

Dear Col,

1/30/90

When you mentioned having worked for O. John Rogge when he was head of the DJ Criminal Division I remembered something to which I'd intended to return and forgot.

He was a friend of Pat Jackson's and I met him once when I was with Pat. I also shamed Jimmy Wechsler into taking to him what he had gotten from Merwin K. Hart's office, where a secretary was an informer for him. It was Franco material at the least and I'm not sure of the rest after all these years.

I know nothing about Rogge's family, if any, but that is not a usual name. So, in going over the JFK assassination records, I wondered when I saw the name Richard D. Rogge with some regularity. He was a special agent who was a supervisor in the Criminal section of what then was called the General Investigative Division. He also was one of a number disciplined, from what I know quite unfairly, on Hoover's order over alleged failures in the JFK investigation. For most if not all it was the failure to put Oswald on a special index of supposedly dangerous people. What has been disclosed about Oswald, at least until about two weeks before his death, he did not meet the requirement for that index but that meant nothing to Hoover, who always quested goats and thus masked other failures and transgressions. About two weeks before his death Oswald went in person to the Dallas field office and left an open envelope for the Oswald case agent, James Patrick Hosty, Jr., of the Genghis Khan right, in which there was a threat to bomb either the police station, the FBI office or both if Hosty did not leave Marina alone. I have a full file. This is a short summary. When he was arrested FBIHQ ordered the note destroyed and the info kept from the commission. After SAC Shanklin's retirement was secure, about a dozen years ago, someone leaked this and there was an investigation of which I have the records. If you ever know anyone who is interested I made a separate file of duplicates. So, what Hoover could have wanted to hide is obvious.

Pat once told me after having spoken with Rogge that he had the results of an FBI wiretap on the Josephson apartment and that I had been picked up on it. Not a tap, a bug, and if I remember correctly, they had it in the apartment above. In trying to get all the FBI records on me there came a time when I was asked by Quin Shea, the appeals officer, to tell him all that could be said about me so he'd know what to ask it to produce for processing. I did as he asked, as completely as I could. This included my reporting that once when I was there Leon had a guest whose name I'd forgotten if I ever knew it. When they wanted to talk in private they left the living room. Later, when he attracted attention and his picture was in the papers, I wondered if that man had been Gerhard Eisler.

I got no informing relating to this or much else about myself from the FBI and if I remember correctly, Shea did nothing else about any of my appeals.

On several occasions the Josephsons let me sleep on the living room sofa, once for about a week when I required minor sinus surgery and was in NYC for that. I had to return to that doctor every other day for a while. I don't recall exactly when but it was before I was in the Army. I was inducted in 1942.

The last time I saw Leon he was unfriendly. That was the winter of 1943, when I was stationed near NYC for a few weeks and went to Cafe Society Uptown several times. After that unpleasantness I never returned.

I have a copy of that memorandum in my appeals files. To give you a notion of how much work those appeals entailed, they fill most of two file drawers, with the documentation attached. I'm sure that DJ destroyed those it did not want to have but I kept all.

Best,

Heard

Mr. Robert J. Walsh, Jr., chief
Freedom of Information/Privacy Office
U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command
Fort George G. Meade, Md. 20755-5995

1/19/90

Dear Mr. Walsh,

re:#033P-90

Your letter of the 17th does respond to portions of mine of the third but not to all of it. It also reflects an Army Catch-22 in which it is free to distribute false and defamatory information about citizens and then destroy the basis for it, thus in effect nullifying the law, in this instance the Privacy Act, which gives me rights you wiped out and leaves me defamed wherever you sent copies of that false and defamatory material. As you have seen, some of those to whom the Army sent copies did preserve them and they thus are still available for defamation.

Obviously, all records cannot be preserved indefinitely but does that mean that when such material is circulated the Army has no responsibility other than defaming? I see from your letter no way in which you can undo the harm you did me, to the degree that could be possible after so many years.

Nor, come to think of it, any expression of any regret.

Have you any way of determining what other distribution might then have been made so that some effort might be made outside your command to see if the original source is still available?

I raised the question of authority for destroying records of such historical importance as those relating to the assassination of President Kennedy. It is my understanding that under the law the approval of the National Archives must be sought and obtained and that the Archives has the right to preserve such records. So, now that you nonfirm the destruction by your command, at least as a matter of historical record I would like, please, copies of all records relating to this destruction, including the request for and the granting of authority and any relating to any other possible disposition of them.

Are there any possibilities of the existence of unindexed copies? For example, if what was sent to the FBI related to application for employment by Nancy Haycock, would those records have been preserved and could any copies be with them?

I am disturbed by all of this, by the spreading of defamations and then seeing to it that no rectification is possible, and by the destruction of records of great historical importance, those relating to what I regard as the greatest subversion in our society, the assassination of a president.

And I regret very much that the Army appears to have had so little concern about either that assassination or the preservation or any information relating to it.

Sincerely,


Harold Weisberg



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY COMMAND
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY OFFICE
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5995

January 17, 1990

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:
FOI/Privacy Office

Mr. Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Road
Frederick, MD 21701

TO BE OPENED BY ADDRESSEE ONLY

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

This responds to your letter dated January 3, 19(89), in which you have raised several questions regarding previous correspondence from this office. Your letter was received here on January 10, 1990.

As you have requested, a current check has been made at this headquarters for records pertaining to yourself and the assassination of John F. Kennedy; both checks were met with negative results.

With regard to your request for the distribution made of the record this office released to you on December 8, 1989; please be advised that the Army record was retrieved from the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and referred to Army for a release determination and reply to you. Since the Army no longer maintains the original record there is no disclosure accounting.

For your information, Army intelligence files are not maintained indefinitely. Current Army regulations provide for the on-going screening and destruction of Army intelligence dossiers, a process which takes place daily in the U.S. Army Investigative Records Repository, located at this headquarters.

If you have any further questions regarding this action, please feel free to contact this office at any time. Please refer to case #033P-90.

Sincerely yours,

Robert J. Walsh, Jr.
Chief
Freedom of Information/Privacy Office