

DRAFT --2/14/96

MEMORANDUM

February 14, 1996

To: T. Jeremy Gunn
From: Philip D. Golrick
Subject: Organized Crime Mission Statement

Our mission regarding records related to organized crime should be to locate, identify, and put into the JFK Collection those records that will materially assist researchers in assessing the validity of various allegations that elements of organized crime were involved in the assassination of President Kennedy. More specifically, the following (somewhat overlapping) subjects have proven to be of substantial and lasting interest to researchers and were explored in some depth by the Church Committee and the HSCA:

- (1) the involvement of organized crime figures in anti-Castro activities, including, but not limited to, the "CIA/mafia assassination plots;"
- (2) matters relating specifically to Carlos Marcello, including, but not limited to, allegations that in his later years he stated he was involved in the Kennedy assassination, and the nature and extent of his relationships with Guy Banister, David Ferrie, and other prominent figures in investigations of the New Orleans aspects of the case; and
- (3) Jack Ruby's alleged connections with organized crime.

I propose giving primary emphasis to the above subjects. I suggest giving secondary emphasis to the following:

- (4) the existence, nature, and extent of organized crime in the Dallas area in the relevant time period;
- (5) allegations that Santos Trafficante or other organized crime figures may have conspired with the Castro regime to assassinate President Kennedy; and
- (6) allegations (notably of Frank Ragano) that Marcello and Trafficante engineered the

assassination at the behest of Jimmy Hoffa.

The following Federal agencies are potential holders of records relevant to this project. Where specific subjects are particularly applicable to an agency, they are identified as numbered above:

FBI (all subjects)

CIA (1, 5)

Justice Department (1, 4, 5, 6)

INS (2)

Customs Service (1, 4)

DEA (2, 3, 4, 5, 6)

ATF (1, 4)

In addition, logical state and local law-enforcement agencies may possess records relevant to subjects 2, 3, and 4 above, as may the Metropolitan Crime Commission in New Orleans (subject 2 above).

Caveat: A number of relevant Federal records already have been processed or identified for processing under the JFK Act by virtue of their having been provided to the HSCA or other Congressional investigations of the assassination. It is not yet clear, given existing time and resource constraints, how broadly the Review Board will wish to apply the definition of “assassination record” to organized-crime records that were not provided to prior investigations of the assassination.