

4/15/71

Dear Senator Muskie,

Enclosed is a copy of my today's letter to Press Secretary Ziegler.

I have reason to believe and believe I can prove that this espionage against me continues, that there was a case within the past month (in that case for the CIA, not the FBI). The explanation may be in the subject and nature of my writing, which is a thorough exposure of the FBI. I enclose two current reviews that may suggest this to you also.

This kind of wrongdoing extends into other areas. There is a systematic campaign to deny citizens' rights under the Freedom of Information Act. The record with which I can supply you, on Kleindienst and Mitchell, should be close to unparalleled, begins with written and repeated lies by them and extending to perjury by subordinates and others, is one of undeviating falsehood.

It includes what we would once have regarded as the incredible, the actual confiscation of court records of the public trial of an American and the subsequent insistence that the government did not have them. Ultimately, when a hearing in my suit could no longer be delayed, I was finally given access to the records, but to this day, the copies were not completely delivered to me.

Do I have to tell you what kind of burden it is for a writer to have to sue for public information, to be confronted with nothing but unending official lies, and all this while he is the subject of official surveillance?

Or the depressing effect on that most basic freedom, freedom of information for all citizens and the freedom of a writer to write?

If you succeed in getting the board you propose established, you will also need a few rare experts, those who have penetrated and understood official semantics.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg