

Atlanta, Georgia: Another CIA Test Tube for Terror and Race War

July 5 (IPS) — The murder of Mrs. Martin Luther King, Sr. during a Sunday church service in Atlanta is the latest evidence of a conspiracy by the Central Intelligence Agency and its domestic arm, the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, to set up the U.S. population for military takeover under CIA control. The apparently random killing in Atlanta, like the well-publicized terrorism of the CIA countergangs, the Symbionese Liberation Army and the Black Liberation Army, and the CIA-orchestrated San Francisco Zebra murders, is designed to create the atmosphere of panic in which a thoroughly demoralized working class will accept Gestapo-style law enforcement. A key element in the CIA strategy is the deliberate organizing of racial conflict.

Evidence for these assertions falls into two basic categories. The first: the strong circumstantial indications that Marcus Chenault, the 21-year-old black man who shot Mrs. King, was a victim of behavior modification (brainwashing) techniques which the CIA-LEAA used to create the SLA and BLA terrorists. (For a complete account of these operations, see IPS No. 6.)

The second: ten months of calculated maneuvers by the LEAA and "progressive" black politicians in Atlanta, aimed at "watergating" old guard police chief John Inman, the principal obstacle to an LEAA reorganization of city government. At present a legal injunction against the reorganization, obtained by Inman, is in force. As Atlanta is the regional center of LEAA activity in the southern U.S., and as the city has historically been the showcase of supposed southern prosperity and racial integration, it is clear that this operation represents the LEAA strategy for the entire south.

Evidence of Behavior Modification

According to those who knew him, in recent months Marcus Chenault had undergone an abrupt personality change, a tipoff to the use of behavior modification. According to the *New York Times*, "many of those who knew him found him a model young man — bright affable, sensible. But in recent months that image began to change. Two months ago he was arrested and fined \$25 for playing 'very offensive homemade tapes' from a stereo system mounted in his apartment window.... Neighbors...recalled he had preached out the window...."

Chenault's behavior at the time of his arrest and in court strongly suggests he was in a psychotic state. The *London Times* and *Los Angeles Times* report that bystanders heard Chenault say as he was apprehended, "Please don't hit me; they did it to me during the war."

Chenault was never in any actual war. He identified himself as "Servant Jacob — a Hebrew" and said he was "sent on a mission from God." When asked if he had shot anyone, Chenault replied, "I assume I did," indicating he had no memory of the event.

Replacing the victim's actual beliefs with an artificial belief structure through behavior modification, thus inducing psychosis, is a key feature of CIA brainwashing operations. Donald Freed, independent investigator of the Citizens Research and Investigation Commission, has released documents showing how SLA leader Donald De Freeze was provided with another identity while an inmate at the Vacaville State Medical Facility in California. While De Freeze was spouting a black nationalist line in meetings of the prison's CIA-organized Black Cultural Association, his letters from the same period insist on his deep commitment to a Christian worldview.

Chenault's "black Israelite" belief structure (he was until recently a church-going Christian, according to his family) corresponds to that imposed on ghetto youth in the Blackstone Rangers gang in Chicago, used to create the CIA ghetto countergang the Bene Zakeem. (See IPS No. 6.)

No ordinary psychosis fits this pattern of behavior. No clinical explanation short of brainwashing exists for Chenault's traveling over a thousand miles from his home in Dayton, Ohio to have a psychotic fit in Atlanta. And according to Dr. John Cooper of the Ohio State Education Department, behavior modification is practiced extensively at Ohio State University, where Chenault studied until early this year.

Finally, the *Dayton Journal Herald* reported that a friend of Chenault's said he and the killer were both members of "The Troop," an organization whose purpose was to kill black ministers and civil rights leaders, and that the organization may have been responsible for the murder of two ministers in Dayton earlier this year. A list of ten such persons, including the Rev. Jesse Jackson of PUSH and the Rev. Ralph Abernathy of SCLC, was found in Chenault's apartment after the killing.

In the face of all this, newspapers today published an Associated Press story denying that any conspiracy existed, and maintaining that Chenault was a "lone nut." This story was channeled through an organization, the AP, which is known to make a practice of killing "sensitive" stories on orders from the LEAA and Police Intelligence sources. It followed extensive briefings of press by IPS on the Atlanta killing.

The Real Conspiracy

The conspiracy to kill civil rights leaders is a CIA cover, providing the context in which black liberals and known counterinsurgency operatives like Jesse Jackson can “legitimately” demand the removal of those “white racist” forces, who, like Atlanta police chief Inman, are blocking LEAA operations in the South. Only six days before the King shooting, Atlanta mayor Maynard Jackson referred to “a plot by a small, conservative group of white, wealthy Atlantans who want to regain control of the city.”

Now that the myth of “southern prosperity” is exploding, as the working class throughout the U.S. and Europe faces a Rockefeller-engineered cut in real income of at least forty per cent, simple “hard cop” club and gun methods will no longer suffice to keep the population in line. Sophisticated psychological warfare and community self-policing techniques are the order of the day, as the CIA struggles to convince each sector of the working class that it is “outsiders,” other members of the class, who are the enemy. The history of LEAA operations in Atlanta which follows reveals the CIA modus operandi race-riot organizing — to achieve fingertip population control under the LEAA.

The Feud

Fall, 1973

At the time of Maynard Jackson’s election as Mayor of Atlanta in October 1973, there had been a long-standing feud raging between liberal black politicians and white police chief John Inman. Instigated by the LEAA, the feud served as a basis for a Jackson power play with the support of an emerging liberal, black middle class constituency.

Over the preceding year and a half, the LEAA had funnelled federal funds for hardware and specialized “hard cop” units into Inman’s force. These high profile LEAA programs — the Anti-Robbery and Burglary Squad and the Helicopter Patrol — served functions similar to those of the LEAA’s STRESS unit in Detroit; they terrorized and angered the black community. At this time, the decoy and special weapons (Special Weapons and Tactical Squad) units of the Anti-Burglary Squad killed 21 people in Atlanta. During the night the Helicopter Patrol swooped low over homes shining flood lights into bedroom windows. In Atlanta, community rage was focused against the city’s police chief, John Inman.

Maynard Jackson was able to capitalize on this anti-Inman sentiment. He became an outspoken opponent of Inman, often attacking the “cronyism” within the police department. The day after his election, Jackson elaborated his pre-election plan to require every Atlanta policeman to live within the city limits. Longtime Atlanta resident John Inman had just moved outside the city limits.

In post-election interviews, Jackson responded to



The Southern Cop: Tool of the LEAA

questions about his relationship to Inman and the police force: “I’m going to be looking for results and maximizing the emphasis on productivity. There will be almost no weight given to who is a crony of who.” He added, “I think I’ll turn out to be the best mayor the Police Department ever had.” This scenario is supposed to climax with the ouster of the old-style hardline cops and the consolidation of self-policing under the beneficent direction of LEAA “community relations” cops.

The Fulton County District Attorney’s staff promptly uncovered an assassination plot against Inman. An informer had told the DA’s investigative staff that an unidentified black assassin had a \$15,000 contract on Inman’s life. This information was not released until after the elections so that it would have no effect on the outcome. Inman was reported to be unresponsive to this threat on his life; however, his assistant B.F. McKillop suggested that he “pay a little more attention to such things.” The LEAA was conducting a psychological warfare operation against Inman.

January, 1974

Jackson took office and brought in Jule Mayer Sugarman to be his Chief Administrative Officer. Sugarman was drafted from his job as Commissioner of the New York City Department of Social Services and Human Resources Administration. Sugarman came to New York City in 1970, bringing with him 50 experienced business and government executive specialists to revamp the city's Social Services into the Human Resources Administration super-agency. He was to preside over John Lindsay's pacification program for New York City welfare recipients. Prior to that he had spent 20 years in Washington, D.C. administration, including positions with the Bureau of Prisons, the Civil Service Commission, the State Department — Bureau of Inter-American Affairs, the Budget Bureau, and the Office of Child Development, where he was a founder of the Head Start program.

Sugarman's Role in Atlanta

Sugarman's official responsibility under Jackson was to supervise the new "superdepartments" resulting from a new City Charter which went into effect January 1. His actual assignment was to transform the city government into a vehicle of LEAA population control, much as CIA agent Robert Kiley has worked toward LEAA takeover of Boston as Mayor Kevin White's chief administrator. The new charter mandated the reorganization of city government from 22 semi-autonomous departments. One of these was the Department of Public Safety, encompassing at least the Police, Fire and Civil Defense bureaus. This would relegate Chief John Inman to head of the Bureau of Police Services under a new "super-chief" Commissioner of Public Safety. The persons under consideration for the post indicate what kind of unit this Department of Public Safety was intended to be. The candidates included: John Lindquist, head of the Office of Public Safety's International Police Academy (the IPA is the CIA's training school for foreign police forces); General Frederick Davidson, one of the highest ranking blacks in the U.S. Army and engineer of "race relations" training for soldiers while commander of the 8th Infantry "Pathfinder" Division in West Germany [There is mounting evidence that the racial issue in the U.S. Army was manufactured by the U.S. Army to divert legitimate soldier ferment around the war in Vietnam and other conditions of military life into destructive protests]; and Wesley Pomeroy, head of the U.S. Drug Abuse Council, a close affiliate of the LEAA.

A State Department of Public Safety has existed in Georgia since 1971 when the Georgia State Patrol, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, the State Crime Lab, and the Georgia Police Academy were consolidated. The former Public Safety Commissioner Ray Pope is now on the LEAA recommendations body, the National Advisory Commission on Criminal Justice Standards and

Goals. Pope had been a Program Specialist for the LEAA, member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Chairman of the Georgia Law Enforcement Planning Agency Supervisory Board (LEAA), and a member of the National Council on Crime and Delinquency's Law Enforcement Council.

February 12, 1974

A public hearing was held on the reorganization plan at which time Inman stated he would "cooperate" with the new set-up. (*Atlanta Constitution*, April 18, 1974)

April 17, 1974

Inman filed a petition for a temporary restraining order to stop the reorganization of the police department. His petition was accepted by the Fulton County Superior Court Judge Jephtha Tanksley. Tanksley ordered the case to be assigned to another judge on April 24 for a hearing. (Inman's petition presently holds up all aspects of the city's reorganization.)

Inman was provoked into the last minute legal action by Sugarman April 15. Sugarman attacked the transfer of two policewomen from the community relations division to the foot patrol as a punitive action. In fact, the women had already been returned to the community relations division when Inman's assistant chief "felt a storm brewing."

Inman responded: "...if the mayor is going to start assigning people in my department, he and I will have to discuss it personally." Mayor Jackson had asked Inman to attend the interviews April 20 to select the new "super-chief" applicants. On April 17, Inman said: "I don't believe I'll go in light of these developments." Inman also confirmed reports that he had given up the idea of becoming the Public Safety Commissioner himself.

During this same period, neighborhood groups throughout the city began holding meetings to protest the police department's Helicopter Squad, and young black members of the City Council Public Safety Committee began a push for a hearing on the department's Decoy Squad.

Sugarman fueled the community protest against Inman. In a major article in the *Atlanta Constitution* April 18, Sugarman indicated he "will think about" whether Inman's legal action was grounds for firing him. "It's the single most discourteous act by a public official I have ever seen." Inman responded: "Is that what he's going to fire me for? Discourtesy?" The article also reported "that the mayor is receiving heavy pressure from black Atlantans to fire Inman, whom they consider an adversary."

May, 1974

Early in May, Jackson suspended Inman and appointed white police captain Clinton Chafin. When Chafin came to the police headquarters to assume his job, Inman met him with a squad of his armed lieutenants. Sources in Atlanta report that a violent scuffle ensued "stopping just short of guns."

Significant is the effect of these events throughout

Georgia. Both the State Legislative and judicial systems have been polarized around the "Inman issue." While a good portion of Atlanta (which is mostly black) is up in arms around Inman, he has managed to muster support outside Atlanta. In fact, Inman did get support of the courts in granting the restraining order and a move was reported among the state legislators to limit Atlanta's home rule because of the Inman affair.

June 23, 1974

Several hundred blacks led by Reverend Hosea Williams demanded the ouster of "white racist" police chief John Inman in the wake of the killing of a 17-year-old black youth by Atlanta police. Williams is a leader of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) in Atlanta. The police involved in the incident were all black.

The first demonstration Sunday, June 23, resulted in several dozen arrests when marchers failed to disperse.

The second demonstration held June 26 after the youth's funeral ended in a brief battle with police when again the marchers refused to disperse. About a dozen protestors were jailed, including Reverend Williams.

Several hundred blacks marched peacefully June 27 through downtown Atlanta. According to the *New York Times* June 28, the leaders of the demonstration said it was peaceful only "because Maynard Jackson issued an executive order approving the mile-long march."

Normally march permits are issued by the police.

Mayor Jackson blamed the June 26 disturbances on Chief Inman. "He must supervise his own department and he didn't do it. There was an overreaction by police." Inman's response: "We had to cope with a lawless, irresponsible, and unruly segment of society." The article referred to Inman's refusal to leave office as precipitating the hottest racial crisis in Atlanta in almost a decade.

CIA's Fall Race Riot Plan

The Atlanta situation comes in the context of the announced plans of the CIA to provoke race riots and other urban violence in thirty cities, particularly in the fall around the school busing issue. These plans were unveiled by Ben Holman, Director of Community Relations for the Department of Justice, who said June 1, 1974: "It's not going to be a long hot summer; it's going to be a long hot fall." (*Washington Star-News*) Holman "predicted" racial disorders over school desegregation in thirty mostly Northern cities when school opens in the fall. Holman's proclamation insisted "trouble will occur regardless of which way Congress moves on proposals to limit busing of children for purposes of racial balance." (See "The Busing Plot," IPS, this issue.)

In this context, the killing of Mrs. Martin Luther King, Sr., June 30, can be understood as a planned assassination by the domestic "Dirty Tricks" section of the Central Intelligence Agency.