

JFK

SHARE DATABASE

FROM: Michael Murphy #059

TO: All Researchers in the Directory.

DEAR FELLOW RESEARCHERS,

It seems to me that, as we get in touch with more and more researchers, it becomes imperative to use computer technology to allow us to freely share information. I envision a database in a "Question and Answer" format.

The basic structure would be six fields:

Question Nr.: (assign your own question numbers in format:(3-digit researcher number).0001)

i.e. my first number = 059.0001

Topic: (Max. 60 characters including spaces)

Question: (Max 250 characters including spaces)

Who: (Person(s) and/or entity(ies) that should be asked. Max 80 characters including spaces)

Answer: (Brief, max 250 characters including spaces)

Reference: (Where the answer was found, original references if known. max 150 characters including spaces)

This format would not only allow you to share facts you have gathered but also to input queries that others may be able to help you with.

I would be willing to share this information with anyone who participates on an ongoing basis. You do not have to have a computer to participate. If you have a computer I will share the entire database simply for the cost of the disks and postage (or if you have a modem the cost of your phone call to me). If you do not have a computer I will send a copy of a print-out for the cost of copying and postage (or to reduce the size, simply print the "topic" areas of your interest).

"Participation on an ongoing basis" may be described as a certain number of questions per three month period, at least half of them with answers. We'll see just how things go.

Perhaps we will include symbols in the ANSWER: field that would indicate that there are conflicting facts or testimony, that it conflicts with WC findings, or other such notations that would help. The database is in the development stage. If we start with the basic structure however, everyone could start sending questions and include any suggestions that they have. A detailed explanation of the final product could be included with the first output sent.

A WORD ABOUT FORMAT:

COMPUTER USERS WITH DATABASES: I use Alpha Four Relational Database V2. I can directly use dBASE III, dBASE III PLUS, and dBASE IV files. I can import dBASE II, character separated ASCII files (comma separated, data in quotes) and WordPerfect Mail Merge Documents. Simply set up your databases with the fields in the same order and size of the basic structure of the JFK Share Database. Then export to one of the formats listed above.

COMPUTER USERS WITH ONLY WORD PROCESSORS: You should enter JUST the information contained in the fields, NOT the field names, type in the information (in quotes) in the first field (Question Nr. :) then a comma, then the information (in quotes) in the next field, then a comma etc.. If there is no information in the field just type in a comma. Do not use the "Enter" key except between questions. An entry would look like this:

"059.0001", "LHO/CURTAIN RODS", "How long was the package LHO carried?", "Buell Wesley Fraizer/Linnie Mae Randle", "About two feet", "2H226/2H249-250"
Save this as an ASCII file and send it, I can then import it.

RESEARCHERS WITHOUT COMPUTERS: Type or neatly print your information in the basic structure order with each field starting on a new line. (Leave a blank line for a field with no entry.) It is not necessary to include the field names for each question.

TIPS: We need to be as specific as possible with our Topics and Questions. I think the topics in the directory would be a good start and we can make them even more specific as the questions arise. Make the answers as brief as possible. Be sure to keep all the fields within the established limits. The questions can be as basic or as esoteric as you like.

INFORMATION: I use IBM pc/compatible computer, 2400 baud modem, 9600 baud fax modem, Alpha4 Relational database, Microsoft Works & WordPerfect 5.1 word-processors. Please include similar information when you respond.

TO PARTICIPATE IN THE JFK SHARE DATABASE YOU MUST BE LISTED IN THE MASTER RESEARCHER DIRECTORY AND HAVE A RESEARCHER NUMBER. So if you know someone interested in the database encourage them to get listed in the directory.

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME BY PHONE WITH ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS, OR SIMPLY INCLUDE THEM WITH DATABASE QUESTIONS YOU SUBMIT. THANKS.

Michael Murphy #059

A project I'm working on requires accurate, detailed dimensions of Dealey Plaza, structures and adjacent buildings. If you have something on this please call. MM