country before she might be interrogated by the Commission; was the Lincoln assassination really a plot? (Dulles said "One man was so dominant that it almost wasn't a plot."); and what can they tell the press they were talking about when they leave the room they are in, since they are sure to be hounded by reporters.

Some of the transcript is boring, some interesting and very important, and some is unintendedly serio-comical in nature. Deposited with the U.S. National Archives when the Commission disbanded in the fall of 1964, the Executive Sessions transcript was not published in the 26 volumes of Hearings and Exhibits of the Commission. It was declassified in February, 1968 and is published here for the first time. (See sample page included in this notice.)

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THIS IS A SAMPLE PAGE

This sample page is from a discussion of Oswald's defection, and his subsequent return to the U.S.-- with his Russian wife, Marina---aided by a U.S. State Department loan.

MR. MC CLOY: Another thing, my wife is pretty suspicious, because she's tried to get some American citizen, who is married to a Russian, get his wife out. She couldn't get it. How in the world did she get it? That's the most difficult thing in the world.

SEN. RUSSELL: That Marine guard who married that Russian girl, it took six months.

REP. FORD: There's some sailor staying over there. They want to throw him out and he won't leave until he takes his wife with him. I think that's right now.

MR. DULLES: I would like to get that material into the hands of the CIA as soon as possible to explain the Russian parts.

SEN. RUSSELL: I think you've got more faith in them than I have. I think they'll doctor anything they hand to us.

MR. DULLES: What Oswald said in his diary, about his relationship with them, about his attempted suicide, about the payment he got, all that business requires a very careful study.

SEN. RUSSELL: Well, all of that writing material that he brought out of there with him.

CHAIRMAN: And our Government furnished him four hundred and some dollars to bring that Russian wife over.

SEN. RUSSELL: The first time they brought home one of those defectors from Korea I wired the President, I wired the Secretary of State, I protested violently paying one dime to bring home those chaps who have spit on the American flag, jumped up and down on it in the mud, and in the presence of all of our people and soldiers renounce their citizenship. Whether they can do that or not, we didn't have to pay their way home. And this last one, I took that up with President Kennedy and they would not pay his way home, and finally this broadcasting company paid his way home.