

Without being aware of the structure and organization of the STASI files, the ARRB cannot provide any specific guidance on the appropriate strategy for ensuring a comprehensive search for STASI records related to the assassination. The ARRB requests that a point of contact within the Gauck Commission be named (preferably the person carrying out the search for records) and that that person be in contact with the ARRB for more comprehensive guidance on specific questions.

In general, the ARRB has been tasked with identifying and locating all records relating to the assassination of President Kennedy. (Note: In October, ARRB Director Marwell has provided Gauck Commission Deputy Busse with explanatory material about the ARRB and its mandate.)

The assassination of President Kennedy was an event that attracted the attention of the world, and that the response of the STASI to it would provide significant insight into the reaction of the former East bloc. It should be noted that the STASI was reputed to have had close ties with the Cuban Intelligence Services and that STASI records could shed important light on Cuba and its activities before and after the assassination. The ARRB is particularly interested in

(a) any reports, case studies, analyses, and similar evaluations of the assassination that may have been conducted by former East German officials.

(b) any and all files and records on Lee Harvey Oswald

(c) any and all files on the assassination of JFK (including any intercepts of foreign communications about the assassination).

(d) any communications with former East German authorities (military and diplomatic) stationed in Cuba and in the Soviet Union at the time of the assassination (these would be of particular interest as possible evidence of the response of Cuban and Soviet authorities to the assassination).