Office of the Clerk H.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

April 2, 1979

Honorable James B. Rhoads Archivist of the United States National Archives 7th and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20408

Dear Mr. Rhoads:

This will acknowledge the transmittal of 848 (Number) boxes of Records of the U.S. House of Representatives to the National Archives of the United States of America.

Specifically, these 95th Records have been (Year/Congress)
received by the Clerk of the House of Representatives from

Select Committee on Assassinations
(Committee/Office)

for transmittal pursuant to Rule XXXVI of the Rules of the
House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

EDMUND L. HENSHAW, JR., Clerk U.S. House of Representatives

Transmitted by:

(Clerk's Representative)

1/2/19

Received by:

(Archivist's Représentative)

Date 4/2/79



General Services National Archives

and

Administration Records Service Washington, DC 20408

Date

June 10, 1980

Reply to Attn of :

NNFN/NNR

Subject: Transfer of Records (RG 233)

: Memo for Record

On the date

NNFN transferred physical custody of nineteen (19) reels of computer tape created for the House Select Committee on Assassinations to NNR. The tapes contain computer enhancements of photographs and motion picture film relating to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. NNR will create preservation copies of the tapes and provide proper environment for the records in its vault (W/G005).

Trudy H. Chief

Legislative and Natural Resources

Branch

Civil Archives Division

Machine-Readable Archives

Division

Services

ivational Archives

and

Administration Records Service Washington, DC 20408

Date April-8, 1980

Reply to Attn of : NNFN

Subject: Records of the House Select Committee on Assassinations, 95th Congress

The National Archives received the records of the House Select Committee on Assassinations, 95th Congress, in three shipments on March 28, April 2, and August 6, 1979.

An examination of the records after they had been received into the building

- 1. The records in many respects are misarranged. For example, the committee received 685 public exhibits on JFK, and they are filed as follows: Exhibits F556-F683 are in box 25; exhibits F1-F353 are in box 67; exhibits F275, F355-F459 are in boxes 68 and 69; exhibits F460-F555 are in box 70.
- 2. Though we have not viewed all exhibits, yet what we have seen of them are in the form of 8"X10" photographic prints or of electrostatic reproductions. Thus, we have not found any original exhibits, nor photographic negatives of them. Moreover, the exhibits are not individually filed in folders or envelopes and suitably labelled.
- 3. A staff member from the Clerk's office told me that the committee disposed of the original exhibits or left them in the hands of those who worked for it.
- 4. Some exhibits have not been found in the committee's files, and are probably missing.
- 5. The box lists prepared by the committee to serve as finding aids to the records are deficiently descriptive or erroneous. For instance, the labels on boxes nos. 918-930 describe their contents as MLK index cards;
- 6. Almost 30 Hollinger boxes contain 4"x6" index cards to correspondence, investigative files, and other records of the committee. The cards were originally kept in two suitable file cabinets by the committee, permitting ready access to them; to achieve the same convenience, we must reconstitute

GEORGE P. PERROS

Legislative and Natural Resources Branch Civil Archives Division

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- D. Specific Restrictions to be Imposed.
- 1. Records: All records of the House of Representatives that have not heretofore been made public.

Restrictions: No one may examine these records and no information from them or copies of them may be furnished to anyone except upon order of the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

2. Records: All records containing information regarding national defense or foreign policy and classified pursuant to Executive order and originating in the executive branch.

. Restrictions: Such information may be disclosed only in accordance with the provisions of such order and its implementing directive.

3. Records: Copies of autopsy photographs and x-rays of John F. Kennedy, except those that have been made public.

Restrictions: Access to these materials is in accordance with the deed of gift covering the donation of the autopsy materials to the United States, executed by Burke Marshall, on behalf of the executors of the estate of John F. Kennedy, --October 29, 1966.

4. Records: Copies of ante-mortem x-rays of John F. Kennedy, except those that have been made public.

Restrictions: Access to these materials is in accordance with the deposit agreement on the materials of Robert F. Kennedy, executed by Ethel S. Kennedy, November 2, 1973.

## Office of the Clerk H.S. House of Representatives Washington, P.C. 20515

March 26, 1979

Mr. James B. Rhoads Archivist of the United States General Services Administration National Archives and Records Service Washington, D. C. 20408

Dear Mr. Rhoads:

This letter concerns the papers of the Select Committee on Assassinations as created by H. Res. 222 of the Ninety-fifth Congress. H. Res. 49 of the Ninety-sixth Congress extended the time for completing the final report of the Committee to not later than March 31, 1979 (see enclosures).

The Clerk of the House will soon be ready to transmit to the General Services Administration approximately 100 archival boxes together with one safe of the Select Committee on Assassinations. Since this material is classified, it is requested that it be held in the vault of the National Archives and kept under top security conditions. Further, there are approximately 1,000 additional archival boxes of the files of the Committee that are to be placed with other House committee files in the Legislative Records Section of the National Archives.

Please be advised that, as is customary, House Rule XXXVI provides that House records are transferred to the "General Services Administration for preservation subject to the order of the House." With regards to access to the papers of the Select Committee on Assassinations, every letter of authorization from the Clerk of the House is to be interpreted, in the absence of anything to the contrary therein, to authorize access only to previously published records and public documents. All other papers of the Select Committee on Assassinations require specific authorization by the Clerk of the House as a precondition for access to them.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

EDMUND L. HENSHAW, JR., Clerk U. S. House of Representatives

Enclosures

## In the House of Representatives, U. S., January 18, 1979.

Resolved, That (a) there shall be paid out of the contingent fund of the House, in accordance with subsection (b), for the period beginning January 3, 1979, and ending March 31, 1979, such sums as may be necessary for the continuance of necessary projects, activities, operations, and services, by contract or otherwise, including payment of staff salaries for services performed, by each standing or select committee established in the Rules of the House.

- (b) Each committee referred to in subsection (a) shall be entitled, for each month during the period specified in subsection (a), to payments out of the contingent fund of the House in amounts equal to one-twelfth of the total amount authorized for use by such committee during the second session of the Ninety-fifth Congress.
- SEC. 2. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), in the case of any former select committee of the House—
  - (1) which was established by resolution during the Ninety-fifth Congress; and

(2) for which a reestablishing resolution is introduced in the Ninety-sixth Congress;

such committee shall be entitled, for each month during the period specified in subsection (a) of the first section, to payments out of the contingent fund of the House, for the purposes specified in subsection (a) of the first section, in amounts equal to one-twelfth of the total amount authorized for use by such committee during the second session of the Ninety-fifth Congress.

(b) In the case of the former Select Committee on Assassinations, the unexpended balance of funds for the operation of such committee during the second session of the Ninety-fifth Congress shall be available to the Clerk of the House for the purpose of completing the final report of such committee not later than March 31, 1979. The Clerk is authorized to employ such persons as may be necessary and to expend the funds referred to in the previous sentence for completion of the report. Representative Louis Stokes is authorized to exercise the authority of the former select committee with respect to the handling of classified materials relating to the operations of such committee.

SEC. 3. The entitlement of any standing or select committee of the House to payments under this resolution shall cease on the effective date of the primary expense resolution adopted with respect to such committee. SEC. 4. Funds authorized by this resolution shall be expended pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by the Committee on House Administration.

Sec. 5. Notwithstanding any provision of law, Rule of the House, or other authority, from January 3, 1979, until the election of the chairman of the committee involved in the Ninety-sixth Congress—

- (1) the Member of the House who was chairman of a committee of the House which was in existence at the close of the Ninety-fifth Congress (if such Member is a Member of the House in the Ninety-sixth Congress); or
- (2) in any other case, the ranking majority party member of such committee who was serving on such committee at the close of the Ninety-fifth Congress (and is a Member of the House in the Ninety-sixth Congress);

may approve payments under this resolution under rules and regulations promulgated by the Committee on House Administration.

Attest:

## In the House of Representatives, U. S.,

March 30, 1977.

Resolved, That the Select Committee on Assassinations (hereinafter referred to in this resolution as the "select committee"), established by H. Res. 222, Ninety-fifth Congress, adopted February 2, 1977, shall continue in operation for the duration of the Ninety-fifth Congress.

SEC. 2. The select committee shall report to the House as soon as practicable during the present Congress the results of its investigation and study, together with such recommendations as it deems advisable. Any such report which is made when the House is not in session shall be filed with the Clerk of the House.

SEC. 3. The provisions of H. Res. 222, Ninety-fifth Congress, adopted February 2, 1977, shall apply to the select committee during the period of its operation under this resolution, except to the extent such provisions are inconsistent with any provision of this resolution.

SEC. 4. The provisions of clause 6(a) (3) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives shall apply to the select committee.

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Attest:

Clerk.

## In the House of Representatives, U. S.,

February 2, 1977.

Resolved, That effective January 3, 1977, and until March 31, 1977, there is hereby created a Select Committee on Assassinations to be composed of twelve Members and Delegates of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker, one of whom he shall designate as chairman. Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the select committee shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

The select committee or a subcommittee thereof is authorized and directed to conduct a full and complete investigation and study of the circumstances surrounding the assassination and death of President John F. Kennedy and the assassination and death of Martin Luther King, Junior, and of any other persons the select committee shall determine might be related to either death in order to ascertain (1) whether the existing laws of the United States, including but not limited to laws relating to the safety and protection of the President of the United States, assassinations of the President of the United States, deprivation of civil rights, and conspiracies related thereto, as well

as the investigatory jurisdiction and capability of agencies and departments of the United States Government, are adequate, either in their provisions or in the manner of their enforcement; and (2) whether there was full disclosure and sharing of information and evidence among agencies and departments of the United States Government during the course of all prior investigations into those deaths; and whether any evidence or information which was not in the possession of any agency or department of the United States Government investigating either death would have been of assistance to that agency or department, and why such information was not provided to or collected by the appropriate agency or department; and shall make recommendations to the House, if the select committee deems it appropriate, for the amendment of existing legislation or the enactment of new legislation.

For the purpose of carrying out this resolution the select committee, or any subcommittee thereof authorized by the select committee to hold hearings, is authorized to sit and act during the present Congress at such times and places within the United States, including any Commonwealth or possession thereof, or in any other country, whether the House is in session, has recessed, or has adjourned, to hold such hearings, and to require, by subpena or otherwise, the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of such books, records, correspondence,

memoranda, papers, documents, tangible objects, and other things of any kind as it deems necessary; to take testimony on oath anywhere within the United States or in any other country and to authorize designated counsel for the select committee to obtain statements from any witness who is placed under oath by an authority who is authorized to administer oaths in accordance with the applicable laws of the United States or of any State; except that neither the select committee nor any subcommittee thereof may sit while the House is reading a measure for amendment under the five-minute rule unless special leave to sit shall have been obtained from the House. The chairman of the select committee may establish such subcommittees of the select committee as he considers appropriate. One-third of the members of the select committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business as permitted by the rules of the House, except that the select committee may designate a lesser number as a quorum for the purpose of taking testimony, but not less than two. The select committee may employ and fix the compensation of such clerks, experts, consultants, technicians, attorneys, investigators, and clerical and stenographic assistants as it considers necessary to carry out the purposes of this resolution. The select committee may reimburse the members of its staff for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by them in the performance of the duties vested in the select committee,

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other than expenses in connection with meetings of the select committee or any subcommitte thereof, held in the District of Columbia.

The procedure for the select committee or any subcommittee to authorize and issue a subpena shall be that provided for in clause 2 (m) (2) (A) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives. Subpenas may be served by any persons designated by the chairman or any member.

The select committee shall be considered a committee of the House of Representatives for all purposes of law, including but not limited to section 102 of the Revised Statutes of the United States (2 U.S.C. 192); and sections 6002 and 6005 of title 18, United States Code, or any other Act of Congress regulating the granting of immunity to witnesses, except that the select committee shall not be considered a standing committee of the House of Representatives for the purpose of Clause 6 (a) and Clause 6 (b) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

The select committee shall adopt the Rules of the House of Representatives as part of the rules governing its procedures. It shall adopt additional written rules governing its procedures, which rules shall not be inconsistent with this resolution or the Rules of the House of Representatives, and which rules shall be public.

The select committee shall report to the House as soon as practicable during the present Congress, but not later than March 31, 1977, the results of its investigation and study, together with such recommendations as it deems advisable. Any such report which is made when the House is not in session shall be filed with the Clerk of the House.

The provisions of H. Res. 11, Ninety-fifth Congress, shall apply to the select committee.

Attest:

Clerk.