

97 Beaumont Street  
Newtonville, Mass.  
July 31, 1967

Miss Jane Wainwright  
WGBH - TV  
125 Western Ave.  
Allston, Mass.

Dear Miss Wainwright:

As a result of a prior phone conversation between us, I came to WGBH's studio last Tuesday, July 26, to listen to the tape of the July 12, 1967, "Brattle Street Forum" program, the subject of which was the CIA. Guest-participants on this program were Mr. Lyman Kirkpatrick, identified as a former executive director of CIA and present faculty member at Brown University; Mr. Franklin Lindsay, president of Itek Corporation; and a third gentleman. The program was moderated by Mr. Sam Beer, professor of government at Harvard. All three guests took a generally favorable view of CIA activities, and the moderator himself seemed not unsympathetic.

While I was there, you informed me that Mr. Lindsay himself had been connected with the CIA, and that this fact had been stated in a written biography of his activities furnished to WGBH by Mr. Lindsay's office. When I expressed interest in seeing this paper, you said it was given to Mr. Beer. Since you indicated he was out of town last week, you suggested I contact him this week if I was interested further.

I have just finished a brief phone conversation with Mr. Beer. It was not a rewarding experience. He immediately informed me you had mentioned our meeting at WGBH to him, and from the outset he was hostile and uncooperative. He demanded to know my "ulterior" purpose, and when I informed him I wished to have confirmation regarding Mr. Lindsay's biography, and specifically of the information pertaining to his association with the CIA, he angrily suggested I call Mr. Lindsay. He also informed me, heatedly and gratuitously, that he had had long experience in the federal government, and as a police reporter, and therefore was well qualified to tell when somebody wasn't "levelling" with him. He then ended the conversation, still in a state of righteous indignation, by saying he would answer no questions, that if I wanted to communicate with him further I would have to write him a letter; and then hung up.

The gentleman protests too much. I had made it plain to him I was not asking for his opinion, but merely for further clarification of the contents of a biography on Mr. Lindsay furnished to WGBH, a biography which you told me was in Mr. Beer's possession.

By any reasonable standard, and especially considering the non-commercial educational nature of WGBH, this was a reasonable and legitimate request. Nor do I feel that the furnishing of clarification in this matter by WGBH should be contingent upon my willingness to be subjected to cross examination as to my purpose, either by Mr. Beer or anyone else (As you know, I did voluntarily explain to you the reason for my interest) that that




Therefore, the situation appears to me as follows:

1. WGBH is a non-commercial educational television station.
2. As producer of WGBH's "Brattle Street Forum", you informed me that a recent guest-participant, Mr. Frank Lindsay, had been associated with the CIA, and that this information had been contained in a biography furnished by his office.
3. You informed me this biography was in the possession of Mr. Sam Beer, the program moderator.
4. Mr. Beer has refused to divulge or clarify this information.
5. Since it was furnished to him in connection with his function as moderator of a public service program, such refusal appears improper and not in the public interest.

(of course, Mr. Beer's attitude clearly indicates he feels his position as moderator entitles him not only to pass judgment on what information may be in the public interest, but also who may or may not receive that information, and to what uses it may or may not be put)

In view of Mr. Beer's non-cooperation and rudeness, I feel any further attempt by me to communicate with him would be a waste of time. Therefore, I would very much appreciate it if you would inform me of the precise nature of the reference to Mr. Lindsay's association with the CIA contained in the biography you referred to.

Sincerely,

  
Raymond Marcus