

U.S. Department of Justice

*Handwritten:* Jones  
Walsh

GORDON M. SPEIGHTS YOUNG

910 Travis St., Suite 1500, P.O. Box 61128  
Houston, Texas 77208

*Handwritten:* State notified

August 30, 1995

J. Benny Crosby  
Special Agent in Charge  
United States Secret Service  
602 Sawyer, Suite 500  
Houston, Texas 77007

U.S. SEC. OF JUSTICE  
REC'D  
AUG 31 1 01 PM '95

Re: Investigation of Sylvester Clyde Foster, Dwight Conell Thomas and  
Sylvester Turner, Secret Service No. J-305-777-37982-S.

Dear Mr. Crosby:

This office is declining prosecution of Sylvester Clyde Foster, Dwight Conell Thomas, and Sylvester Turner for violations of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1001, 371, and 1071 due to lack of evidence sufficient to prosecute. The evidence developed by the Secret Service, though credible, is not sufficiently corroborated to convict these individuals. This decision does not reflect adversely on the outstanding job done by the United States Secret Service, and particularly by Special Agent James Walsh, in this investigation. A major problem is due to the passage of time while Sylvester Foster was out of the country, and due to the deaths of Cristina Batura and Russell Reinders, two individuals who had substantial information concerning the conspiracy to fake Foster's death. Foster has refused to cooperate in the investigation of Turner and Thomas when he was offered an opportunity to do so at the time when Foster pleaded guilty to the charges for which he was extradited. There are statute of limitation problems with regard to Thomas and Turner, as well as difficulty in obtaining corroborating evidence due to the passage of time. We are satisfied that the Secret Service has done all that it can do in investigating this matter.

Yours:

GAYNELLE GRIFFIN JONES  
United States Attorney

By:

*Handwritten signature of Gordon Speights Young*  
GORDON SPEIGHTS YOUNG  
Assistant United States Attorney

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