

JFK assassination records appeals

Harold Weisberg 12/13/79

Bulky

Withholding without claim to exemption

Classification without claim to classification exemption

Referrals not asked on  
Files Not Searched - Laboratory - including King assassination records

Ignored requests and appeals

all photographs

62-100060-4182 BRF is a large bulky because it was broken into two parts. Each, as provided to me, is quite small, of but a few pages. Each part begins with a sheet that states it "consists entirely of photographic negatives produced by the Laboratory during examination of evidence pertaining to JFK assassination" and "will be printed only upon receipt of specific request..."

Aside from the "specific request" I made for all photographs there is no way in which anyone can make a specific request because there is no list or other identification provided.

There was no law enforcement function of the FBI. Its sole role was as an adjunct of the Presidential Commission. The "evidence" would therefore appear to be Commission evidence, but the note does not specify.

While I desire not to waste money in duplication of what is included elsewhere is understandable what is not understandable is withholding any identification of what is withheld from these parts. There is also the matter of missing records and a question as to whether or not any might be included in what is not printed.

4177 BRF has significant notations added to a Lab Work Sheet. One, with triple underlining, states that the materials are to be returned to the Laboratory. Another that it was placed in "evid cabinet," another that "report separate" and another that "Lab will retain evidence."

In common with other BRFs this Volume was transferred from the Lab under date of 9/1/66, which was long after the time of the Commission. Only then, despite the representations in my cases, did this information reach Central Records.

There is Laboratory information still not provided in the King case, O.A. 75-1996. I do not recall any affidavit attesting to a search of the Laboratory and there is none

in any JFK case. You have not acted on my appeals in both JEE and King cases for a search of Divisional records. And when in recent depositions we undertook to try to learn what records are in the lab and what searches were made all we got was skilled and practised evasions, side bits of lectures and constant interruptions and obfuscations by Department counsel.

I believe this report is among those indicating that Divisional searches, particularly in the laboratory, are necessary and will be frustrated by the lab if that is possible. To now it has been able to avoid any real search.

Part 1 of 4178 BEE identifies it as "Transcripts of Testimony." A note added to the cover, which is not entirely legible in the xerox, states "Maintain this in Excised Enclosure Drawer at end of Warren Commission Box (illegible) as Bulky consists entirely of CLASSIFIED Material."

I am not aware of any search of any "Excised Enclosure Drawer." The transcripts were published by the Commission, no doubt accounting for the emphasis by capitalization of "Classified."