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**Subject:** Rankin Papers

Eric:I spoke with Steve Tilley regarding your review of the Rankin papers. He said that you should call him to arrange a time and he'll have them made available as he normally would for ARRB staff.Steve told me that the documents have been processed and have been available to the public for about two weeks. A researcher was scheduled to look at them today, but he did not know if the person was showing up. Steve said no one else has looked at them. Max Holland is interested, but was putting off reviewing them while he concentrated on something else.Steve said that about 25 documents have been pulled from the Rankin papers so his staff person can check to see if there are any classified documents problems. They are checking on some things having to do with the CIA and a couple of Slawson-Coleman memos. Steve said that these 25 or so documents that are being reviewed constitute a very small part of the papers. According to Steve, 99.9 percent of the documents are open to the public right now.As we discussed, it would be helpful if you could review the Rankin papers and look for documents that might be of interest like: qnything that gives insight into the operation of the Commission, disagreements, indications of how they arrived at decisions, documents relating to any of the controversial areas, edits done by members of the Commission, things that changed from a draft to what ended up being in the final report, etc. You get the idea.Please copy any documents that you find to be interesting. It is important to make real clean copies because we will make additional copies from your copies.You do not have to worry about this , but FYI, the plan is to do a news release at some point announcing the availability of the Rankin papers, after you have done your review and hopefully picked out some "gems" for a news hook. The press will be coordinated with Susan Cooper and Steve. But, again, all you have to do is the review of the papers.Thanks for your help. If you have any questions or want to consult, you can e-mail me the regular way (I check my e-mail frequently during the day) or call me at (617) 542-1350. I have the answering machine on if I'm not in my office.Again, thanks. I look forward to hearing about the results of your review.Tom

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