

December 8, 1997

Lt. Col. Mike Finnie
Department of the Navy
Office of the General Counsel
The Pentagon--1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20350-1000

Re: Department of the Navy Equities in the Records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation
Subject To *The John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992*, 44 U.S.C. §
2107

Dear Lt. Col. Finnie:

The staff of the John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Review Board has identified a number of FBI documents that we intend to present to the Review Board for review of postponements at the Review Board meeting on February 17, 1998. Among the documents we identified are documents in which your agency has equities.

Since you are the individual that the Department of the Navy designated as the person responsible for compliance with the JFK Act, we are identifying these documents to you now so that you can decide whether you wish to postpone release of the information in question. Please keep in mind the provisions of the JFK Act which anticipate that information will be withheld from public release only in "the rarest cases" and only pursuant to one of the provisions of Section 6 of the Act. The FBI is sending the documents at issue directly to the Chief of Naval Operation of your Department, who has routinely handled the Chief of Naval Operations equities in the FBI's assassination records.

So that we may adequately prepare our presentation to the Review Board with the benefit of any submission you may wish to make, you must submit evidence or arguments in support of any postponements you choose to assert in writing **no later than February 1, 1998**. **If you do not respond to this letter by the above deadline, we will assume that your agency intends to release in full its equities in the FBI record at issue, and we will recommend that the Review Board vote to release in full your agency's equities in the record.**

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In many of the FBI documents with third agency equities, we believe that the third agencies could, consistent with their current guidelines for JFK assassination-related information, consent to full release of the information at issue.

If you have any questions regarding the documents identified on the enclosed forms, please call Carol Keeley or Debbie Beatty of the JFK Task Force at the FBI at (202) 324-0571 or Laura Denk or Kevin Tiernan of the Review Board staff at (202) 724-0088. Thank you, in advance, for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

T. Jeremy Gunn
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Lt. Christopher L. Tynes
Administrative Assistant to the General Counsel
Office of General Counsel
Department of Navy
The Pentagon--1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20350-1000

Chief of Naval Operation
Department of Navy
2000 Navy Pentagon
Washington D.C. 02350-2000

Attachment

to December 8, 1998, Letter to Lt. Col. Mike Finnie, United States Department of Navy

Deadline for Evidence Submission Date: February 1, 1998

Review Board Meeting Date: February 17, 1998

The Review Board staff intends to present documents from the following files to the Review Board for its consideration on February 17, 1998. Please present evidence on any postponements that you wish to claim to the Review Board staff on or before February 1, 1998.

Antonio Valle

William Alexander Morgan