

LEE HARVEY OSWALD

VOL XII

8/15/66 thru 12/28/66

VOL

XII



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

1 - DeLoach  
1 - Rosen  
1 - Malley  
1 - Wick  
1 - Shroder  
1 - Thompson

DATE: 11/25/66

TO : MR. TOLSON

FROM : C. D. DeLOACH

SUBJECT: WILLIS ALLISON CARTO  
PROPOSED DEROGATORY BOOK ON  
CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN

Tolson  
DeLoach  
Mohr  
Casper  
Callahan  
Conrad  
Felt  
Gale  
Rosen  
Sullivan  
Tavel  
Trotter  
Tele. Room  
Holmes  
Gandy

I talked with Chief Justice Warren of the Supreme Court at 4 p.m. on 11/23/66, in his office, concerning the captioned matter. He was told that the Director had caused immediate interview of [REDACTED]

It was indicated that [REDACTED] while admitting the contacts with Chief Justice Warren, had refused to identify the parties that plan to write a derogatory book implicating the Chief Justice in the death of [REDACTED] (b)(6)

Chief Justice Warren was advised that discreet investigation by the FBI had determined that one Willis A. Carto, head of the ultra-right extremist group known as "Liberty Lobby" was responsible for approaching an author by the name of [REDACTED] to prepare the book in question. Chief Justice Warren was told [REDACTED] accepted a \$500 down payment and the contract was drawn up; however, [REDACTED] later changed his mind and did not write the book. I told the Chief Justice that [REDACTED] plans to return the money to Carto, possibly in January, 1967. (b)(6)

The Chief Justice stated he was familiar with the name of Carto and his organization "Liberty Lobby." He stated he was not surprised that this group was trying to slander him in some manner. The Chief Justice expressed appreciation and asked that I advise the Director that he was very grateful for the FBI handling this matter.

While talking with the Chief Justice he brought up the matter of the Warren Commission and stated that a former staff member by the name of James Wesley Liebeler was planning to write a book. The Chief Justice indicated that Liebeler was a "beatnik" type of individual and had proved to be very unethical. Chief Justice advised that the book by [REDACTED] Epstein was written largely because Liebeler had turned over his notes, taken during staff meetings of the Warren Commission, to Epstein. The Chief Justice indicated that Liebeler made a record each time he had disagreed with the other members of the staff and that the notes, based upon

CDD:hmm  
(7)

CONTINUED - OVER

6-765

(15)

DeLOACH TO TOLSON  
RE: WILLIS ALLISON CARTO

these disagreements were turned over to Epstein and served largely as a basis for Epstein's book. The Chief Justice indicated that Liebeler was not to be trusted. I replied that Liebeler had been in touch with the Director, seeking cooperation and that the Director had turned him down flatly. The Chief Justice stated he was glad to hear this.

I informed the Chief Justice of the background of Mark Lane and also the fact that the Director, in the near future, planned to issue a statement defending the FBI's phase of the assassination investigation. The Chief Justice stated he was glad to hear this and that the Director's name and prestige would be a great help in clearing the air. He stated many people desired that he issue a statement but he, as Chief Justice, does not feel he should do so. I made no further comment.

ACTION:

For record purposes.

*[Handwritten signature]* ✓



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT  
**Memorandum**

TO : Mr. DeLoach

FROM : R. E. Wick

DATE: 11/23/66

Tolson ☒  
DeLoach ☒  
Mohr ☒  
Wick ☒  
Casper ☒  
Callahan ☒  
Conrad ☒  
Felt ☒  
Gale ☒  
Rosen ☒  
Sullivan ☒  
Tavel ☒  
Trotter ☒  
Tele. Room ☒  
Holmes ☒  
Gandy ☒

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY  
11-22-63  
CRITICISM REGARDING WARREN COMMISSION FINDINGS

Reference is made to my memorandum dated yesterday in captioned matter wherein the Director approved the furnishing of a draft letter (Mr. Epstein to Mr. Hoover) to Epstein; the forwarding of a letter and statement to Epstein in reply, and clearance of the letter and statement by Justice Abe Fortas and the Department.

For record purposes, there is attached the original of a letter which I obtained from Mr. Epstein this afternoon written on "The Evening Star" stationery and signed by Mr. Epstein. It is dated November 21, 1966, and follows precisely the wording of our draft. I left with Mr. Epstein the original of the Director's letter to him with a statement, both of which are dated November 23, 1966.

Prior to my discussion with Sid Epstein, you had read the proposed statement for Epstein to Justice Fortas, who was highly pleased with it. You also read the statement to Marvin Watson. He stated he believed it to be excellent. Likewise, I cleared the matter with Clifford Sessions, Public Information Office in the Department, who approved it and I later this afternoon, at his request, gave him a copy of both the Director's statement and a copy of the letter from Epstein. Sessions not only approved the statement, but stated he felt it would do much to clear the air.

Mr. Epstein will feature the Director's exclusive statement on the front page of "The Evening Star" on Friday, November 25, 1966. The wire services will, of course, have it simultaneously that day and will give it nationwide publicity.

For record purposes.

Enclosure

1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. Rosen  
1 - Mr. Wick  
1 - Mr. Jones  
REW:mjm  
5)





The Evening Star - The Sunday Star

Washington, D. C. 20003  
Lincoln 3-5000

November 21, 1966

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Mr. Hoover:

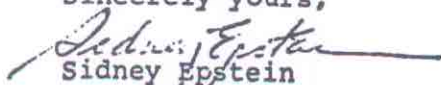
I have noted with considerable concern the recent rash of books, articles and statements which are creating confusion and doubts about the validity of the findings of the Warren Commission regarding the assassination of President Kennedy. Much of the criticism has been directed at the conduct of the Commission's inquiry. Certain conclusions reached by the Commission have been questioned and new theories advanced as to what actually happened.

These critics have used various interpretations of evidence collected by the Commission and alleged conflicts in information reported to the Commission to support their theories. One of the "conflicts" concerns the alleged variance of the results of the medical examination of the President's body, recorded in FBI reports dated December 9, 1963, and January 13, 1964, and the official autopsy report.

I realize you have not taken issue with any of the people who have questioned the Warren Commission inquiry and the conclusions resulting from it. I realize also you must restrict your remarks to matters relating solely to the FBI's role in the investigation. I believe, however, that a statement from you at this time regarding the alleged conflict between information reported by the FBI and the autopsy will greatly help in clearing up the confusion and setting the record straight.

Naturally, I would want permission to publish your statement.

Sincerely yours,

  
Sidney Epstein  
City Editor

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 11-22-66

FROM : R. E. Wick

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY  
11-22-63  
CRITICISM REGARDING WARREN COMMISSION FINDINGS

Tolson ☒  
DeLoach ☒  
Mohr ☒  
Wick ☒  
Casper ☒  
Callahan ☒  
Conrad ☒  
Felt ☒  
Gale ☒  
Rosen ☒  
Sullivan ☒  
Tavel ☒  
Trotter ☒  
Tele. Room ☒  
Holmes ☒  
Gandy ☒

Per Mr. Tolson's instructions, the proposed statement for the Director to furnish to Sidney Epstein, City Editor of "The Evening Star," has been rewritten, shortened, and made more direct. This proposed statement is enclosed, along with a letter which Epstein has agreed to formally prepare, sign, and send to the Director and a response to Epstein's letter enclosing the statement.

In preparing this statement the various books, articles, and comments by Warren Commission critics, as well as the article in the current issue of "Life" magazine, and the statements of Senator Richard B. Russell (D - Georgia), a member of the Warren Commission, and former White House press aide Malcolm M. Kilduff reported in today's (11-22-66) issue of "The Washington Post," have been taken into consideration. The proposed statement has been prepared in the Crime Records Division in conjunction with personnel in the General Investigative Division and Special Agent Robert E. Lenihan of the Domestic Intelligence Division.

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the enclosed draft of the letter to be sent by Sidney Epstein to the Director be approved and furnished to Epstein.
2. That the enclosed letter to Epstein, along with the statement to be enclosed with it, be approved.
3. That the statement be cleared with the Department of Justice and shown to Supreme Court Justice Abe Fortas, who has discussed the possibility of such a statement with Mr. DeLoach, prior to its release to Epstein.

Enclosures (3)

1 - Mr. DeLoach - Enc.  
1 - Mr. Mohr - Enc.  
1 - Mr. Wick - Enc.

1 - Mr. Conrad - Enc.  
1 - Mr. Rosen - Enc.  
1 - Mr. Sullivan - Enc.

1 - Miss Gandy - Enc.  
1 - Miss Holmes - Enc.

DWB:jma (11)

DELF  
-23-66  
11

NE  
23-66  
WICK  
FTEH  
23-66  
WICK

RECEIVED BY  
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE  
DIVISION  
NOV 23 1966  
FBI



November 23, 1966

Mr. Sidney Epstein  
City Editor  
The Evening Star  
225 Virginia Avenue, Southeast  
Washington, D. C. 20003

Dear Mr. Epstein:

I certainly share the concern you expressed in your letter of November 21, 1966, regarding the recent publication of various criticisms of the findings of the Warren Commission.

While the critics have every right to state their views, they should show more regard for the facts on record. They have ignored certain facts, misinterpreted others, and expressed pure speculation as truth. In the hope that I can help clear up some of the confusion which has resulted, I am enclosing a statement which may be published.

Please bear in mind I am speaking only for the FBI, not for any other agency or group involved in any phase of the inquiry into the assassination of President Kennedy.

Sincerely yours,

1 - Mr. DeLoach - Enc. 1 - Mr. Conrad - Enc. 1 - Miss Gandy - Enc.  
1 - Mr. Mohr - Enc. 1 - Mr. Rosen - Enc. 1 - Miss Holmes - Enc.  
1 - Mr. Wick - Enc. 1 - Mr. Sullivan - Enc.

Enclosure FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION, DEPT. OF JUSTICE

NOTE: See R. E. Wick to DeLoach memo dated 11-22-66, captioned "Assassination of President Kennedy, 11-22-63, Criticism Regarding Warren Commission Findings."

DWB:jma (12)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

DO-6

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

November 23, 1966

2:53

Mr. DeLoach called to advise that he had just finished reading the Director's assassination investigation statement to Justice Fortas and Justice Fortas was highly pleased with the statement. Justice Fortas intends calling the President immediately to advise him regarding this matter. Mr. DeLoach also read the statement to Marvin Watson at the White House and Watson additionally indicated his pleasure. He stated he thought the statement was an excellent one.

Mr. Wick is on the way to the Evening Star as of this moment to have Mr. Epstein, the City Editor, sign his letter to the Director, which will be dated November 21, 1966. The Director's reply will be dated November 23, 1966. The reply is being left with Mr. Epstein. In view of the late hour and the fact that Thanksgiving is not a good news day, this matter will appear in Friday's "Evening Star" on the front page and will also be handled with all the wire services that day.

eh

MR. TOLSON ☒  
MR. DELOACH ☒  
MR. MOHR ☒  
MR. WICK ☒  
MR. CASPER ☒  
MR. CALLAHAN ☒  
MR. CONRAD ☒  
MR. FELT ☒  
MR. GALE ☒  
MR. ROSEN ☒  
MR. SULLIVAN ☒  
MR. TAVEL ☒  
MR. TROTTER ☒  
MR. JONES ☒  
TELE. ROOM ☒  
MISS HOLMES ☒  
MRS. METCALF ☒  
MISS GANDY ☒



DO-6

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

November 23, 1966

4:45

Mr. Wick advised that he had the letter from Sid Epstein, City Editor of the Star, which Mr. Epstein signed on Star stationery. Mr. Epstein is very enthusiastic and said that Mr. Hoover's statement will appear in the Friday Star, November 25, 1966, on page one. He was very appreciative. Mr. Wick cleared it with Sessions in the Department.

eh

MR. TOLSON \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. DELOACH \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. MOHR \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. WICK \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. CASPER \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. CALLAHAN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. CONRAD \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. FELT \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. GALE \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. ROSEN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. SULLIVAN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. TAVEL \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. TROTTER \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. JONES \_\_\_\_\_  
TELE. ROOM \_\_\_\_\_  
MISS HOLMES \_\_\_\_\_  
MRS. METCALF \_\_\_\_\_  
MISS GANDY \_\_\_\_\_

November 18, 1966

Mr. Sidney Epstein  
City Editor  
The Evening Star  
225 Virginia Avenue, Southeast  
Washington, D. C. 20003

1-Mr. DeLoach  
1-Mr. Rosen  
1-Mr. Malley  
1-Mr. Shroder  
1-Mr. Raupach  
1-Mr. Wick  
1-Mr. Mohr  
1-Mr. Conrad  
1-Mr. Sullivan

Dear Mr. Epstein:

I certainly share the concern you expressed in your letter of November 18, 1966, regarding the recent publication of various criticisms of the findings of the Warren Commission.

While the critics have every right to state their views, they should show more regard for the facts on record. They have ignored certain facts, misinterpreted others, and expressed pure speculation as truth. In the hope that I can help clear up some of the confusion which has resulted, I am enclosing a statement which may be published.

Please bear in mind I am speaking only for the FBI, not for any other agency or group involved in any phase of the inquiry into the assassination of President Kennedy.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

RIS:gka  
(11)

NOTE: See memo Rosen to DeLoach captioned "Assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy, 11/22/63" dated 11/15/66, RIS:eam.



November 18, 1966

Considerable criticism has arisen about the findings of the Warren Commission concerning the assassination of President Kennedy. Some critics have openly challenged the conclusions of the Commission.

To support their speculations some critics allege, among other things, there is a conflict between statements set forth in two FBI reports relating to the autopsy and the official autopsy report which was submitted to the Warren Commission. I wish to emphatically state at the outset that the FBI reports factually record information which was furnished orally to our Agents by an examining physician who conducted the autopsy of President Kennedy on the evening of November 22, 1963.

In order to clarify this matter, I would like to mention that on December 9, 1963, the FBI submitted a preliminary report to the Commission summarizing various phases of our investigative activity. Included in this report was information orally furnished to our Agents, who attended the autopsy, by an examining physician to the effect that there was no point of exit for the bullet which entered the President's back.

Retyped page ( ) 2, 3, 4 <sup>over to</sup> of memo Rosen to DeLoach  
dated 11/15/66 re: Assassination - Pres. Kennedy  
Mr. Rosen

On January 13, 1964, a supplemental report was submitted to the Commission which included the results of our Laboratory's examination of the clothing worn by the President at the time of his assassination. This Laboratory examination disclosed there was a small hole in the back of the President's coat and shirt and that minute traces of copper were found on fabric surrounding this hole. The Laboratory examination further disclosed that there was a slit near the collar button of the President's shirt which had the characteristics of an exit hole for a projectile; also that there was a nick on the left side of the tie knot which possibly was caused by the same projectile as it passed through the shirt.

In view of this finding, it was immediately recognized that a conflict existed between the results of the examination of the clothing when compared with the oral observations of the examining physician as furnished to our Agents on the night of November 23, 1963. In order to clearly point up this inconsistency the following statement was included in addition to the findings of our FBI Laboratory: "Medical examination of the President's body had revealed that the bullet which entered his back had penetrated to a distance of less than a finger length."

The basis for the statements set out in our December 9, 1963, and January 13, 1964, reports concerning the bullet which entered the President's back, was obtained from a detailed report prepared and



submitted by our Agents following the oral comments of an examining physician on the night of November 22, 1963. This detailed report is currently available in the National Archives.

In publishing its findings, the Warren Commission reproduced the official autopsy report. This report shows that the missile which entered the President's back "made its exit through the anterior surface of the neck" and "so far as can be ascertained this missile struck no bony structures in its path through the body." The original theory of examining physicians that the bullet did not exit from the President's throat and the subsequent developments which led to their conclusion that the bullet did have a point of exit are set forth and are explained in the Commission's report. For example, at pages 88 and 89, it is stated "in the earlier stages of the autopsy" the doctors at Bethesda Naval Hospital performing the autopsy "did not know that there had been a bullet hole in the front of the President's neck when he arrived at Parkland Hospital on a stretcher." The physicians at Parkland Hospital, Dallas, Texas, had utilized this bullet hole as a point of incision for an emergency operation performed on the President.

In addition to the above, I would also like to comment concerning other statements which have been made concerning the FBI's participation in the investigation of the assassination. Specifically, I would like to

emphatically state all information obtained during the investigation was accurately and fully reported and thereafter furnished to the Commission and authorized Government officials.

You may be assured that our investigation was conducted in a meticulously unbiased manner. The objectivity of our investigation is attested to by the thousands of pages of reports submitted to the Commission and the approximately 25,000 interviews which we conducted.



November 16, 1966

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

1-Mr. DeLoach  
1-Mr. Rosen  
1-Mr. Malley  
1-Mr. Shroder  
1-Mr. Raupach  
1-Mr. Wick  
1-Mr. Mohr  
1-Mr. Conrad  
1-Mr. Sullivan

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have noted with considerable concern the recent rash of books, articles and statements which are creating confusion and doubts about the validity of the findings of the Warren Commission regarding the assassination of President Kennedy. Much of the criticism has been directed at the conduct of the Commission's inquiry. Certain conclusions reached by the Commission have been questioned and new theories advanced as to what actually happened.

These critics have used various interpretations of evidence collected by the Commission and alleged conflicts in information reported to the Commission to support their theories. One of the "conflicts" concerns the alleged variance of the results of the medical examination of the President's body, recorded in FBI reports dated December 9, 1963, and January 13, 1964, and the official autopsy report.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover

I realize you have not taken issue with any of the people who have questioned the Warren Commission inquiry and the conclusions resulting from it. I realize also you must restrict your remarks to matters relating solely to the FBI's role in the investigation. I believe, however, that a statement from you at this time regarding the alleged conflict between information reported by the FBI and the autopsy will greatly help in clearing up the confusion and setting the record straight.

Naturally, I would want permission to publish your statement.

Sincerely yours,



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT  
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY  
NOVEMBER 22, 1963

DATE: November 15, 1966

1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. Rosen  
1 - Mr. Malley  
1 - Mr. Shroder  
1 - Mr. Raupach  
1 - Mr. Wick  
1 - Mr. Sullivan

1 - Mr. Trotter  
1 - Mr. Conrad  
1 - J. P. Mohr

Tolson ✓  
DeLoach ✓  
Mohr ✓  
Wick ✓  
Casper ✓  
Callahan ✓  
Conrad ✓  
Felt ✓  
Gale ✓  
Rosen ✓  
Sullivan ✓  
Tavel ✓  
Trotter ✓  
Tele. Room ✓  
Holmes ✓  
Gandy ✓

In compliance with the Director's instructions, we have considered criticisms of the FBI, which were set forth in my memoranda of 11/9 and 12/66, (attached) and a proposed draft of statement which can be made by the Director in connection with these criticisms is attached.

My memorandum of 11/9/66, reviewed the advance script of the television program broadcast on 11/12/66, during which a number of false accusations were made concerning the Bureau's investigation of the assassination. This TV program was monitored and there were no substantial deviations from the original script. It will be recalled that during this program the following false and irresponsible allegations concerning the Bureau were made: that the FBI ruined film and a camera belonging to an individual who took movies of the assassination (this is commonly referred to as the "Nix" film); that the report of the Agents who attended the autopsy examination was imprecise and incomplete and that the FBI made a "whopper" of a mistake when it summarized the autopsy findings; that FBI Agents followed Mark Lane all over the country; and that there is a discrepancy between the results of our interview with Oswald as compared to the report prepared by Secret Service.

In addition to the above, several authors who are professed critics of the Warren Report have made the following false allegations against the FBI:

Leo Sauvage in his book "The Oswald Affair," alleges the FBI released the results of its investigation to news media prior to furnishing our report to the Warren Commission. In addition, Sauvage states the FBI conducted its investigation with the preconceived idea that no conspiracy existed and that Oswald acted alone. (We confidentially obtained an advance copy of Sauvage's book from Jerry O'Leary, reporter for the "Evening Star," which had to be returned to him. This book is not yet available to the public in the Washington, D. C. bookstores.)

Enclosures

RIS:eem

(10)

↓ ↓  
CONTINUED - OVER

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach  
Re: ASSASSINATION

Mark Lane, in public statements, alleged the FBI removed four frames from another movie film taken by a bystander on the Presidential assassination route. (Actually, this film was mutilated by "Life" magazine, which had purchased the original film from its owner, Zapruder.)

It is also noted that the Warren Commission, when submitting its report, criticized the FBI for "insufficient liaison and coordination of information between Secret Service and other Federal agencies," and that the "FBI took an unduly restrictive view of its role in preventive intelligence work prior to the assassination" of President Kennedy. The repudiation by the Director of these statements is mentioned later in this memorandum.

OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

The majority of criticism, by far, relating to the assassination has been leveled at the Warren Commission and not the FBI or other Federal or local agencies. This criticism, while varied, essentially endeavors to show that the Commission disregarded any possibility that a conspiracy existed in the President's assassination and that Oswald did not act alone. No evidence has been developed implicating anyone other than Oswald in the assassination. The so-called critics have taken facts out of context and have distorted and falsified data in order to support their nebulous theories.

With reference to the Warren Commission's statement concerning our liaison with Secret Service and our role in preventive intelligence work prior to the assassination, it is noted that the Director publicly commented on this in a briefing session held for a group of newswomen on 11/18/64.

In considering the specific allegations against the Bureau, the one which has been referred to most frequently by critics, as well as columnists, is the alleged conflict between the official autopsy report as compared with the oral comments of the examining physician as furnished to our Agents on 11/22/63, and which was used as the basis for the statements set forth in our 12/9/63 and 1/13/64 reports submitted to the Commission.

In this connection, in considering any statement to be made by the Director, reference should definitely be made to the so-called conflict between the autopsy reports. With respect to the other allegations against the Bureau as set forth above, it is felt that a general statement would be preferable,



Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach  
Re: ASSASSINATION

without identifying the sources of the allegations, attesting to the Bureau's accuracy and completeness in handling all aspects of its investigation, with the exception of the Zapruder film frequently mentioned.

Since the Director has already publicly commented on the criticisms in the Warren Report, it is not believed that this matter should be brought up again.

It should be recognized that any statement made at this time clarifying the FBI's role in the investigation of the assassination could lead to future requests for additional statements; however, it is felt that each such request will have to be analyzed and appropriate action taken, based on the circumstances at that time.

It also should be recognized that inasmuch as the majority of criticism has been directed against the Warren Commission and its conclusions, we should be most careful in any public comment which the Director might make at this time, as such could have the tendency to focus the attention of the critics toward attacking the FBI. Obviously, any attack upon the FBI is synonymous with a personal attack upon the Director. We should be most careful to recognize this possibility. We should not allow the FBI to be used to divert the attention of the critics from the Warren Commission report and the responsibilities of that Commission. We should seek every avenue to preclude these critics from regurgitating their misstatements, false conclusions and theories to the extent of involving the FBI rather than the Warren Commission. I would, therefore, be most reluctant to go beyond the recommendations set forth hereinafter.

1: That consideration be given to approving the attached statement over the Director's name, which is limited to a concise review of the facts regarding our reporting of the autopsy examination and a general statement as to the overall conduct of the investigation as handled by the FBI.

2: If this statement is to be released, it is suggested it be given to Sidney Epstein, City Editor of the "Evening Star." It will be recalled that Epstein stated he would welcome the opportunity to set the record straight and he will sign a proposed letter to the Bureau requesting such a statement if we so desire.

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach  
Re: ASSASSINATION

Accordingly, the proposed letter from Epstein requesting this statement is also attached for approval.

3: If the Director approves the issuance of the attached statement, it is recommended we first clear it with the Department.

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✓  
11-18

*[Handwritten initials and signatures: R, JAM, AS, JMC, WSG, N, RB]*

ADDENDUM:

Subsequent to the preparation of the proposed statement, "Esquire" magazine, December issue, was published, which contains a series of articles on the assassination and the Warren Commission report. One of the articles sets forth a compilation of various theories as advocated by numerous persons. One such theory is that there were two assassins involved. One article sets forth "The conspiracy theories are proliferating at an alarming rate . . . doubts about the authenticity of the autopsy report are at the root of all the two assassin theories. The assumption, either explicit or implicit, that the autopsy report was changed, makes tenable the theories that hold that a shot came from in front of the President's car."

This article also points out that, according to Treasury Department records, the Secret Service sent the autopsy report to the FBI on 12/23/63. We received a copy of this report as indicated.



Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach  
Re: ASSASSINATION

Since it is now public knowledge we had a copy of the autopsy report prior to the preparation of our 1/13/64 supplemental report sent to the Commission, it is believed necessary we should mention the receipt of this report in our statement. You will recall we did not report the official results of the autopsy examination since we had only received a copy, and the President's family had requested this be kept confidential.

With regard to the comments that the Bureau has damaged the film of Abraham Zapruder, this is a completely false statement. The Zapruder film was purchased by a national publication and the FBI received a copy. The FBI did not at any time have the original film in its possession. This will be commented upon in our statement.

✓ Suggest Justice start as be shown advance copy -  
✓  $\frac{1}{2}$

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

FROM : *[Signature]* A. Rosen

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT  
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY  
DALLAS, TEXAS  
NOVEMBER 22, 1963

DATE: November 12 1966

1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. Rosen  
1 - Mr. Malley  
1 - Mr. Shroder  
1 - Mr. Raupach  
1 - Mr. Wick  
1 - Mr. Conrad  
1 - Mr. Sullivan

2

Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DeLoach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mohr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Casper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Callahan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Conrad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Felt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sullivan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tavel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trotter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Holmes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gandy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

There are attached hereto the material which we have been able to compile in accordance with the Director's comments this morning covering several points concerning the above-entitled matter.

These comments briefly pertain to the following items which were referred to:

1. Set forth is the proposed letter which was prepared several weeks ago to be used in answering criticism relative to our reporting of the results of the autopsy examination. A copy of this proposed letter is attached. In addition, background material is also attached covering the conference with Justice Fortas containing comments of the Director. *see pg 3.*

2. There is set forth the type of criticism of the FBI by various authors, which criticism is primarily leveled at the FBI's report concerning the medical findings pertaining to the autopsy examination. In addition, we have set forth the comments of the Warren Commission as contained in its report concerning the FBI. *see pg 4*

3. We have set forth the Director's statements concerning the State Department's action in the Oswald case: a. before the Warren Commission; b. before the Appropriations Subcommittee. *see pg 6*

4. The Warren Commission was formed on November 29, 1963, and our first report was submitted to the Warren Commission on December 9, 1963. The report was made available to the President the same date. The Warren Commission did include some comments verbatim, some excerpts and in some instances, paraphrased the results of FBI investigations. Our basic investigation was substantially completed by November 26, 1963. Thereafter, to further verify the information developed, we conducted thousands of interviews and numerous Laboratory examinations we made. We also conducted specific investigation at the request of the Warren Commission. *see pg 7*

Enclosures

*11/15/66  
Rosen  
11/15/66*

27  
COPY SENT TO MR. TOLSON

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach  
RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT  
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY

5. We set forth the fact that the Bureau did conduct approximately 25,000 interviews and that the Warren Commission makes mention of this fact in its forward. We also set forth the exact number of interviews made by the Warren Commission. *see pg 8*

ACTION:

This is submitted for your information and attached are details in connection with the above matters.

*JRM*

*R*

*AR*

*x*

*W. H. R.*

*DGL*

*I would all considered  
in preparation of a statement  
I may issue. The memo of  
at Dec. I would I would be  
considered so that whatever  
I say is accurate, succinct &  
understandable to a layman.*

*- 2 -*

*I myself like the proposed  
draft of my statement and  
date it 11/16/64.*



1) PROPOSED LETTER TO SIDNEY EPSTEIN, CITY EDITOR,  
EVENING STAR:

Reference is made to the proposed letter prepared several weeks ago to be used in answering criticism relative to our efforts in the assassination. This letter was prepared to answer the alleged conflict between information set forth in our 12/9/63 and 1/13/64 reports and the official autopsy report submitted to the Commission. Briefly, our two reports accurately set forth information furnished to our Agents at the autopsy examination which indicated the bullet entering the President's back did exit the front. Our Laboratory subsequently examined the President's clothing and referred to a slit in the front near the collar button of the President's shirt which had the characteristics of an exit hole for a projectile. The examination also determined there was a nick on the left side of the tie knot of the President's tie, which was possibly caused by the same projectile as it passed through the shirt. Prior to submitting our report of 1/13/64, we had received a copy of the official autopsy report which expressed the finding that a bullet did exit the President's throat. In view of the expressed desire of the President's family to keep the autopsy report confidential, no reference to the autopsy report was made in our reports. However, in order to point up the possibility that the information furnished by the examining physicians as reflected in our reports of 12/9/63 and 1/13/64 might be in conflict with the examinations conducted by the Laboratory indicating that the bullet did actually exit at the throat of the President, we set forth the Laboratory findings which indicated such a possibility existed. We knew at that time the Secret Service had on 12/23/63 furnished the autopsy report to the Warren Commission which indicated that a bullet had exited the President's throat.

There is attached for ready reference the proposed letter to Sidney Epstein, City Editor, Evening Star (tab 7 ) to which is attached full details concerning this matter. There is also attached a memorandum to Mr. Tolson from Mr. DeLoach (tab 8 ) dated October 19, 1966, referring to this material for the Evening Star; memos re DeLoach's interview with Justice Fortas dated October 7, 1966 (tab 9 ) and October 10, 1966 (tab 10 ).

## 2) CRITICISMS OF THE FBI:

The majority of authors who are critical of the FBI refer to the alleged conflict between the results of the official autopsy examination and the information furnished by our Agents who attended the physical examination of the President's body as set out in our 12/9/63 and 1/13/64 reports. This matter is fully commented upon in item 1 above.

In addition, it is to be noted that the general tenor of the various critics is their unsubstantiated belief that a conspiracy existed and that Oswald did not act alone. They have not come forward with any new facts, but have attempted to prove their various theories by distortions, false premises, misrepresentations, and taking partial comments from the Warren Commission out of context. For example, Mark Lane, in his book, falsely alleges that the FBI destroyed or mutilated film taken by bystanders on the assassination route. It can be emphatically stated that the Bureau did not mutilate nor destroy any film.

Another general type of criticism has been the allegation that the FBI had a preconceived opinion that Oswald acted alone. Of course, this is also unsupported by any facts and an examination of the extensive reports and material which we have submitted to the Warren Commission which are now in the hands of the National Archives obviously refutes such an opinion.

Another type of criticism is made by Leo Sauvage, who in his book, alleges the FBI released results of its investigation to news media prior to submission of our report to the Warren Commission. This, of course, is obviously untrue.

Although the above generally covers the type of criticism of the FBI, we did wish to point out the comments of the Warren Commission in its report and they are set forth herein.

The Warren Commission, in its report, stated "there was insufficient liaison and coordination of information between the Secret Service and other Federal agencies" including the FBI and that "the FBI took an unduly restrictive view of its role in preventive intelligence work, prior to the assassination" of President Kennedy. In this regard the following is set forth.



It is noted that on November 18, 1964, the Director held a background briefing session for a group of newswomen and during this session, the Director was asked if he would comment on the Warren Report. The Director said the report was not fair as far as the FBI was concerned; that the Commission did not release the full testimony of witnesses; that we could not arrest every crack pot without creating a police state. The Director stated the Warren Commission had completely distorted the FBI's investigation of Oswald; that Oswald had not given any indication of being a violent type of individual--nor did his actions show he was a threat to the President. Full details of this criticism set forth in attached memorandum M. A. Jones to Mr. Wick dated 10/18/66 (tab E).



3) THE DIRECTOR'S STATEMENTS ABOUT THE STATE  
DEPARTMENT'S ACTION IN THE OSWALD CASE:

a. In testifying before the Warren Commission, the Director's testimony is set forth in Volume V of the Hearings Before the President's Commission on page 111. It reads as follows:

"Well, I have gone into that very thoroughly because that was obviously one of the questions that I had in my mind when the tragedy occurred in Dallas.

"In going back over the record, and I have read each one of the reports dealing with that and the reports of Mr. Hosty who had dealt with the Oswald situation largely in Dallas, we had the matter that I have previously referred to, the report of the State Department that indicated this man was a thoroughly safe risk, he had changed his views, he was a loyal man now and had seen the light of day, so to speak.

"How intensive or how extensive that interview in Moscow was, I don't know. But, nevertheless, it was in a State Department document that was furnished to us."

b. The Director, when testifying before the Appropriations Subcommittee on March 4, 1965; the Director handed to the Chairman, Mr. Rooney, a statement which dealt with the report of the State Department which indicated Lee Harvey Oswald was a "thoroughly safe risk." There is attached page 24 which sets forth the Director's comments. (See tab 5).

4) FBI INVESTIGATION INTO THE ASSASSINATION

a. The FBI commenced its investigation on November 22, 1963, the date the President was assassinated. The basic investigation showing how the assassination occurred was substantially completed by November 26, 1963. Following this date, thousands of interviews were conducted and a great deal of material examined by the Laboratory to further verify the information developed up to November 26, 1966. In addition to investigation conducted by the Bureau on its own, a large amount of investigation was conducted at the specific request of the Warren Commission.

b. The President's Commission was formed by Executive Order 11130, dated November 29, 1963. Its first meeting was held on December 5, 1963. Our first report consisting of five volumes was submitted to the Warren Commission on December 9, 1963, and to the President on the same day.

c. The Warren Commission in some instances quoted verbatim from our reports and in other situations merely took excerpts from the reports and frequently paraphrased whatever material they desired from FBI reports.



5) INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED IN CONNECTION WITH  
ASSASSINATION INVESTIGATION

Beginning on February 3, 1964, the Commission and its staff took the testimony of 552 witnesses. Of this number, 94 appeared before the members of the Commission; 395 were questioned by members of the Commission's legal staff; 61 supplied sworn affidavits; and two gave statements. The Warren Commission, in its forward to its report stated that commencing on November 22, 1963, the Federal Bureau of Investigation conducted approximately 25,000 interviews and reinterviews of persons having information of possible relevance to the investigation.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

October 20, 1966

Mr. Sidney Epstein  
City Editor  
The Evening Star  
225 Virginia Avenue, Southeast  
Washington, D. C. 20003

Dear Mr. Epstein:

I certainly share the concern you expressed in your letter of October 19, 1966, regarding the recent publication of various criticisms of the findings of the Warren Commission.

While the critics have every right to state their views, they should show more regard for the facts on record. They have ignored certain facts, misinterpreted others, and expressed pure speculation as truth. In the hope that I can help clear up some of the confusion which has resulted, I am enclosing a statement which may be published.

Please bear in mind I am speaking only for the FBI, not for any other agency or group involved in any phase of the inquiry into the assassination of President Kennedy.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

(2)





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

October 20, 1966

Considerable criticism has arisen about the findings of the Warren Commission concerning the assassination of President Kennedy. Some critics have openly challenged the conclusions of the Commission.

To support their speculation, some critics allege, among other things, that there is a discrepancy between portions of two FBI reports and the official autopsy reports regarding the wounds found in the President's body.

The FBI reports record oral statements made by examining pathologists during the autopsy procedure and before all facts had been developed. The autopsy reports record the final findings of the examination.

Two FBI Agents were present during the autopsy. They reported the following information:

"Dr. Humes (Dr. James J. Humes, chief autopsy surgeon) located an opening which appeared to be a bullet hole which was below the shoulders and two inches to the right of the middle line of the spinal column. This opening was probed by Dr. Humes with the finger, at which time it was determined that the trajectory of the missile entering at this point had entered at a downward position of 45 to 60 degrees. Further probing determined that the distance travelled by this missile was a short distance inasmuch as the end of the opening could be felt with the finger. Inasmuch as no complete bullet of any size could be located in the brain area and likewise no bullet could be located in the back or any other area of the body as determined by total body X-rays and inspection revealing there was no point of exit, the individuals performing the autopsy were at a loss to explain why they could find no bullets."

In the first FBI report submitted to the Warren Commission on December 9, 1963, this data was summarized on page 18, "Medical examination of the President's body revealed that one of the bullets had entered just below his shoulder to the right of the spinal column at an angle of 45 to 60 degrees downward, that there was no point of exit, and that the bullet was not in the body."

While the autopsy was in progress, the pathologists learned that a bullet had been found on a stretcher at Parkland Hospital in Dallas, Texas. At the time, it was thought the bullet was found on the stretcher occupied by the President. The pathologists, based on this information, speculated the bullet "might have penetrated a short distance into the back of the neck and then dropped out onto the stretcher as a result of the external heart massage." This data is recorded on page 88 of the Commission Report.

As recorded on pages 88 and 89 of the Commission Report, the pathologists eventually were able to trace through the body the path of the bullet which struck the President in the back. Early on November 23, 1963, Dr. Humes contacted doctors at Parkland Hospital and confirmed his assumption that a tracheotomy had been performed at Parkland and a bullet hole in the front of the neck had been used as the point of incision. This information was included in the autopsy report, a copy of which was supplied to the FBI on December 23, 1963.

The clothing worn by the President on the date of the assassination was examined in the FBI Laboratory. Results of the examination were included in the FBI report dated January 13, 1964, showing "there was a small hole in the back of his coat and shirt



approximately six inches below the top of the collar and two inches to the right of the middle seam of the coat. There were minute traces of copper on the fabric surrounding the hole."

This report also referred to the early conclusions of the examining pathologists with the statement, "Medical examination of the President's body had revealed that the bullet which entered his back had penetrated to a distance of less than a finger length." The following portion of the report clearly indicates the inaccuracy of this early conclusion:

"There is a slit approximately one-half inch long about one inch below the collar button in the overlap of the shirt the President was wearing. The slit has the characteristics of an exit hole for a projectile. There is also a nick on the left side of the tie knot, which possibly was caused by the same projectile as it passed through the shirt."

On December 23, 1963, a copy of the autopsy report was furnished to the FBI by Secret Service which supplied a copy to the Warren Commission by the same date. Since the FBI was

aware the Commission had a copy of the official autopsy, it was not repeated in an FBI report.

The information regarding the wound set forth in the FBI report of December 9, 1963, was a summarization of a preliminary observation by an examining pathologist. The FBI Laboratory examination of the President's clothing indicated this observation probably was in error, and another reference to it was included along with the Laboratory findings in the January 13, 1964, report to point up this probability.

My testimony before the Warren Commission on May 14, 1964, clearly shows that there was no disagreement between the facts known to the FBI and the autopsy report. I stated:

"Now, first, it was thought that the President had been shot through the throat; that is what the doctors at the Parkland Hospital felt when he was brought in.

"If that had been true, the shot would have had to come from the overpass. But as soon as the body arrived in Washington, the doctors at Bethesda Hospital performed the autopsy and it was then determined definitely from their point of view that he had been shot from the rear...." This testimony is recorded on page 104 of Volume V, Hearings Before the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy.

October 19, 1966

MR. DE LOACH:

RE: CRITICISM CONCERNING THE  
WARREN COMMISSION REPORT

Mr. Tolson ☒  
Mr. DeLoach ☒  
Mr. Mohr ☒  
Mr. Wick ☒  
Mr. Casper ☒  
Mr. Callahan ☒  
Mr. Conrad ☒  
Mr. Felt ☒  
Mr. Gale ☒  
Mr. Rosen ☒  
Mr. Sullivan ☒  
Mr. Tavel ☒  
Mr. Trotter ☒  
Tele. Room ☒  
Miss Holmes ☒  
Miss Gandy ☒

Enclosed is a proposed letter to be sent to the Director by Sidney Epstein, City Editor of The Evening Star, asking for a statement to set the record straight concerning recent criticism of the Warren Commission Report. Epstein has agreed to cooperate, stating he welcomes the opportunity to set the record straight. He will formally prepare and sign the proposed letter and send it to the Director if we desire. He feels the statement will make an excellent front page feature for the "Star."

Also enclosed is a proposed letter in response to Epstein's letter and a statement to be sent to him by the Director. As the Director is aware, the primary reason the autopsy was not reported by us was the fact Secret Service had instructions from Bobby Kennedy that neither the autopsy nor the X-Rays and photographs were to be released; however, this information is not set forth in our proposed reply to Epstein's letter.

The excerpt from the Director's testimony was used at the end of the statement (page 5) as a means of strongly pointing up the fact there is not now and never has been any disagreement on the part of the FBI with the findings in the official autopsy report. References to this part of the Director's testimony already have been published in various articles in this respect, particularly in the October 10, 1966, issue of U. S. News & World Report. On page 47 of this issue is stated, "FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover subsequently appeared before the Commission, and said the FBI concurred with the official autopsy report." On page 50 of the same issue Arlen Specter, Assistant

Enclosures (3)

1 - Mr. Tolson  
1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. Wick  
1 - Mr. Rosen

CONTINUED - OVER

(31)



RE: CRITICISM CONCERNING THE  
WARREN COMMISSION REPORT

Counsel of the Warren Commission, is quoted as stating, "I do know that the FBI itself came to the same conclusions that the Commission did. Mr. Hoover testified to this, and nobody in the Bureau placed any substantial credence in the preliminary thoughts as reflected in the early reports." These quoted statements are the interpretations placed on the Director's testimony by the magazine writer and by Specter, and do not appear in the testimony.

Mr. Rosén opposes the inclusion of the excerpt from the Director's testimony. He states:

"I believe it highly undesirable to use the Director's testimony in any answer to the two reports in question. The Director's testimony relates to whether the President was shot through the throat or whether he had been shot from the rear. This point is not in issue insofar as the conflict which exists concerning the December 9th and January 13th reports. The issue which we deal with in our answer to Epstein concerns itself with whether or not there was a point of exit and that is pretty well established by the testimony of the autopsy examination and by the laboratory observations.

"If we inject any of the Director's testimony in this matter it will be immediately seized upon and can be reasonably expected that the Warren Commission will be taken off the hook. It can also be expected once it is raised, the question as to where the shot came from and various other matters concerning possible conspiracies, etc., will be raised.

"The Director's testimony has never been criticized according to my recollection up to this point."

RESPECTFULLY,

R. E. WICK

SEE ADDENDUM ON PAGE 3 BY C. D. DE LOACH, 10/20/66.....

RE: CRITICISM CONCERNING THE  
WARREN COMMISSION REPORT

ADDENDUM BY C. D. DE LOACH, 10/20/66:

While I disagree with Mr. Rosen and believe it is satisfactory to use the Director's excerpt, particularly in view of the fact that this excerpt has been published before and more importantly the fact that usage of a quote from the Director would lend great strength, I would like to point out that the criticism of the Warren Commission Report has died down considerably within the past several days and will no doubt die down more within the next few weeks.

*90-11-10*  
The issuance of a statement by the Director at this time would only revive the issue. It may be that the Director will want me to see Justice Fortas and point out this fact to him, stating at the same time that perhaps it would be the better part of logic not to issue any statement at this time.

If the Director does instruct that this statement be issued, it would be well to point out that the "Evening Star" will not only print the statement but will also have Jerry O'Leary, who is very experienced in writing about the assassination, elaborate and explain thoroughly the Director's statement.

If the Director does have the statement issued, it is felt we should definitely clear it with the Department before issuance.

CDD:amr

*I don't consider proposed statement suspicious nor understandable to a layman. Consequently it is best to say nothing if we can't do anything better.*



October 10, 1966

MR. TOLSON:

RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY;  
MEETING WITH JUSTICE FORTAS, 2 p.m. 10/7/66  
AND REQUEST FOR DIRECTOR TO WRITE BOOK

I saw Justice Fortas at 2:45 p.m. this afternoon at his chambers at the Supreme Court Building. Pursuant to the Director's instructions, I outlined to Justice Fortas the many reasons why the Director could not accede to the President's and Justice Fortas' request that a lengthy article, series of articles or book be written by the Director concerning captioned matter. I told Justice Fortas the Director wanted to be of all possible assistance to the President and him, however, in this particular instance the Director would appreciate consideration be given to the above reasons why it would not be logical for him to undertake this project.

Without any hesitation, Justice Fortas told me he agreed with the Director. He stated he could not indicate this previously, however, he had argued with the President that it was not logical for the Director to prepare this book inasmuch as the Director in doing so would necessarily have to substantiate the investigative efforts of many other agencies other than those of the FBI.

Justice Fortas indicated he had no argument whatsoever with the Director's thoughts. In reply, I told him the Director had suggested that Chief Justice Warren might undertake such a project inasmuch as he, the Chief Justice, would be acting in his capacity as Chairman of the Warren Commission rather than in the capacity of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Justice Fortas stated he doubted Chief Justice Warren would agree to this assumption. He added, however, that Lee Rankin, the Chief Counsel of the Warren Commission, had agreed to write a book; however, Rankin's book would not be ready for publication for approximately one year.

Justice Fortas stated he and the President would deeply appreciate the Director giving consideration to issuing a statement or writing one brief article restricted solely to the controversy

CDD:hmm  
(2)

1 - DeLoach

CONTINUED - OVER

Mr. Tolson ☒  
Mr. DeLoach ☒  
Mr. Mohr ☒  
Mr. Wick ☒  
Mr. Casper ☒  
Mr. Callahan ☒  
Mr. Conrad ☒  
Mr. Felt ☒  
Mr. Gale ☒  
Mr. Rosen ☒  
Mr. Sullivan ☒  
Mr. Tavel ☒  
Mr. Trotter ☒  
Tele. Room ☒  
Miss Holmes ☒  
Miss Gandy ☒



MEMO TO: MR. TOLSON

RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY;  
MEETING WITH JUSTICE FORTAS, 2 p.m. 10/7/66  
AND REQUEST FOR DIRECTOR TO WRITE BOOK

raised by critics with respect to the differences as shown in the autopsy between the FBI reports and the final conclusion of the Warren Commission. I told Justice Fortas this would be brought to the Director's attention and I felt certain the Director would be agreeable to the issuance of a statement in this regard so long as the statement pertains to this one point.

I brought up the subject of Harold Reis with Justice Fortas. After outlining to him the fact that Reis was undoubtedly responsible for any misunderstanding which had arisen between the Department and the FBI, Justice Fortas interrupted me and said he had known Reis for many years and disliked him intensely ever since he, Justice Fortas, had represented the Puerto Rican Government in dealings for the United States. He stated Reis had stuck a knife in his back on more than one occasion. Justice Fortas stated in one instance he had told former Attorney General Katzenbach in President Johnson's presence of the fact that Reis had a very brazen, undesirable personality and that Katzenbach should get rid of him. Fortas asked me to tell this fact to Ramsey Clark the next time I see Clark. I will, of course, do that this afternoon.

Pursuant to the Director's instructions, we are preparing a statement in line with the President's and Justice Fortas' request.

Respectfully,

V. P.  
C. D. DeLoach

*Sent me see to -*  
*Sent through*  
*Mr. [unclear]*  
*10/18/66*  
*5*

at virtually every one of our field offices as well as our liaison offices abroad were involved in one phase or another of the investigation. Among other things, some 25,000 interviews were handled.

Mr. ROONEY. How many interviews?

Mr. HOOVER. 25,000.

(Discussion off the record.)

Mr. HOOVER. As an aftermath of the assassination, we assisted the Secret Service in the protection of the President when he visited various localities. We furnished a total of 534 special agents on 74 occasions. This, I believe, is going to be corrected in this Congress in the appropriation for the Secret Service. They have the full and sole responsibility for the protection of the President. As it is, we have had to work jointly and wherever that happens, if anything goes wrong, the placement of responsibility is very difficult.

I must say that our relations with the Secret Service have been most harmonious. Mr. Rowley, who is the Chief of the Secret Service, was formerly an agent in the FBI. He is on the FBI National Academy faculty.

I hand to the chairman a statement which deals with the report of the State Department, on the basis of which I characterized Oswald "not a risk."

Mr. ROONEY. We shall insert this statement at this point in the record.

(The statement follows:)

STATE DEPARTMENT REPORT ON BASIS OF WHICH I CHARACTERIZED OSWALD  
AS A "THOROUGHLY SAFE RISK"

When testifying before the Warren Commission on May 14, 1964, I stated that a State Department report indicated Lee Harvey Oswald was a "thoroughly safe risk."

Such statement was based upon a Foreign Service dispatch from the American Embassy in Moscow to the Department of State, Washington, D.C., dispatch No. 29 dated July 11, 1961. This dispatch set forth a summary of Oswald's visit to the American Embassy, Moscow, U.S.S.R., on July 8, 1961, at which time Oswald requested to return to the United States with his wife. The dispatch contains the following paragraph relating to Oswald as noted by the American Embassy interviewing official, Mr. Richard Snyder:

"Twenty months of the realities of life in the Soviet Union have clearly had a maturing effect on Oswald. He stated frankly that he had learned a hard lesson the hard way and that he had been completely relieved of his illusions about the Soviet Union at the same time that he acquired a new understanding and appreciation of the United States and the meaning of freedom. Much of the arrogance and bravado which characterized him on his first visit to the Embassy appears to have left him. He stated that he is in contact with his mother and a brother in the United States. He stated that he had about 200 rubles and that he and his wife would save more for eventual costs of traveling to the United States."

Further indication that the State Department did not consider Oswald a risk is shown by the fact that the State Department renewed Oswald's passport for a return to the United States and gave him a loan in the sum of \$435.71 to finance his and his family's trip to the United States.

Additional evidence that the State Department did not consider Oswald a risk is shown by the fact that when Oswald requested a new passport for travel abroad on June 24, 1963, wherein he indicated he planned to stay abroad for from 3 months to 1 year and to visit England, France, Germany, Holland, Russia, Finland, Italy, and Poland, the State Department saw fit to issue him a passport for such travel on the following day, June 25, 1963. Obviously the State Department did not consider Oswald a risk in issuing him a passport on this occasion.



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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(1) with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

Lee Harvey Oswald - Volume III - Document # 39

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

November , 1966

Considerable criticism has arisen about the findings of the Warren Commission concerning the assassination of President Kennedy. Some critics have openly challenged the conclusions of the Commission.

To support their speculations some critics allege, among other things, there is a conflict between statements set forth in two FBI reports relating to the autopsy and the official autopsy report which was submitted to the Warren Commission. I wish to emphatically state at the outset that the FBI reports factually record information which was furnished orally to our Agents by an examining physician who conducted the autopsy of President Kennedy on the evening of November 22, 1963.

In order to clarify this matter, I would like to mention that on December 9, 1963, the FBI submitted a preliminary report to the Commission summarizing various phases of our investigative activity. Included in this report was information orally furnished to our Agents, who attended the autopsy, by an examining physician to the effect that there was no point of exit for the bullet which entered the President's back.

On January 13, 1964, a supplemental report was submitted to the Commission which included the results of our Laboratory's examination of the clothing worn by the President at the time of his assassination. This Laboratory examination disclosed there was a small hole in the back of the President's coat and shirt and that minute traces of copper were found on fabric surrounding this hole. The Laboratory examination further disclosed that there was a slit near the collar button of the President's shirt which had the characteristics of an exit hole for a projectile; also that there was a nick on the left side of the tie knot which possibly was caused by the same projectile as it passed through the shirt.

In view of this finding it was immediately recognized that there was a conflict. The results of the examination of the clothing indicated an exit hole; however, this was not consistent with the oral observations of the examining physician furnished to our Agents on the night of November 22, 1963. In order to clearly point up this inconsistency to the Commission, we set forth the above findings of our Laboratory as well as the oral observations of the examining physician on the night of November 22, 1963.

The basis for the statements set out in our December 9, 1963, and January 13, 1964, reports concerning the bullet which entered

the President's back, was obtained from a detailed report prepared and submitted by our Agents following the oral comments of an examining physician on the night of November 22, 1963, and is currently available in the National Archives.

The Warren Commission made a specific request of the FBI for the official autopsy report. They were advised we did not have this autopsy report but that arrangements would be made for the report to be delivered to the Commission by Secret Service. A copy of the autopsy report was also made available to the FBI by the Secret Service at our specific request on December 23, 1963. Inasmuch as the Warren Commission had the autopsy report, we did not incorporate it in our report of January 13, 1964.

By Presidential directive, the FBI had the responsibility, as did other investigative agencies, to furnish all information developed to the Warren Commission. Since the Secret Service complied with the Commission's request for the official autopsy report, such information was not duplicated in our report of January 13, 1964.

In publishing its findings, the Warren Commission reproduced the official autopsy report. This report shows that the missile which entered the President's back "made its exit through the anterior surface of the neck" and "so far as can be ascertained this missile struck no bony structures in its path through the body." The original theory of



examining physicians that the bullet did not exit from the President's throat and the subsequent developments which led to their conclusion that the bullet did have a point of exit are set forth and are explained in the Commission's report. For example, on pages 88 and 89, it is stated "in the earlier stages of the autopsy" the doctors at Bethesda Naval Hospital performing the autopsy "did not know that there had been a bullet hole in the front of the President's neck when he arrived at Parkland Hospital on a stretcher." The physicians at Parkland Hospital, Dallas, Texas, had utilized this bullet hole as a point of incision for an emergency operation performed on the President.

With regard to the comments that the FBI has damaged the film of Abraham Zapruder, this is a completely false statement. The Zapruder film was purchased by a national publication and the FBI received a copy. The FBI did not at any time have the original film in its possession.

In addition to the above, I would also like to comment concerning other statements which have been made concerning the FBI's participation in the investigation of the assassination. I would like to emphatically state all information obtained during the investigation was accurately and fully reported and thereafter furnished to the Commission and authorized Government officials.

C O

You may be assured our investigation was conducted in a meticulously unbiased manner. The objectivity of our investigation is attested to by the thousands of pages of reports submitted to the Commission and the approximately 25,000 interviews which we conducted.

Mr. Gale

11/14/68

W. V. Cleveland

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT  
JOHN F. KENNEDY  
NOVEMBER 22, 1963  
DALLAS, TEXAS  
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION  
CONCERNING

At 2:45 a.m. and 3:38 a.m., 11/14/68, an individual who gave his name as Erich Lintrop telephonically contacted the Bureau and spoke to Special Agent [REDACTED], on duty in the Special Investigative Division. He said he was calling from San Francisco, California, and indicated he has no fixed address, although he has the mailing address of 550 West 20th Street, New York, New York.

Lintrop, who described himself as an able-bodied seaman, indicated from his conversation that he may have been drinking. He stated he had heard a rumor to the effect Madame Nhu, wife of the former head of South Vietnam, may have been responsible for the assassination of the late President John F. Kennedy. When asked for the source of this information, Lintrop said he heard this in Turkey; however, he was not responsive to further questions concerning the alleged rumor. He then engaged in a rambling and at times incoherent conversation,

Bureau files contain a report dated 9/22/64, from the Norfolk Office, which sets forth the results of an interview with Erich Lintrop, who was born 11/4/04, in Estoria, and was naturalized on 5/24/48. He related at that time that about four days after the assassination of the late President Kennedy, he was in Constantinople, Turkey, and was told by an unidentified Turkish Army officer there were

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- ① - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Gale
- 1 - Mr. Cleveland
- 1 - [REDACTED]

CONTINUED - OVER

(7)

(b)(7)(C)

NOV 12 2 52 PM '68  
NOV 14 11 03 AM '68  
INTELL DIV  
REC'D



**Memorandum to Mr. Gale**

**Re: Assassination of President John F. Kennedy**

rumors in Turkey that Madame Nhu of South Vietnam may have been responsible for the assassination. Lintrop said he accepted this information as a poor rumor. Bureau files contain no additional information identifiable with Lintrop.  
(105-82555-4929)

**ACTION:**

The information telephonically furnished by Erich Lintrop on 11/14/66, which adds nothing to the information he furnished in 1964, should be referred to Domestic Intelligence and General Investigative Divisions.

**ALLEGATION OF MARK LANE THAT  
FBI AGENTS FOLLOWED HIM ALL  
OVER THE COUNTRY AND RECORDED  
EVERY WORD HE SAID  
(Pages 83 and 84 of the transcript)**

Lane's allegation in this matter is completely false. At no time did we conduct surveillance of Lane or follow him around the country.

Following the assassination of President Kennedy, Mark Lane traveled throughout the United States and Europe denouncing the work of the Warren Commission and attempted to show that others were involved in the assassination of President Kennedy and Officer Tippit in Dallas. These wild accusations and allegations of Mark Lane caused members of the Warren Commission deep concern and on February 25, 1964, Mr. J. Lee Rankin of the President's Commission requested that the Bureau make arrangements to have talks and meetings of Mark Lane recorded where possible. We were able to do this through the cooperation of various sources and the tape recordings were furnished to the Warren Commission as obtained.

ALLEGATION THAT FBI SAID THEY  
HEARD OSWALD SAY HE WAS HAVING  
LUNCH WITH TWO NEGROES ON  
NOVEMBER 22, 1963  
(Page 83 of transcript)

Mark Lane, in trying to make a point that investigators disagreed on highly pertinent interrogation reports of Oswald, said that the Secret Service said Oswald stated he was alone having lunch on November 22, 1963, whereas the FBI said they heard Oswald say he was having lunch with two Negroes.

Lane's statements on this particular point are absolutely false. Special Agent James W. Bookhout participated in an interview of Oswald at the Dallas Police Department on November 23, 1963, at which time Oswald stated he had lunch in the lunchroom at the Texas School Book Depository alone, but recalled possibly two Negro employees walking through the room during this period. Special Agent Bookhout recorded results of this interview with Oswald in an FD-302 form dated November 25, 1963. This FD-302 form was included as pages 98-102 of the report of Special Agent Robert P. Gemberling dated November 30, 1963, at Dallas, Texas, in the Oswald case.



ALLEGATION BY HAROLD WEISBERG  
THAT SPECIAL AGENT HOSTY DID  
NOT STAY FOR INTERVIEW OF  
OSWALD NOVEMBER 22, 1963, AT  
THE DALLAS POLICE DEPARTMENT  
(Page 80 of the television transcript)

Special Agents James P. Hosty, Jr., and James W. Bookhout were present during an interview of Lee Harvey Oswald by Captain Will Fritz of the Dallas Police Department on November 22, 1963. Both Agents identified themselves to Oswald and advised him of his rights. On November 23, 1963, Special Agents Hosty and Bookhout prepared an FD-302 form containing results of the November 22, 1963, interview with Oswald. This was in accordance with Bureau policy in reporting interviews of subjects of Bureau investigations. This FD-302 was included as page 90 and 91 of the report of Special Agent Robert P. Gemberling dated November 30, 1963, at Dallas in the Oswald case. Copies of this report were disseminated to the Warren Commission.

(70)

**ALLEGATIONS BY MARK LANE AND  
HAROLD WEISBERG THAT A PICTURE  
WAS MUTILATED IN CONNECTION  
WITH THE GENERAL WALKER INCIDENT  
(Pages 64-66 of the television transcript)**

Mark Lane and Harold Weisberg both claim that someone mutilated a photograph found in Oswald's effects portraying an automobile parked in the driveway of General Walker's residence. Lane claimed that someone deliberately made a hole in the photograph to remove the portion showing the license plate of the car. The photograph in question is Commission exhibit number five. It was seized by the Dallas Police Department in its search of Oswald's effects and was turned over to the FBI along with other evidence in the case. It was in a mutilated condition when turned over to us wherein the license plate of the automobile is not shown. It appears highly likely that Oswald himself mutilated the photograph to eliminate the possibility of anyone identifying General Walker's residence through identification of the car parked in the driveway.

**MARK LANE MISREPRESENTS WHAT  
ONE WITNESS REPORTED REGARDING  
THE GENERAL WALKER INCIDENT  
(Page 89 of the television transcript)**

Mark Lane claims that Walter Kirk Coleman, neighbor to General Walker, heard a shot the night someone shot at General Walker. Lane stated that Coleman reported he saw a man, carrying what appeared to be a rifle, jump into a car, put the rifle on the floor and then drive away. Lane claimed the Warren Commission completely ignored Coleman's information and didn't even list Coleman's name in its index to its Report. The facts are that Kirk Coleman (Walter Kirk Coleman) was interviewed by the Dallas Police immediately following the attempted assassination of General Walker by an unknown individual. Coleman stated that he heard what appeared like a shot from a shotgun and that as he looked out into his rear yard, he saw an unknown male enter an automobile and speed away. Coleman made no reference to any rifle in his interview by the Dallas Police Department. The Dallas Police Department record in this matter was reviewed by Special Agent Vincent E. Drain of our Dallas Office on December 6, 1963, and results of such record check were incorporated by Special Agent Drain in an FD-302 form which was included as pages 441 and 442 in the report of Special Agent Robert P. Gemberling dated December 10, 1963, at Dallas in the Oswald case. Copies of this report were furnished to the President's Commission.

It is also to be noted that contrary to what Lane infers, Coleman's name was indexed in Volume 15 of the back up data to the Warren Commission's Report. This volume contains an index to all of the hearings of the Commission. The index notes on page 760 that the name of Walter Kirk Coleman appears in Volume 5, page 448, and Volume 11, pages 416-417, of the hearings of the President's Commission.



Tolson ☒  
 DeLoach ☒  
 Mohr ☒  
 Wick ☒  
 Casper ☒  
 Callahan ☒  
 Conrad ☒  
 Felt ☒  
 Gale ☒  
 Rosen ☒  
 Sullivan ☒  
 Tavel ☒  
 Trotter ☒  
 Tele. Room ☒  
 Holmes ☒  
 Gandy ☒

## 2 Editors Ask Reopening Of Assassination Probe

The editor of a small-town Texas newspaper and a magazine editor joined today in calling on Congress to reopen the investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy.

Penn Jones Jr., editor of the Midlothian (Tex.) Mirror, and David Welsh of Ramparts Magazine issued the call at a press conference here.

The press session was in connection with an article in the current issue of Ramparts that says at least 10 persons connected in some way to events related to the assassination have since met what the story calls violent or bizarre deaths. The editors also said a large number of potential witnesses have been intimidated into silence.

### Kilgallen Death Cited

Welsh's article lists 10 persons he says were connected with the assassination who have died. It includes Dorothy Kilgallen. Miss Kilgallen, who died in November 1955 of a combination of barbiturates and alcohol, had interviewed Jack Ruby. She is reported by the author to have said during the last days of her life: "In five more days, I'm going to bust this case wide open."

The other deaths include those of two newspapermen;

Tom Howard, who was briefly Ruby's lawyer, Earlene Roberts, who managed Lee Harvey Oswald's rooming house.

Newsman asked Jones and Welsh why the "mysterious deaths" were limited to these 10, while Jack Ruby, Marina Oswald and others much closer to the assassination events are still alive.

Welsh and Jones countered by saying that Dallas is impregnated with fear, that Ruby ought to be transferred to Washington so he can be questioned competently and that amateur investigators are harassed and "tailed."

### Conspiracy Seen

Jones said he thinks there were two riflemen involved in a conspiracy to kill Kennedy, but he said he had no final evidence.

"They're still working on the assassination of Lincoln," Jones said.

Welsh added that most of the Dallas newspapermen who covered the case have moved to other jobs and that a third of the evidence in the assassination is being withheld. He blamed FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover for suppression of most of the documents.

*MAJ* ✓

The Washington Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Washington Evening Star *4-3* \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Daily News *FINAN* \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Post \_\_\_\_\_  
 The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York World Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York World \_\_\_\_\_  
 Journal Tribune \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Baltimore Sun \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Worker \_\_\_\_\_  
 The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
 The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_  
 People's World \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_

*He is a liar.*  
*H*

OCT 25 1966

( T. Oswald  
( ) Fisher

1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. Wick  
1 - Mr. Rosen

Mr. W. C. Sullivan

October 11, 1968

Mr. W. A. Branigan

1 - Mr. Sullivan  
1 - Mr. Branigan  
1 - Mr. Paupech  
1 - Mr. Lenihan

LEE HARVEY OSWALD  
INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA - CUBA

On 9/3/68 Congressman John O. Marsh, Jr., of Virginia, who is a personal acquaintance of Assistant Director William C. Sullivan, contacted Mr. Sullivan and reported that Congressman Don Fuqua possessed information on the Lee Harvey Oswald case which might be of interest to this Bureau. Arrangements were made for a Special Agent of the Washington Field Office to contact Congressman Fuqua in this regard.

Special Agent James F. Morrissey of the Washington Field Office made contact with Congressman Fuqua on several occasions during September, 1968, at which time the Congressman made available data which had been furnished to him by Mr. William H. Cooper of New Orleans, Louisiana. Congressman Fuqua stated that Cooper alleged that Oswald was part of a conspiracy which was responsible for the assassination of the late President John F. Kennedy. Congressman Fuqua added that other members of the conspiracy allegedly were Herman G. Engelhardt, J. Russell Doiron, Bryan Clemmons, James Winfree and E. G. Partin. Cooper has alleged to Congressman Fuqua that the above individuals brainwashed Oswald into performing the actual assassination and then arranged for Oswald to be murdered by Jack Ruby. ~~Congressman Fuqua made available correspondence he has received from Cooper containing such allegations.~~

William H. Cooper appears to be identical with an individual of the same name who



Enclosure  
105-82555

REL:kas  
(8)

CONTINUED - OVER

(100)



MEMORANDUM STRANIGAN TO SULLIVAN  
RE: LEE HARVEY OSWALD  
105-82555

At no time during our intensive investigation of Oswald or of the assassination of the late President Kennedy did Cooper or any of the other individuals mentioned herein as conspirators behind the assassination come to our attention as possessing information of value to the assassination. During our frequent contacts with Cooper during the period September, 1964, to January, 1966, he never made any allegation in connection with the assassination of Oswald. The allegations he is now making appear to be completely false. However, it is felt he should be interviewed to get the information first-hand and to be pinned down concerning his allegations before they are widely circulated and given credence by the public.

Bureau files contain no pertinent information concerning Herman G. Engelhardt, J. Russell Doirion or James Winfree. Bryan Clemmons is a sheriff in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and has held several responsible positions as a graduate of the FBI National Academy. Our relations with Clemmons have been excellent. Edward G. Partin was formerly Secretary-Treasurer of Teamsters Local Five, Baton Rouge, and was the principal Government witness against James Riddle Hoffa when Hoffa was convicted on charges of Obstruction of Justice on March 4, 1964, at Chattanooga, Tennessee.

ACTION:

Attached is an airtel to the New Orleans Office instructing that Cooper be immediately interviewed and pinned down on his allegations that Oswald was involved in a conspiracy in the assassination of the late President Kennedy. We are instructing New Orleans that if its interview with Cooper does not completely resolve his allegations, New Orleans Office should conduct additional investigation necessary to thoroughly resolve this matter.



13  
10/12/66

1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. Wick  
1 - Mr. Rosen  
1 - Mr. Sullivan  
1 - Mr. Branigan  
1 - Mr. Raupach  
1 - Mr. Lenihan

**Airtel**

**To: SAC, New Orleans**  
**From: Director, FBI (105-22342)**  
**LEE HARVEY OSWALD**  
**IS - R - CUBA**

NewFOlet 10/8/66 reporting contacts with Congressman Don Fuqua of Florida in this matter.

Enclosed for the New Orleans Office are copies of the enclosures described in referenced WFOlet. William M. Cooper appears to be identical to an individual [REDACTED] (b)(7)(C)

Bureau desires that the New Orleans Office immediately contact Cooper and pin him down on the allegations he has made in connection with the assassination of the late President John F. Kennedy. Specifically determine the basis for which he alleges Oswald was part of a conspiracy to assassinate President Kennedy. Also determine the basis for his allegations that Herman G. Engelhardt, J. Russell DeLoach, Bryce Clemmons, James Winfree and E. G. Partin were also involved in a conspiracy in the assassination of President Kennedy. [REDACTED] (b)(7)(C)

If your interview with Cooper does not completely resolve his allegations, you should conduct any additional inquiries necessary to completely resolve this matter.

Results of your interview with Cooper and any other necessary inquiries in this matter should be promptly furnished to the Bureau in a form suitable for dissemination. In a cover communication transmitting the results of your investigation to the Bureau, Enclosures - 17

1 - Dallas (100-10481)  
1 - WFO (105-37111)

REL:kas  
(12)

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO.



Airtel to SAC, New Orleans  
RE: LEE HARVEY OSWALD  
105-82533

you should set forth any observations of your office in this particular inquiry and you should submit your specific recommendations for any further action deemed necessary in this particular matter.

NOTE:

See cover memorandum Branigan to Sullivan dated 10/11/68,  
captioned as above, prepared by REL:kas.

*T. J. Oswald  
Folder*

Mr. W. C. Sullivan

10/3/66

D. J. Brennan, Jr.

ALLEN DULLES  
FORMER DIRECTOR, CENTRAL  
INTELLIGENCE AGENCY (CIA)

*Lif  
JRM*

The Liaison Agent has been reliably informed that Dulles' health has not improved and he definitely is "slowing up." Dulles suffered a slight stroke about two years ago and he never completely recovered. His vision was somewhat impaired and he has frequent lapses of memory.

His present state of health undoubtedly has been very much aggravated by the publications and articles which have been critical of the Warren Commission Report. Dulles feels that the criticism is most unjustified and he has been appealing to the other members of the Commission to counter this criticism. He has been unsuccessful in his efforts.

ACTION:

For information.

SJP:rab  
(6)

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- ① - Mr. Branigan
- 1 - Liaison
- 1 - Mr. Papich

*Leubans  
C. J. [signature]*

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
OCT 2 15 21 PM '66



9/26/66

MR. TOLSON:

RE: BIASED BOOKS RE  
ASSASSINATION OF  
PRESIDENT KENNEDY

[redacted] called me from New York this morning. He asked that his best regards be given to you and the Director. (b)(7)(C)

[redacted] is fed up with the rash of distorted, biased books currently on the market concerning the assassination of President Kennedy. He particularly is incensed at the books by Epstein and Mark Lane. (b)(7)(C)

I told [redacted] briefly of the background of both Epstein and Lane. He asked if there was something he could do to set the record straight. He stated the FBI had not come off very good in either of those books. I told him we knew this; however, the Director could not be placed in the position of making a public statement inasmuch as we were the investigative agency with responsibilities of not only investigating but also running down considerable leads for the Warren Commission; consequently, it would be presumptuous for the FBI to speak out. [redacted] (b)(7)(C)  
(b)(7)(D)

[redacted] asked if we could not possibly furnish him some off-the-record information [redacted] I told him I would check with the Director and let him know. (b)(7)(C)  
(b)(7)(D)

It is suggested we take the analysis prepared here at the Bureau on Mark Lane's book and work up a blind memorandum which can be used by [redacted] in making Mark Lane's book look ridiculous. We, of course, would not furnish [redacted] any information which is confidential or which has not been released to the American public. We are, however, in a position to furnish information that will make Lane's book look stupid. The said blind memorandum, if this plan is approved, will be sent to you and the Director for approval prior to being given to [redacted] (b)(7)(C)

Respectfully,

cc-Mr. DeLoach  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Sullivan  
Mr. Wick

C. D. DeLoach

CDL:CSH (5)

(10)

*Handwritten:* To Oswald Frazier

Mr. Conrad

August 26, 1966

Mr. Griffith

President's Commission on  
Assassination of the President  
Exhibits being retained by Bureau

Subsequent to the publication of the Warren Commission's Report in September 1964 the Bureau continued to receive from time to time occasional material purporting to relate to the assassination matter. For the most part these items consist of letters setting out theories or views on the assassination. Representative examples of such items, received by the Bureau and still in the possession of the Bureau, are listed as follows:

1. Four letters to Mrs. Oswald
2. Letter to Dallas Times Herald
3. Western Union blank form containing printed name "Lee H. Oswald"
4. Letter to FBI, Dallas
5. Two photographs and one letter bearing Russian writing

The Bureau has received authorization from the Department to turn over to Archives all material involved in the Commission's investigation, and the Laboratory has been instructed to make the necessary arrangements for the transfer. Since the above-listed material was received subsequent to the Commission's report, it is presumed that it should not be included in the material to be turned over to Archives.

Enclosures

62-10960

- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen (Raupach)
- ① - Mr. Sullivan (Stokes)
- 1 - Mr. Conrad
- 1 - Mr. Jevons
- 1 - Mr. Frazier
- 1 - Mr. Griffith
- 1 - Mr. Cadigan

100-100-01

(CONTINUED - OVER)

*Handwritten:* 114



Memorandum to Mr. Conrad  
Re: President's Commission on  
Assassination of the President  
Exhibits being retained by Bureau  
62-10960

Xerox copies of the above-mentioned items are attached for convenient reference. Subject to concurrence of the Domestic Intelligence and General Investigative Divisions, it is suggested that this original material not be turned over to Archives when the bulk of the other evidentiary exhibits in this case is delivered to Archives.

ACTION: Memorandum and attachments should be forwarded to the Domestic Intelligence and General Investigative Divisions for review and appropriate comment.



( ) . . T. Oswald Freder  
1 - Mr. Lenihan

Re memo

Support F. Conrad 8/26/66

re President Commission

62-109060

ADDENDUM DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE DIVISION 8/30/66 REL:kas

Domestic Intelligence Division concurs with the recommendation that material received by the Bureau regarding the assassination following the publication of the Warren Commission's Report on 9/24/64 not be turned over to National Archives. Such material was not considered by the Warren Commission in its publication of its Report and consequently was not included in its back-up data for the report. We have found none of the material received after the publication of the report to be of evidential value in our over-all investigation of the assassination of the late President John F. Kennedy. It is noted that all of the data being received by the Bureau since the publication of the Warren Commission Report will continue to be maintained in Bureau files and will be available at some future date should the need arise..