

To Quin Shea from Harold Weisberg re enclosed JFK records appeal 4/16/79

It is my hope to be able to get this in the morning's mail. My wife is making copies and if she completes this the package will go out in the morning.

There now is not enough time for me to write you in detail about it but perhaps I will later, especially if I find the start I made months ago, when I first received the New Orleans records.

At first I was interrupted by the needs of cases in court. Since then there have been these and other interruptions and some limitations imposed by my situation.

In almost all instances I have attached copies of the records. If I did not take this time it would waste the time of your staff, which is already overloaded.

As I believe you will note, most of the items are not important in my work. Where they are I have indicated this. The historical record is another matter, as also is the ~~quality~~ quality, if I may use the word, of the processing. I believe that too often there was unnecessary withholding and that the historical-case standards were not observed. Withholding of the public domain remains commonplace, as my explanations will indicate.

With the moderation of the weather it has been possible for me to spend more time outside in the prescribed exercise. After this I have to rest. While resting I was able to examine more records. As a result I was able to add detail and illustration after addressing some of the items and I did this. I regret that it causes some jumping around.

It is not possible for me to rewrite this. I do not have the time. I apologize for the typing and the hand corrections. I will try to provide a typed list of the attachments, from the handwritten list I made while working.

If your staff has any question I will respond promptly.

Today Mr. Lesar asked me if I had received a copy of your action on the appeal relating to John Ray records. I had not. He informed me of it. It is a JFK record attached to ~~the~~ a John Ray matter. The JFK matter is addressed in the enclosed. I state I had not found all relevant records relating to this flap over the FBI's destruction of a note delivered to the Dallas Field Office in person by Oswald. The newly disclosed record refers to such



a withholding. It is inevitable that there are other withholdings. As you will see FBIHQ was not without prior knowledge. Its first knowledge was not from the leak to the Dallas Times-Herald. If I cannot pinpoint the moment of first knowledge it was not later than Marina Oswald's testimony and she was the Commission's first witness. And retired SA Hosty was disciplined harshly.

With regard to the John Ray matter and the continued claim to (b)(7)(A) I am confident that this has a good chance of changing not long after the House committee's last parts of its report are out. I therefore propose that we hold it in abeyance until after that time and perhaps eliminate a problem.

*Handwritten signature*