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## CIA vs. critics of JFK probe

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WASHINGTON — The CIA directed its worldwide offices in 1967 to "employ propaganda assets" to counter doubts raised by critics of the Warren Commission investigation of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

According to a newly released CIA document, the propaganda campaign was to be waged in part by passing unclassified information about the assassination to CIA "assets" who could use it to write book reviews

and features that would "answer and refute the attacks of the critics."

The document, among about 850 pages released Friday by the CIA under the Freedom of Information Act, said that the aim was to disseminate "material for countering and discrediting the claims of the conspiracy theorists, so as to inhibit the circulation of such claims in other countries."

The CIA examined copies of almost all books about the Nov. 22, 1963, assassination, the documents show, in-

cluding one by then-Rep. Gerald R. Ford, a member of the Warren Commission, who concluded that Lee Harvey Oswald was solely responsible for the assassination. A CIA officer termed Ford's book "a rehash of the Oswald case."

A March 1965 memorandum to Richard Helms, then deputy CIA director for plans, says that a chapter in which Ford rebutted the claim that Oswald was an FBI agent "is just loose enough to permit quotation out of context."