

Memorandum

October 30, 1997

To: National Archives File (4.23)
Abzug Committee File (4.35)

From: Ronald G. Haron
Rochelle Juelich

Subject: Review of Files from the Subcommittee on Government Information and Individual Rights (the Abzug Sub-Committee), of the House Committee on Government Operations.

On October 17, 1997, Rochelle Juelich, our intern, visited the National Archives downtown to review files from the Subcommittee on Government Information and Individual Rights of the House Committee on Government Operations. Included in these files was correspondence between the National Archives and the Abzug Committee with respect to the handling and classification of Warren Commission documents. The materials consisted of three folders (about one box). Several documents list Warren Commission records. Rochelle was permitted to make copies of these documents. We have been advised by NARA that these documents are not classified, but they are not open to the public at this time. The last folder related to a lawsuit against the FBI under the Freedom of Information Act.

After Rochelle's review of the one box of Abzug subcommittee records, we called Kristen Wilhelm of NARA to obtain further information regarding the Abzug records. We learned the following:

1. There are approximately 50 boxes of Abzug Subcommittee records in the physical custody of NARA. These are unclassified, but not available to the public under House rules.
2. The one box that was made available to the Review Board, and inspected by Rochelle, represents a selection of materials deemed by the NARA staff to be potentially relevant under the JFK Act. (The selected documents do not include records relating to the subcommittee's investigation of the destruction of Hoover's files and FBI record keeping in general, which we may want to review in assisting us to evaluate FBI compliance under the JFK Act.)
3. Ms. Wilhelm asked that the Abzug Subcommittee materials we copied not be released pending formal authorization and that they be maintained separately. Accordingly, these materials are being kept in the ARRB's SCIF.