

August 17, 1970

Honorable John N. Mitchell  
Attorney General  
Washington, D. C. 20530

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

The President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy transferred its records to the National Archives in November 1964 to be "permanently preserved" under the rules and regulations of the National Archives and applicable Federal law" (Report of the Commission, p. XV). The records included some documents which are withheld from disclosure by specific statutes, security classified records, investigatory files compiled for law enforcement purposes, and medical and personnel records. It was apparent that the records of the Commission would have to be reviewed on a document-by-document basis in order to identify the relatively few documents of this nature that could not immediately be made available for research.

This review was conducted in 1965 in accordance with "Guidelines for Review of Materials Submitted to the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy," which were prepared by the Department of Justice in consultation with the agencies which furnished records to the Commission (copy enclosed). Under these guidelines (page 2) it is the responsibility of the Archivist of the United States to arrange for successive reviews of the records of the Commission that are withheld from research. As it is now five years since the review of the Numbered Document File of the Commission in 1965, it is time for the documents that were withheld from research at that time to be reviewed again as indicated in the last paragraph of the guidelines. The National Archives will be pleased to show the documents withheld from research at the request of your Department to any members of your staff who may be selected to review them. The following documents are withheld at the request of the Office of Legal Counsel of the Department of Justice:

1. About four linear feet of reports of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

- 2. Commission Document 355, a volume (about two inches thick) of copies of summaries of FBI interviews with acquaintances of Jack L. Ruby which was transmitted to the Commission by a letter dated February 4, 1964, of the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Criminal Division of the Department. Withheld under Guideline 3C.

The following staff members of the National Archives may be called for any additional information that may be needed: Mr. Mark G. Eckhoff, Director, Legislative, Judicial and Diplomatic Records Division, or Mr. Marion M. Johnson, on Code 13, Extension 23171.

Sincerely,

*Herbert E. Angel*

HERBERT E. ANGEL  
Acting Archivist  
of the United States

Enclosure

cc: Official file - NND  
Reading file - NNDC  
Day file - N

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✓ NND *W. G. E.*

NN *T. J.*