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MENORANDUM

SUBJECT: Attempted Anti-U.S. Demonstrations in Kingston Following Assassination of Martin Luther King

- 1. According to the Special Branch of the Jamaica Security Service, there are four groups trying to instigate demonstrations against the American Embassy in Kingston, Jamaica, since the assassination of Martin Luther King, but they have met with no success.
 - a. A group of Jamaican leftists, including Winston Monroe, are in contact with an unnamed Black Power advocate from the United States who arrived in Jamaica some time during the week of 1-6 April. It was not known whether he arrived before or after the assassination.

The Special Branch advised our representative in Kingston that it had learned that the group planned to send a small delegation to the area near the American Embassy around noon on 8 April to see whether they could start any disturbances. The group had considered stoning the Embassy, but gave up this idea. The Black Power advocate from the United States is reported to have commented that since the Government of Jamaica is in complete sympathy with Dr. King, it will be difficult to get demonstrations started. The police believe it is uncertain that the group will take any action. The police are expected to have a stand-by force to meet any adverse development, and feel that they can control the situation.

b. Leroy Innis, President of the Guild of Undergraduates of the University of the West Indies (UWI), tried to get UWI students to demonstrate, but without success. (Field Comment: The students are on vacation and are not scheduled to return to classes until Tuesday, 9 April, so they are free for action, if any spark catches.)

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- c. Prince Buster, Jamaican leader of the Black Muslin Movement, is awaiting word from Muhammed Ali, Black Muslin leader in the United States. No active plans or organizing is under way.
- d. Mortimer Planer, a Rastafarian who participated in a demonstration against the British High Commission over the Rhodesian hangings, has contacted some students and members of his own following. These students said they would back Planer. There is no information available, however, on the timing or status of Planer's efforts.
- 2. The American Ambassador in Kingston has been informed.

