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Our ref: CR 201/77/288

12th December, 1978.

Under Secretary of State,
Home Office,
F.4 Division,
Queen Anne's Gate,
London, SW1H 9AT.

For the attention of Mr. G. E. Guy

Dear

Enclosed herewith are copies of a letter and memorandum received from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (Office of Legal Attache, U.S. Embassy), together with copies of reports previously sent to the F.B.I. in relation to James Earl RAY.

You will see that the application by Harold WEISBERG to the U.S. District Court, District of Columbia, is a civil one. In addition, the F.B.I. cannot, apparently, tell us who or what Mr. WEISBERG is or indeed his motives.

I have sought the advice of the Commissioner's Solicitor and he agrees that we should ~~not grant exemption in this case~~. If we were to do so the documents would not only be passed to the Court but would be placed in the F.B.I. public library to allow the public access to papers under the Freedom of Information Act.

It is also of interest to mention that the F.B.I. prefer the reports to be exempt from the Freedom of Information Act.

You will note that the letter from the Legal Attache speaks of ~~this matter being "the province of the Home Office" and I should be grateful if you would let me know whether the Home Office will in this case reply for the information of the Court, bearing in mind that the letter will in all probability be presented in Court, or whether you wish us to do so.~~

Yours


Assistant Commissioner (Crime)