

PLEASE CREDIT ANY QUOTES OR EXCERPTS FROM THIS ABC RADIO AND TELEVISION PROGRAM TO "ABC'S ISSUES AND ANSWERS."

I S S U E S A N D A N S W E R S

SUNDAY, MAY 12, 1968

HOST:

HON. RAMSEY CLARK, Attorney General
of the United States

INTERVIEWED BY:

Bob Clark, ABC News Correspondent

Liv. Chapman, ABC News Correspondent

MR. CLARK: This is a rather jittery capital today, as I am sure you know, with the arrival of the first units of the Poor People's March. There is every hope that this march is going to be conducted peacefully, but there is considerable concern in Washington that it could provoke more violence of the sort that erupted in the city last month.

Are you satisfied that peace and order can be maintained in Washington throughout the mass demonstrations that are being planned here?

GENERAL CLARK: Certainly every reasonable precaution that law enforcement can take has been taken. We have got to work for the best. The leadership of the March doesn't want

1 we as citizens have to be deeply concerned about our privacy,
 2 deeply concerned about the opportunity to develop our individual
 3 personalities. I think in the years ahead, with expanding
 4 science and technology, our people as a whole have to be con-
 5 stantly aware of the need to preserve their privacy. I do not
 6 believe law enforcement needs this technique. I believe we can
 7 handle organized crime better without it.

8 MR. CHAPMAN: Attorney General Clark, a few weeks ago you
 9 were expressing confidence that the suspected killer of Dr. King
 10 James Earl Ray, would quickly be apprehended and yet he has not
 11 despite a very intensive manhunt. Why not?

12 GENERAL CLARK: I had said immediately after the assassina-
 13 tion, as soon as we had been able to analyze the evidence that
 14 we then had, that we were very hopeful that we could apprehend
 15 the person who killed Dr. King and apprehend him in a short
 16 period of time. We are disappointed that we have been unable
 17 to do this at this time. We have under way and continuing with
 18 all of our forces, all of our manpower that can reasonably be
 19 applied, the most massive manhunt, search, for an individual
 20 local that the FBI and coordinated/law enforcement has ever undertaken.

21 We have not found the man we are looking for. I remain very
 22 optimistic that we will. It is awfully difficult for an indi-
 23 vidual, and particularly an individual about whom so much is
 24 known, to remain at large in the United States under these cir-
 25 cumstances. I believe we will find him.

1 MR. CHAPMAN: Do you think he is still alive?

2 GENERAL CLARK: We have no evidence to believe that he is
3 not still alive.

4 MR. CHAPMAN: One more question. Here there are a growing
5 number of theories inevitably that he was not a man alone, that
6 he may have been a hired killer, even hired by foreign agents.

7 Do you have any evidence along those lines?
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

GENERAL CLARK: I think it is perhaps not constructive to speculate on those things at this time. Our evidence indicates a man acting alone. This does not negate other theories. Our purpose now is to find the man we are looking for and perhaps these other details will unfold after we have done that.

FAMILIAR RECIPE: FIRST, TAKE ONE "SUSPECT". THEN, ADD "DETAILS" OF GUILT ("UNFOLDING" PROCESS)

MR. CLARK: But you are not ruling out the possibility of a conspiracy either of the right or the left, would that be true?

GENERAL CLARK: It would be impossible to rule out a conspiracy of the right or the left or the middle or any other type of conspiracy, and we have had a theory in the presentation about every type of conspiracy that the mind of man can conceive, but at this time our evidence is that this man was at least acting alone.

? (UNDERGROUND THEATER, UNDOUBTEDLY)

(IF NOT MORE SO)

MR. CHAPMAN: Thank you very much, Attorney General Ramsey Clark, for joining us on this broadcast of ISSUES AND ANSWERS.

(Next week: The Honorable Nelson A. Rockefeller, Governor of New York and Candidate for the Republican Presidential Nomination)