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Subject: Information about the Assassination Records Review Board
THE ASSASSINATION RECORDS REVIEW BOARD: ALL GOVERNMENT RECORDS CONCERNING THE ASSASSINATION OF President John F. Kennedy should carry a presumption of immediate disclosure."The President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992Public Law 102-526, October 26, 1992Introduction to the Assassination Records Review BoardThe Assassination Records Review Board is an independent federal agency created to oversee the identification and release of records related to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.The Review Board was established by The President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 (PL 102-526), and was signed into law by President George Bush. The five members of the Board were appointed by President Clinton, confirmed by the United States Senate, and sworn in on April 11, 1994.The law gives the Assassination Records Review Board the mandate and the authority to identify, secure, and make available all records related to the assassination of President Kennedy.The Board has until September 30, 1998 to fulfill its mandate.The Review Board MembersThe Review Board consists of the following members:1. The Honorable John R. Tunheim, Chair; United States District Court Judge, District of Minnesota.2. Dr. Henry F. Graff; Professor Emeritus of History at Columbia University.3. Dr. Kermit L. Hall; Dean, College of Humanities, and Professor of History and Law at The Ohio State University.4. Dr. William L. Joyce; Associate University Librarian for Rare Books and Special Collections at Princeton University.5. Dr. Anna K. Nelson; Distinguished Adjunct Historian in Residence at The American University.The LawThe President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act was enacted by the Congress and signed into law by President George Bush on October 26, 1992. The law states "All Government records concerning the assassination of President John F. Kennedy should carry a presumption of immediate disclosure."The law mandates that all assassination-related materials be housed in a single collection in the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).The Act defines five categories of information for which disclosure may be postponed, including national security, intelligence gathering, and privacy -- provided there is "clear and convincing evidence" of some harm which outweighs public disclosure.The law requires all federal agencies to make an initial assessment of whether they possess records relating to the assassination. The agencies themselves will conduct an initial review to determine whether their records may be disclosed immediately or whether disclosure should be postponed. The agencies must then give all records that are not disclosed to the Review Board. The Review Board will then evaluate all agency decisions to postpone the release of records. Once the Board completes its review of an agency's recommendation for postponement, all records, including those that have a postponed release date, will be transferred to NARA. The Act requires that all assassination

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