

RECORD OF INFORMATION FURNISHED OTHER AGENCIES

Orally _____ Written Communication 1/15/94
(date) (date)

Information concerning: (Include DRUG MATTERS here.)
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CONSPIRACY

Information furnished from File, Serial, and Page Number: 44-1987

On 2/8/94 a continuing disclosure was initiated with
(date)

DISTRICT ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE will be maintained until the
(agency)
conclusion of the investigation.

Information furnished to: MARK GLANKLER, CID, DAG

Remarks: Six-page handwritten letter from inmate Frank Elliott concerning his knowledge of above conspiracy.

⓪

44-1987-1214

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FEB 14 1994	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

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SA _____
Employee Furnishing Information

1-66- 1687 SUB
① 44-1987
WCR/paw
(2)



Dun

INFORMATION COMMUNICATION

Date: 03/18/94

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (C)
SQUAD 8

CONTACT: SA [REDACTED]

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

ATTN: SSA [REDACTED] CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT

TITLE: RAY, JAMES, EARL;
KING, MARTIN, LUTHER, JR.-VICTIM;
CIVIL RIGHTS-CONSPIRACY;
OO: MEMPHIS

RE: Memphis Information Communication dated 1/13/94.

PURPOSE(S): To update status of the investigative efforts of the Attorney General's Office.

DETAILS: On March 17, 1994, contact with MARK K. GLANKLER, Criminal Investigative Division, Shelby County Attorney General's Office, revealed that his investigation has not yet located FRANK HOLT, the alleged "shooter" of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., for interview. Additionally, GLANKLER advised that social security information concerning FRANK HOLT has not, to this point, proved beneficial in determining his whereabouts.

GLANKLER also advised that the more than 20 witnesses present at Jim's Bar and Grill on the date of the shooting had been accounted for, either by way of interview or by virtue of the fact that they are deceased; of those interviewed, none have identified FRANK HOLT as the shooter.

GLANKLER explained that the Shelby County Attorney General's Office is attempting to wind down their investigation by doing a background investigation on LLOYD JOWERS, to determine his bonafides. GLANKLER closed by stating that the date for the

44-1987-1216

Q
1 - File # 44-1987
1 - Working Copy
WCR/ado (4)
WCR/ado

INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED _____
FILED _____

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info. ASAC *Dun*

03/18/94, Re: 44-1987

hearing to determine whether JAMES EARL RAY should be granted a new trial is scheduled for April 6, 1994.

Close liaison will be maintained with Attorney General PIEROTTI's office to ensure Memphis is aware of any pertinent developments, and Memphis will continue to assist by providing copies of pertinent FD-302s concerning interviews of individuals who may have some information concerning Dr. KING's assassination. FBIHQ will continue to be advised every 60 days on the status of the investigative efforts of the Attorney General's Office.

■

National Enquire
Lantana, Florida

National Enquire
Des Moines, Iowa

Dear Sirs:

March 1, 1994

I am interested in selling you a copy of my diary, or an interview on information from such diary---see attached copy for some of the contents.

If you would like to published such information, then contact me on information provided below.

P.S. The St. Louis crime summit is being held here on March the 5th, and I will be over there passing out handbills---flyers---concerning information in my diary

John Larry Ray
JOHN LARRY RAY

1-314-772-9274

⓪

44-1987-1217

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAR 22 1994	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

MESSAGE TO THE MEDIA

The media should not give any-type of consideration to a St. Louis summit on crime, until they read THE DIARY OF JOHN LARRY RAY---AMERICA'S # 1 POLITICAL PRISONER.

THE DIARY OF JOHN LARRY RAY points out how the u.s. congress (house select committee on assassinations), the u.s. department of justice, and the federal bureau of investigation spent a quarter of a century, and untold numbers of tax-payers dollars, trying to get information as to where did JAMES EARL RAY accumulated a large sum of money, after he escaped from the Missouri state penitentiary, and prior to the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING.

THE DIARY OF JOHN LARRY RAY POINTS OUT HOW THE U.S. CONGRESS THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, AND THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION ~~spent a quarter of a century~~ spent a quarter of a century in an on-going conspiracy against JOHN LARRY RAY trying to get him to make information available as to where did JAMES EARL RAY accumulated a large sum of money, after he escaped from the MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY, and prior to the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING. The following is a type of on-going conspiracy they conducted:

- * They accused JOHN LARRY RAY of being involved in the sniper shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING.
- * They put JOHN LARRY RAY behind bars for 18 years in 1970, supposedly for picking up a person on a highway who was found not guilty of robbing a bank in St. Peters, Missouri.
- * They kept JOHN LARRY RAY behind bars even after other persons claimed they actually robbed the St. Peters bank, and both were released from all custody, after serving less than two years for such robbery.
- * They accused JOHN LARRY RAY of being tardy about submitting a sample of his handwriting and extended his 18 years bank robbery sentence to a 21 years bank robbery sentence.
- * They accused JOHN LARRY RAY of giving false testimony in front of the u.s. congress, and tried to extend his sentence to 23 years (perjury).
- * They accused JOHN LARRY RAY of burglary, but dismissed the charge when it came out that the FBI and St. Louis circuit attorney GEORGE PEACH was carrying out a conspiracy.
- * They tried to extend JOHN LARRY RAY sentence by prosecuting him on a bank robbery in Springfield, Illinois, but the jury wouldn't buy it.

- * They tried to extend JOHN LARRY RAY sentence by accusing him of assaulting a u.s. marshal, but the charge was dismissed, after it came out that it was the marshals who were doing the assaultings.
- * They accused JOHN LARRY RAY of having a couple of hunting shells in his home, and tried to extend his sentence to an additional 15 years without parole or good time.
- * They tried to extend JOHN LARRY RAY sentence to an additional 25 years under the SPECIAL DANGEROUS OFFENDERS ACT, but judge BEATTY wouldn't buy it after the man upstairs came into the picture.
- * They tried to put JOHN LARRY RAY in the ILLINOIS CRIMINAL INSANE ASYLUM, but an Adams county sanity jury wouldn't buy it--they accused JOHN LARRY RAY of shooting civil rights LEADER vernon jordan, THUS HE WAS NUTS.
- * They ordered JOHN LARRY RAY to served 4 additional years claiming that he lite a newspaper while in solitary confinement, and put it out with his foot---they called it an act of arson.
- * They put JOHN LARRY RAY in several hospitals taking brain-waive tests due to beatings while under the custody of the u.s. department of justice---including the St. Johns hospital in Springfield, Illinois, and the Incarnate Wprd hospital in St. Louis, Missouri.
- * They held JOHN LARRY RAY in solitary confinement in more than a quarter of the nation's states---from maryland to CALIFORNIA.
- * They made many deals and many money offers, and freedom offers.

THE DIARY OF JOHN LARRY points out that the federal bureau of investigation was on the right track, when they were investigating organized figures, among others, and the u.s. congress was on the wrong track when they were investigating bank robberies in the death of MARTIN LUTHER LUTHER KING. However, JOHN LARRY RAY derailed both of these groups, with UNTRUE TESTIMONY and UNTRUE STATEMENTS--and for a good reason.

THE DIARY OF JOHN LARRY RAY points out ~~that~~ why he is coming clean and confessing all, as to where JAMES EARL RAY accumulated a large sum of money, after he escaped from the Missouri state penitentiary, and prior to the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING.

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
- Facsimile
- AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
- SECRET
- CONFIDENTIAL
- UNCLAS E F T O
- UNCLAS

Date 3/21/94

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
(ATTN: VCMO UNIT)

FROM : SAC, ST. LOUIS (62-0)

SUBJECT : JOHN LARRY RAY;
JAMES EARLY RAY;
INFORMATION CONCERNING

26-BH-R42384 (X)

62-0-13663, 13760

44-1987-673

should be James Earl Ray per enclosures

Enclosed for the Bureau and each receiving office is a copy of a facsimile sent to FBI St. Louis from the Office of Congressman RICHARD A. GEPHARDT, St. Louis, MO. Attached to the cover sheet from Congressman GEPHARDT's office is a letter from JOHN LARRY RAY to the National Inquirer dated 3/1/94 and a two page "Message to the Media".

Index in Joims

The enclosures are being provided to the Bureau, Memphis, and Knoxville for information purposes only. No action being taken by St. Louis re this matter.

2-Bureau (Encl.)
2-Memphis (Encl. - INFO)
2-Knoxville (Encl. - INFO)
1-St. Louis
DFC:tp
(7)

44-1987-1218

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAR 22 1994	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Approved: _____ Transmitted _____ Per _____
(Number) (Time)

- 1 -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 3/22/94

FRANK DEAN ELLIOTT, a white male born on [redacted] at Shawnee, Oklahoma, was interviewed at Penitentiary of New Mexico (PNM), Santa Fe, New Mexico where he is currently serving a life sentence for first degree murder as a transfer inmate from the State of Oklahoma. ELLIOTT, who is incarcerated under PNM Inmate No. 42954, advised that he was sentenced on his current charge at Shawnee, Oklahoma on April 1, 1991 and was transferred from the Oklahoma State Penitentiary (OSP) to PNM on October 23, 1993.

ELLIOTT was advised of the official identity of Special Agent (SA) [redacted] Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and of the fact that he was being interviewed regarding any information he may have pertaining to the assassination of Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr. since he indicated in his letter dated January 15, 1994 to DAN WADE, Assignment Editor, KOB Television, Broadcast Plaza, Albuquerque, New Mexico that he did have pertinent information regarding the assassination of Reverend KING. ELLIOTT was advised that this interview was being conducted at the request of the Oklahoma City Division of the FBI after ELLIOTT sent a copy of his foregoing letter to DAN WADE to the Oklahoma City Division of the FBI by cover letter dated January 20, 1994.

The interview with ELLIOTT commenced in the presence of SHANNON McREYNOLDS, PNM Classification Officer and Case Manager for Housing Unit 2A in the North Facility, the maximum security unit at PNM. McREYNOLDS was present for security reasons and ELLIOTT, who was acquainted with McREYNOLDS, agreed to his presence during the interview. ELLIOTT furnished the following information regarding the assassination of Reverend KING.

During the summer of 1993, ELLIOTT, while incarcerated at OSP, was housed in a cell next to another inmate named TOM LESTER PUGH, who was also serving time for murder. During their incarceration next to one another, the television program known as Home Box Office (HBO) featured a program about JAMES EARL RAY and the killing of MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr. which prompted PUGH to talk to ELLIOTT. ELLIOTT thought that PUGH became sociable with him because PUGH, whom he claimed is homosexual, thought that he and ELLIOTT would later share a cell together. This did not happen, however.

Investigation on 3/17/94 at Santa Fe, New Mexico File # AQ 44-0
ME 44-1987-1219
 by SA [redacted] mit Date dictated 3/21/94

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

AQ 44-0
ME 44-1987

Continuation of FD-302 of FRANK DEAN ELLIOTT, On 3/17/94, Page 2

In PUGH's conversations with ELLIOTT, PUGH told him that in either October or November, 1967 he (PUGH) and PAT EARLY or URLEY (phonetic spelling) robbed some businessmen at a poker game which was taking place at a cabin in the Memphis, Tennessee area. The local newspaper said that the robbery occurred at a fish fry but PUGH said it was at a poker game. During the robbery a Rolex watch was stolen from one of the victims. PUGH claimed to have later been interviewed about this robbery by the FBI while in custody in Dallas, Texas.

PUGH told ELLIOTT that during February 1968 he and EARLY went to a gun shop on the west side of the river in Memphis, Tennessee where they purchased a .30 caliber rifle and a 30.06 caliber rifle. According to PUGH, the purpose for purchasing these weapons was to use them to assassinate MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr. when he visited Memphis, Tennessee later that year. PUGH was to plan the assassination and to act as the driver while EARLY was hired as the sharpshooter because of his previous training and shooting experience.

PUGH told him that the persons who contracted PUGH and EARLY to kill KING were unnamed members of the Retail Merchants Association of Memphis, Tennessee. Their reason for wanting KING killed was that local Afro-Americans in Memphis, Tennessee were boycotting local businesses of white merchants due to the civil rights movement in which KING was an instrumental figure.

The person who actually hired PUGH and EARLY to perform the assassination on behalf of the Retail Merchants Association was the business manager for the popular entertainer named JERRY LEE LEWIS. PUGH did not give the name of this individual but said he was the father of LEWIS' 13 year old cousin whom LEWIS married. PUGH was already acquainted with LEWIS' business manager since PUGH had previously committed unnamed crimes for this person.

PUGH told ELLIOTT that after this person hired PUGH and EARLY for the assassination and after they then purchased the two foregoing rifles, PUGH and EARLY thought about their assignment for a few days. PUGH realized that the assassination of KING would be a highly publicized event and that the FBI would be persistent in investigating the case so he told LEWIS' business manager that he and EARLY had changed their minds and would not be carrying out their assignment to assassinate KING.

According to PUGH, LEWIS' business manager then contacted a brother of JAMES EARL RAY, whose name was not given to ELLIOTT by PUGH. RAY's brother reportedly told LEWIS' business manager that his

AQ 44-0
ME 44-1987Continuation of FD-302 of FRANK DEAN ELLIOTT, On 3/17/94, Page 3

brother, JAMES EARL RAY, would be willing to perform the assassination of KING since JAMES EARL RAY had just recently been released from a penitentiary.

PUGH told ELLIOTT that JAMES EARL RAY, after assassinating Reverend KING and his subsequent conviction, has been unable to tell authorities who was behind the assassination plot because the only contact RAY has had in this matter was his own brother. For this reason, RAY has given the authorities a phony name as his contact person to protect his brother.

SA [REDACTED] asked ELLIOTT if PUGH told him what happened to the two rifles that PUGH and EARLY purchased together to be used in the assassination of KING and he said PUGH did not tell him what happened to these two weapons. ELLIOTT said that he was told that after the killing of KING, JAMES EARL RAY was arrested in another country in possession of \$10,000 cash, a couple of passports and a 30.06 caliber rifle, but he did not know if this rifle was one of the two rifles previously purchased by PUGH.

ELLIOTT said that as he was being furnished this information by PUGH, ELLIOTT asked PUGH where he was when KING was assassinated and PUGH got angry and told ELLIOTT that he would not say anything which would implicate him in this matter. PUGH did not say whether he (PUGH) was in Memphis, Tennessee at the time that Reverend KING was assassinated. ELLIOTT felt that PUGH was being truthful when furnishing the foregoing information to ELLIOTT about the assassination of Reverend KING.

SA [REDACTED] asked ELLIOTT for his motive in sharing this information with authorities and he said he was mainly interested in seeing that justice was done. He said he would be willing to testify in a court of law, if necessary, and hoped that this new account of the assassination of Reverend KING would be pursued by one of the current news story programs such as "Hard Copy," "Current Affair" or "Inside Edition." He said he was not seeking personal financial gain but his only hope was that his mother would receive a small amount of money if his information proved accurate and was pursued by the media.

To his knowledge, PAT EARLY or URLEY is currently incarcerated in a federal prison in the State of Arizona.

AQ 44-0
ME 44-1987

Continuation of FD-302 of FRANK DEAN ELLIOTT, On 3/17/94, Page 4

ELLIOTT furnished the following information regarding himself:

Name:	FRANK DEAN ELLIOTT
Alias:	Frank Elliott
Sex:	Male
Race:	White
Date of Birth:	<input type="text"/>
Place of Birth:	Shawnee, Oklahoma
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	150 Pounds
Hair:	Red
Eyes:	Green
Social Security Account Number:	<input type="text"/>

- 1 -

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 by SA [redacted] /mjt Date dictated 3/21/94

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44-1987-1219

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAR 29 1994	
MEMPHIS	

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AQ 44-0
ME 44-1987

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AQ 44-0
ME 44-1987Continuation of FD-302 of FRANK DEAN ELLIOTT, On 3/17/94, Page 3

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To his knowledge, PAT EARLY or URLEY is currently incarcerated in a federal prison in the State of Arizona.

AQ 44-0
ME 44-1987

Continuation of FD-302 of FRANK DEAN ELLIOTT, On 3/17/94, Page 4

ELLIOTT furnished the following information regarding himself:

Name:	FRANK DEAN ELLIOTT
Alias:	Frank Elliott
Sex:	Male
Race:	White
Date of Birth:	[REDACTED]
Place of Birth:	Shawnee, Oklahoma
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	150 Pounds
Hair:	Red
Eyes:	Green
Social Security Account Number:	[REDACTED]

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
- Facsimile
- AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
- SECRET
- CONFIDENTIAL
- UNCLAS E F T O
- UNCLAS

Date 3/22/94

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, ALBUQUERQUE (44-0) (RUC)

SUBJECT : JAMES EARL RAY; *44-1987*
 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.-VICTIM (DECEASED);
 CR-CONSPIRACY
 OO: MEMPHIS

Re Oklahoma City airtel to the Bureau dated 1/28/94.

Enclosed for Memphis is an original and one copy of an FD-302 for interview of FRANK DEAN ELLIOTT at Santa Fe, New Mexico on 3/17/94 along with agent's interview notes. Enclosed for the Bureau and Oklahoma City are one copy each of this FD-302.

While ELLIOTT stated in his letter dated 1/15/94 to KOB Television, Albuquerque, New Mexico that he was aware of other crimes committed by TOM LESTER PUGH and others, Albuquerque has limited its current interview of ELLIOTT to the captioned matter which is being furnished to the Bureau and Memphis for whatever action is deemed necessary. An information copy of ELLIOTT's interview is being furnished to Oklahoma City.

44-1987-1220

- 2 - Bureau (Enc. 1)
 - ② - Memphis (Enc. 3) (44-1987) *SM*
 - 2 - Oklahoma (Enc. 1)
 - 2 - Albuquerque
- DCJ:mjt
(8)
- cc to be given to ME AG'S investigators*

SEARCHED <i>[initials]</i>	INDEXED <i>[initials]</i>
SERIALIZED <i>[initials]</i>	FILED <i>[initials]</i>
MAR 29 1994	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Approved: *BMP/14* Transmitted _____ Per _____
 (Number) (Time)

For the information of the Bureau, Memphis and Oklahoma City, U.S. Probation Officer GUNTHER HASELBAUER, Santa Fe, New Mexico, contacted the U.S. Bureau of Prisons at the request of SA [REDACTED] Albuquerque Division, on 3/18/94 and determined that there are currently three federal prisoners named PATRICK EARLY but none are located in federal facilities in the State of Arizona at this time.

JAMES EARL RAY has at least two known brothers. One is JOHN LARRY RAY, DOB [REDACTED] SSAN [REDACTED] FBI #368725A, who is the subject of a case entitled, "JOHN LARRY RAY; FARMERS BANK OF LIBERTY, LIBERTY, ILLINOIS, 5/30/80, BANK ROBBERY, OO: SPRINGFIELD, 91A-SI-8398."

The other brother is JERRY WILLIAM RAY, description unknown, living in Northbrook, Illinois as of 1980.

Albuquerque is placing its case in an RUC status since no further investigation remains in the Albuquerque Division but requests that Albuquerque be provided with information copies of any pertinent developments resulting from the enclosed information provided by FRANK DEAN ELLIOTT.



SWITZER HIRED

■ "We have a job to do and we're gonna do it baby!" said Barry Switzer, named coach of the Dallas Cowboys Wednesday. He vows not to tinker with a team that won two straight Super Bowls. Story/D1

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■ Apelike skull fills gap in development of human ancestors A2

■ WEATHER: Sunny today and Friday with high in the upper 50s. West wind at 10 mph. Fair and cold tonight with low in the mid-30s. High Sunday Friday with high in the mid-60s. Details/D6



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7 49377 10040 0

and improper use of inmates...
seek a swift resolution to the charges hanging over his gubernatorial campaign, Morris again asserted his innocence

since a grand jury indicted him and two other... by County officials March 3...
"We simply ask the people of this city and of this county and, indeed, the state not to prejudice

with executive assistant Bc Lanier and Garner Branch, S...
County - Correction - Ca

Bill for school prayer goes to Miss. governor

By Sarah C. Campbell
The Commercial Appeal
Jackson, Miss., Bureau

JACKSON, Miss. — The Senate sent Gov. Kirk Fordice a bill Wednesday that would let public school students offer organized prayers during elective and mandatory school events.

Opponents argued the bill violates the U.S. Constitution's prohibition on state establishment of religion.

"I suggest to you that a student-initiated prayer — and that's what we're talking about under this bill — is not an establishment of religion and does not violate the (Constitution)," Sen. Roger Wicker (R-Tupelo) told his colleagues.

Under the bill, the prayers could not endorse a specific religion nor be aimed at converting others.

The bill also would give school administrators the authority to

permit voluntary prayer by students and others. The two-page bill does not say how school officials could determine whether a prayer to be offered meets the bill's requirements.

Fordice had not seen the bill Wednesday, said his spokesman John Arledge. Fordice has supported efforts to allow organized prayer in public schools.

Sen. Dick Hall (R-Jackson), who voted for the bill, urged senators to remove language in it that permits prayer at events that all students must attend.

"I think you're going to put the school districts in position where a state law is telling them one thing and their (legal) advisers are telling them another," Hall said.

"If enacted, students would be required to attend a daily religious service that is contrary to their beliefs," said Sen. Alice Harden (D-Jackson), who op-

Please see PRAY, Page A5

New claims about King's killer tied to selling story

By Marc Perrusquia
The Commercial Appeal

The prospect of a large amount of money may have motivated recent claims of a conspiracy in the 1968 assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a witness has told criminal investigators.

A sum of \$300,000 in anticipated royalties for book and movie productions possibly played a role in the claims that former Memphis businessman Loyd Jowers had a hand in killing King, witness Betty Spates said in a recent statement to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation.

Jowers gained attention last December when he told a national television audience that he was paid by another Memphis businessman to hire a gun-

man to kill King. In 1968, Jowers owned a restaurant called Jim's Grill near the Lorraine Motel where King was shot.

Spates, who frequented Jim's Grill, told the TBI that Jowers recently said he was involved in the killing "because of the money" to be gained from royalties.

In her Jan. 25 sworn statement — obtained Wednesday by The Commercial Appeal — Spates also denied earlier statements that she saw Jowers with a rifle hurrying into the back of the restaurant moments after the assassination at 6:01 p.m. on April 4, 1968.

"I absolutely did not see Loyd Jowers come into the rear of Jim's Grill at 6 p.m.," Spates, 43, said in a signed statement to TBI special agent John Simmons.

Please see JOWERS, Page A12

Commercial Appeal

3/31/94

PG. A1

gso
info. Perrusquia
44-1987-1221

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAR 31 1994	
FBI - MEMPHIS	



President Gore called the preacher couple whose daughter died in grace." He embraces Revs. Dale and Nancy Clem.

Clinton's help for Delta, tornado-hit church in Ala.

President Clinton spent three hours in Goshen, Ala., home of his late sister-in-law, Nancy Gore Hunger. He met with about 250 people at a community meeting at the E. E. Cultural Center, and along with Sen. Espy and Rep. Bennie Thompson (D-Miss.) toured the Health Center.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Clinton administration's community development program, which provides federal aid and tax incentives to encourage business development.

Clinton carried the promise of help to Piedmont, where he visited the ruins of a country church Wednesday and called Revs. Dale and Kelly Clem, the preacher couple whose 4-year-old daughter died in the rubble, on his way to the

lina left the darkest mark here at the Goshen United Methodist Church, headed by Mrs. Clem. Twenty worshipers died when the church roof collapsed during Palm Sunday services.

President Clinton, vacationing in Southern California, declared Alabama a major disaster area Wednesday, making federal financing available to affected individuals and local governments.

The couple took Gore on a brief tour, stepping over a large sheet of foam rubber, twigs, balls of paper and bits and pieces of the church. Mrs. Clem's eyes were badly swollen and her forehead was bruised from injuries suffered in the tornado.

"There was no warning," she told Gore.

A White House official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Gore's announcement today

From Page A1

Jowers

Spates told the TBI she saw Jowers with a rifle about noon that day, but she denied making key statements that have fueled the conspiracy tale.

At one point in the statement, Spates said: "Lloyd Jowers and his attorney, Lewis Garrison, said I blew \$300,000 in royalties we could have split. They said I should have told the story that I saw Lloyd and a black man in the back of Jim's Grill and saw the black man they said was Frank Holt hand a rifle to Lloyd Jowers."

Jowers told the ABC television news program *PrimeTime Live* in December that he received money to hire a man to shoot King. The supposed gunman, later identified as Holt, a transient now living in Florida, told *The Tennessean* in Nashville he was not involved in the assassination.

Reached Wednesday, Garrison denied any involvement in possible book or movie deals and said he never offered any money to Spates. Garrison also noted that Spates has changed her story several times.

"She just looks like she's not too credible," Garrison said. Spates declined comment Wednesday.

Spates was first questioned by authorities about the King assassination on Feb. 12, 1969. In a statement on that date, Spates said she had no knowledge about King's shooting.

In a signed affidavit given this month to attorneys seeking a new trial for King's convicted assassin, James Earl Ray, Spates



Lloyd Jowers in 1963

told a different story.

Spates said in the March 8 affidavit that she saw Jowers moments after the shooting coming through the back of the restaurant "white as a ghost" and carrying a rifle. "His hair was all messed up and he had obviously been on his knees on the damp ground because the knees of his trousers were wet and muddy," she said.

That account has been the substance behind the new conspiracy claims that have fueled efforts to get a new trial for Ray. Ray's London attorney, William Pepper, said Wednesday he's suspicious of the TBI statement.

"I've known Betty for six years. Since she's started talking about this, she's always told me the same thing," Pepper said. Pepper suggested that others — possibly Jowers — may have gotten to Spates to change her story.

In her TBI statement, Spates said Memphis private detective Kenneth Herman once gave her more than \$500 for her story. Herman denied that.

The TBI has assisted Dist. Atty. Gen. John Pierotti since he reopened the case after Jowers's television interview.

Despite the changes in her story, Spates's TBI statement added to the mystery about what happened the day of the assassination with her contention she saw Jowers with a rifle about six hours before the shooting.

From Page A1

Stocks

assassination of Mexico's leading presidential candidate, harsh words between Washington and Beijing on trade and human rights, as well as conflict between Washington and Tokyo on trade issues. North Korea, meanwhile, has been rattling sabers and Russia seems leaderless.

Bond prices tumbled again on Wednesday, pushing up rates on the benchmark 30-year govern-

ment to 15 percent from its record highs before the selling is over.

Stock prices tumbled abroad. In Tokyo, the Nikkei Stock Average of 225 selected issues fell 0.8 percent, while in London, the Financial Times-Stock Exchange 100-share index lost 1.0 percent. Stocks fell 1.0 percent in Frankfurt and 1.9 percent in Paris.



RECORD OF INFORMATION FURNISHED OTHER AGENCIES

Orally _____ Written Communication 3/17/94
(date) (date)

Information concerning: (Include DRUG MATTERS here.)
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING - ASSASSINATION

Information furnished from File, Serial, and Page Number: 44-1987-1219

On 4/5/94 a continuing disclosure was initiated with
(date)

SHELBY COUNTY DAG'S OFFICE and will be maintained until the
(agency)
conclusion of the investigation.

Information furnished to: CID, MARK GLANKLER

Remarks:

FD-302, dated 3/17/94, concerning interviews with inmate FRANK DEAN ELLIOTT.

(Handwritten circle)

SA _____
Employee Furnishing Information

1-66- 1687 SUB
1-44-1987

WCM/paw
(2)

44-1987-1222
SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
APR 03 1994
FBI - MEMPHIS
(Handwritten signature)



INFORMATION COMMUNICATION

Date: 05/25/94

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

CONTACT: SA [REDACTED]

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT
ATTN: SSA [REDACTED]

TITLE: RAY, JAMES, EARL;
KING, MARTIN, LUTHER, JR. - VICTIM;
CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY;
OO: ME

RE: Memphis information communication, dated 3/18/94.

PURPOSE(S): To update status of the investigative efforts of the Attorney General's (AG) Office.

DETAILS: On 5/19/94, contact with MARK K. GLANKLER, Criminal Investigative Division, Shelby County Attorney General's (SCAG) Office, revealed that his investigation still has not located FRANK HOLT, the alleged "shooter" of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. He said their investigation, otherwise, is fairly complete: they conducted background checks on LLOYD JOWERS and JAMES EARL RAY to support their position.

GLANKLER also advised that RAY has a parole board hearing in Nashville, TN. on 5/25/94; and that on 6/6/94, in Memphis, TN., Dr. WILLIAM PEPPER, RAY's Attorney out of London, England, will bring forth evidence to show cause for RAY's release. GLANKLER said that the SCAG's office will respond to this by attempting to disprove any and all witnesses that PEPPER calls.

Close liaison will be maintained with AG PIEROTTI's office to ensure Memphis is aware of any pertinent developments, and FBIHQ will continue to be advised every 60 days on the status of the investigative efforts of the AG's office.

AUTOMATED SEARCHED _____
MANUAL SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED _____
INDEXED _____ FILED _____

44-1987-1223

9

1 - File # 44-1987
1 - Working Copy
WCR:paw (4)
[Handwritten signature]



INFORMATION COMMUNICATION

Date: 07/25/94

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS

CONTACT: SA [REDACTED]

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT
ATTN: SSA [REDACTED]

TITLE: RAY, JAMES EARL;
KING, MARTIN LUTHER JR. - VICTIM;
CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY;
OO: MEMPHIS

RE: Reference Memphis information communication dated 5/25/94.

PURPOSE(S): Update the status of the investigative efforts of the Attorney General's Office.

DETAILS: On 7/21/94, contact with MARK K. GLANKLER, Criminal Investigative Division, Shelby County Attorney General's Office, revealed there are no new leads in their investigation, other than what they are doing in response to the attempts of Ray's defense attorneys to test fire the rifle that was allegedly used to kill Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr. The Commercial Appeal has run several articles concerning the attempts by Ray's attorneys to secure approval to test fire the weapon. However, on 6/16/94, the Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals halted, at least temporarily, the test firing of the weapon.

Also, on 5/25/94, the Tennessee State Parole Board rejected JAMES EARL RAY's request for parole from the sentence he is serving in the 1968 slaying of DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. According to the Commercial Appeal, RAY's insistence he did not kill KING, combined with the similar cavalier attitude toward seven escape attempts in his criminal history, appeared to weigh heavily with the panel. RAY's next parole hearing will be in July 1999.

In another article in the Commercial Appeal, a defense attorney for RAY said on Thursday, 6/16/94, that he may call on U.S. Attorney General JANET RENO, to investigate the 1968 assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., in Memphis, in an effort to expose what he called a 26 year cover up.

44
1 - File # 66-1987
1 - Working Copy
WCR:paw (4)

44-1987-1224

AUTOMATED SEARCHED _____
MANUAL SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED *dy*
INDEXED _____ FILED *dy*

07/25/94, Re: 66-1987

assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., in Memphis, in an effort to expose what he called a 26 year cover up.

In more recent development, MARK GLANKLER, CID, Shelby County Attorney General's Office, on 7/21/94, also advised that the television show "Prime Time" is presently in the Memphis area to update developments in the MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. conspiracy, as well as to reinterview General JOHN PIEROTTI sometime next week.

Continued close liaison will be maintained with AG PIEROTTI's office to insure Memphis is aware of any pertinent developments, and FBIHQ will continue to be advised every 60 days on the status of the investigative efforts of the AG's Office.

■



INFORMATION COMMUNICATION

Date: 09/27/94

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

CONTACT: SA [REDACTED]

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT
ATTN: SSA [REDACTED]

(Handwritten mark: a circle with an 'X' and a signature)

TITLE: RAY, JAMES, EARL;
KING, MARTIN, LUTHER, JR.-VICTIM;
CIVIL RIGHTS-CONSPIRACY;
OO: MEMPHIS

RE: Memphis Information Communication dated 7/25/94.

PURPOSE(S): To update the status of the investigative efforts of the Attorney General's Office.

DETAILS: On August 12, 1994, contact with MARK K. GLANKLER, Criminal Investigative Division, Shelby County Attorney General's Office, revealed the television show "Prime Time" has backed off on their follow-up broadcast on MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. He went on to say, initially, the "Prime Time" crew was of the opinion that Dr. WILLIAM PEPPERS' allegations were bona fide. But, after consulting with Shelby County Attorney General JOHN PERIOTTI and learning of the case's inconsistencies and possible money motive, they have temporarily decided to hold off on their update.

Continued close liaison will be maintained with the Shelby County Attorney General's Office to ensure Memphis is aware of any pertinent developments, and FBIHQ will continue to be advised every 60 days on the status of the investigative efforts of the Attorney General's Office.

44-1987-1225

Q - File # 44-1987
1 - Working Copy
WCB:adc (2)
m. adc

AUTOMATED SEARCHED _____
MANUAL SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED _____
INDEXED _____ FILED _____

9

RECEIVED BY PLP
GEORGE BOLDS ET
11/28/94 @ 3:20 PM.

12/6/94

Jim:

I made copies of the enclosed (which should go into the file) for my working copy.

I also kept the fingerprint card/latent photos for my communication to the Lab, which I'm putting together now.

Thanks!

Bill R.

OFFICE OF
JOHN W. PIEROTTI
DISTRICT ATTORNEY GENERAL
CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER
201 POPLAR AVE. - SUITE 301
MEMPHIS, TENN. 38103 - 1947

CONFIDENTIAL

OFFICE OF
JOHN W. PIEROTTI
DISTRICT ATTORNEY GENERAL
CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER
201 POPLAR AVE. — SUITE 301
MEMPHIS, TENN. 38103 - 1947

CONFIDENTIAL

*Mr. Robert P. Wright
Special Agent In Charge
Federal Bureau of Investigation
267 N. Main, Room 841
Memphis, Tennessee 38103*

*RECEIVED BY
BOLDS ST
7:20 PM*

DON D. STROTHER
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

JAMES G. HALL
MICHAEL W. HUGHES
HENRY P. WILLIAMS
M. CARTER MYERS
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS

ASSISTANTS
THOMAS D. HENDERSON
KENNETH R. ROACH
EDGAR A. PETERSON, IV
RAY BAKER
P.T. HOOVER, JR.
JAMES J. CHALLENGE, III
JAMES C. BEASLEY, JR.
PHYLLIS B. GARDNER
S.T. BRUCE
JAMES A. WAX, JR.
CHRIS B. CRAFT
J. ROBERT CARTER, JR.
GLENN I. WRIGHT
JOHN W. CAMPBELL
JANET L. SHIPMAN
KEVIN R. RARDIN
PATIENCE R. BRANHAM
PAUL F. GOODMAN
DANIEL R. WOODY
LEE WILSON, JR.
RODNEY P. FAULK, JR.
CHARLES W. BELL, JR.
TERRELL L. HARRIS
JERRY R. KITCHEN
JOHNNY R. MCFARLAND
DAVID C. HENRY
JUDSON W. PHILLIPS
JAMES M. LAMMEY, JR.
JAMEY S. KAPLAN
LORRAINE CRAIG
DAVID B. SHAPIRO
REGINALD R. HENDERSON

MAJOR VIOLATORS DIVISION
JERRY HARRIS
DIRECTOR

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION
(901) 576-5980

FRED T. WALL, CHIEF
F. WARREN YOUNG, ASST. CHIEF
GEORGE A. KING
WM. DONALD HULTZ
DAVID N. MCGRIFF
RALPH E. LASTER
CHERYL HAYS
H.E. SOULE, III
MARK K. GLANKLER
JAMES W. SMITH
BARRY H. MOORE
R.R. DAVIS, M.P.D.
BRENDA MAPLES, M.P.D.

VICTIM-WITNESS UNIT
(901) 576-5954

KENNETH E. BLACKBURN
DIRECTOR
LAURIE A. SCHEIDT
D. MICHELE MILLARD
SANDRA H. KEITH

JOHN W. PIEROTTI
DISTRICT ATTORNEY GENERAL
THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE
COUNTY OF SHELBY
SHELBY COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER
201 POPLAR - SUITE 301
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE 38103 - 1947
PHONE (901) 576-5900
FAX (901) 576-3937



November 28, 1994

Mr. Robert P. Wright
Special Agent In Charge
Federal Bureau of Investigation
167 N. Main Street, Room 841
Memphis, Tennessee 38103

Dear Bob:

As you know there have been various people involved in attempting to resurrect the investigation into the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In my opinion their reason for doing this is strictly commercial. I further feel that they would stop at nothing to make it appear that the Federal Bureau of Investigation, this office and Lord knows who else has conspired for all these years to cover up the real truth and continue to make James Earl Ray the scapegoat.

Because of their activities I have called upon you in the past for assistance, as you know. In addition to that one of my Investigators, Mark Glankler, and Tennessee Bureau of Investigation Special Agent, John Simmons, have been monitoring these peoples' activities.

They have recently become aware of attempts a British television producer and local private investigator are making to name a Raul Ramos Coelho as a conspirator in the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Mr. Coelho is a naturalized immigrant from Portugal, coming into the United States originally in the early 1960's. The following descriptive data pertains to Mr. Coelho:

DOB:
SS#:
Alien Registration #:
Selective Service #:

44-1987-1226

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
NOV 29 1994
FBI - MEMPHIS

*Rec'd by PIA Belts
11/28 3 reviewed by SAC
AGAC - SA Roseman handles
communication to HQ*

OFFICE OF
DISTRICT
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Page 2 - Mr. Robert P. Wright
November 28, 1994

The television producer recently met with investigators of my office, stating he believed he had located the "Raoul" James Earl Ray has long stated was involved in this murder. The producer has latent fingerprints in his possession allegedly of Mr. Coelho. He has requested that we have these latent fingerprints compared to all unidentified latent prints recovered during the original murder investigation.

Since this meeting with the television producer, I have been provided the latent fingerprints allegedly belonging to Mr. Coelho, without the television producers' knowledge. We have had photographs taken of these prints which are of sufficient quality to be used for comparison purposes.

My investigators have obtained two (2) cards of KNOWN INKED fingerprints from Mr. Coelho without the television producers knowledge.

It is my opinion these known fingerprints we are providing and the latent fingerprints need to be compared to known fingerprints of Raul R. Coelho as well as any unidentified latent prints recovered in the original murder investigation. This will allow my office to discredit the theory that Mr. Coelho was involved in this murder should his name be released publicly.

I am respectfully requesting the following of the FBI:

- 1) Determine if known inked impressions of Raul Coelho's fingerprints exist in FBI civilian files.
- 2) Determine if photos of all latent prints recovered during the initial investigation of this murder exist in FBI files.
- 3) Compare known inked fingerprints of Mr. Coelho (obtained by my investigators) to all unidentified latent lifts recovered during the initial investigation of this murder, as well as to any known inked impressions, if they exist, in FBI files.
- 4) Compare known prints of Mr. Coelho, if they exist in FBI files, to the photographs of latent prints we are providing with this request.
- 5) Compare known prints of Mr. Coelho, if they exist in FBI files, to all unknown latent prints recovered during the initial investigation of this murder.
- 6) Compare the latent prints we are providing to all unknown latent prints recovered during the initial investigation of this murder.

NOTE: Please make any comparisons you deem appropriate.

OFFICE OF
DISTRICT
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Page 3 - Mr. Robert P. Wright
November 28, 1994

Please be assured no information has or will be released to anyone outside of my office. Thank you for your assistance and cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,



JOHN W. PIEROTTI
District Attorney General

JWP/bk

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TO BE FORWARDED TO
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE



No. [REDACTED]

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NATURALIZATION

Petition No. 56826

• DUPLICATE •

Personal description of holder as of date of naturalization: Date of birth [REDACTED] sex Male
complexion Fair color of eyes Brown color of hair Brown height 5 feet 8 inches
weight 162 pounds visible distinctive marks None
Marital status Married Country of former nationality Portugal

I certify that the description above given is true, and that the photograph affixed hereto is a likeness of me.

Raul Ramos Coelho
(Complete and true signature of holder)

State of New York } ss:
County of Westchester }

Be it known that at a term of the Supreme Court of
Westchester County
held pursuant to law at White Plains, N.Y.
on JUN 15 1967 the Court having found that

Raul Ramos Coelho
then residing at 15 Carlisle Place, Yonkers, New York
intends to reside permanently in the United States (when so required by the
Naturalization Laws of the United States), had in all other respects complied with
the applicable provisions of such naturalization laws, and was entitled to be
admitted to citizenship, thereupon ordered that such person be and (s)he was
admitted as a citizen of the United States of America.

In testimony whereof the seal of the court is hereunto affixed this
day of JUN 15 1967 in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and



EDWARD L. WARREN

Clerk of the Supreme Court.
By *Edwin Benson* Deputy Clerk.

IT IS A VIOLATION OF THE U. S. CODE (AND PUNISHABLE AS SUCH) TO
COPY, PRINT, PHOTOGRAPH, OR OTHERWISE ILLEGALLY USE THIS CERTIFICATE.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mark K. Glankler, % Attorney General's Office

APPLICANT:

PUT YOUR NAME AND ALIEN REGISTRATION NUMBER IN THE
BO. OUTLINED BY HEAVY BORDER BELOW. 234G-56826

COMPLETE THIS BOX (Family name)		(Given name)	(Middle name)	(Alien registration number)
COELHO		RAUL	RAMOS	[REDACTED]
(OTHER AGENCY USE) NO ARREST RECORD MAY 26 1967 IDENTIFICATION DIVISION FBI			(INS USE) 2340 - New York, N.Y. N-400 Date: MAR 9 1967 5/18/67	

FORM G-325

(1) Ident.

M. K. Glankler, % Attorney General's Office

DUPLICATE
(To accompany
monthly report on
Form N-4)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
PETITION FOR NATURALIZATION

No. [REDACTED]

To the Honorable Supreme Court of Westchester County at White Plains, N.Y.
 The 316 (a) Immigration and Nationality Act, respectfully shows:
 This petition for naturalization, hereby made and filed under section
 (1) My full, true, and correct name is Raul Ramos Coelho
 (2) My present place of residence is 15 Carlisle Place, Yonkers, Westchester, New York
 (3) I was born on Medelin, Castelo-Branco, Portugal
 (4) I am 1 married, and have 1 living children.
 (5) I was lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence on December 11, 1961
 and have not abandoned such residence.
 (6) My present nationality is Portugal ALIEN REGISTRATION NO. [REDACTED]
 (7) I have not heretofore made a petition for naturalization.
 (8) I pray that my name be changed to None

AFFIDAVIT OF WITNESSES

The following witnesses, each being severally, duly, and respectively sworn, depose and say:

(1) My name is Helen Andrade
 I reside at 8 Elizabeth Place, Yonkers, New York
 (2) My name is Caroline Antonio
 I reside at 10 Croton Street, Ossining, New York

I am a citizen of the United States of America; I have personally known and have been acquainted in the United States with the petitioner named in the petition for naturalization of which this affidavit is a part, since at least 2/1/62 to my personal knowledge the petitioner has resided, immediately preceding the date of filing this petition, in the United States continuously since the date last mentioned; that the petitioner has been physically present in the United States for at least 31 months of that period; and that the petitioner has been a resident in the State in which the petition is filed during at least the last 6 months. I have personal knowledge that the petitioner is, and during all such periods has been a person of good moral character, attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States, and well disposed to the good order and happiness of the United States, and in my opinion the petitioner is in every way qualified to be admitted a citizen of the United States.
 I do swear (affirm) that the statements of fact I have made in the affidavit to this petition for naturalization subscribed by me are true to the best of my knowledge and belief: SO HELP ME GOD.

X Helen Andrade X Caroline Antonio
 (Signature of Witness) (Signature of Witness)

WHEN OATH ADMINISTERED BY CLERK OR DEPUTY
CLERK OF COURT

WHEN OATH ADMINISTERED BY DESIGNATED EXAMINER

Subscribed and sworn to (affirmed) before me by above-named petitioner and witnesses in the respective forms of oath shown in said petition and affidavit, and filed by said petitioner, in the office of the clerk of said

Subscribed and sworn to (affirmed) before me by above-named petitioner and witnesses in the respective forms of oath shown in said petition

court at White Plains, New York

and affidavit at _____ this _____ day of _____ A. D. 19_____

this 20th day of February A. D. 19_____

67 _____
Designated Examiner.

EDWARD L. WARREN
 Clerk.
 By Edgar B...
 Deputy Clerk.

I HEREBY CERTIFY That the foregoing petition for naturalization was by petitioner named herein filed in the office of the clerk of said court at _____ this _____ day of _____ A. D. 19_____
 Clerk.

[SEAL]

STATISTICS

Mark K. Glankler, % Attorney General's Office

IMMIGRANT VISA AND ALIEN REGISTRATION

OF: (Family name) COELHO (First name) Raul (Middle name) Ramos

PORT OF 030 - NYC

I certify that the immigrant named herein arrived in the United States at this port on the

PPA-155 (Name of vessel or flight No. of aircraft)

on (Day) (Month) (Year)

and was inspected by me and [admitted/detained] for further inquiry by special inquiry officer under

Symbol 0-2

Section of the Immigration and Nationality Act

DEC 11 1961

Immigrant Inspector.

AMERICAN Embassy

AT Lisbon, Portugal

W. Watt Martin

Vice Consul of the United States of America.



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Service No. 760529
Tariff Item No. 21
Fee Paid \$20
Local Cy equiv. Etc. 600



ACTION OF SPECIAL INQUIRY OFFICER

The immigrant herein was (admitted) (excluded) and [no appeal taken/appeal taken] under

Symbol

Section of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

Special Inquiry Officer.

ACTION ON APPEAL

ADMITTED

EXCLUDED

DATE

This visa is issued under Section 221 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, and upon the basis of the facts stated in the application.

IMMIGRANT CLASSIFICATION

NONQUOTA (Symbol) 0-2 QUOTA (Symbol) 1-550 on wife of 6/30/61 shows last entry on 6/18/61

VISA PETITION NO. IF ANY

IMMIGRANT VISA NO. QUOTA

ISSUED ON (Day) (Month) (Year) 5 December 1961

THE VALIDITY OF THIS VISA EXPIRES MIDNIGHT AT THE END OF (Day) (Month) (Year) 4 April 1962

NATIONALITY (If stateless, so state, and give previous nationality)

Portuguese

PASSPORT

NO. [Redacted]

OR OTHER TRAVEL DOCUMENTS (Describe) Portuguese Emigration Passport

ISSUED TO Raul Ramos Coelho

BY "Junta da Emigracao" Lisbon, Portugal

ON 16 November 1961

EXPIRES 15 November 1963

Mark K. Glankler, % Attorney General's Office

STATISTICS

50826

Mail or take to:
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE

Sec. 316

ALIEN REGISTRATION
(Show the exact spelling of your name as it appears on your alien registration receipt card, and the number of your card. If you did not register, so state.)
Name _____
No. _____

APPLICATION TO FILE PETITION FOR NATURALIZATION

(See INSTRUCTIONS, page 5. BE SURE YOU UNDERSTAND EACH QUESTION BEFORE YOU ANSWER IT.)

I desire to file a petition for naturalization in the—

Date: _____

SUPREME COURT Court at WHITE PLAINS NEW YORK
(Name of Court) (City) (State)

My name is: RAUL RAMOS COELHO
(Print or type here your present/full name only)

I live at: 15 CARLISLE PLACE
(Print or type present apartment number, street address, and if appropriate "in care of")

YONKERS WESTCH NEW YORK 10701
(City) (County) (State) (ZIP Code)

Other names I have used are: NONE
(Print or type here any other name you have ever used, including maiden name)

- (1a) Was your father or mother ever a United States citizen? (If "Yes" explain fully separately) Yes No
 (1b) Can you read and write English? Yes No
 (1c) Can you speak English? Yes No
 (1d) Can you sign your name in English? Yes No

JAN 11 1967

(2) In what places in the United States have you lived during the last 5 years? List present address FIRST.

FROM—	TO—	STREET ADDRESS	CITY AND STATE
(a) OCT. 1966	PRESENT TIME	15 CARLISLE PLACE	YONKERS - NEW YORK
(b) DEC 1961	SET 1966	198 PARK HILL AVE	" " "
(c)	19		
(d)	19		
(e)	19		

(3) What were the names, addresses, and occupations (or types of business) of your employers during the last 5 years? (If none, write "None.") List present employment FIRST.

FROM—	TO—	EMPLOYER'S NAME	ADDRESS	OCCUPATION OR TYPE OF BUSINESS
(a) MAY. 1962	PRESENT TIME	FISHER BODY	TARRYTOWN N.Y.	
(b)	19			
(c)	19			
(d)	19			

(4) Have you been out of the United States since you first arrived? Yes No
If "Yes" fill in the following information for every absence of less than 6 months, no matter how short it was.

DATE DEPARTED	DATE RETURNED	NAME OF SHIP, OR OF AIRLINE, RAILROAD COMPANY, BUS COMPANY, OR OTHER MEANS USED TO RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES	PLACE OR PORT OF ENTRY THROUGH WHICH YOU RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES
JAN 15-964	FEB 964	PAN AMERICAN	JOHN F. KENNDY
AUG 8-966	NOV 4-66	BOAT OLYMPIA	PIER 97
		no other	

(5) How many times have you been married? ONE How many times has your husband or wife been married? ONE If either of you has been married more than once, fill in the following information for each previous marriage.

DATE MARRIED	DATE MARRIAGE ENDED	NAME OF PERSON TO WHOM MARRIED	SEX	(Check one) PERSON MARRIED WAS CITIZEN <input type="checkbox"/> ALIEN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HOW MARRIAGE ENDED
(a) MAY 7- 61		ISAURA COELHO	F	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
(b)				<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
(c)				<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
(d)				<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	

(6) The law provides that you may not be regarded as qualified for naturalization under certain conditions, if you knowingly committed certain offenses or crimes, even though you may not have been arrested therefor. Have you ever, in or outside the United States:

(a) Knowingly committed any crime for which you have not been arrested? Yes No

(b) been arrested, charged, indicted, convicted, fined or imprisoned for breaking or violating any law or ordinance, including traffic regulations? Yes No

If you answer "Yes" to (a) or (b), give the following information as to each incident:

WHEN	WHERE (City)	(State)	(Country)	NATURE OF OFFENSE	OUTCOME OF CASE, IF ANY
(a)					
(b)					
(c)					
(d)					
(e)					

(7) List your present and past membership in every organization, association, fund, foundation, party, club, society, or similar group in the United States and in any other place, and your foreign military service. (If none, write "None.")

(a)	UAW				1962 to date
(b)	Portuguese Army				1953 to 1957
(c)	no other				19 to 19
(d)					19 to 19
(e)					19 to 19
(f)					19 to 19
(g)					19 to 19

(8) (a) Are you now, or have you ever, in the United States or in any other place, been a member of, or in any other way connected or associated with, the Communist Party? Yes No

(b) Have you ever knowingly aided or supported the Communist Party directly, or indirectly through another organization, group, or person? Yes No

(c) Do you now or have you ever advocated, taught, believed in, or knowingly supported or furthered the interests of, Communism? Yes No

(9) Have you borne any hereditary title or have you been of any order of nobility in any foreign state? Yes No

(10) Have you ever been a patient in a mental institution, or have you ever been treated for a mental illness? Yes No

(11) Are deportation proceedings pending against you, or have you ever been deported or ordered deported, or have you ever applied for suspension of deportation or for preexamination? Yes No

(12) Do you owe any Federal taxes? Yes No
State last year for which you filed a Federal income tax return: NEW-YO-RK

(13) Have you ever represented yourself to be a United States citizen? Yes No

(14) (a) Have you ever deserted from the military, air, or naval forces of the United States? Yes No

(b) If male, have you ever left the United States to avoid being drafted into the armed forces of the United States? Yes No

(15) The law provides that you may not be regarded as qualified for naturalization, if, at any time during the period for which you are required to prove good moral character, you believed in polygamy or have been a polygamist; have received most of your income from illegal gambling; have committed adultery; have been a prostitute or have procured anyone for prostitution; or have been a drug addict or have dealt illegally in drugs. Have you ever, anywhere, been such a person or committed any of these acts? Yes No

(16) Do you believe in the U.S. Constitution and form of Government of the United States? Yes No

(17) Are you willing to take the full oath of allegiance to the United States? (See Instructions) Yes No

(18) If the law requires it, are you willing:

(a) to bear arms on behalf of the United States? Yes No

(b) to perform noncombatant services in the Armed Forces of the United States? Yes No

(c) to perform work of national importance under civilian direction? Yes No

(19) (a) If male, did you ever register under United States Selective Service laws or draft laws? Yes No

If "Yes" give date MARCH 5, 62; Selective Service No. 30-7-34-537; Local Board No. 7; Present classification SA

(b) Were you ever exempted from service because of conscientious objections, alienage, or other reasons? Yes No

If "Yes," state reasons

(20) If serving or ever served in the Armed Forces of the United States, give branch

from 19 to 19 and from 19 to 19

inducted or enlisted at; Service No.

type of discharge; rank at discharge

reason for discharge (Honorable, Dishonorable, etc.)

Reserve or National Guard from 19 to 19

56826 3

PERSON REGISTRATION

STATEMENT OF FACTS FOR PREPARATION OF PETITION
SECTION OF LAW 316(a)

Name _____
No. _____

(1) My full, true, and correct name is RAUL RAMOS COELHO (Full, true name, without abbreviations)

(2) My present place of residence is 15 CARLISLE PLACE YONKERS WEST. NEW YORK
(Number and street) (City or town) (County) (State)

(3) My present occupation is FISHER BODY N. TARRYTOWN N.Y. ASSEMBLER (4)

(4) I was born on _____ in MEDELIM CASTELO-BRANCO, PORTUGAL
(Month) (Day) (Year) (City or town) (County, district, province, or State) (Country)

(5a) My personal description is as follows: Sex MALE; complexion WHITE; color of eyes BROWN; color of hair BROWN; height 5'8 feet _____ inches; weight 1'62 pounds; visible distinctive marks NONE

(5b) Country of which I am a citizen, subject, or national PORTUGAL ISAURA JESUS CONFETEIRO

(6) I am MARRIED; the first name of my husband or wife is (was) _____
(Single; married; divorced; widowed)

We were married on 5 7 61 at PORTO DE MOS PORTUGAL
(Month) (Day) (Year) (City or town) (State or country)

He or she was born at SAO PAULO SAO PAULO BRAZIL
(City or town) (County, district, province, or State) (Country)

On _____ entered the United States at 18 - 3 - 59 - NEW-YORK
(City or town)

NEW YORK on 3 18 59 for permanent residence in the United States and
(State) (Month) (Day) (Year)

now resides with me; apart from me at 15 CARLISLE PLACE - YONKERS
(Show full address if not living with you)

and was naturalized on MAY 6 965 at WHITE PLAINS N.Y.
(Month) (Day) (Year) (City or town) (State)

Certificate No. _____ or became a citizen by SUPREME COURT
WESTCHESTER COUNTY

(7) I have ONE living children, as follows. (Complete all columns as to each child. If child lives with you, state "with me" in last column; otherwise, give city and state of child's residence.)

NAME	SEX	PLACE BORN	DATE BORN	NOW LIVING AT-
<u>JOHN COELHO</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>YONKERS, N.Y.</u>		<u>WITH ME</u> (7)

(8) My lawful admission for permanent residence in the United States was at YONKERS - NEW-YORK
(City or town) (State)

under the name of RAUL R. COELHO on 12 11 1961
(Month) (Day) (Year)

on the PAN AMERICAN Plane (9)
(Name of vessel or other means of conveyance)

(9) Since such lawful admission, I have not been absent from the United States for a period or periods of 6 months or longer except as follows (if none, state "None"):

DEPARTED FROM THE UNITED STATES			RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES		
PORT	DATE (Month, day, year)	VESSEL OR OTHER MEANS OF CONVEYANCE	PORT	DATE (Month, day, year)	VESSEL OR OTHER MEANS OF CONVEYANCE

(10a) I have resided continuously in the United States of America since 12 - 11 - 1961 and continuously in the State of NEW-YORK where I now live since 12/11/61 and during the past _____ years I have been physically present in the United States for an aggregate period of 53 months. (10)

(10b) Do you intend to reside permanently in the United States? Yes No
If "No," explain: _____

Mark K. Glankler, % Attorney General's Office



Raif R. Coelho

4
Filed petition for naturalization No. _____ on _____ (Month) _____ (Day) _____ (Year)

_____ (State) in the _____ Court, which was denied because

court to change my name to _____
(Give full name desired or state "None")

residence was LISBOA PORTUGAL
(City) (Country)

JOAO COELHO DE ALMEIDA DESCENDED

(15) My mother's maiden name was JOAQUINA RAMOS

(16) I came to the United States from the port of LISBOA PORTUGAL
(City) (Country)

(17) The person in the United States to whom I was coming was MY WIFE

(18) The place in the United States to which I was going was YONKERS NEW-YORK

(19) The names of some of the passengers or other persons I traveled with, including members of my own family and their relationship to me, if any, were _____

Signature of person preparing form, if other than applicant.
I declare that this document was prepared by me at the request of applicant and is based on all information of which I have any knowledge.
SIGNATURE

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT
ADDRESS AT WHICH APPLICANT RECEIVES MAIL
115-CARLISLE PL
YONKERS - N.Y.

ADDRESS: _____ DATE: _____

TO APPLICANT: DO NOT FILL IN BLANKS BELOW THIS LINE.

NOTE CAREFULLY.—This application must be sworn to before an officer of the Immigration and Naturalization Service at the time you appear before such officer for examination on this application.

AFFIDAVIT

I do swear that I know the contents of this application comprising pages 1 to 4, inclusive, and the supplemental forms thereto, No(s) _____, subscribed to by me; that the same are true to the best of my knowledge and belief; that corrections numbered () to () were made by me or at my request; and that this application was signed by me with my full, true, and correct name, SO HELP ME GOD.

Subscribed and sworn to before me by applicant at the preliminary investigation _____ at _____
this FEB 20, 1967 day of _____, 19____
I certify that before verification the above applicant stated in my presence that he had (heard) read the foregoing application and supplemental form(s) and understood the contents thereof.

(Complete and true signature of applicant)

(Naturalization examiner)

I LIKE AMERICAN
(For demonstration of applicant's ability to write)

(1st witness) HELEN ANDRADE ~~NATIVE~~ HOUSEWIFE
residing at 8 ELIZABETH PLACE, YONKERS NY
(Street address, city or town, and State)

(2d witness) CAROLINE ANTONIO MEXICAN HOUSEWIFE
residing at 10 CROTON ST, ROSSING NY
(Street address, city or town, and State)

U.S. 2/1/62 State 2/1/62 Physical presence 31 mos. (Naturalization examiner)

ARRIVAL RECORD FOUND

ARRIVAL RECORDS EXAMINED

Place _____ Card index _____
Name _____ Index books _____
Age _____ Manifests _____
Date _____ Marital status _____
Manner _____
(Signature of person making search)

Nonfiled _____
(Dates, reasons, and examiner's initials)

Mark K. Glankler, % Attorney General's Office



INFORMATION COMMUNICATION

Date: 11/18/94

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

CONTACT: SA [REDACTED]

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT
ATTN: SSA [REDACTED]

Over

TITLE: RAY, JAMES EARL;
KING, MARTIN LUTHER, JR. - VICTIM;
CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY;
OO: MEMPHIS

RE: Memphis Information Communication dated 9/27/94.

PURPOSE(S): To update the status of the investigative efforts of the Attorney General's Office.

DETAILS: On November 18, 1994, contact with MARK K. GLANKLER, CID, Shelby County Attorney General's Office, revealed information that he had drafted a letter to the SAC, Memphis Division, requesting our assistance in this investigation. Specifically, they would like us to match the fingerprints in their possession, allegedly belonging to the main conspirator in the assassination, according to JAMES EARL RAY, with latents lifted from the crime scene during the FBI investigation and currently on file in Washington, D. C.

■

44-1987-1227

AUTOMATED SEARCHED _____
MANUAL SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED _____
INDEXED _____ FILED _____

9

1 - File # 44-1987
1 - Working Copy
WOR:paw (4)

[Handwritten signature]



ACTION COMMUNICATION

Date: 12/08/94

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (P)

CONTACT: SA [REDACTED]

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (Encl. 13)
LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION
ATTN: LABORATORY DIVISION

TITLE: RAY, JAMES EARL;
KING, MARTIN LUTHER, JR. - VICTIM;
CR-CONSPIRACY
OO: ME

RE: ME I/C dated 11/18/94 to the Civil Rights Unit (no copy to the Laboratory Division).

ENCL: Enclosed in an evidence envelope are two fingerprint cards containing fingerprints of RAUL R. COELHO; three photographs of latent fingerprints allegedly belonging to RAUL R. COELHO; and eight pages of background information concerning COELHO, including his Certificate of Naturalization, his Petition for Naturalization, and other documents pertaining to his naturalization.

REQUEST(S): The FBI Latent Fingerprint Section is requested to make certain comparisons with the enclosed fingerprints to certain latent fingerprints the Bureau may have pertaining to the case in their possession.

DETAILS: For the information of the Bureau, for the past year, the Shelby County District Attorney General's (SCDAG) Office has been conducting investigation into the shooting death of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. in light of certain information that surfaced concerning the possibility that JAMES EARL RAY was not the person who killed Dr. KING. The Memphis Division of the FBI has maintained close liaison with the AG Office to insure that Memphis is aware of any developments. Most recently, SCDAG JOHN PIEROTTI's office has requested FBI Laboratory assistance in their investigation.

Specifically, SCDAG JOHN PIEROTTI has recently become aware of attempts a British television producer and local private investigator are making to name a RAUL RAMOS COELHO as a conspirator in the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. COELHO

① - File # 44-1987
1 - Working Copy
WCR:erd (4) *erd*

44-1987-1228
AUTOMATED SEARCHED _____
MANUAL SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED *[initials]*
INDEXED *[initials]* FILED *[initials]*

12/08/94, Re: 44-1987

is a naturalized immigrant from Portugal, coming into the U. S. originally in the early 1960's. The television producer recently met with investigators of the SCDAG's office, stating he believed that he had located the "RAUL" whom JAMES EARL RAY has long stated was involved in the murder. The producer has latent fingerprints allegedly of COELHO. Since meeting with the television producer, PIEROTTI has been provided the latent fingerprints allegedly belonging to COELHO, without the television producer's knowledge. He has had photographs taken of these prints which the DAG's office believes are of sufficient quality to be used for comparison purposes. In addition, SCDAG PIEROTTI's investigators have obtained two cards of known inked fingerprints from COELHO without the television producer's knowledge.

SCDAG JOHN PIEROTTI is respectfully requesting the following of the FBI Latent Fingerprint Section:

1. Determine if known inked impressions of RAUL COELHO's fingerprints exist in FBI civilian files.
2. Determine if photos of all latent prints recovered during the initial investigation of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.'s murder exist in FBI files.
3. Compare known inked fingerprints of COELHO obtained by PIEROTTI's investigators to all unidentified latent lifts recovered during the initial investigation of Dr. KING's murder, as well as to any known inked impressions, if they exist, in FBI files.
4. Compare known prints of COELHO, if they exist in FBI files, to the photographs of latent prints provided by SCDAG PIEROTTI's office.
5. Compare known prints of COELHO, if they exist in FBI files, to all unknown latent prints recovered during the initial investigation of Dr. KING's murder.
6. Compare the photographs of latent prints provided by SCDAG's office to all unknown latent prints recovered during the initial investigation of Dr. KING's murder.
7. The SCDAG's office also requests the FBI Latent Fingerprint Section to make any other comparisons that are deemed appropriate.



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

To: SAC, Memphis

Date: January 12, 1995

FBI File No. 44-38861

Lab No. 91075

Reference: Communication December 8, 1994

Your No. 44-1987

Re: JAMES EARL RAY;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM;
CR-CONSPIRACY

Specimens received: December 13, 1994

Specimens:

Two sets of fingerprints of RAUL R. COELHO
Three photographs of latent prints
A copy of fingerprints of RAUL R. COELHO

This report confirms and supplements information furnished telephonically on December 6, 1994, December 23, 1994 and January 11, 1995.

Nine latent fingerprints of value are present in the three photographs.

Nine latent fingerprints present in three submitted photographs marked #1 through #3, in the Latent Fingerprint Section, have been identified as fingerprints of RAUL R. COELHO, born

(Continued on next page)

Enc. (15)

1 - Memphis (44-1987)

This Report Is Furnished For Official Use Only

Return original to
AG office & document.

44-1987-1229

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 17 1995	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

SAC, Memphis

January 12, 1995

The available unidentified latent prints previously reported in the captioned case and in file #32-19965, are not the fingerprints of COELHO. Palm prints are not available in our files for this individual.

A search in our files of the submitted inked fingerprints of COELHO have disclosed an alien fingerprint record of RAUL RAMOS COELHO, born [REDACTED] in Medelin, Beira Baixa, Portugal, bearing alien # [REDACTED] and fingerprinted on December 5, 1961.

The specimens and your mail envelope, along with other miscellaneous documents, which were also submitted, are enclosed.

Page 2
LC #91075

Memorandum



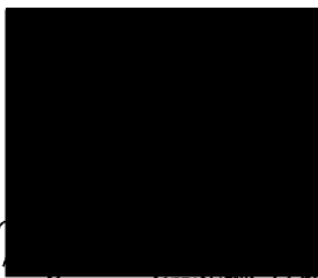
To : SAC, MEMPHIS(44-1987) (C)

Date JAN. 19, 1995

From : S.A. [REDACTED]

Subject: RAY, JAMES EARL;
KING, MARTIN LUTHER, JR. - VICTIM;
CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY
OO: MEMPHIS

On today's date, case agent turned over to S.A. [REDACTED] T.B.I., items pertaining to the Shelby County Attorney General's Office's case into the new allegations that have surfaced in the shooting death of Martin Luther King, Jr. The receipt for the release of these documents has been placed in a 1A envelope. The documents are as follows: a two-page letter from the FBI lab, two original fingerprint cards of Coelho, and nine pages of information concerning Coelho's background and naturalization.



*ARAC
Bates*

SERIALIZED	INDEXED
JAN 20 1995	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

WCR
WCR/wcr
(2)

44-1987-1230



INFORMATION COMMUNICATION

Date: 01/19/95

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

CONTACT: SA [REDACTED]

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT
ATTN: SSA [REDACTED]

TITLE: RAY, JAMES EARL;
KING, MARTIN LUTHER, JR. - VICTIM;
CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY;
OO: MEMPHIS

RE: Memphis Information Communication dated 11/18/94.

PURPOSE(S): To update the status of the investigative efforts of the Attorney General's Office.

DETAILS: On 1/18/95, results of the fingerprint analysis requested by the Shelby County Attorney Generals's office and conducted by the FBI Latent Fingerprint Unit were received by the Memphis Division. Results proved negative in the comparison between the alleged main conspirator, according to JAMES EARL RAY, and unidentified latents lifted from the crime scene during the FBI investigation and currently on file in Washington, D. C. The original report and documents received from the FBI lab will be disseminated to the Shelby County Attorney General's Office in the next few days.

■

44-1987-1231
AUTOMATED SEARCHED _____
MANUAL SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED *lg* _____
INDEXED _____ FILED *lg* _____

1 - File # 44-1987
1 - Working Copy
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Rasmussen *[Handwritten signature]*

Memorandum



To : SAC (44A-1987)

Date 2/13/95

From : BETTY NORWORTH, SAC Secretary

Subject: MURKIN

PAUL BARNETT, retired anchorman for WREG-TV, called today to make the following request:

On 4/4/68, he and his cameraman were the first media representatives at the scene of the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING. The Memphis FBI requested the film taken on that occasion, and he furnished everything he had to the FBI. He called to request that all film and related items which he furnished to us be returned to him.

I talked to SSA [redacted] who said this property should be returned to Mr. BARNETT.

BN:bn
(2) *[Signature]*

*Paul Barnett
Telyphone 278-0798
3/2/95 PLA Bolds telephonically
advised Mr. Barnett that there is
no record of FBI receiving film from
him or his camera crew.*

44-1987-1232

SEARCHED <i>[initials]</i>	INDEXED <i>[initials]</i>
SERIALIZED <i>[initials]</i>	FILED <i>[initials]</i>
FEB 15 1995	
FBI [redacted]	
SSA <i>[initials]</i>	<i>[initials]</i>

*George: Pls. handle.
OK to return
film. H*



INFORMATION COMMUNICATION

Date: 03/16/95

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

CONTACT: SA [REDACTED]

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (Encl. 1)
CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT
ATTN: SSA [REDACTED]

TITLE: RAY, JAMES EARL;
KING, MARTIN LUTHER, JR. - VICTIM;
CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY;
OO: MEMPHIS

RE: Memphis Information Communication, dated 1/19/95.

ENCL: Enclosed is a xerox copy of newspaper clipping.

PURPOSE(S): To update the status of the investigative efforts of the Shelby County Attorney General's (SCAG) Office.

DETAILS: On 1/19/95, MARK K. GLANKLER, CID, SCAG Office, provided the enclosed facsimile of an article in The Commercial Appeal, which provides a fair summary of their investigation to date.

Continued close liaison will be maintained with the SCAG Office to ensure Memphis is aware of any pertinent developments, and FBIHQ will continue to be advised every 60 days on the status of the investigative efforts.

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44-1987-1233
AUTOMATED SEARCHED _____
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SERIALIZED _____
INDEXED _____ FILED _____

1 - File # 44-1987
1 - Working Copy
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9

METRO

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1995

THE COMMERCIAL APPEAL

Jowers vanishes, but his theory of King plot haunts legal system

By Marc Ferrusquia
The Commercial Appeal

He and his wife split up. Now he can't be found.

A year after former Memphis businessman Loyd Jowers gained national attention by claiming he plotted with others in 1968 to assassinate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., his life has been forever altered.

Yet, while the Jowers conspiracy theory has fallen from the media spotlight, it has not gone away.

A lawsuit in Shelby County Circuit Court continues to spawn hundreds of pages of testimony regarding the supposed conspiracy.

And attorneys claim they've located "Raoul," the shadowy figure named by convicted assassin James Earl Ray, who claims he was set up.

Now if they could just get someone to believe them.

"It's no hoax, as sure as I'm talking to you right now," said Jowers's lawyer, Memphis attorney Lewis Garrison, who said his client has gone so deep into hiding, he doesn't where he is. "But convincing someone is something else."

Among the chief critics is Dist. Atty. Gen. John Pierotti, who reluctantly opened an investigation last year into Jowers's claims.

"Oh, yeah?" a wry Pierotti asked Monday, when told of the Raoul development. Pierotti said his investigators have interviewed scores of witnesses while checking into Jowers's claims, and he doesn't have much faith in the new lead.

"We've looked into every thing they've come up with and found nothing to substantiate it."

Jowers, 68, created a stir in December 1993 when he told reporter Sam Donaldson on the ABC news program *PrimeTime Live* that he was paid "a large amount of money" by another Memphis businessman to have King shot.

Media attention in the ensuing weeks forced Pierotti to reopen the case that had been officially closed when Ray pleaded guilty in 1969.

Until making his claim on national television, Jowers had been a footnote among the many books, films and investigative files exploring the assassination of King, who was shot in Memphis on April 4, 1968, on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel.

In 1968, Jowers owned Jim's Grill, a restaurant at 418 S. Main below the boarding house from which Ray is believed to have fired the fatal shot. Interviewed by police three days after the assassination, Jowers, then 41, said he heard a loud noise "like something that fell in the kitchen."

When he came out with his new story, reporters swarmed to rural Martin, Tenn., where Jowers had been living since 1991. The attention forced Jowers to move again, his attorney said, and now he's not even sure where his client is.

"He and his wife separated," Garrison said. "She just said, 'I can't live like this anymore.'"

But Garrison is not completely out of touch. He's defending Jowers in a \$46 million lawsuit brought by Ray last August.

The suit claims a man named

"Raoul" had Ray bring a rifle to Memphis supposedly to show to prospective gun buyers. The gun was not used to kill King, the suit says, but only to implicate Ray, whose fingerprints were on it.

In the Donaldson interview, Jowers said Ray was present when King was shot, but wasn't a knowing member of the conspiracy.

Garrison said plaintiff and defense attorneys have interviewed several witnesses under oath in deposition hearings, recording 500 to 700 pages of testimony. Ray's London attorney, William Pepper, declined to release the testimony transcripts.

One witness, a Texas woman, "led us to Raoul," Garrison said. He would provide few details, but claimed investigators have a photo of Raoul, who's living in a Northern state.

"He and his brother are from Brazil," Garrison added. "Their trade was gunrunning."

Pepper declined to discuss details, but spoke with equal enthusiasm.

"We're increasingly putting flesh on the bones," he said. "It's scandalous that the attorney general has not done a serious investigation of this."

As for Pierotti, he said he believes mysterious Raoul is a fictional, composite character created by Ray from several people who helped him avoid arrest for several months following the assassination.

But Pierotti said, he'll be happy to check it out.

"Just as long as they keep coming up with stuff, we'll look into it," he said.

Memorandum



To : SAC, MEMPHIS

Date 2/10/93

From : SSA [REDACTED]

Subject: JAMES EARL RAY;
MARTIN LUTHER KING - VICTIM;
CIVIL RIGHTS
OO: MEMPHIS

On 2/10/93, WARREN YOUNG, Shelby County District Attorney's Office, 201 Poplar, provided the following information:

During the recent filming of the HBO mock trial of JAMES EARL RAY, Shelby County District Attorney's Investigator JIM SMITH provided "testimony" that in 1968 he was employed as an officer with the Memphis Police Department. About the time of Dr. KING's assassination, he was assigned to pick up a Federal Agent named [REDACTED] SMITH testified that Agent [REDACTED] was sent to Memphis for the purpose of teaching illegal intelligence gathering methods to the Memphis Police Department. SMITH further testified that at the time Dr. KING was killed, there was a van containing Federal Agents outside the motel, and these Agents were conducting an illegal wiretap of Dr. KING's motel room.

YOUNG advised that he and District Attorney General PIEROTTI learned of SMITH's testimony yesterday following a visit from former USA W. HICKMAN EWING, who portrayed the prosecutor in this HBO film. General PIEROTTI was unaware that SMITH had been involved in the making of this movie, and did not know that he had testified. YOUNG stated he felt the FBI should be made aware of this matter given the allegations made concerning illegal wiretapping by Federal Agents. YOUNG was also concerned inasmuch as SMITH is currently assisting the Memphis Division with a pending IGB investigation, and might have access to FBI files regarding the JAMES EARL RAY case. YOUNG stated that SMITH has been very evasive concerning his exact involvement in this IGB case, and both YOUNG and PIEROTTI are concerned about how he is spending his working hours inasmuch as he apparently testified during normal working hours while indicating he was working with the FBI on this IGB matter. YOUNG indicated he anticipates an internal investigation will be initiated based upon the above information.

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