

Draft Agency Contact

The ARRB staff members explained the decisions of the Review Board regarding the release or tabling for further review of particular FBI documents. They also communicated the following guidance on behalf of the Review Board:

1) Where an informant provided information of positive value bearing on the assassination, some particularized showing of a current need to protect that informant will be required to sustain a postponement. In such cases, systemic arguments, such as the chilling effect on recruitment of future informants, are not by themselves likely to persuade the Review Board that postponements should be upheld.

2) The Review Board is not likely to postpone information bearing on the assassination simply because it was obtained via liaison with a friendly foreign government. However, where the FBI presents evidence that the foreign government obtained such information from a particularly sensitive source, or that the postponement is required to protect something more than routine exchange of information with the United States, the Review Board is more likely to sustain the postponement.

The ARRB staff members and FBI representatives also discussed how efficiently to provide to the members of the Review Board the information that would be most helpful to their decisionmaking.