

THE DIRECTOR

DATE: 12/4/63

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

W.F.M.C.

FROM: A. H. Belmont

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDENT

Attached are the two reports we have prepared concerning the assassination of the President and the subsequent killing of the assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald, by Jack Ruby.

ASSASSINATION REPORT

This report, in Part I, briefly relates the assassination of the President and the identification of Oswald as his slayer. Part II sets forth the evidence conclusively showing that Oswald did assassinate the President. Part III is in two sections, the first setting forth what the FBI knew about Oswald prior to the assassination; and the second section setting forth the results of our investigation of Oswald's background, activities, associates, et cetera, subsequent to the assassination.

Three sets of exhibits accompany this report. The first sets out evidence tying Oswald in with the assassination of the President; the other two set out documents relative to Oswald's contacts with the Soviets, the Communist Party, et cetera.

We are continuing to receive leads concerning Oswald, and consequently at the end of the report we state that investigation will continue until every piece of relevant evidence has been developed and examined.

The Dallas Office has read and approved the first two parts of the Assassination report. The third part of the Assassination report was sent to Dallas for reading after completion during the early morning hours of December 5, 1963.

REC- 52

REPORT OF KILLING OF LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

EX-115 5 DEC 11 1963

The report on the killing of Oswald by Jack Ruby covers the actual killing; the information developed concerning Jack Ruby; the interview of Ruby; Ruby's whereabouts from 11/22 to 11/24/63; and the investigation by the Bureau under the Civil

Enclosures

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Right Statutes to determine whether there was any conspiracy involved in the killing.

Attached to this report are two exhibits, one a photograph of the actual killing, and the other a diagram of the police department building basement where the killing occurred.

Due to the fact that no records were kept of the police officers or news media representatives in the basement at the time of the killing, we have not been able to identify, locate and interview all persons who were present when Ruby killed Oswald. We state in the report that persons identified to us have been or are being interviewed. We have interviewed 88 Dallas police officers, and are attempting to identify any others who were in the basement and interview them. An estimated 150 news media representatives were in the basement. We have been able to identify and interview 36 so far, and leads are set out throughout the country to identify and locate others who may have been present. We have no reason at this time to believe that the stories of these people, when we locate them, will be at variance with the facts developed so far, but we do want to locate them so that all possible questions can be resolved.

We say at the end of this report that the investigation will continue until every possible source of pertinent information has been exhausted.

The Dallas Office has read and approved this report on the Killing of Lee Harvey Oswald.

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Hm
W.L.
D.T.
JWC

TO Mr. Belmont

DATE 12-8-63

FROM C. A. Evans

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDENT

Tolson
 DeLoach
 Trotter
 Tele. Room
 Holmes
 Gandy

11/27/63
6-5-63
ma
Wes

Deputy Attorney General Katzenbach advised he attended the organizational meeting of the President's Commission to report on the assassination of President Kennedy held today. He noted that the meeting did not get around to the point of discussing the appointment of Chief Counsel or other staff members. The consensus of Commission members was that it would be inadvisable to have a large number of witnesses to testify before the Commission but rather the report submitted by the FBI and other agencies should be fully utilized. In this regard, questions were raised as to the evaluation of information furnished by various witnesses.

Katzenbach was asked, for example, whether the Commission would be furnished with background information including a criminal record, if any, on various persons interviewed. He said he told the Commission members that this would be highly impractical as obviously the FBI could not conduct a background investigation on every person they interviewed. On the other hand, he noted that if the testimony of a particular witness, who had been interviewed by the FBI, was inconsistent with other known information or otherwise questioned, then he believed the FBI would honor a Commission request or additional facts on such a witness. It was suggested that once the Commission is organized, it might be desirable to have a liaison arrangement directly between the Commission and the FBI if it related to investigative matters.

With reference to the FBI report, which Katzenbach received today, he said he was having it reviewed by his attorneys and he planned to read it himself tonight. It is Katzenbach's feeling that unless he notes something of a particularly disabling nature, he felt the report should go to the President as prepared by the Bureau without any change. He hopes to do this tomorrow because obviously the Commission cannot begin any activity until they have the report.

- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Rosen

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Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
Re: Assassination of the President

At the meeting today, Katzenbach said Senator Richard B. Russell, a Commission member, was most sarcastic in asking whether the Commission would get the report before the FBI had leaked all of its contents to the press. Katzenbach said he immediately spoke up and said that he had talked with the Director and other ranking officials in the FBI and he knew that no leak of information from the FBI to the press would ever be condoned. He said he told Senator Russell that newspaper reporters have their own ways of developing information and just because they get a story it does not mean that it was leaked to them.

The position of Texas State Attorney General Carr, is, according to Katzenbach, most untenable. Carr at the request of President Johnson announced that he was going to have a State Board of Inquiry look into the President's assassination. Now White House officials have told Carr it would be inadvisable for him to proceed. Carr is in Washington and will probably see President Johnson. Katzenbach anticipates Carr will make some kind of statement to the press pointing out that investigation in this case has extended to many areas outside the State of Texas and that action by the Federal Government is the only way the full story can be ascertained. This will be his excuse for not proceeding with the State Inquiry.

ACTION:

Any further information received concerning this matter will be brought to your attention promptly.

(see addendum, page 3)

REC-16

62-109060-1693

December 10, 1963

Q

Mr. Austin P. Roark
7415 Southwest Capitol Highway
Portland 19, Oregon

DEC 16 5 44 PM '63
FBI

Dear Mr. Roark:

Your letter postmarked December 3rd has been received, and I appreciate your giving me the benefit of your observations.

President Johnson instructed the FBI to conduct a complete investigation into the assassination of President Kennedy and the murder of Lee Harvey Oswald. All of our resources were used to consider every possible ramification of this matter. The report containing the results of our investigation is based entirely on facts and laboratory examinations and not on speculation. Pursuant to the instructions of President Johnson, our report has been forwarded to the Attorney General and to the Presidential Commission.

The FBI has not made its report public inasmuch as the Presidential Commission has been charged with the responsibility to study all available information and make a finding in these matters.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Correspondent not identifiable in Bufiles.
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