

SECRET

September __, 1995

Hon. _____
Ambassador of _____
_____ Embassy
[Address]
Washington, D.C. _____

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

I am writing to you on behalf of the government and the citizens of the United States of America to request from your government its cooperation and assistance in an endeavor that is important to the American people.

As you are aware, the assassination of President Kennedy in 1963 had a profound and traumatic effect on the American people. Many Americans have long believed that they have not been provided all of the relevant facts about the assassination and that all of the Government's records related to the assassination have not been made available. In response to this longstanding and grave public concern, Congress enacted The President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992. The JFK Act mandates that all Government records related to the assassination, to the greatest extent possible, should be declassified and made available to the American public.

President Bush signed the Act into law. President Clinton has expressed his interest and support of the law not only by his words, but by appointing five prominent Americans to serve on the Assassination Records Review Board. The United States Senate unanimously confirmed the appointment of these Review Board members. It is the responsibility of the Review Board to make recommendations consistent with the standards of the Act, regarding the release or continued protection of information in records relating to the assassination of President Kennedy.

As you also are aware, your [government] provided important information to the FBI, both before and after the assassination, that related to Lee Harvey Oswald, the alleged assassin of President Kennedy.

Documents in the FBI's files reveal the helpful assistance that your government provided to the United States at a time of severe national shock and sorrow.

SECRET

SECRET

Hon. _____
September __, 1995
Page 2

We believe that it is important for the American people to see, in their entirety, many of the documents reflecting your government's beneficial assistance to the United States. Release of this information would not only help the United States Government by alleviating suspicions that it is hiding relevant information from the public, but would provide the American people with a valuable demonstration of the productive and cooperative spirit shown by your government at a time of crisis for the American people.

As a part of its mandate, the Assassination Records Review Board voted to release, in their entirety, five records from the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation related to your government's assistance in the investigation of Lee Harvey Oswald. The Board is aware that certain aspects of a liaison relationship between two nations' law enforcement agencies are appropriately confidential. In our view, however, these five documents do not disclose anything regarding current relationships between our governments, anything relating to sensitive sources and methods, or indeed anything regarding law enforcement liaison between our countries that has not already been acknowledged and revealed.

In contrast, there is a great public interest in this information as it relates to Lee Harvey Oswald. Oswald's activities have been the subject of persistent speculation because of the incomplete public record. It is precisely this kind of information that Congress wanted released to the American people.

The Board's decisions regarding these five documents were careful and discriminating. The Review Board did not recommend a wholesale release of all documents involving this liaison relationship, but rather took a careful, reasoned step to make available important information without compromising important relationships.

We hope that your government would be willing to agree to the release of this information, and thereby assist us in providing to the American people the most complete record possible.

Sincerely yours,

SECRET

~~SECRET~~

Hon. _____
September __, 1995
Page 3

John R. Tunheim
Chairman
Assassination Records Review Board

g:\noelle\boilerpl.wpd

~~SECRET~~