

October 29, 1996

Mr. John Parangosky
3302 Woodburn Village Drive
Annandale, Virginia 22003

Dear Mr. Parangosky:

I am writing you on behalf of the Assassination Records Review Board, an independent Federal Agency established pursuant to the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act, 44 U.S.C. § 2107 (Supp. V 1994). The Review Board, whose members are appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, is charged with the responsibility of collecting records and information related to the assassination of President Kennedy. Review Board members and staff are required by law to possess Top Secret, SCI clearances. The Review Board is not seeking to reach any conclusions regarding the assassination, but is primarily concerned with identifying, clarifying, locating, and making available assassination records. I am enclosing some explanatory material about the Review Board and its mandate.

Also enclosed is an excerpt from the book *Skunk Works*, by Ben Rich and Leo Janos, which refers to Lockheed's preparation of four sets of falsified U-2 technical manuals at the direction of Richard Bissell of the CIA. Co-author Leo Janos has identified you to the Review Board as having formerly been Richard Bissell's direct assistant for U-2 program matters, and has suggested that you may be a source of further information in this area of inquiry. We would like very much to discuss this subject with you, and believe that your experiences and recollections may assist ARRB in our attempts to clarify the historical record in this area. I am taking the liberty of forwarding a copy of this letter to Mr. John Pereira, of the Historical Review Group, Center for the Study of Intelligence, Central Intelligence Agency, Washington, D.C., 20505. To the extent that you feel discussing this subject with the Review Board would constitute disclosure of any information that is still classified, we would be happy to initiate a discussion between you and the appropriate officials at the CIA to address any concerns you may have.

Because we are not aware of your telephone number, we request that you either reply to us in writing, or call us at (202) 724-0088 to discuss a time and place where we could meet with you to discuss certain aspects of the U-2 program; if it is inconvenient for you to meet with us at the Review Board's

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offices, we would be happy to visit you in a location that is convenient for you. Should you wish to call us in response to this letter, please ask for either Mr. Doug Horne (a Senior Analyst on the Military Records Team), or Dr. Michelle Combs (a Senior Analyst on the CIA Records Team). We look forward to hearing from you, and to speaking with you about the U-2 program.

Sincerely,

T. Jeremy Gunn

General Counsel and

Associate Director for Research & Analysis

Enclosures