

MEMORANDUM

August 9, 1996

To: David Marwell
cc: Phil Golrick

From: Joan Zimmerman

Subject: FBI-HSCA Collection

I spoke with LuAnn Wilkins this morning in order to establish the scope of the HSCA collection. What follows is information only from LuAnn.

LuAnn estimated that the HSCA collection contained approximately 250,000 pages when she began 2 years ago. She was the first person to look at the entire raw collection, and she organized the processing and structure of the entire project. LuAnn originally had 29 people working with her on the HSCA collection; she now has 31, several of whom also work on other projects. She explained that the processing takes more time than the core JFK collection because of the nature of the HSCA investigations. The sources in the collection were closely targeted by the HSCA, and they often gave very detailed information about the FBI's target. That is, they are more easily identified by the type of information they gave. There are also FCI issues involving human sources.

LuAnn said that the FBI has released 50,000 pages thus far, which is about 20% of the collection. More than 50% of the HSCA collection has been or is being processed now. Her estimate of the pace of future processing suggests that she will complete a total of about 75,000 more pages by the end of September, 1997.

In terms of content, LuAnn guessed that about one-third of the HSCA collection focused on organized crime; one-third focused on Cuban issues; and one-third was miscellaneous. When she began the processing, LuAnn used Jeremy's original list of priorities. After exhausting his list, she turned to what she considered to be releasable in large "clumps" such as the Giancana files. These were the biggest Main Files. She will be releasing another set of "clumps" soon: the Roselli files, Cuban files, and so-called La Cosa Nostra files.

LuAnn added that although the HSCA requested certain items from the FBI, the FBI sometimes did not include enclosures with the documents that mentioned enclosures. Even after the HSCA specifically asked for the enclosures, the FBI did not provide them. LuAnn has gone back through the collection and included the enclosures with the released documents. So her releases include even more than what the HSCA saw. I told her that our standard was at least what the HSCA asked to see.

LuAnn pointed out that Jim Lesar's FOIA request, which she has listed on her white sheets, contains material that can no longer be withheld. Also, the brownouts are for material that has already been released. Her green sheets at her desk are files that have no FOIA release stipulation.

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