

HAROLD WEISBERG

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Dr. Henry Graff
Assassination Records Review Board
The National Archives
Washington, DC

Dear Dr. Graff,

A Gannett news story of a month ago I've just received prompts this letter. Please excuse my typing. It cannot be any better.

You are quoted as telling ^{me} those present at your hearing, "We are all on the same side. The bias of this board is in favor of disclosure." That of course is not only the proper position, it is a welcome one to me. *It has not been my experience with FOIA.*

More than three weeks ago I sent the enclosed letter to the CIA director. I have had no response. But for the CIA that is not unusual. I hope you will have time to read it and perhaps do something about what I say in it. I do have what I tell Woolsey I have and on several of these matters Jim Lesar, who ^{appeared} before you, can confirm. He handled almost all of my many FOIA cases.

In them I did get about a third of a million pages. As a matter of principle I make them all and the use of our copier available to all writing in the field. Even though I know all or almost all will write what I do not agree with. Use of FOIA, I believe, makes its users surrogate for the people.

It is not possible for me to travel so I've not been able to examine the records the CIA has disclosed about me. I'm hoping that a friend will make an effort to get them for me today. And that if any are not fully accurate I will be permitted under the Privacy Act as I understand it to file a statement that will be made available along with them.

There is little doubt that it interfered with my publishing and that, I believe, is as anti-American as an agency can get. Neither it nor the FBI has ever disclosed that my mail is included in what, as the Church committee exposed, ~~what~~ the FBI intercepted for the CIA.

I am particularly anxious to see those two Office of Security files the existence of which was disclosed to me, perhaps inadvertently. That it had such files leads to the belief that it monitored those of us known collectively as critics.

I have preserved all the records I obtained by FOIA as I received them for the record for our history. They and all my work will be a public archive at local Hood College. We've also deeded our property to it.

I'm 81 and in poor health. I'd like to be able to file corrections of anything that requires correct^{ING} so that disclosure cannot be used as a means of defaming me in perpetuity and to undermine the credibility of my work. I've published eight books without a letter or a call from anyone mentioned in any of them complaining I treated him unfairly or inaccurately. And there are no theories in any of these books.

Sincerely, Harold Weisberg

Harold Weisberg