

7/29/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

**Re: CB (Citizens Band) Radio Transmission
Memphis, Tennessee, during evening of
April 4, 1968, concerning chase of
white Mustang alleged to have been
involved in the shooting of MARTIN
LUTHER KING, JR., on that date.**

**Enclosed herewith is one copy each of the following
which relate to referenced matter:**

- 1) Investigative report of the Memphis PD**
- 2) Investigative insert by SA FRANKLIN L. JOHNSON**
- 3) FD 302 of interview of Inspector N. E.
ZACHARY, Memphis PD, 5/17/68**
- 4) FD 302 of interview of W. EUGENE SMITH,
4/10/68, Memphis**
- 5) FD 302 of interview of EDWARD L. MONTEDONICO,
SR., 7/15-17/68, Memphis**
- 6) FD 302 of interview of EDWARD L. MONTEDONICO,
JR., 7/1/68, Memphis**

3 - Bureau (Encs 6)
2 - Memphis
HEG:mnr
(5)

ME 44-1987

The enclosures refer to investigation conducted relative to referenced matter as it appeared to refer to captioned matter.

The Bureau's attention is directed to the fact the FCC does not have an office in the Memphis area; however, an official of the Memphis PD did contact a representative of the FCC at Atlanta, Ga., to report this incident. No inquiry has been received by the Memphis PD or this office from FCC relative to this referenced incident and therefore it appears FCC is not interested in a CB radio transmission of this type.

Concerning the possibility of interviewing other individuals contacted by the Memphis PD during its investigation of this matter, it is pointed out no attempt was made to interview these individuals due to the investigation conducted by the Memphis PD and due to the lack of evidence indicating anyone other than EDWARD LE MASTER MONTEDONICO, JR., was responsible for this radio transmission.

EDWARD LE MASTER MONTEDONICO, JR., was interviewed as indicated on the enclosed PD 302. He indicated during the interview that he had a great deal of experience in CB radio transmissions and in the operation of these units. He commented several times that anyone with a knowledge of CB radios could disguise their voice and transmission so as to go on broadcasting without being identified. He also said that there is no way for anyone, including FCC, to identify the sender of a transmission such as the one mentioned above unless the guilty individual made the admission that he or she was the individual that made the broadcast.

It is also noted that others during this investigation expressed the same opinion that it is impossible to identify the individual making a broadcast of this type unless the guilty person admitted doing same.

It was determined also that there are numerous individuals in the Memphis area operating CB radios illegally and/or without being properly licensed. It was further determined that numerous individuals broadcast using "skip" identification, which is illegal, but which is known only to the sender and

ME 44-1987

receiver. There are also numerous licensed CB radio operators in the Memphis area and it was suggested that there are possibly an equal number that are not licensed and, therefore, it would be virtually impossible to interview each and every individual either having a CB unit or having access to one.

Various individuals commented during this investigation that no one gets too excited about illegal broadcasts since the FCC generally levies a fine of up to \$50 and possibly lifting the license for 3 to 6 months if a person is guilty according to the FCC of making a broadcast of this type. Therefore, no one does much about these illegal transmissions since the punishment is this light. It was expressed that the greatest fear of CB operators is the bad name they receive when incidents of this nature are made public.

In light of the above, UACB no further investigation is being conducted concerning referenced matter.

8-21

MURKIN
MEMO
Folger

Mr. DeLoach

August 21, 1968

A. Rosen

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Malley

MURKIN

1 - Mr. McGowan

1 - Mr. Long

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

With reference to the dissemination to the Department of investigative reports in this case, such reports fall into two categories: a) reports containing information of evidentiary value pertinent to the prosecution of the Federal violation involved; and b) reports containing the results of the extensive fugitive investigation conducted to locate and apprehend the subject, James Earl Ray.

All reports pertinent to the prosecution of the Federal violation involved, and in which the Department has a legitimate interest, have been disseminated promptly to the Department and there has been absolutely no delay in doing so.

The remaining reports contain the results of our extensive fugitive investigation to locate and apprehend Ray. Copies of these reports were not disseminated to the Department since they relate solely to the fugitive aspects of the case, and contain no evidentiary material or information of value to the Department in the discharge of its prosecutive function relative to the Federal charge involved.

There are twenty such reports involving approximately 2,000 pages. They contain background data and results of extensive interviews and/or other investigation conducted to locate Ray. Although they do not relate to the prosecution aspect of the case, they will none the less be furnished to the Department in accordance with Mr. Pollak's specific request.

In this connection, by letter dated July 12, 1968, received at the Bureau July 15, 1968, Assistant Attorney General Fred M. Vinson, Jr. of the Criminal Division requested we review the records of the Missouri State Penitentiary pertaining to Ray, and summarize references to Ray's family background; education; physical, medical and psychiatric examinations and disciplinary proceedings. (It confi-

Enclosure
JGK:cs (6)

CONTINUED - OVER

Memo Rosen to DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

dentally came to our attention before Vinson's memorandum was written that British prison authorities had asked Vinson for information of this type in connection with their responsibility to maintain Ray's custody and the extradition proceedings.)

We had, of course, reviewed such records in the initial phase of the fugitive aspect of the investigation, and the results had been set forth in the fugitive reports dated May 15, 1968, and June 14, 1968, submitted by our Kansas City Office. Copies of these reports, which contained in full the information requested by Vinson in his letter, were furnished to him on July 19, 1968. Since the Attorney General had requested that information relating to the case be furnished to both Vinson and Assistant Attorney General Stephen J. Pollak of the Civil Rights Division, copies of the pertinent reports were also furnished to Pollak.

It should be noted Vinson did not furnish Pollak a copy of his (Vinson's) July 12, 1968, letter to the Bureau and consequently Pollak is apparently completely unaware the pertinent Kansas City reports were furnished to him and Vinson in answer to Vinson's specific request. This is another typical example in the Department of the left hand not knowing what the right hand is doing and explains why Pollak has gone off half cocked in erroneously accusing us of delay in disseminating the reports in question.

As a further example of this lack of coordination between Pollak and Vinson as relates to this case, it is noted that after Ray was turned over to state authorities in Tennessee we inquired of Vinson by letter whether the Federal process against Ray should be dismissed since the extradition order did not cite the Federal Civil Rights charges and it was our understanding that Ray could not, therefore, be prosecuted on Federal charges. A copy of our letter was furnished to Pollak.

Vinson in reply advised us that he felt the Federal process should be dismissed; however, Pollak, apparently unaware of Vinson's position, subsequently advised us that he felt the process should not be dismissed pending disposition of the state murder charges against Ray. It was necessary for us by memorandum to point out the discrepancy in the two views and request clarification in the matter.

Memo Resen to DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

ACTION:

**Attached for approval is an appropriate letter to Pollak
straightening him out in line with the above.**

**Mr. Stephen J. Pollak
Assistant Attorney General**

August 22, 1968

Director, FBI

**1 - Mr. Long
1 - Mr. Kelly**

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Reference is made to your letter dated August 16, 1968, requesting that copies of all investigative reports and results of interviews prepared in this case be furnished you and referring to alleged delay on the part of this Bureau in furnishing the Department copies of reports dated May 15, 1968, and June 14, 1968, prepared by our Kansas City Office.

For your information, investigative reports prepared in this case fall into two categories: 1) those containing information of evidentiary value pertinent to the prosecution of the Federal violation involved; and 2) those containing the results of the extensive fugitive investigation conducted to locate and apprehend the subject, James Earl Ray.

All investigative reports pertinent to the prosecution of the Federal violation involved have been furnished to the Department promptly and on a timely basis.

The remaining reports prepared in this case pertain solely to the extensive fugitive investigation conducted to locate the subject. Such reports are not normally furnished to the Department since they contain only information relative to the fugitive aspect of the case and do not contain information of evidentiary value or of pertinence to the prosecution of the Federal violation involved.

The reports prepared by our Kansas City Office and referred to in your letter fall into this category. An additional twenty such reports have been prepared by our various field divisions, and in accordance with your specific request, copies of all these reports will be furnished under separate cover to the Attorney General, to you and to the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Criminal Division.

**JGK:cs
(5)**

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO...

Mr. Stephen J. Pollak

For your information, Assistant Attorney General Fred M. Vinson, Jr., by letter dated July 12, 1968, which was received in this Bureau July 15, 1968, requested that the records of the Missouri State Penitentiary be reviewed pertaining to Ray and references to Ray's family background; education; physical, medical and psychiatric examinations and disciplinary proceedings be summarized. Such records had previously been reviewed in the initial phase of the fugitive aspect of this investigation, and the results of the review had been set forth in the pertinent reports prepared by our Kansas City Office and referred to in your letter. Since they contained the desired information requested by Assistant Attorney General Vinson, copies of these reports were furnished to Mr. Vinson on July 19, 1968, with a copy for you, even though they did not appear to contain information relevant to the prosecutive aspects of this case, but rather to the fugitive investigation.

We will continue to furnish to the Department, on a timely basis, copies of investigative reports and the results of interviews prepared in this case.

NOTE: See memo Rosen to DeLoach, dated 8/21/68, captioned, "MURKIN," JGK:cs.

Memo

Mr. DeLoach

August 21, 1968

A. Rosen

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. McGowan
- 1 - Mr. Long

MURKIN

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Special Agent in Charge Robert Jensen of our Memphis Division received a subpoena duces tecum on August 20, 1968, requesting his appearance in court at Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee on August 21, 1968, and to bring with him documents pertaining to Charles Quitman Stephens. Stephens, a witness in this case, lived in a rooming house at which Ray stayed on April 4, 1968.

The matter in court relates to writ of habeas corpus in order that Stephens, who is being held by the state as a material witness, might be released from incarceration.

This matter has been discussed with the Department, and they advised they are sending to SAC Jensen a telegram to the effect that he is to appear in court as directed, he is not to take any documents with him, he is not to answer any questions concerning investigation conducted regarding the assassination of King, and if necessary advise the court he is under specific instructions of the Attorney General and cite Departmental Orders. The Department also advised a representative of the United States Attorney's Office in Memphis will be in court.

Memphis has been advised of the discussion with the Department.

ACTION:

For your information. You will be kept advised of pertinent developments.

REL:jms
(6)

8-19

Mr. Bishop

8/19/68

Memo

M. A. Jones

R. L. JOYNER
2356 STANTON ROAD, SOUTHEAST (APT. B)
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Captioned individual, who identified himself as a Negro, advised that he was formerly of Chicago, Illinois, and was knowledgeable regarding Negro civil disobedience groups, the manner in which they are organized, etc., and that he feels he could be of assistance to the FBI concerning such groups. In this regard, he requested that he be contacted by our Agents at his home. He advised that his telephone number is 563-5628.

INFORMATION IN BUFILES:

Bufiles reflect that the Director received a telegram from Joyner on June 8, 1968, suggesting that "In the interest of security the Commandant of Supreme Headquarters of the allied forces Europe should be alerted to take charge of the transportation of James Earl Ray." The Director acknowledged Joyner's telegram by letter dated 6/11/68.

The above information was telephonically furnished to Relief Supervisor W. Wade Homesley of the Washington Field Office who advised that an immediate appointment would be made to interview Joyner.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan

GTQ:emm (8)

JUN 50 10 02 AM '68

FBI
REC'D CIV RIGHTS

Mc
Robert
Ray

8-16

August 20, 1968

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Attached is a request from Department to obtain results of all investigation conducted by us. We have furnished Department results of all investigation pertinent to the prosecution of the case.

Department by letter of 7-12-68, requested Ray's background data, relatives and associates. Kansas City reports of 5-15-68, and 6-14-68, containing requested information furnished to the Department. There has been absolutely no delay in furnishing pertinent information to the Department.

Additional pertinent highlights of fugitive investigation were furnished the Department by memorandum although detailed reports were not furnished as they were not pertinent to prosecution of the case.

The reports containing efforts to locate Ray will be furnished to the Department in accordance with their request.

REL:hw

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

AUG 1 6 1968

SJP:efw

Stephen J. Pollak
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

DJ 144-72-662
DJ 95-100-473
#41-157-147

James Earl Ray - Subject;
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. - Victim
CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY

This Division is making an analysis of the facts in this case. To assure that no facts are overlooked, it is important that we have in our possession copies of all reports and interviews which your Bureau has conducted. In this connection, I note that on July 17, 1968, the Civil Rights Division and the Criminal Division received certain reports in connection with this matter transmitted by your Bureau on July 16, 1968. Two of the reports were dated June 14, 1968 from your Kansas City office, the third was dated May 15, 1968.

In order to insure that the Division file contains copies of all reports and interviews which your Bureau has conducted, I attach herewith the following lists of materials which we have received from your Bureau to date in reference to this matter:

- Attachment A: Reports of Special Agents
- Attachment B: Other Reports and Enclosures
- Attachment C: Memoranda to the Attorney General
- Attachment D: Memoranda to the Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division
- Attachment E: Letterhead Memoranda

Please review these lists and transmit to this Division, to the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Criminal Division and to the Attorney General copies of any reports or interviews which you have in your possession and which are not noted on the attached lists.

-2-

Please continue to furnish copies of all reports and interviews which your Bureau conducts as soon as they are received by your headquarters. I would request that delays such as that noted in the first paragraph of this memorandum be avoided if at all possible.

ATTACHMENT A

Reports of Special Agents

<u>Special Agent</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>File No.</u>
✓ 1. Joe C. Hester	Memphis, Tenn.	4/17/68	44-1987
✓ 2. Henry A. Snow	Birmingham, Ala.	4/17/68	44-1740
✓ 3. Leroy W. Sheets	Los Angeles, Calif.	4/18/68	44-1574
✓ 4. Alan G. Sentinella	Atlanta, Ga.	4/18/68	44-2386
✓ 5. Stephen H. Callender	New Orleans, La.	4/29/68	157-10673
✓ 6. Joe C. Hester	Memphis, Tenn.	4/30/68	44-1987
✓ 7. John L. Puddister	Jackson, Miss.	5/2/68	157-9586
✓ 8. Howard H. Rice	Newark, N.J.	5/13/68	44-854
✓ 9. Joe C. Hester*	Memphis, Tenn.	6/10/68	44-1987
✓ 10. Raymond B. Howe	Kansas City, Mo.	5/15/68	44-760
✓ 11. Raymond B. Howe	Kansas City, Mo.	6/14/68	44-760

Above Reports Disseminated to

1. MR. VINSON
2. MR. DOLLACK
3. MR. CANALE

21 Reports not dissem (Including 1-Non Prosecutive)

* Prosecutive Summary Report

ATTACHMENT B

Other Reports and Enclosures

<u>Description of Report and Enclosures</u>	<u>Date of Transmittal Memorandum</u>
1. Memorandum dated 4/8/68 - 5/5/68 at Buffalo, N.Y.; Field Office File No. 44-374; Caption: James Earl Ray, aka Paul Bridgeman, Paul Bridgman, Paul Edward Bridgeman, Paul H. Bridgeman, Ramon George Sneyd; Toronto, Ontario, Canada.	6/13/68 - POLLAK
2. Correspondence forwarded by "Ebony" magazine; report of interview with Raymond Curtis.	7/8/68 VINSON POLLAK
3. Report of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police dated 6/14/68 at Montreal; re Caption: Dr. Martin Luther King - Murder of Assistance to FBI.	7/8/68 VINSON POLLAK
4. Identification Record of James Earl Ray; copy of telegram from the American Embassy, London, to the Department of State, dated 7/3/68.	7/15/68 VINSON POLLAK
5. Copies of correspondence of subject while in H. K. Prison in London; copies of reports of prison officials.	7/25/68 VINSON POLLAK

ATTACHMENT C

Memoranda to the Attorney General on the following dates:

1. April 20, 1968
2. May 2, 1968
3. May 9, 1968
4. May 23, 1968
5. May 27, 1968
6. May 29, 1968
7. June 20, 1968 ✓
8. June 21, 1968* ✓
9. July 1, 1968
10. July 19, 1968
11. July 22, 1968
12. July 23, 1968

June 10, 1968 ✓

* Encloses 12 items made available by New Scotland Yard, London, England.

APPACHMENT D

Memoranda to Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights
Division, on the following dates:

1. June 10, 1968 ✓
2. June 13, 1968 ✓
3. June 14, 1968
4. June 15, 1968 ✓
5. June 17, 1968 ✓
6. June 18, 1968 ✓
7. June 19, 1968 ✓
8. July 3, 1968

ATTACHMENT E

<u>Case</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Date</u>
1. Murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.	Washington, D.C.	4/10/68
2. Murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.	Washington, D.C.	4/12/68
3. Murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.	Washington, D.C.	4/18/68
4. James Earl Ray, aka Eric Starvo Galt	Buffalo, N.Y.	6/5/68
5. James Earl Ray, aka Eric Starvo Galt	Buffalo, N.Y.	6/7/68
6. Assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.	Atlanta, Ga.	6/11/68
7. James Earl Ray	Washington, D.C.	6/13/68
8. James Earl Ray	Washington, D.C.	6/24/68
9. Assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.	Washington, D.C.	6/25/68
10. James Earl Ray	Washington, D.C.	7/1/68
11. James Earl Ray; Martin Luther King, Jr. - Victim Civil Rights	Atlanta, Ga. Further Int. of CURTIS	7/5/68 Pollak VINSON
12. James Earl Ray; Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. - Victim	New Orleans, La. Further Re CURTIS	7/25/68 Pollak VINSON

August 20, 1968

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Attached is a request from Department to obtain results of all investigation conducted by us. We have furnished Department results of all investigation pertinent to the prosecution of the case.

Department by letter of 7-12-68, requested Ray's background data, relatives and associates. Kansas City reports of 5-15-68, and 6-14-68, containing requested information furnished to the Department. There has been absolutely no delay in furnishing pertinent information to the Department.

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Federal Bureau of Investigation

AUG 1 6 1968

SJP:efw

Stephen J. Pollak
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

DJ 144-72-662
DJ 95-100-473
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Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. - Victim
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* Prosecutive Summary Report

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4. Identification Record of James Earl Ray; copy of telegram from the American Embassy, London, to the Department of State, dated 7/3/68.	7/16/68
5. Copies of correspondence of subject while in H. M. Prison in London; copies of reports of prison officials.	7/26/68

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ATTACHMENT E

<u>Caption</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Date</u>
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2. Murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.	Washington, D.C.	4/12/68
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August 20, 1968

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REL:hw

Mo

✓ Roper

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

AUG 1 6 1968

SJP:efw

Stephen J. Pollak
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

DJ 144-72-662
DJ 95-100-473
#41-157-147

James Earl Ray - Subject;
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. - Victim
CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY

Long

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5. Copies of correspondence of subject while in H. M. Prison in London; copies of reports of prison officials.	7/26/68

ATTACHMENT C

Memoranda to the Attorney General on the following dates:

1. April 20, 1968
2. May 2, 1968
3. May 9, 1968
4. May 23, 1968
5. May 27, 1968
6. May 29, 1968
7. June 20, 1968
8. June 21, 1968*
9. July 1, 1968
10. July 19, 1968
11. July 22, 1968
12. July 23, 1968

* Encloses 12 items made available by New Scotland Yard, London, England.

ATTACHMENT D

Memoranda to Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, on the following dates:

1. June 10, 1968
2. June 13, 1968
3. June 14, 1968
4. June 15, 1968
5. June 17, 1968
6. June 18, 1968
7. June 19, 1968
8. July 3, 1968

ATTACHMENT B

	<u>Caption</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Date</u>
1.	Murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.	Washington, D.C.	4/10/68 ✓
2.	Murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.	Washington, D.C.	4/12/68
3.	Murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.	Washington, D.C.	4/18/68
4.	James Earl Ray, aka Eric Starvo Galt	Buffalo, N.Y.	6/5/68
5.	James Earl Ray, aka Eric Starvo Galt	Buffalo, N.Y.	6/7/68
6.	Assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.	Atlanta, Ga.	6/11/68
7.	James Earl Ray	Washington, D.C.	6/13/68
8.	James Earl Ray	Washington, D.C.	6/24/68
9.	Assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.	Washington, D.C.	6/25/68
10.	James Earl Ray	Washington, D.C.	7/1/68
11.	James Earl Ray; Martin Luther King, Jr. - Victim Civil Rights	Atlanta, Ga.	7/5/68
12.	James Earl Ray; Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. - Victim	New Orleans, La.	7/25/68

*Memo
Folder*

Mr. DeLoach

August 16, 1968

A. Rosen

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Malley

1 - Mr. McGowan

MURKIN

1 - Mr. Long

This is the case involving the murder of
Martin Luther King, Jr.

Radio Station WERD, located at 330 Auburn Avenue,
Northeast, Atlanta, Georgia, which is the same address
as Southern Christian Leadership Conference, has received
a copy of the "Saturday Evening Post," addressed to
E. S. Galt, 330 Auburn Avenue, Northeast, Atlanta, Georgia,
30303. The address tag also contains the following
additional information: "330 AUBUESPO26MAY 69."

We are making inquiry at the Curtis Publishing
Company in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to determine the
circumstances of this particular subscription.

ACTION:

For your information.

REL:cs
(6)

DIRECTOR, FBI

8/10/68

SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386)

MURKIN

Radio Station WERD, which is located at 330 Auburn Avenue, NE, Atlanta, Georgia, same address as Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), has received a copy of the Saturday Evening Post addressed to E. S. GALT, 330 Auburn Avenue, NE, Atlanta, Georgia, 30303. The tag also contains the following: "330 AUBUESPO26MAY 69."

PHILADELPHIA DIVISION

At the Curtis Publishing Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19105, attempt to determine circumstances of this particular subscription.

② - Bureau (RM)
2 - Memphis (RM)
2 - Philadelphia (RM)
2 - Atlanta
CSH:jlh
(8)

875

Memo

AUG 15 1968

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Stephen J. Pollak
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

SJP:efw
DJ 144-72-662
#41-157-147

JAMES EARL RAY

This is in response to your memorandum of August 5, 1968, concerning the question whether the federal complaint against James Earl Ray should be dismissed.

I have discussed this entire matter with Assistant Attorney General Vinson who dealt with the British authorities concerning the extradition. He has no objection to allowing the federal complaint to remain outstanding under these circumstances.

In reply to your inquiry as to the circumstances under which federal prosecution would be pursued, we would want to review the facts after the conspiracy investigation has been completed; if the evidence and the outcome of the State proceedings were such that federal prosecution seemed desirable, we would consider taking steps to try to obtain the necessary waiver from the British government.

cc: Deputy Attorney General

Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

8-12

Memo

Mr. DeLoach

August 12, 1968

A. Rosen

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. McGowan
- 1 - Mr. Long
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan

MURKIN

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

William Somerset, a former symbol informant was discontinued by the Bureau as he furnished unreliable information and information that could not be verified or corroborated. He recently provided information to the effect that several individuals involved in various acts of violence in Mississippi could possibly be involved in the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. The person allegedly furnishing information to the former informant is Margaret Capomacchia, who is believed to be mentally disturbed and is the mother of Kathleen Ainsworth, who was involved in the bombing at the residence of Meyer Davidson, Meridian, Mississippi, on 6/30/68. Ainsworth was killed in an exchange of gunfire with police officers.

Our Jackson Office has accounted for the whereabouts of these individuals enumerated by the former informant during the pertinent time. The mother of Ainsworth was located and interviewed, and she refused to discuss the entire matter. She denied knowing anyone by the names as enumerated by the former informant. Miami points out that prior interviews with the son and daughter-in-law of Capomacchia indicate that she has a mental problem.

In view of the alleged mental condition of the mother of Ainsworth and in view of the past performance of the former informant, coupled with the possibility that he may be fabricating the entire situation, Miami is being instructed to have no further contact with the former informant in regard to this alleged conspiracy. We are also instructing Miami, as well as other interested offices, not to conduct any further investigation; however, if any information comes to their attention they should notify the Bureau, submit same with recommendations and take no further action.

Enclosure

CONTINUED - OVER

REL:cs

(7)

Memo Rosen to DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

RECOMMENDATION:

If approved, the attached communication will be transmitted to Miami, with copies to Jackson and Memphis, which contains Bureau instructions along the lines set forth.

8/12/68

Airtel

1 - Mr. Long

To: SAC, Miami (44-1854)

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

In view of the alleged mental condition of Mrs. Margaret Capomacchia, mother of Kathleen Ainsworth, and in view of the past performance of the informant, Miami should have no further contact with the former informant in regard to the information that Kathleen Ainsworth and five other individuals were involved in the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

In view of the fact that in interview with Mrs. Capomacchia she denies any knowledge of this alleged participation in the assassination and refuses to discuss it, receiving offices should conduct no further investigation in this aspect.

If any further information comes to your attention regarding this, you should notify the Bureau of same, submit your recommendations and take no further action.

1 - SAC, Jackson (157-9586)

1 - SAC, Memphis (44-1987)

REL:cs
(6)

NOTE: See memo Rosen to DeLoach, dated 8/12/68, captioned MURKIN, REL:cs.

1 8-9

MEMO

Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General

August 9, 1968

Director, FBI

1 - Mr. McGowan

① - Mr. Long

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Reference is made to your memorandum of August 6, 1968, in which you make inquiry concerning one Barclays Bank slip listed in Document Number Nine appended to a report of New Scotland Yard.

We are enclosing two copies of this Barclays Bank slip, one is an exact copy of the original, and one which the writing has been typewritten due to the illegibility of the writing.

It appears that James Earl Ray, upon his return from Portugal to London on May 17, 1968, may have exchanged currency.

Enclosures (2)

REL:erg
(5)

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

NOTE:

Legat, London transmitted to us a report of New Scotland Yard concerning the activities of James Earl Ray while in London, England. We transmitted this report to Mr. Vinson, Assistant Attorney General. Mr. Vinson, in his memorandum of August 6, 1968, stated that in connection with Document Number Nine appended to that report, he noted that "Sneyd's" possessions, as listed, included one Barclays Bank slip in name of Sneyd. Mr. Vinson stated he would appreciate being informed of what sort of bank transaction was represented by this document.

The personal effects, including this slip, are presently in possession of the Shelby County Sheriff's Office, Memphis, Tennessee. Memphis obtained copies of the bank slip and transmitted them to the Bureau. We are responding to Mr. Vinson's inquiry and are enclosing copies of the Barclays Bank slip. Legat, London has been requested to determine if New Scotland Yard conducted any investigation in that particular matter and if so, advise us of the results thereof.

8-7-68

AIRTEL

AM

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
ATTN: MR. MCGOWAN
ROOM 2712

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P

MURKIN.

Enclosed are two Xerox copies of a Barclays Bank slip found in the personal effects of JAMES EARL RAY at the time of his arrest. Inasmuch as information is barely legible on the copies, Bureau will note Memphis has typed in the data on one of the copies.

It appears to Memphis that RAY arrived at Heathrow Airport on May 17, 1968, from Portugal, and by means of this bank slip converted his Portuguese currency into English currency.

3 BUREAU (Enc. 2) (AM)
1 MEMPHIS

JCH:BN
(4)

To BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED

Please exchange the undermentioned NOTES and COIN
with recourse to me/us
*and credit my/our account.

Signature Ramon George Sneyd
Address 962 Dundas West
Toronto, Canada

CURRENCY	AMOUNT	RATE	£	s.	d.
			70	8	5
Portugal	6020	71	14	1	8
				5	7

CASHIER'S STAMP AND INITIALS



FORM 352

£ 84 15 8

*Delete for cash exchanges

ENCLOSURE