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| Sub | oject: | MURKIN | |
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| AC | TION | UACB: No further action being taken and LHM enclosed Copy furnished to USA LHM being submitted Report being submitted Preliminary investigation instituted Limited investigation instituted | , EDPa. |
| Approved | d: | Special Agent in Charge | |

PH 44-1368

WF 1928-PRI advised 1/14/68 that Reverend JAMES BEVEL at an SCLC meeting recently held at Frogmore, S. C., wanted the Reverend RALPH ABERNATHY of SCLC to step down in favor of the Reverend JESSE JACKSON. WF 1928-PRI also said BEVEL was returning to Philadelphia to create a furor in the next four to six months.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania January 21, 1969

JAMES EARL RAY; DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM

Philadelphia news media on January 19, 1969, carried information that the Reverend JAMES BEVEL, Southern Christian Leadership Council of Philadelphia, Pa., sent a telegram to JAMES EARL RAY stating RAY did not kill Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING and BEVEL, who was present at KING's death, offered to testify in RAY's behalf.

On January 19, 1969, BEVEL appeared on WCAU-TV, Philadelphia, special news program during the half-time of the National Football League All-Star Game, stating that he had evidence that JAMES EARL RAY did not kill MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BEVEL refused to divulge his evidentiary information but offered to defend RAY in court though he (BEVEL) was not a licensed attorney, but was learned in the law and had had much experience in defending cases in the courts. BEVEL said he analized all the facts and concluded RAY was not guilty.

BEVEL said he was speaking for his friends in SCLC including the Reverend RALPH ABERNATHY.

The television interview said that an unnamed official of the SCLC in Atlanta, Ga., had told WCAU-TV that BEVEL has been under pressure and was speaking for himself,

The following is a verbatim tape transcription of the KYW Television news, 11 p.m., January 19, 1969:

Eleven o'clock report in color with BERT ROSELL and the eyewitness news team.

ROSELL: Good evening. There is a bizarre twist of events today in the case of JAMES EARL RAY.
RAY is accused of killing Dr. MARTIN
LUTHER KING, JR., and goes on trial in Memphis, Tenn.,
March 3. The Reverend JAMES BEVEL is Director of Non-violent

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Education and Direction Action for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). He was with KING when the civil rights leader was gunned down. BEVEL says that RAY is innocent and has offered to serve as RAY's attorney, free of charge. I talked to BEVEL this afternoon at his Philadelphia headquarters.

ROSELL:

Reverend, how do you know that he is not

guilty?

BEVEL:

Well, in terms of gathering evidence, being present, studying the whole problem of men being murdered, how it is done, from all the logical conclusion and evidence that I have gathered my conclusion, based on the knowledge, in terms we built it to experience, knowledge to the sense that the five senses and even the sixth sense, my conclusion is that JAMES EARL RAY did not kill Dr. KING.

ROSELL:

What evidence do you have to support your conclusions that JAMES EARL RAY is innocent?

BEVEL:

Well, I would not like to get into my evidence and my information in terms of that because if he asks me to take the case, and I don't know whether he will or not, for me to give that information now would not be to his advantage.

ROSELL:

Why have you held back this long in offering your services and proclaiming the innocence of JAMES EARL RAY?

BEVEL:

Well, I don't know, probably because I have never (pause) I was involved in developing as I am now, because I was in a movement here in Philadelphia and I just haven't thought in terms of offering this free kind of service to him. When I started thinking about this particular predicament, then I thought about.....

The following is an interview of Reverend JAMES BEVEL by JAY SILVA, over television station WCAU, Philadelphia. This is the local CBS affiliate. The announcer was RON MILLER. The person interviewing BEVEL was JAY SILVA.

MILLER:

Reverend JAMES BEVEL of the Southern Christian
Leadership Conference (SCLC) says he will keep
the evidence he has which he says would prove
that JAMES EARL RAY did not assassinate Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, if
RAY does not accept BEVEL's offer of legal representation.
Reverend BEVEL sent a telegram to RAY yesterday offering to
represent him in court without a fee. The telegram added,
"I was present on April 4th at the Lorraine Motel when Dr.
KING died. You have been accused of murdering him; of course,
I know you aren't guilty." Today, newsman JAY SILVA asked
Reverend BEVEL about the proof he says he has concerning
RAY's innocence.

BEVEL: Number one, based on the evidence that I have in terms of the incident that took place and based on the opinion of all of my friends, I don't have a friend that I know that thinks that he did it. I thought (inaudible) that the man is not guilty and have come to my conclusions, and based on my evidence.

SILVA: What specifically is the evidence that leads you to this conclusion?

BEVEL:

At this time, I don't want to tell about that because if I was going to defend him, you see, then I would have to present that information to the jury. So, I would not go into the details of my evidence at this time because I would have to deal with that with the jury.

SILVA: You say that you have specific evidence that shows JAMES EARL RAY was not the man who murdered MARTIN LUTHER KING.

BEVEL: Mhm.

SILVA: Then, do you have any idea who did, that shows JAMES EARL RAY was not the man who murdered MARTIN LUTHER KING?

BEVEL: Mhm.

SILVA: Well then, do you have any idea who did?

BEVEL: Now, I am not a district attorney. It is the responsibility of the district attorney to find out who killed people. And it is the responsibility of the defense attorney to prove that a particular person is not guilty. So that, in the way the courts work, it is never the responsibility of the defense attorney to prove who did kill someone. It is his job to defend the person who has been accused, that they are not guilty.

SILVA: You said you would defend JAMES EARL RAY without any fee. Are you a lawyer?

BEVEL:

No, I am not a licensed lawyer. I have handled cases in court for the last few years. I have been in court quite a bit and I have handled most of my cases. The other thing is that I do know the law.

SILVA: The one thing that intrigues is, why have you held back this information for so long?

BEVEL: Well, number one, I hadn't thought about offering him my services. Now, the reason I, like I said, when you bind information together then you can come to The first I said, he is not guilty. The next conclusions. thing I said, he needs a good lawyer. He needs the best lawyer that the country can afford. And, of course, that means a lawyer who has knowledge enough in that situation and who knows the law. He needs a lawyer that can convince the jury that he is not guilty. And that's why I offered him my services, because I was interested in his having the best possible lawyer with the maximum amount of knowledge in law to defend him before the jury, because the jury and the country pretty much has resigned the motion that the man is guilty and they are just waiting to have a lynching party with him, you know. It is very difficult at this point considering the emotional attachment to Dr. KING that most people had, to have a fair trial.

SILVA: Do you speak for yourself on this issue?

BEVEL:

For my friends? Ah, yes, my friends, RUTH BASCOMBE, BEVERLY ERIC, REVEREND SHEPPARD, DU BRADY, REVEREND ABERNATHY, MRS. ABERNATHY, MRS. KING, ANDY YOUNG.

SILVA:

Do you say Reverend ABERNATHY agrees with you? You said your friends come to the same conclusion as you have.

BEVEL:

I don't have any friends who ever told me that EARL RAY was guilty.

SILVA:

So, inasfar as you know, Reverend ABERNATHY agrees with you.

BEVEL:

Certainly, in terms of his position on him and I just talked to BERNARD LOVIER who is our Program Director and I pointed out that if RAY would give me the case, he would help me to do a lot of the research and defend him.

MILLER: In Atlanta, Georgia, a spokesman for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference said he, Reverend BEVEL, has been under a lot of pressure recently. Since Dr. KING's death he has gone into a deep depression and if he sent the telegram, he is speaking for himself.

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.

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RETASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

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CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION CRIMINAL DIVISION

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

XXX (B) REL: jms

NOTE: Please advise if you desire a copy of the enclosed RCMP report furnished to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee.

1-17-69

CRIMINAL DIVISION CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

XXX (B) REL:jms

NOTE: Please advise if you desire a copy of the enclosed RCMP report furnished to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee.

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE - GENDARMERIE BOYALE DU CANADA RCMP GRC 6880 REMP FILE REFERENCES: REF. DOSSIERS GRC: OTHER FILE PEFERENCES; REF. AUTRES DOSSIERS; DIVISION DATE Cu 2 JAN 69 SUB-DIVISION - SOUS-DIVISION Montreal 68C-190-19 DETACHMENT . DÉTACHEMENT St.Jerone 68-190-20 RE: OBJET: Kartin Luther KING Nurder of: Assistance to F.B.I.

1. Further to our P.C.R. dated 20 NOV 68 and Telex bearing number: CIB 3305/2 received from Ottawa, kindly be informed of the following.

Further enquiries made at the Gray Rocks Inn of Lake Ouimet, St. Jovite Que revealed that there is no record of an alledged long distance telephone call made from the room occupied by RAY aka GALT during his being at this hotel. Although two public telephone booths are available to clients and which correspond to numbers: 425-9038 & 425-9076, I was informed by a representative of the Bell Telephone Company that no records are kept from calls made from such booths. Therefore it is felt that the long distance call to a Montreal Road Hotel in Ottawa could have been made from one of these public pay phones or that the charges would have been reversed.

CONCLUDED HERE.

Cst.

J.C.P.Theriault 23116.

St. Jerome Detachment.

Temp.i/c Det.

MURIN NOOMN Profesent 1-14-69

CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION CRIMINAL DIVISION

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

1-10-69

XXXXXX A memorandum Springfield

XXX (B) REL:jms

NOTE: Please advise if you desire a copy of the enclosed Turnished to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Tennessee.

1-14-69

CRIMINAL DIVISION CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

XXXX a memorandum Springfield 1-10-69

XXX (B) REL:jms

NOTE: Please advise if you desire a copy of the enclosed Turnished to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Tennessee.



In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Springfield, Illinois January 10, 1969

JAMES EARL RAY

Henry Stumm, 2703 North Street, Alton, Illinois, was interviewed on January 8, 1969 by Special Agents Donald E. Stukey, II and Robert C. Haines.

Mr. Stumm stated that he worked at the Leather Tannery in Hartford, Illinois operated by the Brown Shoe Company of St. Louis, Missouri for close to thirty years. He stated that during that period of time he met a great many employees, however, he does not specifically recall ever having met James Earl Ray. He stated that he had been contacted by newspapers and magazine. writers as well as novelists who are interested in developing information concerning James Earl Ray, however, he stated that he has not entertained them nor does he intend to entertain them in any way. He stated that their contacts with him and allegations made by them concerning his association with James Earl Ray have upset him to the point where he is close to a He stated that in order to preclude any nervous breakdown. further physical upset to him, he has engaged an attorney whom he identified as Ralph Smith of Alton, Illinois, to represent him in any matters arising from this case.

Mr. Stumm stated that two separate allegations have been made to his knowledge concerning his acquaintance or alleged acquaintance with James Earl Ray. He said that some of the news media contacting him have suggested that he, Stumm, during World War II, was sympathetic to Germany and constantly preached Nazi philosophy and further suggested that he gave James Earl Ray a copy of Adolph Hilter's book, Mein Kampf. He also stated that another suggestion to him was that he had met frequently in a cafe in Alton with James Earl Ray and had discussed Nazi philosophy "in a hushed manner".

Mr. Stumm stated that both of these allegations were completely false; that he has never owned a copy of Mein Kampf and that he never frequented any cafe in Alton.

He went on to say that during the period of time he worked at the tannery in Hartford, Illinois, he went back and

JAMES EARL RAY

forth to work with Ted Fensterman and Albert Kolk, both of whom lived in his neighborhood in Alton. He said that he has never owned or driven a motor vehicle and does not know how to drive a motor vehicle. He said, however, that both Fensterman and Kolk did drive and alternated driving their cars to work. He said they were kind enough to drive him with them and it was their routine to come straight home after work.

Mr. Stumm concluded by stating that he entered the United States from Germany in 1928 and became a citizen in 1936. He said that he is proud to be an American citizen and has always maintained a pro-American attitude with regard to politics. He stated that his work record and his neighbors would vouch for him in this regard.

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 coments are not to be distributed outside your agency.

1/10/69

PLAIN TEXT

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO

: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM

: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) - P -

SUBJECT

: MURKIN

RE: SI mirtel to Bureau 12/4/68. Bumirtel to SI dated 1/7/69.

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are the original and six copies of LHM and for Memphis one copy of LHM reflecting interview of HENRY STUMM at Alton, Illinois.

Prior efforts to contact STUMM during December, 1968 were unproductive.

3 - Bureau (44-38861) (enc. 7) 2 - Memphis (44-1987) (enc. 1) 2 - Springfield (44-561) RCH:BLH

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CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION
CRIMINAL DIVISION

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

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XXX (B) REL: jms

NOTE: Please advise if you desire a copy furnished to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee.

1-8-69

CRIMINAL DIVISION CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

XXX (B) REL: jms

NOTE: Please advise if you desire a copy furnished to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee.



In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION 31, 1968

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

JAMES BARL RAY, Aka

This document centains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FSL. It is the property of the FSL and is located to your agency, it and its centents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

Information set forth below covers investigation conducted at Acapulco, Guerrero, Mexico and Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico, pertaining to activities of captioned individual who, as FRIC S. GALT, visited Mexico during October and November, 1967.

AT ACAPULCO, GUERRERO

On November 11, 1968, a confidential source abroad advised that on that date LUIS LUNA DEL CASTILLO, Desk Clerk, Hotel San Francisco, 92 Miguel Aleman, made available records which showed that ERIC S. GALT registered at that hotel, alone, on October 10, 1967. He occupied Room 202 at the rate of 75 pesos (\$6 U.S.) per day. He listed his nationality as "U.S." and his home address as "Alabama". LUIS LUNA stated that he had no recollection of this individual.

This same source advised that on November 11, 1968, Mrs. ROSARIO DEL CASTILLO, owner of Hotel San Francisco, stated that she had been in contact with the accountant for the hotel in an effort to locate the actual registration card for GALT. This card, she said, would list the guest's home address and the description of his automobile and would also bear his signature. She said the accountant was unable to locate the card and that it was believed to have been destroyed. Mrs. DEL CASTILLO also stated that she had spoken with several of the hotel employees and that none of them were able to recognize photographs of JAMES EARL RAY. She also made available her copy for October 10, 1967, of a report made daily to the Mexican Government, which lists subject's arrival on that date.

The source also advised on November 11, 1968, that a thorough review had been made of the hotel's guest list for October, 1967, and that there was no guest listed with the name of 'RAOUL" or any similar name.

On November 21, 1968, a second confidential source abroad advised that efforts had been made to find a registration for ERIC S. GALT in other hotels and motels in Acapulco but that these efforts had been unsuccessful to date. This source pointed out that few hotels in Acapulco have an orderly method or system of record-keeping and that it is usually impossible to establish with certainty, from records, that a particular individual has been a guest in one of these hotels.

On December 11, 1968, the second source reported that hotels and motels in Acapulco are required to make daily reports to the Federal Office of Tourism listing their guests, as well as arrival and departure dates. An official of this office advised the source that a check had been made of all records available to him for the month of October, 1967, and that no listing was found for GALT or the other names used by him in the reports furnished by any hotel or motel for the month of October, 1967. This official acknowledged, however, that these reports were probably not complete for 1967, since the office had recently changed its location and there was still not room for all the files and records which should be maintained by this agency.

The source also advised on December 11, 1968, that inquiries had been made throughout the tourist zone of Acapulco and also in the houses of prostitution and that no one was located who could remember subject from his photographs.

AT GUADALAJARA, JALISCO

On November 13, 1968, a third confidential source abroad advised that records of the Pancho Villa Motel, Avenida Revolucion 1867, had been checked on that date. They showed that FRIC S. GALT registered there on October 15, 1967, alone, and occupied Room 3. He listed himself as a U.S. citizen with address 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, and his occupation as "employed by publisher". The source said that there was no time of departure shown in the records. GALT paid 40 pesos (\$3.20 U.S.) for the room. The source also found a second registration card for "ERIC S. GOLT, 26-08 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama" showing a registration on October 18, 1367. Again, there was no departure date shown for this registration.

This source determined that the girl who worked as a maid during that period was CARMEN IBARRA OCHOA. She was interviewed and said that she remembered nothing about the subject. The source advised that the doorman during that period, GEIGCRIO DEL REAL ROMERO, was no longer employed by the Lotel.

On November 15, 1968, the third source advised that the owner of the Pancho Villa Motel, ELPIDIO VELAZQUEZ, had returned to Guadalajara after being out of the city for several days. VELAZQUEZ stated that he could not recall the subject or recognize his picture. Mrs. VELAZQUEZ, the owner's wife, stated that she recalled subject from a photograph with sunglasses which was taken in Mexico in 1967. She said, however, that he did not wear glasses while at the motel. She remembered that he had a car but could not describe it.

Mrs. VELAZQUEZ said that when subject arrived at the motel he was complaining of a toothache. She said she recommended a doctor. The next day she became concerned when he did not come out of his room and she rapped on his door. He answered that he was all right and was about to check out. She stated that he must have done so before 2 p.m., October 16, 1967, because he was not charged for another day. She stated that he arrived at the motel again on the morning of October 18, 1967, and departed before 2 p.m. on October 19, 1967. She recalled that he was alone at the motel on both occasions. She said she did not recall his luggage but that he wore a white sport shirt with short sleeves and brown trousers.

The third source reported that he interviewed Dr. OSCAR GOMEZ PALOFOX, Madero 975, on November 15, 1968. Dr. PALOFOX stated that he recalled a house call which he made to the Pancho Villa Motel but he could not recognize subject's photograph. He said that the man he treated had an abscessed molar and that he had injected tetrafinicol, a penicillin-type drug, to kill the infection. He recommended to the patient that he go to the Hospital Militar and ask them to recommend a dentist. He said that he made this call to the motel at about 1 or 2 p.m. on October 15, 1967.

On November 17, 1968, the third source advised that he had learned that the former doorman of the Pancho Villa Motel had reportedly returned to his home village of Valparaiso, Zacatecas. On November 24, 1968, the source advised that he had tried to locate GREGORIO DEL REAL ROMERO in Valparaiso,

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(Cop to Offices Checked)

TO: SAC,

REASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

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CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

XXX (B) REL: jms

NOTE: Please advise if you desire a copy of the attached report furnished to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee.

1 Criminal Division

CRIMINAL DIVISCON

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

XXX (B) REL: jms

NOTE: Please advise if you desire a copy of the attached report furnished to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee.

1 - Civil Rights Division

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| | |). 10 | DETACHMENT - DÉTA- Montres | | 68110 791-0-60 | |

RE, OBJET;

Kartin Luther KING -Kurder of: - Assistance to F.B.I. -

1. Further to correspondence dated 3 DEC 68 from the A/Officer i/c C.I.B. HQ, Ottawa, please be advised of the following.

11 DEC 68

- Attempts to contact J.M. CHARRON at the Heptune Tavern have met with negative results. It was learned from the co-owner of the Neptune Tavern, Mr. E. CAUDET, that CHARRON is presently vacationing in Puerto Rico and is not due to return to Canada before mid-January 1969.
- 3. Mr. GAUDET was shown the composite drawing of HAOUL and questioned as to whether or not he could identify it. GAUDET examined the picture closely; however, no identificationwas made. GAUDET furthered that he cannot remember anyone who even closely ressembled it.
- 4. In view of the contents of paragraph 2 of this report, may the diary date in this case be extended to read as shown here-under.

D.D. 16-1-69

(JIB PROULX) S/SGT. N.C.O. I/C G.I.S. (G.W.J. Mousseau) #22870 Kontreal G.I.S.

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| MURKIN | | | |
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MURKIN NATION

12/30/68

CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Royal Canadian

12/9/68

-- Mounted Police
Montreal

X B. REL:jld

NOTE: Please advise if you desire a copy of attached furnished to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee.

1 - Criminal Division

12/30/68

CRIMINAL DIVISION

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Royal Canadian

12/9/68

Mounted Police Montreal

X B. REL: 11d

NOTE: Please advise if you desire a copy of attached furnished to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee.

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE - GENDARMERIE ROYALE DU CANADA RCMP GRC 6880 OTHER FILE REFERENCES: REF. AUTRES DOSSIERS: DIVISION DATE RCMP FILE REFERENCES: 2 DEC 68 aOu 68HQ-791-Q-60 SUB-DIVISION - SOUS-DIVISION 68-0-790-205 London 68-L-790-44

DETACHMENT - DÉTACHEMENT

Windsor

RE: OBJET:

Martin Luther KING Murder of Assistance to F.B.I.

- With reference to the memorandum received from the Asst. Officer 1/c C.I.B., Ottawa, Ontario dated 13 NOV 68, please be advised of the following.
- Discreet enquiries made in the Windsor area with local contacts and with Department of Customs & Immigration officials with a view to determining if in fact RAY and/or the vehicle in question may have been noted in the area or made trips across the border to Detroit, met with negative results. Neither RAY nor the alledged vehicle were noted in this area.
- In addition to the aforementioned checks a check of all traffic infractions occurring within the City Of Windsor was made through the Windsor City Police Department, Praffic Division, in the event this alledged vehicle was issued with any form of a traffic ticket; however, this enquiry also met with negative results.
- In view of the fact that the Port of Windsor is one of the busiest Ports in Canada, with literally thousands of vehicle crossing the border per day, it is impossible to either confirm or refute the statements made by RAY. In view of this fact, and unless otherwise instructed, this file will be considered concluded at this detachment.

Concluded Here:

Cst. (R.G. Hartlen)#20410.

68-790-11

(D.W.T.) S/Sgt. i/c Detachment.



CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION

12/24/68

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Jee C. Hester Memphis 12/18/68

X B. REL:jld

NOTE: Please advise if you desire a copy of the attached report furnished to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee.

1 - Criminal Division

12/24/68

CRIMINAL DIVISION

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHERIKING, JR.

Joe C. Hester Memphis

12/18/68

X B, REL:jld

NOTE: Please advise if you desire a copy of the attached report furnished to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee.

1 - Civil Rights Division

Morkill Polder

12~23~68

Civil Rights Division Criminal Division

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

XXX

MOTE: Enclosed is one copy of an order in the Criminal Court of Shelby County, Tennessee.

IN THE CRIMINAL COURT OF SHELBY COUNTY, Division III

STATE OF TENNESSEE

ORDER APPOINTING THE PUBLIC DEFENDER OF SHELBY COUNTY TO REPRESENT DEFENDANT

Be it remembered that the Court has inquired of above defendant as to representation by counsel of own choice and employment, and the Court ascertained that the defendant is financially unable to employ counsel, and that it is incumbent upon the Court to appoint counsel to represent said defendant.

And the Court is, therefore, of the opinion that the Public Defender should be ordered to represent above named defendant.

IT IS ACCORDINGLY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the public Defender be and is ordered, either personally or through his deputy, to represent defendant in above captioned cause.

Enter this 18th day of December. 1968.

JUDGE

PUBLIC DEFENDER

12/20/68

AIRTEL

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM:

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

MURK IN

(OO; Memphis)

Enclosed for the Bureau are 3 copies of an order entered 12/18/68 before Judge W. PRESTON BATTLE which order appoints the Public Defender of Shelby County to represent the subject, JAMES EARL RAY.

3 - Bureau (Encs.3) 2 - Memphis JCH:gmh (5)

Murkin Dissemination Folder

12-23-68

Civil Rights Division Criminal Division

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

a memorandum Springfield 12-19-68

B (REL: Pil)

Please advise if you desire a copy of attached furnished to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee.



In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION Springfield, Illinois December 19, 1968

JAMES EARL RAY

Mr. James Tabor, Supervisor, Auto Registration Section, Secretary of State's Office, Springfield, Illinois, advised on November 27, 1968, that a check of records reflect that 1967 Illinois license LM-5942 was issued June 5, 1967, to John Larry, Rayns, 507 Chestnut, Box 293, Winnetka, Illinois, for a 1959 Chrysler, two-door, VIN M531108240, which was purchased used June 5, 1967, from George Seymour Heller, 7102 North Sheridan Road, Chicago, Illinois. Certificate of Title Number B1178475 issued June 6, 1967, to Rayns for this vehicle with no lien. On August 8, 1967, above-mentioned 1967 Illinois license transferred to Rayns for a 1962 Plymouth, four-door, VIN 2921165934, which was purchased used July 14, 1967, from Bundy Oldsmobile, Inc., 711 Illinois Avenue, East St. Louis, Illinois. The application for this transfer reflects that above-mentioned 1959 Chrysler to be sold later. Certificate of Title Number B1604563 issued August 8, 1967, to Rayns for instant Plymouth with no lien.

On December 18, 1968, Tabor advised that a check of "Motor Files" and "Title Surrender Files" regarding Certificate of Title Number B1178475, for the above 1959 Chrysler, reflected no disposition of this automobile after its purchase by Rayns from Heller.

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM:

SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) -P-

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel to Springfield and Chicago dated

12/5/68.

Enclosed for the Bureau are the original and ten (10) copies of a self-explanatory LHM regarding 1959 Chrysler two-door, VIN M531108240. Also enclosed for Chicago and Memphis are two (2) copies each of this LHM.

³⁻Bureau (44-38861) (Enc. 11) 2-Chicago (44-1114) (Enc. 2) 2-Memphis (44-1987) (Enc. 2) 2-Springfield (44-561) WR:lmh (9)

6-94 (Rev. 1-31-63) OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10 MAY 1942 EDITION 054 GEN. REG. NO. 27

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

DISSEMINATION Folder

TO

: Assistant Attorney General

DATE: December 18, 1968

CIVIL Rights Division

FROM :

Criminal Division Director, FBI

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

| Reference is made to memorandum dated |
|---|
| (your file). |
| There is enclosed one copy of the report of Special Agent Arnold W. O'Brien dated 12/10/68 at San Diego |
| A. This covers the preliminary investigation and no further action concerning a full investigation will be taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs. |
| B. X The investigation is continuing and you will be furnished copies of reports as they are received. |
| C. The investigation requested by you has now been completed. Unless advised to the contrary no further inquiries will be made by this Bureau. |
| D. Pursuant to instructions issued by the Department, no investigation will be conducted in this matter unless specifically directed by the Department. |
| E. Please advise whether you desire any further investigation. |
| F This is submitted for your information and you will be advised of further developments. |
| G. This is submitted for your information and no further investigation will be conducted unless specifically requested by the Department. |
| H. This covers the receipt of a complaint and no further action will be taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs. |
| Please advise if you desire a copy of the attached Enc. furnished to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee. |

6-94 (Rev. 1-31-63)
OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1942 ENTION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27

5010-104

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

| то " | : | Assistant | Attorney | General |
|------|---|-----------|----------|---------|
| , i | | | • | |

DATE:December 18, 1968

FROM:

Civil Rights Division Criminal Division Director, FBI

subject: ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

| | Reference is made ton | nemorandum dated |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| (your file | e). | |
| Agent Arn | There is enclosed one copy of the cold W. O'Brien dated Diego | |
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| no further by this Bu | A. This covers the preliminar action concerning a full investi- ureau unless the Department so dir | gation will be taken |
| be furnish | B. X The investigation is cont ned copies of reports as they are | |
| | C The investigation request leted. Unless advised to the contill be made by this Bureau. | eed by you has now crary no further in- |
| ment, no i | D. Pursuant to instructions investigation will be conducted in lly directed by the Department. | issued by the Depart- this matter unless |
| vestigatio | E. Please advise whether you | d desire any further in- |
| will be ad | F This is submitted for you divised of further developments. | er information and you |
| further ir quested by | G. This is submitted for you nvestigation will be conducted unly the Department. | er information and no less specifically re- |
| | H. This covers the receipt of the cition will be taken by this Bureau | |
| Pleas | se advise if you desire a copy of | the attached |
| Enc. furni | ished to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., ral. Shelby County. Memphis. Tenne | State Attorney |

6-94 (Rev. 1-31-63)
OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1942 EDITION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Assistant Attorney General Civil Rights Division Criminal Division

DATE: December 18, 1968

FROM : Director, FBI

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

| Reference is made to memorandum dated |
|--|
| (your file). |
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| H. This covers the receipt of a complaint and no further action will be taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs. |
| Please advise if you desire a copy of the attached Enc. furnished to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee. |

5-94 (Rev. 1-31-63) OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10 MAY 1942 EDITION GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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ŧ.,,

: Assistant Attorney General

DATE: December 18, 1968

Civil Rights Division
Criminal Division
FROM: Director, FBI

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

| Reference is made to memorandum dated |
|--|
| (your file). |
| There is enclosed one copy of the report of Special Agent <u>Carmelo Graffagnini</u> dated <u>12/10/68</u> at <u>Mobile</u> |
| A. This covers the preliminary investigation and no further action concerning a full investigation will be taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs. |
| B. X The investigation is continuing and you will be furnished copies of reports as they are received. |
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| Enc. furnished to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee. |



DISSEMINATION

12-17-68 FOLLOW

CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION CRIMINAL DIVISION

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

XXX (B) REL:jms

NOTE: Please advise if you desire a copy of the attached to be furnished to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis Tennessee.

RE: OBJET:

Martin Luther KING -Murder of: - Assistance to F.B.I. -

28 NOV 68

Further to report dated 20 NOV 68 from St-Jérôme Detachment, Mr. Carth ALLEN, Ceneral Manager of P. LAWSON Travel Ltd, was interviewed by Cst. MOUSSEAU and he advised that their files contained the following:

- (a) Scribbled notes by the clerk on the transaction;
- (b) A copy of the hotel introduction given to RAY. (This refers to reservation slip #10946-M).
- (c) A copy of the cheque covering the \$20 deposit which was forwarded to the Gray Rock Inn by the Lawson Agency.
- (d) A copy of the receipt covering the \$20 deposit received from RAY.
- Mr. ALLEN further added that their records for 1967 were not readily accessible and that they did not contain any documentation signed by RAY. ALLEN also pointed out that his firm did not get many requests for this type of reservation which he classed as a "street cash deal" which is completed in a matter of minutes. In view of the above, the agency was not requested to make the documents available to the investigator.
- 3. Mr. A.L. ADAM, the clerk who attended to RAY's reservations was also interviewed and he stated that he had no recollection of the transaction or of RAY.
- Cttawa, on the 29 NOV 68, advising that reporters of the Montreal Star should be interviewed (ref: our PCR dated 22 NOV 68). This matter was attended to on the CDEC 68 and briefly reported in "C" Division telex CIB/GIS1230. Further details on this interview are as indicated hereunder.

1 DEC 68

ontacted by Cst. MOUSSEAU and stated that his newspaper had published an article on RAY on page 44 of their daily edition dated 31 CCT 68. This article had been hendled by reporters Joseph HAMAFIN and Robert TAYLOR. During the interview with WALKER, the newspaper files on RAY were also perused and no photographs other than those of RAY were noticed.

RE: Oğjet,

Dr. Fartin ther KING -Kurder of: - Assistance to F.B.I. -

WALKER further added that to his knowledge, his newspaper had no information of value concerning MACUL.

- Robert TAYLOR was interviewed and stated that he had contacted CHARRON at the Neptune Tayern a day or two, possibly three, prior to the 31 OCT 68 and that at no time had he or his associate exhibited to CHARRON a photograph of a person with the suggestion that it was that of MACUL". ZAYLOR spoke with CHARRON respecting RAY and RACUL and exhibited two photographs of RAY, one being the most recent photograph of RAY and the other being similar to the pictures of RAY wearing a plaid shirt.
- On perusal of HUIE's article which appeared in LOOK magazine, 12 NOV 68, page 104, RAY makes mention that he stayed at a motel in Borio, Cuebec, on the 17 JUL 67 under the name of GALT. In the article which appeared in the Montreal Star dated Thursday, 31 OCT 68, the reporter makes mention that RAY stayed at the Bourgade Motel, Markova Blyd. in Borion and registered under the name of John L. RAYNS. As per the attached photostat copies of the Montreal Star newspaper article in question, it will be noted that the Bourgade Motel registration card indicates that, at the time, RAY was driving a 1962 Plymouth with Illinois licence plates. From TAYLOR, it was also learned that the former owner of the Bourgade Motel, Faul RICHER was presently residing at 133 Valléé Street, Valleyfield, Quebec, and that RICHER still has in his possession the motel registration card concerned which he is keeping as a souvenir.
- 8. Unless the motel registration card signed by RAY is required as evidence, interview of RICHER is not contemplated at this point as earlier investigation has revealed that RAY was definitely in the kontreal area during the course of the year 1967.
- Through interview of TAYLOR, it is apparent that the newspapermen who interviewed CHARGON (ref: paragraphs 5 and 6 of our PCR dated 15 NOV 68) were representing the Montreal Star as TAYLOR made mention that CHARGON had been contacted a day or two, possibly three) prior to the article being published in the Star.
- At the time of the interview with TAYLOR, HANAFIN was not available. It is also felt at this point that interview of this person would serve no useful purpose in view of TAYLOR's statements which are well in line with the newspaper article published by the Montreal Star on the 31 CCT 68.
- ll. Further to the memorandum of the A/Officer i/c C.I.B. dated in Ottawa on the 15 NOV 68, please be advised that during the course of this investigation, no information has come to light concerning Jules Rocco KINLL ever having known or having been an associate of EAY.

S.U.I.

Sgt. (E.J.C. Mager) #17440 Kontreal G.1.5.

assassin used double a

By JOSEPH HANAFIN and ROBERT TAYLOR

James Earl Ray, accused of assassinating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., practised double deception during his month long hide-out in the Martinel area last view. Montreal area last year.

He registered in a Dorion motel as John L. Rayns on the night of July 17, 1967, but used the alias Eric S. Galt for the remainder of his local sojourn which ended on Aug. 18, 1967.

Ray claimed in a recently published story in Look magazine about his activities here that he used only the Galt

name while in Canada.

He said he chose the name while passing the city of Galt, Ont., on his way to Montreal and used it during visits to St. Jovite and Ottawa.

The 40-year-old alleged killer, whose trial is scheduled in Memphis, Tenn., for the middle of November, ar-rived in Dorion just one day after he fled the United States where he was sought for escaping from the Missouri

State Pententiary.
The records of the Bourgarde Motel show that he



James Earl Ray

registered under the name of Rayns and listed his address as 507 Chestnut street, Winnetka, Ill. The address was that of a restaurant where Ray was employed for sev eral weeks prior to his flight to Canada.

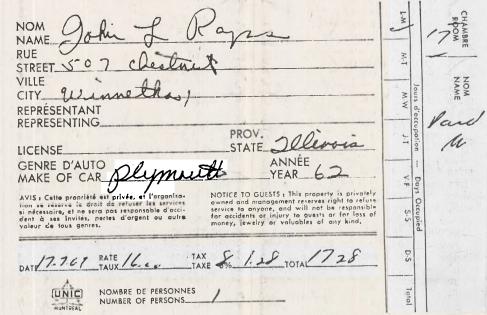
He was known to his employers as John L. Rayns, a name he often used after his jail break.

Although motel officials did not take his licence number, the desk clerk at the time noted he was driving a 1962

Plymouth.
The description of that car matches that of a vehicle purchased by Ray for \$200 in East St. Louis, Mo., just before he crossed into Canada at Windsor, Ont.

The man who owned the Bourgarde Hotel last year, Guy Richer, says he remembers nothing about his in-famous client.

"We were just too busy last year with Expo to take spe-



REGISTERED HERE: On the night of July 17, 1967, James Earl Ray registered at Bourgarde Motel on Harwood boulevard in Dorion as John L. Rayns, of 507 Chestnut street, Winnetka, Illinois. The address was that of a restaurant where he worked.

cial notice of anybody. We were packed every night with all sorts of people," said Mr. Hicher who has since sold the

After his one night stay in Dorion, Ray reverted to the alias of Eric Stavo Galt.

At the Har-K Apartments, 2859 Notre Dame street east, where Ray signed a six month lease but stayed only until mid-August; and at the Gray Rocks Inn, a resort hotel in St. Jovite, 78 miles north of Montreal, he used the Galt name.

He also gave that name and his Notre Dame street address to a travel agency, located on Peel street, which arranged his reservation at Gray Rocks. The manager of the travel agency re-quested that their name not be published.

The man who made Ray's reservation and took a \$20 cash deposit from him was unable to recognize or recall anything about him. He added that Ray was probably in the office for about only 10 minutes.

Waterfront haunt

At several other places that Ray is known to have frequented, the story is much

He seems to have gone out

of his way to behave unobtrusively and apparently always fit into whatever background necessary.

Along the city's toughwater-front between Place Royale and Place d'Youville where he spent much of his time in hopes of obtaining false identity paper, no one could



Martin Luther King

place the gaunt, stern-faced Ray.

The alleged killer claims that he spent several nights drinking in the Neptune Tavern, 121 Commissioners street west, and that he met a man named Raoul who offered him \$12,000 to complete a mysterious assignment in the United States.

J. M. Charron, owner of the Neptune for the past several years, said it would be almost impossible to disaprove Ray's claim.

Peering at a recent photograph of Ray, Mr. Charron commented, "It could be that he was here. Who is going to say otherwise?

"I might have seen him and maybe even talked to him but it has been a year and two months since he was here. It is very, very difficult to say from pictures. They can be deceiving. And maybe he was wearing a disguise.

"Perhaps if I saw him in person I could say for sure." As for Raoul, Mr. Charron said that the description of the man supplied by Ray "could be almost any sailor who comes in here every night of the year."

"We get all sorts in here. And especially last year with Expo on . . . Oh Boy! We had Russians, Englishmen, Americans, Negroes, yellows,

whites . . . everybody.
"No, I cannot say that I recall anyone by the name of Raoul who hung out here."
Employes at the Mariner's

Shooting suspect surrenders

Willie Pomerleau, 17, the sec- took part in the shooting with they sat in a car in a St. Mifor the Oct. 10 shooting of two men in a St. Michel auto repair police yesterday.

Criminal Livestigation Bureau taken refuge in the Laurentian foothills. detectives at police headquarters on Bonsecours street.

ond man sought on a warrant Pomerleau and Rocco Girolamo. Girolamo, described as "practically unknown" with a small criminal record, surrenshop, surrendered to Montreal dered to St. Michel detectives Accompanied by his lawyer, of his lawyer.

Pomerleau, a local nightclub Coe, considered extremely dangerous, is believed to have

chel repair shop. They were "cut down" when they tried to

"cut down" when they tried to elude their aggressors.

Menard was released from hospital three days later, but Blass, seriously injured and partially paralyzed, is now reported in "fair" condition at Jean Talon Hospital under heavy police guard.

Once released from hospital

Once released from hospital, detectives say Blass will face Warrants for the three were issued shortly after Richard a loaded 38 calibre revolver Blass, 29, and Claude Menard, which police found on him at 'Sonny' Coe, who police say 33, were shot and wounded as detectives say Blass will lace court charges on possession of a loaded 38 calibre revolver which police found on him at the scene of the shooting.

llias

House, 165 Place d'Youville, echoed Mr. Charron's words, as did waiters and barmen at Joe Beef's tavern, some 50 yards down the street.

"Who can tell for sure," a waiter at Joe Beef's men tioned. "We had so many people in here during Expo. We have so many in normal years but last year makes it even more impossible to figure."

Ray's chameleonic attributes served him well at the luxurious Gray Rock's resort where he stayed for a full week between July 31 and Aug. 5. Not a single employe remembered his face.

He spent so little time at the bar during the week that his liquor bill amounted to a penny-pinching \$8. He paid that, and the \$155 it cost for his single room with a bath, in cash. It was near the end of that week that he encountered the now famous lady civil servant from Ottawa.

Ray's romantic adventure with his civil servant girl friend who he had hoped would help get him a false Canadian passport, was probably the only close relationship he had in Montreal.

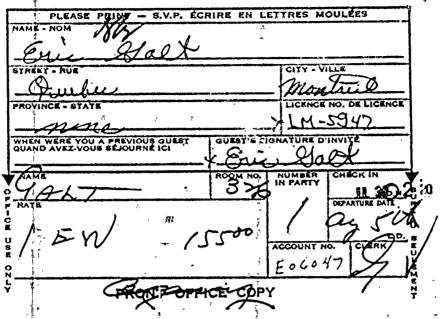
The connection between Ray

The connection between Ray and the lady whose identity still remains a secret was raised in the House of Commons this week but government officials pleaded ignorance to the existence of a romance and of the lady herself.

Local RCMP spokesmen also disclaimed any knowledge of her and refused comment as to whether they are investigating the matter.

investigating the matter.

Both the RCMP and the American FBI, however, have been scouring Ray's local hangouts since long before his



SIGNED AS "ERIC GALT": Registration card filled out by Ray at Gray Rocks Inn at St. Jovite was signed "Eric Galt," He paid \$155 for a week's accommodation.

arrest in England on June 8 of this year.

They asked for and received receipts, registration slips, and other material from Ray's lodgings and from the Tip Top Tailors shop, 488 St. Catherine street west, where he bought clothing and had a jacket altered.

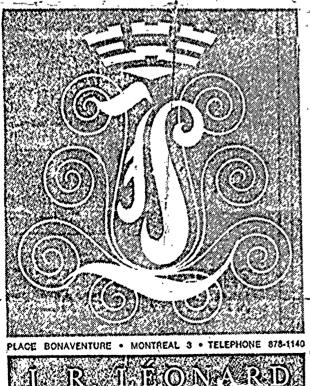
Investigators also visited Ray's waterfront haunts but apparently had little success in discovering anyone who remembered him.

One thing which police overlooked was the night spent by Ray in the motel Bourgarde on Harwood boulevard in Dorion where he used the Rayns alias.

Mr. Richer told The Star that he was never contacted by anyone, police or journalists, about the subject until he received a visit from two Star reporters.

Operators of other Dorion motels, including Le Pavillon and the Miss Dorion said that they had been interrogated about the night of July 17, 1967.





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12-17-68

CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION CRIMINAL DIVISION

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

XXX (B) REL:jms

NOTE: Please advise if you desire a copy of the attached to be furnished to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee.

"MENS MAGAZINE" - C. D. O. T. - CHAMMEL M

Tuesday, November 12, 1963

COMMINATOR: Gordon DONALDSON

SUBJECT - The assassingtion of Martin Luther KING by Jenes Earl RAY - the nature of the crime and the nature of the accused.

GUASTS - Arthur HAYRES (ph) - Langer the prepared RAY's defence.

William Bradford HEMEY (ph) - Author who bought RAY's story.

- I thought it was enormously important to find out everything that RAY knew and since in our country, no defendant can be compelled, or can even be questioned by the F.B.I. for instance, or can be compelled to give evidence against himself, I thought that the only way to find out all that RAY knew was to make some sort of deal with him and this is what I did.

DONALDSON - You mean this evidence would not be coming out in the trial.

HERBY - very little of it, I acqually think, will come out at the trial.

DOMALDSON . Here, your conspiracy feeling, shall we say, your evidence of a conspiracy, does this all come from RAY or does this come from independent sources as well.

HENRY - The beginnings come from RAY. I use what RAY tells me.

I start there - and RAY from the moment that he broke out

17.7

of prison in the Missouri State Peni tiary on April 23, 1967, he went to Canada because he had read stories about how criminals from the United States had gone to Montreal and how they had gotten passports and how easy it was to get a passport, and he hoped to go to Canada and get a Canadian passport and then get to a Latin country which does not have an extradition treaty with the United States. At that time Brazil did not have an extradition treaty and RAY had read at least two stories about American criminals who had gone to Canada, gotten Canadian passports and then escaped to Brazil from which they could not be extradited to the United States. So this was his plan, to go to Canada and get a passport and get on a ship or semething and get to a country which had no extradition treaty with the United States. So he travelled through Detroit and Windsor and Toronto and with the Expo bound crowd in August - no, late July of 1967, and when he got to Montreal he took an apartment. He took it for six months in Nontreal and then he began working the Montreal waterfront and hoping that he would be able to get a passport and perhaps get a job on a ship.

So then this brings us to the "Heptune Tavern". DOMALDSON

HELEY Yes. One of the places - or the place where he spent a lot of time was the "Heptune Bar" on the riverfront in Montreal, I was there: He also visited that "Seman's .Club" which is within half a block of the "Meptune Tavern".

and he know that area very well in Morreal. RAY has a remarkable mind as far as memory is concerned. He draws very accurate diagrams for me where he's forgotten an address or something, for instance, where he stayed in Montreal on Notre Dame Avenue, he drew mo he had forgotten the address but he drew me a diagram showing where the alley was and what was here and there and what was across the street and when I drove up there with a photographer and with a gentleman from Montreal, a private detective the was with me, it was almost funny .it was so accurate, his diagram was so remarkably accurate. And not only this but he has drawn me at least 20 or 30 such diagrams, later travels, and he was in Montreel up until about August the 21st or 22nd. made the trip up to "Gray Rocks Lodge" (ph) and was up there for about a week and he was in Ottawa and then he came back but he was to the United States, but he came back because of the deal he apparently made or he says he made with a man whom he calls "RAOUL" (ph).

DONALDSON - What did RAOUL offer him and what did RAOUL want him to do?

RESERV

RAOUL wanted him first of all to come back to the United States which RAY did not want to do because he had about 17 unserved years hanging over him at the Missouri State Penitentiary, he had attempted to escape three times. So RAOUL wanted him to come back to the United States, he