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**From:** CN=Tom Samoluk/O=ARRB  
**DisplayFromDomain:**  
**DisplayDate:** 12/30/1997  
**DisplayDate\_Time:** 8:53:45 AM  
**ComposedDate:** 12/30/1997  
**ComposedDate\_Time:** 8:57:37 AM  
**Subject:** Re: December Congressional Letter

Thank you. I'll let you know if I have any questions.  
**To:** Tom Samoluk/ARRB  
**Bcc:** From: Laura Denk/ARRB  
**Date:** 12/29/97 05:33:41 PM  
**Subject:** December Congressional Letter  
Tom -- Here is the FBI team update on our activities since November 26, 1997. The FBI team has negotiated 13,957 pages of records from the HSCA subject files with the FBI. The HSCA subject files that have been through the negotiation stage include Barney Baker, Joe Bond, Crime Conditions, Alexandra Gibson, James Gilmore, Augustin Guitart, Gerald Lynn Hill, John Birch Society, Billy Nolan Lovelady, James Herbert Martin, William M. McKenzie, John McVickar, Thomas R. Peasner, Arnesto Rodriguez Jr. and Sr., J. Herbert Sawyer, Clay Shaw, and Joe H. Tonahill. The FBI team has reviewed, but not negotiated another 37 files, representing at least 14,000 additional pages. Our staff members are waiting for the FBI staff members to negotiate these files. As you can see, the number of pages negotiated is down this month below our target of 20,000. Although I think that Christmas vacations account for a slight drop in page counts, the real reason for the drop is that the FBI changed its process about 6 weeks ago so that the negotiating sessions are arranged by FBI staff members as opposed to ARRB staff members. In other words, when our staff members were in charge of setting up a time to negotiate, a lot more pages were being negotiated. When the FBI asked us to agree to this change, we were quite hesitant and we predicted that it would cause a slowdown in the negotiating. It looks like we were right. I have talked to Carol Keeley about this problem and she is working to solve it. I would prefer to go back to the old system and we may do that in the next couple of days. I will keep you updated on events. At this point, I don't know that we should tell Congress that this is the FBI's fault, but if we don't see a change in the next week or two, I will definitely want to include it in our January report. Kevin provided you with the numbers from the December meeting, so you have those. If you have any questions or if you need additional information, give me a call. Otherwise, have a Happy New Year. Laura

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