

MEMORANDUM

July 17, 1998

To: Jeremy Gunn
Executive Director

cc: Bob Skwirot
CIA Team Leader

From: Michelle Combs
Associate Director for Research and Review

Subject: CIA-IR-28 Files of DCI John McCone

In response to ARRB's informal request CIA-IR-28, the CIA provided a complete box and folder index listing of the files of Director of Central Intelligence John McCone. Files believed to contain documents of relevance to the assassination of President Kennedy were chosen. I was given complete access to the files I chose. McCone's existing records consist of memoranda, briefing reports, and transcripts of meetings held in his office. The CIA was unable to locate any original tape recordings from which the transcripts were transcribed.

According to the box and folder index listing of McCone's files, McCone did not maintain files on the assassination of President John Kennedy, the investigation, Lee Harvey Oswald, or the Warren Commission. McCone records do include memoranda, briefing reports, and transcripts of discussions on Oswald, the assassination, and the investigation. These records were marked as assassination records for review and processing for release to the National Archives. Within the McCone papers are several file folders with notations or sheets indicating documents on a wide variety of subjects which are missing or were destroyed. Of the missing or destroyed documents, only two refer to the Kennedy assassination. One document from a 1963 listing is described as "Date of Meeting - 26 Nov; Participants - DCI & Bundy; Subjects Covered - Msg concerning Pres. Kennedy's assassination." The second document is described as "Date of Meeting - 19 May '64; Participants - DCI, J. J. McCloy; Dinner at Residence - Re: Oswald." The second document is annotated "Destroyed 1-28-72." Both documents were noted as missing when the files were reviewed by CIA historians in November 1986. The descriptions of both documents were designated as assassination records. Finally, memoranda and briefings on American activities in Cuba and Vietnam also were designated as assassination records and are being processed.

Due to the sensitive and worldwide nature of many of the McCone records, particularly the briefing reports prepared for the DCI, only the portions relevant to the assassination were designated and

processed as assassination records.

One interesting document in the McCone files is a July 19, 1963 Memorandum for the Record described as "Meeting with the President-12:15pm-19 July 1963." This document is interesting because it contains a brief mention of a Captain Sands at the National Photographic and Interpretation Center (NPIC). Captain Sands was mentioned in a Review Board interview with Homer Mahon as having been present when the Zapruder film was analyzed at NPIC on the weekend following the assassination. The CIA was unable to locate a Captain Sands from the information provided in the interview by Mr. Mahon.