

April 3, 1998

Ms. Cheryle Gumaer
Air Force Records Officer
AFCIC/ITC
Department of the Air Force
1250 Air Force Pentagon
Room 4A1088E
Washington, D.C. 20330-1250

Re: Additional Information Request No. USAF-1

Dear Ms. Gumaer:

The purpose of this letter is to request an Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) investigative file on an individual who was of interest to the House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA) during the late 1970s. Although we very much appreciate the searches conducted to date by the Air Force, and the Air Force has already submitted its Final Compliance Statement to the Review Board, we have recently come across a seemingly credible lead that suggests AFOSI may have a file on this individual.

The Review Board hereby requests that the Air Force conduct a search for, and if located, conduct declassification review, in accordance with the standards of Section 6 of the JFK Act, of any and all files it possesses on James Dudley Parker; DOB: February 21, 1926; POB: Oakland, California; aka James Dudley Brant or James Dudley Brandt, and forward subject file(s) to the Review Board for staff review and Board Determinations on its disposition.

The House Select Committee on Assassinations conducted a study of persons who had defected to the Soviet Union during its investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy, and Mr. James Dudley Parker was one of the defectors selected for scrutiny.¹ The HSCA wrote that 13 of the 23 individuals studied were eliminated from its analysis due to "lack of substantive information," and

¹HSCA Volume 12, page 437.

Ms. Cheryle Gumaer
April 3, 1998
Page 2

James Dudley Parker was one of these 13 persons eliminated from the study for this reason.² Recent liaison between ARRB staff and the Army's Investigative Records Repository (IRR) at Fort Meade has revealed that the HSCA did review an Army file on a "James M. Parker" with the same birthdate as James Dudley Parker, but that this individual was the wrong person—thus, the HSCA investigated the wrong file due to a case of mistaken identity. The present Chief of IRR informed the Review Board staff on March 27, 1998, that AFOSI did at one time possess a file on the individual the HSCA was interested in, James Dudley Parker, and that he had sometimes used aliases of James Dudley Brant and James Dudley Brandt. It is for this reason that we are making this inquiry of the Air Force.

Please use attachment 1, a convenient Declassification Review and Processing Guide for Assassination Records in accordance with the JFK Act, in processing this file prior to forwarding both required copies (pristine photocopy and highlighted or bracketed proposed redactions) to the Review Board for staff and Board review. The Review Board will make formal determinations on any redactions proposed by the Air Force, and will also make a formal determination as to whether this file should be placed in the JFK Collection at the National Archives.

If AFOSI still possesses such a file, it is unknown to us whether it was reviewed by the HSCA during its 1976-1979 tenure. Section 3(2)(E) of the JFK Act automatically designates any record that was made available for use by, obtained by, or otherwise came into the possession of the HSCA (or other government investigations into President Kennedy's assassination) as "an assassination record," and thus mandates that such records be placed into the permanent JFK Collection at the National Archives. Please forward with the file any records that would indicate which, if any, of the following investigations may have reviewed it: the HSCA; Senate Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities ("Church" Committee); House Select Committee on Intelligence ("Pike" Committee); or Commission on Central Intelligence Agency Activities Within the United States ("Rockefeller Commission").

If subject file once existed and has now been destroyed, please provide a detailed explanation of the circumstances under which it was destroyed.³

²*Ibid.*, page 439.

³ARRB staff understands from the Chief, IRR that subject AFOSI file is still likely in existence.

Ms. Cheryle Gumaer

April 3, 1998

Page 3

Please provide a written response indicating whether such an investigative file exists anywhere within the Air Force by April 30, 1998; if so, please forward two copies of the reviewed file (in accordance with the procedures in attachment 1) to the Review Board not later than May 30, 1998.

Should you have any questions on this matter, please contact my Chief Analyst for Military Records, Mr. Doug Horne, at (202) 724-0088.

Sincerely,

T. Jeremy Gunn
Executive Director

Enclosures