

12/27/74

Dear Steve,

Hope we can get together soon.

You'll find, despite the apparent efforts to keep the lid on, that the CIA has not been engaged in proscribed (for it) domestic intelligence either on anti-war kids or those suspected of foreign contacts alone.

With me it is neither. And about neither.

I guess I'm too squeaky. I don't believe in overthrowing foreign governments, either.

Nor can I think of a single case where we or anyone else was any better off for it.

I am not against a decent intelligence system. Were I, I'd not have been in any, formally (ours) or informally (yours).

But by their very nature they are a threat to freedom. The more dedicated the spooks, the greater the danger.

Best regards,

The Daily Telegraph
AND
Morning Post
LONDON

CABLES: TELEPOST WASHINGTON
TELEPHONE: EXECUTIVE 3-5195

1366

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WASHINGTON, D. C. 20004

December 26, 1974

Harold Weisberg, Esq.
Route 8
Frederick, Maryland 21701

Dear Harold,

Thank you for your letter of December 22. I enclose herewith a cheque for your last two books, Frame-Up and Whitewash IV, and will be grateful if you will send copies off to me here at the office.

I shall be away for a couple of weeks, in fact, but be in touch when I get back.

Frankly, I personally am not terribly impressed about all this rumpus over the CIA's keeping files on 10,000-odd people inside America. I am surprised it's that petty - particularly when you bear in mind that the period Sy Hersh was dealing with was one marked by a good deal of militancy. I remember interviewing a bunch of fellows at Cambridge, Massachusetts, for example, who had taken it upon themselves as a matter of patriotic duty to spy on military movements and denounce them to the press - and also, of course, the interested enemy in Vietnam. It always struck me that whatever one might have thought about the war (and I thought it ridiculous), voluntary espionage of this sort was unlikely to be condoned in any other society.

Yours ever,



Stephen Barber