

King records

Harold Weisberg 10/9/79

JFK records: files not searched; records provided to Congressional committees

Records provided to Congressional committee are within all requests and are the subject of separate, more recent FOIA requests that for the most part lack acknowledgment and the appeals of which have not been acknowledged.

Although the attached form is captioned "SENSTUDY," code name for the Church committee, it refers to the similar House committee. It also confirms what I stated in earlier appeals, that documents were "furnished to the estate of King through the Dept. ..."

At least two years ago the FBI agreed to furnish copies of records as they were processed for the estate and others, like the recently deceased Stanley Levison and Harry Wachtel, counsellors to Dr. King. Then, not having done this, the FBI agreed to provide me with records as they were reviewed for the transferring of those the FBI believed it had to deposit in the Archives. In fact there is total non-compliance save for the providing of a few records that were in the Hoover O & C file and that months after I had obtained them by other means because they were disclosed to another and later requester.

If the FBI were not dedicated to making a joke of the AG's historical case determination it would have provided these records voluntarily in C.A. 75-1996. However, early in that case it did agree to provide them when I asked, as is recorded in much correspondence and several appeals.

This form, which is not used often in the JFK files, confirms that some of these records were processed long ago and providing them requires no more than xeroxing records already processed.

However, I informed you of this very long ago and your failure to act on that appeal ~~negates~~ negates the Act and makes the appeal largely meaningless under the Act. I believe this appeal would have been easy to dispense with because the records had been processed and disclosed.

In short the appeals machinery has become a part of the FBI's stone wall, whatever intent may be.

Please note also the number of different FBI Divisions that were involved with the record to which this was attached, a JFK record.

The Divisional Files also remain entirely unsearched for compliance with my requests on both topics, despite repeated appeals.

Additionally, this matter is within my 12/7/1977 request. When you got around to that you adopted the FBI's false pretense that this request was for copies of the worksheets only. Very obviously this is not true and as a result that request also has not been complied with.

In this regard the appeals machinery is also an adjunct of FBI and Departmental non-compliance with the Act.