

MEMORANDUM

April 4, 2017

To: Jeremy Gunn, Phil Golrick, and Joe Freeman

From: Kevin Tiernan

Subject: FBI records in the HSCA Security Classified Files

I have reviewed the FBI records in the Security Classified Files boxes. I searched the FBI database for all identifiable file and serial numbers. And where there was no identifiable file number, I tried to identify the document in FBI database by other available information.

Attached is a list of all the FBI documents (excluding those dealing with Nosenko) in the six Security Classified Boxes. Two hundred seven of the two hundred fifty-seven FBI documents in these boxes come from the core and related files. One hundred seventy of those two hundred six core and related file documents are identifiable as open in full in the FBI database.

We need to be most concerned about those documents whose file number or heading appears on the attached list in bold. These include documents in the core and related files with current redactions (32 documents which are either postponed or referred), serialized documents which do not appear in either the FBI database, nor on their list of files to be processed under the Act (47 documents), and documents which do not have serial numbers, or their serial numbers could not be identified (4 documents).

It appears that the HSCA was generally given FOIA redacted copies of these documents. In almost every case informant and source identifying information is redacted. That should make the task of getting the HSCA version into the public collection simpler than if there were no redactions.

In some cases there are withdrawal slips generated by the committee staff for whole documents removed from the file and presumably returned to the FBI. If my understanding of the HSCA files is correct, as the Committee was closing down operations, the Staff removed National Security Classified material from the numbered files and filed this material separately. When these documents were removed from the Security Classified Files and replaced by withdrawal slips is not clear. If they were extant when the committee was in operation, then they should be available to future researchers as part of the HSCA material. If they were only given to the committee staff for short term use, then it may not be necessary to get them back into the files.

There are many documents whose file numbers do not appear in either the FBI database or on there

list of files to be processed. A small number of which were then replaced by withdrawal slips. We will have to ask the FBI to process these documents for the first time under the Act.

I recommend; 1) sending the FBI the attached list with request for evidence forms for those documents which have current postponements and can be identified in the FBI database, and 2) under separate cover sending the FBI a list of the file numbers which do not appear in the FBI database, and ask them to process these documents under the Act. In each case we could also send a photocopy of the HSCA version, which may be suitable for immediate release.