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September 13, 1995

His Excellency \_\_\_\_\_  
Ambassador of \_\_\_\_\_  
Washington, D.C. 20008

Excellency:

I have the honor of writing to you on behalf of the government and citizens of the United States of America. We seek your government's cooperation and assistance in an endeavor of great importance to the American people.

As you are aware, the assassination of President Kennedy in 1963 had a profound and traumatic effect on the American people. Many Americans have long believed that they have not been provided all of the relevant facts about the assassination and that all of the government's records related to the assassination have not been made available. In response to this longstanding and grave public concern, Congress enacted The President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992. The JFK Act mandates that all Government records related to the assassination, to the greatest extent possible, should be declassified and made available to the American public.

President Bush signed the Act into law in 1992. President Clinton expressed his interest and support of the law not only by his words, but by appointing five prominent Americans to serve on the Assassination Records Review Board. The United States Senate unanimously confirmed the appointment of these Review Board members. It is now the responsibility of the Review Board to make formal determinations regarding the release or continued protection of information in records relating to the assassination of President Kennedy.

As you also are aware, your government provided important information to the FBI, both before and after the assassination, that related to Lee Harvey Oswald, the alleged assassin of President Kennedy.

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Documents in the FBI's files reveal the helpful assistance that your government provided to the United States at a time of severe national shock and sorrow.

We believe that it is important for the American people to see, in their entirety, many of the documents reflecting your government's beneficial assistance to the United States. Release of this information would not only help the United States Government by alleviating suspicions that it is hiding relevant information from the public, but would provide the American people with a valuable demonstration of the productive and cooperative spirit shown by your government at a time of crisis for the American people.

As a part of its mandate, the Assassination Records Review Board voted to release, in their entirety, five records from the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation related to your government's assistance in the investigation of Lee Harvey Oswald. The Board is aware that certain aspects of a liaison relationship between two nations' law enforcement agencies are appropriately confidential. In our view, however, these five documents do not disclose anything regarding current relationships between our governments, anything relating to sensitive sources and methods, or indeed anything regarding law enforcement liaison between our countries that has not already been acknowledged and revealed.

In contrast, there is a great public interest in this information as it relates to Lee Harvey Oswald. Oswald's activities have been the subject of persistent speculation because of the incomplete public record. It is precisely this kind of information that Congress wanted released to the American people.

The Board's decisions regarding these five documents were careful and discriminating. The Review Board did not recommend a wholesale release of all documents involving this liaison relationship, but rather took a careful, reasoned step to make available important information without compromising important relationships.

President Clinton and the Review Board would very much appreciate your

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government's consent to the release of these documents and thereby assist us in providing to the American people the most complete record possible.

Sincerely yours,

John R. Tunheim  
Chairman

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