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October 1, 2001

(VIA FACSIMILE/ORIGINAL BY FIRST CLASS MAIL)

Brian M. Murtagh, Deputy Chief
International Terrorism Branch,
Terrorism & Violent Crime Section
601 D Street, N.W.
Room 6500
Washington, D.C. 20530

Re: United States v. Jeffrey R. MacDonald

Dear Mr. Murtagh:

I am writing in response to your letter of September 27, 2001, concerning the further microscopic examination of AFDIL Exhibit No. 112A.

First, your responses are satisfactory and we agree with your proposal for hand-delivery of the slides to the FBI by Ms. Raskin.

Second, in connection with SSA Fram's microscopic examination, you indicated in your September 13th letter that the hairs will remain mounted on the slides and will not be removed by SSA Fram during his examinations. We agree with this condition and will follow the same with Dr. DeForest if and when we decide that he should examine these slides. However, I throw out one additional thought for your consideration. Dr. DeForest has informed me that attempting to re-associate various pieces of hair with one another may be difficult depending on the orientation of the hair on the slide, and that in some instances, the examiner might want to change the orientation of a given hair to better view the ends of the hair. At this point, we don't know whether this is an issue since no one has attempted this examination yet, but I wanted to mention

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it to you. In the event that it becomes an issue, we'll have to figure out how to deal with this situation since it would involve removal of the cover slips and remounting.

Sincerely,


Philip G. Cormier

PGC/ps

cc: Jacqueline Raskin, AFDIL
Eric Evenson, AUSA
Terry Melton
Peter DeForest
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