

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20405



September 22, 1977

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Route 12 - Old Receiver Road
Frederick, Maryland 21701

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

This is in response to your letter of August 19, 1977, addressed to James B. Rhoads, in which you appeal under the Freedom of Information Act as amended (5 U.S.C. 552) the denial to you of certain administrative records of the National Archives and Records Service. Your letter was received in the Office of the Director of Information on August 26, 1977.

Your appeal is denied. The documents you seek are either exchanges with legal counsel, internal documents transmitting counsel's advice, or drafts of letters ultimately provided to you in final form. The former two are at the heart of the attorney-client relationship and are withheld from you under exemption b(5), "inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency." The drafts of letters are clearly pre-decisional work-products and as such are also withheld under exemption b(5), cited above.

This letter represents the final administrative consideration of your request. You have the right to seek judicial review of this decision by filing a civil action in the Federal district court for the district in which you reside or have your principal place of business or in the District of Columbia.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert T. Griffin".

Robert T. Griffin
Acting Administrator