

## JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

## IDENTIFICATION FORM

-----  
AGENCY INFORMATIONAGENCY : NSA  
RECORD NUMBER : 144-10001-10288

RECORDS SERIES :

AGENCY FILE NUMBER :  
-----

## DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR : NSA  
FROM : NSA  
TO : PRINCIPAL DEUTY ASST SECDEF (INTEL)TITLE :  
SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE QUIRIES TO NSA CONCERNING THE WARREN COMMISSIDATE : 01/26/76  
PAGES : 10SUBJECTS :  
SSCSGO, WC INVESTIGATIONSDOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT  
CLASSIFICATION : ~~S~~  
RESTRICTIONS : 1A, 1B  
CURRENT STATUS : X  
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 07/24/98OPENING CRITERIA :  
ORIGINATING AGENCY'S DETERMINATION REQUIREDCOMMENTS :  
RELATED DOCUMENTS ENCLOSED-PARTIAL DPULICATON OF 144-10001-10127, -10195, -10211, -10212, AND -10025 -- THIS COMPLIATION OF RECORDS WAS LOCATED IN DR. LOUIS TORDELLA'S (FORMER DEPUTY DIRECTOR, NSA) RECORD COLLECTION.-----  
[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED



~~TOP SECRET~~

NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY  
CENTRAL SECURITY SERVICE  
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755

Serial: N0078  
26 January 1976

~~TOP SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRINCIPAL DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
OF DEFENSE (INTELLIGENCE)

SUBJECT: Senate Select Committee Queries to NSA Concerning  
the Warren Commission

Reference your letter dated 14 January 1976 transmitting a request from Mr. Alton Quanbeck of the Senate Select Committee Staff. The following information is provided in response to Mr. Quanbeck's letter, keyed by paragraph to his letter (inclosed - see underlined portions). Most of the information was made available to the SSC Staff, Mr. Jim Johnson, during an interview with Dr. Louis Tordella on 20 January 1976.

42

Para. 1. - NSA requested permission to retain photocopies of those reports on which we had worked merely as record copies of our efforts on behalf of the Commission. It was felt that if a question should arise at that time concerning what analytic efforts had been involved and the number of manhours expended, a record copy would prove useful. No operational use was made of these documents except to hold them on file for a period of time which cannot now be determined. To the best of our present knowledge, the photocopies have now been destroyed. Absolutely no results relevant to the assassination were obtained through NSA's analytic look at the exhibits. The Commission, in the person of Mr. Allan Dulles, had asked Dr. Tordella, informally, to review the exhibits for any secret writing or codes which might have been contained in the documents. Dr. Tordella, after causing a careful review of the documents by NSA cryptanalysts, reported verbally to Mr. Dulles and other Commission members that nothing whatsoever had been achieved by the analytic effort. No written reply was submitted.

Classified by DIRNSA/CNCS (NSA/CSSM 123-2)

Exempt from GDS, EO 11652, Cat 2

Declassify Upon Notification by the Originator

Released pursuant to Executive Order 14176, DECLASS. OF RECORDS CONC. THE ASSASSINATIONS OF PRES. JFK, SEN. RFK, AND THE REV. DR. MLK, JR.

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS ONLY~~

01/m8

Serial: N0078

Para. 2. - NSA is uncertain as to what is precisely meant by these comments, but we assume that the comments on names refer to our biographic files which are maintained on foreign personalities of potential intelligence significance. As the Committee knows, these biographic files are maintained (now at CIA incidentally) as analytic support. It is also possible that the Commission was referring to the fact that names are frequently seen in traffic collected for foreign intelligence purposes and therefore NSA might have access to foreign names not otherwise available to the Intelligence Community.

Para. 3. - It may well be that CIA did obtain such transmissions and pass them to NSA for analysis, but no one presently working that analytic area recalls such a request. Discussions with Dr. Tordella also failed to shed any light on this subject. There are no files or records which we have been able to locate from that time frame which would substantiate such a claim. In fact, the only file the responsible analytic group has been able to locate concerning a request from the Warren Commission deals with a file compiled from open sources citing major dates in the last months of Oswald's life. Presumably the date file was to be compared with NSA product on/about the key dates in the hope that something could be deduced. The file does not contain any "hits." The analysts who performed this effort have since retired.

Para. 4. - The informal request from Mr. Dulles is the known total extent of NSA's role in assisting in the investigation. The file discussed in Paragraph 3 is the only file thus far recovered. There is no information which can now be identified which was developed from Cuban or Soviet transmissions relating to the assassination.

Para. 5. - We have no information on this subject at all. However, pursuant to the subject raised during the Tordella interview, we have searched our files manually, and as Mr. Lowman agreed during the Tordella interview, we have recovered three product reports (Inclosures 2 through 4) which show that Cuban military forces did go on alert immediately after the assassination. There is no SIGINT evidence, however, that the Cuban forces were alerted prior to the assassination, thereby suggesting that they had prior knowledge of the event.

Released pursuant to Executive Order 14176, DECLASS. OF RECORDS CONC. THE ASSASSINATIONS OF PRES. JFK, SEN. RFK, AND THE REV. DR. MLK, JR.

~~TOP SECRET~~~~HANDL VIA ROUTE ALL INFO~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

Serial: N0078

Para. 6. - No hard copy material of any kind was provided to the Commission (see Para. 1).



DAVID D. LOWMAN  
Special Assistant  
to the Director  
for Congressional Reviews


4 Incls:  
a/s

~~TOP SECRET~~

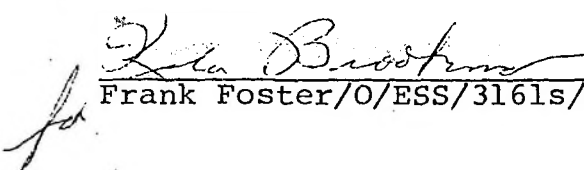
Released pursuant to Executive Order 14176, DECLASS. OF RECORDS CONC. THE ASSASSINATIONS OF PRES. JFK, SEN. RFK, AND THE REV. DR. MLK, JR.

~~HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNEL ONLY~~

Serial: N0078

cc: DIR (Less Incls)  
D/DIR "  
ESS "  
ESS/R  
ESS, Mr. Lowman  
G, Mr. Peksa  
NCRDEF  
A, Miss Caracristi (Less Incls)  
L221 " 

M/R: Inclosures 2 through 4 are product reports numbered  
2/O/CURUJ/R66-63, 2/O/CUN/R196-63 and 2/O/CUJ/R58-63.

  
Frank Foster/O/ESS/3161s/26 Jan 76/kjb

~~TOP SECRET~~OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

14 January 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR The Director, National Security Agency

The attached letter from Alton Quanbeck, Senate Select Committee staff, dated 13 January 1976, is forwarded for your action.

Please provide this office with a response to Mr. Quanbeck's questions as soon as possible, but not later than 22 January 1976. Your response should include a proposed date the Committee staff may have access to files mentioned in paragraph 4.

*Thomas K. Latimer*  
Thomas K. Latimer

Attachment

600484

Released pursuant to Executive Order 14176, DECLASS. OF RECORDS CONC. THE ASSASSINATIONS OF PRES. JFK, SEN. RFK, AND THE REV. DR. MLK, JR.

~~TOP SECRET~~UPON REMOVAL OF ATTACHMENTS THIS  
DOCUMENT BECOMES UNCLASSIFIED



~~TOP SECRET~~

CONTROL NO.

208

R2132

REFERRED TO OFFICE	RECEIVED			RELEASED		SEEN BY	
	SIGNATURE	DATE	TIME	DATE	TIME	NAME & OFFICE SYMBOL	DATE

Handle Via Indicated Controls

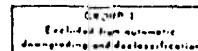
COMINT

Access to this document will be restricted to those persons  
cleared for the specific projects;

## WARNING

This document contains information affecting the national security of the United States within the meaning of the espionage laws U. S. Code Title 18, Sections 793, 794 and 798. The law prohibits its transmission or the revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person, as well as its use in any manner prejudicial to the safety or interest of the United States or for the benefit of any foreign government to the detriment of the United States. It is to be seen only by personnel especially indoctrinated and authorized to receive information in the designated control channels. Its security must be maintained in accordance with regulations pertaining to the BYEMAN and Communications Intelligence Controls. No action is to be taken on any communications intelligence which may be contained herein, regardless of the advantage to be gained, if such action might have the effect of revealing the existence and nature of the source, unless such action is first approved by the appropriate authority.

Released pursuant to Executive Order 14176, DECLASS. OF RECORDS CONC. THE ASSASSINATIONS OF PRES. JFK, SEN. RFK, AND THE REV. DR. MLK, JR.

~~TOP SECRET~~

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

Released pursuant to Executive Order 14176, DECLASS. OF RECORDS CONC. THE ASSASSINATIONS OF PRES. JFK, SEN. RFK, AND THE REV. DR. MLK, JR.



Mr. Thomas K. Latimer  
January 13, 1976  
Page Two

~~HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS~~

to NSA and what information on names NSA had that CIA did not. If names had significance, what names did NSA use in its analysis?

3. We are informed that CIA obtained transmissions from the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City for November or December 1963 and that it may have passed these to NSA for analysis. Did NSA receive these transmissions or any transmissions relevant to the assassination inquiry? Did it analyze them? What were the results of its analysis?

4. We are interested in learning the extent of NSA's role in assisting in the investigation of the assassination. In that connection, please inform the Committee the extent of NSA files relating to the assassination. Please provide the staff of the Committee access to those files. Please provide the staff with a summary of all information NSA developed from Cuban or Soviet transmissions relating to the assassination.

5. We have been informed that after the assassination the Cuban government instructed its embassies and consulates to return all files on Oswald to Cuba. What information does NSA have on whether such instructions were issued?

6. In connection with the answers to questions 4 and 5, please indicate whether such material was provided the Warren Commission and provide copies of all documents evidencing that fact.

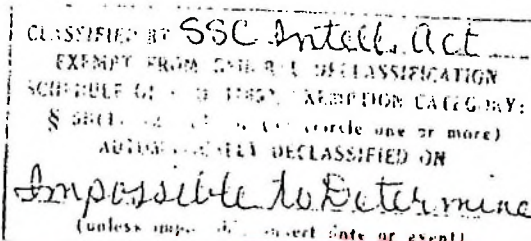
We would appreciate receiving a response to these questions as soon as possible and to expedite this inquiry we are sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Foster of NSA.

Sincerely,

*al*

Alton H. Quanbeck

cc: Frank Foster



~~HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS~~

NSA

JLR:RM/bjc  
7/7/64

JUL 10 1964

Lieutenant General Gordon A. Blake, U. S. A. F.  
Director, National Security Agency  
Fort George G. Meade, Maryland

Dear General Blake:

In regard to Dr. Tordello's request, the National Security Agency is authorized to keep for its file the following photographic copies of items which have been used by the Commission in its investigation:

- (1) Commission Exhibit 31
- (2) Commission Exhibit 15
- (3) Commission Exhibit 104
- (4) Commission Exhibit 18
- (5) Typewritten version of Commission Exhibit 24
- (6) F. B. I. items A-2, A-6
- (7) F. B. I. items 137, 152

Thank you for the cooperation and assistance you have rendered the Commission.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

J. Lee Rankin  
General Counsel

REC'D

Archives

cc: Mr. Rankin  
Mr. Willens  
Mr. Mosk

ROUTING			
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	US 2		
2			
3			
4			
ACTION		DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
APPROVAL		DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
COMMENT		FILE	RETURN
CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION	SIGNATURE
REMARKS:			
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS, AND PHONE NO		DATE	

~~TOP SECRET~~  
~~SECRET~~  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DIA SSO  
 CONTROL NO.

600484

## DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

APPENDED DOCUMENT CONTAINS  
 SPECIAL INTELLIGENCE MATERIAL

Access to this document will be restricted to  
 those individuals approved for Special Intelligence.

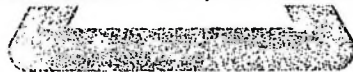


### Warning Notice

Sensitive Intelligence Sources and Methods Involved

NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION

Unauthorized Disclosure Subject to Criminal Sanctions



Released pursuant to Executive Order 14176, DECLASS. OF RECORDS CONC. THE  
 ASSASSINATIONS OF PRES. JFK, SEN. RFK, AND THE REV. DR. MLK, JR.

~~TOP SECRET~~  
~~SECRET~~  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~