

To Quin Shea from Harold Weisberg, JFK assassination records appeals

6/30/79

"National security" claims

Withholding of reasonably segregable information

Non-referrals of what later became "referrals"

Withholding in 1978 under FOIA precisely what was not withheld in 1965 before FOIA

Withholding of the public domain - and all related to field office records

Abuses of the captioned nature are plentiful in 105-82555 Section 1 in which specialist in classifying excessively #2040 did the classifying after the requests. (He also specializes in unnecessary classifications and in not disclosing the reasonably segregable after unnecessary classification.)

I will not be providing as many illustrations from this Section because it is beyond our present capabilities. I may not accompany this with copies but the Section is marked for making copies for you and they will be provided.

My purpose now is to inform you promptly because I see serious problems coming from this knowing and deliberate abuses of the Act and my rights.

As one illustration remember that these records eliminate the non-duplicate alleged duplicates from the field office files. Those are withheld on the ground of "previously processed."

With Section 2 the appeal on which I prepared early this morning and with this pre-bed appeal relating to Section 1 of the FBIHQ Oswald file you have examples of how "previously processed." Or, withholdings from the FBIHQ files are the withholdings from the field offices files where there is the "previously processed" claim.

I remind you again that I have a separate request for all pre-assassination Oswald files that has not been complied with. Such records as I have been reading are not compliance. They even refer to other files from which there is no compliance, even a 26 file, which appears on the face to be incredible.

Names not withheld from the Warren Commission copies are withheld from these copies.
State

~~State~~ and Navy records, including originally classified records, are not referred to to those agencies. There are enough examples to prove what I've been telling you, that there is no need for most of the referrals and they are a means of harassment and non-compliance.

The privacy and source exemptions are misused to withhold what is within the public domain while at the same time all the fabrications and vilifications of those not liked by the FBI because of their views on peace, racial equality and similar questions are in not a single case protected by the privacy exemption - and here I mean for those who do not qualify as public figures.

(With a woman whose name I remember as Sherman, in Chicago, involved with people the FBI did not like, there is so ham-handed a privacy "protection" that it draws attention to - even exaggerates - what pretendedly is being withheld and in all of this does not withhold her name or the names of men who also have rights to privacy in their personal lives. ⁺This where there is not even an irrational relationship with the assassination. Or, Cointelpro is alive and flourishing in the FOIA Unit.)

There is an aspect of this kind of FOIA processing that may not have suggested itself to those who have immediate and ulterior purposes to serve: the FBI will never live down the kind of suspicion this engenders - indeed requires.

Can it possibly be that the FBI FOIA Unit has given no thought to the possibility of having to prepare - and then defend - a Vaughn v. Rosen statement?

For those many, including lawyers, who understand such matters even more ~~more~~ will there forever be questions about why the FBI felt it had what to hide when a President was killed.

It is becoming increasingly apparent that the so-called historical case determination and the so-called voluntary disclosures are a ^vcontived machine for frustrating decent and proper disclosures that would soon have been required by courts of law.

First the FBI limited the files from which it would make disclosures and then it ran roughshod over the requirements of the Act in the disclosures it did - and did not - make.

