

George Lardner, newsroom
Washington Post
1150 15 St., NW
Washington, D.C. 20071

8/10/91

Dear George,

I'd intended writing you when your piece with Pincus on Iran/Contra appeared but I was not able to. I have difficulty understanding why there has been no interest, including at the Post. Perhaps Pincus is included among those whose attention I tried to draw to the very, very large lie with which Meese explained not sending FBI agents in as soon as he had word of the possible scandal. I was stunned getting it live on TV without a single reporter asking a question about it because most experienced Washington reporters should have known immediately that it was a lie. What Meese actually did was make the file purging and shredding possible.

He was asked ~~why~~ he did not send the FBI in immediately. Presenting himself as a ~~dedicated~~ dedicated civil libertarian he replied that it would have been wrong to conduct any investigation without evidence that a federal crime had been committed.

The FBI makes innumerable non-criminal investigations for every president. By this I do not mean by phonying up an excuse, as Dan Schorr as a candidate for employment. Hoover testified before the Warren Commission ^(5/11/91) that it has this authority and each president has the authority to request special investigations. Those of which I know, and of most I do not, are classified as "administrative inquiries," File Classification 62. The enormous JFK assassination investigation, no federal law having been violated, was based on LBJ's request. As you may recall, it is 62-109060.

The Congress certainly knew that it is right and proper, indeed, necessary, for the FBI to make non-criminal investigations for the White House. But not a peep from it, either.

I don't know whether you knew Roy Neachum when he was at the Post, in his description in his local column as an executive. Here he has been overtly anti-Semitic, along with an apologist for virtually all Islamic, including Saddam and the Abu who pirated the Achille Lauro ^{being} (calling him and his patriots, not terrorists). I have no reason to believe that it interests you or the Post that he is protected in his racist columns but I enclose a copy of what I submitted in response and his column because I find it incredible that an experienced reporter would do nothing when told that Americans were beheaded by the Saudis and some time later contrive a column on it, publishing what may be an awful defamation without seeking confirmation or denial. Not that I think it impossible. I do think it is improbable. But then the dead by friendly fire number is climbing and that is one of the means by which disappearances can be hidden. I do think that the friends of those who were allegedly beheaded might have expressed some question or wonder....Not that were it true the Pentagon or Saudis would admit it.

Sincerely,