

## **POSSIBLE ADDITIONS FOR CHAPTER 4**

### **-sidebar- Definition of an Assassination Record JFK Act, Section 3**

#### SEC. 3. Definitions

In this Act:

- (1) “Archivist” means the Archivist of the United States.
- (2) “Assassination record” means a record that is related to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, that was created or made available for use by, obtained by, or otherwise came into the possession of--
  - (A) the Commission to Investigate the Assassination of President John F. Kennedy (the “Warren Commission”);
  - (B) the Commission on General Intelligence Agency Activities Within the United States (the “Rockefeller commission”);
  - (C) the Senate Select Committee to Study Governmental Operation with Respect to Intelligence Activities (the “Church Committee”);
  - (D) the Select Committee on Intelligence (the “Pike Committee”) of the House of Representatives;
  - (E) the Select Committee on Assassinations (the “House Assassinations Committee”) of the House of Representatives;
  - (F) the Library of Congress;
  - (G) the National Archives and Records Administration;
  - (H) any Presidential library;
  - (I) any Executive agency;
  - (J) any independent agency;
  - (K) any other office of the Federal Government; and
  - (L) any State or local law enforcement office that provided support or assistance or performed work in connection with a Federal inquiry into the assassination President John F. Kennedy.
- (3) “Collection” means the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records collection established under section 4.

### **-sidebar- Identification Aids (p. 2?) JFK Act, Section 5**

(d) IDENTIFICATION AIDS.- (1)(A) Not later than 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Archivist, in consultation with the appropriate Government offices, shall prepare and make available to all government offices a standard form of identification or finding aid for use with each assassination record subject to review under this Act.

(B) The Archivist shall ensure that the identification aid program is established in such a manner as to result in the creation of a uniform system of electronic records by Government offices that are compatible with each other.

- (2) Upon completion of an identification aid, a Government office shall--
  - (A) attach a printed copy to the record it describes;

(B) transmit to the Review Board a printed copy; and  
(C) attach a printed copy to each assassination record it describes when it is transmitted to the Archivist.

(3) Assassination records which are in the possession of the National Archives on the date of enactment of this Act, and which have been publicly available in their entirety without redaction, shall be made available in the Collection without any additional review by the Review Board or another authorized office under this Act, and shall not be required to have such an identification aid unless required by the Archivist.

**-sidebar -Referrals (section G,2, p.8?)**

**REPORT of the COMMISSION ON PROTECTING AND REDUCING  
GOVERNMENT SECRECY. March 3, 1997. p. 62.**

Current Procedures for processing records with multiple equities are expensive and complex. An agency referring classified records to another agency for its review must make copies of the records and specially package and transport them in compliance with security procedures (which, depending on the records' classification levels, can range from sending them via registered mail to having them personally transferred to a government courier by a staff person with appropriate clearances). This process is repeated for every record that contains agency equities and can occur multiple times if a single document needs to be referred to more than one agency and also when that record is returned to the referring agency only partly declassified. At every step of this process, additional costs are incurred. Not only is the process burdensome and costly for agencies, but there are no deadlines by which agencies must respond to such referrals. The result can be lengthy delays before a review is completed and information released to the public.

Assassination Records Review Board Open Meeting, August 6, 1996

That's what we hoped would happen, and its literally happening, as people are able to look at the database and provide us with precise information on documents that they're interested in.

*Steven D. Tilley*

*Chief*

*Special Access and FOIA Staff*

*National Archives and Records Administration*

Possibly, as a balance to Steve's comments we may add this quote that Laura found:

(Though these comments by Senator Roth in his opening statement at the Senate Hearing for the JFK Act advanced to a query as to why a review could not be built on the freedom of information rules already in place, they speak to the review process and the need insure its efficiency.)

Although objection to the mechanism of review have been raised on both practical and legal grounds, I think we are all in the agreement with the basic purpose of the

resolution--to secure the expeditious disclosure of records relevant to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy--is a laudable one. It is my hope that ways can be found to streamline the review process and I am particularly interested in comments from our witnesses in this regard.

I do share some of the concerns outlined by the administration and believe that the procedure we adopt must not prove more cumbersome and costly than necessary. Indeed, the establishment of a complicated mechanism of review may actually inhibit the expeditious disclosure of assassination material. One of the matters that I am going to be interested in is why we cannot build on our freedom of information rules to secure the adequate release of other materials. (Senate Hearing 102-721, 102 Congress, 2nd Session. p. 6 (1992))

**[We might choose to not include the last sentence.]**

Tracking the large number of documents through the review process was a major information technology challenge. We reinvented the process and the systems on a month by month basis.

*Charles Rhodes, Computer Specialist*

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*Dr. Joyce:* Are these forms related in any way to more -- to broader descriptions of the records in question?

*Mr. Tilley:* No, its strictly the information that was created when the -- captured when the agencies did the database entry on each document. It's strictly the record identification form. They can see the whole form. So, they can see all twenty-three fields, and they can get all the subjects. And they can see them on the screen and they can print that out. But there is no additional information beyond what was originally captured.

*Dr. Joyce:* And there is no text of the documents?

*Mr. Tilley:* No. No, we have not done any text entry. There has been no scanning of documents at this time.