

**THE DEATH OF  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
REPORTED INCOMPLETE**

A forthcoming Senate Assassinations Committee report on the death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is incomplete, according to allegations made by an ex-Deputy U.S. Marshall in Alabama who was fired after stating that the U.S. Department of Justice is withholding evidence regarding attempts made on the life of the Nobel Prize winning civil rights leader.

Deputy U.S. Marshall Dan Moore's allegations stem from a federal investigation of the 1963 Birmingham bombings which included an attempt on the life of Dr. King.

Moore charged during an interview by the Senate Assassinations Committee that a 1963 federal grand jury investigating the series of 39 bombings was improperly seated.

The charges can only be substantiated by Justice Department files which contain the results of FBI investigations into the bombings that same year, but the Justice Department has refused to release the files to state and local officials investigating the bombings.

Moore, interviewed by American Citizens for Honesty in Government, in an article in the current edition of Freedom, the Independent Journal for the Church of Scientology, discussed the events which led to the 1963 investigations.

The federal investigations began when Roosevelt Tatum, a black Birmingham resident witnessed a Birmingham police car pull up in front of the home of Rev. A.D. King, the brother of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and leave a package on the steps of the front porch. Moments later, two explosions tore away most of the roof and one corner of the civil right's leader's home.

Simultaneously, another bomb exploded across town at the motel where Dr. King himself, had been staying, injuring several people. King, however, had left the hotel and escaped injury.

Tatum reported the incident to the FBI, but Bureau agents, rather than investigating the incident, took Tatum into custody and flew the 39 year old to Washington, D.C. where he was given a lie detector test.

Following his interrogation, Tatum was indicated on charges of lying to the FBI during the polygraph test. Before being returned to Birmingham, Tatum signed a statement that he had lied to the FBI when

saying the local police were involved in the bombings of King's house.

Tatum later denounced the "confession" and insisted it was given only because of threats made by the FBI agents in D.C.

After his return to Birmingham, Tatum was indicted by a federal grand jury on the same charges.

According to Justice Department documents, and sworn testimony from Deputy U.S. Marshall of Birmingham, Dan Moore, the Federal District Judge in charge of the Tatum case arranged for the son-in-law of the Chief of Police in Birmingham to sit as a prospective juror, stating the jury was "gonna make damn sure that Nigger (Tatum) is indicted."

Moore, however, called attention to the grand jury irregularities and pressed for a full investigation. He continued to bring charges of financial irregularities against the judge in the case, even after an all white jury sentenced Tatum to a year and a day in federal prison on the charge of lying to the FBI.

Moore pressed for a full investigation, but the Justice Department refused to investigate his allegations and later insisted that Moore be "removed" from his position as Deputy U.S. Marshall "for the good of the service."

As a result, of Justice Department pressure, Moore was fired from his job as Deputy U.S. Marshall without pension or retirement benefits.

"I didn't think it was possible a person would be fired with no benefits or pay after 20 years because he tried to be honest," said Moore.

The FBI also refused to cooperate in the investigation. FBI files on the Bureau's investigations of the various bombings were never made fully available to Alabama officials who requested them. In 1971, the State Attorney General sought the records but was rebuked by FBI officials who had previously promised their "fullest cooperation".

The FBI has still not released its documents on the Birmingham case.

"We're no angels," said one former Birmingham official, "but in light of what we know about how the FBI loved to stir up trouble, Dan Moore may have just gotten too close to the truth as to what was happening here in Birmingham."

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