

March 20, 1969

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Mohr	—
Mr. Bishop	—
Mr. Casper	—
Mr. Callahan	—
Mr. Conrad	—
Mr. Felt	—
Mr. Gale	—
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	—
Mr. Tavel	—
Mr. Trotter	—
Tele. Room	—
Miss Holmes	—
Miss Gandy	—

Mr. Bishop:

RE: JAMES EARL RAY
ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING
BUREAU COOPERATION IN A BOOK

By informal memorandum dated March 11, 1969, Mr. DeLoach suggested that consideration be given to our cooperating with a friendly author, or with "The Reader's Digest," in the preparation of a book regarding the Martin Luther King murder case. With regard to this suggestion, the Director noted, "O. K."

With regard to this matter, "The Reader's Digest" has advised that it would greatly appreciate the opportunity to do a book on the Ray-King case with Bureau cooperation. If we approve, "The Reader's Digest" plans to contact Jim Bishop in an effort to place him under contract to write the book for them.

Jim Bishop is, of course, a very thorough and capable writer with whom we have had many contacts over the years. With the Director's approval, we worked with Bishop in connection with his latest published book, "The Day Kennedy Was Shot," which contains a number of favorable references to the FBI. The Director has written Bishop on several occasions concerning commendatory columns--including one in 1967 highly praising the Director as "the greatest law enforcement officer in all history."

Even though Bishop has been described in Bufiles as "somewhat pompous and a little overbearing at times," he nonetheless has both the name and ability to produce a book on the King case which would give proper credit to the outstanding work done by the FBI. Accordingly, it is recommended that approval be given to our cooperating with "The Reader's Digest" and Jim Bishop on this book.

Sincerely,

M. A. Jones

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - C. L. McGowan
- GWG:pls (7)

I think we should wait & see what more Ray makes & re-opens his case.

MID 25-100

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