

December 19, 1995

Mr. Thomas Ostendorff, III
President
Southern Research Company
P.O. Box 1590
Shreveport, Louisiana 71165-1590

Dear Mr. Ostendorff:

By way of introduction, the Assassination Records Review Board (ARRB) is an independent federal agency created to oversee the identification and release of records related to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

The ARRB was established by the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 (PL 102-526). The Act gives the ARRB the mandate and authority to identify, secure, and make available all records related to the assassination of President Kennedy. I am enclosing a copy of the Act and some explanatory material.

The scope of the Review Board's mandate includes assassination-related records in the custody of federal agencies, local and state government entities, and private organizations. Any documents Southern Research Company may still possess relating to its investigation of David Ferrie on behalf of Eastern Airlines or work for Clay Shaw's defense attorneys would potentially be of interest to the ARRB. This list of subjects is not exhaustive; you may well possess records related in other ways to the assassination or may be able to suggest other sources of such records.

As a first step, I would appreciate your naming a point of contact at Southern Research Company who could meet with my staff to discuss these issues.

I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours,

David G. Marwell
Executive Director

Enclosures