

NR_key_name: 2C8AD191A61A8905852563AB00643A9F

SendTo: CN=Tom Samoluk/O=ARRB @ ARRB

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BlindCopyTo: CN=R ecord/O=ARRB

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ComposedDate_Time: 2:14:46 PM

Subject: Re: Destruction of Military Intelligence File on Oswald

No plans. The Army provided documentation to the HSCA showing when the file was destroyed. It was apparently done because of Congressional instructions in the early 1970's ordering the armed forces to cease and desist from domestic surveillance activities (which is how the file originated) and to destroy all existing files. While visiting IRR, the current Director there (who had no personal knowledge of the Oswald file) affirmed to me, Dave Montague and Dennis Quinn that a wholesale destruction of documents had occurred at that time for that reason. While researchers may regard this as a peculiar happenstance, I don't see that the trail leads anywhere. No one knows for certain who destroyed the record, or whether that individual even was aware of the significance of Oswald's record. (A likely scenario is that a bunch of soldiers fed hundred -- maybe thousands -- of files into an incinerator without ever bothering to look at any of them.) While it's hard to prove a negative (i.e. that Oswald's file wasn't destroyed for some sinister reason), the fact that all other files of a similar nature no longer exist and appear to have been destroyed around the same time lends credibility to the Army's explanation.

Body:

recstat: Record

DeliveryPriority: N

DeliveryReport: B

ReturnReceipt:

Categories: