

ASSASSINATION ARCHIVES AND RESEARCH CENTER

918 F. ST. N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004
(202) 393-1917

SOMETIMES REPORT

May 1, 1986

We are glad to report that the AARC continues to make progress. Our collections of materials is growing at a steady pace. Because of the difficulty of thanking only a few publicly, let it be said that a number of researchers have donated the whole or a significant part of their researches and libraries. Additionally, we have acquired large collections of audio tapes, still photos, movies, and TV films. And government documents continue to arrive in large quantities. We are most grateful to all concerned.

We have had changes and additions of personnel. Unfortunately, in February, Bob Ranftel, our Executive Director, turned in his suit, in favor of doing research for Tony Summers on a new book. Until a replacement can be found, Bud Fensterwald and Jim Lesar will act in his stead. However, we now have a permanent secretary in the person of Carmen de la Rama, who will answer your calls, Monday-Friday, 9-5. We also have three consultants: David Lovett in library matters; Daniel Brandt with respect to computers (see below), and Peggy Torosian, an expert in fund raising. Our archives is becoming better known and we are beginning to get calls and drop-ins seeking assassination information.

We recently acquired a Leading Edge(D) computer (20 megabytes). Its primary purpose will be to computerize three large data bases: (1) the Daniel Brandt index of 22,000 individuals, a large number of whom are assassination-related; (2) the Jeff Meek index of 9,000 individuals who are wholly assassination-related; and (3) the Mary Ferrell index of 30,000 Dallas-related individuals and events. This computerized material, plus our "hard" research files and extensive library, will give researchers several excellent tools.

On the back hereof, you will see a list of our Board of Directors and Board of Advisers. You will note that Paul Hoch has elected to move from the Directors to the Advisers.

At our annual meeting in March, the Directors adopted a resolution which will permit the Archives to file and prosecute FOIA suits in its own name. To use a Justice Department phrase, we will become a "surrogate plaintiff".

Enclosed is last year's AARC brochure; many of you have seen it before. However, it contains a membership form, and we earnestly ask you to complete it, send us a check, and become a member. We need members, and we need the money.

Many of you are former assassination researchers. If you no longer have active need of your files and books, please send them to us -- for the common weal. Don't worry that the books may be duplicates; we need two copies of everything here; and we can swap duplicates for books that we do not have. Clean out your attic and/or basement!!!

And if we can help you with anything, do not hesitate to phone or write.

The AARC, which was established in 1984, is a long needed, centrally located, and permanent center for the study of assassinations. One of the principal aims is to collect and preserve all sorts of materials which are of value to scholars, and which otherwise might be scattered and lost. We have already received a number of large and valuable private collections.

The scope of the AARC is wide. Its parameters enclose all assassinations—national and international, historic and current. However, it deals only with political murders and attempted murders, not with the even broader field of homicides generally.

The AARC is located in a five-room suite at 918 F Street, N.W., in the heart of downtown Washington, D.C. It is directly behind Ford's Theater, a block from the FBI Reading Room, and two blocks from the National Archives. As soon as funds become available, we hope to relocate in a Washington townhouse, with more space for our facilities.

Our research materials include:

- Several thousand books and articles on assassinations;
- A massive central research file dealing with several hundred assassinations;
- Priceless unpublished manuscripts;
- An excellent collection of photographs, files, and tapes.

We have a number of specialized research tools such as:

- A computerized index of 15,000 names and events;
- All available FBI and CIA documents used by the House Select Committee on Assassinations, as well as a recording of all public sessions of that Committee;
- The released FBI documents relating to the RFK murder and the attempt on the life of George Wallace.

The AARC is establishing relations with a dozen universities where courses on assassinations are being taught. Additionally, AARC is a member of the American Historical Association, the American Political Science Association, and the American Library Association.

To encourage the study of assassinations, it is the policy of the AARC to make its facilities available free of charge, to all serious researchers and scholars, regardless of age, and whether members or not. However, members will be able to borrow books records, and documents, as well as have the privilege of calling upon the organization to do minor research.

A membership application is on the reverse hereof. We hope that you will join. And do not forget, the AARC has been granted a "501(c) (3)" tax exemption by the IRS: hence dues and gifts to AARC are tax deductible; our tax-exemption number is 52-1354369.

When next in Washington, please come visit us!!!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I hereby apply for the following type of membership in the AARC:

- Regular Membership — \$ 25.00 annual dues
- Institutional Membership — \$ 100.00 annual dues
- Patron's Membership — \$1,000.00 annual dues
- Life Membership — \$5,000.00 one-time contribution

My check for \$ _____ is enclosed for my current dues.

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

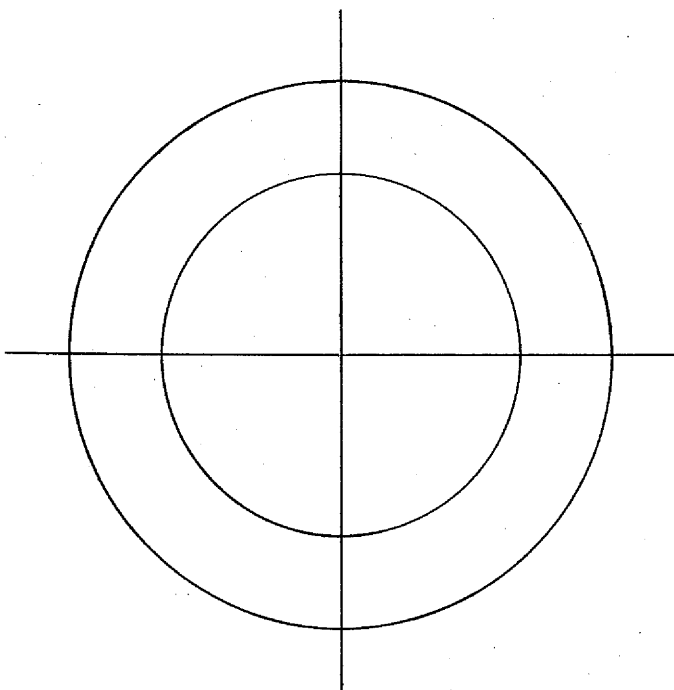
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AND

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