

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

Assoc. Dir.	_____
Dep. AD Adm.	_____
Dep. AD Inv.	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Serv.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Fin. & Pers.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgmt.	_____
Spec. Inv.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

TO : The Director

DATE: 2-1-78

FROM : Legal Counsel *JAM*

SUBJECT: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

PURPOSE:

To record information received concerning a letter of criticism by Staff Director Blakey of captioned Committee.

SYNOPSIS AND DETAILS:

At 12:45 p. m. on February 1, 1978, Inspector Hotis told me that Judge William Webster advised him that he had received a letter from Staff Director Robert Blakey of captioned Committee in which Blakey was critical of the time delay involved in the FBI's response to requests for information and documents by his Committee. Judge Webster told Hotis that he did not intend to respond to the letter.

The purpose of recording this information in our files is to advise you and others dealing with this Committee of the efforts being made by the Committee staff to encourage the FBI to use additional resources in order to respond more promptly to the Committee requests.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

DE-38 REC-4 62-117292-438  
EX-124 V-38 *Jester*  
22 FEB 17 1978

Enc.  
 1 - Mr. Adams  
 1 - Mr. Bassett  
 1 - Mr. Hotis  
 1 - Mr. Mintz  
 JAM:bpr  
 (5)

APPROVED:	Adm. Serv. _____	Legal Coun. _____
Director _____	Crim. Inv. _____	Plan. & Insp. _____
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SEE RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION ADDENDUM PAGE 2



ENCLOSURE

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. McDermott *[Signature]*

FROM : H. N. Bassett

SUBJECT: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE  
ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)

- 1 - Mr. J. B. Adams
- 1 - Mr. J. J. McDermott
- 1 - Mr. J. A. Mintz
- 1 - Mr. H. N. Bassett

DATE: 1/16/78

- 1 - Mr. A. H. McCreight
- 1 - Mr. D. Ryan
- 1 - Mr. D. O. Coulson
- 1 - Mr. G. J. Foster

Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dep. AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dep. AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Asst. Dir.:

- Adm. Serv. \_\_\_\_\_
- Crim. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_
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- Public Affs. Off. \_\_\_\_\_
- Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Director's Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

*[Handwritten initials]*

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PURPOSE: To advise of meeting on 1/13/78 with Mr. G. Robert Blakey, Chief Counsel and Director, House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA), and his current requirements which will heavily task this Bureau's resources.

DETAILS: On 1/13/78 William Bailey, Deputy Assistant Director; Danny O. Coulson, Legal Counsel Division; George J. Foster, Unit Chief, Congressional Inquiry Unit; David Ryan, Section Chief, Document Classification and Review Section, and I met with Mr. Blakey in my office. Mr. Blakey indicated that while the Bureau has been prompt in handling requests from his committee, he wanted to emphasize that the "crisis" will be in the next 60 to 90 days and that prompt delivery of the material requested will be necessary since they will be conducting "grand jury" type hearings.

Mr. Blakey commented he has met with CIA officials regarding the need for expeditious delivery of material requested by the committee and the Agency has agreed to endeavor to make available such material within five days. To accomplish this deadline, the Agency has placed ten full-time employees on the project. Blakey expressed the opinion more material would be requested of the Agency than of the FBI.

When asked his estimate of the volume of material to be requested of the FBI, Blakey responded it would be somewhere in the vicinity of 500 volumes (100-150 pages per volume).

Blakey stated the four prime objectives of the committee are to determine (1) if Oswald was responsible for the assassination; (2) if Ruby was involved in a conspiracy; (3) if the Government agencies (FBI,

62-117290

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DR:lfj  
(9)

*[Handwritten initials]*

Memo to The Director from Legal Counsel  
 Re: House Select Committee on Assassinations

ADDENDUM: (ASSISTANT DIRECTOR H. N. BASSETT:jmr 2-2-78)

With regard to captioned matter, I, too, received a letter from Blakey dated 1-27-78, copy of which is enclosed, and in which Blakey is complaining regarding the time delays on the part of the FBI in response to his Committee's requests. An appropriate communication will be prepared and sent through in the immediate future concerning this matter.

I would like to record that Blakey called me on Monday, 1-30-78, and advised that such a letter was forthcoming. During that conversation he made specific reference to the Committee's request of 12-16-77 and the fact that the material still was not forthcoming. I told Mr. Blakey that I perceived a possible breakdown of communication. I noted that at the very moment of his call I was having a conference relating to requests by his Committee and had been informed that we were meeting the Committee's deadlines and that the reason the 12-16-77 request had not been complied with was due to the fact that Committee members had advised that there were other requests of a higher priority.

The foregoing is for record purposes and, as noted above, detailed information concerning this situation will be forthcoming in the immediate future.

*Be sure we are maintaining an accurate log of all requests showing date of the mail, date received, response request and date of response*

*JMB*

*Request + 7 letter  
 Acknowledged  
 2-10-78  
 WNB*

APPROVED:	Adm. Serv. _____	Legal Coun. _____
Director _____	Crim. Inv. _____	Plan. & Insp. _____
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	Laboratory _____	Training _____
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