

Dear Jim,

Domestic Intelligence/Suit

HW 2/28/75

As the campaign to blame all anti-democratic ^{excesses} on Hoover continues we should be alert to what can't be reported. They are dumping out more details than the best reporter can include in even long stories.

I was able to get today's NYTimes. Neither it nor the Post carry these grafts from the AP B wire story in the local paper. It is not impossible that the A wire carried more or that UPI and other papers also did:

"Levi said the FBI now has 6 1/2 million files, including 1,605 involving Congressmen."

"And they said the FBI's counterintelligence unit did release derogatory information to the press on what it considered extremists in order to discredit them."

(Here I digress to note the remarkable parallel with what I wrote Mitchell about, reports that the FBI was doing precisely this about me. And what you don't know, that in 12/66, about the 15th, there was such an effort when I was in San Francisco and on the Harv Morgan show on KCBS. A man who clearly was too young to have personal knowledge was trying to redbait me over a distorted story he further distorted. In that same period I'd be away and nobody around here would know it and Lil would get calls asking her if she did not fear for my life when I was away, maybe for hers, I'm not sure now.)

"Levi testified that the FBI used to conduct an inquiry 'for what might be described as positional purposes' and in some instances provided information which was given to federal agencies to use in discrediting critics."

"Positional" here and "political" elsewhere in this testimony are words that have multiple meanings. Political does not refer to Members of Congress only.

This testimony was before a House Judiciary subcommittee. I think it would be good to have a copy before it is printed if we can.

There is more leaking if it is not in the papers and you missed the evening TV news. The CIA did engage in political assassinations abroad. It is now leaked to justify Ford's effort to clamp down on exposures.

The fact is not new. The leak and misuse only are.

The number of files is not much more than 10% of the number of cross-references given in other stories.

And this is all non-criminal.