

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

National Archives and Records Service
Washington, DC 20408



June 16, 1977

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Route 12
Frederick, MD 21701

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

This is in reply to your letter of May 31, 1977, concerning the records of the Warren Commission.

The copies of records that you ordered have been completed and will be delivered to you in the National Archives Building. You were informed of the release of these records by our sending you the lists of which you acknowledged receipt in your letter of April 7, 1977.

Orders for copies of a comparative few of these documents have been filled for researchers, but not copies of the entire group, which you ordered.

To the best of our knowledge, no estimate of the number of cards in the Secret Service indexes had ever been made before the estimate that we recently furnished you.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Harold T. Pinkett.

HAROLD T. PINKETT
Acting Director
Civil Archives Division



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Mr. Harold T. Pinkett, Act. Dir.
Civil Archives Division
National Archives
Wash., D.C. 20408

Rt. 12, Frederick, Md. 21701
6/17/77

Dear Mr. Pinkett,

I sincerely regret your people did not inform Mr. Lesar that the copies had been made. If they had let him know by phone, as they have in the past with large packages, I had a ride here Wednesday afternoon. I could have picked them up then.

As of now I have no immediate need to be in Washington. I therefore would appreciate the proper and careful packaging of these records and sending them by mail or United Parcel. My experiences with United Parcel have been good. If you use this I will pay the costs.

Over the years I have had considerable experience in making packages to withstand the onslaught of modern mail handling. The CIA, whose packages reached me damaged, has followed my suggestions and I am receiving completely undamaged copies from them even in thousands of pages.

In you do not have a box that will hold these records snugly if you use cardboard on one or both sides not against the walls of the box and then stuff the empty space with newspapers or air-trapping plastic (which the CIA uses) the records will be protected on all surfaces except the top. A piece of cardboard here and the same filling of extra space or a cutting $\frac{1}{4}$ of the four corners to the right height and then bending them will protect all surfaces except from a shredder.

Twine is not a dependable binding. The CIA has followed my suggestion that it use what is called strapping tape and the results are excellent. This is a plastic tape that is reinforced. If you do not use this I think it will also save time over twine besides being better. It is available in an assortment of widths. A hand-held dispenser is inexpensive. Unlike twine it does not stretch and does not provide a means for improper handling by postal employees.

I do want all records as released. I am depositing them in a university. I regret this same request was refused when I was ill and even more limited in what I was able to do. It has not yet been possible for me to catch up on filing. So I have no way of knowing whether there are other records copies of which I have not obtained. If you have any way of determining this I would appreciate it. I did obtain the 1970-1 release by other means.

On the estimate of the number of Secret Service index cards I was told they totalled 6,000. I believe this was both verbally and in writing. There should also be some index cards of the Commission's. It did start to make a card index. Howard Willens ended that as unnecessary.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

re his 6/14/77