

ASSASSINATION RECORDS ADVISORY

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ASSASSINATION RECORDS REVIEW BOARD RELEASES CIA, FBI, AND HSCA RECORDS

The Assassination Records Review Board released today 801 CIA, FBI, and House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA) documents (including duplicates) related to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. The Review Board voted to release these documents on July 9 and 10, 1996.

CIA Records

The Review Board released 257 CIA records, 10 in full and 247 in part. This was the first meeting in which the Board reviewed a significant number of documents from the CIA's 'JFK Collection,' the group of records relating to the HSCA investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy. The issues in these documents cover a wide variety of topics including the investigation of Jack Ruby, the Garrison investigation, and JM WAVE, the CIA station in Miami that concentrated on anti-Castro issues. The Board determined that some information relating to intelligence sources and methods should not be publicly released at this time. In addition, 131 CIA documents are available in full by consent release.

FBI Records

The Board also released 114 FBI records, 53 in full and 61 in part. These records include documents that relate to the investigations of Lee Harvey Oswald and Jack Ruby. Other documents in this group relate to the international reaction to the assassination of President Kennedy, including that of the Communist Party. The Board determined that some information relating to informant names and symbol numbers should not be publicly released at this time. An additional 153 FBI documents are available in full by consent release.

The Board voted at its July 1996 meeting to release an additional 36 records (including duplicates), which the FBI has subsequently appealed to the President. The FBI has argued that portions of these records should be protected for foreign counterintelligence reasons.

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An additional 21 FBI documents that the Board voted to release at its March 1996 meeting have been transferred to the National Archives. The Board's decision to release these documents was originally appealed by the FBI, and the appeal was subsequently withdrawn.

HSCA/Warren Commission Documents

The Board released 7 HSCA documents, 5 in full and 2 in part. Included in this group of documents is Marina Oswald's Social Security Administration file, which is open for the first time, with the exception of social security numbers. Two duplicates of previously opened Warren Commission documents that were in the HSCA files were also cleared for release by the Board. In addition, 118 HSCA documents are available in full by consent release.

Documents at the National Archives and Records Administration

The CIA, FBI, and HSCA documents being released have been transferred to the National Archives and Records Administration for inclusion in the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection, which is housed at the National Archives facility in College Park, MD.