

May 7, 1996

Ms. Colleen McGill  
116 Greendale Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19154

Dear Ms. McGill:

Thank you for your March 29, 1996 letter to the Assassination Records Review Board regarding your support for the release of all of the records on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Chairman Tunheim asked me to respond to you on his behalf.

First, the members of the Review Board appreciate your interest in their work. It is encouraging to hear from enterprising young students who are interested in our history and specifically, the circumstances surrounding the tragic murder of President Kennedy. As I know you are aware, our history is very important and we can learn much from the past.

Second, the Assassination Records Review Board was created as an independent federal agency to oversee the review and release of records related to the assassination of President Kennedy. During the last year, the Board has voted to release nearly 1,300 records. In addition, the FBI and the CIA have released another 1,200 during this time based on the standards set by the Review Board.

Finally, as demonstrated by their work, the members of the Review Board wholeheartedly agree with your opinion that the records related to the assassination of President Kennedy should be available to the American public. Many of them already are available at the National Archives and the Board is working hard to ensure that the rest are made public in the next two years.

Again, thank you for your interest in the work of the Review Board. I have enclosed a brochure about the Review Board and have taken the liberty of adding your name to our mailing list to ensure that you are kept up to date on the Board's work. Best of luck with your studies.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Samoluk, Esq.  
Associate Director

enclosure