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## OP SECRET DINAR WS 1038 3/0 T1076-63 IS 25 Nov 2037Z P Dist: HCF ST 300 ROBERT KENNEDY VIEWED AS LEADING CONTENDER TO SUCCEED HIS BROTHER IN 1964 22 Nov 63 Msg Nr: 563 Reference my telex Nr. 561((A)). I should add that succession to the presidence falls to the Presidency of the Senate and Senator from Texas, Vice President LYNDON JOHNSON, who will be in office until 20 January 1965. After the latter, it would fall to the Representative from Massachusetts and Speaker of the House of Representatives MACCORMACK. The press today reported that Attorney General ROBERT KENNEDY, brother of the late President, was in the process of leaving the post to participate actively in his brother's presidential campaign. In diplomatic circles it is believed that, in the absence of other Democratic figures of the first rank who could aspire to the presidency in the November 1964 election, the present Attorney General becomes, with the death of President KENNEDY, the first choice to succeed him for the presidential term which will begin in January 1965. News has just arrived that at 1438 (Eastern time) LYNDON JOHNSON took the oath of office as President of the United States before a federal district judge. 44 USC 2107(5)(g)(2)(D)(i) ((A)) Not available. MS 974 CN T1076-63

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