

CBS

Rt. 12, Frederick, Md. 21701  
7/23/78

Mr. Peter Freedberger  
CBS News - Specials  
524 W. 57 St.  
New York, N.Y. 10019

Dear Mr. Freedberger,

As his letter of 7/21 states, Mr. Shea did speak to me about the possibility of expediting the CBS request. His letter is correct but I think there should be a further explanation.

You have no obligation to heed anything I might say.

We both know there is no possibility of my being able to influence CBS News.

I have nothing like this in mind.

My only purpose is to be able to assist you if I can, particularly because very often full understanding of some records requires knowledge of the content of other records.

I have and have read quite a few other records.

If I understand your interest correctly you may have interest in the enclosed memo.

The last sentence in paragraph 3, which I believe says quite a bit, still means much more than it says.

The Church report did not use this, if the committee obtained it.

The notations are unclear on my original, as provided by the FBI.

When the FBI xeroxed this record for me the attachments was xeroxed off-center. While I do not believe it holds any interest for you, I also have the original and can probable dig it out if you should want it.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

cc: Q. Shea  
A. McCraight

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20530

JUL 21 1970

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

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

Reference is made to our recent telephone conversation regarding the appeal by Mr. Peter Freedberger of CBS News Specials seeking to have this Office act to expedite processing of his pending request to the F.B.I. for access to three documents described and footnoted on pages 182 and 183 of Book Three of the Church Committee's final report.

As I advised you when we talked, the three documents Mr. Freedberger is seeking are:

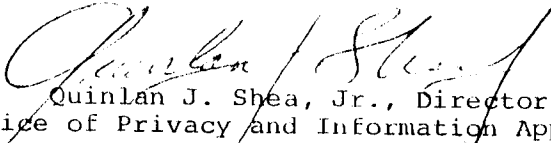
1. 447a -- Memorandum from Milton Jones to Thomas Bishop, March 18, 1969;
2. 447b -- Memorandum from the SAC, Atlanta, to the Director, April 3, 1969; and
3. 448 -- Memorandum from the Director to the SAC, Atlanta, April 16, 1969.

I also informed you that the F.B.I.'s FOIPA Branch was totally -- and quite properly -- unwilling to expedite the processing of these three documents without your agreement, given the fact that you are the senior requester for the as yet largely unprocessed group of records of which these documents are a part. You told me that you would agree to the expedited processing of the three documents on two conditions: first, that you received whatever was released at the same time as did CBS; and, second, that Mr. Freedberger agreed to contact you when the material is released and obtain your views as to its meaning and significance. I then assured you that your first condition was accepted. On July 19, I discussed the matter with Mr. Freedberger who

unequivocally accepted your second condition. By copy of this letter I am requesting Inspector McCreight to expedite the processing of the three documents.

Your courtesy in this matter has been appreciated.

Sincerely,

  
Quinlan J. Shea, Jr., Director  
Office of Privacy and Information Appeals

CC: Mr. Peter Freedberger  
CBS News Specials

Inspector Allen McCreight  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

3/11/69

Mr. Tolson ✓  
 Mr. DeLoach ✓  
 Mr. Mohr ✓  
 Mr. Bishop ✓  
 Mr. Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Gale ✓  
 Mr. Rosen ✓  
 Mr. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Holmes ✓  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MR. TOLSON:

RE: JAMES EARL RAY  
ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING

Now that Ray has been convicted and is serving a 99-year sentence, I would like to suggest that the Director allow us to choose a friendly, capable author, or the Reader's Digest, and proceed with a book based on this case.

A carefully written, factual book would do much to preserve the true history of this case. While it will not dispel or put down future rumors, it would certainly help to have a book of this nature on college and high school library shelves so that the future would be protected.

*Whom do you suggest?*

I would also like to suggest that consideration be given to advising a friendly newspaper contact, on a strictly confidential basis, that Coretta King and Reverend Abernathy are deliberately plotting to keep King's assassination in the news by pulling the ruse of maintaining that King's murder was definitely a conspiracy and not committed by one man. This, of course, is obviously a rank trick in order to keep the money coming in to Mrs. King, Abernathy, and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. We can do this without any attribution to the FBI and without anyone knowing that the information came from a wire tap.

Respectfully,

C. D. DeLoach

CDD:CSH (3)

cc Mr. DeLoach  
Mr. Bishop

See ADDENDUM... page 2

44-38861-5654

REC-33

MAR 26 1969

MAR 16 1969

*Handwritten notes:*  
4/1/69  
Jones to Bishop  
3/20/69  
G...  
Hand to George...  
See classification...

*Handwritten signature:* ay

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

3/12/69

If the Director approves, we have in mind considering cooperating in the preparation of a book with either the Reader's Digest or author Gerold Frank. The Reader's Digest would assign one of their staff writers or contract the preparation of a book out to an established author. Gerold Frank is a well-known author whose most recent book is "The Boston Strangler." Frank is already working on a book on the Ray case and has asked the Bureau's cooperation in the preparation of the book on a number of occasions. We have nothing derogatory on him in our files, and our relationship with him has been excellent. His publisher is Doubleday.

NY

~~P~~

JSP

OK. ✓  
F