

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

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ORGANIZED CRIME

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HEARINGS

Before The

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EXECUTIVE SESSION - CONFIDENTIAL

PENDING BUSINESS

Washington, D.C.

December 6, 1977

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554-2345

## EXECUTIVE SESSION - CONFIDENTIAL

PENDING BUSINESS

RELEASED BY NARA (JFK ACT)  
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 TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1977

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 House of Representatives,  
 Select Committee on Assassinations,  
 Washington, D. C.

The committee met at 2:35 p.m., pursuant to recess, in room H-328, the Capitol, Hon. Louis Stokes (chairman of the committee) presiding.

Present: Representatives Stokes, Devine, Preyer, McKinney, Fauntroy, Thone, Dodd and Edgar.

Professional staff members present: G. Robert Blakey, R. Lehner, J. Wolf, E. Berning, M. Wills and W. Cross.

Chairman Stokes. A quorum being present at this time, the Chair will call the meeting to order. Mr. Blakey.

Mr. Blakey. I suggest that we close the meeting.

Mr. Thone. I will ask that question: Why should it be closed?

Mr. Blakey. Because it goes to the question of investigation and immunity.

Mr. McKinney. I so move.

Chairman Stokes. The clerk will call the roll.

Miss Berning. Mr. Stokes.

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1 Chairman Stokes. Aye.  
2 Miss Berning. Mr. Devine.  
3 Mr. Devine. Aye.  
4 Miss Berning. Mr. Preyer.  
5 Mr. Preyer. Aye.  
6 Miss Berning. Mr. McKinney.  
7 Mr. McKinney. Aye.  
8 Miss Berning. Mr. Fauntroy.  
9 Mr. Fauntroy. Aye.  
10 Miss Berning. Mr. Thone.  
11 Mr. Thone. Aye.  
12 Miss Berning. Mrs. Burke.  
13 (No response.)  
14 Miss Berning. Mr. Sawyer.  
15 (No response.)  
16 Miss Berning. Mr. Dodd.  
17 Mr. Dodd. Aye.  
18 Miss Berning. Mr. Ford.  
19 (No response.)  
20 Miss Berning. Mr. Fithian.  
21 (No response.)  
22 Miss Berning. Mr. Edgar.  
23 Mr. Edgar. Aye.  
24 Miss Berning. Eight ayes, Mr. Chairman.  
25 Chairman Stokes. Eight members having voted in the

RG: 233

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1 will call the roll.

2 ~~Miss~~ Berning. Mr. Stokes.

3 Chairman Stokes. Aye.

4 ~~Miss~~ Berning. Mr. Devine.

5 Mr. Devine. Aye.

6 ~~Miss~~ Berning. Mr. Preyer.

7 Mr. Preyer. Aye.

8 ~~Miss~~ Berning. Mr. McKinney.

9 Mr. McKinney. Aye.

10 ~~Miss~~ Berning. Mr. Fauntroy.

11 Mr. Fauntroy. Aye.

12 ~~Miss~~ Berning. Mr. Thone.

13 Mr. Thone. Aye.

14 ~~Miss~~ Berning. Mrs. Burke.

15 (No response.)

16 ~~Miss~~ Berning. Mr. Sawyer.

17 (No response.)

18 ~~Miss~~ Berning. Mr. Dodd.

19 Mr. Dodd. Aye.

20 ~~Miss~~ Berning. Mr. Ford.

21 (No response.)

22 ~~Miss~~ Berning. Mr. Fithian.

23 (No response.)



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Miss Berning. Eight ayes, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Stokes. Eight members having voted in the affirmative, the order for the application for the immunity is granted.

Mr. Blakey. Mr. Chairman, the second witness is a man named Carlos Marcello. Carlos Marcello is allegedly the leader of Cosa Nostra in New Orleans. His record goes back a considerable number of years. There was a real personal animosity between Robert Kennedy and Mr. Marcello. We have informant information that at one time he threatened to kill Robert Kennedy.

His associates include people like a man named Gill, who, interestingly enough, is a lawyer not only for Marcello but also for Randy Rosenson. His client was a central figure in the Warren Commission investigation. He is, like Trafficante, one of the principal organized-crime figures that the committee will have to focus on.

Our thought in suggesting to the committee an immunity order be secured at this time is to set in process bring in Mr. Marcello, immunizing him and beginning what will be a very difficult period of negotiation with him comparable to that which took place with Mr. Trafficante.

Our thought was: The sooner it begins, the better off we are. He is, like Mr. Trafficante, a witness who might decide to resist the committee. If he was going to resist,



*Handwritten notes at the bottom of the page.*

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1 it would be better to have him resist early and thus be under  
2 the maximum pressure of associating with the life span of the  
3 committee.

4 It is likely we will have one or two days of hearings  
5 between now and January and more likely than not we might  
6 have two or three days in late May. Our thought was that he  
7 clearly is a figure not only on the Kennedy side but the King  
8 side and it is in the light of those investigative aspects,  
9 both aspects, that we would request or suggest to the commit-  
10 tee that it request an immunity order from the court.

11 Chairman Stokes. Are there any questions? The Chair  
12 will entertain a motion.

13 Mr. Dodd. I so move, Mr. Chairman.

14 Chairman Stokes. It has been properly moved. The clerk  
15 will call the coll.

16 Miss Berning. Mr. Stokes.

17 Chairman Stokes. Aye.

18 Miss Berning. Mr. Devine.

19 Mr. Devine. Aye.

20 Miss Berning. Mr. Preyer.

21 Mr. Preyer. Aye.

22 Miss Berning. Mr. McKinney.

23 Mr. McKinney. Aye.

24 Miss Berning. Mr. Fauntroy.

25 Mr. Fauntroy. Aye.





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1 Miss Berning. Mr. Thone.

2 Mr. Thone. Aye.

3 Miss Berning. Mrs. Burke.

4 (No response.)

5 Miss Berning. Mr. Sawyer.

6 (No response.)

7 Miss Berning. Mr. Dodd.

8 Mr. Dodd. Aye.

9 Miss Berning. Mr. Ford.

10 (No response.)

11 Miss Berning. Mr. Fithian.

12 (No response.)

13 Miss Berning. Mr. Edgar.

14 Mr. Edgar. Aye.

15 Miss Berning. Eight ayes, Mr. Chairman.

16 Chairman Stokes. Eight members having voted in the  
17 affirmative, the application for the immunity order is  
18 granted.

19 Mr. Blakey. Mr. Chairman, there is only one other house-  
20 keeping measure. We presently have designated all of the  
21 senior counsel on both the Kennedy and King sides as desig-  
22 nated counsel -- that is, those who are authorized to take  
23 statements under oath in lieu of committee meetings.

24 The one exception to that is Mr. Mark Spicer, who is a  
25 counsel on the King side and who had not been employed at the



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Miss Berning. Mrs. Burke.

(No response.)

Miss Berning. Mr. Sawyer.

(No response.)

Miss Berning. Mr. Dodd.

Mr. Dodd. Aye.

Miss Berning. Mr. Ford.

(No response.)

Miss Berning. Mr. Fithian.

(No response.)

Miss Berning. Mr. Edgar.

Mr. Edgar. Aye.

Miss Berning. Eight ayes.

Chairman Stokes. Eight members having voted in the affirmative, the resolution is approved.

Mr. Thone. While we have a minute, we were all so involved with the Trafficante matter, what happened as a result of that?

Mr. Blakey. He is in a state of suspended animation. In other words, his basic position is out on four or five key issues. The staff now is doing the running out of all of the leads associated with him. We will hear from him again, I would say, maybe in February on an extended period of time with "Where were you on such a date? Did you have a conversation on such a date with some such people?"

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What has been put in process is the same sort of process that we want with Mr. Marcello: first, get the immunity order, negotiate with counsel, get him to agree to testify, block out the broad areas to talk to him about and go run out all the details with him. We are running out all those details. We will be back at the end of our investigation and we will come back to Mr. Marcello.

Chairman Stokes. If there is no further business to come before the committee, then, the meeting is adjourned subject to the call of the Chair.

(Whereupon, at 2:45 p.m. the committee adjourned, to reconvene at the call of the chair.)



U.S. House of Representatives  
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U.S. House of Representatives  
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3381 HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING ANNEX NO. 2

5/17

May 22, 1978

Date

Date

Hon. Stewart B. McKinney  
p.m. (Executive Session)  
Date of Transcript December 6, 1977

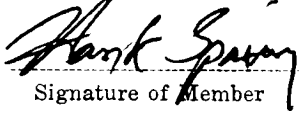
Hon. Robert J. Edgar  
p.m. (Executive Session)  
Date of Transcript December 6, 1977

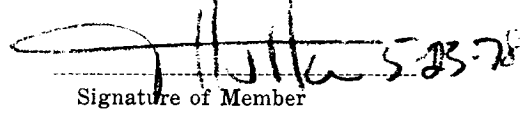
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U.S. House of Representatives  
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3381 HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING ANNEX NO. 2

May 4, 1978

May 17, 1978

Date

Date

Hon. Samuel L. Devine  
p.m. (Executive Session)  
Date of Transcript December 6, 1977

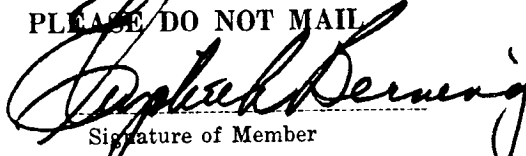
Hon. Charles Thone  
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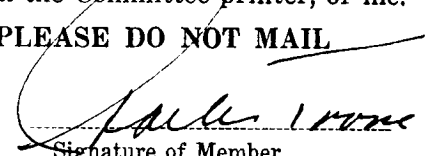
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**U.S. House of Representatives**  
SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS  
3381 HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING ANNEX NO. 2

6 July, 1978  
Date

Hon. Louis Stokes  
p.m. (Executive Session)  
Date of Transcript December 6, 1977

Hon. Walter E. Fauntroy  
p.m. (Executive Session)  
Date of Transcript December 6, 1977

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Date

Date

Hon. Christopher J. Dodd  
p.m. (Executive Session)  
Date of Transcript December 6, 1977

Hon. Richardson Preyer  
p.m. (Executive Session)  
Date of Transcript December 6, 1977

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6-6-78

**U.S. House of Representatives**  
**SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS**  
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Dec. 20, 1977  
Date

Hon. Ms. Elizabeth L. Berning  
p.m. (Executive Session)  
Date of Transcript December 6, 1977

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