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SendTo: CN=Jeremy Gunn/O=ARRB @ ARRB
CopyTo: CN=David Marwell/O=ARRB @ ARRB
DisplayBlindCopyTo:
BlindCopyTo: CN=R ecord/O=ARRB
From: CN=Joseph Freeman/O=ARRB
DisplayFromDomain:
DisplayDate: 06/21/1996
DisplayDate_Time: 10:14:12 AM
ComposedDate: 06/21/1996
ComposedDate_Time: 9:16:01 AM
Subject: Steve Tilley's recommendation,re: various House records

As we've touched upon, NARA (in the form of Kris) has completed its initial review of the HUAC material. I gathered from Kris yesterday afternoon that she assumes that she and Matt will be doing the RIFing for what they've come across so far. I also gather that she expects that, if there is to be a more thorough going over of HUAC records, the ARRB will somehow play a part (at least assisting she and Matt). I am, of course, happy to render any assistance you and David think appropriate to offer NARA in this regard. But as we touched on yesterday, I will require some direction as to how involved you want me/us to be. Separately from any JFK Act considerations, NARA has recently (last year or two) broached the idea of releasing HUAC records with the House of Representatives. To make a long story short, NARA got shot down in short order. Apparently, some counsel in the Clerk of the House office (which appears to have some sort of coordinating role/authority in these matters vis-a-vis all House Committee records) was adamant that this couldn't/wouldn't happen. In light of this history, Steve believes it would be useful for you or David to be involved in a scenario that goes something like this: the setting up of a meeting with someone from the House Clerk's office and relevant staff from the House Judiciary Committee (HUAC records and "Edwards Committee" records) and the House Govt. Reform and Oversight Committee (old Gov. Ops. Committee, re: "Abzug Committee" records), the purpose of which would be to educate these folks as to the JFK Act and the fact that they're covered by it; that other Committees (House Oversight/HSCA, and the Senate Intelligence/Church Committee) have been complying and are very far along (a bit of a stretch, re: Senate Intelligence, I know), etc. The goal would be to persuade these Committees that they should go through their records (or, expressly delegate ARRB/NARA to do so) and get in gear on compliance. In the case of the Judiciary Committee's HUAC records, the volume of stuff to be looked at is so vast that it will be important to get the Committee's permission to allow us to go through the stuff since Congressional staffers won't have a clue as to what to look for. The long and short of it, reading between the lines, is that Steve feels the need for our "oomph" and involvement in getting the House Clerk's office/House Committees to comply with the act. The thing about the HUAC records is that -- since they are closed and apparently the House won't vote to release them any time soon -- if we/NARA don't do the grunt work, no one else (ie, the research community) will be able to pick up the slack.

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