

**SECRET****RETURN TO CIA  
Background Use Only  
Do Not Reproduce**

John -

Thank you for agreeing to participate in briefing the JFK Assassination Records Review Board (ARRB) to be held on Monday, 17 March, at 2:00 p.m., in 2C06 IP Bldg. I regret the short notice. As we discussed, the ARRB has asked for information relating to the creation, transmission, and dissemination of cables and your name instantly came to mind. Their specific questions are:

1- Can you describe the cable process in place in the Agency during the 1960-1964 time period?

Prior to 1962 messages were delivered to the DPD (Development Products Division) at 1717 H Street or to the Communications Center at "L" <sup>Building</sup> Street. In addition there also was a Q building that received special traffic.

After 1962 messages came into the CIA Headquarters and were processed in different areas depending on the types of traffic.

Imagery traffic would be sent to to a specific floor for the imagery personnel. Intercept and Special Programs would either be passed to a Special Sections Area of the Communications Center or to the Cable Secretariat.

2- How did cables come in?

Messages came in from the field via the Brandy Station State Channels or military channels.

3- How were they decrypted?

Messages were deciphered using a OTT (One Time Tape) or a OTP (One Time Pad) process.

**SECRET****RETURN TO CIA  
Background Use Only  
Do Not Reproduce**

**SECRET**RETURN TO CIA  
Background Use Only  
Do Not Reproduce

4- What happened from the time a cable was sent from a field site until it arrived

on a desk at Headquarters?

Messages sent from a field site <sup>decrypted & processed</sup> would be passed to a communicator, <sup>messages going out</sup> encrypted and transmitted via

High Frequency Radio. The message received from **Brandy**

and relayed to headquarters and then it was decrypted.

The analyst of the Cable Secretariat would then read the message and match what they read against customer

requirements. They then would have a typist type the

dissemination on the message. The message then would be

picked up from the message center by the various staffs

and or divisions.

5- How were cables disseminated?

See item four.

Please let me or Becky Rant, DA/IRO, know if you have any other questions or concerns prior to the briefing.

CC: Becky L. Rant

Andréa E. Boyce

Sent on 13 March 1997 at 03:17:34 PM

**SECRET**RETURN TO CIA  
Background Use Only  
Do Not Reproduce