



Dept. of Classics
QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY
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Harold:

Today I spoke at length with Dr. Eric Lincoln, Professor of Sociology at Union Theological Seminary in N.Y. City. Lincoln is active and highly respected in the Negro Movement, and has extensive personal contacts among the top leaders of many Negro organizations.

He addressed students at Queen's regarding Negroes in America. I contacted him and arranged to drive him to Syracuse, where he took a plane to N.Y.

In the course of our conversation, which lasted about three hours, I discussed with him what I knew from you, Sprague, Murr, and Dawnay concerning the assassination of Martin Luther King. Although the information that I possess is fragmentary, I told him the nature of our speculation that the same group was behind the murders of JFK and MLK, and discussed in detail the bases upon which those speculations rest.

Forseeing the possibility that I might not have a chance to speak with him personally and at length, I had previously sent him a note outlining what I knew, and encouraging that he put interested people in touch with you and Sprague; each of you had indicated to me that you had exculpatory evidence concerning James Earl Ray. In that note, and subsequently in conversation, I urged him to induce some representative of the SCLC to contact both of you, and to learn what you knew. I indicated that you would be more than willing to talk with them. In lieu of that, I suggested that he put someone in touch with me, and I would advise that person where to go and whom to see. He may take either course; I don't know which.

Lincoln was impressed with what I said. I let him read those portions of my correspondence that bear on the MLK killing, mostly stuff from you and Sprague.

Lincoln was not familiar with issues concerning the assassinations, and did not feel competent to pursue the matter himself, although of course he was exceedingly interested. He said he would advise a friend in the SCLC who was competent to handle the matter.

Speaking for myself, not for you and Sprague, I express my willingness to serve the SCLC officials in whatever manner they deemed most beneficial to their interests. I said that, except for information that was given to me in absolute confidence, I would withhold from them nothing that I know and nothing that I may learn. I think that as much as possible this should be their show.

I received a letter from Sprague today. He does not know on what basis Rev. Bevel asserts that Ray is innocent. Neither do I.

I suggest that we find out who in the SCLC is willing to receive information, and that we pass on to them whatever we have in the way of findings, conclusions, and speculations. This situation wherein bits of information is scattered about in the hands of various individuals

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is deplorable. All of the data must settle under the eyes and understanding mind of any man or group who can be trusted to treat it fairly. Now that Bevel has surfaced, and now that Lomax has disclosed that he knows who is behind the killing, information should get to the SCLC as soon as possible.

In anticipation that they will get in touch with me, I plan to draw up a comprehensive report on material that Dawnay has passed to me. Some of his correspondence contains scattered details that I did not send to you, and I think that I can handle this issue best. Probably no more significant information will come in from London, for Dawnay's inquiries are now seriously impeded. Scotland Yard has put great pressure on Mrs Thomas at the Pax Hotel, and she is no longer willing to talk. Jane Nassau, the receptionist at New Earls Court, has ~~dis~~ disappeared.

Dawnay was interviewed by Oltmans of NTS (Dutch) television concerning what he learned in London. He now thinks that was a mistake, for he believes Oltmans is with the "other side" (his words). I do not know on what he bases this assertion, for he did not explain. He thinks Oltmans can cause much trouble to Garrison. Oltmans, you may recall, is the one who interviewed Garrison and played the interview on Dutch TV. Dawnay believes, too, that Oltmans left for America on 19 January.

I leave it to you to determine whether it is in order to warn Garrison about Oltmans. I do not know about him, and cannot render a sound opinion.

Dawnay's Member of Parliament is trying to press the issue in the British Home Office, but is moving very, very slowly.

Sprague says Cyril Wecht personally knows three of the four doctors who reviewed the autopsy material. Wecht says all are very close to the military establishment and would do what they were told to do. It is my opinion, as you know from reading my letter to the editor, that the four doctors did not-- in a literal sense-- lie about what they saw. I have seen a bit more concerning their study (seen after I wrote the letter) and I am still of that opinion. I have not seen the full report, but I believe that it will bear me out.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Sprague, for it concerns him in so far as I directed the SCLC to him as well as to you.

This may be of special interest to you. Dr. Lincoln says that he is under contract with six publishers, and he feels he can exert considerable pressure in finding someone to publish your books. In fact he said he would help anyone who is writing on these topics. This is an offer that he volunteered spontaneously. I had not indicated to him at the time that anyone was having trouble getting published. He simply said that if he could do anything to assist the publication of true material related to the assassinations, he would be more than willing. I am sure that he is sincere, and I know that he will respond generously if you ask for his help. Lincoln is quite a remarkable and wonderful man in many, many respects.

Still,

Bob

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