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The Associate Dir

DATE: 12/1/77

Legal Counsel

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

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The purpose of this memorandum is to advise of contact with Mr. G. Robert Blakey, Chief Counsel, captioned Committee, regarding the number of requests that will be directed to the FBI by captioned Committee in the near future.

DETAILS:

On November 28, 1977, SAs Drew J. Clark and John T. Aldhizer III of the Special Investigative Division, and Danny O. Coulson of the Legal Counsel Division, met with Mr. Blakey to discuss the number of requests that will be forthcoming from the Committee. Mr. Blakey advised that the Committee had decided to concentrate its efforts with regard to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy into areas regarding the association of Jack Ruby with various organized crime figures. The Committee will explore the possibility that Ruby may have been part of a conspiracy that involved Lee Harvey Oswald. Mr. Blakey further advised that the Committee will be conducting a "grand jury type investigation" into Ruby's associates and activities and emphasized the need for timely response from the FBI to Committee inquiries. Mr. Blakey advised that the FBI's responses in the past have been adequate for the Committee's needs, however, with regard to this new area of inquiry a delay in response could jeopardize the Committee's efforts. He indicated that the Committee will be calling numerous individuals to testify and that quick access to FBI information is absolutely essential to the Committee. He stated that he would like to submit requests for the FBI on the Monday of each week in order to receive response on the following Friday. 62-11724

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Mr. Peelman 1 - Mr. Coulson

SEE ADDENDUM, SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION,

Buy W. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

Fai/DOJ

Legal Counsel to Associate Director memo Re: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

Mr. Blakey advised that he was bringing this to the FBI's attention so that consideration could be given regarding the manpower needs that would be required to respond in this fashion. He indicated that the Ruby inquiries will begin in approximately three weeks and will last for about five months.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

(1) That the Special I its views regarding the adequacy respond to the Committee's reque	of manpower	and the a	ability to
by Mr. Blakey.	APPROVED:		Leral to have

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(2) That the Legal Liaison and Congressional Affairs Unit, Legal Counsel Division, consider its manpower needs in light of these developments.

ADDENDUM SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION GJF:sas 12/7/77

The Congressional Inquiry Unit (CIU) was formed 11/76, and consisted of a unit chief, four supervisory agents, two stenographers and five service and support personnel. Subsequently, two research analysts (GS-9) were temporarily assigned to the CIU from the FOIA Section. These two research analysts both have returned to FOIA. As of 12/7/77, the analysts both have returned to FOIA. As of 12/7/77, the complement of the CIU is one unit chief, four agents (one agent currently under transfer), one stenographer, two research analysts (GS-7) and three service and support personnel.

In view of the anticipated increase in the workload and with a short deadline to respond to the HSCA, contact was made with Inspector - Deputy Assistant Director Allen H. McCreight who advised 12/6/77, that the two research analysts who had previously been temporarily assigned to the CIU might be temporarily reassigned in the event of a heavy increase of workload. A memorandum has already been submitted requesting workload. A memorandum has already been submitted requesting a replacement for SA John T. McGirl currently under transfer to a replacement for SA John T. McGirl currently under transfer to Albany. In order to promptly respond to the requests from the Albany. In order to promptly respond to the requests from the Albany. In order to promptly respond to the requests from the Albany. In order to promptly respond to the requests from the Albany. In order to promptly respond to the requests from the Albany. In order to promptly respond to the requests from the Albany. In order to promptly respond to the requests from the Albany. In order to promptly respond to the requests from the Albany. In order to promptly respond to the requests from the Albany. In order to promptly respond to the requests from the Albany. In order to promptly respond to the requests from the Albany. In order to promptly respond to the requests from the Albany in the workload in the event of a heavy increase of the CIU will be made in five months.

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Since Special Investigative Division addendum dated 12/7/77, the only experienced Clerk-Stenographer assigned to the Congressional Inquiry Unit, Sharon A. Sutherland, is being transferred to Division Six. An experienced Clerk-Stenographer transferred to Division Six. An experienced Clerk-Stenographer for Sharon A. Sutherland is necessary. SA Drew J. Clark is working on a special matter in connection with the Kennedy assassination which will fully occupy his time and may assassination which will fully occupy his time and may necessitate his being in a travel status for the next three to necessitate his being in a travel status for the next three to four weeks. A temporary replacement for three to four weeks for SA Clark is necessary.

The Congressional Inquiry Unit has received from the One of these requests HSCA since 12/1/77, 19 written requests. dated 12/16/77, is ten pages and contains 80 individual requests. Another request dated 12/22/77, contains 16 requests, one of which requests access for the FBI file on "La Cosa Nostra" from This request requires a thorough review of the file for excising material, Xeroxing the file and coordinating with the Organized Crime Section information that will be furnished to the HSCA. According to information recently received from Mr. Blakey, Chief Counsel and Director, HSCA, hearings are to commence the first or second week in January in both the King and Kennedy assassinations. hearings will be approximately three days a week and will result, according to Blakey, in numerous requests of the Bureau with short deadlines. If the HSCA is unable to fulfill its commitments based on their requests, in all likelihood the HSCA could claim the failure, in part, was due to the FBI to answer its requests in a timely manner.

In view of the above, it is felt that the need for additional personnel on a temporary basis is justified and necessary.

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