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with recourse to me/us  
\*and credit my/our account.

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CASHIER'S STAMP AND INITIALS



FORM 352

£

\*Delete for cash exchanges

MEMO

Mr. Stephen J. Pollak  
Assistant Attorney General  
Director, FBI

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

August 14, 1968

**ASSASSINATION OF  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**

Donald Woods, the salesman for the Aeromarine Supply Company, Birmingham, Alabama, who sold the rifle recovered at the scene of King's assassination, contacted our Birmingham Office to advise he has been contacted by Arthur Hanes, the attorney for James Earl Ray.

Hanes advised Woods that Ray was a "little fuzzy" on the details of the purchase of the gun and for that reason Hanes would like to interview Woods to obtain more specific information.

We have offered no advice to Woods concerning this matter; however, we did tell him that the request of Hanes would be brought to the attention of the state and Federal authorities concerned with the prosecution of Ray.

This matter was brought to the attention of Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Tennessee, and the United States Attorney in Birmingham.

The above is for your information.

REL:hw  
(8)

NOTE: See Rosen to DeLoach memo dated 8-13-68, captioned "MURKIN,"  
JGK:vea.

Mr. DeLoach

August 13, 1968

A. Rosen

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen

MURKIN

1 - Mr. Malley

1 - Mr. Long

1 - Mr. McGowan

SAC Joseph Gamble of the Birmingham Office has telephonically furnished the following information.

Donald Woods, the salesman for the Aeromarine Supply Company, Birmingham, Alabama, who sold the rifle recovered at the scene of King's assassination to Ray, has been contacted by Ray's attorney, Arthur Hanes.

Hanes advised Woods that Ray was a "little fuzzy" on the details of the purchase of the gun and for that reason Hanes would like to interview Woods to obtain more specific information.

Woods contacted our Birmingham Office today to inquire as to whether he should consent to an interview with Hanes.

Birmingham furnished no advice to Woods concerning the matter but advised him that the request would be brought to the attention of the appropriate State and Federal authorities concerned with Ray's prosecution.

SAC Gamble has advised the Memphis Office of Hanes' request and instructed Memphis to bring the matter immediately to the attention of Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Tennessee, who is handling the State prosecution. Since Federal process charging Ray with violation of the Civil Rights Statute (Section 241, Title 18, U. S. Code) is outstanding in Birmingham, SAC Gamble is also bringing Hanes' request to the attention of the U. S. Attorney in Birmingham.

Any instructions to Woods relating to the interview requested by Hanes will be issued by State Attorney General Phil M. Canale, Jr., and/or the U. S. Attorney at Birmingham and the Birmingham Office will furnish absolutely no advice to Woods on the matter.

ACTION:

Information relating to Hanes' request for an interview with Woods is also being brought to the attention of the Civil Rights Division of the Department.

JGK:vea

(6)

Mr. DeLoach

August 9, 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 (SAC) Joseph Gamble of the Birmingham Office telephonically advised that he received a telephone call from Robert Wood, owner of the Aeromarine Supply Company, Birmingham, Alabama, to the effect that his son, Donald Wood, and other employees of the company have been receiving threatening telephone calls. It is noted that James Earl Ray purchased the rifle from Donald Wood of the Aeromarine Supply Company on March 29-30, 1968. To be specific, the call that Donald Wood received from an unknown individual was to the effect that he would not live to testify in the James Earl Ray case. The employees received telephone calls along the line that they wanted to know if they sold sawed-off shotguns and told them they had better start to sell them.

SAC Gamble stated that he has taken no action on this matter and due to the importance of this case, he would like the Bureau's views.

Mr. Stephen J. Pollak, Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, was apprised of the threatening telephone calls received, and he was advised that it has not as yet been determined if Federal process will be dismissed, we are alerting the Birmingham authorities of the threats made. In view of the Tennessee authorities' prosecution of subject Ray on State charges, we are notifying Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Tennessee, of these telephone calls.

After learning of this information, Mr. Pollak advised that he did not desire any further action, however, he did desire that our Birmingham Office apprise the U. S.

REL:cs  
(6)

*See  
Birmingham Teletype  
of 8/9/68*

CONTINUED - OVER

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach  
RE: MURKIN

*rely on Long*

Attorney in Birmingham of the calls received and the fact that the FBI is conducting no investigation. Mr. Pollak also stated that if Mr. Wood further informs the FBI of any threatening calls received by Donald Wood, they should be channelized in this same manner.

Birmingham and Memphis have been advised as to the above.

ACTION:

The above will be confirmed in writing to the Department.

8-8

MEMO folder

Mr. W. C. Sullivan

8/8/68

W. A. Branigan

MURKIN

This case involves the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Attached is Xerox copy of Memphis airtel dated 7/31/68 relating to investigation to identify two individuals, Vincent Walker and Lawrence Rand or Rend, who checked into William Len Hotel, Memphis, Tennessee, at 2:38 p.m. on 4/4/68 and checked out at approximately 12:10 a.m. on 4/5/68. The circumstances surrounding their departure in Memphis shortly after the murder of King has warranted our investigation to identify these individuals since there is always the possibility that they may have been involved in the murder of King. Our investigation to date has been negative and the conclusion of Memphis is that both of these individuals were "running from something." There is also attached a memorandum from Mr. Rosen to Mr. DeLoach indicating that in view of the possibility that Walker and Rand may have been implicated as co-conspirators in the King slaying, that the fingerprints developed on hotel registration cards relating to them be compared with fingerprints of white Bureau fugitives between the ages of 20 and 35.

In order to assist in the identification of Walker and Rand, or Rend, it is suggested that consideration be given to contacting informants in the Klan and white hate groups since there is a possibility that these informants may be able to identify known militant members of the Klan or white hate groups who were not in their normal location on the day of and the day after King's murder. There is a very meager physical description for both individuals and if consideration is given to requesting a check of logical racial informants it is suggested that a review be made of the Memphis report relating to our investigation of these individuals.

Enclosures - 2

YAC 3 A 53 11, 11

~~Mr. G. R. DeLoach~~

- ① - Mr. A. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. G. C. Moore
- 1 - Mr. W. A. Branigan
- 1 - Mr. R. E. Long
- 1 - Mr. G. M. Quinn

FBI  
REC'D - CIA 8/11/68

GMQ:bab (8)

Mr. W. C. Sullivan

8/8/68

W. A. Branigan

**MURKIN**

This case involves the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

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Enclosures - 2

~~1 - Mr. C. D. DeLoach~~  
1 - Mr. A. Rosen  
1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan  
1 - Mr. G. C. Moore  
1 - Mr. W. A. Branigan  
① - Mr. E. E. Long  
1 - Mr. G. M. Quinn

GMQ:bab (8)



We have had absolutely no indication that Vincent Walker and Lawrence Rand were affiliated with or associated with any Klan or hate type organization. The descriptions of these individuals are exceptionally meager. To contact informants to possibly identify these individuals due to type of information available could easily result in a waste of Agent time.

*CCM/HLW*

*VR. Schafer  
Div. 5*

**R.E. LONG**

MEMO

Mr. DeLoach

August 3, 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.

Captain J. G. Ray, Memphis Police Department, who is in charge of the security of subject Ray, has confidentially advised us that Judge W. Preston Battle, Shelby County Criminal Court, Memphis, has received a letter from Marya and Laska Van Doornen, Bellflower, California. This letter was dated August 3, 1968, and requested the address of Ray's attorney, Arthur J. Hanes. The letter in part stated "We have a number of things we would like to tell the defense."

Bureau indices are negative regarding Marya and Laska Van Doornen.

Our Memphis Office has requested Los Angeles Office to discreetly determine identity of the Van Doornens, and if possible, to determine what, if any, connection they might have had with Ray. Memphis also stated, unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau, no attempt will be made to interview these persons except possibly under a suitable pretext as we do not desire to invite charges of interfering with the subject's defense.

The Los Angeles Office has been advised not to interview the Van Doornens under any circumstances, but to proceed to determine their identity through office records and established sources.

RECOMMENDATION:

If approved, the attached communication be sent to Los Angeles, with copy to Memphis, confirming Bureau instructions.

Enclosure

REL:cs  
(6)

1 - Mr. Long

August 8, 1968

**AIRTEL**

**To: SAC, Los Angeles**

**From: Director, FBI**

**MURKIN**

**ReMEairtel 8-6-68.**

**Los Angeles should through a check of its office records and through appropriate sources determine identity of Marya and Laska Van Doornen, 17810 Carpintero Avenue, Bellflower, California, and any connection they might have had with subject Ray.**

**Los Angeles should not under any circumstances attempt to interview them as we do not desire to invite charges of interfering with the subject's defense.**

**1 - Memphis**

**REL:hw  
(5)**

**NOTE: See Rosen to DeLoach memo, same caption, same date, REL:cw.**

8-6-68

**AIRTEL**

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

**MURKIN**

Captain J. G. RAY, Memphis Police Department, in charge of security of subject RAY, has confidentially advised that Judge W. PRESTON BATTLE, Shelby County Criminal Court, Memphis, has received a letter from MARYA and LASKA VAN DOORNEN, 17810 Carpintero Avenue, Bellflower, California, dated 8-3-68, requesting the address of subject's attorney, ARTHUR J. HANES. This letter states in part, "We have a number of things we would like to tell the defense."

Los Angeles should discreetly determine identity of the VAN DOORNENS and, if possible, determine what, if any, connection they might have had with subject RAY.

UACB, no attempt should be made to interview these persons except possibly under a suitable pretext, as we do not desire to invite charges of interfering with the subject's defense.

3 BUREAU  
2 LOS ANGELES (AM)  
1 MEMPHIS

JCH:BN  
(6)

*Memo Folder*

Mr. DeLoach

August 8, 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.

Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr., Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, was previously furnished eleven separate investigative reports, which contained pertinent data to the investigation of this case. Included in these reports was a prosecutive summary report which was furnished to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General of Shelby County, Tennessee.

The British authorities have provided us with the original documents regarding official proceedings in the extradition of James Earl Ray in London. We furnished a copy of these to Mr. Vinson. The New Scotland Yard report regarding the activities of Ray in England was also provided to Mr. Vinson.

By memoranda we have requested that Mr. Vinson advise us if he desired that the above be furnished to Mr. Canale who is handling the state's prosecution of Ray. By memorandum of August 6, 1968, Mr. Vinson advised that he is authorizing us to release all results of our investigation to Mr. Canale which are relevant for trial purposes. Mr. Vinson also advised that the report as obtained from New Scotland Yard may be disseminated to Mr. Canale.

The attached letter to Mr. Vinson is for the purpose of advising him that our investigative reports and the documents and the report of New Scotland Yard are being disseminated to Mr. Canale in accordance with his instructions.

Enclosures (2)

REL:cs  
(6)

CONTINUED - OVER

**Memo Rosen to DeLoach**  
**RE: MURKIN**

Also attached is a communication to Memphis instructing them to disseminate reports, documents and report of New Scotland Yard to Mr. Casale.

**ACTION:**

That the attached letter to Mr. Vinson and communication to Memphis be approved.

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

**August 8, 1968**

**Director, FBI**

**1 - Mr. Long**

**ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**

**In accordance with your instructions contained in your memorandum of August 6, 1968, we are disseminating the following reports to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General of Shelby County, Tennessee:**

**Report of Special Agent Henry A. Snow dated April 17, 1968, at Birmingham, Alabama;**

**Report of Special Agent Joe C. Hester dated April 17, 1968, at Memphis, Tennessee;**

**Report of Special Agent Alan G. Sentinella dated April 18, 1968, at Atlanta, Georgia;**

**Report of Special Agent Leroy W. Sheets dated April 18, 1968, at Los Angeles, California;**

**Report of Special Agent Stephen M. Callender dated April 29, 1968, at New Orleans, Louisiana;**

**Report of Special Agent Joe C. Hester dated April 30, 1968, at Memphis, Tennessee;**

**Report of Special Agent John L. Puddister dated May 2, 1968, at Jackson, Mississippi;**

**Report of Special Agent Howard H. Rice dated May 13, 1968, at Newark, New Jersey;**

**Report of Special Agent Raymond B. Howe dated May 15, 1968, at Kansas City, Missouri; and**

**Report of Special Agent Raymond B. Howe dated June 14, 1968, at Kansas City, Missouri.**

**REL:cs  
(4)**

**SEE NOTE PAGE TWO...**

Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr.

We are also providing Mr. Canale with the original documents provided to us by the British authorities in regards to the extradition proceedings of James Earl Ray and the most recent report of New Scotland Yard.

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



Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

August 6 1968

Fred M. Vinson, Jr.  
Assistant Attorney General  
Criminal Division

144-72-662

Assassination of  
Martin Luther King, Jr.

This is in further reference to my memorandum of July 31, 1968, and my telephone conversation with Special Agent Long of August 1, 1968, concerning the pending state prosecution of James Earl Ray.

I assume that SAC Jensen has had an opportunity to contact Mr. Canale, the State Attorney General of Shelby County, Tennessee, and has apprised him of the scope and extent of the federal investigation.

This will authorize you to release all results of your investigation to Mr. Canale which are relevant for trial purposes, provided you have determined that such release will not disclose the identity of confidential informants or confidential investigative techniques. This cooperation is deemed to be in the best interests of justice.

This will also acknowledge your memorandum of August 5, 1968, titled as above. This will advise that the report obtained from New Scotland Yard may be disseminated to Mr. Canale.

In connection with Document No. 9 appended to that report, I note that "Sneyd's" possessions, as listed, include one Barclays Bank slip in name of Sneyd. I would appreciate being informed what sort of bank transaction is represented by this document.

EBI  
REC'D - CIA VICKLE

August 8, 1968

Airtel

1 - Mr. Long

To: SAC, Memphis (44-1987)  
From: Director, FBI (44-38861)  
MURKIN

You should provide Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General of Shelby County, Tennessee, the following investigative reports, copies of which are in your possession:

Report of Special Agent Henry A. Snow dated 4/17/68, at Birmingham, Alabama;

Report of Special Agent Joe C. Hester dated 4/17/68, at Memphis, Tennessee;

Report of Special Agent Alan G. Sentinella dated 4/18/68, at Atlanta, Georgia;

Report of Special Agent Leroy W. Sheets dated 4/18/68, at Los Angeles, California;

Report of Special Agent Stephen M. Callender dated 4/29/68, at New Orleans, Louisiana;

Report of Special Agent Joe C. Hester dated 4/30/68, at Memphis, Tennessee;

Report of Special Agent John L. Puddister dated 5/2/68, at Jackson, Mississippi;

Report of Special Agent Howard H. Rice dated 5/13/68, at Newark, New Jersey;

Enclosures (13)

REL:cs  
(4)

SEE NOTE PAGE THREE...

**Airtel SAC, Memphis**  
**RE: MURKIN**

**Report of Special Agent Raymond B. Howe dated 5/15/68, at Kansas City, Missouri; and**

**Report of Special Agent Raymond B. Howe dated 6/14/68, at Kansas City, Missouri.**

**Enclosed you will find the following original set and one copy of the set of documents provided to us by the British authorities in regards to the extradition proceedings of James Earl Ray:**

- 1. Fingerprint comparison charts used in the testimony by our Latent Fingerprint Examiner George J. Bonebrake;**
- 2. Fingerprints of Ray as taken on 6/8/68, by British authorities;**
- 3. Two separate orders issued by the Bow Street Magistrates' Court dated 6/13/68, pursuant to "The Extradition Act, 1870," relative to this matter (One order relates to the murder charge in Tennessee and the other to the escape charge in Missouri.);**
- 4. Medical Officer's Certificate dated 7/18/68, issued by the authorities of Wandsworth Prison;**
- 5. An order dated 7/18/68, commanding Ray to be delivered to officials of the United States Government; and**
- 6. Court testimony of several individuals.**

**You should provide the original set of documents to Mr. Canale and copy of the original set should be retained for your records.**

**In addition, you may provide Mr. Canale the enclosed report of New Scotland Yard. A copy of this report was previously provided to you for your information.**

**Airtel SAC, Memphis**  
**RE: MURKIN**

In furnishing the above reports and documents to Mr. Canale, it must be with the complete understanding that the reports and documents and contents thereof are not to be released outside his office. You should insure that no administrative pages and administrative data are included in the reports disseminated to Mr. Canale.

**NOTE:** See memo Rosen to DeLoach, dated 8/8/68,  
captioned as above, REL:cs.

JUL 31 1968

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Fred M. Vinson, Jr.  
Assistant Attorney General  
Criminal Division

Assassination of  
Martin Luther King, Jr.

This will acknowledge your memorandum of July 26, 1968, titled as above.

It may well be that Mr. Canale, the State Attorney General of Shelby County, Tennessee, will wish to examine Items 1 and 6 listed in that memorandum. I would doubt that he would have use for the other material, but would appreciate it if you would make known to him its availability.

I spoke to Mr. Canale several weeks ago, and he indicated to me that he would soon commence trial preparation. A substantial amount of the evidence which I am sure he will want to produce at trial comes about through the intensive FBI investigation into this matter, as well as FBI laboratory work. I would suggest that it might be timely to have Mr. Jensen, SAC in Memphis, contact Mr. Canale to be sure that he is aware of the scope and extent of the federal investigation and to proffer him whatever assistance he requires.

9-6

MEMO

Mr. DeLoach

August 6, 1968

A. Rosen

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Malley

1 - Mr. McGowan

MURKIN

1 - Mr. Long

1 - Mr. Sullivan

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

Our Legal Attache in London previously furnished a copy of a letter from subject as Ramon G. Sneyd dated July 4, 1968, addressed to a Mr. J. B. Stoner, Attorney-at-Law, Savannah, Georgia. This letter in essence stated that subject was shown a letter written by Stoner concerning a legal fund which Stoner represents and subject advises that he had retained Mr. Hanes and would like to get his advice before he takes any action. Letter continues by advising that subject appreciates Stoner's offer of assistance. It is noted that this Stoner is possibly identical to one Jesse B. Stoner, who is Vice President of the National State Rights Party (NSRP) with headquarters in Savannah, who has been described as a racial rabble rouser.

We have learned that Dr. Edward R. Fields, a NSRP Director, had announced that the Patriotic Legal Aid Fund of Savannah had offered to defend James Earl Ray, the accused slayer of Martin Luther King, Jr.

An informant of Savannah Division has informed us that Dr. Fields made a statement that he was a personal friend of Arthur Hanes, Jr., the attorney for James Earl Ray, and Jesse B. Stoner recently mentioned that Hanes had called them apparently at the NSRP Office, acted mad and pointed out that he did not even recall meeting them and he was not "their friend." According to the informant Fields and Stoner were miffed that Hanes was so unfriendly, but acknowledged they had met Hanes only on one occasion which was for a brief moment. The informant further stated that the financial status of the NSRP is such that they could not afford to contribute any money to Ray's defense, and the informant was of the opinion that Fields and Stoner had made the initial offer to aid Ray for their own publicity and for the purpose of attempting to increase their own prestige.

REL:cs (7)

CONTINUED - OVER

7/31/68

**AIRTEL**

**AIRMAIL**

**TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)**  
**FROM: SAC, SAVANNAH (44-1768) (P)**  
**MURKIN**

Re Buairtel 7/25/68, and SVairtel to Director, 7/29/68, in captioned matter; and SVairtel to Director, 6/28/68, captioned "NATIONAL STATES RIGHTS PARTY, RM (ORGANIZATION)".

On 7/29/68, SV 524-R (PROB), (PROTECT IDENTITY), advised that with regard to the previously reported statements made by Dr. EDWARD R. FIELDS, NSRP, that he was a personal friend of ART HANES, Attorney for JAMES EARL RAY, alleged murderer of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., JESSE B. STONER recently mentioned that HANES had called them, apparently at the NSRP Office, acted mad, and pointed out to them that he did not even recall ever meeting them and that he was not "their friend". According to this source, FIELDS and STONER were miffed that HANES was so unfriendly, but acknowledged at the time that they had met HANES on only one occasion for a brief moment. This informant said he has heard nothing further about any correspondence from JAMES EARL RAY or of any efforts by FIELDS or STONER to intercede for him. This source stated that the financial status of the NSRP is such that they could not afford to contribute any money to RAY's defense, although they had made the offer in the name of the Patriotic Legal Aid Fund of Savannah.

- 3 - Bureau (RM)
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987) (RM)
- 1 - Birmingham (RM)
- 2 - Savannah

CHO/bb  
(8)



Memo Rosen to DeLoach  
RE: MURKIN

ACTION:

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

7/31/68

**AIRTEL**

**AIRMAIL**

**TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)**  
**FROM: SAC, SAVANNAH (44-1768) (P)**  
**MURKIN**

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- 3 - Bureau (RM)
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987) (RM)
- 1 - Birmingham (RM)
- 2 - Savannah

CMO/bb  
(8)

**SV 44-1768**

**This informant was of the opinion that STONER and FIELDS had made the initial offer to aid JAMES EARL RAY for the publicity and for the purpose of attempting to increase their own prestige.**

**The Savannah Office has instructed this informant to be alert for any future contacts between the NSRP officials and JAMES EARL RAY or his attorney or representatives.**

8-5

Routing Slip  
0-7 (Rev. 3-31-67)

(Copies to Offices Checked)

TO: SAC,

- Albany
- Albuquerque
- Anchorage
- Atlanta
- Baltimore
- Birmingham
- Boston
- Buffalo
- Butte
- Charlotte
- Chicago
- Cincinnati
- Cleveland
- Columbia
- Dallas
- Denver
- Detroit
- El Paso
- Honolulu

- Houston
- Indianapolis
- Jackson
- Jacksonville
- Kansas City
- Knoxville
- Las Vegas
- Little Rock
- Los Angeles
- Louisville
- Memphis
- Miami
- Milwaukee
- Minneapolis
- Mobile
- Newark
- New Haven
- New Orleans

- New York City
- Norfolk
- Oklahoma City
- Omaha
- Philadelphia
- Phoenix
- Pittsburgh
- Portland
- Richmond
- St. Louis
- Salt Lake City
- San Antonio
- San Diego
- San Francisco
- San Juan
- Savannah
- Seattle
- Springfield

- Tampa
- Washington Field
- Quantico

TO LEGAT:

- Bern
- Bonn
- Buenos Aires
- Hong Kong
- London
- Manila
- Mexico, D.F.
- Ottawa
- Paris
- Rome
- Santo Domingo
- Tokyo

Date 8/6/68

RE:

**MURKIN**

For information   
  Retention optional   
  For appropriate action   
  Surep, by \_\_\_\_\_

The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report,  conceal all sources,  paraphrase contents.

Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA \_\_\_\_\_ dated \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks:

**Attached is a report of New Scotland Yard received from Legat, London. The Department has been furnished a copy of this report and permission has been requested to furnish the report to Mr. Canale, State Attorney General.**

Enc. (1)  
 Bufile (44-38861)  
 Urfile (44-1987)

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

August 5, 1968

Director, FBI

1 - Mr. Long

**ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**

Enclosed you will find a copy of a report furnished to us by New Scotland Yard. This report contains information concerning the activities of subject James Earl Ray while in London, England, from May 7, 1968, to the date of his apprehension on June 8, 1968. This report also contains a summary of investigation conducted by New Scotland Yard.

Officials of New Scotland Yard have advised this report may be disseminated to Tennessee authorities for assistance in preparing their case for prosecution.

In view of this, you are requested to advise if you desire that this report of New Scotland Yard be furnished to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Tennessee.

Enclosure

REL:cs  
(4)

NOTE: See Memo A. Rosen to Mr. DeLoach, dated 8/1/68, captioned MURKIN, REL:cs.

SENT to Dep't 8/5/68

7/26/68

AIRTEL

5 Xerox copies made  
of New Scotland Yard Report

1 - Mr. Rosen  
1 - Mr. Vinson as Dept  
1 - Memphis

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: LEGAT, LONDON (88-72) (P)  
MURKIN

ReBucab 7/23/68.

Enclosed for the Bureau is copy of New Scotland Yard report containing all information concerning the activities of subject while in London from 5/7/68 to the date of his apprehension 6/8/68. Also contained in the report is summary of investigation conducted by New Scotland Yard in this matter. This report was officially handed to Assistant Legat on 7/25/68 and it may be disseminated to Tennessee authorities for assistance in preparing their case for prosecution.

Also enclosed for the assistance of Bureau supervisors are three copies of a list of London communications to the Bureau in this matter. These are in the form of cables and airtels, and any information contained therein can now be disseminated to Tennessee authorities with the exception of that in London airtel dated 7/16/68. This airtel enclosed items furnished to this office by New Scotland Yard on a confidential basis, and included letters from subject to various individuals in the U. S., as well as prison warders' reports.

In regard to the prison warders' reports, this office has officially directed a communication to the Assistant Under-Secretary of State for Prison Affairs asking for all prison staff reports of pertinence in this matter, and when they are received officially they can in turn be furnished to Tennessee authorities.

3 - Bureau (Encls. 4)  
1 - Liaison (direct)  
1 - London'  
ACM:cm  
(5)

*Memorandum*

Mr. Stephen J. Pollak  
Assistant Attorney General  
Director, FBI

August 5, 1968

① - Mr. Long

**ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**

We are in receipt of a memorandum from Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr., Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, dated July 29, 1968, which was in response to our memorandum dated July 23, 1968, raising the question as to whether the Department should arrange for immediate dismissal of the Federal complaint against James Earl Ray. Mr. Vinson concurred in our recommendation that Federal Process be dismissed.

We indicated in this memorandum it is our understanding that prosecution of the Civil Rights - Conspiracy charge is no longer possible in view of the fact that this offense was not cited in the order of extradition.

Inasmuch as your view is in conflict with the opinion expressed by the Criminal Division, we would appreciate knowing under what circumstances prosecution of James Earl Ray would be obtained.

REL:erg  
(4)

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO



NOTE:

We directed a memorandum to the Attorney General pointing out that it was our understanding that since the Civil Rights - Conspiracy charge was not cited in the order of extradition, prosecution was not possible on this charge. The Criminal Division of the Department advised the Civil Rights Division that it concurred with our observation.

In a memorandum from the Civil Rights Division of the Department they advised it would not be appropriate to dismiss the complaint at this time as the conspiracy investigation is still underway. They further pointed out that if the evidence and outcome of state proceedings warrant continued pursuit of the prosecution against Ray, they would want to consider steps through proper channels to obtain a waiver from British Government under the treaty so prosecution could proceed. This memorandum to Mr. Pollak is for clarification in view of the position taken by Mr. Vinson.

July 31, 1968

**GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION**

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

Attached is in response to our memorandum to the Attorney General pointing out that it was our understanding that since the Civil Rights - Conspiracy charge was not cited in the order of extradition, prosecution was not possible on this charge. The Criminal Division advised the Civil Rights Division that it concurred with our observation.

We will, of course, continue to run out any allegations relating to possible conspiracies in this case.

**REL:cs**

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Stephen J. Pollak  
Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Rights Division

JUL 30 1968

SJP:DRO:stj

144-72-662  
#41-157-147

JAMES EARL RAY

This is in response to your memorandum to the Attorney General of July 23, 1968, raising the question as to whether or not the complaint filed against Ray in Birmingham on April 17, 1968 under 18 U.S.C. 241 should be dismissed.

In our view, it would not be appropriate to dismiss the complaint at this time. The conspiracy investigation is still under way. After that investigation has been completed, we would want to review the facts and determine whether or not prosecution of Ray or other persons might be appropriate. If the evidence and the outcome of the State proceedings warranted our continued pursuit of the prosecution against Ray, we would want to consider appropriate steps through proper channels to try to obtain a waiver from the British government under the Treaty so that prosecution could proceed.

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

July 29, 1968

Stephen J. Pollak  
 Assistant Attorney General  
 Civil Rights Division

Fred M. Vinson, Jr.  
 Assistant Attorney General  
 Criminal Division

JAMES EARL RAY

A Xerox copy of a memorandum dated July 23, 1968, to the Attorney General from the FBI is attached.

We concur in this recommendation.

Attachment

cc: Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

E.A. PROO  
 JUL 30 1968

JUL 31 2 52 PM '68  
 FBI  
 REC'D - CIV RIGHTS  
 ENCLOSURE

JUL 30 4 22 PM '68  
 U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
 FBI  
 RECEIVED DIRECTOR

JUL 30 2 48 PM '68  
 FBI  
 RECEIVED DIRECTOR

JUL 30 SIX

5 DIRECTOR

*Kossach  
Vinson*

The Attorney General

July 23, 1968

Director, FBI

JAMES EARL RAY

It is noted that a complaint was filed before the United States Commissioner at Birmingham, Alabama, on April 17, 1968, charging the subject, as Eric Starvo Galt, with a violation of Section 241, Title 18, United States Code.

It is our understanding that prosecution of the above charge is no longer possible in view of the fact that this offense was not cited in the order of extradition. It is requested that we be advised as to whether this is correct and if this is so, it is suggested that the Department arrange for the immediate dismissal of the Federal complaint.

1 - The Deputy Attorney General

① - Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr.  
Assistant Attorney General

*Red  
723*

ENCLOSURE

MEMO

Mr. DeLoach

August 5, 1968

A. Rosen	1 - Mr. DeLoach	
	1 - Mr. Rosen	
	1 - Mr. Malley	1 - Mr. Daunt
	1 - Mr. McGowan	1 - Mr. Gale
MURKIN	1 - Mr. Long	1 - Mr. Trotter

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr. This memorandum is in specific reference to the investigation conducted at William Len Hotel in Memphis, Tennessee, regarding suspects Vincent Walker and Lawrence Rand.

As a result of checking various hotels and motels in Memphis, Tennessee, regarding suspects in (this matter), it was determined that an individual by the name of Vincent Walker and another by the name of Lawrence Rand registered at the William Len Hotel in Memphis on April 4, 1968. On April 5, 1968, they made a hasty departure from the hotel taking a taxicab to the Memphis Airport. Investigation strongly indicates that these two individuals departed Memphis by Delta Airlines Flight No. 157, nonstop to Houston, Texas, on April 5, 1968, using the names of W. Davis and B. Chidlow.

This matter has been thoroughly checked with negative results in order to determine the true identity of these individuals. It appears that these two individuals may have been in Memphis for the possibility of committing some illegal activity or there as possible fugitives "cooling off" and departed immediately because of the pressure of law enforcement on the King assassination.

Memphis Division submitted the hotel registration cards concerning Walker and Rand and six unidentified latent fingerprints were developed from the card of Walker and five unidentified latent fingerprints were developed from the card of Rand.

REL:cs  
(9)

CONTINUED - OVER

Memo Rosen to DeLoach  
RE: MURKIN

RECOMMENDATION:

Since all other logical investigation has been conducted in an effort to identify these individuals without success, and in view of the possibility they may have been implicated as co-conspirators in the King slaying, it is recommended, if feasible, that the latent fingerprints developed on the hotel registration cards be compared with those of white Bureau fugitives between the ages of 20 and 35. It is noted that the best available information indicates that Walker and Rand are described as white males between the ages of 20 and 35.

Memo Rosen to DeLoach  
Re: MURKIN

ADDENDUM OF THE IDENTIFICATION DIVISION: *J. N. E. McDaniel*/hs 8-6-68

The foregoing recommendation is premature. Of the eleven latent fingerprints developed on the hotel registration cards concerning Walker and Rand only two on one of the Walker cards are possibly susceptible to a comparison of the type recommended. The Identification Division has no information to indicate that the latent fingerprints are those of Walker or Rand. Prior to considering the recommendation of the General Investigative Division, the Memphis Office should submit elimination prints of the hotel employees and law enforcement officers who may have had occasion to handle the evidence. Upon receipt of such elimination prints the Identification Division will make comparisons with the latents developed on the hotel registration cards. This examination might very well eliminate the two latent prints on the one Walker card which do appear to be possibly susceptible to the recommended comparison.

If the General Investigative Division feels that on the basis of the information available to them that the costly, time-consuming examination which they have recommended is warranted, then it is suggested that the elimination prints be obtained before proceeding further in this matter.

*P* *J. N. E. McDaniel*  
*R*

ADDENDUM OF GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION: REL:cs 8/8/68

In view of the important phase of eliminating Vincent Walker and Lawrence Rand as possible conspirators in this case, we are instructing our Memphis Office to submit elimination prints. Upon receipt of these elimination prints, it will be recommended that the Identification Division compare the pertinent latents with those of white Bureau fugitives between the ages of 20 and 35.

*CLM/JK*



*Meals*

Mr. DeLoach

August 2, 1968

A. Rosen

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

LEGISLATION REGARDING  
ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER  
KING, JR. AND SENATOR  
ROBERT FRANCIS KENNEDY

The attached is a bill (H.R. 19074) introduced in the House of Representatives on July 30, 1968, by Congressman Brown of Ohio and others for the purpose of establishing a joint congressional committee to investigate the arrest and prosecution of persons in connection with the slayings of Martin Luther King, Jr. and Senator Robert Francis Kennedy.

We have conducted extensive investigations regarding the slayings of Martin Luther King, Jr. and Robert Francis Kennedy. We are, of course, continuing to run out any allegations relating to possible conspiracies in these two cases.

ACTION:

For information.

Enclosure

REL:cs  
(8)

Memo Folder

SAC, Atlanta (66-772)

8-5-68

Director, FBI

PERSONAL ATTENTION

ODD-HOUR SHIFTS  
ATLANTA DIVISION

*Long*

Reurlet 7-30-68 requesting Bureau authority to alter the night shift hours from 4:00 p. m. to 12 midnight to 3:00 p. m. to 11:00 p. m.

Additional justification is necessary for continuance of an odd-hour shift in your office inasmuch as urlet of 4-30-68 had based request primarily on need for an agent in connection with the MURKIN investigation.

Accordingly, you are instructed to submit such justification or, in the absence thereof, discontinue the odd-hour shift and so advise the Bureau.

- 1 - Miss Rochat
- ① - Mr. McGowan
- 1 - Domestic Intelligence Division

LDH:pam (7)

NOTE: Atlanta letter of 4-30-68 requesting authority to establish an odd-hour shift from 4:00 p. m. to midnight, Monday through Friday, was based primarily on increasing traffic in connection with the MURKIN investigation. At that time, General Investigative Division was in agreement. However, with apprehension of James Earl Ray and abandonment of the "poor peoples' march", it is felt Atlanta should furnish justification for continuance of an odd-hour shift.

400 2 5 53 54 1968

FBI  
REC'D - CIV RIGHTS

8-2

*Memo*

Mr. DeLoach

August 2, 1968

A. Rosen

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

LEGISLATION REGARDING  
 ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER  
 KING, JR. AND SENATOR  
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We have conducted extensive investigations regarding the slayings of Martin Luther King, Jr. and Robert Francis Kennedy. We are, of course, continuing to run out any allegations relating to possible conspiracies in these two cases.

ACTION:

For information.

Enclosure

REL:CB  
 (8)

84

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DeLoach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mohr	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bishop	<input type="checkbox"/>
Casper	<input type="checkbox"/>
Callahan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conrad	<input type="checkbox"/>
Felt	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sullivan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tavel	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trotter	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input type="checkbox"/>
Holmes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gandy	<input type="checkbox"/>

TO : Mr. Mohr

DATE: 8/1/68

FROM : N. P. Callahan *mpc*

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. *Long*

Mr. Al Long, Budget, Justice, telephonically contacted this office this afternoon and stated that the Department had received a bill for the airplane furnished by the Department of Defense used by this Bureau to transport James Earl Ray, subject, from England to Memphis, Tennessee. Long stated that the bill was in the amount of \$8,500; that Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr., Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, had sent the bill to Mr. L. M. Pellerzi, Assistant Attorney General for Administration, with a request that he see him concerning it. Mr. Long knew nothing about the background and the purpose of his call was to find out what he could in order to brief Mr. Pellerzi. He expressed the opinion that it appeared to him that the charge was properly an investigative expense and therefore should be paid for from FBI funds. Long was advised that the matter would be looked into and he would be contacted.

This matter was discussed with Agent Supervisor Joseph G. Kelly, General Investigative Division, who advised that all of the arrangements for the plane had been made at the highest level in the Department of Justice; that Mr. Rosen and Mr. DeLoach had both informed the Department officials that the Bureau's funds were not available for paying the cost of the plane; and that this view had been concurred in by the Director. On the basis of this information, Mr. Long was informed that it was felt that this Bureau's funds were not available to pay this cost and that this view had been communicated to the top level of the Department of Justice. Long stated that he would be governed accordingly and so inform Mr. Pellerzi.

ACTION:

None; informational.

WCJ:bjg *bjg*

(10)

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach (sent direct)
- 1 - Mr. Rosen (sent direct)
- 1 - Mr. Mohr (sent direct)

*Memo*

Mr. DeLoach

August 1, 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.

Our Legal Attache in London has forwarded to us a copy of New Scotland Yard report containing all information concerning the activities of subject Ray while in London from May 7, 1968, to the date of his apprehension on June 8, 1968.

This report also contains a summary of investigation conducted by New Scotland Yard in this matter. This information in the report was previously furnished to us in narrative form, and pertinent information was brought to attention of Bureau officials and the Department.

Our Legal Attache advises that the report may be disseminated to Tennessee authorities for assistance in preparing their case for prosecution.

ACTION:

If approved, the report of New Scotland Yard will be forwarded to the Department and the Department will be requested to advise if they desire that a copy of this report be forwarded to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Tennessee, who is handling the State's prosecution.

*Sent to Dept  
by letter 8/5/68  
L*

REL:cs  
(6)

*Memo  
Folder*

August 1, 1968

Mr. Vernon Hill  
622 Garrett Street  
Brawley, California 92227

*Ray*

Dear Mr. Hill:

I have received your letter dated July 28, 1968, and want to assure you that the FBI did not participate in the preparation of the article by Jeremiah O'Leary which appears in the August, 1968, issue of "The Reader's Digest." Independent investigations made by news reporters do not, of course, have any connection with official investigations conducted by the FBI.

Since James Earl Ray was one of our "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives," the FBI did issue biographical and descriptive data last spring intended to aid in his apprehension. All of that information conformed to the guidelines laid down by the Attorney General and was approved by the Department of Justice.

The interest which prompted you to write me concerning this matter is indeed appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

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

NOTE: Vernon Hill of Brawley, California, is not identifiable in Bufiles. The article to which he refers deals with the identification and apprehension of James Earl Ray in the Martin Luther King murder case. O'Leary's article consists primarily of previously published material, together with information furnished by the Canadians and British to representatives of "The Reader's Digest." The article is not attributed to the FBI.

GWG:mac (8)

DIVISION 2110  
RECEIVED



7-31

7/31/68

**AIRTEL**

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

Re William Len Hotel, Memphis, Tenn., phase of investigation.

Enclosed herewith is one Xerox copy each of an investigative insert reflecting investigation conducted by SA HARLEY E. GYLFE at Memphis, Tenn., and an FD-302 dated 4/7/68 reflecting interview of Miss EDITH BRUNER, Clerk, William Len Hotel.

VINCENT WALKER, 449 Steiner, San Francisco, California, and LAWRENCE RAND or REND, 2532 or 2832 Polk, Kansas City, checked into the William Len Hotel, Memphis, Tenn., at 2:38 p.m. on 4/4/68 and checked out at approximately 12:10 a.m. on 4/5/68. WALKER and RAND were immediately transported to the Memphis Metropolitan Airport via Yellow Cab.

Two individuals believed to be identical with WALKER and RAND, based on the Memphis PD investigation and time element concerning flights leaving Metropolitan Airport, furnished Delta Airlines personnel at Metropolitan Airport names of W. DAVIS and B. CHIDLOW, no addresses, departed Memphis via Delta Airlines flight # 157 nonstop to Houston, Texas, at 1:57 a.m., 4/5/68 with a scheduled arrival time, Houston, at 2:50 a.m. same date. Tickets for the flight were purchased just prior to departure time and since no reservations

③ - Bureau (Encs. 2)  
2 - Memphis  
RFB/ngm  
(5)