

April 13, 1998

VIA FACSIMILE and FIRST-CLASS MAIL

Lieutenant Colonel Michael E. 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:

Thank you for submitting the Final Declaration of Compliance for the Department of the Navy (dated Dec. 3, 1997), which sets forth the Navy's final statement, under oath, regarding its compliance with the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 ("JFK Act").

We have reviewed the Navy's Final Declaration of Compliance and have concluded that the JFK Act work of the Navy is almost complete. (For purposes of this letter, Navy does not include the Office of Naval Intelligence ("ONI"), which is separately conducting further work under the JFK Act.¹) We do not anticipate conducting a compliance deposition of the Navy. It is our understanding that, since passage of the JFK Act, the Navy has identified the following assassination related records -- (1) the personnel and medical Marine Corps files on Lee Harvey Oswald; (2) ONI records on Lee Harvey Oswald delivered by the Naval Criminal Investigative Service; and (3) a copy of the autopsy report on President Kennedy. These records are now in the JFK Assassinations Records Collection ("JFK Collection") at the National Archives and Records Administration ("NARA") in College Park, Maryland. According to the Final Declaration, certain additional assassination records were located by the Navy's Administrative Office for the Secretary of the Navy. These include various internal

¹ On March 23, 1998, the Review Board sent a letter to the Director of Naval Intelligence requesting that ONI establish a separate compliance program with the Review Board.

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Navy documents relating to the Warren Commission and the House Select Committee on Assassinations. Please confirm, in writing, that these additional records have been sent to Steven D. Tilley, Chief for the JFK Collection at NARA (phone number 301-713-6620, ext. 360). In addition, we request that you identify the file (or files), or archive boxes, from which these documents were obtained.

The Review Board might request that Navy conduct further record searches if we acquire information suggesting that you might have additional records relating to the assassination of President Kennedy. Should Navy locate any additional records relating to the assassination, please transmit those records to the Chief of the JFK Collection at NARA. Finally, the Navy should continue to review, under the JFK Act, its equities in any assassination records that may be referred to you by other agencies.

Please contact me if you have any further questions, and thank you again for your cooperation in meeting the requirements of the Review Board's compliance program under the JFK Act.

Sincerely,

T. Jeremy Gunn
Executive Director

cc: Steven D. Tilley, Chief, JFK Assassination Records Collection,
NARA