

Oct 21 1974

Saxbe Backs F.B.I. Deletions in Hiss Case Files Sent to Scholar

Attorney General William B. Saxbe was described yesterday as having "reversed the spirit, if not the letter" of a 15-month-old policy by his predecessor, Elliot L. Richardson, that had authorized scholarly access to investigatory files more than 15 years old, such as in the Alger Hiss case.

A letter by Mr. Saxbe, upholding Federal Bureau of Investigation deletions and refusals of major records in the celebrated Hiss case, was made known here by John H. F. Shattuck, counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union.

He said he would "resuscitate" a suit started in November, 1972, for access to the files by Allen Weinstein, associate professor of history and director of American studies at Smith College.

In Northampton, Mass., Professor Weinstein charging that Richardsons policy, asserted "it balanced" a way as he could seem rowy that Watergate is behind us, the administration the Department unsuccessfully

He also criticized President Ford for vetoing last Thursday amendments that would have made government information more accessible and would have narrowed the definition of investigatory data that could be withheld.

Mr. Hiss, a former State Department official who will be pardoned in 1975 of perjury for denying that he gave the nineteen-thirties to Whitaker Chambers, a self-described Soviet spy courier. He still maintains his innocence of the charge.

Professor Weinstein, who is 37 years old, has been working on a book on the Hiss case for mid-1975 publication. He said he had "no line" and was trying to study the case "from scratch" through interviews.

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He has determined that ex-situations York City author of books on the Hiss and Rosenberg cases, to date are called for in light has pending specific narrower of the deletions provided for requests for a book. Where it in the historical files policy to Mr. Began, Richard Nixon and protect the identities of informants, the privacy of individuals, law-enforcement techniques and the like.

He has also decided that F.B.I. reports of interviews with witnesses who testified at the Hiss and Rosenberg trials over 20 F.B.I. files on the Hiss case. Of these files, the estimated 70 were executed in 1953 for espionage or news-papers clippings.

Mr. Redburn said he was charged \$12,500 last week when he was finally allowed to look at the files. He said he had also been promised a search for interviews that were not put into evidence in the Hiss case.

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DENSE URBAN AREAS HELD ADVANTAGEOUS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20 (UPI)—High density residential areas such as row house and apartment-type communities—cost less and are better environmentally than the traditional American suburb, the Government said today.

The report examined the increasing cost of urban sprawl. For the last few years rural land has been converted into urban property at the rate of 2,000 acres a day.

Although the report does not conclude that any particular development or housing type is best, it seriously challenges

the assumption that the traditional single-family house is the most desirable," said Russell E. Train, head of the Environmental Protection Agency.

The report was issued by the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Council on Environmental Quality.

The report said a high-density planned community with 30,000 residents on 3,000 acres was 45 per cent cheaper in initial investment than the low-density sprawl community. The high-density community generates about 45 per cent less air pollution, because the building uses less heat than single-family houses and because automobiles are driven less.

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