GITIOHAL FORK NO. 1 SSA FPMR (4) CERI 101-1 UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT Assistant Directo Records Management Division Legal Counsel

DATE: 11/16/77

FROM

TO

BUBIECT: HAROLD WEISBERG

v. UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, et al.

(U.S.D.C., D.C.)

CIVIL-ACTION NUMBER 75-1996

PURPOSE:

To record results of a conference held at the office of the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, William Schaeffer on 11/11/77, concerning captioned litigation.

Conference held 11/11/77, with

SYNOPSIS:

plaintiff and various representatives of the Department of Justice including Legal Counsel Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), in an effort to reach settlement agreement in captioned litigation. During this conference in an effort to facilitate recognition of issues remaining to be resolved Deputy Assistant Attorney General Schaeffer proposed to hire plaintiff as a consultant to the Department of Justice and supply him with office space and clerical assistance. The FBI has agreed to reprocess certain documents in this matter to be provided plaintiff at the meeting scheduled for 11/18/77.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

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DETAILS:

At 10:00 a.m. on 11/11/77, a conference was held at

the office of the Deputy Assistant Attorney General William Schaeffer concerning captioned litigation. The following individuals were present: Harold Weisberg, plaintiff; James

1 - Mr. Decker Attn: Mr. Hartingh

1 - Mr. Mintz

1 - Mr. Mathews

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Memo to Assistant Director Redords Managment Division HAFOLD WEISBERG v. USDOJ, et al.

Lesar, plaintiff's attorney; William Schaeffer, Deputy Assistant
Attorney General; Lynne Zusman, Chief, Privacy and Information
Section, Department of Justice; Douglas Mitchell, Office of
Privacy and Information Appeals, Department of Justice; John Dugan,
Assistant United States Attorney, District of Columbia; Special
Agent Charles Mathews, III, Legal Counsel Division; Document
Analyst Ralph Harp, Freedom of Information and Privacy Acts Section
PBI; Salliane Dougherty, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice
Joe Gross, Office of Professional Responsibility, Department of
Justice.

In way of background, instant litigation pertains to a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request by Weisberg to the PBI and other departmental components for records concerning the Martin Luther King assassination. The Bureau has previously entered into a stipulation with Weisberg, and pursuant to this has completed processing all "Murkin" files at PBIHQ and selected field divisions which consisted of over 44,000 pages.

The ll/ll/77, meeting was held to narrow what issues remained in order to reach a settlement between plaintiff and the Department of Justice. Pursuant to the stipulation previously entered into in this matter it was incumbent upon the plaintiff, subsequent to processing of all records, to specify with particularity what deletions he takes issue with. In order to facilitate Mr. Weisberg in his composing of his list of grievances and without prior consultation with representatives of the FBI, Mr. Schaeffer offered to hire Mr. Weisberg as a consultant to the Department of Justice. With this action Mr. Schaeffer advised Mr. Weisberg he could supply him with an office, secretarial and/or paralegal assistants, supplies, and transportation to and from his residence. Mr. Weisberg neither accepted nor rejected this offer.

To further narrow the issues in this matter, the Bureau agreed at this conference to reprocess approximately 2700 index cards and to supply Mr. Weisberg by 11/18/77, with a list of names taken therefrom.

Another meeting has been scheduled with the abovenamed individuals to further discuss settlement in this matter at 10:00 a.m. on 11/18/77.