

VIA FACSIMILE AND FIRST CLASS MAIL

March 12, 1998

Ms. Jane E. Vezeris  
Assistant Director  
Office of Administration  
United States Secret Service  
1800 G Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20223

Re: Reconsideration of the documents prepared by HSCA Staff Member  
Eileen Dinneen

Dear Jane:

The Assassination Records Review Board would like to renew its consideration of the documents prepared by HSCA staff member Eileen Dinneen. The following documents remain at issue:

1. RIF # 180-10087-10302 (Eileen Dinneen's review of JFK Trip files for  
1963 with attached  
Secret Service Report Forms)
2. RIF # 180-10103-10465 (Memorandum from Eileen Dinneen to Dick  
Billings regarding  
review of Protective Cases  
Established by the  
Secret Service during 1963)
3. RIF # 180-10065-10379 (Three folders of 413 sheets compiled by Eileen  
Dinneen summarizing  
protective intelligence  
cases established by the  
Secret Service during 1963)
4. Item #1 from Dinneen's Personal Materials

(Memorandum-Secret Service Protective Cases)

5. Item #2 from Dinneen's Personal Materials  
(Secret Service Index File and Commission Documents: U.S. Archives)
  
6. Item #9 from Dinneen's Personal Materials  
(Document #006256 re: Briefing Papers)

As you are aware, the Review Board considered the first three documents listed above at its March 18-19, 1996 meeting, and voted not to sustain the Secret Service's requested postponements. The Secret Service registered a rigorous objection to the Board's decision, and thus the Board agreed to give the Secret Service more time to present additional arguments and evidence in support of its requested postponements. The Board also designated Items #1, 2 and 9 from Dinneen's personal materials as assassination records at its July 9-10, 1996 meeting, and the Secret Service indicated its intent to request postponements of certain names in these documents. Ultimately, the Board suspended its consideration of the Dinneen materials, in December, 1996.

The Board would like to resolve the issues presented by these documents. Our understanding of the Secret Service's position, is that it does not object to the release of the text of all of these documents, but it does object to the release of most of the names of the individuals associated with the text. The Secret Service has argued that release of the names of these individuals would constitute a substantial invasion of their privacy, and would also compromise the Secret Service's relationship with the mental health community and its ability to fulfill its protective responsibilities. *See* Nov. 13, 1996 Letter from J. Vezeris to D. Marwell. We further understand that the Secret Service does not object to the release of the names of individuals who had been associated with the investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy, nor to the release of the names of certain individual who are now deceased.

We would like to propose that the Board vote on the issues presented by the Dinneen documents, at its April 13, 1998 meeting. At that time, the Board will consider the arguments already advanced by the Secret Service, as well as any other evidence the Secret Services wishes to submit or present in person. If the Board decides to release all of the names in the Dinneen materials, the Secret Service can appeal the Board's decision. To the extent you believe the Secret Service would be able to assemble *additional*, persuasive evidence in support of its requested postponements, the Board would be willing to defer consideration of the Dinneen materials until its May, 1998 meeting.

In the event we do not hear otherwise, the Board will assume that the Dinneen issues will be considered at its April 13, 1998 meeting. If the Secret Service does not present additional information by the April 13, 1998 meeting, the Board will render its final vote on all of the Dinneen documents at issue.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me or Review Board staff member, Kim Herd.

Sincerely,

T. Jeremy Gunn  
Executive Director