

MEMORANDUM

June 26, 1998

To: Jeremy Gunn
Executive Director

cc: Bob Skwirot
CIA Team Leader

From: Michelle Combs
Associate Director for Research and Review

Subject: CIA-IR-08 The "Family Jewels"

In response to ARRB's informal request CIA-IR-08, I reviewed a redacted but still classified copy of the 1973 "Family Jewels" memoranda directed by Director of Central Intelligence James Schlesinger and compiled largely by his successor William Colby. In reviewing the redacted copy of the Family Jewels, which I obtained from the National Archives, I marked redactions where they appeared in memoranda by offices or individuals which might possibly have information relevant to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. I then met with the Information Review Officer for the DCI records and a representative from the Historical Review Group's JFK Program. We went through the "Jewels" page by page examining the redactions by geographic location and time frame. If a redaction dealt with an event or action well outside the time frame of the assassination and in a country not generally considered relevant to the assassination, I did not ask to review the redaction in detail. If a redaction was within the time frame, I reviewed the redacted material in full. For example, a redaction dealing with an event in Vietnam in 1972 would not generally have been reviewed while a redaction dealing with an Office of Technical Services program in 1964 would have been examined in full. After this review concluded, sections of 27 pages were marked as assassination records and are being processed for release.

The 693 page "Family Jewels" is not a single written document or report. It is mostly a collection of separate memoranda or letters from individuals, branches, divisions, and offices within CIA each, as Schlesinger requested, detailing acts or programs which the author or authors believed might possibly violate the charter of the CIA. There is also some correspondence with non-CIA individuals included. Though no time limit was placed on responses, the majority of the material detailed in the "Family Jewels" is from the late 1960's and early 1970's. In some cases there are multiple copies of memoranda as different authors attached previous branch, office, or division materials to individual treatises, retorts, elaborations, or addenda. There is no table of contents, sequence, or organizational rationale. The pages are stamped consecutively and appear roughly to be

numbered in the order in which they were received.