

U. S. Department of Justice

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JUN 13 1977 BY *R 248*

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FEDERAL BUREAU

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE *10-18-02* BY *SP/CLK/PO*

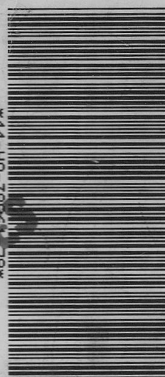
INVESTIGATION

**ATTENTION**

BEFORE CHANGING CLASSIFICATION  
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FROM THIS FILE FOR RELEASE TO  
THE GENERAL PUBLIC, CONTACT  
FOI/PA SECTION UNIT D, EXT. 5767

USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

**Transfer-Call 421**



SERIALS 5626-5689

44- HQ-38861

SECTION 78

SECTION 78  
SERIALS 5626-5689

F261

SERIALS	NUMBERS	FULL NAME	COMPUTER NUMBER	DATE	BY
5635		JACK GREENBERG	299228	10/92	997

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WORK SHEET - XEROX REQUEST

SUBJECT - MARTIN LUTHER KING JR  
 FILE # - MURKIN

ANALYST -  
 EXT -  
 TEAM # -

162 PAGES  
 63 DOCUMENTS

PAGE 1

b2; b5; b7(c)(D)

SECTION 78

FILE #	SERIAL/ENC OR DATE	DESCRIPTION	XEROX INSTR.	# OF ACT.	PAGES REL.	EXEMPTIONS											REMARKS	
						b1	2	5	7C	D	OTHER	k1	2	5	6	OTHER		
44-38861	5626	TELETYPE FM NY 3-13-69	.	4	4													
	5627	AIRTEL FM ATLANTA 3-11-69	.	8	8				✓	✓								RELEASE
	5628	LETTER FM CITIZEN 3-12-69		5	5				✓									RELEASE
	5629	AIRTEL FM ME 3-6-69		3	3													
	5630	TELETYPE FM ME 3-12-69		1	1													
	5631	INTERNAL MEMO 3-18-69		6	6				✓									RELEASE
	5632	NEWS CLIPPING		1	1													
	5633	AIRTEL FM NEW ORLEANS 3-13-69		1	1													
	5634	INTERNAL MEMO 3-19-69		1	1													
	5635	TELETYPE FM NY 3-17-69		3	3													
	5636	INTERNAL MEMO 3-13-69		2	2													
	5637	AIRTEL FM SAN ANTONIO 3-12-69		6	5				✓	✓								RELEASE
	5638	TELETYPE FM NY 3-18-69		2	2													
	UNRECORDED	MEMO TO AAG 3-17-69		5	5				✓	✓								Release
	5639	INTERNAL MEMO 3-12-69		2	2													
	5640	AIRTEL FM ME 3-17-69		1	1													
	5641	LETTER TO HOOVER 3-11-69		4	4				✓									RELEASE

REMOVED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

XEROXED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

REFILED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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SECTION 78

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						b1	2	5	7C	D	OTHER	k1	2	5	6	OTHER		
44-38861	5642	INTERNAL MEMO 3-11-69		1	1													
	5643	INTERNAL MEMO 3-11-69		2	2													
	5644	INTERNAL MEMO 3-12-69		1	1													
	5645	INTERNAL MEMO 3-13-69		1	1													
	5646	ROMP REPORT 3-5-69		3	-				✓	✓								EXEMPT
	5647	ROMP REPORT 2-26-69		5	-				✓									EXEMPT
	5648	AIRTEL FM ME 3-18-69		4	4													
	UNRECORDED	INTERNAL MEMO 3-19-69		1	1				✓	✓								RELEASE
	5649	AIRTEL FM DALLAS 3-19-69		5	5				✓									RELEASE
	5650	GPI RELEASE 3-21-69		1	1													
	5651	INTERNAL MEMO 3-17-69		1	1													
	5652	AIRTEL FM DIR 3-20-69		3	3													
	5653	LETTER TO DIR 3-19-69		5	5				✓		b6							EXCISE
	5654	INTERNAL MEMO 3-11-69		4	4													
	5655	INTERNAL MEMO 3-20-69		1	1													
	5656	AIRTEL FM ME 3-20-69		1	1													
	5657	AIRTEL FM DIR 3-20-69		2	2													

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PAGE 3

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						b1	2	5	7C	D	OTHER	k1	2	5	6	OTHER		
44-38861	5658	LETTER TO AAG 3-24-69		1	1													
	5659	INTERNAL MEMO 3-24-69		2	2													
	5660	AIRTEL FM ME 3-21-69		3	3				✓	✓								RELEASE
	5661	AIRTEL FM NEW ORLEANS 3-18-69		3	3				✓									EXCISE
	5662	AIRTEL FM OKLAHOMA CITY 3-24-69		2	2				✓									EXCISE
	5663	ADMP REPORT 3-10-69		1	-				✓									EXEMPT
	5664	AIRTEL FM JACKSON 3-26-69		4	4				✓		b6							EXCISE
	5665	TELETYPE FM PHILADELPHIA 3-27-69		1	1													
	5666	TELETYPE FM ATLANTA 3-28-69		1	1													
	5667	TELETYPE FM ME 3-28-69		1	1													
	5668	TELETYPE FM SPRINGFIELD 3-26-69		2	2													
	5669	AIRTEL FM SPRINGFIELD 3-26-69		1	1				✓	✓								EXCISE
	5670	INTERNAL MEMO 3-17-69		6	6				✓									RELEASE
	5671	AIRTEL FM ME 3-27-69		1	1													
	5672	TELETYPE FM WFO 3-28-69		1	1					✓								EXCISE
	5673	AIRTEL FM DIR 3-23-69		6	6				✓									RELEASE
	5674	LETTER TO DIR 3-24-69		3	3				✓									RELEASE

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						b1	2	5	7C	D	OTHER	k1	2	5	6	OTHER				
44-3886-1	5675	TELETYPE FM ME 3-31-69		2	2															
	5676	INTERNAL MEMO 3-28-69		1	1				✓											RELEASE
	5677	TELETYPE FM ATLANTA 4-3-69		1	1		✓			✓										RELEASE
	5678	LETTER TO DIR 3-27-69		1	1				✓											RELEASE
	5679	INTERNAL MEMO 4-3-69		2	2															
	5680	AIRTEL FM ME 4-1-69		2	2															
	5681	AIRTEL FM DIR 4-7-69		2	2															
	5682	LETTER TO AAG LEONARD 4-4-69		1	1															
	5683	AIRTEL FM ME 4-1-69		1	1															
	5684	AIRTEL FM ME 3-26-69		5	5				✓	✓										FOODS
	5685	TELETYPE FM CHICAGO 4-4-69		1	1															
	5686	LETTER FM CUSTOMS		2	2															RELEASE REFER TO CUSTOMS
	5687	INTERNAL MEMO 4-7-69		1	1															
	5688	AIRTEL FM ME 4-3-69		4	4				✓											EXCISE
	5689	AIRTEL FM ME 3-18-69		11	11															

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REFILED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Date 1-6-76

The following material has been reproduced  
for excising and review at FBIHQ by representatives of  
the House Select Committee on Assassinations:

File No. 44-38861

Section 78

Serials 5626 through 5689

(except following serials not in  
file on this date;

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Enclosure Behind File or Bulky Enclosure:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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No. Copies 2 By JL

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

RETAIN THIS FORM AS TOP SERIAL

VIA TELETYPE  
MAR 14 1969  
ENCIPHERED

Mr. Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. DeLoach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Bishop	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Casper	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Callahan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Conrad	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Felt	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Gale	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Sullivan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tavel	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Trotter	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input type="checkbox"/>
Miss Holmes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Miss Gandy	<input type="checkbox"/>

0110  
SOWA ----28----

FBI NEW YORK

9:35 PM URGENT 3-13-69 AWS

TO DIRECTOR AND MEMPHIS (PLAIN)

FROM NEW YORK 44-1609

*Lokey*

0

MURKIN; (ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING)

ATTORNEY JACK GREENBERG, DIRECTOR, LEGAL DEFENSE  
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People  
 FUND, NAACP, TEN COLUMBUS CIRCLE, NYC CONTACTED USA ROBERT  
Southern District of New York  
 M. MORGENTHAU, SDNY, THREE FOURTEEN, AND ADVISED HE  
 HAD RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL FROM RUSSELL THOMPSON,  
 A MEMPHIS, TENN. ATTORNEY WHO CLAIMED HE HAD BEEN  
 RETAINED BY JAMES EARL RAY AT AN EARLY STAGE OF THE PROCEED-  
 INGS AGAINST RAY, PRIOR TO REPRESENTATION BY ATTORNEY  
 HANES OF BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA.  
 END PAGE ONE

REC-33 44-38861-5626

3 MAR 19 1969

79 MAR 20 1969

COPY SENT TO MR. TOLSON

ENCLOSURE

*Self*



REC'D - ROSEN  
FBI

MAR 17 11 00 AM '69

MAR 17 9 52 AM '69

REC'D DELOACH  
FBI

MAR 15 2 27 PM '69

MAR 17 11 28 AM '69

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS  
FBI

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

MAR 14 11 22 PM '69

RECEIVED  
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE  
DIVISION 5710

MAR 15 2 34 PM 1969

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR  
F.B.I.

MAR 17 9 45 AM '69  
RECEIVED-TOLSON  
FBI

MAR 15 12 39 PM '69  
REC'D DELOACH  
FBI

PAGE TWO

ACCORDING TO GREENBERG, THOMPSON ASKED TO SEE HIM IN ORDER TO TELL HIM THE NAMES OF OTHER PEOPLE INVOLVED WITH RAY IN THE MARTIN LUTHER KING KILLING, AND TO FURNISH SUPPORTING DETAILS. GREENBERG ARRANGED AN APPOINTMENT TO MEET WITH THOMPSON AT GREENBERG'S OFFICE AT NINE THIRTY AM, MONDAY, THREE SEVENTEEN, SIXTYNINE. GREENBERG TOLD MORGENTHAU THAT THOMPSON IS KNOWN TO NAACP AS A REPUTABLE INDIVIDUAL WHO PREVIOUSLY HAS DONE RELIABLE WORK FOR THE NAACP IN THE MEMPHIS AREA. GREENBERG INFORMED MORGENTHAU, HOWEVER, THAT HE DID NOT KNOW ANYTHING ELSE ABOUT THOMPSON'S INFORMATION, AND DID NOT KNOW IF IT WERE A PUBLICITY STUNT. GREENBERG SAID THE NY DAILY NEWS CALLED HIM TODAY AND KNOWS THOMPSON IS DUE IN NYC NEXT MONDAY. HOWEVER, THE DAILY NEWS DID NOT KNOW THE PURPOSE OF THE TRIP, AND GREENBERG DID NOT TELL THEM.

GREENBERG TOLD MORGENTHAU HE CANNOT DO ANYTHING WITH THOMPSON'S INFORMATION, AND HAS NO WAY TO EVALUATE IT, AND <sup>H</sup>TUS SUGGESTED AN FBI AGENT BE PRESENT AT THE MEETING. MORGENTHAU TOLD GREENBERG THE FBI WOULD HAVE TO MAKE THAT DECISION. GREENBERG THEN CONTACTED THE NYO AND FURNISHED THE SAME INFORMATION SET OUT

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

ABOVE.

IT IS <sup>T</sup>NOED THAT RUSSELL THOMPSON HAS BEEN REPORTED  
<sub>^</sub>ON NY RADIO NEWSBROADCASTS, THREE FOURTEEN, SIXTYNINE, AS  
GOING TO NY FROM MEMPHIS ON SUNDAY THREE SIXTEEN, SIXTYNINE  
TO TALK TO THE NAACP.

THE <sup>NEW YORK OFFICE</sup>NYO HAS HAD FREQUENT CONTACT WITH NAACP  
OFFICIALS OVER A NUMBER OF YEARS, AND RELATIONS HAVE ALWAYS  
BEEN CORDIAL, BUT NO SPECIFIC CONTACTS WITH GREENBERG.

THE BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO ADVISE THE NYO WHETHER  
NY SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE INTERVIEW OF THOMPSON <sup>AT</sup>~~AND~~  
GREENBERG'S OFFICE ON THREE SEVENTEEN, SIXTYNINE.

END

WA...

~~THIS THIS BE NUMBER TWENTYSEVEN GA~~

YES TU

WA...

FJB

FBI WASH DC

MAR 14 9 47 PM 1969

REC'D-TELETYPE UNIT  
FBI

MAR 14 9 32 PM '69

... CODING UNIT ...

March 15, 1969

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

Jack Greenberg, Director, Legal Defense Fund, National Association For The Advancement of Colored People, contacted our New York Office on 3-14-69, and advised that Attorney Russell Thompson, Memphis, Tennessee, who professed to have once represented James Earl Ray, was to meet Greenberg on 3-17-69, to furnish him names of other people involved with Ray in the Martin Luther King killing. Greenberg requested an Agent be present at the meeting. The "New York Daily News" contacted Greenberg regarding Thompson's visit but Greenberg did not advise them of purpose of trip. Nothing derogatory in Bureau files concerning Greenberg.

About one week after the King murder and before Ray was identified as the assassin, Thompson contacted our Memphis Office and related that he had been visited by a man whom he would not identify because of possible client-attorney relationship. This man indicated he might need legal help in the future and advised Thompson that authorities were wrong about murder weapon and killer had fled on a motorcycle and not in a white Mustang. It is significant to note that after Ray was identified as the subject, Thompson contacted Memphis Office and indicated that the unknown man was probably a mental case but Thompson still refused to identify him.

To prevent charges being made that FBI would not accept information concerning a possible conspiracy, it is recommended that New York be instructed to have an Agent present to accept any information Thompson has to offer.

CLM:erg

*clm*

*No Thompson has  
not been at trial.  
If he wants to give  
any information  
he & Greenberg can  
come down to NY Office  
& give it. H*

*B*

*44-3761-56 24*

ENCLOSURE



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Atlanta, Georgia

March 11, 1969

**ANONYMOUS ACCUSATION ALLEGING  
PARTICIPATION OF RAYMOND POLACCO  
IN ASSASSINATION OF  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**

---

On March 7, 1969, Mr. Jim Rankin, City Desk, "The Atlanta Constitution" newspaper, Atlanta, Georgia, furnished a letter, contained in an envelope, postmarked Amarillo, Texas, March 2, 1969. The letter, which was typewritten and unsigned, states as follows:

"March 1, 1969

"The Constitution  
Atlanta Newspapers, Inc.  
10 Forsythe St., N.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30030

"To Whom it may concern:

"I am sure this is some information that you would appreciate. I have been keeping up with what you publish about the Martin Luther King Jr. case. That whole thing was plotted in Atlanta, Ga. One of the key pay-off men is a Cuban, 27 years of age, his name is Raymond Polacco and uses telephones, concerning his pay-off at 4550 Ridgecrest and 834 C Confederate Courts S. E. He is also shacking with a little red headed girl at the Confederate Courts address. This little red-headed girl is Debbie Blackman. They make a lot of trips together to New Orleans, La.

-----

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.

ENCLOSURE

44-34661-221

ANONYMOUS ACCUSATION

"I live in New Orleans and know this girl real well. She does not know that this Cuban is the pay-off man. She is a teen-ager and should not be involved in this crime."

The current Atlanta City Directory reflects there is no address such as 4550 Ridgecrest Drive in Atlanta. The current suburban directory for the Atlanta, Georgia, area reflects 4550 Ridgecrest Drive, Forest Park, is occupied by Mr. Alf Calalay.

On March 10, 1969, Miss Deborah Diane Blackman, <sup>AKA DEBORAH</sup> 834 Confederate Court, Apartment C, age 19, advised she met <sup>DEBORAH</sup> Raymond or Raymon Polacco about four months ago at The Scene, a nightclub in Atlanta, Georgia. She advised she dated Polacco several times after that and he came to her apartment on numerous occasions where she lives with her sister, Judy Griffin. She advised she has not seen Polacco for about one month, although she dated him quite steadily during the period that she knew him. Miss Blackman advised that according to Polacco he was married and separated from his wife and he worked at the First National Bank in Atlanta, Georgia, and attends Georgia State College in Atlanta. She said that according to Polacco he is half Italian and half Spanish. Miss Blackman advised that Polacco is from California. She believes he is from the Los Angeles area but is not sure. She advised he called his home in California on two or three occasions during the period of time she knew him from her and her sister's apartment. She advised she heard that Polacco has been reconciled with his wife and is living with her again. <sup>B APPROX</sup>

Miss Blackman advised that she and a girl friend have made two trips to New Orleans, Louisiana, the first one being made in December, 1968, and the second in February, 1969. The girl who accompanied her was Charlotte Majure. She stated these

### ANONYMOUS ACCUSATION

were short weekend trips, the latter being to attend the Mardi Gras. She denied that Polacco ever went with her to New Orleans or to any place outside of Atlanta. Miss Blackman advised during the time she knew Polacco, he never mentioned James Earl Ray nor does she recall that he ever mentioned the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Miss Blackman advised that Polacco is a white male, about 25 years old, about 5' 9" tall, medium build, black hair, black eyes, olive complexion, and wears expensive clothing.

Miss Blackman advised that her sister, Judy, is married to, separated from, and in the process of getting a divorce from Joe Griffin, who resides at 1918 North Manhattan Street, Amarillo, Texas. She advised he is a house painter by trade and is about 50 years old. Miss Blackman stated that Judy and Joe Griffin have three children, who are living with Judy, and that Joe Griffin is attempting to obtain custody of the children. During his attempts to obtain custody of the children, he has attempted to prove that Judy is an unfit mother. In making these allegations, he has accused Judy of having illicit affairs with Raymond Polacco. She advised that on at least one occasion, Joe Griffin called a neighbor of Polacco's and told the neighbor that Polacco was running around with Judy and told Judy that from that conversation with the neighbor, he determined that Polacco is actually a Cuban. She advised that Joe Griffin and Raymond Polacco have never actually met to her knowledge but that Griffin seems intent upon proving an illicit relationship between Polacco and Judy Griffin.

On March 10, 1969, Mrs. Judy Griffin, 834 Confederate Court, Apartment C, S. E., Atlanta, Georgia, confirmed the above information furnished by Deborah Blackman, her sister, and stated that Joe Griffin, her husband, appears to be attempting through



**ANONYMOUS ACCUSATION**

telephone calls, to prove that she and Raymond Polacco have been too intimate. She advised that Polacco has been to her and her sister's apartment on numerous occasions but that actually her sister, Deborah Blackman, has been dating Polacco.

Judy Griffin advised that the telephone call allegedly made by Griffin to a neighbor of Polacco's was made to a family by the name of Calalay. She does not know where the Calalay family lives and neither Judy Griffin nor Deborah Blackman admitted knowing the residence of Raymond Polacco.

Deborah Blackman advised that during the time Polacco was allegedly separated from his wife he claimed to have an apartment in Atlanta, but she does not know where it was located.

3-14-69

AIRTEL

1 - Mr Long

To: SAC, Dallas (44-2649) **REC-105**  
From: Director, FBI (44-38861) **5627**

MURKIN

ReATAirtel to the Bureau dated 3-11-69.

Dallas should immediately locate and interview Joe Griffin, 1918 N. Manhattan St., Amarillo, Texas, concerning any information he may have in his possession regarding the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. You should also determine location of Raymond Polacco through interview of Griffin and set forth leads to have him interviewed.

Atlanta should continue efforts to locate Raymond Polacco in an effort to interview him and completely resolve this allegation. It is noted that Polacco was allegedly employed at the First National Bank in Atlanta, Georgia, and allegedly attends Georgia State College in Atlanta. Your efforts to locate Polacco should not be limited to his alleged place of employment and school as all avenues must be exhausted to locate and interview him.

Based upon available information, Bureau indices contain no information identifiable with Raymond Polacco or Joe Griffin.

Keep the Bureau advised of pertinent developments.

- 1 - Memphis (44-1987) (for info)
- 1 - Atlanta (44-2386) (for info)

MAILED 19  
MAR 17 1969  
COMM-FBI

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

REL: jms

(6) *jms*

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO. . .

*Chant*

*rel*

**60 MAR 24 1969** *Rpm*

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

RECEIVED  
DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
MAR 14 5 05 PM 1969  
FBI  
REC'D - CIV RIGHTS  
MAR 14 5 20 PM '69  
U S DEPT OF JUSTICE

NOTE:

Atlanta Office advised that "The Atlanta Constitution" newspaper furnished our office a letter postmarked Amarillo, Texas, which was typewritten and unsigned. The letter in essence states that the person has been keeping up with what the paper has been publishing about King and the letter further states that the whole thing was plotted in Atlanta, Georgia, and names Raymond Polacco as one of the pay-off men, and is consorting with Debbie Blackman.

Investigation in Atlanta has determined that the person who wrote this letter is possibly one Joe Griffin of Amarillo, Texas. Individuals interviewed by Atlanta Office including Debbie Blackman. No information developed from these interviews pertinent to the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. Dallas being instructed to interview Griffin for all information and to determine location of Raymond Polacco and set forth leads to interview him.

Atlanta being instructed to attempt to locate and interview Polacco at Atlanta, Georgia.

F B I

Date: 3/11/69

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386) (P)

**MURKIN**

B. APPROX 1942 OR 1944

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are five (5) copies of LHM, captioned "ANONYMOUS ACCUSATION ALLEGING PARTICIPATION OF RAYMOND POLACCO IN ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR."

Two copies of the LHM are being enclosed for Memphis and one copy for Dallas.

Atlanta indices negative concerning RAYMOND POLACCO and Debbie or Deborah Blackman.

Records of the Atlanta Police Department contain no record of RAYMOND POLACCO.

The enclosed LHM is self-explanatory.

The anonymous letter, which was apparently written by JOE GRIFFIN, 1918 N. Manhattan St., Amarillo, Tex., would appear to be a violation of blackmail statutes within the investigative jurisdiction of the Post Office Department. In view of the subject matter, however, the letter is not being furnished to the local Postal Inspector without specific instruction to do so by the Bureau.

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. 5) ENCLOSURE
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987) (Enc. 2)
- 1 - Dallas (Enc. 1) (Info)
- 2 - Atlanta

ORH:vsc  
(8)

*4 enc. detached*

*REC-105*  
*airtel Dallas*  
*3-14-69*  
*REC:imo*

*44-38861-5627*

MAR 12 1969

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

3/11/69

AIRMAIL

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (44-3886) (P)

MURKIN

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2 - Memphis (44-1987) (Enc. 2)  
1 - Dallas (Enc. 1) (Info)  
2 - Atlanta  
ORH: vac  
(8)

MAR 12 3 35 PM '69

MAR 12 3 30 PM 1969

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS  
FBI

RECEIVED  
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE

**AT 44-2386**

**Dallas Office is being furnished one copy since  
the writer of the letter apparently lives within that division.**

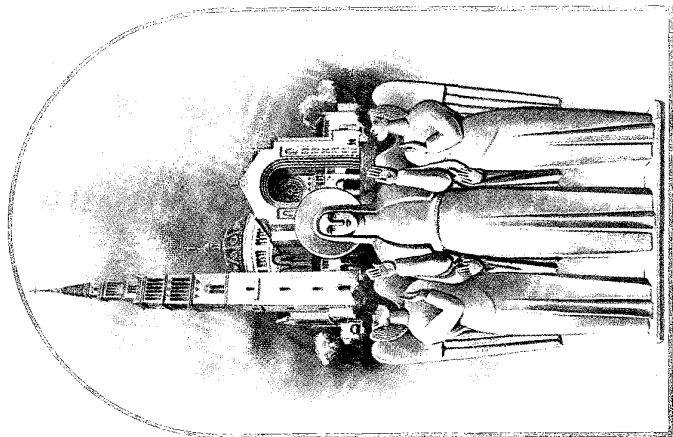
**2\***



*Now Is The Time To Pray*

© Franciscan Fathers

Published in U.S.A.



NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE  
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
Fourth and Michigan Ave., N.E.  
Washington 17, D.C.

## O MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP Hear My Prayer For

- Health .....
- Employment .....
- Financial Aid .....
- Happy Marriage .....
- Motherhood .....
- Peace in Family .....
- Success in Studies .....
- Return to Sacraments .....
- Vocation .....
- Special Need .....
- Spiritual Need .....
- Deceased  .....

O Mother of Perpetual Help  
accept my Thanks for

*Martin Luther King Jr.*

44-38861-5628

FRANCISCAN FATHERS  
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH  
48 HUNTER STREET, S.W.

ATLANTA, GA.

521-1866

*Friar*

Franciscan Magazine  
Butler, N. J.  
07405



44-38861-5628  
THE POPE'S PLEA

"Let us pray to Our Lady to help us; to be a Mother to us; to be a Mother to the Christian people, to our families, to this parish, to our children and young people, to those who weep and who suffer. Let everyone try to bring to her his own life, which may often be humble and poor, perhaps tormented, difficult, at times going astray. From Our Most Blessed Lady he will obtain joy, light, and trust, because through her he will find Christ once again."

— Pope Paul VI

Have you a tough situation to cope with or to solve, either at home, at school, or at work,—or with yourself personally? Why not have Mary present it to her Divine Son, Jesus, during this Solemn Miraculous Medal Novena, which opens January 6, and closes January 14, 1969.

**ST. CECILIA'S CHURCH**

30 St. Cecilia's Street, Boston, Mass. 02115  
Rt. Rev. Msgr. Vincent J. Mackay, Pastor  
Weekly Novena every Tuesday at  
12:15, 5:15 and 8:00 p.m.

© Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Novena Band,  
Vincencian Fathers, 16 E. 52nd St., New York 22, N. Y.

44-38861-5628

An Act of Consecration

to

OUR BLESSED MOTHER

**M**OST HOLY TRINITY: Our Father in Heaven, who chose Mary as the fairest of your daughters; Holy Spirit, who chose Mary as your spouse; God the Son, who chose Mary as your Mother; in union with Mary, we adore your majesty and acknowledge your supreme, eternal dominion and authority.

Most Holy Trinity, we put the United States of America into the hands of Mary Immaculate in order that she may present the country to you. Through her we wish to thank you for the great resources of this land and for the freedom which has been its heritage. Through the intercession of Mary, have mercy on the Catholic Church in America. Grant us peace. Have mercy on our President and on all the officers of our government. Grant us a fruitful economy born of justice and charity. Have mercy on capital and industry and labor. Protect the family life of the nation. Guard the innocence of our children. Grant the precious gift of many religious vocations. Through the intercession of our Mother, have mercy on the sick, the poor, the tempted, sinners—on all who are in need.

Mary, Immaculate Virgin, Our Mother, Patroness of our land, we praise you and honor you and give ourselves to you. Protect us from every harm. Pray for us, that acting always according to your will and the Will of your Divine Son, we may live and die pleasing to God.

Nihil Obstat:

Harry A. Echle, Censor  
May 8, 1959

Imprimatur:

Patrick A. O'Boyle  
† Archbishop of Washington

Imprimatur:  
Saint Francis of Assisi, 1182—1226

Lord, make me an instrument  
of your peace.  
Where there is hatred, let me  
sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
and where there is sadness, joy.  
O Divine Master, grant that  
I may not so much seek to be  
consoled as to console; to be  
understood as to understand;  
to be loved as to love; for it is  
in giving that we receive;  
it is in pardoning that we are  
pardoned;  
and it is in dying that we are  
born to eternal life.

Prayer of  
St. Francis of Assisi

44-38861-5628  
Wednesday Devotions

in Honor of



**OUR MOTHER OF  
PERPETUAL HELP**

Morning: At the 9 a.m. Mass.

Afternoon: At 2, 4, 5:30.

Evening: At 7, 8.

Radio Novena: Wed. at 7 p.m.  
on WHDH . . . 850 on the dial.

Each devotion lasts a half-hour.  
You may begin a Novena of Nine  
Wednesdays on any Wednesday.

Novena Masses each Wednesday: At 6, 7, 8, and 12:10.

**MISSION CHURCH**

1545 Tremont St., ROXBURY

27

A4-38861-5628

ENCLOSURE

~~P. O. Box 94~~  
Boston, Massachusetts 02123

March 12, 1969.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

On behalf of the family, friends, and followers,  
On behalf of the States of Massachusetts, Georgia,  
and Alabama  
I ask that the investigation of the murder of the late  
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. be continued.

I would like a personal interview with James Earl Ray, the convicted assassin of Dr. King.

At present I am writing a book entitled: "The Moral Leader of our Time."

Thanking you for your cooperation, I am

Sincerely yours,

*Mary Louise Gordon*  
Mary Louise Gordon

(Mrs.) Gilmore Mays Powell

cc: Attorney General  
John Mitchell  
Mrs. Martin Luther King, Jr.

REC 82

Mrs. Gilmore Mays Powell  
441 Marlboro Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02115

44-30861-5600  
MAR 19 1969

CORRESPONDENCE

*let Mrs. Powell  
3-18-69  
R-2-1115*  
ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

ENCLOSURE

REC'D - CORR & TOURS RECEIVED  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

MAR 14 1 27 PM '69 MAR 14 3 39 PM 1969

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

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS  
FBI

MAR 14 3 59 PM '69

MAR 14 1969

AA

March 18, 1969

REC 82

44-38861-5626

1- Mr. Long

Mrs. Gilmore Mays Powell  
441 Marlboro Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02115

Dear Mrs. Powell:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated March 12, 1969, and your comments have been noted.

For your information, James Earl Ray was sentenced on a Tennessee State charge of murder in State court, Memphis, Tennessee, on March 10, 1969, and is presently incarcerated at the Tennessee State Prison, Nashville, Tennessee. You may desire to contact the appropriate authorities concerning your request for a personal interview with James Earl Ray.

You may be assured that this Bureau will continue to fully discharge its investigative responsibilities in all matters coming within our jurisdiction.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

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

REL:jms  
(3)

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO. . .

MAILED 22  
MAR 18 1969  
COMM-FBI

MAILED 50 MAR 24 1969 TELETYPE UNIT

*Handwritten signatures and initials:*  
Rosen ✓  
Casper  
Egan  
D  
rel  
MB

MAR 19 4 27 PM '69

RECEIVED FBI

MAR 18 10 41 AM '69  
REC'D DELOACH  
FBI

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

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FBI

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MAR 18 2 25 PM '69  
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FBI

NOTE:

Bufiles indicate that Mrs. Powell corresponded with the Bureau in 1963 outlining at length her personal family problems, most of them resulting from her inability to pay her bills. No other pertinent information in Bufiles.

44-38861-5629  
ENCLOSURE



NA  
3/7/69  
mfr

F B I

Date: 3/6/69

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	_____

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

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

Enclosed for the Bureau are three copies of a letterhead memorandum with photographs attached. This memorandum is self explanatory and in the opinion of the Memphis Office the subject matter does not warrant further investigation.

6 ENCLOSURE

③ - Bureau (Encs. 3)  
 1 - Memphis  
 JCH/ngm  
 (4)

REC-134  
 EX 106

44-38861-5629

12 MAR 19 1969

Airtel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Teletype \_\_\_\_\_  
 A.M. \_\_\_\_\_  
 A.M.S.D. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Spec. Del. \_\_\_\_\_

Reg. Mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 Approved: R Jensen Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
 Registered \_\_\_\_\_  
 Special Agent in Charge

56 MAR 24 1969

- 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

Date: 3/6/69

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(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_

(Priority)

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

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44-38861-2629

ENCLOSURE

3 - Bureau (Encs. 3)

Airtel I - Memphis

JCH/rgm

Teletype (4)

A.M.

A.M.S.D.

Spec. Del.

Reg. Mail

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

RECEIVED  
 GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE  
 DIVISION 510

MAR 7 9 53 PM '69

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

EX 108

REC-13A

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS  
 FBI

MAR 10 5 38 AM '69

MAR 19 1969

3/9  
 Som



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

*In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.*

Memphis, Tennessee  
March 6, 1969

RE: JAMES EARL RAY;  
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM;  
CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY

Attached to this memorandum is one copy each of two photographs given to District Attorney General Phil M. Canale, Memphis, Tennessee, by William Bradford Huie, a nationally known author who has signed an exclusive contract with James Earl Ray and who has written articles for "Look" magazine concerning the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Mr. Huie has stated that the Federal Bureau of Investigation has shown these photographs throughout the country, and according to Mr. Huie, the Federal Bureau of Investigation believes one of the individuals in these photographs to be identical with the person named "Raoul" whom Mr. Huie has described in his "Look" magazine articles as being an associate of James Earl Ray just prior to the murder of Dr. King. Mr. Huie has stated that these photographs were made by a news photographer at Dallas, Texas, on the day that President John F. Kennedy was assassinated. Huie has told Mr. Canale that he is convinced the Federal Bureau of Investigation knows the identity of the man in the photograph.

The Dallas Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation has advised that the person appearing in these photographs has been identified as one of many persons rounded up by the Dallas Police Department and the Dallas County Sheriff's Office immediately following the assassination of President Kennedy. It has been determined that this person was not booked and that no record of his identity was maintained by either the police or by the Sheriff's Office. The officers who picked up this man recalled that he had been found with two other men in a boxcar about a mile from the assassination scene, but there was no reason to place him under arrest or detain him for any length of time. Also, photographs of this man have not been displayed by FBI Agents during the investigation of the murder of Dr. King.

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.

44-38861-5629



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

*In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.*

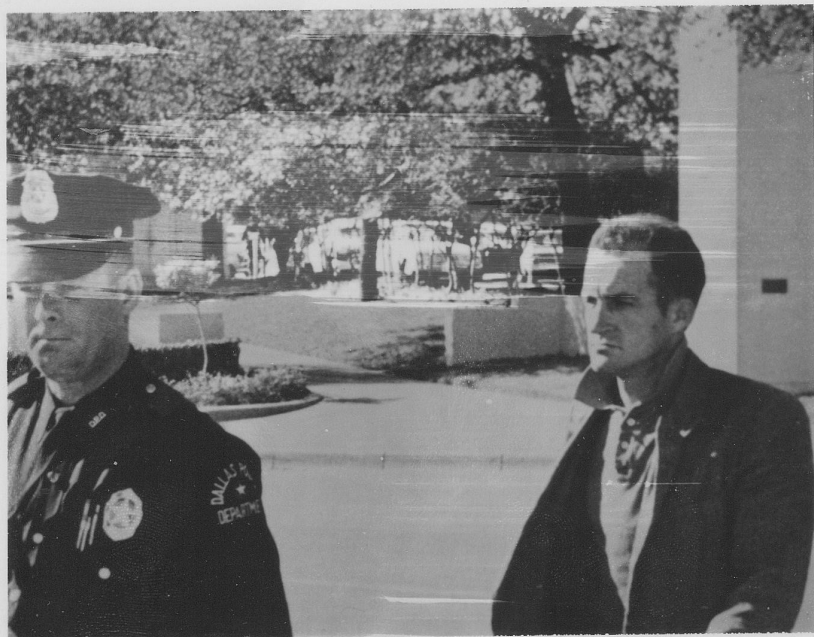
**Memphis, Tennessee  
March 6, 1969**

**RE: JAMES EARL RAY;  
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM;  
CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY**

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

POLAROID

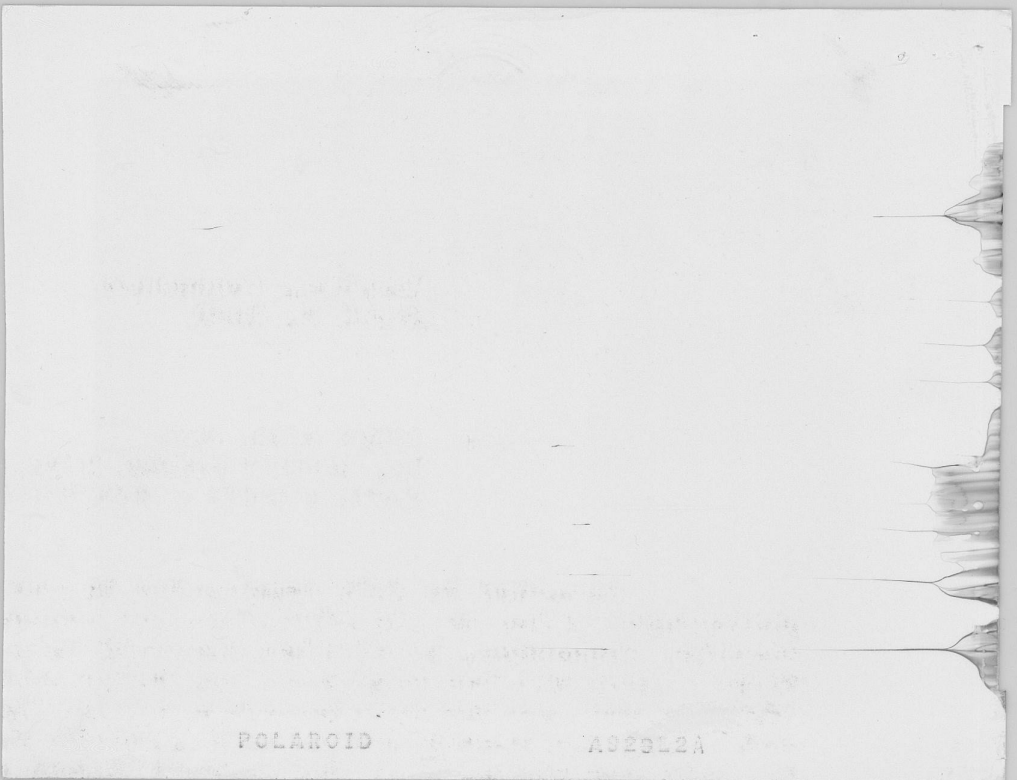
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POLAROID

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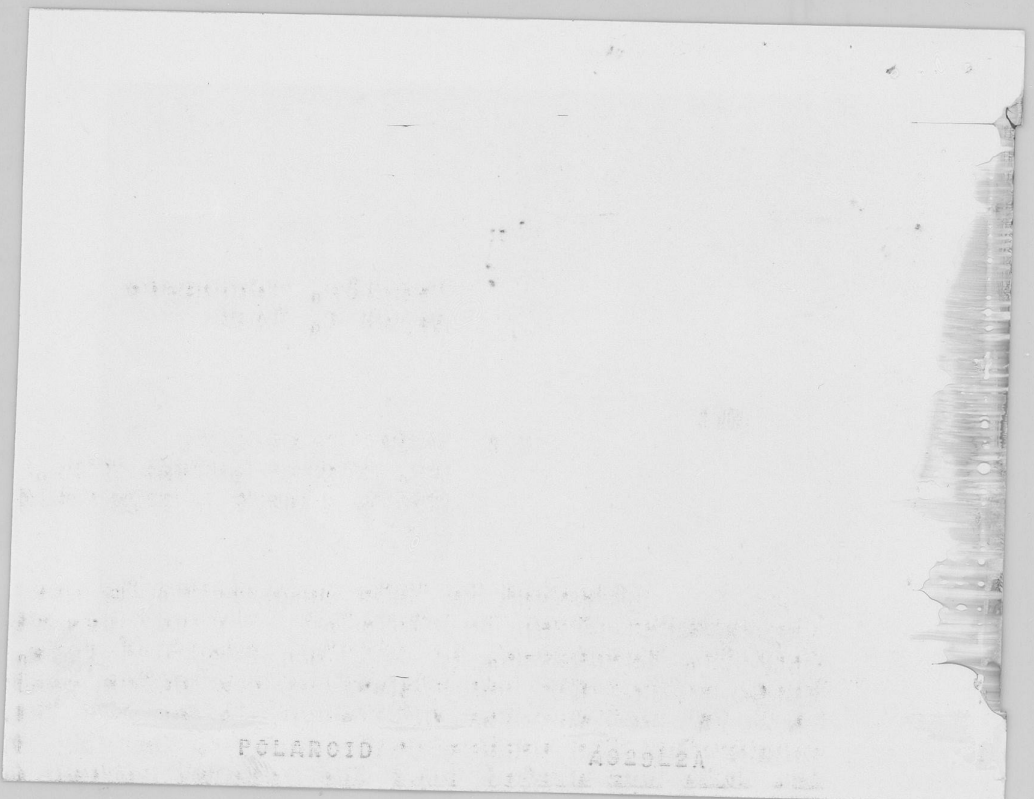


2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176



POLAROID

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POLAROID

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FBI WASH DC

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

MAR 12 1969

TELETYPE

FBI MEMPHIS

URGENT 3-12-69 MCP

TO DIRECTOR 44-38861

FROM MEMPHIS 44-1987

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	<i>pl</i>
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

MURKIN.

IP L. COPIES MADE DATE 5/4/78 BY  
RCB/SS - M.L. King, Jr.  
FOR REVIEW AT FBIHQ AND/OR DELIVERY  
TO HSCA RE REQUEST DATED 5/13/78  
(SEE BUFILE 62-117290)

REBUTEL THIS DATE.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY GENERAL PHIL CANALE ADVISED HE KNEW OF NO REASON THAT INTERVIEW OF RAY COULD NOT BE CONDUCTED BY FBI. HE ALSO STATED HE WOULD INTERPOSE NO OBJECTIONS SHOULD FBI DESIRE TO INTERVIEW RAY AT THIS TIME.

HOUSTON OFFICE ADVISED THAT PERCY FOREMAN, ATTORNEY WHO REPRESENTED RAY, ADVISED HE HAD NO OBJECTIONS TO FBI INTERVIEWING RAY. FOREMAN DID INFORM HOUSTON OFFICE THAT HE HAD TALKED WITH RAY MORE THAN FIFTY HOURS AND DID NOT DISCUSS FACTS OF CASE WITH RAY. FOREMAN SAID PURPOSE OF HIS INTERVIEWS PRIMARILY TO GET TO KNOW RAY. FOREMAN VOLUNTEERED THAT HE CONSIDERED RAY A RACIST AND HE DID NOT BELIEVE RAY WOULD COOPERATE WITH FBI.

HARRY AVERY, COMMISSIONER, TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, ADVISED THIS DATE HE WOULD INTERPOSE NO OBJECTION TO PRISONER JAMES EARL RAY BEING INTERVIEWED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FBI. NO ARRANGEMENTS MADE TO CONDUCT INTERVIEW. AWAITING BUREAU AUTHORITY. P.

REC-134  
MEMPHIS 44-38861-563  
12 MAR 19 1969

EX 106

~~CORR: PARA THREE, LINE ONE, LAST WORD IS "CORRECTIONS".~~

CLR

51 MAR 24 1969

FBI WASH DC

*SLX*

*Incorporated into  
Rosen to DeLoach  
Memo - 3/13/69*

RECEIVED  
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE  
DIVISION 3-11

MAR 12 8 09 PM '69

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

REC'D-TELETYPE UNIT  
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MAR 12 7 02 PM 1969

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

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

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: March 18, 1969

FROM : A. Rosen

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

SUBJECT: MURKIN

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

The Director inquired as to the facts regarding a statement made by Mr. Baxton Bryant as reported in the "New York Times" on 3-16-69. Bryant is quoted as stating that he reported to the FBI information on an alleged telephone conversation related to the shooting of Martin Luther King, Jr., and the FBI later advised him the conversation had been found to be unrelated to the King murder. Bufiles indicate that Mr. Bryant is a member of the Tennessee Council on Human Relations who has been active in Civil Rights matters in Tennessee.

**DETAILS:** On April 8, 1968, Mr. Bryant accompanied John McFerren, who is a Negro Civil Rights activist from Somerville, Tennessee, to our Memphis Office and stated that McFerren had some information he wanted to provide us concerning a conversation he allegedly overheard while at a produce market in Memphis on April 4, 1968, (King was murdered on this date). McFerren was interviewed at length concerning this and he stated he heard a heavysset man talking on a telephone and heard him say, "Kill the SOB on the balcony and get the job done, you will get your \$5,000."

We completely investigated all facets of the information furnished us by McFerren and no substantiating information was developed indicating this alleged telephone conversation was pertinent to the King murder. We provided the results of our investigation to the Department in two separate memorandums (copies attached for ready reference).

Contrary to Mr. Bryant's statement in the "New York Times", we never advised him of the results of our investigation.

**ACTION:** For information.

18 MAR 20 1969

Enclosures

REL:jms

30 MAR 20 1969

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS  
FBI

MAR 19 2 22 PM '69

1 COPIES MADE, DATE 5/2/78 BY  
Kerless, M. & King, J.  
FOR REVIEW AT WASH AND/OR DELIVERY  
TO HQ ON RE-REQUEST DATED 5/2/78  
(SEE COPIES 02-91100)

MAR 19 9 41 AM '69

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

MAR 18 2 50 PM '69

REC'D - JOURNAL  
MAR 19 5 19 PM '69

MAR 18 5 37 PM '69  
REC'D DELAHOE  
FBI

MAR 19 7 47 AM '69  
RECEIVED NELSON  
FBI  
MAR 19 1 16 PM '69

REC'D - JOURNAL  
FBI

The Attorney General

April 25, 1968

Director, FBI

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

Reference is made to my memorandum dated April 20, 1968, setting forth pertinent details relative to information furnished by Mr. John McFerren regarding his suspicions that circumstances which occurred at the LL and L Produce Company in Memphis, Tennessee, on April 4, 1968, might be related to the killing of Martin Luther King, Jr.

As you were previously advised, the owners of the LL and L Produce Company denied having any connection with the killing and Mr. Frank Camillo Liberto, one of the owners, advised that he had relatives in New Orleans and discussed large sums of money when making produce purchases over the telephone.

Other members of the Liberto family in New Orleans have been interviewed and they have advised that they have no knowledge of the killing beyond accounts appearing in local news media.

On the basis of the information reported by Mr. McFerren and the information developed through our inquiries, it is not felt further inquiries along these lines are warranted.

Returned herewith is the copy of the "Time" report previously furnished.

Enclosure

1 - The Deputy Attorney General

1 - Mr. Stephen J. Pollak  
Assistant Attorney General

EJM:vea (3)

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

44-38861-5651  
ENCLOSURE

NOTE:

The Attorney General's office furnished a copy of a "Time" report of information from John McFerren, Negro from Somerville, Tennessee. The Attorney General was previously furnished substantial information developed indicating there is no basis for McFerren's information. The "Time" report is being returned to the Attorney General with additional information developed in connection with McFerren's story.

The Attorney General

April 20, 1968

REC 27

Director, FBI

EX-105

MURDER OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Information was received that John McFerren, a Negro of Somerville, Tennessee, had reported to "Time" magazine information concerning an individual possibly involved in the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. Mr. McFerren allegedly overheard one end of a telephone conversation while at a produce market in Memphis on April 4, 1968. According to the report, Mr. McFerren overheard the individual state, "Shoot the S.O.B. on the balcony. Don't worry about the money. Your brother will get it in New Orleans." Mr. McFerren allegedly was contacted on April 19, 1968, by a white man formerly of Somerville who now resides in Louisiana. It was indicated that as a result of this visit Mr. McFerren feared for his own safety.

On April 8, 1968, Mr. McFerren advised Agents of this Bureau that he had picked up supplies for his grocery store at the LL and L Produce Company, Memphis, Tennessee, on April 4, 1968. At that time he overheard a heavysset white male talking on the telephone say, "Kill the S.O.B. on the balcony and get the job done. You will get your \$5,000." Mr. McFerren stated another white male with a scar on his right cheek came by at this time and told him to go on to the back of the produce company and help himself.

After completing his business Mr. McFerren heard the telephone ring again as he was passing the office and the man with the scar answered the telephone. He then handed the telephone to the heavysset man. Mr. McFerren heard this man say, "Don't come out here. Go to New Orleans and get your money. You know my brother."

Mr. McFerren attached no significance to these remarks at the time. When he arrived home at Somerville, Tennessee, at approximately 6:15 p.m., April 4, 1968, he

Note: See memo Rosen to DeLoach captioned MURKIN, 4/20/68,

CLM:wjc EJM:vea.  
(10)

44-38861-5631  
ENCLOSURE

The Attorney General

was advised by a neighbor that Martin Luther King, Jr., had been shot. Mr. McFerren advised that the following day he observed a sketch of the assassin in a newspaper. The artist's conception together with a description as read to him by his wife immediately made him think of an individual who had been employed at the LL and L Produce Company sometime in the late fall or early winter last year. He believed this man to be identical with the sketch of the unknown individual who shot Martin Luther King, Jr. He described this individual as five feet nine inches tall, weighing 140 pounds, white male, slender build and approximately twenty-five years of age.

Mr. McFerren was reinterviewed by Memphis Agents on April 18, 1968. Mr. McFerren stated he was suspicious because an individual he knows from Somerville, Tennessee, presently residing in Louisiana, visited his residence on the morning of April 18, 1968, and asked questions regarding his travel. Mr. McFerren identified this individual as Robert Powers who came to McFerren's residence with his wife driving a 1966-1967 late model beige Cadillac. Mr. McFerren advised he was not threatened by this individual and the only reason he suspects Powers of being strange is that McFerren states it is not common for a white man to shake a Negro's hand in that particular environment.

Mr. McFerren was shown six random photographs, one of which included the 1968 photograph of Eric Galt, and he definitely eliminated Galt as the individual he saw at the LL and L Produce Company and who he felt was identical with the sketch he saw in the newspaper. Mr. McFerren picked three photographs of individuals who are all under twenty-five years of age and do not resemble Galt at all. One individual in the photograph is known to be in prison at this time and the other two are not known to have been in the Memphis area at any time.

Investigation disclosed that individuals referred to by Mr. McFerren were Frank Camilla Liberto and James William Latch, President and Vice-President respectively of LL and L Produce Company. These individuals have been interviewed and emphatically deny ever discussing with

Memphis, Tenn.  
- 2 -



The Attorney General

anyone the possibility of shooting Reverend Dr. King or having any knowledge of the subject responsible for his death. They stated that they may have made derogatory remarks about the actions of Martin Luther King, Jr., in Memphis and that the fact that he had been responsible for a loss of revenue by business establishments in the Memphis area. They advised that such disparaging statements had been part of general conversation among workers in and around the produce company and other individuals residing in the Memphis area.

Each of the individuals denied receiving any telephone call wherein mention was made of Martin Luther King or the shooting of Martin Luther King. They stated they did not have any knowledge concerning the shooting of Martin Luther King, Jr., while at work at the produce company on April 4, 1968. Mr. Liberto advised he frequently makes trips to New Orleans, Louisiana, for produce. He stated it is common knowledge among employees and customers of his produce company that members of his family reside in New Orleans and he frequently mentions trips to New Orleans. He stated that most of the produce is purchased through telephone conversations and this involves talking about large sums of money over the telephone. Mr. Liberto stated he always employs Negro males as helpers in the produce department and had not had in his employment at the produce company any individual fitting the description of the unknown individual previously described by Mr. McFerren. In this connection, Mr. McFerren was not identified at any time to Mr. Liberto as being the source of the information.

Mr. Liberto's brother in New Orleans is being interviewed for any information he may have concerning this matter.

- 1 - The Deputy Attorney General
- 1 - Mr. Stephen J. Pollak  
Assistant Attorney General

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

*McGowan*

*J*

**Inquiry Asked of Nixon**

Special to The New York Times

NASHVILLE, March 15—The Tennessee Council on Human Relations today urged that

President Nixon appoint a special commission to make a "thorough investigation into the question of a conspiracy and make a full disclosure of the facts" surrounding the killing of Dr. King.

A resolution by the council's board of directors expressed "deep concern with the lingering question of conspiracy" in the case. The council is a private organization devoted to improving race relations and combating discrimination.

The resolution was based on a report by Baxton Bryant, the council's executive director, on statements made to him shortly after the assassination by a witness who said he had overheard a telephone conversation related to the shooting of Dr. King an hour before it occurred.

According to Mr. Bryant, the witness, identified as John McFerren, a Negro supermarket

operator heard a man on one end of the telephone line say, "You can shoot the s.o.b. on the balcony" and later, "You can pick up the \$5,000 from my brother in New Orleans."

Mr. Bryant said he had reported this information to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and introduced the witness to F.B.I. agents. About two weeks after the killing, he said, the F.B.I. told him the conversation had been found to be unrelated to the slaying of Dr. King.

- The Washington Post \_\_\_\_\_
- Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_
- The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_
- The Evening Star (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_
- The Sunday Star (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_
- Daily News (New York) \_\_\_\_\_
- Sunday News (New York) \_\_\_\_\_
- New York Post \_\_\_\_\_
- The New York Times 71
- The Sun (Baltimore) \_\_\_\_\_
- The Daily World \_\_\_\_\_
- The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_
- The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_
- The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_
- People's World \_\_\_\_\_
- Examiner (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_

*what are the facts?*

**ENCLOSURE**

MAR 16 1969

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*SK*

*See Tolson to  
Director memo  
3/18/69*

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