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From: CN=Jeremy Gunn/O=ARRB

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DisplayDate: 07/02/1998

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Subject: July 1 Conference Call

Participants included Bill, Anna, Jack and myself. There has been little in the way of developments since our last call.1. A FedEx was sent out Wednesday for Thursday delivery. It includes the draft agenda and the packet of responses to our solicitation of comments for recommendations.2. We have learned about some new documents at CIA that are assassination-related. We will fill you in on Tuesday.3. I will have a formatted version of the Final Report for your examination at the next meeting.4. Shortly after the call ended, we received a good letter from Patrick Kennedy. A copy of it is in the FedEx package.5. Anna raised a concern about the Evan Thomas article in Sunday's Post Outlook section on the Gerald Ford-Henry Kissinger document about Bobby Kennedy that had been opened as a consent release but had not yet been sent to the Archives. The background and chronology of the story is as follows:First, from the beginning, on interesting stories, Tom generated press interest in documents by calling reporters and sometimes giving exclusives or embargoed releases. Some examples include the Veazey film and the Cuban releases, but it has been done on several occasions. When I first saw the Ford document -- as I recall about a year and a half ago -- I discussed it with Tom and we thought it was one worthy of press interest. Second, about a year ago, Evan Thomas called on a Bobby Kennedy question and I told him we had an interesting document and that I would let him know when it came out. (I did not disclose the content of the document.) I discussed it again briefly with him at the time of the Experts Conference (again without disclosing the content). Third, the document was declassified by consent release in May. I called and asked Thomas, on June 12 (I think) whether he might be interested in seeing the document. He said yes and I sent it to him.Fourth, I told the Board at the June 17 meeting that I had exchanged voice messages with Thomas about using the document, but that he had not determined where or when he would be writing about it. Jack said to make sure that somebody picked up on the document. By an unfortunate coincidence, June 17 was the day Eileen left for vacation -- the significance of which will be discussed below. Fifth, I received a message from Thomas (about June 19) saying that he would run an article on it not in Newsweek, but in the following week's Post. (The article was published, as he had said, on June 26).Sixth, we received a message from Max Holland shortly after the Board meeting asking about the Ford document. He had first raised a question about the document in a conversation on June 9, when he said that Anna had told him to ask us about a document involving Bobby Kennedy and Ford. On June 23 -- before Thomas published his Outlook piece -- we FedExed a copy of the document to Max Holland. (As you know, Max is writing a book about the Warren Commission.)Seventh, when we provide advance copies to the press, we have tried to give Steve Tilley a heads up and make sure that he has a copy at the Archives. That part of the

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