

Mr. DeLoach

3/10/70

T. E. Bishop

GEROLD FRANK, AUTHOR
DESIRE TO DO BOOK ON
ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING
BUFILE 94-63917

M. J. [unclear]

Previous memoranda have been submitted reflecting contacts made by captioned individual concerning his desire to do a book on the assassination of Martin Luther King with the cooperation of the Bureau. His last contact was on 1/6/70, and in each instance Frank has been advised that until all appeal aspects in this case have been completed, it would be premature for the Bureau to consider cooperating with any author in connection with a book on this case. (By letter of January 21, 1970, to the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Civil Rights Division of the Department, the Director asked for permission to consider assisting a reliable writer in preparing a factual account of the King case. No definite answer has yet been received.)

CURRENT DEVELOPMENT:

On 3/10/70, Frank came by Bishop's Office when in Washington on other business. He stated that he has been working for the past 2 years on the book on the King assassination and has interviewed an extremely large number of people in connection with it, including police, police officials, prosecutor's staff, deceased Judge Battle and many other persons of an official nature in Memphis, Tennessee. In addition, he has traveled to England and Canada doing research on the case, as well as to many parts of the United States. He states he is going to do his book in 3 sections: the first will deal with the assassination, the second will deal with the investigation to determine the assassin and the search for him, and the third section will deal with the prosecutive aspects of the case. Frank stated that he is dropping by the Bureau to let the Bureau know that he is still most desirous of securing Bureau cooperation, especially in connection with the preparation of the second section of his book. He stated that he wants the Bureau to be completely assured that his book, as far as the Bureau is

M. J. [unclear]

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. M.A. Jones

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Bishop to DeLoach (continued)
Re: GEROLD FRANK, AUTHOR

concerned, will only be most favorable and will not be critical in any way. He advised that he expects to spend at least another year in the preparation of this book and has been assured by his publisher, Doubleday Company, that it will be a "best seller" which will be very widely distributed.

Frank was advised, as he has been informed previously, that the Bureau is taking no action at this time to cooperate with him or any other author and would not make any decision along these lines until all appeal aspects of the case had been considered and the Department of Justice has given the Bureau permission to cooperate with an author on the book.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.