
Assassination Records Review Board Experts Conference Agenda Washington, D.C. May 16, 1995

Purpose

The purpose of the Experts Conference is to provide assistance to the Review Board in identifying records related to the assassination of President Kennedy. The Conference will not be considering or debating the merits of particular theories relating to the assassination, but will instead be discussing leads for the pursuit of records. Similarly the discussion will not focus on the merits of prior investigations, including the Warren Commission, Rockefeller Commission, Church Committee, or the House Select Committee on Assassinations -- except to the extent that those prior investigations can help identify mistakes to be avoided or help point to the existence of additional records related to the assassination.

The conference participants were selected for their expertise, knowledge, experience, and diverse -- indeed sometimes irreconcilable -- viewpoints. The Review Board does not anticipate, or desire, that the experts will agree on the merits of any particular theory related to the assassination. The goal is the pursuit of relevant records -- regardless of what those records might reveal. We hope that all participants will jointly contribute to the important goal: creating the most complete public record that is possible.

During the course of the discussion we would particularly like to identify specific, concrete leads that can be pursued. We would like to receive suggestions regarding individuals who have specific information, including: former government officials who have kept copies of records, former police officers, former records personnel, witnesses who have records; and persons knowledgeable about the organizational structure of intelligence agencies (both foreign and domestic intelligence services).

Conference Participants

Assassination Records Review Board

Chairman John R. Tunheim, Esq.	Dr. Kermit Hall (not present)
Dr. Anna K. Nelson	Dr. Henry Graff (not present)
Dr. William Joyce	

Experts

Professor G. Robert Blakey	Dr. John Newman
Dr. David Garrow	Mr. David S. Lifton
James Lesar, Esq.	Professor W. David Slawson
Professor Paul Hoch	

ARRB Staff Participants

Dr. David G. Marwell	Dr. T. Jeremy Gunn
Sheryl Walter, Esq.	Thomas E. Samoluk, Esq.
Anne E. Buttimer, Esq.	Philip D. Golrick, Esq.
Dr. Mary S. McAuliffe	

Research and Analysis Staff

Christopher M. Barger	Dr. Joan G. Zimmerman
Manuel E. Legaspi	Joseph P. Freeman
Kevin Tiernan	Laura Denk, Esq.
Dennis J. Quinn, Esq.	Robert J. Skwirot
Michelle M. Seguin	Eric N. Scheinkopf
Noelle C. Gray	

Welcome: John R. Tunheim, Chair, Assassination Records Review Board

Introduction of participants: David G. Marwell

Agenda: Jeremy Gunn

The Agenda Items and Issues identified below are designed to stimulate discussion. We will, unfortunately, probably not be able to discuss all of the items on the list. We would like the experts to recommend their priorities for the Agenda items. As we proceed, participants should suggest additional topics and issues that will provide for fruitful discussion.

CAVEAT: The presence of an issue under one of the agenda topics does not necessarily signify that the Review Board has any evidence regarding the existence of records relating to those topics. The issues are listed for the purpose of encouraging discussion only. Similarly, the presence of an issue below does not signify that the Review Board *necessarily* believes that there is a nexus between that issue and the assassination of President Kennedy.

Agenda Topics

(to be listed in order)

Agenda Item No. 1: Experts' Priorities

Experts' initial summary recommendations of the most important records that the ARRB should pursue and the priorities among agenda items.

1. John Newman
2. Robert Blakey
3. Jim Lesar
4. David Garrow
5. David Lifton
6. David Slawson
7. Paul Hoch

Agenda Item No. __: Prior Investigations

Issue: Lessons learned from the Warren Commission and HSCA

- Dealing with federal agencies
- Leads developed but not pursued
- Any areas of particular sensitivity by the agencies

Issue: HSCA procedures and documentation for requesting and reviewing agency records

Issue: Records generated by prior investigations

Issue: Garrison investigation

Issue: RFK investigations

Issue: Other semi-official/unofficial investigations

Issue: Military investigations

Agenda Item No. __: Lee Harvey Oswald and Jack Ruby

Issue: Additional LHO military records
e.g., Defense Language Institute (Monterey)

Issue: LHO and Soviet Union

Issue: LHO police records

Issue: Other LHO Texas, New York, New Orleans records
e.g., school records

Issue: Oswald as FBI informant

Issue: Additional Ruby records

Agenda Item No. __: CIA Records

Issue: Oswald's 201

Issue: Additional Oswald files

- CI soft
- CI/SIG
- OS
- Staff D
- TFW/SAS

Issue: CIA organizational structure

- Role of OS
- Role of CI/SIG
- DCD

Issue: Cuba, MONGOOSE, JMWAVE, Task Force W, SAS

Issue: Bishop and David Morales

Issue: CIA and NSA

Issue: Mexico City
David Atlee Phillips

Issue: CIA personnel in Guatemala (1954)

Issue: Identifying additional relevant 201 files

Issue: Identifying additional relevant topic files

Issue: Stations other than Mexico City

Issue: Most important living CIA officials to be interviewed

Issue: Personnel files of the relevant CIA officials

Agenda Item No. * FBI

Issue: Most important living FBI officials to be interviewed
Warren DeBrueyes
James Hosty
Cartha DeLoach
Sam Papich

Issue: FBI "secret" files
Hoover memoranda
FBI internal memoranda

Issue: FBI records on JFK, JPK (links to organized crime?)

Issue: FBI national security surveillance
Intercepts of telephone communications from Cuba

Issue: FBI organized crime surveillance

Issue: FBI and organized crime
Surveillance of key figures
Surveillance of lesser figures (New Orleans, Dallas, Chicago, Miami)

Agenda Item No. *: "Local" Records

Issue: Local police department files for Dallas, New Orleans, Miami, Tampa,
Chicago, New York

Issue: Other repositories of organized crime records

Issue: Dallas police officers

Issue: Dallas attics and basements

Issue: New Orleans attics and basements

Issue: Other attics and basements

Agenda Item No. *: JFK Foreign Policy on Cuba and Vietnam

Issue: NSC records on Mongoose and other Cuban activities

Issue: White House records on Cuba

Issue: NSC records on Vietnam

Issue: White House records on Vietnam

Issue: RFK, Castro, Mongoose and Cuba

Issue: Interdepartmental Coordinating Committee of Cuban Affairs

Agenda Item No. *: Pro- and Anti-Castro Activities

Issue: Fair Play for Cuba Committee

Issue: Communist Party (USA)

Issue: Pro-Castro paramilitary and other groups

Agenda Item No.*: Miscellaneous issues

Issue: Gun-running activities in Dallas, New Orleans

Issue: Right-wing groups (other than Cuba)
Minutemen
Paramilitary

Agenda Item No. __ Medical Records.

The JFK Assassination Records Collection Act exempts “the autopsy records donated by the Kennedy family” from inclusion within the JFK Collection in the National Archives. Our inquiry should, therefore, be confined to other medical records.

Issue: JFK autopsy records in private hands

Issue: Other JFK medical evidence

Agenda Item No. * Military and NSA

Issue: Domestic surveillance between 1958 and 1964

Army Security Agency

ACSI

G-2

NSA

ONI

Other

Issue: Records relating to the state of military alert after the assassination

Issue: Air Force Records

Issue: Postassassination investigations by military (any leads since HSCA)

ONI

Army

Issue: Oswald military records

Issue: Military files on Oswald

G-2/112th MIG

Other

Issue: ACSI

Issue: What did NSA intercept in 1963 and what records does it retain

How accessible is the data

Issue: NSA preassassination intercepts (SIGINT, cable, telephone)

Cuba

Soviet Union

Issue: State of NSA cryptography in 1963

Issue: NSA postassassination actions

Tasking

Traffic analysis

Cuba

Mexico

Agenda Item No.* Additional Federal Agencies and Federal Libraries

Issue: DEA

Issue: ATF

Issue: INS

Issue: State

Issue: Customs

Issue: IRS

Issue: Justice

Issue: JFK Library

Issue: LBJ Library

Issue: Ford Library

Issue: Library of Congress

Earl Warren Papers

Curtis E. LeMay

Alexander Haig [assigned to Cuba matters on July 12, 1963]

Clare Booth Luce

Cord Meyer, Jr.

U.S. President's Commission on CIA Activities Within the U.S.

Agenda Item No. * Foreign Records

Issue: Former USSR

- KGB Moscow surveillance of Oswald
- KGB Minsk surveillance of Oswald
- Mexico City Embassy/consulate
- Mexico City -- Moscow Center
- Soviet intercepts of Cuban communications
- Soviet communications after assassination
- Soviet knowledge of anti-Castro activities of US government

Issue: Cuba

- Mexico City Embassy/consulate
- DGI knowledge of anti-Castro activities of US government

Issue: GDR/East Germany

Issue: Israel

Issue: France

Issue: Great Britain

Issue: Japan

Final Agenda Item: Revisiting Item No. 1.

Based upon the discussion, have the experts' priorities undergone any revisions from their original suggestions? What are the most important priorities for the Review Board?

Break for Dinner at 6:00. Reservations are for 6:30.