

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

with defendants and witnesses who appear nervous or who do not sometimes understand legal procedures.

According to the files of the Bureau and our Memphis Office, Judge Battle has been the subject of two Civil Rights complaints, both in 1965. In the one case, the victim complained that he had been illegally extradited and the judge told him that regardless of how he had been returned to Memphis, an indictment was outstanding against him and he was going to stand trial in the court. In the second case, the victim complained that Judge Battle told a prisoner to be quiet in his courtroom and therefore, this was a violation of the victim's civil rights. In both of these cases, the complaints were referred to the Civil Rights Division of the Department and no further investigation was requested by the Department.

The Bureau files, as well as the Memphis files, contain no information of a derogatory nature concerning Judge Battle.

ACTION:

For your information.

*Called by SAC
NW By
MEMPHIS
7/24/68*

hmg

Criminal Court
Judge W. Preston Battle

Described as one of the most experienced trial judges in Memphis. He is 60 years of age. Attended Washington and Lee University and Memphis University Law School. Received license to practice law in 1933. Thereafter he was assistant to District Attorney General for Shelby County for 11 years. He entered private practice of law in Memphis in 1945. Most of his work was cases devoted to criminal law. In 1959 he was appointed Judge for Division 3 of the Criminal Court of Shelby County. He has since been elected to that position. He is member of Shelby County and Bar Associations. Served on Board of Directors and Executive Committee. Described as a Judge who runs a ~~man~~ no nonsense courtroom. Had some of his decisions reversed according to the newspaper article but newspaper article says this is a mark of a Judge who hears a lot of cases and is not afraid to blaze new trails. He is further described as a stickler for legal aspects of a case and will often recess court to check a point of law. He was described as a Judge who will give sharp words to lawyers who try grandstand tactics in the courtroom. Described as a Judge who displays patience with defendants or witnesses who appear nervous or who do not seem to understand legal procedures.

According to Jensen Judge Battle has been the subject of two separate civil rights complaints, both in 1965.

In one case the victim, Douglas Lanier, complained that he had been illegally extradited and Judge Battle told him that regardless of how he had been returned to Memphis an indictment was outstanding against him and he was going to stand trial in Judge Battle's court.

In the other case the victim complained that Judge Battle had told a prisoner to be quiet in his courtroom.

In both instances the complaints were furnished to the Civil Rights Division of the Department and no further investigation was requested.

Jensen advised that files of the Memphis Office contain no information of a derogatory nature concerning Judge Battle.

Long

**Criminal Court
Judge W. Preston Battle**

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In the other case the victim complained that Judge Battle had told a prisoner to be quiet in his courtroom.

In both instances the complaints were furnished to the Civil Rights Division of the Department and no further investigation was requested.

Jensen advised that files of the Memphis Office contain no information of a derogatory nature concerning Judge Battle.

MEMO

Mr. DeLoach

July 22, 1968

A. Rosen

MURKIN

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Martindale
1 - Mr. Bounds

This is to advise that Special Agent Kenneth L. Bounds of the General Investigative Division on special assignment, Memphis, Tennessee, participated in the turnover of James Earl Ray to Sheriff William N. Morris, Shelby County Sheriff's Office on the morning of 7/19/68.

Sheriff Morris advised Special Agent Bounds he fully understood that once he accepted custody of Ray aboard the military plane, the responsibility of transporting the prisoner to the county jail rested entirely with the Sheriff. However, he asked if Special Agent Bounds could restrain the prisoner on the aircraft and accompany him with the prisoner to the county jail as a matter of cooperation. Special Agent Bounds agreed to this arrangement.

Shortly after the prisoner was legally turned over to the Sheriff, Special Agent Bounds proceeded to apply the Sheriff's restraining gear on the prisoner. The restraining belt was placed around the prisoner's waist and he was asked by Special Agent Bounds, "Is this too tight?" and the prisoner replied, "No." Special Agent Bounds then placed the Sheriff's handcuffs through the restraining belt and applied them to the prisoner's wrist at which time Special Agent Bounds asked the prisoner, "They are not too tight, are they?" and the prisoner replied, "That's fine."

Thereafter, the prisoner was escorted from the plane by Sheriff Morris and Special Agent Bounds and he was immediately placed into an armored car. Special Agent Bounds accompanied the armored car to the Shelby County Jail and upon arrival at the jail, Special Agent Bounds and Sheriff Morris hurriedly escorted the prisoner safely into the confines of the jail without incident.

ACTION:

For information and record purposes. 25 JUL 1968

LCI
REC'D - CIA PHOENIX

KLB:vea
(5)

Memorandum

Mr. DeLoach

July 22, 1968

A. Rosen

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Malley

MURKIN

1 - Mr. Long

1 - Mr. McGowan

1 - Mr. Bishop

SAC Jensen of the Memphis Office has telephonically furnished the following information.

James Earl Ray was arraigned before Judge W. Preston Battle in Shelby County criminal court this morning at 10 a. m. and by mutual agreement of the Judge, the prosecutor and defense counsel, trial has been set for 11/12/68.

The entire proceedings took only approximately ten minutes.

Ray was brought from his cell on the third floor of the Shelby County Jail into the courtroom by Shelby County Sheriff William N. Morris and his two chief deputies.

The indictment was read to Ray who was represented by Attorney Arthur Hanes and his son and Hanes inquired of Judge Battle as to whether Ray was required to enter a plea.

Judge Battle advised Hanes that he could enter a plea at the arraignment if he desired or could do so at a later date whereupon Hanes entered a plea of not guilty. Immediately after the trial was set Ray was returned to his cell in the Shelby County Jail.

There were only approximately thirty spectators in the courtroom including representatives of the press. All persons entering the courtroom were searched and they were photographed and their voice recorded on video tape.

ACTION:

For information.

JGK:ves

(7)

Rewrite page 1

The Attorney General

July 22, 1968

Director, FBI

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. McGowan
1 - Mr. McDonough

You will recall that New Scotland Yard had been unable to determine James Earl Ray's whereabouts from May 17, 1968, when he arrived back in England from Lisbon, Portugal, and May 23, 1968, when he checked into the New Earls Court Hotel in London, England.

As a result of a request made by our representative in London, the Yard rechecked all hotels in the Kensington area near the West London Air Terminal and they determined that Ray checked into the Heathfield House Hotel in London on May 17, 1968, and checked out on May 23, 1968, which is the date he checked into the New Earls Court Hotel. The guest book of the Heathfield House Hotel contains the signature of Ramon George Sneyd, 962 Dundas - W - Toronto, Canada. This, of course, is the name Ray used to obtain his Canadian passport and one of his addresses in Canada was 962 Dundas, West Toronto.

The proprietress of the hotel identified a photograph of the subject as the individual known to her as Ramon George Sneyd who stayed at her hotel. The FBI Laboratory has determined that the signature Ramon George Sneyd on the copy of the guest book page is somewhat indistinct but is similar to known signatures of the subject.

The proprietress of the hotel advised that Ray kept to himself, did not receive any mail, phone calls or visitors and left the hotel between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. every morning after breakfast and returned at about 1 a.m. She stated she did not think that Ray stayed out all night on any occasion but she could not be sure.

New Scotland Yard has orally informed in strictest confidence that on May 27, 1968, at 3:20 p.m., a lone man with a small gun walked into a jeweler's shop in the Paddington area of London, pointed the gun at the jeweler and stated, "This is a stick-up, give me the money in the till." The jeweler hesitated and the man panicked and ran.

EJM:cs:vea
(10)

NOTE: See Rosen to DeLoach memo captioned "MURKIN," 7/19/68, EJM:vea.

The Attorney General

out of the shop without obtaining any loot. When shown ten photographs of different men, the jeweler without hesitation picked out Ray as the attempted holdup man. The jeweler claimed the man wore a hat and as far as can be determined Ray was hatless during his period in England and did not have a hat in his possession. However, if he is the man involved he could have disposed of the hat.

New Scotland Yard has requested that the information regarding the attempted jewelry store holdup not be revealed to the press or public sources at this time.

1 - The Deputy Attorney General

1 - Mr. Stephen J. Pollak
Assistant Attorney General

1 - Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General

7-2

7-A

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MAILED

JUL 21 1968

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Name Check July 19, 1968

NAME CHECK

Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General

Director, FBI

REC. 22

JAMES EARL RAY

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE

DATE 3-25-85
BY SP4MVS/KST

EX-114

Reference is made to your letter of July 18, 1968, your reference 95-100-473, requesting a check of the files of this Bureau concerning 25 members of local law enforcement agencies who will be assigned to security detail during the above subject's incarceration in Shelby County.

The files of the FBI have been reviewed based on the identifying data furnished by you and our files reveal no identifiable pertinent information concerning the individuals listed by you with the exception of the following:

Robert Jackson Beckham, Jr. We have not investigated Beckham. However, our files reveal that Robert Jackson Beckham, Sr., who may be the father of Robert Jackson Beckham, Jr., was the subject of two civil rights investigations. He, the father, was a deputy sheriff of Hardin County, Tennessee. Copies of the reports of these investigations were furnished the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice in the cases captioned "Con D. Seaton, Sheriff, Hardin County, Savannah, Tennessee; Robert Jackson Beckham, Sr., aka, Deputy Sheriff, Hardin County, Savannah, Tennessee; James L. Hunt - Victim" and "Richard Clay Jerrolds; Et Al.; Harvey McNeal Vanhooose, Et Al. - Victims."

Howard Don Clifton. This individual was the subject of a civil rights investigation in September, 1964. A copy of the investigative report was furnished the Civil Rights Division of the Department under the title "Howard Don Clifton; Jimmy Donald Music; Memphis, Tennessee, Police Department; James Edward Pugh - Victim."

William A. DuFour. This individual was the subject of a civil rights investigation along with others in 1966. Copies of the investigative reports were forwarded to the

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

1 - SAC, Memphis (Info) BY SEPARATE AIRTEL

GHS:clo

(8)

SEE NOTE, PGS 2 & 3

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr.

Civil Rights Division of the Department under the title of "James Roy Edwards; William Albert DuFour; Fred McCoy Sansone; Carlton Eugene Mendenhall, Officers, Shelby County Sheriff's Office, Memphis, Tenn.; R. C. (IO) Mitchell - Victim."

John Emmet Overbey. Investigations were conducted involving Overbey and others on civil rights matters in June, 1963, and November, 1965. Copies of the investigative reports in both cases were furnished to the Civil Rights Division of the Department under the titles "Patrolmen J. E. Overby, R. R. Davis, Memphis PD; Alonzo Houston, aka Lonzo Houston, Joe Joe Fonzo - Victim" and "John Emmett Overbey; Don Owen Lewis; Officers, Memphis, Tenn., PD; Roscoe Baggett - Victim."

Jerry Joseph Wells. This individual was the subject of a civil rights investigation in March, 1967, and a copy of the investigative report was furnished to the Civil Rights Division of the Department under the caption "William Thad Knight, Jerry Joseph Wells, Patrolmen, Memphis Police Department, Memphis, Tennessee; Herman Richard Taylor, Jr. - Victim."

NOTE: Regarding Beckham matter, two civil rights investigations alleging the father of subject of inquiry and other deputy sheriffs beat a drunk and cafe owner, both white. Case was tried by jury and subjects found not guilty in July, 1965. The other investigation was typical allegation of beating. Department furnished copies; no further action. (44-21964)(44-25219)

The Clifton matter was a typical civil rights allegation of brutality involving the beating of a white male. Reports furnished Department and no further action taken. (44-26792)

In the DuFour matter, complete investigation conducted concerning four highway patrolmen in Memphis. Reports furnished the Department; no further action taken. Allegation was that officials manhandled a Negro male, his wife and two daughters. Allegations denied.(44-31655)

In the Overbey matter, both investigations involved Negro victims who were drunk and disorderly. Preliminary investigation conducted and no further action requested by the Department. (44-22398)

NOTE CONTINUED, PAGE THREE.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

-2-

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr.

NOTE, CONTINUED:

In the Wells matter, victim, white male, alleged beaten by subjects. Subject advised victim hit with flashlight when resisted arrest. No further action requested by Department. (44-35582)

In addition to the above data, Warner J. Berry was the subject of a Bureau applicant matter in July, 1955. Investigation developed no derog re Berry but did raise some question regarding morals of his in-laws. In view of the nature of this information, it is not being furnished to Vinson. (67-539740). Berry was also investigated as an applicant for INS in 1962. No derogatory information was developed. (77-90617),

Re Eugene Joseph Miller, he EOD'd in the Bureau 12/2/57 and resigned 1/24/58 as he desired to be nearer his home in Tennessee. No derogatory information and above not furnished to Vinson. (67-556048)

Classified "Confidential" inasmuch as incoming so classified. No "group" classification being assigned as Vinson had no such classification on incoming.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

~~Confidential~~

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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.....

TO : Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: July 18, 1968

FROM : Fred M. Vinson, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

95-100-473

SUBJECT: James Earl Ray

Marked

Attached is a list setting forth the names, birth dates, race and residence of those members of the Shelby County Sheriff's Department, Memphis Police Department and the Tennessee Highway Patrol who will be assigned to security detail during the above subject's incarceration in Shelby County.

Will you please run an indices check and let me know the results as soon as possible.

Attachment

DECLASSIFIED BY RemzaKSD
ON 3/26/2025

EX-114

REC-22

44-38861-4902

ENCLOSURE

15 JUL 23 1968

*1 Xerox to Memphis
GHS*

*7/18/68
Let Vinson
GHS: CLO*

name [unclear]

~~Confidential~~

~~Confidential~~

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

July 18, 1968

Fred M. Vinson, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

95-100-473

James Earl Ray

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Attachment

DECLASSIFIED BY PS 6 m 29 K 50
ON 3/26/2025

~~Confidential~~

Confidential

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

July 18, 1968

Fred M. Vinson, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

95-100-473

James Earl Ray

Attached is a list setting forth the names, birth dates, race and residence of those members of the Shelby County Sheriff's Department, Memphis Police Department and the Tennessee Highway Patrol who will be assigned to security detail during the above subject's incarceration in Shelby County.

Will you please run an indices check and let me know the results as soon as possible.

Attachment

DECLASSIFIED BY FS6M29K50
ON 312612025

Confidential

<u>Name</u>	<u>DOB</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Race</u>	<u>Residence</u>
Hobert Jackson Beckham, Jr.		Tennessee Highway Patrol	white	Memphis
Buddy Edward Bowers		Tennessee Highway Patrol	"	"
Howard Don Clifton		Tennessee Highway Patrol	"	"
James Earl Hardin		Shelby Co. Sheriff's Dept.	"	"
John William Horton		Tennessee Highway Patrol	"	"
Cecil A. Hurst		Shelby Co. Sheriff's Dept.	"	"
Leonard E. Schultz		Tennessee Highway Patrol	"	"
Clifford A. Ballard		Shelby Co. Sheriff's Dept.	"	"
Warner J. Berry		Shelby Co. Sheriff's Dept.	"	"
Eulton L. Cobb		Shelby Co. Sheriff's Dept.	"	"
William A. DuFour		Shelby Co. Sheriff's Dept.	"	"
Elwym Quinn Hartline		Shelby Co. Sheriff's Dept.	"	"
Walter R. Lincoln		Shelby Co. Sheriff's Dept.	"	"
Stephen Boyd Scott		Shelby Co. Sheriff's Dept.	"	"
Guy Amon Cain, Jr.		Memphis Police Dept.	"	"
Carroll Douglas Dunn		Memphis Police Dept.	"	"
Luther Edward Jamison		Shelby Co. Sheriff's Dept.	"	"
Joe Rus Kent		Memphis Police Dept.	"	"
Eugene Joseph Miller		Memphis Police Dept.	"	"
Ralph Frederick Muench		Memphis Police Dept.	"	"
John Emmet Overbey		Memphis Police Dept.	"	"

44-38861-4902
~~Confidential~~

continued next page

<u>Name</u>	<u>DOB</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Race</u>	<u>Residence</u>
Raphm Lane Roby		Memphis Police Dept.	white	Memphis
Jerry Joseph Wells		Memphis Police Dept.	"	"
James Ronald ^W Riechert		Memphis Police Dept.	"	"
Richard King Wilson		Memphis Police Dept.	"	"

~~Confidential~~

Revised

MEMO

Mr. DeLoach

July 19, 1968

A. Rosen

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Malley

MURKIN

1 - Mr. McGowan

① - Mr. McDonough

1 - Mr. Bishop

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

James Earl Ray was returned to the United States today on a U. S. Air Force plane in the custody of FBI Agents and was turned over to the Sheriff's Office of Shelby County (Memphis), Tennessee, early this morning. This mission was completed without incident.

The extradition order was signed by the British Home Secretary at 6 p.m., London time, 7/18/68 (1 p.m., Washington, D. C., time).

The Air Force plane departed London at 7:38 p.m., Washington, D. C., time, 7/18/68, and touched down at the Naval Air Station in Memphis, Tennessee, at 4:37 a.m., Washington, D. C., time, 7/19/68. The subject was afforded a physical examination by the Air Force flight surgeon aboard the aircraft, was processed by the Customs Inspector and Ray was then turned over to the custody of Sheriff William M. Morris of the Shelby County (Memphis), Tennessee, Sheriff's Office.

The subject was then transported in an armored van preceded by three Sheriff's Office cars and followed by three additional Sheriff's Office cars. The party escorting the prisoner left the Naval Air Station at Memphis at 5:07 a.m., Washington, D. C., time, and Ray was incarcerated in the Shelby County Jail at 5:32 a.m., Washington, D. C., time. The transportation of the subject from Great Britain to the Naval Air Station in Memphis and from thence to the jail was accomplished without incident.

Enclosure² (2)

EJM:ca/mls

(7)

CONTINUED - OVER

Memo Rosen to DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

According to SA Harold Light, who was in charge of the FBI escort crew, Ray was no problem on the plane, was docile and although food and drink was offered to him, he declined to eat or drink. No effort was made to interview him and he volunteered no information. Just prior to touchdown in Memphis Ray complained of having a headache, the Air Force doctor was notified and he provided Ray a couple of aspirins. The Air Force flight surgeon, after giving Ray a physical examination on departure from England and arrival in Memphis, stated that he was in good physical condition.

The original proposed press release (copy attached) was discussed with Cliff Sessions, Departmental Public Information Officer, on 7/18/68 and he insisted the release be discussed with Assistant Attorney General Vinson and the Attorney General. Vinson and the Attorney General instructed that the press release be shortened and the names of the Attorney General and the Director be omitted in order to, as they stated, play the release in a lower key. Appropriate action, however, was taken by the Crime Records Division on conferring with our news contacts in making an extensive dissemination to the news media of the attached approved release at 5:34 a.m., Washington time, today, 7/19/68. The release was also furnished to the Memphis Office.

Letters have been prepared for the White House and the Attorney General advising them of the successful completion of this mission.

ACTION:

For information.

Mark

McDonough

MEMO

July 19, 1968

BY LIAISON

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. McGowan

Mrs. Mildred Stegall
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Stegall:

With reference to the extradition of James Earl Ray, who is charged with the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr., I thought the following information might be of interest to the President.

British authorities turned Ray over yesterday evening to the custody of Agents of this Bureau who accompanied him, aboard a United States Air Force plane, to the Naval Air Station at Memphis, Tennessee.

Ray was turned over by FBI Agents to officers of the Shelby County, Tennessee, Sheriff's Office and was incarcerated in the Shelby County Jail at 5:32 a. m., Eastern Daylight Time, July 19, 1968.

The transportation of Ray from Great Britain to the Memphis Naval Air Station as well as from the Naval Air Station to the Shelby County Jail was accomplished without incident.

The Air Force flight surgeon who conducted physical examinations of Ray aboard the plane en route from Great Britain to the United States stated that Ray was in good physical condition.

Sincerely yours,

JGK:vea
(5)

MEMO
Rewrite

Mr. DeLoach

July 19, 1968

A. Rosen

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. McGowan
1 - Mr. McDonough
1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Conrad

MURKIN

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

You will recall that New Scotland Yard had been unable to determine Ray's whereabouts from 5/17/68, when he arrived back in England from Lisbon, Portugal, and 5/28/68, when he checked into the New Earls Court Hotel in London.

As a result of a request made by our Legal Attache in London, the Yard rechecked all hotels in the Kensington area near the West London Air Terminal and they determined that Ray checked into the Heathfield House Hotel in London on 5/17/68 and checked out on 5/28/68, which is the date he checked into the New Earls Court Hotel. The guest book of the Heathfield House Hotel contains the signature of Ramon George Sneyd, 962 Dundas - W - Toronto, Canada. This, of course, is the name Ray used to obtain his Canadian passport and one of his addresses in Canada was 962 Dundas, West Toronto.

The proprietress of the hotel identified a photograph of the subject as the individual known to her as Ramon George Sneyd who stayed at her hotel. The Laboratory has determined that the signature Ramon George Sneyd on the copy of the guest book page is somewhat indistinct but is similar to known signatures of the subject.

The proprietress of the hotel advised that Ray kept to himself, did not receive any mail, phone calls or visitors and left the hotel between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. every morning after breakfast and returned at about 1 a.m. She stated she did not think that Ray stayed out all night on any occasion but she could not be sure.

Legal Attache in London has advised that New Scotland Yard orally informed him in strictest confidence that on 5/27/68, at 5:20 p.m., a lone man with a small gun walked

Inclosure

KJM:ven
(8)

CONTINUED - OVER

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

into a jeweler's shop in the Paddington area of London, pointed the gun at the jeweler and stated, "This is a stick-up, give me the money in the till." The jeweler hesitated and the man panicked and ran out of the shop without obtaining any loot. When shown ten photographs of different men, the jeweler without hesitation picked out Ray as the attempted holdup man. The jeweler claimed the man wore a hat and as far as can be determined Ray was hatless during his period in England and did not have a hat in his possession. However, if he is the man involved he could have disposed of the hat.

On the morning of 6/4/68 Ray had asked the clerk at the New Earls Court Hotel how much his bill would be and when informed, he reportedly said, "I'll have to go to my bank and make a withdrawal." It is noted the Fulham Bank in London was robbed on the afternoon of 6/4/68. Ray has been identified as the perpetrator of that bank robbery based on his fingerprint appearing on the note used by the robber to demand money from the bank employees. The clerk at the Heathfield House Hotel advised that when Ray was told how much his bill would be on 5/27/68, he reportedly made a similar statement about making a withdrawal from his bank. The attempted jewelry shop holdup occurred at 5:20 p.m., 5/27/68.

The Yard has the theory that if Ray is the man involved in the jewelry shop robbery attempt since he did not get any money he may have committed a successful job between 5:20 p.m. on 5/27/68 and the morning of 5/28/68 in order to pay his bill at the hotel. Representatives of the Yard advised that pending Ray's actual removal to the United States that they did not intend to conduct further investigation to substantiate this theory since they were extremely fearful if information regarding Ray's participation in the attempted robbery of the jewelry store and other possible scores became known to the press, Ray's solicitor may insist that Ray be charged in order to clear him of any such charges.

Legal Attache, London advises that the above information may be furnished to the Department of Justice with the understanding that the information regarding the attempted jewelry store holdup should not be revealed to the press or public sources at this time.

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

ACTION:

For your information. Attached for approval is a letter to the Attorney General with copies to the Deputy Attorney General and Assistant Attorneys General Pollak and Vinson setting forth pertinent information indicated above. Department being cautioned against disclosure of information on the attempted jewelry store holdup at this time.

In view of the importance of determining Ray's sources of funds and since he has now been returned to the United States, Legal Attache, London is being instructed to request New Scotland Yard to conduct further investigation to determine if Ray may have been involved in other robberies in London.

McDonough

MEMO

The Attorney General

July 19, 1968

Director, FBI

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. McGowan

JAMES EARL RAY

With reference to the extradition of James Earl Ray, Ray was turned over by Agents of this Bureau to officers of the Shelby County, Tennessee, Sheriff's Office and incarcerated in the Shelby County Jail at 5:32 a. m., Eastern Daylight Time, July 19, 1968.

Transportation of Ray from Great Britain to the Memphis Naval Air Station and from the Naval Air Station to the Shelby County Jail was accomplished without incident.

The Air Force flight surgeon who conducted physical examinations of Ray aboard the plane en route from Great Britain to the United States stated that Ray was in good physical condition.

1 - The Deputy Attorney General

1 - Mr. Stephen J. Pollak
Assistant Attorney General

1 - Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General

JGK:vea
(9)

Memo

Mr. DeLoach

July 19, 1968

A. Rosen

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Malley

1 - Mr. McGowan

1 - Mr. McDonough

1 - Mr. Bishop

MURKIN

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

In connection with the handling of the transportation of James Earl Ray back to the United States and his delivery to custody of local authorities in Memphis, Tennessee, on 7/19/68, the following individuals are being suggested for letters of appreciation in recognition of their contribution to the successful completion of this mission.

Honorable Harold Brown ✓
Secretary of the Air Force ✓

Mr. John A. Lang, Jr. ✓
Administrative Assistant to the
Secretary of the Air Force
(rode in the plane and perfected arrangements for obtaining the Air Force plane)

Colonel Frank Simokitis ✓
Aide to Mr. Lang
(rode in the plane and also assisted in the obtaining of the aircraft)

X Colonel Aaron C. Burleson ✓
(Air Force liaison with the Department in working out arrangements for Air Force transportation)

X Major Frank K. Babbitt and crew ✓
(Babbitt was Flight Commander and crew, of course, were fully cooperative)

EJM:vea
(7)

CONTINUED - OVER

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

Captain Charles A. Rohrman
(Air Force flight surgeon who examined Ray in the aircraft
en route to the United States)

LONDON

SOUTH

Major General Lawrence Lightner, COMMANDING GENERAL,
Commander, Third Air Force
Ruslip, England, and Staff
(General Lightner and his staff afforded full cooperation to
Legat, London in perfecting the phases of this mission in England)

Sheriff William N. Morris, Jr.
Shelby County (Memphis), Tennessee
(Sheriff Morris took custody of the subject in Memphis and was
fully cooperative in connection with the security arrangements
worked out for the transfer of the prisoner from FBI custody to
his custody)

Chief Henry Lux
Memphis Police Department
(furnished assistance in security arrangements connected with
the transfer of custody of the subject)

Captain William B. Morton
Chief of Naval Air Technical Training
Naval Air Station
Memphis, Tennessee
(afforded cooperation in connection with touch down area)

Captain L. A. Hoke, Jr.
Commanding Officer
Naval Air Station
Memphis, Tennessee
(afforded cooperation in connection with touch down area)

It is suggested that the letter involving Secretary of the Air Force
Brown, Mr. John A. Lang and Colonel Frank Simokatis be addressed to
Mr. Brown only but that it comment on Mr. Lang and Colonel Simokatis
specifically for their cooperation.

ACTION:

That this be forwarded to the Crime Records Division for appropriate
letters of recognition to the indicated individuals.

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Branch

_____, 19____

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
<input type="checkbox"/>	Service Unit - Room 6524
<input type="checkbox"/>	Forward to File Review
<input type="checkbox"/>	Attention _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Return to <u>McDonough</u> <u>2260</u>
	Supervisor Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Regular Request (Analytical Search)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Subversive References Only
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nonsubversive References Only
<input type="checkbox"/>	Main _____ References Only

Type of Search Requested:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted to Locality of _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Buildup <input type="checkbox"/> Variations

May

Subject Frank K. Babbitt
 Birthdate & Place _____
 Address _____

Localities D.C.

R# _____ Date 7-19 Searcher Initials 4
 Prod. _____

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

	<u>nr</u>
	<u>Bldup</u>
	<u>nr</u>
<u>NT</u>	<u>Frank ltd DC.</u>
	<u>140-5429-3</u>
	<u>-spec loc.</u>

SPECIAL
files called spec.

Jul 6 spec

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Branch

_____, 19____

☐ Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
☐ Service Unit - Room 6524
☐ Forward to File Review
☐ Attention _____
☒ Return to McDonough 2260
Supervisor Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:

☐ Regular Request (Analytical Search)
☒ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
☐ Subversive References Only
☐ Nonsubversive References Only
☐ Main _____ References Only

Type of Search Requested:

☐ Restricted to Locality of _____
☐ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
☐ Buildup ☐ Variations

Subject Claron C. Bursleson
 Birthdate & Place _____
 Address _____

Localities D.C.

R# _____ Date 7-19 Searcher _____
Initials U

Prod. _____ 0

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

ND 62-5-28222 p1 Egan

Bldup
m

Aaron - Hld
nr

_____, 19____

☐ Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
☐ Service Unit - Room 6524
☐ Forward to File Review
☐ Attention _____
☒ Return to McDonough 2260
Supervisor (Room Ext.

☐ Regular Request (Analytical Search)
☒ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
☐ Subversive References Only
☐ Nonsubversive References Only
☐ Main _____ References Only

☒ Restricted to Locality of DC
☒ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
☐ Buildup ☐ Variations

Admin Asset to Sec. AF

Subject John A. Lang
 Birthdate & Place _____
 Address _____

Localities D. C.

R# _____ Date 7-19- _____ Searcher
Initials y
Prod. _____

FILE NUMBER SERIAL

NJ 100-7056-141
 NE 47-11563-47
 ND 97-3163-8
 ND 62-109738-23

Jul 6 - 1968

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Branch

, 19__

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
<input type="checkbox"/>	Service Unit - Room 6524
<input type="checkbox"/>	Forward to File Review
<input type="checkbox"/>	Attention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Return to <u>McDonough 2260</u>
	Supervisor Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Regular Request (Analytical Search)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Subversive References Only
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nonsubversive References Only
<input type="checkbox"/>	Main _____ References Only

Type of Search Requested:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Restricted to Locality of <u>D.C. + Tenn</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Buildup <input type="checkbox"/> Variations

CaplSubject William B. Morton

Birthdate & Place _____

Address _____

Localities D.C. Tenn

R# _____

Date

7-19

Searcher

Initials

zy

Prod. _____

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

nrBldup
nrWilliam not
searchedMD 25-32894NY 42-4878SI 42-4878-5NY 121-16294-5Sub C

_____, 19____

☐ Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
☐ Service Unit - Room 6524
☐ Forward to File Review
☐ Attention _____
☒ Return to Mr. Donoghue 2260
Supervisor Room Ext.

☐ Regular Request (Analytical Search)
☒ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
☐ Subversive References Only
☐ Nonsubversive References Only
☐ Main _____ References Only

☐ Restricted to Locality of _____
☐ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
☐ Buildup ☐ Variations: _____

Capt

Subject Charles A. Rohmann
Birthdate & Place _____
Address _____

Localities DC.

R# _____ Date 7-19-68 Searcher _____
Initials 2f
Prod. _____

FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
100-334327	1
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na

Charles Albert

NT 116-108828

Charles

SI 116-108828

NY	100-115444-1
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Feb 6 - 2pm

☐ Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
☐ Service Unit - Room 6524
☐ Forward to File Review
☐ Attention
☒ Return to McDonough 2260
Supervisor Room Ext.

☐ Regular Request (Analytical Search)
☒ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
☐ Subversive References Only
☐ Nonsubversive References Only
☐ Main _____ References Only

☐ Restricted to Locality of _____
☐ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
☐ Buildup ☐ Variations

Subject L. A. Hoke, Jr.
Birthdate & Place _____
Address _____

Localities D.C. - Tenn.

R# _____ Date 7-19 Searcher Initials Y
Prod. _____

FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
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_____, 19__.

☐ Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
☐ Service Unit - Room 6524
☐ Forward to File Review
☐ Attention
☒ Return to McDonough 2260
Supervisor Room Ext.

☐ Regular Request (Analytical Search)
☒ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
☐ Subversive References Only
☐ Nonsubversive References Only
☐ Main _____ References Only

☒ Restricted to Locality of Eng
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☐ Buildup ☐ Variations

Subject Lawrence Lightner
 Birthdate & Place _____
 Address _____

Localities Ena.

R# _____ Date 07-19 Searcher Initials 24

Prod. _____ 0

FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
100-334037	1
100-334037	2
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[illegible]

☐ Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
☐ Service Unit - Room 6524
☐ Forward to File Review
☐ Attention _____
☒ Return to Mc Donough 2260
Supervisor Room Ext.

☐ Regular Request (Analytical Search)
☒ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
☐ Subversive References Only
☐ Nonsubversive References Only
☐ Main _____ References Only

☐ Restricted to Locality of _____
☐ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
☐ Buildup ☐ Variations

Subject Frank Sumok ~~And~~
Birthdate & Place _____
Address _____

Localities D. C.

R# _____ Date 7-19-68 Searcher Initials 24
Prod. _____

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

W

Bldup
nr

Jul 6 - 1994

7-17

MEMO

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

JUL 17 1968

Fred M. Vinson, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

MURKIN

James Earl Ray

Attached is a copy of a letter the Attorney General received dated July 11, 1968, from Arthur Hanes, counsel for the above subject, and a copy of my response.

The Attorney General has now received letters from both the subject and his attorney concerning Ray's intent and wish not to be interrogated. There is the added factor that, on his trip back, Ray will be in restraining devices on a military aircraft.

Because of these factors I have grave doubts that we could ever sustain the burden of proving a knowing and intelligent waiver of those rights referred to in the Miranda opinion.

Therefore, it is my recommendation no effort be made to interrogate Ray on his return trip to the United States. However, this does not mean that statements volunteered by Ray may not be used under some circumstances.

Attachment

HANES AND HANES

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

617 FRANK NELSON BLDG.

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35203

ARTHUR J. HANES
ARTHUR J. HANES, JR.

July 11, 1968

TELEPHONE
824-9536

AIR MAIL

Honorable Ramsey Clark
United States Attorney General
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Clark:

As you know, I have been retained by a man known as R. G. Sneyd, alias, who is currently imprisoned in London, England. You were apprised of this fact via telephone on Saturday, June 15th, and by letter dated June 17, 1968. It is my request that this man not be interviewed, or interrogated by any member of the Justice Department unless done in my presence. This includes transportation to the United States in the event he is extradited. This man seems to have fear for his personal safety while in the custody of the Justice Department, and I respectfully request that I be given permission to accompany this man, along with the Justice Department agents, on his trip to the United States if extradited.

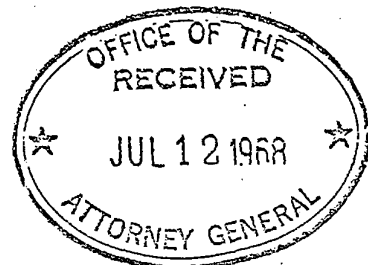
Respectfully yours

Arthur J. Hanes

Arthur J. Hanes

AJH/sr

cc: Mr. R. G. Sneyd
H M Prison
Heathfield Road
Wandsworth
London, S W 18, England



July 16, 1968

Arthur J. Hanes, Esquire
Hanes and Hanes
617 Frank Nelson Bldg.
Birmingham, Alabama 35203

Dear Mr. Hanes:

This will acknowledge your letter of
July 11 to the Attorney General.

In particular, this will acknowledge your
request that your client, James Earl Ray, also known
as R. G. Sneyd, not be interviewed or interrogated
by any representative of the Justice Department unless
you are present.

You make the very unusual request that you
be given permission to accompany Mr. Ray upon his
trip to the United States if extradited. From your
prior experience in the Federal Bureau of Investigation,
I am sure you can understand why this request cannot
be honored.

Sincerely,

Fred M. Vinson, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General

HANES AND HANES

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

617 FRANK NELSON BLDG.

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35203

ARTHUR J. HANES
ARTHUR J. HANES, JR.

July 11, 1968

TELEPHONE
824-9536

AIR MAIL

Honorable Ramsey Clark
United States Attorney General
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Clark:

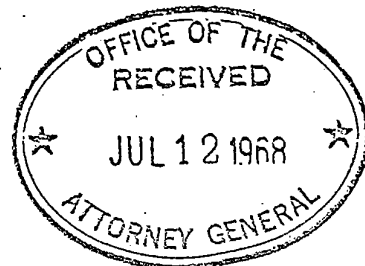
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Respectfully yours

Arthur J. Hanes
Arthur J. Hanes

AJH/sr

cc: Mr. R. G. Sneyd
H M Prison
Heathfield Road
Wandsworth
London, S W 18, England



Mr. DeLoach

A. Rosen

MURKIN

July 15, 1968

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

*Memo
Folder*

John Minnich, Legat London, called at 8:20 a. m., 7/15/68, to advise that a Government board in London which grants legal aid certificates has refused to grant a certificate to James Earl Ray. Board has indicated it would be a waste of money to take Ray's cause to the high court.

The solicitor who is acting for Ray is appealing this board's decision to an appeals committee which will hear this on Wednesday, 7/17/68. If the appeals committee upholds the board's decision, that will be the end of Ray's legal actions and Ray's case will not go to the high court unless Ray or someone else will put forth money for legal aid. In the event no one puts up money, it means in all probability the final orders will be signed by the Home Secretary on or about 7/19/68. According to Minnich, this will mean that the Bureau will have to be prepared to move on the evening of 7/19 or 20, 1968.

Minnich states foregoing information will be telephonically given to Assistant Attorney General Vinson by the Consul General at the Embassy today at 12:15 p. m., London time, 7:15 a. m., Washington time.

It is noted Ray had been ordered extradited by the Magistrate's Court in London on 7/2/68. The procedure permits an appeal to be filed within 15 days and it was previously indicated an appeal would be filed 7/17/68 and heard 7/29/68.

ACTION:

This is for your information. Minnich states he will keep the Bureau advised of further developments.

WAF:pah
(8)

name folder

Mr. DeLoach

July 15, 1968

A. Rosen

MURKIN

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

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ACTION:

This is for your information. Minnich states he will keep the Bureau advised of further developments.

WAF:pah
(8)

EXTRADITION

7-15

7-12

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation

July 12, 1968

FMV:AMP:cav
111-72-662

Fred M. Vinsen, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

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

Investigation in captioned matter disclosed that James Earl Ray, Inmate Number 00416, was confined in the Missouri State Penitentiary until his escape from that institution on April 23, 1967.

It is requested that the Bureau review the files of the Missouri State Penitentiary pertaining to Ray and summarize all references to his family background; education; physical, medical and psychiatric examinations; and disciplinary proceedings. It is also requested that the names of all visitors and persons with whom Ray corresponded be noted.

It is further requested that the Bureau furnish the Criminal Division with a copy of the arrest record of James Earl Ray.

*K. e. Reports to C.R.D. & Crime
New 7/16/68*

FBI
REC.D - CIA 6/18/68

7/12 3 35 PM '68

FBI
REC.D - CIA 6/18/68

July 13, 1968

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

The requested information has previously been developed in connection with our investigation; however, it has not previously been disseminated to the Department since it pertained to the fugitive aspect of our investigation and had no bearing on the Federal violation involved. Pertinent information requested will be furnished to the Department.

JGK:erg

7-11

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: July 11, 1968

FROM : A. Rosen

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

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Long
M

In connection with transportation of subject Ray from London to the United States, the question of when the local authorities, namely the Tennessee State authorities, will take custody of subject Ray has been decided today.

SAC Jensen, Memphis, has been in touch with the Sheriff and the Sheriff has indicated that he plans to take subject Ray into custody upon arrival of the plane in the United States at the Memphis Naval Air Station.

This will facilitate the handling of subject Ray insofar as the Bureau is concerned inasmuch as it had been indicated it would be preferable to have the Tennessee authorities assume the responsibility of taking Ray into custody as soon as the plane touches down.

The Sheriff has selected a special group to handle the subject and has made preparations for transportation from the airport to the jail in anticipation of assuming this responsibility.

ACTION:

Assistant Attorney General Vinson will be advised of the decision of the Sheriff to handle subject Ray upon touch down at the Memphis Naval Air Station.

AR:hw
(10)

Pernell
Ezzell