

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

April 14, 1997

From: Robert Skwirot

Subject: Review of CIA employee names scheduled for Re-review 05/1997

At the April 1997 Review Board meeting, guidelines for review of postponements in the Segregated Collections were accepted by the Board. Among these were standards for review of CIA employee names: "to postpone until 2017 those employee names that are of low public interest or are peripheral interest to the assassination. It will be presumed that employee names will be released if their identities are important to the assassination story unless CIA is able to provide specific information of a potential harm of release." These standards can be applied to documents from the sequestered collections that have been slated for reconsideration 05/1997. However, since Oswald's core 201 file was reviewed as a separate entity, the guidelines approved for the sequestered collection cannot be retroactively applied to Oswald's 201 file. Review of the postponed names in the 201 file must be dictated by a Board application of the same standards to the 201 or by the acceptance of another set of standards.

It can be argued that the Oswald 201 constitutes the core files that were assembled just after the assassination and therefore a more demanding standard must be applied here. Furthermore, the names in question in the 201 file comprise less than 15% of the postponed names that have been identified to date (85 of 670 names; 75 of 670, if we consider that CIA has already agreed to release 10 of these names).

Given these considerations, we suggest that each name that appears in the Oswald 201 file be addressed by the CIA. CIA will provide either specific evidence of the need to protect the name or an explanation that outlines CIA's reasons for considering the name to be of low public interest or of peripheral interest to the assassination. Discussions concerning names that the Review Board staff considers important to the assassination will continue between the two staffs.

skwirot e:\wp-docs\name201.wpd

4.0.1.0