

December 8, 1997

Ms. Margaret P. Grafeld
Acting Director
Office of Freedom of Information, Privacy & Classification Review
United States Department of State
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20520

Re: United States Department of State 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 Ms. Grafeld:

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. These documents are identified in the enclosed form.

Since you are the individual that the Department of State 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 Nina Noring of your agency, who has routinely handled State Department 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.**

Ms. Margaret Grafeld
December 8, 1997
Page 2

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: Nina Noring
Department of State Liaison for the JFK Assassination Records Collection Act
FPC/HDR Room B234
United States Department of State
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20520

Attachment to December 8, 1997, Letter to Ms. Margaret Grafeld
Department of State
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.

Joseph Merola
Mitchell Werbell
CIA Liason Material
Sam Giancana
William Alexander Morgan
Charles A. Sapp
Salvatore Granello
Antonio Valle
Carlos John Wilson
Michael McLaney
Jose Rasco Bermuda