

January 13, 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. J. LEE PARKS

FROM: Howard P. Willens

SUBJECT: Conversation with Mr. Halley

I called Mr. Halley this morning to ascertain whether or not the copies of the two supplemental reports received yesterday had been distributed by the FBI to members of the Commission. The answer was negative and I have taken steps to distribute the reports.

Subsequently Mr. Halley called me to discuss his conversation with you yesterday regarding the FBI report dated December 17, 1952 regarding the allegation by Mr. White regarding a meeting with Oswald in San Francisco on or about September 1, 1963.

Mr. Halley asked me whether you intended to write a letter to the Bureau stating that all such reports be submitted to this Commission. He went on to say that the report was not really as important as it might appear upon an initial reading. He said that the only reason this report was distributed to the Department was that it mentioned the Nazi Party. He suggested that prior to the writing of any such letter to the Bureau he would like to sit down with you and discuss the matter in greater detail. For example, he stated that the Bureau's Dallas office alone has compiled a report of 300 pages listing threatening demands, complaints, etc., which the Bureau considers insignificant. He suggests that if any general request is made there will be an enormous copying plant and all these matters will be referred to the Commission. He suggests that this course of action would only serve to divert the Bureau's investigative resources and the staff of the Commission.

He also suggested that many of the requests that we have been making of the Bureau could be handled informally by telephone from members of the staff to him rather than by correspondence. He suggests that the correspondence route only serves to complicate the matter. I suggest that you, Mr. Halley and I discuss this matter and then have a further discussion with Mr. Halley.