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FBI WASH DC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATION SECTION

APR 5 1968

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

FBI MEMPHIS

501AM URGENT 4-5-68 DGB

TO DIRECTOR

FROM MEMPHIS (44-1987)

UNSUB, AKA JOHN WILLARD; MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM,  
CIVIL RIGHTS.

RE MEMPHIS TELEPHONE CALLS, APRIL FOUR LAST.

FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF INCIDENTS SURROUNDING ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.:

AT APPROXIMATELY SIX ZERO THREE PM, KING WAS ON SECOND FLOOR BALCONY OF LOBBRAINE HOTEL AND MOTEL, FOUR ZERO ONE MULBERRY, MEMPHIS, PREPARING TO GO TO INNEE. A SHOT WAS HEARD BY KING'S ASSOCIATES, WHO WERE AT SIMILAR LEVEL. KING WAS OBSERVED TO FALL IMMEDIATELY AFTER SHOT. KING WAS TAKEN TO ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL IMMEDIATELY. DR. J. M. BARRACCO AND FREDERICK GIOIA, ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL, INFORMED THAT KING WAS PRONOUNCED OFFICIALLY DEAD AT SEVEN ZERO FIVE PM, APRIL FOUR LAST. THEY STATE DEATH CAUSED BY BULLET TEARING MAJOR NECK VESSELS AND SEVERING SPINAL CORD AT THE ROOT OF THE NECK.

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ASSOCIATES OF DR. KING STATE BEFORE SHOOTING, POLICE OFFICERS WERE IN AREA PATROLLING AND THAT SHORTLY AFTER ONE CAR OF OFFICERS HAD PASSED, DR. KING WAS SHOT. MOMENTARILY AFTER

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INDIVIDUAL PAID ONE WEEK'S RENT WITH A TWENTY DOLLAR BILL AND TWO QUARTERS AND RECEIVED TWELVE DOLLARS IN CHANGE.

ONE RESIDENT OF ROOMING HOUSE OBSERVED UNKNOWN WHITE MALE GOING IN AND OUT OF BATHROOM FREQUENTLY AND ON ONE OCCASION REMAINED IN BATHROOM TWENTY TO THIRTY MINUTES.

REAR OF THIS ROOMING HOUSE FACES LOBBRAINE HOTEL AND BATHROOM WINDOW FURNISHES UNOBSTRUCTED VIEW OF LOBBRAINE HOTEL AND PLACE AT WHICH DR. KING WAS SHOT. ESTIMATED DISTANCE FROM BATHROOM WINDOW TO POINT WHERE DR. KING WAS SHOT IS TWO HUNDRED FIVE FT.

ON ARRIVAL INVESTIGATING OFFICERS, BATHROOM WINDOW OBSERVED TO BE OPEN APPROXIMATELY THREE INCHES. WINDOW IN ROOM FIVE B WIDE OPEN. WINDOW OF ROOM FIVE B ALSO AFFORDS VIEW OF LOBBRAINE HOTEL, HOWEVER, IT WOULD REQUIRE INDIVIDUAL TO LEAN OUT OF WINDOW TO FIRE SHOT.

MANUEL MARCUS LEVIN, WHITE MALE, BORN [REDACTED] STUDENT, [REDACTED] MISS., AND ALEX J. WURDER, BORN [REDACTED] STUDENT, [REDACTED] DETAINED BY MEMPHIS PD AT APPROXIMATELY SIX FIFTY PM, APRIL FOUR LAST. MEMPHIS PD HAD RECEIVED REPORT THAT TWO WHITE