VIA TELETYPE

ENCIPHERED

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Deloach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

WA 2

105PM

URGENT 1-21-69 MSJ

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) CODE

FROM PHILADELPHIA (44-1368)

MURKIN

RE PHILADELPHIA TELETYPES JANUARY ONE NINE, LAST.

PH EIGHT NINE SEVEN DASH R ADVISED EARLY A.M., THIS DATE, JAMES BEVEL WAS IN WASHINGTON, D.C., ON JANUARY TWO ZERO, LAST. HE IS EXPECTED TO RETURN TO PHILADELPHIA TODAY.

INFORMANT ADVISED HE CONTACTED ERIC WARD, ~~SCLC~~ SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE OFFICIAL MENTIONED BY BEVEL ON NEWSBROADCAST, AS PERSON AGREEING WITH HIM THAT JAMES EARL RAY DID NOT KILL KING.

WARD TOLD SOURCE THAT BEVEL IS ~~QUOTE~~ "PLAYING A GAME" ~~UNQUOTE~~ BECAUSE HE DID NOT WANT RAY EXECUTED. BEVEL FEELS RAY IS PART OF A CONSPIRACY, AND HIS DEATH WOULD END ALL TALK OF CONSPIRACY. PEOPLE WOULD THEN FORGET ABOUT CONSPIRACIES TO KILL KING.

INFORMANT ALSO ADVISED MILITANTS IN PHILADELPHIA AREA FEEL BEVEL HAS ~~QUOTE~~ "SOLD OUT" ~~UNQUOTE~~.

REC 5

AIR MAIL COPY SENT MEMPHIS.

10 JAN 22 1969

END.

WA...NSM

FBI WASH DC

54 JAN 24 1969

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

JAN 21 2 51 PM '69
REC'D - ROSEN
FBI
REC'D - ROSEN
JAN 21 1 32 PM '69 FBI
JAN 21 2 29 PM 1969
JAN 22 6 31 AM '69
REC'D - DIV NOV 1969
REC'D - E. LOACH
F B I
JAN 21 1 12 PM '69
JAN 21 4 48 PM '69
RECEIVED - DIVISION
F B I
JAN 21 2 21 PM '69
F. B. I.
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
JAN 21 5 20 PM '69
REC'D - E. LOACH
F B I

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

1-21-69

AIRTEL

1 - Mr. Long

To: SAC, Philadelphia (44-1368)

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

RePHteletype to the Bureau dated 1-19-69.

This will be to confirm Bureau instructions given to you on January 21, 1969. You should immediately interview Reverend James Bevel, of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference for complete details as to what evidence and information he may have bearing on the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

You should keep the Bureau advised of all pertinent developments.

1 - Memphis (44-1987)

REC 5

19 JAN 22 1969

MAILED 3
JAN 21 1969
COMM-FBI

REL:jms
(5)

NOTE:

Philadelphia advised us that Reverend James Bevel, Southern Christian Leadership Conference Official in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, appeared on television on 1-19-69, and stated that he had evidence that James Earl Ray did not kill Martin Luther King, Jr. On this interview Bevel refused to divulge the evidence and further stated he has offered to defend Ray in court.

We have instructed Philadelphia to thoroughly interview Bevel for complete details as to what evidence he has bearing on the King assassination. This communication is confirming our instructions to Philadelphia.

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

54 JAN 24 1969

MAIL ROOM ✓ TELETYPE UNIT

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

REC'D - INDEX
FBI

RECEIVED
FEDERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION 5

JAN 21 11 46 AM '69

JAN 21 11 45 AM '69

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

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

January 21, 1968

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

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

The attached relates to a television interview of the Reverend James Bevel, Southern Christian Leadership Conference in Philadelphia, PA., who stated he has evidence that Ray did not kill Martin Luther King, Jr. Bevel also stated he refuses to divulge evidence and he has offered to defend Ray in court although he is not a licensed attorney.

We have no information indicating any evidence that Bevel may have.

The Philadelphia Office has been instructed to interview Bevel.

You will be advised of pertinent developments.

REL:jld

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FBI WASH DC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATION SECTION
JAN 17 1969
TELETYPE

FBI MEMPHIS

151 PM URGENT 1-17-69 MCP

TO DIRECTOR 44-38861

FROM MEMPHIS 44-L987 1 P

MURKIN.

SUBJECT'S ATTORNEY, PERCY FOREMAN, AND MR. HUGH STANTON, SHELBY COUNTY, TENN., PUBLIC DEFENDER WHO HAS BEEN NAMED CO-COUNSEL, WERE SCHEDULED TO APPEAR THIS DATE BEFORE JUDGE W. PRESTON BATTLE TO REPORT ON THEIR PROGRESS IN PREPARING RAY'S DEFENSE.

MR. STANTON APPEARED AS SCHEDULED AND STATED THAT FOREMAN HAS BEEN ILL WITH INFLUENZA SINCE DECEMBER TWENTYSIX LAST, AND WAS THUS UNABLE TO APPEAR THIS DATE. MR. STANTON STATED THAT DUE TO FOREMAN'S ILLNESS HE WAS UNABLE TO STATE DEFINITELY THAT INSTANT MATTER WOULD GO TO TRIAL BY MARCH THREE NEXT. JUDGE BATTLE ORDERED MR. STANTON TO PREPARE THIS CASE WITH OR WITHOUT FOREMAN'S ASSISTANCE IN SUCH A MANNER AS TO BE READY TO GO TO TRIAL MARCH THREE NEXT.

JUDGE BATTLE FURTHER ORDERED MR. STANTON AND MR. FOREMAN TO AGAIN MAKE A PROGRESS REPORT TO HIM FEBRUARY FOURTEEN NEXT.

P.

END

44-[redacted]-5509

EC-92

6 JAN 23 1969

~~CORR: PARA TWO, LINE SIX, WORD TWO IS "MARCH".~~

END

CKG 61 JAN 30 1969

FBI WASH DC

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

REC'D - ROSEN
FBI
JAN 17 3 30 PM '69

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI
JAN 20 11 38 AM '69

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
JAN 21 6 46 AM '69

RECEIVED TOLSON
FBI

JAN 17 3 58 PM '69

JAN 17 4 25 PM '69
REC'D DE LOACH
FBI

JAN 20 12 04 PM '69
REC'D DE LOACH
FBI

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION SPOON

JAN 20 4 19 PM '69
F.B.I.
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED DIRECTOR
F.B.I.
JAN 17 4 50 PM '69

F B I
REC'D BISHOP
JAN 20 2 16 PM '69

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

January 17, 1969

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

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

The attached relates to a progress report made to Judge W. Preston Battle regarding the preparation of the defense in the state trial of James Earl Ray scheduled for March 3, 1969, at Memphis, Tennessee.

Department being advised.

REL:jms

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

VIA TELETYPE
JAN 21 1969
ENCIPHERED

SECRET

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

WA...2...

FBI NEW YORK

1:02 AM URGENT 1-21-69 JAS

TO DIRECTOR 44-38861, 100-438794, ATLANTA AND LOS ANGELES ...CODE...

ATLANTA AND LOS ANGELES VIA WASHINGTON

FROM NEW YORK 44-493, 100-149194 5 OP

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

MURKIN - CR (OO: MEMPHIS) ~~CONSPIR~~ SCLC - IS - C - COMMUNIST
Southern Christian Leadership Conference
Internal Security
Communist Infiltration

OO: ATLANTA

A CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE, WHO HAS FURNISHED RELIABLE INFORMATION IN THE PAST, LEARNED ON ONE NINETEEN SIXTYNINE, THAT A PERSON, WHOM THE SOURCE BELIEVES TO BE A SECRETARY TO CORETTA KING, TOLD STANLEY LEVISON, SCLC ADVISED THAT SHE HAD RECEIVED A CALL FROM A MALCOLM DAVIS WHO CLAIMED TO BE A CORRESPONDENT OF RADIO JAMAICA AND THE BRITISH BROADCASTING COMPANY IN NEW YORK CITY. SHE SAID DAVIS ADVISED HER THAT HE IS GETTING A TAPE ALLEGEDLY OF A CONVERSATION BETWEEN JAMES EARL RAY AND AN UNKNOWN PERSON WHICH WAS MADE THREE MONTHS BEFORE MARTIN LUTHER KING'S ASSASSINATION AND WHICH CONTAINS DETAILS OF THE ASSASSINATION. SHE SAID THE PURPOSE OF DAVIS' CALL WAS THAT HE DOES NOT WANT TO DISTURB CORETTA KING BECAUSE AS A JOURNALIST HE IS APPARENTLY GOING TO MAKE THIS TAPE

END PAGE ONE

TOP SECRET

Classified By 6080
Exempt from GDS Category 2
Date of Declassification LED/GDS 6/9/77

SECRET

TELETYPED TO
JAN 21 1969
AT LA

New York Inspector
To Handle

INT. SEC.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

SECRET

RECEIVED
DIVISION 5710

RECEIVED
FBI

JAN 21 3 10 AM '69

JAN 21 6 46 AM '69

JAN 21 10 15 AM '69

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

REC'D - CIVRIGHTS
FBI

REC'D
FBI

REC'D - DE LOACH
FBI

REC'D - ROSEN
FBI

REC'D - MOHR
FBI

REC'D - CIVRIGHTS
FBI

JAN 21 1 16 PM '69

JAN 21 3 13 PM '69

JAN 22 1969

JAN 23 1969

JAN 22 1969

JAN 21 1969

JAN 21 1969

JAN 21

SECRET ~~TOP SECRET~~

PAGE TWO

NY 44-493, 100-149194

AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC AND DESIRED TO GIVE CORETTA KING A COPY FOR HER LAWYERS. SHE CONTINUED THAT DAVIS DISCLOSED THAT A JOEL LEVY IN LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, HAS THE TAPE AND WILL BE FORWARDING IT TO HIM. SHE SAID THE TAPE IS SUPPOSED TO BE DETAILS OF A PAYOFF PLAN. U

LEVISON ADVISED CORETTA KING'S SECRETARY TO CONTACT DAVIS IN A FEW DAYS TO SEE IF HE HAS RECEIVED THE TAPE. HE SAID THEN SHE COULD JUDGE DAVIS' REACTION AND PERHAPS HE, LEVISON, WOULD THEN GET INTO THE MATTER. HE SAID HE FELT HE SHOULD NOT INTERVENE AT THE PRESENT BECAUSE IT MIGHT UPSET RELATIONS BETWEEN CORETTA KING AND DAVIS IN THE EVENT DAVIS HAS SOMETHING OF VALUE. U

THE SOURCE ALSO LEARNED THAT LEVISON DISCUSSED THE OFFER OF THE TAPE WITH HARRY WACHTEL, NEW YORK CITY ATTORNEY AND ADVISOR TO SCLC. WACHTEL'S POSITION WAS THAT AS MEMBERS OF THE BAR THEY SHOULD NOT GET INVOLVED BECAUSE THEY DID NOT WANT TO BE U

END PAGE TWO

~~TOP SECRET~~ SECRET

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

SECRET

TOP SECRET

NY 44-493, 100-149194

PUT IN THE POSITION OF SUPPRESSING EVIDENCE. HE SAID THEY SHOULD NOT BE PLACED IN THE POSITION OF DIGNIFYING THE TAPE BY ENTERING NEGOTIATIONS FOR IT. THEY AGREED THAT CORETTA KING'S SECRETARY SHOULD HANDLE ANY NEGOTIATIONS AND THAT WHEN DAVIS SENDS THE TAPE TO CORETTA KING THEY WOULD LISTEN TO IT AND TAKE THE NECESSARY ACTION. U

A SECOND CONFIDETIAL SOURCE, WHO HAS FURNISHED RELIABLE INFORMATION IN THE PAST, IN APRIL SIXTY FOUR DESCRIBED STANLEY LEVISON AS A SECRET MEMBER TO THE COMMUNIST PARTY AS OF JULY SIXTY THREE. U

A THIRD CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE, WHO HAS FURNISHED RELIABLE INFORMATION IN THE PAST ON DECEMBER FORTY FOUR FURNISHED INFORMATION WHICH REVEALED THAT THE NAME HARRY U

END PAGE THREE

TOP SECRET

SECRET

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

WACHTEL WAS ON A LIST OF NAMES, SIGNIFICANCE UNKNOWN, MAINTAINED AT THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE KINGS COUNTY COMMUNIST PARTY, TWENTY SIX COURT STREET, BROOKLYN, NEW YORK. U

ADMINISTRATIVE.

THE FIRST SOURCE IS NEW YORK THREE EIGHT ONE ZERO DASH S ASTERICK. U

THE SECOND SOURCE IS [NEW YORK SIX NINE FOUR DASH S ASTERICK,] (b)(7)(c) AND THE THIRD SOURCE IS FORMER [NEW YORK ONE ONE NINE ZERO DASH S ASTERICK.] (b)(7)(c)

THIS INFORMATION IS TO BE CLASSIFIED "SECRET" BECAUSE IT CONTAINS INFORMATION FROM NEW YORK THREE EIGHT ONE ZERO DASH S ASTERICK AND BECAUSE OF THE INFORMATION FROM [NEW YORK SIX NINE FOUR DASH S ASTERICK] (b)(7) USED IN THE CHARACTERIZATION OF LEVISON. U

FOR THE INFORMATION OF ATLANTA THE PERSON WHO CONTACTED LEVISON WAS A FRAN LUCAS (PHONETIC). U

END PAGE FOUR

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

SECRET

NY 44-493, 100-149194

FOR THE INFORMATION OF LAS ANGELES, FRAN LUCAS SAID THAT MALCOLM DAVIS FURNISHED THE TELEPHONE NUMBER OF JOEL LEVY (PHONETIC) IN CALIFORNIA AS TWO ONE THREE DASH SEVEN EIGHT ONE DASH EIGHT THREE THREE TWO. LOS ANGELMES IS REQUESTED TO IDENTIFY JOEL LEVY. (u)

END

LRC R RELAY

FBIWASH DC

SECRET

SECRET

SECRET

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

NY 44-453, 100-14913A

SECRET

FOR THE INFORMATION OF LAS ANGELES, FRAN LUCAS SAID THAT MALCOLM DAVIS FURNISHED THE TELEPHONE NUMBER OF JOEL LEVY (PHONETIC) IN CALIFORNIA AS TWO ONE THREE DASH SEVEN EIGHT ONE DASH EIGHT THREE THREE TWO. LOS ANGELES IS REQUESTED TO IDENTIFY JOEL LEVY.

END

LRC R DELAY

FBIWASH DC

CODING UNIT
JAN 21 1 23 AM '69

CODING UNIT
1 27 AM '69

SECRET

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

January 21, 1969 (e) re

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

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

The attached states that information has been received that one Malcolm Davis who claims to be a correspondent of radio America and the British Broadcasting Company in New York City, allegedly has a tape of an interview between James Earl Ray and an unknown individual regarding the details of a pay-off of the assassination. The interview is alleged to have taken place three months before the assassination. (Assassination April 4, 1968) U

We do not have any information that such a tape exists. U

In view of the manner in which this information has been redacted, we are instructing our New York Office to determine if Malcolm Davis does exist, his affiliations, and to closely follow this matter. U

CONFIDENTIAL

Classified by 6080
Exempt from GDS, Category 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite

REL:rl

LED/EGM

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

5610

CONFIDENTIAL

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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

5010-106

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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

TO : Mr. Rosen

FROM : C. L. McGowan

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: January 19, 1969

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

Philadelphia Office directed a communication to the Bureau on 1-19-69, advising a Philadelphia news media on 1-19-69, had furnished information Reverend James Bevel, Southern Christian Leadership Conference official, sent a communication to James Earl Ray in Memphis stating Ray did not kill Martin Luther King, Jr., as Bevel was present when King was killed. Bevel offered to testify in Ray's behalf. Lieutenant George Fencl, Civil Disobedience Unit, Philadelphia Police Department, advised Bevel was to hold a press conference with the local CBS affiliate at 2:00 p.m., 1-19-69, in Philadelphia.

ACTION:

The Philadelphia Office was instructed to monitor the CBS program, 2:00 p.m., 1-19-69, and submit a teletype summary. Included in the summary is to be the information which Bevel alleges he can testify to.

JCG:erg
(6)

ST 102

SEE ADDENDUM: GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION PAGE 1a.

REC-42 44-38861-5511

10 JAN 24 1969

53 JAN 30 1969

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

JAN 23 9 26 AM 1969

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

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

JAN 22 10 13 AM 1969

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

REC-42

105

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

ADDENDUM: GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION JCG:sds 1/21/69

At 2:45 p.m., 1/19/69 Supervisor Joseph Spivey, Philadelphia Division, advised there were no CBS T. V. or radio programs on the air in Philadelphia at 2 p.m., in which Reverend James Bevel participated in a press conference. Philadelphia is checking with their sources.

JCG

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-36 (Rev. 5-22-64)

FBI

Date: 1/22/69

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

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) -P-

RE: MURKIN

OO: Memphis

Re report of SA RAYMOND B. HOWE dated 12/13/68 at Kansas City.

On 1/21/69 DALE POLLACK, 4408 Northeast 45th Terrace, Kansas City, Missouri, telephonically furnished the following information:

He was reading an Associated Press feature story on JAMES EARL RAY which appeared in the Kansas City Star, January 19, 1969. In this story it mentioned that RAY spent time in Puerato Vallarta, Mexico. This brought to his attention that an individual by the name of HEINZ MANGER, a former SS officer with the Third Reich during World War II and reportedly a member of an organizaton called "Odessa" which is reportedly an organization of former SS officers, spent considerable time in Puerato Vallarta, Mexico.

POLLACK advised that he did not know MANGER personally but has been a student of post-war German history and knows that MANGER has been involved in numerous radical movements.

POLLACK further advised that MANGER presented a Mr. and Mrs. KARL RAPP, Leawood, Kansas, a painting while they were visiting in Puerato Vallarta. POLLACK did not

3-Bureau
1-Memphis (44-1987)
2-Kansas City
RBH:jlh
(6)

REC 82 44-38861-5512

EX-115

1 JAN 23 1969

C. C. - Bishop

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

59 JAN 30 1969

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

JAN 24 1969

RECEIVED
INVESTIGATIVE
REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI
JAN 23 4 20 PM 1969

JAN 23 4 12 PM '69
DEPT. OF JUSTICE

DEC 85

C. C. Bishop

(3)
KEH:jlm
2-Kansas City
1-Pittsburgh (44-1089)
3-Memphis

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38827)

FROM: SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-406) -4-

RE: UNKNOWN

CC: Memphis

On 1/15/69 at Kansas City, Missouri, telephonically furnished the following information:

No was heading an associated Press leaflue story on QUINN EARL MAY which appeared in the Kansas City Star, January 12, 1969. In this story it mentioned that MAY spent time in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. This project to his attention that an inquiry by the name of EMILIO MANCEN, a former SS officer with the Juarez Central World War II and reportedly a member of an organization called "Odessa" which is reportedly an organization of former SS officers, spent considerable time in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.

POLLACK stated that he did not know MANCEN personally but has been a student of post-war German history and knows that MANCEN has been involved in underworld activities.

POLLACK further stated that MANCEN presented a [illegible] and Mrs. EARL [illegible], Redwood, Kansas, a birthday suite [illegible] Puerto Vallarta. POLLACK did not [illegible]

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

give the subject matter of the painting but stated it was signed by HEINZ MANGER. POLLACK did not believe MANGER painted it. POLLACK stated that Mrs. RAPP gave him the painting inasmuch as she knew he was a student of German history. POLLACK advised that his home telephone is GL 3-2191, his business telephone is GL 2-6181 and that he would be glad to cooperate with the FBI in this matter at any time.

Indices of the Kansas City Office negative re POLLACK, MANGER or RAPP.

Kansas City Office will interview Mr. or Mrs. KARL RAPP, Leawood, Kansas, and reinterview DALE POLLACK for any additional information they may have connecting MANGER with JAMES EARL RAY.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-36 (Rev. 5-22-64)

FBI

Date: 1/22/69

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

Via AIRTEL AM
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P

MURKIN

There are enclosed original and one copy each of newspaper clippings in captioned matter.

3 BUREAU (Enc. 14) (AM)

1 MEMPHIS

RGJ:BN
(4)

ENCLOSURE

44-38861-

NOT RECORDED
11 JAN 23 1969

54 JAN 28 1969

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

JAN 24 12 16 PM 1969
RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
JAN 23 4 55 PM 1969
F. B. I.
U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE
REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI
JAN 23 4 51 PM '69
JAN 27 1969

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38881)

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1881) P

MORKIN

There are enclosed original and one copy each of newspaper clippings in captioned matter.

3 BUREAU (Enc. 14) (AM)
1 MEMPHIS

RCL:BN
(4)

FBI
Date: 1/23/69
Transmit the following in
(type or printed or code)
AIRTEL AM
(Priority)

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Judge Gives Order

Stanton Readied In Ray Defense

By ROY B. HAMILTON
Press-Scimitar Staff Writer

Public defender Hugh Stanton Sr. today was ordered to be ready to assume full responsibility for the defense of James Earl Ray, if for any reason, Percy Foreman has to withdraw as counsel.

The instructions were issued by Criminal Court Judge W. Preston Battle during a six-minute hearing attended by Ray.

In issuing the order, Battle repeated his earlier assertion that he wanted the Ray trial to begin as scheduled on March 3 "if humanly possible."

Foreman has been ill with influenza and pneumonia in Houston and sent word he was unable to come to Memphis. Battle had asked the Texas attorney and Stanton to give him a progress report on their trial preparations.

CLEAR ORDER

Battle said he was sorry to hear about Foreman's illness but he made it clear he wanted no further delay in the trial, which has already been continued once.

Battle told Stanton that he wanted his office "to prepare this case in such a manner that if for any reason it becomes necessary your office could take full charge of his defense."

James A. Blackwell, Criminal Court clerk, was ordered to draw up a copy of the order and send it to Foreman. The judge asked for another progress report on Friday, Feb. 14.

Stanton, who had been appointed previously to assist Foreman, said his work on the case so far had convinced him there is still "work to be done."

NO ASSURANCE

Said Stanton: "We have accumulated quite a batch of evidence."

But he said he could not say "with assurance" the defense could be ready for trial by March 3.

Stanton, 72, a tall, white haired, distinguished looking man, has been practicing law in Memphis for 43 years and is regarded as elder statesman of local criminal lawyers. As head of the Public Defender's office, he was named by Battle as associate defense counsel when Foreman said Ray had no funds to help in his defense.

Ray, charged with murder in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King in Memphis last April, also has on his defense team Stanton's son, Hugh Stanton Jr.

The state was represented at the hearing by Atty. Gen. Phil Canale and his two trial assistants, Robert H. Dwyer and James Beasley.

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

PAGE 1

MEMPHIS PRESS-SCIMITAR

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 1-17-69
Edition:
Author: CHAS. H. SCHNEIDER
Editor:
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

ENCLOSURE 44-38961

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Silent Ray Spends 6 Minutes in Court

By CLARK PORTEOUS
Press-Scimitar Staff Writer

Six minutes in the life of James Earl Ray:

He was led into the courtroom at 10:52 a.m. by two Sheriff's deputies and sat behind Hugh Stanton, 72, chief public defender who is aiding in the defense and handling it while Ray's chief counsel, Percy Foreman, is ill.

Ray looked neat. He was wearing the same dark blue suit with a check design of the same color that he has worn in previous court appearances. He had on a white shirt and solid blue tie. He looked rather pale, which is understandable as he has been in custody since June 8 when he was arrested in London. He has been in Shelby County jail since July 19.

When Ray was being sought as a suspect the FBI reported he had a nervous habit of pulling on his left ear lobe. During the six minutes he was in court he did not touch his ear.

Graying a bit at the temples and in the back, his dark hair was neatly trimmed. He stood with others in the court when Judge Preston Battle entered immediately after his own entry.

Then Ray sat quietly looking at the Judge, who did most of the talking, and listened intently. After a couple of minutes he put his right arm on the arm of his chair and his hand on his thigh. He pulled his feet up under the chair and sat motionless except for an occasional slight motion of his head.

Once he glanced at Stanton.

When court recessed, Stanton leaned over and told Ray he was going to call Foreman and tell him of the judge's instructions (to proceed with the case for trial March 3 if humanly possible) and that he would see Ray after talking with Foreman.

Ray barely nodded, indicating he understood — but didn't say a word.

He was led out of the courtroom at 10:58. He hadn't said a word. All he has said in previous appearances was "yes, sir" a couple of times — a total of four words.

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

PAGE 1

MEMPHIS PRESS-SCIMITAR

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 1-17-69
Edition:
Author: CHAS. H. SCHNEIDER
Editor:
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

ENCLOSURE 44-38961

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

—Press-Scimitar Staff Photo by Tom Barber

CARRYING BALL FOR RAY

Hugh Stanton Sr., left, public defender, and his son and aide, Hugh Stanton Jr. leave Courthouse after the defender was told by Judge Preston Battle to be prepared to assume full responsibility for James Earl Ray's defense in the Martin Luther King slaying.

* * * * * *

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Foreman Visits Doctor, May Miss Court Today

By JOHN MEANS

James Earl Ray's chief counsel went to a doctor yesterday in Houston, Texas, but no one seemed to know whether he is too sick to appear with his famous client in Judge Preston Battle's courtroom this morning.

Mrs. Percy Foreman would only say, "He went to the doctor's office this morning. I haven't heard from him."

Shelby County Public Defender Hugh Stanton, who is Mr. Foreman's co-counsel, said he understood his flamboyant colleague had contracted pneumonia during a bout with the flu. Mr. Foreman's illness was expected to leave Mr. Stanton alone to report to Judge Battle today on the progress of Ray's defense.

Mr. Foreman had been scheduled to appear with Ray today, to tell Judge Battle whether he needed another continuance to prepare his defense for the man accused of assassinating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. last April 4.

Ray will appear in court, with or without Mr. Foreman, which means the maximum security procedures will go into effect around the Shelby County Jail and Criminal Courts Building again. The security measures are a rehearsal for the March 3 trial date, assuming no further delays are granted.

Judge Battle indicated at Mr. Foreman's last appearance in his courtroom that he would not look favorably on further requests for continuance.

The security measures were the subject of a meeting between Judge Battle, Sheriff William N. Morris Jr. and the sheriff's press officer, Charles Holmes, yesterday.

Sheriff Morris said the meeting resulted in a decision not to allow closed circuit television transmission from the courtroom, despite his report to Judge Battle on the Sirhan Sirhan trial in Los Angeles, where such a television system is in operation.

The sheriff said, however, "it's a good possibility" a system will be devised to allow photographs and filming of Ray away from the courthouse.

"It's pretty much yes" if the procedures can be worked out to satisfy the judge. Judge Battle said only: "It's still being discussed. I haven't agreed to it yet."

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

PAGE 1

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 1-12-69

Edition:

Author: FRANK R. AHLGREN

Editor:

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

ENCLOSURE

44-38561

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

Spotlight On Ray Case Pales Beside Gaudy Garrison Style

By CHARLES EDMUNDSON

The legal profession is watching the contrast between the no-holds-barred, pre-trial conduct of principals in the New Orleans case against Clay Shaw, accused by Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison as a conspirator in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, and the stringent guidelines laid down by the trial judge here in the upcoming trial of James Earl Ray, accused in the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The feverish, two-year-long drive of Garrison to establish an entirely new theory of the assassination of President Kennedy may have foundered on the evidence of X-ray pictures of the late President's wounds.

Mr. Garrison's case has been built on the theory that Kennedy was shot by two, or possibly three, gunmen situated in front of and at a level below that of their victim. Four physicians of high repute now have studied 69 hitherto little-publicized X-ray photos of President Kennedy's wounds and found the shots were fired from above and slightly to the rear of the President's car.

The X-ray photos which have stopped Mr. Garrison—at least for the time being—were the subject of a report made public Thursday. The six-foot, six-inch Mr. Garrison promptly sent an assistant before General Sessions Judge Charles W. Halleck in Washington and asked access to the pictures.

Judge Halleck replied he would release the photographs to Mr. Garrison only if he were shown this was not "a fishing expedition, a frivolous attempt to obtain what certainly must be sensational X-ray pictures and material."

Mr. Garrison, known in New Orleans as the 'Jolly Green Giant,' impatiently has swept aside all previous contradictions exposed in his "evidence" by such reporters as those for The New York Times, The New Yorker magazine and the National Broadcasting Company.

The Commercial Appeal also has looked into Garrison's charges. Yesterday he accused United States Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark of seeking to hide the truth about President Kennedy's murder. But New Orleans observers said there appeared to be reason to suspect he may welcome a chance to bring to an end his endlessly changing projection of a presidential murder plot which he has peopled, at one time or another, with 16 plotters.

The prime target of Mr. Garrison's charges, Mr. Shaw, a retired director of the International Trade Mart in New Orleans who has visited and spoken in Memphis, was to have gone on trial before Criminal District Court Judge Edward A. Haggerty Tuesday.

In view of the X-rays, Mr. Garrison will go into court at 10 a.m. tomorrow and ask that the trial be continued.

If the motion is denied, Mr. Garrison could drop the prosecution and withdraw from the glare of publicity he has basked in since November, 1966.

Some responsible New Orleans citizens would apparently approve. Their sentiments seem to have been summed up by Aaron M. Kohn, managing director of the Metropolitan New Orleans Crime Commission, who said, "Garrison never lets the responsibilities of being a prosecutor interfere with being a politician."

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

PAGE 1

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 1-19-69

Edition:

Author:

Editor: FRANK P. ADLER

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

46-32561

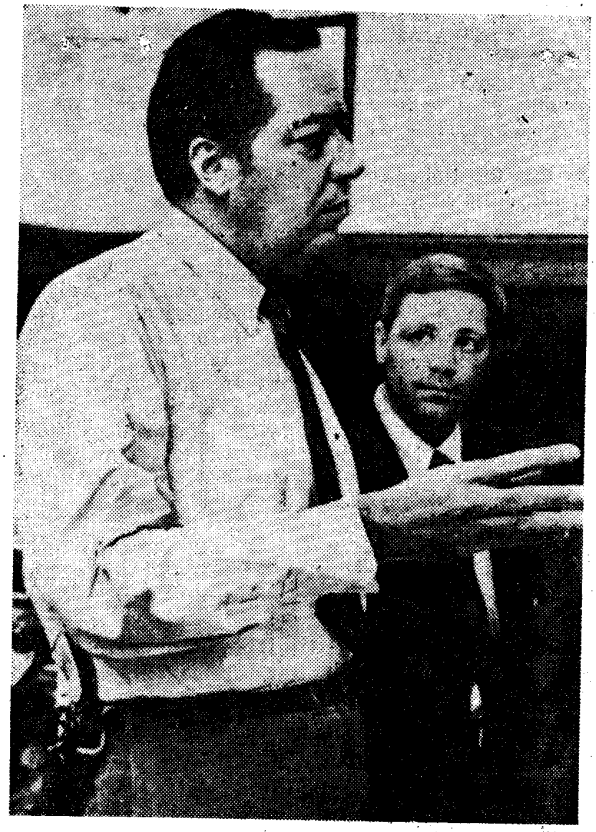
ENCLOSURE

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

It is not entirely clear whether Mr. Garrison thinks Lee Harvey Oswald, the man generally considered President Kennedy's assassin, fired one or more of the fatal shots. Among a long array of hypotheses, Mr. Garrison has on occasion assumed the existence of a "second Lee Harvey Oswald," without fully distinguishing between the role of the No. 1 and No. 2 claimants to the name.

Many of his principal plotters are drawn from New Orleans' populous and bizarre underworld. Some of his "witnesses" have been ex-convicts, homosexuals, narcotics addicts and former mental patients.

New Orleans may well be drawing unflattering comparisons between Mr. Garrison's performance and the manner the Shelby County Criminal Court and district attorney's office are preparing for the trial of Ray.



Pistol-Packing Garrison And Assistant
District Attorney With Andrew Sciambra (Right)
—AP Wirephoto

While Judge Haggerty has imposed no limits on Mr. Garrison's television appearances and cross-country personal appearances, Judge W. Preston Battle has limited pretrial publicity in the Ray case by forbidding interviews from being given by law officers and the attorney general's staff. While Mr. Garrison has welcomed the tales of hangers-on who always appear in the wake of a sensational murder, here Atty. Gen. Phil M. Canale has stuck to the responsible evidence and kept much of that to himself pending the trial.

On Judge Battle's attempt to stop the press from printing the news developments in the Ray case, opinion is more mixed. In a long article in The New Yorker, Edward J. Epstein notes that it is the press and TV that have stood in the way of Mr. Garrison's attempt to convict Mr. Shaw even before the trial opens.

* * *

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Former King Aide Volunteers To Serve As Counsel For Ray

By ANGUS McEACHRAN

James Earl Ray reportedly was sent a telegram last night from a former aide of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. offering to take over Ray's defense.

It was sent to Ray, charged with the April 4 murder of Dr. King, at the Shelby County Jail by the Rev. James L. Bevel, a Southern Christian Leadership Conference director.

The text of the telegram, according to sources, read:

"I would like to inform you that I would be very happy to take your case without fee. I was present at the Lorraine Hotel when Dr. King was killed. You have been charged with murdering him. Of course, I know that you are not guilty."

The telegram was also said to have contained added details of where the Rev. Mr. Bevel could be reached in Philadelphia.

Sheriff William N. Morris Jr. confirmed last night that Ray had received a telegram but declined to reveal the contents and the name of the sender.

In Philadelphia, a woman who identified herself as an aide to the Rev. Mr. Bevel told The Commercial Appeal such a telegram had been sent but all details would have to come from the minister.

"Reverend Bevel is in a meeting in the city right now and it is impossible to reach him," said Miss Beverly Sterner. "I can only say that a telegram has gone to James Earl Ray offering assistance."

Miss Sterner was reached at the residence of the Rev. Mr. Bevel.

There was no answer at the Rev. Mr. Bevel's home early today.

The latest strange development in a case which has been overlaid with mystery and strange developments, started to unfold early yesterday afternoon when Reuters, a British wire service, received a telephone call at its New York office saying the telegram had been sent.

In Atlanta, headquarters for the SCLC, a high-ranking spokesman told The Commercial Appeal the Rev. Mr. Bevel "has been under a lot of pressure lately. Since Dr. King's death, he has gone into a deep depression, and if he sent that telegram he is speaking for himself."

In SCLC, the Rev. Mr. Bevel is known as somewhat of a mystic. With his balding top and full beard he has the appearance of a monk.

An ordained minister, he does not have a law degree and therefore there is little likelihood he could represent Ray in court. The trial is scheduled to begin March 3.

Observers close to SCLC said Dr. King relied on the Rev. Mr. Bevel to keep him in touch with the young and most militant Negroes because he could speak their language.

In last year's Poor People's March to Washington, the SCLC director was sent to Memphis to recruit young marchers. But he reportedly created so much dissention in Negro ranks when he tried to persuade youths to leave school before final examinations that he was replaced by other SCLC staff members from Atlanta.

He was sent later to Philadelphia as director of non-violent education.

44-38861

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

PAGE 1

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 1-19-69

Edition:

Author:

Editor: FRANK R. AHLGREN

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Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

OFFERS HELP — The Rev. James L. Bevel, a Southern Christian Leadership Conference director, reportedly has sent James Earl Ray a telegram offering to take over the defense of Ray, charged with the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

—Staff Photo

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Bevel Declines To Divulge His 'Evidence' In Ray Case

By P. H. BREESE

The Rev. James L. Bevel, a ranking figure in the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, declined yesterday to elaborate on evidence he claims could free James Earl Ray, accused in the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The Rev. Mr. Bevel, 32-year-old director of the SCLC's nonviolent and direct action program, sent a telegram Saturday to Ray in the Shelby County Jail which, according to sources, read:

"I would like to inform you that I would be very happy to take your case without fee. I was present at the Lorraine Hotel when Dr. King was killed. You have been charged with murdering him. Of course, I know that you are not guilty."

"I have evidence that, if presented to a jury, would free him (Ray)," the Rev. Mr. Bevel said.

But in a telephone conversation at his home in Philadelphia yesterday, the balding minister told The Commercial Appeal, "I have many reasons for wanting to defend Mr. Ray, but to discuss the evidence at this point would be to his disadvantage."

The Rev. Mr. Bevel said that he did not know or care what Ray's attorney, famed Texas lawyer Percy Foreman, thought of his offer. "If Mr. Ray wants me to defend him I will. I don't know what Mr. Foreman will do."

Mr. Foreman, in bed with pneumonia at his home in Houston, was not available for comment.

"I am confident that Mr. Ray would not be found guilty on the basis of evidence I now have," the Rev. Mr. Bevel said.

Shelby County Public Defender Hugh Stanton declined to comment on the Bevel statement.

There is little possibility the minister, who was born at Itta Bena, Miss., could ever represent Ray in court. He does not have a law degree.

When asked his legal qualifications, the Rev. Mr. Bevel said, "Well, I've been arrested 25 times." He added that he had represented himself in court appearances.

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

PAGE 28

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 1-20-69

Edition:

Author: [illegible]

Editor:

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: [illegible]

☐ Being Investigated

ENCLOSURE 44-38861

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Court Turns Down Reporters' Appeal

Review Of Contempt Ruling Is Refused

From The Commercial Appeal
Nashville Bureau

NASHVILLE, Jan. 20. —The Tennessee Supreme Court Monday refused to review the case of two Memphis newspaper reporters cited for contempt for violating court orders on pretrial publicity in the James Earl Ray murder case.

The high court gave no reason for denying a petition for a writ of certiroari, which if granted would have opened the way for a Supreme Court review of the contempt citation.

On Sept. 30, Criminal Court Judge Preston Battle ruled the reporters — Charles Edmundson of The Commercial Appeal and Roy Hamilton of the Memphis Press-Scimitar — and two other men were in contempt of court.

He did not impose sentence on any of the men pending their "future actions" despite a request by attorneys for Memphis Publishing Co., that sentence be handed down promptly so the case might be appealed.

Others cited by Judge Battle were Arthur Hanes, then an attorney for Ray, and Renfro Hays, a private investigator who worked for Mr. Hanes. Ray is accused of the sniper slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

In November, the newsmen through their attorney petitioned Court of Criminal Appeals Judge Mark Walker of Covington to review the contempt citation. Judge Walker denied the petition, saying in effect that a contempt citation is not final until punishment is imposed and that the appeal was premature.

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

PAGE 24

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 1-21-69
Edition:
Author: FRANK R. ADLGREN
Editor:
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

Enclosure 44-38861

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

January 20, 1969

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

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

The attached relates to a television interview of the Reverend James Bevel, Southern Christian Leadership Conference in Philadelphia, PA., who states he has evidence that Ray did not kill Martin Luther King, Jr. Bevel also stated he refuses to divulge evidence; he has offered to defend Ray in court although he is not a licensed attorney.

We have no information indicating any evidence that Bevel may have.

You will be advised of pertinent developments.

We should interview Bevel

REL:bjf

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

JUNE

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

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: January 22, 1969

FROM : A. Rosen

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

SUBJECT: MURKIN

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

We have received information that one Malcolm Davis, who claims to be a correspondent of Radio America and the British Broadcasting Company in New York City, allegedly had a tape of an interview between James Earl Ray and an unknown individual regarding the details of a payoff of the assassination. The interview is alleged to have taken place three months before the assassination (assassination April 4, 1968). We do not have any information that such a tape exists. U

The information regarding the tape has been obtained from a technical surveillance of the telephone of one Stanley Levison. A confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past, described Stanley Levison as a secret member of the Communist Party as of July, 1963. We have also learned that this alleged tape will be forwarded to an individual by the name of Joel Levy in Los Angeles, California. We have learned of the telephone number of Joel Levy. (U)

We have further determined that Malcolm Davis resides in New York City and Davis was formerly with the British Broadcasting Company, but is now a free-lance writer who makes occasional appearances whenever there is a need for a person with a pronounced British accent, on television. U

REC 53 16 JAN 27 1969

Our Los Angeles Office advises us that Joel Levy is not identifiable in their files nor is he identifiable in the records of the various law enforcement agencies in the area. Los Angeles has further determined that the telephone number of Levy is listed to one Marjorie Largent of Van Nuys, California. We do not have any information regarding Marjorie Largent in our records. (U)

ACTION: In view of the nature in which the telephone number of Levy, registered to Marjorie Largent, was obtained (technical surveillance) Los Angeles being instructed not to interview Largent at this time. (U)

Classified by 3002
Exempt from GDS, Category 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite

TOP SECRET

REL: jas
(7)

DECLASSIFIED BY Spiecker ON 6-12-81

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

REC'D ROSEN

JAN 22 2 53 PM '69

JAN 22 11 30 AM 1969

REC'D DE LOACH

JAN 22 4 57 PM '69

F.B.I.

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

JAN 23 11 46 AM 69

F B I

F B I

REC-D BISHOP

JAN 23 8 51 AM '69

REC'D DE LOACH

F B I

JAN 23 10 52 AM '69

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

January 23, 1969

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE URGENT

1 - Mr. Long

TO: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

FROM: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) 5513

MURKIN

REC 53

EX-115

RE LOS ANGELES TELETYPE TO THE BUREAU DATED JANUARY 21, LAST.

YOU SHOULD NOT INTERVIEW MARJORIE LARGENT, NOR SHOULD YOU CONDUCT ANY FURTHER INVESTIGATION UNLESS BUREAU SPECIFICALLY ADVISES.

1 - MEMPHIS (44-1987) (airmail)

1 COPIES MADE, DATE 5/4/78 BY RCB/SS RE M.L. King, Jr. FOR REVIEW AT FBIHQ AND/OR DELIVERY TO NSCA RE REQUEST DATED 5/3/78 (SEE BUFILE 62-117290)

REL:jms
(4)

NOTE: See Rosen to DeLoach memorandum dated 1-22-69, captioned, "Murkin" REL:jms.

FROM DELOACH

VIA TELETYPE
841 PM JDK
JAN 23 1969
ENCIPHERED

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

53 JAN 31 1969

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

RECEIVED
FEDERAL INVESTIGATIVE
JAN 24 3 28 PM 1969
F. B. I.
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

JAN 23 3 45 PM '69

CODING UNIT
JAN 23 6 52 PM '69

JAN 24 11 13 AM '69

REC'D DeLOACH
FBI

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI
JAN 24 9 41 AM '69

JAN 24 3 38 PM '69

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

(SEE DOWNE SEPARATE)
AD MUST BE RECORDED UNDER
LOW REARD VIOLATION OR CIV RECORDS
CODING

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

P A
1-21-69
1-25
9-2

VIA TELETYPE
ENCIPHERED

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

WA...24

FBI NEW YORK

8-25 PM URGENT 1-21-69 WPK

TO DIRECTOR 44-38861 AND 100-438794 (PLAINTEXT)

ATTENTION DOMETIC INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

FROM NEW YORK 44-493 AND 100-149194 1P

MURKIN-CR (OO-MEMPHIS) COMINFIL SCLC IS-C (OO-ATLANTA).

RENYTEL ONE TWENTY SIX NINE.

MALCOLM DAVIS, MENTIONED IN RE TEL, RESIDES ONE FORTY TWO EAST FORTY NINETH ST., NYC, AND IS SUBSCRIBER TO UNLISTED TELEPHONE NUMBER PL NINE-SEVEN FIVE FOUR SIX. NEW YORK INDICES REFLECT NO IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION. JAMES BUTLER, VICE COUNSEL, BRITISH CONSULATE EIGHT FORTY FIVE THIRD AVE., NYC, ADVISED MALCOLM DAVIS IS KNOWN TO THEM AS FORMERLY WITH BBC BUT IS NOW A FREE-LANCE WRITER WHO MAKES OCCASIONAL TV APPEARANCES WHENEVER THERE IS NEED FOR PERSON WITH PRONOUNCED BRITISH ACCENT.

REC 43 44-38861-5514

AIR MAIL COPIES SENT ATLANTA, MEMPHIS AND OS ANGELES.

END

WA...EFH

FBI WASH DC

JAN 31 1969

1 COPIES MADE, DATE 5/4/78 BY
RCH/SS RE M.L. King Jr.
FOR REVIEW AT ... DELIVERY
TO NSCA RE RE ... 5/3/78
(SEE SUFILE ...)

CC- MR. SULLIVAN

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

JAN 22 6 32 AM '69

JAN 21 8 34 PM 1969

JAN 21 9 02 PM '69
F. B. I.
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION 5710

CODING UNIT
JAN 21 8 33 PM '69

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop

WA - 1

700 PM URGENT 1/19/69 CRR

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), MEMPHIS (44-1987) AND ATALNTA (PLAINTEXT)

FROM PHILADELPHIA (44-1368) (P)

MURKIN.

REMYTT ONE NINETEEN SIXTYNINE.

REV. JAMES BEVEL, SCLC OFFICIAL IN PHILA. APPEARED ON WCAU TV SPECIAL NEWS INTERVIEW BETWEEN HALVES OF NFL ALL STAR FOOTBALL GAME TOP STATE HE HAS EVIDENCE THAT JAMES EARL RAY DID NOT KILL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BEVEL REFUSED TO DIVULGE EVIDENCE TO INTERVIEWER BUT SAID HE HAD OFFERED TO DEFEND RAY IN COURT BEACAUSE ALTHOUGH HE WAS NOT A LICENSED ATTORNEY, HE WAS LEARNED IN THE LAW AND HAD SPENT MUCH TIME DEFENDING CASES IN COURT AND HAD PUT ALL THEFACTS TOGETHER TO ~~SHW~~ SHOW RAY WAS NOT GUILTY.

REC 13

BEVEL ALSO SAID ALL HIS FRIENDS DID NOT BELIEVE RAY WAS GUILTY.

JAN 22 1969

HE SAID HE WAS SPEAKING FOR THE REV. RALPH ABERNATHY AND SCLC BUT THE PRESS INTERVIEWER SAID THATAN OFFICIAL OF SCLC IN ATLANTA TOLD THE NEWS MEDIA THAT BEVEL WAS UNDER PRESSURE AND SPEAKING FOR HIMSELF ONLY.

BUREAU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED. LHM FOLLOWS.

END

EFH

FBI WASH DC

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

JAN 20 2 16 PM '69

JAN 19 2 18 01 PM '69

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

JAN 20 11 12 AM '69

JAN 19 4 08 PM '69

JAN 15 7 06 PM '69

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FBI WASH DC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JAN 24 1969
TELETYPE

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

FBI MEMPHIS

414PM 1-24-69 URGENT SDC

TO DIRECTOR 44-38861

FROM MEMPHIS 44-1987 2P

MURKIN.

ON JAN. TWENTYFOUR, SIXTY NINE, ME THREE THREE EIGHT R ADVISED THAT JAMS BEVEL OF SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SCLC), ACCOMPANIED BY YOUNG MALE NEGRO, CEDRIC MOORE, FORMERLY OF MEMPHIS, NOW OF PHILADELPHIA, PA., ONE (FNU) RUTHERFORD, SCLC GENERAL MANAGER, AND (FNU) NIXON (PHONETIC), FORMER CAMPAIGN MANAGER OF PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY OF COMEDIAN DICK GREGORY, WERE IN MEMPHIS, TENN. ON NIGHT JANUARY TWENTYTHREE, SIXTYNINE. BEVEL CLAIMED TO HAVE CONFERRED FOR SEVERAL HOURS JANUARY TWENTYTHREE, SIXTY NINE, ON EIGHTH FLOOR OF PEABODY HOTEL WITH JAMES EARL RAY'S ATTORNEY, PERCY FOREMAN, AND LATER FOREMAN AND BEVEL CONFERRED WITH RAY IN SHELBY COUNTY JAIL. AT ABOUT TEN P. M. BEVEL CALLED PRESS CONFERENCE AT CLAYBORN TEMPLE AME CHURCH, AT WHICH HE INVITED DELEGATES TO NATION COUNCIL OF CHURCHES MI-WINTER CONFERENCE, THEN MEETING IN MEMPHIS. BEVEL CALIMED THAT HE WAS CONVINCED OF RAY'S INNOCENCE IN KILLING MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CLAIMED AMERICA IS TRYING TO LYNCH RAY. CLAIMED SCLC PRESIDENT, REV. RALPH ABERNATHY, IS ALSO CONVINCED OF RAY'S INNOCENCE. HE REFUSED TO FURNISH THE BASIS FOR HIS STATEMENTS, OTHER THAN TO CLAIM HE HAD "PROPHETIC POWERS." BEVEL ADDED THAT HIS CONVICTIONS REGARDING RAY'S INNOCENCE HAD BEEN DISCUSSED BY HIM WITH ABERNATHY AND OTHER SCLC LEADERS

REC-103 44-38861-556

JAN 27 1969

57 FEB 3 1969

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

JAN 27 6 59 AM '65

RECORDED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION 5

JAN 24 5 58 PM '69

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

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

A RECENT SCLC RETREAT IN SOUTH CAROLINA AND HE HAD CONVINCED THEM HE HAD PROOF OF RAS INNOCENCE, INDICATING THAT HE IS MAKING THESE CHARGES WITH ACQUIESCENCE OF SCLC LEADERS.

AIR MAIL COPIES TOO ATLANTA AND PHILADELPHIA.

P. END.

PGH

FBI WASH DC

@

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

JAN 24 5 19 PM 1969

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Routing Slip
0-7 (Rev. 9-25-67)

(Copies to Offices Checked)

TO: SAC,

1

- [ ] Albany
- [ ] Albuquerque
- [x] Anchorage
- [ ] Atlanta
- [ ] Baltimore
- [ ] Birmingham
- [ ] Boston
- [ ] Buffalo
- [ ] Butte
- [ ] Charlotte
- [ ] Chicago
- [ ] Cincinnati
- [ ] Cleveland
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- [ ] Dallas
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- [ ] El Paso
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- [ ] Richmond
- [ ] Sacramento
- [ ] St. Louis
- [ ] Salt Lake City
- [ ] San Antonio
- [ ] San Diego
- [ ] San Francisco
- [ ] San Juan
- [ ] Savannah
- [ ] Seattle
- [ ] Springfield
- [ ] Tampa
- [ ] Washington Field
- [ ] Quantico

TO LEGAT:

- [ ] Bern
- [ ] Bonn
- [ ] Buenos Aires
- [ ] Hong Kong
- [ ] London
- [ ] Manila
- [ ] Mexico, D.F.
- [ ] Ottawa
- [ ] Paris
- [ ] Rome
- [ ] Santo Domingo
- [ ] Tokyo

Date 1/22/69

RE: JAMES O. BURST
ATLANTA, GEORGIA
RESEARCH (CORRESPONDENCE AND TOURS)

- [ ] For information
- [ ] Retention optional
- [x] For appropriate action
- [ ] Surep, by 2/3/69

- [ ] The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, [ ] conceal all sources, [ ] paraphrase contents.

- [ ] Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA _____ dated _____

Remarks: Enclosed are two copies of a communication from captioned individual who cannot be identified in Bufiles. Since there is no return address, this communication is not being acknowledged. No significance can be attached to the information in correspondent's telegram. Advise Bureau by return routing slip of any pertinent information in your files which would clarify the meaning of this communication. Submit routing slip, under above caption, to reach Bureau no later than 2/3/69.

EFT:kas (6)
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Follow-up made for 2/3/69.

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BIA003 130A EST JAN 21 69 KRELAA009 (mmrkin)

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J EDGAR HOOVER, EXECUTOR OF THE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHDC

CERTIFIED INFORMATION THAT GERALD OSWALD WAS NOT THE MAN THAT KILLED PRESIDENT PER J.T RAY THE MURDER OF MARTIN LUTHER KING CANNOT BE TRIED IN THE UNITED STATES (USA) YOUR LOCAL OFFICE TRIED TO TELL ME THAT WE KNOW WE HAVE RECIPROCAL CONTACT WITH CUBA MY SUGGESTION IS YOU CONTACT MYSELF AND A COUPLE OTHER MARINES I WANT GOOD MARINES WHEN THOSES PLANES LAND WE WILL SEND THEM BACK TO MAAMI

JAMES O HURST.

REC-90 44-38861-5517

NOT RECORDED

JAN 29 1969

ORIGINAL FILED IN 164-0-360

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