

6/17/98

To: Steve Tilley, JFK Assassination Records Collection
Jeremy Gunn, ARRB
Irene Marr, ARRB

Subject: Documents for the JFK Assassination Records Collection and A General Up-date

We have today shipped 3.5 feet of document copies and RIFs to the Collection. The majority of these are items Irene Marr has helped us to identify and we have then been photocopying and RIFing. Between this work and the time Stephanie Fawcett and I have been working with Irene and on other ARRB matters, 4.5 FTEs have been working on Collection and ARRB matters since May 26. From January to May 26, 2 FTE's have been working on these subjects.

The material sent today includes the following and can be found on disks 10, 11, 30 and 31 which were also included:

Materials from the **Gordon Chase Papers** on the Dillon Commission, Warren Commission, Cuba, Castro and the assassination. Steve Tilley asked us to look at these papers for Dillon Commission information. (I admit I did not know what the Dillon Commission was, but I sure do now.) Irene Marr began the search, identified materials, showed us what to look for, and we finished the review.

Additional materials from the **Evelyn Lincoln Collection** including the President's appointment books for 1961-63 (which have been available at the Library and through interlibrary loan since 1969), all of Mrs. Lincoln's various appointment diaries, and the last chapter of her book where she discusses her thoughts on various theories about the assassination. There seems to be a general feeling that the Lincoln Collection "should, must, has to" include very important things. It is a disappointing Collection, but we have sent everything that Irene Marr and assassination researchers up here have commented on. The chapter we had identified to go from the beginning and provided the ARRB with a copy in June 1996.

Oral History interviews with **Richard Bissell, Silvio Conte, Alec Douglas-Home, Edward Crane, William Ewald, Lord Harlech, W. Arthur Garrity, Carl Kaysen, Liz Kovacs, Laura Bergquist Knebel, John Scali, Alan Raywid, Edward Lansdale, David Shoup, Bromley Smith, Nancy Tuckerman and Pamela Turnure**. These interviews were recently opened and appear in the addendum to our guide to holdings. As promised in our compliance report of last summer and our continuing discussions with Tom Samoluk, we have been reading each interview and sending in ones containing relevant subject matter.

With the approval of the Robert F. Kennedy Screening Committee, 9 Assassination Records from the **Robert Kennedy Papers: Attorney General Files: Confidential File and Classified Subject File**. These were identified by the ARRB staff during its June 1996 visit. All 9 have been RIFed. Copies have been provided for the 7 unclassified items. The other 2 classified items have already been sent to the ARRB's group of agency representatives for review. All of these 2 RFK series were included in the recent scanning project (Stephanie Fawcett is our expert on the scanning project). The Screening Committee is very interested in getting these materials declassified so the series can be opened.

Updated RIFs and copies of items from the **National Security Files** and the **President's Office Files**. These are for items that were formerly postponed and their classification status has changed. As documents are located or the status changes, we will copy them, RIF or up-date RIF's, and send them to the Collection.

Oral History interview with Burke Marshall which Mr. Marshall has agreed may now be opened in response to Jeremy Gunn's letter to him.

Steve, you have also received a memo from Kara Drake in response to your recent inquiry about Oral History interviews Arthur Schlesinger may have used for **RFK and His Times** and which were not included in our **RFK and His Times Background Materials** submission. As you saw from the memo, most of those did not pan out but we will follow up further on the few that did.

Irene, you have received a memo from Kara describing the contents of the folders you expressed an interest in from the disclaimed materials from **Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis**. We need to walk through that memo and figure out which items are worth pursuing. Many were clippings or published materials. The Collection is owned by the Library Foundation.

These are the loose ends or necessary clarifications which Irene discussed with us last week that I am aware of at this date (in no particular order):

Jeremy, you have written **Arthur Schlesinger** for permission to copy the materials he gave the ARRB access to during their visit. I have not heard from him and assume you have not.

The **Edward Kennedy** material falls in the same category (permission granted to see, but ARRB is to ask for copies). I don't know if you have written him yet, but the formats of the letters you sent Burke Marshall and Arthur Schlesinger would be appropriate.

The **McGeorge Bundy** family has not yet decided what to do with his additional papers and probably won't until the book he left unfinished is published in 1999.

All of the **Teddy White Camelot materials** were opened a year after the death of Mrs. Onassis

with two small closures. Those closures have been opened, the RIF amended and the complete document sent to the collection in a previous shipment.

The **Sargent Shriver/Eunice Kennedy Shriver** materials we checked prior to the Board's visit. The materials consist of clippings and clippings scrapbooks. Those materials were therefore removed from all lists.

I have written or am about to write interviewees or their survivors for deeds to the following **oral history interviews**: George Smathers (a revision of his earlier restricted deed), James Rowley, Godfrey McHugh, Malcolm Kilduff, and Ralph Yarborough. We need to discuss writing Mrs. Walter Sheridan for a deed while litigation is unresolved about her husband's NBC White Papers materials. Dave Powers was never interviewed and the Burke Marshall interview is open in full (see above).

Irene, during your visit last week, besides examining the William Manchester Papers and talking with Stephanie and me about outstanding issues, you also looked at folder title lists for some unprocessed collections which Steve Tilley had asked you to look at (**Richard Goodwin, Ralph Dungan, Carl Kaysen, Edwin Martin, Kenneth O'Donnell, Chalmers Roberts**). As your memo details, you found very little of interest. You identified 6 items in the Richard Goodwin Papers which we'll copy, RIF and send in. On your next visit, you'll look at a few possible folders from the Edwin Martin Papers (which are currently being processed), the Ralph Dungan Papers, and the Chalmers Roberts Papers (which are also being processed).

The **John F. Kennedy Medical Records** belong to the family and are specifically excluded from the 1965 deed of gift of President Kennedy's Papers. Questions should be addressed to Burke Marshall.

DOJ microfilm. Stephanie Fawcett and Irene Marr discussed this at length. Stephanie continues to make great progress in review this material under an FOIA.

One folder from the **Nicholas Katzenbach Papers** will be in the next submission. An assassination researcher went through the Collection thoroughly and agreed that there is nothing else relevant in the Collection though he felt "there should have been".

Reading the Library's early statement of collections that were reviewed for Assassination Records (which was used as a basis for last summer's compliance letter), it is not clear if any Assassination Records were found in the **Roger Hilsman and Roswell Gilpatric Collections** following review. We will re-review the Collections to see if there are any relevant items.

Presidential Recordings. Twenty-five hours of meeting tapes and all the remaining dictabelts have been reviewed and will be opened in the near future. The rest of the meeting tapes which

have not yet been opened will be reviewed and opened next year in compliance with the Executive Order. In our next shipment we will RIF and send a copy of the Presidential Recordings finding aid and we are sending you a copy, Irene, separately. Copies of that and our guide to holdings can also be found on our homepage at www.cs.umb.edu/jfklibrary/.

William Manchester's Interviews with Robert Kennedy and Jacqueline Kennedy. By agreement between the court and the parties involved, the interviews are closed until 2067. Any change in that arrangement would have to be made with the approval of all the parties or their successors.

William Manchester's Papers have been left to his children in his will.

Procedures Followed. The Library's 338 collections are listed in the guide to holdings (in print and on the homepage). There are rough box lists for all collections as received and final finding aids to processed collection. Those descriptions (regardless of the ownership status of a collection) were reviewed in 1992-93 for likely locations of Assassination Records under the definitions worked out with Steve Tilley and David Marwell at the time. We have tried to adjust our understanding of the definition of an Assassination Record by talking with all involved parties but communication is difficult, especially long distance. And we were even once told by an ARRB staff member that he couldn't tell us but "I'll know it when I see it."

Please let us know of any further questions or points of confusion. My telephone number is 617-929-4540, Stephanie's is 617-929-4582, and Will Johnson's is 617-929-4533.

Sincerely,

Megan Desnoyers

cc: NLK: B. Gerratt, W. Johnson, Stephanie Fawcett

NL: Sharon Fawcett

NGC: Mary Ronan