

6/8/76

Director of Editorial Services  
Time, Inc.  
Time-Life Bldg.,  
Rockefeller Center  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Sir,

I am the plaintiff in Civil Action 75-1996 in Federal District Court in Washington, D.C.

In this action Special Agent Thomas Wiseman of the FBI has executed an affidavit dated June 2, 1976 in which he makes certain representations about you and Time and the pictures of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., shown in this case to be the only pictures of the scene of the crime at the time of the crime in the possession of the FBI (which earlier swore that it had none at all).

Although there was no description of these pictures with them and Mr. Wiseman professed so little knowledge he did not know the name of the photographer, I knew these to be the pictures you bought from Joe Louis.

Mr. Wiseman represents that you are at once the "regulator" of these pictures and "agent for the photographer," unnamed, on page 11 of his affidavit.

While making certain representations about Time and this correspondence Mr. Wiseman has produced none and has declined to make copies available to my attorney. I think all interests, especially Time's, are served by providing me with a copy of all this correspondence and any accounts on any phone or personal conversations in any way relevant to this matter. I have in mind the possibility of including them in the court record in this case.

I am not without familiarity with these pictures. Those shown me by the FBI do not include all of them.

Mr. Wiseman, based on this correspondence, has sworn to the court that "if he (meaning me) desired copies of any of these photographs...he should contact Time..."

I do desire copies. I submit myself not to publish them without seeking your permission. My sole interest is scholarly. I do not want the usual or general Knight's shots. My sole interest is in the crime. In terms of pictures this means only those taken from or showing the Lorraine motel and the immediate surrounding area, including the area of the telephone and of the position of the victim's body, those with or around it, etc. My interest in these pictures is for study, not publication. Of this Mr. Wiseman swears "plaintiff has the opportunity of obtaining copies from Time."

I would prefer not to credit the inference and the allegations of this affidavit. They add up to the right of a wealthy corporation to buy and suppress essential evidence of heinous crimes.

I would appreciate, with the understanding that they might be used in court, all records in any way relevant to this matter of your giving these pictures to the FBI, including when, where, why and how and how many copies of how many different pictures. I believe that on a matter of this nature and when it is in court the

interests of neither the country nor your corporation nor justice are served by a court record that says there are and were no copies of any of these pictures at FBI headquarters, that the pictures I was shown are all you gave the FBI (and I do know of and can describe others, as I personally told Mr. Wiseman) and that you provided these pictures while prohibiting any use of them of any nature.

With a prosecution pending.

Because of the nature of this crime and my study I think you should also know that one of the reasons Mr. Wiseman refused me copies for my own study is that "these photographs represent a definite financial asset to 'Loo.'"

You can, of course, draw your own conclusions from the fact that the FBI at first swore that it had no subversive pictures at all and as of this writing has sworn that it has not a single one except those you bought from Loo, most of which you have not even fit to print.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

P.S. I believe you are entitled to further assurances. While I have no publication interest in these pictures, if at some time in the future that should change, I would expect to pay TIME as I have the wire services and as is normal.