

Dean Burdette Eagon
University of Wisconsin
Stevens Point, Wisc. 54481

5/21/80

Dear Buddy,

From the time we received the purchase order I've been wanting to write you but a period of greater than usual FOIA litigation intensity precluded it. I write now, in haste, because another such period has just begun and will last for a while. It may well determine how much more pertaining to the JFK case is provided without litigation, through the administrative process, and whether the records provided will be improved.

Also, it was finally possible for both Jim Lesar and Howard Roffman to be available on the same day. Howard is leaving the prestigious law firm with which he has been to become assistant general counsel for a major and important Hollywood producer. Jim had done much preliminary work along the line you indicated to Lil and I think we worked most of it out that day. Howard and Jim will be getting together on the tentative final draft before Howard leaves in a couple of weeks.

Dave phoned while they were here, a fortunate accident, and I told him that despite all that now concerns you and keeps you busy I would like you to have some kind of association with the archive, including after you retire. I asked him to speak to you about this.

My very tired Lil has taken a break. She is visiting my mother this week, so I can't locate the purchase order. After we heard from your assistant we did order some supplies, from several suppliers and totaling more than the purchase order. We were not aware of its provisions, however, so I explain this situation in anticipation of Lil's return.

She will send you the larger bill. We understand that only \$500 of it is covered.

The punch was returned because it was inadequate. I then went with Rae and got one that is adequate. She has commended the tedious job that will save your people a great amount of time and simultaneously keep the filing records in better condition.

While for ordinary matters I use any kind of paper to husband our limited resources, for permanent records good quality is needed. Quantity purchases mean real savings, in small towns like Frederick, anyway. If paper doesn't go up again we have saved something like \$75.00, plus the cost of going for it when needed, by this purchase.

Is any special kind of bill needed for this, in terms of cartons, packages or anything other than the total? There are ten cartons, 100 packages.

The lawyers are preparing what is called an inter vivos (inter vivos) trust, which has tax significance. They are also to prepare whatever is needed for present and separate tax exemption.

Now for what is closer to scholarly interests: I have word from the FBI that it is finally processing what in its Orwellian usage is the King "security" files. In plain English, their operations against him. All the dirty works other than were sequestered by earlier court order. No word on when I'll get it - or how many more file cabinets I'll have to get.

On Monday we were before the appeals court in a CIA case, for King records. I believe it will order a remand with instructions for making the searches not made. (Dave has a copy of the victory at appeals level in the JFK scientific records case and can give you his evaluation. Mine is that we have again helped all FOIA efforts because this decision defines and tightens official obligations.) I asked the CIA's shlylock when I could expect to hear about the rest of the JFK records, now delayed some three years. Whatever it means, he said that "green lights are flashing all over the place." But depending on the CIA's word is risky, more when ambiguous.

It would be good if some kind of conferring is possible after the lawyers finish what they are doing. A not inconsiderable amount of money is involved.

Best wishes,

Harold Weisberg