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Description of document: Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) material related to Bella Abzug referred by Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for review, 1971, 1975

Requested date: 12-October-2001

Released date: 28-January-2011

Posted date: 28-February-2011

Date/date range of document: 03-March-1971 – 13-March-1975

Source of document: Information and Privacy Coordinator
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505
Fax: (703)613-3007

Note: This material was located by FBI during processing of a FOIA request and forwarded to CIA for review and subsequently released directly by CIA.

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Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

January 28, 2011

Reference: F-2010-01598

In the course of processing your 12 October 2001 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the FBI for records on Bella Savitzky Abzug, the FBI located CIA material and referred it to us on 5 August 2010 for review.

We reviewed the material and determined that the documents can be released in segregable form with deletions made on the basis of FOIA exemptions (b)(1), (b)(3), and (b)(6). A copy of the documents and an explanation of exemptions are enclosed.

As the CIA Information and Privacy Coordinator, I am the CIA official responsible for this determination. You have the right to appeal this response to the Agency Release Panel, in my care, within 45 days from the date of this letter. Please include the basis of your appeal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Viscuso", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Susan Viscuso
Information and Privacy Coordinator

Enclosures

Explanation of Exemptions Under the Freedom of Information Act

(b)(1) exempts from disclosure information currently and properly classified, pursuant to an Executive Order;

(b)(2) exempts from disclosure information, which pertains solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of the Agency;

(b)(3) exempts from disclosure information that another federal statute protects, provided that the other federal statute either requires that the matters be withheld, or establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld. The (b)(3) statutes upon which the CIA relies include, but are not limited to, the CIA Act of 1949;

(b)(4) exempts from disclosure trade secrets and commercial or financial information that is obtained from a person and that is privileged or confidential;

(b)(5) exempts from disclosure inter-and intra-agency memoranda or letters that would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;

(b)(6) exempts from disclosure information from personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy;

(b)(7) exempts from disclosure information compiled for law enforcement purposes to the extent that the production of the information (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings; (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication; (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy; (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of a confidential source or, in the case of information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source; (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law; or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger any individual's life or physical safety;

(b)(8) exempts from disclosure information contained in reports or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, or on behalf of, or for use of an agency responsible for regulating or supervising financial institutions; and

(b)(9) exempts from disclosure geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

Exemptions Under the Privacy Act

- (d)(5) exempts from disclosure information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action or proceeding;
- (j)(1) exempts from disclosure certain information maintained by the Central Intelligence Agency;
- (j)(2) exempts from disclosure certain information maintained by law enforcement agencies;
- (k)(1) exempts from disclosure information properly classified, pursuant to an Executive Order;
- (k)(2) exempts from disclosure material compiled for criminal investigative law enforcement purposes, by nonprincipal function criminal law enforcement entities and material compiled for other investigative law enforcement purposes, by any agency;
- (k)(3) exempts from disclosure information pertaining to the protective services afforded the President of the United States and others;
- (k)(4) exempts from disclosure information that statutes require to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) exempts from disclosure investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for federal civilian employment, or access to classified information, but only to the extent the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of a confidential source who furnished information after the government's express promise to keep that source's identity confidential;
- (k)(6) exempts from disclosure testing or examination material used solely to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in the Federal service, the disclosure of which would compromise the objectivity or fairness of the testing or examination process; and
- (k)(7) exempts from disclosure evaluation material the armed forces use to determine an individual's potential for promotion, but only if disclosure would reveal the identity of a source who furnished information after the government's express promise to keep that source's identity confidential.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

(b)(1)
(b)(3)
(b)(6)

12 MAR 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Naval Investigative Service

SUBJECT : Request for File Information -
Congresswoman Bella S. Abzug

1. On 14 January 1975, Congresswoman Bella S. Abzug submitted a request to the Director of Central Intelligence as to whether the Central Intelligence Agency had gathered or maintained a listing and/or dossier on her. This request has already been answered; included in the response was reference to the fact that our files contain documents and information originated by other government agencies.

2. Among the documents originated in other government agencies making reference to Congresswoman Abzug and contained in our records is an Office of Naval Intelligence report dated 29 September 1953 in the subject name of

[Redacted]

A copy is attached.

3. In a conversation with Congresswoman Abzug on 5 March 1975, the Director reiterated the earlier statement that our files contain documents and information originated by other government agencies. Ms. Abzug requested the Director at that time to advise these other agencies that she would appreciate hearing from them regarding any information they had in their files concerning her.

4. Consistent with the February 1975 Attorney General's memorandum on the 1974 Freedom of Information Act amendments, this oral request to the Director by Ms. Abzug is being referred to you for whatever action you deem appropriate.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE:

APPROVED FOR
RELEASE DATE:
23-Nov-2010

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-7-99 BY SP4 bja/mc

[Redacted Signature]

Charles W. Kane
Director of Security

Attachment

Regraded Unclassified when separated
from Classified Attachment(s)

100-401225-41

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
ENCLOSURE

E2 IMPDET
CL BY 011018

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

(b)(3)
(b)(6)

11 MAR 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Bureau of Personnel Investigations
United States Civil Service Commission

SUBJECT : Request for File Information -
Congresswoman Bella S. Abzug

1. On 14 January 1975, Congresswoman Bella S. Abzug submitted a request to the Director of Central Intelligence as to whether the Central Intelligence Agency had gathered or maintained a listing and/or dossier on her. The Director has already responded in writing to her request. In this response, he indicated that among our records are documents and information originated by other government agencies; he stated that the release of such was not a matter for CIA determination.

2. Among the documents originated in other government agencies and containing reference to Congresswoman Abzug were Civil Service Commission reports dated 15 September 1952 and 20 May 1965, [redacted]

3. In a conversation with Congresswoman Abzug on 5 March 1975, the Director reiterated his earlier statement about documents and information in our files originated by other government agencies. At that time, Ms. Abzug requested the Director to advise these other agencies that she would appreciate hearing from them regarding any information that they had in their files concerning her.

4. Consistent with the February 1975 Attorney General's memorandum on the 1974 Freedom of Information Act amendments, and United States Civil Service Commission Bulletin No. 294-1, this oral request of the Director by Ms. Abzug is being referred to you for whatever action you deem appropriate.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE:

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-1-99 BY SP4 Dja/mc

[redacted]
Charles W. Kane
Director of Security

APPROVED
FOR
RELEASE
DATE:
23-Nov-2010

100-401225-42
ENCLOSURE

~~SECRET~~

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

(b)(1)
(b)(3)
(b)(6)

APPROVED FOR
RELEASE DATE:
23-Jan-2011

6 MAR 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
ATTENTION : Mr. William O. Cregar
SUBJECT : Request for File Information -
Congresswoman Bella S. Abzug

1. This memorandum confirms my telephonic conversation of 5 March 1975 with Special Agent William O. Cregar.

2. On 14 January 1975, Congresswoman Bella S. Abzug submitted a request to the Director of Central Intelligence as to whether the Central Intelligence Agency had gathered or maintained a listing and/or dossier on her. The DCI has already responded in writing to her request; in this response he included a sanitized copy of two unclassified FBI cables dated 3 and 8 March 1971. A copy of the sanitized version of these cables is attached.

3. In a conversation with Congresswoman Abzug on 5 March 1975, Mr. Colby reiterated an earlier statement in his written response that our files contain documents and information originated by other government agencies. Ms. Abzug requested Mr. Colby to advise these other agencies that she would appreciate hearing from them regarding any information they had in their files concerning her.

4. Consistent with the February 1975 Attorney General's memorandum on the 1974 Freedom of Information Act amendments, this oral request of Mr. Colby by Ms. Abzug is being referred to you for whatever action you deem appropriate. For your assistance in addressing this referral, I have attached a listing of FBI reports contained in Agency files and making reference to Ms. Abzug.

REC-100-401225-38

Mg

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-1-99 BY SP4 bja/mc

MAR 16 1975

*See letter
to Abzug 3/12/75
JCF: LAW*

ENCLOSURE *Mg*

Regraded Unclassified when separated
from Classified Attachment(s)

CLASSIFIED BY _____
EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652, CATEGORY
3 SE(1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10) (unless 010 or more)
AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON _____
Impossible to Determine
(unless instructed to insert date or event)

~~SECRET~~

LEAD TO SOURCE

~~SECRET~~

5. Attachment B has been classified Secret only because it includes identification of some FBI documents so classified.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE:

[Redacted Signature]

Charles W. Kane
Director of Security

Attachments

- A: Sanitized copy of 3, 8 March 1971 cables
- B: List of FBI Documents

~~SECRET~~

3 MARCH 1971

ON ~~MARCH TWO LAST~~, THE ~~PCPJ~~ HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE
 HAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D. C. PCPJ
 REPRESENTATIVES INCLUDED

SCHEDULED TO ATTEND, BUT ABSENT, WERE

AND REPRESENTATIVES

AND BELLA ABZUG.

8 MARCH 1971

WOMEN STRIKE FOR PEACE (WSP) DEMONSTRATES AT NEW YORK CITY.

ON MARCH FIVE LAST, WSP DEMONSTRATED IN FRONT OF THE PUBLIC
 LIBRARY AT NEW YORK CITY. PLACARDS CARRIED BY THE DEMONSTRATORS
 CALLED ON CONGRESS TO SET A DEFINITE DATE FOR UNITED STATES
 WITHDRAWAL FROM SOUTHEAST ASIA. THE DEMONSTRATORS WERE ADDRESSED
 BY CONGRESSWOMAN BELLA ABZUG WHO TOLD THEM THAT AN
 ANTIWAR COALITION IN CONGRESS WOULD FORCE WITHDRAWAL FROM
 SOUTHEAST ASIA. FOLLOWING THE SPEECHES, THE DEMONSTRATORS MARCHED
 TO THE NEW YORK CITY OFFICE OF

WHERE THEY PICKETED.

100-40/225-38

ENCLOSURE

SECRET

Attachment B

FBI DOCUMENTS

1. FBI Report from Miami, Florida dated February 25, 1952, Subject: Alfred Epaminondas Sarant, was.
2. FBI Report from Albany, New York dated February 25, 1952, Subject: Alfred Epaminondas Sarant, was.; et al.
3. Memorandum from U. S. Department of Justice dated September 5, 1952 addressed to Department of State, cc to CIA, #100-192536, with attachment (FBI Report dated 8/21/52, Subject: Jack Bjoze, was.).
4. FBI Report dated November 20, 1952, Subject: Malcolm J. Abzug.
5. FBI Report dated November 28, 1952, Subject: Malcolm J. Abzug.
6. FBI Report from New York dated 6/2/53, Subject: Jack Bjoze, was.
7. FBI Report from New York dated 11/1/54, Subject: Charles Recht, wa.
8. FBI Report dated January 4, 1954, Subject: Maurice Martin Abzug.
9. FBI Report from New York dated 8/24/59, Subject: Jack Bjoze.
10. Cable from FBI dated 3 March 1971 addressed to President, Vice President, CIA, etc., unclassified, Subject: Demonstrations at Washington, D. C., April 24 through May 5 next.
11. Cable from FBI dated 8 March 1971 addressed to President, Vice President, CIA, etc., unclassified, Subject: Student Agitation and Anti-war Activity in the United States.
12. Cable from FBI dated November 8, 1971, Subject: Anti-war Demonstrations, Fall of 1971.
13. Memorandum from FBI dated April 14, 1972, Subject: Vladimir Ivanovich Mechulayev (Internal Security-R).

SECRET
ENCLOSURE

100-401225-38

EX-117

REC-4

March 13, 1975

- 1 - Mr. Wannall - Enc.
- 1 - Legal Analysis Office Enc.
- 1 - Mr. Farrington - Enc.
- 1 - Mr. Mintz

cc DESTROYED
1-15-76
BAP

100-401225-38

Honorable Bella S. Abzug
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Abzug:

I have learned that you are interested in determining whether this agency maintains a file on you. Please be advised that our files do contain references to you.

In the event you desire to request access to such material, a request from you in writing would be processed under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act.

Sincerely yours,

Q. M. Kelley
Clarence M. Kelley
Director

MAILED 7
MAR 14 1975
FBI

The Deputy Attorney General
1 - Bufile 62-115530 (FOI-REPLIES)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-1-99 BY SP-4/ba/mc

NOTE: In Legal Counsel to Mr. J. B. Adams memorandum of 3-4-75, captioned, "Bella S. Abzug (D. New York)," it was noted that CIA, in response to a request made by Mrs. Abzug to Director Colby for information CIA may have in its files on Mrs. Abzug, among other matters, furnished Mrs. Abzug the substance of information of two unclassified reports received by the CIA from the FBI. In memorandum from Charles W. Kane, Director of Security, CIA, to the Director, FBI, dated 3-6-75, there was set forth Mrs. Abzug's oral request of Mr. Colby to advise other agencies that she would appreciate hearing from them regarding any information regarding her. This letter is in response to that request.

- Assoc. Dir. _____
- Dep. AD Adm. _____
- Dep. AD Inv. _____
- Asst. Dir.:
- Adm. _____
- Comp. Syst. _____
- Ext. Affairs _____
- Files & Com. _____
- Gen. Inv. _____
- Ident. _____
- Inspection _____
- Intell. _____
- Laboratory _____
- Plan. & Eval. _____
- Spec. Inv. _____
- Training _____
- Legal Coun. _____
- Telephone Rm. _____
- Director Sec'y _____

JCF:law (7)

56 MAR 25 1975
MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

Copy Sent Bell S. Abzug
7/18/75
Per FOIA

RECORDED COPY FILED IN