

Epstein

Rt. 12, Frederick, Md. 21701
4/19/78

Dear Quin,

Thanks you for your 4/13/ 78 relating to my request having to do with Yuri Nosenko, the information provided, apparently exclusively, to Edward Jay Epstein and for your request for sympathetic consideration to the request for expedited processing.

You sent a copy to Jim Lesar. I'm sending him a copy of this and of the other enclosed letters.

There is another factor of which I believe that all parties should be aware.

All of this is, I believe, quite relevant in the return of my C.A.75-1448 to the district court in its No. 77-1831.

Epstein also represented having obtained records from the Archives and most of all from the CIA. I addressed requests to them also. I have received nothing from them, either. With both I have prior requests that were not complied with.

I believe the same is true of State.

All my requests were early enough for them to have produced responses that Jim could have considered using in C.A.75-1448. My first request of CIA was in February, of the FBI 3/9/78, for example.

Archives did not respond until after we had filed what was necessary in C.A. 75-1448, where I understand the question ~~was~~ to be of new evidence, new to the case and to me. And they and GSA are the defendants.

You are part of a large bureaucracy in which there often is less internal communication than could be helpful to the Government and your own responsibilities in the organization of the Department are limited.

So I presume that you have no personal knowledge of the fact that when ~~we~~ we were foreclosed without completion of discovery and we obtained new evidence we regarded as relevant and sought to provide it to the appeals court the Department's opposition and its efforts to prevent judicial consideration of what had been withheld from me were rather sharp.

Whatever the end may be and however any court may hold in the future I believe that this looks very bad and that someone in a position of authority should be in a position to be fully and impartially informed and to be able to make an independent assessment of just how it looks and what it means about attitudes toward FOIA and compliance with its letter and its spirit.

There is also the question of the subject matter and how that now looks, more so with the Shenchenko defection, the suspicions that he may have been the FBI's "Fedora" and published reports of an FBI connection of Shevchenko.

In turn this raises all sorts of other substantial questions about the honesty of such claims as to "national security" and to the right to withhold "confidential" sources as such claims are made by the FBI and CIA in particular.

Obviously questions of discrimination against me because my work lacks official approval can't now be avoided. Nobody has denied providing information to Epstein that was denied to me and remains denied to me.

In this I merely seek to inform you in the event you may have need of the information.

Sincerely,