

DEAR PAUL,

7/10/83

In odd moments while working on a series of affidavits in the field offices case I read Scally's paper. For which thanks.

When I first heard of the HSCA's proposed shooting/recording I believed (and have not changed my mind) that its limitations on points of origin seriously undermined the conclusions that could be based on it. In my belief, for example, there is absolutely no question: the bullet hole \times in the front of JFK's neck was caused by a shot from the front. (Parenthetically, why do you think the FBI avoided any mention of it in CD1?)

Bearing on the theory Scally says is yours about the rerecording, one of the first things I called to Dallas attention (whether first Golz or "ack I do not recall) was Bowles' account to the FBI of how the dubs were made because the DED machines had no provision for direct (or what Scally refers to as by cable) patching or connection. At least when the tapes were made, it was by playing aloud and recording with a mike.

Now, in the field offices case, I've been pressing for the DL FBI copies of the tapes. They have persisted in a series of lies made up at FBIHQ, attested to by SA John N. Phillips, the supervisor at FOWPA. As I'd prove each story a lie, he'd shift to another, all designed to establish that the DL FBI has no tapes. Which he always referred to in the singular.

One of his later accounts is that the tape(s) were sent to the WC. To establish that this did not happen, under discovery, we asked for the DL forwarding letter and for that covering the delivery from FBIHQ to WC. In this we established, from their responses, that 1) DL never sent the tape(s) to FBIHQ and 2) FBIHQ never did to WC.

They have avoided what I've been pushing for, a search in DL with a first-person attestation to the search. Which, obviously, is what is required.

I have no idea how far, if any farther, we'll be able to take this.

Right now I'm addressing \times in a new affidavit how, in other cases, even when demanded by the AG, the FBI manages to avoid tapes in its searches. Imagine, in the King case, with all the knowntaping of him and SCIC, when the FBIHQ directive for inventorying includes these tapes, none surfaced. The technique was to appear to order an all-inclusive search while severely limiting it to specified files, which did not hold them and I'm sure FBIHQ knew would not hold them.

While the FBI, SOP, stonewalls, the amount of lying under oath in this case, even with a judge who is their rubberstamp, causes suspicion because it would be much safer, cheaper and easier merely to provide the tapes. This, in turn, provokes wonder: do they have a special reason for withholding them?

I'll probably try to push for an authentic search and may begin with new discovery efforts. If you have any suggestions or hunches, please let me know. There are obvious search directives, like under DPD and admat file classifications. And possibly relevant records not in the assassination main files, like liaison files. (For which the field offices sometimes use 80 classification, which is, actually, "research matters.")

I'm sorry I lost track of what I copied and sent to Dallas, but his is entirely because those characters down there never once responded in any way, not even when I asked. Thus it is possible that there are pertinent post BEN records in the main files I have of which I made no subject-filing copies for myself. What I did I've put in the case record and the FBI has been totally silent and nonresponsive. They merely ignore it. You have these pages, except that I do not recall if I put in the technical data. And, I think, it is significant that the DL subject index does not include the FBI's obtaining any dubs of any kind. Best,