

Memo to Anna

Vietnam. If you and the other Board members believe that we should not request VN records, we will withdraw them from the list. However, it is the judgment of the staff that these records should be reviewed. The recommendation is based on the following.

First, this is not an attempt to prove or disprove Oliver Stone.

Second, it is an effort to discover whether there are historically significant records that illuminate the question whether the assassination of President Kennedy had an effect on U.S. involvement in Vietnam. In short, whether the assassination precipitated a different course of events. For many years it was assumed that JFK would have done the same thing as LBJ. That consensus seems to be unravelling. [cite Robert McNamara's book; John Newman's book on JFK and Vietnam; my own experience looking at records.

Third, requests from public for examining historical records. Include copy of letter from Galbraith.

Fourth, arguments about the Diem assassination -- like assassination attempts against, Lumumba -- which the Board -- correctly in my judgment -- just asked we look into.

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