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and research of John Greenewald, Jr., creator of:

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Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C. 20535

October 21, 2016

MR. JOHN GREENEWALD JR.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

FOIPA Request No.: 1351222-000  
Subject: SAFER, MORLEY

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

The enclosed documents were reviewed under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), Title 5, United States Code, Section 552. Deletions have been made to protect information which is exempt from disclosure, with the appropriate exemptions noted on the page next to the excision. In addition, a deleted page information sheet was inserted in the file to indicate where pages were withheld entirely. The exemptions used to withhold information are marked below and explained on the enclosed Explanation of Exemptions:

**Section 552**

☐ (b)(1)

☐ (b)(2)

☒ (b)(3)

50 USC 3024(i)(1)

☐ (b)(4)

☐ (b)(5)

☒ (b)(6)

☐ (b)(7)(A)

☐ (b)(7)(B)

☒ (b)(7)(C)

☒ (b)(7)(D)

☒ (b)(7)(E)

☐ (b)(7)(F)

☐ (b)(8)

☐ (b)(9)

**Section 552a**

☐ (d)(5)

☐ (j)(2)

☐ (k)(1)

☐ (k)(2)

☐ (k)(3)

☐ (k)(4)

☐ (k)(5)

☐ (k)(6)

☐ (k)(7)

11 pages were reviewed and 11 pages are being released.

☐ Document(s) were located which originated with, or contained information concerning, other Government Agency (ies) [OGA].

☐ This information has been referred to the OGA(s) for review and direct response to you.

☐ We are consulting with another agency. The FBI will correspond with you regarding this information when the consultation is completed.

☒ In accordance with standard FBI practice and pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(7)(E) and Privacy Act exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. § 552/552a (b)(7)(E)/(j)(2)], this response neither confirms nor denies the existence of your subject's name on any watch lists.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV (2010)). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist. Enclosed for your information is a copy of the Explanation of Exemptions.

For questions regarding our determinations, visit the [www.fbi.gov/foia](http://www.fbi.gov/foia) website under "Contact Us."

The FOIPA Request Number listed above has been assigned to your request. Please use this number in all correspondence concerning your request. Your patience is appreciated.


You may file an appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, Suite 11050, 1425 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIAonline portal by creating an account on the following web site: <https://foiaonline.regulations.gov/foia/action/public/home>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within sixty (60) days from the date of this letter in order to be considered timely. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

You may seek dispute resolution services by contacting the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at 877-684-6448, or by emailing [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov). Alternatively, you may contact the FBI's FOIA Public Liaison by emailing [foipaquestions@ic.fbi.gov](mailto:foipaquestions@ic.fbi.gov). If you submit your dispute resolution correspondence by email, the subject heading should clearly state "Dispute Resolution Services." Please also cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

☐ The enclosed material is from the main investigative file(s) in which the subject(s) of your request was the focus of the investigation. Our search located additional references, in files relating to other individuals, or matters, which may or may not be about your subject(s). Our experience has shown when ident, references usually contain information similar to the information processed in the main file(s). Because of our significant backlog, we have given priority to processing only the main investigative file(s). If you want the references, you must submit a separate request for them in writing, and they will be reviewed at a later date, as time and resources permit.

☒ See additional information which follows.

Sincerely,



David M. Hardy  
Section Chief  
Record/Information  
Dissemination Section  
Records Management Division

Enclosures

In response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, enclosed is a processed copy of records responsive to your request.

It is unnecessary to adjudicate your fee waiver request as there are no accessible fees.

This material is being provided to you at no charge.

## **EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS**

### **SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552**

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or 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 confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or 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, or would disclose guidelines 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 the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

### **SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a**

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

CODE

CABLEGRAM

URGENT

August 6, 1965

1 - Orig  
1 - Yellow  
1 - Mr. Fitzgerald  
1 - Liaison  
1 - Mr. Flemister

TO LEGAT OTTAWA  
FROM DIRECTOR FBI

MORLEY SAFER, FPC.

SUBJECT IS COLUMBIA BROADCASTING SYSTEM NETWORK CORRESPONDENT IN SOUTH VIETNAM. RECENTLY HE HAS BEEN GIVING PARTICULARLY UNFAVORABLE RADIO ACCOUNTS OF MARINE CORPS ACTIVITIES IN SOUTH VIETNAM. ACCOUNTS HAVE HAD TO DO WITH BRUTALITIES OF MARINE CORPS. ON AUGUST FIVE LAST, SUBJECT APPEARED ON TELEVISION GIVING PARTICULARLY UNFAVORABLE ACCOUNT OF RECENT KILLINGS OF INNOCENT VICTIMS IN SEVERAL SOUTH VIETNAM VILLAGES.

SUBJECT BORN NOVEMBER EIGHT, ONE NINE THREE ONE, TORONTO, CANADA, CANADIAN CITIZEN, SINGLE, EMPLOYED ONE NINE FIVE FIVE TO ONE NINE SIX FOUR CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION, JULY TO DECEMBER, ONE NINE FIVE FIVE REUTERS IN LONDON, ONE NINE FIVE THREE NEWS REPORTER, WOODSTOCK CENTENNIAL REVIEW, WOODSTOCK, ONTARIO, CANADA. BUFILES CONTAIN NO INFORMATION IDENTIFIABLE WITH SUBJECT.

IMMEDIATELY CONTACT APPROPRIATE [REDACTED] FOR ANY AVAILABLE

EX 105 INFORMATION RE SUBJECT WHICH CAN BE PASSED TO MARINE CORPS. AUG 10 1965

COMMANDANT, MARINE CORPS IS PERSONALLY INTERESTED IN THIS MATTER.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

SUCAB.

HCF:RAB  
1 - Foreign Liaison Unit (detached)

NOTE: In view of foregoing information, Major Benton R. Montgomery, United States Marine Corps Headquarters, requested Liaison Agent expeditiously obtain any info re subject from [REDACTED]

VIA CABLEGRAM

AUG 6 1965

9:00 PM

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☒

b3  
b7E

b7D

b7D

163

EX. 107

DEC 27

August 11, 1965

b3  
b7E

MORLEY SAFER

4 - Orig & 3  
1 - Yellow  
1 - Fitzgerald  
1 - Liaison  
1 - Mr. Flemister

The following will confirm information orally furnished to Major B. R. Montgomery, Marine Corps Headquarters, Washington, D. C., on August 10, 1965, by Special Agent Joseph M. Fitzgerald of this Bureau.

On August 9, 1965, a confidential source abroad furnished the following information concerning the captioned individual:

*mz*  
Morley Safer was born Morley Cohn, son of Anna and Max Cohn. His father was an Austrian and his mother was English.

Safer has had extensive background in the news reporting field which has included coverage of the collapse of the European Common Market and service in Algeria covering the first anniversary of Algerian independence. He was editor of "Newsmagazine" a weekly program of the Canadian Broadcasting Company (CBC), but resigned that assignment in 1960 in protest of CBC's rehiring of Larry Henderson, a former communist who became anticommunist and who divulged information regarding activities of other CBC employees. Other employees similarly resigned.

HCF:jkm *jkm*  
(8)

Orig & 2 furnished to ~~ONE~~ by Liaison 8/11/65.

*Marine Corps* *To Major Montgomery*  
**NOTE:** Subject has been giving particularly unfavorable radio accounts of Marine activities in South Viet Nam primarily having to do with killings of South Viet Nameese people, burning of South Viet Nam's villages, etc. Major Montgomery, referred to above, requested Bureau's Liaison Agent ascertain, if possible, any information concerning subject through Bureau's  Information in letterhead memorandum is result of our check with  through Legat, Ottawa. The confidential source referred to above is

b7D

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

*P178*  
54 AUG 25 1965

*Handwritten signatures and initials*

# DECODED COPY

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
 Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
 Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
 Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

☐ AIRGRAM ☒ CABLEGRAM ☐ RADIO ☐ TELETYPE

SD-05

URGENT 8-9-65

TO DIRECTOR

FROM LEGAT OTTAWA NO. 363

MORLEY SAFER, FPC.

REBUCAB AUGUST 6 LAST.

CHECK [ ] DISCLOSED SAFER, BORN COHN, SON OF ANNA AND MAX COHN. FATHER AUSTRIAN AND MOTHER FROM UNITED KINGDOM. HAS HAD EXTENSIVE NEWSPAPER BACKGROUND INCLUDING COVERAGE FOR CBC POLISH NATIONALIST FEELINGS AGAINST SOVIETS 1962, COLLAPSE EUROPEAN COMMON MARKET AND SERVED IN ALGERIA COVERING FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE. FORMERLY WAS EDITOR OF NEWSMAGAZINE, WHICH IS CBC WEEKLY PROGRAM BUT RESIGNED THAT ASSIGNMENT 1960 IN PROTEST CBC'S REHIRING OF LARRY HENDERSON, FORMER COMMUNIST WHO BECAME ANTICOMMUNIST AND DIVULGED INFORMATION RE ACTIVITIES OTHER EMPLOYEES CBC. NO PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE ATTACHED TO ABOVE [ ] AS OTHERS DID LIKEWISE AND SAFER HAS NOT OTHERWISE COME TO ATTENTION. NO OTHER INQUIRIES BEING MADE UACB IN VIEW SENSITIVE NATURE SAME.

EX. - 107

RECEIVED: 6:25 PM JG

AUG 13 1965

Letterhead memo, 8/11/65, Hc F: jgm

no record in Bufiles  
as money Cohn

Major B. R. Montgomerie  
advised of this  
8/10/65  
Jm

cc J. L. ...

F. J. ... advised  
8/16/65

REC

b3  
b7E

b7D

b6  
b7C

b3  
b7E



F B I

Date: 8/20/65

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____
b6	_____
b7C	_____

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, SAN ANTONIO (62-0) (C)

RE: MORLEY SAFER  
CBS CORRESPONDENT  
IN VIETNAM  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Enclosed to the Bureau for possible dissemination are six copies of LHM setting forth the mailing of tapes to General WESTMORELAND and President KY, both in Vietnam, by a "patriotic citizen", who protested the airing of a news broadcast by MORLEY SAFER over the CBS network in the U. S. recently. The tapes are of the MORLEY SAFER broadcast, which the sender complained was destructive of morale in the American war effort in Vietnam. One copy is furnished to Los Angeles and New York because those cities have major offices of the CBS organization.

b7D

[redacted] is source of data in LHM. He asked concealment because of [redacted]

[redacted] provided the information in a phone call to SA [redacted] Brownsville Resident Agency, from Cincinnati, Ohio, [redacted] RAYMOND BURR of the Perry Mason TV series [redacted]

b7D

San Antonio is conducting no investigation.

## ENCLOSURE

- ③ - Bureau (Enc. 6) *W.C. Wick*
- 1 - Los Angeles (Enc. 1) (Info)
- 1 - New York (Enc. 1) (Info)
- 2 - San Antonio
- (1 - 66-1620)

REC- 24

EX-102

25 AUG 30 1965

TWC/dte

(7)

Approved: *W.C. Wick*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

1 copy to each ACST, OSI, OSI, FBI, JMF/hes

ADD. DISSEMINATION

ADD. DISSEMINATION

53 SEP 3 1965





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

San Antonio, Texas

August 20, 1965

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

MORLEY SAFER  
CBS CORRESPONDENT IN VIETNAM

A source who has furnished reliable information b7D  
in the past advised on August 16, 1965, [redacted]

[redacted]  
wherein the male complainant, identity unrecalled by source,  
stated his displeasure at a recent news broadcast by  
Morley Safer, CBS correspondent in Vietnam.

The caller regarded the broadcast coverage  
of an attack on a Vietcong village by U. S. troops as  
a broadcast "destructive to morale" of U. S. forces  
in Vietnam. The coverage by Morley Safer purported to  
be on the efforts of U. S. troops in ridding the village  
of Vietcong soldiers. None of the latter were evident,  
having apparently fled the scene. Instead the coverage  
of the event by Morley Safer indicated or suggested that  
U. S. forces in Vietnam did not hesitate to kill or  
maim innocent native women and children.

Source advised that the caller declared he  
had made a tape of the instant broadcast and had sent  
forward a copy to General Westmoreland and to President  
N. Guyen Cao Ky, both in Vietnam. His purpose, the  
caller said, was to request that Morley Safer be expelled  
from Vietnam, because of his destructive coverage of events  
there.

The caller identified himself [redacted] b7D  
[redacted] failed  
to make a note of his name, and has since forgotten his identity  
except for the fact that he seemed to be a patriotic citizen  
complaining of the above described broadcast.

b3  
b7E

MORELEY SAFER  
CBS CORRESPONDENT IN VIETNAM

Source stated his purpose in making available the above information was to advise American authorities in Vietnam of the simultaneous sending of the instant tapes to both General Westmoreland and President Ky. The latter, he felt, might misinterpret the appearance over American stations of the obviously prejudiced coverage of Vietnam battle tactics of American troops by Morley Safer, CBS correspondent.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 8/10/67

FROM : LEGAT, HONG KONG [REDACTED] (RUC)

b3  
b7E

SUBJECT: MORLEY SAFER  
IS - CH

*WITHOUT THE LEADING CLASS*

Enclosed herewith is one copy of an article from the 8/14/67 issue of "Newsweek" magazine.

At the 8/1/67 Staff Meeting of the American Consulate General, Hong Kong, it was stated that a team of Columbia Broadcasting System employees, one of whom was the subject, had just completed filming current scenes in Communist China.

The filming was done with the consent of the Chinese Communist Government and persons who talked with some of the newsmen in Hong Kong said that they saw no sign of disruption while in China.

b6  
b7C

[REDACTED] in Hong Kong, noted that the team was composed of SAFER, who is Canadian, one British subject, and two Frenchmen. He said that MORLEY had been taken out of Saigon by FRANK STANTON, head of CBS, for deliberate distortions of the news against U.S. participation in Vietnam.

This is being brought to the Bureau's attention inasmuch as it is likely that the subject has access to the U.S. and is in a position to influence U.S. public opinion.

No further action being taken at Hong Kong.

5 - Bureau (Enc. 1)

(1- [REDACTED])  
(2-Legat, Ottawa) (Info.)

1 - Hong Kong

DAG:enm

(6)

Copy to Legat, Ottawa (2)  
by routing slip for

☐ action

8/14/67  
[REDACTED]



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

57 AUG 21 1967

REC 27  
EX 101

b7D

b3  
b7E

16 AUG 15 1967

REC.D

NAT. INT. SEC.



Safer (right), Peters in China: Mao's the word

## Through the Looking Glass

Could an American TV news team talk its way into Communist China as tourists, wander the country for 21 days interviewing everyone from Red Guards to elementary-school children, then slip back out through the Bamboo Curtain without arousing the suspicions of the Red Chinese? Unlikely as it may sound, that's just the tale CBS's Morley Safer was telling last week when he arrived back in New York after one of the most enterprising—and implausible—adventures in the annals of American electronic journalism. What's more, Safer had 10,000 feet of uncensored color film to dramatize his story—the material for the first documentary ever shot by a U.S. network in Red China. CBS will air the hour-long show next Tuesday night.

The China show is the latest in a string of coups scored by the courageous 35-year-old Safer, a Canadian who won the Overseas Press Club Award last year for recording the burning of a Vietnamese village by lighter-wielding U.S. marines and stirred controversy last spring with a deeply personal antiwar documentary on Vietnam.

**Agent 007:** As Safer recounts it, his latest beat was accomplished with surprising ease. Anticipating trouble if they applied for visas as newsmen, Safer, who holds a Canadian passport, and freelance British photographer John Peters, posed as a couple of bon vivants interested in archeology and recording their travels on film.

That line seemingly satisfied the Chi-

nese, who admitted them on a \$1,500 package tour advertised in Parisian newspapers. Harder for the team to camouflage were their four cameras, including a massive 25-pound Auricon sound rig complete with shoulder brace, and a suitcase stuffed with film. "We didn't want to play Agent 007 and hide it in a false bottom," says Safer. "So we hoped for the best, and we lucked out."

But passing as tourists for the benefit of their Chinese guide and still getting the story on film posed another problem. So the pair contrived a charade, posing Peters as a foolish eccentric with a compulsive need to take pictures and Safer as his reluctant assistant. "When we came upon children singing at the Great Wall," explains Safer, "Peters would beg me to hold the microphone for him while he ran the camera. I would get angry and say, 'I didn't pay all this money to come here and help you take pictures.'" The argument got so heated, in fact, that the guide suggested Safer humor

Peters by holding the microphone. "Then I would do stand-up interviews," says Safer, "and tell where we were and what was happening." The unwitting guide translated the interviews.

**Bad End:** This Alphonse and Gaston routine was hard to sustain, but their cover was threatened seriously only once. In Shanghai, which bristles with anti-Western feeling, Safer says he was hauled before a people's court on charges of being a "revisionist" after he contradicted a claim by his guide on a tour through an industrial exhibit that glass-grinding machines could not be obtained abroad because of the American embargo. On the contrary, Safer told the guide, countries like Canada, Britain and France all but ignore the embargo to trade with China. "But they said I must admit my errors or come to a bad end," says Safer, who feared the worse. "So I admitted my errors, we all read a little Mao and that was that."

For all the Maoist thought-control, Safer found the Chinese people remarkably satisfied. "While Mao has certainly been deified," he says, "his subjects have witnessed the miracle: you don't have to starve in China any more. And if reading Mao is the way to keep the miracle, then I would read Mao."

On July 28, the team finally crossed the Lowu Bridge leading to the British crown colony of Hong Kong. There was a final moment of tension as Chinese customs officials eyed the film cans distributed among their clothing before approving their exit. "We were pouring sweat," says the correspondent, "and it

7/15 Hong Kong  
China

## TV-RADIO

wasn't because of the 110-degree heat." Finally past the last hurdle, Safer was able to wire his bosses in New York: "We have just stepped back through the looking glass."

### The Riot Beat

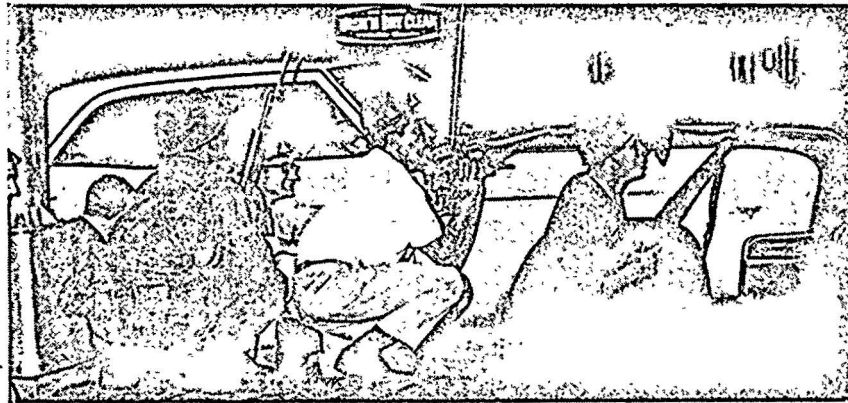
In the midst of the Detroit riots, WJBK-TV reporter Jack McCarthy was interviewing a man on Twelfth Street when a Negro youth smashed a bottle at the newsmen's feet, gave him three minutes to clear out his crew and then threw a punch. In East Harlem, an ABC team had to flee their station wagon when an angry crowd rushed them and set the car afire. And in Newark, NBC cameraman Jerry Yarus followed National Guardsmen so closely that they used his car as a shield as they blasted away at buildings. Yarus crawled underneath, catching all the action on film.

Covering a riot is a dangerous assignment for any reporter, of course, but it can be especially perilous for TV newsmen—strung together with cables and

close to it," says Tom Bryson, news director of Baltimore's WJZ-TV, which covered the Cambridge, Md., riot. "That TV screen is only 21 inches across, and when it's all filled with flames, it looks like something big when often it's not."

During the recent outbreaks, many TV stations went out of their way to add balance to their riot footage. WCBS-TV in New York ran a half-hour show casting doubt on official claims that outside agitators were actively involved in the Newark rioting. In Detroit, ABC scouted up glimpses of Negroes who had refused to join the rioting. And CBS followed a 21-year-old Negro veteran of Vietnam as he sadly sifted through the ashes of his charred house.

While stations and networks strove increasingly for a well-rounded story, they also tried to still criticism that what they reported inflamed more than it informed. Detroit stations purposely kept their crews away during early stages of the riot, honoring the concern of the state's Civil Rights Commission that coverage would only draw potential rioters



TV cameraman in Newark: 'A newspaper guy can huddle in a doorway'

weighed down by heavy equipment. "A newspaper guy can huddle in a doorway or get it over the phone," says one network correspondent. "But we've got to be in it to get it."

Jumpy: Indeed, although there were no serious injuries, TV men were sometimes getting it from both sides during the recent riots. "In Vietnam, I was worried about getting shot by the VC," says ABC producer Ed Needham. "But in Newark I was worried about getting shot by the cops." New Jersey police and guardsmen were so jumpy, in fact, they ushered newscars through barricades at rifle point. Several newsmen were detained for pressing too hard, and one, WNBC's Gabe Pressman, was even arrested at gunpoint and charged with disorderly conduct when he tried to cross a police line to deliver film to a runner.

Being in the thick of things poses unavoidable problems for TV hands. Not only does the pressure of constant deadlines often preclude a long hard look, but short, punchy film clips can distort more than they illuminate. "You can get too

into the fray. Once in the vortex of action, cameramen kept their lenses capped until there was something to shoot and tried at night to use fast film that does not require glaring lights.

Inevitably, however, there were a few instances in which accuracy was sacrificed for speed—with unfortunate results. After Detroit's WXYZ-TV ran a false report that a patrolman was killed, fellow officers rushed to tell his wife before it was discovered he was only wounded. Another Detroit station, WWJ-TV, alarmed thousands when it aired an anonymous—and erroneous—phone tip that rioters were invading suburbia.

However carefully TV handles riot news, the medium's power to beam the sound and fury right into the home is bound to have a jolting effect. "We wonder what all the bang-bang does for the viewers," said CBS correspondent John Laurence, a veteran of Vietnam as well as Detroit. "Is it TV entertainment or is it information? Is it reality or is it not? If you're looking for some meaning, well, that's just not given."

1 - [redacted]

b6  
b7C

MAILED

MAR 14 1975

March 14, 1975

NAME CHECK~~MORLEY~~ SAFERBorn: November 8, 1931  
Toronto, Canada

In response to the telephone request of [redacted]  
[redacted] of your agency, on March 13, 1975, no investigation  
has been conducted of Safer by the FBI. However, in  
August, 1967, in connection with another matter, the  
statement was made by [redacted]  
[redacted] in Hong Kong, British Crown  
Colony, that Safer, on an unspecified date, had been  
taken out of Saigon, Vietnam, by Mr. Frank Stanton, head  
of the Columbia Broadcasting System, for deliberate  
distortions of the news against U.S. participation in Vietnam.

b6  
b7Cb3  
b7E*Morley Safer*EX-101 *with 1077*

REC-8

b3  
b7EOriginal and 1 - ERDA  
Request received 3/13/75

21 MAR 18 1975

JIM *1/20*  
VIM:ysc (4)NOTE: [redacted] stated Safer is to film a visit to an AEC  
facility for presentation on "60 Minutes."b6  
b7C

Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.:  
Admin. \_\_\_\_\_  
Comp. Syst. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ext. Affairs \_\_\_\_\_  
Files & Com. \_\_\_\_\_  
Gen. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ident. \_\_\_\_\_  
Inspection \_\_\_\_\_  
Intell. \_\_\_\_\_  
Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_  
Plan. & Eval. \_\_\_\_\_  
Spec. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Training \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

*Feb 3*  
This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI,  
and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency. This reply  
is result of check of FBI investigative files. To check arrest records, request must be submitted to FBI  
Identification Division. Fingerprints are necessary for positive check.

MAR 25 1975 TELETYPE UNIT [ ]

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Records Section

\_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Name Searching Unit, 4543 JEH-FBI Bldg.  
☐ Service Unit, 4654 JEH-FBI Bldg. b6  
☐ Forward to File Review b7C  
☐ Attention   
☒ Return

Supervisor

Room 224 Ext. JEH

## Type of References Requested:

- ☐ Regular Request (Analytical Search)  
☐ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)  
☒ Subversive References Only  
☐ Nonsubversive References Only  
☐ Main \_\_\_\_\_ References Only

## Type of Search Requested:

- ☐ Restricted to Locality of \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)  
☐ Buildup ☐ Variations

Subject SAFER, Monley  
 Birthdate & Place 11-8-31  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_

Localities CANADA, NYC

R# \_\_\_\_\_ Date 3/13 Searcher Initials 512

Prod. \_\_\_\_\_

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

NP 94-4-925-757 b3  
 b7E