

June 17, 1982

Commander
U.S. Army Intelligence Command
Attn: IACSF-FI
Ft. Meade, MD., 20755

Dear Sir:

This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act as amended (5 U.S.C. 552).

I wish to obtain a copy of all documents retrievable in a search for files listed for Ruben Salazar, the Los Angeles Times journalist killed on August 29, 1970. Mr. Salazar served in the U.S. Army from October 6, 1950, to September 12, 1952, and his Service Number was 54021783. I provide this information simply as an aid in locating the proper files: my concern is for any information you might have on Mr. Salazar in his capacity as a foreign correspondent covering the landing of American troops in 1965 in the Dominican Republic; his travels in Vietnam during 1966 and '67; or in Central America and Mexico in 1967 and '68. He was mentioned in at least one Central Intelligence Agency cable from Panama in 1968, a copy of which was sent to Army officials in Panama according to a previous FOIA release. Additional information that might aid your search is his passport number, F253220; social security account number, 465-34-0679; Certificate of Naturalization number, 7L20672; and birth date, March 3, 1928.

If all or any part of my request is denied, please list the specific exemptions which are being claimed. I am enclosing a portion of a magazine article published shortly after Mr. Salazar's death to show that his right to privacy will not be violated by any release of records.

If you determine that some portions of the requested material are exempt, I will expect, as the Act provides, that you will provide me with the remaining non-exempt portions. I, of course, reserve the right to appeal any decision to withhold information.

As you know, the amended FOIA permits you to reduce or waive search and/or copying fees when release of the requested information would be "in the public interest." I believe that this request fits that category since the material will be for a biography I'm writing of Mr. Salazar, a controversial personality in the Los Angeles community who died under equally controversial circumstances at the hands of law enforcement officers. I therefore ask that you waive fees in the interest of new information coming to the public's attention.

As provided in the FOIA, I will expect to receive a reply within ten working days.

Sincerely yours,

Steven Paul Weingarten
432 S. Alhambra Av.
Monterey Park, CA., 91754
Phone: 213-288-1109



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY COMMAND
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755

IACSF-FI

7 July 1982

Mr. Steven Paul Weingarten
432 S. Alhambra Avenue
Monterey Park, CA 91754

Dear Mr. Weingarten:

This is in response to your 17 June 1982 letter requesting records concerning Ruben Salazar, under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 USC552. Your letter was received in this office on 28 June 1982.

To determine the existence of Army intelligence investigative records concerning Ruben Salazar, a search was made of the Master Name Index of the Defense Central Index of Investigations (DCII). This index is managed by the Defense Investigative Service for the Department of Defense. The index is keyed to the individual's name, date and place of birth, social security account number and service number (if any), and yields information about the existence of investigative files concerning the subject. We queried this index using Mr. Salazar's name, date and place of birth, and social security number, and service number. In addition, a search was made of other indices maintained by the Investigative Records Repository of this Command, which is the official repository for all Army intelligence investigative records. As a result of these searches, we have determined there are no Army intelligence investigative records identifiable with Ruben Salazar.

In addition to the Master Name Index, there is the Impersonal Title Index which identifies records on an event, project, exercise, or organization. Entry is by the name of the event, project, organization, etc. In addition the time frame of the records desired assists in narrowing the search (i.e. project CONCRETE for the period 1978-79). If, within your research about Mr. Salazar, you come across specific events which may have involved him, we will make appropriate searches of our files for records of value to you.

If you have any questions, you may contact this office at the following address: Freedom of Information/Privacy Office, US Army Intelligence and Security Command, ATTN: IACSF-FI, Fort Meade, Maryland 20755. The telephone numbers are (301) 677-4742/4743.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Thomas F. Conley", is written over the typed name "THOMAS F. CONLEY".

Chief

Freedom of Information/Privacy Office

August 30, 1982

Thomas F. Conley
Freedom of Information/Privacy Office
US Army Intelligence and Security Command
ATTN: IACSF-FI
Fort Meade, Maryland, 20755

Dear Sir:

This is in response to your letter of 7 July 1982 regarding a prior search of records for Ruben Salazar, the Los Angeles Times reporter who was killed on August 29, 1970, in Los Angeles. You indicated that there might be information retrievable through the Impersonal Title Index if I can provide information concerning specific events and the time frames involved. Through other FOIA releases, I do have several events that could be pertinent to your files. I am enclosing photocopies of those documents.

They are:

- 1.) an x-submission monitored by the wartime Office of Censorship of a letter sent to a serviceman (I assume) concerning Mr. Salazar in 1944. I would like any information retrievable concerning this serviceman and the correspondence indicated here.
- 2.) an espionage investigation conducted by the FBI, as indicated by a Milwaukee, Wisconsin, report filed in early 1953, concerning photos of a riot in a Korean POW camp in September, 1952. I would like any information retrievable about the riot which took place, and/or any connection Mr. Salazar might have had with the servicemen involved in taking and distributing the photos.
- 3.) two documents from the State Department involving a story Mr. Salazar was about to file from Vietnam in November, 1965, concerning an ARVN official--Nguyen Chanh Thi--with links to the Dai Viet political party. I request any information concerning Mr. Salazar while he was in Vietnam, and/or any information concerning the ARVN official and the Dai Viet party.
- 4.) a CIA release from Panama from May, 1968, when Mr. Salazar had an encounter with armed persons during the elections that year. I request any information retrievable concerning Military Intelligence's monitoring of the Panamanian situation and/or Mr. Salazar while he was there.

Thank you very much for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

Steve Weingarten

Steve Weingarten
432 S. Alhambra Av.
Monterey Park, CA, 91754
Phone: 213-288-1109



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY COMMAND
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755

IACSF-FI

10 September 1982

Mr. Steve Weingarten
432 S. Alhambra Avenue
Monterey Park, CA 91754

Dear Mr. Weingarten:

This is in response to your 30 August 1982 letter to this office wherein you provided photocopies of several records as possible aids in our search for records concerning Mr. Ruben Salazar. Your letter was received in this office on 3 September 1982.

We have analyzed your letter and the records you provided and have concluded:

Item 1: The only way we can act on this portion of your request is if you provide this office with the name and any other identifying data such as date and place of birth, social security number, military service number of the serviceman indicated in subparagraph 1 of your letter. We will then be able to make the necessary checks of the DCII.

Item 2: This office has no information concerning an FBI espionage investigation conducted in 1953. You may want to contact the FBI directly for information concerning this investigation. With regard to the Korean POW camp riot, a search of the Impersonal Title Index of the DCII determined we have no records concerning this incident.

Item 3: The Name Only Index of the DCII is an index of names of individuals for whom personal identifiers (date and place of birth, and social security number) are not available. A search was made under the name Nguyen Chanh Thi. We received a no record response. A check of the Impersonal Title Index concerning the Dai Viet Political Party and the Dai Viet Party has determined we have no records concerning this organization.

Item 4: As we have advised you in our letter of 7 July 1982, our check of the Master Name Index of the DCII indicates we have no records pertaining to Ruben Salazar.

IACSF-FI

10 September 1982

Mr. Steve Weingarten

We regret that we have been unable to identify any Army intelligence investigative records concerning your request. The Investigative Records Repository (IRR) at this Headquarters is the official repository for all Army intelligence investigative records. If such records exist, they would be located in the IRR. (To assist you in correlating our response, a copy of your letter of 30 August 1982 is inclosed; returned also are the records you provided.)

Sincerely,



THOMAS F. CONLEY

Chief

Freedom of Information/Privacy Office

2 Inclosures

As stated

W. S. G. A. 21-54
FOIA
JC

August 30, 1982

Thomas F. Conley
Freedom of Information/Privacy Office
US Army Intelligence and Security Command
ATTN: IACSF-FI
Fort Meade, Maryland, 20755

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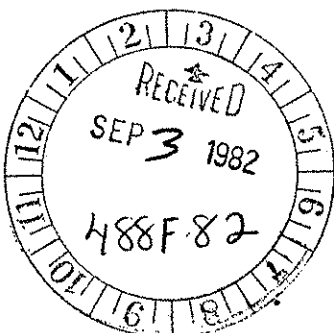
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