

Sorry I'm not able to make a contribution. As some your people will know, I do what I can for the Act. And have.

Good luck and best wishes,

Harold Weisberg



PAUL ROBESON, JR.

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FUND FOR OPEN INFORMATION
AND ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.
339 Lafayette Street,
New York, N.Y. 10012
(212) 477-3188

Dear Friend:

If you have ever worked for civil rights, gun control, the ERA, against nuclear power, in opposition to the Vietnam War or the escalation of military weaponpower . . . in fact, if you have ever signed a petition or attended a meeting or a demonstration opposing government policies . . . you may be the victim of the new McCarthy-style witch hunt now in progress, and growing daily.

FACT: The Attorney General of the United States -- William French Smith -- has notified government agencies that they should suppress information in government files which are legally open to scrutiny by any American who asks for them.

FACT: The FBI and CIA have requested permission to expunge or destroy records which -- if made public -- might expose their invasion of privacy by wire-taps, intercepted mail, close surveillance of individuals, and even more serious actions which deprive Americans of their rights.

FACT: The Senate has established a new Subcommittee on Security and Terrorism, ostensibly to weed out "subversives" and "un-Americans" in a manner identical to McCarthy's Subcommittee on Investigations, the witch hunt Committee which damaged so many lives in the 1950's.

FACT: Support is mounting in Congress for the proposed House Internal Security Committee -- a clone of the long-discredited House Un-American Activities Committee -- which will, like its new Senate counterpart, attempt to harass and intimidate Americans for their political beliefs.

These are just a few of the many actual events which have taken place in the last few months which will rob you of your rights. Central to this attack is the drive to weaken, ignore, or totally abolish the FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT.

Government by secrecy is the hallmark of oppression. Which is why the Freedom of Information Act was passed in 1966, after McCarthyism, and strengthened in 1974, in response to Watergate. Now -- unless we resist -- the Act itself may be legislated out of existence. It has already been weakened by the Attorney General's mandate.

The first line of defense for the Act is FOIA, Inc., which urgently needs your help now to oppose government encroachment on our most precious liberties and rights.

FOIA, Inc. works to help Americans obtain publicly-owned documents -- including their own personal dossiers -- from the FBI, CIA, and other government agencies. It breaks through the curtains of secrecy which have been lowered by government bureaucrats in order to hide their actions from the public and the press. It provides public education about the Act, and has built a broad coalition of labor, minority, peace, women's, and social justice groups to defend the people's right -- your right -- to know.

Now, FOIA, Inc. is mobilizing nationwide support to register the opposition of hundreds of thousands of Americans to this massive assault on our civil rights. We urgently need your help to further our educational programs to create an enlightened public vital to the effective enforcement of the Freedom of Information Act.

Join us in this growing legal resistance movement. Sign the enclosed NO MORE WITCH HUNTS PETITION and return it with a contribution to further our work -- send \$20, \$50, \$500, as much as you can.

With your consent, we will add your name to our official PETITION, which will be presented to the President, the Attorney General, and the directors of the FBI and CIA. And our public information programs will be expanded to call attention to the clear and present danger of a return to the horrors we have already experienced in the 1950's and 1960's.

But please remember: when you sign your PETITION and enclose your check, be sure to indicate whether we may add your name to the official NO MORE WITCH HUNTS PETITION which FOIA, Inc. will present to government leaders. If you wish to register an anonymous protest, simply check the appropriate box on your signed PETITION.

Please come to the defense of every American's rights under the First Amendment and the Freedom of Information Act. Return your NO MORE WITCH HUNTS PETITION and contribution to FOIA, Inc. today.

I hope to hear from you.

Sincerely,

Paul Robeson, Jr.

Paul Robeson, Jr.

P.S. As a supporter of FOIA, you will receive hotline bulletins about the latest efforts to suppress our freedoms, along with updates on the growing resistance your support will help us mobilize in FOIA's newsletter, The People's Right to Know.