

June 3, 2010

F-2010-01319

Freedom of Information Act Request
Information and Privacy Coordinator
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Coordinator:

Under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. subsection 552, I am requesting all information or records on a deceased individual named Harry A. Bruno (1893-1978). Mr. Bruno was famous both for his aviation career and for his work as a public relations pioneer. While I am interested in whatever files may be obtained related to Bruno, I am particularly interested in the period 1950-1964.

I am a graduate student [redacted] I believe my requests could be categorized as either "educational & scientific" or "news media." I am willing to pay up to 50 dollars for research and copying fees if need be, and perhaps more if there is good reason for me to believe the documents would be relevant to my research; however, as a student without the resources available to those with full-time employment, I would appreciate a fee waiver for my requests. Moreover, I believe my project qualifies for a fee waiver; although my endeavor, if successfully written and eventually published, could be viewed as a commercial interest, I believe the commercial possibilities are tenuous. Certainly the public interest in learning about government processes during this important phase of American history outweighs the uncertain commercial interest.

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Please contact me before you process my request if it will be classified as "commercial;" I don't view my project as commercial.

If you deny all or part of this request please cite each specific exemption you think justifies your refusal to release the information and notify me of appeal procedures under the law.

If you have any questions about handling this request, you may telephone me at the number below.

Thank you for your time and your help. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best,

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Joshua Erling Ostergaard

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enc: obituary from *The New York Times*

Harry A. Bruno, 85, Pioneer Aviator
New York Times (1923-Current file); Mar 23, 1978;
 ProQuest Historical Newspapers The New York Times (1851 - 2006)
 pg. B2

Harry A. Bruno, 85, Pioneer Aviator

Harry A. Bruno, a pioneer aviator and public-relations counselor for the aviation industry and a variety of other business clients, died Tuesday in Southampton Hospital of a heart attack. He was 85 years old and lived at Montauk, L.I.

Mr. Bruno was a member of the Early Birds, a group of airmen who flew before World War I. He built and flew a monoplane glider at Montclair, N.J., in 1910. He served with the British Royal Flying Corps, Canada, during the war.

Mr. Bruno's clients included Charles A. Lindbergh, Clarence D. Chamberlin, Adm. Richard E. Byrd, Dr. Hugo Eckener, Wiley Post and Harold Gatty, Jacqueline Cochran and other pilots who made epic flights. At his retirement in 1969, he was board chairman of H. A. Bruno & Associates Inc., 30 Rockefeller Plaza, which he founded in 1923.

Criticized Lindbergh Position

The concern handled publicity for leading corporations in the atomic energy, automotive, business-machines, copper, electronics, financial, marine, motion-picture, plastic, petroleum, rubber and uranium fields.

Mr. Bruno was president of the Lotus Club for 11 years. Before entering public relations, he worked briefly for The Montclair Herald. He was born London on Feb. 7, 1893, and was graduated from Montclair High School. His parents, Harry A. and Annie Thompson Bruno,

perished aboard the Lusitania in 1915.

Mr. Bruno's close relationship with Colonel Lindbergh cooled shortly before World War II, when he criticized the flier's membership in the America First Committee and his questioning of American aid to the British.

Mr. Bruno was a member of the advisory committee for the Harmon International Trophies, awards made annually to the world's outstanding aviators.

He was a founder in 1921 of the Quiet Birdmen, a fraternal order of aviators, and a trustee of the Air Force Historical Foundation. His book, "Wings Over America" was published in 1942.

He had been a board member of the National Aeronautic Association, an executive of the Wings Club of New York, president of the Adventurers Club and public-relations counsel to New York City's Department of Public Events, 1953 to 1965.

In 1930, he was married to Nydia de Sosnowska, who was known on the American musical comedy stage as Nydia D'Arnell.

Two years after her death in 1970, Mr. Bruno married Evelyn Denny Witten. She is his sole survivor.

There was a cremation but no funeral service. A memorial service will be held at 2 P.M. next Tuesday at the Community Church in Montauk. Another memorial service is scheduled at 11:30 A.M. next Wednesday at the Frank E. Campbell Funeral Chapel, 1076 Madison Avenue.

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