

ADMINISTRATIVE - INTERNAL USE ONLY

From the Desk of R. Bruce Burke
Associate Deputy General Counsel

NOTE FOR: Dawn R. Eilenberger@DCI
FROM: R. Bruce Burke @ DCI
OFFICE: OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL
DATE: 10/01/98 01:08:09 PM
SUBJECT: JFK Review Board Item for the BLAT

Dawn:

The following paragraph on the winding down of the JFK Review Board may be used in the OGC Weekly Report.

Bruce

"ASSOCIATE DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL (INFORMATION)

End of JFK Review Board. As of 1 October, the JFK Assassination Records Review Board (JFK Review Board) ceased to exist. In order to obtain more protection and processing time for Agency records related to the assassination of President Kennedy, OGC and OIM worked very hard to negotiate with the JFK Review Board (before its termination) a comprehensive MOU that would govern the final disposition of these records in a way favorable to the Agency. Although the MOU was negotiated and ready for signature, at the eleventh hour, the FBI agreed to turn over to the National Records and Archives Administration (NARA) all of its voluminous administrative records concerning its implementation of the JFK Act. Citing this precedent, the JFK Review Board insisted that CIA agree to do the same in the MOU, or the MOU would not be signed by the Board. Since in the absence of an MOU we would have to turn over to NARA immediately all of the remaining documents in CIA's possession considered by the JFK Review Board to be assassination-related records, OGC and OIM negotiated non-stop with the Board and its General Counsel and produced a compromise which protects all of the Agency's interests. Specifically, the compromise dramatically reduced the scope and numbers of administrative records CIA would be required to turn over to NARA, while preserving intact all of the other provisions of the MOU favorable to the Agency."

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