

June 18, 1997

Ms. Faye Blanton, Secretary of the Senate
Office of the Secretary of the Senate
The Capitol, Suite 405
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Dear Secretary Blanton:

By way of introduction, the Assassination Records Review Board (ARRB) is an independent federal agency created to oversee the identification and release of records related to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

The ARRB was established by the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 (PL 102-526) and was signed into law by President George Bush. The law gives the ARRB the mandate and authority to identify, secure, and make available all records related to the assassination of President Kennedy. I am enclosing a copy of the act and some explanatory material.

The scope of the Review Board's mandate includes assassination-related records in the custody of federal agencies, local and state government entities, as well as those in the private sector.

Original names (currently redacted) within records known as the "Johns Committee Files" (call number S-1486), are of interest to us and I my understanding is that these unredacted names are in your possession. We request to know what procedure (if any) is required if we decide to pursue declassification. At minimum, we would like to review the records.

David R. Montague, our Senior Investigator, has communicated with your office and I plan to visit your general area within the next few weeks. It is hoped that we can arrange a visit to review these records. In the meantime, please feel free to contact me at ext. 226, if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you in advance for your time and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Dr. T. Jeremy Gunn
General Counsel and
Associate Director for Research & Analysis

Enclosures

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