

144

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

10/27/78

UNCLAS E F T O

PRIORITY

#F144TPP ME3DE HQ H0144 300#H0YETP 272137Z OCT 78

FM DIRECTOR FBI (62-117290)

TO FBI MEMPHIS PRIORITY

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2/18/80 BY SP8 mac/mk

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)

AS YOU ARE AWARE, IN ITS INVESTIGATION INTO THE ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., THE HSCA IS ATTEMPTING TO DETERMINE THE POSSIBLE DIRECT OR INDIRECT RESPONSIBILITY OF ANY ORGANIZATION, INCLUDING THE FBI. IN THIS CONNECTION, THE HSCA IS TRYING TO RESOLVE THE ALLEGATION THAT PAID FBI INFORMANTS REPORTING ON THE INVADERS, A MEMPHIS YOUTH GANG, ACTED AS "AGENT PROVOCATEURS" AND INSTIGATED VIOLENCE IN MEMPHIS DURING THE SANITATION WORKER'S STRIKE, WHICH CAUSED KING TO RETURN TO MEMPHIS WHERE HE WAS KILLED.

IN COMPLIANCE WITH PREVIOUS HSCA REQUESTS, FIVE (5) FORMER MEMPHIS INFORMANTS WHO REPORTED ON THE INVADERS WERE CONTACTED BY YOUR OFFICE IN JULY, 1978, TO DETERMINE THEIR WILLINGNESS TO

JTF:PFM (2)

10/27/78 8988/4 3683

- 1 - MR. MINTZ
ATTN: MR. HELLER
- 1 - CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION
ATTN: MR. J. J. JAMAR
- 1 - MR. BASSETT
- 1 - MR. RYAN
- 1 - MR. FOSTER

REC-60

NOV 3 1978

NOV 2 1978

2

PAGE TWO DE HQ 0144 UNCLAS E F T O

BE INTERVIEWED BY THE HSCA. ALL DECLINED. IN RESPONSE TO COMMITTEE REQUEST TO REVIEW INFORMANTS FIELD OFFICE FILES, ROBERT L. KEUCH, DEPUTY ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, CRIMINAL DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, RENDERED THE OPINION THAT FILES SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO ONLY THE HSCA'S CHIEF COUNSEL AND DIRECTOR, G. ROBERT BLAKEY. INFORMATION IDENTIFYING INFORMANTS AS WELL AS THEIR IDENTITIES WAS TO BE EXCISED. ON OCTOBER 6, 1978, MR. BLAKEY COMPLETED HIS REVIEW OF THESE EXCISED INFORMANT FILES.

BY LETTER DATED OCTOBER 17, 1978, TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL {COPY FURNISHED MEMPHIS BY FACSIMILE ON OCTOBER 24, 1978}, THE HSCA REQUESTED [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] BASED ON INFORMATION IN THIS LETTER, INFORMANT IN QUESTION IS [REDACTED] {MEMPHIS FILE [REDACTED]}

OFFICIALS AT FBI HEADQUARTERS {FBIHQ} AND MR. KEUCH HAVE CONCURRED THAT THIS INFORMANT'S IDENTITY SHOULD NOT BE REVEALED TO THE COMMITTEE, BUT, TO AVOID CONFRONTATION AND POSSIBLE CONGRESSIONAL SUBPOENA FOR HIS IDENTITY, ANOTHER EFFORT SHOULD

HSCA

b2
b7D

3

PAGE THREE DE HQ 0144 UNCLAS E F T O

BE MADE TO CONTACT INFORMANT AND DETERMINE IF HE WOULD BE WILLING TO BE INTERVIEWED BY THE HSCA. MR. KEUCH REQUESTED THE HSCA PROVIDE ADDITIONAL DETAILS REGARDING CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE INTERVIEW AND ANY OTHER INFORMATION THE COMMITTEE MAY DESIRE THE INFORMANT BE FURNISHED AT THE TIME OF FBI CONTACT. THIS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WAS RECEIVED IN HSCA LETTER TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL DATED OCTOBER 19, 1978, A COPY OF WHICH WAS FURNISHED MEMPHIS BY FACSIMILE ON OCTOBER 24, 1978.

IN SUMMARY, THIS LETTER CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING POINTS WHICH SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO INFORMANT'S ATTENTION UPON CONTACT:

{1}

{2}

{3}

{4}

HSCA

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

_____ Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

_____ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

1 Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):
Congressional document - outside the purview of the FOIA.

- ☐ For your information: _____
- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-117290- 1280 p 4

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

b2
b7D

IF INFORMANT AGAIN DECLINES TO INTERVIEW WITH THE HSCA, HE SHOULD BE TOLD THE FBI WILL DO ALL WITHIN ITS POWER TO PROTECT HIS IDENTITY, HOWEVER, HIS FILE COULD BE SUBJECT TO SUBPOENA. OBTAIN FROM HIM WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES, IF ANY, WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO HIM FOR INTERVIEW BY THE HSCA. IF HE STILL PREFERS NOT TO BE INTERVIEWED UNDER ANY CONDITIONS, OBTAIN THE BASIS FOR HIS CONCERN AND ADVISE FBIHQ IN ORDER TO ASSIST THE DEPARTMENT OF

6

PAGE SIX DE HQ 0144 UNCLAS E F T O
JUSTICE {DOJ} AND FBIHQ IN RESISTING DISCLOSURE.

ON OCTOBER 26, 1978, MR. KEUCH ADVISED THAT PRIOR TO
INFORMANT CONTACT, HE DESIRED TO TRAVEL TO MEMPHIS AND MEET
CONTACTING AGENT AND OTHER APPROPRIATE MEMPHIS PERSONNEL TO
DISCUSS AND ANSWER QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE HSCA'S POSITION
IN THIS MATTER, ITS RULES AND PROCEDURES, AND CIRCUMSTANCES
SURROUNDING INTERVIEW OF INFORMANT IF HE AGREES TO SAME.

MR. KEUCH, AS SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, HAS
SERVED IN LIAISON CAPACITY WITH THE HSCA SINCE ITS INCEPTION
AND IS THOROUGHLY FAMILIAR WITH THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
WHICH EXISTS BETWEEN THE HSCA AND DOJ.

MEMPHIS REVIEW MATERIAL CONCERNING THIS MATTER AND INSURE
APPROPRIATE PERSONNEL AND INFORMANT CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE
DURING WEEK OF OCTOBER 30, 1978, MOST LIKELY, OCTOBER 31, 1978.
IN YOUR CONTACT WITH INFORMANT, DO NOT DISCLOSE TO HIM THE
NATURE OF THIS MATTER PRIOR TO MR. KEUCH'S ARRIVAL IN MEMPHIS.

BT

1

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

November 2, 1978

- 1 - Mr. Mintz
Attn: Mr. Heller
- 1 - Mr. Bassett
- 1 - Mr. Foster

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

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Reference is made to the letter to the Attorney General from G. Robert Blakey, Chief Counsel and Director, HSCA, dated October 17, 1978, which requested certain information from the FBI concerning the assassinations of President John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr.

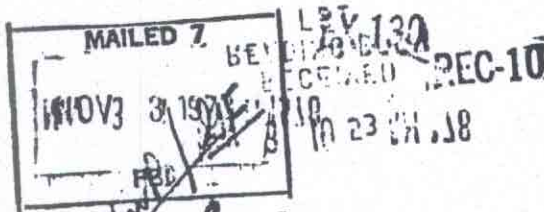
Enclosed are an original and one copy of a memorandum in response to referenced letter. It is requested that you furnish a copy of the enclosed memorandum to the HSCA.

Enclosures (2) *ENCLOSURE*

NOTE: Mr. Keuch was contacted on 10/30/78 by SA Ron Heller, Legal Liaison and Congressional Affairs Unit, Legal Counsel Division.

[REDACTED] HSCA
In response to this request, we made available the FBI Headquarters file of *[REDACTED]* b7D with identity excised. The Kansas City file on this individual, however, was destroyed and the HSCA was advised to this effect, thus resulting in its request of 10/17/78. Information from Kansas City was provided in teletype dated 10/23/78.

Assoc. Dir. _____
Dep. AD Adm. _____
Dep. AD Inv. _____
Asst. Dir.: _____
Adm. Servs. _____
Crim. Inv. _____
Ident. _____
Intell. _____
Laboratory _____
Legal Coun. _____
Plan. & Insp. _____
Rec. Mgnt. _____
Tech. Servs. _____
Training _____
Public Affs. Off. _____
Telephone Rm. _____
Director's Sec'y _____



14 NOV 8 1978

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/18/00 BY SPINAC/ML