

7/19/85

Dear Bud,

When I read your letter of the 15th asking me to become a member of your Board of Advisers I decided to. Then I read the list of the others you invited and decided not to.

There are some with whom I want no association of any kind.

As a matter of public relations. which appears to be your objective, I think too many are unwise for a number of reasons.

Thanks and best wishes,

Hand

ASSASSINATION ARCHIVES AND RESEARCH CENTER

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

July 15, 1985

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Route 12
Frederick, Maryland

Dear Harold:

The AARC has had its first birthday, and we are glad to report that it is alive and kicking. We are housed in a suite of offices just behind Ford's Theater and within two blocks of the FBI and the National Archives.

We have been fortunate to receive a large number of donations of assassinations materials. Our library consists of several thousand books and articles. Our research files fill the better part of a large room. And we are developing and enlarging a number of specialized research tools. A more detailed description of our activities and facilities is enclosed, as well as our Charter as a Virginia corporation.

At the last meeting of our Board of Directors, I was directed to invite you to become a member of our Board of Advisors. The limited duties of the members of the Board are as follows:

1. Lend their name and prestige to the AARC. As you know, assassination researchers as a group have an image problem. If you will lend your good name to our efforts, it will help solve this problem. (A list of persons invited to join the Board is enclosed.)
2. Provide advice when requested to do so by the Board of Directors.
3. Volunteer advice whenever you feel that it would be helpful. You will be kept apprised of the activities of the AARC, and you may be invited to attend a meeting of the Board of Directors if a subject is discussed in which you have a particular interest or expertise. You will be exempt from paying annual membership dues.

The above responsibilities are far from onerous. However, your assent to becoming an Advisor will help insure the future success of a permanent research center. Please call me if you have any questions.

With warm regards,

Sincerely,



Bernard Fensterwald, Jr.
President

BF/is

Your name would be invaluable to us —

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PERSONS NOMINATED TO BOARD OF ADVISORS

Prof. Robert Blakey	Prof. Charles A. Nelson
Fred Cook	Carl Ogelsby
Robert Cutler	Prof. Gary Owens
John Davis	Thomas Powers
Hon. Thomas Downing	L. Fletcher Prouty
Richard Ehlke	Prof. Jerry Rose
Michael Ewing	Leo Sauvage
John Henry Faulk	David Scheim
Prof. David Garrow	Sen. Richard Schweiker
Earl Golz	Prof. Peter Dale Scott
Robert Groden	Hon. Louis Stokes
Prof. Larry Haapanan	Gregory Stone
Henry Hurt	Anthony Summers
Jim Hougan	Prof. Athan Theoharis
Prof. Michael Kurtz	William Turner
David Lifton	Kevin Walsh
Gary Mack	Dr. Cyril Wecht
Sylvia Meagher	Harold Weisberg
Prof. Gerald McKnight	Gordon Winslow

CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mark Allen
Prof. George Michael Evica
Bernard Fensterwald, Jr.
Mary Ferrell
Dr. Jack Gordon
Paul Hoch
Kathy Kinsella
James H. Lesar
Prof. Philip Melanson
J. Gary Shaw
Prof. David Wrone

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Robert Ranftel

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;

Commonwealth of Virginia



STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

Richmond, April 12, 1984

This is to Certify that the certificate of incorporation of

ASSASSINATION ARCHIVES AND RESEARCH CENTER, INC.

*was this day issued and admitted to record in this office
and that the said corporation is authorized to transact its
business subject to all the laws of the State applicable to the
corporation and its business.*



State Corporation Commission

William E. [Signature]
Clerk of the Commission

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

OF

ASSASSINATION ARCHIVES AND RESEARCH CENTER, INC.

COPIES

We, the undersigned, do hereby associate to form a non-stock corporation under the provisions of Chapter 1 of Title 13.1 of the Code of Virginia and to that end set forth as follows:

FIRST: The name of the Corporation shall be the ASSASSINATION ARCHIVES AND RESEARCH CENTER, INC.

SECOND: The purpose for which this Corporation is organized and shall operate is as follows:

1. To collect, preserve, and make available research materials relating to political assassinations and related subjects. The archival material shall include, but not be limited to, books, articles, manuscripts, documents, bibliographies, films, tapes, and physical exhibits.

2. To conduct research and seminars, and to solicit and receive charitable contributions for the same, in the field of political assassinations, political violence, and related fields.

3. To publish and disseminate scientific and public information concerning political assassinations and related subjects.

In connection with the foregoing purposes, the Corporation shall receive, administer, maintain, use and employ its funds, net earnings and property, real and personal, exclusively for charitable purposes as such term is used and defined in or in connection with Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, relating to tax exempt corporations, and/or in connection

with Section 170(c)(2) of said Code (or in any corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Code), and the regulations pertaining thereto as they now exist or hereafter may be amended.

THIRD: The Corporation shall have three classes of members whose qualifications shall be set out in the By-Laws and who shall have no right to vote on matters pertaining to the operation of the Corporation.

FOURTH: The duration of the Corporation is perpetual.

FIFTH: (a) The affairs of the Corporation shall be controlled by a Board of Directors composed of three (3) to nine (9) persons. Each Director shall be a member of the Corporation. These persons shall have all of the authority to take any action permitted by the Virginia Non-Stock Corporation Act. The Board shall act by a majority of those voting. A quorum for Board action is three (3).

(b) The initial Board of Directors named herein shall remain in office until the date of the first annual meeting, to be held in June, 1984. At that time, the initial Board of Directors will elect new Directors, who shall serve indefinitely.

(c) The Board of Directors shall elect every two years, persons to the office of chairman, president, treasurer, and secretary of the Corporation. One person may be both treasurer and secretary, if the Board so desires.

(d) Vacancies, from whatever cause, arising in the Board of Directors, shall be filled by the remaining Directors, even if less than a quorum. All matters pertaining to the Directors, including resignation,

removal, vacancies, and the number of Directors, shall be regulated by the By-Laws to the extent not provided herein.

SIXTH: The Board of Directors shall be advised periodically by an Advisory Board. Each member of the Advisory Board shall be a recognized scholar in the field of political assassinations or political violence or related fields or shall possess some practical knowledge relating thereto of particular interest to the Board. Advisory Board members shall be chosen according to those procedures as are set out in the By-Laws and shall serve indefinitely.

SEVENTH: The initial registered office of the Corporation shall be at 1000 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 900, Arlington, Arlington County, Virginia 22209. The registered agent shall be Bernard Fensterwald, Jr., of the above-mentioned address, a member of the Virginia State Bar and a resident of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

EIGHTH: Upon dissolution of the Corporation, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all liabilities of the Corporation, dispose of all of the assets of the Corporation exclusively for the purposes of the Corporation, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1957 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue law), as the Board of Directors shall determine.


NINTH: The initial Board of Directors shall consist of three (3) members.

The names and addresses of such initial Directors are:

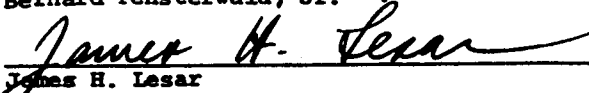
Bernard Fensterwald, Jr.	1000 Wilson Boulevard Suite 900 Arlington, Virginia 22209
J. Gary Shaw	1638 W. Henderson Street Cleburne, Texas 76031
James H. Lesar	1231 4th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20024

TENTH: The names and addresses of the incorporators are:

Bernard Fensterwald, Jr.	1000 Wilson Boulevard Suite 900 Arlington, Virginia 22209
James H. Lesar	1231 4th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20024



Bernard Fensterwald, Jr.




James H. Lesar

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA)
) ss:
COUNTY OF ARLINGTON)

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared BERNARD FENSTERWALD, JR. and JAMES H. LESAR and acknowledged the foregoing to be their free act and deed.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 29th day of March, 1984.



Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 9/30/85

BY-LAWS

OF

ASSASSINATION ARCHIVES AND RESEARCH CENTER, INC.

These by-laws were adopted by a majority vote of the Board of Directors on May 11, 1985.

I. CLASSES OF MEMBERS AND DUES. There shall be three classes of members, as follows:

1. Life Members. There shall be a class or members designated as Life Members. Membership shall consist of persons who make a one-time contribution of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00). There shall be no annual dues assessed against Life Members.

2. Patrons. There shall be a class of members designated as Patrons. Annual dues for Patrons shall be One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00).

3. Members. There shall be a class of members designated simply as Members. Annual dues for Members shall be Twenty Five Dollars (\$25.00).

II. BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

1. Number of Directors. Although there may be as few as three Directors and as many as nine Directors, the normal number shall be five. It shall be up to sitting Directors to decide the number to be appointed at any time.

2. Vacancies. Vacancies on the Board of Directors shall be filled at any time by a majority vote of sitting Directors.

3. Removal. A Director may be removed by cause by the unanimous vote of the other sitting Directors.

III. ADVISORY BOARD. Prior to the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors in June of each year, the President shall propose a slate of members for the Advisory Board for the coming year. Individual members of the Advisory Board shall be approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.