

Memorandum

To: Jack Tunheim

From: Tom Samoluk

Date: November 15, 1994

Re: NBC affiliate Interviews on Wednesday, November 16th

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You are scheduled to do a series of taped television interviews with various NBC affiliates on Wednesday, November 16th, from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. The interviews will be conducted at an NBC Newschannel studio located at 400 North Capitol Street, Suite 891. The topic is the Board and the Dallas hearing. The interviews will air on Wednesday evening following the second half of the movie "JFK."

Our contact at NBC is Rosemary Freitas at (202) 885-4224. I will accompany you to the studio. They would like us to arrive at 1:45 p.m.

The format is the following: You will sit in a studio looking into a television camera. You will do five minute interviews with reporters/anchors from the NBC affiliate stations. The affiliates have been provided with our media advisory. A studio person in D.C. will advise you before each interview to whom you will be talking and where the person is from.. At this point, there are 12 interviews scheduled between 2:00 and 3:00 p.m. The interviews may go a little beyond 3:00 p.m.

I suggest that you try to work the following main points into your interview:

1. The Assassination Records Review Board is an independent federal panel.
2. The Board's mandate is to identify and secure all records relevant to the assassination of President Kennedy.
3. It is the responsibility of 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 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 31 years ago.
5. The Board is not re-investigating the assassination of President Kennedy. Its focus is assassination records.

6. The purpose of the Dallas hearing is to get additional input from individuals about the existence of assassination records.

You may get some of the questions below. I have provided suggested responses:

Q: Our viewers have just watched the second part of "JFK," what did you think of the movie?

A: The movie certainly raised interest in the assassination, which at least in part led to passage of the President John F. Kennedy Records Collection Act that created the Board.

Q: Who do you think killed JFK?

A: My personal opinion is not relevant to the Board's work. What we are mandated to do under the law is find the assassination records and make them available to the American public.

To the extent that you get other questions that are not relevant to the Board, I suggest that you always try to return the discussion to the main talking points which I outlined above.

See you on Wednesday.