

To Quin Shea from Harold Weisberg, JFK assassination records appeals 5/22/79  
New Orleans - Layton Martens

The attached Domestic Intelligence Division Informative Note refers to information from and about Layton Martens, a central figure in the Garrison episode, that I do not recall reading in the records provided by the New Orleans office.

I believe there may be an explanation in special filing outside the main assassination file. Like a special separate file on Martens.

There must be New Orleans information not included in the assassination file because records provided in it depend on underlying records not provided.

Aside from his association with David Ferrie, whose roommate he was for a while, Martens also was associated with CIA Cuban activities and with the so-called Frente.

For your information, Ferrie was the investigator for Carlos Marcello's counsel, was in federal district court in this connection at the time of the assassination, and immediately afterward went off on a trip that remains mysterious. (I believe that fairly innocent explanation is possible, the fact that he knew Oswald in the Civil Air Patrol, for example, a fact fudged over in the FBI records provided.) Despite the intense interest in Ferrie and despite his being arrested by Garrison several days after the assassination, there is no FBI report provided stating that Ferrie was at the trial (in which Marcello defeated the Department). During his Friday night through Sunday night absence from New Orleans Ferrie stayed in contact with one of Marcello's counsel, who was also his counsel through Martens.

The theft referred to was from the property of the Schlumberger company at Lousa, La. This was prior to the Day of Pigs, which the note does not state.

Now that the main index is at FBIHQ it should be no problem to determine whether all the information it includes on Martens has been provided to me. (I am aware that all New Orleans records may not be included in it and that special files may not be.)