

Box 1576
Grand Coulee, Wash.
Sept. 26, 1957

Hayden C. Covington
124 Columbia Heights
Brooklyn 1, N. Y.

Dear brother,

Have at hand your letter of Sept. 18, 1957 which I thank you for. Some complications seem to have arisen in my case and to get to the bottom of them I would like to review my case for you:

On March 9, 1955 I received a I-A classification from the President. On March 16 and 28, 1955 I wrote letters to the Local Board to try to get a personal appearance before the board. I failed in this. That is to say I did not get a personal appearance in before the board. Now comes July 14, 1955 on which date I received a Classification Card (SSS Form No. 110) which informed me that the local board had classified me I-A. I wondered why they should do this since just prior to this they refused me a personal appearance to discuss my case with them. I requested a personal appearance which I received on Aug. 8, 1955. At this personal appearance I found out that they had reopened and considered anew my case on July 14, 1955 because of a 'procedural defect in the Department of Justice review of my case' ~~etc~~ and their Operations Bulletin No. 123 instructed them to reopen and consider anew my case. (See SUMMARY OF ORAL INFORMATION PRESENTED TO LOCAL BOARD Aug. 8, 1955) From this personal appearance I understood that the F.B.I.2 would investigate again and that I would have another hearing before the hearing officer and then the Appeal board would act on my case. In a cover letter dated Aug. 11, 1955 it said: "We would appreciate your immediate attention to this so that your file may be forwarded on Appeal, as requested in your letter of July 20, 1955." However, following the Aug. 8, 1955 appearance I did not receive a Classification Card (SSS Form No. 110) telling me what the decision of the board was. The last classification card I have is dated July 14, 1955. (I am writing the Local Board to see if they were supposed to have sent me such a classification card as seems to be indicated in the letter dated Aug. 26, 1955)

But at any rate, my file was evidently sent to the Appeal Board which in turn gave it to The Justice Department so they could correct the 'procedural defect' (what ever that was?) as per Operations Bulletin No. 123 (whatever that said?) because during Nov. 1955 the F. B. I. investigated me for the second time. So up to Sept. 1957 I was waiting for a ~~hearing before the hearing~~ second hearing before the hearing officer as a result of the second investigation by the F. B. I. in Nov. of 1955. I was also waiting for the decision of the Appeal Board. But till now I have received neither the second hearing before the hearing officer or the decision of the Appeal Board. (I am also writing the Local Board to see if the Appeal Board had acted and if they were supposed to have sent me a Notice of Classification (SSS Form No. 110) and to find out what their decision was if they made one)

SEP 28 1957
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Then on Sept. 11, 1957 comes a letter from the Local Board telling me "Your case is being reopened at the request of the Director of Selective Service and will be considered at our Nov. (1957) meeting."

Now because I have not received any word from the hearing officer or the appeal board this reopening of my case looks like improper procedure, dose it not? However if the Appeal board did act and give me a I-O (which if they did I have no knowledge of) then of course like you mentioned in your letter of Sept. 18, 1957 I would have no hearing before the hearing officer.

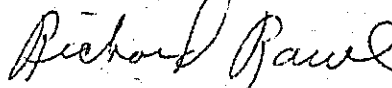
When I receive an answer from the Local Board as to the Classification Cards mentioned above I will notify you at once. till then I will prepare for the ~~personal appearance I am to have before~~ ^{reopening of my case} the Board in Nov. as per your letter of Sept. 18, 1957.

Enclosed please find the copy of the BUSH letter you sent to me.

Another matter. Is the Local Board required to keep all letters pertaining to my case in my file? I suspect that many letters between the State Selective Service Headquarters and the Local Board Chairman concerning my case are not kept in file which is rather a handicap to knowing exactly that which is going on concerning my case. For example some time ago I was in the Local Board's office copying things out of my file so I would have a complete file at home and so you would have a complete file to which to refer to and there was a letter in my file which made reference to another letter pertaining to my case which was not in file at the boards office. I ask the clerk about this letter and where it was. She was rather nervous and said there was no such letter, but when I pressed the issue she called in the Board Chairman to talk with me about the matter (he was up stairs in his law office) as we were discussing the matter the Clerk was going through papers in another file in the cabinet and had her fingers on this letter in question. Just at the time the time I brought the matter to a head with him and ask him where the letter was she (the Clerk) pulled this letter out of this other file and handing it to him said: "Is this it?" (which also indicated to me there was others) The letter she took out of the other file was then put in my file, but there was still a question in my mind as to whether this was the only or all the letters in that other file. If they are holding someting back that they shouldn't please tell me how I should go about getting them all in my file.

I will keep you informed on all developments.

Your Brother,



Richard Raws

ENCLOSURES.