

3/17/70

Mr. Paul Hemmingson
Congressman John Conyers
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hemmingson,

I am sorry that in the five weeks since I saw you, you have not had cause to be in touch with me. I remain persuaded that had the exposures in my book been publicly available, had they received attention, some things might have been different and others might not have transpired.

When you finish with the book, if you have no further interest, I'd appreciate it if you would return it by insured mail.

Over the weekend, Governor Mandel is quoted as having released what is described as the FBI's preliminary report on the bombing of Featherstone and Payne. However, what I have seen in the papers is not this. It is a paraphrase in a telegram to him by J. Edgar Hoover. If it is possible to get a copy of the full text of that report, I'd very much like a copy.

If you were familiar with more of my work, you'd know I have made somewhat of a study of FBI reports and the special uses to which they put the language. They do not always say what they appear to say. From what is now available, I believe this to be true of this bombing report. Therefore, I am anxious, if it is at all possible, to study the full text, and that as soon as possible.

Another of the books I have not been able to get printed is a study of the work of the Chief medical examiner of the State of Maryland. He also is a master of semantics, not at all above the destruction of evidence as his letters to me show. If the report of his first assistant is available or if his autopsy is (the latter not likely without the assent of his widow), I'd like to make a study of them. I think, in the end, you will be interested in what the combination of the semantics of both offices will have accomplished and what analysis will show.

Last week I did file an action under the (excuse the expression) "Freedom of Information" law. Few things in recent years have come as close to total suppression. I am suing for the evidence produced in open court by the government to effect the extradition of James Earl Ray. Our government has obtained the court's copy and claims to have disposed of it own copies!

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg