

June 26, 1996

MEMORANDUM

To: Jeremy Gunn, Tim Wray
cc: Manuel Legaspi, Kevin Tiernan
From: Christopher Barger
Subj: MONGOOSE material at NARA
File No: 4.23.2.6

Manuel and I have come to believe that there is a preferred manner in which to deal with the newly discovered material on Operation MONGOOSE and other Cuba-related material at NARA. We believe that there should be a six step process, as follows.

Step 1: Representatives of the Review Board should designate the entire collection of six boxes *EHU*s; that is, records that enhance the historical understanding of the assassination. (This procedure is identical to the one developed at the JFK Library.) This should be done as soon as possible. Barger and Legaspi are willing to be the persons of record for this designation, if they have the authority. If they do not, it is recommended that a staff member who has such authority do so expeditiously.

Step 2: Tim Wray mentioned a Department of Defense representative with declassification authority who is currently at Carlisle Barracks, PA, who might be in a position to work with us for an extended period of time in the next week. This person should declassify as much as possible through the collection, so that the DoD will have signed off on all the records as soon as possible.

Step 3: ARRB staff members should review the collection for "assassination records" (AR), and also marking those documents which have other equities (CIA, State, etc.)

Step 4: All other government agencies which have equities in these documents should be contacted, and they should review those documents which pertain to them.

Step 5: The Army (Steve Tilley mentioned Joan Hamilton specifically) should then assign RIF's to these documents. *EHU*'s which were not designated *AR*'s should then be released through NARA or some other arrangement made for their release.

Step 6: The remaining *AR*'s should be presented to the Board for voting and release.

Again, it is important that at least the first step be taken as quickly as possible. There are a number of documents with high public interest, which the ARRB could get a good deal of attention for releasing; thus, it is in our interest to get this process moving.