TEXAS SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

Correspondence File
MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. William Moyers

SUBJECT: World Reaction to Oswald's Slaying

The Communists are making a determined effort to attribute the assassination of President Kennedy to a rightist conspiracy, and the killing of Lee Oswald by Jack Ruby has given them new ammunition.

The press of the free world has headlined the killing, evidenced doubt about Oswald's guilt, and given some credence to the theory of a conspiracy.

The Russian news agency TASS said today: "The 'mysterious' murder of Lee Oswald, accused of assassinating President Kennedy, cuts the ground from under the anti-communist, anti-Soviet, and anti-Cuban hysteria which the yellow press is trying to whip up in order to distract attention from the real perpetrators of the abominable crime... The whole thing is obviously a crude provocation. Americans have long become accustomed to southern police always trying to put the blame for crimes by racists, and their own crimes, on 'communists' and 'foreign agitators.'"

The line is being followed by the Communist satellites, including Cuba, and by Communist papers in the Free World.

First reports by wire and telephone from major world capitals give the following pattern of reaction:

Mexico City. Headline treatment, criticism of U.S. police methods, and a report that Ruby got near Oswald by paying off the
police at his bar. The Daily News, New York, noted, "Was there

fear that Oswald would take action, undermine persons or institutions

interested in the death of the politician who was the most powerful

country on earth? Look at this revealing network of people whose

motivating force was the sacrifice of Kennedy." November wrote, "There

will always be doubt as to Oswald's guilt."

Stockholm, Sweden's domestic radio service said, "These

responsible for Oswald's safety and solving the assassination of

President Kennedy appear, to say the least, in strange and even

negative light."

London, Oswald's killing was given heavy front-page play, with

large pictures of the actual shots. The Canadian said: "This

grotesque episode is setting a new precedent for the image of Dallas."

The Daily Herald wrote: "Lynch law has followed assassination.

The corruption of high criminality by the personal vengeance of a Dallas

club owner has brought total insanity to the American scene." The

London Times reports that people at the scene cheered the shooting

of Oswald. The Daily Telegraph described Dallas as a "schizophrenic"

city, "a rich breeding ground for the manic fringe -- the city without

a soul." The communist Daily Worker said the shooting "is bound

to increase the already strong belief that something is very rotten

in the Texas town of Dallas."

Santiago, Chile, Oswald's shooting was given sensational

treatment. Ultima's. Vocetos speculated on the reasons for the "great

facility" with which Ruby was able to approach Oswald. El Mercurio

hinted that the killing "involved more than a man taking justice into

his own hands."

Paris. The two largest evening papers today are out with head-

lined questions, La Crosse Daily under the banner "A Tragic Doubt,"

asks whether Oswald was really guilty, whether there was a con-

spiracy, and whether he was able to keep him from talking. France

Soir also says that the killing of Oswald raises questions, whether

he was alone, why Ruby shot him, why the police did not prevent the

shooting, and whether Ruby knew Oswald.
Buenos Aires. Heavy straight news coverage, with the exception of a cartoon captioned "Now we will have to assassinate the assassin of the assassin."

Bonn. Large headlines, and much speculation over the implications of the slaying. Some papers made a point of Oswald's denial, and of the failure of the police to prevent his shooting. Several writers said the killing will help the Soviets with their propaganda line.

Cairo. The important unity, "un-assassinate," said of the shooting, "This probably goes to show that Oswald was the actual killer, otherwise no one would have taken the trouble to kill him in order to bury his secrets with him. Moreover, the strong denial of the American communist party of having anything to do with the killer, Castro's statements denying any relationship between Cuba and Oswald, and Pravda's charges that enemies of East-West rapprochement are behind the assassination are not mere bubbles in the air."

Donald M. Wilson
Acting Director
BEST COPY
AVAILABLE
SUBJECT: Purpose of Forthcoming Court of Inquiry

Because of the murder of Lee Harvey Oswald, many facts concerning the assassination of President Kennedy, the attempted assassination of Governor Connally, and the murder of Dallas police officer Tippit will be left unanswered unless some forum is available to fully examine motives and evidence concerning this case.

It is necessary that all investigating officials, local, state, and federal, have an opportunity to place such evidence on record and before the public in a judicial manner. No investigations held heretofore are conclusive as they have not been evaluated before such a body, nor before the public. The witnesses have not been publicly examined under oath with penalty of perjury and, under the present circumstances, the Court of Inquiry is the only such forum available which will provide for such interrogation.

Obviously, had Lee Oswald not been slain, this action would not be necessary as the evidence would have been presented in a Texas court of law.

It is hoped that, through the cooperation of all investigative agencies involved, the results of this Court of Inquiry will leave no doubt in anyone's mind concerning the events of November 22-24.
From the Office of
Attorney General Waggoner Carr

December 2, 1963
For Immediate Release

Attorney General Waggoner Carr today announced the appointment of nationally-known Houston Attorney Leon Jaworski as Special Counsel for the upcoming Texas Court of Inquiry. The Inquiry is to investigate and ascertain all facts concerning the assassination of President Kennedy, the attempted assassination of Governor Connally, and the murders of Dallas police officer, J. C. Tippit, and alleged assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald. These facts are then to be transmitted to the newly appointed Presidential Commission for its use in preparing its report.

Carr's appointment of Jaworski is the result of his announcement in Washington that a Texas Court of Inquiry would be held, and that he would seek the "outside" assistance of outstanding attorneys in addition to the counsel of local and state officials.

Jaworski is a partner in the Houston law firm of Fulbright, Crooker, Freeman, Bates and Jaworski. He is 58 years of age and was born in Waco, Texas. He received his Bachelor of Law Degree at Baylor University in 1925 and his Master of Laws Degree at George Washington University in 1928. He was also awarded a Doctor of Laws Degree at Baylor in 1960.

He has been past presidents of the State Bar of Texas, Houston Bar Association, and the American College of Trial Lawyers, and is a member of the Board of Regents of the latter organization. In addition, Jaworski is a member and trustee of the Southwestern Legal Foundation, Fellow, American Bar Foundation, and is a member of the American Law Institute, the Houston Bar Association, State Bar of Texas, and the American Bar Association.

Jaworski served during World War II as a Colonel in the Judge Advocate General's Department. He served as a Trial Judge Advocate in major military trials held in the United States and later as Chief of the War Crimes Section of the United States Army in the European theatre. In his latter capacity he personally prosecuted the first major war crimes trials in the European theatre. He is a holder of the Legion of Merit award.

In the area of civic and charitable work, the appointee is a past President and Director of the Houston Chamber of Commerce, past President of the Houston Chapter of the American Red Cross, and is chairman of the Joint Administrative Committee of the Texas Medical Center and Baylor University College of Medicine.

From 1955 through 1961, he was Protestant chairman of the Houston chapter of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, Inc. Jaworski is also a trustee of
the Houston United Fund, the M. D. Anderson Foundation, the Texas Institute for Rehabilitation and Research, the Presbyterian Foundation, the Sam Rayburn Foundation, and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Texas Bill of Rights Foundation.

In accepting the Attorney General's appointment, Jaworski said "I am greatly impressed with the cooperation and the spirit of harmony which exists between local, state, and federal governments in this matter. I am honored to have been asked to serve as Special Counsel for this very important Texas Court of Inquiry, and I pledge to cooperate with the Attorney General to see that a complete and thorough disclosure of the facts is made to the public."

Upon notification of Jaworski's acceptance, Carr said "I am very grateful to Mr. Jaworski for his willingness to serve as Special Counsel. The active participation of one of the nation's outstanding lawyers will be of inestimable value in developing all of the facts of the Judicial hearing. These facts will then be useful to the newly-appointed Presidential Commission in reaching its ultimate conclusion."

Carr concluded, "I hope to be able to announce the selection of the other Special Counsel within the next few days."
NOTES OF GENERAL CARR ON COURT OF INQUIRY

November 26, 1963

I talked at the direction of Mr. Walter Jenkins with Mr. Abe Fortas, a well known and highly respected attorney in Washington. His office number is FE 8-3700. Mr. Fortas informed me that he had been assigned to co-ordinate the FBI, Department of Justice and Texas Attorney General's efforts regarding the assassination of the President. He pledged the full co-operation of the federal government in working with the State of Texas. To illustrate this to the world, he noted he had ordered Assistant Attorney General Herbert Miller, Chief of the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice in Washington to call on me that night. Mr. Fortas suggested a press conference and pictures which would aptly point out the close co-operation between the two governments. He stated that the report of the FBI would be made available to us in order that the State of Texas might conduct our court of inquiry. He authorized me to say upon questioning that I had, at all times, been in contact with and consulted with the White House Staff.

I talked with Colonel Garrison on the phone and asked him to determine who went to Mexico with Oswald at the time he was there from September 26 thru October 3rd, 1963. He was advised to check all ports of entry on the border. Several hours later Colonel Garrison made a preliminary report stating that two blonde women and another man either went from Texas into Mexico with Oswald or came back with him and they would make a more complete report later.

I was advised by District Attorney Henry Wade that he had already turned the State's evidence over to the FBI. He said that the FBI had agreed to let us have it back any time we wanted it. Henry said that he thought it would be good to have the FBI do it and get it out of the hands of the State for the time being.
December 5, 1963

The Chief Justice of the United States
The Supreme Court of the United States
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Chief Justice:

In view of the fact that the Special Commission appointed by the President to report upon all the facts and circumstances relating to the Assassination of the late President Kennedy is meeting today, it may be helpful to you and other members of the Commission to explain the nature of the Texas Court of Inquiry to which the President's statement appointing the Commission specifically referred. While we feel a special responsibility to develop the facts, we are anxious to do everything in our power to facilitate the work of the Commission and give effect to the President's desire that it be the only body to report conclusions.

I

It may be helpful to explain first the circumstances leading to the creation of the Court of Inquiry: for they emphasize the extent to which it is the product of federal-state cooperation. By statement announcing that a Court of Inquiry would be convened by the product of a conference with the White House, and the White House staff joined the Governor's office and my office in preparing the actual form of statement. It has felt that since the tragic events took place in Texas, prompt measures should be taken by Texas authorities to assure the people of Texas that a thorough and responsible investigation of all the facts would be made by a body having power to administer oaths and issue subpoenas. Since then we have been working in close cooperation with the White House staff, the Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Assistant Attorney General Miller came to Texas for the purpose of demonstrating our cooperation. The State of Texas placed all its files and evidence in the hands of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
Under our Texas laws a Court of Inquiry may be called by any Justice of the Peace for the purpose of ascertaining facts which may establish the commission of a crime. The court has State-wide power to subpoena witnesses, and also full judicial power to punish contempts. Witnesses are questioned under oath and may be prosecuted for perjury in the event of false testimony. A full transcript is kept.

The original announcement gave assurance that the inquiry would be conducted in a careful and responsible fashion by stating that it would be conducted by the Attorney-General of Texas, in cooperation with the local authorities, with the aid of one or more eminent attorneys as special counsel. Leon Jaworski, Esq., immediate past president of the Texas State Bar and a former president of the American College of Trial Lawyers, has agreed to serve in that capacity. I announce that Robert G. Storey, Esq., a past president of the American Bar Association, will also agree to serve. Their participation guarantees that the proceeding will be conducted competently and with no purpose except full development of the facts.

III

Three points concerning the Court of Inquiry may be of special interest to the Commission.

1. Its activities will not involve publication of the report of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. While we were assured, both privately and in public statements that the identity of material witnesses, evidence, laboratory findings, etc., would be made available to the State of Texas, the F.B.I. report itself would be neither published nor introduced in evidence. The Court of Inquiry will make its own report.
The Court of Inquiry will make no findings, conclusions of responsibility. Its sole purpose is to
3. The Court of Inquiry will be concerned only with
the facts concerning the assassination of President Kennedy, the
attempted assassination of Governor Connolly, and the
related killing of Lee Harvey Oswald. (On the latter issue
we shall have to take every step to prevent in any way the
trial of Jack Ruby; that is to say that the local district
attorney will sit with us.) In order to satisfy the people
of Texas we must pursue any actual leads to evidence con-
cerning those events. There will be no witch-hunt.

I am hopeful that the work of the Court of Inquiry, continued to making a record of sworn testimony, will be
helpful to the Commission. That is our primary purpose,
and we are anxious to some the inquiry in whatever way
will be most helpful to ascertain the full facts.

The evidence will be brought out and tested by the
examination of witnesses under oath by able counsel. It
will all be available to the Special Commission. The
Court of Inquiry was to reconsider, if the Commission re-
quests, to pursue any new leads. Perhaps it is unlikely,
but there is at least the possibility that the Court of
Inquiry's power of subpoena would prove of value to the
Commission in obtaining testimony from witnesses who had
not been willing to speak freely to the Federal Bureau of
Investigation or who might otherwise decline to testify.
Finally, the very fact that there was an inquiry with
witnesses heard in public, the record of which can before
the Commission, might lend strength to the Commission's
report, even if it were only as an answer to the charge
that the Commission was dependent upon the F.B.I. In-
vestigation alone.
Finally, I must stress the great importance of the Court of Inquiry to the people of Texas. The assassination occurred in Texas. The people of Texas share with their fellow countrymen the loss of a great President. Their own Governor was badly wounded. The integrity of Texas justice is deeply involved. I am certain that the people of Texas share my feeling, which I expressed above, that the only conclusions that are drawn ought to be drawn by the Special Commission on behalf of the whole Nation, but they are also convinced that it is their local responsibility to have their State officials do everything possible to uncover all the facts.

As you know, both Mr. Johnson and I are in Washington. If it would be of any assistance to meet with you with or without other members of the Commission as you might wish, we would be happy to suit your convenience.

Sincerely yours,

Wynnon Carr
Attorney General of Texas
Honorable Waggoner Carr,
Attorney General of Texas,
The State Capitol,
Austin, Texas.

Dear General Carr:

The President's Commission has asked me to respond to your full and courteous letter of December 5th in which you describe the proposed work of the Texas Court of Inquiry. The Commission greatly appreciates your desire to facilitate its work and to help to insure that an accurate and responsible report with respect to all of the relevant facts be made to the President.

All of the members of the Commission are aware of the deep interest of Texas in the tragic event which occurred there and with respect to which all of us are exercising the responsibilities laid upon us. We share your view that it is desirable to have State officials do everything possible to uncover all the facts, and are appreciative of the availability of these facts to the Commission.

As you know, at this time the Commission is organizing its procedures and we do not yet have available the comprehensive report of the FBI and of other investigative agencies both Federal and State. While we expect to receive this material soon, it will take time to analyze it thoroughly, and I am sure you will agree that there may remain matters which will require further investigation before we feel that we are in possession of all of the relative data upon which to make evaluation and judgment. We are most anxious, as I am sure you are, to take no steps which could impede investigation or which could lead the public to mistaken conclusions based upon partial factual information. In addition, as you point out in your letter, the Commission, as well as the Texas Court of Inquiry, must be extremely careful not to prejudice in any way the trial in Texas of Jack Ruby.

Washington, D.C.

December 6, 1963
The Commission would not wish to interfere in any way with you or other State authorities in the conduct of matters which are your responsibilities, and in which, as you point out, the State of Texas has a proper and important interest. At the same time, it is the view of the Commission, for the reasons stated above, that a public inquiry in Texas at this time might be more harmful than helpful in our mutual search for the truth. Recognizing that the timing of this inquiry is your responsibility and your decision, we cannot refrain from the suggestion that you consider the wisdom of postponement of this Court.

It would be the Commission's desire that you and your Special Counsel, or either of you, participate in the Commission's work, and counsel with it. It being the Commission's wish that you as the representative of the State of Texas be fully advised of the progress that is made in the course of the Commission's investigation and advance such suggestions as you consider helpful to the accomplishment of the Commission's assignment. It may develop that the Commission would deem it advisable that testimony of certain witnesses residing in Texas should be taken before a Texas Court of Inquiry, and in that event we would expect to call on you to render this additional assistance.

Let me assure you of the desire of the Commission to work most closely with you and of our conviction that in a spirit of close cooperation, we can responsibly meet our independent obligations. The Commission would be glad to discuss further with you as our inquiry proceeds the ways in which we can best work together towards this goal.

Sincerely,

Chairman.
November 3, 1963

Mr. Cargill
Attorney General of Texas
Austin, Texas

Dear Mr. Cargill,

Enclosed are two copies of a transcript of your press conference.

A few words to me at the end of the notice, but I'm sure you will time to look over. A few of the questions and answers

To the state police, please, if the police will sign as any

date.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Assistant for Public Information]
Press Conference - Attorney General of Texas, Honorable Waggoner Carr
December 8, 1958

Attorney General Carr read a prepared statement.

Q. Are you leaning to open so you may still have the Court of Inquiry after
the federal inquiry is completed?

A. Yes, I think we have that right, if we desire. Just now, our desire
is to work in the most effective way to bring all the facts out, whatever they
may be.

Q. You were asked to hold this Court of Inquiry?

A. We have been in many conferences here. This has been discussed
several times since we have been in the city. I received a letter from the
Chief Justice, speaking for the leaders in, which I will give to you, in part:

"The Commission could not visit, interfere in any way with you or other
state authorities in the conduct of any in which you are representing;
and with, as you point out, we do be in Texas has a major and important
desire. At the same time, it is the view of the United States that the
stated above, that a special inquiry in Texas at this time might be more
harmful to our moral search for the truth. Recognizing that the timing
of this inquiry is your responsibility and your draft, we will not rely on
the suggestion that you undertake the selection of personnel for your court.
It would be the Commission's intent, in the event you appoint a special counsel, or either
of you, participate in the Commission's work and counsel with it, in being the
Commission's work, in the representative of the State of Texas. We
fully advised of the progress that is made in the course of the Commission's
investigation and agrees with what appears to you similar helpful to the
Commission's admonition of the conduct of the inquiry. And in my judgment, the
Commission would find it difficult to continue its work in the same manner until
the inquiry be taken before the Texas Court of Inquiry and in that event,
we would expect to act upon your recommendations and assure you that
the work will be performed in cooperation with us, and that in the spirit of
cooperation to act responsibly meet our independent needs."

Q. Did you already start an inquiry?

A. Yes. You consider the original statement that the Court of Inquiry
would be held, and it would be organized in a certain way, that we will invite
one or more eminent lawyers to sit and serve, if we are in the process of
doing that; Mr. Javorski has been selected and has agreed; he is a prominent
Houston attorney, immediate past president of the Texas Bar..." (went into Javorski's
background).
Q. Was your decision based on suggestion of the Chief Justice? Or were there other factors?

A. We have been discussing the ways we might best work together without competing with one another—whatever they might be. We have had numerous discussions during these three days, trying to achieve the best way possible.

Q. Have you conferred with the President?

A. No. We hope to pay our respects to him.

Q. Was asked something about the FBI report?

A. We have not asked for it.

Q. Was asked something about the report that Oswald was the one taking a shot at General Walker?

A. We have been discussing what ways we might best work together without competing with one another—whatever they might be. We have had numerous discussions during these three days, trying to achieve the best way possible.

Q. Yes. You are convinced that the investigative authority of the federal government is being used to its fullest? (Before you announced it.)

A. Yes. At that time, we were in contact with the staff of the White House. We wanted to be helpful. This has been a cooperative effort from the beginning. Texas feels it has a responsibility in making all the facts known.

Q. Had you discussed this Court of Inquiry plan with the Justice Department before you announced it?

A. Yes.

Q. Or with the President?

A. With the White House staff.

Q. Who in particular?
A. I don't want -- no one has asked us not to hold a Court of Inquiry. We have worked out a system to postpone it.

Q. Anyone at the White House suggest you postpone it.

A. No.

Q. You will cooperate with the Commission whenever they call you?

A. Yes. It is an invitation we have accepted.

Q. When will they meet?

A. I don't know.

Q. Did you feel or the Attorney General in Texas feel the Court of Inquiry might turn up evidence that the FBI would not be able to find?

A. No. That's not the purpose of it at all. We knew all this happened in the State. It has been a cooperative matter from the beginning. I keep insisting, in answer to your question, there is nothing like that in it at all-- supplementing each other.

Q. Had you announced any hearings yet?

A. No. Our purpose was not to let until the proper time; our files in the hands of the FBI, and we have had the beginning cooperating with them.

Q. Had you decided where the hearing would be held?

A. No. The cities underkur gone to. There are legal points involved as to subpoena power. Under discussion in either in Dallas or Austin.

Q. Do you think the Court of Inquiry will be held eventually?

A. If it can serve a useful purpo, at a later date, in establishing what the facts are, why, of course, this would be the purpose of it. Would not call it unless it has a useful purpose. We don't feel it would have useful purpose at this time--just now.

Q. You would not go on and have the Court of Inquiry help duplicate facts here?

A. Not unless we thought it would have usefulness--such as public examination of witnesses under oath and cross-examination.

Q. Have you worked out the nature of your cooperation with the Commission? Have they asked you to be on hand? Will you sit as a member of the Commission?

A. We are not a member of the Commission itself. That's obvious. The Chief Justice, speaking for the Commission has been gracious enough to invite us to participate in the working and attend its hearings.
Q. You don't know if the Governor will actually have public hearings.

A. I don't know if that has been particularly decided.

Q. Did you meet with the commission today?

A. No, I did not.

Q. You only met with them just in dinner?

A. No, we are speaking of the commission.

Q. When did you first meet them?

A. Today.

Q. You didn't meet with them in the last week?

A. As the letter you mention the written after the meeting. I don't know when the meeting was before or after.

Q. When did you first meet with the Chief Justice?

A. At five o'clock.

Q. You got on the letter a... the meeting with the Chief Justice?

A. I got it at this time -- the meeting.

Q. Did you get on the same order of business? or the Governor Connolly?

A. You ran this paper on what I told Mr., Governor Connolly was in the room. I've never got it actually organized and ready to go, we are still in the process. But Governor has the authority to call it, and he could issue it orally or in writing.
STATEMENT BY WILSON C. BRYAN, ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

For the past three days Mr. Favrocki and I have been in Washington conferring with Mr. Katzenbach, Deputy Attorney General, and with Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, concerning the investigation of the facts surrounding the assassination of President Kennedy, the attempted assassination of Governor Connally, and subsequent events.

We are convinced that the investigative authority of the federal government is being used to the fullest extent. The files and the evidence which have been accumulated by local and State authorities are in the hands of the FBI for its use. The investigation is being conducted vigorously, reaching across the boundaries of many States and several nations to date. Consistent with the purpose of our State to cooperate closely in this investigation, it is our considered judgment that the Texas Court of Inquiry, if held at this time or in the immediate future, might bring about an interruption in the continuity of the Nation-wide investigation.

For these reasons, it is my conclusion and decision that the convening of a Court of Inquiry at the present time should be withheld. In the meantime, the President's Special Commission has asked the Attorney General of Texas and the Special Counsel selected for the Texas Court of Inquiry to work with the Commission, attend its hearings and assist with the Commission's important tasks. I have accepted this invitation and we shall make all resources which we have in the State of Texas available to support the task of this Commission.
December 9, 1963

Dear General:

This confirms our telephone conversation to the effect that I shall be glad to join you and Leo Jaworski as a Special Counsel for the State of Texas in connection with the investigation of facts concerning the President's assassination and subsequent events, in cooperation with the President's Commission, as outlined in our conversations.

You may address correspondence and phone calls to my law office at the above address. I usually divide my time between the law office and the Legal Center, but mail is delivered more promptly to the law office. My telephone number at the law office is R 2-6844; and the Legal Center, EM 3-2230 or EM 3-1023.

As suggested by you, I am enclosing two biographical sketches.

Looking forward to working with you and with highest esteem, I am

Sincerely yours,

Honorable Waggoner Carr
The Attorney General
Supreme Court Building
Austin, Texas

RGS/kk
Enclosures
ROBERT CERALD STOREY
Dallas, Texas

Family and Personal:
Wife, Hazel P. Storey, (deceased, 1962); two sons, Robert G. Storey, Jr., (deceased, 1962) and Charles P. Storey, Attorneys.

Education:
University of Texas and Southern Methodist University, B. A.;
LL. D., Texas Christian University, 1927; Laval University, 1933;
Drake University, 1954; Doctor of Humanities, Rikko University, Japan, 1961; Doctor of Civil Laws, Chungang University, Korea, 1961.

Professional:
Partner, Storey, Armstrong & Sieger, Dallas, Texas:
President, Southwestern Legal Foundation, 1947; Dean, Southern Methodist University Law School, 1947-59.

Public Service:
Assistant Attorney General of Texas for Criminal Appeals, 1921-1923.
Member, National Executive Committee, American Legion, 1921-1922.
Governor, Kiwanis Club, Texas-Oklahoma District, 1931.
President of Park Board, City of Dallas, 1933-1941;
Executive Trial Counsel for United States, Nuremberg, Trial of Major Axis War Criminals, 1945-1946;
Member, Commission to Reorganize Executive Branch of United States Government (Hoover Commission), 1953-1958;
Advisor to Korean Government on judicial system and legal profession, 1954; Korean Legal Center, 1959;
State Department representative in Far East and Middle East to assist legal profession of friendly free nations, 1954-1955;
Chairman, Board of Foreign Scholarships (International Educational Exchange), 1954-1958;
Vice Chairman, United States Civil Rights Commission, 1957;

Bar Association Activities:
President, Dallas Bar Association, 1934;
President, State Bar of Texas, 1945-1949;
President, American Bar Association, 1952-1953;
President, Inter-American Bar Association, 1954-1956;
Member of Council, International Bar Association, 1952-1959;
Honorary member of Canadian, Peruvian, Mexican, Korean, Australian and various State Bar Associations.
December 16, 1863

Honorableutexa C. A.
President
State of Texas
Box 344
San Antonio, Texas

Dear Mr. President:

I appreciate very much your kind letter of 10th inst. on the
concerning the decision we made on the Texas Court of
Inquiry. I appreciate also the confidence you had in me and
the way in which you handled the letters written to you
expressing concern.

I am taking the liberty of sending herewith a copy of a speech
made recently in Boston which sets out the complete
history of the Court of Inquiry.

I will be more grateful to you if you will be kind enough to let
me have the benefit of your thinking and your advice in the
days ahead. I really admire the way you keep your two
feet on the ground in everything you do.

Yours very truly,

Wagner Carr

W/Care
Enclosure
Dear Mr. waggoner,

Until you had made your own personal decision concerning the subject of the sick leave that I was discussing with you concerning the president's leave, I declined to be present any discussion of it to you. Although there was pressure on me to be so, I concluded that a discussion was your own alone.

Now that you have made your decision, I wish
to say that I appreciate the way you handled the matter and I believe you gathered much support from the public in what you did.

You are doing a fine job for Texas as Attorney General and I wish you to know that I will lend whatever assistance and aid I can to support your fortunes in that task.

Sincerely,

Buster Cole
I want you to know how happy I am to be once again in your wonderful city of Houston, and I am especially delighted to be appearing before such a fine, select group as the Houston Rotary Club.

Although I am no orator to claim such great honor, I have been there weeks ... three hours today, I might add... since a similar address, and it is hard to be succinct, so that

...the essence of normal living...

As a result of the judge's orders, I remember well through November 20th, it was noticed long that all of our cases have been changed to some degree. Since that time literally millions of words have been written at these hearings there have... some of them now... some of that... reading... some of that noise... and since the Attorney General's office has involved in the particular area of those cases... I think you might be interested in hearing only the complete story by the Texas Court of Inquiry... from its inception... up to now,
The story really began in Washington, D.C., where I, along with Lieutenant Governor Preston Smith and House Speaker Lyon Tunnell, had traveled to serve as official representatives of the State of Texas to the Federal C. President Kennedy.

After a conference with the President, it was decided that a Court of Inquiry should be held in Texas for the purpose of fully developing and elucidating publicly the facts surrounding the assassination of President Kennedy, the attempted assassination of Governor Connally, the murder of Dallas police officers, J. D. Tippit, the neighboring events. These were three primary reasons why such proceedings were felt to be desirable, and, indeed, necessary.

First, the President was going to call for a complete and thorough report from the U.S. Government that this action might be misinterpreted by the rest of the United States and the world to mean that the integrity of justice and law and order in Texas had broken down to such an extent that nothing less than federal agents could bring about any kind of order.
The federal government also wanted to avoid giving the impression that it was taking over the responsibility of Texas in the enforcement of state laws.

Secondly, the eastern and northern press, and even the international press, knew that the president was beginning to institute and openly state that there was an evil, dark, and mysterious conspiracy to prevent the truth from becoming known... and that this conspiracy was being aided and abetted by the authorities of Texas. It was being said that the lips of the official records of the President's administration had been forever sealed by those who feared the story which he might tell... and they went on to have darkly that the killing of Owen had been allowed by the Texas police... either angrily... or stupidly.

With such instructions that, were it to the security of Texas authorities, it was said they Texas must quickly demonstrate the new initiative and desire to determine the facts... in no case what they might reveal... in plain view of the world through a public hearing.
And thirdly, the development and consequences of the facts should demand. In the course of the initial investigation, be done by a judicial hearing where necessary only be obtained under oath and those unwilling witnesses might be forcibly subpoenaed. The Federal system and its methods whereby this could be accomplished. The board of review, however, must have such a structure which authorizes the setting up of a Court of Inquiry for the purpose of determining whether a crime has been committed. Such a court has two main objectives; namely to enforce the attendance of witnesses who in their judgment be necessary, and authority to place such witnesses under oath at such time as shall ... such oath to be administered by a duly qualified official present should the witness fail. The administration would be administered by the Attorney General of Texas or the head therein designated.

We also plan to secure the or more investigators, either of these, not connected with the government, or a more informal. These nonpartisan investigators would work closely with the investigators and the local District Attorney in the preparation of a report of the Court of Inquiry.
I agreed that Texas was an unusual state, even to determining the facts and to making them public. It was only in this manner that the world could know the full extent of the differences between fact and rumor. In accordance with this decision, I announced in Washington that I would take a part of the burden upon my return to Texas.

Within the next few months, the United States Department of Justice sent its chief-detective, Mr. Harry O. Miller, to Texas and one of the fatal accidents to which I referred was held to be attributable in the deaths.

First, to make initial decisions as to how the federal and state governments could best effectively work together towards their common objective of obtaining the truth, the Secretary of War appointed a commission to operate under the leadership of Texas and the federal government. Recognized the responsibility of Texas in the determination of facts arising out of these tragic events, Mr. Miller was accompanied to witness by the U.S. Solicitor General for the Northern District of Texas, Mr. Casimiro Sanchez. During a pre-trial conference, we were able to establish a very close basis of cooperation.
Immediately following this meeting, a press conference was held, with all three of us present, where statements were mutually made expressing the desire of both governments to cooperate in this objective. It was announced that this would be a three-pronged affair.

(1) The FBI would make its full report to the President, and Texas would cooperate in this first step by turning all files and evidence over to the FBI so that agency might have the benefit of our information in making its report to the President. This we promptly did.

(2) The second phase of the investigation would be the Texas Court of Inquiry which was to be called as soon as the state could prepare its evidence following the report of the FBI to the President. In this phase, the federal government, including, of course, the FBI, would cooperate with Texas authorities by making all federal evidence and witnesses available for the Court of Inquiry. This included even witnesses outside the State of Texas and thus beyond the reach of a Texas subpoena.
(3) The third phase would be undertaken by the Presidential Commission. This Commission would possess all of the facts developed by the federal agencies as well as the testimony from the Texas Court of Inquiry, and from these facts, would draw conclusions and report its findings.

Immediately thereafter, the top staff of my office began to brief legal questions which confronted us in the selection of a city where the Court might be held, as well as many other questions which you would expect to arise in such an endeavor.

From the very outset, we remained in close contact with the White House staff, the Governor's office, and the office of the Dallas District Attorney, Mr. Henry Wade.

One of the most pressing and important decisions which I had to make was the selection of one or more eminent Texas lawyers who would serve as special counsel. It was necessary that these men have, not only the highest possible prestige and respect of the people of Texas, but also the people of this nation.
It was vitally necessary that the character of this investigation remain non-political and unbiased, and we knew that our success in this area would depend to a very high degree on the reputation and ability of the special counsel. Therefore, my decision here required Texas, national, and indeed, worldly consideration.

As you know, I selected as one of these men your fellow Houstonian, Mr. Leon Jaworski, whose background included such accomplishments as immediate Past President of the Texas Bar Association, Past President of the American College of Trial Lawyers, prosecutor of war criminals following World War II, and whose reputation for ability and integrity in the practice of law was beyond reproach from coast to coast.

Let it be said to the everlasting credit of Mr. Jaworski that when I requested this assistance, he immediately accepted, knowing that this service could be given to his state and nation only at considerable personal expense and loss of time in his private practice of law.
Upon Mr. Jaworski's acceptance, the appointment was announced to the public.

A few days later, President Johnson announced the creation of the Presidential Special Commission. In his announcement, the President stated that this Commission should take into consideration all of the facts developed by all investigative agencies, as well as testimony from the Texas Court of Inquiry.

Last week, Mr. Jaworski and I were requested by the Department of Justice to come to Washington for the purpose of discussing ways in which we could continue to most effectively cooperate. During our stay in the nation's capital, the Presidential Commission held two meetings for the purpose of perfecting its organization and hiring of its staff. As you know, this Commission is made up of seven members appointed by the President. Its Chairman is Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Earl Warren. Other members are Senator Richard B. Russell, Democrat from Georgia; Senator John Sherman Cooper, Republican from Kentucky; Representative Hale Boggs, Democrat from Louisiana; Representative
Gerald Ford, Michigan Republican; Allen Dulles, former
Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, and John J. McCloy,
former special advisor on disarmament to President Kennedy.
All of them are lawyers.

Chief Justice Warren visited personally with Mr. Jaworski
and me in behalf of the Commission. At that time he made the
following request, and he repeated this request in a letter
which he sent to me in Austin. I quote in part from that
letter:

"All of the members of the Commission are aware of the
deep interest of Texas in the tragic event which occurred
there and with respect to which all of us are exercising the
responsibilities laid upon us. We share your view that it
is desirable to have state officials do everything possible
to uncover all the facts, and are appreciative of the availa-
bility of these facts to the Commission."
"As you know, at this time the Commission is organizing its procedures and we do not yet have available the comprehensive report of the FBI or of other investigative agencies, both Federal and State. While we expect to receive this material soon, it will take time to analyze it thoroughly. I am sure you will agree that there may remain matters which will require further investigation before we feel we are in possession of all of the relative data upon which to make evaluation and judgment. We are most anxious, as I am sure you are, to take no steps which could impede investigation or which could lead the public to mistaken conclusion based upon partial factual information. In addition, as well as the Texas Court of Inquiry, must be extremely careful not to prejudice in any way the trial in Texas of Jack Ruby.

"The Commission would not wish to interfere in any way with you or other state authorities in the conduct of matters
which are your responsibilities, and in which, as you
point out, the State of Texas has a proper and important
interest. At the same time, it is the view of the Commission,
for the reasons stated above, that a public inquiry in Texas
at this time might be more harmful than helpful in our mutual
search for the truth. Recognizing that the timing of this
Inquiry is your responsibility and your decision, we cannot
refrain from the suggestion that you consider the wisdom of
postponement of this Court.

"It would be the Commission's desire that you and your
Special Counsel, or either of you, participate in the
Commission's work, and counsel with it, it being the Commission's
wish that you as the representative of the State of Texas be
fully advised of the progress that is made in the course of
the Commission's investigation and advance such suggestions
as you consider helpful to the accomplishment of the Com-
mission's assignment. It may develop that the Commission
would deem it advisable that testimony of certain witnesses residing in Texas should be taken before a Texas Court of Inquiry and, in that event, we would expect to call upon you to render this additional assistance.

"Let me assure you of the desire of the Commission to work most closely with you and of our conviction that in a spirit of close cooperation we can responsibly meet our independent obligations."

As a result of these conferences, Mr. Jaworski and I had become convinced that the investigative authority of the federal government was being used to the fullest extent. The Commission would be granted subpoena powers, and the investigation, which had already reached across many states and several nations, was being conducted vigorously. Therefore, pursuant to the Commission's request, it was our considered judgment that the Texas Court of Inquiry, if held at this time or in the immediate future, might bring about an interruption in the continuity of the nation-wide investigation.
For these reasons, it was my conclusion and decision that the convening of the Texas Court of Inquiry should, for the present time, be withheld. At the same time that I announced this decision, I also accepted the invitation of the Special Commission in which they asked Mr. Jaworski and me to attend their hearings and assist with the Commission's important task.

It is clearly understood by all concerned that if, after we have assisted the Commission in this work, we feel the necessity of additional investigation to disclose further facts, we will then have no hesitancy in calling for the Texas Court of Inquiry.

Only one thing is uppermost in our minds. Every possible fact concerning these tragic events must be sought out and established. Then, and only then, will the public confirm that justice has been accomplished.

I have enjoyed being with you today, and I wish all of you much happiness in the coming holiday season.
December 16, 1963

Honorable Earl Warren
Chairman
The President's Commission
The National Archives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Chief Justice Warren:

I gratefully acknowledge receipt of your letter of December 9, 1963, following the visit Mr. J. Javorski and I had with you.

Although I have previously described in detail our inspection and discussions at behalf of the Commission to publicize it in its work, it was again brought to my attention with particularity in the work of the Commission that it was of great public interest. The work of the Commission, Texas will require the Court of Inquiry to make a decision that it would serve a useful purpose in addition to the Commission's investigation.

I appreciate that the document is prepared of the Court of Inquiry in a full documentation of all the facts surrounding the tragic events which occurred, which has been. I cannot over emphasize the importance of the people of the United States to see the responsibility in this respect in the most effective way. We have presented our facts clearly in the hands of your investigation to participate in the Commission work, the new show daily.

I have appointed Mr. J. Javorski of Texas and Mr. Robert C. Scovill of Dallas to serve with me in our national search for the truth. Dean Scovill was appointed subsequent to the visit Mr. Javorski and I had with you. I know you are acquainted with Dean Scovill and I am of sharing some information on his many accomplishments.
December 16, 1968

Dear Mr. Story,

It is our sincere desire to work most closely with the Government so that, as you state in your letter "we can cooperatively meet our independent obligations."

Yours very truly,

[Signature]

Cc: Honorable Nicholas deB. Katzenbach
   Deputy Attorney General
   Department of Justice
   Washington, D.C.

Honorable R. G. Storz
Attorney at Law
Republic National Bank Building
Dallas, Texas

Honorable Lucz Jaworski
Fulbright, Crocker, Freeman, Bates and Jaworski
Attorneys at Law
Bank of the Southwest Building
Houston, Texas
December 19, 1963

Honorable Waggoner Carr
The Attorney General
Supreme Court Building
Austin, Texas

Dear General:

Confirming our various telephone conversations, all those to whom this letter and copies are addressed have agreed to meet in our Law Library, 2700 Republic National Bank Building, next Tuesday, December 24, at 10:00 A.M.

On behalf of Attorney General Carr, Mr. Jaworski and me as special counsel, I do trust that all can be present.

Sincerely yours,

cc: Mayor Earle Cabell
    City Manager Elgin Crull
    Sheriff Bill Decker
    Chief Jesse E. Curry
    Mr. Leon Jaworski
    Mr. Henry Wade
    Mr. Barefoot Sanders
BEST COPY

AVAILABLE
December 19, 1963

Honorable Waggoner Carr
Attorney General
The State Capitol
Austin, Texas

Dear General Carr:

I wish to again express my appreciation for the fine conference
that we had with you and your Special Assistant, Mr. John Wall and Robert
Storey in the offices of the Commission on Tuesday of this week. The
discussions of our mutual problems were most helpful and I wish to accept
your generous offer of having Mr. Jewsnick and Mr. Storey act as liaison
with the Commission on your behalf.

As I advised you at that time the Commission would like to have
an arrangement with your office whereby you can assemble and furnish to
us all the information in the possession of the various agencies and govern-
mental subdivisions within the State of Texas bearing upon this problem.
This would greatly simplify our procedures and enable us to make the most
effective use of the findings of all the Texas agencies. Such agencies
and subdivisions are the following:

1. Office of the Attorney General
2. Public Safety Department
3. Office of the District Attorney at Dallas
4. County Sheriff and other county officers at Dallas
5. City Police and other city officers at Dallas
6. All other public sources.

Again let me assure you of the desire of the Commission to work
with you in a spirit of close cooperation and in mutual endeavor to obtain
all of the ultimate facts in this matter.

Sincerely,

Chairman
December 30, 1968

Honorable Lee Rankin
Veterans of Foreign Wars Building
200 Maryland Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear General:

Pursuant to our telephone conversation, I will apprise the following information with the hope that the Commission will be in the hands of the District Attorney of District County, etc., county, etc.

1. In preparing the case or case against that taken by the District Attorney is presently being handled by the fact that if it is made, it in accordance with statements made in the present of the FBI. Would you please see what can be done to get those statements, etc., in the hands of the District Attorney? The case is presently set for trial in early February.

2. Mr. White is interested in social security statements made in the past to the District Attorney in the connection in the name of Edward and Elizabeth that is that with such a statement should be retained. The connection in the name of Edward and Elizabeth is to announce that such proof of evidences are not hold on any file. The district attorney or District Attorney, etc., anyone concerned with the Commission.

Again let me assure you that I will stand ready to be of all possible assistance to you and the Commission in its search for the truth.
HONORABLE LEO RAMADA
December 30, 1963

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I hope to have in your hands in the next few days a complete report on
all of the facts developed through the efforts of our investigative and
enforcement agencies.

Yours very truly,

Waggner Clark

W:Chew

best: HONORABLE HENRY WHITE
Criminal District Attorney
Dallas, Texas
December 20, 1973

To: Mr. Smith, District Attorney

Re: Decision of the Supreme Court

On December 19th, 1973, the Supreme Court

The District Attorney was present and was informed of the decision. The following information was also provided.

1. The decision was made based on the evidence presented in the case. 2. The decision was unanimous, with no dissenting opinions. 3. The decision was made to ensure justice for the parties involved. 4. The decision was expected to have a significant impact on similar cases in the future.

Please make sure to review the details of the case with your client and provide any necessary updates. The information was thoroughly discussed during the meeting.
Those investigative reports are not yet complete. However, we are now considering the implications of the circumstances.

You will recall your suggestion that our Board of Directors be asked from Governor and Vice President. The Board of Directors has, in fact, expressed its support for the recommendation of the Committee. A full set of documents and records has been made available to the Board of Directors. The Chair of the Committee will be present.

Mr. Chief of Staff, Director: Following are a number of points which the Chair of the Committee will discuss.

1. In pursuance of your request, Mr. Chief of Staff, the Board of Directors has, in fact, reviewed the files of the Committee. The statements and evidence presented have been critically examined. It is clear that the allegations made in the report are true.

2. The report of the Committee provides substantial evidence in support of our findings. The allegations are substantiated by the testimony of witnesses and by the documents presented.

In summary, the Board of Directors has concluded that the information presented by the Committee is accurate and that the allegations are well-founded. The Board of Directors has decided to proceed with the investigation. Your suggestion, Mr. Chief of Staff, is being acted on. We will keep you informed as developments occur.
Honorable Earl Warren
December 30, 1963

Dear Sir:

All of us stand ready to assist the Commissioner in every possible way so the Commissioner's report will be thorough and leave the test of future public administration.

Yours very truly,

[Signature]

cc: Honorable Leon Jaworski
Fulbright, Crooker, Freeman, Bates and Jaworski
Attorneys at Law
Bank of the Southwest Building
Houston, Texas

bcc: Honorable R. G. Storey
2700 Republic National Bank Building
Dallas, Texas
President's Commission
On the
Assassination of President Kennedy
205 Maryland Ave. NE.
Washington, D.C. 20002

JAN 13 1964

Honorable Wagener Carr
Attorney General of Texas
Supreme Court Building
Austin 11, Texas

Dear General:

It would be helpful to the work of this Commission if we could obtain from the Office of New York the records of the Commission's review, copies of any documents cited in the Report, in the case of the
Harvey Oswald. We are particularly interested in the files covering educational and educational files. In this regard, it is noted that the
Oswald attended the following schools: (a) Bruce Elementary School, Fort Worth, 1918 to 1923; (b) West Elementary School, Fort Worth; (c)
Jefferson High School, Dallas, 1930-1931; (d) High School, New York, October 1931 to September 28, 1932; and Greater Tech High School, Dallas, January 31, 1933 to April 10, 1934.

In addition, the Commission would like to review any related psychiatric reports, any records retained by the New York or Dallas Police Department, and any other information in any hands or
local agency's possession. With this in mind, the Commission is learning as much as possible about the background of Oswald.

The Commission of course wishes to express its acknowledgment of such, if not all, of your interest in and interest in the facts that we have
that it and the members of the staff will be accordingly determined in its use.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel
Mr. Waggoner Carr  
Attorney General of Texas  
Supreme Court Building  
Austin 11, Texas  

Dear General:  

Thank you for your letter of January 11, 1964.  

All the materials listed in the letters attached to your  
communication have been received by the Commission and will  
be of great assistance in our work.  

Sincerely,  

J. Lee Rankin  
General Counsel
January 17, 1964

Honorable J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel
President's Commission on the
Assassination of President Kennedy
200 Maryland Avenue N.E.
Washington, D. C. 20540

Dear General:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter of
January 13, 1964, in which you asked for all, if
so of any documents in the files of J. Lee Rankin
Chairman relating to Leo Harvey Oswald. I have
this day forwarded this request to those offices
and will be in touch with you immediately as soon
as I can get this followed up.

Yours very truly,

W. C. fierce

Assistant
January 17, 1964

Chief Cato Nightower
Chief of Police
City Hall
Fort Worth, Texas

Dear Chief,

I have received a request from Mr. J. Lee Rankin, General Counsel
for the President's Commission on the assassination of President
Kennedy, who makes a request in behalf of the Commission for infor-
mation from Texas as follows:

"It would be helpful to the work of this Commission if you
would obtain from the Cities of Fort Worth and Dallas,
for the Commission's review, copies of any documents in
the files relating to Lee Harvey Oswald. We are
particularly interested in obtaining Oswald's educational
files. In this connection, we are informed that Oswald
attended the following Texas schools: Killeen Elementary
School, Fort Worth, 1957 to 1962; Miles West Elementary
School, Fort Worth; Arlington Heights Elementary School,
Fort Worth; Arlington Heights High School, Fort Worth,
September 9, 1953 to September 22, 1955; and Crockett
Tech High School, Dallas, January 14, 1953 to April 8,
1953.

In addition, the Commission would like to review any
related psychiatric reports, any records maintained by the
Fort Worth or Dallas Police Departments, and any other
information in any State or local agencies' possession
which would aid the Commission in learning as much
as possible about the background of Oswald.

The Commission of course realizes the confidential char-
acter of much, if not all, of this information and hastens
to assure you that it and the members of its staff will be
accordingly governed in its use.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter."

1
Chief Geo Nightower
January 17, 1964

Page 2

I will appreciate your securing all possible information concerning this matter and forwarding it to us as soon as possible. I will then, of course, see that it goes in the hands of the Commission. Your early attention to this will be most helpful in assisting the Commission in its efforts to arrive at the truth.

Let me know if I can be of much use to you and thank you for your splendid cooperation.

Yours very truly,

Muggoo Gurr

W.Gler
January 17, 1963

Chief Jesse D. Curry
Chief of Police
City Hall
Dallas, Texas

Dear Chief:

I have received a request from Mrs. E. Lee Bucklin, General Counsel for the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy, who makes a request in behalf of the Commission for information from Texas as follows:

"It would be helpful to the work of the Commission if you would obtain from the Office of Public Welfare the files for the Commission's file which contains any statements it has in its file pertaining to the ferry accident which occurred in that area in February of 1961. In this connection, we have obtained the following Texas schools in which the ferry school boys were sent: Fort Worth High School, Fort Worth, Texas; Fort Worth Academy, Fort Worth, Texas; Fort Worth A.M.E. College; Fort Worth, Texas; Fort Worth Technical High School, Dallas, January 17, 1961 to April 3, 1962.

In addition, you will find on file with the Texas Department of Education, any information brought to the notice of the Department concerning any of the incidents which would aid the Commission in their task as much as possible about the background of the individuals.

The Commission of course realizes the delicate character of much, if not all, of this information and wishes to assure you that it and the members of its staff will be accordingly governed in its use.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter."
Chief Jesse B. Curry
January 17, 1964

Page 2

I will appreciate your securing all possible information concerning this matter and forwarding it to me as soon as possible. I will then, of course, see that it gets in the hands of the Commission. Your early attention to this will be most helpful in assisting the Commission in its efforts to arrive at the truth.

Let me know if I can be of assistance to you and thank you for your splendid cooperation.

Yours very truly,

Vicose Curry

WC'er
H. Fort Meade
800 Maryland Avenue N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Capt. Smith will leave Delta Flight 749 on 10:00 AM

T. H. Smith
T.: J. H. Smith
General's Office

Send the above message, subject to the terms on back as to, which are hereby agreed to.

PLEASE TYPE OR WRITE PLAINLY WITHIN BORDER—DO NOT FOLD

(1941-42)
CONFIDENTIAL

Honorble J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel
President's Council on H.E.
200 Maryland Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20502

Dear General Rankin:

Undoubtedly these suggestions have become too late to be of aid in forming your final list of appointees, but since you have asked for suggestions, I am sending the following which I think may be of some assistance, i.e., undertaking to prepare a list which may suggest that the Committee make a list of living but not living members.

1. From the list of living members, there should be included one representative of every agency of every major group, and not to exceed a total of five per agency. The names of the representatives should be carefully selected by the Office of the General Counsel, who may conduct the agencies in one state, and there should not be any emergency or any number of the original members, to be so selected.

2. Each of the men on these two lists should be examined under oath to determine whether he has any knowledge of the or is otherwise under discussion.

3. The entire list of the agency in the Federal Civil Service, each of the officials of the agency (in the opinion of which is that line) each should similarly be examined to
January 29, 1961

Page 2

believe that the President and the Congress must be enlightened as to the need for a full and adequate investigation of these matters.

If there is any substance to the charges and allegations, as far as I know, it is a tremendous responsibility.

I am quite familiar with the President and the Congress must be enlightened as to the need for a full and adequate investigation of these matters.

I have been assured that I am not available to you, and I cannot be.

Yours very truly,

[Signature]

[Address]

[Name]

[Title]

[1]

[1] Honorable Leon Jaworski

February 3, 1864

Honorable Earl Chase,
Chief Justice of the United States
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir, Chief Justice:

On my last trip to Washington I was advised by a reliable friend that you were in receipt of a note from me, asking to have the circuit made in Texas on the subject of the railroad, which I have. I am enclosing a copy of the letter for your perusal or signature.

When you originally accompanied me to the Senate of the United States, and later to the House of Representatives, in the course of the vote of the Committee I am not aware to which the question was referred, and I believe, if I am not mistaken, that such a message was sent by me. This matter, in my opinion, is one of great importance, and I trust that you will favor me with your views on the subject.

I am, with great respect,

Very truly yours,

John Doe

[Signature]

Orcas and one of the most interesting is a little, round lake with a large, circular island in the middle. The island is completely surrounded by water, which is clear and blue. It is the perfect place for swimming and enjoying the sun's warmth. If you ever get the chance to visit, be sure to explore this hidden gem.

You will note that my request was not granted. Since my confidence in your judgment and the confidence of the Senate, I am writing to compliment you on the way in which the investigation is being conducted. General Rulin has my full confidence.
Honorable Carl Warren
February 3, 1794

Page 2

have no present reason to believe the final result will be
other than one which will stand the test of the ages.

My only interest is to fully and satisfactorily perform the
duties of my state calling, part of which duty is to be able
to tell my people that a thief and traitor has the trust
made over to his care and reputation to execute.

I am prepared to spend whatever time and effort is necessary
to participate in the work of the Commonwealth. It is one
that the people of this nation and of Texas may be promised of
complete confidence in my honor and trust.

Yours very truly,

[Signature]

"Cord
Enclosure
cet Honorable J. L. de B. C. a.
REMARKS OF ATTORNEY GENERAL
WAGGONER CARR
BEFORE THE ROTARY CLUB OF TYLER
January 23, 1964

As a result of the tragic events of November 22nd through November 24th, it goes without saying that all of our lives have been changed to some degree. Since that time literally millions of words have been written of those fateful three days ... some of them true ... some of them misleading ... some of them false. And since the Attorney General's office was involved in one particular area of those proceedings, I thought you might be interested in hearing today the complete story of the Texas Court of Inquiry ... from its inception... till now.
The story really began in Washington, D. C., where I, along with Lieutenant Governor Preston Smith and House Speaker Byron Tunnell, had traveled to serve as official representatives of the State of Texas to the funeral of President Kennedy.

After a conference with the White House, it was decided that a Court of Inquiry should be held in Texas for the purpose of fully developing and disclosing publicly the facts surrounding the assassination of President Kennedy, the attempted assassination of Governor Connally, the murder of Dallas police officer, J. D. Tippit, and subsequent events. There were three primary reasons why such proceedings were felt to be desirable, and, indeed, necessary.

First, the President was going to call for a complete and thorough report from the FBI, and it was feared that this action might be misinterpreted by the rest of the United States and the world to mean that the integrity of justice and law and order in Texas had broken down to such an extent that nothing less than federal agents could bring order out of chaos.
The federal government also wanted to avoid giving the impression that it was taking over the responsibility of Texas in the enforcement of state laws.

Secondly, the eastern and northern press, and even the international press, were, at that time, beginning to insinuate and openly state that there was some deep, dark, and mysterious conspiracy to prevent the truth from becoming known ... and that this conspiracy was being aided and abetted by the authorities of Texas. It was being said that the lips of the man accused of the President's assassination had been forever sealed by those who feared the story which he might tell. And they went on to hint darkly that the killing of Oswald had been allowed by the Dallas police ... either ingeniously ... or stupidly.

With such insinuations being made as to the veracity of Texas authorities, it was felt that Texas must quickly demonstrate its own initiative and desire to determine the facts ... no matter what they might reveal ... in plain view of the world through a public hearing.
And thirdly, the development and disclosure of the facts should sometime, in the course of the entire investigation, be done by a judicial hearing where witnesses would be examined under oath and where unwilling witnesses might be forcibly subpoenaed. The federal government had no statutes whereby this could be accomplished. The state of Texas, however, does have such a statute which authorizes the calling of a Court of Inquiry for the purpose of determining whether a crime has been committed. Such a court has state-wide subpoena powers, authority to enforce the attendance of witnesses should the subpoena be disobeyed, and authority to place each witness under oath to tell the truth ... such oath to be enforced by a felony indictment for perjury should the witness lie. The examination would be conducted by the Attorney General of Texas and the local District Attorney.

We also planned to select one or more outstanding lawyers of Texas, not connected with the government, as special counsel. These eminent attorneys would work closely with the Attorney General and the local District Attorney in the preparation and conduct of the Court of Inquiry.
I agreed that Texas had an unusual obligation to determine the facts and to make them public. It was only in this manner that the world of the present and future would know the difference between fact and rumor. In accordance with this decision, I announced in Washington that I would call a Court of Inquiry upon my return to Texas.

Within the next 24 hours, the United States Department of Justice sent its third-ranking assistant Attorney General, Mr. Herb Miller, head of the criminal division, to Austin. This visit was felt to be desirable for two reasons.

First, to make initial decisions as to how the federal and state governments could most effectively work together toward their common objective of establishing facts, and secondly, to visibly demonstrate to the people of Texas that the federal government recognized the responsibility of Texas in the determination of facts arising out of these tragic events. Mr. Miller was accompanied to Austin by the U. S. District Attorney for the Northern District of Texas, Mr. Barefoot Sanders of Dallas. During a two hour conference, we were able to establish a very fine basis of cooperation.
Immediately following this meeting, a press conference was held, with all three of us present, where statements were mutually made expressing the desire of both governments to cooperate in this objective. It was announced that this would be a three-pronged affair.

(1) The FBI would make its full report to the President, and Texas would cooperate in this first step by turning all files and evidence over to the FBI so that agency might have the benefit of our information in making its report to the President. This we promptly did.

(2) The second phase of the investigation would be the Texas Court of Inquiry which was to be called as soon as the state could prepare its evidence following the report of the FBI to the President. In this phase, the federal government, including, of course, the FBI, would cooperate with Texas authorities by making all federal evidence and witnesses available for the Court of Inquiry. This included even witnesses outside the State of Texas and thus beyond the reach of a Texas subpoena.
The third phase would be undertaken by the Presidential Commission. This Commission would possess all of the facts developed by the federal agencies as well as the testimony from the Texas Court of Inquiry, and from these facts, would draw conclusions and report its findings.

Immediately thereafter, the top staff of my office began to brief legal questions which confronted us in the selection of a city where the Court might be held, as well as many other questions which you would expect to arise in such an endeavor.

From the very outset, we remained in close contact with the White House staff, the Governor's office, and the office of the Dallas District Attorney, Mr. Henry Wade.

One of the most pressing and important decisions which I had to make was the selection of one or more eminent Texas lawyers who would serve as special counsel. It was necessary that these men have, not only the highest possible prestige and respect of the people of Texas, but also the people of this nation.
It was vitally necessary that the character of this investigation remain non-political and unbiased, and we knew that our success in this area would depend to a very high degree on the reputation and ability of the special counsel. Therefore, my decision here required Texas, national, and indeed, worldly consideration.

As you know, I selected Houston attorney Leon Jaworski and Dallas attorney Robert G. Storey. Both of these men enjoy reputations for ability and integrity in the practice of law which are far beyond reproach from coast to coast.

Both men served as prosecutors of war criminals following World War II, and both are Past Presidents of the Texas Bar Association. Mr. Jaworski is a Past President of the American College of Trial Lawyers, and Mr. Storey is a Past President of the American Bar Association.

To tell you all of the accomplishments of these two dedicated men would take the better part of an afternoon. Let it be said to the everlasting credit of both that when I requested their assistance, they immediately accepted, knowing that this service could be given to their state and nation only at considerable personal expense and loss of time in their private practice of law.
A few days later, President Johnson announced the creation of the Presidential Special Commission. In his announcement, the President stated that this Commission should take into consideration all of the facts developed by all investigative agencies, as well as testimony from the Texas Court of Inquiry.

Two weeks ago, Mr. Jaworski and I were requested by the Department of Justice to come to Washington for the purpose of discussing ways in which we could continue to most effectively cooperate. During our stay in the nation's capitol, the Presidential Commission held two meetings for the purpose of perfecting its organization and hiring of its staff. As you know, this Commission is made up of seven members appointed by the President. Its Chairman is Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Earl Warren. Other members are Senator Richard B. Russell, Democrat from Georgia; Senator John Sherman Cooper, Republican from Kentucky; Representative Hale Boggs, Democrat from Louisiana; Representative Gerald Ford, Michigan Republican; Allen Dulles, former Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, and John J. McCloy, former special advisor on disarmament to President Kennedy. All of them are lawyers.
Chief Justice Warren visited personally with Mr. Jaworski and me in behalf of the Commission. At that time he made the following request, and he repeated this request in a letter which he sent to me in Austin. I quote in part from that letter:

"All of the members of the Commission are aware of the deep interest of Texas in the tragic event which occurred there and with respect to which all of us are exercising the responsibilities laid upon us. We share your view that it is desirable to have state officials do everything possible to uncover all the facts, and are appreciative of the availability of these facts to the Commission.

"As you know, at this time the Commission is organizing its procedures and we do not yet have available the comprehensive report of the FBI or of other investigative agencies, both Federal and State. While we expect to receive this material soon, it will take time to analyze it thoroughly, and I am sure you will agree that there may remain matters which will require
further investigation before we feel we are in possession of all of the relative data upon which to make evaluation and judgment. We are most anxious, as I am sure you are, to take no steps which could impede investigation or which could lead the public to mistaken conclusion based upon partial factual information. In addition the Commission, as well as the Texas Court of Inquiry, must be extremely careful not to prejudice in any way the trial in Texas of Jack Ruby.

"The Commission would not wish to interfere in any way with you or other state authorities in the conduct of matters which are your responsibilities, and in which, as you point out, the State of Texas has a proper and important interest. At the same time, it is the view of the Commission, for the reasons stated above, that a public inquiry in Texas at this time might be more harmful than helpful in our mutual search for the truth. Recognizing that the timing of this Inquiry is your responsibility and your decision, we cannot refrain from the suggestion that you consider the wisdom of postponement of this Court."
"It would be the Commission's desire that you and your
Special Counsel, or either of you, participate in the Commission's
work, and counsel with it, it being the Commission's wish that
you as the representative of the State of Texas be fully advised
of the progress that is made in the course of the Commission's
investigation and advance such suggestions as you consider helpful
to the accomplishment of the Commission's assignment. It may
develop that the Commission would deem it advisable that testimony
of certain witnesses residing in Texas should be taken before a
Texas Court of Inquiry, and in that event, we would expect to
call upon you to render this additional assistance.

"Let me assure you of the desire of the Commission to work
most closely with you and of our conviction that in a spirit of
close cooperation we can responsibly meet our independent obligations."

As a result of these conferences with the Chairman of the
Commission, J. Edgar Hoover of the FBI, top level authorities of
the Department of Justice and the White House, Mr. Jaworski and
I had become convinced that the investigative authority of the
federal government was being used to the fullest extent. The
Commission would be granted subpoena powers, and the investigation, which had already reached across many states and several nations, was being conducted vigorously. Therefore, pursuant to the Commission's request, it was our considered judgment that the Texas Court of Inquiry, if held at this time or in the immediate future, might bring about an interruption in the continuity of the nationwide investigation.

For these reasons, it was my conclusion and decision that the convening of the Texas Court of Inquiry should, for the present time, be withheld. At the same time that I announced this decision, I also accepted the invitation of the Special Commission in which they asked Mr. Jaworski, Dean Storey, and me to attend their hearings and assist with the Commission's important task.

Since that time, Mr. Jaworski, Dean Storey, and I have returned to Washington to begin our work with the Commission. At that time, we examined all evidence which has been placed in the hands of the Commission, as well as the future plans of the Commission, and I can honestly tell you that we were impressed with the thoroughness of the investigation that is planned.
As I talk to you, the investigation continues to cross state lines ... and even into foreign countries. It is a voluminous task.

It is my desire, and I believe the desire of the Commission, that all the evidence and proof gathered by this cooperative effort be made public at the proper time.

It is imperative that this report be thorough and that it be able to stand the test of future examination by us and the world.

Let me stress once again that it is clearly understood by all concerned that if, after we have assisted the Commission in this work, we feel the necessity of additional investigation to disclose further facts, we will then have no hesitancy in calling for the Texas Court of Inquiry.

Only one thing is uppermost in our minds. Every possible fact concerning these tragic events must be sought out and established. Then, and only then, will the public confirm that justice has been accomplished.
Now, before I leave you today, let me dwell for just a moment on a subject upon which I have formed some very deep feelings in these succeeding weeks since that fateful day of November 22nd.

I have become increasingly concerned with the general abuse which has been heaped on this wonderful State of Texas and the overall condemnation of the City of Dallas which has resulted in some quarters.

Much has been said about the political climate of Texas, and Dallas in particular, prior to that tragic date, but too much has been left unsaid by too many people ... and the result has been an unjust vilification which should be of deep regret to sober-thinking people everywhere.

Our eastern writers were quick to brand Texas as a city of political extremism. I would assume that we could also paraphrase that to state that our citizens hold deep convictions. In any event, it is inconceivable that one political reaction, applicable to ten million citizens, could result from the deed of one twisted mind.
I think it is comforting to note, however, that these vicious and wholesale attacks were the results of momentary prejudice and emotion. Since that time, it is heartening to find our Eastern writers and commentators, possibly after a great deal of self examination, returning to a more reasonable line of thought, and, in some cases, actually apologizing for words uttered in haste.

Certainly it would be folly to say that all of these discordant voices have been silenced, however, even though they continue, you must never allow these emotional attacks to destroy the confidence of a great state.

And to those who persist in libeling our citizens, I would say "Come to Texas ... come and talk with us. Talk to our people who have the same dreams ... the same aspirations... and the same measures of success and failure as the people of any other geographic division. Come to Texas and talk with the parents of 26,000 men and women who gave their lives while defending these United States in World War II and the Korean conflict."
And finally, I would say to these analysts, come to Texas and talk with our ministers, our priests, and our rabbis, and discover that our people have the same abiding faith, the same reverence, and the same sincere belief in spiritual guidance.

I think we would all agree that nothing is needed so desperately today than a cessation of finger pointing by one area of our country toward another. The fact that each of us may share different political beliefs should not open the flood gates of slander to any group or area.

There is an oft-quoted statement which I think best describes my feelings in this matter. It says that "There is so much bad in the best of us, and so much good in the worst of us, that it ill-behooves any of us to talk about the rest of us." How true. We can also turn to the Bible which tells us "let he who is without sin cast the first stone."

All America today needs the outspoken influence of men who recognize that a difference of opinion, as long as it is expounded in a reasonable and non-violent manner, is the very heart of our democratic system.
I know not what our history books will say concerning these tragic events which occurred within our state. But this I do know:

Out of the tumult will arise a state with greater vitality than ever before ... a state whose citizens, gaining strength from each other and from the Almighty God, will reach heights never before attained in its history.

For you see, I know the citizens and the leaders of Texas. I know the force, the tenacity, and the moral courage which exists here. And I know that the only result can be a stronger... more vibrant Texas.