

Memorandum

TO : File (157-1092)

DATE: 3/28/68

FROM : ASAC C. O. HALTER

SUBJECT: SANITATION WORKERS STRIKE,
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

After the march led by MARTIN LUTHER KING in Memphis, 3/28/68, turned into a riot, Supervisor GEORGE C. MOORE of the Bureau telephonically informed that Assistant Director SULLIVAN had instructed as follows:

Memphis should keep the Bureau informed of developments by numerous teletypes.

In the event there is any indication of Black Nationalist action, or outside involvement, this should be checked out and the information should be furnished the Bureau and appropriate offices.

A teletype is to be submitted to the Bureau by the night of 3/28/68, dealing with MARTIN LUTHER KING's involvement in the march. The Bureau desires the teletype to include:

- Why was MARTIN LUTHER KING in Memphis?
- Why was the march held?
- Did MARTIN LUTHER KING do anything to trigger the violence; what part did he play in the march; how much of the violence is attribubable to KING; did he make any statements on joining the march which could have had an effect on the crowd toward violence?
- What time did the violence start?
- Was KING present at the time the violence started?
- Did KING do anything to control the marchers and to prevent violence?

Mr. SULLIVAN has indicated that although MARTIN LUTHER KING preaches non-violence, violence occurs just about everywhere he goes.

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

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FROM : ASAC C. O. HALTER

SUBJECT: SANITATION WORKERS STRIKE,
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

DATE: 3/28/68

SA A. G. SANTINELLA of the Atlanta Office furnished the following information at approximately 4:30 PM, March 28, 1968:

According to Atlanta Informant, KING is most concerned and dejected over developments in Memphis, 3/28/68. KING feels that the violence was caused by a Negro group who dislike him and desire to cause KING trouble. KING supposedly does not know the identities of the troublemakers, however.

KING, ABERNATHY, and BERNARD LEE are in Room 801, Holiday Inn (Rivermont). KING and the other two are most concerned for their safety while in Memphis and feel that they may be harmed the night of March 28 when KING is supposed to participate either in a march or in a meeting at some church.

KING does not feel he should leave Memphis, however, duration of his stay in Memphis and details are not known.

Atlanta is sending the above by ^{CODED} quoted teletype to the Bureau and Memphis. Atlanta requested that this information be made available to local authorities.

I gave this to SA BREWI, who is maintaining liaison with local authorities.

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