

5/19/70

Dear Ed,

Thanks for the note and the Skolnick-Chapman clip.

As a matter of fact, the crap Skolnick pulled probably is not viable and does not provide the basis for a suit, certainly not under the cited law and against the Archives alone, for it is merely custodian of a record in which another agency is that of "paramount interest". It is not on its own withholding anything on Valle, there is no Secret Service material on him in the Archives, and the one page that I know is withheld is FBI and they have ordered it withheld. This matter is of such a nature that page could very likely be held back properly, which is why I didn't push it when I got all the other stuff Skolnick stole.

I do not have Huie's book and will have to wait until it is in paper because I cannot afford it. My presumption, whether from Huie or elsewhere, that the French Quarter may hold the key, is probably right. It is my own feeling.

I have had all those Chapman pictures and more for years. He did some of this originally for me but could not produce the right to use the pictures or there would have been a responsible magazine story. What he uses is crap. And they are not hitherto unpublished pictures. Chapman is a Kluxer, which has nothing to do either way with his work.

But I do have good news for you. I won our first Freedom of Information Act suit, on the suppressed Ray material. The government is letting me have it rather than go to court, once I filed an action in court. I have seen what I asked for and they are supposed to be making me copies.

Sincerely,

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Flushing, N. Y. 11355

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Frederick,
Maryland

Dear Harold:

Regarding your recent letter I would think it advisable to forget about The Skolnick Suit.

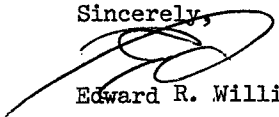
Of course, it contains no legal foundation and will be summarily dismissed but there is no legal impediment to the filing of such a suit.

The Huie Book, He Slew The Dreamer, presents "the no conspiracy" thesis very unconvincingly.

Again, the most unresolved and perhaps most significant period was Ray's activity in the French Quarter of New Orleans.

I enclose an article by Al Chapman, an "investigator" who specializes in spawning curious "evidence".

Sincerely,



Edward R. Williams