

LAW OFFICES
HAYDEN C. COVINGTON
124 COLUMBIA HEIGHTS
BROOKLYN 1, N. Y.

MAIN 5-1240

June 13, 1956

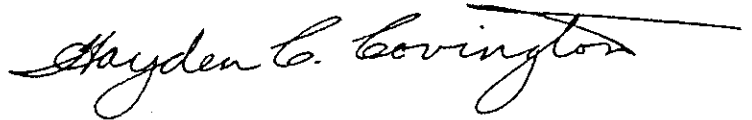
Mr. Richard Rawe
Box 1576
Grand Coulee, Washington

Dear Brother Rawe:

The hearing officer is correct--he is not permitted to give out the FBI report.

However, the request should be made for it anyway, even though you will not get it. That way, the request is in your file and it may be useful at a later date.

Your brother,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Hayden C. Covington". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "Hayden C. Covington".

HCC:gh

Box 1576
Grand Coulee, Wash.
June 11, 1956

Hayden C. Covington
124 Columbia Heights
Brooklyn 1, New York

Dear brother,

Recently my brother (William Dale Rawe) had a hearing before the Department of Justice. In following the 'new procedure' he ask for the entire F B I report even though there was no actual adverse evidence in the summary. Instead of receiving it they sent the enclosed letter.

I have not yet received notice of my hearing but it may be held soon so would like to know the following information in order to be prepared for it.

I feel it is necessary to have both complete F B I reports (I have been investigated twice) contained in my draft file because of the large amount of favorable evidence. Especially the second report because it gives a 'favorable testimony' from those not witnesses such as back-calls and Bible studies I have been conducting. Would it be proper to insist on both reports?

Is it true he is 'not permitted to' give this complete F B I report or have it put in the file? If not, how should I attack this problem in writing to him for the reports?

Thank you for your consideration of these questions on proper procedure.

Your brother,

Richard Rawe

Richard Rawe

Enclosures

(Copy)
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

909 Paulsen Building
Spokane 1, Washington
April 24, 1956

Mr. William Dale Rawe
Box 1576
Grand Coulee, Washington

Dear Sir:

I have received your letter of April 20, 1956, requesting that I supply you with the Federal Bureau of Investigation report. I have to advise that I am not permitted to do so.

Receipt of your other letter of the same date, requesting that the Department of Justice send to the Appeal Board a copy of the Resume' and the Hearing Officer's report, is also acknowledged.

Yours truly,

(signed)

Harry T. Davenport
Special Hearing Officer
Eastern District of Washington

HTD:AM

Summary of hearing before hearing officer, April 30, 1956

Do you have a brother who was here for a hearing about a year ago?

Yes, I believe it was about a year ago.

How many are there in your family besides yourself?

My brother, mother, and father.

Is your brother still doing ministerial work in Ephrata?

Yes.

You received your first classification while you were still in school, which was I-S until your graduation?

~~Yes~~ Yes.

Then you were classified I-A? Yes. Have you ever has any other classification? No.

What is the basis of your conscientious objections?

The basis of my conscientious objections is my conscience trained by the Bible.

Yes, but what are the reasons for your conscientious objections?

One reason why I have conscientious objections to participation in war in any form is because sharing in war means taking human life without authorization from Jehovah; that means it is murder, which, of course, is condemned by the Bible.

Another reason Why I have conscientious objections to participation in war in any form is because it involves the use of carnal weapons, which also is condemned by the Scriptures. The says that a Christians are not carnal.

By carnal weapons you meant fleshly weapons?

Yes, weapons such as knives, guns, bombs, planes, etc.

Another reason why I conscientiously object to participation in war in any form either as a combatant or noncombatant is because to do so would mean that I would be a part of this world, and the Bible says that a Christian should be no part of this world.

Another reason is that I would be giving to Caesar, of a worldly government what belong only to God, and the Bible says that a Christian should give to ~~Caesar~~ Caesar what belongs to Caesar, but to give to God what belongs to God. Caesar can't give me life; that comes only from Jehovah, so I must not give my life to any earthly government, but only to God. The same is true of worship, fear, and allegiance: they belong only to Jehovah.

Another reason is that if I would participate in war in any way, thereby killing some of my brothers in the organization, I would be causing a division in the organization, and the Scriptures say that one of the things that God hates, the thing that is any abomination to him, is he who causes a division among brothers.

Another reason is that participating in war in any form, either as a combatant or a noncombatant, would constitute an act of treason against God's kingdom. The Bible speaks of Christians as ambassadors, for the kingdom; if a worldly ambassador were to forsake the cause of the country he was representing and join that ~~for~~ country of to which he was sent, it would be treason. The same is my position as an ambassador for God's kingdom: if I would take up the cause of any ~~other~~ country on earth, it would be an act of treason against the kingdom of God. This is true because all nations are opposed to the kingdom. The Bible says that the whole world is lying in the power of the evil one, Satan, who is opposed to Jehovah. And Jesus said that his kingdom is no part of this world.

Is this country opposed to God's kingdom?

Yes, this country along with all others are opposed to God's kingdom. They show this by refusing to recognize the kingdom and Jehovah's witnesses as its ambassadors. They show this by their treatment of Jehovah's witnesses.

But hasn't the government recognized Jehovah's witnesses as ministers and given them the same rights as ambassadors?

No, it hasn't recognized all of Jehovah's witnesses as ministers, only some of them.

But haven't you people been given the same rights as other religious groups?

We haven't been given those rights with as little trouble as others; it's been only after long and costly court battles. No other organization has had to go through as much as we have.

Where are you employed at the present?

I have a business of my own in Moses Lake, a tree service business.

Are you married? No.

Is there a congregation of Jehovah's witnesses in Moses Lake? Yes. Do you hold any position in that congregation? No. Do you engage in the work there? Yes. Do you conduct any of the congregation meetings or home Bible studies? No. You mentioned that you engage in the work, selling magazines, books-----

Our work is not selling. You take money for it don't you? Not necessarily; sometimes we give our literature away free when a person cannot afford to pay for it. Well, but when you stand on street with your magazines, you expect people to pay for them don't you? Not necessarily.

Did your mother train you as one of Jehovah's witnesses? She tried to.

Has your father even opposed you in this regard? No.

What are your plans for the future?

I plan to enter the pioneer, or full time, service some time this year. It will probably be about the same time as does Mr. Butler, who is my partner in the tree service business.

Is Mr. Butler one of Jehovah's witnesses? Yes. How old is he? I don't know exactly, but I guess about in his thirties.

Are your conscientious objections based primarily on the matter of how you spend your time?

They are not based on that primarily, but that is one of the reasons; if I would devote my time to anything else, I would be breaking a vow to Jehovah, in which I have vowed to give him everything I have, money, time, energy, etc.

Then you have no intention of going back to work in your father's sawmill? No.

Does this change in your career and moving to Moses Lake indicate any difficulty between you and your parents? None whatsoever.

What is your belief about the use of force? Under what circumstance would you use force?

My belief in the use of force is determined by the Scriptures. I would use it only when God permits it to be used., such as to defend my brothers, meetings, preaching, myself, and my property.

What about to defend your country?

No, I wouldn't use force to defend any country. Why wouldn't you? Because it's forbidden by the Bible, Where does the Bible forbid it? It forbids it when it says that a Christian is not to murder, not to be a part of this world, not to give to Caesar what is God's, and those other things that I've already mentioned.

When did you begin attending the meetings? About 1950. How old were you then? About 12 or 13. When were you baptized? On Oct. 28, 1951.

You have said that instead of ~~combatant~~ non-combatant service you would perform civilian work only if it is exactly the kind you want, work for the Watchtower Society. To do that wouldn't you have to go to Brooklyn? Not necessarily. What I mean by work for the Watchtower Society is the pioneer service.

Isn't this being rather arbitrary? Since my eternal destiny is involved, I have to be arbitrary. You're not in the fulltime service now are you? No, but anytime I see that I can stay in it the longest, then I will; but if I agreed to any other work I would not be able to enter the fulltime service anytime I want to.