

MEMORANDUM

June 16, 2017

To: Laura Denk, Executive Director

From: Irene Marr, Senior Analyst

Subject: NBR Foreign Government Information in LBJ Library National Security Files

I have completed my review of seven documents from the LBJ Library's National Security Files ("NSF") that contain foreign government information. I recommend that the Review Board designate these seven records as not believed relevant to the assassination, or "NBR." These records deal primarily with a foreign government's conversations with Khrushchev.

Description of Records

A total of four documents fall within the category of NSF, Country File, USSR, Khrushchev Conversation and are dated June 4, 1964. Only one of these documents, RIF 177-10001-10278 contained information relevant to President Kennedy. This document has been submitted to the foreign government for declassification. The State Department has concurred with its release. The other three records 177-10001-10277, 177-10001-10279 and 177-10001-280 discussed aspects of the foreign government's relations with the USSR, President Johnson's foreign policy toward the USSR, the German problem, nuclear weapons, arms control and military tensions between the East and West. These three contained no mention of Kennedy's policies nor the assassination.

Recommendation

The records at issue were slated by the LBJ Library for mandatory review under President Clinton's Executive Order. Once in the process, the Library assigned JFK Act RIFs to the records. Although the records at issue may be appropriate for declassification under President Clinton's Executive Order, they are not appropriate for processing under the JFK Act. When the Review Board has previously encountered records to which agencies mistakenly assigned RIF numbers, the Review Board has either declassified the record because no postponement issue existed or designated the records as "not believed relevant." I recommend that the Review Board apply its precedent to the seven records at issue primarily because the records in question originated with a foreign government.