

## **Memorandum**

**To: David Marwell**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**cc: Tracy Shycoff**

**Date: January 27, 1995**

**Re: Boston Visit in March**

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### **I. Introduction**

The following draft proposal for the Boston visit is a result of the Board meeting, our Senior staff meeting on Thursday afternoon and a meeting that Tracy and I had on Friday morning.

The Review Board is tentatively scheduled to visit Boston on March 23rd and March 24th. The visit would involve the following main components:

1. Public Meeting/Hearing
2. Public Tour of JFK Library
3. Private Tour of JFK Library/Meeting with JFK Library Representative

### **II. Goals of the Trip**

The proposed trip to Boston has several goals.

First, the Review Board will gain public exposure through a public hearing and a public visit to the John F. Kennedy Library. This approach is consistent with the clear legislative mandate that the Board should be open and accessible, and seek public input.

Second, the Review Board will have the opportunity to hear publicly from a representative from the JFK Library and other experts on assassination records.

Third, the Review Board will have the opportunity to privately visit the JFK Library and see the records that are there.

Fourth, the Review Board will also have the opportunity to meet privately with representatives from the Library and perhaps a member of the Kennedy family.

### **III. Trip Preparation**

Preparation for the Boston tour involves the following steps:

1. Setting Schedule for Trip
2. A Site Visit by Staff
3. Site Selection for Public Meeting/Hearing
4. Hotel Selection for Board Members
5. Making Arrangements with JFK Library for Public and Private Visits
6. Contact with Kennedy Family or Representative Regarding Visit

### **IV. Specific Schedule Proposal**

Following discussion with Tracy, I suggest the following schedule for the trip to Boston:

#### **Wednesday, March 22**

Evening                      Board arrives in Boston and stays overnight at hotel.

Note: Depending on media interest, I may ask Jack to arrive earlier in the day on Wednesday for possible advance newspaper and radio interviews.

#### **Thursday, March 23**

7:00-9:00 a.m.              Jack does morning radio interviews

9:30-10:00 a.m.              Board Media Availability at Hearing Site

10:00 a.m. - 12:00n      Board Public Meeting/Hearing

12:30 - 2:00 p.m.          Lunch Break and Travel to JFK Library

2:00 - 2:30 p.m.              Public Tour of JFK Library

2:30 - 5:00 p.m.              Private Meeting at Library/Tour of Library



3. Report from Steve Tilley.

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4. Testimony from representative from JFK Library.

5. Possible testimony from various witnesses from Boston area, such as:

- a. Richard Trask
- b. Philip Melanson
- c. Dick Russell
- d. Priscilla McMillan
- e. Possibly others, particularly if any of these are unavailable.

A two hour period should be enough time for Jack to speak at the beginning and hear from these witnesses, if each witness spoke for 15 minutes.

## **B. Location**

I suggest that there are three potential locations for the public meeting/hearing (assuming that the JFK Library is not a possibility). They are:

### **1. The Thomas (Tip) P. O'Neill Building**

Located next to Boston Garden. Easy access for Board members and media. Probably has hearing rooms that we could use. (I was told that the U.S. Attorney recently held a conference there on the federal crime bill for local law enforcement.) Newest of the facilities.

### **2. Federal Courthouse**

Located at Post Office Square in downtown Boston. Not sure what they would have available for a hearing room. Cameras can get in building, but not onto floors with courtrooms. Old building.

### **3. John F. Kennedy Federal Building**

Located in Government Center, near City Hall. Easy access for Board and media. I am Assuming they have hearing room that would accommodate our needs.

## **VI. Library Contact/Visits**

Assuming the public meeting/hearing is not held at the JFK Library, we would be dealing with them over four matters:

1. Public testimony of a Library representative at our hearing. (Thursday a.m.)
2. Public tour of the Library by the Board. (Thursday afternoon)

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3. Private Meeting at Library and tour of Library records area. (Thursday afternoon)
4. Private review of documents during return visit. (Friday morning).

We would want to make the appropriate contacts with the Library at a high level first, but begin the logistical coordination at the staff level very soon.

## **VII. Conclusion**

The schedule is an aggressive one, but it allows the Board to do everything that has been stated as being important. Obviously, to do an effective job, we need to begin the planning now.

Tracy and I can work together on this Boston visit, as we did on the Dallas trip. Please advise us of your comments. Thanks.