

Assassination Records Review Board

600 E Street, NW, Second Floor · Washington, DC 20530 · (202) 724-0088

N E W S R E L E A S E

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Contact: Thomas Samoluk
(202) 724-0088, ext. 227

JFK ASSASSINATION RECORDS BOARD PRAISES FBI RELEASE OF DOCUMENTS ON QUESTION OF OSWALD INVOLVEMENT WITH CUBAN AND SOVIET GOVERNMENTS

The Chair of the independent federal panel overseeing the review and release of records related to the assassination of President Kennedy praised today's FBI release of documents dealing with the question of whether or not Lee Harvey Oswald was involved with the Cuban or Soviet governments.

"This FBI document release is another important step towards fulfilling the mandate of the 1992 law which requires the opening of the government's JFK assassination files," said John R. Tunheim, Chair of the Assassination Records Review Board. "There are still many pages of documents relating to the assassination of President Kennedy yet to be seen by the American public, but the records released today will certainly enhance, enrich, and broaden the historical record of the assassination."

The Assassination Record Review Board is a five-member independent panel of private citizens established by The President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992, signed into law by President Bush. The Board members were appointed by President Clinton, confirmed by the United States Senate, and sworn into office in April 1994.

The 1992 law requires all federal agencies to make an initial assessment of whether they possess records related to the assassination. The agencies themselves conduct an initial review to determine whether their records may be disclosed immediately or whether disclosure should be postponed. The agencies must then give all records that are not disclosed to the Review Board which will evaluate all agency decisions to postpone the release of records. The FBI determined that the records released today did not need to be postponed. Thus, they did not require evaluation by the Review Board.

