

## PROPOSED RESPONSE TO MINSK

REF: CONFIDENTIAL MINSK 980

1. The Assassination Records Review Board (ARRB) received REFTEL on June 28, 1996, which explains the delay in this response.
2. The USG welcomes the willingness of the KGB to acquaint US representatives with certain documents on Lee Harvey Oswald. We would urge, however, that every effort be made to make all, repeat all, relevant records available. Only through the fullest disclosure can an end to unproductive speculation and doubt be reached on this issue of great importance to Americans.
3. The ARRB sees its request for full access to the Oswald files as not repeat not incompatible with the reported plans of the KGB to publish the documents. Although any copies received by the ARRB will eventually be available at the National Archives, the ARRB can delay their release until it ceases operation at the end of 1997. In addition, the documents could be copyrighted which would prohibit their commercial exploitation.
4. The ARRB notes that it could provide significant assistance to any proposed project by the Belorussian KGB to edit and publish these documents. Any project of this type should include an effort to place the Belorussian documents into proper perspective, and the ARRB is fully prepared to assist in providing copies of relevant USG documentation. In addition, it should be stressed that GOB cooperation with the ARRB could be used as an effective vehicle to announce and promote the book project.
5. The ARRB is prepared to meet with relevant GOB officials to discuss areas of cooperation and mutual benefit in connection with the Oswald KGB records.