

Pendaflex

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FBI - CENTRAL RECORDS CENTER

HQ - HEADQUARTERS PART 4 OF 4 BULKY PART 1 AND 2

Class / Case #	Sub	Vol	Serial #
0190 709		4	231 ONLY

8/19/352660



RRP00AUS8Q

190-HQ-709-231

BULKY
231-CNL

4 of 4



RRP00AUS8Q

160

MURKIN MEMOS VOL. V

☒ XEROX *Seeless Murkin Memo Vol. II*

9-1/23
☒ REVIEWED *1/9/77 jmn*

☒ EXCISED & XEROXED *DOO 7-19-77*

☐ OTHER _____

☒ COMPLETED

7-31-68
9-25-68

DID NOT GO
WE SENT THIS INFO
UP Before

MURKIN
MEMO

Folder

Mr. DeLoach

A. Rosen

MURKIN

September 25, 1968

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

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

The sheriff of Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee, made available to us the following correspondence (letters) of James Earl Ray. It was made available to us on a confidential basis, not to be disclosed outside the Bureau. Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., who is handling the state's prosecution is aware of the correspondence.

1. To : Arthur Hanes (attorney for Ray)
From : James Earl Ray
Date : October 18, 1968 (probably meant to be September 18, 1968)
Substance : Ray desires more than one legal opinion before agreeing to a proposition (unknown) of Hanes and stating he thinks William Bradford Huie (author who is writing a book about Ray) misunderstood him.
2. To : J. B. Stoner (vice-president of National States Rights Party)
From : James Earl Ray
Date : September 18, 1968
Substance : Advising Stoner he will reimburse him for expense of coming to Memphis.
3. To : Jerry Ray (brother of James Earl Ray)
From : James Earl Ray
Date : September 18, 1968
Substance : Subject Ray wants Jerry to contact J. B. Stoner to come to see him and he wants Jerry to contact Percy Foreman (criminal trial lawyer from Houston, Texas) about James Earl Ray taking the witness stand.

Enclosure

REL:jms
(6)

CONTINUED - OVER

Rosen to DeLoach memorandum
RE: MURKIN

4. To : Michael Eugene (attorney in London for subject Ray)
From : James Earl Ray
Date : September 20, 1968
Substance : Attempting to obtain a transcript of the entire extradition proceedings, at suggestion of his attorney Hanes.
5. To : Jerry Ray (brother of James Earl Ray)
From : James Earl Ray
Date : September 20, 1968
Substance : Subject Ray wants Jerry to contact the London attorney, inquiring if Jerry talked to attorney Percy Foreman and J. B. Stoner.
6. To : James Earl Ray
From : Jerry Ray (brother of James Earl Ray)
Date : September 17, 1968
Substance : Advising he has not talked to Hanes or Stoner lately and Hanes previously mentioned he wanted to talk to some of Rays relatives.

ACTION:

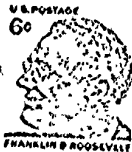
For your information, you will be advised of pertinent developments. Attached are these letters for inspection.

10-18-68

Dear Mr. Hones;

I have been thinking a lot of what you said yesterday, most especially about tactics. We come to the conclusion that this is an important matter as least from my position. Therefore before I agree to this I think I should have more than one legal opinion, therefore I have written my father and ask his assistance on this matter. I don't think the opinion will give me but one chance on this. In the meantime I am writing everything down. I will get your opinion on these different matters when you come up.

JAMES RAY
MEMPHIS, TENN
COUNTY JAIL.



SPECIAL DELIVERY

To. Mr. Arthur Hones, attorney.
617 Frank Nelson Bldg.
Birmingham, Alabama.

also I forgot to tell you
but there was two mistakes
in that story ~~which~~ ^{one} important
I will talk to you about there
when you come up.

Sincerely,

James E. Ray

P.S. I THINK HOIE HAS MISUNDERSTOOD
THE MALTZ^{THING} WHILE THINKING ON
IT, AND IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT
TO CORRECT IT BEFORE ITS SENT IN.

10-18-68

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I have been thinking a lot of what you said yesterday, most especially about tactics. We come to the conclusion that this is an important matter as least from my position. Therefore before I agree to this I think I should have more than one legal opinion, therefore I have written my father and ask his assistance on this matter. I don't think the opinion will give me but one chance on this. In the meantime I am writing everything down. I will get your opinion on these different matters when you come up.

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MEMPHIS, TENN
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9-18-68

Dear Sir:

I will just write a few lines,
I wrote you a few days ago but
I guess you have been too busy on
the other case to reply.

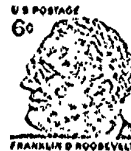
The reason I am writing you again
is not only in regards to the libel
case but on other matters relating
to my case as well, which will
help to be settled shortly.

I will reimburse you for what
the expense of coming up here is to you.

Sincerely

James E. Ray

JAMES RAY
MEMPHIS, TENN.
COUNTY JAIL,



SPECIAL DELIVERY
AIR MAIL

To: Mr. J. B. Stoner,
attorney at law
P.O. Box - 6263
Savannah, Georgia, 31405

9-18-68

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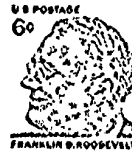
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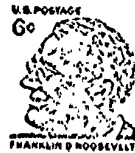
SPECIAL DELIVERY
AIR MAIL

To, Mr. J. B. Stoner,
attorney at law
P.O. Box - 6263
Savannah, Georgia, 31405

Dear Jerry,

Sept 18-1968

I will just write a few lines
to let you know everything is
O.K. Att. Home was here today.
That lawyer from Swornnah Design
hasn't got up here yet. I don't know
if he is busy or not. What I want
you to do is call him again and
ask him how soon he can get up to
see me. I wrote him but haven't heard
from him, it's possible he might be busy
to come. His name is T.B. STONER
PHONE 355 4271 - SAVANNAH, GA. Tell
him if he can't get up write and let
me know, also you write right
back & let me know what
he said in case he forgets to write.
Over.



To. Mr. Jerry Ray
1902 Cherokee
St. Louis, Missouri

SPECIAL DELIVERY

also ask Jack or you to
talk to Percy Foreman again
and get his opinion on my trial
especially about taking the witness
stand. I'm not just sure yet
what I am going to do but will
decide within a week or 10 days
so if you can find out this
info, and write ~~straight~~ back
what I am trying to do is
get advice from more than
one attorney on this case,
thx. It easy.

Jimmy

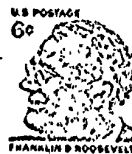
P.S. Also tell Stoner I will
pay him for coming up.

ask Foreman about seeing me also,
Jack knows his address, ask him please to come up.

Dear Jerry,

Sept 18-1968

I will just write a few lines
to let you know everything is
O.K. at home was here today.
That leper from Savannah Georgia
hasn't got up here yet. I don't know
if he is busy or not. What I want
you to do is call him again and
ask him how soon he can get up to
see me. I wrote him but hasn't heard
from him, it possible he needs history
to come. His name is T.B. STONER
PHONE 355 4271 - SAVANNAH, GA. Tell
him if he can't get up write and let
me know, also you write right
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what I am trying to do is
get advice from more than
one attorney on this case,
take it easy,

Jimmy

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9-20-68

Dear Mr. Eugene;

I would appreciate it very much if you would write me and give me some information on how to acquire the transcript of the extradition proceeding against me in England and any other legal papers involving my hearings.

1. could you send me the price of the trial transcript.

2. Do you still have those papers that we reviewed and if so what would be the price for duplicate copies.

3. are these the ones you sent Mr. Hones?

Mr. Hones suggested I write you as there is some conflict of what you sent him.

MY ADDRESS ON ENVELOPE.

Sincerely, James E. Ray.

LONDON NAME, R.G. SNEYD

JAMES RAY
SHELBY COUNTS TRAIL
MEMPHIS, TENN.
U.S.A.

TO, MICHAEL DRESDEN
SOLICITOR COMPANY.
132 TAVISTOCK.
LONDON, ENGLAND.

AIR MAIL

TO, MR. MICHAEL EUGENE,

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The name of the law company is
MICHAEL DRESDEN CO.
SOLICITORS



To. Mr. Jerry Ray.

1902 Cherokee.

St. Louis, Missouri.

63118.

If you have already talked to
Pres. Foreman it all right, but if you
haven't hold up a few days until
we see what Stoner says.

On like I say if you can't get the
English attorney don't worry about it
as I have wrote him and I
think he will answer but I thought
I would have you call in case he
don't answer me back, But write right
Back if you do contact him...

132 TAVISTOCK.

LONDON ENGLAND.

THE MAN TO ASK AND TALK TO. 103
WHEN YOU GET THE NUMBER IS.

MR. MICHAEL EUGENE

You can probably get the phone.
from the British consul in St. Louis.
Write back & let me know what
he says. But don't get too
much bother about it. Tell
Jack & Everybody to take it easy.

Jimmy

P.S. ENGLAND IS ON DIFFERENT
TIME THAN THE U.S.A. SO SEE
WHEN IT'S WORKING HOURS THEIR
ALSO IF T. BONE EVER GOES TO FULTON COME & SEE ME,

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Sept 17, 68

Dear Jimmy:

I received your letter last week and would have answered it right back but I didn't know if I were going to stay in St. Louis or not. I thought about going up to Quincy and work for a few weeks. I think I'll just stay around St. Louis until your trial starts. If everything goes as planned Jack and I will be at your trial, I imagine it will last for quite awhile. I haven't learned anything new since I wrote to you last as I haven't talked to Haines or Stoner since Jack & Carol are away. Hones never did send me that contract you were telling me about concerning the boat. If anything comes up where you won't be see me about something just let me know and all done down.

OVER.

AFTER 5 DAYS RETURN TO

JERRY RAY
1902 CHEROKEE
ST. LOUIS, MO.
ZIP CODE 63118



VIA AIR MAIL

Mr James E. Ray
Shelby County Jail
Memphis, Tenn.

2.

Paines mentioned the last time I talked to him that he would like to talk to Carol, Jack & Al. Jack & Al could meet him in Memphis on one of his visits to you. He would have to let us know when, but if he talks to Carol he will have to come to St. Louis.

I guess all close for now.
as ever
Brother

Jimmy Ray.

P.S. Let me know when and if anything new develops concerning the case.

sept 17/68

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VIA AIR MAIL

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Haines mentioned the last time I talked to him that he would like to talk to Carol Jacobson. Jacobson could meet him in Memphis on one of his visits to you. He would have to let us know when, but if he talks to Carol he will have to come to St. Louis.

I guess all close for now
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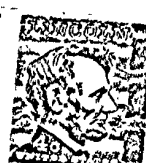
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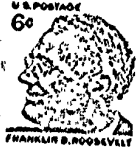
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MEMPHIS, TENN
COUNTY, TENN.



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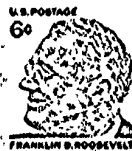
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MEMPHIS, TENN.
COUNTY JAIL.



SPECIAL DELIVERY
AIR MAIL

To, Mrs. J. B. Stoner,
attorney at law
P.O. Box - 6263
Savannah, Georgia, 31405

Dear Jerry,

Sept 18-1968

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O.K. Att. Home was here today.
That lawyer from Savannah Georgia
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see me. I wrote him but haven't heard
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to come. His name is T.B. STONER
PHONE 355 4271 - SAVANNAH, GA. Tell
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SPECIAL DELIVERY

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keep it easy,

Jimmy

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Jack knows his address, ask him please to come up.

9-24

MR. I. W. CONRAD

W. D. GRIFFITH

MURKIN

*Murkin
Memo
Fol 8/24/68*

Long

Today Special Agent Joseph Hester, Memphis Division, called to advise that pursuant to prior arrangements made with the Bureau, three representatives of the Attorney General's office in Memphis will be arriving tomorrow (Wednesday, September 25) to examine the evidence being held in the Laboratory in this case. The three men are:

Robert K. Dwyer - special assistant to the District Attorney;

James Beasley - assistant district attorney; and,

John Carlyle - investigator for the District Attorney's office.

The precise itinerary of these gentlemen is unknown at this time but it is expected they will arrive at approximately noon, tomorrow, Wed., Sept. 25.

I advised SA Hester to have the representatives of the District Attorney's office contact your (Mr. Conrad's) office telephonically upon arrival and to proceed to the Justice Building and come to room 7621.

SA Hester stated that after the evidence has been reviewed, the three visitors intend to return to Memphis.

Memphis is confirming these arrangements by teletype.

RECOMMENDATION:

None - for information.

1 - Mr. Mohr
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Trotter
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Griffith
Mr. Jevons

WDG:mr

(9)

44-38861

9-23

September 25, 1968
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

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

The attached relates to information furnished to us on a confidential basis, and should not be disclosed outside this Bureau. Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Tennessee, who is handling the state's prosecution is aware of the contents in the attached.

J. B. Stoner is no doubt identical to Jesse B. Stoner, Vice-chairman of the National States Rights Party (a vicious anti-Semitic, anti-Negro, right wing hate group based in Savannah, Georgia.)

FBI

Date: 9-23-68

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

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

MURKIN

On this date, Sheriff WILLIAM N. MORRIS, JR. advised that he received information that J. B. STONER, Attorney, had been in correspondence with JAMES EARL RAY. The nature of the correspondence was to the effect that J. B. STONER volunteered his services at no cost to JAMES EARL RAY and indicated that he would arrive in Memphis on Wednesday, 9/25/68, to meet with JAMES EARL RAY.

Sheriff MORRIS was of the opinion that JAMES EARL RAY was losing interest in ARTHUR HANES, his present attorney, and might conceivably let STONER defend him in the forthcoming trial. Sheriff MORRIS also advised that he had picked up information indicating that JAMES EARL RAY at the present time was desirous of taking the stand on his own behalf when the trial occurs in Memphis. Sheriff MORRIS also stated that the current attorney, ARTHUR HANES, does not want his client JAMES EARL RAY to testify.

Bureau will be kept advised of additional developments as they occur.

- ③ BUREAU
1 ATLANTA (INFO) (AM)
1 BIRMINGHAM (INFO) (AM)
1 MEMPHIS

RGJ:BN
(6)

C. C. Bishop

17 SEP 25 1968

Approved: R. C. Bishop
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per SIX

920

September 20, 1968

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

1 - Mr. Long
1 - Mr. Conrad
1 - Mr. Trotter

To: SAC, MEMPHIS

From: DIRECTOR, FBI

MURKIN

YOU SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CONTACT MR. PHIL M. CANALE, JR., STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL, SHELBY COUNTY, MEMPHIS AND ADVISE HIM HE AND/OR HIS REPRESENTATIVES MAY PROCEED TO OUR LABORATORY IN WASHINGTON, D. C. FOR REVIEW OF THE EVIDENCE IN BUREAU'S POSSESSION. HE SHOULD PROVIDE US WITH SUFFICIENT NOTIFICATION AS TO HIS DATE OF ARRIVAL. YOU SHOULD ADVISE THE BUREAU AS TO THE IDENTITY OF THE RESPECTIVE FIELD OFFICES THAT MR. CANALE PLANS TO HOLD PRETRIAL CONFERENCES WITH AGENTS AND WITNESS IN ORDER THAT SACs WILL HAVE SUFFICIENT NOTICE TO ARRANGE THEIR PERSONAL ATTENDANCE IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE BUREAU'S INTEREST.

REL:mjd
(5)

NOTE: See Rosen to DeLoach memo, 9/19/68, captioned "MURKIN,"
REL:jms.

9-19

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

MURKIN

MEMO
FOLDER

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

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: September 19, 1968

FROM : A. Rosen

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. McGowan
- ① - Mr. Long
- 1 - Mr. Conrad
- 1 - Mr. Trotter

SUBJECT: MURKIN

SYNOPSIS:

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr. Evidence recovered by Memphis authorities returned to them. Evidence recovered by Bureau, including the 1966 Mustang vehicle and documents, retained by Bureau in view of outstanding Federal charge against James Earl Ray. Department does not desire to dismiss charge at this time. In view of scheduled state trial of Ray in Memphis on November 12, 1968, disposition of evidence recovered by Bureau discussed with Department. Department advises 1966 Mustang should be turned over to Memphis authorities, and we should retain all other evidence in view of outstanding Federal charge. The Department further advised in connection with future court action, if Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., who is handling state prosecution, should make a request for any particular piece of evidence retained by the Bureau, such items should be made available to him. Conference held with Mr. Canale and other representatives of his office and they recommend their representatives meet with our Laboratory examiners to review the evidence in our possession and in selecting those items which will be most advantageous to introduce at time of trial. Mr. Canale plans to hold pretrial conferences in the field with all witnesses including FBI Agents. When this is firmed up instructions will be issued to SACs to personally attend to protect Bureau's interest.

ACTION:

1. Laboratory being advised of conference with Mr. Canale and review and selection of evidence to be used for trial.

2. Attached for approval are a teletype to Memphis and Atlanta instructing the 1966 Mustang be released to Mr. Canale and a letter to the Department confirming the conversation concerning disposition of the evidence.

Enclosures
REL:jms
(8)

CONTINUED - OVER

Rosen to DeLoach Memorandum
RE: MURKIN

BACKGROUND:

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

At the specific instructions of the Director the evidence recovered by the Memphis Police Department at the scene of the assassination in Memphis was returned to them after our Laboratory examination. The report of our Laboratory findings was also transmitted to the Memphis Police Department.

Evidence recovered by the Bureau has been retained in our Laboratory in view of the outstanding Federal charge, namely, the Civil Rights conspiracy charge against subject Ray. The evidence we have recovered includes the 1965 Mustang automobile, maps, bed sheets, a television set, various items of food, and personal articles of clothing. It is noted that a latent fingerprint was located on a map which matched Ray's fingerprints and hairs and fibers located in the articles of clothing compared favorable with those located in the evidence at the scene of the assassination.

We also have in our possession documents which include the handwriting, hand printing, and typewriting identified as being prepared by Ray. We are continually comparing new documents with those we are retaining. For example, on August 23, 1968, we learned that subject Ray was employed by a restaurant in Winnetka, Illinois, during May and June, 1967. The documents relating to Ray's employment were obtained and forwarded to the Laboratory for examination purposes and identifications were made.

We have raised the question with the Department as to whether or not the complaint filed against James Earl Ray should be dismissed. The Department has advised that in their view it would not be appropriate to dismiss the complaint at this time as the conspiracy investigation is still underway. The Department further advised that after investigation has been completed, they would want to review the facts to determine whether or not Federal prosecution of Ray or other persons might be appropriate.

In view of the scheduled state trial of James Earl Ray in Memphis, Tennessee, on November 12, 1968, we discussed with the Department the disposition of evidence recovered by the Bureau. As a result thereof, the Department has advised that the 1965 Mustang automobile recovered in Atlanta should be turned over to the Memphis authorities; however, all other evidence which we recovered, including the documents, should be maintained in our possession in view of the outstanding Federal charge and our continuing investigation. The Department further advised they