

1997

Rt. 12, Frederick, Md. 21701  
12/24/78

Mr. James J. Angleton  
4814 33rd Road North  
Arlington, Va.

Dear Mr. Angleton,

Yesterday's Post account of your suit for Nosenko information leads me to believe that it is one of two issues on which we probably agree. The other is the need in today's world for an efficient intelligence system.

Because I believe that my lawyer and I can be of help to you in your suit, without consulting with him I offer whatever help your lawyer believes he can use. I am confident that my counsel will feel the same way because we both believe that all possible information should be available to everyone, including those with whom we disagree, and because we both follow this practice with the records I obtain and have obtained through what is probably the largest number of FOIA cases filed by any private citizen.

My experiences, with the CIA but not limited to it, are from the outside. I can give detailed proofs and if necessary testimony to the withholding by subterfuge, to the withholding so that the same information can be leaked or first used in angled form or by those of known preconception and disposition.

For more than three years the CIA has been withholding all Nosenko information from me. My FOIA request is that old. I have repeated it and appealed. The appeal is without response. Both refusals violate the Act. If this had not been done the angled use, really misdirection of Hart's House committee testimony would not have been possible. In my view none of it was within any proper legislative mandate and all of it was dictated by the CIA, not the committee. In short I regard it as media manipulation, possible because of the committee's own irresponsibility if not bankruptcy.

If this offer has or can have any interest for you I make it without any quid pro quo, despite the fact that we sought to depose you in one of my suits. Our purpose had nothing to do with your beliefs. It was merely to ask you as an expert the kinds of questions you now have to have answered about the existence and withholding of existing information.

If your lawyer does not have extensive FOIA experience my lawyer does. He is James H. Lesar, with two offices. In his home, 484-6023; in the Christian Science Building 223-5587.

So far as I am concerned you are welcome to all our case records, to read or to copy and use. We may have copies of relevant decisions that may save your counsel much time in research if he does not have them.

Some of the CIA's affidavits in my cases, particularly with regard to Nosenko and his treatment (which is not of special interest to me) may be quite valuable to you, I believe.

I will inform Mr. Lesar of my desire to provide any assistance you or your counsel may find can be of use to you by a carbon of this letter, as I also will when I speak to him again. In addition, I will make it clear that while I still believe the testimony we desired from you should still be before that Court it is in no way a precondition and that save for what he might consider inappropriate I would like everything we have to be available to you, through him, me or both of us.

Good luck in your suit. Which I also believe you'd have been well advised to have filed in the District, where the district and appeals court have much more experience in FOIA cases and official misrepresentations in them. The appeals court in particular appears to be tiring of these misrepresentations. Sincerely, Harold Weisberg