Ray Will Be Transferred Into a Federal Prison

WASHINGTON (UPI)—
James Earl Ray, confessed
assassin of Dr. Martin
Luther King, will be
transferred from the Tennessee State Penitentiary
into the federal prison system, the Federal Bureau
of Prisons confirmed Friday.

A bureau spokesman said Director Norman A. Carlson had agreed to a request by Tennessee Corrections Commissioner Mark Luttrell that Ray be moved into a federal prison.

Luttrell made the request last week and the spokesman said federal officials were "in the process of drawing up formal paperwork" on the transfer

perwork" on the transfer. Ray filed suit in federal court in Nashville Thursday opposing the transfer

Initial plans call for Ray to be sent to the medical center for federal prisoners in Springfield, Mo., for observation for any health problems for a 60-day period.

Under the terms of the transfer, the state would enter into a contract with the Bureau of Prisons and agree to pay all costs to support Ray during his incarceration.

Government sources said lay was being moved for security reasons" but would not elaborate why Ray's safety in the Tennessee maximum security prison at Nashville was in jeopardy.

Ray is serving a 99-year term imposed after he eaded guilty in 1969 to killing of the civil

newspaper, city and state.)
<u>I-</u> 5 Los Angeles Times Los Angeles, Ca.

Date: 12/29/73 Edition: Saturday Final Author:
Editor: William F. Thomas Title:
Character:
Classification: Submitting Office: Los Angeles
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JAN 2 1974

Ray also filed a \$500,000 d a m a g e suit Thursday charging he was being held in "oppressive" confinement for a crime he did not commit. He asked to be removed from solitary confinement and to have his case reopened on the grounds that his former attorney mishandled some evidence.

Judge Denies Ray's Petition

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (P—James Earl Ray, convicted stayer of Dr. Martin Luther King, Wednesday was denied his petition to prevent his transfer from state to federal prison.

U.S. Dist. Judge L. Clure Morton rejected Ray's plea to block the proposed transfer from Tennessee State Prison to a federal facility.

State officials said Ray had been in solitary confinement most of the time since he began serving his 99 year sentence. They said they could not let him mingle with other inmates because of the danger to his life.

Ray protested against the move, saying it was an attempt to hold him incommunicado.

"The United States District Court is without authority to interfere with the administration of the state penal system in the absence of factual allegations of federal constitutional violations," Morton said.

Ray pleaded guilty in 1969 to the April 4, 1968, rifle slaying of King in Memphis. Since then he has filed several appeals and ther motions in an attempt to rescind his guilty plea and get a new trial.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)
II=6 Los Angeles Times Los Angeles, Ca.
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Date: 1/3/74 Edition: Thursday Final Author: Editor: William F. Thomas Title:
Character: or Classification: Submitting Office: Los Angeles
Being Investigated
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Ray Loses_

Bid to Halt Transfer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—James Earl Ray, convicted slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was denied on Wednesday his petition to prevent his transfer from state to federal prison.

U.S. District Court Judge L. Clure Morton rejected Ray's move to block the proposed transfer from the Tennessee State Prison to a federal facil-

ity.

State officials said Ray has been kept in solitary confinement most of the time since he began serving his 99-year sentence. They said they could not let Ray mingle with other inmates because of the danger to his life.

Ray protested the move, saying it was just an attempt to hold him incommunicado.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)
A <u>-5</u> Herald Examiner Los Angeles, Ca.
Date: 1/3/74 Edition: Thursday Latest Author: Editor: Donald Goodenow Title:
Character: or Classification: Submitting Office:Los Angeles
SEARCHED INDEXED SCHIALIFED INDEXED JAN C 1974 FUILLOS ANGLES

Ray Seeks Damages, End to Imprisonment

NASHVILLE (UPI) — James Earl Ray, convicted assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King, Thursday filed a \$500,000 damage suit against Tennessee officials, claiming he was being confined in "oppressive" conditions for a crime he did not commit.

The suit, one of many legal actions taken by Ray since his guilty plea in the 1968 assassination, drew special attention when a local television station quoted sources Wednesday night as saying it would contend others were involved in the Memphis slaying of the civil rights leader.

But the only hint of conspiracy mentioned in the suit concerned two Louisiana telephone numbers. Ray claimed his former attorney, Percy Foreman of Houston, had mishandled information about the phone numbers.

Ray, who drafted the suit in his solitary confinement cell in state prison here, said he gave the two phone numbers to Foreman, who in turn gave them to a Z. T. Osboln, whom Ray described

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)
I-5 Los Angeles Times Los Angeles, Calif.
Date: 12/28/73 Edition: Friday final Author: Editor: William F. Thoma Title:
Character: or Classification: Submitting Office: Los Angeles
Being Investigated
SEARCHEDINDEXED SERIALIZEDFILED DEC 2 8 1973

HARUM

as another for search

The suit said one of the used as me numbers belonged to a Battan Ramon Rauga Parish (country) Which The official "under this do unconsequent of a Teamsters Just a hang Union official.

It said the other num-sination." ber was traced to a New Orleans area resident who
"among other things was
an agent of a Mideast-oriented organization distressed because Dr. Martin
Luther King's feported
forthconting public
support of the Palestine
Arab cause
Ray cited several possibilities of infishanding of
the phone numbers by
Foreman said, "I think he's stir
crazy. He has a disorgenized mind.

"For instance of the said becrease and successed because Dr. Martin
Luther King's feported
forthconting public
support of the Palestine
Arab cause

Son as Os with There
have never talked with
such a lawyer, never
known of one, or known
anyone who does know
charge that the attorney
could have turned over Orleans area resident who

could have turned over cerned the conditions of the information to the Ray's confinement in prosecution.

Contacted by The Times a vault.

in Houston, Foreman said: Ray serving
"James Earl Ray never Jerm, also mentioned any, man or seeking mentioned any man or straining order
tioned any phony numbers state of the state of th to me or any circumstance ferring him in that involved the city of Baton Rouge

a writer on the West Coast who interviewed, an individual there who made a trip with Ray . . . preceding the assassination from Los Angeles to New Orieans.

"One of these numbers or pour of them wer said that this man had to thing to do with the assas-

Asked his opinion of the

cell which he describ

1/1

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

James Earl Ray has written a document in which he names several persons he claims were involved in a conspiracy to assassinate Dr. Martin Luther King, a Nashville television tation quoted a "highly placed cource" as saying. Ray's statement was reportedly attached to a writ mailed to the U.S. District Court in Nashville as part of an effort by Ray, convicted of slaying Dr. King, to prevent his being moved to a federal maximum security penitentiary. Court officials denied receiving such a foreument from Ray.

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

I-l Los Angeles Times Los Angeles, Ca.

Date: 12/27/73 Edition: Thursday Final

Author:

Editor: William F. Thomas

Title:

Character:

01

Classification:

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

Being/Investigated

Ray Files for New

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UPI) — guilty to King's assassination. Ray Attorneys for James Earl Ray filed a petition in federal court Monday seeking to gain Ray a said that the petition asks a getting him acquitted," Feneral Ray attorneys representing Ray, attorneys trial in the murder of civil and that the petition asks a getting him acquitted," Feneral Ray attorneys trial in the murder of civil and that the petition asks a getting him acquitted," Feneral Ray attorneys the petition asks a getting him acquitted, "Feneral Ray attorneys to the petition asks a getting him acquitted," new trial in the murder of civil new trial on the merits of the sterwald said. rights leader Dr. Martin Luther case in federal court at The attorney said Ray is King Jr.

Memphis.

writ of habeas corpus, but technically seeks to free some-here. Ray's attorneys said its intent one who is incarcerated. If "He doesn't look anywhere

was to gain Ray a new trial. Ray's petition is granted the near as well as he did the last Ray is presently serving a 99-state would have 60 days to time I saw him," Fensterwald year sentence after pleading decide whether it wanted to try said.

again King

presently being kept in solitary The petition was technically a A habeas corpus petition confinement at the state prison

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

A-9 Herald Examiner Los Angeles, Calif.

12/5/72 Date:

Edition: Wednesday final

Author:

William F. Thomas Editor:

Title:

Character:

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Classification: Submitting Office: Los Angeles

Being Investigated

SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED.......FILED 6 1972

NRØØ3 KC CODE 6:10 PM NITEL 7-8-76 PPV

TO: DIRECTOR (100-106670)

LOS ANGELES

MEMPHIS

SAN FRANCISCO

FROM: KANSAS CITY (100-12138) RUC

ATTN: INTD

MARTIN LUTHER KING. , IR.

REBUTEL TO KANSAS CITY. ET AL. 6/30/76.

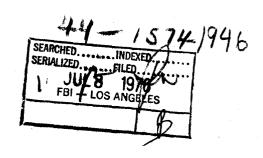
THREE MEMBERS OF DOJ TASK FORCE (OPR) REVIEWED KANSAS CITY FILES ON 7/7-8/76 CONCERNING INVESTIGATIONS OF MARTIN LUTHER KING.

THEY TOOK XEROX COPIES OF NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS FROM MURKIN FILE AND INFORMATION RE INTERVIEW DR. MARK D. FREEMAN, LOS ANGELES PSYCHOLOGIST, AS SET FORTH IN LOS ANGELES TELE-TYPE TO BUREAU, ET AL 4/20/68, BUFILE 44-38861.

MEMBERS DEPARTING KANSAS CITY TODAY BY AIR 4 P.M. FOR SAN FRANCISCO, WHERE THEY HAVE RESERVATIONS AT HOLIDAY INN CONVENTION CENTER. NO OTHER SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS CAME TO ATTENTION KANSAS CITY OFFICE.

END.

G JL FBILA ACK FOR TWO LA CLR



NR 001 SF PLAIN

2:17 PM NITEL JULY 10, 1976 KEK

TO:

DIRECTOR (100-106670)

LOS ANGELES

FROM: SAN FRANCISCO (100-52821)

ATTN: INTD

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. 100

RE SAN FRANCISCO TEL DATED JULY 9, 1976

DOJ TASK FORCE COMPLETED REVIEW THIS DATE WITH NO JUL

ADDITIONAL REQUESTS. WILL ARRIVE LOS ANGELES OFFICE MONDAY MORNING

END

JEM FBI LOS ANGELES CLR TU

Super Bloeser DF. advised 7/1/16 DF.

WA322

NR 0077 WA CODE 9:55PM URGENT 6/30/76 SLR

TO KANSAS CITY

LOS ANGELES

MEMPHIS

SAN FRANCISCO

FROM DIRECTOR (100-106670)
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

FOR INFORMATION OF KANSAS CITY, LOS ANGELES AND SAN FRANCISCO, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL HAS ORDERED A REVIEW OF THE FBI'S INVESTIGATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING. ASSIGNED TO CONDUCT THIS REVIEW IS A TASK FORCE WORKING UNDER DIRECTION OF THE OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY (OPR) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL HAS INDICATED THE REVIEW IS TO RESOLVE THE FOLLOWING FOUR QUESTIONS.

- (1.) WAS THE FBI INVESTIGATION OF KING'S ASSASSINATION THOROUGH AND HONEST?
- (2.) IS THERE ANY EVIDENCE THE FBI WAS INVOLVED IN THE ASSASSINATION?
- (3.) IS THERE ANY NEW EVIDENCE WHICH HAS COME TO THE ATTENTION OF THE DEPARTMENT CONCERNING THE ASSASSINATION?

PAGE TWO

(4.) DOES THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE BUREAU AND KING CALL FOR CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS, DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS OR OTHER APPROPRIATE ACTION?

THIS REVIEW IS A CONTINUATION OF A "PARTIAL REVIEW"

RECENTLY CONDUCTED BY THE CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION OF THE

DEPARTMENT UNDER DIRECTION OF ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

J. STANLEY POTTINGER. AFTER THE TASK FORCE COMPLETES STUDY OF

ASSASSINATION FILES IN SELECTED FIELD OFFICES, IT WILL CONDUCT

EXAMINATION OF OUR INTELLIGNECE INVESTIGATION OF KING AND ANY

SECURITY FILES RELATING TO BASIS FOR THE INVESTIGATION. ALL

PERSONNEL ON THE TASK FORCE ARE AUTHORIZED TOTAL ACCESS TO

PERTINENT FILES AT FBIHQ AND IN THE FIELD. THIS WILL INCLUDE

COVER PAGES OF COMMUNICATIONS CONTAINING IDENTITIES OF SOME

FBI SOURCES, INFORMANTS WHO WERE NOT AFFORDED SYMBOL NUMBERS

AT THAT TIME AND INDIVIDUALS WHO EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED CONFIDENTIALITY. INFORMANT FILES ARE NOT TO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE

TASK FORCE WITHOUT PRIOR FBIHQ AUTHORITY.

THE OPR REVIEW BEGAN AT FBIHQ ON MAY 10, 1976, WITH REVIEW OF ASSASSINATION FILES OF FBIHQ AND WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE.

DURING THE PERIOD JUNE 14-24, 1976, THE TASK FORCE REVIEWED KING ASSASSINATION AND SECURITY FILES IN THE MILWAUKEE AND MEMPHIS OFFICES.

PAGE THREE

TO CONTINUE ITS REVIEW MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE
IDENTIFIED AS JAMES KIECKHEFER, WILLIAM WHITE AND JOSEPH
GROSS TENTATIVELY PLAN THE FOLLOWING TRAVEL: DEPART
WASHINGTON, D. C., JULY 6, 1976, FOR KANSAS CITY, REMAINING
THERE JULY 7-8, 1976; DEPART KANSAS CITY JULY 8, 1976,
TO ARRIVE AT SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE ON THE MORNING OF JULY 9,
1976; PROBABLY DEPART SAN FRANCISCO JULY 11, 1976, TO ARRIVE AT
LOS ANGELES OFFICE ON THE MORNING OF JULY 12, 1976, FOR AN
APPROXIMATE FIVE DAY PERIOD BEFORE RETURNING TO WASHINGTON, D. C.

TASK FORCE HAS INDICATED THAT TRAVEL TO KANSAS CITY IS
BASED ON LOCAION OF PRISON FROM WHICH JAMES EARL RAY ESCAPED.
IN ADDITION TO KING RELATED FILES TASK FORCE DESIRES TO REVIEW
KANSAS CITY 157-472, WHICH INVOLVES AN ALLEGATION THAT A KLAN
ORGANIZATON OFFERED TO KILL KING.

TRAVEL TO SAN FRANCISCO AND LOS ANGELES IS BASED ON

AMOUNT OF TIME KING IS KNOWN TO HAVE SPENT ON THE WEST COAST,

ACCORDING TO TASK FORCE PERSONNEL. IN ADDITION TO KING RELATED

FILES, TASK FORCE DESIRES TO REVIEW LOS ANGELES 157-869, REGARDING

A PLOT TO ASSASSINATE KING AND LOS ANGELES 157-651, WHICH CONCERNS

A KLAN THREAT ON THE LIFE OF KING. ALSO OF INTEREST IS

LOS ANGELES FILE 100-24345, SECTION C, CAPTIONED "COMMUNIST

PARTY, USA - NEGRO QUESTION," CONCERNING ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE

PAGE FOUR

OF KING. IN SAN FRANCISCO, OF PARTICULAR INTEREST IS 100-51914,

CAPTIONED "COMMUNIST PARTY, USA - NEGRO QUESTION," WHICH PERTAINS

TO THE ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE OF KING IN HAWAII AND SACRAMENTO...

SACS, KANSAS CITY, SAN FRANCISCO AND LOS ANGELES ASSIGN
COORDINATOR TO HANDLE LIAISON WITH TASK FORCE PERSONNEL AND
PROVIDE OFFICE SPACE IN WHICH TO CONDUCT REVIEW. CONFIRM
ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF TASK FORCE PERSONNEL AND KEEP FBIHO
ADVISED OF SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS.

FOR INFORMATION OF MEMPHIS, TASK FORCE LEADER FRED G.

FOLSOM AND JAMES WALKER PLAN TO RETURN TO MEMPHIS ON JULY 6, 1976.

THEIR PLANS ARE TO REVIEW EVIDENCE IN THE ASSASSINATION CASE AND POSSIBLY CONDUCT INTERVIEWS WHICH MAY INCLUDE BOB JENSEN, FORMER SAC OF THE MEMPHIS OFFICE, TWO FORMER ASSISTANT UNITED STATES.

ATTORNEYS AND JAMES EARL RAY. THERE IS NO INDICATON AT THIS TIME FBI EMPLOYEES ARE TO BE INTERVIEWED. MEMPHIS CONFIRM ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF TASK FORCE PERSONNEL AND KEEP FBIHQ ADVISED OF ALL SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS.

END

, 11 10°

NR 1008 SF. CODE

8:50PM NITEL JULY 9, 1976, MJE

TO: DIRECTOR (100-106670)

LOS ANGELES

FROM: SAN FRANCISCO (100-52821)

ATTN: INTD

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

THREE MEMBERS DOJ TASK FORCE ARRIVED 9:15 A.M. THIS DATE.

AND REVIEWED FILES CONCERNING INVESTIGATIONS OF KING. IN

ADDITION THEY REVIEWED THE FILE OF PAUL COBB, BUFILE 157-9834.

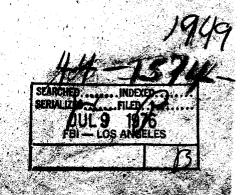
REVIEW TO CONTINUE SATURDAY, JULY 10TH.

END

PLS HOLD FOR 4

AV FBI LOS ANGELES

ACK FOR FOUR TELS AND HOLD PLS



FD-36 (Rov. 5-22-64)

FBI

Date: 7/16/76

Transmit the following in _

CODE

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via TELETYPE

NITEL

(Priority)

TO DIRECTOR (100-106670)

FROM LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

REBUTEL DATED JUNE 30, 1976.

DEPARTMENT TASK FORCE ATTORNEYS DEPARTED LOS ANGELES
JULY 16, 1976. WHILE IN LOS ANGELES THEY REVIEWED LOS ANGELES
FILE 44-1574 (MURKIN), LOS ANGELES FILE 100-\$657229 (MARTIN
LUTHER KING, JR.), LOS ANGELES FILES 157-869 AND 157-651
CONCERNING THREATS AGAINST KING, AND LOS ANGELES FILE
100-24345C (COMMUNIST PARTY USA - NEGRO QUESTION) WHICH
CONCERNED THE INSTALLATION OF ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE OF KING.

WHILE IN LOS ANGELES THE TASK FORCE ATTORNEYS INTERVIEWED

DR. MARK O. FREEMAN WHO WAS PREVIOUSLY INTERVIEWED DURING THE

INVESTIGATION OF KING'S ASSASSINATION. THE DEPARTMENT ATTORNEYS

ALSO REQUESTED THE LOS ANGELES OFFICE TO ATTEMPT TO ASCERTAIN

THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE FOLLOWING LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT

OFFICERS: LT. MARION PHILLIPS AND SGT. GEORGE BELL, AND THE

STATUS OF LT. HAROLD H. FAIR, ANAHEIM POLICE DEPARTMENT. IT WAS

DETERMINED ALL HAVE RETIRED FROM ACTIVE DUTY.

Approved:

Special Agent in Chapter

Special

PAGE TWO (LA 44-1574)

THE TASK FORCE ATTORNEYS WERE VERY INTERESTED IN THE VARIOUS PHYSICAL SURVEILLANCES OF KING BY BOTH THE FBI AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT.

AFTER REVIEWING LOS ANGELES FILE 100-24345C, THE DEPARTMENTAL ATTORNEYS INQUIRED AS TO THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE FOLLOWING FBI PERSONNEL WHO WERE INVOLVED WITH THE ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE OF KING: FORMER SAC WILLIAM G. SIMON, FORMER ASAC HENRY A. ONSGARD, JR., SA FREDERICK L. BIGGERS, SA LLOYD O. BOGSTAD, FORMER INSPECTOR JOSEPHY SIZOO, FORMER SA ROY A. PETERS, FORMER SA HARVEY G. BERKEY. FORMER SA G. CLIFTON SMITH.

XEROXED COPIES OF ALL NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS IN THE MURKIN FILE WERE FURNISHED TO THE DEPARTMENTAL ATTORNEYS AT THEIR REQUEST AS WERE XEROXED COPIES OF THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS: FD-302 DATED APRIL 26, 1968 CONCERNING INTERVIEW OF RITA STEIN BY SAS GILBERT G. BENJAMIN AND THEODORE M. GARDNER; FD-302 DATED MAY 2, 1968 CONCERNING INTERVIEW OF CHARLES J. STEIN BY SAS WILLIAM JOHN SLICKS AND RICHARD H. ROSS; AND FD-302 DATED APRIL 19, 1968 CONCERNING INTERVIEW OF DR. MARK O. FREEMAN BY SA GILBERT G. BENJAMIN.

SUPERVISOR RICHARD H. BLOESER WHO ACTED AS LIAISON WITH

THE TASK FORCE ATTORNEYS WAS QUESTIONED BY THEM AS TO THE NORMAL

PROCEDURE IN OBTAINING APPROVAL TO INSTALL ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE.

THE ATTORNEYS WERE ADVISED THAT ALL SUCH REQUESTS WERE APPROVED

AT FBI HQ. THEIR QUESTIONS SEEMED AIMED AT DETERMINING WHO

INITIATED THE REQUESTS FOR THE ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE AND WHO

PAGE THREE (LA 44-1574)

APPROVED THEM. THEY ALSO APPEARED TO BE MORE CONCERNED ABOUT THE COINTELPRO AGAINST KING THAN WITH THE INVESTIGATION OF HIS ASSASSINATION. THEY APPEARED CONCERNED OVER THE PROPRIETY OF ACCUMULATING INFORMATION CONCERNING KING'S PERSONAL LIFE AS APPOSED TO INFORMATION RELATING TO HIS COMMUNIST PARTY CONNECTIONS. THEY WERE ADVISED THAT THE PURPOSE OF AN INTELLIGENCE OPERATION ON EITHER AN INDIVIDUAL OR AN ORGANIZATION IS TO OBTAIN ENOUGH INFORMATION TO EVALUATE THE POTENTIAL THREAT POSED BY THE INDIVIDUAL OR ORGANIZATION TO THE INTERNAL SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES, AND THAT ALL INFORMATION RECEIVED IS OF BENEFIT IN EVALUATING THE OVERALL THREAT.

THE TASK FORCE ATTORNEYS INDICATED THAT THEY INTENDED TO RETURN TO WASHINGTON, D.C. WHERE THEY DESIRE TO REVIEW ALL OF THE SECURITY FILES ON KING.

FBI

Date:	7/	1	2	1	7 (6

Transmit the following in	PLAINTEXT	į
	(Type in plaintext or code)	
Via TELETYPE	NITEL	I
	(Priority)	

TO DIRECTOR (100-106670)

FROM LOS ANGELES (44-1574) (P)

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

REBUTEL DATED JUNE 30, 1976.

DEPARTMENTAL ATTORNEYS JAMES KIECKHEFER, WILLIAM WHITE,
AND JOSEPH GROSS ARRIVED LOS ANGELES DIVISION MORNING JULY 12,
1976 TO REVIEW FILES SET FORTH IN REBUTEL.

XEROX COPIES OF ALL NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS CONCERNING
ASSASSINATION HAVE BEEN REQUESTED BY AND WILL BE FURNISHED TO
THE TASK FORCE TEAM.

TASK FORCE HAS ALSO REQUESTED LOS ANGELES ATTEMPT TO LOCATE THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS WHO WERE INTERVIEWED DURING COURSE OF INVESTIGATION OF ASSASSINATION: CHARLES AND RITA STEIN, MARIE MARTIN, ALLEN THOMPSON, DR. MARK FREEMAN, XAVIER VON KOSS. INITIAL INQUIRY BY LOS ANGELES DIVISION SUCCESSFUL IN LOCATING ONLY DR. MARK FREEMAN. OTHER WITNESSES HAVE MOVED AND LEFT NO FORWARDING ADDRESS. FURTHER INQUIRY TO LOCATE WITNESSES BEING HELD IN ABEYANCE PENDING FURTHER REQUEST BY TASK FORCE.

BUREAU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED OF RESULTS OF FILE REVIEW BY TASK FORCE.

RHB/jer

Special Agent in charge

Sent 5

Per

ILS COVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE - 1969 O - 346-090

WASS !

METS WE CODE

11:59PH NITEL 67/29/76 NDP

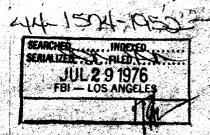
TO ALL SACS

FROM DIRECTOR (100-186679)

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BUDED AUGUST 9, 1976

HAS ORDERED A REVIEW OF THE FBI'S INVESTIGATION OF MARTIN
LUTHER KING. ASSIGNED TO CONDUCT THIS REVIEW IS A TASK FORCE
WORKING UNDER DIRECTION OF THE OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL
RESPONSIBILITY (OPR) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL HAS INDICATED THE REVIEW IS TO RESOLVE THE
FOLLOWING FOUR QUESTIONS: (1) WAS THE FBI INVESTIGATION OF
KING'S ASSASSINATION THOROUGH AND HONEST? (2) IS THERE ANY
EVIDENCE THE FBI WAS INVOLVED IN THE ASSASSINATION? (5) IS
THERE ANY NEW EVIDENCE WHICH HAS COME TO THE ATTENTION OF THE
DEPARTMENT CONCERNING THE ASSASSINATION? (4) DOES THE
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE BUREAU AND KING CALL FOR GRIMINAL
PROSECUTIONS, DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS OR OTHER APPROPRIATE

THIS REVIEW IS A CONTINUATION OF A "PARTIAL REVIEW" RECENTLY



PAGE TWO

DIRECTION OF ASSISTANTHY/A. STANLEY POTTINGER. ALL PERSONNEL ON THE TASK FORCE ARE AUTHORIZED TOTAL ACCESS TO OUR FILES PERTAINING TO KING'S ASSASSINATION, OUR INTELLIGENCE INVESTIGATION OF KING AND ANY FILES RELATING TO BASIS FOR THESE INVESTIGATIONS. THIS WILL INCLUDE COVER PAGES OF COMMUNICATIONS CONTAINING IDENTITIES OF SOME FBI SOURCES AND INFORMANTS WHO WERE NOT AFFORDED SYMBOL NUMBERS AT THAT TIME AND INDIVIDUALS WHO EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED CONFIDENTIALITY.

TO DATE THE TASK FORCE HAS REVIEWED FBINQ AND WFO FILES CONCERNING THE ASSASSINATION OF KING CAPTIONED "MURKIN, BUREAU FILE 44-33861. TASK FORCE MEMBERS HAVE TRAVELED TO MEMPHIS, MILWAUKEE, KANSAS CITY, OMAHA, SAN FRANCISCO AND LOS ANGELES AND REVIEWED MURKIN AND INTELLIGENCE INVESTIGATION FILES OF THOSE OFFICES. FUTURE TRAVEL BY THE TASK FORCE IS PLANNED FOR ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM, CHARLOTTE, CHICAGO, NEW ORLEANS, NEW YORK, SPRINGFIELD AND ST. LOUIS.

AFTER ABOVE TRAVEL IS COMPLETED AND KING RELATED SECURITY FILES AT FEING ARE REVIEWED. THE TASK FORCE WILL HAVE SEEN THE MAJORITY OF SERIALS IN OUR FILES RELATING TO THE KING INVESTIGATIONS. HOWEVER, SINCE IT IS THE GOAL OF THE TASK FORCE TO REVIEW KING RELATED FILES IN EVERY FIELD-OFFICE, IT WILL BE

PAGE THREE

MECESSARY TO FORWARD XEROX COPIES OF FILES FROM THE REMAINING

THEREFORE, ALL RECIPIENTS WITH EXCEPTION OF THOSE OFFICES

NAMED ABOVE, FURNISH FBIHQ ONE XEROX COPY OF EACH SERIAL CONTAINED IN YOUR KING ASSASSINATION FILE CAPTIONED "MURKIN." IT

IS REQUESTED THIS NATERIAL BE PROCESSED AND MAILED TO REACH FRING
PRIOR TO AUGUST 9, 1976. THIS MATERIAL SHOULD BE SENT BY

REGISTERED MAIL, ATTENTION DEPUTY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR INGRAM,
INTELLIGENCE DIVISION.

IF MURKIN FILES CONTAIN ANY PHOTOGRAPHS, EXHIBITS OR GTHER ITEMS WHICH CANNOT BE XEROXED A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH ITEM AND ITS LOCATION SHOULD BE SET FORTH IN YOUR COMMUNICATIONS TRANSMITTING THE DOCUMENTS TO FBIHQ.

SUBSEQUENT INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE ISSUED CONCERNING SUBMISSION OF COPIES OF OUR INTELLIGENCE INVESTIGATION OF KING AND RELATED SECURITY FILES. OFFICES TO BE VISITED IN THE FUTURE BY TASK FORCE PERSONNEL WILL ALSO BE FURNISHED APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTIONS BY SEPARATE COMMUNICATION.

EMD

AA

(Mount Clipping in Space Below) CANADATION (AP) — The House tassination Committee is in-Egating an unconfirmed report that the murder of Martin Lather King have been degreed. Chief Counsel Richard agus said Tuesday. Scannille, the 12-member panel in-ligating the deaths of King and section, John F. Kennedy authorized assuance of what Spragge called (Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.) A-1 HERALD EXAMINER LOS ANGELES, CA asing documents was uncovered by iff investigators in Memphis, where he was killed in 1988. Sprague 'cautioned' that the information was "completely unverified." The said he had not yet determined that Date: 11/17/75 Edition ednesday Latest Editor:Donald Goodenow Title: MURKIN Character: or ELECTION LAWS Classification: Submitting Office: 1574*

Los Angeles

Being Investigated SEARCHED SERIALIZED FILED / P NOV 17 1976

44-1574-1953

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 19 JULY 1973 EDITION GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO

FROM

SAC ELMER F. LINBERG

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

In response to telephone call of JAY T. ALDHIZER, III, Domestic Security Section, Division 6, to Supervisor RICHARD H. BLOESER, SAC LINBERG telephonically advised ALDHIZER at 2:45 pm, 11/18/76, that ADIC GEBHARDT had instructed that the Department be advised that the Departmental Attorneys should proceed to Los Angeles to review the files concerning the investigation of the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING. This decision was based on the fact that there are in excess of 5600 serials to be reviewed and the manpower and equipment utilized would be unreasonable considering the fact that the Departmental Attorneys had been here previously to review the files and had not completed the review.

DATE:

11/19/76

EFL:sas $(1)_{000}$



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



SMINUTON AP) — The eventigated members of the Klar and the green in the early days search for Martin Lu-King's assassin, newly med FBI documents re-

our days after King was in in Memphis on April 4, FBI headquarters ored an investigation of all nown members of the Klan, he rightwing Minutemen, other hate group members, rabble rousers and any other dividuals known to have violent proclivities located within your territories."



the FBI during its investigation of the civil rights leader's

The FBI is releasing 442 pages to comply with re-quests under the Freedom of Information Act. Officials are screening the rest of the files to determine what else will be released.

The documents provide the first public details of the FBI probe. James Earl Ray, who probe. James Earl Ray, who was subsequently arrested, pleaded guilty to shooting King. As a result, the government never was required to present its epidence at a trial or any other public forum.

Ray has since attempted to change his plea and obtain a trial

The first batch of papers dealt with the early days of the investigation and included no mention of Ray.

But three memos identiled Eric Starvo Galt as a start That was an alias to the control of the control o (Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-6 HERALD EXAMINER LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 11/18/76 EditionThursday Latest

Editor:Donald Goodenow

Title: MURKIN

Character:

or ELECTION LAW

Classification: 1574*
Submitting Office:
Los Angeles Being Investigated

44-1574-1950 Searched. SERIALIZED WY FILED NOV 181976 FBI - LOS ANGELES

The Antil 8 memo from headquarters told the seven field offices to investigate members of the Klan, Minutemen and other groups "to ascertain their whereabouts" at the time King was shot.

abouts" at the time King was shot.

Those without an alibi would be regarded as potential suspects and their fingerprints, obtained from military records or already on file with the bureau, would be checked against prints found in the rooming house where the shot was fired, the memo indicated.

TELETYPE ROOM

DEC 9 3 02 PH '76

SC0719 3442300Z PP HQ DN KC LV LA ME SU DE SC P Ø92235Z DEC 76 FM SACRAMENTO (100-427)(P) TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) PRIORITY DENVER PRIORITY KANSAS CITY ROUTINE LAS VEGAS PRIORITY LOS ANGELES PRIORITY MEMPHIS PRIORITY SALT LAKE CITY (44-253) ROUTINE BI CLEAR MURKIN

RE BUTEL, DEC. 2, 1976.

ON DEC. 7, 1976, ALFRED WILLIAM MARTINEZ, 807 GREENWOOD ST., WEST SACRAMENTO, CALIF., PHONE 372-0780, WAS INTERVIEWED IN DEPTH AT 1401 11TH AVE., SACRAMENTO, CALIF., WHERE HE WAS WORKING THAT DATE.

MARTINEZ ADVISED HE WAS IN SALT LAKE COUNTY JAIL FOR TWO AND

PAGE TWO SC 100-427 CLEAR
ONE-HALF TO THREE MONTHS IN WHAT HE BELIEVES WAS LAST PART OF
1966 OR EARLY 1967.

MARTINEZ ADVISED DURING THIS INCARCERATION HE BECAME
FRIENDLY WITH WILLIAM SIMPONIS. HE ADVISED SIMPONIS WAS ILL WITH
EMPHYSEMA, AND AT SIMPONIS' REQUEST MARTINEZ WROTE SEVERAL LETTERS
FOR HIM. HE ADVISED HE WROTE APPROXIMATELY THREE LETTERS A WEEK
DURING THE ENTIRE PERIOD HE WAS INCARCERATED, TO AN INDIVIDUAL
IDENTIFIED AS JAMES RAY AND EARL RAY BY SIMPONIS. HE ADVISED HE
MAILED THESE LETTERS TO MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, BUT HE COULD NOT
REMEMBER THE ADDRESS. MARTINEZ ADVISED HE HAD KEPT A SHOE BOX
FULL OF LETTERS HE RECEIVED FROM RAY AND SOME ITEMS WHICH BELONGED
TO SIMPONIS. MARTINEZ ADVISED TWO OF THESE LETTERS WERE
ADDRESSED TO HIM AND THE REST TO SIMPONIS. HE ADVISED HE LOST
THESE ITEMS FOUR OR FIVE YEARS AGO AND HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO
LOCATE THEM.

MARTINEZ ADVISED THE CONTENTS OF THE LETTERS USUALLY
CONSISTED OF INFO ABOUT WHEN SIMPONIS WAS GOING TO GET OUT OF
JAIL AND HOW THEY WOULD GET TOGETHER. MARTINEZ CANNOT THINK OF
ANY OTHER TOPICS ABOUT WHICH HE WROTE.

MARTINEZ WAS TOLD BY SIMPONIS THAT HE SHOULD CONTACT RAY

PAGE THREE SC 100-427 CLEAR

WHEN HE GOT OUT OF JAIL AND "THAT THEY HAD A JOB GOING ON; THEY WOULD NEED SOME HELP ON IT; THAT I COULD MAKE QUITE A BIT OF MONEY ON IT AND I WOULDN'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT WORK ANY MORE." SIMPONIS NEVER IDENTIFIED ANY VICTIMS OF SUCH A PLAN. HE ADVISED SIMPONIS HATED BLACK PEOPLE VERY MUCH BUT HE NEVER MENTIONED MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., OR ANY OTHER BLACKS SPECIFICALLY THAT HE COULD REMEMBER.

MARTINEZ ADVISED WHEN HE GOT OUT OF JAIL SIMPONIS GAVE HIM
THREE LETTERS WRITTEN BY SIMPONIS TO BE MAILED TO RAY. MARTINEZ
ADVISED HE DID NOT READ CONTENTS OF THESE LETTERS BUT HE DID SEND
THEM. MARTINEZ ADVISED HE WAS TO MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH SIMPONIS,
WHO WOULD ADVISE HIM TO GO TO MEMPHIS AT A SPECIFIED TIME, AND
THAT SIMPONIS WOULD HAVE MAILED A PICTURE OF MARTINEZ TO RAY FOR
PURPOSE OF IDENTIFICATION. WHEN THIS OCCURRED, RAY WAS TO MEET
MARTINEZ AT MEMPHIS AIRPORT ON A DESIGNATED DATE. MARTINEZ
ADVISED HE NEVER CONTACTED SIMPONIS AFTER HE GOT OUT OF JAIL IN
SALT LAKE CITY AND WAS ARRESTED FOR BURGLARY IN CANYON CITY,
COLORADO, AND SENT TO COLORADO STATE PRISON FROM MAY 28, 1967,
UNTIL THE LAST OF 1967.

MARTINEZ FURTHER ADVISED HE WROTE LETTERS FOR SIMPONIS TO

PAGE FOUR SC 100-427 CLEAR
OTHER INDIVIDUALS. HE IDENTIFIED THESE INDIVIDUALS AS JEANNETTE
SCOTT, GIRL FRIEND OF SIMPONIS, PIONEER HOTEL, 342 FIFTH STREET,
ELKO, NEVADA (MARTINEZ SEEMED TO RECOLLECT SCOTT WAS PART OWNER
OF THIS HOTEL AND WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE LARGE COLLECTION OF GUNS);
OLILLIAN SCHURTER, 1274 WEST STREET, POSSIBLY ELKO, NEVADA, PHONE
TE3-7226; KALIOPE SOLIATES, 1026 WEST 20TH, POSSIBLY ELKO, NEVADA,
PHONE TE3-3617; AND NICK SIMPONIS, GARDENA, CALIF., PHONE 434-8747
(BROTHER OF WILLIAM SIMPONIS, STREET ADDRESS NOT KNOWN).

MARTINEZ IS MEXICAN MALE, 5°9", 150 LBS., BLACK HAIR, BROWN EYES, BORN CANYON CITY, COLORADO, FBI NO. 8390LG, SSAN ADDRESS 807 GREENWOOD STREET, WEST SACRAMENTO, PREVIOUS ADDRESSES 3427 40TH STREET, SACRAMENTO; 1651 ILLINOIS AVENUE, CANYON CITY, COLORADO; CURRENTLY ON PROBATION FOR DRUNK DRIVING CHARGES.

MARTINEZ ADVISED HE DOES NOT KNOW IF INDIVIDUAL REFERRED TO AS JAMES OR EARL RAY IS IDENTICAL TO JAMES EARL RAY CONVICTEDIN MURDER OF MARTIN LUTHER KING. JR.

DENVER AT CANYON CITY REVIEW COLORADO STATE PRISON RECORDS

FOR MARTINEZ FOR POSSIBLE LEAD PURPOSES RELATING TO SIMPONIS OR RAY.

LAS VEGAS AT ELKO ATTEMPT TO LOCATE SCOTT, SCHURTER AND

PAGE FIVE SC 100-427 CLEAR

SOLIATES TO INTERVIEW FOR ANY INFO PERTINENT TO THEIR CONNECTION,

OR CONNECTION OF WILLIAM SIMPONIS, WITH JAMES EARL RAY OR

CAPTIONED MATTER.

LOS ANGELES AT GARDENA ATTEMPT TO CONTACT AND INTERVIEW NICK SIMPONIS RE THE ABOVE CONNECTIONS AND CAPTIONED MATTER.

LHM FOLLOWS.

ΒT

DEC 10 10 25 AH '76

MEO 002 3451745Z

PP HQ DN KC LV LA SC SU

DE ME

P 101745Z DEC 76

FM MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) PRIORITY

DENVER PRIORITY

KANSAS CITY PRIORITY

LAS VEGAS PRIORITY

LOS ANGELES PRIORITY

SACRAMENTO (100-427) PRIORITY

SALT LAKE CITY (100-11666) PRIORITY

BT

CLEAR

MURKIN.

RE SACRAMENTO TELETYPE, DECEMBER 9, 1976.

ALL OFFICES DISCONTINUE INVESTIGATION REQUESTED IN REFERENCED TELETYPE.

BUREAU SHOULD NOTE THAT ALFRED WILLIAM MARTIN EZ INDICATED
HE WAS IN SALT LAKE COUNTY JAIL FOR 60 TO 90 DAYS DURING LATE

PAGE TWO (ME 44-1987)

1966 OR EARLY 1967. SALT LAKE JAIL RECORDS DO NOT CORROBORATE THIS; HOWEVER, IT SHOULD BE NOTED JAMES EARL RAY WAS IN THE MISSOURI STATE PRISON FROM MARCH 17, 1960, UNTIL HIS ESCAPE APRIL 23, 1967. ANY MAIL ADDRESSED TO JAMES EARL RAY DURING THIS PERIOD WOULD HAVE GONE TO THE MISSOURI STATE PRISON.

SALT LAKE COUNTY JAIL RECORDS INDICATE THAT MARTINEZ

AND WILLIAM SIMPONIS WERE INCARCERATED TOGETHER AT THE MOST

FROM JANUARY 29, 1968, TO MARCH 2, 1968. PREVIOUS INVESTIGATION

HAS ALREADY DISCLOSED THAT JAMES EARL RAY ON JANUARY 29, 1968,

WAS RESIDING IN LOS ANGELES AND APPEARS TO HAVE REMAINED

THERE UNTIL AT LEAST MARCH 17, 1968, SO IT IS OBVIOUS ANY MAIL

ADDRESSED TO JAMES EARL RAY DURING THIS PERIOD WOULD NOT HAVE

BEEN SENT TO MEMPHIS, TENN.

MEMPHIS CONCLUDES THAT JAMES EARL RAY AND JIMMIE W. RAY,
AN ACQUAINTANCE OF WILLIAM SIMPONIS, HAVE NO CONNECTION AND
THAT FURTHER INQUIRY BASED ON INFO FURNISHED BY MARTINEZ WOULD
BE OF NO VALUE.

BI

3451825Z LA 1

Approved:

Special Agent in Charge

		F B I
		Date: 12/16/76
Transmit the	following in	(Type in plaintext or code)
	ATDORT	
Via	AIRTEL	AIRMAIL (Precedence)
	то:	DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
	FROM:	SAC, SACRAMENTO (100-427) (RUC)
	SUBJECT:	MURĶIN
		Re Sacramento teletype dated 12/9/76.
		Enclosed for the Bureau are four copies of garding contacts of the Sacramento FBI office ALFRED WILLIAM MARTINEZ, DOB
***	LHM.	Enclosed for other offices is one copy of this
	leads exi	This matter is being considered RUC as no further st in Sacramento Division.
	2 - Denver 2 - Kansa 2 - Las Vo 2 - Los Ar 2 - Memph	u (Enc. 4) r (Enc. 1) s City (Enc. 1) egas (Enc. 1) is (Enc. 1) Lake City (Enc. 1) mento SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED IN THEED IN THEED LEG 20 1976 FBI-LOS ANGELES

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