MEMORANDUM

August 24, 1995

To: Jeremy Gunn

Anne Buttimer Phil Golrick

From: Joe Freeman

Subject: Transcript of William Sullivan Interview/Sullivan Papers

I copied the above transcript at Archives I today. I have, initially, given the transcript to Phil because: 1) along with Anne, he expressed the most interest in it and, 2) unlike Anne, he is here (Anne is on her way to see her dentist as I write this).

[A note on this transcript's classification status, relative to internal office handling: while it's RIF indicates the transcript is referred to both the CIA and FBI, I have been told by Matt and Kris down at Archives I that Debbie Beatty recently reviewed the *tapes* from which the transcript was made (at the time she did so, I don't believe she, Matt or Kris knew/remembered that there was a transcript available for Debbie to work from) and opened them in full. Matt and Kris may not get around to processing the paperwork for awhile but, as far as they're concerned, the transcript can be considered open, as well. Since they volunteered that judgement to me, I've noticed the reference on the RIF to the CIA referral (though the references to the CIA in the transcript don't seem terribly earth-shaking to me). I don't believe Matt/Kris have any intention of contacting CIA relative to the tapes (though they might were I to bring the transcript RIF to their attention). You all now know as much as I do and can make your own judgements about how to handle the transcript.]

Guide to JFK references in text: the transcript is divided into two sections -- the first is numbered pages 1 to 22, then a second section begins and the numbering starts over again at page 1. I've looked over the transcript and the JFK-related passages are located as follows:

Section 1: pp. 1-2

Section 2: pp. 1-2, 40-60, 69-105

The tapes and transcript are incomplete in that it's clear that some of the dialogue goes unrecorded when tapes are turned over or replaced.

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On two occasions, Sullivan tells his questioner that he has copies of documents he (Sullivan) is referencing (see page 21 of Section 1 and page 41 of Section 2). In the latter instance, he says "I will send you a copy of it just as soon as I go back to Sugar Hill." It isn't clear what memo he's referring to (the reference comes right after a break in the tape), but it would seem to be a document having to do with the Shanklin/Hosty affair. Thus, there would appear to have been at least one assassination-related document in the horde at Sugar Hill.

In general, I was not impressed by Sullivan's power of recollection or the specificity of his comments on the assassination investigation.

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