

FBI WASH DC

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

MAY 8 1968

FBI LOS ANG.

TELETYPE

903PM URGENT 5/7/68 BCD

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), MEMPHIS, AND PHOENIX
FROM LOS ANGELES (44-1574) 4P

MURKIN

RE MARIE MARTIN:

ATTEMPTS TO LOCATE MARIE MARTIN, ST. FRANCIS HOTEL,
ROOM TWO ZERO ONE, FIVE FIVE THREE THREE HOLLYWOOD BLVD.,
LOS ANGELES NOT SUCCESSFUL AS SHE IS OUT OF TOWN. REVIEW OF
TELEPHONIC MESSAGES REVEALED TWO ITEMS OF INTEREST: ONE NOTE
READ, ~~QUOTE~~ "CALL SUE IN NEW YORK" ~~END QUOTE~~; THE OTHER, ~~QUOTE~~
LARRY MORRIS, TWO SEVEN SEVEN DASH NINE EIGHT EIGHT ONE. ~~END~~
~~QUOTE~~. THE LATTER TELEPHONE NUMBER BEING CHECKED OUT.

NORMAN COX ADVISED THAT ALTHOUGH HE RENTS ROOM TWO ZERO SIX,
ST. FRANCIS HOTEL FOR PURPOSE OF TAKING BOOKMAKING BETS, HE HAS
NOT OCCUPIED THAT ROOM HIMSELF IN EXCESS OF A MONTH. HE SAID HE
IS NOT A CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF MARIE MARTIN, THAT HE DOES NOT AND
HAS NOT PIMPED FOR MARTIN NOR ENGAGED IN ANY BUSINESS ACTIVITY WITH
HER, LEGITIMATE OR ILLEGITIMATE. COX SAID IT IS POSSIBLE FOR
ONE OF PERSONS TAKING BETS IN ROOM TWO ZERO SIX TO BE AN ASSOCIATE
OF MARTIN'S. HE HAS NO EVIDENCE OR KNOWLEDGE OF MARTIN BEING IN
PROSTITUTION, SELLING NARCOTICS OR BOOKMAKING. COX STATED MARTIN
END PAGE ONE

REC-97

25 MAY 9 1968

85 MAY 14 1968

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

LA 44-1574

PAGE TWO

MAY USE NARCOTICS ON OCCASSION. RECALLS SEEING RAY IN HOTEL BUT KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT HIM.

JOE PETERS, FORMER BARTENDER, SULTAN ROOM , ST. FRANCIS HOTEL SHOWN PHOTOGRAPH OF JAMES EARL RAY TAKEN AT PUERTO VALLARTA, MEXICO AND ONE NINE SIX EIGHT PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN AT LOS ANGELES AMONG OTHERS. PETERS SAID PUEARTA PHOTOGRAPH REMINDED HIM OF INSTANCE DURING WHICH HE BELIEVED RAY SAID ¹¹QUOTE HAVE YOU EVER EATEN QUAIL AT THE CAVE IN NOGALES, MEXICO? ¹¹END QUOTE. PETERS SAID THAT HE HAD. PETERS ADVISED ¹¹QUOTE THE CAVE ¹¹END QUOTE IS A RESTAURANT IN NOGALES WHICH IS LOCATED IN A CAVE. PETERS STATED THIS WAS EXTENT OF CONVERSATION.

PETERS FURTHER ADVISED CHARLES STEIN, IS OR HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN SALE OF NARCOTICS AND SALE OF STOLEN ATUTOMOBILES. STEIN ATTEMPTED TO SELL PETERS HOT CAR APPROXIMATELY ONE YEAR AGO. HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY CURRENT ACTIVITIES.

RE AMERICAN INDEPENDENT PARTY

GLENN PARKER, MANAGER BELL GARDENS OFFICE FOR WALLACE CAMPAIGN WAS EXHIBITED VARIOUS PHOTOGRAPHS AVAILABLE OF JAMES EARL RAY. PARKER STATED HAS NEVER SEEN SUBJECT NOR WAS HE
END PAGE TWO

LA 44-1574

PAGE THREE

ACQUAINTED WITH SUBJECT'S NAME OR ANY KNOWN ALIASES. PARKER STATED HE WAS IN PARKERSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA, AT WALLACE HEADQUARTERS DURING PERIOD MARCH THIRTYONE TO MAY TWO LAST.

RE PUERTA VALLARTA VISITORS

INVESTIGATION CONTINUES TO LOCATE FOR INTERVIEW RESIDENTS LOS ANGELES AREA WHO WERE IN PUERTA VALLARTA, DURING OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER SIXTY SEVEN AT TROPICANA AND RIO HOTELS. INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED TO DATE FOR ANY INFO ABOUT SUBJECT HAVE NOT BEEN PRODUCTIVE.

RE QUOTE THE LOCAL SWINGER END QUOTE

INVESTIGATION CONTINUES AT LOS ANGELES TO INTERVIEW RECIPIENTS OF MAIL THROUGH THE LOCAL SWINGER. INVESTIGATION AND THOSE INTERVIEWED TO DATE HAVE NOT BEEN PRODUCTIVE OF INFORMATION ABOUT SUBJECT.

INFORMANTS CONTINUE TO BE CONTACTED FOR INFO RE SUBJECT. NEGATIVE RESULTS TO DATE.

PHOENIX AT THE CAVE RESTAURANT, NOGALES, MEXICO, CONDUCT INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE ALL INFORMATION RE SUBJECT. HE MAY HAVE BEEN THERE IN EARLY OCTOBER WHILE PROCEEDING FROM BIRMINGHAM TO PUERTO VALLARTA.

END PAGE THREE

LA 44-1574

PAGE FOUR

INVESTIGATION CONTINUES AT LOS ANGELES.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

EJP

FBI WASH DC

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MAY 8 12 14 AM '60

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**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535**

1 - Mr. Rosen
(Mr. Long 2260)
1 - Mr. Conrad
1 - Mr. Mortimer
1 - Lab File

FBI, Memphis (44-1987)

May 8, 1968

To:

Date:

**MURKIN
Re: CR
OO: Memphis**

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

**44-38861
FBI File No. D-562322 JK
Lab. No.**

Los Angeles

Examination requested by:

Airtel 5/3/68

Reference:

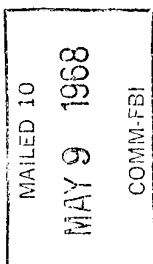
Document - Fingerprint

Examination requested:

Remarks:

**You will be advised separately regarding the results
of the latent fingerprint examination.**

**This report confirms and supplements Bureau teletype
to Los Angeles and Memphis dated 5/4/68.**



REC-97

19 MAY 9 1968

Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)

**2 - Los Angeles Enclosures (5) (Q312, Q313, K252, 2 Lab report)
(44-1574)**

1 - Atlanta (44-2386) Enclosure (Lab report)

1 - Birmingham (44-1740) Enclosure (Lab report)

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

JHM:AW (12)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐ **ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE**

RECEIVED
MAY 9 2 35 PM '68
RECEIVED
MAY 10 10 35 AM '68

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FBI
LABORATORY DIVISION

**REPORT
of the**



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535**

To: **FBI, Memphis (44-1987)**

Date: **May 8, 1968**

Re: **MURKIN
CR**

FBI File No. **44-38861**
Lab. No. **D-562332 JK**

Specimens received **5/4/68**

- Q312** White envelope postmarked "Los Angeles May 1 1968 PM" addressed to "Editor in chief The Los Angeles Times Newspaper Los Angeles, California"
- Q313** Accompanying one-page typewritten letter beginning "Dear Editor, By the time..." ending "...never kill again." signed "James Ray"
- K252** Los Angeles, California, Police Department Booking Card bearing known handwriting of JAMES EARL RAY

Result of examination:

The typewritten impressions on Q312 and Q313 are not identical with the typewritten impressions appearing on items previously received in this matter in the name Eric S. Galt.

Although significant handwriting differences were noted between the "James Ray" signature on Q313 when compared with the available known signatures of James Earl Ray, because a portion of the questioned signature is overwritten and because of the limited nature of the questioned writing involved, a definite opinion could not be reached as to whether the questioned signature on Q313 was prepared by Ray.

No watermarks, indented writing or other identifying features were noted on Q312 and Q313 which might indicate their immediate source.

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
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Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
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Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
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Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

Page 1 (continued on next page)

JHM:AW (12)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Specimens Q312 and Q313 were searched in the Anonymous Letter File without effecting an identification. Photographs will be added to this file for future reference.

The spelling, punctuation and typing habits of the individual who prepared Q312 and Q313 were found at variance with similar aspects of typewritten material previously received in the name Eric S. Galt and also in the known handwriting of JAMES EARL RAY.

The submitted evidence has been photographed and is returned herewith.

Page 2
D-562332 JK

May 8, 1968

Airtel

1 - Mr. Long

To: SACs, Memphis
Philadelphia

From: Director, FBI

MURKIN

RePHtel to the Bureau dated May 1, 1968.

Fourteen thousand copies of the circular letter are being mailed to the Philadelphia Office under separate cover to be transmitted to the W. S. Ponton Company, Upper Darby, Pennsylvania, for their utilization in mailing the letter to every dry cleaning and laundry establishment throughout the United States.

One hundred copies of the circular letter are being mailed to the Memphis Division under separate cover for action deemed appropriate by the Memphis Division.

Armed and Dangerous

REL:jdb
(6)

NOTE:

See Rosen to DeLoach Memo dated 5/8/68 captioned, "MURKIN," REL:jdb.

19 MAY 9 1968

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

6 MAY 15 1968

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

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RECEIVED
JAN 10 1964

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

MEMORANDUM

TO : DIRECTOR

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

RE: [REDACTED]

DATE: 1/10/64

CLASS: [REDACTED]

STATUS: [REDACTED]

REMARKS: [REDACTED]

ADMINISTRATIVE: [REDACTED]

OTHER: [REDACTED]

APPROVED: [REDACTED]

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

[REDACTED]

5-9-68

Airtel

1 - Mr. Hudson

To: SAC, Richmond

From: Director, FBI

MURKIN

Re Dale Goff - complainant, Clarendon Hotel Court,
Arlington, Virginia.

Re Bureau phone call to Alexandria RA, 4-19-68,
concerning information furnished by Goff regarding a guest
at the hotel who resembled the subject.

By return airtel submit results or identify
communication in which results were furnished Bureau.

FJH:jlh
(4)

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

MAILED 10
MAY 9 1968
COMM-FBI

REC- 97

19 MAY 9 1968

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

5-9-68

Airtel

1 - Mr. Hudson

To: SAC, Oklahoma City

From: Director, FBI

MURKIN

ReTPairtel 4-16-68.

Re Donald Eugene Sparks, FBI number, 71618A.

Reairtel set out lead for Oklahoma City to review files in an attempt to identify "Agents" who may have interviewed Sparks and to furnish the Bureau, Memphis and Birmingham any pertinent information regarding Sparks.

By return airtel submit results or identify communication in which results were furnished Bureau.

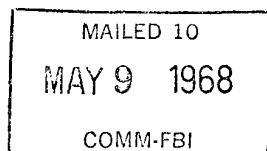
1 - Memphis (info)

FJH:jlh
(5)

REC- 97

19 MAY 9 1968

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



66 MAY 15 1968

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

5/9/68

Airtel

To: SAC's, Los Angeles (44-1574) - Enclosures (3)
Memphis (44-1987)

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

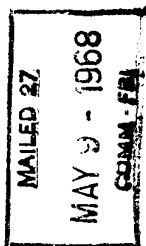
Re Los Angeles airtel 5/3/68, submitting
Frontier Airlines temporary credit card, Q322, a Frontier
Airlines passenger ticket, Q323, and a Frontier Airlines
passenger ticket, Q324, for examination.

No latent impressions of value developed on
these three items, which are enclosed to Los Angeles.

Laboratory reporting separately.

1 - Denver
1 - El Paso

REC- 97



19 MAY 9 1968

1 - Mr. Rosen

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

CJB:bb
(11)

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

66

MAY 15 1968

REC'D CIVIL RIGHTS
FBI

MAY 8 2 45 PM '61

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20530

FBI WASH DC

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

FBI CHARLT

TELETYPE

1030AM URGENT 5-9-68 DRA

TO: DIRECTOR 44-38861 AND KNOXVILLE

FROM: CHARLOTTE 44-1365 2P

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	

[Handwritten initials and marks are present on the routing slip.]

MURKIN

RE MIAMI TELETYPE MAY EIGHT, LAST, RE EASTERN AIRLINES
(EAL) FLIGHTS OUT OF ATLANTA APRIL FIVE THROUGH TWELVE, LAST.

FOR INFO OF KNOXVILLE, REFERENCED TELETYPE ADVISED,
"RESERVATION MADE AT EAL ATLANTA VIA EAL CHARLOTTE ON APRIL
FIVE, LAST, FOR TRAVEL OF J. C. (OR T. C.) GALT FROM ATLANTA TO
RICHMOND ON EITHER EAL FLIGHT SIX ONE SIX T OR UNITED FLIGHT
SIX FOUR ZERO A ON APRIL TEN, LAST. NO TICKET LOCATED. CHARLOTTE
CONTACT TELEPHONE GIVEN AS TWO SIX FIVE DASH EIGHT TWO ONE ONE.
RESERVATION ORIGINALLY MADE THROUGH TRAVEL AGENCY SIX ONE FIVE
BY EMPLOYEE PAT. CHARLOTTE CONDUCT NECESSARY INVESTIGATION,
AT ABOVE TELEPHONE TO ELIMINATE." REC-97

TODAY, LONG DISTANCE OPERATOR, CHARLOTTE, ADVISED ~~TELEPHONE~~
TWO SIX FIVE DASH EIGHT TWO ONE ONE IS NOT A N.C. NUMBER. MAY 9 1968
MAX PETTY, EAL, CHARLOTTE, ADVISED RECORDS SHOW THE TRAVEL AGENCY
REFERRED TO IS LOCATED AT CHATTANOOGA, TENN., AT TELEPHONE
END PAGE ONE

6 MAY 15 1968

[Handwritten signature: b-gm]

RECEIVED
FBI

MAY 9 10 52 AM '68

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5-17-80 BY SP-10

CE 44-1365

PAGE TWO

TWO SIX FIVE DASH EIGHT TWO ONE ONE.

KNOXVILLE AT CHATTANOOGA CONDUCT NECESSARY INVESTIGATION
REQUESTED OF CHARLOTTE.

MEMPHIS AND MIAMI ADVISED BY AIR MAIL.

SUBJECT RAY ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END.

JMS

FBI WASH DC

MAY 9 10 37 AM '67

F B I

MAY 9 10 37 AM '67

5/9/68

Airtel

To: SAC's, Buffalo (44-374) - Enclosures (2)
Memphis (44-1987)

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

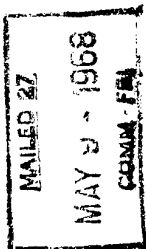
MURKIN

Re Buffalo airtel 4/23/68, submitting an envelope, Q304, addressed to Mrs. Mary Groobis, and accompanying sheet of paper, Q305, for examination.

One latent fingerprint of value was developed on the envelope. No latent prints of value developed on Q305. The latent fingerprint on the envelope is not identical with the fingerprints of James Earl Ray, FBI #405942X, or with the latent fingerprints previously reported in this case.

Q304 and Q305 enclosed to Buffalo.

Laboratory reporting separately.



- REC- 97
- 1 - Birmingham (44-1740)
 - 1 - Kansas City
 - 1 - Detroit
 - 1 - Mr. Rosen

19 MAY 9 1968

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

CJB:bb
(12)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

F B I

Date: 4/26/68

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	✓

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
ATTN: THOMAS E. BISHOP
CRIME RECORDS DIVISION

FROM: SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

COPIES MADE DATE 5-4-75 BY
FOR REVIEW OF...
TO... DELIVERY
(SEE...)

Enclosed are three copies of an editorial
entitled, "FBI Loses Some of Its Shine" which was in
the Houston Chronicle evening of 4/25/68.

I immediately contacted Mr. EVERETT D. COLLIER,
Vice President and Editor of the Houston Chronicle and
discussed this editorial. I told Mr. COLLIER that I was
at a loss to understand his reason for the editorial and
wanted to set the record straight on just what had been
done. Mr. COLLIER immediately stated that as the SAC
well knew, he was an outstanding admirer of the Director
and of the FBI, and his main reason for writing this editorial
was because he was just upset about the entire case. He
stated that everyone knows that the Attorney General talks
too much, and he could not understand why the Attorney
General kept saying on a day-to-day basis right after it
happened, that "We are very close." Mr. COLLIER stated
he believed it would have been much better if Mr. HOOVER
would have made daily statements concerning the progress
of the case because of the respect with which the Director
is held by all Americans. In addition, he stated he was
still concerned about the recent policy adopted by the
American Bar Association against pre-trial publicity and

③ - Bureau (Enc. 3)
2 - Houston (1-44-1509)
(1-80-188)

WTW/cbl
(5)

REC-104

16 APR 29 1968

79 MAY 13 1968

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

CRIME RECORDS

MAY 9 1968

APR 29 2 25 PM '68

RECEIVED WILSON
FBI

APR 30 10 44 AM '68

FBI
REC'D BISHOP

REC'D
MAY 6 3 14 PM '68

HO 44-1509

felt this might have unduly influenced the FBI's releases. I told Mr. COLLIER in no uncertain terms that this matter had been handled promptly and releases given when the facts warranted same. I told him Mr. HOOVER had never approved releasing of information concerning possible suspects, but always insisted that the full facts be furnished when a subject was identified and warrant obtained. COLLIER stated he realized this and appreciated the reason for same. He said it was hard for the public to understand why it took so long to identify the fingerprints of GALT and RAY. I explained the manner in which the latents were obtained, the great investigative time taken to identify the latents, and here again I felt that our Identification Division had done an outstanding job in doing this so promptly. After these facts were presented to Mr. COLLIER he stated he understood.

He also believed that we had identified GALT and RAY the same day, but had released the information on GALT and two days later released it on RAY. Here again I pointed out the facts that were released, and had been set forth in his newspaper, that a warrant was obtained on the person using the name of GALT on 4/17/68, and after an exhaustive search of over 53,000 fugitive prints, RAY was identified on 4/19/68, just two days later. Of course, at the Director's instructions he was promptly placed on our "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives List."

It was obvious at the conclusion of the conversation that Mr. COLLIER was impressed with our results and appreciated being straightened out on the matter. In conclusion I told Mr. COLLIER that if he had any further questions in the future about our operations, all he had to do was to let me know and I would give him the full facts. He stated he certainly appreciated this and could reassure us that he would call the SAC in the future. He restated many times during the conversation that he had the greatest respect for Mr. HOOVER and realized that no other investigative agency could have done such a thorough job of investigating.

*Collier should have taken
his ire out on a.g. & not
the FBI*

- 2 -

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

FBI loses some of its shine

The hunt for the assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. has taken some odd turns, and one of the more unusual ones is the way the Justice Department and its agency, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, have been behaving.

Immediately after the killing Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark exuded optimism about an arrest. "We are very close," he said. A few days later he said he hoped to provide a picture of the suspect. But it was not until a week after the murder that the FBI inadvertently disclosed the name of Eric Starvo Galt.

And so it has gone since April 4. Clark's optimism has faded, and the FBI has seemed almost intent on keeping the public confused.

The FBI's image as the smoothest man-hunting agency was tarnished by the length of time taken to identify the fingerprints of Galt as those of ex-convict James Earl Ray. It was 15 days after the assassination. In question is

whether it really took that long or whether the FBI was withholding the information.

It was not until Sunday that the FBI put Galt or Ray on its most wanted list. The success of the list in apprehending wanted persons over the years has been good. It is hard to understand why the description and photo of Galt were not released as soon as they were uncovered.

The FBI could never be accused of being loose-lipped, but the most wanted list was a creation of its director, J. Edgar Hoover. He has always been proud of the role it has played in apprehending those unfortunate enough to be listed.

We wonder if the recent policy adopted by the American Bar Assn. against pre-trial publicity has unduly influenced the FBI. If this is the case, the results are plain enough. The public linking of Galt and Ray was made about two weeks after the killing, and no one has yet been apprehended.

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

"THE HOUSTON CHRONICLE"
HOUSTON, TEXAS

Date: 4-25-68

Edition:

Author:

Editor: EVERETT D. COLLIER

Title:

Character:

or

Classification: 44-1509

Submitting Office: HOUSTON

☒ Being Investigated

44-38861-3182

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

FBI loses some of its shine

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

"THE HOUSTON CHRONICLE"
HOUSTON, TEXAS

Date: 4-25-68

Edition:

Author:

Editor: EVERETT D. COLLIER

Title:

Character:

or

Classification: 44-1509

Submitting Office: HOUSTON

☒ Being Investigated

May 1, 1968

Mr. Meredith Anderson
Sy Presten Associates
41 East 57th Street
New York, New York 10022

Dear Mr. Anderson:

I received your news release of April 27th
pertaining to the posting of the photographs of James Earl
Ray in Meramec Caverns and want to thank you for making
this information available to me. Your thoughtfulness is
indeed appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

1 - St. Louis - Enclosure

NOTE: We have had limited cordial correspondence with
Mr. Anderson and other members of this organization regarding
information on the Top Ten program. Lester B. Dill was the
subject of an Impersonation - Bribery investigation in 1967.
Prosecution, however, was declined by the United States Attorney
on the basis of insufficient information and because it appeared
the information available had been based on personal feelings
rather than fact.

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
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REC'D JAVIER
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OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

April 29, 1968

The attached news release was sent to
the Director from Sy Presten
Associates, 41 East 57th Street,
New York, New York 10022.

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

MR. JONES

TELE. ROOM

MISS HOLMES

MRS. METCALF

MISS GANDY

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NEWS

from SY PRESTEN ASSOCIATES
MEREDITH ANDERSON

41 East 57th Street - New York, N. Y. 10022 - PLaza 3-7094

April 27, 1968

CAVE INSURING DR. KING SUSPECT
DOESN'T FOLLOW JESSE JAMES EXAMPLE

Pictures of James Earl Ray, suspect in the killing of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., has gone up all over Meramec Caverns, on U.S. 66, Stanton, Missouri.

The cave wants to prevent Ray, who once escaped from the Missouri State Prison, from getting an idea to emulate another much wanted Missouri criminal, Jesse James, who used the cave as a hide-out during the 1870's.

Life-size posters of the much sought after Ray is on display throughout the five-story cave.

For many years, through the cooperation of J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the cave has been posting pictures of the FBI's "10 Most Wanted Men," in case any of them got any ideas from Jesse James. However, this is the first time that a wanted man's picture has been posted all around the underground emporium, according to Lester B. Dill, cave director.

SY PRESTEN ASSOCIATES

41 EAST 57th STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

#

26 MAY 6 1968

4

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FBI, Los Angeles

Date: 4/30/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIR TEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI ATT'N: CRIME RECORDS
 FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)
 RE: MURKIN

SEE NOTE ON REVERSE SIDE

Re Los Angeles call to Bureau this date.

Enclosed is a self-explanatory editorial appearing in the Los Angeles Times newspaper this date pertaining to the above-captioned case and the FBI's investigation. It mentions among other things that at least eight major metropolitan areas are important in the slaying, plus many smaller towns. It states the police were virtually ignored in the four cities where the search has been most intense--Memphis, Birmingham, Atlanta and Los Angeles. It states as of Monday, (4/29/68) the FBI still had not contacted Police Chief Thomas Reddin to ask for the help of the Los Angeles Police Department.

It appears this editorial is a rehash of old newspaper articles with datelines of Memphis, Atlanta, and Birmingham. These articles previously set forth in substance the same statements concerning the FBI's alleged "lone role."

The article is inaccurate in many respects. The Bureau's national press release and statements attributed to the Bureau called upon all citizens to give any and all information and assistance they could in identifying and apprehending the slayer. This, of course, includes law enforcement. In addition to that, the Wanted Flyers and the I.O.'s were provided to local law enforcement and gave them the basic facts. In addition, the Ten Most Wanted program plus the exposure on the FBI Series again appealed for public assistance which, of course, included law enforcement. In addition, the FBI has gone to the Los Angeles Police Department and asked for help in the form of obtaining records, photographs, results of their previous investigations concerning people involved in this matter, etc. The case has previously been discussed very briefly with COP REDDIN as well as the head of the Detective Bureau, Deputy Chief ROBERT HOUGHTON.

C. G. Jones

2 - Bureau (Enc. 1)

3 - Los Angeles

Approved: WGG:gmw Special Agent in Charge

(5)

Sent _____ M Per _____

COPIES MADE DATE 5-4-68 BY
RECEIVED RE MITTING (1)
FOR REVIEW AT
TO RECORD ROOM
(SEE BUFILE 62-117400) DELIVERY
5-3-68

REC'D
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REC'D DE LOACH
FBI

RECEIVED TOLSON
FBI MAY 1 4 43 PM '68

REC'D - MOBILE
FBI
MAY 2 1 22 PM '68

REC'D
FBI
MAY 2 1 11 PM '68

The next time I am in personal contact with the ranking officials of the Los Angeles Times newspaper I intend to point out to them in the appropriate manner their blatant disregard for the truth in this matter as well as their exceedingly poor taste in publishing such an editorial. In addition, I intend to chide COP REDDIN for his apparent involvement in this matter.

copy a true "fact"

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

The FBI and Local Police

The still-unsuccessful manhunt for the killer of Dr. Martin Luther King provides disturbing new evidence of the lack of adequate cooperation between the FBI and local police.

Nearly five weeks after the murder, a curious attitude of aloofness and secrecy persists in the bureau's investigation. FBI officials apparently want to do the job themselves despite the great significance of the case and the enormous difficulties involved.

At least eight major metropolitan areas, including Los Angeles, are important in the King slaying, plus many smaller towns. James Earl Ray, the chief suspect, left a tangled and confusing trail.

It was obvious, therefore, that there should have been the closest cooperation between federal and local authorities. Yet police were virtually ignored in the four cities where the search has been the most intense—Memphis, Birmingham, Atlanta and Los Angeles.

As of Monday, 25 days after Dr. King's murder, the FBI still hadn't contacted Police Chief Thomas Readin to ask for the help of the Los Angeles Police Department. Such assistance would have been of great value, particularly in the early stages of the manhunt.

No single law enforcement agency, even one as large and generally efficient as the FBI, could hope to follow every lead in every city involved in the King case. Local

police personnel must be used to supplement FBI agents in investigations of such scope.

The mobilizing of all available law enforcement manpower by the bureau becomes the more urgent in view of the increasing number of federal cases and the great inter-state mobility now available to criminals. Consider, for instance, recently made new federal crimes of riot incitement and endangering civil defense workers.

Such cooperation among federal, state and local authorities has occurred in the past, but not often enough. It must be the rule in the future.

Although the FBI may even have hesitated in working with many city police departments, the quality of local law enforcement has improved markedly. Much of the credit for this better training is due the FBI.

Why then does the bureau continue to resist?

Both precedent and procedure exist for the joining of forces. What is needed to mobilize all of the nation's resources against crime is a new attitude of cooperation on the part of the FBI and its director, J. Edgar Hoover.

The protection of the people and the prosecution of law breakers are challenges so important that maximum use of available police manpower must always be made. And such cooperation offers the surest means of avoiding a national police force alien to the American tradition.

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

II-4 Los Angeles Times

Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 4/30/68

Edition: Preview

Author:

Editor: Nick B. Williams

Title:

Character:

or

Classification: LA 94-

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

ENCLOSURE

44-37761 - 3101

5 -

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	

With regard to the attac
SAC Grapp of Los Angeles called
this afternoon to report that Chief
had just returned to the city and w
upset about this editorial. Chief Reddin
called SAC Grapp and apologized very
profusely, stating that he had checked
at Police Headquarters and could not find
anyone who had talked to the Los Angeles
Times. Chief Reddin stated that he per-
sonally was going to the Times and protest
this unfounded editorial.

*Reddin's usual
double talk!*

th

5-1-68

With regard to the attached, SAC Grapp of Los Angeles called at 2:45 this afternoon to report that Chief Reddin had just returned to the city and was very upset about this editorial. Chief Reddin called SAC Grapp and apologized very profusely, stating that he had checked at Police Headquarters and could not find anyone who had talked to the Los Angeles Times. Chief Reddin stated that he personally was going to the Times and protest this unfounded editorial.

*Reddin's usual
double talk!*

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MAY 1 5 01 PM '68

RECEIVED TOLSON
FBI

MAY 2 9 45 AM '68
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FBI
REC'D BISHOP

MAY 2 11 24 AM '68
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REC'D TOLSON