

April 11, 1969

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

An article appeared in the "New York Times" on 3/18/69 quoting Reverend James Bevel that there was definitely a conspiracy to murder King a couple of days before King arrived in Memphis on 4/3/68. (King murdered 4/4/68)

Based on this, we instructed our Philadelphia office to locate and interview Bevel concerning this.

Attached advises that Bevel may be confined to a hospital in New York as a mental patient.

New York will be instructed to determine if Bevel is confined to a mental hospital or institution and not to interview him without specific Bureau authority.

You will be kept advised of pertinent developments.

REL:rl

JW *APC* *V* *REL* *5765*

TELETYPE
1 1969
RECORDED

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WASHINGTON 11 NEW YORK 05
 440 PM URGENT 4-10-69 ECK
 TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND NEW YORK (CODE)
 FROM PHILADELPHIA (44-1368) 2P

MURKIN

RE BUREAU AIRTEL MARCH TWENTYSIX LAST, AND ATLANTA TEL
 APRIL THREE LAST.

REF AIRTEL INSTRUCTED PHILA TO INTERVIEW REV. JAMES
SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
 BEVEL OF ~~SOLE~~ FOR INFORMATION IN HIS POSSESSION REGARDING HIS
 STATEMENT IN "THE NEW YORK TIMES" ON MARCH EIGHTEEN LAST,
 THAT A LETTER WAS TURNED OVER TO MEMPHIS POLICE ON
 APPROXIMATELY APRIL THREE, SIXTYEIGHT, WHICH CONTAINED INFORMATION
 THAT MARTIN LUTHER KING WAS TO BE ASSASSINATED.

REF ATLANTA TEL STATED RUMORS WERE THAT BEVEL HAD
 RECENTLY COMMITTED HIMSELF TO A HOSPITAL IN ORDER TO OBTAIN A
 REST AND SEEK WHATEVER MEDICAL ATTENTION MAY BE NECESSARY.

END PAGE ONE

EX 110 REC-39 5705

*Tel NY
 4-10-69*

Ad

MR. DELOACH FOR THE DIRECTOR

APR 11 5 22 PM '69

PH 44-1368

PAGE TWO

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] SCLC HEADQUARTERS AND THAT ONE LOCAL OFFICIAL OF SCLC STATED BEVEL WAS IN NEW YORK BUT THAT SCLC WAS KEEPING QUIET. ALL OTHER SCLC PEOPLE ADVISED SIMPLY THAT BEVEL WAS OUT OF TOWN.

NEW YORK ATTEMPT TO LOCATE HOSPITAL AT WHICH BEVEL IS LOCATED BUT DO NOT INTERVIEW WITHOUT BUREAU PERMISSION.

IT IS FELT BEVEL SHOULD NOT BE INTERVIEWED IF HE IS IN A MENTAL HOSPITAL BECAUSE OF POSSIBLE EMBARRASSMENT TO THE BUREAU.

IF BEVEL IS LOCATED IN NEW YORK, THE FACT THAT HE IS IN A MENTAL HOSPITAL MAY BE EXCELLENT MATERIAL FOR COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE.

BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO ADVISE WHETHER OR NOT BEVEL IS TO BE INTERVIEWED IN HOSPITAL.

AIRMAIL COPY SENT ATLANTA AND MEMPHIS.

END

WA.....JDR

FBI WASH DC

CC-MR. ROSEN

NOTE:

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

An article appeared in the "New York Times" on 3-18-69 quoting Reverend James Bevel that there was definitely a conspiracy to murder King a couple of days before King arrived in Memphis on 4-3-68. (King murdered 4-4-68) Based on this, we instructed our Philadelphia Office to locate and interview Bevel concerning this.

Philadelphia advises that Bevel may be confined to a hospital in New York as a mental patient, and they requested advice as to whether or not Bevel is to be interviewed in hospital. They are presently attempting to locate hospital at which Bevel is allegedly confined.

We are advising New York to locate hospital or institution and determine complete circumstances of confinement and not to interview Bevel unless specifically advised by the Bureau.

4-14-69

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

1 - Mr. Long

TO SAC, NEW YORK (44-1609)
FROM DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)-5103
MURKIN EX 110

RE PHILADELPHIA TELETYPE TO THE BUREAU AND
NEW YORK DATED APRIL TEN LAST.

NEW YORK, IF NOT ALREADY DONE, WILL IMMEDIATELY
LOCATE HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION IN WHICH REVEREND JAMES BEVEL
CONFINED AND DETERMINE COMPLETE CIRCUMSTANCES OF SUCH
CONFINEMENT INCLUDING OPINION OF DOCTORS AND AUTHORITIES AS
TO ADVISABILITY OF INTERVIEWING BEVEL. NEW YORK SHOULD ADVISE
BUREAU OF RESULTS OF INQUIRY AND DO NOT INTERVIEW BEVEL
WITHOUT SPECIFIC BUREAU AUTHORITY. AIRMAIL COPY SENT
PHILADELPHIA AND MEMPHIS.

- 1 - Philadelphia (44-1363)
- 1 - Memphis (44-1987)

REL:jms
(5)
SEE NOTE PAGE TWO.

R ✓

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 Miss Holmes
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INITIALIZED
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT