

A
Very interesting

A REPORT ON SOME OF THE CONSPIRATORIAL ELEMENTS IN THE ASSASSINATION OF
REVEREND DOCTOR MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. AS COVERED BY THE NEW YORK TIMES
AND OTHER PRINT MEDIA

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June 27, 1975

INTRODUCTION

This is a report on events preceding the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and surrounding it, subsequent to the murder that will directly point to complicity in the planning of that horrendous crime. In stating that this is a report and not an investigation should make it clear that numerous persons, hundreds, have gone before ^{me} in doing investigatory research. Foremost among these people is Harold Weisberg, author of a book on Dr. King's assassination called, "Frame-Up."

Mr. Weisberg has stated that since November 22, 1963, he has devoted himself with an intensity in investigating political killings in America, that he has put the average of two working days into one. He has published the results of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. himself---because, "what I had to say was not what, for reasons that varied from publisher to publisher, they wanted to hear or perhaps what they wanted to have heard." He is a former Senate investigator and newspaper man.

Other sources that were relied on for the authenticity of this report/are the three-installment series written by William Bradford Huie, a Southern writer who entered into an agreement with one of the conspirators (James Earl Ray) and his first lawyer (Arthur Hanes) to maximize profits and exclusive publication rights to the "official" version of the assassination.

We will see that this crippled the proper discharge of justice in this case.

We will also look at a few foreign press articles, selected for their designed informational-impact on foreign readers.

But foremost, we will examine the coverage by the New York Times on select dates that were most pertinent to events in the aftermath

INTRODUCTION (cont.)

of the deal or hearing that was concocted to satisfy the curiosity of the world public as to who killed Martin Luther King and the elements of the conspiracy that led to his death on April 4, 1968.

HYPOTHESIS The reporting of the New York Times, I would believe, would authenticate as clearly as possible most of the known factors that were involved in a conspiracy to assassinate Dr. King, as it has the largest resources of (virtually) any newspaper in the United States and considered by many persons to be the most responsible.

CRITERIA Since only one person directly involved in the assassination of Dr. King has so far been apprehended, I would expect the Times and the other print media used herein to be concise, tireless, painstaking, truthful, and responsible in their reporting.

Before this report begins, I have one note of a personal nature. About three weeks before Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated, he spoke in Detroit at a downtown church (the name escapes me now).

At that time I was working as a photographer for a high school newspaper. Dr. King's theme ⁱⁿ to his sermon was one of hope as he spoke about a woman on Aid to Dependent Children ^{and} had not received any payments in so long that her children were starving. According to Dr. King, this woman said that suicide was the only way out if the money for food did not arrive the following day. The check did not come, and she killed herself.

The payment arrived the day after.

After about the ninth flash bulb went off, Dr. King looked up to his left at me, for just a second and without pausing in speech, as if to say, "Do you have enough yet?"

The nature of this report will not be one of concluding with a judgement that "X" number of persons were involved in a conspiracy or that "convicted murderer" James Earl Ray acted alone. That is, it will not be contingent on forthcoming information (as the forthcoming ADC payment was for survival) as this case will continue until there finally is a trial.

Rather, the reader will be given just enough of the available evidence that will unmistakably ¹¹⁻ point to certain conspiratorial elements that were prevalent.

"LIKE ANYBODY,

I WOULD LIKE TO LIVE"

On March 10th, 1969, James Earl Ray was convicted of assassinating Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in a prearranged hearing (not trial). It took less than one hour for the mechanics and results of the plea-bargaining to be entered into the court records with no disclosure of other relevant elements that preceded the assassination at least eight months before Dr. King was killed in Memphis.

The pulse of a newspapers reporting on important issues of the day may often be found on the editorial page. It is usually assumed that before adopting a particular stance on an issue that the newspaper has done a thorough job of reporting any given issue.

The New York Times carried the crux of the public's curiosity in its lead editorial of March 11, 1969. The editorial is presented here in full. We can note where the residing Judge W. Preston Battle swallowed this entire American sham of justice as the defense lawyer adopts the omnipotent attitude that "to prove to myself" that Ray was not involved in a conspiracy should necessarily satisfy the world.

Tongue-Tied Justice

The aborted trial of James Earl Ray for the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is a shocking breach of faith with the American people, black and white, and of people the world over still numbed and puzzled by the gunfire that struck down this international leader.

Ray is entitled by all legal means to avail himself of the defenses open to him under the law. But by no means, legal or pragmatic, should the doors of the courtroom and the jail be slammed shut on the facts, the motives and the doubts of this horrible murder.

And yet that is just what has occurred with stunning suddenness in a Memphis courthouse. By pleading guilty, Ray has been sentenced to 99 years in prison. The jury had to go along with this prearranged deal between the prosecution and the admitted killer's attorney. Circuit Judge W. Preston Battle went along with it too, treating the whole matter as if it were a routine murder case.

Nothing but outrage and suspicion can follow the handling of this long-delayed and instantly snuffed-out trial. Percy Foreman, the defense lawyer, tells the public that it took him months "to prove to myself" that Ray was not part of a murder conspiracy. Ray himself acquiesces in the bargain made on the guilty plea. He publicly states that he refuses to go along with the state's case. *with the statement that there was no conspiracy*

Why should this assassination case be tried by statements instead of formal legal procedures, subject to examination and cross-examination, the presentation of all the evidence by the prosecution, the appearance of the accused in open court? What in either sense or jurisprudence does it mean that the defense attorney convinced himself? In the ghetto and in the world outside the ghetto, the question still cries for answer: Was there a conspiracy to kill Dr. King and who was in it?

The state's case has been read to the jury. But that is hardly enough in a case of this magnitude. This was not a street crime but, on the surface, a racist or quasi-political assassination. It is not enough to say that the state accepted the guilty plea and agreed to end the case because the death penalty has not been used since 1961 in Tennessee.

No one was demanding blood; everyone is demanding facts. Are we going to get the facts from Ray's lawyers, past or present, one of whom is trying to peddle the story to magazines? Are we going to get the facts from William Bradford Huie, the author who has "bought" the "rights" to Ray's story? What a mockery of justice for the facts to emerge in marketed justice!

Unless proceedings are convened in court—Federal, if not state—we shall never know the adjudicated truth. There should be no Warren Commissions necessary—a month or a year from now. *There is no doubt.*

cont. from p. 4

"—a month or a year from now—to

still our doubts and do what

a Tennessee court has

failed to do".

Note this writer says "the world". White America, in her often blatantly exposed racist mannerisms, could not have been further placed from reality to think that, (1) foreign nations turned a blind eye to what was happening in the "cradle of liberty" during the late 1950's and throughout the 1960's and that (2) the foreign press would swallow this American caricature of justice.

Let us first notice a sampling of the foreign press² (state-controlled and otherwise) reaction to Dr. King's assassination.

On the left we see the immediate account of Izvestia, from Russia. Is it really substantially different than what many Americans also shared as the truth?

International Commentary-REPRISAL. (By O. Vastlyev, Izvestia, April 6, p. 2. Complete text:) The gunshot fired in Memphis on the evening of April 4 has resounded like a deafening explosion. Dr. Martin Luther King, one of the most popular leaders of the Negro movement and a Nobel Peace Prize winner, was murdered.

The racists hated him—for his energy, for his passionate voice in defense of the oppressed and deprived Negro people of America. King was heard at thousands of rallies and was seen marching in the front ranks of demonstrations against racism and segregation. King had raised his voice against the Pentagon's criminal adventure in Vietnam. The American "hurrah-patriots" could not forgive him for this. The authorities feared him. "Democratic" America put him in jail 15 times merely because he wanted freedom and equality for his dark-skinned brothers.

The racist reactionaries fearfully await the march of Negroes to the American capital, which is to take place late in April. "We shall go to Washington not to ask," King said, "but to demand justice and to insist that we be given what is ours." The gunshot in Memphis was precisely timed. According to the assassins' scheme, it was to have sounded as a warning threat to the entire Negro movement on the eve of the approaching "hot summer."

Izvestia's observation that the

"racist reactionaries fearfully await the the march of Negroes (sic) to the American capital,...", was an accurate one as we shall see in William Bradford Huie's Look magazine article series later on. Another interesting excerpt in this article is that "'Democratic'" America put him in jail 15 times merely because he wanted freedom and equality..."

Granted, Izvestia is a government-controlled newspaper of the Kremlin, but it seems conceivable that American newspapers would have been equally as succinct in their reporting if not inadvertently controlled by capital from their advertisers. Simply stated with no needed qualifying comments is that, "Reactionary America killed him."

Marked in yellow are the paragraphs that may give the reader reasons on why TIME magazine released a cover page article called, "The Sick Society."

Commentator's Column: FREEDOM TO KILL. (By Sergei Vishnevsky. Pravda, April 6, p. 5. Complete text:) The news of the murder of Martin Luther King strikes a sharp pain into one's heart.

The crime in Memphis is shocking, but it is not surprising. Several years ago Dr. King told me that every minute and every day he expected an attempt on his life. The reactionaries systematically persecuted King; He received innumerable threats, he was thrown into prison, and detractions and slander were heaped upon him by reactionary Governors, Congressmen and officials of government agencies.

Who murdered Martin Luther King? Not only the hired bandit who pulled the trigger. Five years ago, after the brutal murder by racists of several Negro girls in Alabama, King sent the state's Governor a telegram reading: "The blood is on your hands; your irresponsible and destructive actions created the atmosphere that has led to unceasing violence and now to murder." Today these stinging words can be addressed

THE CURRENT Digest of the Soviet Press

The abundant flow of commentaries, reflections, conjectures and rumors concerning President Johnson's latest moves and his promise not to run in the forthcoming election was suddenly interrupted by the news from the city of Memphis (Tennessee) about the brutal murder of Martin Luther King, the world-renowned leader of the Negro movement. He was the pride and to a certain extent the conscience of honest and troubled America. Reactionary America killed him. Martin Luther King, a winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, was one of the most passionate and uncompromising critics of U.S. aggression in Vietnam and an active fighter for the Negro people's civil rights. This, it seems to us, is the chief reason why he was killed.

The murder of King has shaken America no less than did the assassination of John Kennedy. There are special reasons for this. An apostle of nonviolent actions, he fell victim to violence. Now, as these lines are being written, the radio is reporting about clashes between the police and angry Negroes in a great many cities of the United States. Rioting has swept the Negro population of the capital.

The tragic events of the last several hours have once again laid bare the fact that the Vietnam war has poisoned and disfigured irrevocably all life in the United States. Along with

Finally, from the Soviet press (Pravda) we see note an article that speaks of a conspiracy and of Martin Luther King's constant vigil of death by violence, even though he was the apostle of non-violence. The final excerpt from these edited Soviet press articles appears on page seven.

It would be a misnomer to say that the Federal Bureau of Investigation was ever protecting one of the greatest American leaders in the Republic's history. On the contrary. J. Edgar Hoover despised Martin Luther King and the power he commanded through his preaching on non-violence and love.

Based on this excerpt from Mr. Weisberg's book, "Frame-Up," we can note that from Hoover's following quote describing Dr. King that the F.B.I. would have little inclination to investigate prearranged possible death plots against Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

For example, the month after the murder, Drew Pearson told his enormous readership that, despite Hoover's hatred for King, Having branded King "the most notorious liar in the world" ... we have checked into the operations of the FBI in this respect and are convinced that it is conducting perhaps the most painstaking manhunt ever before undertaken ... have checked every bar ever

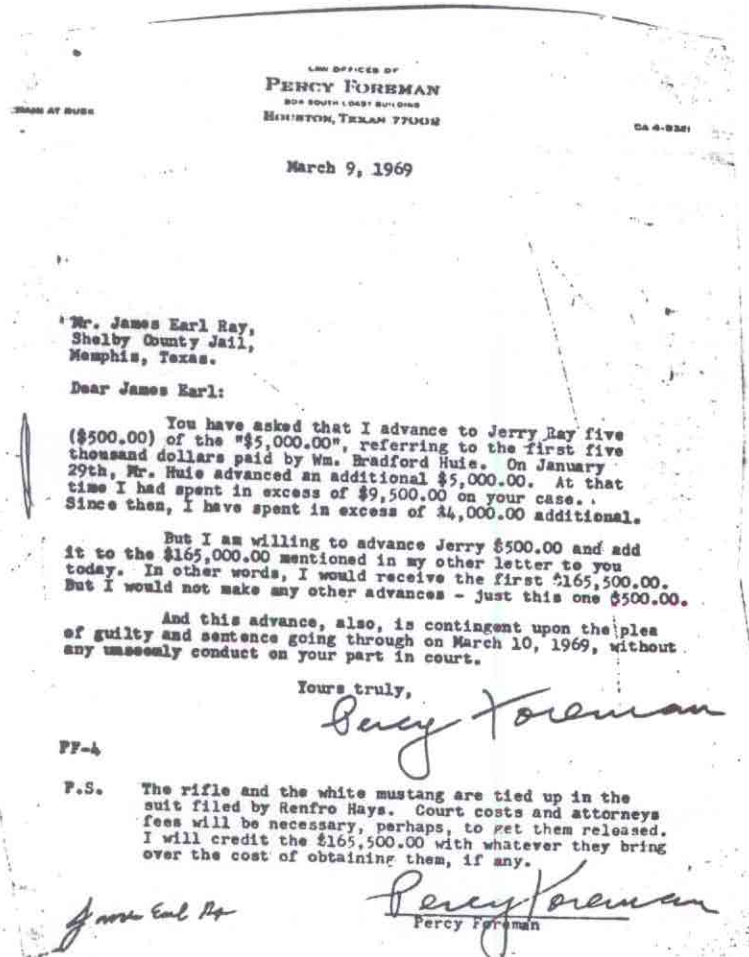
This is from page 237.

With such an attitude of despise, one might easily surmise that there was no respect from the F.B.I. for the patriotic Dr. King; This will give the reader a proper framework to read this last excerpt from Pravada to arrive at an accurate picture of American social and political atmosphere, based primarily on the wreckless remarks that so often came from Government officials.

On page nineth, we will turn to the origins of James Earl Ray's involvement in the plot to assassinate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

terrorist murders have become just as "commonplace" a phenomenon of the American way of life as automobile accidents. The powers that be are taking up nightsticks and firearms, and "unofficial" thugs, poisoned by the propaganda of racism and war, are taking up rifles with telescopic sights. Violence and terror walk the American streets with impunity. The death of Martin Luther King is a merciless indictment of the imperialist way of life, of its misanthropic policies and practices. Their "freedom" is the freedom to kill.

But we should preface such involvement with "dollar legal/journalistic diplomacy" that was exercised between Ray's first lawyer, Arthur Hanes (an ex-F.B.I. agent and C.I.A. employee), Percy Foreman and the writer with "exclusive rights" to Ray's story of involvement in Dr. King's murder.



This letter is from the appendix of Mr. Weisberg's book,

On page eight, the paragraph marked, was a subsequent lie.

Ray never received a nickel. The reason that such high figures were mentioned is because of Foreman's exploitative legal fees demanded of Ray—a quoted fee of \$150,000, which later, a Federal judge (Robert McRae) said was "too high."

James Earl Ray escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary on April 23, 1967, went to Chicago for eight weeks to work as a dishwasher at the Indian Trail Restaurant in Winnetka, Illinois. He wanted to eventually clear papers through passport points and escape to a country where he could not be extradited. He went to Montreal and met a man who named himself, "Raoul" (a blond-haired Latin). After eight meetings with Raoul, Ray was offered living expenses, a good car, and ultimately, "travel papers" with \$12,000.

The condition that Ray was to meet included a return to the United States. He was also to establish himself in Birmingham and be "available."

Throughout Ray's association with "Raoul", he thought that he was only gun-running back and forth between the US and Canada.

We can see the beginnings of

Ray wrote to me:

Well, I didn't know what to do. If I took Raoul's proposition, I had to go back to the States and risk the Missouri Pen again. I didn't want to do that. I had sworn I'd never go back. But I was running out of capital again, and I didn't want to risk another hold-up in Canada. I couldn't get on a ship. I couldn't get I.D. So I told Raoul okay I'd meet him in Windsor. But I didn't know then whether I'd meet him or not. The woman in Ottawa seemed to like me. She was my last chance. I hadn't had time to talk to her in Montreal about the passport. So now I was going to Ottawa and tell her something about myself, and if she'd help me get the passport, I wasn't going to meet Raoul.

Look, p. 104 "The Story of James Earl Ray and the Plot to Assassinate Martin Luther King" by Wm. Bradford Huie

Ray's involvement in the plot ^{comes} as he is caught between accepting Raoul's proposition or testing what "she" could come up with--a woman Ray met while in Montreal; he tried to use her to get a passport, but dumped the idea when "she" told him that she was a Canadian government employee.

From his perpetually lighted, perpetually viewed and perpetually guarded cell in Memphis, Ray writes:
On my way to Birmingham, Raoul wanted me to make two trips across the border at Windsor-Detroit. I guess he figured I wouldn't attract much attention in my old red Plymouth for which I had paid \$200. I arrived at the Windsor railroad station a few minutes before 3 p.m. and waited about 30 minutes. Raoul came in with an attaché case and said let's go. On the way to the tunnel we stopped and he took three packages out and put them behind the back part of the seat where you rest your back.

© 1968, WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE

"Look" November 12, 1968,

p. 87

On the left is an excerpt from Huie's second installment of articles in the LOOK series, titled, "I Didn't Know Anybody Was to be Killed" (Ray).

Below, we see the scenario being constructed for "Raoul's" purposes of having Ray at his disposal whenever needed.

Raoul was nervous when I met him. He asked me what had taken me so long, and I showed him the receipt for the import tax. We parked on a side street where he got his 3 packages and gave me \$750. He told me to sell the old car and go to Birmingham where he'd write me a general delivery letter telling me where and when to meet him. He again repeated the telephone number where I could contact him in New Orleans in an emergency. He said he'd bring me the money for a new car. I asked him again what I was expected to do, and he said for me not to worry, it would be relatively safe. I then drove him again to the Detroit bus station and left for Chicago. I spent that night in a motel about five miles east of Gary, Indiana, and next day I sold the old red Plymouth in Chicago and caught a train for Birmingham.

"Look" November 12, 1968

p. 87

James Earl Ray flatly stated in this same installment that he unknowingly became involved in the plot when he first

took the packages from Canada to the United States. Evidence of this is contained in the LOOK installment on November 12, 1968, by Mr. Huie.

This is on the right.

Late in November, 1967, Ray was in Mexico on leisure and left at that time for Los Angeles where he rented a room. Much has been published concerning James Earl Ray's trip to New Orleans in mid-December. He traveled with a man named Charles Stein and two children, relatives of Stein.

Below, we see where Ray got his last few instructions from "Raoul"—seemingly after being primed to be the perfect dupe. This is also from the LOOK installments of November 26, '68 installment by William Bradford Huie.

Three hours after I got to New Orleans I was ready to leave. Raoul just wanted a report on what I had been doing. He said we had one more job to do, and we'd do it in about two or three months. Then we'd be finished, and, for sure, he'd give me complete travel papers and \$12,000 and help me go anywhere in the world I wanted to go. He wanted me to be careful, not get in any trouble, and he'd keep in touch. When I asked him what the next job was, he said not to worry about it and not to ask questions. Then he gave me another \$2500, all in 20-dollar bills. I wanted to leave for Los Angeles that night, but Stein was picking up the children and wanted to visit some more relatives, so I agreed to wait one day for him.

LOOK, November 26, 1968, p. 92

Ray writes:

I suppose I became involved in some sort of plot to kill King when I first took those packages into the U.S. from Canada. I would think it had all been decided before the car was bought in Birmingham, as no one would have given me \$3000 in Birmingham just to haul narcotics across the border. But nobody told me anything about any planned murder of King or of anyone else.

p. 91

The last excerpt from Mr. Huie's installments will be on page twelve. We will then return to the New York Times coverage of the "deal/hearing/minitrial."

I know, from what I have learned from Ray, and from my investigative research, some of the features of the plot were:

- Dr. King was to be murdered for effect. His murder was planned not by impulsive men who hated him personally, though they probably did hate him, but by calculating men who wanted to use his murder to trigger violent conflict between white and Negro citizens.

- He was to be murdered during the election year of 1968.

- Since he was to be murdered for maximum bloody effect, he was to be murdered, not while he was living quietly at his home in Atlanta but at some dramatic moment, at some dramatic place where controversy was raging. By March 15, 1968, the plotters clearly had begun aiming at murdering him at some point where he was forming or leading the Poor People's March.

- He was to be murdered by a white man, or white men, who would be described as "Southerners" and "racists."

- Preferably, he was to be murdered in Birmingham or Montgomery or Selma, since these cities were milestones in his career as an advocate of racial change.

- There was no necessity, after the murder, for the murderer or murderers to be murdered to prevent a trial or trials—because a trial or trials could yield extra dividends of hatred and violence.

Therefore, in this plot, Dr. King was the secondary, not the primary target. The primary target was the United States of America.

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Note the connection
between planning
the assassination
around, possibly, the
time of the Poor People's
March (circled in red)
and what was mentioned
in the Izvestia article
on page five.

Look: November 26, 1968

This brings us up to March 10, 1969. James Earl Ray, pressured by his attorneys to plead guilty to not only complicity in the assassination but to admit that he actually fired the shot.

In the right corner, the Times article of March 11, 1969, mentions how this ludicrous mockery of justice (the "minitrial") fell apart as Ray would not go along with the "no conspiracy" cover-up in the pre-arranged deal between the defense, the prosecution, and Judge W. Preston Battle. After this "hearing", the King assassination gradually drifted from the front pages of the Times as well as the rest of the paper, as my study indicates.

The United States Government
deliberately muffled any meaningful investigatory

Page
1

RAY ADMITS GUILT IN DR. KING DEATH, SUGGESTS A PLOT

Judge Sets 99-Year Term
After a Jury of 12 Men
Agrees to Arrangement

A CONSPIRACY DISPUTED

Both Prosecutor and Defense
Doubt That There Was One
Despite Slayer's Protest

By MARTIN WALDRON
Special to The New York Times

MEMPHIS, March 10—James
Earl Ray pleaded guilty today
to murdering the Rev. Dr.
Martin Luther King Jr. and was

Paragraph of
note on
back →

"Both the prosecutor, Memphis Attorney
General P.M. Canale, and Ray's Counsel,
Percy Foreman, told the court that there
was no evidence Ray had been
involved in a conspiracy to
kill the Negro civil rights
leader."

(article continued from page twelve, New York Times, March 11, 1969, p. 1.)

work of Dr. King's assassination plot.

Note the continuation of the currently discussed Times' article and the reference that less than one day after the murder, that former US Attorney General Ramsey Clark and the late F.B.I. czar, J. Edgar Hoover, stated that there was no conspiracy...less than one day!

(This is marked in yellow and on the extreme right side of this page.)

Further, in this same article,

we can see Ray's persistence in hinting that there was a conspiracy. This is marked by a star. Ray just did not want to jeopardize his plea of guilty which assured him of life imprisonment instead of the electric chair. We will soon see that he saw the wisdom of changing his plea several days later while in prison and that motions for a trial did not surface to the press until late 1974--over six years after Dr. Martin Luther King's assassination.

In the meantime, we can take a parting glance at what the most important element of the assassination was, in the view of the Times of India, March 12, 1969, p. 9. This is noted at the bottom right of this page with a red mark.

Mrs. King wants probe to continue

ATLANTA (Georgia), March 11: Mrs. Coretta King, widow of the assassinated civil rights leader, the Rev. Martin Luther King, yesterday called for further investigation of her husband's death, a few hours after the life imprisonment passed on James Earl Ray for the crime.

Continued From Page 1, Col. 8
said it had taken former Attorney General Ramsey Clark and J. Edgar Hoover, the director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, less than one day after the murder to conclude there was no conspiracy.

A transcript of Ray's remarks today showed that he said, "Your honor, I would like to say something. I don't want to change anything that I have said, but I just want to enter one other thing. The only thing I have to say is that I can't agree with Mr. Clark."

Mr. Foreman interrupted to say, "Ramsey Clark."

"Mr. who?" asked the judge. "Mr. J. Edgar Hoover," said Ray. "I agree with all these stipulations, but I am not trying to change anything."

"You don't agree with whose theories?" asked the judge.

"Mr. Canale's, Mr. Clark's, and Mr. J. Edgar Hoover's about the conspiracy. I don't want to add something on that I haven't agreed to in the past," said Ray.

Statements Anger Killer
But Ray himself refused to accept these statements.
In a tense moment in the proceedings, Ray leaped to his feet and declared that he did not intend that his plea of guilty should include a finding that there was no conspiracy.

March 11, '69
Times

Perhaps the presiding judge in the hearing, Preston Battle, had a few nightmares in the following days of his display of kangaroo court-style justice on March 10; say, maybe

(article continued from page thirteen,

The Times of India, March 12, 1969, p. 9,

on right):

he had black cats cross his path or the sheep he counted
in his sleep, suddenly turned black or...

Note the misgivings that Judge W.

Preston Battle voices in this March 17, 1969

(p. 27) article on the right.

We further substantiate

the existence of a conspiracy to
murder Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
in the New York Times, October 24, 1974,
p. 26 article (marked with red on this page).

The starred paragraph points out Ray's
assertion that there was a conspiracy
when he responds to a doctor's question
as to whether he was "really involved in
this." We see that James Earl Ray
responds: "Let's put it this way: I
wasn't by myself."

Up to this point, the Times'
coverage of the assassination and the
existence of a conspiracy has been good---
it might seem, though, that most of this material
should be on pages two through seven or so.
Certainly not on pages 36, 28 and buried else-
where.

"Ray's plea of guilt cannot be al-
lowed to close the case," she told
newsmen after hearing of the 99-year
sentence passed on Ray.

"All concerned people must press
the State of Tennessee and the U.S.
Government to continue investigation
until all those responsible for this
crime have been apprehended," she
declared.

Meanwhile, Pastor Ralph Abernathy,
Dr. King's successor at the head of
the Southern Christian Leadership
Conference, told newsmen that Ray's
"guilty plea" strengthened his belief
that the assassination was the result
of a conspiracy. —AFP.

RAY JUDGE SAYS TRUTH IS HIDDEN

Doubts If Trial Would Have
Produced the Answers

MEMPHIS, March 16 (AP)—
Judge W. Preston Battle said
today he believed the full truth
still was not known about
James Earl Ray and the assas-
sination of the Rev. Dr. Martin
Luther King.

The judge, in whose court
Ray pleaded guilty to the slay-
ing of Dr. King and where the
case would have been heard
had it gone to trial, said he,
like many other Americans, re-
mained puzzled about several
unanswered questions.

"Like others, I would truly
like to know how Ray actually
found the spot from which to
fire, he said. "How did Ray
know where the Rev. King
would be? How did he deter-
mine the type of weapon to be
used? What are the details of
the actual purchase and selec-
tion of the weapon? Was he
alone in surveillance of the
Lorraine Motel?"

"Most puzzling of all is his
escape from Memphis. To me,
it seems miraculous that he
was able to flee to Atlanta de-
spite the all-points bulletins
without his white Mustang
being spotted on a highway."

Dr. King was shot to death
April 4 as he stood on the bal-
cony of the Lorraine Motel in
Memphis. The killer was re-
ported to have fled in a white
Mustang.

The judge said there was
much speculation about pos-
sible answers, but nothing
based on fact and evidence.

"I'd like the full proof," Judge
Battle said. "And as I said on
March 10 when the agreement
was reached to permit Ray to
change his plea to guilty, there
is no end to the questions."

By MARTIN WALDRON
Special to The New York Times

MEMPHIS, Oct. 23—James
Earl Ray will take the witness
stand in Federal District Court
here tomorrow to tell in public
for the first time his version of
the assassination of the Rev.
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Mr. Ray is seeking to with-
draw his guilty plea in the slay-
ing. He contends that he was
pressured by circumstance and
by his attorneys into saying
that he had murdered the civil
rights leader.

His testimony is expected to
be the high point but not the
end of the hearing ordered by
the United States Court of Ap-
peals for the Sixth Circuit into
whether Mr. Ray received fair
treatment from the authorities
and from his lawyers in 1968
and 1969.

Today, a Memphis physician
who secretly treated Mr. Ray
for nine months while he was
held in a Shelby County jail
awaiting trial, testified that Mr.
Ray once told him that he was
not the only person involved in
the assassination on April 4,
1968. The slaying of Dr. King
touched off violent demonstra-
tions of looting, rioting and ar-
son in several of the nation's ci-
ties.

99 Year Sentence
Dr. McCarthy DeMere said
that the trial judge, W. Preston
Battle, who imposed a 99-year
sentence on Mr. Ray after the
guilty plea, had told him to tell
no one that he was to be Mr.
Ray's physician and not to dis-
cuss the case with the prisoner.

But after Mr. Ray's guilty
plea, Dr. DeMere said, "I asked
him if he was really involved in
this and he said, 'Let's put it
this way: I wasn't by myself.'"

Dr. DeMere, a state witness
called out of turn because he
was scheduled to take a trip,
was brought forward in an ef-
fort to refute suggestions that
tight security at the Shelby
County Jail had made Mr. Ray
"a nervous wreck."

Dr. DeMere said that out of
curiosity one day he asked Mr.
Ray about his racial feelings.
He asked James Earl if he had
dislike for the black race. He
said, "Absolutely not."

The New York Times failed, however, to include the remark made by "Judge" W. Preston Battle that he (Battle) did not believe that even he had presided over what could be considered a trial.

This remark was carried in Mr. Weisberg's, 1971 publication,

"Frame-Up": Gavzer interviewed Battle again. His story for Monday, March 17, morning papers begins:

Judge W. Preston Battle said Sunday he believes the full truth still is not known about James Earl Ray and the assassination ... [he] remains puzzled about several unanswered questions. But he is convinced that a trial would not have produced the answers ... "I would truly like to know how Ray actually found the spot from which to fire. How did Ray know where Rev. King would be? How did he determine the type of weapon to be used? What are the details of the actual purchase and selection of the weapon? Was he alone in surveillance of the Lorraine Motel? Most puzzling of all is his escape from Memphis. To me, it seems miraculous that he was able to flee to Atlanta despite the all-points bulletins without his white Mustang being spotted on a highway."

The reader will learn what the judge never did. These are the questions the judge publicly acknowledged bothered him after the minitrial! (He hated that term, admitted his irritation over its use, and told Gavzer "it was not a trial.") These also are the

"Frame-up,"
p. 92

Ray's first lawyer, Arthur Hanes, wrote in Wm. Bradford Huie's last LOOK installment of April 15, 1969, that he believed there was a conspiracy. The article is entitled, "For Conspiracy" with a sub-head of "On Balance, I Feel Ray Was Helped", (Hanes quote). He contends that Ray did kill Dr. King and that as many as, possibly, three persons "directed or assisted him (Ray) between August, 1967, and his escape through Canada." (This is marked in yellow on page sixteen).

Another undisclosed contention (never mentioned at the "trial") came from Dr. King's chauffeur, Solomon Jones, who said just minutes after the shooting to reporters, "just after the shot was fired a man with a sheet over his head ran out of the bushes heading south."

A witness named "Cornbread" Carter stated that he saw "the man" fire the shot from the bushes and then "take off." (This is marked in red on this page along with the previous reference mentioned on page fifteen.

"ON BALANCE, I FEEL RAY WAS HELPED."

FOR CONSPIRACY

BY ARTHUR J. HANES

FIRST ATTORNEY FOR JAMES EARL RAY

Ray continued to insist that he did not fire the fatal shot. Hanes, fired for his overzealous financial intersets with author Huie further stated:

On a human-to-human basis, we seemed to be close. But when I began asking the questions, he changed in attitude and demeanor. He insisted that his accomplice, Raoul, actually fired the fatal shot, but when I questioned him about Raoul, he became tense and devious. Each time I saw him, I felt I had to make a new start at trying to gain his confidence. I never met a man quite so alone, quite so certain that he was his only keeper.

I believe his Raoul story to this extent: I think he met somebody like Raoul in Montreal in August, 1967; and I think Raoul may be Ray's name for one, two or three persons who directed or assisted him between August, 1967, and his escape through Canada.

WHY DID James Earl Ray murder Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.? I still believe that Ray killed Dr. King because he was directed to do it. Despite his plea of guilty in court, I also feel that Ray did not carry out the murder entirely alone. On balance, both my son and partner, Arthur, Jr., and I feel that, at the very least, Ray was helped. This means that we believe there was what the law calls a conspiracy.

had at least some time to study the rooming-house complex from which the fatal shot is alleged to have been fired. We can't believe that Ray could have known that he would have an unobstructed line of fire at Dr. King from the room he rented, or from the bathroom the state claims the shot was fired from. Since there is no evidence that Ray ever entered this house until 3:15 p.m. on the day of the murder; and since when he did enter it, he didn't go through the house looking out of various windows, but merely indicated what room he wanted, we believe that someone must have told him which house to enter and which room to rent.

2. Twenty feet below the bathroom window from which the shot is alleged to have been fired, there is a vacant lot, which at that time was covered with bushes 12 to 15 feet high. Dr. King's chauffeur, Solomon Jones, told reporters a few minutes after the shooting that "just after the shot was fired, a man with a sheet over his head ran out of the bushes heading south." Another witness, "Cornbread" Carter, said that he saw "the man" fire the shot from the bushes and then "take off."

From a concealed position in a firehouse just south of Bessie Brewer's rooming house, police were watching the area of Dr. King's room, trying to protect him from what they thought was the most serious

1. When Ray's abandoned Mustang was found and searched in Atlanta, in its trunk was a man's clothing much too small for Ray. It would fit a man who weighs 125 pounds. Moreover, the car's ashtrays brimmed with cigarette butts, and Ray does not smoke. And in the back seat was a sheet, like the one

"Look" 4/15/69

P. 104

The reporting in the New York Times concerning the existence of a conspiracy, regardless of the ^{Sometime} diabolical standard of American justice

we have clearly seen in this Study was responsible, complete, sometimes buried in the wrong sections, but generally superior to any other American newspaper covering this national tragedy.

On this page we see another flat denial by Ray that he had anything to do ^{h.} ^{h.} the murder.

Ray Contends He Was Miles From Murder

By MARTIN WALDRON
Special to The New York Times
MEMPHIS, Oct. 29—James Earl Ray testified today that he did not assassinate the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., that he was more than a mile away at the time of the murder and that he had witnesses to prove it.

Mr. Ray has not yet finished giving his account of his involvement in the murder of the civil rights leader on April 4, 1968, in Memphis, but he admitted involvement today and will be on the witness stand answering questions about it again tomorrow.

He said that his involvement had been peripheral.

"I personally did not shoot Dr. King, but I believe I may be partly responsible for his death," the 47-year-old convict testified.

Mr. Ray is seeking a full-scale trial in the murder. He pleaded guilty in March, 1969, and was sentenced to 99 years in prison after a one-hour court proceeding.

He said on the witness stand today that he had pleaded guilty because he thought his attorney,

He said that Mr. Foreman had seemed intent on getting him to plead guilty.

Mr. Ray's acknowledgment that he may have been "partly responsible" for Dr. King's death, came, he said, in a letter he wrote to Senator James O. Eastland of Mississippi five years ago agreeing to cooperate with a proposed investigation of Dr. King's murder.

We also see for the first time that

Senator James O. Eastland of

Mississippi received a letter

from Ray agreeing to cooperate

in an investigation of the murder.

In the paragraph marked with red,

Ray says that he did not personally

shoot Dr. King but "I believe I

may be partly responsible for his

death."

6 years
After

On page eighteen, we will discuss documents that never reached

the Times for some unexplained reason. They concern a tape recording of a telephone conversation purporting a plot to assassinate President John Kennedy two weeks before he was killed. The threat was to be carried out in Miami where Kennedy was visiting. Stringent measures were used to safeguard President Kennedy while he was in Miami, including the elimination of a planned motorcade.

Mr. Weisberg was the first to publish these documents in 1971 ("Frame-Up") in the appendix section of this book. They are called "The Milteer Documents." Joseph Adams Milteer is the Georgia functionary of the National States Rights Party. (The NSRP is farther to the right than the Klu Klux Klan and hates Jews more than the Klan hates Blacks). This threat was taped by the Miami police and dubs were given to the Secret Service and the F.B.I. on November 10, 1963, according to author Weisberg.

In this tape transcript, which will appear in this Study, Joseph Milteer discussed the Kennedy threat along with the man who was speaking about that assassination and, says Mr. Weisberg, "was doing more---attempting to kill King."

The possible connection between these men who were manipulating Ray in Dr. King's murder and people directly or indirectly connected with John Kennedy's killing, is clear in the "Milteer Documents." As Mr. Weisberg, notes on page 468 of "Frame-Up", the NSRP chairman was allowed to see Ray in September, 1968, when others could not give further clue to this intercepted threat against Kennedy and attempted murder of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

On page nineteen, we will see edited excerpts of the so-called "Milteer Documents" (by Weisberg). The "Subject" is Joseph Milteer. The "Informant" is possibly the Miami police, but at any rate, he had also been an F.B.I. informant.

The material furnished by Mr. Weisberg (through his extremely energetic investigations) was found nowhere else in any other form, other than in his book, "Frame-Up".

Not only because these dedicated wrong of the extreme of the right extreme plotted the murder of the murdered King are the suppressed tape and reports relevant. The facts that NSRP chieftain Stoner alone got to see Ray, in September 1968, when others could not; that he became Ray's counsel when Judge Battle failed to appoint a lawyer, as Ray requested (and wasted many of Ray's legal possibilities); and that King hung in effigy in the NSRP headquarters, give added point to this account of NSRP ambition.

This first clip may give the reader an indication of the type of persons acquitted of lengthy charges in genocidal activities through the American system of justice.

On the right side of this page is shown clear evidence that conspiracies to assassinate the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and President Kennedy did exist. (marked in red). The person named "Brown" is explained by author Weisberg, also, on the right side of this page.

The "church...in Birmingham" line in the passage marked in yellow refers to the bombing of a church in Birmingham in 1963 which killed several young black girls, on page twenty.

That was just a trial proposition, if it will work in a little stinking town like that, it will work anywhere.
Informant: I don't know, I think Kennedy is coming here on the 18th, or something like that to make some kind of speech. I don't know what it is, but I imagine it will be on the TV, and you can be on the look for that, I think it is the 18th that he is suppose to be here. I don't know what it is suppose to be about.

Informant: Now we are going to, you are going to have to take, Kenney, what do you call his last name?

Subject: Kenneth Adams. [Adams has had his own share of headlines and heroics. In 1956, he leaped onto a Birmingham stage to attack the late Nat "King" Cole, popular Negro musician. Five years later, he was implicated in the burning of a "Freedom Riders" bus. He was found not guilty by a directed verdict. Other charges laid to him include the shotgunning of Negro homes and churches. After deliberating 11 hours, an all-white jury, on November 21, 1966, acquitted him of a charge of receiving Army explosives. The stolen items included blocks and sticks of explosives, phosphorus bombs, hand grenades, and three boxes of .50-caliber ammunition, which is not for handguns. Because of Adams's acquittal, the judge said he would not jail the man who had already confessed the theft.]

[Believed to be Jack H. Brown who, like Adams, had been extremely active in the Klans. He operated a gas station in a Chattanooga suburb. He has been reported to be "contact man" for the United White Party; to have arranged for the Klan to be entered in the Chattanooga softball series; to have been an NSRP presidential elector; to believe the Klan needed a flag and to have offered to design it; to have died of a heart attack in 1965, leaving chips off the old block to continue his good works.]

Subject: You can bet your bottom dollar he is going to have a lot to say about the Cubans, there are so many of them here.

Informant: Yeah, well he will have a thousand bodyguards, don't worry about that.

Subject: The more bodyguards he has, the easier it is to get him.
Informant: What?

Subject: The more bodyguards he has the more easier it is to get him.

Informant: Well how in the hell do you figure would be the best way to get him?

Subject: From an office building with a high powered rifle, how many people [room noise-tape not legible] does he have going around who look just like him? Do you know about that?

Informant: No, I never heard that he had anybody.

Subject: He has got them.

Informant: He has?

Subject: He has about fifteen. Whenever he goes any place they [not legible] he knows he is a marked man.

You think he knows he is a marked man?

Continued
over

Subject: Sure he does

Informant: They are really going to try and

kill him?

Sub: Oh, yeah, it is in the working. Brown himself, Brown is just as likely to get him as anybody. He hasn't

said so, but he tried to get Martin Luther King.

Informant: He did.

Subject: Oh yes, he followed him for miles and miles and couldn't get close enough to him.

Informant: you know exactly where, in Atlanta don't it is

you?

Subject: Martin Luther King, yeah.

Informant: Bustus Street [phonetic].

Subject: yeah 530.

Informant: Oh Brown tried to get him huh.

Subject: yeah.

Informant: Well, he will damn sure do it, I will tell you that. Well that is why, look, you see, Well that is why we have to be so →

(article/excerpt continued from page
nineteen from "Frame-Up", page 473 to
page 474 below).

Apparently, Jack H. Brown was the hit man in both the plot
against John Kennedy and Martin Luther King (as shown on page nineteen)
and in the Birmingham church bombing and killing, referred to below and to
the left.

"Frame-Up"
p. 474.

careful, you know that Brown is operating strong.

Subject: He ain't going for play you know.

Informant: That is right.

Subject: He is going for broke.

Informant: I never asked Brown about his business or anything.
you know just what he told me, told us, you know. But after the
conversation, and the way he talked to us, there is no question in my
mind about who knocked the church off in Birmingham, you can
believe that, that is the way I figured it.

Subject: That is right, it is about the only way you can figure it.

Informant: That is right.

Subject: Not being there, not knowing anything.

Informant: But just from his conversation, as you and me know
him, but if they did, it is their business, like you say [Subject
breaks in].

Subject: It is up to the individual.

Informant: That is right. They are individual operators, we don't
want that within the party. Hitting this Kennedy is going to be a, a
hard proposition, I tell you, I believe, you may have figured out a
way to get him, you may have figured out the office building, and all
that. I don't know how them Secret Service agents cover all them
office buildings, or anywhere he is going, do you know whether they
do that or not?

Subject: Well, if they have any suspicion they do that of course.
But without suspicion chances are that they wouldn't. You take
there in Washington, of course it is the wrong time of the year, but
you take pleasant weather, he comes out on the veranda, and some-
body could be in a hotel room across the way there, and pick him off
just like [fades out].

Informant: Is that right?

Subject: Sure, disassemble a gun, you don't have to take a gun up
there, you can take it up in pieces, all those guns come knock down,
you can take them apart.

The final excerpt from
the appendix of the
book, "Frame-Up" by
Harold Weisberg is
concerned with timing
of the Kennedy murder.
The stalking of Dr.
King was confidently
thought to be successful,
eventually; this was noted
on page nineteen.
In the last passage from
the "Frame-Up" appendix,
note the possible goading
of the "Informant" in
saying, "...you have got

sombody up there in that country now, if you need him."

"...in that country...", (emphasis added) is meant to imply what? If we quickly refer back to page twelve, William Bradford Huie's

Subject: Yeah I would.
 Informant: I am going to talk with him some more, and find out a lot more about his operation, because he knows a hell of a lot.
 Subject: You need a guy like that around, too. Where we can put our finger on him, when we want him.
 Informant: Yeah. Well, you have got somebody up there in that country now, if you need him.
 Subject: Well, we are going to have to get nasty first [not legible].
 Informant: Yeah, get nasty.
 Subject: We have got to be ready, we have got to be sitting on go, too.
 Informant: Yeah, that is right.
 Subject: There ain't any count down to it, we have just got to be sitting on go. Count down they can move in on you, and on go they can't. Count down is alright for a slow prepared operation, but in an emergency operation, you have got to be sitting on go.
 Informant: Boy, if that Kennedy gets shot, we have got to know where we are at. Because you know that will be a real shake, if they do that.
 Subject: They wouldn't leave any stone unturned there no way. They will pick up somebody within hours afterwards, if anything like that would happen just to throw the public off.
 Informant: Oh, somebody is going to have to go to jail, if he gets killed.
 Subject: Just like that Bruno Hauptman in the Lindberg case you know. [Dials telephone.]
 Informant: "Hello, is Jim there?" "Has he gone to the office?" "Uh, huh, well, is he coming back home?" "Alright, I will do that, thank you." He has gone out to one of his apartment houses, and he will be back later. We will go see whatamacallit, he closes at 1:00 o'clock. We will go up and see Andrew, and we will double back to Jim's [room noise].
 Subject: Actually the only man we are interested in up at that place [room noise - not legible - door closes].

"Frame-up," p. 415

closing line in his second LOOK installment is, ..."Therefore, in this plot, Dr. King was the secondary, not the primary target. The primary target was the United States of America."

Could this be a connection in thought with the lines (at the left marked in red), ..."you have got somebody up there in that country, if you need him." (emphasis added) ?

According to these conspiracy revelations to assassinate Dr.

Martin Luther King, Jr., he was "supposed" to have been already killed---and Kennedy was "supposed" to die next.

The next Chief of State of "...that country..." would have been (and was) a Southerner, Lyndon Johnson.

The next two documents from the appendix of "Frame-Up", by Harold Weisberg are memes made by the F.B.I. as a result of the threats and conspiracy death plans disclosed against John Kennedy (and Dr. King) that we have just covered. One of the documents is on this page (contrary to page twenty, two more "Frame-Up" appendix excerpts will be discussed at this stage of the Study) and marked in red.

"Frame-Up" appendix

MM 89-35

Re: THREAT TO KILL PRESIDENT KENNEDY
BY J. A. MILTEER, MIAMI, FLORIDA,
NOVEMBER 9, 1963

On November 26, 1963, a source who has furnished reliable information in the past and in addition has furnished some information that could not be verified or corroborated, advised SA PETERSON as follows:

On November 23, 1963, J. A. MILTEER was in the Union Train Station, Jacksonville, Florida, and at about 4:25 p.m. on that date stated he was very jubilant over the death of President KENNEDY. MILTEER stated, "Everything ran true to form. I guess you thought I was kidding you when I said he would be killed from a window with a high-powered rifle." When questioned as to whether he was guessing when he originally made the threat regarding President KENNEDY, MILTEER is quoted as saying, "I don't do any guessing."

On the evening of November 23, 1963, MILTEER departed Jacksonville, Florida, by automobile en route to Columbia, South Carolina. During this trip, MILTEER stated that he had been in Houston, Ft. Worth, and Dallas, Texas, as well as New Orleans, Louisiana, Biloxi and Jackson, Mississippi, and Tuscaloosa, Alabama. MILTEER said he was acquainted with one R. E. DAVIS of Dallas, Texas, whom he described as a "good man," but did not indicate he was personally acquainted with DAVIS. MILTEER did not indicate on what dates he was in the above cities, except for Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

MILTEER related that he was in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and contacted ROBERT SHELTON of the United Klans of America, Inc., Knights of the Ku Klux Klan (United Klans), on the evening prior to the bombing of the

However, a note of explanation may be in order here as to why this writer is using so much material related to JFK's assassination. Two reasons. One, in this documentation of evidence we see that efforts were in motion as far back as 1963 to murder King, and, moreover, two, the American Justice Department apparently did nothing while the F.B.I., apparently, never got further than

the information-gathering phase.

On page twenty-two we see the remark made by Joseph Adams Milteer on November 23, 1963 (the day following President Kennedy's murder) at the Union Train Station in Jacksonville, Florida.

"...he was very jubilant over the death of President Kennedy. Milteer stated: 'Everything ran true to form. I guess you thought I was kidding you when I said he would be killed from a window with a high-powered rifle.' When questioned as to whether he was guessing when he originally made the threat regarding President Kennedy, (as noted on pages nineteen, twenty, and twenty-one of this Study) Milteer is quoted as saying, 'I don't do any guessing.'"

Apparently, this is the extent of memo, at least available to Weisberg; in "Frame-Up", it ends with the words, "...the bombing of the". At the bottom of the page where this memo appeared, Mr. Weisberg writes the following:

Having blueprinted the JFK assassination in advance, NSRP'er Milteer here took credit for it. What better reason for total suppression--after Oswald was officially obtained assassin? R. E. Davis also figures in an also-suppressed Secret Service investigation (the copies of which I have) of a suspected Minuteman involvement. Neither investigative agency made this correlation for the Commission.

The "Minuteman"

that Weisberg refers
to is in regard
to another neo-Nazi,

right-wing fanatical group called the Minutemen.

So we can see that J. A. Milteer not only blueprints the JFK assassination plan ahead of time (and clearly mentions the ongoing attempts to kill Dr. King), but he takes credit for it as well.

This is all suppressed evidence by the F.B.I.!

As Weisberg states in the "Frame-Up" appendix:

In almost every case that I have been able to

check--by getting what was suppressed by the F.B.I.--what is withheld deals with the extreme of the radical right or is designed to prevent embarrassment to the (American) government..."

What appears on this page is further proof that the F.B.I.

had evidence of advance planning of the

JFK assassination in their files and

still nothing was done. The Miami

tape of NSRP member Joseph Adams

MM 89-35
FPG:ggg/ds
1

Re: Threat to Kill President
KENNEDY by J. A. MILTEER,
Miami, Florida
November 9, 1963

On November 10, 1963, a source who has furnished reliable information in the past and in addition has furnished some information that could not be verified or corroborated, advised SA LEONARD C. PETERSON that J. A. MILTEER on November 9, 1963, at Miami, Florida, made a statement that plans were in the making to kill President JOHN F. KENNEDY at some future date; that MILTEER suggested one JACK BROWN of Chattanooga, Tennessee, as the man who could do the job and that he (MILTEER) would be willing to help. MILTEER reportedly said that he was familiar with Washington and that the job could be done from an office or hotel in the vicinity of the White House using a high-powered rifle.

U. S. Secret Service was advised of the foregoing information.

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The FBI's titling of this report, page 119 of Warren Commission File (CD) 1347, is unequivocal. It is a *serious* "Threat to Kill President KENNEDY," by one Joseph Adams Milteer, of the NSRP. These reports exactly coincide with the Miami tape, here also reproduced, and with the cancellation of the scheduled motorcade when the President addressed the Inter-American Press Association, in Miami. The "source who has furnished reliable information in the past" may be the informant or the Miami police, which gave dubs of the tape to both the FBI and the Secret Service. (The man had also been an FBI informant.)

Milteer's death plots/

threats against JFK

and Dr. Martin Luther

King, Jr. were dubbed

and given to the

F.B.I. and the

Secret Service--

both of which withheld

them from the

Warren Commission,

according to author

Weisberg.

Says Weisberg:

"These few inadequate

reports on this that

the F.B.I. did not

withheld from the

Commission, the

Commission suppressed?;

("Frame-Up", p. 238).

The F.B.I. had the tape blueprinting the JFK assassination and had it filed under "LEE HARVEY OSWALD; INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA"; Milteer's voice on tape, again, detailing the pursuit to murder Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and JFK, and the F.B.I. sets up a file under "Oswald" and "Russia".) This punk, ^(sic) fascist murderer did not even "merit" a file in the F.B.I. and was never more than questioned by the evidence-suppressing Federal Bureau of Investigation !

It seems almost "anti-climatic" for us to return to the case of one person involved in the conspiracy responsible for the assassination of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.—one of the most astounding leaders in the history of American civilization.

But it is necessary to do so. (in this Study, via the New York Times).

This journalist's aim is to leave the reader with the knowledge that there is irrefutable evidence that there were persons and/or conspiratorial elements that devised a plot to assassinate Martin Luther King, Jr. Moreover, this writer must direct the reader's awareness to the fact that there was never even a trial held in the United States of America for the murder of Dr. King. To simply substantiate this, we can refer back to page fifteen of this Study where Judge W. Preston Battle, who presided over the March 10, 1968, ^{mini}trial of James Earl Ray, said on March 17, 1968, in an interview, "it was not a trial."

And lastly, this journalist intends to leave the reader with the knowledge that, under the auspices of American justice, the conspirators and co-conspirators of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., are still enjoying freedom to this day !

The New York Times reports on October 23, 1974, that James Earl Ray thought he was "gun-running" and that he was "duped" by persons also engaged in this gun-running. We can also see that in the first minitrial of March 10, 1969, Ray's letters from jail were photocopied and given to the prosecution, (marked in red). Finally, in this article, we note where Ray's new lawyers contend that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was killed by two professional assassins, hired by "wealthy and socially prominent Americans" who hated Dr. King. (This is marked in yellow.)

THE NEW YORK TIMES, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1974

Sheriff's Aide Says James Earl Ray Was Kept 8 Months

By MARTIN WALDRON
Special to The New York Times

MEMPHIS, Oct. 22—A Federal District Court was told here today that while James Earl Ray was awaiting trial for the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. he was held in a brightly lighted cell with the windows blocked off and that he was kept under constant surveillance by deputy sheriffs, television cameras and microphones.

The court was also told that Mr. Ray's letters had been photographed and copies given to the prosecution and that the trial judge had made alterations in the transcript of the hearing at which Mr. Ray pleaded guilty in return for a 99-year prior sentence.

Justice," said Mr. Ray's chief attorney, Bernard Fensterwald of Washington. Today, he said, the shadows have become fact.

Mr. Ray sat quietly in the courtroom as his three volunteer attorneys began calling some 20 witnesses in the culmination of more than four years of seeking a new trial.

Mr. Ray, 47 years old, is some 20 or 30 pounds lighter than he was five years ago when he was awaiting trial. He appears to be somewhat drawn, and his hair is graying.

Mr. Ray now contends that he did not shoot Dr. King, the civil rights leader. Mr. Ray has said he arrived in Memphis with a rifle in April, 1968, to join a "gun running" adventure and that he was made the "dupe" in

Dr. King's murder by his would-be associates.

One of the early witnesses today was Inspector Billy J. Smith of the Memphis sheriff's office, who was in charge of protecting Mr. Ray after he was extradited to Tennessee from London. Mr. Ray was arrested on June 8, 1968, two months after the April 4 assassination, while trying to go to Africa.

Mr. Smith testified that Mr. Ray had been kept in a brightly lighted cell in a Shelby County jail in downtown Memphis, that heavy metal shields had been put across the cell windows and that for more than eight months Mr. Ray never saw sunlight, moonlight or the stars.

P.27

in Jail With No View of Sunlight

paper that Mr. Ray tried to flush down his toilet were retrieved and turned over to the prosecution.

Federal Judge Robert M. McRae Jr. made notes during the testimony, but he gave no indication whether he considered the activities described by the witnesses to be a violation of Mr. Ray's rights.

J. A. Blackwell, the clerk of the criminal court at Memphis, testified that Judge W. Preston Battle had altered the transcript of the hearing at which Mr. Ray pleaded guilty.

Mr. Blackwell was vague in testifying about changes that he said the judge had made in the transcript before it was released to the public. But in a la-

ter interview, the clerk said he believed that the alterations were mostly of grammar and not of substance.

Judge Battle died two weeks after the hearing.

Newspaper reporters who covered the 1969 hearing agreed generally that the official account of the hearing as reflected by the altered transcript coincided with their recollections of what happened.

Mr. Ray said at the time he pleaded guilty that he had fired a shot that killed Dr. King. But at one point he interrupted to say he did not want to be considered as agreeing with statements by former Attorney General Ramsey Clark, the late Federal Bureau of Investigation

director, J. Edgar Hoover, and the Memphis prosecutor, Phil M. Canale, that there was no conspiracy connected with the murder.

Mr. Ray's lawyers now contend that Dr. King was killed by two professional assassins hired by four "wealthy and socially prominent Americans" who hated Dr. King.

Mr. Ray's current lawyer said that other witnesses at the hearing, which is expected to last the rest of this week, would present evidence that while the state was reading Mr. Ray's mail and invading his privacy, his former attorneys were preparing to sell him out to push the sales of a book about Dr. King's murder.

On October 31, 1974, accused assassin Ray testified at the hearing that was to determine whether he would be granted a "new" "trial", that he had names "addresses and telephone numbers" of others involved in Dr. King's assassination. Also at the hearing of (continuing into) October 30, Ray's first attorney, Arthur Hanes (former F.B.I. agent and C.I.A. operative) finally disclosed that Ray told him (Hanes) over a hundred times that he did not kill Dr. King. We also note the flow of Ray's activities

just before the
assassination;
the promised
payoff by "Raoul"
of \$12,000, and
exactly what happened
after Ray reached

By MARTIN WALDRON
Special to The New York Times
MEMPHIS, Oct. 30—James Earl Ray testified today that he had "addresses and telephone numbers" of others involved in events leading to the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1968, but that he had never given most of this information to his lawyers. He said he had kept the names of some of his witnesses secret because he thought the names might get back to agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and that the F.B.I. might harass them.

The lawyer said that Mr. Ray had told him that he was given "a note with the address of a rooming house in Memphis and told to be there at 3 o'clock" on

Mr. Hanes, a former F.B.I. agent and once a contract employee of the Central Intelligence Agency, was reluctant to tell Judge McRae what Mr. Ray had told him, but the judge ruled that he must do so.

Mr. Hanes said that he had asked "James Earl Ray a hundred times: 'Did you fire the shot that killed Dr. King?' and his invariable answer was 'No.'"

He said that Mr. Ray told him that he had come to Memphis in April 1968, at the direction of "Raoul," who had been described as a blond Latin whom Mr. Ray met in Canada in 1967 after Mr. Ray had escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary.

Mr. Ray said in statements smuggled from the Shelby County Jail by Mr. Hanes in 1968 for the Alabama author William Bradford Huie, that "Raoul" had promised him \$12,000 and new identity papers to help him on some major crime that "Raoul" never specified.

Mr. Hanes testified that Mr. Ray had told him that while he was on his way to Memphis he spent the night of April 2, 1968, —two days before the assassination—in Mississippi.

"James Earl Ray told me that the gun he had bought at the Aero-Marine Supply Company was taken from him at a motel in Mississippi, and that he never saw it again until it was thrown down on the street in Memphis tied to his suitcase," Mr. Hanes said.

Has Addresses and Phone

Memphis (marked in red.).

the afternoon of April 4. He said that when Mr. Ray got to Memphis he became lost, and that he parked his car seven or eight blocks from the rooming house at 42 1/2 South Main Street and walked to the rooming house, arriving 15 minutes late.

"There his contact contacted him," Mr. Hanes said. He said that after Mr. Ray had rented a room as directed, he was told to go get the car and park it in front and then to buy a pair of binoculars.

After this had been accomplished, Mr. Ray was told to leave the rooming house and to go to a nearby saloon and drink beer while "Raoul" bathed, shaved and changed clothes.

Mr. Hanes said that Mr. Ray, after drinking several beers, was standing on the sidewalk outside the rooming house about 6 o'clock when the shot that killed Dr. King was fired. "Raoul" came out of the rooming house and threw the rifle and Mr. Ray's suitcase

It is crucial to read where Ray was when the shot was fired to understand that there, (1) was

a conspiracy and (2) although part of the plot, James Earl Ray did not fire the shot that killed Martin Luther King, Jr. (marked in yellow).

THE NEW YORK TIMES,

Numbers of

down on the sidewalk, Mr. Hanes said. "Jimmy said he knew somebody had been shot, and he knew he was in trouble and he fled," Mr. Hanes said.

Mr. Hanes said the only information he was able to pry out of Mr. Ray about "Raoul" was that he had reddish blond hair.

Mr. Hanes's son, and law partner, Arthur Hanes Jr., also testified today, saying that "I felt then and I still feel there was a conspiracy involved in this killing."

The last day of this hearing was reported in the Times on November 1, 1974. Three pieces of information are vital. One, that Ray was not given fair treatment by the state and his defense attorneys before

TESTIMONY ENDS IN RAY HEARINGS

Decision Due In Several
Weeks on Retrial Plea

By MARTIN WALDRON

Special to The New York Times

MEMPHIS, Oct. 31—Testimony ended today in a hearing to determine whether James Earl Ray should be given a new trial in the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Mr. Ray has contended that he was treated unfairly by the state and by his defense attorneys before he pleaded guilty to murder in March, 1969.

He was sentenced to 99 years in prison after pleading guilty to Dr. King's murder on March 10, 1969.

Mr. Ray has since contended that he pleaded guilty because he thought he might get the death sentence in a trial and because he considered himself to be an unknowing accomplice in the assassination—and thus might be legally guilty.

In their depositions, both Mr. Foreman and Mr. Hule said they believed that Mr. Ray had acted alone in the assassination. Mr. Foreman said he thought that Mr. Ray killed Dr. King because he wanted to get attention. Mr. Hule said that he had become involved in financing Mr. Ray's trial because he wanted the truth about the killing to be made public.

Mr. Ray, who was on the witness stand for about 10 hours during the hearing, told Judge McRae that he considered Mr. Foreman and Mr. Hanes, whom he dismissed in November, 1968, two days before his trial was scheduled to start, to be more interested in promoting a book by Mr. Hule than in organizing an adequate defense.

Dr. King was shot to death in Memphis on April 4, 1968. Mr. Ray was arrested in London on June 8 of that year. He was sentenced to 99 years in prison after pleading guilty to Dr. King's murder on March 10, 1969.

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Mr. Ray, who was on the witness stand for about 10 hours during the hearing, told Judge McRae that he considered Mr. Foreman and Mr. Hanes, whom he dismissed in November, 1968, two days before his trial was scheduled to start, to be more interested in promoting a book by Mr. Hule than in organizing an adequate defense.

In his testimony today, Mr. Hanes—who is recovering from heart surgery—said he had agreed to assist Mr. Hule with a book about the case because he felt that was "a better way" of raising defense money than a public appeal would have been. But he denied that he had ever allowed Mr. Hule to make suggestions about how to defend Mr. Ray.

Conspiracy Theory

Mr. Hanes said that he and his son and partner, Arthur Hanes Jr., believed that Mr. Ray was an unknowing participant in a conspiracy to assassinate Dr. King.

"I thought perhaps a black militant organization was behind the slaying," Mr. Hanes said.

The attorney, who is the former right-wing mayor of Birmingham, testified also that the prosecution had had a very weak case against Mr. Ray. Mr. Hanes, a former agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and a sometime employee of the Central Intelligence Agency, said he was positive that the rifle found near the murder scene had not been used to shoot Dr. King.

New York
Times
November 1,
1974
P. 17

pleading guilty,
Two, that he
pleaded guilty,
as an unknowing
accomplice, be-
cause he was con-
vinced by the state
and his attorneys
that he would be
sentenced to death if he
did not. And,
three, he considered
his first two
attorneys were in-
terested in making
money through publications
than in the defense
of him (Ray). (1) is
in red; (2) in yellow;
(3) in red.
On page twenty-nine
we will see a piece
of evidence to sub-
stantiate Ray's third
contention.

An F.B.I. ballistics expert has said that it could not be established that the bullet that killed Dr. King was fired from the rifle, which Mr. Ray had bought in Birmingham about a week before the murder.

That slug taken from Dr. King's body," Mr. Hanes said, "was as perfect as a slug fired for test purposes." If it had been fired from Mr. Ray's rifle, he said, experts could have established this.

Mr. Ray has told his attorneys that he came to Memphis in April, 1968, to join what he thought was to be a gun-smuggling ring. He said he was given the money in Birmingham to buy a rifle to take to Memphis as a model of guns that he and his associates might be able to supply the smugglers.

Below is a letter from Ray attorney #2, Percy Foreman, of March 9, 1969--the day before the hearing or minitrial that convicted Ray of Dr. King's murder. The reader can note several items on this page: (1) the advance of \$500,000 to James Earl Ray which he never received; (2) the fact that this deal of Ray disclosing any information about the assassination "contingent upon the plea of guilty, without any unseemly conduct on your (Ray's) part in court." (The first marked in red, the second in yellow.

LAW OFFICES OF
PERCY FOREMAN
804 SOUTH COAST BUILDING
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77002
CA 4-9321

March 9, 1969

Mr. James Earl Ray,
Shelby County Jail,
Memphis, Texas.

Dear James Earl:

You have asked that I advance to Jerry Ray five (\$500.00) of the "\$5,000.00" referring to the first five thousand dollars paid by Wm. Bradford Huie. On January 29th, Mr. Huie advanced an additional \$5,000.00. At that time I had spent in excess of \$9,500.00 on your case. Since then, I have spent in excess of \$4,000.00 additional.

But I am willing to advance Jerry \$500.00 and add it to the \$165,000.00 mentioned in my other letter to you today. In other words, I would receive the first \$165,500.00. But I would not make any other advances - just this one \$500.00.

And this advance, also, is contingent upon the plea of guilty and sentence going through on March 10, 1969, without any unseemly conduct on your part in court.

Yours truly,
Percy Foreman

PF-4

P.S. The rifle and the white mustang are tied up in the suit filed by Renfro Hays. Court costs and attorneys fees will be necessary, perhaps, to get them released. I will credit the \$165,500.00 with whatever they bring over the cost of obtaining them, if any.

James Earl Ray
Percy Foreman
Percy Foreman

The figure
"\$165,000 is
the fee that
Percy Foreman
charged, to
be acquired via
Ray's disclosure
of information
on his involvement,
his guilty plea
to rule out any
complications of
investigating a
conspiracy, and
premises not to dis-
close any other infor-
mation regarding the plot
for any other reasons.
It is no wonder the
Miami News published
a caricature of James
Earl Ray with a dollar

"Frame-up", appendix section

(See P. 8
of this study
for complete letter.)

If the plea is entered and the sentence accepted and no embarrassing circumstances take place in the court room, I am willing to assign to any bank, trust company or individual selected by you all my receipts under the above assignment in excess of \$165,000.00.

→ From Foreman to Ray on 3/10
From - Frame-up

There was no trial for the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as we see on this page that James Earl Ray was denied a "new" "trial".

In this Times article of February 28, 1975, Ray states that his attorneys "were more interested in helping publish books about the case than in defending him", as we have noted on page twenty-eight. Ray says that he pleaded guilty to Dr. King's death "from despair; this is marked in red.

RAY DENIED PLEA FOR A NEW TRIAL

But Judge Scores Lawyers
in Dr. King Murder Case

By MARTIN WALDRON

Special to The New York Times

MEMPHIS, Feb. 27—A Federal judge today criticized James Earl Ray's attorneys and state officials involved in his case but ruled that the confessed assassin had "clearly and deliberately" elected to plead guilty to murder and was not entitled to withdraw that plea and have a new trial.

Mr. Ray, 46 years old, has sought a new trial since March 17, 1969, less than a week after he pleaded guilty to the April 4, 1968, assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and accepted a 99-year prison sentence.

Federal District Judge Robert M. McRae said today that testimony last October on Mr. Ray's plea for a new trial did not convince him that the suspect had been coerced or tricked into pleading guilty by his attorneys.

New York Times
Feb. 28, 1975, p. 9

Mr. Ray has alleged that his former attorneys were more interested in helping publish books about the case than in defending him and that he pleaded guilty to the civil rights leader's murder from despair.

Judge McRae, in a decision released today, said: "The circumstances include conduct on the part of Ray's retained attorneys that should have been performed differently. [But] the total circumstances do not reflect a violation of the constitutional rights applicable to one who voluntarily pleaded guilty on the advice of competent counsel of his own choosing."

In discussing the activities of Mr. Ray's lawyers, Judge McRae said the following:

"That a contract between Mr. Ray and a Birmingham lawyer, Arthur J. Hanes, to share the proceeds of a book about the murder was an apparent violation of the canon of ethics for lawyers."

"That Mr. Ray's later attorney, Percy Foreman of Houston, was 'arrogant and overbearing' and 'a braggart' who pressed Mr. Ray to plead guilty and whose \$150,000 quoted fee was too high."

On page thirty-one, there is attached the last piece of evidence to support Ray's belief that his lawyers were "more interested in helping publish books than in defending him" (Ray).

It is from the Appendix section of "Frame-Up", by Harold Weisberg. This letter (on page thirty-one) is from author William Bradford Huie, who refers to this entire tragedy as a "project" (i.e., capitalistic-exploitive endeavor), and is not stepping with book rights but moves right on to acquiring film rights.

WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE

HARTSELLE, ALABAMA

March 7, 1969

Dear James Ray....

Enclosed you will find:

1. The original agreement signed by you, Mr. Hanes, and me.
2. The letter attached to that agreement by which I agreed to advance \$35,000 in anticipation of earnings from this project.
3. Receipts from your attorneys for the \$40,000 which I have advanced to date. (\$30,000 to Mr. Hanes and \$10,000 to Mr. Foreman.)

I am also having sent to you, from my attorneys, the Supplementary Agreement which was signed by Mr. Foreman, Mr. Hanes, you and me. I suggest that you sign another copy of this for Mr. Foreman, so that we can have two copies bearing all four original signatures.

This gives you copies of all agreements existing between you and me; and you will note that I have followed them to the letter. I will continue to do so.

To this date this project has earned \$30,000. Additional earnings will shortly be received from LOOK magazine, from foreign magazines, and from Dell Publishing Company, which will publish the book in May.

LOOK Magazine will publish my next article on April 15th. The book, titled HE SLEW THE DREAMER, will be published about May 15th.

I am currently negotiating with Carlo Ponti, the film producer, over picture rights. I'll keep you informed of developments.

As soon as you are moved to Nashville, I will attempt to see you....or rather we will attempt to get permission for you to see me. We need a picture of you to use on the front cover of the book.

Jerry keeps in touch with me; and if it is your desire you can count on me to keep in touch with you indefinitely. I'll help you in any way I can.

And of course I will keep both you and Mr. Foreman informed as to earnings.

Best wishes, *B. H. Huie*

Also on this page
there is a quote
from the head of
"Operation PUSH
(People United to
Save Humanity),
Rev. Jesse
Jackson, that never
made it to the
New York Times.
It was published
on page eighty-two
of "Frame-Up".

"Frame-Up",
Appendix section

"Frame-Up" p. 82

In Chicago, where he headed the SCLC's "Operation Breadbasket," King's close personal friend and associate, the Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, in a statement widely ignored, showed just how much this deal was endorsed by the victim's associates, how wholeheartedly they concurred in the mimicry:

We were told justice was done by giving a puny, sick white man a 99-year sentence in exchange for the assassination of our black prophet. But far from justice, the American judicial system would not allow even insensitive and unconcerned inquiry into the murder of a world leader.

CONCLUSION

To this journalist/researcher's satisfaction, the pre-stated hypothesis of this Study was proven, in overwhelming magnitude.

Furthermore the pre-stated criterion was adhered to.

The New York Times, in giving thorough coverage to the massive evidence of conspiratorial elements, did not give this national tragedy the priority exposure (i.e., front page or early pages) that it deserved.

The coverage of foreign press was typified by the Times of India on page thirteen of this Study. This article was on page nine of the Indian paper, perhaps demonstrating the international disbelief that (1) what transpired in that courtroom in Memphis on March 10, 1969³¹ was ever a trial in the first place, and that, (2) accomplice Ray acted alone.

To define the American justice rendered in the aftermath of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s assassination is to deny the conspiratorial elements of that murder contained in this study.