

0001 PA

To Guin Shea from Harold Weisberg, PA and JFK assassinations records appeals 6/18/80
Civil Division

Mr. Lesar has sent me what appears to be the Archives' response to referral of records pertaining to my PA request. The Archives covering letter does not specify which Department component made the referral but it appears to be Civil.

All the records pertain to the assassination of President Kennedy also.

These are Archives, not Civil Division (or DJ) records. Not one holds any DJ file identification, any DJ notations, any of the related records, any of the attachments referred to and for the subject matter included they are entirely incomplete.

The routing slip I include states that "Time begins March 14, 1977." It is my recollection that thereafter Civil sent me nothing and did not respond when I appealed.

This slip lists five files that are pertinent. I have no way of knowing which, if any, the Archives records would be found in.

The attached handwritten slip lists three additional files "found under the above name," mine. I believe these also have not been provided.

The third attached routing slip gives still another file, 236380-6-4 pertaining to me, marked Civil, but I do not believe I have been provided with any records from it.

The GSA 4/22/74 letter says it has attachments. They are not attached. My memory may not be dependable after the passing of so much time but I recall nothing from the LBJ Library being provided under PA.

The GSA 4/12/77 letter, responding to one not provided, attaches what is not attached and is of considerable interest and importance, a J. Lee Rankin affidavit in which he claims an executive order, the executive order establishing the Warren Commission, according to other records, gave him authority to classify Top Secret or ordered that classification for Commission records. Obviously such an EO would be of great importance, it not having surfaced to now and not having been produced in the litigation. The Commission records supporting this, said to be attached, are not. (Wanta guess why?)

The unclearly stamp dated memo on Warren Commission Records and the Freedom of Information Act reflects the existence of DJ records pertinent to my request not provided. I do not recall receiving anything from the Freedom of Information Committee although my appeals were among "the immediate stimulation" of the conference reported.

You may find the 3/21/75 routing slip information^{ve} because it reflects an effort to get information I had requested classified two years after a court had held the Commission did not have classification authority and the executive sessions could not be withheld on that basis. (C.A. 2052-75.) The anticipated litigation ("I think these people will sue") came to pass, was costly, and only the day the brief was due at the appeals court were these remaining transcripts disclosed. It then was apparent that they held no content that was properly subject to classification. The appeals court awarded me about \$600 last year. The Department has yet to pay it. The question of counsel fees is before the district court. You used the word unending? This is the proper context.

The records provided by the Archives make it certain that there are pertinent Civil Division records of which it knows and that it has not provided.

You also referred to the denial of rights of others by the time taken to act^{belatedly} on my appeals that were not acted on?

Does not any at DJ care about the great wastes, aside from non-compliance with the law, reflected?

Of course when the Civil Division can't comply with the law itself and makes false promises to the Congress that henceforth it would, with all the other components, it is clear that it has a predisposition to defend cases that ought not be defended - and to waste all the time and money possible in so doing, for ulterior and improper purposes.

If you can get anything at all done there, can you get those wild elephants back inside the corral? My appeals are quite old. In a government of laws, where the place of justice allegedly is a hallowed place, it ought require no more than a phone call.