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Subject:	Re: DRAFT response to Nancy Wertz

To:Tom Samoluk/ARRBcc: From:Eileen Sullivan/ARRB Date:02/09/98 05:15:03 PMSubject:DRAFT response to Nancy WertzBelow is my draft reply to Wertz. I've shared it with Martha, who contributed her ideas. Please let me know whatever suggestions you have. I'll send it tomorrow. Thanks.Dear Ms. Wertz: Thank you for your e-mail message dated February 8, 1998. I have shared this correspondence with Martha Murphy at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) in College Park, MD, and I have information that should clarify the organization of the JFK Assassination Records Collection.Due to the various governmental investigations into the assassination of President Kennedy, there are many copies of single documents throughout the Collection. As you know, over the years each governmental investigative body requested assassination-related documents from agencies such as the FBI, the CIA, and the Secret Service. Therefore, the same record can be found in several different places throughout the Collection. In addition, these duplicate copies can be cross-referenced in the database, a tool that is used regularly by the Special Access and FOIA staff at NARA. I was informed by Ms. Murphy that the JFK Collection is organized consistent with standard archival principles. When cataloging records, the archival integrity must be maintained, and NARA has arranged the JFK Collection consistent with these archival standards. This organizational system includes maintaining the filing scheme of the originating agency. Lastly, you addressed your concerns about the JFK database and the funding of the JFK Collection. Please be assured that steps are currently being taken to ensure that the database is more accessible to researchers. With regard to the financial maintenance of the Collection, the Assassination Records Review Board and the JFK Assassination Records Collection at NARA have different funding. I have been informed that the National Archives has sufficient funding for this Collection.Again, thank you for writing. If you have additional questions about the organization of the JFK Collection, please contact Martha Murphy at inquire@nara.gov.Sincerely,Eileen A. SullivanPress and Public Affairs Officer Record

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