

BY FEDERAL EXPRESS

December 23, 1996

Ms. Tina Houston
Supervisory Archivist
Lyndon Baines Johnson Library
2313 Red River Street
Austin, Texas 78705

Dear Tina:

Thank you for your prompt reply of December 9th to our Compliance Letter, and for forwarding the diskette copy of National Security File Directory for the LBJ Library collection. We look forward to working with you during the next few months to complete the process of identifying, reviewing, and declassifying records that will illuminate the historical understanding of the Kennedy assassination.

In response to your request for a written description of the National Security Files that we would like to review, I am enclosing a list that identifies with particularity those files that appear to us to be the most probative. ***To the extent that any of the identified files are already open-in-full to the public, we do not need to examine them.*** The list was prepared by Irene Marr of our staff, who reviewed carefully the electronic indices that you sent.

To the extent that you are aware of any additional records (including tape recordings), we would very much appreciate hearing your recommendations. We particularly would like to examine Vietnam-related materials from October 1963 to January 1965 that would enable the public to have a more complete historical record of the differences and similarities in Vietnam policy between the Kennedy and Johnson administrations. To this end, we are also interested in any of Johnson's Vice Presidential papers that discuss his participation in, or opinion of, any plans or policy decisions with regard to Vietnam. Please include in this search any accounts of, or references to, the Honolulu conference of November 20, 1963, which discussed OPLAN 34A and is strongly regarded as assassination-relevant. We would like to review any surviving records on the planning and preparation for this conference as well. In addition to Vietnam-related records, we are interested in

any material from the period of November 1963 to roughly January 1, 1965 *not previously open to the public* that would provide insight into shifts or continuity in major foreign policy areas, e.g. Cuba and the Soviet Union. If you believe there are additional records that meet these criteria beyond what we have listed below, please include those in your gathering of records for our review.

At this point, the list does not include the oral histories we would like to review. We will forward those to you once we have made our selections.

Once again, we appreciate your efforts and cooperation. If you have any questions regarding the attached list, please contact Irene Marr at (202) 724-0088 x243. We will be in contact to finalize plans for our visit to the LBJ Library, which we anticipate will take place some time after February 14th.

Sincerely yours,

T. Jeremy Gunn
General Counsel and
Associate Director for Research and Analysis

Enclosure