

## NEWS RELEASE

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### JFK ASSASSINATION RECORDS REVIEW BOARD VOTES TO RELEASE MORE CIA AND FBI RECORDS

The Assassination Records Review Board announced today that it had voted to release 54 additional classified CIA and FBI documents relating to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

The Review Board voted to release 43 CIA documents, 27 in full and 16 in part. These documents relate to Lee Harvey Oswald's trip to Mexico City in the fall of 1963, only weeks before the assassination of President Kennedy. The Board has focused much of its attention on this part of the CIA files to date. In addition, the Board voted to release 11 FBI documents (including duplicate copies), 9 in full and 2 in part. These FBI documents involve: the Bureau's investigation of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee in 1961; the Bureau's post-assassination investigation of Michael R. Paine, the husband of Ruth Paine, with whom Marina Oswald was staying prior to the assassination; discussion of the relations of the FBI, the Warren Commission, and the Dallas district attorney's office; and a 1967 document on reaction to the Warren Commission Report. All of the FBI and CIA documents have been available to the public, but contain many redactions.

"Each decision made by the Review Board about what records should be released means that the government is being held accountable regarding the history surrounding the assassination of President Kennedy," said John R. Tunheim, Chair of the Review Board. "We now have the important benefit of these judgments being made independently by a group of private citizens."

The Board agreed with the CIA and the FBI that some information relating to sensitive intelligence sources and methods, and informants should not be publicly released at this time. The Board voted that one entire CIA document and some redacted parts of other documents still need to be protected, but also noted they contain no information about the assassination of President Kennedy or about Lee Harvey Oswald. In other instances, the Board proposed substitute language which gives some relevant

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information in place of the redactions, while not revealing the sensitive intelligence information. The Board voted to release 142 of the 173 redactions in this group of documents.

Notification of the Board's determinations on these documents was sent to President Clinton and he now has 30 days to agree or disagree with these decisions.

The Assassination Records Review Board was established by the JFK Act, which was signed into law by President George Bush. The five members of the Board were appointed by President Clinton, confirmed by the U.S. Senate, and sworn in on April 11, 1994. The law gives the Review Board the mandate and the authority to identify, secure, and make available all records related to the assassination of President Kennedy. It is the responsibility of the Board to determine which records are to be made public immediately and which ones will have postponed release dates.

The Review Board consists of the following members:

**John R. Tunheim**, Chair; Minnesota Chief Deputy Attorney General.

**Dr. Henry F. Graff**; Professor Emeritus of History at Columbia University.

**Dr. Kermit L. Hall**; Dean, College of Humanities, and Professor of History at The Ohio State University.

**Dr. William L. Joyce**; Associate University Librarian for Rare Books and Special Collections at Princeton University.

**Dr. Anna K. Nelson**; Adjunct Professor of History at American University.

The Review Board has until October 1, 1996 to fulfill its mandate, plus an additional year at the Board's discretion to complete its responsibilities.

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