

August 18, 1995

Mr. Robert L. Pritchett  
Disclosure Officer  
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms  
Department of the Treasury  
650 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Room 8290  
Washington, D.C. 20226

Re: Status of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms' Compliance with the  
JFK Assassination Records Collection Act, 44 U.S.C. Sect. 2107

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Dear Mr. Pritchett:

As you know, the ARRB is currently working with a member of the Treasury Department Bureaus to determine the status of their past and anticipated efforts to locate and review JFK assassination records. You have been identified as our contact person at ATF.

I am writing to formalize certain requests for information made by Phil Golrick of my office in his phone conversation with you on July 24, and to make additional requests.

I would appreciate it if you could provide the following information:

1. *Status of records search.* On July 24, you conveyed to Phil Golrick your understanding that, roughly two years ago, ATF identified a number of assassination records and sent them to "main Treasury" for processing and ultimately transfer to the National Archives. Please provide all documentation relating to this process and any subsequent action at "main Treasury," as well as the names of those ATF and "main Treasury" personnel involved. Did this search extend to records still within the ownership or legal control of the ATF, but outside of your physical possession (*e.g.* at Federal Records Center)?
2. *Total volume of records.* What is your best *estimate* of the total number of records your Agency has identified as responsive to the JFK Act? Please provide your best estimate on the actual number of documents, as well as any other helpful descriptive terms that are appropriate (*e.g.*, numbers of archival or banker's boxes, cubic feet).
3. *Anticipated additional searches for records.* Now that you have the Review

Board's definition of "Assassination Record,"<sup>1</sup> what, if any, additional files or locations do you intend to search for possible additional records? When do you anticipate completing such a search?

4. *Status of record review.* Aside from physical transfer of the records to the National Archives, has the review process for ATF records, including the preparation of identification aids as provided by Section 5(d) of the JFK Act, been completed? If your review process is not complete, when do you currently anticipate that you will complete the process? What percentage of the review process is complete?
5. *Summary results of records review.* Of those ATF records that have been reviewed, approximately what percentage have you "opened in full," postponed (*i.e.*, redacted in whole or in part), or are awaiting return from Third Agencies?
6. *Transfer of records and electronic information to the National Archives.* As Phil Golrick indicated during your conversation with him on July 24, we have been unable to locate any records from ATF files in the JFK Collection at the National Archives. Is it correct that no records or electronic information has been sent to the National Archives to date?
7. *Records sent to you from Third Agencies.* Approximately how many records have been sent to your agency from Third Agencies for your review under the JFK Act? For how many of that number have you completed your review? Have all Third Agency records been reviewed and returned to the Third Agencies? If you have not completed your review of Third Agency documents, when do you anticipate completing it?

I understand that providing this information creates an additional burden for you and your office, but it is very important that the Review Board be able to obtain a preliminary assessment of the current status of all agencies' compliance with the JFK Act.

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<sup>1</sup> This was provided in previous correspondence to Director Magaw. If you need a copy of the definition, please let us know.

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Thank you very much for your help. If you have any questions, please contact Phil Golrick or Dennis Quinn at (202) 724-0088.

Sincerely yours,

David G. Marwell  
Executive Director

cc: Connie Drew, Treasury Department