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SBA LEGISLATION

SBA OVERSIGHT AND MINORITY ENTERPRISE

BANKING, CURRENCY AND
HOUSING

SUBCOMMITTEES:

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

CHAIRMAN,
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AND FINANCE

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

GENERAL OVERSIGHT AND RENEGOTIATION

(SELECT) ON MISSING IN
SOUTHEAST ASIA

WHIP:

TEXAS DEMOCRATIC DELEGATION,
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

October 9, 1976

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FILE REF.: B13a

Dear Assassinations Study Supporter:

As I am sure you have learned by now, the U. S. House of Representatives finally passed on September 17 a resolution creating a select committee for the purpose of studying the deaths of President John F. Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and possibly other assassinations.

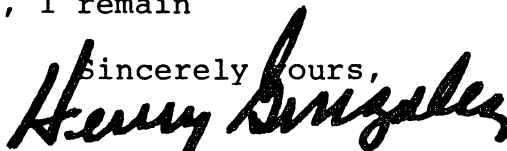
A copy of H. Res. 1540 (which is a revision of my original proposal, H. Res. 204, which I introduced on February 19, 1975) is enclosed for your information. I am also enclosing a copy of the biographical data on Richard A. Sprague, who has been named the acting counsel and director of the House Select Committee on Assassinations. Under separate cover my office has sent you a copy of the list of House Members who have been appointed by House Speaker Carl Albert, to serve on the 12-member Committee on Assassinations.

In the coming months the work that will be done by the present committee and staff will determine the future of our efforts to determine the truth regarding the political assassinations. It is a very critical time. The record of this committee and its staff between now and the end of this year will certainly be considered by the 95th Congress in determining whether that Congress votes to continue the work of and to reconstitute the committee.

Again, I want to thank you for your interest and support. Your continued support will be greatly appreciated. It is important that you communicate your interest to your U. S. Representative again in the new Congress which opens on January 4, 1977. This further communication on your part is especially important if you have a new U. S. Representative as the result of the November 2 election.

With every good wish to you, I remain

Sincerely yours,



Henry B. Gonzalez, M. C.

Enclosures

H. RES. 1540

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 14, 1976

Mr. GONZALEZ (for himself, Mr. DOWNING of Virginia, and Mr. FAUNTROY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules

RESOLUTION

1 *Resolved*, That there is hereby created a select commit-
2 tee to be composed of twelve Members of the House of Rep-
3 resentatives to be appointed by the Speaker, one of whom
4 he shall designate as chairman. Any vacancy occurring in
5 the membership of the select committee shall be filled in the
6 same manner in which the original appointment was made.

7 The select committee is authorized and directed to con-
8 duct a full and complete investigation and study of the cir-
9 cumstances surrounding the death of John F. Kennedy and
10 the death of Martin Luther King, Junior, and of any others
11 the select committee shall determine.

12 For the purpose of carrying out this resolution the select

1 committee, or any subcommittee thereof authorized by the
2 select committee to hold hearings, is authorized to sit and
3 act during the present Congress at such times and places
4 within the United States, including any Commonwealth or
5 possession thereof, whether the House is in session, has re-
6 cessed, or has adjourned, to hold such hearings, and to re-
7 quire, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance and testimony
8 of such witnesses and the production of such books, records,
9 correspondence, memorandums, papers, and documents as it
10 deems necessary; except that neither the select committee
11 nor any subcommittee thereof may sit while the House is
12 meeting under the five minute rule unless special leave to sit
13 shall have been obtained from the House. The chairman of
14 the select committee may establish such subcommittees of the
15 select committee as he considers appropriate. A majority of
16 the members of the select committee shall constitute a quorum
17 for the transaction of business, except that the select com-
18 mittee may designate a lesser number as a quorum for the
19 purpose of taking testimony. The select committee may em-
20 ploy and fix the compensation of such clerks, experts, con-
21 sultants, technicians, attorneys, investigators, and clerical and
22 stenographic assistants as it considers necessary to carry out
23 the purposes of this resolution. The select committee may re-
24 imburse the members of its staff for travel, subsistence, and
25 other necessary expenses incurred by them in the perform-

1 ance of the duties vested in the select committee, other than
2 expenses in connection with meetings of the select commit-
3 tee or any subcommittee thereof held in the District of Co-
4 lumbia. Subpenas may be issued under the signature of the
5 chairman of the select committee or any member of the select
6 committee designated by him, and may be served by any
7 person designated by such chairman or member.

8 The select committee shall report to the House as soon
9 as practicable during the present Congress the results of its
10 investigation and study, together with such recommendations
11 as it deems advisable. Any such report which is made when
12 the House is not in session shall be filed with the Clerk of
13 the House.

RICHARD A SPRAGUE
ACTING COUNSEL AND DIRECTOR
HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

PROFESSIONAL
EXPERIENCE:

Presently of Counsel to David Berger, P. A., Attorneys at Law, 1622 Locust Street, Philadelphia, engaged principally in private practice and trial counsel in major national and international litigation, i.e. anti-trust and corporate trial work; and serving as Special Prosecutor for various District Attorneys in the U.S.

Formerly the First Assistant District Attorney of Philadelphia County, Pa., from June 1966 until December, 1974. After appointment to the District Attorney's Office in 1958, served as Chief Assistant District Attorney-Chief of the Prosecution Division, Chief of the Trial Division and Chief of the Homicide Division. Represented the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as Prosecuting Attorney in more than 10,000 criminal trials, including hundreds of murder cases, more than sixty of which were first degree murder cases, and obtained the death penalty more than 20 times.

Served as Special Prosecutor for Washington County, Pa. for the prosecution of the Yablonski murder cases. Also served as Special Assistant to the Attorney General of the United States for the federal prosecution of W. A. "Tony" Boyle.

Acted as Special Prosecutor for Delaware County, Pa. from 1971 to 1974 to investigate allegations of governmental corruption.

Prior to joining the District Attorney's Office, served as a Voluntary Defender in the Defender Association of Philadelphia for more than 1 1/2 years.

Lecturer on Trial Tactics in Criminal Trials and Lecturer on Criminal Law Procedures at Temple University Law School, Philadelphia.

Faculty member, American Trial Lawyers Association.

ORGANIZATIONS: Member of the Bar of the Supreme Court of the U.S.

Member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, and American Bar Association.

Member of the Philadelphia Bar Association; from 1971 to 1974, member of Board of Governors; formerly Vice-Chairman of Committee on Criminal Law and member of numerous committees and sub-committees.

Formerly Treasurer of Philadelphia Regional Planning Council of the Governor's Justice Commission.

MILITARY
SERVICE:

Served in the United States Navy, Submarine Service, during World War II.

EDUCATION:

LL.B. from the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

B.S. from Temple University, Philadelphia, Pa.

Attended Lafayette High School, Lexington, Kentucky.

Born in Baltimore, Maryland, September 22, 1925