

Chuan JFK

Mr. Quin Shea, Director
FOIPA Appeals
Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

2/7/81

Dear Mr. Shea,

Re: 80, 94 files, JFK field, MLK cases

In the past I have filed appeals pertaining to the FBI's misnamed 80 and 94 files, 80 at least re New Orleans files on Garrison and 94 in particular reference to the "tens of my King assassination requests pertaining to other writers.

Under discovery in C.A. 75-226 I have obtained some FBI records related to the destruction of records and their non-destruction.

A Not Recorded Routing Slip to all SACs and Legats, 1/12/79, 66-3286B, refers to the classification list and says that it "carries the '80' classification as 'Laboratory Research Matters' while the various Bureau Manuals carries (sic) this classification as 'Public Relations Matters.'"

What the FBI field offices considered "public relations" is not set forth but in the New Orleans office it included an undisclosed file on "Jim Garrison, the subject of an appeal that has not been acted upon.

The pertinence of a laboratory research matters record in both cases, because in both cases I seek all the laboratory research results, is clear. Yet I do not recall receiving a single record from any 80 file and I do not recall any attestation to any search of any 80 file.

Experience with other records and filings indicates that field and FBIHQ use the file classifications in similar ways and some of these discovery records so state. It therefore appears that however the language is taxed and stretched, similar information appears in the field and HQ 80 files. This information is pertinent in both cases.

While the 94 file is described as "Research Matters" in the classification list, in fact it is a vast catchall of public relations, media and legislative and lobbying and similar records. Research appears to refer, in part, to what the FBI bestowed upon its favorites in the press.

That the 94 file also holds records on the FBI's relationship with correspondents and other individuals is disclosed in the 2/14/73 Brownfield to Jenkins memo in 66-3296. The magnitude of the records of the FBI's propaganda arm, aka Crime Research and Crime Records, is indicated by the fact that some of its ~~six~~ mailing list cards, those of the deceased, were of five drawers. In 1973 the FBI also recommended preservation of 23 file drawers of 3x5 cards indexing what Director Hoover had autographed, also a 94 matter.

in 66-3296, 8/7/74, O'Connell to Marshall, 94-8-3 is referred to as a "press release" file. The FBI sometimes uses "press release" to refer to news accounts or clippings.

There is further reference to the use of the 94 and some of the 62 and 63 files by the FBI in the 3/31/75 Hauer to McDermott memo from the same file. This was in response to the Director's inquiry. As of that time there were 110 six-drawer file cabinets of 94 records, each drawer containing about 30,000 pages. All the related records referred to come to about 13,740,000 pages. Purging these files is referred to as impossible because it would require 687 man years. Retrieval is possible through the index, despite the bulk.

It is not what the file is called but whether what it holds is relevant, whatever the file is called. While I have no detailed knowledge of the unidentified 62 and 63 files, I know enough about the 80 and 94 files to be certain that they hold information pertinent to the JFK and ⁿKing requests and litigation.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg