

NARA-FORD LIBRARY FILES
ROCKEFELLER COMMISSION
BOXES 3 AND 4
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FILE No. 4.22.2.7

SUMMARY

These boxes contain material from the Rockefeller Commission. The documents in Box 3 are highly redacted and contain mostly internal paperwork and reports from the Agency to Commission staff. Of particular note is a letter from David Slawson to David Belin dated April 25, 1975, which addresses some criticisms of the Warren Commission raised by Paul Hoch. (Both Slawson and Belin were on the Warren Commission staff. Belin was then serving as the Executive Director of the Rockefeller Commission. The memo by Hoch referred to in this letter is attached.) While addressing specific issues, Slawson refers to a "Top Secret CIA memo dealing with the reaction of the Cuban intelligence service to Kennedy's assassination," and emphasizes that he feels this memo should not be made public. He also makes reference to a memo regarding "D" that "is still, I think, entirely secret." This letter should be scrutinized for other possible subject searches.

Box 4 contains almost exclusively correspondence from citizens or drafts of final reports for the Commission. There are a few internal memos from the Commission regarding office procedures, etc.

Enclosed with this memo is a copy of the Slawson letter.

Here are some suggestions for future searches:

- 1) Slawson refers to intense CIA interest in the validity of Oswald's 1959 Moscow suicide attempt, to the point that the Agency suggested an Oswald autopsy to determine that point. All CIA internal memos regarding this subject should be reviewed.
- 2) Slawson mentions his own doubts (apparently shared by others on the WC staff) of the FBI's lack of interest in Oswald as an informant. He raises suspicions about the FBI's explanation of several issues to the WC. In addition to FBI files regarding informants and LHO, a search should be made through all Warren Commission files still classified to see what the FBI told the WC in confidence and what other search parameters might be discovered through these documents.
- 3) Slawson suggested to Belin that the Rockefeller Commission obtain "complete records of

CIA's investigations and deliberations concerning the Kennedy assassination, Oswald, Marina, etc., from as far back as these go to the present time. There is every reason to believe that such records exist and that not all of them were given to the Warren Commission." His logic is that whatever conclusions the Agency reached, there had to be internal deliberations to come to those conclusions, and that records of those deliberations would be fruitful. He also points out that the WC could not have obtained any records created after it was disbanded, and that these too might be helpful. Both of these areas ought to be explored.

- 4) Slawson makes reference to the "Oswald" photo taken in Mexico City, and states that he can say very little because the remainder of what he knows is classified. This suggests either that documents exist regarding that photograph and its subsequent misidentification of Oswald, or that Slawson was briefed on the same subject. Either by search through CIA files or through an interview with Slawson, the existence of remaining classified records should be checked.
- 5) Slawson mentions "intercepted conversations" and suggests a private discussion take place, suggesting the existence of classified material concerning said conversations. This material should be searched for.
- 6) Any and all documents regarding the "D" story from Warren Commission and CIA files should be searched, especially the memo Slawson refers to.
- 7) DoD material regarding CIC and CID files, especially at California bases, should be searched. An effort ought to be made to determine what Slawson refers to when he mentions "the California base". Possibilities include the facility in San Diego where Oswald attended boot camp, any other facilities in San Diego, or even the DLI in Monterey.
- 8) The TOP SECRET CIA memo regarding Cuban intelligence referred to on page five should be reviewed.

It should be understood that the preceding are ONLY search suggestions, deduced from existing material, and do not in and of themselves indicate the presence of any records or files.