

King Plot Charge Explored

Beal 3/20/77

Louisville, Ky. — (AP) — The House Select Committee on Assassinations is investigating allegations from a man who claims several members of a police department and FBI agents plotted to kill Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (Rep. Gene Snyder (R-Ky) revealed yesterday that he had given the evidence to the panel.

Snyder said he got a letter from the man, then met him and listened to a tape the man said he had made of the alleged assassination plot. Snyder refused to say whether the man or the police department involved were in Kentucky.

Snyder released parts of the letter, using the word "blank" in place of names.

"I retired from (blank) police department in (blank) after serving (blank) years," Snyder quoted the letter as saying. "While I was in the police department I was innocently involved in a conspiracy to assassinate Dr. Martin Luther King.

"Involved in this conspiracy were agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, agents (blank), (blank) and (blank) and others that I did not know. Members of the (blank) police department, chief of detectives, captain (blank), lieutenant (blank), officer (blank), lieutenant (blank) of the homicide bureau and president of the FOP sergeant (blank)."

FOP stands for Fraternal Order of Police, an organization for police officers.

Snyder said he could not divulge the names listed in the letter or the identity of the man who contacted him. The FBI refused to comment.

An alleged police assassination plot against the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is investigated.

The House Select Committee on Assassinations is investigating allegations from a man who claims that several members of a police department and FBI agents plotted to kill

Dr. King. Rep. Gene Snyder (R., Ky.), who made the disclosure, said he met the man "face to face" and that he "appeared to be rational, a logical kind of man." Snyder said he got a letter from the man and listened to a tape the man said he made of the alleged plot. Snyder refuses to identify the man or to say whether he or the police department was in Kentucky. Richard A. Sprague, chief counsel for the assassinations committee, confirmed that Snyder had given the committee material concerning the allegation and said that it was under investigation.

Women may be called in a future military draft, the Army chief of staff says.

"If we're going to utilize women in the services as the recent trend has been," said Gen. Bernard W. Rogers, "then I think very serious consideration must be given to their being in any future involuntary service." Rogers said he and U.S. Army commanders are "unanimous" in hoping that the all-volunteer armed services can be maintained. However, he said, the Army is having difficulty recruiting volunteers to fill reserve units. He said "new initiatives" to help recruitment, such as enlistment bonuses and tax breaks, were being considered.

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