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April 14, 2008

BY FAX AND U.S. MAIL

The Honorable Robert S. Mueller, III
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U.S. Department of Justice
935 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20535

Dear Director Mueller:

Last month I visited two inmates at the Louisiana State Penitentiary at Angola (Angola), who have served thirty-six years in solitary confinement for the 1972 murder of a prison guard named Brent Miller. Their names are Herman Wallace and Albert Woodfox. As the Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, I am deeply troubled by what evidence suggests was a tragic miscarriage of justice with regard to these men. There is significant evidence that suggests not only their innocence, but also troubling misconduct by prison officials.

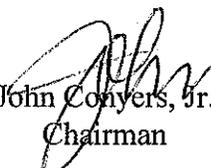
FBI memoranda filed in state court show that the FBI conducted its own investigation of the murder and the inmates immediately following the incident. As part of an ongoing investigation by the Judiciary Committee, I am hereby requesting from the FBI the following records related to the investigation of the 1972 murder at Angola.

1. All documents relating to the murder of Brent Miller at Angola on April 17, 1972, including any and all communications between the FBI and any Louisiana state government officials and any FBI analysis of the evidence relating to the murder of Brent Miller; and
2. All documents relating to Angola inmates Albert Woodfox, Herman Wallace, Chester Jackson, Gilbert Montegut, Robert Wilkerson King and Irvin Breaux.

Thank you for your attention to this very time sensitive request. I look forward to receiving these documents no later than April 18, so that we can address this issue at our upcoming oversight hearing on April 23. Your response should be directed to the Judiciary Committee office, 2138 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515 (tel: 202-225-3951; fax: 202-225-7680). Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

The Honorable Robert S. Mueller, III
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Sincerely,


John Conyers, Jr.
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Lamar S. Smith
Jeffrey R. Harris