



5-22

*Memo*

Mr. D. J. Brennan, Jr.

May 22, 1968

S. J. Papich

*Long*

**COMMUNIST PARTY OF COLOMBIA  
INTERNAL SECURITY - COLOMBIA**

The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) previously has furnished information concerning the arrest of two individuals in Colombia who clandestinely brought into the country a large sum of U. S. currency slated to be delivered to the Communist Party of Colombia.

On May 21, 1968, Thomas Karamassines, Deputy Director of Plans, CIA, made available the enclosed list of serial numbers of the currency recovered by Colombian officials. It should be noted that the first digit in each listed number designates the particular denomination (1-\$1; 2-\$5; 3-\$10; 4-\$20; 5-\$50; 6-\$100).

**ACTION:**

This information will be checked out by the Soviet Section for any significant indicators relating to the movement of funds through Soviet intelligence channels.

This information and enclosure are also being directed to the attention of the General Investigative Division in the event we desire to check any identified currency utilized by James Earl Ray against the attached listing.

**Enclosure**

SJP:clb  
(7)

- 1 - Mr. Branigan
- 1 - Mr. Wannall
- 1 - Mr. McGowan
- 1 - Murkin File
- 1 - Liaison
- 1 - Mr. Papich



5-21

*memo*

Mr. Bishop

5-21-68

M. A. Jones

*Long*

MURKIN

Early this month, the Director turned down a request from Jerry O'Leary (a reliable contact at "The Evening Star" who has written two outstanding articles regarding the Director) and "The Reader's Digest" for an article to be written for that magazine by O'Leary regarding the Martin Luther King investigation. Both O'Leary and "The Reader's Digest" have expressed continued interest in this matter; and the purpose of this memorandum is to set forth reasons why, at this point in the investigation to locate James Earl Ray, it is felt additional consideration should be given to such an article.

In February, 1968, when Hobart Lewis (President and Executive Editor of "The Reader's Digest") came to the Bureau with Associate Editors John Barron and Kenneth Gilmore, they discussed with the Director the possibility of publishing another article concerning one of our "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives." (It will be recalled that in the Fall of 1960, an article in "The Reader's Digest" concerning fugitive Joseph Corbett, Jr., the kidnapper of Adolph Coors III, produced leads from readers of the magazine which resulted in the apprehension of Corbett in Canada.) At the time of this visit, the Director told Mr. Lewis that we would remain alert for another "Ten Most Wanted Fugitive" to be featured in the magazine.

In the Coors case, inestimable savings of investigative time and funds resulted from publication by "The Reader's Digest" of the article regarding fugitive Joseph Corbett, Jr. Many of the same elements as existed in the Coors case also are found in the King investigation--prominent victim; intense public interest in the case; and the fugitive in both instances being a prison escapee with a reputation as a "loner" and a penchant for using fictitious names and backgrounds to conceal his true identity.

It was the broad international circulation of "The Reader's Digest" which produced the leads that resulted in Corbett's arrest in Canada.

1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. Bishop

*[Signature]* - Mr. Rosen  
- C. L. McGowan

CONTINUED - OVER

GWG:mac (9)



M. A. Jones to Bishop Memo  
RE: MURKIN

In the King case, we again are dealing with a fugitive known to have been in both Canada and Mexico during the past year, and who may be out of the United States at this time. "The Reader's Digest" has a large readership throughout the Western Hemisphere. Last month, for example, the Legal Attache in Buenos Aires, Argentina, advised that through its Spanish and Portuguese editions, "The Reader's Digest" receives "the widest distribution of all mass communications media in this area"--and he suggested the possibility of an article regarding James Earl Ray in "The Reader's Digest."

Jerry O'Leary has, of course, proved himself most trustworthy in past contacts with the Bureau. He has done a tremendous amount of reading, interviewing and "reportorial digging" on the King case in Memphis, Birmingham, Atlanta and other places. Other newsmen consider him the best-read and -informed writer on the King case, and this is why "The Reader's Digest" sounded him out on this assignment.

In view of his strong background in this case, O'Leary could, of course, write an article on his own concerning fugitive James Earl Ray. Naturally, if such an article is to be published, it would greatly be to our advantage to have the benefit of reading it and offering any changes we feel necessary, prior to publication.

It is O'Leary's intent to limit the article to material which has previously been published, together with what he has dug up himself with regard to Ray's background and character traits.

O'Leary has pointed out that day-by-day the true facts of this case and the accurate picture of fugitive James Earl Ray are being thrown more and more out of focus by the distorted articles written by such irresponsible characters as Louis Lomax. He feels that "The Reader's Digest," with its multimillion circulation in the United States and abroad, affords an excellent medium for straightening out the misrepresentations of others, as well as for producing leads which (as in the case of Joseph Corbett, Jr.,) may possibly assist in the apprehension of "Ten Most Wanted Fugitive" Ray.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

That we extend to O'Leary and "The Reader's Digest" the same cooperation in regard to an article on "Ten Most Wanted Fugitive" James Earl Ray as was rendered in the Joseph Corbett, Jr., fugitive investigation.

Mr. DeLoach

May 21, 1968

A. Rosen

MURKIN

1 - Mr. DeLoach	1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Rosen	1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Malley	1 - Mr. Conrad
1 - Mr. McGowan	1 - Mr. Gale
1 - Mr. Long	1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. McDonough	1 - Mr. Trotter
1 - Mr. Martindale	

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

Kenneth Lee Wade, San Quentin Penitentiary, was in Missouri State Penitentiary from 1958 through 1965. He states he knew Ray from 1962 until 1965 and they sold amphetamines and other stimulants to prisoners. Inmates Ray Pruitt, Bobby Burns and Glen Shurnick (phonetic) were partners with Ray and Wade.

Wade estimates that the amphetamine operation cleared \$1,000 a month. He gambled with his share of the profits but Ray was conservative in handling his money and Wade believes Ray had substantial savings, perhaps as much as \$5,000, when he escaped. He does not know where or how Ray maintained his savings but Ray could have bribed a guard to take money out of the prison. Wade added that a Lieutenant Dickson or Dixon, who was fired from the penitentiary in 1965, had been used by Wade and Ray to bring items of value in and out of the prison.

In November, 1961, Ray made an unsuccessful effort to escape from Missouri State Penitentiary. He attempted to scale the wall with pipe taken from clothing racks in the dry cleaning plant and was injured when the pipe broke. He was subsequently examined by a prison psychologist who made the following comments:

"The subject appears to be a rather simple, inadequate, unspontaneous individual of a rather passive sort. His abortive attempt to scale the walls is characteristic of the kind of judgment (one perhaps should say misjudgment) which may be expected from this individual. He smiles in an inappropriate and embarrassing manner at times and gives one the feeling that they are communicating with a rather simple sort of soul."

WLM:ven  
(14)

CONTINUED - OVER



**Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach**  
**RE: MURKIN**

**In a report dated 10/21/66 the psychologist reviewed extensive testing and interviews conducted with Ray and concluded:**

**"According to all the test results I have on the man he is nothing more nor less than a severe neurotic apparently seeking to repress out of awareness, or to keep concealed, something he seems to be afraid someone else is going to find out.**

**"The import of this at this time is to urge you to communicate with the Warden that this man might well be considered 'escape-prone' -- a runner (psychologically, anyway) -- and suggest that the Warden, in accordance with a 'gentlemen's agreement' we have with the Hospital authorities, notify the Hospital authorities that this man should be considered as an escape-prone neurotic type individual, according to our information on him."**

**While at Missouri State Penitentiary Ray was consistently rated as an efficient and cooperative worker. A work and training report dated 10/1/62 describes him as an experienced baker and a very good one.**

**Arrangements are being made with the State Department to provide all U. S. diplomatic establishments abroad with information concerning Ray's fugitive status. There are approximately 290 such establishments throughout the world.**

**In the allegations previously made to the Los Angeles "Times," Bob claimed Ray had charged telephone calls made from Memphis to a telephone company credit card issued to Riddell Catering, U. S. Rubber, Detroit, and that the card was in the name of Riddell or a Robert Brinkley.**

**Riddell Industrial Caterers has the concession at the U. S. Rubber Company plant in Detroit. The company is owned by H. V. Brinker and his son, Robertson "Robert" Brinker. The catering company does not have a telephone or a telephone company credit card.**



**Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach**  
**RE: MURKIN**

**Robertson Brinker does have a telephone company credit card. He denied that any Memphis calls have been charged to this card and was unable to explain how such an allegation might have originated. He denied that his credit card had ever been lost or used by any other person.**

**H. V. Brinker recalled that he was in Boca Raton, Florida, from 3/1/68 to 4/1/68 and traded at a Sunoco service station at the intersection of U. S. One and Palm Aire. He was impressed with the efficiency of one of the employees and told the service station employee to call him or his son if he ever wanted a job. He gave this man one of his business cards. He cannot recall if he wrote Robert's name on the card but he told him Robert's name and said that they catered for U. S. Rubber. We are checking out this service station employee to determine if he is identical with Bob.**

**ACTION:**

**This case is continuing to receive vigorous attention.**

*Memo*

Mr. Bishop

5-21-68

M. A. Jones

MURKIN

Early this month, the Director turned down a request from Jerry O'Leary (a reliable contact at "The Evening Star" who has written two outstanding articles regarding the Director) and "The Reader's Digest" for an article to be written for that magazine by O'Leary regarding the Martin Luther King investigation. Both O'Leary and "The Reader's Digest" have expressed continued interest in this matter; and the purpose of this memorandum is to set forth reasons why, at this point in the investigation to locate James Earl Ray, it is felt additional consideration should be given to such an article.

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1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. Bishop

1 - Mr. Rosen  
1 - L. McGowan

CONTINUED - OVER

GWG:mac (9)

*Long*



**M. A. Jones to Bishop Memo**  
**RE: MURKIN**

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In view of his strong background in this case, O'Leary could, of course, write an article on his own concerning fugitive James Earl Ray. However, neither he nor "The Reader's Digest" will consider such an article without the Bureau's cooperation and final review and approval of the manuscript.

O'Leary has pointed out that day-by-day the true facts of this case and the accurate picture of fugitive James Earl Ray are being thrown more and more out of focus by the distorted articles written by such irresponsible characters as Louis Lomax. He feels that "The Reader's Digest," with its multimillion circulation in the United States and abroad, affords an excellent medium for straightening out the misrepresentations of others, as well as for producing leads which (as in the case of Joseph Corbett, Jr.,) may possibly assist in the apprehension of "Ten Most Wanted Fugitive" Ray.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That we extend to O'Leary and "The Reader's Digest" the same cooperation in regard to an article on "Ten Most Wanted Fugitive" James Earl Ray as was rendered in the Joseph Corbett, Jr., fugitive, investigation.

*Memo*

Mr. Rosen

May 21, 1968

C. L. McGowan

MURKIN

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

On 5/20/68 ASAC Richard H. Ash of the Minneapolis Office was telephonically contacted concerning this matter. Ash was instructed to make arrangements to have the Western Union auditors' records reviewed for any money order payments made to the subject under his true name and known aliases for the months of April and May, 1968, with points of origin for such money orders being Los Angeles, Memphis, Birmingham and Atlanta. It is noted that these are the cities in which subject is known to have been during the last few months and where contact may have been made for any contract killing.

SAC Jensen of the Memphis Office and SAC Gamble of the Birmingham Office were instructed to check on large withdrawals of funds from banks in their respective headquarters for 4/5/68. By large withdrawals it was meant any sum of \$10,000 or above.

SAC Bachman, Newark, was telephonically instructed to recontact the locksmithing institute at which subject had enrolled to determine, if possible, whether or not subject had re-enrolled under another name. It was suggested to Bachman that he obtain the applications which had been filed or if the originals could not be obtained to obtain photographs of such applications and furnish to the Laboratory for handwriting purposes.

Bachman was also instructed to obtain information from the locksmithing institute as to the approximate number of such courses being offered throughout the United States and the names and identities of known locksmithing schools.

CLM:vea  
(6)



520



Mr. DeLoach

May 20, 1968

A. Rosen

MURKIN

1 - Mr. DeLoach	1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Rosen	1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Malley	1 - Mr. Conrad
1 - Mr. McGowan	1 - Mr. Gale
1 - Mr. Long	1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. McDonough	1 - Mr. Trotter
1 - Mr. Martindale	

This case involves the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

On 5/17/68 William Thomas, City Editor, and Jerry Cohen, reporter, Los Angeles "Times" furnished the following information.

On 5/13/68 or 5/14/68 the "Times" was telephonically contacted by a man who claimed to have information concerning the death of Martin Luther King, Jr. Thomas talked to this man on the telephone three or four times and on the evening of 5/16/68 Thomas and Cohen met this man at a bar. He identified himself only as Bob. From his conversation, Thomas and Cohen believe Bob has been in several penitentiaries.

Bob related a fantastic account of an alleged conspiracy in connection with King's death. The details, which will be discussed later in this memorandum, are at variance with the results of our investigation. Specific investigation to check out Bob's story has failed to verify any relevant allegation and it appears very doubtful he has any knowledge of the case; however, we are continuing investigation in this regard and are making every effort to identify and locate Bob for interview.

The "Times" gave Bob \$100 on the evening of 5/16/68. He said he needed this money to leave town. The "Times" does not know how to contact him and does not expect to hear from him again.

Thomas said the "Times" sole purpose was to get a story out of Bob's material but he did not wish to interfere with the Bureau's investigation and although reporters were standing by in Kansas City, Memphis, Birmingham, Huntsville, and Miami, no overt steps had been taken to verify Bob's story and nothing would be published before 5/21/68. Thomas said he was also contemplating making this information available to the Attorney General.

WLM:ven  
(14)

CONTINUED - OVER



**Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach**  
**RE: MURKIN**

**Details of Bob's allegations are set forth below.**

**1. BOB ALLEGES:** The day before the shooting, Ray was picked up in Athens, Alabama, and taken to Memphis.

**FACTS:** King was killed 4/4/68. Ray, as Eric S. Galt, registered at the Rebel Motel, Memphis, 4/3/68 and checked out 4/4/68. Motel records show he was driving his Mustang.

**2. BOB ALLEGES:** At the Memphis rooming house from which the shot was fired, another man registered as Samuel Lewis. Lewis was the backup man to kill King at the rally on the night of 4/4/68 if Ray was unable to perform the murder from the rooming house.

**FACTS:** The proprietor of the rooming house states Lewis is unknown to her either by name or as a guest registering on 4/4/68.

**3. BOB ALLEGES:** Lewis' rifle was left in the furnace of the rooming house and is believed to still be there.

**FACTS:** The rooming house has no furnace. No such rifle has been found.

**4. BOB ALLEGES:** After the shooting, Ray walked two or three blocks to the getaway car accompanied by a man and a woman. Ray's Mustang was not in Memphis 4/4/68.

**FACTS:** Investigation indicates Ray left Memphis alone in his Mustang which was parked near the rooming house.

**5. BOB ALLEGES:** The getaway car was a new Buick with Alabama license plates, equipped with a police radio, and owned and driven by Eddie Wilburn, Huntsville, Alabama, a member of the local Veterans of Foreign Wars.

**FACTS:** Veterans of Foreign Wars, Huntsville, does not have such a member but one Edmond Wilburn, also known as Eddie, sometimes visits the club. Wilburn owns a Cadillac and is employed by a health insurance company. He denies having been out of Alabama since December. He was in Huntsville 4/3-6/68 according to company production records and the personal recollection of his employer.



**Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach**  
**RE: MURKIN**

**6. BOB ALLEGES:** Upon leaving Memphis, Ray, Wilburn, and two girls and a child from Huntville, drove to Kansas City in six and one-half hours.

**FACTS:** Investigation indicates that when Ray left Memphis he drove alone to Atlanta in his Mustang.

**7. BOB ALLEGES:** In Kansas City Ray spent the night in a small one bedroom, gray-shingled house about three miles from the center of the city.

**FACTS:** Although the "Times" provided a rough map drawn by Thomas based upon information furnished by Bob, investigation has failed to locate the Kansas City house described by Bob.

**8. BOB ALLEGES:** Ray left Kansas City at dusk, 4/5/68, and was flown to Belle Glade, Florida, in a private airplane owned by William Pierce, a wealthy Ku Klux Klan member who owns a Belle Glade airport, a motel, cottages on a nearby lake, and once owned a contracting company in Cuba. Pierce often flies his own plane to New Orleans, is acquainted with New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison and is related to Eddie Wilburn.

**FACTS:** No person meeting Pierce's description could be found. One William L. Pierce, a Belle Glade welder, formerly owned a migrant boarding house and was briefly wealthy over twenty years ago when he sold a rope making machine in Cuba. One Leland Clifford Pearce owns cottages at a lake near Belle Glade and formerly sold cattle to Cuba. Neither Pierce nor Pearce flies nor owns a plane and both deny knowing Jim Garrison or being related to Eddie Wilburn.

**9. BOB ALLEGES:** On 4/11/68 Ray boarded a charter boat or yacht at Key West owned by Ben Thompson.

**FACTS:** No such boat has been located. Benjamin Larnard Thompson, Jr., Miami, states he operated fishing boats off the Florida Keys prior to August, 1966. He denied any knowledge of this matter.



Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach  
RE: MURKIN

10. **BOB ALLEGES:** In the weeks before the killing, Ray stayed at Belle Glade.

**FACTS:** Investigation at Belle Glade has been negative. Ray is known to have been living in Los Angeles from November, 1967, until 3/17/68. He was in New Orleans on about 3/21/68, checked into an Atlanta rooming house, 3/24/68, was in Birmingham, 3/29-30/68, paid rent in Atlanta, 3/31/68, and was in Memphis, 4/3-4/68.

11. **BOB ALLEGES:** On the day of the killing Ray made telephone calls from Memphis to Belle Glade. The calls are believed to have been made from a bus station.

**FACTS:** This is being checked out.

12. **BOB ALLEGES:** The payoff was made through Wilburn in Reno, 4/3/68, by rigging a Keno payoff of \$25,000 at the CAL-NEVA Lodge. Charlie Cate, an employee of the lodge, was cognizant.

**FACTS:** The CAL-NEVA Lodge has been closed since Labor Day, 1967. One Charles Thomas Cate is a pit boss at the CAL-NEVA Club. He has been interviewed with negative results. The owner of the club states there was no Keno payoff on 4/3/68 of more than \$400 and there has not been a \$25,000 payoff for almost three years.

13. **BOB ALLEGES:** A man using Ray as a first name was in Room 700, Clark Hotel, Los Angeles, 4/17-18/68.

**FACTS:** This man has been identified as Raymond Andrew Young, Massena, New York, and has been eliminated.

14. **BOB ALLEGES:** Leamont White, Western Union employee in Los Angeles, sent money to Louisiana and purchased two pistols for Frank Brickley, Chattanooga, who was in prison with Ray.

**FACTS:** Leamont White, an effeminate Negro states: He has known Frank and Bob Brickley for five or six years. Both are heavy drinkers. White owned two pistols which disappeared in the summer of 1967 and he suspected Frank or Bob Brickley, or their



**Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach**  
**RE: MURKIN**

cousin whose name he cannot recall, of stealing the guns from his home. About two months ago White got a collect call from Frank either from Nashville or Knoxville and sent him \$20 or \$30. He last saw Bob Brickley less than two months ago at which time Bob said Frank was in prison. White believes only the Brickleys or their cousin would know of the guns stolen from him and the money he sent Frank.

Frank Brickley is apparently identical with Frank William Brickley who has a lengthy criminal record but does not appear to have served time with Ray. We are seeking Brickley and his brother for interview.

15. **BOB ALLEGES:** Ray worked for a week as a bartender at Harold's Cafe, a "queer" bar in Los Angeles, where he is known by a man named Connie.

**FACTS:** The manager of Harold's is known as Connie. He and other personnel deny any knowledge of Ray.

16. **BOB ALLEGES:** Ray is or was married to Willi Shea, who once worked at the Top Rail Bar, Los Angeles.

**FACTS:** The Top Rail Bar does not normally employ women. Willi Shea is unknown there or at the home address furnished by Bob.

17. **BOB ALLEGES:** Ray used a telephone company credit card for various calls including those allegedly made from Memphis to Belle Glade. The credit card was issued to Riddell Catering, U. S. Rubber, Detroit, and was in the name of Riddell or a Robert Brinkley. Riddell lives in Harper Woods, Michigan.

**FACTS:** This is being checked out.

18. **BOB ALLEGES:** Samuel Lewis, the backup man at the Memphis rooming house, served time at Chillicothe and Terra Haute and was discharged in 1963 from prison in Milan, Michigan. Lewis spent the night of 4/4/68 in Memphis and took an early morning bus to Knoxville. On 4/7/68 left Knoxville by bus for Los Angeles via Memphis and El Paso. Bob furnished the "Times" a Greyhound bus ticket issued 4/7/68 at Knoxville for passage to Los Angeles via Memphis and El Paso.



**Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach**  
**RE: MURKIN**

**FACTS:** The Los Angeles "Times" City Editor believes it is possible Bob is identical with Samuel Lewis. Investigation indicates Bob may be identical with Frank William Brickley. There is no evidence that there was such a backup man but Brickly and Lewis, if he exists, will be located and interviewed.

**ACTION:**

**All aspects of this investigation are receiving vigorous attention.**

Mr. Rosen

May 20, 1968

C. L. McGowan

MURKIN

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

On 5/19/68, at 5:30 p. m., Mr. Don G. Cummings, 2733 Elm Hill Pike, Nashville, Tennessee, no telephone at home, contacted extra duty Supervisor Paul A. Cajigas by long distance telephone. He said he was calling from a pay telephone booth and did not have much time to talk before his three minutes would run out. Cummings said he had information about an individual who he believed might have been involved in the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King. He wanted to turn this information over to the FBI on this date because the individual was in Nashville and would be leaving the night of 5/19/68.

At this point the operator advised that Cummings three minutes was up and the call ended.

ACTION:

Security Clerk Danny Downum, Memphis Division, was immediately contacted and supplied with above information. He was instructed to have an Agent immediately contact Mr. Cummings and advise Bureau of results.

PAC:bap (5)



**Mr. DeLoach**

**May 18, 1968**

**A. Rosen**

**MURKIN**

1 - Mr. DeLoach	1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Rosen	1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Malley	1 - Mr. Conrad
1 - Mr. McGowan	1 - Mr. Gale
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1 - Mr. Martindale	

**This case involves the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.**

**The Memphis Police Department has received several anonymous letters from Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, alleging that Ray is at some ruins south of Mexico City. A similar letter has now been received alleging Ray is buried in the ruins and enclosing a rough map indicating the grave. This is being expeditiously checked out.**

**James L. Owens, who participated with Ray in the 1959 robbery for which Ray received a twenty-year sentence, frequently saw Ray in Missouri State Penitentiary. He has advised Ray sold drugs in the prison and also operated a "three for two" loan business. Owens expressed the opinion Ray would not have accumulated over \$1,000 from these sources by the time he escaped.**

**Kenneth Lee Wade, San Francisco, former inmate at Missouri State Penitentiary, has alleged that he, Ray and three others earned \$1,000 a month from the sale of drugs in the penitentiary. Wade is being interviewed in detail to determine if this is true and if so, how and where Ray maintained his share of the proceeds.**

**Jerry Raynes, subject's father, St. Louis, was recently visited by subject's brothers John, of St. Louis, and Jerry, of Chicago. Both brothers were drinking. Raynes now states that during this visit Jerry mentioned something about the subject's having been in Chicago in the summer of 1967. He says he cannot remember anything more specific about the conversation and that he may have misunderstood Jerry.**

**WLM:ves  
(14)**

**CONTINUED - OVER**



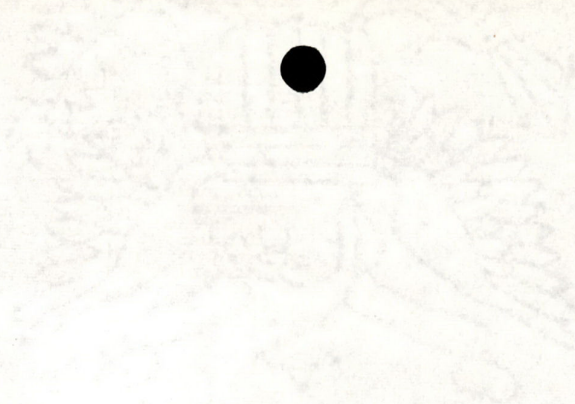
Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach  
RE: MURKIN

It is noted that Raynes is an old man and an alcoholic. His mind seems to wander and he appears to have difficulty recalling recent events. John and Jerry Ray are being reinterviewed regarding Rayne's allegation.

ACTION:

Vigorous investigation is continuing throughout the field.





5-18





**Mr. DeLoach**

**May 18, 1968**

**A. Rosen**

**MURKIN**

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Mr. Rosen

May 18, 1968

C. L. McGowan

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

MURKIN

Special Agent Joe C. Hester, Memphis Extra-Duty Supervisor, telephonically advised, this date, that the Chief of Police (COP), Memphis, Tennessee, has received an anonymous letter dated 5-14-68, from Montreal, Canada. The letter is very poorly written and it is hard to make out the entire contents, but in essence mentions Doctor King. Further, that the *descent* anonymous writer has become acquainted with an individual of Irish decendant (no name given) and over a case of beer recently determined from this Irish individual (1) that he was once in jail in Missouri, (2) that he had been in the Merchant Marines, (3) that he was once a bartender, (4) that he was an alcoholic and supposedly being presently treated for alcoholism, (5) and that he has fallen in love with a girl in Montreal and spends money freely on her.

The anonymous writer wants this information to be kept in strict confidence and if the COP is interested and wants to get in touch with him, he should write to the Editor of the "Gazette - News in Brief," (presumably a Montreal newspaper) "attention G." Writer states he will watch the Gazette and if the mention "attention G" appears, he will send another letter to the COP with information and the COP can use his own follow-up.

The writer further states he is off work on Wednesday and Thursday each week and has a holiday from June 1-15, and states he might meet with the COP if he is interested.

This letter was signed "Code letter G."

The COP, Memphis, has misplaced the envelope which this letter came in.

**ACTION:** The Memphis Office was advised to send the letter to the Bureau by airtel this date.

KLBERg  
(5)

MEMO

Mr. Rosen

May 18, 1968

C. L. McGowan

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

MURKIN

At 4:55 a. m., 5-18-68, a Mrs. Minitt, 1933 Irene Vista, Phoenix, Arizona, telephone number 624-3031, telephonically contacted Extra-Duty Supervisor J. H. Trimbach and advised that she has been attending church sessions in Tucson the last several evenings and she feels that James Earl Ray has been there also. The church is located at 5th Street and 10th Avenue in Tucson and the pastor is Reverend Young. Tonight the individual she believes is Ray got up and talked before the group. He claimed to be a missionary and said he was leaving town tonight.

Mrs. Minitt requested her name be kept confidential. She said she would be willing to relate all information she had to an Agent in Tucson at this time.

At 5:00 a. m., 5-18-68, above data telephonically furnished to Phoenix Office. Night Clerk John Moses was instructed to have a Tucson Agent immediately contact Mrs. Minitt and check this out. Results to be teletyped or telephoned to the Bureau.

ACTION: For information.

JHT:erg  
(5)

*Hudson  
Handling*



5-17



**Mr. DeLoach**

**May 17, 1968**

**A. Rosen**

**MURKIN**

1 - Mr. DeLoach	1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Rosen	1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Malley	1 - Mr. Conrad
1 - Mr. McGowan	1 - Mr. Gale
1 - Mr. Long	1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. McDonough	1 - Mr. Trotter
1 - Mr. Martindale	

**This case involves the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.**

**On 5/14/68 a man using the name William A. Marshall signed an escrow contract to purchase a home at Bonita, California, for \$51,000. He presented a \$5,000 check on a local bank as earnest money and indicated that he had a \$65,000 certified check in his hotel room. The \$5,000 check he gave is worthless. He claimed that he was employed by International Harvester, Bloomington, Illinois, and had been recently transferred to the San Diego area.**

**On the afternoon of 5/14/68 Marshall appeared at an automobile agency in Chula Vista, California, where he selected a car and after displaying the escrow contract showing he had made a \$5,000 deposit on a home, he was permitted to take the car when he said he wanted to show it to his wife. The car has not been returned.**

**Bonita and Chula Vista are suburbs of San Diego.**

**Several witnesses who were in the company of Marshall for periods of time ranging up to three hours state that he bears a resemblance to photographs of the subject and one witness is almost positive of the identification. Intensive investigation has been instituted to identify and locate Marshall.**

**It has previously been alleged that in the summer of 1967 Ray and James Leona Owens were seen entering the Jefferson-Gravois Bank, St. Louis. Owens has been interviewed and denied any contact with Ray since leaving prison. He furnished the following information.**

**WLM:ven  
(14)**

**CONTINUED - OVER**

**Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach**  
**RE: MURKIN**

Owens first met Ray at a St. Louis Rescue Mission in 1960. Ray was using the name Jim O'Connor and later used the names Ryan and Ray but always used Jim as his given name.

Owens never knew Ray to work but he was thrifty and always seemed to have money. He knew Ray was a robber and Ray said he only robbed businesses he felt were protected by insurance. He was close mouthed and a loner but likeable and he was also a thinker who read widely on a variety of subjects.

Ray liked cars and pistols. He once demonstrated his marksmanship to Owens by repeatedly shooting a tin can while it was bouncing. Ray believed women were to use and forget and had a preference for "street bums."

On one occasion Owens claims Ray showed him \$1,000 in travelers checks and said he was going to Canada. When Owens next saw Ray a month later he said he had been to Canada. Ray also talked of prior trips to Mexico to cool off and mentioned Vera Cruz, Acapulco, Nogales and Mexico City.

Ray told Owens he had been forced to leave Mexico City when a man came at him with a knife and he hit the man in the head with a pistol.

Ray planned the Kroger robbery for which Owens and Ray were arrested in 1958. Owens thought it had been well planned but was unsuccessful because it was executed when both were drunk. He said this was an exception to Ray's drinking habits which were usually moderate.

Owens pleaded guilty to the Kroger robbery and received a seven-year sentence. Ray stood trial and was given twenty years. While he was at Missouri State Penitentiary Owens frequently saw Ray in the yard and Ray never displayed any animosity towards him.



**Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach**  
**RE: MURKIN**

It was James Wallace who alleged he had seen Ray and Owens entering the bank in 1967. Owens claims he saw Wallace in 1968 when he was at the Jefferson-Gravois Bank. Wallace was standing on the corner with a woman and asked Owens if he was putting money in or taking it out. Owens replied he was putting it in.

The records of the Jefferson-Gravois Bank show that Owens opened an account in 1965 which was closed in 1966.

**ACTION:**

**Vigorous investigation is continuing on a top priority basis.**



*7 APPROVED call  
Newdon in Lab 12  
BRIGGS white #1  
MAN in Lab.*

*Long*

Mr. DeLoach

May 17, 1968

A. Rosen

MURKIN

1 - Mr. DeLoach	1 - Mr. Martindale
1 - Mr. Rosen	1 - Mr. Long
1 - Mr. Malley	1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. McGowan	1 - Mr. Conrad
1 - Mr. McDonough	

This case involves the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

PURPOSE:

To recommend that Polygraph examinations be afforded John Larry Ray, brother of subject, and John Eugene Gawron, a former close associate of the subject.

BACKGROUND:

John Larry Ray, brother of the subject, who resides in St. Louis, Missouri, and who operates the Grapevine Tavern in St. Louis, Missouri, has been interviewed several times. He has appeared cooperative, seems to answer questions asked but has steadfastly denied contact with subject or knowledge of his whereabouts since subject's escape from Missouri State Penitentiary on 4/23/67.

John Eugene Gawron, a close associate of the subject during the past number of years, has been interviewed numerous times. He has generally claimed similar lack of knowledge regarding the whereabouts of the subject but has made numerous allegations regarding subject's involvement in a bank robbery following subject's escape on 4/23/67. Both John Larry Ray and John Eugene Gawron are considered unreliable and could possibly be harboring the subject.

RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the fact that John Larry Ray and John Eugene Gawron may have knowledge concerning the whereabouts of the subject, it is recommended that Polygraph examinations be given these two individuals.

REL:ven:eam  
(10)



FBI WASH DC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATION SECTION

MAY 17 1968

TELETYPE

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	_____

FBI ST LOUIS

1210AM URGENT 5-17-68 JJR

TO: DIRECTOR AND MEMPHIS

FROM: ST. LOUIS (44-775)

MURKIN.

JOHN LARRY RAY, BROTHER HAS BEEN INTERVIEWED SEVERAL TIMES. HAS APPEARED COOPERATIVE, AND SEEMED TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ASKED AS WELL AS HE KNOWS. HAS STEADFASTLY DENIED CONTACT WITH RAY OR KNOWLEDGE OF HIS WHEREABOUTS SINCE MSP ESCAPE.

JOHN EUGENE GAWRON HAS ALSO BEEN INTERVIEWED SEVERAL TIMES. HAS GENERALLY CLAIMED SIMILAR LACK OF KNOWLEDGE, BUT HAS MADE SOMEWHAT FANCIFUL ALLEGATIONS OF RAY'S INVOLVEMENT IN BANK ROBBERY, FOLLOWING ESCAPE WHICH HAVE BEEN GENERALLY DISPROVEN AND HE IS NOW CONSIDERED UNRELIABLE AND POSSIBLE HARBORER, AS ALLEGATIONS RECEIVED SUBJECT SEEN NEAR HIS RESIDENCE FOLLOWING ESCAPE.

SL BELIEVES PLACING JOHN RAY AND GAWRON ON POLYGRAPH WOULD HAVE BENEFICIAL EFFECT, AT LEAST PSYCHOLOGICALLY, PROVIDING BUREAU POLICY WILL ALLOW.

BUREAU OBSERVATIONS IN THIS REGARD RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS

END .

BJM

FBI WASH DC

P

Mr. DeLoach

May 17, 1968

A. Rosen	1 - Mr. DeLoach	1 - Mr. Martindale
	1 - Mr. Rosen	1 - Mr. Long
	1 - Mr. Malley	1 - Mr. Mohr
	1 - Mr. McGowan	1 - Mr. Conrad
MURKIN	1 - Mr. McDonough	

This case involves the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

PURPOSE:

To recommend that Polygraph examinations be afforded John Larry Ray, brother of subject, and John Eugene Gawron, a former close associate of the subject.

BACKGROUND:

John Larry Ray, brother of the subject, who resides in St. Louis, Missouri, and who operates the Grapevine Tavern in St. Louis, Missouri, has been interviewed several times. He has appeared cooperative, seems to answer questions asked but has steadfastly denied contact with subject or knowledge of his whereabouts since subject's escape from Missouri State Penitentiary on 4/23/67.

John Eugene Gawron, a close associate of the subject during the past number of years, has been interviewed numerous times. He has generally claimed similar lack of knowledge regarding the whereabouts of the subject but has made numerous allegations regarding subject's involvement in a bank robbery following subject's escape on 4/23/67. Both John Larry Ray and John Eugene Gawron are considered unreliable and could possibly be harboring the subject.

RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the fact that John Larry Ray and John Eugene Gawron may have knowledge concerning the whereabouts of the subject, it is recommended that Polygraph examinations be given these two individuals.

REL:vea:eam  
(10)





516

Mr. D. J. Brennan, Jr.

5/16/68

W. J. McDonnell

MURKIN

Dr. Louis W. Tordella, Deputy Director, National Security Agency (NSA), advised Liaison 5/9/68 that an exhaustive search of NSA indices failed to disclose any references to subject or any of his known aliases.

ACTION:

This matter is being referred to the Civil Rights Section for its information.

 C. L. McGowen  
1 - Liaison  
1 - W. J. McDonnell



WJM:kw  
(4)



**Mr. DeLoach**

**May 16, 1968**

**A. Rosen**

**MURKIN**

1 - Mr. DeLoach	1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Rosen	1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Malley	1 - Mr. Conrad
1 - Mr. McGowan	1 - Mr. Gale
1 - Mr. Long	1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. McDonough	1 - Mr. Trotter
1 - Mr. Martinale	

**This case involves the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.**

It is noted Ray was allegedly seen three times in May, 1967, in the neighborhood of John Gawron, St. Louis. Gawron, who is on the verge of senility, lived with Ray's mother from 1954 until her death in 1961. Gawron denies contact with Ray since Ray's escape from prison in April, 1967, but alleges Ray participated in a \$50,000 Southern bank robbery in June or July, 1967, and that one of Ray's accomplices gave Gawron \$250 from the loot of this bank robbery. It has not yet been established that any such robbery occurred.

John Larry Ray, subject's brother, St. Louis, has again been reinterviewed. John still denies any knowledge of Ray since his escape from prison. He states Ray would have contacted him if Ray had been in St. Louis, especially if Ray needed help. John added that he would still help Ray if Ray asked him to but that he "might" tell the FBI about it afterwards.

According to John Ray, Gawron is crazy. He said Gawron lives in the past, talking about pulling robberies or burglaries and sometimes casing them but never actually committing them. John expressed the opinion Ray would never contact Gawron because he does not trust him.

John Larry Ray believes when his brother escaped from prison he had plenty of money as a result of dealing in amphetamines while incarcerated. He also believes Ray would have immediately left the country and bases this on statements Ray made when John visited him in prison.

**W.L. Meves**  
**(14)**

**CONTINUED - OVER**

**Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach**  
**RE: MURKIN**

It has previously been alleged Ray was seen in St. Louis with James L. Owens in the summer of 1967. John Larry Ray advised that the subject would not associate with Owens but would kill him on sight since he blames Owens for his arrest and twenty-year sentence in 1959.

**ACTION:**

Vigorous, widespread investigation is continuing on a top priority basis.





5-15



Mr. DeLoach

May 15, 1968

A. Rosen

MURKIN

1 - Mr. DeLoach	1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Rosen	1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Malley	1 - Mr. Conrad
1 - Mr. McGowan	1 - Mr. Gale
1 - Mr. Long	1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. McDonough	1 - Mr. Trotter
1 - Mr. Martindale	

This case involves the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Marie Martin, also known as Marie Deninno, who traded television sets with Ray on about 2/14/68 when Ray was living at the St. Francis Hotel in Los Angeles, has been reinterviewed.

Martin stated that from the time the television sets were traded until Ray checked out of the St. Francis on 3/17/68 he appeared to be in need of money and said he was waiting for money from his brother. Martin believed Ray needed this money before he could drive to New Orleans where he delivered a package for her on about 3/21/68.

Ray told Martin he had lived in Mexico where he had used marijuana on one occasion but did not like it because it did nothing for him. He also said he had attended cock fights in Mexico but was repulsed by their barbaric nature.

Marie Martin has received a \$50 check from Louis Lomax for information she provided when he was writing his series of news articles. She believes the check is worthless.

Anonymous letters from Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, have alleged Ray is at the Cuicuilco Ruins in Mexico. These ruins are about twelve miles south of Mexico City and consist of a small pyramid, 1,400 years old, surrounded by lava beds that are thirty feet thick. It is near the site being prepared for the Olympic Games this summer. Extensive investigation has been conducted throughout this area with negative results.

WLM:vea  
(14)

CONTINUED - OVER



Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach  
RE: MURKIN

James H. Carpenter, ex-convict who previously alleged he saw Ray three times in St. Louis between 5/10/67 and 5/17/67, claims that when Ray escaped from Missouri State Penitentiary he did so by walking out with visitors. The official version of his escape is that he hid in a box of bread being delivered from the penitentiary to a prison farm. It has previously been alleged by other prisoners that he walked out the front door and that he wore a guard's uniform when he escaped.

It has also been alleged that another ex-convict saw Ray in St. Louis two weeks after his escape from Missouri State Penitentiary.

John Paul Valenti, ex-convict, and James H. Carpenter, visited John Eugene Gawron on the night of 5/13/68. Gawron is an old man who lived with Ray's mother from 1954 to 1961 and who has stated he taught Ray to be a burglar. Valenti has advised that although Gawron did not admit it in so many words, both Valenti and Carpenter gained the impression Gawron had harbored Ray after his escape in April, 1967.

Gawron has been exhaustively reinterviewed. He denies having any contact with Ray since Ray's escape. Regarding the Southern bank robbery Gawron previously alleged Ray was involved in, Gawron now states this could have occurred in July, 1967, instead of June and was in a city on the East bank of the Mississippi River. When confronted with discrepancies in his stories, Gawron stated, "As I've told you, my brain don't work right." Continuing efforts are being made to determine if such a robbery occurred.

James Laoma Owens was arrested with Ray for armed robbery in 1959. James D. Wallace, an inmate at Missouri State Penitentiary, was free on parole from 1965 to March, 1968. Wallace has advised that in the summer of 1967 he was coming out of Jefferson-Gravois Bank, St. Louis, when he met Ray and Owens who were entering the bank. Wallace told them he was glad he had gotten his money out before their arrival and they replied, "We're putting money in."



Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach  
RE: MURKIN

ACTION:

All aspects of this investigation are being vigorously  
pursued.





5-14

**Mr. Rosen**

**May 14, 1968**

**C. L. McGowan**

**1 - Mr. Rosen**

**1 - Mr. Malley**

**1 - Mr. McGowan**

**MURKIN**

**1 - Mr. Long**

**1 - Mr. McDonough**

**1 - Mr. Martindale**

**This case involves the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.**

**At 11:20 p. m., 5/13/68, Legat Nate Ferris, Mexico City, telephonically advised Extra Duty Supervisor H. E. Helgeson that he had just received word that it had been determined by Latent Fingerprint Expert George J. Bonebrake that the fingerprints of the unidentified white male buried at Acapulco, Mexico, are not identical with those of James Earl Ray.**

**HEH:vea**

**(7)**



**Mr. DeLoach**

**May 14, 1968**

**A. Rosen**

**MURKIN**

1 - Mr. DeLoach	1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Rosen	1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Malley	1 - Mr. Conrad
1 - Mr. McGowan	1 - Mr. Gale
1 - Mr. Long	1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. McDonough	1 - Mr. Trotter
1 - Mr. Martindale	

**This case involves the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.**

**It has previously been reported that Russell Lee Martin, former inmate, claimed he had helped authorities break up a narcotics ring in Missouri State Penitentiary. Martin also alleged he was told by Carl Drake, St. Louis, on 5/4-5/68 that Ray has called Drake twice since King was killed, once from New Orleans and once from North Carolina. Drake steadfastly denies any contact with Ray since Ray's escape from prison.**

**The warden at Missouri State Penitentiary has advised Martin did not break up a narcotics ring but merely reported that another prisoner used amphetamines. The warden says Martin has no integrity whatsoever, is completely unreliable, and only tells the truth when it serves his purpose to do so.**

**Records of Futura Books, Incorporated, Torrance, California, show three books were shipped to Eric S. Galt, 2584 Notre Dame, Est, Montreal, Canada, on 7/26/67. The books were "Unusual Female Sex Practices," "Sexual Anatomy" and "Sex Feeling in Men and Women." The order was received on a coupon from "Mens Real Adventure" magazine. It has previously been established that the subject lived at the above Montreal address in July and August, 1967.**

**John Gawron, former common-law husband of Ray's mother and on the verge of senility, previously alleged Ray was involved in a \$50,000 Southern bank robbery which was reported in the Chicago "Tribune" on about 6/23-24/67. The Chicago "Tribune" and the Bureau's bank robbery files have been reviewed without finding any reference to a robbery such as Gawron described.**

**WLM:ven  
(14)**

**CONTINUED - OVER**



**Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach**  
**RE: MURKIN**

James H. Carpenter, former inmate at Missouri State Penitentiary, has advised that Ray was well known to him in the Penitentiary. It is noted that Ray escaped 4/23/67 and Carpenter was paroled 5/1/67. Carpenter alleged that between 5/10/67 and 5/17/67 he saw Ray three times on South 11th Street in St. Louis. This is in the general area of John Gawron's residence. Carpenter said Ray was poorly dressed, was wearing a mustache, and borrowed \$10 from Carpenter stating he needed a gun so he could make a score and leave St. Louis. Carpenter gained the impression from Ray that he was going to Illinois when he left St. Louis.

An anonymous male in separate calls to three officers of the Memphis Police Department, previously alleged that the man who planned King's murder and paid Ray has arranged for Ray's body to be discovered between 5/15/68 and 5/18/68 at a point fifty miles south of a place in Mexico which we believe to be Caborca.

Caborca is in the State of Sonora. It appears to be roughly fifty miles below the United States border and about eighty miles from Nogales. The area fifty miles south of Caborca is desert-like with inhabitants on only a few scattered ranches. An investigative informant has searched approximately one hundred square miles in this area and has contacted each ranch with negative results.

It is noted that on 4/5/68 a Cessna Super Sky Master airplane was burned about sixty miles southwest of Caborca and about four kilometers from the ranch of Rafael Bland, an American national. Sergio Bland, son of Rafael, saw the plane burn from a distance but did not observe anyone in the vicinity of the plane. The wreckage is near a road which is practically impassable. The investigative informant noted two sets of airplane tracks indicating that another plane may have landed. He found no bodies and no evidence of any recent grave.

The above plane was stolen from Miro Field, Hialto, California, on the night of 3/18-19/68. Later the same night this plane was serviced at Blythe, California. It was being piloted by a man described as twenty-six years of age who appeared to be an experienced pilot and who said he was en route to Dallas. The plane was repainted and its registry



**Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach**  
**RE: MURKIN**

number was changed after it was stolen and before it was burned. This plane, which is the subject of a separate investigation, does not at this time appear to be involved with Ray.

It has been determined by fingerprint comparison that the body found buried on the beach at Acapulco, 5/18/68, is not identical with Ray.

**ACTION:**

**This case is continuing to receive top priority attention.**





5-13



**Mr. DeLoach**

**May 13, 1968**

**A. Rosen**

**MURKIN**

1 - Mr. DeLoach	1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Rosen	1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Malley	1 - Mr. Conrad
1 - Mr. McGowan	1 - Mr. Gale
1 - Mr. Long	1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. McEonough	1 - Mr. Trotter
1 - Mr. Martindale	

**This case involves the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.**

**On 5/10/68 Mexican authorities discovered a body buried on the beach at Acapulco. Police described it as that of a white male, about thirty years old and believed to be an American. Police also said the body was decomposing and had apparently been both beaten and shot with death occurring about three days before the body was found.**

**Mexican police fingerprinted the body and buried it. The local press speculated that the body is that of James Earl Ray. The fingerprints taken by the police have been compared with Ray's fingerprints by the Identification Division but they are so lacking in detail that it is not possible to determine whether or not they are identical. An FBI fingerprint expert is en route to Acapulco to attempt to reach a positive finding as to whether this body is identical with Ray.**

**Circuit Judge John C. Casey, St. Louis, has advised the St. Louis Office he sentenced Ray to twenty years for armed robbery in 1959. This is the sentence Ray was serving when he escaped from Missouri State Penitentiary in April, 1967.**

**A motion was filed to vacate the above judgment because of alleged improper introduction of a signed statement, failure to afford a sanity hearing, perjured testimony on behalf of the State, faulty instructions to the jury, and failure to furnish the advice and assistance of an attorney at all stages of the proceedings. The motion was overruled but on 4/12/67 the Missouri Supreme Court reversed the order overruling the motion and the case was restored to the docket, 6/15/67.**

**W.L.Mrven  
(14)**

**CONTINUED - OVER**

**Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach**  
**RE: MURKIN**

Judge Casey further advised that John D. Schneider, a court appointed attorney, filed a document with the court, 5/1/68, stating that no court action is possible at this time in view of Ray's escape. This was published in the daily record of court activity, 5/8/68, but has not been picked up by the press.

Judge Casey believes that under recent Supreme Court decisions Ray would have an excellent chance of reversing his conviction and vacating his sentence for armed robbery. Judge Casey also believes he can dismiss Ray's action quietly and without attracting publicity but he is considering the advisability of entering and publicizing an order that unless Ray comes forward by 6/3/68 his action will be dismissed. If this were publicized the judge feels Ray might recognize the possibility of reversing the armed robbery conviction and give himself up in the belief he could beat the King murder charge before a Southern jury.

Judge Casey prefers publicizing that Ray's action will be dismissed if he does not appear by 6/3/68 but he is willing to go either way. He stated that he did not want to take any action that could prejudice the Bureau's investigation and asked for the Bureau's advice as to how the matter should be handled.

The United States is not a party to the case pending before Judge Casey. It is a matter filed by or on behalf of Ray to overturn what is strictly a State conviction. The Bureau should not be put in a position where it could be criticized for attempting to interfere with the due process of justice before a State court. Judge Casey is being advised that the action he takes in this matter is entirely within his own discretion and that the FBI is not in a position to advise him or to make any recommendation.

The original motion and supporting argument filed before Judge Casey were purportedly prepared by Ray. They have been described as being done in a very able manner and on a par with the work of practicing attorneys.



Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach  
RE: MURKIN

ACTION:

Every possible effort is being made to locate and apprehend  
Ray as quickly as possible.