



1820 South Michigan Ave. • Chicago, Illinois 60616

June 18, 1968

(2)

*Reply to
first letter*

Dear Mr. Curtis:

Thank you for your recent letter which we read with interest. Before we can determine its value as regards our magazine, we will need more specific information. We would appreciate hearing from you again, giving us more details.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

Charles L. Sanders
Managing Editor

Mr. Raymond Curtis
Box 21
Tunnel Hill, Georgia 30720

CLS:ch

Box 21
Tunnel Hill Ga. 30755
June 22 (1968)

Mr. Charles L. Sanders
Managine Editor

Dear Mr Sanders.

I thank you for your answer to my letter.

I hope that what Details I give you in this letter will be of help to you.

will sir. I have writing a story. no one but myself has Read it but me. at this time I no that it will have to be Re wrote for I am not a writing it not bad as it is.

it all about the crime I (illegible) did and about a crime I did in 1954 with James Earl Ray. and about the 13 years as Prison Pal. and every thing we talk about. every thing and about James Earl Ray wanted the Job of killing Martin Luther King Jr. we talk of killing King for 3 years. and we talk to this man. form mississippi that new all about th KK businessmen association that was to put up the money to kill king I also no the men man form mississippi.

in that 3 year we made maps. Just have to find the Right Plac to kill king. will i have made the maps over my self they or with the story also.

and Just where we would go after we kill king So yes when we talk about I was to be in on it. but I was not. the story has it all in it. all the big thing and the little one also. and what Ray like and what he did not like this story could get me kill I no that. that is why. I wont send the story by mail I no that this is geting to be a long letter. but when you Read this if you want the story ok. if not Just let me no you dont ok. that way I wont talk to (illegible) more about it ok.

Mr Sanders. there or men in 5 Stat that is behing the King killing. and they dont no what I no. but James Earl Ray done.

now that they have Ray. tenn will trial him if they get him back.

will they will want me to tirtefy will I Just dont _no_ yet what I will do.

You see me and Ray were Pal. I could tell what I have to the newes. that not much. or I Could not say evy thing. and. I did not tell the F.B.I. will this is not a book Ha Ha. I am Just trying to tell you what you ask of me in your letter.

if you have a man or have some one down this way if you will have them stop by the Jail I will let them Read the story and you can go form there ok.

I thank you again I will be looking to here form you soon.

Raymond Curtis

I am still in the Dalton Co Jail.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date May 2, 1968

RAYMOND LOUIS CURTIS, who is confined in the Whitfield County Jail, Dalton, Georgia, advised he did not personally serve time with JAMES EARL RAY in the Menard Prison, Illinois, and the only information he has regarding this is what RAY told him. This information was related to him by RAY while he and RAY were serving time together in the Jackson County Jail, Kansas City, Missouri, for a six or seven month period.

He stated he never heard RAY say that he had served time in Joliet or Pontiac Prisons, but he felt that if RAY had served time in either one of those places, he would probably have been shipped to Menard Prison for discharge.

CURTIS advised there was a close associate of RAY's serving time in Jackson County with them. He cannot recall the name of this individual, but stated he was convicted as a co-defendant with RAY on the same check charge and from conversation with RAY, this individual was presumably the same person with whom RAY served time in Menard Prison.

CURTIS advised he recalls a third unidentified individual visiting RAY and his co-defendant in Jackson County Jail who seemed very close to both of them, but stated he strongly doubted that the visitor's log maintained at the Jail would reflect the name of this visitor due to irregularities in keeping such logs.

He advised he could not furnish a description of the third man.

CURTIS advised he was confined in the Jefferson County Jail with RAY and his co-defendant from approximately March of 1955 until July of 1955, and that they all subsequently ended up together in Leavenworth Prison.

On 4/22/68 at Dalton, Georgia File # Atlanta-44-2386

by SA BERNARD R. BERRY :bjc Date dictated 4/26/68

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AT 44-2386

BRB:bjc

He stated while at Leavenworth Prison, RAY's associate and co-defendant did nothing but lift weights and attempt to improve his physique.

He described this co-defendant as being a white male, age 36, at that time, 5'10" to 6', 180 pounds, and well built.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date May 3, 1968

RAYMOND LOUIS CURTIS, currently incarcerated Whitfield County Jail, Dalton, Georgia, advised that he has spent time in prison on two or three occasions with JAMES EARL RAY. CURTIS advised he first became acquainted with JAMES EARL RAY in March 1955 at the Jackson County Jail, Kansas City, Missouri. He stated RAY was incarcerated at the Jackson County Jail on Post Office burglary charges and had just recently been released from prison in Menard, Illinois, prior to his incarceration at Jackson County. CURTIS at the same time was under arrest for armed robbery and bank robbery in the Missouri area. During this period, CURTIS stated he and RAY were cellmates for approximately six to seven months. While cellmates, CURTIS recalled that RAY had a close friend, name unrecalled, who visited him while RAY was at the Jackson County Prison. This friend had been a former cellmate of RAY when RAY was incarcerated at Menard, Illinois. CURTIS never actually saw this man but knew that RAY had several visits from one particular individual. This man kept RAY in spending money while RAY was in Jackson County Jail and in CURTIS' opinion this individual would harbor RAY if RAY were on escape.

CURTIS went on to say that RAY had another close friend, name unrecalled, of Italian descent, apparently a "big man" in the syndicate. This Italian had apparently operated with RAY in the past and both he and RAY had engaged in handling stolen Postal money orders and travelers checks.

After six or seven months as cellmates at Jackson County Jail, RAY was sentenced to three years on the Post Office burglary charges and transferred to Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary. Two weeks later CURTIS received a 16-year sentence for bank robbery and also was sent to Leavenworth. While confined at Leavenworth together, RAY spoke of no girlfriends and corresponded with none to the best of CURTIS' knowledge. While in Leavenworth, RAY mentioned that he "operated" frequently out of Quincy, Illinois. By "operated", RAY meant "engaged in burglary and payroll jobs."

CURTIS said that while he and RAY were incarcerated they

On 4/21/68 at Dalton, Georgia File # Atlanta 44-2386

SA THOMAS R. HENRY, JR. :jhs

by _____ Date dictated 4/25/68

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AT 44-2386

TRH:jhs

2

engaged in crooked poker games and took fellow prisoners for money. In the opinion of CURTIS, RAY was a good poker player and an excellent card handler. During this incarceration RAY mentioned underworld and hoodlum connections, names unrecalled, in Chicago, Detroit, Tampa, and the Tijuana, Mexico area. CURTIS went on to say that after serving seven to eight months with RAY at Leavenworth he was transferred to the United States Penitentiary, Atlanta, Georgia. CURTIS served six to seven years in the United States Penitentiary, Atlanta, and in June 1962 was released but sent back to the Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri, to serve time on armed robbery charges. While in the state penitentiary at Jefferson City, Missouri, CURTIS again was incarcerated with JAMES EARL RAY. On occasions they were in the same cell together in "B" Hall and "C" Hall. They served together from 1962 to 1966. While in "B" and "C" Halls they were together in a three-man cell with a third individual who CURTIS said could verify the following facts but whom CURTIS refused to identify but whom CURTIS refused to identify:

CURTIS stated that during this incarceration President JOHN F. KENNEDY was assassinated and word from the outside filtered into the prison that this was probably a conspiracy. Word came in that KENNEDY had a "bounty" on his head. CURTIS was unable to give further details on the "bounty". He said in 1963-1964 Dr. King's movements became one of the topics of conversation at the state penitentiary. Word got around to the inmates that the "KK of the South" who apparently went to businessmen and had raised approximately a million dollars, had a "bounty" with this money on KING's head. CURTIS was unable to give further details or information regarding "KK of the South".

CURTIS said that from 1962 to 1966 before CURTIS' release RAY mentioned at least a dozen times that had he known about a "bounty" on President KENNEDY's head and had he been out he would have made every effort to collect it. RAY also said approximately a dozen times in the presence of CURTIS "if he got out in time and if KING was still alive he would like to get the 'bounty' on KING". RAY never mentioned whom he would contact to get this "bounty" but CURTIS advised the criminal element know how to contact such people.

CURTIS went on to say that the above statements concerning KING made by RAY were heard by the third cellmate mentioned above.

AT 44-2386

TRH:jhs

3

In addition CURTIS stated that RAY had a friend in New Orleans, Louisiana (FIRST NAME UNKNOWN) COIN (phonetic) who was apparently a "fence". This man was well connected with the hoodlum element, however, was quite old and in the opinion of RAY was in 1955 at least 55 to 60 years of age. In the opinion of CURTIS this individual would definitely harbor RAY. CURTIS knew no close friends or associates of RAY. RAY, allegedly through prison grapevine, had a wife but this was never mentioned by RAY. CURTIS said, however, a few prisoners mentioned family connections. While in prison RAY also mentioned gambling in Los Angeles, California. No specific place in Los Angeles as to the gambling was mentioned. RAY in CURTIS' opinion was a "high liver" when outside and would associate with prostitutes taking one from town to town.

RAY with regard to KING's killing indicated he would make all rules and would in all probability demand the "bounty" money be put in a bank. RAY mentioned three foreign countries, which he had learned about and which CURTIS assumed RAY would go to if out of the United States. These foreign countries were New Zealand, Brazil, and Switzerland. CURTIS was of the opinion that not over three people would be involved in the actual assassination. It would have been well planned with diversionary measures and in the opinion of CURTIS a second individual, not RAY, would have driven the getaway car to Atlanta as a diversionary measure.

CURTIS said he would not testify to the above facts because if he did testify to this information he would fear for his life.

Mr. D. J. Brennan, Jr.

7/3/68

B. C. Rachner

MURKIN

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

Liaison was requested to discuss with the State Department the feasibility of an inquiry by State of the Swiss Government regarding the possibility that James Earl Ray may have a bank account in Switzerland.

On 7/1/68 Mr. Lawrence Gruza, Office of Security, State, advised that Swiss bank accounts are considered by the Swiss Government to be "sacred" under the Swiss Bank Secrecy Act and that State had had little success in the past in gaining access to such information. Gruza pointed out that through diplomatic channels State has, in isolated cases, been able to obtain Swiss bank information by meeting the following requirements: (1) the U. S. crime involved is similarly a crime in Switzerland, (2) a copy of the indictment is made available to the Swiss, (3) information is furnished strongly indicating that an account actually existed. Gruza explained that the Swiss would undoubtedly deny any request for bank information if at least the above requirements are not met.

ACTION:

For information of the Civil Rights Section,
General Investigative Division.

BCR:clb

(4)

1 - C. L. McGowan (Long)

1 - Liaison

1 - B. C. Rachner

JUL 3 5 53 PM '68

FBI
REC'D - CIA RICH12

7-2

Mr. Conrad

7/2/68

W. D. Griffith

MURKIN

Reference is made to cablegram from Legat, London, dated 7/1/68 requesting that the known hand printing of subject James Earl Ray be compared with the note used in the attempted bank robbery of the National Provincial Bank, 74 Sloane St., London, SW 1, England, on 6/29/67.

As a result of a comparison of the above described note with the hand printing of James Earl Ray it was determined that the note in question was not prepared by subject Ray.

RECOMMENDATION: None. For information.

44-38861

- 1 - Mr. Rosen (Mr. Long, 2260)
- 1 - Mr. Conrad
- 1 - Mr. Griffith
- 1 - Mr. Mortimer
- 1 - Lab Files
- 1 - 163-19438

JHM:mb (7)

ADDENDUM: Results of comparison set out above are being included in cablegram being sent to Legat, London, by the General Investigative Division.

JHM:mb
JUL 3 1968

FBI
REC'D - CIA WICH12

1 - DeLoach
1 - Rosen
1 - Gale

MR. TOLSON

July 2, 1968

C. D. DeLOACH

MURKIN

Mr. Rosen, very properly, advised me this afternoon that SAC, Jensen, Memphis, had called the Civil Rights Section, General Investigative Division, relative to a call he, Jensen, had received from Shelby County Prosecutor Canale, as well as a later call received from Assistant Attorney General Stephen Pollak.

Prosecutor Canale called Jensen to say there appeared to be somewhat of a problem involving Stephens, the important witness who saw James Earl Ray leaving the flophouse, 420 South Main Street, immediately following the assassination of King. Stephens is a drunk, is disreputable, and of course there can be no assurance as to his whereabouts unless he is closely followed. Canale called Jensen to indicate a desire that the FBI take Stephens into protective custody and hold him until the trial of James Earl Ray. Jensen, very properly, told Canale that the FBI could not do this. Canale replied that if Jensen didn't mind he would call Assistant Attorney General Pollak about the matter. Jensen told Canale that it was entirely up to him as to whether or not he called Pollak.

Apparently Canale did call Pollak and immediately thereafter Pollak placed a long distance call to our SAC, Jensen in Memphis. Jensen called FBI Headquarters before answering Pollak's call.

I told Rosen to call SAC Jensen back and tell him that he should answer Assistant Attorney General Pollak's call but to flatly inform Pollak that he should deal with FBI Headquarters rather than attempting to deal directly with our SACs in the field.

In the meantime, I attempted to call Pollak. In his absence, I talked with Bob Owen, Pollak's first assistant. I told Owen that Pollak nor any other Assistant Attorney General should attempt to deal directly with our SACs inasmuch as such attempts merely lead to confusion and inefficiency. I stated also that our SACs, of necessity, would clear with FBI Headquarters prior to putting into effect any instructions issued by the Department of Justice. Owen replied that he agreed and he did not know why

CD:ham
(4)

CONTINUED - OVER

MEMO TO: MR. TOLSON
RE: MURKIN

Pollak had called Jensen directly. He stated that Pollak probably desired to discuss the Canale call. I interrupted Owen and told him I was well aware of Canale's request, that the FBI had no intentions whatsoever of acting as a "baby sitter" for the Shelby County Prosecutor's Office. I stated this is a problem strictly for the Prosecutor and not one for the FBI. Owen stated that he also agreed with this statement and that in his opinion Canale should attempt to get a capable detective to "sit with" Stephens until the James Earl Ray trial took place.

Assistant Attorney General Pollak returned my call at 5:35 p.m. He told me he regretted getting in wrong channels and that perhaps he should have called Rosen or me prior to attempting to reach SAC Jensen. I told him this was absolutely right and that he should realize better efficiency would be accomplished by going through proper channels. He stated he would be guided accordingly in the future.

We then thoroughly discussed the Canale request and Pollak told me Canale had made no such request of him. He said Canale apparently told our SAC one thing and then when he called Pollak he merely asked advice. I told Pollak nevertheless Canale should realize that the FBI would not be his "baby sitter." Pollak agreed. He stated he had made a record of Canale's call to him and that while he had refused to offer Canale any advice, he had ventured the thought that protective custody of Stephens might ruin him as a witness. He stated that the proposition had been discussed that some detective might take Stephens fishing until the James Earl Ray case took place. I told him this, of course, was entirely up to the Shelby County Prosecutor's Office and not the FBI.

ACTION:

For record purposes.

Mr. DeLoach

July 2, 1968

A. Rosen

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

MURKIN

Legat Minnich, London, called to advise that James Earl Ray has been ordered extradited on both charges by decision of the Magistrate. It is recalled these charges are (1) that he was wanted in connection with the murder of Rev. Martin Luther King and (2) to complete the sentence pending in Missouri State Penitentiary from which he escaped.

The proceedings began at 10:30 a. m. London time (5:30 a. m. our time). The defense was based upon the political aspects of the case and the prosecution answered the arguments raised by defense counsel. In addition, the Magistrate asked for and received the definition of robbery according to U. S. law, inasmuch as time which Ray was serving in Missouri Penitentiary was based upon a robbery charge. Court was adjourned at 12:10 p. m. London time, to be reconvened at 2:00 p. m. Immediately thereafter everyone left the Magistrate's Courtroom and apparently the press scurried out first.

Subject Ray then asked the Magistrate if he might be able to make a statement. This came unexpectedly and everyone had left the courtroom. Ray was then allowed to make a statement and this was contrary to the advice of his counsel. His statement was to the effect that he did not want to repeat himself but that he wanted to note a very strong objection to the testimony of Butler (Butler was the police officer who told the court that Ray, in his presence, made the comment "Oh God, I feel trapped. ").

Ray explained that he especially objected to this comment because it would be given wide press coverage in the liberal press and the press would not "take into totality all of the circumstances." He also added he had made no statements to anyone in the U. S. Government and would not desire to. He said he had had no conversation with Vinson. He said he had engaged an attorney, one Arthur Hanes, and had not been allowed to consult with him; that he had made known his desires to the Home Secretary to whom he appealed and he felt he should have had more freedom of discussion with persons of his choice. This statement of Ray's was subsequently given to the press at 2:15 p. m. when the Magistrate summoned the court to reconvene.

AR:mpd (9)

CONTINUED - OVER

Memo to Mr. DeLoach from A. Rosen
Re: MURKIN

Upon arrival the Magistrate summed up the extradition proceedings, ordered the subject extradited, and remanded to Wandsworth Prison. He told Ray that he had fifteen days within which to appeal and asked Ray whether he wanted legal aid and Ray said he did.

The court also remanded the English charges to July 9 (these were possession of illegal passport and carrying a concealed weapon).

Minnich states the Court also stated Ray was not entitled under English law to talk to anybody he desired and that all persons were not allowed to appear and have an audience with the Magistrate, that this audience was only allowed to English barristers and solicitors.

It was also indicated that the English charges will probably be postponed and that once the subject is extradited, the local charges will be nolle prossed.

It is the view of the solicitor representing the States of Missouri and Tennessee that his best guess is it will be approximately 21 days before Ray can be removed. He is assuming that an appeal to the Queen's Bench will probably be made on the 14th day, which will be July 16, and that thereafter it will probably be three or four days before the appeal will be acted upon by the Queen's Bench. It is highly unlikely that the case will be appealed to the House of Lords and consequently it is the view of the English solicitor that the Home Secretary will probably sign the extradition order 21 days from July 2, which would be the 23d of July.

ACTION: For your information.

7-1

MR. TROTTER

7/1/68

S. F. Latona

MURKIN

**FINGERPRINT TESTIMONY AT
EXTRADITION HEARING**

Fingerprint Examiner George J. Bonebrake returned to Washington, D. C., from London, England, at 5:45 P. M., on 6/28/68, via Trans World Airlines flight #709.

The examiner testified 6/27/68, in Bow Street Magistrate's Court before Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Frank Milton, that the latent print developed on the rifle, the latent print on the telescopic sight, the latent print on the binoculars, the fingerprints of James Earl Ray, taken 10/11/49, by Los Angeles, California, Police Department, the fingerprints taken in connection with Ray's incarceration in Missouri State Penitentiary, and the fingerprints taken from the defendant at the time of his arrest at the London Airport, were all the fingerprints of one and the same man.

Charted enlargements illustrating the three latent print identifications were then marked as exhibits and placed in evidence, together with Bonebrake's affidavit with exhibits. Barrister David Calcutt, aided by Solicitor Nigel Maw, presented the case for the U. S. Government.

Barrister Roger Frieby, Ray's London attorney, did not cross-examine Bonebrake relative to the fingerprint testimony, but did question him at length concerning the activities of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in connection with the civil rights movement and the feelings and opinions generated in this country as a result of King's activities.

Following argument by Mr. Frieby that the killing of King was politically motivated, and therefore, the defendant was not extraditable

FBI (CONTINUED - OVER)

44-38861
1 - Mr. Rosen
GJB:mb
(5)

Mr. Frieby
Long
Martin

Memorandum to MR. TROTTER
RE: MURKIN
44-38861

under the existing treaty between United States and Great Britain, the hearing was adjourned until July 2, 1968. The results of the hearing will be reported to the Bureau by Legat, London.

With the exception of the charted enlargements, which were retained by the court, all material removed from the files has been returned.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

The Attorney General

July 1, 1968

Director, FBI

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

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

New Scotland Yard has advised that on June 4, 1968, an armed robbery was committed by a man with a revolver who entered the London Trustees Savings Bank, Fulham, England, and held up members of the bank staff obtaining ninety-five pounds, ten shillings (approximately \$239). The man handed the bank cashier a pink paper bag on which was printed "Place all five and ten pound notes in this bag." The man was given a bundle of five pound notes. He then departed the bank and left the bag behind.

A right thumb fingerprint impression developed on the bag has been positively identified by New Scotland Yard as being identical with the right thumb fingerprint of James Earl Ray. Additionally, on the basis of interviews with the bank staff and a salesman in a tailor shop which the man entered after the robbery, all descriptions of the robber fit that of James Earl Ray. New Scotland Yard states that the evidence is sufficient to prove the robbery offense was committed by Ray.

New Scotland Yard is also concerned that Ray may have committed other offenses in England, in particular a bank robbery at Plymouth, England, on May 31, 1968, where a similar modus operandi was used and the artist's conception bears a likeness to Ray. New Scotland Yard is also checking into the attempted robbery of the National Provincial Bank in London, England, on June 29, 1967, in which a similar modus operandi was used. During the ensuing chase a man was shot dead. New Scotland Yard doubts Ray was in England at that time.

It is noted that Ray escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary on April 23, 1967, and information developed to date shows he next appeared in Montreal, Canada, on July 18, 1967, using the name Eric S. Galt.

EJM:cs
(11)

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO...

The Attorney General

The foregoing information was furnished by New Scotland Yard on a confidential basis and should not be disseminated outside B + the Department.

You will continue to be kept advised of any pertinent developments.

1 - The Deputy Attorney General

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

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

NOTE:

Above information furnished on confidential basis by New Scotland Yard. We are checking out unsolved bank robberies in United States from period of Ray's escape 4/23/67 from Missouri State Penitentiary for similar modus operandi and will pursue any developed. Royal Canadian Mounted Police requested by Legal Attache to do likewise. All aspects being vigorously pursued.

VIA TELETYPE

JUN 29 1968

ENCIPHERED

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.....

STATE 004

IMMEDIATE 6-29-68 EXR

TO DIRECTOR (FOR INFO PARIS 003)

FROM LEGAT LONDON NO. 81

MURKIN.

SOURCES NEW SCOTLAND YARD ADVISE ON JUNE FOUR LAST ARMED ROBBERY WAS COMMITTED BY MAN WITH REVOLVER WHO ENTERED LONDON TRUSTEE'S SAVINGS BANK, FULHAM, AND HELD UP MEMBERS BANK STAFF OBTAINING NINETY FIVE POUNDS, TEN SHILLINGS. MAN HANDED BANK CASHIER PINK PAPER BAG ON WHICH PRINTED "PLACE ALL FIVE AND TEN POUND NOTES IN THIS BAG." MAN WAS GIVEN BUNDLE OF FIVE POUND NOTES. LEFT BANK AND LEFT BAG BEHIND.

A RIGHT THUMB IMPRESSION DEVELOPED ON BAG POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED BY NEW SCOTLAND YARD AS BEING IDENTICAL WITH RIGHT THUMB FINGERPRINT OF JAMES EARL RAY.

ADDITIONALLY ON BASIS OF INTERVIEWS BANK STAFF AND SALESMAN IN TAILOR SHOP WHICH MAN ENTERED AFTER ROBBERY, ALL DESCRIPTIONS FIT RAY. YARD STATES EVIDENCE SUFFICIENT TO PROVE ROBBERY OFFENSE COMMITTED BY RAY.

YARD SHOWING PHOTO OF RAY TO INTERVIEWEES JULY ONE NEXT.

END PAGE ONE

PAGE TWO

new putting yard is also
YARD CONCERNED RAY MAY HAVE COMMITTED OTHER OFFENSES ^{in England} HERE, IN PARTICULAR BANK ROBBERY AT PLYMOUTH, ENGLAND ^{on 31} MAY THREE ONE LAST 1968 WHERE SIMILAR MODUS OPERANDI ^{CONCEPTION} USED AND ARTISTS IMPRESSION BEARS LIKENESS TO RAY. ~~PHOTOS OF RAY SENT PLYMOUTH FOR EXHIBITION TO WITNESS.~~

~~RESULTS NOT KNOWN YET.~~

new report is checking into the
YARD ALSO REFERS TO ATTEMPTED ROBBERY ^{of the} NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK, IN LONDON JUNE TWO NINE, SIXTY SEVEN ^{1967 in March} SIMILAR MODUS OPERANDI ^{was used} DURING THE ENSUING CHASE A MAN WAS SHOT DEAD. YARD DOUBTS RAY ^{was the Regional} HERE AT THAT TIME.

if no more was from the my state, 1967
~~I POINTED OUT RAY ESCAPED PENITENTIARY APRIL TWO THREE, SIX SEVEN~~ *and information developed to date shows he*
~~AND NEXT APPEARED MONTREAL JULY ONE EIGHT, SIXTY SEVEN USING GALT~~ *the name Eric*

~~NAME. YARD APPRECIATES THIS BUT DESIRES IF POSSIBLE ANY INFO RAY'S WHEREABOUTS JUNE TWO NINE, SIXTY SEVEN.~~ *New S. Y. is pursuing logical investigation relative to the problem*

REMYCAB JUNE NINE LAST, SUIT WITH NAME ERIC GALT, JULY TWO ONE, SIXTY SEVEN, ORDER NUMBER ONE ONE FIVE TWO SIX. REQUEST BUREAU DETERMINE ACTUAL DATE RAY ORDERED THIS SUIT AND FURNISH ANY OTHER INFO TENDING TO SHOW HE WAS PROBABLY NOT IN LONDON JUNE TWO NINE, SIXTY SEVEN.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

ROBBERY CHARGES WILL NOT AFFECT EXTRADITION PROCEEDINGS AND I VERY MUCH DOUBT RAY IN LONDON JUNE TWO NINE, SIXTY SEVEN OR THAT HE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MURDER.

REALIZING EXTREME IMPORTANCE OF GETTING JUNE FOUR LAST ROBBERY INTO REALM OF PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE SO AS TO SQUELCH STORIES OF RAY HAVING THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS, ETC. I HAVE EXPLORED THIS WITH YARD. YARD WILL DISCUSS WITH PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE ON JULY ONE NEXT AND ADVISE ME. YARD WILL ALSO ADVISE IF I CAN REVEAL THIS INFO TO VINSON. AS OF NOW INFO RECEIVED UNOFFICIALLY AND CONFIDENTIALLY AND SHOULD NOT BE DISSEMINATED OUTSIDE BUREAU. I WILL ADVISE JULY ONE NEXT IF DEPARTMENT CAN BE INFORMED. SINCE EVIDENCE RAY COMMITTED JUNE FOUR LAST ROBBERY IS CONCLUSIVE SUGGEST BUREAU REVIEW UNSOLVED ONE MAN BANK ROBBERIES WITH SIMILAR MODUS OPERANDI SINCE RAYS ESCAPE AND REQUEST RCMP DO LIKEWISE. PARIS REQUESTED UACB TO HAVE PORTUGUESE POLICE REVIEW UNSOLVED ROBBERIES LISBON FOR PERIOD MAY EIGHT TO SEVENTEEN LAST AND CONSIDER EXHIBITING RAY'S PHOTO TO VICTIMS.

END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

REBUCAB JUNE ONE LAST RE ARTHUR JACKSON HANES. BRITISH HOME OFFICE HAS REQUESTED YARD TO DEFINITELY ESTABLISH THAT HANES AND SON HAVE RETURNED TO US. ALL SOURCES CHECKED AND WHEREABOUTS OF HANES CANNOT BE ESTABLISHED HERE BUREAU REQUESTED TO HAVE BIRMINGHAM DISCREETLY DETERMINE IF HANES AND SON HAVE RETURNED. SUCAB.

RECEIVED: 1243PM EXR

JUN 7 1962

RECEIVED

4-30

6-29

628

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: June 28, 1968

FROM : A. Rosen

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

SUBJECT: MURKIN

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

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

In connection with the extradition hearing of subject James Earl Ray in London on June 27, 1968, defense called on a London Times Correspondent Peter Hopkirk, who had been subpoenaed for the defense. Hopkirk testified that he spent time in America and pointed out he had been in Memphis the day after King was killed. The counsel lead Hopkirk through a series of situations concerning whether or not King was liked or disliked by whites in the South. The Magistrate interrupted during this testimony to point out that much of what the counsel was stating was common knowledge, at least to educated people. The Magistrate also pointed out it was obvious that defense was trying to make a political figure out of King in order to make a case that Ray's extradition was being sought as a political refugee.

The defense counsel in commencing with summation dealt with application for extradition by Missouri for robbery with violence. He went into a lengthy discourse citing various authorities in an effort to establish that robbery with violence does not meet the definition of robbery as stated in the extradition treaty. He cited various authorities dealing with the political character of extradition for various offenses and whether or not the offense has been committed in the political concept. The defense pointed out that one reason he requested Ray to make a statement was to show Ray had no cause for private revenge or personal malice towards King.

The court adjourned at 4:45 p. m. on June 27, 1968, and the Magistrate stated he would remand Ray on all counts until July 2, 1968. He then asked both counsels if they felt they could finish in one day and they both responded yes.

REL:mt
(8)

CONTINUED - OVER

Memo Rosen to DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

Prior to the extradition hearing of subject Ray, he was remanded on the local charges of possessing a firearm and improper passport to July 8, 1968.

George J. Bonebrake, Fingerprint Examiner assigned to our Identification Division, testified at the extradition of Ray in London, England, on June 27, 1968. He is departing London and is scheduled to arrive today (June 28, 1968) at Dulles International Airport, Washington, D. C., at 4:40 p. m.

Assistant Attorney General Fred M. Vinson, Jr., previously planned to depart London today; however, he indicated he may stay over until July 2, 1968, on the basis of the fact it appears that defense counsel was laying groundwork for appeal to Queen's Bench on the ground that this is a political extradition. It is conceivable that the rejection of question of defense of robbery by violence could be a basis for further appeal from Queen's Bench Court to the House of Lords on the question of British law.

Our Legal Attache in Paris advises that the Portuguese Police authorities have completed investigation at the Lisbon, Portugal banks regarding subject Ray opening an account at the banks and they have located absolutely no information that Ray did any banking business while in Lisbon. Portuguese authorities further advised that subject Ray paid cash for his ticket from Lisbon to London, England, on May 17, 1968.

A news release from London appearing in a Memphis newspaper, indicates that a chief witness against subject James Earl Ray is one Charlie Stephens. It is noted that Stephens resided in the same rooming house as Ray at Memphis on April 4, 1968, and furnished us information. As a result of this news article, the local reporters in Memphis have made efforts to locate Charlie Stephens at a rooming house where he formerly resided. Numerous inquiries were received at our Memphis Office as to the whereabouts of Charlie Stephens and all inquiries were answered with no comments. Our Memphis Office advises that Stephens is currently residing with relatives in an adjoining state and his whereabouts is known to our Memphis Office.

Memo Rosen to DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

ACTION:

You will be advised of all pertinent developments.

6-27

MEMO FOR DIRECTOR

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

At about 6 p.m., on 4-4-68, while standing on the second floor balcony of the Lorraine Hotel in Memphis, Tennessee, Martin Luther King, Jr., was struck in the right side of the face by a single bullet believed to have been fired from a rifle. Minutes after King was shot, a white male was observed to have dropped a bundle on the sidewalk in front of a store near the scene of the crime. Included in the abandoned articles was a rifle with a telescopic sight which was determined to have been purchased on 3/29-30/68, in Birmingham, Alabama. Also found with the rifle were undershorts, a T-shirt, binoculars, a newspaper, an after shave lotion bottle, two unopened beer cans, and a brown and green bedspread.

We established that a person ~~to~~ using the name of Eric S. Galt, who registered at a motel in Memphis, Tennessee, on 4-3-68, was a prime suspect in this case. We also determined that Galt was driving a white Mustang automobile with Alabama license and this vehicle was abandoned in Atlanta, Georgia on 4-5-68.

As a result of checking the fingerprints of 53,000 fugitives, the latent fingerprints found on the rifle and other articles abandoned were determined to be

identical with those of James Earl Ray, who escaped on 4-23-67, from Missouri State Penitentiary.

Through extensive Bureau investigation and through the cooperation of Canadian officials, it was determined that subject Ray was issued a Canadian passport on 4-24-68, using name of Ramon George Sneyd, and departed Toronto, Canada, for London, England, on 5-6-68. Ray was arrested 6-8-68, at London, England, as he was attempting to enplane for Brussels, at which time he was found to be in possession of the Canadian passport in the name of Ramon George Sneyd.

When the subject was arrested, he had on his person approximately \$150 in British currency, and nothing has been located to indicate any other funds are available to him. Investigation thus far does not indicate Ray is involved in a conspiracy.

Extradition proceedings commenced on 6-27-68, at London, England, and these proceedings have been continued until 7-2-68.

At the peak of this investigation 3,075 Field Agents were assigned to this case, Bureau automobiles were driven an estimated 332,849 miles, and it is estimated that more than 30,000 interviews have been conducted.

Mr. Rosen

June 27, 1968

R. I. Shroder

1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. Shroder
1 - Mr. Gallagher
1 - Mr. McGowan
1 - Mr. Trotter

MURKIN

At about 1:05 p.m., 6/27/68, Nathaniel Kossack, Assistant to Assistant Attorney General Fred M. Vinson, Jr., Criminal Division of the Department advised that at about 1:00 p.m., our time, Vinson called him from London and wanted the Bureau to know that fingerprint examiner George Bonebrake, Jr., Identification Division, testified today in London on the extradition hearing involving James Ray. *Ref*

Mr. Vinson said Bonebrake did an outstanding job and was a credit to the Department. He stated that he did such a good job that there was really no cross-examination. He did say that under English law the defense attorney is able to ask questions outside of the scope of the direct examination and Bonebrake was asked all sorts of political questions. According to Vinson he handled himself extremely well and on those questions remarked that he was a fingerprint examiner and that is what he was qualified to testify to.

Vinson again reiterated that he thought Bonebrake did an outstanding job and handled himself extremely well.

ACTION

This is for record purposes.

RJC/lrk
(7)

Mr. DeLoach

June 27, 1968

A. Rosen

MURKIN

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Malley

1 - Mr. McGowan

1 - Mr. Martindale

1 - Mr. Bishop

1 - Mr. Trotter

Legat John Minnich telephoned from London and advised the hearing was conducted today from 10:35 am until 1:00 pm, then recessed for lunch and continued from 2:15 to 4:45 pm, it being noted it does not ordinarily extend beyond 4:00 pm. Minnich advised Ray was remanded on both of the extraditable charges - the killing of King in Memphis and the escape charge from Missouri State Prison to July 2, 1968. It is to be noted he was previously remanded on the two English charges - possession of firearms and for entering England with a false passport, to July 8, 1968.

The Magistrate inquired of Ray's counsel, as well as counsel for the States of Tennessee and Missouri, as to whether they could complete their case in one more day of testimony and both indicated this was possible.

Minnich advised Fingerprint Examiner George J. Bonebrake testified today and there was no cross examination by defense counsel of Bonebrake relating to his fingerprint testimony. He was questioned, however, in considerable detail by the defense as a private American citizen (not as a fingerprint expert). Minnich advised this procedure is allowable under British law and that an individual must answer the questions asked, having no choice whatsoever, or be held in contempt of court. He was questioned concerning Dr. Martin Luther King, as to his knowledge of King as head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and whether he considered King to be a political figure. Bonebrake answered these questions by stating that he had no personal firsthand knowledge, that his knowledge was based solely on information in newspapers, which was within the realm of knowledge available to the general American public.

At 2:15 pm, after the noon recess, Bonebrake was again questioned and required to answer as indicated above. He was questioned relative to the Freedom Ride in 1961 (this was a bus caravan from Washington, D. C., to New Orleans for the purpose of testing integration at places of public accommodation and transportation facilities), the demonstrations against Dr. King, black-power groups, the 1963 march on Washington, the 1965 Voting Act, the march from Selma to Montgomery,

JRM:mpd (9)

CONTINUED - OVER

Memo to Mr. DeLoach from A. Rosen
Re: MURKIN

Alabama (in March of 1965) and whether Dr. King had been assaulted. Bonebrake answered these questions with the qualification that he had no direct personal knowledge of these events. He was questioned as to whether Dr. King was in Memphis at the time of his death to help with the sanitation workers strike. Before Bonebrake could answer, the Hearing Magistrate stated: "He had as much knowledge as Bonebrake on the American situation and that he felt judicial notice could be taken concerning the questions being asked." At this point counsel for the States of Tennessee and Missouri, for the record, stated that Bonebrake's answers were not in any way associated with any official U. S. position. At this point Bonebrake was discharged as a witness.

During the morning testimony, Chief Superintendent Thomas Butler of New Scotland Yard, in part, testified that while Ray was at Cannon Row Police Station, Ray stated, "I feel so trapped" and "Oh God"; also, that he collapsed on the cell seat. During the p. m. testimony the Magistrate cautioned Ray as to his rights. Ray commented that he wanted to make a statement concerning Butler's testimony as he thought it was false. Ray's counsel stated to the court that the differences concerning Ray's feelings and Butler's testimony were immaterial to the extradition hearing. Ray still wanted to tell his story and a ten-minute recess was held.

Thereafter Ray's counsel stated for Ray that Ray disagreed with a large portion of the evidence presented by Butler and he wanted it so stated in the record that he did not make the quotes attributable to him by Butler nor did he collapse in his cell. He wanted it made known that he made no statement to any police officer and that he had refused to sign his fingerprint card; also, that he was not making application for recall of witness Butler to the stand.

not

Ray then took the stand and while/under oath or affirmation, which under British law precludes cross examination of the witness, in answer to questions from his counsel admitted his arrest at the London Airport on June 8, 1968, and under questioning stated he did not personally know Dr. King, had never met him, had no grudge against him, and in response to the specific question "Did you kill Dr. Martin Luther King," replied "no." Minnich advised that these are the highlights of the hearing and that more detailed information will be submitted.

Memo to Mr. DeLoach from A. Rosen
Re: MURKIN

Mr. Nathaniel E. Kossack, first assistant to Assistant Attorney General Fred Vinson, Jr., Criminal Division, telephoned the Bureau stating that Mr. Vinson had called him, Kossack, shortly before 1:00 p. m. tod ay, and requested Kossack to advise the Bureau that Mr. Bonebrake did an outstanding job on the stand. Mr. Vinson characterized his performance as a credit to the FBI and to the U. S. Government. He said Bonebrake did so well that the defense did not even try to cross examine him. Mr. Vinson told Kossack that under English rules, the defense counsel was permitted great latitude. Mr. Vinson repeated and reiterated that Bonebrake did an outstanding job, both on direct examination and in handling defense counsel's desperate attempts to insert political motives into the trial.

ACTION: This is for information and you will be promptly advised of further pertinent developments.

Mr. DeLoach

June 27, 1968

A. Rosen

MURKIN

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Malley

1 - Mr. McGowan

1 - Mr. Martindale

1 - Mr. Bishop

1 - Mr. Trotter

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JRM:mpd (8)

CONTINUED - OVER

Memo to Mr. DeLoach from A. Rosen
Re: MURKIN

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Memo to Mr. DeLoach from A. Rosen
Re: MURKIN

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ACTION: This is for information and you will be promptly advised of further pertinent developments.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: June 27, 1968

FROM : A. Rosen

1 - Mr. DeLoach (1) Mr. Long
1 - Mr. Rosen 1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Malley 1 - Mr. Gale
1 - Mr. McGowan 1 - Mr. Sullivan

SUBJECT: MURKIN

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

Special Agent Wilbur L. Martindale, assigned to the General Investigative Division, returned from special assignment in London on June 25, 1968, and personally delivered some items of property of James Earl Ray for FBI Laboratory examination. These items were in possession of Ray when he was apprehended by British authorities on June 8, 1968, at London, England, were given to us in complete confidence and they are being returned to British authorities. The following items were examined:

1. ITEM SUBMITTED: A scratch pad of blank paper.

LABORATORY FINDINGS: This pad was examined for indented writing and watermarks with negative results. The hand printed word "CETERIFICATE" appears on the cover of this pad. Although a number of hand printing similarities were noted in this word when compared with Ray's hand printing indicating that it was possibly prepared by the subject, the limited nature of this hand printing precludes a definite identification of Ray as the author of this hand printing.

2. ITEM SUBMITTED: One clean and four soiled handkerchiefs.

LABORATORY FINDINGS: These items were examined for visible and invisible laundry marks but none were found.

3. ITEM SUBMITTED: A Wittnauer wrist watch.

LABORATORY FINDINGS: The back of this watch was removed, no serial number was found on the movement, no foreign material was found and there was no evidence the watch had been subjected to repair.

REL:bjf
(9)

CONTINUED - OVER

Rosen to DeLoach memorandum
RE: MURKIN

4. ITEM SUBMITTED: Four test bullets and four cartridge cases from a .38 Special "Liberty Chief" revolver (subject's revolver). We previously traced this weapon from the manufacturer in Japan to the person who sold it to Ray in Birmingham, Alabama, in October of 1967.

LABORATORY FINDINGS: These items were searched in the National Unidentified Ammunition File without effecting an identification.

In addition, a Trans World Airlines message slip was submitted for latent fingerprint examination. The Identification Division has advised that two latent fingerprints of value were developed on the slip but are not identical with fingerprints of James Earl Ray.

Mr. Nigel Maw, the British solicitor who is handling the extradition of Ray advised the legal attache in London that he is in receipt of a letter bearing the letterhead: "GULLETT, STEEL, SANFORD & WHITE, 17th Floor, Life and Casualty Building, Nashville, Tennessee." This letter is signed by "B. B. GULLETT" and the letter advises Mr. Maw that Mr. Gullett has been advised by the Governor of Tennessee that Maw is handling the extradition matter, and Gullett and his wife are scheduled to arrive in London on June 10, 1968, staying at the Mayfair Hotel until July 15, 1968. Gullett in his letter indicates he is a member of the Tennessee State Legislature, and he would like to have a conference with Mr. Maw, have lunch and visit an English court.

Mr. Maw has handled many extradition matters for the United States Embassy and has been extremely cooperative with our legal attache in London and he desires to be furnished any information the Bureau may have concerning Mr. Gullett.

It has been determined that B. B. Gullett is an attorney, admitted to the Tennessee State Bar in 1927 and has been a practicing attorney since that time. Former associates of Gullett include Federal Judge Harry Phillips currently a member of the United States Sixth Circuit

Rosen to DeLoach memorandum-
RE: MURKIN

Court of Appeals and Weldon White, a member of the Tennessee State Supreme Court prior to his death. Gullett was a member of the Tennessee State Senate from Davidson County, Tennessee, was President of the Tennessee Bar Association in 1967, and is presently active in work of the American Bar Association and Tennessee State Bar Association. The United States Attorney in Memphis and the Director of the Tennessee Bureau of Criminal Identification have advised that Gullett and associates are highly reputable attorneys in the Nashville area and are well regarded by associates in Tennessee. Our records contain no derogatory information concerning Gullett or any members of his law firm. This information will be forwarded to our legal attache in London for appropriate dissemination to Mr. Maw.

The extradition proceedings of subject Ray commenced in British court in London today and the court has set aside three days for this hearing.

ACTION:

You will be kept advised of all pertinent developments.

6-26

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: June 26, 1968

FROM : A. Rosen

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Malley

1 - Mr. McGowan

1 - Mr. Long

1 - Mr. Bishop

1 - Mr. Gale

1 - Mr. Sullivan

SUBJECT: MURKIN

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

Subject James Earl Ray escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City, Missouri, on 4/23/67, and the very first account we had of him after his escape was in Montreal, Canada, where he appeared on 7/18/67. A preliminary survey was made of fugitives apprehended in Canada during the Summer of 1967, and as a result thereof, it was ascertained that one George Edmondson, who was an escapee from the Missouri State Penitentiary, was apprehended in Campbells Bay, Quebec, Canada, on 6/28/67. Edmondson was a Top Ten Fugitive and was being sought for Unlawful Flight to Avoid Confinement - Armed Robbery.

In view of the above, Edmondson was interviewed at the Missouri State Penitentiary where he was confined and he stated that he was not acquainted with James Earl Ray, the subject of the MURKIN investigation. Since Edmondson had been apprehended in Canada, he was questioned as to the requirements and procedures for obtaining documents in Canada, particularly a passport. Edmondson, at this time, stated that it is very easy to obtain the necessary documents related to obtaining a passport in Canada, particularly in the section of Notre Dame Rue, Montreal. It is to be noted that during July and August of 1967, subject Ray resided at 2589 Notre Dame Rue in Montreal, Canada.

As a result of the information furnished by Edmondson, our Legal Attache in Canada was requested to contact the appropriate Canadian officials to determine if a review of passports could be made by them for the period of 4/23/67, to the present date. As a result of this project requested by us, it was determined the subject was issued a Canadian passport on 4/24/68, under the name of Ramon George Sneyd.

Enclosure

REL:cs
(9)

CONTINUED - OVER

Memo Rosen to DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

The subject was subsequently apprehended in London, England, on 6-8-68, using the passport issued under the name of Sneyd. George Edmondson has been interviewed in depth concerning his activities in Canada, particularly regarding the obtaining of a passport. Edmondson has furnished us complete details of his knowledge of the procedures to be followed for individuals to obtain a passport through illegal channels, as well as the names of Canadian individuals to contact to obtain the necessary documents. The information, as furnished by Edmondson, is in a form suitable for dissemination to Canadian authorities.

On 6-21-68, Arthur J. Hanes and his son, who practices law with him, visited Scotland Yard where they saw a Chief Inspector. We have been advised in confidence that Hanes requested an interview with Ray and was told he could not see him. He was asked the source of his fee and replied that he expected to collect his fee from Ray. When he was told that Ray is practically without funds, he apparently lost interest in seeing him and requested that Ray be given Hanes' business card, on the back of which he wrote, "Dear Mr. Sneyd. We made an effort to see you but will see you immediately upon arrival in the USA."

The Atlantic edition of "Time" magazine, 6-21-68, has been withdrawn from sale in England because of an article on pages 22-23 captioned "Ray's Odd Odyssey." This article includes details of the subject's prior criminal activities as well as a detailed summary of this case and his activities since July, 1967. Publication of such material concerning a defendant under pending charges is strictly prohibited by British law.

ACTION:

1. We are forwarding to the Legal Attache, Ottawa, the letterhead memorandum suitable for dissemination to be transmitted by the Legal Attache to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Ottawa.

2. We are pursuing all aspects in a most expedite manner.

6-25

Mr. DeLoach

June 25, 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.

Attached is a letterhead memorandum stating that officials of New Scotland Yard have advised that subject has become more uncooperative, even with his defense counsel, and the British Attorney General has ruled that no request would be made to interview Ray to the Governor of Prisons until extradition of Ray is ordered.

The attached memorandum also sets forth results of investigation conducted by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Canada regarding a suit of clothing purchased by the subject at Montreal, Canada, on July 21, 1967, and investigation conducted at a dance studio. An individual at the dance studio identified a photograph of James Earl Ray as being at the dance studio in Montreal, Canada, on May 25, 1968. It is to be noted that preliminary investigation indicates that subject was in London, England, on May 25, 1968.

Included in this memorandum is the statement that inquiry at the South African Embassy in Lisbon, Portugal, reveals the subject made telephone inquiry there regarding conditions for entering South Africa. The banks of Lisbon have not furnished any additional information concerning subject opening an account in a bank.

ACTION:

The attached letterhead memorandum should be forwarded to the Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, and Assistant Attorneys General Pollak and Vinson.

Enclosure

REL:pb
(6)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

*In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.*

June 25, 1968

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

The following additional pertinent information is being furnished relative to the captioned case. The material set forth herein is based on preliminary information and complete details will be incorporated in reports of results of investigation.

The British Attorney General has ruled that no request would be made to the Governor of Prisons to interview subject James Earl Ray until he is ordered extradited by the British courts. The New Scotland Yard officials have advised that subject James Earl Ray has become more uncooperative, even with his defense counsel.

Investigation at the South African Embassy in Lisbon, Portugal, reveals that James Earl Ray made a telephone inquiry there regarding conditions for entering South Africa. Additional inquiry at banks in Lisbon, Portugal, regarding accounts opened by the subject have not resulted in any positive information.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police previously advised that they had a telephone call from a dance studio, Montreal, Canada, to the effect that James Earl Ray was seen at a dance studio in Montreal on May 25, 1968. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police has advised that a person who visited the Zeda Zare Dance Studio on May 25, 1968, was definitely identified as James Earl Ray by Mrs. I. McLaughlin, who is the piano player at the studio. It is noted that on May 25, 1968, the subject was allegedly in London, England.

When the subject was arrested in London, England, on June 8, 1968, among his personal effects was a suit of clothing and the name contained in the suit was Eric S. Galt. According

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police on July 21, 1967, a suit of clothing was ordered from the English and Scotch Woollen Company, Limited, Montreal, Canada, by an individual using the name Eric S. Galt. That individual paid \$75.06 in cash. A letter was received by the English and Scotch Woollen Company, Limited from Eric S. Galt, giving a return address of 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, and the letter states he was enclosing his address so the company could mail the suit to him at Birmingham, Alabama, as he had to leave Montreal before the suit was finished. No identification could be made of any of the photographs of James Earl Ray by the employees of this firm. Investigation is continuing by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police of all aspects of matters concerning the subject's reported activities in Canada.