

UNCLASSIFIED

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CC

INITIAL

SECRET

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)				
FROM: Chief, Far East Division		EXTENSION	NO.	
			DATE 20 Nov. 68	
TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)		DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS
		RECEIVED	FORWARDED	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
1. Chief, CI Staff		27 NOV 1968		
2. C.I. Staff				
3. Mr. Dooley				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				
11.				
12.				
13.				
14.				
15.				

[William E. Nelson, Chief, Far East Division, CIA. (Nov. 20, 1968). SECRET Letter for [CIA] Director from Sir Charles Spry, Director of the Australian Security Intelligence Organization (ASIO), 104-10012010078. JFK Release. Source: <https://www.archives.gov/files/research/jfk/releases/2025/0318/104-10012-10078.pdf>]

Document Number

1128-988

for FOIA Review on SEP 1976

201-289248

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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM:

CIRA/RS
2B23

EXTENSION

NO.

~~26 NOV 68~~

XAAZ-35926

DATE

26 NOV 68

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S
INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

IP/AN

@

2.

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IP/EDI

05 May 75

cf

6.

Date: ²⁶ 2 NOV 68

7.

8. Document Number

1128-988

for FOIA Review on

SEP 1976

9.

IP/Files

10.

IP/RMS

20 MAY 1978

11.

12.

13.

14.

15.

Subject:
Correspondence between
CIA and ASIO.
Re: ~~release~~ release
of information by
Warren Commission.

(03971 NOI AX'0)

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CD 71 24635

Executive Registry

68-5160/A

20 NOV 1968

XAAZ -
35926**MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence****VIA : Deputy Director for Plans****SUBJECT : Letter for Director from Sir Charles Spry (ASIO)**

1. Attached is a sealed letter from Sir Charles Spry, Director General of the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (who provided a copy of the letter to the Chief of Station, Melbourne), and a suggested reply for your signature.

2. Sir Charles' letter to you recommends against declassification of the Warren Commission document CD-971, which refers to our investigation of anonymous telephone calls to the Canberra Embassy before and after the assassination of President Kennedy.

3. I consider the points made by Sir Charles in his letter to be valid and accordingly recommend against the declassification of CD-971 in the foreseeable future. CI Staff concurs with this recommendation.

Document Number

1128-988for FOIA Review on **SEP 1976**

William E. Nelson
Chief, Far East Division

W/EN	✓	REPORT PROGRAM
W/EN	✓	EXHIBIT
W/EN	✓	PROJECT FOR TRAINING
W/EN	✓	FILE
W/EN	✓	NOTE NO. 12, 3, 4
W/EN	✓	EXHIBIT BEST COPY
W/EN	✓	TABLE (11)
W/EN	✓	REP (4)
W/EN	✓	FOR TRNG

Attachments, 5

- A. Letter from Sir Charles Spry
- B. Letter Replying to Sir Charles Spry
- C. FAMA 5808, subject: Declassification of Warren Commission Document CD-971
- D. Copy of CD-971
- E. FAMA 3636, subject: Request for Release of Warren Commission Document

cc: DDCI

DDP/FE/PMI/AN:Amos Taylor, Jrl:arc (19 November 1968)
Distribution

Orig & 1 - Addressee
1 - DDCI
2 - DDP
1 - ADDP

RECORD COPY

1 - C/CI Staff
1 - CFE
1 - CFE/PMI
1 - CFE/PMI/AN

1
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26 Nov 68

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68-5160/a

ED/P 8-4635/1

[Source: <https://www.archives.gov/files/research/jfk/releases/2025/0318/104-10012-10079.pdf>]

26 NOV 1968

FILE

Sir Charles C. F. Spry
Director General
Australian Security Intelligence Organization
G. P. O. Box 519588
Melbourne

Dear Charles,

Thank you for your letter of 15 October recommending against the declassification of Warren Commission document CD-971. I might mention that our inquiry to you in August (1968) was in anticipation of further pressure for the release of Warren Commission papers, a pressure which has not materialized. Accordingly, there is not, at the present time, any intention to release CD-971.

Should the question be raised at some future time, the points made by you in your letter provide every reason to keep the document out of the public domain.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

/s/ Richard Helms

Richard Helms
Director

cc: DDCI

Signature Recommended:

1 - ADBP
1 - CFE
1 - PMI
1 - PMI/AN

Distribution:
Orig - Addressee
2 - DCI
1 - DDCI
2 - DDP

Deputy Director for Plans

Date

DDP/FE/PMI/AN/Amos Taylor, Jr. (X 5502):a1b (25 November 1968)

5681

201-289248

~~SECRET~~

DD/P 8-4635/1

[Richard Helms; Director, CIA. (Nov. 26, 1968). Letter to Sir Charles Spry, Director of the Australian Security Intelligence Organization (ASIO), approving his Oct. 15, 1968 request against declassification of Warren Commission release CD-971 re. Canberra calls, 104-10009-10222. JFK Release. Source:

26 NOV 1968

<https://www.archives.gov/files/research/jfk/releases/2025/0318/104-10009-10222.pdf>]

Sir Charles C. F. Spry
Director General
Australian Security Intelligence Organization
G. P. O. Box S10522
Melbourne

Dear Charles,

Thank you for your letter of 15 October recommending against the declassification of Warren Commission document CD-971. I might mention that our inquiry to you in August (1968) was in anticipation of further pressure for the release of Warren Commission papers, a pressure which has not materialized. Accordingly, there is not, at the present time, any intention to release CD-971.

Should the question be raised at some future time, the points made by you in your letter provide every reason to keep the document out of the public domain.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

/s/ Richard Helms

Document Number

1042-947c

for FOIA Review on SEP 1976

Richard Helms
Director

cc: DDCI

Signature Recommended:

NOV 27 1968
[Signature]

Deputy Director for Plans

DDP/FE/PNI/AN/Amos Taylor, Jr. (X 5502):aib (25 November 1968)

Distribution:

1 - ADDP	Orig - Addressee
1 - CPE	2 - DCI
1 - PNI	1 - DDCI
1 - PNI/AN	2 - DDP

25 NOV 1968
Date

CORRECTION
RELATING TO
THIS
INCLUDING
NAVY'S OK
OF 27 June
68 TO
RELEASE
FILE IN
MAIN
OSWALD
FILE

~~SECRET~~

SECRET

WARNING NOTICE
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METHODS INVOLVED4-26-68
COMPL

[Richard Helms, CIA chief. (Oct. 15, 1962). CIA Canberra Station, phone call claiming a \$100,000 plot to kill Kennedy, Warren Commission Doc. No. CD-971, No. 104-10422-10399 JFK release, Mar. 19, 2025. Source: <https://www.archives.gov/files/research/jfk/releases/104-10422-10399.pdf>

In a sealed letter from CIA director Richard Helms to Sir Charles Spry, Director of the Australian Security Intelligence Organization (ASIO), Helms approved Sir Charles' Oct. 15, 1968 request against declassification of Warren Commission release CD-971 dated Nov. 26, 1968 which this document represents. The Australians assessed the caller as a "crank." Helms was uncertain of his credibility.]

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. J. Lee Rankin

SUBJECT: Anonymous Telephone Calls to United States Embassy in Canberra, Australia, Relative to Planned Assassination of President Kennedy

1. I refer again to paragraph two of your memorandum, dated 12 February 1964, relative to disseminations to the Secret Service made by CIA.

2. On 24 November 1963, CIA received from the Department of the Navy a copy of a cable from the Naval Attache in Canberra, Australia (IN 67327, Top Secret, later downgraded to Secret), reporting a telephone conversation the previous day with an anonymous individual who had described himself as a Polish chauffeur for the Soviet Embassy in that city. This individual, while discussing several matters of intelligence interest, touched on the possibility that the Soviet Government had financed the assassination of President Kennedy. Reference was made in this cable to the receipt of a similar anonymous telephone call on 15 October 1962.

3. Upon receipt of this cable from Navy CIA took the following action:

a. Cabled to Canberra asking full details of the telephone conversation of 23 November and the call made on 15 October 1962. It should be noted that CIA had not previously known of the 1962 telephone call.

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b. The [] in [] on 27 November, furnished all available information on the 1962 telephone call. It appears that source on that occasion stated that "Iron Curtain Countries" planned to pay a hundred thousand dollars for the assassination of President Kennedy.

c. On 27 November, the [] [] [] also furnished complete detail on the anonymous telephone call of 23 November 1962.

d. On 29 November, CIA disseminated this information, as supplied by its [] to the White House, Department of State, and Federal Bureau of Investigation, with a copy to the Secret Service. A copy of this dissemination in its exact text is attached to this memorandum.

4. The [] arranged for discussion of the calls with the Australian security service. In the opinion of the Australian authorities, the caller was a crank. In any event, they were not able to identify any Polish employee of the Soviet Embassy, the automobile described by the caller as the one he drove, or the license plate number given by him. No further information on this call has been received. Available evidence would tend to show that the caller was some type of crank. This conclusion, however, cannot be confirmed.

5. Please note that the nature of the information in this memorandum and its attachment requires the use of a sensitivity indicator.

(Signed) Richard Helms
Richard Helms
Deputy Director for Plans

Attachment

-3-
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METHODS INVOLVED

CUT Teletype No. 85691, dated 29 November 1963, filed at 1117 hours, to the White House, Department of State and Federal Bureau of Investigation, with a copy to the Secret Service

1. Your attention is called to a series of anonymous telephone calls made to the office of the U.S. Naval Attache in Canberra, Australia, by a man claiming to have had knowledge about a Soviet plot to assassinate the late President Kennedy. Our first record of this matter is a Naval Attache cable from Canberra sent on 24 November 1963.

[two days after the JFK assassination]

2. It appears that the caller, who professes to be the Polish chauffeur of a Soviet Embassy car in Canberra, first phoned in over a year ago, on 15 October 1962 repeat 1962. At that time he told a story about five Soviet submarines carrying 400 to 500 Soviet soldiers on their way to Cuba. One purpose of this troop movement, he said, was to support the Governor of Mississippi. He added that there was a plot to pay one hundred thousand dollars to kill President Kennedy. Behind the plot, he said, were the "Iron Curtain Countries," and "Communist men in England, Hong Kong and probably some other countries."

3. On 23 November 1963 repeat 1963, the day after the assassination of President Kennedy and over a year after the first telephone call, a man believed to be the same person phoned the Embassy again and spoke to the assistant Naval Attache. The caller referred to his call a year back and stated he had said that the USSR had put up 100,000 dollars for the assassination of President Kennedy.

4. Giving what he claimed were further details about the assassination, the caller said that about two weeks before (which would have been in early November 1963) he was present when an Australian man, 35 to 40 years old, and tall, was dispatched by the Soviets to the United States carrying a case about 35 to 40 centimeters long, 50 centimeters high, and 8.5 centimeters wide. The name Vasyi Two was used in some connection with this man. He was put on a plane in Sydney and while the caller drove the two Soviet escorts back to Canberra, their shortwave radio in the car was going constantly. A shortwave radio was going in the Embassy

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also when they arrived there. Over these radios, one of these Soviets transmitted numbers and "points." They remained in the Embassy, and that morning (apparently 23 November 1968), a message came through and toasts were drunk in Russian Vodka and the Russians present said, "we have achieved what we want."

5. The caller then gave "information" about the Soviet role in sinking a U.S. Navy nuclear submarine and on Soviet subversion in Indonesia. He would not identify himself, and when he described the car he drives (as a navy blue 1952 Buick, license plate New South Wales CCC 0122) he added they often change plates, have fifty sets in reserve, and can change them in five seconds.

6. The caller added some vague information about a woman employee of the American Embassy he thinks works for the Soviets. The conversation concluded with the caller promising to write a letter to the Naval Attache at the American Embassy.

7. The caller spoke good English and his accent and voice did not change throughout the conversation, so it was assumed that he was not disguising his voice.

8. Australian authorities working on this case consider the caller to be a crank. They state that Soviet offices in Australia do not use anything but Soviet chauffeurs; they have no record of their using a Polish chauffeur. They are continuing their investigation.

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