



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

June 22, 2000

Ms. Dawn Townsend
Post Office Box 874
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406

Dear Ms. Townsend:

Your December 26, 1999, e-mail to President Clinton was referred to the Department of Justice and subsequently forwarded to the FBI, where it was received on May 30, 2000. I was sorry to learn about the death of your father in 1975 and hope you and your family will accept my belated condolences.

While we would like to be of help, most deaths are investigated by law enforcement authorities at the state and local level. In order for the FBI to initiate an investigation of any complaint we receive, specific facts must be present to indicate that a violation of federal law within our investigative jurisdiction has occurred. Based on the information you provided, we are unable to identify any violation of federal law within the investigative jurisdiction of the FBI. As much as we would like to assist you, the FBI has no authority to conduct an investigation in the absence of an indication that a violation of a federal law within our jurisdiction has occurred.

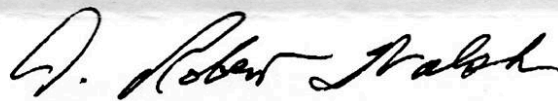
Our Salt Lake City Office advised that upon conducting a thorough search of their files, they were unable to locate any pertinent information in their Office to indicate that your father was "working" with the FBI in any capacity. If you are interested in making an FOIA request, you should be aware that an FOIA request made to one of our field offices will only provide records which belong to that particular office. Therefore, you may wish to direct an FOIA request to any of the field offices which may have a connection to the subject of your inquiry, or if you wish to obtain information which may be contained in the files of our

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central records system at FBI Headquarters, you should make an FOIA request directly to the Freedom of Information-Privacy Acts (FOIPA) Section at the address listed below. You must provide the complete name, date and place of birth for the subject of your request, and either proof of death or a notarized authorization from that person. Proof of death can be a copy of a death certificate, obituary, or a recognized reference source.

If you have not already done so, you may also wish to contact the state or local law enforcement authorities in Idaho which may be able to assist you further in this matter.

Sincerely yours,



A. Robert Walsh
Legislative Counsel
Office of Public and
Congressional Affairs

FOIPA Section
Office of Public and Congressional Affairs
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20535-0001