

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont *ab*

FROM : A. Rosen *AR*

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION REPORT

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan

DATE: September 29, 1964

- 1 - Mr. Conrad
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. Rogge
- 1 - Mr. Lenihan

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 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 Casper _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 DeLoach _____
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 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

Mr. J. Lee Rankin, General Counsel for the President's Commission, was called today at his New York office to determine when the testimony of the various witnesses before the Commission would be released.

Mr. Rankin advised that the remaining material to be released by the Commission would consist of 21 volumes, the last three of which related to various Commission exhibits. He stated that it was the Commission's desire to release the first 18 volumes consisting of the complete testimony of all witnesses who appeared before the Commission or who gave sworn statements or affidavits. He advised that the White House did not agree with the release of these 18 volumes, feeling that allegations would be made if anything was held up that there was some ulterior motive in not releasing all of the material at the same time.

Rankin advised that he has only a small staff remaining at the Commission to work and that when he last checked, Mr. Howard Willens of his staff advised that there was still approximately 2,000 exhibits to line up to be included in the last three volumes and in his estimation it would require four weeks to complete this assignment and to have the material printed. Mr. Rankin stated he was not satisfied with this delay and that he would be in Washington on September 30, 1964, at which time he intended to check into this matter and see if it could not be expedited. He stated that as soon as he can get an approximate date for the release of these additional volumes, he would telephonically advise the Bureau the approximate date of the release.

No comments of any kind were made by Mr. Rankin concerning the report of the President's Commission or any other items relating to the over-all investigation.

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Section 21

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TO : Mr. Belmont

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION REPORT

DATE: 10/2/64

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Conrad
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Lenihan
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
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Re my memorandum of September 29, 1964, advising that Mr. J. Lee Rankin would be in Washington on September 30, 1964, at which time he intended to check on the progress of the additional material to be released by the Commission which would back up the report already issued by the Commission.

Mr. Rankin advised today that the additional material that is to be printed will run much longer than originally anticipated; that there may be as many as ten additional volumes rather than three. He stated that some of the material has already been sent to the printers and that everything possible is being done to expedite the completion of the Commission's material.

Mr. Rankin stated there are a number of items where there is a problem of declassification and letters are being sent out as rapidly as possible to various agencies involved in order to have this accomplished as soon as possible. In this regard a letter dated September 30, 1964, was received in the Bureau October 2, 1964, setting forth five pages of documents which the Commission desires declassified. This is being handled in the Domestic Intelligence Division.

Mr. Rankin advised that based on present calculations it would probably be at least a month before the additional material will be released by the President's Commission.

Submitted for information.

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