

July 27, 1998

BY FACSIMILE & U.S. MAIL

The Honorable William M. Thomas  
Chairman, Committee on House Oversight  
House of Representatives  
1309 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-6230

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As you know, the Assassination Records Review Board ("Review Board") has been securing the public release of records relating to the assassination of President Kennedy pursuant to its Congressional mandate under the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992, 44 U.S.C. § 2107 ("JFK Act").

In preparation for writing the Final Report of the Review Board, we discovered that the House Administration Committee, in April of 1983, held hearings regarding public release of records of the House Select Committee on Assassinations ("HSCA"). Congressman Stewart McKinney introduced a resolution (H. R. Res. 160, 98th Cong., 1st Sess. (1983)) that would have accelerated public disclosure of the HSCA records. According to the Congressional Research Service's overview on the disclosure of JFK assassination records, the resolution was referred to the House Administration Committee, and hearings were held on the matter, but the resolution never went to the House floor for a vote.<sup>1</sup>

Any extant records relating to Congressman McKinney's resolution are likely to be assassination records as defined by Congress in § 3(2) of the JFK Act. Accordingly, we ask that any such Congressional records, to the extent not already public, be made available for our review to determine if they should be included in the JFK Assassination Records Collection at the National Archives and Records Administration. We are interested in resolving this matter as quickly as possible because the Review Board is scheduled to terminate its operations at the end of this fiscal year.

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<sup>1</sup> See *President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Disclosure: An Overview*, ed. Harold C. Relyea and Suzanne Cavanagh, Congressional Research Service, March 3, 1993, at 9, 11.

I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Laura Denk  
Executive Director

cc: Roman Buhler