

To Quin Shea from Harold Weisberg, re enclosed appeals 10/24/79

You asked that I hold off on filing more appeals until you could come to grips with some of those I had filed. For several months I have held off.

Five or six months ago you asked that we confer about these matters. I agreed. At least twice you postponed any conferences and I have heard nothing about this since the last postponement. There have been no conferences in this time, although I had agreed.

In all this time you have done virtually nothing. You did rubber-stamp a few FBI acts. With the Dallas case index, about which I write you separately, you did not act on my appeal, you merely made an unacceptable proposal that violates our prior agreement. Of all the long overdue referrals on which I was promised action long ago you have acted on one only, where DEA records had been processed for another and later requester, not for me. There, as I have informed you, your final administrative action ignored the withholding of many pages indicated on the worksheets, which you apparently didn't even bother to look at. These were withheld without claim to any exemption of the Act.

From what the foregoing represents there appears to be no useful purpose to be accomplished by my not sending this box of appeals now. I had planned to take the time to correlate more of them but this time does not now appear to be justified. I am working on others, as I can, and as soon as I draft them I will send them.

I am not able to continue to provide the many copies of records I have been providing in an effort to save your office time. Those already copied will be provided but where the copies have not been made, except in unusual cases, I will not be providing them in the future. I regard what for me has been a great cost as wasted. My time, which now more than ever is precious to me, also has been wasted. Moreover, I still await action on 1968 appeals.

In its successful campaign to "stop" me and my writing, the word the FBI used, the Department has forced me ~~into~~ into a public role I had to accept. In fact, the courts gave me no choice.

What was required of me is reflected by the extent of the appeals and their documentation - more than two file drawers.

The time this required did "stop" the writing the Government does not like.

Three years ago, in C.A. 75-1996, I testified to some two dozen requests going back to 1968 that had not been complied with and on which ~~which~~ appeals were ignored.

Almost without exception there still is no compliance and the appeals still have not been acted on. Even though the judge asked the Government to inform her of ~~progress~~ progress on compliance.

When your office said it could not obtain copies of these requests I provided a list of them. This also led to nothing. Literally nothing, after years.

The few instances of compliance were of political use to the Department or where later requests of others were being complied with. However, I have not been provided with copies of records that were provided to a later requester even after I produced the proof in court.

The record belies the Department's representation to many courts and the Congress, that it processes requests in order of their receipt.

The record of your not acting on appeals, going back more than a decade, makes the appeals machinery part of the Department's campaign against the Act and of non-compliance where it fears embarrassment or has other purposes, like "stopping" me.

Your refusal to act on my appeal from the denials under my ^{9/}1975 request for copies of records relating to me abets the campaign against me and to undermine my work, which the Department cannot fault on fact.

You may believe that you perceive realities that outweigh what the law requires. I do not believe that anything outweighs what the law requires.

I do not know what the future will bring or where for me it ends but I see in all of this wasting of me and of the Act a by-product that can have its own historical importance. It adds dimension and perspective to my work. And everyone involved has to live with it. And his record in it.

Garold Long