

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
DeLoach	_____
Evans	_____
Malley	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

MR. TOLSON

DATE: 5/21/64

FROM:

A. H. Belmont

cc Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Malley
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Branigan

SUBJECT:

THE PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION

Mr. Malley and I went over to see Mr. Lee Rankin, General Counsel of the President's Commission, shortly after 11 a.m. today. I took with me a copy of the transcript of the Director's testimony before the Commission, with the corrections we had made as to typographical errors, et cetera. I told Mr. Rankin we would be glad to go over the transcript with him, as it was apparent that the reporter who took down the testimony had made some mistakes and had even left out some of the thought in the testimony; that this was understandable as the Director spoke at a rapid rate. We mentioned that Mr. Redlich of the staff had called Mr. Malley this morning to state that he thought there were some corrections that needed to be made in the testimony, inasmuch as he had been present when the Director testified and the transcript was not entirely accurate.

Mr. Rankin suggested that I leave the transcript with him so that he could go over it personally, and he said that he would be in touch with me by Monday, 5/25/64, in the event there was a need to discuss any changes. I told him that, of course, there had been no changes in the substance of the Director's testimony. Rankin said that the transcripts of testimony will be published and, consequently, he wanted to be sure that the testimony properly reflected the Director's thoughts. He asked if the Director had gone over it, and I told him that he had and that the testimony, as we had corrected it, properly represented the Director's testimony. He reiterated that he thought it was important, as the testimony would be made public, that it should properly represent the Director's thoughts.

Mr. Rankin requested that we advise the Director that he, Rankin, felt that the Director had done an excellent job in testifying before the Commission. Rankin further said, "As you know, the Commissioners like the Director."

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With reference to that portion of the testimony dealing with the Director's suggestions on the security of the President, and the memorandum of 12/2/63 which we sent a copy of to the Commission, Mr. Rankin remarked that the Commission had not previously advised us of the fact that a request had been made of Secret Service for a copy of the memorandum we had given to Secret Service, and the request had been denied, on the instructions of Mr. Jenkins of the White House. I told Mr. Rankin that,

58 JUN 9 1964

Walter D.C.

AHB:CSH (6)

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J. Edgar Hoover