

March 13, 1997

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Stephen R. Weiss
4503 Medinah Place
Bellaire, Texas 77401

Dear Mr. Weiss:

Doug Horne informed me of his recent conversation with you, and of your reluctance to talk further about the subject matter discussed with Dave Montague on February 28, 1997. Let me assure you, we have no wish to take any steps that will cause you any discomfort or inconvenience.

I understand from Mr. Horne that you believe that the Review Board should pursue information on the documents you saw around 1982 directly from the Army, rather than seeking more information from you. We are very willing to pursue additional records from the Army. We certainly will do so to the extent that we can obtain leads that would permit us to ask meaningful and probative questions. We cannot pursue the issue, of course, until we have a better understanding of what you saw.

We recently spoke with another former serviceman who also had some reluctance to talk to us. In response to your concern and his, I contacted the Associate Deputy General Counsel (who is our liaison with the military) and, without naming any names, said that there were two former servicemen whom we thought might be willing to speak to us if they could be assured that there would be no adverse consequences. Mr. Aly said that he is willing to cooperate fully to provide whatever written or oral assurance you feel you need in order to encourage former servicemen to come forward with their stories. I want to assure you that the Review Board has received, and is still receiving, the fullest cooperation from the Department of Defense and the U.S. Army, as we pursue our mandate to locate and declassify records within the purview of the JFK Act. Mr. Aly is willing to provide written assurance from the office of the DOD General Counsel advising you that it is in keeping with DOD and U.S. Army policy to cooperate fully with the Review Board on this or any other matter involving the search for records related to the assassination of President Kennedy.

We are prepared to handle this in any way that you deem appropriate. If you consent to my giving Mr. Aly your name and address, he is willing to write to you directly or to have someone from the Pentagon contact you. Or, if you prefer, I could forward to you a "to whom it may concern" letter

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from Mr. Aly. To the extent that any of your concerns pertain to secrecy or agreements or to a pension, Mr. Aly is willing to provide the assurance that you need.¹

Please give me a call (collect) to let me know your feelings on this matter.

Sincerely,

T. Jeremy Gunn
General Counsel and
Associate Director for Research & Analysis

¹Some people with whom we have spoken have agreed to speak with us provided that we first issue a subpoena to them. (This provides some people with added comfort that they are testifying pursuant to a duly-authorized Federal subpoena.) If it would provide added assurance to you, we can easily arrange to have a subpoena issued.