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FROM : WITHHELD

TO : C/WE

TITLE : MEETING OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING WITH ITALIAN LEFTIST

PERSONALITIES

DATE: 10/20/1964

PAGES : 2

SUBJECTS : KING, M. L. JR.

ROME, ITALY

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[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED 104-10071-10157

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| | DW/987 | * | | ASSTRACT | | |
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| Meeting of Dr. Martin Luther KING with Italian Leftist | | | | | | |
| ACTION REQUIRED - REFERENCES | | | | | | |
| | For Your Information. | | | | | |
| 1. Following is a translation of a report on the subject: -"The Mission of Luther KING with the Italian Left", dated 28 September 1964 and attributed to DEPLENARY/7, from Luigi PINTOR, from information coming into the editorial offices of L'UNITA. The Station received the report on 1 October 1964. | | | | | | |
| "Luther KING, noted Protestant negro Pastor and 'leader' of the anti-racist movement in the United States, met with various leaders of the Italian Communist Party (PCI) and of the Italian Socialist Party (PSI) on 18 September in Rome. In particular, KING conferred with PCI Senators Velio SPANO and Ugo BARTESAGHI, with PSI Deputy Lucio LUZZATO, and with Senator Paolo VITTORELLI of the Italian Socialist Party of Proletarian Unity. KING discussed with the above-named politicians the program of demonstrations against segrega- tion in the United States, which are to be organized in Italy during the months immediately ahead." | | | | | | |
| 2. The same report was also received from DEDICATOR/4 who has access to the DEPLENARY establishment and thus it is not considered as confirming the DEPLENARY/7 information. | | | | | | |
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| Attachment: h/w. Copy of a report passed to local ODENVY rep. | | | | | | |
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- Given the source of the above report, we view it with some reserve. In this connection, we noted the 19 September issue of L'UNITA, which reflected an article on KING's private audience with Pope Paul held the preceding day. According to L'UNITA, immediately after the audience, in St. Peter's Square, KING stated that "Pope Paul was most clear on the fact that both he, personally, and the Catholic Church support the cause of civil rights". The article also states that in a press conference held at Fiumicino Airport after the audience KING said, "The Pope will shortly make a public statement on racial segregation". We have no other information at this time.
- Attached is a copy of the report which we have passed to the local ODENVY representative.

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