

JFK assassination records appeals

Harold Weisberg 11/22/79

Files not searched

William Manchester - JFK assassination interview with Hoover

This amplifies a prior appeal on which you have not acted.

Manchester was granted an interview with Hoover when preparing his book. On 3/24/67 M.A. Jones wrote a long memo about the book to Wick, 62-109060-5035. This is also indicated as filed in four other files the numbers of which are not completely legible. However, it is apparent that two are not the files from which HQ disclosed JFK assassination records. These two are 62 files. One appears to be 46855. The other is 11371. This one appears to be a main file because on page 7 citation is of it rather than an assassination file like 109060 or 109090. This is in connection with the Hoover interview, which was used as source material in the book.

Where the information withheld from an FOIA requester is in another and known FBI file and particularly where the information is what is disclosed by the Director or/relates to such disclosure I believe the information ought be disclosed to requesters, particularly in an historical case.

With particular reference to Manchester, who cast himself as the official chronicler of his imaginary Camelot rather than as historian, full disclosure is even more important because of his initial support by the Kennedy family, the official favors granted him exclusively (including an office in the Archives), the later detachment of the family and the grossness of his factual and political errors. Manchester was unfair to everyone, including the FBI and Secret Service. (Contemporaneously I defended these agencies through the print and electronic media.) For these additional reasons there should be full disclosure of all files in any way relating to Manchester and the information given to him. Without this full disclosure the historical disclosure is quite incomplete. In this connection please recall the extent of the personal and defamatory disclosures, without regard for PA when it was invoked, made by the FBI and the Department with regard to records relating to those the FBI does not love, like me.