

PG 137-1991

PG 157-698  
44-578

CI contacted on 4/6/68, and said he had no information from any of his contacts that there were any disturbances or contemplated acts of violence to be committed in the Martinsburg, W. Va., as an aftermath of the assassination of Reverend KING.

# King Slayer Hunt Pushed; Gls Patrol Riot-Hit Cities

*Orig & 1 to  
Bureau  
4-15-68*

157-698-30

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 15 1968	
FBI — PITTSBURGH	

*[Signature]*

(Mount Clipping in Space)

# FBI Checks On Leads In Killing

## Funeral Services For Rights Leader Tuesday In Atlanta

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (UPI)—A massive Federal man hunt spread through the South today for the assassin who killed the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and plunged the nation into mourning.

It appeared that the sandy-haired, sharp-nosed rifleman had fled Tennessee with a \$155,000 price on his head. Attorney Gen. Ramsey Clark said the investigation has "spread several hundred miles from the borders of Tennessee."

FBI agents, he said, are following leads in "several parts of the country."

Mr. Clark had said yesterday that "we are very close to making an arrest." But two days after the 39-year-old Nobel Peace Prize winner fell dying from a bullet on the balcony of his hotel room, the slayer remains at large.

Memphis Police Chief Frank L. Holloman said he, too, is optimistic about an arrest but he used the phrase "eventually."

The body of Dr. King will lie in state in Sisters' Chapel of Spelman College in Atlanta until 4 p. m. Monday when it will be borne in a procession to Ebenezer Baptist Church.

The funeral will be held at 10:30 a. m. Tuesday in the church where the civil rights leader and his father were co-pastors. After the funeral, the body will be taken to Morehouse College for another brief service.

The main speaker at the funeral will be Dr. Benjamin Hayes, retired president of Morehouse, Dr. King's alma mater.

Federal flags were ordered flown at half staff but in nearly 50 cities across the nation mourning turned to violence. At least 20 persons died, scores were injured and troops were called in to aid police in many cities.

Rewards totaling \$155,000 were posted in Memphis for Dr. King's killer.

In addition, a group of businessmen put up \$25,000 in an effort to settle the sanitation worker's strike that brought Dr. King to this Mississippi River port city.

The money was to pay for a union dues checkoff system for six months for the garbage collectors.

A dues checkoff and union representation are the sticking points in the strike, which began early February. The garbage collectors, most of them Negroes, contend the city is discriminating against them.

The businessmen's offer, however, was rejected by union officials who said they would not settle for a six-month solution to the problem.

### Was To Lead March

Dr. King had arrived here Wednesday to lead another mass march in support of the strikers to prove that nonviolent demonstrations still were possible. A march of 5000, led by Dr. King, had flared into violence that killed one person and injured 62 others when Negro youths broke from the marchers in a vandalism spree.

Dr. King checked into the Lorraine Hotel, a two-story structure in a Negro district about four blocks from famed Beale Street, scene of most of the rioting connected with his march.

On his previous trip, Dr. King had stayed at a motel near the river.

He waited for Dr. King to show himself.

He sat on the dirty, sagging mattress, and occasionally observed the hotel through binoculars. Police later found the faded green and yellow curtains thrown on the room's mantel.

### Changes Location

At around 5:30 p. m., the man, described as having "a square chin, and thick hair at the front, receding on the sides," went into the bathroom — a walk of about 13 steps from his room. It gave him a clearer view of the Lorraine. He stayed in the bathroom about 25 or 30 minutes.

Around 6 p. m., Dr. King came onto the balcony of the hotel and told his chauffeur on the street below to get ready to drive him to dinner.

At 6:01, as he leaned over to say something to an aide below, there was "a sound like a firecracker." Dr. King reeled to the floor, a wound in his neck.

In the confusion, the killer dashed from the rooming house and later dropped a suitcase and a rifle in an amusement center several doors away. At about the same time, witnesses saw a white car speed away.

Mr. Clark said authorities were "very interested" in the car, but did not say whether it definitely was determined it was the getaway vehicle.

About three hours before Dr. King was shot, a clean-shaven, sharp-nosed white man checked into a "flophouse" across from the Lorraine. He was neatly dressed in a black suit, white shirt and narrow, dark tie.

### Recalls Suspect

The suspect was recalled by Mrs. Bessie Brewer, the landlady of the rooming house. She said the suspect registered under the name of John Willard.

"He paid his \$3.50 week's rent in cash," she said. He took Room 5, an 8-by-12 foot cubicle with a window that had an angled view of the Lorraine. The killer then ap-

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Pittsburgh Press  
1 Pittsburgh, Pa.

Date: 4/6/68

Edition: Final

Author:

Editor: JOHN TROAN

Title: RACIAL SITUATION  
PITTSBURGH DIVISION  
RM

Character:

or

Classification: Pittsburgh  
Submitting Office:

☐ Being Investigated



—UPI Telephoto

**SUSPECT** — Staff Artist Bill Harrington of Scripps-Howard's Memphis Commercial-Appeal staff compiled this composite sketch of the suspect in the slaying of Dr. King.

## **King Rewards At \$155,000**

### *Scripps-Howard Service*

**MEMPHIS** — Rewards totaling \$50,000 have been offered by the two Scripps-Howard newspapers in Memphis for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the assassin or assassins of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The Commercial Appeal led off yesterday with the announcement of a \$25,000 reward. Jack R. Howard, president of Scripps-Howard, later announced through the Press-Scimitar that an additional \$25,000 reward was being posted on behalf of Scripps-Howard newspapers.

Rewards now total at least \$155,000. The Memphis City Council has guaranteed a minimum reward of \$100,000. A consultant firm offered \$5000.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

**SOLENN PARK SERVICE**

# 1,500 Erieites Hear Eulogy For Slain Civil Rights Leader

"He spoke out fearlessly and eloquently for justice, a single justice for all men, black and white," said the Very Rev. Fred-eric R. Murray in his eulogy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King.

Dean Murray, of St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral, delivered the eulogy in the memorial service for Dr. King Sunday in Perry Square.

An estimated 1,500 persons listened solemnly to the interfaith service.

"We are gathered to mourn one of the chief exponents of passive resistance, non-violence in

our time," said Dean Murray, "Martin Luther King, who though but one man, had the strength of thousands and gave it freely to yet more thousands."

"I suppose there are those who are saying today that his death shows how completely idealistic and impractical his methods are. And yet I am haunted by this ... isn't this the way of the Cross—a way I am not sure I would have the courage to take, but which Martin Luther King did," he continued.

Dean Murray saw King as the victim of the violence he sought to avoid: "Who killed Martin Luther King? By latest reports

there have been no arrests. It is immaterial in any event, for whoever pulled the trigger, it was hatred and apathy that killed Martin Luther King."

He continued: "These have no place in a democracy. They grow out of the white man's smug failure to look beyond his own nose. They grow out of his love for the status quo that puts property rights ahead of human rights, that fears to give the black man equality lest his, the white man's, claim to superiority prove false."

Rev. Jesse McFarland, pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church, presiding over the memorial service, told the gathering, "We must act in a way that a man has died for our cause, everyone must be awakened to his task."

"I am sure we can accomplish much here in Erie without further disturbance," he added.

Highlight of the service included "We Shall Overcome," by a mixed chorus at the start of the program; "If When You Hear," by Genevieve Knight; "Precious Lord Take My Hand," by Virginia Martin.

Participating in the program were: Fr. E. James Caldwell, invocation; Bishop John F. Whealon, Scripture; Rev. Rufus Arterberry, prayer; Rabbi Bernard Perlmuter, benediction.

Episcopal Bishop William Crittenden requested that local Good Friday services include a special moment of prayer for Dr. King.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 1 Section 2

Erie Daily Times

Erie, Pa.

Date: 4/8/68

Edition: Daily

Author:

Editor: JOSEPH MEAGHER

Title:

Character:

or

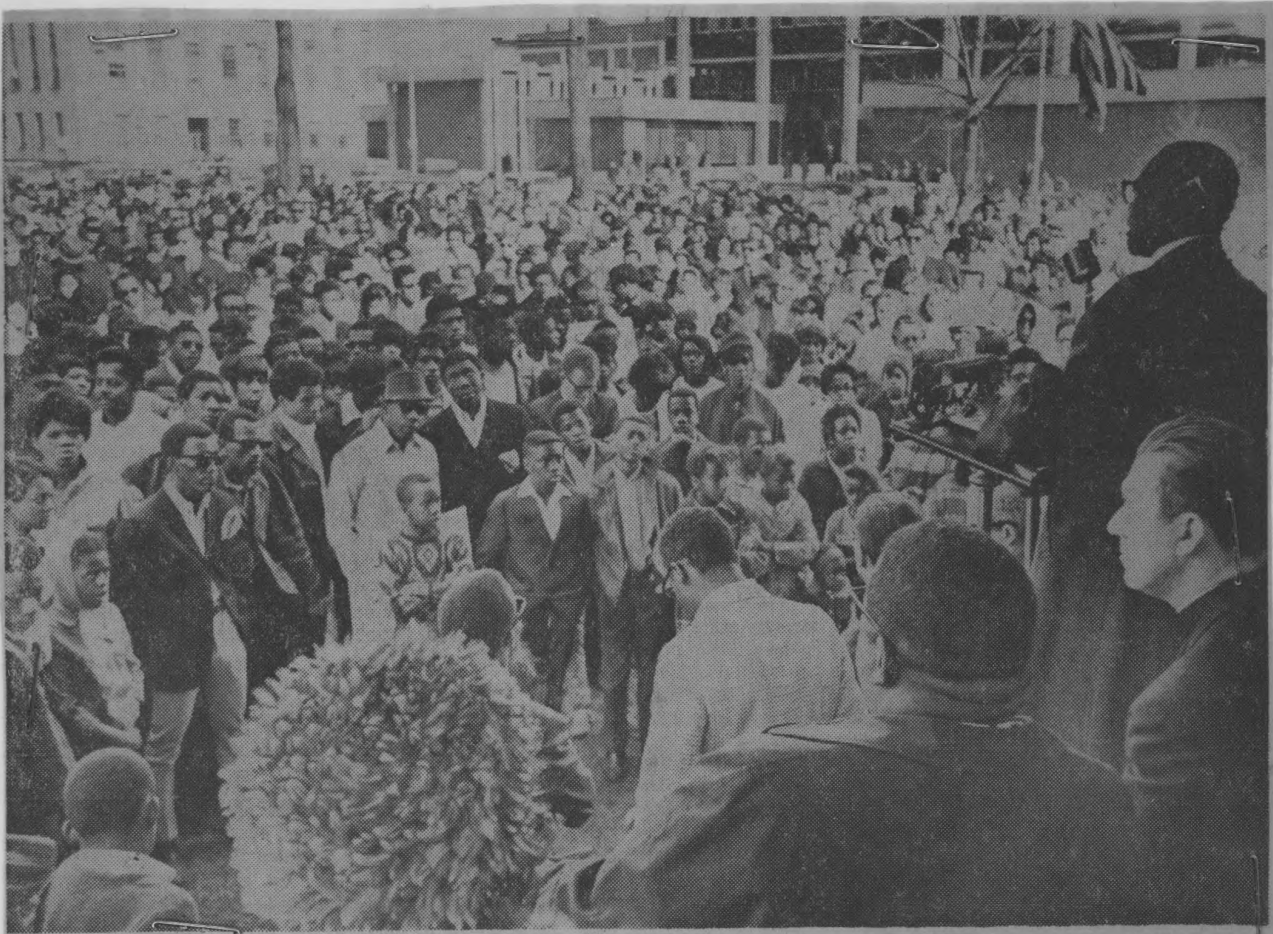
Classification:

Submitting Office: Pittsburgh

☐ Being Investigated

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 19 1968	
FBI - PITTSBURGH	

157-698-31



A crowd of nearly 1,500 attending ~~the~~ memorial services Sunday afternoon in ~~Perry~~ Square to pay tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Solemn March, Church Service in City Pay Tribute to Dr. King

Upward of some 200 persons converged on Immanuel United Presbyterian Church in McKeesport Saturday evening, then marched solemnly to the St. Paul A.M.E. Church on Locust St. for a service honoring the memory of the slain civil rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Vanguard of the march is shown in the above scene moving up Ninth Ave. en route to the rites.

The tribute was interdenominational and interracial and open to the community. Participating in arrangements and the program itself were clergy from the Immanuel Church,

—A Daily News Photo  
St. Paul A.M.E., Calvary Methodist Church, Zion Baptist Church, the Salvation Army and the McKeesport-Duquesne-Crestas Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE DAILY NEWS

MC KEESPORT, PA.

10

Date: 4/8/68  
Edition: DAILY  
Author:  
Editor: J. M. ORR  
Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: PITTSBURGH

☐ Being Investigated

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 23 1968	
FBI - PITTSBURGH	

157-698-32







(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# 'SAD'

## 4 area men attend impressive funeral

The drama of Dr. Martin Luther King's funeral in Atlanta yesterday, watched by millions on television, had a special impact for four New Kensington residents who were there.

"Everything was so lovely. Everything was fine," the Rev. F. D. Freeman, pastor of St. James A.M.E. Church, said today.

The Rev. Mr. Freeman, Rev. Asa Roberts of Mount Calvary Baptist Church, Rev. C. R. Crockett of Canaan Baptist Church and J. Edward Pryor, a Mount Calvary deacon, journeyed to Georgia for the services.

"I have never seen anything like that order and magnitude," the Rev. Mr. Roberts commented.

He said the only comparable event in his memory was a day — a far happier one — in which Dr. King was also a key figure. It was the glacial march on Washington, D. C. for jobs and freedom in 1963.

The mood then was enthusiasm. Yesterday it was sorrow.

"It was a very sad and very moving occasion. It was a very impressive," the Rev. Mr. Roberts said.

"I've never seen so many people together, and there was not even a harsh word — no bitterness, nobody talked of any retaliation. They went about it in a very dignified, very careful way," he added.

The Rev. Mr. Crockett also marveled at the order and self-control of the immense crowd which went through the day's activities.

Early yesterday morning, the local delegation viewed Dr. King's body in Ebenezer Baptist Church to pay their last respects to a leader they had loved.

For the morning funeral service, the clergymen were in the throng outside the church, where the crowd participated in the hymns being sung inside.

They traveled to the afternoon memorial service at Morehouse College, where the Rev. Mr. Roberts is no stranger.

As a member of his high school glee club, he spent six weeks on the Morehouse campus in the 1930s, singing and broadcasting in the area.

He was offered a scholarship for ministerial study at Dr. King's alma mater, but that was before his decision to become a clergyman, and he declined it. The decision did come, years later.

The Rev. Mr. Roberts is a long time friend of the late Dr. King's father and the King family. So great was yesterday's crowd, however, that there was no opportunity for a personal call.

In fact, the Rev. Mr. Crockett said visibility was so difficult that they decided to watch the final part of the memorial on their hotel television set.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE DAILY DISPATCH

1 NEW KENSINGTON, PA.

Date: 4/10/68  
Edition: DAILY  
Author: PAUL HESS  
Editor: FRANK ANDERSON  
Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: PITTSBURGH

☐ Being Investigated

SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED  
APR 10 1968  
FBI — PITTSBURGH

157-698-33

Among the personalities on hand which tv reports did not mention was famed Negro actor Ossie Davis.

"I thought I glimpsed him, but I couldn't get to him," said the Rev. Mr. Roberts, who was a high school classmate of Davis in his hometown of Waycross, Ga.

Clark Lyle American Legion Post, New Kensington, and the three ministers' churches sponsored their trip to the funeral. Pryor joined them on his own.

It was a day, they agree, which they'll never forget.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC **PITTSBURGH (137-1768)**

DATE: **5/16/68**

FROM : SA **SA J. EDWARD MADVAY**

☒ CI ☐ SI ☐ R (Prob)

☐ PCI ☐ PSI ☐ R

SUBJECT: **PG 849-C**

☐

Dates of Contact <b>2/9; 3/8, 3/27; 4/5, 6, 7, 9, 12; 5/10/68</b>		
Titles and File #s on which contacted		
<b>SOBOM - BM</b>	<b>174-97 (RUSSELL)</b>	
<b>TEN DAYS PROTEST, IS</b>	<b>100-15932 (WISEMAN)</b>	
<b>DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION, IS</b>	<b>100-15915 (McCURRY)</b>	
<b>MURKIN, RM</b>	<b>157-698 (CURTIS)</b>	
<b>RACIAL SITUATION, WASHINGTON, PA, RM</b>	<b>157-716 (MADVAY)</b>	
<b>UNSUB; Dee's Record Shop</b>	<b>87-13435 (MADVAY)</b>	
Purpose and results of contact		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>NEGATIVE</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>POSITIVE 157-698, 157-716</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>STATISTIC</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating <b>Very Good</b>	Coverage <b>IS, RM, ITSP</b>

1 - Each file mentioned above

JEM:rmr

(7)

157-698-34

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 16 1968	
FBI - PITTSBURGH	

*Curtis* *Mc*

*Cooper* *Mc*

On 4/5/68, immediately after the assassination of KING, PG 849-C was contacted regarding any possible racial or civil disturbance as a result of the murder of KING. Informant reported that so far there was mixed reaction about what happened to KING; that many of the individuals in the Negro community of Washington had let it be known that they hate STOKELY CARMICHAEL and RAP BROWN and expressed great concern and perplexity over why a man like MARTIN LUTHER KING should have been killed. Informant said that there was no indication of any charges of white racism but that some had expressed the thought that there might be a Communist conspiracy behind the murder. In addition, the informant reported that there was no memorial service or demonstration planned as of 4/5/68, but he would advise if anything was planned.

In this same vein regarding racial matters, the informant advised that it appeared to him that many of the younger Negroes were being "brainwashed" by the older Negroes, bringing the younger ones to think that the Negro was superior to the white, that they were better athletes, better workers, etc., than the whites.

On 4/6 and 4/7/68, informant was contacted because of the possible explosive situation due to the murder of KING; however, he advised that all still remained quiet.

On 4/9/68, informant reported that there was no indication of any disturbance as of that date and that the community was still "shocked."

At 11:15 PM on 4/12/68, informant telephonically reported that six or eight teenage Negro males were throwing bottles at white motorists passing through the Negro community of Washington, Pa., on Rt. 19. He advised that it appeared there might be some small disturbance as a result of this. As a result of informant's contact, the Washington Police were immediately contacted and furnished with the above information, and the Desk Sergeant advised that there was also another group of teenage Negroes who had broken a window near the Washington High School and that there might be a small disturbance over this.

PG 137-1768

It is noted that at approximately 11:30 PM on 4/12/68, the Mayor and Chief of Police of Washington, Pa., called to duty all off-duty police, auxiliary police and alerted the PSP because of the possibilities of civil disobedience and one arrest was made; however, there were no injuries, fires or looting and the entire situation was quiet as of 12:00 midnight on 4/12/68.

On 4/13/68, informant was again contacted regarding any civil disturbance, and he advised that all seemed to be quiet but would be constantly alert and report as he had in the past, any situation which might lead to violence.

7 3 -

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, PITTSBURGH (157-698)

DATE: 5-20-68

FROM : SA LAWRENCE M. COOPER, JR.

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
RM

ReButeletype dated 4-4-68 captioned as above and Memphis Airtel dated 4-7-68 captioned "MURKIN".

Captioned file was opened to contact and alert informants concerning any retaliatory measures that might be taken as a result of the assassination of KING. File 44-587 captioned "MURKIN" is the file which pertains to investigation relating to the location of the person responsible for the assassination.

There is no further investigation to be conducted in captioned matter, all pertinent activity having been reported to the Bureau in files 157-699 (RACIAL SITUATION PITTSBURGH) or file 157-715 (RACIAL DISTURBANCES FOLLOWING ASSASSINATION MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.) It is therefore recommended that this file be closed administratively.

LHC/  
(1)

*Close*



5010-108-01

157-698-35

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 20 1968	
FBI — PITTSBURGH	

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: SAC, PITTSBURGH (100-577)

DATE: 6/13/68

FROM: SA JOHN E. MC CURRY

SUBJECT: CP-USA  
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA DISTRICT (CPWP)  
IS - C

Recommendation: Index name of WALTER HUNGER, Box 319, RD 5, Greensburg, Pa., to this serial in captioned file.

- 1 - 134-436A
- 1 - 157-698 (ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.)
- 1 - 100-15125 (CIRM)
- 1 - 100-8496 (CP-USA, FUNDS)
- 1 - 100-8654 (CP-USA, PAMPHLETS AND PUBLICATIONS)
- 1 - 100-8531 (CP-USA, POLITICAL ACTIVITIES)
- 1 - 100-9216 (CP-USA, YOUTH MATTERS)
- 1 - 100-14226 (NALC)
- 1 - 100-15954 ("THE DAILY WORLD")
- 1 - 100-5733 ("THE WORKER")
- 1 - 105-1898 (EUGENE ARRINGTON)
- 1 - 67-19187 (FRED L. BOGAN)
- 1 - 100-15115 (ED BORTH)
- 1 - 25-14764 (KEITH BEOMBERG)
- 1 - 100-14554 (BYRON BROWN)
- 1 - 100-15819 (JOSH CHASAN)
- 1 - 100-15597 (DAVID COLEMAN)
- 1 - 100-15722 (VERA DE BENEDETTI)
- 1 - 100-15733 (JANE DE BENEDETTI)
- 1 - 100-15119 (ART EDELMAN)
- 1 - 100-15152 (BETH EDELMAN)
- 1 - 100-15831 (ED ELLIS)
- 1 - 100-15979 (ED FULLER)
- 1 - 100-14994 (LEO JACKSON)
- 1 - 100-1193 (GABE KISH)
- 1 - 100-13809 (ROBERT NICKLOS)
- 1 - 157-632 (DAVID OWENS)
- 1 - 100-655 (CHARLES OWEN RICE)
- 1 - 100-15539 (LARRY SIGMOND)
- 1 - 100-15744 (JACK SOLOMON)
- 1 - 157-602 (EUGENE TAYLOR)
- 1 - 100-9089 (ALLEN THOMAS)
- 1 - 100-15451 (WALTER TILLOW)

JEMc/sms CONSOLIDATED  
(34)

DATE 3-20-70 BY JK

*match*

**DO NOT DESTROY - PRESERVE FOR SELECT  
COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS**

**DO NOT DESTROY - PENDING LITIGATION**

157-698-36

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 13 1968	
FBI - PITTSBURGH	

PG 100-577

IF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS UTILIZED  
IN ANY MANNER, IT SHOULD BE SO PARAPHRASED TO FULLY PROTECT  
THE INFORMANT:

Source: PG 153-S (Conceal identity; has furnished reliable  
information in the past)

Date of Activity: As indicated

Date Received: 4/16/68

Agent Receiving: HOWARD S. MEYERJACK (W.S.)

Location: PG 134-436A-916

The following, unless otherwise indicated, is a  
verbatim copy of the informant's written statement:

"April 13, 1968

"On April 12, 1968, there was a Communist  
Party District Committee meeting at the home of  
Art Edelman. Present were: Art Edelman, Beth  
Edelman, Gabe Kish, Ed Bortz, and Eugene Arrington.

"Beth suggested and it was agreed to  
place Allen Thomas back on the District Committee.

"Beth is now active in the Youth group  
again and said that they are putting out three  
hundred letters and even more announcements of the  
May 3, 1967 Daily World meeting. That it will be  
advertized in the Pittsburgh Courier, The Point,  
The Worker, Peace and Freedom News and the  
National Guardian. Art said he has talked with  
Owin Rice about speaking at this meeting, Owin  
Rice ask to talk again after Easter. Walter  
Tillow said if Rice does not speak he will. Leo  
Jackson, now in St. Francis Hospital, will be  
Chairman of the meeting and Ed Bortz will also  
speak.

"Gabe Kish spoke on the Second Draft New Program of the Communist Party Chapter three dealing mostly with Negro problems. Gabe said the death of Dr. King, ordered by the Ruling Class, backfired and is serving to unite all the Negro organizations and the program so well covered on television which usually showed King marching and the disturbances of the marcher, now showed the truth of what Dr. King was trying to do and opened the eyes of many white people on the Negro movement.

"Gabe said there is now a petition going around Pittsburgh to get 10,000 signatures of white people against white racism. He said that Negro and white people are coming together to fight for Civil Rights and economic problems together. He said a higher struggle in the fight is shown by Rev. Abernathy talking of Dr. King predicting his own death and asking Rev. Abernathy to carron on the fight and to carry it farther into the economic field as well as Civil Rights also Byrd Brown of Pittsburgh pointing out that United States Steel Corp. as being the enemy. Art said that the reception of the Special Issue of the Worker that was passed out at Duquesne and Homestead Steel Works was very good, people looked at them, folded and placed them in their pockets to read later, some ask for several copies. After the hand out only one paper was found on the ground in Duquesne and only three in Homestead.

"The next Industrial Club meeting set for April 18 will be canceled in favor of a special meeting April 19, 1968, at Art's house, a District Committee meeting with Ashton Allen invited to deal only with the N.A.L.C. Eugene took Ed Bortz and dropped him on Thomas Blvd. on his way home.

PG 100-577

"Ed Bortz gave Eugene a list of names to be sent the Worker:

"David Owens, 7719 Bennett St., 15208  
Ed Ellis c/o Halfway Art Gallery,  
2016 Centre Ave., 15219  
Walter Hunger, RD 5, Box 319, Greensburg,  
Pa.  
David Coleman, 414 Armandale St.,  
15212  
Larry Sigmond, 6616 Beacon St., 15217  
Jack Solomon, 4181 Centre Ave., 15213  
Fred L. Bogan, 714 $\frac{1}{2}$  Chess St., Coraopolis,  
Pa.  
Gene Doss, 2900 Wylie Ave., 15219  
Ed Fuller, 406 N. Neville St., Apt.  
304, 15213  
Josh Chasan, 3430 Bates St. 15213  
Keith Bromberg, 212 N. Dithridge St.,  
15213  
Vera Debenedetti, 122 Hastings, 15206  
Robert Nicholas, 2036 Sonny St., 15221  
Eugene Taylor, 1104 Sheffield St.,  
15233

Copies of this memorandum have been designated for the files of individuals and organizations mentioned above.



2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176