

MEMO

To: David
From: Thomas E. Samoluk
Subject: Mrdeza Briefing
Date: May 31, 2017

I. Briefing Goals

Our goals in the briefing are to:

1. Explain why we need the additional time to complete our work. In other words we must “make our case.” The following are two components to this effort:

a. Substance/numbers

We tell them what we have done and what we will definitely accomplish in FY 1998.

b. Political

We want to convey, subtly, that it is to no one’s advantage to “pull the pin” on this prematurely. The American public has waited too long to see the files released and will not accept terminating this effort before the job is done.

2. Get their support and guidance on how to proceed.

II. Talking Points

1. Thank you for seeing us today.

2. We really did not plan on being here asking for the additional time.

3. But, the reality is that the time frame set up for the project by the Congress, although based on the best available information at the time and certainly in good faith, was unrealistic. Add in the 18 month delay in the appointment of the board members, dealing with clearances for staff and finding secure office space, we find ourselves in this position.

4. In addition, we have had a prolonged appeal with the FBI that had implications for many other records that have to be reviewed, a legal battle with the New Orleans District Attorney, and the discovery of additional military records that need to be processed. Also, frankly, we have been very aggressive in seeking to make this Collection as complete as possible.

5. We need the additional time to get through the records that are critical to the Collection.

6. We will get through:

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- a. Sequestered Collection
 - b. Records of Some Agencies and Congressional Committees
 - c. Search for Additional Records
 - d. Foreign Records
7. What we have done to date:
- a. Government Records
 1. CIA on Oswald
 2. HSCA, Oswald in Mexico
 3. FBI "core" files
 4. Private and Local Records
 - a. Garrison
 - b. Rankin
 - c. Long lost films
8. We have made information available to the American public and their interest in unabated.
9. Agencies (Archives, CIA, FBI) are supportive.
10. With another year, we will be able to issue a truly complete final report, with the agencies on record, as part of the final report, with regard to their compliance.

III. Potential Questions

1. What about representations made last year in your budget submission?
2. What assurances that you won't be back next year looking for another year?
3. How many documents/pages to go?
4. How many documents/pages have you actually released?
5. What have you really accomplished?
6. Why are you so late in asking for the additional time? Didn't you know this was going to happen earlier than this?
7. Can you get by with less money? Less time?
8. Will that really end it? Can't it go on endlessly?

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9. Can't someone else, some other agency like the Archives, do the review in the absence of the Board?