

IDENTIFICATION FORM

AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY : NSA
RECORD NUMBER : 144-10001-10101

RECORDS SERIES :

AGENCY FILE NUMBER :

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR : NSA
FROM : NSA
TO : HCO

~~[R]~~

TITLE :
3/0 [] T1657-63((A)) : [] AMBASSADOR REPORTS SOVIET REACTION TO [R]

DATE : 12/13/63
PAGES : 1

44 USC 2107(5)(g)(2)(D)(i)

SUBJECTS :
[] DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY
USSR, REACTION TO ASSASSINATION

[R]
~~[R]~~

DOCUMENT TYPE : REPORT
CLASSIFICATION : T
RESTRICTIONS : 1B
CURRENT STATUS : X
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 08/10/93

OPENING CRITERIA :
ORIGINATING AGENCY'S DETERMINATION REQUIRED

COMMENTS :
~~CONTAINS SENSITIVE COMPARTMENTED INFORMATION~~

[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED

~~TOP SECRET UMBRA~~

~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~

WS 15532

Change 1

3/O/[]/T1657-63((A))

IS 13 Dec 63 P

Dist: HCO

[] AMBASSADOR REPORTS SOVIET REACTION TO ASSASSINATION OF
U. S. PRESIDENT

44 USC 2107(5)(g)(2)(D)(i)

29 Nov. 63

Msg Nr: 201

Reference repercussions in the Soviet Union to the assassination of President KENNEDY.

Basing the first on personal judgment and the others on reports from reliable diplomatic sources, I will give the following evaluations:

The deep grief produced here by the assassination was absolutely spontaneous and can be explained by the high culture of the Soviet people, which enables them to rise above world events, and by traditional Russian sentimentality.

The moment the news was received, because of the possibility of international complications the military authorities increased their security measures. These have now returned to normal.

High-ranking Soviet officials are concerned over what international policy the new President will pursue, especially with respect to Cuba, and, although it seems that MIKOYAN's feelings, after speaking with the President and other high-ranking United States officials, were moderately calm, Soviet leaders are waiting to learn how the matter of the purchase of wheat in the United States will be resolved and also for the conclusion of a new Soviet-United States cultural agreement, in order to obtain a more clear idea of the above-mentioned policy.

((A)) Reissue based on better text.

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TI 29 Nov 63 []

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