

JN 157-9586

JN 23-R (PROB) advised on 11/16/64 that at a state-wide meeting of the WKKKKOM near Harrisville, Miss. on 11/16/64 SAM BOWERS was asked by an unknown Klansman why MARTIN LUTHER KING was not killed when he came to Miss. during the Summer of 1964. BOWERS allegedly replied that two men came to him who claimed they were good with a rifle and wanted his approval to take care of KING. BOWERS stated at this particular meeting that he gave these two men strict orders not to take any chances whatsoever and added that these two men never returned and he heard no more concerning this matter.

On 11/16/64 JN 55-R (PROB) advised that during the same state meeting as set forth above, some individuals reported that MARTIN LUTHER KING had expected to come to Mc Comb, Miss. on Monday, 11/16/64 and that all business places in Mc Comb would be tested by integrationists on that date. Someone remarked that something should be done about this and SAM BOWERS stated that when MARTIN LUTHER KING last toured the State of Miss., two men were assigned with high-powered rifles to take care of KING, but plans went amiss when KING took a route other than the one he was supposed to. BOWERS stated that these two men are working on this matter. He did not identify the two men.

On 4/30/68 JN 23-R (PROB) <sup>(closed)</sup> was located and interviewed. He could add nothing further to the information he furnished on 11/16/64.

On 5/1/68 JN 55-R (PROB) reported that he had nothing additional concerning the above incident.

JN 55-R (PROB) was contacted during the evening of 4/4/68 immediately after the assassination of KING and he had no information of value at that time.

Other incidents summarized in referenced airtel are being investigated, where possible, to determine if any persons concerned ~~are~~ <sup>are</sup> implicated in anyway with KING's death.