

JL, re 0322, Marina Surveillance records

HW 3/19/81

Yesterday I received 141 pp, as reported in the enclosed FBI letter and my response, copy to Shea. You'll see the unjustified and unnecessary b2 and 7D claims to withhold the phony "informant" designation of the authorized tapping and the unauthorized bugging. The bug appears to have been a miniature radio transmitter than picked up interference. There is also an unjustified b1 claim and rather than withholding all FBI names, here they have given me even the signatures. As the enclosed sample, for another purpose, shows. I am sure that as soon as you inform Metcalfe they'll again withhold the SA names. Of course there is no apparent purpose in the withholding of the file identification, often extending to even the serial numbers. Certainly no need, no secrecy problem. The b1 claim can't be applicable to this because there was no national security involved. (Maybe you'd like to josh Metcalfe about those other non-conspirators?)

With these kinds of withholdings the FBI is going out of its way to create and perpetuate problems. Same on some of the privacy. I've put some of what they now withhold in court records, after their earlier disclosure, in more detail than is possible in the space represented by the blackouts. What they withhold now certainly is privacy stuff, the reason I used it in other cases. But because it is already disclosed the new disclosure would not be a privacy violation and would be a cause for confusion in the future.

What I got includes no summaries. I suppose they'll come later. 141 pages is hardly a week's work, with so little in them and so little to be considered for withholding. It is not even a day's work for one, rather than a week's work for two.

The two typed pages, from different sections, may interest Buf and Hank. Marina's desire to let Ruth Paine "go to the devil" is provocative. I know of no disclosed information reflecting any basis for this.

I'm about to leave and take the mail out so I will be sending you in the next mailing a copy of an FD 297 form, the form for the surveillance logs. That one has one particular call marked as I received it, a male called and one word, "Hotties." Provocative. Please also note that it was declassified 12/18/80 but not mailed until 3/12/81, or what I said and Metcalfe denied about when what could be sent. Others are declassified 10 days earlier.

On other such pages the entry after Log, not filled in in this case, is withheld as both b2 and 7C.

Please call these matters to Metcalfe's attention so they can be corrected. Also, he should know that the fact of all three surveillances is disclosed in the past. The bugging was not authorized and the tapping was not national security. Hoover wanted to do it so he persuaded the Commission that it should be done and then told the AG that the Commission asked for it. It was all so entirely unproductive that it was soon abandoned.