

Mr. Lee S. Strickland
Information and Privacy Coordinator
CIA
Washington, D.C. 20505

5/15/86

Dear Mr. Strickland,

Your letter of the 13th states that on the 9th you received the FBI's referral of records it withheld from me in belated response to my FOIA request relating to Yuri Nosenko, that there are approximately 205 appeals older than mine and that it is the CIA's policy of handling appeals on a first-received, first-out basis. To anyone not familiar with the history of this matter your letter will appear to be perfectly correct and proper. While you personally may lack the knowledge, it is exactly the opposite and it reflects the anti-democratic policies of both agencies with regard to the disclosure of information that can be embarrassing to them. Moreover, you and the FBI cannot both be truthful in this matter because it informed me months ago that it had made referral to the CIA.

However, deplorable as the FBI's record is in this matter, the CIA's is even worse.

I do not recall the exact dates of my two Nosenko requests of the FBI and I am not now able to search to report this precisely, but I am clear that it notified me toward the end of 1978 that it was processing my request, to which it referred in the singular when I'd made two requests. While also claiming a first-in, first out policy and practise, the FBI disclosed nothing at all in response to this request until this year, or not for more than seven years.

On its part, the CIA made no response to my Nosenko request (perhaps requests) of it of 1975. To this day it has not responded to my appeal of its denial. This is not an oversight because there ^{came} ~~was~~ a time when the CIA's stonewalling was so total I asked for a list of the requests it acknowledged receiving and this, along with the number assigned, is included in that list.

Obviously, if you really have a policy of processing these things in order of receipt this particular matter would have been disposed of years ago. It ought also be obvious that with regard to it you are not processing the appeal in chronological order. And there is virtually no instance in which the CIA has ever made voluntary disclosure to me, virtually no instance in which I received any information without first filing suit. And then, without exception, it lied to the courts and to me.

Based on the CIA's record with me and its record of withholding from the people of this country what is well known to foreign intelligence agencies, particularly the KGB and particularly with regard to Nosenko, if I live long enough I'll get your phony claim to "national security" to keep secret from us what the KGB knows.

Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Rd.
Frederick, MD 21701

Sincerely,

