

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

National Archives and Records Service

Washington, D.C. 20408



MAR 22 1973

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Mr. Edward R. Slemmer
136 South Fulton Street
Allentown, Pennsylvania 18102

Dear Mr. Slemmer:

Chairman F. Edward Hebert of the Committee on Armed Services of the United States House of Representatives has referred your letter of March 8, 1973, to him to the National Archives with a request that we send you a direct reply.

The records of the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy are administered in accordance with guidelines prepared by the Department of Justice. About 80% is available for research. Certain records of the following types are withheld from research: (1) records withheld from disclosure by specific statutes such as income tax returns; (2) records related to the national security; (3) records withheld as part of investigatory files compiled for law enforcement purposes or as inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters, the public disclosure of which (a) would be detrimental to law enforcement, (b) might reveal confidential sources of information, or (c) would be a source of embarrassment to innocent persons; and (4) personnel and medical records the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. The withholding of these records from research is consistent with the terms of existing law (5 U.S.C. 552 (b)). The records are to be reviewed periodically until all are made available for research. A large number of documents was made available by the 1970 review, and we would be pleased to show these documents to researchers in the National Archives.

As we have previously informed you, we do not have a list of documents of the Commission that shows all the information you requested. Enclosed, however, is a list of numbered documents of the Commission that shows the document number and the guidelines under which the document is withheld. A list of the guidelines is also enclosed.

The following numbered Commission documents on the list enclosed with your letter are now available for research: 448 (1 p.), 523 (5 p.), 631 (7 p.), 674 (5 p.), 692 (123 p.), 943 (3 p.), 1000 (25 p.), 1054 (3 p.), 1089 (2 p.), 1188 (2 p.), 1216 (2 p.), 1273 (2 p.), 1287 (1 p.), 1443 (1 p.), and 1545 (4 p.). There are deletions or parts withheld from some of these documents.

We can furnish electrostatic copies of these documents for 10 cents per page with a minimum charge of \$1.00. To order, please send a check or money order payable to the General Services Administration (NNFC) addressed to the attention of the Cashier, National Archives and Records Service, Washington, DC 20408.

[We have referred a copy of your letter to the CIA in regard to your inquiries about Commission Exhibit 237.] We are not aware of any information in the records of the Commission that would answer your inquiries about Mrs. Sylvia Odio and the fact that the name "Oswald" was manifested on a bus other than the one on which Oswald returned from Mexico. We would be pleased to make records available to you in the National Archives for research concerning any questions in which you are interested.

Commission Document 880 is still withheld from research at the request of the FBI under Guideline 3B.

Sincerely,

James E. O'Neill

JAMES E. O'NEILL
Acting Archivist
of the United States

Enclosures