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FBI NEW YORK

9:15 PM URGENT 6-20-69 AWS

TO DIRECTOR 100-136570 (CODE)

ATTENTION DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

FROM NEW YORK 100-136585

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/20/83 BY [signature]

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. SM-C, OO: AT.

OFFICE OF ORIGIN: ATLANTA

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY [redacted]

[redacted] (CLASSIFY "SECRET") ON JUNE TWO ZERO

SIXTYNINE:

ON JUNE TWO ZERO, SIXTYNINE, CORETTA KING TOLD STANLEY LEVISON THAT ETHEL KENNEDY HAD CONTACTED HER THAT DATE TO SAY SHE WAS SORRY ABOUT WHAT HAS BEEN IN THE PAPER (APPARENTLY REFERRING TO THE ARTICLE CONCERNING THE AUTHORIZATION FROM ROBERT F. KENNEDY, WHEN ATTORNEY GENERAL, TO TAP MARTIN LUTHER KING'S TELEPHONES). CORETTA ADDED THAT ETHEL

KENNEDY IMPLIED THAT SHE HOPED THIS WOULD NOT INTERFERE WITH THEIR FRIENDSHIP. CORETTA SAID SHE REPLIED THAT SHE UNDERSTOOD HOW THE PRESS CAN BE DEVISIVE AT TIMES AND THAT THIS DOES NOT COLOR HER ATTITUDE IN ANYWAY TOWARD THE (KENNEDY) FAMILY.

CORETTA ALSO TOLD LEVISON THAT ETHEL KENNEDY SAID "THEY" HAD A MEETING AT HER HOME THE PREVIOUS NIGHT AND TALKED

END PAGE ONE

MR. DELOACH FOR THE DIRECTOR

COPY SENT TO MR. TOLSON

NOT RECORDED

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AS IF CORETTA KNEW WHAT THE MEETING WAS ABOUT. CORETTA SAID SHE DID NOT KNOW WHAT ETHEL KENNEDY WAS TALKING ABOUT AND DID NOT WANT TO ASK HER.

LEVISON COMMENTED THAT HE FELT CORETTA'S ANSWER WAS EXACTLY RIGHT BECAUSE THERE IS NO POINT IN ATTEMPTING TO ASSESS WHAT ROLE BOBBY KENNEDY PLAYED SINCE THERE IS NO WAY OF REALLY KNOWING.

CORETTA STATED THAT THIS WAS "SORT OF PASSING THE BUCK, AND THEY'RE TRYING TO PUT IT ALL OFF ON HIM". SHE ADDED THAT HE MAY HAVE AGREED AND GONE ALONG WITH IT.

LEVISON REMARKED THAT THEY KNOW KING, WHETHER HE FELT BOBBY KENNEDY WAS INVOLVED OR NOT, STILL MAINTAINED A FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM. HE SAID IF KING FELT BOBBY KENNEDY HAD DONE ANYTHING, HE FORGAVE HIM NO DOUBT BASED ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE TIME, THE FACT HE WAS ALWAYS SUPER NERVOUS ABOUT HIS BROTHER (PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY). LEVISON SAID THIS IS THE ATTITUDE CORETTA SHOULD TAKE. HE SAID IF THE PRESS "WANTS TO DIG UP GARBAGE" IT SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO INTERFERE WITH A CONSTRUCTIVE RELATIONSHIP.

CORETTA SAID THAT FOLLOWING HER CONVERSATION WITH ETHEL KENNEDY, THE PHONE RANG AGAIN AND THAT THE GIRL WHO
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ANSWERED SAID IT WAS SENATOR KENNEDY. CORETTA SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HE WAS CUT OFF. SHE AND LEVISON AGREED THAT SENATOR (TED) KENNEDY MAY HAVE FOUND OUT THAT ETHEL CONTACTED CORETTA AND DECIDED NOT TO GO THROUGH WITH THE CALL.

LEVISON CONTINUED THAT THE PRESSURE AT THIS POINT HAS COME FROM MANY LIBERALS WHO RESENT FBI DIRECTOR HOOVER'S ROLE, AND THAT HOOVER GAVE AN ANSWER. HE ADDED THAT HOOVER HAS BEEN ANSWERED BACK BY (RAMSEY) CLARK, AND THAT CLARK'S ANSWER IS RIGHT.

LEVISON GAVE HIS OPINION THAT THE ENTIRE AFFAIR WILL "DRIFT AWAY" AND ADDED THAT "IT'S NOT THE KIND OF THING YOU CAN KEEP GOING." LEVISON FELT THE ENTIRE THING WILL BE FORGOTTEN BUT THAT FBI DIRECTOR HOOVER WILL BE BOTHERED BY IT BECAUSE IT LEAVES HIM AS THE MAN RESPONSIBLE.

CORETTA AGREED, STATING "I FEELS LIKE HE IS THE MOST GUILTY."

LEVISON COMMENTED THAT CORETTA'S SUGGESTION THAT SHE GET TOGETHER WITH ETHEL KENNEDY COULD BE FRUITFUL AND SHOULD

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BE DONE REASONABLY SOON. LEVISON SUGGESTED THAT CORETTA
SET UP THE MEETING AND THAT THEY COULD TALK ABOUT IT BEFORE
SHE AND ETHEL KENNEDY MEET.

memo
NO ~~LHM~~ BEING SUBMITTED.

END

WA...LRC

FBI WASH DC

CC MR. SULLIVAN