Washington, D.C. 20505

11 October 1978

Honorable Barbara A. Babcock Assistant Attorney General Civil Division Department of Justice Tenth & Constitution Ave., NW Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Ms. Babcock:

Re: Weisberg v. GSA/National Archives.and
Records Services, U.S.D.C. (CA #77-1831,
formerly CA #75-1448)

In the referent litigation, two executive session transcripts of the Warren Commission involving CIA equities are at issue. They are the transcript for 21 January 1964, pages 63 through 73, and for 23 June 1964, pages 7640 through 7651. The transcripts are among those requested by Mr. Harold Weisberg under provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). The two transcripts have been withheld from release pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(1) and (b)(3). The basic reason in withholding these documents from release under the FOIA had been to protect intelligence sources and methods against unauthorized disclosure and because the documents were classified confidential.

In connection with the investigations of the House Committee on Assassinations, the Director of Central Intelligence determined that previously classified information regarding Yuriy I. Nosenko, a Soviet defector, would be declassified and put on the public record as part of the testimony before the committee. The testimony has been given and consequently the Central Intelligence Agency will no longer assert previously claimed FOIA exemptions for the two Warren Commission transcripts identified above.

Your assistance is requested in advising the court of these circumstances. Arrangements will be made to provide declassified versions of the two transcripts to the plaintiff in the above-captioned litigation.

Sincerely,

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Anthony A. Lapham General Counsel

cc: Honorable James B. Rhodes
Archivist of the United States
National Archives and Records Service
General Services Administration
Washington, D.C. 20408