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DisplayDate_Time: 8:47:10 AM
ComposedDate: 09/15/1998
ComposedDate_Time: 8:47:04 AM
Subject: Revised: Lady Bird Tapes

To: Jeremy Gunn/ARRBcc: Tom Samoluk/ARRB (bcc: Non-Record/ARRB)From: Irene Marr/ARRBDate: 10/22/97 02:32:03 PMSubject: Revised: Lady Bird TapesAfter talking with Tom I made a few changes. (I also called Tina back to accept her offer of the tape.) I wasn't sure if you wanted this to go to Anna from you or not but let me know if you want anything further on this.I just spoke with Tina Houston regarding the status of the Lady Bird Johnson tapes that were aired on Nightline. First of all, Lady Bird has signed the deed covering all of her diary materials including the recordings and transcripts. Once they receive John Carlin's signature, which they expect to have over the next week, the Library will commence the preservation of the tapes and proceed with the remaining processing. As some of the tapes are of poor quality, they will need to be transcribed accordingly. Ultimately the material will be available to the public at the LBJ Library. They do have copies of the tape that was made available to Nightline and Tina offered to send us a copy this week. (The recordings made available to Nightline correspond approximately to pages 3 to 10 of Lady Bird's book.) Tina indicated that the Library will handle the processing of Mrs. Johnson's tapes in the same way as the LBJ tapes; anything the staff identifies as being assassination-related they will add to the JFK collection and forward to Steve Tilley at NARA. If we want our own copies of this material, the Library will be happy to accommodate us.I also inquired about the status of the remaining LBJ tapes. According to Tina, all recordings belonging to the JFK series have been opened. These were the recordings initially identified as being clearly assassination-related. The recordings from the White House series are being reviewed and released on a periodic basis and any references to the assassination are being processed accordingly, i.e. added to the collection. They go through this series chronologically, have completed through August 64, and are currently working on tapes from September through December 64. When I asked specifically about the Jackie Kennedy conversations, I was surprised to learn that they were still closed with the exception of 2 or 3 which are of Mrs. Kennedy speaking to somebody other than President Johnson. There are another 6 or 8 which remain closed. The Director (Middleton) apparently has not made a final decision on these tapes but Tina reassured me that she was going to discuss it with him. As you probably know, these conversations were all closed out of respect for Mrs. Kennedy's privacy before her death. I had thought the issue with the tapes was resolved along with the letters which are open and sent to NARA. I will stay on top of this and inquire again next week if Tina doesn't get back to me before then with a more definite answer. If Middleton still has a problem with releasing the tapes, we will have to discuss how we want to proceed.

Body:
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ReturnReceipt:
Categories: