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LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

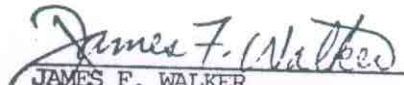
PERSONNEL

Memorandum of Interview of James T. Baity

I telephoned James T. Baity, Captain Memphis Fire Department, on September 27, 1976, regarding the detail of firemen Norvell Wallace and Floyd Newsum on April 3rd and 4th 1968. Captain Baity stated that he does not recall having anything to do with the detail of Wallace or Newsum. Chief Arthur Rivalto and Lt. John T. Buchanon were the other officers in the personnel department at the time. However, Captain Baity said any district Chief could have ordered the men detailed.

Referring to the Strength Report-Firefighting (F-200737) for April 3, 1968, Captain Baity said Wallace was detailed at 10:21p.m. no reason is indicated on the report why he was detailed. Captain Baity said he was not there at the time the detail was made, as he went off duty at 4:30p.m.

The Strength Report-Firefighting for April 4, 1968, shows only that Newsum was detailed as of the beginning of his shift. No reason is given. Captain Baity said the only other record of the details would be the log books kept in the respective fire stations.


JAMES F. WALKER
Attorney, Department of Justice

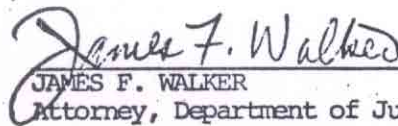
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PERSONNEL DA

Memorandum of Interview of James O. Barnett

On September 27, 1976, I telephoned James O. Barnett, former Deputy Chief, Memphis Fire Department, regarding the detail on April 3rd and 4th 1968 of firemen Norvell Wallace and Floyd Newsum.

Barnett stated that Abby Mann, who was doing a documentary, had called him from California about the same thing. He said the order to detail the men would have had to come from above, because peons in the fire department did not move men around. While he does not recall discussing the matter with Newsum, Barnett said the people on the security detail probably felt better without Wallace and Newsum around.



JAMES F. WALKER
Attorney, Department of Justice

Memorandum to the Files

Re: F.J. Baumgardner Interview

On December 22, 1976 at 1:00 pm. E.D.T. task force attorney Joseph F. Gross, Jr., telephonically contacted F.J. Baumgardner, and requested an interview from the former Chief of the Internal Security Section (ISS), Division 5, Domestic Intelligence. Now retired from the FBI and living in Louisville, Kentucky, Mr. Baumgardner, as Chief ISS from 1947 or 1948 to his retirement December 8, 1966, had supervisory responsibilities of the King Security Investigation.

At this time Mr. Baumgardner agreed to be interviewed, but declined to do so on that date because a trip to the drug store had exhausted him for the day. He directed Mr. Gross to call him at 9:00 am. December 23, 1976, in order to arrange a time for the interview.

As requested, Mr. Baumgardner was contacted December 23, 1976, but declined to be interviewed. He advised to call back December 24, 1976.

On December 24. Baumgardner was contacted but again he declined to be interviewed.

he swore an oath when he entered and when he left the Bureau not to divulge any Bureau information he became privy to during his tenure. He added that a discussion of these matters would also be too emotional for him and that his memory was too weak. He did remember, however, being proud and unashamed of his work at the Bureau. He concluded that such an interview would not be possible and apologized for reversing himself.

Interview:
SA Richard Bloeser
Security Coordinator
Los Angeles Field Office

On July 15, 1976, Departmental attorneys Gross and White interviewed Los Angeles Field Office Security Coordinator Richard Bloeser. Bloeser was our contact during the course of our review of the L. A. Field Office files 7/12-15/76.

Bloeser was most candid with us.

We asked Bloeser why information on Martin Luther King's private life was collected and retained by the Bureau which did not bear on King's alleged association with the CP, USA. He advised that the target of any intelligence gathering mission is a composite picture of the subject(s), and therefore intelligence gathering has no limit.

In connection with elsurs used on Martin Luther King, Jr., Bloeser advised that it is quite possible that the L.A.P.D. Intelligence Division received its own elsur information. However, if it had, and the information was shared with the Bureau, only the information and not the source would be revealed to the Bureau.

Bloeser stated that SAC Simon (1968) had retired and was practicing law in Beverly Hills. ASAC Onsguard is deceased.

Bloeser stated that all elsurs were specifically approved by Headquarters. He also stated that there were no "do not file" files in the L. A. office.

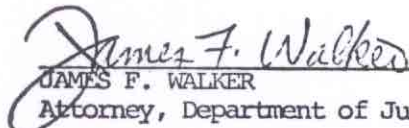


MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW OF JAMES R. BOATWRIGHT

On September 23, 1976, James R. Boatwright, Assistant Chief, Memphis Fire Department, telephoned, in response to a previous request for information, and advised that former Lt. Jack Smith of the fire department is now retired and living in Mississippi. He can be reached on telephone no.

Boatwright confirmed that Smith was Floyd Newsom's commanding officer on April 3, 1968, and was the individual who telephoned Newsom on the night of the 3rd and ordered him to report for duty at fire station no. 31 instead of no. 2 on the 4th. Boatwright said they were having a very tense situation during that time and a number of threatening calls (not directed against anyone in particular) had been received at fire station no. 2. Boatwright stated that he was the assistant chief dispatcher in 1968 and did not have first hand knowledge of the transfers. However, he said the consensus of opinion was that both Newsom and Norvell Wallace were transferred for their own protection, since they were the only blacks assigned to fire station no. 2.

Boatwright stated that former captain James O. Barnett is now retired and living in Memphis. His telephone no. is



JAMES F. WALKER
Attorney, Department of Justice

Reinterview of James R. Boatwright

On October 20, 1976, James R. Boatwright, Assistant Chief, Memphis Fire Department, furnished copies of: (1) Memphis Fire Department Strength Report-Fire Fighting Personnel dated April 3, 1968, for Shift "A", Battalions one and eight; (2) Memphis Fire Department Strength Report-Fire Fighting Personnel dated April 4, 1968, for Shift "B" Battalions one and two; and (3) pages 94 and 95 of the fire department's personnel log book for shifts "A" and "B" on April 3, 1968 and April 4, 1968, respectively.

Chief Boatwright explained that the above documents were the only records in the fire department that reflected the details of Firemen Norvell Wallace and Floyd Newsum on April 3, 1968 and April 4, 1968, respectively. According to Chief Boatwright the left side of the Strength Report shows the number of men that should be assigned to a company according to the table of organization (column 1); the second column shows the number of men actually assigned; the third column shows the minimum number of men for the company to operate; the fourth column identifies the company; and the fifth column shows the number of men actually on duty.

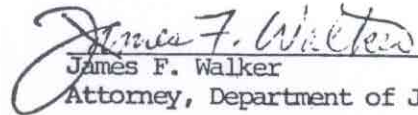
The Strength Report for April 3, 1968, shows that Wallace was detailed from company 2 to company 33 at 10:21p.m. There were six men in company 2 prior to the detail. After Wallace was detailed there were five men remaining which is the minimum strength for the company. Company 33 was operating with four men (the minimum strength) before Wallace was detailed and he made five men or one over the minimum strength.

Similarly, the Strength Report for April 4, 1968, shows that Newsum was detailed from company 55 to company 31. After the detail there were five men left on duty (the minimum strength) at company 55. On the other hand, company 31 had four men on duty before Newsum was detailed and he made five which was one man over the minimum strength.

Chief Boatwright indicated that the log records maintained by individual fire stations had been destroyed for the year 1968. Moreover, the only other available record which might have a bearing on the subject was the personnel department's log book

for April 3, 1968 and April 4, 1968 for Shifts "A" and "B". This record primarily shows the names of firemen on leave, etc. and does not reflect the details of Newsum or Wallace.

Chief Boatwright could give no reason why Newsum or Wallace were detailed, but said the consensus of opinion was they were both detailed for their own protection, since they were the only blacks assigned to the station.


James F. Walker
Attorney, Department of Justice

MEMPHIS FIRE DEPARTMENT
STRENGTH REPORT - FIRE FIGHTING PERSONNEL
 PERSONNEL DIVISION

DATE: April 4, 1968 DAY OF WEEK: THURSDAY SHIFT: 1st BATTALION: ONE

I/O	ASSIGN	MIN	CO.	OR. DUTY	REMARKS: MAKE ENTRY OF ANYTHING CONCERNING THAT CO.				ABSENTEES	REASON			
					NAME & CO. NUMBER	INSPECTOR	FROM	TO		D/O	VAC	SICK	ETC
1	1	1	Div 1	1111	NAME & CO. NUMBER	INSPECTOR	11-1	FROM	TO				
1	1	1	AID	1111	NAME & CO. NUMBER	INSPECTOR	AID	FROM	TO				
7	7	5	1	5-1	NAME & CO. NUMBER	INSPECTOR		FROM	TO				
7	7	5	2	5-2	NAME & CO. NUMBER	INSPECTOR		FROM	TO				
6	6	4	3	5-3	NAME & CO. NUMBER	INSPECTOR		FROM	TO				
7	7	5	5	6-1	NAME & CO. NUMBER	INSPECTOR		FROM	TO				
7	7	5	9	5-1	NAME & CO. NUMBER	INSPECTOR		FROM	TO				
7	7	5	51	5-2	NAME & CO. NUMBER	INSPECTOR		FROM	TO				
7	7	5	52	5-1	NAME & CO. NUMBER	INSPECTOR		FROM	TO				
7	7	5	55	5-1	NAME & CO. NUMBER	INSPECTOR		FROM	TO				
6	6	4	72	4-1	NAME & CO. NUMBER	INSPECTOR		FROM	TO				
3	3	2	401	3-0	NAME & CO. NUMBER	INSPECTOR		FROM	TO				

FORM: 737 Revised: 9/1/66

MEMPHIS FIRE DEPARTMENT

STRENGTH REPORT - FIRE FIGHTING PERSONNEL

PERSONNEL DIVISION

DATE APRIL 4, 1968

DAY OF WEEK THURSDAY

SHIFT "B"

BATTALION

T60

STRENGTH				REMARKS: MAKE ENTRY OF ANYTHING CONCERNING THAT CO.				ABSENTEES				
T/O	ASSIGN	MIN	CO. OR QUIT	NAME & CO. NUMBER	INSPECTOR	FROM	TO	NAME	D/O	VAC	SICK	ETC
1	1	1	B-2	Capitella								
1	1	1	Aide									
7	7	5	4									
7	7	5	6									
6	5	4	15									
6	6	4	26									
6	6	4	27									
2	2	2	AUX									
6	6	4	31									
7	7	5	61									
6	6	4	71									

FORM: 717 (Revised: 9/1/66)

fugitive and recommended a search of appropriate files. Since the thumb print taken from an Atlanta map found at Galt's vacated room in Atlanta had a unique "ulner loop" and was a very clear print, this was used in the search of the fugitive files. The first 100 jackets of the file contained Ray's identity, and the other fingerprints obtained during the investigation matched the Ray file.

Regarding the directives from Headquarters, Long advised that they were standard procedure in a major case. He stressed that because of the importance of the case shorter deadlines were enforced. Again, Long added this was a massive investigation without restrictions. Long believes this was a complete, highly responsible and successful investigation by the FBI. Until Ray was apprehended, there was 24 hour supervision at FBI Headquarters.

Long stated that he was not really aware of the investigation by the Domestic Intelligence Division on Dr. King. He could not recall any contact with Division 5 and did not know that there were two agents from the Domestic Intelligence Division reading incoming teletypes. Although it is a possibility that this was being done if it was done it was without his knowledge.

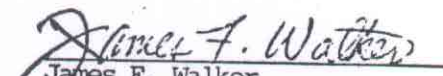
Long stressed that the FBI was very concerned with Ray's source of funds, and believes that Ray committed some type of crime to finance himself. Long believes that Ray was a strong racist and used the example of Ray not attending a softball game at the Missouri state Penitentiary if blacks were even in attendance. Long explained that the Ray family was interviewed numerous times, but stated the Bureau was uncertain as to the veracity of any family members.

Memorandum of Interview of James C. Macdonald

Mr. James C. Macdonald, Administrator and Referee of the Memphis Juvenile Court (formerly Chief of Police) was telephoned at his office on September 16, 1976, and questioned about matters relating to the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

In response to questions, Mr. Macdonald stated that the police tactical units were organized in 1966 or 1967 for the purpose of preventing burglaries and robberies. The units were beefed up during the sanitation workers strike and used during the disturbances that followed. He has no first hand knowledge of the informer coverage of the "Invaders", as they did not have paid informers. But policemen did attend the sanitation workers rallies when they could get in. However, he does not recall a policeman named Merrell McCullough who infiltrated the Invaders.

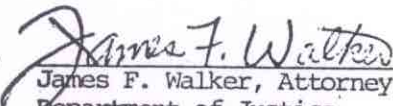
The surveillance post was set up at fire station No. 2 because Dr. King refused protection and did not want the police around him. Mr. Macdonald remembers talking to officer Edward Redditt about the threat on his life in Mr. Holloman's office, but he does not remember the source of the threat. He said that he was in court all day with Mr. Holloman in regard to the injunction hearing and does not know who could have received the information about the threat. Moreover, Mr. Macdonald said he has no knowledge of the transfer of firemen Norvell Wallace and Floyd Newsom from their post of duty at fire station No. 2 on the day prior to the assassination. After the assassination, Mr. McDonald was concerned with the disturbance that followed and played no part in the investigation.


James F. Walker
Attorney, Department of Justice

Memorandum of Interview of James C. Macdonald,
Former Chief of MPD (Telephone No. 901/527-5231)

I telephoned James C. Macdonald, former Chief of Police of the MPD, on December 22, 1976, and inquired about the security detail that was sent to the airport to meet Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on April 3, 1968. I informed Macdonald that I was referring to a report of Inspector G.P. Tines, dated July 17, 1968, in which it is stated that he (Macdonald) ordered the detail to headquarters at about 5:00p.m.

Macdonald stated that he would like to help in anyway he can and would sit down and talk with me at any time. However, he said those were hectic times and he has no present recollection of the detail. On the other hand, he stated that Inspector Tines report should be correct, since it was written July 17, 1968.


James F. Walker, Attorney
Department of Justice

Memorandum for the File

On September 20, 1976, I telephoned Philip Manuel, Chief Investigator of the Senate Investigating Committee, a sub-committee of the Senate Committee on Government Operations (phone: 224-3721) and inquired whether he had provided information to the Memphis Police Department on April 4, 1968, concerning a threat on the life of Memphis police officer Edward E. Redditt.

Mr. Manuel stated that in 1968 the committee was investigating riots and civil disorder and he did have some contact with the Memphis Police Department at that time. But, he has no present recollection of making a call and furnishing information to them about a threat on Redditt's life. Mr. Manuel agreed to search his records, some of which may be in the Archives, and will let me know if he finds anything. However, if he should find the information, he said we would have to follow Senate Rule 30 before it could be released. (A formal request from the AG or DAG and approval by the committee and/or full Senate).

Later in the afternoon, Mr. Manuel telephoned me and indicated that he had searched their indices and did not find the name "Edward E. Redditt", which would mean that a memorandum was not written. He said, however, he had requested some other material from the Archives which may contain the information. He will call me on Friday, September 24, 1976.



JAMES F. WALKER
Attorney, Department of Justice

Memorandum of Interview of Philip R. Manuel

On September 28, 1976, I telephoned Philip R. Manuel of the Senate Investigating Committee (224-3721) regarding information he supplied the Memphis Police Department (MPD) about a threat on the life of police officer Edward E. Redditt. I told Manuel that records of the MPD show that he was in their office on the 3rd or 4th of April 1968 and furnished the information based on a phone call to Washington.

Manuel stated that the incident sounds familiar, but he has no independent recollection. However, he said he was in Memphis on the 3rd and 4th of April 1968, departing by plane on the afternoon of the 4th. Moreover, he said he was in the police department and his office does have a source in Mississippi. He probably did not make a record of the matter since the threat related to someone in Knoxville rather than Memphis. Therefore, he believes the information reflected in the MPD records is correct.



JAMES F. WALKER
Attorney, Department of Justice

Memorandum of Interview With Marrell
McCullough, Safeway Building,
Washington, D.C., July 12, 1976.

Marrell McCullough, a former member of the Memphis Police Department, was interviewed by team members Folsom and Walker. McCullough stated that he joined the MPD the day after Labor Day, 1967, graduating from the police academy on December 6, 1967. After graduation he worked as a uniformed patrolman until February of 1968.

In February of 1968 McCullough stated that he went undercover for the specific purpose of infiltrating the "Invaders" who became active about the same time of the sanitation workers strike. McCullough said the "Invaders" consisted of about 15 members (mostly college students) and were a black power group similar to the Black Panthers. At the time, McCullough said the "Invaders" sat around and did a lot of talking, but were not involved in much action. He stated that the police department was concerned about what they might do.

At the time of Dr. King's entry onto the strike scene, McCullough stated that the "Invaders" wanted part of the action. After the violence of March 28, 1968, they met with Dr. King at the Lorraine Motel and told him that if he wanted to keep the marches non-violent he would have to deal with them. They demanded cars and money for their organization. However, Dr. King equivocated and did not give them an answer. McCullough said the "Invaders"

wanted the cars for their transportation. He said he was the only one in the group with a car, and this made him more acceptable to them.

On April 4, 1968, the day of Dr. King's death, McCollough said he was in school the first part of the day. After school, shortly after noon, he went to the Lorraine Motel and picked up Reverend Bevel and Reverend Orange to take them shopping for overalls which were a big item then. They returned to the Lorraine Motel sometime after 5:00 P.M. He was followed to the motel by Clara Ester and Mary Hunt who were riding in another car.

McCollough read his FBI interview statement dated April 12, 1968, and said the details reflected therein are accurate. He stated that the FBI did not know he was an undercover officer for the MPD at the time of his interview, but he believes they found out later. McCollough said he was primarily interested in the "Invaders", not Dr. King.

McCollough stated that he does not recall being with any of the "Invaders" on April 4, 1968, and that he did not see any of them around the Lorraine Motel when he came back there with Reverend Bevel and Reverend Orange after 5:00 P.M. Continuing, McCollough said he was positive that the shot that killed Dr. King came from the rear of the buildings which front on South Main Street. Moreover, he said he did not see anyone in the bushes in the back of the lot.

McCollough stated that he remained in an undercover capacity for about a year after the assassination and that the "Invaders" had precipitated a great deal of violence, including arson and the shooting of a policeman. His undercover assignment was terminated after his cover was blown by a woman who found his name on the police payroll.

Memorandum of Interview of John McFerren, Somerville,
Tennessee, July 9, 1976

John McFerren was interviewed by team members Folsom and Walker at his gasoline service station and general grocery store located on Highway 76 and Old Macon Road, Somerville, Tennessee.

McFerren escorted Folsom and Walker to a rear room of the grocery store which he had set up as a conference room. After Folsom and Walker displayed their credentials and McFerren was assured of their identities, the purpose of the task force was explained. McFerren immediately said that "Wallace was in on it" and that the same man that killed President Kennedy killed Dr. King. McFerren said he knew this because he had been doing some checking on his own and he had the evidence on tapes, one of which he had mailed to the Justice Department. He said the first time he mailed the tape to the Justice Department it came back but he remailed the tape by certified mail and it did not come back.

It was explained to McFerren that we were particularly interested in the conversation that he told the FBI he overheard at the LL& L Produce Company, Memphis, Tenn., on the afternoon of April 4, 1968. McFerren stated that he had been trading with the LL & L Produce Company for about 8 years and he went there sometime after 4:00 p.m. on April 4, 1968, to buy produce for his grocery store. He said he knew where everything was in the warehouse and drew a diagram which is attached to this memorandum. McFerren said the office is located to the left of the entrance to the warehouse. The door to the office was standing ajar when he entered and he saw the man whom he identified for the FBI only as "the fat man," using the telephone. McFerren

stated that he knew the man was Frank Liberto, but he did not want to give his name to the FBI because of the danger involved. Continuing, McFerren said he stood near the door to the office and overheard Liberto say: "Shoot the S.O.B. on the balcony or anywhere, I don't care how you get the job done." By that time the handy man, whom McFerren described as a thin white man with a scar on his neck running from ear to ear, walked up to him and asked him what he wanted. McFerren told him that he wanted to purchase some produce and the handy man told him to go get it.

McFerren said he proceeded to the produce bins and selected his produce. When he returned to the area of the office, McFerren said the phone rang again. The handy man answered the phone and told Liberto: "Ray wants to speak to you." McFerren said that Liberto took the phone and he overheard him say; "Don't bring your ass near this place. You know my brother in New Orleans. Go there to get your money."

It was pointed out to McFerren that he did not tell the FBI that Liberto had mentioned Ray's name. McFerren said that he did not mention any names to the FBI, but gave them only descriptions. He said that, in fact, Ray had put groceries in his car. He stated that Ray had worked for the LL & L Produce Company either before Christmas or after Christmas. McFerren described Ray as a thin man with coarse black hair and fungus on his neck which he said he called "jungle rot." McFerren said at the time he thought this man was a Mexican or an Indian rather than a white man.

Continuing, McFerren said he left the produce company about 5:15 p.m. and drove back to Somerville arriving there about 6:00 p.m. He said he did not think too much about the conversations he had overheard until

he heard that Dr. King had been shot. After he discussed the matter with his wife, he decided he would report the information to the police.

McFerren stated that Robert Powell, a small time gangster of New Orleans who formerly lived in the Memphis area, came to see him on Tuesday after the assassination. Powell asked McFerren how he was and questioned him about the roads leading to and from McFerren's house. McFerren said he was suspicious of this visit and played dumb.

Two weeks later McFerren said three black men came to his store and attempted to shoot him. McFerren's brother was behind the counter and McFerren was sitting at a table when the men came into the store. The men mistook McFerren's brother for him. McFerren said that when one of the men pulled his gun, he grabbed him and they chased them away.

McFerren stated that he was attacked by five blacks on the Somerville courthouse steps about six months to a year after the assassination. He said he ran to the front yard of Mrs. Fair, a white lady, who came out with her shotgun and broke up the attack. The city police came and took him away, but made no arrests. McFerren said his jaw was broken and some of his teeth were knocked out during the attack. He believes the men were paid to beat him up. McFerren gave Folsom and Walker a copy of a memorandum, dated January 10, 1970, which he said contained the evidence that the men were paid to beat him. The memorandum is signed by John McFerren, President of the Original Fayette County Civic & Welfare League, Inc. and is attached to this memorandum.

McFerren said he was also suspicious of Russell Thompson, an attorney who formerly handled cases for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund but now represents the Memphis Police Union. McFerren said Thompson represents his wife in a divorce action filed against him. He reasoned that the

MPD could have been in on the assassination; that Thompson is protecting them through the police union and is now trying to destroy him by breaking up his marriage.

McFerren gave Folsom and Walker a copy of an article from the March 15, 1969 issue of the New York Post. The article (attached to this memorandum) was written by Ted Poston and is titled: "King Murder: A Mystery Call." The article is McFerren's story about the overheard conversations at the LL & L Produce Company. McFerren said he and Ted Poston, who is now deceased, were very close. He sent a tape of evidence to Poston and he believes his widow will give us access to the tape.

McFerren said a lot of money had been collected in Somerville for Ray. When asked what his source of information was, he said the cooks for various people such as the Mayor gives him the information. He tapes their conversations and telephone calls on a small pocket size tape recorder and transfers these conversations to a master tape. McFerren said he had sent four of these master tapes to various places in the country, including the Justice Department.

McFerren stated that his telephone was "bugged." He said he knew this because he had someone from an electronics company inspect his telephone. Therefore, he does not discuss certain matters on the telephone and he recognizes people by their voices rather than by their names. Once he hears a voice, he said he never forgets it.

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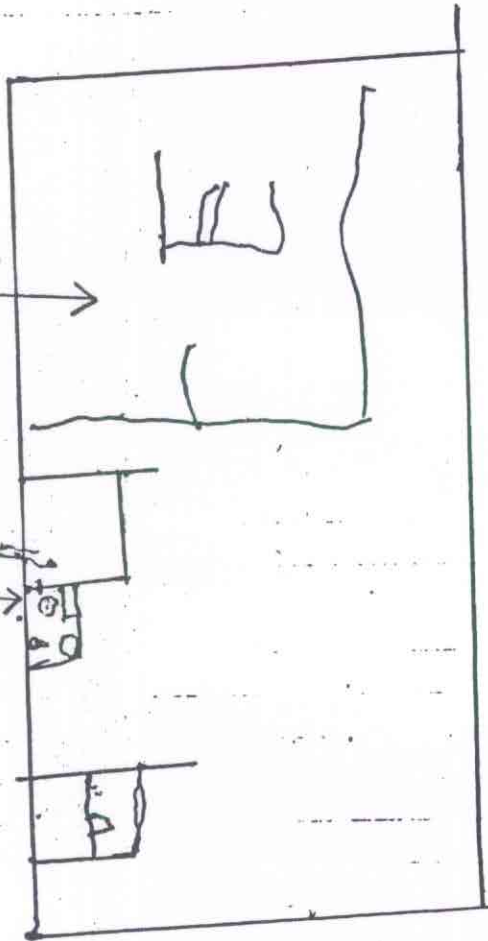
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PRODUCE BINS



ENTRANCE

OFFICE



S

W

January 10, 1970

Mr. Elmo Spencer

Route 4 Somerville, Tennessee - Old Macon Road
Resides west of Brown's Grocery, located on Old Macon Road west of W.P. Ware High School. Mr. Spencer has worked for Mayor I.P. Yancey's Chevrolet Co. since 1946. Mr. Spencer is approximately 50 years old.

Mr. Spencer saw Kyle Wilbourne, of Highway 64 west of Somerville, pass money to the Anderson men and W.C. McNeil after beating me. Kyle Wilbourne is also a collector for the Chevrolet Garage.

Dean Gammel lives on Tapp Drive the first street on the left after entering city limit on Highway 76 from the south. Gammel was also in the passing of the money, there were five or six other white men that gave money, but Spencer did not know their names. Spencer saw those men give the Anderson brothers and W.C. McNeil money after the incident.

William Finnie (Mathes Finnie) a Negro worker for the Chevrolet Garage also saw the passing of the money. Finnie lives on Route 3 west of Shaws Grocery, located on the Old Jonican Road.

Miss Bettie Mae Jones lives on Northwest Street, Somerville, Tennessee (a Negro), sent word by John McFerren's cousin, James Jones, that the City Police had given Ernestine McNeil Fields, a Negro woman about 28 years old, (Ernestine is a party of the black group that beat John up) a gun to shoot John McFerren with. Bettie heard some whites discussing this at a party at W.S. Shinault Sr's house on South Marginal, Somerville, Tennessee.

James (Sonny) Porter, a Negro man who resides on East Street across from Johnson Mays Cafe, and the next building from Shinault's Laundromat, says he was in Johnson May's Cafe when Otha Lee Anderson made the statement that Mayor Yancey was going to give them a car for them to go away with John McFerren. At that time they had not received the car Otha Lee was getting upset about it and made the statement he was going to give Mayor Yancey two more days, if he didn't present the car somebody would know something. Later Porter saw Otha Lee Anderson driving a 1961 green & white Pontiac car. Otha Lee said, see there I told you I was going to give it to me. When the first statement was made about the car the four Anderson brothers, Otha Lee Anderson, Alex Anderson, Alfonso Anderson, Robert Lee Anderson and W.C. McNeil along with his sister, Ernestine McNeil Fields, were sitting around a table in Johnson May's Cafe. James (Sonny) Porter also states the Merchants have something like a donation boy going from store to store raising money for this black group.

John Hardy Thompson, a Cafe owner next door to McFerren's Grocery, Hwy 6 at Old Macon Road, has heard the above statement by others. Thompson claims that the Anderson group was also given \$300.00 in cash. Thompson's address is Route 1 Box 151, Oakland, Tennessee. Phone 465-932.

Johnny Hussey, a brother-in-law to Ernestine McNeil Fields and W.C. McNeil, stated that he believes that Paul Burrow, City Chief of Police, gave W.C. (Shorty) McNeil a sawed-off pump and a double barreled shot gun and shells. Johnnie Hussey lives on the Old Jonican Road, sometimes called the Mt. Olive Road, Somerville, Tennessee, about 2 1/2 miles southeast of Somerville.

Carl Mosby lives on Highway 59, north of Somerville, Phone 465-2062, and works at H. & C. Table Co., at Somerville, Tennessee. He states that Alfonso Anderson, Otha Lee Anderson, Loeb McNeil, of Memphis, and J. McNeil came up to John Thompson's Cafe. Two entered through the back door and two entered through the front door looking for a Negro named Yate (Saint John the Killer). Otha Lee Anderson pulled his '38 Special with a shoulder holster and showed it to Carl Mosby. Yate (Saint John the Killer) was not at the Cafe at that time. Carl Mosby says these men shoot guns around town like mad and the Police don't even question this action.

W.C. McDaniel, or Davie Coe lives on the Old Jackson Road at the City limits near the railroad, and works at Boswell Feed Store (Purina Feed Store), 215 North Main Street. He has worked there since 1959. W.C. McDaniel claims that Tom Day and Alden Feathers, City Police, came to Boswell's Feed Store and Boswell took them into his office and gave them ten or fifteen dollars from his cash register. Paul Burrow collected money on the side of town of the Somerville Bank & Trust Co. Tom Day and Feathers also went into Parson's Grocery collecting money. W.C. McDaniel says Boswell was laughing and talking to the policemen, Day and Feathers, about my getting beat up. Parson, the grocerman, said they would shoot marbles on my coat tail when I was running trying to get away from the gang that beat me up.

The Anderson brothers live at the City limits by the old railroads, on the Old Jackson Road. W.C. McNeil lives in Winfrey Bottom just off North Main Street, northwest of Somerville, Tennessee.

This is information as it has been given to me concerning the December 1958 attack on me.

Signed:

John McFerren, President of the
Original Fayette County
Civic & Welfare League, Inc.
Route 4 - Box 133A
Somerville, Tennessee
Phone 901 - 465-3659 - Residence
901 - 465-9936 - Grocery

King Murder: A Mystery Call

By ED POSTON

A supermarket owner told The Post today that one hour before the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated on a motel balcony he overheard a Memphis businessman tell a telephone caller:

"I'm not going to pay you a damned thing until the job is done. You can shoot the son of a bitch on the balcony."

And, the supermarket owner said, a few minutes later when the caller rang back, the businessman, sitting with an associate told him: "Naw, I don't want your—around this place. You can pick up the \$5,000 from my brother in New Orleans."

John McFerren, the Negro market owner, said he reported the conversation to the FBI, Memphis Police Director Frank C. Holloman and other officials four days after the assassination at

Continued on Page 57

The King Murder: A Mystery Telephone Call

Continued from Page 1

ing of the executive director of the Tennessee Council on Human Relations, Baxter Bryant.

The Memphis prosecutor's office told The Post the police had checked out the recording and found it false. The

it was learned, also considers the story untrue.

McFerren operates his store in nearby Fayette County, Tenn. As chairman of the White County Welfare and League, he had organized

overly stricken Negroes of the county in early 1960s when White Citizens Council in-duced a boycott designed to

them from the area. The owner of an \$80,000 mall, a shopping center, says the conversations he overheard made no impression on him until he returned to his

later that day. McFerren said he was in Memphis on a business trip when he heard the truncated conversations outside the ajar of the businessman's office. He was unaware of the importance of what was being said at the time.

ant, where Human Relations Council will receive a report on the case at a meeting in the Andrew Jackson hotel in Nashville today, The Post

McFerren returned to his store, his wife and told him Dr. King was open shot. She said she

thought it happened around 3 p.m. Without thinking, John said: "No, it was after 5 o'clock!" and then told her what he had heard at 5 o'clock.

"Both were pretty frightened because of the long struggle they had had in the community. But they finally called me in Nashville and asked me to drive over and advise them.

"I told John that the authorities had to be told. After questioning him closely for several hours, I drove into Memphis and told the whole thing to Mr. Holloman."

Bryant said that Police Director Holloman set up a meeting for McFerren in Bryant's Room 516 in the Peabody Hotel where he was questioned from "2:30 a.m. to 5:30 a.m." that Monday morning by an FBI agent, Holloman and the head of the Memphis Homicide Division.

"They took the names and addresses of both white men involved, and had McFerren draw a diagram of where he stood outside while the telephone conversations were carried on. They promised him police protection and promised to take action immediately."

Bryant said he kept in touch with the FBI agent, who, though seeming excited at first, gradually cooled down to where he said, "We're not sure its important."

Meanwhile, Bryant said, a reporter for a national news magazine heard of the story and sent a report to the magazine's office. This resulted in a confer-

ence by the magazine's Washington bureau with officials of the Justice Dept.

"Naturally, I don't know what went on there," Bryant told The Post, "but—(the reporter) hinted that the Washington boys (Justice and the FBI) persuaded them not to print anything right then since it might hamper the hunt for the killer."

More Questions

Shortly after the Washington meeting, he said, four FBI agents came down to McFerren's store and to his home and questioned him extensively.

Meanwhile, the reporter told the story to Russell X. Thompson, a Memphis lawyer who later was to become co-defense counsel for James Earl Ray when he was finally apprehended as the trigger man in the killing.

Thompson visited McFerren soon after the assassination and took an affidavit outlining McFerren's account of the overheard conversation.

This week Thompson contacted Jack Greenberg, director of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund and arranged for a conference to outline a conspiracy involving others in King's death.

He's Apprehensive

With no further word from the FBI, McFerren has become increasingly apprehensive in recent weeks.

"Someone has shot through the windows of his store," Bryant said, "some Negroes smuggled whiskey, which is

strictly forbidden, into his lunchroom. Some women he had never seen before started fights in his laundromat.

"He has expressed fears to me that someone may be hiring Negroes—members of his own race—to try to shoot about what he heard."

In Washington, The Post learned the FBI had investigated McFerren's story and decided it was not true.

In Memphis, Asst. Attorney General Robert Dwyer told The Post that Memphis police had checked the story out and found nothing to substantiate it. He said the man McFerren identified as receiving the call had been at home with his wife and a friend at the time McFerren said he was talking over the phone in his office.

Meanwhile, it was reported that Ray's decision to plead guilty to killing King in return for a 99-year prison term was the result of lengthy and closely guarded negotiations.

Not only did the prosecution and defense approve of the plan, a reconstruction of the events shows, but King's widow, U. S. Attorney General Clark and Tennessee Gov. Ellington concurred, the Associated Press said.

Notes on telephone calls made by the prosecution and information from a New York attorney's office confirm that Mrs. King was informed of the potential agreement and apparently approved it.

Memorandum of Telephone Call From
John McFerrin


On November 16, 1976, John McFerrin of Somerville, Tenn. telephoned me before I arrived at the office. Upon returning McFerrin's call, he stated that he got shot right after we were down there and that he spent 8 days in the hospital. McFerrin also stated that his wife had left him and was suing him for a divorce. He believes Russell Thomas, his wife's attorney, is instigating the whole thing.

McFerrin inquired whether the Department of Justice knew he had been shot as the NAACP said they would notify the Department. I advised McFerrin that the Task Force reviewing Martin Luther King, Jr.'s assassination had not been informed. In response to questions, McFerrin said that he was shot in the lower part of his stomach on September 10, 1976, at about 12:30 a.m. when he was closing up his laundry mat. He stated that a car drove up with one white male, two black males and a woman and one of the black males shot him through the glass door. McFerrin said he got his gun and shot one of the black males after which they all got in the car and left.

McFerrin stated that no one was arrested and inquired whether the Department of Justice was going to investigate the matter. He insisted that "they" were out to get him. When asked who "they" were he said the police were in on it and he could not talk about it now because his phone was tapped.

I informed McFerrin that I was, indeed, sorry to hear that he had been shot, but the situation appeared to be a purely local matter involving his local activities. He was advised that the Department of Justice in general and the Task Force in particular did not have jurisdiction to investigate the shooting. Therefore, I suggested that he should pursue the matter through the local sheriff's office.

McFerrin said that he understood and that he guess he would not be hearing from us anymore. I informed McFerrin that the Task Force would complete its work in about two months and would then be dissolved.



JAMES F. WALKER, Attorney
Department of Justice

INTERVIEW OF CLEM J. McGOWAN

Mr. Clem J. McGowan was interviewed at his home on December 23, 1976 by James R. Kieckhefer. Mr. McGowan served as Section Chief of the Civil Rights Section, General Investigative Division, during the King assassination investigation in 1968. He retired from the FBI in 1975. Mr. McGowan was cooperative and had a good recollection of the investigation.

McGowan recalls being notified at his home at approximately 8:30 p.m. on April 4, 1968. The following morning Attorney General Ramsey Clark and Assistant to the Director Cartha DeLoach were flown to Memphis, Tennessee, to personally oversee the government's involvement in this matter. Dick Long was designated supervisor of the investigation at Headquarters since the State of Tennessee was his geographical responsibility in the Civil Rights Section.

From the beginning, the Director placed intense pressure on his Division to identify and apprehend the assassin and his co-conspirators, if any. Furthermore, McGowan stated that there were no restrictions to his knowledge placed on the conduct of the investigation. McGowan emphasized the degree of work by the FBI personnel and amount of pressure on them. In fact, he was hospitalized in July, 1968, and unable to return to work until the

following November.

Regarding the directives from headquarters to all field offices such as SACs would be held personally responsible for this case and all leads must be immediately followed up, McGowan advised that this was standard bureau procedure in major cases such as kidnappings. He added that Assistant Director Rosen stressed the importance of SAC responsibility. McGowan commented that there were numerous meetings between Division personnel and several meetings held to brief Assistant to the Director DeLoach. During these meetings, strategies, theories and utilization of manpower were discussed. He did not recall the specific individuals who suggested a search of fugitive fingerprint files or recommended a review of passport applications. Generally, McGowan advised one or more of the following individuals participated in these meetings: Assistant to the Director Cartha DeLoach, Assistant Director Alex Rosen, Deputy Assistant Director James Malley, Section Chief of the Bombing - Civil Rights Act of 1964 Unit William Martindale, and Supervisor Dick Long.

McGowan stated he knew that there was a King investigation being conducted by the Domestic Intelligence Division, but that he was not aware of the full features of this investigation. He noted that from the first day of his assassination investigation Assistant Director Sullivan sent two agents to assist him. These two people occupied

the office near or next to Supervisor Long. They read, to his knowledge, all the incoming material and did not leave until James Earl Ray was identified as the assassin of Dr. King. He believed their role was to assist in the event that an international conspiracy arose or some domestic group under their bureau jurisdiction was deemed to be involved. He could not recall their names.

McGowan, based on his knowledge of the FBI investigation, is of the opinion that Ray was a racist and desired to make something of himself by committing the crime of assassination. He did not feel that Dr. King had to be the target of his crime. He also is of the opinion that Ray obtained his funds by committing numerous criminal activities such as robbery or burglary, or by participating in the transfer or sale of drugs.

McGowan stated that federal jurisdiction was found in 18 U.S.C. 241 when it was learned that the assassin had exchanged rifles in Birmingham on the advice of a brother. McGowan had worked in the civil rights field since 1952 and stated he was quite familiar with FBI investigative procedure. He viewed the enormous amount of work by the FBI as necessary in this case; and it resulted in a responsible and successful effort.

Memorandum of Interview With Louis McKay at his Residence Located at 1777 Westmore Street, Memphis, Tennessee, July 8, 1976.

Louis McKay, officer of Memphis Police Department, was interviewed by team members Folsom and Walker. Officer McKay stated that on April 4, 1968, he was assigned to a Tactical Unit, the number of which he does not remember. Shortly after 6:00 P.M. he was cruising in the area of Butler and 4th Streets (about one-half mile from the Lorraine Motel) when a call came over the radio that Dr. King had been shot. The squad car responded to the call, going directly to the Lorraine Motel where it was learned that the shot was fired from a building fronting on South Main Street. The squad car then proceeded on Mulberry Street to East Butler, turned north on South Main Street, and parked at No. 2 fire station. Officer McKay said he and the members of his squad car then ran north on South Main Street to a point near Canipe's Amusement Company where a lieutenant or captain of the Memphis Police Department told him to stand guard over a bundle wrapped in a green bed spread which was lying in the doorway of Canipe's Amusement Company. Officer McKay estimated that about seven minutes had elapsed from the time the radio call was received to the time he was told to guard the bundle.

Memorandum of Interview with attorneys for Eddie
L. Montedonico, at Memphis, Tennessee at about
10:50 a.m., Room 978, Clifford Davis Federal Bldg., July 8, 1976.

Instead of the scheduled conference with Eddie Montedonico, his attorneys appeared, or more properly Messrs. James Raines and John Heiskell, of his uncles' law firm, the firm Eddie is to join after he has passed the upcoming bar exam.

They argued with Messrs. Walker and Folsom of the task force that Eddie should not be asked to repeat his denials of the C.B. hoax of April 4, 1968. It was pointed out that this reluctance fortified the feeling of the M.P.D., the F.B.I. and our group that Eddie's denial of 8 years ago was a lie. This upset counsel. Mr. Folsom said the attorneys were familiar with the aphorism "The guilty flee when no man pursueth." They were dutifully angry with Folsom.

The conversation then went to a suggestion by Folsom that maybe Eddie should take a polygraph test. Counsel said they would consider it and any other means of corroborating their client and be back in touch for a final answer.

The meeting then adjourned.

Memorandum of Interview With Floyd
E. Newsum, Sr. of the Memphis Fire
Department, July 8, 1976.

Floyd E. Newsum, Sr. was interviewed by team members Folsom and Walker at his residence, located at 1818 Kingsview Drive, Memphis, Tennessee

At the outset of the interview, Newsum attempted to play two tapes of interviews conducted with Newsum by students from Memphis State University in 1968. However, the tapes proved to be inaudible.

Newsum then proceeded to display handwritten notes which he had made of the events transpiring between April 3, 1968, and April 14, 1968. These notes were written by Newsum not later than April 14, 1968, and are as follows:

On Wed. morning April 3rd I talked to N. E. Wallace at #2 eng. house, I was told by him the Police Officers E. E. Redditt and W. B. Richman were there & they had the door leading out the rear of the locker room cover with paper with holes in it to able them to look out on the Lorraine Motel. One of them was on top of a locker with Binoculars.
At 10:PM Wed. Wallace was told to leave the #2 Eng. house & go to the #31 Eng. house at the Airport. At 11:30 PM April 3rd I was told by Lt. J. Smith of the Fire Dept. by phone Not to report to the #2 Eng. House on April 4th but to report to #31 which is at 4200 block Overton Crossing. To be sure that Redditt was at the #2 Eng. House I had someone call & ask to speak to him/he was there. That same evening Dr. King was killed. I ask why I was moved but no one would tell me. I asked Lt. J. Smith First & then Capt. Warlow, & on to Dep. Chief J. O. Barnett but until this time no one told me any reason. On April 4 I was due to report to my

regular Co. which is 5 Tr. Sta. at 474 So. Main at Butler, This Co. consist of 7 men & it can not operate with less than 5 men on this day we only had 5 men & I was included so we didn't have a man available for a detail. Plus the 31's have been riding with 4 men & they did that day for the capt. was in and out, at will. I was due to return to #31 April 6 for duty but I was so ful & confused I did not go, This Co. operated with 4 men the whole 24 hrs. Day. I had to go & see the Dep. Chief, Chief Barnett asked me why I didn't show, I told him I didn't wake up. He said he didn't not believe me & he knew what I had on my mine so why didn't I tell him about it. He said I told the Capt. at #31 I was not coming to work, I told him I said I didn't want to come & I didn't want to. He checked my record & said do you realize this is the first time you have been late I said yes sir. He said well do you want it to come out of your check or do you want to work your off day, I said I will work my off day, I did This because my wife is off from work sick from the effect of Dr. Kings Death & she will not be paid. I returned to work April 8th the Co. had 4 men & I made 5 on April 9th I work at the #28 eng. house & on the 10th I returned to #31 this made a 72 hr. stretch.

Men on Co. #31

	Day off
Capt. R. T. Wade	Fri.
Lt. W. A. Burrell	tue.
Dr. A. L. Myers	Vac. Wed.
Lt. W. J. Morris	mon.
Pvt. J. A. McGraw	Sat.
Pvt. J. H. Mullins	Thur

On April 10th the Co. had 6 men including me. W. J. Morris was detailed to the #11 tr. which make me wonder even more why I was moved. For the Co. that I am assigned to 5 Tr. only had 4 men & had to have a man detailed to it. On April 12th the Co. had 5 men including me one was sent insp. J. H. Mullins.

On April 14th the Co. had 6 men including me Two was detailed one to 35's Pumper & one il tr. J. H. McGraw. Joe Mullins.

Newsom stated that the firemen were armed after the start of the sanitation worker's strike. He said that police officers Willie Richmond and Edward Redditt were at the fire station observing Dr. King and supporters of the strike at the Lorraine Motel. Redditt told him that they were there for Dr. King's protection and he asked him why they were hiding in the fire station.

Newsom said he was a supporter of the sanitation workers and attended their rallies. He attended a rally on the night of April 3, 1968, which was his off day. When he returned home that night a note was there from Lt. Smith requesting Newsom to contact him regardless of the time. Newsom said he called and was ordered to report for duty on April 4, 1968, at the Engine Company No. 31 instead of fire station No. 2, his regular post of duty. Newsom stated that his attendance at the rally might have precipitated his transfer, but no one to this date had told him why he was transferred. Newsom said his detail caused his company to be short and caused the company at station No. 31 to be over strength. He further stated that at one time Lt. Barnett told him he was transferred at the request of the police department.

Newsom stated that he resigned from the fire department on April 18, 1968, because he had not made any progress in the department after 12 years and 8 months and because he had been detailed without any explanation. However, he reapplied to the fire department in 1970 and

finally returned to the fire department on July 23, 1973.

~~Heron~~
942-7557

W. B. Richman

F. E. Reddit

Matt Heron
Rev. Kyle

Call letters

W0H 0746

964 Green Chev.
Sta. Wagon

- ①
- On Wed. morning April 3rd I talked to W. E. Wallace at #2 eng. house. I was told by him the Police Officers F. E. Reddit &
 - W. B. Richman were there & they had the ~~to~~ window of the door leading out the rear of the locker room cover with paper with holes in it to able them to look out on the homicide motel.
 - One of them was on top of a locker with Binoculars.
 - At 10:00 pm Wed. Wallace was told to leave the #2 Eng. house.

2

I go to the #31 Eng. House at the Airport at 11³⁰ pm April 3rd I was told by Lt. J. Smith of the Fire Dept. by phone not to report to the #3 Eng. House on April 4th but to report to #31 which is at 42⁰⁰ block Corton Crossing. To be sure that Maddit was at the #2 Eng. House I had someone to call & ask to speak to him he was there. That same evening Dr. King was killed. I ask why I was moved but no one would tell me. I asked Lt. J. Smith first & then Capt. Warlow

3

I on to Dep. Chief J. O. Bennett but until this time no one told me any reason. On April 4 I was due to report to my regular Co. which is 5th St. Sta. at 47th So. Main at Butler. This Co. consist of 7 men & it can not operate with less than 5 men on this day we only had 5 men & I was included so we didn't have a man available for a detail. Plus the 31's have been riding with 4 men & they did that day for the Capt. was in & out at will.

4

due to return
 31 April to for
 but I was so
 & confused I did
 go, This Co. operated
 4 men the whole
 day. I had to
 see the Popo
 Chief Barnett
 and me why I didn't
 I told him I
 wake up. He said
 didn't not believe
 & he know what
 good on my mine so
 didn't I tell him
 it, He said
 told the Capt. at #
 I was not coming to
 work, I told him
 said I did it want
 come & I didn't

5

Went to. He checked
 my record & said do you
 realize this is the first
 time you have been late
 I said yes sir. He said
 Well day you want it to
 come out of your check
 do you want to ~~not~~ work
 your off day, I said I
 work my off day, I did
 This because my wife is
 off from work sick from
 the effect of Prokrings
 Death & she will not
 be paid. I returned
 to work April 8th
 the Co. had 4 men &
 I made 5 on April 9th
 I work at the #38 eng. house
 & on the 10th I returned
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 72 hr. stretch.

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me one was sent
Insp. J. H. Mullins.

On April 14th the Co.
had 6 men including
me. TWO was detailed
to #5's Pumper & one Lt.
J. H. McGraw, Joe Mullins

Men on Co. #31
Capt R. T. Wade ^{Day off} Fri.
Lt. W. A. Burrell tue.
Dr. A. L. Myers ^{vac.} wed.
Lt. W. J. Morris men.
Pvt J. A. McGraw Sat
Pvt. J. H. Mullins Thur

INTERVIEW OF J. S. PEELMAN

Mr. J. S. Peelman was interviewed at his office on December 21, 1976 by James R. Kieckhefer. Mr. Peelman is presently Section Chief of the Civil Rights Section, General Investigation Division of the FBI. In 1968, Peelman was a supervisor in the Name Check Section of the same Division.

Peelman explained that the Name Check Section is a service section and not related to the Civil Rights Section. The function of the Name Check Section is generally to assist various federal agencies by reviewing Bureau files on named individuals on matters such as arrest records or involvement in subversive organizations. Whenever a substantive case is being handled by the FBI, the responsible section of the Bureau conducts its own name check on individuals. He stated this was the case in the King investigation and his section did not therefore assist in the investigation.

was interviewed at his office on December 21, 1976, by James R. Kieckhefer and Joseph F. Gross, Jr. was a Supervisor in the Communist Party United, of the Internal Security Section, Domestic Intelligence Division, starting in the summer of 1961 and became Unit Chief in 1964. He is presently employed by the FBI. was cooperative and had a good recollection of his dealings with the intelligence investigation of Dr. King.

advised that in 1963 the Communist Party Unit was headed by Unit Chief and, in addition to himself, there were two other Supervisors, and. With regard to the duties of the supervisors in his unit. stated that assignments were designated by subject matter and also by geographical location. The Section Chief of the Internal Security Section at this time was Fred J. Baumgardner and his #1 man was Dick Corman. The Domestic Intelligence Division then had as Assistant Director William C. Sullivan and as his #1 man, Joseph Sizoo.

was questioned in some detail on the events from August, 1963, until December of that year with respect to the initiation of technical surveillance and COINTELPRO activities against Dr. King. He related that in August, 1963, his unit assisted in the preparation of an analysis (the 8/23/63 analysis) of communist infiltration in the Negro population. also advised that he had prepared a synopsis for the analysis, but Mr. Sullivan later rewrote the synopsis which was forwarded to the Director. noted that Sullivan had previously been Chief Inspector of the Central Research Section of the Division, and had assisted in the preparation of some of the Director's publications on communism.

Following review of this analysis, stated that the Director returned for a period of time every piece of work from the Division on King or the Communist Party with cryptic remarks. advised "there was considerable traffic of this nature at this time." further stated that a separate record was kept of the "blue ink" (Hoover's remarks), but he believed this record was no longer available. It is opinion that both the Director and Assistant Director Sullivan believed that there was communist influence on Dr. King.

He doubts very much whether the time and manpower would have been spent if they had thought otherwise.

Several weeks later, _____ remarked, the first monograph on King was written. It was prepared by Charles D. Brennan, then Assistant Chief of the Central Research Section (Brennan later became #1 man to Baumgardner) _____ recalled that Baumgardner brought the Brennan draft to his unit in order to have each fact authenticated. Later, Baumgardner directed another check of the monograph to insure that the Bureau could substantiate this report on King and his associates.

_____ then explained the supervision of the King file. He stated that the Internal Security Section was responsible for supervision of groups or organizations while the Subversive Control Section monitored individuals. Initially, _____ a Supervisor in the Subversive Control Section had responsibility for the King file, but Baumgardner wanted the King matter under control of the Internal Security Section. For a period of time there was dual responsibility between the two sections but later the case was handled solely by the Internal Security Section.

_____ said that he was on leave when the meeting with agents from Atlanta took place concerning the use of COINTELPRO against Dr. King at the SOG. _____ said he did not know why COINTELPRO was started against King. He further stated he was told, after the decision had been made, about misur coverage of King and his associates at the Willard Hotel in January, 1964. He added that this was unusual since the Supervisor of a subject matter was held responsible for being aware of such activities, and was supposed to be able to render an accurate status report on a case at any given time.

_____ said that the Director wanted to be kept advised of King, and that the Director probably approved every COINTELPRO activity against him. Since the Director was personally involved in the handling of this intelligence case, the importance of it could not be over emphasized. It was a "hot potato." _____ remarked that he may have initiated some recommendations under COINTELPRO, but only if a previous type of a similar nature had been approved such as blocking an honorary degree to be given King.

_____ stated that he received directives from Sullivan, Sizoo and Baumgardner. Baumgardner told him that he was to be advised of all activity in this case. Yet he would at times receive an immediate order from Assistant Director Sullivan and then be pressed to decide whether he should first carry out the order or first advise his

Section Chief.

did not add anything to his previous written statement on the letter found in the "Sullivan papers."

Interview of Jerry Ray, Twin Orchards Country Club, Long Grove, Ill.
(312) 634-3800

Attorneys Kieckhefer and White interviewed Jerry Ray in Lake Zurich, Illinois on December 20, 1976.

Mr. Ray admitted that he had lied to the FBI in 1968 when he stated that he had not seen James Ray after his escape from MSP. He now states that he saw James possibly three times at the Cypress Inn in Northbrook, Illinois during the period when James was working at the Indian Trails Restaurant in Winnetka, Illinois. James Ray never related how he managed to effect his escape from MSP. Jerry was aware that his brother, John, had visited James in prison the day before the escape but was unaware of any assistance which John may have provided. Jerry claims not to have known about the escape in advance.

According to Jerry the George McMillan account of the meeting between John, Jerry and James in which money was given to James and the assassination discussed is totally false. The three brothers never met together after the escape and Jerry never gave James any money except for a very small amount while James was in prison. James was nearly broke when Jerry saw him in Northbrook at the Cypress Inn. However, it was clear that James had more money after he returned from Canada in the summer of 1967.

James never told Jerry that he was leaving the Indian Trails where he was working in order to travel to Canada. Jerry claims to the best of his knowledge never to have called James at the restaurant nor to have received James' last paycheck from the restaurant in the mail. In August when James returned to the United States they met on one occasion. James stated he was going to establish himself in Alabama. It was clear that he had more money at that time. He gave Jerry his car and said he was going to get a better one in Alabama. Jerry doesn't know why James went to Alabama.

Jerry stated that he never went to Alabama until two years after the assassination in 1970. After James went to Canada, Jerry only talked to James on one occasion until after the assassination. James called Jerry around Christmas 1967. Jerry thinks James was in Texas at the time and just wanted to engage in small talk. Jerry was never aware that James was in California until after the assassination.

James never mentioned the names of Dr. King or George Wallace to Jerry. James told Jerry after his apprehension that there had been a conspiracy to kill Dr. King but he never spoke of his role, if any, in such a conspiracy.

James never spoke about any interest which he had in photography. Jerry is not aware of any drug dealing by James while he was in prison or after he escaped.

Jerry associated with the following people while in St. Louis: Rhonda(Duncan) Gibson, Stoney Nelson, Jim Rogers.

The sister of Jerry & James, Carol Pepper, had two or three bank accounts in St. Louis during the pertinent time period. One account was at the Bohemian Savings and Loan Association. She presently resides at 523 Franru Lane, Lemay, Missouri.

The story given to George McMillan concerning James Ray and the Nazi Party connection was untrue. Jerry also knows nothing about James Ray being a Bible student in prison.

Jerry visited James in Brushy Mount prison after the assassination. Jerry was staying in the Holiday Inn at Harrison, Tennessee when James tried to escape. Jerry knew nothing of the escape attempt in advance. Jerry talked to the warden and tried to visit James after the escape attempt but was unsuccessful.

Harry Jones is a reporter for the "Kansas City Star." There is a person whom Jones assisted in getting a parole from MSP who now works for Jones. This person supposedly has knowledge concerning Ray's escape from MSP.

Jerry has never heard of Ray Russell or Cooley's organization. There is someone named Gilbert Cameron who served time with James at MSP. Cameron is now at a prison in Ashville, North Carolina.