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Subject: BallisticsDavid:Per our conversation last week, I have drafted three different items in connection with the ballistics evidence for your consideration.First, I wrote a "chronology narrative" that starts with the more recent history of the ballistics evidence, with the HSCA history included as an important foundation; Second, I wrote a "long-term chronology" that starts with the HSCA involvement; andThird, I drafted a letter, for the purposes of discussion, from Jack to Carlin.I hope that this helps us evaluate where we are on the issue and can lead to a discussion of our future role and how we can move this process along.Tom
 CHRONOLOGY NARRATIVE OF RECENT EVENTS CONNECTED WITH C.E. 567 IN EARLY 1996, THE ASSASSINATION RECORDS REVIEW BOARD learned that as a result of a paper alleging that there was a second gunman involved in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, submitted by Mr. John T. Orr, Jr., a Department of Justice employee, to Attorney General Janet Reno, the Department of Justice had requested that the FBI "initiate an inquiry into specific aspects of Mr. Orr's assassination theory related to collected bullet fragments and residue now in the possession of the Federal Government." (January 25, 1996 Memorandum fro John C. Keeney, Acting Assistant Attorney General, to Louis J. Freeh, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation.)Specific attention was focused on Warren Commission Exhibit C.E. 567, a bullet fragment found on the front seat of the presidential limousine after President Kennedy was assassinated. The Warren Commission and the House Select Committee on Assassinations concluded that this bullet fragment was the nose of the bullet that struck the President in the head and ricocheted off the chrome around the front windshield of the vehicle. Mr. Orr offered a different theory, claiming that the bullet had passed through the President's body, not his head. Orr claimed that a tiny fiber attached to the C.E. 567 was from the President's shirt and would confirm his theory and a different trajectory of this bullet. During the course of the Review Board staff's examination of matters related to C.E. 567, it learned that the September 8, 1978 Report of the Firearm Examination Panel for the House Select Committee on Assassinations, as submitted to the Committee, stated that "the white fibrous material adhering to C.E. 567 (seat fragment) should be subjected to micro-chemical analysis to determine its composition." However, the Report of the Firearm Examination Panel, as reproduced in the Volume VII, Medical and Firearms Evidence, Report of the Firearms Panel, of the House Select Committee on Assassinations' Final Report, issued in March 1979, contained no reference to the panel recommendation regarding C.E. 567. The Board has been unable to determine when, why or by whom the recommendation was deleted from the final report. In April 1996, the Board was formally advised that the Department of Justice that "the Criminal Division and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) have concluded that one such submission [reference is to the general category of "unsolicited submissions from the public regarding the assassination of President John F. Kennedy" that "The Department of Justice has continued to review and evaluate"], a detailed analysis by Mr. John Orr of certain assassination evidence in the custody of the National Archives, raises issues which merit further evidence examining and testing." (April 29, 1996 letter from John C. Keeney, Acting Assistant Attorney General to David G. Marwell, Executive Director, Assassination Records Review Board.) On May 20, 1996, representatives from the Assassination Records Review Board, the

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