

DATE: 11-14-2017

JFK Assassination System
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DATE: 11-14-2017

- 1 - Mr. W. L. Bailey
- 1 - Mr. J. J. McDermott
- 1 - Mr. H. A. Boynton, Jr.
- 1 - Mr. W. O. Cregar

Mr. Bailey

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

6/20/79

D. Ryan

- 1 - Mr. D. W. Moore, Jr.
- 1 - Mr. B. P. Herndon
- 1 - Mr. W. A. Bayse
- 1 - Mr. J. A. Mintz

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS 1 - Mr. N. F. Stames
 U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA) 1 - Mr. D. Ryan

- 1 - Mr. D. J. Clark
- 1 - Mr. J. T. Aldhizer

PURPOSE: To record details of the FBI's review of material furnished by captioned Committee in accordance with the 10/5/77 Memorandum of Understanding (MU) between the Department of Justice and the HSCA.

SYNOPSIS: The HSCA material (approximately 4,463 pages) was received by the FBI on 6/12/79 and reviewed in accordance with the 10/5/77 MU. Review by FBI Headquarters (FBIHQ) Records Management Division (RMD), Intelligence Division (INTD), Criminal Investigative Division (CID), Laboratory Division (Lab), Technical Services Division (TSD), and Legal Counsel Division (LCD) was completed on 6/15/79. Items of information to be disclosed which constituted permissible objections under the MU or factual errors were discussed with HSCA former Chief Counsel G. Robert Blakey on 6/15/79. Blakey resolved the matters raised by accepting certain alternative language. Any objections or suggestions rejected by Blakey did not go to the merit of a permissible objection under the MU. Details of the matters discussed with Blakey are set forth. Certain matters were coordinated with the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) as required. The Department of Justice (DOJ) was advised by letter on 6/18/79 that the FBI review had been completed and that Blakey had resolved the permissible objections by accepting certain changes. The FBI review, just concluded, concentrated on information constituting a permissible objection under the MU or a substantive, factual error. This memorandum should not be construed as a definitive commentary on the HSCA material. Committee praise for the 1978 FBI leadership is set forth, as well as two Committee quotes from Director Webster's testimony before the HSCA.

RECOMMENDATION: For information.

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SEE DETAILS PAGE 2

Enclosures

~~CLASS. & EXT. BY 5180~~
~~REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 (2)~~
~~DATE OF REVIEW 6/20/99~~

DJC/JTA:lfj
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DECLASSIFIED BY 568 sio/gcl
 ON 3/19/99 (JFK)

DATE: 11-14-2017

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Memorandum D. Ryan to Mr. Bailey
 Re: House Select Committee on Assassinations

RE ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

SA Aldhizer discussed the following matters with Mr. Blakey:

Item 1: On page 156, paragraph 5, the report states, . . . "the committee was able only to review the files of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP)." The FBI objected because this wording implies the HSCA may have obtained RCMP information from FBI files. Mr. Blakey agreed to the following revised wording: . . . "the committee was able only to review the files of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), obtained by committee subpoena from local authorities."

Item 2: On page 159, paragraph 6, the report states, "In a conversation with a female acquaintance later reported to the FBI, Jerry's response to a general question concerning his brother's involvement in the assassination was:"

The FBI objected to this passage because it tended to identify an FBI informant. Mr. Blakey agreed to the revised wording of "In a conversation with an acquaintance, Jerry's general response to a question concerning his brother's involvement in the assassination was:"

Item 3: On page 195, line 2, it is stated that "One of the informants was dead and the other, when contacted by the FBI at the Committee's request, refused an interview, fearing his life would be endangered if his identity was revealed. (26)"

The FBI objected to this passage because it tended to identify FBI informants.

Mr. Blakey agreed to a substitution of this sentence, which is as follows: "The informants were either unavailable or uncooperative. (26)"

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Item 7: On page 217, small paragraph numbered 4, the report states, "The committee identified the FBI informant in SCLC without the assistance of the FBI. He acknowledged his former informant status in a committee interview in which he was also asked about the nature of his relationship with the Bureau:"

The FBI objected to this wording because it implied that the HSCA learned of informant's identity through a review of FBI files.

Mr. Blakey agreed to a revised wording of this sentence, which is as follows: "The committee learned of the identity of the FBI's SCLC informant when he acknowledged his former status in a committee interview. He was asked about the nature of his relationship with the Bureau:"

Item 8: On page 240, paragraph 7, the report states that the FBI's conduct was "morally reprehensible, illegal, felonious, and unconstitutional." The FBI objected to this statement in discussing the FBI Counterintelligence Program because the HSCA, in its report, failed to point out sufficient evidence to warrant such language. Mr. Blakey refused to make any change in this statement.

Item 9: On page 247, paragraph 1, the report states, "Washington instructed the FBI legal attache in Ottawa to conduct a similar review of Canadian passports, with the assistance of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. (127)"

The FBI objected to this statement because it tended to refer to the FBI's relationship with a foreign intelligence service.

Mr. Blakey agreed to revise wording in this paragraph, which is as follows: "Washington requested Canadian authorities to review Canadian passport records. (127)"

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Re: House Select Committee on Assassinations

Appendix-Volume XIII - MLK

Item 1: On page 117, last paragraph, the panel report, in paragraph 32, lists the results of fingerprint comparisons on numerous photographs. In paragraph 33, the panel report states that the HSCA panel, in examining these reports, agreed with earlier findings of the FBI. However, the report stated that "In addition, the panel determined that the previously unidentified photograph 115, developed from a coupon from Eric S. Galt to Modern Photo Bookstore, bears an impression made by the left thumb of James Earl Ray."

It was pointed out to Mr. Blakey that this sentence is misleading and incorrect in view of the fact that the FBI initially identified photograph 115 as an impression of Ray's left thumb, and therefore the HSCA only confirmed this finding.

Mr. Blakey agreed to make the following changes in the report: (1) On page 116, under photograph 115, the Q number of 326 was added in parentheses following the word "Store"; (2) on page 117, information concerning the identification of photograph 115 would be listed in the correct chronological order under paragraph 32; (3) the sentence in the last paragraph on page 117, in paragraph 33, beginning with "In addition," would therefore be deleted.

Item 2: On page 127, bottom of the page, under item (c), there appears the sentence "The FBI received this specimen from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police on June 4, 1968."

The FBI objected to inclusion of this information because it disclosed the FBI's relationship with a foreign intelligence service. Mr. Blakey agreed to delete this sentence.

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