

CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA  
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Col. Walter E. Headley  
Chief of Police

DATE: April 25, 1968

FILE:

SUBJECT:

FROM: Lt. Charles H. Gapp  
General Assignment Detail - CIS

REFERENCES: Death of Martin Luther King

ENCLOSURES:

C O N F I D E N T I A L

On Wednesday, April 17, 1968, informant "88" went to Atlanta, Georgia in an effort to find more information concerning the death of Martin Luther King. This informant remained in Atlanta until April 22nd and returned to Miami on April 23, 1968. Informant contacted me and we met in the downtown area of Miami. This informant states that on April 1, 1968 he was in Washington, D. C., attending a Labor Relations Board meeting, and when it adjourned he overheard a conversation between members of the Longshoremen's Union and the Sanitation Workers' Union in which they discussed the sanitation workers predicament in Memphis, Tennessee. One spokesman stated that "when Martin Luther King returns to Memphis, we don't have any alternative but to kill him. He has stopped being a preacher and is interfering as a labor organizer, and has caused one riot in Memphis and one man's death, and that he is hurting the labor cause rather than helping it."

When the informant returned to Miami on April 4, he heard by the news media that Martin Luther King had in fact returned to Memphis and was going to lead a parade the following day. This informant feared that he might be a suspect and questioned concerning anything that might happen to Martin Luther King. He went to a filling station and garage operated by Mr. Frank Love, on the corner of N. E. 1st Avenue and 10th Street, and during a conversation told him that he believed that Martin Luther King would be assassinated that night and stated his reasons for believing so. This statement was allegedly made in front of Frank Love and two or three of his Negro employees at the garage. This occurred at approximately 4:00 P.M., after which King was murdered at approximately 7:00 P.M.

On April 25 this reporter contacted Frank Love at his place of business and Mr. Love reluctantly verified the statements made by the informant. Also, one of the Negro employees, at this time known only as George, verified the informant's statement.

While in Atlanta, this informant contacted various members of the KKK and other extreme right groups in an effort to gain further information concerning King, but found only that it is the general

April 25, 1968

feeling that other Negro leaders are marked for assassination in the near future.

Informant also learned that for some reason Senator Robert Kennedy is being "guarded" by members of the KKK at all of his public appearances throughout his presidential campaign. At this time it is not known if Senator Kennedy is under surveillance for his own protection or for other motives.

CBS:mn

CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA  
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Lieut. H. Swilley  
Intelligence Unit

DATE: April 30, 1968

FILE:

SUBJECT: Investigation of suspects  
in assassination of  
MARTIN LUTHER KING

FROM: Sgts. E. W. McCracken and  
" Everett Kay  
Intelligence Unit

REFERENCES:

ENCLOSURES:

Contact was made with a very reliable informant used by this unit in the past, known as "88". After meeting with this informant, it was learned that a possible conspiracy existed reference the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King. The suspects involved are personally known by the informant "88". Information could be obtained reference this conspiracy by the informant travelling to Atlanta, Ga., Chattanooga and Memphis, Tenn. as these cities were the operation points of a group known to the informant bent on the attempt to assassinate Martin Luther King a few years back.

The Miami Police Intelligence Unit placed a concealed electronic device in a room where a conversation took place between our informant and a racist from Atlanta, where the subject of assassination of the President of the U.S., John Kennedy, was discussed, along with Martin Luther King, and plans for these deeds were programmed. According to the culprit planning this, an attempt was made to assassinate Martin Luther King in Atlanta, but the exact and prime location for the assassin was not obtained - therefore, it was not carried out.

Mentioned in this conversation was a JACK BROWN of Chattanooga, Tenn., a very likely person who may become involved in such proceedings as aforementioned. This man was very active in the Klan throughout the South. Also a subject known as MILTEER, of Atlanta, was figured closely in this hate group.

Informant "88" feels that by contacting such persons as the above, information will be gained as to what extent these people, if any, are involved in this assassination. Recent information again reflects that these two persons, along with others, may be implicated. As it is felt that these writers, Sgts. McCracken and Kay, should travel with informant, where if at all possible, concealed electronic devices may be used to record conversations of informant and suspects, and other investigation procedures.

The aforementioned information has been relayed to State Attorney's office, Al Sepe, Executive Assistant to State Attorney Gerstein, who has given permission for Sgts. McCracken and Kay to accompany informant "88" on his mission, with the State allocated funds.

Chief Headley notified of the above and has given his permission.

EK:rh

Report from "88" dictated to Rose Horvath, M.P.D. Intelligence Unit, on Tuesday, June 11, 1968 -- 2.30 P.M. in presence of Sgt. Everett Kay, MP

I left Miami, Fla. Thurs. June 6, 1968 at 9.30 A.M. by train, arrived in Columbia, S.C. June 6, 1968 -- 9.00 P.M. Went to the Wade Hampton Hotel. Stayed there that night.

Next morning 6/7/68, got a cab and went to 768 Augusta St., West Columbia, S.C. That is the location of Nims Electric. I met BELTON NIMS. We left there and went out and had breakfast. NIMS is the first assistant to the Grand Dragon of the ASSOCIATION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINE KLANS. I have known him a long time and he will give me any information he has concerning anything that is going to happen in relation to Klan, violence, etc. Mr. Nims has a great connection with the different patrol organizations throughout the country. He told me that had been glad to see me and missed me several times and he said this Congressman Powell, from New York, who has quarters on Bimini Island for the Communist of America, had been meeting with different organizations - white and colored - whose purpose it was to overthrow the U.S. and especially to kill the white people. He said that Powell was now on the spot to be killed as a Communist at any time that it could possibly be done, and he told me that I should go down at that time and see Mr. Leander H. Perese. He is the head States Rights man of the U.S. (this is a separate States Rights from the National). He is a former Judge and prosecutor of St. Bernard Parish and has a son who is now prosecuting attorney for the Parish of St. Bernard, and he has another son who is a lawyer who has an office in the Orleans Parish.

I left Columbia, S.C. for New Orleans on Friday, June 7th, 1968 at 2.30 P.M. by Greyhound Bus. I landed in New Orleans at 9.30 A.M. Sat. June 8th. I went across the street from the bus station and got a room in the motel, The Tamana Downtown Motel. I got a cab and went to St. Bernard's Parish Court House trying to find one of the Perese, and when I got down to the Court House one of the Deputy Sheriffs told me that Perese was out of town - that he thought Leander was in Washington - and I couldn't find the other two before Monday - so I came back to my hotel. Then I called Sidney Barnes in Mobile, Alabama and told him I was down in New Orleans and was fixing to leave the next day (Sunday) and would stop by and see him. He told me he had an appointment to Pascacoula, Miss. Sunday morning but he says you find out what time a bus would put me in Pascacoula and he would meet me in the station Sunday afternoon and we would go to Mobile, Ala. together, which is his home. Sidney Barnes lives at 1379 East Riviera Drive, Mobile, Ala. I met him at the bus station at 4.05 Sunday PM and we went to Robert N. Smith's residence, 1327 So. Canal St. Pascacoula, Miss. His tel. no. is 39567. Smith had been in the patriot's business but he had a lot of trouble with the FBI and he had been silent for some time as far as transacting any business in the groups and he lost a lot of money and plans to lay low until he accumulates enough money to start out right, but he knows everybody and he knows Sidney very well and we sat on the porch and discussed a lot of violence that went on in Miss. the last year. Sidney Barnes and Smith both are ACTIVE but Smith is not putting up any money to carry on any deals, because he doesn't have it. BARNES is one of the head men in the State and knows all the connections, and his daughter and her husband are also very active in Jackson, Miss.

SIDNEY BARNES told me that they had blowed two synagogues, one in Jackson, Miss. and one in Meridian, Miss. In Jackson - 6 months ago, and in Meridian about 6 weeks ago. He said that the man who is doing the blowing is a young man and is very intelligent in making bombs, handling machine guns and shooting rifles - that this man has been in many of the killings and shootings and bombings and he said the FBI have been trying to hook him, but they can get no Federal crime on him, but FBI is keeping him covered. Barnes said he knows exactly where he is and said he is going to try to arrange to have him meet and talk with me and wants me to come down there and ride all over the State and meet all the strong men in the different organizations, which intends to carry out various violences shortly, and he asked me would I come to Miss. and ride around the State with him. The deal would be when I come that I would be selling ads in my newspaper and he said there are plenty of people in Miss. that would take ads in the paper after he introduced me and talked to them, and told him as soon as I could get straight, I would have to call him and come down and spend some time with him. He told me a man who is very well known for violence in Alabama is over in Miss. now trying to set up some groups to really do some killings - man's name is .. ACE CARTER, a well known Citizens Council man from Alabama. He said he dont know how far ACE CARTER will go but he knows that it is his intention to set up killings and bombings.

The next man that they are planning to kill is named EVERS, whose brother had been assassinated about 4 or 5 years ago and the killer was triid and acquitted in Jackson, Miss. EVERS is definitely going to get it. This man Evers run for Governor but got beat in the last election. I had supper with him at his house in Mobile and he took me to the bus station to depart for Miami. SIDNEY BARNES expects me to call him at his home in Mobile when it would be possible for me to come down and go around the State with him.

88:gh

CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA  
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Lieut. H. Swilley  
Intelligence Unit

DATE: July 3, 1968.

FILE:

SUBJECT: Information

FROM: Narrated by informant "88"  
7/3/68- 12.30 P.M. to R.H.

REFERENCES:

ENCLOSURES:

I left Miami on June 21, 1968 as instructed and went to Memphis, Tenn. where I got a room and began circulating around in order to obtain information in regards to the assassination of Martin Luther King and any information that would indicate that there would be any like action in Dade County in regards to negroes and whites. *JSEC*

After getting settled in room, I went to the neighborhood where Martin Luther King was killed and made friends with a number of people, both negro and white and had a few drinks with them and began discussing this incident along with other racial matters, where I was introduced to a man by the name of CHARLES O. STEVENS at Jim's Club, 299 So. Main, Memphis, who said that he had been questioned with regards to the killing of Martin Luther King and he had lied to the police and FBI saying he knew something about it, whereas he did not.

I met a friend of mine, who is a bellboy at the Tennessee Hotel, whose name is CLARENCE BRANTLEY. He lives at 316 Hernando St. Memphis, Tenn. who told me that everybody who knew anything about this, believes that a negro by the name of SOLOMON JONES, who was a temporary chauffeur for King while he was in Memphis, Tenn. PUT MARTIN LUTHER KING ON THE SPOT, thereby getting him shot and killed. He did this by getting King to step closer to the window and balcony of his motel room, whereby a shot was fired from across the street, killing King. This JONES is pretty well known around Memphis, Tenn. *3 and hand*

I returned to my hotel and standing outside the door was a white man and a negro boy. W/m unknown to me was approximately 30-35 years of age, 5-9 or 10, Sandy hair, light complected - 100-190 lbs. Negro boy was approx 18-19 years old, dark complected, about 5-7 - 135-140 lbs. - They were discussing about coming to Miami and I stepped and listened. It seems they had been to Miami before together and the white man asked the negro did he want to go back to Miami with him, and the negro boy said "you know what we almost got into before" and the white man said "Don't worry about that", and the negro boy then said "Do you want to go by my aunts and get the guns" - the white man said "Yes". - the negro got in the car with the white man and drove off. It was a 1967 Ford, light pea green, two door, Tenn. license JR 3393.

I got a cab and went over to Whitehaven, Tenn. and Southaven, Miss. where I attempted to locate a fellow by the name of LINK RODNEY, who works as a private detective and ham radio operator in Whitehaven, Tenn. and is supposed to be racially involved. I could not locate him, but my conversation with people around there made insinuations to the fact that this LINK and an unknown deputy sheriff may have been involved in jamming the radio somewhere in the Martin Luther King case.

The following was my expenses during this trip:

Train and bus fare from Miami and return .....	\$85.75
Hotels	49.10
Food	76.90
Taxis and transportation	71.70
Advance to informant	10.00
Telephones	<u>5.00</u>
Total .....	\$298.45

On June 20, 68 I was given \$300. by Sgt. Kay from the Miami Intelligence Unit for expenses.  
Salary - 2 weeks at \$100. a week to be received.

88:rh

CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA  
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Lieut. H. Swilley  
Intelligence Unit

DATE: July 8, 1968.

FILE:

SUBJECT: 88 -

Information

FROM: Sgt. Everett Kay  
Intelligence Unit

REFERENCES:

ENCLOSURES:

Informant 88 came to this office at 11.00 A.M. this date and stated that he received a call from SIDNEY BARNES, who lives at 1378 E. Riviera Drive, Mobile, Ala. BARNES is an active racist and has been an acquaintance of informant for a considerable number of years, having lived here in Miami and at one time being active in the States Rights with J. H. Keathley.

BARNES told informant that he and other people are enraged about the killing of KATHY AINSWORTH, recently in Meridian, Miss. KATHY was killed while attempting to place a large quantity of explosives at a Jewish residence house in Meridian. A man with her was shot and seriously wounded. It is believed his name is TARRANTS.

BARNES said that they are going to set up things in Mississippi and he is going to kill all the Jews, niggers and the Policemen if they interfere. He said he did not care if anyone was listening in on their conversation - "we will burn Mississippi if necessary". Subject Barnes is to leave Mobile in the next few days going to Jackson, Miss. where he is to begin recruiting and setting things up, especially an organization known as the WHITE CAMELIA, which is an organization related to the KKK. He is going to call our informant at a later date and let him know what is going on and what our informant can do about recruitment and organization.

In a report made on June 6, 1968 by informant 88 upon his return from Mobile with meeting with Barnes, it is mentioned in this report that Barnes stated that he had a young fellow that could do bombings and etc. and believed in the same principals that the whites did. This fellow, according to informant, is the one that was shot while placing the bomb at the citizen's home.

KATHY AINSWORTH was a niece of SIDNEY BARNES and both of them lived in Miami a few years back. Sidney Barnes occupation is "painter". KATHY AINSWORTH's mother is MARGARET CAPOMACCHIA, 2820 SW 33 Ct. tel: 448-3633.

Informant also advised me that MYRTLE PENDRY is very active in an organization called the NATIONAL STATES RIGHT PARTY and lives at 1202 N.E. 145th St.

skk



CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA  
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Lieut. H. Swilley  
Intelligence Unit

DATE: Aug. 29, 1968.

FILE:

SUBJECT: Trip from Miami  
Aug. 17, 1968

FROM: Narrated by "88" to  
Rose Horvath  
Intelligence Unit

REFERENCES:

ENCLOSURES:

The following conversation took place in the Miami Police Intelligence Unit office on Thursday, Aug. 29, 1968 at 10.45 A.M. with informant "88" and Sgt. Everett Kay:

"I left Miami Florida on Aug. 17, 1968 - destination Mobile, Alabama. I contacted SIDNEY BARNES at his home on River Road. Had a conversation with him in connection with the killing of a girl named KATHY AINSWORTH, in connection with a K.K.K. plot to bomb a Jewish home. Kathy was with a man by the name of TARRANTS, who was also shot. Tarrant is now in jail, according to Barnes, charged with "Bank Robbery, possession of a machine gun which was transported across the State Line in violation of Federal law, and is also being investigated in connection with the murder of Martin Luther King in Memphis, Tenn. on Aug. 4, 1968"

Barnes says that the car that was used to jam the Police cars on relaying messages of the killing of King on Aug. 4th was a car used by Thomas Tarrant. Barnes says that they have information from the Police that Tarrant is talking to the F.B.I. and it looks as if several people may be indicted by the Federal Government in connection with a bank robbery and murder in the State of Mississippi and Tennessee, including himself (Sidney Barnes), who allowed Tarrant to stay at his home a week or ten days after the killing of Martin Luther King. Barnes stated that he would move to Jackson, Miss. in about two weeks and he was going to be a Minister under the direction of a man by the name of SWIFT, who operates the anti-Jewish Church nationally and his headquarters are in California. Barnes stated that he and Connie Lynch would operate in the South to collect money to furnish to gorillas to kill Jews and negroes throughout the United States, and that was the final interview with him, and I left him and headed for New Orleans next morning.

I arrived in New Orleans on Monday, Aug. 19, 1968 and on Tuesday Aug. 20th I met with Mr. Bertile, Asst. States Attorney who is prosecuting the Shaw case in connection with the killing of Pres. Kennedy in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963.

Lieut. H. Swilley  
Intelligence Unit  
related by "88"

-2-

Aug. 29, 1968.

On Aug. 21, 1968 I met in the States Attorney's office of the Orleans Parish with Mr. Berttile and Mr. James L. Alcock,  
Asst. District Attorney, 2700 Tulane Ave.  
New Orleans, La. 822/2414

who are both prosecuting the SHAW case. I went into conversation with them in connection with the assassination of Pres. Kennedy and explained to them, (and there furnished them with four copies of my newspaper,) why I had printed these stories. I went into details and told them about my meeting in New Orleans with Joseph Milteer in April 1963 and the meetings with Milteer in Indianapolis, Ind. in October of 1963 and the meeting in Miami in November 1963 and the meeting with Milteer and others in Columbia, S.C. on Nov. 24, 1963. I told them that I got the tape with Milteer's conversation in connection with the plot to kill Pres. Kennedy and it was taped by the Miami Police Intelligence Unit, which was handled by Sgt. Everett Kay. I told him at the time that this happened that Sgt. Sapp was in charge of the Intelligence Unit, but at the present time Lieut. H. Swilley was in charge. They wanted to know if there was any way they could get a copy of the tape and I told them the only way I knew of was that he would have to get it from Lieut. Swilley or Sgt. Everett Kay, who directed the procedures under which it was obtained. They wanted me to send them the copy of a letter that Milteer had written to me on Nov. 18, 1963 and mailed from Valdosta, Ga. at 2.30 P.M. and I told him any further information they wanted from me in connection with the case would have to come from Lieut. Swilley or Sgt. Kay of the Miami Police Intelligence Unit.

The rest of the time I went from place to place and questioned people and asked them what they thought of the Garrison case in connection with the assassination of President Kennedy, which averaged about 70% of the people who were questioned - and they thought that Garrison was 100% right and that our Government was in one of the dirtiest conspiracies that anyone could think of and a lot of them said that they would not believe one word the FBI told them and that they would never give a statement or answer any questions, because they had lost confidence in them.

88:rh