

Supt. Benny Bulminton killed King
Jas E Johnson
6350 Reseda Blvd #206
LA 91335

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Supt. Flynn
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James Johnson
6350 Reseda, #206
Reseda, Ca. 91335

1/31/83

Dear Mr. Johnson,

Your letter of the 17 reached me promptly and I read it immediately, but I have been too busy on FOIA litigation to reply sooner.

If you had told me when you phoned that you seek financial backing, I'd have told you that I have no idea how you can get it and that I've never had it myself. It would have saved you that much time.

As I told you when we spoke, I've no interest in unsupported theories. You said you would send me enough hard evidence to satisfy me about your theory. But you didn't.

No matter how attractive your theory is to you, what you sent me is without evidentiary support.

I presume that if you had any such hard evidence you'd have given me at least some of it.

You provided no evidence at all on your allegation of a connection between the various assassinations and the Flynt attempt and nothing that really ties Edmondson into the King assassination.

Lacking this I can only offer the opinion, based on much work and study, that you will never be able to support your theory, never be able to market any responsible book or script, and that you are wasting your time, unless you turn to a work of fiction.

Conspiracy seems to be merchantable as fiction under some circumstances but I have no personal knowledge of how or with what degree of success.

Sincerely yours,

Harold Weisberg

January 17, 1983

Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Rd.
Fredrick, Maryland 21701

J. Johnson
6350 Reseda #206
Reseda, Ca 91335
(213) 705-6824

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

In reference to our telephone conversation on 1/15/83, this letter should serve to clarify the topics of discussion and reiterate my position and reasons for pursuing this matter.

At the outset, I am looking for someone, a group, organization, or whatever, to finance this venture; and I am hoping you could put me into contact with this source of funding. It is one thing to know the truth and quite another to prove it. The task is awesome, to say the least; and will require financial outlays I simply cannot afford. As I told you Saturday, I have been in negotiations with several newspapers and with the publishers of "Hustler" magazine, but these were only blind alleys. Some interest was generated but when these people contacted their attorneys they were told to shy away; the subject material was just too hot to handle. But I feel confident that somewhere there are those who would be willing to invest in the Truth; it is just a matter of finding them.

What I personally require is a source of funding and a means to establish credibility. Ideally, the position, Investigative Reporter, with a major newspaper or magazine would suit my needs; it would give me the credentials to open doors not otherwise accessible; but there are other options: Part of a concerted team effort; Investigator for a Organization or Group; etc. So you now see, Mr. Weisberg, the dilemma I face. If you can assist me in any way it will be greatly appreciated; and most certainly be to our mutual benefit as well as benefitting our Country.

To see if our hypotheses coincide I will offer my OPINION based upon the FACTS as they have been presented to me:

1. The HUNT ORGANIZATION is solely responsible for the KENNEDY ASSASINATION; the killing of MARTIN LUTHER KING; the ATTEMPTED MURDER of PUBLISHER, LARRY FLYNT; and quite possibly, the ATTEMPTED ASSASINATION of PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN.
2. The reasons for these heinous acts emanate from EUROPE.
3. The Martin Luther King killing is the KEY to solving these other crimes.
4. James Earl Ray did not kill Martin Luther King. He had an idea that a "hit" was about to take place, but he did not know who the "target" was; nor was he confided in by those who did carry out the killing.
5. James Earl Ray was intentionally "set-up" to be the killer by members of the Hunt Organization, and those in its employ.
6. James Earl Ray was to be KILLED in BRUSSELS, BELGIUM; but only after the Hunt Organization was ABSOLUTELY SURE his death would not eventually lead investigators to it.
7. The actual plan to kill Martin Luther King was conceived and formulated in NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA by those PERSONS who also conceived and formulated the PLAN to assasinate President John Kennedy seven years before.
8. Except for the highest levels of the Hunt Organization only SIX PEOPLE were involved in BOTH KILLINGS.
9. TWO of the people are DEAD, having died from NATURAL CAUSES.
10. The DECISION to kill Publisher, LARRY FLYNT, emanated from Dallas, Texas.

11. The PLAN to kill Publisher, Larry Flynt, was conceived in NEW ORLEANS by the same people who were actively responsible for the other killings.
12. But this time these people thought better of "setting-up" a DUPE; through UNDERWORLD CONNECTIONS they HIRED FOUR SEMI-PROFESSIONAL KILLERS.
13. As of OCTOBER, 1979 TWO of these killers were living in BONN, WEST GERMANY. I do not know what happened to the other TWO. Rumor has it they were KILLED while still in this Country shortly after the SHOOTING.
14. I presented the aforementioned testimony during a TAPED INTERVIEW at Larry Flynt's CORPORATE OFFICES in Los Angeles.
15. I also brought out that GEORGE "BENNY" EDMUNDSON; alias, ALEX P. BORMAN; was ONE of the people responsible for the King killing and the attempt on Larry Flynt's life.

Mr. Weisberg; the fifteen listed topics are/or can be documented; but even with this evidence it would be next to impossible to prove the Hunt Organization was behind the CONSPIRACY. To my knowledge, the only remaining PROOF OF CONSPIRACY rests with ONE MAN, ALEX BORMAN. He is the "MISSING LINK", connecting Ray with the Hunt Organization. On the phone when I told you of Borman's exploits you said you found it very hard to believe. At the time, I also found it difficult to swallow; but facts are facts, his movements and affiliations are WELL DOCUMENTED; to the extent he became somewhat of a folk hero in Canada. On the next pages I will relate what I know of this man; for in him lies the ANSWER to the GREATEST MYSTERY OF THE MODERN WORLD.

This FACT SHEET on Alex Borman was compiled in 1976. I will copy it word for word.

Fact Sheet on: George "Benny" Edmundson; alias, Alex P. Borman

1. Edmundson is in his early forties (now forty-nine); slight of build, weighing one-hundred-twenty pounds; has thin, sandy hair with somewhat of a receding hairline. He sometimes sports a moustache but shaves it on occasion.
2. This man speaks and writes in French, German, Spanish, and English FLUENTLY.
3. According to test data from the U.S. NAVY and the MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, along with INDEPENDENT TESTING at the UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI, his INTELLIGENCE LEVEL far surpasses the "GENIUS" category. According to DOCUMENTATION from the U.S. Navy, his SCORES were the HIGHEST ever recorded by that Department.
4. Although only equipped with a highschool education, Edmundson is well able to demonstrate a remarkable expertise in the fields of LINGUISTICS, CIVIL, MECHANICAL, and ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, COMPUTER SCIENCE (he can write programs in every available software language) and last but not least, his favored field, ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN.
5. His LIST OF CREDITS include: Design and Operation of the current computer system used by the Missouri Department of Revenue; The Design and Construction of the GERMAN PAVILLON at Montreal's EXPO 67; the Design and Construction of a "PAMPERS" MANUFACTURING PLANT in Belguim (1974); and he was asked by the Canadian Government to design and construct THREE PAPER MILLS to be situated across Canada.

6. When discussing a possible "Hanoi Connection" Author, Gerold Frank, mentions Edmundson in his book, AN AMERICAN DEATH." Quoting from this work:

"George Ben Edmundson, a civil engineer and fellow prisoner at Missouri State Penitentiary, had escaped nearly two years before Ray---August 3, 1965. Hanes had learned that Edmundson, who spoke fluent German like a native, had gone to Montreal and assumed a completely new identity, obtaining a passport and a name---Alex Borman; that under that name he was given a position as chief engineer of the West German Pavillon at Expo 67. There had been rumors that Edmundson had been seen in the company of men who were allegedly Red Agents. Could these men have given Ray's name to Hanoi, suggesting him as a possible tool in the assassination, the more likely because he would be the last person the authorities would suspect, since he had never been in a homicide before."

AN AMERICAN DEATH; page 248n.

7. Author, William Bradford Huie, in his book, HE SLEW THE DREAMER, mentions Edmundson several times: First, while quoting Ray:

" 'While I was in Canada an escaped convict named Benny Edmundson was arrested working in Montreal at Expo. He had escaped from the same pen as me. I knew him, and he had been out about a year when the F.B.I. put him on the Top Ten. (sic) There Fore when I got to Calif I thought there was a good chance I would be added to the list in the not to distance future.' "

HE SLEW THE DREAMER, 1968, 1969, 1970; page 84.

Huie goes on to show that there was no connection between Edmundson and Ray concerning the Martin Luther King killing.

"During some of the years Ray spent at the Missouri Penitentiary, Benny Edmundson was also a prisoner there. He was a much higher-status criminal than Ray: he was better educated, more dangerous, had pulled off bigger robberies, and was therefore more respected among prisoners. Late in 1966 Edmundson escaped, reached Canada, and using the alias Alex Borman, he worked himself into a responsible position with the Canadian Centennial Exposition, called "Expo." After the F.B.I. put him on the Top Ten and publicized him on the T.V. show, he was recognized and arrested in Canada. He fought extradition, but he was returned to the Missouri State Penitentiary.

Ray escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary while Edmundson was in Canada, while Edmundson was on the Top Ten, and before Edmundson had been arrested. So when Ray began writing me about his knowing Edmundson and about Edmundson's having been arrested at Expo, I suspected that Ray, in July 1967, might have gone to Canada to meet Edmundson and that Edmundson might have been the brain behind the murder of Dr. King." (On this Huie was right on the money!)

During an interview with the then Warden of the Missouri State Penitentiary, Harold Swenson, Huie goes on to show that Edmundson could not be involved; and that Ray killed Dr. King because he wanted to emulate Edmundson, his idol.

"Mr. Swenson showed me that Edmundson was arrested at Shawville, Quebec, Canada, on June 29, 1967. That was five days after Ray left the Indian Trail Restaurant in Chicago. It seems unlikely that Ray could have met Edmundson in Canada because, by the time Ray is known to have reached Canada Edmundson had been in custody almost a month.

I then suggested that I be allowed to talk with Edmundson, to show him what Ray had written and to question him about any conversations he may have had with Ray while they were both in the Missouri prison. To that suggestion Mr. Swenson's reaction was revealing.

'Well', he said, 'if you insist, I suppose we can let you talk with Edmundson. But I had rather you didn't. Edmundson is a bigshot among prisoners. It has taken us months to get him quieted down after his escapade in Canada. If you show him that Ray was influenced by him, Hell, Edmundson will get all excited and probably start taking credit for the King murder. And you can be certain on one point. Edmundson never talked with James Earl Ray. Edmundson wouldn't give Ray the time of day. Edmundson is a big shot; Ray, while he was here, a nobody. Nobody ever paid attention to Ray. The only reason I remember Ray is because he was always trying to escape.'

There, I'm convinced, is a large part of the explanation why Ray killed Dr. King. Ray wanted to be like Benny Edmundson. Ray didn't want to remain a nobody among prisoners all his life. Ray wanted to make the Top Ten as Edmundson had. Ray wanted to see his own face in full color on his favorite T.V. show. Ray thought that attention and recognition would relieve his feelings of inadequacy and make him feel like somebody."

HE SLEW THE DREAMER, pp 89-91.

8. It must be noted that Mr. Huie, for reasons I do not know, chose to play down Edmundson's role in the King assassination. For example: He stated, "Late in 1966 Edmundson escaped..." Disputing this, Gerold Frank states, "George Ben Edmundson, a civil engineer and fellow prisoner at Missouri State Penitentiary, had escaped nearly two years before Ray---August 3, 1965."

Another example: Mr. Huie states; "he (Edmundson) worked himself into a responsible position with the Canadian Centennial Exposition, called Expo..."

Mr. Frank mentions: "... he was given a position as chief engineer of the West German Pavillon at Expo 67."

Edmundson was the Chief Engineer on the West German Pavillon; a position he acquired while in West Germany. Mr. Huie makes it look as if Edmundson worked for the Canadians.

As far as the mixup in dates, Mr. Huie could claim that it was a typographical error; but even so, August 3rd. is not late in the year.

Moving right along: Mr. Huie's interview with Warden Harold Swenson on December 27, 1968 is filled with lies and innuendo. Warden Swenson is reported to have said; "Benny Edmundson never talked with James Earl Ray. Edmundson wouldn't give Ray the time of day. Edmundson is a big shot. Ray, while he was here, a nobody..."

According to several inmates who knew both Edmundson and Ray; namely: Joseph Mahloney; Roger McQueen; Daryl Crosswhite; and others; Ray was often seen talking with Edmundson; and for a time, it was mentioned they celled together in C-Hall. With this knowledge I must discount what Mr. Huie has to say. It seems he might be more involved in the cover-up than meets the eye.

9. Since Edmundson's arrest in Shawville, Quebec, Canada on June 29, 1967, I have not been able to procure a single piece of evidence documenting his whereabouts until December, 1971. At no time was he incarcerated within the Missouri Prison System during this period. If he was there I would have known about it, mainly because one of my clerical duties as Clerk in the Catholic Chapel was to keep files on EVERY INMATE coming into the prison system.

10. The COLLEGE RELEASE PROJECT.
My first contact with Edmundson came in late December, 1971. Edmundson and I were two of seven inmates selected to attend classes and live on the University of Missouri-Rolla Campus. He seemed very amicable but always declined comment on his "escapades" while in Canada.
Anyway, in December, 1971 we formed the Group of Seven at Church Farm, a satellite facility of the prison system; and were cloistered from the other inmate population. From late December to January 2, 1972, we had absolutely no contact with the outside world, except for the professors involved with the project.
The other members of the project and I thought it very strange that the prison officials would allow Edmundson into the project: He was doing eighty years for an armed robbery in Springfield, Missouri; he had an automatic two-five year sentence for the escape; and he was deemed "highly dangerous" by the F.B.I. To this day his participation in the Project remains a mystery.

11. After completing one semester of course-work at the University, Edmundson had his conviction reversed by the Missouri Supreme Court and was set free. All documents held by the authorities on him were destroyed. It was as if he had never been convicted or incarcerated.

12. How could Edmundson be directly involved with the Martin Luther King killing if he was in the custody of the Missouri Corrections Department at the time of the murder on April 4, 1968? An interesting question, to be sure. What better alibi could a person have than to be in prison at the time a particular crime was committed. But was this man in prison on April 4, 1968? From all available research; that meant going through the cell block records, work assignment sheets, disciplinary action reports, and chapel records for the entire year of 1968; not a single entry included the name, George "Benny" Edmundson. The man simply was not confined in the Missouri State Penitentiary at that time.

But how could this be?

By Edmundson's own admission during a party in 1972 where he had been drinking heavily, he verified what I had already learned through informants in 1970 that he was in possession of certain computer tapes smuggled from the offices of the Missouri Department of Revenue prior to his escape in 1965. These tapes are highly incriminating evidence that the then Governor, Warren G. Hearnes, and other top-level state leaders were misappropriating huge amounts of money from the Missouri General Fund. While laughing, he told me these tapes were his "insurance policy" and "ticket to freedom." He made good on these statements when, a few weeks later, his case was reviewed by the Missouri Supreme Court and an iron-clad conviction was reversed.

If Edmundson wields enough power to sway a state supreme court and have some of the most influential men in Missouri quaking in their shoes, he could damn well be anywhere he wanted to be on April 4, 1968.

Mr. Weisberg:

I hope you found the preceding pages to be informative; but the topics mentioned are only a minute part of my overall investigation. For example; I have traced Edmundson's employers in West Germany and found them to be subsidiary companies of the Hunt Conglomerate. There are also many names, dates, and meetings, that have been researched. But the fact remains: The conspiracy theory remains just that, a theory.

Not to sound egotistic or irrational, but I am perhaps the only person, besides the perpetrators, who has knowledge about the conspiracy spanning two continents. For obvious reasons I have been very selective with whom I confide. I have never divulged all that I know; but like Edmundson, I learned a long time ago to make sure I have an "insurance policy."

As to my own credentials: Excluding my incarceration:

B.S. Psychology; University of Missouri-Rolla; Dec., 1974.

Four years with the Missouri Division of Youth Services as a Staff Psychologist; Dec., 1974-Nov., 1978.

Screenplay Writer; twelve registered screenplays; work on the Columbia Pictures movie, "SILENT RAGE." My agent is Kay Porter, Exclusive Artists; N. Hollywood, Ca.

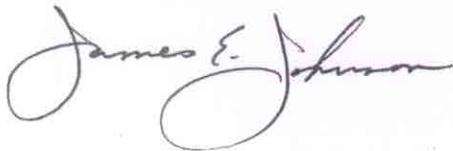
Two articles published in the JOURNAL OF HEALTH PHYSICS on research I completed in the field of Nuclear Chemistry. (74-76)

Mercenary-Covert Operations; Bolivia, Uruguay, Argentina, Libya, Israel(67 war) periodically, 1964-1969.

Union Journeyman Carpenter; 78-present. Also adept at all phases of construction (I like to work with my hands).

If you request it I would furnish a more-detailed record on my background.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James E. Johnson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "James E. Johnson".