

Cunningham

Dear Jim, odds and ends re FBI files

8/21/77

Forgive me for not separating these items. I'm a little tired. Today I walked more than five miles, aside from necessary walking and the bit I have to do every 2-30 minutes. I've just finished the last of it, just before dark. Rather not walk into any skunks in the dark.

The FBI's filing is very logical. They have my FOIA requests under their 100 filing system, or Internal Security. 100-351938. The Jevens to Conrad memo, copy to Cunningham (you won't have to guess why) of 11/3/66 in Not Recorded. This is also Serial 534 in another file I can't make out. I also could not make out the note in the left-hand margin. While I could not make out Hoover's at the bottom it is included in another memo and is quoted in the large sheaf of notes I gave for you, in the large box of papers of which I spoke earlier tonight.

This did happen only not at all the way Cunningham wrote it for Jevens to sign. If you look at the lower left you'll find the initials CC.

I asked Johnson for the results of the spectre after Clark's executive order was publicized. I was in SW3 with him when he called the FBI. He told me as he talked to Cunningham. I heard Johnson's end of the conversation. Cunningham told him the spectre results were in the same 11/23/63 letter to Curry and that was fall.

Johnson did not ask him about the report, I'm sure by Gemberling despite the masking of the name. (Please mention this kind of think to Lynne Zusman. If there is any name not secret in the JFK work it is Gemberling, and he is on the lecture circuit blowing off for heavy money. This is harassment, not a legitimate exemption claim.) He said what I was there for and asked. However, this goes farthur. It says they refused to help because they don't like me. Hoover wrote "OK" on the recommendation that Johnson be told "that the FBI cannot be of assistance in this matter."

Note that there is no record explaining how the Lab people had red-baiting records on me. Not in what I've received. They must have hand delivered copies all over. Of course we know that in May my first request of Hoover was routed to the Lab because ranier said so. Maybe it was attached to that. I could have forgotten.

So the first masking is of Cunningham's name, the second of Gemberling's, and they are both public.

Jevens 11/8/63, same file, also Not Recorded, is the one with Hoover's note repeated: "O.K. I assume we have given all exhibits & evidence to the Archives as previously directed by A.S." It turns out that this had not happened, was happening that day, and was extremely limited, to the rifle, pistol and holster.

This one went to the top brass, including attention a Mr. Lenihan in W.F. Sullivan's office. Note that I can see no other file designated, only my "Internal Security" one. This certainly should have gone into other files, the JFK assassination files and those relating to transfers to the Archives and some Oswald file. However, there is a stamp indicating a filing elsewhere for the original. Only no number.

Both memos are captioned "WARREN COMMISSION EXHIBITS."

Note also that the names and whatever else is masked in the first memo was classified by 4417 and was found by 4417 to be exempt from declassification indefinitely under Categories 2 and 3. The date of 12/6/76 is one of the things that led me to tell you I believe these files were processed last year and they've taken all this time figuring out what kinds of ways they could invent or employ to get away with withholding what will embarrass them. Again, a matter for Lynne Zusman, I think.