

August 21, 1995

John Machado
Chief
Policy Analysis and Records Systems
United States Secret Service
1310 L Street, N.W., Room 670
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear John:

I was pleased that the August 16 meeting was able to resolve some of the difficulties that we have been experiencing. I am enclosing your copy of my letter of today's date to Messrs. Basham and Personette.

There were a few matters about which we were unsure after the meeting and I am writing in the hope that you might be able to shed some light on them.

First, we were not certain what kinds of assassination records are included in the two "JFK Assassination" boxes in the Secret Service Archives. I was under the impression that you had said that only press clippings were included, although Dr. Zimmerman recalls having seen several other items, including, for example, several folders on presidential trips, a transcript of some testimony, as well as some photographs. Could you please let us know with particularity what is in the boxes?

Second, we understood you to say in the meeting that the "shift reports" contain no redactions and that they are open in full at the National Archives. Did we understand you correctly?

Third, you mentioned some "historical accessions," but we did not understand to what you were referring. Could you please explain what these mean in terms of Secret Service assassination records?

Fourth, we were not certain from your comments whether you *carefully* reviewed material from the two protective survey reports boxes before they were destroyed, or whether you merely skimmed it. Could you please let us know how carefully you reviewed the material from those boxes and whether you took any notes in the process?

Fifth, I was under the impression that the Secret Service maintains inventories of records in addition

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to the National Archives Forms 135, but I understood you to say that you have only Form 135s. Could you please clarify this issue?

Sixth, we would like to be certain whether the Secret Service newsletter *The Record* contains any assassination material. Could you determine this for us?

Seventh, we understood you to say that the Andrews Air Force Base files from November 22, 1963, have been saved. Could you let us know where they are so that we can review them?

In response to your request about our basis for believing that the HSCA staff reviewed some of the Secret Service records that were destroyed -- and thus were "assassination records" within the JFK Act -- I am enclosing a few memoranda that we have been able to locate. In addition, I would suggest that you locate correspondence between then Secret Service Counsel Robert Goff and House Select Committee Chief Counsel Robert Blakey (1977-1978) in the House Select Committee collection at the National Archives, College Park. This correspondence includes requests from the HSCA to the Secret Service for specific documents. Secret Service records obtained by the House Select Committee investigators are in the House Select Committee collections at College Park and at the Legislative Archives at 7th and Pennsylvania Avenue.

We appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

T. Jeremy Gunn
Acting General Counsel and
Associate Director for Research and Analysis

cc: (w/enclosures)

W. Ralph Basham, Assistant Director
Jane E. Vezeris, Deputy Assistant Director
William R. Keefe, Chief of Management and Organization
Donald Personette, Deputy Chief Counsel

Enclosures