

- 1 - Belmont
- 1 - Rosen
- 1 - Sullivan

September 24, 1964

BY COURIER SERVICE

7. TC 6105-82555-5018

EX 109

- 1 - Branigan
- 1 - Malley
- 1 - Lenihan

Honorable J. Lee Rankin  
 General Counsel  
 The President's Commission  
 200 Maryland Avenue, N. E.  
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rankin:

Reference is made to your letter of September 21, 1964, regarding the investigation that was conducted concerning the possibility that Lee Harvey Oswald had some affiliation with various subversive underground activities. You indicated that the Commission is concerned that its records contain an indication of the scope of the investigation which this Bureau conducted into these particular matters and a clear statement of the results of that investigation.

In connection with the first matter mentioned in your letter, please be advised that we made a complete review of our files, both at Headquarters and in each of our offices, and we also made a nation-wide canvass of all of our security informants to determine if there was any evidence that Lee Harvey Oswald was at any time a member of or otherwise affiliated with the Communist Party, USA, the Socialist Workers Party, or any other extreme leftist organization. Results of such file reviews and canvass of all of our security informants have been fully reported to the Commission as has all other investigation we have conducted in this particular matter.

BY COURIER SVC.  
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You will note in our letter of April 30, 1964, we assured you that the Commission has been furnished all information developed by this Bureau concerning the associations of Lee Harvey Oswald with any communist or subversive organization and that all informants of this Bureau had been contacted for any information they could furnish concerning any connection Oswald may have had with

- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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Honorable J. Leo Rankin

the Communist Party. This same statement is true as of the current date. All information this Bureau has developed in this particular matter has been furnished to the Commission.

In regard to the second matter in your letter, our statement in our letter of May 26, 1964, indicating this Bureau had "thoroughly explored" the question "of possible contacts between Lee Harvey Oswald and any representative of or known sympathizer with the Castro Government of Cuba" and that "no information has been developed indicating Oswald was controlled, directed or employed by any individual so identified" is also true as of the current date. The scope of our inquiries upon which such statement is based includes a check of our files, both at Headquarters and in each of our offices and a canvass of all of our security informants on a nation-wide basis.

In connection with your request that you be furnished similar information in regard to the possibility that Lee Harvey Oswald at any time had contacts with persons or organizations active in underground activities directed against the Government of Premier Fidel Castro, please be advised that complete results of all of our investigation in this particular matter has also been furnished to the Commission. The scope of such investigation conducted in this particular matter includes a check of our files, both at Headquarters and in our offices and a canvass of all of our security informants on a nation-wide basis.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE:

Commission is winding up its investigation and wants assurances that all information developed by this Bureau concerning possibility Lee Harvey Oswald had some affiliation with various subversive underground activities has been furnished to Commission. Commission also desires to know the scope of our investigation in ascertaining such data concerning Oswald. We have conducted extensive investigation regarding this particular point and have furnished results to the Commission. We have informed the Commission of Oswald's contacts with individuals associated with the Communist Party, the Socialist Labor Party, the Fair Play for

• Honorable J. Lee Rankin

NOTE CONTINUED:

Cuba Committee, the "Worker" and the "Militant" and the Emergency Civil Liberties Union. We have interviewed numerous officials connected with each of these organizations and results of such interviews have been furnished to the Commission. Commission has also been given copies of all available correspondence exchanged between Oswald and these organizations. We have left no stone unturned in this particular phase of our investigation and have furnished the Commission all of our investigation in order that it can arrive at its conclusions in this matter.

PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION  
ON THE  
ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

20 Maryland Ave. N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20002  
Telephone 543-1400

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Chairman  
RICHARD B. RUSSELL  
JOHN SHERMAN COOPER  
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JOHN J. MCCLOY  
ALLEN W. DULLES

LEE RANKIN  
General Counsel

SEP 21 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C. 20535

Dear Mr. Hoover:

During the course of the work pursued by the President's Commission your Bureau has provided invaluable assistance investigating, among other things, the possibility that Lee Harvey Oswald had some affiliation with various subversive underground activities. In concluding its work, the Commission is now concerned, however, that its records contain an indication of the scope of the investigation which your Bureau has conducted into these particular matters and a clear statement of the results of that investigation.

In particular, we would appreciate receiving from you a letter indicating whether or not as a result of an examination of your complete nation-wide files and all investigation which you have conducted you have obtained any evidence that Lee Harvey Oswald was at any time a member of or otherwise affiliated with the Communist Party, U.S.A., the Socialist Workers Party, or any other extreme leftist organization. To the extent to which you are able to do so, we would appreciate your including in the letter a statement indicating the range of informants which you have contacted in this regard, and the scope of other investigation which you have conducted.

In your letter of May 26, 1964, you informed the Commission that your Bureau had "thoroughly explored" the question "of possible contacts between Lee Harvey Oswald and any representative of or known sympathizer with the Castro Government of Cuba" and that "no information has been developed indicating Oswald was controlled, directed or employed by any individual so identified." Would you please inform the Commission whether or not this statement remains true as of this date and, to the extent feasible and in the same manner as above, the scope of the investigation which has been conducted upon which this statement is based.

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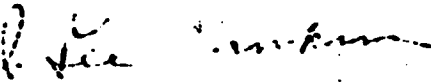
③ We would further appreciate similar information in regard to the possibility that Lee Harvey Oswald at any time had contacts with persons or organizations active in underground activities directed against the Government of Premier Fidel Castro.

In making these requests, we are of course fully aware of the extensive investigation which has been conducted by your Bureau into all aspects of the assassination and we do not wish you to prepare a summary covering the many hundreds of investigative reports which you have thus far provided the Commission. However, what we do wish to obtain is a statement that the nation-wide files of your Bureau have been thoroughly examined with regard to the three matters mentioned above, if this is the case, and an indication of the extent to which informants and other such persons likely to be in possession of any pertinent information have been contacted by your Bureau in the course of developing possible leads to the above persons and organizations with whom Oswald might have had some connection.

This letter will confirm conversation between Mr. Pollak of the Commission staff and Mr. Malley. Since the Commission is about to submit its final report, we would appreciate receiving a response to this request as soon as possible.

The Commission once again wishes to thank your Bureau for its continuing cooperation.

Sincerely,



J. Lee Rankin  
General Counsel