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The Director
Central Intelligence Agency

Subpoenas



Washington, D.C. 20505

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ER 78-2313/2

OLC 78-3016

25 AUG 1978

HSCA

Honorable Louis Stokes, Chairman
Select Committee on Assassinations
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Subsequent to our telephone conversation on 16 August, at which time you informed me that subpoenas had been voted by the Committee for four items of information, the matter has been the subject of exchanges between your representatives and mine. I assume that your staff has now made you aware that one of the items had been reviewed by one of your staff representatives the morning of the day before you told me the subpoena was voted. Another was for a memorandum that cannot be located, apparently missing from a file that previously had been reviewed by your representatives. I assume these do not pose a question. The other two items, the subject of this letter, appear to have developed into a different problem.

One of these two remaining items deals with a history of the Mexico City Station, covering the period [] to 1969. That history contains only a few pages of reference to the short visit of Lee Harvey Oswald to Mexico City, and to related subsequent events. These pertinent pages have been reviewed by your representatives. Other than these few references the balance of the history deals with operational and management developments [] subject matter not related in any way to the objectives of your inquiry. In its entirety it constitutes a highly sensitive collection of operational and organizational information, involving intelligence sources and methods, that should receive the most restricted handling.

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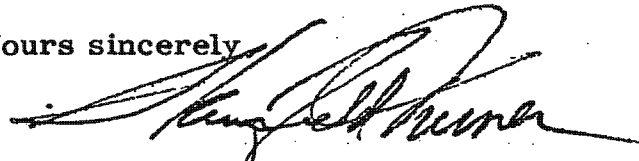
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investigation, subject, of course, to considerations of sensitivity. Until your subpoena, we were unaware that there was a problem different from any number of daily working problems encountered in this inquiry. In fact, as noted, on two of the issues addressed by the subpoena your representatives already had reviewed available material. Subsequent to that, the rather detailed exchanges between your representatives and mine had appeared to have been entered into in good faith, and we had proceeded accordingly.

I trust that we will have the opportunity to discuss this candidly rather than under the conditions resulting from the subpoenas voted by your Committee. Please let me know when you return to Washington so we can discuss further how we might handle the matter.

Yours sincerely



STANSFIELD TURNER

cc: Honorable Richardson Preyer
Honorable Samuel L. Devine

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