

Harold Weisberg
Rt. 8, Frederick, Md. 21701
1/9/73

Mr. Russell M. Roberts
Director of Public Services
Department of HEW
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Mr. Roberts,

Thanks you for your letter of the seventh.

You are correct in believing that personal contact would be more helpful - and less bureaucratic. Mr. Jordan and Mr. Liebergott were both quite helpful. To this I would like to add the personal opinion that your approach is a good one for all concerned, including the government. For the government this kind of personal contact has the advantage of giving the writer a much clearer understanding that, in the kind of inquiry I made, eliminated areas of doubt and confusion.

However, there are several suggestions in my letter of December 18 to Mr. Jordan to which you have not responded.

These include the names of those who might be able to provide more information and the fact that other of the information I seek is contained in the original Mullen proposal on the contract in question.

This proposal made reference to earlier contracts.

The second page of your letter is not specific in saying that these checks were made. I would appreciate if they would be.

I believe the problem stated in the second paragraph of the second page is answered in the listing of these contracts in the Mullen proposal for what I take it is Contract No. OEC-O-9-18001-4565(604).

I do want to thank you for initiating this personal-contact approach to information. Aside from the fact that it is informative it is, I believe, in the spirit of the intent of Congress in enacting the Freedom of Information law.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

bcc@ Because Jordan was going to speak to at least one other HEW source and I gave him the names of two I wonder about his failure to say in two pages that this had been done as well as his lack of reference to the listing of other contracts on the Mullen proposal. "eliberate or oversight?"