

**Memorandum**

**To: David Marwell**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: January 3, 1995**

**Re: Paul Haller 12/2/94 Letter on Parkland Hospital Emergency Room Record**

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The attached copy of the 12/2/94 Haller letter is attached for your review as a correspondence relating to an individual or state/local government. The original is in the correspondence file.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: January 3, 1995**

**Re: Dr. Randolph Robertson 10/26/94 Letter on Presidential Library Compliance**

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The attached copy of the 10/26/94 Robertson letter is attached for your review as a correspondence relating to a Federal Agency. The original is in the correspondence file.

**Memorandum**

To: Jack Tunheim

From: Tom Samoluk

Date: January 4, 1995

Re: ARRB Fact Sheet and ARRB Brochure

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Attached for your information and/or comments is an ARRB Fact Sheet for use with the public, then media and job applicants. In addition, I have attached a mock-up of a brochure, (as well as the text, which is the same as the Fact Sheet). The brochure will be designed and printed by the Government Printing Office and when done will replace the fact sheet.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jack Tunheim  
Henry Graff  
Kermit Hall  
William Joyce  
Anna Nelson**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: January 4, 1995**

**Re: Board Members' Full Name, Academic Credentials and Employment  
Position for Official Purposes**

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The Board staff would like to ensure that the names of Board members are in the appropriate form when used on official documents. Please provide me with the exact way you would like to be identified, with your full name (including middle name or initial), academic credentials (Dr. or Ph.D.), and current employment position.

Thank you.

**(15) PAGE FAX TO MELISSA ROBINSON**

**Memorandum**

**To: Melissa Robinson**

**From: Tom Samoluk, (202) 724-0813**

**Date: January 5, 1995**

**Re: Assassination Records Review Board Background Information**

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Per our previous telephone conversations, I am faxing background information on the Assassination Records Review Board (ARRB). For your information, I am faxing the following material:

1. Three-page fact sheet on the ARRB;
2. Dallas Morning News clip from 11/19/94 on ARRB public hearing in Dallas;
3. News release from Dallas public hearing;
4. News release from 11/22/94 on Board plans to visit various cities; and
5. Prepare remarks made by Board Chair John Tunheim at an October conference.

Thank you for your interest in the Board. Early 1995 will be an active time for the ARRB with:

- \* the actual review of documents that the FBI and CIA do not want made public;
- \* the promulgation of a formal definition of an "assassination record,"
- \* the search for assassination records which have not previously been identified; and
- \* additional public hearings.

**Memorandum**

**To: David Marwell**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: January 4, 1995**

**Re: Gary Mack 12/29/94 Letter on Oswald Junior High School Records**

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The attached copy of the 12/29/94 Gary Mack letter is attached for your review as a correspondence relating to an individual or state/local government. The original is in the correspondence file.

(3) Page Fax  
**Memorandum**

**To: Jack Tunheim**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: January 9, 1995**

**Re: 2:30 p.m. Interview with Associated Press Reporter  
Melissa Robinson**

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## **I. Introduction**

You are scheduled to be interviewed by Melissa Robinson, an Associated Press reporter in the Washington, D.C. Bureau, (202) 828-9679, today, January 9th, at 2:30 p.m. The reporter will call you at the A.G.'s office and will need about 30 minutes.

This interview is part of a "place setter" piece she is writing on the Board. She and I have discussed that the Board will be very active in 1995. Last week, I sent her the following materials for review prior to the interview with you:

1. The three-page fact sheet on the ARRB, a copy of which I gave you last week.
2. The Dallas Morning News clip from 11/19/94 on the ARRB public hearing in Dallas.
3. The news release on the Dallas hearing.
4. The 11/22/94 news release on the Board plans to visit various cities in 1995.
5. Your prepared remarks from the October COPA conference.

## **II. Key Talking Points for Today's Interview**

I suggest, as we discussed last week, that in addition to the important basic points about the Board (included below), the following points are key to give her a better story:

1. The Review Board is prepared to begin the review of assassination records which the FBI, CIA and other federal agencies want to keep secret. (This point will resonate with the

reporter because of the obvious history of secrecy surrounding the investigations and the records.)

2. The Congress created the Board to have an independent, fiscally efficient and accountable process for the review of these documents. (I think these are important points to get Page 2

on the record because of the new Congress and current fiscal trends.)

3. Members of the senior staff have begun the review of the House Select Committee on Assassination Records which were generated by the Committee and have remained secret, but do not require review by any other agencies. (This point will add some immediacy to the work we are doing and again emphasize that we are dealing with secret documents that the American public has not been allowed to see.)

4. The Board will be publishing a draft definition of an "assassination record" in the Federal Register within the next several weeks. (The fact that the draft definition is coming shortly, may give her another "news hook" for the story.)

5. The Board will be very active in 1995 with: (a.) visits to various cities (Boston, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans), (b.) the definition of "assassination records", (c.) the review of agency documents, and (d.) the search for undiscovered records which may exist. (This talking point gives the reporter some regional reference points and demonstrates how active the Board will be, with many things happening on different fronts.)

### **III. The Basic Talking Points**

The basic points which we always try to mention use:

1. The ARRB is an independent federal panel.
2. The Board's mandate is to identify and secure the Kennedy assassination records.
3. It is up to the Board to determine which records are to be made public immediately and which ones will have postponed release dates.
4. The purpose of the law and the Board's work is to provide a full record to the American public and allow interested parties to draw their own conclusions about what happened in Dallas 31 years ago.
5. The Board is not re-investigating the assassination of President Kennedy. Its focus is assassination records.

### **IV. Broader Implication Talking Points**

In addition to the basic points above, we also used the following talking points previously to emphasize the broader implications of the Board's work:

1. The Act which created the Review Board has given the American public an extraordinary and unprecedented opportunity to gain insight into its government and recent history.

Page 3

2. The Board has the opportunity not only to make publicly available records that may clarify the facts surrounding the assassination, but also, along the way, the opportunity to redefine the meaning of, and need for, secrecy in government.

3. The unprecedented powers given to an independent panel of private citizens will also hopefully help to restore a measure of confidence in government.

4. The controversy surrounding the Kennedy assassination is unlikely to disappear even after the Board's work is completed., But, the American public will know that no information about the assassination is being hidden by the government. Perhaps we will see a way for government business to be conducted more effectively -- and more openly -- in the future.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 724-0813, if you want to discuss the interview before the reporter calls you at 2:30 p.m.

(2) page fax, including this page

Memorandum

To: Jack Tunheim

From: Tom Samoluk

cc: David Marwell

Date: January 13, 1995

Re: Talk Radio News Service Telephone Interview; 1/24;  
7:30-8:00 a.m. (CST)

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You are scheduled to do a live radio telephone interview on Tuesday, January 24th, from 7:30 to 8:00 a.m. on the Talk Radio News Service Network. It airs on 106 radio stations nationally. A background sheet is attached about the show. I will do a memo for you in advance of the show.

Memorandum

To: Jack Tunheim

From: Tom Samoluk

cc: David Marwell

Date: January 18, 1995

Re: Sun Radio Network Telephone Interview; 1/24; 2:00-3:00  
p.m. (CST)

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You are scheduled to do another live radio telephone interview on Tuesday, January 24th, from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. (CST) on the Sun Radio Network. It airs on 120 radio stations nationally. You will be interviewed by Stan Anderson, the host of the show which is called "Opinions."

Our contact is Robert Cedre, (813) 572-4735. I gave Cedre your telephone number, (612) 296-2351, for them to call you at the office.

As you are aware, the Sun Radio interview is in addition to the already scheduled January 24th; 7:30-8:00 a.m. (CST) interview on the Talk Radio News Service Network.

An additional memorandum will be provided to you in advance of these interviews.

Memorandum

To: Jack Tunheim

From: Tom Samoluk

cc: David Marwell

Date: January 20, 1995

Re: New England Public Radio Network Telephone Interview;  
2/14; 1:00-2:00 p.m. (CST)

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You are scheduled to do a live radio telephone interview on Tuesday, February 14th, from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. (CST) on the New England Public Radio Network. You will be interviewed by Susan Arbetter, (518) 465-5233, the host of the show which is called "Vox Pop." The show airs on 8 public radio stations which reach 7 states.

An additional memorandum will be provided to you in advance of this interview.

Memorandum/(5) Page Fax, including this page

To: Jack Tunheim

From: Tom Samoluk

cc: David Marwell

Date: January 20, 1995

Re: Jack Tunheim's Two Radio Interviews for Tuesday, January 24, 1994

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### I. Introduction

You are scheduled to do the following two radio interviews on Tuesday, January 24, 1994:

7:30 - 8:00 a.m. (CST)	Talk America Radio Network
	"Washington Reality Check"
	Hosted by Doug Stephan and Ellen Ratner
	Format: Interview and call-ins
	Contact: David Vogel or Marc Witliff
337-8715	Contact Tel. #: (202) 337-8715

Note: They will place call to Jack at home, (612) 430-0979

2:00 - 3:00 p.m. (CST)	Sun Radio Network
	"Opinions"
	Hosted by Stan Anderson
	Format: Interview and call-ins

Contact: Robert Cedre

Contact Tel. #: (813) 572-9209

Note: They will place call to Jack at (612)

296-2351

The topic for each interview is the Assassination Records Review Board and the Board's plans for 1995. Both shows have received the general letter of introduction I sent to them (attached) with the three-page fact sheet on the Review Board, your October 1994 COPA Conference remarks and your biography. In addition, Sun Radio requested some suggested questions for you (also attached).

The talking points below are basically the ones we have used before. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 724-0813 if you would like to talk about the interviews.

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Page 2

## II. Basic Talking Points

The basic points which we always try to use:

1. The ARRB is an independent federal panel.
2. The Board's mandate is to identify and secure the Kennedy assassination records.
3. It is up to the Board to determine which records are to be made public immediately and which ones will have postponed release dates.
4. The purpose of the law and the Board's work is to provide a full

record to the American public and allow interested parties to draw their own conclusions about what happened in Dallas 31 years ago.

5. The Board is not re-investigating the assassination of President Kennedy. Its focus is assassination records.

### III. Other Key Talking Points for Interviews

In addition to the basic talking points about the Board, the following points are also important:

1. The Review Board is prepared to begin the review of assassination records which the FBI, CIA and other federal agencies want to keep secret. (This point will resonate with the audience because of the obvious history of secrecy surrounding the investigations and the records.)

2. The Congress created the Board to have an independent, fiscally efficient and accountable process for the review of these documents. (I think these are important points for the audience to hear because of the new Congress and current conservative fiscal views.)

3. Members of the senior staff have reviewed documents of the House Select Committee on Assassination Records which were generated by the Committee and have remained secret, but do not require review by any other agencies. (This point and number 4 will add some immediacy to the work we are doing and again emphasize that we are dealing with secret documents that the American public has not been allowed to see.)

4. This week, the Board will be reviewing some Warren Commission documents that have not been made public and are not currently being

reviewed by any other federal agency.

Page 3

5. The Board will be publishing guidance in the Federal Register for federal agencies on what is an "assassination record" within the next several weeks.

6. The Board will be very active in 1995 with: (a.) visits to various cities (Boston, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans), (b.) guidance on defining "assassination records", (c.) the review of agency documents, and (d.) the search for undiscovered records which may exist.

#### IV. Broader Implication Talking Points

In addition to the talking points above, we have also used the following talking points previously to emphasize the broader implications of the Board's work:

1. The Act which created the Review Board has given the American public an extraordinary and unprecedented opportunity to gain insight into its government and recent history.

2. The Board has the opportunity not only to make publicly available records that may clarify the facts surrounding the assassination, but also, along the way, the opportunity to redefine the meaning of, and need for, secrecy in government.

3. The unprecedented powers given to an independent panel of private citizens will also hopefully help to restore a measure of confidence in

government.

4. The controversy surrounding the Kennedy assassination is unlikely to disappear even after the Board's work is completed., But, the American public will know that no information about the assassination is being hidden by the government. Perhaps we will see a way for government business to be conducted more effectively -- and more openly -- in the future.

Memorandum/(9) Page fax, including this cover page

To: Robert Cedre

From: Tom Samoluk

JFK Assassination Records Review Board

Tel. #: (202) 724-0813

Date: January 20, 1995

*Re: Background for Jack Tunheim's Radio Interview;  
for Tuesday, January 24, 1994; 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. (EST)*

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*I am faxing you the following information in preparation for your "Opinions" interview with Jack Tunheim, Chair of the Assassination Records Review Board, for Tuesday, January 24, 1994, from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. (EST):*

- 1. A biography of Jack Tunheim.*
- 2. Tunheim's remarks at an October 1994 conference on the JFK assassination.*
- 3. Per your request, suggested questions for Mr. Tunheim.*

*Mr. Tunheim can be reached at his office on Tuesday. The telephone number is (612) 296-2351.*

*Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.  
Thanks.*

Suggested Questions for Jack Tunheim Interview;

Tues., January 24th, 3:00-4:00 p.m. (CST)

1. When was the Board created?
2. Who is on the Board?
3. Why was the Board created?
4. How long will the Board be in existence?
5. Is the Board another Warren Commission?
6. Will the Board issue a report ?
7. What are the goals of the Board?
8. Does the Board's work have any implications beyond the release of JFK assassination records as far as the government's approach to secrecy in

*the future?*

9. *Will the Board's work resolve all of the questions about who killed President Kennedy?*

10. *What has the Board done so far?*

11. *What are the Board's plans for 1995?*

*Memorandum/(8) Page fax, including this cover page*

*To: Marc Witliff/David Vogel*

*From: Tom Samoluk  
JFK Assassination Records Review Board  
Tel. #: (202) 724-0813*

*Date: January 20, 1995*

*Re: Background for Jack Tunheim's Radio Interview;  
for Tuesday, January 24, 1994; 8:30 - 9:00 a.m. (EST)*

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*I am faxing you the following information in preparation for your "Opinions" interview with Jack Tunheim, Chair of the Assassination Records Review Board, for Tuesday, January 24, 1994, from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. (EST):*

- 1. A biography of Jack Tunheim.*
- 2. Tunheim's remarks at an October 1994 conference on the JFK assassination.*

*Mr. Tunheim can be reached at his home on Tuesday morning. The telephone number is (612) 430-0979.*

*Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.  
Thanks.*

Memorandum

To: Jeremy Gunn

From: Tom Samoluk

Date: January 24, 1995

Re: Michael J. Ravnitzky 1/22/95 Letter on FOIA Requested Records

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A copy of the 1/22/95 Ravnitzky letter on FOIA requested records is attached for your review as a correspondence relating to a federal agency. The original is in the correspondence file.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: January 25, 1995**

**Re: Kistemaker 1/13/95 Letter on Nix Film**

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A copy of the Kistemaker 1/13/95 letter on Nix film is attached for your review as a correspondence relating to a federal agency. The original letter is in the correspondence file.

**(10) Page fax, including this cover page**

**Memorandum**

**To: Susan Arbetter**

**From: Tom Samoluk, (202) 724-0813**

**Date: February 3, 1995**

**Re: Additional Information for Tunheim Interview; Tues., Feb. 14th, 2:00-3:00 p.m.**

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I am faxing you additional information in advance of your live telephone interview with Jack Tunheim, Chair of the Kennedy Assassination Records Review Board, on Tuesday, February 14th, from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

The items I am faxing are:

1. A biography of Jack Tunheim.
2. The prepared text of remarks made by Mr. Tunheim at an October 1994 conference on the JFK assassination.
3. A newsclip from the Dallas Morning News on the Board's November 1994 public hearing.

Mr. Tunheim can be reached at his office number, (612) 296-2351, for the interview on February 14th. I will call you prior to that date to confirm that the interview is still on. Please advise me if there is any change in the plan. Thanks.

**Memorandum**

**To: File**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: February 9, 1995**

**Re: Adams February 3, 1995**

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*February 3, 1995 letter received by Jeremy Gunn. Jeremy has copy of letter. He will respond to Adams.*

**Memorandum**

**To: David Marwell  
Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: February 9, 1995**

**Re: Backes 2/2/95 Letter**

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Attached is a 2/2/95 letter from Joseph Backes. I am providing copies to both of you because he raises a variety of issues that are relevant to both of you under our correspondence referral review system. The issues raised in the letter are:

1. Oswald's interrogation
2. The HSCA "gag order" on staff
3. Oswald's November 2, 1959 201 file, #201-0748009

I have responded to Backes with a letter general of acknowledgment.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: February 9, 1995**

**Re: Ravnitzky 1/28/95 Letter**

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I am attaching a copy of a letter from Michael Ravnitzky dated 1/28/95 in which he requests tax records, which I explained were exempt from disclosure under the JFK Records Act.

He also requested census forms for Lee Harvey Oswald, which I thought was worth passing along to you.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jack Tunheim**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: February 10, 1995**

**Re: New England Public Radio Interview; Tues., Feb. 14th; 1:00-2:00 p.m. (CST)**

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## **I. Introduction**

You are scheduled to do a live radio telephone interview on Tuesday, February 14th, from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. (CST) on the New England Public Radio Network. You will be interviewed by Susan Arbetter, (518) 465-5233, the host of the show which is called "Vox Pop." She will place the call to you at your office shortly before the interview. I confirmed the interview with her on Friday, February 10, 1995. The show airs on 8 public radio stations which cover 7 northeastern states.

Arbetter has been provided with the ARRB fact sheet, your biography, prepared remarks you made at the COPA Conference, newsclips from the Dallas hearing, and most recently, the news release on the assassination record definition guidance (the news release and the definition guidance are attached).

I am including in this memorandum the talking points which I have suggested for past interviews. In addition, two interesting areas for you to raise are the definition guidance and the plan to visit Boston for a public meeting and a JFK Library visit. Because the interview will air on New England radio stations, the Boston visit is an appropriate topic.

## **II. Basic Talking Points**

The basic points which we always try to use:

1. The ARRB is an independent federal panel.
2. The Board's mandate is to identify and secure the Kennedy assassination records.
3. It is up to the Board to determine which records are to be made public immediately and which ones will have postponed release dates.
4. The purpose of the law and the Board's work is to provide a full record to the American public and allow interested parties to draw their own conclusions about what happened in Dallas 31 years ago.

Page 2

5. The Board is not re-investigating the assassination of President Kennedy. Its focus is assassination records.

## **III. Other Key Talking Points for Interviews**

In addition to the basic talking points about the Board, the following points are also important:

1. The Review Board is prepared to begin the review of assassination records which the

FBI, CIA and other federal agencies want to keep secret. (This point will resonate with the audience because of the obvious history of secrecy surrounding the investigations and the records.)

2. The Congress created the Board to have an independent, fiscally efficient and accountable process for the review of these documents. (I think these are important points for the audience to hear because of the new Congress and current conservative fiscal views.)

3. The Board has reviewed some Warren Commission documents that have not been made public and are not currently being reviewed by any other federal agency.

4. Members of the senior staff have reviewed documents of the House Select Committee on Assassination Records which were generated by the Committee and have remained secret, but do not require review by any other agencies. (This point and number 3 will add some immediacy to the work we are doing and again emphasize that we are dealing with secret documents that the American public has not been allowed to see.)

5. Last week, the Board published guidance on the definition of an "assassination record" in the Federal Register for federal agencies. There is now a 30 day comment period and we hope to get input from a lot of different people. Our goal is to frame a definition which allows the American public to have as complete a record of the assassination as possible.

6. The Board will be visiting Boston at the end of March. The purpose of the trip is to visit the JFK Library, which comes under the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act. The Board will be meeting with representatives from the Library to discuss records that may be there which should be included in the assassination records collection at the National Archives. In addition, we are planning on holding a public meeting while we are in Boston.

#### **IV. Broader Implication Talking Points**

In addition to the talking points above, we have also used the following talking points previously to emphasize the broader implications of the Board's work:

Page 3

1. The Act which created the Review Board has given the American public an extraordinary and unprecedented opportunity to gain insight into its government and recent history.

2. The Board has the opportunity not only to make publicly available records that may clarify the facts surrounding the assassination, but also, along the way, the opportunity to redefine the meaning of, and need for, secrecy in government.

3. The unprecedented powers given to an independent panel of private citizens will also hopefully help to restore a measure of confidence in government.

4. The controversy surrounding the Kennedy assassination is unlikely to disappear even after the Board's work is completed., But, the American public will know that no information about the assassination is being hidden by the government. Perhaps we will see a way for government business to be conducted more effectively -- and more openly -- in the future.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jack Tunheim**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**cc: David Marwell**

**Date: February 10, 1995**

**Re: COPA Newsletter Update on the Review Board**

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I am drafting another article for the next COPA newsletter. Their deadline is February 28th. I will fax you a draft when I have something ready. I hope to be able to put some specifics about the Boston visit in the article, in addition to other updated information about the Board.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: February 10, 1995**

**Re: Boston Visit and Invitation to Ernest May**

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The following is basic information to convey to Ernest May regarding our request that he testify before the Board at a public meeting planned for Boston in March:

1. The public meeting will be held on Friday, March 24, 1995, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
2. The location will probably be the O'Neill Federal Building in Boston.
3. At the public meeting, the Board will conduct other business, but would also like to hear from witnesses in the Boston area who would be helpful in our review of records, and quest for new records. A limited number of witnesses will be asked to testify.
4. We would like him to give testimony in his area of expertise. (I figure you can use the right language in describing how he would be helpful to the Board.)
6. He might be interested in knowing that the Board will also visit the JFK Library during their visit.
7. A formal letter of invitation will follow.

The memo which I gave you may help answer other questions May may have.

**Memorandum**

**To: File**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date:** 2/10/95

**Re:** Adamson 12/6/94, 1/18/94 Letter (stamped 2/10/95)

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Sheryl has copy of letter has FOIA related matter.

**Memorandum**

**To:** Jack Tunheim

**From:** Tom Samoluk

**Date: February 13, 1995**

**Re: Update on New England Public Radio Interview;  
Tues., Feb. 14th; 1:00-2:00 p.m. (CST)**

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A quick update on your interview tomorrow:

1. The host of the show will be Brian Shields (not Susan Arbetter, as originally indicated).
2. The producer will place the call to you at your office right around 1:00 p.m. You will go on the air live right after the news, by 1:05 p.m.

**Memorandum**

**To: David Marwell  
Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: February 13, 1995**

**Re: 2/13/95 Letter of Kathleen Cunningham**

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I am providing a copy of the attached letter from Kathleen Cunningham. It contains very specific information regarding records reportedly at the JFK Library and elsewhere which I think will be of interest to you.

I have responded to Cunningham with a general thank you letter.

**Memorandum**

**To: David Marwell  
Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: February 13, 1995**

**Re: Weisberg 2/8/95 Letter - FYI**

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I am attaching a copy of Harold Weisberg's 2/8/95 letter to me. Please note that he has included some specific information that may be of assistance.

I responded with a short note thanking him for his letter and noted that he will be receiving a detailed response to his previous letters in the near future.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jack Tunheim**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: February 13, 1995**

**Re: Response to New England Public Radio Interview**

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Thank you for your note yesterday following the interview.

This morning I spoke to Susan Arbetter, who had arranged the interview. She said that the response was "universally positive." They were very pleased and would like to have you back at some point in the future. She specifically asked me to thank you for a "great job."

They are sending me a cassette tape recording of the interview.

We'll keep them on our fax list.

**(9) Page Fax, including this cover page**

**Memorandum**

**To: Victoria Jones**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: February 16, 1995**

**Re: Information on the Kennedy Assassination Records Review Board**

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I am the former Communications Director for Massachusetts Attorney General Scott Harshbarger and dealt with you on occasion when you were at WRKO in Boston. I accompanied the Attorney General to your studio at least one time when he was a live guest with you.

I recently left Scott's office to take a two-year job here in Washington with the Kennedy Assassination Records Review Board. The Board was appointed by President Clinton to oversee the review and release of the Kennedy assassination records.

Per my conversation with Debra, I am faxing you some information on the Review Board. Please let me know if you are interested in having Jack Tunheim, Chair of the Board on the show some day. He is the Deputy Attorney General in Minnesota and does an excellent interview.

I have enclosed the following materials:

1. A three-page fact sheet.
2. Two newsclips on Board hearings in Washington and Dallas.
3. A recent news release regarding our draft definition guidance for federal agencies on what should be considered an "assassination record."

I hope all is going well for you in Washington. Please do not hesitate to contact me. My number is (202) 724-0813 or (202) 724-0088.

**Memorandum**

**To: David Marwell  
Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: February 15, 1995**

**Re: Wheaton Letters**

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I am attaching two letters from a Mr. Gene Wheaton for your review. He wrote once to Jack last year offering his help. I think he was prompted to write again upon receiving the definition guidance which we mailed to our list of interested parties. With a correspondence such as this one, in which assistance is offered to the Board, I think we need to decide whether or not it is worth having an investigator call the person and make a determination on his or her credibility and value in the Board's search for documents.

I would be glad to discuss these correspondence and any larger relevant issues at a convenient time.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jack Tunheim**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: February 16, 1995**

**Re: Additional Radio Interview Requests**

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I received two additional requests for you to do radio interviews.

The first request is from the Minnesota Radio News Network. Patty Marsicano, the reporter, (612) 696-0111, would like to interview you **today, Thursday, February 16th or Friday, February 17th at 4:00 p.m.(CST).** The interview will take approximately 10 minutes and will be used on their newscasts.

The second request is from WJR, a 50,000 watt station in Detroit. Susan Boyd, the producer, (313) 873-9789, would like you on their evening talk show hosted by Ronna Romney during the **evening of Friday, February 24th for an hour, either 7-8 pm or 8-9 pm. (CST).** If you are available, she will get back to me on the exact time.

I will follow up with a call to you shortly to check on your availability for these interviews.

**(10 ) Page Fax, including this page**  
**Memorandum**

**To: Priscilla McMillan**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: February 17, 1995**

**Re: Assassination Records Review Board Public Meeting;  
Scheduled for Morning of Friday, March 24th in Boston**

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Thank you for returning my telephone call today and taking the time to discuss the Assassination Records Review Board's planned public meeting in Boston. The Review Board would very much like to hear from you at the public meeting on Friday, March 24th.

As we discussed, the Board is seeking to fulfill its legal mandate to allow the American public to have access to as complete of a record of the assassination of President Kennedy as possible. The Board is also intent on operating in an open and accessible manner, consistent with the clear intent of the law. Anything you could offer the Board, based on your knowledge of Lee Harvey Oswald and Soviet archives, would be appreciated. Regardless of whether or not you can offer any guidance in these areas, the Board would still appreciate having you testify in support of our efforts and available to answer any questions which the members may have of you.

I am faxing the following materials for your information:

1. A three page fact sheet on the Review Board.
2. The proposed "assassination record" definition guidance.
3. A news release on the definition guidance.
4. A Boston Globe article on the Board's first public hearing in October 1994.

I hope this information is of assistance to you. Again, I appreciate your time and we look forward to you joining us at our public meeting in Boston. I will follow-up on this fax with a telephone call to you on Tuesday. If you are able to testify on March 24th, I will send you a letter of confirmation and provide you with more details on the time, location and format of the public meeting. I look forward to talking with you again next week.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**CC: David Marwell**

**Date: February 17, 1995**

**Re: Bradley Ayers Letter of 2/10/95**

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The attached copy of a letter from Bradley Ayers, dated 2/10/95, is provided for your review. Some of the attached documents may be of interest to you. I have responded to Ayers with a letter of acknowledgement.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jack Tunheim**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: February 17, 1995**

**Re: WJR Radio (Detroit) Interview; Scheduled for Mon., Feb. 27th, 8-9 p.m.(CST)**

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You are confirmed for a live interview with talk show host Ronna Romney on WJR, a 50,000 watt radio station in Detroit, on Monday, February 27th, from 8:00 to 9:00 (CST).

Per your request, you should call into the radio station, a few minutes before 8:00 p.m. The number to call is: (313) 875-4480.

Our contact is Susan Schram, the producer, at (313) 873-9789.

I will follow-up with updated talking points next week.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jack Tunheim**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: February 21, 1995**

**Re: 2/15/95 Letter from Mr. Harvey Greenwald**

---

I responded to this letter from Mr. Harvey Greenwald and have the tapes.

attachments

**(9) Page Fax to: Goldie Blumenstyk**

**Memorandum**

**To: Goldie Blumenstyk**

**From: Tom Samoluk, (202) 724-0088**

**Date: February 22, 1995**

**Re: Background Information on Kennedy Assassination Records Review Board**

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It was nice talking with you again this afternoon. Per our conversation, I am faxing some information on the Assassination Records Review Board. As we discussed, four of the five members of the Board are from the world of higher education and well-known in their respective fields of expertise.

I am faxing the following materials for your information:

1. A three-page fact sheet on the Board.
2. Two newsclips on public hearings in Washington and Dallas.
3. A recent news release on the Board's effort to define an "assassination record."

I hope that this information is helpful to you. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you are interested in the Board and its rather unique mandate. Thanks again.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jeremy, Sheryl, Tracy**

**From: Tom**

**Date: February 22, 1995**

**Re: Staff Notes**

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Attached is a draft of the next edition of Staff Notes for your review. Please provide me with your suggested edits on Thursday. I would like to fax it to the Board on Friday. Thanks for your help.

**(8) page fax, including this page**  
**Memorandum**

**To: Jack Tunheim**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: February 24, 1995**

**Re: WJR Radio (Detroit) Interview; Scheduled for Mon., Feb. 27th, 8-9 p.m.(CST)**

---

## **I. Introduction**

You are confirmed for a live interview with talk show host Ronna Romney on WJR, a 50,000 watt radio station in Detroit, on Monday, February 27th, from 8:00 to 9:00 (CST).

Per your request, you should call into the radio station, a few minutes before 8:00 p.m. The number to call is: (313) 875-4480.

Our contact is Susan Schram, the producer, at (313) 873-9789.

Schram has been provided with the ARRB fact sheet, your biography, prepared remarks you made at the COPA Conference, newsclips from the Dallas and Washington hearings, and the news release on the assassination record definition guidance (the news release and the definition guidance are attached for your information).

I am including in this memorandum the talking points which I have suggested for past interviews. In addition, under Section III, number 3 is a new talking point dealing with the fiscal efficiency of having a Review Board. Talking points number 6 and 7 relate to the Board's March 6-7 visit to Washington and add some timeliness to the interview.

## **II. Basic Talking Points**

The basic points which we always try to use:

1. The ARRB is an independent federal panel.
2. The Board's mandate is to identify and secure the Kennedy assassination records.
3. It is up to the Board to determine which records are to be made public immediately and which ones will have postponed release dates.
4. The purpose of the law and the Board's work is to provide a full record to the American public, make it available at the National Archives, and allow interested parties to draw their own conclusions about what happened in Dallas 31 years ago.

5. The Board is not re-investigating the assassination of President Kennedy. Its focus is collecting the assassination records.

### **III. Other Key Talking Points for Interviews**

In addition to the basic talking points about the Board, the following points are also important:

1. The Review Board is prepared to begin the review of assassination records which the FBI, CIA and other federal agencies want to keep secret. (This point will resonate with the audience because of the obvious history of secrecy surrounding the investigations and the records.)

2. The Congress created the Board to have an independent, fiscally efficient and accountable process for the review of these documents. (I think these are important points for the audience to hear because of the new Congress and current conservative fiscal views.)

3. The reality is that there continues to be an intense interest in the assassination, as reflected in the number of books and documentaries that are still being done. Requests from the public for federal records were showing no sign of slowing and federal agencies were continuing to devote enormous resources to the task of responding to these requests. That costs money. It also costs money to unnecessarily keep records classified. The Review Board will get as many records out in the public domain as possible in the next couple of years. In the long run, the Review Board will have saved a lot of money and resources. (You may not need to make this point during the interview. But, I thought it was a good one to have ready if you are challenged on the need and/or wisdom of the federal government spending more money on anything related to the assassination.)

4. The Board has reviewed some Warren Commission documents that have not been made public and are not currently being reviewed by any other federal agency.

5. Members of the senior staff have reviewed documents of the House Select Committee on Assassination Records which were generated by the Committee and have remained secret, but do not require review by any other agencies. (This point and number 4 will add some immediacy to the work we are doing and again emphasize that we are dealing with secret documents that the American public has not been allowed to see.)

6. The Board recently published guidance on the definition of an "assassination record" in the Federal Register. There is now a 30 day public comment period (until March 10th) and we hope to get input from a lot of different people. Our goal is to frame a definition which allows the American public to have as complete a record of the assassination as possible. Next week (the week of March 6th), the Board will be in Washington and we will be discussing the

comments we have received to date about our proposed definition guidance.

Page 3

7. Next week, we will also meet with officials from the CIA, the Secret Service and the National Security Agency. The purpose of our meetings is to establish a relationship with federal agencies which hold assassination records and ensure that they are in compliance with the law.

8. The Board will be visiting Boston at the end of March. The purpose of the trip is to visit the JFK Library, which comes under the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act. The Board will be meeting with representatives from the Library to discuss records that may be there which should be included in the assassination records collection at the National Archives. In addition, we are planning on holding a public meeting while we are in Boston.

#### **IV. Broader Implication Talking Points**

In addition to the talking points above, we have also used the following talking points previously to emphasize the broader implications of the Board's work.

1. The Act which created the Review Board has given the American public an extraordinary and unprecedented opportunity to gain insight into its government and recent history.

2. The Board has the opportunity not only to make publicly available records that may clarify the facts surrounding the assassination, but also, along the way, the opportunity to redefine the meaning of, and need for, secrecy in government.

3. The unprecedented powers given to an independent panel of private citizens will also hopefully help to restore a measure of confidence in government.

4. The controversy surrounding the Kennedy assassination is unlikely to disappear even after the Board's work is completed., But, the American public will know that no information about the assassination is being hidden by the government. Perhaps we will see a way for government business to be conducted more effectively -- and more openly -- in the future.

**(13) Page Fax, including this cover page**

**Memorandum**

**To: Susan Schram, WJR Radio Producer**

**From: Tom Samoluk, (202) 724-0088 or (202) 724-0813**

**Date: February 23, 1995**

**Re: Additional Information on the Kennedy Assassination Records Review Board**

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This memorandum is to confirm Assassination Records Review Board Chair John Tunheim's live telephone interview on Ronna Romney's WJR radio show on Monday, February 27th, from 9:00 to 10:00 p.m. (EST).

I have enclosed the following additional materials on the Review Board:

1. A biography of John Tunheim.
2. The prepared text of Mr. Tunheim's remarks at a 1994 conference of researchers.
3. Two newsclips on Board hearings in Washington and Dallas.
4. A recent news release regarding our draft definition guidance for federal agencies on what should be considered an "assassination record."

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any comments or questions. My number is (202) 724-0813 or (202) 724-0088. Thank you.

**Memorandum**

**To: David Marwell, Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**cc: File**

**Date: March 7, 1995**

**Re: Livingstone Letter of 3/6/95**

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I have attached for your information a letter from Harrison Livingstone on the "Beverly Oliver Film." Without commenting on the contents, I thought it would be of interest to you. I have responded with a letter acknowledging receipt of his correspondence.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: March 2, 1995**

**Re: 3/2/95 Letter of Kathleen Cunningham**

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I am providing a copy of the attached letter from Kathleen Cunningham. It contains the allegation that tape recorded comments by the JFK pathologists might exist.

I have responded to Cunningham with a general thank you letter.

Memorandum/(8) Page fax, including this cover page

To: Rita Foley, WMAL

From: Tom Samoluk

JFK Assassination Records Review Board

Tel. #: (202) 724-0088, ext. 227

Date: March 7, 1995

Re: Background for Jack Tunheim's Radio Interview;  
for Tuesday, March 7, 1995; 12:00 midnight - 1:00 a.m.(EST)

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I am faxing you the following information in preparation for your interview with Jack Tunheim, Chair of the Assassination Records Review Board, for Tuesday, March 7, 1995, 12:00 midnight to 1:00 a.m.:

1. A biography of Jack Tunheim.
2. Tunheim's remarks at an October 1994 conference on the JFK assassination.
3. A three page fact sheet on the Review Board.

Mr. Tunheim will call into the studio at a few minutes before

midnight. For your records, his home telephone number, from where he will place the call, is (612) 430-0979.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.  
Thanks.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jack Tunheim**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: March 6, 1995**

**Re: WMAL Radio (DC) Interview; Tues., March 7th, 11 p.m. - 12:00 midnight (CST)**

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## **I. Introduction**

You are scheduled to be a live telephone guest on WMAL's late night talk show on Tuesday, March 7, 1995, from 11:00 p.m. - 12:00 midnight (CST). Per our discussion, you are scheduled to call in a few minutes before 11:00 p.m. **The studio number for you to call is (202) 686-3010.** They also have your home number, as a back-up.

Our contact is host Rita Foley. Her daytime office number is (202) 775-4935.

Foley has been provided with the ARRB fact sheet, your biography, and prepared remarks you made at the COPA Conference.

I am including in this memorandum the talking points which I have suggested for past interviews. In addition, I suggest that Foley would like to make the interview timely for her listeners by getting you to discuss what happened at the Board's public meeting during the day. Some discussion of the importance of the definition guidance (news release and definition guidance are attached) and anything you may have found interesting at the at the meeting will be a good starting point. in addition, mention of the agency meetings would also be timely and also demonstrate the serious nature of the Board's business.

## **II. Basic Talking Points**

The basic points which we always try to use:

1. The ARRB is an independent federal panel.
2. The Board's mandate is to identify and secure the Kennedy assassination records.
3. It is up to the Board to determine which records are to be made public immediately and which ones will have postponed release dates.

Page 2

4. The purpose of the law and the Board's work is to provide a full record to the American public, make it available at the National Archives, and allow interested parties to draw their own conclusions about what happened in Dallas 31 years ago.

5. The Board is not re-investigating the assassination of President Kennedy. Its focus is collecting the assassination records.

## **III. Other Key Talking Points for Interviews**

In addition to the basic talking points about the Board, the following points are also important:

1. The Review Board is prepared to begin the review of assassination records which the FBI, CIA and other federal agencies want to keep secret. (This point will resonate with the audience because of the obvious history of secrecy surrounding the investigations and the records.)

2. The Congress created the Board to have an independent, fiscally efficient and accountable process for the review of these documents. (I think these are important points for the audience to hear because of the new Congress and current conservative fiscal views.)

3. The reality is that there continues to be an intense interest in the assassination, as reflected in the number of books and documentaries that are still being done. Requests from the public for federal records were showing no sign of slowing and federal agencies were continuing to devote enormous resources to the task of responding to these requests. That costs money. It also costs money to unnecessarily keep records classified. The Review Board will get as many records out in the public domain as possible in the next couple of years. In the long run, the Review Board will have saved a lot of money and resources. (You may not need to make this point during the interview. But, I thought it was a good one to have ready if you are challenged on the need and/or wisdom of the federal government spending more money on anything related to the assassination.)

4. The Board has reviewed some Warren Commission documents that have not been made public and are not currently being reviewed by any other federal agency.

5. Members of the senior staff have reviewed documents of the House Select Committee on Assassination Records which were generated by the Committee and have remained secret, but do not require review by any other agencies. (This point and number 4 will add some immediacy to the work we are doing and again emphasize that we are dealing with secret documents that the American public has not been allowed to see.)

Page 3

6. The Board recently published guidance on the definition of an "assassination record" in the Federal Register. There is now a 30 day public comment period (until March 10th) and we hope to get input from a lot of different people. Our goal is to frame a definition which allows the American public to have as complete a record of the assassination as possible. The Board has a public meeting in Washington today and we discussed the comments we have received to date about our proposed definition guidance.

7. During the last two days, we also met with officials from the CIA, the Secret Service and the National Security Agency. The purpose of our meetings was to establish a relationship with federal agencies which hold assassination records and ensure that they are in compliance with the law.

8. The Board will be visiting Boston at the end of March. The purpose of the trip is to visit the JFK Library, which comes under the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act. The Board will be meeting with representatives from the Library to discuss records that may be there which should be included in the assassination records collection at the National Archives. In addition, we are planning on holding a public meeting while we are in Boston.

#### **IV. Broader Implication Talking Points**

In addition to the talking points above, we have also used the following talking points previously to emphasize the broader implications of the Board's work.

1. The Act which created the Review Board has given the American public an extraordinary and unprecedented opportunity to gain insight into its government and recent history.

2. The Board has the opportunity not only to make publicly available records that may clarify the facts surrounding the assassination, but also, along the way, the opportunity to redefine the meaning of, and need for, secrecy in government.

3. The unprecedented powers given to an independent panel of private citizens will also hopefully help to restore a measure of confidence in government.

4. The controversy surrounding the Kennedy assassination is unlikely to disappear even after the Board's work is completed., But, the American public will know that no information about the assassination is being hidden by the government. Perhaps we will see a way for government business to be conducted more effectively -- and more openly -- in the future.

**(1) page fax, including this page**  
**Memorandum**

**To: Jack Tunheim**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**cc: David Marwell**

**Date: February 24, 1995**

**Re: Proposed Photo Opportunity at the JFK Library; Thursday, March 23rd**

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Per our conversation today, I am outlining for you the proposed photo opportunity which was discussed for the JFK Library visit on Thursday, March 23rd. Please note that this would be announced as a photo opportunity only, with our emphasis on the public meeting and media availability for questions on Friday, March 24th.

The three elements of the photo opportunity which I discussed (and actually walked through) with Frank Riggs of the Library are the following:

- 10:00 a.m.            **Board arrival at the JFK Library**  
Note: Cameras get the Board leaving the car in front of the Library and being greeted by a Library representative at the front door.
- 10:05 a.m.            **Board being shown the Research Room, 4th floor**  
Note: Cameras go up the elevator with the Board and Library representative. The photo opportunity is the Board looking at the Research Room, with books on shelves and archive boxes as the visual, with the harbor seen through the large glass window.
- 10:15 a.m.            **Board in Atlantic Room for Meeting with Library Representatives**  
Note: After coming down the elevators from the fourth floor, back to the main floor, the cameras would get visuals of the Board and the Library representatives in the Atlantic Room. The cameras will only be allowed to stay long enough to "spray" the room. They would then be escorted out of the room. The meeting would then be conducted privately.
- 10:20 a.m.            Cameras depart the Library. End of photo opportunity.

As you are aware, the advantages to this proposal are that: it all takes place in less than a half-hour; Riggs and I work together on it; the Library won't have to worry about media for the rest of the day; and the Library staff is shown cooperating with the Board.

**(2) page fax, including this cover page**

**Memorandum**

**To: Jack Tunheim  
David Marwell**

**From: Tom Samoluk**  
**Date: March 13, 1995**

**Re: Draft Press Release on Anticipated FBI Document Release**

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Attached is a draft press release on the anticipated FBI document release for your review. Terry says that it will probably happen on Wednesday or Thursday. Please advise me of your comments and/or edits.

Note: The press release is on the "g" drive under "fbirls.c13."

(1) page fax  
Memorandum

To: Jack Tunheim

*From: Tom Samoluk*

*cc: David Marwell*

*Date: March 14, 1995*

*Re: Upcoming Radio Interviews; Wed., March 22; Thurs., March 23rd*

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You are currently scheduled confirmed to do the following live radio interviews:

**1. WRC, Washington, D.C. The Victoria Jones Show.**

Wednesday, March 22nd. 8:00 - 9:00 (EST); 7:00 - 8:00 a.m. (CST)

Live Telephone Interview

Contact: Debra Kinard, producer; (301) 650-4407

**2. WBZ, Boston, Mass. The David Brudnoy Show.**

Thursday, March 23rd. 9:00 - 10:00 p.m. (EST)

Live In-Studio Interview (160 Commonwealth Avenue)

Contact: Kevin Myron, producer; (617) 787-7395

Memos with talking points will be provided to you in advance of these interviews.

Note: Rosemary Freitas, of NBC Newschannel, has not yet gotten back to me with any specifics regarding possibly doing a round of NBC affiliate interviews in Washington on Wednesday, March 22nd. I will advise you on whether or not they still want to schedule you as soon as I find out.

**Memorandum**

**To: David Marwell**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: March 14, 1995**

**Re: Paul Haller 2/27/95 Letter on Parkland Hospital Emergency Room Record**

---

The attached copy of the 2/27/95 Haller letter is attached for your review as a correspondence relating to an individual or state/local government. The original is in the correspondence file.

**Memorandum**

**To: David Marwell  
Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: March 14, 1995**

**Re: DeBenedictis - 3/10/95  
Adamson - 2/27/95  
Shinley - 2/27/95  
Russo - 3/14/95**

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The attached copy is for your review as a correspondence relating to an individual;state/local government or a federal agency . The original is in the correspondence file.

**Memorandum - (11) pages**

**To: Jack Tunheim**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: March 20, 1995**

**Re: WBZ Radio Telephone Interview on Tues., March 21st, 8-9pm (CST);  
NBC TV Affiliate In-Studio Interviews on Wed., March 22nd, 2-3pm (EST)**

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**I. Introduction**

You are scheduled to do two interviews prior to our arrival in Boston. The interview are:

**Tuesday, March 21, 1995**

**8:00 - 9:00 p.m. (CST)**

The David Brudnoy Show, WBZ Radio, Boston

Telephone Interview

Call-In Number: (617) 787-7241 or (617) 787-7243

**Note: Jack to call into studio at 8:00 p.m. (CST).**

Contact: Kevin Myron, producer, office number: (617) 787-7395

**Wednesday, March 22, 1995**

**2:00 - 3:00 p.m. (EST)**

NBC Newschannel, Washington D.C.

Location: 400 North Capitol Street, Suite 891

In-Studio Affiliate Interviews via Satellite

Contact: Rosemary Freitas, producer, office number: (202) 885-4224

Note: Tom Samoluk will go to the NBC studio.

I am including in this memorandum the talking points which I have suggested for past interviews. I would also like to take this opportunity to mention a few points about each of the interviews.

**a. The David Brudnoy Show**

David Brudnoy is a long-time Boston talk show host. He is very conservative, in fact, considers himself a Libertarian. Brudnoy has done shows on the assassination in the past and firmly believes that Oswald acted alone.

Given his fiscally conservative nature, I suggest that Brudnoy may think that the Board's work is a lot of money to spend for something that has had a clear conclusion in his mind for many years; i.e., Oswald was the lone assassin. I think that you must stick to all of the points which you have used in the past, including: the fact that the Board is making records available, ---2-

not reinvestigating the assassination; this is a fiscally efficient and effective way of getting the records publicly released; we will debunk claims that the government is hiding anything; and maybe we'll renew some confidence in government and redefine the need for government secrecy. I believe that these points will resonate with Brudnoy and his listeners. In addition, it is important to focus on the Board's visit to the JFK Library and the public meeting at the State House. All of these points are contained below in the memo.

#### **b. NBC Affiliate Interviews**

I suggest that the main focus of these interviews should be that the Board is going to Boston to meet with representatives from the JFK Library and continue its efforts to operate very openly, and outside of Washington, by having a public meeting in Boston, in pursuit of assassination records.

At the time I am writing this memo, it is not clear what stations will be interviewing you. For the ones with whom you have not previously spoken, some of the basic points about the Board are very important. For stations that interviewed you prior to the Dallas hearing, they may also want to hear about what has developed since November. I think that the talking points below about: the Board's preliminary review of Warren Commission documents, the senior staff's review of some of the House Select Committee on Assassination records, the meetings with agencies, and developing the definition guidance, are all points which you can make during the interviews.

## **II. Basic Talking Points**

The basic points which we always try to use:

1. The ARRB is an independent federal panel, consisting of five private citizens .
2. The Board's mandate is to identify and secure the Kennedy assassination records.
3. It is up to the Board to determine which records are to be made public immediately and which ones will have postponed release dates.
4. The purpose of the law and the Board's work is to provide a full record to the American public, make it available at the National Archives, and allow interested parties to draw their own conclusions about what happened in Dallas 31 years ago.
5. The Board is not re-investigating the assassination of President Kennedy. Its focus is collecting the assassination records.

## **III. Other Key Talking Points for Interviews**

In addition to the basic talking points about the Board, the following points are also important:

-3-

1. The Board will be visiting Boston at the end of this week. The purpose of the trip is to visit the JFK Library, which comes under the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act. The Board will be meeting with representatives from the Library to discuss records that may be there which should be included in the assassination records collection at the National Archives. In addition, we are holding a public meeting while we are in Boston. This public meeting, at which time we will hear expert testimony on the identification and location of assassination records and conduct other Board business, is an important part of our effort to operate in a very public manner. (The media advisory containing details on the public meeting is attached for your information.)

2. The Review Board is prepared to begin the review of assassination records which the FBI, CIA and other federal agencies want to keep secret. (This point will resonate with the audience because of the obvious history of secrecy surrounding the investigations and the records.)

3. The Congress created the Board to have an independent, fiscally efficient and accountable process for the review of these documents. (As mentioned, I think these are important points for Brudnoy and the audience to hear because of his conservative fiscal views.)

4. The reality is that there continues to be an intense interest in the assassination, as reflected in the number of books and documentaries that are still being done. Requests from the public for federal records were showing no sign of slowing and federal agencies were continuing to devote enormous resources to the task of responding to these requests. That costs money. It also costs money to unnecessarily keep records classified. The Review Board will get as many records out in the public domain as possible in the next couple of years. In the long run, the Review Board will have saved a lot of money and resources.

5. The Board has reviewed some Warren Commission documents that have not been made public and are not currently being reviewed by any other federal agency.

6. Members of the senior staff have reviewed documents of the House Select Committee on Assassination Records which were generated by the Committee and have remained secret, but do not require review by any other agencies. (This point and number 4 will add some immediacy to the work we are doing and again emphasize that we are dealing with secret documents that the American public has not been allowed to see.)

7. The Board recently published guidance on the definition of an "assassination record" in the Federal Register. There was a 30 day public comment period (until March 10th) and we received input from a lot of different people. Our goal is to frame a definition which allows the

American public to have as complete a record of the assassination as possible. The Board recently had a public meeting in Washington and we discussed the comments we have received to date about our proposed definition guidance and heard from some of the individuals who submitted written comments. (Copies of the news release and the text of the proposed definition guidance are attached for your information.)

-4-

8. While in Washington earlier this month, we also met with officials from the CIA, the Secret Service and the National Security Agency. The purpose of our meetings was to establish a relationship with federal agencies which hold assassination records and ensure that they are in compliance with the law.

#### **IV. Broader Implication Talking Points**

In addition to the talking points above, we have also used the following talking points previously to emphasize the broader implications of the Board's work.

1. The Act which created the Review Board has given the American public an extraordinary and unprecedented opportunity to gain insight into its government and recent history.
2. The Board has the opportunity not only to make publicly available records that may clarify the facts surrounding the assassination, but also, along the way, the opportunity to redefine the meaning of, and need for, secrecy in government.
3. The unprecedented powers given to an independent panel of private citizens will also hopefully help to restore a measure of confidence in government.
4. The controversy surrounding the Kennedy assassination is unlikely to disappear even after the Board's work is completed., But, the American public will know that no information about the assassination is being hidden by the government. Perhaps we will see a way for government business to be conducted more effectively -- and more openly -- in the future.

## **Memorandum**

**To: Board Members**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**cc: David Marwell**

**Date: April 5, 1995**

**Re: Suggested Talking Points**

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### **I. Introduction**

This memo, prepared at Jack's request and following conversations with members of the Board, contains suggested talking points for discussion of the Board's work with the media. These suggested talking points are from previous memos that I have prepared for Jack prior to various radio and television interviews.

### **II. Basic Talking Points**

The basic points which we always try to use:

1. The ARRB is an independent federal panel, consisting of five private citizens .
2. The Board's mandate is to identify and secure the Kennedy assassination records.
3. It is up to the Board to determine which records are to be made public immediately and which ones will have postponed release dates.
4. The purpose of the law and the Board's work is to provide a full record to the American public, make it available at the National Archives, and allow interested parties to draw their own conclusions about what happened in Dallas 31 years ago.
5. The Board is not re-investigating the assassination of President Kennedy. Its focus is collecting the assassination records.

### **III. Other Key Talking Points for Interviews**

In addition to the basic talking points about the Board, we have found that the following points are also important:

-2-

1. The Congress created the Board to have an independent, cost-effective and accountable process for the review and release of these documents.
2. The reality is that there continues to be an intense, unabated interest in the assassination, as reflected in the number of books and documentaries that are still being done. Requests from the public for federal records were showing no sign of slowing and federal agencies were continuing to devote enormous resources to the task of responding to these requests and litigating many of the requests. That costs money. It also costs money to unnecessarily keep records classified. The Review Board will get as many records out in the public domain as possible in the next couple of years. In the long run, the Review Board will have saved a lot of money and resources.
3. The Review Board is prepared to begin the review of assassination records which the FBI, CIA and other federal agencies want to keep secret.
4. The Board has reviewed some Warren Commission documents that have not been made public and are not currently being reviewed by any other federal agency.
5. Members of the senior staff have reviewed documents of the House Select Committee on Assassination Records which were generated by the Committee and have remained secret, but do not require review by any other agencies.
6. The Board has published guidance on the definition of an "assassination record" in the Federal Register. There was a 30 day public comment period and we received input from a lot of different people. Our goal is to frame a definition which allows the American public to have as complete a record of the assassination as possible. The definition guidance will be finalized this spring.
7. The Board has also met with officials from the CIA, the Secret Service and the National Security Agency. The purpose of our meetings was to establish a relationship with federal agencies which hold assassination records and ensure that they are in compliance with the law.

### **IV. "Broader Implication" Talking Points**

In addition to the talking points above, we have also used the following talking points previously to emphasize the broader implications of the Board's work:

1. The Act which created the Review Board has given the American public an extraordinary and unprecedented opportunity to gain insight into its government and recent history.

-3-

2. The Board has the opportunity not only to make publicly available records that may clarify the facts surrounding the assassination, but also, along the way, the opportunity to redefine the meaning of, and need for, secrecy in government.

3. The unprecedented powers given to an independent panel of private citizens will also hopefully help to restore a measure of confidence in government.

4. The controversy surrounding the Kennedy assassination is unlikely to disappear even after the Board's work is completed, But, the American public will know that no information about the assassination is being hidden by the government. Perhaps we will see a way for government business to be conducted more effectively -- and more openly -- in the future.

## **V. Statements We Have Learned to Avoid**

Based on our experiences in dealing with the media in recent months, a few statements to avoid are suggested below.

1. "People are still asking questions about the Lincoln assassination."

Based on the reaction that we have heard, this statement leads people to question the reason for the Board's existence. They query: What is the point of having this Board if questions are still being asked about a presidential assassination which occurred more than 100 years ago? Although it puts the Board's task in some historical context, this statement is not viewed as a positive statement about the Board.

2. "There will always be more questions about the assassination, even after the Board is done with its work."

We have learned that this statement, standing alone, also leads people to question the need for the Review Board. As we are all aware, it *is* likely that there will always be questions about the assassination. However, people find it easier to accept the need for the Board when the above statement is accompanied with the following point, "When the Review Board has completed its work, the American public will know that the government is not hiding any

information about the assassination."

## **VI. Responding to Questions About Who Was Responsible for the Assassination**

When asked who he thinks was responsible for the assassination, Jack has responded in the following way:

I put myself in the category of most Americans, that is, I still have many questions about what happened. I am keeping an open mind. The Review Board is not mandated to reach any conclusions about the assassination. We are charged with making the records which relate to the assassination public. Ultimately, it will be left to the American public to draw their own

-4-

conclusions about what occurred 31 years ago in Dallas.

We have found that this is an effective way to maintain an unbiased public position, while taking the opportunity to restate the Board's mandate.

**Memorandum**

**To: David Marwell  
Jeremy Gunn  
Sheryl Walter**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: April 4, 1995**

**Re: Holland Letter of 3/30/95 - "Solo" Release**

---

I have attached a copy of Max Holland's recent letter which raises some interesting questions connected with the FBI "Solo" release. I sent him a standard thank you letter for now, but he will certainly look for a substantive response in the future.

Memorandum

To: David Marwell  
Jeremy Gunn

From: Tom Samoluk

Date: April 11, 1995

Re: Attached 3/18/95 Letter from Hamilton Darby Perry to  
William Joyce

---

I am enclosing a copy of a 3/18/95 letter from Hamilton Darby Perry to William Joyce, and Bill's response. I thought you might be interested. I'm not sure the information is relevant to assassination records.

Memorandum

To: David Marwell  
Jeremy Gunn

*From: Tom Samoluk*

*Date: April 19, 1995*

*Re: Attached Literature on Two Publications*

---

We received the attached flyers from National Booksellers on two books. I attach them only for your information and have no particular knowledge of either of them.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**CC: David Marwell**

**Date: April 19, 1995**

**Re: Dr. Randolph Robertson 4/8/95 Letter on DOJ Records on JFK Autopsy Review**

---

The attached copy of the 4/8/95 Robertson letter is attached for your review as a correspondence relating to a Federal Agency. The original is in the correspondence file.

As a follow-up to Robertson's telephone call checking on the status of his letter, I left a message on his answering machine acknowledging receipt of the letter and advising him that it would be reviewed.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: April 21, 1995**

**Re: Milam 4/18/95 Memo on Documents Relating to S. Latona, FBI Fingerprint Expert**

---

The attached copy of the 4/18/95 Milam memo is attached for your review as a correspondence relating to a Federal Agency. The original is in the correspondence file.

(1) page fax to Bill Joyce; (5) page fax to Jack Tunheim

Memorandum

To: Jack Tunheim  
Bill Joyce

From: Tom Samoluk

Date: April 24, 1995

Re: WBEZ Radio Live Telephone Interview;  
Thurs. April 27th, 11-11:30 A.M. (EST), 10-10:30 A.M.  
(CST)

---

Both of you are scheduled to do a live telephone interview on WBEZ radio's "Maura Tapp Show" on Thursday, April 27th, from approximately 11:10 to 11:30 a.m. (EST), 10:10 - 10:30 a.m. (CST). WBEZ is the National Public Radio station in Chicago. Our contact is David Boodell, the producer, at (312) 460-9338.

I have given Boodell your respective telephone numbers. A representative from the show (Boodell or someone else) will call you at approximately 11:10 a.m. (EST), 10:10 (CST). The live interview will be conducted by Maura Tapp, the host of the show. Ms. Tapp will have both of you on the show at the same time. There will not be any calls from listeners.

I faxed the standard suggested talking points to Bill on Friday and they accompany this memo to Jack now. Please do not hesitate to call me if you want to discuss the interview before Thursday.

Memorandum

To: *Jeremy Gunn*

From: *Tom Samoluk*

Date: *April 25, 1995*

Re: *Marcello Tapes and Possibly Related Documents*

---

Per our earlier discussion in David's office, I have attached two excerpts regarding the FBI tapes of Marcello from the late 1970's.

Two questions for you come to mind:

1. Could you pursue this with Blakey and determine if he can shed any additional light on the contents of the tapes and if there is any related documentation (such as what Anne talked of -- logs, reports, transcripts, etc.)?

2. Could you also pursue the issue with the FBI? Do they have any tapes or relevant records that we should have access to?

Anne Buttimer and I discussed these issues a little more this afternoon. Perhaps we could discuss it with you again at a convenient time.

Memorandum

To: Jeremy Gunn

From: Tom Samoluk

Date: April 26, 1995

Re: Peter Dale Scott 4/21/95 Letter

---

The attached copy of a 4/21/95 letter from Peter Dale Scott is forwarded to you as a correspondence relating to federal agencies. He mentions a variety of specific records. There is one CIA record which he is particularly anxious to obtain and asks the Board to deal with it "with dispatch."

Memorandum

To: Jack Tunheim  
Bill Joyce

From: Tom Samoluk

Date: April 28, 1995

Re: RESCHEDULED WBEZ Radio Live Telephone Interview;  
Thurs. May 11th, 11-11:30 A.M. (EST), 10-10:30 A.M.

(CST)

---

The live telephone interview on WBEZ radio's "Maura Tapp Show" has been rescheduled for Thursday, May 11th, from approximately 11:10 to 11:30 a.m. (EST), 10:10 - 10:30 a.m. (CST). Our contact is now Kerstin Pendry, the producer, at (312) 460-9420.

As noted before:

I have given your respective telephone numbers. A representative from the show will call you at approximately 11:10 a.m. (EST), 10:10 (CST).

The live interview will be conducted by Maura Tapp, the host of the show. Ms. Tapp will have both of you on the show at the same time. There will not be any calls from listeners.

I will let you know if there are any changes in the schedule or additional suggested talking points.

Memorandum

To: Jack Tunheim

From: Tom Samoluk

Date: May 3, 1995

Re: Media Interviews for Friday, May 5th

---

You are scheduled to do the following two interviews on Friday, May 5th in the ARRB offices (all times are EST):

9:00 - 10:00 a.m. KWHN-AM Radio; Fort Smith, Arkansas

"The Morning Meeting" hosted by Susan Edens

Live telephone interview, with listener calls

Contact: Susan Edens, (501) 782-8888

Note: The station will place the call to us at 9:00 a.m.

10:00 - 10:30 a.m. Jeff Morley, Washington Post

Background interview on update/status of Board's work;

not

for a particular story right now

Contact: Jeff Morley, 334-6053

Note: This interview can be done in the conference room

I will provide you with a memo containing updated suggested talking points and will sit in on both interviews.

(2) page fax

Memorandum

To: Jack Tunheim

From: Tom Samoluk

Date: May 4, 1995

Re: Morley Interview; Fri., May 5th, 10:00-10:30 a.m.

---

You are scheduled to meet with Jeff Morley of the Washington Post on Friday, May 5th, from 10:00 to 10:30 a.m. at the ARRB offices.

As I previously mentioned, Morley is not preparing another story right now, but would like to get an update from you and your views on the Board's work to date.

I suggest the following points for your consideration:

Accomplishments

### **1. Public Meetings and Public Hearings**

The Board is fulfilling the clear intent of the Congress to be public about its work and decisions through holding public meetings and hearings.

### **2. Definition Guidance**

Finalizing the definition guidance is an important step for the Board, the government agencies and the public. It sets the parameters for our work for the next two years.

### **3. Review of Documents**

- a. Analysts are reviewing documents everyday.
- b. The Board has reviewed some documents.

### **4. Witness Interviews**

Interviews are being conducted with individuals who may have valuable information relative to the existence, identification and location of assassination records.

### **5. Agency Meetings**

The Board has met with many agencies to establish a relationship and ensure that they are aware of their responsibilities under the JFK Records Act.

-2-

### **6. Staffing**

The ARRB is almost completely staffed.

### **Future Activities and Goals**

### **1. Release of Documents**

The primary goal is to begin the release of documents very shortly and have the regular release of documents during the course of the Board's existence.

### **2. Public Meetings and Hearings**

We will continue to operate publicly and hold public hearings, like the one scheduled for New Orleans on June 28th.

### **Likely Questions from Morley**

1. When exactly will the Board begin the release of records?
2. Do you feel the agencies are being cooperative?
3. What are your personal views on how the Board is doing to date?
4. What is the status of your judgeship? Will you continue on the Board?
5. Do you have any concerns about funding for the Board?
6. Have you read Mailer's book? What do you think of it?

These suggested talking points and likely questions are not meant to be exhaustive, but to give you an outline of what course Morley will probably want to take during the interview. Please do hesitate to contact me if you want to discuss anything or we could talk in the morning before the interview.

(4) Page Fax, including this cover page

Memorandum

To: Jack Tunheim

From: Tom Samoluk

Date: May 10, 1995

Re: WBEZ Radio Live Telephone Interview;  
Thurs. May 11th, 10-10:30 A.M. (CST)

---

The live telephone interview on WBEZ radio's "Maura Tapp Show" (Chicago NPR) is scheduled for Thursday, May 11th, from approximately 10:10 - 10:30 a.m. (CST). Our contact is Kerstin Pendry, the producer, at (312) 460-9420. Bill Joyce will join you over the telephone for this interview

As noted before:

I have given your respective telephone numbers to the producer. A representative from

the show will call you at approximately 10:10 (CST).

The live interview will be conducted by Maura Tapp, the host of the show. Ms. Tapp will have both of you on the show at the same time. There will not be any calls from listeners.

I have attached a copy of the same talking points which you used last week for the Fort Smith, Arkansas radio interview.

*(1) page fax*

Memorandum

To: *Bill Joyce*

From: *Tom Samoluk*

Date: *May 10, 1995*

Re: *WBEZ Radio Live Telephone Interview;*

*Thurs. May 11th, 11-11:30 A.M. (EST)*

---

The live telephone interview on WBEZ radio's "Maura Tapp Show" (Chicago/NPR) is scheduled for Thursday, May 11th, from approximately 11:10 to 11:30 a.m. (EST). Our contact is Kerstin Pendry, the producer, at (312) 460-9420. Jack will join you on the telephone from Minnesota for this interview.

As noted before:

I have given the producer your respective telephone numbers. A representative from the show will call you at approximately 11:10 a.m. (EST).

The live interview will be conducted by Maura Tapp, the host of the show. Ms. Tapp will have both of you on the show at the same time. There will not be any calls from listeners.

**Memorandum**

**To: David Marwell  
Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: May 10, 1995**

**Re: Sanders 5/10/95 Letter**

---

Attached is a 5/10/95 letter from Charles Sanders. I am providing copies to both of you because he raises a variety of issues that are relevant to both of you under our correspondence referral review system.

Memorandum

To: Jeremy Gunn

From: Tom Samoluk

Date: May 11, 1995

Re: *Suggested New Orleans Witnesses from John Davis*

---

*Please advise me if you recognize any of the people on the attached list and if you have any thoughts about them.*

Memorandum

To: Jeremy Gunn

From: Tom Samoluk

Date: May 23, 1995

Re: Alan Jules Weberman Letter of 5/16/95 Letter

---

The attached copy of a 5/16/95 letter from Weberman is forwarded to you as a correspondence relating to federal agencies.

Memorandum

To: Jack Tunheim

From: Tom Samoluk

Date: May 30, 1995

Re: Interview on Victoria Jones Show, WRC-AM Radio, Washington,  
D.C.;

Thursday, June 1, 1995; 7:20 - 8:00 A.M. (CST)

---

You are scheduled to be a live telephone guest on The Victoria Jones Show, on

WRC-AM Radio in Washington, DC, on Thursday, June 1, 1995, from 7:20 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. (CST). You should call into the studio at 7:20 a.m. **The number is (301) 495-9089.** They have your home number, but I told them that you would call in. There will be listener calls.

Our contact is Debra Kinard, the producer. Her regular office number is (301) 650-4407.

You will follow Norman Mailer on the air. Jones will probably ask you questions about whether or not you have read the book, what you think of it, and if we are seeking Soviet records on Oswald. I think you have answered these questions before.

I have attached two documents for your guidance. First, I have attached a

Memorandum

*To: Debra Kinard, Victoria Jones show*

*From: Tom Samoluk, JFK Assassination Records Review Board, 724-0088*

*Date: May 30, 1995*

*Re: Tunheim Interview on Thurs., June 1, 8:25 a.m.-9:00 a.m.*

---

Per our conversation, Jack Tunheim will call into the studio at 8:20 a.m. on Thursday, June 1. As I mentioned, he will be at home for the interview. As a back-up, his home number is (612) 430-0979.

I am faxing you an article by Tunheim which will be in an upcoming research journal. It gives a good update on Board activities.

Thanks.

Memorandum

To: *Jeremy Gunn*

From: *Tom Samoluk*

Date: June 13, 1995

Re: Alan Jules Weberman Letter of 6/6 /95

---

The attached copy of a 6/6/95 letter from Weberman is forwarded to you as a correspondence relating to federal agencies.

**Memorandum**

**To: David Marwell**

**CC: Anne Buttimer**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: June 13, 1995**

**Re: Vernon 6/12/95 Letter**

---

I am attaching a copy of Robert Vernon's 6/12/95 fax as a correspondence relating to a local record.

*() page fax, including this page*

*Memorandum*

*To: Jack Tunheim*

*From: Tom Samoluk*

*Date: June 16, 1995*

*Re: Telephone Interview with Morley; Tues., June 20th, 2:00 p.m.*

(CST)

---

You are scheduled to do a telephone interview with Jeff Morley of The Washington Post on Tuesday, June 20th, at 2:00 p.m. (CST). The interview should last no longer than ten minutes. We arranged it so you are to call Morley at (202) 334-6053.

The topic for Morley's article is the Review Board voting to release in full the sixteen CIA documents and the decisions the President and Director Deutch will now face regarding the documents. Morley posed the question this way: Will Clinton and Deutch go along with the release as part of the effort to "clean house" at the CIA (which Morley considers the removal of Jack Devine to be a part of and an important step) or are the closed parts of the documents still too sensitive to release?

I will follow-up with suggested talking points on Monday.

(3) page fax, including this page  
Memorandum

To: Jack Tunheim

From: Tom Samoluk

Date: June 19, 1995

Re: Suggested talking points for telephone interview with Morley;  
Tues., June 20th, 2:00 p.m. (CST)

---

### I. Introduction

As previously discussed, you are scheduled to do a telephone interview with Jeff Morley of The Washington Post on Tuesday, June 20th, at 2:00 p.m. (CST). The interview should last no longer than ten minutes. We arranged it so you are to call Morley at (202) 334-6053.

The topic for Morley's article is the Review Board voting to release in full the sixteen CIA documents and the decisions the President and Director Deutch will now face regarding the documents. Morley posed the question this way: Will Clinton and Deutch go along with the release as part of the effort to "clean house" at the CIA (which Morley considers the removal of Jack Devine to be a part of and an important step) or are the closed parts of the documents still too sensitive to release?

### II. Additional Information About the Morley Interview

*Some additional background information for the interview:*

*Morley is not sure where his proposed article will run. He said that he will probably approach a publication other than the Post with the story. His intention is to get someone to run the story within a few weeks, after notification appears in the Federal Register (this week on Wednesday or Thursday), but before the 30 days expire by which time the President must make a decision.*

*Jeff apparently views Jack Devine and his future (or alleged lack thereof) with the CIA as an important indication of the apparent attempt by the Agency to be more open. He knows that Devine was at the March 8, 1995 CIA briefing at our office, but that he did not attend the May 18, 1995 briefing. I believe that Jeff attaches significance to Devine attending the first briefing, but not the second. I have no personal insight into Devine's status at the agency.*

*-2-*

*I have told Morley that the Board voted unanimously to open up in full (16) CIA documents that were previously available to the public, but contained many redactions. Once the notice appears in the Federal Register listing the (16) documents that the Board voted on, I am going to provide him with the redacted, publicly available versions of these documents, along with the RIFs. At this time, I have given him no other information about the content of these records on which the Board voted.*

### III. Suggested Talking Points

1. *The votes by the Review Board to completely open up these 16 documents is an important step for the Review Board and an important part of the history of the JFK assassination.*

2. It is important for the Review Board because after all the necessary preparation, we have now gotten down to the actual work for which the Review Board was created: the review and release of assassination records.

3. It is important in terms of the history of the assassination because after all the skepticism, and after all of the government investigations, it is a group of five private American citizens who are making decisions about what government records should be made available to the American public. And only the President of the United States can overrule our decisions.

4. With the start of the decision making process by the Board now underway, hopefully people will take notice and we may see the beginning of renewed confidence in government. Perhaps people will see that the government is serious about making information more available and private citizens are playing the key role. It is an unprecedented situation and could have larger implications for how the government handles secrecy in the future, beyond the JFK assassination records.

5. The actual records on which the Board voted may not be viewed as particularly significant as far as the information they contain. I'll let others judge for themselves. Different people will see different things of value in them. However, it is noteworthy that these are records that contain information which the CIA has sought to keep closed. Obviously, the Board disagreed with the Agency. That is significant.

6. Obviously, we hope that the President will agree with the decisions made by the Board, but we cannot predict the outcome. As you know, the President has (30) days from the date of notification to decide.

-3-

7. We are confident that we have now entered the major phase of our work. It remains an ominous task, but one that all of the Board members agree is an important one which ultimately should have very positive results with regard to how Americans view their government.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: June 30, 1995**

**Re: Dr. Thomas Foregger 6/26/95 Letter**

---

The attached copy of the 6/26/95 Foregger letter is attached for your review as a correspondence relating to a Federal Agency. He had written to Jack before any of us were on staff. I checked with Laura and the information is in the Federal Follow-up Chart. I wrote back to and advised him that we would follow-up. Please advise me if there are any developments relative to Foregger's interest in Professor Guinn's and we'll write to him again.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: July 12, 1995**

**Re: Dr. Mantik Letter of 6/27/95 on HSCA Dr. Finck Interview**

---

Attached is a copy of Mantik's 6/27/95 letter regarding a specific HSCA document.

**Memorandum**

**To: David Marwell and Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: July 12, 1995**

**Re: Milam Letter of 6/30/95**

---

Attached is a copy of Milam's 6/30/95 letter regarding various assassination records.

**Memorandum**

**To: David Marwell and Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: July 12, 1995**

**Re: Johnston Letter of 7/6/95**

---

Attached is a copy of James Johnston's 7/6/95 letter regarding various assassination records.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: July 12, 1995**

**Re: Jim Koepke Letter of 7/10/95**

---

Attached is a copy of Jim Koepke's 7/10/95 letter regarding information allegedly involving an ATF agent.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: July 12, 1995**

**Re: Malcolm Blunt Letter of 6/30/95**

---

Attached is a copy of Malcolm Blunt 6/30/95 letter regarding various Oswald files.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: July 28, 1995**

**Re: Dr. Thomas Battocletti Letter of 7/22/95**

---

Attached is a copy of the **Dr. Thomas Battocletti** 7/22/95 letter regarding records related to the autopsy of President Kennedy..

**Memorandum**

**To: Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: August 1, 1995**

**Re: Dr. Thomas Foregger 7/27/95 Follow-up Letter on Dr. Guinn Records**

---

The attached copy of the 7/27/95 Foregger follow-up letter on the records of Dr. Guinn relating to his work for the HSCA is attached for your information.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: August 1, 1995**

**Re: Lisa Pease "CC" of 7/22/95 Letter to CIA on a Paul Hoch Memo**

---

Attached is a copy of Lisa Pease's 7/22/95 "cc" to the Review Board of a FOIA request she sent to the CIA for a memo by Paul Hoch on CIA activities and the Warren Commission investigation.

**(1) page fax**

**Memorandum**

**To: Jack Tunheim**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: August 22, 1995**

**Re: Interview on KTSA Radio-San Antonio; Thurs., August 21st, 3:10-3:20 p.m. (CST)**

---

You are scheduled to do a live telephone interview on Thursday, August 24th from 3:10 to approximately 3:20 p.m. (CST) on Radio Station KTSA in San Antonio, Texas. The hosts of this afternoon talk show are Ricky and Trey Ware. The producer and our contact is Catherine Duncan. She will call you at your office at 3:10 p.m. Just in case there is a problem, her number is (210) 599-5533 or (210) 599-5500, ext. 145.

Their interest in talking to you was prompted by the August 18, 1995 USA Today article on the Board vote to release, in full or in part, (37) CIA documents.

I will prepare a memo with some suggested talking points that will be faxed to you before the interview on Thursday.

FYI - Anna will be a live telephone guest on KWHN Radio in Fort Smith, Arkansas on Friday, August 25th. As you will recall, you did an interview with them a few months ago. We followed-up and they were interested in having Anna on because of her hometown connections with Fort Smith.

(6) Page Fax, including cover page

Memorandum

To: John Judge

From: Tom Samoluk

Date: August 22, 1995

Re: Federal Register Notice on (37) CIA Documents

---

Per our conversation yesterday, I am faxing the Federal Register notice that appeared in the Register today. We had to send over a correction because of three errors that appeared in the original notice. The correction is also faxed with this cover memo. It will appear in the Register within a few business days.

If it is helpful to you, I have a completely corrected version of what our original Federal Register notice should have looked like. We could not reprint the corrected original notice in its entirety. The Federal Register requires corrections to be done a certain way. You cannot refile the corrected document in whole, you have to indicate only the information you want corrected. Let me know if you want anything else.

### **Memorandum**

**To: Jack Tunheim**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: August 23, 1995**

**Re: Interview on KTSA Radio-San Antonio; Thurs., August 24th, 3:10-3:20 p.m. (CST)**

---

#### I. Introduction

You are scheduled to do a live telephone interview on Thursday, August 24th from 3:10 to approximately 3:20 p.m. (CST) on Radio Station KTSA in San Antonio, Texas. The hosts of this afternoon talk show are Ricky and Trey Ware. The producer and our contact is Catherine Duncan. She will call you at your office at 3:10 p.m. Just in case there is a problem, her number is (210) 599-5533 or (210) 599-5500, ext. 145.

This memorandum contains suggested talking points for the interview. Several of them are basic ones which we have used in the past. Updated talking points have been added to reflect the Board's recent activities. I will provide some background information (fact sheet, news releases and recent newsclips) to the radio station prior to the interview. This information is attached to for your quick reference.

Please note that if the interviewers do not want to spend a lot of time on the background of the Board and are most interested in recent activities, Section III will be the most helpful.

## II. Basic Talking Points

1. The ARRB is an independent federal panel, consisting of five private citizens.
2. The Board's mandate is to identify and secure the Kennedy assassination records.
3. It is up to the Board to determine which records are to be made public immediately and which ones will have postponed release dates.
4. The purpose of the law and the Board's work is to provide a full record to the American public, make it available at the National Archives, and allow interested parties to draw their own conclusions about what happened in Dallas 32 years ago.
5. The Board is not re-investigating the assassination of President Kennedy. Our focus is collecting the assassination records.

-2-

6. The Congress created the Board to have an independent, cost-effective and accountable process for the review and release of these documents.
7. The reality is that there continues to be an intense, unabated interest in the assassination, as reflected in the number of books and documentaries that are still being done. Requests from the public for federal records were showing no sign of slowing and federal agencies were continuing to devote enormous resources to the task of responding to these requests and litigating many of the requests. That costs money. It also costs money to unnecessarily keep records classified. In fact, The Washington Post recently reported just that the federal government spends an estimated \$16 billion a year to maintain a system of secrecy. The Review Board will get as many records out in the public domain as possible in the next couple of years. In the long run, the Review Board will have saved a lot of money and resources.

## III. Recent Activities of the Review Board

1. The Review Board has begun the process of reviewing and releasing previously classified information. We are meeting regularly in Washington. The focus to date has been on CIA and FBI documents. These early decisions by the Board involve difficult issues related to informants and intelligence sources and methods. They are obviously sensitive issues and are important because of their relevancy to many other documents which the Board will be reviewing in the future.
2. In mid-July, the Review Board released in full (16) CIA documents, which had previously been

available only in redacted form. The CIA did not appeal the Board's decisions and the President accepted them. These documents, which relate to Lee Harvey Oswald's visit to Mexico City only weeks before the assassination, are now available to the American public in their entirety for the first time.

3. In late July, the Review Board notified President Clinton that we had voted to open in full (16) FBI documents and (2) other CIA documents. The FBI documents relate to their investigation of Oswald while he was in the Soviet Union in 1960 and 1961; the Communist Party, USA reaction to the assassination; and Jack Ruby's shooting of Oswald. The CIA documents relate to Oswald's trip to Mexico City. The FBI has appealed the Board's decision to the President on all but one of the documents. The CIA had notified the Board that it will not appeal. Under the law, President Clinton has until August 30th to agree or disagree with the Board's determinations on these documents.

4. In the Board's most recent action, last week we sent notification to the President of decisions which we had made on an additional (37) CIA documents. The Board voted to open (16) documents in their entirety and (21) documents in part. The Board voted to -3-

release the overwhelming majority of information which the CIA had wanted to keep secret. However, for the first time the Board did agree with the CIA position that some information relating to sensitive intelligence sources and methods should not be publicly released at this time. We are exercising careful independent judgment, just as the Congress had envisioned. Consistent with the law, we are balancing the need to protect still sensitive government information versus the public's right to know.

5. It is worth noting that the Board has held public hearing on identifying and locating assassination records in New Orleans, Washington, Dallas and Boston to allow for public input and assist the Board in fulfilling its mandate. Most recently in New Orleans, the Review Board obtained a significant number of original records related to the assassination investigation and prosecution of Clay Shaw by District Attorney Jim Garrison. We are continuing to pursue additional records which should be in the Collection at the National Archives.

#### IV. "Broader Implication" Talking Points

1. The Act which created the Review Board has given the American public an extraordinary and unprecedented opportunity to gain insight into its government and recent history.

2. The Board has the opportunity not only to make publicly available records that may clarify the facts surrounding the assassination, but also, along the way, the opportunity to redefine the meaning of, and need for, secrecy in government.

3. The unprecedented powers given to an independent panel of private citizens will also hopefully help to restore a measure of confidence in government.

4. The controversy surrounding the Kennedy assassination is unlikely to disappear even after the Board's work is completed, But, the American public will know that no information about the assassination is being hidden by the government. Perhaps we will see a way for government business to be conducted more effectively -- and more openly -- in the future.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: August 28, 1995**

**Re: Dennis Bartholomew August 19th Letter**

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The attached copy of the August 19, 1995 letter from Dennis Bartholemew. It is attached for your information because of the parts about Lt. Col Daniel Marvin (ret.). I have addressed the other parts Bartholemew's letter with him.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: September 14, 1995**

**Re: Dennis Bartholomew September 10th Letter**

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The attached copy of the September 10, 1995 letter from Dennis Bartholomew is for your review because of the parts about Lt. Col Daniel Marvin (ret.). You were previously provided with a copy of his August 19th letter on the same topic.

**Memorandum**

**To: Review Board Members**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**CC: David Marwell**

**Date: September 21, 1995**

**Re: Call from Debrah Stead, New York Times Education Reporter**

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Deborah Stead, a New York Times education reporter, (212) 556-1212, is writing a piece for an education supplement section that will be included in the newspaper sometime in October. She is interested in talking to Board members. Please expect a call from her either on Friday, September 22nd or during the week of September 25th. I will be giving her your respective telephone numbers.

Stead's focus will be on the presence of academics on the Review Board and the unique, if not unprecedented, nature of the Board's work. She became interested in the Board after reading the

recent Chronicle of Education article. Stead's questions will be very similar to the Chronicle reporter's questions regarding your personal views about serving on the Board. At a later date, she may do a longer article on the Board.

In addition, a Times photographer is tentatively scheduled to take photos of the Board at approximately 1:30 p.m. today. These will be "working" shots of the Board, most likely in the conference room.

**Memorandum**

**To: David Marwell and Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: September 22, 1995**

**Re: Oswald Tapes and Mexico City**

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Attached is an excerpt from Dick Russell's book The Man Who Knew Too Much regarding an incident allegedly involving Edward Jay Epstein and the Mexico City surveillance audio tapes of Oswald. Gus Russ mentioned it to me on the telephone yesterday.

Memorandum

To: David, Marwell, Jeremy Gunn

From: Tom Samoluk

Date: October 17, 1995

Re: Kathleen Cunningham 10/8/95 Letter on Medical Evidence

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Attached for your information is another letter from Cunningham on the medical evidence. I have provided copies to Dennis Quinn and Doug Horne as part of their review of the medical evidence.

Memorandum

To: David Marwell  
Jeremy Gunn

From: Tom Samoluk

Date: October 17, 1995

Re: Weisberg 8/26/95 Letter - FYI

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I am attaching a copy of Harold Weisberg's 8/26/95 letter to me, which we just received yesterday. Please note that he has included some specific FBI records information that may or may not be of assistance.

Memorandum - (1) page fax

To: John Judge

From: Tom Samoluk

Date: October 17, 1995

Re: ARRB Members and Staff Attending COPA Conference

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The following Board members and staff will attend sessions of the COPA conference:

1. Jack Tunheim, Chair, ARRB
2. Dr. Anna Nelson, ARRB member
3. Dr. David Marwell, ARRB Executive Director
4. Dr. T. Jeremy Gunn, General Counsel
5. Tom Samoluk, Esq., Associate Director for Communications
6. Phil Golrick, ARRB staff
7. Dave Montague, ARRB staff
8. Doug Horne, ARRB staff
9. Joe Freeman, ARRB staff
10. Manuel Legaspi, ARRB staff
11. Tim Wray, ARRB staff

The following Board members and senior staff will attend the Sunday luncheon with the COPA Governing Board and the medical panel presentation:

1. Jack Tunheim, Chair, ARRB
2. Dr. Anna Nelson, ARRB member
3. Dr. David Marwell, ARRB Executive Director
4. Dr. T. Jeremy Gunn, General Counsel
5. Tom Samoluk, Esq., Associate Director for Communications

Thanks for inviting us. Please let me know if there is anything else about which we need to talk before the weekend.

Memorandum - (2) page fax

To: Carol Wurth, Framingham Savings Bank

From: Tom Samoluk, (Day number: (202) 724-0088, ext. 227)

Date: October 23, 1995

Re: Late Fee Assessed for October Payment

---

Per my conversation with Ms. Wurth, I am faxing a copy of the U.S. Postal Service Express Mail receipt dated October 12, 1995, which guaranteed delivery of my mortgage payment by October 13, 1995. The purpose of my inquiry is to question why in my statement for November, I was assessed a late fee for the October payment which arrived at the correct address on Friday, October 13th, before the required 16th of the month.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Memorandum

To: David Marwell  
Jeremy Gunn

From: Tom Samoluk

Date: November 16, 1995

Re: Alcorn 11/13/95 Letter

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I am attaching a copy of Dan Alcorn's 11/13/95 letter to Jack regarding the possible location of records in private hands. I have responded to Alcorn with a request for more specific information, which he offered in the letter.

**Memorandum - (11) page fax to: Jack Tunheim**

**To: Jack Tunheim**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: November 20, 1995**

**Re: WBAI-Radio (New York City) Live Telephone Interview;  
Tuesday, November 21st, 11:15 - 11:30 a.m. (CST)**

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**I. Introduction**

You are scheduled to do a live telephone interview on The Gary Null Show, WBAI-NPR Radio in New York City, on Tuesday, November 21, 1995, from 11:15 to 11:30 a.m. (CST). Our contact at the station, Holly, will call you at your office a few minutes before the interview is scheduled to begin. Just in case there is a problem, her number is (212) 721-6044.

According to the producer, Gary Null will allow you to choose the direction of the interview. There will be no calls from listeners. This memorandum contains suggested talking points for the interview. Several of them are basic ones which we have used in the past. Updated talking points have been added to reflect the Board's recent activities. I have provided some background information (fact sheet and recent news clips) to the radio station. This information is attached to for your quick reference.

Please note that if the interviewer does not want to spend a lot of time on the background of the Board and is most interested in recent activities, Section III will be the most helpful.

**II. Basic Talking Points**

1. The ARRB is an independent federal panel, consisting of five private citizens.
2. The Board's mandate is to identify and secure the Kennedy assassination records.
3. It is up to the Board to determine which records are to be made public immediately and which ones will have postponed release dates.

-2-

4. The purpose of the law and the Board's work is to provide a full record to the American public, make it available at the National Archives, and allow interested parties to draw their own conclusions about what happened in Dallas 32 years ago.

5. The Board is not re-investigating the assassination of President Kennedy. Our focus is

collecting assassination records.

6. The Congress created the Board to have an independent, cost-effective and accountable process for the review and release of these documents.

7. The reality is that there continues to be an intense, unabated interest in the assassination, as reflected in the number of books and documentaries that are still being done. Requests from the public for federal records were showing no sign of slowing and federal agencies were continuing to devote enormous resources to the task of responding to these requests and litigating many of the requests. That costs money. It also costs money to unnecessarily keep records classified. In fact, The Washington Post recently reported that the federal government spends an estimated \$16 billion a year to maintain a system of secrecy. The Review Board will get as many records out in the public domain as possible in the next couple of years. In the long run, the Review Board will have saved a lot of money and resources.

### **III. Recent Activities of the Review Board**

1. The Review Board is deeply into the process of reviewing and releasing previously classified information. We are meeting regularly in Washington. The focus to date has been on CIA and FBI documents. These early decisions by the Board involve difficult issues related to informants and intelligences sources and methods. They are obviously sensitive issues and are important because of their relevancy to many other documents which the Board will be reviewing in the future.

2. Since mid-July, the Review Board has been releasing CIA documents, many of which had previously been available only in redacted form. These documents relate primarily to Lee Harvey Oswald's visit to Mexico City only weeks before the assassination. Most are now available to the American public in full. Some have a few redactions, but substantive information related to the assassination has been released. (As an example, you could cite the CIA document which is the subject of one of the attached news clips regarding the possible existence of another copy of an "intercept" of an Oswald telephone conversation with the Soviet embassy in Mexico City, which was discovered after the assassination. This is a good example of the Review Board and the JFK Act "in action" with the Board exercising its authority to release the substance of the relevant section of the document, while still protecting the actual text because of the sensitive information it contained about sources and methods. )

-3-

3. Other Review Board releases include FBI documents relate to their investigation of the Communist Party, USA reaction to the assassination, and Jack Ruby's shooting of Oswald. (See news clip.)

4. As mentioned earlier, the Board has agreed with the CIA and the FBI that some information

relating to sensitive intelligence sources and methods should not be publicly released at this time. We are exercising careful independent judgment, just as the Congress had envisioned. Consistent with the law, we are balancing the need to protect still sensitive government information versus the public's right to know.

5. It is worth noting that the Board has held public hearing on identifying and locating assassination records in New Orleans, Washington, Dallas and Boston to allow for public input and assist the Board in fulfilling its mandate. In connection with our most recent public hearing in New Orleans, the Review Board obtained a significant number of original records related to the assassination investigation and prosecution of Clay Shaw by District Attorney Jim Garrison. We are continuing to pursue additional records which should be in the Collection at the National Archives.

6. Today, the Review Board announced that it has launched an initiative to collect original films and photographs relevant to the assassination. We are hoping that individuals who possess, or know the location of, original films and photographs will contact us. The only way to ensure the preservation of the films and photos is to house them at the National Archives. They are a critical part of the historical record of the assassination and the American public should have access to them. (Please see the draft news release which we plan on putting out on Tuesday, November 21st. It will be finalized after David's review.)

#### **IV. "Broader Implication" Talking Points**

1. The Act which created the Review Board has given the American public an extraordinary and unprecedented opportunity to gain insight into its government and recent history.

2. The Board has the opportunity not only to make publicly available records that may clarify the facts surrounding the assassination, but also, along the way, the opportunity to redefine the meaning of, and need for, secrecy in government.

3. The unprecedented powers given to an independent panel of private citizens will also hopefully help to restore a measure of confidence in government.

4. The controversy surrounding the Kennedy assassination is unlikely to disappear even after the Board's work is completed, But, the American public will know that no

-4-

information about the assassination is being hidden by the government. Perhaps we will see a way for government business to be conducted more effectively -- and more openly -- in the future.

**(8) Page Fax**

**Memorandum**

**To: Holly, Gary Null Show**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: November 20, 1995**

**Re: Live Telephone Interview with Chairman John Tunheim;  
Tuesday, November 21st at 12:15 p.m.**

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Per our conversation, I have scheduled Review Board Chairman John Tunheim for a live telephone interview on The Gary Null Show. The scheduled time is Tuesday, November 21, 1995 at 12:15 p.m. As we discussed, you will call Mr. Tunheim at (612) 296-2351. His assistant will be expecting the call a few minutes before the scheduled interview time.

I am faxing the following background information:

1. A fact sheet on the Review Board.
2. Recent news clips on the Board.
3. A bio on Chairman Tunheim.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any comment or questions, or if there is a change in the interview schedule.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: December 4, 1995**

**Re: Weberman Letter of 11/15/95 on CIA Documents**

---

Attached letter is for your information and review. If you can figure out what he is talking about, it might be worth having someone look at it.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: December 4, 1995**

**Re: Shinley Letter of 11/20/95 on Various Documents**

---

The attached letter is for your information and review. As Shinley has gone to some effort to identify specific records which he believes should be included in the JFK Collection, I think his letter should be looked at carefully.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: December 4, 1995**

**Re: Ron Davis Letter of 11/22/95 on Various Matters**

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The attached letter is for your information and review. The part about a report allegedly prepared by Cliff Fenton is what I suggest you look at. I have attached the page (and citation) from Destiny Betrayed. It does not look too solid, but if we are going to be talking with Cliff Fenton again (I believe Anne had contact with him), it might be worth asking him about this matter.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: December 11, 1995**

**Re: Kross Letter of 12/6/95 on Various Matters**

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The attached letter is for your information and review. He mentions general categories, but also some specific records.

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**Memorandum**

**To: David, Jeremy, Phil**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: December 12, 1995**

**Re: Draft News Release for Release of October Meeting Documents -  
FBI, CIA, Lopez Report**

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Please review the attached draft news release and provide me with any comments. In the release I have attempted to be up-front about these documents and not overemphasize their content, while hopefully steering some interest towards the FBI document on Echevarria (paragraph 3 of release). Realistically, I think we are looking at putting the release out early next week. I have talked to Susan Cooper and have a call into Steve Tilley. Thanks.

**(2) page fax, including this page**

**Memorandum**

**To: Jim Corbley, WETA**

**From: Tom Samoluk, (202) 724-0088, ext. 227**

**Date: December 15, 1995**

**Re: House Select Committee on Assassination Public Hearing Tapes**

---

First, thanks for your time on the telephone today.

Second, as I had mentioned, the initial matter in which we are most interested is getting a videotape dub of the testimony of one of the autopsy doctors, Dr. James J. Humes. He testified during the afternoon session of the public hearing on September 7, 1978, which was the second day of public hearings. I believe that he only testified for about an hour. I have identified the tapes from Day 2 on the attached page of the inventory, with which you previously provide me. I think that the easiest way to identify which tape Humes is on is to have someone from our staff come out and review the tapes from Day 2. (I don't think it would take too long because we know when he testified from the written transcripts.) Once his testimony is located, we would ask you to do a VHS dub of that part of the tape. **If this plan is acceptable, please advise me of a convenient time for someone from our staff to come out to the station next week to view the tapes.**

Third, I have put a call into the National Archives to determine what size tape they think the copies of all of the hearing should be on. I will get back to you when I have heard from them.

Again, thanks for your help. I look forward to hearing from you.

**Memorandum - ( ) page fax to: Jack Tunheim**

**To: Jack Tunheim**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: December 28, 1995**

**Re: WMAL Radio (DC) Live Telephone Interview; Thurs., Dec. 28th, 10-11 pm (CST)**

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**I. Introduction**

You are scheduled to do a live telephone interview on WMAL's late night talk show tonight, Thursday, December 28, 1995, from 10:00 to 11:00 p.m. (CST). Our contact at the station and the host of the show, Rita Foley, will call you at your home a few minutes before the interview is scheduled to begin. Just in case there is a problem, the studio number is (202) 686-3010.

This memorandum contains suggested talking points for the interview. Several of them are basic ones which we have used in the past. Updated talking points have been added to reflect the Board's recent activities, which will be the focus of the interview since Foley interviewed you once before (March 7, 1995). I have provided information about today's documents release and recent news clips on other releases to the radio station. This information is attached to for your quick reference.

Please note that if the interviewer does not want to spend a lot of time on the background of the Board and is most interested in recent activities, Section III will be the most helpful.

**II. Basic Talking Points**

1. The ARRB is an independent federal panel, consisting of five private citizens.
2. The Board's mandate is to identify and secure the Kennedy assassination records.
3. It is up to the Board to determine which records are to be made public immediately and which ones will have postponed release dates.

4. The purpose of the law and the Board's work is to provide a full record to the American public, make it available at the National Archives, and allow interested parties to draw their own conclusions about what happened in Dallas 32 years ago.
5. The Board is not re-investigating the assassination of President Kennedy. Our focus is collecting assassination records.
6. The Congress created the Board to have an independent, cost-effective and accountable process for the review and release of these documents.
7. The reality is that there continues to be an intense, unabated interest in the assassination, as reflected in the number of books and documentaries that are still being done. Requests from the public for federal records were showing no sign of slowing and federal agencies were continuing to devote enormous resources to the task of responding to these requests and litigating many of the requests. That costs money. It also costs money to unnecessarily keep records classified. In fact, The Washington Post recently reported that the federal government spends an estimated \$16 billion a year to maintain a system of secrecy. The Review Board will get as many records out in the public domain as possible in the next couple of years. In the long run, the Review Board will have saved a lot of money and resources.

### **III. Recent Activities of the Review Board**

1. The Review Board is deeply into the process of reviewing and releasing previously classified information. We are meeting regularly in Washington. The focus to date has been on CIA and FBI documents. These early decisions by the Board involve difficult issues related to informants and intelligences sources and methods. They are obviously sensitive issues and are important because of their relevancy to many other documents which the Board will be reviewing in the future.
2. Since mid-July, the Review Board has been releasing CIA documents, many of which had previously been available only in redacted form. These documents relate primarily to Lee Harvey Oswald's visit to Mexico City only weeks before the assassination. Most are now available to the American public in full. Some have a few redactions, but substantive information related to the assassination has been released. (As an example, you could cite the CIA document which is the subject of one of the attached Associated Press story regarding the possible existence of another copy of an "intercept" of an Oswald telephone conversation with the Soviet embassy in Mexico City, which was discovered after the assassination. This is a good example of the Review Board and the JFK Act "in action" with the Board exercising its authority to release the substance of the relevant section of the document, while still protecting the actual text because of the sensitive information it contained about sources and methods. Another example

is the Homer Echevarria document which is the subject of the attached Reuters story.)

3. Today's release of the FBI/Swiss documents (Documents - "before and after" - are attached, along with news release and Reuters story) demonstrate a number of points which are worth making:

a. An important part of the historical record has been "beefed up." It is important because there has been a lot written about Oswald's' pre-assassination travels

b. The records were aggressively pursued by Review Board

c. FBI had initially taken an aggressive stance by appealing to the President and the Board had to deal with that for the first time with this group of documents

d. Importance of having independent body is demonstrated

e. Records show the lengths that the FBI was going to three years before the assassination to find out what Oswald was doing and whether or not someone was posing as Oswald -- Oswald had people's attention even at this point

f. American public now gets to see what has been withheld for 35 years

g. In many instances blacked out documents lead to speculation. In this instance, we now know that the FBI was protecting a relationship with a foreign government

h. Process worked -- the Review Board got the records out and now the American public and historians can make their own judgments about how these documents fit into the puzzle

4. As mentioned earlier, the Board has agreed with the CIA and the FBI that some information relating to sensitive intelligence sources and methods should not be publicly released at this time. We are exercising careful independent judgment, just as the Congress had envisioned. Consistent with the law, we are balancing the need to protect still sensitive government information versus the public's right to know.

5. It is worth noting that the Board has held public hearing on identifying and locating assassination records in New Orleans, Washington, Dallas and Boston to allow for public input and assist the Board in fulfilling its mandate. In connection with our most recent public hearing in New Orleans, the Review Board obtained a significant number of original records related to the assassination investigation and prosecution of Clay Shaw by District Attorney Jim Garrison. We are continuing to pursue additional records which should be in the Collection at the National Archives.

6. The Review Board also recently announced that it has launched an initiative to collect original films and photographs relevant to the assassination. We are hoping that individuals who possess, or know the location of, original films and photographs will contact us. The only way to ensure the preservation of the films and photos is to house them at the National Archives. They are a critical part of the historical record of the assassination and the American public should have access to them.

7. 1996 will undoubtedly be a busy year of the Review Board. We hope to release many records. The difficult issues on which the Board spent time in 1995 will result in records which contain similar types of redactions being released in 1996.

#### **IV. "Broader Implication" Talking Points**

1. The Act which created the Review Board has given the American public an extraordinary and unprecedented opportunity to gain insight into its government and recent history.
2. The Board has the opportunity not only to make publicly available records that may clarify the facts surrounding the assassination, but also, along the way, the opportunity to redefine the meaning of, and need for, secrecy in government.
3. The unprecedented powers given to an independent panel of private citizens will also hopefully help to restore a measure of confidence in government.
4. The controversy surrounding the Kennedy assassination is unlikely to disappear even after the Board's work is completed. But, the American public will know that no information about the assassination is being hidden by the government. Perhaps we will see a way for government business to be conducted more effectively -- and more openly -- in the future.

**Memorandum**

**To: David Marwell, Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: January 16, 1996**

**Re: Attached January 1994 UPI Story on Russian Files Allegedly Given to President Clinton**

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A researcher e-mailed us the attached January 23, 1994 UPI story on Russian files that were allegedly turned over to President Clinton during his visit.

First, I will attempt to track down the UPI reporter who filed the story (there is no byline on this

version of the story).

Second, can we ask the State Department, CIA and White House to respond to this story and inquire if they have information about it?

Please advise me if you want to talk about this matter.

**Memorandum**

**To: David Marwell  
Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: January 30, 1996**

**Re: Paul Hoch January 20, 1996 Letter**

---

Hoch's latest letter is attached for your review. He raises a lot of issues which I think are important for you to consider. I have sent him a preliminary response, but indicated that I would follow-up with a more detailed letter. I'd like to talk about my substantive response before the end of the week.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jack Tunheim  
Henry Graff  
Kermit Hall  
William Joyce  
Anna Nelson**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: January 1, 1996**

**Re: Washington Times Article from January 28, 1996 on Garrison Records Dispute**

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Attached for your information is an article by Hugh Aynesworth about the Garrison records that appeared in the Washington Times on Sunday, January 28, 1996.

**Memorandum**

**To: Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: February 21, 1996**

**Re: Stevens Letter on HSCA Document**

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Attached is a letter from Mr. Jan Stevens regarding a specific HSCA document. Could Joe Freeman check on its status? Thanks.

**Memorandum**

**To: David Marwell  
Jeremy Gunn**

**From: Tom Samoluk**

**Date: February 28, 1996**

**Re: Draft Letter on CIA Documents**

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Attached for your comments/edits/consideration is a draft letter for possible mailing to our mailing list. Please advise me of your thoughts.

Memorandum - ( ) page fax to: Anna Nelson

To: Anna Nelson

From: Tom Samoluk

Date: March 5, 1996

Re: KWHN Radio Interview; Wed., March 6th; 5:15 p.m.

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## I. Introduction

You are scheduled to do a live telephone interview with Kathy Watson of KWHN on Wednesday, March 6, 1996, from 5:15 p.m. to approximately 6:00 p.m. (EST). Watson will call you at home. If there are any problems prior to the interview, you can call Kathy Watson at (800) 782-1320.

This memorandum contains suggested talking points for the interview. Several of them are basic ones which we have used in the past. Updated talking points have been added to reflect the Board's recent activities. I have provided information about recent document releases to the radio station. This information is attached to for your quick reference.

The interviewer will probably not want to spend a lot of time on the background of the Board, but instead will focus on the Board's most recent activities. Thus, Section III will probably be the most helpful.

## II. Basic Talking Points

1. The ARRB is an independent federal panel, consisting of five private citizens.
2. The Board's mandate is to identify and secure the Kennedy assassination records.
3. It is up to the Board to determine which records are to be made public immediately and which ones will have postponed release dates.
4. The purpose of the law and the Board's work is to provide a full record to the American public, make it available at the National Archives, and allow interested parties to draw their own conclusions about what happened in Dallas 32 years ago.
5. The Board is not re-investigating the assassination of President Kennedy. Our focus is collecting assassination records.
6. The Congress created the Board to have an independent, cost-effective and accountable process for the review and release of these documents.
7. The reality is that there continues to be an intense, unabated interest in the assassination, as reflected in the number of books and documentaries that are still being done. Requests from the public for federal records were showing no sign of slowing and federal agencies were continuing to devote enormous resources to the task of responding to these requests and litigating many of the requests. That costs money. It also costs money to unnecessarily keep records classified. In fact, *The Washington Post* reported that the federal government spends an estimated \$16 billion a year to maintain a system of secrecy. The Review Board will get as many records out in the public domain as possible in the next couple of years. In the long run, the Review Board will have saved a lot of money and resources.

## III. Recent Activities of the Review Board

1. The Review Board is deeply into the process of reviewing and releasing previously classified information. The Board has voted to release more than 1,000 documents, either in full or in part. We meet regularly in Washington. The focus to date has been on CIA and FBI documents. These early decisions by the Board involve difficult issues related to informants and intelligence sources and methods. They are obviously sensitive issues and are important because of their relevancy to many other documents which the Board will be reviewing in the future.
2. Since July 1995, the Review Board has been releasing CIA documents, many of which had previously been available only in redacted form. These documents relate primarily to Lee Harvey Oswald's visit to Mexico City only weeks before the assassination. Most are now available to the

American public in full. Some have a few redactions, but substantive information related to the assassination has been released.

[As an example, you could cite the CIA document which is the subject of one of the attached Associated Press story (**Attachment #1**) regarding the possible existence of another copy of an “intercept” of an Oswald telephone conversation with the Soviet embassy in Mexico City, which was discovered after the assassination. This is a good example of the Review Board and the JFK Act “in action” with the Board exercising its authority to release the substance of the relevant section of the document, while still protecting the actual text because of the sensitive information it contained about sources and methods. This is an important revelation because of all of the controversy surrounding Oswald’s visit to Mexico City and theories that there was an imposter or that Oswald was accompanied by someone in Mexico City. Although we cannot say more, it is worth noting that the Board is pursuing the possible existence of another copy of the “intercept.”]

3. The Board has also been releasing FBI documents that are of great interest.

[An example of new information released by the Board in an FBI document is the Homer Echevarria document which is the subject of the attached Associated Press story (**Attachment #2**). The Echevarria/Chicago anti-Castro lead was one that the Secret Service thought ought to have been followed by the FBI in 1963. However, the FBI did nothing. In the HSCA final report, the Committee agreed with the Secret Service and expressed deep concern that the FBI did not follow the Echevarria lead]

[The release of the FBI/Swiss documents which is discussed in the attached news release (**Attachment #3**) and Reuters story (**Attachment #4**) demonstrate a number of points which are worth making:

- a. An important part of the historical record has been “beefed up.” It is important because there has been a lot written about Oswald’s’ pre-assassination travels.
- b. The records were aggressively pursued by Review Board.
- c. The FBI had initially taken an aggressive stance by appealing to the President and the Board had to deal with that for the first time with this group of documents
- d. The importance of having an independent body to pursue openness is demonstrated in this example.
- e. The records show the lengths that the FBI was going to three years before the assassination to find out what Oswald was doing and whether or not someone was posing as Oswald. He had the government’s attention even at this point, three years before the assassination
- f. The American public now gets to see what has been withheld for 35 years.

g. In many instances blacked out documents lead to speculation. In this instance, we now know that the FBI was protecting a relationship with a foreign government.

h. The process worked. The Review Board got the records out and now the American public and historians can make their own judgments about how these documents fit into the assassination puzzle.]

4. As mentioned earlier, the Board has agreed with the CIA and the FBI that some information relating to sensitive intelligence sources and methods should not be publicly released at this time. We are exercising careful independent judgment, just as the Congress had envisioned. Consistent with the law, we are balancing the need to protect still sensitive government information versus the public's right to know.

5. It is worth noting that the Board has held public hearing on identifying and locating assassination records in New Orleans, Washington, Dallas and Boston to allow for public input and assist the Board in fulfilling its mandate. In connection with our last public hearing in New Orleans, the Review Board obtained a significant number of original records related to the assassination investigation and prosecution of Clay Shaw by District Attorney Jim Garrison. We are continuing to pursue additional records which should be in the Collection at the National Archives.

7. New Orleans District Attorney Harry Connick had testified to the Board that he would donate to the JFK Collection the remaining Garrison files in his office. However, after the Review Board received an unsolicited delivery of grand jury transcripts from the Garrison investigation and refused Connick's demand to return them, the District Attorney has balked at turning over any records. The grand jury records have not been processed yet and are not part of the JFK Collection yet. The Board wants to ensure that the legal status of the records is clear before anything is done with them. We still hope to resolve this matter without getting into protracted litigation.

[The Washington Post article (**Attachment #5**) discusses the Raymond and Angelico contempt actions pursued by Connick. We have avoided commenting on this situation because it does not involve the Board. However, we have commented that the grand jury records are an important part of the historical record which we think should be part of the JFK Collection. Please note that we have not disclosed the action we have taken against Connick relative to the records which he still holds.]

#### IV. "Broader Implication" Talking Points

1. The Act which created the Review Board has given the American public an extraordinary and unprecedented opportunity to gain insight into its government and recent history.

2. The Board has the opportunity not only to make publicly available records that may clarify the

facts surrounding the assassination, but also, along the way, the opportunity to redefine the meaning of, and need for, secrecy in government.

3. The unprecedented powers given to an independent panel of private citizens will also hopefully help to restore a measure of confidence in government.

4. The controversy surrounding the Kennedy assassination is unlikely to disappear even after the Board's work is completed. But, the American public will know that no information about the assassination is being hidden by the government. Perhaps we will see a way for government business to be conducted more effectively -- and more openly -- in the future.

Memorandum

To: David Marwell  
Jeremy Gunn

From: Tom Samoluk

Date: February 29, 1996

Re: Draft Letter on FBI Documents

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In anticipation of a possible FBI appeal, I have drafted the attached letter for our mailing list. **You will note that much of the language is taken from the earlier draft letter on the disputed CIA documents.** I am assuming the odds are that we will end up not having to send letters on both the CIA and FBI documents. However, if both situation do end up requiring some explanation, then perhaps we could cover both subjects in one letter.