

MEMORANDUM

May 3, 1996

To: File
cc: Jeremy Gunn, Tom Samoluk, Eileen Sullivan
From: Tim Wray
Subject: Daniel Marvin Letter Dated April 22, 1996

Daniel Marvin sent me a copy of a letter dated April 22, 1996, that he wrote to Congressman Maurice D. Hinchey. In this letter, Marvin lists me as one of several individuals who "want to know why, in early August 1965, a CIA operative told me [Marvin] that US Navy Lieutenant Commander William Bruce Pitzer was a traitor and why he asked me to assassinate this man."

For the record, Marvin's letter grossly misrepresents my interest in this incident. My only communication to Marvin has been a letter sent to him on March 13, 1996. This was done in response to earlier letters from Marvin to ARRB Chairman John Tunheim in which Marvin alleged that the CIA had asked him to kill Pitzer in 1965, and that Pitzer's death in October, 1966 was therefore actually a murder rather than the suicide that contemporary investigations determined it to be. In my reply to Marvin I wrote the following:

. . . With respect to the death of William Bruce Pitzer, I appreciate the fact that LCDR Pitzer's untimely death is a matter of intense personal concern to you. However, I frankly was unable to see what evidence you have to support your allegation that Pitzer was murdered. (Omissions or inconsistencies in the record surrounding his suicide and its investigation, in and of themselves, do not necessarily mean he was murdered.) Before we can pursue this matter further, you will have to provide us concrete evidence that Pitzer did not take his own life.

Marvin's letter to Congressman Hinchey -- which apparently has been widely distributed by Marvin to other individuals named in the letter -- suggests that I support his allegations. This is false.

After consultation with ARRB General Counsel Jeremy Gunn, I have decided not to take any other action with respect to this incident other than to note it for the record.