

SA6'WX

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25 NOV 1964

118 PES

135 PES

BULLETIN

CIVIL RIGHTS

WASHINGTON, NOV. 25 (AP)-THE FBI BELIEVES IT HAS IDENTIFIED THE KILLERS OF THREE CIVIL RIGHTS WORKERS SLAIN IN MISSISSIPPI AND THE BOMBERS OF A BIRMINGHAM CHURCH WHERE FOUR CHILDREN DIED, AN FBI SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY.

PE118PES

SA7'WX

BULLETIN MATTER

WASHINGTON--FIRST ADD CIVIL RIGHTS X X X TODAY. THE FBI STILL IS TRYING TO GATHER ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO GO TO COURT IN BOTH CASES, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THESE DEVELOPMENTS WERE DISCLOSED AS THE SPOKESMAN DEFENDED THE BUREAU AGAINST CHARGES BY THE REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., THAT THE BUREAU IS INEFFECTIVE IN INVESTIGATING CIVIL RIGHTS CASES.

PE119PES

EB101

(500)

WASHINGTON--SECOND ADD CIVIL RIGHTS (A7WX) X X X CASES. WITH REFERENCE TO THE SLAYING OF THE THREE YOUNG CIVIL RIGHTS WORKERS NEAR PHILADELPHIA, MISS., LAST JUNE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID: "THE FBI LOCATED THEIR BODIES IN AN EARTHEN DAM AND HAS DEVELOPED INFORMATION IDENTIFYING THOSE RESPONSIBLE. INTENSIVE INVESTIGATION IS CONTINUING TO DEVELOP THE CASE FOR PROSECUTION AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE."

A BOMB EXPLODED IN BIRMINGHAM'S 16TH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH SEPT. 15, 1963. KILLING FOUR CHILDREN THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

PROSECUTION, HOWEVER, THE FBI IS BELIEVED TO BE RESPONSIBLE."

FBI DIRECTR J. EDGAR HOOVER LAST WEEK CALLED KING--WINNER OF THE NOBEL PRIZE FOR PEACE--"THE MOST NOTORIOUS LIAR IN THE COUNTRY," SAYING KING HAD CHARGED THAT FBI AGENTS IN ALBANY, GA., WERE LAX ON CIVIL RIGHTS INVESTIGATIONS BECAUSE THEY THEMSELVES WERE SOUTHERNERS. ACTUALLY FOUR OF THE FIVE AGENTS ASSIGNED TO ALBANY AT THE TIME WERE NORTHERNERS, HOOVER SAID AT A PRESS CONFERENCE.

EB102

KING IN A TELEGRAM TO HOOVER THE NEXT DAY OBJECTED TO THE DIRECTOR'S REMARKS. HE SAID HE HAD QUESTIONED THE FBI'S EFFECTIVENESS BUT NEVER ATTRIBUTED INEFFECTIVENESS MERELY TO THE PRESENCE OF SOUTHERNERS IN THE FBI.

THE FBI SPOKESMAN SAID THAT IN NOVEMBER 1962, KING WAS WIDELY QUOTED IN THE PRESS AS CHARGING THAT ONE OF THE GREATEST PROBLEMS OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENTS WAS THE PRESENCE IN THE FBI'S SOUTHERN OFFICES OF AGENTS WHO WERE WHITE SOUTHERNERS WHO HAD BEEN INFLUENCED BY THE BELIEFS OF THE COMMUNITY.

THE FBI SPOKESMAN SAID THIS STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO KING WAS "ABSOLUTELY FALSE."

KING'S TELEGRAM POINTED OUT THAT THE FBI HAD MADE NO ARRESTS IN THE ALBANY CIVIL RIGHTS DISTURBANCES, THE CHURCH BOMBING OR THE CIVIL RIGHTS MURDERS IN MISSISSIPPI.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THERE HAD BEEN NO ARRESTS IN ALBANY. BUT HE SAID THE AGENCY INVESTIGATED "NUMEROUS ALLEGATIONS OF CIVIL RIGHTS ALLEGATIONS" AND ADVISED THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OF THE RESULTS OF ALL INVESTIGATIONS.

"ANY ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATION REQUESTED BY THE DEPARTMENT WAS IMMEDIATELY AND THOROUGHLY RUN OUT AND THE RESULTS FURNISHED TO THE DEPARTMENT," THE SPOKESMAN SAID. "THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE DID NOT SEE FIT TO PROSECUTE ANY OF THE INCIDENTS ARISING OUT OF THESE DEMONSTRATIONS."

THE SPOKESMAN THEN TOOK UP KING'S CHARGE THAT FBI AGENTS WORK WITH LOCAL OFFICERS ON CRIMINAL CASES, MAKING IT DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY IN CIVIL RIGHTS CASES.



EB103

THIS IS A SHOP-WORN CANARD," THE SPOKESMAN SAID, "THE FALSITY OF WHICH IS CLEARLY ILLUSTRATED BY THE FBI'S CURRENTLY EFFECTIVE COOPERATION WITH LOCAL OFFICERS IN MISSISSIPPI; THE FBI'S ARREST OF FIVE OFFICERS IN NESHOPA COUNTY, MISS.; THE FBI'S EFFECTIVE COOPERATION WITH LOCAL OFFICERS IN THE GEORGIA CHURCH-BURNING INVESTIGATION, THE LEMUEL A. PENN MURDER CASE AND MANY OTHER CASES IN ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY."

HOOVER CHARGED IN HIS NEWS CONFERENCE THAT KING HAD CONSISTENTLY REFUSED REQUESTS FROM HOOVER FOR A MEETING TO STRAIGHTEN OUT THEIR DIFFERENCES. KING REPLIED HE HAD NO RECORD OF SUCH A REQUEST.

THE FBI SPOKESMAN SAID FBI OFFICIALS SOUGHT AN APPOINTMENT WITH KING IN NOVEMBER 1962. "KING WAS NEVER AVAILABLE ON THE TELEPHONE AND LEFT INSTRUCTIONS WITH HIS SECRETARY ON NOV. 23, 1962, THAT HE WOULD CALL THE FBI WHEN HE WAS WILLING TO ARRANGE AN INTERVIEW," THE SPOKESMAN SAID. "HE MADE NO FURTHER RESPONSE."

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