

Mr. DeLoach

May 10, 1968

A. Rosen

MURKIN

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. McGowan
1 - Mr. Long
1 - Mr. McDonough
1 - Mr. Martindale
1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Conrad
1 - Mr. Gale
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Trotter

This case involves the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

We have obtained from Modern Photo Bookstore, New York City, an undated order coupon signed Eric S. Galt. This apparently was mailed by Ray in September, 1967, when he was living in Birmingham. A latent fingerprint developed on this coupon is identical with the left thumb print of James Earl Ray. This is the first instance in which an Eric Galt signature has been directly connected to Ray by fingerprint identification, although Ray's fingerprints have been previously identified with latent fingerprints on various items of evidence recovered in this case.

The above order was for "Focal Encyclopedia of Photography" containing 2,000 entries by 197 experts covering every aspect of photography. By letter dated 9/26/67, Ray, as Galt, wrote that he was moving and the book should not be shipped until he furnished his new address. The company believes the book was never shipped although payment of \$8.95 was received with the order coupon.

Thomas Britton, Maleyville, Alabama, who knew Ray at Missouri State Penitentiary, has been reinterviewed and furnished the following information.

As "walk boy", Ray had ~~free~~ access to Britton's cell block. Ray was a representative for one of the daily cigarette lotteries in the prison, collecting bets and paying off winners. Britton never saw Ray handle narcotics or other contraband.

On the one occasion that Ray mentioned a "Business Mans Organization" that had allegedly offered \$100,000 to kill people like King, Britton asked Ray just what this organization was and Ray replied, "I don't know but I will find out." Ray told Britton he always worked alone to minimize the possibility of being caught and said he had a place picked out where he could hide.

WLM:rmr (14)

CONTINUED - OVER

Faint, illegible text at the top of the page, possibly a header or address block.

Main body of faint, illegible text, likely the primary content of the document.

MAY 14 4 02 PM '68
RECEIVED
FBI
LABORATORY DIVISION

MAY 10 9 54 AM '68
RECEIVED - GUNNAD
LABORATORY DIVISION
MAY 13 3 10 PM '68
RECEIVED

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

When Britton was in jail en route to Missouri State Penitentiary he met a four time loser named Craig who advised him to join Cooley's organization to obtain the protection they offered in prison.

Britton later saw Craig in the penitentiary and gave him \$10 for membership in Cooley's organization. That night Ray delivered a membership card and explained to Britton that it could also be used as a credit card for candy and similar items but not for betting.

On two or three occasions Britton had disputes with other prisoners over cigarette wagers. He appealed to Craig as a representative of Cooley's organization and Craig agreed to handle his complaints but told him there was a fee of 50% of the amount collected. Britton agreed and each time he filed a complaint with Craig, Ray later brought Britton his share of the cigarettes that had been collected.

Britton denies any knowledge of Ray subsequent to his escape but states that in any event he would have no interest in the posted rewards due to his fear of Cooley's organization.

On 5/9/68 John Acord, Chairman, American-Southern Africa Council, Washington, D. C., made available the following letter he received from the subject.

"12/28/67

"DEAR SIR,

"I RECENTLY READ AN ARTICLE IN THE L. A. TIMES ON YOUR CONCIL, THE LOCAL JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY PROVIDED ME WITH YOUR ADDRESS. MY REASON FOR WRITING IS THAT I AM CONSIDERING IMMIGRATING TO RHODESIA, HOWEVER THEIR ARE A COUPLE LEGAL QUESTIONS INVOLVED.

"ONE: THE U. S. GOVERNMENT WILL NOT ISSUE A PASSPORT FOR TRAVEL TO RHODESIA.

"TWO: WOULD THEIR BE ANY WAY TO ENTER

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

"RHODESIA LEGALLY (FROM THE RHODESIAN
GOVERNMENT POINT OF VIEW).
"I WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION YOU
COULD GIVE ME ON THE ABOVE SUBJECT OR ANY
OTHER INFORMATION ON RHODESIA.

"SINCERELY

ERIC S. GALT
1535-N. SERRANO
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
90027"

It is noted the letter is in error in stating the U. S. Government will not issue a passport for travel to Rhodesia. The United States has never limited travel to this country.

Acord advised he was in Rhodesia when the above letter was received and his secretary replied with a form letter enclosing Rhodesian literature.

Acord recalled that when he was in Los Angeles in November, 1967, a man asked him about emigrating to Rhodesia but after viewing Ray's photographs Acord said this man is not identical with the subject.

Acord advised in March, 1967, that the purpose of the American-Southern Africa Council is to convince the U. S. Government its African policy is incorrect and that more friendly relations should exist between the United States and Rhodesia, South Africa, Angola and possibly Gambia.

Ken H. Towsey, Rhodesian Information Officer, Washington, D. C., requested his identity be protected and advised he has a copy of the letter furnished by Acord. Towsey is reviewing his files for any further reference to the subject and will provide us with any additional information he may find.

Towsey offered all possible cooperation on behalf of his Government but asked that a formal request be made for any cooperation desired and requested that no publicity be given to either

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

the request or any information provided by the Rhodesian Government. Towsey suggested the United States might wish to present its request through the American Consulate at Salisbury, Rhodesia, and requested he be advised as to the manner in which any request is made.

ACTION:

Liaison Section will arrange with the State Department for a supply of Wanted Flyers and Identification Orders to be forwarded the American Consulate in Salisbury, Rhodesia, with a request that it be determined from the Rhodesian Government whether the subject has been in that country, whether the Rhodesians have any further information concerning him and that appropriate stops be placed so that we will be immediately advised of any future information concerning the subject. The State Department will be specifically advised of Towsey's request that no publicity be given to our request for the cooperation of the Rhodesian Government or any information they may provide.

All other phases of this investigation continue to receive vigorous attention.

JUNE

Mr. DeLoach

May 9, 1968

A. Rosen

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Malley

MURKIN

1 - Mr. McGowan

1 - Mr. Long

1 - Mr. Conrad

1 - Mr. Gale

PURPOSE: To recommend the installation of a technical surveillance (TESUR) on the telephones of Albert and Carol Pepper, St. Louis, Missouri, and the telephone listed to the Grapevine Tavern in St. Louis, Missouri, owned by Carol Pepper, subject's sister, and operated by John Larry Ray, subject's brother, and the installation of a microphone surveillance at the residences of Carol Pepper, and John Larry Ray, and at the Grapevine Tavern. These installations could assist in the early apprehension of the subject, which could possibly be instrumental in reducing the stresses and tension placed on our national security subsequent to the death of Martin Luther King, Jr.

BACKGROUND: We are presently conducting exhaustive and extensive investigation to determine the present whereabouts of the subject James Earl Ray, who is one of the TEN MOST WANTED FUGITIVES. Although many hundreds of interviews have been conducted and leads run out, we have not been able to locate the subject nor have we located any person who can furnish us any information as to the subject's present whereabouts. It has been determined that Carol Pepper, the sister of the subject, and John Larry Ray, the brother of the subject, are the closest relatives to him. Carol is married to Albert Pepper and they reside at 2025 Belleview, St. Louis, Missouri, telephone number 645-2948. John Larry Ray resides at 1900 A Cherokee, St. Louis, Missouri, no telephone listed. Carol presently owns the Grapevine Tavern, 1982 Arsenal, St. Louis, Missouri, telephone number PR 6-9417. This tavern is operated by John Larry Ray.

John Larry Ray has expressed a cooperative attitude; however, it is felt that he is not giving us complete and accurate information. Carol Pepper refuses to submit to interview and is not cooperative. It is felt that if the subject telephones or personally contacts any of the relatives, it will most likely be Carol Pepper or brother John Larry Ray.

Enclosure

REL:erg
(8)

CONTINUED - OVER

100-
100-100

LABORATORY DIVISION

RECEIVED

RECEIVED - CONRAD

MAY 13 9 56 AM '68
FBI
LABORATORY DIVISION

[Faint, mostly illegible typed text, likely a memorandum or report body]

[Faint, mostly illegible typed text, likely a memorandum or report body]

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

100-100
100-100
100-100

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

RECOMMENDATION: That a technical surveillance be installed on the telephones of Albert and Carol Pepper and the Grapevine Tavern and a microphone surveillance be installed at the residences of Albert and Carol Pepper and John Larry Ray and at the Grapevine Tavern.

Attached for approval is a memorandum to the Attorney General requesting authority for this coverage.

1 - Mr. Rosen
- (Mr. Long-2260)
~~1 - Mr. Conrad~~
1 - Mr. Mortimer
1 - Lab file



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535**

To: **FBI, Memphis (44-1987)**

Date: **May 9, 1968**

Re: **MURKIN
CR
OO: Memphis**

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

FBI File No. **44-38861**
Lab. No. **D-562610 JK**

Examination requested by: **Kansas City**
Reference: **Airtel 5/6/68**
Examination requested: **Document**
Remarks:

Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)

2 - Kansas City (44-760) Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)

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

JHM:AW (10)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

**REPORT
of the**



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535**

To: **FBI, Memphis (44-1987)**

Date: **May 9, 1968**

Re: **MURKIN
CR**

FBI File No. **44-38861**

Lab. No. **D-562610 JK**

Specimens received **5/7/68**

K257 Twenty-one sheets of paper and one copy of a form dated 4/4/58, bearing known handwriting and hand printing of JAMES EARL RAY

ALSO SUBMITTED: One "Inmate Request To Staff Member" form for JACK M. RAY, No. 59602

Result of examination:

The additional known handwriting of JAMES EARL RAY, represented by K257, does not sufficiently augment the known handwriting of this individual previously received to permit the identification of the "Harvey Lowmyer" signature on Q72 with this individual.

K257 is temporarily retained.

JHM:AW (10)

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

1 - Mr. Rosen
(Mr. Long 2230)
~~1 - Mr. Conrad~~
1 - Mr. Mortimer
1 - Lab File



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

gr

To: **FBI, Memphis (44-1987)**

Date: **May 10, 1968**

Re: **MURKIN
CR
OO: Memphis**

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

44-38861
FBI File No. **D-562676 JK**
Lab. No.

Examination requested by: **Mobile**
Reference: **Airtel 5/6/68**
Examination requested: **Document**
Remarks:

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

Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)
1 - Mobile (157-2627) Enclosure (Lab report)
1 - Atlanta (44-2386) Enclosure (Lab report)
1 - Birmingham (44-1740) Enclosure (Lab report)

JHM:AW (11)

RECEIVED - CONRAD

MAY 13 9 33 AM '68

F B I
LABORATORY DIVISION

LABORATORY DIVISION
F B I

MAY 10 9 29 AM '68

RECEIVED - CONRAD

**REPORT
of the**



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535**

To: **FBI, Memphis (44-1987)**

Re: **MURKIN
CR**

Date: **May 10, 1968**
FBI File No. **44-38861**
Lab. No. **D-562676 JK**

Specimens received **5/8/68**

Photocopies of documents obtained from Alabama State Department of Public Safety, Montgomery, Alabama, comprising the known handwriting of eleven individuals, further described as follows:

<u>SPECIMEN</u>	<u>NAME</u>
Kc258	WILLIAM ELMER JOHNSON
Kc259	FRANK GARRETT PERRY
Kc260	JAMES PRESTON RIDDICK
Kc261	ROBERT CLIFTON SMITH
Kc262	FONTAINE STORM
Kc263	R. W. KERR
Kc264	CLYDE JUSTIN HILL
Kc265	WINFORD PRESTON GILMORE
Kc266	PAUL EDGAR GOODPASTER, JR.
Kc267	LEE EMERSON BELLAMY
Kc268	ROGER DAVID BROUSSARD

Result of examination:

Nothing of particular significance was noted from such comparisons as could be made between the writings on Kc258 through Kc268 when compared with the known handwriting of JAMES EARL RAY, whose known handwriting appears on specimens K171, K211 and K257.

The submitted items have been retained.

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

JHM:AW (11)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT



1 - Mr. Rosen
(Mr. Long 2260)
~~1 - Mr. Conrad~~
1 - Mr. Mortimer
1 - Lab File

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535**

To: **FBI, Memphis (44-1987)**

Date: **May 8, 1968**

Re: **MURKIN
CR
OO: Memphis**

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

FBI File No. **44-38861**
Lab. No. **D-562197 JK**

Examination requested by: **Cleveland**
Reference: **Airtel 5/1/68**
Examination requested: **Document - Fingerprint**
Remarks:

You will be advised separately regarding the results of the fingerprint examination and disposition of the submitted evidence.

Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)

**2 - Cleveland (44-565) Enclosures (3) (Photograph of Q310,
2 Lab report)**

JHM:AW (10)

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

**REPORT
of the**



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535**

To: **FBI, Memphis (44-1987)**

Date: **May 8, 1968**

FBI File No. **44-38861**

Re: **MURKIN
CR**

Lab. No. **D-562197 JK**

Specimens received **5/2/68**

Q308 Envelope with embossed 6 cent stamp postmarked "HANDUSKY OH APR 22 PM 1968" bearing hand printed address "POST MASTER PLEASE - ISLAND ONTARIO CANADA"

Q309 Unstamped envelope bearing hand printed address "CHIEF OF POLICE MEMPHIS, TENN."

Q310 Sheet of paper bearing hand printed message beginning "DEAR - SIR - I UNDERSTAND..."

ALSO SUBMITTED: Envelope postmarked in Canada, addressed to "Federal Bureau of Investigation, Sandusky, Ohio, three coins, (one quarter and two nickels)

Result of examination:

Specimens Q308, Q309 and Q310 were searched in the appropriate sections of the Anonymous Letter File but could not be identified with any prior submissions to this file.

The hand printing on the specimens received is too distorted for a satisfactory comparison with pertinent material in the "MURKIN" case and other letters of a similar type as Q310 which have been received; however, differences were noted.

A few isolated words were discerned on Q310 as indented impressions. An impression of the name or word "Witler" or "Ditler" was also noted. A photograph depicting these impressions is enclosed for Cleveland. No other identifying features were noted on the items received.

Q308, Q309 and Q310 are temporarily retained.

Handwritten signatures and initials at the top right of the page.

Mr. DeLoach

May 8, 1968

A. Rosen

MURKIN

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. McGowan
- 1 - Mr. Long
- 1 - Mr. McDonough
- 1 - Mr. Martindale
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- ~~1 - Mr. Conrad~~
- 1 - Mr. Gale
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Trotter

This case involves the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

It has been alleged that on two prior occasions Ray went to Mexico to cool off after robberies and that on one occasion he lived with peasants at Campeche and smuggled appliances from Brownsville, Texas, by a fishing boat owned by Mateo Lopez Garcia or Mateo Garcia Lopez.

Intensive investigation at Brownsville as well as Campeche has failed to develop any information concerning Lopez or Garcia. Approximately 500 shrimp boats operate out of the Brownsville area and their normal fishing grounds include the Campeche Flats.

American seamen are not allowed to land at Campeche but can arrange to be taken ashore by Mexican "bum boats" which bring women, liquor and marijuana out to the shrimp fleet from Campeche. There is a smuggling trade in small appliances but this reportedly does not extend to television sets and washing machines which Ray allegedly smuggled.

Police at Campeche have files dating back to 1955 on all foreigners who were in trouble with the police or who were fingerprinted because they lacked proper identification. Ray's fingerprints have been checked through these files with negative results.

At Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, a local Immigration Agent has advised of a recent visitor whom he said resembles Ray. Investigation has identified this man as registering at Las Glorias Motel, Puerto Vallarta, 4/19/68 and checking out 4/30/68. He gave his name as A. D. Stange, Jr., Post Office Box 1660, Redding, California, and was accompanied by a woman alleged to be his wife who appeared to be of Mexican extraction.

WLM:rmr (14)

CONTINUED - OVER

RECEIVED GUNRAD
MAY 8 9 42 AM '68
FBI
LABORATORY DIVISION
MAY 9 11 32 AM '68

RECEIVED
MAY 9 11 58 AM '68
PHYSICS & CHEMISTRY
FBI
LABORATORY

RECEIVED GUNRAD
MAY 10 4 23 PM '68
FBI
LABORATORY DIVISION

[Faint, mostly illegible typed text, possibly a report or letter, covering the middle section of the page.]

[Faint, mostly illegible typed text, possibly a list or table, covering the bottom section of the page.]

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

Stange spent four days hunting in the mountains and inquired of the guide as to the possibility of buying a pistol and morphine. He also inquired about going into business at Puerto Vallarta. Some motel employees also state Stange resembles Ray. Sacramento is conducting investigation at Redding, California.

Margarita Montes Meza, Casa Susana, Puerto Vallarta, has advised that she was the first prostitute visited by Ray when he was in Puerto Vallarta in October and November, 1967. She states Ray told her when they first met that he was in Puerto Vallarta on a 40-day vacation.

Three officers of the Memphis Police Department have received similar anonymous calls from a man identifying himself only as "Charlie." Charlie alleged that Ray was paid \$50,000 to kill King with the money passing through twelve people before it reached Ray. Charlie claimed Ray was able to spend only about \$10,000 and the arrangements to kill King were made at least three years ago.

According to Charlie, Ray left Memphis immediately after the killing, was out of town in twelve minutes, went to Atlanta, Birmingham, Las Vegas, Phoenix, and then into Mexico.

Charlie stated the man who planned King's death and paid Ray has arranged for Ray's body to be found between 5/15/68 and 5/18/68 in an area 50 miles south of the place where a man from Baltimore was arrested by Mexican police two weeks ago.

It is noted that on 4/24/68 it was widely publicized that Mexican police at Caborca had arrested a hitch hiker who resembled Ray. This man was identified as Daniel David Kennedy, Baltimore, who was eliminated as a suspect. Legat, Mexico, is conducting appropriate investigation.

Russell Lee Martin, Little Rock, who requested his identity be protected, has advised he was in St. Louis 5/4-5/68 and contacted Carl Drake, narcotic addict and pusher who was in Missouri State Penitentiary with Ray. Drake allegedly told Martin

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

Ray has called him twice since King was killed, once from New Orleans and again from North Carolina. Drake reportedly told Martin Ray is driving a white Camaro and has a submachine gun as well as plenty of money. It is noted that the alleged calls from Ray would be inconsistent with his universal reputation for being a tight-lipped loner.

Drake has been interviewed and acknowledged he knew Ray in prison. He described Ray as close mouthed and a loner. When Drake was released in 1965, he visited Ray's brother, John, as requested by Ray, and told John how the subject was getting along in prison. Drake said he was unaware of Ray's escape from prison until the recent publicity after Ray was identified as King's murderer. He denied any contact with Ray or any knowledge of Ray's whereabouts since Ray's escape. Telephone company records are being checked for calls made by Drake and he is being vigorously reinterviewed.

On the night of 5/7/68 the decomposed body of a white male was found in the trunk of a car at the Atlanta airport. There has been public speculation this might be Ray. The Atlanta Police Department has advised that based on a fingerprint comparison, this body is not identical with Ray. Fingerprints of the deceased have been forwarded to the Bureau for comparison by the Identification Division. The car in which the body was found is a 1964 Chevrolet bearing 1968 Michigan license DC 8114, and is registered to Mary Jane Salvadori and Joan Masters, 9341 Nichols, Detroit. The Detroit Office is attempting to contact the owners.

On 5/7/68 the Shelby County Grand Jury, Memphis, returned an indictment charging Ray with first degree murder. It was not necessary for Bureau personnel to testify.

ACTION:

All phases of this investigation are being expedited.

MR. TROTTER

5/8/68

C. H. White
W.D. H. H. H.
John

S. F. Latona

MURKIN

Shay, 7621

LATENT PRINT ON COUPON IDENTICAL JAMES EARL RAY

An undated coupon from the Modern Photo Bookstore bearing the name and address "Eric S. Galt, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama," and a letter dated 9/26/67 signed "Eric S. Galt" were received from the New York Office for examination.

A latent fingerprint developed on the coupon has been identified as the left thumb print of James Earl Ray, FBI #405942G. The coupon, presumably clipped from the September, 1967 issue of Modern Photography, was sent to the Modern Photo Bookstore, 166 5th Avenue, New York, New York, to order book #633, and was accompanied by a money order in the amount of \$8.95. This coupon was followed later by the letter dated 9/26/67, in which Galt said in part, "If you have not already mailed the book (PLEASE DO NOT MAIL IT) I am moving and will shortly send you my correct address." No latent impressions were developed on the letter.

General Investigative, New York, Memphis, Birmingham, and Knoxville Divisions have been advised.

Laboratory reporting separate.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. Conrad
- 1 - Mr. Rosen

J

GJB:mb
(12)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
RECEIVED

MAY 9 1968

RECEIVED

RECEIVED
MAY 9 1968

RECEIVED - CONRAD

RECEIVED

MAY 8 12 54 PM '68

4: 0 3 22 PM '68

MAY 8 4 33 PM '68

F B I

LABORATORY DIVISION

PHYSICS & CHEMISTRY
FBI
LABORATORY

TO : SAC, NEW YORK

FROM : SAC, PHOENIX

RE: MURKIN; PHOENIX TELETYPE TO BUREAU, MAY 7, 1968.

FOR INFORMATION, THE PHOENIX LABORATORY HAS IDENTIFIED

THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS AS BEING ASSOCIATED WITH THE

PHOENIX LABORATORY RECORDS IN CONNECTION WITH THIS MATTER:

1. JOHN J. BROWN, JR., 1015 N. 16TH AVENUE, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85016.
2. JAMES EARL RAY, JR., 1111 N. 16TH AVENUE, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85016.
3. JAMES EARL RAY, JR., 1111 N. 16TH AVENUE, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85016.
4. JAMES EARL RAY, JR., 1111 N. 16TH AVENUE, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85016.
5. JAMES EARL RAY, JR., 1111 N. 16TH AVENUE, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85016.
6. JAMES EARL RAY, JR., 1111 N. 16TH AVENUE, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85016.
7. JAMES EARL RAY, JR., 1111 N. 16TH AVENUE, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85016.
8. JAMES EARL RAY, JR., 1111 N. 16TH AVENUE, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85016.
9. JAMES EARL RAY, JR., 1111 N. 16TH AVENUE, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85016.
10. JAMES EARL RAY, JR., 1111 N. 16TH AVENUE, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85016.

THE PHOENIX LABORATORY HAS BEEN ADVISED THAT THE ABOVE INDIVIDUALS
WAS CONTACTED BY AN INDIVIDUAL WHO OFFERED HIM \$10,000 TO ASSIST
IN THE ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN A PASSPORT FOR TRAVEL TO THE UNITED STATES
IN CONNECTION WITH HIS CURRENT STATUS.

IT IS REQUESTED THAT YOU ADVISE THE BUREAU OF ANY DEVELOPMENTS

RE: THIS MATTER.

VERY TRULY YOURS,
SAC, PHOENIX

PHOENIX TELETYPE TO BUREAU, MAY 7, 1968.

RECEIVED - CONRAD
MAY 8 5 15 PM '68
F B I
LABORATORY DIVISION

[Handwritten signature]

1 - Mr. Rosen
(Mr. Long 2260)
~~1 - Mr. Conrad~~
1 - Mr. Mortimer
1 - Lab File



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535**

Jr

To: **FBI, Memphis (44-1987)**

Date: **May 8, 1968**

Re: **MURKIN
CR
OO: Memphis**

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

FBI File No. **44-38861**
Lab. No. **D-562360 JK**

Examination requested by: **Los Angeles**
Reference: **Airtel 5/2/68**
Examination requested: **Document - Fingerprint**
Remarks:

You will be advised separately regarding the results of the fingerprint examination and disposition of the evidence.

- Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)**
- 2 - Los Angeles (44-1574) Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)**
- 1 - Atlanta (44-2386) Enclosure (Lab report)**
- 1 - Birmingham (44-1740) Enclosure (Lab report)**

JHM:AW (12)

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

RECEIVED - CONRAD

MAY 7 5 07 PM '68

FBI
LABORATORY DIVISION

**REPORT
of the**



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535**

To: **FBI, Memphis (44-1987)**

Date: **May 8, 1968**
 FBI File No. **44-38861**
 Lab. No. **D-562360 JK**

Re: **MURKIN
CR**

Specimens received **5/3/68**

Q315 Sheet of paper bearing typewritten message dated 2/17/68, beginning "I AM ANSWERING..." and signed "Eric S. Galt"

Q316 Typewritten advertisement beginning "SINGLE MALE CAUC. 38..." bearing typewritten name and address "ERIC S. GALT, 406 SO 2nd. ALHAMBRA. 91802"

ALSO SUBMITTED: One copy of the 2/2/68 issue of the "Los Angeles Free Press"

Result of examination:

The typewritten impressions on Q315 and Q316 are the same as the impressions appearing on other typewritten items in the name Eric S. Galt which were previously submitted. Because of the lack of identifying defects, it could not be determined whether the same typewriter was employed to prepare the current and previous submissions, but no significant differences were noted.

The Eric S. Galt signature on Q315 was prepared by the individual who prepared the signature in this name appearing on numerous other items received.

The submitted material is temporarily retained. Photographs were made.



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

1 - Mr. Rosen
(Mr. Long 2260)
~~1 - Mr. Conrad~~
1 - Mr. Mortimer
1 - Lab File

To: **FBI, Memphis (44-1987)**

Date: **May 8, 1968**

Re: **MURKIN**
CR
OO: Memphis

John Edgar Hoover, Director

FBI File No. **44-38861**
Lab. No. **D-562322 JK**

Examination requested by: **Los Angeles**
Reference: **Airtel 5/3/68**
Examination requested: **Document - Fingerprint**
Remarks:

You will be advised separately regarding the results of the latent fingerprint examination.

This report confirms and supplements Bureau teletype to Los Angeles and Memphis dated 5/4/68.

- Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)**
- 2 - Los Angeles Enclosures (5) (Q312, Q313, K252, 2 Lab report) (44-1574)**
- 1 - Atlanta (44-2386) Enclosure (Lab report)**
- 1 - Birmingham (44-1740) Enclosure (Lab report)**

JHM:AW (12)

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

**REPORT
of the**



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535**

To: **FBI, Memphis (44-1987)**

Re: **MURKIN
CR**

Date: **May 8, 1968**
 FBI File No. **44-38861**
 Lab. No. **D-562332 JK**

Specimens received **5/4/68**

- Q312 White envelope postmarked "Los Angeles May 1 1968 PM" addressed to "Editor in chief The Los Angeles Times Newspaper Los Angeles, California"**
- Q313 Accompanying one-page typewritten letter beginning "Dear Editor, By the time..." ending "...never kill again." signed "James Ray"**
- K252 Los Angeles, California, Police Department Booking Card bearing known handwriting of JAMES EARL RAY**

Result of examination:

The typewritten impressions on Q312 and Q313 are not identical with the typewritten impressions appearing on items previously received in this matter in the name Eric S. Galt.

Although significant handwriting differences were noted between the "James Ray" signature on Q313 when compared with the available known signatures of James Earl Ray, because a portion of the questioned signature is overwritten and because of the limited nature of the questioned writing involved, a definite opinion could not be reached as to whether the questioned signature on Q313 was prepared by Ray.

No watermarks, indented writing or other identifying features were noted on Q312 and Q313 which might indicate their immediate source.

Specimens Q312 and Q313 were searched in the Anonymous Letter File without effecting an identification. Photographs will be added to this file for future reference.

The spelling, punctuation and typing habits of the individual who prepared Q312 and Q313 were found at variance with similar aspects of typewritten material previously received in the name Eric S. Galt and also in the known handwriting of JAMES EARL RAY.

The submitted evidence has been photographed and is returned herewith.

Page 2
D-562332 JK

1 - Mr. McGowan, 272
~~1 - Mr. Conrad~~
1 - Mr. Griffith
1 - Mr. Mortimer
5/7/68

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO SACS DENVER (157-203)
LOS ANGELES (44-1574)
MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN.

REBUTEL TO LOS ANGELES TODAY SETTING FORTH RESULTS
EXAMINATION OF AIR TRAVEL CREDIT CARD IN NAME OF CARL RAY AND
DENVER AIRTEL MAY FOUR LAST.

FOR INFORMATION MEMPHIS AND DENVER RETEL ADVISED
DIFFERENCES NOTED BETWEEN HAND PRINTING AND CARL RAY
SIGNATURE ON CREDIT CARD WHEN COMPARED WITH KNOWN WRITING
OF SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY BUT LIMITED NATURE OF QUESTIONED
MATERIAL PRECLUDED DEFINITE OPINION.

REDNAIRTEL SUBMITTING FRONTIER AIRLINES
TRANSPORTATION RECEIPT BEARING SIGNATURE "CARL RAY"
PURCHASED BY UTILIZING TEMPORARY CREDIT CARD THREE ONE ZERO
EIGHT EIGHT REFERRED TO ABOVE. NO CONCLUSION WHETHER
CARL RAY SIGNATURES ON CREDIT CARD AND FRONTIER AIRLINES

WDG:mb (6)

**TELETYPE TO DENVER, LOS ANGELES, MEMPHIS
RE: MURKIN
44-38861**

**TRANSPORTATION RECEIPT BY SAME PERSON BUT DIFFERENCES
NOTED SUGGESTING POSSIBILITY OF DIFFERENT WRITERS.**

**NO CONCLUSION WHETHER SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY
WROTE "CARL RAY" SIGNATURE ON FRONTIER AIRLINES
TRANSPORTATION RECEIPT, HOWEVER, SOME HANDWRITING
CHARACTERISTICS IN COMMON NOTED BETWEEN THIS "CARL RAY"
SIGNATURE AND KNOWN WRITING OF SUBJECT RAY. LIMITED
NATURE OF QUESTIONED SIGNATURE AND LACK OF SIGNIFICANT
HANDWRITING CHARACTERISTICS PRECLUDED DEFINITE OPINION.**

**RESULTS OF LATENT EXAMINATION OF FRONTIER
AIRLINES TRANSPORTATION RECEIPT WILL BE FURNISHED
SEPARATELY.**

Mr. DeLoach

A. Rosen

MURKIN

May 7, 1968

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. McGowan
- 1 - Mr. Long
- 1 - Mr. McDonough
- 1 - Mr. Martindale
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. Conrad
- 1 - Mr. Gale
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Trotter

Handwritten notes:
 B...
 W...
 J...
 M...
 D... 7001

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

Louis E. Lomax has now released his final news article. It is a vicious and unwarranted attack against the Bureau and is replete with misstatements of fact and ridiculous conclusions.

1. LOMAX STATES: The Director deeply disliked King and once referred to him as a notorious liar; therefore, few black people will believe the Bureau will work overtime to find King's slayer.

FACTS: The total facilities of the FBI have been fully committed to this case from the outset. Investigation has proceeded around-the-clock on a top priority basis throughout the United States and in various foreign countries. Thousands of interviews have been conducted and hundreds of suspects have been processed. A tremendous number of examinations have been conducted by the Laboratory and Identification Division. Every logical investigative approach is being vigorously pursued and there will be no let up until Ray is apprehended.

2. LOMAX STATES: The FBI is inept or its bungling is intentional.

Stamp: APPROVED
Stamp: FBI DIVISION
 The Bureau's record in this case is one of substantial achievement. Starting with an unknown subject, the man known as Eric Galt was identified as a prime suspect within five days. Within another week we had obtained a photograph of the subject and the Attorney General considered sufficient evidence had been developed to

WLM:rar (14)

CONTINUED - OVER

RECEIVED

RECEIVED CONRAD

JUN 3 10 29 AM '68

MAY 7 9 35 AM '68

PHYSICS & CHEMISTRY
FBI
LABORATORY

FBI
LABORATORY DIVISION

TO: SAC, NEW YORK (100-100000)

FROM: SAC, PHOENIX (100-100000)

RE: [Illegible]

[Illegible]

[Illegible]

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

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

warrant Federal process. Three days later, as a result of a project to check latent fingerprints against the fingerprints of more than 53,000 fugitives, Ray was determined to be identical with Galt.

3. LOMAX STATES: Somebody managed to circulate wrong fingerprints for Ray and if he had been arrested when he abandoned his car in Atlanta (4/5/68) he would not have been identified as Ray.

FACTS: The FBI has issued only one set of fingerprints and these are the actual fingerprints of Ray. When Ray escaped from prison in April, 1967, Missouri authorities issued a wanted notice that bore the wrong fingerprints; however, the warden immediately issued a corrected wanted notice bearing the correct fingerprints. We had nothing to do with these wanted notices issued by Missouri almost a year before King was killed.

4. LOMAX STATES: The FBI has pre-empted local police from the case by declaring the King murder a conspiracy.

FACTS: We have closely cooperated with the Memphis Police who obtained a murder warrant immediately after Federal process was obtained. All evidence has been turned over to the police together with the results of Laboratory and fingerprint examinations and we have offered local authorities whatever assistance may be needed in presenting the case to a local grand jury.

5. LOMAX STATES: The FBI has yet to ask the cooperation of the Los Angeles Police.

FACTS: Our relations with the Los Angeles Police in this case have been excellent. We have checked their records on the subject and various other individuals and on 5/3/68 when the police received a letter to the "Los Angeles Times" purportedly written by the subject, it was immediately made available to the Los Angeles Office.

6. LOMAX STATES: Ray made at least three trips from Los Angeles to New Orleans.

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

FACTS: Ray is only known to have made two trips from Los Angeles to New Orleans, in December, 1967, and in March, 1968.

7. LOMAX STATES: The FBI confiscated telephone company records listing calls made from Los Angeles telephone booths used by Ray and only the FBI knows what these records show.

FACTS: We have not confiscated any records. We have obtained information from the telephone company regarding calls made from all pay telephones in the St. Francis Hotel, Los Angeles. It would appear that Lomax has been unsuccessful in his efforts to obtain similar information from the telephone company.

8. LOMAX STATES: America's blacks never have trusted either the Director or the FBI.

FACTS: We have long enjoyed the confidence of responsible Negro leaders and the responsible Negro press. This confidence has been gained by the Bureau's continuing success in handling Civil Rights cases such as the murder of three civil rights workers in Mississippi, the murder of Lt. Colonel Lemuel Penn in Georgia, the murder of Viola Liuzzo in Alabama, investigations concerning discrimination in voting, education, and many similar investigative accomplishments.

9. LOMAX STATES: The FBI leaked a story to the press suggesting a Negro was behind King's murder.

FACTS: This is absolutely false.

10. LOMAX STATES: The Director should publicly admit his dislike for King and then "share the hunt" with a less prejudiced agency; the cause of justice would be better served if the investigation were under a Warren-type, biracial commission.

FACTS: This is unworthy of comment.

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

11. LOMAX STATES: It is certain powerful men in American society were part of the deed.

FACTS: We have developed no evidence to indicate this is true nor does Lomax document this statement in any way.

In his prior articles Louis Lomax made reference to a "mysterious blond" named Jerri who he alleged had been involved with Ray at Los Angeles and later went to Milwaukee where Lomax said she had disappeared. Jerri has been identified as Dyrrell Dennis, a prostitute and narcotics addict whose relationship with Ray appears to have been limited to a single meeting in a bar followed by a brief visit to his room.

Edgar John Pendleton, Los Angeles, with whom Lomax has also been in contact, has made available a letter he received from Dyrrell Dennis, postmarked 4/19/68 at Milwaukee. This letter states in part, "Have you seen Ray? I hope he is OK." Pendleton denies any knowledge of the subject and states the Ray mentioned by Dennis is Ray Selma, a Mexican-American who formerly resided at the St. Francis Hotel. It is noted Dennis has stated she knew the subject only as Eric.

Local authorities are scheduled to present this matter to a grand jury at Memphis, 5/7/68, to seek a murder indictment against Ray. At the present time it does not appear that Bureau personnel will be required to testify, but the Special Agent in Charge will be available if he is needed.

ACTION:

Vigorous investigation is continuing on a top priority basis.

1 - Mr. McGowan, 2712
① - Mr. Conrad
1 - Mr. Griffith
1 - Mr. Mortimer
5/7/68

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO SAC LOS ANGELES (44-1574)
FROM DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN.

RELAIRTEL MAY THREE LAST SUBMITTING AIR TRAVEL
CREDIT CARD AND TWO AIRLINE TICKETS. DIFFERENCES WERE NOTED
BETWEEN THE HAND PRINTING AND CARL RAY SIGNATURES ON CREDIT
CARD WHEN COMPARED WITH KNOWN HANDWRITING OF SUBJECT
JAMES EARL RAY. LIMITED NATURE OF QUESTIONED MATERIAL
PRECLUDED DEFINITE OPINION.

RESULTS OF LATENT EXAMINATION OF CREDIT CARD AND
OTHER ITEMS SUBMITTED WILL BE FURNISHED SEPARATELY. AIRMAIL
COPIES SENT TO MEMPHIS, DENVER AND EL PASO.

1 - Memphis (44-1987) - Airmail
1 - Denver (157-203) - Airmail
1 - El Paso - Airmail

NOTE FOR MEMPHIS: No Laboratory report will be submitted
regarding the results of the examination
set out above.

JHM:mb (9)



1 - Mr. Rosen
(Mr. Long 2260)
~~1 - Mr. Conrad~~
1 - Mr. Devine
1 - Lab File

J. Edgar Hoover

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535**

To: **FBI, Buffalo (44-374)**

Date: **May 6, 1968**

Re: **MURKIN
CR
OO: Memphis**

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

FBI File No. **44-38861**
Lab. No. **D-562101 JK**

Examination requested by: **Buffalo**
Reference: **Airtel 4/29/68**
Examination requested: **Document - Fingerprint**
Remarks:

A separate report is being furnished on the latent fingerprint examination and return of Q304 and Q305.

**DO NOT INCLUDE ADMINISTRATIVE
PAGE(S) INFORMATION IN
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)
1 - Memphis (44-1987) Enclosure (Lab report)

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

**REPORT
of the****FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535**To: **FBI, Buffalo (44-374)**Date: **May 6, 1968**Re: **MURKIN
CR**FBI File No. **44-38861**Lab. No. **D-562101 JK**Specimens received **5/2/68**

- Q304** White envelope postmarked "ROCHESTER, N.Y. 1A PM 17 APR 1968" bearing typewritten address "MRS. GROOMS ROCHESTER TIMES-UNION ROCHESTER, N. Y."
- Q305** Accompanying piece of paper bearing typewritten message beginning "MRS. GROOMS - I READ...."

Result of examination:

It was concluded that the typewriting on Q304 and Q305 is not identical to typewriting appearing on material attributable to Eric S. Galt, previously submitted in this case.

Q304 and Q305 were searched in the Anonymous Letter File without effecting an identification. Copies have been added to this file for future reference.

Except for the printing "FREE PARKING" on the reverse side of Q305, no watermarks, indented writing or other identifying characteristics were noted on the submitted material by which the source of these specimens could be definitely determined.

Q304 and Q305 have been photographed and are being returned to Buffalo separately.

1 Mr. McGowan, 2712

~~1 - Mr. Conrad~~

1 - Mr. Griffith

1 - Mr. Mortimer

5/6/68

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO SACS MIAMI (44-1854)
JACKSONVILLE (44-769)

FROM DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN.

REJKAIRTEL MAY TWO LAST SUBMITTING COPY OF
AUTOMOBILE REGISTRATION AND MMAIRTEL MAY TWO LAST
SUBMITTING ITEMS RELATING TO BOAT RENTALS ALL BEARING
SIGNATURE MICHEL ST. PIERRE.

CONCLUDED MICHEL ST. PIERRE SIGNATURES ON DOCUMENTS
SUBMITTED NOT PREPARED BY JAMES EARL RAY. LATENT REPORT
AND DISPOSITION OF EVIDENCE FURNISHED SEPARATELY. COPY
MAILED TO MEMPHIS, ATLANTA, KANSAS CITY AND ALBANY.

1 - Memphis (44-1987) - Airmail
1 - Atlanta (44-2386) - Airmail
1 - Kansas City (44-760) - Airmail
1 - Albany (44-493) - Airmail

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Note to Memphis: No Laboratory report will be submitted regarding
the results of the examination set out above.

WM 6 3 ST BN CB

JHM:mb (10)

RECEIVED - COMBUD

RECEIVED - CONRAD

MEMORANDUM (TO)

MAY 6 3 21 PM '68

LABORATORY DIVISION
FBI

- 1 - WINDSIA (44-685) - WINDSIA
- 1 - WINDSIA (44-100) - WINDSIA
- 1 - WINDSIA (44-3880) - WINDSIA
- 1 - WINDSIA (44-1888) - WINDSIA

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS BEING FURNISHED TO YOU FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

THE INFORMATION IS BEING FURNISHED TO YOU FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

THE INFORMATION IS BEING FURNISHED TO YOU FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

CONDUCTED BY THE LABORATORY DIVISION OF THE FBI ON MAY 6, 1968.

THE RESULTS OF THE ANALYSIS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

THE INFORMATION IS BEING FURNISHED TO YOU FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

THE INFORMATION IS BEING FURNISHED TO YOU FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

(44-3880) (44-3880)

(44-100) (44-100)

(44-685) (44-685)

WINDSIA

WINDSIA

WINDSIA

WINDSIA

WINDSIA

WINDSIA

WINDSIA

WINDSIA

FBI

Date: 5-4-68

White
gr

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

TO: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)
SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN.

RE LA AIRTEL MAY THREE LAST SUBMITTING LETTER AND ENVELOPE
ADDRESSED TO "THE LOS ANGELES TIMES NEWSPAPER."

TYPEWRITING ON ABOVE ITEMS NOT IDENTICAL WITH THAT RECEIVED
IN THIS CASE ATTRIBUTED TO ERIC S. GALT.

SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES INDICATE JAMES RAY SIGNATURE ON
LETTER PROBABLY NOT BY JAMES EARL RAY. OVERWRITING OF PORTION
OF SIGNATURE AND LIMITED QUESTIONED HANDWRITING PRECLUDED
DEFINITE OPINION.

TYPING HABITS, SPELLING AND PUNCTUATION AT VARIANCE WITH
TYPEWRITTEN LETTERS RECEIVED IN GALT NAME AND KNOWN HANDWRITING
OF SUBJECT RAY.

NO LATENTS DEVELOPED ON SPECIMENS.

SPECIMENS ARE TEMPORARILY RETAINED IN THE LABORATORY.

DEH/lvc

(11)

air mail copies to SAC'S Birmingham
Atlanta

- 1-Mr. Rosen Room 5706 JB
- ~~1-Mr. Conrad Room 7021 JB~~
- 1-J. Mortimer Room 7613 JB
- 1-Mr. Trotter Room 4130 IB

Sent Via _____ M Per _____

White
Staff
Jones
gray
Matt

Mr. DeLoach

May 4, 1968

A. Rosen

MURKIN

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. McGowan
- 1 - Mr. Long
- 1 - Mr. McDonough
- 1 - Mr. Martindale
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- ~~1 - Mr. Conrad~~
- 1 - Mr. Gale
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Trotter

This case involves the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Postal Inspector at Los Angeles has made available a letter and photograph Ray mailed to Patricia K. Anderson, Los Angeles, 2/17/68. The letter was written as a result of Anderson's inclusion in a list called "The Local Swinger" which is compiled by a correspondence club. Anderson is being located for interview. The letter is set out below.

"Dear Miss:

"I am answering your listing in The Local Swinger since I think I share most of your interest, with emphasis on French cult. and swing sessions. I have just returned from Mexico after five yrs. and the few females I have met don't go for the swing parties and it takes two to swing. The same routine gets boring, don't you think? Will close until I hear from you.

"5-11 - 170 lb. 36 yrs.

"Sincerely

Eric S. Galt"

Owners of "The Local Swinger" recalled Eric Galt had sent one dollar for a list of swingers and subsequently submitted five letters for transmittal to persons identified on the list by symbol number. No record is maintained that would identify the persons the subject wrote but additional investigation is being conducted in this regard.

WLM:vea
(14)

CONTINUED - OVER

RECEIVED - COMBUD

MAY 13 5 45 PM '68

NOISE DIVISION

RECEIVED - COMBUD

RECEIVED

MAY 13 2 05 PM '68

FBI LABORATORY

RECEIVED - CONRAD

MAY 13 2 42 PM '68

FBI LABORATORY DIVISION

FBI LABORATORY DIVISION

MAY 13 2 41 PM '68

RECEIVED - CONRAD

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

Both Charles Stein and Rita Stein have stated the above photograph is the best likeness of the subject they have seen. Identifying numbers on the back of this Polaroid print indicate the film was manufactured in August, 1967.

Gene Turner, Los Angeles "Free Press," an avant-garde newspaper, made available the following advertisement placed by Eric S. Galt by mail on 1/30/68; and printed 2/8/68:

"Single male cauc. 36 yrs. 5-11 - 170 lb, digs Fr. cult. desire's discreet meeting with passionate married female for mutual enjoyment, and/or female for swing sessions apt. furn. will ex. photo.

"Write

Eric S. 406-So. 2nd. Alhambra. 91802."

The address used in the above advertisement is that of a mail forwarding service subscribed to by Ray. The owner of this service has previously advised no mail was ever received for the subject.

John Larry Ray, subject's brother, St. Louis, has been reinterviewed and appeared cooperative. He believes the subject started using narcotics in the Army and said he has not seemed right since. He again denied any knowledge of the subject subsequent to his escape.

Albert Pepper, brother-in-law of the subject, married Ray's sister, Carol, while Ray was in Missouri State Penitentiary. He denies ever meeting Ray or having any knowledge of his whereabouts. Pepper stated he had run off a "Life" magazine reporter with a club.

John Gawron, who previously advised he had taught Ray burglary, advised that on three occasions while Ray was in Missouri State Penitentiary, Ray contacted him through Carol to purchase a case of cold inhalants, probably benzedrine. The inhalants were picked up each time by an unidentified prison guard who received \$100 for each trip. Gawron also alleged Ray operated a loan racket in prison.

**Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN**

The Los Angeles Police Department furnished the Los Angeles Office a letter dated 5/1/68 which was addressed to the Editor in Chief of the "Los Angeles Times." The letter is typed single spaced and signed James Ray. The writer stated he has been in the Los Angeles area but was departing as of the time he mailed the letter, 5/1/68. He alleged he is sick over having slain King, but states he killed him for \$3,000. He additionally states that he is disgusted with articles which have been appearing in the press concerning him, particularly derogatory comments made about him by Warden Harold Swenson of the Missouri State Penitentiary and Cathy Norton, a dance instructor who was quoted as saying that "Ray was clumsy." In the letter he alleges that while he is remorseful over having slain King he will not go back to prison again and will kill himself before doing so. The letter does not indicate where Ray stayed in Los Angeles or what other cities he may have been in since the assassination.

The letter was flown to the Bureau and examined last night by the Laboratory and the Identification Division. Significant differences indicate the James Ray signature probably was not made by James Earl Ray, however, a definite opinion was precluded by limited questioned handwriting. No latent fingerprints were developed on the specimens.

Chicago has advised that various news media converged on Sportsman's Country Club to interview Jerry Ray, brother of James Earl Ray, and as a result Jerry left his employment. He has contacted the Chicago Office, stating he plans to visit other relatives in Missouri for three or four days and will probably return to his employment thereafter when news media interest has abated.

ACTION:

Vigorous investigation is continuing to locate Ray as quickly as possible.

W. J. ...

B. J. ...
W. J. ...
J. ...

Mr. DeLoach

May 3, 1968

A. Rosen

MURKIN

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. McGowan
- 1 - Mr. Long
- 1 - Mr. McDonough
- 1 - Mr. Martindale
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- ~~1 - Mr. Conrad~~
- 1 - Mr. Gale
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Trotter

DMG
1621

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

SAC Wesley Grapp of the Los Angeles Office has telephonically furnished the following information.

The Los Angeles Police Department has just furnished to the Los Angeles Office a letter dated 5/1/68 postmarked in Los Angeles and addressed and mailed to the Editor in Chief of the "Los Angeles Times" newspaper in Los Angeles, California. The letter is typed single spaced and purportedly signed by James Ray.

In the letter the writer states that he has been in the Los Angeles area but was departing Los Angeles as of the time he mailed the letter. He alleges that he is sick over having slain King but states he killed him for \$3,000. He additionally states that he is disgusted with articles which have been appearing in the press concerning him, particularly derogatory comments made about him by Warden Harold Swensen of the Missouri State Penitentiary and Cathy Norton, a dance instructor who was quoted as saying that "Ray was clumsy." In the letter he alleges that while he is remorseful over having slain King he will not go back to prison again and will kill himself before doing so. The letter does not indicate where Ray stayed in Los Angeles or what other cities he may have been in since the assassination.

SAC Grapp stated that while it is not known whether the letter is legitimate or a crank letter, it is being forwarded to the Bureau immediately by commercial aircraft for appropriate Laboratory examination to determine if, in fact, it was written by Ray.

JGK:vea
(14)

CONTINUED - OVER

RECEIVED
MAY 7 12 23 PM '68
PHYSICS & CHEMISTRY
FBI
LABORATORY

RECEIVED - CONRAD
MAY 3 7 08 PM '68
FBI
LABORATORY DIVISION

RECEIVED - CONRAD
MAY 6 9 20 AM '68
FBI
LABORATORY DIVISION

RECEIVED - CONRAD
MAY 7 1 55 PM '68
FBI
LABORATORY DIVISION

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

Los Angeles is immediately conducting appropriate investigation including contacts of all train and bus depots, airports and car rental agencies as well as informants.

The Laboratory has been alerted and the letter will be immediately examined upon its arrival.

ACTION:

You will be kept advised of all pertinent developments.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: May 3, 1968

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: MURKIN

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 - Mr. DeLoach | 1 - Mr. Mohr |
| 1 - Mr. Rosen | 1 - Mr. Bishop |
| 1 - Mr. Malley | 1 - Mr. Conrad |
| 1 - Mr. McGowan | 1 - Mr. Gale |
| 1 - Mr. Long | 1 - Mr. Sullivan |
| 1 - Mr. McDonough | 1 - Mr. Trotter |
| 1 - Mr. Martindale | |

White
to B. Hoff
J. ...
M. ...

This case involves the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

It has previously been reported that Ray resided at Harkay Apartments, 2589 Rue Notre Dame Est, Montreal, Canada, for about six weeks, moving out about Labor Day, 1967, but that no record of his tenancy could be located. The apartment owner has found a six months' lease executed by Eric S. Galt on 7/17/67 for Apartment 18. The lease was for the period of 7/18/67 to 1/18/68. Total rent was \$450 payable at \$75 a month.

Shay
7621

The apartment owner has no record as to when the subject left but believes he skipped out on 9/2/67. A neighborhood investigation conducted by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police did not develop any pertinent information concerning the subject.

Various allegations have been made that while Ray was in Missouri State Penitentiary he was well supplied with money and regularly received money from outside the prison. A review of Ray's account in the prison shows the following total cash deposits for each year:

1960	\$ 33.06
1961	31.00
1962	50.00
1963	314.10
1964	102.50
1965	50.50
1966	71.10
1967	15.00
	<u>\$667.26</u>

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
 MAY 3 2 11 PM '68
 RECEIVED COMMAND

WLM:vea
(14)

CONTINUED - OVER

RECEIVED - CONRAD

MAY 3 9 43 AM '68

FBI
LABORATORY DIVISION

REC'D
FBI-LABORATORY

MAY 3 11 23 AM '68

RECEIVED - CONRAD

MAY 3 3 17 PM '68

FBI
LABORATORY DIVISION

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

Most of the above deposits were in small amounts, the largest deposit being \$65 on 4/16/63. Only eight deposits were in amounts of more than \$25 and the total of all deposits of \$20 or more is \$390.

It is noted Ray reportedly escaped 4/23/67. The last cash deposit to his account was in the amount of \$15 on 2/3/67 after which the balance was \$30.35. Various small withdrawals were made between 2/3/67 and 4/21/67 when the last withdrawal of \$9.75 was made, leaving a balance of \$4.36 when Ray escaped.

The official version of Ray's escape from Missouri State Penitentiary is that on 4/23/67 he concealed himself in a truck carrying bread from the prison to a prison farm. There have been allegations that he actually escaped in some other manner and on some other date.

In a report dated 5/3/67, Captain Danton Steele advised the Associate Warden he had investigated Ray's escape, the means of which had "remained a mystery for ten days" because of gross dereliction of duty by three and possibly five prison personnel. Steele reported the following details.

The guard who drove the truck watched inmates load the bread box for the farm and the box did not appear unusually heavy. The driver watched another guard check the truck before leaving the prison and the bread in the box for the farm was still neatly stacked near the top of the box; however, the report noted that the box holds sixty loaves and since only forty loaves were being sent to the farm, the bread should have extended only two-thirds the distance to the top of the box.

En route to the farm the truck stopped to deliver another box of bread and nothing unusual was noticed. Upon arrival at the farm, the bread was found to be torn and crushed so that only a few loaves were usable. This fact went unreported for ten days.