

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

File - FBI - M.L. King
Investigation

TO : THE FILE

DATE: April 22, 1976

FROM : Jack Fuller

SUBJECT: April 21 Meeting on the King Investigation

Mssrs. Tyler, Bork, Lee, Thornburgh, Pottinger, Shaheen, Turner, Marvin, Fuller and Blackhurst attended the meeting.

The Attorney General said everyone who reviewed the Pottinger recommendations agrees that the present review of Bureau files should continue to its completion. Thornburgh recommended the people now doing the investigation should continue it.

Pottinger, after rehearsing the origin of the investigation, explained that the three in the Division doing the review--Pottinger, Murphy and Turner--cannot complete it. They have no time.

The Attorney General said there has already been a rather thorough partial review.

Pottinger said that the review had not scratched the surface. Bork asked couldn't one of the three continue on? Pottinger said the three had the obligation to brief the successors on what has already been done.

The Attorney General pointed out that the initial review has taken far longer than expected. The point is that the review cannot be started all over again.

Pottinger said that one work week and a reading of the report would bring a new group up to date on the investigation.

Scalia arrived.

The Attorney General said there is a history of reviews that do not amount to real reviews and if this is to happen again, it would be an embarrassment.



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Rex Lee said that on the basis of the Murphy report, it would seem the investigation should be closed. The risks to Dr. King's reputation in dragging out the investigation. If not enough of a review has been done to say anything definitive, then perhaps a short period of continuing review should be undertaken.

Pottinger said he cannot say definitively that there is nothing linking in the files. "On the basis of my experience with the FBI recently," he said, "I will not say there is nothing."

The Attorney General said that ~~one~~^{the only} position is that the investigation should be completed.

Scalia asked what could be expected to be found in the other files?

Pottinger said some documents might be found in the field that nobody has seen showing other FBI acts.