

To Quin Shea from Harold Weisberg

3/4/80

Withholding under FOIA of what was not withheld prior to enactment of FOIA
Withholding under FOIA of what is disclosed in Warren Commission records
Sources - 7D

Repeatedly I have informed you of the kinds of withholdings captioned above, of which I offered the opinion that this is part of the FBI/spookery campaign against the Act and requesters and to overburden and weary the courts, all to deter compliance and use of the Act.

Attached is part of the cover pages of 105-82555-456, a large Dallas report for the period ending 12/10/63, pages A-C.

The penultimate paragraph on page C is explicit in stating that with respect to records pertaining to the JFK assassination investigation the FBI had decided to disclose sources it ordinarily would not disclose and that no embarrassment to these sources (meaning none to the FBI either) was anticipated. In fact I know of none.

As a consequence of this decision, fortified as it frequently was by Director Hoover, none of these sources is withheld in the approximately 10,000,000 words published by the Commission.

Now, suddenly, beginning with the general releases and in my C.A. 78-0322, the FBI withholds what it disclosed more than a decade earlier.

I warned you in particular about this with respect to the long-delayed processing of the Dallas case index because it is apparent that one of the reasons for this inordinate delay is an effort to obscure unjustified withholdings in the underlying records.

It appears to be requiring more time to process the index than processing of the enormous underlying files required. This is quite suspect. (Another possibility is the inclusion of records not disclosed and an effort to remove all such references.)