

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

ATL JNL p. 5A 10/25/68

Agent Facing Contempt Charge in Ray Case

MEMPHIS (AP) — George Bonebrake, a senior FBI fingerprint expert, has been ordered to show cause Dec. 6 why he should not be held in contempt for allegedly violating orders prohibiting out-of-court comments on the James Earl Ray case.

Judge W. Preston Battle of Shelby County Criminal Court said it was impracticable to hold the hearing before Ray goes on trial Nov. 12 for murder in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Battle, who will preside at Ray's trial, has issued stringent orders sharply restricting discussion of the case by anyone

connected with it. Bonebrake is expected to be a key prosecution witness.

The judge cited Bonebrake upon the recommendation of a committee of seven attorneys he had set up to watch over pre-trial news.

The committee advised Battle it believed Bonebrake "has actual knowledge of the afore-said orders, decrees and injunctions issued by this court . . . there is strong cause to believe that respondent George Bonebrake is in contempt."

Bonebrake was cited for comments he made about his fingerprint investigation. The com-

ments were published in the Wichita, Kan., Beacon.

Battle earlier held Ray's attorney, a private investigator for the defense and two Memphis newspaper reporters in contempt of the pretrial orders on discussion of the case.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

The Atlanta Journal

October 25, 1968

Page 5A

Date:
Edition:
Author:
Editor:
Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

☐ Being Investigated

44-2386-

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ATL JAL, 10/30/68 p. 5A

BEFORE KING ASSASSINATION**Attorney Says Eric Galt Had Plastic Surgery**

HOLLYWOOD, Calif. (AP) — An attorney says a man who gave his name as Eric Galt underwent minor plastic surgery before the assassination last April of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The lawyer, Bennet Olan, declined Tuesday to give details of the surgery performed by Dr. Russel C. Hadley except to say it was of the type which would

not greatly change his appearance.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has reported Eric Galt was an alias used by James Earl Ray, now facing trial in Memphis, Tenn., on a charge of murdering King.

Olan said he thought the operation was performed three or four weeks before the assassination on April 4. "It may have been on the 4th or the 11th of

March, I forget which," he said.

The surgeon referred all questions to Olan. The lawyer said it's believed Galt sought out Dr. Hadley through the Los Angeles County Medical Association. At any rate, Olan said, Galt told the doctor the association had recommended him.

Olan said the case didn't stand out in Hadley's mind, but he added: "As soon as we discovered who the patient had

been, the case was reported to the FBI."

The attorney said that as far as he knew, Hadley has not been subpoenaed to testify in the Ray trial.

"I don't believe," he said, "that what he did was relative to the case."

He said only one person, author William Bradford Huie, has been authorized to see the records of the treatment, and no

one else would be allowed to examine them without authorization. Huie was engaged by Ray to write his story.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Atlanta
Journal

10/30/68

P. 5A

Date:
Edition:
Author:
Editor:
Title:Character:
orClassification:
Submitting Office:☐ Being InvestigatedSEARCHED.....INDEXED.....
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FBI-ATLANTA

10/29/68

AIRTEL

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM : SAC, CINCINNATI (157-1893)
SUBJECT: JAMES EARL RAY;
MURKIN
RM

On 10/26/68, CS CI 569-S made available to SA MACK O. ELLIS at Athens, Ohio, Page 31 of "Look" magazine, dated 4/25/61, Volume 25, No. 9. The page is enclosed for Atlanta, and a xerox copy of the page enclosed for Memphis and the Bureau.

CS CI 569-S advised that this page is the beginning of the article, "The Second Battle of Atlanta," by GEORGE B. LEONARD, JR., Look Staff Writer, and included on page 31 are two photographs. One photograph shows a marching Ku Klux Klansman, and the other a Negro student demonstrator. Source advised he noted this article while thumbing through the old issue of the magazine. Being an artist himself, he noted the great similarity between the Ku Klux Klansman and the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY, photograph of RAY taken in 1966. Source states there is enough similarity between the Ku Klux Klansman in 1961 and RAY to be the one and the same person.

Source advised that the photo credit for the Klansman is the "Atlanta Journal" photographer.

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. - 1) (RM)
2 - Atlanta (Enc. - 1) (RM)
2 - Memphis (Enc. - 1) (RM)
2 - Cincinnati (1 - 157-1893)
(1 - 134-852)

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CI 157-1883

The photo mentioned above appears in the 4/25/61 issue of "LOOK," however, the date the photo was taken is not known. However, the article mentions that "Both Ku Klux Klansmen and Negro students have marched in downtown Atlanta in recent months."

It is further noted that Bureau teletype to all SAC's, dated 4/19/68, captioned MURKIN, reveals RAY had been received at the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City, Missouri, on 3/17/68.

If Atlanta does not know the identity of the Klansman shown in the photo, it may be desirable to contact the "Atlanta Journal" to determine the date the photo was made.

Atlanta is requested to advise Cincinnati only should the Klansman in the photo be identified as RAY.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

RALPH McGILL

James E. Ray And His 'Plot'

MEMPHIS — A superb reporting and investigative job and the magazine story derived



therefrom (Look), unquestionably has contributed to a change of lawyers and postponement of the trial of James Earl Ray, originally set for Tuesday, November 12.

William Bradford Huie, veteran reporter and writer of Birmingham, Alabama, has revealed all Ray's movements prior to March 23, 1968. His report goes into minute detail. (It must be kept in mind that the prosecution probably has all this material and more, from F.B.I. and other investigative sources. It is well, also, to understand that Ray is unstable and given to fantasy and lying.)

It is believed here that the Look articles were responsible, indirectly at least, for the decision by Ray to change attorneys. His selection of the Texan, Percy Foreman, who represented the late Jack Ruby and the heiress Candace Mossler, to replace Birmingham attorney Arthur J. Hanes, astonishes no one.

Ray gave Huie all possible cooperation to do the research in exchange for a fee of \$25,000. It is not believed possible Ray, according to Huie, had permission, and agreement, from attorney Hanes. For the past weeks there have been reports of disagreement between the two. The basis of this will, in time, become public.

Rays' Revelations

Huie, after detailing Ray's revelations made this conclusion in the Look article:

"Dr. King was to be murdered for effect. His murder was planned, not by impulsive men who hated him personally, though they probably did hate him, but by calculating men who wanted to use his murder to trigger violent conflict between white and Negro citizens . . .

"He was to be murdered during the election year of 1968.

"Since he was to be murdered for maximum bloody effect, he was to be murdered; not while he was living quietly at his home in Atlanta, but at some dramatic moment, at some dramatic place where controversy was raging . . .

"Preferably, he was to be murdered in Birmingham or Montgomery or Selma, since these cities were milestones in his career as an advocate of racial change . . .

"Therefore, in this plot, Dr. King was the secondary, not the primary, target. The primary target was the United States of America."

Running through Ray's report to Huie is his acceptance of a "job" from a man met in Canada and identified only as "Raoul." Their story is a set of substantiated events more incredible than the cloak-and-dagger stuff of the more imaginative mystery writers. It includes driving a car across the Mexican border with something hidden in a tire. It describes, too, sealed packages brought across the Canadian border.

Continued

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

1

THE ATLANTA
CONSTITUTION
ATLANTA, GA.

Date: 11/12/68
Edition: Morning
Author: RALPH MCGILL
Editor:
Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

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Submitting Office:

☐ Being Investigated

44-2384-415

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

A Conclusion

Huie's conclusion of conspiracy, in which Ray was used for a purpose beyond the mere murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., is one which has haunted this case from the beginning. This was not true of the John F. Kennedy or Robert Kennedy assassinations.

What we do not know, of course, is what the prosecution has ready. It is quite possible, indeed probable, that the Federal Bureau of Investigation provided a massive array of evidence.

It is necessary, as aforesaid, to keep in mind that Ray, on the record and by his admissions to Huie and others, is familiar with deceit, lying and fantasy. His record, criminal, army and these later admissions, reveal him as one often in a dream world.

The "plot," the packages and the tire used to carry some unidentified material into Mexico, may have involved narcotics or jewels.

So, the Ray trial assumes even more mystery and possibly of dramatics than before.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Date:
Edition:
Author:
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Classification:
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☐ Being Investigated

F B I

Date: 11-13-68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AM
(Priority)

TO: SAC, ATLANTA
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P
MURKIN 44-2386

Mr. ROBERT DWYER, Executive Assistant Attorney General, Memphis, Tennessee, advised this date that subpoenas issued in connection with trial scheduled for November 12 should be disregarded. Trial date has been tentatively set for March 3, 1969. DWYER requested that all potential witnesses who have received subpoenas should be made cognizant of change in trial date. Communication will be forwarded to interested witnesses by DWYER's office in near future advising them of new scheduled date for trial.

2 ATLANTA (AM)
2 BIRMINGHAM (AM)
2 LOS ANGELES (AM)
2 NEW ORLEANS (AM)
1 MEMPHIS

RGJ:BN
(9)

44-2386-2183

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FBI - ATLANTA	

CCO make
12-2-68
Hamilton

Approved: *R. Jensen* Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386) P

DATE: 12/27/68

FROM : SUPV. ANGELO M. ROBBE

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 12/27/68 Det. RALPH BROWN, APD, furnished the following information:

He just returned from Orlando, Fla., where he picked up ~~WESLEY ALLEN GUNTHER~~, WM, age 28. GUNTHER is a check writer who has been traveling over all the United States and was recently apprehended and is being bound over in Fulton County Jail for forgery. Det. BROWN anticipates an indictment on him very soon and he will be bound over under \$5,000 bond for trial.

BROWN informed that one of the many aliases of GUNTHER is ALFRED RANDOLPH which he used quite extensively in Atlanta. GUNTHER is an illegal alien from Canada and he is originally from Kincaid, Saskatchewan, Canada. During last July and August, 1968, he was residing at 70 12th Street, Apt. 14, which according to BROWN was the same address where RAY was living. Other name used by GUNTHER was ALLEN WEST NEWMAN. He passed numerous checks in the Atlanta area in 1967 under the NEWMAN name.

The purpose of Det. BROWN's call was that the FBI might try to interview GUNTHER to see if he had any connection with RAY while living at 12th Street, Atlanta. BROWN informed that he has not questioned GUNTHER about RAY or any activities surrounding the RAY case.

LEAD:

ATLANTA

AT FULTON COUNTY JAIL

Interview ~~WESLEY ALLEN~~^G GUNTHER concerning any possible connection he had with RAY at 70 12th Street, Atlanta or in Canada.

2- Atlanta AMR:jhs (2)

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H. M. [signature]

OXFBI ATLANTA

FBI PHILA

630PM URGENT 1/19/69 CRR

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), MEMPHIS (44-1987) AND ATLANTA
FROM PHILADELPHIA (44-1368) (P)

MURKIN.

REMYTT ONE NINETEEN SIXTYNINE.

REV. JAMES BEVEL, SCLC OFFICIAL IN PHILA. APPEARED ON WCAU TV
SPECIAL NEWS INTERVIEW BETWEEN HALVES OF NFL ALL STAR FOOTBALL GAME TO
STATE HE HAS EVIDENCE THAT JAMES EARL RAY DID NOT KILL DR. MARTIN
LUTHER KING, JR. BEVEL REFUSED TO DIVULGE EVIDENCE TO INTERVIEWER BUT
SAID HE HAD OFFERED TO DEFEND RAY IN COURT BECAUSE ALTHOUGH HE WAS NOT A
LICENSED ATTORNEY, HE WAS LEARNED IN THE LAW AND HAD SPENT MUCH TIME
DEFENDING CASES IN COURT AND HAD PUT ALL THE FACTS TOGETHER TO SHOW RAY
WAS NOT GUILTY.

BEVEL ALSO SAID ALL HIS FRIENDS DID NOT BELIEVE RAY WAS GUILTY.

HE SAID HE WAS SPEAKING FOR THE REV. RALPH ABERNATHY AND SCLC BUT
THE PRESS INTERVIEWER SAID THAT AN OFFICIAL OF SCLC IN ATLANTA TOLD THE
NEWS MEDIA THAT BEVEL WAS UNDER PRESSURE AND SPEAKING FOR HIMSELF ONLY.

BUREAU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED. LHM FOLLOWS.

END

JWE

FBI ATLANTA

*SA Hamilton
advised
1/19/69
SA Myers
advised
1/19/69*

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