

IRS Chronology

- May 20, 1994 Bill Joyce sends initial contact letter to Department of Treasury. With regard to IRS, Treasury responds that IRS has 52 documents (203 pages) of assassination records.
- Mar. 20, 1995 Donald Squires comes to ARRB offices to review IRS equities in HSCA records. Jeremy Gunn, Laura Denk, and Donald Squires meets to discuss Oswald records and the possibility of obtaining consent from Marina Porter for release of Oswald records. Donald Squires explains the IRS' history with the JFK Act -- specifically mentions that IRS requested that tax return information NOT be exempt, but Congress insisted that IRS not release tax return information.
- March 1995 Donald Squires assists ARRB in drafting a consent form for Marina Porter to sign. We send consent to Marina to sign and she never signs.
- Dec. 13, 1996 ARRB letter to Donald Squires requesting a compliance meeting to discuss whether IRS had taken any steps to review records and comply with the JFK Act. In a telephone conversation, Donald Squires schedules with us a meeting on January 24, 1997.
- Dec. 16, 1996 ARRB letter to Donald Squires requesting that IRS provide specific documents and groups of documents, including Oswald records. IRS never provides a written response.
- Jan. 16, 1997 ARRB letter to Donald Squires outlining our position on § 6103.
- Jan. 23, 1997 Compliance meeting with Donald Squires, Ron Haron, and Laura Denk at IRS.
- § 6103: Discussed ARRB's 1/16/97 letter. Donald Squires did not think that IRS would agree with ARRB interpretation of § 6103, but that an IRS regulation might apply. Donald Squires requested additional information from ARRB on our interpretation of § 6103 and promised us a prompt determination of the legal issues involved.
- Compliance: Donald Squires told us that, upon receiving our Dec. 16, 1996, letter, he realized that IRS had a lot of work to do to comply with the Act. He promised to do a complete and thorough search for IRS assassination records, and to specifically search for records in each of the categories we discussed. He stated that he had records on his desk that he believed could be released in full and would process those records and release them to NARA. Donald Squires agreed to compile an index of any assassination records in the possession of IRS that could not be released because of § 6103 issues. Donald Squires stated that he would like to be finished complying with the Act by March 1997, but that it might take a bit longer given that they had so much work to do.
- Feb. 20, 1997 ARRB sends a letter and a memo giving Donald Squires the additional information he requested about our interpretation of § 6103.

Mar. 4, 1997 ARRB called Donald Squires and left message.

Mar. 5, 1997 Donald Squires called back. Said he received our Feb. 20 letter and memo. Donald Squires still does not think that IRS will agree with the ARRB interpretation. Donald Squires said he hopes that an IRS regulation will solve the problem of the Warren Commission records.

Mar. 11, 1997 ARRB called Donald Squires. Donald Squires said the Warren Commission records issue would be resolved in several weeks. Donald Squires agreed to provide a written response to our request for access.

Mar. 27, 1997 ARRB called Donald Squires. He said he was trying to get someone designated as a compliance official. He had prepared a draft of the memo that would resolve the Warren Commission records issue.

Apr. 17, 1997 ARRB called Donald Squires. He said he sent the draft of the above-referenced memo to his boss and was waiting for his boss to act on it. He thought we would have an answer in a couple of weeks. Donald Squires stated that the Oswald records issue was now in the hands of Linda Stiff, an IRS employee who works in a different office than his -- the Government Liaison and Disclosure Office on the Commissioner's side of IRS.

Apr. 17, 1997 ARRB called Linda Stiff. Left message.

May or June

1997 ARRB called Donald Squires. Asked specifically if he would like us to contact his boss to demand that they respond to our letters and requests for a decision on the § 6103 issue. Donald Squires said that he appreciated the offer, but that he thought that his bosses would be making a decision on the regulation soon. Donald Squires said that he might like us to send such a letter if too much more time went by.

Nov. 12, 1997 ARRB sends letter to IRS Commissioner.

Nov. 24, 1997 ARRB left a message with Donald Squires about FBI referrals.

Nov. 26, 1997 Donald Squires called back. Donald Squires says Linda Stiff should be the contact person for ALL JFK Act-related information and not just Oswald records as he had said before. Donald Squires gave us her internal number, but ARRB could not reach her at that number. (I finally found her number later.) Donald Squires is waiting until IRS designates an official to do anything further. With regard to § 6103 memo, Donald Squires said his boss recently started "re-examining" the issue. With regard to the FBI referrals, Donald Squires said that he thought he had the referrals but had not looked at them.

Nov. 26, 1997 ARRB left message for Linda Stiff regarding FBI records and requesting a name to contact about compliance issues. Michael Sincavage from IRS returned our call to Linda Stiff. Had a phone discussion primarily about FBI referrals, but

agreed that IRS would need to determine who within IRS would be handling compliance issues.

Dec. 15, 1997 Linda Stiff sends letter to Jeremy Gunn (rec'd Dec. 22)

Dec. 19, 1997 Linda Stiff leaves phone mail message for Jeremy Gunn.

Jan. 13, 1998 Meeting at ARRB. Attendees include: Joe Urban, Lynnette Platt, Don Squires, and John Cummings from the IRS Chief Counsel's Office; Linda Stiff, Bill Lovelace, and Michael Sincavage of the IRS Commission's side; and Jeremy Gunn, Ron Haron, Laura Denk, and Kevin Tiernan of the ARRB