

August 2, 1971

Federal Records Center
Waltham, Mass.

Dear Sirs:

A news dispatch today revealed that on August 1, the Federal Records Center opened to researchers records of President Kennedy's administration, including tape recordings and 5.7 million pages of official and unofficial documents. According to a news story here, "the papers showed evidence that the Kennedy administration tried to minimize its growing involvement in Vietnam."

I have been doing extensive research into the foreign policy of the Kennedy administration for the past year. The release of these new documents is of much interest to me and I would like very much to have access to them in some way. However, it would be virtually impossible for me to travel to Waltham.

I would greatly appreciate it if you could tell me if there is any listing or index of the new documents available to researchers. I would also like to know if researchers may obtain copies of certain of the documents and, if so, under what conditions.

If it is impossible to furnish a listing, then I will limit my request specifically to those documents relating to Vietnam and the attempts to "minimize" our involvement there. Could you tell me what is available on that topic and how I might obtain copies?

The documents would be for my personal research and very possibly for future writing I plan on the topic. Your assistance would be very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Howard Roffman
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