

FBI - Motive for withholding

JFK assassination records appeals
Records not provided
Motive for improper withholding

Harold Weisberg 3/26/80

Attached is Dallas 89-43-440, Inspector James Malley's memo on an 11/24/63 conversation with Assistant to the Director Belmont. The underscoring that may be visible when this record is copied was added by someone who used my files. While it is not on the original it is what I call to your attention, that long before any real investigation was conducted the FBI had concluded that Oswald was a lone assassin, had persuaded the new President of this and had also persuaded him to have the FBI file a report "solving" the crime. The language is:

"...the Director has talked to the President again and the President approved the idea that we make a report showing the evidence conclusively tying Oswald in as the assassin of President Kennedy."

Malley had been sent from FBIHQ to Dallas, where he was when he had the conversation with Belmont.

Other records indicate that the Director's vision was instant and that he solved the crime as soon as he heard that Oswald was red tinged.

This record indicates that there should be a file of Inspector Malley's. None has been provided. Some of the Dallas copies have been provided, but that would be an FBIHQ file rather than a Dallas file. (As in the King case, the FBI sent a man from HQ to take charge in the field.)

While it is possible that with so many records I may not recall one, I do not recall any Hoover memo of his conversation with the President in which the President accepted Hoover's instant solution and his proposal for such a report, with its built-in conclusion. I recall a Hoover memo on his first conversation with the President and a DeLoach memo including Hoover's representation of this first conversation.

It was Hoover's practice to prepare such memos for his subordinates. These are historically important records. No search has been made for any file of them and I have not been told that there is no file of them. I request that a search be made for and file or files of Hoover's memos in both cases. I do not regard this as a new request but if you do would you please send a copy to the FBI?