Memorandum

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation

FROM : Jerris Leonard Assistant Attorney General Civil Rights Division

DJ-190

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SUBJECT: Assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. CIVIL RIGHTS

> Reference is made to your memorandum dated March 16, 1971 at Atlanta and to previous communications in the captioned matter.

It appears that Robert Byron Watson (Byron Watson) may have information pertinent to the captioned matter. Please interview Byron Watson fully with respect to all details of this matter and with respect to his background, education, employment, criminal record if any, and any other matters which may cast light on the creditability of his statements in connection with the captioned matter.

If the statement furnished by Byron Watson is substantially similar to that attributed to him and his mother by your source (pp. 3-5 of your memorandum of 3/16) or to the statement attributed to him by Ken Smith (my memorandum of 2/1/71, pp. 5-8 of attachment), please provide full background information on Byron Watson and his parents, and, in addition, please conduct the investigation requested in paragraph III (4.) of my memorandum of February 1, 1971.

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DEPARTME

JL:MG:p

DJ 144-

DATE:

Mr. Toleon \_ Mr. Sullivan

Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Dalbey .

Mr. Rosen

Mr. Felt \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Tavel \_ Mr. Walters

Mr. Soyars

Tele. Room \_ Miss Holmes Miss Gandy \_

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Mr. Brennan, C.D. Mr. Callahan \_\_\_\_\_ Mr. Casper \_\_\_\_\_ Mr. Conrad \_\_\_\_\_