

CIA- JFK Assassination/ FOIA

It is now apparent that the CIA went to much more trouble to obtain information about the assassination that had been disclosed or even indicated earlier.

That it did this is not culpable. It is probably at least proper.

That it did not convey what it learned to a Presidential commission is a different matter.

So is the withholding for years of what cannot properly be withheld.

In this category is what I received toward the end of last week from USIA, with a letter dated 4/8.

They send 72 pages pursuant to my CIA request. (A number of agencies are now responding this way.)

These are divided into two groups. One is a Research and Reference Service study or report titled "Foreign Reaction to the Presidential Succession." I have not read it. I have skimmed the other papers, individual cables to D.C. reporting not only attitudes but on the early books, particularly Buchanan's and especially what could be used against Buchanan.

The Foreign Reaction documents would seem to be an ordinary government matter, ~~agatxpxkx~~ I do find myself wondering why it was done by USIA, which is supposed to function in the other direction. This is the function of Foreign Broadcast Info. or Intel. Service, part of CIA. It is what State does, too, and is supposed to.

I do have questions about USIA cabling derogatory information about books back to Washington.

Perhaps this is why the unclassified and unclassifiable records have been withheld to now.

HW 4/20/77