

Jan. 24th
Transcript

J.M. Deane
Appreciate

The text of the January 27 transcript shows that there was never any basis for classifying it Top Secret pursuant to Executive Order 10501. It contains no information affecting the national defense or foreign relations which warrants classification under the provisions of that or any other executive order.

For nearly 10 years the National Archives suppressed the January 27 transcript on the fraudulent pretext that it was entitled to protection under exemption (b) (1) to the Freedom of Information Act. This, of course, was not the real reason why the Archives kept it from the American people. The real reason is simply that the government knew that its release would severely embarrass two powerful government agencies, the FBI and the CIA, and seriously undermine the Warren Commission's credibility.

What is true of Mr. Weisberg's suit for the January 27 transcript is also true of his other Freedom of Information Act lawsuits. In not one of them is there any legitimate basis for withholding the information which he seeks. The greater the embarrassment to the government, the more desperately the government seeks to avoid disclosure. In the case of Mr. Weisberg's two suits for the spectrographic and neutron activation analyses, this desperation has expressed itself in repeated attempts to deceive the courts. The same FBI Agent has submitted two contradictory affidavits to the district court and the government has refused to answer even simple interrogatories which seek to ascertain what scientific tests were performed on the bullets, bullet fragments, and items of evi-