

MEX 173-1

In addition, cooperative contacts at the Mexico City headquarters of Telefonos de Mexico have been requested to determine whether a record of any such telephone call would still be in existence and, if so, to attempt to locate this record. Experience in passed cases has shown that local telephone exchanges in many parts of the country usually forward their toll tickets for long-distance calls to a central point in their area or to the main office in Mexico City.

MEX 34, an investigative informant, has continued his efforts to locate additional records in Acapulco pertaining to the visit there by GALT in October, 1967. The informant has furnished three written reports since December, 1968, reflecting that he has continued to check in the hotels and motels and listing more than 15 of these establishments which he has contacted during periodic visits to Acapulco. To date, no additional information has been developed regarding GALT's brief visit to Acapulco in 1967.

With regard to the allegation that RAY and a "fat" bartender in Puerto Vallarta were dealing in marijuana, it is believed that this is a reference to LUIS GARCIA, bartender at the Hotel Oceano, who was extensively interviewed in Puerto Vallarta during April, 1968. GARCIA admitted having associated with GALT, appeared to be cooperative and furnished a number of leads which were valuable for the additional investigation conducted at that time. He did not, however, provide any information about having dealt in marijuana with GALT and, to the contrary, stated on one occasion that he terminated his association with GALT because the latter indicated an interest in buying marijuana.

ELISA ARELLANO TORRES advised on 4/17/68 that she had lived with GALT for about five days in Puerto Vallarta and claimed that she had parted company with him because he wanted her to buy marijuana which she refused to do. She said he told her he had made various trips to Yelapa, a nearby beach area, in order to buy marijuana.

With regard to the possibility that local authorities might have information concerning GALT's dealing in marijuana in Puerto Vallarta, the violations of narcotics

**MEX 173-1**

laws are under the jurisdiction of the Federal Judicial Police in Mexico. **GEORGE EMBRICH**, Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs (BNDD), U. S. Embassy, Mexico, D. F., has advised that his office is in nearly daily contact with the Federal Judicial Police and that there have been no reports from that agency concerning narcotics activities by Americans in Puerto Vallarta. **EMBRICH** stated the Federal Judicial Police do not have a representative in Puerto Vallarta and, about five years ago, asked the U. S. Narcotics Agents in the Embassy to send someone there to investigate the narcotics traffic. At that time, a source of U. S. Narcotics did spend about three weeks in Puerto Vallarta and found areas where marijuana was being grown and sold, not only in Puerto Vallarta but also in Yelapa and Mismaloya, two nearby beach areas.

A source of local U. S. Narcotics Office advised them in May, 1967, that there had been a large influx of narcotics traffickers into Puerto Vallarta because of a crackdown by authorities in Acapulco. This source said that marijuana and other drugs were readily available in Puerto Vallarta and that there is practically no law enforcement there. Another source of U. S. Narcotics in the United States advised in September, 1965, that he had been in touch with an individual who lived on an island near Yelapa and who told him that he would be able to buy any amount of marijuana if he went to Yelapa.

It is noted that the LHM forwarded by this office under date of 7/24/68 sets forth the information mentioned above which was received from **ELISA ARELLANO TORRES** concerning **GALT**'s trips to Yelapa and statements from several other individuals interviewed regarding trips that **GALT** did make to Mismaloya.

It is the opinion of BNDD Agents now assigned to the Embassy that there is traffic in marijuana in the Puerto Vallarta area and that neither the local or federal authorities have any effective means of controlling it or obtaining information concerning it. They believe that Mexicans employed in the various tourist enterprises in Puerto Vallarta would be unlikely to admit to any investigator that they had dealings with **GALT** in marijuana.

MEX 173-1

The State Judicial Police in Jalisco do have a small contingent in Puerto Vallarta. MEX 24, who has handled other aspects of this investigation, has been instructed to attempt to determine, on his next road trip to Puerto Vallarta, whether any information is available to this police unit which would establish whether GALT was involved in traffic in marijuana during the time he spent there.

The Bureau and Office of Origin will be promptly advised of any concrete results obtained during this inquiry.

4-7



*Murkin  
memo  
Folder*

**MR. TROTTER**

**4-7-69**

**C. E. Ganley**

**MURKIN**

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr. A new Memphis Criminal Court Judge, Arthur Faquin, took over the James Earl Ray matter following the sudden death of Judge W. Preston Battle.

We have been following this with Memphis, as you will recall, Latent Fingerprint Examiner George J. Bonebrake is supposed to appear in Criminal Court, Memphis, at possible contempt hearing on 4-11-69. Memphis initially advised 4-1-69 that Mr. Don Owens (a local attorney and advisor to Judge Battle prior to his death) had informed that in view of Judge Battle's death, Bonebrake would not be required to appear on 4-11-69 and while this was not an official notification, he felt certain the Bonebrake matter would be considered closed. By airtel 4-3-69, Memphis advised that some local newspapers there had indicated Judge Faquin would hold hearings on 4-11-69; however, Owens claims the newspapers are in error and that Bonebrake still should not appear on 4-11-69 unless otherwise advised. I have pointed this out to Bonebrake. We will continue to follow with Memphis.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

For information.

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Hunzeker, Room 4535 JB

CEG:emg  
(8)

4-31

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

MURKIN  
MEMO  
Folder

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
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Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
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Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: April 3, 1969

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: MURKIN

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. McGowan
- 1 - Mr. Long
- 1 - Mr. Bishop

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Jack Greenberg, an attorney with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), contacted our New York Office on March 17, 1969, and requested that an Agent sit in on an interview that Greenberg was going to have with Attorney Russell X. Thompson, an attorney from Memphis, Tennessee. In accordance with the Director's instructions, Greenberg was advised that an Agent would not sit in on the interview and if Thompson or Greenberg had any additional information, they could come to our New York Office and give such information.

It is noted that Mr. Thompson on April 11, 1968, (King assassinated April 4, 1968) appeared at our Memphis Office and advised he had a client, whom he would not disclose under any circumstances, who advised him that the murderer of Martin Luther King, Jr. escaped from the scene using a motorcycle, not a Mustang car. Thompson stated this individual also advised that the weapon used to kill King was a .30-caliber Savage rifle, and the barrel of the rifle had long since been disassembled and melted down. Thompson advised that he was of the opinion that his client was a mental case. Information furnished to us by Thompson was thoroughly checked out and nothing was found to be of significance.

Thompson contacted our New York Office on March 18, 1969, and advised that he would probably return to Memphis on approximately March 19, 1969, and upon his return, he would contact our Memphis Office to arrange an appropriate time to furnish the information that he possesses, as it would be more practical to furnish the information to the FBI in Memphis since they are more familiar with streets, locations, and other pertinent details. Thompson at this time admitted he had no information that he classifies as great or spectacular such as the news media was attempting to convey. In accordance with the Director's instructions, SAC Jensen of our Memphis Office was instructed to listen to Thompson and absolutely nothing be disclosed to him.

Enclosure

REL:jms  
(7)

CONTINUED - PAGE TWO

Rosen to DeLoach memorandum,  
RE: MURKIN

On March 26, 1969, Mr. Thompson contacted our Memphis Office and he apologized for a story which appeared in a Memphis newspaper which quoted him as saying that he turned his entire confidential file on the James Earl Ray case over to the FBI. Mr. Thompson said that he frankly doubted and did not contend that there was any conspiracy in the James Earl Ray case.

[Mr. Thompson stated that he had much in the way of material which dealt with various suppositions, theories, and suspicions of his, but he frankly did not have any additional material that could be considered evidentiary in any way whatsoever.] He offered to make his voluminous material available, but repeated all of his material was pure speculation. [Mr. Thompson was told by our Memphis Office that in the event he received any information which he felt might be evidentiary in nature that our office would be interested in having an opportunity to review this material.] Mr. Thompson indicated that should he receive any information of this type he would notify the Memphis Office.

ACTION:

In view of the fact that Mr. Thompson has not been forthright with us and in view of the fact he does not have any information of an evidentiary nature, it is recommended that we have no further contact with Mr. Thompson to solicit his material. We will accept information if he brings such to our attention. Attached for approval is a letter to the Department advising them of interviews with Thompson.



Mr. Jerris Leonard  
Assistant Attorney General

April 4, 1969

Director, FBI

1 - Mr. Long

**ASSASSINATION OF  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**

As you were previously advised, Jack Greenberg, an attorney with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, on March 17, 1969, contacted our New York Office and advised that Russell X. Thompson, a Memphis attorney, would be in Mr. Greenberg's office to furnish additional information regarding the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

On March 18, 1969, Mr. Thompson contacted our New York Office and advised that he would return to Memphis, Tennessee, on or about March 19, 1969, and upon his return, he would contact our Memphis Office to arrange an appropriate time to furnish the information that he possesses, as it would be more practical to furnish the information to the FBI in Memphis since they are more familiar with streets, locations, and other pertinent details.

On March 26, 1969, Mr. Thompson contacted our Memphis Office and he apologized for a story which appeared in a Memphis newspaper which quoted him as saying that he turned his entire confidential file on the James Earl Ray case over to the FBI. Mr. Thompson said that he frankly doubted and did not contend that there was any conspiracy in the James Earl Ray case.

Mr. Thompson stated that he had much in the way of material which dealt with various suppositions, theories and suspicions of his, but he frankly did not have any additional material that could be considered evidentiary in any way whatsoever.

Mr. Thompson was advised that in the event he received any information which he felt might be evidentiary in nature, we would be interested in having an opportunity to review this material.

The above is for your information.

REL:jms  
(4)

NOTE: See Rosen to DeLoach memorandum dated 4-3-69, captioned "Murkin" REL:jms

3-26-69

AIRTEL

AM

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

MURKIN

Submitted herewith is LHM covering information furnished by RUSSELL X. THOMPSON, local Memphis attorney, concerning material which he has collected in connection with the JAMES EARL RAY case. It is to be noted that the material he presents is pure supposition on his part and he himself has indicated he has no evidence whatsoever. He did offer to make his voluminous files available; however, since he has stated that these files are filled with only suppositions on his part, the Memphis Division recommends that no further contact be had with RUSSELL THOMPSON. He was told that in the event he received any information which he felt might be evidentiary in nature this office would be interested in having an opportunity to review this material. He indicated that should he receive any information of this type he would notify the Memphis Office.

3 BUREAU (Enc. 4)  
1 MEMPHIS

RGJ:BN  
(4)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Memphis, Tennessee  
March 26, 1969

ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING  
APRIL 4, 1968, MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

At approximately 10:15 a.m., March 26, 1969, RUSSELL X. THOMPSON, an Attorney, Memphis, Tennessee, telephonically contacted the Memphis Office of the FBI. Mr. THOMPSON advised that he had been in New York City, where he presented certain material in his possession to the NAACP Legal Defense. Mr. THOMPSON advised that while in New York City he had made contact with the New York Office of the FBI. He said that after discussing this matter with a representative of the FBI in New York, it was agreed that it would probably be more advantageous for him to discuss his findings in this case with a representative of the Memphis Office of the FBI.

Mr. THOMPSON subsequently apologized for a story which had appeared in a Memphis newspaper, which quoted him as saying that he had turned his entire confidential file on the JAMES EARL RAY case over to the FBI. Mr. THOMPSON said the newspaper reporter had misquoted him and what he had told the newspaper reporter was that he had had earlier contact with the FBI. Mr. THOMPSON's reference to talks with the FBI referred to an interview had with him shortly after the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING in April, 1968. Mr. THOMPSON said that frankly he doubted, and did not contend, there was any conspiracy in the JAMES EARL RAY case. He specifically advised that among the suspicions he had was the person who called on him shortly after the assassination. This was a person whom he gave the name TONY BENEVETTA. Mr. THOMPSON said this was a phonetic spelling and the person whom he interviewed by that name had told him this was an alias and not a true name. BENEVETTA is the person whom THOMPSON said furnished him information to the effect that the person who did assassinate Dr. KING had left the scene of the shooting on a motorcycle and not in a white Mustang.

This same person also told Mr. THOMPSON that the rifle and the package of material which the Memphis Police

had recovered at the scene of the crime were not items of interest in the actual assassination but had been used as a decoy. BENEVETTA also told THOMPSON that the rifle which had been used to kill Dr. KING was a Savage rifle and it had already been melted down. THOMPSON described this person, BENEVETTA, as being a blond Latin. THOMPSON stated that at the time he originally discussed this information with BENEVETTA he was of the impression that there might have been some mental instability on the part of BENEVETTA.

THOMPSON also advised that during the initial stages of the JAMES EARL RAY case he did assist Attorney ARTHUR HANES, SR. of Birmingham, Alabama, and he did tell HANES about this blond Latin who had called on him. THOMPSON speculated that HANES had told RAY about this blond Latin and possibly on that basis RAY had come up with the RAOUL character. THOMPSON further said, of course, there was a possibility that HANES himself might have manufactured the character "RAOUL," based on the data he had furnished about a blond Latin.

Mr. THOMPSON said that to this date he has not seen or heard any more information from BENEVETTA. He said his information regarding BENEVETTA had been furnished to Attorney General PHIL CANALE, who in turn told him that the BENEVETTA person probably was identical with a person in town who had called on one or two preachers and had furnished a similar type story. THOMPSON said that Attorney General CANALE informed him that this matter had been definitely checked out and there was no involvement of any kind on the part of BENEVETTA.

THOMPSON also advised that another matter which raised some suspicion in his mind was the fact that in the event the State had put any of its witnesses on the stand there would have been some question as to their creditability. Specifically, he pointed out that it was a well known fact that CHARLES Q. STEPHENS, who would have been a State witness, was known to drink rather heavily. THOMPSON said in view of this he felt that the defense could have attacked the creditability of STEPHENS. He further said the original newspaper stories reporting comments from BESSIE BREWER, the landlady at the rooming house, indicated she could not identify



JAMES EARL RAY, and yet the State was going to use her as a witness. He felt that on this basis her creditability could be attacked. He further stated he knew that ARTHUR HANES, while acting as Attorney for JAMES EARL RAY, had hired a local investigator, RENFRO HAYS. HAYS, according to THOMPSON, had located a white male by the name HAROLD CARTER, who claimed to have been sitting on a box at the rear of the rooming house and to have seen someone fire from the wall facing the Lorraine Motel and CARTER reportedly saw this man jump down and run away from the scene. THOMPSON said that he knew that HUGH STANTON, a local attorney from the Public Defender's Office appointed in the JAMES EARL RAY case, had a representative of his office talk to HAROLD CARTER and their conclusion was that HAROLD CARTER was completely unreliable.

THOMPSON also said there was, of course, the possibility that RENFRO HAYS, the investigator for ARTHUR HANES, SR., had HAROLD CARTER tell the story that he did. THOMPSON said he, of course, did not know whether this was so or not, but it was pure conjecture on his part.

In addition, Mr. THOMPSON said another suspicious circumstance as far as he was concerned was that he had learned a man by the name JIM SANDERS was in Jim's Grill (located in area of the rooming house), had ordered sausage and eggs at approximately the time of the shooting of Dr. KING, and it was reported that SANDERS did not leave the counter as so many others in Jim's Grill did, but instead ordered a beer and continued to eat. THOMPSON thought this was most suspicious. SANDERS is, according to THOMPSON, a stranger in Jim's Grill, and he thought it unusual that a stranger would be in the Grill at about the time of the shooting.

THOMPSON also said that another matter that bothered him or made him feel suspicious was the fact that JAMES EARL RAY had registered at the Rebel Motel and left there and then re-registered at the rooming house on the same day, April 4. He said it just did not seem to make sense that a man would leave a motel and come to a rooming house such as that on South Main.

Mr. THOMPSON concluded by stating he had much in the way of material which dealt with various suppositions, theories, and suspicions of his, but he frankly did not have any material that could be considered evidentiary in any way whatever. He offered to make his voluminous material available, but repeated that all his material was nothing but pure speculation.

-4-

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.

-4-



4-2

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

*Murkin  
Memo  
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Tolson	_____
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Mohr	_____
Bishop	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
Felt	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

DATE: April 2, 1969

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. McGowan
- 1 - Mr. Long
- 1 - Mr. Bishop

TO : Mr. DeLoach

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: MURKIN

## SYNOPSIS:

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

William Bradford Huie has written the third article for "Look" magazine and claims that as a result of notes received from Ray and his extensive investigation and retracing of Ray's travels, he has definitely concluded that Ray alone is the murderer of King. Huie points out in this article that a number of questionable items existed concerning Ray and the King murder, and he resolved these through his investigation. Huie concludes the article by stating James Earl Ray, the poor, contemptible little man, has killed a well-known figure.

Another comment in the current "Look" magazine is made by Percy Foreman, Ray's second attorney, and Mr. Foreman states "I don't believe there was any conspiracy. James Earl Ray wanted to win recognition. He hoped that by killing Martin Luther King he could make the rest of his futile, boring life exciting."

In the same issue of "Look" magazine, Arthur J. Hanes, Ray's first attorney, states that he feels Ray was helped and points out different items to support his theory. We have conducted investigation on each of the items and determined no supporting evidence exists to corroborate theories of Hanes.

## ACTION:

For information.

REL:jms  
(7)

DETAILS - OVER

Rosen to DeLoach memorandum  
RE: MURKIN

DETAILS:

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

William Bradford Huie has written the third in a series of articles for "Look" magazine. Huie previously advised us that he entered into a contract with James Earl Ray to write the true account of Ray's activities and background concerning the assassination of King. Huie has been provided with notes from Ray through Ray's first attorney, Arthur J. Hanes.

The first article appeared in the 11-12-68, issue and the second article appeared in the issue of 11-26-68. In this third article, which is dated 4-15-69, (circulated 4-1-69), Huie claims that as a result of notes received from Ray and his extensive investigation and retracing of Ray's travels, he has definitely concluded that Ray alone is the murderer of King.

Huie points out in this current article that a number of questionable items existed concerning Ray and the King murder, and he resolved these through his investigation. The items and his investigative results are as follows:

1. Item - Ray's ability to obtain a Canadian passport.  
Answer - It is relatively easy to obtain a Canadian passport and Ray is very capable of executing this matter.

2. Item - Ray's determination of the location of the motel in Memphis where King was staying.  
Answer - It was public knowledge through television and newspaper reports that King stayed at the Lorraine Motel and his room number was publicized.

3. Item - The fatal rifle shot could have been fired only by a practiced, experienced, and expert marksman.  
Answer - Ray had Army training, he was in the Military Police, he had practiced with guns, and the shot was easy for him. A 12-year-old boy familiar with a .22 caliber weapon could have killed King from the same position.

4. Item - Ray is stupid and inept.  
Answer - During Ray's seven years in the Missouri State Penitentiary, he matured as a criminal. His escape on 4-23-67, from the Missouri State Penitentiary was well planned and well executed.

Rosen to DeLoach memorandum  
RE: MURKIN

5. Item - Ray could not have supported himself and his travels between 4-23-67, (escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary) and 6-8-68, (Ray apprehended in London, England) and, therefore, must have had financial assistance.

Answer - Ray obtained funds through robberies and other criminal activities.

6. Item - Ray is not a "racist" or "nigger-hater" and, therefore, could have been motivated only by money.

Answer - Ray, while incarcerated, did not feel he could live in an Honor Farm Dormitory because it was integrated. Ray made bitter anti-Negro remarks while he was in Canada, Mexico, and California.

7. Item - Ray was not a killer.

Answer - The superintendent at the Missouri State Hospital, who supervised the psychiatric examination of Ray, stated that Ray is capable of killing for gain, and he is capable of killing in the hope of relieving his anxieties and enhancing his self-respect.

Huie concludes his article by stating that James Earl Ray, the poor, contemptible little man, has killed a well-known figure.

Another comment in the current "Look" magazine is made by Percy Foreman, Ray's second attorney, and Mr. Foreman states "I don't believe there was any conspiracy. James Earl Ray wanted to win recognition. He hoped that by killing Martin Luther King he could make the rest of his futile, boring life exciting."

In this same issue of "Look" magazine, Arthur J. Hanes, Ray's first attorney, states that he feels Ray was helped and points out different items to support his theory.

1. Item - Ray had help in selecting the rooming house from which the fatal shot is alleged to have been fired, and no evidence exists that this house was entered by Ray until 3:15 p.m. on the day of the murder.

Facts - Ray was in Memphis on 4-3-68, (one day before the murder) and had sufficient time to choose the rooming house and it was public knowledge as to where King was staying and his assigned room number.

Rosen to DeLoach memorandum

RE: MURKIN

2. Item - According to a few witnesses, the shot was fired from the bushes which are 20 feet below the bathroom of the rooming house.

Facts - Interviews of witnesses and other individuals failed to corroborate any such statements.

3. Item - When Ray abandoned the Mustang, a search of the Mustang revealed that the clothing did not fit Ray and the car's ashtrays were filled with cigarette butts. According to Hanes, Ray does not smoke.

Facts - The clothing located in the Mustang was perfectly sized for Ray and our Laboratory matched certain threads from articles of clothing found in the car with items of evidence located at the scene of the killing. Our examination of the Mustang disclosed no cigarette butts or ashes.

4. Item - The state has no conclusive ballistic evidence. The .30-.06 bullet was recovered from King's body but no ballistic expert could say that the bullet was fired from the rifle purchased by Ray.

Facts - The bullet recovered from the body of King was such that it is impossible to state that the bullet was fired from the rifle purchased by Ray; however, there were certain characteristics which would indicate that it was fired from this rifle. It was further determined that the casing found in the rifle was fired from the rifle purchased by Ray.

5. Item - Within a few minutes after King was shot, there were mysterious radio reports concerning a Pontiac chasing a Mustang believed to have been occupied by the killer of King.

Facts - We completely checked this matter out and it was determined that the broadcast concerning a Pontiac chasing a Mustang was a fabrication, and no supporting evidence exists to verify the report.

6. Item - There was no motive in killing King as Ray was doing all right as a fugitive.

Facts - This is conjecture on Mr. Hanes' part, and we have statements that Ray could possibly have committed the murder for personal recognition for status among inmates in prison.

Mr. Hanes concludes his article by stating that the FBI has done its usual masterful job in this matter.

4-1





TREASURY DEPARTMENT  
BUREAU OF CUSTOMS  
WASHINGTON



April 1, 1969

REFER TO

INV. 6.010 J

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Bishop	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. Felt	✓
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

*Murkin  
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*Ret. [Signature]*

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Director, Federal Bureau  
of Investigation  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Mr. Robert H. Haines

Dear Mr. Hoover:

The enclosed report is in response to an informal request  
from your office by Liaison Officer Robert H. Haines.

Sincerely yours,

*Lawrence Fleishman*  
LAWRENCE FLEISHMAN  
Assistant Commissioner

Enclosure 71562

XP. PROC.

APR 2 1969

*EBT  
[illegible]*

*APR 5 1969*

*FBI*

*SLX*

REPLY TO: COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20226



**TREASURY DEPARTMENT**  
**BUREAU OF CUSTOMS**  
LOS ANGELES, CALIF.



**March 25, 1969**

REFER TO

**INV. 6.010**

The Commissioner of Customs  
Office of Investigations  
Division of Enforcement  
Bureau of Customs  
Washington, D. C. 20226

Dear Sir:

Your letter of March 6, 1969, INV. 6.010 BF, concerned an allegation that one "Raoul" was connected with James Earl Ray in the smuggling of narcotics across the Mexican border. All of our border offices have been contacted and furnished with a description of "Raoul" and instructed to ascertain if any information was available that would substantiate the information regarding "Raoul" and/or James Earl Ray. All of our offices have replied that they have no information on any "Raoul" fitting the description furnished by your office.

Sincerely yours,

MELVIN C. JOHNSON  
Supervising Customs Agent

REPLY TO: SUPERVISING CUSTOMS AGENT, U.S. CUSTOMHOUSE, 300 SOUTH FERRY STREET, TERMINAL ISLAND, CALIF. 90731

3-28

*MURKIN*  
*Memo Folder*

Mr. DeLoach

March 23, 1969

A. Rosen

1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. Rosen  
1 - Mr. Malley  
1 - Mr. McGowan  
1 - Mr. Long  
1 - Mr. Bishop  
1 - Mr. Sullivan

MURKIN

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Bureau received a letter dated March 24, 1969, from an individual identifying himself as D. E. Johnson, Post Office box 201, Colton California. Enclosed to his letter is a newspaper article (possibly published on April 20, 1968) which sets forth a photograph of James Earl Ray as taken in 1960 and a photograph of Ray obtained at a bartending school in Los Angeles, California, (as Eric Starvo Galt) taken in 1968.

In Johnson's letter he makes a comparison of the two photographs setting forth his own measurements of facial areas and states in his opinion the photographs are not of the same individual (James Earl Ray). He, in essence, states that as a result of his comparison there is another man involved in the case, and he further states, "this is enough to prove my theory that there was a conspiracy." We know for a fact that the two photographs, as cited by Johnson, are the photographs of James Earl Ray.

Based upon available data, D. E. Johnson not identifiable in Bufiles.

ACTION:

It is recommended that Johnson's letter not be acknowledged as any acknowledgment could invite further irrelevant correspondence from Johnson.

REL:jms  
(8)

P.O. Box 301  
Colton, Calif.

March 24, 1969

Mr. Hoover  
Dear Sir:

Herewith is an analysis of two pictures which the FBI handed out, purporting to be James Earl Ray, taken several years apart, but as you can see by looking at the percentages of the various facial features they are miles apart in appearance. There is another man also but this is enough to prove my theory that there was a conspiracy.

You will notice I make no comparison of picture to picture but I compare every salient feature of the face using the length of the face from hair-line to point of chin as the yard-stick and compute the percentage of each feature to the face-length. In order to avoid confusion I always measure the forehead from the hair line to the inside corner of the eye so there can be no question as to where the forehead stops etc. Absolute accuracy with this type of picture is impossible, but you can see for yourself that the difference in percentages is not due to a slight difference in measurement.

Picture #1

Length of face 1.7"

Width of face 1.25" % width to length 73%

Height of forehead 0.7" % forehead to length of face 41%

Length of nose 0.35" % of nose to length of face 20%

Point of nose to chin 0.65" % chin to face 38%

Left ear 0.6" %to length of face 35%

Right ear 0.5" % " " 30%

/ENCLOSURE

5/18  
CORRESPONDENCE

picture #2

Length of face 1.6"

Width of face 1.3" % width to length of face 81%

Height of forehead 0.7" % forehead to length of face 43%

Length of nose 0.4" % of nose to length of face 25%

Point of nose to chin 0.6" % of chin to length of face 37%

Left ear 0.55" % of ear to length of face 34%

Right ear, same.

You will notice a line drawn across the eyes in these two photos. I tried to get the line exactly on the spot where the ears join the side of the head, but even a slight inaccuracy at this point does not change the fact that there is marked difference in the set of the eyes, in number one the pupils of the eyes are almost entirely above the line while in the other the pupils are below the line.

There are many other measurements and comparisons that could be made but one would need much clearer photos than these to do the job right.

As I mentioned previously, there is another picture of this same type, which is of an entirely different person, and all three are designated by the FBI as one man, but you can see by checking these percentages that they are three separate, distinct and unique persons.

Now if all three photos came out of your files it should be a comparatively simple matter to identify the other two persons.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Yours truly,





3-26

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

DID NOT GO UP

5010-106

MURKIN

Memo  
Folder

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: March 26, 1969

FROM : A. Rosen

1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. Rosen  
1 - Mr. Malley  
1 - Mr. McGowan  
1 - Mr. Long  
1 - Mr. Bishop

SUBJECT: MURKIN

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Senator James O. Eastland (Democrat-- Mississippi) furnished a copy of a letter dated March 14, 1969, that he received from James Earl Ray.

Included in Ray's letter is a statement that Ray was shown photographs by Mr. Percy Foreman (Ray's former attorney) of two or three individuals followed by two or three Dallas, Texas, police officers during an arrest at the time President Kennedy was assassinated (November, 1963). According to Ray, Mr. Foreman wanted Ray to identify one of the individuals in these photographs as the person Ray was involved with; however, Ray could not identify any individuals, although one of the individuals did look similar to the person he was involved with according to Ray.

Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee, previously provided us with photographs as given to him by William Bradford Huie, who has written articles for "Look" magazine concerning the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. The photographs, according to Mr. Huie, were made by a news photographer at Dallas, Texas, on the day that President John F. Kennedy was assassinated. The Dallas Office has advised that the persons appearing on these photographs have been identified as among the many persons rounded up by the Dallas authorities following the assassination of President Kennedy. The arresting officers advised that the individuals in the photographs were found in a boxcar about a mile from the assassination scene, and there was no reason to place them under arrest, therefore, no record of their identity was made. These same photographs, which had been obtained by us early in the King investigation, have been displayed by our Agents to various witnesses and no identification whatsoever has been effected.

REL:jms  
(7) jms

CONTINUED - OVER

DID NOT GO UP

Rosen to DeLoach memorandum  
RE: MURKIN

It appears that William Bradford Huie and Percy Foreman displayed the photographs to Ray for purpose of fabricating a story for publication purposes. It is further noted that Ray could not identify the individuals in these photographs, and the photograph of one of the individuals appearing in this same photograph was displayed in "Ramparts" magazine, along with the artist's conception of the subject of the King assassination. This comparison appeared in "Ramparts" magazine citing that these two individuals were the same. It is obvious that the individuals involved in the publication of these photographs are endeavoring to link the assassinations together.

ACTION:

For information.

*hjm* *rel*

REL:jms 3-26-69

Rosen to DeLoach memo

MURKIN

Case involving murder of Martin Luther King, Jr. Senator James O. Eastland furnished a copy of a let dated 3-14-69 that he received from James Earl Ray. Included in let is statement concerning photographs. Ray could not identify individuals in photos. This photo taken during President Kennedy assassination.

REL:jms 3-26-69

Rosen to DeLoach memo

MURKIN

Case involving murder of Martin Luther King, Jr. Senator James O. Eastland furnished a copy of a let dated 3-14-69 that he received from James Earl Ray. Included in let is statement concerning photographs. Ray could not identify individuals in photos. This photo taken during President Kennedy assassination.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

# Theory of a 'Double' In Assassinations

A former FBI agent yesterday raised the spectre of a link between the assassinations of President Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King.

William Turner, 41, said he thinks the possibility of a relationship between the two slayings is strong enough to warrant a Congressional investigation.

"I'm not drawing any conclusions," he said. "I'm just saying the similarities are striking enough that they should be investigated."

Here is the case Turner makes for a full-scale probe by a joint Senate-House investigating committee:

- A sketch prepared in Mexico under FBI direction when the assassin was believed hiding there bears a striking resemblance to a man arrested in Dealey Plaza on Nov. 22, 1963, after the President was shot.

- The photograph subsequently released by the FBI of Eric Starvo Galt—the prime suspect in the King murder who was later identified as James Earl Ray—looks strikingly as if it was taken of a dead man.

- In both assassinations, a rifle with a telescopic sight "was conveniently left at the crime scene."

- Investigators in both killings turned up an "abundance of physical evidence," including city maps with significant points circled.

Turner—now a free-lance writer living in Mill Valley—has announced his candidacy for the Democratic nomination for the Sixth Congressional District seat of Representative William Mailliard.

One of the major planks in his

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

1 S.F. Chronicle

San Francisco,  
Calif.

Date:

Edition: 5-6-68

Author: Final Home

Editor: Chas. deYoung

Title: Thieriot

WILLIAM W. TURNER  
FORMER SPECIAL AGENT

Character:

or SF 67-15407

Classification: 67

Submitting Office: SF

☐ Being Investigated

platform is a call for the reopening of the Kennedy assassination investigation. By his own estimate, he has spent three years tracking down the vast profusion of leads in the assassination.

#### GARRISON

In line with this, he has consulted frequently with James Garrison, the controversial district attorney of New Orleans.

Turner said the publication of the police sketch of the suspected King slayer two days after the assassination is what "jagged my memory."

"The sharp, pointed nose, the wide mouth and thin lips, the firm set of the jaw," Turner said, "I remembered something."

#### PHOTO

What he recalled, Turner said in an interview, is the photograph of a suspect being taken into custody by two shotgun-carrying Dallas policemen on Dealey Plaza.

He produced that photograph — taken from Garrison's voluminous files—of the man being led away for interrogation. The similarity between the suspect and the Mexican police sketch, Turner feels, is eerie.

What happened to that sharp-nosed man with the wide mouth following his arrest on that November day in Dallas?

Nobody knows, Turner said yesterday.

#### "INCREDIBLE"

"He was either released without booking or his record has been vacuum-cleaned," Turner declared. "It seems incredible to me that the people arrested that day weren't accounted for."

The photograph of Ray—alias Galt—shows a man in a dark coat with his eyes closed. The FBI later painted



#### THE GALT-RAY PHOTO

A picture of a dead man?

in eyes for better identification.

But Turner said the "way the man's coat sets on him" indicates he was lying down when the picture was taken. The coat collar is riding up over the neck and Turner said the face seems puffy, as if in death.

"I don't believe that the Eric Starvo Galt photograph released by the FBI bears any resemblance to the police sketch of Dr. King's killer," Turner said.

#### PRINTS

Just as Lee Harvey Oswald was established as Kennedy's slayer from fingerprints left on a high-powered rifle, so did a rifle recovered near the scene of the King assassination lead investigators to conclude Ray is the killer.

"The circumstances raise the possibility that both Oswald and Ray are scapegoats," Turner said.

"The wealth of physical evidence collected almost immediately by investigators in both assassinations is what is particularly intriguing."

The physical evidence included the rifles recovered,

the quantity of fingerprints and the circled maps.

"As you know," said Turner, "the police use modus operandi files in any crime. Criminals tend to repeat certain things, have certain habits."

Turner was reluctant to speculate on how someone could find profit in the assassination of both President Kennedy and Dr. King.

But he noted that both the Vietnam war and the racial climate in the United States took dramatic turns for the worse after the President's slaying.

#### CRISIS

And the racial crisis worsened even more after Dr. King's death and signs point toward an even hotter, longer summer than ever before, he speculated.

"The fact that there is a pattern between the two assassinations is firm and I think it should be explored. Is this a coincidence or is it not? That's what we have to find out," Turner said.

The FBI fired Turner in 1961 following ten years of service after he wrote letters to Congressmen asking that the Bureau itself be investigated.

In the letters, he charged that morale was low in the FBI, that it was in the grip of a cult of personality and that it was obsessed with statistics "to the neglect of organized crime."

Turner—who will have three books published shortly—was fired for being a "disruptive influence."



# Picture Parallel

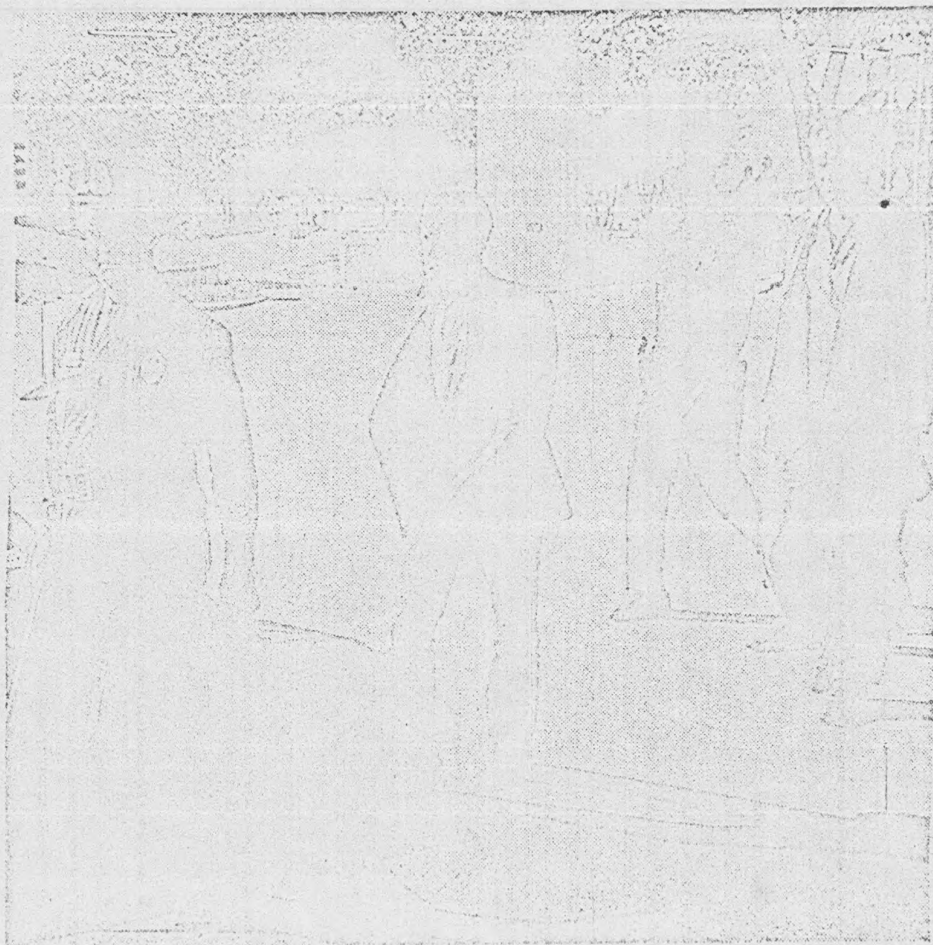


THE DALLAS SUSPECT



THE MEXICAN SKETCH

Ex-FBI agent found the similarities striking



This is the photo taken after the Dealey Plaza arrest in 1963. The "mysterious suspect" is second from left, following the policeman.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: January 14, 1969

FROM : A. Rosen

1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. Rosen  
1 - Mr. Malley  
1 - Mr. Shroder  
1 - Mr. Raupach  
1 - Mr. Bishop  
1 - Mr. Sullivan

SUBJECT: BERNARD FENSTERWALD  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
NATIONAL COMMITTEE  
TO INVESTIGATE ASSASSINATIONS

Fensterwald appeared as a guest on a radio program called, "Sunday Dialogue" featured by radio station WAVA 1/12/69. This was a two-hour show. The first hour Fensterwald was interviewed by the narrator regarding the purpose of the National Committee to Investigate Assassinations and the second hour was answering questions telephonically from the inquiring public.

Fensterwald stated that the Warren Commission report is a "fairy story" and that it is false and one of the biggest "snow jobs" ever done. He said the Committee's office will be located at 927 15th Street, Northwest, Washington, D. C., telephone number 347-3837.

Fensterwald mentioned at present he has no staff but does have a Board of Directors which include Jim Garrison, New Orleans District Attorney, William Turner, former FBI Agent, Fred J. Cook, Paris Flammonde, author and others. He hopes to build an investigative staff through funds obtained from private sources and donations. Thereafter, the staff will conduct necessary investigation into the assassinations of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy, Martin Luther King, and Robert F. Kennedy.

Fensterwald intends to link forces with various individuals around the country namely Jim Garrison, Harold Weisberg, Josiah Thompson and others to form an organization so that a large pool of information relating to the assassinations will be available.

When this information becomes available, it is Fensterwald's intention to force, persuade or embarrass the Government to appoint a new Commission or for Congress to reopen the investigation concerning the assassination of President Kennedy. He contends the truth will come out.

KMR:sds  
(8)

Memo Rosen to DeLoach.  
RE: BERNARD FENSTERWALD

Fensterwald stated he believed there was a definite conspiracy involved in the assassination of President Kennedy and that there was more than one assassin involved. He indicated he doubts very much the Warren Commission's statement that there was no conspiracy involved in the assassination of President Kennedy. Fensterwald wants to have the photographs of President Kennedy's autopsy, currently in the Archives, made available as he believes with others of the group with whom he has become aligned, that shots which were responsible for President Kennedy's death came from the front, rather than from the rear.

Fensterwald briefly discussed his background as being associated with Senator Long's committee on wire tapping and had been involved in investigating the Internal Revenue Service and the Department of Justice. He was asked by the narrator if he intended to investigate the FBI. Fensterwald said he was not "doing an investigation of the FBI as such," however, will have the advantage of having William Turner on the Board of Directors as well as Fred J. Cook, who are knowledgeable about the activities of the FBI and other Government agencies. Fensterwald mentioned Paris Flammonde, whom he described as an author who recently wrote the book "Why President Kennedy Was Killed." Flammonde takes the position in this book that there was a conspiracy involved and analyzes the possibilities of who were involved.

Comments made by Fensterwald regarding the investigation of President Kennedy conducted by the Warren Commission readily revealed that he was not familiar with the full facts or the information contained in the Commission's report. Further he has aligned himself with individuals whom we know to be severe critics of the Warren Commission, the FBI, the CIA and other Government agencies.

He indicated another purpose he has is "to restore some sense of integrity to our Government," as an unsolved murder of a President casts doubt on the Government. Therefore, he will make efforts to bring an honest investigation "by our Government" into the assassination of President Kennedy.

From comments made by Fensterwald and because of the known background of the individuals with whom he is associating, it can be anticipated this group will undoubtedly make unwarranted attacks against the FBI in the future.

ACTION:

This is submitted for information.

"Just a bunch of radicals"  
"H"

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. Bishop *JB*

DATE 1-6-69

FROM : M. A. Jones *✓*

SUBJECT: NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO  
INVESTIGATE ASSASSINATIONS

*Handwritten signatures and initials:*  
Tolson *✓*  
DeLoach *✓*  
Mohr *✓*  
Bishop *✓*  
Casper *✓*  
Callahan *✓*  
Conrad *✓*  
Felt *✓*  
Gale *✓*  
Rosen *✓*  
Sullivan *✓*  
Tavel *✓*  
Trotter *✓*  
Tele. Room *✓*  
Holmes *✓*  
Gandy *✓*

## SYNOPSIS:

*Handwritten:* Brangan, Lennihan, M. P. Jones

UPI release of 1-3-69 announced the formation of National Committee to Investigate Assassinations. Board members of the committee include Bernard Fensterwald; Jim Garrison, New Orleans District Attorney; William Turner, former FBI Agent; Fred J. Cook, author; Richard Sprague, a computer expert; Lloyd Tupling, Washington, D. C.; and Paris Flammonde, author of a book on assassinations, soon to be released. The Director has asked for a memorandum on Fensterwald, Sprague, Tupling and Flammonde.

Fensterwald, former Chief Counsel to Senator Long's committee on wiretapping was subject of applicant-type inquiries conducted by Bureau in 1949 and 1959. The names of Fensterwald's mother and sister appeared on a list of delegates and members in 1942 of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, cited by the House Committee on Un-American Activities. While employed by the State Department in 1956, Fensterwald and his mother traveled to the Soviet Union.

We have had considerable contact with Fensterwald over the past four years as Chief Counsel of the United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary; Subcommittee on Administrative Practice and Procedure (the Long committee). In these contacts Fensterwald has clearly shown he is unscrupulous, untrustworthy and anti-FBI. He frequently sought to involve the FBI in wiretapping probes by Long's committee and in January, 1966, in connection with hearings in San Francisco Fensterwald indicated that ex-Agent William Turner would be one of the witnesses he intended to call in connection with FBI wiretapping. Mr. DeLoach briefed Fensterwald and Senator Long as to Turner's unsavory background. Turner is another board member of the assassination committee.

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. Rosen

SYNOPSIS - CONTINUED OVER

JMM:cmj

(9)

*cmj*



M. A. Jones to Bishop memo  
RE: NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO  
INVESTIGATE ASSASSINATIONS

In December, 1965, it was obvious that Fensterwald had sent information to Fred Cook, longtime FBI critic, for article in "The Nation" by Cook dealing with wiretapping by Government agencies. Cook quoted Fensterwald as stating, "The thing that has impressed me most is the ease with which Federal agents can lie under oath."

Mr. DeLoach maintained close personal liaison with Senator Long regarding his committee hearings and it was necessary on occasion to contact him regarding letters written over Long's signature to the Bureau requesting certain information. One such instance was in December, 1967, regarding FBI contacts with credit unions. Long stated we should ignore the letter and he would instruct Fensterwald to "keep hands off" the FBI. On same occasion Senator Long advised Mr. DeLoach that Fensterwald had "shot off his mouth too much" in connection with two articles in "Life" magazine dealing with Senator Long which allegedly had been "planted" by Bobby Kennedy.

Fensterwald, who will be Executive Director of assassination committee, left his post as Chief Counsel for the Long committee last month, apparently when Long resigned as Senator in order to give his successor seniority when the present Senate went into session.

No information in Bufiles concerning Paris Flammonde.

No pertinent information in Bufiles concerning Lloyd Tupling who may be identical with individual who was on staff of Senator Richard L. Neuberger in 1954.

Richard Sprague may be identical with individual who contacted Senator Robert F. Kennedy's office in early 1968 regarding his theory that more than one individual had fired shots at President Kennedy when he was assassinated. Sprague had reportedly assisted other individuals who share his views and who were otherwise critical of the Warren Commission findings.

From the above lineup, including Garrison and Turner, it is obvious that we can expect anti-FBI sentiments from such a group.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

DETAILS - CONTINUED OVER

M. A. Jones to Bishop memo  
RE: NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO  
INVESTIGATE ASSASSINATIONS

DETAILS:

A UPI release on January 3, 1969, announced the formation of a new National Committee to Investigate Assassinations. According to Bernard Fensterwald, 47, of Arlington, Virginia, a board member, the committee's purpose is "to embarrass or force the Government to make investigations they have been putting off since November 22, 1963." According to Fensterwald, the committee will concentrate on the assassinations of President Kennedy, Senator Robert Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King. In addition to Fensterwald, other members were identified as Jim Garrison, New Orleans District Attorney; William Turner, former FBI Agent; Fred J. Cook, author; Richard Sprague, Hartsdale, New York, a computer expert; Lloyd Tupling, associated with the Sierra Club, Washington, D. C.; and Paris Flammonde, a New York writer who is the author of a book on assassinations, which is soon to be released.

The Director has asked for a memorandum on Fensterwald, Sprague, Tupling and Flammonde.

Bernard Fensterwald: Fensterwald was born on August 2, 1921, at Nashville, Tennessee. He received the B. S. degree from Harvard College in 1942 and the LL. B. degree from Harvard Law School in 1949. He received the M. A. degree in 1950 from the School of Advanced International Studies, Washington, D. C.

Fensterwald was the subject of applicant-type inquiries conducted by the Bureau in 1949 and 1959. While generally favorable, the names of Mr. Fensterwald's mother and sister appeared on a list of delegates and members of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, cited by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, at a meeting held on April 19-21, 1942, at Nashville, Tennessee. Fensterwald and his mother traveled to the Soviet Union in June, 1956, for a three-week vacation visit. At that time, Fensterwald was employed as a lawyer by the United States Department of State.

Fensterwald has been employed on the staffs of a number of Senate committees. In 1953 Fensterwald was employed by the Senate Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights (Henning Committee) and was involved in



M. A. Jones to Bishop memo  
RE: NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO  
INVESTIGATE ASSASSINATIONS

a request to the Bureau from this subcommittee for a list of instances wherein we had furnished information to members of Congress. Senator Henning subsequently advised the Bureau that Fensterwald's requests to the Bureau had been improper. Over the past four years we have had considerable contact with Bernard Fensterwald as Chief Counsel of the United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary; Subcommittee on Administrative Practice and Procedure (the Long Committee). In these contacts with Fensterwald it was clearly evident he was unscrupulous, untrustworthy and anti-FBI. He frequently endeavored to draw the FBI into conflicts around the country by his requests of various telephone companies and other sources who might possibly have information of wiretaps and other technical surveillances by the FBI. In January, 1966, in connection with Fensterwald's hearings in San Francisco he indicated that ex-Agent William Turner would be one of the witnesses he intended to call in connection with the extent of FBI wiretapping. Mr. DeLoach briefed Fensterwald and Senator Long who was present at the time of the discussion with Fensterwald as to Turner's unsavory background. Fensterwald indicated he would take a second look at Turner in view of the information furnished by Mr. DeLoach. (Turner is reportedly another board member of the assassination committee)

"The Nation" magazine in December, 1965, carried an article by Fred J. Cook dealing with wiretapping by Government agencies, including the FBI. It was obvious Cook, a longtime FBI critic, had obtained the information for his article from Fensterwald whom he quoted several times. Typical of many of Fensterwald's utterances in connection with his assignment as Chief Counsel of Senator Long's committee was the statement, in "The Nation" magazine article, "The thing that has impressed me most is the ease with which Federal agents can lie under oath."

Mr. DeLoach maintained close personal liaison with Senator Long concerning the work of the FBI as it might pertain to inquiries conducted by his committee. On occasions letters directed to the FBI requesting certain information were handled orally by Mr. DeLoach with Senator Long who indicated that Fensterwald had prepared the letters. One such instance was in December, 1967, in connection with FBI contacts with credit unions. On that occasion, Senator Long stated we should ignore the letter and he would instruct Fensterwald to "keep hands off" the FBI. On the same occasion

M. A. Jones to Bishop memo  
RE: NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO  
INVESTIGATE ASSASSINATIONS

Senator Long told Mr. DeLoach that Fensterwald has "shot off his mouth too much" in connection with two articles in "Life" magazine dealing with Senator Long which allegedly had been "planted" by Bobby Kennedy. According to the "Washington Post" of 1-3-69, Fensterwald will be the Executive Director of captioned committee. It is noted he left his post as Chief Counsel for the Long committee approximately a week ago, apparently when Long resigned as Senator in order to give his successor seniority when the present Senate went into session. (77-44206)

Paris Flammonde: Bureau files contain no information identifiable with Paris Flammonde.

Lloyd Tupling: During 1954, W. Lloyd Tupling was appointed the Information Officer of the staff of Richard L. Neuberger, Democratic Senator of Oregon. One Lloyd Tupling, University News Bureau, Eugene, Oregon, was listed as a member of the "Society of America's Friends of the Mexican People" as of 8-13-38. This group is no longer in existence and was not investigated by the FBI, although indications were that the group was sympathetic to the communist cause. During May, 1950, one Lloyd Tupling was the publisher of "The State-Wide Newspaper," a weekly published in Boise, Idaho. (100-179915-23)

Richard Sprague: In a Rosen to Mr. DeLoach memo dated 3-26-68, captioned "Assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy, 11-23-63, Dallas, Texas," it was noted that Richard E. Sprague had written to Joseph F. Dolan, Administrative Assistant to Senator Robert F. Kennedy, enclosing a number of photographs taken at the assassination site, and also stating that he was a proponent of the theory that more than one individual was firing shots at President Kennedy when he was assassinated. Bureau, Dallas and New York files contained no information on Sprague at that time, and New York was instructed to conduct a credit and criminal inquiry on him in an attempt to identify him, and these checks were negative.

A review was made of books written by critics of the Warren Commission to determine if Sprague might have collaborated with them. In Josiah Thompson's book, "Six Seconds in Dallas," he acknowledges assistance from one "Richard Sprague" not further identified. Sylvia Meagher, author of "Accessories After the Fact," a severe critique of the Warren Commission,

M. A. Jones to Bishop memo  
RE: NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO  
INVESTIGATE ASSASSINATIONS

FBI, CIA, Secret Service, and Dallas Police Department, acknowledges the assistance of Richard E. Sprague stating, "I am grateful to Richard E. Sprague for making available a list compiled by him of photographs and films which seem to have been overlooked entirely by the Warren Commission and these investigative agencies."

Sprague wrote us on 7-9-68 along the same vein he had written Mr. Dolan, indicating he had important photographs of the assassination which should be reviewed by us, and also enclosed a research monograph relating to the assassination of President Kennedy. By letter of 7-18-68, we advised Mr. Sprague that the information in his monograph, as well as the photographs, were previously furnished the Bureau by the office of former Senator Robert F. Kennedy. Our files reveal no additional pertinent data concerning Sprague. (62-109060-6520)

Tolson ☒  
 DeLoach ☒  
 Mohr ☒  
 Bishop ☒  
 Casper ☒  
 Callahan ☒  
 Conrad ☒  
 Felt ☒  
 Gale ☒  
 Rosen ☒  
 Sullivan ☒  
 Tavel ☒  
 Trotter ☒  
 Tele. Room ☒  
 Holmes ☒  
 Gandy ☒

*M.A. Jones*

UPI-108

(JFK)

WASHINGTON--NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT ATTORNEY JIM GARRISON IS ONE OF SEVEN BOARD MEMBERS OF A NEW NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ASSASSINATIONS WHICH IS BEING FORMED HERE. BERNARD FENSTERWALD, 47, OF ARLINGTON, VA., ANOTHER BOARD MEMBER, SAID THE COMMITTEE'S PURPOSE IS "TO EMBARRASS OR FORCE THE GOVERNMENT TO MAKE INVESTIGATIONS THEY HAVE BEEN PUTTING OFF SINCE NOV. 22, 1963."

THAT WAS THE DATE OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION IN DALLAS. FENSTERWALD, WHO SAID HE WAS SETTING UP AN OFFICE WHICH WOULD OPEN IN A WEEK, LEFT THE SENATE EARLIER THIS WEEK AFTER 12 YEARS AS COUNSEL FOR SEVERAL COMMITTEES.

"THE COMMITTEE WILL CONCENTRATE ON THE THREE BEST KNOWN ASSASSINATIONS -- PRESIDENT KENNEDY, SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY AND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING -- BUT WILL LEAVE ITS OPTIONS OPEN ON SOME OTHER RATHER MYSTERIOUS DEATHS," HE SAID.

"OUR POSITION IS THERE WAS A CONSPIRACY IN DALLAS, THERE WERE STRONG FOOTPRINTS OF A CONSPIRACY IN MEMPHIS WHERE DR. KING WAS SHOT AND NOBODY REALLY KNOWS MUCH ABOUT WHAT WENT ON IN LOS ANGELES (WHERE SENATOR KENNEDY WAS SLAIN) BUT WE INTEND TO LOOK."

HE SAID THE COMMITTEE HOPED TO FIND PRIVATE FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO HIRE A PROFESSIONAL STAFF FOR ITS INVESTIGATIONS.

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS, SAID FENSTERWALD, INCLUDE BILL TURNER OF SAN FRANCISCO, A FORMER FBI AGENT; RICHARD SPRAGUE OF HARTSDALE, N.Y., A COMPUTER EXPERT; FRED J. COOK, ENGLEWOOD, N.J., AUTHOR; LLOYD TUPLING, ASSOCIATED WITH THE SIERRA CLUB HERE, AND PARIS FLAMMONDE, A NEW YORK WRITER WHO WILL HAVE A BOOK OUT NEXT WEEK ON ASSASSINATIONS. EIGHT MORE BOARD MEMBERS WILL BE NAMED LATER, FENSTERWALD SAID.

1/3--GE158P

*ack. 1-6-69  
 m. Jones  
 Jimm: cony*

*Let me have memo on Fensterwald,  
 Sprague, Tupling & Flammonde.*

*H* *0*

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: January 12, 1969

FROM : R. I. Shroder

SUBJECT: RADIO BROADCAST BY BERNARD  
FENSTERWALD, CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL  
COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ASSASSINA-  
TIONS, SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 1969  
(RADIO STATION WAVA)  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

1 - Mr. Rosen  
1 - Mr. Malley  
1 - Mr. Shroder  
① - Mr. Raupach  
1 - Mr. Deily  
1 - Mr. Bishop  
1 - Mr. Sullivan  
1 - Mr. Swartz, Room 7114

At 10:55 a. m., 1-12-69, Mr. John R. Norpel, employed by the United States Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, called to advise that captioned individual will appear on a radio program on Radio Station WAVA from 2:00 p. m. to 4:00 p. m., Sunday, 1-12-69. Norpel advised he felt the Bureau would have an interest in the broadcast.

The captioned committee includes among its members District Attorney James Garrison of New Orleans, former Special Agent William Turner, authors Fred J. Cook and Paris Flammonde, Richard Sprague and Lloyd Tupling.

Supervisor K. M. Raupach was advised of the above information and arrangements were made for taping of the program by Special Agent W. G. Stevens of the Laboratory.

ACTION: For information.

RJD:erg *erg*  
(9)

Mr. Bishop

1-6-69

M. A. Jones

**NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO  
INVESTIGATE ASSASSINATIONS**

**SYNOPSIS:**

UPI release of 1-3-69 announced the formation of National Committee to Investigate Assassinations. Board members of the committee include Bernard Fensterwald; Jim Garrison, New Orleans District Attorney; William Turner, former FBI Agent; Fred J. Cook, author; Richard Sprague, a computer expert; Lloyd Tupling, Washington, D. C.; and Paris Flammonde, author of a book on assassinations, soon to be released. The Director has asked for a memorandum on Fensterwald, Sprague, Tupling and Flammonde.

Fensterwald, former Chief Counsel to Senator Long's committee on wiretapping was subject of applicant-type inquiries conducted by Bureau in 1949 and 1959. The names of Fensterwald's mother and sister appeared on a list of delegates and members in 1942 of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, cited by the House Committee on Un-American Activities. While employed by the State Department in 1956, Fensterwald and his mother traveled to the Soviet Union.

We have had considerable contact with Fensterwald over the past four years as Chief Counsel of the United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary; Subcommittee on Administrative Practice and Procedure (the Long committee). In these contacts Fensterwald has clearly shown he is unscrupulous, untrustworthy and anti-FBI. He frequently sought to involve the FBI in wiretapping probes by Long's committee and in January, 1966, in connection with hearings in San Francisco Fensterwald indicated that ex-Agent William Turner would be one of the witnesses he intended to call in connection with FBI wiretapping. Mr. DeLoach briefed Fensterwald and Senator Long as to Turner's unsavory background. Turner is another board member of the assassination committee.

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. Rosen

JML:cmj  
(5)

**SYNOPSIS- CONTINUED OVER**

M. A. Jones to Bishop memo  
RE: NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO  
INVESTIGATE ASSASSINATIONS

In December, 1965, it was obvious that Fensterwald had sent information to Fred Cook, longtime FBI critic, for article in "The Nation" by Cook dealing with wiretapping by Government agencies. Cook quoted Fensterwald as stating, "The thing that has impressed me most is the ease with which Federal agents can lie under oath."

Mr. DeLoach maintained close personal liaison with Senator Long regarding his committee hearings and it was necessary on occasion to contact him regarding letters written over Long's signature to the Bureau requesting certain information. One such instance was in December, 1967, regarding FBI contacts with credit unions. Long stated we should ignore the letter and he would instruct Fensterwald to "keep hands off" the FBI. On same occasion Senator Long advised Mr. DeLoach that Fensterwald had "shot off his mouth too much" in connection with two articles in "Life" magazine dealing with Senator Long which allegedly had been "planted" by Bobby Kennedy.

Fensterwald, who will be Executive Director of assassination committee, left his post as Chief Counsel for the Long committee last month, apparently when Long resigned as Senator in order to give his successor seniority when the present Senate went into session.

No information in Bufiles concerning Paris Piammonde.

No pertinent information in Bufiles concerning Lloyd Tupling who may be identical with individual who was on staff of Senator Richard L. Neuberger in 1954.

Richard Sprague may be identical with individual who contacted Senator Robert F. Kennedy's office in early 1968 regarding his theory that more than one individual had fired shots at President Kennedy when he was assassinated. Sprague had reportedly assisted other individuals who share his views and who were otherwise critical of the Warren Commission findings.

From the above lineup, including Garrison and Turner, it is obvious that we can expect anti-FBI sentiments from such a group.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

DETAILS - CONTINUED OVER



M. A. Jones to Bishop memo  
RE: NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO  
INVESTIGATE ASSASSINATIONS

DETAILS:

A UPI release on January 3, 1969, announced the formation of a new National Committee to Investigate Assassinations. According to Bernard Fensterwald, 47, of Arlington, Virginia, a board member, the committee's purpose is "to embarrass or force the Government to make investigations they have been putting off since November 22, 1963." According to Fensterwald, the committee will concentrate on the assassinations of President Kennedy, Senator Robert Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King. In addition to Fensterwald, other members were identified as Jim Garrison, New Orleans District Attorney; William Turner, former FBI Agent; Fred J. Cook, author; Richard Sprague, Hartsdale, New York, a computer expert; Lloyd Tupling, associated with the Sierras Club, Washington, D. C.; and Paris Flammonde, a New York writer who is the author of a book on assassinations, which is soon to be released.

The Director has asked for a memorandum on Fensterwald, Sprague, Tupling and Flammonde.

Bernard Fensterwald: Fensterwald was born on August 2, 1921, at Nashville, Tennessee. He received the B. S. degree from Harvard College in 1942 and the LL. B. degree from Harvard Law School in 1949. He received the M. A. degree in 1950 from the School of Advanced International Studies, Washington, D. C.

Fensterwald was the subject of applicant-type inquiries conducted by the Bureau in 1949 and 1959. While generally favorable, the names of Mr. Fensterwald's mother and sister appeared on a list of delegates and members of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, cited by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, at a meeting held on April 19-21, 1942, at Nashville, Tennessee. Fensterwald and his mother traveled to the Soviet Union in June, 1956, for a three-week vacation visit. At that time, Fensterwald was employed as a lawyer by the United States Department of State.

Fensterwald has been employed on the staffs of a number of Senate committees. In 1959 Fensterwald was employed by the Senate Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights (Honning Committee) and was involved in

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a request to the Bureau from this subcommittee for a list of instances wherein we had furnished information to members of Congress. Senator Kenning subsequently advised the Bureau that Fensterwald's requests to the Bureau had been improper. Over the past four years we have had considerable contact with Bernard Fensterwald as Chief Counsel of the United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary; Subcommittee on Administrative Practice and Procedure (the Long Committee). In these contacts with Fensterwald it was clearly evident he was unscrupulous, untrustworthy and anti-FBI. He frequently endeavored to draw the FBI into conflicts around the country by his requests of various telephone companies and other sources who might possibly have information of wiretaps and other technical surveillances by the FBI. In January, 1966, in connection with Fensterwald's hearings in San Francisco he indicated that ex-Agent William Turner would be one of the witnesses he intended to call in connection with the extent of FBI wiretapping. Mr. DeLoach briefed Fensterwald and Senator Long who was present at the time of the discussion with Fensterwald as to Turner's unsavory background. Fensterwald indicated he would take a second look at Turner in view of the information furnished by Mr. DeLoach. (Turner is reportedly another board member of the assassination committee)

"The Nation" magazine in December, 1965, carried an article by Fred J. Cook dealing with wiretapping by Government agencies, including the FBI. It was obvious Cook, a longtime FBI critic, had obtained the information for his article from Fensterwald whom he quoted several times. Typical of many of Fensterwald's utterances in connection with his assignment as Chief Counsel of Senator Long's committee was the statement, in "The Nation" magazine article, "The thing that has impressed me most is the ease with which Federal agents can lie under oath."

Mr. DeLoach maintained close personal liaison with Senator Long concerning the work of the FBI as it might pertain to inquiries conducted by his committee. On occasions letters directed to the FBI requesting certain information were handled orally by Mr. DeLoach with Senator Long who indicated that Fensterwald had prepared the letters. One such instance was in December, 1967, in connection with FBI contacts with credit unions. On that occasion, Senator Long stated we should ignore the letter and he would instruct Fensterwald to "keep hands off" the FBI. On the same occasion

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Senator Long told Mr. DeLoach that Fensterwald has "shot off his mouth too much" in connection with two articles in "Life" magazine dealing with Senator Long which allegedly had been "planted" by Bobby Kennedy. According to the "Washington Post" of 1-3-69, Fensterwald will be the Executive Director of captioned committee. It is noted he left his post as Chief Counsel for the Long committee approximately a week ago, apparently when Long resigned as Senator in order to give his successor seniority when the present Senate went into session.

Paris Flammonde: Bureau files contain no information identifiable with Paris Flammonde.

Lloyd Tupling: During 1964, W. Lloyd Tupling was appointed the Information Officer of the staff of Richard L. Neuberger, Democratic Senator of Oregon. One Lloyd Tupling, University News Bureau, Eugene, Oregon, was listed as a member of the "Society of America's Friends of the Mexican People" as of 9-15-63. This group is no longer in existence and was not investigated by the FBI, although indications were that the group was sympathetic to the communist cause. During May, 1960, one Lloyd Tupling was the publisher of "The State-Wide Newspaper," a weekly published in Boise, Idaho. (100-179915-23)

Richard Sprague: In a Rosen to Mr. DeLoach memo dated 8-26-68, captioned "Assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy, 11-23-63, Dallas, Texas," it was noted that Richard E. Sprague had written to Joseph F. Dolan, Administrative Assistant to Senator Robert F. Kennedy, enclosing a number of photographs taken at the assassination site, and also stating that he was a proponent of the theory that more than one individual was firing shots at President Kennedy when he was assassinated. Bureau, Dallas and New York files contained no information on Sprague at that time, and New York was instructed to conduct a credit and criminal inquiry on him in an attempt to identify him, and these checks were negative.

A review was made of books written by critics of the Warren Commission to determine if Sprague might have collaborated with them. In Josiah Thompson's book, "Six Seconds in Dallas," he acknowledges assistance from one "Richard Sprague" not further identified. Sylvia Meagher, author of "Accessories After the Fact," a severe critique of the Warren Commission,

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FBI, CIA, Secret Service, and Dallas Police Department, acknowledges the assistance of Richard E. Sprague stating, "I am grateful to Richard E. Sprague for making available a list compiled by him of photographs and films which seem to have been overlooked entirely by the Warren Commission and these investigative agencies."

Sprague wrote us on 7-9-68 along the same vein he had written Mr. Dolan, indicating he had important photographs of the assassination which should be reviewed by us, and also enclosed a research monograph relating to the assassination of President Kennedy. By letter of 7-13-68, we advised Mr. Sprague that the information in his monograph, as well as the photographs, were previously furnished the Bureau by the office of former Senator Robert F. Kennedy. Our files reveal no additional pertinent data concerning Sprague. (62-109950-6520)