ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

There is also correspondence in his file involving answers by the Division of Corrections of Missouri to Senator Thomas Eagleton of Missouri in response to inquiries prompted by letters Senator Eagleton received from Achter.

A Psychological Evaluation dated June 2, 1975 in Achter's file by James B. Gross, M.A., Clinical Psychologist III, includes the following information:

"...Achter admitted that he spends a great deal of time thinking about just how he would conduct the legal defense of James Earl Ray: 'I don't believe I would have any sweat whatsoever, easiest case I have ever seen.' Asked if this case might make him famous, inmate replied with great feeling: ' (obscene), yes, that would be THE publicity case of the world---that would be a big step in history; I've laid out a number of allegations, I've had the FBI here.'"

Gross noted in his report that Achter claims to be "legal-educated", but actually has had no formal legal training whatsoever, and his evaluation was: "Impression: Schizophrenia, paranoid type."

On Interview on May 20, 1976, Achter stated that he remains interested in the James Earl Ray case, and his interest has been stirred by recent news articles about Ray. He noted that Newsweek magazine had an article recently indicating that Ray was a "dope pusher" in the MSP while an inmate, and he asserted that he knew Ray and knew that he was not a "dope pusher" and never had any money as indicated by the article. He said he recalls Ray ran a few "parlay tickets" on a "penny-ante" scale. He asserted that one Joe Maloney, a newspaper reporter for a newspaper in Kansas City, Missouri, formerly an inmate in the MSP and editor of the inmate newspaper, was never associated with Ray and had no basis for any information he wrote in a recent article he had published in the newspaper on Ray. Achter volunteered that it is his theory that Ray, as a con, would never have pulled the trigger on Martin Lüther King and then left the rifle where it would be found and his radio, bearing his inmate register number at the MSP, where it could be found, at the scene. He stated that he has no information as to what actually happened and no information that anyone employed at the MSP was involved in assisting Ray's escape at the MSP. offered that a former inmate at the MSP named Joe Hedgewood,

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTIC 3

FICE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILI WASHINGTON, D.C. 20530

MAY 1 0 1976

)

TO: James Ingram

Deputy Assistant Director

Intelligence Division

Federal Bureau of Investigation

FROM:

Michael E. Shaheen, Jr., Counsel

Office of Professional Responsibility

SUBJECT:

Martin Luther King Review

Pursuant to our meeting on Wednesday, May 5, 1976, and your telephone call of today, May 10, 1976, I am forwarding this memorandum with attachments for your information and records.

As you know, the Attorney General has directed this Office to complete the review of all records in the Department, at Bureau headquarters, and in Bureau field offices in any way relating to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., his assassination, the Bureau's investigation of his death, in light of the Bureau's "systematic program of harrassment of Dr. King in order to discredit him and harm both him and the movement he led". (See Press Release Attached)

The Attorney General has directed that this review be completed "forthwith" and that my final report to him and Director Kelley provide answers four specific questions:

1) "Whether the FBI investigation of Dr. King! assassination was thorough and honest MAY 25 1976

2) Whether there is any evidence that the FBI was involved in the assassination of Dr. King;

3) Whether, in light of the first two matters, there is any new evidence which has come to the attention of the Department concerning the assassination of Dr. King;

EXP. PROC

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4) Whether the nature of the relationship between the Bureau and Dr. King calls for criminal prosecutions, disciplinary proceedings, or other appropriate action".

I know you share with me the urgent need to guarantee that these four questions be addressed by a searching, systematic, full, complete, and determined review of all documents that bear directly or even remotely on the Bureau's intense interest in and investigation of Dr. King in life as well as at death.

You have met the present members of the Task Force assigned to complete this review, and I have advised you that Fred G. Folsom is the Task Force Leader. You should understand that Mr. Folsom's requests for personnel interviews, access, review, or delivery of documents will be made at all times in my behalf and for the Attorney General. Should you have any difficulties I am always available to assist in their resolution.

As I have orally advised you, the Attorney General, Director Kelley, and I attach the highest priority to the successful completion of this review.

If I can be of further assistance, please advise. I wish to thank you for your help.

cc: Edward H. Levi,
Harold R. Tyler, Jr.
Clarence M. Kelley Fred G. Folsom

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

Cincinnati, Ohio May 21, 1976

JAMES EARL RAY RE:

On May 11, 1976, Betty Tibbles, Deputy Clerk, United States Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit, Dincinnati, Ohio, advised an employee of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) that the following additional entries were recorded on docket number 75-1795:

May 10, 1976

Judgment of the District

May 10, 1976

Court affirmed Opinion Per Curiam

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27.1.6/21 FNCLOSURE



In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Cincinnati, Ohio Nay 21, 1976

RE: JAMES EARL RAY

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This document contains poither recommendations now concludious of the FDT. It is the recommend of the FDT and is learned to your exempt; it and its contents one not to be distributed outside your egency.



In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Cincinnati, Ohio May 21, 1976

RE: JAMES EARL RAY

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Court affirmed Opinion Per Guriam

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In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION Cincinnati, Ohio May 21, 1976

RE: JAYES EARL RAY

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May 10, 1976

Judgment of the District Court affirmed

May 10, 1976

Opinion Per Curiam

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

May 6, 1976

Judge June Green United States Courthouse Washington, D. C. 20001

Dear Judge Green:

The following items were delivered to Mr. Dugan today:

- l. A copy of a 6/24/68 airtel to the Director, FBI, from LEGAT, London, which I have cited as an example of masking. This airtel was provided us by the FBI.
- 2. A shipper's receipt and a receipt for certified mail, ζ both obtained from the office of the District Attorney General of Shelby County, Tennessee.
- 3. A copy of a March 27, 1974, letter from Mr. Bernard Fensterwald to Mr. William O'Connor of the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division, and the attached September 14, 1973, letter from Mr. George McMillan to James Earl Ray's brother, John Ray. These were obtained from the Civil Rights Division about a week ago. Because the Civil Rights Division copy of Mr. McMillan's letter is somewhat difficult to read, particularly the relevant part of it which I read in court, I am also attaching a clearer xerox made from the original in my possession.
- 4. A copy of the September 27, 1968, letter from District Attorney Phil Canale to Mr. Stephen J. Pollak. This letter was obtained from the Civil Rights Division about a week ago. I have not yet referred to it in court, but I anticipate that it may come up at the next hearing. Durante REC-13

5. A copy of the October 22, 1968, letter from Mr. Phil M. RECORDED Canale to Mr. Robert D. Owen.

6. A copy of the November 3, 1975, memorandum from Mr. Stephen Horn to Assistant Attorney General J. Stanley Pottinger.

The last two items were obtained from the Civil Rights Division about a week ago and are attached to the Request for Production of Documents which I filed on May 4, 1976, and delivered to Mr. Dugan's office that same day.

SCIOS III

Sincerely yours,

Jim Lesar

File

54 JUN7 1976

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TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM:

LEGAT, LONDON

MURKIN

The following items of property have been taken from the subject's personal effects and are being separately submitted for Laboratory examination:

(1)

(2)

(3)

(4) Test bullets fixed from subject's revolver to be checked against any available bullets recovered from ausolved crimes.

The above property, with the exception of the test bullets, should be immediately returned to Legat, London for

London

return to Scotland Yard. The test bullets should be forwarded Legat, Ottawa, for appropriate RCMP comparison with any un-fidentified bullets they may have.

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1. SHIPPER'S RECEIPT (NOT AN INVOICE)

- Mr. J. B. Adems 1 - Mr. R. J. Gallagher (Attn: J. S. Peelman) 5/21/76

Mr. T. W. Leavitt

MARTIN LUTHER KING.

J. G. Deegan

CHITATION GOVERNMENT

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Records Management Division

1 - Legal Counsel Division

- Mr. T. W. Leavitt

- Mr. J. O. Ingrem - Mr. J. G. Deegan

- Mr. DECLASSIFIED BY 1972 ON 7/11/90 Garrow/Kung 83-1472

OTHERWISE. To advise the degree of access to our files given the Department Task Force of the Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) which is assigned to review our past investigations relating to Martin Luther King, Jr.

Correspondence from the Department indicates that SYNOPSIS: the current review of our King investigations by the OPR Task Force is a continuation of the "partial review" recently concluded by the Civil Rights Division of the Department under **U** the direction of Assistant Attorney General J. Stanley O Pottinger. Therefore, in absence of any information to the contrary received from the Department to date, personnel conducting the OFR review will have the same access to our files Athet was afforded the Pottinger review group. Under instructions from the Attorney General the Pottinger group was allowed to review raw files pertaining to King, his family, relatives, friends, associates and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCIC) as well as files relating to COINTELPRO vactions, electronic surveillance, all intelligence files and our complete file on investigation of the assassination of King. Based on discussions with OPR Counsel Michael E. Shaheen, the Task Force will review the assassination file. King and related security files, the SCIC file and our file on Stanley David Levison, whose association with King served as the basis to investigate King. Informent files will not be made available for review. It should be noted that current review by the OPR Task Force will include cover pages of Communications containing identities of some Bureau confiden-Stial sources and informants who were not afforded symbol numbers at that time and individuals who expressed or implied

100-106670

King's assassination

JTA:adn/sebc (10)

Jo confidentiality. This review commenced 5/10/76 in Room 4171 of the JEH Building with review of our files pertaining to

Memorandum to Mr. T. W. Leavitt Re: Mertin Luther King, Jr.

RECOMMENDATION: For information. ()

DETAILS: The Attorney General has instructed the Office of Professional Responsibility (OFR) of the Department to conduct a review of our past investigations relating to Martin Luther King. Jr. By letter dated 5/10/76. Michael E. Shaheen, Counsel of the OPR, defined the areas of concern in the review which will include perusal of all King related records in the Department, at FBIHO and in Bureau field offices. The review must be completed "forthwith" and is to answer the following four questions: (1) Was the FBI's investigation of King's assassination thorough and honest? (2) Is there any evidence the FBI was involved in the assassination? (3) Is there any new evidence which has come to the attention of the Department concerning the assassination? (4) Does the relationship between the Bureau and King call for criminal prosecutions, disciplinary proceedings or other appropriate action?

Memorandum to Mr. T. W. Leavitt Re: Martin Luther King. Jr.

DETAILS CONTINUED:

Attached to the above mentioned letter was a copy of a letter to Shaheen from the Attorney General dated 4/26/76, outlining the previous review of the King matter by the Civil Rights Division and the basis on which the Attorney General decided to order a more complete review. In this letter the Attorney General indicated that the OPR review is a continuation of the "partial review" completed by the Civil Rights Division under direction of Assistant Attorney General J. Stanley Pottinger.

Since correspondence to date from the OPR has not dealt specifically with file access by the OPR Task Force, it is concluded that personnel conducting the OPR review will have the same access to our files that was authorized at the outset of the Pottinger review.

The material/files desired by the Civil Rights Division in its review were set forth in a letter from Pottinger to the Director dated 12/4/75. In this letter Pottinger indicated the Attorney General had instructed his Division to review all actions taken by the FBI against King. Requested were all materials concerning King that were provided to the Senate and House Select Committees on Intelligence; all COINTELPRO proposals, actions and results of actions; all requests, approvals and results, including tapes, transcripts and logs of electronic surveillances; all intelligence files; and our complete file on the investigation of the assassination of King. This letter further stated that the Civil Rights Division was interested "in reviewing every single item in your files which relates in any way to Dr. King, his family, friends, associates or SCLC." It is further noted that the Attorney General (letter dated 12/12/75) authorized Pottinger personal access to tapes, transcripts of tapes and other sensitive information concerning King and his case file. (0)

Memorandum to Mr. T. W. Leavitt Re: Martin Luther King, Jr.

DETAILS CONTINUED:

Based on discussions between Mr. Shaheen and Deputy Assistant Director James C. Ingram, it has been agreed the Task Force members will review the King assassination file, his security file and King related files on the SCLC, and influence of communists in racial matters. One King associate file the Task Force will want to see is the file on Stanley David Levison whose association with King served as the basis for instituting investigation of King. The Task Force will not have access to informant files including our sensitive informant operation which obtained information regarding King's communist connections.

It is noted that the above outlined access will allow the OPR to review all raw files in our investigation of King. Included will be cover pages of documents containing the identities of some confidential sources and potential informants who were not concealed by symbol numbers according to our policy at the time. Cover pages will also contain identities of individuals who have furnished information to us on an expressed or implied basis of confidentiality. This review commenced 5/10/76, in Room 4171 of the JEH Building under the direction of Task Force leader Fred G. Folsom. The Task Force began reviewing files relating to our investigation of King's assassination.

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OPTIONAL FORM NO, 10 JULY 1973 EDITION GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

DATE: 6/3/76

FROM NES

(V' Sac, Wfo (44-703)

SUBJECT:

MURKIN (co:1111)

ReButelcall, 6/1/76 to WFO.

Transmitted herewith to the Bureau are all sections of WFO file on captioned case. The WFO file number is 44-703 consisting of Sections 1 through 8 and Sub C Sections 1 - 5. The file is being delivered personally under the supervision of SA VILLIAT D. SLOAN to SA JUNN T. ALDMINAR III, Room 4077, JED.

It is understood the Bureau will assure the file is promptly returned to VTO when of no further assistance to the Bureau

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Via	(Precedence)	
	TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)	
	FROM: SAC, SAN JUAN (157-61) (RUC)	
	SUBJECT MURKIN	
	Re Bureau telephone from Bureau Supervisor HAL N. HELTERHOFF, Civil Rights Unit, 5/17/76.	
	Enclosed herein are five copies of an LHM dated and captioned as "ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., AT SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO."	
	The representative of Secret Service referred to in the enclosed LHM is SA ROBERT OBERHOLTZ. The representatives of the FBI referred to in the enclosed LHM are SAS DENNIS W. BRAIDEN and BRUCE M. DOVE.	
	Insofar as no further investigation is contemplated in this matter at San Juan, this case is accordingly placed in a closed status at San Juan.	
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In Reply, Please Refer to

File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION San Juan, Puerto Rico June 14, 1976

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

On May 14, 1976, a representative of the Secret Service advised the San Juan Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) that Otis Humphrey Moore advised during interview on May 12, 1976, that in 1965, while drinking in a bar in Temple, Texas, two unknown males engaged him in conversation to the effect that Moore was offered \$50,000 to assassinate Martin Luther King, Jr.

Moore advised that he believes that he is in possession of significant information when coupled with the information in possession of James Earl Ray and Senator Edward Kennedy, will be able to "put it all together" and resolve the matter of King's assassination once and for all.

This Secret Service representative advised that Moore is scheduled to depart from Roosevelt Roads Naval Base, Puerto Rico, on Saturday, May 15, 1976, between the hours of 7:00 and 8:00 PM, destined by military flight, to Charleston, South Carolina. Moore is a retired military veteran and thereby eligible for stand-by status on military flights.

Moore then advised that he intended to make his way to Washington, D.C., by whatever means available and to thereafter sit in the office of Senator Edward Kennedy and badger the office personnel until he is allowed to see Senator Kennedy personally. In addition to Senator Kennedy, Moore stated that he would also attempt to see other members of Congress, mentioning by name Senator Wilbur Mills of his home state of Arkansas.

The following description regarding Moore was furnished by this Secret Service representative:

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

14-39861-6124

FREE COSTS

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Name: Address: Otis Humphrey Moore Calle 9 #L-12, Royaltown

PΙΙ

Bayamon, Puerto Rico

Date of Birth:

Elaine, Arkansas

Place of Birth: Sex:

Male

Race:

Caucasian

Complexion: Hair:

Ruddy Brown

Eyes: Height: Weight: Green 5'3" 146

Military Service

Number:

RA18328349

Scars:

Small scar on bridge of nose

On May 15, 1976, Moore was interviewed at his residence by Special Agents of the FBI regarding the abovementioned information. Moore again advised that he intended to obtain an interview with Senator Kennedy regarding the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. and President Kennedy. Moore advised that if Senator Kennedy is unavailable, he will attempt to interview Senators Dale Bumpers and Henry Jackson, in addition to contacting the Governor of Tennessee, to obtain an interview with James Earl Ray, whom Moore feels did not tell the true story regarding the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Moore furnished no additional information to that which was previously furnished to the Secret Service representative, supra, except to say that "a multi-millionaire lawyer from Dallas" was present when he was offered the \$50,000 to assassinate King.

Moore advised that he had additional information, but he would only give it to Senator Kennedy because he had contacted the FBI immediately after the offer had been made and, according to Moore, no action was taken.

A subsequent interview, same date, with Moore's wife, Lydia M. Moore, nee Torres, disclosed that Moore had been planning to take this trip for some time, but up until

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

now, she has been unable to talk him out of it. She further advised that until recently, her husband was under the care of a Dr. Garcia for a nervous disorder and was to have been hospitalized for treatment.

Mrs. Moore added that the night in 1965, when her husband came home with the assassination story, he was extremely drunk and did call the FBI.

Moore advised that he does not believe in violence, and that he has no weapon, nor does he have access to any weapons. Moore's wife advised that her husband is not prone to violence, and she is of the opinion that he would not resort to violence to accomplish his purposes.

Moore made available his discharge papers which indicated the following information:

Home of Record: Antion Rio #63

Humacao, Puerto Rico

Occupation: Military - Cook and Mess Steward Last Unit Assigned: Company A, 75th Ranger Battalion,

1st Armored Division,

Ft. Hood, Texas

Weapon Qualification: M-14 Sharpshooter

Overseas Assignments: 1965 - Wurtzburg, Germany

1967-1968 - Vietnam 1970-1971 - Thailand

Reason for Discharge: Retirement in December, 1974

Moore was unable to take the military flight to Washington as planned, and advised the Special Agents of the FBI that he would wait until a later date, as of yet undetermined, to make such a flight.

1 - .. J. Gallagher
(Attn: J. S. Peelman)
1 - T. W. Leavitt

CODE

TELLTYPE

URGENT

1 - J. O. Ingram

TO SACS, NEMPHIS MILWAUKEE

JUHE 11, 1976

1 - J. G. Deegan

1 - J. D. Maurice

- J. T. Aldhizer

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR

PROM DIRECTOR, FBI (100-106670)

FOR INFORMATION OF RECIPIENTS, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL HAS ORDERED A REVIEW OF THE FBI'S INVESTIGATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING. ASSIGNED TO CONDUCT THIS REVIEW IS A TASK FORCE WORKING UNDER DIRECTION OF THE OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY (OPR) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL HAS INDICATED THE REVIEW IS TO RESOLVE THE FOLLOWING FOUR QUESTIONS.

- (1.) WAS THE FBI INVESTIGATION OF KING'S ASSASSINATION THOROUGH AND HONEST?
- (2.) IS THERE ANY EVIDENCE THE FEI WAS INVOLVED IN THE ASSASSINATION?
- (3.) IS THERE ANY NEW EVIDENCE WHICH HAS COME TO THE ATTENTION OF THE DEPARTMENT CONCERNING THE ASSASSINATION?
- (4.) DOES THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE BUREAU AND KING CALL FOR CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS, DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS OR

OTHER APPROPRIATE ACTION?

1 - 44-38861

JTA:aam

(9)

SEE NOTE PAGE 4

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINE DUPLICATE VELLEY
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 6126 18 BY 883 D B/dkc

6076

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9 JUL 7 1976

1990 HGN PAGE TWO 100-106670

THIS REVIEW IS A CONTINUATION OF A "PARTIAL REVIEW"

RECENTLY CONDUCTED BY THE CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION OF THE

DEPARTMENT UNDER DIRECTION OF ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

J. STANLEY POTTINGER. AFTER THE TASK FORCE COMPLETES STUDY OF

ASSASSINATION FILES IN SELECTED FIELD OFFICES, IT WILL CONDUCT

EXAMINATION OF OUR INTELLIGENCE INVESTIGATION OF KING AND ANY

SECURITY FILES RELATING TO BASIS FOR THE INVESTIGATION. ALL

PERSONNEL ON THE TASK FORCE ARE AUTHORIZED TOTAL ACCESS TO

PERTINENT FILES AT FBIHQ AND IN THE FIELD. THIS WILL INCLUDE

COVER PAGES OF COMMUNICATIONS CONTAINING IDENTITIES OF SOME

FBI SOURCES, INFORMANTS WHO WERE NOT AFFORDED SYMOBL NUMBERS

AT THAT TIME AND INDIVIDUALS WHO EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED CONFIDENTIALITY. INFORMANT FILES ARE NOT TO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE

TASK FORCE WITHOUT PRIOR FBIHO AUTHORITY.

THE OPR REVIEW BEGAN AT FBIHQ ON MAY 10, 1976, WITH REVIEW OF ASSASSINATION FILES OF FBIHQ AND WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE.

THE TASK FORCE NOW DESIRES TO REVIEW KING ASSASSINATION
FILES IN THE MEMPHIS AND MILWAUKEE OFFICES BEGINNING JUNE 14,
1976. THE FOLLOWING TASK FORCE PERSONNEL ARE SCHEDULED TO
ARRIVE IN MEMPHIS ON JUNE 14, 1976:

PAGE THREE 100-106670

FRED G. FOLSOM, TASK FORCE LEADER; JAMES WALKER; WILLIAM WHITE; JOSEPH GROSS AND POSSIBLY MS. HOPE BYRNE. ESTIMATED TIME TO COMPLETE REVIEW IN MEMPHIS IS TWO WEEKS. FOLSOM HAS INDICATED THAT THE ONLY FILES HE ANTICIPATES REVIEWING IN MEMPHIS IS THE KING ASSASSINATION FILE (MEMPHIS 44-1987) AND POSSIBLY FILE CAPTIONED "SANITATION WORKERS STRIKE, MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE; RACIAL MATTER" (MEMPHIS FILE 157-1092).

THE SIXTH MEMBER OF THE TASK FORCE, JAMES KIECKHEFER, IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN, JUNE 14, 1976, TO REVIEW ALL VOLUMES OF MILWAUKEE ASSASSINATION INVESTIGATION (44-388). SUBSEQUENTLY HE WILL JOIN THE REST OF HIS GROUP IN MEMPHIS. FOLSOM GAVE NO REASON FOR REVIEWING MILWAUKEE FILES OTHER THAN THE FACT KIECKHEFER IS TO BE IN MILWAUKEE ANYWAY AND WHILE THERE COULD CONDUCT REVIEW.

SAC, MEMPHIS AND MILWAUKEE ASSIGN COORDINATOR TO HANDLE LIAISON WITH TASK FORCE PERSONNEL AND PROVIDE OFFICE SPACE IN WHICH TO CONDUCT REVIEW. CONFIRM ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF TASK FORCE PERSONNEL AND KEEP FBIHQ ADVISED OF SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS.

END

100-106670

PAGE FOUR

NOTE:

Memphis and Milwaukee, through ASACs R. H. Blay and R. Hill, respectively, were telephonically furnished contents of teletype on 6/9/76.

The assassination file in Memphis consists of 7 main volumes and 17 sub files of approximately 110 volumes. The Milwaukee assassination file consists of 5 volumes.

Task force leader Folsom has been advised of Bureau office addresses in Memphis and Milwaukee and that upon arrival his personnel should contact respective SACs. Both offices have been instructed to refer any questions concerning the review to Deputy Assistant Director J. O. Ingram, who is coordinating the review for the Intelligence Division, or SA J. T. Aldhizer.

1 - Mr. J. B. Adams

1 - Mr. R. J. Gallagher
 (Attn: J.S. Peelman)

1 - Records Management Division

6/3./76 1 - Mr. T. W. Leavitt

1 - Mr. J. O. Ingram

1 - Mr. J. G. Deegan

1 - Mr. J. T. Aldhizer

Mr. T. W. Leavitt

J. G. Deegan

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

PURPOSE: To advise of arrangements for review of WFO King assassination files by the Department Task Force of the Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR), which is completing its review of King's assassination files at FBIHQ.

SYNOPSIS: The Department Task Force of the OPR is conducting a review of our investigation of King, starting with a review of FBIHQ files pertaining to the assassination. The Task Force is completing its review of these files and desires to review WFO files concerning the assassination, beginning 6/7/76. Through contact between Deputy Assistant Director J. O. Ingram, Intelligence Division, and SAC Nick F. Stames of WFO arrangements have been made to transport WFO files under guard from WFO to room 4171 of the J. E. H. Building where the Task Force has been working since 5/10/76. desirable for the Task Force and SAC Stames who indicated WFO lacks monitoring personnel and space for the review at WFO. The WFO assassination files consist of nine main volumes, 799 serials and five volumes of the sub C file (51 items).

None. For information. RECOMMENDATION:

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167 JUN 23 1976

100-106670 1)- 44-38861 JTA:adn

CONTINUED - OVER

Memorandum to Mr. T. W. Leavitt Re: Martin Luther King, Jr. 100-106670

DETAILS: You have been previously advised that since 5/10/76 the Department Task Force of the OPR is reviewing our investigation of Martin Luther King, Jr. The group has been working in room 4171 of J. E. H. Building and this week will complete review of all FBIHQ files pertaining to the assassination (44-38861). It is noted that the Task Force has been authorized access to all raw files in our investigation of King.

Mr. Fred G. Folsom, Jr., Task Force leader advised the group will be ready to review the WFO files on 6/7/76. He stated it would be convenient for his group if the files could be delivered from WFO to the Task Force's room in the J. E. H. Building.

Deputy Assistant Director J. O. Ingram of the Intelligence Division recently met with SAC Nick F. Stames of WFO. Stames advised WFO at the present time lacks monitoring personnel and space for the OPR review to take place at WFO. It was agreed WFO files would be transported under guard from WFO to room 4171 of the J. E. H. Building for review by the Task Force beginning 6/7/76. Mr. Ingram will continue to coordinate this matter with SAC Stames.

According to a previous file inventory concerning the King case the assassination files at WFO consist of nine volumes of the main file (799 serials) and five volumes of the sub C file (51 items) including photographs of subject, fingerprints and palmprints of subjects wanted flyers, interview logs and other material relating to the investigation.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 14/1976

NR06 ME CODED

5:46 PM NITE JUNE 14. 1976

TO

DIRECTOR

FROM

MEMPHIS (66-2189)

DEPUTY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR J. O. INGRAM

REVIEW OF FBI INVESTIGATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING MURDER.

RE BUREAU TELETYPE TO MEMPHIS AND MILWAUKEE JUNE 11, 1976.

Assoc. Dir. Dep.-A.D.-Adan. Dep.-A.D.-liiv.

Asst. Dir.:

Adm. Serv. Ext. Affairs Fin. & Pers.

Gen. Inv. -Ident. Inspection Intell. TV

Laboratory Legal Coun.

Plan. & Eval. Rec. Mgmt. Spec. Inv. Training ---Telephone Rm.

Die Sec'y

BUREAU NOTE MEMPHIS HAS OPENED SEPARATE FILE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE HANDLING OF THIS MATTER.

DJ TASK FORCE ARRIVED MEMPHIS EARLY AFTERNOON JUNE 14. 1976. TASK FORCE CONSISTS OF MICHAEL SHAHEEN, FRED G. FOLSOM, JOSEPH F. GROSS, JR., WILLIAM D. WHITE, AND JAMES F. WALKER. SHAHEEN WILL RETURN WDC JUNE 15, 1976, AND JAMES KIECKHEFER WILL NIGHT OF

SHAHEEN HAS SPOKEN WITH NEWSPAPER REPORTERS AT MEMPHIS AND HAS DISCLOSED HIS REASON FOR BEING HERE. HE INDICATED THEY WILL WORK SEVEN DAYS A WEEK FOR BETWEEN TWO AND THREE WEEKS. HE ALSO 3 JUN 22 1976 INDICATED THEY WILL WORK DURING PERIODS OTHER THAN NORMAL BUSINESS

HOURS.

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PAGE TWO ME 66-2189

SHAHEEN INDICATED THAT ON THIS VISIT THEY WILL CONFINE
THEMSELVES TO A REVIEW OF MURKIN FILE, BUT ON SUBSEQUENT VISITS
MAY INTERVIEW APPROPRIATE WITNESSES AS WELL AS CURRENT AND
FORMER FBI EMPLOYEES. ON THE PREMISE THAT ALL FBI OFFICES
HAVE SOME INFORMATION PERTAINING TO MURKIN, TASK FORCE MAY
EVENTUALLY VISIT ALL FBI FIELD OFFICES TO REVIEW MURKIN FILES.
END.

WLC ACK 003 006 FBIHQ

0-70 (Rev. 3-28-72)
OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA GEN. REC. NO. 2

5010-106

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

FILLE COPY

Memorandum

TO

Assistant Attorney General Civil Rights Division

DATE: June 8, 1976

FROM : Director, FBI

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Reference is made to memorandum dated
dated There is enclosed one copy of the the state of the
A. This covers the preliminary investigation and no further action concerning a full investigation will be taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs.
B The investigation is continuing and you will be furnished copies of reports as they are received.
C. The investigation requested by you has now been completed. Unless advised to the contrary no further inquiries will be made by this Bureau.
D. Pursuant to instructions issued by the Department, no investigation will be conducted in this matter unless specifically directed by the Department.
E. Please advise whether you desire any further investigation.
F. 🛣 This is submitted for your information and you will be advised of further developments.
G. This is submitted for your information and no further investigation will be conducted unless specifically requested by the Department.
H. This covers the receipt of a complaint and no further action will be taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs.
Enc. 1

NOTE PAGE 2. . .

FL 6 E C P

Assistant Attorney General Civil Rights Division RE: ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING. JR.

NOTE: On 5/14/76, our San Juan Office of the FBI advised a representative of the Secret Service advised on 5/14/76, that on 5/12/76, he interviewed (X) Otis Humphrey Moore, Calle 9 Number L-12, Royaltown, Bayamon, Puerto Rico: date Place of birth, Elaine, Arkansas; race of while; sex - male; complexion - ruddy; hair - brown; eyes green; height - 5'3"; weight - 146 pounds; social security account number military serial number RA 18328349; small scar on bridge of nose (X). The secret Service representative advised that Moore said that in 1965, while drinking in a bar in Temple, Texas, two unknown males engaged him in conversation to the effect that Moore was offered \$50,000 to assassinate Martin Luther King, Jr. Moore believes he is in possession of significant information, when, coupled with the information in possession of James Earl Ray and Senator Edward Kennedy, will be able to "put it all together" and resolve the matter of King's assassination once and for all.

The Secret Service representative advised that Moore is scheduled to depart from Roosevelt Roads Naval Base in Puerto Rico on Saturday, 5/15/76, between the hours of 7:00 and 8:00 p.m., destined by military flight to Charleston, South Carolina. Moore is a retired military veteran and thereby elegible for standby status on military flights. Moore has vowed thereafter to make his way to Washington, D.C., by whatever means available and to thereafter sit in the office of Senator Kennedy and pester the office personnel until able to see Senator Kennedy personally. In addition to Senator Kennedy, Moore has stated that he would also attempt to see other members of Congress, mentioning by name Senator Wilbur Mills of his home state of Arkansas. No other names of members of Congress were mentioned.

On 5/15/76, our San Juan Office advised that Moore interviewed at his residence re captioned matter. Moore reiterated his intentions of attempting to obtain an interview with Senator Kennedy regarding the assassination of Martin Luther King and President Kennedy. Moore advised if Senator Kennedy will not see him he will attempt to obtain interviews with Senators Dale Bumpers and Henry Jackson. He also intends to contact the Governor of Tennessee to obtain an interview with James Earl Ray whom Moore feels did not tell the true story re the assassination of Martin Luther King.

Assistant Attorney General Civil Rights Division RE: ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

When questioned re his knowledge of the assassination of King, Moore only furnished the same information he gave previously to the Secret Service Agent, adding only that a "multimillionaire lawyer from Dallas" was present when he was offered \$50,000 to assassinate King. Moore advised that he had additional information, but he would only give it to Senator Kennedy, because he had contacted the FBI immediately after the offer had been made and no action had been taken.

Interview with Moore's wife, Lydia M. Moore, nee Torres, revealed that Moore has been planning to take this trip for some time, but up till now she has been able to talk him out of it. She further advised that until recently her husband has been under care of a Doctor Garcia for nervous disorder, and was to have been hospitalized for treatment.

Mrs. Moore stated that the night in 1965, her husband came home with the assassination story, he was extremely drunk, and did call the FBI.

Moore made available his discharge papers which indicated the following information:

DOB:

POB: Elaine, Arkansas; SSAN:

home of record: Caresio - Antion Riog Number 63,

Humacao, Puerto Rico: Occupation in military: cook and mess
steward. Last unit assigned: Company A 75th Ranger BN

First Armored Division, Ft. Hood, Texas.

Unit records transferred to USAR Con OP (retired) RCPAC 9700 Page Boulavard, St. Louis, Missouri. Weapon qualification: M14 sharpshooter overseas assignments: 1965, Wurtzburg, Germany; 1967-68, Vietnam; 1970-71, Thaind. Reason for discharge: retirement in December, 1974.

Moore advised that he does not believe in violence, that he has no weapons and does not have access to any weapons. Moore's wife advised her husband is not prone to violence and she is of the opinion he would not resort to violence to accomplish his purposes.

A photograph of Moore was obtained during the course of the interview.

Our San Juan Office is submitting a letterhead memorandum containing results of interviews with Moore.

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		Date: 5/3/76	Gen Inv
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a		(Precedence)	Plant & Eval Rec. Mgmt.
	TO:	DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) ATTN: DIVISION 4, SA TOM WEISMAN	Training Lephone Rm.
	FROM:	SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) C	
	U.S. DE	WEISBURG vs. PARTMENT OF JUSTICE, C., CIVIL ACTION #751996	
	''MURKIN	Re Kansas City letter to Bureau 4/19/6	8 entitled
	Missour Record submitt this wa the Jac postal WALTER prints	The photograph referred to in relet wa kson County Sheriff's Office Jail, Kansas i, on 3/28/55. According to the FBI Iden for JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #405 942G, finger ed by the SO, Kansas City, Missouri, on 3 s the same day RAY was photographed when kson County Jail. The arrest was for for money order. The FBI Identification Reco TERRY RIFE, FBI #4 558 766, reflects RIFE were submitted by the SO, Kansas City, Mi for forged U.S. postal money order.	City, tification prints were /28/55 and placed in gery of U.S. rd for 's finger- ssouri,
,	actuall but als section trimmed	A negative of RAY and RIFE being photor was obtained by SA RAYMOND B. HOWE and y reflects not only the photograph of RAY o an extensive area of the Jackson County. The photograph when sent to Bureau and so only the two individuals appear on thative is being remained by Kansas City Of	the negative and RIFE, SO records Memphis was e photograph
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JUN 25 1976

11:02 PM NITEL JUNE 24, 1976 JMB

TO DIRECTOR

FROM MEMPHIS (66-2189)

ATTENTION: INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

REVIEW OF FBI INVESTIGATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TASK FORCE DEPARTED MEMPHIS AFTERNOON OF JUNE 24, 1976, TO RETURN TO WASHINGTON. AN ATTEMPT WAS MADE BY THEM TO REVIEW THE EVIDENCE IN THE MURKIN CASE; HOWEVER, THE JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT WAS OUT OF TOWN AND UNAVAILABLE TO GIVE PERMISSION FOR SUCH A REVIEW.

TASK FORCE MEMBERS INDICATE THAT ONE OR MORE OF THEM
WILL BE RETURNING TO MEMPHIS SHORTLY AFTER JULY 5, 1976, AND
THEY HAVE INDICATED THEY WILL MAKE AN ATTEMPT TO INTERVIEW
JAMES EARL RAY.

END.

EMS FBIHQ

REC-71

44-38861-6127

Assoc. Dir.

Dep.-A.D.-Adm.

Dep.-A.D.-Inv. Asst. Dir.:

Adm. Serv.

Ext. Affairs Fin. & Person

Plan. & Eval. Rec. Mgmt. ___ Spec. Inv. ___

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Telephone Rm.
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OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10 MAY 1962 EDITION GSA FPMR (4) CFR) 101-11.6

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. J. B. Adams

DATE: 6/21/76

Dep. AD Inv. Asst. Dir.: Ext. Affairs . Fin. & Pers. Spec. Inv. Training Telephone Rm

Assoc. Dir. Den. AD Adm.

: Legal Counsely

SUBJECT: INQUIRY RE ACCESS TO FILE MATERIAL ON MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

PURPOSE:

To set forth for record purposes a call by Peter Taft, Assistant Attorney General, Land and Natural Resources Division, concerning access to Martin Luther King file material.

SYNOPSIS:

Mr. Taft called on 6/21/76, and spoke with Inspector James C. Farrington to advise that he had several inquiries concerning access by representatives of the King family for material in our files concerning Martin Luther King. His questions were answered and he advised he would recontact Legal Counsel Division if he had any further questions pertaining to file documents on Martin Luther King.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

1 - Mr. Leavitt

1 - Mr. Decker

1 - Mr. Bassett

1 - Mr. Mogen 1 - Mr. Mintz

Ext. Affairs..... APPROVED: Fin. & Pers..... Assoc. Dir. Dep. AD Adm. Gen. Inv. Ident. Inspection..... Asst. Dir.: 🔪 Intell.... Adm. Serv...

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