

February 11, 1965

Dear John:

Here is the brief biography you requested.

I was born in Philadelphia April 8, 1913, the first child of immigrant parents. As a teen-ager (we then wore knickers), I did byline features for the old Philadelphia Ledger syndicate. I was also a correspondent for the Wilmington, Delaware, Morning News and wrote occasional features. During the depths of the depression, I moved to Washington and was for 3 years an investigator and the editor of one of the significant Senate investigations of that day conducted by the Education and Labor Committee. Thereafter I returned to writing and for several years prior to military service in World War II I did magazine work in national and international affairs, including a series of exposes based upon original investigations that were then regarded as instrumental in plugging up loopholes in American defenses against economic and military intelligence, especially showing the methods by which the Nazis were able to keep track of our military aviation production.

All of the fruit of my investigation was turned over to the appropriate Government Agencies. Following this, several corporations actually under Nazi domination were taken over by the Government and in one case the Treasury additionally collected a \$160,000 fine. Because our country was not then in the war, I was "associated" with British intelligence.

This writing was praised by a large number of Congressmen and Senators, members of the Cabinet and other officials, and even resulted in fan mail to the editor from the White House.

Some of this work was used in two then current congressional investigations, one of which was the famous one by then Senator Truman, an investigation that led to his ultimately assuming the Presidency.

In an article published on September 16, 1942, I accurately predicted not only the attack upon Pearl Harbor but also on the other points of attack made less than three months later by the Japanese. The material which I personally gathered as background for this article was actually the only hot stuff the Government had for propaganda against the Japanese at the time of the attack and I personally turned it over to the late Lowell Mellett, former Scripps-Howard editor and then Director of the Office of Government Reports, at his request early on the morning of December 8, 1942.

After entering the Army, I was assigned to the O.S.S. where I subsequently worked in intelligence and political analysis, handling special analyses and investigations for both counter-intelligence and the White House.

As a relatively young man, I decided to seek the peace and tranquility of the country and in 1948 bought an overgrown piece of land 30 miles north of Washington which I cleared with my bare hands (literally), on which I built our home and the poultry farm that subsequently earned

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an international reputation because of our skills in both poultry husbandry and cookery. My wife was the National Chicken Cooking Champion in 1956, I became the National Barbecue King in 1959, and jointly we won first and third prizes in the only national dressed poultry competition ever held.

This is a brief and incomplete biographical sketch of the things I thought might interest you or that you might use. Perhaps sometime in the future you will want both more and more detailed information. If you do, let me know.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg