

Dear Jim, Personal Files-State and-

12/26/76

I will be giving you what I have received from State together with what I have written in response. The response is very long, in two parts. The first in shock, the second after a single but careful reading in which I made notes. I recommend against your taking time to read either now, saving that time for when it is time.

I do want you to know that this is all very helpful. The "azi mind has not yet adjusted to the law and the civil mind has not yet taken power away from the storm-trooper mind. So they are arrogant and in obvious and deliberate non-compliance. If another and more careful reading may disclose more specifics, I have more than enough, specific citations to specific records not provided plus a record of a permanent duplicate deposit, retrievable now.

This file shows that NSA had a file on me beginning not later than 1955. I did not go into that more because it is so beautiful. If it is connected with anything it is with what USIA wanted me to do and I did do, to the Department's excited agreement. But no department records. I challenged Khrushchev to peaceful competition in poultry. Me against the whole USSR agriculture. He almost came to Hyattstown, too. The Department called me. Then he could not and Mrs. K would if something in Virginia was over in time. It did not happen but there are records.

No records of my suing them, 718-70.

I ask for copies of regulations and they talk to the spooks and send me no regulations.

What is really shocking is not so much that they faked up a dishonest investigation, which they did and can't hide, but that they were trying to fire me without any basis the year before and memory-holed all references to and record of my firing and did not develop any of the twistable records. My hunch there is that the FBI feared letting them come up at a hearing because they are all rubbish with one exception: I was a close friend of Marcantonio's, as Wil also became. They dare not disclose spying on a Member. Whose record, incidentally, is Berlin's, of almost remembering the future. Just about all he stood for has come to pass and become national policy and law.

Even their crooked investigation provided no basis for firing me.

There is much that is interesting, a fantastic study of the Nazi mind in government investigations, the Otepka Syndrome (He was there then, too.) The former head of a government agency involved in the war effort only raved. Her name is hidden but it can be nobody else. She'd stake her life on me. She was then in the Executive Office, her agency having been absorbed by a larger one and the war then over. She is long dead. She was as old or probably older than my mother. She was a wonderful old gal and we did do things together. I recall enough. They are as patriotic and ~~loyal~~ loyal as can be and I can tick them off with no possibility of cross-examination if necessary. When my memory is good it is very good and on parts of this despite the passing of more than 30 years I'll specify the weather and they can check the Weather Bureau.

These records also show that the FBI lies deliberately to other agencies, even in security investigations. Imagine them saying they had no records on me when they tried to get me indicted in the Dies case alone! I have the record of their saying no record. And imagine the State spooks reporting on the Dies case without reference to the grand jury or the court action. Even going to the Washington Post to check their morgue and omitting the stories on this or on my firing or on the end of that? Can you believe that State has no record of the page-one story syndicated by the Herald-Tribune? Or that Mrs. Ogden Reid, the owner, was interested by Arnold of Fortas and assigned Bert Andrews, a Pulitzer from this or before it, which is what really did the job for us? Naturally they can't produce that because Hoover himself said there was nothing on us except that if we worked for him he'd have told some of us we were seeing people he thought we should not. With me this was the people they hired, not I, and on hiring me put me to work with them.

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The cold war part is particularly clear. I had only excellent efficiency ratings, beginning as a buck private who had a first lieutenant as his chauffeur. I was hired for my expertise on cabbels and on Nazis and in investigating and I was good at it, earning these ratings, which extended to character and personality. Even those of opposite political view go into my helpfulness and pleasantness. Once the cold war began I was suddenly without qualifications for the job, all very nebulous and all coming from those who knew nothing about it. No one person who knew was asked. Even the head of eggsheds for Eisenhower was not asked and he was one of my references. He was an editor for whom I had worked. I brought him and many others to Washington.

(I was so unpatriotic I persuaded the magazine, Walter Annenberg's to have a regular department, Your Government Reports. The OWI woman remembers this and tells the spooks. They even record the magazine's change of policy on it. Walter Annenberg was against regular reports to the citizens by their war-time government and I am a loyalty risk!)

The spooks tried to make impossible my work on a paper for the UN on Nazi and Falange influence in Latin America. The nono is in caps and underscored.

If there is ever testimony on this it will be wild! There was one of us and to the best of my knowledge only one of us who had ever been a Communist. I did not know it then. Later I told the Un-Americans to engage in sexual self-gratification. He took no amendment when he testified and they left him alone. His name is Irving Goldman. He was one of Margaret Mead's boys and a fine one. (He looked like Mauldin's classic character, Sad Sack.) They try to make something sinister of what I'd forgotten if it was ever true, that at the end I was assigned to him. Well, this is how Kremlin-oriented he was: he gave me the job of identifying every possible Communist in either trade unions or positions of influence in the countries within his jurisdiction, I believe the east coast of South America. I did so thorough a job all the other area chiefs wanted it. They did not go to the spooks because they wanted to know what the diplomats should know, not propaganda. Goldman also assigned me to pick out all the basis for charges of Yankee imperialism in Paraguay during a revolution there so the diplomats could know. My work was this good: I predicted in advance that there would be a change in the dictatorship's army and who would become the commanding general. I was right. It happened and the man I said became the boss. How many times do you think anybody ever does that? And I did not even speak the ~~lang~~ language.

Compare this with the spooks, who could not stay in the heat of my kitchen. I remember enough. The CIA could not even get the two major parties straight. Their Ivy League types did speak the language. Naturally they decided and reported that the Colorado Party was the Reds and the Blancos were the conservatives. It happened that neither was red, the Colorados the right and the blancos the liberals. The FBI was in on it, too. There was a University of Penna. graduate student doing a thesis on the Flange. You guess it, he was a Falangist.

You were talking about suing for invasion of privacy. I think it is premature until they have decent time to respond but then I think there may be a basis in the deliberateness with their setting out to ruin me. These records establish it. To this extent. When Thurman Arnold wrote Puerifoy (he had to have become a real spook to become ambassador to Guatemala in the 50s and you know what happened there) that while our names had not been disclosed we would be ruined our names were leaked to the old Time-Herald, where it was the banner-headline story of the day. Not in the files given me or even referred to. (Puerifoy was so wild he even knocked people down on the stairs as he ran.) On Arnold: they read all the issues of Click for the year before and the year after my work as well as that work. They did not report all the official raves over it, published in a full page of them, and where the stories even have a picture of me taking a bulging bag of photostats of proofs into Arnold's DJ office they did not interview him or anyone in DJ Anti-Trust or anyone else about me or my work. The deliberateness is that obvious. It was really spectacular work. They refer to Congress and the Congressional Record, which is indexed. But not to all of these stories going into the Congressional Record, with raves, including by the dean of the House. Great stuff! What a study in authoritarianism, in how the police mind controls policy! Best,

Dear Jim, Personal files - addendum on Lil

12/26/76

After I finished the letter to which this is attached Lil expressed an interest in withheld Document 23 in the State files, said to be on her. She told me something I had forgotten, "They have to have a file on me because I applied to Alger Hiss for a job in San Francisco when the UN was organized." Here is the background from those days of the Great Depression:

Lil was unemployed. She went to the Congressman, then Davey Lewis. He sent her to the just-organizing RFC, where she was interviewed by a nice type, Peter Ward. (He had a secretary named Watts Lil also liked.) Ward sent her to one Higginbottom, approx., whose interest in women was primitive and not the RFC's interest. Lil went back to Ward who told her to go up on Capital Hill, where the "unitions committee was just starting. He told her who to see, what salary to ask for and not to take less. She got the job. Among those she worked for was Alger Hiss. When the committee ended she went to Civil Service, which sent her to Interstate Commerce, which hired her.

Then the Wheeler Railroad investigating committee was set up by the Senate, beginning with much of the "unitions staff. One of them, Tex Goldschmidt, went down to Interstate Commerce to ask Lil back. They went to her supervisor and she was detailed to the Senate. When that committee ended she was hired by the RFC, first as a stenographer. She had the rep of the best steno in RFC. She transferred to an insurance division, the one that collected claims for the government. It was all-men, and not good ones, except for one other woman, who became Lil's friend. First the wheeler-dealer types tried to end that division which, naturally, cost the big insurers money, particularly Lil and Betty, who neither came from them nor expected to return to them. I learned about this and was able to abort that through the Bureau of the Budget. Then then decided to reduce the staff, naturally no men were let go. And they could not fire Lil, who had tenure. She they pulled a typical bureaucratic dirty trick. They offered her a job elsewhere in RFC, at Grade 5. She was then a Grade 10. As an alternative they told her they would keep her on and let her friend Betty go. Betty did not have tenure, Lil did. Marcantonio wanted Lil to go to work for him so she did, leaving Betty with the job in insurance.

She was not fired on loyalty grounds although she remembers some inquiries then. She was not fired Period.

Was Marcantonio was finally ousted from office the Republican and very conservative floor leader of whip, Wadsworth, father of the later ambassador, asked Lil to go to work for him.

She and I had many conservative friends. One of those days was Grace Humphreys, whose husband Bob, a former reporter, was the GOP national committee's p.r. man. Lil knew Grace because they both worked for the House at the same time and had mutual friends, including Marcantonio's other secretary.

It was a different world and the House was what to most would be a strange animal. I met the most conservative Members through Marc. The liberals with whom I became friends I did not meet through him. We used to drink together and extensively. I met Joe Martin through Marcantonio and was with them the day Martin was afraid to let any party-liner use the first proof of FDR's violation of the Neutrality Act. It was in accord with Marc's beliefs so he did make that speech. It led to a real sensation of that time. It has, as I recall, to do with supplying England with warplanes. I met the original Ham Fish this way. A number of others. The old sanctimonious superpatriot faker Sol Bloom. (In order for Marc to get time on the lend-lease debate he had me investigate Sol. I learned his daughter had been decorated by Mussolini so Marc got the time he was entitled to and had been denied.) I used to write speeches for Adolph Sabath of Chicago, chairman of the House Rules committee. He wanted me to join his staff, I wanted independence so I declined, but I still did speeches. They had a party for me, I don't remember all the Congressmen but I do some, the day I beat Dies in court. It was at the Madrilion. I think Lil was the only woman there. It last long after legal closing hours. I remember Congressman Hook sang a song "The Dies of Texas Are Upon you and I think Joe Casey of Mass, "Stranes Fell on Alabama." Stranes next to Dies. I was first-name with both those Nazis before it was all over. Different era. Hastily,