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DisplayBlindCopyTo:
BlindCopyTo: CN=R ecord/O=ARRB
From: CN=Tom Samoluk/O=ARRB
DisplayFromDomain:
DisplayDate: 08/18/1997
DisplayDate_Time: 5:05:26 PM
ComposedDate: 08/15/1997
ComposedDate_Time: 11:32:07 AM
Subject: Suggested ARRB Talking Points on NSA Document Release - WITH ADDITIONAL SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS - 8/18/97

David:Because we may get asked some questions about the NSA documents on Tuesday, I wanted to run these benign talking points by you:1. The documents were identified as assassination records under the JFK Act by the NSA. 2. The Board review was conducted within the parameters set by the Act. 3. Consistent with the Act, the Board has released as much information as possible. 4. Whenever possible, if information is being withheld, the Board used substitute language, as provided for under the JFK Act, to make as much information public as possible. 5. Most of the documents are from the days following the assassination. Some are within months of the assassination. Several are from the mid to late 70's when the NSA was responding to various congressional committee requests for records related to the assassination. I know you do not us in the position of characterizing the documents, so if the question is asked how important are these documents or are these documents important, I suggest we simply say:Our job is to ensure that the JFK Collection at the National Archives is as complete as possible. With each addition of records to the Collection, it is more complete and more information is available to the American public.As far as explaining the records and what each of them means, we simply will not get involved in that dialogue. Please advise me of your thoughts.Tom8/18/97 - - Additional Suggested Talking Points:David:After our conversation, I wrote these additional talking points below. Please advise me of your thoughts:1. Because of the sensitive nature of the NSA's mission and because part of many of these documents remains classified, it is difficult for us to discuss the documents in detail.2. The documents basically speak for themselves.3. Although we are not able to discuss these documents in detail, we can say that they enhance the historical record.4. The NSA has been cooperative with the Review Board in working to meet their obligations under the JFK Act.5. It is an unusual exercise for them to have to release documents.6. This is the first document release for the NSA under the JFK Act.Thanks.Tom

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