

ASSASSINATION RECORDS ADVISORY

MARCH 26, 1998

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ASSASSINATION RECORDS REVIEW BOARD VOTES TO RELEASE CIA, HSCA, FBI, JOHNSON LIBRARY, AND U.S. ARMY DOCUMENTS

February 17, 1998 Board Meeting Totals

The Assassination Records Review Board met on February 17, 1998 and processed for release 2,264 CIA, HSCA, FBI, Johnson Library, and U.S. Army documents related to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

CIA/HSCA Records

The Review Board voted to release 733 CIA and 16 HSCA documents in part. Most of these CIA records are from the microfilm collection. Included are "201" files for Cuban exiles such as Luis Conte Agüero, Rogelio Cisneros, Marcos Diaz Lanz, and Tony Varona. Other CIA files contain information regarding JMWAVE cable traffic, surveillance of the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City, and post-assassination monitoring of George DeMohrenschildt. The HSCA documents contain staff notes from the CIA files. An additional 41 CIA and 149 HSCA records will be open in full by consent release.

FBI Records

The Board also voted to release 221 FBI documents, 14 in full and 207 in part. The majority of these documents are from the HSCA subject files, which contain issues that the HSCA investigated as potentially relevant to the assassination of President Kennedy. These particular HSCA subjects include Alberto Hernandez Hechevarria, Gabriel Mannarino, Sam Mannarino, Edward Browder, Jr., Frank Sturgis, Eduardo Whitehouse, Dennis Lynn Harber, Pedro Diaz Lanz, William Johnson, Frank Caracci, La Casa Nostra, and the New Orleans Council for Peaceful Alternatives. In addition, 1,001 FBI documents will be open in full by consent release.

Johnson Library Records

The Review Board voted to release eight documents in part from the Johnson Library. These documents include briefing notes on Cuban subversion in Latin America, memoranda written by John McCone regarding foreign policy matters, and notes taken by Bromley Smith on a September

16, 1963 meeting wherein the situation in Vietnam and the CIA's assessment against an overthrow of President Diem were discussed . An additional 58 documents from the Johnson Library will be open in full by consent release.

U.S. Army Records

The Review Board voted to release 36 U.S. Army documents, one in full and 35 in part. These records consist of Investigative Records Repository (IRR) files on individuals who were investigated by the Army. One additional U.S. Army document will be open in full by consent release.

In addition, the Board voted to release in full, with the exception of social security numbers, Army Inspector General equities present in a 1,216 page referral received from the Army's IRR. The referral pages are part of the Army's overall IRR case file on Richard Case Nagell, which consists of approximately 1,517 pages. Once the complete case file is processed by IRR, document numbers will be assigned.

The Review Board reviewed microfilm records from the Pentagon Telecommunications Center (PTC) and printed 390 records of the Army's incoming and outgoing message traffic from the period of mid 1963-early 1964. These PTC records, of which 385 are open in full and 5 are in part, were transferred to the JFK Collection at the National Archives on February 27, 1998.

Notification to the President and the Agencies

Notification of the Review Board's action on the above documents was sent to the President of the United States and the agencies on February 26, 1998. Unless an agency objects and the President agrees with that objection, the documents will be available 30 days from the date of the Federal Register notification, and after administrative processing.

Board to Sponsor Conference of Experts on Records Declassification

In preparation for its final report, the Review Board has invited experts on declassification to a conference on possible recommendations to be included in the report. Unlike the Experts Conference held in 1995, the experts will discuss general issues regarding declassification rather than issues related to the assassination. The conference is not a Board meeting or a hearing. The conference will be open to observers.

Date: April 14, 1998

Place: National Archives and Records Administration (7th and Pennsylvania Ave.), Room 105

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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