

"Bill Harris"

ch/su

Abstracts

David and Shirley Gaines appeal - "Bill Harris"

My first appeal, to the FBI in 1977, informed the FBI that I had been in touch with the Gaines, had a transcript of the interview Shirley had with "Harris" and knew where and when it was, where David works, etc. Nonetheless, in 1980, the FBI withholds from the abstracts it provided the information I had provided to it. (5961, 5962, 5963, 5964 and 5965) (No claim to any exemption is made for the withholdings in the underlying record 5965.)

Only one of these records is dated prior to my first contact with the Gaineses. I am not mentioned in the records, although "his lawyer, who I took with me, is mentioned, as of Ray's counsel.

There is no indication of any investigation at all, only an effort to determine if Gaines could be dismissed as untruthful.

Particularly with an evidentiary hearing pending it does not appear likely that the FBI ignored this matter entirely, not when "Bill Harris" claimed personal knowledge of the case and that Ray was not the assassin, he represented himself as a former official of the union who was sent to Hospitals to assist that striking local.

"Harris" provided more than enough personal identifiers, yet the records provided reflect no effort to determine if he was for real.

For no apparent reason, from the records provided, at the bottom of page 2 of ~~5962~~<sup>5962</sup> it is stated that "Baltimore indices were negative pertaining to (obliterated) and JERRY BURT." Jerry Burt is head of the union for which "Harris" claimed to have worked. This seems to indicate that there are other records.

It would have been easy for the FBI to determine whether "Harris" had in fact been sent to help with the sanitation workers strike, but no such effort is reflected. (Some of my effort is reflected in a copy of the union council's letter, which is in the files provided.) The FBI did not respond when I asked if the correct name is Paisley and no pertinent records have been provided.

As my prior appeals reflect, "Harrie" painted a finger at an informant who worked rather effectively in the Mafia case and Ray has disclosed what coincides with this, as the FBI files also reflect, without making any connection.

If you are not going to act on this appeal I ask that you please forward it to the which  
FBI, which can treat it as a new request.

I mean this to include all records pertaining to the information provided by the Gaines and any investigation thereof, ~~where~~ wherever or however filed, of the possible involvement of the "seventeen" union in the assassination and of "Harrie." In addition to HQ, records provided indicate the existence of records at least in the Baltimore, Alexandria, Washington and Memphis offices, including the former Frederick residency of the Baltimore office. Louisiana records would be at New Orleans and its Baton Rouge residency. The investigation of what Ray disclosed would have included Nashville.

That the FBI made undisclosed ~~efforts~~ efforts is indicated. For example, when it read the transcript Gaines provided it had another transcript he had not provided with which to compare it. (See 5965, abstract and serial.)