

FBI NEW ORLS

5:52 PM URGENT 5/4/68 OLP

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATION SECTION

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861)

MAY 4 1968

FROM NEW ORLEANS (157-10673) 1P

MURKIN

TELETYPE

RE PHOENIX TEL TO DIRECTOR FIVE THREE LAST.

RE: TELCALL FROM EL PASO NUMBER SEVEN SEVEN
TWO ZERO SIX FOUR SIX TO NEW ORLEANS NUMBER
TWO EIGHT TWO - SEVEN FIVE NINE ONE,
DECEMBER SIXTEEN, NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN.

NEW ORLEANS PHONE NO. TWO EIGHT TWO - SEVEN FIVE
NINE ONE A NON-PUBLISHED NUMBER LISTED TO ARNOLD THOMAS,
THREE FIVE TWO THREE, HAMBURG ST., NEW ORLEANS.

ON FIVE FOUR SIXTY-EIGHT ARNOLD AND ISABELLE THOMAS
INTERVIEWED AND COULD NOT RECALL PHONE CALL FROM EL PASO,
TEX., ON DEC. SIXTEEN, SIXTYSEVEN. THOMAS AND WIFE
BOTH NEGROES AND STATED THEIR SON HAD DIED IN LOS ANGELES
ON DEC. ELEVEN, SIXTYSEVEN, AND HIS BODY HAD BEEN CARRIED
BY HIS BROTHER FROM LOS ANGELES TO NEW ORLEANS ARRIVING
NEW ORLEANS DEC. SEVENTEEN SIXTYSEVEN. THOMAS STATED
THIS CALL UNDOUBTEDLY FROM BROTHER REPORTING BODY OF
DECEASED SON.

NEW ORLEANS INDICES CONTAIN NO INFORMATION IDENTIFIABLE
WITH ARNOLD THOMAS OR ISABELLE THOMAS.

NEW ORLEANS LOCATING SON FOR INTERVIEW IN REGARDS INSTANT CALL.
AIRMAIL COPIES TO MEMPHIS, PHOENIX, AND EL PASO.
ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

LLD 59 MAY 10 1968

FBI WASH DC

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

MAY 7 1968

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Conrad _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: May 6, 1968

FROM : A. Rosen

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. McGowan
1 - Mr. Long
1 - Mr. McDonough
1 - Mr. Martindale
1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Conrad
1 - Mr. Gale
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Trotter

SUBJECT: MURKIN

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Extensive investigation and coverage is continuing in Mexico with particular emphasis in areas where Ray has been known or alleged to have been in the past.

The Agent on the scene at Campeche, near the Yucatan Peninsula, reports that maximum cooperation is being received from both the Campeche State Judicial Police and the State Highway Police.

The City of Campeche has a population of more than 55,000 and there are seven other municipal areas in the state that comprise major population centers. The State of Campeche is slightly larger than West Virginia and has a population of 170,000.

The State police agencies in Campeche have a radio communications system covering each community in the State. They have made appropriate broadcasts and publicity has been obtained in various publications with additional publicity arranged for major editions over the weekend. Reliable Americans residing in the area are being specifically contacted.

All hotels, motels, barber shops, liquor stores, grocery stores, and houses of prostitution in the city of Campeche have been checked without developing any information concerning Ray's present whereabouts or his alleged stay in Campeche sometime in the 1950's.

William Earless Miller, also known as "Punchy" Miller, formerly an inmate with Ray at Missouri State Penitentiary, advised that Ray took pep pills and disliked Western music. Miller stated Ray indicated a desire to go to New Orleans and spoke as if he had not been there before.

WLM:rmr
(14)

CONTINUED - OVER

REC'D-60354

REC'D-60354

MAY 7 10 31 AM '68

MAY 8 3 15 PM '68

REC'D-60354 OFFICE

RECEIVED: DIRECTOR

MAY 6 10 15 AM '68

MAY 6 9 31 AM '68

REC'D OF LOACH
FBI

MAY 6 8 32 AM
REC'D OF LOACH
FBI

MAY 7 3 18 PM '68

REC'D-60354 CONRAD

MAY 6 11 22 AM '68

LABORATORY DIVISION

RECEIVED
MAY 7 10 24 AM '68

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

A former potential criminal informant of the Kansas City Office who is now in Leavenworth also knew Ray at Missouri State Penitentiary. The informant said one Robert Powell wanted Ray to beat up his girlfriend, Frankie Barbara (phonetic), Doe Run, Missouri, when Ray got out of prison. This is being checked out.

It has previously been reported that the Postal Inspector at Los Angeles made available a letter and photograph Ray mailed through a correspondence club to Patricia K. Anderson in February, 1968.

Anderson has been located and advised she has no knowledge of the subject except for the letter and photograph she received and gave the Postal Inspector. She said she was not a member of the correspondence club and believes her name may have been obtained by the club from an old magazine subscription list. Efforts are continuing to identify and locate the other four girls Ray allegedly wrote through this club.

Local authorities now plan to seek a murder indictment against Ray by presenting the facts to a grand jury at Memphis on 5/7/68. The State Attorney General's Office has requested that a representative of the FBI testify before the grand jury and the Special Agent in Charge at Memphis will do so.

ACTION:

Extensive investigation is continuing throughout the field on a top priority basis to locate and apprehend Ray as quickly as possible.

✓
J. Edgar Hoover
May 17 1968
G. A. DeLoach
J. B. Connelley
- 2 -
A

F B I

Date: 5-6-68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, RICHMOND (44-657) -P-
MURKIN

RE: ERIC RAY, aka
Earl Ray
Friend of SHELBY JEAN BALDRIDGE

Re El Paso teletype, 4-26-68.

The following investigation was conducted by SA
FREDERICK A. COOK at Saltville, Va., on 4-27-68:

Mr. T. L. HYMAN, U. S. Post Office (PROTECT IDENTITY)
advised there is no listing for anyone by the last name of
BALDRIDGE with his office. Mr. HYMAN checked town and rural
routes as well as general delivery.

Mr. JIM LITTON, owner of the Salina Motel, which is
the only motel or hotel in Saltville, Va., checked his records
covering the period of 4/18-27/68 and could locate no record
for anyone by the name of BALDRIDGE staying at the motel. He
stated the available license numbers do not reflect any numbers
such as 583-511 or 583-515. He stated he works at the motel
everyday and does not recall seeing a rust color white top
Ford at the motel.

3 - Bureau
2 - El Paso (157-186)
2 - Memphis (44-1987)
2 - Richmond
REB/lm
(9)

REC-19

EX-16

25 MAY 7 1968

SIX

FBI-SEP.


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

100

RH 44-657

Chief of Police K. K. ADAMS, Saltville, Va. PD, advised the current telephone directory does not reflect anyone by the last name of BALDRIDGE. Chief ADAMS advised the records of his department do not reflect the name of RAY as ever being arrested. He stated the name of BALDRIDGE is not a local name and he does not ever recall hearing this name before.

A check of the parking lots for the Olin Mathieson Chemical Co. did not locate any car fitting the description of the car allegedly operated by BALDRIDGE.

 Former Chief of Police CHARLES NORRIS, a lifelong resident of the Saltville, Va. area, advised he has never seen anyone by the last name of BALDRIDGE ever being

AT MARION, VA.

On 4-27-68, Mrs. MARY WOLFE, Smyth Co., Va. Credit Bureau, advised SA COOK she has no listing for anyone by the last name of BALDRIDGE.

The current town and telephone directories for the Marion, Saltville and Chilhowie areas did not reflect the name of BALDRIDGE.

AT SALTVILLE, VA.

On 5-6-68, Chief of Police ADAMS advised that he had been unable to locate a woman identifiable with Mrs. BALDRIDGE in Saltville, Va., and that the automobile reportedly in her possession had not been observed in the Saltville, Va. area.

LEADS:

EL PASO

AT FT. BLISS, TEXAS

Will maintain contact with Sgt. BALDRIDGE to determine if he learns whereabouts of his wife, SHELBY JEAN BALDRIDGE, and set forth leads to have her interviewed re subject.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

5/6/68

CODE

CABLEGRAM

URGENT

1 - Mr. Long

TO: LEGATS, MEXICO CITY AND OTTAWA

FROM: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT RECEIVED ANOTHER ANONYMOUS LETTER SIGNED ONLY WITH INITIAL "V," POSTMARKED FIVE THIRTY P.M., MAY TWO SIXTY-EIGHT AT HAMILTON, ONTARIO, INDICATING THAT JAMES EARL RAY IS PRESENTLY IN MEXICO CITY, COPILEO RUINS.

LEGATS CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. AIR MAIL COPY TO MEMPHIS.

1 - SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

1 - Foreign Liaison Unit (Cleared with Mr. D. Brennan)

REL:cs

(5)

NOTE: Memphis Police Department received the third anonymous letter signed only with initial "V." This letter postmarked 5:30 p.m., May 2, 1968, at Hamilton, Ontario, indicates that James Earl Ray presently in Mexico City at Copileo Ruins. The two previous anonymous letters were dated 4/23/68. Legats, Ottawa and Mexico City presently conducting investigation in this matter and present information being furnished Legats for appropriate action.

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

79 MAY 14 1968

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

VIA TELETYPE

758 P. E. F. 4
MAY 6 1968

ENCIPHERED

19 MAY 8 1968

CODING UNIT

MAY 6 6 49 PM '68

MAY 6 6 49 PM '68

MAY 6 6 49 PM '68

TELETYPE UNIT

RECEIVED

5/6/68

PLAINTEXT

1 - Mr. Long

TELETYPE

URGENT

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

COPIES MADE, DATE 5-4-68 BY
RE: MURKIN
FOR REVIEW AT FBI
TO HQA AS REQUESTED 5-3-68
(SEE BUREAU 62-117290)

REMETEL MAY THREE LAST.

IF NECESSARY

AUTHORITY IS HEREBY GRANTED/TO SAC MEMPHIS TO
TESTIFY BEFORE LOCAL GRAND JURY ON MAY SEVEN NEXT IN
REGARD TO POSSIBILITY OF OFFICIALS OBTAINING FIRST DEGREE
MURDER WARRANT FOR SUBJECT RAY.

YOU MAY TESTIFY AS TO THE EVIDENCE RECOVERED NEAR
SCENE OF CRIME AND RESULTS OF LABORATORY EXAMINATION AND
INVESTIGATION REGARDING THE EVIDENCE, SPECIFICALLY:
ONE. WEAPON ABANDONED NEAR SCENE OF SHOOTING WAS
PURCHASED AT BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA, ON MARCH THIRTY SIXTY-EIGHT
AND CARTRIDGE CASE RECOVERED FROM GUN WAS IDENTIFIED AS
BEING FIRED IN THE WEAPON. TWO. PAIR OF BINOCULARS WAS
PURCHASED AT MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, ON APRIL FOUR SIXTY-EIGHT
AND LATENT FINGERPRINT LOCATED ON BINOCULARS MATCHES
LATENT FINGERPRINT FOUND ON ABANDONED WEAPON. THREE. MAY 1968

OF MEXICO WAS LOCATED IN ROOMING HOUSE USED BY ~~SUBJECT~~
AT ATLANTA, GEORGIA. TWO FINGERPRINTS WERE FOUND ON THIS

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

INITIALED
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

REL:cs
(3)

SEE NOTE PAGE THREE...

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

COPY MADE FOR MR. TOLSON

RECEIVED
TELETYPE UNIT
MAY 6 4 52 PM '68

RECEIVED
FBI
MAY 6 4 09 PM '68

TELETYPE SAC MEMPHIS
RE: MURKIN

MAP AND ONE OF THESE MATCHES THE LATENT FINGERPRINT ON THE ABANDONED WEAPON AND PAIR OF BINOCULARS. FOUR. IT WAS DETERMINED BY THE IDENTIFICATION DIVISION THAT THE LATENT FINGERPRINTS FOUND ON THE ABANDONED WEAPON, TELESCOPIC SIGHT MOUNTED ON ABANDONED WEAPON, PAIR OF BINOCULARS, FRONT PAGE OF MEMPHIS NEWSPAPER, "COMMERCIAL APPEAL," AFTER SHAVING LOTION, SCHLITZ BEER CAN AND THE TWO PRINTS LOCATED ON THE MAP OF MEXICO ARE IDENTICAL TO THOSE OF JAMES EARL RAY. FIVE. NO SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES WERE NOTED BETWEEN THE SAMPLES OF TAPE SUBMITTED BY HOME SERVICE LAUNDRY AND DRY CLEANING, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, AND THE LAUNDRY TAPES APPEARING ON THE SHORTS AND T-SHIRT. SIX. THE HAIRS AND FIBERS FOUND IN THE MUSTANG BELONGING TO ERIC STARVO GALT ARE SIMILAR TO THE HAIRS AND FIBERS FOUND IN THE EVIDENCE RECOVERED NEAR SCENE OF CRIME.

YOU SHOULD SPECIFICALLY REFER TO THE LABORATORY REPORT IN WHICH FINDINGS OF THE LABORATORY ARE RECORDED FOR YOUR TESTIMONY. CONFINE YOUR TESTIMONY TO THOSE FACTS NECESSARY TO ESTABLISH BASIS FOR RETURNING THE INDICTMENT. YOU SHOULD INSURE THAT THE USA OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE IS AVAILABLE TO ADEQUATELY PROTECT THE GOVERNMENT'S INTEREST.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

NOTE:

The Memphis Police Department turned over the evidence they recovered near scene of the crime to our Memphis Office, and this evidence in turn was forwarded to our Laboratory for appropriate examination. The Memphis authorities previously obtained a murder indictment against subject under name of Eric Starvo Galt. The evidence as forwarded to our Laboratory and the findings thereof have been returned to the Memphis Police Department.

Memphis advises that it is the intention of the State Attorney General to present material and evidence to local grand jury on 5/7/68 and that plans call for a first degree murder warrant for subject in this case. Memphis points out that according to an officer of the Memphis Police Department the possibility exists that State Attorney General's office may desire a representative of the FBI to testify in connection with certain evidence because of extensive investigation conducted by the Bureau. State Attorney General felt it would add to the case if FBI representative present to testify as to the sale of weapon in Birmingham and that this weapon is identical with weapon recovered in Memphis.

SAC, Memphis is being granted authority to testify, if necessary, and guidelines being set out as to testimony he may offer. Memphis now advises that the State Attorney General's office stated that the testimony of FBI personnel may not be needed as the FBI Laboratory report may be used to cover items of evidence. This communication is being transmitted in the event testimony of SAC Jensen is needed.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: May 7, 1968

FROM : A. Rosen

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. McGowan
1 - Mr. McDonough

SUBJECT: MURKIN

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Bureau has previously designated the Memphis Office as office of origin in this case. Attached for approval are instructions concerning the handling of reports based upon current developments and the need to further streamline our procedures.

Certain offices, which have conducted the bulk of investigation to date, are to submit results of their investigation in individual reports. Other divisions are to submit positive and pertinent information developed in form suitable for insertion in the over-all reports prepared by the Memphis Office.

SEE NOTE ON REVERSE SIDE

Inasmuch as Legats do not submit investigative reports, they are being instructed to submit results of investigation which can be disseminated in letterhead memorandum form suitable for dissemination. Any administrative data which cannot be disseminated will be set forth in the administrative section of the transmittal communication.

ACTION:

Attached for approval is an airtel to all SACs and Legats setting forth instructions in line with the above.

Enclosure

EJM:hw
(6)

5-7-68

REC-14

MAY 8 1968

COPY MADE FOR MR. TOLSON

RECEIVED
MAY 7 1 35 PM '68

REC'D
MAY 7 10 25 AM '68

REC'D-TO: SAC'S OFFICE

MAY 7 11 16 PM '68

MAY 7 10 45 AM '68

REC'D DE. HALL

REC'D DE. HALL
MAY 8 9 40 AM '68
FBI

COPIES MADE. DATE 5/13/68 BY
SERIAL RE
FOR REVIEW AT [illegible]
TO HSCA NO. 000001 DATED 5/13/68
(SEE BUFILE 62-117293)