

Mr. Daniel T. Goggin, Director
General Archives Division
National Archives
Washington, D.C. 20409

Rt. 12, Frederick, Md. 21701
1/25/77

Dear Mr. Goggin,

Once again my sincere thanks to you and to Mr. Lewis for your letter of the 19th, which did not come until today, and for Mr. Lewis' helpful phone call.

To save you making a copy, I'll enclose a carbon for your Legislative, Judicial and Fiscal Branch, to which you sent a copy of my 12/23/76 letter.

You need not agree but I hope you can understand that in an evaluation of my more recent work the files represented by these cards ought to be available to others in the future. I do intend depositing all of what I receive with that archive.

These cards represent two court cases without indicating the judicial determination of fact and the same thing about an administrative proceeding. The latter is 146-200-2. And what is particularly fascinating about this is that the files provided by the State Department, supposedly all they have, does not even include these few words, "dismissed... an McGarran rider..."

I can see how you would regard the obliterated names as necessary to preserve privacy, for which I have a deep concern. However, all 10 names were made public by the government and there is no question of privacy. Moreover, this space blanked cannot hold all 10 names, or rather than nine others. I knew them. This space and this formulation would seem to limit to the Division of which I was part. It is probably the names of Alexander Lesser and Irving Goldman that are masked if I guess correctly, although there is an alternative, their last names and that of another person who was not of that division and was fired in a case of mistaken identity. The first letters of that name are Ren.....

While I do not know what some of the abbreviations represent "crim. int. sec." do suggest a Criminal Division interest and an "internal security." So the restriction to fewer than all names assumed added significance. More because I have had no response from Justice at all.

The same is true of 55-16-25. Nothing from Justice and the card does not indicate that I was guiltless and held guiltless while Mayke received a two-year sentence as I recall on forging and false pretense. They appear to have let him off on an overt perjury.

These two cases were a special kind of apprenticeship for my later work.

There are three cards referring to my farming days and their ending by military aviation. I regard it as remarkable that there is no reference to any judicial decision or, in fact, to the establishing of a new precedent in law. Even more to the absence of the deliberations of the Congress or the finding of the Supreme Court of the United States when this case was cited as precedent. Please understand I am not attributing any of this to you or your people. Please also understand that to me to whom all of this is personal there is an Orwellian quality.

When it comes to my writings and other work on the political assassination I have no difficulty telling you straight out that Big Brother has decided what could reach you. That this was of interest to the DJ Office of Legal Counsel is new to me. If you could explain the coding to me I'd appreciate it, including how I managed to get classified "Crim Gen Crim."

My Lewis did tell me to whom to write in St. Louis. I have not had time. The minor fraction of the Washington records I have seen are venomous. I am not prepared to waive my rights. However, if you will have all the records sent to you I am prepared to go over them and may very well waive rights to some. I say this because while it was not my intent to become a controversial personality the Congress has expressed an interest, I have done the work I have done and I believe that the machinery of government might work a bit better if dependable information is available.

Sincerely, Harold Weisberg