

May 5, 1997

BY FACSIMILE & FIRST-CLASS MAIL

The Honorable David J. Barram
Acting Administrator
General Services Administration
Eighteenth and F Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20405

Re: General Services Administration Compliance with the JFK Assassination Records
Collection Act, 44 U.S.C. § 2107

Dear Mr. Barram:

I am writing on behalf of the Assassination Records Review Board ("Review Board") to request that the General Services Administration ("GSA") endeavor to search for any records relating to the assassination of President Kennedy that may be in its possession, custody or control.

The Review Board is a Federal agency created by Congress under the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992, 44 U.S.C. § 2107 (Supp. V 1994) ("JFK Act"). Since 1994, the Review Board has been working with a number of Federal agencies, including the CIA, FBI, NSA, State Department, and Department of Defense, to locate and publicly release records relating to the assassination of President Kennedy. The Review Board has also been working with the National Archives and Records Administration ("NARA"), as well as the Kennedy, Johnson, and Ford Presidential Libraries. For your reference, I am enclosing a brochure that explains the work of the Review Board and am also enclosing a copy of the JFK Act.

We have reason to believe that GSA may have certain records relating to the assassination of President Kennedy. In particular, GSA may have records regarding the handling of Warren Commission materials, as well as JFK autopsy photographs and x-rays, by the National Archives when it was under GSA.¹

¹ From 1949 to 1984, the National Archives and Records Service was under GSA. See Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, § 104, 63 Stat. 381. In 1984, NARA

was created as an independent agency and was no longer under GSA. *See* 44 U.S.C. § 2101 *et seq.*

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To ensure that GSA complies with its obligations under the JFK Act, including a thorough search for any assassination-related records within GSA's custody, we ask that you appoint a GSA official who would be responsible for carrying out the agency's obligations under the JFK Act and for communicating with the Review Board. We would then meet with this individual to provide GSA with further detail regarding the types of records that we are attempting to locate. Thereafter, we would work with GSA to locate and publicly release records it may have relating to the assassination.

Accordingly, please designate, in writing, a GSA official who will have authority to comply with the JFK Act, including authority to conduct record searches and to release documents. We would appreciate your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me or our General Counsel, Jeremy Gunn. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

David G. Marwell
Executive Director

Enclosures

cc: Emily Clark Hewitt, General Counsel, GSA