

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

Office of General Counsel

26 September 2001

Edward I. Koch
1290 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10104

Dear Mr. Koch:

In response to your letter of 9 July 2001 and its attachment, the Agency conducted additional searches for information concerning an alleged threat on your life in the 1976-1977 timeframe. This new search retrieved information about this threat, which I summarize below. We remain unable to retrieve records confirming that you were contacted by then-Director of Central Intelligence George Bush.

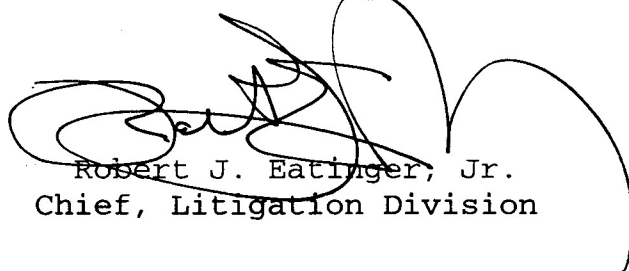
The Agency obtained information that during a social event in late July 1976, a Latin American military official, reportedly in a state of intoxication, commented that the military was extremely irritated with your proposed amendment to restrict U.S. military assistance to Latin American countries due to alleged human rights violations by the military. This military official is also reported to have remarked that maybe he "would have to send someone to the U.S. to get Congressman Koch." The Agency's initial analysis of these comments was that they represented nothing more than alcohol-induced bravado.

In the aftermath of the assassination of Orlando Letelier in Washington, DC, U.S. officials questioned their assumption that other countries would not conduct assassinations in the U.S. Therefore, on 27 September 1976, the CIA Deputy Director for Operations sent a letter to the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs, and the Director of the United States Secret Service advising them of the Latin American military official's comments. The DDO's letter indicated that CIA considered the information highly speculative and fragmentary and, because of its vagueness and the manner in which it was obtained, it had not been disseminated outside CIA at the time of its receipt.

Mr. Edward I. Koch

We are unable to release the underlying material because to do so would disclose the intelligence sources and methods by which CIA obtained the above information. I hope you find this information helpful. Thank you for your inquiry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert J. Eatinger, Jr.", is written over the typed name. The signature is highly stylized and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Robert J. Eatinger, Jr.
Chief, Litigation Division