

FBI

Date: 6/7/68

Transmit the following in _____
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Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL - REGISTERED MAIL
(Priority)

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
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Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, BUFFALO (44-374) (P)

MURKIN
(OO: Memphis)

UNSUBS; Alleged Plot in
New York City, New York,
to Harm or Kill a Prominent
Negro Woman

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN
FITZGERALD KENNEDY, DALLAS,
TEXAS, 11/22/63

POCAM
CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY

Re Buffalo airtel and LHM, dated 6/5/68, captioned
as above.

There are enclosed herewith for the Bureau ten
copies of an LHM, dated and captioned as above. Two copies
are enclosed for Memphis, as Office of Origin in MURKIN case;

- ENCLOSURE
- 6 - Bureau (Encs. 12) (RM) EX-115 REC 13
(1 - 62-10960, ASSASSINATION OF PRES.
J. F. KENNEDY)
(1 - 100-106670, WILLIAM MOSES KUNSTLER)
(1 - 157-8428, POCAM)
 - 2 - Memphis (44-1987) (Encs. 2) (RM) 2 JUN 10 1968
 - 3 - New York (Encs. 3) (RM)
(1 - 100-146994, WILLIAM MOSES KUNSTLER)
 - 5 - Buffalo
(1 - 62-1827, ASSAS. OF PRES. J. F. KENNEDY)
(1 - 62-1305, Mrs. JANET REBACK)
(1 - 157-623, POCAM)

TJS:mfm C. C. Bishop
(16)

RACIAL INT. SECT.

51 JUL - 3 1968

Sent _____ M Per _____

Special Agent in Charge

Rec'd 6/27 6H 6-25 VP JUN 18 1968

JUN 10 12 50 PM '68

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

RECEIVED DE LOACH

F B I

JUN 18 10 52 AM '68

F. B. I.

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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DIVISION

JUN 19 9 15 PM '68
F B I

F. B. I.

JUN 18 11 15 AM '68
F. B. I.

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

JUN 19 9 23 AM '68

M 7 R

BU 44-374

and three copies of LHM are enclosed for New York, as alleged locus of plots mentioned in referenced LHM, with one copy for New York file on WILLIAM MOSES KUNSTLER.

Buffalo is making no local dissemination of instant LHM, and whether or not any dissemination should be made at SOG is being left to discretion of the Bureau.

The information set forth in instant LHM is being furnished to the Bureau and interested offices principally because of the serious nature of the alleged information furnished and Miss CALDWELL's prominent position as a world-famous novelist, although previous experience with Miss CALDWELL demonstrates she has a penchant for intermingling fact and fiction indiscriminately, and has, in the past, published an article bearing on the internal security of the United States representing it to be factual whereas it was completely fictional.

Miss CALDWELL is now attempting to twist information recently furnished by her as evidencing advance information concerning the death of Senator KENNEDY, despite available facts as set forth in referenced LHM definitely indicating otherwise.

Specific attention is directed to the fact as set forth in instant LHM that when SA THADDEUS J. SZYMANSKI telephoned Miss CALDWELL on June 4, 1968, she said she was unavailable for interview because she was hurrying to go to the hospital to see her husband who was on the brink of death. On June 6, 1968, she told SA SZYMANSKI that after talking with him on June 4, 1968, she had gone out to the front of her home to plant flowers.

Because of Miss CALDWELL's known unreliability, no action is recommended on the information being furnished by her, other than possible dissemination by the Bureau of this information because it is very possible Miss CALDWELL may proceed to furnish the same information to other governmental agencies, or may proceed to publish the information she has furnished.



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Buffalo, New York
June 7, 1968

JAMES EARL RAY, also known
as Eric Starvo Galt

ASSASSINATION OF REV. MARTIN
LUTHER KING, JR., MEMPHIS,
TENNESSEE, April 4, 1968

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; Alleged Plot
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Woman

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN
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November 22, 1963

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

At 3:45 P. M., on June 6, 1968, a telephone call
was received at the Buffalo Office of the Federal Bureau
of Investigation from TAYLOR CALDWELL, an authoress, whose
true name is Mrs. JANET T. C. REBACK, and who resides at
34 Audley End, Buffalo (26), New York. *INTE*

Miss CALDWELL immediately referred to a letter
she had recently mailed to the Buffalo Office of the Federal
Bureau of Investigation predicting "that something terrible
was going to happen," to the fact that on June 4, 1968, a
Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation had
telephonically discussed this letter with her, and she
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She said that on the afternoon of June 4, 1968,
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44-38861-4690
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Miss CALDWELL said she replied, "I know him well." (Miss CALDWELL explained at this point that she knows a Negro in Buffalo named DONALD JACKSON, who is head of the Donald Jackson Foundation, the purpose of which is to raise money to provide educational scholarships for meritorious and needy Negro students. She stated that she has given financial and other assistance to DONALD JACKSON, and immediately assumed that this is the DONALD JACKSON the young man was inquiring about.)

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Miss CALDWELL concluded by stating she felt Senator KENNEDY's death was more than just a mere coincidence, that she is "not a believer in coincidence," and that there must definitely be some connection between the information she had previously received and Senator KENNEDY's death.

Attention is directed to the fact that Miss CALDWELL in her telephone call of June 6, 1968, to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, stated that her conversation with the unidentified young Negro occurred while

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It is noted that a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation did, in fact, have a telephone conversation with Miss CALDWELL from about 4:35 P. M. to 4:50 P. M., on June 4, 1968. During an earlier telephone call to the CALDWELL residence on June 4, 1968, the Special Agent was told by a housekeeper, who answered the telephone, that Miss CALDWELL was asleep, that it is Miss CALDWELL's practice to work through the night and sleep during the day, and that Miss CALDWELL would be available to answer the telephone at about 4:30 P. M.

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as Eric Starvo Galt

ASSASSINATION OF REV. MARTIN
LUTHER KING, JR., MEMPHIS,
TENNESSEE, April 4, 1968

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; Alleged Plot
In New York City, New York, to
Harm or Kill a Prominent Negro
Woman

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN
FITZGERALD KENNEDY, DALLAS, TEXAS,
November 22, 1963

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

At 3:45 P. M., on June 6, 1968, a telephone call was received at the Buffalo Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation from TAYLOR CALDWELL, an authoress, whose true name is Mrs. JANET T. C. REBACK, and who resides at 34 Audley End, Buffalo (26), New York.

Miss CALDWELL immediately referred to a letter she had recently mailed to the Buffalo Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation predicting "that something terrible was going to happen," to the fact that on June 4, 1968, a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation had telephonically discussed this letter with her, and she stated she now wished to furnish additional developments.

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According to Miss CALDWELL, the first thing this young Negro said to her was, "Do you know DONALD JACKSON?"

Miss CALDWELL said she replied, "I know him well." (Miss CALDWELL explained at this point that she knows a Negro in Buffalo named DONALD JACKSON, who is head of the Donald Jackson Foundation, the purpose of which is to raise money to provide educational scholarships for meritorious and needy Negro students. She stated that she has given financial and other assistance to DONALD JACKSON, and immediately assumed that this is the DONALD JACKSON the young man was inquiring about.)

Miss CALDWELL went on to state that the next thing the young Negro said to her was "Did you tell Secret Service what our friend in New York wanted you to tell them?"

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In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNIT STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Buffalo, New York
June 7, 1968

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F B I

Date: 6/25/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
 FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)
 SUBJECT: MURKIN

For information of Chicago and Springfield, on 5/17/68, the Los Angeles Times had contact with one BOB (LNU), who said he had information concerning what actually had taken place in connection with the death of Dr. KING. The following is a summary of the allegations made by BOB:

1. The day before the shooting, RAY was picked up in Athens, Alabama, and was taken to Memphis.
2. He registered in a rooming house. Another man registered as SAMUEL LEWIS. LEWIS was supposed to be the backup man and kill KING at the rally that night if RAY missed his change on the balcony.
3. After shooting KING, RAY walked two or three blocks to the getaway car, accompanied by a girl and a guy. The car was a new blue Buick, with Alabama license plates. The first digits of the license are believed to be one four. The car was owned and driven by EDDIE WILBURN of Huntsville, Alabama. It is equipped with a police radio. The second man stayed overnight and then took an early bus to Knoxville.

- ③ - Bureau *airmail*
 2 - Chicago *airmail*
 2 - Springfield *airmail*
 1 - Los Angeles *airmail*

EX-110

REC-4 44-38861-4689

16 JUN 27 1968

FGK/gja
 (8)

Approved: *Wesley G. Snapp*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

67 JUL 3 1968

FBI

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1. The car was a 1964 Ford Mustang coupe, black, with a white top. The car was reported to be in the possession of the defendant at the time of the murder. The car was found in the possession of the defendant's brother, who was also a suspect in the murder. The car was found in the possession of the defendant's brother, who was also a suspect in the murder. The car was found in the possession of the defendant's brother, who was also a suspect in the murder.

I, [redacted], do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original as same appears in the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Dated at Washington, D.C., this _____ day of _____, 19____.

[Signature]

[Title]

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-361141)
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-100000)
SUBJECT: [Illegible]

FBI

Date:

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

LA 44-1574

(Priority)

13. The rifle was supposedly left in the furnace of a Memphis rooming house, and is believed still there. This is believed to refer the rifle of the backup man.

14. RAY is now wearing bifocals.

15. The white Mustang belonging to RAY was not in Memphis on the day of the KING slaying, and he did not escape in it. Presumably it never left Georgia in April.

16. On the day of the killing, 4/4/68, RAY made a telephone call from Memphis to Belle Glade and it is believed to have been made from a bus station.

17. In the weeks before the killing, RAY stayed somewhere in Belle Glade, Florida.

18. WILBURN is supposed to have been paid off in Reno. The night before the killing when somebody hit a keno ticket for \$25,000 in Cal-Neva Lodge, which was rigged to pass the money. The rigging was done with the knowledge of CHARLIE CATE, 6880 Pebble Beach Drive, Reno, California, who runs a shift at the Cal-Neva. JACK STRUGIS of St. Louis, who formerly worked in a bar on Second Street, Reno, Nevada, came into a lot of money and allegedly was a contact in this operation also.

19. RAY stayed in the Clark Hotel, Room 700, on 4/17-18/68.

20. LAMONT WHITE, who works for Western Union, Los Angeles, sent money to Louisiana and bought two pistols. The pistols really went to FRANK BRICKLEY of Chatanooga, Tennessee, who was formerly in prison with RAY. BRICKLEY is allegedly in Los Angeles.

21. HAROLD's Cafe, 555 South Main Street, Los Angeles is a "queer" bar where RAY formerly worked and a guy named CONNIE, who works there, allegedly knows RAY.

- 3 -

Per _____

M _____

Sent _____

Special Agent in Charge

Approved: _____

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

LA 44-1574

(Priority)

b7V

22. WILLIE SHEA, who once worked the Top Rail Bar, Seventh and Alvarado Streets, Los Angeles, was allegedly formerly married to RAY. SHEA is from St. Louis and now lives in North Hollywood, California. SHEA's mother lives in Compton, California. SHEA is married and now lives at 812 South Westlake Avenue, Los Angeles, with a man who owns a bar. SHEA is blond, about 38 years of age.

23. A telephone credit card supposedly used by RAY was issued to Ridell Catering, U. S. Rubber Company, Detroit, either in the name of FNU RIDELL or ROBERT BRICKELY. RIDELL reportedly lives in Harper Woods, Michigan. Calls on credit card reportedly made from Memphis to Belle Glade.

24. SAMUEL LEWIS, the second man in the rooming house, was discharged in 1963 from the penitentiary at Milan, Michigan, and previously served time in Chillicothe and Terre Haute. The Los Angeles Times reported the Warden at Milan had no record of LEWIS.

25. LEWIS took a bus from Knoxville to Los Angeles on 4/7/68, and travelled en route through Memphis and El Paso.

26. The house in Kansas City is described as follows: It is located off a main street starting from downtown Kansas City, Missouri, direction unknown, and from the main street a smaller street goes to the left, which street has a Western Union building located on it and goes off from the main street in the form of a steep hill. Two or three miles up the hill on the left are located nice looking apartments, brownish in color, where students from some school live, and just prior to this on the right is the location of a moving company, name unknown, and a grocery store is located in the vicinity of the moving company on the same side. About two blocks beyond the grocery store there is a narrow street with ramshackle houses on one side and vacant lots on the other. Turning right on this street, the third house on the left would be the correct house involved, which is occupied by an individual who sells beer and booze after hours and

- 4 -

Per _____

M

Sent _____

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

187

1960

LA 44-1574

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

hides guys out. The house is described as one bedroom, no garage, dirt driveway, single story, and has a large freezer in the living room.

The information contained above has been checked out and investigation to date has failed to substantiate any of the above allegations. The Los Angeles Times has declined to further identify the source of their information; however, investigation indicates it is probably LESTER EDWARD PACKETT, FBI No. 827-170A. ODELA A. PACKETT, his estranged wife, advised that she believes LESTER has probably returned to Chicago, where he was living earlier this year.

The Bureau has instructed that reasonable effort be expended to locate LESTER EDWARD PACKETT and resolve the above allegations.

LEAD

CHICAGO

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS: Will conduct credit and arrest checks, and other reasonable investigation to attempt to locate and interview PACKETT concerning the above allegations.

SPRINGFIELD

AT SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS: Will examine records of Illinois State Department of Motor Vehicles for any record of automobile drivers license issued to LESTER EDWARD PACKETT; or any current automobile which may be registered to him which would aid in locating him.

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M _____ 1961
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date: 6/5/68

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(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL - REGISTERED
(Priority)TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, BUFFALO (44-374) (P)MURKIN
(OO Memphis)UNSUBS; Alleged Plot in
New York City, New York,
to Harm or Kill a Prominent
Negro WomanASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN
FITZGERALD KENNEDY, DALLAS,
TEXAS, 11/22/63POCAM
CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACYThere are enclosed herewith for Bureau 10
copies of an LHM setting out a letter received at
Buffalo Office on 6/4/68 from TAYLOR CALDWELL, which

- ⑥ - Bureau (Enc. 12) (RM)
 (1 - 62-10960) (ASSASSINATION OF PRES.
 J. F. KENNEDY)
 (1 - 100-106670) (WILLIAM MOSES KUNSTLER)
 (1 - 157-8428) (POCAM)
 2 - Memphis (44-1987) (Enc. 2) (RM)
 3 - New York (Enc. 3) (RM)
 (1 - 100-146994) (WILLIAM MOSES KUNSTLER)
 5 - Buffalo
 (1 - 62-1827) (ASSAS. OF PRES. J. F. KENNEDY)
 (1 - 62-1305) (Mrs. JANET REBACK)
 (1 - 157-623) (POCAM)

TJS:cah
(16)ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/16/86 BY 1675RF/MLC
FOIPA# 253,475

EX-110

JUN 7 1968

57 JUL 5 1968

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

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REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

JUN 19 9 24 AM '68

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

JUN 10 7 17 AM '68

JUN 7 2 39 PM '68

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

JUN 19 10 14 PM '68

JUN 18 9 14 PM '68

F.B.I.
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

JUN 19

9 53 AM '68

FBI

JUN 25

2 17 PM '68

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

JUN 19 9 22 AM '68

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

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BU 44-374

deals with all four captioned matters. Two copies of LHM are enclosed for Memphis as OO in MURKIN case, and three copies of LHM are enclosed for New York, since it is alleged locus of plots set forth, with one of these copies being for New York file on WILLIAM MOSES KUNSTLER.

For info of Bureau, information previously received on various matters from TAYLOR CALDWELL has been set forth in following communications to Bureau:

(1) Buffalo let to Bureau, 7/23/62, captioned "AMERICAN NAZI PARTY, RM."

(2) Buffalo let to Bureau, 8/15/63, captioned "MRS. JANET T. C. REBACK, aka, INFO CONCERNING."

(3) Buffalo let to Bureau, 12/18/63, captioned "TAYLOR CALDWELL, aka, INFORMATION CONCERNING."

(4) Buffalo let to Bureau, 9/16/64, captioned "WILLIAM KUNTZLER, aka, SM-C," (Bureau file 100-106670).

(5) Buffalo let to Bureau, 4/30/65, captioned "TAYLOR CALDWELL, aka, INFO CONCERNING."

(6) Buffalo let to Bureau, 10/27/65, captioned "TAYLOR CALDWELL, aka, INFO CONCERNING."

(7) Buffalo airtel to Bureau, 11/18/66, captioned "ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY, 11/22/63, DALLAS, TEXAS."

These communications have been itemized so Bureau itself can better evaluate Miss CALDWELL and information furnished by her.

The above communications and a review of Buffalo Office files reflect that TAYLOR CALDWELL (whose true name is Mrs. JANET T. C. REBACK) is a world famous novelist, that she is an inveterate letter writer, possessed of a vivid imagination, and is inclined to intermingle fact with fiction indiscriminately; that she is prone to carry on literary battles through the mails and in publications

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with various and sundry persons throughout the world; and that she has a proclivity for furnishing information to other government agencies in addition to the FBI.

The information set forth in the LHM is being furnished to the Bureau and interested Offices, principally because of the serious nature of the charges, Miss CALDWELL's prominent position, and the possibility that she may at some future time claim she furnished pertinent information to the FBI, which received no attention.

Buffalo is making no local dissemination of the LHM, and whether or not any dissemination should be made at Washington, D.C., is being left to the discretion of the Bureau.

No action, other than possible dissemination at the Seat of Government to Secret Service because of intimation of threats of harm to President JOHNSON and Vice President HUMPHREY included in the material furnished by Miss CALDWELL, is recommended, on the basis that prior experience with Miss CALDWELL reflects she is unreliable and possibly demented. It would appear that a person in her position would place the welfare of the U.S. above an alleged loyalty to a correspondent, whom she has never met, and that she would disclose the identity of her correspondent so he could be located and questioned if he does, in fact, exist and if he did in fact send her the information she claims to have received.

It is pointed out that in the telephonic interview conducted with Miss CALDWELL by SA THADDEUS J. SZYMANSKI on 6/4/68, it was suggested to her that in the future she send any letters received from her friend to the FBI, deleting his signature if she feels so obligated, but so the FBI would have his exact wording for purposes of evaluation. She first replied this would be a violation of her promise to destroy her friend's letters. She then stated possibly she could Xerox the letters, and send the Xerox copies to the FBI, and then destroy the originals, which would mean she was honoring her promise. Finally, she stated that doing this would bother her conscience, and that anyway she felt her friend would not write anymore because he sounded

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so terrified in his last letter. Miss CALDWELL's responses throughout the telephonic interview of 6/4/68 emphasized her unwillingness to be interviewed in person concerning this matter, and reflected a desire on her part to go into great detail on extraneous matters rather than on the alleged plots.

It is acknowledged by the Buffalo Office that there is considerable detail in the LHM dealing with Miss CALDWELL herself and prior FBI experiences with her. It is felt this data is essential to an appropriate evaluation of the serious charges contained in her letter should the Bureau feel compelled to disseminate the LHM.

Unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau, the Buffalo Office will make no further effort to personally interview Miss CALDWELL re instant matters, and will simply acknowledge receipt of any further data from her in this matter without incorporating the information into LHMs for the Bureau.



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Buffalo, New York 14202
June 5, 1968

JAMES EARL RAY, Also known
as Eric Starvo Galt

ASSASSINATION OF REV. MARTIN
LUTHER KING, JR., MEMPHIS,
TENNESSEE, April 4, 1968

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; Alleged Plot
In New York City, New York, to
Harm or Kill a Prominent
Negro Woman

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN
FITZGERALD KENNEDY, DALLAS, TEXAS,
November 22, 1963

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/14/86 BY 1678 RPN/KC
253, 475

On June 4, 1968, there was received at the
Buffalo, New York Office of the Federal Bureau of Inves-
tigation, a letter, dated May 31, 1968 from TAYLOR
CALDWELL, 34 Audley End, Buffalo (26), New York, the
contents of which will be set forth below.

ms. [unclear] Reback *INT*
TAYLOR CALDWELL is a world famous novelist,
whose true name is Mrs. JANET T. C. REBACK. She is
referred to from time to time in news articles as an
outspoken foe of Communism. She is known as and admits
to be an inveterate letter writer. She has frequently
engaged in literary battles with persons who opposed
her private and public statements. Close associates
have described her imagination as vivid, and many of
her statements as tending toward exaggeration.

On one occasion, Miss CALDWELL wrote an
article which appeared in the October, 1960, issue
of "The American Mercury," in which she alleged that
an unnamed, American-born distinguished professor,
in one of the large universities, was a Communist.
When an attempt was made by a Special Agent of the
Federal Bureau of Investigation to arrange an interview

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ENCLOSURE

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with Miss CALDWELL concerning this story, her husband, MARCUS REBACK, a former official of the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service, and who scheduled appointments for Miss CALDWELL, stated it would serve no purpose for the Federal Bureau of Investigation to interview Miss CALDWELL regarding the article in "The American Mercury" because the unnamed professor was non-existent, a figment of Miss CALDWELL's imagination and a hypothetical situation employed by Miss CALDWELL to provoke public opinion.

On another occasion in September, 1964 when Miss CALDWELL was being interviewed by a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the presence of her husband concerning an occurrence she had brought to the attention of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Miss CALDWELL's husband flatly stated that the true circumstances of the occurrence were completely different from the version given by Miss CALDWELL, after which the latter materially modified her earlier statement.

The above mentioned letter received from Miss CALDWELL on June 4, 1968, reads as follows:

"As I am always wary of giving you any information which even vaguely sounds 'kooky' to me, I now deeply regret that I did not

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POOR PEOPLE's CAMPAIGN

inform you of something which my terrified Negro
businessman friend in New York wrote me last
October. It still disturbed me, however - though
it sounded very improbable - that I incorporated
it as a sort of warning in my article in the Buffalo
Evening News concerning events of 1968, earlier
this year, which you may have read, yourself. ESP
had nothing to do with that!

"He wrote me, if I remember accurately - as
I immediately destroy his letters at his urgent
request - that a meeting was held in New York
the latter part of last September, in which
plans were laid to 'throw the country into
chaos and revolution.' It was suggested that
a prominent Negro leader be assassinated, or at
least badly injured, in early 1968, 'as a start
to revolution.' He said that New York lawyer
and novelist, about whom I have written you
before, discussed this at length, and then re-
marked the matter would be given considerable
thought - later. My friend was not invited
'later,' for some reason or other which alarmed
him. But he was able to gether together a few
facts last October and write me about them.
He did not give me the source of his informa-
tion.

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"The man finally chosen was a white man, between the ages of 25 and 30, named Robert W---, some simple name such as Watson or Watkins or Wellock or Wilkins, from the vicinity of New Jersey, a crack shot, of fair complexion, light eyes either very light brown or blue-gray, medium brown hair, long thin face, very agile - and a 'Marxist.' My friends say you have had a dossier on him for several years in either New Jersey or New York. He followed Martin Luther King for several months before the assassination, which was scheduled for early March, not April, but the opportunity did not arise. 'They' wanted a larger city than Memphis, especially Washington. 'They' had thought of Carmichael or Brown, then settled on King. It was remarked that they had 'failed' with Mr. Kennedy, because they had thought to start nationwide riots against 'right wing extremists,' and a general blood-bath, and nothing happened. 'Only Oswald got caught,' they remarked, which led my friend to believe that others were implicated, too, in the Marxist assassination. Apparently 'they' don't believe in the Warren Commission Report, either, for good and sufficient reasons.

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"Now he writes that 'something much worse' is 'going to happen soon.' He doesn't know what it is, because he is being included less and less in 'conferences,' and is very frightened. He had asked me to write you last October about the planned assassination, and I did not, and he now wonders 'if I can trust you.'"

"He writes that a woman will be the focus-point of the 'much worse,' and almost immediately, but does not know who the woman is. She is a Negro, however. He also writes that the man you are looking for is working either in New Jersey or 'just outside of New York,' and is or was in the Army and received a 'discharge without prejudice,' whatever that means, though not an honorable discharge. I thought they were the same. At any rate, he is often in New York at 'conferences.' Then it was decided to send him to Washington with the 'Poor People,' and is probably there now. (By the way, he had accomplices in Memphis.)"

"He never liked Martin Luther King, my friend wrote last September, but reproaches me that if I had written you in October you might have prevented him from being murdered."

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"This new information is also vague, but it may serve some purpose, though I don't see how. But remembering that letter of last October I thought it only right to let you know now. My friend also says that Mr. Johnson and Mr. Humphrey 'had better not' show themselves too openly in Washington, or be too available, in the very near future, but what threatens them he does not know. He just overheard 'hints.'"

"He fears, now, that he is suspected, so if you do any investigation on this information, don't try to find him or question him. He has a family. I know I will do all I can to protect him.

"Sincerely,

"(Miss) /s/ Taylor Caldwell

"P.S. My poor husband now lies at the point of death in the hospital - where he has been since March, 1967 - after he was attacked in our house by two of Earl Warren's pampered thugs. He is completely shattered in body and mind. He was a most brilliant man, and he has now become a confused, wandering, disoriented old shadow, and is unable even to feed himself or even to sit up, and is attended constantly