

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

No stop order issued on Ray, white Mustang

BY BERNARD GAVZER.
MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)

There was no all-points bulletin issued to stop James Earl Ray the night he shot and killed Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and fled Memphis in a white 1966 Mustang.

Police Chief Henry Lux, who for months had the impression that an automatic alarm had been broadcast, confirmed in an exclusive interview that no such bulletin was issued.

The widespread belief among law enforcement officers, and consequently the public, that a bulletin had been issued and that Ray had apparently escaped with ease in spite of it contributed to the suspicion that he might have been part of a conspiracy rather than a lone killer.

The judge in Ray's trial said in an interview afterward he was mystified over how Ray eluded the roadblocks that would have been established following an all-points alert. A hearing on Ray's motion for a new trial is scheduled for May 26.

SINCE THERE was no bulletin, there were no roadblocks or checkpoints established at the nearest escape routes to neighboring Arkan-

sas and Mississippi, or in Georgia, Alabama, Missouri, Louisiana, South Carolina, Virginia or Kentucky. Or anywhere.

"The first Memphis police radio transmission mentioning a white Mustang was logged at 6:11 p.m., April 4, 1968," said a Shelby County authority with intimate knowledge of the state's evidence.

King was shot at 6:01 p.m. Ray apparently was on the street and on his way within minutes. Had he begun his flight in the Mustang as late as 6:05 p.m., by 6:11 he would have been on the Memphis-Arkansas Bridge leading to Arkansas or no more than 10 minutes away from the Mississippi state line.

Chief Lux, in explaining the failure to issue an all-points bulletin, said: "At this time, we did not know for sure or have any proof that a white Mustang was involved. We had broadcast that the suspect was believed to be in a white Mustang. This wasn't enough to put out an all-points. To do that, you usually have to indicate that a warrant has been issued and that you will extradite. Otherwise, the receiving states are not going to act on it."

Another explanation, given

by Memphis police as well as police officials in other areas, was that the local situation was hectic and tense and that authorities were concerned about rioting and disorder.

IN HIS TRIAL before the late Judge W. Preston Battle, Ray drew a 99-year sentence March 10 under an agreement to plead guilty. Ray later repudiated the agreement and, following Judge Battle's death, was granted a hearing on his motion for a new trial.

During a series of exclusive interviews just before he died of a heart attack, Judge Battle said there were questions about the Ray case which troubled him, the chief one being Ray's flight.

He said: "To me, the escape seems miraculous. I don't see how he got from here to Atlanta in that white Mustang with an all-points bulletin out." Ray's abandoned Mustang was confiscated by the FBI in Atlanta April 11, 1968.

Investigation into this question showed that even a year after the slaying there were authorities in some neighboring states who still had the impression that there had been such a bulletin.

A spokesman for "the Virg-

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

62 BIRMINGHAM NEWS

BIRMINGHAM POST-HERALD

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

Date: 5-14-69

Edition: METRO

Author: BERNARD GAVZER

Editor: JOHN W. BLOOMER

Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: 44-1740*

☐ Being Investigated

44-1740-5F1 132

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED

FBI-BIRMINGHAM

nia State Police said:

"We passed on an all-points bulletin." Georgia informants said they couldn't remember a specific message but "somehow we knew there was a Mustang." South Carolina sources said the details were now blurred but "we definitely remember an all-points bulletin."

But in none of these states, or any others, were there any unusual or nonroutine patrol actions, such as the setting up of roadblocks.

"We have a direct telephone line to the Shelby County sheriff's office. It's automatic procedure to call the sheriff's office."

The sheriff's office has two-way radio communication with the Tennessee Highway Patrol and state police in Arkansas and Mississippi. That's how, according to Chief Lux, the adjoining states were alerted.

But Sheriff William N. Norris, questioned about his role the night of April 4, said:

"I never received any communication that night regarding a white Mustang or any request to transmit an alert to any other police agency."

The Tennessee Highway Patrol reported that it logged a statewide broadcast at 6:30 p.m. to be "on the alert for a

late model Mustang, driven by a white male, with dark hair, neatly dressed, in connection with the slaying of Martin Luther King." But no roadblocks were established nor did the patrol issue an all-points to other areas.

"The reason we did not put out an automatic all-points is that the Memphis Police Department did not request it," said a highway patrol spokesman.

SO FAR AS can be reconstructed, the information was supplied by Claude Armour, who was then Gov. Buford Ellington's special assistant for law enforcement. Armour once served as commissioner of police in Memphis.

Armour recalled he was informed by Fire and Police Director Frank C. Holloman,

although he is not certain, and that he in turn notified Ellington. The Memphis police log indicates that at 6:26 p.m., there was a message, "Car 100, contact Gov. Ellington by phone." Car 100 is Holloman's.

Armour did contact the governor. "I recommended that he immediately alert the National Guard for dispatch to Memphis in case of disorders. I also recommended that the State Highway Patrol be alerted for the same assignment."

Armour assumed a blockade would be established.

"There is a blockade system that has all been planned out and goes into effect on a single signal," he said.

When Police Chief Lux was apprised of some of this information, he checked records, then said:

"You are correct. There was not an all-points bulletin put out on the white Mustang."



Associated Press wirephoto
~~CONFIRMS: NO ALL-POINTS BULLETIN ON RAY~~
... Memphis Police Chief Henry E. Lux

(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.

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

— BIRMINGHAM NEWS

— 3 BIRMINGHAM POST-HERALD

— BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

Date: 6-12-69

Edition: FINAL

Author: LILLIAN F. VANN

Editor: DUARD LE GRAND

Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: 44-1740

Submitting Office: BH ONLY

☐ Being Investigated

44-1740-SF-133

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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JUN 17 1969	
FBI - BIRMINGHAM	
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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Listened to Clay's calls, agent says

BY MAX B. SKELTON

HOUSTON, Tex. (AP)

An FBI agent testified in Cassius Clay's federal court hearing today that he spent four years eavesdropping on telephone conversations involving Elijah Muhammad, leader of the Black Muslims.

C. Barry Pickett, now an agent in Jacksonville, Fla., testified he recorded the conversations in Phoenix Ariz., from mid-1962 to mid-1966.

"My instructions were to monitor conversations both in the home and by telephone and make notes of conversations by Elijah Muhammad," Pickett said.

He testified that the eavesdropping was carried out both by wiretapping and bugging devices.

PICKETT SAID he wrote a summary of a March 24, 1964, conversation in which Elijah Muhammad was quoted as telling Clay he would make a better minister than fighter.

The hearing was ordered by the Supreme Court to determine if the conversations taped by federal agents affected Clay's 1967 trial in which he was convicted of failure to be inducted into the armed forces.

Clay claimed draft exemption on grounds he was a Black Muslim minister.

The 1964 tape summary identified by Pickett was one of four summaries admitted into evidence Wednesday.

ONE OF THE other three reported Clay as advising the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1964 to take care of himself and "watch out for them whiteys."

FBI agent Robert Nichols of Atlanta, Ga., testified Wednesday

day that electronic surveillance of King was in progress as early as 1964 and an investigation of the Black Muslims began as early as 1958.

U. S. Dist. Judge Joe Ingraham admitted into evidence summaries of four tapes conversations after government lawyers acknowledged the tapes had been recorded illegally.

He refused to admit a fifth summary, on the ground disclosure of its content could endanger national security.

THE TAPED conversations were not disclosed until the Supreme Court received Clay's appeal of a 1967 conviction on a charge of refusing to be inducted into the Army. The court ordered this special hearing to determine if the conversations affected his selective service records or trial. Clay had claimed a draft exemption because he was a Black Muslim minister.

An FBI agent 22 years, Nichols said he was supervising the Atlanta surveillance of King when a conversation with Clay and Eskridge was recorded Sept. 4, 1964.

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

-5- BIRMINGHAM NEWS

BIRMINGHAM POST-HERALD

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

Date: 6-5-69

Edition: METRO

Author: MAX B. SKELTON

Editor: JOHN W. BLOOMER

Title: ~~NOT~~ MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: 44-1740-25-8146

Submitting Office: BH ONLY

☐ Being Investigated 57-134

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED

FBI - Birmingham

8220

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ray trial by deposition set

MEMPHIS (AP)

A judge Tuesday eliminated the need for James Earl Ray to appear for an Aug. 8 lawsuit against him by deciding to hold the trial by deposition — by written testimony rather than oral.

Chancellor Charles Nearn, to avoid reactivation of security measures, will hear a suit in which private detective Renfro Hays of Memphis is asking over \$11,000 from Ray as an alleged fee for doing investigative work for Ray's one-time defense attorney, Arthur Hanes of Birmingham.

Hays asked the court to satisfy the bill by giving him the rifle police say was used to slay Martin Luther King Jr. and the automobile in which police say Ray fled after the killing. Both are now held by police as evidence.

In February, attorneys for Ray filed an affidavit in which Ray said he never authorized employment of Hays and therefore does not owe the fee.

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

6 BIRMINGHAM NEWS

BIRMINGHAM POST-HERALD

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

Date: 6-18-69

Edition: METRO

Author:

Editor: JOHN W. BLOOMER

Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: 44-1740

Submitting Office:

☐ Being Investigated

44-1740-135

SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED _____	FILED _____
JUN 18 1969	
FBI—BIRMINGHAM	

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ray's suit against Hanes, Foreman, Huie is dismissed

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — James Earl Ray's lawsuit seeking to void all contracts with his first two lawyers and biographer was dismissed by a federal judge Friday. U.S. District Court Judge William E. Miller told Ray's lawyer to file it again in Memphis.

The judge accepted arguments by defense lawyers that the district court here is without jurisdiction. Ray, serving 99 years in the state prison in the 1968 slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King, cannot be considered a Tennessee resident, the judge said.

CONSEQUENTLY, he held that the lawsuit must be brought in West Tennessee. This is where the contracts in question were signed and under federal law is the only place in the state where a suit attacking them can be brought in U.S. Court.

Before the judge acted, Arthur Hanes Jr., representing his father, said there were no grounds for action against the former Birmingham mayor. The elder Hanes, Ray's first lawyer, signed away any rights he might have had under a contract with Ray and writer William Bradford Huie at the time Ray dismissed him, the son said.

The suit dismissed also involved Houston lawyer Percy Foreman and Huie, of Hartselle, who had contracted to collaborate in the writing of "I Slew the Dreamer," Ray's biography.

The admitted assassin contends that Hanes, Foreman and Huie violated his civil rights when they became

more interested in the royalties from the proposed book than in Ray.

HE IS SEEKING an injunction to prohibit any of the three from selling or disposing of any information which they gathered about him. Ray fired both Hanes and Foreman as his lawyers.

On Tuesday the State Court of Criminal Appeals will hear arguments on Ray's plea for a new trial.

Criminal Court Judge Arthur Faquin of Memphis denied Ray a new trial, and in Tuesday's hearing the Court of Appeals will hear arguments on whether it should allow Ray to appeal the denial.

Ray entered a plea of guilty in his original trial, but later he said he was pressured into the plea by Foreman and



JAMES EARL RAY

demanded a new trial. Foreman has denied pressuring Ray.

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

12 THE BIRMINGHAM NEWS
— Birmingham, Alabama

Date: 7-12-69

Edition: Dixie

Author:

Editor:

Title:

MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: BIRMINGHAM

☐ Being Investigated

44-174-356

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 13 1969	
FBI — BIRMINGHAM	

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BH FILE ONLY

Hunt for King killer cost \$1 million-plus

BY JAMES FREE, News Washington correspondent

WASHINGTON

The FBI manhunt for the killer of Rev. Martin Luther King cost over \$1 million, and may have been the most intensive effort of its kind in the nation's history.

"The effort," according to J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, "involved costs in excess of \$1 million and required the peak utilization of some 3,500 of our investigative staff. The investigation spread through more than a dozen countries, culminating in the successful location of the suspect, James Earl Ray, in June 1968 as the result of the extensive investigation by Canadian and British authorities at the request of the FBI."

(Ray is now serving a 99-year sentence, following his plea of guilty on March 10, 1969, in a state court in Memphis.)

Pressure on the FBI in the case was enormous, to be sure. But in view of the bitter criticisms of the FBI, and more particularly of Mr. Hoover by liberals, the all-out, successful effort of the agency in the King case would appear to deserve more attention and commendation from these critics than has been the case.

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

2 BIRMINGHAM NEWS

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

Date: 7-8-69

Edition: METRO

Author: James Free

Editor: JOHN W. BLOOMER

Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: 44-1740-SFL 37

Submitting Office:

☐ Being Investigated

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 9 - 1969	
FBI - BIRMINGHAM	

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

U.S. Agents Slew King, Ray Says

ST. LOUIS (AP) — A television station quoted James Earl Ray Thursday as saying federal agents killed Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and "used me to be the fall guy."

Station KMOX-TV said this was part of a statement dictated by Ray to his brother, Jerry Ray, in the Tennessee State Prison in Nashville. Jerry Ray read the statement on camera to Barry Serafin, a KMOX-TV reporter who accompanied Jerry to Nashville Wednesday.

James Earl Ray, an escapee from the Missouri State Prison, pleaded guilty to killing King and was sentenced to 99 years. His attempts to obtain a new trial so far have been unsuccessful.

The statement was written in longhand by Jerry Ray, who signed his brother's name, Serafin said.

The statement said James Earl Ray was working with federal agents — not other — wise identified by name or organization — during the spring of 1968.

"They told me I was helping them to supply arms and guns to Cuba refugees to overthrow Castro and the Communists in Cuba," the statement continued.

The statement said Ray hopes some high government official "will expose the whole deal" so Ray will be freed.

"If they don't, we have more information which we will release in the near future. I don't know what motives the federal agents had for killing King. Ask former Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark. Maybe he knows."

2a Ray
Jm

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

BIRMINGHAM NEWS

1 BIRMINGHAM POST-HERALD

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

Date: 8-15-69

Edition: FINAL

Author:

Editor: DUARD LE GRAND

Title: MURKIN;

ARTHUR J. HANES, SR.
FORMER BUREAU AGENT

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: BH

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SF1-138

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 15 1969	
FBI - BIRMINGHAM	

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Agrees With Ray, Haynes States

Birmingham attorney Art Hanes Thursday night said a statement by James Earl Ray, made on a St. Louis television station, "does not vary in one respect to what I've maintained all the time in regards to a conspiracy."

Hanes said he has "begged conferences with federal authorities on three occasions to discuss and swap information," but has been unsuccessful.

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

BIRMINGHAM NEWS

1 BIRMINGHAM POST-
HERALD

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

Date: 8-15-69
Edition: FINAL

Author:

Editor: DUARD LE GRAND

Title: MURKIN;

ARTHUR J. HANES, SR.,
FORMER BUREAU AGENT

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: BH

☐ Being Investigated

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SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 15 1969	
FBI - BIRMINGHAM	



WHY JAMES EARL RAY MURDERED DR. KING

BY WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE

44-1740-SF-140
SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
AUG 22 1968
FBI - BIRMINGHAM

This is the third in a series of articles on James Earl Ray and the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., by William Bradford Huie, the eighth-generation Southerner who solved the murder of Emmet Till and was a friend of Dr. King. At the time of his first two reports, Mr. Huie believed that the evidence then available to him pointed to a conspiracy. There remained, however, unanswered questions that led him to months of further investigation and the current conclusions he presents here.

IN THE TENNESSEE STATE PRISON at Nashville, James Earl Ray now regards himself as a political prisoner. When, early in the presidential campaign of 1968, he shot and killed Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Ray took what he regards as a political action approved by millions of Americans. Ray thinks he fired the first shot in a social or racial conflict, a second Civil War, which will eventually result in his being freed. He therefore feels fulfilled: he believes he is liked, respected, even admired. And he is confident that political developments in the United States will cause him to be freed in two to four years.

James Ray, who is 41, along with his brothers Jerry, 34, and John, 37, believed that George C. Wallace would be elected President on November 5, 1968, and that President Wallace would promptly pardon the murderer of Dr. King. James Ray thought that by murdering Dr. King, he would aid Wallace's cause. When Wallace was not elected, all three Ray brothers took comfort in the Republican victory. They figured they had gained something. The trial was set to begin on November 12, 1968. One of the reasons why James Ray changed attorneys on the eve of his trial, thereby forcing a postponement of several months, was that he thought he'd have a better chance if his trial were held after January 20, 1969.

Jerry Ray, who told me that his own police record began when he was a juvenile, said of the delay: "Jimmy's friends are just bound to have more power after Nixon becomes President."

James Ray wrote to me that he didn't have much

to fear from any jury in Shelby County, Tenn., because, in his words, "70 percent of the voters of this county [the Memphis area] voted for either Wallace or Nixon." He added that certainly he didn't have to fear a death sentence because "no white man has ever been given a death sentence in a racial killing."

The Ray brothers believe that Jimmy is supported not only by millions of individual Americans but also by certain newspapers and newspapermen. On November 1, 1968, when he thought the trial might start on November 12, Jerry Ray came to Alabama and talked with me. One of his worries, he said, was that "nobody but liberal reporters" could get a seat assigned in the courtroom for the trial. Jerry wanted me to use my influence to get "some conservative reporters like Paul Harvey and Fulton Lewis assigned seats, so we can have some friends who'll tell Jimmy's side of it."

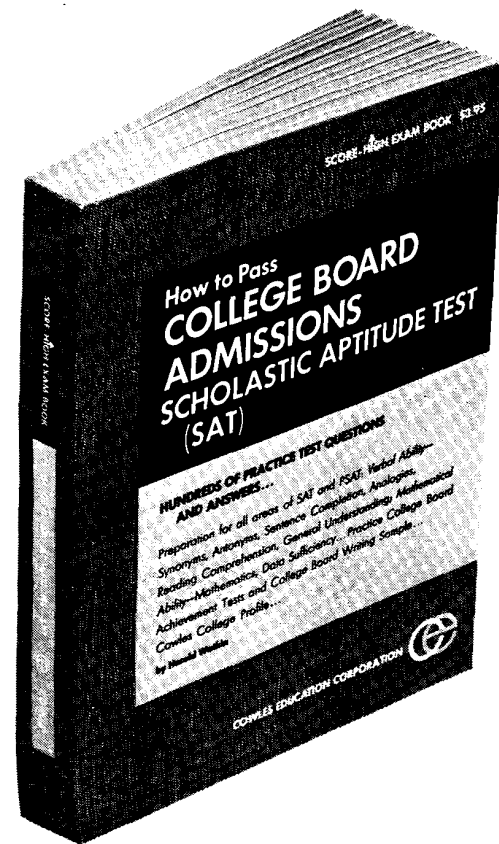
One reason why it was hard to convince James Ray that he was likely to get the electric chair if he went to trial was that in his environment, in his heavily guarded cell, he received some of the approbation he had killed Dr. King to get. A deputy sheriff told him: "That jury ain't gonna turn you loose till they've fined ya two dollars for shootin' a coon outa season."

To counter such advice, Ray had to be told: "Boy, you pay attention to these half-assed jailers and you'll wind up in the chair. These guards and deputies are nigger-haters like you, and they'll --- in your ear about how you saved the white race by killing Martin Luther Coon. But jailers don't sit on juries. If you go to trial, three or four of your jurors will be Negroes, and the eight or nine white men or women damn sure won't be jailers or bailiffs. That jury will burn yore ass, and you better believe it, and let me make a deal if you want to go on living."

In August, 1968, when I began work on this case—when I began sending in questions to Ray via his lawyers and receiving his answers—Ray gave this account of the actual murder: he said that he carried the rifle to Memphis, and that at 3:15 p.m. on April 4, he rented the room at the rooming house. He said that he bought the binoculars about 4:30 p.m. But he said that when the shot was fired at 6:01 p.m., he was in the Mustang, on Main Street; that the "other man" came running down the stairs, threw the rifle on the sidewalk, jumped into the back seat of the Mustang and covered himself with a sheet, while he (Ray) drove away. Eight blocks from the murder scene, Ray said that the "other man" jumped out at a traffic light, and he (Ray) drove on to Birmingham and Atlanta.

Month after month, I sought evidence to support this account, while I urged Ray to reveal more about the "other man." I found no supporting evidence I could believe. I had to conclude that, in all likelihood, the "other man" wasn't there, that Ray

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- (A) -6 (B) -9 (C) -18 (D) -3 (E) 0

17. A B C D E

17. Answer: (B) -9

The first derivative $f'(x) = 2x + 6$

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$x = -3$

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$y = 9 - 18$

$y = -9$

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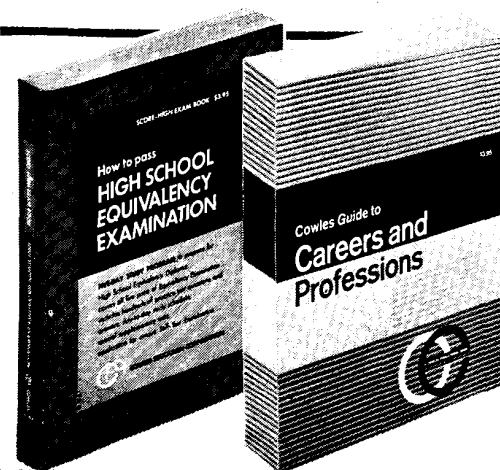
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Through this window of a drab Memphis rooming house, the assassin fired a single .30-06 bullet.



Dr. King occupied Room 306, now kept as a memorial, on the upper floor of the Lorraine Motel. The bullet traveled 205 feet to its target on the balcony.

alone went to the rooming house and shot Dr. King. I told both James and Jerry Ray last fall that, in my opinion, James Ray had no defense to the charge of murder. I told them further that if James Ray went to trial pleading not guilty, he would be in grave danger of the electric chair. Since he was a habitual criminal, widely suspected of being a hired killer, he couldn't count on the solid support of white supremacists, not even of Ku Klux Klan members or sympathizers (who do not kill for cash).

Ray's decision to plead guilty and accept the 99-year sentence was not easily reached. He feared that a guilty plea might cause him to lose status "among the prison population." As a criminal who has spent 13 years in prison and who knows he will spend more years there, Ray first wants status among criminals and their guards. I now believe he killed Dr. King to achieve such status. Only secondly is he concerned about status among people who don't inhabit prisons. And he hungered for the drama of a trial. He sustained himself with a fantasy in which he took the witness stand "before the world" and performed masterfully. He surrendered this fantasy and agreed to plead guilty, I feel sure, only after he decided that, despite his guilty plea, he will now be an important person in prison, and that he will yet win freedom in some dramatic manner.

Ray's pleading guilty to murdering Dr. King does not answer all the questions that continue to trouble me and many Americans. These questions are:

1. Who, if anyone, assisted Ray, financially or otherwise?
2. Did Ray make the decision to kill, or did someone else make it?
3. When was this decision made?
4. Exactly why was it made? What were the motives of Ray and his possible assistants?
5. Is there any connection, however remote, between the murders of John F. Kennedy and Dr. King?

I believe I know partial answers to these questions, and I believe I may yet find complete answers. But in August, September and October of 1968, as I sought these answers in Chicago, California, Canada

continued

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and Mexico, I was handicapped by what I now regard as several misconceptions. Other people, I realize, will disagree with me emphatically, and in detail. I believe, however, that if this tragedy is to be understood, if ever all the questions are to be answered and the answers widely accepted, these misconceptions must be dispelled.

The first misconception is that Ray's flight through Canada after the murder and his obtaining a Canadian passport by using the names of living citizens of Toronto were complex feats that he could have accomplished only with assistance. After retracing this trip, and studying Ray's account of it, I believe the feat was within his capabilities. No assistance was necessary. Here's how he did it:

Leaving Memphis I had to drive slow and careful so as not to attract attention or get arrested for speeding. I drove south into Mississippi for a while, then turned east across Mississippi and Alabama, through Birmingham to Atlanta. I got to my room in Atlanta about 6 a.m. on April 5th. I parked the Mustang and left it and sure hated I didn't have time to sell it for at least \$1,000. Upon leaving my room, on the table I left a letter to me from the John Birch Society telling me how to get information about the English-speaking countries of Africa. I wanted the FBI to investigate this letter while I got away.

I took a bus from Atlanta to Cincinnati. It was due to leave Atlanta about 11:30 a.m., but it left about 1 p.m. I arrived in Cincinnati about 1:30 a.m. of the 6th of April. I had about an hour and a half layover, so I went to a tavern as I didn't want to stay in the bus station. I think the taverns close there at 2:30 a.m. I arrived at Detroit about 8:00 a.m., still the 6th of April. I then caught a cab to a train station, where I was told I'd have to take a cab to Windsor, Canada. I got a shave in a barbershop across from the train station. I remember I had trouble as the barber said he didn't shave customers any more.

I took a cab to Windsor and got there about 10 or 11 a.m. The train left for Toronto about 20 minutes after I got there. I arrived in Toronto about 5 p.m. on the 6th of April [Saturday], and I rented the room at 102 Ossington about 6 p.m. for \$10. The people who ran the rooming house were immigrants [Polish]. The woman couldn't speak hardly any English and the man not much better. I never gave them a name as they never asked me for one.

On Monday I went to the newspaper office and went through the old files looking for two names to use to apply for a passport. I got about ten names from the paper, including Paul Edward Bridgman and Ramon George Sneyd. [Ray got these names from births reported in 1932. He wanted men about his own age. Ray was born in 1928, but he thought he looked younger than that, so he claimed 1931 as his birth year. Using the Toronto telephone directory, he confirmed that the men he had selected from the birth reports were still living, and in Toronto.]

Posing as an employee of the Bureau of Internal Affairs, Passport Division, I then telephoned some of these men to see if they had ever had a passport. I couldn't use the name of anyone who had ever had a passport as his picture would be on file. Bridgman told me that he had had a passport about eight years ago, but Sneyd said he had never had a passport. [The real Sneyd and the real Bridgman remember the telephone calls about their passports. Bridgman thought the call was "strange" because it came during the early evening, after normal working hours for government employees.] At that time I thought that the man applying for a passport had to have another man who'd swear that he had known him [the applicant] for two years. So I decided to let Sneyd apply for the

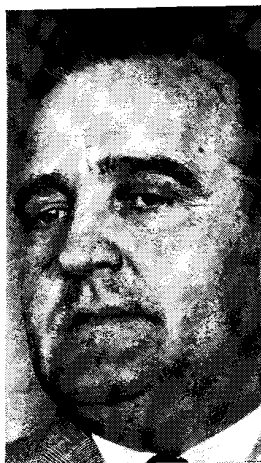
continued on page 106

"ON BALANCE, I FEEL RAY WAS HELPED."

FOR CONSPIRACY

BY ARTHUR J. HANES

FIRST ATTORNEY FOR JAMES EARL RAY



WHY DID James Earl Ray murder Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.? I still believe that Ray killed Dr. King because he was directed to do it. Despite his plea of guilty in court, I also feel that Ray did not carry out the murder entirely alone. On balance, both my son and partner, Arthur, Jr., and I feel that, at the very least, Ray was helped. This means that we believe there was what the law calls a conspiracy.

Between July 5, 1968, when, at Ray's request, I first saw him in London and became his attorney, and November 10, 1968, when he discharged me, my son and I, separately and together, talked with Ray for more than one hundred hours. It was a baffling experience because Ray never gave us his confidence on critical issues. Preparing his defense was like preparing for moot court in law school. We worked, but we had no defendant to work with us.

At all times, Ray was courteous and respectful. Of moderate size, with a sensitive, nonassertive personality, he is a man who would go unnoticed anywhere. Probing for motivations, I often attempted to discuss race or politics with him. He is well informed, but his views are neither extreme nor bitterly held. I never heard him express or saw him display resentment, hatred or malice toward anyone.

At each conference with Ray, we had to consider first a written list of topics he had prepared, some relevant to the case, some not. His questions were serious to him, and he seemed interested in my responses. He showed most interest in such personal matters as my bringing him shirts and ties for his courtroom appearances. On a human-to-human basis, we seemed to be close. But when I began asking the questions, he changed in attitude and demeanor. He insisted that his accomplice, Raoul, actually fired the fatal shot, but when I questioned him about Raoul, he became tense and devious. Each time I saw him, I felt I had to make a new start at trying to gain his confidence. I never met a man quite so alone, quite so certain that he was his only keeper.

I believe his Raoul story to this extent: I think he met somebody like Raoul in Montreal in August, 1967; and I think Raoul may be Ray's name for one, two or three persons who directed or assisted him between August, 1967, and his escape through Canada.

Here are some of the reasons why my son and I feel that there was direction or help:

1. My son spent a week studying the rooming houses, the businesses and the people in the area of the murder. Unless Ray actually walked through and

had at least some time to study the rooming-house complex from which the fatal shot is alleged to have been fired, we can't believe that Ray could have known that he would have an unobstructed line of fire at Dr. King from the room he rented, or from the bathroom the state claims the shot was fired from. Since there is no evidence that Ray ever entered this house until 3:15 p.m. on the day of the murder; since when he did enter it, he didn't go through the house looking out of various windows, but merely indicated what room he wanted, we believe that someone must have told him which house to enter and which room to rent.

2. Twenty feet below the bathroom window from which the shot is alleged to have been fired, there is a vacant lot, which at that time was covered with bushes 12 to 15 feet high. Dr. King's chauffeur, Solomon Jones, told reporters a few minutes after the shooting that "just after the shot was fired, a man with a sheet over his head ran out of the bushes heading south." Another witness, "Cornbread" Carter, said that he saw "the man" fire the shot from the bushes and then "take off."

From a concealed position in a firehouse just south of Bessie Brewer's rooming house, police were watching the area of Dr. King's room, trying to protect him from what they thought was the most serious threat to him: possible attack by Negro militants. A Negro policeman who could recognize the most dangerous of these militants was at a peephole and actually saw Dr. King fall. Both firemen and policemen who were in the back of the fire station heard the shot, and they all thought that it came from the bushes, not from any window 20 feet above the bushes. So I find the "bushman theory" of this shooting hard to dismiss.

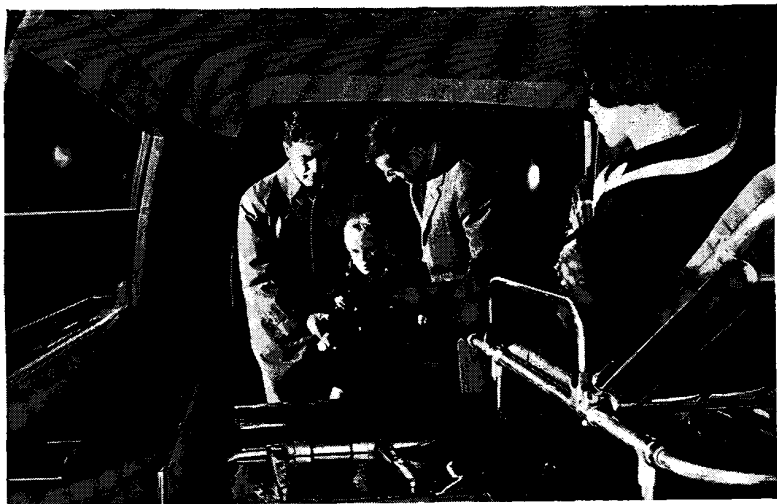
3. The star state witness is Charlie Stephens, 46 years old, who lived in the room next to the bathroom. He said he heard the shot and saw a man who looked like Ray run out of the bathroom. But Stephens' common-law wife, Grace Hays Stephens, said that Charlie was drunk and saw nothing; that she saw the man run out of the bathroom, and he wore an Army jacket and was much shorter and lighter than Ray, weighing no more than 125 pounds. (Ray is 5'11" and weighs about 160 pounds.)

4. When Ray's abandoned Mustang was found and searched in Atlanta, in its trunk was a man's clothing, much too small for Ray. It would fit a man who weighs 125 pounds. Moreover, the car's ashtrays brimmed with cigarette butts, and Ray does not smoke. And in the back seat was a sheet, like the Solomon Jones' bushman was wearing.

5. The state has no conclusive ballistics evidence. A .30-06 bullet was recovered from Dr. King's cervical vertebra, but no ballistics expert could say positively that that bullet was fired from the Remington rifle purchased by Ray at the Aeromarine Supply Company in Birmingham and found on the sidewalk near

continued on page 106

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LIFE & CASUALTY

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the Main Street entrance to the rooming house.

6. When the man who fired the shot emerged from the rooming house onto Main Street, Ray's Mustang was parked to his right. Yet, according to witnesses in the ground-floor Canipe Amusement Co. who saw the rifle dropped, the man with the gun turned left, or south, away from the Mustang, dropped the rifle, and continued walking south.

7. Two white Mustangs were parked on Main Street near the entrance to the rooming house. The one that did not belong to Ray was said to have a "whiplash" antenna, indicating radio-broadcast equipment. Within a few minutes after Dr. King fell, there were mysterious radio reports about shots being fired from a Pontiac at a fleeing Mustang. I listened to police recordings of these reports, and they remain a mystery to me. All I know is that they could not have emanated from the Mustang owned by Ray,

which had only an ordinary car radio.

8. I know the father and son who own and operate the Aeromarine Supply Company in Birmingham. They sold two hunting rifles to Ray, and talked with him on successive days. They told me that the man who bought these rifles "seemed to know very little about guns."

9. Finally, in all my conversations with Ray, I kept asking myself: Why would this man have killed Dr. King? He was doing all right as a fugitive. He was staying out of jail, finding girls, drinking a little beer and vodka, driving his Mustang to places like Acapulco, New Orleans and Los Angeles, apparently enjoying himself, and paying his way with various illegal activities. Why then would he gravely jeopardize himself by the senseless murder of a world-famous figure? As far as I have been able to learn, he got no big final payment for it, and may not have ex-

pected any, though he has made contradictory statements on this point. So I simply can't think of any motive that clearly satisfies me in this case.

This is not to imply that I think I can disprove that Ray killed Dr. King. I'm as puzzled as anyone else. The state had a formidable circumstantial case against Ray. The Federal Bureau of Investigation, for which I once worked as an agent, has done its usual masterful job. I admire Mr. Foreman, who is a great criminal lawyer. I know and respect Mr. Huie, with whom I have spent many hours puzzling over this case; and certainly he writes persuasively about Ray's motivations.

But as of this moment, I simply cannot agree that James Earl Ray was not helped in murdering Dr. King. There are too many unanswered questions in my mind. In months to come, I hope that Mr. Huie, with Ray's help, can answer these questions.

WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE CONTINUED

RAY TOLD HUIE: "I WAS GOING TO FRANCE TO TRY TO GET IN THE MERCENARIES."

passport and let Bridgman be his witness, and I'd be both Sneyd and Bridgman. So I applied for birth certificates in both these names.

I then told the Polish lady on Ossington Street that my name was Paul Bridgman. I wrote it out for her on a piece of paper, because I expected mail as I had applied for the birth certificate under that name. Then I went to the Dundas Street address and rented a room as Ramon George Sneyd. I told the Chinese lady I worked nights. I was going to spend days at Dundas Street as Sneyd, and nights at Ossington Street as Bridgman.

I then went to Brown's Theatrical Supplies on Yonge Street and bought a makeup kit. This was so I could apply for the passport as Sneyd, then I could change my appearance and go back to the passport office as Bridgman and sign as a witness for Sneyd. In this way I could be Bridgman vouching for Sneyd.

In the meantime I had been stopped by a policeman and given a jaywalking ticket so I had to destroy all my Galt I.D. [This included his Alabama driver's license and all other papers identifying him as Eric S. Galt.] I then went to the travel agency and applied for a passport for Ramon George Sneyd. It was there and then that I found out that I had gone to a lot of extra trouble. If you don't have anyone to swear they have known you for two years, you can still get a Canadian passport simply by swearing that you are a Canadian citizen. I did this and was told I'd get my passport in about two weeks.

I didn't need Bridgman any more, so I checked out of the Ossington Street room and kept the Dundas Street address for Sneyd's passport to be mailed to. Then I went to Montreal to check on some ships in case the passport deal fell through. In Montreal I got a room on Notre Dame West, all the way across town from Notre Dame East where I had lived in August, 1967. If I didn't get the passport, I was going to rent passage on a ship that sailed around the coast of South Africa and try to slip in at one of the stops. I found a Scandinavian line that had ships going to Mozambique. The price for a ticket was \$600. But they wanted a passport number, so I gave up on that,

While I was in Montreal the police must have had a tip that I might be there because several people were arrested. I remember reading in a paper where two males were arrested in a white car with a dog. For this reason I never left the room except for meals and when I went to the shipping office. I returned to Toronto after being gone nine days, and next day I called the travel agency and was told that my passport had just arrived. When I picked up the passport I found the name was spelled wrong. [It was SNEYA instead of SNEYD. Ray prints when he writes, and his triangular D can easily be mistaken for an A. On his application for the passport, the D in Sneyd looks like an A.] There wasn't time to get it changed, so I had to leave Toronto with a faulty passport.

When I got back to Toronto from Montreal I had about \$800. I wanted to go to an English-speaking country in Africa, so I could get employment, but the price of a round trip ticket was \$820. You can't get in one of those countries without a round-trip ticket. So I bought a round-trip ticket to London, but I didn't expect to stay in England because it has too close police and other ties with the U.S.

Upon my arrival in England I called the Portuguese Embassy and asked them how long it would take to get a visa. They told me one day. I then used my return ticket to Canada to go to Portugal that day. In Portugal I spent all my time looking for a ship to go to Angola. I finally found one. The price was 3,777 escudos one way, about \$130. The ship was leaving in two days. I then went to get the visa and was told it would take seven days. I then returned to England as I was getting short of money. [In London, he held up a food store and got about \$300.]

I was going from England to France to try to get in the mercenaries. But they were having riots in France, and planes were not landing there. I finally contacted a newspaper reporter who told me the mercenaries had an office in Brussels. He gave me the address. I then bought a ticket to Brussels, and I was going there when I was caught at the London airport. They shook me down and found the .38. I also had a blueprint on how to make a silencer for a pistol.

That is a remarkable account and, as far as I can determine, a true one. The man who wrote it requires no assistance to travel anywhere. Ray had spent seven years in the Missouri State Penitentiary studying how to escape from prison and from the United States. He had read books and listened to other prisoners. In July and August, 1967, three months after his escape from the Missouri prison, he

had practiced that trip from Detroit to Windsor to Toronto to Montreal.

Ray has an amazingly retentive criminal mind. He can draw an accurate diagram of any place he has ever visited. He knows his way around. He may have had assistance in his escape after the murder, but he probably didn't need it, and I now don't believe he had it. He's too proud of having done it alone.

The second misconception is that Ray's finding the rooming house in Memphis from which he shot Dr. King, the precise timing, his "knowing where King would be at a certain time," and his escape from a murder scene crawling with police and police cars—that all this required assistance, that "one man just wasn't capable of doing all this by himself, he just had to have somebody to help him."

But did he have to have help? Here is the progression of events, along with an explanation partially based on Ray's statements to me:

THE FINAL DECISION to kill Dr. King, made by Ray or someone else, appears to have been reached on March 16 or 17. Dr. King was in Los Angeles on those days, his movements and statements reported by newspapers, radio and television. On Saturday the 16th, he addressed the California Democratic Council in convention at Anaheim and "called for the defeat of President Johnson." On Sunday the 17th, he spoke at the Second Baptist Church in Los Angeles. The subject: *The Meaning of Hope*. He said that hate had become the national malady, that he had seen hate on too many faces, "on the faces of sheriffs in the South and on the faces of John Birch Society members in California." He closed by saying: "Hate is too great a burden to bear. I can't hate."

Literally while Dr. King was delivering that sermon, at a post office three miles away, Ray was filing a card changing his mailing address from the St. Francis Hotel, Los Angeles, to General Delivery, Atlanta, Ga. Next morning, Dr. King left Los Angeles for Mississippi, and Ray left too. Ray, driving the Mustang, stopped in New Orleans; then on March 22, he was at the Flamingo Motel in Selma, Ala., when Dr. King was 40 miles away recruiting for the Poor People's March. Dr. King returned to Atlanta. Ray spent the night of March 23 in Birmingham; then on March 24, he paid a week's rent on a room in Atlanta at 113 14th Street.

On March 24-27, Dr. King was in the New York area. Ray used these days to locate and observe Dr. King's home, his office at SCLC headquarters, and his continued

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Lucy Sarayan at age 9 and 21, as photographed by Richard Avedon for De Beers Consolidated Mines, Ltd.

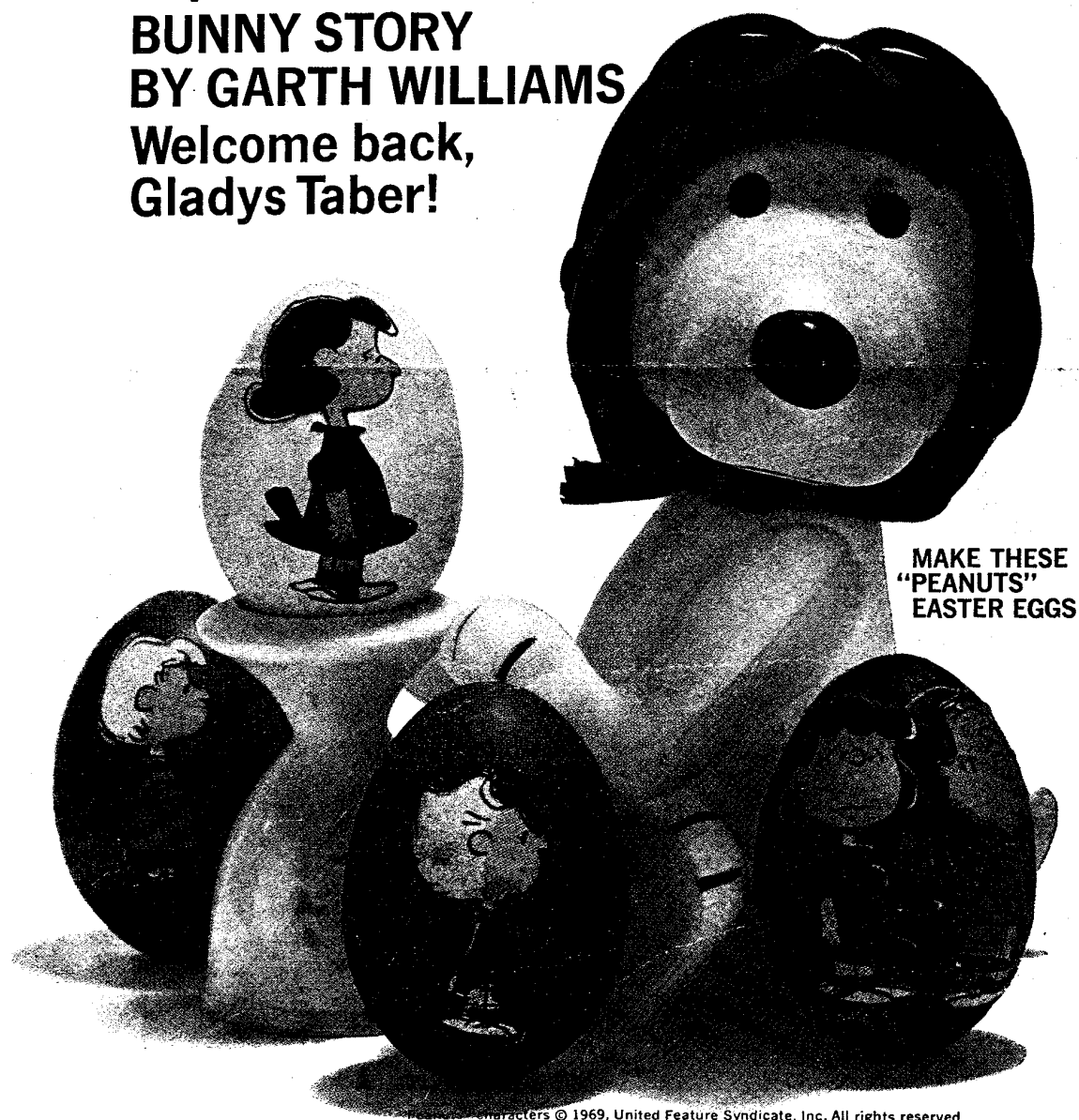


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WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE CONTINUED

church, Ebenezer Baptist. On a map found in Ray's Atlanta room by the FBI after the murder, all three of these locations were circled. Ray's fingerprints were on the map. On Thursday, March 28, Dr. King led striking garbage workers in Memphis on the march that a few young black militants turned into a riot. On the same day, Ray or someone else decided he should buy a rifle.

Ray told me that he decided to buy the rifle in Birmingham, rather than in Atlanta, because "I had I.D. in Alabama." On March 29, Ray drove to Birmingham, registered as Eric S. Galt at the Travelodge, Five Points; then went to the Aeromarine Supply Company at the Birmingham Airport and, as Harvey Lowmyer, bought a .243-caliber rifle with a Redfield scope. (He said he had come to Birmingham to buy the rifle because "I had I.D. in Alabama." Yet he bought the rifle under an alias for which he had no identification.) Dr. King, on the 29th, returned to Atlanta deeply depressed because, for the first time, a few marchers led by him had resorted to violence. Newspapers, radio and television publicized his pledge to return to Memphis "next week."

On Saturday, March 30, Ray went back to the Aeromarine Company and exchanged the rifle he had bought on Friday for a heavier rifle: a Remington .30-06 slide-action rifle, with a 2-to-7-power variable Redfield scope. This rifle package, with 20 Peters High Velocity, 150-grain, Soft Point cartridges, cost Ray \$265.85. Dr. King held a staff meeting at the Ebenezer Baptist Church during which he considered calling off the Poor People's March in the face of the "rising tide of hate in America."

On Sunday, March 31, Dr. King preached at the

Washington Cathedral, and Ray drove back from Birmingham to Atlanta.

On Monday, April 1, after an SCLC staff meeting in Atlanta, it was announced that Dr. King would return to Memphis on April 3. Ray left Atlanta late that afternoon, drove northwest and spent the night in a motel near Florence, Ala.

On Tuesday, April 2, Dr. King rested at his home, while Ray moved to a motel near Corinth, Miss. On a side road leading off of U.S. Highway 78 in Mississippi, Ray practiced with his new rifle. He fired several of the Peters Soft Point cartridges he had bought in Birmingham, and several Army .30-06 cartridges he had acquired somewhere else.

ON WEDNESDAY, April 3, Dr. King flew to Memphis on a plane that was delayed while it was searched after a bomb threat. He went to the Lorraine Hotel and Motel and was given Room 306. He had stayed at this place before, always in one of the new, more comfortable motel rooms fronting on Mulberry Street. Photographers took pictures of him, and on television that evening, the number 306 could be seen above Dr. King's head.

Ray came into Memphis on the morning of April 3. I assume he scouted the murder scene and could note that the doorways of all the Lorraine Motel rooms are visible from the back windows of the rooming house, which has its entrance at 422½ South Main Street. Ray got a haircut, purchased a shaving kit at a Rexall Drug Store, then registered as Eric S. Galt at the Rebel Motel inside the Memphis city limits.

At 3:15 p.m. on April 4, as John Willard, Ray

rented Room 5B at the rooming house. About 4:00 p.m., he purchased Bushnell binoculars and case from the York Arms Company a few blocks away on South Main Street. He took the rifle and the binoculars to his room. At 6:01 p.m., when Dr. King came leisurely out of his room and leaned on a railing, Ray killed him with one Soft Point bullet, which mushroomed on contact.

Did Ray have help in arranging this? He may have. But again, he could have done it without help.

The third misconception is that the fatal rifle shot could have been fired only by a practiced, experienced, expert marksman.

The Aeromarine Supply Company sold me the same rifle, same ammunition, same scope mounted in the same manner, that they sold Ray. Then I reconstructed the shot that killed Dr. King.

The distance was 205 feet. Dr. King was standing to Ray's right at an angle of about 20 degrees. He was standing, because of the terrain, about 15 feet below Ray. So Ray was firing down and to his right. Dr. King, unlike John Kennedy, was not a moving target. He was standing still. Ray was firing from a bathroom, with the rifle at rest on the windowsill. Through the scope, Dr. King appeared to be standing no more than 30 feet from the end of the rifle barrel.

I hadn't fired a heavy rifle in 25 years. On my first shot, I hit a circle the size of a silver dollar. Any 12-year-old boy familiar with a .22 could have killed Dr. King from that position with that weapon.

Ray had Army training. He was in the Military Police. He had practiced with guns. So the shot was easy for him.

The fourth misconception is that Ray is stupid
continued

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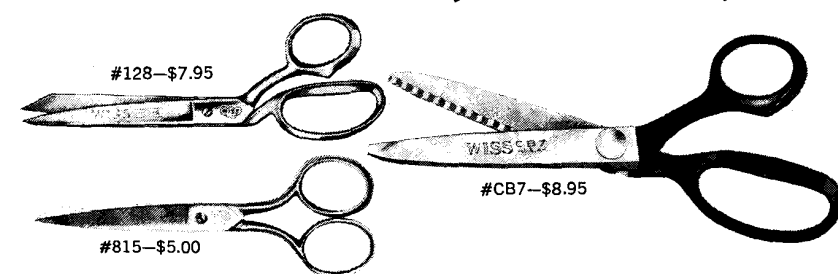


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WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE CONTINUED

and inept. It's true that some of his earlier crimes were ludicrously inept. He couldn't pull a simple holdup without running down a blind alley or losing his shoes or dropping his wallet as he ran. But during his seven years in the Missouri State Penitentiary, he evidently matured as a criminal. His escape from there on April 23, 1967 was well planned and well executed. He somehow persuaded at least two men who are still there to take the risks of aiding his escape. Instead of being inept, Ray has become crafty.

The fifth misconception is that Ray could not have supported himself and his travels between April 23, 1967, and June 8, 1968, and therefore must have had financial assistance.

In Montreal, about August 1, 1967, Ray held up a food store and got \$1,450. In reply to my written queries, he first told me that he got this money by holding up a whorehouse, and I published his account of it. Then he told me that it had really been a food store, and that he told me it was a whorehouse because he didn't want a "hold" waiting for him in Canada when he got out of prison in Tennessee.

HE TOLD ME many stories about a 30-odd-year-old French-Canadian or "Latin" named "Raoul" whom he met in Montreal. Ray said he twice carried narcotics for him across the border at Windsor-Detroit and was paid \$750. Then Raoul came to Birmingham and gave him \$3,000 to buy the Mustang and some camera equipment. Later, according to Ray, he met Raoul in New Orleans and in Laredo. There were probably several Raouls, accomplices of Ray in hold-ups and other money crimes. Ray bought a large quantity of marijuana in Mexico and disposed of it in some fashion.

But there is nothing in Ray's behavior to indicate, nor has he ever claimed, that either he or Raoul or anybody else got any money for the last big job he was supposed to pull. I believe that Ray wanted to murder Dr. King for reasons other than money.

Since Ray apparently got no money after the murder, in seven months of dealing with him, I waited for him to show some sign of feeling that he was cheated, that he didn't get what he had been promised. Instead of bitterness or resentment, Ray has evidenced only an expanding self-satisfaction.

Ray seems to have spent about \$12,000 between April 23, 1967, and June 8, 1968. There were a number of unsolved robberies of banks, loan companies and supermarkets in the areas through which Ray moved. Getting that much money would have been as easy for him as killing Dr. King from 205 feet.

I can't prove that no one gave him money to kill Dr. King. But I can prove that he could have gotten it in other ways.

The sixth misconception is that Ray, having been in prison so much of his life, is not a "racist" or "nigger-hater" and therefore could have been motivated only by money.

The record indicates to me that he is a "nigger-hater," even though he never evidenced this to Mr. Hanes. On April 5, 1958, Ray was released from the Federal prison at Leavenworth, Kan., with this item in his report: "On September 12, 1957, he was approved for our Honor Farm but was never actually transferred to the farm due to the fact that he did not feel that he could live in an Honor Farm Dormitory because they are integrated. He was therefore never given Honor status. He was assigned to our bakery where he has remained until his Conditional Release."

Bitter anti-Negro actions or remarks by Ray were reported to me by persons who knew him in Canada, Mexico and California.

A seventh possible misconception is that Ray is not a "killer" and is therefore probably incapable of

continued

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"RAY WANTED TO WIN RECOGNITION."

AGAINST CONSPIRACY

BY PERCY FOREMAN SECOND ATTORNEY FOR JAMES EARL RAY



IF, IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT, I ever summon a physician, and he arrives at my bedside and asks, "Are you sick?" I shall use my remaining energy to leave my bed and throw the fool out of my house. So when a man accused of murder sends for Percy Foreman, I show him the courtesy of assuming he is guilty and that he hopes I can save him from excessive punishment. Else why would

he be preparing to divide his worldly goods, or hope of same, with me?

When, last November, the brothers of James Earl Ray sought me out and handed me a letter from him, beseeching me to represent him, I didn't fly to the Shelby County Jail in Memphis and run a gamut of guards to ask: "Jim, did you do it?" Because on Thursday, April 4, 1968, James Ray was prowling the vicinity of 422½ South Main with a deer rifle, and that is not one of the Volunteer State of Tennessee's several game preserves.

I assumed that Ray had sent for me not to spring him, but to try to save his life. I then, over several weeks, spent 40 hours in conversation with him, endeavoring to bring him to believe that I knew more about the law than he did, after which I saved his life in the only way I thought it could be saved. I consider this no mean achievement.

Why did Ray kill Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.?

In public discussion, I normally leave the question of why to doctors of philosophy. If they won't defend criminals, I won't write essays. Here, I break my rule and offer a few pointed remarks.

The mouth-filling word "assassination" has been popularized by people who have forgotten its meaning. Others have defined it: An assassin is a secret killer for hire. Under the popular but incorrect definition, the deaths of President John F. Kennedy, Dr. King and Sen. Robert F. Kennedy are called assassinations. But they were not assassinations, they were killings; and Lee Harvey Oswald, James Earl Ray and Sirhan Bishara Sirhan were and are not assassins, but killers.

Why did they kill? They each wanted the world to hear of them. They wanted credit. Top billing. Headlines. Front-page pictures. A by-line. Self-realization. A shortcut to fame. To exercise the ego. To them, notoriety and fame are synonymous. What other men study, plan and struggle a lifetime to achieve, these killers thought they could win with lead.

What did they have to lose? They were social re-

jects: dropouts from the school of achievement, all of them afflicted by burning pride. They had energy, nerve, ambition, but they had more motor than brakes. And a defective steering apparatus. They belonged to the race of men that don't fit in.

They killed neither secretly nor for hire. True, after killing President Kennedy, Oswald fled. The instinct of self-preservation momentarily overcame that of self-realization. But Oswald was a pamphlet peddler. He had boasted to his wife of trying to murder Gen. Edwin A. Walker. Had he lived, he would have boasted of killing a President.

For a few hours, I represented Oswald's killer, Jack Ruby. He was a frustrated showman, successful only at showing off the backsides of itinerant girls. To perform before 50 million television viewers was a chance he couldn't resist.

Sirhan tells us in his diary that "we believe that the glorious United States of America will eventually be felled by a blow of an assassin's bullet. . . ."

Before he fled the murder scene, James Earl Ray, carefully watched by three witnesses, deposited on the sidewalk the murder rifle that he had wrapped in his own laundry-marked bedcover to protect his fingerprints on the rifle from obliteration. He also left a canvas bag containing his laundry-marked shirt and underwear, along with a transistor radio on which the FBI found his identification number as a prisoner at the Missouri State Penitentiary.

Both rifle and bag he could have carried a few feet further and placed in his white Mustang. But that might have prevented his identification. He wanted to escape, but he didn't want to lose credit. As further precaution against such dreaded loss, he left his fingerprints in the side room that he had rented, and his palm print in the bathroom from which he fired the shot. All this by a man to whom fingerprinting had become a way of life.

A jury must consider the mental state of a defendant in determining his degree of guilt. So a defense lawyer must present his client's thinking as to the act charged. Had I not obtained a waiver of the death penalty for Ray, it would have been my duty to offer testimony as to Ray's beliefs about his victim, even though none of these was my own.

I think Ray believed Dr. King was a Communist; that his crusades had opened the Pandora's box of riot; and that, though he preached nonviolence, by indirection he created Black Muslims, Black Panthers and Invaders. Ray thinks that the war between the races is imminent, and he wanted to fire the first shot. The shooting of Dr. King, to him, was the Pearl Harbor of that war. He didn't tell me any of this: it is what I believe he thinks.

I don't believe there was any conspiracy. James Earl Ray wanted to win recognition. He hoped that by killing Martin Luther King, he could make the rest of his futile, boring life exciting.

WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE CONTINUED

having killed Dr. King. It's true that there is no previous murder in his record. But in 1966, Ray was given a thorough, six-weeks' psychiatric examination at the Fulton (Missouri) State Hospital. He was diagnosed as a "sociopathic personality, antisocial type with anxiety and depressive features."

The superintendent of the hospital at Fulton Dr. D. B. Peterson. I asked him if James Earl Ray is capable of planned killing for money.

"Certainly he is," replied the Doctor. "Any man who commits armed robbery indicates that he may be willing to kill for gain if necessary. There is very little difference between armed robbery and planned killing for money."

I then asked: "Is Ray capable of killing in the hope of winning distinction? Approval? Is he capable of killing in the hope of relieving his anxiety, enhancing his self-respect?"

"Perhaps. He is so consumed with self-consideration that he is incapable of respecting the rights of any other individual."

When the misconceptions have been dispelled, at least partially, these questions still remain:

Was there a conspiracy?

Well, there are large conspiracies and little conspiracies. In large conspiracies, rich and/or powerful men are involved. Small conspiracies involve only little men. Last October, after working with Ray for two months, I thought that powerful men probably had made the decision to kill Dr. King. To date, I have found no confirmation of Ray's insinuations about this. Nor have I found believable evidence of any link between the murders of Dr. King and President Kennedy.

I believe that one or two men other than James Earl Ray may have had foreknowledge of this murder, and that makes a little conspiracy. But if there was a conspiracy, I now believe that James Earl Ray was probably its leader, not its tool or its dupe.

Is there a chance that other questions may yet be answered?

Yes, I think so. Remember that there are still many fundamental unanswered questions.

And finally: *What was Ray's real motivation? Why did he want to kill Dr. King?*

A clue to the ultimate answer, I think, lies in this circumstance. On April 21, 1967, two days before his escape from the Missouri State Prison, Ray bought a six-transistor Channel Master radio in the prison commissary. He carried this radio with him when he broke out, and listened over it for the announcement of his escape. He then carried it with him on all his travels and adventures for over a year.

After he shot Dr. King, Ray rushed down the stairs, and threw the rifle on the sidewalk. Then, deliberately, he threw down beside the rifle a blue zipper bag in which there were several items, including his old companion in loneliness, the transistor radio, which still bore his prison I.D. No. 00416. He also left his fingerprints on the rifle, on the binoculars and in the room upstairs.

In short, he purposefully left his calling card, telling the FBI that JAMES EARL RAY WAS HERE. That was his glory. He wanted the FBI and all of us to know that James Earl Ray, that poor, contemptible little man with a price of \$50 on his head, had killed one of the great Americans of this century.

This is the state of our knowledge up to this point. But, more than a year after the murder of Dr. King, there still remain certain basic, nagging, unanswered questions, the result in good part of the deliberately elusive silence of James Earl Ray, who in this respect is no other is a remarkable man. Mr. Huie plans to continue his investigation, communicating with Ray, face to face if possible, and, as he uncovers further answers, will report on them in LOOK.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)



ART HANES

Hanes says Ray didn't kill King

Arthur J. Art Hanes, Birmingham attorney who represented James Earl Ray today reaffirmed his contention that his former client did not kill Rev. Martin Luther King.

Hanes, in a speech to the Birmingham Sentoma Club at the Bankhead Hotel, said he is still firm in his belief that a conspiracy was involved in the slaying of the civil rights leader.

Hanes, who was charged with contempt of court in connection with news stories quoting him on the condition of Ray's jail cell, also said he believes there will be a maturing in pretrial news coverage.

The former Birmingham Mayor said much of the conflict between the free press and fair trial guarantees of the U.S. Constitution have resulted from the country's rapid growth.

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

13 BIRMINGHAM NEWS
— BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

Date: 9-18-69
Edition: METRO
Author:
Editor: JOHN W. BLOOMER
Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

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44-1740

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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FBI — BIRMINGHAM	

SEP 1 1969

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Papers considered vital**Ray wins battle to see
extradition hearing records****By S-H Newspapers**

WASHINGTON — James Earl Ray apparently has won his battle to obtain records of his British extradition hearing from the U. S. Department of Justice.

Bernard "Bud" Fensterwald Jr., a member of Ray's

present legal team, says he was permitted to view the documents and asked for copies.

The defense counsel considers these papers — mainly affidavits of witnesses presented at the hearing — vital to winning a new trial

for the convicted murderer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

It's believed that the defense will compare the affidavits from England with testimony from Ray's murder trial.

Ironically, letters in Fensterwald's possession show that Ray's personal request for the documents was turned down by the Justice Department.

Fensterwald says he obtained a look at the documents by filing a complaint against the department under the Freedom of Information Act

The Washington lawyer was representing Harold Weisberg — a Frederick, Md., writer can become citizens, have researching political assassinations — when the action was filed.

But, Fensterwald claims that Ray heard of his legal attempt to get the records and requested a meeting with him. Fensterwald flew to Tennessee and talked to Ray in his cell.

Fensterwald agreed to represent Ray along with other members of the legal team — Richard Ryan, of Memphis, and J. B. Stone, of Savannah, Ga.

A petition for a new trial was filed May 18 in Shelby County Criminal Court and a hearing on a number of motions will be heard on May 29.

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

2 THE BIRMINGHAM POST-HERALD

Birmingham, Alabama

Date: 5-26-70

Edition: Final

Author:

Editor: Duard Le Grand

Title: MURKIN

Character:

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Classification: 44-1740

Submitting Office:

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44-1740-1111

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FBI — BIRMINGHAM	

"We are hopeful that when
the petition is heard . . . and
no date has been set . . . that
we'll have sufficient evidence
for Judge (William) Williams
to grant Ray a public trial,"
said Fensterwald.

Fensterwald says he won't
drop his present legal action
against the Justice Depart-
ment until he receives copies
of the extradition hearing
records.

Correspondence in Fenster-
wald's possession shows that
the Justice Department had
maintained that the extradit-
tion records were "exempt"
from the Freedom of Informa-
tion Act because they were
part of investigatory files
compiled for law enforcement
purposes.

Fensterwald maintained in
his complaint that the British
proceedings were public and
documents submitted on be-
half of the United States are
therefore public record.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Federal court throws out suit filed by Ray

MEMPHIS, Tenn. A federal judge has dismissed the last count of James Earl Ray's libel suit filed in connection with a book on the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Ray, who in 1969 entered a guilty plea to King's slaying, filed suit last March, claiming he was libeled by the book "An American Death," written by Gerold Frank of New York and published by Doubleday & Co., Inc., also of New York.

U. S. District Court Judge Harry Wellford held a prelimi-

nary hearing in the suit in November and dismissed two counts of Ray's suit, but postponed ruling on whether Doubleday "fraudulently" acquired Ray's personal property or evidence that might have been helpful to Ray's defense in the murder case.

Wellford said the third claim was not specific enough and gave Ray 30 days to amend or supplement his complaint, stating precisely what property or evidence the publisher might have acquired.

—Associated Press

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

59 THE BIRMINGHAM NEWS
BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

Date: 3-6-74

Edition:

Author:

Editor: JOHN W. BLOOMER

Title:

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Classification: 44-1740-

Submitting Office:

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44-1740-SF 1-143

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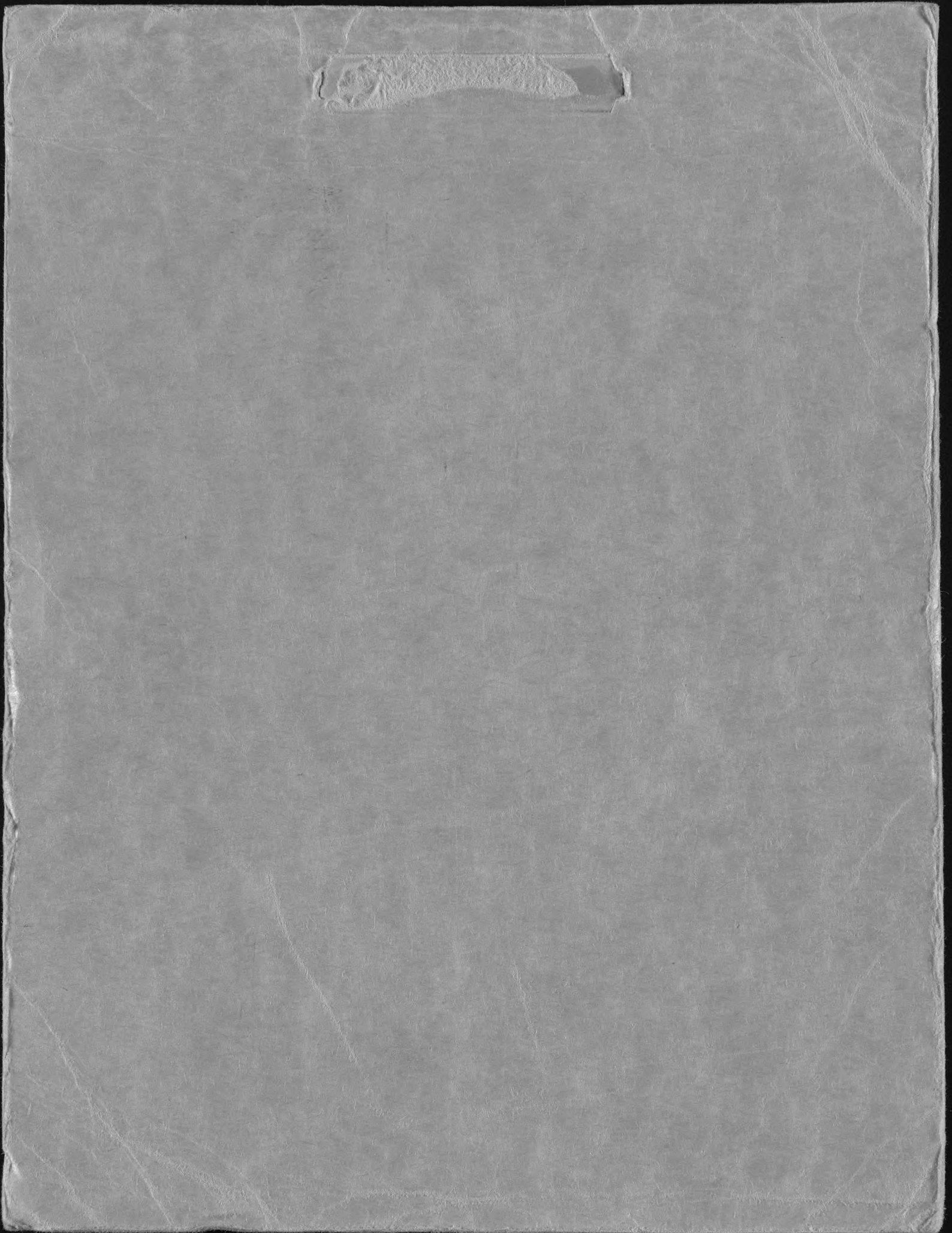
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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176