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Subject: Two Items: (1) Gore-Cheyrnomyrdin Meeting; (2) Ballistics Testing

(1) Gore-Cheyrnomyrdin Meeting
Nina Noring called today to give us good news. For the next Gore-Cheyrnomyrdin meeting, which is March 9-12, 1998, the first item on the agenda is the Review Board. Patrick Kennedy will formally respond to Jack's letter next week and attach the unclassified portions of the agenda and other related material. When speaking with Jack on the telephone, he raised the possibility that we may want to spend some time determining whether or not there is additional information that could be provided to the State Department in preparation for this meeting. (2) Ballistics Testing
Steve Tilley has advised me that the report of the NARA forensic chemist is supposed to be done on Monday, March 2. Sometime after that, Miriam Nisbet will brief Lew Bellardo. There will likely be an internal meeting with Bellardo on this matter the week after next. Jack has expressed a desire to weigh in with Bellardo and Steve thinks it is a good idea. I suggest that when Jack talks to Bellardo he reiterate the following points: 1. The Board is very interested in seeing that this testing is done. 2. The testing on CE 567 would be minimally disruptive to the artifact. 3. It should have been done when recommended by the HSCA firearms panel. 4. There has been a lot of work done on this issue by four different agencies, ARRB, NARA, DOJ, and FBI. 5. It will become a public issue and questions will be raised why the issue was not resolved, if the testing is not done. 6. This limited testing will complete the records on this matter that have been left open since the HSCA's work twenty years ago. Bellardo can be reached at (301) 713-5555.

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