



U.S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

FOI/PA Officer
Department of Health and Human Services
Room 410-B, Humphrey Building
To: 200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

BY COURIER

SEP 16 1988

EPA/ Chief
Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOI/PA) Section
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: FOI/PA REQUEST OF Harold Weisberg
FBI FOI/PA # 280,521 RE: CLICK Magazine

In connection with review of FBI files responsive to the above request, the following was surfaced:

- 1 unclassified document(s) which originated with your agency which is/are being referred to you for direct response to the requester. We will advise the requester that your agency will correspond directly concerning this matter, and request that you furnish us a copy of your letter to the requester reflecting final determination regarding the document(s). (See index A).
- _____ FBI document(s) containing information furnished by your agency. Please review your information (outlined in red) and return the document(s) to us, making any deletions you deem appropriate, and citing the exemption(s) claimed. (See index B).
- 1 classified document(s) which originated with your agency which is/are being referred to you for direct response to the requester. We will advise the requester that your agency will correspond directly concerning this matter, and request that you furnish us a copy of your letter to the requester reflecting final determination regarding the document(s). Additionally, please advise us if the classification of the document(s) is changed so that we may amend our files. (See index C).
- 3 classified FBI document(s) containing information furnished by your agency. Please review your information (outlined in red) and return the document(s) to us, making any deletions you deem appropriate, citing the exemption(s) claimed, and advising if the document(s) still warrant(s) classification. (See index D).
- See Continuation Page for additional information.
- A copy of the requester's initial letter, and any other significant correspondence is enclosed for your convenience.

If you have any questions concerning this referral, please contact Peggy Girard
on 324- 5771. *The FBI file number appearing on the lower right-hand corner of the enclosed document(s) as well as on the Index Listing (see reverse) should be utilized during any consultation with this Bureau concerning this referral.
Enclosure(s) (6): X classified material attached.

SECRET MATERIAL ATTACHED

(Index Listing on Reverse)

Mr. Emil Moschella, chief
FOIPA Section
FBIHQ
Washington, D.C. 20535

1/17/87

Re improperly numbered No. 277,836

Dear Mr. Moschella,

I do appreciate and thank you for your letter of the 16th and the enclosed copy of the reprint of my Rohm & Haas article in the June, 1941 issue of CLICK. *Subject*

Your second paragraph is a bobtailed account of FBI response to my PA request, of which you do not give the date. It was of more than a decade ago in its first form and was repeated several times. I do not recall that the telegram to the Director by Jim Lesar on my behalf was included in what was finally disclosed. You also do not state that when I received what the FBI did disclose I wrote both it and the Department providing exactly the information I gave you but without any response. This is to say that you, meaning not you personally, could have provided this a decade ago. If I were to hazard a guess it would be that other than the usual stonewalling one explanation would be that this is a fairly definitive refutation of all the poisonous misinformation, ranging from mere distortion and prejudicial angling to outright fabrication about me that the FBI did disclose, a matter to which I return below. I did this and the other work referred to in the editor's letter to the Director during what then was known as the shibboleth period of the Nazi-Soviet pact. It began much earlier than the February, 1941 reference in the article, the year before. This device was used by the magazine to hide the fact that after an earlier of my anti-Nazi exposes an employee wrote the magazine to tell me if you think they are Nazis, you ought to work here. There was an earlier article, on the Bata Shoe Co., and later ones in the series. If you have them or anything about them I would very much appreciate copies and they are within my earlier request and the appeals to which neither the FBI nor the Department ever responded. They are all anti-Nazi cartel exposes and in several instances, including this one, were followed by vesting of those corporations. (I do not allege a cause-effect relationship because I do not know whether or not that is justified.)

I am glad to get this and would like anything else that may exist because all of my records of that period were mislaid by my family while I was in the army. There was a reprinting of selections from the many letters the magazine received the next month and I would very much like them if the FBI has that issue or part of it. It did include something from Mr. Hoover's letter. It also included a photograph of me going into the office of the Department's then anti-trust chief, the late Thurman Arnold. I note that ~~the~~ special agent, later assistant director, R.E. Long, was involved in this correspondence. If he is still there he may remember me from some of the nasty stuff in one of his ticklers ultimately disclosed to me. The suggestion he included in Mr. Hoover's letter, that I give the government anything else of this nature I'd get, was followed. I don't recall the details but it led to my working with the anti-trust division. It also found no records. Quin Shea did lend me Joe Borokin's book on I.G. Farben in the belief that some of it wound up there. It did.

It is my understanding that the Privacy Act gives me the right to ~~request the right~~ to request the filing of what contradicts unfavorable information and that it thereafter be disclosed when there is any disclosure of what is unfavorable. I therefore ask that this letter and all of this CLICK material be included in all such files from which the FBI might disclose anything about me and I would appreciate a letter from you indicating that this has been done.

My recollection is not clear and as you may recall I am not in a position to do

*Dinard E2
Rm 6780
PV 1-21-87*

N W

*1-23-87
New Request: Subject - "Click" magazine
reg: Weisberg
JWS*

much searching but I believe that there were more than this single CLICK file and more than one in the 94 classification. The FBI has steadfastly refused to search and disclose anything in the 94 files in all my requests and litigation, even when I provided the correct file numbers. Those bearing numbers like what you provide seem to relate to writers by name. I would appreciate knowing that so I can add it to this material. I also would like to know the title of this file.

I do not recall whether I earlier indicated to you the reason I seek this and related information so I'll provide this explanation now. A fair amount of pretty nasty misinformation about me was not only disclosed, it was called to the attention of reporters who phoned me about it. It is now in the public domain and is readily available through the FBI's reading room. I want to not only be able to file corrections under PA, I want to leave them with all of my records for archival deposit. I do not want myself or my work to be judged in the future by the FBI's misrepresentations alone. So you, without personal knowledge, can understand this and its consequences, I illustrate with what happened when the LBJ White House inquired about books critical of the official JFK assassination investigation and their authors. Among the dirty stuff the FBI provided about me is the fabrication that my wife and I annually celebrated the Russian revolution with a gathering for about 35 strangers at our home. The only time we ever had any number of people and any strangers was when the Jewish Welfare Board brought Washington area service personnel not to our home but to our farm, so the kids could gather eggs, see them hatch, play with the baby chicks and other stock and even ride on the backs of tame animals. This is quite the opposite of the nasty fabrication, to which the FBI later gave wider distribution, including to those who defended my FOIA litigation. What we then did was so attractive that the University of Maryland adopted it and called their version Old McDonald's Farm or something like that. Some subversion, huh?

Two other such matters about which I wrote both the FBI and the Department are prejudicial and, as stated in records the FBI disclosed to me, are not true. The underlying records were identified in what was disclosed and I provided their identification in my letters, which are still without any response. One is that I had a personal relationship with a Soviet national (the FBI's formulation, not mine) inside that embassy and the other is that someone from there visited me. I can, I think, make reasonably good guesses with regard to both. When I was CLICK's correspondent I was there on a number of occasions and once the press officer suggested that we have lunch together. We did, around the corner, and I paid for my own meal. (Everyone in the press knew that the FBI was photographing those who entered and left from across the street, so you should have some pictures of me that you have not disclosed and for which you've not claimed any exemption.) The other all started with Richard Nixon and his so-called kitchen debate with Khrushchev, when they talked about peaceful competition. The USIA asked me to challenge the USSR to peaceful competition in poultry, and I did, and the USIA broadcast it, and then I heard from the State Department, with an official request that I do this and if possible assist them. (I had by then won first prize for the country in raising chickens.) I was arranging for the agricultural attache to inspect a small-town feed mill, there was some phone communication about this, but nothing ever came of it and I never even met the one to whom I'd spoken. I can see how a tap on their phones, which everyone knew existed, might have led an imaginative SA to embellish on the actuality. The FBI has disclosed the untruth and I still would like to receive the underlying records, whatever they may reflect about the nature of the disclosed paraphrases, which are very short.

I remember another matter in the appeals correspondence to which the FBI has never responded and it certainly exists. I was one of ten employees fired by the State Department in what amounted to a pogrom. It was under the unconstitutional McCarran Rider, no hearing, no charges, and then withdrawn and apologized for. One of the things that led to this change was an article in the New York Harald-Tribune by its Washington correspondent, Bert Andrews. (Other papers that published it include the Washington Post.) He interviewed Mr. Hoover, who had not a bad word to say about

any of us. I know that when the action was withdrawn and apologized for the Post did carry that and I believe that the FBI has this also. This is all within my earlier requests and appeals. I would appreciate the kind of search that does not avoid it, for the reasons stated above. Besides, it should have been disclosed to me to begin with.

This CLICK material, which does not bear my name, was routed to, among others, E.A. Tamm. He is the one who answer^d the phone when the late John Feurifoy called to tell Mr. Hoover that he'd fired me or gotten me and the others fired. Later, as Judge Tamm, he sat on some of my FOIA litigation. One never knows how, or if, the kind of records still withheld from me and those distributed, had consequences.

If you require any other information or leads please let me know.

I remember another thing about which the FBI has never responded. Or the Department. The Dies committee tried to frame me using the Washington representative of the Silver Shirts, David Dubois Mayne. I was interviewed by the FBI, I presume the Washington field office, but in the Justice main building, there was a hassle because I refused to sign the statement as drafted, and while I am not able to state that it is included in the records that did exist, I refused to sign and they refused to let me leave. So, I just sat. In the end they compromised by agreeing for me to phone my lawyer, Edgar Turlington. There may have been an accurate statement that I did sign, I do not now recall. But there was an FBI investigation, there was a grand jury in D.C., it did indict Mayne and refused to indict me, Dies copped a plea for him and his two years were suspended, and later, that was not enough for the FBI when it investigated him for security when he worked or applied for work in the then secret atomic energy -and bombs - industry, as I now recall in Arizona or New Mexico. These records, too, are within my earlier requests and appeals and as with the other such information, I hope you will respect their age and search now and not assign a new number.

If you are at all familiar with what I've described as the venomous stuff the FBI did disclose while denying me my rights under PA I think you can appreciate my interest in obtaining full disclosure and my desire to be able to include all of the records in the archive I'm leaving. You may remember from the depositions you attended that many years ago my health was not good. It is more seriously impaired now, I'll be 74 in a few weeks, so I think you can see the reasons for my desire that this be done fully and promptly.

Sincerely,



① ② Harold Weisberg
② 7627 Old Receiver Road
③ Frederick, Md. 21701

Mr. Emil Moschella, chief
FOIPA Sections
FBIHQ
Washington, D.C. 20535

5/18/87

FOIPA No. 280,521

Dear Mr. Moschella,

If the 55 cross-references to Click (your letter of the 11th) are to short records, perhaps the easiest thing would be to process all. Your letter provides no indication of their nature, or filing. And you still have not informed me of any search for Director Hoover's comment on my Rohm & Haas story, which, along with other related correspondence, you did provide.

My chief interest is what relates, directly or indirectly, to me and my writing. The first, on Jan Bata and his shoe companies, bore my name. When I declined to change my name it did not appear on later articles. Mostly these dealt with Nazi cartels and their interference with defense efforts. The last, which appeared two or three months before the attack on Pearl Harbor, forecast it and much of the Japanese attacks. (If I remember correctly, I was wrong in indicating an attack on the Amur River line in Siberia but right for the most part.) The issue after that which carried the Rohm & Haas story had a page of excerpts from favorable letters, including a brief excerpt from Mr. Hoover's. It also had a picture of me going into Thurman Arnold's office. Several of the corporations I exposed were vested after my articles appeared, whether or not there was a cause-effect relationship. I also gave the Department investigative results for stories I did not write. I know this included the I.G. Farben synthetic gas/rubber cartel and I believe it included a stainless steel cartel.

Koe Annenberg was then in jail and Walter was running his publishing operations. I was peripherally involved in efforts on Koe's behalf.

The Department never returned the photostats I loaned it detailing the I.G. Farben cartel. Quin Shea suggested that Joe Borkin kept them and used them in his book. I do not know whether copies were provided to the FBI in that pre-xerox era. Borkin then was an Arnold assistant.

I am aware that the actuality, this work having begun well before the Nazi attack on the USSR, what was known as the shibboleth period, does not conform to the FBI's party line on me but I would like any such records you may have for the archive I am leaving. My family mislaid my own records when I was in the army.

The foregoing is also true, in a sense, about other matters to which you have not responded. I want them for completeness. I recognize that they can be somewhat embarrassing because they are not true. I refer to ignored repeated requests and appeals for the underlying records which state falsely that I had a personal relationship with a Soviet national inside that embassy and that it sent people up to see me. References to these records were disclosed to me and the above language is in them. Some appears to be misrepresentation of telephone intercepts and there has now been official disclosure of their existence. I do not recall whether the photographing, which was well known at the time, has been officially disclosed. Mail intercepts also have been disclosed officially, I have written about this and received no answer from the FBI or on appeal. For the most part, if not entirely, these relate to publication. Some of what I later learned from those who wrote me never reached me after interception. I am aware that at least in part the FBI was doing this for the CIA from the Church hearings. FBI officials testified there.

Oh, yes, Click and I were involved in House Patents Committee hearings which were suppressed by that committee but leaked to Rohm & Haas, which used them. Hugh Scott was then a Congressman and was involved. I think he is deceased.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg



*Byrd to
Mr. [unclear]
[unclear] (1-29)*