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The Washington Star

225 Virginia Avenue, S.E.

Washington, D.C. 20061

July 18, 1980

NEWS REGISTRY

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Information and Privacy Coordinator
Central Intelligence Agency
CIA Headquarters Building
Route 123
McLean, Virginia 22101

Dear [redacted]

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This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552.

I am writing to request the following:

1. All documents which memorialize or will show domestic and/or foreign activities of William A. (Billy) Carter III on behalf of:

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- a) the government of Libya
- b) a representative of the government of Libya
- c) an intermediary of the government of Libya
- d) a citizen of Libya

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2. All documents which memorialize or will show domestic and/or foreign communications and/or financial transactions between William A. (Billy) Carter III and:

- a) the government of Libya
- b) a representative of the government of Libya
- c) an intermediary of the government of Libya
- d) a citizen of Libya

3. All documents which memorialize or show domestic and/or foreign activities of William A. (Billy) Carter III in which he offered to represent and/or represented person, partnership, corporation or government in matters involving:

- a) the government of Libya

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- b) a representative of the government of Libya
 - c) an intermediary of the government of Libya
 - d) a citizen of Libya
4. All documents that will show, record or recount any investigation of the actions of William A. (Billy) Carter III described in 1, 2 and/or 3 above.
5. All documents which relate to or discuss the case of United States v. William A. (Billy) Carter III filed July 14, 1980 in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia (Civ. Action No. 80-1735).
6. All documents which relate to the registration of William A. (Billy) Carter III as a foreign agent (Registration No. 3120).

As you know, the amended Act provides that if some parts of a file are exempt from release that "reasonably segregable" portions shall be provided. I therefore request that, if you determine that some of the requested documents or portions of the requested documents are exempt, you provide me immediately with copies of the remainder of the documents. I, of course, reserve my right to appeal any such decision to withhold any document or portion thereof.

If you determine that some or all of the documents are exempt from release, please advise me as to the exemption or exemptions you believe cover the material you are not releasing.

I am concerned that you may attempt to withhold requested documents under the "unwarranted invasion of personal privacy" provision of 5 U.S.C. §§ 552(b)(6) and (7) (so-called Exemptions 6 and 7). It is quite clear from the legislative history of these provisions that they require a balancing of interests between the protection of an individual's private affairs from unnecessary public scrutiny and the preservation of the public's right to government information. The courts have made it clear that in applying the privacy provisions of Exemptions 6 and 7 the balance is tilted in favor of disclosure.

As you know Billy Carter's activities involving Libya have been the subject of intense publicity. The issue of the propriety of Mr. Carter's conduct and his contacts with White House personnel are being scrutinized closely by the public. The conduct of the President's brother and subordinates have been called into question. Here the public's right to know

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whether the President's brother has abused his status and the government has acted ethically and responsibly in dealing with conduct of the President's brother clearly outweighs any concern that disclosure of all the relevant facts will invade someone's privacy. Disclosure of all the facts is necessary for the public to determine whether the government has carried out its responsibilities and does not constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

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As you know, the amended Act permits you to reduce or waive the fees if it "is in the public interest because furnishing the information can be considered as primarily benefiting the public." I believe that this request certainly is in that category. If you believe The Star is not entitled to a waiver of the fee, please notify me immediately so that we may discuss the matter. I do not wish the issue of fee payment to delay your fulfillment of this request.

If you have any questions concerning this request or have any suggestion that would expedite fulfilling this request, please contact The Washington Star's General Counsel, Walter Diercks, at 484-4774.

Given the extreme newsworthiness of this request, it should be fulfilled as soon as possible and in no event later than the statutory ten days. If I have not received a response within ten days, I will consider this request to have been denied and will immediately appeal this denial.

Very truly yours,

[Redacted signature box]

ADF/ea

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