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United States Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

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February 2, 1996

E.O. 12958 DECL: 1.5 (c) and (d)

MEMORANDUM FOR NORA SLATKIN
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

SUBJECT: JFK Assassination Records: Release of CIA Information
(U)

The Department of State supports the CIA's request that the President exercise his authority to postpone disclosure of any document related to the assassination of President Kennedy which would implicate high Mexican officials in joint intelligence operations against foreign embassies in Mexico City. The Department shares the CIA's concern that such disclosure could make Mexican officials reluctant to engage in joint intelligence activities. The Department also shares the concern that disclosure would lead to a curtailment or complete shut off of information from several on going sources. (S)

In addition, release of this information would damage US relations with Mexico and it could also have unfortunate repercussions for US relations with Russia, especially during this heated period of their presidential election campaign. Finally, as a matter of policy the US government does not confirm that it engages in the monitoring of telephone calls from diplomatic premises here or abroad. Release of this information could subject the US and Mexico to strong criticism from foreign governments.
(s)


William J. Burns
Executive Secretary

CLASSIFIED BY: Jennifer E. Sims, INR/DAS/IPC
REASON: 1.5(c) (d)

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