

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

LONG ISOLATION ENDS FOR JAMES EARL RAY

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—For the first time since James Earl Ray was arrested three years ago for slaying Dr. Martin Luther King, he has been allowed to mingle with other prisoners—both black and white.

Warden Robert H. Moore of Brushy Mountain State Prison, the state's maximum security prison, said Ray, 40, "will be allowed the same privileges as other prisoners." The prison's population of 343 is about 40% black.

Moore said he had discussed the move with Ray, serving 99 years after pleading guilty to the sniper slaying of Dr. King in Memphis in 1968.

"I wouldn't have forced him out into the prison population if Ray had felt like he was endangered," Moore said.

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

1-31 Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 7/8/71
Edition: Thursday Final
Author:
Editor:
Title:

Character:

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Classification:

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

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Initials *deh*
Date 8-6-71

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SERIALIZED ☒ FILED ☒
JUL - 8 1971
FBI - LOS ANGELES

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

ESCAPE MOVE COSTS RAY PRISON BENEFITS

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—James Earl Ray's unsuccessful escape attempt cost him his status Tuesday as an "honor grade" prisoner in Tennessee's maximum security prison.

The Brushy Mountain Prison disciplinary committee consigned Ray, confessed killer of Dr. Martin Luther King, to 30 days in a single cell and loss of prison privileges. He is serving a 99-year term.

Ray, 42, slipped through a hole he had hacked in his cell early Monday, sawed a bar in an air chamber and got as far as a steam tunnel leading out of the prison compound. But the 400-degree heat in the steam pipes turned him back and he was captured.

Warden Robert H. Moore said Ray lost for 30 days such privileges as making purchases at the commissary, attending shows, recreation and going to the library. "Honor grade" prisoners receive these and other privileges.

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

I-24 Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 5/5/71
Edition: Wednesday Final
Author:
Editor:
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Submitting Office: Los Angeles
☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-107

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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MAY 05 1971	
FBI — LOS ANGELES	

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ray Fails In Escape Effort

PETROS, Tenn. (UPI) — James Earl Ray, the convicted killer of Dr. Martin Luther King, broke out of his cell Monday but was captured before he could get out of the Brushy Mountain State Prison.

Warden Robert Moore said Ray, who is serving 99 years for Dr. King's murder, used tools provided by another inmate to remove one concrete block and part of another and make his way from his cell into an air chamber.

Ray then removed a bar on a ventilation fan and entered the prison yard behind his cellblock. Then, using a crowbar, he removed the cover on a manhole on a steam tunnel that went under the prison wall to a steam plant outside the prison.

The warden said Ray entered the tunnel, obviously hoping to make his way to the unguarded steam plant outside the prison, but "apparently he found it too hot in there for comfort — that steam tunnel is about 400 degrees Fahrenheit."

The warden said Ray then climbed out of the tunnel and retreated to the prison yard.

Ray was found hiding in the shadows of a building in the prison yard at about 3:15 a.m. Moore said this was probably about 15 or 20 minutes after Ray left his cell.

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

I-16 Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 5/4/71
Edition: Tuesday Final
Author:
Editor:
Title:

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☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-11

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 04 1971	
FBI — LOS ANGELES	

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Escape of James Earl Ray Foiled

Dr. King's Killer Tries To Escape

PETROS, Tenn. (UPI) — James Earl Ray, serving 99 years for the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was foiled early today in an attempt to escape from Brushy Mountain State Prison.

Tennessee Correction Commissioner Mark Luttrell said Ray broke out of his cell by sawing through its bars, leaving behind a dummy in his bunk to fool guards.

The guards found the broken bars, however, and a quick check of inmates showed Ray to be missing. Luttrell said Ray was caught before he could scale the walls surrounding the maximum security prison.

Ray was sentenced to 99 years on a guilty plea to the April 4, 1968, sniper slaying of King at a Memphis motel. He was transferred to Brushy Mountain in 1970 after serving almost a year at the main state prison in Nashville.

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

A-1 Herald-Examiner
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 5/3/71
Edition: 9 Star
Author:
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Classification:
Submitting Office: Los Angeles
☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-75

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 04 1971	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

H. K. ...



JAMES EARL RAY

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

28 Part I—Fri., Apr. 30, 1971

Los Angeles Times ★

U.S. Court Rejects Ray Plea Against Attorneys

Assassin of Dr. King Charged His Own Lawyers Deprived Him of a Fair Trial

CINCINNATI (UPI)—A federal court Thursday rejected an appeal by James Earl Ray, who charged his own attorneys deprived him of a fair trial for the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King.

The court responded to a suit filed in Tennessee in which Ray charged that attorneys Arthur J. Hanes and Percy Foreman "conspired to violate his right to a fair trial." Also named in the suit was author William Bradford Huie.

Ray never went to trial for the April, 1968, assassination. He pleaded guilty to the murder charge in March, 1969, and is now serving a 99-year sentence at Brushy Mountain Prison near Petros, Tenn.

The 6th Circuit Court's rejection of Ray's appeal thwarted another of his many attempts to reopen the assassination case. Had the appeal been upheld, Ray was expected to have sought a hearing challenging the validity of his guilty plea.

Ray's suit said he had

entered into a contract with Huie and Hanes to write a book about the assassination three days after he was arrested in London on July 8, 1968.

The suit said Hanes and Huie had "used their positions of trust to impose these contracts on Ray against his will."

Under the agreement, Huie would write the book and Hanes and Ray would each get 30% of the gross receipts from its sale.

Ray fired Hanes later and hired Foreman as his attorney. A new contract was drawn up Jan. 29, 1969, in which it was stated Hanes would relinquish all his rights under the old contract.

On Feb. 3, 1969, Ray signed another agreement in which he assigned any profits he might make from sale of the book to Foreman as pay for his legal services.

Ray later became disenchanted with the contracts, according to his suit, and asked a Tennessee appeals court to void them.

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

LOS ANGELES TIMES
LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA

Date: 4/30/71
Edition:
Author:
Editor:
Title: MURKIN

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Classification:
Submitting Office:
☐ Being Investigated

44-1574

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 30 1971	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ray Denied Appeal for New Trial

CINCINNATI (UPI)—A federal court today rejected an appeal by James Earl Ray who charged his own attorneys deprived him of a "fair trial" for the assassination of The Rev. Martin Luther King.

The court responded to a suit filed in Tennessee in which Ray charged that Attorneys Arthur J. Hanes and Percy Foreman "conspired to violate his right to a fair trial." Also named in the suit was author William Bradford Huie.

Ray never went to trial for the April, 1968 King assassination. He pleaded guilty to the murder charge in March, 1969, and is now serving a 99-year sentence at Brushy Mountain Prison near Petros, Tenn.

The Sixth Circuit Court's rejection of Ray's appeal thwarted another of his many attempts to reopen the assassination case. Had the appeal been upheld, Ray was expected to have sought a hearing challenging the validity of his guilty plea.

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

A-3 Herald-Examiner
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 4/29/71

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Editor:

Title:

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Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-1000

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 30 1971	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Brother Of Ray Convicted

ST. LOUIS, Mo. (UPI)—John Larry Ray, brother of James Earl Ray who pleaded guilty to the slaying of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was convicted late Tuesday night of armed robbery.

Ray, 37, and Ronald S. Goldenstein, 31, were found guilty of the \$53,000 holdup of the bank of St. Peters, Mo., Oct. 26. Ray had been charged with driving the getaway car.

U.S. District Judge William H. Webster will sentence the two men April 23. The maximum on conviction could be 25 years, including five years for putting the lives of bank employees in jeopardy.

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

A-6 Herald-Examiner
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 4/8/71

Edition: 8 Star

Author:

Editor:

Title:

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Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-100

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 10 1971	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

SLAYER'S 1ST INTERVIEW**Ray Reveals Prison Role: Serving Meals**

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (UPI)—"I do not cause trouble here. I work six hours a day, seven days a week. My job is serving food to my cellmates and housekeeping our cellblock."

With these words, James Earl Ray, who is serving 99 years at Brushy Mountain Prison at Petros for the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King three years ago, described his simple prison life.

Ray's talk with reporter Willard Yarbrough of the Knoxville News-Sentinel, published Friday, was the first interview he had granted since his conviction.

"I decided to trust you so that I could let people outside know that I wasn't crazy," Ray said. "Some people have thought so, since I always hide when the press comes around."

He wouldn't discuss his case "because my lawyer to a me interviews could

jeopardize my appeals to overturn my conviction."

Ray is housed in a minimum security section of this maximum security prison, a cellblock where inmates have free access to the corridor and can visit other cells to play cards or talk or watch television.

"Once a day I get outside the cellblock and to the gymnasium for exercise. I do this soon after arising around 5:30 a.m.," Ray said.

"I write memos to my lawyer in Washington. He was down to see me about appeals of my conviction two weeks ago.

"I'm in bed and asleep by 8 every night," he said. "I must sack in early because I'm up at 5:30 a.m. next day, and when I finish working and exercising I'm beat."

Officers agree Ray is a "model prisoner," causing no trouble. At 42, he weighs about 175 pounds. He has gained about 20 pounds since being trans-

ferred a year ago from the main penitentiary at Nashville.

He says he has no fear of bodily harm from fellow prisoners, even the blacks. "Prisoners here, white or black, aren't concerned about such things," Ray said. "All of us are concerned about day-to-day existence and perhaps the day when we won't be locked up anymore."

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

I-12 Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 3/27/71
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Author:
Editor:
Title:

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Classification:
Submitting Office: Los Angeles
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SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 9 1971	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

B. H. H.

Complaint Form
FD-71 (Rev. 7-21-67)

NOTE: Hand print names legibly; handwriting satisfactory for remainder.

Indices: ☐ Negative ☐ See below

Subject's name and aliases JOHN FRIEDMAN	Character of case 62-
	Complainant ANONYMOUS
	Complaint received ☐ Personal ☒ Telephonic Date <u>1-13-75</u> Time <u>10:00AM</u>
Address of subject Employed at 815 SO. Paxton, LA, CAL	
Complainant's address and telephone number	

Subject's Description	Race	Sex ☐ Male ☐ Female	Height	Hair	Build	Birth date and Birthplace So African
	Age	Weight	Eyes	Complexion		
	Scars, marks or other data					

Facts of complaint

C stated the FBI had 48 hours to pick up S as an accomplice in the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King or he will publicly executed.

S is employed at the Feldman Co. at above address.

C said he had brought this to the attention of the FBI a couple years ago and we had failed to act on the information at that time.

C is probably "Herbert" LNU who called the Bureau 12-3-71 making a similar non specif complaint. (44-1574-1919)

I notified LAPD Robbery-Homicide, they advised they were in receipt of numerous letters with a similar complaint against Friedman which all appear to be from the same person. LAPD investigated the matters it concerned Friedman and found them to be baseless.

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Action Recommended

SC MILLARD T. ANDERSON
(Agent)

44-1574-1919/A

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SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JAN 1	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

DATE: 12/7/71

FROM : SA THOMAS J. BEVANS

SUBJECT: JAMES EARL RAY
CR
INFORMATION CONCERNING

On 12/3/71, at 7:30 a.m., an individual who would only identify himself as HERBERT stated he knows one JOHN FRIEDMAN who HERBERT described as the "missing link" in the escape of JAMES EARL RAY.

HERBERT said FRIEDMAN claims to be a Canadian citizen and reportedly has identification and Social Security Numbers in various names. HERBERT stated FRIEDMAN also travels a lot and he is believed by HERBERT to possibly be an illegal. He said FRIEDMAN seems to have much knowledge of JAMES EARL RAY and RAY's activities. He stated FRIEDMAN also has many "wierd" friends.

HERBERT described FRIEDMAN as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	Approximately 45 years of age
Height	5'7"
Weight	145 pounds
Hair	Blond
Eyes	Blue

HERBERT stated he does not know FRIEDMAN's home address but FRIEDMAN, when going home from work, takes the Edgemont - Fountain Avenue bus and likely lives in that area. He stated FRIEDMAN works at Feldman's, 612 Wall Street, Los Angeles, California, as a shipping clerk.

HERBERT was asked to further identify himself and to furnish an address and/or phone number where he could possibly be reached. HERBERT declined this information stating he did not want to get involved and if he obtains additional information regarding FRIEDMAN, he would call this office.

The above is furnished for information in the event HERBERT makes additional calls.

tjb/ard
(2)



5010-108

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

44-1574-1919

SEARCHED	INDEXED <i>cu</i>
SERIALIZED <i>cu</i>	FILED <i>cu</i>
DEC 7 1971	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

'KING DAY' RULED OUT

A proposal to declare Jan. 15 Martin Luther King Day and encourage campus memorial services in honor of the late civil rights leader was turned down again Wednesday by the Los Angeles Community Colleges Board of trustees.

Trustee Kenneth Washington, as he has each year since Dr. King's assassination, offered the proposal—and it was defeated by a split vote, as it has been each year past.

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

II-7 Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 1/6/72
Edition: Thursday Final
Author:
Editor:
Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-1920

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JAN 10 1972	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

[Handwritten signature]

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

LA 105-5724

INDEX:

J.B. STONER
JERRY RAY
JACK L. DULONG

2.- ATLANTA (REGISTERED)

cc: 105-5724 (NSRP)

1.- BIRMINGHAM (REGISTERED)
(THUNDERBOLT)

105-1058 (EDWARD R. FIELDS)
105-1058 (JAMES EARL RAY)

44-1574 *

JWW/amp
(6) *amp*

Read by _____



NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

NATIONAL STATES RIGHTS PARTY



N.S.R.P. EXPANSION REPORT

WE ARE PLEASED TO REPORT THAT THE NEW 16 PAGE THUNDERBOLT IS PROVING TO BE FAR MORE POPULAR WITH THE PUBLIC THAN WE HAD EXPECTED. CIRCULATION AND MEMBERSHIP ARE CONTINUING TO GROW AND WE ARE RECEIVING MORE INQUIRIES ABOUT OUR WORK FROM NEW PEOPLE THAN EVER BEFORE. ONE OF THE BIG REASONS FOR THIS IS THAT SO MANY OF YOU WONDERFUL PEOPLE HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTING EXTRA COPIES OF THE THUNDERBOLT TO YOUR FRIENDS AND CO-WORKERS.

OUR MASS LITERATURE SATURATION CAMPAIGN IN THE EAST POINT AREA OF ATLANTA HAS BEEN A HUGE SUCCESS. WE HAVE RECEIVED SUPPORT FROM ENOUGH NEW PEOPLE TO ENABLE US TO BEGIN HOLDING MEETINGS FOR THESE FINE NEW CONVERTS TO OUR GREAT CAUSE.

THE LATEST THUNDERBOLT (APRIL #148) HAS TWO SPECIAL ARTICLES OF INTEREST TO THE PEOPLE OF ALABAMA. FOR THIS REASON, MANY EXTRA COPIES WILL BE GOING OUT TO THE WHITE FOLKS IN THAT FINE STATE.

THE NEXT THUNDERBOLT (MAY #149) WILL HAVE A SPECIAL FRONT PAGE STORY ABOUT PARTICULAR LIFE AND DEATH PROBLEMS IN ANOTHER CITY IN A NEIGHBORING STATE. WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THAT CITY IS A HORRIBLE SHOW CASE OF WHAT IS HAPPENING THROUGHOUT OUR NATION. THAT CITY WILL THEN BE SATURATED FROM TOP TO BOTTOM AND THERE WILL NOT BE A SINGLE PERSON THERE WHO DOES NOT KNOW OF OUR ALL-OUT WHITEFOLK STAND. WE ARE CERTAIN THAT WITH TWO MONTHS THIS SINGLE OPERATION WILL RESULT IN THE FORMATION OF NEW CHAPTERS OF THE NATIONAL STATES RIGHTS PARTY. IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT CONCENTRATED EFFORTS OFTEN PRODUCE MORE SPECTACULAR SUCCESS. WITHIN THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE, YOU MAY FIND A SIMILAR DYNAMIC DRIVE TO AWAKEN THE ENTIRE POPULACE OF A SPECIFIC CITY BY THE NSRP GOING FULL BLAST IN THE COUNTY RIGHT WHERE YOU LIVE.

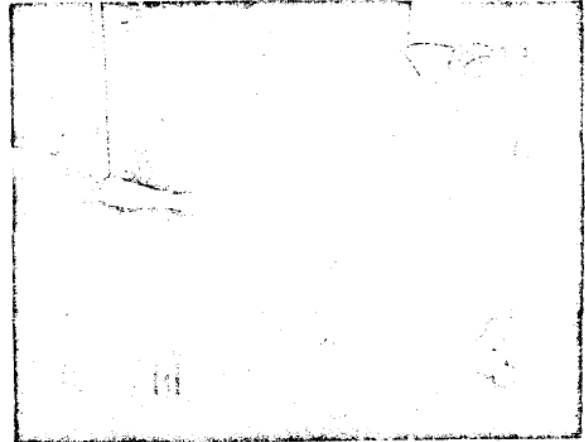
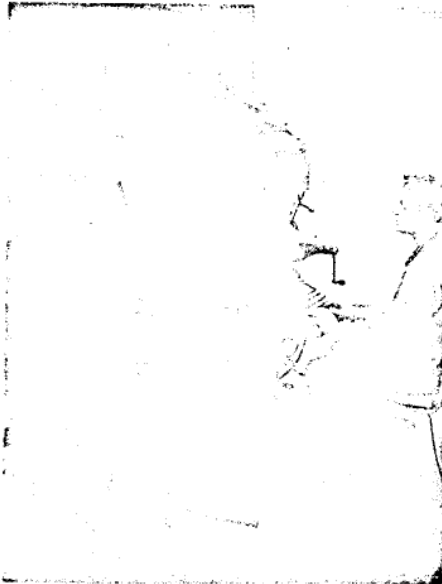
WE HAVE JUST BEGUN TO FIGHT. STAND WITH THE NSRP AND WATCH THE SPARKS FLY! ON THE MASS MEETING FRONT: DR. FIELDS HAS JUST RETURNED FROM SPEAKING IN DALLAS, TEXAS WHERE A GOODLY NUMBER OF NEW PEOPLE WERE INTRODUCED TO THE NSRP FOR THE FIRST TIME. ATTORNEY J.B. STONER, IN ADDITION TO CAMPAIGNING IN GEORGIA, RECENTLY ADDRESSED A CROWD IN JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA AND IS NOW ON HIS WAY TO DAYTON, OHIO FOR A VICTORY CELEBRATION WHERE NSRP AND ALLIED ACTIVITY FORCED THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO REVERSE THEMSELVES AND WHICH STOPPED INTEGRATION BUSING IN THAT NORTHERN CITY. LATER ON IN THE MONTH MR. STONER AND JERRY RAY, THE BROTHER OF JAMES EARL RAY, WILL JOURNEY TO ST. LOUIS. THERE, THEY WILL APPEAR ON A SPECIAL TELEVISION SHOW ABOUT THE JAMES EARL RAY CASE ON A SHOW WHICH IS BEING WELL ADVERTISED AND SHOULD HAVE A GIGANTIC AUDIENCE. THAT WILL BE IN EARLY MAY. AFTER THAT, MR. STONER, OUR NATIONAL CHAIRMAN, WILL ADDRESS A MEETING OF THE NSRP CHAPTERS IN ST. LOUIS, ILLINOIS AND ST. LOUIS, MO.

AS SOON AS HE CAN TAKE TIME OFF FROM HIS SENATE CAMPAIGN, THE NEXT SPEAKING TOUR BY ATTORNEY STONER WILL BE A LONG JOURNEY WESTWARD VISITING CHAPTERS OF THE NSRP IN SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, THE MOUNTAIN AND WESTERN STATES AND THEN, FINALLY, CALIFORNIA. MUCH MORE ON THIS GRAND TOUR LATER.

PAGE 2.

THE PRINTING PLANT

THREE MONTHS AGO WE TOOK UP A COLLECTION OF FUNDS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PRINTING PLANT FOR THE NSRP. YOU WERE VERY GENEROUS AND THE PROJECT HAS BEEN HALF CONCLUDED. PRINTED IN THIS LETTER YOU WILL FIND PHOTOS OF SOME OF THE EQUIPMENT THAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ACQUIRE.



A GIANT HARRIS OFFSET PRESS IS SHOWN. WE HAVE A STITCHER FOR THE BINDING OF BOOKS, A HEAVY ELECTRIC PAPER CUTTER AND A SMALLER OFFSET PRESS. ALSO, YOU WILL NOTE A LINOTYPE TYPESETTING MACHINE FOR WHICH WE STILL OWE.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS PRINTING PLANT IS TO TURN OUT ON A MASS PRODUCTION BASIS HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF TRACTS, PAMPHLETS AND BOOKS WITH WHICH WE CAN FLOOD THIS NATION. AS OF TODAY, WE HAVE BEEN PAYING EXORBITANT PRICES TO PRINTERS IN COMMERCIAL BUSINESS TO THE POINT THAT THE COST HAS LIMITED WHAT WE WOULD REALLY LIKE TO GET INTO CIRCULATION. THE COST OF EVERYTHING IS RISING. THE PRICES OF PAPER, INK, LABOR, TYPESETTING, ETC. WILL GO UP WITH NO END IN SIGHT. IF WE ARE TO BE ABLE TO PROCEED WITHOUT HINDRANCE, WE MUST HAVE OUR OWN PRINTING OPERATION AND THE PHOTOS ON THIS PAGE SHOW YOU WHAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO OBTAIN THUS FAR.

PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT THIS OPERATION IS NOT INTENDED TO PRINT THE THUNDERBOLT. THE THUNDERBOLT IS PRINTED BY A LARGE FIRM WHICH SPECIALIZES IN THE PRINTING OF NEWSPAPERS AND HAS A LARGE ROTARY PRESS WHICH COSTS IN EXCESS OF \$100,000.00. WE COULD NEVER AFFORD A PRESS LARGE ENOUGH TO PRINT THE THUNDERBOLT. THE PRINTING PRESS WE ARE TALKING ABOUT IS SOLELY FOR THE MASS PUBLICATION OF BOOKS AND TRACTS AT COST PRICES WHICH WILL ALLOW US TO OBTAIN MAXIMUM DISTRIBUTION OF VITAL LITERATURE AT PRICES WE CAN AFFORD.

THIS IS AN EMERGENCY LETTER:

THE NSRP HAS BEEN, AND IS, CARRYING ON A GREAT MANY DIVERSE ACTIVITIES. YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR FINANCING THIS GREAT WORK. WE ARE DOING OUR BEST TO KEEP YOU INFORMED OF NSRP PROGRESS BECAUSE YOU ARE THE ONES WHO MAKE ALL OF THESE ACTIVITIES POSSIBLE.

AND BELIEVE ME, WE HAVE GONE A LONG WAY FUNDS ARE NEEDED, VERY MUCH NEEDED!

WE ACHIEVED OUR GREATEST POSSIBLE ADVANCE WHEN YOU ENABLED THE NSRP TO ACQUIRE ITS OWN HEADQUARTERS BUILDING. THE PRINTING PLANT WOULD BE THE NEXT SOURCE OF EXPANSION WHICH WOULD PLACE US IN A NEW POSITION OF BEING ABLE TO REACH SO MANY MORE NEW PEOPLE.

AS THINGS STAND RIGHT NOW, WE STILL NEED TO PAY FOR THE TYPESETTER THAT WE HAVE OBTAINED. HAVING THIS IS A TREMENDOUS COST SAVER, AS THE PRICE OF HAVING A COMMERCIAL FIRM SET TYPE IS MUCH TOO HIGH; ONE PAGE OF TYPE IN A BOOK IS \$6.00. THUS, THE COST OF HAVING THE TYPE SET ON A 200 PAGE BOOK WOULD BE \$1,200.00 AND THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE FURTHER COST OF ACTUALLY PRINTING AND BINDING THE BOOK. BEING ABLE TO SET OUR OWN TYPE WILL BE A VERY SIGNIFICANT COST SAVER.

RIGHT NOW, OUR PATRIOTIC WORKERS ARE FOLDING ALL THE MATERIAL WE PRINT BY HAND. THIS IS AN IMPOSSIBLE SITUATION! WE ABSOLUTELY NEED A LARGE FOLDER. THEY RUN FROM \$3,500 TO \$5,000 AND UP. WE ARE NOW SEARCHING FOR THE MOST REASONABLE BARGAIN WE CAN OBTAIN. WE NEED FUNDS TO COMPLETE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THIS PRINTING PLANT FOR THE NSRP. I DO NOT KNOW IF THIS ONE LETTER CAN DO THE JOB, BUT WE WILL SOON LET YOU KNOW. AT THE SAME TIME, WE CANNOT FORGET THE OTHER VITAL PROJECTS OF THIS PARTY, ESPECIALLY THE SPEAKING TOURS AND THE THUNDERBOLT MASS SATURATION CAMPAIGNS.

FOR ALL OF THESE PROJECTS, WE NEED YOUR HELP. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. PLEASE DIG DOWN DEEP AND DO THE BEST YOU CAN. WE KNOW THAT THE NSRP HAS SUPPORTERS WHO CAN EASILY GIVE \$100 AND THERE ARE OTHERS WHO WILL BE PRESSED TO GIVE \$10, OR \$5, OR EVEN \$1. PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE NATIONAL STATES RIGHTS PARTY AND ITS LEADERS APPRECIATE THE PATRIOT WHO CAN ONLY GIVE A SMALL AMOUNT EQUALLY WITH THOSE WHO CAN HELP OUT IN A SUBSTANTIAL WAY. SO, PLEASE DO NOT NEGLECT US IF YOU ARE LIMITED IN MEANS. REMEMBER THAT SOME TWENTY PEOPLE GIVING \$5 EACH HAVE DONATED ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS TOWARD THE COMPLETION OF THESE VITAL PROJECTS.

BY ALL MEANS, LET US HEAR FROM YOU WITHOUT DELAY. IT IS MOST IMPORTANT AND EVERY LETTER COUNTS. WE WILL BE LOOKING FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU IN THE NEAR FUTURE. LET'S EXPAND THIS GLORIOUS CRUSADE BECAUSE NEVER BEFORE HAS THERE BEEN SUCH AN EFFECTIVE MOVEMENT OF WHITE PEOPLE THREATENING TO BREAK THE DEADLY GRIP THAT THE ENEMY HAS ON OUR NATION. I SAY THAT IT IS TIME TO REMOVE THE GLOVES AND PUT UP THE MOST FEROCIOUS BATTLE FOR THE SALVATION OF OUR RACE AND NATION THAT HAS EVER BEEN SEEN IN THE 20TH CENTURY.

AWAITING YOUR LETTER, I REMAIN

YOURS FOR WHITE RACE VICTORY,

Dr. Edward R. Fields

NATIONAL STATES RIGHTS PARTY
P.O. Box 1211
MARIETTA, GEORGIA 30060

MAIL TODAY

I AM PLEASED THAT IMPORTANT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE TOWARD THE COMPLETION OF THE PRINTING PLANT FOR THE NSRP. THE FOLDER IS A MOST IMPORTANT ITEM. THE MASS THUNDERBOLT SATURATION CAMPAIGNS ARE OF OBVIOUS EFFECTIVENESS AS WELL AS OUR NATIONWIDE SERIES OF NSRP MEETINGS. THEREFORE, FIND MY SACRIFICIAL CONTRIBUTION CHECKED BELOW TO AID IN ALL OF THESE PROJECTS. KNOWING THAT ALL PROGRESS PROCEEDS ONE STEP AT A TIME, I ENCLOSE MY DONATION TO FURTHER THIS GREAT WORK.

\$200 _____ \$100 _____ \$50 _____ \$40 _____ \$30 _____ \$25 _____ \$20 _____ \$10 _____ \$ _____

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____



N. S. R. P.

P. O. Box 1211

Marietta, Georgia 30060

P. O. BOX 1211
MARIETTA, GEORGIA 30060



Mr. Jack L. DuLong
Box 1584
Garden Grove, Ca. 92642

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

King Slayer's Appeal Rejected

CINCINNATI (AP) — James Earl Ray's bid to overturn his guilty plea in the slaying of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. was rejected Monday by the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

The court said Ray's contention that he anticipated a reopening of his case "is at best highly implausible."

"It is more likely that he simply reasoned that a shrewd attorney might find a way to overturn his conviction regardless of the voluntariness of the plea," the court said in rejecting Ray's appeal for a new trial.

One of Ray's attorneys, Robert I. Livingston, said he will ask the U.S. Supreme Court to review the appeal.

The unanimous decision concluded that U.S. District Judge Robert B. McRae of Memphis, Tenn., was correct in February 1975 when he refused an appeal after a hearing on the events that led to Ray's March 10, 1969, guilty plea in Shelby County, Tenn.

Ray is serving a 99-year prison term.

Another of Ray's attorneys, James H. Lesar, contended that Ray did not fatally shoot King in Memphis, Tenn., on April 4, 1968. Lesar argued that former defense attorney Percy Foreman coerced Ray into a guilty plea and that Ray had been framed. However, Lesar said he had no information about who actually shot King.

The district court ruled that Ray had not proven claims that either Foreman or Ray's previous attorney, Arthur Hanes, was more interested in profiteering from books about the case than in defending him.

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

A-8 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 5/11/76
Edition: Tuesday Latest
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title:

MURKIN

Character:
or C.R.

Classification: LA-44-1574*
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-1945
SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
MAY 11 1976
FBI - LOS ANGELES

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

MOVE TO GET FBI APOLOGY ON KING PLOT

Three black Councilmen have proposed that the Los Angeles City Council seek a formal apology from the FBI for its efforts to discredit the late Dr. Martin Luther King.

They failed, however, to muster the vote necessary to bring the resolution to the Council floor.

The matter instead was referred to the Council's state, county and federal affairs committee.

Councilmen Dave Cunningham (10th District), Robert Farrell (Eighth District) and Gilbert Lindsay (Ninth District) joined in the action, which cited recent disclosures about anti-King activity before the U.S. Senate intelligence committee.

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

p. 11A Valley News
and Green Sheet
Van Nuys, Calif.

Date: 11/23/75

Edition: West Valley

Author:

Editor: Mendenhall

Title: MOVE TO GET FBI
APOLOGY ON KING
PLOT

Character: MURKIN

or

Classification: 44-1574*

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-1944

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
DEC 5 1975	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

King's Slaying Held U.S. Plot

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — The widow of Martin Luther King said Thursday that King's assassination apparently was caused by a government conspiracy and that investigations into his slaying should be reopened.

"I don't have the facts but at this stage I say it appears there was a conspiracy in the death of my husband," Coretta King said.

"The way he was documented and followed around by Hoover and the CIA when he was abroad, it would have to have been attached to the forces of our government that felt he was a threat to the system as it existed."

She referred to the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency and to the late FBI chief J. Edgar Hoover.

Mrs. King, on a three-nation African tour, arrived in Nairobi on Wednesday. She was interviewed before a meeting with Kenyan women leaders arranged by the U.S. Information Service.

Mrs. King commented on the review ordered by Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark of the FBI investigation of King's shooting death in 1968. James Earl Ray pleaded guilty to the killing in Memphis, Tenn., and was sentenced to 99 years in prison.

The FBI has acknowledged that it undertook a harassment campaign to discredit King but has concluded that Ray acted alone in King's assassination. Levi ordered a review of the investigation of King's death in light of the harassment campaign but said he still believes the investigation was thorough.

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

A-5 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 11/28/75
Edition: Friday Latest
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: MURKIN

Character: CIVIL RIGHTS
or
Classification: LA-44-1574*
Submitting Office: Los Angeles
☐ Being Investigated

11/28/75

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

Marchal

The widow was asked to comment on President Ford's statement at a news conference Wednesday that he abhorred FBI harassment of King and that he would consult Levi on taking action against those to blame.

"I am very encouraged by this. I do feel with the recent investigations into the FBI and CIA we have new evidence, confirmed evidence," she said.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Reopening of King Inquiry Studied by Justice Dept.

BY RONALD J. OSTROW
Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON—Atty. Gen. Edward H. Levi, citing the FBI's harassment campaign against Dr. Martin Luther King, has ordered two Department of Justice divisions to recheck the investigation of the King slaying to see if it should be reopened.

Levi, interviewed by members of The Times' Washington bureau, said Wednesday that he wanted to know whether the results of the FBI program "might have had any influence or effect on the assassination—and I thought that ought to be looked at."

"I have asked not only the Civil Rights Division, which originally investigated the King assassination, but also as a double check I've asked the Criminal Division to reinvestigate," Levi said.

The attorney general's comment came in response to a question about the disclosure that shortly before King's death FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover had approved a secret FBI attempt to discredit the civil rights leader by pointing out that he had stayed at a white-owned motel while leading a predominantly black garbage strike in Memphis.

King subsequently moved to the black-owned Lorraine Motel, where he was shot to death on a balcony outside his room.

Levi said that disclosure of the FBI discrediting attempt at a Senate Intelligence Committee hearing last week was not the sole factor that had prompted him to ask the two divisions to take another look at the case.

It was learned from other sources Wednesday that the department's Civil Rights Division has been investigating for several months whether the FBI attempt to discredit King actually resulted in his decision to move to the Lorraine Motel.

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

I-I LOS ANGELES TIMES
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 11/27/75
Edition: Thursday Final
Author: Ronald Ostrow
Editor: William F. Thomas
Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

The division learned of the attempt from FBI files that were being examined for another purpose, according to J. Stanley Pottinger, assistant attorney general for civil rights.

Neither the Civil Rights Division nor investigators for the Senate committee have been able to determine whether Hoover's approval of the plan to give information to the press about King's staying at the white-owned motel actually led to an FBI effort to plant such a story.

James B. Adams, deputy associate director of the FBI, has testified that the agent who had worked on the Hoover-approved plan to discredit King, Harold (Bud) Leinbaugh, simply had marked it "handled."

Leinbaugh, who has retired from the bureau where he served in the agency's old crime records division, the FBI's public relations branch, is understood to have told investigators that he could not remember what he did on the matter. Leinbaugh could not be reached for comment Wednesday.

A former aide to King, Tom Offenburg, now on the staff of Rep. Andrew Young (D-Ga.), said Wednesday he recalled that King had stayed at a Holiday Inn in Memphis for only one night, but that he did not move because of any press report.

Offenburg said King had been taking part in a march that had been disrupted and that aides then hustled him to the Holiday Inn. The next day, Offenburg said, King returned to Atlanta. He stayed at Lorraine when he came back to Memphis a few days later.

William M. Bradford, author of the book "The Glory and the Dream," had this to say about King's stay at the Lorraine: "Newspapers had taunted him for staying at a plush Holiday Inn paying \$29 a night there, so he moved to a \$13-a-night room in the Negro-owned Lorraine Motel."

"I think we have to avoid being instant historians," a process that "is extremely unfair," Levi said.

"Just take the ingredients of the King matter," Levi said. "Who was the attorney general who authorized taps and microphones on King? Who was the President?"

Testimony at the Senate committee hearings showed that the FBI had operated eight wiretaps and 16 hidden microphones, or bugs, on King during the Kennedy and Johnson administrations.

Three of the taps were authorized by former Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy, after the bureau said that it was concerned about a sensitive national security matter relating to possible Communist influence on King. The Senate committee has not determined whether the five other taps were authorized.

Testimony indicated that the bugs were operated without authorization by Kennedy, but on a general authorization that the FBI thought it had from former Atty. Gen. Herbert Brownell Jr.

"I don't think circumstances were such that microphones could be used without at least the subsequent approval of the attorney general," Levi said.

"If we're talking about changing names of buildings and about changing the way people are regarded, then you have lots of things to ask," Levi added.



Edward H. Levi

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Demo Officials Blamed in King Case

WASHINGTON (AP) — High officials in the Kennedy and Johnson administrations must share the blame for the FBI's campaign to destroy Dr. Martin Luther King, a Senate intelligence committee staff report said Wednesday.

It said there was no evidence that anyone outside the FBI approved the campaign against King, but it concluded that "officials responsible for supervising the FBI received indications that such an effort ... might be taking place and failed to take adequate steps to prevent it."

The report said evidence showed that:

—Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy was given a summary of information obtained from bugs placed in King's hotel rooms;

—Atty. Gen. Nicholas DeB. Katzenbach and Asst. Atty. Gen. Burke Marshall told President Johnson that the FBI had offered to play tape recordings of the bugs to reporters;

—The FBI offered to play the tape recordings for Johnson aide Walter Jenkins; and

—Johnson aide Bill Moyers approved sending FBI reports containing derogatory personal information about King to other government agencies.

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

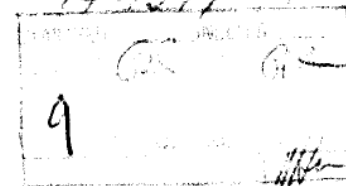
A-13 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 5/6/76
Edition: Thursday Latest
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: MURKIN

Character:
or CR

Classification: LA-44-1574*
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated



One FBI memo quoted in the report stated that Jenkins had suggested leaking the hotel room tapes to the press. However, the report added that in a sworn interview "Jenkins expressly denied" making such a suggestion.

The 105-page study, which contained few new disclosures concerning the bureau's self-described campaign "to completely discredit King as the leader of the Negro people," was released as a supplementary volume to the intelligence panel's final report made public last week.

A total of 13 supplementary volumes will be released.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Justice Aide to Ask New Study of Dr. King's Slaying

BY JOHN M. GOSHKO
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON—The Department of Justice's civil rights division will recommend next week that Atty. Gen. Edward H. Levi appoint a committee from outside the government to study the 1968 assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, according to informed sources.

The sources said the recommendation by Asst. Atty. Gen. J. Stanley Pottinger would argue that an independent inquiry was necessary even though a four-month review of the King case by the department found no evidence that the FBI or other government agencies were involved in the killing of the black civil rights leader.

Suspicions have been raised about the initial government investigation of the murder because of recent disclosures that the FBI subjected King to wiretapping and harassment. Questions also have been raised about whether the motives and activities of the convicted assassin, James Earl Ray, have been fully explained.

For those reasons, the sources said, Pottinger believes that an independent inquiry is necessary to resolve the questions still surrounding the April 4, 1968, shooting of King in Memphis.

The inquiry would determine whether a full-scale investigation of the assassination should be resumed. The sources said Pottinger's report would recommend that for reasons of credibility the study should be conducted by persons independent of the Department of Justice, which has policy control over the FBI.

Pottinger will recommend that the committee of inquiry look into such questions as whether there was any FBI complicity in King's death, whether the FBI violated laws or policy guidelines in its dealings with King and whether any other conspiracy outside of government was connected to the murder, the sources said.

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

I-I LOS ANGELES TIMES
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 3/25/76
Edition: Thursday Final
Author: John M. Goshko
Editor: William F. Thomas
Title:

MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: LA-44-

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-1940

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

The study committee, as envisaged in Pottinger's report, would have no prosecutorial function, the sources said. Instead, it would review the record, hear new evidence, if any, and advise the attorney general whether it sees grounds for pursuing the King case, technically never closed.

The sources said that Department of Justice officials believed that such a study committee could be named under provisions of the 1972 Advisory Commission Act, designed to provide a better public insight into government operations.

The legislation requires that at least one member be a government official with the power to convene and dismiss meetings.

However, the sources added, Pottinger's recommendation will be that most, if not all, of the other members be drawn from outside the government.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

FBI Said Cleared Of King's Murder

(C) 1976 Washington Star

WASHINGTON — Justice Department lawyers have found no evidence of FBI involvement in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and are satisfied that the FBI's investigation of King's death was handled "thoroughly and efficiently," according to informed sources.

The assessment was based on a nearly-completed review of the FBI's voluminous file on the black civil rights leader.

The findings and, possibly, recommendation of a full-scale probe of the FBI's harassment campaign against King are expected to be turned over to Attorney General Edward H. Levi by early next week.

Levi ordered the inquiry last November after the Senate Intelligence Committee learned that the FBI had sought to destroy King as a leader of the black rights movement.

Levi said he wanted to determine if the harassment campaign had been related in any way to the assassination of King or to the outcome of the FBI's investigation of the slaying.

A number of black leaders have charged that the disclosures of efforts to discredit and harass King supported their theory that the April, 1968, assassination was part of a conspiracy that possibly involved the FBI.

But one source familiar with the scope of the inquiry said "every possible lead, allegation and rumor" had been tracked down and "there was nothing to suggest that James Earl Ray did not work alone."

Unfiled

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

P.12 EVENING OUTLOOK
SANTA MONICA, CA

Date: 3/24/76

Edition: 3 Star

Author:

Editor: Robert D. Funk

Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: LA-44-

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-1789

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 21 1976	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

Rav. said to have refused
to talk with Justice Department lawyers because he is seeking a new trial, was arrested for the King murder, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 99 years in prison.

The review of the FBI's files on King, it was said, showed "an unwarranted and excessive intrusion" into King's personal life by the FBI. One official said, "I don't think they (the FBI) will come out smelling like roses" in the report.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Trial for Ray Denied in Dr. King Slaying

From Times Wire Services

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—A federal judge refused Thursday to permit James Earl Ray to withdraw his guilty plea and face a trial on the charge that he murdered Dr. Martin Luther King almost seven years ago.

Ray's plea was "coolly and deliberately" submitted on March 10, 1969, U.S. Dist. Judge Robert M. McRae Jr. said in a 38-page ruling. He said Ray's plea was voluntary and "on the advice of competent counsel of his own choosing."

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

I-5 LOS ANGELES TIMES
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 2/28/75
Edition: Friday Final
Author:
Editor: William F. Thomas
Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: LA 44-1574*

Submitting Office Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-1938

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
FEB 28 1975	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

ORIGINAL TO THE BUREAU

~~Ray~~ contended that his attorney, Percy Foreman of Houston, had compromised his rights and pressured him into admitting the 1968 murder to preserve the commercial value of books written about the killing of the civil rights leader.

Ray said that Foreman and another former attorney, Arthur Hanes Sr. of Birmingham, Ala., were more interested in royalties they were assigned from a book and articles written by author William Bradford Huie than in preparing his defense.

But McRae rejected Ray's arguments and accepted instead the state's contention that Ray had made a "rea-

sioned and reasonable decision to accept a 99-year sentence rather than risk the death penalty" by going to trial.

"Although the circumstances (surrounding the guilty plea) include conduct on the part of Ray's retained attorneys that should have been performed differently," McRae said, "the total circumstances do not reflect a violation of the constitutional rights applicable to one who voluntarily pleaded guilty on the advice of competent counsel of his own choosing."

McRae also rejected the accusation that Foreman had coerced him into pleading guilty.

"On the contrary, the matter was discussed on numerous separate occasions over almost one month, at the least," the judge said. "Ray carefully considered and partially amended the lengthy stipulation of facts that formed the basis for accepting his guilty plea, and Ray coolly and deliberately entered the plea in an open court where he spoke to correct the record as he thought appropriate."

Ray is serving his sentence at the main Tennessee prison in Nashville and was not present for McRae's ruling, but his attorneys said they would appeal.

King, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize for his civil rights work, was slain as he stood on the balcony of a motel in Memphis on April 4, 1968, to help sanitation workers during a strike.



James Earl Ray
AP photo

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

James Ray Threatens To Tell All

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — James Earl Ray will tell "the names of the other people involved" if an appeal does not win him a trial in the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., his brother says.

Jerry Ray made the statement Thursday after his brother, who originally pleaded guilty to King's death, was turned down by U.S. District Court Judge Robert M. McRae Jr. in his request for a trial.

"He told me personally that, if he did not win an appeal, he would reveal the names of everyone involved," Jerry Ray said of his brother. "There seems to be a lot of people who don't want his story to get out, but they are not going to hush him up."

Ray's attorneys said they would immediately appeal McRae's ruling to the 6th U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

The 28-page ruling said Ray "deliberately" admitted the slaying when he pleaded guilty March 10, 1969. It found no violations of constitutional rights to a trial on charges in 1968, slaying of King.

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

2-4 WARMED JOURNAL
LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

Date: 2/21/75
Edition: Friday Star
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: MURDER

Character:

or

Classification: LA 44-1574-

Submitting Office Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-1131

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
7 MAR 8 1975	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

McRae's decision 4416

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

James Earl Ray was framed for the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King and has been the victim of a Watergate-type coverup to hide the facts, Ray's lawyers said in a brief filed in U.S. district court in Memphis. A ruling as to whether Ray should be granted a new trial is expected in January. The state, in its brief, said Ray's guilty plea on March 10, 1969, was the "reasoned and reasonable" decision of an intelligent, hardened criminal who chose a 99-year sentence to possible death in the electric chair.

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

I-2 LOS ANGELES TIMES
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 12/18/74
Edition: Wednesday Final
Author:
Editor: William F. Thomas
Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: LA-44-1574*

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-1936

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
DEC 18 1974	
FBI-LOS ANGELES	

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ray Trial Told Witness Drunk

MEMPHIS (AP) — Fifteen minutes before Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated, the only witness to place James Earl Ray near the slaying was so drunk he couldn't stand up, a cab driver testified Wednesday.

James McGraw, the cab driver, gave the testimony on the second day of a federal court hearing on Ray's efforts to withdraw his guilty plea to the King slaying and gain a new trial for murder.

McGraw said he was called to a rooming house across the street from the motel where King was shot April 4, 1968 to pick up Charles Quitman Stephens and found Stephens drunk in an upstairs room.

"He was laying on the bed and couldn't get up," McGraw said.

Stephens told officers he saw Ray running from an upstairs bathroom in the rooming house, from where officers theorize King was shot.

Earlier Wednesday, Ray was quoted by the doctor who treated him during his stay in the Shelby County jail as saying he wasn't alone in the King death.

Because of the guilty plea, there never was any testimony whether Ray was guilty or innocent. McGraw said he was not present when Ray was pronounced dead. McGraw said he was not present when Ray was pronounced dead.

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

A-7 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 10/24/74
Edition: Thursday Latest
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification LA-44-1574*

Submitting Office Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 24 1974	
FBI-LOS ANGELES	

Stanton, whose father was public defender after Ray's 1968 arrest in London, now is district attorney. He and De-Mere testified before Judge Robert M. McRae Jr. of U.S. District Court.

Explaining why he thought Ray's defense was weak, Stanton cited Ray's fingerprints on the murder weapon, Ray's presence in Memphis at the time and the discovery of his overnight bag at the scene of the shooting.

But Stanton said he was preparing a defense for Ray until he pleaded guilty. "I was amazed and astounded" at the plea, Stanton said.

Ray claims his private attorney, Percy Foreman of Houston, Tex., coerced him to enter the plea and that none of his former attorneys developed a supportable defense for him.

Stanton said that several documents collected by defense investigators could have been used in support of Ray's innocence, including statements by witnesses disputing the site from which the fatal shot came.

Authorities have discounted the possibility of a conspiracy in King's death, claiming Ray acted alone. But Ray and his attorneys are contending that he was innocent of the shooting and was the dupe of a conspiracy carried out by others.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

new assassination investigation

(ZNS) — The attorney for convicted assassin James Earl Ray reports that he has held a series of meetings with an "intermediary" who can prove that there was a conspiracy behind the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King.

Attorney Robert Livingston says that, during the past four months, he has talked over the telephone and met face to face with an "intermediary" with detailed inside information on King's assassination.

Livingston states that this unidentified go-between claimed to represent two other men—both allegedly involved in the actual shooting of Dr. King. According to Livingston, one of the two men represented by the intermediary is said to be the "triggerman" who gunned down Dr. King in Memphis in April of 1968.

The intermediary, according to Livingston, has said that there were four "wealthy and prominent Americans," both black and white, who planned and financed Dr. King's murder. Livingston said that the intermediary has offered to produce the alleged triggerman and his partner if they are given complete immunity from prosecution by state and federal officials.

In return, says Livingston, the two men are quoted as promising to identify the four wealthy backers who were behind King's assassination.

James Earl Ray, who was convicted in 1969 of killing Dr. King, has insisted for the past five years that he was the "fall guy" in a larger conspiracy. Ray is currently fighting for a new trial in an effort to reopen the case.

Livingston says that the two men who are allegedly ready to talk are reported to have had a falling out with their financial backers, and are willing to name them in return for their freedom.

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

D.3 LOS ANGELES FREE
PRESS
LOS ANGELES, CA.

Date: 6/7/74
Edition: Thursday
Author:
Editor: Art Kunkin
Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1933-
SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
JUN 10 1974
FBI - LOS ANGELES
C. Stearns

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Judge Refuses To Order Ray Out Of Solitary

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UPI) — Convicted assassin James Earl Ray must remain in solitary confinement as long as the state wishes him to, a federal judge ruled Monday.

U.S. District Judge L. Clure Morton turned down Ray's request that he be allowed to mingle with other prisoners or have access to the prison library.

Ray claims he is suffering physical and mental deterioration from lack of exercise and human contact in the state penitentiary where he is serving a 99-year sentence for killing civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.

Morton said that Ray's two escape attempts while he was allowed to associate with inmates at Brushy Mountain State Prison underlines the need for administrative segregation.

GOING UP

While food costs have increased over 47 per cent since 1952, the average worker has enjoyed pay raises of more than 100 per cent, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

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

p.2 EVENING OUTLOOK
SANTA MONICA, CA.

Date: 5/7/74
Edition: Tuesday 3 Star
Author:
Editor: Toni Frank
Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: LA-44-1574*
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-1932

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 8 1974	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

R. Keum

The following is a description of JAMES EARL RAY
who was sentenced on 3/10/69 to 99 years following his plea
of guilty in the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING:

Name	JAMES EARL RAY
Aliases	James Mc Bride James Walton W. C. Herron James O'Connor James Walyon Eric Starvo Galt John Willard Harvey Lowmyer
Birth data	[REDACTED] Alton, Illinois
Height	5'10"
Weight	174 pounds
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Brown
Complexion	Ruddy
Scars	Small scar center forehead; palm of right hand
FBI Number	405 942 G
Los Angeles Sheriff's Office Number	B 119908
Los Angeles Police Department Number	139648
Fingerprint Classification	16 M 9 U 000 12 M 4 W 101 17
Relatives	
Mother	LUCILLE MARY RAY, nee Maher [REDACTED], deceased 1/25/61 St. Louis
Father	JERRY RAYNES, [REDACTED]
Brothers	JOHN LARRY RAY, [REDACTED] JERRY WILLIAM RAY, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] FRANK DELANO RYAN, killed in auto in 1963
Sisters	CAROL PEPPER, nee Ray, [REDACTED] MELBA MARIE RYAN, [REDACTED] SUSAN DONIAN, [REDACTED]

*Description of Ray furnished
LAPD Intelligence per
request 4/14/74
JW*

44-1574-19

48

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

James Earl Ray On 'Tomorrow'

James Earl Ray, who pleaded guilty to the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King, will be seen in a rare television appearance on the "Tomorrow Show" at 1 a.m. following this evening's "Tonight Show."

He discusses his solitary confinement in the Tennessee State Penitentiary with host Tom Snyder. Also on the program will be the Rev. Jesse Jackson and Tennessee State Correction officials.

The program was taped at the prison where Ray is confined and is broadcast on the sixth anniversary of Dr. King's assassination.

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

C-12 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA.

Date: 4/3/74
Edition: Wednesday Latest
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: JAMES EARL RAY

Character:
or

Classification: LA 44-1574*
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-19

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 3 1974	
FBI-LOS ANGELES	

CC Bu 4/3/74

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Interview With James Earl Ray

James Earl Ray, who pleaded guilty to the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., will discuss his solitary confinement in the Tennessee State Penitentiary on NBC's Tomorrow Show tonight. The program, hosted by Tom Snyder, airs at 1 a.m. on Channel 4, following the Tonight Show.

Ray, who has served nearly six years, 18 months of which have been in solitary, will tell the effect prison life has had on him. The program is being telecast on the sixth anniversary of Dr. King's assassination.

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

IV-14 LOS ANGELES TIMES
LOS ANGELES, CA.

Date: 4/3/74
Edition: Wednesday Final
Author:
Editor: William F. Thomas
Title: JAMES EARL RAY

Character:

or

Classification: 1A 44-1574*

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-9

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
APR 3 1974
FBI - LOS ANGELES

A. Skum

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ray Entitled To Challenge Guilty Plea

CINCINNATI, Ohio (AP) — James Earl Ray was given a chance Tuesday to contest his guilty plea in the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. because of allegations his attorneys compromised his interests to fatten their pocketbooks.

The 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that Ray, 41, who received a 99-year sentence for the 1968 murder of the civil rights leader, is entitled to a hearing to contest his 1969 guilty plea.

Ray argued that he was not given proper legal advice.

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

A-2 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA.

Date: 1/30/74
Edition: Wednesday Latest
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: JAMES EARL RAY

Character:

or

Classification: 44-1574*
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

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44-1574-932

SEARCHED INDEXED

SERIALIZED FILED

JAN 31 1974

FBI - LOS ANGELES

Alkan

100

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ray Granted Review of Plea in King Slaying

CINCINNATI, Ohio (AP)—James Earl Ray was given a chance Tuesday to contest his guilty plea in the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King because of allegations that his attorneys had compromised his interests for personal profit.

The 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that Ray, 41, who received a 99-year sentence for the 1968 killing of the civil rights leader, was entitled to a hearing to contest his 1969 guilty plea.

In a 2-1 decision, the court sent Ray's petition back to the U.S. District Court in Nashville for review.

Ray alleged that he had been poorly advised by attorney Arthur Hanes and by Percy Foreman after he had fired Hanes. He alleged that each had been more interested in funds that would accrue from articles and books planned by Alabama author William Bradford Huie than in his defense.

Ray said the lawyers considered his guilty plea paramount to the financial success of the articles and a possible movie on the case.

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

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The court cited two letters written to Ray by Foreman. The first letter said Ray had signed all royalties over to Foreman and that Foreman would keep all money up to \$155,000. It said also that Ray would get all royalties above that figure if he pleaded guilty and caused no embarrassing circumstances in the courtroom.

The second letter said Foreman would give \$500 to Ray's brother, Jerry, "contingent upon the plea of guilty and sentence going through on March 10, 1969, without any unseemly conduct on your part in court."

The court said that only by giving Ray a hearing on his contentions "may it be determined whether the plea was intelligent or voluntary or entered as the result of coercion, threats and promises."

"The allegations . . . if true, would support a finding that Ray's attorneys deliberately compromised their client's interests in order to further the financial success of Huie's works, in which they themselves had a substantial interest."

The appeals court noted that the original trial judge had thoroughly questioned Ray about his plea, including whether it was voluntary.

But it said, "It is clear that the allegations which are the subject of Ray's petition have never been tried upon their merits or resolved by any court—allegations which, if true, plainly negate any notion or idea that his guilty plea and answers . . . were made voluntarily and intentionally."

"... No inquiry was made into the specific contentions that are now before this court."

The majority opinion was written by Judge William E. Miller and concurred in by Judge Harry Phillips.

Judge Anthony J. Celebrezze wrote a dissenting opinion, saying Ray had had every chance to tell the trial judge that his plea was not voluntary if that was the case.



James Earl Ray
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