

17 May 1968

The Editor
The New York Post
75 West Street
New York, N.Y. 10006

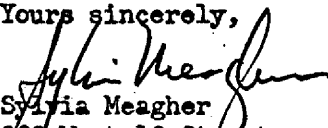
Dear Sir,

Somehow I am not reassured by Drew Pearson's report that he has checked into the conduct of the manhunt for James Earl Ray and is now convinced that the FBI is doing a fine job. The same FBI that acted with something less than uncompromising impartiality in the sordid case of Senator Dodd, I wonder? The same FBI that "solved" the wide-open Kennedy assassination with another instantaneous lone assassin?

Mr. Pearson accepts too readily the FBI's characterization of "King's assassin" as a "professional killer." James Earl Ray's guilt in the cowardly murder of Martin Luther King is very far from proven, and he has not even been accused of killing anyone else.

Ray has been implicated solely on the strength of an FBI fingerprint identification which was strangely late in coming, after the circulation of a different and allegedly mistaken set of Ray's fingerprints, and which lacks independent corroboration by disinterested outside experts. The fingerprints are one of many contradictions and anomalies in the FBI version of the Memphis assassination--contradictions which are approaching the scandalous proportions of the Dallas assassination investigation. No one should be tranquilized by facile testimonials on behalf of the FBI. It is Ray, after all, who has first claim on our presumption of his innocence.

Yours sincerely,


Sylvia Meagher
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(Author, Subject Index to the Warren Report and the Hearings and Exhibits, Scarecrow Press, 1966; and Accessories After the Fact: The Warren Commission, the Authorities, and the Report, Bobbs-Merrill Co., 1967)