

CONFIDENTIAL

4/24/70

Dr. James B. Shoeds, Archivist
The National Archives
Washington, D.C. 20408

Dear Dr. Shoeds,

I have waited a week, perhaps a short time as you seem to regard our correspondence, in the hope you would complete the first paragraph of your letter of the 18th. Aside from my desire that you complete it, as it stands it leaves an inadequate record that some suspicious soul might, in the future, regard as deceptive. Neither of us would want that, would we?

From this one-sentence paragraph, it would seem that yours is a spontaneous action in reaction to another spontaneous action by the Secret Service. And we both know this also is not the case, do we not?

The Secret Service sent these items to you for me, at my request. They accompanied these pages with a covering letter. It has been the practice to forward the covering letter. In this case you did not. I would like a copy, please, seeing no reason (from my point of view) for its omission.

Although your letter does not so indicate, the pages you sent are not all those the Secret Service gave you to give me. I would appreciate the other pages, which have been released to me. A month and a half has now passed since these were given to you to give to me. This should be all the self-indulgence needed to gratify whatever it is that is gratified with the unending interferences with my research.

You have not yet provided the print and negative of the picture duplicating mine that you took of the base of CE 399 for Dr. Nichols. Here the delay is inordinate, which is saying something! Nor has there been the slightest response to the long letter, the consequence of considerable work on my part, at your suggestion, that you would regard as an appeal and forward through channels. The intent of the law is that citizens asking information of their government receive it or answers promptly. Especially in view of the fact that the request the letters in a number of cases asked that they be forwarded as appeals if you declined my request, it seems that there has been adequate time for response. May I please have it?

As things now stand, it appears that it would be an efficiency and an economy if you were to send me several dozen of the forms required by your agency under the so-called "Freedom of Information" law and a few sets of instructions and explanations.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg