

## **FBI team activities for week of April 10-16**

### **FBI Team Generally**

Ron should be getting his FBI badge this week. Carol told me that his paperwork is processed and that his name is in the computer. He just needs to have his picture taken and then he'll be ready to go to the FBI unescorted.

Any news on Sydney's clearance?

Also, Manuel is going to assist Kevin in his review of the Cuban files (see below). If it is okay with you, I will talk to Carol about getting an FBI badge for Manuel so that he will not have to be escorted in and out of the FBI.

### **Outstanding Requests for Additional Information**

#### **(1) Hoover and Tolson Records -- Follow Up on FBI-36**

Sydney went to the FBI FOIA reading room to review the Hoover office and phone logs that are publicly available. He reported that 95% of these materials are already open to the public and need not be included as a separate group of files in the JFK Collection. We will include a memo in the Collection that states that the logs are available at the FBI. For the few redactions that exist, Ron will determine whether we need to ask for the FBI to release the information pursuant to the JFK Act.

When Sydney first requested the logs in the reading room, the reading room people gave him another group of logs that appeared to be substantive phone messages, rather than just lists of visitors and callers. This group of logs is more heavily redacted than the other logs. I talked to Carol about these logs and she agreed to provide them to Ron for his review pursuant to our request FBI-36.

I discussed with Carol Jeremy's decision to make a thorough effort to track down Hoover's files. She told me that the FBI would help as much as possible, but unless files were integrated into the central files or specifically saved as a group, current employees of the FBI probably won't be very helpful. She asked whether Jeremy had contacted Cartha DeLoach yet and I told her that I didn't think that he had.

#### **(2) New Orleans and Dallas Administrative Files -- Follow Up on FBI-17**

I am continuing my review of the Dallas Admin. file at the FBI. It contains more assassination records (maybe 15 so far) than the New Orleans file. I should be able to complete my review today.

#### **(3) Cuban Groups -- FBI-30**

The FBI has been pulling the files for our big request for files on Cuban groups. Kevin and Manuel can start reviewing these now. Review of these files is going to be time-consuming, as the files already fill 3 vertical file drawers at the FBI and there are 2 more groups' files that the FBI has not yet pulled.

### **Potential Requests for Additional Information**

#### **(1) Contacting Assistant Directors of the FBI**

I met with Ron and Sydney on Friday, after Sydney returned from his office/phone log review at the FBI. Ron is still quite interested in tracking down former Assistant Directors of the FBI Mohr,

Sullivan, DeLoach, and Belmont (or their families/estates) to determine if they have records. We agreed that Ron will take responsibility for contacting these individuals and/or their families. He will provide me with reports on his progress.

**(2) Secret Service Leads**

I talked to Jeremy about Joan's suggestions about requests for additional information. He suggested that Joan locate documents to support the requests and then, once we have made some headway into our other outstanding requests at FBI, we can make her requests.

**Documents**

**(1) "The Experiment"**

On Thursday, you, Kevin, and I went to the FBI and worked on "the experiment," and we will, of course, present the criminal file experiment to the Board next week. I talked to Carol about the process again yesterday. She said that she was encouraged about it and thought that it would save them some time.

We are not yet ready to present the security file (Masferrer) experiment to the Board next week. Outstanding issues are: a) referrals -- when will they be handled and by whom? b) foreign government information -- can we apply the standards described in the G-3 guide to all documents in the collection? do these standards satisfy the Board? can we apply the window method as the CIA team does on CIA stations?

Kevin says: "I guess another remaining question will be whether the FBI will begin to assimilate our standards into their initial review, thereby making the negotiation stage less time consuming."

**(2) Request for Evidence Letter 32**

Kevin prepared request for evidence letter 32 with Sydney. Kevin is trying to get Sydney better acquainted with the review track process.

**(3) R-Base**

Kevin has been working with you and with Chet collecting dataa, discussing the system, meeting with Carol, Luann, Pat, Pearline and David to show them the results of your R-base conversion program.

**(4) HSCA/FBI security classified documents**

Kevin continues to work with Brian on the HSCA/FBI security classified documents and prepared more documents for Debbie's review.

**(5) Withdrawal of Documents on Appeal**

At Thom Wilborn's request, Kevin spent some time this week gathering the documents that were the subject of the FBI's withdrawal of documents on appeal. Thom wanted to review the documents.

**(6) Document Review**

As I discussed with you last week, I took the long-neglected "Joan pile" of documents from the SCIF (left over from letter 16) and assigned them to Sydney so that he could prepare them for the April 23-24 meeting. He is currently entering them on review track.

Kevin has been sifting through the documents left over from letters 1-31 that are ripe for Board review and has been reviewing them for the next meeting.

**(7) Oster**

I began my review the Oster documents and supporting records so that we can present them to the Board again at the April 23-24 meeting. I told Carol that we intended to have the Board vote on the Oster issue next week. Oster still has not called me back.

**Misc.**

**(1) Lesar FOIA Request**

On Monday, I spent the morning going through the appeal documents that are responsive to the Jim Lesar FOIA request, but that have FBI equities and need to go to the FBI. We talked to Carol about the request about 2 months ago and I had thought that Phil's highlighted copy had already been delivered to Carol, but it had not. I organized the records, figured out which ones were Phil's highlighted copies (for the FBI) and delivered those records to Carol with a cover letter confirming our agreement about expedited processing of the records.

I also created binders for some of the appeal-related records that Phil left for us in the SCIF, so that we can find them easily the next time we need them.

**(2) Hosty Interview**

I am still working on the Hosty database. Again, I hope to get it to Carol ASAP so that the FBI can clear it for release.

**(3) Deeds of Gift**

I assisted Tom with a deed of gift for David Snyder, the *New Orleans Times-Picayune* reporter who is in possession of Clay Shaw's papers.