

October 19, 1968

Mr. Thomas J. Kelley  
Assistant Director, Protective Intelligence  
United States Secret Service  
Washington, D. C. 20226

Dear Mr. Kelley:

While I appreciate the promptness of your October 17 response to my letter of October 13, I regret its imprecision. Therefore, I write seeking clarification.

Your first paragraph says incompletely "that Mr. Godfrey Kirkpatrick came to the attention of this Service in October, 1966". This implies what it does not say, that you had no interest in or knowledge of him prior to that date. It is my information you did. You say also, "prior to this, he had a history of confinement in mental institutions." It is my information that prior to that date he had a history of treatment and institutionalization, not confinement. That, from my information, followed your interest.

What is lacking in your letter is what I wrote seeking, a positive statement that you had and have nothing to do with his being under restraint, for my information is that he is locked up on Secret Service request. The statement of general policy in your second paragraph does not answer the specific question.

It is further my information that in this case your interest was said by you to be for the security of the President, not just any of those for whom you now have protective responsibilities. While my information in this regard is not beyond question, the indications are this relates to President Kennedy. I think the record should be clarified, made specific.

Because the information I may have that may be of interest to others with particular responsibilities is not of medical or psychiatric nature, I see no point in the suggestion of your concluding paragraph. My suggestion was along a different line entirely, having to do with those who might have a legitimate interest in his capabilities and attitudes toward others in whom they might have some interest or to whom they might bear some responsibilities.

I do look forward to a responsive answer.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg