3/17/70

Dear Harold,

Nothing in Phila. papers about suit (which I think is great having read what Bud sent).

Today I called the two major papers and both said they never received anything about this, don't have it on file. The Inquirer asked for a copy of the press release to work on, possibly to talk to you so I am sending them mine(carbon of letter enclosed). The Bulletin was also interested and said that they would call UPI and find out if the story was really sent out. They said they would get them to send it out again--something of that nature. Both papers seemed interested but it is hard to tell if they weren't really putting me on.

Good luck,

Howard

March 17, 1970

City Desk
The Philadelphia Inquirer
400 N. Broad Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19101

Dear Sirs:

I had the occasion to speak with someone from the City Desk this afternoon in reference to a suit filed against the Department of State and the Department of Justice by one Harold Weisberg for documents relating to the extradition trial of James Earl Ray, accused killer of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This suit was filed on March 11, 1970, and a press release concerning it was issued. Mr. Weisberg held a press conference on this date also, and he informs me that news of his suit against the government was put on wire by representatives of UPI. There has been no mention of this in the Inquirer or any other Philadelphia newspaper to my knowledge.

The person from the City Desk with whom I spoke asked me to send the Inquirer a copy of Mr. Weisberg's press release; a copy of that release is enclosed for your use. If you have further questions or perhaps would like to clarify points explained in the release, then I would suggest that you contact Mr. Weisberg. His address is:

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Route 8
Frederick, Maryland 21701

His phone number is included in the press release.

I hope you will take an interest in this matter for I do believe it is one of great importance to the nation. I was surprised to see that news of this suit against the government was not reported in any of the city's papers, and I hope that now that situation will be remedied.

Please allow me to thank you for all your troubles.

Very sincerely yours,

Howard Roffman
8829 Blue Grass Rd.
Philadelphia, Pa. 19152

enclosure