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OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1942 EDITION
GRA PPMR (41 CPR) 101-11.6

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

то : SAC (44-2386)

DATE: 6/7/68

SEKIALIZ

JUN 1 3 1968

FROM

SA JOHN H. BRANDT

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

Re Memo of SA JACK B. SIMPSON, 6/3/68, (serial #2035)

The following personnel, Westbury Medicare & Nursing Home, Jenkansburg, Ga., Butts, Co., advised WILLIAM SORRELL, recently hired night employee was not identical with JAMES EARL RAY:

Pat Montgomery, Secretary J. BRANDEN, Physician

1- (44-2386)



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

#### FBI

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Approved: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_\_ Special Agent in Charge

#### PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)

MURKIN

RE ATLANTA TELETYPE TO BUREAU, MEMPHIS AND BIRMINGHAM JUNE ELEVEN LAST.

WALTER E. SPAIN, RESIDENCE TWO NINE ZERO FOUR FORTYSECOND ST., NORTH, BIRMINGHAM, ALA., STATED TODAY THAT HE AND HIS FATHER, WALTER LEON SPAIN, PURCHASED A NEW LIBERTY CHIEF SNUB-NOSED THIRTYEIGHT CALIBER REVOLVER IN DECEMBER, NINETEEN SIXTYSIX, FROM A GUN DEALER LOCATED JUST OUTSIDE OF ATLANTA, GA., AFTER SEEING GUN DEALER'S ADVERTISEMENT IN AN ATLANTA PAPER. SOMETIME IN THE SPRING OF NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN, SPAIN GAVE THE REVOLVER TO HIS FATHER IN PARTIAL PAYMENT OF A DEBT OWED TO THE FATHER, AND THE FATHER, IN THE FALL OF NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN, SOLD THE GUN. SPAIN SAID HE DOES NOT KNOW NAME OF PURCHASER, AND WAS NOT PRESENT AT TIME OF SALE.

NEGATIVE RE WALTER E. SPAIN.

END PAGE ONE

1 - Atlanta (AM) 1 - Birmingham

RMB:mfl

(2)

#### PAGE TWO

WALTER LEON SPAIN. NUMBER THREE GLEN IRIS PARKWAY, BIRMINGHAM. Today said that in august nineteen sixtyseven, he had been confined TO A HUNTSVILLE, ALA. HOSPITAL AND UPON RETURN TO BIRMINGHAM RESI-DENCE, WAS IN FINANCIAL STRAITS. BECAUSE OF THIS, HE BEGAN SELLING PERSONAL ITEMS TO MEET OBLIGATIONS. AMONG WHICH WAS THIRTYBIGHT CALIBER LIBERTY SNUB-NOSE REVOLVER HE HAD RECEIVED FROM HIS SON IN THE SPRING OF NINETERN SIXTYSEVEN. HE SOLD THESE ITEMS BY PLACING ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE SUNDAY EDITIONS OF "BIRMINGHAM NEWS." ON A SUNDAY HIS ADVERTISEMENT RE ABOVE DESCRIBED REVOLVER, WHICH INCLUDED HIS RESIDENCE PHONE NUMBER, APPEARED IN "BIRMINGHAM NEWS," HE RECEIVED CALL FROM MAN INQUIRING ABOUT GUN AND HOW TO FIND RESIDENCE OF SPAIN. ABOUT HOUR LATER THIS MAN CAME TO SPAIN'S RESIDENCE. THIS MAN SAID HE HAD BEEN LOOKING FOR A GUN OF THE TYPE SPAIN WAS OFFERING FOR SALE. HE THEN EXAMINED GUN, ASKED THE PRICE AND WHEN TOLD "SIXTYFIVE DOLLARS." HE SAID HE WOULD TAKE IT. MAN THEN GAVE SPAIN TWO TWENTY DOLLAR BILLS, TWO TEN DOLLAR BILLS AND A FIVE DOLLAR BILL. SPAIN DID NOT GIVE THE BUYER ANY RECEIPT. NOR DID HE OBTAIN FROM THE BUYER ANY INFORMATION AS TO IDENTIFICATION, RESIDENCE OR EMPLOYMENT. THE BUYER LEFT WITH THE GUN IN HIS HAND, SPAIN FURNISHED NEITHER INCLUDING NO ANNUNITION AND NOTHING ELSE. INC -MO AMMUNITION NOR PAPERS FOR THE GUN.

#### PAGE THREE

THE BUYER HAD PARKED HIS CAR ON THE STREET IN FRONT OF SPAIN'S RESIDENCE. WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY ONE HUNDRED FIFTY FEET FROM SPAIN'S FRONT DOOR. SPAIN COULD ONLY RECALL THAT THE BUYER WAS DRIVING A LATE MODEL WHITE OR LIGHT COLORED CAR, NO OTHER DESCRIP-TION. THE BUYER INDICATED HE WAS FROM THE WESTERN PART OF BIRMINGHAM AND THAT HE WANTED TO KEEP THE GUN AROUND HIS HOUSE. SPAIN DESCRIBED THE BUYER AS A WHITE MALE ABOUT FORTY TO FORTYFIVE YEARS OF AGE, FIVE FEET EIGHT INCHES OR FIVE FEET NINE INCHES TALL. WEIGHING ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY TO ONE HUNDRED SEVENTYFIVE POUNDS. DARK HAIR, SLIGHTLY GRAYING AT THE TEMPLES, HAD LOCAL (ALABAMA) ACCENT, WAS WEARING SPORT SHIRT AND SLACKS, COLORS UNRECALLED, NO GLASSES. SPAIN WAS SHOWN ALL AVAILABLE PHOTOGRAPHS OF JAMES EARL RAY AND HE CHOSE THE PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN IN CALIFORNIA IN JANUARY OR FEBRUARY, NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT (IN CONTRAST TO BARTENDING SCHOOL GRADUATION PHOTOGRAPH) AS "RESEMBLING THE MAN" WHO BOUGHT THE ABOVE DESCRIBED GUN FROM SPAIN, BUT SPAIN WOULD NOT MAKE A POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION OF RAY AS THE PURCHASER. SPAIN WAS POSITIVE THE GUN WAS SOLD THE SAME DAY ADVERTISEMENT FOR SAME APPEARED IN THE NEWSPAPER.

END PAGE THREE

#### PAGE FOUR

AND SHOWN ARTIST'S CONCEPTION OF KING'S KILLER. AT THE TIME HE
ADVISED AGENTS THE DRAWING REMINDED HIM OF SOMEONE HE MAY HAVE SEEN
PREVIOUSLY, BUT WAS UNABLE TO FURNISH ANY OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT
THIS PERSON. AFTER VIEWING PHOTOGRAPHS OF RAY AND BEING QUESTIONED
BY FBI TODAY ABOUT HIS SALE OF THE THIRTYEIGHT CALIBER SNUB-NOSED
REVOLVER, SPAIN STATED HE WAS NOW ABLE TO CONNECT THE SALE WITH
THE DRAWING IN THAT THE PERSON DEPICTED IN THE DRAWING REMINDED HIM
OF THE PERSON TO WHOM HE HAD SOLD THE REVOLVER.

ALL SUNDAY ISSUES OF THE "BIRMINGHAM NEWS" FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER, NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN, REVIEWED TODAY AND ONLY ONE ADVERTISEMENT FOR A THIRTYEIGHT CALIBER REVOLVER PLACED BY SPAIN LOCATED, THAT BEING IN THE OCTOBER ONE, NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN, ISSUE.

AT THE TIME GUN WAS SOLD BY SPAIN, RAY WAS IN POSSESSION OF NINETEEN SIXTYSIX WHITE MUSTANG, AND WAS LIVING AT TWO SIX ZERO EIGHT HIGHLAND AVENUE, BIRMINGHAM, WHICH IS TWO AND TWO-TENTHS MILES FROM RESIDENCE OF WALTER LEON SPAIN. IT IS ALSO NOTED THAT SPAIN'S RESIDENCE IS WITHIN HALF MILE OF ONE NINE ZERO SEVEN SOUTH END PAGE FOUR

### PAGE FIVE

ELEVENTH STREET, WHICH IS ADDRESS USED BY RAY, AS HARVEY LOWMEYER, WHEN PURCHASING RIFLE AT BIRMINGHAM, MARCH TWENTYNINE, NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN.

BIRMINGHAM INDICES AND RECORDS BIRMINGHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT NEGATIVE RE WALTER LEON SPAIN.

AIR MAIL COPY TO ATLANTA.

6/11/68

aflanta

ROUTING LIP TO ALL FIELD OFFICES

FROM (1/10 ) SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

RE:

JAMES EARL RAY, aka -

CR - CONSPIRACY; UFAC - ROBBERY

OO: MEMPHIS

Re report of SA JOE C. HESTER 6/5/68 at Memphis.

Page 17, paragraph 4, line 6 - 12/17/67, should

be 12/7/67.

Please correct your copies.

SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN

TOR:tjm

34-2386-2109 Eleny per OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1982 EDITION
GSA FFMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : SAC ATLANTA (44-2386)

DATE: 6/18/68

FROM: SA JACK T. BEVERSTEIN

SUBJECT: JAMES EARL RAY aka;

MURKIN

BARDEN R. BROWN, 455 Windsor Parkway, NE, Atlanta, Georgia, advised telephonically that he is a real estate broker that was formerly from Birmingham. BROWN stated he had read in the newspaper about Attorney ARTHUR HAINES, going to England to represent JAMES EARL RAY. BROWN stated HAINES is a racist and BO CONNORS assistant. BROWN stated he was concerned that HAINES might pass RAY some kind of vial and RAY would never be brought back to the United States. BROWN admitted he had no evidence to base his belief on other than his concern to try to prevent something happening such as happened to OSWALD. BROWN was concerned that it might not be determined where RAY obtained his money a nd if someone else was envolved with RAY. BROWN feels the above is essential if a stop is to be made in the killing, of prominent people in the United States. BROWN was advised the FBI has a uthority to decide the person that will represent persons accused of viglations of laws. BROWN stated he was concerned that sommthing might happen that happened in Dallas and wanted to make sure that all precautions would be taken to prevent a repetition of this. BROWN stated he had no information that HAINES was planning to do anything to RAY.

24

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OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
k/AY 1962 EDITION
GSA FFMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

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SAC (44-2386) (P)

**DATE:** 6/19/68

FROM:

SA ROBERT R. PERRY

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

The following Checker Cab Drivers, who had trips in the Peachtree-14th Street area on 4/12/68 with Checker Cab Co. were contacted:

Driver SCOTT MEREDITH, who resides at 1328 Ponce de Leon Ave., was contacted on 5/7/68. He was shown a trip record sheet which showed a trip on 4/12/68 at 810 p.m. from Peachtree & 14th to North & English in the amount of \$1.50. After some thought, Mr. MEREDITH stated he is certain this trip was a large and very strout Negro female, apparently employed as a maid whom he took to a residence on English Ave. in the Northwest section of Atlanta.

Driver JOE HERRON, 784 Monroe Dr., N. E., was questioned concerning trip reflected on his trip record at 9:30 a.m. on 4/12/68 from 512 St. Charles to 14th & Peachtree in the amount of \$1. He stated this is a regular customer, a white female who has her hair done at Nikki's, a hair styling shop located on the corner of 14th & Peachtree.

WILLIAM BURKE, 279 Ninth St., N. E., questioned concerning trip on 4/12/68 from 8th & Piedmont to 194 - 14th St. He stated this trip could not be recalled at all by him and noted that he seldoms pays any attention to the passenger, unless something unusual happens. He stated the photo of subject of this case is familiar; however, he has seen it in the papers numerous times.

2 - Atlanta RRP:vsc

(2) use

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

AT 44-2386

Efforts to locate Checker Cab Driver DENNARD, who reportedly resided at 3384 Rockbridge Rd., Decatur, negative. Physical surveillance of this residence reflects the house is empty and appears to have been empty for sometime and it is not located close to any other residences. Record of this trip indicates three persons and an investigation conducted reflects subject was in Canada as of 4/8/68. Further attempts to locate Driver DENNARD not being conducted.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO

: SAC, ATLANTA 44-2386

Complaint Clerk Jerry D. Roseberry

SUBJECT: MURKIN

No reference norken welet No reference norken welet No teller no reference welet On 6-19-68 at 9:00 am Mrs. EDNA LANCASTER, Route one, Braselton, Ga., no home phone, employed by Pittman's Laundrymat, Mableton, Ga., telephone 948-9933, called and advised that she has been interviewed previously re this case.

She stated that in March subject RAY came into Pittman's laundry and was met there by a man with a bad left arem arm. This man gave RAY some envelopes and a string of keys. He mentioned to RAY that he would like to RAMON's face when they arrested him. He also mentioned something about RAY having the green light to go ahead.

She stated that RAY returned to the laundry on 4-6-68 and asked why she didn't turn him in, but she pretended to not know what he was talking about.

LANCASTER stated she told this info to the interviewing agent before, but at the time she didn't place any significance on the name RAMON until it was revealed in the papers that this name was used by RAY in Canada.

14-2386-2112

....INDEXED.....

2-Atlanta JDR/jdr

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

AIRTEL

AM

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM:

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P

MURKIN

ReBuAirtel 6-4-68.

SAC, in accordance with Bureau instructions, did make contact with GENE BROWN, Intelligence Unit, Internal Revenue Service at Memphis. BROWN advised that Federal Reserve Bank Form TCR-1 is used on a very limited basis by banks in the Memphis area. He advised that use of this form was rather common during the war years but there is nothing compulsory about the form and as a result banks are very reluctant to use same. No form had been filed by any bank in the Memphis area for the period from March 15 through April 30 which contained any information of pertinence to this case.

ARMED & DANGEROUS.

- 3 BUREAU
- NEW ORLEANS (AM) (157-10673)
- 1 ATLANTA (44-2386)(AM)
- 1 BIRMINGHAM (AM) (44-1740)
- 1 LOS ANGELES (44-1574) (AM)
- 1 MEMPHIS

RGJ:BN (8)

44-2 76 -Rery P.F