

31 MAY 1989

[REDACTED]
Chairman, Fine Arts Commission
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Over the years the Fine Arts Commission has done a reasonable job of making the Headquarters building more pleasant by the acquisition of some artwork and setting some standards. But now I feel the credibility of the Fine Arts Commission is in question. Specifically, the proposed plan to place certain "sculptures" in the courtyard is one which I feel, as a long time employee, deserves a critical review.

In the not-so-distant past one could sit in the cafeteria and look out to a pleasant hillside. This hillside gave way to a not-so-pleasant building, the entryway of which leaves much to be desired. I therefore find it not surprising that the next "logical" step would be to festoon the remaining courtyard with a travesty labeled sculpture. I know that one man's trash is another man's treasure, but in my view we are using treasure to buy trash.

How is it that public funds have been used for this? By what criteria did the Fine Arts Commission decide that the courtyard needed this "sculpture?" What overview process occurred? Obviously this is not going to be a low cost project.

I personally hate to see my taxpayer dollars being spent in this fashion. What are the procedures to be followed to cause a temporary halt to the work while an independent review can take place? Is the courtyard "sculpture" in any way related to the "work" being done at the entrance to the New Headquarters Building - one can only suspect that they are related.

Finally if you or someone from the Fine Arts Commission would like to spend some time at lunch, come over to the "Sculpture" display and conduct an independent poll; the objection will be overwhelming.

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Approved for Release
Date JAN 1993