

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Peggy Grafeld  
FROM: David G. Marwell  
DATE: January 22, 1996  
SUBJECT: Cables to Tokyo, Paris, and London

As we discussed, I am sending drafts for three additional cables relating to assassination-related records located in foreign countries.

## Cable to AMEMBASSY TOKYO

1. The Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 (the "Act") was signed into law on October 26, 1992. The Act established a process for identifying and securing all records relating to the assassination of President Kennedy and collecting them in the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection at the National Archives in College Park, Maryland. The Act also established the Assassination Records Review Board (ARRB) to coordinate and oversee the process. The Department has been working closely with the ARRB to ensure full compliance with these requirements and over a year ago produced its collection for public access at the National Archives.
2. There remains, however, one provision of the Act for which the Secretary must rely on your offices for implementation. The Act envisioned an approach to foreign governments for any records they might maintain. Specifically, Section 10 (b)(2) of the Act states that it is the "sense of Congress that the Secretary of State should contact .... [any] foreign government that may hold information relevant to the assassination and seek disclosure of such information."
3. In its Congressionally-mandated search for assassination records, the ARRB wishes to determine whether the Japanese government or local government agencies in Japan maintain records that are related to the assassination of President Kennedy. The ARRB notes that the assassination of President Kennedy attracted the attention of the world, and that the response of the Japanese government to the event would be of interest. In addition, Lee Harvey Oswald, the accused assassin of the President resided in Japan during his military service, and any and all records relating to Oswald would be of particular interest to the Review Board.
4. Without being aware of the structure and organization of potentially relevant Japanese files, the ARRB cannot provide specific guidance on the appropriate strategy for ensuring a comprehensive search. The ARRB is willing to provide any additional information that may be required. Any search for records should include the following:
  - (a) All documents and files on Oswald (particularly Japanese National Police files from the late 1950s).
  - (b) Any and all documents that identify American requests to Japan for information about the assassination and the Japanese responses to those requests.

© Any and all documents, studies, inquiries or investigations by Japan (including the Japanese National Police) of the assassination.

## Cable to AMEMBASSY PARIS

1. The Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 (the "Act") was signed into law on October 26, 1992. The Act established a process for identifying and securing all records relating to the assassination of President Kennedy and collecting them in the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection at the National Archives in College Park, Maryland. The Act also established the Assassination Records Review Board (ARRB) to coordinate and oversee the process. The Department has been working closely with the ARRB to ensure full compliance with these requirements and over a year ago produced its collection for public access at the National Archives.
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3. In its Congressionally-mandated search for assassination records, the ARRB wishes to determine whether the French government or local government agencies in France maintain records that are related to the assassination of President Kennedy. The ARRB notes that the assassination of President Kennedy attracted the attention of the world, and that the response of the French government to the event would be of interest.
4. Without being aware of the structure and organization of potentially relevant French files, the ARRB cannot provide specific guidance on the appropriate strategy for ensuring a comprehensive search. The ARRB is willing to provide any additional information that may be required. Any search for records should include the following:
  - (a) Any and all documents that identify American requests to France for information about the assassination and the French responses to those requests.
  - (b) Any and all documents, studies, inquiries or investigations by France [including the former *Service de Documentation Extérieure et de Contre-Espionage* (now *Direction Générale de la Sécurité Extérieure*)] of the assassination.
  - (c) Any and all communications between the US and France regarding Oswald, QJWIN, Jean Souetre, Michel Roux, or communications regarding any suspected members of the OAS (*Organisation armée secrète*) thought to be inside the United States during 1963.

## Cable to AMEMBASSY LONDON

1. The Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 (the "Act") was signed into law on October 26, 1992. The Act established a process for identifying and securing all records relating to the assassination of President Kennedy and collecting them in the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection at the National Archives in College Park, Maryland. The Act also established the Assassination Records Review Board (ARRB) to coordinate and oversee the process. The Department has been working closely with the ARRB to ensure full compliance with these requirements and over a year ago produced its collection for public access at the National Archives.
2. There remains, however, one provision of the Act for which the Secretary must rely on your offices for implementation. The Act envisioned an approach to foreign governments for any records they might maintain. Specifically, Section 10 (b)(2) of the Act states that it is the "sense of Congress that the Secretary of State should contact .... [any] foreign government that may hold information relevant to the assassination and seek disclosure of such information."
3. In its Congressionally-mandated search for assassination records, the ARRB wishes to determine whether the British government or local government agencies in Great Britain maintain records that are related to the assassination of President Kennedy. The ARRB notes that the assassination of President Kennedy attracted the attention of the world, and that the response of the French government to the event would be of interest.
4. Without being aware of the structure and organization of potentially relevant British files, the ARRB cannot provide specific guidance on the appropriate strategy for ensuring a comprehensive search. The ARRB is willing to provide any additional information that may be required. Any search for records should include the following:
  - (a) Any and all documents that identify American requests to Great Britain for information about the assassination and the British responses to those requests.
  - (b) Any and all documents, studies, inquiries or investigations by Great Britain (including MI-5 and MI-6) of the assassination.