DN 157-203 BDA:pmb

On May 24, 1968, the Master File Section, Motor Vehicle Division, Department of Revenue, Denver, Colorado, was checked by SA THOMAS H. WISEMAN, and the driving history for ROBERT EDWARD BYRNE, under driver's license number Y924, indicated traffic violations on October 29, 1964; December 18, 1964; April 4, 1965; and June 1, 1966. Fines were paid in each instance, running form \$9.00 to \$75.00.

Records of the Retail Credit Men's Association, Denver, Colorado, were checked on May 23, 1968, by SA THOMAS H. WISEMAN, concerning ROBERT E. BYRNE. The records showed that BYRNE was a graduate of Cornell University, and was in the U. S. Marine Corps for five years. He was listed as self-employed in the oil business since college and claimed earnings of \$23,000.00 per year as of December 17, 1956. The file indicated that an Internal Revenue Service lien was filed against him in January, 1963. The file contained several bad credit reports and indication of suits having been filed against BYRNE.

On May 29, 1968, Mrs. ELDORAH HOLM, Records Department, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, advised SA BOYD D. ADSIT that there was no arrest record on file concerning ROBERT EDWARD BYRNE or JAMES WILLIS HEYER.

On May 23, 1968, Mr. BUEL O'LOUGHLIN, Identification Division, Denver Police Department, advised SA THOMAS H. WISEMAN that JAMES WILLIS HEYER has Denver Police Department number 148418. HEYER was arrested March 7, 1968, for disturbance, interference with police officer, and using filthy language. The case is presently pending. Mr. O'LOUGHLIN advised that no record was on file concerning HAL HALE, BERNICE PAULSEN, RAY RYAN, or Mr. or Mrs. HOMER LANE BIGELOW.

Files of the <u>Denver Office</u> indicate that JAMES WILLIS HEYER, born at Denver, Colorado, was Assistant U. S. Attorney in Denver, Colorado in the mid-1950's, and was later a Municipal Judge, Denver, Colorado.

DN 157-203 BDA:pmb 3

On May 24, 1968, the Master Files Section of the Motor Vehicle Division, Department of Revenue, Denver, was checked by SA THOMAS H. WISEMAN concerning JAMES WILLIS HEYER. The driver history record under driver's license S332493 indicates that HEYER was cited for various traffic violations on seven occasions between October 26, 1964, and February 2, 1968. Fines were paid in each instance, ranging from \$5.00 to \$25.00.

Files of the Retail Credit Men's Association, Denver, as checked on May 23, 1968, by SA THOMAS H. WISEMAN concerning Mrs. HOMER LANE BIGELOW, indicated that Mrs. BIGELOW has an unsatisfactory credit standing in the community and has numerous department stores indicating that her accounts are being handled very slowly.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

то

SAC (157-203)

DATE:

6/13/68

FROM:

ASAC MORLEY

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

Remy detailed memorandum of 6/10/68, and memorandum of SA GALLIE of 6/12/68.

At 9:50 P.M. on Wednesday, 6/12/68, I was contacted at my home by the Security Patrol Clerk of the Birmingham Office pursuant to the SAC's instructions in that office.

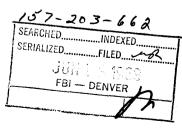
I was advised that JOHN DE SHAZO had been located at UCLA in Los Angeles through a phone call that VERNON McGRAW had made to McGRAW's home in Birmingham and, therefore, no further action concerning our attempts to locate DE SHAZO were necessary.

On the morning of 6/13/68, I contacted Miss BATCHELDER, Mrs. MARTIN, Mr. VANDERLIPPE, SAC BATES of San Francisco, Mrs. TED HATCH and the Colorado State Patrol and cancelled stops which I had placed with those individuals for DE SHAZO. All those individuals are mentioned in my memorandum of 6/10.

JFM:mf
(1)

* m Salagar





OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10 MAY 1962 EDITION GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO

SAC

DATE: June 12, 1968

FROM:

SA JOHN H. GALLIE

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

At 12:18 p.m. today Mr. TED HATCH at Lee's Ferry, Arizona, telephonically contacted the writer and advised that no one by the name of DESHAZO was with his group. He stated there is another group separate from his group that is also leaving on this trip from Lee's Ferry, Arizona, and he is immediately going to check that group for DESHAZO and if he locates DESHAZO he will have him call the Denver Office JHG: ekwakan) by 1:25 p.m. Mr. HATCH stated that he would be in Vernal, Utah

157-203-663 SEARCHED.....INDEXED...... SERIALIZED FILED JUN 1 2 1968 FBI - DENVER



6/11/68

ROUTING SLIP TO ALL FIELD OFFICES

Derrer

FROM TOW

SÁC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

RE:

JANES EARL RAY, aka -

CR - CONSPIRACY; UFAC - ROBBERY

1

OO: MEMPHIS

Re report of SA JOE C. HESTER 6/5/68 at Memphis.

Page 17, paragraph 4, line 6 - 12/17/67, should

be 12/7/67.

Please correct your copies.

SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN

TOR: tjm

Berger

SEARCHED _____ INDEXED ____ SERIALIZED ____ FILED (A) A

JUNA 1 1000

FBI — DENVER

King Slay Case nes More Puzzling

Was the murder of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. a conspiracy carried out by a white man hired months in advance and paid thousands of dol-

Or was it the work of a lone assassin with a personal vendetta against Negroes?

If a conspiracy, who else is involved?

If not, then where did James Earl Ray-the man accused of the crime-get the money he spent so freely on travel, lodging, food and drink during the months before his arrest last Saturday in London?

Authorities in the United States, Canada and Great Britain are searching for answers to these questions.

Warden Harold R. Swenson, who knew Ray well when he was in the Missouri State Prison at Jefferson City, believes Ray incapable of pulling off a major crime, let alone a murder.

WARDEN'S VIEW

When told the FBI had identified Ray as the killer of Dr. King, Swenson commented:

'I am floored-this guy's pennv ante, innocuous. It just doesn't shape up."

In London, a 21-year-old receptionist at a hotel where the fugitive stayed recently, described him this way:

"He was very quiet, nervous, pathetically shy and unsure of listics, said the bureau has no himself."

spending on the West Coast last a conspiracy. fall-where Ray went to a bartending school and took modernance lessons—he acquired a

At the Rabbit's Foot Lounge in a boarding house. in Hollywood Boulevard, where I f Clark was wrong about

him as fanatical.

"Yes, I believe him to be quite capable of violence," he

Ray, born in Alton, Ill., on March 10, 1928, has a criminal record dating back to 1949.

But as a criminal he was not very successful, often bungling jobs by leaving behind telltale evidence, or simply rushing into bad jobs that netted him little, if any, money.

In Chicago in 1952, for instance, he robbed a cab driver of \$11 at gunpoint. Then he was shot in both arms trying to elude police by jumping headfirst through a basement win-

Years later, in California, he was linked to a robbery through shoes that he had left on the scene.

The list goes on.

FBI VIEWPOINT

Is this, then, the same man whom the FBI says unaided meticulously established a second identity, plotted the murder intriguing smaller ones. They and for two months eluded the largest manhunt in recent history?

The FBI says yes, publicly discounting the conspiracy theory.

Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark, in repeated statements issued since Ray was linked to the murder by fingerprints and balreason to believe the killing of Yet, during a period of wild Dr. King on April 4 was part of

Clark said during the second week of April that Ray was still in the country. It is known now, eputation as a loud-mouth rac-however, that Ray already had fled to Toronto and was living

Ray drank screwdrivers topped that, some people are asking, Canadian authorities are con-



AP Wirephoto MRS. SUN LOO

She was Ray's landlady. could he also be wrong on the lone assassin theory?

Within the larger question of whether Ray was capable of carrying out a complex crime like the murder of Dr. King are of Dr. King, shot him in down- will have to be answered as the town Memphis, fled the country investigation of Ray's activities continues.

> The investigation might well start on April 23, 1967, when Ray hid in a bread box on a truck that was leaving the prison. After repeated attempts to escape from the prison, he finally succeeded.

> Little is known of Ray's whereabouts between then and early July 1967 when he turned up in Montreal, and rented a room on St. Germaine St.

> This is where he first used the name Eric Starvo Galt in an attempt to establish a second identity.

Ray-Galt kept the room un late August or early September (Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

48 DENVER POST DENVER, COLORADO

6-12-68 Date:

Home Edition:

William Clements Author:

Editor: Palmer Hoyt

Title:

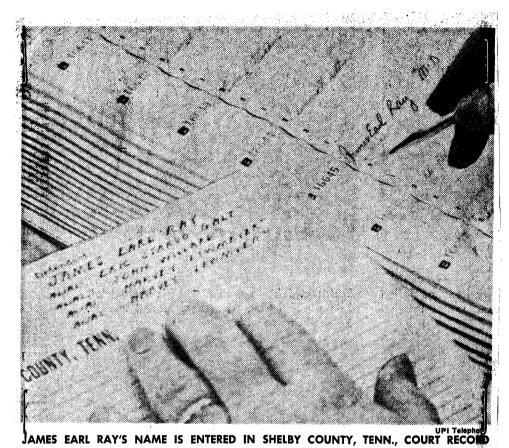
MURKIN CR

Character:

Classification: Submitting Office:

Being Investigated

157-203
SEARCHEDINDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED OR
JUN1 1968
FEI - DENVER
V ;;



The accused assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. gets still another identification.

vinced that during this time he nade several trips to Toront On Aug. 26, 1967, Ray rente room at the Economy Grill and Rooms on Highland Avenue in Birmingham, Ala., again using the name Eric Starvo Galt.

The next day he spotted an advertisement in the local newspaper offering a 1966 white Mustang. The advertisement was placed by William D. Paisley, a lumber executive who said Galt drove the car around ham, somebody picked up a letbuy it.

Galt returned on Aug. 30 and drawn from his safe-deposit box ing a duplicate license Ray had in the Birmingham Trust Na applied for. tional Bank.

MONEY SOURCE

Where did the money come from?

The next segment of Ray's life know. unfolds last fall in California, On April 3, Ray apparently for bartending school.

Dn Dec. 15, he drove to New Officens. Accompanying him was a bearded song writer numed Charles Stein, who sai that at one point Ray stopped to make a telephone call to "an important New Orleans industrialist."

The identity of the industrialist has not been established.

Ray graduated from bartending school in California on March 1. At the same time, in Birmingthe block once and decided to ter mailed to him at the Economy Grill.

The letter was from the Alapaid for the car in cash, \$1,995 bama Highway Patrol. contain-

> The letter was returned to the patrol with the 25 cents it had requested.

> Who picked up the letter and sent it back? Nobody seems to

ere again he was spending thecked into the Rebel Motel in oney. He paid, in cash, \$56 Memphis after a flight from the dance lessons and \$250 Billimingham. The next day is o rented a room at the roo in house behind the Lorraide

Motel where Dr. King was shot. Here again there is myster The woman who rented Ra room at the rooming hou id he came in without lu gage, paying her with a new \$20

LEFT MURDER SCENE

But moments after Dr. King's murder, Ray was spotted walking away with a blue suitcase and a rifle wrapped in a bedspread.

Later, on the sidewalk not far from the rooming house, the luggage and gun were found.

Were they placed in the house by someone other than Ray? Again there is no answer.

Perhaps the most perplexing question now being asked by FBI and Canadian authorities it how Ray was able to slip out the country after Dr. King's murder.

And, once in Toronto, how was he able to get two phony

birth certificates and a par

uring the next two mon Living as Ramon Geor yd was seen with two whose identifies have not I atablished.

And, during this period, was again spending money mewhat lavish fashion. Where did he get the mone

Nobody seems to know.

Calcain Speeds Action Calcain Speeds Action Calcain Speeds Action

LONDON, June 12—(AP)—The British government started speedy official solden as a formal U.S. request Wednesday for the extradition of James Earl Bay to atland trial in Tennessee for the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King 3.

So the end of the day, the application had based its first legal hurdle at the British For-

But court formalities and appeals, if the 40pear-old escaped convict chooses to use them, could delay Ray's return up to six weeks or even longer should the case take some unexpected turn.

U.S. officials, headed by Asst. Arry. Gen. Prod M. Vinson Jr., chief of the Justice Department's criminal division, heat their self-imposed deadline for handing in the petition by

But parts of the petition, which was at least an inch thick when it was handed in to the Foreign Office by U.S. Consul Gen. Jack Bernett, apparently had been readled in advance of Ray's arrest last Saturday at London Airpart at he tried to board a plane for Brussels.

The petition contained a summary of some of the evidence against Ray in King's munder at a Memphis motel April 4. It also contained internation on his escape from the Missouri that Prison while serving an armed robbery

The U.S. Government is speking extradition on both counts and must satisfy a British take that both also would be crimes under the crimes as the same as the same

fritish as well as U.S. Jaw.

The petition also contains fingerprints and other material to identify Ray as the man no seing held under round-the-clock gustd in Los as Wandsworth Prison. Officially he being held here as Ramon George Sreyd, tracking under a Camerian manufact issued in the man and chargest with passport offenses seed as carrying a lossed gus.

Within hours after receiving the petition the Foreign Office certified that the requirement within the terms of the 1931 extraction that the petition of the terms of the 1931 extraction.

It then was sent to the Home Office, by commercially to the U.S. Justice Department There suffers started a preliminary schedule to ensure it established a case against Ray, a required by British law.

The Home Office said that if the petition in order it should be in the hands of Cli Metropolitan Magistrate Frank Million so time Thursday.

Under normal procedure Milton w study the petition and schedule he about a week after receiving it.

If Milton grants extradition, Rey he days to appeal to the High Court, and also 14 days to take the case to the House of this lawyers want to challenge the order point of law.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

3 ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS DENVER, COLORADO

Date: 6-13-68
Edition: Home Final

Author: (AP)
Editor: Jæck Foster

Title:

MURKIN
Character: CR

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

Being Investigated

157-203-66

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Date:	6-1	9	. 61
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	,	(T	ype in plain	text or code)	
Transmit the following	ı in				
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Via AIRTEL AM

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO:

SAC, ALBANY

FROM:

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P

MURKIN

In view of subject's apprehension, any office having outstanding leads or requests for circularization in any publication of any kind should cancel outstanding request now.

A & D.

- 2 Albany
- 1 All Continental Offices
- 1 Memphis

RGJ:BN (56)

SEARCHED CONDEXED SERIALIZED FILED CONDEXED SERIALIZED FILED CONDEXED SERIALIZED FILED CONDEXE SERIALIZED CONDEXE COND

Approved:

Special Agent in Charge

Sent :

Per _____

Signsora

Although the evidence pears to be every heiming, it still has to be poved that James Earl Ray was the assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. It is briefly assumed that the fight man was taken into condit in London, and there is no continuous reason to doubt the assumption — except the appropriate will have to make that decision after hearing the evidence. This is an elemental fact which often is averloosed in the excitement attending such an arrest.

The London authorities have been screpalously proful about prejecting his rights and not prejecting his charges for a fair trial. The same caution was noted in the procedures by the Los ingeles police is connection with the agreet of the alteged assessin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. After the experience following the assession of considerable assession of the assession of the experience following the assession of the experience of the experie

On the figure of the the Court interests of the associated in his its profits in histories of the Israell - Arab conflict. It there wis a consister there we evidence of it has the brought out the another of Dr. King on the other and seems to the fallent into quite a different category. All the aggrees a plot are present.

The Fist will want to know the source of the Sains buch account which enabled flay to travel abread. Because Swiss bankers have a very tight system to protect the identity of despositors, this information may be difficult to obtain. The present case, however, it of sufficient public importance to carry time protect that the legislation was been produced to be decided in the first case of the decided in the first case of the said that the decided in the first case of the said that the decided in the first case of the said that the said that the said the said that the said the said that the said that the said the said that the said that the said the said that the said that the said that the said the said that the said that

6 CASPER BYAR INTRONE Casper, vychen Date: 6-12-68 Faltion: Merning Author: .P. Wartin Editor: Vil**liam** Misser Tule: Charactust Closelfications Bullmusting Citieses DERVER Decing Interdeposed SERIAL IZED JUN1 3 196

logicate **page,** seme of **newspaper, cl**ippand status) Unless much of the published information is groundless, it is fair to predict that other arrests will be made in this case. Ray is reported to have referred to a million - dollar fund in connection with a move to have Dr. King killed. No such an amount would be necessary, since killers come cheaper than that. The arrangements for a getaway, the false identities and the forged passports naturally would add to the expense.

it is interesting to note that there have been some international aspects in connection with all three of the major assassing one in the United States in this decade. There was rumored to be a Cuben conspiracy in the death of President Kennedy, and there was the apparent Israeli. Arch motivation in the murder of his brother, Now there are the Canadian aspects, involving a later passport system and individual or organization that provides assumed names, in connection with the number of Dr. King.

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

6/14/68

SAC, DENVER (57-203)

MURKIN

Re letter from Memphis, dated 5/29/68 returning inserts submitted by Denver and requesting report be prepared. Report was in preparation at time RAY was apprehended. All information in report was aiming at locating RAY and was negative in nature. Any leads eminating from the information were set out for interested offices immediately upon receipt.

Since RAY has been located, no purpose would now be served in circulating this report among the offices involved. Copies of the inserts will be maintained in the Denver file and one copy of each insert is being provided the office of origin for record purposes.

Heaphis (Encls. 37)
Denver
HEA/sip

M

157-205-669

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

June 12, 1968

SAC, LITTLE ROCK (157-1215) (P)

MURKIN

per 5/63.

Re Denver airtel to the Director, 5/29/68.

RE: ROBERT EDWARD BYRME, Denver, Colorado.

On June 6, 1968, Mr. LOUIS FAWCETT, Ashdown, Arkansas, who is a member of the Board of Directors of the First Mational Bank, Ashdown, and is secretary-treasurer of the B & F Manufacturing Company, a manufacturer of wood products, advised as follows:

He and Mrs. FAWCETT (BILLYE) are life-time friends of Mr. HAL DAVIS HALE presently of Denver, Colorado, and Los Angeles, California. Mr. HALE is a native of Ashdown and his mother currently resides there. Mr. and Mrs. FAWCETT have faquently taken vacations with Mr. and Mrs. HALE.

During the past ten years, Mr. and Mrs. FANCETT have visited with Mr. and Mrs. HALE under various circumstances and about three/during that period they found ROBERT HOWARD BYRNE also visiting with Mr. and Mrs. HALE. BYRNE is known only to work on various projects in the oil industry for Mr. HALE and was never known by Mr. FANCETT to be employed by anyone else and never on a steady besis for Mr. HALE. He understood that BYRNE merely "ran errands" for Mr. HALE. The last time Mr. and Mrs. FANCETT saw MYRNE was during a period in December, 1967, and January, 1968, when the above named persons vacationed at Acapulco, Mexico.

2 Bureau 1 Memphis (44-1987) 1 Denver (157-203) 2 Little Bock JMM/dlg (6)

Mr. and Mrs. FAWCETT arrived at a motel called Casa Josette which is about five miles out of the City of Acepulco and up the mountain and along the bay. They arrived on December 26, 1968. On or about December 28, 1967, BYRNE arrived with a woman whose name Mr. FAWCETT recalled only as Mrs. BIGELOW. On January 9, 1968, Mr. and Mrs. FAWCETT flew out of Acepulco direct to Dallas, Texas, where those two got their automobile and drave directly to Ashdown, Arkansas. When Mr. and Mrs. FAWCETT left the Casa Josette, they left BYRNE and Mrs. BIGELOW there.

During the period Mr. and Mrs. FAWCETT, Mr. and Mrs. HALE, and BYRNE and Mrs. BIGELOW were at the Casa Josette together all six took rides in the bay in rented motor boats and took drives through the mountains in rented jeeps, two of which they rented. On two occasions the six saw a yacht in the bay below Acapulco which they "quessed belonged to the owner of the Revion Cosmetic Company although no one in the party had any definite knowledge of the ownership of the yacht and no one made contact with crew members or the party on the yacht. On those two occasions they sailed around the yacht at which time Mr. FAWCETT and probably others made pictures of the yacht andwaved at the crew members. It was merely a greeting to the members of the crew. Mr. FAWCETT stated he and Mrs. FAWCETT made no trips in a sailing ship although they saw one on one occasion sailing around their motor boat.

The balance of the time was spent sitting around the motel, eating, drinking, and talking. Mr. FAWCETT made no contact with any persons other than those in his party although he spoke to several persons and thinks the same applies to Mr. EYRNE. BYRNE and Mrs. BIGELOW whept until noon each day as did Mr. and Mrs. FAWCETT and Mr. and Mrs. HALE. Mr. and Mrs. FAWCETT's room was next to that occupied by Mr. BYRNE and Mrs. BIGELOW and at no time during the period did

LR 157-1215

Mr. FAWCETT see a stranger or a person not in their party visit or talk with Mr. BYRNE or Mrs. BIGELOW. Although Mr. FAWCETT was not with BYRNE at all times during the afternoons and evenings he was never known to make contact with any persons outside their party. It definitely seemed to Mr. FAWCETT that BYRNE was there to have a good time only and to drink as was his constant habit. There was no indication he sent any messages or received any messages from persons on the yacht or other vessels in the bay.

Mr. FAWCETT considers it inconceivable that BYRME is associated with or had contact with any criminal element while in Acapulco or in fact has any interest in matters political or criminal. Mr. FAWCETT insisted in referring to BYRME as a "well-educated drunken bum." He claimed BYRME has been drunk every time FAWCETT saw him and in fact seldom saw him that he did not have a drink in his hand. He began drinking during the mornings or at noon when he got up and continued drinking throughout the afternoon and evening while FAWCETT was with him.

Mr. FAWCETT advised his wife, BILLYE, was visiting friends out of town and would not return for several weeks. For that reason, and for the reason of the information furnished by Mr. FAWCETT concerning BYRME, Little Rock is not interviewing Mrs. FAWCETT.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

Extradition Of Ray May Face Delays

LONDON —(UPI) —Efforts to return James Earl Ray to the United States for trial in the slaying of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. may run into a sea of delay and difficulty because of Britain's complex extradition laws, legal sources said Saturday.

The language of the 1870 law is vague on the subject of political assassination, the sources said, and it will require U.S. authorities to present strong evidence that Ray is responsible for the civil rights leader's death,

Ray, linked to the slaying through a path of evidence leading from a Memphis, Tenn., rooming house through Canada and into Britain, was arrested at London's Heathrow Airport a week ago Saturday.

The U.S. must go before the court with prima facie evidence of this guilt — not just suspicion — before he can be sent to merica, the sources said.

Lawyers from both nations planned to meet Monday to get at date for the hearings on imerica's extradition request.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)
_
24 DENVER POST DENVER, COLORADO
Date: 6-16-68 Edition: Home Author: (UPI) Editor: Palmer Hoyt Title:
MURKIN Character: CR
Classification:
Submitting Office: Being Investigated
157-203 - 67/
-71 ~~ W 1 /
SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED JUN 1 7 1989 FBI — DENVER

Ray Obtained Genuine Passports

By MICHAEL COPE (c) 1966, Denver Post-Canada News Agency TORONTO, Canada — Jist Tow did James Earl Ray, he ispected assassin of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who was captured in London, England; the other day, manage to have two perfectly genuine Canadian passports?

Certainly, one of the passports was canceled, but only after he had used it to slip through an intensive security net spread across North America to catch him.

LATEST OF SCORES

Ray was the latest of scores of criminals and spies who for vears have been outwitting law enforcement agencies around the world with mail-order passports from Ottawa.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police who have been piecing together Ray's month-long stay in Toronto after the Memphis, Tenn., assassination, have determined that he filled out a passport application in a local travel agent's office and mailed it to Ottawa, together with the \$5 fee, three full-face unsmiling passport photographs and a copy of a birth certificate of a Toronto resident. Ramon George Sneyd, whose name he had borrowed.

Two weeks later, the Canadian External Affairs Department obligingly mailed back a willid passport to the most-want-e man in the world, and four d ys later, Ray boarded a SURFACED IN LISBON

He surfaced two weeks later old Sneyd announcement. The in Lisbon, Portugal, where it real Ramon Sneyd is a 14-year of the Toronto Police nd persuaded them to issue nother passport on the ground his borrowed name had been misspelled in the Ottawa-issued original as Snevd. His original passport was canceled and handed back to him. The Mounties now suspect he wanted a new passport merely to get rid of the various entry and birth notice appeared in the exit stamps.

The only problem the suspected assassin had getting his first Canadian passport was in securing a birth certificate, the when police checked the only document necessary to support the passport application. paper.

And the Mounties have established that Ray spent at least three days pouring over old newspaper files in the reference section of the Toronto Central Library. His interest was in the births announce-Star, on Oct. 8, 1932, was a birth notice in respect of Ramon George Snevd. COATED COPIES

Wallet-sized, plastic-coated copies of any birth certificate Galt, a warehouse forentan in can be mail-ordered from the suburban Toronto, even has a Ontario Government's Registrar's Office for \$2. The only head as Ray does. information needed is the place and year of birth and the ames of both parents.

old Sneyd announcement. The Department and he was astounded when the federal Mountie turned up to question him about the passport he had never applied for.

Ray also used the alias of another Canadian living in Toronto, Paul Bridgman, an educational consultant whose Toronto Evening Telegram on Nov. 10, 1932. A pencil mark had been made against the Bridgman birth announcement library's copy of the old news-

3 LOOK ALIKE

What really astonished the American and Canadian investigators working on the case in Toronto was that both the real Sneyd and the real Bridgment columns of the two after- man have dark hair like Ray noon newspapers. In the Daily and are of similar height and weight. Photographs of the three men look remarkably alike.

The third alias Ray used, Eric Starvo Galt: was even more remarkable. The real Eric 1½-inch long scar on his fore-

It was only when the FBI discovered Ray had spent two months in Canada last year, All this information is usually after escaping from the Misincluded in a birth announce souri State Penitentiary where ment as it was in the 35-year he was serving a 20-year sentence for robbery, that it was suspected he might have fled to Canada again.

PHOTOS CHECKED A sharp-eyed Mountie check hig through thousands of bussports photographs at the Rec(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

21 DENVER POST DENVER, COLORADO

Date: 6-16-68 Edition: Home

Author: Michael Cope Editor: Palmer Hovt Title:

MURKIN

Character: CR

ΩT

Classification: Submitting Office:

Being Investigated

157-203-672

SERIALIZED INDEXED SERIALIZED JUN1 🝈 1968 i ords Office in Ottawa spotted On at least one occasion, he | Pierre Trudeau, is both worries ansimilarity between the fake said, Soviet agents had broken and determined to halt the Vanted Man poster.

Canada's lax passport laws are well known in jails and that James Earl Ray as the prisons around the world. In one world's most hunted man was able to get a mail-order pass-election here is a bill setting that James Earl Ray as the before the governing Parlia ment after the June 25 get election here is a bill setting that James Earl Ray as the before the governing Parlia ment after the June 25 get a mail-order passbeen reported, the inmates run port with such ease, has be out much stiffer penalties up a night class for convicts plan come something of a national to 14 years in prison for any how to get a passport in Canada.

The underworld is also involved in the passports racket. In both Toronto and Montreal, lists of names, dates and places of birth and a physical description, are for sale to crooks on the run, usually for \$100 to \$150. Perhaps Ray bought his aliases and was merely checking them out in the library.

Canadian passports have also long been favorites with spies. Gordon Lonsdale, the biggest Soviet agent ever trapped in Britain in 1961, traveled on a Canadian passport. His two assistants captured at the same time. New York-born Helen and Peter Kroger, were equipped with Canadian passports. Another Russian spy ring broken up by the Australians in 1960 was using Canadian passports for its agents.

Even the Russians' hatchet man who murdered Leon Trotsky in Mexico as long ago as 1940 traveled on a genuine Canadian passport identifying him as Frank Jacson.

When Igor Gouzenko, a top secret cypher clerk in the Soviet Embassy in Ottawa, defected to the West in 1945, h told the Canadians that Con munist agents even had acces to the maximum security Passport Records Office in Ottawa.

in and substituted genuine applications with fakes.

The new prime minister,

trafficking in his country's pas ports. One of the first pieces All this, and the disclosure legislation he intends to put person caught fraudulently lap plying for a passport.

Ex-Birmingham Mayor Agrees to Defend Ray

BIRMINGHAM Ala., June 17 begin preparation of the case in -(UPI)—Arthur J. Hanes, for the event he is extradited," mer Birmingham mayor, said Hanes said.

agreed to represent James Earl ham in the early 1960s when the Ray, the escaped convict city was the center of civil charged in the assassination of rights demonstrations led by Dr. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

ter from Ray asking that he be murdering Mrs. Viola Liuzzo, a his lawyer if he is brought to the white woman who participated United States from London to in civil rights activities at Selstand trial for the Negro lead ma.

fer with this client in order to held in England.

Monday he has tentatively Hanes was mayor of Birming-Or. Martin Luther King Jr. King. He later defended two Ku Hanes said he received a let Klux Klansmen charged with

er death.

Hanes said he had "no idea whatsoever" why Ray asked him don lawyer, I have tentatively to represent him. He said the lace pted this case and am fly ter was signed R. G. Sneyd, the ing to London Wednesday to con name under which Ray is being

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.) 18 ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS DENVER, COLORADO 6-18-68 Date: Home Final Edition: (UPI) Author: Jack Foster Editor: Title: MURKIN Character: CR or Classification: Submitting Office: Being Investigated SEARCHED

SERIALIZED.

JUN1 3 1968 FBI - DENVER

lay Picks Defense Attorney

ican jury system, has been cho-from James Earl Ray in Lonsen by the accused assassin of don. the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Ray, alias Raymond G. Jr. as his defense attorney. Hanes, 51-year-old former

IRMINGHAM, Ala. — (UPI) mayor of Birmingham, said Son-spoken, former FBI agent Monday he tentatively has ac- King in Memphis, Tenn., and Arthur J. Hanes, who professes cepted the case after receiving his earlier escape from the Misdeep commitment to the Amer- a two-page, hand-written letter

Sneyd, was arrested in London June 8 on fugitive charges

stemming from the slaying of souri State Penitentiary. Tennessee authorities are seeking Ray's return to Memphis for trial in the April 4 killing of King.

Hanes said he and his son, a 1967 University of Alabama Law School graduate, would fly to Washington Tuesday and to London Wednesday to confer with Ray "and begin prepration of the case in the event he is extrdaited."

"I think the American july system is the greatest," Have said. "If you give it to a jot to decide, they'll mull it o and come up with the right ve

Hanes said he had "no ide Ray contacted him.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

5 DENVER POST DENVER, COLORADO

6-18-68 Date: Home Edition:

(UPI) Author: Palmer Hovt Editor:

Title:

MURKIN

Character: CR

Classification:

Submitting Office:

Being Investigated

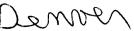
157-203 -

SEARCHED _____INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED

> JUN 🕽 🕧 196 FBI - DENVER

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10 MAY 1962 EDITION GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

UNITED STATES GOVER MENT



Memorandum

TO

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

DATE:

6/29/68

FROM :

SAC, DENVER (157-203)

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

Enclosed for Memphis are 15 copies of FD 302's reflecting interviews with Mrs HOMER LANE BIGELOW, Mr. FRANK F. BACHELLER, Mr. HAROLD B. MOTT and Mr. ROBERT EDWARD BYRNE. Also enclosed are 15 copies of insert regarding BYRNE.

Also enclosed is one copy each of six inserts containing results of investigation to locate RAY, which investigation no longer has pertinence to the case. Inserts are being furnished OO for record purposes and one copy of each being retained by Denver.

(3)	_	Memphis (Encls. Denver '	81)
V		. i < \	

BDA/sip (3)

157-203-675



Buy II. C. Savings Ponds Begularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

RE: EDGAR EUGENE BRADLEY

On May 23 1968, REX H. BASINGER, 1416 Downing, Apartment 2, Denver, Colorado, advised Special Agent BOYD D. ADSIT that he received a collect call from EDGAR EUGENE BRADLEY in Tulsa, Oklahoma about 1:00 PM, May 17, 1968. BASINGER stated that he grew up with BRADLEY in Rudy, Arkansas and attended school with him in Alma, Arkansas. He stated that BRADLEY left high school to join the Navy in 1933 and that he has seen him once since, which was in December, 1963 or January, 1964, in Dallas, Texas. He stated that he accidentally met him in a tavern in Dallas.

BASINGER described BRADLEY as 5'11" tall, stocky build, blond hair, freckles, unknown tattoos, 180 pounds and 51 years of age. He stated that BRADLEY has a mother in Rudy, Arkansas, whose name may be Mrs. JOE "JAKE" FINE.

BASINGER claimed that during the call on May 17, 1968, BRADLEY appeared to be drunk and to be calling from a tavern. He thought that perhaps BRADLEY had relations in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He stated that BRADLEY indicated he might be passing through Denver sometime in the near future.

During the conversation, BRADLEY asked BASINGER if BASINGER had seen him on CBS TV and indicated that he was one of those indicted by District Attorney GARRISON of New Orleans, who GARRISON claims to be involved in the JOHN F. KENNEDY assassination conspiracy. BRADLEY commented that "we famous people run together" and stated that he had been living in Tulsa with ERIC GALT for about a week. BASINGER stated he asked BRADLEY who GALT was and BRADLEY replied by asking BASINGER if he had heard of JAMES RAY. When BASINGER stated he had not heard of RAY, BRADLEY reportedly said that he was the one who "knocked over KING, JR.".

BASINGER stated he tried to determine SMARADE INDEXED BRADLEY was staying, but was unsuccessful. He bally yed support that BRADLEY was once on the West Coast possibly in San Jose California, where he preached as a non-denominational 24 1968 preacher. During the conversation, BRADLEY indicated the west Coast.

On May 23, 1968, BASINGER advised that he had received another telephone call from BRADLEY at 7:10 AM that morning. He stated that the telephone call was cut off for an unknown reason, but was not a collect call. BASINGER believes that the call was charged to someone in Fort Smith, Arkansas, from where it originated. During the conversation, BASINGER said that BRADLEY indicated he had been eating at the Old South Restaurant, 714 Towson Avenue, Fort Smith, Arkansas, which restaurant is run by a cousin of BASINGER, Mrs ELBA BASINGER THOMPSON. BASINGER was of the opinion that the call had been placed from that restaurant. BASINGER said that BRADLEY indicated he had traveled to Fort Smith to see the results of a recent tornado in that area and that he planned to head west after leaving Fort Smith.

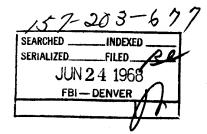
RE: WILLIAM MOLLETT

On June 2, 1968, Mrs. ETHEL T. GEORGE, 1922 Grant, Denver Colorado, the address of the Grant Hotel, telephone number 623-4461, advised Special Agent FREDERICK M. VOLZ that she is assistant manager of the Grant Hotel and resides in Room 2. She stated that she has a private telephone, which has the telephone number 623-4461. She stated the only other telephone is listed to the Grant Hotel.

She stated that WILLIAM MOLLETT stayed in Room 24 by himself for two months and moved out approximately six weeks ago to herd sheep, possibly in Montana. She did not know his employment while in Denver.

She advised that MOLLETT used her telephone to call his brother or sister in Kentucky and she exhibited a telephone bill showing that a call was made to Melvin, Kentucky, telephone number 606-938-2468 on April 5, 1968. The bill was \$1.35, which Mrs. GEORGE said MOLLETT paid to her in cash. She recalls that the conversation was about relatives and that some relative had died. She stated that this was the only time that MOLLETT used her telephone.

She described MOLLETT as 5'5" tall, slim build, approximately 55 years old, with grey hair. She was shown a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and she advised that MOLLETT is definitely not RAY.



RE: FRED GLASS
GUNNISON, COLORADO

By communication dated May 20, 1968, the San Antonio Office of the FBI advised that a long-distance call was placed from a public telephone bearing telephone number 379-9059, which was located on Highway 90 or Interstate Highway 10 in Texas. The call was placed to telephone number 641-1586, Gunnison, Colorado on December 17, 1967.

On May 23, 1968, Mr. and Mrs. FRED GLASS, who live west of Gunnison, Colorado, advised Special Agent RAY M. HICKMAN that they have telephone number 641-1586 and that they have many relatives in the San Antonio, Texas area from whom they usually receive telephone calls rather than letters. Mrs. GLASS stated that she has a niece who had been having marital troubles during December. 1967 and that the niece had called her on several occasions from San Antonio. She could not recall the specific dates, but was sure that the calls were around the 17th of December.

Mr. GLASS stated that he is a contractor and that he receives many calls from all over the country. He stated that most of the time, calls are made to his office but occasionally a call will come to his home. He keeps no record of such calls and it is his belief that the call in question came from some relative of his wife.

Both Mr. and Mrs. GRAY stated that they do not know JAMES EARL RAY and that they had never heard of him prior to the publicity concerning the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING. They stated that they had never seen anyone identical with the person pictured on the Identification Order of the FBI.

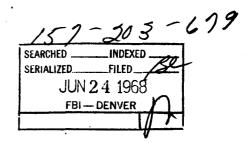
SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED JUN 2 4 1968

FBI — DENVER

RE: Check of Salvation Army and Other Charitable-type Missions

The Citizen's Mission, 1617 Larimer Street; the Baptist Mission, 1616 Larimer Street and the Denver Rescue Mission, 1818 Larimer Street, all Denver. Colorado, were previously contacted regarding the whereabouts of JAMES EARL RAY.

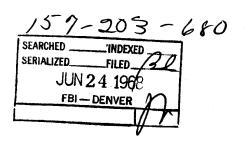
On May 22, 1968, the Salvation Army, Harbor Lights Center, 1736 Larimer Street; the Salvation Army Installation at 1200 Larimer Street and the Mile High Club, 2206 Larimer Street, Denver, were contacted for this same purpose by Special Agent G. HOWARD CARTER. None of the persons contacted were able to identify RAY with anyone they had seen and each expressed his willingness to be on the lookout for the subject.



RE: Unidentified Deceased Persons

On May 16, 1968, Mrs. VERA WOODS, Colorado State Department of Public Helath, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Denver, Colorado, advised Investigative Clerk ROLLO.J..TRUMBULL, JR. that her files for 1968 contain no record of an unknown deceased male who would be identifiable with JAMES EARL RAY.

On May 17, 1968, Mrs HELEN WILLMSCHEN, Bureau of Vital Statistics, State of Wyoming Health Department, advised Special Agent ROBERT C. GUSTAFSON that her office maintains death certificates on unidentified persons, however, there have been no such deaths since April 5, 1968. She stated that in each death in the state, each county coroner is required to submit a death certificate to her office within ten days. In the event a person dies and his identity is unknown, it is the responsibility of the county coroner and the sheriff to establish his identity. She stated that if any death certificates are received for unidentified bodies she will notify the Denver Office.



RE: Witnesses In Unsolved Bank Robberies

During the period from April 23 1967 - April 4, 1968 Denver experienced three bank robberies which are presently unsolved in which witnesses are available.

It is noted that there are no unsolved bank burglaries in which eyewitnesses are available.

Photographs of JAMES EARL RAY were shown to the witnesses who advised that RAY is not identical with the bank robbers.

June 24, 1968

Honorable Jack Foster President and Editor Rocky Mountain News 400 West Colfax Avenue Denver, Colorado 80204

Dear Mr. Foster:

I have read the article entitled "Superb Police Work," which appeared in your June 11th edition.

It is gratifying to know that the work of this Bureau in the case involving James Earl Ray has merited your approval. I appreciate your high regard not only for the work of the FBI but also for the other law enforcement agencies which gave such splendid cooperation in this investigation.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

1)- Denver

SEARCHED 3 INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED 50 1938

JUN 2 6 1938

FBI — DENVER

Writish Court Approves James Ray Extradition

CONDON — (UPI) — A British court red Tuesday that James Earl Ray will extradited to the United States to face charges of assassinating the Rev. Ipr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Ray, 40, identified as an escaped convict from the Missouri Penitentiary, was accused of shooting the civil rights leader in Memphis, Tenn., on April 4. He was arrested at London Airport June 8.

Ray's defense attorney, Roger Frisby argued in Bow Street Magistrate Couthat the slaying was a political crime. But Frank Milton, chief metropolitan pragistrate for London, agreed with the U.S. position it was outright murder.

Ray had shown earlier in a surprise statement to the court that he feared — and perhaps expected — the extradition to be granted.

There was still much legal red tape to go through before Ray returns to the United States. Frisby said he definitely would appeal Tuesday's ruling.

In the ruling Milton said no evidence had been presented at the two-part hearing to substantiate defense claims that the slaying was a political crime.

He also ruled that Missouri law covering robbery with violence was relevant in the extradition case. Missouri wants Ray for trial on charges he escaped from primar while serving a term for armed

dition ruled Ray extraditable on both pass. At last week's hearing, Ray de-

You will not be released for 15 day,"
Milton told Ray. "You may apply for
habeas corpus."

This, unfer British law, is the form that Ray's appeal will take to the Division fourt of he Queen's Bench Division of the His Court of Justice.

The defense called it a political crime at the magistrate said:

This was the assassination of a man who was not in control of the government of his country, not as far as has been shown by the evidence. It was not part

of a campaign to get rid of the overnment—but the act of litary person."

Ray showed virtually no emion when Milton announced his decision.

He was staring down at the table and looked up slowly without blinking. Then with a slight shrug of his shoulder, he rose to receive further instructions from Milton. He remained expressionless.

This was in contrast to his nervousness a few minutes earlier when he had made his statement that he had been denied the right to see his American lawyer.

Ray bounced up and down, heels to toes, and spoke in a staccato Southern accent that left even the court reporter unable to understand some of his words.

SHARP CONTRAST

It was a sharp contrast to the relatively composed man who sat through a similar session last week when British barrister David Calcutt, representing the United States, described him as the "single-hand" killer who left his fingerprints on the murder weapon.

It was then that Scotland Yard Chief Superintendent Thomas Butler told of Ray's anguished statement when he was arrested.

Butler testified that, when accused, Ray collapsed on a seat in his cell crying: "Oh God I feel so trapped."

" dril want to repeat to Be have paid freeden "b paid like to take the opport to be ablest to Mr. Butis (Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

1 DENVER POST DENVER, COLORADO

Date: 7-2-68
Edition: Home
Author: (UPI)

Editor: Palmer Hovt

Title:

MURKIN

Character: RM

or

Classification:

Being Investigated

SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED 1968
FBI — DENVER

ably be given wide publicity in the United States, especially in the so-called liberal press."

e then said that Birminghan, Ala., attorney Arthur J. Hanes had been denied permission to see him on a recent visit. He said he had written to British Home Secretary James Callaghan asking for permission for Hanes to visit him in jail but was turned down.

"I think that in view of the seriousness of this case, I should have had a little more freedom to write and visit people in the circumstances," Ray said.

"That is all I have to say and I would like to thank the court.'

Hanes, who conferred with British attorneys when he visited London with his son and law partner, Arthur Hanes Jr., said on his return to the United States he had "pretty well obtained my objectives I set for myself."

However, Hanes said Tuesday in Birmingham that Ray's surprise statement that Hanes was denied permission to see him was "absolutely right."

"I made official requests to was not permissible," Hanes said.

FULL STATEMENT

Here is the full court statement of Ray as reported by the British Press Association:

"I don't want to repeat myself. I would like to take the opportunity to object to Mr. Butler's testimony, especially in view of the fact that this case will probably be given wide publicity in the United States, espedally in the so-called liberal attorney in the United States,

would urge this court to take in the totality of the cir- "He subsequently made the



DAVID CALCUTT

"There was no conspiracy."

see the man and was told this cumstances. One, that I did not sign any kind of statement whatsoever, and also the fact that I said I did not want to that this shooting was done to have the conversation with anybody connected with the United States Justice Department.

"One other thing I object to. I'm not sure it is connected with involved. the case. I believe there is a British authorities, I engaged an Mr. Arthur Hanes of Birmingham, Ala.

trip to consult with me. was opposed by the home sec-type of activity King was retary and I made an appli tion to the home secretary and I received no answer.

"I then wrote to Mr. Edward Heath (Conservative party leader), and I was informed by the governor at Wandsworth Prison that this was not permissible and he would forward the letter to Mr. Callaghan (home secretary). Evidentally, the home secretary would decide whether Mr. Heath would be permitted to read the letter.

"I think that in view of the seriousness of this case, I should have had a little more freedom to write and visit people in the circumstances. That is all I have to say and I would like to thank the court."

OTHER STATEMENTS

Earlier, the U.S. government denied Ray's contention that the killing of King was a political crime for which he could not be extradited.

"There is not a shred of evidence to show that the murder took place to further the ends of a larger enterprise," attornev Calcutt said.

"There is nothing to show further the cause of the colored people," Calcutt continued.

'There was no conspiracy. No other man or other body was

"There have been undertones connection between this hearing that this might be so, but the and the trial in the states. Short-evidence before this court points ly after I was arrested by the to a lone assassination for private purposes."

> Calcutt addressed the co after Frisby told the magistr that whoever killed King did 't do it on personal grounds but

his because he disapproved of ducting.

for James East Ray may con trial in Memphis tend in the Chitest States that but it can be stated rate the Rey Dr. Martin Luther that a likely contention will king Jr was killed by political that King was as much be conspirators, or but that he conspirators, or but that he conspirators was assembled by garded him as an Upcle Research at the conspirators of the conspirators was mastermined by garded him as an Upcle Research instead of white extre as he was by white

mist groups This became known Saturday as Alabama Attorney Arthur J. an admission that all white Habes had a second prison vis-man could have been him it with the 40-year-old Ray, who execute the murder #15 21 22 is facing extradition to the Hanes will only sky that United States on charges of intends to enter a not murdering King in Memphis, Tenn.

lient's state of mind with re- United States. He inte forters but declined to say any- to Memphis, where the thing about the precise line of accurred on April Li-

that a likely contention will groups. Such a line of would not necessarily pr

if Ray is extradital un enn.

Hanes agreed to discuss his witnesses he plans to (Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

4 DENVER POST DENVER, COLORADO

7-7-68 Date: Home Edition:

Author:

Palmer Hoyt

Editor: Title:

MURKIN

Character: RM

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

Being Inve 3 ARCHED SERIALIZED JUL 8 1968 FBI - DENVER

July 3, 1968

SAC, Memphis (44-1987)

SAC, Denver (157-203)

MURKIN

Time and Mileage Figures for June, 1968

1) Regular Hours

SA 75 hours, 30 minutes Clerical 31 hours, 27 minutes

Overtime Hours

SA 7 hours, 45 minutes
Clerical 0

Total Hours 114 hours, 42 minutes

2) Total Miles Traveled 39

3)

4)

Figures for July will not be submitted, UAC.

2 - Memphis
T - Denver

1

Filed 32

157-41-685

July 8, 1968

SAC, Memphis (44-1987)

SAC, Denver (157-203) (RUC)

MURKIN

In view of subject's apprehension and the fact that the Denver Division has no outstanding leads in this matter, this case is being considered RUC.

2 - Memphis 1 - Denver BDA:mf (3) /

Der CA

Filed 3

157-2/1-686

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10 MAY 1962 EDITION GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, DENVER (157-203)

DATE: 7/9/68

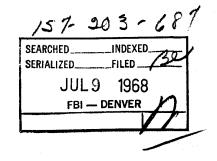
FROM : SA BOYD D. ADSIT

SUBJECT: MURKIN

For record purposes, the following informants were contacted on the dates indicated in connection with the whereabouts of JAMES EARL RAY:

<u>INFORMANT</u> <u>DA</u>	TE CONTACTED	FILE NUMBER	CONTACTING AGENT
DN 301-C LOUIS SANDOVAL ANDRE PHILLIP	5/30/68 5/30/68	137 - 907 137 - 1808	E. William Tmainor E. William Trainor
DE JESUS RICHARD MORRIS DNn22-C DN 234-C GEORGE IRVING	5/31/68 5/31/68 6/4/68 6/4/68 6/13/68	1 70-60 137-1470 137 -655 137-419 137-1887	Andrew P. Bugas Robert H. Little Eugene J. Coble Eugene J. Coble Boyd D. Adsit

1 - 157-203 (1) BDA/bda





1988, Denver Post-Chicago Daily News A copy of a letter written by ames Earl Ray after his arrest connection with the assassinaon of Dr. Martin Luther King , removes any doubt that Bay nd Ramon George Sneyd, the name under which he was arrested, are the same man.

It also suggests that he origi nally intended to return voluntarily to the United States to face trial, and implies that he has an independent source of money to cover arrangements for his defense.

The undated letter was sent Prison, where Ray has been held, to a married sister who

DRD SNEYD'

t was signed "Lord R. G evd."

While government officials working on the King assassination have not expressed doubt that Ray and Sneyd are the same person, the fact that Ray was using an alias has been a point of legal confusion during extradition hearings.

Also, Ray's attorney, Arthur Hanes of Birmingham, Ala., who has visited the accused slaver in London, continues refer to Ray as Sneyd.

However, Ray's younger brother, John Ray, is convinced that the letter is genuine and was sent by Ray despite the signature "Lord R. G. Sneyd."

John Ray said he based his conclusion on the handwriting and language of the letter, and on the personal comments it contained.

"I don't know where he g the name of Sneyd." John sai "But he had lots of names." Asked about his hrother's a sumption of the fittle "Lord.

"That's probably just his little joke.'

Even though the letter was addressed to Ray's married sister, it was written in response to a letter sent to Heathfield armed robbery sentence Ray Road Prison by John Ray, who was serving when he escape wanted to assure himself that the man arrested June 9 in London was actually his brother.

"I assume he was," John said, "but I just wanted to make sure.

"At first I was going to ask him in the letter if he was my brother, but then I was afraid they might not give it to him, from London's Heathfield Road or that they might not let him write back."

London prison.

He also said he asked abo hirng Texas criminal lawyer Percy Foreman to handle Ray defense, and discussed action of Ray's appeal of the 20-year from Missouri State Penite ary on April 23, 1967.

John Ray, who formerly erated a tavern in southeast Louis, visited his brother at Missouri Penitentiary on A 23, 1967. He dropped out of sig following Ray's capture in Lo don, and was located by the Chicago Daily News last week

The letter from James Ear Ray was obtained by the Dall John said he finally addressed News, and a copy made, during lives in a suburb of St. Louis, his letter to James Earl Ray, the newspaper's attempts to and in it he raised the possibil- trace John Ray. It is the first ity of visiting his brother in the communication from Ray to be made public since his capture.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

> 7 Denver Post Denver, Colorado

7-15-68 Date:

Edition: Home

Authors Editor:

Palmer Hoyt

Title:

JAMES EARL RAY

Character:

Classification:

157-203

Submitting Office:

Being Investigated

SEARCHED SERIALIZED JUL 1 6 1968 FBI - DENVER

Ray Stops Battle; Will Face Trial

LONDON, July 16—(AP)—James Earl Ray gave up his battle against extradition Tuesday and agreed to return to the United States for trial on charges of assassinating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

He is expected to fly home under heavy guard in the next few days for trial in Memphis, Tenn., in the shooting of the Nobel laureate there last April 4. Ray, an escaped convict from the Missouri State Penitentiary, was arrested in London June 8. He has steadily claimed his innocence of the killing.

A legal informant said Ray signed a statement declaring he would not pursue an appear in the British High Court against a Magistrate's Court order July 2 extraditing him to the United States.

The statement, signed Tuesday morning at a conference with his court-appointed British lawyer, cut short a complicated legal case which had little chance of success.

People who talked to Ray recently in Wandsworth prison said he had been growing restless and tired of waiting. Another factor was the news that the British had refused to continue legal aid for his appeal. He had been granted free legal service for the lower court case.

Ray's statement was signed in an irregular hand, "Ramon George Sneyd," the alias under which he had been held here since his arrest.

It said, "I have made this decision after considering all the facts, and I believe that this is the best course of action for me to adopt."

Ray was contending that King's marker was a political crime and therefore he can not be extradited under British law. But he reparently decided several days ago to drop the appeal, which had been set for the High Court before three British judges on July 29.

Ray could be on a plane headed for the United States within 24 hours.

His American lawyer, Arthur J. Hanes of Birmingham, Ala., is flying to London and is the here Wednesday morning his may ask for permission to accompany Rev house terms of difficults indicated this request would be a sent

newspaper, city and state.)
·
3 Rocky Mtn News
Denver, Colorado
Date: 7-17-68
Edition: Home Final
Author:
Editor: Jack Foster
Title: JAMES EARL RAY
Character:
or 4.57, 202
Classification: 157-203 Submitting Office:
Being Investigated
157-203-689
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SERIALIZED FILED
JUL 1 7 1988
FBI - DENVER
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(Indicate page, name of

FBI

	Date: 7/16/68	Ì
Transmit the following in		
	(Type in plain text or code)	
Via A IRTEL		j
	(Priority or Method of Mulling)	

TO: ALL SACS

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel to Memphis, 7/9/68.

The Bureau has requested that all divisions continue to submit monthly cost data until further notice.

In view of the above, all divisions are requested to comply with the Bureau's instructions, including offices who have negative cost data to report.

SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED SERIALIZED SHILED WAS FBI - DENVER

2 - ALL OFFICES

2 - Memphis RFB: jap

Approved: Reference

Sent ____ M Per ____

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Accused King Slayer **Boards Plane to**

LONDON, July 18 — (UPI) — American authorities ook custedy of James Earl Ray Thursday night. They but the accused assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. aboard a plane bound for the United States but kept details of his journey secret.

The U.S. Embassy announced interpogated in the plane when Ray had started his journey of the control of the con

Ray will go back to Memphis, enn., to stand trial for murder in the April 4 sniper slaying of the civil rights leader. Even Ray's American attorney, Arthur J. Hanes Sr. of Birming ham, Ala, did not know the schedule for Ray's return. He complained he was refused permission to fly back in the plane with Ray. plane with Ray.

grides cross-examinate

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

94 Rocky Mtn News Denver, Colorado

7-19-68 Date: Edition: Home Final

Author:

Jack Foster Editor:

JAMES EARL RAY

Character:

Classification:

157 - 203

Submitting Office:

Being Investigated

SERIALIZED_ JUĽ1 🤋 1968 FBI - DENVER

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT M E M O R A N D U M

TO:

ALL EMPLOYEES

DATE: 8/1/68

FROM:

SAC, DENVER

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

Denver File 157-203

The Bureau, by airtel to Memphis dated 7/9/68, has requested that all divisions continue to submit monthly cost data in this case until further notice.

Accordingly, you are requested to furnish SA ADSIT positive information on number of man-hours, total mileage, and unusual costs within two work days after the close of each month. If you did no work on this case, no routing slip is necessary. However, if work was done during the month on MURKIN, SA ADSIT must have the figures by the A.M. of the second work day of the following month in order to furnish same to the office of origin on that date.

Stenographers and clerks should furnish their figures to the Steno Supervisor and Chief Clerk, respectively.

1 - All Employees

1 - SAC

1 - ASAC

1 - Supervisor

1)- 157-203

1 - 66 - 17

BDA: imw

(103) mu

OFFICE MEMO NUMBER 268

AIRTEL

TO:

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM:

SAC, DENVER (157-203) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

The following is an accumulation of work hours and costs devoted by the Denver Division on this case during the month of July, 1968:

Special Agents — 1 hour
 Clerical Employees — 30 minutes

- 2. 0
- 3. 0
- 4. 1

2 - Memphis 2 - Denver BDA/sip (4)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1	Date June 10, 1968
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Mrs. HOMER LANE "KIRK" BIGELOW, 4331 East Mexico Street, Denver, Colorado, advised she was born HELEN LOUISE COYKENDALL on New York City of MARY E. and SAMUEL ADAMS COYKENDALL, 170 Chilean Avenue, Palm Beach, Florida. She stated that she is the mother of three children who reside with her and that she has been married five times, her last husband, to whom she had been married once before, having committed suicide in Denver, Colorado in March, 1963.

Mrs . BIGELOW stated that she met ROBERT EDWARD BYRNE, an independent oil broker in March or April, 1967. She stated that Mrs KATHY RAHEL, who presently lives at 624 Ogden Street, Denver Colorado, a thrice married divorcee. moved in next to her in about April, 1967 and lived there until November, 1967. She stated that she and Mrs. RAHEL had mutual friends and soon became acquainted. Mrs. RAHEL threw a party at which BOB BYRNE was present. She learned that BYRNE was born in Shanghai and lived in South Africa as a boy. His father was in the export-import business in New York. She stated that BYRNE moved to Garden City, Long Island, New York when he was in his early teens and went to school with one HAROLD MOTT, who later married KATHY RAHEL and lives in the same apartment building on Ogden Street as does RAHEL.

Mrs. BIGELOW stated that BYRNE was a part of a "partying group", which included KATHY RAHEL; HAROLD MOTT; JAMES W. HEYER, a Denver attorney; KEVEN MC CARTHY, a Singer Sewing Machine executive; JOHN and ELVA THOMPSON, who are not married but live together in an apartment two doors removed from Mrs. BIGELOW; and RENEE and KEN MC LAUGHIN, an attorney. She stated that none of these people are considered to be substantial people by her, She advised they like wild parties and lots of drinking. She said that the group usually meets at KATHY RAHEL's apartment.

Mrs. BIGELOW stated that she and her children were in the East for the summer of 1967 returning to Denver on the Labor Day weekend. She stated that she immediately saw

On	5/24/68	at _	. Dei	nver,	Colo	rado	File #	Denver	157-203-6	94
by	SA PAUL E.	B/USH	and	BOYD	D. A	DSIT	BDA/sip ———Date di	ctated	6/3/68	
This	document contains	neither contents	recomm	endations to be dis	nor contributed	clusions outside	of the FBI. It is the	property of th	e FBI and is loaned to))

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BOB BYRNE again at the THOMPSON's apartment and a romance between them started at that time "hot and heavy". She said it progressed to the point where they frequently slept together. During their association, she met a close acquaintance of BYRNE by the name of HAL HALE. She stated that HALE is in the oil business and has several oil holdings. He is married and lives in California, but has an office in a house located in the 500 block of Gilpin Street in Denver, Colorado, which office is maintained by a bookkeeper. She stated that HALE is originally from Ashdown, Arkansas. She advised that she first met HALE in September or October, 1967 and that he is not a member of the partying group to which BYRNE belongs.

Mrs. BIGELOW described BOB BYRNE as 43 years of age, $6'4\frac{1}{2}$ - 5" tall, dark hair, scars on his legs, which he claims he obtained from wounds received while in the Marine Corps as a pilot during World War II. She stated that he is a graduate of Cornell University and has a degree in Hotel Management. She said that BYRNE was married once after he came to Denver about 15 years ago, but is now divorced. His ex-wife is now Mrs. JAMES S. (LYNN) ROBB and lives at 12534 West Virginia Avenue, Lakewood, Colorado. She recalled that BYRNES' ex-wife presently has BYRNE in court either for non-support or in connection with attempts on the part of her and her new husband to adopt the three children of the first marriage.

Mrs. BIGELOW stated that BYRNE does not appear to have money, but that he has refused to accepteash from her in the past. She believes, however, that he has accepted money from another girl friend, BERNICE PAULSEN, who resides at 1010 Clarkson, Denver and who is a secretary for a law firm.

She stated that BYRNE had a twin brother, JOSEPH BYRNE, who was killed March 13, 1968 while on a flight over Laos. JOSEPH BYRNE was a Lieutenant Colonel in the Air Force, whose wife's name is GENEVIVE and whose family consisted of six children, all residing with their mother at 4704 29th Street, Lubbock, Texas, telephone Swift 2-1182. She stated that he has two other brothers, WILLIAM BYRNE, in

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insurance at 119 Underhill Road, Ossining, New York and DONALD BYRNE in the oil business in Kansas City, Missouri.

She stated that BYRNE is a "heavy, two fisted drinker" who does most of his talking when he has been drinking. She said that he is probably not an alcoholic as he never seems to forget anything he says, but that he is capable of drinking one to two bottles of liquor a day for four or five days and then will go without drinking for a like period.

Mrs. BIGELOW claimed that BYRNE started intimating that he was in some type of organized crime syndicate about a month after their romance started; but that he never became specific as to members of the syndicate or its activities. She said he also told war stories about his life in the Marine Corps during combat and he claimed he had killed many men. She was never sure whether the killings were while he was in the Marines or were in connection with the syndicate; but later she learned from other sources that he was never in combat.

She claimed that he once told her that he was a professional killer and also that after World War II, he was engaged in a gun running business in which he flew guns to Cuba in a light airplane prior to take over by CASTRO. She said that she gained the impression that he was in the employ of one RAY RYAN, while gun running and he described RYAN as "Mr. BIG", who spent part of his time in Kenya, Africa, where RYAN is a member of the Mt. Kenya Safari Club. She said according to BYRNE, RYAN supposedly cannot return to the United States as there is a contract" out on him and he would killed the minute he set foot on American soil. She also said that BYRNE mentioned another name which she cannot recall of a man who was big in the underworld and who lives on an island between Miami and Miami Beach. man is supposed to have been connected with RAY RYAN and a financier of the gun running operation. BYRNE also reportedly referred to HAL HALE as "Mr. BIG" and inferred that HALE was involved in the criminal activity.

BIGELOW stated that in late November, 1967 BYRNE

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told her he had been invited to Acapulco, Mexico by HALE and his wife DEE and that she was invited as well. BYRNE told her that it was a business trip, but not connected with oil. She said that she paid for the trip for the two of them and that they left Denver on December 28, 1967 and returned to Denver, January 12, 1968. She said that they met the HALES at a house named Casa Josette in the Las Brisas are of Acapulco. The HALES were accompanied by BILLIE and LOUIS FAWCETT of Ashdown, Arkansas. The HALES and the FAWCETTS left Acapulco two or three days before BYRNE did.

Mrs. BIGELOW stated that she gained the impression the three men attended meetings during the mornings although no one specifically so stated, and that the meetings related to criminal plans. She did not know who else might have been present at the meetings, although HALE once commented that he had seen RAY RYAN on the Street in Acapulco. said that BYRNE returned to the house one day upset. dinner he and she went to a club and started drinking, however, BYRNE was sober when she tried to draw him out. him what it was all about and she claimed that she knew that he was supposed to meet RAY RYAN. BYRNE reportedly said "they want me to do a job. I don't want to do it. As you know, I have been trying to get out of this for three years, but they need a technician." She said that BYRNE claimed that "they" had threatened to harm Mrs. BIGELOW's children and that "this is the only way they could get to me". stated that BYRNE claimed to be frightened, said he was not going to do "it", and for her not to worry. He was not going to let "them" harm her or her children.

Mrs. BIGELOW stated that shortly after the group's arrival in Acapulco a yacht, the Ultima II, anchored in the harbor. They learned that it belonged to CHARLES REVSON, head of Revlon Cosmetic Company. She said she gained the impression that REVSON was not aboard. After lunch one day BYRNE wanted to take a small sailboat out on the harbor so she accompanied him and the operator of the boat. She stated that they circled the yacht and took pictures of it while some of the crewmen were at the yacht's rail. They waved and the crewmen waved back. She said that she had heard that RAY RYAN was aboard and thinks that it was HALE who mentioned it. She felt that BYRNE wanted to circle the yacht because of that. She said that BYRNE

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later told her he rented the sailboat because he was supposed to identify the crewman and the crewman was to identify him. She stated that the next day or so, all the party took a speedboat trip and on the trip they again circled the yacht. More pictures were taken of the yacht and its crew.

On the trip to Acapulco Mrs. BIGELOW stated that she took seven rolls of pictures with 20 pictures to the roll. When they returned to Denver, she had them developed at a nearby drug store and BYRNE picked them up paying about \$35.00. She stated that she saw them at that time, but BYRNE stated he was going to keep them since he had paid for them and would have mints made for her. She recalls that they later showed them to JAMES HEYER. the attorney friend of BYRNE. In March, while at BYRNES apartment, BYRNE passed out from over drinking according to Mrs. BIGELOW. She said that she took the pictures and the negatives and She thinks that she must have lost left his apartment. the negatives and some airline tickets out of her purse when she stepped out of her car at her apartment. discovered the loss the next morning and later noticed that all the pictures of the crewmen of the yacht were missing.

She stated that after returning to Denver she tried to discuss BYRNE's comments in Acapulco. He reportedly told her "for God sake don't bring that up". They eventually had words and did not see each other from January, 26, 1968 to February 9, 1968. Due to the need to talk to someone she went to her attorney, TOD BAKER, Denver, Colorado, shortly after their return to Denver and discussed the matter briefly with him. She said he laughed and said that it was impossible, but if she was worried, he would make one telephone call and would find out what it was all about.

She claimed that BYRNE knew she had seen her attorney the very next day and told her that she was in deep trouble. That was the day that they picked up the pictures from the drug store and took them over to JAMES HEYER. She said that they all drank a lot, but no one was drunk. After HEYER's wife went to bed, both BYRNE and HEYER stared questioning her as to why she went to her attorney and telling her that she was going to get herself, her kids and

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BYRNE killed.

She said HEYER told her that her house was "bugged" and that they knew of all her conversations. He said that he and BYRNE had to make a call to Dallas in order to get BYRNE out of trouble as a result of her talking. She said they asked her to go to the car and wait while they made the telephone call. She did and when she returned, they both continued to lecture her and obtained her promise not to talk further. Afterwards, HEYER again called Dallas, according to Mrs. BIGELOW and BYRNE handled the call out of earshot of Mrs. BIGELOW.

Mrs. BIGELOW stated after their fight on January 26, 1968, she next saw BYRNE on February 9, 1968 at another party given by KATHY RAHEL. She and BYRNE made up and no mention was made of past events until after BYRNE returned from Lubbock, Texas in early March where he had gone to be with his moher, who was having an operation. She claimed that BYRNE was tense when he returned and told her that he had his problems and did not know what to do about them. He said, cryptically that he had to do it and he did not want to. She said that he would not say what it was he had to do, but in response to her probing did say that "it" was going to happen soon, would make national headlines and would be just about as big as KENNEDY's death.

Mrs. BIGELOW said that on March 10, 1968 BYRNES mother died and as he was getting ready to go to New York, where the funeral was to be held, he received a call from his sister-in-law GENEVIVE on March 13, 1968, telling him that his twin brother, her husband, had been killed overseas. She said that he immediately went to Lubbock, Texas, where she called him frequently asking when he would be returning to Denver. From these calls, she learned that he and GENEVIVE had gone off somewhere for a week. The night of the day on which MARTIN LUTHER KING was assassinated while others were at her house, she again called him. She said that he was at his sister-in-laws and was "absolutely, out of his mind, drunk". She said he yelled at her for having a "nasty mind" regarding GENEVIVE. In subsequent calls, he was reportedly calmer and indicated that he had a lot

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to do in connection with the two estates

She stated that BYRNE returned to Denver on May 14. 1968 and was at her apartment that night "fairly drunk" by 9:00. Before they retired she told him she was scared and asked him if he had had a hand in KING's death. he replied "what do you think, of course". She asked him if JAMES EARL RAY did the shooting and he replied asking her what made her think RAY did it. She said she indicated RAY was probably dead and that BYRNE said he was not. said she asked him if "that had been a picture of RAY on the yacht she had taken", and he replied that it was. she asked BYRNE where the pictures were and he replied "you don't think I would leave them around do you?" He ended the conversation by saying he would never let "them" harm The next night, according to Mrs. BIGELOW, while they were out with KATHY RAHEL and her friend MOTT, BYRNE told her that he was going to marry GENEVIVE in that he thought he ought to be a father to her six children. BIGELOW said that she walked out on the group and walked home, but that she has seen BYRNE a few times since.

She stated that on May 22, 1968 she received a telephone call from JAMES HEYER who wanted to contact BYRNE. He asked her to try to locate BYRNE as it was an emergency. She was to give BYRNE the message "emergency teacup" and BYRNE would know what it meant. She said BYRNE did call later and she gave him the message. She stated that he had her repeat it three times, swore and commented "I wonder if mine will be as big as the other''. She fet the message frightened BYRNE and she has not seen nor heard from him since.

Mrs. BIGELOW stated that she started making notes concerning this situation about April 18, 1968. She stated that she has thought about it many times and finally decided that if BYRNE was going down to Lubbock, Texas to marry GENEVIVE perhaps he ought to be stopped. She stated that she probably would not have called the FBI except for the fact that BYRNE plans to marry GENEVIVE. She stated that she realizes she has no proof of her allegations and she figures she will harm BYRNE by furnishing the information.

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She advised that up to the time of MARTIN LUTHER KING's death there was no mention of KING in any of her conversations with BYRNE.