

Dr. Sidney Cohen  
13020 Sky Valley Road  
Los Angeles, Ca. 90049

9/10/76

Dear Dr. Cohen,

Thank you for your letter of the 4th and the check.

You say several things that interest me so I'll explain, not intending prolixity because I am currently overloaded with work in FOIA suits. If I repeat what I've said it is because with what I believe you call a post-phlebotic syndrome it is less troublesome for me that searching files that are in some disorder for about a year, since the acute thrombophlebitis. Also an apology for my typing. It was never good and it is not improved by having to keep the legs horizontal while I type.

One of my interests in this is I believe one of yours or perhaps your major one. I believe that all the useful knowledge obtained by means of this experimentation with humans should be available, especially to people like you. Thus you can be sure that under any circumstances anything I get you will get. In addition, if I am not able to go over it when I receive it, I'll also send Mike copies so you can have whatever benefit there can be in anything he may perceive or conjecture.

I think you should understand that I am not anti-government or anti-system. I want them both to work the way they are supposed to, which makes me sort of eccentric today. I believe abuses and errors require exposing and rectification.

My FOIA requests in the area of your interest are, I believed, all inclusive. Whether they will be complied with and whether I'll be able to sue for them if they do not only time will tell. But if you would care to join in such a suit I'd probably welcome it. It is premature now under most circumstances, chiefly because the FBI and CIA have contrived means of frustrating the law and making themselves so inefficient they simply cannot meet the requirements of literal compliance. They then weep on the courts and blame it all on Congress. I am contending with this directly right now and will be in court on it again the 16th. However, I do not see what can be done to undo the structure of non-compliance that is already in position and functioning. ~~Wass~~ Unless for the first time a judge decides to punish. Even then this will not eliminate the contrived backlog of cases. However, the law does provide for expedited consideration under exceptional circumstances and I believe I meet these requirements. There would then be other problems but it is not impossible if you are in a rush. Moreover, despite the supposed handling of these requests in sequential order, ~~that~~ CIA people can stone-wall endlessly. If they have the interest, they do it, law or no law.

I'd be interested in what you think happened in the Olson case. I have my own belief. The family has fallen silent. The settlement was approved by the Congress but as of my last knowledge was not due to be finalized until this month.

If you were not aware, the oldest of the children, Eric, has become an expert in psychological trauma. He was employed by the prestigious firm of Arnold and Porter, a partner in which I is Mitchell Rogovin, who has worked sub rosa for CIA for years. When Eric asked them to take the case they declined and went with Rogovin, when then became special counsel to CIA in the recent proceedings.

If I can ever get out there I'd like to be able to discuss this with you. I can and do travel when I can afford it. This generally means when I am booked to speak. But the competition from the nuts and self-promoters has eliminated responsible appearances and my lecture bureau is making its money off the nuts it also represents. However, if an speaking engagement is ever arranged for the west coast, I'll see if you can then be free.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

SIDNEY COHEN, M.D.  
13020 SKY VALLEY ROAD  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90049

September 4, 1976

Mr. Harold Weisberg  
Route 12m  
Frederick, Maryland 21701

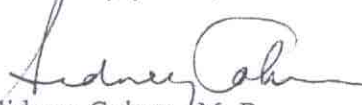
Dear Mr. Weisberg:

I greatly appreciate your letter and the CIA documents.  
I'm enclosing a check which, I hope, will cover postage and reproduction.

My interest in this matter is from the view of an LSD researcher who is trying to understand the effect such drugs have on human mental functioning. The national security organizations have done things that a researcher would not dare do. I can, pretty much, figure out what happened in the Olsen case from the released materials and from what I know of LSD.

I do hope you get the additional items you have requested. If any of them deals with psychochemicals, I would appreciate seeing a copy.

Sincerely yours,

  
Sidney Cohen, M.D.

SC:dec