

U. S. Department of Justice

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ENTIRE FILE REVIEWED
FOR HISTORICAL
DECLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET~~
FEDERAL BUREAU

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/24/01 BY SP-1 CLK/jt of

ATTENTION

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

FBI/DOJ

USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

Transfer-Call 3421



44-HQ-38861-92*

SERIALS 6225-6290

44- HQ-38861

SECTION 92

MADE UP

SECTION 92
SERIALS 6225-6290

SUBJECT
FILE # *Minkin*

WORK SHEET - XEROX REQUEST

ANALYST - *Hay*
EXT -
TEAM -

Section 91

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	
<i>44-38861</i>	6214	CHICAGO LETTER		2	2												
	6215	LETTER FROM MELCHER		8	8												ORIGINAL NOT IN FILE
	6216	LETTER TO MELCHER		2	2												ORIGINAL NOT IN FILE
	6217	CINCINNATI LETTER		3	3						✓						EXEMPTED
	<i>Unrecorded Serial</i>	INTERNAL MEMORANDUM		2	2												ORIGINAL NOT IN FILE
	6218	ATLANTA AT		5	5												ORIGINAL NOT IN FILE
	6219	LETTER FROM MELCHER		1	1												ORIGINAL NOT IN FILE
	6220	LETTER TO MELCHER		2	2												ORIGINAL NOT IN FILE
	6221	SEATTLE AT		4	4												
	6222	LETTER FROM KEUCH		2	2												ORIGINAL NOT IN FILE
	6223	TIT TO SEATTLE		3	3						✓						EXEMPTED
	<i>Unrecorded Serial</i>	LETTER TO KEUCH		4	4						✓						ORIGINAL NOT IN FILE
	6224	ARMENIAN TIT		2	2												ORIGINAL NOT IN FILE
<i>SEC 92</i>	6225	BIRMINGHAM AT		1	1						✓						RELEASE
	<i>Unrecorded Serial</i>	LETTER TO KEUCH		6	6						✓						ORIGINAL NOT IN FILE
	6226	SEATTLE AT		4	4												ORIGINAL NOT IN FILE
	6227	INTERNAL MEMORANDUM		5	5						✓						ORIGINAL NOT IN FILE

REMOVED BY _____ DATE _____

XEROXED BY _____ DATE _____

REFILED BY _____ DATE _____

WORK SHEET - XEROX REQUEST

ANALYST - 7 days

EXT -

TEAM 1

Section 91

[illegible]

REMOVED BY _____ DATE _____

REMOVED BY _____ DATE _____

APPLIED BY _____ DATE _____

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : *b.j.* DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 8/25/77

FROM : SAC, NEWARK (44-2104) (RUC)

SUBJECT: JAMES EARL RAY;
"MURKIN"
CIVIL RIGHTS

34

COPIES

Enclosed for the information of the Bureau, are two Xerox copies of a letter written by GENE R. BARNES which is self-explanatory. One Xerox copy of this letter is being furnished Alexandria, Knoxville, Memphis and St. Louis Offices for their information.

This letter was furnished to the FBI in Trenton, N.J., by Investigator DONALD V. POWELL, Burlington County Prosecutor's Office, Mt. Holly, N.J., who obtained the letter during an interview with BARNES at Stafford County, Virginia.

Copies of BARNES' letter are being furnished to Memphis and Knoxville who were office of origin in the MURKIN and JAMES EARL RAY case, respectively. Information copy also being furnished St. Louis, Missouri, inasmuch as BRADLEY referred to in BARNES' letter claimed he spent time in Missouri State Prison.

Newark files disclose that BARNES was subject of a Newark ITSP investigation in February, 1977, and subsequently arrested by Virginia State Police during a high-speed chase on 2/8/77, and incarcerated in the Stafford County Jail in Stafford, Virginia.

Alexandria see your file 87-3041

Newark indices failed to contain any identifiable information concerning JAMES BRADLEY mentioned in BARNES' letter.

ENCLOSURE

- 2 - Bureau (Enc. 2)
(1 - "MURKIN")
1 - Alexandria (Enc. 1)
1 - Memphis (Enc. 1)
1 - Knoxville (Enc. 1)
1 - St. Louis (Enc. 1)
3 - Newark
(1 - 44-2104)
(1 - 87-29367)
(1 - 88-12106)



RGs/lmw
5010-110(9)

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

7 9 SEP 23 1977

- 1 - [illegible]
- 1 - [illegible]
- 1 - [illegible]
- 1 - [illegible]
- 1 - [illegible]
- 1 - [illegible]
- 1 - [illegible]

RECEIVED
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

AUG 29 1 17 PM 1977

FBI
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

[illegible text]

[illegible text]

[illegible text]

[illegible text]

[illegible text]

[illegible text]

[illegible text]

[illegible text]

NK 44-2104

Newark file regarding "MURKIN" has been destroyed.

Any further investigation in this matter is being left to the discretion of the office of origin in the respective cases.

Newark conducting no further investigation in this matter.

Ray, who escaped prison & who ^{April 13th 1972} _{help him}

To Whom it may concern,

I am making this statement on my own free will, to try to clear up a matter that the public has been kept secret of for nearly 10 yrs.

That is whether or not, James Earl Ray, who was convicted of killing Dr. Martin Luther King, had any help in escaping from Missouri State Prison or not. & And also if rewards were offered inside the prison for Kings killing,

I was sent to Mo. State Prison in 1957 for 12 yrs. during which time I ~~became~~ became known as a tough guy, because of my own escape with James Bradley, in which we attacked three prison guards, overpowered, a guard tower, & took the guard in the tower as hostage, and was later captured in the Missouri River. We were given 8 additional years to serve for this.

Also because of several knife fights & running the prison with dope smuggled in we both had bad reputations.

Because of our reputations every one knew us & we them.

Later James Earl Ray came to the prison. He was a quite guy & didn't speak much to any one, but it was proved he could be trusted. He was not a snitch.

At various times Bradley & I would pay Ray to watch for guards while we ran a card or dice game in an empty cell. Or we would use Ray to pass out ~~the~~ dope & collect money from it for us.

44-38861-6244

ENCLOSURE

To be released to public if possible
H. R. Barnes

(2)

All the prison knew Bradley + I escaped over the wall, so it was no surprise when Ray asked us the best ways to get out of the prison. We told him of several ways it could be done, by going over the wall or thru it, including the bread truck way.

Ray was a walk man at that time (walking in the cell block). To escape by the bread truck, he ask for + got a job transfer to the bakery. Later he made good his escape.

There was no outside help in the escape. The only help he got was from Bradley + myself in telling him how to escape or thru by the master in the loading dock not saying he was in the bread box.

Also the papers keep claiming that Ray told his cellmates he would still bring for \$100,000, this is a lie. as is of any word going around for Kings killing and a reward for it.

(His cell mates told those lies to the F.B.I. because they thought by doing so their own sentence would be cut or they would get a parole. His cell mates did not even know he was going to escape because Ray did not trust them, nor did they know King was killed + Ray wanted for it, till it came out in the papers. That story got out only because that is what the F.B.I. wanted the public to hear.

While Ray was still out on escape.

He.

AFTER 5 DAYS
PROSECUTOR
BURLINGTON
MOUNT HOL

At

rent the room + leave the gun in it.

The F.B.I did not release any of the facts they found out at the prison, just what would make Ray look bad.

Before I could not say anything because, I was in Mo. doing time, + could be prosecuted for aiding. The same for Bradley.

But now, Bradley is dead, he was killed by St. Louis, Pokes after he made a parole a few years ago. so he's the only one left that knows besides Ray that he did have help to get out of prison but it was from the prison its self, he got help out side.

after King was killed, the F.B.I came to the prison to talk to me + to Bradley.

I was in solitary at this time for breaking into the prison clothes factory + stealing a bunch of clothes.

The F.B.I ask me if I knew where Ray was ~~hiding~~ hiding out at, if I knew how he escaped, if I could tell them anything.

At this time I was under a 25 yr. sentence, + I told them I didn't know nothing about nothing, cause I could have been tried for aiding in the escape.

Bradley who was under sentence of 4 life terms, 4 two yr sentences and a 4 yr. term, also told them no.

I did in answer to their question tell them that I did not believe Ray killed King.

I said he was set up to look like it cause he was in escape + no one would believe his story.

I know Ray well + he could not kill a stray cat or dog much less take a human life.

I told the F.B.I, 10 yrs. ago that + also that I believe Ray did rent the room, + did put the gun in it, his prints were on the gun, but he couldn't pull the trigger, some one else had to cause knowing Ray, Ray wouldn't have the nerve or heart to do so. He just did what he was paid for + that was to

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, NEWARK (44-2104) (RUC)

SUBJECT: JAMES EARL RAY;
"MURKIN"
CIVIL RIGHTS

DATE: 8/25/77

Enclosed for the information of the Bureau, are two Xerox copies of a letter written by GENE R. BARNES which is self-explanatory. One Xerox copy of this letter is being furnished Alexandria, Knoxville, Memphis and St. Louis Offices for their information.

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Alexandria see your file 87-3041.

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(1 - "MURKIN")

1 - Alexandria (Enc. 1)
1 - Memphis (Enc. 1)
1 - Knoxville (Enc. 1)
1 - St. Louis (Enc. 1)
3 - Newark

(1 - 44-2104)

(1 - 87-29367)

(1 - 88-12106)



RGSG/lmw
5010-110(9)

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

NK 44-2104

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Any further investigation in this matter is being left to the discretion of the office of origin in the respective cases.

Newark conducting no further investigation in this matter.

5/2
SAC, KANSAS CITY

8-29-77

SAC, ST. LOUIS (44-775) (RUC)

JAMES EARL RAY;
"MURKIN"
CIVIL RIGHTS

Re Newark letter to Bureau, 8-25-77.

Enclosed for Kansas City Division is one copy of above referenced communication, including enclosure.

Copy being furnished to Kansas City inasmuch as BRADLEY referred to in BARNES' letter claimed he spent time in Missouri State Prison.

2 - Kansas City (Encl. 2)
1 - Bureau (INFO)
1 - Alexandria (INFO)
1 - Memphis (INFO)
1 - Knoxville (INFO)
3 --Newark (1 - 44-2104) (INFO)
 (1 - 87-29367)
 (1 - 88-12106)
1 - St. Louis
LFC:k1b
10

44-38561-
NOT RECORDED

11 AUG 31 1977

9-16
FBI
NEW

8989

JTB:1202

79 SEP 16 1977

RECEIVED
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

AUG 31 12 05 PM 1977

FBI
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

44-38861-6245
CHANGED TO
62-117290-454X9

JUL 13 1978

cmk / JNB

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

DATE: 8/23/77

Re: MURKIN

TO: Metropolitan Police Department

Invoice of Contents

Four test bullets and two test cartridge
cases fired from .30-06 Springfield caliber
Remington, Model 760, Serial Number 461476

- ☐ Crypt.-Trans.
☐ Document
☒ P & C
☐ Radio Engineering
☐ LFPS

PICK UP ON

8/23/77 BY George R. Wilborn

Special Instructions:

Mail Room: Show shipment date and registry number.
Shipping Room: Show shipment date; bill of lading number;
initial invoice; return to Section checked in block; after
initialing in block, invoice to be placed in administrative file.

FBI File No. 44-38861

8/23/77

Personal return
11/1/77, Case

FBI/DOJ

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED FROM THE
RECORDS OF THE BUREAU OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES
ON JANUARY 1, 1964.

100-100000-100000

RECORDS OF THE BUREAU OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES
ON JANUARY 1, 1964.
CONFIDENTIAL
LOCAL BUREAU OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL
RECORDS OF THE BUREAU OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES
ON JANUARY 1, 1964.

RECORDS OF THE BUREAU OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES
ON JANUARY 1, 1964.
CONFIDENTIAL
RECORDS OF THE BUREAU OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES
ON JANUARY 1, 1964.

JOHN GLENN
OHIO

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

DATE: Sept 1. 1977

Assoc. Dir.	_____
Dep. AD Adm.	_____
Dep. AD Inv.	_____
Asst. Dir.:	_____
Adm. Serv.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Fin. & Pers.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgmt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

TO: F.B.I.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

ENCLOSURE FROM:

William D. Shea

4677 Liberty Rd.

South Euclid, Ohio 44121

RE:

Killing of Martin Luther King

I forward the attached for your consideration. I would appreciate receiving your response in duplicate and the return of the original correspondence as soon as possible.

Thank you for your time and effort.

Sincerely,

John Glenn

JOHN GLENN
United States Senator

EX-105

DE-66

REC-63

Please direct reply to:
Sen. John Glenn
204 Russell Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Attention:

Kathy Connolly

*let to Hon John Glenn
9-12-77
JTA dds (enc)*

21 SEP 6 1977

56 OCT 06 1977

EXP. PROC.
34 SEP 6 1977

ngak - JTA

(21) Director

RECEIVED
CRIMINAL
INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

SEP 16 3 02 PM '77

RECEIVED DIRECTOR
FBI

SEP 6 3 15 PM '77

RECEIVED
ASST. DIRECTOR
SPECIAL
INVESTIGATIVE

SEP 6 10 43 AM '77

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

SEP 6 5 10 PM '77

RECEIVED
ASST. DIRECTOR
SPECIAL
INVESTIGATIVE

REC'D-CIV RIGHTS
FBI

SEP 7 7 33 AM 1977

SEP 6 1977
FBI

Senator John Glenn
Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Glenn:

July 24, 1977

I have just finished reading Code Name "Zorro"
The Murder of Martin Luther King, Jr. by Mark Lane and
Dick Gregory. It is an outrage if it is true as the book
alleges with substantial evidence that the Federal Bureau
of Investigation and the City of Memphis Police Department
conspired to kill King and blame it on Ray. If the Memphis
authorities had nothing to hide in this matter, why on September
10, 1976 did they order the police to burn all the files
that comprised the entire history of the domestic intelligence
division of the Memphis police? This was done shortly after
✓ the initiation of a special congressional committee to
investigate the assassination.

By the way, What has happened to this committee?
Why are they not publicly interviewing witnesses, police
and F. B. I. investigators? I believe that there should be
an order given that all F. B. I. members who were associated
with the King investigation should be given lie detector tests
and those found having anything to do with killing King
should be fired with prejudice and prosecuted for murder
and conspiracy to obstruct justice. I believe that the Memphis
police should be given a similiar order. Those refusing to
take the lie detector test should be fired.

We have far more to lose from the government assassinating
private citizens than from any threat the Russians or Chinese
could make. There should an investigation at any cost and
if the F. B. I. is implicated it should be abolished completely
and restarted with entirely new personnel.

44 - 38861 - 6246
Sincerely yours,

William D. Shea

William D. Shea
4677 Liberty Rd.
South Euclid, Ohio 44121

ENCLOSURE

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Honorable John Glenn
United States Senate
204 Russell Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Glenn:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated September 1, 1977, which enclosed a letter from your constituent, William D. Shea, South Euclid, Ohio.

The questions raised by Mr. Shea concerning destruction of intelligence files by the Memphis Police Department and methods used by Congress to investigate the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., can best be answered through direct contact with the Memphis Police Department and the House Select Committee on Assassinations.

I assure you the Federal Bureau of Investigation's only connection with the assassination of King was to conduct, under the appropriate civil rights statute, an extensive investigation into the murder. This investigation was recently reviewed by a task force of the Department of Justice and its report was released to the public. You may desire to suggest to your constituent that, to balance his perspective concerning the investigation of King's murder, he review this document, entitled, "Report of the Department of Justice Task Force to Review the FBI Martin Luther King, Jr., Security and Assassination Investigations." It can be obtained by request through The Superintendent of Documents, United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 20402, stock number 027-000-00487-3.6247

I hope the above will be of assistance to you.

Your enclosure is being returned herewith, per your request. SEP 20 1977

Sincerely yours,

C M Kelley

Clarence M. Kelley
Director

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

Assoc. Dir. _____
Dep. AD Adm. _____
Dep. AD Inv. _____
Asst. Dir.:
Adm. Serv. _____
Crim. Inv. _____
Fin. & Pers. _____
Ident. _____
Intell. _____
Laboratory _____
Legal Coun. _____
Plan. & Insp. _____
Rec. Mgnt. _____
Spec. Inv. _____
Tech. Servs. _____
Training _____
Public Affs. Off. _____
Telephone Rm. _____
Director's Sec'y _____

Enclosure

JTA:sas

56 OCT 06 1977

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

REC'D MAIL ROOM
FBI

SEE MOLE BYGE JMO

SEP 13 12 03 PM '77

RECEIVED
ASST. DIRECTOR
SPECIAL
INVESTIGATIVE

REC'D CIV RIGHTS

SEP 9 1 34 PM '77
SEP 13 3 55 PM '77

RECEIVED
ASST. DIRECTOR
SPECIAL
INVESTIGATIVE

RECEIVED

SEP 12 1 07 PM '77
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
FBI

SEP 13 9 54 AM '77
RECEIVED
READING ROOM
FBI

REC-33

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

CONFIDENTIAL (WTS) (WTS)
(WTS: REPT ITATION &
I - REPT COMBAT DICTION
CONFIDENTIAL (WTS)

- I - MR. WRIGHT
- I - MR. ROSE
- I - MR. BERTON
- I - MR. MONTGOMERY
- I - MR. WATSON

Honorable John Glenn

NOTE: Senator Glenn enclosed correspondence of his constituent and requested a response in duplicate and the return of constituent's original correspondence.

In his letter this constituent asked why the Memphis Police Department intelligence files were destroyed and why the special congressional committee to investigate the assassination is not interviewing witnesses, police and FBI investigators. These questions, along with the allegation that the FBI and the Memphis Police Department conspired to kill King, are apparently based on Shea's reading of "Code Name 'Zorro,'" by Mark Lane and Dick Gregory. This book is critical of the FBI and alleges that our counterintelligence activities against King demonstrate that possibly the FBI, along with the Memphis Police Department, murdered King.

In its report the Office of Professional Responsibility, Department of Justice, concluded that our investigation of King's assassination was thorough and honest and that James Earl Ray acted alone.

We should make no effort to answer Shea's questions or allegations, but should provide Senator Glenn with publicly releasable information which may be helpful in responding to his constituent.

Bureau files contain no identifiable information regarding Shea.

APPROVED:

Director _____
Assoc. Dir. _____
Dep. AD Adm. _____
Dep. AD Inv. _____

Adm. Serv. _____	Legal Coun. _____
Crim. Inv. _____	Plan. & Insp. _____
Fin. & Pers. _____	Rec. Mgmt. _____
Ident. _____	Spec. Inv. _____
Intell. _____	Tech. Servs. _____
Laboratory _____	Training _____
	Public Affs. Off. _____

F B I

Date: 10/14/77

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

To: Director, FBI (44-38861)

From: SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386) *P*Subject: *O* MURKIN

ATTENTION:

☒ GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION
☒ CIVIL RIGHTS SECTION
☐ CRIMINAL SECTION
☐ INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

☒ CR (A) ☐ EL ☐ DIH ☐ CRA-64
☐ PA ☐ PE ☐ PF ☐ E
☐ DAMV ☐ DAMV-FR ☐ CAA
☐ AP ☐ IWFC ☐ CWAA ☐ FI
☐ EID ☐ Bomb Threats ☐ Extremist Matters
☐ White Hate ☐ Black

Summary of Complaint:

On 10/7/77, MASON EVANS telephonically contacted the Atlanta Office and advised that he had overheard a bartender, name unknown, who worked at the Coach and Six Restaurant located next to the 1776 Peachtree Street Building, say that if MARTIN LUTHER KING went to Memphis he would be killed. EVANS stated that he did not think much of this bartender's comment until later that day when he heard that MARTIN LUTHER KING had been killed in Memphis. EVANS about three weeks ago read an article in a newspaper that stated that a JACK PEETEE was arrested by the United States Secret Service for threatening the President of the

INDICES: ☐ Negative ☐ See Summary

ACTION: UACB

ENCLOSURE☒ Further action being taken and

- 2 - Bureau (Enc. 4) ☒ LHM enclosed
 2 - Memphis (Enc. 2) ☐ FD-376 (Enc. to LHM)
 2 - Atlanta ☐ LHM being submitted

JJH:psm

(6)

0-7 to AAG/CD

10-26-77 (Enc.)

JTA:as 1-AAG/CRD

J-CIU

- ☐ Report being submitted
☐ Preliminary investigation instituted
☐ Limited investigation instituted
☐ Investigation continuing

Copy to: ☐ USA
☐ Secret Service
☐ ATF

OCT 21 1977

RECEIVED**FOUR****NINE**Approved: *JJH*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

79 NOV 08 1977

100-441610-100

RECEIVED
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

OCT 21 3 34 PM 1977

FBI
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

AT 44-2386

United States. EVANS stated that he understands a number of weapons were recovered from PEETEE's residence by the Secret Service. EVANS stated that he believes PEETEE was the manager of the 1776 Peachtree Street Building and might have been acquainted with the bartender at the Coach and Six Restaurant located next door. EVANS was unable to substantiate why he thought that PEETEE and the bartender at the Coach and Six Restaurant would have been acquainted. Contact with United States Secret Service Atlanta, Georgia, indicates that they did not arrest a JACK PEETEE and that in fact, a JOHN CRAIN PETEET had been arrested by the Treasury Department for illegal possession of firearms. The Secret Service advised that JOHN CRAIN PETEET was not the manager of the 1776 Peachtree Street Building.

The Bureau is requested to contact the Department of Justice in order to determine if additional investigation is desired.

*No response to AT
necessary. LHM sent to
Dept. JTC 10/26/77*

2*



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Atlanta, Georgia

October 14, 1977

MURKIN

On October 7, 1977, Mason Evans, 2574 River Glen Circle, Atlanta, Georgia, telephone number 458-3621, telephonically contacted the Atlanta Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), on October 7, 1977, and advised that on the day that Martin Luther King was killed in Memphis, Tennessee, he was at the Coach and Six Restaurant located next door to the 1776 Peachtree Street Building Atlanta, Georgia. He was having lunch with Henry Hay and Bill Gordan of the Cadillac Division of General Motors. Evans was sitting at the bar when he overheard the bartender described as a white male, approximately 38 to 40 years old, 6'2", 200 pounds, blond hair, who stated that if Martin Luther King goes to Memphis he will be killed. Evans stated that he did not think too much of this remark and did not pay much attention until later that day he heard that Martin Luther King had been killed in Memphis.

Evans stated that he still did not place too much emphasis on this matter until he read in the newspaper several weeks ago that a Jack Peetee was arrested by the United States Secret Service and charged with threatening the President of the United States. Evans understood that a number of weapons were recovered from Peetee's residence by the United States Secret Service. Evans stated that he believed a Jack Peetee was the building manager of the 1776 Peachtree Street Building and possibly could be acquainted with the bartender at the Coach and Six Restaurant which is next door. Evans was unable to substantiate why he felt that the manager Peetee of the 1776 Peachtree Building might be associated with the bartender from the Coach and Six Restaurant.

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.



44-38861-6248
ENCLOSURE

MURKIN

Evans, advised that he thought about this matter for quite some time and decided to notify the FBI of Peetee and this bartender.

On October 11, 1977, Special Agent George Walldrop, United States Secret Service, 100 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Georgia, advised that his office has a file regarding a John Crain Peteet, who was arrested by the United States Treasury Department for illegal possession of firearms.

Walldrop advised that Peetee was not the building manager of the 1776 Peachtree Street building and he was not arrested by the United States Secret Service for threats against the President. Walldrop stated that his office has no record of a Jack Peetee.

A review of the files of the Atlanta Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation have no record identifiable with a Mason Evans or a Jack Peetee, nor a John Crain Peteet.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Leavitt

FROM : A. B. Fulton

SUBJECT: WILLIAM BERANCK, JR.
INFORMATION RELATING TO
ASSASSINATION OF
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING

1 - Mr. Leavitt
1 - Mr. D. W. Moore, Jr.
DATE: 11/15/77
1 - Mr. A. J. Decker, Jr.
1 - Mr. A. B. Fulton

Assoc. Dir. _____
Dep. AD Adm. _____
Dep. AD Inv. _____
Asst. Dir. _____
Adm. Serv. _____
Crim. Inv. _____
Fin. & Pers. _____
Ident. _____
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Legal Coun. _____
Plan. & Insp. _____
Rec. Mgnt. _____
Spec. Inv. _____
Tech. Servs. _____
Training _____
Public Affs. Off. _____
Telephone Rm. _____
Director's Sec'y _____

On 11/14/77, an individual identifying himself as William Beranck, Jr., telephone number (412) 887-6929, a Pennsylvania area code number, telephonically contacted the Intelligence Division (INTD) and spoke with Deputy Assistant Director Arthur B. Fulton. He refused to disclose where he was calling from and spoke in an excited and highly confused manner. In essence, he indicated he had important information which he refused to disclose that he had to make immediately public concerning the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King. He demanded confirming information from the FBI that the reason for Dr. King's assassination was that he was operating under Soviet and Cuban influence and was involved in narcotics traffic. He wanted the information called to him at the above number no later than 9 a.m. the following morning.

It was explained to Mr. Beranck that information in the files of the FBI is confidential and the only way he could obtain information that could possibly be released to him was through a Freedom of Information request. He abruptly hung up. A review of Bureau indices revealed only a single reference to William Beranck, Jr., 77-0-24552. This was a 6/9/75 request for a name check and search of identification records received from Philip H. Modlin, Executive Assistant to the Deputy Attorney General on one William Beranck, Jr. of RD #1, Dawson, Pennsylvania. A search of Bureau files and identification records was negative.

ACTION:

None. For information and record purposes.



ABF/bad
(5)

5 DEC 7 1977

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

FBI/DOJ

per
11-2-77

RECEIVED
CRIMINAL
INVESTIGATIVE
FRONT OFFICE

Nov 16 10 32 AM 1977

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

Nov 16 3 49 PM
RECEIVED
ASST. DIRECTOR
SPECIAL
INVESTIGATIVE

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI
Nov 17 10 24 AM 1977

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

DATE:

11/1/77

Re:

MARTIN LUTHER KING

TO:

Metropolitan Police
Department

Invoice of Contents

Four test bullets and two test cartridge
cases fired from .30-06 Springfield caliber
Remington, Model 760, Serial Number 461476

- ☐ Crypt.-Trans.
☐ Document
☒ P & C
☐ Radio Engineering
☐ LFPS

PERSONALLY RECEIVED

Portland

Special Instructions:

Mail Room: Show shipment date and registry number.
Shipping Room: Show shipment date; bill of lading number;
initial invoice; return to Section checked in block; after
initialing in block, invoice to be placed in administrative file.

FBI File No.

44-38861

54 NOV 2 1977

FBI/DOJ

44-38861-6250
 6251 **CHANGED TO**
 6252

62-117290-456X1
 456X2
 456X4

JUL 20 1978
CMK/NK

C

1 - Legal Counsel
Attn: Charles Mathews

Michael E. Shaheen, Jr.
Office of Professional Responsibility
Main Justice, Room 4313

December 9, 1977

1 - Congressional Inquiry Unit
Attn: J. T. Aldhizer

Allen H. McCreight, Chief
Freedom of Information-Privacy Acts Branch
Federal Bureau of Investigation

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

FBI CONSULTATIVE REVIEW OF APPENDIX C TO
REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TASK
FORCE TO REVIEW THE FBI MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY AND ASSASSINATION INVESTIGATIONS

Enclosed for OPR is one copy each of an original processed copy and a perfected processed copy of Appendix C; Volumes I, II, III, IV, V, and XII. Only Volume I is submitted in its entirety. Volumes II, III, IV, V, and XII contain only the assassination-related portions of those volumes.

The review of Appendix C was based on knowledge gained through the processing of Murkin and related files. A diligent effort was made to process this appendix as consistently as possible with the processing afforded the raw documents from which it originates. The content of information within Appendix C required the assertion of the following FOIA exemptions:

(b) (1), (b) (2), (b) (7) (G), (b) (7) (D), (b) (7) (E).

REC-54 DE-68

44-38861-6253

This portion of Appendix C being returned consists of 968 pages. These documents have been reviewed with regard to the content of information contained therein which originates from FBI files. Final responsibility for the release of these documents rests with OPR, and accordingly your office is advised that you may wish to conduct a review of this material with consideration of its DOJ origin and any applicable exemptions which are available to your office exclusively.

7 JAN 18 1978

SEE NOTE PAGE 2
rph:das (11)

das

Letter hand carried to DOJ
by Ralph Bump 12/12/77 per
instructions
To RPH
from 6982
RPH

Assoc. Dir. _____
Dep. AD Adm. _____
Dep. AD Inv. _____
Asst. Dir.: _____
Adm. Serv. _____
Crim. Inv. _____
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Spec. Inv. _____
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Training _____
Public Affs. Off. _____
Telephone Rm. _____
Director's Sec'y _____

1 - Assistant Attorney General
Civil Division
Attention: Lynne K. Zusman

1 - Mr. McCreight

1 - Mr. Bresson

1 - Mr. Beckwith

58 FEB 2 1978 AHM
RPH

MAH ROOM ☒ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

FBI/DOJ

Memorandum from McCreight to Shaheen

NOTE: Whereas the Task Force Appendix C is the property of the DOJ/OPR, the substantive content of Volumes I, II, III, IV, V, and XXI is wholly derivative from FBI files. Recognizing that an evaluation of the import of these notations without any knowledge of the documents to which they are explicitly correlated is impossible, and realizing that the release of such notations without proper review and excisions would render the protection of sensitive material in raw documents a futile exercise, OPR has forwarded these documents to the FOIPA Branch and requested that we conduct a consultative review of this material. In the interest of facilitating the efficient functioning of another DOJ component while at the same time directly benefitting the Bureau by the assurance that sensitive information is more certain to be afforded appropriate protection when examined by individuals having some knowledge of the investigation with which these notations correspond, the FBI has undertaken a full review of Appendix C. The review of assassination-related material in this appendix has been completed and that portion of Appendix C is being herewith returned to OPR.

November 18, 1977

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

Supervisory Fingerprint Specialist George J. Bonebrake, FBI Latent Fingerprint Section, was requested to appear for interview by staff members of captioned Committee relative to work performed by him following the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., on April 4, 1968. Mr. Bonebrake was interviewed on November 14, 1977, by four staff members, Melvin Kreidman, Attorney; Jeremy Akers, Attorney; Ralph C. Locke, Research Analyst; and Susan Grimes, Research Analyst.

Mr. Bonebrake was asked to describe latent fingerprint work performed leading up to the identification of James Earl Ray. Staff members were advised relative to the examination of evidence located outside the rooming house from which the shot was fired, the developing of six latent fingerprints on this evidence, including one on the rifle and one on the binoculars, the subsequent developing of latent fingerprints on a map of Mexico from a rooming house in Atlanta, Georgia, and the determination that a latent fingerprint on the map, the rifle and the binoculars were all the left thumb prints of the same individual. These left thumb prints were compared with fingerprints of Bureau fugitives and identified as left thumb prints of James Earl Ray. Additional latent fingerprints were also identified as fingerprints of James Earl Ray.

Questions were received from staff members relative to the development of latent prints, how they are maintained for record purposes, disposition of evidence and other general questions. Questions were also asked relative to the format of the list of fugitives used in the comparisons resulting in the identification of Ray and why his record was listed in the first one hundred. Explanations and answers were given to all questions.

Staff members indicated that they may want to talk with Mr. Bonebrake again or that it may be necessary for him to appear before the Committee.

GJB:ljr/wms

(7)

1 - Legal Counsel Division

① - Bufile (44-38861)

44-38861-
NOT RECORDED
167 DEC 12 1977

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN
62-1172

44-38861-6254
CHANGED TO
62-117290-456X3

JUL 20 1978

CMK/NK

e

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
ATTN: CONSPIRACY INQUIRY UNIT

FROM : SAC, CLEVELAND (44-565) (C)

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CIVIL RIGHTS

DATE: 2/28/78

Re Bureau telephone call from J. OLDHIZER on 2/22/78.

Enclosed for the Bureau are four copies of an LHM dated and captioned as above.

On 2/24/78, SA THOMAS J. WILSON, FBI, Cleveland, Ohio, was interviewed in Washington, D. C. by a staff member of the Select Committee on Assassinations regarding his investigation in Atlanta, Georgia concerning an allegation made by LEON POWELL in 1975. The LHM explains the questions that were put to SA WILSON.

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. 4)
1 - Cleveland

ENCLOSURE

TJW:ghr
(4)

1 cc det 4/6/8 Am 8988
SJA

EX-101

REC-92

44-38861-6255

2 MAR 9 1978

Memo DAG, 3-14-78
Doc:ew



5010-110

8 MAY 1 1978

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

Serial not changed to
62-117290-200
Consent 7-11-78

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OFFICE OF
CONGRESSIONAL
AFFAIRS

APR 5 11 44 AM 1978

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CRIMINAL
INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

MAR 9 11 43 AM '78

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

APR 4 1978
411
#12

RECEIVED

RECEIVED



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Cleveland, Ohio
February 28, 1978

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ASSASSINATION
CIVIL RIGHTS

On February 24, 1978, Special Agent THOMAS J. WILSON, Federal Bureau of Investigation, appeared at the headquarters of the Select Committee on Assassinations, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D. C. A staff attorney named WILLIAM WEBB advised Agent WILSON that he wished to ask Agent WILSON some questions concerning Agent WILSON's investigation into the allegation made by LEON POWELL in Atlanta, Georgia. WEBB advised he had read the Federal Bureau of Investigation reports concerning this investigation; however, he wished to personally interview Agent WILSON regarding this investigation. WEBB made the following inquiries:

During Mr. WILSON's interview of RAYMOND GODFREY, Mr. GODFREY stated that on the day of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.'s assassination, he was "shacked up" in Nashville, Tennessee. However, during the interview with the Committee, GODFREY advised he never said that, and furthermore, he was probably home with his wife at that time. Agent WILSON advised Mr. WEBB that in view of the fact that the words "shacked up" were in quotation marks, he was positive that GODFREY had stated it just like that. Agent WILSON further advised that during this initial interview, GODFREY indicated that he would be willing to take a polygraph examination. Agent WILSON intended to ask GODFREY about his alibi during this polygraph examination, and thus during the initial interview, no further questions regarding the identity of the female party were asked.

WEBB inquired of Agent WILSON his thoughts and opinions on RAY GODFREY. Agent WILSON stated that GODFREY seemed to be an upstanding citizen in the community, and most of the people who knew him thought highly of GODFREY. However, in view of GODFREY's refusal to take a polygraph examination, Agent WILSON was not able to make any determination as to whether or not GODFREY was telling the truth.

The next line of questioning was regarding the bar where the alleged conspiracy transpired. WEBB inquired as to how Agent WILSON was able to establish who owned the bar during



*original sent DAF
3/14/78 JEF*

44-38861-6255
ENCLOSURE

RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ASSASSINATION

the pertinent time. Agent WILSON advised he had reviewed the records of the Atlanta Police Department Liquor Control and had used these records to show who owned the bar during what period of time. Agent WILSON further advised that he had contacted the widow of PETE DAVIS and established from her that her husband owned the bar during the pertinent time. DAVIS advised that her husband had since died. DAVIS further stated that she could not recall if there were any records of the bar in existence at this time. WEBB further inquired if a list of patrons was ever obtained. Agent WILSON advised that it was almost impossible to obtain a list of employees, let alone a list of patrons. Agent WILSON stated that some of the employees, who were working at the bar during the pertinent time, were contacted and interviewed; however, none of the employees could remember the alleged incident.

WEBB also inquired into the investigation surrounding the attempt to identify the well-dressed individual whom LEON POWELL claimed contacted him. Agent WILSON stated that to the best of his recollection, no one in the bar, other than a female employee named DIANE BRADY, could remember a well-dressed individual ever coming into Bill Bailey's Bar. DIANE BRADY was contacted and shown the composite picture that LEON POWELL had made up. BRADY advised that to the best of her recollection, this was not the individual she remembered as the well-dressed individual who went into Bill Bailey's Bar. BRADY was contacted numerous times; however, she was never able to provide any clues as to the identity of this well-dressed individual who used to give her \$50 tips at Bill Bailey's Bar.

WEBB now delved into Agent WILSON's opinion of CLAUDE and LEON POWELL. WEBB wanted to know Agent WILSON's opinion of why CLAUDE and LEON POWELL would stick with this assassination conspiracy theory. Agent WILSON advised that if he knew that answer, the investigation could be concluded one way or another. Agent WILSON stated that he had contacted LEON POWELL numerous times and had advised LEON POWELL of the penalty for providing false information. LEON POWELL continued to stick with this conspiracy story. Agent WILSON advised Mr. WEBB of CLAUDE POWELL's wife's opinion regarding this story. Mrs. POWELL advised that both CLAUDE and his brother LEON liked to drink, and while they were under the influence of alcohol, had a lively imagination. Mrs. POWELL stated that she would never believe LEON POWELL. WEBB

1. The first step in the process of the investigation is the identification of the subject. This is done by the use of the subject's name, address, and other identifying information. The subject's name is usually the first step in the process, followed by the address and other identifying information. The subject's name is usually the first step in the process, followed by the address and other identifying information.

RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ASSASSINATION

advised that CLAUDE POWELL was now refusing to cooperate with the Committee any further. WEBB was currently considering bringing contempt charges against CLAUDE POWELL. WEBB asked Agent WILSON's opinion regarding the refusal of CLAUDE POWELL to cooperate. Agent WILSON advised that he had no idea why CLAUDE POWELL would refuse to cooperate any further. Agent WILSON stated that during his investigation, he found it very difficult to contact either CLAUDE or LEON POWELL. Messages were left numerous times at their residences, and neither one responded. However, as to the reason for these actions, Agent WILSON was unable to give an opinion.

WEBB advised that GODFREY now denies going into Bill Bailey's Bar after 1965 or 1966. GODFREY told the Committee that he had given up his drinking either in 1965 or 1966. WEBB wanted to know who would be in the best position to verify this claim. Agent WILSON advised that an individual named BILL LOWERY, who was a manager of SINGER's and who handled RAY GODFREY for a while, seemed to know a lot about the personal life of RAY GODFREY. The Committee could contact him or GODFREY's brothers regarding GODFREY's drinking habits.

WEBB stated that his Committee has the ability to call people to testify under oath, and has two investigators working for them, one of whom is a former Atlanta police officer. WEBB asked Agent WILSON in view of these abilities of the Committee if Agent WILSON had any names of individuals whom he would like to see the Committee interrogate.

Agent WILSON stated that he would continue to mull over in his mind his investigation of the allegations made by CLAUDE and LEON POWELL and the resulting investigation. Mr. WEBB stated that if Agent WILSON had any further thoughts regarding this investigation, he could contact Mr. WEBB at telephone number 202-225-9713.

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.

Mr. Gallagher

2/17/77

J. S. Peelman

1 - Mr. Gallagher
1 - Mr. Ingram
1 - Mr. Peelman
1 - Mr. Lawn
1 - Mr. Decker
1 - Mr. Bailey
1 - Mr. Powers

TRANSFER OF KENNEDY-KING FILES
FROM ROOM 4436 TO ROOM 8938,
JFK, CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY UNIT

PURPOSE: To advise that these files pertaining to the assassinations of John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King have been moved from room 4436 to room 8938, JFK.

RECOMMENDATION: None. For information.

DETAILS: Prior authority was granted for the Congressional Inquiry Unit (CIU) to maintain pertinent John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King files in space occupied by the CIU (J. S. Peelman to Mr. Gallagher memorandum dated 11/29/76, captioned, "Request To Maintain Pertinent Kennedy-King Files In Room 4436, JFK, Congressional Inquiry Unit").

These files located in CIU space are identified as follows:

44-38861 "Murkin"

62-109060 "Assassination of JFK"

62-109090 "Liaison With Warren Commission"

105-82535 "Lee Harvey Oswald"

44-38861-

JGL/gjw (12)

① - 44-38861
1 - 62-109060

CONTINUED - OVER 191
NOT RECORDED
JAN 16 1978

1 - 62-109090
1 - 105-82535

ORIGINAL FILED IN 66-1855-D-260

79 FEB 15 1978

Peeliman to Mr. Gallagher Memorandum

Re: TRANSFER OF KENNEDY-RING FILES FROM ROOM 8936 TO ROOM 8988

CIR was moved to new temporary space in room 8988. JEM on 2/16/77 which necessitated transfer of these files at that time.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

44-38861-6256
CHANGED TO
62-117290-759X1

JUL 13 1978

Cmk / JWS

✓

FACSIMILE

PRIORITY

UNCLAS

4/25/78

To: SAC, St. Louis

1 - Mr. Helterhoff

From: Director, FBI

MURKIN

Enclosed herewith is a copy of a letter from the OPR of the Department, which furnished a copy of a letter from Albert Pepper, which enclosed a copy of a newspaper article, which items are also enclosed.

Albert Pepper was married to Carol Pepper (sister of James Earl Ray) and the Peppers resided at 2025 Belleview, St. Louis, Missouri, telephone number 645-2948, in 1968. Carol Pepper also owned the Grapevine Tavern, 1982 Arsenal, St. Louis, telephone number PR6-9417, in 1968. In the enclosed letter, Albert Pepper now lists his address as 523 Franru Lane, Lemay, Missouri.

St. Louis promptly review your office files and sutel whether or not there is any information located therein indicating the FBI entered or installed some type of surveillance equipment on the home and telephone of the Peppers in 1968, the Grapevine Tavern and the telephone number at the tavern in 1968, or at the present residence of Albert Pepper.

ST 114

Encs. 3 ENCLOSURE

REC-13

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

HNH:bam (3)

APR 25 1978

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Asst. Dir.:
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Tech. Servs. _____
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Public Affs. Off. _____
Telephone Rm. _____
Director's Sec'y _____

84 MAY 23 1978

TELETYPE

MAIL ROOM

Clear indic. at FOIA negative
RM G. L. Lichtenberg, DIV. 6,
4/26/78. RM

AFTER SENT - RETURN TO
HELTHERHOFF RM 5121

6-114
4-976
FBI/DOJ

68-11148-3 (248)
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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

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FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

REC'D-CIV RIGHTS
FBI
APR 25 5 11 PM 1978

REC'D-CIV RIGHTS
FBI
APR 26 8 59 AM 1978

TO DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM SAC, NEW YORK (100-11148)
SUBJECT: [Illegible]
[Illegible text follows, appearing to be a teletype message with multiple lines of text, some in all caps and some in mixed case. The text is mostly illegible due to the quality of the scan.]

APR 14 1978

OPR

Letter from Mr. Albert Pepper

Thomas J. Biamonte, Inspector-Deputy
Assistant Director
Office of Professional Responsibility
Federal Bureau of Investigation

This is in reference to the attached letter of
Albert Pepper dated March 12, 1978. As you can see from
his letter, Mr. Pepper requests whether the FBI ever
illegally entered his home or other properties and
installed a microphone surveillance.

We are referring this matter to your Office for
appropriate inquiry. Please advise us of your findings
so that we can respond to Mr. Pepper.

151

Michael E. Shaheen, Jr., Counsel
Office of Professional Responsibility

facsimile to
SP, SL
30 mca
1704/baz
4/25/78
44-38861-625-7

ENCLOSURE

Mr. Benjamin Civiletti
Asst. Atty. Gen.
U.S. Dept of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20530.

2 March 1978

RECEIVED

MAR 20 1978

CRIMINAL DIVISION

Dear Sir:

I understand your office is investigating break-ins by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

There has been a published report, and other information, that the F.B.I. committed some type offense as described in the enclosure, a column by columnist, Jack Anderson.

I would appreciate it very much if you could tell me whether there is any substance to Mr. Anderson's allegation about the F.B.I.

I live in the St. Louis, Missouri, area so the records, if any, may be located in the St., Louis F.B.I. field office.

RECEIVED

MAR 28 1978

Sincerely: Albert Pepper
523 Franru Lane
Lemay, Mo. 63125.

Albert Pepper

PUBLIC INTEGRITY SECTION

Note, if in fact the F.B.I. or other government agencies did not illegally entered or installed some type surveillance equipment threrein (my home), could I receive from the government some type sworn affidavit to that effect so the matter can be disposed of ?

cc; U.S. Senate Judiciary committee.

P.S. I understand in sworn testimony in U.S. Dis. ct. Chattanooga, Tenn., in 1964, in the Hoffa jury tampering trial, F.B.I. special agent, Charles Bolz, testified the F.B.I. files "recorded transcripts or both of all conversations which the federal agency bugs illegally". 44-38861-6257

ENCLOSURE

TRUE COPY

NOV. 1977

FBI AIMED AT RAY'S KIN

BY JACK ANDERSON AND LES WHITTEN

WASHINGTON - The FBI, which used electronic skulduggery in an effort to discredit Martin Luther King, Jr., tried to employ similar illegal tactics to catch his killer.

Long-buried FBI documents reveal that then-Director J. Edgar Hoover personally approved a break-in and illegal electronic bugging aimed at innocent relatives of James Earl Ray, who was later convicted of killing King.

For years, Hoover had conducted a vicious smear campaign against King. The FBI peddled malicious anti-King stories to the press and had sent doctored tapes concerning King's personal life to his wife. When King was slain in 1968, whispers about possible FBI involvement put Hoover under great pressure to find the assassin.

While the FBI agents were hot on Ray's trail, a May 10, 1968, memo, prepared for top Hoover aide J. P. Mohr, outlined elaborate illegal plans to catch the murderer. In the memo, then Asst. Dir. for Admin. Serv., Glenne G. Bailey, called AS PART OF the overall investigation, code-named MURKIN - an acronym for murder and King - a memo was written which declared: "Consideration is given to microphone installations on certain properties of Albert and Carol Pepper," the brother-in-law and sister of James Earl Ray.

"The proposal," cautioned the memo, "raises a question concerning the legality of any action taken against the subject of this case on the basis of information obtained from the microphones." If Ray called the Peppers and the bugged conversations were used to arrest him, the memo said, Ray "then could claim that the surveillance violated his right of privacy." This could prejudice the court case against him.

TRUE COPY

ENCLOSURE

44-38861-6257