

Mr. Conrad

6/11/68

W. D. Griffith

MURKIN

*Very good!!*

The General Investigative Division advised this morning of a request from the Department for a portrait parle (photograph) comparison between certain pictures of the subject James Earl Ray. Specifically, the comparison requested was between a photograph of "Eric S. Galt" purportedly taken in early 1968 in connection with his attendance at a bartender school in California and prison photographs of James Earl Ray taken in 1960 and 1966. The requested comparisons have been made and we have determined definitely that the Eric S. Galt photograph is actually a photograph of the same person depicted in the James Earl Ray prison photographs. Results of this comparison have been telephonically furnished General Investigative Division.

Assistant Director Rosen advises he has furnished the results of the examination to Mr. Pollak in the Department and Mr. Pollak has requested the Laboratory's assistance in preparing an affidavit. A Mr. Maurice A. Roberts subsequently contacted me and requested assistance in the technical wording incident to the preparation of the affidavit. We are complying with this Department request and will execute the affidavit after it has been prepared and the wording has been determined to be technically accurate.

ACTION: None. For information.

44-38861

1 - Mr. Mohr  
1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. Rosen *R*  
1 - Mr. McGowan  
1 - Mr. Conrad  
1 - Mr. Griffith  
1 - Mr. Shaneyfelt  
1 - Mr. Mortimer

WDG:mb (9)

JUN 11 2 55 PM '68

REC'D - URGENT



MEMO

MR. TOLSON

6/11/68

C. D. DE LOACH

1-Mr. DeLoach

1-Mr. Mohr

1-Mr. Rosen

1-Mr. Bishop

1-Mr. Gale

1-Mr. Sullivan

1-Mr. Conrad

1-Mr. Trotter

MURKIN

1-Mr. McGowan

①-Mr. Long

Legat, Minnich called from London at 3:15 p. m. this afternoon. Assistant Attorney General Vinson had a press conference this morning at 10:15 a. m. During the conference he praised police cooperation between the FBI, the RCMP and Scotland Yard. He attempted to straighten out the record claiming that he had not interrogated subject Ray but that he had briefly seen him. The papers had previously reported that Vinson had interrogated Ray. Vinson became flustered when he was questioned by the reporters regarding the movements of Ray in several countries. Being unable to answer the questions, he eventually replied "No comment." In answer to questioning, Vinson stated that two sets of extradition papers were being sent to the British Home Office.

Vinson told Minnich that he had been discussing this case with the Attorney General. Extradition papers are to be placed on a 7:00 p. m. plane from Washington to London. The AG apparently told Vinson there was a delay in forwarding these papers inasmuch as the FBI had had difficulty in locating a witness by the name of Stephens. (Stephens has not been located as yet, however, this is not delaying the filing of the extradition papers.) Vinson told Minnich that the Department would possibly call upon the FBI to place the extradition papers on the evening plane. I told Minnich that we had not received such a request.

Vinson has booked reservations on a flight to depart London on Thursday, 6/13/68, at 2:00 p. m. Vinson has continued his efforts to inspect security measures at Wandsworth Prison. The British Home Secretary's office has informed U. S. Ambassador Bruce that Vinson will not be allowed this privilege. Ambassador Bruce was flatly told that it would be an insult to the British Government for Vinson to inspect security measures at Wandsworth. Vinson has asked the AG to contact Undersecretary of State Katzenbach so that a request can be made through diplomatic channels. Minnich doubts that Vinson will be allowed to inspect Wandsworth's security measures despite pressure brought on by the American Government.

Our Paris Legat, Norman Philcox, has completed his investigation in Lisbon, Portugal. Sources in Portugal have sent letters to all banks inquiring if Ray had funds deposited therein or had rented a safe deposit box.

CDD:amr

CONTINUED... OVER

(11)

DeLoach to Mr. Tolson  
Re: MURKIN

The results of this check will not be in for several days. Legat Philcox has no further leads remaining. I told Minnich to order Philcox back to Paris so that he could immediately prepare a letterhead memorandum regarding the results of his investigation. This memorandum will first be reviewed by SA Martindale and then will be sent to FBI Headquarters. Philcox will leave Portugal tomorrow morning, 6/12/68, at 10:45 a. m.

SA Martindale has spent most of his time at Scotland Yard assisting the representatives of our London Office. Investigation thus far by Scotland Yard has shown that subject Ray cannot be placed anywhere in London until the date of May 28, 1968, when he checked into the New Earl's Court Hotel. On June 5, 1968, subject Ray checked into the Pax Hotel and remained there until he checked out to travel to Brussels, Belgium. One source has advised that subject Ray told him he planned to go to Rhodesia.

Subject Ray thus far has not indicated any willingness to reveal anything. Chief Superintendent Butler has advised Minnich that Ray, en route from the London Airport to Scotland Yard, was advised by Butler that there was reason to believe the subject's name was James Earl Ray. The subject allegedly turned white and did not deny this allegation, however, on the other hand, he did not admit anything.

Minnich has now put in an official request, through Embassy channels, to interview Ray. The Home Office will make the final decision. Ray must give his permission before such an interview can take place. This request was specifically mentioned to Vinson, who replied, "By all means."

Minnich still believes that there will be a minimum of three and a half weeks to a maximum of six weeks before extradition can take place. Even after the order of extradition is given, there will be a 15 day waiting period in which subject can make an appeal if he so desires. In the event he does desire to appeal, there will of course be further delay in extradition.

I specifically asked Minnich what his recommendations were concerning the men from FBI Headquarters who are currently in London. He stated that he was keeping these men busy and that frankly, he felt it would be cheaper in the long run to let them remain in London rather than returning to Washington and then having to go back upon subject's extradition. Minnich raised the point that there of course was the possibility that subject Ray at any time might indicate he was perfectly willing to be returned to the United States and that he would sign any papers certifying this fact. If this happens, our representatives must be in a position to move fast. Consequently, Minnich feels that our representatives should remain in London.



DeLoach to Mr. Tolson  
Re: MURKIN

I agree with Minnich in this recommendation, as does Rosen. We should, however, make a check after the next hearing to be held on June 19, 1968, to see if there still appears to be a maximum of four to six weeks before the subject will be extradited. In this event, consideration might be given to having our Agents return rather than remain in London for an extended period of time.

ACTION:

For record purposes.



Mr. DeLoach

June 11, 1968

A. Rosen

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

MURKIN

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

Department representatives are presently in Memphis, Tennessee, obtaining affidavits from individuals who are witnesses in this case in connection with the possible extradition of subject James Earl Ray from London, England. Affidavit from SAC Robert Jensen concerns the fact that he received various items from Inspector N. E. Zachary of Memphis Police Department and that he in turn directed these items be delivered to the FBI Laboratory. The items mentioned in affidavit by SAC Jensen are rifle, rifle scope, brown box in which rifle was located, binoculars, gray paper bag bearing legend "York Arms," cartridge shell removed from rifle by SAC, bullet which was recovered in body of Martin Luther King, Jr. and the cartridge box.

Affidavits have been completed by the Department and according to SAC Jensen, the Department is endeavoring to locate other individual witnesses to appropriately execute affidavits.

ACTION:

For your information.

REL:mcs  
(9)

*Memo*

Mr. DeLoach

June 11, 1968

A. Rosen

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Malley

1 - Mr. McGowan

MURKIN

1 - Mr. Long

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

Assistant Attorney General Stephen J. Pollak, Civil Rights Division of the Department, called at approximately 3:50 p. m. , and advised the Department had a package of papers they desired to make arrangements to have delivered to London tonight on the 8 p. m. , TWA Flight 704 leaving from Dulles Airport. It is noted this flight arrives in London at 8:05 a. m. , London time, at Heathrow Airport. Pollak advised he understood from Assistant Attorney General Vinson, who is in London, that the Bureau on occasion with some of its criminal cases had been able to make arrangements with pilots for expeditious carrying of such packages in emergency instances.

An attempt was made to reach Pollak at 4:15 p. m. , concerning this matter to let him know the Bureau would make arrangements for delivery of the package. At 5:25 p. m. , Bob Owen of the Civil Rights Division of the Department finally advised they did desire help from the Bureau in getting papers concerning the extradition of Ray to Dulles Airport. Nathan Lewin of the Department advised the material that was to be delivered to London should be picked up at the office of Mr. Mark Feldman, Assistant Legal Adviser, Room 5423, Main State Department Building, Code 182, Extension 5066.

In addition, Assistant Attorney General Pollak advised that he had been in touch with Mr. Vinson in London and Vinson was aware this material would be sent over tonight and that it was being taken to the pilot of the TWA plane who would deliver it to a Bureau representative in London and then made available to Vinson.

ACTION:

Arrangements were made with ASAC McDermott, Washington Field Office, for the package to be obtained at the State Department and delivered to Dulles Airport for transmittal to London.

Legat Minnich, London, advised 8:10 p. m. , 6-11-68, and will handle.

JRM:hw

(6)

*MEMO*

Mr. DeLoach

June 11, 1968

A. Rosen

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Malley

MURKIN

1 - Mr. McGowan

1 - Mr. Long

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

As you are aware, Departmental Attorneys are in Memphis, Tennessee, obtaining affidavits from individuals who are witnesses in this case in connection with the possible extradition of subject James Earl Ray from London.

In connection with physical evidence examined by the FBI Laboratory, the Departmental representatives requested an affidavit from SAC Robert Jensen of Memphis, which was furnished to them by Jensen.

Jensen's affidavit relates to the fact that he received various items of evidence from Inspector N. E. Zachary of the Memphis Police Department and that he, in turn, forwarded them to the FBI Laboratory for examination. The items mentioned in Jensen's affidavit relate to the rifle, the rifle scope, the brown box in which the rifle was located, a set of binoculars, a gray paper bag bearing the legend "York Arms" the cartridge shell removed from the rifle by SAC Jensen, and the bullet which was recovered from the body of Dr. King.

SAC Jensen is furnishing to the Bureau a copy of the affidavit furnished by him to Departmental representatives.

ACTION:

For your information.

*Jensen advised  
6-11-68.*

REL:cs

(6)

MEMO

MR. TOLSON

6/11/68

C. D. DE LOACH

1-Mr. DeLoach

1-Mr. Mohr

1-Mr. Rosen

1-Mr. Bishop

1-Mr. Conrad

1-Mr. Gale

MURKIN

1-Mr. Sullivan

1-Mr. Trotter

1-Mr. McGowan

①-Mr. Long

Legal Attache Minnich called from London at 4:40 p. m., 6/10/68. He had just received word that an official of the Home Office had met with members of the American press in London on a non-attributable basis. The purpose of the meeting was to clarify issues in connection with captioned case.

The British representatives specified to the press that there will not be any deportation of Ray in lieu of extradition. He stated that extradition will now definitely take place rather than deportation proceedings. He told the press that subject Ray will be transferred from Brixton Prison to Wandsworth Prison inasmuch as Wandsworth offered better facilities for two men to keep a 24-hour watch on Ray.

The British representative told the American press that there was no chance of subject Ray being extradited for at least four weeks. He stated they should not gain the idea that legal proceedings will take anything other than the full course of British justice.

Minnich advised me that his own interpretation, based upon a knowledge of British justice, is that it will take approximately three and a half weeks to six weeks before Ray is extradited to the United States.

Minnich also mentioned that Vinson has made inquiries regarding flights back to the United States as of Tuesday, 6/11/68. Minnich stated that Vinson has accomplished his obvious purposes of getting publicity for himself and the Attorney General. He stated that the basis of Vinson's trip was only too obvious to both the British and the American press. Minnich also told me that Vinson has finally discovered he has no conception whatsoever regarding the British people and British law. He stated that Vinson has dropped into the Legat's Office on at least three or four occasions that date, 6/10/68, to ask for advice and counsel and for explanations so that he will understand matters.

CDD:amr  
(11)

CONTINUED..... OVER



DeLoach to Mr. Tolson  
Re: MURKIN

Minnich told me that there is approximately a ninety-nine and nine tenths per cent chance that Vinson will not be able to inspect the Wandsworth Prison facilities. He also stated that Vinson's departure might be delayed because Vinson expects extradition papers to arrive Tuesday, 6/11/68, but it is somewhat doubtful these papers will be in London by 6/11/68.

ACTION:

For record purposes.

MR. TOLSON

6/11/68

C. D. DE LOACH

1-Mr. DeLoach  
1-Mr. Rosen  
1-Mr. Conrad  
1-Mr. Sullivan  
1-Mr. McGowan

10-Mr. Mohr  
1-Mr. Bishop  
1-Mr. Gale  
1-Mr. Trotter  
①-Mr. Long

MURKIN

Assistant Attorney General Pollak called at 11:55 a. m., 6/10/68. He stated he was sending to Al Rosen the draft affidavits in connection with the extradition proceedings. He indicated that the Solicitor's representative from Tennessee, who is now in England, must have affidavits from the FBI in connection with this matter. Pollak stated that such requests will be held to those individuals necessary to prove probable cause.

Pollak asked if we had received any cablegrams, airtels or teletypes from our Legal Attache in London. I told him we had received one brief cablegram simply reporting the results of the Magistrate Court hearing held at 10:30 a. m., 6/10/68. Pollak stated that he would appreciate the FBI sending a copy of the cablegram to him just so he could tell the Attorney General he had received communications from the FBI. I told him we had no objections to this and would send him a copy of the cablegram in question. I added that the cablegram, however, would simply be duplicative of information already in his possession.

ACTION:

For record purposes.

*Copy  
Sent to  
Pollak  
6/10/68*

CDD:amr  
(11)



memo

Mr. DeLoach

June 11, 1968

A. Rosen

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Malley

MURKIN

1 - Mr. McGowan

1 - Mr. Long

1 - Mr. Conrad

1 - Mr. Callahan

Assistant Attorney General Stephen J. Pollak, Civil Rights Division, called and stated he had been reviewing reports very carefully which had been submitted in this case. He referred specifically to the interview at the Bushnell Company on April 5, 1968, with reference to a shipment of binoculars to the York Arms Company in Memphis. It was specifically indicated that the serial numbers had not been recorded by the firm. He said the report concerning the binoculars is important because they would like to be able to tie in more specifically the binoculars to the York Company by serial number if possible. He recognized that in this instance the Bushnell Company apparently does not record the serial numbers of their shipments. He wondered if there was any other record which might be in existence to reflect that serial numbers were recorded by the firm. I advised him this had been completely run out; that I would recheck with our Memphis Office. He would like to back up the witnesses who say the binoculars in question were sold to the subject.

Pollak wanted to know whether we were running out all allegations relating to possible conspiracy. He said the reports do not reflect any information concerning a possible conspiracy. He was advised that so far we have not been able to establish that there was any conspiracy and we have been constantly alert to this possibility. Any allegations or possible leads that might be covered to establish a conspiracy existed are being given preferred attention.

He said there were some allegations in the New York Times about persons who might have known or been in contact with Ray when he was in Canada. I advised him that such allegations are also being run out. These allegations refer to a Chinese woman who says a fat man was in contact with the subject, to a Negro go-go girl, to waiters, etc. The Legat at Ottawa has been furnished this information for immediate attention.

AR:ge

(6)

CONTINUED - OVER

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach  
Re: MURKIN

Pollak mentioned that he would like to be able to have experts identify the photograph of James Earl Ray which depicts Ray with his eyes closed (photograph which Bureau artists drew in eyes later) with a known photograph of Ray. He particularly mentioned the Missouri State fingerprint card taken of Ray back in 1960. He said this would be helpful in supporting any affidavits of identification which might have been based upon looking at the photograph which the Bureau disseminated of Ray. He said that if our experts could state that the photograph which the Bureau disseminated was the same individual who appears in the Missouri prison print, this might be introduced as evidence from an expert witness showing that the picture was identical with a known photograph of Ray.

This matter has been referred to the Laboratory and Exhibits Section of the Administrative Division for consideration.

The Department has prepared drafts of affidavits for execution by certain individuals. We have previously been furnished these drafts on June 10, 1968, and they were called to your attention. Two individuals mentioned, namely, Charles Quitman Stephens, who resides in Memphis, Tennessee, has been out of pocket and he has not been located as yet. They are continuing to look for him so the Department may contact him for the purpose of getting him to sign the affidavits which they have prepared. Stephens is the individual who saw a side view of the subject when he resided in the rooming house in Memphis. This was the rooming house from which the subject fired at King.

We are also looking for John Webster Deshazo, who was a customer at the Aeromarine Supply Company in Birmingham, Alabama, where the gun was purchased. He identified a photograph of the subject as the person who purchased the gun. Deshazo is on vacation in Colorado. We are presently looking for him.

ACTION:

The above is for your information.



MR. TOLSON

6/11/68

C. D. DE LOACH

1-Mr. DeLoach  
1-Mr. Rosen  
1-Mr. Conrad  
1-Mr. Sullivan  
1-Mr. McGowan

1-Mr. Mohr  
1-Mr. Bishop  
1-Mr. Gale  
1-Mr. Trotter  
1-Mr. Long

MURKIN

Assistant Attorney General Pollock called at 11:56 a. m., 6/10/68. He stated he was sending to Al Rosen the draft affidavits in connection with the extradition proceedings. He indicated that the Solicitor's representative from Tennessee, who is now in England, must have affidavits from the FBI in connection with this matter. Pollock stated that such requests will be held to those individuals necessary to prove probable cause.

Pollock asked if we had received any cablegrams, airtels or teletypes from our Legal Attache in London. I told him we had received one brief cablegram simply reporting the results of the Magistrate Court hearing held at 10:30 a. m., 6/10/68. Pollock stated that he would appreciate the FBI sending a copy of the cablegram to him just so he could tell the Attorney General he had received communications from the FBI. I told him we had no objections to this and would send him a copy of the cablegram in question. I added that the cablegram, however, would simply be duplicative of information already in his possession.

**ACTION:**

For record purposes.

*Sent to  
Pollock  
6/10/68  
L*

CDD:amr  
(11)

JUN 11 5 16 PM '68

FBI  
RECEIVED CIVIL RIGHTS

6-10



MEMO

Call by W. Martin Dale  
6/10/68

"London Times," 6/10/68, has headline "U. S. Department Chief Interviewed King Case Man" and in the article it is reported that during a press conference Vinson said he had seen Ray. It is noted in British usage the verb "to see" means to talk to. "London Sun," 6/10/68 has article stating Ray was removed from his cell and taken to an interview room where Vinson talked to him. It has been determined that Ray was not removed from his cell, Vinson did not talk to Ray but he did see him momentarily through a slot in the cell door.

"London Daily Telegraph," 6/10/68, has article by Ian Colvin which states Sneyd telephoned several times, first calling 6/4/68. Colvin previously wrote about mercenary soldiers in Africa and Sneyd sought information as to how he could join his brother, a mercenary in Angola. Sneyd wanted to contact British mercenary officer and Colvin offered to ask Major Alispair Wicks to call Sneyd who sounded overwrought and incoherent. Wicks declined to call Sneyd and when Sneyd later called Colvin, 6/6/68, Colvin gave him unspecified Brussels address through which he might contact Angola mercenaries.

A piece of paper in subject's possession when arrested has notes apparently in his handwriting containing telephone number of "London Daily Telegraph" what appears the name "Jgraad Liebois," the name Crisp, the name "Alispair Colbin," a note "LA Broos" and the handwritten statement "legion, where to go and qualifications. Write down name of city--last word illegible but resembles Serape. ~~XXXXX~~ Scotland Yard has verified that a man using the name Sneyd had made calls through the switchboard to the paper discussing some African situation. Scotland Yard is attempting to interview Colvin for full details and to determine the Brussels address furnished Sneyd by Colvin.

It has been reported that while staying at the Pax Hotel, London, Sneyd locked his door each night making it difficult to serve his morning tea. He spent most of the day in bed complaining of headaches and seldom went out. When renting the room he paid in English money but bargained over the price. His rent was 30 shillings a night. He had a great many newspapers and allegedly washed his clothes.

The press has reported that after Sneyd left the Pax Hotel a syringe was found stuffed down a waste pipe. Scotland Yard has advised that a syringe was found but investigation has not developed that it has any connection with the subject and the subject's physical condition does not indicate any recent usage of narcotics.

It has also been alleged that when the subject was at the Pax Hotel he tore up a lot of papers. Scotland Yard is checking this out to determine the type of papers involved and to recover them if ~~so~~ possible.



MEMO

called in by  
W. Martin Dale  
6/10/68

"London Times," 6/10/68, has headline "U. S. Department Chief Interviewed King Case Man" and in the article it is reported that during a press conference Vinson said he had seen Ray. It is noted in British usage the verb "to see" means to talk to. "London Sun," 6/10/68 has article stating Ray was removed from his cell and taken to an interview room where Vinson talked to him. It has been determined that Ray was not removed from his cell, Vinson did not talk to Ray but he did see him momentarily through a slot in the cell door.

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MEMO

Mr. DeLoach

June 10, 1968

T. E. Bishop

GEROLD FRANK, AUTHOR  
DESIRE TO DO STORY ON ASSASSINATION  
OF MARTIN LUTHER KING  
BUREAU FILE 94-63917

My memorandum of 5-13-68 reflects that Frank, who is the author of the well-known book entitled "The Boston Strangler," contacted me on that date advising that his publisher, New American Library, Inc., was interested in him doing a book on the assassination of Martin Luther King. Frank stated that he would want to review Bureau files, interview Agents working on the case and "work very closely with the FBI at this time." My memo reflected that I informed him of the confidential nature of data in Bureau files and advised him that until the prosecution in instant case was completed, it was premature to even consider the authorship of a book with Bureau cooperation.

CURRENT DEVELOPMENT:

Frank telephoned me on the morning of 6-10-68 again reiterating his desire to do a book on the above captioned matter and wished to know if it would now be possible for him to interview Agents and look at files in connection with his planned book. I told him that what I had informed him previously still stood and that it was still premature to discuss such a book with Bureau cooperation and we could not even consider such a matter until prosecution was completed.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Jones

TEB:pam  
(6)

MEMO

The Attorney General

June 10, 1968

Director, FBI

**ASSASSINATION OF  
MARTIN LUTHER KING**

Enclosed is a copy of today's editorial in "The Evening Star" which I trust you will find of interest. It adeptly sets the record straight and is appropriately titled "Scratch One Myth."

Enclosure

- 1 - The Deputy Attorney General - Enclosure
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach - Enclosures (2)
- 1 - Mr. Bishop - Enclosures (2)
- ① - Mr. Rosen - Enclosures (2)

*Loney*

GEM:kce (9)

RECEIVED  
JUN 11 6 10 PM '68

June 10, 1968

Mr. Newbold Noyes  
Editor  
The Evening Star  
225 Virginia Avenue, S. E.  
Washington, D. C. 20003

Dear Mr. Noyes:

It was indeed reassuring to read your editorial today entitled "Scratch One Myth." Unfortunately there are many misguided individuals who choose to castigate the motives of investigative agencies without any basis in fact, and it is most difficult to resist the urge to publicly set them straight. Because of this, I am especially grateful to you for speaking out forcefully in our behalf.

Sincerely yours,

1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. Bishop  
(1) - Mr. Rosen

NOTE: Mr. Noyes is on the Special Correspondents List. The title of "Honorable" has been omitted per his prior request.

GEM:mlb (7)



# The Evening Star

With Sunday Morning Edition

Published by THE EVENING STAR NEWSPAPER CO., Washington 3, D. C.

CROSBY N. GOYD, Chairman of the Board

JOHN H. KAUFFMANN, President

NEWBOLD NOYES, Editor

A-14

MONDAY, JUNE 10, 1968

## Scratch One Myth

The arrest of James Earl Ray should, after the legal process has run its course, provide the answers to a series of disturbing questions that arose with the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

First and foremost is the question of Ray's guilt or innocence. If he was involved, was the slaying the work of one diseased mind, or was the assassin, as has been widely suggested, a hired gunman? If so, by whom was he hired? Was it lunatic left or the rabid right? Or could it have been the work of a foreign conspiracy, bent on creating racial turmoil in the cities of the United States?

In addition to providing the answers to these legitimate questions, the arrest should produce another positive result. It should put an end to the irresponsible charge that was tossed around concerning the failure of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to produce the fugitive as promptly as every one—the FBI conspicuously included—would have wished.

The FBI, it was said, wasn't really trying; if a white man had been killed, Ray would long since have been in custody. The failure to make an arrest, so the myth went, was yet another

proof that the white power structure could not be trusted.

The truth, of course, was quite different. Seldom—perhaps never—has an international manhunt been mounted to equal the world-wide net that slowly closed in on James Earl Ray. The case was given top priority, with 3,000 agents assigned to the hunt on a full-time basis. Some \$1.4 million was spent in the 65-day search. The active cooperation of foreign police was sought and obtained—a cooperative venture that has now paid off.

It would be shocking enough if the false charge regarding the FBI's motives was spread by uninformed, misguided individuals. The charge became deadly serious, however, when it was voiced by the Rev. Ralph David Abernathy, successor to Dr. King and chief spokesman for the Poor People's Campaign.

Abernathy should know that in this time of tension and emotion, such charges can hit with the impact of a live hand grenade. Considering the national stature that he has claimed for himself, he should have had enough sense of responsibility to determine if the charge had any basis in fact before he started talking.

Mr. McGowan

June 10, 1968

A. Rosen

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Malley

1 - Mr. McGowan

MURKIN

① - Mr. Long

Assistant Attorney General Stephen J. Pollak of the Civil Rights Division called to advise me that with reference to the extradition of Ray the Department had compiled a number of affidavits which will be necessary to submit to the British authorities. He indicated that our experts here at Washington had furnished information for the preparation of a ballistics and fingerprint affidavit; that two affidavits had been prepared with reference to the purchase of the rifle at Birmingham; and that affidavits will be prepared with reference to persons in the police department; namely, Zachary, who had possession of the gun and binoculars and material found at the crime scene. Also they plan to have medical expert testimony concerning the possibility that the trajectory could be fired from the room which Ray had rented.

He also mentioned that at Memphis there were four persons to be interviewed in connection with the preparation of affidavits and they had dispatched a Departmental attorney to contact our Memphis Office so these individuals could be located. He identified them as (1) Stephens, who saw profile of the subject in the rooming house; (2) Mrs. Brewer, the landlady; (3) the individual who sold the binoculars to Ray; and (4) Canipe, who ran the amusement parlor on Main Street in Memphis where the gun, binoculars and other personal belongings were abandoned.

With reference to the above, Mr. Pollak said he would send these to us today and he would appreciate our oral advice as to whether the affidavits are satisfactory.

I pointed out to him that it would appear that re-interviewing some of these witnesses at this stage of the proceedings would be to expose the Department to conflicting statements. I asked him why it was necessary to investigate the case, so to speak, at this stage of the proceedings. Pollak stated it was believed any information which might be furnished to the British authorities to insure his extradition would be

AR:lge  
(5)

CONTINUED - OVER

Memorandum to Mr. McGowan  
Re: MURKIN

desirable. He said the question which I raised concerning the re-interviewing of persons at this stage certainly was sufficiently important so he felt he would like to talk to the Solicitor concerning this matter because he felt this has some merit and should be considered. It was pointed out to Pollak that it was my understanding that all that need be presented would be information to establish probable cause that Ray was the individual mentioned in the indictment. Pollak advised me he would be in touch with me later.

ADDENDUM:

Pollak called to advise me he was sending over the affidavits they had prepared for signature. They have eliminated Mrs. Brewer. We have reviewed and read these to Birmingham and Memphis. We have no changes, comments or suggestions. Pollak was so advised.

ACTION:

For your information.



*Memo*

Mr. W. C. Sullivan

June 10, 1968

J. A. Sizoo

MURKIN

At 11:45 a.m., 6/9/68, John Minnich, Legat, London, telephonically advised Special Agent Howard H. Wallace, Jr., that Assistant Attorney General Fred M. Vinson, Jr., held an extemporaneous press conference on the steps of the United States Embassy in London. The conference was covered by television and news representatives. Vinson reiterated that he was in London to check security arrangements concerning James Earl Ray and to make sure that such were maximum. He further stated that he was also there to expedite extradition of Ray. He praised New Scotland Yard's handling of the case. Although it was not known whether Vinson was asked whether he had seen Ray, Vinson had agreed with the press officer at the Embassy to say, if he was asked, he saw Ray in his cell but did not speak to him. The above conference was held at 4:40 p.m. London time, 11:40 a.m. our time on 6/9/68. The above information was furnished immediately upon receipt to the Supervisor on duty in the General Investigative Division for appropriate handling.

At 12:03 p.m. John Minnich, Legat, London, telephonically advised that he had been in contact with one of his press sources who told him Assistant Attorney General Vinson had advised at the above press conference that he would not discuss what tactics would be used to return Ray to the United States. Vinson paid tribute to New Scotland Yard and the FBI. He said he had seen Chief Superintendent Butler at New Scotland Yard and had seen Ray but he had not talked to him. Vinson did not know if he, Vinson, would attend court 6/10/68. Vinson was asked if he was going to return to the United States on the same plane as the subject. Vinson's reply was that it was doubtful. He said he would have further talks with New Scotland Yard

HHW:gmt (7)

- 1 - Mr. C. D. DeLoach
- ① - Mr. A. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. J. A. Sizoo
- 1 - Mr. G. C. Moore
- 1 - Mr. H. H. Wallace

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*  
CONTINUED - OVER

Memorandum J. A. Sizoo to W. C. Sullivan  
RE: MURKIN

on the morning of 6/10/68. This information was immediately transmitted to the Supervisor on duty in the General Investigative Division for appropriate handling.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

Mr. DeLoach

June 10, 1968

A. Rosen

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

MURKIN

This is the investigation into the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

The "London Times" of 6/10/68, had a headline as follows: "U. S. Department Chief Interviewed King Case Man" and in the article it is reported that during press conference Vinson said he had seen Ray. It is noted in British usage the verb "to see" means to talk to. The "London Sun" of 6/10/68, has an article stating that Ray was removed from his cell and taken to an interview room where Vinson talked to him. It has been determined that Ray was not removed from his cell and Vinson did not talk to Ray but did see him momentarily through a slot in the cell door.

"London Daily Telegraph" of 6/10/68, contains an article by Ian Colvin which states Sneyd (Ray) telephoned several times, first calling on 6/4/68. Colvin had previously written about mercenary soldiers in Africa and Sneyd sought information as to how he could join his brother, a mercenary in Angola. Sneyd wanted to contact a British mercenary officer and Colvin offered to ask a major to call Sneyd who sounded overwrought and incoherent. The major declined to call Sneyd and when Sneyd later called the reporter on 6/6/68, Colvin gave him unspecified Brussels address through which he might contact Angola mercenaries. Scotland Yard is attempting to interview Colvin for full details and to determine the Brussels address reportedly furnished to Sneyd by Colvin.

Investigation has established that subject departed from London for Lisbon, Portugal, on 5/7/68. He remained in Lisbon for ten days and on 5/17/68, returned to London from Lisbon. Scotland Yard has an entire team of men working to establish subject's whereabouts during the period 5/17 to 6/8/68, the date of his arrest.

CLM:cs  
(8)

CONTINUED - OVER



Memo Rosen to DeLoach  
RE: MURKIN

ACTION:

Pertinent developments in this case will be brought to  
your attention.

- 2 -

Mr. Rosen

June 10, 1968

C. L. McGowan

1 - Mr. Rosen  
1 - Mr. Malley  
1 - Mr. McCowan  
1 - Mr. Long

*Memo*

MURKIN

At 9:10 p. m., 6-10-68, Assistant Attorney General Stephen J. Pollak of the Department contacted Extra-Duty Supervisor H. E. Helgeson. He started his conversation by saying he "wondered if anything had come in recently in connection with Ray from any of our offices here or abroad." He was asked if he had anything specific in mind and he said that on 6-7-68, the Attorney General had requested to be advised in writing of all developments.

He then went on to say that Mr. DeLoach had told him he was sending over a copy of a one-page cablegram from London which came in on 6-10-68, concerning Ray's appearance in court in London, but that he had not received this. He was advised that SA Helgeson was not in a position to know what information had previously been sent to the Department; however, a check would be made. He was asked again if there was any specific items of information he was particularly interested in and Pollak again replied that the Attorney General had requested any pertinent developments be furnished to him in writing. He was asked if he desired any specific action the night of 6-10-68, and he replied "Well, I'll be in my office for a while." He then went on to another topic of conversation.

ACTION:

For information.

HEH:hw  
(5)

MEMO

Mr. Rosen

June 10, 1968

C. L. McGowan

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

MURKIN

At 4:40 p.m., 6-10-68, John Shanley, New York Office, advised that the Resident Agent at White Plains, New York, had learned from one William Jones, a known gambler, that a female acquaintance of Jones, employed by the Long Line Division of American Telephone and Telegraph Company (AT&T) had heard that a call was placed on Saturday, p.m., from area code 213 (Los Angeles) to London, England. The caller wanted to speak with subject Ray but did not have a telephone number and requested the operator's assistance. The call was reportedly completed to an unknown law enforcement office, and the caller was advised that Ray was in custody and could not speak to anyone. The caller allegedly identified himself as an attorney.

New York Office is checking through their sources at AT&T to verify this information.

ACTION:

If such a call was placed and pertinent information is developed by New York, New York will furnish such information to Los Angeles for appropriate investigation.

FJH:jlh  
(5)



Mr. Stephen J. Pollak  
Assistant Attorney General

June 10, 1968

Director, FBI

1 - Mr. McGowan

1 - Mr. Long

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

In connection with the case involving the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., I am enclosing a copy of a communication from our Legal Attache in London, England.

This is for your information.

Enclosure

REL:vea

(5)

NOTE:

Legal Attache in London this date advises that subject appeared in Magistrates Court, London, England, charged with entry into England on a fraudulent passport and possessing a firearm without permission contrary to the Firearms Act. He was remanded in custody to 6/18/68 on these offenses. He made request for legal aid. "London Daily Telegraph" carrying story that prior to subject's arrest he contacted paper asking for information about joining a mercenary group in Africa. New Scotland Yard working on this matter. This information being transmitted to Mr. Pollak of the Department.

**Mr. DeLoach**

**June 10, 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. Trotter  |

**This is the investigation of the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.**

**Subject James Earl Ray was arraigned in Magistrates Court, London, this morning at 10:30 a. m. London time (5:30 a. m. Washington time) on charges of carrying a concealed weapon and for entering England with illegal documentation (false Canadian passport).**

**The arraignment lasted only a few minutes and an additional hearing has been set for next Tuesday, 6/18/68. Ray was remanded to Brixton Prison where he will be held until his 6/18/68 appearance.**

**The arraignment was conducted under maximum security conditions and members of the public and the press were searched before being admitted to the hearing.**

**During the arraignment the Magistrate directed Ray's attention to a new British law under which the subject is granted the privilege of saying whether or not he wants the proceedings in his case publicized in the British press. Ray stated he did not want the proceedings in his case publicized.**

**Ray made formal application during the arraignment for legal counsel and the Magistrate will appoint counsel for him.**

**Two possibilities are available in connection with Ray's return to this country, formal extradition proceedings or deportation proceedings. Assistant Attorney General Fred Vinson who is in London representing the Department to expedite legal activities has indicated a preference for extradition proceedings.**

**JGK:vea  
(12)**

**CONTINUED - OVER**



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

If deportation proceedings were to be undertaken against Ray, the charge of carrying a concealed weapon will be dropped and the British would use the fraudulent passport charge as the basis for deporting him. Should this procedure be followed, Ray possibly could be returned to the United States sometime next week following his 6/18/68 hearing.

If formal extradition proceedings are undertaken it is estimated that it will take at least three to five weeks for his extradition to be accomplished.

Robert A. Frazier, Examiner assigned to our Laboratory Division, and George J. Bonebrake, a latent fingerprint examiner assigned to our Identification Division, assisted the Department in the preparation of documents which could be necessary in the extradition of the subject. Frazier previously made an examination of the rifle left at the scene of the shooting of Martin Luther King, Jr. Bonebrake previously identified latent fingerprints on the evidence abandoned at the scene as those of James Earl Ray.

Among the items recovered by New Scotland Yard in connection with Ray's arrest on 6/8/68 was a "Liberty Chief" Japanese revolver, a Polaroid camera, a RCA transistor radio and various articles of clothing.

Among the items of clothing was a brown wool suit with label inside of inter-pocket, English and Scottish Woolen Company, Limited, Montreal, with name Eric Galt, date 7/31/67, order number 11526. It is to be noted it was previously established that subject as Galt was in Montreal, Canada, during part of July and August, 1967. Investigation has been immediately instituted regarding these items.

**ACTION:**

This matter continues to receive expeditious attention and you will be kept advised of all pertinent developments.

Mr. Rosen

June 10, 1968

C. L. McGowan

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

MURKIN

Mr. Harold Shapiro, Criminal Division of the Department, advised 6/9/68 he heard Ralph Carpenter (the person who sold the binoculars to Ray) was confined to a mental institution. Mr. Shapiro asked for verification of this and specific information as to the condition of Carpenter and whether he was sufficiently lucid to sign an affidavit.

ACTION:

SA Joseph Hester, Memphis Division, was instructed by phone to look into this, contact appropriate doctors and phone results to the Bureau as soon as possible on 6/10/68.

DAS:pah  
(5)

ADDENDUM:

SA Hester, by phone, 6/9/68, stated it has been verified Carpenter is a patient at Tennessee Psychiatric Institute and Hospital, Memphis, Tennessee. They have an appointment with the psychiatrist at 9 a. m., 6/10/68, (10 a. m. Washington, D. C., time) and will phone in the results.

Mr. Rosen

June 10, 1968

C. L. McGowan

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

MURKIN

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DAS:pah  
(5)

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6-9

Mr. Rosen

June 9, 1968

C. L. McGowan

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

MURKIN

Harold Shapiro, Criminal Division of the Department, on 6-9-68, by phone advised as a back-up to prosecutive action against James Earl Ray in Tennessee, arrangements are being made in the State of Missouri to request extradition ~~and also~~ of Ray as an escaped felon.

In this connection, United States Attorney Riddle is today (6-9-68), going to Jefferson City, Missouri, to meet with the Governor to arrange appropriate process.

Mr. Shapiro inquired as to whether we could be of assistance in expediting the transportation of the papers from Missouri to Washington, D. C.

It was arranged that United States Attorney Riddle would advise the SAC, Kansas City when and where the papers would be made available.

**ACTION:** SAC Karl Dissly was contacted by telephone and advised of the arrangements and instructed to take appropriate action upon contact by United States Attorney Riddle to see that the papers would be delivered to Washington on a most expedite basis.

DAS:erg  
(5)

SEE ADDENDUM PAGE TWO

ADDENDUM

DAS:erg

6-9-68

SAC Gearty, St. Louis Division, by phone 6-9-68, advised that United States Attorney Riddle had called him regarding the above. SAC Gearty is aware of what is transpiring and will coordinate with SAC Dissly and between them arrange for the papers to be forwarded to Washington as soon as available. SAC Gearty mentioned due to necessity of obtaining exemplified copies of pertinent records from the United States District Court Judge, the papers probably would not be available until 6-10-68.

Mr. DeLoach

A. Rosen

MURKIN

*ME MC*  
June 9, 1968

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

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

An individual identifying himself as Gary Ralph, a reporter for the Toronto Telegram, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, telephonically contacted the Bureau on June 10, 1968. Ralph indicated that he had developed information concerning Ray and his activities in Toronto and was desirous of "trading" with the FBI. Ralph inquired as to whether or not the Bureau had or had not established if there was a conspiracy. He was advised that this matter was receiving investigative attention and the Bureau could not make any statement concerning a conspiracy matter.

Ralph stated that he had established through three or four persons that Ray had been seen with a particular individual in bars in Toronto before he showed up in the rooming house (in this regard Ray appeared as Paul Bridgman at one boarding house on 4/8/68 and as Ramon George Sneyd at another boarding house on 4/19/68). Ralph also indicated that Ray had been in Buffalo before going to Toronto.

ACTION:

Legat Moss Innes, Ottawa, was telephonically advised of the above information so that it could be furnished to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Toronto Police.

The Buffalo Office was telephonically advised of the report that Ray had been in Buffalo before preceeding to Toronto and was instructed to initiate appropriate inquiry in an effort to verify such allegation.

CLM:bjf  
(7)

8-9



*Memo*

Mr. DeLoach

June 8, 1968

S. B. Donahoe

MURKIN

Subsequent to the public announcement of the arrest of the King assassin, Congressman Dan H. Kuykendall of Memphis, Tennessee, called the Bureau at 12:45 p.m. Saturday.

Congressman Kuykendall said he had been in touch with Special Agent in Charge Jensen on this apprehension. He called the Bureau, however, because he wanted the Director to know that he was extremely proud of the work done by the FBI. He said he was issuing a statement to the press along this line. I told him his comments were very much appreciated and would be relayed to the Director.

ACTION:

Attached is a letter to Congressman acknowledging his call.

Enc.

1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. Bishop  
1 - Mr. Rosen  
1 - Mr. Morrell  
1 - Mr. McGowan  
1 - Mr. Donahoe

*Long*

SBD:kem  
(7)

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

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

TO : MR. TOLSON

DATE: June 8, 1968

FROM : C. D. DELOACH

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. Trotter

SUBJECT: MURKIN

I called the Attorney General (AG) at approximately 5:50 p. m. , June 8, 1968, and advised him that in connection with the conversation in his office with me, the Director had instructed me to send two men to London instead of one for the purpose of escorting the subject back to the United States. The AG was told that this would make a total of four FBI representatives escorting the subject back to this country.

The AG was additionally told that the Director had instructed that the two men in question proceed to London as expeditiously as possible so that they would be on the scene in the event extradition or deportation proceedings occurred faster than anticipated. He was told that towards this end, I had called Joe Califano at the White House, who usually handled military transportation in expedite matters of this nature, to tell him that if he knew of a military plane proceeding to London, it would be appreciated if the FBI representatives could hitch a ride on this plane.

The AG snappishly inquired as to the reasons why this had not been cleared with him personally. I told him I had specifically mentioned in his office the fact that three men would be suitable for escorting subject Ray back to the United States and that he had disagreed stating that he felt additional men should be assigned to this project. He stated he did not recall this exchange of conversation. I told him I recalled it very well. He stated there was no need to get into a "spitting contest" over this particular issue and that he wanted me to definitely realize that he did not recall such matters being discussed. I told him I would not back down on the matter and that the discussion had taken place. He then turned to another topic.

The AG stated that he wanted me to know that he was unhappy about the manner in which this case had been handled. I immediately asked him for specifics. He stated that obviously the FBI had possessed a great deal of information and had not cut him in on it. He stated that as an example,

CDD:erg  
(12)

CONTINUED - OVER

MEMORANDUM TO MR. TOLSON  
RE: MURKIN

the Deputy Attorney General (DAG) of the United States had called me personally and that I had refused to give him "inside facts." I replied that when the DAG first called me this morning, I had indicated that I had no facts to give him but that a short time later I had called the DAG and had read to him the press release prior to the time the release was given to the wire services. I pointed out to the AG that his Deputy had fully approved the press release and had indicated that it was completely within guidelines of appropriate legal proceedings. The AG replied that he had been told differently. He stated that he had been advised that I had not given any information whatsoever to the DAG. I stated that as indicated in my conversation with him, the facts previously mentioned were true. The AG replied by stating this was one of the biggest cases the Department of Justice will ever have. He then asked me point blank, "Who the hell do you think you're working for?" He quickly added "I'll tell you who you're working for, you're working for the Department of Justice." He next added that he wanted to insist that in the future that any information whatsoever received in this case, any investigative step whatsoever, and any communications be brought to his personal attention without delay. He stated that obviously he had been kept in the dark thusfar and that he did not intend to put up with this in the future.

I told the AG if he insisted upon making such falsifications that there was no need to continue the conversation. I then hung up the phone on him.

The AG's secretary called me back approximately three minutes later and stated that he wanted to speak to me again. He then came on the phone and told me that our conversation had not been over and that he demanded to know why I had hung up the phone on him. I told him that apparently there was no need to continue the conversation and that I did not wish to discuss it further. He stated that he must insist, as Attorney General, that any arrangements made concerning this case be cleared with him. He stated that in connection with the military flight for our Agents that I should have realized Assistant Attorney General (AAG) Vinson wanted to go on the same flight and would have wanted to make arrangements on a personal basis with the White House or the military personnel. I told the AG that if he wanted Vinson to go on a military flight, this was entirely his prerogative to make his own arrangements. The AG then told me he would discuss this case at greater length later on.

MEMORANDUM TO MR. TOLSON  
RE: MURKIN

Within five minutes the AG's secretary called again and asked that I come around to his office right away. I took Mr. Rosen with me as a witness. The AG had with him DAG Christopher and AAG Pollak. The conversation was initiated by the AG and he immediately referred to his previous conversation relating to the Agents who were going to London and the discussion which had taken place in his office earlier during the day when I advised him that three Agents would be available in London for the purpose of handling the subject insofar as his return to the United States was concerned. He reviewed what he had said earlier and I repeated exactly the position I had previously taken. There was a stand-off and when he recognized that I had not changed my position, he turned to Rosen for verification at which time Rosen repeated that it was his understanding that three Agents would be available in London and that this matter had been thoroughly discussed at FBI Headquarters earlier.

I made no further reference to this conversation and he then turned to what he said were the three most important considerations in this matter: (1) Security; (2) insuring that all proper legal procedures acceptable to the United States and Great Britain would be followed; (3) that proper interviews would take place.

In this connection, there was a discussion concerning security and he referred to the availability of Legal Attache Minnich. He insisted that Minnich meet Vinson at the plane Sunday morning, June 9, 1968. I told him that Minnich would not be available to meet Vinson inasmuch as Minnich or one of our people would probably spend all night at the jail. He asked me if this was a true statement. I told him it was a true statement or I would not have made it.

He then referred to the legal proceedings that would take place. He said that Vinson would be in complete charge of this matter, that he would make the arrangements and insure that proper procedures be followed. He said that Minnich would report to Vinson concerning any developments and that the question of deportation was viewed favorably by him. He said if deportation was pursued, it could be criticized from a legal standpoint insofar as he was concerned. He said transporting the subject by any plane, military or owned by the United States Government, is not a free deportation from any country. He said that his attorneys would be reviewing this matter and would be in a position to make appropriate recommendations to him. He said that the legal procedures which would be followed were obviously paramount and would have to receive first consideration over any expedient investigative procedures. I told the AG at this point that we wanted him to know that the FBI had not injected

MEMORANDUM TO MR. TOLSON  
RE: MURKIN

itself into any such so-called legal procedures and that our actions up to this date had been strictly of an investigative nature. I also advised him that I had informed him of the attitude of the British Government with reference to their attitude toward deportation and that this had not been an opinion of FBI representatives in London. I stated that when I mentioned that there was a 60/40 chance that he would be deported, that this was the attitude of the British authorities rather than our representatives.

The AG was advised that we had set in motion the obtaining of the copy of the indictment which had been requested which indictment was returned by the Tennessee authorities naming this subject as the person responsible for the killing of King, that this would be made available immediately upon its receipt and that a properly certified copy was being obtained.

DAG Christopher asked me if the subject was being detained on a "holding action" or as a result of a violation of British law. He was told that the subject was being detained on the basis of entering the country with illegal documents and because he had a loaded gun on his person.

The AG then turned to AAG Pollak. He stated he wanted him to divorce himself from other work for the next several days and that he should supervise this case completely. The AG then turned to me and stated that he wanted Pollak to be kept advised of any communication, airtel, or cablegram that might come in in connection with this case. I told the AG that any facts which were pertinent would be furnished to the Department. The AG then indicated that the meeting was over.

I called Legal Attache Minnich upon my return to the office and informed him that he should proceed as planned; however, under no circumstances should he give the impression to Vinson or the Embassy that the FBI was injecting itself into extradition or deportation proceedings. Minnich properly replied that he had not thusfar injected himself and that as a matter of fact, following my call to him concerning Vinson coming over there, he had immediately informed Embassy officials that all proceedings pertaining to extradition or deportation would be strictly handled between Vinson, the American Embassy and the British Government. I told Minnich that he should be diplomatic but firm with Vinson and that under no circumstances should Vinson be allowed to push our personnel around. I also informed him that the AG had been told that he, Minnich, would be unable to meet Vinson inasmuch as he would be spending almost full time at Scotland Yard and at the jail.



MEMORANDUM TO MR. TOLSON  
RE: MURKIN

Minnich was advised that Special Agents Bounds and Zeiss would arrive in London by military transportation at approximately 1:30 p. m., London time, Sunday, June 9, 1968. I stated that the Director had wanted these men to report to London on an expeditious basis in the event the British Government allowed proceedings to happen rapidly. Minnich was told that these men would report to him upon their arrival.

Specific instructions have been given to Special Agents Bounds and Zeiss as to how they are to handle themselves. They have been particularly advised concerning Vinson and his background.

ACTION: For record purposes.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

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

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: June 8, 1968

FROM : A. Rosen

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. Trotter

SUBJECT: MURKIN

This is the investigation into the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Based upon stops placed by New Scotland Yard as a result of information furnished by the FBI, James Earl Ray was arrested at the London International Airport, London, England, today, 6/8/68, at 11:15 a. m. London time (7:15 a. m. Washington, D. C., time).

Ray was traveling under a Canadian passport issued in the name of Ramon George Sneyd. At the time of his arrest he had two Canadian passports under this name. One had been issued at Ottawa on 4/24/68 and the other had been issued by the Canadian Embassy at Lisbon, Portugal, on 5/16/68. Ray obtained a second passport by claiming that his original passport had been destroyed.

Ray at the time of the arrest was carrying in his hip pocket a fully loaded revolver. He is being detained by English authorities for carrying a concealed weapon and for entering the country with illegal documentation (the passport). Ray is to be arraigned in court in London on Monday, 6/10/68, at 10:30 a. m. London time. Ray cannot be interviewed by FBI personnel before his arraignment. Subsequent to the arraignment he can be interviewed only if he consents to submitting to such an interview.

The Legal Attache in London has advised that Ray's identity has been confirmed through fingerprints.

The White House, the Department of State, Secret Service and officials of the Department of Justice were appropriately advised of the apprehension of Ray. Also, Public Safety Director, Frank Holloman, of Memphis, Tennessee, was personally informed that Ray had been

Enclosures

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Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach  
RE: MURKIN

apprehended and was in custody in London, England. The Canadian Embassy in Washington, D. C., and Royal Canadian Mounted Police Liaison Officer Pantry were advised. It was pointed out to the Department of State and officials of the Department that extradition proceedings would have to be initiated. It is our understanding that the Unlawful Flight to Avoid Confinement charge as well as the Civil Rights - Conspiracy charge are not extraditable offenses. The murder charge which is outstanding against Ray based on the indictment in Tennessee is an avenue for extradition.

The Crime Records Division issued a national press release on this case at 11:35 a. m., after it had been cleared with both the Deputy Attorney General and with Cliff Sessions, the Department of Justice Information Officer. Prior to that the release had been read to and approved by the Legat in London and the SACs at Atlanta, Memphis and Birmingham. The latter SACs were advised it could be released to the local press at 11:55 a. m. Extremely wide press coverage has been given to the press release, both on radio, television and in newspapers. Attached is a copy of the press release as well as the story as it appeared in the 6/8/68 issue of the Washington "Evening Star."

ACTION:

You will be kept advised of pertinent developments in this matter.

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

# King Killing Suspect Is Caught in London

## Ray Is Arrested By the 'Yard' on Flight to Belgium

By JEREMIAH O'LEARY

Star Staff Writer

James Earl Ray, accused slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was arrested today in London, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover announced this morning.

The 40-year-old fugitive was seized by New Scotland Yard operatives at 11:15 a.m. (7:15 EDT) as he disembarked from an airliner en route from Lisbon, Portugal, to Brussels, Belgium.

The FBI, which has sought Ray had a snub-nosed, fully-loaded revolver in his hip pocket when British police made the arrest. Ray was arrested on the basis of information furnished Scotland Yard by the FBI.

Ray was wearing a light raincoat, sports jacket and gray trousers.

He was traveling with a Canadian passport listing him as Ramon George Sneyd. The FBI said he obtained the Canadian passport April 24 in Ottawa,



JAMES EARL RAY

Canada, where he apparently fled after King's assassination.

The arrest was announced as King's widow was attending funeral services for Sen. Robert F. Kennedy in New York.

Hoover said Ray had been traced by the FBI to Canada and that he had flown to London on May 7 with a round-trip ticket. In London, Ray had cashed in

the unused part of the ticket in exchange for a ticket to Lisbon and a voucher for the difference of \$14.60.

Last night, Ray boarded an airliner in the Portuguese capital, checked his luggage through to Brussels and stopped in London only as part of a refueling stop.

The FBI, already aware of the false identity he had assumed, had alerted Scotland Yard to watch for anyone using the name Ramon George Sneyd.

The arrest came when Scotland Yard detectives checked the passenger list of the Lisbon to Brussels airplane at London International Airport.

The FBI said Ray's extradition to the United States will be sought on the basis of the murder charge filed against him by the State of Tennessee rather than the federal fugitive and civil rights warrants outstanding against him.

According to information reaching here, Ray refused to admit his identity but he was identified quickly by British police from fingerprints taken after his arrest. Ray is being held

Sec RAY, Page A-3

The Washington Post

Times Herald

The Washington Daily News

The Evening Star (Washington) *Page 1*

The Sunday Star (Washington)

Daily News (New York)

Sunday News (New York)

New York Post

The New York Times

The Sun (Baltimore)

The Worker

The New Leader

The Wall Street Journal

The National Observer

People's World

Date *June 8, 1968*

## RAY

Continued From Page A-1  
in London's Cannon Row police station under maximum guard.

Washington officials said they understood he would be arraigned on British charges against him on Monday and that extradition proceedings would be started as soon as possible.

Hoover said the arrest was the result of close cooperation between the FBI, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Scotland Yard. The FBI had lost Ray's trail in the first several weeks after the murder of Dr. King, but picked up his scent again after routine checks of all passports issued in the United States and Canada.

Ray had applied for and obtained the Canadian passport under the name of Sneyd, using the name of one Paul Bridgeman of Toronto as a reference.

Hoover said no Paul Bridgeman had been located in Toronto, but that was the name of one of Ray's fellow prisoners in the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City, Mo. Ray himself apparently used the name Paul Bridgeman during his stay in Toronto before flying to London on May 7.

He had continued his old habits of living in cheap boarding houses and frequenting bars during his stay in Canada, FBI agents learned. The pursuit of Ray intensified in mid-May when the FBI learned that he had gone to the Canadian Embassy in Lisbon to apply for a second passport under the name of Sneyd, saying that the first one had been spoiled.