

December 3, 1997

VIA FACSIMILE and FIRST-CLASS MAIL

Lieutenant Colonel Mike Finnie
Office of General Counsel
1000 Navy Pentagon
The Pentagon
Washington, DC 20350-1000

Re: Department of the Navy Compliance with the JFK Assassination Records
Collection Act, 44 U.S.C. § 2107

Dear Colonel Finnie:

This will serve to memorialize my conversation today with Lt. Christopher Tynes of your office regarding how the Department of the Navy will proceed to document formally its compliance with the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act ("JFK Act").

As you know, the Navy was to submit its Final Compliance Statement to the Review Board by December 1, 1997. We have now been advised by your office that the proposed Navy Compliance Statement does not include a final report with respect to the work of the Office of Naval Intelligence ("ONI") under the JFK Act. Accordingly, we agreed that the Navy would proceed as follows:

1. The Navy will submit to the Review Board its Final Declaration of Compliance with a statement that it does not encompass the separate work of ONI under the JFK Act (although it will cover all other relevant components of the Navy). We understand that this Final Declaration is ready and can be forwarded to the Review Board shortly.
2. The Navy will thereafter submit a separate Compliance Statement on behalf of ONI. This will be done by a reasonable date. In view of the fact that ONI should have completed its substantive work, we believe that December 15 would be a reasonable date for submission of ONI's Compliance Statement.
3. Prior to submission of the formal ONI Compliance Statement, the Navy will provide to

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the Review Board all materials relating to ONI's search for assassination records under the JFK Act, including ONI's responses to the Review Board's specific requests regarding ONI records. It is important that we receive these as soon as possible.

4. Your office will assume responsibility for obtaining and processing under the JFK Act certain ONI records on defectors. These records were previously inspected by the Review Board staff.

I trust that these procedures are acceptable to you. If you wish to proceed differently, however, please let me know. Please do not hesitate to call me or Doug Horne, our senior analyst for military agencies, if you wish to discuss any of these matters further.

Sincerely,

Ronald G. Haron
Associate General Counsel