

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-10673)

FROM : ASAC J. T. SYLVESTER, JR.

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 11/14/68

"Look Magazine" article dated 11/26/68 by
WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE.

RE: RAOUL

In Montreal, RAOUL, after eight meetings with RAY, offered him living expenses, a good car and ultimately travel papers and \$12,000 if RAY would return to the United States, establish himself in Birmingham and be "available" and the article stated how RAY accepted this offer made by RAOUL at Earl Station in Windsor, Montreal, at 3:00 p.m., 8/21/67. On that date, according to RAY, he again repeated the telephone number where RAY could contact RAOUL at New Orleans in an emergency.

In the article it stated, on his way to Mexico, RAY mailed the safety deposit keys to the bank in Birmingham as "I was sure I would never see Birmingham again." RAY again said in reference to a meeting with RAOUL in Mexico he told RAOUL he wanted to go to Los Angeles and wait there and "RAOUL said O.K., but for me to let him know where I was by calling New Orleans, telephone number from time to time and that he would write me care of General Delivery in Los Angeles."

In the article in late November allegedly RAY left Mexico and went to Los Angeles and "almost immediately I received a command to come to New Orleans for instruction"; that "RAOUL had written me and told me to meet him at a certain bar in New Orleans at a certain time on 12/15. He said he only wanted a conference, that I would be going back to Los Angeles. STEIN and I took turns driving and drove day and night."

"Three hours after I got to New Orleans I was ready to leave. RAOUL just wanted a report on what I had been doing. He said we had one more job to do, and we'd do it in about two or three months. Then we'd be finished and for sure, he'd give me complete travel papers and a passport."

JTS:epk
(1)



5010-108-01

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

157-10673-1197

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A.B. McElroy

NO 157-10673

and help me go anywhere in the world I wanted to go. He wanted me to be careful, not get in any trouble, and he'd keep in touch. When I asked him what the next job was, he said not to worry about it and not to ask questions. Then he gave me another \$2500, all in 20-dollar bills. I wanted to leave for Los Angeles that night, but Stein was picking up the children and wanted to visit some relatives, so I agreed to wait one day for him."

The article stated RAY drove from California to Selma, Alabama, in March, 1968, and registered on March 22nd at the Flamingo Motel, using the name ERIC S. GAULT. A photographic copy of the registration is in the article showing he was in room 3, paid \$8.32, does not show time he registered in motel.

11-14-68

ATLANTA

To: SACs, Birmingham
~~New Orleans~~
Memphis
Mobile
San Antonio

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

William Bradford Huie, author, has written a second article for "Look" magazine concerning the travels of James Earl Ray since Ray's escape from Missouri State Penitentiary on April 23, 1967. The second article appears in November 22, 1968, issue of "Look" (circulated November 12, 1968) and alleges the involvement of an individual by the name of "Rasul" in the King assassination. According to the article, Ray contacted "Rasul" in New Orleans, Louisiana; Selma, Alabama; Birmingham, Alabama, and in a motel across the border in Mexico.

The following is a listing of these motels and a hotel in the respective areas in which Ray was alleged to have registered as a guest using the name Eric S. Galt or John L. Payne.

New Provincial Hotel
New Orleans, Louisiana
December 17, 18, 1967
(New Orleans Division)

cf 7
amt
S.D.
see
concl 12/7
+ copy to Bureau 12/7

Frederick
Galt
6

157-10673-1198

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A. C. [signature]

Airtel to SACs, Birmingham
New Orleans
Memphis
Mobile
San Antonio

RE: MURKIN

Granada Hotel
Birmingham, Alabama
August 25, 1967
(Birmingham Division)

Fleming Hotel
Selma, Alabama
March 24, 1968
(Mobile Division)

Each division will obtain a list of the guests registered at the respective hotels and hotel for a period of three days before, during, and three days after the listed period. This list should include, but not be restricted to, name, address, and identification of any vehicle used by the guests. The possibility exists that a common denominator will appear at the above in order that the identity of "Raul" will be established. 11/

In addition, the article sets forth that Ray stayed at an unnamed hotel in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, 12-7-67. Since it is not known how many hotels are located in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, the San Antonio Office should conduct the desired investigation only if feasible. Advise the Bureau and Memphis accordingly.

The Memphis Division, upon receipt of this information from the other listed divisions, will completely evaluate this information for possible identification of "Raul." The name "Raul" is Spanish for Ralph and it should be considered that this could be either a given name or a surname.

This is to be handled immediately and results furnished to the Bureau promptly.

11-13-68

AIRTEL

AM

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

Mr. ROBERT EWEY, Executive Assistant Attorney General, Memphis, Tennessee, advised this date that subpoenas issued in connection with trial scheduled for November 12 should be disregarded. Trial date has been tentatively set for March 3, 1969. EWEY requested that all potential witnesses who have received subpoenas should be made cognizant of change in trial date. Communication will be forwarded to interested witnesses by EWEY's office in near future advising them of new scheduled date for trial.

2 ATLANTA (AM)
2 BIRMINGHAM (AM)
2 LOS ANGELES (AM)
2 NEW ORLEANS (AM)
1 MEMPHIS

EGJ:RH
(9)

157-10673-1199

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Walters

PLAINTEXT

4-11-68

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: SAC'S, NEW ORLEANS (157-10673)
MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN.

RE NEW ORLEANS AIRTEL APRIL EIGHT.

LATENT PRINTS THIS CASE NOT IDENTICAL SUBMITTED
MAJOR CASE PRINTS RONALD BARDIN SIMPSON. MAJOR CASE
PRINTS RETAINED TEMPORARILY.

1 - Mr. Rosen

JFW:emg
(7)

157-10673-1

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[Handwritten signatures and initials over the stamp]

Crofts

4-19-68

Airtel

To: SAC's New Orleans (157-10673)
Memphis (44-1987)

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

Re New Orleans airtel 4-16-68, submitting major case
prints of Darrel Dexter Gatlin.

The remaining unidentified latent prints in this case are
not identical with the prints of Gatlin.

The prints of Gatlin are being retained temporarily in
the Identification Division, Latent Fingerprint Section.

157-10673-1201

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*rec'd
Bip*

11/20/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO BUREAU (44-38861), MEMPHIS (44-1987), AND ST. LOUIS
FROM BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

MURKIN

RE BUREAU AIRTEL NOVEMBER FOURTEEN LAST REQUESTING REGISTRATION
RECORDS BE CHECKED AT GRANADA HOTEL FOR DATE AUGUST TWENTYFIVE
SIXTYSEVEN AND NEARBY DATES RE SUBJECT RAY'S REGISTRATION AS ERIC S.
GALT OR JOHN L. RAYNS IN EFFORT TO IDENTIFY "RAOUL" CONCERNING WHOM
ARTICLE IN "LOOK" MAGAZINE NOVEMBER TWENTYSIX LAST ISSUE ALLEGES
INVOLVEMENT WITH RAY.

REGISTRATION CARD NUMBER NINE ZERO TWO TWO, LOCATED GRANADA
HOTEL TODAY FOR JOHN L. RAYNS, ONE EIGHT TWO FIVE LA FAYETTE STREET,
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI WHO ARRIVED AT NINE ZERO FIVE AM SATURDAY,
AUGUST TWENTYSIX SIXTYSEVEN, HAD LUGGAGE, AND WAS ASSIGNED ROOM TWO
ONE ZERO AT RATE FOUR DOLLARS FIFTY CENTS WITH ONE IN PARTY WITH NO
TELEPHONE CHARGES AND METHOD OF ARRIVAL UNKNOWN. BY REFERENCE TO
PAGE SIXTYSIX OF REPORT SA HENRY A. SNOW, BIRMINGHAM, APRIL SEVEN-

1 - Mobile (AM)
① - New Orleans (AM)
1 - San Antonio (AM)
1 - Birmingham
HAS:sjs
(4)

157-10673-1202

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BH 44-1740

PAGE TWO

TEEN, SIXTYEIGHT, DATE OF ARRIVAL AT HOTEL WAS SAME DATE RAY, USING ALIAS GALT, RENTED ROOM FROM PETER CHERPES ON HIGHLAND AVENUE IN BIRMINGHAM.

REVIEW OF HOTEL RECORDS CONTINUING TO IDENTIFY "RAOUL" AND REGISTRATION CARD OF RAYNS WILL BE FORWARDED FBI LABORATORY.

ST. LOUIS AT ST. LOUIS IF NOT PREVIOUSLY DONE, IDENTIFY ADDRESS ONE EIGHT TWO FIVE LA FAYETTE STREET WITH ANY KNOWN ACTIVITIES OF SUBJECT.

AIR MAIL COPIES TO NEW ORLEANS, MOBILE, AND SAN ANTONIO.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 22, 1968

Mr. CHARLIE TRONCALE, owner-manager, Granada Hotel, 2230 Fourth Avenue, North, made available the guest registration cards for his hotel during the period August 22 - 28, 1967, inclusive. A review of these cards resulted in the location of guest registration No. 9022 for one JOHN L. RAYNS, residence 1825 Lafayette St., St. Louis, Mo., who checked in at 9:05 a.m. on Saturday, August 26, 1967, and was assigned to Room 210 by Desk Clerk ADRIAN M. KOONCE at a rate of \$4.50. No record was maintained as to the time of checkout or method of travel. The card reflected the guest had luggage. The original of this card has been forwarded to the FBI Laboratory at Washington, D. C., for appropriate handwriting comparison.

A record was obtained of the names and addresses (where recorded) of the approximately 150 guests, other than permanent residents, during the period for which the cards were reviewed and two copies of the list are being transmitted to the Memphis FBI Office. No guest card was observed for any "RAOUL" or similar name during the period involved.

Upon observing the guest registration card of RAYNS, Mr. ADRIAN M. KOONCE identified his initials as having roomed RAYNS, but stated that due to the elapsed time he had no independent recollection of him. He stated he had previously been exhibited a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and was unable to identify that individual.

No further information was obtainable from Mr. KOONCE or other personnel of the Granada Hotel.

On 11/20-21/68 at Birmingham, Alabama

by SA HENRY A. SNOW:mfl

Date dictated 11/22/68

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

157-10673-1203

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BH 44-1740	
ME 44-1987	

F B I

Date: 11/22/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)
MURKIN

ReBuairtel, 11/14/68, and Birmingham teletype
11/20/68.

Attached for information of the Bureau are four copies of FD-302 reflecting location of guest registration card for JOHN L. RAYNS at Granada Hotel, Birmingham, on date 8/26/67. Five copies of this FD-302 are forwarded to Memphis, and one each to interested offices.

Two copies of an insert are attached for the Bureau and five copies for Memphis regarding a previous search of the records at the Granada Hotel for the period 10/23-31/67, inclusive, which resulted negatively and was based upon Bureau telephone call, 11/9/68.

Two copies of legible handwritten list of registration cards at the Granada Hotel are being furnished Memphis in response to reBuairtel, 11/14/68, in order that the names thereon may be compared with lists submitted by the Mobile, New Orleans and, possibly, San Antonio Divisions.

3 - Bureau (Enc. 6)
2 - Memphis (Enc. 12) (44-1987)
1 - Mobile (Enc. 1)
① - New Orleans (Enc. 1)
1 - San Antonio (Enc. 1)
1 - St. Louis (Enc. 1)
2 - Birmingham
HAS:mfl
(11)

157-10673-1204

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