

August 13, 1996

The Honorable James H. Billington  
Librarian of Congress  
101 Independence Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20540-1000

Re: Compliance with the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records  
Collection Act of 1992, 44 U.S.C. § 2107 (Supp. V 1994)

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Dear Mr. Billington:

I am writing on behalf of the Assassination Records Review Board, an independent Federal agency created by The President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992, 44 U.S.C. § 2107 (Supp. V 1994) (JFK Act). Under the JFK Act, all Federal agencies, including the Library of Congress, are responsible for identifying all records in their possession related to the assassination of President Kennedy. I am enclosing a copy of the JFK Act for your review.

By mid-1993, under the JFK Act, all Federal agencies should have identified all records in their possession related to the assassination. It has come to the Review Board's attention, through the JFK Collection at the National Archives, that no records have been so designated by the Library of Congress.

Although we cannot be certain to what extent the Library may possess assassination records, it can be assumed the Library's holdings contain important assassination records that should be identified for the JFK Collection. For example, we presume that it is likely that such records might be found in the papers of former Chief Justice Earl Warren, the Chairman of the Presidential Commission that investigated the assassination.

Another likely source of assassination records is the files of the Congressional Research Service (CRS). In the late 1970's, for instance, CRS undertook various research tasks for the House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA). Similarly, in 1975, CRS undertook a study of the chain of custody of missing materials relating to President Kennedy's autopsy on behalf of the Government Information and Individual Rights Subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee (the "Abzug Committee"). There may well be other instances where CRS has generated assassination-related records in response to requests from Congressional offices. All such records need to be processed

under the JFK Act.

In order to ensure that the Library of Congress is in full compliance with the JFK Act, we would like to ask you to designate an official at the Library who can act as a liaison with the Review Board and that that person contact our General Counsel, T. Jeremy Gunn, as soon as possible.

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Thank you in advance for your cooperation. I look forward to hearing back from you in the near future and working with your designee in implementing the JFK Act.

Sincerely,

David G. Marwell  
Executive Director

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Daniel Mulhollan, CRS