

MEMORANDUM

February 23, 1996

To: File

From: Joan Zimmerman

Subject: HSCA Document Number 180-10086-10342

This memorandum will clarify why the Final Determination Form for this document lists 5 postponements and 8 releases instead of 5 postponements and 6 releases as indicated in my memorandum of January 5, 1996.

On October 20, 1995, the United States Secret Service delivered this document to our office along with other HSCA documents referred to the Secret Service by NARA. The USSS proposed 13 postponements in this document.

On November 9, 1995, the United States Secret Service submitted a revised list of postponements along with a stack of documents for the Board's consideration. The Secret Service indicated to ARRB staff that this November 9 submission represented that agency's final request for postponements. This time, the USSS proposed 11 postponements on the document in question. After soliciting and receiving more specific information, which the USSS provided during the Board meeting itself on January 5, 1996, the Board voted to sustain 5 postponements and make 6 releases.

Part of the problem in computing postponements in Secret Service materials is the frequency with which representatives of that agency change their minds--often while the Board is actually meeting.

The general policy of the ARRB staff with regard to USSS postponements is as follows: In *most* cases, the staff will use the Secret Service's original submissions from the October 20, 1995 list as the basis for computing the total number of postponements in HSCA-referred documents. Any subsequent voluntary changes made by the Secret Service either in terms of releasing whole documents or reducing the number of postponements will be considered consent releases. Since my memorandum of January 5, 1995, was based on the most recent information provided by the Secret Service, it did not reflect the principle of using the October 20, 1995 list. The Final Determination Form lists the original number of postponements and releases based on the

October 20, 1995 list as well as last minute information provided by the Secret Service.

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