

has Whitten

JFK assassination records appeals  
The FBI's FOIA/PA attitude

Harold Weisberg 9/30/19

Of the many comments Director Hoover added to records relating to the "report of the Warren Commission and its work and conclusions perhaps the most common was his plaint that the FBI had taken an "unduly restrictive attitude."

From my examination of records the "unduly restrictive attitude" continues and has been quite costly, including to the viability of the Acts.

There is a reflection of this in attached 62-109090-238, a report for the Hearst papers by Lee Whitten, written the day after the Report was published.

Barely legible at the bottom is a stamp indicating that a deleted copy was sent to Whitten with a letter of 9/21/76.

Obviously no purpose would have been served by deleting parts of the story Whitten himself had written and was published.

What remains is the Hoover comment: "A real debunking of the FBI which we will never live down."

If there is an applicable exemption of the Act I do not think of it. And why should the FBI have withheld from Whitten what it did not withhold from me and placed in its reading room, available to all others?

(The first of three pages only is attached. The other two consist of additional portions of the story only.)