

JFK assassination records appeals

Harold Weisberg 10/26/79

Files not searched- the DeLoach operation

dossiers on the press

information not from Central Records searches indicating other files

Withholdings- FBI FOIA attitude

Leaks

attached are copies of 62-109060-3299 (2 pp. only) and 3300. The Van Horne column is among the matters the FBI hierarchy considered important enough for the Director's time and attention. He appended a note to it reading, "What do we know about this Van Horne character?" I appeal the withholding from what is provided and the denial of what is quoted without being provided.

The latter indicates that as part of the "DeLoach operation, the files of which have never been searched despite my requests and appeals, there are separate files and that these hold information not included in Central files. It is explicitly stated that Bureau files hold only certain information, which does not include what Jones does include in his memo for DeLoach. So where else could he have gotten it?

DeLoach, in turn, asked permission to put pressure on Van Horne through his contacts. That he succeeded in this is clearly indicated, with part of what resulted being withheld, I believe quite improperly.

I do not believe that media manipulation or any control over what people may think, say or believe is a proper function of even the FBI. Particularly not when what the FBI itself quotes from the column is accurate and has become public knowledge in the years since the column was published.

I call to your attention the fact that while the FBI's phoney cover-the-Bureau paper would lead one to believe that it never leaked anything this Jones memo does claim that what she wrote was "already discredited by the FBI." This was more than four months before the Warren Report appeared. Please note also that by the brackets remaining the FBI originally intended withholding the fact that it has records on her and what little is in Central Records. Despite what Jones does include. Such improper withholdings typify the proceeding of the records provided. The FBI FOIA mindset is protect the FBI from embarrassment, not compliance with the Act. It permeates.