

# Assassination Records Review Board

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### JFK ASSASSINATION RECORDS REVIEW BOARD HOLDS PUBLIC MEETING IN BOSTON; SEEKS INFORMATION ON RECORDS

The Assassination Records Review Board, an independent federal panel appointed by President Clinton to oversee the identification and release of all records related to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, is holding a public meeting today in Boston, Massachusetts.

"Our obligation under the law is to provide a complete public record of the assassination of President Kennedy, a record that is fully accessible to the American public," said John R. Tunheim, Board Chair. "This public meeting is part of an effort to fulfill our mandate, take full advantage of the experts from this area, and do business in an open manner."

The Board will hear expert testimony on the identification and location of assassination records, discuss finalizing their proposed definition guidance on "assassination records," and receive an update by the National Archives on the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection.

The following experts are scheduled to testify at the Board's public meeting today:

**Philip H. Melanson;** Political Science Professor at the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth and the author of Spy Saga: Lee Harvey Oswald and U.S. Intelligence, published in 1990.

**Priscilla Johnson McMillan;** History Professor at the Harvard Russian Research Center. She is the author of Marina and Lee, published in 1977. McMillan interviewed Oswald in the Soviet Union in 1959.

**Dick Russell;** Author of the 1992 book The Man Who Knew Too Much. The book focuses on an alleged intelligence agent named Richard Case Nagell and his alleged knowledge of the assassination of President Kennedy.

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**Richard Trask**; Author of Pictures of the Pain: Photography and the Assassination of President Kennedy, published in 1994.

In addition to conducting a public meeting in Boston today, the Review Board visited The John Fitzgerald Kennedy Library yesterday, to meet privately with Library representatives. Discussions focused on what records at the Library should be included in the collection of assassination records.

The Assassination Records Review Board was established by The President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992, which was signed into law by President George Bush. The five members of the Board were appointed by President Clinton, confirmed by the U.S. Senate, and sworn in on April 11, 1994. The law gives the Review Board the mandate and the authority to identify, secure, and make available all records related to the assassination of President Kennedy. It is the responsibility of the Board to determine which records are to be made public immediately and which ones will have postponed release dates.

The Review Board consists of the following members:

**John R. Tunheim**, Chair; Minnesota Chief Deputy Attorney General.

**Dr. Henry F. Graff**; Professor Emeritus of History at Columbia University.

**Dr. Kermit L. Hall**; Dean, College of Humanities, and Professor of History at The Ohio State University.

**Dr. William L. Joyce**; Associate University Librarian for Rare Books and Special Collections at Princeton University.

**Dr. Anna K. Nelson**; Adjunct Professor of History at American University.

The Review Board has until October 1, 1996 to fulfill its mandate, plus an additional year at the Board's discretion to complete its responsibilities.