Dear Director Freeh:

Thank you very much for your request forwarded in May this year. I wish to apologise for the long period of time that has elapsed since then, but it took some time for the Bundeskriminalamt to establish what happened to the documents from the year 1964.

The interest of the public in disclosure of all relevant information obtained by the investigative authorities in connection with President Kennedy’s assassination is understandable, especially in the light of the still lively discussion on the reasons for the assassination. Bearing this in mind, I would have liked to comply with your request.

I can now supply the following information to you:

In view of the time that has elapsed since the information was obtained and forwarded to your service, the Bundeskriminalamt no longer retains any files on the Kennedy case. Appropriate data have been deleted under the existing legal provisions regarding retention times and/or within the framework of regular reviews of explanations given for the storage of person-related information in police files.

Checks on the basis of excerpts from information provided by our service kindly made available to us reveal that the individuals mentioned therein are still alive and that there is no information in hand on the individual named BUSKE. However, under German law (Federal Archives Act), person-related information may only be used by third persons thirty years after the death of the individual in question. If the year of death cannot be determined or only with unreasonable expense and effort (as would be the case with BUSKE), the time limit for protection of information from disclosure does not end until 110 years after the birth of the individual in question.