

FBI files, 8/21/77, p. 2 Compliance, 1996, personal files, recovery costs, fees.

The non-response of Carl Belcher, for Will Wilson, who had to go after he got caught in bed with a swindler down in Texas (Sharpstown Bank scandals- milked \$6,000,000 from Jesuits alone), on behalf of John Mitchell, to whom I wrote (and who took too long to get where he belonged all along) over reports of FBI agents intruding into my life and work gets into who knew what and who ordered what about not complying with my initial King/Ray FOIA requests.

"Hoover wrote a note on it: Weisberg is the same character who wrote us a few days ago about the Ray case."

Now we know what was important enough in the vast FBI to require the Director's personal attention.

There is another Not Recorded copy in a file that is invisible on this copy. The copy provided is from my "Internal Security" file. It clearly is an FOIA request and Belcher makes this clear by referring to the earlier letters.

This is also filed in a JFK file, 62-109060, "Assassination of John F. Kennedy" I think it is captioned.

Note that Hoover made no response, not even pro forma denial of the charges of FBI improprieties. Belcher is quotable, this would be a violation of Bureau policy!

The and the Rosen-DeLoach 10/20/69 are in the box for you. The second one is the same record I gave you the morning of the last status call before Green that I attended. Please compare them to see what was needlessly obliterated on this one. The maskings removed all the file designations so I don't know where to look for it. If possible, please send me what was masked, or a copy.

As I remember it in the Murkin file this was but a single page although it notes # 2 enclosures. Here there is a second page.

Note that while they have files on my firing by State and I have some of them they are indirect here, obviously because they had in mind leaking something: "(This is public source data, article in 'Washington Post' 11-18-47.)"

The action recommended and approved by Hoover includes that "The Memphis Office be instructed to advise responsible Tennessee state authorities... Information furnished Tennessee authorities will be confirmed in writing by the Memphis Office. Aibel along these lines attached for approval." (The other ~~let~~ attachment was a letter to Department.)

I recall no such record in the Murkin file or in my personal file. Ask John and/or Lynne Zusman for these missing attachments.

Well, now we know something about the attitudes we faced in Memphis. I'd be surprised if these characters did not find some way of speaking to the judge.

The possibility requires that we push on what they are holding back, I think.

CWB:JRR:jac
129411

MAR 26 1969

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Bishop	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. Felt	✓
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Coq d' Or Press
Route 8
Frederick, Maryland

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

Attorney General Mitchell has referred your recent letters relating to the "Warren Commission" to me for consideration and reply. From those letters and previous correspondence it is plain that further exchange of correspondence between yourself and the Department of Justice on this matter will serve no useful purpose. You are, of course, welcome to communicate your views to us and they will receive due consideration.

It is unfortunate that the change in Administration has not and apparently will not make you certain that the element of politics played no role in the investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy or the formulation of the guidelines for release to the public of information on the matter in Government files. In our view, the substantial correctness of the Commission's Report remains unimpeached by any recent developments. There is no reason to believe that further investigation would serve to eliminate the doubts you and others have voiced, and, while we do explore possible new information which comes to our attention, we see no basis for reopening the primary investigation. We do appreciate the sincerity of your offer of assistance to us.

As to your allegation that agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation have slandered you, it should hardly be necessary to inform you that such conduct would be in complete disregard of Departmental and Bureau policy. We have sent a copy of your letter to the Director of the Bureau for his consideration and such action as he may deem appropriate.

EXP. PROC.
30 MAR 26 1969

ENCLOSURE

cc: Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

REC 107A

100-35172

4 MAR 26 1969

PR 161962

APR 9 1969

C.C. 62-109060

UNRECORDED COPY FILED

SIX

With respect to the admission of perjury on the part of Dean Andrews, we are, as you surmised, well aware of developments in that regard. As the matter involves a possible criminal prosecution you can appreciate, I am sure, that comment by us to you at this time would be inappropriate. However, in your evaluation of Federal action or inaction on this subject you should consider the fact that substantially the same misconduct, though before another forum, is currently under consideration in the courts of the State of Louisiana. This raises two factors for consideration. First, whether Federal action would amount to intervention in the State proceedings, and second, whether misconduct relating substantially to the same acts of an individual should be made the subject of successive state and Federal prosecutions.

No doubt you intend to pursue your inquiries into the assassination. Hopefully, the release of additional materials in the files, as the passage of time or other events make it possible, will serve to answer some of your questions. Again, may I say, we will welcome receipt of your views from time to time, for, though our views on the means may differ, we seek as you do to serve the best interests of the Nation on this grave subject.

Sincerely,

WILL WILSON
Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

By:
CARL W. BELCHER
Chief, General Crimes Section

*Weisberg is the same
character who wrote me
a few days ago about the
Rud case*
C. H.

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: October 20, 1969

FROM : A. Rosen

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. McGowan
- 1 - Mr. McDonough
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan

SUBJECT: MURKIN

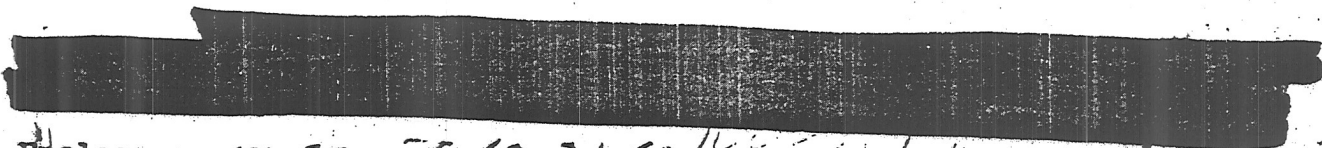
RA

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Internal Security Division of the Department has advised that pursuant to his request, Harold Weisberg, a freelance writer who resides in Frederick, Maryland, was interviewed by a Department attorney 10-8-69. During the course of the interview Weisberg advised that he had recently received a telephone call from J. B. Stoner, National Chairman of the National States Rights Party in which Stoner claimed that two men in his party formerly served as informants of the FBI and these two men are prepared to testify in court that the FBI offered them \$25,000 to frame James Earl Ray for the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. Weisberg said the testimony presumably would be furnished in a habeas corpus proceeding.

This is obviously an attempt by Weisberg and Stoner to discredit the Bureau with such unwarranted, scurrilous allegations.

Weisberg is apparently identical with Harold Weisberg an individual who has been most critical of the Bureau in the past. He is the author of several books including one entitled, "Whitewash - The Report of the Warren Report" and has been critical of the FBI, Secret Service, police agencies and other branches of Government. He was one of ten employees fired by the State Department during 1947 because of his loyalty being suspected. He was later allowed to resign. (This is public source data, article in "Washington Post" 11-18-47.) Weisberg by letter in April, 1969, requested information on the King murder case for a forthcoming book. It was approved that his letter not be acknowledged. (100-35138)



Enclosures (2) dated 10-21-69

EJM:jmv

70 NOV 6 - 1969

CONTINUED - OVER

OCT 20 1969

Handwritten notes and stamps on the right side of the page, including a routing slip with names like 'Landy' and 'Mr. Bishop'.

Rosen to DeLoach Memo
RE: MURKIN

[REDACTED] On the basis of the information furnished, the two alleged former informants referred to cannot be identified in Bureau files.

ACTION:

1. In view of the nature of the information and the background on Weisberg [REDACTED] it is not felt that they should be interviewed regarding this matter.
2. The Savannah Office which is the office of origin in the case covering the activities of [REDACTED] and the Memphis Office which is office of origin in the James Earl Ray case and is following any appeals are being furnished background information in this matter and are being instructed to be alert for any further information along these lines in order that appropriate action can be taken on any such additional information as warranted.
3. The Memphis Office is being instructed to advise responsible Tennessee state authorities handling the King murder case of the information furnished by the Department and that there is no basis to the allegation that the FBI offered money to anyone to frame James Earl Ray for the King murder. Information furnished Tennessee state authorities will be confirmed in writing by the Memphis Office. Airtel along these lines attached for approval. Letter to Department attached for approval denying allegation against FBI.

SPW
Ch
JPM
R
OK
#