

SF 173-65
MTG/sms

He advised the name "ALICIA GRAY" meant nothing to him. He advised he could not recall a hostess by that name and stated if she had ever worked for him, it should show up in his business records.

He advised he did not know anyone by the name "RAUL" or "RAOUL" and stated he knew of no patron who might have been deported.

CHASE stated STAN TOTARO was his accountant.

STAN TOTARO, Accountant, 1372 Ninth Avenue, San Francisco, California, telephone number 661-7969, advised on December 17, 1968, he would check CHASE's records for "ALICIA GRAY."

On December 18, 1968, TOTARO advised one ALICIA GRAY was employed by CHASE from February 1, 1966, to March 15, 1966, as a waitress. TOTARO stated ALICIA GRAY's Social Security Number was reported as [redacted] and her local residence as 684 Ellis Street, Apartment 522, San Francisco, California.

DELBERT W. CHASE on December 18, 1968, advised he still could not recall any employee named ALICIA GRAY and further advised he knew no one named "RAUL" or "RAOUL."

It is being left to the discretion of the Memphis Office to decide the desirability of a further interview of ALICIA GRAY to determine if she possesses any additional information regarding "RAUL" or "RAOUL" which could lead to his identification.

F B I

Date: 12/20/68

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

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

Enclosed for the Bureau are 3 copies of an order entered 12/18/68 before Judge W. PRESTON BATTLE which order appoints the Public Defender of Shelby County to represent the subject, JAMES EARL RAY.

ENCLOSURE TO:
 1 cc CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT
 1cc: AAG Criminal Division
 Form 6-34 *B. REX*
 1cc: AAG Civil Rights Division
 Form 6-34 *B. REX*
 12-23-68
 ENCLOSURE

3 - Bureau (Encs. 3)
 2 - Memphis
 JCH:gmh
 (5)

EX-103

REC-50

DEC 53 J 53 AM PM

REC.D - CIV RIGHTS

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

20 DEC 21 1968

DEC 51 4 14 PM '68

C. C. Bishop

54 JAN 2 - 1969

DIVISION 2110
RECEIVEDApproved: *R. Jensen*
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

W b61

DEC 23 '68

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION 5710

DEC 21 4 14 PM '68

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

50 DEC 51 198

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

BEC- 20

DEC 23 7 29 AM '68

EX-103

(2)

2CH: 8wp

3 - NEWBURY

3) - ВПЛЕН (ЕУСР'3)

ENCLOSURE

[illegible]

the subject, JAMES EARL RAY.
appoints the party defendant of District Court to represent
entered 12/18/68 before Judge M. BREWSTER BULLICE which order
enclosed for the Bureau are 3 copies of an order.

(00: Newbury)

NOBK 14

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1981) (P)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

(Б. 1907/8)

AD VIBLET

(ἔλθετε καὶ ἰδοὺμεν ὅτι εἰσὶν οἱ λόγοι)

Transmit the following in

Date: 15/50/98

FBI

IN THE CRIMINAL COURT OF SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE
Division III

STATE OF TENNESSEE

vs.

NO. 16645, 16817

James Earl Ray
DEFENDANT

ORDER APPOINTING THE PUBLIC DEFENDER
OF SHELBY COUNTY TO REPRESENT DEFENDANT

Be it remembered that the Court has inquired of above defendant as to representation by counsel of own choice and employment, and the Court ascertained that the defendant is financially unable to employ counsel, and that it is incumbent upon the Court to appoint counsel to represent said defendant.

And the Court is, therefore, of the opinion that the Public Defender should be ordered to represent above named defendant.

IT IS ACCORDINGLY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the public Defender be and is ordered, either personally or through his deputy, to represent defendant in above captioned cause.

Enter this 18th day of December, 1968.

C. W. Preston Battle
JUDGE
CRIMINAL COURT, Division III
SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Hugh Stanton Jr.
PUBLIC DEFENDER

44-38861-5476

ENCLOSURE

44-38861-777

ENCLOSURE

F B I

Date: 12/18/68

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

(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, WFO (44-703) (RUC)

MURKIN

Enclosed for the Bureau and Memphis is one Xerox copy each of a document entitled "A Punk Without The Connections," by ROBERT EARL BARNES.

The enclosure was made available to WFO by AUSA HAROLD J. SULLIVAN on 12/16/68, who received it from BARNES, who is currently confined to the Maryland State Penitentiary for fifteen years for burglary.

For information of Memphis, BARNES is a notorious St. Louis-Washington, D.C. (WDC), area burglar whose testimony in both jurisdictions resulted in convictions of civilians and police officers in connection with his widespread burglary activities. He served time in the Missouri State Penitentiary, allegedly during part of time JAMES EARL RAY was there. He has furnished both reliable and unreliable information to the FBI in past.

BARNES is still of interest to news media, WDC area, and in view of this enclosure being submitted for information.

- ENCLOSURE
- ③ - Bureau (Enc. 1)
 - 2 - Memphis (Enc. 1)
 - 2 - WFO
- (1-137-3677)

RTM:gbk
(7)

B. C. - Bishop

FBI
REC.D - CIA HIGH 12

DEC 20 1968

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

FBI

Date: 12/18/68

(Type in plaintext or code)

Transmit the following in

AIRTEL

Via

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703) (RUC)

MURKIN

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REC-33

3 - Bureau (Enc. 1)
2 - Memphis (Enc. 1)
2 - WFO
(1-137-3677)

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

RTM:gpk
(7)

JAN 3 - 1969

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

12/18/68

Harold Sullivan

" A PUNK WITHOUT THE CONNECTIONS "

Millions of words have been written about the small time country boy who grew into a small time hoodlum, James Earl Ray, after the senseless slaying of Martin Luther King. Many of the words written about this individual have been distorted to such an extent that they tend to picture James Earl Ray as a big time operator within the criminal underworld with countless underworld connections. When one hears the name James Earl Ray, two thoughts automatically appear within one's mind, that James Earl Ray is the assassin of the Negro leader, and that he is a escape artist who while on escape from the Missouri State Penitentiary conspired with others, unknown to assassinate the Negro leader.

While it is factual that Ray was an escaped convict, he was far from being another Willie Sutton, and it is fatuous to believe that such an infinitesimal hoodlum with infinitesimal ideas could have possessed the connections to become a hired killer for others.

The above statement however doesn't mean that Ray wasn't capable of murder as he was, but he wasn't capable of others having the confidence or trust in him to carry out such a assignment as assassinating King. While it is enigmatic to many how Ray after the assassination was able to elude the F.B.I., and other law officials by traveling all over the Country, it is erroneous to believe that underworld sources aided him in his flight. I say this because he made too many stops in too many different places, and didn't have any money to speak about while he was in flight. If Ray would have been a hired killer, he would have had plenty of money, and would not have been traveling all over the country just one step ahead of the F.B.I. all the time he was a fugitive, as his connections would have seen to it that he was rapidly carted out of the country, and concealed someplace, probably beneath the earth, and this would have been done because Ray was small time, and if possibly hired to slay King, could not have been trusted after the slaying.

Page Two

Within the underworld of crime there is a ladder. Although it is an invisible ladder to the eyes of the ethical, to the unethical it's many rungs are transparent, and the criminal element constantly strive to climb higher upon each rung. As the criminal steps higher, he is greeted by more important criminals with connections and these connections are extremely important to the climbing criminal regardless if he is a Burglar, "Contract" man, "Pistol Man," "Booster", and so forth.

Nineteen years ago in 1949 Ray commenced his climb upon the ladder when in Los Angeles, California he stole himself a pistol and stuck up a cateteria. He was caught outside with less than fifty dollars he had taken at gun point. He served a small hitch in the County Jail for this first offense, and when released he decided that he would still remain in the world of crime but remain in it doing something less bold than sticking a pistol in someone's face. He walked into a office, looked around and saw that only a man was inside. Numerous typewriter's were resting upon the scattered desk inside the office so Ray reached over and snatched one and raced out the door with it under his arm. The man inside the office witnessed Ray extract the typewriter, but couldn't catch the bandit as he raced down the street with it, but he did the next best thing, he caught Ray's Army Discharge Paper's as they fell out of his back pocket, and Ray was arrested a few days later and sentenced to a few months in the county jail for petty larceny. This time in jail he couldn't brag to the other cons that he was inside for using a "piece", so he kept quiet about the larceny snatch, served his time, and decided that it was about time that he tried his duel skill in other parts of the country.

He traveled back to Illinois stayed there for a few days until he got himself another pistol, then decided to make a "Big Score". He couldn't make up his mind just what to, or who to rob so he hired himself a cab to look the Windy City over. The memory of the LA. robbery must have penetrated his brain, and he decided that he would not take a chance of robbing another

business establishment for fear of receiving results duplicate to that he received in L.A., so he robbed the cab driver of about fifteen dollars. After the cabbie turned the "Big Score" over to Ray, the bandit raced from the cab, and shot down a alley in order to make his getaway, but the inauspicious "Pistol Man" ran into a deadend alley, and was rapidly apprehended by the Chicago Police.

This time Ray was found guilty and sentenced to the "Big-House". It was his first time at serving a prison sentence, and he served two years. When he was released in March of 1954 he decided that the gun method of making money the easy way wasn't so easy, and that he would try to be a burglar. He was still thinking small in the way of criminal acts and five months after his release, he tried to burglarize a cleaners by kicking in the front plate glass window. Naturally the falling glass made quite a noise, and half of the Alton, Illinois Police Department arrived at the scene, and arrested the hapless Ray. He was rapidly sentenced back to the "Iron Castle" where he could think about what profession within the underworld that he would be best suited for. He was a failure at robbery, a failure at stealing penny ante objects, and a failure at burglary.

While serving his second hitch in the "Joint" he was introduced to a small time "Paper Hanger", and when they were released he decided that he would try the forgery "bit", but he soon discovered that the government didn't appreciate him passing forged money orders when he was arrested with his confederate and sentenced to four years in Leavenworth.

Ray was thirty years old when he was released from Leavenworth. He had been inside three penitentiaries, and served a few jail sentences in that thirty years and hadn't stolen two hundred dollars. While he stepped upon that first rung of the ladder of crime nearly ten years before, he was still where he had commenced ten years before. He was not the type of individual who would even think of working for more than a few months at a time, and

when he was released from Leavenworth he decided that he would now hit the big time. There wouldn't be anymore cab driver robberies for him, no more stealing nickel and dime objects from downtown office buildings, and especially, no more passing phoney money orders. He decided that he was going to be a "Pistol Man", as even though he had been "Busted" twice for it, he believed he could do it better than anything else that he had attempted in the past ten years.

After being released from Leavenworth Ray journeyed to the "Show-Me-State" and committed a armed robbery, It was the largest "Score" that he had made in his ten year criminal career, about eight hundred dollars. When Ray committed a robbery, he went in the place like "Gangbusters", and came out like "Gangbusters". He believed in practicing the philosophy, "Terrify the victims first so that they'll freeze in their tracks, then you'll have them under control."

Shortly after the eight hundred dollar "Score", Ray and a confederate decided that a busy supermarket in Alton, Illinois would be a good spot to make a big "Hit" at. Ray was the pistolman and shouted to all the customers that he would kill them if they moved a muscle. His partner grabbed two handful of cash totaling \$ 2,200.00, and raced for the stolen car setting outside the store with Ray a shadow on his heels. The money grabber switched to the role of a "Wheelman", and the inauspicious Ray still feeling the nest of butterflies floating around inside his stomach forgot to shut his side of the car door and fell out as the car turned the first corner. The "Wheelman seeing his partner "Evaporate" became excited and smashed the stolen car into a tree. Some-how Ray escaped apprehension, and returned to St. Louis a month later in October, 1959. He walked into another corner supermarket, flashed his pistol, screamed his demand for all the money, and was given less than two hundred dollars. He was becoming smarter in his new trade as this time he used a stolen car to make his get-a-way, and then switched to his own car. His own car was

witnessed by a passer by as the switch was made, and Ray was quickly arrested later on that week. He went to trial in St. Louis for this robbery and was convicted and sentenced to his longest prison sentence, twenty years, in the Missouri State Penitentiary.

As the judge pronounced the huge sentence upon the bandit, Ray must have thought to himself, "I can't do that much time", as when the Deputy Sheriff started to take him back to the cell block behind the courtroom, Ray smashed the Sheriff against the cell door and broke away from him. Inside the small corridor behind the courtroom was a steel mesh fence that climbed to the top of the ceiling. Ray ran for the fence, and seeing that he could not climb over it, turned and raced for the elevator. When he tried to open the door he was amazed to see that it was the type that was essential for a key to be inserted inside it in order for the doors to open. He was apprehended on the spot. It was his first attempt at escaping, but far from his last.

When Ray Arrived at the Missouri State Penitentiary in 1959 he was incarcerated in one of the most corrupt prisons in the United States of America. Three years before he was convicted and sentenced to "Jeff City", the two thousand convicts confined behind the twenty-five foot high, grey prison walls rebelled against the Warden and brutal guards, and rioted, destroying the "Tag-plant, the Church, Movie, School, and the pants and shirt factories

By the time that Ray was printed and numbered inside the walls, a new Warden by the name of Nash had taken control of the prison and his main concern was to make a profit out of his role as the Warden. When Nash was the Warden anything could be purchased inside the "Walls", even a man's life. Life came cheap inside the prison in those days. One convict could have another stabbed in the back for as little as fifteen packs of cigarettes, and in the single year of 1960, more than one hundred fifty convicts were stabbed by other cons, while a few were killed. Cell changes, along with job changes could be purchased inside the prison, and anyone who possessed the slightest connections and money did

absolutely as they pleased.

While Ray couldn't make it very many steps up the ladder of "Crime" in the "Free-world", his infinitesimal, and homosexual ways kept him from being anything other than a "Hoosier" at "Jeff City". A "Hoosier" inside the "Walls" of "Jeff City" was a convict who other "Cons" used to do their dirty work, and paid to keep their contraband for them. Some of these "Hoosiers" washed the other cons dirty socks, cleaned the other cons cells, and did anything in order to make a pack of smokes. While Ray was serving his time at the prison he had two things on his mind, escaping, and homosexuality. When he wasn't engaging in perverted acts in J. and K. Dinningroom, he was associating with other so-called "Hoosiers" the majority who were homosexuals, in feeble attempts at escaping.

Ray worked in J. and K. Dinningroom, and worked for a nickel a day, seven days a week. No convict inside the penitentiary wanted to labor in the Dinningrooms, as they worked countless hours, and wasn't able to make any extra money for themselves, but any convict who had the price of twenty dollars could get, that is buy a job change without any problems, but Ray worked in the Dinningroom for almost four years when he wasn't in "E-Hall" (Solitary Confinement), and he worked there because he was a nobody, and a nobody behind prison walls is about the lowest type of convict that exist.

While Ray claims that on his only successful escape that he went-over-the-wall, this is not true, and not true because it would have been virtually impossible to go over the wall at the point he states he went over it at, at the Tunnel Gate. It is my personal belief that Ray went through the wall in a bread truck, and not over it as he says. The point where he says he "Evaporated" from has two gun towers, twenty-five feet high on both sides of the gate, but before you can reach those two gun towers, you have to be in the open yard surrounding the back kitchen docks for

Page Seven

approximately two hundred feet in all directions, and there is a corner gun tower that has to see anyone walking in any direction before he could get to the tunnel towers. There is also another gun tower located at the front side of the docks that has a clear view of any one moving in any direction up to a hundred square feet. The prison guards use the whistle system while stationed at the towers. Each fifteen minutes the guard on the tower must blow a whistle, and wave a white flag to the following gun tower guard, who in return duplicates the other guards actions. By the time the first gun tower guard has finished giving the all-clear sign, and returns inside the four by four foot tower, the other guard is just commencing to blow his whistle, and when he is finished the first guard has already re-seated himself, and has clear view of the surroundings. Even if both of the two wall gun towers guards fell into a coma, Ray could not have escaped over the wall because of the other two tunnel gun tower guards unless they all four were sound asleep at the same time, and it is very doubtful that this could have happened.

While Ray states that he went over the wall, I don't know. Maybe it sounds more exciting to him to say, I went over the wall and not through it, but at any event, going through the wall was quite a feat, and took a lot of luck, as the trucks are shaken down three times before they are allowed through the tunnel gate.

When Ray says he was planning his escape that he sold his commissary books to other inmates for cash money in order to accumulate three hundred dollars in cash, it would have taken him two full years if he drew fifteen dollars a month, (which is all the money the convicts are allowed to spend each month) to get one hundred eighty dollars in cash, as the commissary books sell for two dollars in books for one dollar in cash. Ray has also stated that he won money playing poker, and that he saved a portion of this in order to accumulate a bankroll. Ray did play

poker, but he played in the penny ante games on the prison recreation yard, and then never in the big games. Inside the corrupt penitentiary in 1959, gambling tables were countless on the yard, and any convict who possessed the funds either hidden somewhere inside his cell, or on the prison books in the main office could gamble all night long, seven nights a week for six dollars a night. The six dollars went to the "Screw" who happened to be on duty at the cell block on that certain night, but Ray was never invited to these games because he was considered small time, and not able to afford the three to five hundred dollar lost's per month that some of the "Cons" often lost. The majority of inmates who participated in these games were men who worked leather, sold narcotic's, and sold job and cell changes, not those like Ray who labored for thirty five cents per week in the poorest diningroom.

Ray also claims that he spent the majority of his idle time reading about how to "Evaporate" from the "Iron Cage", and the different ways and means to obtain identification cards, and documents to use after he made his escape good. The truth of the matter is Ray spent most of his time inside "E"-Hall (Solitary-Confinement) and spent it there because of feeble attempts to escape, and for acts of homosexuality. Ray, the man who many believe possessed enormous connections in order to avoid apprehension while he was the most hunted man in the world, didn't even possess the connections inside "Jeff City" to gather the false identification that is so essential for a fugitive to possess before he escapes. If he would have not been considered a "Hoosier" by the "Cons" in the know behind the walls, he could have gotten any type of identification that he wanted, as back in those days driver's license were sold for five dollars apiece, social security cards sold for five dollars apiece, draft cards sold for ten dollars each, and even blank checks could be purchased for a dollar each that the convicts printed up inside the prison print shop. In 1960 convicts at the print shop printed up so many ten dollar counterfeit bills that the F.B.I. had to start a investigation inside

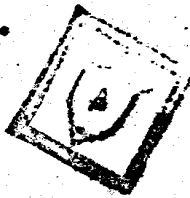
the penitentiary as the prison "hacks" were accepting bribes of phony money from the "Cons" and passing the bills in the banks of Jefferson City, so if Ray would not have been such a loner and small time thief, plus the fact he was an untrusted homosexual, he could have gotten all the I.D. that he would have ever needed, but Ray was just not in on the know while he was incarcerated.

Such a small time criminal as James Earl Ray could never have been involved in any conspiracy to slay Martin Luther King. It is without question that Ray was a thief but he was never a leader, and the so-called leaders whom he associated with inside the prison walls were like Ray himself, small time thieves and homosexuals who took the first step up the ladder of crime, but never made it above the second step, thus their only connections within the underworld were connections amongst themselves, and not worth anything. Ray, in the first place could never have been trusted to complete such a contract as he was a failure all his life, and possessed a reputation for being a failure. He was a homosexual and homosexuals within the underworld are not considered mute individuals, and thus wouldn't have been trusted to keep his mouth shut after the slaying. If Ray would have been involved in a conspiracy to murder Mr. King, immediately after the murder occurred, Ray would have been given a large amount of money, and transported out of the country, but instead he was traveling around with just a small amount of money, no clothing, and no friends to turn to in need, not even one who could get him a forged passport, and some I.D.

It is not for me to say that Ray didn't assassinate Martin Luther King, as he could have done it. He was capable of such an act, but he didn't conspire with others to do it, and was not hired to do it. There are too many contract men within the underworld who could have taken care of such a job for anyone to consider hiring a small time thief such as Ray to do it. A Man who failed at everything he ever attempted doing.

Page Ten

If Ray did assassinate King, he did it on his own, and for reasons of his own, not for money, not for hire, not because of a conspiracy, but whatever reasons that he did it, if he did it, he after nineteen years of attempting to climb up the ladder, finally reached the top, but he reached the top of the ladder of fools, and he could never have made it one step higher than he did by being anything other than a fool, and the unethical do not hire fools to assassinate.



The End

By

Robert Earl Barnes

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. E. Barnes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with some loops and flourishes. It is positioned below the printed name "Robert Earl Barnes".

666 667

154

Central Intelligence

44-38861-5477

F B I

Date: 12/19/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(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)
 SUBJECT: MURKIN

Enclosed are original and one copy each of the following newspaper articles:

Article captioned, "New Delay in Ray Trial Denied," which appeared in 12/18/68 edition of the Memphis Press-Scimitar, Memphis, Tenn.;

Article captioned, "Public Counsel Tapped to Help in Ray Defense," which appeared in 12/19/68 edition of The Commercial Appeal, Memphis, Tenn.

3 - Bureau (Enc.-4)
 1 - Memphis
 JCH:ME
 (4)

ENCLOSURE

Airtel _____

Teletype _____

A.M. _____

A.M.S.D. _____

Spec. Del. _____

Reg. Mail _____

Registered _____

Approved: 57 JAN 6 1969 Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

25 JAN 9 1968
Approved: Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

20 DIRECTOR

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

DEC 23 4 45 PM '68

DEC 21 4 55 PM '68

DEC 23 1 48 PM '68

DEC 23 10 38 AM '68

REC'D DE LOACH
FBI

FBI
REC-D BISHOP

50 DEC 31 1968

REC'D RECORDED

REC-2

MR. JONES
DEC 23 12 25 PM '68
FBI
CH: MEMPHIS
BUREAU (ENC. - 4)

ENCLOSURE

DEC 23 4 53 PM '68

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

of the Commercial Appeal, Memphis, Tenn.
in May 1968, which appeared in 12/18/68 edition
article captioned, "Public Counsel Asked to Help
Press-Socialist, Memphis, Tenn.:
which appeared in 12/18/68 edition of the Memphis
article captioned, "New Deal in May This Denied."

Following newspaper articles:

Enclosed are original and one copy each of the

SUBJECT: MURKIN

FROM : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1981) (P)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

(Priority)

Via

AIRTEL

(Type in plaintext or code)

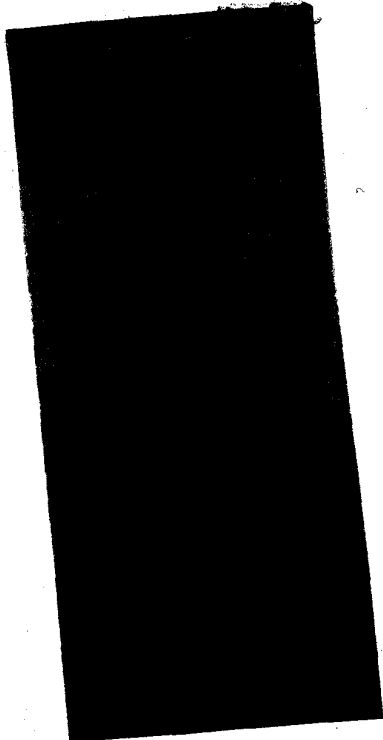
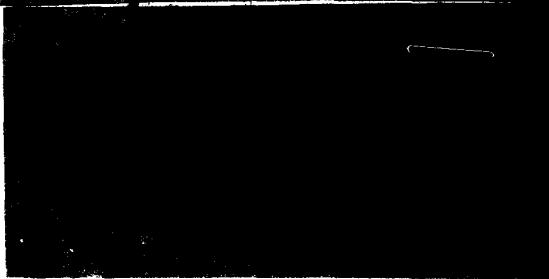
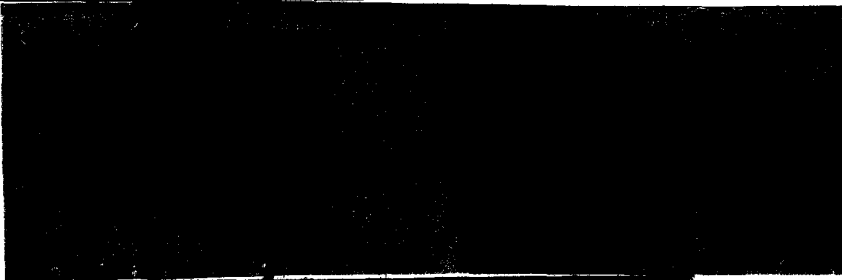
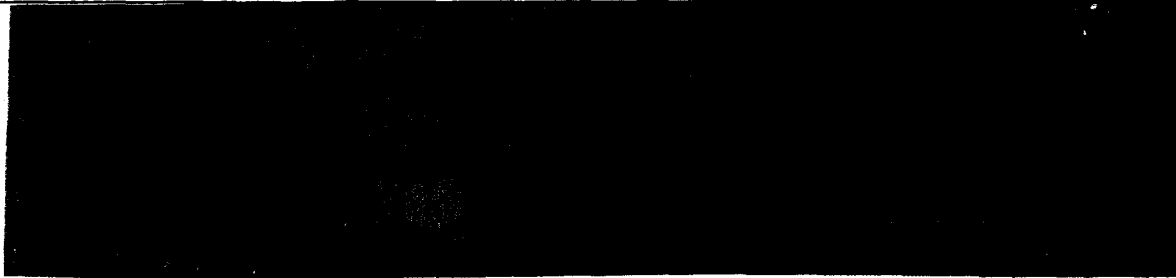
Transmit the following in _____

Date:

12/18/68

FBI

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)



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

Page /
Edition
Author: **Walter**
Editor: **Walter**
Title: **Walter**

Date: **12-18-68**
Edition:
Author: **Walter**
Editor: **Walter**
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: **Walter**
☐ Being Investigated

44-38861-5478

ENCLOSURE

The 40-year old defendant made a surprise appearance during the hour-long hearing and was declared indigent after the judge questioned him briefly about his financial condition.

Ray told the court he had no money or property available to help pay for his defense.

PURPOSE

The hearing, punctuated by clashes between Foreman and Robert K. Dwyer, executive assistant attorney general, was for the purpose of Foreman letting the court know if he could be ready for trial by the March 3 date.

The Texas lawyer entered the case Nov. 10, just two days before Ray was to have gone to trial in the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King in Memphis on April 4.

Foreman today asked the court for additional time to get ready, but did not specify a trial date.

'MIRACLE'

He said "it would be a miracle" if he could be ready by March 3. He said he had worked "night and day" on the case and that there was no money whatever for investigation expenses or counsel. He said the state had furnished him with a list of 360 witnesses, of whom 90 to 95 were to be called to testify.

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Foreman said the file was reported to reveal that the FBI had guarded King for almost two years prior to April 4 to prevent his assassination.

"If I had this available, I might be ready," said Foreman. He said "seedlings" was a more apt description of Hanes files on the case than "fruits."

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Battle observed that Ray's funds for his defense ended with the dismissal of Hanes. He said he understood that Hanes was being paid by William Bradford Huie, Alabama author who has published articles in Look Magazine on the Ray case.

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"No sir," said Ray.

Battle then directed Hugh Stanton, public defender,

who was seated in the courtroom, to draw up an order appointing himself as co-counsel. Battle told Stanton to use as many of his assistants as necessary to help Foreman get ready for trial March 3. The public defender's office has a staff of 16. All but one are part-time.

THANKS

Foreman thanked the judge for providing him with legal assistance and said Memphis has "one of the three outstanding public defender offices in this country," naming Los Angeles and Miami as the other two.

Foreman later met with jury commissioner Robert Horne and requested several records from Horne. As he left he said he received the information he sought but declined to say what it was.



—Press-Scimitar Staff Photo by James R. Reid

DEFENSE LAWYER PERCY FOREMAN

He was smiling after hearing, despite failure to get Ray trial delayed longer.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

NEW DELAY IN

RAY TRIAL

DENIED

Case Likely To Begin March 3

**Public Defender
Named to Aid
Percy Foreman**

By ROY B. HAMILTON
and CLARK PORTEOUS
Press-Scimitar Staff Writers

Criminal Court Judge W. Preston Battle today ordered the James Earl Ray trial to begin as scheduled on March 3 "if humanly possible," and appointed the public defender's office to assist famed Texas attorney Percy Foreman in Ray's defense.

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

Page /

Memphis
Press-Scimitar

Memphis, Tenn.

Date: 12-18-68
Edition:
Author: Chas. R.
Editor: Schneider
Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: Memphis

☐ Being Investigated

The 40-year old defendant made a surprise appearance during the hour-long hearing and was declared indigent after the judge questioned him briefly about his financial condition.

Ray told the court he had no money or property available to help pay for his defense.

PURPOSE

The hearing, punctuated by clashes between Foreman and Robert K. Dwyer, executive assistant attorney general, was for the purpose of Foreman letting the court know if he could be ready for trial by the March 3 date.

The Texas lawyer entered the case Nov. 10, just two days before Ray was to have gone to trial in the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King in Memphis on April 4.

Foreman today asked the court for additional time to get ready, but did not specify a trial date.

'MIRACLE'

He said "it would be a miracle" if he could be ready by March 3. He said he had worked "night and day" on the case and that there was no money whatever for investigation expenses or counsel. He said the state had furnished him with a list of 360 witnesses, of whom 90 to 95 were to be called to testify.

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Public Counsel Tapped To Help In Ray Defense

Defender's Staff Will Join
Foreman In Trial Set
For March 3

By CHARLES EDMUNDSON

Despite a remark by the prosecution that "there will be money from somewhere," Criminal Court Judge W. Preston Battle yesterday accepted the oath of James Earl Ray that he is an indigent and appointed the public defender's office to assist in his defense.

Judge Battle directed Public Defender Hugh Stanton Sr. to act as co-counsel with Percy Foreman, storied Houston attorney, in Ray's defense. Mr. Foreman approved Mr. Stanton's appointment.

Disregarding Mr. Foreman's long argument for an additional continuance, Judge Battle set March 3 as a firm date to start the trial of the man accused of killing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Judge Battle listened to Mr. Foreman's plea that he was serving as Ray's counsel without pay and had no money to finance an investigation preparatory to trial.

Mr. Foreman said the only local legal help he has comes from a law student who has volunteered to aid him, counseled by a law professor. He named neither the student nor the university but a courthouse source said it is a Memphis State University Law School student.

"Somebody is trifling with this court," Exec. Asst. Atty. Gen. Robert K. Dwyer retorted. "Mr. Foreman is intimating something about his client being indigent . . . I daresay before all this is over there will be money from somewhere."

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Judge Battle noted that Ray's previous attorney, Arthur J. Hanes Sr. of Birmingham, had been paid by having an Alabama magazine writer assign to him the money Ray had earned by writing his life story for the writer, William Bradford Huie.

"The onus is on the court to determine indigency. If Ray is indigent, the circumstances necessitate that somehow we provide the necessary manpower to ready the case for trial," the judge said.

Ray, neatly dressed and groomed, was ordered to stand and be sworn. He testified he was indigent. Judge Battle then directed Mr. Stanton, sitting nearby, to act as co-counsel for the defense "and ready this case under the direction of Mr. Foreman." He was told also to use his 16-man staff, many of whom are part-time, as necessary in the pretrial investigation of the evidence.

Mr. Foreman complained of the files turned over to him by Mr. Hanes on Judge Battle's order.

"His private investigator (Renfro Hays of Memphis) wants \$9,000 or \$10,000 for material that's not worth \$90," Mr. Foreman said.

"The prosecution has available what Mr. Dwyer says is the work of 400 FBI agents and several hundred police officers and sheriff's deputies. I have contacted J. Edgar Hoover three times to get the FBI records (including) files supposed to reveal that for two years, partly while Ray was still in the Missouri State Prison, a squad of FBI agents were assigned to prevent the assassination of Dr. King."

ENCLOSURE

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

Page 1

Commercial
Appeal

Memphis, Tenn.

Date: 12-19-68
Edition:
Author:
Editor:
Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

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Date: 12-19-68
Edition:
Author: Frank R.
Editor: Ahlgren
Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: Memphis

☐ Being Investigated

FBI

Date: 12/19/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) -P-
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel to Springfield and Chicago dated
12/5/68.

Enclosed for the Bureau are the original and ten (10)
copies of a self-explanatory LHM regarding 1959 Chrysler two-
door, VIN M531108240. Also enclosed for Chicago and Memphis
are two (2) copies each of this LHM.

1cc: AAG Criminal Division
Form 6-94 *B* *12-23-68*

1cc CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT

1cc: AAG Civil Rights Division
Form 6-94 *B* *12-23-68*

ENCLOSURE

1cc: Bureau (44-38861) (Enc. 11)
1-Chicago (44-1114) (Enc. 2)
2-Memphis (44-1987) (Enc. 2)
2-Springfield (44-1987) (Enc. 2)
WR:lmh (9)

DEC 21 1968

RECEIVED

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REC'D - CIA WASH

JAN 10 1969

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

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Per

10/1/68

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

(8)
ME: JWP JAN 6 3 00 PM '68
3-Subj: [illegible]
3-Memphis (44-1981) (ENC. 3)
3-Chicago (44-1174) (ENC. 3)
3-Phoenix (44-2001) (ENC. 11)
FBI
REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
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DEC 21 1 42 PM '68

DEC 23

F. B. I.
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
DEC 21 1968

JAN 6 3 15 PM '68

ENCLOSURE

DEC 24

LOU G-1
To: VVG CHICAGO DIRECTOR

FOR CHICAGO DIRECTOR

LOU G-1
To: VVG CHICAGO DIRECTOR

44-38861-2718

WLC (3) copies each of this item.
4001' AIM 1121108340. VVG enclosed for Chicago and Memphis
copies of a well-exhibited item regarding 1968 Chicago race-
enclosed for the Bureau and the Chicago and Memphis (10)

IS/2/68

Re Bureau letter to Birmingham and Chicago dated

SUBJECT: MURKIN

FROM: SVC BIRMINGHAM (44-201) -b-

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

AIR

VIRLET

VIR NVIT

Transmit the following in

(Type in plaintext or code)

Date: 12/20/68

b b i



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Springfield, Illinois

December 19, 1968

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

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44-34-5479
ENCLOSURE



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File No.

JAMES EARL RAY

Mr. James Tabor, Supervisor, Auto Registration Section, Secretary of State's Office, Springfield, Illinois, advised on November 27, 1968, that a check of records reflect that 1967 Illinois license LM-5942 was issued June 5, 1967, to John Larry Rayns, 507 Chestnut, Box 293, Winnetka, Illinois, for a 1959 Chrysler, two-door, VIN M531108240, which was purchased used June 5, 1967, from George Seymour Heller, 7102 North Sheridan Road, Chicago, Illinois. Certificate of Title Number B1178475 issued June 6, 1967, to Rayns for this vehicle with no lien. On August 8, 1967, above-mentioned 1967 Illinois license transferred to Rayns for a 1962 Plymouth, four-door, VIN 2921165934, which was purchased used July 14, 1967, from Bundy Oldsmobile, Inc., 711 Illinois Avenue, East St. Louis, Illinois. The application for this transfer reflects that above-mentioned 1959 Chrysler to be sold later. Certificate of Title Number B1604563 issued August 8, 1967, to Rayns for instant Plymouth with no lien.

On December 18, 1968, Tabor advised that a check of "Motor Files" and "Title Surrender Files" regarding Certificate of Title Number B1178475, for the above 1959 Chrysler, reflected no disposition of this automobile after its purchase by Rayns from Heller.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

file copy

TO : Assistant Attorney General

DATE: **12-23-68**

FROM : **Civil Rights Division**
Criminal Division
Director, FBI

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

Reference is made to _____ memorandum dated _____
(your file _____).

There is enclosed one copy of the report of Special
Agent _____ dated 12-19-68
at Springfield.

A. ☐ This covers the preliminary investigation and no further action concerning a full investigation will be taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs.

B. ☒ The investigation is continuing and you will be furnished copies of reports as they are received.

C. ☐ The investigation requested by you has now been completed. Unless advised to the contrary no further inquiries will be made by this Bureau.

D. ☐ Pursuant to instructions issued by the Department, no investigation will be conducted in this matter unless specifically directed by the Department.

E. ☐ Please advise whether you desire any further investigation.

F. ☐ This is submitted for your information and you will be advised of further developments.

G. ☐ This is submitted for your information and no further investigation will be conducted unless specifically requested by the Department.

H. ☐ This covers the receipt of a complaint and no further action will be taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs.

Enc. **NOTE:** Please advise if you desire a copy of attached furnished to Mr. Phil N. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee.

SR

F B I

Date: 12/20/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via Airtel _____
(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)
 SUBJECT: MURKIN

OO: MEMPHIS

Re Tampa letter to the Bureau, 12/3/68 reflecting an interview with ALICIA GRAY of Orlando, Florida, who claims to have known man named RAUL, not otherwise identified, during 1965 at San Francisco, California.

Reference is also made to San Francisco airtel to the Bureau, 12/18/68 wherein they state that ALICIA GRAY was employed at Chase's Lounge, San Francisco, during 1966, as a waitress.

In view of the fact that ALICIA GRAY has admitted suffering a nervous breakdown and since there is absolutely no reason to believe that the man with whom she was associated in California in 1965 is identical with the RAOUL, who RAY claims to have associated with, it is believed that any additional investigation would be a complete waste of effort and without any hope of profit. Accordingly, Memphis recommends no further action on ALICIA GRAY's story.

Airtel

(3) - Bureau

Teletype

1 - San Francisco (Info.)
 1 - Tampa (Info.) (157-3231)
 2 - Memphis

A.M.

JCH:tjm

A.M.S.D.

(7)

C. C. Bishop

Spec. Del.

Reg. Mail

Approved: _____
Registered

Sent

M

Per

57 JAN 9 1969

FBI

Date: 12/20/68

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

Airtel _____

Via _____

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

OO: MEMPHIS

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DEC 23 7 23 AM '68
FBI
REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
DEC 24 1968

3 - Bureau
1 - San Francisco (Info.)
1 - Tampa (Info.)
2 - Memphis
F.B.I.
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

DEC 21 7 35 PM '68

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION 5110

A.M. _____

A.M. (7) _____

Spec. Del. _____

Reg. Mail _____

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

5 JAN 6 1969
12-21-68

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

RA 57

o Murkin

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maffin
 and Hoffman

UPI-56

(RAY)

MEMPHIS, TENN.--PERCY FOREMAN, DEFENSE ATTORNEY FOR JAMES EARL RAY, SAID TODAY THE FBI HAD A SQUAD ASSIGNED TO DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. FOR THE TWO YEARS BEFORE HIS ASSASSINATION TO PREVENT THE MURDER OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER.

FOREMAN MADE THE DISCLOSURE DURING A BRIEF HEARING BEFORE JUDGE W. PRESTON BATTLE OF SHELBY COUNTY CRIMINAL COURT THAT WAS CALLED TO SET A FIRM DATE FOR THE START OF RAY'S TRIAL ON CHARGES OF SLAYING KING APRIL 4 IN MEMPHIS.

FOREMAN ASKED FOR AN UNSPECIFIED DELAY, AND THE PROSECUTION OBJECTED. JUDGE BATTLE KEPT THE TENTATIVE MARCH 3 TRIAL DATE BUT SAID HE WOULD POSTPONE IT IF UNFORESEEN PROBLEMS AROSE IN PREPARATION OF THE DEFENSE.

WORD OF THE FBI SQUAD ASSIGNED TO KING CAME DURING AN EXCHANGE BETWEEN FOREMAN AND ROBERT K. DWYER, ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR SHELBY COUNTY.

THREE TIMES, FOREMAN SAID, HE HAS ASKED FBI DIRECTOR J. EDGAR HOOVER FOR THE FBI'S FILES ON KING AND ON THE \$1.4-MILLION MURDER INVESTIGATION THE FBI HAS MADE IN THE ASSASSINATION.

"IT (THE FBI FILE) SAYS THAT FOR TWO YEARS BEFORE APRIL 4 THERE WAS A SQUAD OF FBI AGENTS ASSIGNED TO PREVENT THE ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING," FOREMAN SAID.

"I'M WORKING ON THE PRESUMPTION THAT SOMEONE OTHER THAN JAMES EARL RAY WAS CONCERNED WITH THIS MURDER," FOREMAN SAID.

HE MADE NO FURTHER REFERENCE TO THE FBI SQUAD AND THE PROSECUTION DID NOT COMMENT ON IT.

12/18--JJ1207AES

DEC-6
 DEC 18
 EX-103
 44-38861-5481
 25 DEC 31 1968

57 JAN 3 1969

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

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DOM INTELL DIV.

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DEC 20 '68

DEC 18 2 45 PM '68

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FBI

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

JAN 2 DEC 28 12 11 PM '68

DEC 19 9 35 AM '68

REC'D - ROSEN
FBI

DEC 18 4 42 PM '68

DEC 18 3 21 PM '68
REC'D DE LOACH
FBI

DEC 19 3 49 PM '68
REC'D SULLIVAN
FBI

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

Director, FBI

December 24, 1968

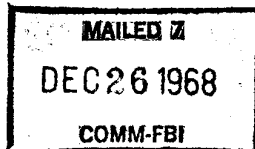
ASSASSINATION OF
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Your memorandum of November 8, 1968, requested that appropriate measures be taken to assist in the full preparation to oppose the contempt charge, should that arise, against Latent Fingerprint Examiner George J. Bonebrake. Mr. Bonebrake is scheduled to appear in Criminal Court, Memphis, Tennessee, on April 11, 1969, at a hearing on a petition for citation for contempt. This action was taken in connection with an article appearing in the Wichita, Kansas, "Beacon" newspaper concerning a fingerprint school conducted by Mr. Bonebrake during period September 9 through 13, 1968, at which time he was alleged to have unnecessarily aired fingerprint testimony of this case in the presence of a representative of press. *P*

Attached are two copies of the report of Raymond B. Howe dated December 13, 1968, setting forth results of inquiry at Wichita, Kansas, in this matter. Major Clyde Bevis of the Wichita Police Department, who requested the fingerprint school conducted by Mr. Bonebrake, as well as members of the class, was interviewed. No members of the press were contacted in connection with this inquiry.

Enclosures (2)

1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Rosen



REC 49-44-38861-5482

19 DEC 26 1968

NOTE: Cover memo C. E. Ganley to Mr. Trotter dated 12-23-68 entitled MURKIN, CEG:jeg

CEG:ed

(8)

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
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Callahan _____
Conrad _____
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Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

57 JAN 1969

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

DEC 21 4 55 PM '68

REC'D DE LOACH
FBI

DEC 21 11 07 AM '68

RECEIVED DIRECTOR
FBI

RECEIVED SENIOR
FBI

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DEC 24 11 23 AM '68
CONV-LBI

DEC 20 1968
MAILED 5

DEC 20 1968
MAILED 5

DEC 20 9 09 AM '68
MAIL ROOM

MAIL ROOM

[Faint, mostly illegible typed text covering the main body of the document]

December 24, 1968

20a
AIRTEL

1 - Mr. Long
1 - Foreign Liaison
(Cleared with SA
Graham Day)

TO: Legat, Ottawa (44-4)
FROM: Director, FBI (44-38861) — *5483*

MURKIN

An individual identifying himself as Bob Reguly, "Toronto Star," Toronto, Canada, representative in Washington, D. C., contacted the Bureau and inquired as to the street address of the motel in which James Earl Ray stayed in Ottawa, Canada, on August 21, 1967. Reguly stated he understood the motel was located on Montreal Road, and he needed the street address. Reguly was advised the Bureau would be unable to help him in this matter.

It was noted that prior reports on the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) indicates that Ray registered at the Town and Country Motel, 1476 Richmond Road, Ottawa, Canada, for the period August 18-20, 1967, using the name Eric S. Galt. It is further noted that according to the articles appearing in "Look" magazine concerning Ray, he allegedly stayed at a motel near Gary, Indiana, on August 21, 1967, however, investigation has not verified this.

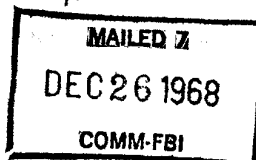
Legat Ottawa should furnish the above information to the RCMP and request the RCMP to ascertain if Ray did stay at a motel on Montreal Road on August 21, 1967, in further efforts to identify "Raoul."

1 - Memphis

SEE NOTE PAGE 2

REL:mlt
(6) *mlt*

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



61 JAN 9 1969 TELETYPE UNIT ☐

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COMM-FBI
DEC 26 1968
MAILED REC'D

CIV RIGHTS
FBI

(1)
PAGE ONE

DEC 26 2 29 PM '68

215 MOBILE 5

DEC 26 1 2 PM '68

REC'D MAIL ROOM
FBI

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, MOBILE (157-100) (P)
SUBJECT: [Illegible]

RE: [Illegible]
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NOTE:

157-100 (157-100)

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(157-100)
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1 - [Illegible]