

MEMORANDUM

March 20, 1996

To: Jeremy Gunn, David Marwell

cc: Steve Tilley, NARA

From: Joe Freeman

Subject: Talking points for meeting with Senate Select Committee on Intelligence (SSCI) staff, re: Church Committee (and subsequent) records

Attached as a separate document are draft talking points that could be shared with committee staff to help structure tomorrow's meeting. Attendees on the Senate side will be Charles Battaglia, SSCI Staff Director, his assistant Judy Hodgson and any others they choose to include. On our side, I think it would be helpful if everyone could review Steve's letter of last April to Mr. Battaglia prior to our meeting.

It seems to me our main goals, probably in this order, are to:

- 1) **Secure the work product the SSCI has already generated on Church Committee records but which has yet to be transferred to either NARA or the** ARRB
(disks for the 40 boxes of records already at NARA II). We need to stress that the ARRB cannot begin to process Church Committee records without these disks -- even if the SSCI is not finished, we need what they've done to date ASAP.
- 2) **Make arrangements for physical access to the unredacted Church Committee records stored at NARA I.**
- 3) **Determine how much of the total universe of Church Committee records remain unprocessed (or perhaps even unlocated) by SSCI.** This is a potentially explosive issue, in that the SSCI may balk at gearing up for a major new effort to identify, review, "rif" and otherwise process records they missed or ignored the first time around. As Steve's analysis (in his letter of last year) underlines, there is a very large set of holdings that the SSCI seems not to have processed back in 1993 -- a lot of material from 1976 (which is critical, since this is when the Schweiker-Hart Subcommittee did most of its work) as well as material from 1975. We need to understand the status of this "missing" material: did they not realize they were leaving out important assassination records; did they consciously decide they *weren't* assassination records (unlikely, but if so we

will have to join with them on this issue); have they done anything to locate/ identify these records since Steve's letter of last April, etc.? It will be important to raise this issue in a constructive way: how can we and NARA/Legislative Archives assist the SSCI in coming into full compliance with the JFK Act. At the same time, we need to make clear if necessary that we expect them to comply with the statute like everyone else -- and that to date, despite a lot of work, they aren't in compliance.

4) **Post-Church Committee SSCI assassination records.** The Church Committee expired on May 31, 1976 and was replaced by the permanent SSCI. There are at least some records generated by the SSCI itself which are clearly assassination-related: according to Fonzi, for instance, Antonio Veciana was questioned by the permanent Committee in the latter half of 1976. I've also seen correspondence from the "new" permanent Committee asking the FBI to look into any JFK-related aspects of Johnny Roselli's murder (which took place in July of '76). Related to this latter subject, I've seen a reference to Trafficante having been questioned by the permanent Committee after Roselli's murder. I don't know if SSCI records from the '76 period are housed/organized separately from Church Committee records; whether or not SSCI staff in '93 gave any thought to them, etc. We should ask this question.