ME 44-1987 HSL: PEH 1

On April 18, 1968, CHARLES BALLARD

Memphis, Tennessee, personally contacted the Memphis, Tennessee. FBI Office and advised SA and SA hat he registered into room 310 of the Lorraite Metal on the afternoon of March 30, 1968, and remained registered at this motel until April 4, 1968. He departed from this motel just prior to 6 P.M. the evening of April 4, 1968.

BALLARD advised he was not at the motel at the time Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING was shot and advised he has no knowledge regarding who may have shot Dr. KING. He stated that during the period he resided at the motel, no one inquired of him of any information regarding Dr. KING, and he noticed no one in particular expressing any unusual interest in the location of Dr. KING's room at the motel.

BALLARD stated that when he departed the motel at approximately 5:45 P.M., April 4, 1968, there were several persons walking around in front of the motel. He stated he paid no particular attention to these persons and is unable to recall anyone in this group whom he knows.

ME 44-1987 WHL:cjs

On April 23, 1968, SAs and and interviewed an individual identifying himself as JAMES ELMORE PHILLIPS, JR., who resides at temperature, Memphis, Tennessee, and who is a senior at LeMoyne College, 807 - 25 Walker Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee.

Mr. PHILLIPS advised that on or about March 30, 1968, he checked into room 315 of the Lorraine Motel, 406 Mulberry, Memphis, and continued to stay there until the late afternoon of April 4, 1968. He stated he well recalled the arrival of Rev. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., President, Southern Christian Leadership Conference, in Memphis on the morning of April 3, 1968, and recalled that Dr. KING and several of his Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCIC) Staff associates checked into the Lorraine Motel on April 3, 1968, with Dr. KING staying in room 306 on the second floor, which was several doors north of the room occupied by PHILLIPS.

PHILLIPS stated that no left the motel about 5:45 p.m. Thursday, April 4, 1965, with some of his associates, CHARLES BALLARD, CHARLES LAVERNE CABBAGE, JOHN BURRELL SMITH, and EDWINA HARRELL, who also had been staying at the motel. PHILLIPS stated he left on foot, walked south on Mulberry to Butler Street, west on Butler to Main Street, where he caught a #45 Walker Homes bus, a city bus, going south on Main Street, catching this bus almost immediately after arriving on Main Street.

He stated he rode this bus to South Memphis and walked to the apartment currently occupied by JOHN B. SMITH: He stated upon arrival at the SMITH residence, someone had on the television and they hard the report on television that Rev. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., had been shot at approximately 6:01 p.m. as he stood on the second floor balcory of the Lorraine Motel.

PHILLIPS stated that at no time during the period in which he stayed at the Lorraine Motel did anyone, to his recollection, inquire as to where Dr. KING was staying or as to which room was being occupied by Dr. KING and he saw no individuals in the area arousing his suspicions.

PHILLIPS stated that he paid no particular attention to the buildings on South Main Street just west of the Lorraine Motel and recalled seeing no one lock out any of the windows in

ME 44-1987 2

those buildings during the late afternoon of April 4, 1968, when he was in the process of leaving the motel.

PHILLIPS stated that as he was walking from the motel toward the bus stop, as indicated above, he did not see anything of an unusual nature.