

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

FBI a suspect in Dr. King murder

Hoover could have stopped gunman?

(Special to AFRO)
WASHINGTON — It could be too much now to expect that millions here and abroad ever will believe the FBI didn't either have a hand in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. or might have been in a position to save his life.

For the volumes of sinister details that have poured out of FBI files during probes into U.S. intelligence agency operations prove that former FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover hated Dr. King with a passion.

There is no question but that Hoover illegally spied on Dr. King, spread false rumors about him, gave the impression in one memo that King would be better off to commit suicide and waged a vicious vendetta aimed at destroying King and his Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

The Rev. Ralph Abernathy, a right hand lieutenant to Dr. King who long has questioned whether James Earl Ray alone was involved in the April 4, 1968 assassination of Dr. King in Memphis, disclosed further information last week on how the FBI has spied on him.

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

PAGE 1,2

RICHMOND AFRO-AMERICAN

Date: 12-6-75

Edition: WEEKLY

Author:

Editor:

Title: MARTIN L. KING

Character:

or

Classification: 44-657*

Submitting Office: RICHMOND

☐ Being Investigated

44-657-330

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
DEC 8 1975	
FBI - RICHMOND	

Original sent to Bureau by R/S

Once in 1968, Abernathy said, probes from the Senate Intelligence Commi-

disclosed former Vice President Spiro T. Agnew sent Hoover a memo declaring: "We've got to stop this because I have discovered that he is one of the most dangerous of all the black leaders."

Dick Gregory, the activist comedian, and the Rev. Jesse Jackson, another close associate of Dr. King who now heads PUSH in Chicago, also are among those who have repeatedly called for a new look into the slaying.

Last week Mrs. Coretta King, widow of the slain civil rights leader, renewed her plea for a reopening of the assassination investigation.

At the Justice Department, Atty. Gen. Edward Levi asked two aides to re-study files of the investigation to see if further delving into the case might be fruitful.

However, at the time, he acted, a Justice Depart-

ment spokesman sought to assure the public that the first investigation was an "incredibly good" one.

Asst. Atty. Gen. J. Stanley Pottinger, head of the civil rights division, and Asst. Atty. Gen. Richard L. Thornburgh, head of the criminal division, were assigned to review the first investigation.

Meanwhile, in Canada, correction department officials said a Toronto man named as a possible witness to an alleged King assassination plot, had been released from prison two months ago.

U.S. civil rights leaders have named the freed man, Clifford H. Andrews, 44, and Robert Watson, reported to be serving a term in Ashland, Ky., as important witnesses if the King assassination investigation is to be reopened.

James Earl Ray fled to

Toronto four days after Dr. King was gunned down while standing on a motel balcony in Memphis and remained in Toronto until May 6 when he flew to London.

He was arrested there on June 8 and extradited to the U.S. for trial.

SCLC leaders have expressed the hope there would be an early reexamination of the King slaying for fear Ray or some other possible witness to a conspiracy could end up like Mike Ruby, the man who killed Lee Harvey Oswald, suspected assassin of former President John F. Kennedy.

Ruby's death was attributed to cancer.

Abernathy and Gregory launched a hunger strike on Thursday outside the White House.

SCLC now plans demonstrations in a number of major cities, it was announced.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

By All Means. . .

FBI Director Clarence M. Kelley says those FBI policy makers responsible for the investigations into the Communist associations of Martin Luther King should be "brought to account."

Indeed they should. It may be the only way the whole truth as revealed in the tapes of King's conversations will ever be revealed. If those whom Kelley terms responsible are put on trial, one expects they will defend themselves vigorously—and demand the presentation of the tapes and other records to vindicate them.

Mr. Kelley may have, intentionally or unintentionally, opened a noxious can of worms. It will be most interesting to see how the Democratic-controlled Congress reacts to this suggestion. Will the Democrats risk disclosure that certainly will involve and sully the names of John and Robert Kennedy? Will they risk release of information which certainly will prove detrimental to the reputation of King? It is not J. Edgar Hoover's reputation which will be blackened—but the reputations of the persons responsible for the bugging which produces those tapes—and the reputation of King.

The Congress demanded the release of the Nixon tapes—as it should have. Will the same Congress demand the release of tapes which will implicate two Democratic "heroes" and King? Count the repercussions among the blacks if the Congress should be held responsible for bringing out information sullyng King's reputation...

By all means: put the persons "responsible" on trial. It may be the only way the truth will ever come out. And it is the truth we are seeking, is it not?

The press, which left no stone unturned to search out the Nixon tapes, has shown little interest in what's on the FBI tapes. If it had shown the same zeal, the information on the FBI tapes would already have been printed verbatim in some of the big leftwing papers. Obviously, we can't depend on that segment of the press which has the facilities to dig out this information to give it to us. Perhaps Mr. Kelley's way is the only way left. Mr. Kelley, one must assume, is too smart not to know that. One also must assume that he knows what's on those tapes, and moreover, knows who authorized them, and why.

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

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THE NEWS
LYNCHBURG, VA

Date: 12-16-75

Edition:

Author:

Editor: F. JAMES MURDOCK

Title: MARTIN L. KING

Character:

or

Classification: 44-657*

Submitting Office: RICHMOND

☐ Being Investigated

44-657-331

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
DEC 16 1975	
FBI - RICHMOND	

Original sent to Bureau by R/S

NR0002 WA CODE SENT 4:00AM 7/30/76 MJW

PM NITEL 07/29/76 MDP

TO ALL SACS

FROM DIRECTOR (100-106670)

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BUDED AUGUST 9, 1976

*MARKIN 44-657**

FOR INFORMATION OF RECIPIENTS 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 "PARTIAL REVIEW" RECENTLY

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Coold W/cco.

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SERIALIZED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FILED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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FBI - RICHMOND	

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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 PAGES 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 44-³⁸⁸⁶¹33861. 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.

END

AA

NR0071 WA CODE

8:51PM 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

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SEARCHED	INDEXED
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JUL 30 1976	
FBI - RICHMOND	

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8/3/76

A I R T E L

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-106670)
ATTN: DEPUTY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR INGRAM,
INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

FROM: ACTING SAC, RICHMOND (44-657) (RUC)

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
(BUDED: 8/9/76)

Re Bureau teletypes to all SACS, 7/29 & 30/76.

Enclosed for the Bureau is one (1) copy each of 357 documents which constitute Richmond's file in this matter.

The exhibit (1A) section of Richmond's file consists of 19 items, 5 of which are enclosed. The remaining items in the exhibit section are as follows:

1A-1 Roanoke, Va. PD photo #15563 of
JOHNNY S. WILLARD;

1A-2 Color photo of clothing (undershirt and shorts) showing laundry markings, received from Bureau 4/8/68;

1A-4 Color photo of JOHNNY SAUNDERS WILLARD (and others);

1A-5 Photos of two artists' conceptions of UNKNOWN SUBJECT;

1A-6 Photos of ERIC STARVO GALT;

1A-7 Photos of JAMES HENRY SHORT;

2 - Bureau (Encl. 357)
1 - Richmond
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(3)

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Dec 5

44-657-334

D.D. exempt

RH 44-657

- 1A-10 Photos of JAMES EARL RAY;
- 1A-12 Photos of JAMES EARL RAY and WALTER T. RIFE;
- 1A-13 Photos of JAMES EARL RAY taken in Mexico;
- 1A-14 Missouri Dept. of Corrections Photos #00416 of JAMES EARL RAY;
- 1A-15 Four samples of Thermo-Seal laundry marking tapes with "20R-3" imprinted thereon which were obtained from JAMES E. SMITH, Smith's One Hour Laundry, 2300 Fort Ave., Lynchburg, Va., on 4/26/68, and sent to the Bureau on 4/29/68, and not returned;
- 1A-16 Photo of JAMES EARL RAY taken in Fall of 1967;
- 1A-17 Photos of JAMES EARL RAY as used on Identification Order;
- 1A-18 Photos of laundry markings on RAY's shirt and bed linen while he was in Los Angeles area using name ERIC STARVO GALT;

A review of the enclosed items will show that two different memos (FD-209) are assigned serial number 170. Review will also show that serial number 180 was apparently skipped; however, no notation is in file to indicate this. Despite the "Do Not Serialize" (DNS) notation, a copy of serial 53 is filed between serial 209 and 210, apparently since the person mentioned in serial 53 is also mentioned in serial 210.

Serial 294 was skipped as noted and only the machine copy of serial 298 was skipped with the typed copy of this communication remaining in Richmond's file.

NR090 WA PLAIN

6:476:25PM 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

PRH FBI RHCLR TKS FOR TWO TES

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44-657-335

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JUL 30 1976	
FBI - RICHMOND	

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9/2/76

A I R T E L

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

FROM: ACTING SAC, RICHMOND (44-657) (RUC)

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Re Richmond airtel to Bureau, 8/3/76, and Bureau teletype, 8/6/76.

1. MANPOWER: SA THOMAS J. O'DONNELL, JR., GS-13, Step 3, spent 8 regular hours on this matter and Stenographer DORIS D. MILLER, GS-5, Step 7, spent one regular hour on this matter.
2. UNUSUAL COSTS: No unusual costs were incurred by Richmond Office in this matter.

The above cost data is for the period 7/29/76 through 8/31/76.

This matter is an RUC status at Richmond and if no additional work is expended by Richmond on this case, UAC Richmond will not submit monthly cost data reports hereafter.

2 - Bureau
① - Richmond

TJO/ddm
(3)

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h
44-657-336

as
D. D. [signature]
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SERIALIZED *h*
INDEXED *h*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, RICHMOND (44-657) P

DATE: 8/21/78

FROM : SA JOHN WILLIAM DAVIS

SUBJECT: UNSUB;

ASSASSINATIONN OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. (MURKIN);
CIVIL RIGHTS

Attached hereto is copy of FD-71 reflecting information furnished by ANN E. MOFFITT during the early morning hours of 8/18/78.

On 8/21/78, MOFFITT was recontacted at her place of business, Standard Register Co., 1506 Staples Mill Road, at which time she stated the individual she made reference to in her phone call on 8/18/78 was one MAX KIMSEY, who operated Kimsey's Floor Covering Co., 608 Church Lane, Tappahannock, Va. (telephone 804/443-5090).

She described KIMSEY as a white male, about 50 years of age, who operates a white van type truck. She advised that she has a place in Aylett, Va., which is located a relatively short distance from Tappahannock, and KIMSEY operated the only floor covering business in the general vicinity, therefore, she hired him to do some work at her residence in Aylett.

He did the work about six weeks ago, and during that time, she had a conversation with him during which she stated that during the same general time period that MARTIN LUTHER KING was assassinated in Memphis, Tenn., he was traveling across the United States, during which time he was approached to assassinate KING. He was offered \$10,000 with a promise of \$40,000 additional dollars if he was successful in assassinating KING. He furnished no more details to MOFFITT, and MOFFITT has no way of evaluating KIMSEY's reliability or integrity.

2 - Richmond
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44-657-337
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AUG 22 1978
FBI - RICHMOND
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S

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

RH 44-657

LEADS:

RICHMOND:

AT TAPPAHANNOCK, VA.:

Will promptly locate and interview MAX KIMSEY for details concerning his allegedly having been approached to assassinate MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

NOTE: Hand print names legibly; handwriting satisfactory for remainder.

Indices: ☐ Negative ☐ See below

Call Monday 11-12 for appmt.

Subject's name and aliases

UNSUB: ASSASSINATION OF
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

Character of case

Complainant

ANN MOFFITT

Complaint received

☐ Personal ☒ Telephonic Date 8/18/78 Time 3:20am

Address of subject

Complainant's address and telephone number

1247-L Gaskin Rd. Richmond, Va 740-6035
23229

Subject's Description	Race	Sex	Height	Hair	Build	Birth date and Birthplace
	Age	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	Weight	Eyes	Complexion	Social Security Number
	Scars, marks or other data					

Facts of complaint

MOFFITT stated that a man, who she would only give as MAX a white male 38-45 yrs of age, came to her home for minor home repairs. During course of conversation MAX stated to her that he was offered \$10,000 to kill Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and \$40,000 to finish the job.

When asked for further details on MAX and the caller who called MAX. Moffitt would only state that she has given out enough info and refused to go any further without speaking to an agent. Moffitt sounded at times to be intoxicated and incoherent. At one point she would not give out her occupation and stated she would be going to the river and would not give an address. When pressed as to when she would like to be interviewed by an agent, she then gave as place of employment, Standard Register Co. 1506 Staples Mill Rd. tel #353-3908 and is secretary to the regional manager Ronald c. Doering.

MOFFITT stated she was going to the river at 8:30am 8/18/78, but again when pressed as to when she would like to speak to an agent she said she would be available between 11:00am to 12 noon at her office.

MOFFITT stated she use to be a FLAG GIRL and this was how she was able to strike up this conversation with MAX. MOFFITT stated she was 52 yrs old.

MOFFITT also beleived that her phone conversation writer was being taped.

Action Recommended

SPC *James C. Williams*
(Agent)

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 19 1978	
FBI - RICHMOND	

Complaint Form
FD-71 (Rev. 8-29-74)

NOTE: Hand print names legibly; handwriting satisfactory for remainder.

Indices: ☐ Negative ☐ See below

Call Monday 11-12 for appt.

Subject's name and aliases UNSUB: ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.				Character of case		
				Complainant ANN MOFFITT		
				Complaint received <input type="checkbox"/> Personal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Telephonic Date <u>8/18/78</u> Time <u>3:20am</u>		
Address of subject				Complainant's address and telephone number 1247-L Gaskin Rd, Richmond, Va 740-6035 23229		
Subject's Description	Race	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	Height	Hair	Build	Birth date and Birthplace
	Age		Weight	Eyes	Complexion	Social Security Number
	Scars, marks or other data					

Facts of complaint

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MOFFITT also beleived that her phone conversation writer was being taped.

Action Recommended

SFC *James C. Williams*
(Agent)

44-657-338

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SERIALIZED <i>JS</i>	FILED <i>JS</i>
AUG 18 1978	
<i>Glueck</i>	

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, RICHMOND (44-657) *(initials)*

DATE: 8/25/78

FROM : SA JOHN W. ELWELL

SUBJECT: UNSUB;
ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER
KING, JR. (MURKIN);
CIVIL RIGHTS

Re Richmond memorandum of SA JOHN WILLIAM DAVIS dated 8/21/78.

On 8/23/78, Mr. MAX KIMSEY was located and interviewed at the residence of Mrs. W. I. PRINCE at Laneview, Va., where Mr. KIMSEY was installing carpet.

KIMSEY was advised that a report has reached the Richmond Division of the FBI that he had indicated in a recent conversation that he had been approached to kill MARTIN LUTHER KING for \$50,000.

KIMSEY advised he has recently spoken to several people concerning the MARTIN LUTHER KING assassination, but he was surprised that anyone he talked to about this matter would have come to the conclusion that he had been offered \$50,000 to assassinate KING.

He furnished the following information as the basis of his recent conversations with people about the MARTIN LUTHER KING assassination:

Prior to 1964, he was on an elk hunting trip to Gunnonsin, Colorado, with an associate, Mr. JOE CORLEW. He identified CORLEW as a resident of Chattanooga, Tenn., who was employed by the DuPont Corporation in Chattanooga. After finishing hunting one day on this trip, he and CORLEW were in a combination bar and restaurant with another group of hunters, none of whom he had previously known and none of whom he now knows by name. However, during dinner and drinking, in general conversation with these hunters, he mentioned the fact that he was from the State of Tenn. One of the hunters remarked that he could not understand why the State of Tenn. allowed that "communist school" to operate in Tenn. KIMSEY advised that man was referring to a school in Tenn. that allegedly had communistic ties. In addition, Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING had some contact with this school. The conversation then turned to *DR. KING and his*

44-657-339



5010-108

1 - Richmond

JWE:jhc *(initials)*

(1) DD: *(initials)*

File Stripped

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(info)

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activities at that time.

At the time they were in this restaurant, he and CORLEW had their rifles with them inside the restaurant as they did not want to leave them in their vehicles on the chance that they could be stolen.

One of the hunters with whom they were having the conversation pointed to his rifle and made a statement to the effect that a person could probably make a large sum of money if he could hit Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING with a rifle shot. The conversation then speculated on that possibility, and even speculated on what someone could possibly make as the result of such an action. Figures such as \$10,000 front money and a total of \$50,000 were mentioned in this speculative conversation.

However, he advised that there was never any offer made to pay any of these figures for either the attempt to assassinate KING or the actual assassination of KING, and never was there any real serious discussion of actually taking such an action.

He advised that this conversation was all casual and speculative in nature. He advised that the participants in this conversation obviously were not in tune with the objectives of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING and his program at that time. However, he reiterated at no time was there any offer made or any serious discussion made concerning an actual attempt to assassinate KING. He advised the entire conversation was speculative in nature and not at all serious as to an actual attempt.

He stated that if he had thought that anyone in that group was even remotely serious concerning an attempt to assassinate KING, he would have notified the appropriate authorities.

He advised that in view of the publicity surrounding the House Assassination Committee hearings, more people are currently discussing the KING assassination, and he has mentioned his experience in Colorado. However, he does not feel that in his conversations, he ever leaves the impression that his conversations in Colorado were an actual attempt to obtain services of persons to assassinate KING.

Since KIMSEY had no information concerning any bona fide offer in order to assassinate KING and since the conversation he described was all speculative in nature and since

RH 44-657

he does not have the intensity of any of the other persons involved in this conversation, no further action is being taken in this regard.

3*