

W UH appeal
8/7/79

Dear George,

With the Shaw records I mentioned yesterday is a carbon of the appeal I will be filing. Some of the content may be new to you. My purpose is to break loose what the FBI is still holding back and to make it easier for those in the Department who would like to get the whole thing cleaned up by telling them what the FBI doesn't tell them.

There were a few other relevant records but I did not take time to make copies because I do not believe it is necessary for appeals purposes.

I am also trying to get release of the records provided to the various committees. If DJ gets p'd off enough at the HSCA's cheap shots this may be easier.

The bureaucrats are all alike, in private industry or government. Yours made what can be a serious and perhaps costly mistake to put the JFK records in storage. While the future is always uncertain that for years this will be a story does not appear to be uncertain.

I have located a massive index existence of which was kept secret and it is being copied for me. It will take time because there is a legitimate need to protect some of the actual informers. Typically the FBI is currently extending the offer I made for the actual identifications to be obscured so we may wind up litigating improper withholdings I have already appealed - prior to seeing a single copy of a single card.

This is a bit more complicated but not unworkable because of another compromise FOIA victory. There are massive withholdings from the field office files on the allegation that these records were "previously processed" in the FBIHQ records. I have inventories of what was provided to me from HQ, NO and Dallas. The index is a Dallas index. So by reference to the Dallas inventory (at worst) after I get what they are doing about "previously processed" I'll be able to retrieve from the HQ copy. Or, if you had your set of records available you'd have access to an index to it as stories develop.

Only some of those that are possible came up when we spoke yesterday.

Whatever may be the truth about both assassinations, and as you know I've never tried to press my beliefs upon you unless perhaps on occasion as part of a caution, what is rotten beyond any rational criticism I have seen is what the various executive agencies did and did not do.

The FBI blackmailed virtually everyone, from Marina Oswald to the CIA, and is sometimes pretty explicit about it. Not in JFK, this includes Drew Pearson, successfully. It can be argued that this extended to LBJ, whose options it at least limited and whose beliefs it did fix.

My belief is simple: this presents a great danger to the country.

Hastily,