London

TELEVISION & RADIO

A pawn against King?

TELEVISION CHOICE

Peter Waymark

● More than 21 years after it happened, attempts to reveal the true circumstances about the murder of Martin Luther King at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis continue to fill books and inspire television documentaries. The official version is that King was shot from 200 yards by a small-time crook, James Earl Ray, now serving 99 years for the murder. Ray's version is that he was only a pawn in a wider conspiracy and did not fire the gun. **John Edginton's film Who Killed Martin Luther King?** (BBC1, 9.30pm) claims to offer new evidence, not only of a conspiracy, but one leading straight to the heart of government. During the 1960s King was not only leading the movement for black civil rights but was an outspoken critic of the war in Vietnam. On the second count, particularly, he was on a collision course

James Earl Ray: 99 years for the murder of Martin Luther King (BBC1, 9.30pm)

with the President, Lyndon Johnson. Is it too preposterous to believe that the Central Intelligence Agency, fearing that King had become a tool of Communist China, organized his demise, perhaps with the help of Mafia hit men? One is entitled to be sceptical when mere television crews appear to unearth evidence that has mysteriously eluded the experts, though if there was a conspiracy involving government agencies then it is feasible that anything which challenged the "lone nutter" thesis would be suppressed. At any rate, the film is a compelling piece of detective work which has managed to track down an impressive range of witnesses and, like all good investigative journalism, constantly asks the awkward questions.

● P. G. Wodehouse and Iris Murdoch are among those to be profiled in the new season of **Bookmark** (BBC2, 8.10pm), but tonight's subject will (at least to most British viewers) be far less familiar. He is the venerable Greek poet, Yannis Ritsos, a lively 80-year-old and lifelong Communist whose verses have filled some 120 volumes and whose politics have brought him disfavour, imprisonment and exile. Roger Thompson's film eschews a rigidly biographical approach

BBC 1

6.05 The Flintstones in *Dino Goes Hollyrock* (r)
6.30 BBC Breakfast News with Nicholas Witchell and Laurie Mayer. Includes business news between **6.30** and **7.00**; news every 15 minutes; and regular sport, weather, travel, arts and regional news slots **8.55** Regional news and weather
9.00 News and weather followed by **Four Square** (r)
9.25 SDP 89. David Dimbleby and Vivian White introduce live coverage of the SDP conference in Scarborough. This morning's proceedings include the speech by the party leader, David Owen, and a debate on the future of the National Health Service. Includes news and weather at **10.00**
10.25 Children's BBC presented by Simon Parkin begins with **Playbus** (r) **10.50 Barney** with the voices of Tim Brooke-Taylor, Harry Enfield, Jan Ravens and Enn Reitel (r) **10.55 Five to Eleven.** Gary Hope with a reading
11.00 News and weather followed by **SDP 89.** Further live coverage of the SDP conference in Scarborough. Includes news and weather at **12.00 12.55** Regional news and weather
1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. Weather
1.30 Neighbours. Rob gets the cold shoulder; and Mrs Mangel's display of temper jeopardizes a budding relationship. (Ceefax) **1.50 Four Square.** General knowledge quiz game. The questionmaster is John Sachs
2.15 Knots Landing: The Burden of Proof. Val is sent to prison but Abby thinks it is a plot to win back Gary (r) **3.00 Desirable Dwellings.** A *40 Minutes* documentary in which Lucinda Lambton visits a selection of the country's most individual homes including a clairvoyant's bijou residence in the air (r). (Ceefax)
3.40 Cartoon. *Popeye's Premier* (r) **3.50 Two by Two.** Jenny Powell with swan eggs, pheasant chicks, lambs and a young donkey **4.05 Bodger and Badger.** Comedy series set in the kitchen of a café. Starring Andy Cunningham and Joanne Campbell **4.20 Fantastic Max.** Animated adventures of a bionic baby **4.30 Hartbeat.** Tony Hart's guide to better picture making. (Ceefax)
5.00 Newsround 5.05 Strangers. Episode two of the children's drama serial. The mysterious visitor appears again and Zane receives the fright of his life. Starring Martin Henderson, Amber McWilliams, Hamish McFarlane and Sonia Pivac. (Ceefax)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax)
6.00 Six O'Clock News with John Humphrys and Jill Dando. Weather
6.30 Newsroom South East introduced by Guy Michelmore
7.00 Wogan. The guests include Jean-Jacques Annaud, make of the film *The Bear*; and Greens supporter David Icke
7.35 Doctor Who. The last episode of the four-part adventure starring Sylvester McCoy. (Ceefax)
8.00 Bergerac. The Jersey policeman is ordered to co-operate with inspectors from the Department of Trade and Industry who are investigating Sir Antony Villiers, a businessman suspected of insider dealing whose headquarters are on the island. But Charlie Hungerford and others who have been a victim of Villiers's business methods decide to take action of their own. Starring John Nettles, Terence Alexander and Ronald Pickup (r). (Ceefax)
8.50 Points of View with Anne Robinson
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis. Regional news and weather
9.30 Inside Story: Who Killed Martin Luther King? (Ceefax) (see Choice)
10.35 Sportsnight introduced by Steve Rider. **European Football:** highlights from the first round, second leg European Cup match between Rangers and Bayern Munich in Germany; and the first round, second leg European Cup Winners Cup

ITV/LONDON

6.00 TV-am [illegible]
9.25 [illegible]
10.00 [illegible]
10.40 [illegible]
12.10 A[illegible] H[illegible]
1.00 N[illegible] W[illegible] S[illegible] C[illegible] Followed by **Crimestoppers**
2.00 Posh Frocks & New Trousers. This week's fashion magazine includes items on the re-vamp of the Royal courtiers, Hartnell; and clothes for the petite woman **2.30 Take the High Road.** Dougal seems to be taking advantage of his son
3.00 PSI. Celebrity panel game show presented by Chris Tarrant. Today's guests are Pamela Armstrong, Bernardine Corrigan, Derek Nimmo, Andrew O'Connor, Judi Spiers and Alan Titchmarsh **3.25 Thames news 3.30 Sons and Daughters**
4.00 The Wombles, narrated by Bernard Cribbins. (Oracle) **4.15 Wisdom of the Gnomes.** The first of a new children's series **4.40 The Ghost of Faffner Hall.** With Courtney Pine, David Sawyer and the Scottish Chamber Orchestra
5.10 Home and Away (r)
5.40 News with Fiona Armstrong. Weather **5.55 Thames news** and weather
6.20 Thames Help. The Youth Training Scheme is examined
6.30 Pure Strength III. From Stirling Castle, the climax of the Trebor Extra Strong Trophy between Britain, the United States, the Netherlands and Iceland
7.00 Never the Twain. Comedy series starring Donald Sinden and Windsor Davies as rival antiques dealers
7.30 Coronation Street. Gail meets someone who does not condemn her affair with Martin. (Oracle)
8.00 The Best of Magic. This week's guests include the Pendragons, Tina Lenert, John Gaughan and Dr Sawa
9.00 Sidney Sheldon's Windmills of the Gods. Episode three of the political thriller and Mary goes to Bucharest as United States Ambassador where she becomes the target of an attempted poisoning and kidnapping. The final episode is after the news
10.00 News at Ten with Sandy Gall and Julia Somerville **10.30 Thames** news and weather
10.35 Sidney Sheldon's Windmill of the Gods. Final episode
11.20 Midweek Sport Special introduced by Nick Owen. Highlights from tonight's European football competitions
12.30am The Oldest Rookie. Police drama series. Ike and Tony investigate a murder in which the prime suspect is a wealthy and influential property developer
1.30 America's Top Ten
2.00 News headlines followed by **Kojak.** The New York policeman has to deal with a spiritualist who informs him of a murder she saw in a dream but then refuses to co-operate with the police because they are "non-believers". Starring Telly Savalas and Ruth Gordon

BBC 2

[illegible]
6.00 DEF II begins with **Buck Rogers** in the 25th Century. Science fiction adventures **6.50 Rough Guide to Careers.** This first in a new series focuses on advertising **7.30 Prince: Musical Portrait**
7.45 Conference Day SDP 89. David Dimbleby talks to the SDP leader, David Owen, about his party's future
8.10 Bookmark (see Choice)
9.00 M*A*S*H. A young Korean who is trying to avoid conscription into the army crosses the paths of BJ and Hawkeye (r)
9.25 A Wanted Man. The second part of Malcolm McKay's trilogy. Billy Sutherland has confessed to 15 murders across the country. His lawyer is determined to prove that Billy is psychotically disturbed. Starring Richard Griffiths, Simon Cadell, Madhur Jaffrey and Michael Fitzgerald. (Ceefax)
10.30 Newsnight
11.15 The Late Show includes an analysis of Green consumerism in advertising **11.55 Weather**
12.00 Open University: Head Start — Shaping Young Lives 12.25am The Physics of White Dwarf Stars. Ends at 12.55

VAR

BBC1 WALES 6.30pm-7.00 Wales Today 12.05am-12.15 News and weather SCOTLAND 10.00am-11.00 Dilemma 6.30pm-7.00 Reporting Scotland 10.35 Sportscene 12.05am Weather NORTHERN IRELAND 6.30pm Sportswide 5.50-6.00 Inside Ulster 6.30 Neighbours 6.55-7.00 Inside Ulster Update 10.30-12.05am Sportsnight ENGLAND 6.30pm-7.00 Regional news magazines [illegible]

BBC2 SCOTLAND 5.30pm-6.00 The Secret Garden Gardeners' Question Time NORTHERN IRELAND 10.40am-11.00 Ceefax

ANGLIA As London except 1.20pm News 1.30-2.00 The Sullivans 5.15-5.40 Duck Factory 6.00 Home And Away 6.30-7.00 About Anglia 12.30am Tour Of Duty 1.20 Late Night 2.00 Sunset 3.00 Dallas 3.50 The Cosby Show (Animal Logic) 4.30-5.00 Growing Pains [illegible]

BORDER As London except 1.20pm News 1.30-2.00 A Page In The Sun 2.30-3.00 Sons Barbara 3.30-4.00 The Young Doctors 5.00-5.30 Lonesome 10.30am Popeye 1.30 Donahue 3.30 60 Minutes 3.50 Night Heat 4.50 Vietnam: The Ten Thousand Day War 4.50-5.00 Jackanory [illegible]

CENTRAL As London except 1.20pm News 1.30-2.00 Gardening Time 3.30-4.00 The Young Doctors 5.10-5.40 Blockbusters 6 Home And Away 6.30-7.00 News 12.30am Tour Of Duty 1.30 One To One 2.00 Fam Jagloucy, Italian 5 3.50 La Linea 4.50-5.00 Jackanory [illegible]

CHANNEL As London except 1.20pm News 1.30-2.00 Coast To Coast People 3.30-4.00 The Young Doctors 5.00 Channel Report 5.30 Lonesome Pony 10.30 Fresh Frocks and New Trousers 12.30am Film: One Million Years BC 2.20 Night Heat 3.20 The Cosby Show 4.00 The Dallas 4.50-5.20 Out Of Limits [illegible]

GRAMPIAN As London except 1.20-2.00 A Page In The Sun 2.30-3.00 Cross Roads Crossroads 3.30 North Tonight 4.50-5.20 Lonesome Pony 11.[illegible] Crossroads 12.30am The Paperchase 1.20 Donahue 2.30 60 Minutes 3.20 Night Heat 4.20 Vietnam: The Ten Thousand Day War 4.20-4.50 Jackanory [illegible]

GRANADA As London except 1.20pm Granada Report 1.30-2.00 A Page In The Sun 2.30-3.00 The Young Doctors 3.00-3.30