



NAVAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

HOFFMAN BUILDING
2461 EISENHOWER AVENUE
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22331

IN REPLY REFER TO

NIS-27F/jvs
5400 F7-77
Ser U3690

10 JUN 1977

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Route 12, Old Receiver Road
Frederick, MD 21707

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

Reference is made to our letter of 7 June 1977 acknowledging receipt of your request of 21 May 1977 seeking, pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552), all records held by this Service concerning Lee Harvey Oswald and the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, whatever their nature or origin.

The 1974 Amendments to the Freedom of Information Act provide for a liberal release of federal records unless they fall within specified exemptions. Therefore, I approve release of 280 pages of record material from this Service's file holdings, with the exception that excisions have been made to remove information, the release of which would be an unwarranted invasion of the privacy of others; and, to delete information to protect the confidentiality of sources. Those excisions were made under the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(7)(C) and (D), respectively. Also, documentation and information originated by, or coming under the cognizance of, other organizations are being referred to the originating or cognizant organizations for release determination and direct response to you. Referrals are being made to the Department of State, the Office of the Attorney General, the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower, the Central Intelligence Agency, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, the Defense Intelligence Agency, the U. S. Army Intelligence Agency, the U. S. Air Force Office of Special Investigations, the Navy Judge Advocate General and the Navy Discharge Review Board. This procedure is being used to expedite total response to you.

The above mentioned 280 pages of releasable record material and the referred documentation represent this Service's total file holdings on Lee Harvey Oswald, and all available files cross-referenced thereto. A number of cross-referenced files could not be located, and it can only be presumed they have been routinely destroyed in compliance with Department of Defense (DOD) policies and guidelines regarding retention of material on non-DOD affiliated civilians and organizations.



Your letter of 21 May 1977 also asked that your request be referred to other components of the Department of the Navy which, to our knowledge, hold records concerning Lee Harvey Oswald. In addition to the Navy Judge Advocate General and the Navy Discharge Review Board, to which referrals of your request have already been initiated, it is known that Headquarters, U. S. Marine Corps, holds record information concerning Lee Harvey Oswald. If you have not already requested those records, any request for them should be directed to the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Headquarters, U. S. Marine Corps (Code PAI), Washington, D.C., 20380.

The above mentioned excisions represent a denial under the Freedom of Information Act. I am the official responsible for this denial determination. You may appeal this decision within 120 days to the Secretary of the Navy. Such appeal must be in writing and clearly indicate that it is made under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. The appeal must fully describe the circumstances of your request and the initial denial. This may be done by attaching a copy of this letter. The appeal to the Secretary of the Navy should be addressed to the Judge Advocate General (Code 14L), Department of the Navy, Washington, D.C., 20370.

The 1974 Amendments to the Freedom of Information Act provide for reasonable reproduction fees. In this case the reproduction fee is \$15.70 (\$2.00 for the first six pages and \$.05 per page for 274 additional pages). A check in that amount, made payable to the Treasurer of the United States, should be remitted using the enclosed return envelope. Upon receipt of your payment the releasable record material will be forwarded.

Sincerely,



L. E. CONNELL
Captain, U. S. Navy
Director,
Naval Investigative Service

Encl:
(1) Return envelope