

Dear Bruce,

4/4/85

61-109060 is The Assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Remember, these are FBIHQ file numbers.

I'm sure Wrone will send you a copy of that book, probably more if you ask him if you think Welman and others might be interested. They are disposing of their extras.

I do not know the Archives' identification of the ex. sess. transcripts, but if you refer to the fact that they are transcripts and give the dates, do you need anything more?

I think it is not a good idea to think of or cite the FBI files as record groups, in part because they are not. The first number is the FBI's classification, the second the file number within that classification and the third is the serial number within the file. 62 is a miscellaneous classification. It also includes "administrative inquiry."

It has been a long time since I've run into the attitude you faced in Texas about the assassination. Almost nobody believes the official story. Including a fair number of police. Most of those who say they do are intellectual and the media, and I think this is largely because they cannot face their own failures and abdications at the time and since then. They certainly failed the nation!

When I was young and La Salle was small it had an excellent reputation and was in a charming area. Unless it has changed more than I know, the Phila area has much to offer and it is convenient. Hope you get it!

I'm just sending Frame-Up, which simplified things. Lil went over the books and I enclose an accounting, including it. You will still owe \$37/80. Probably won't mail it until Monday because the weekend mail situation here isn't good - they send it all to Baltimore, where the post office is traditionally poor.

Wrone was her and in DC for several days over a long weekend. Good visit, glad to see him, and he got what he wanted for some of his own work.

Jerry McKnight is getting the FBIHQ and Washington Field Office "POCAM" files, more than 20,000 pages. This is the FBI's acronym for "Poor Peoples' Campaign," and from what I've seen in other files it will be unsoakably vile. It will be ~~xxxx~~ a permanent deposit at Hood, if Vernis Welman is even interested in that. Jerry has copies of my Sanitation Workers and Invaders files. He did a piece for one of last years South Atlantic Quarterly, Duke, on the strike file, as a study in domestic intelligence. He plans a companion piece on the young blacks who took the very poor name after the Invaders TV show, of which I then had never heard. When he gets and goes over this new stuff I hope he'll have and will do a book.

If RG 272 is the Commission's records, then I suppose it is pretty certain that the transcripts are in that RG. But if you want to be sure, ask Johnson.

Best wishes,

April 1, 1985

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

As usual, I am sorry for my long delay since I last wrote to you. I have been very busy with teaching and have to put the dissertation on the back burner for a while. But now I will have two full months to finish it; I plan on being done around June 1.

I bought Guth and Wrone's reference book *The Assassination of John F. Kennedy*, which has really been a gold mine. Thank God for charge cards. I am sending you \$15.00 for my account, I have no idea on how much I still owe you, ask your wife so I will know the amount due. I am also going to ask you if I can purchase *Frame-Up* from you on my account. There is a black fellow who works in my office who is very interested in the Ray case. I told him about your book and he was interested, so I think I would like to give him a copy. He is one of the few I know who thinks that Kennedy was killed in a Coup d'Etat. If you can afford to send it to me, please write in it "To Vernis Welmon . . . (whatever), Harold Weisberg" or some nice inscription. Thanks.

I have a question about the transcripts. How do I cite them, are they part of R.G. 272? I can always use your book, but would like their official citation from the Archives. Also, that one valuable FBI memo you sent me about killing a Commission story in the *Washington Post* (an Evans to Belmont memo dated 11/15/63) had the FBI record group number 62-109060. All of the other FBI memos have 62-109090 which as I understand is under "Liason with Commission." What does 62-109060 come under? One final question, do you know where I can get a copy of Wrone's book on the Freedom of Information Act and your battle with the GSA regarding the Jan 22 and 27 transcripts? Should I write to him directly?

Well I didn't get the job in San Antonio. I did have a rather curious interlude while I was there. One of my interviews was with a Vice President for Academic Affairs (Harvard Ph.D.). He asked me about my dissertation research. When I told him what I was doing he laughed and asked me if I knew what I was doing. I said "What do you mean?" He then told me that the Warren Commission did its job by laying to rest all rumors about the assassination, and proving its case beyond a doubt. I simply told him "You are wrong." He then insisted that the public accepted the *Report's* findings when it came out. Again I differed and told him to do a little research on his own. I doubt that had anything to do with not getting the job, but I wonder what country this man has been living in over the last twenty years!

I had an interview last week in Philadelphia at La Salle University (formerly La Salle College). I really liked the place and hope I get the job there. Besides, it will be easier to get to the Archives from Philly than from San Antonio! I think my next area of research will be into the comical Warren-Ruby interviews (again from a communicative standpoint).

Well that is all from here, give my best to the Mrs.

Sincerely,  
Bruce McKinney