

Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
Attention: Mr. Robert L. Keuch
Director, FBI

- 1 - Mr. Mintz
Attn: Mr. Heller
- 1 - Public Affairs Office
Attn: Mr. Maynard
December 8, 1978
- 1 - Mr. Bassett
- 1 - Mr. Foster

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (HSCA)

Reference is made to letter to the Attorney General from G. Robert Blakey, Chief Counsel and Director, HSCA, dated November 28, 1978, which, in connection with the HSCA's investigation into the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., requested [REDACTED]

It was further requested that [REDACTED]

Enclosed are an original and one copy of a memorandum in response to referenced letter. It is requested that you furnish a copy of the enclosed memorandum to the HSCA.

Enclosures (2)

NOTE: This matter was coordinated with J. W. Maynard and T. B. Coll of the Public Affairs Office.

Efforts to locate specific information relating to press policy matters in 1968 through a search of general indices and contact with representatives of the Public Affairs Office were negative. Files reviewed for information in this matter were the administrative file for 1967-1968 for the Crime Records Division (CRD), 66-1855-L; personnel file covering 1967-1968 for the CRD, 67-80004; and personnel files for the year 1968 of Mr. Bishop, Mr. Bland, Mr. Leinbaugh, and Mr. Adcock. Information regarding placement of press inquiries into the CRD's Front Office was contained in Mr. Hoover's memorandum to all Bureau officials dated 8/15/61, captioned "Press Inquiries." REC-24 62-11290-115
DEC 12 1978

2- [Handwritten initials]
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HAN 2 1979
MAIL ROOM

HAND DELIVERED TO
MR. KEUCH'S OFFICE
3:20pm 12/7/78 JRA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/20/96 BY SP-6/MLB

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December 8, 1978

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[REDACTED]
was further requested that [REDACTED]

On December 4, 1978, HSCA Staff Member Gerald Hamilton made the following modification of HSCA's requests contained in referenced letter. The HSCA desires a [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Also needed is [REDACTED]

A review of appropriate records at FBI Headquarters (FBIHQ) and contact with FBIHQ officials having knowledge of some aspects of the CRD as it existed in 1968 disclosed the following information:

By memorandum to all Bureau officials dated August 15, 1961, Mr. Hoover instructed that all inquiries from the press, without exception, be referred to the office of Cartha D. DeLoach, who was the Assistant Director of the CRD at that time. Following this instruction, the Front Office of the CRD remained responsible for all press and media operations until 1972, at which time, under Acting Director L. Patrick Gray, the Division was dissolved.

Assoc. Dir. _____
Dep. AD Adm. _____ ORIGINAL AND ONE SENT TO THE ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, CRIMINAL
Dep. AD Inv. _____ DIVISION, ATTENTION: MR. ROBERT L. KEUCH.
Asst. Dir.: _____
Adm. Servs. _____ JTA:amo SEE NOTE, PAGE TWO
Crim. Inv. _____ (7) *amd*
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Director's Sec'y _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/20/00 BY SP/feubner

62-117290-135

ENCLOSURE

MAIL ROOM

FBI/DOJ

House Select Committee on Assassinations
U. S. House of Representatives (HSCA)

In 1968, the Assistant Director of CRD was Thomas E. Bishop. The Front Office consisted of Mr. Bishop; a Number 1 Man, James F. Bland; a Number 2 Man, Harold P. Leinbaugh; and a Number 3 Man, Hobson A. Adcock. All news and media inquiries were the responsibility of these four individuals. Exceptions to this policy were weekends and other occasions of absence, at which time their functions were handled by other designated personnel of the CRD.

The Research Section of the CRD was responsible for researching and frequently preparing press releases. In some instances, when voluminous media sources needed to be advised concerning a particular press release, Research Section personnel assisted. However, in the normal course of business, matters involving press releases and relations with all media contacts were handled by the Front Office of the CRD.

Where information is not provided, it is either not retrievable or is not being furnished pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding.

NOTE: See Director, FBI, letter to Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Attention: Mr. Robert L. Keuch, dated 12/8/78, captioned "House Select Committee on Assassinations, U. S. House of Representatives (HSCA)."