

## SECRET.

2 MAY 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director

Federal Bureau of Investigation

SUBJECT : Dr. Martin Luther KING, Jr.

1. Reference is made to this Agency's out message number 94270 dated 25 April 1968 concerning the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther KING, Jr.

- 2. On 16 April Roderick Claflin BROWN, a Panamanian national born 1 July 1917 in British Honduras, voluntarily appeared at the Department of National Investigations (DENI) of the Republic of Panama and signed a deposition, the highlights of which are as follows:
- (1) On 26 October 1962 he served as cook/seaman aboard the Texaco S.S. Southhampton which docked at Mobile, Alabama.
- (2) While on a shore visit to the Mobile airport on the morning of 26 October 1962 in the company of two fellow Panamanian seamen, he was approached by Marvin P. LITTRELL, owner of LITTRELL Motor Co., 921-25 South Clinton Street, Athens, Alabama, who after ascertaining BROWN was a Panamanian seaman, asked if he knew of Dr. Martin Luther KING, Jr.
- (3) LITTRELL inquired whether BROWN was interested in employment, the details of which were unspecified. He went on to describe Dr. KING as "Our greatest problem who is causing us much trouble." He gave BROWN a business card to use in the event he was interested in pursuing the employment offer.
- (4) On 28 January 1963 BROWN wrote LITTRELL from New York City, stating he was interested in a job and

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM SECRET

In 1/22/91

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requested \$75 for travel from New York City to Mobile. On 2 February 1963 BROWN received a reply from LITTRELL, restating that he had a job waiting for BROWN in Alabama, but questioning why \$75 was needed since the fare was less than \$40 by bus.

- (5) After discussions with a relative and friends in New York City, BROWN suspected that the LITTRELL job offer was related with assassination plans for Dr. KING. Therefore he did not respond to the LITTRELL letter and dismissed the incident until the death of Dr. KING in April 1968. BROWN returned to Panama in 1964.
- 3. Enclosed for your information is a copy of the LITTRELL letter and the Spanish language deposition made by EROWN, as well as an English translation of the deposition as described in paragraph 2 of the referenced out message.

FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR PLANS:

Signed: James R. Hunt

JAMES ANGLETON

CSCI-316/01702-68

3 Enclosures

WH/2/Panama/

2 May 1968

Distribution:

Orig & 1 - Addressee, w/atts

1 - CI/R&A (Dummy)

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2 - CI/OPS/DO, w/atts

1 - WH/2/Panama

Based on: PANAMA CITY 6180 (IN 97566)

SECHET

30 NOV 1964

Federal Furanu of Investigation Attention: Tr. S. J. Papieh

FROM : Deputy Director for Flans

SUBJECT : Partin Luther KING, Jr.

1. Reference is made to a communication from your Eurenu dated 28 August 19th concerning proposed travel to Vestern Europe of Fartin Inther KING, Jr. Poference noted that Subject planned to visit Rome, Italy, on 18 and 19 September 19th.

- 2. This Agency has received the following information on Subject from a source who is considered unpoliable. Dr. Martin Inther KING rat with various leaders of the Italian Communist Nature (PCI) and of the Italian Socialist Party (PSI) on 16 Party (PCI) and of the Italian Socialist Party (PSI) on 16 September 1964 in Powe. He discussed with these Italian Socialist politicians the program of demonstrations against segregation in politicians the program of demonstrations against segregation in the United States which are to be erganized in Italy during the months impediately shead. Er. KING reportedly conferred with PCI senators Valio SPANO and Ugo MARTESACHI, with PSI Senator Facio VITTEELLI, and with Deputy Incie LUZZATO of the Italian Socialist Party of Proletarian Unity (PSIUP).
  - 3. This Agency is unable to evaluate the above report.

h. The information in paragraph two has been made available to your farous's representative in Rome.

csc1-316/02051-6h

1 ams (24 November 1964)

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Distribution:

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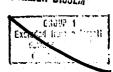
Based on: OHRT-6733 dated 20 October 1964

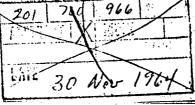
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	INFO.		1	HEADQUARTERS DESK		
		Chief/WH Division	IIIIIII	ABSTRACT		
	FROM	Chief of Station.		MICROFILM	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
	SUBJEC				···	
		Surveillance on IDEN C			160	
	ACTION	REQUIRED - REFERENCES		~,,\\\\\		
i		ACTION REQUIRED: For your information		AM ()		j
		•	12	) ()	·	
		TOTAL A palaced and middle and	, , , , ,	• • • • • • •		
		1. IDEN A, a cleared and witting contact following information which was obtained during	t, pro	ovided th	e	
		of IDEN C. The surveillance was a joint effor				
		local ODENVY. ODENVY is not aware that IDEN				٠.;٠
		information to JMWAVE.		***************************************		!
					•.	
		2. On Thursday, 19 May 1966, a surveilla	surveillance was instituted "			
300000		from Room 618 of IDEN B on adjoining Room 620	, whic	ch was oc	cupied	
		by IDEN C and his aide IDEN D. The surveillar				:
		11:00 a.m. and terminated at 5:15 p.m. During between IDENS C and D and another unknown Negro				
		to be IDEN E, references were made to the Flor				•
İ		Race; a trip to Bimini; and several miscelland				_
				•		
		3. On 20 May 1966 a search was made of				. • •
		after IDENS C and D moved out. Forwarded under		•		5. 1
		are copies of items found in the waste baskets				•
1		a hotel bill, and a list of telephone numbers or 18 - 19 May 1966.	wnic	n were ca	rrreg	•
		on 18 - 19 may 1990.				
		4. Of special interest among these item	s was	·a note v	vhich	
	Ì	stated, IDEN F, please call Long Distance Ope				
	-	IDEN H, according to IDEN A, is an identified	memb	er of the		
32000 E		Communist Party. Also, an envelope of IDEN B				
		IDEN I. This person may have been one of the				•
		room who remained in the company of IDENS C a	nd D	overnight		
	i	5. JMWAVE traces were negative on all p	0200	alition		•
•		5. JMWAVE traces were negative on all p mentioned above as well as those names appear			-6	•
		forwarded under separate cover. JMWAVE has c				٠,
		personalities who reside in the JMWAVE area.				: <b>.</b>
.4	1	Attachment:		•		
	]	A.IDENS A-I u/s/c		•		•
		B.ITEMS u/s/c		* .		
	<b> </b>	DISTRIBUTION:  DATE TYPED DATE DISPATCHED				
	.:	I - Chief, WH Division w/o att				
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## CONTINUATION OF DISPATCH

CLASSIFICATION OF THE PROPERTY 
ATCH SYMBOL AND NUMBER
UFGT - 16828

## Separate Cover Attachment A to UFGT - 16828

IDEN A Lt. Leslie J. Van Buskirk
Chief, Criminal Intelligence
Dade County Public Safety (Metro)
Miami, Florida

IDEN B Miami International Airport

IDEN C Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr

IDEN D Bernard Lee Joh

IDEN E Dr. Brown

IDEN F Dr. King, Jr.

IDEN G #71, Hemstead, N.Y.
Telephone # 487-5199
Mr. Harry Wachtell and signed Lillian

IDEN H Mr. Harry Wachtell

IDEN I Miss Maxine Thurston

## Distribution:

1 - Chief, WH Division