

1-6-69

AIRTEL

1 - Mr. Long

To: SAC, Springfield (44-561)

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

Re Springfield airtel to Bureau dated 12-4-69.

If not already done, submit LHM suitable for dissemination the results of interview with Henry Stumm.

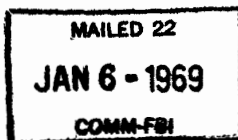
1 - Memphis (44-1987) (info)

REL:jms
(5)

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO. . .

EX-102

REC-10



44-38861-5492

6 JAN 7 1969

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

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

61 JAN 13 1969

NOTE

A article appeared in the magazine section of the "Washington Post" on Sunday, November 17, 1968, to the effect that James Earl Ray was seen in his home town of Alton, Illinois, in the company of a wizened old Nazi sympathizer named Henry Stumm.

We instructed Springfield to submit their recommendation, and Springfield replied stating that they recommended that Stumm be interviewed. We are now requesting that Springfield submit results of interview, if not already done.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE KANSAS CITY	OFFICE OF ORIGIN MEMPHIS	DATE 12/13/68	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 10/18 - 12/6/68
TITLE OF CASE JAMES EARL RAY, aka IO #4182 WF #442-A, TOP TEN FUGITIVE; DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., (DECEASED) - VICTIM		REPORT MADE BY RAYMOND B. HOWE	TYPED BY jlh
		CHARACTER OF CASE CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY UFAC - ROBBERY 12-16-68	

REFERENCE:

Bureau airtel to Kansas City and Memphis dated 11/12/68.

-P-

LEAD:

KANSAS CITY:

AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI:

Will continue to maintain contact with officials at the Missouri State Penitentiary and submit monthly cost data airtels.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
								PENDING OVER ONE YEAR ☐ YES ☐ NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS ☐ YES ☐ NO

APPROVED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW
COPIES MADE: 5-Bureau (44-38861) 5-Memphis (44-1987) 2-Kansas City (44-760)		44-38861-5493 1-8-69 18 DEC 16 1968
Dissemination Record of Attached Report		Notations FUG. SUP. PENDING PROSECUTION STATE. SECT.
Agency		
Request Recd.		
Date Fwd.	54 JAN 14 1969	
How Fwd.		
By		

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

DEC 17 10 21 AM '68
JAN 1 1969

REC 16 9 18 AM 1968

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

5- (PHONE) (40-120)

18 DEC 18 1968

- (TELETYPE) (40-120)

2- (TELETYPE) (40-120)

REC 25

EXP. PROC.

JAN 7 4 44 PM '69

COMM. CASE NO. 100-100000-100000
RE: CIVIL RIGHTS - ALABAMA
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

RE: ALABAMA CIVIL RIGHTS

RE: CIVIL RIGHTS

RE: CIVIL RIGHTS

-1-

URGENT 12/18/68 CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION

URGENT:

(RECEIVED) - ALABAMA

RE: CIVIL RIGHTS - ALABAMA

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, ALABAMA

RE: CIVIL RIGHTS

URGENT 12/18/68

RE: CIVIL RIGHTS

URGENT 12/18/68

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, ALABAMA

RE: CIVIL RIGHTS

URGENT 12/18/68

RE: CIVIL RIGHTS

RE: CIVIL RIGHTS

RE: CIVIL RIGHTS

RE: CIVIL RIGHTS

KC 44-760

ADMINISTRATIVE:

The information included in this report is not the complete results of investigation covered during this period by the Kansas City Office in connection with this matter. It only contains the Wichita Beacon Newspaper articles and investigation requested in referenced communication.

B*
(COVER PAGE)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: RAYMOND B. HOWE
Date: 12/13/68

Office: Kansas City

Field Office File No.: 44-760

Bureau File No.: 44-38861

Title: JAMES EARL RAY;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
(DECEASED) - VICTIMCharacter: CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY
UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID CONFINEMENT - ROBBERY

Synopsis: FBI Fingerprint Examiner GEORGE BONEBRAKE conducted a week-long seminar to law enforcement officers from the South Central Kansas area at Wichita, Kansas during November, 1968. An article concerning this seminar and BONEBRAKE's activities in the JAMES EARL RAY case appeared in the Wichita Beacon Newspaper September 12, 1968. Also in this newspaper on October 16, 1968, it revealed that JAMES EARL RAY's attorney complained that prosecution witnesses have made public statements concerning his client. Both articles set forth. On October 24, 1968, Judge BATTLE, Criminal Court, Memphis, Tennessee, signed a petition requiring Examiner BONEBRAKE appear on December 6, 1968, to show cause why he should not be heard in contempt of court. Interviews with law enforcement officials attending seminar held by BONEBRAKE in Wichita set forth.

-P-

DETAILS:

The following article under the heading "Identifying King Assassin Suspect Explained" appeared in the Wichita Beacon Newspaper, Wichita, Kansas, on September 12, 1968. The article was written by BERNIE WARD, Beacon Staff Writer, and states as follows:

KC 44-760

"One man sitting in a Memphis, Tenn., jail cell knows only too well what kind of an expert George Bonebrake is.

"James Earl Ray, awaiting trial as the accused assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King last spring, is in that cell largely through the efforts of Bonebrake.

"Bonebrake, one of the FBI's most respected fingerprint experts, is in Wichita conducting a seminar on fingerprint identification for area law enforcement agencies.

"Following the assassination of Dr. King, Bonebrake led the search through thousands of fingerprints on file at the Washington, D.C., FBI headquarters for the identification of the killer.

"After Ray was arrested earlier this summer in London, England, Bonebrake was the government's star witness in the extradition proceedings that followed. And it was his expert testimony that identified the man being held by Scotland Yard as the fugitive - James Earl Ray.

"During the pause in the seminar here Wednesday, Bonebrake, a quiet, unassuming man, discussed the Ray case and others he has been involved in during his 27 years with the FBI.

"My testimony in the extradition hearing was two-fold," Bonebrake said, "since Ray was refusing to admit his true identity.

"I was able to testify that the latent prints we found in Memphis matched those taken of the man arrested in London, and that the same prints matched those taken of James Earl Ray while he was at the Missouri Penitentiary.

"Therefore," Bonebrake continued, "My testimony tended to implicate him in the murder of Dr. King as well as identify him as the fugitive wanted for escaping from the Missouri prison."

KC 44-760

"Bonebrake picked up a large chart showing side-by-side blow-ups of two fingerprints. 'This one,' he pointed to a blurred photo of a fingerprint, 'is a latent print, or one which was found at a crime scene. The other is an ink print, one taken from a suspect when he was arrested.

"'When I am called to testify in court, I point out to the jury how the two are identical.

"'This is what I did in London. I was able to show that the latent prints obtained in Memphis, the ones taken in London and the ones taken of Ray at the Missouri prison were all the same.'

"Bonebrake said FBI agents obtained 'good' latent prints from a rifle believed used to kill Dr. King, from a telescopic sight on the rifle and from a pair of binoculars found at the scene.

"'This was a real break for us,' he said. 'We had several names to go on but we didn't know which one was correct.

"'Ray had purchased a car under the name of Gault, bought the rifle under another name and registered at the flophouse in Memphis using the name John Willard.'

"Once the latent prints were obtained, he said, an exhaustive comparison search was launched of thousands of prints of known offenders and known fugitives.

"'This way,' Bonebrake added, 'We were able to come up with Ray's name and eventually to identify him in London.'

"Bonebrake said he anticipated going to Memphis to testify on the fingerprint identification during Ray's upcoming trial.

"'There's no doubt in my mind that he (Ray) at least handled the murder weapon,' Bonebrake commented.

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"During the week-long seminar here, Bonebrake is instructing lawmen from several South Central Kansas police and sheriff's departments on the proper identification of latent prints.

"The class is designed to teach officers to go to a crime scene and develop the crime scene or latent prints using various processes.

"Wednesday, the law officers compared latent prints found at a prepared crime scene with those of known offenders and established identifications. Today, they were instructed on the means of preparing that evidence for trial. Friday they will present the evidence during a mock trial!"

On October 16, 1968, the following story under the heading "Beacon Story Ignites Ray Trial Controversy" appeared in the Wichita Beacon Newspaper. This article was also written by BERNIE WARD and states as follows:

"A front-page story in the Wichita Beacon on Sept. 12 has become this center of a controversy in Memphis, Tenn., over public statements made by the defense and prosecution in the case of James Earl Ray, accused assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King.

"The Beacon story quoted FBI fingerprint expert George Bonebrake, the agent who identified Ray at an extradition hearing in London last summer, as saying: 'There is no doubt in my mind that he(Ray) at least handled the murder weapon.'

"In a story today in the Memphis Tenn., Commercial Appeal, Ray's attorney, Arthur J. Hanes, charged that a court order restricting pre-trial publicity in the case, 'protects the prosecution and only muzzles the defense.'

"Hanes cited specifically The Beacon interview story here with Bonebrake as an example of prosecution witnesses who have made public statements 'convicting my client and we have had no chance to counter them.'

" On Sept. 30, Hanes, private detective Renfro Hays, hired by the defense, and two Memphis reporters, Roy Hamilton of the Memphis Press - Scimitar and Charles Edmundson of the Commercial Appeal were cited for contempt of court for trial-related statements made outside of court.

"W. Preston Battle, criminal court judge in Tennessee's Shelby County, issued the contempt citations.

"The contempt findings came after complaints Hanes and Hays had voiced about the unusually strict guard placed on Ray. The two newsmen reported the complaints in their Memphis papers.

"Hanes had complained the strict security surrounding his client had threatened Ray's sanity and called the security measures 'cruel and unusual punishment.'

"Last week, Time Magazine in reporting the conflict between Judge Battle and the four defendants in the contempt action, reported Hanes also had talked to the press about the possibility of Communist conspiracy in the King murder.

"The Time report said that Judge Battle had found no violation of Ray's rights and had described the security precautions as 'reasonable'.

"The judge further stated that out-of-court suggestions that Ray's sanity may be in danger were 'extremely prejudicial and constitute a clear and present danger' to picking an impartial jury and holding a fair trial.

"In issuing the contempt citation Battle found statements by Hanes and Hays and the subsequent news stories by the two reporters were violation of his order prohibiting any prejudicial out-of-court discussions of this case.

"In today's story in the Memphis Commercial Appeal, Hanes referred extensively to the interview here with Bonebrake. The FBI expert was here to conduct a seminar on fingerprint identification for local law enforcement agencies.

"At that time, Bonebrake told a Beacon reporter he had testified at the Ray extradition hearing that 'the latent fingerprints we found in Memphis matched those taken of the man arrested in London and that the same prints matched those taken of James Earl Ray while he was at the Missouri penitentiary.'

"Therefore, my testimony tended to implicate him in the murder of Dr. King as well as identify him as the fugitive wanted for escaping from the Missouri prison.'

"Bonebrake also stated that FBI agents had obtained 'good' latent prints from a rifle believed used to kill Dr. King, from a telescopic sight on the rifle and from a pair of binoculars all found abandoned near the Memphis crime scene.

"In the Commercial Appeal Store, Hanes referred to Bonebrake's statements as an example of how Judge Battle's or limiting pre-trial publicity has different effects on the defense and prosecution.

"He added that any effort at successfully limiting the press would have to be at a nation-wide level.

"A reporter for the Commercial Appeal told The Beacon an attempt had been made to contact Bonebrake but the Washington, D.C., FBI office said the fingerprint expert was out of town and could not be reached.

"The reporter also said Hanes told him he received a copy of The Beacon story in the mail from an unidentified sender, apparently from Wichita.

"Hanes, a Birmingham, Ala., attorney, is in Memphis continuing his investigation of items of evidence the state is expected to introduce when Ray goes to trial Nov. 12.

"The beacon today attempted to contact Hanes at his Memphis motel for comment on his charges against the court but the attorney could not be reached."

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On October 24, 1968, Judge W. PRESTON BATTLE, Criminal Court of Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee, signed a petition requiring that Examiner BONEBRAKE appear before that court on December 6, 1968, to show cause why he should not be held in contempt of court. This action was taken in connection with an article appearing in the Wichita, Kansas, Beacon Newspaper concerning a police school conducted by Mr. BONEBRAKE September 9 - 13, 1968, at Wichita, Kansas.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 11/28/68

Major CLYDE BEVIS, Records Division, Wichita, Kansas Police Department, said he had requested the FBI conduct an advanced fingerprint school for the Wichita Police Department with the understanding officers from surrounding law enforcement agencies would be invited. Major BEVIS recalled this school was held at the police academy of the Wichita Police Department during middle of September, 1968.

Major BEVIS said that in the regular course of business he notified members of the news media he encountered at police headquarters of the school being in session and suggested they might like to cover it. He specifically recalled talking to OLLIE THOMPSON, News Director of TV Station KTVH and BERNIE WARD, a reporter for the Wichita Beacon. THOMPSON made no commitment when he would try to cover the school. WARD declared he would appear at the school at 2:00 PM, Tuesday, September 10, 1968. Major BEVIS commented he arranged to be at the classroom at the time specified by WARD, however, WARD did not appear. On Wednesday, September 11, 1968, BEVIS said he was notified by some member of the training staff of the Wichita Police Department that WARD had appeared at the classroom. BEVIS instructed that Lieutenant JORDON JONES, introduce WARD to Instructor BONEBRAKE and help WARD with any coverage he desired.

BEVIS declared it was his understanding the instruction being provided by Mr. BONEBRAKE was for the benefit of law enforcement officers alone and not available for members of the press or others. He gave specific instructions that members of the press not be invited to attend any of the classroom sessions and he feels confident that had any member of the news media tried to enter the classroom while the instructions were being given he would have been immediately notified.

BEVIS said he had no further contact with the class or members of the press. When the article appeared in the Wichita Beacon on September 12, 1968, he was shocked

On 11/18/68 at Wichita, Kansas File # KC 44-760
by SA ELMER R. FLETCHER:bjc Date dictated 11/21/68

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KC 44-760

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at its contents and without checking the accuracy of the facts expressed his displeasure to WARD on the day after publication. BEVIS observed that WARD was invited to do an article on the school, not on the background of the instructor or the RAY case. WARD'S only comment was, "Well that's news."

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 11/26/68

Lieutenant RALPH E. GREEN, 1017 West 3rd Street, El Dorado, Kansas, advised he is employed by the El Dorado Department of Public Safety and attended an advanced fingerprint school sponsored by the Wichita, Kansas Police Department during the second week of September, 1968. Lieutenant GREEN said the class was taught by Mr. GEORGE BONEBRAKE of the FBI, and lasted for one week.

Lieutenant GREEN said the class was for law enforcement officers only and he never observed any reporters or people from the news media in the class room during the class sessions. Lieutenant GREEN said the only time he saw anyone from the news media was a KTVH-TV cameraman, who took some pictures of Mr. BONEBRAKE, but this was during one of their recesses and nothing was said on this occasion regarding the RAY case.

Lieutenant GREEN said he at no time heard Mr. BONEBRAKE discuss the RAY case with reporters or members of the class during a recess. According to Lieutenant GREEN the only time he did hear Mr. BONEBRAKE discuss the RAY case was during class and he did recall Mr. BONEBRAKE say that he had testified in England at the extradition proceedings and his testimony was that he had compared the latent fingerprints obtained from evidence in Memphis, Tennessee, with known fingerprints of JAMES EARL RAY and found they were identical.

Lieutenant GREEN said Mr. BONEBRAKE cautioned the members of the class not to discuss anything regarding the RAY case or information he had furnished during the class.

On 11/19/68 at El Dorado, Kansas File # KC 44-760
by SA RICHARD L. ECKBERG:bjc Date dictated 11/19/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 11/27/68

Officer LEE M. PADDOCK, JR., 325 West Towanda, El Dorado, Kansas, advised he is employed by the El Dorado Department of Public Safety and attended a one week advanced fingerprint school in Wichita, Kansas during the second week of September, 1968, which was sponsored by the Wichita Police Department and taught by Mr. GEORGE BONEBRAKE of the FBI.

PADDOCK said he is quite certain no members of the press, television or radio were permitted to attend the class and the only time he saw anyone connected with the news media in the classroom was during a recess when a television cameraman took some film footage.

PADDOCK said he never was present or never observed Mr. BONEBRAKE talking to newsmen other than the above mentioned television cameraman and never heard Mr. BONEBRAKE discuss the RAY case with newsmen or members of the class during a recess.

PADDOCK said Mr. BONEBRAKE did speak briefly about the RAY case during the class. He told the class he had testified at the extradition proceedings in England and his testimony concerned the finding of latent fingerprints on a gun in Memphis and the comparison of these latent fingerprints with the known fingerprints of JAMES EARL RAY, which established that RAY was the person who had been arrested in England and also the person whose fingerprints were found on the gun.

PADDOCK said Mr. BONEBRAKE cautioned the members of the class not to discuss the case outside the classroom and PADDOCK said he did not hear either Mr. BONEBRAKE or any member of the class discuss the case.

On 11/19/68 at El Dorado, Kansas File # KC 44-760
by SA RICHARD L. ECKBERG:bjc Date dictated 11/20/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 11/28/68

MORRIS HERRON, Valley Center Police Officer, recalled attending a school on the subject of fingerprints conducted by a Mr. BONEBRAKE, of the FBI, at the Police Academy, Wichita, Kansas, during early part of September, 1968.

HERRON said he was present at every session and did not hear Mr. BONEBRAKE or any member of the class conduct a press conference or have any contact with the press on any subject other than the school itself. Mr. HERRON recalled representatives of the news media being at the school. He thought it was the last day, Friday, September 13, 1968, on the occasion of the graduation of the class members. At this time he observed strangers around the halls of the academy with movie cameras, therefore, concluded they were television cameramen. He did not recognize any of these persons. He could not remember if Mr. BONEBRAKE was present at the school at this time.

HERRON was most emphatic in recalling no members of the press were in the closed meetings of the school wherein Mr. BONEBRAKE instructed on the subject of fingerprints.

At an early date of the school, exact date not recalled, HERRON mentioned some member of the class asked a direct question of BONEBRAKE concerning the use of latent fingerprints in the JAMES EARL RAY case. In response to this question, BONEBRAKE observed he had testified in the hearing of RAY at London, England, earlier in the year that fingerprints were introduced to establish the identity of RAY. BONEBRAKE elaborated on this point to the extent he mentioned he had testified that known prints of RAY from Missouri State Penitentiary were identical with the questioned prints of the suspect in custody of the English authorities.

HERRON recalled BONEBRAKE declined to discuss this case further mentioning something to the effect this was still a pending case and FBI policy did not permit the public disclosure of such information.

On 11/19/68 at Valley Center, Kansas File # KC 44-760

by SA ELMER R. FLETCHER:bjc Date dictated 11/21/68

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HERRON volunteered he had read the article appearing in the Wichita Beacon of about September 12, 1968, and he did not hear BONEBRAKE or a member of the fingerprint class mention such facts to the press.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 11/26/68

Officer CHARLES F. STEWART, Department of Public Safety, El Dorado, Kansas, home address, 113 East 5th Street, El Dorado, Kansas, advised he attended an advanced fingerprint school sponsored by the Wichita, Kansas Police Department during the second week of September, 1968. STEWART said the class was taught by Mr. GEORGE BONEBRAKE of the FBI and lasted for one week.

STEWART said the class was restricted to members of law enforcement agencies only and he never observed any member of the press, radio or television in the classroom during the time the class was in session. Mr. STEWART said about the next to last day of the class he recalled a television cameraman taking some pictures, but did not hear or observe Mr. BONEBRAKE make any statements on this occasion about the RAY case.

STEWART said he at no time heard Mr. BONEBRAKE discuss the RAY case with members of the news media or members of the class during recesses. STEWART said the only time he heard Mr. BONEBRAKE discuss the RAY case was during class and this was only to illustrate a point in how latent fingerprints could be used to identify an individual with a crime. STEWART said Mr. BONEBRAKE did mention that he had testified in the extradition proceedings in England to identify RAY as the person who was identical with the individual who had been in the penitentiary as JAMES EARL RAY in Missouri and also identical with the person whose fingerprints were found on a weapon found near the crime scene in Memphis, Tennessee.

STEWART said Mr. BONEBRAKE told the class he did not want them to discuss anything he had told them about the RAY case outside the classroom.

11/19/68El Dorado, KansasKC 44-760

On _____ at _____ File# _____

by SA RICHARD L. ECKBERG:bjc11/19/68
Date dictated _____

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KC 44-760

EWR:bjc

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The following investigation was conducted by
Special Agent EUGENE W. RUIZ:

AT WICHITA, KANSAS:

Lieutenant JORDAN JONES, Laboratory Investigator, Wichita Police Department, advised November 19, 1968, he was in attendance at the school in which Mr. BONEBRAKE lectured. He stated there were no members of the press in the class. He stated that he assisted BONEBRAKE in every way he could and he was the person who introduced a member of the press, whose name he did not recall, to BONEBRAKE. He stated that at this time the class took a break and BONEBRAKE spoke to this member of the press for a very short period of time. JONES stated he could not remember what was discussed. JONES stated he did recall, however, that after he read the newspaper article concerning BONEBRAKE and the RAY case, he wondered how the press agent could have written such a complete article concerning his interview with BONEBRAKE when he had been with him such a short time. JONES stated he was with BONEBRAKE during the breaks in the event he could be of any assistance, and no further press inquiries were made. JONES stated the only other occasion when the news media came was when a local television station took photographs of BONEBRAKE. JONES stated that at no time did he hear BONEBRAKE discuss anything concerning the RAY case with any of the news media. JONES stated that during the class BONEBRAKE told them how the latent prints had been identified with those of RAY and how many elimination prints they had. He stated BONEBRAKE also stated he had testified to the identification of RAY'S prints, but furnished no details.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 11/26/68

ART STONE, Chief of Security, Wichita State University, advised that while he was a member of the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office, Wichita, he attended a fingerprint school held in Wichita, which was operated by GEORGE BONEBRAKE of the Identification Division of the FBI. He said the school was held in about September, 1968, and only duly accredited law enforcement officers were in attendance at this school.

STONE said that during one break period in this school he saw a local newspaper reporter being introduced to Mr. BONEBRAKE by an unrecalled member of the Wichita, Kansas Police Department. STONE said he was not certain, but thought this reporter might be BERNIE WARD. He said although he did not hear the entire conversation between this person and BONEBRAKE, he thought he heard this person obtaining background information regarding BONEBRAKE. He said he did not hear any conversation between these two regarding the JAMES EARL RAY case.

STONE did advise that BONEBRAKE did mention the RAY case after receiving an inquiry from someone in the fingerprint class. In this connection he explained to the class how latents and partial latents received from various sources and seemingly unrelated at the time they were obtained later turn out to be related matters and excellent evidence material. BONEBRAKE did mention that he had travelled to London, England in connection with the RAY case to testify that the fingerprints of the man in custody there were identical with the known fingerprints of JAMES EARL RAY who had escaped from the Missouri State Prison, Jefferson City, Missouri. He said he is certain BONEBRAKE only mentioned the RAY case to show some of the conditions a fingerprint man would work under and the necessity of obtaining and maintaining prints.

STONE said the RAY case was only one of many illustrations used by BONEBRAKE for demonstrations in the class, to make a point about a certain phase or item in the training. He said BONEBRAKE did not discuss the RAY case at any length and always cautioned the persons in the class about any further discussion of this matter.

On 11/19/68 at Wichita, Kansas File # KC 44-760
by SA JAMES F. MILLER:bjc Date dictated 11/19/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 11/26/68

Detective Sergeant DEAN BERG, Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office, furnished the following information:

He recently attended a fingerprint school in Wichita, Kansas at which time GEORGE BONEBRAKE of the FBI was the instructor. He said no newspaper reporters were in attendance at this school since it was for law enforcement officials only.

He said that on about the third or fourth day of the school he saw an unknown man talking to BONEBRAKE and he was of the opinion this person was a newspaper reporter, however, since he did not know the man he is not certain of this information. He said this conversation took place during a break in the classes and was probably about 10 to 15 minutes in length. BERG said he did not know the text of their conversation.

BERG said BONEBRAKE mentioned the JAMES EARL RAY case in one of the classes and apparently did this to show how important partial and latent prints can be in a case. He said in this conversation BONEBRAKE mentioned that a partial latent print had been obtained in the RAY case and went on to show that what appeared to be unrelated items at the time they are obtained later turn out to be related in some manner. He further advised that BONEBRAKE said he compared the fingerprints of the man in custody in England with the known fingerprints of JAMES EARL RAY who had escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary and found they were identical.

BERG advised that BONEBRAKE talked about a number of cases, without mentioning a lot of names, and in each case pointed out how certain items of evidence can become very important to a case. BONEBRAKE would show how latents obtained from various and sometimes unlikely places would be important. BERG said as far as he is concerned BONEBRAKE was an excellent instructor.

On 11/19/68 at Wichita, Kansas File # KC 44-760

by SA JAMES F. MILLER:bjc Date dictated 11/19/68

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KC 44-760

EWR:bjc

1

The following investigation was conducted by
Special Agent EUGENE W. RUIZ:

AT WICHITA, KANSAS:

Detective Sergeant, WARREN MALONE, Laboratory Investigator, Wichita Police Department, advised November 19, 1968, he had attended the school given by Mr. BONEBRAKE. He stated to the best of his knowledge, there were no members of the press in this class. He stated he recalled that a member of the press did come to the school and they took a break and so BONEBRAKE could talk with him. He stated he did not hear what they discussed and the interview was no more than ten minutes. MALONE stated he did not know of any further inquiries by the press. He stated that during the class, BONEBRAKE was questioned concerning the RAY case. BONEBRAKE told the class about receiving the weapon for examination and checking fingerprint cards and how they eliminated them and identified the prints as those of RAY. He also told them he had gone to England and testified, but MALONE said he could not remember what BONEBRAKE said he had testified to. MALONE stated that BONEBRAKE told the class that the RAY case was still pending and for them not to discuss it outside the class; the information he furnished them was solely for the classes benefit.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 11/27/68

JAMES D. LAZELLE, Undersheriff, Cowley County Sheriff's Department, was contacted at the Winfield Police Station. He furnished the following information:

He attended each session of an advanced fingerprint school conducted from September 9, 1968 through September 13, 1968, at the Wichita Police Academy, Wichita, Kansas. The school was conducted by GEORGE BONEBRAKE. This school was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation for full-time law enforcement officers of Police and Sheriff's Departments.

The JAMES EARL RAY case was mentioned while discussing latent fingerprints, their location and lifting, and their use in testimony to identify an individual. BONEBRAKE stated that he had been able to give testimony as to RAY's identity, based on fingerprints. There were no newsmen present when the RAY case was mentioned.

Newsmen from TV Channel 12, and from The Wichita Beacon, were present on one or two occasions, during recess breaks, for the purpose of obtaining information pertaining to the fingerprint school. He at no time heard the RAY case mentioned while newsmen were present.

On 11/20/68 at Winfield, Kansas File # KC 44-760
by SA JAMES B. KELLY:ENV Date dictated 11/21/68

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.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

11/27/68

Date _____

CECIL JAMES LOWER, 227 Random Road, Sergeant, Arkansas City Police Department, was contacted at the Arkansas City Police Station. He furnished the following information:

He attended an advanced fingerprint school at the Wichita Police Department, Wichita, Kansas, from September 9, 1968 through September 13, 1968. This school was sponsored by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and was conducted by GEORGE BONEBRAKE. He understood that this school was open to law enforcement personnel only.

He recalls that the JAMES EARL RAY case was mentioned during the regular class period. It was clearly understood that information pertaining to the RAY case was not to be discussed with anyone outside the class. The RAY case had come up in connection with the locating, lifting, preserving, and presenting findings in testimony, concerning latent fingerprints. BONEBRAKE mentioned having given testimony as to RAY's identity.

Representatives of TV Channel 12, and a photographer that took still pictures were present at the school, during a recess, on one day during the session. He did not know who the still photographer represented, but assumes it was a news media. Moving pictures were taken of class members and a still picture was posed for by BONEBRAKE and a class member, during the break. He does not know of any interview that newsmen had with BONEBRAKE.

The only mention that he heard made of the RAY case during the time the newsmen were present, was when the representative of the Wichita Police Department introduced GEORGE BONEBRAKE to the newsmen. At that time, the man making the introductions stated that GEORGE BONEBRAKE was one of the men who had worked on the RAY case.

11/20/68

Arkansas City, Kansas

KC 44-760

On _____ at _____

File # _____

SA JAMES B. KELLY :ENV

11/21/68

by _____

Date dictated _____

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.

20

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 11/27/68

KENNETH MOUSER, 223 E. 11th, Records and Identification Officer, Wellington Police Department, was contacted at his home. He furnished the following information:

He attended each session of an advanced fingerprint school conducted at the Wichita Police Department Academy, Wichita, Kansas, from September 9, 1968 through September 13, 1968. The school was conducted by GEORGE BONEBRAKE of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. It was his understanding that the school was conducted for Police and Sheriff's Officers, and was a "closed" school, with no one other than full-time peace officers invited to attend.

On one day during the school, there were representatives from Channel 12 TV, and a photographer from the Wichita Beacon present at the Academy, during a recess, for the purpose of obtaining information pertaining to the fingerprint school. He did not know any of the representatives from the TV station, but he was personally acquainted with the Wichita Beacon reporter, JAMES WAMPLER. WAMPLER had asked him to pose with BONEBRAKE for a photograph as if BONEBRAKE was pointing out points of interest on two enlargements of fingerprints, and he had done so. This photograph was taken in a side office, off of the classroom. He heard no mention made of any specific case, either Bureau or otherwise, during the time that the photographs were being taken. Later that night he had seen his picture on television, over Channel 12.

He at no time observed and was not aware of any newsman having a personal interview with BONEBRAKE.

/The JAMES EARL RAY case was mentioned during the fingerprint school while there were no newsmen present. At that time BONEBRAKE pointed out that he had been able to give testimony concerning RAY's identity through the use of fingerprints.

MOUSER recalls having read an article in the Wichita Beacon, giving what were alleged to have been facts of the RAY case, and he had been greatly surprised that any

On 11/19/68 at Wellington, Kansas File # KC44-760

by SA JAMES B. KELLY:ENV Date dictated 11/21/68

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.

KC 44-760

2

newsman would have been able to obtain as detailed facts
as appeared to be quoted in the article.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

11/28/68

1

Date _____

Lieutenant G. W. REED, Police Department, Derby, Kansas, observed he attended a fingerprint school at the Wichita, Kansas Police Academy during early September, 1968. This school was instructed by a Mr. BONEBRAKE, introduced as the foremost latent and single fingerprint expert from FBI Headquarters, Washington, D.C.

In addition REED said he understood from a source unrecalled that BONEBRAKE had recently returned from England where he had offered fingerprint testimony in the JAMES EARL RAY case. REED felt he heard this from some other member of the class, but could not be sure on this point.

In any event he was certain he did not hear it from anyone in the presence of any representative of the news media. On this point Lieutenant REED said he thought a newspaper reporter and television cameraman appeared during the middle of the week at the class room, but, were at no time, present during the closed instruction periods of the school. At best they were in the hall way outside the class or in the classroom during the recess periods.

REED recalled that at the outset of the course a question by some class member was directed to BONEBRAKE concerning the fingerprint testimony in the JAMES EARL RAY case. BONEBRAKE cautioned the class he was not at liberty to discuss this case in detail, but could say he had testified to the identity of RAY based on fingerprint examination at the hearing in London. REED said he had no recollection of additional comments by anyone concerning the RAY case.

On 11/19/68 at Derby, Kansas File # KC 44-760
by SA ELMER R. FLETCHER:bjc Date dictated 11/21/68

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.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Memorandum

TO : Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: December 31, 1968

FROM : ^{SJP} Stephen J. Pollak
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

SJP:DRO:ash
DJ 144-72-662
41-157-147

SUBJECT: Assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

WSP

Attached is a list of reports and letterhead memoranda that you have transmitted to this Division in connection with the James Earl Ray case and have requested advice as to whether or not copies of the reports should be furnished to Mr. Phil Canale, State Attorney General, Shelby County, Tennessee. Please furnish Mr. Canale copies of each of the following reports.

John

1d

Attachment

EX-103

REC 49

25 JAN 8 1969

*let me
1-7-69
RED:jms*

REC'D - ROSEN
FBI

JAN 3 11 50 AM '69

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

BEC 10

JAN 3 12 07 PM '69

EX-103

APPROPRIATE

FOR THE RECORDS
PLEASE ADVISE THE CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION OF THE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, WASHINGTON, D.C.
RECORDS SECTION, BY TELETYPE TO THE BUREAU OF THE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, WASHINGTON, D.C.
IN CONNECTION WITH THE CASE OF THE BUREAU OF THE
MEMORANDUM THAT HAS BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE BUREAU OF THE
ATTACHED TO A SET OF RECORDS AND JUDGMENTS

SUBJECT: INVESTIGATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

STAFF ATTORNEY
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
STEPHEN A. BOTTEN

REGULAR BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DIRECTOR

3 11-111-111
DE 111-11-111
111-111111

DATE RECEIVED BY: 111-111

Memorandum

RECEIVED CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION

111-111
111-111

RECEIVED BY: 111-111

- 4 -

ATTACHMENT

<u>Date of Memo</u>	<u>Title</u>
12/18/68	San Diego, Report of 12/10/68
"	Mobile, Report of 12/1/68
12/17/68	RCMP Report of 12/2/68
"	Canadian "News Magazine" Interview
12/11/68	Omaha, Report of 12/6/68
12/3/68	New Orleans, Report of 11/27/68
11/27/68	Memphis, Letterhead Memorandum of 11/21/68.
12/13/68	3 RCMP Reports regarding Ray's activities in Canada
12/23/68	Springfield, Letterhead Memorandum regarding 1959 Chrysler
12/24/68	Memphis, Report of 12/18/68
12/30/68	RCMP Report of 12/9/68.

ENCLOSURE

44-38861-5494

- 2 -

ATTACHMENT

<u>Date of Memo</u>	<u>Title</u>
12/18/68	San Diego, Report of 12/10/68
"	Mobile, Report of 12/1/68
12/17/68	RCMP Report of 12/2/68
"	Canadian "News Magazine" Interview
12/11/68	Omaha, Report of 12/6/68
12/3/68	New Orleans, Report of 11/27/68
11/27/68	Memphis, Letterhead Memorandum of 11/21/68.
12/13/68	3 RCMP Reports regarding Ray's activities in Canada
12/23/68	Springfield, Letterhead Memorandum regarding 1959 Chrysler
12/24/68	Memphis, Report of 12/18/68
12/30/68	RCMP Report of 12/9/68.

SAC, Memphis (44-1987)

1-7-69

Director, FBI (44-38861)

1 - Mr. Long

EX-103
REC 49

MURKIN

You should disseminate a copy of each of the below listed documents to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee:

Report of SA Albert B. Miller dated 11-27-68 at New Orleans

Report of SA Carmelo Graffagnini dated 12-15-68 at Mobile

Report of SA Leo J. Ross dated 12-6-68 at Omaha

Report of SA Arnold W. O'Brien dated 12-10-68 at San Diego

Report of SA Joe C. Hester dated 12-18-68 at Memphis

Memphis letterhead memorandum dated 11-21-68.

Springfield memorandum dated 12-19-68

RCMP Report dated 12-2-68 (two copies enclosed)

RCMP report dated 12-9-68 (two copies enclosed)

RCMP reports dated 11-14, 20, 22-68 (two copies of each enclosed)

Canadian "News Magazine" interview (two copies enclosed)

MAILED 24

JAN 7 - 1969

COMM-FBI

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

Enclosures (4)

REL: jms

(4)

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO. . .

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

NOTE:

William Bradford Huie, author, has written two articles which appeared in "Look" magazine concerning the activities of James Earl Ray in Canada and the United States. Based upon these articles we have been conducting investigation and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) has been conducting investigation at our request. We have forwarded the results of this investigation to the Department and asked them if they desired these reports furnished to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee, who is prosecuting the state's case.

The Department by memorandum requested the listed reports be furnished Mr. Canale, and Memphis being instructed accordingly.

F B I

Date: 1/2/69

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 for the Bureau are 2 copies of an article captioned, "Ray Guilty Plea Is Considered," which appeared in the 1/1/69 edition of the "Commercial Appeal, a daily newspaper published at Memphis, Tenn.

State Attorney General PHIL A. CANALE, Memphis, advised that Mr. HUGH STANTON, the Public Defender who has been appointed subject's co-counsel, had asked him if he would accept a term of imprisonment rather than asking for the death penalty in return for a plea of guilty. Since this request had not originated with the subject RAY, Mr. CANALE advised Mr. STANTON that he would not commit himself. He suggested that Mr. STANTON discuss this with RAY and determine if RAY has any interest in pleading guilty.

Mr. CANALE said that Governor BUFORD ELLINGTON of Tennessee is strongly opposed to the death penalty, and even if RAY were sentenced to die in the electric chair, it is extremely doubtful that he would ever be executed. In view of this, Mr. CANALE tends to be willing to recommend a 99-year sentence in exchange for a plea of guilty.

It is noted that under Tennessee law all persons are eligible for parole after having served 30 consecutive years imprisonment. This is true regardless of the length of sentence imposed.

Teletype 2 ENCLOSURE

A.M. (3) - Bureau (Encs. 2)
 2 - Memphis

A.M.S.D. JCH:jap
 Spec. (5)

C. C. Bishop

Registered
 Approved: Refensen
 61 JAN 14 1969 Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

113
WTH

JAN 6 8 41 AM '69

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

ME 44-1987

Mr. CANALE said he has no information to indicate that RAY has any intention of pleading guilty, but he feels certain that the Public Defender will explain to RAY the advantages to be gained from such a guilty plea.

For the Bureau's information, it is the trial jury and not the Judge that determines the sentence imposed under Tennessee law. Even if RAY pleads guilty, it will be necessary for the State to present enough of its case to prove to the jury that RAY's crime was first degree murder and to insure that the jury will go along with the prosecutor's recommendation as to the term of imprisonment.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ray Guilty Plea Is Considered

Stanton And Foreman Talk; Discussion Refused By Attorney General

A possible guilty plea for James Earl Ray, charged with the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., has been discussed between defense counsel and taken up with the attorney general's office, it was learned last night.

Public Defender Hugh Stanton, co-defense counsel with Houston attorney Percy Foreman, confirmed that the two have discussed the possibility of a guilty plea for their 42-year-old client.

Mr. Stanton did not say whether a possible plea of guilty has been taken up with Ray himself in his suite at the Shelby County Jail. Ray is scheduled to go on trial March 3 before Criminal Court Judge W. Preston Battle.

The attorney general's office, it was learned, refused to discuss a guilty plea for Ray as a mere possibility. It is believed to have refused to discuss the matter short of a specific offer to plead guilty.

Technically, Atty. Gen. Phil M. Canale could refuse to agree to a guilty plea on any terms, but Judge Battle or the jury could overrule him.

Even in the event of a guilty plea, there could be a trial, with full presentation of the state's evidence, if the prosecution insisted on it as necessary to assure what it considered a severe enough sentence.

In Tennessee the jury, not the judge, fixes the sentence. The jury, even when there is a guilty plea, hears either the full evidence or a condensed version "stipulate^d to" by prosecution and defense.

When convicted of armed robbery in St. Louis nine years ago Ray refused advice of counsel to plead guilty and was sentenced to 20 years in state prison.

"A co-defendant who pleaded guilty got a much shorter sentence," Richard D. Schriber, defense counsel in the case, told The Commercial Appeal by telephone last night. It is this sentence Ray was serving when he escaped from the Missouri State Prison at Jefferson City April 23, 1967.

A possible clue as to how Ray might look on a guilty plea is contained in the long-hand manuscript he prepared for free lance writer William Bradford Huie to use in a series of articles for Look magazine. Mr. Huie says Ray's account leaves no doubt he was at least involved in a conspiracy to kill Dr. King.

Mr. Canale has said he will confer with Mr. Huie as to the possible use of the Ray manuscript as evidence in the trial.

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

Page 1
"The Commercial
Appeal"
Memphis, Tennessee

Date: 1-1-69
Edition: FINAL
Author:
Editor: GORDON HANNA
Title: MURKIN

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: MEMPHIS
☒ Being Investigated

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

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Page 1
"The Commercial
Appeal"
Memphis, Tenn.

Date: 1-1-69
Edition: FINAL
Author:
Editor: GORDON HANNA
Title: MURKIN

Character:
or CR
Classification:
Submitting Office: MEMPHIS
☒ Being Investigated

4 - SAC, Memphis (44-1987)

1-8-69

REC- 24 Director, FBI (44-38861) — 5496

1 - Mr. Long

MURKIN

EX-103

Enclosed are fifteen (15) copies of an LHM containing investigative results in Mexico regarding the activities of James Earl Ray for inclusion in your next report. Enclosed also are two copies of the transmittal letter from Legat Mexico.

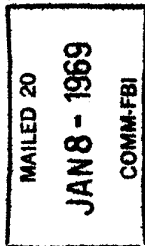
Do not disseminate the LHM at this time.

Enclosures (17)

REL:jms
(4) *jms*

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO. . .

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



59 JAN 1 1969 MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

25 JAN 9 1969

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 DEPT OF JUSTICE

REC'D - ROSEN
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JAN 8 10 39 AM '69

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

JAN 8 2 14 PM '69

ENCLOSURE

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

(4)
REF: [illegible]

[illegible] (1)

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] (1)

[illegible]

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[illegible]

NOTE:

William Bradford Huie has written two articles in "Look" magazine concerning the activities of James Earl Ray. Some of these activities occurred in Mexico. We requested Legat Mexico to conduct investigation regarding specific items appearing in the articles which we were not aware of.

Legat Mexico has now submitted the results of the requested investigation, and we are transmitting them to Memphis for inclusion in their next report. Legat Mexico determined additional hotels where Ray resided; however, nothing of significance was developed from this information.

RECEIVED
JAN 8 10 34 AM '60
F.B.I.
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

nothing of significance was developed from this information.
determined additional notes where Ray resided; however,
Members for inclusion in their next report. Regat Mexico
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NOTE:

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) DATE: 12/31/68

FROM : *NLF*
800
LEGAT, MEXICO CITY (173-1) (RUC)

SUBJECT: *MURKIN*

Enclosed for the Bureau are 18 copies (15 to be forwarded to the Memphis Office) of a LHM captioned "JAMES EARL RAY, Aka" and dated as above.

Remycab 10/22/68 and Bucab dated 10/18/68.

SOURCES

The first confidential source abroad mentioned in enclosed LHM is PCI RAMON CARBAJAL DEL RIO.

The second confidential source abroad is MEX 34.

The third confidential source abroad is MEX 24.

The fourth confidential source abroad is SA RICHARD S. CLARK.

The fifth confidential source abroad is SA DOUGLAS G. BILLS.

ADMINISTRATIVE

No further information has been received by this Office regarding plans of representatives of the State Attorney General of Tennessee to visit Mexico to interview prospective witnesses. No further action is being taken at this time.

5 - Bureau (Enc. 18)
(1 - Liaison Section)
(2 - Memphis) (44-1987)
1 - Mexico City

JJF:kzh
(6)



5010-108-02

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

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INVESTIGATIVE
JAN 7 4 30 PM '68
F.B.I.
DEPT. OF JUSTICE
REC-34

(e)
JLE:KSP

1 - Mexico City
(S - Memphis) (44-1981)
(I - Liaison Section)
2 - Bureau (ENC. 18)

JAN 7 1968

Witnesses. No further action is being taken at this time.
General of Tennessee to visit Mexico to interview prospective
Office regarding plans of representatives of the State Attorney
No further information has been received by this

ADMINISTRATIVE

SA DOUGLAS G. BIRTS.

The fifth confidential source spread is

SA RICHARD S. CIVAK.

The fourth confidential source spread is

WEX 34.

The third confidential source spread is

WEX 34.

The second confidential source spread is

In enclosed THM is PCI RAMON CARRANZA DEL RIO.
The first confidential source spread mentioned

SOURCES

Remycap 10\55\68 and Bucap dated 10\18\68.

ENVT BAL, AKS, and dated as above.

Forwarded to the Memphis Office) of a THM captioned "JAMES
Enclosed for the Bureau are 18 copies (12 copies

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

FROM :

LEGAL, MEXICO CITY (143-1) (ENC)

TO :

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

DATE: 12\31\68

Memorandum

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

2010-108-03 (11 FEB 1968)
FBI 100-1119
JAN 1968 EDITION
OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

December 31, 1968

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

JAMES EARL RAY, Aka

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.

Information set forth below covers investigation
conducted at Acapulco, Guerrero, Mexico and Guadalajara, Jalisco,
Mexico, pertaining to activities of captioned individual who,
as ERIC S. GALT, visited Mexico during October and November, 1967.

AT ACAPULCO, GUERRERO

On November 11, 1968, a confidential source abroad
advised that on that date LUIS LUNA DEL CASTILLO, Desk Clerk,
Hotel San Francisco, 92 Miguel Aleman, made available records
which showed that ERIC S. GALT registered at that hotel, alone,
on October 10, 1967. He occupied Room 202 at the rate of 75
pesos (\$6 U.S.) per day. He listed his nationality as "U.S."
and his home address as "Alabama". LUIS LUNA stated that he had
no recollection of this individual.

This same source advised that on November 11, 1968,
Mrs. ROSARIO DEL CASTILLO, owner of Hotel San Francisco, stated
that she had been in contact with the accountant for the hotel
in an effort to locate the actual registration card for GALT.
This card, she said, would list the guest's home address and
the description of his automobile and would also bear his
signature. She said the accountant was unable to locate the
card and that it was believed to have been destroyed.
Mrs. DEL CASTILLO also stated that she had spoken with several
of the hotel employees and that none of them were able to
recognize photographs of JAMES EARL RAY. She also made
available her copy for October 10, 1967, of a report made
daily to the Mexican Government, which lists subject's arrival
on that date.

1cc: AAG Criminal Division
Form 6-94 *B. R. S. m*

1cc: AAG Civil Rights Division
Form 6-94 *B. R. S. m*

1 cc CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT

JAN 8 1969

44-3861-5496

ENCLOSURE

JAMES EARL RAY, Aka

The source also advised on November 11, 1968, that a thorough review had been made of the hotel's guest list for October, 1967, and that there was no guest listed with the name of "RAOUL" or any similar name.

On November 21, 1968, a second confidential source abroad advised that efforts had been made to find a registration for ERIC S. GALT in other hotels and motels in Acapulco but that these efforts had been unsuccessful to date. This source pointed out that few hotels in Acapulco have an orderly method or system of record-keeping and that it is usually impossible to establish with certainty, from records, that a particular individual has been a guest in one of these hotels.

On December 11, 1968, the second source reported that hotels and motels in Acapulco are required to make daily reports to the Federal Office of Tourism listing their guests, as well as arrival and departure dates. An official of this office advised the source that a check had been made of all records available to him for the month of October, 1967, and that no listing was found for GALT or the other names used by him in the reports furnished by any hotel or motel for the month of October, 1967. This official acknowledged, however, that these reports were probably not complete for 1967, since the office had recently changed its location and there was still not room for all the files and records which should be maintained by this agency.

The source also advised on December 11, 1968, that inquiries had been made throughout the tourist zone of Acapulco and also in the houses of prostitution and that no one was located who could remember subject from his photographs.

AT GUADALAJARA, JALISCO

On November 13, 1968, a third confidential source abroad advised that records of the Pancho Villa Motel, Avenida Revolution 1867, had been checked on that date. They showed that ERIC S. GALT registered there on October 15, 1967, alone, and occupied Room 3. He listed himself as a U.S. citizen with address 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, and his occupation as "employed by publisher". The source said that there was no time of departure shown in the records. GALT paid 40 pesos (\$3.20 U.S.) for the room. The source also found a second registration card for "ERIC S. GOLT, 26-08 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama" showing a registration on October 18, 1967. Again, there was no departure date shown for this registration.

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This source determined that the girl who worked as a maid during that period was CARMEN IBARRA OCHOA. She was interviewed and said that she remembered nothing about the subject. The source advised that the doorman during that period, GREGORIO DEL REAL ROMERO, was no longer employed by the hotel.

On November 15, 1968, the third source advised that the owner of the Pancho Villa Motel, ELPIDIO VELAZQUEZ, had returned to Guadalajara after being out of the city for several days. VELAZQUEZ stated that he could not recall the subject or recognize his picture. Mrs. VELAZQUEZ, the owner's wife, stated that she recalled subject from a photograph with sunglasses which was taken in Mexico in 1967. She said, however, that he did not wear glasses while at the motel. She remembered that he had a car but could not describe it.

Mrs. VELAZQUEZ said that when subject arrived at the motel he was complaining of a toothache. She said she recommended a doctor. The next day she became concerned when he did not come out of his room and she rapped on his door. He answered that he was all right and was about to check out. She stated that he must have done so before 2 p.m., October 16, 1967, because he was not charged for another day. She stated that he arrived at the motel again on the morning of October 18, 1967, and departed before 2 p.m. on October 19, 1967. She recalled that he was alone at the motel on both occasions. She said she did not recall his luggage but that he wore a white sport shirt with short sleeves and brown trousers.

The third source reported that he interviewed Dr. OSCAR GOMEZ PALOFOX, Madero 975, on November 15, 1968. Dr. PALOFOX stated that he recalled a house call which he made to the Pancho Villa Motel but he could not recognize subject's photograph. He said that the man he treated had an abscessed molar and that he had injected tetrafinicol, a penicillin-type drug, to kill the infection. He recommended to the patient that he go to the Hospital Militar and ask them to recommend a dentist. He said that he made this call to the motel at about 1 or 2 p.m. on October 15, 1967.

On November 17, 1968, the third source advised that he had learned that the former doorman of the Pancho Villa Motel had reportedly returned to his home village of Valparaiso, Zacatecas. On November 24, 1968, the source advised that he had tried to locate GREGORIO DEL REAL ROMERO in Valparaiso,

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Zacatecas, but had determined that DEL REAL has not been seen there for several months. His relatives told the source that they believed he had gone to the United States to seek employment but that they did not know how he could be contacted.

MEXICAN GOVERNMENT RECORDS

On November 11, 1968, a fourth confidential source abroad advised that an official of the Inspection Service of Mexican Immigration in Mexico City had advised that border crossing records are maintained permanently on file in Mexico City. He said that these records had been exhaustively searched in April, 1968, without locating information to confirm the departure of ERIC STARVO GALT from Mexico. He did find a record that GALT entered Mexico on October 7, 1967, at Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas, and was issued tourist card #7475449. He stated that a further review of records, during November, 1968, still failed to locate information establishing that GALT or JOHN L. RAYNE departed Mexico at Tijuana, Baja California, in November, 1967.

On November 18, 1968, a fifth confidential source abroad advised that an official of the Mexican Federal Automobile Registration Bureau had stated on that date that the temporary permit issued to GALT's car at Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas, in October, 1967, had been cancelled, indicating that the car had left Mexico. This official said that he was directing a communication to the Chief of Mexican Customs at Tijuana, Baja California, requesting certification as to the departure of the car from Mexico and the date.

On December 18, 1968, the fifth source advised that the same official stated on that date that he had still not received confirmation from the border concerning the departure from Mexico of the 1966 Mustang which GALT was driving when he entered Mexico on October 7, 1967.