

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM  
IDENTIFICATION FORM

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AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY : CIA  
RECORD NUMBER : 104-10433-10211  
RECORD SERIES : JFK  
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : RUSS HOLMES WORK FILE

Released under the John  
F. Kennedy  
Assassination Records  
Collection Act of 1992  
(44 USC 2107 Note).  
Case#:NW 53216 Date:  
06-13-2017

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DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR : CIA  
FROM :  
TO :  
TITLE : KING/RAY FOIA.  
DATE : 00/00/  
PAGES : 252  
SUBJECTS : NBR

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT  
CLASSIFICATION : SECRET  
RESTRICTIONS :  
CURRENT STATUS : POSTPONED IN FULL  
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 12/22/98  
OPENING CRITERIA :  
COMMENTS : JFK-RH19:F7 1998.12.22.14:21:05:403108: NOT BELIEVED  
RELEVANT. (NBR)

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[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED

IP 3: doc #1  
Released in entirety

223 Over item

Ray / King

76-382

CA 77-1997

Ref: IPS Response to  
Requesters

L/w

Documents B-2 Through

B-223

Released in  
entirety

14

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SECRET

# PRIORITY HANDLING FOIA REQUEST

SUBJECT: (Optional)  
FOIA Appeal - Harold Weisberg, for information about Martin Luther King, Jr. and James Earl Ray

REQUEST NUMBER  
IPS F 76-382

FROM: H.G. Bean  
Assistant for Information, DDA  
7 D 02 HQ

EXTENSION  
5117

DATE SENT  
15 AUG 1977

SUSPENSE DATE

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE  
RECEIVED    FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.	Mr. Wells, DDO THRU: Mr. Addona, DDO/PICG 1 D 4125 HQ    HT-1			
2.				
3.	Mr. Dirks, DDS&T THRU: Mr. Redmond, DDS&T/FIO 6 E 56 HQ    BY-1			
4.				
5.	Mr. Stevens, DDI THRU: Mr. Lawler, DDI/FIO 2 E 6104 HQ    FX-4			
6.				
7.	Mr. Blake, DDA 7 D 26 HQ    BX-4			
8.				
9.	Mr. Ziebell, OGC 6-D-0120 - Hqs. BX-5			
10.				
11.	Mr. Biddiscombe, OS/IRC CE 31 HQ    FX-1			
12.				

Attached is an FOIA Appeal with a due date of 19 Aug 77.

In accordance with IPS procedures, the Chairman has assigned action for this appeal as follows:

Mr. Wells, Mr. Dirks, Mr. Stevens and Mr. Blake

Designated Action Member(s) should contact me within 48 hours should there be any objection to the case assignment.

The OGC attorney assigned to advise you or your Appeals Officer regarding this case is:

Mr. Ziebell

The Action Member or Appeals Officer is requested to ensure that staff work is completed and the case is ready for presentation (should such be required) at the 11 Aug 77 meeting.

*H.G. Bean*  
H.G. Bean

RETURN TO:

# PRIORITY HANDLING FOIA REQUEST

SECRET

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LOG (F)

[Acknowledgment drafted]

JAMES H. LESAR  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
1231 FOURTH STREET, S. W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20024  
TELEPHONE (202) 484-6023

F 76-382

June 11, 1976

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

OS  
DDS  
CRS?  
OGC?

Mr. Gene F. Wilson  
Freedom of Information Coordinator  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Wilson:

On behalf of Mr. Harold Weisberg of Frederick, Maryland, I request access to the following:

1. All records pertaining to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
2. All records pertaining to the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
3. All records pertaining to James Earl Ray, under whatever name or alias.
4. All records on any alleged or suspected accomplice or associate in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
5. All collections of published materials on the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
6. All analyses, commentaries, reports, or investigations on or in any way pertaining to any published materials on the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. or the authors of said materials.
7. All records, letters, cables, memorandums, routing slips, photographs, tape recordings, receipts, sketches, computer printouts or any other form of data pertaining to or in any way relevant to the foregoing requests for information, regardless of source or origin.

This request is made under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. §552, as amended by Public Law 93-502

Sincerely yours,

*James H. Lesar*  
James H. Lesar

JUN 16 10 31 AM '76

21 JUN 1976

James H. Lesar, Esquire  
1231 Fourth Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20024

Dear Mr. Lesar:

This acknowledges receipt of your letter of 11 June 1976 on behalf of Mr. Harold Weisberg requesting, under provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, access to any CIA records dealing with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and/or James Earl Ray and any of his alleged or suspected accomplices in Dr. King's assassination.

I shall arrange for a search of CIA files and shall be in further communication with you once the search has been completed and any records found reviewed for releasability under the Act.

As you may know, the heavy volume of Freedom of Information requests received by the Agency has resulted in processing backlogs. If we do not respond within the 10 working days stipulated by the Act, it is your right to construe this as a denial, subject to appeal to the CIA Information Review Committee. It would seem more reasonable, however, for us to continue processing your request and to respond as soon as feasible. Any denials of records could be appealed at that time. Unless we hear from you otherwise, we will assume that this is agreeable to you and proceed on this basis.

For your information, I am enclosing a copy of our fee schedule. If the charges seem likely to be considerable, I shall provide you with an estimate and perhaps require a partial payment in advance of processing.

Sincerely,

/s/GFW

Gene F. Wilson  
Information and Privacy Coordinator

Enclosure: as stated

IPS/CES/cb/21 Jun 76 Distribution:

Orig - Addressee

1 - IPS Chrono

1 - IPS (F-76-382)

30 NOV 1976

IPS/DGV/cr/29 Nov 76  
Distribution:

Orig. - Addressee  
1 - OGC (Strickland)  
1 - DDO/PICG  
1 - OS/IRG  
1 - AI/DDA  
① - IPS (Weisberg, F-76-382) SPR  
1 - IPS (Weisberg Correspondence)  
1 - IPS Chrono

James H. Lesar, Esquire  
1231 Fourth Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20024

Dear Mr. Lesar:

You will recall that our letter of 21 June 1976 acknowledged receipt of your letter on behalf of Mr. Harold Weisberg requesting, under provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, access to any CIA records dealing with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and to those dealing with James Earl Ray and any of his alleged or suspected accomplices in Dr. King's assassination.

We find that we are unable to respond to your request as it now stands due to legal and regulatory restrictions on the release of personal information from official records. In that light, please be advised that we can proceed no further with your request unless and until we are in receipt of notarized statements of release from Mrs. Coretta King and James Earl Ray, respectively. These statements should be quite specific as to what areas of personal information are and are not authorized for release by this Agency to you and your client. If all information in our records is releasable, that should be so stated; if only such information as relates to specific incidents or to specific periods of time is releasable, these caveats should be clearly stated.

Finally, we must ask that you provide a statement of willingness to pay search and duplication fees as required by this request and in line with the fee schedule enclosed. It has been estimated that such charges could approach \$1000. Along with the notarized statements above, and the statement of willingness to pay all search and copying charges (or those up to an established limit), we would require a down payment of half the anticipated charges. Payment should be made to this office in the form of a check or money order payable to Treasurer of the United States.

Sincerely,



Gene F. Wilson  
Information and Privacy Coordinator

Enclosure



1-76-382  
EK

JAMES H. LESAR  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
1231 FOURTH STREET, S. W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20024  
TELEPHONE (202) 484-6023

December 3, 1976

Mr. Gene F. Wilson  
Information and Privacy Coordinator  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Wilson:

In response to your letter of November 30, 1976, Mr. Harold Weisberg has authorized me to state his willingness to pay search and copying charges up to the amount of \$1,000 if such charges are required by his Freedom of Information Act request for records pertaining to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his assassination. Because you require a down payment of half the anticipated charges, I enclose a check for \$500.00:

This payment of \$500.00 and any subsequent payments made in connection with this request are tendered with the express reservation that Mr. Weisberg does not waive his right to recover them.

C.I.A. regulations provide:

Records shall be furnished without charge or at a reduced rate whenever the Coordinator determines that waiver or reduction of the charge is in the public interest because furnishing the information can be considered as primarily benefiting the general public. The Coordinator also may waive or reduce the charge whenever he determines that the interest of the government would be served there-  
by. 32 C.F.R. §1900.25(a).

9 1 11 PM '76

In accordance with this regulation, I call upon you to determine that it is in the public and governmental interest to waive search and copying charges incurred in connection with Mr. Weisberg's request. Enclosed herein is a copy of a letter to Deputy Attorney General Harold R. Tyler, Jr. which makes a similar request of the Department of Justice. The reasons expressed in that letter for granting a waiver are incorporated in my request that you grant a waiver.

Should you require it, I will provide you with affidavits by myself, Mr. Weisberg, and others in support of this request for a waiver of the search and copying charges for these records. If you do wish supporting affidavits, I would appreciate it if you would

inform me of this as soon as possible. I would also request that you indicate what standards, if any, you have established for determining whether or not a request for waiver should be granted.

You state that you can proceed no further with Mr. Weisberg's request "unless and until we are in receipt of notarized statements of release from Mrs. Coretta King and James Earl Ray, respectively." Because Mr. Weisberg's request undoubtedly comprises records which do not involve any proper claim of privacy, this cannot be true. I do enclose, however, a copy of a notarized waiver by James Earl Ray. I will immediately contact Mrs. King about a waiver by her. In the meantime, I request that you proceed to make available those records responsive to Mr. Weisberg's request which do not involve any proper claim of invasion of privacy.

Sincerely yours,

*James H. Lesar*  
James H. Lesar

13 JAN 1977

James H. Lesar, Esquire  
1231 Fourth St., NW  
Washington, DC 20024

Dear Mr. Lesar:

Thank you for your letter of 27 December. This will acknowledge receipt of the sworn waiver executed by Mr. James Earl Ray, and to advise that processing of this portion of your request has been initiated. Upon receipt of the sworn waiver from Mrs. King, as mentioned in your letter of 3 December, we will then be able to proceed with all aspects of your FOIA request. We also wish to acknowledge receipt of your check for \$500.

Thank you for your assistance and continued cooperation.

This request has been assigned the case number F-76-382.

Sincerely,



Gene F. Wilson  
Information and Privacy Coordinator

IPS/EK/cb/12 Jan 77

Distribution:

Orig - Addressee

1 - IPS Chrono

1 ✓ IPS F-76-382

1 - OGC

26 APR 1977

James H. Lesar, Esq.  
Attorney at Law  
1231 Fourth Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20024

Dear Mr. Lesar:

This is in partial response to your request, dated 11 June 1976, made on behalf of your client, Mr. Harold Weisberg. Please refer also to our letters, dated 21 June 1976, 30 November 1976 and 13 January 1977. For our recent telephone conversation this partial response addresses itself to that part of your letter requesting records pertaining to James Earl Ray.

The materials located thus far have been reviewed carefully, and our determinations are as follows:

Enclosed, Tab A, are copies of the following items which are being released to you in their entirety:

1. One book excerpt.
- 2-109. One hundred and eight (108) press items.
- 110-134. Twenty-five (25) UPI wire items.
- 155-171. Thirty-seven (37) Reuters wire items.
- 172-225. Fifty-two (52) AP wire items.

Enclosed also, Tab B, are segregable portions of the documents listed below. Deletions in the originals were made under the exemption provisions of the Freedom of Information Act subsections which are given with each document cited.

The applicability of these exemptions has been explained to you in our earlier correspondence.

<u>Documents</u>	<u>Exemptions</u>
224-225. Two cables, dated 10 April 1968.	(b) (1), (b) (3)
226. Cable, dated 10 April 1968.	(b) (1), (b) (3), (b) (6)
227-229. Three cables, dated 10 April 1968.	(b) (1), (b) (3), (b) (6)
230-233. Four cables, dated 20 April 1968.	(b) (1), (b) (3), (b) (6)
234-235. Two cables, dated 22 April 1968.	(b) (1), (b) (3), (b) (6)
236-237. Two dispatches, dated 22 April 1968.	(b) (1), (b) (3)
238-239. Two cables, dated 23 April 1968.	(b) (1), (b) (3), (b) (6)
240. Memorandum, dated 23 April 1968.	(b) (1), (b) (3), (b) (6)
241. Cable, dated 26 April 1968.	(b) (1), (b) (3)
242. Routing slip, dated 22 October 1975.	(b) (1), (b) (3), (b) (6)
245. Routing slip, dated 23 October 1975.	(b) (1), (b) (3), (b) (6)

The documents listed below are being withheld in their entirety under the exemption provisions of the Freedom of Information Act subsections given with each document.

<u>Documents</u>	<u>Exemptions</u>
244. Memorandum, dated 17 April 1968.	(b) (1), (b) (3), (b) (6)
245. Memorandum, dated 19 April 1968.	(b) (1), (b) (3), (b) (6)
246. Cable, dated 20 April 1968.	(b) (1), (b) (3), (b) (6)

247. Cable, dated 29 April 1968. (b) (1), (b) (3),  
(b) (6)
248. Memorandum, dated 1 May 1968. (b) (1), (b) (3)
249. Cable, dated 3 May 1968. (b) (1), (b) (3),  
(b) (6)
250. Memorandum, dated 14 May 1968. (b) (1), (b) (3),  
(b) (6)
251. Memorandum, dated 16 May 1968. (b) (1), (b) (3),  
(b) (6)
- 252-254. Three cables, dated 8 June 1968. (b) (1), (b) (3)
255. Memorandum, dated 19 February 1969. (b) (1), (b) (2),  
(b) (3), (b) (6)
256. Memorandum, dated 28 May 1969. (b) (1), (b) (2),  
(b) (3), (b) (6)
- 257-264. Eight biographic sketches. (b) (1), (b) (2),  
(b) (3), (b) (6)
265. Memorandum, dated 17 April 1968. (b) (1), (b) (3),  
(b) (6)
- 266-272. Seven Cables, dated 19 April 1968. (b) (1), (b) (3),  
(b) (6)
273. Cable, dated 20 April 1968. (b) (1), (b) (3),  
(b) (6)
274. Cable, dated 22 April 1968. (b) (1), (b) (3),  
(b) (6)
275. Cable, dated 23 April 1968. (b) (1), (b) (3),  
(b) (6)
276. Cable, dated 24 April 1968. (b) (1), (b) (3),  
(b) (6)
- 277-278. Two Cables, dated 25 April 1968. (b) (1), (b) (3),  
(b) (6)
279. Dispatch, dated 26 April 1968. (b) (1), (b) (3),  
(b) (6)

280. Cable, dated 23 April 1968. (b) (1), (b) (3),  
(b) (6)
- 281-282. Two Cables, dated 30 April 1968. (b) (1), (b) (3),  
(b) (6)
283. Memorandum, dated 2 May 1968. (b) (1), (b) (3),  
(b) (6)
284. Memorandum, dated 6 May 1968. (b) (1), (b) (3),  
(b) (6)
285. Memorandum, dated 15 May 1968. (b) (1), (b) (3),  
(b) (6)
286. Cable, dated 24 May 1968. (b) (1), (b) (3),  
(b) (6)

The decisions cited above were made by Mr. Charles A. Briggs, DDO Information Review Officer.

As specified in the Freedom of Information Act, I am advising you of your right to appeal the above decisions, but it would seem to be more reasonable to await the complete results of our processing before you actually determine whether to do so.

We thank you for your patience and consideration.

Sincerely,

*Charles F. Savage*

Gene F. Wilson  
Information and Privacy Coordinator

Enclosures

IPS/EK/cb/20 Apr 77

Orig. - Adse.

- 1 - DDO
- ① - IPS Chrono
- 1 - IPS F-76-382 w/cy Tab B
- 1 - OLC
- 1 - OGC
- 1 - Pub Aff/Hetu

