

1970 request for John Martin (Mpls) film

Stills made from WDSU footage

I informed DJ that Martin told me the FBI had edited his film. He had given me a copy of his footage, as returned to him by the FBI. I requested a copy of the FBI's copy to determine whether it contained what is not on the Martin film that he told me he had filmed, an unidentified Oswald associate. The FBI told Kleindients to refer me to Martin, which is not a response.

WDSU also told me its footage was edited by the FBI. It permitted me to make a print of its footage and I have it. My request is not for a duplicate of their footage, it is for what the FBI avoids, copies of the prints it displayed to witnesses. It gave only 3 to the Warren Commission, its reports state that it showed six to witnesses, and other records indicate that WDSU made 17 for the government.

To this date the FBI has not provided either in 78-0322/0420



Simon & Harold Weisberg

Coq d'Or Press ROUTE 8, FREDERICK, MD. 21701

Code 301/473-8186

12/2/70

Mr. Richard Kleindienst
Deputy Attorney General
The Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Kleindienst,

In the course of my own investigations of the Kennedy assassination I have located and spoken to the owners of two amateur motion pictures of Lee Harvey Oswald being arrested in New Orleans, La., on August 9, 1963, and have evidence of a third person, possibly in an official capacity, also taking pictures of this and the picketing that preceded it. In all cases, the National Archives reports it does not have the film.

In the first two cases I have been informed that the film was given to the FBI, which returned edited copies. I seek copies of all this film, for which I enclose a DJ-115 form and check. Also, all relevant reports except as noted.

One case involves one John Martin, who voluntarily took his entire roll of vacation film to the Minneapolis office of the FBI. The National Archives informs neither exists no record in its files of either this Jack Martin or his film.

The second case involves the Doyle family, Mr. and Mrs. J. Pat and son Jim and their friends the Matt Wilsons, of Portland, Oregon. One report of this is in Warren Commission file CD6, page 444. Four others are CD30:6-9. None of these five reports says the film was given to the FBI or returned. Therefore, I assume there are other reports, including of content or analysis of what the film shows. I would like any and all reports besides those above listed.

Also, various reports in my possession and official descriptions of the professional TV film (WDSU-TV and WFL-TV) in the National Archives disclose that more than the three-existing prints were made and shown by FBI agents for various purposes, including to establish the identity of a second man helping Oswald, one other than Charles Earl Steele, Jr. None of these pictures exist in the National Archives. Steele confirmed to me the existence of this third man and the wrapper of the copy of the WDSU footage at the National Archives says it shows this person, which it does not. Again there is the presumption of editing and the fact of the existence of still prints of this other man. I seek copies of these prints, all relevant reports and access to the unedited footage from WDSU, whose permission I have. WDSU permitted me to copy the footage returned to them. Johann Rush, the photographer, says he made 17 prints. The government seems to have obtained this footage on two different occasions, from the records I have.

The charges here will exceed the minimum. If you will inform me of the extra charge, I will send a check.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg
Harold Weisberg

ENCLOSURE

62-109060 -

RA-

The Deputy Attorney General

62-109060-
Director, FBI

- 1 - Mr. T. C. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. C. D. ... 13, 1970

- 1 - Mr. Schutz
- 1 - Mr. Whitson

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Reference is made to your letter of December 11, 1970, and to the attachments which pertain to requests from Mr. Harold Weisberg for additional information concerning the assassination of President Kennedy.

Mr. Weisberg's requests require extensive research and inquiries of our field divisions, which are being conducted expeditiously. When the result of research at the headquarters and in the field have been analyzed, you will be furnished our answers.

REC-11570

12-21-70 511/5-7

Enclosure

The request received by the Department for information from FBI files is from Harold Weisberg, a man who has written several books critical of the Warren Commission, the FBI, Secret Service, police agencies and other branches of the Government relating to the assassination investigation. His writings have contained inaccuracies, falsehoods and deliberate slanting of facts to fit his purpose. He was one of ten employees fired by the State Department during 1947 because of suspicion of being a communist or having communist sympathies. Later he was allowed to resign without prejudice, but was not restored to his former position. A check of Portland, Minneapolis, Dallas and New Orleans files is necessary to be certain we can give the Department complete information on Weisberg's questions, which relate to possible cropping or editing of film rolls by the FBI. The films in which Weisberg is interested were taken at various times by private citizens and also some professional TV film men in New Orleans.

- Tolson
- DeLoach
- Mohr
- Bishop
- Casper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- Felt
- Gale
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holmes
- Gandy

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

11-03-18-1

ORIGINAL FILED

The Deputy Attorney General

December 31, 1970

Director, FBI

62-109060-

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. Shroder
- 1 - Mr. Hanlon
- 1 - Mr. C. D. Brennan

Reference is made to your letter of December 11, 1970, and our reply of December 16, 1970, relating to requests from Mr. Harold Weisberg for information relative to the investigation of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Mr. Weisberg's formal requests (DJ-116) ask for "Film and relevant reports of L. H. Oswald's literature distribution and arrest in New Orleans, 8/63, taken by Jim Doyle, John Martin, WDSU-TV and WWL-TV photographers and by an unknown person, prints of WDSU film made to show third man assisting Oswald, as further described in attached letter." In addition, Mr. Weisberg requests "All reports on, of or about and interviews with James Powell, Army intelligence, who took a picture or pictures in Dealey Plaza at the time of the assassination of President Kennedy. . . I would also like to have access to any other such pictures."

The circumstances concerning the taking of pictures in New Orleans on August 9, 1963, by Jim Doyle, the 14-year-old son of J. Pat Doyle of Portland, Oregon, are set out in Commission Documents No. 6 and No. 30.

The film contained a few shots of Oswald at the time of his arrest, but it also contained personal pictures of the Doyle party. Doyle requested return of the film, and it was returned to him on March 10, 1964. This film was not furnished to the Commission because the arrest had been completely documented, the arresting officer had been interviewed, and other film was available regarding the incidents leading up to the arrest of Oswald.

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DEC 31 1970

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- Tavel _____
- Soyars _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

JFH:jny
(9)

NOTE: See Page 3

Handwritten signatures and initials: JFH, jny, and others.

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MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

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The Deputy Attorney General

It is suggested that Mr. Weisberg obtain prints of the Doyle film from Mr. J. Pat Doyle, whose last known address was 1167 S. E. 123rd Avenue, Portland, Oregon.

Regarding the film which was exposed by John Martin, 1752 Ighart, Apartment 4, St. Paul, Minnesota, and which Weisberg says is not in the Archives, it should be noted that the film appeared to show a group of Cubans on a street in New Orleans after Oswald's arrest on August 9, 1963. The film was viewed by the New Orleans Office of the FBI and was found to contain nothing of value to the investigation. The film was returned to Martin on January 23, 1964. No mention of Martin was made in reports to the Commission. It would appear that Weisberg should contact Martin if he desires prints of this film.

With respect to the photograph taken by James W. Powell, Special Agent, Detachment II, 112th AFPC, Army Intelligence Corps, Dallas, Texas, he was interviewed by a Special Agent of this Bureau at Dallas, Texas, on January 3, 1964. Mr. Powell stated that on November 22, 1963, he had taken a photograph of the Texas School Book Depository in Dallas. He advised that approximately thirty seconds following the shots fired at President Kennedy, he was approximately one-half block east of the intersection of Elm and Houston Streets. He then ran to the northeast corner of the intersection and, seeing some people pointing to the School Book Depository, took one photograph of the building utilizing a Minolta 35 millimeter camera. Mr. Powell turned this photograph over to his superior, Lieutenant Colonel E. E. Boyd, in the form of a Kodachrome transparency, who thereafter furnished it to the FBI at Dallas, Texas, on December 31, 1963.

The photograph depicted the corner sixth floor window of the Texas School Book Depository and boxes stacked in formation inside the window. The photograph was returned to Mr. Powell on January 20, 1964. Consequently, it would appear Mr. Weisberg should contact Mr. Powell if he desires prints of this film.

Mr. Weisberg has sought in the past to obtain from the National Archives prints of the professional television film prepared

The Deputy Attorney General

for WDSU-TV and WWL-TV in New Orleans. Mr. Marion Johnson of the National Archives stated on December 23, 1970, that he has told Weisberg that because of the copyright laws, Weisberg should get written authorization from those television stations before the National Archives can provide him with prints.

The details of the furnishing to the FBI of duplicate copies of these films are set out, together with the pertinent interviews, variously, in Commission Documents Nos. 6, 75, and 126. The films are enclosures to Commission Documents Nos. 595 and 596.

All of the information in the Commission Documents regarding the television films is available to the public, and there would appear to be no reason why Weisberg could not get prints from the film if he complies with the request of the National Archives that he present a written authorization from the television stations.

Mr. Weisberg's request regarding film exposed by an unknown person is too vague to research.

NOTE: The request received by the Department for information from FBI files is from Harold Weisberg, a man who has written several books critical of the Warren Commission, the FBI, Secret Service, police agencies, and other branches of the Government relating to the assassination investigation. His writings have contained inaccuracies, falsehoods, and deliberate slanting of facts to fit his purpose. He was one of ten employees fired by the State Department during 1947 because of suspicion of being a communist or having communistic sympathies. Later he was allowed to resign without prejudice, but was not restored to his former position. A check of Portland, Minneapolis, Dallas, and New Orleans files was necessary to be certain we can give the Department complete information on Weisberg's questions, which relate to possible cropping or editing of film rolls by the FBI. The films in which Weisberg is interested were taken at various times by private citizens and also some professional television film from New Orleans.

That set out above sets forth our response indicating the information Mr. Weisberg requests is available to him from other sources. Consequently, it is being suggested he seek this information from those sources.