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24 APR 68 # 97560

DIRECTOR
RYBAT WOMUSE

1. 16 APRIL RODERICK CLAFLIN BROWN, PANAMANIAN NATIONAL, BORN 1 JULY 1917, BRITISH HONDURAS, VOL UNTIARILY APPEARED AT HYPERACE AND SIGNED DEPOSITION HIGHLIGHTS OF WHICH AS FOLLOWS:

(1) 26 OCTOBER 1962 SERVED AS COOK/SEAMAN ABOARD TEXACO S.S. SOUTHAMPTON WHICH DOCKED AT MOBILE, ALABAMA.

(2) ON SHORE VISIT TO MOBILE AIRPORT MORNING OF 26 OCTOBER IN COMPANY TWO FELLOW PANAMANIAN/SEAMAN HE APPROACHED BY MARVIN P. LITRELL, OWNER, LITRELL MOTOR CO., 921-25 SOUTH CLINTON STREET, ATHENS, ALABAMA, WHO AFTER ASCERTAINING BROWN PANAMANIAN SEAMAN, ASKED IF HE KNEW OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

(3) LITRELL INQUIRED WHETHER BROWN INTERESTED IN EMPLOYMENT, DETAILS OF WHICH UNSPECIFIED. WENT ON TO DESCRIBE DR. KING AS "OUR GREATEST PROBLEM WHO IS CAUSING US MUCH TROUBLE." GAVE BROWN BUSINESS CARD

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PAGE 2 (PANAMA CITY) 6180 **SECRET**
 TO USE IN EVENT HE INTERESTED IN PURSUING EMPLOYMENT
 OFFER.

(4) 28 JANUARY 1963 BROWN WROTE
 LITRELL FROM NEW YORK CITY, STATING HE INTERESTED
 IN JOB AND REQUESTED \$75 FOR TRAVEL NEW YORK CITY TO
 MOBILE. 2 FEBRUARY 63 BROWN RECEIVED REPLY FROM LITRELL,
 RE-STATING THAT HE HAD A JOB WAITING FOR BROWN IN
 ALABAMA, BUT QUESTIONING WHY \$75 NEEDED SINCE FARE
 LESS THAN \$40 BY BUS.

(5) AFTER DISCUSSIONS WITH RELATIVE AND FRIENDS
 IN NEW YORK CITY, BROWN SUSPICIONED THAT LITRELL
 JOB OFFER RELATED WITH ASSASSINATION PLANS
 FOR DR. KING. THEREFORE HE DID NOT RESPOND TO LITRELL
 LETTER AND DISMISSED INCIDENT UNTIL DEATH OF DR. KING
 IN APRIL 1968. BROWN RETURNED PANAMA IN 1964.

2. COPY OF DEPOSITION GIVEN TO STATION BY
 (HYFRACE/1) 24 APRIL. (PROTCOPY OF LITRELL LETTER OF
 2 FEBRUARY 1963 ATTACHED THERETO.

3. NO STATION TRACES BROWN.

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will be made available to the agency

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2/17