

PA - DJ/FB

Quin,

6/5/79

Two matters informally because I think it best that if possible they be handled informally. Also, I'd got some copying done last evening and if I can get to go over it before mail time it will be enclosed. Otherwise I hope it will go in tomorrow's mail. This is blood-test morning as I can't figure time.

If either of these matters goes to court you and your office and function will look bad, except perhaps to the remaining Admittes. The appeal in one case is more than a decade old, the other many years old.

I have specific and general requests for JFK assassination photographs, including copies and all relevant records. In one case the Department cashed my check and did not bother to respond, although it made a cover-up request of the field offices in which it indicated to them how to evade direct response. If I file a complaint I have every reason to believe that I'll be joined by a well-known paper and one of the photographers. I do think you and the FBI will be better off if this can be avoided and I have no reluctance in telling you alone that there will be very embarrassing evidence in any suit, with so many confirming witnesses a battery of St's will not be credited. The subject matter, in my terms, not the FBI's official line, is one that may well get attention after the paper gives attention to what is available without compliance by the FBI. As I think you know, I prefer to avoid what can be scandalous. But if there is no choice that will be because the FBI has not complied and you have not acted on appeals, repeated appeals. You might not recall it but when McCreight would not even make a date for me to look at the pictures at FBIHQ I asked for copies and when I got no response I appealed. I think it is also an appeals record you might prefer not to go before a court and get frozen in a court record.

So, on an informal basis, I'd appreciate your asking the FBI when it will ^{comply} ~~agree~~ with my requests relating to pictures, bearing in mind that it can't have a backlog that goes back past 1/1/68. If the paper decides to join in a suit newspapers are less patient than I have been. They come out every day and now being ahead of the assassins' report will, as I am sure, have journalistic attractiveness.

Last night I came across the unfiled copy of the PA and JFK appeal relating to records on me of 3/21/79. I should also have slugged in HIK because there is, as I'm sure I've reminded you, an item of my King requests in surveillances. When you wrote me in terms of ELSUR I replied that all forms of surveillance by anyone are within the item.

On rereading that appeal I realized how disgusted and probably angry I must have been, so much so that even the corrections were hasty and incomplete. It is a truly contemptible business and so far as I am concerned distinguished only in degree from the practice of the KGB and the Gestapo.

Some time ago you asked me what I wanted handled first. I told you that aside from what you have to do on cases now in court my privacy request first. Since then nothing has happened.

Meanwhile, Civil is behaving what I regard as a very dirty way, trying harder to waste more of what remains of my life. As you will see I have responded with some vigor. I am inclined to believe that no matter Judge Green has wearied of the case she is not about to accept the entire Department attitude, including yours, as proper in any case and particularly after the historical case determination. She made a perceptive observation when Jay Dugan informed her of that. In paraphrase it was her recognition that the determination was not in my interest but opposed to it, hurtful to me and would give everyone else priority on my work.

I don't know when the next calendar call will be and I'm not at all sure that I want to await it. I'll get a chance to speak to Jim tomorrow when we are in court. I will raise this item of the request with him and the indications of surveillance on me going back as far as long ago I told you it did.

Betsy has given me all the handle I need. If Jim agrees I will take a new tack on this.

But again I'd rather not. I'd rather have no stinks, just compliance.

There has been lots of nasty stuff that I've gotten but until recently nothing I believe can be the basis of an actual claim for damages. I believe that what I've gotten only recently may well be actionable. So if I have to fight I might as well fight hard and include all responsible defendants.

When Rae finished making separate files and a card index to the King appeals, which she is working on, I'm going to ask her to do this with the RA requests and appeals. But I will not have to await the completion of that if Jim agrees to use what is relevant in C.A. 75-1996.

Again for now to you alone: I had some good sources in Memphis, in the press, in the prosecution (of the time of the Ray case), some local lawyers who were out in and indirectly to a local judge. There was electronic surveillance on the Ray defense, and I'm avoiding being more specific. It did not have to be by the FBI for it to have the fruit. Jim and I both caught physical surveillance on us. There is, in addition, one I suspect, brought in from out of town, and I think there is enough to present to the judge on this. That one has a subsequent similar career in which I happened to observe him. Jim and I both had intrusions into our mail. One of the people we caught keeping an eye on us is an Invader or an Invader type. ...So, are you going to act on this and if so by when?

Hastily,