

December 12, 1997

BY HAND DELIVERY

Mr. Raymond Limon, Esq.
Attorney, Office of the General Counsel
Office of Personnel Management
1900 E. Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20415

Re: Office of U.S. Civil Service Commission Assassination-Related Records
Among the Files of the House Select Committee on Assassinations

Dear Mr. Limon:

I am writing to request that the Office of Personnel Management ("OPM") authorize the public release, under the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act ("JFK Act"), of personnel records which had previously been maintained by the U.S. Civil Service Commission. It is my understanding that you recently spoke with Kim Herd, an attorney on the Assassination Records Review Board staff, regarding the provisions of the JFK Act, and its application to your agency. As you are aware from your conversation with Ms. Herd, we have identified several assassination-related documents which are currently within the files of the House Select Committee on Assassinations ("HSCA"), in the custody of the National Archives and Records Administration. These documents relate to personnel information that the U.S. Civil Service Commission maintained on an individual named George de Mohrenschildt, aka Phillip Harbin.

Under the JFK Act, the OPM is responsible for examining these records and authorizing their release. In addition, you should determine whether you wish to postpone release of any information within these records. The provisions of the JFK Act anticipate that information will be withheld from public release only in "the rarest cases" and only pursuant to one of the provisions of Section 6 of the JFK Act. We have enclosed copies of these documents as well as a pamphlet which further explains the provisions of the JFK Act.

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Any proposed postponements must be considered by the five-member Review Board. Therefore, please submit in writing, evidence or arguments in support of any postponements you may choose to assert no later than February 2, 1998. If you do not respond to this letter by the above deadline, we will assume that your agency intends to release in full its equities in the HSCA records at issue, and we will recommend that the Review Board vote to release these records in their entirety.

If you have any questions regarding the enclosed documents, please call Kim Herd at (202) 724-0088. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

T. Jeremy Gunn
Executive Director

Enclosures