

Miss Jane Smith, Director
Civil Archives Division
National Archives
Washington, D.C. 20408

Rt. 12 Frederick, Md. 21701
5/17/77

Dear Miss Smith,

Thank you for your promptness in responding to my letters of April 7 and 25 yesterday.

I also thank you for the enclosure of the title page of item 1 of the list. I have obtained that from the CIA. If you have not already copied that particular document for me I do not need it. If you have copied it I'll pay for it.

If you mail these copies I would appreciate the making of a package that can confront modern mail service. If this presents any kind of problem perhaps I can ask Mr. Messer or another to pick the package up for me.

Six years ago I was in the office of Secret Service Assistant Director Tom Kelley just after he had received notice of the required 1970 review. He showed me the letter. He led me to believe that the Secret Service was transferring all its JFK assassination records to the National Archives, where I would have access to them. This appears not to have happened.

The Secret Service recently released a batch of its records on this subject.

I would like to know if these have also been deposited in the Archives and if so how they can be identified.

I do not know if these were in the Warren Commission files. If they were I would like copies of any records relating to both withholding and release. Those records generated after the Commission could not have been turned over to you by the Commission, of course. Having gone over these records I am troubled again because they are still new proof that national policy with regard to the Commission's records (as stated by the Chief Justice, the Justice Department and the White House, as you know) has not been followed, because there never was any basis for withholding, and because Dr. Rhoads simply refuses to do anything about this although he heads the intergovernment committee on such matters.

We are now more than a decade past the enacting of FOIA, more than two years past the effective date of the 1974 amending of the Act, yet the same practices continue, the same devices to evade the clear meaning are fashioned, and very largely the Congress enacted in vain.

I am quite serious in wanting to know if the Archives had any of the records just made available by the Secret Service and if it did on what basis the Archives has withheld each.

If you examine these records I am confident you will agree they were not subject to withholding. If you do not share my concern over the continuation of these practices I regret it.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg