

January 16, 1997

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Dear :

As you may be aware, Congress enacted the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992, 44 U.S.C. § 2107 (Supp. V 1994), for the purpose of collecting records related to the assassination of President Kennedy. The Act established the Assassination Records Review Board to oversee the process of locating assassination records, declassifying them, and transferring them to the JFK Collection at the National Archives. Much of the Review Board's work thus far has been devoted to declassifying records from the CIA, FBI, and the HSCA. The Review Board has taken a vigorous approach to declassifying formerly sensitive agency records.

I am writing in regard to your work as an HSCA staff member. We are appealing to you – as well as your former colleagues – to contact us regarding records that you may have preserved from the time of your work with the HSCA. We believe that there are significant – and unique – records in the hands of former staffers. One of your former colleagues, for example, sent us her copies of records that were no longer available from the relevant agency. These records are now an important part of the collection.

We understand that some of you may have concerns about your possessing such records. I wish to assure you that we are not inquiring into the propriety of why such records may have been kept, but in seeing that all assassination records become available to the American public. To the extent that this assurance is insufficient, please call Brian Rosen of our staff, who would be pleased to discuss the matter with you further.

We very much hope that you will get in touch with us.

Sincerely,

David G. Marwell
Executive Director