

Route 8  
Frederick, Maryland 21701  
April 22, 1975

LTC Everett E. Mann  
Assistant for Information  
Defense Investigative Service  
Washington, D. C. 20314

Dear Colonel Mann:

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I do appreciate your efforts to be informative with both Mr. Leser and me. However, there are certain things that should turn up on a search and I am unable to afford the cost outlined in your letter. I will herewith provide you with more information that may suggest other things to you.

With regard to the print-out marked A, I presume the form is intended to be year, month and day of birth. That is the way it is given, but it is new in my experience. I note that none of these print-outs include my army serial number which I believe was 32-48-3933. Although at the time of registration, I lived at 313 H Street, NW, Washington, DC, I was actually inducted from Delaware where my mother's address then was 122 North Lincoln Street, Wilmington. What is included in these files, of course, is not known to me.

On the second page of your letter you refer to what must have existed at the time of my earlier inquiry and I was told did not exist. Files Nos. ZA 013685 and ZB 500928 both undated in 1967. The next listing is a USAF file, No. 24C-0/515, no date indicated.

With respect to the letter, the Air Force has just told me exactly the opposite in writing. With respect to the former, if you can tell me whether these file identifications permit you to indicate an area, I think I can be helpful in a way that is consistent with the attitude you reflected, in speaking to me (gratifying and unique within my experience) and perhaps can help you help me in compliance with the intent of the law.

I do believe that there is a real question of the applicability of the Privacy Act to some of this and unless there is some technical question that indicates to the contrary, I do hope you will so regard my request.

Let me trace for you some of the things in my past that I believe would have been of interest to military authorities. As a student at the University of Delaware in the early 30s, I successfully protested, not the teaching of ROTC, but the compulsion which included men not fit for military service and some seriously deformed. The fact is that thereafter I had a friendly relationship with the head of that unit and other regular military personnel in it. During this period I was also involved as a reporter in the case of an exchange student who happened to be a commissioned officer in the Japanese army. His name, as I recall it, was Yahara Hiramichi or Hiromichi. He had been picked up taking pictures near an antiquated post, Fort Dupont, on the Delaware River.

During a period of investigative reporting intended for a book the end of 39 or early 40, I developed indications of a plot to overthrow our government ~~whixix~~ by a high-ranking military officer and gave this information to the FBI.

Beginning in about 1941, my investigative reporting crossed into areas of considerable interest to the military, especially but not exclusively as it related to Nazi espionage through cartel arrangements. During this period - and at the suggestion of the Department of Justice - I was what I suppose might be considered an unpaid British agent and I was in fairly frequent contact with British intelligence officials in Washington.

As a patient in one of the extensions of Walter Reed Hospital in 1943, I led a successful protest against discrimination against black soldiers - patients.

While I was a Walter Reed patient, I was investigated as a prerequisite for secret security clearance and transfer to the headquarters detachment of OSS. It is quite possible that several of my official functions in OSS were of interest to the non-OSS military because my first job ended in the exposure of a frame-up of four enlisted men who had been framed by the military police of the military district of Washington and my last assignment as a soldier in OSS resulted in the immediate transfer of the Army officer in charge of a base.

After a period of news work following World War II, I became a farmer at Hyattstown, Maryland. This very promising and world-famous operation was ruined by low-flying military helicopters, mostly army and mostly from Davison at Fort Belvoir. There definitely are records on this. I have seen some of them. I have notes on some of them. They were produced under discovery (incomplete) pursuant to an order of the Federal District Court in Baltimore. The final adjudication in the second suit was after the period your letter sets for the destruction of earlier files. It was, as I recall, in January of last year. In the course of this litigation, I established a principle of law to which the gung-ho types in the army were, as the discovery material I have examined clearly shows, opposed and utterly without scruple in their determination to overturn it. As an example of what I mean, a transcript of a ~~meeting~~ <sup>meeting</sup> on these matters arranged under the auspices of the Secretary of Defense was actually altered by an army officer then station at Fort Holabird.

As a result of the personal order of then Secretary of Defense MacNamara, all branches of the service have officers with whom I was to be and in fact was in regular contact because Secretary MacNamara had ordered an end to these violations of our rights and of a court decision. Pursuant to the arrangements made in Secretary MacNamara's name, I was in contact with all branches of the service, mostly the army. This situation degenerated to the point where the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Fiscal Management sent a Colonel Robert Low on a personal inspection of the farm we then operated at Hyattstown which resulted in published orders of which I have a copy

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and as of the very recent past still existed having to do with the avoidance of flying over our Hyattstown property. Also in the fairly recent past an officer, Colonel Boyer, then in charge of the White House helicopter detail and as of the time of the ruin of our farm a member of it, told me those orders were still in effect and supposedly issued orders for helicopters to avoid our present home.

While we were farming, sonic booms were also a serious problem for us. They were regular for a period of time and at the direction of the Secretary for Air, a Major Freeman then in the office of public information and I were in regular communication because he had been directed to identify those pilots creating the sonic booms.

I did file a long series of claims against the army. I was on the direction of competent military authority in touch with the military district of Washington and Fort Detrick in Frederick, Maryland, with the Second Army at Fort Meade, and I did file a separate sonic boom claim with the Dover Air Force Base in Delaware.

The incomplete information I obtained ~~as a result of the personal order of then Secretary of Defense McNamara~~ under discovery relating to this Dover claim held the identification of a quite separate and apparently secret air force file on me which had nothing to do with that claim but existed as of that time, about eight years ago. However, I saw files relating to this subsequent to the period described in your letter as of the destruction of files.

Without consultation with files not currently in my possession, I cannot say whether this is "USAF OSI File No. 24C-0/515."

(This is on page 2 of your letter and I cannot resist asking why the army investigative records repository properly had any listing of me under the subject of "Assassination President John F. Kennedy.")

For whatever value it can have and what from our conversation I take to be your sincere expression of intent, I tell you that the files I examined on discovery are burdened with the intent of fraud against us by the military. It was successful. You may remember that when the domestic activities of Army intelligence were exposed several years ago they included a very heavy activity in Minneapolis. I know that I was under surveillance in Minneapolis in May 1968. This surveillance included not particularly careful shadowing and my public appearances. When I left Minneapolis, my baggage was intercepted with some inconvenience and not inconsiderable cost to me. Obviously, I do not know who did it. I give you this merely as a clue.

I believe I told you while the public story is that all the computer tapes of that period were destroyed, they in fact were not and there remain at least two repositories, as I recall, Fort Holsbird and Fort Monroe. It is I alone who exposed the false reports by the Department of the Navy to the Warren Commission having to do with Lee Harvey Oswald's service record and particularly his security clearances. This was in 1967, a date in your letter.

From my previous federal investigative and intelligence experiences, I find it impossible to believe that of the foregoing there could be no record. If I were to spend more time trying to recall other aspects of my earlier career, it is possible I might be able to add to the foregoing.

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From this earlier experience I am also aware of the routing sharing of information between various federal agencies and there have to be records involving other agencies your letter says cannot exist. These have to do with at the very least my mail and other surveillance on me of which I have copies.

With this kind of history and with the attitude I found so encouraging which you expressed, I would hope that the defense establishment would find its interest also served by a really thorough inquiry, the costs of which I simply cannot bear.

The first page of your letter refers to several tracings of a name similar to mine. Perhaps the information I herewith provide can enable you to determine whether anyone of these has any relationship to me.

There are aspects of my efforts to achieve publication of my work abroad that normally also would ~~fall~~ fall within federal interests of that period.

I am about to leave on a short trip and it is possible that my wife may sign this letter for me.

Thank you for your efforts. I hope that with this information you can pursue them further.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

cc: Jim Lesar

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