

## MEMORANDUM

March 10, 1997

To: David Marwell

From: Joan Zimmerman

Subject: Current status of Secret Service Review

Since late January, Jane Vezeris has apparently been unable to come into her office to work. Because Vezeris is the central organizing person who coordinates the Service's responses to our letters and inquiries, the Service has not responded to any of our requests or letters since January 31, 1997.

The following is a list of deadlines already missed by the Secret Service:

- Compliance Statement: January 6, 1997 [extended to the end of January]. Instead, John Machado brought some potential "assassination records" for the Board's review.
- ARRB letter January 30, 1997: We requested that USSS update its RIFs to show that documents released by the Board are open.
- February 4, 1997: We sent a letter to Machado asking him to send us a copy of his letter to Tina Houston stating that USSS materials in the LBJ Library are open.
- February 12, 1997: This was our deadline for SS-11 (Bouck materials). Our letter went out on January 6, 1997.
- February 19, 1997: This was our deadline for the follow up to SS-9 (re: military backup for USSS).
- February 28, 1997: We had asked John Machado to discuss the USSS newsclip collection with Steve Tilley by this date. Steve advises that he has not heard anything from Machado about newsclippings, the LBJ Library, or updated RIFs.
- March 5, 1997: This was our deadline for SS-12 (filing system and inventories).

Several more deadlines are coming up soon, and the Secret Service seems to be falling behind. John Machado has told me that he has materials for us but he can not bring them--or his draft of the compliance statement--to us until he has the OK from higher authority. It is not clear who would

replace Vezeris, assuming that she will not be able to return to work for several weeks if not months. Since ARRB would find a more definite plan of action on the part of the Service useful, we could consider the following:

1. We could wait another week to see if John follows up on his comment from last week, i.e. that a group of agents would be meeting to discuss the Service's responses to our letters. Last week, John had said he would be bringing more records to us on Friday, March 7, 1997. He never came.
2. We could contact Donald Personette and ask him to set up a meeting on Wednesday, March 12, 1997, with persons he has identified as responsible for responding to our letters. At this meeting we can set up the formal compliance meeting and specify with a list if necessary what the Service needs to do in order to come up to date and continue to respond.
3. We could send a letter specifically asking the Service to respond to our requests by a specific date.