### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

^ ^ \	 DEN	 

1/23/69

Date\_\_\_\_

Reverend JAMES BEVEL was interviewed for ten minutes at his residence. He stated he was extremely busy as he had appointments through 11:00 p.m. that day. While the interview was in progress, a woman asked BEVEL if he could speak to a member of the press. BEVEL told her to tell the person on the telephone he was tied up until 11:00 p.m.

BEVEL stated he had proof of the innocence of JAMES EARL RAY in connection with the murder of his good friend Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING. BEVEL referred to KING as one of his closest and dearest friends. BEVEL stated that since the FBI was connected with the prosecution and he was involved with the defense, he felt he should not furnish this information.

It was pointed out to BEVEL that the FBI is an investigative agency and does not prosecute anyone. It was also pointed out to BEVEL that the FBI is as interested in proving a person's innocence as proving a person's guilt. BEVEL was advised the FBI was interested in obtaining and proving all facts possible during any investigation.

BEVEL stated he sent a telegram to RAY on Saturday, January 18, 1969, and as of the date of the interview, he had received no answer to his telegram. BEVEL stated in connection with this he planned to call PERCY FOREMAN, Attorney for RAY on the night of January 21, 1969, and offer his services in connection with RAY's defense.

BEVEL stated he would telephone the contacting agents on January 22, 1969, and advise if FOREMAN accepted his offer. BEVEL stated if FOREMAN does not accept his offer to aid the defense, he, BEVEL, plans to drop the entire matter as he feels he has no moral obligation towards RAY to produce his evidence of RAY's innocence if his offer of help is refused.

It was pointed out to BEVEL that if he had evidence of RAY's innocence, it should be brought to the attention of the court. BEVEL again stated he would do so only if he was allowed to be part of RAY's defense.

BEVEL stated that at the time MARTIN LUTHER KING

,			CONFIDENTIAL			
On_	1/21/69	ot Philadelph	nia, Pa. 2 —	File#_Phila	delphia	44-1368
	SA RALPH	C. HAMNER and				
by_	SA EDWAR	D M. COLE	EMC:kpb *	Date dictated_	1/22/69	

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the F81. It is the property of the F81 and is loaned to your agency; It and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

CONFIDENTIAL

PH 44-1368

was shot at the Loraine Motel in Memphia, he was standing on the ground underneath the balcony where KING was shot.

CONFIDENTIAL

### CONFIDENTIAL

### JAMES FARL RAY MARTIN LUTHER KING - VICTIM

On January 22, 1969, Special Agent Edward M. Cole telephonically attempted to contact Reverend Bevel at approximately 2:30 p.m. The person answering stated Reverend Bevel would not return until 5:00 or 6:00 p.m.

On January 21, 1969, a source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised he with others spoke with Bevel concerning Bevel's statement on the innocence of James Earl Ray. This group, including the informant, are considered "militants" by Bevel. During the discussion with Bevel it was pointed out to Bevel that the general feeling of the militants is that Ray was guilty of shooting Reverend King and that Bevel should furnish what evidence he has or keep quiet.

Bevel told this group he has no evidence but that he feels the "system" is killing a man worth nothing while this man actually killed a greater man. Bevel stated that if he is allowed to defend Ray he, Bevel, will bring out everything that the "system" did to cause the death of King. Bevel also stated he feels this is a method to rejuvenate Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) in Philadelphia, as SCLC has fallen off to almost nothing in Philadelphia. In connection with this, Bevel stated he is to receive a check by Western Union from SCLC, Atlanta, for \$500.

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4 %



In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
January 23, 1969

Title

JAMES EARL RAY; MARTIN LUTHER KING - VICTIM

Character

Reference Memorandum dated and captioned as above at Philadelphia, Pa.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FBI

1/23/69 Date:

Transmit	the	foll	owing	in	,

(Type in plaintext or code)

Vin AIRTEL

(Priority)

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM:

SAC, PHILADELPHIA (44-1368)(P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Philadelphia teletypes dated 1/19/69 and 1/21/69.

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are 11 copies of an LHM titled as above.

Copies are being furnished locally to MI, NISO. OSI, Secret Service, and USA, EDPa.

One copy of this LHM is being forwarded Atlanta for information since Atlanta is 00 in SCLC. Two copies are being furnished Memphis since Memphis is 00 MURKIN.

This LHM is classified confidential to protect identity of PH 897-R since PH 897-R and one other individual were present when BEVEL made this statement. PH 897-R continues to furnish excellent information concerning racial and security matters.

Source utilized in the LHM is PH 897-R.

When interviewed on 1/21/69, agents had to wait 30 minutes for BEVEL because BEVEL was holding a meeting in the next room.

5 - Bureau (RM) (Encs. 11)

3 - 44 - 38861

1 - 100-438794 (SCLC)

1 - 157-10808 (JAMES BEVEL)

Atlanta (SCLC) (Info) (RM)(Enc. 1)

- Memphis (44-1987)(MURKIN)RM) (Encs. 2)

- Philadelphia

1 - 44-1987 (MURKIN)

1 - 100-47194 (SCLC)

1 - 157-1214 (RACIAL DISTURBANCES - MAJOR

1. - 157-2979 (JAMES BEVEL)

SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED.

JAN **3 1** 1969

1 - 170,-53 (PH 897-R) Sent : kpb (13special Agent in Charge 100-5/

Per

PH 44-1368

For the information of Atlanta, BEVEL is currently employed at the Health and Welfare Council, Inc., 1428 Columbia Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa., telephone CE 2-9911.

AIRTEL.

To: SAC, Memphis (44-1987)

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

RemEairtel to the Bureau dated 2-8-69.

In your referenced communication you advised that in state court on February 7, 1969, before Judge W. Presten Eattle, a petition to authorize defendant to take depositions out of state was argued. The defense, during this argument, indicated that they desired SAC Hitt, Atlanta Office, and J. D. Carner (operator of rooming house where Ray resided Atlanta, Georgia) be interviewed regarding the admissibility of evidence. During this argument, Judge Eattle refused to allow depositions be taken from SAC Hitt and J. D. Carner, but the Judge stated he was agreeable to have SAC Hitt and J. D. Garner appear in his court for a pretrial suppression hearing. You advised on February 11, 1969, no motion has been filed to suppress the evidence obtained from this rooming house by our Agents.

If and when such motion to suppress is filed, you should obtain a copy of same and immediately forward it to the Bureau for review. You should also furnish a copy of the motion to the Atlanta Office for their review.

Keep the Eureau fully advised of all developments along the above lines.

1)- Atlanta (44-2386) (for info)

#35

# Lawyer, Ex-Kleagle, To Ask Ray Retrial

Stoner, an attorney long assoroute to Nashville where Ray tified by Ray that he wanted to ciated with anti-Jewish, anti-Newas lodged in cell No. 4 in the withdraw his guilty plea and to win a new trial in the slaying with Ray Saturday morning. of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Stoner's office announced Fridav.

Edward R. Fields, director of the militantly segregationist National States Rights party, said Stoner would help Ray change his plea from guilty to innocent and would ask for another trial.

party headquarters here.

Ray was sentenced to 99 years in prison after he pleaded guilty per-slaying of King.

SAVANNAH, Ga. (P) - J. B. | Fields said Stoner was en | Wednesday that he had been nogro causes, has been retained Tennessee State Penitentiary. by James Earl Ray in his effort He said Stoner would confer der.

Warden Lake Russell said he did not yet know whether Stoner would be allowed to see Ray.

"We'll let him see him if he can present the proper credentials," Russell said. "He'll have to show that he (Ray) actually hired him as his lawver."

In Memphis, court officials Stoner is an NSRP attorney said there was nothing on file to whose office is located in the indicate that Stoner had been designated attorney of record by Ray.

Criminal Court Judge W. in Memphis to last year's sni- Preston Battle Jr., who presided in the Ray case, disclôsed Continued on Page 8, Column 5

stand trial for first-degree mur-

The judge said also that Rav wrote him he had fired his attorney, Percy Foreman of Houston, Tex.

Ray had been scheduled for trial April 7 when he abruptly switched plans and pleaded guilty March 10. The 99-year sentence was prearranged by the state and Foreman.

Ray was reported to have told officers who accompanied him from Memphis to the Nashville prison that he had changed his mind and wished he had gone on

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

Pages 1, 8

THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION

ATLANTA, GA

trial and taken his chances of getting a life sentence rather than the electric chair.

Under a life sentence, Ray would be eligible for parole in 13 years. However, the 99-year term prevents him from seeking parole for 30 years.

Stoner would be Ray's third attorney. He had also dismissed former Birmingham, Ala., Mayor Art Hanes.

Stoner, 44, has been involved in Ku Klux Klan and anti-Jewish activities since boyhood. At 16, he was an organizer and officer of a Chattanooga, Tenn., Klan and once was shown as the Kleagle of Tennessee.

In 1945, he formed the "Stoner Anti-Jewish party" and mailed out pamphlets urging removal of the Jews. In 1952, he an-result of a polio attack as a nounced formation of the Chris- child of 2.

Continued from Page 1 tian Anti-Jewish party and urged deportation of Jews and confiscation of their property for distribution to "Christian Americans."

AUTHOR

He wrote a book entitled "The Gospel of Jesus Christ Versus the Jews.'

Stoner was graduated from an Atlanta law school in 1952 after two years of study, passing a state bar examination while still a student.

. In recent years, Stoner had been active in the NSRP and in litigation involving racial conflicts. He was the NSRP vice presidential candidate in 1964.

The party supported former Alabama Gov. George Wallace last year.

Stoner walks with a limp, the

Date: 3-22-69 Edition: Author: Editor: REG MURPHY Title: JESSIE PEN STONER

Character:

£4-2386

Classification: AT 105-01-0 Submitting Office: ATLANTA

SEARCHED.....INDEXED. SERIALIZED .....FILED MAR 2 4 1969 FBI -ATLANTA 9

Mu

# Guilty Plea Pressured Out of Me, Ray Says

### Ex-Klansman Lawyer of Savannah Vows Libel Suit Against 'Life'

By JOHN VAN MOL

NASHVILLE (P)-James Earl Ray's new lawyer said Saturday Ray has reversed the position he took in open court and now says he was innocent and was "pressured into a guilty plea" in the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. of Atlanta.

Court Judge W. Preston Battle asked him specifically if he had been pressured in any way into pleading guilty. Ray replied said. then, "No."

But the lawyer who visited Ray Saturday, J. B. Stoner of Savannah, Ga., reported Ray has changed his story. Stoner said he would represent Ray in in Memphis, "possibly this filing libel suits against "Life week." magazine and others" who Stoner said interfered with Ray getting a fair trial.

RAY'S BROTHER, Jerry, visited him almost immediately ifter Stoner, and the Nashville Fennessean quoted Jerry Ray s saying Percy Foreman, libel suits only." Ray's previous lawyer, "pressured" him into pleading guilty.

The brother said he delivered "evidence" to support this claim consisting of contracts between

Foreman and Ray, the Tennes- in Memphis. sean reported in a copyrighted story. Foreman said in Houston in Memphis: "Has any presthat Ray had sent him a letter sure been put on you to enter officially requesting the guilty a plea of guilty?" Ray replied, plea.

"No."

"I have a letter and I showed it to the judge and to the prose- this plea of guilty on your part cuting attorney," Foreman said. a free act of your own free will, on that count."

When Ray pleaded guilty He said he advised Ray to March 10 in Memphis, Criminal plead guilty "because I believed he would be electrocuted if he didn't." Ray "thought he'd be electrocuted, too," Foreman Foreman

> The Tennessean also quoted Ray's brother as saying a petition seeking a new trial, in which Ray would plead innocent to King's murder, would be filed

> STONER had no comment when asked if he would help Ray in a post-conviction hearing in Memphis. He refused to discuss any criminal aspects of the case, saying he would represent Ray in "civil suits and

> Stoner's office earlier said he had been retained to help Ray win review of his guilty plea and 99-year sentence for firstdegree murder in the death of King, who was slaim April 4

Judge Battle had asked Ray

Battle also asked Ray: "Is this plea of guilty on your part "I wouldn't leave myself open and understanding of its meaning and consequences?"
"Yes, sir," Ray replied.

ASKED who, in addition to Life magazine, would be involved in libel actions, Stoner replied, "So many have libeled" him (Ray) it would be impossible to include them all." But, he said. "Life magazine and others could count on it."

His past associations with Ku Klux Klan members should not harm his case, Stoner said, adding: "I have represented klansmen and other white men in the past. I don't think it will hurt.

Ray, he said, "appeared in good spirits for a man in a hotel like this." Ray, he added, gave him permission to make

the statement about Ray's being pressured into a guilty plea. But he did not elaborate.

Thus, Stoner left unanswered when and how Ray will carry through his announced intention of seeking a review of the case.

IN MEMPHIS, Capt. R. A. Cochran of the Memphis Police Department, who played a major role in the investigation of King's slaying, said he is "amazed that so many people still insist" that King's death was the result of a conspiracy.

Ray, he said, "made so many major blunders, things he would never have done had there been any sort of mastermind behind the plot." Police Chief Henry Lux said his office is not saying there was no conspiracy, just that there is now no evidence of it.

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

Page 2

THE ATLANTA JOURNAL and CONSTITUTION

Date: 2-23-69

Edition: Sunday Author:

JOHN VAN MOL Editor: JACK SPALDING

Title: JESSIE BEN STONER

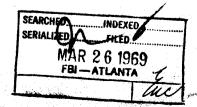
Character:

AT 44-2386-2217

Classification:

Submitting Office: ATLANTA

Being Investigated



# Will Ray Seek a New Trial? **Attorney Contradicts Aide**

Rights party, including James Earl Ray's new attorney, issued Mr. Ray only on civil matters." conflicting statements Tuesday and left unclear whether Ray would seek a new trial in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

of the militantly segregationist NSRP, announced that Ray definitely would try to change his guilty plea to innocent and apply for a new trial.

Fields said he was acting as spokesman for J. B. Stoner. Ray's attorney and vice chairman of the NSRP.

Shortly thereafter Stoner said Fields, who shares an office with him, was mistaken.

"He was just confused," Stoner said.

Stoner, who announced late last week that he would rep-

officials of the National States against several national maga- to change his plea to innocent zines, said he was "attorney for

Asked Tuesday if he would represent Ray in efforts to win a new trial, he said, "I have no present plans. I have some information on the subject but at Edward R. Fields, chairman the present time I'd rather not comment on it.'

> Ray pleaded guilty March 10 to last year's sniper-slaying of King in Memphis, Tenn. He was sentenced to 99 years and lodged in the Tennessee State Penitentiary in Nashville.

Since his sentencing, the

SAVANNAH, Ga. (R) - Two resent Ray in a libel action have been reports Ray wanted and face a first-degree murder trial.

> Stoner conferred with Ray in the prison Saturday.

Memphis court officials said Tuesday nothing had been filed in connection with the Ray cate since his brief trial ended after his guilty plea.

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

Page 16

THE ATLANKA CONSTITUTION

ATLANTA, GA

Date:

3-26-69

Edition:

Author:

REG MURPHY

Editor: Title:

MURKIN

Character:

AT 44-2386 2218

Classification:

Submitting Office: ATLANTA

Being Investigated

SEARCHED.....INDEXED SERIALIZED.....FILED.

MAR 26 1969

### @ XFBI ATLANTA

FBI CHICAGO

259PM DEFERRED 4-4-69 BCK

TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS, MOBILE, PHILADELPHIA,

NEW YORK AND ATLANTA (44-2386)

(49 0000

FROM CHICAGO (44-1114) 1P

MURKIN

RE ATLANTA TEL APRIL THREE LAST.

CONTACT WITH AVAILABLE SOURCES IN CHICAGO AREA FAILED
TO REFLECT JAMES BEVEL PRESENTLY IN CHICAGO. INVESTIGATION
CONTINUES.

END

VSC

FBI ATLANTA

SEARCHED\_\_\_\_INDEXED\_\_\_\_
SERIALIZED\_\_\_\_FILED\_\_\_\_
APR 4 1969
FBI—ATLANTA

URGENT 4/3/69 VSC

5 37 TO DIRECTOR 44-38861, CHICAGO, MFMPHIS, MOBILE, PHILADELPHIA AND NEW YORK

FROM ATLANTA 44-2396

MURKIN

RE MEMPHIS TELETYPE TO SURCAU, MARCH THENTYFIGHT, 'SIXTYNINE'. ON APR. TWO, 'SIXTYNINE, A T THIRTEEN FIGHTYSEVEN DASH R ADVISED DURING PRESENT WEEK THEFT WAS RUMORED A MONG MEMBERS SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE STOFF THAT JAMES SEVEL, DIRECTOR, NON-VIOLENT ROBERTION, SCLO, HAD RECENTLY COMMITTED HIMSELF TO A MOSPITAL IN ORDER TO DETAIN A REST AND SEEK WHATEVER MEDICAL ATTEN TION MAY BE MECESSARY. SOURCE UMARLE TO SUBSTANTIATE THIS INFO OR PROVIDE FURTHER RETAILS: HOWEVER, ROLWIND OUT NEWSERS OF SCLO STAFF FROM TIME TO TIME IN PAST HAVE SYPERASED OPINION PEVEL'S ACTIONS SUGGEST HE IS IN MEED OF MEDICAL TREATMENT.

, FOURCE HAS MO IMPO BEVEL IS TOR MAR DECENTLY, FEED IN ATLANTA. WILL REMAIN ALERT TO IMPO IMDICATING MARRIAROUTS.

IN VIEW OF ECHTROING INFO, IT IS SUPPERIFF CHICAGO, NEW YORK AND PHILADELPHIA CONTACT SOURCES FOR INFO REVEL MAY BE HOSPITACIZEDS I" OME OF THOSE CITIES.

1-157-656 (J. Berel) 1-170-290A

Special Agent in Char



### In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

### UNI D STATES DEPARTMENT OF J TICE

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Atlanta, Georgia

April 7, 1969

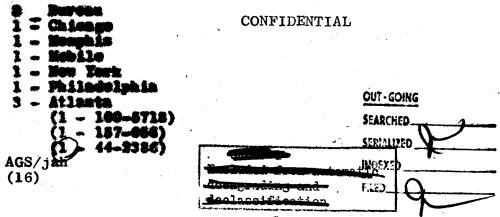
CONFIDENTIAL

COMMUNIST INFILTRATION
OF
SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN
LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

A confidential source advised on April 2, 1969, he had learned that a number of employees of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) had the understanding that James Bevel, Director of Nonviolent Education, SCLC, had, during the recent past, committed himself to a hospital in order to obtain a rest and such medical assistance as might be deemed necessary.

Source could furnish no further details regarding the above matter but recalled from time to time in the past some SCLC employees having expressed the opinion, Bevel was in need of rest and possibly suffered from some form of mental problem.

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CLASSIFIED BY 6086 11-30-7?
ETEMPT FROM GENERAL LECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE CRIDER 11652
EXEMPTION CATEGORY
AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON Tract.

12-21-7791

12-21-7791

3X)

### JAMES BEVEL

BEVEL, in early March, 1966 was observed to be present at the offices of the West Side W.E.B. DuBois Club in Chicago (DCC). Discussion took place at this time centering around reaction to a recent notification that the Attorney General of the United States intended to label the DuBois Clubs as a Communist front. BEVEL, in conversation, stated that he would have ignored this notification, and kept about the work in which he was engaged. He felt that if the DuBois Clubs have a real program of help for the people, then people would answer for the clubs despite any labels applied to them.

Most present agreed that the attack on the DuBois Clubs was a part of the plan by the "establishment" to undermine the civil rights movement. They felt that the recent mearings into Klan activities in this country was only a beginning which would lead to a full attack on the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), the real target. One of those present stated during the course of this discussion that he was not a Communist, and to this BEVEL was overheard to reply that every thinking American should be. He stated that Negroes have not begun to read yet, but when they do, they will all be socialists.

CONFIDENTIAL

1

### W. E. B. DU BOIS CLUBS OF AMERICA (DCA)

A source has advised that on October 26-27, 1963, a conference of members of the Communist Party (CP), including national functionaries, met in Chicago, Illinois, for the purpose of setting in motion forces for the establishment of a new national Marxist-oriented youth organization which would hunt for the most peaceful transition to socialism. These delegates were told that it would be reasonable to assume that the young socialists attracted into this new organization would eventually pass into the CP itself.

A second source has advised that the founding convention for the new youth organization was held June 19-21, 1964, at 150 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, California, at which time the name W. E. B. DuBois Clubs of America (DCA) was adopted. Approximately 500 delegates from thoughout the United States attended this convention. The aims of this organization, as set forth in the preamble of the constitution, are, "It is our belief that this nation can best solve its problems in an atmosphere of peaceful coexistence, complete disarmament and true freedom for all peoples of the world, and that these solutions will be reached mainly through the united efforts of all working people allied in the unity of Negroes and other minorities with whites. We further fully recognize that the greatest threat to American denocracy comes from the racist and right wing forces in coalition with the most reactionary sections of the economic power structure, using the tool of anti-Communism to divide and destroy the unified struggle of the working people."

Cver the Labor Day weekend, 1965, the DCA held a conference in Chicago, Illinois, and a new slate of officers was elected to the National Executive Committee (NEC) of the DCA. Since Labor Day, 1965 identities of those serving of the NEC has varied;

CONFIDENTIAL

however, according to a third source as of May, 1966, thirteen of the fifteen members of the NEC were members of the CP-in the San Francisco Bay area.

As of May, 1966, the headquarters of the DCA was located at 1830 Fell Street, San Francisco, California.

CONFIDENTIAL

4

### W. E. B. DU BOIS CLUBS OF CHICAGO DCC

On May 3, 1965, a source advised that on June 30, 1964, a group of young people who attended the founding convention of the W. E. B. DuBois Clubs of America (DCA) met in Chicago and adopted a statement of purpose and constitution forming the DCC as an affiliate of the National DCA.

A second source advised on May 1, 1967, that DCA chartered clubs in the Chicago area are the West Side DCC and the North Side DCC, neither of which currently maintain a headquarters. There is no central headquarters for the DCC and there are no unchartered clubs in this area.

The second source advised that the majority of DCC members are also members of the CP.

During the past year DCC activity has been almost nonexistent.

CONFIDENTIAL



In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Atlanta, Georgia
April 7, 1969

Title

COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Character

INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Reference

Memorandum prepared at Atlanta, dated and captioned as above.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

9

•		FBI
		'얼마, '마다, '마다'에 가는 하나 보면 말하다. 그는 사람들이 다 되었다. 그는 사람들이 되었다면 보다 되었다. 그는 사람들이 되었다면 보다 되었다면 보다 되었다. 그는 사람들이 되었다면 보다 되었다면
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α	AIRTEL	AIRMAIL (Priority)
<b></b> -		
	TO:	DIRECTOR, FBI (100-438794)
	FROM:	SAC, ATLANTA (100-5718)
	SUBJECT:	COMINFIL OF SCLC IS - C
	MURKIN.	Re Atlanta teletype, 4/3/69, to Bureau captioned
	of an LHM	Enclosed for the Bureau is original and seven co and for each other recipient one copy of LHM.
	informati	Source referred to in enclosed LHM is AT 1387-R on from whom must be classified confidential.
	CG 6905-S	Source utilized to characterize JAMES BEVEL is
	1 - Chica 1 - Memph 1 - Mobil 1 - New Y	u (Encs. 8) (RM) go (Enc. 1) (RM) iis (Enc. 1) (RM) e (Enc. 1) (RM) Tork (Enc. 1) (RM)
	3 - Atlan (1 -	delphia (Enc. 1) (RM) OUT-GOING ita SEARCHED 100-5718) SERIALIZED
	AGS/jah (10),	44-2386) (MURKIN) INDEXED FILED
	Yar	44-2386-222
		M4-0386-0005

FBI

Date:

4/8/69

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

(Priority)

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM:

SAC, MOBILE (157-2627) (P)

RE:

MURKIN

44-2386

Re Memphis teletype to the Bureau, 3/28/69.

Contact with available sources in Mobile Division, coverage of MARTIN LUTHER KING Memorial, 4/4-5/69, and demonstrations at Alabama State College, Montgomery, Ala., 3/29/69 to present, failed to reflect JAMES BEVEL presently in Mobile Div. Investigation continues.

3 - Bureau

① - Atlanta (Info)

1 - Chicago (Info)

1 - Memphis (Info)

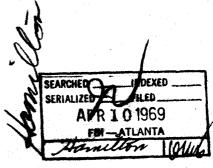
1 - New York (Info)

1 - Philadelphia (Info)

2 - Mobile

CG: crb

(10)



442386 222

Approved: \_

.....

Per \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

April 8, 1969

ROY RICHARD ERWIN, Georgia State Prison (GSP) Number 57075, was located in the visitor's section just off the rotunds, GSP. He was advised he was to be interviewed in regards to a letter from a ROY ERWIN received at the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D.C. ERWIN was given a Rights and Waiver form, which he read and signed.

A letter was read to ERWIN as follows:

"Dear Sir:

"I would like to inform you that I drove a 1965 model Mustang from Momphis, Tenn. to Atlanta, Ga. on April 4th, 1968. If this date reminds you of anything that happen in Momphis, last April 4th at 9:45 p.m.

"Sincerely,

Roy Erwin"

ROY RICHARD ERVIN orally advised as follows:

He did not write the letter and did not send any letter to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D.C. No one has hinted to him that such a letter had been written. He was unable to think of any immate in the GSP who would write such a letter. He knows of no immate in the GSP that dislikes him who would write a letter and send it out with his name on it.

He has engaged in conversation with other immates regarding the Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING case, but he does not recall ever having mentioned a Mujtang automobile in these conversations with other; however, he could have said something about such a vehicle.

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				SEARCHED INDEXED	_
				SERIALIZED FILED	_
				APR 1 0 1989	
				FBI — ATLANTA	
On	-4/3/69 of Tattmall Co	ounty, Georgia	File#_Savanne	h 44-1768 ORF	
			•	pamatten	
b y	BA SYDNEY J. SMITH		Date dictated	46/69	

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

He recalled that a friend of his, JERRY BENNETT, had owned a 1965 Mustang, white, two door hardtop. BENNETT is employed at Coronet Carpet Company, Dalton, Georgia, but it is believed that he had traded the 1965 Mustang in on another car.

On the last Saturday in March, 1968, he had left Dalton, Georgia, with JERRY BENNETT, and MICHAEL BLALOCK, who lives near Dalton, Georgia. BLALOCK's home is located by going out the Chatsworth Highway about six miles, then turn off the highway onto a dirt road. BLALOCK is in the U.S. Army at the present time.

After leaving Dalton, Georgia, on the last Saturday of March, 1968, BENNETT, BLALOCK and he drove in BENNETT's 1965 Mustang to Atlanta, Georgia, where they stayed about two hours. They then traveled back to Dalton, Georgia, where he, ERWIN, obtained his 1963 Lincoln Continental, light blue, and drove to Chattanooga, Tennessee, along with BENNETT and BLALOCK in BENNETT's 1965 Mustang. In Chattanooga, Tennessee, BENNETT, BLALOCK and ERWIN checked in at the Florida Hotel and stayed there for one night and a day.

He left his car, the Lincoln Continental, in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and drove with BKNNETT and BLALOCK to Knoxville, Tennessee, where they stayed for four or five hours. They then drove to Memphis, Tennessee, where they stayed for a couple of days. They left Memphis and drove back to Chattanooga and checked in at the Florida Hotel, Chattanooga. A Florida Hotel porter, TEASDALE ROOSEVELT, a Negro male, about 65 to 66 years of age, tall and muscular build, knows him, ERWIN, well. Between 9 PM and 10 PM on April 4, 1968, TEASDALE ROOSEVELT told him about the fact that Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING had been killed in Memphis, Tennessee.

The next day, April 5, 1968, in the early afternoon, he drove back to Dalton, Georgia, in his 1963 Lincoln Continental. About a half mile from Dalton, his 1963 Lincoln motor burned up and he had to have the car hauled into Dalton to his home.

He knows nothing about the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING.

A description of ERWIN as obtained by observation and interrogation, is as follows:

### SV 44-1768

Name ROY RICHARD ERWIN GSP Number 57075 Race White Sex Male Age 20 Born Place Dalton, Georgia 5 feet 102 inches Height Weight 145 pounds Build Slender Hair Blond Eyes Blue Tattoo Three dots on left wrist Marital status Single Father OSCAR ERWIN Stylenson 302 Fleming Street, Dalton, Georgia (operates Erwin Discount Outlet, Dalton, and Ocoee, Tennessee) Mrs. MARIE ERWIN Mother

same address

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date\_April 8, 1969

Mr. LAMAR L. MC GREGORY, Record Clerk, Record Room, Georgia State Prison (GSP), furnished the GSP file on ROY ERWIN, GSP #57075.

A review of the file revealed the following:

Name ROY ERWIN
Serial number A-71338
GSP # 57075
Race White
Sex Male
Age 20

Born

Place Whitfield County, Georgia

Height 5 feet 9 inches
Weight 140 pounds
Build Slender
Hair Light brown

Eyes Blue Complexion Ruddy Violation Forgery

Sentence 2 years and 7 months, probated and revoked, received in penitentiary on

June 11, 1968, received at GSP

June 20, 1968 Occupation Textile worker Mother Mrs. MARIE ERWIN

Father OSCAR ERWIN

302 Fleming Street, Dalton, Georgia

Tattoo Three dots left wrist

Received in GSP

Transferred to GSP due to mental

condition

Court orders Psychiatric examination

Finding by medical board

of examiners Not psychotic on August 1, 1968
Court Order Psychiatric examination, December 19, 1968, found not psychotic by

Medical Board of Examiners on January

16, 1969

On_4/3/69at	Tattnall	County, Georgi	<b>a</b> _File#	Savannah	44-1768
by SA SYDNEY	J. SMITH	/lbb	Date dictate	d_4/4/6	SERIALIZED FILED
This document contains neither it and its contents are not to be d	r recommendations listributed outside y	nor conclusions of the FBI. It our agency.		T	Control of the Contro

SV 44-1768

Report of Punishment

- 1) Refused to return to assigned dormitory, June 26, 1968
- 2) Disobeying orders, October 2, 1968
- 3) Disobeying orders and back talk to an officer, December 12, 1968

FBI Number

402 591 F

### TRUE COPY

Dear Sir:

I would like to inform you that I drove a 1965 model Mustang from Memphis, Tenn. to Atlanta, Ga. on April 4th, 1968. If this date reminds you of anything that happen in Memphis, last April 4th at 9:45 p.m.

Sincerely, Roy Erwin

	ALIZED	IND	EXED
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	FBI —	ATLAN	TA
1	Hamit	lon	OKH

44-2386-2226

it the following	in		Date: <b>3-28-69</b>	
		(Type in plain	ntext or code)	
AIRTEL				
			(Priority)	
د بید د د د د د د د د د د د د د د د د د	·	. <b></b>		
To: SA	C, Savannah	n (44-1768)	1 .	
From: Di	rector. FBI	(44-38861)		
			•	
MURKIN				
Roy Erwin	for Memphi	is of a letter re	two true copies and ceived at the Bureau e Georgia Board of	
and set if It is to which was is also to	ion he posse forth necess be noted the s abandoned to be noted	esses concerning sary leads to tho hat James Earl Ra in Atlanta, Geor that Martin Luth	y interview Erwin for the contents of his roughly resolve issue y owned a 1966 Musta gia, on April 5, 196 er King, Jr., was sh 1968, at Memphis, 7	lette les. ing 38. I
abandoned	ord Fairland I same in Co	e in Dalton, Geor olumbia, South Ca ates A <sub>t</sub> torney in	Roy Erwin admitted signa, on 8-16-65, and rolina. In this mate Columbia declined property of the columbia de	l tter t
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Airtel to SAC, Savannah RE: MURKIN

Under this same FBI number one Richard Erwin was fingerprinted by Georgia Industrial Institution (number A-61871/7616) at Alto, Georgia, on 10-8-65, in connection with charges of larceny of an automobile and received a sentence of two years. It is not known if this entire sentence or portion thereof was served.

### 4/8/69

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO:

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM:

SAC, SAVANNAH (44-1768) (RUC)

SUBJ:

MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel to Savannah and Memphis, 3/28/69.

Enclosed for the Atlanta Division are the following:

- 1) One xerox copy of above referenced Bureau communication.
- 2) One xerox copy of a letter reportedly from ROY ERWIN.
- 3) One copy of an FD-302 with Mr. LAMAR L. MC GREGOR, Records Clerk, Record Room, Georgia State Prison, Tattnall County, Ga., conducted on 4/3/69.
- 4) One copy of an FD-302 with ROY RICHARD ERWIN, GSP #57075, GSP, Tattnall County, Ga., conducted on 4/3/69.

Enclosed for the Knoxville Division is one copy each of the above four items.

Enclosed for the Memphis Division are 7 copies each of the above FD 302s.

2 - Memphis (Enc. 14) 2 - Atlanta (Enc. 4) (44- 2 - Knoxville (Enc. 4) 1 - Savannah	<b>2386)</b>	X S	2 - 6
SJS/1bb (7)	CEC.	SEARCHEDSERIALIZEDAPRI	INDEXED WITH
	Talloy	44-238	6-2238

#### SV 44-1768

LEADS:

### ATLANTA

### AT DALTON, GEORGIA

- DENNETT, who is employed at Coronet Carpets Company, thoroughly regarding trip taken in latter part of March, 1968, and first part of April, 1968, together with ROY RICHARD ERWIN (protect name of ERWIN at all times) and MICHAEL BLALOCK, to Atlanta, Ga., Chattanooga, Tennessee, Knoxville, Tenn., and Memphis, Tenn., and back to Chattanooga, Tenn., and Dalton, Ga.
- 2) Will determine from BENNETT where he, BLALOCK and ERWIN stayed in Memphis and purpose of their trip to Memphis, Tenn.
- 3) Will determine from BENNETT where he heard about murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING.
- 4) Will determine where BENNETT, BIALOGK and ERWIN went after leaving Chattanooga, Tenn., after hearing of death of KING.
- 5) Will determine whether or not 1965 Mustang disposed of and to whom, so that 1965 Mustang can be examined to determine if a police radio ever was installed in it.
- 6) Will identify, locate, and interview MICHAEL BLALOCK, who lives on dirt road six miles out Chatsworth Highway from Dalton, Georgia, who is said to be in U.S. Army, at present, along same lines as JERRY BENNETT.

### KNOXV ILLE

### AT CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE

- 1) Will contact the Florida Hotel to determine dates on which JERRY BENNETT, MICHAEL BLALOCK and ROY RICHAED ERWIN (protect at all times) were registered in the Florida Hotel. (Note BENNETT, BLALOCK and ERWIN were allegedly registered in Florida Hotel on 2/separate occasions in late March, 1968, and early April, 1968.
- 2) Will contact a porter, TEASDALE ROOSEVELT, who allegedly works at Florida Hotel to determine if he knows JERRY BENNETT, MICHAEL BLALOCK and ROY ERWIN, and if he told them of death of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING.

Q

FBI ATLANTA

FBI PHILA

1119PM 3-27-69 URGENT JLK

TO DIRECTOR, ATLANTA, MEMPHIS, AND WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE
FROM PHILADELPHIA 44-1368

144.238k

MURKIN

RE BUAIRTEL THREE TWENTYSIX SIXTYNINE.

RETEL INSTRUCTED PHILA TO IMMEDIATELY INTERVIEW REVEREND JAME
BEVEL SCLC OFFICIAL CONCERNING HIS STATEMENT IN "NEW YORK TIMES" T
LETTER WAS TURNED OVER TO MEMPHIS PD APPROXIMATELY FOUR THREE SIXT
EIGHT CONTAINING INFORMATION THAT MARTIN LUTHER KING WAS TO BE
ASSASSINATED WHILE IN MEMPHIS.

MEMPHIS PD KNOWS NOTHING OF LETTER.

BEVERLY STERNER, GIRL FRIEND OF BEVEL TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED THIS DATE BEVEL WAS OUT OF TOWN AT A MEETING FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK.

SHE STATED SHE WOULD ATTEMPT TO CALL BEVEL AND HAVE HIM CALL PHILA.

SHE WAS TOLD FBI WOULD TALK TO HIM WHEREVER HE WAS LOCATED.

ATLANTA, MEMPHIS, AND WFO CONTACT SOURCES TO DETERMINE BEVEL'S LOCATION AND IF THERE IS ANY SCLC CONFERENCES.

END

AT...JTB

FBI ATLANTA

CLRe

FBI ATLANTA

FBI PHILA

1119PM 3-27-69 URGENT JLK

TO DIRECTOR, ATLANTA, MEMPHIS, AND WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE
FROM PHILADELPHIA 44-1368

J44-2386

### MURKIN

RE BUAIRTEL THREE TWENTYSIX SIXTYNINE.

RETEL INSTRUCTED PHILA TO IMMEDIATELY INTERVIEW REVEREND JAMES

BEVEL SCLC OFFICIAL CONCERNING HIS STATEMENT IN "NEW YORK TIMES" THAT

LETTER WAS TURNED OVER TO MEMPHIS PD APPROXIMATELY FOUR THREE SIXTY
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ATLANTA, MEMPHIS, AND WFO CONTACT SOURCES TO DETERMINE BEVEL'S LOCATION AND IF THERE IS ANY SCLC CONFERENCES.

END

AT...JTB

FBI ATLANTA

CLRe

CODE

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861), AND NEW YORK

FROM: PHILADELPHIA (44-1368)

44 2386

MURKIN

RE BUREAU AIRTEL DATED MARCH TWENTYSIX, LAST, AND ATLANTA TELETYPE DATED APRIL THREE, LAST.

REFERENCED AIRTEL INSTRUCTED PHILADELPHIA TO INTERVIEW REV. JAMES BEVEL OF SCLC FOR INFORMATION IN HIS POSSESSION REGARDING HIS STATEMENT IN "THE NEW YORK TIMES" ON MARCH EIGHTEEN, LAST, THAT A LETTER WAS TURNED OVER TO MEMPHIS POLICE ON APPROXIMATELY APRIL THREE, SIXTYEIGHT, WHICH CONTAINED INFORMATION THAT MARTIN LUTHER KING WAS TO BE ASSASSINATED.

REFERENCED ATLANTA TEL STATED RUMORS WERE THAT BEVEL HAD RECENTLY COMMITTED HIMSELF TO A HOSPITAL IN ORDER TO OBTAIN A REST AND SEEK WHATEVER MEDICAL ATTENTION MAY BE NECESSARY.

1 - Atlanta (AM) 1 - Memphis (AM) 1 - Philadelphia (44-1368) EMC: nmm (3)

APR 1 2 1969

Sentingle

SEARCHED

PAGE TWO PH 44-1368

PH EIGHT NINE SEVEN - R ADVISED THIS DATE THAT HE HAD BEEN AT BEVEL'S APARTMENT AND AT SCLC HEADQUARTERS AND THAT ONE LOCAL OFFICIAL OF SCLC STATED BEVEL WAS IN NEW YORK BUT THAT SCLC WAS KEEPING THE QUIET. ALL OTHER SCLC PEOPLE ADVISED SIMPLY THAT BEVEL WAS OUT OF TOWN.

NEW YORK ATTEMPT TO LOCATE HOSPITAL AT WHICH BEVEL IS LOCATED BUT DO NOT INTERVIEW WITHOUT BUREAU PERMISSION.

IT IS FELT BEVEL SHOULD NOT BE INTERVIEWED IF HE IS IN A MENTAL HOSPITAL BECAUSE OF POSSIBLE EMBARRASSMENT TO THE BUREAU.

IF BEVEL IS LOCATED IN NEW YORK, THE FACT THAT HE IS IN A MENTAL HOSPITAL MAY BE EXCELLENT MATERIAL FOR COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE.

BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO ADVISE WHETHER OR NOT BEVEL IS TO BE INTERVIEWED IN HOSPITAL.

AIRMAIL COPY SENT TO ATLANTA AND MEMPHIS.

### 4/11/69

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

SUBJECT: MURK IN

Enclosed for the Bureau is one copy each of Savannah airtel to Memphis dated 4/8/69, and an FD-302 dated 4/8/69 which reflects an interview on 4/3/69 with ROY RICHARD ERWIN, an inmate of the Georgia State Prison.

The Bureau will note that ERWIN has denied writing a letter bearing his name which indicated that he had driven a 1965 Mustang from Memphis, Tenn., to Atlanta, Ga., on 4/4/68, the date that victim was killed. The subsequent interview with ERWIN on 4/3/69 indicates that ERWIN was in Chattanooga, Tenn., on 4/4/68, and ERWIN denies having any knowledge regarding KING's murder.

Since it does not appear to serve any useful purpose to conduct the investigation set out in Savannah airtel of 4/8/69, Atlanta and Knoxville should hold the requested investigation in abeyance and should not conduct same, UACB.

3 - Bureau (Encs. 2)

(2)- Atlanta (44-2386)

2 - Knoxville

2 - Savannah (44-1768)

2 - Memphis JCH: jap

(9)

FD-36 (Rev. 9-22-64)

F B I

Date: 4/25/69

Transmit the following in

Via -

TELETYPE

(Type in plaintext or code)

URGENT

(Priority)

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861), CHICAGO, PHILADELPHIA.

AND NEW YORK

CODE

FROM:

SAC, ATLANTA

MURKIN

REFERENCE ATLANTA TELETYPE TO BUREAU. APRIL THREE. SIXTYNINE. CAPTIONED AS ABOVE.

ON APRIL THENTY FOUR SIXTYNINE, AT THIRTEEN EIGHTY SEVEN DASH R ADVISED HE UNDERSTOOD THAT JAMES BEVEL. DIRECTOR OF NON VIOLENT EDUCATION, SCLC, WAS CURRENTLY IN PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA: INFORMANT STATED NO SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION HAD COME TO HIS ATTENTION PERTAINING TO THE REPORTED RECENT HOSPITALIZATION OF BEVEL. HE SAID HE ASSUMED BEVEL COULD PRESENTLY BE CONTACTED THROUGH SCLC. PHILADELPHIA.

INFORMANT POINTED OUT THAT BEVERLY STERNER, WHITE FEMALE, SCLC, EMPLOYEE, SERVES AS AN AIDE TO BEVEL IN PHILADELPHIA. STERNER HAS BEEN PROMISCUOUS WITH VARIOUS SCLC OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES INCLUDING BEVEL. THE SCLC EXECUTIVE STAFF GENERALLY CONSIDERED STERNER TO BE VERY PARTIAL TO BEVEL. IN INFORMANT'S OPINION. STERNER IS MORE LIKELY TO KNOW OF BEVEL'S CURRENT

3 - Atlanta

-44-2386)

157-656) (JAMES BEVEI

(1 - 170-290A)

AGS/jahSpecial Agent in Charge (5)

•	FBI
	Date:
mit the following	in
	(Type in plaintext or code)
10 10 10 10 10 10	(Priority)
	<del>-</del>
PAGE TWO	
WHEREABO	OUTS AT ANY TIME THAN ANY ONE ELSE IN SCLC.
	PHILADELPHIA, IF NOT ALREADY DONE, LOCATE BEVEL
THROUGH	SCLC, PHILADELPHIA, AND/OR STERNER.
	PERTINENT PORTIONS ABOVE INFORMATION WILL BE .
INCLUDE	D IN LHM RE BEVEL.
	INFORMATION FROM AT THIRTEN RICHTY SEVEN DASH R
CAUTTO	INFORMATION FROM AT THIRTEEN EIGHTY SEVEN DASH R
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CONFIDE	ONE COPY (RM) MEMPHIS AND MOBILE.
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Approved:	SentM	Per
Special Agent in Charge	•	

sirtel

air mail

To: SAC, Atlanta (44-2386)

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MINISTER IN

ReATtel 4-11-68 and ATmirtel 4-10-68 submitting major case prints of DONALD RUGENE WALLACE.

On basis information furnished in referenced Atlanta teletype as fingerprint record could be located in Identification Division files for MARLAN CARL LACY, Army service FER 1558672.

Remaining unidentified latent prints in this case are not identical with the finger or palm prints of WALLACE.

Prints of Wallace being temporarily retained in Identifi-

2 - Memphis (44-1987)

1 - Rosen

APC:wgc (11)

Airtel mailed from Ident, Div. 4-11-68 wgc

SERIALIZED FILED NOV 2 1 1968

LEAVE THIS SPACE BLANK	TYPE OR PRINT LAST NAME FI	RST NAME MIDDLE N.	AME SEX RACEY.
	WALLACE	PONALD EU	GENE ( ) WT.
	CONTRIBUTOR AND ADDRESS	ALIASES	BILDE EXESPERA
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SCARS AND MARKS JAMPUTATION	AT44-2386	LEAVE INIS SPACE BLANK	
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Port explid	TEACE TO THOMBER HERE		
SIGNATURE OF OFFICIAL TAKING FINGERPRINTS DATE		REF.	
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	Marie Carlos		
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### FEDERAL BUREAU OF LESTIGATION, UNITED STATES DEARTMENT OF JUSTICE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537

OR RECEIVED  (If code citation is used it should be accompanied by charge)  (List FINAL disposition only, submit later on FBI Form R-84 for SUSPECT - 44 - MURKIN  OCCUPATION  RESIDENCE OF PERSON FINGERPRINTED 534 Jeanne Drive  Menphis, Tenn  If COLLECT wire reply or COLLECT telephone reply is desired, indicate here   Wire reply   Telephone reply    Telephone number    Note amputations in proper to REPLY AFTER FOR MOST EFFECTIVE S 2. TYPE or PRINT all informations in proper to REPLY WILL QUOTE OI PEARING IN THE B "YOUR NO."  Since photograph may become detached indicate name, FBI number, and arrest number on reverse side whether		CURRENT ARREST OR RE	CEIPT
OCCUPATION  RESIDENCE OF PERSON FINGERPRINTED  534 Jeanne Deive  Memphis, Tenu  If COLLECT wire reply or COLLECT telephone reply is desired, indicate here  Wire reply  Telephone number  Sentence expires.  INSTRUCTIO  1. FOR WARD ARREST CAMEDIATELY AFTER FIFOR MOST EFFECTIVES 2. TYPE or PRINT all informs in proper to the property of the property of the person of th	OR RECEIVED		DISPOSITION OR SENTENCE (List FINAL disposition only. If not now available, submit later on FBI Form R-84 for completion of record.)
Sentence expires   Sentence expires	8 (68	suspect - 44-MURKIN	
Telephone reply  Sentence expires  INSTRUCTIO  INSTRUC	lerk	534 JEANNE DRIVE Memphis, TENN	
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attached to fingerprint card or submitted later.  SEND COPY TO:	Since photograph may become detached indicate name,		<ol> <li>Indicate any additional copies for other agencies in space below—include their complete mailing address.</li> </ol>

The 4/1868 Columbus La



Donald Eugene Walker

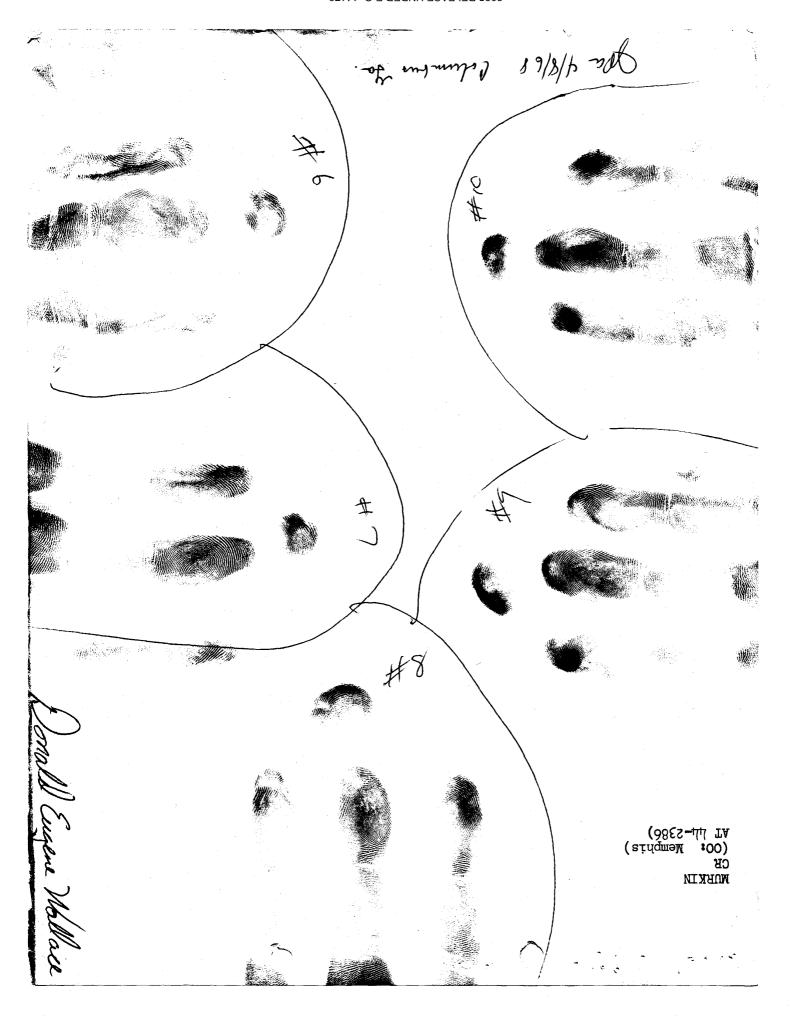
2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

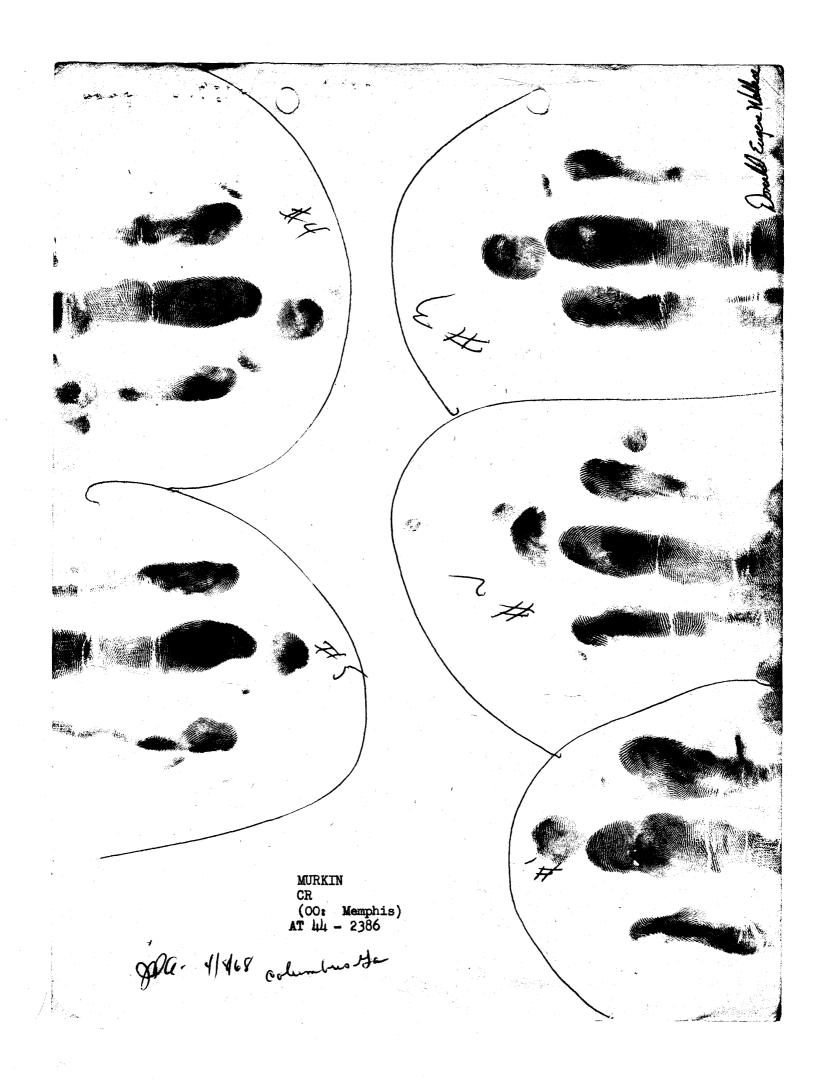
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mell Eugene Walker



MURKIN CR (OO- Memphis) AT 44-2386)







# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION Atlanta, Georgia

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

April 29, 1969

#### CONFIDENTIAL

COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE RACIAL MATTER;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

On April 3, 1969, a confidential source advised he understood there was then currently a rumor among members of the Executive staff of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) that James Bevel, Director of Nonviolent Education, SCLC, had recently committed himself to a hospital in order to obtain rest and such medical assistance as might be deemed necessary.

Source pointed out most members of the SCLC staff have long considered Bevel to be an individual whose actions can seldom be predicted. As a consequence, some of these staff members, from time to time, have expressed opinion that Bevel has been in need of medical attention.

On April 24, 1969, source advised no further information had come to his attention regarding the purported hospitalization of Bevel. As of that date, source understood Bevel was then working in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on behalf of SCLC.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

 $\underline{\mathbf{C}} \ \underline{\mathbf{O}} \ \underline{\mathbf{N}} \ \underline{\mathbf{F}} \ \underline{\mathbf{I}} \ \underline{\mathbf{D}} \ \underline{\mathbf{E}} \ \underline{\mathbf{N}} \ \underline{\mathbf{T}} \ \underline{\mathbf{I}} \ \underline{\mathbf{A}} \ \underline{\mathbf{L}}$ 

Group I
Excluded From Automatic
Downgrading And Declassification

OUT-SOME

SEARCHED

SERIALIZED

MIDEXED

44-2386-2234

#### JAMES BEVEL

BEVEL, in early March, 1966 was observed to be present at the offices of the West Side W.E.B. DuBois Club in Chicago (DCC). Discussion took place at this time centering around reaction to a recent notification that the Attorney General of the United States intended to label the DuBois Clubs as a Communist front. BEVEL, in conversation, stated that he would have ignored this notification, and kept about the work in which he was engaged. He felt that if the DuBois Clubs have a real program of help for the people, then people would answer for the clubs despite any labels applied to them.

Most present agreed that the attack on the DuBois Clubs was a part of the plan by the "establishment" to undermine the civil rights novement. They felt that the recent hearings into Klan activities in this country was only a beginning which would lead to a full attack on the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), the real target. One of those present stated during the course of this discussion that he was not a Communist, and to this BEVAL was overheard to reply that every thinking American should be. He stated that Negroes have not begun to read yet, but when they do, they will all be socialists.

CONFIDENTIAL

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#### W. E. B. DU BOIS CLUBS OF AMERICA (DCA)

A source has advised that on October 26-27, 1963, a conference of members of the Communist Party (CP), including national functionaries, met in Chicago, Illinois, for the purpose of setting in motion forces for the establishment of a new national Marxist-oriented youth organization which would hunt for the most peaceful transition to socialism. These delegates were told that it would be reasonable to assume that the young socialists attracted into this new organization would eventually pass into the CP itself.

A second source has advised that the founding convention for the new youth organization was held June 19-21, 1964, at 150 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, California, at which time the name W. E. B. DuBois Clubs of America (DCA) was adopted. Approximately 500 delegates from thoughout the United States attended this convention. The aims of this organization, as set forth in the preamble of the constitution, are, "It is our belief that this nation can best solve its problems in an atmosphere of peaceful coexistence, complete disarmament and true freedom for all peoples of the world, and that these solutions will be reached mainly through the united efforts of all working people allied in the unity of Negroes and other minorities with whites. We further fully recognize that the greatest threat to American denocracy comes from the racist and right wing forces in coalition with the most reactionary sections of the economic power structure, using the bol of anti-Communism to divide and destroy the unified struggle of the working people."

Over the Labor Day weekend, 1935, the DCA held a conference in Chicago, Illinois, and a new slate of officers was elected to the National Executive Committee (NEC) of the DCA. Since Labor Day, 1965 identities of those serving of the NEC has varied;

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however, according to a third source as of May, 1968, thirteen of the fifteen members of the NEC were members of the CP in the San Francisco Bay area.

As of May, 1986, the headquarters of the DCA was located at 1830 Fell Street, San Francisco, California.

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W. E. B. DU BOIS CLUBS OF CHICAGO DCC

On May 3, 1965, a source advised that on June 30, 1964, a group of young people who attended the founding convention of the W. E. B. DuBois Clubs of America (DCA) met in Chicago and adopted a statement of purpose and constitution forming the DCC as an affiliate of the National DCA.

A second source advised on May 1, 1967, that DCA chartered clubs in the Chicago area are the West Side DCC and the North Side DCC, neither of which currently maintain a headquarters. There is no central headquarters for the DCC and there are no unchartered clubs in this area.

The second source advised that the majority of DCC members are also members of the CP.

During the past year DCC activity has been almost nonexistent.

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In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Atlanta, Georgia

April 29, 1969

Title COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

2

Character RACIAL MATTER; INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Reference Atlanta memorandum, dated and captioned as above.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

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