

San Diego Pa

Mr. Quinlan J. Shea
Director, FOIA/ PA Appeals
Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20530

FOIA/PA Appeal

Rt. 12, Frederick, Md. 21701
3/8/78

Dear Mr. Shea,

In the spirit of our recent correspondence I am confident you will take nothing personal from my hoping you will find this appeal not to be pleasant and much of a surprise.

The enclosed were given to me yesterday by Mr. Cesar. He had been away for 10 days or so. He found this awaiting him on his return, together with a number of notices from various courts of what leaves him no time for anything. A copy of this letter and the identical enclosures are being mailed to him at the same time I mail this to you.

This is not atypical. In fact other FBI field offices are even less honest than San Diego. Others deny having any records at all on me when I already have copies from other sources of some of their records.

You may have some interest in how the wild elephants respond to your orders that they cease trampling part of the jungle. I believe you can observe this from the obliterations by the McCreight operation.

First of all I want to know what law was being enforced involving me in any way.

While this is not the first time I've made this request of the Department I am hoping that from your recent letters you will share my concern that a citizen can be subjected to this kind of defamation in files expected to be perpetually secret except for their widespread misuse inside the government and in leaks to sycophantic writers.

Only a few months after the time of these FBI reports I wrote the new attorney General about reports reaching me of FBI agents intruding into my life and work and defaming me to those I had interviewed. Your Ms. Robinson should come across this and the non-responses I received in the course of the search in which she is now engaged.

If there was no real law-enforcement purpose there is no applicability of Exemption 7.

There is nothing obliterated that is "solely" an internal matter.

So far as the other names are concerned, I have a recollection of that speaking engagement that remains clear. Many recollections, from the close call when the stretch job was landed by radar through heavy fog at Miramar and waiting two hours without any air conditioning in the plane (secure area) to my hosts and to the fact that I still await the honoraria. I recall the people with whom I was associated, the surgeon who invited me and whose house guest I was, the literature professor who had a small reception for me after one of the speeches, and some of the other people at that small party, including a couple of to me wierdos who may well have been informers.

The time spread in itself is suspect. After speaking at San Diego I returned to Los Angeles, leaving there election day 1968. It was about the end of October when I reached San Diego. This report is dated two months later. I find it hard to believe the FBI has so little contact with its informers.

My FOIA/PA requests include all field offices and FBI HQ. The obliterations from this record include duplicate filings. I hope you will see to it that each of those who has denied having a copy of this record -and each and every one has - will now provide it.

My reading of the McCreight letter and the enclosure is that they do not take you or your directives as seriously as I would want to be taken were I in your position.

Despite the anger I hope I will never stop feeling when I am confronted by what I regard as official misconduct there has not been a time when I have not offered the Department full cooperation,

As recently as yesterday, when I had just left the courtroom in which the Department had seriously misrepresented I made such offers.

If you want to see for yourself how dishonest the FBI is in these matters at least as they relate to me, be my guest, any unannounced time I'm home. Send anyone on your staff you would like to send. I have established a ~~APA~~ separate file relating to my PA requests.

They are not even careful liars. They have been getting away on raw power alone and they expect it in perpetuity.

I will show you denials of having any records and copies of records from those identical files.

Nothing personal, but one way or another you are going to see these. Out of court or in it.

I look forward to reading your recent Senate testimony. I saw no news accounts of it. However, I do recall your House testimony that prevented our taking your testimony in C.A.75-1996. You expressed concern over the costs of FOIA and over the alleged abuse of the FBI. Within my now not inconsiderable experience the major costs come from efforts not to comply and the abuse of the FBI, the only abuse of which I know, is self-abuse. Again from my experience, it is the by-product of other abuses, in my case, abusing me.

On this subject of costs I add what is prompted by my impression that you are under a misapprehension about the JFK records that have been given me. You referred to it as a closed matter, of the past, leading me to believe that you believe I have been given all of these records. This is not the case.

I have not been given the first 40,001 pages.

I do believe that I meet all the prerequisites, that it will cost more to attempt to deny them to me, that the courts will find for me, and that the effort to deny the second release cost infinitely more than letting me have them would have cost.

If I understood you correctly and you were led to believe that I have all of those records you might want to inquire into the representations made to you.

Please excuse my typing errors. I lost a day yesterday from having to go to Washington and lose some of the morning to my weekly blood test.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg