

Dear Les,

Payne, Wednesday

7/25/80

One of the means of the FBI's doing a number on me, the tip I'd gotten a while back and of which I believe I told you, is to cancel the fee waiver. The pressures within the FBI and the DJ are such that I doubt much can be accomplished administratively, at least for the present. Litigating it will take time and will be part of the FBI's continuous Cointelproing of me.

Under the circumstances, the least I could do is show my appreciation. If everything goes as indicated, there should be an Anderson column critical of the revocation of the fee waiver. (Without, incidentally, even the pro forma claim that I do not qualify.) I'm hopeful that it might attract some feature attention. While this is not likely with the print press seen at FBIHQ, perhaps it can be with TV, with luck.

When you did not get here before the convention, as you indicated, and I didn't hear from you, I gave away what should make two page 1 stories. ~~EEEE~~ Cartergoat, vacations and political stories are presenting some problems, but I'm still hopeful.

Perhaps others will suggest themselves as I review records and as I get new ones. Despite everything I do.

One that presents a great challenge is what they've stonewalled until they could dare pull this newest dirty trick - the political records on King. Bernard Leo et al went off half-cocked and had the misfortune of drawing a judge who is in the FBI's pocket. I've been after the nitty-gritty, not the ^{personal} dirty/stuff, since 1977. After much effort I finally hit on a device that did break loose one of several inventories. Now sit still and brace yourself: the inventory, this one, exclusive of what is in FBIHQ - limited to the field offices - is 400+ pages. And it doesn't even account for the tapes and transcripts.

My timing, fortunately, was good. I made my move well-prepared, with a case in court, after I learned they were planning to do a number on me. They were boxed in and had to deliver. And thus it coincides with their also-compelled demand that I pay in advance for the minuscule portion of these political records they say they have ready. Only about 2350 pages of a file identified only as SCIC. This is about 1% of what I know of and is from a file, if identified with any accuracy, not included in this inventory. I've appealed this on my own because that matter is not in litigation. The FBI agreed to provide the King

political files in 1977, without litigation. Of course, they'll still try to force it to waste me more.

Does this inventory and the incredible magnitude of what it discloses interest you as a story?

Some of the individual entries in the inventory are of many volumes of records.

This inventory was the basis for the internal re-investigation of the FBI and King, by the whitewashing OPR. (It represents perhaps twice as many records as the FBI has disclosed about the JFK assassination investigation, from all files and all repositories.) Yet it is incomplete. For example, Atlanta doesn't account for a single tape, yet it had an entire room full of them.

Please let me know either way because I must continue to try to show my appreciation.

I have a hunch on another one, a single record withheld by the CIA and belatedly described as a three-page biographical statement. Three or more months ago, in court, when I proved they had this from what I got from the FBI, they had to admit having it. They then said they were processing it. ~~SEVEN~~ Silence since. Do you wonder about the plight of the CIA and the country's intelligence service when it can't process three pages in three months?

While I don't know what this is, I'll explain what I think it is.

Remember some years ago I gave you CIA records showing they also had a highly-placed operative against King, who was out to get him, similar to but not identical with the FBI's Hoover-selected black messiah? It was clearly domestic intelligence and domestic political intrusion, prohibited to the CIA. It got uneasy and tried to switch this man to the FBI. He was incensed, that was below him. So the CIA continued with him.

In the same files were the kinds of things that men carry in their pockets, where King bought what with which charge card, memos of calls he was to make, people he was to see, on scraps of paper and the backs of calling cards, etc. I finally gave that to the LA Times, which page-one'd and syndicated it.

I think this can be their bio of that guy. If I get it, and I'll have to push hard, with help, they'll be withholding his name, I'm sure. But it should disclose what they

were up to. I have the other records, which I believe you never used, which show enough to make a story.

I don't remember if I sent you a copy of what remains of Hoover's Official and Confidential file about King, but there is in it what is pertinent to the index and to what the FBI filed offices managed not to include in the inventory.

Best to Vi and the kids,