

Committee for the Suit Against Government Misconduct

P.O. Box 254 · Peter Stuyvesant Station · New York, N.Y. 10009

March 1, 1979

To Attorney General Griffin Bell:

We are presenting this letter to you, which was originally sent to the New York Times signed by many individuals who were concerned and outraged by reports that indicated that the stage was being set to drop all criminal charges against former FBI officials L. Patrick Gray, W. Mark Felt and Edward S. Miller.

We are personally delivering it to you because we hold you responsible for the ultimate decision to drop this case. More than this, however, we recognize that the Department of Justice has conspired with the FBI and other intelligence agencies, since the beginning of this investigation, to cover-up the FBI's crimes conducted under its COINTELPRO program by undermining, sabotaging and limiting any thorough exposure.

Your role in this cover-up has emerged from Department of Justice lawyers themselves-- such as William Gardner, forced to resign from the Task Force because it was not allowed to pursue indictments against all those responsible for criminal actions, including indictments for perjury. It has been made clear by our own experience as targets of increased attacks and harassment that have been part of the criminal cover-up. And while the Department of Justice, under your direction, has been charged with prosecuting those responsible for illegal activities, it has simultaneously been defending those same actions, and trying to defeat the attempts by numerous individuals and groups, including ourselves, to bring the facts to light through civil law suits.

And now we are witnessing the creation by your office, in concert with the defense in the Gray, Felt and Miller trial, of a false issue of national security to justify your dropping of charges in the case. This will deny even the most limited public hearing of the facts and the history of the FBI's illegal activities.

As some of those named as the actual victims of the illegal actions by Gray, Miller and Felt, we demand that all the facts be made public and that all of those responsible be brought to justice.

THE COMMITTEE for the SUIT AGAINST
GOVERNMENT MISCONDUCT