

ME 44-1987

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
PD St. Louis Mo.	James Earl Ray #81071	10/16/59	suspicion of robbery stealing & fugitive other authorities	
State Peni- tentiary Jefferson City, Mo.	James Earl Ray #00416	3/17/60	"TC" operating motor vehi- cle without permission of owner robbery first "b/m DDW" (2 charges)	20 years (20, 7, 5, con- current)

ME 44-1987

The following is a description of the subject,  
obtained from sources set out elsewhere in this report:

Name:	JAMES EARL RAY, aka
Sex:	Male
Race:	White
Date of Birth:	[REDACTED]
Place of Birth:	Alton, Illinois
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	163 - 174 pounds
Hair:	Brown
Eyes:	Blue
Social Security No.:	[REDACTED]
Army Serial Number:	[REDACTED]
FBI Number:	405 942 G

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6/4/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-10672)  
FROM: SAC, DALLAS (44-2649) (P)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN  
OO-MEMPHIS

Re New Orleans airtel 5/31/68, setting forth information from EUGENE SMITH HANSFIELD.

ROBERT PARKER, Payroll Officer, Penrod Drilling Company, 3333 First National Bank Building, Dallas, Texas, advised SA WILLIAM B. HOLLOWAY on 6/4/68, he can locate no employment record, past or present, for EUGENE SMITH HANSFIELD. He stated he maintains employment records of all employees of this company no matter where they are employed. He advised there is a possibility that HANSFIELD may have been employed by a sub-contracting company or a company furnishing some service to Penrod Drilling Company, in which case he would have no record of him.

2 - New Orleans  
2 - Mobile  
2 - Birmingham (44-1740)  
1 - Jackson (157-9586)  
2 - Dallas  
WBH/jc  
(9)

*RF*

*Wm. H. Parker*

*inf*

157-9586-5670

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FBI-JACKSON	
<i>Puddister</i>	

*Defective (checked)  
(2)*

*100 100 100  
100 100 100  
100 100 100*

FBI JKSN MISS

FBI MIAMI

103PM

100PM URGENT 6/8/68 GJM

TO ALL SACS  
FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861

MURKIN

SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY APPREHENDED AT LONDON,  
ENGLAND, JUNE EIGHT INSTANT. DISCONTINUE EFFORTS TO LOCATE  
AND REMOVE ALL STOPS.  
ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

BLT

FBI JKSN MISS

P

*Substantive  
Advised*

157-9586-568

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 10 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

DATE: 6/10/68

FROM : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR  
(OO: Memphis)

*not sent*

*discontinue*

Re Memphis airtel to Jackson, 4/18/68.

Enclosed for Memphis are eight (8) copies of an insert reflecting results of investigation conducted in this matter at Clarksdale, Miss., regarding KEN SINGFIELD.

## LEADS:

### MEMPHIS

#### AT MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

Will contact DILL TIDWELL, who operates a new restaurant, name unknown, located at the old Anderton's Acre Restaurant, Highway 51, Memphis, and exhibit photos of JAMES EARL RAY to determine if RAY is identical with KEN SINGFIELD, as TIDWELL is acquainted with SINGFIELD.

*file as memo*

*cc - marked for Sandeford*

2-Memphis (Encs. 8)  
2-Jackson  
JWS/mlt  
(4)



5010-108-01

157-9586-569

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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JUN 11 1968	
FBI-JACKSON	

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

JN 157-9586

ME 44-1987

JWS/mlt

1

The following investigation was conducted by  
SA JAMES W. SAMMON at Clarksdale, Mississippi:

From a review of the Clarksdale City Directory and Telephone Directory, there is no BILL TIDWELL or KEN SINGFIELD listed in those directories. There is no HOWARD JOHNSON Motel in Clarksdale.

The City Directory reflects a WILLIAM TIDWELL, a route salesman for the Ritchie Bottling Works, Clarksdale, Mississippi, with no residence shown.

On May 31, 1968, KATHERINE HINMAN, Clerk, Credit Bureau, Clarksdale, Mississippi, advised that she could locate no credit reference to a KEN SINGFIELD. Mrs. HINMAN said the only BILL TIDWELL in their files is one who is employed for the Ritchie Bottling Company, Clarksdale. Mrs. HINMAN said that TIDWELL is an itinerant preacher who presently operates the Independent Baptist Tabernacle in Clarksdale.

On May 31, 1968, W. V. "BILL" TIDWELL, residing 614 West Circle Drive, Clarksdale, Mississippi, advised that he is employed as a truck salesman for the Ritchey Bottling Company, Clarksdale.

TIDWELL advised that KEN SINGFIELD and PAUL NORMAN of Memphis, Tennessee, are unknown to him. TIDWELL said that a number of years ago another BILL TIDWELL operated the Holiday Inn in Clarksdale but left Clarksdale for Memphis where he was last known to be employed for the Holiday Inn in Memphis.

On June 3, 1968, RAY HARRINGTON, Manager, Holiday Inn, Clarksdale, Mississippi, advised that BILL TIDWELL was the manager of the Admiral Benbow Restaurant, which was the restaurant for that Holiday Inn in 1954. HARRINGTON



JN 157-9586

ME 44-1987

JWS/mlt

2

said that BILL TIDWELL now operates a new restaurant, name unknown, which is located at the old Anderton's Acre Restaurant, Highway 51, Memphis, Tennessee.

HARRINGTON said that KEN SINGFIELD was never employed for the Holiday Inn in Clarksdale, Mississippi.

6/11/68

ROUTING SLIP TO ALL FIELD OFFICES

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

RE: JAMES EARL RAY, aka -  
FUGITIVE  
CR - CONSPIRACY; UFAC - ROBBERY

OO: MEMPHIS

Re report of SA JOE C. HESTER 6/5/68 at Memphis.

Page 17, paragraph 4, line 6 - 12/17/67, should  
be 12/7/67.

Please correct your copies.

SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN

TOR:tjm

*Hester*

157-9584-570

SEARCHED <i>PCW</i>	INDEXED <i>PCW</i>
SERIALIZED <i>PCW</i>	FILED <i>PCW</i>
JUN 13 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

F B I

Date: 6-12-68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AM  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: SAC, ALBANY  
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P  
MURKIN

In view of subject's apprehension, any office having outstanding leads or requests for circularization in any publication of any kind should cancel outstanding request now.

A & D.

2 Albany  
1 All Continental Offices  
1 Memphis

RGJ:BN  
(56)

157-7686-571

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 14 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

*Ruddick*

Approved: *R. Jensen* Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Routing Slip  
0-7 (Rev. 3-31-67)

(Copies to Offices Checked)

TO: SAC,

☐ Albany  
☐ Albuquerque  
☐ Anchorage  
☐ Atlanta  
☐ Baltimore  
☐ Birmingham  
☐ Boston  
☐ Buffalo  
☐ Butte  
☐ Charlotte  
☐ Chicago  
☐ Cincinnati  
☐ Cleveland  
☐ Columbia  
☐ Dallas  
☐ Denver  
☐ Detroit  
☐ El Paso  
☐ Honolulu

☐ Houston  
☒ Indianapolis  
☒ Jackson  
☐ Jacksonville  
☐ Kansas City  
☐ Knoxville  
☐ Las Vegas  
☐ Little Rock  
☐ Los Angeles  
☐ Louisville  
☐ Memphis  
☐ Miami  
☐ Milwaukee  
☐ Minneapolis  
☐ Mobile  
☐ Newark  
☐ New Haven  
☐ New Orleans

☐ New York City  
☐ Norfolk  
☐ Oklahoma City  
☐ Omaha  
☐ Philadelphia  
☐ Phoenix  
☐ Pittsburgh  
☐ Portland  
☐ Richmond  
☐ St. Louis  
☐ Salt Lake City  
☐ San Antonio  
☐ San Diego  
☐ San Francisco  
☐ San Juan  
☐ Savannah  
☐ Seattle  
☐ Springfield

☐ Tampa  
☐ Washington Field  
☐ Quantico

TO LEGAT:

☐ Bern  
☐ Bonn  
☐ Buenos Aires  
☐ Hong Kong  
☐ London  
☐ Manila  
☐ Mexico, D.F.  
☐ Ottawa  
☐ Paris  
☐ Rome  
☐ Santo Domingo  
☐ Tokyo

Date 5-22-68

RE: MURKIN  
PUBLICITY ON REWARDS OFFERED

☐ For information    ☐ Retention optional    ☐ For appropriate action    ☐ Surep, by \_\_\_\_\_

☐ The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, ☐ conceal all sources, ☐ paraphrase contents.

☐ Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA \_\_\_\_\_ dated \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks: ReBulet 5-20-68.

In the event of inquiries regarding the identity of the sources of the reward money offered in the Murkin case, you may confidentially advise established sources that according to a compilation set forth in the April 27th edition of the "Commercial Appeal," Memphis, Tennessee, \$25,000 each has been offered by the "Commercial Appeal" and Scripps-Howard newspapers and that in addition, businessmen and citizens in Memphis have offered several thousands more and the Memphis City Council has under-written the reward up to a total of \$100,000.

Bufile  
Urfile

F B I

Date:

6/12/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT  
(Priority)

TO: MEMPHIS  
FROM: JACKSON (157-9586)  
MURKIN

RE MEMPHIS TEL CALL TO JACKSON INSTANT DATE.

GRADY STEPHENS FAMILY, JONESTOWN, MISS. ADVISED INSTANT  
LAST HEARD FROM GRADY STEPHENS' BROTHER, CHARLES QUITMAN  
STEPHENS, APRIL SEVEN LAST WHEN HE TELEPHONED THEM FROM  
MEMPHIS TO ADVISE HE WAS IN THE ROOMING HOUSE FROM WHICH  
THE ASSASSINS KILLED KING. CHARLES STEPHENS ADVISED HE HAD  
THE ROOM NEXT DOOR TO THE ASSASSIN AND SAW HIM GOING IN AND  
OUT.

STEPHENS' FAMILY IN JONESTOWN ADVISED CHARLES STEPHENS  
IS DRIFTER, MARRIED SEVERAL TIMES AND RECEIVES MONTHLY  
VA DISABILITY CHECK SOMEWHERE IN MEMPHIS. STEPHENS' FAMILY  
IN JONESTOWN HAVE NO IDEA OF PRESENT WHEREABOUTS OF CHARLES  
STEPHENS.

STEPHENS' FAMILY KNOW OF NO FRIENDS OF CHARLES STEPHENS  
IN MEMPHIS OR ELSEWHERE.

1 - Jackson

JWS/jdh

Approved: *[Signature]*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent *11/7* M

Searched

Serialized *A*

Indexed

Filed

Per *[Signature]*

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

PAGE TWO.

CHARLES STEPHENS HAS BROTHER, LOUIS STEPHENS,  
RESIDING OUT FROM COMO, MISS., NO TELEPHONE; HAS SISTER,  
ANNIE BELLE WOLF, AKA., MRS. ESTEEN WOLF, RESIDING OUT FROM  
SENATOBIA, MISS. CLOSE TO INDEPENDENCE, MISS., NO TELEPHONE;  
HAS BROTHER, VESTER STEPHENS, MEMPHIS, ADDRESS UNKNOWN,  
LAST KNOWN TO BE EMPLOYED SALVATION ARMY, MEMPHIS.

GRADY STEPHENS FAMILY NOT AWARE OF VA NUMBER OF CHARLES  
STEPHENS.

MEMPHIS AT MEMPHIS, IF NOT ALREADY HANDLED LOCATE  
AND INTERVIEW VESTER STEPHENS.

JACKSON AT COMO AND SENATOBIA, MISS. LOCATE AND  
INTERVIEW LOUIS STEPHENS AND MRS. ESTEEN WOLF FOR WHEREABOUTS  
OF BROTHER, CHARLES STEPHENS. END.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI JKSN MISS

1114 PM URGENT 6-12-68 JWD

TO MEMPHIS

FROM JACKSON (157-9586)  
MURKIN

RE MEMPHIS TEL CALL TO JACKSON INSTANT DATE.

GRADY STEPHENS FAMILY, JONESTOWN, MISS. ADVISED INSTANT  
LAST HEARD FROM GRADY STEPHENS' BROTHER, CHARLES QUITMAN  
STEPHENS, APRIL SEVEN LAST WHEN HE TELEPHONED THEM FROM  
MEMPHIS TO ADVISE HE WAS IN THE ROOMING HOUSE FROM WHICH  
THE ASSASSINS KILLED KING. CHARLES STEPHENS ADVISED HE HAD  
THE ROOM NEXT DOOR TO THE ASSASSIN AND SAW HIM GOING IN AND  
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STEPHENS' FAMILY IN JONESTOWN ADVISED CHARLES STEPHENS  
IS DRIFTER, MARRIED SEVERAL TIMES AND RECEIVES MONTHLY

VA DISABILITY CHECK SOMEWHERE IN MEMPHIS. STEPHENS' FAMILY  
IN JONESTOWN HAVE NO IDEA OF PRESENT WHEREABOUTS OF CHARLES  
STEPHENS.

STEPHENS' FAMILY KNOW OF NO FRIENDS OF CHARLES STEPHENS  
IN MEMPHIS OR ELSEWHERE.

END PAGE ONE

Searched \_\_\_\_\_  
Serialized \_\_\_\_\_  
Indexed \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed \_\_\_\_\_

*Hughes  
Shannon  
advised*

*JAC Memphis  
advised JNO 11:30 PM 6/12  
to Discontinue  
ME has located  
Charles Stephens*

PAGE TWO

CHARLES STEPHENS HAS BROTHER, LOUIS STEPHENS,  
RESIDING OUT FROM COMO, MISS., NO TELEPHONE; HAS SISTER,  
ANNIE BELLE WOLF, AKA ., MRS. ESTEEN WOLF, RESIDING OUT FROM  
SENATOBIA, MISS. CLOSE TO INDEPENDENCE, MISS., NO TELEPHONE;  
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STEPHENS.

MEMPHIS AT MEMPHIS, IF NOT ALREADY HANDLED LOCATE  
AND INTERVIEW VESTER STEPHENS.

JACKSON AT COMO AND SENATOBIA, MISS. LOCATE AND  
INTERVIEW LOUIS STEPHENS AND MRS. ESTEEN WOLF FOR WHEREABOUTS  
OF BROTHER, CHARLES STEPHENS.  
END

RJT

FBI MEMPHIS

P



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, Albany

DATE: May 20, 1968

*JS* FROM : Director, FBI

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
PUBLICITY ON REWARDS OFFERED

Each Special Agent in Charge and Legal Attache is instructed to promptly remind their established cooperative news sources, in a discreet and tactful manner, of the existence of substantial reward money for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the killer of Dr. Martin Luther King. This money now totals at least \$100,000. The FBI should not, however, be publicized as the source of this reminder.

While the Bureau's continuing policy is to encourage the public to furnish information to law enforcement authorities as a matter of good citizenship, without expectation of financial reward, it is fully recognized that monetary rewards are often necessary to motivate some individuals. The knowledge of the existence of the substantial rewards available in the Murkin case could possibly prove of value in the solution of this major investigation.

1 - Copies to all Special Agents in Charge and Legats



5010-108

*Handwritten:*  
4-#1 *Draw*  
2 *ef*  
3 *oo*  
5 *A*

*Handwritten:* 157-9586-573

SEARCHED <i>ef</i>	INDEXED <i>ef</i>
SERIALIZED <i>ef</i>	FILED <i>ef</i>
MAY 23 1968	
FBI - WALKER	

*Handwritten:* → *Awe* (give to our contacts)  
(See #4)



In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

P. O. Box 1450  
Jackson, Mississippi 39205  
June 14, 1968

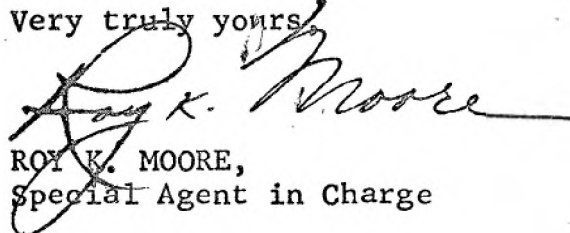
RE: JAMES EARL RAY  
IDENTIFICATION ORDER NO. 4182

Dear Sir:

James Earl Ray, Identification Order No. 4182, who was being sought by the FBI as one of its "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives," was taken into custody by authorities of Scotland Yard, London, England, June 8, 1968.


Therefore, any material previously furnished you regarding this individual should be canceled.

Very truly yours,

  
ROY K. MOORE,  
Special Agent in Charge

157-9586-574

Searched	_____
Serialized	_____
Indexed	_____
Filed	_____

1 - 66-262  
1 - 157-9586  


UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : ALL AGENTS

FROM : SAC, JACKSON (66-26)

SUBJECT: OFFICE MEMORANDUM (68-24)

DATE: 6/18/68

## CRIMDEL

SA THOMAS FITZ PATRICK is responsible for item re Crimdel to be submitted to the Bureau no later than 6/25/68, WITHOUT FAIL.

JAMES EARL RAY, Aka. - FUGITIVE  
I.O.# 4182  
TOP TEN FUGITIVE  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. (DECEASED) - VICTIM  
Jackson File 157-9586

Discontinue. Subject RAY apprehended by officials of Scotland Yard, London, England, 6/8/68.

JOHNNY RAY SMITH, Aka. - FUGITIVE  
I.O.# 4197; ET AL  
ITSMV - ITSP  
TOP TEN FUGITIVE  
OO: JACKSONVILLE  
Jackson File 26-4474

SMITH designated as next replacement on Ten Most Wanted Fugitive List with effective date set for PM, 6/20/68. Should apprehension of SMITH appear imminent, notify SAC or ASAC by most expeditious means. For information SMITH had several gun fights with police officers in past in attempting to avoid arrest.  
CONSIDER EXTREMELY DANGEROUS.

1 - SAC	① - 157-9586
1 - ASAC	1 - 26-4474
1 - Supervisor No. 3	1 - 88-1631
1 - Supervisor No. 4	1 - 166-403
1 - Supervisor No. 5	1 - Each Agent
1 - Chief Clerk	RKM:bkb
1 - Supervising Steno	(100) <i>hbs</i>
1 - 66-26	
1 - 170-00	

157-9586-575

Searched	<i>DF</i>
Serialized	
Indexed	
Filed	<i>hbs</i>



5010-108-01

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

JN 66-26

DENNY LLOYD SIMONS, Aka. - FUGITIVE  
I.O.# 4190  
UFAP - B AND E, ARMED ROBBERY  
OO: NEWARK  
Jackson File 88-1631

Discontinue. Subject apprehended Detroit, Michigan,  
6/13/68.

GEORGE MICHAEL GENTILE, Aka. - FUGITIVE  
I.O.# 4155; ET AL;  
MARVIN HOWARD LITTLE - VICTIM  
ITAR - EXTORTION  
OO: CHICAGO  
Jackson File 166-403

GENTILE being added to Ten Most Wanted Fugitive list  
PM, 6/18/68. Should GENTILE's apprehension appear imminent,  
notify SAC or ASAC by most expeditious means. ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

INTERROGATION OF SUBJECTS -  
INTERROGATION ADVICE OF RIGHTS FORM  
FD-395

H. M. Ray, U. S. Attorney, Northern District of  
Mississippi, advised on 6/17/68, that several instances have  
arisen in the recent past in the Fifth Circuit wherein the  
Advice of Rights Form has come under scrutiny. He advised he  
believes it is preferable to have the Advice of Rights Form  
introduced into evidence at the time an Agent is testifying.  
That way the form will be already a matter of record in the  
event the case is appealed. This is being brought to your  
attention and should be considered by Agents in the Northern  
District of Mississippi in any court testimony.

The opinion of the U. S. Attorney in the Southern  
District is being sought.

FD-401 (RACIAL INFORMANT  
PROGRESS LETTER)

Agents should take advantage of the use of FD-401 and insure that they are brief and concise as possible in the submission of our quarterly letters. Set forth for your guidance are some observations recently received from the Bureau concerning one of our quarterly letters:

"The information set forth under 'II. Membership' could have been set forth more succinctly. You could have stated 'no change, no meetings of Unit 1, WKKKKOM, Jones County, Mississippi, have been held since Summer of 1967. Efforts being made to reorganize three units in county.'

"Concerning amounts paid for services and expenses, it was only necessary to state no payments made during this period.

"Concerning number of activities and persons on whom coverage was provided, you should have listed the number of persons affiliated with the Klan with whom the informant was in contact and a brief summary describing activities of these individuals.

"It is noted that on page one of referenced FD-401 there is a block concerning informant's stability and reliability. Unless the informant is not considered stable or reliable, it is not necessary to repeat this information under 'Miscellaneous.' The same holds true for the block captioned 'All necessary action taken on information furnished.' If the positive block is checked, it is not necessary to repeat this information under 'Miscellaneous.'

"As to the summary of information furnished by the informant, a review of your summary reveals that it could have been more concise. In the future when summarizing the informant's information, highlight the more important information he furnished and briefly summarize his other activities.

"The purpose in authorizing use of Form FD-401 was to streamline the progress report and do away with extraneous repetitive statements."

JN 66-26

INFORMANT REPORTS (FD-306)  
Jackson File 170-00

A tendency has been noted of Agents dictating informant reports to word these reports so that anyone could readily identify the informant. This tendency is contrary to Bureau instructions and must be corrected immediately to avoid compromising informants.

It is suggested that these informant reports be written in the third person so that when the report is read, it appears that a third person is reporting on the informant as well as the other individuals mentioned in the report.

Volume

next

See

10/1/51  
10/1/51  
10/1/51