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Subject: Assassination Records Review Board news release
NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE NOVEMBER 18, 1997 CONTACT: EILEEN SULLIVAN (202) 724-0088, EXT. 253 JFK ASSASSINATION RECORDS REVIEW BOARD RELEASES MILITARY RECORDS RELATED TO U.S. POLICY TOWARD CUBA FROM 1962-64 The Assassination Records Review Board, an independent federal agency overseeing the identification, review, and release of records related to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, today released approximately 1,500 pages of previously classified military records from 1962-64 that relate to U.S. policy toward Cuba. "These documents further expand the historical record by illustrating the United States government's deep interest in developing a policy that would force Castro from power during the early 1960's," said Dr. Anna Nelson, a member of the Review Board. "We now have a new window into the policy options toward Cuba that were being considered and debated at the highest levels of the military services." The mandate of the Review Board is to make the record surrounding the assassination of President Kennedy as complete as possible. The Board has aggressively sought to uncover records on U.S. foreign policy that put the assassination into its historical context. The Review Board worked cooperatively with representatives from the Department of Defense (DOD) and the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) to locate records stored at NARA that met the definition of being "assassination related." The documents are from the files of Joseph Califano, who served as General Counsel to the Secretary of the Army, the files of Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairmen Lemnitzer, Taylor and Wheeler, and the central files of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The records have been transferred to NARA for inclusion in the JFK Collection, which is housed at the NARA facility in College Park, Maryland. These documents are now available to researchers. Copies of selected documents are available from the Assassination Records Review Board, 600 E Street, NW, Second Floor, Washington, DC 20530; telephone number: (202) 724-0088. The Assassination Records Review Board was established by the JFK Act, which was signed into law by President George Bush. The five members of the Board were appointed by President Clinton, confirmed by the U.S. Senate, and sworn in on April 11, 1994. The law gives the Review Board the mandate and the authority to identify, secure, and make available all records related to the assassination of President Kennedy. It is the responsibility of the Board to determine which records are to be made public immediately and which ones will have postponed release dates. The Review Board consists of the following members: Honorable John R. Tunheim, Chair; U.S. District Court Judge, District of Minnesota. Dr. Henry F. Graff; Professor Emeritus of History at Columbia University. Dr. Kermit L. Hall; Dean, College of Humanities, and Professor of History at The Ohio State University. Dr. William L. Joyce; Associate University Librarian for Rare Record
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