

# SSTII CONGRESS H. J. RES. 926

### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 18, 1964

Mr. Williams introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

## JOINT RESOLUTION

To provide that information relating to the assassination of the late President John F. Kennedy shall be made public.

- 1 Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives
- 2 of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 That the joint resolution entitled "Joint Resolution author-
- 4 izing the Commission established to report upon the assassina-
- 5 tion of President John F. Kennedy to compel the attend-
- 6 ance and testimony of witnesses and the production of
- 7 evidence", approved December 13, 1963 (77 Stat. 362;
- 8 Public Law 88-202), is amended by adding at the end there-
- 9 of the following new section:
- "SEC. 2. A record shall be kept of the proceedings of

- 1 the Commission, including a literal transcript of the testi-
- 2 mony of witnesses and all documentary evidence presented
- 3 to the Commission that relates to any matter under investiga-
- 4 tion by the Commission, which record shall be open to public
- 5 inspection upon completion of the work of the Commission,
- 6 together with the findings and conclusions of the Commis-
- 7 sion with respect to the assassination of the late President
- 8 John F. Kennedy and the subsequent violent death of the
- 9 man charged with the assassination."



#### Public Law 88-202 88th Congress, S. J. Res. 137 December 13, 1963

### Resolution

Authorizing the Commission established to report upon the association of President John F. Kennedy to compel the attendance and testimony of witnewes and the production of evidence.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) for the purposes commission in of this joint resolution, the term "Commission" means the Commission vestigating asappointed by the President by Executive Order 11130, dated November sassination of 29, 1963.

(b) The Commission, or any member of the Commission when so Subpens power. authorized by the Commission, shall have power to issue subpenas requiring the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of any evidence that relates to any matter under investigation by the Commission. The Commission, or any member of the Commission or any agent or agency designated by the Commission for such purpose, may administer oaths and affirmations, examine witnesses, and receive evidence. Such attendance of witnesses and the production of such evidence may be required from any place within the United States at any designated place of hearing.

c) In case of contumacy or refusal to obey a subpena issued to any person under subsection (b), any court of the United States within the jurisdiction of which the inquiry is carried on or within the jurisdiction of which said person guilty of contumucy or refusal to obey is found or resides or transacts business, upon application by the Commission shall have jurisdiction to issue to such person an order requiring such person to appear before the Commission, its member, agent, or agency, there to produce evidence if so ordered, or there to give testimony touching the matter under investigation or in question; and any failure to obey such order of the court may be punished by said

court as a contempt thereof. (d) Process and papers of the Commission, its members, agent, or pamer of seragency, may be served either upon the witness in person or by regis- vice. tered mail or by telegraph or by leaving a copy thereof at the residence or principal office or place of business of the person required to be served. The verified return by the individual so serving the same, setting forth the manner of such service, shall be proof of the same, and 77 STAT. 362 the return post office receipt or telegraph receipt therefor when regis- 77 STAT. 363. tered and mailed or telegraphed as a foresaid shall be proof of service of the same. Witnesses summoned before the Commission, its members, agent, or agency, shall be paid the same fees and mileage that are paid witnesses in the courts of the United States, and witnesses whose depositions are taken and the persons taking the same shall severally be entitled to the same fees as are paid for like services in the courts of the United States.

(e) No person shall be excused from attending and testifying or Privilege from producing books, records, correspondence, documents, or other against selfevidence in obedience to a subpena, on the ground that the testimony inerimination. or evidence required of him may tend to incriminate him or subject him to a penalty or forfeiture; but no individual shall be prosecuted or subjected to any penalty or forfeiture (except demotion or removal from office) for or on account of any transaction, matter, or thing concerning which he is compelled, after having claimed his privilege

December 13, 1963

Pub. Law 88-202

77 STAT. 363

Place of service.

against self-incrimination, to testify or produce evidence, except that such individual so testifying shall not be exempt from prosecution and punishment for perjury committed in so testifying.

(f) All process of any court to which application may be made under this Act may be served in the judicial district wherein the person required to be served resides or may be found.

Approved December 13, 1963.

#### LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 109 (1963):
Dec. 9: Passed Senate.
Dec. 10: Considered and passed House.

### Executive Order 11130

### APPOINTING A COMMISSION TO REPORT UPON THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN, F. KENNEDY

Pursuant to the authority vested in me as President of the United States, I hereby appoint a Commission to ascertain, evaluate and report upon the facts relating to the assassination of the late President John F. Kennedy and the subsequent violent death of the man charged with the assassination. The Commission shall consist of-

The Chief Justice of the United States, Chairman; Senator Richard B. Russell; Senator John Sherman Cooper; Congressman Hale Boggs; Congressman Gerald R. Ford; The Honorable Allen W. Dulles; The Honorable John J. McCloy.

The purposes of the Commission are to examine the evidence developed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and any additional evidence that may hereafter come to light or be uncovered by federal or state authorities; to make such further investigation as the Commission finds desirable; to evaluate all the facts and circumstances surrounding such assassination, including the subsequent violent death of the man charged with the assassination, and to report to me its findings and conclusions.

The Commission is empowered to prescribe its own procedures and to employ such assistants as it deems necessary.

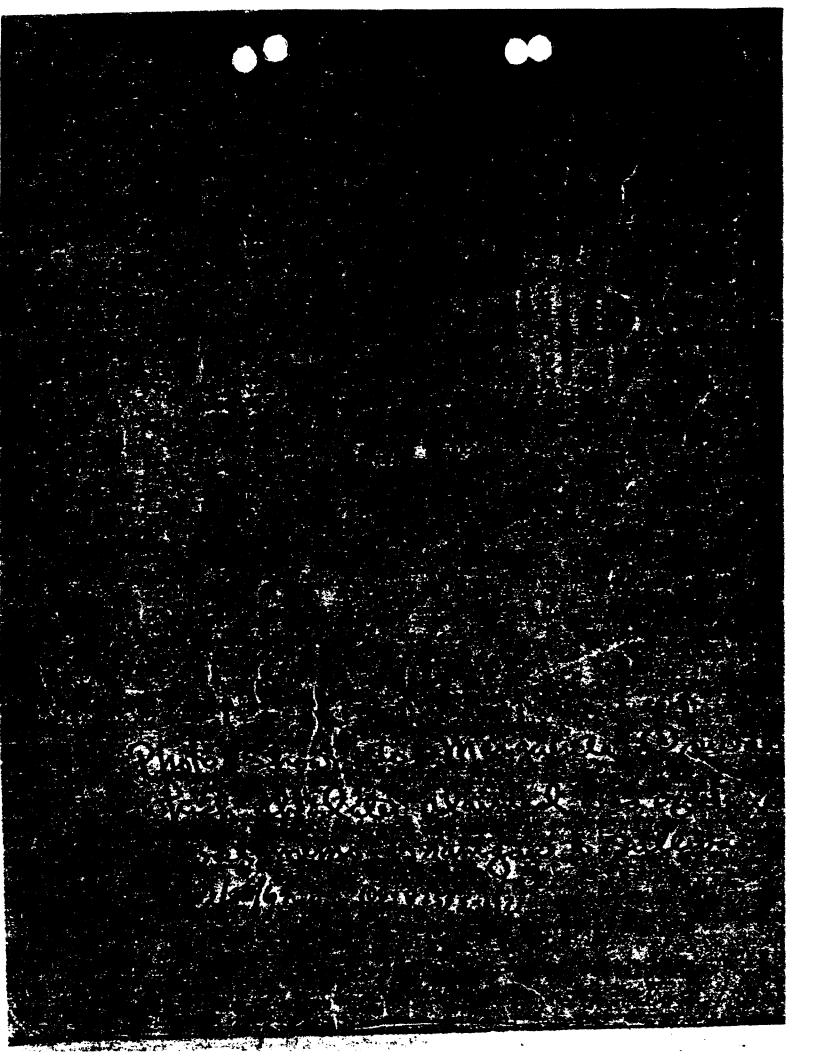
Necessary expenses of the Commission may be paid from the "Emergency Fund for the President".

All Executive departments and agencies are directed to furnish the Commission with such facilities, services and cooperation as it may request from time to time.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

THE WHITE HOUSE, . November 29, 1963.

[F.R. Doc. 63-12560; Filed, Dec. 2, 1963; 10:05 a.m.]



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November 22, B 63

Mr. Mohr

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C. D. DeLonch

LEE M. OSWALD

At the invitation of Tom Cole, Special Assistant to Senator John G. Tower (R-Texas), I had SA Hanning personally contact the Senator's office to review the file the Senator has on captioned individual. Photostat copies of the complete file are attached. The file was personally reviewed to insure that the attached was the entire content of the file insumuch as there are very obvious gaps in the information For the most part, the file consists of letters encharged between Oswald and the State Department during 1961 and 1962 when he was making efforts to get out of the Soviet Union with his Russian wife. There is only one letter to Senator Tower which was written to him by Oswald from Minsk, USSR, in which he requests the Senator's assistance in returning to the United States. Although this letter is undated, the Senator's office believed it was received in January, 1962.

It is of interest to note that there is a memorandum in the file dated 2-1-62 signed Linda. Linda is an assistant in Senator Tower's office. This memorandu indicates that she had received a call from Mr. Stanfield in the Department of State regarding Cswald's request to return to the United States. The memorandum states that on 11-2-59, Jar. Cswald swore to the following uffidavit:

"I affirm that my allegiance is to the Soviet Socialist Republic."

Cavald requested that his American citizenship be revoked. The memorandum indicated that he now wished to return to the United States but his mothe was unable to finance his return trip and that the State Department would probably furnish him a loan. The memorandum concludes that the Senator should not become involved in this case.

functor Tower's office said it is obvious that the State Department never kept them advised as to the final disposition of this case.

RECOMMENT TION:

for information.

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REC'E DIV.

Inclosures

1 - Mr. Selmont

1) Air. Julivan 1 - Lir. Josen

Off

1 - Mr. Jones 1 - Mr. Morrell

1 - Mr. Tolson

DGII: eg (8)

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Strokent Revolutionary Discitoret deligate in new orleans of This Debote ans browlessed at 6:05 to 6:30 ougust 21, 1763 after this program of moile. -3 mints T.V. newsreed which was some The next day ( august 22. ). I received advise, direction and leterains from v.T. Ree rational Derector of the Bais Play for cuba committee of which I am a manches at my own eppense I lad printed "Hondo off cula".
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quates takeny the vyear subsequent ... course for the mithod attends served of the college's professors ald were present. Dus lettere lastes for 1 hs. 10 mm after which there was so minutes of question from the audience. This lettere litor place in the sectorisin where women! are not allowed that an all-male \_ archieres attends, The moderator of this leture was Paul Prozga, Tesmet. A muitation letter D, comments letter NO RECORDS

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

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### $oldsymbol{Memorandum}$

THE DIRECTOR

DATE: December 9, 196

N. P. CALLAHAN

SUBJECT:

THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

The Congressional Record for Friday, December 6, 1963, has been reviewed and the following items contained therein have been noted for your attention.

### SENATE

Pages 22457-22461. Senator Byrd, (D) Virginia, submitted for the Joint Committee on Reduction of Nonessential Federal Expenditures a report on Federal employment for the months of September and October 1963, and pay for the months of August and September 1963. References to the Justice Department, indicating a decrease in personnel and pay, have been noted.

Page 22473. Senator Russell, (D) Georgia, submitted for himself and Senator Cooper, (R) Kentucky, a joint resolution (S. J. Res. 137) authorizing the Commission established to report upon the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, to compel the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of evidence.

Pages 22521-22522. The Senate passed without amendment 8. 1319, to amend chapter 35 of title 18, United States Code, with respect to the escape or attempted escape of juvenile delinquents. Senator Mansfield, (D) Montana, requested to have printed in the Record excerpts from the Senate Report on this bill. The report pointed out that this legislation was recommended by the Justice Department.

Pages 22522-22527. The Senate passed without amendment S. 776, to encourage the creation of original ornamental designs of useful articles by protecting the authors of such designs for a limited time against unauthorized

- 1 Mr. Tolson with enclosure
- 1 Mr. Belmont with enclosure
- 1 Mr. Mohr with enclosure
- 1 Mr. DeLoach with enclosure 1 - Mr. Rosen - with enclosure
- 1 Mr. Evans with enclosure

Mr D C Morrell - with enclosure

Memorandum to the Director Re: The Congressional Record

### **SENATE** - continued

copying. Senator Mansfield, (D) Montana, requested to have printed in the Record an excerpt from the Senate Report explaining the purposes of the bill.

Pages 22542-22546. Senator Simpson, (R) Wyoming, spoke concerning the assassination of President Kennedy. He stated "From all strata of American life—from pulpit, press, and the Nation's highest court—has come the enunciation that a great deficit in American morals is the underlying cause of the Dallas tragedy. This, I vehemently resent. - - - Statements affixing a collective guilt, whether it be upon Dallas, the great State of Texas, or the Nation, can come only from men who have lost contact with the American spirit. They are ignoring both the facts of the assassination and the manner in which the American people responded to the tragedy. - - - Those who would accuse the political right of pulling the trigger overlook the plethora of facts which point the finger of guilt at Lee Oswald and his affinity to leftwing dogmas from Marx to Castro. - - - As I have said, Mr. President, it is unlikely that a conspiracy of Oswald's leftist compatriots exists in the assassination. It is my understanding that a soon to be released report by the FBI substantiates that Oswald acted as a 'loner' in the killing. But why was not Oswald under the closest scrutiny during the President's visit in Texas?" Mr. Simpson included several articles and editorials with his remarks.

Pages 22551-22553. Senator Mundt, (R) South Dakota, spoke concerning the assassination of President Kennedy. Mr. Mundt stated "A group of propagandists in foreign lands and a few commentators and writers in America have sought to convey the erroneous idea that the tragic and brutal assassination of President Kennedy reflected 'an American attitude' and that all our citizens should have a sense of guilt because of this atrocious act. Fortunately, however, wiser and more thoughtful spokesmen are now making clear the fact which should have been apparent to us all; namely, that Oswald was a malicious killer and that his murderer, in turn, was an erratic individual and publicity seeker." Mr. Mundt, in submitting three newspaper articles with his remarks, included an article entitled "Assassination Evokes Odd Views-Many Seen Linking Kennedy Killing To Racists, Rightists, Despite Facts." This article stated "Now a series of inquiries is beginning. One is by the FBI and the Justice Department into both the assassination and the murder of the accused assassin. - - - But one simple fact should not be ignored. The accused, and likely, murderer was a proudly professed Marxist; he never boasted of being a segregationist or a far-righter."

Memorandum to the Director Re: The Congressional Record

### SENATE - continued

Pages 22553-22555. Senator Magnuson, (D) Washington, submitted the text of an address delivered by Mr. Hoover on accepting the Brotherhood Award of the Washington Hebrew Congregation. He also included an article written by Jerry O'Leary, Jr., entitled "Hoover Says Fanatics Are Threat to Nation" which appeared in the Washington Evening Star on December 5th. Mr. Magnuson stated "millions of sorrowful, thoughtful Americans listened Tuesday night as their FBI Director, J. Edgar Hoover, spoke to them and for them. His speech was very thoughtful and important and, in fact, was one of the most intelligent addresses I have ever read. ——— I am glad J. Edgar Hoover has won the Brotherhood Award of the Washington Hebrew Congregation. He deserves it."

Page 22600. The Senate confirmed the nomination of William Jack Howard, of California, to be Chairman of the Military Liaison Committee to the Atomic Energy Commission.

Adjournment: Until Monday, December 9, 1963, at 12 noon.

### HOUSE

The proceedings of the House contain nothing of particular interest to the Bureau.

### APPENDIX

Pages A7445-A7446. Congressman Boggs, (D) Louisiana, extended his remarks to include the address delivered by Mr. Hoover, before the Brotherhood of the Washington Hebrew Congregation, on December 4, 1963. Mr. Boggs stated "I commend to every Member of the House and Senate this very fine speech in which Mr. Hoover not only recites many eternal truths about freedom and liberty, but also he says them very well."

l - Mr. Belment l - Mr. Rosen

IR. SULLIVAN

12-10-63

- Mr. Sullivan - Mr. Branigan - Mr. Turner

MR. BRANIGAN

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Post and Times Merald" dated 12-8-63, entitled "Dellas Ad Placer Explains Its Source," reveals a telephone interview with Bernard Weissman whose mane appears as a signer of the full-page highly critical ad concerning President Kennedy's foreign policies in the "Dellas Horning Hows" on the morning of 11-22-63. Weissman stated the money for the ad, \$1,463, was collected by a small group he hedded known as the "American Fact Finding Cosmittee," He added he was in Dellas when the President was assassinated and telephoned the FBI the same day and volunteered to appear for questioning "because of the attention that had been focused on my group due to its announced aims along conservative lines," He further added "they (the FDI) know more about me than I knew about myself." He stated he left Dellas a few days later because he could not earn a living with the threats and pressure being brought to bear against him by local liberal groups.

The Director commented on the above portion of the article "Is this story accurate?"

Either Weisman has been misquoted or he is
lying to attempt to create an impression he is of some
importance. My memorandum dated 12-6-63 which you have
seen and which is attached, sets forth the facts concerning
the preparation of the ad, those responsible and those
from whom the funds were solicited, Meisman, who arrived
in Dallas only 19 days before the assassination, permitted
his name to be used for the purpose of counteracting
charges of anti-Semitism which had been directed against
the conservatives.

In regard to Weissman's alleged telephone call to the Dallas Office, SAC Gordon Shanklin on 12-10-63

WDS; hrt (7) W. C. SULLIVAN

12-12-63

W. A. BRANIGAN

- Belmont

LEE HARVEY OSNALD

- Rosen

- Sullivan

I - Rogge 1 -

1 - Liaison

Turner

While reviewing the headquarters files of Secret Service on 12-11-63, a memo dated 11-25-63 from Secret Service Agent William Patterson addressed to "Chief" was found which stated that while Patterson was in the police station in Dallas, he engaged an FBI agent in conversation and fund out that he was on the subversive desk. This agent reportedly stated to Patterson that subject had contacted 2 known subversive agents about 15 days before the shooting but the entire information was Top Secret and he (the Bureau agent) could not tell the Secret Service any more but felt sure that the file would be turned over to the Chief of the Secret Service.

On 12-11-63 the Dallas office was telephonically requested to identify the agent who had taked to Patterson and get specific details as to what was said and to submit it to the Bureau. Dallas teletype 12-11-63 points out that this matter was discussed with personnel of the Dallas office and the only incident which in any way resembles this report relates to a conversation between SA James P. Hosty, Jr., of the Dallas office and Forrest V. Sorrels, agent in charge of the Dallas unit of the Secret Service. This conversation took place at the police stationaler subject was arrested. Mosty and SA James W. Bookhout were assigned to sit in on the police interview of subject. Following the interview subject was taken into an outer office where Sorrels began questioning him. After talking to subject for some time during which subject was furnishing information concerning his background and travel to Russia, Captain Will Fritz of the Dallas Police Department mentioned to Sorrels that SA Hosty might have some information concerning subject. At this point SA Hosty called Sorrels aside and told him that there was more information concerning subject but he should get it through FBI headquarters in Washington. Nothing more was said.

There were several other agents of the Secret Service present when this comment was made to Sorrels but it was made in such a fashion that no one else might hear it and so far as SA Hosty knows a fashion to overhear it. Hosty did not tell Sorrels or anyone else they did not overhear it. Hosty did not tell Sorrels or anyone else that subject had contacted 2 known subversive agents about 15 days before the assassination. SA Bookhout sat in on the interview of

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Memo for Mr. Sullivan Re: LEE HARVEY OSWALD 105-82555

subject but did not hear SA Hosty's conversation with Sorrels. The Dallas teletype indicates there is no information known to the Dallas office other than this incident which could even remotely be considered as a basis for Secret Service Agent Patterson's

### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that liaison discuss this matter with appropriate personnel at Secret Service headquarters in an effort to ascertain the basis for Patterson's memo. The Secret Service should be advised that the FBI did not as of 11-25-63, does not at the present time and never widd have any information indicating that subject had contacted 2 known subversive agents 15 days before the assassination.