

~~Memphis~~ Memphis - Leeds - New York

JFK and King assassination records appeals Harold Weisberg 10/21/79
Records not searched, records not provided, King - lead cards
Records not searched, records not provided, JFK - lead cards
Bad faith
Field offices included, in both cases

Until I came across 62-109060-3298 I lacked proof that the FBI keeps written records of its leads. My appeals cover many of them and have not been acted upon.

The FBI's investigation, what it did and did not do, is of major importance in both cases.

Its traditional answer to everything is statistics the relevance - even honesty - of which is rarely subject to any examination. It presumes everyone will assume that everything it does is relevant. In fact in both cases most of its activity was waste work, with greatest attention being given to the insane, which can safely be taken literally. The more totally irrational the report the greater the space devoted to it, while significant information, when not ignored, is passed over in a few sentences. And thus the FBI compiles its impressive statistics.

More than a half year after the FBI got a worthless report it directed New York to follow it up and in a note on the FBIHQ copy beat its chest in self-praise: "This situation was detected in line with our continuing program of checking our lead cards..." This indicates the existence of lead cards and that they are "our continuing program."

No lead cards have been provided by FBIHQ or any field office in either case. It is beyond any doubt that all involved in the searches and providing of records had to know that these lead cards are standard FBI practice, existed and were withheld. I consider this bad faith and deliberate non-compliance.

Of course I do believe there is substantial public interest in knowing how the FBI spends its time ^{and} money when it investigates the most subversive of crimes, the assassinations of a President and one of the nation's most popular leaders.

I have substantial subject-matter interest in what is involved in these lead cards going back to my 1969 requests. I tell you quite candidly that most of the reports on the origin of the shot in the King case are other than the official solution con-

jectures and that, despite the official story and contrived affidavits used in the extradition all of the FBI's evidence relating to whether Ray was at the scene of the crime at the time of the crime is other than the official story has it. Now in all these records - and I have read all the King records not still withheld - I have yet to see any FBI investigation of these and related matters. All that I have read was known at FBIHQ and the field offices. Therefore it is important to know whether lead cards were set out directing investigations of these and related matters. If there is no lead card that also will be significant information.

You should recall the history of the Long tickler. The FBI first denied its existence, then claimed not to be able to find it, and when you found it, following the leads I provided, it was gutted - and this after my request.

⁴o other tickler has been provided and you have not acted on my appeals with regard to all of these. I have sent you proof of the existence of other ticklers but you have neither acknowledged this nor informed me that any search for them was being made.

Recently you ~~informed~~^{informed} me that the King case index had been destroyed - and this also subsequent to my initial requests.

I therefore ask that you make special efforts to see to it that no lead cards are now destroyed, with the alleged destruction to be covered by a non-first-person affidavit, which is common practice for FBI intrusions.