

JLR/jte

April 3, 1964

Honorable Gerald Ford
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Gerry:

The Chief Justice suggested that I forward to you the copy of The Nation magazine for June 6, 1953, with the article by Norman Redlich and Laurent B. Frantz on "Does Silence Mean Guilt?" and the copy of the investigation by the United States Civil Service Commission so far as it proceeded with regard to Mr. Redlich. You will note that on page 3 of the investigation by Thomas M. King for January 23 and 24, 1964, there is a reference to the fact that a criminal check was not completed and we are asking that this be done promptly. We have not yet received the FBI investigation of either Mr. Redlich or Mr. Ball but have been informed that the FBI is proceeding with these on an expedited basis.

Mr. Redlich informs us that the article in The Nation was prepared by him at the request of Carey McWilliams. He further states that he and Mr. Frantz did not collaborate on the article but that Mr. McWilliams gave him Mr. Frantz's draft, largely dealing with the historical materials in the piece, and then Mr. Redlich prepared all of the legal aspects of it. He says that the galley proof was submitted to Mr. Frantz for his comment but limited to such material as he had contributed.

Mr. Redlich says that he has never known Mr. Frantz but is informed that he is supposed to be associated with some university on the west coast.

When you have examined these materials will you kindly forward them to Congressman Hale Boggs for his consideration and return to me.

Sincerely,

J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel

Encls.

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WASHINGTON, D.C.
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GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

April 7, 1964

Mr. J. Lee Farkin
General Counsel
President's Commission
on the Assassination of President Kennedy
200 Maryland Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20002

Dear Lee:

Your letter of April 3rd with enclosures has been received.

I have examined the material and forwarded the same to Hale Boggs.

I feel that the FBI investigations should be expedited to the maximum. When the investigations are completed and submitted to the Commission I believe the full Commission should meet to discuss the situation and take whatever action appears appropriate. It was my understanding that the FBI investigations would be completed and available to the Commission this week.

Sincerely,

Gerald R. Ford, M. C.

GRF:fl

