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Subject: NSA Update

This email will summarize recent activity on the NSA project, and identify "to do's" in the near future. 1. On 28 AUG 97 I (finally) delivered the originals of the 83 documents voted on by the Board at the March meeting to Steve Tilley at Archives. NARA is now in possession of the redacted copies as well as the originals. We still retain the highlighted copies of these documents -- I plan on asking our NSA p.o.c. if she wants these highlighted copies returned to them. If they do not demand them back, perhaps we should keep them for our own records. I will not raise this issue with them until a decision has been made on this subject by my superiors. 2. In a memo dated 14 AUG 97, I referred fourteen CIA-originated documents found in NSA files to Barry Harrleson of CIA/HRG. These documents were part of the 28 3rd Agency files found in NSA archives that were delivered to the ARRB in December, 1996. Since the CIA documents were largely unclassified FBIS reports, I do not think that it will take long for the CIA to formally stamp them "ready for release." (The NSA did not want to release these docs until the CIA formally signed off on them, despite their unclassified status.) Since NSC and State have already signed off on their equities, we are only waiting for the CIA to approve these documents before presenting them to the Board. I do not sense that the Board will have to debate the issues for a very long time before voting on them. 3. The FBI's JFK task force has returned the one document (144-10001-10050) that was referred to them. I believe that the ARRB can now formally release this document to the Archives. (I will confirm with our NSA p.o.c.) Perhaps we can do this with the next scheduled release. 4. We have received a new shipment of documents from the NSA. Most of the documents are dupes of docs that were present in the last release, so I would not suspect that the Review Track process will take very long with some of these. I will try to get as many ready for the next meeting as time permits. 5. FYI: On another note, you may remember that we were holding on to 49 NSA documents that were awaiting shipment to NARA -- we could not deliver them to NARA until we received RIF data for four of these documents. In this last shipment, the NSA also sent us a data disk that I am hoping contains the needed RIF information. The only problem is that it is a 5.25" disk, and we do not have a classified computer with a 5.25" drive. Chet informed me that we should wait until David returns from leave before we attempt to tackle this problem. END

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