Honorable J. Lee Rankin

the case involved has been adjudicated by a court of law. Specific reference, of course, is made to the Jack Ruby case. The trial of Jack Ruby was publicly aired, it was under the close scrutiny of the eyes of the world, it is reasonable to expect that numerous appellate procedures will be instituted for some time to come, and it is also reasonable to expect that this matter at some time will be judicially reviewed or at least submitted for such review to the Supreme Court of the United States.

Bearing in mind the above factors and the guidelines under which the FBI uses the polygraph, it would seem highly improper for the FBI to give favorable consideration to its use.

I wanted to bring the above facts to your attention in view of your request that the FBI make available its polygraph examiners in connection with the polygraph examination which you desire be afforded Jack Ruby.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20535

In answer to your letter of June 21, 1964, concerning the request of the Commission that the Federal Bureau of Investigation afford Jack Ruby the opportunity for a polygraph examination, we should like to make several things clear. First, it is not the policy of the Commission to use the polygraph even as an investigating technique and it is only being requested in this instance because Mr. Ruby asked for it when he gave his testimony before the Commission at Dallas, Texas, on Saturday, June 7, 1964. The Commission recognizes that the polygraph technique is not sufficiently precise to permit absolute judgments of guilt or innocence without qualifications, as you state in your letter.

In the effort to satisfy Mr. Ruby's request the Commission desires to be scrupulous in avoiding any interference with the State court or any other proceedings in his criminal trial. The wish is to limit inquiries to the limited range of the Commission's interests concerning Jack Ruby's activities. In accordance with these guidelines, the Commission asks that counsel for Mr. Ruby, either Mr. Joe H. Pembell or such other person as he may direct, Mr. Henry Wade or Mr. James Stone on his behalf if that is his wish to represent the interest of the State, and Mr. Arlen Specter from the Commission staff be present at the time of the polygraph examination.

We suggest the following questions which we have tried to limit carefully to the area of the Commission's interests:

(1) Did you know Lee Harvey Oswald prior to November 22, 1963?

(2) Did you participate in any way with Lee Harvey Oswald in planning or carrying out the assassination of President Kennedy?

(3) Did you go to the Dallas Police Station at any time on Friday, November 22nd, before you went to the synagogue?
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(4) Did you go to the Synagogue Friday night?

(5) Were you present when Lee Harvey Oswald was brought down into the basement assembly room of the Dallas jail on Friday night, at approximately midnight, before newspaper men and TV cameras?

(6) Did you talk with any Dallas police officers on Sunday, November 26th, prior to shooting Lee Harvey Oswald?

(7) How did you gain access to the basement of the Dallas Police Department jail?

(8) Were you in the Dallas Police Department jail basement at the time Lt. Pierce's car drove out of the basement?

(9) Did you see Dr. Pierse leave the basement in his car? If so, (a) where were you when you saw him leave? (b) who was in the car with him?

(10) Did you see the armored truck before you entered the basement? If so, (a) where were you? (b) where was the truck when you first saw it? (c) how long before Oswald was shot did you first see the truck?

(11) What efforts did you make to find out the time Lee Harvey Oswald was going to be moved out of the Dallas jail?

(12) Were you at Parkland Hospital at any time on Friday, November 22, 1963?

(13) How did a Wall Street Journal addressed to Mr. J. K. Reade, dated November 16th, happen to be in your car?

(14) Did you say anything at the time you shot Lee Harvey Oswald?

(15) Did you have a gun with you when you went to the Friday midnight press conference?

(16) Are you now, or have you ever been, a member of the Communist Party?

(17) Are you now, or have you ever been, a leading member of any organization or group that advocates the violent overthrow of the United States Government?

(18) Have you ever attended any meetings of the Communist Party or any group or organization that you know advocates the violent overthrow of the United States Government?

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(19) Do you have any knowledge that any of your close friends or members of your immediate family are leading members of the Communist Party or any group or organization that advocates the violent overthrow of United States Government?

(20) Do you have any knowledge that any of your close friends or members of your immediate family attended meetings of the Communist Party or any group or organization that you know advocates the overthrow of the United States Government?

(21) Did you kill Lee Harvey Oswald in order to silence him?

Sincerely,

J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel.