

Dear Jim,

1/24/78

You phoned just as I had finished typing the enclosed letter to you.

As of then I'd not gone through all the mail. Rather late on the day for that but we'd been out for the first time in a week. Not until late yesterday afternoon was I able to get the driveway opened. I still got stuck twice getting out. With the help of friends we finally made it. But the mail was late and had not come. I did not get it until we were back from shopping. This is why I was not able to tell you about the enclosed copy of a story from a Memphis paper. It was sent to me by a fellow writer. He underscored the appearance of my name twice in that account of Hoover's and the FBI's comments on and attitude toward the so-called critics of the Warren Report.

While this account is anything but specific, it does tend to confirm what I told you after a reporter told me that the released files contain some nasty stuff relating to me. In time we'll know the nature of the records.

I am writing you immediately on the chance someone does come and this can get into town and mailed. I'll not make an extra trip to mail it. I do expect someone unless he is delayed. A reporter, it happens.

My purpose is to amplify what I included in my appeal to Shea. The FBI had failed, I think under the circumstances refused to comply with my old PA request and had failed to respond when I wrote that by not giving me the still withheld records it was negating the Privacy Act and denying me my rights under that Act. This is why I asked you to write prior to this release because I was certain they would use it to defame us all. In my case at least I had given it proof of the - what shall I call it? - inaccuracy of what I had received. I did write immediately, at length, and by including my own records, which happened to include some of theirs that they had not provided. Under those circumstances I believed that whether or not the nasty stuff they would put out was by itself libelous there was such an intent. Otherwise why not respond for so many months? Why no action on my appeals?

Lil overheard some of our conversation. She appears not to have established a file on her requests but she did find a couple of items and showed them to me. I suppose we have forgotten with the passing of time but that we have these all in one file because I made the first requests. These are immediately available to me without any file searching so Lil is making copies of them that I'll include to Lynne so she'll not just have to take my work on fact or on time. And that her own Division is involved in non-compliance.

Our files on these things may not be organized because beginning before I was hospitalized; going back to about 5/75 when I had pneumonia, keeping up with filing became increasingly impossible. However, I am without doubt that we do have complete records, with the copies we received in the packages in which they were sent.

Best,

cc:Lynne Zusman