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Select Committee on Assassinations

U.S. House of Representatives

3331 HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING, ANNEX 2

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

(202) 223-4624

The Honorable Harold Brown
Secretary of Defense
The Pentagon
Washington, D. C. 20301

Attention: Mr. John G. Kester
Special Assistant to the
Secretary

Dear Mr. Secretary:

In connection with its investigation into the circumstances surrounding the death of President John F. Kennedy, the House Select Committee on Assassinations requests that the Department of Defense provide access to the following:

- A. Any and all records, files, reports, photographs, and regulations pertaining to Department of Defense advance work, coordination, and actual participation in the protection of the President and the Vice President in the context of public appearances and travel in 1963.
- B. Any and all records, subject files, files on individuals, reports and photographs pertaining to the assassination of President Kennedy, including but not limited to the names of Department of Defense personnel present in Dallas on the day of the assassination, their duties and functions on that day, and the reports they generated.

Some of the materials referred to in A and B above may be located in Intelligence Records and Reports at Fort Meade, Maryland, or in "vault files" at the same location.

- C. Detailed written statements explaining the following issues pertaining to Lee Harvey Oswald's service in the Marine Corps. These statements should address both the questions posed and the specific examples given.

1. What was Oswald's level of security clearance?

Oswald's military records indicate that he received a security clearance of "confidential" on May 3, 1957. (See Warren Commission Vol. 19, pp. 665 and 714.) On the other hand, John E. Donovan, who was the officer in command of Oswald's crew in Santa Ana, California, testified before the Warren Commission that Oswald "must have had secret clearance to work in the radar center, because that was a minimum requirement for all of us." (See Warren Commission Vol. 8, p. 298.)

2. During which periods was Oswald separated from his units overseas because of hospitalization?

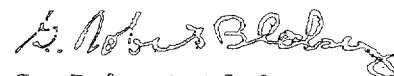
Oswald's health records reflect that he was sent "to mainside for smear" on September 16, 1958. (See Warren Commission Vol 19, p. 603; see also Vol. 8, p. 313.) But other records reveal that Oswald's unit, MAG 11, sailed from Yokosuka, Japan, on September 16, 1958, for the South China Sea area, and did not return to Japan until October 5, 1958. (See Warren Commission Vol. 23, p. 797; see also Warren Report, p. 684.)

3. During which periods was Oswald incarcerated, and for which offenses?

Oswald's military records indicate that he was incarcerated from June 27, 1958 to July 24, 1958. (See Warren Commission Vol. 19, p. 686.) But another record indicates that Oswald received 45 days of time lost from June 27, 1958, to August 13, 1958. (See Warren Commission Vol. 19, p. 661.)

Thank you for your continuing cooperation in handling Select Committee requests.

Sincerely,



G. Robert Blakey
Chief Counsel and Director

GRB:rgj

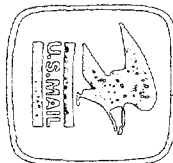
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House Select Committee on Assassinations

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