

December 6, 1996

Mr. Stewart Aly
Whatever address
pentagon
Washington DC 20xxx

Dear Mr. Aly,

In its continuing efforts to locate further records relating to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, the Assassination Records Review Board has identified and designated a number of records at the National Archives which will require declassification by several Department of Defense equities.

The records are from a collection of the papers of former Secretary of the Army Joseph Califano, and deal with details of Operation MONGOOSE and other anti-Castro efforts. There are six 'Federal Records center' cartons, or approximately 30,000 pages. An Army declassifier from the Center for Military History has conducted a joint preliminary review with a member of the Review Board staff; this preliminary review identified equities from the following Department of Defense entities:

Office of the Secretary of Defense
Joint Staff
Army
Navy
Air Force
National Security Council

Because of the high number of entities with equities in these documents, the standard declassification procedure would be more time-consuming than is desired by the Review Board. Consequently, we have determined that an *en masse* declassification session, similar to the one you attended in June 1996 at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library in Boston, is necessary in order to provide a more timely release of these documents.

We hereby request, then, that an agent with declassification authority be assigned to this project from each of the aforementioned entities, and that their names be forwarded to us so that we can contact them about the specifics of planning the project. This session is expected to take place during the week of January 13-17, 1997, at the offices of the Review Board in Washington. (An alternate date can be negotiated at your discretion if you believe these dates unworkable.) We request that the names of these persons be forwarded to us no later than Wednesday, December 18, 1996.

Please feel free to contact either Timothy A. Wray or Christopher M. Barger of the Review Board staff if you have any questions or suggestions about this request, at (202) 724-0088. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

David G. Marwell
Executive Director