

F B I

Date: 8/24/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) ATTN: FBI LABORATORY
 FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (44-1114)
 SUBJECT: MURKIN

OO: MEMPHIS

680826101

Enclosed for the Laboratory is page "13" of a
 rooming house ledger and Registration Card No. 8075 from a hotel.

Page "13" was obtained from a rooming house at
 2731 Sheffield, Chicago, Illinois, and on line 24 bears
 the signature JOHN LARRY RAYMS, who it is believed is
 identical with the subject.

Registration Card No. 8075 obtained from the
 Lincoln Apartment Hotel, 1648 West Lunt, Chicago, Illinois,
 bears the signature of JOHN L. RAYNS and other inked
 handwriting, believed made by the subject.

The Laboratory is requested to compare the
 signature JOHN LARRY RAYMS appearing on line 24 of the
 enclosed page "13" and the signature JOHN L. RAYNS and
 other inked writing on the enclosed Registration Card
 No. 8075 with the known handwriting and signatures of the
 subject to determine if the subject in fact signed page "13"
 and the Registration Card.

The Laboratory is requested to return the enclosures
 to the Chicago Office upon completion of this examination.

- 3 - Bureau (Encl. 1)
 1 - Memphis (44-1987) (Info)
 1 - Chicago

JMB:pag
 (5)

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____

Special Agent in Charge

61 SEP 3 1968

RECEIVED

AUG 26 4 52 PM '68

DOJ - FBI LABORATORY

FBI

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

AUG 26 4 45 PM '68

REC'D
FBI LABORATORY

AUG 28 9 19 AM '68

AUG 27 9 28 AM '68

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

F B I

Date: 8-22-68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AM
(Priority)

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	

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

There are enclosed newspaper clippings re captioned matter, one of which reflects the release of CHARLES QUITMAN STEPHENS from custody as a material witness in captioned matter.

3 BUREAU (Enc. 8)
 1 MEMPHIS

ENCLOSURE

1 cc + set of end pgs 2260
 1 set end destroyed

RGJ:BN
 (4)

8-21-68
 1 cc for CR Unit.

REC 4

44-38861-5102

AUG 23 1968

EX-105

F B I

REC'D DE LOACH

REC'D - CIVIL RIGHTS

VNC 52

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

51 OCT-3 1968

55 DIRECTOR

22 DIRECTOR

RECEIVED
DIVISION

AUG 23 4 15 PM '68

AUG 23 6 34 PM '68

REC'D DE LOACH

F. B. I.
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

F B I

Key Witness In Ray Case Walks Free After Ruling

By CHARLES EDMUNDSON

Charles Q. Stephens, 57-year-old key witness in the coming trial of the man charged with killing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., walked free from the Shelby County Jail yesterday after a Circuit Court judge ruled his imprisonment as a "material witness" was illegal.

Judge William W. O'Hearn held that Mr. Stephens' imprisonment for the past 30 days was without legal justification and ordered his instant release.

imprison a man because he is the victim of circumstances?" Judge O'Hearn asked. "Mr. Stephens promises to cooperate as a state witness. He has not violated the statutes. He cannot be imprisoned on conjectures as to what he might do."

Mr. Stephens is supposed to have seen a man identifiable as James Earl Ray, charged with Dr. King's murder, run from the second floor of a South Main Street rooming house from which the fatal shot was fired April 4.

Asst. Atty. Gen. James C. Beasley told the court the prosecution has no other witness who "can testify to the same material facts."

Mr. Beasley said Mr. Stephens was placed in jail "to keep him from being disposed of—to speak plainly." However, Police Chief Henry Lux said a three-shift bodyguard detailed to guard the witness in the Shelby County Jail would be discontinued. "We haven't the men to supply a bodyguard for Stephens," Chief Lux said.

Mr. Stephens was freed on a writ of habeas corpus. During the hearing Judge O'Hearn observed, "It would be naive not to consider that something could happen to him (if he is released)."

Atty. Gen. Phil M. Canale and the Memphis office of the FBI replied, "No comment," when asked if Mr. Stephens will be given a bodyguard, which he said he is willing to accept. He had a bodyguard outside the jail from July 5 to July 22.

On July 22, Criminal Court Judge W. Preston Battle, who will preside at Ray's trial, ordered Mr. Stephens held in default of a \$10,000 material witness bond. Until 3:30 p.m. yesterday he had been held in an air conditioned private room on the fifth floor of the Shelby County Jail.

It was the first of several pretrial orders issued by Judge Battle to be tested in another court.

Jay Fred Friedman, one of Mr. Stephens' attorneys, quoted his client as saying, "I'm going underground — out of circulation. Last time I opened my mouth they put me in jail. This time I'm going to keep my mouth shut."

Mr. Friedman said Mr. Stephens, a former heavy machinery operator drawing a partial disability pension of \$113 from the Veterans Administration, will remain in Shelby County as ordered by Judge O'Hearn and will be on hand to testify when the Ray trial opens Nov. 12.

Mr. Stephens testified he agreed to "take a room" at the jail upon being assured he could leave occasionally under

Below)

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

PAGE 50 & 64

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 8/22/68
Edition: Final
Author:
Editor: FRANK P. AULICEN
Title:

Character:

or

Classification: 100-1937

Submitting Office:

MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

police protection and could have visitors. He said he had been allowed no visitors except his two attorneys.

Harvey L. Gipson, co-counsel for Mr. Stephens, objected that his client had been allowed fewer visitors than accused criminals and convicts.

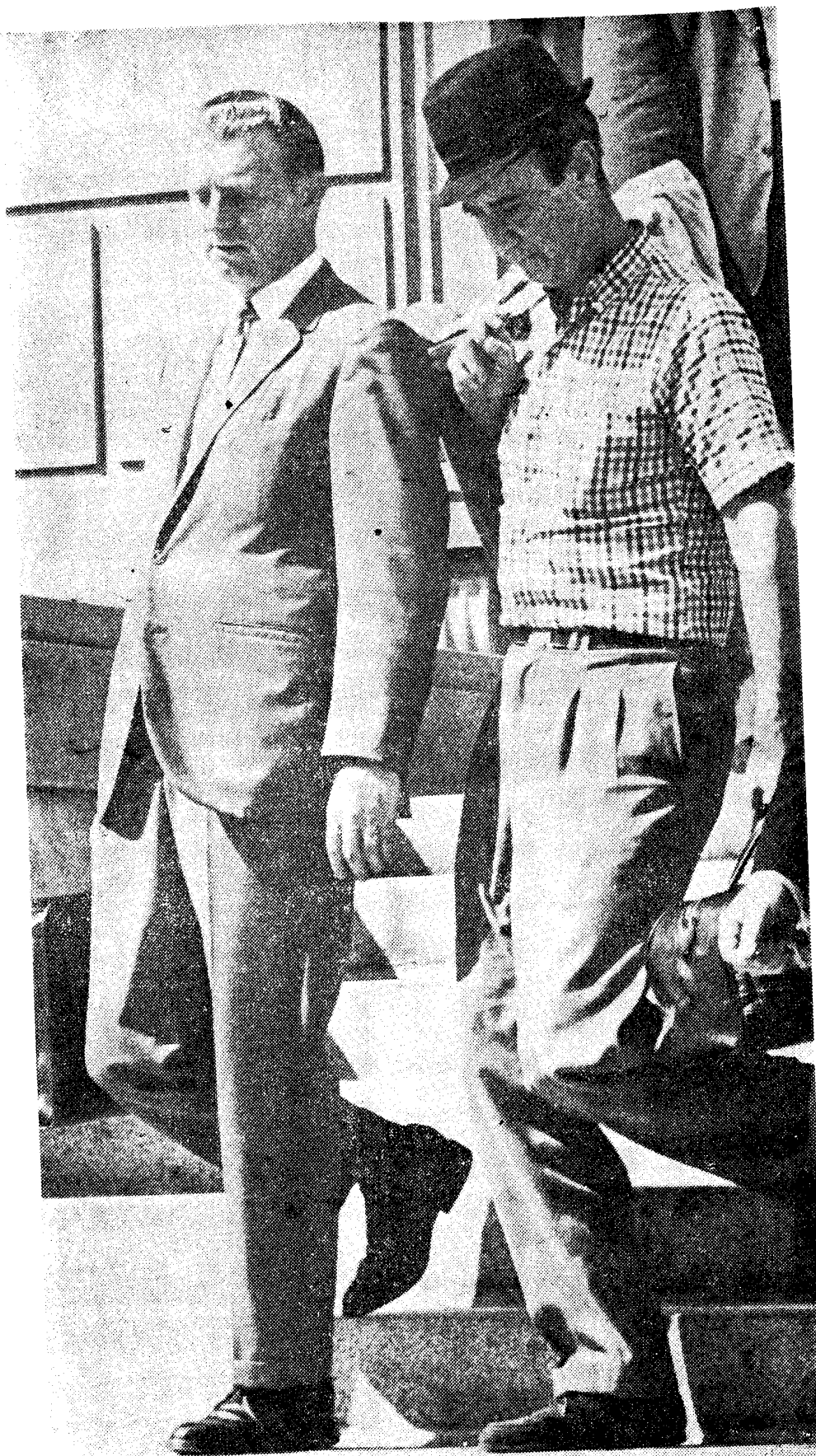
Mr. Stephens who has a drinking problem, appeared in excellent health. He appeared 10 to 20 pounds heavier than when he went on jail fare.

He wore a blue, grey and white-checked sport shirt, gray slacks and soft-finished loafers.

Order Frees Key Witness

A confinement of 40 days that began voluntarily and ended with Charles Quitman Stephens (right) a prisoner was over yesterday when the man who has been identified as a key witness in the death of Dr. Martin

Luther King Jr. left the Shelby County Criminal Courts Building with Harvey L. Gipson, one of his attorneys. A writ of habeas corpus ordering the release was granted by Circuit Court Judge William O'Hearn.



2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

'Lead' Claimed In King Slaying

Arthur J. Hanes, defense lawyer in the King murder trial, told The Press-Scimitar he received a letter this morning that is "one of the best leads yet in the case."

Hanes quoted the writer as saying: "I would have contacted you sooner, but I'm in public work. I can't stick my neck out too far."

Hanes said in Birmingham, his home, that he received the letter there yesterday, and it was post-marked Memphis.

"I want to develop the truth of this thing," Hanes said, though he confirmed that he believes the lead in favor of his client, James Earl Ray, who is held in the Shelby County jail on a charge of killing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The writer was anonymous, but asked Hanes phone number and exact address — phone (205) 324-9536 at Room 617 Frank Nelson Bldg., Birmingham.

The lawyer declined to reveal the lead, saying the evidence must wait for the trial.

"It directly bears on the case," he said.

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

PAGE 33

MEMPHIS PRESS
SCIMITAR

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 8-21-68

Edition: HOME

Author:

Editor: CHAS. H. SCHNEIDER

Title:

Character:

or

Classification: 44 1657

Submitting Office: Memphis

☐ Being Investigated

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

AUG 22 1968

TELETYPE

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	_____

FBI WASH DC

235PM URGENT 8-22-68 DJM

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

MURKIN

RE SI TEL TO BUREAU AUGUST TWENTYONE LAST.

SI ONE FIVE FIVE TWO- C, SI ONE SIX ONE FOUR- C,
AND PCI HELEN GRABLE CONTACTED. INFORMATION DEVELOPED THAT A
WILLIE LEE, BELIEVED A QUOTE WEAK LINK END QUOTE AMONG ASSOCIATES
JOHN MC CLINTOCK, DICK COVINGTON, AND DELMAR GRINDSTAFF, HAS
LEFT THE STATE BECAUSE SOMEONE IS QUOTE OUT TO GET HIM END
QUOTE.

MC CLINTOCK DUE FOR TRIAL MADISON COUNTY COURT ON
BURGLARY CHARGE.

WHEREABOUTS OF COVINGTON AND GRINDSTAFF UNKNOWN TO
INFORMANTS OR ASSOCIATES.

MAIL COPIES SENT CHICAGO, MEMPHIS, AND ST. LOUIS.

END.

EXJ

FBI WASH DC

REC 54

EX-100

16 AUG 26 1968

@

51 SEP 3- 1968

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

AUG 22

4 05 PM '68

AUG 22 3 39 PM '68

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

AUG 23 9 24 AM '68

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach *DL*

DATE: August 20, 1968

FROM : A. Rosen *AR*

SUBJECT: MURKIN

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

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. *DL*

Enc
Tomas Reyes Lau, owner, International School of Bartending, Los Angeles, California, advised he has been approached by one Clay Blair, Jr., Potomac, Maryland, for information regarding the Murkin case. It is noted that subject as Eric S. Galt attended this school from January 19, 1968, to his graduation on March 2, 1968.

Blair identified himself as a writer for Bantam Books and he displayed a letter of identification signed by Mark C. Jaffe, the Senior Vice-President of Bantam Books, New York. Blair explained to Lau he was writing a book regarding James Earl Ray and he desired to obtain information from Lau regarding Ray's attendance at the International School of Bartending. *ad*

Lau stated he told Blair he had received a court order from Memphis in which he was forbidden to discuss any information he had regarding the King assassination until after the trial of Ray. Lau stated he had no intention of violating the court order and told Blair he would furnish him no information.

ACTION:

Memphis is being instructed to furnish the above information to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Tennessee, who is handling the state's prosecution of Ray. Department being advised.

REL:jms
(7)

REC-40

CLM/JIC

44-38861-5104

86 AUG 26 1968

56 AUG 30 1968

Ltr to MEMPHIS
8/21/68
REL JMS

AUG 23 3 19 PM '68

REC'D DE LOACH
F B I

105-101-1013
RECEIVED
F B I

AUG 20 8 54 AM '68

F. B. I.
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

AUG 20 12 06 PM '68

REC'D DE LOACH
F B I

AUG 20 3 29 PM '68

AUG 20 2 41 PM '68

F B I

AUG 21 12 06 PM '68

F B I

SAC, Memphis (44-1987)

August 21, 1968

REC 74
Director, FBI (44-38861) 5105

1 - Mr. Long

MURKIN

ST-106
ReLAairtel to the Bureau dated 8-16-68.

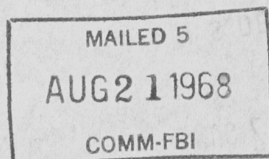
mz
You should advise Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., Attorney General, Shelby County, Tennessee, of the contents of referenced communication in view of the fact that he is handling the state's prosecution.

REL:jms
(4) jms

NOTE:

See Rosen to DeLoach memorandum dated 8-20-68, captioned, "Murkin."

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



54 SEP 3 - 1968

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

(4)
REF: Jms

I - MR. FOUZ

F B I

Date: 8/16/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIR MAIL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

TOMAS REYES LAU, owner, International School of Bartending, Los Angeles, California, advised on 8/16/68 that he had been approached by an individual named CLAY BLAIR, JR., 11901 Piney Glen Lane, Potomac, Maryland 20854, for information regarding the MURKIN case.

BLAIR identified himself as a writer for Bantam Books. BLAIR displayed to LAU a letter of identification signed by MARK C. JAFFE, Senior Vice-President, Bantam Books, New York.

BLAIR explained to LAU he was writing a book regarding JAMES EARL RAY and solicited information from LAU regarding LAU's knowledge of RAY and RAY's attendance at the International School of Bartending.

LAU stated he told BLAIR he had received a court order from Memphis in which he was forbidden to discuss any information he had regarding the MARTIN LUTHER KING assassination until after the trial of RAY. LAU stated he has no intention of violating this court order and told BLAIR he would furnish him no information.

- 3 - Bureau (AIR MAIL)
 - 2 - Memphis (44-1987)(AIR MAIL)
 - 1 - Baltimore (44-669)(Info.)(AIR MAIL)
 - 1 - New York (Info.)(AIR MAIL)
 - 1 - Los Angeles
- TJA:CM
(8)

C. C. Bishop

REC 74

2 AUG 19 1968

Approved: WJH/SA Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

AUG 19 10 49 AM 1968

AUG 19 10 52 AM '68

(8)

ATTN: CH

1 - LOS ANGELES

1 - NEW YORK (INFO.) (VIA MAIL)

1 - BALTIMORE (INFO.) (VIA MAIL)

1 - MEMPHIS (INFO.) (VIA MAIL)

1 - ALBANY (VIA MAIL)

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

WATSON.

THIS COURT ORDER AND COPY BEING RECORDED WITH NO INTENTION
THE FIRST OF MAY. GAV stated he has no intention of attending
he has regarding the MARTIN LUTHER KING ASSASSINATION which after
from Memphis in which he was forbidden to discuss any information
GAV stated he told BEVIN he had received a court order

of attending.

knowledge of MAY and MAY's attendance at the International School
JAMES EARL RAY and sought information from GAV regarding GAV's
BEVIN explained to GAV he was writing a book regarding

C. JAMES' senior vice-president, Pearson Books, New York.

BEVIN explained to GAV a letter of identification signed by MAY
BEVIN identified himself as a writer for Pearson Books.

the MARTIN case.

After some discussion regarding source for information regarding
been approached by an individual named GAV BEVIN, JR. JAMES stated
regarding, Los Angeles, California, advised on 8/15/68 that he had
JAMES BEVIN, JR. owner, International School of Law.

SOURCE: MARTIN

FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1514)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

VIA MAIL

8/15/68

F B I

Date: 8/23/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
 FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (44-1114)
 SUBJECT: UNSUBS (2);
 The Bank of Alton,
 Alton, Illinois
 7/13/67
 BR
 OO: SPRINGFIELD

On 8/21/68, circulars regarding laundry and dry cleaning marks obtained at captioned bank robbery were furnished to all laundries in the Chicago Division through the Illinois Launderers Association, mailing list and to all dry cleaners in the Chicago Division, through the National Dry Cleaning Institution mailing list furnished by the Baltimore Office.

C. C. = Bishop

③-Bureau
 (1-91-27494)
 2-Springfield (44-561)
 (1-91-3699)
 2-Chicago
 (1-91-5375)
 JHW/mah
 (7)

REC-20

EX-100

44-38861-5106
12 AUG 26 1968

Approved: [Signature] Sent _____ M Per _____
 Special Agent in Charge

57 SEP 3 1968

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 91-27494-

REC'D CIVIL RIGHTS
FBI

Aug 25 2 10 PM '61

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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

TO : Mr. DeLoach *PD*

DATE: August 21, 1968

FROM : A. Rosen *RY*

SUBJECT: MURKIN

1 COPIES MADE
5/3/78 GJF/SS
re M.L. King, Jr. serials
FOR REVIEW AT FBI HQ
HSCA RE 5/1/78 REQUEST
(SEE BUFILE #82-117290)

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

2/12
This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

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

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

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

Memphis has been advised of the discussion with the Department.

ACTION:

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

REL:jms
(6)

REC-57

44-38861-5107

22 AUG 23 1968

57 SEP 4 1968

COPY MADE FOR MR. TOLSON

RECEIVED
AUG 21 11 42 AM '68

AUG 21 11 42 AM '68

AUG 21 9 55 AM '68

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

AUG 21 10 49 AM '68

REC'D DE LOACH
F B I

AUG 22 10 10 AM '68

REC'D DE LOACH
F B I

AUG 21 8 59 AM '68

REC'D DE LOACH
AUG 21 11 24 AM '68

OFFICE

AUG 22 1 55 PM '68

FBI

NA
8/21/68
5508
[Signature]

Re: Bank Robbery of
Bank of Alton, Illinois
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 21 1968

TELETYPE

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	_____

FBI WASH DC

351PM URGENT 8-21-68 DJM

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

MURKIN

RE SPRINGFIELD TEL TO BUREAU AUGUST TWENTY LAST.

SI ONE FIVE FIVE TWO DASH C, WHO FURNISHED ORIGINAL INFORMATION INDICATING JOHN MC CLINTOCK WAS ONE OF THOSE INVOLVED IN ROBBERY THE BANK OF ALTON, STATED TODAY HE KNOWS JAMES EARL RAY AND IS VIRTUALLY CERTAIN RAY WAS NOT IN ALTON DURING JULY NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN; THAT INFORMATION REGARDING MC CLINTOCK'S COMPLICITY IN BANK ROBBERY ACCURATE AND THAT THERE IS NO CONNECTION BETWEEN MC CLINTOCK AND RAY. INFORMANT INTENSIFYING INQUIRY TO FURTHER ELABORATE ON INFORMATION.

MAIL COPY TO CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS.

END.

~~COR LAST PARA SHD BE 5 SPACES AND THEN MAIL~~

END

CAB

FBI WASH DC

44-38861-5108

ST-106
REC-18

REC'D - CIVIL RIGHTS
AUG 26 1968

35 AUG 30 1968

CC - long

RECEIVED
AUG 22 7 01 AM '68
FBI

AUG 23 3 42 PM '68
RECEIVED CRIMINAL SEC.

AUG 22 1 48 PM '68

AUG 23 11 31 AM '68

RECEIVED
FBI

AUG 22 5 06 PM '68
AUG 22 11 51 AM '68
FBI
REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI REC'D - CIV RIGHTS

AUG 21 5 31 PM '68
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
F.B.I.
TELETYPE UNIT
AUG 21 4 55 PM '68
RECEIVED



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Birmingham, Alabama, 35203

August 13, 1968

*In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.*

Re: James Earl Ray;
Reverend Martin Luther King - Victim

Mr. Don Wood, Aeromarine Supply Company, Birmingham, Alabama, telephonically contacted Special Agent Neil P. Shanahan of the Birmingham office of the FBI and furnished the following information:

ENCLOSURE

44-38861-5109

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 8/13/68

Mr. DON WOOD, Aeromarine Supply Company, Birmingham, telephonically contacted Special Agent NEIL P. SHANAHAN and furnished the following information:

WOOD stated that at approximately 5:15 or 5:30 p.m., on August 12, 1968, ARTHUR HANES, Attorney, appeared at the Aeromarine Supply Company and requested to speak with him. WOOD advised that he was busy and when he had completed his sale, he spoke with Mr. HANES, who made small talk for a few minutes and then said "DON, my man is so shook up, he can't remember exactly what time he was in this store on that Friday and Saturday afternoon. Can you remember what time he was in here?" WOOD advised that he told HANES that "he was in here sometime in the afternoon."

WOOD stated that following this exchange, HANES thanked him very much and then left the store. At no time did HANES refer to his client, JAMES EARL RAY or anyone else by name but left no doubt in his (WOOD's) mind that he was referring to his client, JAMES EARL RAY.

WOOD stated also that HANES came in his store about two or three weeks ago and purchased two .38 caliber Colt Detective Specials from him, and stated at the time that he needed them for protection for both he and his son because of harassing telephone calls.

On 8/12/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # ME 44-1740
ME 44-1987
by SA NEIL P. SHANAHAN:rte Date dictated 8/13/68

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.



*In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Birmingham, Alabama, 35203

August 13, 1968

**Re: James Earl Ray;
Reverend Martin Luther King - Victim**

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 8/13/68

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ME 44-1987
by SA NEIL P. SHANAHAN:rte Date dictated 8/13/68

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*In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Birmingham, Alabama, 35203

August 13, 1968

**Re: James Earl Ray;
Reverend Martin Luther King - Victim**

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Date 8/13/68

Mr. DON WOOD, Aeromarine Supply Company, Birmingham, telephonically contacted Special Agent NEIL P. SHANAHAN and furnished the following information:

WOOD stated that at approximately 5:15 or 5:30 p.m., on August 12, 1968, ARTHUR HANES, Attorney, appeared at the Aeromarine Supply Company and requested to speak with him. WOOD advised that he was busy and when he had completed his sale, he spoke with Mr. HANES, who made small talk for a few minutes and then said "DON, my man is so shook up, he can't remember exactly what time he was in this store on that Friday and Saturday afternoon. Can you remember what time he was in here?" WOOD advised that he told HANES that "he was in here sometime in the afternoon."

WOOD stated that following this exchange, HANES thanked him very much and then left the store. At no time did HANES refer to his client, JAMES EARL RAY or anyone else by name but left no doubt in his (WOOD's) mind that he was referring to his client, JAMES EARL RAY.

WOOD stated also that HANES came in his store about two or three weeks ago and purchased two .38 caliber Colt Detective Specials from him, and stated at the time that he needed them for protection for both he and his son because of harassing telephone calls.

On 8/12/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740
SA NEIL P. SHANAHAN:rte ME 44-1987
by SA NEIL P. SHANAHAN:rte Date dictated 8/13/68

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.

F B I

Date: August 13, 1968

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

MURKIN;
CR
OO:ME

Re Birmingham telephone call to Bureau August 13, 1968.

Enclosed for the Bureau are five copies of a letterhead memorandum suitable for dissemination, setting forth information received from Mr. DON WOOD, witness, this case.

One copy of the above-mentioned letterhead memorandum is being designated for the Memphis Division for information purposes.

3-Bureau (Enc.5) (AM)
1-Memphis(44-1987) (Info.) (AM) (Enc.1)
1-Birmingham
NPS:rte
(5)

Airtel - BH
8/19/68

REL:erg

REC 36
SI-106

44-38861-5109

AUG 15 1968

AUG 12 5 38 PM '68

1cc + enc - Mr. Long
Pm. 2260

(1cc to CRD
By 6-94(B) REL/hk
8-22-68)

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

AUG 15 2 38 PM '68

RECEIVED

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

AUG 15

AUG 15 10 00 AM 1968

10 12 AM '68

F.B.I.
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

AUG 22 4 16 PM '68

8-19-68

1 - Mr. Long

Airtel

To: SAC, Birmingham (44-1740)

From: Director, FBI (44-38861) - 5109

MURKIN

REC 35

SI-106

Re Birmingham airtel dated 8-13-68.

If not already done, you should advise appropriate Birmingham officials of the fact that Arthur Hanes, attorney for James Earl Ray, purchased two .38 caliber Colt Detective Specials from Aeromarine Supply Company, Birmingham, Alabama, and stated that he needed them for protection for both him and his son because of harassing telephone calls.

REL:erg

(4)

NOTE:

Donald Wood, Aeromarine Supply Company, Birmingham, who sold the rifle found at the scene of the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., advised that Arthur Hanes, the attorney for James Earl Ray, came into his store and stated "Don, my man is so shook up, he can't remember exactly what time he was in this store on that Friday and Saturday afternoon. Can you remember what time he was in here?" Wood replied "He was in here sometime in the afternoon."

Wood stated that Hanes came in his store about two or three weeks ago and purchased two .38 caliber Colt Detective Specials from him and stated that he needed them for protection for both he and his son because of harassing telephone calls.

Bureau officials and the Department have been advised of the conversation between Wood and Hanes. Birmingham being instructed, if not already done, to advise appropriate authorities in Birmingham re purchase of two pistols by Hanes.

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

56 SEP 4 1968
50 SEP 3 1968

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

SENT FROM D. O.	
TIME	5:20 PM
DATE	8-19-68
BY	B.L.A.

RECEIVED DIRECTOR
F. B. I.

AUG 19 4 50 PM '68

AUG 20 11 02 AM '68

AUG 19 11 20 AM '68
REC'D DE LOACH
F B I

AUG 20 10 27 AM '68
REC'D DE LOACH
F B I

RECEIVED DIRECTOR
F. B. I.

AUG 19 5 16 PM '68

RECEIVED DIRECTOR
F. B. I.

AUG 22 4 03 PM '68

F B I

Date: 8/16/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

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

ReBucab 8/8/68.

The Barclays Bank slip, copy of which was received from Memphis, has been reexamined by Chief Inspector KEN THOMPSON and Sgt. PETER ELLIOTT, New Scotland Yard. Both officers state they remember the slip being in subject's property at the time of his arrest.

Sgt. ELLIOTT checked with Barclays Bank at London Airport on 8/15/68 and the following information is known:

The bank is located in the terminal building opposite the exit for passengers arriving in the country after they have cleared Immigration and Customs.

The primary function of this branch of the bank is to change foreign currency into English currency for travelers arriving in England.

The date stamp on the slip indicates the date of the transaction, which in this case is 5/17/68, the day RAY arrived in England from Lisbon. The word "Europa" on the stamp indicates in which terminal at London Airport the bank is located, Europa being the departure and arrival building for European flights.

3 - Bureau
1 - Liaison (direct)
1 - London
ACM:cm
(5)

REC 36

ST-106

17 AUG 21 1968

1cc of Airtel sent to
Memphis by RJS
8-23-68
1cc of Airtel for
OKener

C. C. = Bishop

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____

57 AUG 28 1968

Special Agent in Charge

SIX

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

AUG 21 3 11 PM '68

LON 88-72

The bank personnel state that the slips are always written in long hand and usually they don't bother with name and address except where there is a large amount of money involved. In this instance £84-15-8 is \$213.48, at \$2.40 to the £. Bank personnel state thousands of transactions are conducted daily and they would not be able to recall any particular person or transaction.

F B I

Date: 8/24/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) -P-

SUBJECT: MURKIN

6 RMD 2-20

Since May, 1968, daily intensive investigation has been conducted concerning the robbery of the Bank of Alton on 7/13/67 with a view to determining if JAMES EARL RAY was a participant and used his share of the loot to finance his subsequent travel and activity.

A summary of investigation conducted is as follows:

1. Clothing recovered after the robbery of the Bank of Alton as well as hair samples were compared at the FBI Laboratory with evidence recovered in the MURKIN case. The laboratory reported that the hair samples in the two matters were not identical.
2. Canvass of rooming houses, apartments, hotels, and motels including display of photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and associates was conducted without effecting an identification.
3. Photographs of RAY and his associates were displayed to witnesses at the Bank of Alton without effecting identification.
4. Neighborhood investigation in the vicinity of the Bank of Alton and on 4th Street in the

B

③ - Bureau (44-38861)
3 - Springfield (2;44-561)
(1:91-3699)
RCH/jac
(6)

C. C. Bishop

REC 36

44-38861-5711

EX-105

4 AUG 27 1968

51 AUG 30 1968

Approved

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M

Per

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

Aug 27 11 32 AM '61

SI 44-561

vicinity where clothing and the shotgun were recovered was intensified and photographs displayed. No identification was made as the result of this investigation.

5. Laundry and dry cleaning establishments in the Greater Alton area were canvassed. Laundry and dry cleaning symbols not positively identified and photos of RAY and his associates were unfamiliar to persons contacted.
6. Informants, particularly SI 1614-C and SI 1552-C, have been given definite assignments in connection with this matter. Information developed by them has tended to indicate earlier suspects JOHN MC CLINTOCK, HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON, and DELMAR GRINDSTAFF were involved in the bank robbery and that RAY was definitely not involved. SI 1552-C stated he personally knows RAY and believes he would have known if RAY had been in the Alton area subsequent to April, 1967.
7. Area police departments have contacted informants and have been unable to come up with any information to indicate either that RAY took part in the bank robbery or was in the Alton area subsequent to April, 1967.
8. Parole officers MARION VAN FOSSEN and HOWARD SHELTON contacted parolees and probationers assigned to them and were unable to develop any information suggesting that RAY had been in the Alton area subsequent to April, 1967.
9. PAUL COUSLEY, Editor, Alton Evening Telegraph, was confidentially contacted on several occasions during the course of this investigation and he advised that sources of the newspaper and public call-ins have been monitored since the MURKIN case broke, however, because of the great deal of publicity attached to JAMES EARL RAY and the Alton area, additional emphasis was placed on

SI 44-561

developing information concerning RAY. COUSLEY stated that sources of the paper and public call-ins developed no information to indicate that RAY had returned to Alton after his escape from the Missouri State Penitentiary.

10. Review of public records in Alton and at the county seat of Madison County in Edwardsville, Illinois, were made against the name JAMES EARL RAY and all known aliases without developing any positive information.

UACB, since investigation has failed to date to link JAMES EARL RAY with the robbery of the Bank of Alton, Springfield will discontinue submission of the daily teletype. In its stead, weekly summary airtels will be submitted and continued emphasis will be placed on this matter.

1 - Mr. Long, Div. 6
8/21/68

airtel

To: SAC, Memphis - Enc.

From: Director, FBI

DONALD JAMES NISSEN
PAROLE VIOLATOR

MURKIN

Enclosed for Memphis is one copy of investigative insert reflecting interview of subject by Agents of the St. Louis Office on 8/5/68. It is noted that Nissen claims that he absconded and therefore violated his parole because he possesses information concerning the Martin Luther King, Jr., assassination and therefore fears for his life. Nissen has apparently made this claim to his probation officer who in turn has furnished same to the U. S. Board of Parole.

Memphis is requested to prepare letterhead memorandum for dissemination to the U. S. Board of Parole outlining the results of the interview of Nissen by St. Louis Agents on 8/5/68. Also include in the letterhead memorandum other information bearing on Nissen's claim. In this regard if investigation has not substantiated the alleged contact by individual allegedly representing Leroy McMenaman, same should be clearly set out in the letterhead memorandum. Handle promptly and furnish to Bureau by airtel.

- 1 - St. Louis
- 1 - Phoenix

NOTE: This has been coordinated with General Investigative Div.

CWH:egm
(7)

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

MAIL ROOM ☒

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

66 AUG 29 1968

ORIGINAL FILED IN 76-32305-14

8-12-68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (76-30305)
FROM: SAC, ST. LOUIS (76-3733)
RE: DONALD JAMES NISSEN
PAROLE VIOLATOR

af
o
MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel to St. Louis, 8/6/68, captioned
DONALD JAMES NISSEN, Parole Violator.

Enclosed herewith is an investigative insert reflecting
the interview of DONALD JAMES NISSEN, FBI #607320A, by Agents
of the St. Louis Office on 8/5/68.

3 - Bureau (Encs. 1)
2 - St. Louis
(1 - 76-3733)
(1 - 44-775)

JJB/jtc
(5)

76-30305-14
ORIGINAL FILED IN

44-38861-
NOT RECORDED
152 AUG 27 1968

ENCLOSURE

1

SL 44-775
CBB/leh

DONALD JAMES NISSEN, FBI Number 607 320 A, was a parole violator in case in which Phoenix was origin. He had previously made telephonic contact with SA G. WAYNE MACK of the Phoenix Office and made arrangements to surrender himself to agent MACK at St. Louis on August 5, 1968.

On the morning of August 5, 1968, NISSEN called the St. Louis Office from the Municipal Airport at St. Louis stating he had just arrived by plane from Tampa, Florida, and desired to surrender to the FBI. He was subsequently taken in custody by SA CLETIS B. BIDEWELL and SA G. WAYNE MACK and upon interview furnished the following information:

NISSEN has remarried and his wife, who is pregnant, is living and working in Tampa, Florida. NISSEN has been working as a salesman for a book company which he declined to name and stated he has been doing very well financially. Until around the first of December NISSEN was living and working in the Atlanta, Georgia, area. Around the first or second of December, 1967, as he was leaving the Federal Building in Atlanta after having made his regular contact with his probation officer, he was hailed on the steps of the Federal Building by an individual, unknown to him. This person asked if he was DON NISSEN and when he replied in the affirmative, this individual stated he had a message for him from MAC. NISSEN understood MAC to be LEROY MC MENAMAN, who had advised him while they were fellow inmates at Leavenworth Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, that \$100,000 had been offered by the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi to be paid to anyone who would kill MARTIN LUTHER KING.

The person accosting NISSEN on the steps of the Atlanta Federal Building then stated that apparently somebody had done some talking and NISSEN assumed he made reference to information that he had furnished to the FBI in Sherman, Texas, in April, 1967. Before any more conversation transpired, the individual who had transported NISSEN to the Federal Building called to him from across the street and the unknown individual immediately walked away from him. It was NISSEN's assumption that this person thought the individual calling him might be an FBI agent or police officer and did not desire that his identity be learned.

ENCLOSURE

THOMAS

SL 44-775

NISSEN described the individual accosting him as a white male, age 30-35, 5'10", 165-170 pounds, blond hair, cut medium short, and slightly wavy. He stated he was extremely well dressed in obviously expensive clothes.

NISSEN went on to state the more he thought about this incident, the more alarmed he became and left the vicinity of Atlanta shortly thereafter and obtained other employment. The only other incident which served to arouse his suspicion were telephone calls made for him to his place of employment in which the individual calling declined to reveal his identity. NISSEN stated he considered relating above facts to his parole officer at Atlanta but resolved against it since he did not trust his parole officer too much and was afraid his parole might be revoked automatically. He also considered contacting the FBI Office in Atlanta but decided against this also. According to NISSEN he felt uncomfortable and worried in the Atlanta area in view of the information he had furnished in connection with the bounty on MARTIN LUTHER KING and the fact that the Ku Klux Klan was reportedly strong in that area. He stated it was his understanding that the Deputy United States Marshal, name unknown to him, who went to work about the time he started reporting to his parole officer at Atlanta was supposed to be a member of the Ku Klux Klan.

With reference to information furnished him by LEROY MC MENAMAN while at Leavenworth Penitentiary, NISSEN stated that in one conversation, MC MENAMAN told him that if, after his arrival at Atlanta, he could find out MARTIN LUTHER KING's travel route and itinerary, he could earn \$100,000 for himself.

August 20, 1968 -
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

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

The attached relates to a Subpoena Duces Tecum received by SAC Jensen of our Memphis Office requesting his appearance in Shelby County Tennessee Court on 8-21-68. The matter in court relates to Writ of Habeas Corpus in order that Charles Quitman Stephens, who is being held by the state as a material witness, might be released from incarceration.

This matter will be discussed with the Department and Memphis will be accordingly advised.

REL:jms

[Handwritten initials: JMS]

[Handwritten initials: JMS]

[Handwritten initials: R]

FBI WASH DC

FBI MEMPHIS

143 PM URGENT 8-20-68 MCP

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

AUG 20 1968

TELETYPE

TO DIRECTOR 44-38861

FROM MEMPHIS 44-1987 3 P

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 ✓

MURKIN.

SHORTLY BEFORE NOON THIS DATE, SAC, MEMPHIS RECEIVED
SUBPOENA DUCES TECUM. SUBPOENA ADDRESSED TO AGENT JENSEN OF THE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, FEDERAL BUILDING, MEMPHIS,
TENNESSEE, REQUESTING HIS APPEARANCE ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST
TWENTYONE, SIXTYEIGHT, AT TEN A.M., BEFORE JUDGE OF CIRCUIT COURT,
SHELBY COUNTY DIVISION EIGHT, COURT SITTING IN CRIMINAL COURT
BUILDING, DIVISION THREE, CITY OF MEMPHIS. SAC REQUESTED IN
SUBPOENA TO BRING WITH HIM ANY AND ALL WRITTEN STATEMENTS, ORAL
STATEMENTS REDUCED TO WRITING, TAPED STATEMENTS REDUCED TO
WRITING, OR ANY PAPER WRITINGS OF OR PERTAINING TO CHARLES
QUITMAN STEPHENS.

STEPHENS, AS BUREAU IS AWARE, IS WITNESS IN MURKIN CASE WHO
LIVED IN ROOMING HOUSE AT WHICH SUBJECT STAYED ON APRIL FOUR,
SIXTYEIGHT. STEPHENS HAS BEEN HELD IN CUSTODY AS MATERIAL
WITNESS. WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS HAS BEEN PREPARED IN ORDER THAT
STEPHENS WILL APPEAR IN COURT AND MIGHT POSSIBLY BE RELEASED AS
MATERIAL WITNESS. ISSUANCE OF SUBPOENA TO SAC WAS DISCUSSED WITH
DISTRICT ATTORNEY GENERAL PHIL M. CANALE AND ASSISTANT ATTORNEY
END PAGE ONE

57 SEP 4 1968

RECEIVED DIRECTOR

AUG 20 4 57 PM '68

AUG 20 5 58 PM '68

REC'D DE LOACH
F B I

REC'D DE LOACH
F B I

W. C. SULLIVAN
AUG 27 1968

AUG 20 3 10 PM '68

AUG 21 10 27 AM '68

REC'D DE LOACH
F B I

AUG 21 11 53 AM '68

AUG 21 12 25 PM '68

REC'D DE LOACH
F B I

AUG 21 6 10 PM '68

PAGE TWO

GENERAL JAMES BEASLEY. ^{Attorney General} DISTRICT AG CANALE ADVISED SAC NOT TO RESPOND TO SUBPOENA. CANALE STATED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED COMPARABLE SUBPOENA AND THAT HE DID NOT INTEND TO APPEAR IN COURT HIMSELF NOR DID HE INTEND TO PERMIT ANY DOCUMENTS OF ANY SORT TO BE INTRODUCED. CANALE SAID IN EVENT ANY INFORMATION NEEDED HE WAS OF OPINION THAT STEPHENS COULD SO TESTIFY HIMSELF. CANALE ALSO SAID IN EVENT COURT INTERESTED IN ANY STATEMENT OF STEPHENS COURT WOULD BE ADVISED THAT AFFIDAVIT HAD BEEN FURNISHED BY STEPHENS PERTAINING TO HIS KNOWLEDGE IN THIS CASE AND THAT SUCH AN AFFIDAVIT HAD BEEN INTRODUCED IN CONNECTION WITH THE EXTRADITION HEARINGS HELD IN LONDON. CANALE SAID HE WAS OF OPINION THIS WAS PUBLIC RECORD AND THEREFORE NO NEED FOR SAC TO RESPOND TO SUBPOENA.

^{Assistant Attorney General}

AAG BEASLEY STATED WITH CANALE'S PERMISSION HE WOULD REQUEST COURT QUASH ALL SUBPOENAS IN INSTANT CASE, SINCE REQUEST FOR WRITTEN STATEMENTS AND OTHER DOCUMENTARY MATERIAL NOT MATERIAL TO ISSUE. HE STATED ISSUE IN INSTANT CASE IS WHETHER OR NOT STATE COULD HOLD STEPHENS AS MATERIAL WITNESS AND ANY OTHER INFORMATION IRRELEVANT. BEASLEY ALSO STATED
END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

THAT SHOULD THERE BE ANY CHANGE IN MATTER HE WOULD SO ADVISE
THIS OFFICE. BEASLEY OF OPINION JUDGE BEFORE WHOM CASE WOULD BE
HEARD WOULD BE FAVORABLE TO QUASHING SUBPOENAS.

BUREAU WILL BE ADVISED OF ANY ADDITIONAL DEVELOPMENTS.

P.

ENJ

SLB

FBI WASH DC

RECEIVED TELETYPE UNIT
F B I

AUG 20 2 52 PM '66

August 22, 1968

Airtel

44-38861

1 - Mr. Schutz
1 - Mr. Long

To: SAC, Seattle (26-26371)

From: Director, FBI

HOWARD PHILLIP ETHRIDGE
ITSMV
OO: BUTTE

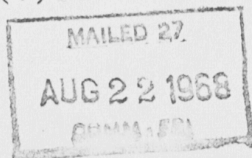
Re Seattle airtel 8/16/68 and letterhead memorandum attached thereto, a copy of which is being forwarded to the Los Angeles and Memphis Offices.

In view of the allegations contained therein Butte should expedite its interview of Ethridge and submit results of same by FD-302 under appropriate caption to both Los Angeles and Memphis.

Seattle immediately resubmit information contained in letterhead memorandum on appropriate FD-302. All offices should insure that in the future appropriate communications be utilized in setting forth results of investigation dealing with either Kensalt or Murkin.

1 - Butte
1 - Memphis - Enclosure (Murkin)
1 - Los Angeles - Enclosure (Kensalt)

HAS:jls
(7)



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

59 SEP 4 - 1968

MAIL ROOM

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

ORIGINAL FILED IN 26-402121-3