

9/12/69 HW

Much of my interest in this unmailed 3/14/64 letter may be from faulty memory, but if my recall is not imperfect, long before this time the CIA should have provided and said it provided an answer saying it had nothing on Ruby. If this is so, why should Rankin or any member of the legal staff have believed the CIA was not truthful? If the Commission had everything CIA had on Ruby, it automatically had everything the CIA had on Ruby's connections with those capable of assassination.

The memo should be interesting. If it is not in the CIA file, it should be in one of the working-papers files, with a carbon of this unmailed letter attached. It is possible inquiry with reference to the letter might get it, but it is also possible that, because of its nature, it has been classified.

Unless those with "political motive" were outside the US, possibly foreigners in the US, although I doubt it, this is none of the CIA's business. It is the area of the FBI. Rankin knew this and any lawyer should have. Why, then, on this count, was such a letter directed to the CIA?

It is not likely such a memo was drafted for only the CIA. It might be in the FBI or SS files, among others.

And, of course, it implies an entirely different motive for the Oswald murder, which in itself may have been enough for Rankin to ban it.

The lawyer who drafted it visualized overseas connections of the assassination of CIA violation of restrictions placed upon it in proposing the conference.

If anyone carries this forward, I'd be very interested.

PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION
ON THE
ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

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WASHINGTON, D. C. 20002

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GAI
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file 3/14/64
J. LEE RANKIN,
General Counsel

Mr. Richard Helms
Deputy Director for Plans
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Helms:

Enclosed is a memorandum providing background material and leads in connection with possible associations between Jack Ruby and persons who might have had a political motive for assassinating President John F. Kennedy.

I would appreciate your forwarding to this Commission copies of all records in your files which contain information about Jack Ruby or the persons mentioned in Part C of the enclosed memorandum.

In addition, we would like to confer with you or a knowledgeable member of your staff concerning possible fruitful areas of investigation, both by the Central Intelligence Agency and other agencies, which may appear from an examination of that memorandum and information now possessed by your agency. Hopefully, such a meeting can be held in the near future.

Sincerely,

J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel

Enclosure

CIA-16