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Washington Post  
1150 15 St., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005

5/14/84

Dear George,

You'll remember the FOIA cases in which the government is against undertaking to rewrite and nullify FOIA about which I wrote you some time ago. This is also what I see as a series of not unrelated efforts by the Reagan administration to hurt lawyers willing to help those who cannot pay them. (They've even gone after the DC bar.)

I don't recall whether or not I told you but the ACLU is representing me because of the precedents involved and I think it is the Nader Law group that is representing Jim Lohr. Mark Lynch me and Morrison and Hitchcock Jim.

The briefs are due this coming Thursday. I've read the drafts of both and as briefs rather than as apparent news stories they are good. I use this formulation because I think the news is there but there is no dramatic formulation or allegation.

Let me know if you'd like copies when I get the final copies.

Lynch's is a fine piece of work, I think. While he does not spell out that the DJ/FBI are rewriting the act to place the burden of proof on the requester/plaintiff, it is inherent and clear. In effect it would negate FOIA.

For your information, the case numbers are, district court, C.A. 76-0922/0420 combined; appeals (appeals and cross-appeals), all beginning with No. 84: 5058, 5201, 5059 and 5202.

I don't know when the government's briefs are due, but if you want copies when I get them, just let me know. I'll probably be writing Lynch then with comments, if they interest you.

Best wishes,