

**NR\_key\_name:** 9AAFA5BA1AB483F1852565740081DFCF  
**SendTo:** hall.409 @ osu.edu @ INTERNET @ INTERLIANT

**CopyTo:**  
**DisplayBlindCopyTo:**  
**BlindCopyTo:**

**From:** CN=Tom Samoluk/O=ARRB

**DisplayFromDomain:**

**DisplayDate:** 12/21/1997

**DisplayDate\_Time:** 6:38:03 PM

**ComposedDate:** 12/21/1997

**ComposedDate\_Time:** 6:38:34 PM

**Subject:** Re: Suggested Vietnam Document Talking Points  
 KERMIT. THANKS FOR YOUR REPLY. WE WILL SEND ANY REPORTERS LOOKING FOR COMMENTS TO YOU, WITH AS MANY SPECIFICS  
 ON WHAT THEY ARE LOOKING FOR AS WE CAN GET FROM THEM. TomTo: Tom\_Samoluk @ jfk-arrrb.govcc: bcc: Tom  
 Samoluk/ARRB)From: hall.409 @ osu.edu @ INTERNET @ INTERLIANT Date: 12/21/97 02:58:56  
 PMSubject: Re: Suggested Vietnam Document Talking Points Tom, thanks for your help. If I get any calls, I will  
 let you know. Best, Kermit At 03:32 PM 12/19/97 -0500, you wrote: >>>> In preparation for possible media  
 interest in the Vietnam documents on Monday, December 22, I have prepared the following suggested  
 talking points: >> 1. The mandate of the Assassination Records Review Board is to make the history  
 surrounding the assassination as complete as possible for the American public. >> 2. Our job is not to  
 characterize the records we release, but to enrich the record of the assassination - - for others to interpret  
 and analyze. >> 3. Today, the Board is releasing approximately 800 pages of previously classified military  
 records from 1963-64 that relate to U.S. policy on Vietnam. >> 4. The Board has aggressively sought to  
 uncover records on U.S. foreign policy, as well as other relevant areas, that put the assassination into its  
 historical context. >> 5. Last month, the Review Board released previously classified military records related  
 to U.S. policy toward Cuba in the early 1960's. >> 6. These military records on U.S. policy toward Vietnam add  
 important depth to the historical record because they are from both before and after the assassination of  
 President Kennedy. >> 7. At the time of President Kennedy's death, Vietnam was increasingly becoming a  
 matter of foreign policy concern. Any records that add substance to our understanding of the impact that the  
 assassination had on U.S. foreign policy in Vietnam are a welcomed addition to the JFK Collection at the  
 National Archives. >> 8. Previously, we had some military documents that dealt with U.S. policy on Vietnam  
 from this era. But, these records add much more to the record. For example, before this release, there were  
 only short summaries on the Secretary of Defense's May 1963 Conference on Vietnam in Honolulu that were  
 publicly available. Now, as a result of this release, we have more than 200 pages from that conference.  
 These records will reveal much more detail about what went on at the conference. >> [Note: To determine  
 whether any of the documents that we are releasing on the May 1963 Conference had previously been made  
 public, we checked the JFK Library, the LBJ Library, the State Department's Foreign Relations, 1961-63,  
 Volume III, Gravel Edition/The Pentagon Papers/Vol. II, and consulted with Dr. William Conrad Gibbons, who  
 wrote The U.S. Government and the Vietnam War, Part II, 1961-64, published in 1984 by  
 Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress for the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. We  
 were unable to find any indication that the records from the 1963 Conference (or any of the other records we  
 Record

**Body:**  
**recstat:**  
**DeliveryPriority:** N  
**DeliveryReport:** B  
**ReturnReceipt:**  
**Categories:**