



ST. LOUIS CIRCUIT COURT FOR CRIMINAL CAUSES
DIVISION NO. 22
MUNICIPAL COURTS BUILDING
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63103
HURRY L. RANDALL, SPECIAL JUDGE

MLK Ex F575
CONFIDENTIAL

to either
Martin Luther

ever had any

since we have
inconsistencies
or only that
before we
asked about.
Thank you.

Let me turn to
later.
mentioned in the
dated letter

Congressman Louis Stokes;
Chairman, House Select Committee on Assassinations;
House Office Building
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Stokes:

Your Committee has subpoenaed me
to testify publicly in a matter
concerning one Russell Byers.
Byers, who is known here to be one
of the most dangerous criminals
in this city. He has received a lot
of publicity here in recent months.
Just a few months ago, in the
course of an on-going investigation
here of him by the F.B.I. and police

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 ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63101
 MURPHY & HARTMAN, LITTLER & HOBBS

With respect to assaults on one
 Finer and related matters, it was
 reported in the Public Press that
 his principal associate in crime
 was murdered almost immediately
 after this associate visited an
 F.B.I. office. I believe that this
 man's murder was arranged by
 the person to whom he and Mr. Byers
 had sold the Statutes stolen from the
 museum, and Mr. Byers is now
 fearful that this publicity is closing
 in on imperment and the same
 fate will occur to him.

ST. LOUIS CIRCUIT
 MURPHY
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 HURRY L.

I believe
 and that of his
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 yet my to
 value to you
 remarks Mr.
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 months after
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 to the F. B. I.
 Mr. Byers
 this report w
 O'Hara, as the



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I believe my public testimony,
 and that of Mr. Byers' will endanger
 lives including my own.

Yet my testimony is of no real
 value to your investigation. The
 remarks Mr. Byers made to me,
 while representing him in a civil case
 (I never represented him in any
 Criminal matter), occurred several
 months after similar remarks
 by Mr. Byers had been reported
 to the F. B. I.

Mr. Byers has told me that
 this report was made by one Richard
 O'Hara, a thin criminal partner

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of Byers. As with most stories fabricated by criminals, the remarks only involved dead persons.

At about the time the remarks were reported to the F.B.I., Mr. Byers expressed serious concern to me as to whether Mr. Byers was an F.B.I. informant. I believe those remarks by Mr. Byers were fabricated and purposely planted with Mr. O'Hara for the purpose of trying to find out whether Mr. O'Hara was an F.B.I. informant, since the only person the F.B.I. could possibly check with was Mr. Byers himself. The F.B.I.



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apparently recognized such and did not tell Byers, as to do so would have endangered the life of

Mr. Byers the story to me of preparing a representation of what he was questioned

Mr. Byers is a person. I urge the F.B.I. before and after testimony and not to interfere with their investigation. Judge William Web Director F.B.I.



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apparently recognized them as
such and did not interview Mr.
Byers, as to do so would have
indangered the life of its informant.

Mr. Byers then, I believe, told
his story to me for the purpose
of preparing me for possible
representation of him in the event
he was questioned by the F.B.I.

Mr. Byers is such a seeming
person. I urge you to check with
the F.B.I. before endangering lives with
such testimony and also whether it will
interfere with their investigation.
1947; Judge William Webster gave very truly
Director F.B.I. Mury L. Randall