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Subject: Manuscript Holdings of the Library of Congress
CALL REPORT--Corrected/Updated DOCUMENTS AUTHOR: Ron Haron/ARRB Date Created: 10/09/97 The Players Who initiated the call? Review Board's representative in the call: Ron HaronLibrary of Congress's representative in the call: John E. Haynes, Ph.D.Description of the Call Date: 10/09/97Subject: Manuscript Holdings of the Library of CongressSummary of the Call:In connection with deciding whether we should request the Library of Congress to formally document their compliance with the JFK Act, I called Dr. Haynes on October 9 to get an overview of the manuscript holdings of the Library of Congress. I obtained the following information:1. The manuscript division holds private papers that have been donated to the Library. There are approximately 11, 000 collections of donated papers. There is a master index of the collections arranged in alphabetical order by the name of the person whose papers have been donated. Most of the collections are open, but there are some that have restrictions on them. According to Dr. Haynes, the index will list all donations irrespective of whether there are any restrictions on access. 2. There is also a separate 3-volume "Restrictions Book" that has a sheet for each of the restricted donations. A review of these volumes may be the best way to identify any materials that are not open to the public and that may have documents related to the Kennedy assassination. Dr. Hughes said that these volumes are not restricted and can be reviewed by asking the reference person. 3. Dr. Haynes indicated that there are approximately 50 to 60 non-public donations. I have asked our intern, Rochelle, to check the Restriction Book to identify the closed holdings. (Rochelle has preliminarily reported from the Library that there are about 60 collections that are totally closed, but that there are several hundred collections that have some partial restrictions). 4. Each collection has a finding aid that indexes the collection by file folder. There is also a more abbreviated finding aid that contains a synopsis of major subjects covered by the donations (presumably this latter aid would allow us to check if any subjects, such as the Kennedy assassination, Oswald, or the Warren Commission, are significantly covered by any of the donations). 5. Among the donations that are open, according to Dr. Haynes, are the Earl Warren papers.6. In addition, Dr. Haynes said he had a memory of the papers of Elmer Gertz (Jack Ruby's attorney) being opened up in July 1992 and that copies were turned over (he doesn't remember to whom). He said that he had dealt with Leonard Weiss, Staff Director for the Committee on Governmental Affairs, regarding Kennedy assassination issues. 7. Among other papers that they have are donations from David Atlee Phillips (open), Cordell Meyer, CIA official who was head of covert action staff in 1962 (these may be closed), and McNamara (some closed papers not yet indexed, but they relate mostly to the World Bank, according to Haynes).8. Negotiations with donors or potential donors are considered confidential.9. In response to my

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Categories: