October 2, 1995

The Honorable Newt Gingrich
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: JFK Assassination Records Review Board Compliance with the Freedom of Information Act for the year March 1, 1994, through March 1, 1995

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552, I am writing to inform you of the Assassination Records Review Board's FOIA activity for the year March 1, 1994, through March 1, 1995.

Section (e) of the FOIA requires all Federal agencies to submit a report to Congress covering the agency's FOIA activities for the preceding year. Because the Review Board did not exist as of March 1, 1994, the Review Board's FOIA activities for the period March 1, 1994 through March 1, 1995 were non-existent. The five members of the Review Board were sworn in on April 11, 1994. During 1994, the Review Board appointed an Executive Director, hired a staff, and made plans to move into its current headquarters in Washington, D.C.

As of March 1, 1995, the Review Board had not made any rules regarding the FOIA. The Review Board received no Freedom of Information Act requests or appeals of determinations during the period March 1, 1994 through March 1, 1995, and thus, did not make substantive determinations on requests or appeals. During this period, the Review Board had no FOIA Officer. To the extent that the Review Board received informal requests for information during this period, Thomas Samoluk, the Review Board's Associate Director for Communications, promptly answered the inquiries.

The Review Board issued final FOIA regulations on August 31, 1995, and is now receiving and promptly responding to requests for information under the FOIA.

Respectfully submitted,

David G. Marwell
Executive Director