

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

- Assoc. Dir. _____
- Dep. AD Adm. _____
- Dep. AD Inv. _____
- Asst. Dir.:
- Admin. _____
- Comp. Syst. _____
- Ext. Aff. _____
- Files & Com. _____
- Gen. Inv. _____
- Ident. _____
- Inspection _____
- Intell. _____
- Laboratory _____
- Legal Coun. _____
- Plan. & Insp. _____
- Spec. Inv. _____
- Training _____
- Telephone Rm. _____
- Director Sec'y _____

TO : Mr. Cochran *JK*

DATE: 12/18/75

FROM : J. J. McDermott

PP

SUBJECT: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) REQUEST OF ERNEST S. LEISER OF CBS NEWS

Re letter of Ernest S. Leiser dated December 15, 1975, copy attached.

Captioned requester was furnished information relating to Laboratory examinations of the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., by letter dated December 2, 1975. As indicated in the attached letter, the requester is seeking a clarification regarding bullet comparison photomicrographs of the evidence bullet and of test bullets made by our Laboratory.

The requester has indicated his desire to have this information furnished in time for use on the scheduled CBS series captioned, "The American Assassinations," on January 2, 1976.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Total agent time utilized, direct cost of service and preparation and material relating to the reproduction, be furnished.

(See Laboratory Addendum Page 2)

REC-69

44-38861-6012X

7 MAR 2 1976

EX-116

COIA 7



1 - Mr. John Kilty

TLW:meb

APR 30 1976 U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

In this case, the distorted bullet, listed as Q64, did not bear sufficient microscopic marks of value for identification purposes. No photographs or photomicrographs of the test bullets obtained from the evidence rifle were made inasmuch as such photographs would not be taken in situations where it is not possible to effect an identification.

All the notes available concerning the firearms examinations of the evidence bullet, Q64, have been made available.

Two hours of agent time were utilized.

JWK

DM

CBS
AD... Inc
524 West 57 Street
New York, New York 10019
(212) 755 4321

Dear Mr. Wiseman:

December 15, 1975

To confirm our telephone conversation:

What CBS News has been seeking, under the Freedom of Information Act, in addition to the material you have made available to us, includes:

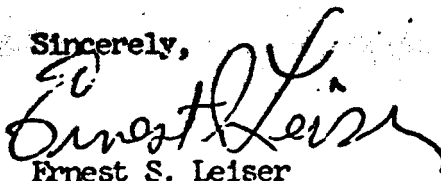
1. Photographs and/or photomicrographs of the test bullets fired from the evidence rifle in the King case.
2. Analyses of the test bullets, comparing them in detail to the murder (evidence) bullet.

As I indicated to you, we have seen the test bullets and filmed them. But our amateur, eyeball examination does not give us the expert information we need.

As I also indicated to you, our ballistics expert, Lowell Bradford, having seen only a photograph of the evidence bullet obtained by Ray's defense attorneys, feels that identification of the bullet as having -- or having not -- come from the evidence rifle -- should be readily possible.

I await your call and your letter in reply.

Sincerely,


Ernest S. Leiser
Senior Producer

Mr. Thomas L. Wiseman
Special Agent, F.B.I.
Room 5435
J. Edgar Hoover Building
Washington, D.C. 20535

cc Mr. Volney Brown, U.S. Department of Justice
Mr. Allen Shaklan, CBS