

House Probe Continues

JFK, King Plot Info Unconfirmed

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House Assassinations Committee's chief investigator said yesterday there is "uncorroborated" evidence of conspiracies in the murders of President John F. Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

But as the panel met for briefings behind closed doors, Chairman Louis Stokes, D-Ohio, would say only that the information was "highly speculative," and that it was too early to know whether it could be verified or where it might lead.

He said the committee, which still must prove to the House that its proposed inquiries into the two assassinations are justified, faces the task of sifting through "many leads" that already have come to it, and must regain access to FBI and other government agency files.

The committee and its staff have "no preconceived notions," Stokes said, but are "proceeding from ground zero" in probing anew the Kennedy and King assassinations.

"We hope to present credible evidence to Congress, so we don't come out with a smoking gun that is not corroborated and not credible," he said.

As the panel convened, Staff Director Richard A. Sprague said he had uncorroborated evidence "indicating that others may have had knowledge of or participated in the assassination" of King, and that "there was prior knowledge on the part of some individuals of (the Kennedy assassination) before it occurred." He gave no further details.

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