

Star 12/10/77

AP, UPI Ask Refund of FBI Papers' Cost

The Associated Press and United Press International have asked the Department of Justice for their money back on the \$4,000 each paid for a batch of 40,001 pages of hitherto undisclosed FBI documents on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

The two wire services, along with other newspapers and media representatives, had to pay 10 cents a page for the FBI documents furnished under a Freedom of Information Act request. But Walter Mears, Washing-

ton bureau chief of the AP, said he asked FBI Director Clarence M. Kelley for a refund in a letter attached to AP's check even before the half-ton of records were issued Wednesday. Grant Dillman of UPI said he wrote to Acting Deputy Attorney General Benjamin Civiletti with a similar request Dec. 6.

Both bureau chiefs claimed that documents received under the FOI act should be free of charge if they are in the public interest.