

4.1.2.6

Memo to File

From: Michelle Seguin

January 18, 1995

File of correspondence from HSCA to the Department of State regarding State files

- This file contains correspondence to and from Robert Blakey and the office of Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations, Department of State. The file's contents pertain to requests initiated by HSCA and directed to the Department of State regarding various subject areas, including biographical and intelligence information.
- Some of the documents contained in this file discuss the State Department's records retention system. First, the Department informed the HSCA that its record collections were maintained in both centralized and decentralized systems and the number of record systems totaled forty-eight. Moreover, the central foreign policy files for the period prior to 1973 were not computerized. (see OCR dated 03/15/78 and letter dated 02/14/78) Second, a couple of letters specifically mention that the Department located pertinent materials in the Central Foreign Policy Records, Intelligence and Research Records, Passport Records, and Security Records. (see letter dated 07/27/78) However, none of the documents in this file list the titles of all forty-eight record systems. In addition, letter dated March 29, 1978, discusses the State Department's efforts in searching for assassination records requested by HSCA.

- *Third document from the top, undated, seems to be an interesting list of individuals with an accompanying list of questions posed by HSCA to the State Department. (There are many other lists of individuals and "packets" of assassination documents in this file that may be of interest.)*
- *Letter dated September 15, 1978, contains some interesting information on the Mexico City investigation, including the possible existence of a transcript of an interrogation of the Durans by the DSF (the security police attached to the Ministry of Interior). In addition, there is mention of the "Embassy's Political Research Section (CIA)" with respect to the investigation of the Oswald case. This research section may be another source of records about which we could ask the CIA and/or Department of State.*
- *Letter dated August 9, 1978, discusses requests made to the Soviet Government for documents relating to Oswald's sojourn in the Soviet Union. Apparently, a Soviet representative informed the acting Political Counselor of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow that all relevant documents concerning Oswald had already been transmitted to the "U.S. Government" and that no further documents could be made available to the United States. However, the State Department reported to HSCA that it had been unable to locate any record of having received such materials from the Soviets. Again, this may be another issue to discuss with State.*
- *Attached to letter dated May 4, 1978, is Dean Rusk's testimony to the Warren Commission in which Rusk states that the "Deputy Under Secretary for Political Affairs... is my principal representative in our dealings with the various intelligence and security agencies of the*

government and with the Pentagon...." This may be an another office about which we could inquire with State with respect to its retention of files.