



THE DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20530

James H. Lesar, Esquire
1231 Fourth Street, S. W.
Washington, D. C. 20024

JUN 30 1977

Dear Mr. Lesar:

You appealed on behalf of your client, Harold Weisberg, from the failure of the Department of Justice to respond within the time prescribed to Mr. Weisberg's request for information pertaining to himself.

As a result of consultations between representatives of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and a member of my staff, the Bureau has already made or will soon make a substantial release of materials to you. Essentially all substantive information in F.B.I. files pertaining to your client is now being released. You may also, if your client so desires, purchase at ten cents per page copies of his correspondence with the Bureau, as well as copies of newspaper articles, press releases and court documents pertaining to him that are contained in Bureau files. In light of these facts and after careful consideration of this appeal, I have decided to affirm the action of the Bureau.

Access must continue to be denied to information that is classified. 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(1). This information is being reviewed within the Department to determine whether it warrants continued classification. You will be advised of the results of this review as soon as possible. Purely personal information pertaining to certain third persons has also been excised from the materials you will receive, as have the names of or other information which would identify confidential sources. 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(7)(C) and (7)(D). In addition, 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(7)(E) has been asserted to prevent the disclosure of a particular investigative technique. Finally, some material within the scope of Mr. Weisberg's request is exempt from mandatory release under 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(5). Most such material is being

made available to you as a matter of my discretion, however, with the exception of various documents which pertain to ongoing litigation between Mr. Weisberg and the Department of Justice. With the exception of the classified materials being reviewed as mentioned above, and of certain documents originating with other agencies, which have been referred to the appropriate agencies either for consultation, or for consideration and direct response to you, the foregoing constitutes the final administrative action with regard to records pertaining to Mr. Weisberg in the possession of the F.B.I. The Bureau will notify you directly of the results of the consultations now being carried on.

Judicial review of my action on this appeal is available to Mr. Weisberg in the United States District Court for the judicial district in which he resides or has his principal place of business, or in the District of Columbia, which is also where the records he seeks are located.

Sincerely,



Peter F. Flaherty