



NAVAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE  
FAIRMONT BUILDING  
4420 NORTH FAIRFAX DRIVE  
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22203

**SECRET**

IN REPLY REFER TO  
NIS-44/jeg  
3870  
Ser 001285  
27 JUN 1968

*OK to declassify info re Pres Kennedy Assassination provided on telephone to US Naval Attache Canberra*  
**SECRET**

*DNA-03614*

**From:** Director, Naval Investigative Service  
**To:** Director, Central Intelligence Agency (DDP-CI)(Mr. LUDLUM)  
**Subj:** Declassification of information concerning President KENNEDY assassination (U)  
**Ref:** (a) CIA Memorandum of 22 May 1964 for Mr. J. Lee RANKIN;  
Subj: Anonymous Telephone Calls to U.S. Embassy in Canberra, Australia, relative to planned assassination of President KENNEDY (S)

1. (U) In response to your verbal inquiry, it has been ascertained that appropriate Naval Intelligence components have no objection to declassification of the information concerning the assassination of President KENNEDY which was provided on the telephone to the U. S. Naval Attache CANBERRA, and discussed in reference (a).

*T. L. Stevens*  
**T. L. STEVENS**  
Acting

**Copy to:**  
NAVINTCOM-321

*DMS* *sun*

	TRAVEL PROGRAM
<del>IP/CM</del>	<del>ABSTRACT</del>
	INDEX
IP/CRV	PREPARE FOR FILING
IP/MS	CODE NO. (2, 3)
	RYBAT REST. CODE
	CABLE GEN (11)
	RFD (8)
IP/CRU	FOR FILING

*Turned copies of all attachments to DDP FE/Australia for checking out with ASIC*

EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC REGRADING;  
DOD DIR. 5200.10 DOES NOT APPLY

**RECORD COPY**

**SECRET**  
*65465*  
**SECRET**

*35-1*  
*261-289248*

DD/P 8-1350

XAAZ-36317

2 APR 1968

Executive Registry  
158-157672

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Australian Press Request Regarding:  
Anonymous Telephone Calls to United States  
Embassy in Canberra, Australia, Relative to  
Planned Assassination of President Kennedy  
(Warren Commission Document 971)

Background

Mr. Peter Michelmores, an Australian newspaper representative, has requested that we declassify CD971. This consists of a memorandum from you to Mr. Rankin dated 22 May 1964 and an attachment dated 29 November 1963. Both relate to "crank" calls received by the U.S. Naval Attache in Canberra on 15 October 1962 and 23 November 1963. CIA first was told about these calls on 24 November 1963 by the Department of the Navy - after the assassination of President Kennedy. A copy of CD971 is attached for your information.

Recommendation

1. CD971 should not be released at this time. Mr. Goodwin says he can handle the reply by phone.
2. We will initiate preparatory steps toward releasing CD971. This entails clearance with U.S. naval intelligence and the Australian security service (the latter as a matter of courtesy).
3. Upon completion of step 2, we will submit an appropriate recommendation.

File Ref: XAAZ-17367  
22 MAY 67

Attachments

IP/COI	TRAVEL PROGRAM
IP/CS/V	ABSTRACT
IP/MB	PREPARE FOR FILING
IP/CRU	CODE NO. (2, 3)
	RYBAT EST. COPE
	CASLE IDEN (1)
	NEU (8)
	FOR FRMS

*Raymond G. Rocca*  
Raymond G. Rocca  
C/CI/R&A

201-289248

35-2

201-289248

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GROUP 1  
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downgrading and  
declassification

EDITORIAL: LONGACRE 3-0355  
ADVERTISING: BRYANT 1921

SYDNEY (AUSTRALIA) OFFICE: BROADWAY  
LONDON OFFICE: 83 FLEET STREET, E.C.4  
WASHINGTON OFFICE: 1137 NATIONAL PRESS BLDG.

# The Sydney Morning Herald Limited

229 WEST 43rd STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10036

Executive Registry

68-1505/1

THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD  
THE SYDNEY SUN • THE SUN-HERALD  
THE AUSTRALIAN FINANCIAL REVIEW  
WOMAN'S DAY • PEOPLE • PIX  
RADIO TELEVISION AND HOBBIES

March 26, 1968

Mr. Richard M. Helms,  
Director,  
Central Intelligence Agency,  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Helms:

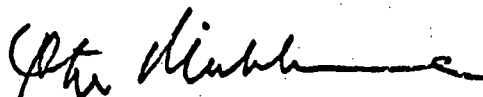
This letter is to request the declassification of Warren Commission Document 971, which apparently consists of a memo written by you and is now sealed in the National Archives.

According to an article by David Wise in the Saturday Evening Post of April 6, 1968, the description of CD 971 is:

"Anonymous telephone calls to U.S. Embassy in Canberra, Australia relative to planned assassination of President Kennedy."

This material would seem to be of interest to our Australian newspapers and, bearing in mind that this material will be made public at some time, I would like the opportunity to inspect it.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Michelmore  
Editor and Manager

PM/mh

35-13

SENSITIVE SOURCES &  
METHODS INVOLVED

DDI: 61-26-24

22

DUPLICATE OF  
XAAZ-17367

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. J. Lee Rankin

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

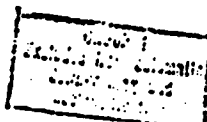
1. I refer again to paragraph two of your memorandum, dated 12 February 1964, relative to disseminations to the Secret Service made by CIA.

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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SENSITIVE SOURCES AND  
METHODS INVOLVED

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WARNING NOTICE  
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METHODS INVOLVED

b. The CIA Station in Canberra, 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 CIA Canberra Station also furnished complete detail on the anonymous telephone call of 23 November 1961.

d. On 29 November, CIA disseminated this information, as supplied by its Canberra Station, 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 CIA Station in Canberra 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.

Richard Helms  
Deputy Director for Plans

Attachment

GROUP 1  
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downgrading and  
declassification

WARNING NOTICE  
SENSITIVE SOURCES AND  
METHODS INVOLVED

SECRET

WAR SENSITIVE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED
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**CUT Teletype No. 35691, 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.
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 15 to 20 centimeters long, 50 centimeters high, and 3.5 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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WARNING NOTICE SENSITIVE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED
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35-6

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also when they arrived there. Over the radio, one of these Soviets transmitted numbers and "points." They remained in the Embassy, and that morning (apparently 23 November 1967), 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 6122) 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 Attaché 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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WARNING SENSITIVE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED
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TS# 0841

TOP SECRET

later  
19 NOV 63  
TO SECRET

NON-CIA TELETYPE MESSAGE

1053

ACTION ?

//////TOP SECRET FOLLOW S/////

NNNNVV CWQ015

PP ESC

DE ESN

T CIA ZFH2

P 240415Z ZDG

FM ALUSNA CANBERRA

TO RUECW/DNI

BT

TOP SECRET

PASS ALSO TO CIA

POSSIBLE SOVIET INFORMER

1: ASST ALUSNA RECEIVED TELEPHONE CALL 23 NOV FROM PERSON CLAIMING TO BE POLISH DRIVER OF RUSSIAN VEHICLE. MOST OF CONVERSATION RECORDED BY ALUSNA. INFO TOUCHED ON SEVERAL AREAS INCLUDING: POSSIBLE CONNECTION SOVIET GOVT SUPPLYING MONEY TO INDIVIDUAL IN U.S. TO ASSASSINATE PRESIDENT; POSSIBLE SOVIET IMPLICATION IN U.S.S. THRESHER INCIDENT; SYSTEM OF USSR EMBASSY PERSONNEL MEETING MIGRANTS TO AUSTRALIA, PROVIDING FALSE PASSPORTS AND SENDING THEM TO OTHER COUNTRIES; RUSSIAN MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO CUBA AND INDONESIA; RUSSIAN CONTACT WITH COOPERATIVE IN INDO EMBASSY, CANBERRA; EMPLOYEE IN AMEMB CANBERRA (WOMAN) WHO IS GIVING

PROB NOV 63 11 59Z  
PRESECURITY

TOP SECRET

*Leung copy received to 5100 at 0805, 24 Nov. C  
Notified at 0800, 24 Nov. J*

24 Nov 63 IN 67327

TOP SECRET

201-289248  
35-8



CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

TOP SECRET

IN 67327 PAGE 2 OF 3

- INFO TO SOVIET EMB; SENDING OF AGENTS FROM AUST TO U.S. PERSON GAVE CONSIDERABLE DETAIL ON MODUS OPERANDI OF TWO SOVIET AGENTS IN SYDNEY.
2. PERSON HAS AGREED TO MEETING WITH ASST ALUSNA IN SYDNEY IN NEAR FUTURE. HAS ASKED FOR ASSURANCE HE WILL BE PROTECTED IF HE COOPERATES. TOLD THAT THIS COULD BE DISCUSSED AT FIRST MEETING.
3. AMBASSADOR, CAS AND ASIO INFORMED. ASIO CONDUCTING SURVEILLANCE FOR WELL DESCRIBED CAR AND DRIVER WHO CLAIMS TO BE IN CANBERRA NOW; KEEPING SOVIET EMBASSY UNDER SURVEILLANCE; PMIG HAS WATCH AT PHONE EXCHANGE TO TRACE ADDITIONAL CALLS. IF CALL TRACED ASIO HAS ARRANGED TO MAKE IMMEDIATE SURVEILLANCE OF ORIGINATOR AND/OR PLACE FROM WHICH CALL MADE. ASIO PLAN TO COVER MEETING OF ASST ALUSNA IN SYDNEY IF IT EVENTUATES.
4. CAS COORDINATING WITH ASIO.
5. ON 15 OCTOBER 1962 A SIMILAR CALL WAS RECEIVED AT EMB POSSIBLY FROM SAME PERSON. IN THAT CALL REFERENCE MADE TO PLOT WITH REWARD 100,000 DOLLARS TO KILL PRESIDENT KENNEDY. CALLER ALSO STATED USSR SUBS ON WAY TO CUBA WITH TROOPS WHOSE SECOND OBJECTIVE TO GUARANTEE SUPPORT TO GOVERNOR OF MISSISSIPPI. SUBSTANCE OF CALL PASSED TO ASIO AT THAT TIME BUT NO FURTHER INFO DEVELOPED.
6. WHILE SOME ASPECTS INDICATE INDIVIDUAL A CRANK OTHERS SEEM MORE AUTHENTIC. ALL PARTIES, INCLUDING AMBASSADOR, FEEL MATTER SHOULD BE INVESTIGATED UNTIL ADDITIONAL FACTS

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CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

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IN 67527 PAGE 3 OF 3

ARE DEVELOPED OR EXISTING LEADS HAVE BEEN EXHAUSTED.

7. ALUSNA MAKING VERBATUM TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDING WITH COMMENTS TO BE SENT NEXT POUCH.

GP-3.

BT

TOP SECRET

35-10