

To Quin Shea from Harold Weisberg, JFK-AG records 1/29/81

Attached is the 1/27/81 letter from Deputy Associate Attorney General Ford pertaining to six pages of records that originated in the office of the AG. They are withheld under claim to (b)(5), as pre-decisional communications.

I am under the impression that all pre-decisional records are not appropriate for the (b)(5) claim and that recent court decisions draw a closer line.

There is no claim that any balancing test was made or that not a word on these six pages can be released as reasonably segregable.

There was not that much litigation pertaining to the JFK case but with regard to the King case and the purchase of the Oswald rifle and FOIA matters pre-decisional communications have been disclosed.

While the (b)(5) claim is made for even the subject matter, and that does not appear to be appropriate, I think it is possible to question the appropriateness of both the claim and the totality of withholding as it pertains to the assassination and its investigation and I therefore appeal. I ask you in reviewing these pages to bear in mind the historical case standards that should apply, the passing of so much time, the public interest in the subject matter and the AG's own statements about the fullness of disclosures to be made in this case.