Bern Porter's Request for Records

Bern Porter

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Request for Records - BERNARD HARDEN PORTER

Mr. Robert J. Drummond, Director
Bureau of Personnel Investigations
U.S. Civil Service Commission
1900 E. Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20415

1. Attached request for documents was received by this office through the office of Congressman William S. Cohen.

2. We have copies of eight CSC reports on BERNARD HARDEN PORTER in our files. Seven of the reports bear CSC Case Serial No. 11-58-7913 and the following typing dates and investigator’s names:

3. Requester has been told of this referral and that your office will respond directly to him concerning the release of the CSC reports.
Office of Congressional Liaison  
Department of the Air Force  
Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen:

The attached communication is sent for your consideration.

I would appreciate any information you would be able to send Mr. Porter, and your letting me know when you do so.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

William S. Cohen, M.C.

WSCss

Enclosure
William S. Cohen

Dear Mr. Cohen:

You may recall I stopped at your Bangor office with a series of six problems.

You have been working on the first and now I present some details of the second, the while asking your help.

The common citizenry is under continuous investigation as you know.

Quite simply I wish to have two copies of everything the Intelligence Services have on me.

Note this will require contacting not just one of them but all of them:

US Army Intelligence for my years 1932—1947
US Navy Intelligence for 1947—1954
FBI 1911—1975
CIA 1911—1975
IRS 1933—1975
National Security 1911—1975
all other possible years including those not cited

I realize this will be quite a chore but I have no other way out as these people do not answer letters.

Bernard H. Porter
Box 209
Belfast, Maine 04915

Social Security # 083-10-2491
Mr. Bernard H. Porter  
Box 209  
Belfast, ME 04915  

Dear Mr. Porter:

This replies to your letter to Congressman Cohen, which was referred to this Agency for response and was received on 8 December 1975. In your letter you request copies of any information the Intelligence Services may have on you.

We have made a thorough search and report that we have no information concerning you in this Agency's records.

Additionally, the National Security Agency is not responsible for files maintained on individuals by any other Federal Agency. In accordance with Department of Defense Directive 5400.7, Section V, Paragraph E, we suggest that you correspond directly with those other Federal Agencies as listed in your letter for a search to determine if any files are being maintained on you by those Agencies.

Also, you indicated that we had not responded to a previous request of yours. A search of our files indicates that we have never received any previous Freedom of Information Act request from you.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
NORMAN BOARDMAN  
Information Officer

Copy Furnished:  
Congressman William S. Cohen
Mr. Bernard H. Porter  
Box 209  
Belfast, ME 04915  

Dear Mr. Porter:  

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Sincerely,

\[Signature\]

Copy Furnished:

Congressman William S. Cohen
Mr. Bernard H. Porter  
Box 209  
Belfast, ME 04915  

Dear Mr. Porter:

Congressman Cohen has forwarded to the CIA your request, and we will conduct a search of our records in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, which became effective 27 September 1975. This act and pertinent CIA regulations established requirements and procedures for access by individuals for information pertaining to them. CIA Regulations have been published in the Federal Register and may be found in Title 32 C.F.R. 1901.

Since the Privacy Act requires federal agencies to ensure that improper disclosure of personally identifiable information will not be made and further provides criminal penalties of improper disclosure, CIA Privacy Regulations, section 1901.13, sets forth the following requirements for identification of individuals making requests.

An individual seeking access to or notification of the existence of records about himself shall provide in the letter of request his full name, address, date and place of birth together with a notarized statement swearing to or affirming his identity....If such individual is an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence, his or her alien registration number must be also provided.

Before we may begin processing your request we must receive from you a notarized statement as explained above. It is also requested that you advise us which records system you would like to have searched, or if you desire, provide us with any additional information concerning yourself which might facilitate our search of records.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Gene F. Wilson
Information and Privacy Coordinator
12 December 1975

Honorable William S. Cohen
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.  20515

Dear Mr. Cohen:

This acknowledges receipt of your letter on behalf of Mr. Bernard H. Porter. Since the request concerns the possible existence of any personal records, it is being processed under the Privacy Act of 1974 which became effective 27 September 1975, and has been forwarded to Mr. Gene F. Wilson, Privacy Act Coordinator. Mr. Wilson will respond directly to Mr. Porter.

A large volume of similar requests have been received under the Freedom of Information Act. We anticipate that this large volume will continue under the Privacy Act. Though every effort is being made to process these cases as soon as possible, we hope you will understand that there may be some delay in our replying to Mr. Porter.

Your personal interest in this matter is appreciated and we will inform you when action in this case has been completed.

Sincerely,

George L. Carey
Legislative Counsel
U. S. ARMY HOSPITAL

AMSRI-KHH

SUBJECT: PORTER, BERNARD HARDEN
DPOB: 14 Feb 1911, Holton, Maine

TO: Adjudication Division
    ATTN: LTC Davis F. Henderson
    Defense Supply Agency
    Defense Industrial Security
    Clearance Office
    P. O. Box 2499
    Columbus, Ohio 43216

1. On 11 January 1968, in compliance with your request of 20 December 1967, I examined Mr. Bernard Harden Porter for the purpose of supplying you with a current psychiatric evaluation. The subject was aware of the purpose of the interview. In addition, I had access to the case file which you enclosed for my review.

2. The history obtained from the subject coincided with the information in the case file. He stated that he had been picked up by police on 23 April, charged with drunkenness, taken to the jail, later examined by a psychiatrist who recommended that he be committed to a state mental institution where he went for a period of 21 days of observation. There he received psychological tests and was discharged on 17 May 1967 with a diagnosis of Paranoid Personality and with the note being sent to Judge Ashford Todd that the subject was found not to be suffering mental illness at that time.

3. Additional history revealed that subject has not previously nor subsequently consulted a psychiatrist. This man's family is free of psychiatric illness. He has not had any substantial physical ailment. His marital history revealed two marriages. The first terminated in 1947 with no children. His second marriage began in 1954 with his wife being 5 years older. There have been no children produced by this marriage either.

4. During the interview, the subject aggrandized himself by initially stating that he is a Physicist who has worked with great success, that he has many degrees, that he has written many papers
and many books. He stated that he had worked on the atomic bomb development. He minimized the incidents that have resulted in his needing a psychiatric clearance. As he had in the statement contained in your case file, he pictured himself as a victim of police action combined with commitment procedure.

5. **Diagnostic Impression** is of Paranoid Personality Disorder. I should like to note that this is in concurrence with the impression formed at Bryce State Hospital and is influenced by the observation that was made in that hospital over a 21 day period and which is summarized in your case file. It is unlikely that there will be a change in his personality pattern over the next few years.

6. Should there be a need for clarification of any part of this statement, please contact me.

1 Incl

VICTOR R. GONZALEZ
CPT, MC
 Psychiatrist

APPROVED:

RUSSELL J. GALE
LTC, MC
Post Surgeon
IN REPLY REFER TO DISCO-A/S

SUBJECT: PORTER, Bernard Harden
DPOB: 14 February 1911, Holton, Maine

TO: Chief, Mental Hygiene Consultation Service
    U.S. Army Hospital
    ATTN: Captain Victor R. Gonzalez, MC
    Redstone Arsenal, Alabama 35809

1. Reference is made to DISCO-A letter, dated 20 December 1967, transmitting case file of SUBJECT and requesting a psychiatric examination of SUBJECT. Reference is also made to your letter dated 17 January 1968, transmitting the results of your examination.

2. The following information is requested:

   The psychiatrist's considered opinion whether, and to what extent, such illness or condition may cause significant defect in the applicant's judgment or reliability.

3. Please forwarded to this office, ATTN: DISCO-A/S, together with enclosure.

FOR THE CHIEF:

[Signature]

DAVID F. HENDERSON
LTC, USA
Chief, Adjudication Div.
AMSIX-KH (26 Jan 68)  1st Ind
SUBJECT:  Porter, Bernard Harden, DOPB:  14 Feb 1911, Holton, Maine

Hq, U. S. Army Missile Command, Redstone Arsenal, Alabama 35809  31 Jan 68

TO:  C, Adjudication Div, Defense Supply Agency, Defense Industrial Security
     Clearance Office, ATTN:  DISCO-A/S, P. O. Box 2499, Columbus, Ohio 43216

1. Captain Victor R. Gonzalez is no longer stationed at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama, as he has completed his active tour of military service. As a result, the U. S. Army Hospital at Redstone Arsenal has no Psychiatric or Mental Hygiene Consultation Service nor is it expected that the hospital will have these capabilities in the near future.

2. Doctor Gonzalez was contacted by telephone on 31 January 1968 and the question in paragraph 2 of your letter was read to him. He desired to answer that question in the following words; "No substantial defect in judgment or reliability is expected presently".

3. It is hoped that the above is sufficient for your needs.

RUSSELL J. CALE
LTC, MC
Hospital Commander