

February 13, 1998

Frederick D. Hess
Director, Office of Enforcement Operations
Criminal Division
United States Department of Justice
1001 G Street, N.W., Suite 1075
Washington, D.C. 20530

Re: Department of Justice, Criminal Division, Equities in the Records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation Subject To *The John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992*,
44 U.S.C. § 2107

Dear Mr. Hess:

This letter follows up on three previous letters to you from the staff of the John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Review Board, dated August 11, August 15, and September 2, 1997, in which we informed you of our intent to present FBI records with Criminal Division equities to the Review Board for review of postponements.

On September 30, 1997, the Criminal Division responded to our three letters with a single letter that stated that, “[c]onsideration of the remainder of the documents by the Review Board should await Criminal Division notification to the FBI of the results of our review and consultation with other agencies.” After the Review Board staff received your September 30, 1997, letter, we informed the Criminal Division that we would allow the Criminal Division an additional thirty days to complete its review of the FBI records at issue. On today’s date, we spoke with Debbie Beatty at the FBI who informed us that the Criminal Division has returned only four of the eighteen outstanding files to her since September 24, 1997. The completed files include Rogelio Cisneros Diaz, Sebastian John LaRocca, Loran Eugene Hall, and Luis Rabel.

According to the Criminal Division’s September 30, 1997, letter, the Criminal Division is “currently processing the following files, and will complete that process as soon as possible”

Norman Rothman, Carlos Marcello, Angelo Bruno, Jose Aleman, Barney Baker, Sam Mannarino, Dominick Edward Bartone, Fair Play for Cuba Committee, and Sam

Giancana.

Mr. Frederick Hess
February 13, 1998
Page 2

Regardless of whether the Criminal Division has completed its processing of the above-referenced files, the Review Board must vote on this group of records at its meeting on March 10, 1998. The Criminal Division will need to submit evidence or arguments in support of any postponements you choose to assert in writing no later than March 1, 1998.

The Criminal Division's September 30, 1997, letter further stated it had referred the following records "to other agencies or to Department of Justice components for consultation."

LCN, Thomas Peasner, Edward Browder, Gerald Patrick Hemming, Criminal Intelligence Program, and Sam Giancana.

Again, the Review Board must vote on these records, so please contact those "other agencies or Department of Justice components" that currently have control of the above-referenced records to ensure that the Criminal Division is able to manage its referrals in a manner that complies with the provisions of the JFK Act.

Thank you, in advance, for your cooperation with the work of the Review Board.

Sincerely,

T. Jeremy Gunn
Executive Director

Enclosures

cc: Frank R. Newett
Assistant Director, Office of Enforcement Operations
Criminal Division
United States Department of Justice
1001 G Street, N.W., Suite 1075
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attn: Keith Dyson