



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20530

OCT 1 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Re: Informant Files Pertinent to the
Martin Luther King, Jr., Investigation
Review.

Our Martin Luther King, Jr., Review Task Force has requested the informant files on five informants employed by the F.B.I. in Memphis, Tennessee, during that city's Sanitation Worker's strike in 1968. The Task Force has explained to their Bureau liaison that the violence attendant on that strike brought Dr. King to Memphis and coincidentally to his death. The review staff feels it must know the identity of the informants to determine whether or not they played any provocative role. I think this is correct.

The Task Force says they will have to call for other informant files as the review proceeds. They do not contemplate contacting or interviewing any informants unless something startling develops. In that case further discussion with the Bureau is envisioned *and no such inquiries of the informants will take place without your approval.*

Your approval is solicited for me to instruct the Bureau to make pertinent informant files available to the Martin Luther King, Jr., Review Task Force on an informal verbal showing of the basis for each request subject to the above condition concerning contacts or interviews. *(the five)*

Michael E. Shaheen, Jr.

Michael E. Shaheen, Jr., Counsel
Office of Professional Responsibility

Approved

OPR # 20