

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

FEDERAL BUREAU

~~DO NOT DESTROY - PRESERVE FOR SELECT~~  
~~COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS~~  
~~of~~

INVESTIGATION

100 - 106670

Bureau File Number 42-38861

DESK #6

~~DO NOT DESTROY - PRESERVE FOR SELECT~~  
~~COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS~~  
~~1/2/80~~

See also Nos.

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

DO NOT DESTROY - PRESERVE FOR SELECT  
COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

Rec 10/22/76  
Morgan 10/27/76  
RA 8 5 76  
Morgan 7-30-76

CLASSIFICATION NO.

157-3231

Serials

501

Volume Number

2

Do not destroy this file  
per Supv. Hegarty

Maintain as top serial

NR073 WA CODE

11:58PM NITEL 07/29/76 MDP

TO ALL SACS

FROM DIRECTOR (100-106670)

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BUDED AUGUST 9, 1976

FOR INFORMATION OF RERIPIENTS THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (AG) 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 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?

THIS REVIEW IS A CONTINUATION OF A "PARIAL REVIEW" RECENTLY

157-3231-541

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 29 1976	
FBI - BUREAU	

*[Signature]*

PAGE TWO

CONDUCTED BY THE CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT UNDER DIRECTION OF ASSISTANT AG J. STANLEY POTTINGER. ALL PERSONNEL ON THE TASK FORCE ARE AUTHORIZED TOTAL ACCESS TO OUR FILES PERTAINING TO KING'S ASSASSINATION, OUR INTELLIGENCE INVESTIGATION OF KING AND ANY FILES RELATING TO BASIS FOR THESE INVESTIGATIONS. THIS WILL INCLUDE COVER PAGE OF COMMUNICATIONS CONTAINING IDENTITIES OF SOME FBI SOURCES AND INFORMANTS WHO WERE NOT AFFORDED SYMBOL NUMBERS AT THAT TIME AND INDIVIDUALS WHO EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED CONFIDENTIALITY.

TO DATE THE TASK FORCE HAS REVIEWED FBIHQ AND WFO FILES CONCERNING THE ASSASSINATION OF KING CAPTIONED "MURKIN, BUREAU FILE 44-33861. TASK FORCE MEMBERS HAVE TRAVELED TO MEMPHIS, MILWAUKEE, KANSAS CITY, OMAHA, SAN FRANCISCO AND LOS ANGELES AND REVIEWED MURKIN AND INTELLIGENCE INVESTIGATION FILES OF THOSE OFFICES. FUTURE TRAVEL BY THE TASK FORCE IS PLANNED FOR ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM, CHARLOTTE, CHICAGO, NEW ORLEANS, NEW YORK, SPRINGFIELD AND ST. LOUIS.

AFTER ABOVE TRAVEL IS COMPLETED AND KING RELATED SECURITY FILES AT FBIHQ ARE REVIEWED, THE TASK FORCE WILL HAVE SEEN THE MAJORITY OF SERIALS IN OUR FILES RELATING TO THE KING INVESTIGATIONS. HOWEVER, SINCE IT IS THE GOAL OF THE TASK FORCE TO REVIEW KING RELATED FILES IN EVERY FIELD OFFICE IT WILL BE

PAGE THREE

NECESSARY TO FORWARD XEROX COPIES OF FILES FROM THE REMAINING OFFICES TO FBIHQ FOR REVIEW.

THEREFORE, ALL RECIPIENTS WITH EXCEPTION OF THOSE OFFICES NAMED ABOVE, FURNISH FBIHQ ONE XEROX COPY OF EACH SERIAL CONTAINED IN YOUR KING ASSASSINATION FILE CAPTIONED "MURKIN." IT IS REQUESTED THIS MATERIAL BE PROCESSED AND MAILED TO REACH FBIHQ PRIOR TO AUGUST 9, 1976. THIS MATERIAL SHOULD BE SENT BY REGISTERED MAIL, ATTENTION DEPUTY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR INGRAM, INTELLIGENCE DIVISION.

IF MURKIN FILES CONTAIN ANY PHOTOGRAPHS, EXHIBITS OR OTHER ITEMS WHICH CANNOT BE XEROXED A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH ITEM AND ITS LOCATION SHOULD BE SET FORTH IN YOUR COMMUNICATIONS TRANSMITTING THE DOCUMENTS TO FBIHQ.

SUBSEQUENT INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE ISSUED CONCERNING SUBMISSION OF COPIES OF OUR INTELLIGENCE INVESTIGATION OF KING AND RELATED SECURITY FILES. OFFICES TO BE VISITED IN THE FUTURE BY TASK FORCE PERSONNEL WILL ALSO BE FURNISHED APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTIONS BY SEPARATE COMMUNICATION.

ND

NR073 WA CODE

11:58PM NITEL 07/29/76 MDP

TO ALL SACS

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THIS REVIEW IS A CONTINUATION OF A "PARIAL REVIEW" RECENTLY

*Chief Clerk noted  
note 093 need  
keep of each  
serial*

*Proper  
+  
A  
JUL*

157-323 1-54/

~~157-323~~

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 29 1976	
FBI-TAMPA	
MORGAN	<i>[Signature]</i>

PAGE TWO

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END



MNR0071 WA CODE

7:25PM NITEL 7-30-76 CMB

TO ALL SACS

FROM DIRECTOR (100-106670)

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.; BUDED AUGUST 9, 1976.

REBUTEL TO ALL SACS JULY 28, 1976.

FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TASK FORCE HAS RESULTED IN THE FOLLOWING CHANGE REGARDING REPRODUCTION OF FIELD OFFICE SERIALS IN THE MURKIN INVESTIGATION, AS OUTLINED IN REFERENCED TELETYPE.

IT WILL BE NECESSARY ONLY TO XEROX THE FIRST PAGE OF ANY DOCUMENT IN YOUR MURKIN FILE IF A COPY OF THAT DOCUMENT HAS BEEN SUBMITTED TO FBIHQ. THIS WILL INCLUDE BOTH DOCUMENTS ORIGINATING IN YOUR OFFICE AND THOSE RECEIVED FROM OTHER FIELD DIVISIONS. ANY DOCUMENTS IN YOUR MURKIN FILE, COPIES OF WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN SUBMITTED TO FBIHQ MUST BE REPRODUCED IN THEIR ENTIRETY AND FORWARDED TO FBIHQ.

IT IS NOTED THAT THIS FIRST PAGE SHOULD CONTAIN THE FIELD OFFICE SERIAL NUMBER IN ORDER THAT THE DEPARTMENT CAN MAKE A COMPLETE CHRONOLOGICAL ACCOUNTING OF EACH FIELD OFFICE SERIAL.

END

NR05

157-3231-562

2 2

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MNR0071 WA CODE

7:25 PM NITEL 7-30-76 CMB

TO ALL SACS

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MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.; BUDED AUGUST 9, 1976.

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IT IS NOTED THAT THIS FIRST PAGE SHOULD CONTAIN THE FIELD OFFICE SERIAL NUMBER IN ORDER THAT THE DEPARTMENT CAN MAKE A COMPLETE CHRONOLOGICAL ACCOUNTING OF EACH FIELD OFFICE SERIAL.

END

NR 05

8/5/76

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-106678)  
(ATTN: DEPUTY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR JAMES O. INGRAM,  
INTELLIGENCE DIVISION)  
FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231) (RUC)

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
BUDED 8/9/76

Re Bureau teletypes, 7/29/76 and 7/30/76.

Enclosed are Xerox copies of each serial contained in Tampa file 157-3231 captioned, "MURKIN" with the following exceptions: serial numbers 124, 161, 193, 349 and 531, which appear to be cases of missed serialization. Review of the file failed to locate them as misfiled and no references were located that would tend to identify them.

Serial number 209 is missing. Search of the file and pertinent areas in the Chief Clerk's Office failed to reveal its existence. It is noted that serial number 209-A references number 209. Serial 209-A, a Xerox copy of which is enclosed, is a handwritten memo reporting results of an interview with Mrs. ROBERT KOCHER, 200 Midway Island, Highland Estates, Clearwater, Florida. Serial number 209-A indicates that Mrs. KOCHER reported information concerning an individual who sat next to her at a Woolworth Store lunch counter, whom she believed resembled ERIC STAVRO GALT. She was unable to identify a photograph of GALT as being identical with the individual observed by her. It appears from the fact that the results of this interview were serialized as number 209-A, the missing serial number 209 pertains to the initial contact by Mrs. KOCHER with the FBI to indicate that she had some information concerning this case.

3 - Bureau (Enc. 572)(RM)  
(1 - Package Copy)

2 - Tampa

JNM:smf

(5) *Smf*

157-3231-563

SEARCHED ☒

INDEXED ☒

SERIALIZED ☒

FILED ☒

TP 157-3231

The exhibit section of Tampa "MURKIN" file consists of 26 items in a 1-A volume. Enclosed are Xerox and photo copies of 1-A exhibits, numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25 and 26, which are self-explanatory. The balance of the exhibit items, which do not lend themselves to copying, are identified as follows:

- 1-A-8                   A photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and WALTER T. RIFE, taken 3/28/55.
- 1-A-9                   A double photograph of JAMES EARL RAY showing full face and left side view, taken 9/8/66.
- 1-A-10                  A double photograph of WALTER T. RIFE showing full face and right side, taken 3/28/55.
- 1-A-16                  Photograph, 1 5/8" x 2", of one JOHN WILLARD taken 1963. This appears to be a passport photo.
- 1-A-17                  Three laundry mark samples, 20R-3, which were sent to the FBI Laboratory, 4/26/68.
- 1-A-18                  Samples of laundry marks of Thermo-Seal Machines, Oak Park Cleaners, Tampa, Florida, which were sent to the FBI Laboratory, 4/26/68.
- 1-A-19                  Sample of laundry mark made by Thermo-Seal Machine at Towne Laundry, 3608 N. 34th St., Tampa, Fla., received 4/25/68.
- 1-A-24                  A pair of retouched photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, taken from an unidentified newspaper received 4/26/68.

8/5/76

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

62-0-3231

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-106670)  
(ATTN: DEPUTY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR JAMES O. INGRAM)  
INTELLIGENCE DIVISION  
FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231) (RUC)  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
BUDED 8/9/76

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3 - Bureau (Enc. 572)(RM)  
(1 - Package Copy)  
(2) - Tampa  
JNM:smf  
(5)

do not DESTROY

157-3231-563  
SEARCHED  
INDEXED  
SERIALIZED  
FILED

TP 157-3231

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- 1-A-19                  Sample of laundry mark made by Thermo-Seal Machine at Towne Laundry, 3608 N. 34th St., Tampa, Fla., received 4/25/68.
- 1-A-24                  A pair of retouched photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, taken from an unidentified newspaper received 4/26/68.

NR090 WA PLAIN

8:40PM NITEL 08-06-76 SRS

TO ALL SACS

FROM DIRECTOR

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.; DEPARTMENTAL REVIEW; COST DATA

REBUTEL JULY 29, 1976. IN ORDER THAT COSTS INCURRED IN CONNECTION WITH THIS MATTER MAY BE COMPILED, YOU ARE REQUESTED TO FURNISH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

1. MANPOWER: THE NAME, GRADE AND SALARY STEP, AND HOURS SPENT, BOTH REGULAR AND OVERTIME, BY EACH EMPLOYEE WHO WORKED ON THIS MATTER.

2. UNUSUAL COSTS: ANY UNUSUAL OR OUT-OF-THE-ORDINARY COSTS. THESE COSTS SHOULD BE ITEMIZED AND THE COST OF EACH ITEM SHOWN SEPARATELY.

ALL REPORTS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE BUREAU, ATTENTION BUDGET AND ACCOUNTING SECTION, FINANCE AND PERSONNEL DIVISION. THE FIRST REPORT FOR THE PERIOD THROUGH AUGUST 31, 1976, AND FOR EACH MONTH THEREAFTER SHOULD REACH THE BUREAU BY THE FIFTH WORKDAY OF EACH MONTH.

END

157-3231-564

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 08 1976	
FBI - TAMPA	

*[Handwritten signature/initials over stamp]*

NR090 WA PLAIN

8:40PM NITEL 08-06-76 SRS

TO ALL SACS

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ATTENTION BUDGET AND ACCOUNTING SECTION, FINANCE AND  
PERSONNEL DIVISION. THE FIRST REPORT FOR THE PERIOD  
THROUGH AUGUST 31, 1976, AND FOR EACH MONTH THEREAFTER  
SHOULD REACH THE BUREAU BY THE FIFTH WORKDAY OF EACH  
MONTH.

END

157-3231-564

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 6 1976	
FBI - TAMPA	

Moegau

Being file to  
46



9/2/76

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-106670)  
ATTENTION: BUDGET AND ACCOUNTING SECTION  
FINANCE AND PERSONNEL DIVISION

FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231) *c*

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
DEPARTMENTAL REVIEW  
COST DATA

ReButel 8/6/76.

Following data submitted re costs at Tampa through  
August 31, 1976:

1. MANPOWER

Name: SA JOHN N. MORGAN  
Grade: GS-13  
Salary step: 10  
Hours Spent: Regular - 16  
Overtime - 0

Name: LOUIS M. REIGEL, III  
Grade: GS-5  
Salary step: 1  
Hours Spent: Regular - 6  
Overtime - 0

2. UNUSUAL COSTS - 0

2 - Bureau  
1 - Tampa  
JNM:bg  
(3) *[Signature]*

157-3231-525  
SEARCHED \_\_\_\_\_  
INDEXED \_\_\_\_\_  
SERIALIZED *[Signature]*  
FILED *[Signature]*

10/2/76

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-106670)  
ATTENTION: BUDGET AND ACCOUNTING SECTION  
FINANCE AND PERSONNEL DIVISION

*[Handwritten signature]* FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
DEPARTMENTAL REVIEW  
COST DATA

ReButel 8/6/76.

Following data submitted re costs at Tampa  
September 1, 1976 through September 30, 1976:

1. Manpower - None
2. Unusual Costs - None

2 - Bureau  
1 - Tampa  
JNM:cs  
(3)

157-3231-566  
SEARCHED \_\_\_\_\_  
INDEXED \_\_\_\_\_  
S. J. [initials]  
[initials]

HQ00043 2800215

RR AFD

DE HQ

R 052115Z OCT 76

FM DIRECTOR (100-106670)

TO ALL SACS ROUTINE

BT

E F T O

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

BUDED OCTOBER 26, 1976

REFERENCE BUREAU TELETYPES TO ALL OFFICES DATED JULY 28, 1976 AND JULY 30, 1976 WHICH PROVIDED BACKGROUND MATERIAL REGARDING REVIEW OF OUR KING INVESTIGATIONS CURRENTLY BEING CONDUCTED BY THE OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY (OPR) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. TELETYPES ALSO PROVIDED INSTRUCTIONS FOR CERTAIN FIELD OFFICES TO FURNISH TO FBIHQ A COPY OF ALL SERIALS CONTAINED IN THE KING ASSASSINATION FILE CAPTIONED, "MURKIN".

PURPOSE OF THIS TELETYPE IS TO INSTRUCT MAJORITY OF FIELD OFFICES TO REPRODUCE AND SEND TO FBIHQ KING AND RELATED SECURITY FILES FOR REVIEW BY THE OPR TASK FORCE.

157-3231-567

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>a</i>	FILED <i>m</i>
OCT 5 1976	
FBI - TAMPA	

#6 set up B9  
Set duplicate for 10/22/76

PAGE TWO (100-106670) E F T O

THE TASK FORCE DESIRES TO REVIEW FIELD OFFICE FILES AND SUBFILES IN THE FOLLOWING INVESTIGATIONS: (1) MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., SM-C, BUFILE 100-106670; (2) COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE, IS-C, BUFILE 100-438794; (3) COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS (CIRM), BUFILE 100-442529; (4) CPUSA - NEGRO QUESTION, BUFILE 100-3-116; (5) STANLEY DAVID LEVISON, SM-C, BUFILE 100-392452.

IT IS NOTED THAT EACH FIELD OFFICE PROVIDED A COMPLETE INVENTORY OF THE ABOVE FILES IN RESPONSE TO FBIHQ TELETYPE TO ALL OFFICES DATED DECEMBER 9, 1975 CAPTIONED, "MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR".

THE BELOW INSTRUCTIONS DO NOT APPLY TO ATLANTA AND CHICAGO BECAUSE TASK FORCE PERSONNEL HAVE PARTIALLY REVIEWED FILES OF THESE OFFICES AND PLAN TO RETURN THERE IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO COMPLETE REVIEW.

THE BELOW INSTRUCTIONS DO NOT APPLY TO NEW YORK AND BALTIMORE BECAUSE TASK ORCE PERSONNEL PLAN TRAVEL TO THESE OFFICES IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO REVIEW ALL ABOVE FILES.

PAGE THREE (100-106670) E F T O

BIRMINGHAM, CHARLOTTE, KANSAS CITY, LOS ANGELES, MEMPHIS, MILWAUKEE, NEW ORLEANS, OMAHA, ST. LOUIS, SAN FRANCISCO, SPRINGFIELD AND WASHINGTON FIELD DISREGARD BELOW INSTRUCTIONS SINCE OPR REVIEW OF YOUR KING RELATED FILES HAS BEEN COMPLETED.

SAN JUAN DISREGARD BELOW INSTRUCTIONS SINCE YOUR FILE INVENTORY RESPONSE SHOWS YOUR OFFICE HAS NO SECURITY FILES RELATING TO KING.

ALL OTHER RECIPIENTS FURNISH FBIHQ ONE XEROX COPY OF EACH SERIAL CONTAINED IN THE ABOVE SPECIFIED FILES.

IT WILL BE NECESSARY ONLY TO XEROX THE FIRST PAGE OF ANY DOCUMENT IN YOUR FILES IF A COPY OF THAT DOCUMENT HAS BEEN SUBMITTED TO FBIHQ. THIS WILL INCLUDE DOCUMENTS ORIGINATING IN YOUR OFFICE AND THOSE RECE

VED FROM OTHER FIELD DIVISIONS.

IT IS NOTED THAT THIS FIRST PAGE SHOULD CONTAIN THE FIELD OFFICE SERIAL IN ORDER THAT THE DEPARTMENT CAN MAKE A COMPLETE CHRONOLOGICAL COUNTING OF EACH FIELD OFFICE SERIAL. ANY DOCUMENTS IN YOUR FILES, COPIES OF WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN SUBMITTED TO FBIHQ, MUST BE REPRODUCED IN THEIR ENTIRETY AND FORWARDED TO FBIHQ.

IF ANY FILE CONTAINS PHOTOGRAPHS, EXHIBITS, OR OTHER

PAGE FOUR (100-106670) E F T O

ITEMS WHICH CANNOT BE XEROXED, A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH ITEM AND LOCATION SHOULD BE SET FORTH IN COMMUNICATIONS TRANSMITTING DESIRED DOCUMENTS TO FBIHQ.

WITH RESPECT TO FILES CONCERNING CIRM AND CPUSA - NEGRO QUESTION, THE OPR TASK FORCE HAS AGREED TO A CUTOFF YEAR OF 1960. THEREFORE, NO SERIAL IN THESE FILES DATED PRIOR TO JANUARY 1960 NEED BE SUBMITTED. THIS CUTOFF DATE DOES NOT APPLY TO INVESTIGATIVE FILES CONCERNING KING, SCLC AND LEVISON.

IT IS REQUESTED THIS MATERIAL DESIRED BY THE TASK FORCE BE PROCESSED AND MAILED TO REACH FBIHQ BY OCTOBER 26, 1976. THE MATERIAL SHOULD BE SENT BY REGISTERED MAIL, ATTENTION DEPUTY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR JAMES O. INGRAM, GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION.

SINCE THE DEPARTMENT TASK FORCE MUST SEE EVERY SERIAL IN OUR INVESTIGATION OF KING AT FBIHQ AND IN THE FIELD, IT IS ECONOMICALLY BENEFICIAL TO THE GOVERNMENT TO REPRODUCE AND MAIL THESE DOCUMENTS RATHER THAN HAVING TASK FORCE PERSONNEL TRAVEL TO ALL FIELD OFFICES. ABOVE MENTIONED OFFICES TO BE VISITED IN THE FUTURE BY THE TASK FORCE WILL BE FURNISHED TRAVEL INFORMATION AT A LATER DATE.

BT

HQ00048 2800215

RR AFD

DE HQ

R 052115Z OCT 76

FM DIRECTOR (100-106670)

TO ALL SACS ROUTINE

BT

E F T O

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

BUDED OCTOBER 26, 1976

REFERENCE BUREAU TELETYPES TO ALL OFFICES DATED JULY 28, 1976 AND JULY 30, 1976 WHICH PROVIDED BACKGROUND MATERIAL REGARDING REVIEW OF OUR KING INVESTIGATIONS CURRENTLY BEING CONDUCTED BY THE OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY (OPR) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. TELETYPES ALSO PROVIDED INSTRUCTIONS FOR CERTAIN FIELD OFFICES TO FURNISH TO FBIHQ A COPY OF ALL SERIALS CONTAINED IN THE KING ASSASSINATION FILE CAPTIONED, "MURKIN".

PURPOSE OF THIS TELETYPE IS TO INSTRUCT MAJORITY OF FIELD OFFICES TO REPRODUCE AND SEND TO FBIHQ KING AND RELATED SECURITY FILES FOR REVIEW BY THE OPR TASK FORCE.

157-3231-567

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*Survey*

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PAGE TWO (100-106670) E F T O

THE TASK FORCE DESIRES TO REVIEW FIELD OFFICE FILES AND SUBFILES IN THE FOLLOWING INVESTIGATIONS: (1) MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., SM-C, BUFILE 100-106670; (2) COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE, IS-C, BUFILE 100-438794; (3) COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS (CIRM), BUFILE 100-442529; (4) CPUSA - NEGRO QUESTION, BUFILE 100-3-116; (5) STANLEY DAVID LEVISON, SM-C, BUFILE 100-392452.

IT IS NOTED THAT EACH FIELD OFFICE PROVIDED A COMPLETE INVENTORY OF THE ABOVE FILES IN RESPONSE TO FBIHQ TELETYPE TO ALL OFFICES DATED DECEMBER 9, 1975 CAPTIONED, "MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR".

THE BELOW INSTRUCTIONS DO NOT APPLY TO ATLANTA AND CHICAGO BECAUSE TASK FORCE PERSONNEL HAVE PARTIALLY REVIEWED FILES OF THESE OFFICES AND PLAN TO RETURN THERE IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO COMPLETE REVIEW.

THE BELOW INSTRUCTIONS DO NOT APPLY TO NEW YORK AND BALTIMORE BECAUSE TASK ORCE PERSONNEL PLAN TRAVEL TO THESE OFFICES IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO REVIEW ALL ABOVE FILES.

*destroyed  
100-71-8-1*

*100-812\**

*100-630\**

*100-630\**

*66-231-72*

*100-716-8-2*

*100-9-14-3*

*Stanley Levison 100-812-65p1*

*100-716-8-2  
dest.  
100-9-14-3*



PAGE THREE (100-106670) E F T O

BIRMINGHAM, CHARLOTTE, KANSAS CITY, LOS ANGELES, MEMPHIS,  
MILWAUKEE, NEW ORLEANS, OMAHA, ST. LOUIS, SAN FRANCISCO,  
SPRINGFIELD AND WASHINGTON FIELD DISREGARD BELOW INSTRUCTIONS SINCE  
OPR REVIEW OF YOUR KING RELATED FILES HAS BEEN COMPLETED.

SAN JUAN DISREGARD BELOW INSTRUCTIONS SINCE YOUR FILE  
INVENTORY RESPONSE SHOWS YOUR OFFICE HAS NO SECURITY FILES  
RELATING TO KING.

ALL OTHER RECIPIENTS FURNISH FBIHQ ONE XEROX COPY OF EACH  
SERIAL CONTAINED IN THE ABOVE SPECIFIED FILES.

IT WILL BE NECESSARY ONLY TO XEROX THE FIRST PAGE OF  
ANY DOCUMENT IN YOUR FILES IF A COPY OF THAT DOCUMENT HAS BEEN  
SUBMITTED TO FBIHQ. THIS WILL INCLUDE DOCUMENTS ORIGINATING  
IN YOUR OFFICE AND THOSE RECE

VED FROM OTHER FIELD DIVISIONS.

IT IS NOTED THAT THIS FIRST PAGE SHOULD CONTAIN THE FIELD OFFICE  
SERIAL IN ORDER THAT THE DEPARTMENT CAN MAKE A COMPLETE CHRONO-  
LOGICAL CCOUNTING OF EACH FIELD OFFICE SERIAL. ANY DOCUMENTS  
IN YOUR FILES, COPIES OF WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN SUBMITTED TO FBIHQ,  
MUST BE REPRODUCED IN THEIR ENTIRETY AND FORWARDED TO FBIHQ.

IF ANY FILE CONTAINS PHOTOGRAPHS, EXHIBITS, OR OTHER

PAGE FOUR (100-106670) E F T O

ITEMS WHICH CANNOT BE XEROXED, A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH ITEM AND LOCATION SHOULD BE SET FORTH IN COMMUNICATIONS TRANSMITTING DESIRED DOCUMENTS TO FBIHQ.

WITH RESPECT TO FILES CONCERNING CIRM AND CPUSA - NEGRO QUESTION, THE OPR TASK FORCE HAS AGREED TO A CUTOFF YEAR OF 1960. THEREFORE, NO SERIAL IN THESE FILES DATED PRIOR TO JANUARY 1960 NEED BE SUBMITTED. THIS CUTOFF DATE DOES NOT APPLY TO INVESTIGATIVE FILES CONCERNING KING, SCLC AND LEVISON.

IT IS REQUESTED THIS MATERIAL DESIRED BY THE TASK FORCE BE PROCESSED AND MAILED TO REACH FBIHQ BY OCTOBER 26, 1976. THE MATERIAL SHOULD BE SENT BY REGISTERED MAIL, ATTENTION DEPUTY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR JAMES O. INGRAM, GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION.

SINCE THE DEPARTMENT TASK FORCE MUST SEE EVERY SERIAL IN OUR INVESTIGATION OF KING AT FBIHQ AND IN THE FIELD, IT IS ECONOMICALLY BENEFICIAL TO THE GOVERNMENT TO REPRODUCE AND MAIL THESE DOCUMENTS RATHER THAN HAVING TASK FORCE PERSONNEL TRAVEL TO ALL FIELD OFFICES. ABOVE MENTIONED OFFICES TO BE VISITED IN THE FUTURE BY THE TASK FORCE WILL BE FURNISHED TRAVEL INFORMATION AT A LATER DATE.

BT

10/22/76

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-106670)  
FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)(RUC)  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
BUDED 10/26/76

ReButel 10/5/76.

Enclosed for the Bureau are Xerox copies of each serial contained in Tampa files 100-812 (Bufile 100-438794) "COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE, IS-C," and 100-630 (Bufile 100-442529) "COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS (CIRM)." Also enclosed are Xerox copies of each serial from Tampa file 100-9-Sub.14 which was the "COMMUNIST PARTY, USA - NEGRO QUESTION" file. In October, 1964, this file was closed and subsequently pertinent data has been handled in the CIRM file.

Tampa file 100-716, "MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., SM-C" has been destroyed per provisions of the Manual of Rules and Regulations.

Tampa has no main file for STANLEY DAVID LEVISON. The only reference to him is in 100-812-65 page 1, a copy of which is included in the 100-812 file data.

The only item which does not lend itself to being copied is 100-630-1A1 and is the only exhibit item in the above-mentioned files. This exhibit is a reprint pamphlet copy of an article by GARY ALLEN, a Los Angeles journalist, entitled, "The Plan to Burn Los Angeles." The article first

3 - Bureau (Enc.140)(RM)  
(1 - Package Copy)  
(2) - Tampa  
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*8212*

TP 157-3231

appeared in the May, 1967 issue of "American Opinion." The article purports to set forth plans by the Communist Party and militant Black Nationalist groups to create unrest and violence beginning with the Watts riot and eventually resulting in the burning and destruction of Los Angeles. The reprints were being distributed by "American Opinion," Belmont, Massachusetts 02178.

Also enclosed for the Bureau is a Xerox copy of 66-231-72 which is enclosed in a separate double envelope and is classified because of the sensitive nature of the material involved.

10/22/76

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-106670)  
FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)(RUC)  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
BUDED 10/26/76

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- (1 - Package Copy)
- 2 - Tampa
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TP 157-3231

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Also enclosed for the Bureau is a Xerox copy of 66-231-72 which is enclosed in a separate double envelope and is classified because of the sensitive nature of the material involved.

11/2/76

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-106670)  
ATTENTION: BUDGET AND ACCOUNTING SECTION  
FINANCE AND PERSONNEL DIVISION

FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231) (RUC)

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
DEPARTMENTAL REVIEW  
COST DATA

ReButel 8/6/76.

Following data submitted re costs at Tampa 10/1/76  
through 10/31/76:

1. MANPOWER

Name: SA JOHN N. MORGAN  
Grade: GS-13  
Salary Step: 10  
Hours Spent: Regular - 6  
Overtime - 0

Name: TERRY R. BEAMER  
Grade: GS-4  
Salary Step: 1  
Hours Spent: Regular - 1½  
Overtime - 0

2. UNUSUAL COSTS - 0

2 - Bureau  
① - Tampa  
JNM:bg  
(3)

157-3231-569  
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INDEXED  
SERIALIZED  
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12/3/76

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-106670)  
(ATTENTION: BUDGET AND ACCOUNTING  
SECTION FINANCE AND PERSONNEL DIVISION)

FROM: *NJM* SAC, TAMPA (157-3231) (RUC)

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
DEPARTMENTAL REVIEW  
COST DATA

Re Bureau teletype, dated 8/6/76.

Following data submitted re costs at Tampa  
11/1/76, through 11/30/76:

1. Manpower - none.
2. Unusual Costs - none.

2-Bureau  
1-Tampa  
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(3)  
*JNM*

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SERIALIZED  
FILED  
*[Signature]*



1/4/77

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-106670)  
(ATTENTION: BUDGET AND ACCOUNTING SECTION  
FINANCE AND PERSONNEL DIVISION)

FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231) (RUC)

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
DEPARTMENTAL REVIEW  
COST DATA

ReButel 8/6/76.

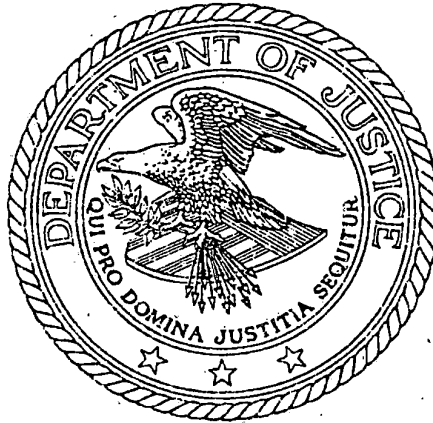
Following data submitted re costs at Tampa 12/1/76  
through 12/31/76:

1. Manpower - none.
2. Unusual Costs - none.

2 - Bureau  
1 - Tampa  
JMM:bg  
(3)

Re Butel 1/26/77 captioned "House  
select Committee on Assassinations" #P file 66/726 -  
This data no longer to be sent in. JMM  
Will henceforth be handled as Category  
in "Cost of Responding to Inquiries from other agencies  
etc -

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SERIALIZED 16  
FILED 2



REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TASK FORCE TO REVIEW THE FBI MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.,

SECURITY AND ASSASSINATION INVESTIGATIONS

157-3231-572

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FBI - NEW YORK	

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② ASAC *PL*

January 11, 1977

- ③ #3 *PL*
- ④ #4 *PL*
- ⑤ #5 *PL*
- ⑥ #6 *PL*
- ⑦ *McGowan*

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## I. INTRODUCTION

### A. The Mission Of The Task Force

#### 1. The Problem

On November 1, 1975, William C. Sullivan, former Assistant Director, Domestic Intelligence Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation, testified before the Senate Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities. He related that from late 1963 and continuing until the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., King was the target of an intensive campaign by the F.B.I. to neutralize him as an effective civil rights leader. Sullivan stated that in the war against King "No holds were barred." (Senate Report No. 94-755, Final Report of the Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities, Book II, p. 11). This and other testimony describing this F.B.I. counterintelligence campaign against King reached the public through the news media. As a consequence there was a regeneration of the widespread speculation on the possibility that the Bureau may have had some responsibility in Dr. King's death and may not have done an impartial and thorough investigation of the assassination.

## 2. The Attorney General's Directive

On November 24, 1975, the Attorney General of the United States directed the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice to undertake a review of the files of the Department and its Federal Bureau of Investigation to determine whether the investigation of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. should be reopened. More particularly it was sought to be determined: (1) whether any action taken in relation to Dr. King by the FBI before the assassination had, or may have had, an effect, direct or indirect, on that event, and (2) whether any action was taken by the FBI which had, or may have had, any other adverse effect on Dr. King. Recommendations for criminal, disciplinary or other appropriate action were requested.

## 3. The Review up to April 26, 1976

In the next four months, the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Civil Rights Division, his principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General and the Chief of the Criminal Section of the Civil Rights Division, acting as a review staff, variously read portions of the FBI headquarters file on a person

who served as an adviser to Dr. King, portions of the FBI headquarters security file on Dr. King himself, portions of the FBI headquarters file on the assassination investigation, some Department (as opposed to FBI) files relating to Dr. King, and other Bureau documents including everything on Martin Luther King, Jr., held in the late J. Edgar Hoover's official, confidential and personal files.

By a memorandum to the Attorney General dated April 9, 1976, the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Civil Rights Division submitted a 51 page report of the Chief of the Civil Rights Division's Criminal Section dated March 31, 1976, embodying the results of the three-man study, limited to the above listed files, and concentrating almost exclusively on the pre-assassination surveillance of, and counterintelligence activities against, Dr. King.

The Assistant Attorney General recommended the creation of a Departmental Task Force to complete the review he and his team had begun. He also recommended an Advisory Committee of distinguished citizens to advise with the task force. The further review proposed included interrogation of material witnesses, reading all the pertinent field office files and reviewing all of the headquarters files relating to Dr. King and possibly to other civil rights activists. A recommendation was made to review tapes secured



by electronic surveillance with a view to determining which of such materials should be and could be legally destroyed. The Assistant Attorney General felt that the FBI should assess the culpability of its agents involved in the wrongdoing by the principals named in the report. His memorandum to the Attorney General concluded that probably criminal redress was time-barred, that civil remedies might be available to the King family but might also be more embarrassing than helpful, and hence that consideration be given to a direct payment by the settlement process or by a private bill to compensate the King survivors, or with the survivors' concurrence, the King Foundation; if this last issue were left to the task force or an Advisory Commission, it should consider the pros and cons and recommend as it sees fit.

The Attorney General forwarded the Civil Rights Division memoranda (and comments thereon from the Deputy Attorney General, the Solicitor General, and from staff members and the Assistant Attorney General of the Criminal Division) to the Counsel, Office of Professional Responsibility. The Attorney General charged the Office of Professional Responsibility with the work of completing the review begun by the Civil Rights Division. His memorandum states:

'My request for the review involved four matters. First, whether the FBI investigation of the Dr. Martin Luther King's assassination was thorough and honest; second, whether there was any evidence that the FBI was involved in the assassination of Dr. King; third, in light of the first two questions, whether there is any new evidence which has come to the attention of the Department concerning the assassination of Dr. King which should be dealt with by the appropriate authorities; fourth, whether the nature of the relationship between the Bureau and Dr. King calls for criminal prosecution, disciplinary proceedings, or other appropriate action.

As the fourth point, I again note that from the partial review which has been made, Mr. Pottinger concludes 'we have found that the FBI undertook a systematic program of harassment of Martin Luther King, by means both legal and illegal, in order to discredit him and harm both him and the movement he led.' Assuming that the major statutory violations relevant to this conduct would be 18 U.S.C. Section 241 and Section 242, Mr. Pottinger's memorandum concludes that any prosecution contemplated under those acts would now be barred by the five-year statute of limitations with the possible exception which would exist if there were proof of a continuing conspiracy.

As to the matter of new evidence with respect to the assassination my understanding is that the Department has never closed the Martin Luther King file and that numerous allegations of the possible involvement of co-conspirators are promptly investigated. The thrust of the review which I requested, however, was to determine whether a new look at what was done by the Bureau in investigating the assassination or in the relationship between the Bureau

and Dr. King might give a different emphasis or new clues in any way to the question of involvement in that crime. At this point in the review, as I read the memoranda, nothing has turned up relevant on this latter point.

The review is not complete. Mr. Pottinger and all those who have commented upon his memorandum recommend that the review be completed. Mr. Pottinger also has made other recommendations upon which there is some difference of opinion. In my view, it is essential that the review be completed as soon as possible and in as thorough a manner as is required to answer the basic questions. In view of what has already been done, and the tentative conclusions reached, special emphasis should be given to the fourth question. In conducting this review you should call upon the Department to furnish to you the staff you need.

My conclusion as to the review conducted by the Civil Rights Division is that it has now shown that this complete review is necessary, particularly in view of the conclusion as to the systematic program of harassment. If your review turns up matters for specific action, we should discuss the best way to proceed on each such case."

B. The Task Force And The Method Of Review

The Counsel of the Office of Professional Responsibility selected three attorneys from the Civil Rights Division, Joseph F. Gross, Jr., James R. Kieckhefer and William D. White, one attorney from the Criminal Section of the Tax Division,

James F. Walker, and a retired attorney Fred G. Folsom, who is currently a consultant to the Tax Division with 37 years of experience in Civil Rights Division (which included homicide cases), Criminal Division and Tax Division prosecutions. As the senior man the latter was designated to head the task force. This committee or task force began its work on May 4, 1976. The committee was further staffed by the addition of two research analysts, Ms. Hope Byrne and Mr. Geoffrey Covert, two secretaries, Ms. Veronica Keith and Mrs. Renee Holmes, and two clerk-typists, Mrs. Leroylyne Murray and Ms. Dana Boyd.

Consideration of a tentative outline for an eventual report based on the chronology of events in the relationship between Dr. Martin Luther King and the Federal Bureau of Investigation brought the task force up against the fact that the field of the history before the assassination had just been plowed twice: once by the Civil Rights Division memoranda of March 31, 1976, and April 9, 1976 and once (among other kindred subjects) by the Senate Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities (Senate Report, No. 94-155 94th Congress, 2d Session, Books II and III).

By way of contrast, however, the matter of the assassination of Dr. King and the ensuing investigation had been

judged by the Civil Rights Division's Assistant Attorney General and his two assistants primarily on their familiarity with the Department file on the investigation as it had progressed since 1968. The Civil Rights Division's Martin Luther King, Jr., review memoranda reflected that a study had been made of only the first 10 sections of the FBI headquarters file on the assassination investigation and only a random inspection was done of some of the remaining 74 sections. There was no factual discussion or analysis. The conclusion was reached by the Civil Rights Division staff that "the Bureau's investigation was comprehensive, thorough and professional" (Murphy memorandum of March 31, 1976, p. 6). It was determined therefore to begin the task force's study with a complete review of the files on the FBI's investigation of the assassination. It was the consensus of the review team that by approaching the whole task by first examining the character and completeness of the murder investigation an answer could be made to the Attorney General's question as to the Bureau's performance in that regard and also an answer could be indicated to his question going to the Bureau's possible responsibility, if any, direct or indirect, for Dr. King's death.

After the examination of the FBI's investigation of the murder of Dr. King, the review team proceeded to go

back and complete the inquiry into the Bureau's pre-assassination relationship with Dr. King. Necessarily included again in this second stage of our review was the consideration of whether the FBI was in any way implicated in the murder directly or indirectly.

The task force made a particular point of looking at all the material in the FBI headquarters and field office files on the Assassination Investigation, the so-called "Murkin File" (Murkin being an acronym for Murder of King) 1/; the Martin Luther King Security File 2/; the Cominfil-SCLC File (Cominfil being an acronym for Communist infiltration; S.C.L.C., the initials for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference) 3/; the file on Communist Influence in Racial Matters 4/ and the advisor to King File 5/. The "Murkin" file was solely concerned with the murder investigation. The other four files provided a multi-focal view

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1/ FBI HQ. 44-38861

2/ FBI HQ. 100-106670

3/ FBI HQ. 100-438794

4/ FBI HQ. 100-442529 and the predecessor file entitled Communist Party, U.S.A. Negro Question; FBI HQ. 100-3-116

5/ FBI HQ. 100-392452

of the Bureau's intelligence and counterintelligence activities with respect to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The scheme of citation hereinafter used will be to minimize footnotes, place the source citation in the body of the writing, and designate headquarters files by "HQ" and number and serial and Field Office files by city and number and serial, e.g.: (Memphis 44-1987-153). Exceptions to this scheme will be explained when made.

The more voluminous of the pertinent files in addition to the FBI headquarters files and the Washington Field Office files were located in Memphis, Atlanta, Baltimore, Charlotte, Birmingham, New Orleans, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Kansas City, St. Louis, Omaha, Chicago, Springfield (Ill.), Milwaukee and New York. These were examined in place by visits by task force personnel. The remaining files were xeroxed and forwarded for review in Washington. Pertinent newspaper clipping files maintained by the Department and by the Bureau and its field offices were scanned.

In terms of papers examined, more than 200,000 entries, many with numerous pages concerning both the murder investigation and the security investigation were covered. The five attorneys sitting together originally

and later, as the work progressed, splitting up to work singly or in teams together with the research personnel, considered separate sections of each file compiling notes, commenting on, or reading aloud, or noting for reading by all of the committee, items of significance. Notes were taken, when pertinent items were encountered, on a serial-by-serial basis ("serials" being each separate document entry of one or more pages in the file). The resulting books of notes were then reviewed and used in conjunction with the original-source serials for the development of the statements of fact herein. In addition witness interviews were reflected in contemporaneous memoranda which aided in the development of the facts recited.

Selected portions of the so-called Official and Confidential files which had been kept in the office of the late J. Edgar Hoover, some sensitive files in the office of a Section Chief in the FBI Security Division, and the files of former Assistant Director William Sullivan were reviewed. So also were the pertinent files of the Attorneys General. The task force attorneys reviewed the transcripts of key intercepted telephone and microphone overheard conversations of Dr. King and his associates. These were spot checked



for accuracy against the tapes of those surveillances. A canvass of other investigative agencies was made to determine whether their files reflected that intelligence or counterintelligence requests had been made upon them by the FBI in relation to Dr. King. This included the Defense Department, the State Department, the U.S. Information Agency, the C.I.A., the Secret Service, the Postal Inspection Service, the Internal Revenue Service's Intelligence Division and the Treasury Department's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. The material turned up by these agencies was examined, albeit little of consequence was discovered. Relevant portions of the investigation reports of the Memphis Police Department on the King murder were xeroxed and studied.

In addition to official files, the task force personnel considered published material from the public sector dealing with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and his assassination. Included in this category were a viewing of the Columbia Broadcasting System's program on the death of King in its series "The Assassins," a National Broadcasting Company "Tomorrow" program of April 4, 1974, and perusal of books and articles on the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and the role of the FBI in relation to the murder of Dr. King (see Bibliography, App. A, Ex. 6). This lead to some valuable

evidentiary material - principally the oral and written statements of James Earl Ray - which was used to buttress the reconstruction of the facts of the murder and of the FBI investigation.

Some 30 interviews were conducted, principally in the assassination phase of the task force study. They were helpful in supplementing the results of interviews done during the murder investigation.

During the review of the Memphis Field Office files, an on-site inspection of the crime scene was conducted and the exhibits in the office of the Clerk of the County Court for Shelby County, Tennessee, were examined.