

JFK assassination records: worksheets; classification claims

The worksheets for the FBIHQ "Commission" file, 62-109090, are not in order in the set provided to me. If the file copy is identical with the set provided to me and you check it you will find that the last page is not the actual last page and that higher numbers are on the preceding page.

On the actual last page the last two Serials listed, 656 and 657, are recorded as provided, 656 all three pages with no claim to any exemption and 657 with 7 of its 8 pages withheld under claim of b1. (There is the added notation "4. SI)

In fact both Serials are withheld in their entirety.

The records themselves are dated in 1976 and 1977, which is a long time after the assassination and the end of the Commission's life. Yet for all but two of the records listed there is a b1 claim. This is true of at least half of the immediately preceding records, all of which are dated in 1976. (The entry for one is illegible)

I believe I have already requested a review of all the claims to classification under the provisions of the new Executive Order. If I have not, I now do.

My prior experience with claims to classification is that to a large degree they are neither justified nor necessary. It is not uncommon in the processing of the information released to me for there to be "national security" claim for what in fact is within the public domain.

With regard to these records in question, examination/ of those that are disclosed with excisions raises questions of whether there is, as I believe there certainly is, reasonably segregable information that is withheld.

Some of the claims appear to intend to perpetuate fictions relating to the allegedly secret cooperative arrangements with other police.

Those processing the records appear to have no subject-matter knowledge, no knowledge of what is within the public domain and neither knowledge ~~of~~ nor interest in what became public knowledge as the results of a series of Congressional investigations. What the FBI disclosed in 1965 prior to FOIA is withheld in 1978 under FOIA. It is apparent that neither the Act nor the standards for historical cases were followed in the processing.