

'Spy' For Assassination Panel Will Meet With Congressman

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By JO MANNIES
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Oliver Patterson, the Black Jack man who contends that he was hired to spy for the House Assassinations Committee, will discuss his allegations tomorrow in Washington with a member of the House Administration Committee.

Rep. Mendel J. Davis, D-S.C., confirmed on Monday that he will meet with Patterson tomorrow. "But I'd rather not say what we will talk about," he said.

Davis noted, however, that a subcommittee of which he is a member is reviewing the Assassinations Committee's request for an additional \$800,000, which members contend is needed to complete inquiries into the killings of President John F. Kennedy and the Rev. Dr. Mar-

tin Luther King Jr.

Last month, the Administration Committee decided to postpone consideration of the request until its accounts subcommittee has investigated Patterson's allegations.

Patterson said at a news conference here on Aug. 7 that he used illegal investigative techniques at the direction of House investigators.

Patterson, 34, of 12350 Old Halls Ferry Road, said Monday that he had telephoned several members of the accounts subcommittee last week to ask whether they wanted to meet with him.

Only Davis accepted the invitation.

Patterson said he was making the trip to Washington at his own expense,

because "I have nothing better to do."

Patterson said he is scheduled to meet with House investigators Sept. 15 in New York to discuss the allegations at the Assassinations Committee's expense.

Patterson said he had once been an informer for the Federal Bureau of Investigation and was employed in recent months by the Assassinations Committee to spy on Jerry Ray, a brother of James Earl Ray, the convicted assassin of King.

Patterson said his duties included tape-recording telephone conversations with Jerry Ray, sifting through Ray's belongings for letters from his brother — and even acquiring samples of Jerry Ray's hair.

Rules adopted by the committee last year forbid tape-recording conversations "without the prior knowledge of the person whose conversation is being recorded." Wiretapping and electronic surveillance also are prohibited.

In April, Patterson testified before the Assassinations Committee's investigative staff.

He now contends that Conrad Baetz, a staff investigator, handed him written 'answers' — some false — for his official testimony.

The news conference here was conducted by Mark Lane, attorney for James Earl Ray.

Lane maintained that Patterson had been part of a "conspiracy" to prevent a fair investigation into King's death and to discredit Ray's contention that, despite his guilty plea, he is innocent.