



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of the Associate Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

FEB 19 1981

Mr. Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Road
Frederick, Maryland 21701

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

This is in response to three letters from you dated January 26, 1981. The first of these dealt with records pertaining to Jack Ruby; the second, to James Garrison and yourself; and the third, to the Kennedy and King assassinations in general.

By copy of this letter, I am referring these letters to the Bureau. As to the first two letters, I am referring the originals, rather than copies, since both refer to the Dallas and New Orleans Kennedy assassination records which have been remanded to the Bureau for limited reprocessing. Absent truly extraordinary circumstances, any future correspondence concerning these records should be addressed to the Bureau. I believe you will agree that you were given ample opportunity to provide this Office with information concerning the Bureau's processing of these records prior to our action on your appeal, and that you in fact did so. Although I am very appreciative of the assistance you provided us by citing specific examples of what you considered to be improper processing, the process of adjudicating an appeal simply cannot be extended indefinitely. For example, in your recent letters you have cited what you consider to be improper withholding of a Special Agent's name, although such withholdings were specifically affirmed in Mr. Shenefield's letter to Mr. Lesar of December 16, 1980. Similarly, your appeal concerning New Orleans records pertaining to James Garrison and the Kennedy assassination was subsumed under the omnibus Dallas/New Orleans appeal and, with the exception

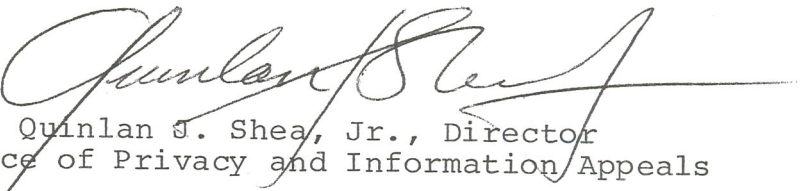
of certain see references located in the course of our review, Mr. Shenefield affirmed the Bureau's processing in this regard. To the extent that a final agency action has been taken regarding any issue in this case, your recourse is now to the court in which your consolidated suits concerning these records are pending.

I have furnished copies of your third letter, pertaining to processing of both Kennedy and King records, to Messrs. Cole and Metcalfe, as well as to the Bureau.

Sincerely,

Robert N. Ford
Acting Associate Attorney General

By:


Quinlan J. Shea, Jr., Director
Office of Privacy and Information Appeals

cc: Mr. James Lesar
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Mr. Dan Metcalfe
Mr. William Cole