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7/25/71

Mr. Charles W. Hinkle, Director, FOIA/Sec. Rev
Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense
DoD
Washington, D.C. 20301

FPA 460

Dear Mr. Hinkle.

Thank you very much for your letter of July 20 and the attachments.

Little by little all those who denied having any files are finding a few. I regret that when as with what you enclose they provide leads on other files those leads are not being followed.

These records include the names of those I have in the past stated had files or knowledge of where relevant files were.

Some of these records confirm some of my own I have obtained recently. For example, Mr. Walter Herbert Morse on 5/9/73 had a clear recollection of turning all his records over to AGC (Logistics). He thought relevant records were in two other files "FAA" and Sonic Boom Claims." Now from the same people who long insisted they had no single record among these are Mr. Morse 11/29/63 turning over "all correspondence and memos." This is further confirmed by Mr. Steven Berson. Then there is the 12/29/72 letter from Mr. David Briggs stating all records have been forwarded to the office of the U.S. Attorney in Baltimore. This is precisely what I have said all along. But these records have not been provided. They should have been returned. This batch also reflects that as I said I was to have obtained these records under discovery. You will also find that copies were not given to me under discovery because you will find no record of it, no receipt.

If I have not said it before - and I want to be specific when I have also been critical - I think that what the Secretary did in those years to try to help us and what Mr. Morse as his representative did were fine.

In the discovery motion I have found the file number JAGD 62 - 10189. Can this help?

The few records you have just provided also supply names and other offices to be checked.

Mr. Morse's files were of about three large volumes. I never saw them on discovery. What I did see was 8-9" thick. If there had been normal practice with discovery I would have been given copies and response would have been full. Neither happened, which leads to the present situation and the work entailed.

These records refer to some of mine never returned, like the pictures.

It should be becoming apparent to someone on your staff that in bits and pieces what I have reported is being confirmed. I hope this will be recalled in connection with the other matters. Only some I enclose a few copies for your information because you are in your DoD role.

As I think I have told you Civil, Justice, has not responded to my request after an extraordinary length of time. There was partial response to a duplicating and more recent request by my wife. The records you have just provided trace DoD records within my request to Justice, Baltimore. They are DoD records and I do hope you will pursue them for me. By now they may be in the Archives building southeast of Washington.

I do thank you for persisting. I hope you will continue to do so. If you do pretty much of them may be recovered. Once you get to those records reflecting a determination to stonewall and to deceive higher authority as well as wrongful policy determinations at higher levels perhaps there may be a reward for DoD, which I do not believe really wants people treated as we were and as large sums of money were wasted to accomplish.

Our thank, Harold Weisberg