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4929 as the leader of the civil rights movement.

4930 The Chairman. And what was there, given the kind of tone  
4931 that was set from the top by Mr. Hoover, the realization  
4932 that he wanted Dr. King destroyed, and with that notion  
4933 being prevalent throughout the entire bureau, and trickling  
4934 all the way down to men like Rose who came in this afternoon  
4935 and admitted under oath that he was racially prejudiced,  
4936 with the knowledge existing throughout the entire bureau  
4937 that Hoover wanted him destroyed, what would stop some agent  
4938 from feeling that he could with impunity kill Dr. King?

4939 Mr. Brennan. I think that is an extreme supposition. I  
4940 think that the people in the FBI, at least on the basis of  
4941 my personal experience over the years that I worked in the  
4942 FBI for more than 26 years, were men of great dedication and  
4943 integrity, and I would say that that would be a far-out  
4944 extreme case.

4945 Now I am not saying that we never had any bad apples in  
4946 the FBI, and that somebody would not consider doing a bad  
4947 thing, but I would be shocked and amazed if any individual

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4948 in the FBI ever did consider such a step.

4949 The Chairman. Were you shocked and amazed that it was  
4950 testified to here that when Mr. Rose heard Dr. King had been  
4951 killed he expressed joy, and used the term "'They got the  
4952 SOB''? Did that shock and amaze you?

4953 Mr. Brennan. That shocked me, yes. I don't see how any  
4954 man, particularly the men of the caliber, of the type that  
4955 we try to get into the FBI, would be joyful over that type  
4956 of assassination.

4957 The Chairman. Regrettably, Mr. Rose is still with the  
4958 FBI.

4959 Mr. Brennan. Well, sir, that is not of my doing.

4960 The Chairman. I do not fault you for that. I fault the  
4961 system for keeping him.

4962 The gentleman from the District of Columbia, Mr. Fauntroy.

4963 Mr. Fauntroy. Mr. Chairman, I have no questions. I am  
4964 exhausted.

4965 The Chairman. The gentleman from Ohio, Mr. Devine.

4966 Mr. Devine. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

*JHR*

The Assistant Attorney General  
Criminal Division  
Attention: Mr. Robert Keuch ~~FEDERAL GOVERNMENT~~

- 1 - Mr. Long - Enc.
- 1 - Mr. Foster - Enc.
- 2 - Mr. Coulson - Enc.
- December 22, 1978
- 1 - Mr. Heller - Enc.

Director, FBI

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

In accordance with Attorney General Order 116-56, this memorandum advises that Special Agent Thomas J. Deakin, Public Affairs Office, FBIHQ, was interviewed on December 14, 1978. A memorandum setting forth Mr. Deakin's account of this interview is enclosed for your information.

Enclosure

*3-18-86* *J.P. Macomber*

1 - Personnel file - Thomas J. Deakin - Enclosure

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December 15, 1978

INTERVIEW BY HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE  
ON ASSASSINATIONS

On December 14, 1978, Special Agent Thomas J. Deakin, Public Affairs Office, FBIHQ, was interviewed by Messrs. McHargh and Webb of the House Select Committee on Assassinations regarding the Racial Counterintelligence Program which Special Agent Deakin supervised for a period of time in 1967 and 1968.

The questions asked by the Committee staff related to the justification of selecting Martin Luther King and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference as targets of the Counterintelligence Program and at what level of the FBI this selection was made.

General information on the method of originating and handling Counterintelligence Program suggestions was explored, as was the particulars of the Counterintelligence Program aimed at the Poor Peoples Campaign.

The Committee investigators were particularly interested in the amount of counterintelligence suggestions generated by former Assistant Director W. C. Sullivan and whether these were on his own initiative or by oral instructions from J. Edgar Hoover. This last area was, of course, beyond the knowledge of Special Agent Deakin.

A final area of inquiry was what was described by the Committee investigators as factionalism within Bureau Headquarters between C. D. LeLoch and W. C. Sullivan.

This interview was not under oath as Mr. Webb explained the Committee only planned to take a deposition if new information was obtained from Special Agent Deakin.

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