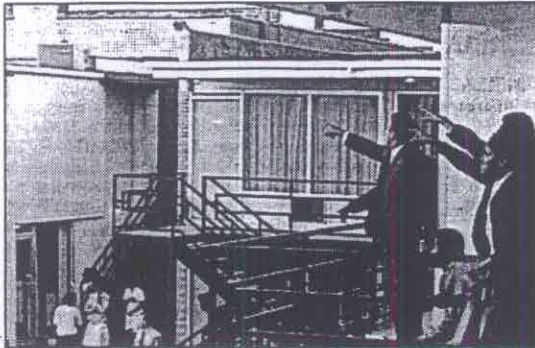Time Inc. via Associated Press

MOMENTS AFTER SHOT: Martin Luther King's aides point out to police the direction of the fatal shot.

from Jerry
Ray
neil 5/1/92

Oliver Stone on MLK

I was genuinely touched by USA TODAY columnist Barbara Reynolds' call for me to make a film about the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. ("Oliver Stone should expose FBI's role in MLK death," April 3).

Right now, with the recent introduction of legislation to release the John F. Kennedy files, we have a great opportunity to see the files on the King case as well. Time is of the essence here — there's no time to make a film — and I'd like to ask everyone to help us out in seeing to the release of the government records on the King case.

Last week, the House of Representatives introduced House Joint Resolution 454, a joint House-Senate measure for the government-wide release of the JFK files. The records of the House Select Committee on Assassinations make up the bulk of these files. However, the committee investigated the King case as well as the JFK case, and the King records are also included in the committee's material. Inexplicably, the King records are *not* included in HJR 454.

The King files contain important evidence in a case that experts consider solvable. Contrary to popular rumor, the King files do not contain the FBI surveillance tapes of King, the release of which some people fear would scandalize the legacy of Dr. King.

The House sponsor of the bill is former assassinations committee chairman Rep. Louis Stokes, D-Ohio. Stokes told reporters he is not moving to release the King files because there is no "public outcry." If that's what is required to learn the truth about Dr. King's murder, let's do it — a simple amendment is all that is needed.

Please write or call Stokes and let him know that the public wants to know the truth about Dr. King's tragic death:

The Hon. Louis Stokes
Rayburn Bldg., Room 2365
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Oliver Stone
Santa Monica, Calif.