

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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	

TO : Mr. Bishop

DATE: 5/3/68

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: JERRY O'LEARY AND
"THE READER'S DIGEST"
MARTIN LUTHER KING INVESTIGATION

M. A. Jones
(O'Leary)

Jerry O'Leary, [redacted] with "The Evening Star," has advised that he has been contacted by "The Reader's Digest" on the possibility of writing a story regarding the Martin Luther King case for the July, 1968, issue of "The Reader's Digest." O'Leary has been the author of two outstanding articles on the Director.

O'Leary said that the officials of "The Reader's Digest" still remember very vividly that it was an article in the November, 1960, issue of their magazine which led to the apprehension of Joseph Corbett, Jr. --the kidnap-murderer of Adolph Coors III. We, of course, cooperated with "The Reader's Digest" in the preparation of that article; and "The Reader's Digest" has told O'Leary that they are hopeful a similarly effective article concerning the fugitive in the King case can be published.

According to O'Leary, "The Reader's Digest" feels that the search for James Earl Ray contains many of the same elements as did the search for Joseph Corbett, Jr. --in that both cases involve a "loner" who used fictitious names and backgrounds to conceal true identity. With a multimillion circulation in the United States, Canada, Mexico and other countries, "The Reader's Digest" feels it may be able to stage a repeat of the success which followed its 1960 article on the Coors case.

If James Ray is still at large when the July, 1968, issue of "The Reader's Digest" goes to press, the magazine would like to publish an article setting forth brief facts of the King case and extensive data regarding Ray's background and character which might prove helpful in turning him up. If Ray is apprehended prior to mid-June, 1968, when the July issue of "The Reader's Digest" is printed, the magazine would, of course, change its approach to the article.

54-MAY 17 1968

1 - Mr. Bishop

1 - Mr. Rosen NOT RECORDED - OVER

1 - C. L. [redacted]

MAY 10 1968
MAY 9 1968

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CRIME RESEARCH

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Jones to Bishop memo
Re: Jerry O'Leary and "The Reader's Digest"

RECOMMENDATION:

That we cooperate with Jerry O'Leary and "The Reader's Digest" on this article to the extent of making available previously published information regarding the King investigation and factual information regarding James Earl Ray's character and background. In view of the many unfactual and speculating-type articles which have been published regarding this case by others, it is felt that such guidance is necessary in order to assure that "The Reader's Digest" article will be accurate and, thereby, of maximum benefit.

9/1/68

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I think not
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↑
I concur.
[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten notes:]
John Carson,
Assistant Editor,
Reader's Digest,
advised by the Wash-
ington Post that no
cooperation can be
furnished
to

[Handwritten notes:]
Jerry O'Leary
advised by the
Washington Post
that no cooperation
can be furnished
4/5/68