

Select Committee on Assassinations

U.S. House of Representatives

3342 HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING, ANNEX 2

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

March 9, 1977

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The Honorable Griffin B. Bell
Attorney General
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C. 20535

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

I appreciate the opportunity to meet with you and propose to discuss the following items:

1) To continue even a threshold investigation, it is necessary that our staff have access to the unclassified materials in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Consequently, we would appreciate your removing any impediments to these materials.

OK
immediate
Assessment
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2) So that we might continue our investigation as expeditiously as possible when reconstituted, it is important that we discuss the procedures for security clearances of our staff, so that we might obtain access to classified materials at the appropriate time.

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Limit 11
today

3) Certain materials are extremely vital which are presently in the custody of the Justice Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, pertaining to the investigation into the death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Accordingly, we would respectfully request that you provide our staff with the following information:

OK a) Reports, memoranda, statements, etc. concerning Miami Police Intelligence and WILLIE AUGUSTUS SOMERSETT

OK b) Prison records, arrest records, reports, memoranda, statements, etc. concerning JOHN LARRY RAY a/k/a Johnny Larry Ray dob 2/14/1931

OK c) Prison records, arrest records, reports, memoranda, statements, etc. concerning GERALD RAY a/k/a Jerry W. Ray dob 7/16/1935

OK d)

Reports, memoranda, etc. on JAMES EARL RAY concerning:

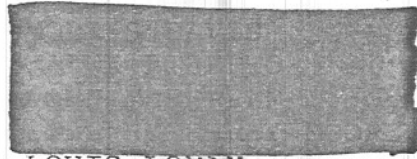
- (1) Automobile licensing,
- (2) Automobile insurance,
- (3) Driver's licensing,
- (4) Birmingham bank safety deposit box,
- (5) Louisiana Department of Motor Vehicles
- (6) Investigation of Canadian movements and whereabouts,
- (7) Investigation of Canadian passports.

see Mike Station

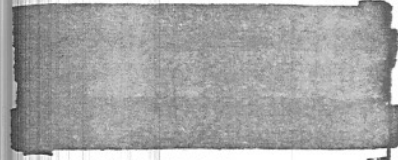
e) Report of the Department of Justice Task Force to review the FBI Martin Luther King, Jr., Security and Assassination Investigations - Appendix B - Interview Memoranda.

f) Most urgently, I request that any and all information in the possession of both aforementioned agencies with respect to the following names or any variations of these names be made available to the Committee as soon as possible:

Copy of shared Leary agreement



LOUIS LOMAX



JAMES ROSE

b6

g) The Select Committee is aware that the Bureau's MURKIN files contain most of the investigative data related to the King assassination. Nevertheless, we solicit your cooperation in assuring that the agency's response to the aforementioned requests will include all information in any additional files, here in Washington or in the Bureau's field offices.

under anything was mention

h) I respectfully request that any and all indices in the possession of the Bureau or the Justice Department's Task Force related to the King assassination be made available to the Select Committee.

David K. ...

outside scope

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Outside
scope

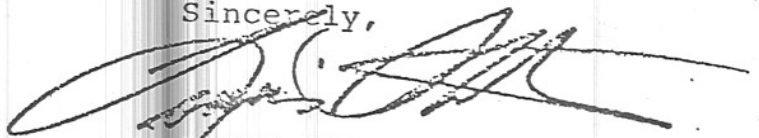
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Outside
scope

Additionally, I request that Department of Justice Attorney Michael Shaheen meet with members of the staff of our Committee to discuss the Department of Justice Task Force to review the FBI Martin Luther King, Jr., Security and Assassination Investigations.

I thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation.

Sincerely,



LOUIS STOKES
Chairman

LS/alj