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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 6-25-70

FROM : T. E. Bishop

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING

In memorandum from Bishop to DeLoach of 6-24-70, it was stated that Bill King in the Information Office of the Department of Justice advised Bishop on 6-24-70 that the Department had decided it would not be possible for the Government to successfully defend the civil action by Harold Weisberg against the Department for the release of the documents which Weisberg is seeking to secure from the Department, and copies of these documents were, accordingly, furnished to Weisberg by the Department. King also advised that the Department was going to release these documents to the press at 3:00 p.m. on 6-24-70. The Director has inquired "Did you get a written instruction from Dept confirming conversation King had with you? H".

For the information of the Director, no written notice has been received from the Department to the effect that it had decided that it would not be possible for the Government to successfully defend the civil action by Weisberg against the Department for the release of the documents in question, or that these documents were, therefore, furnished to Weisberg. The first notice that the Bureau had of this action was when King telephoned Bishop at approximately 11:50 a.m. on 6-24-70, at which time King also stated that the Department was releasing copies of these documents to the press at 3:00 p.m. on 6-24-70. King, subsequently, on 6-24-70 furnished Bishop copies of the documents being released.

REC-3 5887

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

JUN 29 1970

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. M. A. Jones

TEB:nak (6)

We should certainly should insist upon written confirmation of such matters.

70 JUN 30 1970