

JFK assassination records appeals
Files not searched
Referrals

Harold Weisberg 10/5/79

You should recall that I have made pointed appeals relating to the inordinate delay in acting on referrals (whether or not they were necessary) and to files not searched and where searches were required for compliance. In connection with both field offices and FBIHQ I have given you identifications and numbers of files from which I have no records and which were not searched whereas clearly they were required to be searched unless non-compliance is the deliberate purpose of refusal to search them after initial failure to search them.

Attached is a memo prepared by Ms. Barrett after she did some work with referrals yesterday.

It includes two different files that were not searched although records from them were included among referred records.

The 92-50-2272 record was referred to the Department. You are the best expert on the Department's backlog. Is it now more than two years? Unless it is this referral should have been acted on long ago. I have repeatedly appeal^{ed} the Department's stand-walling on referrals. I recall no response.

Your inaction is accumulating an enormous number of specific appeals, now more than two full file drawers of them. Your inaction means, inevitably, that this great volume will increase, greatly magnifying the cost to me and to the Government and effectively negating the Act and my rights under it as well as those of the people whose surrogate, in effect, I am.

Meanwhile, the Department campaigns against the Act.

