

November 12, 1997

The Honorable Charles O. Rossotti  
Commissioner of Internal Revenue  
Internal Revenue Service  
1111 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20535

Re: IRS and the JFK Assassination Records Collection Act, 44 U.S. C. § 2107

Dear Mr. Rossotti:

I would like to congratulate you on your new position and wish you the best of success.

The President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992, 44 U.S.C. § 2107 (JFK Act) was established, in part, to help allay public concerns over secret records in U.S. government files that relate to the assassination of President Kennedy. The five members of the Assassination Records Review Board were appointed by President Clinton and confirmed by the U.S. Senate. The Review Board was charged by Congress with securing the public release of information related to the assassination.

For more than a year and a half, the Review Board has been seeking the cooperation and assistance of the Internal Revenue Service to open up as many records as possible, consistent with the law. Among the records at issue are closed IRS documents in the Warren Commission files. We had hoped that the IRS would take a position that, consistent with its own regulations, would permit as much information as possible to be opened to the public. Unfortunately, the IRS has failed to respond substantively to our many letters and entreaties.

I ask that you to appoint, as soon as possible, a responsible official from the IRS who will have your authority to meet with us and to resolve the outstanding issues.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 724-0088.

Sincerely,

T. Jeremy Gunn  
Executive Director