

BY FAX AND U.S. MAIL

June 18, 1998

The Honorable Patrick F. Kennedy  
Acting Assistant Secretary for Diplomatic Security  
U.S. Department of State  
2101 C Street, NW, Room 6316  
Washington, D.C. 20520

Re: Requests for Points-of-Contact

Dear Mr. Kennedy:

I am writing to you as the person who has played the principal oversight role during the past three years in coordinating the efforts of the Assassination Records Review Board to obtain assassination-related records from foreign governments. Although the Review Board has appreciated the efforts undertaken by the State Department— particularly its having placed the issue on the Gore-Chernomyrdin agenda—little in the way of concrete results have been achieved.

With only a little more than three months remaining in its tenure, the Review Board believes that it is now critical that all reasonable efforts be taken to obtain relevant foreign records. Board members are prepared to travel to foreign capitals to meet with appropriate officials to further this effort. The Board is prepared to discuss with foreign officials the purchase of relevant records or to provide them assistance should they wish to publish such records.

By this letter, we are requesting that the State Department identify points-of-contact for us who can facilitate and expedite travel arrangements and meetings for the Board in three countries: the Republic of Belarus, the Russian Federation, and Cuba. Although the details regarding the timing of the trips will need to be worked out, the Board members are prepared to be flexible in order to accommodate the schedules of U.S. and foreign officials. Because there is little time remaining, we ask that you give this matter your prompt attention and provide us with the names of contacts at State

The Hon. Patrick F. Kennedy

June 18, 1998

Page 2

who will coordinate these important efforts. We also ask that the points-of-contact provide us with timely information regarding such matters as the status of the Gore-Chernomyrdin discussions.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any assistance. We look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

T. Jeremy Gunn  
Executive Director

cc: Assassination Records Review Board Members  
Ms. Nina J. Noring