

Dear Johan Garay:

Thank you for your letter of November 5, 1996.

Judge Tunheim and his colleagues on the Assassination Records Review Board have asked me to respond to you.

First, let me say that we take your comments and concerns very seriously. It is precisely your doubts and suspicions about the conduct of your government (long before you were born) that prompted Congress to pass the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Act and to establish the Review Board. It is our job to see to it that all government records that relate to the assassination of President Kennedy are released so that the American people can be confident that their government is not hiding anything from them about the Kennedy assassination. We are doing our very best to do this.

So far, as a result of the legislation and the actions of the Board, hundreds of thousands of documents have been released to the public and are available for research at the National Archives in College Park. Instead of looking at the progress that the Board has made in this effort, many people focus on the records that have not yet been made public as well as on the rare cases where the Board has agreed that certain information should remain classified for