

Dear Jim, FBI releases

1/19/78

If this, my fanciest paper, is stained, do not rush to blame the much-blamed FBI. Nancy's father wanted to be sure she would not get hungry on the trip so he loaded her with Brie, Camembert and fine British crackers she left here. I'm snaking them at the desk and having had no lunch, I'll eat the left-over salad to the evening TV news and get the greens in.

The day's later developments made it impossible for me to write the memo I'd planned but I will. The file cabinets are in place, what was where they are is stacked elsewhere, the extra file folders are atop the cabinet and the records can come. That they did not come today may be an accident coming from my telling the postmaster there were the 18 Moschella told you there are. He may be awaiting the two that do not exist. I'll check that in the morning.

I have had press calls this afternoon. All responsible people not interested in crap. I think you will see an interesting Lardner story, perhaps not in the morning paper with the State of the Union speech squeezing all national space. If it is not in tomorrow's they just could save it for Sunday. This cuts down on the time reporters have to work on Saturdays. I don't know - I'm guessing. When you read it ask yourself if you see relevance in 1448 and the 5/19 transcript.

Another reporter, a stranger to me but a friend of a friend, spent some time on the phone. We rambled quite a bit, which led to my learning that your PA letter was possibly ignored. I have the citations to the volumes most likely to hold what they released on me. I know only about newspaper clippings and FOIA records. A colleague of hers was going over that stuff. She'll ask him and if there is a point will phone me tomorrow....I told her the Shaneyfelt/phony suit story.

This came up in reference to the nasty stuff about Lane. She said that Hoover's "sex maniac" comment is the kindest thing he ever said about Lane.

We'll have to wait some time to learn what they released if I have to locate the records in all of these when I can't spread them out. I have enough for you to make an issue of it with Lynne and the others. From what I was told by one not familiar with FBI method I'd say it was a SubJ in a JFK box relating to the Warren Commission, Section 6 or 7. Most of the rest at this point are clippings but this is of documents, I think immediately following the clippings.

Not all the records are covered by PA but it will be interesting if despite your letter they released some of their corrupted records. This is what I mean by saying we'll have to wait and see. Unless I get a reaction I see no rush. These can be seen in Washington, not only at the reading room. I'm sure George would make theirs available. (I'm assuming they bought the records - he did not say so. But they did buy the first batch.)

I can see reasons for deliberateness in this as I can that they may claim I'm a controversial record. However, that does not explain their not complying so I can use the PA and have the correction available with the error. Or to put it another way, it does explain - they deliberately created this situation.

But don't get upset. Let's wait and see. Maybe they did not do an ax job. John Newhall phoned. When he seemed to have some interest in what these releases hold about Ford I suggested that he speak to a dependable local source and named Paul. He said he knows Paul. I told him Paul could give him more than I can.

Best,