

Halter to SAC, Memphis 3/29/'68

FBI agent Halter reveals in this memo just why and how King ended up in the white-owner Rivermont Motel rather than the black-owned Lorraine Motel, which he always stayed at when he visited Memphis. This is a pretty true rendition of the circumstances but the FBI distorted the truth for their own purposes as we see in the "blind memo" document.

The editorial from the St. Louis Globe Democrat entitled "The Real Martin Luther King" was another FBI editorial that was "handled." Have students particularly pay attention to the last three paragraphs in the left column for just how viscious the Bureau could get.

William C. Sullivan to Belmont Jan. 24, '67

Notice this is designated June mail. In FBI parlance this means it dealt with electronic surveillance or one kind of another--either a tap or a bug.

The subject here deals with a "misur" (that is, microphonic surveillance or a bug) in King's hotel rooms.

What is of interest is Hoover's marginalia, his handwritten instructions about the operation reveal something about his attitude toward King.