

PAGE THREE

IT IS REQUESTED NEW ORLEANS CONFIRM WHETHER OR NOT JAMES WAS SUBPOENAED BY GARRISON.

REYNOLDS IMMIGRATED TO U. S. IN NINETEEN SIXTY FOUR, AND MRS. REYNOLDS ADVISES SHE HAS BROTHER IN RCMP.

ABOVE FURNISHED BUREAU FOR DISSEMINATION TO LEGAT, OTTAWA, AND RCMP.

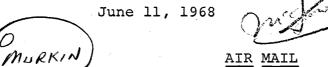
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LLD

FBI WASH DC

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY HOUSTON, TEXAS

MORTON L. SUSMAN



Honorable J. Edgar Hoover Director Federal Bureau of Investigation

Department of Justice Washington, D. C. 20530

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am pleased to enclose a copy of the Houston Chronicle of today's date, editorializing on the excellent work of the Bureau on the King case.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

Morton L. Susman

Enclosure

MLS:mlb

Mr. Deta

Mr. Callala

Mr. Conrad Mr. Felts

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Mr. Mr.

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Six more die in Houston

Six lives were snuffed out by gunfire in Houston during a 48-hour period the past weekend running the city's homicide toll to 111 thus far in 1968. That total surpasses the record pace of 104 for the same period last year.

Murder charges have been filed at Center, in Shelby County, against a former mental patient in connection with the rifle slaying of his wife.

This slaughter most certainly points enforcement agenciup the urgent need for action by both the Texas Legislature and the federal them, they will serve government for strict gun control laws,

stricter law enforcement and the necessary legislation assuring swift and certain criminal court trials along with stiff penalties for the guilty.

Gun control laws will not completely stop murders. But if they will take firearms out of the possession of juveniles, known criminals, the mentally retarded and others unqualified to own such weapons, and will help law enforcement agencies in identifying both weapons and those who misuse them, they will serve to cut down the horrible crime rate.

Diligent FBI work pays off

A tragic week in American history offers at least one note of triumph—the arrest in London of the escaped Missouri convict who is wanted for the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King.

This brings to a partial end one of the most massive manhunts in this nation's history. That the suspect, James Earl Ray, who was armed at the time, was arrested unharmed and without violence is a tribute to the excellent work performed by the FBI, the Canadian Mounted Police, Canada's passport officials and London's Scotland Yard.

Indeed, it was beginning to look like Ray's trail had grown cold and that he had made good his escape despite the highly visible evidence he left at the scene of the crime and despite the international police net which was out to catch him. The search reached into

Mexico, Canada, Portugal and Great Britain plus many other countries. Much credit should be given to the Mounted Police which examined more than 300,000 passport photographs before they found Ray's. And, of course, main credit should go to the FBI for another superb investigative job.

His capture by no means solves the mystery of the assassination. Ray himself remains in a London jail awaiting extradition to the United States for trial on one or all of the three charges pending against him. His motive—if he proves to be the killer—remains to be established; also the existence of any accomplices or the existence of a conspiracy against the slain civil rights leader. Evidence also suggests this assassination case may involve others who hired King's assailant to do the brutal deed.

H4-38861-

ENCLOSURE

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM:

SAC, TAMPA (62-NEW)

PERNELL EZZELL;

INFORMATION CONCERNING

OKING-

Attached are 11 copies of an LHM concerning captioned individual.

Interviews of FRANK WETZELL and FAY EZZELL were conducted by SAs THOMAS B. McNALLY and GORDON W. TINDLE. SA McNALLY contacted Dr. HERBERT COLLINS and checked records of the Orlando Police Department and the Grange County Sheriff's Office, both Orlando, Florida.

Copies of LHM have been disseminated locally to Secret Service, Jacksonville, Fla., via FD-376; to OSI, Robins AFB, Georgia; MI, Orlando, Fla., and NISO, Charleston, South Carolina.

The Bureau may wish to disseminate a copy of the LHM to CIA, as the subject alleged he is on the CIA payroll.

3- Bureau (Enc. 11) (RM)

1 - Birmingham (Enc. 1) (Info) (RM)

1 - Denver (Enc. 1)(RM)

1 - Los Angeles (Enc. 1) (RM)

1 - Las Vegas (Enc. 1)(RM)

1 - Memphis (Enc. 1)(RM) 3 - Tampa (1 - 157-3231)(MURKIN) (1 - 80-139)

GWT: sas

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NOT RECORDED 29 JUN 21 1968

ENCLOSUME

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

Tampa, Florida June 11, 1968

PERNELL EZZELL

On June 6, 1968, Mr. FRANK WETZEL, Manager, Perdue Radio, Television and Appliances, Incorporated, 2425 Colonial Drive, Orlando, Florida, furnished the following information:

PERNELL EZZELL is a former employee who has been missing about three weeks on this last occasion. He has previously left his job on past occasions and has been taken back. He called WETZEL on the morning of June 6, 1968 from 4:15 a.m. to 5:15 a.m. saying he was in Denver, Colorado. Mr. WETZEL said EZZELL seemed as though he were nervous, crazy or drunk.

EZZELL alleged to WETZEL that he had a great amount of money. He said he had a pile of \$20.00 bills which he had obtained as a result of his part in the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING and the shooting of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY. EZZELL remarked that he had proof he was in Orlando, Florida when KING was shot and he was in Las Vegas when KENNEDY was shot if he were to need it. He alleged he was on the payroll of "CIA" and "OSI" He remarked that he had a "38", a "357", "30-30" and a "306" type of guns in the trunk of his car. He said he was using a U-Drive-It car in Las Vegas the previous day with the "357" gun on the seat when he was stopped by a deputy. He said the deputy released him when he produced his Associated Detective Agency card andhis gun permit which he read the number from as being #92B.

> 44-38861-ENCLOSURE

Mr. WETZEL said that EZZELL did not threaten any one during his call or indicate that he intended to do any harm to anyone else.

WETZEL said that EZZELL indicated that he was his only friend in Orlando, Florida and he just wanted to talk to him to find out if he could come back to Orlando.

On June 6, 1968, Mrs. FAY EZZELL, 636 22nd Street, Orlando, Florida furnished the following information.

She advised that she married PERNELL EZZELL on February 25, 1967, this being her third marriage. She said they have one infant by this marriage and she has children by previous marriages. She said that EZZELL has caused her extreme anxiety and debt during their short period of marriage. She said he has deserted her at least three times and he was last seen by her over three weeks ago. She said that he had been treated for extreme alcoholism during their short marriage on at least two occasions by Doctor HERBERT COLLINS in Orlando, Florida and she had taken him to the Florida Sanitarium Hospital, Orlando, Florida for the same type treatment. She advised that he has been also treated at the Cherry Hospital for extreme alcoholism but she could not recall the name of the town in which the hospital is located. She said that she hoped that her husband does not return.

Mrs. EZZELL said that PERNELL had called her on June 6, 1968 about 2:00 a.m. and the call lasted until about 3:00 or possibly a little later. She said he stated he was in Denver, Colorado. She said that on one occasion the call was interrupted by an operator who requested that he make a new call for credit charges which he did but the operator did not specifically identify herself as being in Denver, Colorado. Mrs. EZZELL said that PERNELL had called her on the morning of June 5, 1968 during the early hours saying that he was in Las Vegas, Nevada but she had no way of knowing his actual whereabouts at that time. She said that on both occasions he did not divulge his address or location. She said that in April, 1968, he was drinking heavily and she refused to allow him to come to the house with her children. She said he went to several motels around the Orlando. Florida area and ran up very large bills on credit cards which caused her financial difficulties. She said that on this occasions his drinking was only terminated when she took him to Dr. COLLINS for treatment of extreme alcoholism. She said that the doctor gave him tranquilizers to bring his shaking under control. She said he is a hopeless alcoholic and that when he is drinking he becomes affected mentally. Mrs. EZZELL advised that in the past PERNELL EZZELL when drinking had delusions of grandeur. She said that he would refer to big news stories in the newspapers and try to cause her to believe that he was in some way connected with military service intelligence and he would have to check on these news worthy events.

She said that on several occasions when he was drinking and he had disappeared he would finally call her telling her that he had a large sum of money and that he would buy her all sorts of new presents. She said that on these occasions she found him penniless and drunk in North Florida.

Mrs. EZZELL said that when PERNELL called her on the past two mornings he had not made any allegations involving himself in any assassination plots on Dr. KING or Senator KENNEDY. She said he had not threatened anyone on these occasions except her when she told him she was weeking employment. He said that if she obtained a job he would come by and pick up the baby.

Mrs. EZZELL said that PERNELL did have some sort of a gun which he kept in his car because she would not allow him to bring it into the house. She said he had a permit to carry this gun because he worked as a guard during the night time at Associated Detective Agency, Orlando, Florida. She said he worked in the day time as a television technician for the Perdue Radio, Television and Appliances, Incorporated.

Mrs. EZZELL said that she has been receiving numerous bills from oil companies and American Express credit card which she did not open but forwarded to his mother in North Carolina because she could not pay them. She advised that she feels that her financial situation is so destitute that she will lose her home and furniture because of previous bills made by EZZELL.

On June 6, 1968, Dr. HERBERT COLLINS, 3558 South Orange Avenue, Orlando, Florida, advised that he treated PERNELL EZZELL for about the past couple of years due to extreme alcoholism the last period of treatment being in April, 1968. He said this man is unstable but he did not further describe him.

On June 6, 1968, the files of the Orlando, Florida Police Department furnished by MARIAN HARRISON revealed PERNELL EZZELL was arrested on June 2, 1961 being charged as a public drunk; on Noveber 19, 1961 being charged with driving while intoxicated; and he was picked up on suspicion of auto theft March 9, 1962 at which time he was turned over to the Orange County Sheriff's Office. No photograph or fingerprint records for EZZELL were available.

On June 6, 1968, BERNICE FOGARTY, Orange County Sheriff's Office, Orlando, Florida, Identification Division and Deputy PHILIP MURPHY, Plain Clothes Division, both advised that they could locate no information pertaining to EZZELL in their files.

The following physical description was obtained from Mr. WETZEL and Mrs. EZZELL:

Name:

PERNELL EZZELL

Race:

White Male

Date of Birth: Place of Birth:

Fayetteville, North Carolina

Height:
Weight:

Hair:

Eyes: Marital Status:

Marital Stat Wife:

Children:

Relatives: Mother:

ACRIE EZZELL

Route 4
Box 236

5'10"

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Married FAY EZZELL

Clinton, N. C.

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Sandy and wavy

636 22nd Street
Orlando, Florida
l infant child from

Brother:

THOMAS OZELL EZZELL

Age 33

Fayetteville, N.C.

It is noted that on July 5, 1967, Officer JAMES WATFORD, Kissimmee, Florida, Police Department, advised the Tampa Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) that PERNELL EZZELL had made statements to EZZELL's wife that he was an agent of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and in this capacity had to make secret trips, leaving his wife alone for periods of time. WATFORD indicated he knew of no one else who had been told by EZZELL that he was a CIA agent, and that there was no evidence EZZELL had obtained anything of value from anyone other than his wife.

On August 4, 1967, a representative of the CIA, Washington, D. C., advised that a check of CIA personnel files failed to disclose any individual named PERNELL EZZELL as being employed by that agency.

On August 28, 1967, Assistant United States Attorney KENDELL WHERRY, Middle District of Florida, was informed of above facts by a Special Agent of the FBI. Mr. WHERRY stated that the facts were insufficient to constitute a violation of the Impersonation Statute, and that he would therefore decline prosecution of EZZELL.

EZZELL SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS IN VIEW OF HIS REPORTED POSSESSION OF A FIREARM, AND SINCE HE HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS AN ALCOHOLIC WHO BECOMES UNSTABLE WHEN INTOXICATED.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

5010-106

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

0-1-40

The Director

DATE: 6-11-68

FROM

N. P. Callahan

SUBJECT: The Congressional Record

Murkins

Pages H4796-H4797. Congressman Andrews, (R) North Dakota, spoke concerning the capture of James Earl Ray, the suspected assassin of Martin Luther King. He stated "I want to say at this time that I think the Federal Bureau of Investigation did one of its most outstanding jobs in this investigation. There perhaps has been few, if any, investigations into which it has put greater effort. The speed with which it identified the suspected killer, and the exhaustive probe which it continued to make until this man was located are the things which we Americans have come to expect of the FBI. Thankfully, again for the American people."

Page S6941. Senator Hruska, (R) Nebraska, stated "I want to take this opportunity to speak a word of thanks to J. Edgar Hoover and the men and women of the FBI. The capture of James Earl Ray, suspected slayer of Martin Luther King, last Saturday brought to a close one of the greatest manhunts in the country." He also commended the Canadian law enforcement authorities for their assistance. Mr. Hruska went on to state "I hope the capture of Ray will be a lesson to two classes of people. First, I hope all who might ever consider committing an assassination will realize that law enforcement agencies throughout the free world will do everything possible to bring about their capture. Second, I hope these selfish critics who have accused Mr. Hoover and the FBI of giving less than their best where crimes against civil rights activities are concerned will once and for all realize that their unfounded charges, are preposterous and entirely out of order."

74-38861-NOT RE-170 JUN 18 1968

In the original of a memorandum captioned and dated as above, the Congressional Record for was reviewed and pertinent items were marked for the Director's attention. This form has been prepared in order that portions of a form of the original memorandum may be clipped, mounted, and placed impropries Further see or subject matter files.

Original filed in:

Pages S6987-S6988. Senator Byrd, (D) West Virginia, spoke concerning the capture of James Earl Ray, suspected slayer of Martin Luther King. He stated "Many of us have become accustomed to such achievements by the FBI, for we have seen J. Edgar Hoover and his dedicated men and women time after time accomplish the seemingly impossible. Some felt this case was impossible. Others, selfish individuals who do not know the true character of Mr. Hoover and his associates, have blandly asserted their belief that Ray would never be captured, implying that the FBI did not really want to catch Ray. - - - Ray could not have run afoul of three finer law enforcement agencies in the world even if he had tried, for his final capture resulted from the cooperation of the FBI, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and New Scotland Yard." Mr. Byrd inserted in the Record an editorial entitled "Superb Police Work" which appeared in the Washington Daily News on June 10.

5010-106

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

$\it 1emorandum$

MR. TROTTER LLJ

S. F. Latona

6-11-68 DATE:

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SUBJECT MURKIN

FROM

PREPARATION OF AFFIDAVIT

Fingerprint Examiner George J. Bonebrake and departmental attorneys on 6-10-68, prepared an affidavit relative to the results of the examination of certain items of evidence submitted in connection with the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Following completion of this affidavit, a copy of which is attached, the examiner appeared before the deputy clerk of U. S. District Court, Washington, D. C., and under oath stated that the contents of the affidavit were the true facts regarding his (Bonebrake's) examination.

The affidavit is to be used in extraditing James Earl Ray from England.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information

Enclosure

1 - Mr. Rosen

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U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE REC'D - ROSEN

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Section Military

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AFFIDAVIT

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA) 88:

GEORGE J. BONEBRAKE, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- of Investigation in Washington, D. C. I have held this position since October 1941. I have attended schools and other training classes conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation to qualify me for my position. During the time I have been a Fingerprint Examiner, I have made millions of fingerprint comparisons for identification purposes. I have testified as a fingerprint expert witness in numerous cases in federal and state courts as well as in military courts-martial with regard to my findings based on comparisons of fingerprints.
- 2. On April 5, 1968, at approximately 5:15 a.m., at the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington, D.C., I received certain objects of evidence from Special Agent Robert Fitzpatrick. These objects were identified to me as being part of the investigation into the shooting of Martin Luther King, Jr. in Memphis, Tennessee, on the previous day. Among the items delivered to me were a Remington Model 760 rifle, serial number 461476, with Redfield telescopic sight number A 17350, and a pair of 7 by 35 Bushnell binoculars, serial number DQ 408664. I examined each of these objects for latent fingerprints, and subsequently on April 5, 1368, I developed one latent fingerprint on the rifle, one latent fingerprint on the telescopic sight, and one latent fingerprint on the binoculars. These were the only latent prints on these

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ENCLOSURE

44-38861-44

objects which contained sufficient characteristic ridge detail to be of value for identification purposes.

- 3. On April 19, 1968, I compared each of the afore-mentioned three latent prints with the known fingerprints of James Earl Ray obtained by officials of the Los Angeles Police Department, Los Angeles, California, on October 11, 1949. The fingerprint card made by the Los Angeles Police Department is contained in the official fingerprint files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington, D. C. From my comparison I formed the opinion that they were the fingerprints of the same man. I determined that the latent fingerprint on the Remington rifle and the latent fingerprint on the binoculars are identical to the left thumbprint of James Earl Ray, and that the latent fingerprint on the telescopic sight is identical to the right ring-fingerprint of James Earl Ray.
- 4. The official fingerprint files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington also contain the fingerprint record of James Earl Ray, taken in connection with his incarceration in the Missouri State Penitentiary on March 17, 1960, following a conviction of first degree robbery. I have compared the fingerprints of James Earl Ray taken in connection with his arrest on October 11, 1949, by the Los Angeles Police Department with the fingerprints taken in connection with the incarceration of James Earl Ray in the Missouri State Penitentiary on March 17, 1960, and I have determined that these prints are of the same person.



- of the known prints of James Earl Ray, taken in connection with his arrest on October 11, 1949, by the Los Angeles, California Police Department. Attached as Exhibit II is a photographic copy of the known prints of James Earl Ray, taken on March 17, 1960, in connection with his incarceration in the Missouri State Penitentiary. Attached as Exhibits III, IV and V are three photographs, each depicting one of the afore-mentioned three latent finger-prints developed by me respectively on the rifle, the telescopic sight, and the binoculars.
- 6. I am also an Assistant Custodian of the fingerprint records of the Identification Division of the Federal
 Bureau of Investigation. As such, I am familiar with the
 contents of those records and am authorized to have copies
 made of those records and to certify as to their authenticity.
- 7. The fingerprint card attached as Exhibit II on Form FD-249, is a true copy of the original record in my custody and was prepared under my supervision. The original was received by the Federal Bureau of Investigation from the Warden of the State Penitentiary at Jefferson City, Missouri, on April 4, 1960 and contains the photograph (profile and front view), fingerprints, and signature of James Earl Ray, an inmate of the Penitentiary then serving a 20-year sentence.

GEORGE J. BONEBRAKE

Sworn	to	bef	re	me	this
	day	್ತ	Jun	e,	1968.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Mr. Rose

FROM

C. L. McGo

MURKIN

DATE:	June	12,	19
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68

l - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Mallev

1 - Mr. McGowan

l - Mr. Long

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At 8:07 p.m., 6-12-68, SAC Robert Jensen, Memphis, called and advised Extra-Duty Supervisor H. E. Helgeson that they had just located Charles Q. Stephens. Stephens is the "wino" who was a witness at the rooming house in Memphis when the shooting occurred. The Department had been extremely desirous of locating Stephens to have him sign affidavits which they are preparing in connection with the legal proceedings in England. SAC Jensen stated that Stephens was spotted on the street in Memphis by a Memphis Agent and that Stephens advised he had just returned after spending several days in Arkansas.

SAC Jensen was at that time making arrangements for Stephens to be interviewed by Mr. J. Harold Flannery, Civil Rights Division of the Department, in order that Flannery could obtain the necessary affidavit from Stephens.

Subsequent to SAC Jensen's call, Assistant Attorney General Stephen J. Pollak, Civil Rights Division of the Department, was advised that Stephens had been located by Memphis Agents who had been out on the streets of Memphis searching for Stephens. Pollak was obviously pleased with the news and said "I'm so pleased--delighted."

ACTION:

For information.

38861-4463

JUN 17 1968

HEH: hw

Interior 6/13/68

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The originals removed from this file and replaced with duplicate copies of the original were accessioned to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) pursuant to the JFK Records Collection Act of 1992. Provision of the JFK Act allowed for certain information to be postponed from public release until the year 2017; therefore, the pages have NOT necessarily been released for public review in their entirety.

Under the JFK Act, originals to all material deemed assassination records must be accesssioned to NARA regardless of whether the material is open in full or released with information postponed. Therefore, any documents or pages from FBI files accessioned to NARA pursuant to the JFK Act are no longer considered the possession of the FBI. The duplicate pages have been inserted strictly for research purposes.

The copies contained herein <u>do</u> <u>not</u> necessarily show the most up-to-date classification.

To attain a copy of the publicly released version of any materials maintained in the JFK Collection at the NARA facility in College Park, MD, you may contact the JFK Access Staff, at 301/713-6620.

The following materials were removed from this file and are maintained in the JFK Collection at NARA:

File & Serial Number

JFK Subject Identifier (for NARA purposes)

44-38861-4464

David Ferrie

For Informational Turposes Only

V FBI WASH DC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE COMMUNICATION SECTION

JUN 1 2 1968

REDZ33

1150PM 6/11/68 URGENT WHD

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861)

TELETYPE

FROM: NEW ORLEANS (157-10673)

RE: QURKIN

RE LOS ANGELES TELETYPE TO BUREAU SIX ELEVEN INSTANT.

THE FILES OF THE NEW ORLEANS OFFICE CONTAIN NO INFORMATION TO THE EFFECT THAT EARL ANGLIN JAMES WAS EVER SUBPOENED BY ORLEANS PARISH DA JAMES GARRISON IN CONNECTION WITH GARRISON'S INVESTIGATION INTO THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY, OR IN CONNECTION WITH ANY OTHER MATTER.

DAVID W. FERRIE, DECEASED. AND APPARANT SUSPECT BY GARRISON AS A CONSPIRATOR INTO THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION WAS INTERVIEWED BY NEW ORLEANS AGENT ON DECEMBER TEN, NINETEEN SIXTY THREE IN CONNECTION WITH THE CASE ENTITLED QUOTE JACK LEON RUBY, AKA; LEE HARVEY OSWALD, AKA. - VICTIM (DECEASED) BUFILE FORTY FOUR DASH TWO FOUR ZERO ONE SIX END QUOTE. FERRIE FURNISHED NAMES OF INDIVIDUALS WHOM HE SAID WERE SOURCES FOR QUOTE PHONY END QUOTE DEGREES. ONE OF THE NAMES HE MENTIONED WAS EARL ANGLIN JAMES, OF TORONTO, CANADA. NO FURTHER DATA AVAILABLE RE JAMES.

BUREAU CONSIDER ABOVE FOR DISSEMINATION TO LEGAT, OTTAWA

AND RCMP IN CONNECTION WITH INFORMATION FURNISHED IN REFERENCE

LOS ANGELES TELETYPE.

AIRMAIL COPIES TO MEMPHIS AND LOS ANGELES.

BJP DATE 2/22/94

FBI WASH DC

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79 JUN 19 1968

ng ng Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
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Mr. Bishop
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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE Mr. Tolson Mr. DeLoach C. MUNICATIONS SECTION Mr. Mohr. Mr. Bishop JUN12196 FBI WASH DC FBI SPRNGFLD Sulliva Mr. Tavel 350PM URGENT 6-12-68 DMJ Mr. Trotter Tele. Room Miss Holmes TO DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) Miss Gandy. FROM SPRINGFIELD (44-561) (P1) MURKIN

RE BULET TO MEMPHIS, JUNE FOUR, LAST; KANSAS CITY AIRTEL TO SPRINGFIELD JUNE SIX, LAST, SPRINGFIELD TEL TO BUREAU JUNE ELEVEN, LAST.

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OPTIONAL FORM.NO. 10 MAY 1962 EDITION GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27 5010-106

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

то

Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 6-12-68

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FROM

T. E. Bishop

SUBJECT: MURKIN

This case involves the assassination of Martin Luther King in which James Earl Ray has been charged as the assassin.

At 1 p.m. on 6-12-68, one John Acord, identifying himself as being with the American-South African Council, Washington, D. C., telephoned and spoke to me. He said that his organization handles public relations for Rhodesia and other South African countries. He stated that some time during May he voluntarily turned over to the FBI a letter that had been written in California in December, 1967, by one Eric S. Galt to his organization asking for information on how a person goes about traveling to Rhodesia. He stated that this information and a copy of the letter were turned over by him to Bureau Agents on a confidential basis.

He stated that he has now been informed by a reporter for a South African newspaper that "Life" magazine is aware of the contents of this letter and may have a copy of it. Acord was very upset that this information may have been "leaked" by the FBI to "Life" magazine. In answer to my question, he indicated that the people of his staff are aware of the letter and its contents, as is an attorney named Jaffe and the Rhodesian Information Office in Washington, D. C.

Acord was emphatically advised that any information furnished by him to the FBI would be maintained as confidential and under no circumstances would we "leak" any information whatsoever to "Life" magazine. It was pointed out to him that he has admitted that other persons besides the FBI were aware of the letter and its contents and he admitted the possibility that "Life" magazine could have gotten the information concerning it from any of these sources. His concern, he stated, was based on the fact that he understood that "Life" magazine was to carry a story about the letter and possibly print a copy of it and he felt that this might result in bad publicity for Rhodesia. He was again assured that the FBI had maintained the letter in confidence and had not given it to any news media whatsoever.

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Jones

7 9 JUN 19 1968

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Bishop to DeLoach Memo Re: MURKIN

At 3 p.m. on 6-12-68, Jack Rosenthal, who was formerly the Information Officer for the Department of Justice, telephonically contacted me to advise that he is now associated with the Washington Bureau of "Life" magazine and that he will specialize in writing on urban affairs, although at the present time is helping to gather information about the captioned case for "Life" magazine. He voluntarily informed that "Life" magazine had scored a "coup" in the case by securing a copy of a letter which had been written by Ray under the name of Eric S. Galt to an unnamed organization in Washington in December, 1967, asking for information on travel regulations to Rhodesia. When I asked him how this had been secured, he advised me on a strictly confidential basis that a copy of this letter had been secured from one Mr. Tause (phonetic) whom he described as the Rhodesian Government Information Officer in Washington, D. C.

It would appear from the above that the Rhodesian Information Office is the one responsible for furnishing the information concerning the letter to "Life" magazine.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

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Memorandum

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7,310

Mr. Mohr

DATE: June 12, 1968

FROM

J. J. Casper

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

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Tolson _ DeLoach

Bishop

Conrad . Felt ___ Gale __

Rosen

Sullivan Tavel _ Trotter

Purpose of this memorandum is to suggest the theory concerning who might have paid Ray to assassinate Reverend Martin Luther King.

In a recent news dispatch, probably the Sunday Star of June 9, 1968, Ray's brother in St. Louis was quoted as saying that Ray must have been paid because he would not do anything without being paid and that if convicted he should get no more punishment than was given to the murderer of George Lincoln Rockwell. This curious reference to the Rockwell case in particular suggests that Ray's brother may know that Ray has fallen in with the so-called American Nazi Party and that whoever footed the bill for Rockwell has paid Ray in this case. The constantly reported hatred of Ray for Negroes seems to fit this theory. The reference by Ray's brother to Rockwell may have been coincidental only, but it is equally susceptible of an interpretation that the Ray brothers have been closer to Rockwell and his associates, including his backers, than was known.

RECOMMENDATION:

For appropriate consideration.

44-38861.446

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Sullivan

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

REC-110-44-38861-4469

1 - Mr. McGowan 1 - Mr McDonough

Mr. James H. McCarthy 1094 South Marengo Avenue Pasadena, California 91106

Dear Mr. McCarthy:

Your letter dated June 5, 1968, has been received.

The matter to which you refer has been looked into and Agents of this Bureau did not, nor are they authorized under statute to, issue any instructions as outlined in your letter.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

JUN 12 1968

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John Edgar Hoover Director

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO.

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NOTE:

Bureau is in receipt of a letter from one James H. McCarthy, Pasadena, California, not further identified, in which he states that a recent article in the Los Angeles "Times" stated that "FBI Agents have ordered people who know anything about Galt to not mention the matter." McCarthy states he is interested to know under what law Agents are authorized to order a citizen not to say anything about any matter.

On basis of information available, McCarthy is not identifiable in Bureau files or Los Angeles Office files. The 4-13-68 issue of the Los Angeles "Times" contained an article captioned, "Secrecy Shrouds Mystery Man in King Slaying," which was datelined Birmingham and the article reported in part "So tight was the secrecy that the FBI drew around its investigation, Birmingham residents once acquainted with the man who used the name Galt were instructed by Agents to keep silent." SAC, Birmingham, advised that no such instructions were issued by Agents of that office. He advised that Los Angeles "Times" reporters were arrogant while in Birmingham, were disliked and received little cooperation from the local residents for that reason. Los Angeles "Times" also furnished the Bureau information from an unidentified informant of theirs, relative to the King murder case, which was run out in areas of the country stretching from Florida, to Los Angeles; and this information was found to have no material connection with this case.

It is felt no useful purpose would be served in attempting to straighten out the Los Angeles "Times" relative to this article.

office of JAMES H. MCCARTHY Mr. Cenrad 1094 SOUTH MARENGO AVENUE PASADENA, CALIFORNIA Mr. Rosen Mr. Sullivan Mr. Tavel. Mr. Trotter... Tele. Room..... Miss Holmes____ June 5, 1968 Miss Gandy. J. Edgar Hoover, Director Federal Bureau of Investigation Washington, D.C. Dear Mr. Hoover: A recent article in the Los Angeles Times stated that "FBI Agents have ordered people who know anything about Galt to not mention the matter." I'm interested to know under what law your agents are authorized to order a citizen not to say anything about any matter. Would you be so kind as to inform me on this? JHM:SB Med 2011 1 Med the Indy of 2 JUN 18 1968

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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

Memorandum

TO

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

DATE: June 12, 1968

FROM:

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

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

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

RE: ROBERT EDWARD BYRNE, Denver, Colorado.

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

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

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

2 Bureau

1 Memphis (44-1987) 1 Denver (157-203)

2 Little Rock

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LR 157-1215

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

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

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

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

FBJ WASH DC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN121968

FBI MEMPHIS

604 PM DEFERRED 6-12-68 DND

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861). SEATTLE AND DALLAS

FROM MEMPHIS (44-1987) (2P)

MURKIN

SUMMARY TELETYPE.

RE CHICAGO AIRTEL TO MEMPHIS, DALLAS, SEATTLE AND MOBILE JUNE ELEVEN LAST REGARDING ANONYMOUS CALLER WHO CLAIMED TO BE ESCAPEE FROM WASHINGTON STATE PRISON, WALLA WALLA, WASH. AND WHO CLAIMS TO HAVE BEEN GIVEN SIXTEEN HUNDRED DOLLARS BY GENE BASS, DALLAS, TEXAS, FOR THE JOB THAT WAS DONE BY JAMES EARL RAY.

SEATTLE SHOULD OBTAIN INFORMATION REGARDING ALL PERSONS WHO ESCAPED DURING FEBRUARY NINETEEN SIXTY SEVEN AND FURNISH SAME TO DALLAS. WHO SHOULD THEN INTERVIEW GENE BASS FOR ANY INFORMATION IN HIS POSSESSION !

OFFICES RECEIVING THIS SHOULD NOTE THAT THE "FAT MAN" ABOUT WHOM THERE HAS BEEN MUCH RECENT PUBLICITY HAS BEEN POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED AND ELIMINATED. RCMP HAS REQUESTED NO REPEAT NO INFO RE IDENTIFICATION OF "FAT MAN" BE MADE PUBLIC. IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT CHICAGO'S ANONYMOUS CALLER IS DEFINITELY MAN, INVESTIGATION MUST BE CONDUCTED TO DETERMINE WHETHER GENE BASS MENTIONED BY HIM MIGHT HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN THE TANT CASE. END PAGE ONE

79 JUN 19 1968

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Mr. DeLoach Mr. Mohr. Mr. Bishop. Mr. Casper. Mr. Callahan Mr. Conrad Mr. Felt_ Mr. Gale Mr. Roser Mr. Sullivan Mr. Tavel. Mr. Trotter Tele. Room. Miss Holmes Miss Gandy

Mr. Tolson

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TO DIRECTOR (44-30861), STATILE AND DALLAS
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BY SEPARATE COMMUNICTION, THE MEMPHIS DIVISION HAS REQUESTED ALL OFFICES NAVING OUTSTANDING LEADS OR REQUESTS FOR CIRCULARIZATION IN A NY PUBLICATION OF ANY KIND TO CANCEL.

INFORMATION HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN FURNISHED TO BUREAU ADVISING PRALPH M. CARPENTER, YORK ARMS EMPLOYEE, IS PATIENT IN PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL. DR. MAX WEST, WHO IS PHYSICIAN IN ATTENDANCE ON FLOOR WHER CARPENTER CONFINED, DID STATE THAT IN HIS OPINION CARPENTER IS COMPETENT WHEN HE IS NOT INVOLVED IN HIS CURRENT DISORDER (MANIC DEPRESSIVE). DR. WEST SAID IN HIS OPINION CARPENTER'S PRESENT CONDITION SHOULD HAVE NO BEARING ON HIS PREVIOUS IDENTIFICATION OR INFORMATION FURNISHED RELATING TO THE INVESTIGATION OF THE MURDER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., ALTHOUGH ATTORNEYS MIGHT TRY TO MAKE SOMETHING OF IT.

AIRMAIL COPY TO CHICAGO . P.

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44-38861

Mr. F. Treville

3255 Hillside_

Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197

Dear Mr. Leger:

Your letter of June 5th has been received.

In regard to your comments, the FBI, at the direction of President Johnson, conducted a prompt, intensive, objective and thorough investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy. The results of this investigation were accurately reported to the Warren Commission, and not one shred of evidence has been developed to link any other person in a conspiracy with Lee Harvey Oswald to assassinate President Kennedy. All available evidence and facts point to one conclusion-that Oswald acted alone in his crime.

James Earl Ray, who was sought by this Bureau in connection with the slaying of Martin Luther King, was arrested on June 8th in London, England, and is now awaiting extradition to the United States to face charges of murder in the State of Tennessee.

> Sincerely yours, J. Edgar Hoover

MAILEQ Z JUN 12 1968 COMM-FBI

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of correspondent.

FMG:cae (3)

Sullivan Trotter Holmes

Tolson

Mohr . Casper

Conrad . Gale

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

ORIGINAL FILED IN

3255 Hillside Ypsilanti, Michigan 4819. June 5, 1968

r. J. Edgar Hoover Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation Vashington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Still another prominent American has been attacked in public. The assassination of President Kennedy has never been satisfactorily explained. and Dr. King's assassin remains undetected.

This, to me, raises strong doubts concerning the efficiency and efficacy of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in particular, and of the Justice Department in general.

Respectfully,

F. Treville Leger

44-3886

NOT RECORDED 199 JUN 14 1968

REC-D BISHOP WIELL DIV. 1968

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

62-10906

4-572 (Rev. 7-18-63) OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10 MAY 1962 EDITION GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

: The Director

DATE:

FROM : N.P. Callahan

OPPORKIN

Page B4803. Congressmen Smith, (R) Calliernia, and Devine, (R) Ohio. commended the FBI for the apprehension of James Earl Ray. Mr. Smith stated "It is a genuise tribute to the smooth-working relationship which exists between the FBI and Fritish and Canadian authorities that Rav was tracked down in England last Saturday morning. I know that I votce the sentiments of colleagues in both Houses of Congress when I express to J. Edgar Hoover and the men and women of the FBI hardy congratulations on another job well done. " Mr. Devine stated "I would like to take this occasion to congratuize the efficient men and women of the Federal Bareau of Investigation and its Director, J. Edgar Hoover. The excellent working relationship with the British and Canadian authorities has been well demonstrated. - - - - At least to the law-abiding citizens, it is reassuring indeed to know that the FBI, with its quiet competence and dedication to the security of the Nation, is standing by.

Page E5196. Congressman Wyatt, (R) Oregon, extended his remarks and commended the FBI for the apprehension of James Earl Ray and stated. The successivi conclusion to this manhunt -- probably the greatest

EXTENSIONS OF REMARK.

in the history of the FBI- is a tribute to the efficiency and dedication of the professional corp of law enforcement agents in the FEL. Even more so, this is a landmark case of mutual cooperation among law enforcement agencies Police and New Scotland Yard. He went on to state I am proud to have been He also commended the Royal Canadian Mounted a member of the FBI and to have worked for J. Edgar Hoover. Wyatt was employed with the Bureau as an Agent from 8-25-41 to 6-23-42.)

In the original of a memorandum captioned and dated as above, Record for was reviewed and pertinent items were marked for the Director's attention. This form has been prepared in order that ctions 25 1968 the original memorandum may be clipped, mounted, and placed matter files.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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	kit was delivered	16/11/68, to the Office of M	Iajor Walsh, Comn	nanding
	Officer, Office of	f Special Investigations, Dov	ver Air Force Base	e, Dover,
		ansportation to London via n		,
	•	-	<u> </u>	,
	The Li	aison Section has arranged	with Major Walsh t	n have
		ondon on the first flight avai		
		the specific time and date of	<u> </u>	
	_	_	_	
		orted, and Liaison will noti		
		rival time of the flight in or		itative
	of the Legal Atta	che's Office can meet the pl	ane.	- / //

ACTION: For information.

JGK:cs (7)

79 JUN 19 1968

MEC'D JUN 13 10 49 AM '68 10 36 AM 368 12 51 PH '68 Jan. 12 1 Km 13 11 37 Ali 90 FBI REC-D BISHOP RECTU - ROSEM FBX

FBI

Date:	June	12,	1968
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		Date: June 12, 1968	
ınsmit	the following	in(Type in plaintext or code)	
		AIR MAIL	
·	AIRTEL	(Priority)	
	SUBJECT: dated 6/ were dis Mens Sty	Reference Springfield teletype to Bureau, 10/68. On 6/11 and 12/68, photographs of JAMES EARL Followed to LARRY MC INTOSH and former owners of le Shop, Mayfield, Kentucky. Mr. WATT C. SEAY at 1500 all advised that on an average of one year	and
	sell ove pictures them. A Mayfiel record w charge r purchase	of JAMES EARL RAY are completely unfamiliar to ladvised that mose likely the hat purchased and Kentucky, was done so by a cash purchase and ould be kept of such a transaction. All stated ecord was available of information concerning the of a Royal De Luxe Stetson. Further, photographs displayed to COP of Mayformation Graves County, Mayfield, Kentucky, and Sudge Graves County all advised they are unable an identification concerning JAMES EARL RAY.	t no no he ield,
	3 - Bure 1 - Spri 1 - Mem	pen 10 1 2 2 5 5 / - 4 4	13
	M J	John	
79	JUN 19 19	068 Sont M. Box	
App	noved:	SentM Per Decial Agent in Charge	

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FBI

June 12, 1968

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Transmit the following in

(Type in plaintext or code)

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

(Priority)

:OT

(44-36861)DIRECTOR, FBI

(44-947)SAC, LOUISVILLE

> MURKIN SUBJECT:

Reference Springfield teletype to Bureau, dated 6/10/68.

On 6/11 and 12/68, photographs of JAMES EARL RAY were displayed to LARRY MC INTOSH and former owners of Mens Style Shop, Mayfield, Kentucky. Mr. WATT C. SEAY and EDWIN WILSON all advised that on an average of one year they sell over 40 dozen Royal De Luxe Stetsons and that the pictures of JAMES EARL RAY are completely unfamiliar to them. All advised that mose likely the hat purchased at Magfield, Kentucky, was done so by a cash purchase and no record would be kept of such a transaction. All stated no charge record was available of information concerning the purchase of a Royal De Luxe Stetson.

Further, photographs displayed to COP of Mayfield, Kentuky, Sheriff Graves County, Mayfield, Kentucky, and County Judge Graves County all advised they are unable to make an identification concerning JAMES EARL RAY.

i - Springfield (44 361) be insing

1 - Memphis (44-1987)

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REC.D - COMMENTS HECEINED

Special Agent in Charge

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