

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Conrad *[Signature]*

DATE: 3/30/64

FROM : R. H. Jevons *[Signature]*

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY; 11/22/63; DALLAS, TEXAS

Tolson	
Belmont	
Mohr	
DeLoach	
Casper	
Callahan	
Conrad	
Felt	
Gale	
Rosen	
Sullivan	
Tavel	
Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Holmes	
Gandy	

In my memorandum of 3/20/64, I advised that Mr. Eisenberg of the Commission's staff stated that he was making arrangements to turn the firearms evidence over to a Mr. Ronald Simmons, Weapon Systems Division, Defense Department, Aberdeen, Maryland, for re-examination.

Recently, during the course of a conversation on another matter, Eisenberg mentioned that Simmons was to determine the accuracy of the assassination weapon by a technique of firing the weapon a number of times from a stable rest and from the resulting target pattern determine the relative accuracy of the weapon when fired by different people of varying abilities. This appears to be primarily a statistical problem which the Weapon Systems Division should be in a position to do. There is no information in Bufiles identifiable with Ronald Simmons.

Also at this time, Mr. Eisenberg advised that Joseph D. Nicol, Superintendent, Criminal Identification and Investigation, Illinois Department of Public Safety, Springfield, Illinois (previously reported 3/23/64) was only to handle the firearms identification aspects. According to Bufiles, Joseph D. Nicol was appointed Superintendent by Governor Otto Kerner on 8/25/61. Bufiles also show that Nicol has been a faculty member at the Michigan State University since 1957 where he taught criminalistics in the School of Police Administration. Previously, he had established and directed the crime detection laboratories in Pittsburgh and Allegheny County, Pennsylvania and in Miami, Florida for the Dade County Sheriff's Office. From 1941 through 1951, it is reported that Nicol did microanalysis, instrumental analysis, firearms identification and comparative micrography for the Chicago Police Department Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory with two years' absence while serving in the U. S. Navy during World War II. A news item (3/23/63) reported that Nicol advised that most of the equipment, personnel and facilities of the present State Criminal Identification and Investigation Bureau in Springfield, Illinois, will be moved to a new building in Joliet, Illinois.

ACTION: For information.

62-109060-3

1-Mr. Belmont
1-Mr. Rosen

1-Mr. Sullivan
1-Mr. Malley

RHJ:fch (10)

REC-56

2782

APR 1 1964

Memorandum to Mr. Conrad
Re: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN F. KENNEDY, DALLAS, TEXAS,
11/22/63
62-109060

That one or both of the above conditions existed is apparent from the fact that consecutive .38 Special test bullets obtained from the C15 revolver could not be identified with each other.

Smith and Wesson revolvers such as Oswald's revolver are among the weapons producing general rifling characteristics of the type found on the three bullets.

The lead alloy in the Winchester-Western copper-coated bullets (2 of the 3 submitted bullets) and the Western copper-coated bullets loaded into some of the cartridges obtained from Oswald's revolver, Oswald's pocket and the U. S. Secret Service were found by spectrographic examination to have the same elements. Also, the lead alloy in the Remington-Peters bullet (the third bullet) was found to have the same elements as the lead alloy in the Remington-Peters bullets comprising the remainder of the afore-mentioned cartridges.

The three bullets are being furnished the President's Commission at its request so that the Commission may have them examined by an outside source per the previous request of Mr. Melvin Eisenberg.

ACTION:

For information.

V. *[Signature]* *[Signature]*