

EA70WX

E URGENT

FIRST LEAD HOOVER-KING

WASHINGTON, DEC. 1 (AP)-THE REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING, WHO HAS BEEN AT ODDS WITH FBI DIRECTOR J. EDGAR HOOVER OVER THE FBI'S CIVIL RIGHTS ROLE, MET WITH HOOVER TODAY FOR WHAT HE CALLED A "QUITE AMICABLE" TALK.

KING SPENT ABOUT 1 1/4 HOURS IN HOOVER'S OFFICE IN A MEETING WHICH KING HAD REQUESTED.

AN FBI SPOKESMAN SAID THAT HOOVER WOULD HAVE NO COMMENT.

KING TOLD REPORTERS THAT "I MIGHT SAY THE DISCUSSION WAS QUITE AMICABLE."

KING WOULD NOT ANSWER DIRECTLY REPORTERS' QUESTIONS ON WHETHER HOOVER HAD WITHDRAWN HIS REPORTED STATEMENT THAT KING WAS A NOTORIOUS LIAR.

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"WE TALKED IN A VERY FRIENDLY MANNER," KING SAID.

IT WAS LEARNED THAT HOOVER TOLD KING THE FBI HAS INFILTRATED THE KU KLUX KLAN AND OTHER RACIST GROUPS, AS IT DID THE COMMUNIST PARTY. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME SUCH INFILTRATION HAS BEEN REVEALED.

IT WAS LEARNED ALSO THAT THE MEETING OPENED ON AN AMIABLE NOTE, WITH KING SAYING HE WAS PRIVILEGED TO MEET WITH HOOVER AND GLAD OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO COME IN AND TALK ABOUT VARIOUS MATTERS.

KING ALSO EXPRESSED, FOR THE PEOPLE OF HIS RACE, APPRECIATION FOR WHAT THE FBI HAD DONE UNDER CONSIDERABLE HANDICAPS, AND SAID IT HAD OVERCOME MANY OBSTACLES IN THE SOUTH IN FULFILLING ITS WORK.

IT WAS LEARNED KING ADDED THAT THE PRESENCE OF THE FBI IN THE SOUTH, TO A GREAT EXTENT, WAS A DETERRENT TO FURTHER VIOLATION OF CIVIL RIGHTS, AND THAT HE WAS AWARE OF THAT.

SOURCES SAID KING ALSO SAID HE WAS URGING ALL HIS PEOPLE TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THE FBI.

IN HIS TURN, HOOVER SAID THE FBI HAD ACCOMPLISHED A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT, AND DISCUSSED WHAT IT HAD DONE, THE ROLE OF THE FBI, AND WHAT IT CAN DO AND CANNOT DO.

HOOVER ALSO COMMENTED ON THE FINE WORK OF NEGRO SPECIAL AGENTS IN THE FBI.

THE FBI HAD NO COMMENT ON WHAT WENT ON SIDE THE CONFERENCE ROOM. SOME REPORTERS, ETC., 7TH GRAF. (INSERTED A92WX)

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SOME REPORTERS SAID KING LATER TOLD THEM, AS HE LEFT THE BUILDING, THAT HOOVER HAD INDICATED THERE WOULD BE ARRESTS IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS IN THE SLAYING OF THREE CIVIL RIGHTS WORKERS IN PHILADELPHIA, MISS.

THE FBI SPOKESMAN HAD NO COMMENT ON THIS REPORT.

HE SAID AGAIN, AS THE FBI HAD ANNOUNCED LAST WEEK, THAT "WE KNOW WHO IS RESPONSIBLE; THE INVESTIGATION IS STILL CONTINUING WITH GATHERING EVIDENCE TO SUSTAIN A SPECIAL PROSECUTION."

HE SAID THE FBI HAD NOT SET A SPECIFIC TIME FOR ARREST.

WHEN THE MEETING WAS OVER, KING READ A STATEMENT IN WHICH HE SAID THAT "THERE MUST BE COOPERATION TO DEFEND THE RIGHTS OF ALL."

HE SAID HE AND HOOVER TALKED ABOUT AREAS WHERE CIVIL RIGHTS WORKERS WILL BE WORKING IN THE SOUTH AND WHERE THEY FACE SERIOUS PROBLEMS. THE MOST DIFFICULT AREAS, HE SAID, ARE IN ALABAMA AND MISSISSIPPI.

KING SAID ALSO HE SINCERELY HOPED "WE CAN FORGET THE CONFUSION OF THE PAST" AND GET ON WITH THE JOB "OF GIVING AND PROVIDING FREEDOM AND JUSTICE FOR ALL CITIZENS OF THIS NATION."

KING SAID HE HAD TO LEAVE IMMEDIATELY FOR ATLANTA AND DID NOT STAY TO ANSWER REPORTERS' QUESTIONS.

HE HAD ARRIVED TWO MINUTES EARLY FOR HIS 3:30 P.M. APPOINTMENT WITH HOOVER.

THE CIVIL, ETC., THIRD GRAF A72WX

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THE CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER HAD SAID LAST NIGHT HE WOULD ASK FOR THE APPOINTMENT TO DISCUSS THEIR DIFFERENCES.

WITH KING WERE THREE ASSOCIATES, RALPH ABERNATHY, DR. ANDREW YOUNG AND WALTER FAUNTROY.

KING SAID NOTHING TO WAITING REPORTERS BEFORE HE AND THE THREE OTHERS WENT INTO THE ANTEROOM OF HOOVER'S OFFICE.

THE FBI HAD DECLINED ALL DAY TO CONFIRM OR DENY REPORTS THAT KING WAS COMING.

IN A RARE NEWS CONFERENCE LAST MONTH, HOOVER HAD SAID KING WAS "THE MOST NOTORIOUS LIAR IN THIS COUNTRY." HE SAID KING HAD CLAIMED THAT FBI AGENTS IN GEORGIA DID NOT INVESTIGATE COMPLAINTS FROM NEGROES BECAUSE THE AGENTS WERE SOUTHERNERS.

HOOVER CHALLENGED THE COMPLAINT, AND SAID KING HAD REJECTED HIS EFFORTS TO PROVIDE CORRECT INFORMATION.

LATER KING SAID THAT HOOVER "HAS APPARENTLY FALTERED UNDER THE AWESOME BURDEN, COMPLEXITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF HIS OFFICE."

(NO PICKUP)

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