

10/1/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703)

MURKIN - COST DATA

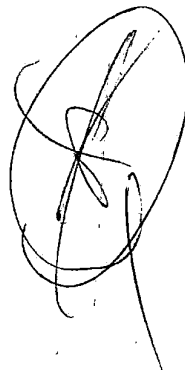
WFO incurred no cost in this case during
September, 1968.

2 - Memphis
1 - WFO

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44-703-770

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A Mystery About Ray Is Cleared Up—He Was a Dishwasher in Illinois in '67

Special to The New York Times

CHICAGO, Oct. 24—Information supplied for a magazine article by James Earl Ray, who is accused of murdering the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., has apparently helped the Federal Bureau of Investigation to trace Ray's whereabouts during two months of last year.

Ten days after he escaped from the Missouri State Prison in April, 1967, Ray went to work for a restaurant in Winnetka, in suburban Chicago, and stayed there for two months.

Early last August, Ray supplied this information to William Bradford Huie, the Hartsell, Ala., author who has a contract to write Ray's life story.

Until Mr. Huie went to Winnetka to interview the owners of the Indian Trail restaurant, where Ray had worked in May and June of 1967, the F.B.I. had apparently been unable to trace the murder suspect's movements although the F.B.I. had said it had 3,014 agents working on the case.

Mrs. Harvey Clingeman, who with her husband owns the family-style restaurant in Winnetka, said that Mr. Huie had talked to her and her husband in early August of this year.

Until that time, she said, they

had no idea that the dishwasher and vegetable peeler they knew as John L. Ryan, was James Earl Ray.

After talking to Mr. Huie, Mrs. Clingeman said that she and her husband agreed to keep the discussion with Mr. Huie confidential. "Mr. Huie was spending so much money on it," she said.

Mr. Huie has said that he made a down payment of \$25,000 to Ray for his life story. The money is being used as a defense fund.

Although the restaurant owners agreed to keep the discussion confidential, Mrs. Clingeman said that she and her husband felt that they should "tell our local police about it."

Sometime later, F.B.I. agents came to talk to them, she said, and they took with them the canceled paychecks for the eight weeks that Ray had worked at the restaurant. The F.B.I. agents came to see her and her husband in late August, Mrs. Clingeman said.

Mrs. Clingeman said that Ray was highly regarded as an employee, that he was neat, sociable and was a good worker. She said it became obvious after a few days that he could handle a better job than dishwashing and that she made him

a "food server," and raised his pay from \$103 a week to \$117.50 a week.

As a food server, his duties included peeling vegetables and helping fill orders from a steam table.

The Indian Trail restaurant, operated by the Clingemans for 35 years, specializes in "plain home-cooked food" and does a volume business.

No Racial Friction

Working with Ray in the kitchen of the restaurant were 27 Negroes and four Filipinos, said Mrs. Clingeman, and there was never any friction between Ray and them.

Mrs. Clingeman said that Ray had several telephone calls during June, 1967, while he worked in the restaurant and that a man came to the restaurant to see him in late June.

He quit on June 24 and in a telephone call later told Mrs. Clingeman that he had been offered a job on a boat.

Months later, while he was using the alias Eric Starvo Galt, Ray told several landlords that he had worked as a ship hand.

Mrs. Clingeman said that Ray had a Social Security number and that it apparently was a valid one since there was no communication from the Social Security Administration about

the Social Security payments the restaurant made.

When Ray was growing up in southern Illinois and eastern Missouri in the 1930's, his family sometimes used the name Rayns and Ray had been enrolled in school at least once under that name.

Mrs. Clingeman said that Ray applied for a job at the Indian Trail restaurant on May 3, 1967. He escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City about April 23, 1967, while he was serving 20 years for robbery.

It is about 400 miles by highway from Jefferson City to Chicago. Mrs. Clingeman said that Ray had an injured foot when he started work at the restaurant.

Henry Johnson, a cook's helper at the restaurant, said he had often driven Ray to a bus stop near the restaurant after they finished their day's work.

He said that Ray traveled by bus and elevated train to his apartment on Chicago's near Northwest side.

Mr. Johnson, 61 years old, said he had asked Ray several times about his family and that Ray had mentioned he had a sister. Otherwise, Mr. Johnson said, Ray was vague or began talking about other matters.

He recalled, "It seemed to me that Ray always was reading a newspaper, and he always kept one in his locker."

George Arco, a cook at the restaurant, said Ray worked with him much of the time. He described Ray as a good worker, who quickly obeyed instructions and said Ray always was "very neat."

Magazine Article Due

A detailed account of Ray's stay in Chicago and his work at the restaurant in Winnetka and his life in several other cities during the months preceding the civil rights leader's assassination last April 3 in Memphis, is scheduled to appear in Look magazine in the issue to be published Tuesday. The article was written by Mr. Huie.

An agreement between Ray and Mr. Huie for the Alabama author to write Ray's life story

was made last July after Ray was flown to Memphis from London, where he was arrested on June 10.

Ray was reported to have sent Mr. Huie a handwritten 10,000-word manuscript in early August.

Mr. Huie and Ray's attorney, Arthur J. Hanes of Birmingham, Ala., have been cooperating in the publishing venture. Mr. Huie could not be reached for comment today.

Mr. Hanes said in a telephone interview that he could not comment on the article. The attorney was held in contempt of court last Sept. 30 by Judge W. Preston Battle in Memphis for discussing the Ray case with two Memphis newspaper reporters.

Judge Battle, a Tennessee Criminal Court judge, is to preside at Ray's trial, which is scheduled to begin in Memphis on Nov. 12.

U. of Paris Rejects Exams Because of Mass Cheating

PARIS, (Reuters)—Students wishing to study medicine at the University of Paris will have to take part of their entrance examinations again, because the university ruled all papers void after many of the

students had cheated the first time.

The dean of the medical faculty set a new examination date.

The examinations were partly boycotted by students. Many students outside the hall shouted answers through the windows.

Contempt Hearing Set for FBI Agent In Earl Ray Case

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — George Bonebrake, a senior Federal Bureau of Investigation fingerprint expert, has been ordered to show cause Dec. 6 why he should not be held in contempt for allegedly violating orders prohibiting out-of-court comments on the James Earl Ray case.

Judge W. Preston Battle of Shelby County Criminal Court said yesterday it was impracticable to hold the hearing before Ray goes on trial Nov. 12 for murder in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Battle has issued stringent orders sharply restricting discussion of the Ray case by anyone connected with it. Bonebrake is expected to be a key prosecution witness.

Bonebrake was cited for comments he made about his fingerprint investigation. The comments were published in the Wichita (Kan.) Beacon newspaper.

Battle earlier held Ray's attorney, a private investigator for the defense and two Memphis newspaper reporters in contempt of the pretrial orders on discussion of the case.

C
DATE 10-25-68
PAGE C-15

____ THE WASHINGTON POST
& TIMES HERALD
☒ THE EVENING STAR
____ THE SUNDAY STAR
____ THE WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS
____ WASHINGTON-AFRO AMERICAN

44-703-0772

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>hst</i>	FILED <i>hst</i>
OCT 26 1968	
FBI - WASH. F. O.	

Dawson

11/1/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703)

MURKIN - COST DATA

WFO incurred no cost in this case during October, 1968.

WFO will discontinue submitting cost data airtel inasmuch as this matter is closed at WFO.

2 - Memphis
① - WFO

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(3)

AIRTEL

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Ray's new lawyer sifts assassination witnesses

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (UPI) — Percy Foreman, brought in at the last minute to defend James Earl Ray, this week followed a slim trail of witnesses to Dr. Martin Luther King's assassination to build his defense for Ray's March trial.

Only 20 names were left to the tall Texas attorney by Arthur J. Hanes Sr.; the former mayor of Birmingham, Ala., sacked from the defense by Ray, who is charged with the sniper slaying of King April 4.

Foreman's first task in his biggest case was to test Hanes' strategy of defense.

Sources close to Hanes said that strategy rested on an attempt to prove King was assassinated not by Ray, an ex-convict foiled in all his crimes, but by men who wanted King violently murdered to touch off waves of racial rioting in the United States.

FOREMAN refused comment when asked if he gave any weight at all to Hanes' defense theory, a theory involving black militant groups such as the Revolutionary Action Movement and foreigners.

Ray formally hired Foreman Tuesday and Judge W. Preston Battle of Shelby County Criminal Court granted a delay until March 3 for Ray's murder trial.

"It's an awful thing to have to continue a case at this time," Battle said. Ray's trial was to have started Tuesday.

"But the defendant's right to counsel of his own choice is guaranteed by the Constitution of the State of Tennessee," Battle said when he formally opened the trial and minutes later recessed it until March, or perhaps later.

HANES, in count with Ray, Foreman and the prosecution, said the switch in attorneys was only "a delaying tactic, pure and simple," and insisted he was "ready to go to trial, but my client wanted a delay."

Ray's brothers, Jerry and John, had argued with James to hire Foreman since June and were known to be dissatisfied with Ray's share of money from his biographical articles written by author William Bradford Huie in a copyrighted series in Look magazine.

Hanes' list of defense witnesses subpoenaed for trial became known after Tuesday's brief court session held under the strictest police security in American trial history.

The list of witnesses graphically outlined part of Hanes' defense plans.

The fired attorney was to put on the stand Solomon Jones, a Memphis funeral

parlor employee, who drove for King the day the civil rights leader was slain.

JONES' testimony, according to sources close to Hanes, would point to a "hooded man" Jones said he saw run away from the back of a flophouse moments after the single shot struck King.

It was the same flophouse the Justice Department and FBI said Ray holed up in to shoot King from the window of a communal bathroom.

The prosecution contends Ray alone planned the murder and fired the shot.

FOREMAN, who has represented such "name" defendants as Candy Mossler

and Jack Ruby, has 11 days to prepare his case, assuming the trial begins as scheduled March 3. The Houston attorney, claiming only one loss in nearly 1,000 murder cases, may want more time than that.

Battle ordered him to report to him by Dec. 12 whether he would be able to come to trial in March.

Foreman inspected the motel slaying site Tuesday and tried to enter the flophouse on South Main Street, but was turned away by the manager who said the FBI and Memphis police told him to demand to see a "gold badge" before letting anyone inspect the room Ray allegedly used.

S

DATE 11-16-68

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THE WASHINGTON POST
& TIMES HERALD

THE EVENING STAR

THE SUNDAY STAR

THE WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS

WASHINGTON-AFRO AMERICAN

44-703-774

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
NOV 1 1968	
FBI - WASH. F. O.	

12/18/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703) (RUC)

MURKIN

Enclosed for the Bureau and Memphis is one Xerox copy each of a document entitled "A Punk Without The Connections," by ROBERT EARL BARNES.

The enclosure was made available to WFO by AUSA HAROLD J. SULLIVAN on 12/16/68, who received it from BARNES, who is currently confined to the Maryland State Penitentiary for fifteen years for burglary.

For information of Memphis, BARNES is a notorious St. Louis-Washington, D.C. (WDC), area burglar whose testimony in both jurisdictions resulted in convictions of civilians and police officers in connection with his widespread burglary activities. He served time in the Missouri State Penitentiary, allegedly during part of time JAMES EARL RAY was there. He has furnished both reliable and unreliable information to the FBI in past.

BARNES is still of interest to news media, WDC area and in view of this enclosure being submitted for information.

3 - Bureau (Enc. 1)
2 - Memphis (Enc. 1)
② - WFO
 (1-137-3677)

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(7)

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W. H. Sullivan

" A PUNK WITHOUT THE CONNECTIONS "

Millions of words have been written about the small time country boy who grew into a small time hoodlum, James Earl Ray, after the senseless slaying of Martin Luther King. Many of the words written about this individual have been distorted to such an extent that they tend to picture James Earl Ray as a big time operator within the criminal underworld with countless underworld connections. When one hears the name James Earl Ray, two thoughts automatically appear within one's mind, that James Earl Ray is the assassin of the Negro leader, and that he is a escape artist who while on escape from the Missouri State Penitentiary conspired with others, unknown to assassinate the Negro leader.

While it is factual that Ray was an escaped convict, he was far from being another Willie Sutton, and it is fatuous to believe that such an infinitesimal hoodlum with infinitesimal ideas could have possessed the connections to become a hired killer for others.

The above statement however doesn't mean that Ray wasn't capable of murder as he was, but he wasn't capable of others having the confidence or trust in him to carry out such a assignment as assassinating King. While it is enigmatic to many how Ray after the assassination was able to elude the F.B.I., and other law officials by traveling all over the Country, it is erroneous to believe that underworld sources aided him in his flight. I say this because he made too many stops in too many different places, and didn't have any money to speak about while he was in flight. If Ray would have been a hired killer, he would have had plenty of money, and would not have been traveling all over the country just one step ahead of the F.B.I. all the time he was a fugitive, as his connections would have seen to it that he was rapidly carted out of the country, and concealed someplace, probably beneath the earth, and this would have been done because Ray was small time, and if possibly hired to slay King, could not have been trusted after the slaying.

Page Two

Within the underworld of crime there is a ladder. Although it is an invisible ladder to the eyes of the ethical, to the unethical it's many rungs are transparent, and the criminal element constantly strive to climb higher upon each rung. As the criminal steps higher, he is greeted by more important criminals with connections and these connections are extremely important to the climbing criminal regardless if he is a Burglar, "Contract" man, "Pistol Man," "Booster", and so forth.

Nineteen years ago in 1949 Ray commenced his climb upon the ladder when in Los Angeles, California he stole himself a pistol and stuck up a cateteria. He was caught outside with less than fifty dollars he had taken at gun point. He served a small hitch in the County Jail for this first offense, and when released he decided that he would still remain in the world of crime but remain in it doing something less bold than sticking a pistol in someone's face. He walked into a office, looked around and saw that only a man was inside. Numerous typewriter's were resting upon the scattered desk inside the office so Ray reached over and snatched one and raced out the door with it under his arm. The man inside the office witnessed Ray extract the typewriter, but couldn't catch the bandit as he raced down the street with it, but he did the next best thing, he caught Ray's Army Discharge Paper's as they fell out of his back pocket, and Ray was arrested a few days later and sentenced to a few months in the county jail for petty larceny. This time in jail he couldn't brag to the other cons that he was inside for using a "piece", so he kept quiet about the larceny snatch, served his time, and decided that it was about time that he tried his dual skill in other parts of the country.

He traveled back to Illinois stayed there for a few days until he got himself another pistol, then decided to make a "Big Score". He couldn't make up his mind just what to, or who to rob so he hired himself a cab to look the Windy City over. The memory of the LA robbery must have penetrated his brain, and he decided that he would not take a chance of robbing another

business establishment for fear of receiving results duplicate to that he received in L.A., so he robbed the cab driver of about fifteen dollars. After the cabbie turned the "Big Score" over to Ray, the bandit raced from the cab, and shot down a alley in order to make his getaway, but the inauspicious "Pistol Man" ran into a deadend alley, and was rapidly apprehended by the Chicago Police.

This time Ray was found guilty and sentenced to the "Big-House". It was his first time at serving a prison sentence, and he served two years. When he was released in March of 1954 he decided that the gun method of making money the easy way wasn't so easy, and that he would try to be a burglar. He was still thinking small in the way of criminal acts and five months after his release, he tried to burglarize a cleaners by kicking in the front plate glass window. Naturally the falling glass made quite a noise, and half of the Alton, Illinois Police Department arrived at the scene, and arrested the hapless Ray. He was rapidly sentenced back to the "Iron Castle" where he could think about what profession within the underworld that he would be best suited for. He was a failure at robbery, a failure at stealing penny ante objects, and a failure at burglary.

While serving his second hitch in the "Joint" he was introduced to a small time "Paper Hanger", and when they were released he decided that he would try the forgery "bit", but he soon discovered that the government didn't appreciate him passing forged money orders when he was arrested with his confederate and sentenced to four years in Leavenworth.

Ray was thirty years old when he was released from Leavenworth. He had been inside three penitentiaries, and served a few jail sentences in that thirty years and hadn't stolen two hundred dollars. While he stepped upon that first rung of the ladder of crime nearly ten years before, he was still where he had been ten years before. He was not the type of individual who would even think of working for more than a few months at a time, and

when he was released from Leavenworth he decided that he would now hit the big time. There wouldn't be anymore cab driver robberies for him, no more stealing nickel and dime objects from downtown office buildings, and especially, no more passing phoney money orders. He decided that he was going to be a "Pistol Man", as even though he had been "Busted" twice for it, he believed he could do it better than anything else that he had attempted in the past ten years.

After being released from Leavenworth Ray journeyed to the "Show-Me-State" and committed a armed robbery. It was the largest "Score" that he had made in his ten year criminal career, about eight hundred dollars. When Ray committed a robbery, he went in the place like "Gangbusters", and came out like "Gangbusters". He believed in practicing the philosophy, "Terrify the victims first so that they'll freeze in their tracks, then you'll have them under control."

Shortly after the eight hundred dollar "Score", Ray and a confederate decided that a busy supermarket in Alton, Illinois would be a good spot to make a big "Hit" at. Ray was the pistolman and shouted to all the customers that he would kill them if they moved a muscle. His partner grabbed two handfuls of cash totaling \$ 2,200.00, and raced for the stolen car setting outside the store with Ray a shadow on his heels. The money grabber switched to the role of a "Wheelman", and the inauspicious Ray still feeling the nest of butterflies floating around inside his stomach forgot to shut his side of the car door and fell out as the car turned the first corner. The "Wheelman seeing his partner "Evaporate" became excited and smashed the stolen car into a tree. Some-how Ray escaped apprehension, and returned to St. Louis a month later in October, 1959. He walked into another corner supermarket, flashed his pistol, screamed his demand for all the money, and was given less than two hundred dollars. He was breathing shorter in his new trade as this time he used a stolen car to make his get-a-way, and then switched to his own car. His own car was

witnessed by a passer by as the switch was made, and Ray was quickly arrested later on that week. He went to trial in St. Louis for this robbery and was convicted and sentenced to his longest prison sentence, twenty years, in the Missouri State Penitentiary.

As the judge pronounced the huge sentence upon the bandit, Ray must have thought to himself, "I can't do that much time", as when the Deputy Sheriff started to take him back to the cell block behind the courtroom, Ray smashed the Sheriff against the cell door and broke away from him. Inside the small corridor behind the courtroom was a steel mesh fence that climbed to the top of the ceiling. Ray ran for the fence, and seeing that he could not climb over it, turned and raced for the elevator. When he tried to open the door he was amazed to see that it was the type that was essential for a key to be inserted inside it in order for the doors to open. He was apprehended on the spot. It was his first attempt at escaping, but far from his last.

When Ray Arrived at the Missouri State Penitentiary in 1959 he was incarcerated in one of the most corrupt prisons in the United States of America. Three years before he was convicted and sentenced to "Jeff City", the two thousand convicts confined behind the twenty-five foot high, gray prison walls rebelled against the Warden and brutal guards, and rioted, destroying the "Tag-plant, the Church, Movie, School, and the pants and shirt factories

By the time that Ray was printed and numbered inside the walls, a new Warden by the name of Nash had taken control of the prison and his main concern was to make a profit out of his role as the Warden. When Nash was the Warden anything could be purchased inside the "Walls", even a mans life. Life came cheap inside the prison in those days. One convict could have another stabbed in the back for as little as fifteen packs of cigarettes, and in the single year of 1960, more than one hundred fifty convicts were stabbed by other cons, while a few were killed. Cell changes, along with job changes could be purchased inside the prison, and anyone who possessed the slightest connections and money did

absolutely as they pleased.

While Ray couldn't make it very many steps up the ladder of "Crime" in the "Free-world", his infinitesimal, and homosexual ways kept him from being anything other than a "Hoosier" at "Jeff City". A "Hoosier" inside the "Walls" of "Jeff City" was a convict who other "Cons" used to do their dirty work, and paid to keep their contraband for them. Some of these "Hoosiers" washed the other cons' dirty socks, cleaned the other cons' cells, and did anything in order to make a pack of smokes. While Ray was serving his time at the prison he had two things on his mind, escaping, and homosexuality. When he wasn't engaging in perverted acts in J. and K. Dinningroom, he was associating with other so-called "Hoosiers", the majority who were homosexuals, in feeble attempts at escaping.

Ray worked in J. and K. Dinningroom, and worked for a nickel a day, seven days a week. No convict inside the penitentiary wanted to labor in the Dinningrooms, as they worked countless hours, and wasn't able to make any extra money for themselves, but any convict who had the price of twenty dollars could get, that is buy a job change without any problems, but Ray worked in the Dinningroom for almost four years when he wasn't in "E-Hall" (Solitary Confinement), and he worked there because he was a nobody, and a nobody behind prison walls is about the lowest type of convict that exist.

While Ray claims that on his only successful escape that he went-over-the-wall, this is not true, and not true because it would have been virtually impossible to go over the wall at the point he states he went over it at, at the Tunnel Gate. It is my personal belief that Ray went through the wall in a bread truck, and not over it as he says. The point where he says he "Evaporated" from has two gun towers, twenty-five feet high on both sides of the gate, but before you can reach those two gun towers, you have to be in the open yard surrounding the back kitchen docks for

approximately two hundred feet in all directions, and there is a corner gun tower that has to see anyone walking in any direction before he could get to the tunnel towers. There is also another gun tower located at the front side of the docks that has a clear view of any one moving in any direction up to a hundred square feet. The prison guards use the whistle system while stationed at the towers. Each fifteen minutes the guard on the tower must blow a whistle, and wave a white flag to the following gun tower guard, who in return duplicates the other guards actions. By the time the first gun tower guard has finished giving the all-clear sign, and returns inside the four by four foot tower, the other guard is just commencing to blow his whistle, and when he is finished the first guard has already re-seated himself, and has clear view of the surroundings. Even if both of the two wall gun towers guards fell into a coma, Ray could not have escaped over the wall because of the other two tunnel gun tower guards unless they all four were sound asleep at the same time, and it is very doubtful that this could have happened.

While Ray states that he went over the wall, I don't know. Maybe it sounds more exciting to him to say, I went over the wall and not through it, but at any event, going through the wall was quite a feat, and took a lot of luck, as the trucks are shaken down three times before they are allowed through the tunnel gate.

When Ray says he was planning his escape that he sold his commissary books to other inmates for cash money in order to accumulate three hundred dollars in cash, it would have taken him two full years if he drew fifteen dollars a month, (which is all the money the convicts are allowed to spend each month) to get one hundred eighty dollars in cash, as the commissary books sell for two dollars in books for one dollar in cash. Ray has also stated that he won money playing poker, and that he saved a portion of this in order to accumulate a bankroll. Ray did play

poker, but he played in the penny ante games on the prison recreation yard, and then never in the big games. Inside the corrupt penitentiary in 1959, gambling tables were countless on the yard, and any convict who possessed the funds either hidden somewhere inside his cell, or on the prison books in the main office could gamble all night long, seven nights a week for six dollars a night. The six dollars went to the "Screw" who happened to be on duty at the cell block on that certain night, but Ray was never invited to these games because he was considered small time, and not able to afford the three to five hundred dollar lost's per month that some of the "Cons" often lost. The majority of inmates who participated in these games were men who worked leather, sold narcotic's, and sold job and cell changes, not those like Ray who labored for thirty five cents per week in the poorest diningroom.

Ray also claims that he spent the majority of his idle time reading about how to "Evaporate" from the "Iron Cage", and the different ways and means to obtain identification cards, and documents to use after he made his escape good. The truth of the matter is Ray spent most of his time inside "E"-Hall (Solitary-Confinement) and spent it there because of feeble attempts to escape, and for acts of homosexuality. Ray, the man who many believe possessed enormous connections in order to avoid apprehension while he was the most hunted man in the world, didn't even possess the connections inside "Jeff City" to gather the false identification that is so essential for a fugitive to possess before he escapes. If he would have not been considered a "Hoosier" by the "Cons" in the know behind the walls, he could have gotten any type of identification that he wanted, as back in those days driver's license were sold for five dollars apiece, social security cards sold for five dollars apiece, draft cards sold for ten dollars each, and even blank checks could be purchased for a dollar each that the convicts printed up inside the prison print shop. In 1960 convicts at the print shop printed up so many ten dollar counterfeit bills that the F.B.I. had to start an investigation inside

the penitentiary as the prison "hacks" were accepting bribes of phony money from the "Cons" and passing the bills in the Banks of Jefferson City, so if Ray would not have been such a loner and small time thief, plus the fact he was an untrusted homosexual, he could have gotten all the I.D. that he would have ever needed, but Ray was just not in on the know while he was incarcerated.

Such a small time criminal as James Earl Ray could never have been involved in any conspiracy to slay Martin Luther King. It is without question that Ray was a thief but he was never a leader, and the so-called leaders whom he associated with inside the prison walls were like Ray himself, small time thieves and homosexuals who took the first step up the ladder of crime, but never made it above the second step, thus their only connections within the underworld were connections amongst themselves, and not worth any thing. Ray, in the first place could never have been trusted to complete such a contract as he was a failure all his life, and possessed a reputation for being a failure. He was a homosexual and homosexuals within the underworld are not considered mute individuals, and thus wouldn't have been trusted to keep his mouth shut after the slaying. If Ray would have been involved in a conspiracy to murder Mr. King, immediately after the murder occurred, Ray would have been given a large amount of money, and transported out of the country, but instead he was traveling around with just a small amount of money, no clothing, and no friends to turn to in need, not even one who could get him a forged passport, and some I.D.

It is not for me to say that Ray didn't assassinate Martin Luther King, as he could have done it. He was capable of such an act, but he didn't conspire with others to do it, and was not hired to do it. There are too many contract men within the underworld who could have taken care of such a job for anyone to consider hiring a small time thief such as Ray to do it. A Man who failed at everything he ever attempted doing.

Page Ten

If Ray did assassinate King, he did it on his own, and for reasons of his own, not for money, not for hire, not because of a conspiracy, but whatever reasons that he did it, if he did it, he after nineteen years of attempting to climb up the ladder, finally reached the top, but he reached the top of the ladder of fools, and he could never have made it one step higher than he did by being anything other than a fool, and the unethical do not hire fools to assassinate.



The End

By

Robert Earl Barnes

Robert Earl Barnes

FBI

Date: 11/17/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-100000) (P)
SUBJECT: MURDER OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
(OO: MEMPHIS)
BUFILE 44-38861

Re Memphis airtel to Bureau dated 11/19/68, and
Memphis airtel to New York, dated 11/16/68.

Discontinue the weekly submission to the Memphis
Division of the cost data requested in referenced airtels,
since the Bureau has agreed this submission can be discon-
tinued.

2-All SAC's
2-Memphis
HEG:mas
(116)

776
44-703-777

SEARCHED ☒	INDEXED ☒
SERIALIZED ☒	FILED ☒
DEC 17 1968	
FBI - WASH. F. O.	

Approved: RC Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

2/5/69

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, LOUISVILLE (44-947) (TUC)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

OO:MEMPHIS

Re Louisville airtel dated 4/16/68, no copy WFO, enclosing for Bureau and Memphis copies of FD-302s recording information furnished on 4/15/68 and 4/16/68 by Mrs. JASPER D. WARD as to her knowledge of events occurring at the Lorraine Motel, Memphis, Tennessee, on 4/4/68, when Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. was murdered.

It is to be noted that Mrs. WARD is a liaison source of the Louisville Division and during a contact with her on 2/4/69, among other information she furnished, she advised as follows:

She has recently learned from a source, whose identity she is not at liberty to disclose but who she considers reliable, that reportedly JAMES R. CORTEZ was in Memphis, Tennessee, the night Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. was killed. Supposedly, CORTEZ, in the company of two other persons, identities not known to Mrs. WARD, flew to Memphis, Tennessee,

- 3 - Bureau (RM)
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987) (RM)
- ② - WFO (RM)
- 3 - Louisville
 - (1 - 170-147) (WARD)
 - (1 - 170-1) (CORTEZ)

WFO/wfo
(12)

44-703-777

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FEB 10 1969	
FBI - WASH. F. O.	

Coghan *EEC*

See me 2/12/69

LS 44-947

from Washington, D. C., in connection with the garbage strike turmoil. The three individuals may have arrived in Memphis several days before 4/4/68, and supposedly were part of the "militants" rather than Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.'s peaceful protesters.

Mrs. WARD commented her source, in telling her of the above, inferred the source may feel the reported presence of CORTEZ in Memphis, Tennessee, on the date Dr. KING, JR. was killed may in some way be connected with the recent published statement of Reverend JAMES BEVEL that BEVEL has information to the effect that Dr. KING, JR. was not murdered by JAMES EARL RAY. Mrs. WARD stated, however, that she feels this is pure speculation on her source's part.

For information of Memphis, it is noted that JAMES R. CORTEZ is currently a very controversial figure in Louisville, Kentucky. He has been in jail in Louisville since 6/1/68 under a variety of charges. CORTEZ came to Louisville from Washington, D. C., on 5/25/68, and was a leading speaker at a Negro rally in the West End of Louisville on 5/27/68, after which rioting and looting erupted, in Louisville, and continued for the next several days. CORTEZ has received much news publicity since being in Louisville and is of considerable interest to local authorities as he was the only reported "outsider" who had any leading part in events leading up to the Louisville disorders.

For the further information of Memphis, it is noted that the Washington Field Office has advised Louisville that on 4/10/68, CORTEZ voluntarily contacted Washington Field claiming to be an acquaintance of STOKELY CARMICHAEL and affiliated with the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and volunteering to furnish information to Washington Field for a price. Thereafter, on several occasions, CORTEZ did

LS 44-947

furnish Washington Field information but CORTEZ did not advise Washington Field of his plan to come to Louisville in May of 1968, and CORTEZ made no contact with Louisville FBI upon his arrival in Louisville.

LEADS:

THE WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE:

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Will advise Louisville and Memphis whether or not Washington Field is in possession of any information indicating CORTEZ was in Memphis, Tennessee, around the time of the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. If so, furnish Louisville complete information regarding CORTEZ' reported activities there, together with whether or not such information could be disseminated to reliable local authorities in the event inquiry may be received from them concerning this report.

THE MEMPHIS DIVISION:

AT MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE.

Will conduct same investigation at Memphis as requested of Washington Field.

Author Cited In Contempt On Ray Story

MEMPHIS (AP)—Criminal Court Judge W. Preston Battle has cited author William Bradford Huie for contempt of court, and taken action to prevent further pretrial publicity on the James Earl Ray case.

Battle will hear the March 3 trial of Ray, charged with murdering Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and has issued stringent orders prohibiting pretrial publicity.

Huie, Ray's biographer and the recipient of a 20,000-word manuscript written by Ray in jail, was arrested as he emerged from an appearance before the Shelby County grand jury in which he is reported to have discussed the Ray papers.

He posted \$1,000 cash bond pending a contempt trial.

Battle turned down motions by Ray's defense that photographs for a national magazine be allowed of the prisoner with the royalties going toward the defense. The judge said any pictures will be taken by the sheriff's department and distributed to all news media.

He also denied a defense motion that Huie be allowed to confer privately with Ray in his cell.

Battle said he had asked Huie not to publish a series of stories in Look magazine prior to the trial. He pointed out that two stories ran last fall when Ray was first scheduled for trial and a third is about to run. He said he believes all violate the order limiting pretrial discussion of the case. Huie wrote that Ray was part of a conspiracy.

DATE

2/8/69

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THE WASHINGTON POST
& TIMES HERALD

✓ THE EVENING STAR

THE SUNDAY STAR

THE WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS

WASHINGTON-AFRO AMERICAN

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2/18/69

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703) (RUC)

MURKIN
(OO:ME)

ReLSairtel to Bureau, 2/5/69.

Review of WFO files concerning JAMES R. CORTEZ reveals no information to the effect that CORTEZ was in Memphis, Tennessee, at the time of the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CORTEZ telephonically contacted the WFO 4/10/68 and volunteered his assistance concerning STOKELY CARMICHAEL and the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC).

CORTEZ stated he arrived in WDC on Friday, 4/5/68, after having called STOKELY CARMICHAEL earlier that week from Kansas City, Kansas, where he (CORTEZ) was living (address not indicated). CORTEZ indicated previous employment at Allis-Chalmers, Independence, Missouri, and indicated that he had an extensive arrest record. He described himself as a petty thief who had been released from Leavenworth Penitentiary on 6/16/67. CORTEZ's FBI record (FBI number 4-395-670) indicates that in 1968 he resided at 1706 East 35th Street, Kansas City, Missouri. His occupation was listed as a bricklayer.

- 3 - Bureau
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987)
- 1 - Louisville (44-947) (Info)
- 1 - WFO

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WFO 44-703

In view of the above, no additional investigation is being conducted by WFO

Leads at Kansas City concerning verification of CORTEZ's presence within the Kansas City area is being left to the discretion of the OO.

Information copy of this communication is being furnished to Louisville in view of their interest in this case.

3/25/69

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703) (P)

MURKIN
(OO:ME)

LEONARD E. DOYLE, R-(PROB) (protect), who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on 3/24/69, that Mrs. MARJORIE ULEN, an employee of UPO, Washington, D.C., telephone 659-1100, extension 345 and a resident of 1515 Ogden St., N.W., WDC. (Cromwell Apartments), telephone 291-6320, telephonically contacted the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), WDC Office on 3/24/69. She reported that she had read in the paper in an article by JACK ANDERSON about the FBI investigation of the assassination of Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING, and that she "has a leak" concerning same. She told SCLC that she worked for Representative GRIDER, Ninth Congressional District of Tennessee and that numerous amounts of mail had arrived at the Congressional Office while employed there. One particular post card she explained caught her attention and it was signed by a J. R. WILLARD, 3454 Chelsea Ave., Memphis, Tennessee. She related that she recalled each week WILLARD would send a card to representative GRIDER's office. The contents would always be along the same theme, that is that "Negroes and Jews" were running the country, that LBJ was giving the country to the Communist, and that "we will be waiting for you next election". ULEN continued that when first receiving these cards, routing answers were sent in reply and then later cards received were thrown in the

3-Bureau
2-Memphis (44-1987) (RM)
②-WFO (1-170-735 Sub A) (DOYLE)

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wastebasket. She stated that the card always had a sticker on front stating "Communism killed KENNEDY". ULEN related to SCLC that she is from Memphis, Tennessee, and said that she checked the 1966 Memphis telephone directory and located a Willard Division Electrical Storage Battery Company and Memphis Automotive Plant listed for 3454 Chelsea Ave., Memphis, Tennessee. She continued that on the day after the KING assassination a WDC newspaper revealed a JOHN WILLARD had signed in a register book in a rooming house where JAMES EARL RAY was staying and from where the fatal shot of KING was fired. Subsequently and during the trial of RAY she stated that she never again heard the name WILLARD mentioned. She continued that on or about 4/6/68, she telephonically contacted the FBI and related the above and that she was informed that the Attorney General RAMSEY CLARK would be notified. A day or two later she contacted the United States Attorney General's office telephonically and was told no information of that nature had been forwarded to the Attorney General. She told the SCLC that she had related the above matter to a Mr. BENTON, Director of UPO and BENTON intimated there was no love lost between Doctor KING and the FBI. She implied that she thought that the FBI was covering the WILLARD aspect of the case for this reason. She said that she was going to contact JACK ANDERSON of the DREW PEARSON's staff and give the information to him. The SCLC office informed her not to give the information to anyone at this time and if the SCLC pursued the matter it would not want the newspapers involved in the matter before SCLC could check it out. She agreed to this and SCLC told her it would contact her later. She advised that she would cooperate in any way possible and that she felt it was time she told SCLC about it. She continued that two weeks ago former representative GRIDER, now Legal Counsel, Carborendum Corporation, Niagara Falls, New York, was in WDC, and she had lunch with him. They discussed the matter of WILLARD again including the FBI's involvement and GRIDER stated something was "very funny" about the whole thing.

Indices of WFO contain no record of Mrs. MARJORIE ULEN or JAY R. WILLARD mentioned above.

WFO 44-703

Memphis requested to advise of any information regarding the above in order to facilitate handling by WFO and in maintaining contact with source.

For information, DOYLE is a paid staff member of the WDC SCLC office and was the recipient of the telephone call from Mrs. ULLIN. He does not contemplate telling other SCLC officials about the matter.

New York Times
MAR 11 1969

A Few Puzzles Remain to Be Solved in Ray Case

Special to The New York Times

MEMPHIS, March 10 — James Earl Ray's decision to plead guilty to the murder of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. today leaves a number of unanswered questions.

Taken together, the major questions that have not been answered do not prove a conspiracy in the view of some investigators others, however, feel that some of the questions may need more exploring.

One major question for which no answer has been suggested is, who got a duplicate driver's license in Alabama for Ray in late February, 1968?

On October, 1967 using the name Eric Starvo Galt. On Feb. 28, 1968, Ray, who was still using the Galt alias, was in Los Angeles taking a course in the International School of Bartending.

On that day, someone called the Alabama Highway Patrol driver's license division in Montgomery and asked that a duplicate of Galt's driver's license be sent to 2608 South Highlands Avenue in Birmingham, the address that Ray had used in the Alabama city when he was establishing his identity as Galt.

The duplicate driver's license was mailed to the Birmingham address on Feb. 28; along with a bill for 25 cents. The bill and the 25 cents were returned to Montgomery by mail four days later. Ray still was in California.

In trying to cope with this

question today, James Beasley, an assistant Memphis prosecutor, said "any friend" could have received the license for Ray. But he said he had not identity for such a friend.

The prosecutors had answers for many other questions:

What about the police radio report on the night of Dr. King's murder that three men in a white Mustang automobile, said on the radio to be Dr. King's assassins, who were speeding toward the Navy base northeast of Memphis while firing pistol shots at the occupants of a blue automobile which was trailing them?

It was a prank, said Memphis Attorney General P. M. Canale. He said that the state knew the identity of two teen-age boys who made the broadcast but that the state does not have sufficient proof to bring them to trial.

Where did Ray get the \$15,000 or more that he spent during the year he was free after escaping from the Missouri State Penitentiary before Dr. King was killed?

Mr. Canale said that Ray sent a large amount of money out of the prison before he escaped in early 1967. The prosecutor refused to say how Ray got the money. But there was a report from unofficial sources that Ray had run a drug traffic while in the prison.

In addition, Mr. Canale said that there was evidence that Ray had committed several robberies while fleeing

from authorities after he escaped.

How did Ray know that he could get a shot at Dr. King from the \$1-a-day rooming house?

Mr. Canale said that Ray did not know that he could get such a shot, but that the state believed that Ray had been trailing Dr. King for several days.

"We believe that he reconnoitered, cased the joint," Mr. Canale said.

What about Ray's claim to William Bradford Huie, the Alabama author, who wrote in Look magazine that Ray had said that a blond Cuban named Raoul had hired him to smuggle unnamed items into the United States and later had apparently directed him to kill Dr. King?

Mr. Canale said that the Canadian police had found no trace of a blond Cuban along the Montreal waterfront where Ray had said he met him. However, the prosecutor said, there was evidence that Ray had smuggled narcotics from Canada into the United States and smuggled jewelry either into or from Mexico.

Why would Ray kill Dr. King?

Mr. Canale said, "Race played at least some part in it." Ray, he said, was a racist.

Although Missouri prison authorities said that Ray did not have a history in prison of being a racist, a former inmate at the prison said that Ray was constantly making remarks against "niggers." A California bar-

tender said that in late 1967, he heard Ray make slurring remarks about Negroes.

A barmaid and a bearded California song writer, Rita Rosas and her brother Charles Stein, said that Ray had agreed to drive to New Orleans to pick up Mrs. Rosas's two children in December of 1967 if the two of them would sign a petition to get former Alabama Gov. George Wallace on the California ballot for President.

Mr. Canale said also that his investigators had picked up evidence of Ray's racist activities but that he would not disclose what they were.

How was Ray able to get a passport in Canada and how could he pick the names of three Toronto residents whom he could pass for physically to use as aliases?

Mr. Canale said that the state's investigation had shown that "the grapevine" in the Missouri State Prison was such that Ray would have known that it was easier to get a fraudulent passport in Canada than in the United States.

He said that the state presumed that Ray had read birth notices in old Canadian newspapers to find the names of real Toronto residents that he used.

If Ray had learned from the prison "grapevine" how to get a fraudulent passport in Canada, he may also have learned from the same source how to find names in old newspapers.

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U.S. WILL CONTINUE ITS INQUIRY ON RAY

But High Officials Do Not Believe There Is Evidence of Conspiracy in Murder

By JOHN HERBERS

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, March 10—

The Justice Department said today it was continuing its investigation into a possible conspiracy in the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

High officials who have been close to the case believe James Earl Ray acted alone and there was no conspiracy. But Dr. King's widow, Mrs. Coretta King, and his successor as president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the Rev. Ralph David Abernathy, said they believed there had been.

After Ray pleaded guilty to a state charge of murder in Memphis today and was sentenced to 99 years in prison, the Justice Department said through a spokesman:

"The investigation into the conspiracy allegation is still open."

Do Not Have Evidence

It was learned through other sources, however, that although the possibility of a conspiracy had not been dismissed and indeed that the investigation would continue, Federal officials do not have evidence to show that Ray was hired to kill Dr. King or that he plotted the assassination with anyone.

To the contrary, some sources say, there is reason to believe Ray acted alone. Nor is there skepticism about the court procedures that were followed in Memphis in which Ray's guilty plea and the sentence were arranged in advance. The Justice Department was notified in advance of what was taking place.

In the days, weeks and months following Dr. King's death on April 4, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and other Federal agencies mounted a massive international investigation in the search for the killer. One official said that in manpower involved it probably exceeded any previous investigation, even that into the assassination of President Kennedy in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963.

"We never gave up looking for a conspiracy," said one official source, "but we did not

Continued on Page 16, Column 3

Continued From Page 1, Col. 7

find any evidence."

This is true, it was explained, even though at one point the F.B.I. actually charged a conspiracy. On April 17, the F.B.I. in Birmingham, Ala., filed a warrant against Eric Starvo Galt, one of Ray's aliases, charging that on March 29, 1968, he "and an individual whom he alleged to be his brother entered into a conspiracy which continued until on or about April 5, 1968, to injure, oppress, threaten or intimidate Martin Luther King Jr." in his right to travel freely from state to state.

Rights Law Invoked

The charge, brought under an 1870 civil rights law, was based on an investigation that showed that Ray had bought a rifle and telescopic site in a Birmingham store, saying that it was for his brother who was

planning a hunting trip to Canada.

Although there was no evidence of a brother involved, that investigation was the basis for a Federal charge under the ancient law that had been invoked in almost all major civil rights criminal cases.

Ray was arrested in London on June 8. The warrant issued in Birmingham continues in effect, the Justice Department said today.

Federal officials acknowledged that there were several other circumstances that indicated a conspiracy. Ray spent money lavishly before his capture during international travels. There were published accounts in which Ray was said to have said from his prison cell that he was acting under orders of a light-haired Latin named Raoul who gave him thousands of dollars. Shortly after Dr. King was shot, a

Memphis police radio directed officers in a false pursuit of a white Mustang automobile.

But none of these checked out, according to Federal officials. Ray got his money from robberies, they said. In one London store his fingerprints were found on a bag from which a large amount of money had been taken.

There is no basis for believing Ray's contention, voiced in the courtroom today, that there was a conspiracy, the Federal sources said.

On the other hand, they said there was reason to believe Ray acted alone, that his behavior in the past had been "too erratic" and "too unreliable" for anyone to consider trusting him in a conspiracy. His hatred of Negroes was so intense, they added, that he needed no one to urge him on in the crime.

The Justice Department was not consulted about the ar-

rangement that was worked out in the Tennessee court. It was informed of what was about to happen because F.B.I. testimony was needed, but it was not asked if the procedure were wise, official sources said.

Under the separation of powers between the state and Federal governments, the Justice Department refrained from exercising any judgment in the matter it was explained.

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Carroll

RAY ADMITS GUILT IN DR. KING DEATH, SUGGESTS A PLOT

Judge Sets 99-Year Term
After a Jury of 12 Men
Agrees to Arrangement

A CONSPIRACY DISPUTED

Both Prosecutor and Defense
Doubt That There Was One
Despite Slayer's Protest

By MARTIN WALDRON

Special to The New York Times

MEMPHIS, March 10—James Earl Ray pleaded guilty today to murdering the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and was sentenced to serve 99 years in the Tennessee State Prison in Nashville.

The sentence was imposed by Judge W. Preston Battle in Criminal Court after a brief presentation of evidence against the defendant to a jury of 12 men.

The jury had agreed in advance to the arrangement by the state and the defense for a plea of guilty.

Both the prosecutor, Memphis Attorney General P. M. Canale, and Ray's counsel, Percy Foreman, told the court that there was no evidence Ray had been involved in a conspiracy.

But Ray himself refused to accept these statements.

In a tense moment in the proceedings, Ray leaped to his feet and declared that he did not intend that his plea of guilty should include a finding that there was no conspiracy.

Had Faced Death

Had Ray pleaded not guilty and been convicted of first-degree murder in the full-scale trial that had been scheduled for April 7, he could have been sentenced to death.

If he had received a life sentence he would have been eligible for parole in 13 years. Under the 99-year sentence, he will not be eligible for parole until he serves half his term.

The agreement between Ray and the lawyers appeared to many observers to leave unresolved the question of whether a conspiracy was involved in the killing of Dr. King last April 4 at a motel here.

Mr. Foreman said it had taken him a month to become convinced that there was no conspiracy. The Texas lawyer said it had taken former Attorney General Ramsey Clark and J. Edgar Hoover the di

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director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, less than one day after the laying to conclude there was no conspiracy.

Ray 'Can't Agree'

A transcript of Ray's remarks today showed that he said, "Your honor, I would like to say something. I don't want to change anything that I have said, but I just want to enter one other thing. The only thing I have to say is that I can't agree with Mr. Clark."

Mr. Foreman interrupted to say, "Ramsey Clark."

"Mr. who?" asked the judge.

"Mr. J. Edgar Hoover," said Ray. "I agree with all these stipulations, but I am not trying to charge anything."

"You don't agree with whose theories?" asked the judge.

"Mr. Canale's, Mr. Clark's, and Mr. J. Edgar Hoover's about the conspiracy. I don't want to add something on that I haven't agreed to in the past," said Ray.

Attorney Interprets

"I think that what he said is that he doesn't agree that Ramsey Clark is right or that J. Edgar Hoover is right," said Mr. Foreman to the judge. "I didn't argue that as evidence in this case. I simply stated that—underwriting the statement of General Canale—that they had made the same statement. You are not required to agree with it all, Jim."

"You still—your answers to those questions that I asked you would still be the same?" the judge asked Ray. "Is that correct? There is nothing in these questions that I have asked you and your answers to them—you changed none of them at all? In other words, you are pleading guilty to and taking 99 years?"

"Yes, sir," said Ray.

"I think the main question that I want to ask you is this: are you pleading guilty to murder in the first degree in this case because you killed Dr. Martin Luther King under such circumstances that it would make you legally guilty of murder in the first degree under the law as explained to you by your lawyer? Your answer is still yes?"

"Yes, sir," said Ray.

So the moment, when the courtroom sat expecting Ray to repudiate the agreement that had been in the works since Feb. 21, passed without Ray's pressing forward.

Ray was confined in a Memphis County jail this afternoon after the guilty plea was entered and the state had presented much of its evidence in a trial of sorts before a jury. Sheriff William N. Morris Jr.

said that Ray would be transferred to the state prison at any time.

Judge Battle, who was chosen last summer to try the Ray case, said he believed that the settlement of 99 years was a "just one to both defendant and the state."

The judge said to those who had cried out for Dr. King's slayer to be sentenced to the electric chair that "all the trends in this country are in the direction of doing away with capital punishment altogether."

"How about conspiracy and the punishment of any co-conspirators?" the judge asked. "It has been established that the prosecution at this time is not in possession of enough evidence to indict anyone as a co-conspirator in this case. Of course, this is not conclusive evidence that there was no conspiracy."

"If this defendant was a member of a conspiracy to kill the decedent, no member of such conspiracy can ever live in peace or security or lie down to pleasant dreams, because in this state there is no statute of limitations in capital cases such as this."

"And while it is not always the case, my 37 years in these criminal courts have convinced me that in the great

majority of cases, Hamlet was right when he said: 'For murder though it have no tongue, will speak with most miraculous organ.'"

In a long interview after the conclusion of the case, Mr. Canale gave this answer to a question as to why the state would accept a guilty plea from Ray:

"We decided at the start of this case to treat it just as we would any other."

And, he said, it has been his policy since he became the Memphis prosecutor, to accept guilty pleas and recommend punishment.

Except for Ray's outburst over whether there was a conspiracy, the proceedings today went according to the script. There was some disagreement over what Ray had meant when he refused to accept the declarations that there was no conspiracy.

One interpretation was that Ray had agreed with Mr. Foreman to plead guilty without explaining his actions or mentioning any possible conspiracy.

The other interpretation was that Ray was trying to say that there had been a conspiracy but that he was so deeply involved that he was guilty of first degree murder even though he

may have been acting at another's direction.

None of the court officials would try to explain Ray's remarks although Mr. Foreman, his attorney, soft-pedaled them.

Unexplained Incidents

The prosecution acknowledged that there were a number of unexplained incidents that might make it appear Ray may have had some help in planning Dr. King's murder. But these incidents may have been related to other illegal activities, such as the smuggling activities that Ray had engaged in in both Canada and Mexico before Dr. King's death, Mr. Canale said.

He said that the state had evidence that Ray had smuggled narcotics into the United States from Canada, and jewelry either into or from Mexico.

Ray also committed at least two robberies in Canada and one in England during his flight, Mr. Canale said. The prosecutor dismissed a report that Ray had robbed a bank of \$27,000 in July, 1967, in Alton, Ill.

The prosecutor said that the state had no evidence to indicate when Ray had decided to kill Dr. King. He said it may have been as early as two weeks before the April 4 slaying or even before that.

But he said that he doubted if Ray had escaped from the Missouri State Prison with the idea of killing the civil rights leader, although the prosecution did have some evidence that Ray had made racist remarks while in the prison.

Origin of Money

Mr. Canale said there was no reason to assume that the money that Ray spent so freely during the year he was free had come from co-conspirators.

Ray, he said, had sent a large amount of money out of the Missouri State Prison while he was an inmate there. There was a report that Ray had sold drugs while he was an inmate in the prison.

When the court hearing began today, five Negroes had managed to get into the courtroom as spectators. They sat quietly throughout the proceedings, which began at 9:45 A.M., 15 minutes late.

Reporters and spectators had been brought to the courtroom before 8:30 A. M. after being searched from head to foot by hand and by machine.

Mr. Foreman arrived before 9 o'clock. He smiled and bowed to a few women in the courtroom, then sat down in one of a row of chairs at the side of the 24-by-32-foot courtroom.

'The Last Supper'

He looked at two large tables containing small models of the Lorraine Hotel and Motel, where Dr. King was staying when he was murdered, and of the rooming house where Ray was living when he fired the fatal shot.

"It looks like the last supper," Mr. Foreman said.

Mr. Foreman was wearing a dark gray suit, a dark shirt and a gray and blue tie. The effect was one of solidity, making him appear even larger than his 250 pounds.

As he waited for Ray to be brought to the courtroom, Mr. Foreman reread the petition that he planned to file before the judge asking that Ray's not guilty plea be set aside and that Ray be allowed to plead guilty.

Ray's brother John, whom Ray calls Jack and who visited Ray the day before Ray escaped from the Missouri State Prison in 1967, came into the courtroom and sat in the section reserved for spectators.

Armloads of Exhibits

At 9:30 A.M., as spectators were trying to find easier resting places on the hard theater seats that were put in the courtroom, especially for the Ray trial, deputies began bringing in armloads of exhibits — a long shotgun box, a large red

and black checkered suitcase, and a small blue valise.

About 15 minutes later, Ray, escorted by five deputies, was brought into the court through a rear door. He was wearing a rumpled blue suit, a tattle-tale-gray white shirt, a blue tie and black shoes. He walked as if his feet hurt him. He was not wearing the black horn-rimmed glasses that he used as a disguise when he fled to Canada last April after Dr. King was murdered.

Ray sat down by Mr. Foreman, who moved to join him at the defense counsel table. The two men, who had continued to argue through last night over whether Ray should accept the inevitable and plead guilty, did not talk to each other while waiting for the judge.

After Judge Battle had opened court, Mr. Foreman rose and asked that Ray be allowed to change his plea and plead guilty. He said that both he and Ray had already signed a petition asking for this and that the Memphis public defender, Hugh W. Stanton, and his son, Hugh Jr., appointed as co-counsel by the judge for Ray, were prepared to sign the petition.

After Mr. Canale said he agreed to accept the guilty plea and was recommending a sentence of 99 years, Judge Battle motioned Ray to his feet.

Explanation on Rights

After explaining to Ray that he had various legal rights, such as appeals, that he might lose if he pleaded guilty, Judge Battle said to Ray: "Is this what you want to do?"

"Yes," said Ray. "I believe so."

"Has anything besides this sentence of 99 years been promised to you?"

"Not that I know of."

The judge asked Ray if anyone had pressured him to plead guilty to Dr. King's murder.

"No, no one."

"Did you kill Dr. King under such circumstances that it would make you legally guilty of murder in the first degree under the law as explained to you by your lawyer?"

"Yes," said Ray. "I am pleading guilty."

Procedure Outlined

Ray seemed to be having a little trouble with his voice. It came through clearly but without much force behind it. It almost squeaked.

Ray's hair, which had been groomed close to his head, began to stick up in the rear as his hair dressing dried.

The jury, which was impaneled after the judge finished questioning Ray, included two Negroes. The first 12 names

called from a regular jury were already on duty in the courtroom. They were picked and the men brought into the courtroom and seated in the jury box.

The prosecutor, Mr. Canale, explained briefly to the jury what was happening. In Tennessee, he said, a jury must find a defendant guilty in a murder case even if the defendant pleads guilty.

The state had agreed to accept the guilty plea and would recommend a sentence of 99 years, the judge said.

"Can each of you accept that?" Mr. Canale said in asking the jurors if they would be guided by his recommendation. Each of the jurors nodded.

Before beginning the testimony to prove Dr. King's murder, Mr. Canale attempted to dispose of the persistent reports that Ray was hired to assassinate Dr. King.

"There have been rumors going around that Mr. James Earl Ray was a dupe, a fall guy, or a member of a conspiracy," Mr. Canale said.

"We have no proof other than that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was killed by James Earl Ray and James Earl Ray alone."

Mr. Canale said that he and his staff had read 5,000 pages of reports from police officers — local, state and national. He said they had examined 300 pieces of evidence. And three members of his staff had traveled thousands of miles in the United States, Mexico, Canada and Portugal, he said.

"We have no evidence that there was any conspiracy involved," he said. "If we are ever presented competent evidence that there was a conspiracy, we will take prompt action."

Mr. Foreman followed Mr. Canale before the jury. Mr. Foreman wanted to question each juror individually to make sure that none would refuse to go along with the deal of 99 years in return for a guilty plea.

Prosecutor and Judge Praised

He also took the opportunity to try to prevent Ray's guilty plea from tarnishing his own remarkable record of winning favorable verdicts in murder trials, and to declare that he, also, did not believe there was a conspiracy.

"I never expected, hoped or had any idea that I could accomplish anything but saving this man's life," Mr. Foreman said.

He said that he had reached the conclusion that there was no conspiracy after more than 50 hours of conversation with Ray and a check of every minute of Ray's time and every

expenditure of more than 50 cents made by Ray.

Mr. Foreman praised Mr. Canale and Judge Battle for agreeing to allow Ray to plead guilty and take 99 years.

The prosecutor, Mr. Foreman said, "is as big as his office. He is a man not concerned with scalps on his belt and is not trying to make a record to run for some other office on."

Judge Battle, Mr. Foreman said, "is a compassionate and human judge."

Ray's comments about conspiracy came when Mr. Foreman had finished talking to the jury.

After the judge had disposed of Ray's remarks, the state began putting on its abbreviated case.

In proving that Dr. King had been murdered, the state called five witnesses — the Rev. Samuel B. Kyles, a Negro minister from Memphis; Chauncey Eskridge, a Negro lawyer from Chicago; Dr. Jerry T. Francisco, the Memphis medical examiner; Inspector N. E. Zachary of the Memphis Police Department homicide squad; and Robert G. Jensen, the special agent in charge of the Memphis office of the F.B.I.

Mr. Kyles, who had invited Dr. King to come to his home on the evening of April 4, 1968, for a "soul food" dinner, said he was about five or six steps from Dr. King on the balcony of the Lorraine Hotel and Motel when the rifle bullet hit Dr. King in the right side of his neck, knocking him off his feet.

Heard Fatal Shot

Mr. Eskridge, the attorney for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, which Dr. King headed, said that he heard the fatal shot "zing" overhead. Mr. Eskridge was walking down to the parking lot below Dr. King.

Dr. Francisco said that an autopsy showed that the rifle bullet killed the civil rights leader almost immediately.

Inspector Zachary said that he had found a rifle, which was later determined to be the murder weapon, and several other articles on the sidewalk about a block from the Lorraine Motel almost in front of the rooming house where Ray had registered earlier that afternoon.

The inspector identified the objects found with the rifle as being a plastic zipper bag, two cans of Schlitz beer, a pair of binoculars and a binocular case, a T-shirt, a pair of men's underdrawers, a pasteboard box, a hairbrush, a transistor radio, a pair of pliers, a hammer, a paper bag, and a copy of the April 4, 1968, edition of the newspaper The Memphis Commercial-Appeal.

P

FBI WFO

FBI WASH DC --

1145PM ERT

URGENT JLK

TO DIRECTOR\ WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE\ ATLANTA\ AND MEMPHIS \PLAINTEXT\
WFO VIA WASHINGTON
FROM PHILADELPHIA 44-1368

✓
MURKIN

REBUAIRTEL THREE TWENTYSIX SIXTYNINE.

RETEL INSTRUCTED PHILA TO IMMEDIATELY INTERVIEW REVEREND JAMES BEVEL SCLC OFFICIAL CONCERNING HIS STATEMENT IN "NEW YORK TIMES" THAT LETTER WAS TURNED OVER TO MEMPHIS PD APPROXIMATELY FOUR THREE SIXTY-EIGHT CONTAINING INFORMATION THAT MARTIN LUTHER KING WAS TO BE ASSASSINATED WHILE IN MEMPHIS.

MEMPHIS PD KNOWS NOTHING OF LETTER.

BEVERLY STERNER\ GIRL FRIEND OF BEVEL TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED THIS DATE BEVEL WAS OUT OF TOWN AT A MEETING FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK. SHE STATED SHE WOULD ATTEMPT TO CALL BEVEL AND HAVE HIM CALL PHILA. SHE WAS TOLD FBI WOULD TALK TO HIM WHEREVER HE WAS LOCATED.

ATLANTA\ MEMPHIS\ AND WFO CONTACT SOURCES TO DETERMINE BEVEL'S LOCATION AND IF THERE IS ANY SCLC CONFERENCES.

EMS

FBI WFO

SEARCHED *mm* INDEXED *mm*
SERIALIZED *mm*

MAR 27 11 45 PM '68

Blazek

44-703-784

3/28/69

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI AND SACS ATLANTA
MEMPHIS
PHILADELPHIA

FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703)

MURKIN

RE PHILADELPHIA TEL MARCH TWENTY-SEVEN, LAST.

LEONARD E. DOYLE, R (PROB), (PROTECT) ADVISED MARCH
TWENTY-EIGHT INSTANT THAT BEVEL NOT IN WDC. ACCORDING TO
SOURCE BEVEL BELIEVED TO BE IN ATLANTA ATTENDING AN SCLC
STAFF MEETING.

2 - Bureau
3 - Teletype Unit
3 - WFO
(1 - 170-735) (SUB A)

JB:arw

(8) *and*

mf

Searched _____
Serialized *mlb*
Indexed _____
Filed *mlb*

44-703-785

FBI WFO

FBI WASH DC

1120PM MXS

FBI ATLANTA

1015PM URGENT 3/28/69 LWG

TO DIRECTOR, WASHINGTON FIELD, PHILADELPHIA
FROM ATLANTA (44-2386)

✓
MURKIN

RE PHILADELPHIA TEL MARCH TWENTYSEVEN LAST.

ATLANTA SOURCES CONTACTED THIS DATE AND ADVISED BEVEL
IS NOT IN ATLANTA AND WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN TO THEM, ALTHOUGH
SUPPOSED TO BE IN PHILADELPHIA WHERE HE RESIDES.

CONTACT BEING MAINTAINED WITH SOURCES AND IF LOCATED IN ATLANTA,
WILL BE INTERVIEWED.

AM COPY TO MEMPHIS.

CORR TIME SHULD BE 11:15PM

END

MXS

FBI WASH DRXW

FBI WFO

P

axn

SEARCHED *eye* INDEXED *eye*
SERIAL *mlle* FILE *mlle*

MAR 28 1 20 PM '69

FBI-WASH DC

Blazek

44-703-786

FBI WFO

FBI WASH DC

649PM PGH

FBI MEMPHIS

547 PM URGENT 3-28-69 DND

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), WFO, ATLANTA, AND MOBILE
FROM MEMPHIS (44-1987)

✓
MURKIN.

RE PHILADELPHIA TEL TO BUREAU MARCH TWENTYSEVEN LAST.

FOR MOBILE'S INFORMATION, BUREAU HAS INSTRUCTED THAT REV.
JAMES BEVEL, SCLC OFFICIAL, BE LOCATED AND INTERVIEWED CONCERNING
HIS STATEMENT IN NEW YORK TIMES THAT LETTER WAS TURNED OVER TO
MEMPHIS PD APPROXIMATELY APRIL THREE, SIXTYEIGHT, CONTAINING
INFORMATION THAT MARTIN LUTHER KING WAS TO BE KILLED WHILE IN
MEMPHIS. MEMPHIS PD HAS NO KNOWLEDGE THIS LETTER.

BEVEL IS NOT NOW IN MEMPHIS BUT INFO AVAILABLE TO MEMPHIS
INDICATED ABERNATHY OF SCLC IS TO BE IN ATLANTA MARCH TWENTYNINE
NEXT AND ALSO THAT NUMEROUS SCLC OFFICIALS ARE TO MEET AT
MONTGOMERY, ALA. ON APRIL FOUR NEXT.

ATLANTA AND MOBILE ATTEMPT TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW BEVEL.

END

RXW

FBI WFO

P

SEARCHED *ldw* INDEXED *ldw*
SERIALIZED *mbl* FILED *mbl*

MAR 28 5 52 PM '69

FBI-WASH. : 0

Blazer

44-703-787

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

5/23/69

SAC, WFO (44-703) (P)

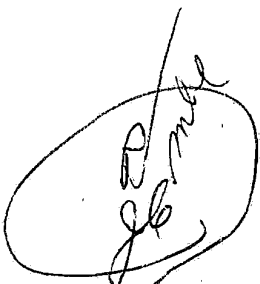
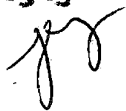
MURKIN
(OO:ME)

Referenced WFO letter to the Bureau dated 3/25/69.

WFO has no outstanding investigation in connection with this investigation. Memphis advised, any additional action should be taken by WFO in regard to the information furnished in referenced letter.

3 - Bureau
2 - Memphis
② - WFO
(1-170735-Sub A)

JJC:jej
(7)



44-703-788

Searched	_____
Serialized	<u>mk</u>
Indexed	_____
Filed	<u>ml</u>

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, WFO (44-703)

DATE: 6/12/69

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

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re WFO letter to the Bureau, 5/23/69, in which reference is made to WFO letter to the Bureau dated 3/25/69.

Memphis Office is unable to locate a copy of WFO letter dated 3/25/69 and is therefore unable to furnish you any advice as to additional action to be taken by WFO.

② - WFO
1 - Memphis

JCH:jap
(3)



5010-108-01

44-703-789

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 16 1969	
FBI - WASH. FIELD OFFICE	

Cleane

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

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

6/30/69

SAC, WFO (44-703)

MURKIN
(OO:ME)

Re WFO letter to the Bureau 3/25/69, WFO letter to the Bureau, 5/23/69, and Memphis letter to WFO 6/12/69.

Enclosed to Memphis ^{are} ~~two~~ two copies of referenced WFO letter to the Bureau 3/25/69.

Memphis advise if any additional action should be taken by WFO.

2- Memphis (Enc. 2) (RM)
① WFO

JJC:bs BS
(3)

44-703-790
Searched _____
Serialized ml
Indexed _____
Filed ml

Director, FBI

7-10-69

SAC, Memphis (44-1987) P

MURKIN

Re WFO letter to Director 3-25-69, reporting a conversation between Mrs. MARJORIE ULEN, an employee of UPO, Washington, D. C., and LEONARD E. DOYLE, R (PROB), who, in addition to being an informant, is also a paid staff member of the Washington SCLC Office. Mrs. ULEN felt there was some connection between one J. R. WILLARD of Memphis, Tennessee, who was a frequent correspondent of former U. S. Representative GEORGE GRIDER, 9th Congressional District of Tennessee, and the fact that the subject RAY used the name WILLARD when he registered in a rooming house at Memphis, Tennessee, on the day he murdered KING.

Investigation has not disclosed any reason for the subject's using the name WILLARD, nor is he known to have used it except in this one instance.

There is no reason to believe that Mrs. ULEN's information is of any consequence or that it deserves any further action. Accordingly, it is suggested that WFO take no further action concerning this information. //

2 Bureau
1 WFO
1 Memphis

JCH:BN
(4)

Copy made for
170-735 Sub A Boyle
JB

44-703-791

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 14 1969	
FBI - WASH. FIELD OFFICE	

Creame JB

FILE STRIPPED
Date: 8/21/69
Initials: JB

6/5/70

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Memphis airtel to Bureau, 5/8/70.

For the information of WFO, subject JAMES EARL RAY is now being represented by J. B. STONER of the National States Rights Party; RICHARD J. RYAN, a Memphis, Tennessee, attorney; and BERNARD FENSTERWALD, JR. An article appearing in a Memphis newspaper indicated that FENSTERWALD is from Washington, D.C. and heads a private group called "The Committee to Investigate Assassinations." According to the article, FENSTERWALD worked for the Senate Judiciary Committee from 1957 until 1968.

Assistant Attorney General CLYDE MASON, Memphis, Tennessee, the state prosecutor assigned to the JAMES EARL RAY case, has asked that we furnish him any information available concerning FENSTERWALD and his political linkings.

LEAD

WFO

AT WASHINGTON, D.C. Will prepare a brief outline of BERNARD FENSTERWALD's professional background including any information to indicate association with leftist and racist groups in order that this information may be made available to the District Attorney General at Memphis, Tennessee.

Airtel

Teletype _____
A.M. 2 - Bureau
2 - WFO
2 - Memphis
A.M.S.D. JCH:jlg
(6)
Spec. Del. _____
Reg. Mail _____
Registered _____

FILE STRIPPED

Date: 6/12/70
Initials: BC

44-703-792

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 10 1970	
FBI - WASH. FIELD OFFICE	

Woman: Before you start talking, your first name?

Male: Bill Harris.

Woman: What?

Male: Bill Harris.

Woman: Bill Harris is taling.

Male: With the (inaudible)

Woman: All right. Hold on just a minute. Bill, Bill, would you shut up a minute.

Male: Right.

Woman: This is Bill Harris here at the Hawaiian Hotel. He's sitting here across from me and we're doing a bit of talking and he's chuckling in the process, but he has something to say. He's a very, very intelligent person. Would you shut up a minute. I've read you out already.

Male: I've read you out honey, and you're more better than I am.

Woman: Would you hush a minute.

Male: Yeah.

Woman: Now, here is an individual who's lived a great deal. I think (inaudible) would you shut up a minute. I've seen his hand, I've washed his body, I've listened to him, I've watched him. He's a fine person. I think in some ways, because of the extent of his intelligence

44-703-793

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 1 1974	
FBI - WASH. F. O.	

he's a bit frustrated because ah, I think he's deeply soggy, and I've washed him and listened to him. Many times people with the lower levels of psychic ability have this thing. I think Bill is one of them. (tape brke, approximately 30 seconds) I don't think to the extent you and I have, David. Ah, and I think maybe we can introduce him to some areas of study that will mean a great deal to him, and I will try to do so. But, I, I'm going to leave this tape on because he's had some very, very significant experiences in his life that are interesting to listen to and to assess. And so, Bill, come on, in an organized way say, how it is with you.

Bill: I've been tied up with organized labor for the last eleven years.

Woman: All right, organized labor in what form?

Bill: In form of organizing.

Woman: What level?

Bill: In the organizing labor form and the ah, ah, the form of deciding where we strike and when we strike in public employees. I was with Martin Luther King when he was struck in Memphis, Tennessee. I was with Jim Pierce when we decide whether we're going to strike in Memphis, and I was the predominant figure that strived that this was the place that we ought to decide the South.

The only ah, decedent that I had was in the black organization, was when we was going against Globe, a Jewish fellow who was elected by organized labor in Memphis. And, ah, then, the president of the Acme Corporation was Jerry Worth, the side we would win and they asked me, that we would win in Memphis because of whether we had to sacrifice who it was and what it was. Ah, I firmly believe that Martin Luther King was a sacrifice for labor movement and he was killed by the labor movement. They can accuse who they want to, but, I firmly believe that Mr. Ray, or whoever it was, was committed to kill Martin Luther King, was killed by assassines, unknown, was killed by the labor movement. And I'll tell you why. Jerry Worth, at that time, was committed when I was at the last meeting with Martin Luther King in Memphis, Tennessee. Now, I was there when the President of the Union was there. I was their national organizer. I was the Regional Director of the American Federation of State State (inaudible) Employees. And when Martin Luther King was assassinated I was the Director of the Regional Director, Southern Director of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees. And, Mr. Worth walked in and took over the operation and he told me period I was no longer in charge of the operations, that he was in charge of the operations. From then on, and from

that day forward, until the 27th day of Martin Luther King's assassination, he was in charge period.

Woman: What was that man's name again?

Bill: Jerry Worth. He was the President of our International. Until that day, Martin Luther King went to Atlanta, two days prior to that he went to Atlanta to go to the Flowers Church. He asked that he not be brought back in a field of violence and subside. He did not want to participate in any organization with violence. My international president assured him that there would be no violence. I was the principle organizer of the drive.

Female: What drive?

Bill: In Memphis, Tennessee. You don't believe me do you? All right. I asked him. And Jim Pierce was my Regional Director. I asked Jerry Worth whether or not he could assure me that there would be no violence, no other thing, and we would ask Martin Luther King to return to Memphis. He told me in his own words, he guaranteed me there would be no violence on any part. The preachers in the church in Memphis and the Alabama Church in the Albania Church, the Lutheran Church, told me that there would be no violence and I told my president and Jerry Worth quoted me. We paid Martin Luther King to be flown to Memphis, Tennessee and there was a conspiracy to assassinate him among the unions before he

got there.

Woman: Which union?

Bill: Teamsters. And they paid for it.

Woman: Was there other unions involved in that?

Well, ask him.

Bill: All the workers, the teamsters, and AFLCIO conspired to pay the man to kill Martin Luther King.

Woman: How do you know this?

Bill: I know this because I was there. The money was paid to the man and he got him in a \$10,000, collect (inaudible)

Woman: Well, David, you've heard Bill, ah, what is your last name? Oh that's right.

Bill: (inaudible)

Woman: Of course honey. Listen, I've had so many thing said to me where I could never say anything.

Male: (inaudible)

Woman: What are you laughing at? How do you spell your last name? How do you spell your last name?

Harris. Don't worry about it. Now, you tell me that you think you are an alcoholic. I don't think so, you've gone through an awful lot. Sure, you have memories. All right you say this on tape. In just a moment. Wait just a moment. Will you wait just a moment. Let me talk again. I would never ever presume to print anything that I have on this

tape. No. I would never do it. But, I tell you one thing right now, Bill, you're there. A lifetime in a short time. There are others you know, who live a lifetime in a short time. You've learned something.

Bill: (inaudible)

Woman: Let me ask you a question? Would you let me ask you a question? Shhhhhhh. Let me ask you a question. Would you shut up a minute. Let . . . I want to ask you a question.

Bill: (inaudible) Go ahead.

Woman: Out of the all the life experience that you had, and some of it I know has been very very rough, I know it could have been more so in this life. Shhhhhh, just a moment. Gather your thoughts together, because I want a concrete answer.

Bill: (inaudible)

Woman: I want you to say on this tape what it is in your inner most self you feel you've learned from all this turbulence and life experience you've passed through. I know it has changed your life in many ways. I'm hoping it has changed it in a positive way rather than a negative way and perhaps you can say what has all this meant to you, within the last five years, can you say? All right, take the mike, gather your thoughts together and see if you can say what all this has meant to you. From a perhaps detached and

philosophical point of view at this stage in your life.

It's been rough I know, but see if you can say, all right.

Bill: All right, before this all happened, I was a beautiful individual. There was a point where I was ah, we had to have Martin, we had to have somebody to win this thing. I was subjected first of all to killing Martin Luther King. I objected violently to it.

Woman: And when were you born?

Bill:

Woman: Where?

Bill: In a little southern town in North Carolina.

Woman: Where?

Bill: I was born in North Carolina in in a little town called, White Lake, North Carolina. I was violently opposed to the assassination when I started out with. I was told, now this is, in personal invitation, I've left the labor movement since then. I've not been associated with the labor movement since then. I was violently opposed to the assassination when I was told it had to be. And Ray has no connection with the assassination whatsoever. He was perpetrated by the labor movement, he was marked by the teamsters union. He was shot and killed by the teamsters union and the figure you have there today was only a figure. Ray is only a damn figure of the imagination.

A guy who was perpetrated, put there, gave him money to be there and perpetrated for it. The International Organization paid politically to assassinate Martin Luther King. They had to win in Memphis, they had to beat the governor there, the Mayor there, because he was Jewish. He was elected by the labor movement.

Woman: Who was it?

Bill: I don't know who the hell it was. The Jew there was a guy who owned all of his cars, a damn hamburger stand. He was Jewish to start out with. His name was Jewish. Now I was brought in there, not as a participant. I was brought in there as a damn organizer. I was told what to do. Martin Luther King was assassinated by the labor movement, by the teamsters union, and Ray had nothing to do with it. Not one thing. No part of it. No part of it. He couldn't have fired the first shot. Because nobody knew he was then at, but Jerry Worth, myself and Ray, let's see, knew where Martin Luther King was staying at.

Woman: My darling. If you've sort of bared your soul.

Bill: I haven't bared my soul.

Woman: Well, up to a point, yes. Ah, it's good for you. Would you hush a minute. The FBI, you know, has worked on this too. Well, would you hush a minute.

Bill: (inaudible)

Woman: Don't forget (inaudible) Just one moment. There is much, you have lots to say and there is much that you have not said. But you've said as much as you really want to say and that's all right. Um, the inside, the change of you from what happened to you as a part of that particular thing, that terrible thing, an international thing what's happened. Ah, has made a terrible impact on you. Now you can over come this in many ways, and you will in time. Now, I'm telling you this because I know. And, don't ask me how I know, but I do know. Well, the memory of what happened and the knowledge that you have before that terrible thing . . .

Bill: (inaudible)

Woman: Shhhhhh, won't you let me finish. Will, if you so choose and disappear and you will use the lesson that comes, will you hush a minute. The lesson that came from that knowledge at that time in your life, well, they will disappear. Now I can tell you a few things that would help you if you so choose to listen. There are some very special books for one thing that are somewhat difficult to come by but if you go to your bookstore, where ever you live, they will be able to find them. I can give you the author and the ah, the place to write to find these books. Now, David and I own the whole set of them and we read them where ever we

go, every night. David has studied these (inaudible) they are the best to be found in this whole field. They will help you, yes. And, I will show them to you. We brought one with us. Well, we brought more than one. But, I want you to become acquainted with them and do what you can. They're out in paper back now. We have all the hard cover ones. They're rather expensive in hard cover. But, they're now out in paper back and I want you to read them. Some people are (inaudible). They're written by a Tibetan Monk, they're baby books. Well, I'm going to introduce you, very cursory, to the baby books. You will overcome all that you've gotten through. Now I don't know if you believe in . . . do you believe in reincarnation.

Bill: (inaudible)

Woman: Well, you have much more to do yet, you have too fine a mind to let . . .

Bill: (inaudible)

Woman: No, listen. Would you listen. No.

Bill: (inaudible)

Woman: Listen.

Bill: (inaudible)

Woman: Every man has, but every woman has too.

Bill: (inaudible)