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## HPSCI BRIEFING - JFK DECLASSIFICATION

10 April 1996

1. Nature of the records--Oswald 201, Sequestered
  - Other records: Minutes of DCI morning meetings; working files
  - Third Agency documents: FBI, SSCI, Presidential libraries
2. Pages released (227,000)
  - Percentage of pages redacted; 70 %
3. Process of declassification
  - Former senior officers in HRG review
  - Coordination with OGC, DO (DO team detailed to HRG)
4. Standards for review in JFK Assassination Records Collection Act, 1992
  - Records related to the assassination or investigation into the assassination
  - Law provides grounds for postponement of disclosure of records
    - "Clear and convincing evidence" must be presented to the Board
    - E.g., Identity of agent currently requiring protection
      - Source or method currently utilized
      - Foreign government relationship currently requiring protection
5. Board has authority to release records unless it agrees there is "clear and convincing evidence" to support a postponement
  - Board then has to justify on the record each redaction with which it agrees
  - Once a determination is made, Board must publish it in Federal Register within 14 days

- Options available: substitute language e.g., "Northern European station"

- Also, summary of a record

- Board has access to every document in full

6. Issues raised by Board's decisions:

- Problem: Board has difficulty in linking disclosure of information that is 30 years old with damage to current intelligence operations

- Identification of stations e.g., Helsinki

- Names of former Agency employees who retired under cover

- Board guidelines: Protect person if retired under cover and now residing overseas, but not if in US

- Liaison, joint operations in Mexico

- Briefing of the Board by Dave Edger, Jeff Smith, Central Cover, DO desk officers, others

- Problem of accumulative effect of releases--eroding cover, ability to conduct operations

7. Provision for appeal to the White House if we disagree with Board's determination

- President has sole authority to require postponement of a record or information

- President required to advise the Board within 30 days of the Board's determination

- This is published in the Federal Register

8. Current appeal (now resolved)

- Issues: identification of Agency asset  
liaison relationship  
identification of station

- Potential appeal: Tokyo station

9. Additional requests of Board to review other records e.g., history of Mexico City station, Intelligence Community Staff records

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~~ADMINISTRATIVE - INTERNAL USE ONLY~~*Barry's file*

CSI 1997-552

10 December 1997

NOTE FOR: Director, Center for the Study  
of Intelligence  
Deputy Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

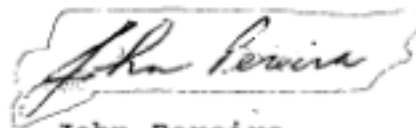
FROM: John Pereira  
Chief, Historical Review Group

SUBJECT: JFK/Possible Letter from  
Congressman Burton to EXDIR

Jeremy Gunn, Executive Director of the JFK Board, told HRG yesterday that Congressman Dan Burton may well write a letter to the EXDIR expressing concern about whether CIA will be able to meet the deadline for declassification of assassination-related records. Burton chairs the Government Reform and Oversight Committee which has cognizance over the JFK Board.

Gunn said that he briefed members of Burton's staff last week and told them he was concerned that the Agency may not have enough resources dedicated to JFK to finish the review of documents by 1 September 1998. Gunn showed the staffers the recent exchange of letters between the Board and the EXDIR on the same issue. According to the staffers, Burton has a strong personal interest in the release of the assassination records. The staffers gave Gunn the impression that Burton's strong interest will prompt him to write to the Agency.

During our discussion with Gunn, we reviewed with him the Agency's clear commitment to declassifying all assassination records. We also explained that we have shifted four additional contractors to the JFK project, and will shift more if necessary, even at the cost of slowing down or stopping other declassification efforts.



John Pereira

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*1- Eileen*  
*1- Fred Dickham*  
*12/10*  
*1 circulated JFK*