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FM DIRECTOR FBI (62-117290)

TO FBI MILWAUKEE ROUTINE

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UNCLAS

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)

BUDED AUGUST 8, 1978.

THE HSCA, WHICH IS INVESTIGATING THE ASSASSINATIONS OF JOHN F. KENNEDY AND MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., BY LETTER DATED JULY 17, 1978, REQUESTED ACCESS TO ALL BUFILES AND SUBFILES PERTAINING TO ROBERT FRANKLIN SANDERS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE MURKIN FILES FROM THE MILWAUKEE FIELD OFFICE. THE LETTER NOTED THAT SANDERS IS REFERENCED IN THE BUREAU MURKIN FILE 44-38861-4669.

BUFILES REFLECT THAT SERIAL 4699 IS AN AIRTEL FROM
CHARLOTTE TO BUREAU DATED JULY 17, 1968, AND CAPTIONED "MURKIN".
A COPY OF THIS AIRTEL WAS ALSO SENT TO MILWAUKEE, FIELD
OFFICE FILE 44-388. THE REFERENCED COMMUNICATIONS IN THIS

SERIALIZED ___

/FBI - WILL WAUKE

Jus

PAGE TWO DE HQ 0053 UNCLAS

AIRTEL EXPLAINED HSCA'S INTEREST IN SANDERS.

SANDERS WAS BORN NOVEMBER 18, 1927, AT LENOIR, NORTH CAROLINA.

IN RESPONSE TO THE ABOVE REQUEST, MILWAUKEE SHOULD REVIEW INDICES TO IDENTIFY ALL RETRIEVABLE INFORMATION IDENTIFIABLE WITH SANDERS AND FURNISH FBI HEADQUARTERS (FBIHQ) TWO LEGIBLE COPIES OF EACH SERIAL.

ALL MATERIAL SHOULD BE FORWARDED BY COVER AIRTEL TO FBIHQ, ATTENTION: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY UNIT, RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION.

ΒT

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8/4/78

AIR MAIL

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (62-117290)

ATTN: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY UNIT RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION

FROM: SAC, MILWAUKEE (62-1835) (RUC)

SUBJECT: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON

ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA);

BUDED: 8/8/78

Re Butel to Milwaukee, dated 8/1/78.

Enclosed for the Bureau are two copies each of the following: Milwaukee airtel to Bureau, dated 7/26/78, captioned "MURKIN" (MI 44-388-378), and Milwaukee memo of SA DON H. MARTIN, dated 8/12/68, captioned "MURKIN" (MI 44-388-380).

For information of the Bureau, a review of Milwaukee indices did not reflect any identifiable information with ROBERT FRANKLIN SANDERS, DPOB 11/18/27, Lenoir, North Carolina.

A review of MI 44-388, captioned "MURKIN" from questioned serial, Charlotte airtel to Bureau on 7/17/68, only reflected two communications where ROBERT FRANKLIN SANDERS' name was mentioned. These communications are being furnished as enclosures.

2 - Bureau (Encs. 4)(RM)

1 - Milwaukee

JAS/bjt/)(3)

UA-1835-2

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Assassination Panel Accused of Spying

Washington Post, UPI, AP

Washington, D.C. — The House Assassinations Committee suddenly began investigating itself Tuesday in the face of accusations that an undercover agent it recruited had spied on Jerry Ray, filched his letters and secretly tape recorded his conversations.

Jerry Ray is a brother of James Earl Ray, convicted killer of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

According to a statement by the undercover agent, a former FBI informer named Oliver Patterson of Blackjack, Mo., one committee investigator even assigned him to "secure samples of Jerry Ray's hair."

The charges prompted the House Administration Committee to withhold an additional \$790,000 for the com-

mittee's inquiries and sent the investigation into turmoil less than a week before the slart of public hearings into king's murder.

The committee's chief counsel, G. Robert Blakey, acknowledged that the allegations were serious and said they would be thoroughly examined. But he refused further comment and declined even to say whether the committee had any undercov-

er agents.

Jarry Ray said his brother had turned down an offer of freedom for simply confessing that he killed King and telling how he did it. Jerry Ray told reporters the effective said to the sai

telling how he did it. Jerry Ray told reporters the offer was made two weeks ago by Rep. Harold Sawyer (R-Mich.), a member of the Assassinations Committee.

Ray said his brother reject-

et the offer because the only deal he wants is a chance to veid his guilty plea and stand trial so he can prove he did not kill the civil rights leader. Sawyer could not be reached immediately for comment.

FBI Director William Webster said an informant's claim that he was once offered \$50,000 to kill King contained "heresay three times removed."

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

A-4

MILWAUKEE JOURNAL MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

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