

Mr. David Ignatius, editor, Outlook
Washington Post
1150 15 St., NW
Washington, D.C. 20071

10/21/89

Dear Mr. Ignatius,

If you are not in a hurry and are willing to settle for what they give you, you should be able to get information on Overseas news under FOIA from the CIA, FBI and military intelligence agencies, without a lawyer. Maybe State, too. But phrasing the information request can be important. CIA has OCS and COI records. CIA may also have figured in Congressional investigations. If I can help, let me know.

The Library of Congress may have at least published information on it.

When I suggested asking the Anti-Defamation League - meant the national office, in New York.

Perhaps British reporters can suggest British sources.

There were many U.S. forces that had, whether or not intended, pro-Nazi effect. One was the Dies UnAmerican committee. It did nothing to investigate or expose pro-Nazi and native fascist activities until its effort to entrap me kicked back and they were required to take the testimony of William Dudley Kelley of the Silver Shirts. Gangs like Pelleys were numerous. This changed a bit, as I remember, but not all that much, after Hitler attacked Poland.

In equating all liberals and anti-Nazis as Communists the Dies committee was helping Hitler.

You referred to that as a remarkable period in Washington. It also was in other, simple, everyday human ways, of ordinary people trying to help the government and each other. I don't know how it is now but then almost anyone in Oshkosh who knew someone who knew someone in Washington went to Washington with some hope of help in getting started and perhaps a temporary place to stay.

I'm sure my wife remembers some of the strangers knocking at our door, from union organizers to Broadway stars in road shows looking for a decent home-cooked meal.

Quite a few of those often-talented people did help the country very much. Old timers may have quite a few such stories.

Members of the House and Senate, who then had smaller offices and staffs, often were more informal and accessible. A half-dozen Congressmen threw me quite a party the day - beat the Dies committee's entrapment effort by getting its agent indicted and convicted. One of them even made up two songs and sang them. It was that kind of town then. *(He was part Finn, part Indian)*

In mentioning my work on the political assassinations I forgot to tell you that I'm not a conspiracy theorist, didn't advance any such theories in my seven books, and instead have made a study of how our institutions worked in those times of great stress and since then.

I'm glad you are interested in that era. -t would be good for our younger people, which means far and a way most of us, to know more about it.

Please excuse my typing. I must keep my legs up and type with the machine to the side. It also puts my eyes too close to the keyboard. The name of the head of one of the more influential anti-FBI groups I could not remember is "Odett" Ghose. It may have been the wealthiest. M. Robert Rogers also organized

Best wishes,

Harold Weisberg
organized Bigheads for Eisenhower.

He phoned 10/20 and we talked for a while. He is interested in that era, particularly in some aspects of foreign intelligence, and I mentioned some pro-Nazi influences and how high they went.