

Mr. Carl Bernstein
ABCNews
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Dear Carl,

There are contexts for the records I sent Chuck Lewis a week or so ago. My use of them will be in the granddaddy of all Freedom of Information Act cases, my own C.A. 75-226. And there is to be a report by DJ on what it decided in its limited following up of the House assassins committee.

With regard to the latter, as of my last information the FBI was still staying away from the unknown film I turned up in another suit, also still in court, C.A. 78-0322. The FBI said the film was valueless because it didn't show the building from which it and the Warren Commission decided all shots were fired. In fact the film has about 100 frames that show not only the building but the very window and those near it. There are two objects in motion. This is included in what the FBI was to examine. I suggested to Chuck that I might be able to introduce someone to the representative of the owner of the film and to arrange for computer enhancement/analysis, which could be a sensational news break. Maybe 20/20?

The recent records leave it without doubt that law and regulation strictly prohibit the destruction of records and evidence. They also make it clear that the JFK assassination specimens tested, those for the results of which I'm still suing after more than a decade, cannot be located. It is suggested that they were destroyed as radioactive waste. These records also make it clear that the specimens were not radioactive waste. For this and other reasons there thus is a cloud around the new specimens tested for the House assassins committee.

Also allegedly destroyed was the thin plate of ~~specimens~~ spectrographic analysis of the curbstone that was struck by a bullet or fragment of bullet. The FBI entirely ignored this and the man who was slightly wounded as a result in its supposedly definitive five-volume report ordered by LBJ. Rather a remarkable coincidence that this thin plate alone was destroyed, if it was, to save space, when that was prohibited and there was no space

saved at all.

This part is already involved in the litigation and the matter of the fragments and the alleged destruction of the specimens, without doubt, will be. The remand by the appeals court was pointed and strong.

There is no doubt in my mind that the FBI knew the curbstone had been patched, yet it hid this and filed a phoney report with the Commission.

In addition, I now have the FBI's own proof that it performed similar tests pertaining to other shooting, not any of the shots accounted for in any official version. I did not get it in the litigation, where it remains withheld. I'll be producing the proof in court.

Aside from all the many conspiracy theories, to which I do not subscribe, and whether or not Oswald did it, I think it is clear that there was more shooting than Oswald alone could have done, that the FBI knew it and hid it and that it still tries to hide it and its many deficiencies in its investigation of "the crime of the century." It was, after all, the assassination of a President, and the official investigation of that crime.

Considered without regard to the many conspiracy theories I think this can be newsworthy and it has new photo opportunities.

With the film and a separate, expert examination of the curbstone the opportunities are greater and can scoop the official report.

This and the possibility of news attention to this old case when it is again active in court is why I sent you the records Chuck has. We are still in discovery, the source of most of those records.

The case in which I got the records that led to the film mentioned above, knowledge of it having been withheld from both FBIHQ and the Warren Commission, also is stonewalled and still in court. I've won a major victory in it. As a result I'm to get records that have been withheld. Tapes and films are included. Also included are all the records on the strange character who killed himself, George DeMohrenschildt, and the 23 tapes of bugging and tapping of Marina Oswald. (I don't think the actual content, of which I know,

should be made public. The young widow's sexual fancies and dreams are nobody's business and are pertinent to nothing. I've asked for summaries instead of transcripts.) There also is to be what the Office of Origins, Dallas, had on all the critics. I'm to get all of this by May 15, according to the agreement presented to the judge last week, and I'm to get it as processed, every week or so. I'll review it as I get it. If any of it can be of interest to you, I can provide copies.

So far, in that case, I've gotten proof of unaccounted shooting and of pictures not examined and misrepresented, one that pretty clearly would have made the Warren Report as we know it impossible. It depends on how much they try to hold back and what got into the Dallas files to begin with, but I think other possibly newsworthy things may surface.

There is no way of predicting what can have value in the future. The sheer volume of what I've done defies hurried access. However, access is possible because of indices and the like. But 60 file cabinets of paper can be intimidating if a reporter tries to tackle it in haste. So I offer you an invitation: send your Chuck Lewis up to get the ~~xxxx~~ feel of it and if you ever have the need he'll know what to do.

To a limited degree I've made subject files of copies I've made. I preserve my originals as I receive them. It is a full file cabinet with JFK new materials and a little less than that with King. My immediate plans are for a new book on the King assassination. I assure you it will be definitive and unequivocal. As soon as I'm a little more able I will be getting to that. I'm thinking of asking Howard Bray for help.

Please remember me to your folks.

Best wishes,

Harold Weisberg