

DS/criminal

Ms. Madelyn Johnson
FOIPA Office
Civil Division
Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20530

5/26/81

236380-4-1

Dear Ms. Johnson,

Thanks for the JFK assassination records forwarded with your letter of the 22d. These all pertain to the John King litigation to be able to purchase the rifle and pistol from Lee Harvey Oswald's widow. I am under the impression that I'd written and waived these copies on the ground that the disclosures pertaining to these weapons and King were quite adequate.

There are other pertinent records I would like to obtain. In the not distant past I wrote Quin Shea about the unknown Department task force whose existence was disclosed, to the best of my knowledge for the first time, in these records disclosed under my 5/21/77 request. I do not believe that this task force filed any formal report. Rather do I believe that it existed to meet problems as they came up. One was Jim Garrison's suit for the autopsy and related evidence and the rifle and ballistic specimens.

During that period Civil personnel on it included Carl Hardley and, I believe, Irving Jaffe. There should be records and there is every reason to believe that they are of historical importance.

Thank you for your wise use of administrative discretion. I believe that all interests, including those of the Department, would best be served by maximum possible disclosure now.

The cost alone of any other course will be great.

And all withholdings will generate more suspicion.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg