

Rt. 12, Frederick, Md. 21701
7/31/76

Mr. John Goshko
Newsroom
The Washington Post
1150 15 St., NW
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Goshko,

Your Held series has more interest for me than for most readers because of some experiences I had in Minneapolis in ^{mid} May 1968, when I spoke at the university on "The Integrity of Our Society." Long before then the outlines of what we now know as Cointelpro were visible and there were some proofs.

While the spooks have an interest in all those generally called "critics" of the Warren Report, I seem to be in a different category because my work has nothing to do with whodunits and for a decade has been devoted to bringing suppressed official evidence to light. For some years I have given it to the press as soon as I obtained it. George Gardner and Bill Claiborne are among those at the Post who can confirm this to you. I have used the Freedom of Information Act more than any other person and in all cases with success. Including three current cases. In no case have I indulged idle curiosity and in no case have I not known that what I sought existed and what it had to show.

Not until I had solid proofs of their improper activities with regard to me and my work did I start asking for the files on me. With the FBI this meant 1969, the CIA 1971, other agencies other dates. There has been a pretty solid stone wall. However, I have been patient, I have kept after them and before long I will have them in court.

This is to explain how it could be helpful to me and to further exposure of and efforts to end these authoritarian practices if by any chance you came across anything that can be relevant or if your sources can provide it.

My appearance in Minneapolis was sponsored by the University of Minnesota. The advance work was extensive enough for it to have included several TV tapings, a 17-hour stint on an all-talk radio station and a press conference, all announced in advance. The announcements included what I'd be talking about, anti-democratic speaking by federal agencies.

At the press conference there was a "reporter" known to no other reporter present. The radio marathon coincided with a tornado alert and car trouble for the graduate student who drove me around. He now runs a clinic there if you'd want to talk to him. He had to make several trips to a nearby garage. Each time he saw a pair of men sitting quietly throughout the storm in a car. The garage professed no knowledge of these men. What little sleeping time I had was interrupted by phone calls when nobody supposedly knew where I was staying. I didn't until I got there. In the university audience there were older people, which is not uncommon within my experience. In that case it included several men sitting together with a tape recorder poorly hidden rather than unhidden. When young men and little old ladies in tennie shoes needed them they were embarrassed. Their presence was reported to the university faculty member present and to me, I asked the university if it would give them a dub of the tape the university was making, and I then had what I thought was some fun with them. I spelled names out and said it was for them, things like that.

Part of the time surveillance was overt.

