

12/3/77

Mr. William Schaffer, Assistant Chief  
Civil Division  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Bill,

You will recall that I said and wrote that the FBI could do much with what I had written it over a long period of time and was simply refusing to do so to play its games with me and I believe with other than me.

At our conference of the 18th, which you could not attend, I raised the question of these prints once again. I had at the conference in your office, you may recall, but nothing happened.

At the end of the meeting of the 18th Lynne grew a bit impatient and asked the FBI agents why they did not just call Baltimore. I regret this is all she said because they did react to this and I believe they would have reacted more if she had not given them grounds for limiting what they did to literal compliance with what she did say.

This is all that came in today's mail. I send it to you as illustrative of several points. The FBI can readily and easily do what it is just refusing to do. It has tortured truth where it has not lied about this really minor matter, minor except in terms of intent and compliance. It has, knowing the truth, persisted in representing me as inaccurate whereas its own, if still incomplete records, are what I regard as a remarkable endorsement of my recollection after such a decade.

Except for what the FBI should have supplied, given the fact that it is using me to load its reading room, the identification of the picture of what it calls a bullet, that removed from the corpse, I have added no mark to these records. On the reverse side of the photograph I ~~xxx~~ added a note in pencil.

I have not begun to lay out what I can about the autopsy pictures, their public uses, even permission to make copies. Jim can let you have the videotape I referred to. I have countless sound tapes, news stories, etc. Live witnesses, too. But I do call to your attention that once again the FBI glosses over this.

In sending this to you I have in mind that you may heed what I've told you, that getting the FBI to respond to what I have given it in writing will save time and money and can save some official face before this is all over. You will find that while perfection is not a human condition and error can't be avoided with the best of intent what I have told the FBI is close to totally accurate, that it does have the records and can readily provide them, and that its and the Department's present course may well result in considerable political embarrassment to the administration, to the AG and to the Department. By now it should be clear that I have avoided what can cause political embarrassment, at least in public.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg