

SAS/aw/2/18/64

not sent

Honorable Douglas Dillon
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

This is in response to your letter of January 28, 1964,
and in confirmation of our discussion at our luncheon on
February 4.

The Commission appreciates the necessity of treating data
about present and future Presidential protection with the most
stringent security safeguards. Accordingly, the Commission sub-
scribes, without qualification, to your suggestions as to pre-
cautions to be observed in affording the Commission access to
materials on Presidential protection.

We anticipate that all members of the Commission staff will
receive, in the near future, clearance through the level of Top
Secret on the basis of a full field investigation under the
direction of the Civil Service Commission. The Commission would
institute measures to make certain that access to the data dis-
cussed in your letter would be available only to staff members with
such clearance, and only to those staff members actually partici-
pating in this phase of the Commission's activities. As you
suggest, the Commission would make certain that no publicity would
be given to this portion of the Commission's activities. Finally,
any recommendations or comments which the Commission may desire to
make respecting Presidential protection would be classified as
appropriate, and made directly to the agency or agencies concerned
or to the President.

2/19/64

The Commission would be pleased to have you advise the President, when you discuss this matter with him, that the Commission would adopt your suggestions with respect to any classified data on Presidential protection, whether obtained from the Department of the Treasury or any other federal, state, or local agency.

Sincerely,

Chairman

D R A F T

Honorable Douglas Dillon,
Secretary of the Treasury,
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

This is in response to your letter of January 23th and in confirmation of our discussion of its subject matter at our luncheon on February 4th.

The Executive Order establishing the Commission does not direct the Commission to report on this particular subject. However, as we proceed with the evaluation of all the facts surrounding the assassination of President Kennedy, the effectiveness of certain procedures necessarily challenge the Commission's attention. In informal discussion, the members of the Commission have all expressed the view that if any shortcomings are observed ~~that some~~ mention of them should probably be made in our report for the better protection of the lives of our Presidents in the future.

Of course, as a Commission, we have no interest in the details of the work of any of the agencies of the Government. Such things must, of necessity, be classified, and I am sure none of us would desire to have the responsibility of knowing what those details are. However, if there are any procedures which will show either the coordination of activities or the lack of it among the responsible agencies or any information which would establish the necessity for better coordination, the Commission would like to be made aware of it. I am of the opinion that such information could be used without

going beyond the limits of the Executive Order or transgressing on the prerogative of any of the agencies of the Government. Our only purpose is to make the life of the President more secure if possible.

Sincerely,

[Handwritten signature]