4-596 /5-31-56)

N. S. Espartment of Instice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS

ENTIRE FILE REVIEWED
FOR HISTORICAL
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FEDERAL BUREAU

CLASSIFIED INFORMATION ENCLOSED



44- HW-38861 CEDIAL 3031-3131

SECTION 31

INVESTICA RON

ATTENTION

BEFORE CHANGING CLASSIFICATION OR PROCESSING ANY DOCUMENT FROM THIS FILE FOR RELEASE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC, CONTACT FOI/PA SECTION UNIT D, EXT. 5767.

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SUBJECT - Martin Lather King Jr.

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ANALYST - Harr EXT - 5775 TEAM 1 - C 216 Pages Beliased

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SUBJECT - Martin Lather King gr.

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RETAIN THIS FORM AS TOP SERIAL

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10 MAY 1962 EDITION GSA GEN REG. NO. 27



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO

MR. TOLSON

MURKIN

DATE:

4/24/68

FROM

SUBJECT:

C. D. DeLoach

cc Mr. DeLoach

Mr. Rosen

Mr. McGowan

Mr. Conrad

Mr. Trotter

To Africa

Reference is made to the Director's notations, asking why the evidence in captioned case has not been returned to the Memphis Police.

This is my responsibility. I knew of the necessity to return this evidence as soon as logically possible; however, I also realized that the Director would not want the evidence returned only to have the Memphis Office obtain it once again and send it back for further comparison purposes with new evidence.

In compliance with the Director's instructions, the evidence was to be returned as soon as Laboratory examinations were completed. There has been a constant accumulation of evidence, making it imperative that the original items be retained briefly for comparison purposes. The true name of the subject was not known until Friday, 4/19/68.

There has been no request from the Memphis Police relative to the return of this evidence. To the contrary, the police feel that this is strictly an FBI case and have indicated this fact accordingly.

The evidence will be returned to the Memphis
Police immediately. There will be no consultation with
the Department.

ACTION:

To answer the Director's inquiry.

CDD: CSH (6)

396 m 2010-1988 who the

had been my instructions carfied out &

FOR REVIEW AT POLICE TO LETTERY TOCHSCA RE LEGOLST CALED TOLS DA (SEE BUFILE 62-117290) APR 25 9 16 AM 168 - b 17 制剂 Lee It t a t the common App Short has M. Director RECTO - ECOEM . Porton Section 1 organis in the content of the conten

La Habra, Calif 5/2/68

Dear Mr Hoover

ENCLOSURE

I Saw this Man on April 10th, as this enclosed letter says- I am a frustated man, what can I Do to get him??

Told the local Police, phoned L A 2 times wrote them this letter-- What else?

They checked the License # and of course no answer, he would Not be, having a License anyone could trace, would He now.

I am enclosing the pictura of the man I saw-only he had a sort of baseball, cap, pulled low on his head. I was very afraid of him, as I do NOT carry a Gun.

Have alway had a Phtographic Mind, so will Not need the picture back, I will soon be 65, but since the age of 9 or 10, can reme; ber anyone- that I have had only a glimbse of--

If You want anything more about this man send someone to see me, as I observed a million things I cannot tell, you in this letter.

Kenneth McB ane 11 MAY 8 1968

641 Galen Dr

La Habra, California 90631

Service Space

REC'D-CORR & TOURS

MAY & 3 44 My .88

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

1340 W 6th St., Los Angeles, Calif TEL 483-3551

Doty Officer

La Mabra Galif 4/20/68

Dear Sir:

Seems as the I should keep still about this, but something tells me I should write your office about the Killer of Dr King- I did phone your office yesterday about this, but feel I can express myself better in a letter --

On the Morning of April 10th, 1968 about 9 or 9:30 AM, I was standing in the door of the Texaco Station at the corner of Central Ave., and Beach Blvd waiting for the Mechanics there to Service my Car, In Walks this real weird man, he walked as if in a trance looking expressionless, looked almost like a sphinx he looked straight ahead, had on a cap and asked for the Keys to the mens room, as I am a native of L A can quickly pick any accent from another part of the country, he sounded like any native Californian or for that matter maybe the middle west, but definitely none other, than these two regions. We was well dressed as I said he had this cap on, a pull ver Gr e/ Shirt and lighter colored trousers, he was about 6 Ft tall he had on boots which m ay have made him appear taller weighed about 175#, and seemed a well built man, but when I saw this character cold chills ran up my spigm and something told me to be very coreful of this man, so I acted as if I haid no attention, he stayed in the mens room only a very short while, came out lang the keys exactly as they were, I mean very neat, and correct Then as he turned his back I watched him (He nover drove his car into this station) it w s pointed North of Beach Blvd., which is also Nivay #39- Now this car was something else-it didn't fit the man, the car was an old maybe 1952 or 1953 Chevvy 2 Dr, which was in a bad way, he had a lot of trouble getting it to go but finally did and that was the last I saw of him, the bicense was Calif.GWD -656- I gave this info. the next day, all they say is, they cannot trace the #, but they were still trying to do so, right before him on Tiway 39 Morth was La Mabra Meights, I don't see how his car could have made it over thos Meights, I think then he must have turned East and headed out to outona and the Desert Country via the Diagond Bar Januon Road, and is now around the Desert Country of Calif, Oh yes the man I saw had brown hair and blue eres (which seemed almost closed) his hair of course was mostly hidden and the state of the state of the second section of the section of

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Airtel

REC-40

1 - Mr. Hudson

- SIC/-3032 To: SAC, Los Angeles

From: Director, FBI

MURKIN

Re Kenneth R. McBane - complainant.

Enclosed are two copies of a letter from McBane dated 5-2-68 with two copies each of its enclosures. One copy of the letter and one copy of each enclosure is enclosed for Memphis.

Los Angeles should immediately interview McBane for any information he has regarding the whereabouts of the subject.

Enc. (6) 1 - Memphis (info) Enc. (3)

FJH:jlh (5)

MAILED 10 MAY 7 1968 Tolson COMM-FBI

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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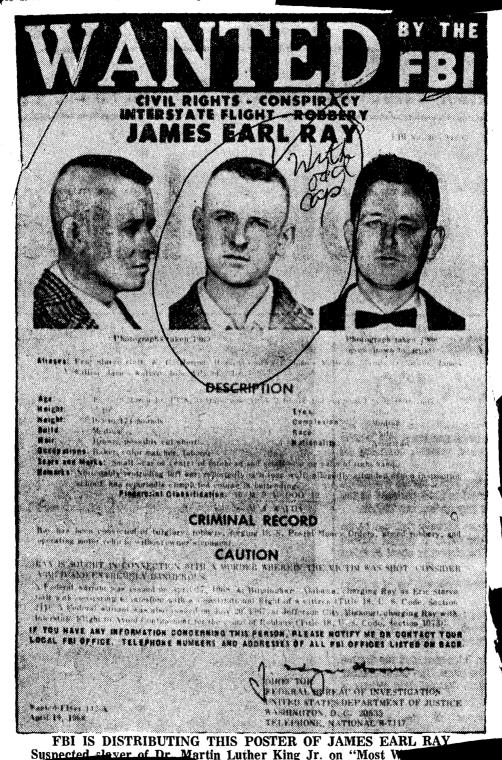
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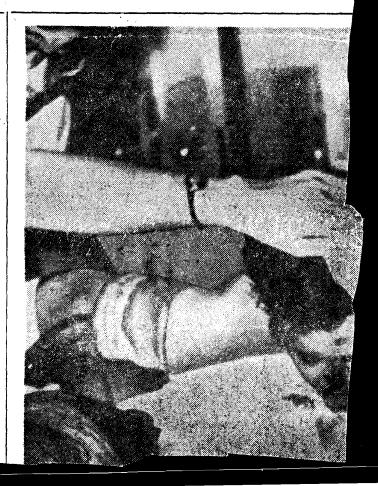
African airways jetliner broke to the earth in rugged terrain rt. The airport is about 30 miles

off on the second leg of a flight

that 136 persons were aboard crash. Officials further said known to have survived.

rities later amended the figures frd the plane. The exact number certain, but officials believe at

e scene of the crash in Appeals for blood donors for authorities in the South



	FBI		
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TO: DIRECTOR, FR	 BI (44 -3 8861)		
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MURKIN			
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Mary January 61

Memorandum

Mr. DeLoach

A. Rosién

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: April 18, 1968

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Malley

1 - Mr. McGowan

1 - Mr. McDonough

1 - Mr. Long

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr., on 4/4/68. SEE NOTE ON REVERSE SIDE

SAC Robert Jensen of the Memphis Office has advised that he was contacted by Inspector N. E. Zachary of the Memphis Police Department. Memphis authorities have obtained a warrant for the arrest of Galt on a murder charge but are desirous of meeting with the FBI so that the matter can be presented to a local grand jury. Inspector Zachary advised that the Attorney General of the Memphis District, Phil Canale, is desirous of presenting the matter to a grand jury as soon as possible. Inspector Zachary has advised that perhaps Canale would be calling the Attorney General concerning

It is noted that the Memphis Police Department is aware of the items which were abandoned near the scene of the shooting in Memphis, Tennessee, on April 4, 1968. These articles had first been turned over to the Memphis Police and were made available to the FBI by Inspector Zachary. It has been publicly stated in the press that the FBI has traced the rifle to a gun shop in Birmingham, Alabama, and also that the telescopic sight which was mounted on the rifle had been purchased from the same dealer. The Memphis police are, of course, aware that the binoculars abandoned at the scene were purchased in Memphis, Tennessee.

REC-40 It has also been publicly stated that Galt is the owner the of a 1966 white Mustang which had been abandoned in Atlanta and was located on 4/11/68.

CLM:rmr:ige

this matter.

CONTINUED -

11:-

WE 18 25 5 1 64 . Kg Large Boblic 65-114590) · 1817 · 1818 · Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach RE: MURKIN Inspector Zachary and the Memphis Police Department have been most cooperative. They turned the original material over to us which they found abandoned at the scene of the crime. They could have retained this if they desired to; however, they did not. They turned it over to the FBI Office in Memphis. The Prosecutor has filed murder charges against Galt, which are presently outstanding. ACTION TO BE TAKEN: It is recommended the SAC at Memphis advise the Prosecutor of information which is contained in our press release. In the event he asks for a report in order to present the matter to a grand jury, he should be advised the FBI is presently conducting an all-out investigation in the matter and at the appropriate time will cooperate fully. - 2 -2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FBI

Date: 5/7/68

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	FROM:	SAC, DENVI	ER (157 - 203) (P)		
	SUBJECT:	MURKIN				
		Re Denver	airtel and te	letype 5/4/	['] 68 .	
		Re CARL R	AY and HERMAN	J. SCHUMACH	ŒR.	
	signatur original reported three or each bea	ier Airlines e of CARL RA of Fronties ly filled ou iginals of 1	for FBI Labora s Transportati AY in upper le r Credit Appli ut and signed. Frontier Trans ure of HERMAN	on Receipt ft corner of cation whice Also encl portation R	bearing of each, an th CARL RAY losed are Receipts,	ıd
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ALL BINE!

REUZIVED IN

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

DN 157-203

One copy of referenced Denver airtel is enclosed for Memphis and one copy of instant airtel is being furnished Los Angeles Office, which office is presently attempting to locate CARL RAY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

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Date:	5/6/68
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Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

(Priority)

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI (μ 4-38861)

ATTN: FBI LABORATORY

FROM:

SAC, MOBILE (157-2627)(P)

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

(OO: MEMPHIS)

Reference is made to Birmingham teletype to the Bureau, Atlanta and Mobile, airmail copy to Memphis, 5:53 PM, 4/26/68.

On 5/1 and 5/2/68, Lt. D. C. KIMBRO, Drivers License Division, and Mrs. GAYLORD TURNER, IBM Section, Drivers License Division, Alabama State Dept. of Public Safety, Montgomery, Ala., made available all records pertaining to Alabama driver's licenses issued throughout the State of Alabama, between 3/2068 and 4/9/68. There were approximately 7500 driver's licenses issued for this period. SA DANIEL W. MC ALLEN, III examined these records and after eliminating applications of the young people, old people, Negroes, females, etc., there were approximately 800 application forms which were then examined by SA MC ALLEN.

Of these 800 applications, 11 persons were found generally fitting the description of subject and whose handwriting was thought somewhat similar to that of the subject. These 11 applications are enclosed herewith for the Bureau, and it is requested that the Laboratory compare the signatures on these applications with the handwriting

(3 - Bureau (Enc. 11)

2 - Memphis (44, 1987) 1 - Atlanta (4, 12386)(Info)

1 - Birmingham (44-1740)(Info)

2 - Mobile

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Approved: _

Special Agent in Charge

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MO 157-2627

of subject to determine if any of these signatures may have been prepared by the subject.

These application forms are for the following individuals:

WILLIAM ELMER JOHNSON 941 8th St., Pleasant Grove, Alabama 35127;

FRANK GARRETT PERRY 215 West Drake Ave., Auburn, Ala. 36830;

JAMES PRESTON RIDDICK 322 First Ave., Saraland, Ala. 36571;

ROBERT CLIFTON SMITH Rt. 2, Box 221, Lineville, Ala. 36266;

FONTAINE (NMN) STORM
P.C.S.R. (Big R Trailer Park, Lot No. 10)
Greenville, Ala. 36037;

R. (Only) W. (Only) KERR Rt. 1, Box 109, Cave Springs, Ga. (Ala.) 36275;

CLYDE JUSTIN HILL, SR. Rt. 1, Box 373
Bryant, Ala. 35958;

WINFORD PRESTON GILMORE 1203 21st St., Phenix City, Ala. 36867;

PAUL EDGAR GOODPASTER, JR. 1323 Perry St., Montgomery, Ala. 36104;

LEE EMERSON BELLAMY 809 Nashville, Ave., Sheffield, Ala. 35660;

ROGER DAVID BROUSSARD 2123 North 12th. Avenue Birmingham, Ala.

Copy of this letter if furnished to Birmingham, so that Birmingham may be aware that this license check for the State of Alabama, has been made, and a copy is furnished to Atlanta in view of the interest of the Atlanta Division in this particular phase of the investigation.

MO 157-2627

Mobile is not retaining copies of these application forms, and if any investigation is needed concerning any of these application forms by either Birmingham or Mobile, the Bureau should furnish Birmingham or Mobile with the pertinent application.

Results of this review should be furnished to Memphis, Atlanta, Birmingham and Mobile. In the event the examination is negative, these forms need not be returned to Mobile.







1 - Mr. Rosen

(Mr. Long 2260)

1 - Mr. Conrad

1 - Mr. Mortimer 1 - Lab File

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

FBI, Memphis (44-1987)

May 14, 1968

Date:

MURKIN

Re: CR

00: Memphis

John Edgar Hoover, Director

REC-134

44-38861 FBI File No. D-562678 JK

Lab. No.

Examination requested by:

Airtel 5/6/68

Reference:

Document

Detroit

Examination requested:

Remarks:

EX-11e

Detroit should obtain laundry tapes from the K269 and K270 machines in the sequence "O2B-6" for comparison with the laundry tapes on Q69 and Q70.

MARILLE S. MAY 14 1968 CUIVINI - FBI

DeLoach ___

Mohr _ Bishop ___

Casper 🗀 Callahan .

Conrad _ Felt _ Rosen _ Sullivan . Tavel _ Tele. Room .

Holmes _

Enclosure (Lab report)

1 - Detroit (44-989) Enclosure (Lab report)

1 - Albany (44-493) Enclosure (Lab report) ak 1:

JHM: AW (i. (10)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

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LABORATORY DIVISION

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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REPORT of the



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

 $_{\text{To.}}$ FBI, Memphis (44-1987)

Date: May 14, 1968 FBI File No. 44-38861

Re: MURKIN CR Lab. No.

D-562678 JK

Specimens received

5/8/68

K269 Three samples of laundry tape appearing on left portion of white handkerchief, obtained from Paw Paw Laundry, Paw Paw, Michigan

K270 Three samples of laundry tapes appearing on right portion of white handkerchief, obtained from Paw Paw Laundry, Paw Paw, Michigan

Result of examination:

It was concluded that the laundry tapes appearing on Q97 and Q99 were not prepared with the K269 machine while differences were noted between the tapes produced by the K270 machine and the laundry tapes on Q97 and Q99. These known specimens are not adequate for a comparison with the "02B-6" markings which appear on the tapes which were attached to Q69 and Q70.

Specimens K269 and K270 have been retained.

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Date. 5/6/60

	Date: 0/0/00	
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	(Type in plaintext or code)	
ViaAIRTEL		
	(Priority)	

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

ATTENTION: FBI LABORATORY

ROM:

SAC. DETROIT (44-989)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Memphis airtels to All Continental Offices, dated 4/19/68 and 4/25/68.

On 5/1/68, NORMAN BUCHANAN, General Manager, Paw Paw Laundry, Paw Paw, Michigan, advised that prior to 4/63, his company used the code similar to that contained on pillow case and bed sheet found in vehicle registered to GALT. He informed no yellow tapes were used in 1968, but had one orange tape issued with this code on 1/25/68 which came out of sub-station known as the Norge Cleaners, 1614 West Main Street, Kalamazoo, Michigan. BUCHANAN informed this was a bundle of six shirts belonging to one "GRIFFIN", 1206 Summit, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Enclosed herewith is one handkerchief containing colored samples of tape with the printing of the machines utilized by the Paw Paw Laundry.

It is requested that the FBI Laboratory compare the printing found on the markings of sheet and pillow case with the samples appearing on the enclosure. In the event there is no direct comparison, the material may be destroyed. It is requested that the results be furnished to Detroit and Memphis.

Investigation continuing Kalamazoo for further identity of "GRIFFIN". - Bureau (Enc. L) (AM) (RM)

2 -	Memphis	(44-193'	7)	(RM)
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Approved:

Special Agent in Charge

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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Via _	AIRTEL	AIRMAIL								
		(Priority)	·							
	TO:	DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) Attention: FBI Laboratory	562610							
	FROM:	SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760)	p							
	SUBJECT:	MURKIN								
St.X	Enclosed herewith are 22 pages of handwriting as obtained from USP, Leavenworth, Kansas and one copy of a form dated 4/4/58, signed by JAMES EARL RAY obtained from the U.S. Probation Officer, Kansas City, Missouri.									
1 119	under the	The 22 pages of handwriting-handprinting are mostly that of the subject, however, some of the writing under the heading "disposition" maybe that of a supervisor or official.								
10/07	The form obtained from the Probation Officer just bears the subject's signature and this is the only handwriting by the subject in the file of the U.S. Probation Office, Kansas City, Missouri.									
\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	the Kansa the FBI.	All the above documents are to be returned to the Kansas City Office when they are of no further use to the FBI.								
1	These samples are being forwarded to the Laboratory for comparison with other known handwriting specimens submitted in this matter.									
	3 - Burea 1 - Memph 2 - Kansa RBH: WSA (6)	REC 10	25 MAY 7 1968							
/ <u>[</u>	Approved:	Sent	M SELLE							

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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	TO:	DIRECTOR, FBI	FINGERPRINT		`	562677
	FROM:	SAC, NEW YORK	(44-1609)			16.63
	SUBJECT: 5	MURKIN				
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	Latent Fir	Enclosed herewngerprint Secti			ention	
	₹	1. Letter dated 4/29/6% to ERIC S. GALT from Modern Photo Bookstore.				
		2. Coupon, un Modern Photo B		n ERIC S. GAL	T, to	
1		3. Letter dat	ed 9/26/67	from ERIC S.	GALT.	
	Knoxville follows:	For information office advised				
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NY 44-1609 "Mr. ROBERT SIMS, Assistant Postal Inspector in Charge, Chattanoogi, Tenn. this date advised SA M. JAY HAWIENS that he has been informed by a postal inspector in Birmingham, Alabama that a letter is in possession of the postal inspectors there addressed to ERIC S. GAULT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, bearing a return address of Modern Photo Book Store, 166 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10010. bears a metered postmark of 4/30/68. Mr. SIMS telephonically contacted Mr. ROBERT HICKEY, Postal Inspector in Charge, New York, and informed him that he was instructing the postal inspector in Birmingham to forward this letter registered air mail to the attention of Mr. HICKEY and that Mr. HICKEY would hold

the letter in the event agents wish to examine it before it was returned to the sender. Mr. SIMS advised that since the letter was first class it could not be opened. Mr. SIMS advised that the above information was being furnished on a highly confidential basis inasmuch as he has no authority to disclose this type of information to the FBI, and that any investigation which may be made as a result of this information must be conducted in such a manner that it cannot be attributed to its source. This information is being furnished for any investigation deemed advisable by New York."

The following investigation was conducted by SA JOHN F. SHANLEY on 5/4/68 at New York:

The address 166 5th Avenue, NYC, is a mail operation for Modern Photo Bookstore, which company is actually located at 915 Broadway, NYC. Mr. SEYMOUR USLAN, President, advised that American Photo Bookstore is a division of American Photographic Book Publishing Company, Inc. (Amphoto), which is also located at the same address. The company specializes in supplying photography books.

NY 44-1609 Mrs. RUTH KOENIG, Manager, Order Department, Amphoto, searched her files and located a coupon clipped from Modern Photography Magazine, which coupon requested that book number 633 be sent to ERIC S. GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama. The coupon indicates that a money order in the amount of \$8.95 was enclosed. Mrs. KOENIG stated that this coupon was presumably clipped from the September, 1967 issue of Modern Photography. Book number 633 distributed by Modern Photo Bookstore, is titled, "Focal Encyclopedia of Photography". The book jacket for this book describes it as a one-volume photographic library. It consists of 2,000 entries written by 197 experts from 23 countries and covers every aspect of photography: photographic science, industrial photography, cinematography, portraiture, equipment, history, and current activities of workers in foreign countries. Mrs. KOENIG located a letter, which is set forth in full as follows: "9-26-67 "Dear Sir: "I recently order a Book from your store titled FOCAL ENCYLOPEDIA-No. 633 for \$8.95. "If you have not allready mailed the book (PLEASE DO NOT MAIL IT) I am moving and will shortly send you my correct address Thanks "Eric S. Galt "2608 Highland Ave "Birmingham Alabama" - 3 -2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

NY 44-1609 Mrs. KOENIG stated that during a routine review of the company's files, it came upon the coupon and accompanying letter of ERIC S. GALT. The company did not believe that it had shipped the requested book to GALT prior to receiving his letter. As a follow-up the company wrote to GALT by letter dated 4/29/68, asking him what action he wished the company to take regarding the \$8.95. The letter is set forth in full as follows: "April 29, 1968 "Mr. Eric S. Galt "2608 Highland Avenue "Birmingham, Alabama "Dear Mr. Galt: "In going through our records we note a request of yours stating your intention to move from the above address, and to please withhold sending the book you ordered (Focal Encyclopedia \$8.95) until further notice. "Please advise us when you receive this letter as to what course of action you wish us to take so that we may clear our records. (Or have you already received the book?) "Sincerely, "MODERN PHOTO BOOKSTORE "Ruth Koenig "Order Department" _ 4 -2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

The American Photo Bookstore has received no further communications from ERIC S. GALT since his letter of 9/26/67.

The Latent Fingerprint Section is requested to examine enclosures #2 and #3 above, to determine

The Latent Fingerprint Section is requested to examine enclosures #2 and #3 above, to determine if fingerprints of subject, JAMES EARL RAY aka Eric Starvo Galt appear thereon.

SUBJECT RAY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

Airtel

To: EAC's Atlanta (44-2386) Semonis (44-1987)

From: Cirector, Phi (44-38881)

List

He Atlanta teletype 4-25-68.

Latent fingerprints this case later identified as fingerprints of James hard May, FBI #405942G, were searched all sections of single finger-print file. In addition, May's fingerprints have been compared with latent prints in bank robbery section of National Unidentified Latent File and are being compared with latent prints in adjournant cases (both 1114 and outside contributor cases). The comparison of latent prints in current cases with may's fingerprints will continue until his apprehension.

Atianta's suggested lead to have all law enforcement agencies compare fingerprints of may against their unidentified latents is oding considered and you will be separately advised.

Note: Division 6 is considering Atlanta's suggested lead as referred to above.

REC 6.//

1 - Mr. Rosen

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Memorandum

TO Mr. DeLoach

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: April 22, 1968

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Malley

1 - Mr. McGowan

1 - Mr. McDonough

1 - Mr. Trotter

1 - Mr. Conrad

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

SEE NOTE ON REMERSE SIDE

With respect to the evidence in this case obtained from the Memphis Police Department, SAC Jensen of our Memphis Office has advised that on the evening of the shooting, 4/4/68, and the morning of 4/5/68, he contacted Frank Holloman, Director of Fire and Police, and inquiry was made of the evidence collected. Holloman advised that all of the material he knew of was at that time in custody of Homicide Division, Inspector N. E. Zachary. He was told that the SAC would take possession of the evidence collected and would prepare it for submission to the FBI Laboratory immediately. No discussion was had with Holloman as to whether or not the FBI Laboratory report would be furnished to him and no request was made by him on arrival at the Homicide Division where the pertinent material had been maintained in a small room off the Homicide Squad rooms under custody of Inspector Zachary. Much of the material had not been identified as two of the officers had secured the pertinent material and arrangements were immediately made with Inspector Zachary to secure the names of the officers who could identify the evidence. Officers properly identified evidence.

The major part of the evidence was submitted by Inspector Zachary who had personally brought it to the police department, however, other miscellaneous items had been secured by individual officers. SAC Jensen advised Inspector Zachary that he would take custody of the material and insure that it was submitted to the FBI Laboratory immediately for appropriate and necessary examination. Inspector Zachary was advised that if he desired a police officer to accompany the Agent this could be arranged, and Inspector Zachary stated he did not feel it was necessary.

EJM:wjc (6)

CONTINUED - OVER

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FBI

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Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach: RE: MURKIN

The Memphis Police Department has not asked for the return of the evidence in this case. SAC Jensen, shortly after Mr. DeLoach's trip to Memphis on April 5, 1968, expressed to DeLoach the fact that the Police Department might soon begin wondering whether they would receive a report. DeLoach later mentioned this thought on Jensen's part in conversation with the Director. Both SAC Jensen and Inspector Joe Sullivan have indicated that there has been no request whatsoever on the part of the Memphis Police Department for this evidence to be returned.

Inspector Zachary, Memphis Police Department, has expressed the opinion that ultimately the case would have to be tried as a murder case in local courts. The First Assistant State Attorney General, Robert Dwyer, has indicated an interest in the evidence but has not made any request for its return.

The evidence has been maintained in the FBI Laboratory in view of the exhaustive and intensive investigation being conducted by the FBI and principally because evidence continues to be accumulated as we develop additional information on the background, prior movements and activities of the subject. Retention of the evidence has been particularly important from the standpoint many of the items contained latent fingerprint impressions. It was, of course, necessary that these impressions be compared with previously obtained material.

OBSERVATIONS:

The individual known as Eric Starvo Galt has now been identified as James Earl Ray, a Bureau fugitive. This important identification, of course, places the case in a different light. We, therefore, now feel that it is not necessary to retain the evidence, which has been already fully examined, and recommend that the evidence recovered by the Memphis Police Department be returned to that agency at this time. It is suggested, however, that the Department be consulted prior to this action being taken.

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