

Mr. Thomas Kelley, Assistant Director  
U.S. Secret Service  
Washington, D.C. 20223

Rt 12, Frederick, Md. 21701

8/19/76

Dear Mr. Kelley,

This is pursuant to my letters of August 2 and December 18, 1975 and the FOIA/PA requests contained in them.

In between those two letters I was hospitalized with what turned out to have been a severe phlebitis from which there had already been permanent damage. This has imposed some limitations and restrictions on me. One related to filing, which was and sometimes remains difficult and awkward. I have the impression you responded to my 12/18/75 letter by saying there are no such files. If you did I would appreciate a copy for my files.

There are files on me to my knowledge, and not only in Protective Research. I am not suggesting impropriety in them. I am saying that I do want them, all of them and that I would like you to forward this to the proper Treasury official. I mean the FOIA/PA request to include any and all files on or about or pertaining to me, whatever their origin.

If not prior to then there are files on me going back to the World War II period. I was in prior contact with the Treasury and the Secret Service. During the war period some of my work led to official Treasury actions. If my recollection is not faulty there was a case in which part of the action included collecting a \$160,000 fine.

I have been interviewed by Secret Service Agents in their official capacities on more than one occasion and for more than one purpose. You have had others put me under surveillance for what your part considered to be legitimate reasons that in fact/were spurious. I have seen other files on this. It is real and if I do not it is not because I cannot provide more specifics.

Do I have to tell you that I could not have been the subject of proper security checks without consultation with the Secret Service? I do have records on this and there was more than the involvement of this nature I wrote you about.

I am aware of the possibility of embarrassment in this but the law precludes this as an exemption from compliance. That false report mentioned about is one about which I was not consulted, unfortunately. How anyone in his right mind could have credited it I do not know. It may, in fact, have contributed to it if it did not cause the phlebitis as I'll explain if you want me to.

As I told you I would I have turned this entire matter, involving all agencies, over to counsel. I hope you will re-read my 12/18/75 letter. Because I have not been provided with the regulations under the amended law and the Privacy Act I also ask that you forward this request to that or those Departmental officers.

I find no response to my request repeated August 2, 1975 after receiving your letter of three days earlier. If you do not now comply with that request I ask that you please forward a copy of this as my appeal from a refusal of the request under FOIA.

Sincerely,

Harold Weibberg

Rt. 8, Frederick, Md. 21701  
7/22/76

Mr. Thomas Kelley, Asst. Director  
U.S. Secret Service  
1800 G St., NW  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Tom,

April 15 the Archives finally gave me the Memo of Transfer rather than go to court. They claim not to have some of the documents referred to in it. You will recall that some time ago the Secret Service did give me most of them.

From the Memo it appears that the documents I do not have are the last two on the first page, an exchange between Fox, Bouck and Madonia of November 29, 1963; and the December 5, 1963 Bouck letter to Stover.

You will recall, I believe, that in my work I have had considerable interest in the film and all the surrounding details; and that for some years I have had an account of its custody and processing. I would like my records to be complete. So, I herewith request copies of these and any other relevant documents the Secret Service may not have given me in the past.

In my understanding of the FOIA the Secret Service is the agency of paramount interest under this law. So, I am also asking that you please send me these documents directly. If the Secret Service elects to deposit copies elsewhere that, of course, is its business. However, three other agencies have been providing what is requested under the Act directly and I know of no legal prohibition against this. I believe that under this law I do have the right to ask these documents of the Secret Service directly. If I have my own reasons for asking this, I also believe that if you think about this in the light of developments of recent years you may also see that this is a proper and perhaps preferable procedure for the Secret Service.

With this Memo there was an exchange of letters signed by Admiral Buckley and the late Robert Kennedy. The copy of the Robert Kennedy letter provided me was of a carbon partly masked at the top. It also is an unclear copy. Under the law certain internal communications are exempt from compulsory disclosure. At the time Robert Kennedy was a Senator, not in an executive agency. The law applies to executive agencies only. My interest is in knowing who prepared that letter for signature. My belief is that this is what was masked. I would appreciate a copy of this letter that is not masked unless it does have genuine internal communication on it.

We have discussed aspects of these documents in the past. If you could find a mutually satisfactory time for a little more discussion of them I would appreciate it. Getting to your office early in the morning presents no problem to me.

If you can find this time you may also want to reserve a few minutes more because in the course of other work on another subject I have developed some information and beliefs that may be of interest to the Secret Service.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg