

FEB 13 1992

John Strahinick
Senior Editor
Boston Magazine
Horticultural Hall
300 Massachusetts Avenue
Boston, MA 02115

Dear Mr. Strahinick:

This is in response to your request made under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act for information from the military records of James Joseph Bulger, Jr., AF [REDACTED]. All information releasable under the FOIA are contained in the attachments to this letter.

If I can be of further assistance, feel free to contact me at (314) 538-4292.

Sincerely,


RALPH W. MCCANN
Acting Chief, Air Force Reference Branch

Enclosures

AF
W

Horticultural Hall
300 Massachusetts Avenue
Boston, MA 02115
(617) 262-9700

January 31, 1992

Paul D. Gray
Assistant Director for Military Personnel Records
National Personnel Records Center
9700 Page Blvd.
St. Louis, Mo. 63132

Dear Mr. Gray:

Under the provisions of the U.S. Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C 552, I am requesting information on James Joseph Bulger, Jr.: Air Force service number: 118-29-66 or 111-82-966; date of birth: September 3, 1929; approximate dates of service: 1948-1951:

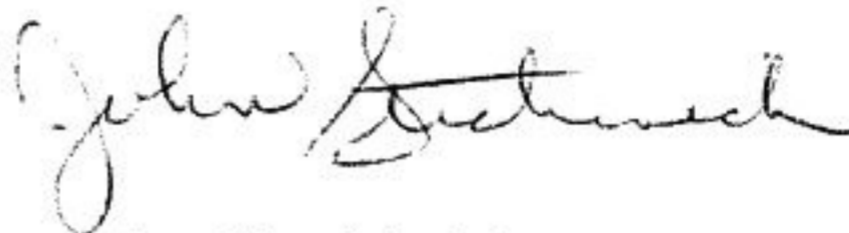
- His exact dates of service
- His marital status
- A listing of his dependents, including name, sex and age
- The dates of any changes in his rank or grade
- His duty assignments, including geographical locations
- His military and civilian education levels
- A listings of decorations or awards he received
- His current duty status
- Records of courts-martial, if extant and unclassified

As you know, the Act permits you to reduce or waive any fees associated with fulfilling my request--searching, copying, mailing, and so on--if the information is considered as "primarily benefiting the public." I believe my request certainly fits that category, and I therefore request that you waive any fees. If you deem it necessary to charge me, however, please send me the records and an invoice, and I will pay it immediately.

If you deny all or any part of my request, please cite the specific exemption(s) that you think justifies your refusal to release the information and inform me of your agency's

administrative appeal procedures available to me under the law. I would appreciate your handling this request as quickly as possible, and I look forward to hearing from you within 10 working days, as the law stipulates. Thank you very much for you time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Strahinich". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

John Strahinich
Senior Editor

NAME: Bulger, James J.

SERIAL/SERVICE NUMBERS: AF 11 182 966

DATE OF BIRTH: September 3, 1929

DATES OF SERVICE: January 3, 1949 - August 15, 1952

CITY/TOWN AND STATE OF RESIDENCE, DATE OF ADDRESS: South Boston, Massachusetts
January 3, 1949

BRANCH OF SERVICE: United States Air Force

MARITAL STATUS: Single

DEPENDENTS: None shown

RANK/GRADE: Airman Third Class/A3C

SALARY: N/A

ASSIGNMENTS AND THEIR GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION: See Attached Form 20

SOURCE OF COMMISSION: N/A

MILITARY AND CIVILIAN EDUCATIONAL LEVEL: 1 Year High School

PROMOTION SEQUENCE NUMBER: N/A

DECORATIONS AND AWARDS: National Defense Service Medal

DUTY STATUS: N/A ???

PHOTOGRAPH: None on file

RECORDS OF COURTS-MARTIAL TRIALS: See Attached

PLACE OF INDOCTION AND SEPARATION: Ft. Banks, Massachusetts
Westover Air Force Base, Massachusetts

IF VETERAN IS DECEASED: PLACE OF BIRTH:

LAST KNOWN ADDRESS:

DATE AND GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF DEATH:

PLACE OF BURIAL:

* N/A denotes information not available in records

INFORMATION RELEASABLE UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT**NAME:**

BULGER, JAMES JOSEPH

BRANCH OF SERVICE AND SERIAL/SERVICE NUMBER(S):

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE / 11 182 966

DATES OF SERVICE:

3 JANUARY 1949 - 16 AUGUST 1952

DUTY STATUS:

DISCHARGED

RANK/GRADE:

AIRMAN THIRD CLASS

SALARY:

N/A

SOURCE OF COMMISSION:

N/A

PROMOTION SEQUENCE NUMBER:

N/A

ASSIGNMENTS AND GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATIONS:

APPRENTICE AIRCRAFT MECHANIC - MASSACHUSETTS

MILITARY EDUCATION:

AIRCRAFT AND ENGINE MECHANIC COURSE, 28 WEEKS, SHEPPARD AIR FORCE BASE TEXAS

DECORATIONS AND AWARDS:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

TRANSCRIPT OF COURT-MARTIAL TRIAL:

"NOT IN FILE"

PHOTOGRAPH:

N/A

PLACE OF ENTRY:

FORT BANKS, MASSACHUSETTS

PLACE OF SEPARATION:

WESTOVER AIR FORCE BASE, MASSACHUSETTS

FOR DECEASED VETERAN ONLY**PLACE OF BIRTH****DATE OF DEATH****LOCATION OF DEATH****PLACE OF BURIAL**

NOTE: N/A denotes information is not available in the veteran's records

1-1039 4500684

Standard Form 180 (Rev. 10/10) (Page 1)
 Prescribed by NARA (36 CFR 1228.162(b))

Authorized for local reproduction
 Previous edition unusable

GMB No. 3095-0029 Expires 10/31/2011

REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS

* Requests from veterans or deceased veteran's next-of-kin may be submitted online by using eVetRecs at <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/> *

(To ensure the best possible service, please thoroughly review the accompanying instructions before filling out this form. Please print clearly or type.)

SECTION I - INFORMATION NEEDED TO LOCATE RECORDS (Furnish as much as possible)

| | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|----------|---|
| 1. NAME USED DURING SERVICE (last, first, and middle) James Joseph Bulger | | 2. SOCIAL SECURITY NO. [REDACTED] | 3. DATE OF BIRTH 9/3/29 | 4. PLACE OF BIRTH Boston, MA | | |
| 5. SERVICE, PAST AND PRESENT (For an effective records search, it is important that all service be shown below.) | | | | | | |
| | BRANCH OF SERVICE | DATE ENTERED | DATE RELEASED | OFFICER | ENLISTED | SERVICE NUMBER (If unknown, write "unknown") |
| a. ACTIVE COMPONENT | US Air Force | 1/3/49 | 8/16/52 | | | AF 11 182 966 |
| b. RESERVE COMPONENT | | | | | | |
| c. NATIONAL GUARD | | | | | | |
| 6. IS THIS PERSON DECEASED? If "YES" enter the date of death. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES _____ | | | 7. IS (WAS) THIS PERSON RETIRED FROM MILITARY SERVICE? <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES | | | |

SECTION II - INFORMATION AND/OR DOCUMENTS REQUESTED

1. CHECK THE ITEM(S) YOU WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST A COPY OF:

- DD Form 214 or equivalent. This form contains information normally needed to verify military service. A copy may be sent to the veteran, the deceased veteran's next of kin, or other persons or organizations if authorized in Section III, below. NOTE: If more than one period of service was performed, even in the same branch, there may be more than one DD214. Check the appropriate box below to specify a deleted or undeleted copy. When was the DD Form(s) 214 issued? YEAR(S):
- UNDELETED: Ordinarily required to determine eligibility for benefits. Sensitive items, such as, the character of separation, authority for separation, reason for separation, reenlistment eligibility code, separation (SPD/SPN) code, and dates of time lost are usually shown.
- DELETED: The following items are deleted: authority for separation, reason for separation, reenlistment eligibility code, separation (SPD/SPN) code, and for separations after June 30, 1979, character of separation and dates of time lost.
- All Documents in Official Military Personnel File (OMPF)
- Medical Records (Includes Service Treatment Records (outpatient), inpatient and dental records.) If hospitalized, the facility name and date for each admission must be provided:
- Other (Specify): All information available under FOIA, including the details of separation.

2. PURPOSE: (An explanation of the purpose of the request is strictly voluntary, however, such information may help to provide the best possible response and may result in a faster reply. Information provided will in no way be used to make a decision to deny the request.) Check appropriate box:

Benefits Employment VA Loan Programs Medical Medals/Awards Genealogy Correction Personal

Other, explain:

SECTION III - RETURN ADDRESS AND SIGNATURE

1. REQUESTER IS: (Signature Required in # 3 below of veteran, next of kin, legal guardian, authorized government agent or "other" authorized representative. If "other" authorized representative, provide copy of authorization letter.)

- Military service member or veteran identified in Section I, above
- Next of kin of deceased veteran (Must provide proof of death).
Show relationship: _____
(See item 2a on accompanying instructions.)
- Legal guardian (Must submit copy of court appointment.)
- Other (specify) Media request under FOIA

2. SEND INFORMATION/DOCUMENTS TO:
 (Please print or type. See item 4 on accompanying instructions.)
 Shelley Murphy (reporter), The Boston Globe
 Name PO Box 55819
 Street _____ Apt _____
 Boston, MA 02205
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

3. AUTHORIZATION SIGNATURE REQUIRED (See items 2a or 3a on accompanying instructions.) I declare (or certify, verify, or state) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the information in this Section III is true and correct.

Shelley Murphy
 Signature Required - Do not print
 1/5/12 (617) 929-3068
 Date of this request Daytime phone
 shmurphy@globc.com
 Email address

SWORN STATEMENT

I, Lawrence M. Kilpatrick, prior to making the statement contained in the following paragraphs, have had explained to me the 31st Article of UCMJ by JAMES N. BALLEW, who had identified himself to me as Squadron Adjutant. I understand that I cannot be compelled to incriminate myself or to answer any question, the answer to which may tend to incriminate me, or to answer any question not material to the issue where such answer might tend to degrade me. With such understanding, I make the following statement of my own free will and accord, under no threat, or fear of punishment, and without inducement or promise of immunity or reward, with full knowledge that whatever I say may be used against me. I have read this statement which consists of 1 (one) page(s). I have signed this statement and initialed the preceding pages and all corrections. This statement is the truth, to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I have given it freely and voluntarily.

To Whom it may concern:

Airman 2nd Class James Bulger was assigned to Ground equipment Section, of which I am NCOIC, around four and one half months ago.

A/2C Bulger's attitude toward his job and fellow workers is such that it is bad on morale. His sarcastic remarks and attitude has made it very unpleasant to supervise him on several occasions.

On one recent occasion CWO Hart asked him, in my presence, "Is this your normal habit that you use to get your job done?" A/2C Bulger answers "Yes" Mr. Hart says I don't think you are worthy of your two stripes, at which A/2C Bulger answers, "Just me to a Pvt. if you want to, I don't care, I only have four months to go to get out of the service."

On another occasion A/2C Bulger made the remark to me that he had spent more pleasant times in jail than in the service.

It is my belief that the Air Force would be better off if A/2C Bulger was discharged from the service.

Lawrence M. Kilpatrick
Lawrence M. Kilpatrick
1/Sgt USAF
AF 34 612 60

Sworn and subscribed before this 20th day of June 1958.

John N. Ballew
John N. Ballew
Major, USAF

SWORN STATEMENT

I, CWO Harmon G. Hart, Prior to making the statement contained in the following paragraphs, have had explained to me the 31st Article of UCMJ by Major John N. Barley, who has identified himself to me as Squadron Adjutant. I understand that I cannot be compelled to incriminate myself or to answer any question, the answer to which may tend to incriminate me, or to answer any question not material to the issue where such answer might tend to degrade me. With such understanding, I make the following statement of my own free will and accord, under no threat, or fear of punishment, and without inducement or promise of immunity or reward, with full knowledge that whatever I say may be used against me. I have read this statement which consists of 2 ^{NSH} page(s). I have signed this statement and initialed the preceding pages and all corrections. This statement is the truth, to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I have given it freely and voluntarily.

On 1 June I was informed by Staff Sergeant Randall La Valle, AF 18 015 620 of Specialists Shops that Airman Second Class James Bulger, AF 11 182 966, had not been present for duty on 31 May 1952, nor had he shown up yet for duty. A check was made with the Squadron and I found he was on K. P., on 1 June. I sent word to him that as soon as he reported back to duty to report to me. Within an hour he came to the flight line and reported. When asked why he had not reported to duty after pay call on 31 May, he replied that he felt his work was caught up and that since it was Saturday afternoon he felt he didn't need to report.

I informed him in no uncertain terms that I expected a full 6 day week of work from every man and that there was plenty of work undone.

Until either Master Sergeant Lawrence W. Kilpatrick, AF 6 216 260, or myself informed him otherwise he would be present except for Squadron details or his regular scheduled day off. Since I had been told of previous similar instances, I informed Captain Thomas L. Chambers, 14256A, of the incident and action I had taken.

On Saturday, 7 June, I observed Airman Bulger being told by Master Sergeant George H. Delfenthal, AF 14 002 918, to aid in carrying and installing flaps on Aircraft 974. He carried out instructions to the extent of aiding with the left one, ^{NSH} the other men began helping with the right one, ^{NSH} Airman Bulger ^{NSH} wandered aside and was standing idly by until ordered by myself to get over and help.

On 9 June, I observed Airman Bulger attending to a duty he had been given by Master Sergeant Kilpatrick. This duty was being performed in as slow and careless manner as seemed humanly possible. I spoke to Master Sergeant Kilpatrick about it and he stated he had noted the action and would take steps to keep Airman Bulger active. About 1300 hours, of the same day Airman Bulger was told to take an oxygen cart to storage area and

SWORN STATEMENT CONT'D

have bottles replaced. His actions were the same as previously noted. I called the man into the office and asked if what I had just observed was his normal gait and manner of work. I received a very surly ^{yes} ~~yes~~ in reply. I informed him that if his manner of performance of duty did not immediately improve to that desired of an Airman Second Class, I would take steps to have him demoted. His reply was "If thats what you want, go ahead". He then proceeded to inform me that demotion, guardhouse nor fine bothered him; that he had only four months to serve and he could get along for that short time. These statements and like belligerent displays of attitude were made in the presence of myself and Master Sergeant Kilpatrick. Since it was evident that talking to airman Bulger would be ineffective I took him to Captain Chambers to discuss further required action. I was present in the Aircraft Maintenance Office during his talk to Captain Chambers. Later this day I attempted to talk to Airman Bulger about the seriousness of continued actions. He informed me that he was going to the orderly room to ask ^{for} ~~for~~ a demotion to Private so that he could only be expected to a ^{do} ~~do~~ private's work. ^{HSH}

On 10 June, Master Sergeant Kilpatrick had given Airman Bulger a list of duties to be performed. Late in the morning I walked into the Ground Equipment Shop and observed Airman Bulger apparently asleep. He did not move nor indicate awareness of my presence until I tapped him on the knee. He denied being asleep but did not move from his reclining position while I talked to him. After receiving more of his insolent replies, I proceeded to Squadron Headquarters and requested of the Squadron Commanding Officer, that action be taken to discipline the man.

Harmon G. Hart
HARMON G. HART
CWO, USAF
Asst Acft Maint Officer

Sworn and subscribed before me this 20TH day of June 1952.

John N. Barley
JOHN N. BARLEY
Major, USAF

SWORN STATEMENT

I, Captain Thomas L. Chambers, prior to making the statement contained in the following paragraphs, have had explained to me the 31st Article of UCMJ by Major John N. Barley, who has identified himself to me as Squadron Adjutant. I understand that I cannot be compelled to incriminate myself or to answer any question, the answer to which may tend to incriminate me, or to answer any question not material to the issue where such answer might tend to degrade me. With such understanding, I make the following statement of my own free will and accord, under no threat, or fear of punishment, and without inducement or promise of immunity or reward, with full knowledge that whatever I say may be used against me. I have read this statement which consists of 2 page(s). I have signed this statement and initialed the preceding pages and all corrections. This statement is the truth, to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I have given it freely and voluntarily.

On 1 June 1952, CWO Hart talked to me about Airman Second Class James Bulger, AF 11 182 966. He stated that the man had a belligerent attitude and was performing his duties in an unsatisfactory manner. I requested that Mr Hart have a talk with Airman Bulger and to report any further trouble to me.

On June 9, Mr Hart brought Airman Bulger into my office and stated that he had put up with just about as much of Airman Bulger's incompetence as he could stand. When asked to be more explicit he stated that Airman Bulger would only do things when told and then with movements that only feigned work.

In querying Airman Bulger he stated that there wasn't anyone that could get any more work out of him, if he didn't desire. He also said, "that ~~had~~ had been hooked ever since I am in the service and that anything that could be done to hasten my discharge will make me happy." In answering the question of "Do you know what you are going to do when you leave the service and aren't you interested in a good record upon discharge" He stated "I know where I am going and the people that I will be with will not be interested in ~~just~~ records. He said that he also knew that he had been given his last promotion just to give some one something to hold over his head. When asked if Mr Hart or myself had given him any cause to feel that way he replied "no", but I have heard rumors to that effect from three or four persons in the latrine. When asked about the "snail pace" walk that I had observed him use crossing the ramp several days before he stated that he was "to tired to move any faster."

Several minutes later he, for some reason or other, started talking about the fact that he was capable of fighting and beating anybody in the Squadron. I asked him if he thought that was so much of an accomplishment, the reply was "yes". I then told him he would do well to use some of his fighting energy to help eliminate his "steppin Flechet" ~~just~~ of both walking and working while on duty.
9ait
7cc