42-117260-X1 September 11, 1975

Mr. Kerry Wendell Thornley

Dear Mr. Thornley:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your Freedom of Information Act (POIA) request by the FBI on August 19, 1975. W

An exceedingly heavy volume of POIA requests has been received these past few months. Additionally, court deadlines involving certain historical cases of considerable scope have been imposed upon the FBI. Despite successive expansions of our staff responsible for FOIA matters, substantial delays in processing requests continue.

The PBI has 3604 FOIA requests on hand. Processing has begun, and is in various stages of completion on 1467 of those cases. In an effort to deal fairly with any request requiring the retrieval, processing and duplication of documents, each request is being handled in chronological order based on the date of receipt. Please be assured that your request is being handled as equitably as possible and that all documents which can be released will be made available at the earliest possible date.

Your patience and cooperation will be appreciated.

MAILED 7 SEP 1 1 1975 Sincerely yours,

C. M. Kelley

Clarence N. Kelley Director

1 - The Deputy Attorney General - Enclosure Attention: Susan M. Hauser

Den. AD Adm. _ Den. AD inv. __