

FBI/JFK - N.Y.

Dear Mr. Shea, re:80-0425

4/5/80

While your letter of 4/2 appears to suggest that if I want to preserve my rights I'd better go ahead and sue the FBI again, I prefer to believe that you do not intend this. I therefore respond immediately.

If my memory is not flawed I filed ~~three~~ ^{three} requests at the same time. And I appealed all failures to comply. The offices are Miami, Washington and New York. You refer to New York only.

You state that "New York will not "determine whether any unreported records exist," which is fine. But my request is not limited to "unreported records." I also want those known to exist. Among these are those pertaining to "critics" of the official account of the assassination of President Kennedy and its official investigation. Historically these are important records. What the FBI did to interfere with ~~me~~ this criticism also has historical importance. Whether or not the FBI tried to influence publication also is significant information. So are all records of the New York office that led to reporting to FBIHQ and to others. I have provided you with copies of records pertaining to the FBI's efforts relating to my first book in New York so you know that some such records do exist.

A review of files limited to "any unreported records" is certain to end in non-compliance. I therefore ask that this be clarified because your letter is not in terms of my request.

Of course if the FBI requires more time I have no objection to that. All it need do is ask.

But my request is for reported as well as unreported records, and so is my appeal. May I now hear from you about the records of the New York office that are known to exist? In this regard, based on the character of the processing to date, I want to emphasize again that in the processing the public domain is withheld.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg



United States Department of Justice

OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY GENERAL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20530

Mr. Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Road
Frederick, Maryland 21701

Re: Appeal No. 80-0425

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

You appealed from the action of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on your request for access to records pertaining to the John F. Kennedy Assassination maintained by its New York Field Office.

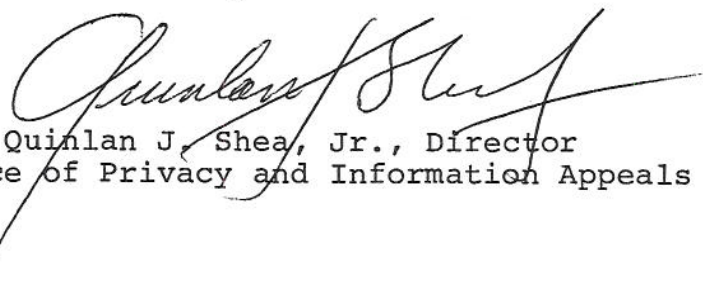
The Bureau has agreed to review the relevant New York Field Office files to determine whether any unreported records exist in them. You will be notified of the results of the process as soon as it has been completed.

Inasmuch as my action on your appeal does not constitute an actual grant of access to any requested records, I am required by statute and Department regulation to advise you of your right to seek judicial relief. Such relief is available to you in the United States District Court for the judicial district in which you reside or have your principal place of business, or in the District of Columbia, or in the Southern District of New York, which is where the records you seek are located.

Sincerely,

John H. Shenefield
Associate Attorney General

By:


Quinlan J. Shea, Jr., Director
Office of Privacy and Information Appeals

cc: James H. Lesar