

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

DO NOT DESTROY
PENDING LITIGATION

CLASSIFICATION NO.

44

1740

FEDERAL BUREAU

ENTIRE FILE REVIEWED
FOR HISTORICAL
DECLASSIFICATIONALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/14/01 BY SPICER/CB

of

X DO NOT DESTROY
HISTORICAL VALUE
NATIONAL ARCHIVES

INVESTIGATION

Bureau File Number 44-38861

DO NOT DESTROY
PENDING LITIGATION

See also Ncs.

JFI Newsclippings
14 Volumes

Serials

2158-1

Volume Number

20

RUC 8-29-78

~~8-21-78 Gable~~~~8-21-78 Gable~~

10-10-75 Brannon

RUC 10-30-73

8-22-73 Gable

RUC 11-24-70

4-19-71 Gable

4-5-68 Snow

Birmingham, Alabama
June 13, 1969

RE: JAMES EARL RAY;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. (DECEASED) -
VICTIM

There is attached a copy of a news item which appeared in the Birmingham Post-Herald, Final Edition, on page 3 of its issue of June 12, 1969.

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.

3 - Bureau
1 - Memphis
2 - Birmingham (44-1740) (P)

HHS:sjm

(6)



44-1740-2158

N N

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ray Warrant Is Still On File Here

BY LILLIAN FOSCUE VANN

A warrant for the arrest of Eric Starvo Galt, alias James Earl Ray, convicted killer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., is still on file in the office of U. S. Marshal Roy L. Call in Birmingham.

Issued at the order of then U. S. Atty. Gen. Ramsay Clark, the warrant was signed by Joseph H. Gamble, then special agent in charge of the FBI in Birmingham.

The warrant, issued April 17, 1968, charged Eric Galt and "an individual whom he alleged to be his brother," with conspiracy to "injure, oppress, threaten or intimidate Martin Luther King Jr."

Marshall Call said the last official communication he had with the Department of Justice in Washington concerning the Galt warrant was June 10, 1968.

"We have to hold it until it is dismissed by the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice," the marshal said.

Ordinarily, the marshal would notify authorities at a prison in which a fugitive was already serving that he was wanted in Birmingham on a charge. In the case of the warrant for Galt, alias Ray, however, the marshal said he had not notified prison authorities in Nashville where Ray is imprisoned for the April, 1968, slaying of Dr. King.

"In my opinion this warrant will be dismissed since no evidence of conspiracy has been proved," Call said.

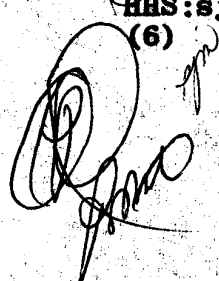
Birmingham, Alabama
June 13, 1969

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DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. (DECEASED) -
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3 - Bureau
1 - Memphis
2 - Birmingham (44-1740) (P)
HHS:sjm
(6)



44-1740-2158

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
N N

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

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F B I

Date: **6/13/69**Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority)To: Director, FBI
(44-38861)From: SAC, BIRMINGHAM
(44-1740)Subject: **MURKIN**

ATTENTION:

☒ CIVIL RIGHTS SECTION
GENERAL INVEST. DIV.
☐ DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE DIV.☒ CR ☐ EL ☐ VRA-65 ☐ CRA-64
☐ PA ☐ PE ☐ PF
☐ BM ☐ BM-Threats ☐ Racial Matters
☐ Klan ☐ Organization

Summary of Complaint:

Three copies of an LHM are attached containing news item.**The Bureau may desire to furnish a copy to the Department with suggestion that it advise the U. S. Attorney, Birmingham, concerning possible dismissal of the complaint outstanding.**2 - Bureau (Enc. 3)
1 - Memphis (Enc. 1) (Info)
2 - Birmingham
HHS:sjm
(5)

ACTION: UACB:

☐ No further action being taken and
☒ LHM enclosed ☐ Copy furnished to USA _____
☐ LHM being submitted
☐ Report being submitted
☒ Preliminary investigation instituted
☐ Limited investigation instituted

44-1740-2159

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date: **6/13/69**Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority)

To: Director, FBI
(44-38861)
From: SAC, BIRMINGHAM
(44-1740)
Subject: **MURKIN**

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☒ CIVIL RIGHTS SECTION
GENERAL INVEST. DIV.
☐ DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE DIV.

☒ CR ☐ EL ☐ VRA-65 ☐ CRA-64
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44-1740-2159

N N

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)

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

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 6/11/69

Re Birmingham airtel to Memphis, 6/5/69, regarding property now being held by the District Attorney General, which property belongs to Aeromarine, Birmingham, Alabama.

On 6/11/69, Assistant District Attorney J. C. MASON advised that he expects the subject to make every possible effort to win a new trial, and MASON does not desire to return any evidence until such time as all of the subject's appeals have been exhausted.

Birmingham Office should advise the owners of Aeromarine that this evidence is in the hands of the District Attorney General and that the FBI has no control over how long he keeps it. As soon as the Attorney General advises us that he no longer needs it, we will make every effort to see that it is returned to Aeromarine.

② - Birmingham
2 - Memphis

JCH:jap
(4)



5010-108-01

44-1740-2160

| | |
|------------------|---------|
| SEARCHED | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED | FILED |
| JUN 13 1969 | |
| FBI - BIRMINGHAM | |

Handwritten signatures and initials are present over the stamp.

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

SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)

6/11/69

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

MURKIN

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② - Birmingham
2 - Memphis

JCH:jap
(4)

44-1740-2160

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|---------------------|----------------|
| SEARCHED | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED <u>N</u> | FILED <u>N</u> |
| JUN 13 1969 | |
| FBI - BIRMINGHAM | |

[Signature]

F B I

Date: 6/20/69

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

TO: SAC, BIRMINGHAM
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Enclosed for Birmingham are the original and one copy of U. S. Government bill of lading # D5015544, which covers a shipment by Railway Express of a rifle and 10 boxes of ammunition belonging to Aeromarine Supply of Birmingham.

Memphis has given a receipt for these items to the District Attorney General at Memphis, Tenn., and Birmingham should obtain a receipt from Aeromarine Supply.

② - Birmingham (Encs. 2) (RM)
2 - Memphis
JCH:LF
(4)

*6-26-69 (received)
SA Arnett advised
Wood, Aeromarine*

44-1740-2161

| | |
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| SEARCHED | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED | FILED |
| JUN 25 1969 | |
| FBI - BIRMINGHAM | |

Snor
(Pks. Handle)

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

6/20/69

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, BIRMINGHAM
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Enclosed for Birmingham are the original and one copy of U. S. Government bill of lading # D5015544, which covers a shipment by Railway Express of a rifle and 16 boxes of ammunition belonging to Aeromarine Supply of Birmingham.

Memphis has given a receipt for these items to the District Attorney General at Memphis, Tenn., and Birmingham should obtain a receipt from Aeromarine Supply.

② - Birmingham (Encl. 2) (RM)
2 - Memphis
JCH:LF
(4)

44-1740-2161

| | |
|------------------|---------|
| SEARCHED | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED | FILED |
| JUN 25 1969 | |
| FBI - BIRMINGHAM | |

7/5/69

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Reurairtel, 6/20/69.

The .243 caliber Remington Rifle and ten boxes of ammunition were on 7/3/69 delivered to Messrs. DONALD F. WOOD and ROBERT E. WOOD, Aeromarine, Eastwood Hall, Birmingham, and receipt obtained. Request made by them that the original and yellow copy of the invoice covering sale of the rifle to subject as HARVEY LOWMEYER be obtained and returned to them. In view of their past cooperation, it is requested that the District Attorney General at Memphis be contacted.

2 - Memphis
2 - Birmingham
HAB:jam
(4)

jam

TH

44-1740-2162

SEARCHED _____ INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED *HP* FILED *HE*

7/5/69

AIRTEL

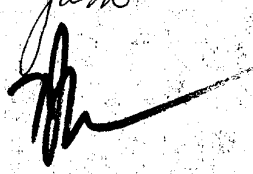
AIRMAIL

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2 - Memphis
2 - Birmingham
HLS:jam
(4) jam



44-1740-2162

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)

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

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 7/9/69

Re Birmingham airtel 7/5/69, regarding request made by owners of Aeromarine, Birmingham, that we return to them copies of the invoice reflecting the sale of a .243 caliber Remington rifle to the subject as HARVEY LOWMEYER.

On 7/9/69, this was discussed with Mr. JOHN CARLYLE of the District Attorney's Office. He stated that Attorney J. CLYDE MASON, who is now handling this case, is presently out of town, and this matter will be discussed with Mr. MASON when he returns. Mr. CARLYLE said he feels certain that Mr. MASON will not wish to give up possession of this invoice until such time as JAMES EARL RAY has exhausted all his rights of appeal. In the event Mr. MASON is willing to return this invoice, he will be requested to return it directly to Aeromarine at Birmingham.

*Aeromarine
advised
has*

- ② - Birmingham
2 - Memphis

JCH:jap
(4)



5010-108-01

44-1740-2163

| | |
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| SEARCHED | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED | FILED |
| JUL 11 1969 | |
| FBI - BIRMINGHAM | |
| SNOW | |

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

SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)

7/9/69

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

MURKIN

Re Birmingham airtel 7/5/69, regarding request made by owners of Aeromarine, Birmingham, that we return to them copies of the invoice reflecting the sale of a .243 caliber Remington rifle to the subject as HARVEY LOWMEYER.

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2 - Birmingham
2 - Memphis

JCH:jap
(4)

44-1740-2163

| | |
|------------------|---------|
| SEARCHED | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED | FILED |
| JUL 11 1969 | |
| FBI - BIRMINGHAM | |

8/4/69

AIRMAIL

AIRTEL

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)
MURKIN

Mr. CHARLES T. SMITH, Auditor, Birmingham Trust National Bank, has recently inquired as to the possibility of the safety deposit box, originally loaned for processing of possible latent fingerprints, being returned to the bank since these boxes are at a premium and income therefrom is being lost to the bank. Details regarding acquisition of the box appear in the report of Special Agent HENRY A. SNOW, Birmingham, 4/17/68.

Since it is believed that this box is now in possession of the District Attorney's Office at Memphis, it is requested that this matter be discussed with District Attorney J. CLYDE MASON.

2 - Memphis
2 - Birmingham
HAS:jat
(4)
jat
AM

44-1740-2164

SEARCHED _____ INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED *Q* FILED *R*

8/4/69

AIRMAIL

AIRTEL

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

MURKIN

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2 - Memphis
2 - Birmingham
HAS:jat
(4)

jat
[Signature]

44-1740-2164

8/14/69

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Birmingham airtel to Memphis dated 8/4/69 advising that officials of the Birmingham Trust National Bank desire the return of the safe deposit box which was originally loaned by them for processing for latent fingerprints.

This safe deposit box is now in the possession of the District Attorney General at Memphis, Tenn., and they have been advised of the request made by bank officials.

It is anticipated that the District Attorney General will be agreeable to the return of this box. It is requested that the Bureau discuss this matter with the Department, if it is thought necessary, and advise Memphis whether or not they have any objection to the return of this box.

It is pointed out that no latent fingerprints were found on this safe deposit box and bank records are available to establish the fact of RAY's having rented a safe deposit box.

2 - Bureau
① - Birmingham (44-1740) (Info)
1 - Memphis
JCH:mnr
(4)

Airtel.....
Teletype.....
A. M.....
A. M. S. D.....
Spec. Del.....
Reg. Mail.....
Registered.....

*sa per.
2147
mnr*

44-1740-2165

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|------------------|---------|
| SEARCHED | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED | FILED |
| AUG 16 1969 | |
| FBI - BIRMINGHAM | |

Snow *han*

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

8/16/69

SAC, COLUMBIA (44-299)(RUC)

MURKIN

On 8/14/69 Mr. GEORGE McNILLAN advised SA PAUL C. TIGHE, JR., that he is a writer commissioned by the Little Brown Publishing Company, Boston, Mass., to write a book about JAMES EARL RAY and moved into a home on Coffin Point, Frogmore, S. C., approximately three months ago with his wife who is writing a book concerning MARINA OSWALD.

McNILLAN stated that he has contacted a Mr. STONER, Savannah, Ga., who is the attorney presently representing RAY on several occasions in order to obtain information for his book. He said that during 1962 he had written an article for the Saturday Evening Post concerning the bombing of a black church in Birmingham, Ala., in which several black children were killed and although he did not specifically indicate that STONER was a good subject in this case he advised he referred to STONER as Mr. X and described him in the article as a man with a limp. McNILLAN said that after this article came out in Saturday Evening Post he had heard that STONER had sworn to kill him but that he has met STONER on several occasions since that time and STONER has made no mention of this.

McNILLAN advised that on the morning of 8/14/69 he attempted to contact STONER telephonically in Savannah and the phone was answered by a man with a young voice who replied to McNILLAN after he identified himself as GEORGE McNILLAN, "don't you think you have got a nerve calling Mr. STONER. You've practically called him a murderer. I know you live in Atlanta Pal and you'd better watch your step. That's all I've got to say." McNILLAN said after this young man made these remarks he hung up on McNILLAN.

- 2 - Bureau
- 1 - Birmingham
- 1 - Memphis (44-1987)
- 1 - Savannah (Info)
- 1 - Columbia

PCT:mhm
(6)

44-1740-2166

| | |
|------------------|---------|
| SEARCHED | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED | FILED |
| AUG 19 1969 | |
| FBI - BIRMINGHAM | |

ce 157-42

CO 44-299

Mr. McMILLAN advised this Agent that he did not wish to make a formal complaint but merely wanted the incident to be a matter of record in case anything should happen in the future.

This information is being forwarded to the Director, Birmingham, Memphis and Savannah inasmuch as the Columbia Office is taking no action in this matter.

SAC, Memphis

8-18-69

Director, FBI

MURKIN

ReMairtel 8-14-69.

Matter has been referred to Civil Rights Division and it has it under consideration and results will be furnished upon receipt.

This will be followed at Bureau.

① - Birmingham (44-1740) (Info)

*all ser 2/65
RAN*

44-1740-2167

| | |
|------------------|---------|
| SEARCHED | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED | FILED |
| AUG 19 1969 | |
| FBI - BIRMINGHAM | |

Snow *WAS*

F B I

Date: 8-28-69

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

TO: BUREAU (44-38861) AND SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM: BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)

MURKIN.

REFERENCE BIRMINGHAM AIRTEL SEPTEMBER TWO, SIXTYEIGHT, CONCERNING REQUEST BY AUTHOR WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE, HARTSELLE, ALABAMA, FOR NONPUBLICIZED PHOTOS OF JAMES EARL RAY, IN EXCHANGE FOR WHICH HE OFFERED TO FURNISH CONFIDENTIALLY ALL INFORMATION IN HIS POSSESSION RE RAY. BUAIRTEL SEPTEMBER ELEVEN, SIXTYEIGHT, INSTRUCTED THAT REQUEST WAS NOT TO BE HONORED, THAT WE SHOULD NOT BARGAIN WITH HIM UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, AND THAT BUREAU SHOULD BE KEPT ADVISED OF FURTHER CONTACTS BY HUIE.

HUIE CONTACTED RESIDENT AGENT WILLIAM H. LEE, DECATUR, ALABAMA, LATE YESTERDAY. HE STATED HE HAS NOW COMPLETED HIS BOOK ON THE JAMES EARL RAY STORY AND CONTEMPLATES SENDING THE MANUSCRIPT TO PRESS IN TWENTY DAYS. HE ASKED IF THE BUREAU WOULD BE INTERESTED IN REVIEWING HIS MANUSCRIPT PRIOR TO PUBLICATION FOR PURPOSE OF DETERMINING IF THERE WERE ANY DATA THEREIN OF PARTICULAR

RJM:rlg
(1) *reg*44-1740-2168
SEARCHED _____ INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED *AB* FILED *A*Approved: *[Signature]*
Special Agent in ChargeBU
Sent 12:03 PM
ME 12:06 PMPer *[Signature]*

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via _____
(Priority)PAGE TWO
BH 44-1740

INTEREST WHICH THE BUREAU MIGHT LIKE TO CHECK OUT PRIOR TO PUBLICATION. HE INDICATED THERE WERE NO "STRINGS" ATTACHED TO THIS OFFER AND HE MAKES IT AS A MATTER OF COURTESY. HE SAID IF THE ANSWER IS IN THE NEGATIVE, THERE WOULD BE NO NEED TO RECONTACT HIM.

BIRMINGHAM RECOMMENDS AGAINST REVIEWING THE MANUSCRIPT, CALLING ATTENTION TO THE POSSIBILITY THAT IF WE DO SO, HUIE COULD LATER CLAIM THAT THE DATA THEREIN HAD BEEN CHECKED BY THE FBI.

MEMPHIS IS REQUESTED TO SUBMIT ITS RECOMMENDATIONS TO BUREAU.

BUREAU REQUESTED TO ADVISE BIRMINGHAM AND MEMPHIS IF OFFER OF HUIE SHOULD BE ACCEPTED.

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

FBI WASH DC

FBI BIRMGHAM

12:03PM URGENT 8-28-69 CEN

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

MURKIN.

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CONCERNING REQUEST BY AUTHOR WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE, HARTSELLE,
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MANUSCRIPT TO PRESS IN TWENTY DAYS. HE ASKED IF THE BUREAU WOULD
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PURPOSE OF DETERMINING IF THERE WERE ANY DATA THEREIN OF PARTICULAR
END PAGE ONE

44-1740-2168

PAGE TWO

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BUREAU REQUESTED TO ADVISE BIRMINGHAM AND MEMPHIS IF OFFER OF HUIE SHOULD BE ACCEPTED.

END AND ACK PLS.

CAH

FBI WASH DC

TO

KPT

FBI ME

FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI WASH DC

646PM URGENT 8-28-69 CXB

BIRMINGHAM 44-1740 MEMPHIS 44-1987

FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861 1P

MURKIN

REBHTEL AUGUST TWENTY EIGHT INSTANT.

HUIE'S OFFER IS NOT TO BE ACCEPTED.

END

HEP

FBI BIRMGHAM

44-1740-2169

| | |
|------------------|---------|
| SEARCHED | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED | FILED |
| AUG 28 1969 | |
| FBI - BIRMINGHAM | |

LEE

FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI WASH DC

646PM URGENT 8-28-69 CNB

BIRMINGHAM 44-1740 MEMPHIS 44-1987

FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861 1P

MURKIN

REPHTEL AUGUST TWENTY EIGHT INSTANT.

HUIE'S OFFER IS NOT TO BE ACCEPTED.


END

NEP

FBI BIRMGHAM

44-1740-2169

| | |
|------------------|---------------|
| SEARCHED _____ | INDEXED _____ |
| SERIALIZED _____ | FILED _____ |
| AUG 28 1969 | |
| FBI—BIRMINGHAM | |



8/28/69

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861)
FROM MEMPHIS (44-1987) 1P
MURKIN.

RE BIRMINGHAM TELETYPE AUGUST TWENTY EIGHT INSTANT.

MEMPHIS CONCURS WITH RECOMMENDATION OF BIRMINGHAM AND
DOES NOT FEEL THAT WE SHOULD REVIEW WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE'S
BOOK PRIOR TO PUBLICATION.

AIR MAIL COPY TO BIRMINGHAM. P.

END

JCH:ME

(2)

1 - BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (AM)

Airtel.....
Teletype.....
A. M.....
A. M. & D.....
Spec. Del.....
Reg. Mail.....
Registered.....

44-1740-2170

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| SEARCHED..... | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED N | FILED N |
| AUG 29 1969 | |
| FBI - BIRMINGHAM | |

Snow

8/30/69

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, Memphis
FROM: Director, FBI
MURKIN

Re Memphis airtel 8/14/69.

This matter was referred to the Civil Rights Division on 8/18/69, and on 8/28/69, the Civil Rights Division advised that it has no objection to the early deposit box being returned to the Birmingham Trust National Bank and you should advise the appropriate Tennessee State Official of this in order that he can appropriately handle this matter with bank officials.

① - SAC, Birmingham

44-1740-2171

| | |
|------------------|---------|
| SEARCHED | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED | FILED |
| AUG 30 1969 | |
| FBI - BIRMINGHAM | |

Snow

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

9/9/69

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

MURKIN

Transmitted under separate cover for Birmingham is a safe deposit box which was obtained 4/10/68 by SA ROBERT J. YARNALL from Mr. CHARLES T. SMITH, Auditor, Birmingham Trust National Bank, Birmingham, Ala.

This safe deposit box should be returned to the bank and an appropriate receipt obtained.

District Attorney General PHIL M. CANALE, Memphis, Tenn., has authorized the return of this safe deposit box to the bank inasmuch as he does not anticipate using it in the event this case ever comes to trial.

*9/12/69
Delivered to BTNB
& receipt in 1A.
File P. in BH
until Dept. authorizes
dismissal of Fed. Compl.
(see Ser 2159) Hso*

2 - Bureau
3 - Birmingham (Enc. 1) (RM)
 (1 - Package)
2 - Memphis
JCH:LF
(7)

44-1740-2172

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|---------------|---------|
| SEARCHED | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED | FILED |
| N | N |
| FBI - MEMPHIS | |

Snaw

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

9/9/68

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

MURKIN

Transmitted under separate cover for Birmingham is a safe deposit box which was obtained 4/10/68 by SA ROBERT J. YARNALL from Mr. CHARLES T. SMITH, Auditor, Birmingham Trust National Bank, Birmingham, Ala.

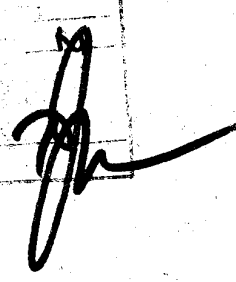
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2 - Bureau
③ - Birmingham (Enc. 1) (RM)
 (1 - Package)
2 - Memphis
JCH:LJ
(7)

44-1740-2172

| | |
|---------------|---------|
| SEARCHED | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED | FILED |
| FBI - MEMPHIS | |



DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

9/9/68

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

MURKIN

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NIX — *on*
DID YOU
RECEIVE?

2 - Bureau
② - Birmingham (Enc. 1) (RM)
 (1 - Package)
2 - Memphis
JCH:LF
(7)

44-1790-2172

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| SERIALIZED | | |
| FBI — | | |

[Signature]

9/28/69

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)
MURKIN

On 9/25/69, AUSA R. MACKY TAYLOR, Birmingham, was interviewed, at his request, stating that he had been in conversation with Attorney ART HANES, Birmingham, former defense counsel for subject RAY. AUSA TAYLOR related that the information set forth below, as obtained from HANES, was being passed on for whatever it might be worth.

TAYLOR stated that HANES contends that subject RAY had been engaged in transportation of weapons (rifles and other automatic weapons), and that the reason he was in Memphis was his interest in disposing of such weapons to black militant groups in that city. HANES contends that there had existed a conspiracy in the transportation of such weapons on the part of RAY when he contends was operating with one JAMES ROBERT BLOW, formerly of Cahaba Heights, a Birmingham suburb, who is supposed to work for some printing company in Birmingham known as the F&L Printing Co., and according to HANES, BLOW had previously been charged in Jefferson County Court, at Birmingham, by Deputy Sheriff WALTER DEAN on some unknown charge, the status of which he does not now know. RAY and BLOW were supposed to have been engaged in their gun transportation details by one BOB LOVELESS, believed from Birmingham, one CLAUDE COCKRELL, believed to be a Memphis resident, and one JAMES CARLISLE, believed to be of Birmingham. According

2 - Bureau
2 - Memphis (44-1987)
2 - Birmingham
HAB:beg
(6)

[Handwritten signature]

44-1740-2173

BH 44-1740

to HANES' conjectures, BLOW and the others were obtaining these weapons through Pascagoula, Mississippi, implying that they were from out of the country.

Aside from the above, TAYLOR stated that during his conversation with HANES, that individual had mentioned that while he was employed by RAY, he had filed a motion in Memphis to observe the physical evidence, and noted that one rifle slug, which had been obtained from the body of the victim, was not mutilated to such an extent that it could not be identified by laboratory examination, although he had been informed that only partial fragments of the fatal bullet were recovered which precluded any positive identification.

As stated above, AUSA TAYLOR did not consider information furnished by HANES to be of material value, but stated that due to HANES' proclivity for publicity, he did not desire to be placed in the position of not having passed on to authorities any information furnished by HANES. He suggested that the Bureau may consider informing the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division of the Treasury Department of information relating to instant transportation of weapons on the part of RAY, BLOW and others.

The Bureau is familiar with the fact that HANES is very closely allied with the UKA and previous information has been furnished to the Bureau that he received a sum of \$12,500 as an attorney for Klan members charged in North Carolina, and also met with UKA officials recently in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

A file review of this matter fails to reflect any reference of individuals mentioned by HANES.

REQUEST OF BUREAU:

Birmingham does not intend to contact HANES or otherwise institute further investigation in this matter UACB. The Bureau is requested to advise Birmingham whether

BH 44-1740

the meager information furnished by HANES regarding instant transportation of weapons on the part of those named by him should be given to the Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms Division.

9/25/69

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)
MURKIN

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2 - Bureau
2 - Memphis (44-1987)
2 - Birmingham
HLS:mg
(4)

[Handwritten signature]

44-1740-2173

ME 44-1740

to HANES' conjectures, BLOW and the others were obtaining these weapons through Nacogdoches, Mississippi, implying that they were from out of the country.

Aside from the above, TAYLOR stated that during his conversation with HANES, that individual had mentioned that while he was employed by RAY, he had filed a motion in Memphis to observe the physical evidence, and noted that one rifle slug, which had been obtained from the body of the victim, was not mutilated to such an extent that it could not be identified by laboratory examination, although he had been informed that only partial fragments of the fatal bullet were recovered which precluded any positive identification.

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A file review of this matter fails to reflect any reference of individuals mentioned by HANES.

REQUEST OF BUREAU:

Birmingham does not intend to contact HANES or otherwise institute further investigation in this matter SACR. The Bureau is requested to advise Birmingham whether

BH 44-1740

the meager information furnished by HANES regarding instant transportation of weapons on the part of those named by him should be given to the Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms Division.

F B I

Date: 10-6-69

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

(Priority)

To: SAC, Birmingham (44-1740)

✓ From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

Reurairtel 9-26-69.

You should interview Arthur Hanes for all details he may have relative to alleged gunrunning conspiracy involving James Earl Ray as outlined in urairtel 9-26-69, in order that appropriate action can be taken to run out such allegations. Hanes should be thoroughly pinned down for specifics.

For your additional information you will recall that only one bullet slug was recovered from King's body which was mutilated to the extent that it could not be identified as having been fired from the suspect gun although it was the type of projectile which could have been fired from such weapon.

Handle and advise results of interview within 5 days and include your recommendations as to any further action to be taken on the results of this interview. SuLHM suitable for dissemination on pertinent information in reairtel and results of interview. Conduct no investigation on this aspect UACB.

1 - Memphis (Info) (44-1987)

Under 10/13/69

44-1740-2174

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| SEARCHED | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED | FILED |
| OCT - 8 1969 | |
| FBI - BIRMINGHAM | |

Smor *Hut*

Sent Via _____ M Per _____

10-6-69

AIRTEL

To: SAC, Birmingham (44-1740)

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

Reurairtel 9-25-69.

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Handle and advise results of interview within 5 days and include your recommendations as to any further action to be taken on the results of this interview. Submit suitable for dissemination on pertinent information in airtel and results of interview. Conduct no investigation on this aspect UACB.

1 - Memphis (Info) (44-1987)

44-1740-2174

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|----------------|---------|
| SEARCHED | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED | FILED |
| OCT - 8 1969 | |
| FBI-BIRMINGHAM | |

208

Birmingham, Alabama
October 10, 1969

Re: **JAMES EARL RAY;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS CONSPIRACY**

Assistant United States Attorney R. Macey Taylor, Birmingham, Alabama, advised on September 25, 1969, that he had been in conversation with Arthur Hanes, former defense counsel for subject Ray. Assistant United States Attorney Taylor related certain allegations that Hanes had proposed to him to the effect that one James Robert Blow, a former resident of Cahaba Heights, a Birmingham suburb, may have conspired with other named individuals and subject Ray in interstate transportation of weapons to Memphis, Tennessee, where Hanes believed they were intended for black militant groups.

On October 10, 1969, Attorney Arthur J. Hanes was interviewed at his office, 617 Frank Nelson Building, after the absence of a week from Birmingham. Hanes entered into a lengthy discourse of his theories concerning the James Earl Ray case and stated that although Ray undoubtedly was involved, it was his theory that Ray had been led or instructed in his actions by other unknown individuals. He stated that he had two theories of groups who may have led Ray; one being the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), and the other being black militant groups. He had no definite information in this connection whatsoever. He also commented that he had, while serving as Ray's defense counsel, observed the bullet which was alleged to have been fired from the rifle involved in this matter, and it was his personal opinion that the bullet was sufficiently intact to be identified as the murder projectile.

Regarding his former client, James Robert Blow also known as Robert Blow, Hanes related as follows.

4 - Bureau
2 - Memphis
2 - Birmingham (44-1740) (P)
HAS: cab
(8) *cab*

44-1740-2175

SEARCHED _____ INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED N FILED N

**Re: JAMES EARL RAY;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS CONSPIRACY**

On December 18, 1968, the residence of Mr. J. E. Woods, III, 2432 Crest Road, Mountain Brook, a residential suburb of Birmingham, had been burglarized, and numerous shotguns, including automatic shotguns together with silver service, had been taken by a local thief, James Warren Carlisle, who is now serving a penitentiary term for burglary. Carlisle had informed Deputy Sheriff Walter Dean, Birmingham, that some of the stolen effects might be located in the residence of James Robert Blow and wife Janice Blow who at that time were living at 3118 Greendale Road, Cahaba Heights. This led to Dean securing a search warrant for the residence and the recovery of the silver service belonging to the Woods family. Blow was subsequently charged with receiving and possessing stolen goods.

Hanes by reference to his file related that on May 15, 1969, he appeared with Blow in the Jefferson County Courthouse at which time Grand Jury action was waived. On that date, Hanes discussed with Deputy Walter Dean possible cooperation of his client Blow in connection with recovery of the numerous guns taken from the Woods residence. Blow agreed to cooperate and in the presence of Deputy Dean and an agent of the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division of the Treasury Department identified a photograph of one Claude Cockrell of Memphis, Tennessee, as being the owner of a Cadillac into which he had observed Carlisle and Cockrell loading the weapons which were then taken to Memphis, and it was the information of Hanes that Cockrell was later charged by the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division with having transported automatic weapons from Birmingham to Memphis. Hanes stated that a local Birmingham hoodlum, Bob Loveless, had also assisted in loading the weapons into Cockrell's Cadillac according to information furnished by his client Blow. He stated that it was his opinion also that weapons such as these had been intended for black militant groups in Memphis, who might have intended to use them in King's assassination. It should be noted that all weapons involved in the transportation by Cockrell to Memphis which had been stolen from the Woods residence were shotguns and not rifles.

**Re: JAMES EARL RAY;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS CONSPIRACY**

Mr. Hanes stated that he had read of weapons being brought to the United States through Gulf Coast ports such as Mobile, Alabama, and Pascagoula, Mississippi, and thought possibly some of these weapons may have been intended for use in the murder of Dr. King.

Hanes stated that his client James Robert Blow was arraigned on June 20, 1969, and on August 21, 1969, was sentenced to one year and one day which was suspended and he was placed on probation for two years.

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.

Birmingham, Alabama
October 10, 1969

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DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
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4 - Bureau
2 - Memphis
2 - Birmingham (44-1740) (P)

HAS: cab
(8)

44-1740-2175

SEARCHED _____ INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED N FILED N

Re: **JAMES EARL RAY;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
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Re: JAMES EARL RAY;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS CONSPIRACY

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10/10/69

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)
MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel to Birmingham, dated 10/6/69.


Attorney ARTHUR HANES was interviewed by SA HENRY A. SNOW upon HANES' return to Birmingham, stating that he had spent the entire week in eastern North Carolina in the defense of criminal cases there.

During interview, HANES was very indefinite in any of his statements and appeared to merely wish to discuss his theories on the MURKIN case. The information he related as far as gunrunning would appear to in no way relate to JAMES EARL RAY, and for that reason, Birmingham suggests no further action in this matter concerning information furnished by HANES.

2 - Bureau (Enc.4)
2 - Memphis (44-1987)(Enc.2)
2 - Birmingham
HAS:cah
(6) cah

44-1740-2176

SEARCHED _____ INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED **N** FILED **N**



10/10/69

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)
MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel to Birmingham, dated 10/6/69.

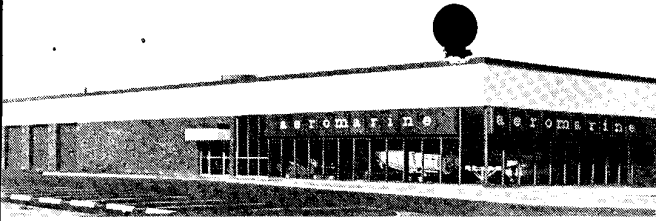
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2 - Bureau (Enc.4)
2 - Memphis (44-1987) (Enc.2)
2 - Birmingham
HAS:cab
(6) *cab*

44-1740-2176

SEARCHED _____ INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED N FILED N



AEROMARINE

7605 EASTWOOD MALL
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35210

PHONE 595-2141

October 24, 1969

United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
1400 - 2121 Building
Birmingham, Alabama 35203

Gentlemen:

In April of 1968, we gave you our Invoice 2251 A, dated March 29, 1968. This invoice was made out to Harvey Lowmeyer and as we understand, used in a trial for James Earl Ray.

If you are through with this invoice, we would appreciate your returning it to us.

Yours very truly,

AEROMARINE

Robert E. Wood, Owner

REW/md

*Memphis advised
of copies sent -
Bar*

44-1740-2177

| | |
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| OCT 27 1969 | |
| FBI - BIRMINGHAM | |

Snow *Line*

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

10/30/69

SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)(P)

MURKIN
OO: ME

Re Birmingham letter, 7/5/69, and
Memphis reply, 7/9/69.

Enclosed are two copies of a letter dated
10/24/69, from Aeromarine, Birmingham, requesting the
return of the invoice previously mentioned.

Please discuss this request with a repre-
sentative of the District Attorney's Office, Memphis,
and if agreeable, have them correspond direct with Mr.
WOOD. Note Aeromarine has a new location for its business.

2 - Memphis (Enc. 2)
② - Birmingham
HAS:cap
(4) *cap*



44-1740-2