

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM  
IDENTIFICATION FORM

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AGENCY INFORMATION

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RECORD SERIES : JFK  
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : PROJFILES-CORRESPONDENCE

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DOCUMENT INFORMATION

AGENCY ORIGINATOR : CIA  
FROM : LEE S. STRICKLAND, CHIEF IRG  
TO : HONORABLE JOHN R. TUNHEIM  
TITLE : LETTER: ED COHEN AND I APPRECIATED THE OPPORTUNITY TO  
MEET WITH YOU AND MR. GUNN  
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Washington, D.C. 20505

~~SPECIAL COLLECTIONS  
RELEASE IN FULL  
2000~~

20 February 1998

The Honorable John R. Tunheim  
United States District Court  
300 South Fourth Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55415

Via FAX: (612) 664-5087

Dear Judge Tunheim:

Ed Cohen and I appreciated the opportunity to meet with you and Mr. Gunn to discuss ways this Agency can facilitate the important work of the Assassination Records Review Board. As I hope was clear, our new Office of Information Management is committed to ensuring that withholding determinations or postponement requests are made thoughtfully and only in the most compelling circumstances.

Turning to a particular matter we discussed, you will recall that we offered to explore any avenues that might be open to facilitate the Board's access to relevant Russian and Belarus records. Based on discussions with senior officials at the Department of Defense, we suggest that you contact Senator Robert (Bob) Smith (N.H.) who is a member of the Joint US-Russian POW/MIA Commission, which is also known as the Ambassador Toon Commission. He may be reached at:

Room 307  
Dirkson Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
(202) 224-2841

In particular, we understand that the former head of the KGB (Primakov) will be visiting Washington in the near future and perhaps Senator Smith could intercede on your behalf and/or arrange an audience.

The Honorable John R. Tunheim

Please be assured that we will continue to look for any other leads in this regard although I believe that Senator Smith may be the most likely source for assistance.

Please let me know if there should be any questions. I may be reached at (703) 613-1289.

Sincerely yours,



Lee S. Strickland  
Chief, Information Review Group

cc: T. Jeremy Gunn  
Executive Director, ARRB