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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Center for the Study of Intelligence
FROM: John Pereira
Chief, Historical Review Group
SUBJECT: Meeting with JFK Assassination Records Review Board

This memorandum is for your information.

1. On 18 May 1995, members of the Directorate of Operations and the Historical Review Group met with the JFK Assassination Records Review Board to discuss the declassification of CIA records. The Board had requested the meeting for purposes of educating its members as to the categories of information that probably will require continued protection i.e., by deleting words or inserting substitute language.

2. The discussion focused on some 30 documents that describe CIA operations in Mexico City at the time of the assassination. Among the categories of information discussed were: locations of stations, surveillance methods, intelligence liaison relationships, names of agents and staff officers, and pseudonyms and cryponyms. In a number of instances we suggested alternative ways of describing sensitive information, which the Board seemed to find a reasonable approach.

3. No decisions were made by the Board during the three and half hour meeting, but the session was highly productive in terms of providing the Board a basis for understanding material in documents related to sensitive sources and methods. Board Chairman John Tunheim told me that the Board found the discussion very helpful in helping them fulfill their responsibility for approving or disapproving all recommendations to withhold information. The Board's Executive Director, David Marwell said it was a valuable meeting, and he complimented the Agency representatives for being willing to engage in an open-minded discussion that was "not scripted."

John Pereira