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PRESS CONNECTED WITH ASSASSINATION COVER-UP

By Melanie Pinholster

News World Staff

Walter E. Fauntroy, chairman of the subcommittee investigating the assassination of Martin Luther King, said yesterday that journalists paid by the CIA have been swaying public opinion on the assassination.

Fauntroy, the congressional delegate from Washington, D.C., said, "There are certain members of the press who've been writing about the assassination for years and who have surfaced in the commentary on our activities now have been successful in shifting the focus of the American people from the substance of what we are investigating to side-show issues."

Will Investigate Journalists

Fauntroy said he was "annoyed" by these reporters, especially "a few whose activities are going to be the subject, ultimately, of some of our inquiries."

He said he didn't know any journalists who were agents but that "former CIA Director William Colby identified in 1973 some 40 CIA agents who are paid journalists."

The CIA claims it no longer employs reporters.

During the interview on America's Black Forum in Washington, D.C., Fauntroy said, "We have come up with a great deal of new information." He said, "I'm more convinced than before that there was probably a conspiracy."

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