

November 20, 1995

Mr. B. Michael Berger
Director, Records Management Service (723)
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420

Dear Mr. Berger:

It is our understanding that you are the Department of Veterans Affairs' point of contact for records coming within the scope of the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992, 44 U.S.C. § 2107 (note).

As part of its responsibilities under the JFK Act, the Assassination Records Review Board is now reviewing records compiled by the House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA) during its three-year investigation (1976-1978) into the assassination of President Kennedy. The Review Board is now reviewing HSCA records to determine to what extent they may be made available to the public.

We have identified, from among the HSCA materials, two records that contain information in which the VA may have some equity. These two records should have been sent to you several months ago by the National Archives to determine whether the VA has any objection to the release of the information contained in these documents. According to our records, we have received no response from the VA. If the VA has no objection to the release of the information in the documents, the Review Board presumably will open the records in full at its next meeting on December 12. For this reason, it is important that you communicate to us any objections that you might have regarding the release of the two documents in question. (NARA's Record Information Forms (RIF's) for both of these records are enclosed.)

The first record is a 57-page medical history of Ivo A. Tucci, which the HSCA obtained from the VA Hospital in North Chicago, Illinois, in January of 1977. This record heretofore has not been publicly released based upon possible personal privacy concerns.

The second record is a two-page Outside Contact Report generated by an HSCA staffer after reviewing the VA file of John David Hurt on September 27, 1978. The document previously has

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been released to the public, although ten words have been redacted. The redaction refers to the reasons for Mr. Hurt's hospitalizations in 1955 and 1959. This prior redaction was made on the grounds of personal privacy.

If the VA has any objection to the release of this information, or if you have any other questions related to this matter, please contact Mr. Joseph Freeman of my staff promptly. He will be able to facilitate your review of these records and answer any questions that you may have.

Sincerely yours,

David G. Marwell

Executive Director