

April 4, 1997

BY FEDERAL EXPRESS

Ms. Tina Houston  
Supervisory Archivist  
Lyndon Baines Johnson Library  
2313 Red River Street  
Austin, Texas 78705

Re: Status Report on LBJ Library Records

Dear Tina:

I had hoped to send this letter to you before today, but I have been deeply involved with a Board hearing on the Zapruder film. I again wish to extend my thanks for your hospitality last week. The following is my understanding of where we are in the process.

*1. ARRB Review of LBJ Library Records.* Irene Marr, Steve Tilley, and I completed our review of almost all of the files that we had requested. I am enclosing a copy of our document entitled "Status of ARRB Review of Records at the LBJ Library" (April 4, 1997). This document identifies all of the boxes (or records) that we were able to review (Part I) as well as those that we hope to complete later (Part II). We left with you the originals of the "LBJ Library/ARRB Review" forms that identify the specific documents we designated for inclusion in the JFK Collection.

*2. Additional "Assassination Records" from ARRB Review.* As you may recall, I completed three "LBJ Library/ARRB Review" forms while I was at the Library that I brought back with me so that I could discuss them with the Board before formally designating additional "assassination records." I have now discussed the issues with the Board. We now wish to designate for processing the thirteen additional records identified on the forms. I am including with this letter the three original forms designating the thirteen records from NSF/NIE box 9, the VP Security Files box 9, and the NSF/CV Clifton box 2.

*3. Processing records designated by the ARRB.* It is our understanding that during the next month you will be making copies of the records that we designated during our visit (as well as

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the additional records identified in this letter), preparing Record Identification Forms (RIFs) for the records, attaching the RIFs to the documents, and sending them to us (via Steve Tilley). The ARRB will be taking the responsibility for copying and forwarding the records to third agencies for their review.

*4. Processing records previously designated by the LBJ Library as "assassination records" that contain postponements.* It is our understanding that you are continuing to coordinate third agency review of all postponements for the records you previously sent to agencies (under mandatory review). (I agreed to contact Melanie Pustay of the Department of Justice regarding third agency review of NLJ 93-467 (W. Yeagley 3/14/67 memo)). The ARRB will be responsible for coordinating third agency review of all records identified since the beginning of this year (all of which should thus far bear the code number NLJ 97-102 and which have been sent to Steve Tilley). As mentioned in paragraph 3 above, we will be responsible for coordinating third agency review of all records identified in our visit as well as any future records.

*5. Electronic RIFs.* During our visit, John Wilson gave me a computer disk containing the updated RIF information. It is my understanding that the disk is reasonably up to date, although it does not include all of the records identified by the LBJ Library. Obviously, it also does not include RIFs for the documents we identified during the visit. We understand that you will send to us updated electronic RIFs as they become available.

*6. Donor closures.* It is our understanding that you may be contacting donors who have deed-restricted records and informing us of the results of your inquiries. (It is our understanding that NARA's General Counsel believes that the Review Board is entitled to have viewing access to all relevant donor-restricted records -- although such access does not mean that relevant restricted records will be added to the JFK Collection. Rather than using our authority in the first instance, we would prefer to accept your judgment regarding whether it is more appropriate that you request voluntary agreement or follow other procedures that you deem preferable.)

*7. Compliance program.* I understand that you will be sending to us shortly your Initial Compliance Statement that outlines the steps the LBJ Library has taken, to date, to comply with the JFK Act and which describes in general terms the scope and methodology of the search.

*8. Possible additional visit.* I am hoping to make one additional visit to the Library later this year. It is my hope to be able to review the remaining records that are identified in Part II of the enclosed "Status of ARRB Review of Records at the LBJ Library," as well as any other appropriate

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records that may come to your attention. If I am able to make the visit, we also would be able to discuss in person the Initial Compliance Statement and any questions you may have regarding the Final Compliance Statement.

*9. President's Daily Brief.* You agreed to examine the PDB for the weeks after the assassination to determine whether references to the assassination are included.

*9. Address of Martin Underwood.* We do not have a final confirmation on the address of Martin Underwood, Jr. I will get it to you as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

T. Jeremy Gunn

General Counsel and

Associate Director for Research and Analysis

Enclosures