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December 24, 1963

Hon. J. Lee Rankin  
41 Veterans of Foreign Wars Building  
2nd Street & Maryland Avenue, N.E.  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Rankin:

At Howard Willens' suggestion I would like to confirm my interest in working as a member of your staff of the Commission to Report upon the Assassination of President Kennedy. I understand that my letter of November 30 to the Chief Justice, with regard to the work of the Commission, has been referred to you.

The following is a brief resume of my background and experience:

Date and Place of Birth: January 21, 1929,  
Philadelphia, Pa.

Residence and Telephone: 3110 Newark Street, N.W.,  
Washington 8, D.C., Woodley 6-0903

College: University of Pennsylvania, A.B. 1949  
with major honors in Economics.

Law School - LL.B. Harvard Law School, 1952, Magna  
Cum Laude. Law Review, Volumes 64 and 65,  
Developments Editor, Volume 65.

Military Service: Presently Captain, U.S. Air  
Force Reserve. Active duty from August 1952  
through September 1954 as 2nd, then 1st,  
Lieutenant, Air Materiel Command, Wright  
Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

Hon. J. Lee Rankin  
Page 2  
December 24, 1953

Clerkships: 1954-1955, Clerk to Chief Judge Calvert Magruder, U.S. Court of Appeals for the 1st Circuit.

1955-1956, Clerk to Chief Justice Earl Warren.

Law Practice: 1956-1962, Associate - Cox, Langford, Stoddard & Cutler, Washington, D.C.

1962 - Partner - Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering, Washington, D.C.

References: In addition to the Chief Justice and Judge Magruder, the following:

David Bazelon, Chief Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit  
Nicholas de B. Katzenbach, Deputy Attorney General

William T. Orrick, Jr., Assistant Attorney General, Antitrust Division

Louis F. Oberdorfer, Assistant Attorney General, Tax Division

John Nolan - Special Assistant to the Attorney General

Philip Elman - Commissioner, Federal Trade Commission


Professors Paul A. Freund, Erwin N. Griswold, Henry Hart, Louis L. Jaffe and Donald F. Turner of the Harvard Law School.

I have had, in over eleven years of practice, a good deal of experience in collecting, organizing and analyzing large bodies of data. I have participated in the preparation and trial of major Government contract disputes, both for the United States and for private litigants, and other complex lawsuits, including antitrust cases. While on active duty with the Air Force I volunteered to act as defense counsel in a number of courts martial, and gained experience in the preparation and examination of witnesses.

Hon. J. Lee Rankin  
Page 3  
December 24, 1963

I would be delighted to call upon you to discuss further the possibility of my becoming a member of your staff, at whatever time may be convenient.

Sincerely,

  
Samuel A. Stern

EMM