

10/17/76

Mr. Tom Susman, Counsel  
Administrative Practise Subcommittee  
U.S.Senate  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Tom,

D.J. has been stonewalling me for about eight years and in court since May in C.A.75-1448 on records that prove Ford was a McCarthyste. The CIA is well over three months late in responding to interrogatories in this matter. The judge has one transcript for in camera inspection since May 25. I think I would be derelict if I continue to tolerate this in silence past the election.

Therefore, nobody else seeming to have any interest, with Jim Lesar's approval or his lack of disapproval I plan to hold a press conference whenever I can the week of the 26th.

I won't be able to copy all the relevant records I have. There are about 300 on Ford as McCarthy, doing the bidding, in secret, of extremists and racists. There are many on his protecting of the FBI, Hoover and the CIA. If I can get some college people to help I'll have copies of some and others available for copying.

These bear heavily on the federal misuse of FOIA for political purposes, especially spurious invocation of the exemptions.

DJ claims it has to withhold proof of Ford's McCarthyism to protect a law-school dean and the partner of Jerry Brown's father. But I have obtained these 300 pages of defamation of both without use of the Act, by no more than a phone call. It claims it must deny me another for "national security" when I have records from other sources showing the actuality is protecting the CIA and Ford from embarrassment. It is about the KGB's suspicion that Oswald was an "American 'sleeper agent'." Neither the Warren Report nor Ford in his book mention this. The exemptions were used even to withhold Helms' conning of the Commission, particularly William Coleman, over this.

This may be a bit heavy so I'd rather have no mention of it until the day before I release it. I've drafted a press release for Jim to go over Tuesday when I expect to see him. If he agrees I'll try to arrange a place for the press conference when I'm in Washington on Wednesday.

If you'd like copies of any of these records let me know and I'll arrange to make it possible after the press conference. In addition to the McCarthyite stuff it includes once-suppressed FBI records, various versions of CIA records and even some showing the genesis of the unjustifiable maskings. Masking is the newest device for negating the law and stonewalling. I recall none prior to the 1974 amendments.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

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