

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

- Assoc. Dir. _____
- Dep. AD Adm. _____
- Dep. AD Inv. _____
- Asst. Dir.:
- Adm. Serv. _____
- Crim. Inv. _____
- Fin. & Pers. _____
- Ident. _____
- Intell. _____
- Laboratory _____
- Legal Coun. _____
- Plan. & Insp. _____
- Rec. Mgnt. _____
- Spec. Inv. _____
- Tech. Servs. _____
- Training _____
- Public Affs. Off. _____
- Telephone Rm. _____
- Director's Sec'y _____

TO : The Associate Director

DATE: 2/1/78

FROM : Legal Counsel *Jan*

- 1 - Mr. Bassett
- 1 - Mr. Foster
- 1 - Mr. Mintz
- 2 - Mr. Hotis

SUBJECT: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)

Mr. [unclear]

PURPOSE: The purpose of this memorandum is to request the release of certain Special Agents from their employment agreement in order that they may be interviewed by captioned Committee.

DETAILS: To date, staff attorneys of the HSCA have conducted a number of interviews of Special Agents and former Special Agents in connection with the Committee's investigation into the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr. Additional requests for agent interviews have been submitted by letters to the Attorney General from G. Robert Blakey, Chief Counsel and Director, HSCA. These agents, their offices of assignment or last known address, the date of interview request and the case involved are as follows:

<u>Agent</u>	<u>Office of Assignment or Last Known Address</u>	<u>Date of Request</u>	<u>Case Involved</u>
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	King
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	King (b)(7)(c)
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	King
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	King

DOC/JTA/sas
(17) *DAD*

CONTINUED - OVER

REC-65 62-117290-434

- 1 - Personnel file of [REDACTED]
- 1 - Personnel file of [REDACTED]
- 1 - Personnel file of [REDACTED]
- 1 - Personnel file of [REDACTED]
- 1 - Personnel file of [REDACTED]
- 1 - Personnel file of [REDACTED]
- 1 - Personnel file of Ivor Ellis Nitschke
- 1 - Personnel file of [REDACTED]
- 1 - Personnel file of [REDACTED]
- 1 - Personnel file of [REDACTED]

FEB 10 1978

(b)(7)(c)



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

Memorandum to The Associate Director
 Re: HSCA

<u>Agent</u>	<u>Office of Assignment or Last Known Address</u>	<u>Date of Request</u>	<u>Case Involved</u>
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	King
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	King
Ivor Ellis Nitschke (Former)	Travel Lodge Motel Amarillo, Texas (1971)	1/19/78	Kennedy <i>(b)(7)(c)</i>
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	King
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	King
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	King
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	King

If approved, the above agents will be telephonically advised by the Legal Liaison and Congressional Affairs Unit, Legal Counsel Division, and Congressional Inquiry Unit, Records Management Division, of the interest of the Committee and, prior to interview, Legal Counsel representatives will provide these agents with a briefing as to the scope and limitations of the interviews.

RECOMMENDATIONS: (1) That the Director release the Special Agents named in the attached letter from their employment agreement to be interviewed by staff personnel of captioned Committee.

Jef

APPROVED:

Director _____
 Asso. Dir. _____
 Dep. AD Adm. _____
 Dep. AD Inv. *JMA*

Adm. Serv. _____
 Crim. Inv. _____
 Fin. & Pers. _____
 Ident. _____
 Intell. _____
 Laboratory _____

Legal Coun. *JMA*
 Plan. & Insp. _____
 Rec. Mgmt. _____
 Spec. Inv. _____
 Tech. Servs. _____
 Training _____
 Public Affs. Off. _____

CONTINUED - OVER

Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
Attention: Mr. Robert L. Keuch

December 9, 1977

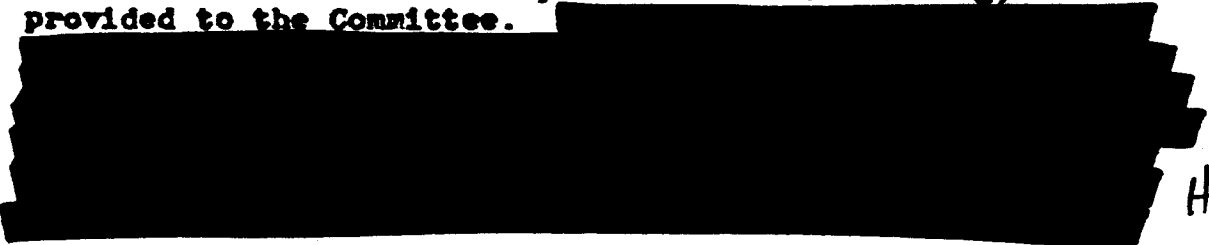
Director, FBI

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- 1 - Mr. Monahan
- 1 - Mr. Peelman
- 1 - Mr. Foster
- 1 - Mr. Giaquinto
- 1 - Legal Counsel Div.
(Attn: Mr. Hotis)

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)

Reference is made to the letter from G. Robert
Blakey, Chief Counsel and Director, HSCA, to the Attorney
General dated November 21, 1977, requesting that certain
information in the files of the FBI, pertinent to the assas-
sinations of John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King, be
provided to the Committee.



HSCA

In response to the HSCA request, enclosed are two
copies of a memorandum which contains the requested
information.

Enclosures - 2

1 - Office of Legislative Affairs (Enclosure)

JSS:sas (9)

62-117290

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

EX-120

REC-13

62-117290-455

21 FEB 22 1978

- Assoc. Dir. _____
- Dep. AD Adm. _____
- Dep. AD Inv. _____
- Asst. Dir.:
- Adm. Serv. _____
- Crim. Inv. _____
- Fin. & Pers. _____
- Ident. _____
- Intell. _____
- Laboratory _____
- Legal Coun. _____
- Plan. & Insp. _____
- Rec. Mgnt. _____
- Spec. Inv. _____
- Tech. Servs. _____
- Training _____
- Public Affs. Off. _____
- Telephone Rm. _____
- Director's Sec'y _____

ENCLOSURE

498
3 1978

JSA
Pur

APPROVED:

Director _____
 Assoc. Dir. _____
 Dep. AD Adm. _____
 Dep. AD Inv. _____

Adm. Serv. _____
 Crim. Inv. _____
 Fin. & Pers. _____
 Ident. _____
 Intell. _____
 Laboratory _____

Legal Coun. _____
 Plan. & Insp. _____
 Rec. Mgnt. _____
 Spec. Inv. _____
 Tech. Servs. _____
 Training _____
 Public Affs. Off. _____

MAIL ROOM

TELETYPE UNIT

FBI/DOJ

CP

Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
Attention: Mr. Robert L. Keuch

NOTE: By letter to the Attorney General dated 11/21/77, the
HSCA requested [REDACTED]

HSCA

The enclosed memorandum responds to said request. The information regarding supervisory personnel during the investigation of John F. Kennedy assassination was obtained from the Director's response to the Attorney General dated 11/29/75, which dealt with the Inspection Division's review of certain aspects of the John F. Kennedy assassination investigation.

The information regarding personnel responsible for decision-making during the investigation of the Martin Luther King assassination was obtained from the records and recollection of personnel assigned to the Civil Rights Section, Special Investigative Division.

This matter has been coordinated with the Legal Counsel Division.

House Select Committee on Assassinations

(C) Alex Rosen (Assistant Director, General Investigative Division).

(D) James R. Malley (Inspector - Number One Man to Assistant Director, General Investigative Division). Liaison with Warren Commission.

(E) James Handley (Section Chief of the Criminal Section, General Investigative Division).

(F) Henry A. Schutz (Unit Chief, Criminal Section, General Investigative Division).

(G) Richard D. Rogge and Fletcher D. Thompson (both Supervisory Special Agents, Criminal Section, General Investigative Division).

(H) William C. Sullivan (Assistant Director, Domestic Intelligence Division).

(I) Joseph A. Sizoo (Inspector - Number One Man, Domestic Intelligence Division).

(J) Donald E. Moore (Inspector - Number Two Man, Domestic Intelligence Division).

(K) William A. Branigan (Section Chief, Espionage Section, Domestic Intelligence Division).

(L) Elbert T. Turner, W. Marvin Gheesling, [redacted] and [redacted] (Supervisory Special Agents, Domestic Intelligence Division). (b)(7)(c)

II. MARTIN LUTHER KING ASSASSINATION

FBI Headquarters supervisory personnel with decision-making responsibility with regards to the investigation into the assassination of Martin Luther King were assigned to the General Investigative Division and are identified as follows:

(A) C. D. DeLoach (Assistant to the Director - Investigative).

House Select Committee on Assassinations

(B) Alex Rosen (Assistant Director, General Investigative Division).

(C) James R. Malley (Inspector - Number One Man to Assistant Director, General Investigative Division).

(D) C. L. McGowan (Section Chief of Civil Rights Section, General Investigative Division).

(E) E. J. McDonough (Unit Chief, Civil Rights Section, General Investigative Division).

(F) W. L. Martindale (Unit Chief, Civil Rights Section, General Investigative Division).

(G) R. E. Long (Supervisory Special Agent, Civil Rights Section, General Investigative Division).

APPROVED:

Director _____
Assec. Dir. _____
Dep. AD Adm. _____
Dep. AD Inv. _____

Adm. Serv. _____
Crim. Inv. JA
Fin. & Pers. _____
Ident. _____
Intell. JA
Laboratory _____

Legal Coun. _____
Plan. & Insp. _____
Rec. Mgmt. _____
Spec. Inv. JA
Tech. Serv. _____
Training _____
Public Affs. Off. _____

JA

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

- 1 - Mr. H. N. Bassett
- 1 - Mr. W. L. Bailey
- 1 - Mr. D. Ryan
- 1 - Mr. G. J. Foster

DATE: 2/6/78

- Assoc. Dir. _____
- Dep. AD Adm. _____
- Dep. AD Inv. _____
- Asst. Dir.:
- Adm. Serv. _____
- Crim. Inv. _____
- Fin. & Pers. _____
- Ident. _____
- Intell. _____
- Laboratory _____
- Legal Coun. _____
- Plan. & Insp. _____
- Rec. Mgnt. _____
- Spec. Inv. _____
- Tech. Servs. _____
- Training _____
- Public Affs. Off. _____
- Telephone Rm. _____
- Director's Sec'y _____

TO : Mr. Bassett *HNB*

FROM : D. Ryan *DR*

SUBJECT: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE
ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)

Russ

Cd

PURPOSE: To set forth facts concerning a letter dated 1/27/78 from G. Robert Blakey, Chief Counsel and Director, HSCA, to Mr. Bassett wherein the HSCA is complaining concerning the FBI response to their requests.

SYNOPSIS: Chief Counsel for HSCA, in letter to Mr. Bassett dated 1/27/78 (received 4:30 p.m., 1/31/78), mentions specific requests made by the Committee to this Bureau and lack of response by the FBI. We have attempted to respond to requests as expeditiously as possible and, where no deadline is given, give priority to those requests containing specific deadlines. Letter from Blakey was somewhat of a surprise since contact with personnel of the HSCA staff and our people gave no indication the Committee was experiencing problems as a result of Bureau's responding to their requests. Conference held with Blakey on 1/13/78 (not 1/3/78 as indicated by Blakey) indicated that the key period for expeditiously handling Committee requests would involve those received following meeting, not those already in our possession.

RECOMMENDATION: That the attached letter be sent to Mr. Blakey over Mr. Bassett's signature.

REC-78 62-117290-455

EX-111

3-6
1 MAR 22 1978

Handwritten signature

APPROVED:	Adm. Serv. _____	Legal Coun. _____
Director _____	Crim. Inv. _____	Plan. & Insp. _____
Assoc. Dir. _____	Ident. _____	Rec. Mgnt. <i>HNB</i>
Dep. AD Inv. _____	Intell. _____	Spec. Inv. _____
Dep. AD Adm. _____	Laboratory _____	Tech. Servs. _____
		Training _____
		Public Affs. Off. _____

Enclosure

62-117290

GJF:lfj/f
(5)



MAR 10 1978

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

CONTINUED - OVER
SEE DETAILS PAGE 2

4-30

Memorandum to Mr. Bassett
Re: House Select Committee
on Assassinations (HSCA)
62-117290

As an aside, it is observed that it was necessary to process 52 volumes of material on just one of the 13 individuals mentioned. To compound the problem, a KTF request dated 12/20/77 was received asking for information on nine individuals and delivery of the entire Jack Ruby file, consisting of 90 volumes, with a deadline of 1/13/78. Since this request contained a specific deadline, personnel were not available to handle the 12/16/77 request in order to handle one with a higher priority.

The 1/16/78 request has been handled and furnished to the Department who in turn has or will furnish it to the Committee in accordance with established procedures. The 12/22/77 request, which is voluminous in nature, has been partially responded to, but completion date at this point is not known. It is anticipated that the 12/28/77 and 1/18/78 requests will be completed by 2/10/78. The 1/10/78 and 1/24/78 requests are being worked on, but the extent of work involved is not known. We have no communication from the Committee of 1/9/78 relating to the Kennedy investigation.

With regard to the King Task Force requests of 12/13 and 30/77 and 1/17/78, they have all been completed and furnished to the Department under dates of 2/2, 2/2 and 1/31/78, respectively.

Blakey did not mention in his communication a request from the Committee dated 1/17/78, but in our opinion it is germane to the problem at hand. This is a 23-page request asking for delivery of a large number of serials in the Lee Harvey Oswald file. To comply with this request required the handling of most of the 238 sections of the Oswald file, and in many instances the documents requested were not properly identified or the serial numbers were incorrect. We have had pending before the Committee a proposition on our part to make available to them the entire file relating to the Kennedy assassination which has been processed and released in accordance with Freedom of Information Act requests

CONTINUED - OVER

Assistant Attorney General FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
Criminal Division
Attention: Mr. Robert L. Keuch

January 18, 1978

Director, FBI

1 - Mr. Foster

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)

Reference is made to letter to the Attorney General from G. Robert Blakey, Chief Counsel and Director, HSCA, dated December 20, 1977, which requested [redacted]

HSCA

Reference is also made to letter to the Attorney General from G. Robert Blakey dated October 18, 1977, requesting [redacted]

HSCA

Enclosed are an original and one copy of a memorandum in partial response to the above requests. It is requested that you furnish a copy of the enclosed memorandum to the HSCA.

Enclosures - 2

1 - Office of Legislative Affairs (Enclosure)

JTA:sas

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

REC-45

62-117290-509X

2 MAR 15 1978

gta (5) DOD
Ann
SP

231/100

ST-111

3- ENCLOSURE

- Assoc. Dir. _____
- Dep. AD Adm. _____
- Dep. AD Inv. _____
- Asst. Dir.:
- Adm. Serv. _____
- Crim. Inv. _____
- Fin. & Pers. _____
- Ident. _____
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- Laboratory _____
- Legal Coun. _____
- Plan. & Insp. _____
- Rec. Mgnt. _____
- Spec. Inv. _____
- Tech. Servs. _____
- Training _____
- Public Affs. _____
- Telephone Rm. _____
- Director's Sec'y _____

*reprints sent
made for 1/23/78*

*Delivered by LAD
1/23/78
R/L*

MAR 27 1978

MAIL ROOM

TELETYPE UNIT

FBI/DOJ

Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
Attention: Mr. Robert L. Keuch

NOTE: Files requested by the HSCA have been prepared for delivery subject to the usual excisions and deletions. Remaining portions of both files are being processed and additional deliveries will be coordinated with the HSCA.

Subsequent to receipt of the request of 10/18/77, Mr. Blakey advised SA Danny O. Coulson of the Legal Liaison and Congressional Affairs Unit [REDACTED] HSCA

[REDACTED] On 12/12/77, SA Coulson was advised by Blakey that [REDACTED]

APPROVED:

Director _____

Assoc. Dir. _____

Dep. AD Adm. _____

Dep. AD Inv. _____

Adm. Serv. _____

Crim. Inv. _____

Fin. & Pers. _____

Ident. _____

Intell. _____

Laboratory _____

Legal Coun. _____

Plan. & Insp. _____

Rec. Mgnt. _____

Spec. Inv. _____

Tech. Servs. _____

Training _____

Public Affs. Off. _____

wub

RFB

[Signature]

c

1 - Mr. Foster

January 18, 1978

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)

Reference is made to letter to the Attorney General from G. Robert Blakey, Chief Counsel and Director, HSCA, dated December 20, 1977, which requested. [REDACTED]

HSCA

Reference is also made to letter to the Attorney General from G. Robert Blakey, dated October 18, 1977, requesting [REDACTED]

HSCA

This letter is to confirm that, in partial response to the above requests, the below-listed files were delivered to HSCA representatives Lance Svendsen and Oliver Champion on January 13, 1978, at FBI Headquarters:

(1) Jack Ruby, aka, Lee Harvey Oswald, aka - Victim (deceased) (file 44-24016) Sections 1 through 40.

(2) Memphis Field Office files, concerning investigation into the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., (MURKIN) 44-1987, Sections 1 through 7.

44-1987 - 1A, Sections 1 through 11

44-1987 - Sub, Sections 1 and 2

44-1987 - Sub A, Sections 1 through 7

44-1987 - Sub B, Sections 1 through 7

Total Sections - 34

- Assoc. Dir. _____
- Dep. AD Adm. _____
- Dep. AD Inv. _____
- Asst. Dir.:
- Adm. Serv. _____
- Crim. Inv. _____
- Fin. & Pers. _____
- Ident. _____
- Intell. _____
- Laboratory _____
- Legal Coun. _____
- Plan. & Insp. _____
- Rec. Mgnt. _____
- Spec. Inv. _____
- Tech. Servs. _____
- Training _____
- Public Affs. Off. _____
- Telephone Rm. _____
- Director's Sec'y _____

Processing of the remaining sections of the above files is continuing and you will be advised regarding delivery of additional material.

JTA:sas
(5) sas
DR/ky

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

ENCLOSURE

62-117290-509X

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
Attention: Mr. Robert L. Keuch
Director, FBI

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

January 19, 1978

1 - Mr. Foster

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)

Reference is made to letter to the Attorney General
from G. Robert Blakey, Chief Counsel and Director, HSCA, dated
December 27, 1977.



HSCA

In response to the above HSCA request, enclosed are
an original and one copy of a memorandum. It is requested
that you furnish a copy of the enclosed memorandum to the
HSCA.

Enclosures - 2

1 - Office of Legislative Affairs (Enclosure)

gp

JTA:sas

gp (5) [handwritten initials]

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

- Assoc. Dir. _____
- Dep. AD Adm. _____
- Dep. AD Inv. _____
- Asst. Dir.:
- Adm. Serv. _____
- Crim. Inv. _____
- Fin. & Pers. _____
- Ident. _____
- Insp. _____
- Laboratory _____
- Legal Coun. _____
- Plan. & Insp. _____
- Rec. Mgnt. _____
- Spec. Inv. _____
- Tech. Servs. _____
- Training _____
- Public Affs. Off. _____
- Telephone Rm. _____
- Director's Sec'y _____

2 - ENCLOSURE
gp

ST-124

REC-45

Delivered to Dept 1/19/78
[handwritten signature]

To Don Balcom
for delivery
1-12-78

62-117290-570X1

2 MAR 15 1978

HR

58 MAR 21 1978

MAIL ROOM R 20 T

TELETYPE UNIT

House Select Committee on Assassinations

Total Sections	195
Approximate Total Serials	7840
Enclosures Behind File	85
Bulky Exhibits	35

**THE PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON THE ASSASSINATION
OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY file
62-109090:**

Total Sections	32
Approximate Total Serials	657
Enclosures Behind File	7
Bulky Exhibits	2

LEE HARVEY OSWALD file 105-82555:

Total Sections	238
Approximate Total Serials	5754
Enclosures Behind File	83
Bulky Exhibits	30

**JACK L. RUBY, aka; LEE HARVEY OSWALD, aka -
VICTIM (DECEASED) file 44-24016:**

Total Sections	90
Approximate Total Serials	2169
Enclosures Behind File	10
Bulky Exhibits	4

MURKIN file 44-38861:

Total Sections	92
Approximate Total Serials	6251
Enclosures Behind File	19
Bulky Exhibits	11

It should be noted that the total number of serials does not include unrecorded serials; that enclosures behind the file may consist of one or more pages and/or documents; and that some bulky exhibits may consist of one or more documents.

- 1 - Legal Counsel Division (Attn: Mr. Coulson)
- 1 - Mr. G. J. Foster

Assistant Attorney General
 Criminal Division
 Attention: Mr. Robert L. Keach

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

February 8, 1978

Director, FBI

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
 U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)

Reference is made to letters to the Attorney General from G. Robert Blakey, Chief Counsel and Director, HSCA, dated December 20, 1977, January 5, 1978, January 19, 1978, and January 20, 1978, which, in connection with the HSCA's investigation into the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., requested [redacted] HSCA.

Reference is also made to letter to the Attorney General from Mr. Blakey, dated January 17, 1978, which, in connection with the HSCA's investigation into the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, requested [redacted] HSCA.

Enclosed are an original and one copy of a memorandum in response to the above requests. It is requested that you furnish a copy of the enclosed memorandum to the HSCA.

Enclosures - 2 ENCLOSURE

62-117290

MAILED 5
 FEB 8 1978
 FBI

REC-65
 62-117290-527
 EX-111
 11 MAR 15 1978

- Assoc. Dir. _____
- Dep. AD Adm. _____
- Dep. AD Inv. _____
- Asst. Dir.:
- Adm. Serv. _____
- Crim. Inv. _____
- Fin. & Pers. _____
- Ident. _____
- Intell. _____
- Laboratory _____
- Legal Coun. _____
- Plan. & Insp. _____
- Rec. Mgnt. _____
- Spec. Inv. _____
- Tech. Servs. _____
- Training _____
- Public Affs. Off. _____
- Telephone Rm. _____
- Director's Sec'y _____

NOTE: By memorandum dated 2/1/78, the current offices of assignment and/or last known addresses of Agents and former Agents, except [redacted], listed in the five HSCA letters were set forth and approval was obtained to clear them from their employment agreements and to contact them regarding interview by HSCA. [redacted] were previously cleared by memorandum dated 10/25/77.

MAR 29 1978
 MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

NOTE CONTINUED PAGE 2

1 - Legal Counsel Division
(Attn: Mr. Coulson)
1 - Mr. G. J. Foster

February 8, 1978

**HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)**

Reference is made to letters to the Attorney General from G. Robert Blakey, Chief Counsel and Director, HSCA, dated December 20, 1977, January 5, 1978, January 19, 1978, and January 20, 1978, which, in connection with the HSCA's investigation into the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., requested [REDACTED]

HSCA

Reference is also made to letter to the Attorney General from Mr. Blakey, dated January 17, 1978, which, in connection with the HSCA's investigation into the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, requested [REDACTED]

HSCA

This memorandum is to confirm that Agents and former Agents of the FBI, listed in the above HSCA letters, have been cleared from their employment agreements and are available for interview as needed by the HSCA. Arrangements for interview can be made through contact with representatives of the Legal Liaison and Congressional Affairs Unit and the Congressional Inquiry Unit of FBI Headquarters.

62-117290

**ORIGINAL AND ONE SENT TO ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL,
CRIMINAL DIVISION, ATTENTION: MR. ROBERT L. KEUCH**

- Assoc. Dir. _____
- Dep. AD Adm. _____
- Dep. AD Inv. _____
- Asst. Dir.:
- Adm. Serv. _____
- Crim. Inv. _____
- Fin. & Pers. _____
- Ident. _____
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- Plan. & Insp. _____
- Rec. Mgnt. _____
- Spec. Inv. _____
- Tech. Servs. _____
- Training _____
- Public Affs. Off. _____
- Telephone Rm. _____
- Director's Sec'y _____

JTA: HJ / J
(5)

NOTE: See letter to Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Attention: Mr. Robert L. Keuch, dated 2/8/78, captioned as above.

see
10/00

62-117290-527

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

ENCLOSURE

FBI/DOJ

C

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
Attention: Mr. Robert L. Kauch

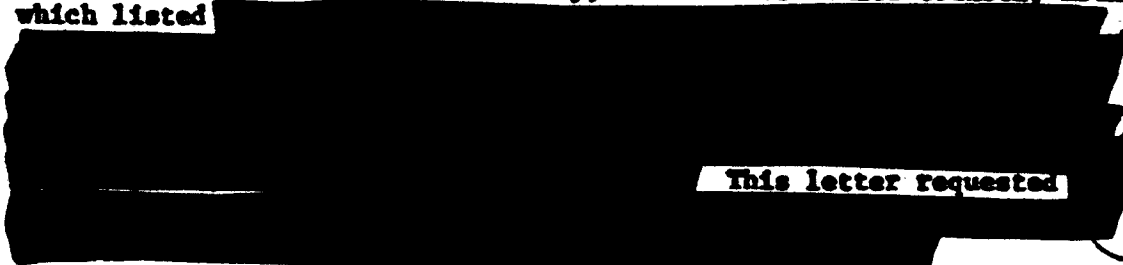
April 4, 1978

Director, FBI

- 1 - Mr. Bailey
- 1 - Legal Counsel Division
Attn: Mr. Coulson
- 1 - Mr. Foster

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)

Reference is made to HSCA letter to the Attorney General dated March 6, 1978, from G. Robert Blakely, Director and Chief Counsel, HSCA, which listed



HSCA

This letter requested

In response to the above request, enclosed are an original and one copy of a memorandum with an attachment. It is requested that you furnish a copy of the enclosed memorandum and its attachment to the HSCA.

Enclosures (3)

MAILED 7
APR 4 1978
FBI

REC-79
EX-114

62-117290-612
Deso/af

23 APR 6 1978

- Assoc. Dir. _____
- Dep. AD Adm. _____
- Dep. AD Inv. _____ (6)
- Asst. Dir.:
- Adm. Serv. _____
- Crim. Inv. _____
- Fin. & Pers. _____
- Ident. _____
- Intell. _____
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- Legal Coun. _____
- Plan. & Insp. _____
- Rec. Mgnt. _____
- Spec. Inv. _____
- Tech. Servs. _____
- Training _____
- Public Affs. Off. _____
- Telephone Rm. _____
- Director's Sec'y _____

SEE NOTE, PAGE TWO

ENCLOSURE

APPROVED: _____

- Director _____
- Assoc. Dir. _____
- Dep. AD Adm. _____
- Dep. AD Inv. _____

- Adm. Serv. _____
- Crim. Inv. _____
- Ident. _____
- Intell. _____
- Laboratory _____

- Legal Coun. _____
- Plan. & Insp. _____
- Rec. Mgnt. _____
- Tech. Servs. _____
- Training _____
- Public Affs. Off. _____

APR 26 1978

MAIL ROOM

TELETYPE UNIT

Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
Attention: Mr. Robert L. Keuch

NOTE: By letter dated 11-21-77, (attached) the HSCA requested [REDACTED] HSCA

By letter and memorandum dated 12-9-77, (attached) we responded, furnishing the names of supervisory personnel in the Kennedy case as outlined in Director letter to the Attorney General dated 11-29-75, dealing with the Inspection Division's review of certain aspects of the Kennedy Assassination investigation.

Using some of the names furnished by our memorandum of 12-9-77, and adding those obtained from other sources, probably file review, the HSCA compiled its list of names included in its request of 3-6-78. This request [REDACTED] HSCA

[REDACTED] Information in response was compiled through review of personnel files, and the assistance of SA H. N. Helterhoff, Civil Rights Section, Criminal Investigative Division, and the recollections of current personnel, who, during the pertinent period, were assigned to the DID.

- 1 - Mr. Bailey
- 1 - Legal Counsel Division
Attn: Mr. Coulson
- 1 - Mr. Foster

April 4, 1978

**HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)**

Reference is made to HSCA letter to the Attorney General dated March 6, 1978, from G. Robert Blakely, Director and Chief Counsel, HSCA, which listed

[REDACTED]

HSCA

This letter requested

In an effort to clarify the above request, Gerald Hamilton, HSCA Staff Member, was contacted on March 15, 1978, by a representative of the Congressional Inquiry Unit, Records Management Division, FBIHQ. Hamilton advised

[REDACTED]

HSCA

Enclosed is an attachment which contains copies of FBI Functional Organization Charts for the years 1963 through 1968. It should be noted these charts were updated on numerous occasions, so there is more than one chart for each year.

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

Supervision of the King Assassination investigation was conducted at FBIHQ by the Civil Rights Section, GID. The following is set forth regarding the lines of authority, duties, and responsibilities of those individuals responsible for supervision of the investigation (see attached charts for delineation of investigative work handled by the GID during the pertinent period of 1963-1968):

- Assoc. Dir. _____
- Dep. AD Adm. _____
- Dep. AD Inv. _____
- Asst. Dir.: _____
- Adm. Serv. _____
- Crim. Inv. _____
- Fin. & Pers. _____
- Ident. _____
- Intell. _____
- Laboratory _____
- Legal Coun. _____
- Plan. & Insp. _____
- Rec. Mgnt. _____
- Spec. Inv. _____
- Tech. Servs. _____
- Training _____
- Public Affs. Off. _____
- Telephone Rm. _____
- Director's Sec'y _____

TA:amd
(6)
HRC

SEE NOTE, PAGE SIX

ENCLOSURE

DCSO

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

62-117 290 - 612

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CO

**House Select Committee on Assassinations
U. S. House of Representatives (HSCA)**

(1) **R. E. Long:** The King assassination case was assigned to Mr. Long, Agent Supervisor in the Civil Rights Unit of the Civil Rights Section, GID, and accordingly, he supervised all aspects of the investigation. His supervision included reviewing incoming communications from FBI field offices and other sources; coordinating investigative leads; disseminating investigative results, as well as preparing memoranda to the Department of Justice; having liaison with the Department; preparing outgoing communications issuing instructions and/or coordinating information to the field offices; preparing responses to citizens' letters, etc., as well as preparing internal FBIHQ memoranda to advise the chain of command of the status of the investigation, as well as requesting approval for certain recommended action.

(2) **E. J. McDonough:** Mr. McDonough was the Civil Rights Unit Chief of the Civil Rights Section and Mr. Long's immediate supervisor. Mr. McDonough would review certain urgent incoming communications; prepare communications, memoranda, if necessary; issue any instructions and/or suggestions to Mr. Long and/or other supervisory Special Agents in the Unit assisting on this case; would approve certain routine outgoing communications to the field; and would review outgoing communications and other memoranda prepared by Mr. Long and/or other supervisory Special Agents in the Unit for referral to higher authority in the chain of command.

(3) **W. L. Martindale:** Mr. Martindale was another Unit Chief in the Civil Rights Section, who had the same authority as Mr. McDonough and assisted Mr. McDonough and, where necessary, would prepare memoranda, etc.

(4) **C. L. McGowan:** Mr. McGowan was the Section Chief of the Civil Rights Section. He would review urgent incoming communications, issue instructions and/or suggestions to Mr. McDonough, Mr. Martindale, and Mr. Long, as well as other supervisory Special Agents in the Section assisting on this case, would approve certain outgoing communications to the field and would review outgoing communications and memoranda prepared by Agents in the Section (including Mr. McDonough, Mr. Martindale, and Mr. Long) for referral to higher authority.

(5) **James R. Malley:** Mr. Malley was the Number 1 Man to the Assistant Director of the GID. He basically reviewed communications and memoranda forwarded from the Civil Rights Section and if he approved, would thereafter forward these communications and memoranda to the Assistant Director, GID.

**House Select Committee on Assassinations
U. S. House of Representatives (HSCA)**

(6) Alex Rosen: Mr. Rosen was the Assistant Director, CID, and the Civil Rights Section was under his command. Mr. Rosen reviewed certain urgent incoming communications, would issue certain instructions, and would review communications and memoranda forwarded by the Civil Rights Section through the Number 1 Man and if he approved, he would forward these communications and memoranda to the Assistant to the Director of the Investigative Divisions.

(7) C. D. DeLoach: Mr. DeLoach was the Assistant to the Director for the Investigative Divisions. He would review certain urgent incoming communications, issue instructions, would approve certain outgoing communications and would review outgoing communications and memoranda that had been forwarded by the Assistant Director, CID, and if he approved, would forward on to the Director's Office. Mr. DeLoach also had contact with Department concerning certain aspects of this case.

DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

Supervision of the King security case began in 1962 in the Subversive Control Section of the DID. In late 1964 or early 1965 it was transferred to the Internal Security Section, DID, where it remained until approximately October, 1968, when the Racial Intelligence Section was formed. The case was supervised there until its conclusion in 1968 when King was assassinated.

The DID also afforded supervision of the FBI's Counterintelligence Programs (COINTELPRO). The first program (against the Communist Party) began in 1956 and was supervised in the Internal Security Section. Supervision remained there until programs were created which concerned other aspects of the DID's investigative work. These additional programs were supervised by the appropriate Section of DID responsible for that particular kind of work.

Referenced HSCA letter [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] HSCA
The below information describes the line of authority, duties, and responsibilities of these 12 individuals, plus those of Cartha D. DeLoach. The below was compiled through review of appropriate FBI personnel records and the recollections of personnel familiar with the DID during the pertinent period:

**House Select Committee on Assassinations
U. S. House of Representatives (HSCA)**

(1) **Clyde Tolson:** During the entire period 1963-1968, Clyde Tolson (now deceased) served as Associate Director of the FBI, and was directly responsible to J. Edgar Hoover, Director. Tolson had supervisory responsibility over the two Assistants to the Director, who, during this period, were John P. Mohr (Administrative) and Alan Belmont (Investigative), and later William C. Sullivan (Investigative).

(2) **Alan Belmont:** During this entire period, Alan Belmont (now deceased) served as the Assistant to the Director (Investigative) of the FBI and, as such, he was responsible for all investigative operations. William C. Sullivan, Assistant Director, DID (Division 5), during the entire period was directly under the supervision of Mr. Belmont.

(3) **Cartha D. DeLoach:** Mr. DeLoach served as the Assistant Director of the Crime Records Division of the FBI from January 28, 1959, to December 30, 1965. He was responsible primarily for public relations and crime research matters. When Alan Belmont resigned as Assistant to the Director, Mr. DeLoach was promoted on December 31, 1965, to that position where he became responsible for all investigative operations of the FBI, reporting directly to Mr. Tolson and Director Hoover. Mr. DeLoach retired on July 20, 1970.

(4) **William C. Sullivan:** During the entire period, William C. Sullivan (now deceased) served as Assistant Director, DID, of the FBI. As such, he was directly responsible for the supervision of all investigative activity in the Division (see attached charts). The various Section Chiefs in the Division were directly responsible to him.

(5) **Courtney Evans:** During the regime of Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, January, 1961, to September, 1964, Courtney Evans served as Assistant Director of the Special Investigative Division (SID) (Division 9) of the FBI. His primary duties and responsibilities were liaison with Attorney General Kennedy. In his position as Assistant Director, he was responsible for certain specified criminal investigative activities of the FBI (see attached charts). Mr. Evans retired on December 12, 1964.

(6) **Robert E. Wick:** When Mr. DeLoach was promoted from the position of Assistant Director, Crime Records Division, Mr. Wick, who had served as his assistant or deputy since September 11, 1959, was promoted to the Assistant Director position, Crime Records Division. He retired on August 19, 1967.

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**House Select Committee on Assassinations
U. S. House of Representatives (HSCA)**

(7) **Fred J. Baumgardner:** During this period, Mr. Baumgardner, until his retirement on December 2, 1966, served as the Chief of the Internal Security Section, DID. Investigations to determine communist infiltration of various groups were under his supervision and, until 1964, he was also responsible for investigative matters relating to Martin Luther King, Jr., who was identified as being associated with the Communist Party members. Until 1964, all COINTELPRO matters were under the supervision of Mr. Baumgardner, but after that date additional programs were developed which were handled by other Sections of the DID.

(8) **Joseph A. Sizoo:** During this period, Mr. Sizoo served as the Number 1 Man of two assistants to Mr. William C. Sullivan, Assistant Director, DID. He was responsible for several Sections in the DID, including the Internal Security Section and the Subversive Control Section. He was responsible to Mr. Sullivan, and Section Chiefs Baumgardner and James Bland were responsible to him as well as Sullivan.

(9) **Charles D. Brennan:** In the early 1960s, Mr. Brennan served as a supervisor in the Research Unit of the Research-Satellite Section of the DID. On September 26, 1965, he became the Number 1 Man or Assistant Section Chief of the Research-Satellite Section. Later he was transferred to the Internal Security Section where he became Assistant Section Chief or Number 1 Man to Mr. Baumgardner. When Mr. Baumgardner, Chief of the Internal Security Section, retired, Mr. Brennan was promoted to Chief of the Internal Security Section. In 1970, when William C. Sullivan was promoted from Assistant Director, DID, to Assistant to the Director (Investigative), Mr. Brennan was promoted to the position of Assistant Director, DID.

(10) **James Bland:** Beginning on August 23, 1955, Mr. Bland served as Section Chief of the Subversive Control Section. On August 31, 1967, he was transferred to be the Number 1 Man to the Assistant Director of the Crime Records Division, succeeding Mr. Wick, who retired. Mr. Bland retired on January 26, 1973.

(11)

[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)

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CO

House Select Committee on Assassinations
U. S. House of Representatives (HSCA)

(12)

[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(C)

(13) William Temple Forsythe: On March 31, 1963, Mr. Forsythe (now deceased) was assigned as a supervisor in the Subversive Control Section under the supervision of Mr. Bland. When this Section went out of existence in 1967, Mr. Forsythe worked as a supervisor in the Internal Security Section until his retirement on March 21, 1968.

With respect to the duties of personnel of the DID, it should be noted that at each level of supervision, duties of officials would be comparable to those outlined in the above information pertaining to the CID.

Enclosure

NOTE: See Director, FBI, letter to Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Attention: Mr. Robert L. Keuch, dated 6-4-78, captioned "House Select Committee on Assassination, U. S. House of Representatives (HSCA)."

Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
Attention: Mr. Robert L. Keuch

NOTE: By letter to the Attorney General dated 11/21/77, the
HSCA requested [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] HSCA

The enclosed memorandum responds to said request. The information regarding supervisory personnel during the investigation of John F. Kennedy assassination was obtained from the Director's response to the Attorney General dated 11/29/75, which dealt with the Inspection Division's review of certain aspects of the John F. Kennedy assassination investigation.

The information regarding personnel responsible for decision-making during the investigation of the Martin Luther King assassination was obtained from the records and recollection of personnel assigned to the Civil Rights Section, Special Investigative Division.

This matter has been coordinated with the Legal Counsel Division.

House Select Committee on Assassinations

(C) Alex Rosen (Assistant Director, General Investigative Division).

(D) James R. Malley (Inspector - Number One Man to Assistant Director, General Investigative Division). Liaison with Warren Commission.

(E) James Handley (Section Chief of the Criminal Section, General Investigative Division).

(F) Henry A. Schutz (Unit Chief, Criminal Section, General Investigative Division).

(G) Richard D. Rogge and Fletcher D. Thompson (both Supervisory Special Agents, Criminal Section, General Investigative Division).

(H) William C. Sullivan (Assistant Director, Domestic Intelligence Division).

(I) Joseph A. Eizoo (Inspector - Number One Man, Domestic Intelligence Division).

(J) Donald E. Moore (Inspector - Number Two Man, Domestic Intelligence Division).

(K) William A. Branigan (Section Chief, Espionage Section, Domestic Intelligence Division).

(L) Elbert T. Turner, W. Marvin Sheesling [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] (Supervisory Special Agents, Domestic Intelligence Division). (b)(7)(c)

II. MARTIN LUTHER KING ASSASSINATION

FBI Headquarters supervisory personnel with decision-making responsibility with regards to the investigation into the assassination of Martin Luther King were assigned to the General Investigative Division and are identified as follows:

(A) C. D. DeLoach (Assistant to the Director - Investigative).

House Select Committee on Assassinations

(B) Alex Rosen (Assistant Director, General Investigative Division).

(C) James R. Malley (Inspector - Number One Man to Assistant Director, General Investigative Division).

(D) C. L. McGowan (Section Chief of Civil Rights Section, General Investigative Division).

(E) E. J. McDonough (Unit Chief, Civil Rights Section, General Investigative Division).

(F) W. L. Martindale (Unit Chief, Civil Rights Section, General Investigative Division).

(G) R. E. Long (Supervisory Special Agent, Civil Rights Section, General Investigative Division).

- 1 - Mr. Adams
- 1 - Mr. McDermott
- 1 - Mr. Mintz
(Attn: Mr. Coulson)
- 1 - Mr. Bassett
- 1 - Mr. Foster

May 26, 1978

**HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)**

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Reference is made to letter dated May 17, 1978, to Attorney General Bell from Louis Stokes, Chairman, HSCA, concerning the file destruction program of this Bureau as it relates to the Select Committee on Assassinations' investigation into the circumstances surrounding the deaths of President John F. Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

On November 24, 1976, a teletype captioned "House Select Committee on Assassinations, U. S. House of Representatives (HSCA)," was sent to all of our Field Offices and Legal Attaches advising of the formation of captioned Committee and the recipients of this communication were reminded "that, in accordance with our destruction of files and records program, records possessing evidentiary, intelligence or historical value, such as the Kennedy and King assassination investigations are excluded from the file destruction program and cannot be destroyed." A similar teletype dated January 5, 1977, captioned as above, was again directed to all Field Offices and Legal Attaches again setting forth instructions that the Kennedy and King assassination investigation files are excluded from our file destruction program.

Each Field Office and Legal Attache was advised by letter dated August 15, 1977, that the Attorney General, by letter dated June 6, 1977, informed this Bureau that the moratorium on file destruction had been lifted and indicated his approval for the FBI to resume the file destruction program. However, the Attorney General specifically instructed that all records in litigation and those records which the Select Committee on Assassinations has asked to be retained be preserved. FBI Headquarters identified the subjects involved and these were set forth in the above letter. Those subjects are as follows:

House Select Committee on Assassinations; The Assassination of President John F. Kennedy; Lee Harvey Oswald; Marina Oswald; Jack Ruby; President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy (Warren Commission); Martin Luther King, Jr.; Martin Luther King, Sr.; Coretta Scott King; MURKIN;

EX-125 REC-37 62-117290-781

ENCLOSURE

MAY 31 1978

- Assoc. Dir. _____
- Dep. AD Adm. _____
- Dep. AD Inv. _____
- Asst. Dir.:
- Adm. Servs. _____
- Crim. Inv. _____
- Ident. _____
- Intell. _____
- Laboratory _____
- Legal Coun. _____
- Plan. & Insp. _____
- Rec. Mgnt. _____
- Tech. Servs. _____
- Training _____
- Public Affs. _____
- Telephone Rm. _____
- Director's Sec'y _____

GJF:mel (9)

JUN 15 1978

MAIL ROOM

Encls to let AAG CD
Attn Kcush 5-26-78

**HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)**

Ralph David Abernathy; Stanley David Levison; James Earl Ray; Jerry William Ray; John Larry Ray; Communist Infiltration of the SCLC (Southern Christian Leadership Conference); Communist Influence in Racial Matters; Invaders; Sanitation Workers Strike, Memphis, Tennessee; Washington Spring Project, also known as Poor People's Campaign; Communist Party, U.S.A., Negro Question; and, any files reflecting threats against King and/or members of his family.

This Bureau received an HSCA request dated March 9, 1977, wherein HSCA desired information on a number of individuals, one of which was Willie Augustus Somersett. This request was processed in the usual manner, that is, only FBI Headquarters files were reviewed. At this time, there was no request for any review of a Field Office file pertaining to Somersett. Almost a year later, an HSCA request dated March 7, 1978, was received by this Bureau, wherein the Miami Field Office file pertaining to Somersett was requested. Our Miami Field Office advised on March 28, 1978, that the Somersett file in Miami was destroyed under the Bureau's routine file destruction program. However, the last section of this file inadvertently was not destroyed and therefore was made available to HSCA.

In regards to the Alton bank robbery file, an HSCA request dated August 9, 1977, was received desiring access to all investigative reports concerning our investigation in this matter. A subsequent HSCA request dated September 13, 1977, requested a copy of any and all materials or reports regarding the Alton bank robbery. On September 19, 1977, Mr. Robert Kauch advised that delivery should be limited only to investigative reports in the case. The above request did not mention Field Office files and, in accordance with our normal procedure in handling requests, only FBI Headquarters files were processed. The requested material was delivered to a representative of HSCA on September 19, 1977. Thereafter, in an HSCA request dated March 15, 1978, requested among other things was a photograph of [redacted] believed to be in the Springfield Field Office file of the Alton bank (b)(7)(c)

**HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)**

robbery matter. When our Springfield Office was contacted on March 28, 1978, concerning their bank robbery file, they advised that their file was destroyed December 19, 1977, in accordance with our file destruction program. The Alton bank robbery was committed by two unknown males on July 13, 1967, and this investigation was closed unsolved in 1972. Investigative reports were submitted by our Springfield Office in accordance with the report writing rules of the Bureau in existence at that time and these reports would be in the FBI Headquarters file, which has been delivered to HSCA.

For your information, a teletype dated January 16, 1978, was sent to all Bureau Field Offices and Legal Attaches advising that due to certain pending litigation matters, file destruction in all security related classifications was to be immediately suspended until further notice. Each Field Office was again reminded of the above by communication dated May 8, 1978, stating that the moratorium on file destruction in all security related classifications was still in effect.

Many facets of the HSCA investigation are unknown to the FBI, particularly to our Field Offices. This prevents this Bureau from knowing the nature of the files that would be of potential interest to the HSCA. In the future, if the HSCA desires specific Field Office files be excluded from our file destruction program, this Bureau would appreciate being advised by the HSCA the subject and Field Offices involved so that appropriate measures can be taken to exclude these files from destruction.

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DICKSON
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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

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8/25/78

UNCLAS E F T O

ROUTINE

*F061ERR JN NOIDE HQ H0061 145#H1YER 251544Z MAY 78

FM DIRECTOR FBI (62-117290)

TO FBI JACKSON ROUTINE

FBI NEW ORLEANS ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)

BUDED JUNE 7, 1978

IN CONNECTION WITH ITS INVESTIGATION INTO THE ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., THE HSCA HAS OBTAINED A SIGNED WAIVER FROM [REDACTED] AUTHORIZING COMMITTEE ACCESS TO ALL INFORMATION CONCERNING HIM IN FILES OF FBIHQ AND THE FIELD. [REDACTED]

99

A REVIEW OF FILES AT FBIHQ DETERMINED [REDACTED] IS SUBJECT OF THE FOLLOWING INVESTIGATIONS:

[REDACTED] 62-117290-1196
[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(C)
(b)(7)(D)

HB/DR/2/2

LFJ

ST-131

(2)

5/25/78

8988/4

368 MAY 21 1978

1 - MR. G. J. FOSTER

SEE NOTE PAGE 3

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAY 25 1978

TELETYPE

57 JUN 19 1978

2350

CP

Teletype to Jackson, New Orleans
Re: House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA)
62-117290

NOTE: By previous HSCA request, information concerning [REDACTED] ⁷²⁷ has been made available to the HSCA. HSCA request of 5/8/78 attached his waiver, authorizing all files, including those in the field. Request is being limited to field files in office of origin only in cases where [REDACTED] has been investigated. (b)(7)(c)

[REDACTED] HSCA interest in him is believed based on information that he was wanted for questioning [REDACTED] probe into the assassination of Kennedy. (b)(7)(c)

[REDACTED] In the King case, the Committee is looking into allegations that [REDACTED] may have been connected with James Earl Ray and other individuals there [REDACTED]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Memorandum

Asst. Dir.:	
Dep. Dir.:	
Dep. AD Inv.:	
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Servs.:	
Crim. Inv.:	
Ident.:	
Intell.:	
Laboratory:	
Legal Coun.:	
Plan. & Insp.:	
Rec. Mgnt.:	
Tech. Servs.:	
Training:	
Public Affs. Off.:	
Telephone Rm.:	
Director's Sec'y:	

TO : Mr. Bassett *WNB/JP*

FROM : D. Ryan *DR*

SUBJECT: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)

DATE: 7/27/78

- 1 - Mr. Adams
- 1 - Mr. McDermott
- 1 - Mr. Boynton
- 1 - Mr. Mintz
(Attn: Mr. Heller)
- 1 - Mr. Bassett
- 1 - Mr. Bailey
- 1 - Mr. Foster

Babin
Ryff

PURPOSE: To provide background information regarding Russell George Byers and his allegation concerning the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., which was contained in "The New York Times" article by Nicholas M. Horrock, of 7/26/78 (copy attached).

SYNOPSIS: During a file review conducted in an unrelated matter, St. Louis informant file [redacted] was reviewed. Contained therein was a contact memorandum dated 3/19/74, which, in one paragraph, described a meeting between a St. Louis informant [redacted] and Beyers (later determined to be Russell George Byers) in the Fall of 1973. Byers told informant of a meeting with an attorney from St. Louis County and another unidentified individual during which an offer was made to Byers to kill Dr. King for \$10,000 or \$20,000. Byers stated to the informant that he refused this offer. By teletype to the Bureau 3/13/78, St. Louis Office advised of the above and that there was no indication that this information was ever disseminated.

(2)
(b)(2)
(b)(7)(C)

By letter from Director, FBI, to Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Attention: Mr. Robert L. Keuch, dated 3/24/78, the information referred to above was furnished in letterhead memorandum (LHM) dated 3/13/78 for dissemination to the HSCA. Attached also was an LHM dated 3/20/78, which reflected background information regarding Russell George Beyers, telephonically furnished by the St. Louis Office to FBIHQ to facilitate the HSCA's evaluation of the information obtained by Beyers (copies of the transmittal letter and two LHM's are attached).

REC-72 62-117290-1062

AUG 7 1978

No FBI investigation into the information furnished by the St. Louis Office was undertaken pursuant to the policy set forth in Director, FBI, letter to the Attorney



Enclosures
AUG 17 1978
(WB:me7-18)

CONTINUED - OVER

4 J. J. [Signature]

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

C

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Memorandum to Mr. Bassett
RE: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)

General, dated 4/28/77, and confirmed by letter from Robert L. Keuch, Special Counsel to the Attorney General, to Director, FBI, dated 8/3/77 (copies attached).

[REDACTED] (b)(7)(C)
[REDACTED] (b)(7)(D)

The HSCA requested, by letter of 6/5/78, ^{800 plus 831} [REDACTED] HSCA

[REDACTED] (b)(2)
[REDACTED] (b)(7)(C)
[REDACTED] (b)(7)(D)

By letter dated 7/14/78, ^{1025 1043} the HSCA requested [REDACTED] HSCA

[REDACTED] HSCA
[REDACTED] St. Louis Office
advised this informant was closed [REDACTED] (b)(7)(C)

This matter is being handled by separate communication.

SAC, St. Louis, has advised that both the Agent and Supervisor who handled [REDACTED] retired in [REDACTED] (b)(2)
(b)(7)(C)
(b)(7)(D)

By teletype dated 7/26/78, ¹⁰⁵⁰ St. Louis advised review of St. Louis file [REDACTED] and all files logically related thereto, including MURKIN main file, all fail to reveal any indication as to why information [REDACTED] concerning MURKIN was not disseminated or otherwise acted upon. (b)(2)
(b)(7)(C)
(b)(7)(D)

N

Memorandum to Mr. Bassett
RE: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)

DETAILS: The 7/26/78 edition of "The New York Times" contains an article by Nicholas M. Horrock, entitled "Report by a Missouri Man Suggests Plotters Sought Murder of Dr. King." This article sets forth information regarding an HSCA investigation into an allegation by Russell G. Byers that he was offered \$50,000 to kill Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in 1966 or 1967 by two men from Imperial, Missouri. The article states that the FBI had discovered the information regarding Byers during a file review in the St. Louis Office, and this information was subsequently transmitted to the HSCA in March of this year. The article states that this information provided the basis for the HSCA inquiry.

The information alluded to in "The New York Times" article was discovered during a file review conducted in the St. Louis Office [REDACTED] (b)(7)(c)

[REDACTED] Byers was referred to in a contact memorandum dated 3/19/74, located in St. Louis file [REDACTED]. This memorandum, in addition to having information regarding several criminal matters, contained a paragraph in which it is reflected that Beyers advised [REDACTED] in the Fall of 1973, that he had met with an attorney from St. Louis County and an unidentified individual who offered him \$10,000 or \$20,000 to kill Dr. King. Byers told the informant that he rejected the offer. By teletype dated 3/13/78, the St. Louis Office advised FBIHQ that this information had been located and that there was no indication that it was ever disseminated. (b)(2) (b)(7)(c)

By airtel dated 3/13/78, the St. Louis Office transmitted an LHM to FBIHQ which set forth verbatim the above-mentioned paragraph. By letter from the Director, FBI, to Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Attention: Mr. Robert L. Keuch, dated 3/24/78, the information contained in the contact memorandum was furnished by LHM dated 3/13/78, for dissemination to the HSCA. In addition, an LHM dated 3/20/78 was attached which reflected background information regarding Russell George Beyers, which was telephonically furnished to FBIHQ by the St. Louis Office at the request of the Congressional Inquiry Unit, Records Management Division. This data was provided to facilitate the HSCA's evaluation of the information regarding Byers furnished by [REDACTED] St. Louis, in communications with [REDACTED] (b)(2) (b)(7)(c)

Memorandum to Mr. Bassett
RE: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)

FBIHQ, advised that last name was "Beyers"; however, it has been determined that the correct spelling is "Byers."

No active FBI investigation into the information located by the St. Louis Office regarding Byers and his possible connection with the MURKIN case has been undertaken pursuant to the policy set forth in Director, FBI, letter to the Attorney General, dated 4/28/77, and confirmed by letter from Robert L. Keuch, Special Counsel to the Attorney General, to Director, FBI, dated 8/3/77. As set forth therein, without a specific request from the Department, the FBI is not to further investigate any allegations regarding the King or John F. Kennedy assassinations. No request has been received from the Department regarding this matter.

[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)
(b)(7)(D)

The HSCA requested, by letter dated 6/5/78,

HSCA

[REDACTED]

(b)(2)
(b)(7)(c)
(b)(7)(D)

By letter dated 7/4/78, the HSCA requested

HSCA

[REDACTED]

(b)(2)
(b)(7)(c)

The St. Louis Office telephonically advised that this informant was closed

(b)(7)(c)

N

Memorandum to Mr. Bassett
RE: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)

[REDACTED] (b)(7)(D)
question him regarding the HSCA's request. This matter is being handled separately.

On 7/26/78, SAC Roy B. Klager, Jr., St. Louis, advised that SA [REDACTED] was the Agent who handled St. Louis informant [REDACTED] retired [REDACTED] SA [REDACTED] was the St. Louis Field Supervisor whose initials appear on the contact memorandum of 3/19/74. [REDACTED] retired [REDACTED] (b)(2) (b)(7)(C) (b)(7)(D)

By teletype dated 7/26/78, St. Louis advised review of St. Louis file [REDACTED] and all files logically related thereto, including MURKIN main file, all fail to reveal any indication as to why information [REDACTED] concerning MURKIN was not disseminated or otherwise acted upon. (b)(2) (b)(7)(C)

RECOMMENDATION: In view of the retirement of SAs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] no administrative action is recommended concerning the failure to disseminate the information received from [REDACTED] (b)(7)(C) (b)(7)(D)

Additionally, in accordance with the agreement between the Department of Justice and the Bureau concerning allegations in the King matter, no investigation be undertaken in this matter concerning the statements made by Russell George Byers.

SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED _____
INDEXED _____
FILED _____
JUL 27 1978
FBI - ST. LOUIS
HNS

7/31
of subsequently directed inquiry by way of interview of the two agents involved on procedure followed - also

The New York Times

"All the News
That's Fit to Print"

CITY EDITION

Metropolitan area weather: Cloud
bustle; cool tonight, heavy tomorrow.
Temperature: 74° today, 64° to-
morrow 71-74 (include on page 10)

20 CENTS

NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 1978

VOL. CXXVII... No. 44,013

Report by a Missouri Man Suggests Plotters Sought Murder of Dr. King

He Tells of Spurning \$50,000 Offer to Arrange Death and of Link to the Prison Where Ray Was Held

The following article is based on reporting by Nicholas M. Horvack, Anthony Morro and Wendell Rawls Jr. It was written by Mr. Horvack.

ST. LOUIS, July 25 — A 45-year-old man here has told the House assassination committee that late in 1966 or early in 1967 he turned down an offer of \$50,000 to arrange the death of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Russell G. Byers, a former auto parts dealer, acknowledged in an interview with The New York Times that he had told the committee that two men from Imperial, Mo., had offered him the money on behalf of a group of businessmen to kill the civil rights leader, who was assassinated on April 4, 1968. Both men have since died, but their wives said that they did not believe the story.

The account has spurred an intense inquiry by investigators for the committee, largely because Mr. Byers' brother-in-law, John Spica, was serving a murder term at the time of the alleged offer in the Missouri State Penitentiary, where James Earl Ray, later convicted of killing Dr. King, was also a prisoner. The committee plans to administer a lie-detector test to Mr. Ray as a result of the Byers report.

Says He Rejected Offer

Mr. Byers told The Times that he had rejected the proposal and had not informed Mr. Spica about it. But he said he had suspected that word of a bounty on Dr. King's life might have reached men inside the prison through other means.

A three-month investigation by the House committee, and an independent inquiry by a team of reporters for The New York Times, have uncovered a series of circumstantial connections leading from Mr. Byers and the two men from Imperial, Mo., into the state penitentiary, from which James Earl Ray escaped on April 23, 1967, almost a year before the fatal shooting of Dr. King in Memphis, Tenn.

Serving 99-Year Term

Mr. Ray is serving a 99-year prison term in Tennessee for the murder of Dr. King. Mr. Ray, who pleaded guilty to the murder, has more recently denied from time to time that he fired the fatal shot and has repeatedly requested a new trial, which he maintains would place the blame on others whose identity has not been disclosed so far.

Although no evidence has yet been produced that establishes a direct link between the alleged proposal to Mr. Byers and the death of Dr. King, this is the first of many conspiracy allegations that have recently hit the Missouri prison. At the prison, it was widely rumored in 1966 and 1967 that a conservative business group was willing to pay a large sum of money to anyone who would murder Dr. King.

House investigators are reported to regard this trail of evidence as one of the most tangible avenues of inquiry in their

explorations into the deaths of Dr. King and President John F. Kennedy.

The investigators have declined to comment on the allegations of Mr. Byers, but it is clear, from interviews with some of the persons that they have questioned, and from some of the public records that they are known to have checked, that they are trying to determine whether the information adds up to a true conspiracy, or whether they have merely come across

Continued on Page A12, Column 3

C N

Missouri Man's Report Suggests Conspiracy in Assassination of Dr. King

Continued From Page A1

a chain of casual acquaintanceships in a criminal setting.

Mr. Byers, who has been granted immunity from prosecution in this case and has testified under oath in Washington, said he could give no reason why the two men from Imperial should have presented him with such an offer. He has given no documentary corroboration for his allegation, but acknowledged in an interview that 10 years ago he had told others about the alleged plot.

He said he had been so "shocked and surprised" by the offer that after Dr. King was shot he told two lawyers and other unnamed persons about it.

F.B.I. Withholds Comment

One of those he told, he said, was an informer for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and he said that the bureau had been given the details of the matter. Mr. Byers said the F.B.I. had never followed up on his report nor had anyone in the bureau talked to him about it. He said he expected that the F.B.I. would now be "embarrassed" by its failure to investigate the matter fully.

The F.B.I.'s chief spokesman, Homer Boynton, would not comment specifically on the allegations today, except to say, without identifying any of the parties involved, that "certain information" concerning the assassination of Dr. King was provided to the bureau's St. Louis office in 1972.

A bureau source, however, said that the agents who received the information had simply filed it under the name of the informer and under the name of Mr. Byers, and had never made it a part of the assassination case file, and had never questioned Mr. Byers about it. "It just sat there for the past five years," he said.

Came to Light in March

Mr. Boynton said that the information came to light in March of this year, when the files in St. Louis were being reviewed in connection with a separate matter. "It was forwarded to F.B.I. headquarters and to the Department of Justice for transmittal to the House Select Committee," he said.

He said the information was "limited in nature," and that, because of the way it had been filed in St. Louis, "it was not retrievable to anyone requesting information about Martin Luther King."

House investigators have been looking into the question of whether a plot was concocted to help Mr. Ray to escape and to finance his stalking of Dr. King in the months that followed.

Mr. Byers said he suspected that the offer to him had been an effort to recruit a duped man who would not actually commit the murder but who would be arrested for it. "I was looking for a pig," he said, suggesting that he suspected that the men who approached him were looking for someone to be slaughtered.

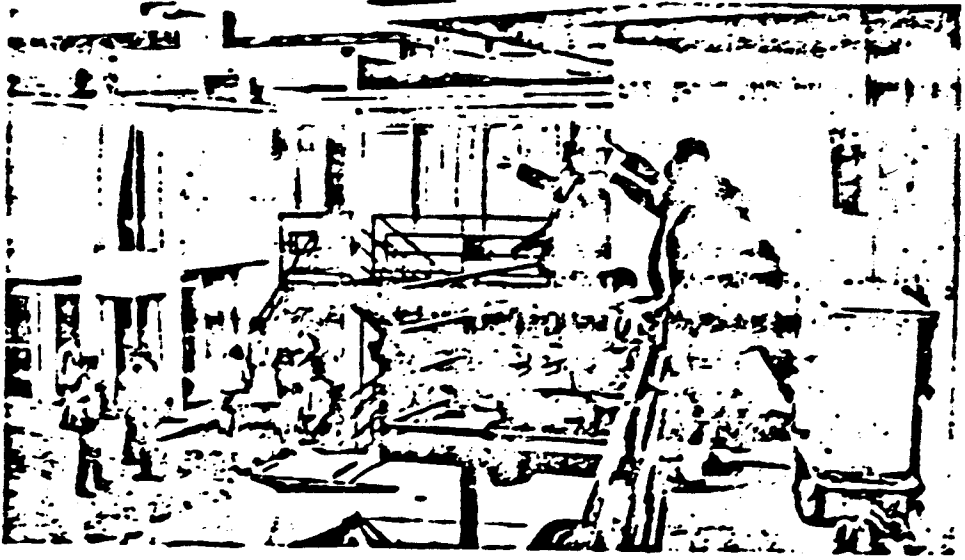
House investigators have also been trying to determine if Mr. Byers transmitted the offer to his brother-in-law, Mr. Spica, 40 years old, who in 1967 was serving a life sentence at the prison following his conviction in the contract killing in 1963 of a wealthy St. Louis real estate.

Mr. Spica reportedly occupied a cell near Mr. Ray's—it was six cells away—and at one point worked with Mr. Ray in the prison laundry.

Operates Fruit Stand

Mr. Byers said in an interview that he had not told Mr. Spica about the \$30,000 bounty until "just a little while ago" and that there was no record of his visiting Mr. Spica in prison prior to Dr. King's death.

Mr. Spica, who was released on parole in 1973, now operates a fruit stand here. A law enforcement source from The Times attempted to interview him about the matter, but Mr. Spica threatened: "I'll blow your legs off if they did not leave his store. He never did to answer any questions."



The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. lying on the balcony of motel in Memphis moments after he was struck by an assassin's bullet. Aides surrounded him, pointing in the direction of the shot.

Louis and an official of the Southern States Industrial Council, a conservative group. One legal colleague said Mr. Sutherland had been a segregationist but not a "violent man."

Associated in Business

Mr. Kauffmann and Mr. Sutherland were associated in the ownership of a small water company in Imperial and lived near each other in that small central community south of here.

Mr. Byers said that Mr. Kauffmann had not been involved in racial politics nor had been an outspoken segregationist. "His orientation was money," Mr. Byers said. He suggested that Mr. Kauffmann had been acting only as a go-between in this matter.

In 1967 Mr. Kauffmann was indicted and convicted on charges that he sold 100,000 amphetamine capsules to a Federal narcotics agent. He served a brief sentence at the Federal Medical Facility at Springfield, Ill.

His widow, Beulah G. Kauffmann, said in an interview that the first time she heard about the alleged murder plot was in May, when House investigators came to her home and questioned her. She said that it was "absolutely impossible" that her husband could have been involved in such a matter.

Charges Fabricated

She said that her husband had known Mr. Byers for nearly two decades and she believed that Mr. Byers had fabricated the allegation about her husband to "help himself get out of the art case." Mr. Byers was implicated as a buyer of stolen goods in an investigation involving the theft last spring of a well-known Frederic Remington bronze sculpture, the "Bronco Buster," but prosecutors later dropped the charges.

Mrs. Kauffmann said that one of her husband's closest friends had been Dr. Hugh W. Massey, the chief physician at the Missouri penitentiary. She said that over the years her husband had had a "little rehabilitation program" at his motel in Imperial, and had provided work for former convicts. She said at least one of these convicts had been placed there by Dr. Massey.

She also said that on at least one occasion in 1968, John Spica came to visit her husband with Mr. Byers. She said she remembered the incident because Mr. Spica made a rude remark about the difference between her age and that of her husband, and that a former convict working on the property had ordered Mr. Spica to leave. If Mrs. Kauffmann's memory of the date is correct, it would mean that Mr. Spica was able to make an out-of-prison social visit while serving a life sentence for murder. Mrs. Kauffmann said that convicts had told her that Mr. Spica was able to take "furtive" on holidays.

Decker News & Photo

However, prison records show that Mr. Spica worked in the medical department of the prison from May 1964 until January 1966.

Published reports have contradicted one another on how James Earl Ray escaped from the prison on April 23, 1967. In one interview Mr. Ray said he had gone over the wall without assistance. But a report issued in January 1977 by the Department of Justice said that the most plausible escape story was that Mr. Ray had reached freedom with the help of accomplices by secreting himself in a breadbox and being lifted onto a prison truck that delivered food to outlying prison farms.

According to information obtained by House investigators, Mr. Spica and Mr. Ray worked together in the prison's food service section at one point in their prison careers. But prison records show that at the time of Mr. Ray's escape, Mr. Spica was assigned to the prison's maintenance department.

F.B.I. Admitted for Leads

The Justice Department report in 1977 admonished the F.B.I. for its failure to develop fully whether James Earl Ray's family, his brothers John Larry Ray and Jerry Ray and his sister Carol Ray Pepper, had aided him in his escape or flight through the country. The members of the Ray family have denied any wrongdoing.

But House investigators are studying the relationship, if any, between Mr. Spica and the Ray family. Their attention centers on the Grapevine Tavern, a small neighborhood bar in South St. Louis, Mo., on which Mrs. Pepper held the license between November 1967 and December 1968.

In 1968 an employee of the tavern was Neoma Regazzi, according to sources familiar with the investigation. She is the former wife of Robert Regazzi, a seafood business operator from St. Charles, Mo.

Mr. Regazzi said in an interview that his son drowned in the Missouri River on July 23, 1968, and that during the search for the youngster's body, Mrs. Regazzi introduced him to her companion, John L.

Ray, and later introduced him to James Earl Ray's other brother, Jerry.

Mr. Regazzi said that at the time John Ray said that he did not believe that his brother had killed Dr. King, but Mr. Regazzi said there had not been an extensive discussion of the assassination.

Mr. Regazzi said he also knew John Spica, whom he had met years earlier when both were incarcerated at the St. Louis County jail at Clayton, Mo. But Mr. Regazzi said that he had never heard from any source that a \$30,000 bounty had been offered to kill Dr. King. And he said that he had not discussed such a matter with Mr. Spica or anyone else and that he had had no part in such a plot.

Mr. Regazzi is on probation from Federal court on a charge of receiving stolen goods in connection with the theft of 35,000 pounds of pork. Mr. Regazzi said he did not believe that his former wife knew any details of the Ray escape. He said that he did not know her present whereabouts or her present married name, but he said that he had heard informally that she had been questioned recently by the F.B.I.

Thus, House investigators are pursuing a number of leads that suggest at least casual links between the persons who allegedly made the proposal to Mr. Byers and James Earl Ray. Those leads suggest one possible route through which information about a bounty on Dr. King might have found its way into the prison.

Notation on Rewards

The men alleged to have made the proposal, Mr. Sutherland, died eight years ago of a heart attack, leaving an estate valued at several hundred thousands dollars. A note attached to the probate records in the Jefferson County, Mo., courthouse now reads: "Do not destroy this file — may be subpoenaed by Congressional Committee (Select Committee on Assassinations)."

Mr. Sutherland's widow, Anna Lee Sutherland, declined to be interviewed, saying through her attorney that she was cooperating with the House investigation, and that she believed that it would be improper to grant private interviews. She is reported, however, to have told committee staff members that she had never heard of the alleged plot before, and that she believed that it was impossible that her husband could have been involved in it.

One of Mr. Sutherland's former law partners, Philip B. Postler, said that although Mr. Sutherland had been a conservative on matters of race, he did not believe that Mr. Sutherland had the sort of "violent" personality that one would expect of a person making such a proposal.

As a patent lawyer in the Mississippi River city, Mr. Sutherland represented a



2 10

Mr. Boynton said that the information came to light in March of this year, when the files in St. Louis were being reviewed in connection with a separate matter. "It was forwarded to F.B.I. headquarters and to the Department of Justice for transmittal to the House Select Committee," he said.

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House investigators have also been trying to determine if Mr. Byers transmitted the offer to his brother-in-law, Mr. Spica, 45 years old, who in 1967 was serving a life sentence at the prison following his conviction in the contract killing of 1963 of a wealthy St. Louis real estate.

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Records at the Missouri penitentiary records indicate that Mr. Spica did not receive his first authorized "furlough" until 1972, but they also showed that he was in the Clayton County jail in Missouri, seeking a new trial, between October 1968 (nearly six months after Dr. King's death) and May 1, 1969.

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James Earl Ray, in a photo made last year in Tennessee prison.

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Mr. Sutherland's widow, Arun Lee Sutherland, declined to be interviewed, saying through her attorney that she was cooperating with the House investigation, and that she believed that it would be improper to grant private interviews. She is reported, however, to have told committee staff members that she had never heard of the alleged plot before, and that she believed that it was impossible that her husband could have been involved in it.

One of Mr. Sutherland's former law partners, Philip B. Polster, said that although Mr. Sutherland had been a conservative on matters of race, he did not believe that Mr. Sutherland had the sort of "vicious" personality that one would expect of a person making such a proposal.

As a patent lawyer in the Mississippi River city, Mr. Sutherland represented a large number of corporate clients. At one point he was a local official of the Southern States Industrial Council, which was an outgrowth lobbying organization against the civil rights legislation of the 1960's.

Some sources familiar with the inquiry agree that Mr. Byers' allegation is uncorroborated and that the links into the prison may be no more than the casual relationships among persons who live in the same area, but they nonetheless argue that the situation merits the intense scrutiny that it is now receiving.

They also note that Mr. Byers did not offer, on his own, to cooperate, but waited only after the committee "traced" him down. And they appear to believe that his account is buttressed to some extent by the fact that he told it to several persons at the time, and was not coming forward now, after the death of the person who allegedly made the offer.

When reporters from The Times first interviewed Mr. Byers on the campus part of his home in Rock Hill, Mo., a St. Louis suburb, he refused to discuss the case with more than one reporter present. After one reporter had withdrawn, Mr. Byers told the other newsmen that the arrangement would allow him to deny that he had made any comment. He discussed the case, then, for 45 minutes.

Later, however, Mr. Byers contacted his lawyers, Roy Walker Sr. and Terry B. Cropper, that he did not want to talk further on the matter. Mr. Cropper refused to confirm or deny any details of this matter and when reporters tried to question him he said he would "have to ask you to leave."

Several sources have said that the witnesses surrounding some figures in this matter might be identified if its details were published.

In the recent burglary of the Remington sculpture, one of the suspects was mysteriously shot to death several months ago. Another source said the question of whether informants for the police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation might be exposed to jeopardy was "very real" in this case. The committee is expected to conduct a polygraph examination of Mr. Ray early next week. It has scheduled public hearings on the King assassination in August and additional hearings in November.

James Earl Ray: 10 Years of Notoriety and Protest

By WOLFGANG SAISON

From the time of the assassination of the Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. 10 years ago until this month, when the way was cleared for him to "go public" on Capitol Hill, James Earl Ray never allowed the public to get him out of mind for long.

Indeed, Mr. Ray continually made news with denials of his guilt, with his role as a figure in conspiracy theories and with a spectacular jail break just over a year ago from Brushy Mountain State Prison, where he is serving a 99-term.

Over the years, Mr. Ray, now 39 years old, went through a succession of 11 lawyers, gave closed testimony to investigators of the House of Representatives and vainly pursued a quest for a new trial that, he insisted, would clear him of the accusation that he shot the civil rights leader in Memphis on April 4, 1968.

Twelve days ago, a Federal judge in Washington signed papers that would make it possible for Mr. Ray to be brought before the special House assassination committee. Members of the committee had previously questioned him behind closed doors in the Tennessee prison.

His most recent attorney, Mark Lane, said at the time that his client wanted to "go public" with his story. He immediate date for his committee appearance was set.

Mr. Lane, a New York lawyer, is the author of a book on the King assassination. Mr. Ray engaged him last October while involved in preliminary proceedings before a Criminal Court judge in Tennessee in connection with his trial on charges stemming from his escape from the state prison.

Mr. Ray told the judge that he wanted Jack Kershaw of Nashville, his previous lawyer, relieved because he had become "deeply involved in conflict of interest." The basis for this assertion was an interview that Mr. Kershaw had given to Playboy magazine.

The interview included remarks of polygraph tests purporting to show that Mr. Ray lied when he denied killing Dr. King as the civil rights leader stood on the balcony of a Memphis motel. Mr. Ray was accused of shooting Dr. King, acting alone, from a window of a nearby rooming house.

Mr. Ray was apprehended in London on June 8, 1968, two months after the assassination. In that time, he led the authorities on a 25,000-mile chase through three countries.

Among fellow prisoners, Mr. Ray had always been known as an escape artist constantly plotting ways to get out. He succeeded in 1967 by slipping out of the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City. Prison officials never figured out how he managed it.

Then, on the night of June 10, 1977, he and five other inmates bolted over the wall of the maximum-security prison in Tennessee, executing an ingenious escape plot attributed to Mr. Ray. All of those who escaped were recaptured within days. Mr. Ray was sent a few miles from the prison after 34 hours.

The State of Tennessee then wanted the Federal Government to take charge of Mr. Ray, but his attorney contended that Mr. Ray would be in "grave danger" from those who want to keep secret the details of the King assassination if he were transferred to a Federal institution.

Mr. Ray, along with the others who escaped, was put in solitary confinement at Brushy Mountain until January.

Also in January, the Federal Bureau of Investigation made public its conclusion that Mr. Ray had financed himself through a series of robberies in the two months as a fugitive after the King assassination. The F.B.I. files disputed assertions that he had been financially supported by co-conspirators.

The documents disclosed that Mr. Ray was preparing for a flight to South Africa just before he was seized at London's Heathrow Airport in 1968.

Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
Attention: Mr. Robert L. Keuch
Director, FBI

March 24, 1978

1 - Mr. Bailey
1 - Mr. S. J. Foster
1 - Legal Counsel Division
(Attn: Mr. Soule)

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)

In connection with the HSCA's investigation into the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., the FBI Field Office in St. Louis, by teletype dated March 13, 1978, advised that during an unrelated file review information not previously disseminated concerning this matter had been surfaced. This information was furnished to FBI Headquarters in a memorandum from the St. Louis Field Office dated March 13, 1978, which was received by the Congressional Inquiry Unit, Records Management Division, on March 16, 1978. Additional information concerning this matter was telephonically furnished by the St. Louis Office on March 17, 1978, which is contained in the attached memorandum dated March 20, 1978.

[REDACTED] (b)(7)(C)
(b)(7)(D)

Enclosed are an original and one copy each of two memorandums dated March 13, 1978, and March 20, 1978, which contain information of interest to the Committee. It is requested that you furnish copies of the enclosed memorandums to the HSCA.

Enclosures (4)

TWB:pfa (8)

NOTE: By teletype dated March 13, 1978, St. Louis advised file review of [REDACTED] Bufile [REDACTED] revealed information not previously disseminated concerning possible suspect in the Martin Luther King assassination. St. Louis furnished this information in letterhead memorandum form dated March 13, 1978. (b)(7)(C)
(b)(7)(D)

1 - Civil Rights Division

1 - Office of Professional Responsibility
(Attn: Mr. Michael E. Shaheen, Jr.)

SEE NOTE PAGE 2

ENCLOSURE

62-117290-1062
(4) N

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)

On March 17, 1978, Special Agent Jim Haggerty, St. Louis Field Supervisor, was contacted regarding additional information concerning this matter. Haggerty advised that St. Louis informant had spoken with Russell George Beyers who is a fence in the St. Louis area. [REDACTED] (b)(2) (b)(7)(D)

[REDACTED] there is no evidence that Beyers was ever questioned about the meeting with the deceased St. Louis attorney. Additionally, there is no evidence that this information was ever acted on or disseminated outside the St. Louis Office. [REDACTED] (b)(7)(C)

[REDACTED] file review which surfaced the information in question. Haggerty stated that both the Agent and Supervisor who handled original contact memorandum with St. Louis informant have retired. The original St. Louis informant [REDACTED] Bufile [REDACTED] (b)(2) (b)(7)(C) to whom Beyers spoke has been closed [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (b)(7)(C)

[REDACTED] (b)(7)(C)

[REDACTED] (b)(7)(C)

[REDACTED] (b)(7)(C)

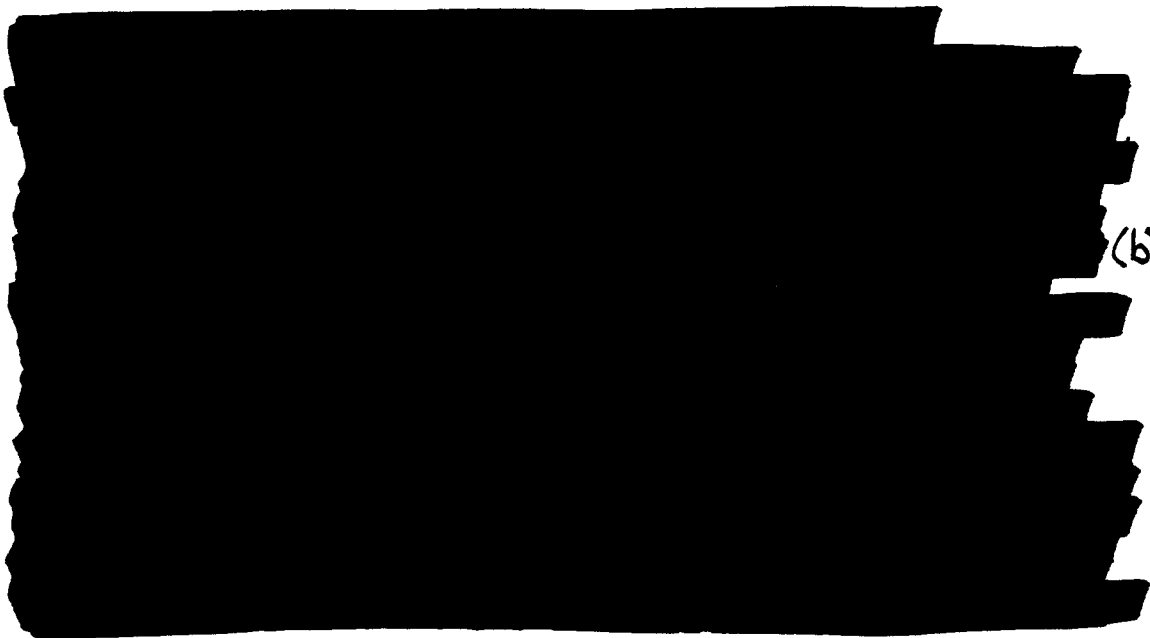
As the HSCA is expected to have an intense interest in this information, it is being furnished in memorandum form through the Department to the Committee.

- 1 - Mr. Bailey
- 1 - Mr. G. J. Foster
- 1 - Legal Counsel Division
(Attn: Mr. Coulson)

March 13, 1978

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)

In the course of a file review conducted at the St. Louis FBI Office in an unrelated matter, a St. Louis informant file was reviewed. This file contained a contact memorandum dated March 19, 1974, which set forth information relating to several criminal matters and also contained the following paragraph



Extensive further research in the St. Louis indices and files failed to reveal this information was in any way disseminated and the information simply reposes in the informant file.

TWR:pfr (8)

62-117290

ORIGINAL AND ONE SENT TO ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL,
CRIMINAL DIVISION, ATTENTION: MR. ROBERT L. KEUCH

NOTE: See Director, FBI, letter to Assistant Attorney General,
Criminal Division, Attention: Robert L. Keuch, dated
March 24, 1978, captioned as above.

- 1 - Assistant Attorney General
(Civil Rights Division)
- 1 - Office of Professional Responsibility
(Attn: Mr. Michael F. Shaheen, Jr.)

ENCLOSURE

62-117290-1062-N

1 - Mr. Bailey
1 - Mr. S. J. Foster
1 - Legal Counsel Division
(Attn: Mr. Coulson)

March 20, 1978

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)

In connection with the HSCA's investigation into the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., the St. Louis Office of the FBI surfaced information during a file review in an unrelated matter which it is believed is of interest to the Committee. This information concerning [REDACTED] (b)(7)(D)

Several individuals who may have information germane to the HSCA's investigation was furnished to FBI Headquarters, in the attached memorandum dated March 13, 1978.

In order to facilitate the Committee's evaluation of the information contained in above-mentioned memorandum, the St. Louis Office was asked to furnish background data on Beyers. On March 17, 1978, the St. Louis Office telephonically furnished the following:

NAME: Russell George Beyers
DOB: [REDACTED]
FBI NUMBER: [REDACTED] (b)(7)(C)

The information contained in the memorandum of March 13, 1978, was discovered as a result of a file review [REDACTED] (b)(7)(C)

Where information is not provided, it is because it is not retrievable or is not being furnished pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding.

62-117290

TVB:pfm (8)

ORIGINAL AND ONE SENT TO ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL,
CRIMINAL DIVISION, ATTENTION: MR. ROBERT L. KEUCH

NOTE: See Director, FBI, letter to Assistant Attorney General,
Criminal Division, Attention: Mr. Robert L. Keuch, dated
March 24, 1978, captioned as above.

- 1 - Assistant Attorney General
(Civil Rights Division)
- 1 - Office of Professional Responsibility
(Attn: Mr. Michael E. Shaheen, Jr.)

ENCLOSURE

62-117290-1062
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-117290-1062 ENCLOSURE PAGE 8

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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The Attorney General

Director, FBI

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON
ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)

1 - Mr. Held
1 - Mr. Adams

April 28, 1977

1 - Mr. Pehl
1 - Mr. Peelman
① - Mr. Lawn
1 - Mr. Mintz
1 - Mr. Daly

Reference is made to my letter dated March 11, 1977, with enclosure, under the caption "Assassination of President John F. Kennedy, November 22, 1963, Dallas, Texas," in which the assistance of the Department of Justice was requested in obtaining the test bullets from the National Archives for comparison purposes.

Reference is also made to my letter dated April 5, 1977, under the caption "Assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.," in which the assistance of the Department of Justice again was requested in obtaining from the HSCA all information available pertaining to an allegation received by the HSCA from a former Louisville police officer who allegedly advised that he received an offer from FBI Agents and police officers to kill Martin Luther King, Jr., for \$500,000.

The HSCA did not bring this allegation pertaining to Dr. King to the attention of the FBI or to the Department, nor has the result of its investigation been furnished to the Department. At the request of the Bureau, the Attorney General authorized the FBI to attempt to interview the individual who made these allegations. He refused to be interviewed and terminated contact by stating, "I'll say it all to the House Committee."

In refusing to make available the information received by the HSCA pertaining to this allegation, as has been requested by the Criminal Division, Department of Justice, the HSCA has again attempted to affirm its primary investigative responsibility in these assassinations.

The FBI continues to cooperate with the HSCA in making the investigative results of both of these assassinations available, with necessary exceptions, to the HSCA based on an agreement reached between the Department and the HSCA. Material available to the HSCA includes access to those volumes containing current investigation in both assassination investigations.

JCL:saz
(15)

ENCLOSURE

62-117270-1062

⑨ C

The Attorney General

However, while the FBI continues to cooperate fully with the HSCA, both of these matters, as set out in the referenced letters, remain unresolved, continue to impinge upon our investigative responsibilities, and in essence, raise the question of this Bureau's continuing criminal jurisdiction in these investigations.

As you are aware, in November, 1963, the FBI initiated an immediate investigation into the assassination of President John F. Kennedy based upon a request from President Lyndon B. Johnson to former Director John Edgar Hoover. Prior to the assassination, no Federal statute existed concerning the killing of, or assault on the President. Mr. Hoover, in testimony before the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy (Warren Commission) stated that President Johnson communicated with him within 24 hours of the assassination and requested the FBI to investigate. (Hearings before the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy, Volume 5, Page 98.)

Although the Bureau's investigative responsibilities concerning the assassination of President Kennedy would have logically ended with the termination of the Warren Commission, Director Hoover, in his testimony before the Commission, agreed with a statement by a Commission Member, Representative Gerald R. Ford, that the responsibility to conduct the investigation is not an authority with a terminal point, but an authority that goes on indefinitely. (Hearings before the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy, Volume 5, Page 100.) The FBI has continued to investigate and report to the Department any new allegations or information received concerning the assassination.

In reference to this Bureau's criminal jurisdiction in the investigation of the assassination of Martin Luther King, by memorandum dated April 4, 1968, Assistant Attorney General Stephen J. Pollak, Civil Rights Division, requested that this Bureau conduct a full investigation into a possible violation of Title 18, Section 241, U. S. Code, in connection with the shooting of King in Memphis, on that date. (FBI jurisdiction was based on the possibility of a conspiracy to violate the civil rights of King, namely the right to travel interstate. King had traveled to Memphis, on April 3, 1968, from Atlanta, to take part in a demonstration scheduled for April 3, 1968.)

The Attorney General

On April 16, 1968, the Attorney General authorized the filing of a complaint charging Galt with violation of Title 18, Section 241, U. S. Code, for conspiring to interfere with the constitutional rights of King.

On April 17, 1968, Federal process was obtained and Galt was charged with conspiracy (Section 241) in that he and an individual whom he alleged to be his brother, entered into a conspiracy in Birmingham on March 29, 1968, by reason of their purchase of the rifle later used in the shooting of King.

On March 10, 1969, in State Court, Memphis, Tennessee, James Earl Ray entered a plea of guilty to charges of murder and received a 99-year sentence.

Federal process against Galt was dismissed on December 2, 1971, by U. S. Commissioner Macy Taylor, Northern District of Alabama, based upon a motion filed by Ray's Attorney, Bernard Fensterwald, Jr.

In December of 1975, the Civil Rights Division began a review of the FBI's investigation of the King assassination and this review was recently completed by the Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR), U. S. Department of Justice. The OPR issued a report of its review and reported, among other things, that ". . . the sum of all the evidence of Ray's guilt points to him so exclusively that it most effectively makes the point no one else was involved . . ." (Report of the Department of Justice Task Force to Review the FBI Martin Luther King, Jr., Security and Assassination Investigations, Page 109.)

Since the time of the Kennedy and King assassinations, the FBI has continued to investigate various allegations concerning these assassinations and has furnished the results to the Department. No viable information has been developed to negate the original findings of the FBI or the subsequent conclusions of the Warren Commission or the OPR.

During the HSCA review and investigation into these assassinations, additional allegations regarding these assassinations have been received. The FBI has continued to attempt to investigate all of these additional allegations; however, the FBI has found in several instances that the HSCA conducted independent and parallel investigations, the results of which are not available to the FBI.

The Attorney General

While this Bureau remains unaware that the FBI's criminal jurisdiction pertaining to these two investigations has been abrogated, the position taken by the Department of Justice, in not obtaining authority for the FBI either to gain access to the test bullets in the John F. Kennedy assassination investigation or to obtain from the HSCA the information pertaining to the alleged involvement of FBI personnel in a conspiracy to kill Martin Luther King, appears to support the position of the HSCA that "primary investigative responsibility" rests with that Committee.

Therefore, in order to avoid duplication of investigative effort and the attendant problems between the FBI and the HSCA that could arise in the future, and until the jurisdiction of this bureau in these investigations is delineated by the Department, unless you advise to the contrary, the FBI will refer all allegations relating to these investigations to Mr. Robert L. Keuch, Special Counsel to The Attorney General, for departmental consideration as to whether any investigation is required of the FBI, or whether the Department desires to furnish these allegations directly to the HSCA. Copies of communications concerning allegations regarding the King assassination will also be furnished to the Civil Rights Division and the OPR.

- 1 - Deputy Attorney General
- 1 - Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
- 1 - Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division
- 1 - Office of Professional Responsibility
- 1 - Office of Legislative Affairs

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Memorandum

Assoc. Dir.	_____
Dep. AD Adm.	_____
Dep. AD Inv.	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Servs.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgnt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

TO : Mr. Bassett *HNB/SP*

DATE: 10-12-78

FROM : D. Ryan *DR*

- 1 - Mr. Adams
- 1 - Mr. McDermott
- 1 - Mr. Bassett
- 1 - Mr. Awe
- 1 - Mr. Bresson
- 1 - Mr. Ryan
- 1 - Mr. Foster
- 1 - Mr. Giaquinto

SUBJECT: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)

PURPOSE: To advise that captioned Committee is expected to conclude its work regarding the John F. Kennedy-Martin Luther King, Jr., assassinations probe and cease operations on or about December 31, 1978. Additionally, this memorandum is being submitted in order to solicit responses from the Disclosure Section, Freedom of Information-Privacy Act (FOIPA) Branch, and Records Systems Section, Records Branch, regarding their respective positions as to the disposition of the voluminous material prepared for the HSCA.

DETAILS: The HSCA was formed in September, 1976, by the Ninety-fourth Congress to "study the circumstances surrounding the details of John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr., and any others the Select Committee shall determine." Subsequent to the formation of the HSCA, the Congressional Inquiry Unit (CIU) was formed at FBI Headquarters to process requests submitted by the Committee for pertinent FBI material.

To date, the CIU has processed two hundred eighty-three (283) requests from the Committee providing them with both Bureau and field office material pertinent to these assassination probes. The material, which includes sensitive ELSUR logs, highly classified security files, appropriate tickler files and a separate index system, is currently stored in approximately sixty (60) file cabinets located within the CIU's secure but temporary office space in Room 8988.

Mr. G. Robert Blakey, Chief Counsel and Director, HSCA, has advised the Committee will conclude its public hearings this November, issue its report soon thereafter, and, as mandated by Congress, will conclude its business on or about December 31, 1978. With the dissolution of the HSCA and the expected dissolution of the CIU, the subject of the proper disposition of the voluminous material prepared for the Committee needs to be addressed. Therefore, the CIU is setting forth the following recommendation.

JSG:pjm
(9)

EX-122

REC-80

62-117290-1277X3

CONTINUED - OVER

ADDENDUM OF THE RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION PAGE 3

DEC 15 1978 U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan



NOV 8 1978
CLASS. REV.
FBI/DOJ
CP

Memorandum D. Ryan to Mr. Bassett
Re: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)

ADDENDUM: FOIPA BRANCH
RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION

rb
THB:tdp 10/31/78

An informal survey of the material prepared for the House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA) by the Congressional Inquiry Unit was conducted on 10/27/78 by Section Chief Bresson of Disclosure Section, FOIPA Branch, along with SAs John A. Hartingh and John C. Hall, Legal Counsel Division. It was observed the material includes voluminous records which are not pertinent to the Kennedy-King assassinations, i.e., extensive ELSUR logs and other file material concerning organized crime figures, as well as certain extremist organization files.

FOIPA Branch is currently involved in litigation regarding both the Kennedy and King cases. An issue concerning scope of our searches is still unsettled; however, with regard to King, the scope issue is about to become the focus of a hearing to be held soon in U.S. District Court, Washington, D.C. It is anticipated that Quinlan J. Shea, Director, Information and Privacy Appeals Office, Department of Justice, will furnish an affidavit in essence stating that his appeal review considered the scope issue and he is satisfied the searches conducted and records thereby retrieved for review are within the confines of the FOIA request.

On 10/27/78 the matter of our retention of copies of the material furnished HSCA was discussed with Shea. He is aware that a significant portion of record material furnished the Committee in response to specific inquiries has not been considered by us to be within the scope of the FOIA request. In this regard we have, in the past, made available to the FOIA litigant in this matter documents which were publicized by the Committee, and which would not have been included in the FOIA processed material. Shea concurs that production of records for the Committee does not, in itself however, bring those records within the scope confines of the FOIA litigation, and is prepared to uphold our FOIA searches which utilized the indices to retrieve the main case files regarding the assassinations and closely related main files both at FBIHQ and selected field divisions.