

FREDERICK ALLAN GOERNER

Twenty-four Presidio Terrace

San Francisco, California 94118

June 30, 1992

Dr. T. F. King
410 Windsor Street
Silver Spring, Md. 20910-4242

Dear Dr. King:

I'm sorry for the delay in answering your last letter. Mostly I'm sorry for myself.

In late February, a rare cancer was discovered in my abdomen, and on March 5th, Dr. Paul Sugarbaker, who heads The Cancer Institute at Washington Hospital Center in D.C., performed a fifteen hour operation which saved my life. I was two months in the hospital recovering and the last month has been consumed with chemo treatments here in San Francisco. Only today have I found sufficient strength to return to my desk.

With respect to Robert Schmitz and your two friends who are seeking information regarding the CIA operation on Saipan during the 1950's and early 1960's: I have spoken with Mr. Schmitz, and he says he would be willing to speak for publication with your friends ONLY if they obtain permission from the CIA.

He was retired "undercover", and he cannot discuss specifics of his active duty assignments without official clearance.

I am happy to share with you such knowledge as I possess. For the bulk of the information I refer you to my book THE SEARCH FOR AMELIA EARHART which was published by Doubleday in 1966. Subsequent to that writing I have learned that in addition to the National Chinese agents brought to Saipan for training from Taiwan, trainees from Korea, the Philippines and several other countries were educated in guerilla warfare and espionage tactics on the island. Also CIA instructors were sent forth from Saipan to various nations to train indigenous cadres.

I estimated the CIA personnel on Saipan to be about 450 individuals. Bob Schmitz says that figure is a bit high, but he would not give me an exact number. I also estimated that 10,000 agents may have been trained on Saipan during the '50's and early 60's. Bob says that figure is quite a bit high, but again no firm figures.

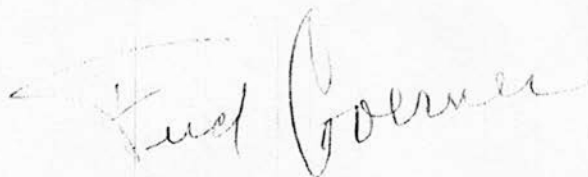
When the CIA (NTTU: Naval Technical Training Units) closed down Saipan in 1962, Schmitz was sent to Williamsburg, Virginia where he was assigned the task of completing the CIA training facility at Camp Peary, Virginia.

Bob Schmitz will be visiting my wife and me here in San Francisco in a few months, and I will ask him then if anything has changed regarding his clearance to speak further about the Saipan operation. I will apprise you as to his response.

Your friend, Richard Gillespie, is a real rascal. I believe he thought he was going to get away with his claims.

Again, I apologize for the delay in getting back to you, but I'm sure you understand it was not by design or laziness.

Most Cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Fred Golman". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned at the bottom right of the page, below the typed text.