FBI

Date: 9/10/74

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

< Via AIRTEL

(Priority)

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM:

SAC, WFO (44-703) (RUC)

MURKIN (00:ME)

Sp

ReWFOairtel, 6/1/74, and BAairtel, 8/28/74.

Mr. JOHN G. PARSONS, Chief, Department of Urban Project Coordination, U. S. National Park Service, on 9/6/74, advised he conducted a hearing at Brunswick, Maryland on 6/7/72, of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Advisory Commission. Mr. PARSONS advised the hearings were recorded by a court reporter whose identity he does not recall but which can be determined through Hoover Reporting Company. He recalls the reporter, a male, was driven back to his motel after the meeting by PARSONS. The motel was located next to the Hawaiian Restaurant in Brunswick. This reporter, who performs considerable work for the National Park Service, relies heavily upon tape recorders in his work.

Mrs. DORIS HOOVER, Hoover Reporting Company, 320 Massachusetts Avenue, Northeast, on 9/9/74, acknowledged the reporting of the hearing of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Advisory Commission held 6/7/72, was performed by DAVID GAINES, an employee of her company. She stated SHIRLEY GAINES, wife to DAVID GAINES, is not an employee of the company and, to her knowledge, does not perform court reporting work for any other company.

2 - Bureau
2 - Memphis (44-1987) EX-109
1 - Alexandria
1 - WFO (44-703)

WBS; ctw
(6) COPIES MADE, DATE 5/4/78 BY
(6) COPIES MADE, DATE 5/4/78 BY
REGISS. RE MICHAEL STORY
FOR REVIEW AT FBILD AND ON DELIVERY
TO HSCA RE REQUEST DATED 5/3/78
TU HSCA RE REQUEST DATED 5/3/78
(SEE BUFILE 62-117290)

Approved: 7 19 W m/84
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____M I

U.S.Government Printing Office: 1972 - 455-574

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

SEP II 3 27 PH 974 PE OF FBT 3 26 PH 974

FBI

		Date: 9/19/74	
Transmit the	e following in	(Type in plaintext or code)	
Via	AIRTEL	(Priority)	
	TO: DIREC	TOR, FBI (44-38861)	
	FROM: SAC,	ALEXANDRIA (44-149) (RUC)	
	MURKIN OO: MEMPHIS		
1	Re Ba	altimore airtel to Bureau 8/28/74.	
	On 9/9/74 DAVID and SHIRLEY GAINES, 6171 Leesburg Pike, Apt. 532, Falls Church, Virginia, advised that they do not have any information concerning the whereabouts of BILL HARRIS. They advised that their meeting with HARRIS was strictly accidental and they have had no contact with HARRIS since.		
	Alexandria Offi	advised that they will contact the ice if additional information becomes erning BILL HARRIS.	
	2 - Bureau 2 - Memphis (44 1 - Alexandria DJB:smb	F9/4	
		REC-67 44-38861-5/0/	
		EX-112 12 SEP 20 1974	
		sixel	
5 1 Sper	oved: 6 19 Special Agent is	Sent M Per n Charge	

SEP 23 1974

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F. B. I.

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS

SEP 20 5 05 PM '74

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the wheresbouts of ELL LARKI . They their secting with LARKIS was ptricely they have had no contact atta HARRE a

Legeburg File, Act. and, Falls Charch, Wir filliaed that iney do not have any informat

To Britingle sixtel to Rurona 3, 23774

co: mamara

THOM: SAC, ALEXANDER (44-149) (209)

TO: W. DINCOLL, FDI (41-385-1)

LIBBIT

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1982 EDITION
GSA PPMR (41 CPR) 101-11.8

UNITED STATES GOTTRNMENT

Memorandum

ro :DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

DATE: 10/8/74

FROM SAG, ALEXANDRIA (44-149) (RUC)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

(OO: MEMPHIS)

got

Re WFO airtel to the Bureau, 6/18/74; and Alexandria airtel to the Bureau, 9/19/74.

On 9/27/74, DAVID GAINES, 6171 Leesburg Pike, Apartment 532, Falts Church, Virginia, provided SA DONALD J. BARTNIK with a copy of a transcript that he had made of a June, 1972 conversation between his wife SHIRLEY GAINES and one BILL HARRIS. GAINES advised that he makes such transcripts for a profession and wished to provide the FBI with a transcript.

HARRIS advised that on 9/26/74, he had also provided a copy of the transcript to JAMES LESAR, an attorney with the office of Bernard Fenserwald, 910 16th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. He advised that the Fenserwald firm was supposed to be involved in representing JAMES EARL RAY.

On 9/30/74, a review of the transcript provided by GAINES showed only minor differences when compared to the transcript provided with referenced WFO airtel. The transcript provided by HARRIS will be retained by Alexandria.

2 - Bureau 2 - Memphis (44-1987) 1 - Alexandria DJB:klg REC 63 19-38861-5969
EX 104
EX 104

6 OCT 15 197

(5)

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

On 9/27/74, DAVID CALLES, STAL Lacebang Fire, Applicate 532, Files Canada William Salabang Fires Application of Salabang Fires Canada Salabang David Canada Salabang David Salabang Sal anistics service relative despet, 1929/84.

EARL RAY. AHAMMIS advised time of 9/20,7%, he ted also pre-vided a copy of the transcript to UAMMS LANA, an attract, which the office of Mernard Ferserahld, 910 1% of Street, i. W., Weshington, D. O. He styrised that the issue and definitions as a model of the standard of the st

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9 4 38 PM '74

REG'D - CIV RIGHTS

AIRTEL

10/11/74

To:

SAC, Memphis (44 - 1987)

From:

REC75(44-38861) — 5766 Director, FBI

MURKIN

1 - Mr. Lawn

ReMEteletype dated 10/7/74.

Enclosed are two copies each of two newspaper articles concerning Harold Weisberg. Also enclosed are two copies of a list of materials furnished to Harold Weisberg by the Civil Rights Division, U. S. Department of Justice, on 6/24/70, as a result of a civil action filed against the Department of Justice and the Department of State in which Weisberg demanded copies of all the legal papers which were employed in the extradition of James Earl Ray.

Bufiles reveal that Weisberg has written numerous letters requesting unsuccessfully that the Bureau make available to Weisberg certain records concerning captioned matter, as well as records concerning another unrelated investigation conducted by this Bureau.

A copy of enclosed material may be furnished to Henry Haile, State Attorney General's Office, Nashville, as requested in referenced communication.

Bufiles and indices Albany Division contain no information pertaining to Herbert I. McDonald, based upon

available information MAILED 20 OCT 1 11974 Enclosures (6) FBI

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO.

m Rygan

Assoc. Dir. Dep. AD Adm. _ Dep. AD Inv. __ Asst. Dir.:

Admin. _

Comp. Syst. Ext. Affairs Files & Com. __

Gen. Inv. _ Ident. Inspection

Laboratory _ Plan. & Eval. Spec. Inv.

Legal Coun. Telephone Rm. _ Director Sec'y _

MAIL ROOM

JCL:bap

(4)

TELETYPE UNIT

REC'D GEBHARDT Oct 11 12 15 PH 1974 Oct 11 11 01 AM 1974 LEGAL COUNSEL U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE MOLE

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Airtel to SAC, ME RE: MURKIN

NOTE: The Memphis Division advised in referenced communication that a hearing for James Earl Ray is scheduled on 10/22/74 to determine whether Ray was coerced into entering a guilty plea on 3/10/69 to the murder of Martin Luther King.

Attorney Henry Haile, State Attorney General's Office, Nashville, had requested that the Bureau furnish him, on a confidential basis, any information available which would assist him in determining the veracity, competency, and bias of 2 witnesses who will testify for Ray, Harold Weisberg, an author, and Herbert I. McDonald, a ballistics expert from Ithaca, New York. Memphis Division recommended that any pertinent information be made available to Haile.

A review of Bufiles reveals that Weisberg has written several books critical of the Warren Commission, the FBI, Secret Service, and various police agencies. Gleaned from these files are copies of two newspaper articles pertaining to Weisberg which might be of assistance to Attorney Haile in analyzing the credibility of Weisberg as a witness. The first is an article which appeared in the Montgomery County Sentinal, Thursday, December 15, 1966, entitled "'Whitewash' Author is Man on the Go," which makes reference to Weisberg's theory of an FBI, Secret Service coverup before the Warren Commission. The second article, which appeared in "The Evening Star," October 25, 1973, reveals that Weisberg had lost his bid before the U. S. Court of Appeals to gain access to FBI files pertaining to the John F. Kennedy assassination.

Bufiles also reveal that Weisberg was furnished all of the legal papers utilized in the extradition of Ray from Great Britain, including material submitted by the States of Tennessee and Missouri, affidavits from witnesses, as well as affidavits from Special Agents of the FBI linking Ray to the assassination. That Weisberg is in possession of this material might be of assistance to Attorney Haile in further assessing the credibility of Weisberg.

On 10/8/74, ASAC George Steel, Albany Division, advised that indices contain no reference to Herbert I. McDonald.

On 10/9/74, Mr. Jack E. Herington, Office of Legal Counsel, reviewed enclosed material and advised that this material could be furnished to Mr. Haile, State Attorney General's Office, Nashville, Tennessee.

Warren Commission Critic Weisberg

In the Limelight

'Whitewash' Author Is Man on the Go

Harold Weisberg, Montgomery County's critic io the Varren Commission report, is a man on the go these days.

His pace has picked up steam since he published his second running again on a week-long book, "Whitewash II: The FBI- trip through the mid-west and Secret Service Cover-Up,* early this month.

ast week he spent four dawn to post-midnight days in New York, followed by a stopover in Philadelphia for a four-hour radio broadcast.

on to the West Coast. Stops include Chicago, Ill., Madison, Wisc., San Francisco, Calif. and Los Angeles, Calif.

Weisberg's original book, "Whitewash: The Report on the Warren Report," was one This week he's off and of the first in the current rash of attacks on the commission 44-3886/-596 and placed him is placed him in the inter-

ENCLOSURE

Umas Country

viace the first in a wi faultished in a general edition in May 1906, Weisborn has traveled across the country and appeared on national television programs as well as audience participation radio shows in California, Ohio, Illinois and Pennsylvania.

He is confident his followup to the first volume will help sharpen the criticism of the Warren Commission and the aftermath of the Kennedy assassination.

*My second book brings this to a new point," he said last week at Coq d'Or, the Hyatistown farm where he once raised geese. "It may sound immodest but this dates everyone's work except my own.

"The turning point in this whole thing was my appearance on a television show in New York in July, declared Weisberg, puffing on a cigarillo and squinting behind silver rimmed glasses.

*Four lawyers were lying in wait to fear me up. It was rough. It took me an hour and a half to teach them silence is golden," he laughed. "The sparks really flew. . .

Credibility Basis

"But that show laid the basis for credibility. It opened the eyes of the most influential minds in New York. People realized that those who say something is wrong are realiseeking the sanctity of our

See WEISBERG on A7

Weisberg

Continued from Page O

society. Total unknowns are saying we must have the truth."

Weisberg attributes his success as a critic to "a rugged refusal to do anything but face reality and deal with nothing but fact. I'm the only one who's dealt extensively with the commission's findings," he added.

Convinced his first book "couldn't wait" until a publisher could be found to put it out, Welsberg financed the operation himself.

To date 22,500 books have been printed in four editions and Delf Publishing Co. has just come out with a paperback edition guaranteeing a minimum of one-quarter million on the first printing.

"Whitewash II" had 10,000 printed in the first edition, copies of which are being distributed to stores and individuals.

"A lot of people wrote ages ago and asked us to send the next book as soon as it was out," Weisberg explained. He estimated he has received over 3000 letters.

Many fans already are in line for the third book, "Whitewash II: The Archive," which is in the works, Welsberg added.

His current trip across the country is in the usual whirl-wind fashion. The agenda is crowded with television and radio appearances, press conferences, speeches, seminars, buil sessions, autographing sessions and meetings with wholesalers.

"One morning I'm supposed to do a 5:30 TV appearance after is 3 a.m. radio show," Weisberg declared. "Can you imagine such a schedule? But I'll do it, too." Interest Abroad

Weisberg is concentrating on
the international as well as the
national interest in the Kennedy
assasination.

His first book is being disributed throughout the English-speaking world in the Dell edition.

It has been serialized in "Arriba," a newspaper in Madrid, Spain, and "Pano" rama," a large German magazine. An Italian publishing company has contracted for the book and is coming out with an Italian edition next month, Weisberg said.

Weisberg is satisfied that his doubts about the Warren Complission finally are reaching people. In addition he is delighted with the many new friends he has made through his books.

"Lil (his wife) and I have so many new friends now," he smile!, rubbing his closecropped i wn hair. "So many people has aritten us.",

"People are wonderful,"
Welsberg declared. "At every
point along the way there's
teen someone there waiting with
a hand outstretched to help.
Reople want to be helpful and
that's what counts."



Year No. 7

Published Every Thursday

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1966

424-,700

JEK Files Stay Closed, Count Mules

Author Harrid Weisberg has lost his oid before the U.S. Court of Appeals here to gain access to FBI files on the assassination of former President John F. Kennedy.

In an 8-1 decision announced yesterday, the court upheld a lower court ruling that the FBI analysis of bullet fragments and scrapings from the assasination scene did not qualify for release to the public under the federal Freedom of Information Act.

A dissenting opinion was filed by Chief U.S. Appeals Court Judge David Bazelon. He said that without some mechanism for the public to look at the FBI analysis, "the public will have to rely entirely upon the Justice Department's opinion that the results of the . . . tests are adequately shown in the report of the Warren Commission."

Weisberg, who has written four books on the assassination, has maintained that the Warren Commission report was a "white-wash" and did not tell the full story behind the president's death.

Times Herald
The Evening Star (Washington)
The Sunday Star (Washington)
Daily News (New York)
Sunday News (New York)
New York Post
The New York Times
The Daily World
The New Leader
The Wall Street Journal
The National Observer
People's World

Date 00T-25 1973²

//- 3886/- 3966
ENCLOSURE

I. Material Submitted by the States of Tennessee and Missouri

- A. Application for Requisition for International Extradition for James Earl Ray executed by the Governor of the State of Tennessee and directed to the Secretary of State of the United States.
- B. Petition for Application for Requisition in International Extradition of James Earl Ray addressed to the Governor of the State of Tennessee by Phil M. Canale, Jr., District Attorney General, 15th Judicial District, State of Tennessee (attaching various other documents described below).
- C. Affidavit of Dr. J. T. Francisco, pathologist, attesting to the cause of death of Martin Luther King and attaching autopsy report.
- D. Affidavit of Robert V. Wenzler, with exhibits, stating results of survey of area where Martin Luther King was killed.

EUGLOSURF

44-38861-5966

ENCLOSURE

- E. Affidavit of Guy Warren Canipe, Sr., Memphis storekeeper, with exhibits, concerning his finding of a package with the murder weapon in it.
- F. Affidavit of Inspector N. E. Zachary, Memphis Police Officer, with exhibits, regarding his on-the-scene investigation immediately following the murder and his discovery of various physical evidence.
- G. Affidavit of Captain R. L. Williams, Memphis Police Officer, regarding inspection of Ray's room in boarding house and discovery of physical evidence there.
- H. Affidavit of Cordra York, Sr., Memphis sporting goods dealer, regarding identity of binoculars.
- I. Affidavit of James D. Hamby, Memphis Police Officer, regarding recovery of bullet from Martin Luther King's body during autopsy.
- J. Copy of Tennessee indictment of James Earl Ray for merder of Martin Luther King.
- K. Certified copy of death certificate of Martin Luther King.
- L. Certified copy of autopsy report on Martin Luther King.
 - M. Certified copy of sections of Tennessee laws.
- N. Certificate of Fred T. Wilkinson, Director of the Missouri Department of Corrections, of Missouri criminal record of Ray.
- O. Certificate of James H. McAteer, Missouri Clerk of Court, describing record of conviction and sentence of Rev.
- P. Certificate of James C. Kirkpatrick, Missouri Secretary of State, setting forth Missouri statutes.
- Q. Affidavit of Fred T. Wilkinson, Director of Missouri Department of Corrections, regarding criminal record of Ray and certifying that fingerprints and photographs attached to his prior certification were those of Ray.

- II. Material From Private Persons
 Accumulated by the Department
 of Justice
- A. Affidavit of Donald F. Wood, gun salesman, Birmingham, Alabama, stating he sold weapon to man in attached photograph (Ray).
- B. Affidavit of Charles Quitman Stephens, resident of boarding house from which shot was fired, describing Ray's activities in boarding house.
- C. Affidavit of James H. Laue, friend of King, who was also an employee of the Community Relations Service of the Justice Department, who was in the next room from King, describing shot and discovery of King's body.
- D. Affidavit of Henrietta Hagemaster, hotel clerk, regarding hotel registration of Ray in Memphis.
- E. Affidavit of John Webster DeShazo, customer in Birmingham gun store, identifying attached photograph of Ray as man he saw purchase gun.
- F. Affidavit of Tomas Reyes Lau, bartending school operator, identifying attached photograph of Ray as pupil he had under alias of Eric Stavro Galt.
- G. Affidavit of Anna Christine Kelly, Memphis hotel clerk, regarding Ray's registration at hotel.
 - III. Material Prepared by the Department of Justice for the Signature of FBI Personnel
- A. Affidavit of Lyndal L. Shaneyfelt, FBI Agent and Photographic Expert, comparing photographs of James Earl Ray under various aliases and identifying him as the same person.
- B. Affidavit of George J. Bonebrake, FBI Agent and Fingerprint Expert, comparing fingerprints on murder weapon and binoculars with Ray's fingerprints and identifying them as the same (attaching fingerprint cards as exhibits).
- C. Affidavit of Robert A. Frazier, FBI Agent and Ballistics Expert, comparing murder bullet with weapon and establishing that bullet came from that or a similar weapon.

- D. Affidavit of Robert G. Jensen, FB. Agent in Memphis, describing weapons and physical exidence turned over to him by Memphis Police.
- E. Affidavit of Robert G. Jensen, FBI Agent in Memphis, with exhibits, describing registration card of Eric S. Galt (Ray) at hotel.
- F. Affidavit of James H. Mortimer, FBI Agent and Handwriting Specialist, with handwriting exhibits, identifying signature on hotel registration card as same as documents at partending school.
- G. Affidavit of Theodore J. A'Hearn, FBI Agent in Los Angeles, regarding Lau's identification of photographs of Galt (Ray).

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

UCT 071974

NR 003 ME PLAIN

TELETYPE

5:29 PM NITEL OCTOBER 7, 1974 JLC

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

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

MURKIN

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL HENRY HAILE, STATE ATTORNEY

GENERAL'S OFFICE, NASHVILLE, TENN., HAS ADVISED THAT SUBJECT

RAY TO BE GIVEN HEARING BEFORE JUDGE ROBERT M. MCRAE, JR.,

USDC, WDT, MEMPHIS, OCTOBER 22, 1974. EXPECTED TO TESTIFY FOR

RAY ARE HERBERT I. MCDONALD, A BALLISTICS EXPERT FROM ITHACA,

N. Y., AND HAROLD WEISBERG, AN AUTHOR WHO HAILE STATES HAS

PREVIOUSLY FILED SUIT AGAINST FBI REGARDING ASSASSINATION

OF PRESIDENT JFK.

REC.75 4/4/ 277/6/

MR. HAILE HAS REQUESTED THE BUREAU GIVE HIM ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE WHICH WOULD ASSIST HIM IN CROSS EXAMINATION OF MCDONALD AND WEISBERG. HE WILL KEEP SOURCE OF SUCH INFORMATION STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL BUT NEEDS ANY INFORMATION WHICH MIGHT HAVE A BEARING ON THEIR VERACITY, COMPETENCY, AND BIAS.

IF SUCH INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE TO THE BUREAR, IT IS
RECOMMENDED THAT SAME BE FURNISHED CONFIDENTIALLY TO MR. HAILE
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

OCT 11 1974

END

One 10/8/14 ASAC Denge Steel, AL, advise the concerning Herbert I. McDonald.

Assoc. Dir.
Dep.-A.D.-Adm.
Dep.-A.D.-Inv.
Asst. Dir.;
Admin.
(Comp. Syst.
tExt. Affairs
Files/& Com/
Gen/ Fob.
Ident.
Inspection
Intell.
Laboratory
Plan. & Eval.
Spec. Inv.
Training
Legal Coun.
Telephone Rm.
Director Sec'y

NR 003 ME PLAIN

5:29 PM NITEL OCTOBER 7, 1974 JLC

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

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

MURKIN

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL HENRY HAILE, STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE, NASHVILLE, TENN., HAS ADVISED THAT SUBJECT RAY TO BE GIVEN HEARING BEFORE JUDGE ROBERT M. MCRAE, JR., USDC, WDT, MEMPHIS, OCTOBER 22, 1974. EXPECTED TO TESTIFY FOR RAY ARE HERBERT I. MCDONALD, A BALLISTICS EXPERT FROM ITHACA, N. Y., AND HABOLD WEISBERG, AN AUTHOR WHO HAILE STATES HAS PREVIOUSLY FILED SWIT ACAINST FBI REGARDING ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JFKER

MR. HARE HER REQUESTED THE BUREAU GIVE HIM ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE WHICH WEULD ASSIST HIM IN CROSS EXAMINATION OF MCDONALD AND WEISBERG. HE WILL KEEP SOURCE OF SUCH INFORMATION STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL BUT NEEDS ANY INFORMATION WHICH MIGHT HAVE A BEARING ON THEIR VERACITY, COMPETENCY, AND BIAS.

IF SUCH INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE TO THE BUREAR, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT SAME BE FURNISHED CONFIDENTIALLY TO MR. HAILE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

AS SOOM AS POSSIBLE.

OCT 8 9 32 AM 1974

FBT

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Oct 8 10 34 AM 1974

REC'D GEBHARDT

REC'D-CIV RIGHTS

UNITED STATES

Memorandum

Mr. J. B. Adams

Legal Counsel

SUBJECT: JAMES EARL RAY

REQUEST FOR LABORATORY DATA

On referral from the Director's Office, Inspector Herington spoke to James H. Lesar (1231 4th Street S.W. Washington D.C. 20024, telephone number 484-6023). Lesar alleged he was Ray's attorney and was seeking copies of photographs of a bullet fragment removed from the body of Martin Luther King. He stated that his reason for ealling the FBI was because he needed this data quickly and believed he could get it from us faster than from other sources. He noted that Ray had pled guilty but that the bullet evidence had been introduced into court and was presently being held by the court.

Lesar was advised that it would be impossible to furnish him copies immediately if at all since we would have to first check our records and he was further advised that if the evidence was not collected by the FBI we probably would not be in a position to furnish him a copy in any event without an appropriate release from the prosecutor or local investigating agency.

Contact with the Laboratory determined that the bullet evidence was submitted to the FBI Laboratory by the Memphis Police Department and our examination was accordingly made for that department

Accordingly, attached is a letter to Mr. Lesar advising him that we are unable to be of assistance without specific authorization from the Memphis Police Department or the prosecutor. Bufiles indicate that James Lesar, the "present counsel for James Earl Ray" participated in a conference during November, 1973, at Georgetown University sponsored by the Committee to Investigate Assassinations.

1 - Mr. Adams

1 - Mr. Gebhardt

1 - Mr. White

- Mr. Mintz - Mr. Farrington

- Mr. Herington

JH:deh

OCT 15 1974

REC-59 44 = 3.886 87

CONTINUED

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

APMENT TARE SAFMET

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ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

HL. H& IZ (6 10)

S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Memorandum Legal Counsel to Mr. J. B. Adams RE: JAMES EARL RAY REQUEST FOR LABORATORY DATA

RECOMMENDATION:

That attached letter be sent to Mr. Lesar.

War Control

Memorandum Legal Counsel to Mr. J. B. Adams RE: JAMES EARL RAY REQUEST FOR LABORATORY DATA

RECOMMENDATION:

That attached letter be sent to Mr. Lesar.

REC-59 44-38861-

Mr. James H. Lesar 1231 4th Street, S.W. Washington, D. C. 20024

Dear Mr. Lesar:

October 9, 1974

1 - Mr. Adams

1 - Mr. Gebhardt

1 - Mr. White

1 - Mr. Mintz

1 - Mr. Farrington

1 - Mr. Herington

This is to acknowledge your request on October 8, 1974, for photographs of a bullet fragment removed from the body of Dr. Martin Luther King

Although I would like to be of assistance, the evidence in question was submitted to the FBI Laboratory by the Memphis Police Department. Accordingly, we are unable to furnish the photographs you requested in the absence of specific authorization from that department or the prosecutor who handled the case.

Sincerely yours,

C. M. Kelley Clarence M. Kelley

Director

NOTE: Based on memorandum Legal Counsel to Mr. J. B. Adams dated 10/8/74, captioned "James Earl Ray, Request for Laboratory Data" JH:deh.

JH:deh (8)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12-6-96 BY 5P4-BJA

Dep. AD Adm. Dep. AD Inv. sst. Dir.: Admin. Ext. Affairs

TELETYPE UNIT

RECEIVED

OCT 9 1 13 PM '74 UCT 9 3 19 PM '74

PHYSICS & CHEMISTRY CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW

FBI

A Director of the

GOMMUNICATIONS SECTION

OCT 26 1974

TELEMYPE

NR 004 ME PLAIN

6:25 PM NITEL OCTOBER 26, 1974 CNF

TO:

DIRECTOR

(44 - 38861)

FROM: MEMPHIS

(44-1987) (P)

MURKIN. 00: ME.

TESTIMONY BEING HEARD BEFORE JUDGE ROBERT M. MC RAE, JP. . USDC. WDT, MEMPHIS, TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY WAS PROPERLY REPRESENTED AT THE TIME HE ENTERED GUILTY PLEA IN 1968. TWO OF SUBJECT'S BROTHERS HAVE TESTIFIED AS WELL AS FORMER DISTRICT AG AND FORMER PUBLIC DEFENDER. SUBJECT RAY TESTIFIED OCTOBER 25, 1974. RE CONRACTS ENTERED INTO BETWEEN WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE, AND ATTORNEY ARTHUR HANES. RAY WILL CONTINUE TESTIMONY TUESDAY NEXT AND WILL THEN BE CROSS-EXAMINED. NOTHING PARTICIMARLY INTERESTING OR SURPRISING HAS COME, FROM ID SUBJECT'S ATTORNEY HEARING THUS FAR. ATTEMPTING TO SHOW ATTORNEY PERCY FOREMAN DID NOT PROPERLY REPRESENT SUBJECT. FORMER DA AND FORMER PUBLIC DECT 39 1974 HAVE BOTH TESTIFIED THEY THOUGHT RAY WAS WISE TO HAVE PLEADED GUILTY TO AVOID GOING TO ELECTRIC CHAIR. RAY EXPECTED TO TESTIFY MOST OF TUESDAY NEXT AND STATE AG WILL THEN HAVE TWO DAYS IN WHICH TO CALL HIS WITNESSES.

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GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION 5710

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COMPAUNICATIONS SECTION



ME 44-1987

PAGE TWO

BUREAU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED OF ANY PERTINENT DEVELOPMENTS.

END.

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TELETYPE UNIT

UNITED STATES GOERNMENT

Memorandum

TO 1

Mr. Jenkins

DATE: 10-31-74

PD CINI

J. J. McDecally,

SUBJECT MURRINX44-2886

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINING OF THE PROPERTY OF

Morris Cunningham. Washington representative of the Memphis Commercial Appear. called Inspector Bowers during the discretion of 10-30-74 from Memphis, where he is covering the James Earl Rev hearing in Federal District Coupt. Canningham said Ray had testified to having sent a fatter to Senator James O. Eastland (D. Missa) effortly after he had been sentenced to prison for the King slaving. Ray allegedly said dist he told Senator Eastland in the letter that he personally did not shoot Eing; but was partially responsible for his death. (News reports; 10-30-71 an the hearing corroborate this and indicated that Ray's letter to Senator Eastland was read late the record.

Regarding to the state of the letter to grant and the received between the state of the letter of the state o

Sewers pointed out to Commingueso that we were precisited from sening so make the senior combinations. It was parabelled into the sewerer that about a branche Castlett Senior a copy of the letter if located conditions of the senior to the senior could release the second contract that should be satisfactors withdress the second second senior senior as this matter dould be checked out to the second the news room of the Meliphis Commercial appeal.

This matter was checked vier touriney Pace. Ministrative
Resistant to Benator Bastland, the indicated he was aware of Cunningham's request.

Chalceure

Mr. McDernot

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on the hands operodorate this and tristered that hay a letter to share Fastlan such that the record.) King ; bue gas includy responsible to this death. (Nows reports, 7) -12 got he had sended farium in the jener, that he betwomily and bot he had bein sentiment to prison for the King Maying. Ray alless? to having part a ther to denator Waines O. Bastland (D-Life of Followith Prier hay bearing in Beaers! Metrici Certs. Candrahas said Ear had testified atternment of 16-30-74 men. Mounthly, where he is covering the function final Memphis Commercial Appeal, collect dispector Bowers during the kaaria Contingiani, maslimian representative aliba

Kastlans, approves birnishing contents of the letter to Commagnants deterraine if the FBI could locate the letter and to tell howers that he c light prikoners. Commission said Randand suggested he call bottop to converged the letter to the FFR as he does name aim in late latters he recolves Commingual loss not recall this. The faid gastimul had told alm he had in said he navied Cuaring land about it when it was received, however, allegistics of the second control of the control of Commission extens so called senter Eastland at his resi

rescoile and Sig-3311 in Marychis. c a mined through the news room of the Memphie (thinkerein), depend are old her could be advised as soon as this parior could be checked out. he was do. Cumbashen said that should be sat woods best spokes our controlly. on teacher the course with the antice are the ferrance pools released in nt shoule Smater Careland Gerire, a copy of the letter, it located, could louise so cities Department referations, it was pointed out to thin, however, Bowers pointed on to Cambreham that we were precluded from

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McDermott to Jenkins Memo

Re: MURKIN

He said that should we find the letter in question and furnish a copy to him, he would be glad to handle the matter with Cunningham for the Senator.

Buffies reflect that Senator Eastland made a copy of Ray's letter available to Inspector Bowers on 3-17-69. Accordingly, a copy of Ray's letter, see attached, has been made available to Courtney Pace on 10-31-74 so that he can handle the matter with Cunningham.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

- 2 -

Dear Senator Eastland;

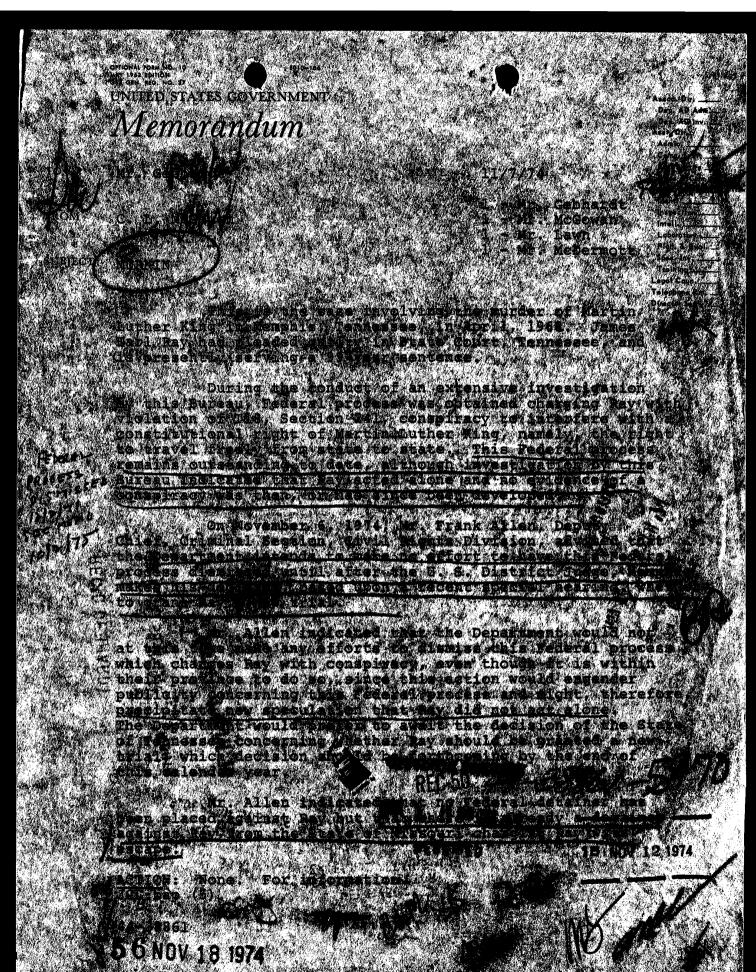
I read in the local newspaper where your committee is considering investigating the Dr. King case. I would like to inform you and the committee that I would cooperate in any such hearing. However, at the time I am going to attempt to get the guilty plea set aside. I know What the odds spainst having tols cone are greatly against me. But I think due to the unusual circumstances in the guilty plea it mite be possible. I personally did not shoot Dr. King but I believe I am partly responsible for his death. I will briefly attempt to explain why I entered the guilty plea. At the time Mr. Pery Foreman aggred to take over the defense from Mr. Arthur Hanes we had a verbal agreement that their would be no guilty plea, as I wanted to try the case in court. I had every reason to believe during the first two months Mr. Foreman was on the case their would be a trial, during that period Mr. Foreman had me sign a new contract with him and Mr. Hule giving Mr. Foreman all the money from any of Mr. Hule's money making ventures. (I had sign another contract with Mr. Huie and Mr. Hanes) Shortly after this Mr. Foreman came to visit me and he had a picture for me to look at. This picture was about 8 x 10 in. Mr. Foreman said Mr. Huie had given him the picture and that Mr. Huie had got the picture from someone in the federal government. The picture contain 2 or 3 men followed by two or 3 policemen. Mr. Foreman described on of the men in the picture as an 'anti communist' cuban refugee who was arrested at the time president Kennedy was shot. "The arrest took place in Dalias I was told" I was asked if I would identify the man if he was brought to Memphis. I said no, althoe he did look similar to the person I was involved with. After I wouldn't identify this man, about all I was told was that I would go to the electric chair if I went to trial. I was even told my family wanted me to plead guilty, but I found out this was not so. But I did not plead guilty for the above reasons. I did so because I did not want to go to trial with a lawyer who thought he was going to lose. I believe if you think you will lose you proably will. On the day before I plead guilty I signed another contract with Mr. Foreman. In this one I agreed to give him \$165, 600, he agreed to give my brother \$500.00 in the event I wanted to hire another lawyer to reopen the case. Mr. Foreman wrote into the contract that if I embarres him (disagreed) in the court room he could withdraw, the old contract would go into effect and I would be without funds to hire another

44-3886/- 596LL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2020 BYP MON

attorney. Getting back to Mr. Hute for a minute, while Mr. Hanes was my attorney Mr. Hute asked me through him about public figures and various organizations. I got the impression that he thought their was a conspiracy but he wanted to name the tenspirators. And I sometime felt that my attorneys were working for him instead of for me. In closing I would like to say if I can't get the case reopen, their should be an invegestion, as I have signed over \$200,000 to attorneys and not 1/20 of the witnesses have been interview. No one went to Los Angeles or New Criedna where I think much of the evidence lies. Mr. Foreman said in open court that he didn't trust investigators, and the one Mr. Hanes hired never left Momphis. I would also like to say that despite what the papers and book writer's quote me as saying, I have no intention of discussing this case with anyone 'verbaly' until it is closed. If I have anything to say I will say it in court or to lawyers, or in letter form like this letter.

Sincerely, James E. Ray.

COPY:mls



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JOHN C. STENNIS, MISS., CHAIRMAN SWART SYMINGTON, MO.
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HOWERD W. CANNON, NEV.
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WILLIAM L. SCOTT, VA.
ROBERT TAFT, JR., OHIO

T. EDWARD BRASWELL, JR., CHIEF COUNSEL AND STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

January 29, 1975

Dep.-A.D Dep. A.D. Asst. Die Gen. Inv. Ident. Inspection .. Intell. Laboratory Plan. & Eval. Spec. Inv. _ Training ___ Legal Coun. Telephone Rm. Director Sec'y

MURKIN

Congressional Liaison Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Investigation Ninth and Pennsylvania Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Sir:

The enclosed is respectfully submitted to you for every proper consideration. Please provide me with a report in duplicate and return the enclosure to me with your response.

Sincerely yours,

Henry M. Jackson, U. S. S.

HMJ: cb **Enclosure**

JAN 31 8 00 AM . 75

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JAN 31 9 35 AM '75

FrB .6 - 10 08 NH 1975

La Habra California Jan. 21, 1975

Monorable Henry Jackson Congressman from the Great State of Washington

Scoop

Your Honor Mr Jackson:

You will perhaps remember me as the X-Shell Oil Company employee (Retired) who sided so much with you in getting action on the Alaska Pipe Line. Well you finally won that one. Now I have a problem maybe you could help me solves

Here of late I have been reading so much about the F. B. I. and C. I. A. on how they have been keeping tract of all bad Guys almost from infancy, I have news for them-they also keep secret all about the Good Guys that are around, believe me we have much more of the good Guys and Gals around than the Bad-I believe to belong to the latter.

You remember the murder of Martin Luther King on April 4th, 1968 at 6.01 PM? of course you do well I was working for U. S. Post Office in La Habra at that time but now as I look at it seemed that I was destined to be the man who would put the finger on the Killer. I just got all the pictures and all I could dig up on James Earl Ray. So that if I did spot the man-That would be all she wrote for him. Thave a Photographic mind, so that also helps me. well on April 9th, 1968 I Did spot the man right here in La Habra I told the Police Chief in town and was at a loss, to find he would not help me. He said in a few words the F. B. I. told him hands off-I then called F B I in L. A. they never movedthen I wrote I Edgar Hoover-he finally called L. A. and a scuple ofmen came to my home-one of the mens name was O'Brien mind you this was a month after I spotted the man. well at least this is where the hunt finally got started. I heard there was supposed to have been a large reward-Dont know.

I am enclosing enclosures, I have an original of the letters from J Edgar Hoover and L. A. (You see how they shut a good guy up-just the same as the Bad.

You can give me a clear frue answer to the above and I am also sure You will not beat it about the bush.

All the Luck in the World to You and Yours

Very Truly Yours

Kenneth R McBane 641 Galen Dr

s: If this is out of your jurisdiction, am sure that you will allocate it properly

I Thank You

ENCLOSUME 44

Jane 861-

Habra Ca 90631



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

11000 Wilshire Boulevard

La Malaira 2000"

July 31, 1970

File No.

Mr. Kenneth Mc Bane 641 Galen Drive La Habra, California 90631

Dear Mr. Mc Bane:

Thank you for your recent letter.

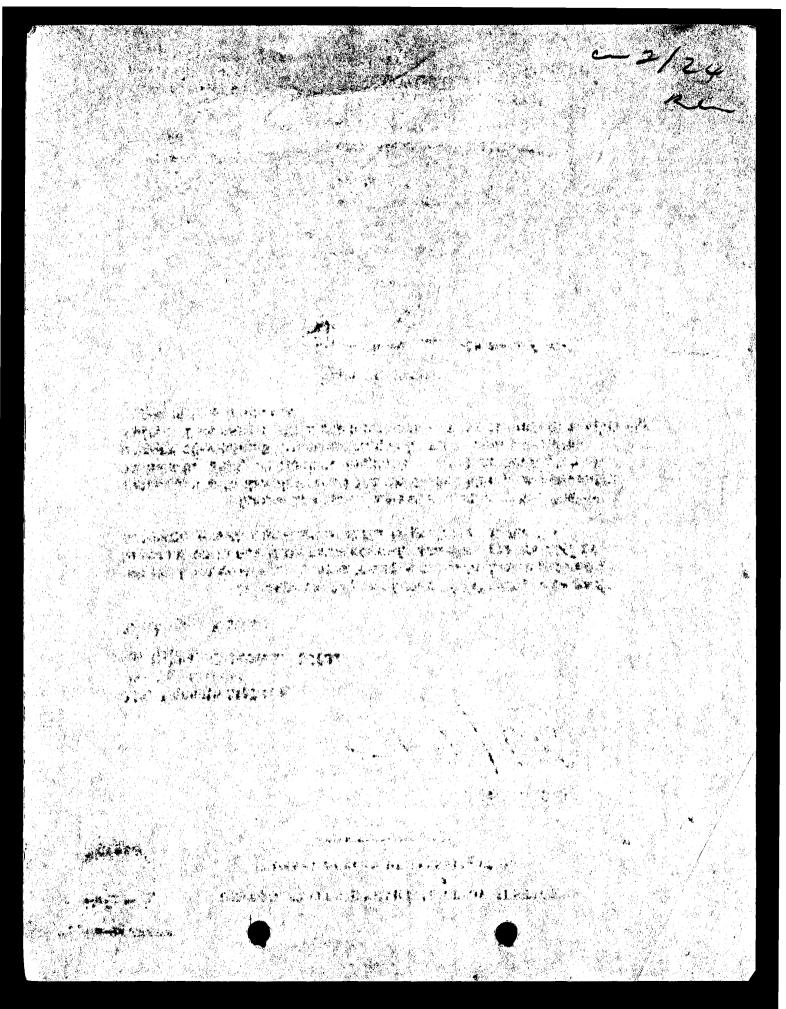
Please be advised that all information in this matter has been furnished to the appropriate local authorities.

Your interest in writing as you did is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Special Agent in Charge

44-38861-5771 MNCLOSURA







UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU, OF INVESTIGATION

July 17, 1970

Mr. Kenneth McBane 641 Galen Drive

Le Habra, California 20631

Dear Mr. McBane:

In response to your letter of July 9th, with enclosures, I amounable to furnish the specific data you requested as information in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice.

James Earl Ray, who was sought by the FBI in connection with the slaying of Martin Luther King, was arrested on June 8, 1968, in London, England. He pleaded guilty on a murder charge and is now serving a 99-year sentence in the State of Tennessee. I regret I am unable to be of further assistance to you in this instance.

Sincerely yours,

omice techniques

To control of the con





PHOTO SHOWS SUSPECT IN CALIFORNIA BUSINESS SUIT Photo at right was taken of James Earl Ray in Mexico

Releases Two New *Pictures of Suspect Ray

more photographs of the murder accused killer of Dr. Martin Luther King-one of them "an extremly good likeness."

Both were snapshots of James Earl Ray, alias Eric Starvo escaped convict Galt. an accused of shooting King to death in Memphis April 4.

ness" is a candid photograph of afterwards that Galt and Ray form a great majority in It Ray in a business suit and tie were the same man. and shows almost his full face, taken in late January or early February somewhere in Califor-

The other, which the FBI said taken last November somewhere in Mexico, shows him wearing sun glasses and what appears to be a white sports shirt. The FBI said Ray is known to wear sun glasses frequently.

The two now shotoerapiles the FBI refused to say where or how they were obtained-will be displayed throughout the country along with three other pictures of Ray which now appear on FBI's wanted pos-

Ray, who escaped from prison April 23, 1967, by hiding in a truck, is wanted by the FRY

WASHINGTON (UPI) -The illegal flight to avoid prosecu-FBI has distributed two tion in Tennessee for King's

> rifleman 200 feet away in a rooming house bathroom.

announced it had issued a that the 75-year-old emperor, a warrant for Galt, but after Christian of the Coptic denomicheeking some 53,000 finger-nation, persecuted Moslems is The "extremely good like-prints, the FBI said two days his African nation. Maslem

Some Protests Over Selassie's Indonesia Visit

JAKARTA (AP) - President murder.

The civil rights leader was Halle Selessie of Ethiopia to shot to death on a motel Indonesia for a six-day balcony, apparently by a state visit protested by some rifleman 200 feet away in a Moslem organizations. Heavily armed guards stood watch.

Thirfeen days later the FBI The organizations charged donesia, a minority in Ethiopia

> 974 5/9/68 LOAM. Two men from F. B. I. Los Angeles Came to visit with me today concerning the Ray case-it seems late to me as it was a month ago April 10th, I saw this James Earl Ray. Both men had Grey hair one man's name was O'Brien, the other I don't recall-they seemed interested in what I saw, and said they would contact me latter. They say they are tooking for the car Woh after all this Time?? I told them a month ago to do this---

44-38841-5971

FB

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			Date:	2/27/75		
Transmit the	e following in	(Type in plaintext	or code)		
Via	AIRTEL		(Pr	iority)		
	TO: DIRECTO	R, FBI (44-	-38861)			
	FROM: SAC,	MEMPHIS (44	4-1987)	(RUC)		
	SUBJECT: MU	RKIN				
7	McRAE, JR., RAY's petiti previously a an effort to was based on PERCY FOREMA time of his The 6th Circ an evidentia been properl writ of habe to a trial o	WDT, Memphis on for a wri ppealed to obtain a ne the grounds N, had faile guilty plea uit had orde ry hearing y represente as corpus di	s, Tenn., it of habe the 6th C: ew trial s that his ed to prop to the me ered the l to determined. Judge id in effe	eas corpus. Ircuit Court in state cou s attorneys, perly repres irder of MAR District Cou ine whether e McRAE in d ect deny RAY	ect JAMES RAY had of Appea rt. His particul ent him a TIN LUTHE rt to gra or not RA enying RA	ls in appeal arly t the R KING. nt RAY Y had Y's
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25	telling tele	vision news	men that		s ruling	would
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5011	Th	e Bureau is	again re	ninded of th	e fact th	at
is her	there remain	s outstandin	ng in the	U. S. Distr	ict Court	at
E 15/	Birmingham, a conspiracy	Alabama, a :	KING's c	arrant charg	ing RAY w	eau
12,	may desire t	o discuss w:	ith the De	epartment on	ce again	
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Approv		gent in Charge	_ Sent	M	Per	GPO: 1970 O - 402-735

2/27/75

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

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

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 2/27/75, U. S. District Judge ROBERT M. McRAE, JR., WDT, Memphis, Tenn., denied subject JAMES EARL RAY's petition for a writ of habeas corpus. RAY had previously appealed to the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals in an effort to obtain a new trial in state court. His appeal was based on the grounds that his attorneys, particularly PERCY FOREMAN, had failed to properly represent him at the time of his guilty plea to the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING. The 6th Circuit had ordered the District Court to grant RAY an evidentiary hearing to determine whether or not RAY had been properly represented. Judge McRAE in denying RAY's writ of habeas corpus did in effect deny RAY to the right to a trial on the charge of having murdered KING.

RAY's attorney, ROBERT LIVINGSTON, was overheard telling television newsmen that Judge McRAE's ruling would be appealed to the 6th Circuit. This is being furnished for the Bureau's information.

The Bureau is again reminded of the fact that there remains outstanding in the U. S. District Court at Birmingham, Alabama, a federal warrant charging RAY with a conspiracy to violate KING's civil rights. The Bureau may desire to discuss with the Department once again the desirability of dismissing the complaint and warrant.

F. B. I.

Mar 3 1 44 PH 375

GENERAL WYES THOATINE

MAR 4 1975

2 - Bureau 1 - Memphis JCH: jap (3) UNITED STATES GOVERNMEN Memorandum

FROM

McCowan

is the case involving the murder of Martin ig in Memphis, Tennessee, in April, 1968: James Bari Bay had pleaded quilty in State Court, Tenness and is specially serving a 99-year sentione.

In October, 1874, an evidentiary hearing was conducted to determine whether James Earl Ray was properly represented by an attorney at the time he entered his guilty plea in 1968.

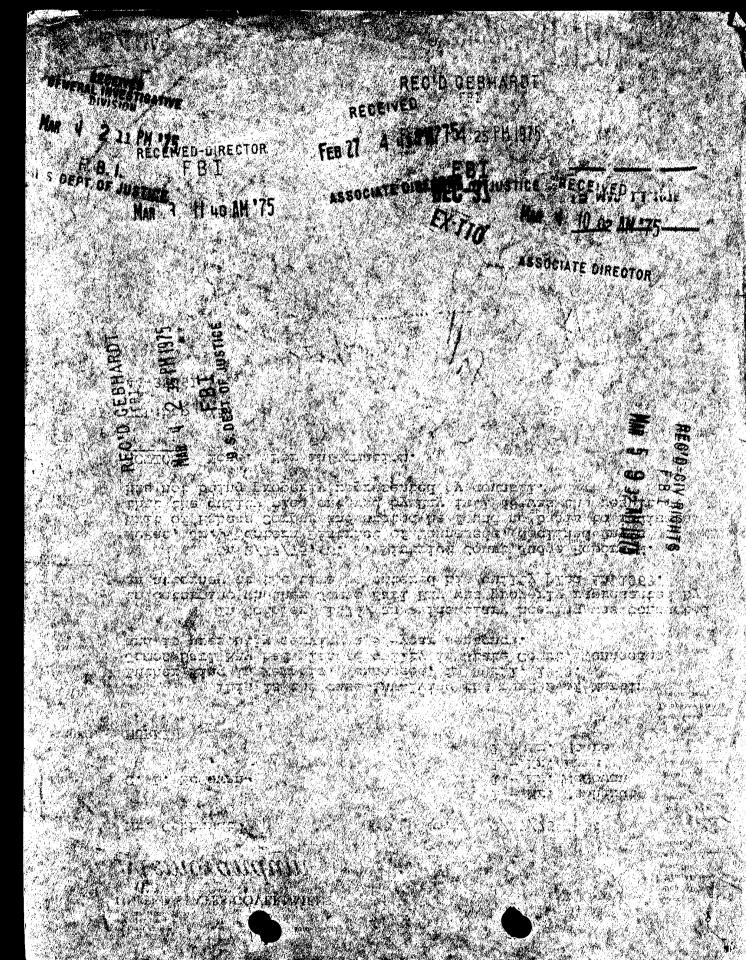
On 2/27/75, U. S. District Court Judge Robert M. McRae. Jr., Western District of Tennesses, declined Ray's ; Writ of Habeas Corpus and stated he found no basis to indicate that the guilty plea entered by Ray in 1968 was the result of his not being properly represented by counsel.

None. For information.

CL:bac

MAR 11 1975

MAR 1 9 1975



AIRTEL

3/28/75

To:

SAC, Cincinnati

From:

Director, FBI (44-38861)

1 - Mr. Lawn

MURKIN

On 2/27/75, U. S. District Judge, WDT, Memphis, denied petition of James Earl Ray for a Writ of Habeas Corpus.

Ray's Attorney, Robert Livingston, indicated that this ruling would be appealed to the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals.

CI should determine whether attorneys for Ray have appealed this matter to the 6th Circuit Court. SuLHM.

1 - SAC, Memphis (44-1987)

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Director Sec'y

MAR 281975
FBI

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Via AIRTEL	(Priority)		
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2 -	DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)		
FROM BOB	SAC, CINCINNATI (157-1893) (RUC)		
SUBJECT:	MURKIN;		
10-			
101	Re Bureau airtel dated, 3/28/75.		
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	arding the appeal of JAMES EARL RA	Υ.	
2 - Bureau 1 - Cincinn	(Enc. Marian)		//
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Special Agent in Charge

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE

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F. B. L.