March 24, 1969

Mr. J. Edger Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

In his just published book, "The Strange Case of James Earl Ray", Clay Blair, Jr., expresses his gratitude for the information and assistance given him by your bureau.

I have written a book including the Ray case, and I would like to be able to include any information that might be missing.

Therefore, I write to ask for what has been given Mr. Blair and perhaps other writers and any other data you might properly give me.

Now that there has been a court proceeding, I hope some of what might earlier have been considered secret is no longer. I am particularly interested in that evidence that establishes or tends to establish that Ray was the assassin, such things as the ballistics proof. Because there are so many contrary insinuations, I would also appreciate proof that he harbored racial animosities. And with the existing intimations of the involvement of more than one person, for example, evidences that while Ray was in California someone acting for him was in Alabama, I would particularly like to know what persuaded your bureau that he was entirely alone. Ray and members of his family say he was not alone, as I interpret their statements.

Your bureau has also released some pictures. I would appreciate copies. Possibly you have pictures you may not properly give me, those taken by photographers at the scene of the crime. I would like references to those taken as close as possible to the moment of the crime and at its scene.

My purpose in seeking this information is to make my work as complete and accurate as possible. Because what was earlier available persuades that Ray was not alone and probably was not the assassin, I am quite anxious to have all the available proofs that there was no conspiracy and that he was the assassin.

Thank you for any help you may provide.

Sincerely yours,