

26 May 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Houston  
[Redacted]

*Jaw*

(b)(3)  
(b)(6)

Attached a draft, in line with DCI remarks this morning, of proposed press statement.

If you agree and the Director concurs, I would like to see this broadened somewhat by

- (a) adding a final paragraph to the effect that we have concealed nothing in anyway relating to the assassination, from responsible State and Federal government instrumentalities nor do we intend to, and
- (b) attaching to the statement a copy of your letter to the New Orleans Court.

*(cc)*

If we can make it, Sunday papers would be a good time. However, we are still awaiting the result of a CI doublecheck on "Doublecheck" in their search for any possible link to Novel.

[Redacted Signature]

(b)(3)

Joseph C. Goodwin  
Assistant to the Director

Attachment

The Central Intelligence Agency states without reservation that any and all information in its possession which might in any way bear or seem to bear upon the assassination of President John F. Kennedy was presented to the Presidential Commission which investigated the assassination.

In appearing before the Commission, Mr. John A. McCone, then Director of CIA, and Mr. Richard Helms, present Director, testified under oath that no one connected with the CIA had ever interviewed Lee Harvey Oswald or communicated with him in any way. Mr. McCone, in a supplementing affidavit, stated unequivocally that Oswald was not an agent, employee, or informant of the CIA, that the Agency never communicated with him in any manner or furnished him any compensation, and that Oswald was never directly or indirectly associated with the CIA. All of this was included in the Commission's published report.

To recent press enquiries regarding allegations that CIA had withheld from the Commission a photograph of Oswald and another unnamed individual, we have stated honestly, factually that we do not have and never have seen such a photograph.

Other press questions have concerned alleged admissions by Gordon Novel's attorney that Novel at one time was an employee or agent or contact of the CIA. We can state categorically that this is not true; Gordon Novel has never been connected in any way with the Central Intelligence Agency.