

JAN 15 1976

Mr. Gene F. Wilson
Information and Privacy Coordinator
Central Intelligence Agency
Room 2E42
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Wilson:

The National Archives has received a Freedom of Information Act appeal from Harold Weisberg for certain documents from the Records of the Warren Commission which were denied to him. Certain of these documents are of CIA subject matter interest or origin and they are being referred to you for a determination concerning their releasability.

Three of these documents were originally classified by the CIA. We are informing Mr. Weisberg that the decision of whether they may be released to him is being referred to the CIA and that he will be informed directly by the CIA of that determination. These documents include the following:

1. Thomas H. Karamessiness, Deputy Director for Plans, CIA, to Robert H. Bahmer, Archivist of the United States, October 2, 1967.
2. Lawrence R. Houston, General Counsel, CIA, to James B. Rhoads, Archivist of the United States, December 22, 1972.
3. Charles E. Savige for Robert Young, Freedom of Information Coordinator, CIA, to James B. Rhoads, Archivist of the United States, May 20, 1975.

Various documents originally denied to Mr. Weisberg were originated by and classified by the Warren Commission staff. Since the Commission's authority to classify is somewhat doubtful, continued protection of this material on grounds of national security is dependent

on the CIA's written determination that the information contained in the documents retains a national security sensitivity. It is, therefore, necessary that the CIA inform us whether these documents may be released, released with deletions, or closed entirely. Please specify both the Freedom of Information Act exemption to disclosure and the appropriate exemption to declassification of Sec. 5(B) of Executive Order 11652 which pertains to the information the CIA has determined must be restricted. These documents include the following:

1. William T. Coleman, Jr., and W. Davis Slawson to The Commission and J. Lee Rankin, "Oswald's Foreign Activities: Summary of Evidence Which Might be Said to Show that There was Foreign Involvement in the Assassination of President Kennedy" and attachments. This material has previously been reviewed by the CIA and some material has been released. The re-review is, therefore, directed only to those portions which the CIA indicated should not be released at that time.
2. Records relating to Yuri Nosenko.
 - a. Memorandum of July 23, 1964 (no names given).
 - b. Memorandum, Slawson to Rankin, August 22, 1964.

Other records relating to Yuri Nosenko are not security classified. Although it is the responsibility of the National Archives to make the final determination whether these documents will be released, we would like the CIA's opinion whether there are any Freedom of Information Act exemptions which may be applicable to these documents. They include the following:

1. J. Lee Rankin to Richard Helms, March 6, 1964.
2. Memorandum of Slawson to Jenner, Liebler, Ball and Belin, March 9, 1964.
3. Memorandum of Coleman and Slawson to Stern, March 12, 1964.
4. Memorandum of Slawson to Rankin, July 15, 1964.
5. Memorandum of Slawson to Coleman, July 17, 1964.
6. Cover letter of Commission Document #451, J. Edgar Hoover to J. Lee Rankin, March 6, 1964.
7. Cover letter of Commission Document #434, J. Edgar Hoover to J. Lee Rankin, February 28, 1964; and first page of same document, "Lee Harvey Oswald Internal Security -R- Cuba, February 28, 1964.

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Copies of the documents under appeal and a copy of Mr. Weisberg's appeal letter are enclosed. We would appreciate a response to this inquiry by January 26 to allow us sufficient time to complete our consultation with the Justice Department's Freedom of Information committee which is necessary if any portion of Mr. Weisberg's appeal must be denied. Please return the enclosed document copies with your response.

Sincerely,

James E. O'Neill

JAMES E. O'NEILL
Deputy Archivist
of the United States

Enclosures

ACThomas/lpd 1/15/76
Official File - ND
Reading File - ND
NDA
NNFL ✓

NDA _____