Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Fred M. Vinson, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

129-11

Assassination of President John F. Kennedy, Dallas, Texas -- (November 22, 1963)

The appearance of Special Agent (SA) Regis L. Kennedy before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury on May 17, 1967, has caused concern in the Department and the Criminal Division has endeavored to evaluate the participation of all persons involved in the arrangements for the grand jury appearance.

There seems to have been no lack of appreciation that this Grand Jury appearance was considered to be of more than routine importance. It seems to be acknowledged that telegraphic instructions to the Special Agent and the guidance afforded to him by the United States Attorney were clear and were understood. It is suggested he received other advice which he recognized as calling for behavior different than that suggested by the above. There was ample opportunity before the appearance and during the appearance to be certain as to the desired behavior by recontacting the United States Attorney or the Special Agent in Charge. So far as we can determine, the Agent made no effort to account for the clear instructions he had received in writing as well as orally.

It is suggested that failure to seek any guidance in resolving conflicting requests or failure to adhere to clearly understood requests should be of serious concern to the Bureau.

Memorandum

то

: Director

Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE:

FROM: Attorney General

129-11

subject: Assassination of President

John F. Kennedy - Dallas, Texas

November 22, 1963

This responds to your memorandum of May 19, 1967, concerning the appearance of Special Agent Regis L. Kennedy before the New Orleans grand jury on May 17, 1967.

As indicated in your memorandum a telegram was sent to SA Kennedy with explicit directions not to testify about material or information acquired in the performance of his duties or in his official status. That instruction was repeated by United States Attorney LaCour and Assistant United States Attorneys Ciolino, Palmisano, and Veters in an effort to impress upon SA Kennedy the necessity of invoking the executive testimonial privilege at the grand jury proceeding.

Assistant United States Attorneys Ciolino and Veters have categorically denied that they modified or attempted to modify the directions previously given to SA Kennedy by the Attorney General concerning his testimony before the grand jury; they would have no authority to do so, as SA/Kennedy is aware.

SA Kennedy was informed of the agreement reached among Judge Bagert, Assistant District Attorney Alcock, and Assistant United States Attorneys Ciolino and Veters on the morning of May 17 that if any question arose about the propriety or necessity of the invocation of the privilege, SA Kennedy would be allowed to consult with Ciolino and Veters outside the room where the grand jury was convened.

FILE-J.R.R.

SA Kennedy, as indicated by his memorandum of May 18, summarizing his recollections of his appearance before the grand jury, departed from the explicit directions of the Attorney General during that appearance by answering a number of questions relating to persons, places, and investigative efforts with which he was familiar only through his official duties. He did not leave the room at any time to confer with Assistant United States Attorneys Ciolino and Veters about the questions being propounded to him.

The Department has been closely observing the course of the investigation being conducted in New Orleans into the late President's assassination. We therefore regard the departure of SA Kennedy from his instructions as of grave importance.

orwi DJ-964 Rev., 6-22-66)		TMENT OF JUSTICE	•	· '\
ر د د د د د د د د د د د د د د د د د د د	RC RC	UTINCYLIP -	•	,
0: ,	NAME	_IVISION	BUILDING	ROOM
. /	.71		1.	017
1) (2:07	Thurm	CM-	ļ·	
			<u> </u>	
•				
				-
•				
SIGNATU		MENT] PER CONVERSA	3
APPROV		ESSARY AGTION [NOTE AND FIL	1
SEE ME	* =		YOUR IMPORMA	
	ENDATION CAL		LIIVOR IMPUKNA	
	OR ACKNOWL-			
	RE REPLY FOR			
THE SIG	NATURE OF			
REMARKS	•	_	_	.
	Alon 5	er slic a	drest	1
	pine 1	viace a		
				, Lancaco
-\	a rispi		1/12. 2	en
2)	a most	par par		
				4
Re	is Kod	' alegs	an -	
,		· ·		
	will to	deville	el ch	7
	ac a sq			, , , , ,
	leaving .	07 11		EK 45
1	ceasing of	er kin		
-00	& such	11	Lus	ay
SHC	4 Juch	acou p		
	& ridic	Ricie 5	aville	Soll
	enac		/	-1-
	not depo	still form	wighte	dias
		, ,,,,,		
I	HAME	· BUILDING	ROOM EXT	DATE
EPOM:			EINA	
FROM:				1
FROM:			Cur,	
FROM:			5/	
FROM:			5/5	6
FROM:	- J.		7/3	6

and the second second second







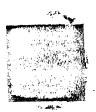
Kossach

I'm not sure I agree. Let's see what a response looks like at least.

Fred Vinson

5/25/67





Faim No. CM-1a (Rev. 11-20-63)	, D ME	NT OF WISTICE		•
* .	ROUT	N		
TO	NAME	UIVISION	BUILDING	ROO
7				
-	Z I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I	- 700		
2	. //			
3.				
		-		
" (Box	Jelion)			
SIGNATURE	COMMENT	<u></u>	DES CONVERSA	
APPROVAL	The same of the sa	RY ACTION	AS REQUESTED	1 ION
SEE ME	NOTE AN	DRETURN -	NOTE AND FILE	
RECOMMEND	ATION CALL ME		YOUR INFORMA	TION
ANSWER OR				
PREPARE R				
THE SIGNAT				
REMARKS				
1	/		/	
The	sound	s lu	2 a	
time	il nes	pour	e for	
1 Com		1 1		
1 0. 0	buts.	Mn.	in clu	
1 eul	prus.			
1 1	, , , , ,	1 - 1	0001-	_
1 /5/	les of	us N	cepe	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH
		α'		
1	0 ~	As to	n'w	<u>_</u>
CAOL.	1 2 L		<u>-</u>	
0 1	-1 -1 1	4 0	2	
Mate	-had a	0		
	2 to 1			
peru	es F	·		
FROM:	NAME	BUILDING, ROOM,	EXT. DATE	
	ATTORNEY GENERAL		1 2 . 7	- برد ب
Cri	minal Division	 	1	
		· ·		
				