



OLC 76-3614
8 December 1976

INSPECTOR GENERAL

76-3613

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

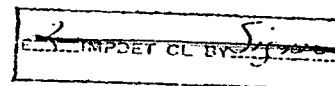
SUBJECT: Meeting with Staff Members from the House Select
Committee on Assassinations - 8 December 1976

1. On this date, Mr. Sidney Stembridge, Deputy Director of Security, Mr. Douglas T. Cummins, of my office, and I met with the three Counsels of the House Select Committee on Assassinations--Messrs. Robert Lehner, Robert Tannenbaum, and Stephen Fallis. At the very end of the meeting, Mr. Richard Sprague, Chief Counsel of the Committee, who was unable to attend, came in and we agreed to meet on Friday, 10 December, at 1400 hours.

2. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Memorandum of Understanding concerning FBI background investigations for staff members of the Assassinations Committee. Since this is a new world for these gentlemen, they did not have a very clear comprehension of security clearance procedures despite the fact that DCID 1/14 and Executive Order 10450 had been left previously for their study. Mr. Fallis did most of the talking and his initial thrust appeared to be that they did not wish to become involved with DCID 1/14 standards because he was concerned that too much time would be consumed in the investigation. He talked in general terms about modification of those standards but after further discussion by Mr. Stembridge and I, he seemed to have a better understanding of the good reasons for clearing their people in accordance with DCID 1/14. The issue was left open but I feel that they will go the 1/14 route, particularly after they talk to Mr. Sprague.

3. There were some general remarks towards the end of the meeting concerning the sanitization of material and one direct question came from that discussion: "What material would you refuse to show us?" I carefully explained the sensitive areas such as agents' names that would not be shown to them but in each case they would be told why there would be blank areas in a written report. I further told them that we wished to give the most professional and complete support to this Committee--a view supported by the top management of the Agency. At the end of the meeting, Mr. Stembridge asked Mr. Fallis his feelings on obtaining a professional security officer for the staff. Mr. Fallis replied that they very much wanted this and asked Stembridge how

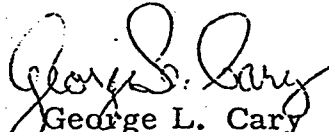
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many people he thought they would need. Mr. Stembridge also offered to provide a CIA security officer to assist them as an adviser on physical security problems.

4. The meeting ended with Sprague's arrival and I think on a positive note. It appears that Lehner, Tannenbaum, and Fallis realize they are in a new ball game and that we demonstrated that we wished to be cooperative.


George L. Cary
Legislative Counsel

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OLC:DTC:ndl (8 Dec 76)

House Assassination Probe

2 Deputy Counsels Named

By Jeremiah O'Leary

Washington Star Staff Writer

Two veteran crime experts from the New York City district attorney's office today were named deputy chief counsels for the House Select Committee on Assassinations probe of the deaths of President John F. Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King.

Richard A. Sprague, chief counsel and director, has appointed Robert K. Tanenbaum to head the task force investigating the assassination of Kennedy and Robert J. Lehner as deputy chief counsel for the King assassination probe.

The two deputy chief counsels are leaving the New York district attorney's office where Tanenbaum was bureau chief of the Supreme Court Trial Bureau and Lehner was senior trial counsel. Each will supervise a staff of 15 attorneys and 25 investigators. Their salaries will be \$36,000 a year.

TANENBAUM, 34, directed the grand jury investigation of the slaying of Joseph (Crazy Joey) Gallo, a New York mob figure. Gallo was gunned down while dining with his bride of three weeks in New York's Little Italy on April 7, 1972. The grand jury investigation led to a series of prosecutions conducted by Tanenbaum which resulted in six guilty pleas and two convictions.

Tanenbaum, a graduate of the

University of California, was named an assistant district attorney in 1968 by then-Dist. Atty. Frank Hogan; was promoted to deputy chief of the homicide bureau in 1973 and last May became the chief of the Supreme Court Trial Bureau.

Lehner, 40, is a 1961 Columbia University law graduate and has been a criminal law investigator since joining the DA's office. He became chief of the homicide bureau in 1973 and since becoming senior trial counsel last April has tried 25 murder cases.

THE MOST dramatic of Lehner's cases was that of Calvin Jackson, who was found guilty after a month-long trial of murdering nine women, all but one of them killed in the Park Plaza Hotel. Jackson, who presented a defense of insanity, was convicted of all nine slayings and received four consecutive 25-years-to-life sentences.

In his younger days, Lehner played outfield and first base for two farm clubs of the Cleveland Indians, the North Platte, Neb., Indians and the Fargo, N.D., Twins.

The House Committee will name a third deputy chief counsel later. The task force under Sprague is already at work preparing for the full-scale reopening of probes into the assassinations of Kennedy and King and eventually will conduct public hearings on both.

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