

Date: 12/28/98
Page: 1

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
IDENTIFICATION FORM

AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY : CIA
RECORD NUMBER : 104-10406-10329
RECORD SERIES : JFK
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : RUSS HOLMES WORK FILE

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR : HSCA
FROM : STOKES, LOUIS. CHAIRMAN, HSCA
TO : ADM. TURNER. DCI
TITLE : LETTER: I AM DEEPLY TROUBLED BY THE REPORT I RECEIVED
FROM OUR CHIEF COUNSEL THAT YOUR AGENCY
DATE : 06/13/78
PAGES : 3
SUBJECTS : HSCA

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : UNCLASSIFIED
RESTRICTIONS : OPEN IN FULL
CURRENT STATUS : OPEN
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 11/13/98
OPENING CRITERIA :
COMMENTS : JFK-RH03:F0061-II 1998.11.13.09:40:53:293120:

[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED

LOUIS STOKES, OHIO, CHA.
RICHARDSON PREYER, N.C.
WALTER E. FAUNTROY, D.C.
VYDANE BRATHWAITE BURKE, CALIF.
CHR. TOPPER J. DODD, CONN.
REP. JLD E. FORD, TENN.
FLOYD J. FITHIAN, IND.
ROBERT W. EDGAR, PA.
BAM
STEWART L. MCKINNEY, CONN.
CHARLES THOMAS, NEBR.
HAROLD S. SAWYER, MICH.
JRE, OHIO

(202) 223-4624

Select Committee on Assassinations

U.S. House of Representatives
3331 HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING, ANNEX 2
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

Executive Registry
78-9279/1

5 files
Completed

June 13, 1978
CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE IN FULL 1988

Admiral Stansfield Turner
Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Admiral Turner:

I am deeply troubled by the report I received from our Chief Counsel that your Agency directed our Kennedy investigation staff members while they were in Mexico last week to refrain from speaking to two persons who formerly had Agency relationships. Our Chief Counsel has already spoken to Mr. Frank Carlucci about the matters, but I think it appropriate that I bring it to your immediate attention.

Consistent with the written Memorandum of Understanding between the Committee and the Agency, and my letter to you of January 27, 1978, to which you acknowledged your agreement by return letter of February 6, 1978, we had notified your staff of our desire to speak to these persons during the trip to Mexico, or to arrange another time and place if the Agency felt that security considerations so required. We had also taken other precautions to assure the protection of your sensitive sources and methods in the conduct of interviews in Mexico City, relating to the arranging of locations for the interviews, and the secure pouching of notes from such interviews.

Notwithstanding these precautions, and our prior written agreements, Mr. Carlucci and Mr. Scott Breckinridge not only refused to assist our staff in arranging personal interviews with the two former "agents" while the staff was in Mexico, but also announced that no such interview would be arranged, and that the staff should not speak to them even if they were locatable by other means.

In this regard, our agreement of January 27, 1978, in pertinent part, states:

(3.) HSCA staff will only remove from the Agency's offices the following written items, classified as appropriate:

(a) The names and addresses of persons who are of interest to the Committee in connection with its investigation, which the Committee will use exclusively for locating and interviewing such persons;

* * * *

?
0 — (5.) In conducting interviews or questioning based upon the information in Item 3 (a) above, HSCA staff will not disclose the source of the information. In addition, of course, whenever the Agency files or documents reviewed indicate that a person to be interviewed is a present or past CIA employee or agent, the procedure set forth in Paragraph II A of our Memorandum of Understanding will be followed.

?
Paragraph II (A) provides that "(a)bsent extraordinary circumstances, appointments with CIA employees and former employees will be arranged through the Coordination and Review Staff." It is ironic, I believe, that if we had relied upon the extraordinary circumstance provision of our agreement, we could have interviewed the people by simply not notifying your staff of our intent.

Our staff was sensitive, however, to your security concerns. Consequently, we decided to notify your staff of our desire to interview these individuals in a location that would satisfy your legitimate interests. Had our staff been less solicitous of the Agency's interests, we could have easily accomplished our goal of interviewing the persons concerned. Your staff's denying our access to these individuals, in light of the Memorandum of Understanding and the alternatives that were available to our staff, evidences a direct disregard of the procedures contemplated by the Agreement. It is an act of a deeply serious character.

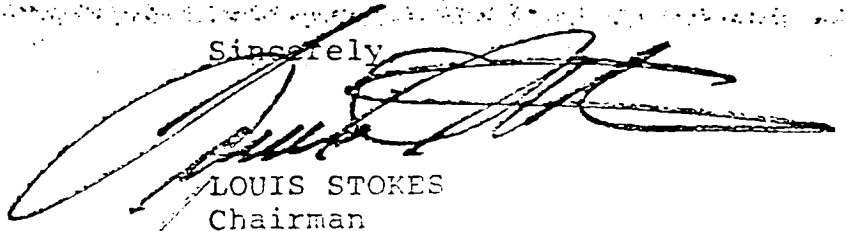
Admiral Stansfield Turner
June 13, 1978
Page 3

Throughout the past year, the Committee and the Agency have consistently been able to reach reasonable and mutually agreeable solutions to the many problems inherent in conducting an investigation of this character. It has, up until now, appeared to me that you were as interested as I am in assuring that the Agency would facilitate, rather than frustrate, our legislative mandate, "to conduct a full and complete investigation and study of the circumstances surround the assassination and death of President John F. Kennedy."

I doubt that a repudiation - even in part - of our previous agreements at this late date will serve the best interests of either the Agency or the Committee. I know of no reason sufficient to justify such action, especially in the final stages of our investigation. Since we have already read your files on the activities of these "agents", a denial of personal access to the agents can well give rise to the inference that the Agency has decided to deny us the ability to verify the accuracy of its files, knowing that the witnesses possess information that the Agency desires to hide. I am sure that you will find this implication as disturbing as I do.

On behalf of the entire Committee, I request that the Agency bring the two individuals to Washington so that they may be interviewed by our staff within the next two weeks. The delay in our failing to interview them when we were in Mexico is impeding the investigation. If, for any reason, this request cannot be complied with, I suggest you come by my office during the next few days so that we can directly discuss the matter before the opportunity is lost to rectify this disturbing situation.

Sincerely



LOUIS STOKES
Chairman

LS:gcd

cc: Mr. Frank C. Carlucci
Mr. Scott Breckinridge