

Mr Hinkle

Rt. 12, Frederick, Md. 21701
7/26/77

Ms. M.K. Ward FOIA Mgr.
Air Force HQ
Washington, D.C. 20330

DADF

Dear Ms. Ward,

Your letter of July 22 is the most recent Catch-22.

You tell me of the diligence with which the AF pursues FOIA/PA requests and then tell me how it makes the whole thing impossible.

It simply is not possible for anyone to write all the places in which the AF has FOIA officers. Or files.

I asked for readily-identifiable records. I do not believe the Act or any interpretation of it requires me to write each and every base that may have been involved in an investigation. I recall some from as far away as Texas in the files I saw. As I told you those were to have been given to me under discovery in litigation but were not.

I really do believe that if you people would pay a little more attention to the leads I have given you there would be less waste of time and more compliance.

These records were at one time all collected for purposes of litigation. Mr. Hinkle's office recently forwarded a few pages that do establish this and where they went. They went exactly where I reported they went, having seen them there, the U.S. Attorney in Baltimore. Whether or not they were returned to AF I can not say. However, they remained AF records, whether or not returned. If not returned they may be at the Archives records center southeast of Washington. I have heard that when that new federal building was opened in Baltimore many records were transferred there.

If not to you in a letter that crossed this one then to someone else in the AF I recently sent some file numbers I was able to locate in some old records of mine. These should help.

I do believe the best way to locate these records is to trace them in the litigation for which they were collected.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg