

March 14, 1997

Ms. Jane E. Vezeris
Deputy Assistant Director
Office of Administration
United States Secret Service
1800 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20223

Re: Request for Information (SS-15): Artifacts and Personal Property

Dear Jane:

This letter constitutes our fifteenth formal request for additional information and records under the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992, 44 U.S.C. § 2107 (Supp. V 1994).

In order to insure that the JFK Collection is as complete as possible, we ask that you examine your holdings for property and material items pertaining to the assassination of President Kennedy. The Official Secret Service Case File at NARA includes several personal items from Lee Harvey Oswald and the Oswald family. We are seeking any additional property still in your possession that is relevant to the Kennedy assassination. The following categories of material suggest possible additional items that we ask you to make available for our inspection:

Artifacts and Personal Property

1. Any personal items taken by Secret Service agents from individuals who were in Dealey Plaza or Parkland Hospital on or shortly after November 22, 1963, including but not limited to, cameras, film, photographs, notes, bullet fragments, sheets, clothing, etc.
2. Any items or property taken from Jack Ruby's apartment in Dallas. This request also includes any items taken by Secret Service agents from any members of the Ruby family that are not currently in the Official Case File at NARA.
3. A Carcano rifle taken from a hotel room in Terre Haute, Indiana. I have enclosed a

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letter from Paul Wallach to Robert McBrien dated March 3, 1976, and a copy of a news story about the discovery of a Carcano rifle in Terre Haute. According to this story, "the rifle was taken by Secret Service agents." We ask that you provide documentation of your receipt of this rifle as well as evidence of the chain of custody. Where is this rifle currently located?

Any items taken from individuals by any Secret Service agents in the course of investigating the assassination of President Kennedy in other cities or towns, including but not limited to, New Orleans and Chicago.

Administrative Guidelines Regarding Personal Property of Prisoners

4. In a memo dated March 6, 1964, Chief James Rowley included specific instructions for agents who obtained evidence from prisoners. (See the enclosed page from RIF # 154-10002-10451). We ask that you provide us with guidelines in use in November 1963, for agents who obtained property from individuals who were contacted in the course of the Secret Service investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy. Where and how would these artifacts be preserved? Please provide receipts documenting the chain of custody for any artifacts obtained by the Secret Service in the course of its investigation (excluding autopsy materials).

By making this request, we are not designating these materials "assassination records." To the extent that this request presents logistical or other difficulties that we may not have anticipated, or to the extent that these artifacts may be located in the National Archives at a place other than the JFK Collection, we will be happy to discuss with you ways in which the request might be amended.

We ask that you make these materials available to us by April 11, 1997.

We appreciate your help in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

David G. Marwell
Executive Director

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cc: Mr. Donald Personette

Enclosure

Enclosure

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