

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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**FEDERAL BUREAU
OF
INVESTIGATION**

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DATE 10/25/01 BY SP1 CLK/ldn

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SERIALS 3419-3440

44-HQ-38861

SECTION 37

ATTENTION

BEFORE CHANGING CLASSIFICATION
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THE GENERAL PUBLIC, CONTACT
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FBI/DOJ

SECTION 37
SERIALS 3419-3440

Transfer - Call 3421
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SERIALS	REQUESTERS FULL NAME	COMPUTER NUMBER	DATE	BY
3419	Ewing	255805	10-11-88	295

SUBJECT - Martin Luther King Jr.
 FILE # - Murkin

WORK SHEET - XEROX REQUEST

ANALYST - Hays
 EXT - 5725
 TEAM - C

79 Pages Released
 37 Documents

b2, b7(c), (d) NP

Section 37

LF	SERIAL/ENC OR DATE	DESCRIPTION	XEROX INSTR.	# OF ACT.	PAGES REL.	EXEMPTIONS											REMARKS
						b1	2	5	7C	D	OTHER	k1	2	5	6	OTHER	
4-38861	3419	NEW ORLEANS AT		5	5				✓	✓							RELEASE
	3420	INDIANAPOLIS TIT		3	3				✓								RELEASE
	3421	MEMPHIS AT		6	6												
	3422	LOS ANGELES AT		3	2				✓								RELEASE
	342206	AT IN REGIT, WASH		1	1												
	Unrecorded Serial	SKID ROW AT		1	1			✓	✓								RELEASE
	Unrecorded Serial	EVENT MEMO		1	1			✓	✓								RELEASE
	Unrecorded Serial	EVENT MEMO		1	1			✓									RELEASE
	3423	LOS ANGELES AT		2	2												UTL ENCLOSURE
	3424	SAN FRANCISCO AT		2	1				✓								RELEASE
	Unrecorded Serial	EVENT MEMO		1	1			✓									RELEASE
	Unrecorded Serial	DALLAS AT		1	1				✓								RELEASE
	Unrecorded Serial	INTERNAL MEMORANDUM		2	2				✓								RELEASE
	Unrecorded Serial	LETTER FROM GETZEN		4	4				✓								RELEASE
	Unrecorded Serial	LETTER FROM GETZEN		1	1				✓								RELEASE
	Unrecorded Serial	INTERNAL MEMORANDUM		1	1												
	Unrecorded Serial	REPORT TO MEMPHIS		2	2			✓									RELEASE

35

REMOVED BY _____ DATE _____

XEROXED BY _____ DATE _____

REFILED BY _____ DATE _____

SUBJECT - Martin Luther King Jr.
FILE # - MURKIN

WORK SHEET - XEROX REQUEST

ANALYST - Harg
EXT - 5775
TEAM - C

#	SERIAL/ENC OR DATE	DESCRIPTION	XEROX INSTR.	# OF ACT.	PAGES REL.	EXEMPTIONS											REMARKS
						b1	2	5	7C	D	OTHER	k1	2	5	6	OTHER	
-39861	Unrecorded Serial	REPORT TO MEMPHIS	.	2	2		✓										RELEASE
	Unrecorded Serial	REPORT TO MEMPHIS	.	1	1		✓										RELEASE
	Unrecorded Serial	SAV JOHN MURDO		3	3												
	3425	SAV ANIMATO AT		11	3				✓								RELEASE
	3426	NEW YORK AT		6	6				✓								RELEASE
	3427	NEWARK LETTER		4	4				✓								RELEASE
	3428	INTERNAL MEMORANDUM		3	3				✓								RELEASE
	3429	INTERNAL MEMORANDUM		2	2				✓								RELEASE
	3430 IC	ST LOUIS AT		1	1		✓										RELEASE
	3430 OF	AT To ST LOUIS		1	1		✓										RELEASE
	3431 IC	ATLANTA LETTER		1	1				✓								RELEASE
	3431 OF	AT To ATLANTA		1	1												
	3432	SEATTLE AT		1	1				✓								RELEASE
	3433	NEW ORLEANS AT		2	2				✓		bl						EXCISE
	3434	INTERNAL MEMORANDUM		1	1												
	3435	INTERNAL MEMORANDUM		3	3				✓		NA						RELEASE
	3436	ST LOUIS TTT		4	0				✓								RELEASE

35

CHIEF BY _____ DATE _____

REMOVED BY _____ DATE _____

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SUBJECT - Martin Luther King Jr.
FILE # - Murkin

WORK SHEET - INDEX REQUEST

ANALYST - 7 hrs
EXT - 575
TEAM I - C

[illegible]

ENQUIRED BY _____ DATE _____

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Reproduction of Material Form
Congressional Inquiry Unit
6-

Date

12/28/76

The following material has been reproduced
for excising and review at FBIHQ by representatives of
the House Select Committee on Assassinations:

File No.

44-38861

Section

37

Serials

3419

through

3440

(except following serials not in
file on this date:

Enclosure Behind File or Bulky Enclosure:

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By

82

RETAIN THIS FORM AS TOP SERIAL

FBI

Date: 5/8/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO : Director, FBI
FROM : SAC, New Orleans
SUBJECT: MURKIN

(OO: Memphis)
(Bufile: 44-38861)
(No file: 157-10673) (P)

Assassination of President
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY,
Dallas, Texas, 11/22/63,
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION
CONCERNING
(OO: Dallas)
(Bufile: 62-109060)
(No file: 89-69)

COPIES MADE, DATE 5/14/78 BY
RBC/SS. RE HSCA REQUEST DATED 5/25/78
FOR REVIEW AT FBIHQ AND/OR DELIVERY
TO HSCA RE REQUEST DATED 5/25/78
SEE BUFILE 62-117290

Enclosed for the Bureau are a total of 16 copies of a letterhead memorandum which is self-explanatory. Eight copies of the letterhead memorandum are being designated for Bureau file 44-38861, as information contained therein is in regards to MURKIN. An additional eight copies of this letterhead memorandum are being designated for Bureau file (62-109060), inasmuch as there is also information contained therein relating to the assassination of President KENNEDY.

- ④ - Bureau (RM) 16 ENCLOSURE
(2 - 44-38861) (Enc. 8) (Division 6)
(2 - 62-109060) (Enc. 8) (Division 5)
1 - Dallas (Enc. 1) (Info) (RM)
1 - Memphis (Enc. 1) (Info) (RM)
4 - New Orleans (2 - 157-10673)
SMC:epk (2 - 89-69)
(10)

10 MAY 13 1968

C. C. - Bishop

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

MAY 22 1968

UNREC COPY AND COPY OF ENCL FILED IN 100-109060-6396

MAY 15 1968
6/2/sum

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION
MAY 13 10 29 AM '68
MAY 15 9 04 AM '68
FBI
DEPT. OF JUSTICE

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

MAY 13 10 39 AM '68
MAY 14 10 25 AM '68
FBI
DEPT. OF JUSTICE

REC'D - SULLIVAN
FBI - JUSTICE

REC 8

SEC 8

24
MAY 14 10 29 AM '68
TELL DIV.

NO 157-10673
NO 89-69

One copy each of the airtel and letterhead memorandum are being designated for Dallas and Memphis as they are origin in the above cases.

During the time (Mr. CECIL M. ~~SHILSTONE~~ ^{LW}), who is identified in the enclosed letterhead memorandum, was providing the information, he inquired as to whether he was under investigation in the MURKIN case. (Mr. SHILSTONE) was informed that no comment could be made; however, this was not to imply one way or the other, in that all investigations and information developed in any case investigated by the FBI was strictly confidential. (Mr. SHILSTONE) also inquired as to whether the FBI would make a statement that he was not involved in the MURKIN case and was again informed that the FBI had no comment.

(Mr. SHILSTONE) inquired as to whether his appearance at the New Orleans Office of the FBI would be made a matter of record and was informed that this would be done.

The files of the New Orleans Division contain several references in regard to Bufile (62-109060), relating to (SHILSTONE). These references reveal that (SHILSTONE) was one of the organizers of a group of local New Orleans businessmen who formed an organization known as Truth and Consequences, which gave money to District Attorney JAMES GARRISON to conduct his probe. Other references in the New Orleans file reveal that (SHILSTONE) is president of (the Shilstone Testing Laboratory) which (conducts various tests on winning horses at Louisiana race tracks.)

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New Orleans, Louisiana
May 8, 1968

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9-6-26 BY SP4dy/bb

Log 96-26

(Cecil M. Shilstone)
Information Concerning

On May 6, 1968, Mr. Charles I. Denechaud, Jr.,
an attorney located at 1412 Pere Marquette Building, New
Orleans, Louisiana, appeared at the New Orleans Office of the
Federal Bureau of Investigation, along with Mr. Cecil M.
Shilstone. Mr. Denechaud stated he has represented Mr. Shil-
stone for many years and that Mr. Shilstone was insistent upon
coming to the New Orleans Office of the FBI to provide certain
information.

La (Mr. Shilstone) stated he is (president of the Shilstone
Testing Laboratory, Inc.,) as well as (president of the Shilstone
and Associates, located at 814 Conti Street in New Orleans. He
stated that in the past he has had an association with District
Attorney Jim Garrison in regards to Garrison's probe of the La
assassination of President John F. Kennedy. He said this
association with Garrison was strictly to give financial support
to Garrison's investigation. (Mr. Shilstone) said that at the
inception of Garrison's investigation into the assassination of
President Kennedy and prior to the time that Clay Shaw was
arrested, Garrison needed money to conduct his inquiry. As a
result, Garrison contacted Shilstone, as well as Willard
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44-38861 3419

ENCLOSURE

(Cecil M. Shilstone)

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Harry Batt, owner and operator of Pontchartrain Beach Amusement Park La

Louis Rousell, a New Orleans financier La

Clem Schrt, President of the National American Bank in New Orleans La

A New Orleans physician whom he did not wish to identify

(Mr. Shilstone) stated that in the past he has been a political ally of Governor John McKeithen, Governor of Louisiana, and had contributed to the Governor's campaign (and had, in fact, "master-minded" the Governor's re-election for a second term.)

La (Mr. Denechaud) stated that about a week ago he was informed by (Carlos Chimera, who is the operator of the Pere Marquette Garage) that (Chimera) had been informed by (Joseph Dirosa) that rumors were circulating that the person referred to in the newspapers as the New Orleans industrialist was (Cecil Shilstone.)

(Mr. Shilstone) stated he had no information in regards to the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., and that when the various people had told him about these rumors, he informed them there was nothing to these rumors. (Mr. Shilstone) stated he had not attempted to ascertain the source of the rumors. (Mr. Shilstone) related that he was concerned that these rumors

(Cecil M. Shilstone)

about him, if they became generally known, might cause some Negro militant to shoot him.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New Orleans, Louisiana
May 8, 1968

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-6-96 BY sr2 dly/bk
Log 96-26

Cecil M. Shilstone
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Mr. Shilstone stated he is president of the Shilstone Testing Laboratory, Inc., as well as president of the Shilstone and Associates, located at 814 Conti Street in New Orleans. He stated that in the past he has had an association with District Attorney Jim Garrison in regards to Garrison's probe of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. He said this association with Garrison was strictly to give financial support to Garrison's investigation. Mr. Shilstone said that at the inception of Garrison's investigation into the assassination of President Kennedy and prior to the time that Clay Shaw was arrested, Garrison needed money to conduct his inquiry. As a result, Garrison contacted Shilstone, as well as Willard Robertson and Charles Rauch (phonetic), requesting contributions. He said these three individuals, as well as others, whom he did not name, contributed money to Garrison and had formed a group known as "Truth and Consequences."

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A New Orleans physician whom he did not wish to identify

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New Orleans, Louisiana
May 8, 1968

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Cecil M. Shilstone
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DATE 9-6-96 BY SP2chx/bk
Log 96-ab

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Log 96-26

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3*



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New Orleans, Louisiana
May 8, 1968

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

Cecil M. Shilstone
Information Concerning

DATE 9-6-96 BY SP2clj/bb
Log 96-26

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Clem Sehrt, President of the National American Bank in New Orleans

A New Orleans physician whom he did not wish to identify

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New Orleans, Louisiana
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATION SECTION

MAY 13 1968

TELETYPE

FBI WASH DC

FBI INDAPOLS

8:48PM URGENT 5-13-68 DPL

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861)

ST. LOUIS (44-775)

FROM: INDIANAPOLIS (44-563)

MURKIN

RE ST. LOUIS TEL TO BUREAU, INDIANAPOLIS, MEMPHIS, AND
SPRINGFIELD, MAY TEN LAST.

RE: SUBJ. BROTHER, JOHN LARRY RAY

RECORDS INDIANA STATE REFORMATORY (ISR), PENDLETON, IND.,
UNAVAILABLE NIGHTS AND WEEKENDS.

FOR INFORMATION ST. LOUIS, RECORDS ISR PENDLETON, IND.,
DISCLOSE "JOHN LARRY RAYNS" AKA JACK, PRISON REGISTRY NO. THREE
FIVE TWO NINE SEVEN, SENTENCED TWO TO FIVE YRS. FOR SECOND DEGREE
BURGLARY, KOSCIUSKO COUNTY, IND. ON JAN. TWENTYTHREE NINETEEN
FIFTY. RAYNS PAROLED MAR. TWENTYONE FIFTYTWO, TO STATE OF
ILLINOIS, TO RESIDE WITH UNCLE, WILLIAM E. MAYHER, ALTON, ILL.
AND TO WORK FOR LEE R. MOREHEAD, OF ALTON. HE VIOLATED PAROLE
BY ABSCONDING FROM PAROLE SUPERVISION ON APR. TWO FIFTY AND
BEING ARRESTED IN HOLTVILLE, CALIF., DEC. THREE FIFTYTWO, AS A
SLEEPER, ACCORDING TO FBI REPORT, USING ALIAS "JOHNNY LARRY RAY":
ALSO FOR BEING ARRESTED FOR LARCENY ON APRIL SEVEN FIFTYTHREE,
AT QUINCY, ILL. THIS ARREST RESULTED IN A ONE TO TWO YEAR
COMMITMENT TO ILL. STATE PENITENTIARY, MENARD, ILL.

END PAGE ONE.....

79 MAY 17 1968

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	_____

PAGE TWO

SPRINGFIELD PREVIOUSLY ADVISED OF FOREGOING.

JAMES MURRAY, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, ISR, ADVISED THIS DATE FILE REFLECTS RAYNS HAD NO FORMER PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT WHILE IN ISR. FILE SHOWS ON SEPT. SIXTEEN FIFTY, RAYNS WAS PLACED IN GUARD HOUSE FOR SLACKNESS IN WORK. RAYNS DESCRIBED AS HAVING INFERIOR INTELLIGENCE, WITH MENTAL AGE OF ABOUT FOURTEEN YRS., ALSO IMMATURE AND ADOLESCENT. FILE SHOWS HE ATTENDED PUBLIC SCHOOL QUINCY, ILL., FROM THIRTYEIGHT TO FORTYEIGHT, COMPLETING EIGHTH GRADE. WORKED IN FURNITURE FACTORY AT ISR.

HIS ACCOMPLICE IN ABOVE BURGLARY WAS EUGENE MILLS, ISR # THREE FIVE TWO NINE SIX, ALSO SENTENCED JAN. TWENTYTHREE FIFTY, IN KOSCIUSKO CO., IND., FOR SAME CHARGE. MILLS, IN STATEMENT, SAID HAD BEEN WORKING AS FARM HAND NEAR QUINCY, ILL., FOR FIVE MONTHS. AFTER THIS JOB HAD GONE TO QUINCY WHERE MET RAYNS ON DEC. THIRTY FORTYNINE IN POOL HALL. STATED WAS LEFT IN ORPHANAGE, NEVER SAW PARENTS, SINCE ELEVEN YRS. OLD HAS BEEN TRAVELING THROUGHOUT U.S. ORPHANAGE AT FIVE FOUR NINE FIFTH AVE., WEST NORTH, KALISPELL, MONTANA. WAS IN U.S. AIR FORCE FROM SEPT. NINE FORTYSEVEN TO JAN. SEVENTEEN FORTYNINE UNDER AFSN ONE NINE THREE ONE ONE NINE FIVE FIVE, WHEN GIVEN UNDESIRABLE DISCHARGE FOR STRIKING OFFICER. MILLS PAROLED IN INDIANA AND LAST UNDER SUPERVISION IN RUSH COUNTY, IND., WHERE WORKING FOR CARTHAGE CONTAINER CORP. MILLS DISCHARGED FROM PAROLE FEB. TEN FIFTYFOUR.

END PAGE TWO.....

IP 44-563

PAGE THREE

MURRAY STATES TO HIS KNOWLEDGE RAYNS UNKNOWN TO PRISON

OFFICIALS.

SUBJECT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

AM COPIES BEING FURNISHED MEMPHIS AND KANSAS CITY.

END.888888;;;;;;;;;;

CAB

FBI WASH DC

X

F B I

Date: 5/9/68

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

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

COPIES MADE, DATE 5-14-78 BY
 REB/SS RE m.king. Jd
 FOR REVIEW AT FBIHQ AND/OR DELIVERY
 TO HSCA RE REQUEST DATED 5-22-78
 (SEE BUFILE 62-117290)

Enclosed are three newspaper clippings in captioned matter, one showing the two most recent photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, one captioned "Ray Indictment Believed OK'd" and "FBI Hints Conspiracy Against King."

In connection with the newspaper article captioned "Ray Indictment Believed OK'd," it is noted that the local Attorney General's Office has refused to confirm or deny to the newspapers that the Grand Jury did indict JAMES EARL RAY.

A & D.

3 BUREAU (Enc. 6)
 1 MEMPHIS

ENCLOSURE

RGJ:BN
 (4)

1cc + 3 enc - Room 2260
 5-14-68, REH/RO

44-110

REC 8

44-38861-3421

10 MAY 10 1968

C. C. - Bishop

MAY 10 1 05 PM '68

FBI
REC'D - CIV RIGHTSMullins
Long

79 MAY 17 1968

Approved: Reynolds
 Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ray Indictment Believed OK'd

Speculation Grows That
Grand Jury Passed
True Bill

By CHARLES EDMUNDSON

According to widespread speculation at the Courthouse, the Shelby County Grand Jury has returned a murder indictment against James Earl Ray, sought as the slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The attorney general's office refused to confirm or deny that the grand jury at its session Monday indicted Ray, alias Eric Starvo Galt. So did Criminal Court Clerk James A. 'Bubba' Blackwell. Mr. Blackwell pointed out that Ray is not in custody and that he would be subject to a \$1,000 fine if he told of the indictment of a person not arrested.

The reference docket, which usually shows the name and offense of each person indicted, shows Indictment No. B-16045 was returned against someone for some offense. But places for the name of the person, the offense and the prosecuting witness are left blank. Only the date and signature of W. P. Bowld, grand jury foreman, are filled in.

A reporter who asked also to see the grand jury minutes book for Monday found minutes covering all the 107 indictments noted in the reference docket except B-16045.

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

PAGE 60

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 5-9-68
Edition:
Author: FRANK D. AHLGREN
Editor:
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: MEMPHIS
☐ Being Investigated

ENCLOSURE

44-38861-3421

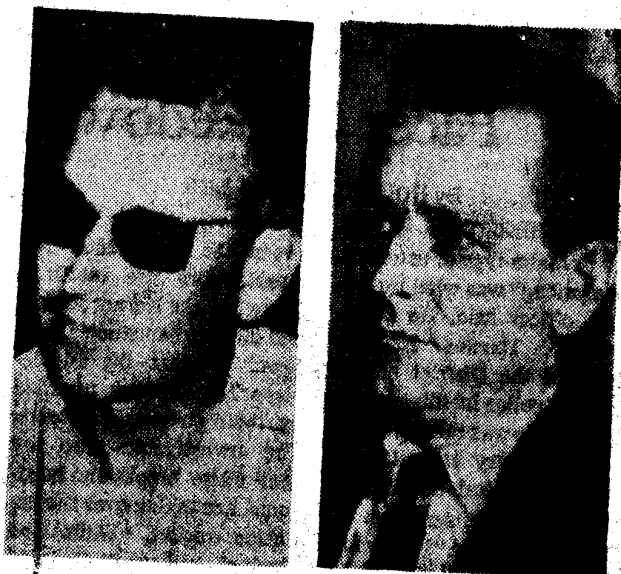
Asked if Ray has been indicted, Robert Gunnar Jensen, agent in charge of the Memphis FBI office, said, "No comment — that's my stock answer."

Almost without exception, the clerk lets Criminal Court reporters see the full list of those indicted, specifying which ones are not in custody and requiring their names not be published. The exception made for B-16645 is the only one recalled in years. Until Monday at least the worldwide search for Ray, charged with shooting Dr. King with a scope-sighted rifle here April 4, had been conducted on the strength of a murder warrant issued in General Sessions Court.

To indict persons not in custody is customary procedure, although it normally would confer no advantage in a manhunt over a warrant. An assistant attorney general said, however, that an indictment might carry more weight in seeking extradition of a suspect from a foreign country.

Both the Criminal Court judges and the attorney general's office are looking ahead to the possibility Ray is alive and will be brought back here for trial. Precautions are stressed to assure the trial would leave no room for reversal of a conviction on grounds of improper publicity.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)



TWO MORE FACES—The FBI yesterday released these photographs of James Earl Ray, the ex-convict sought in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The photo at left, showing Ray wearing dark glasses, was taken in Mexico in November, 1967. The photo at right was taken somewhere in California in late January or early February of this year. The FBI refused to say where the photographs were obtained. —UPI Telephoto

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

PAGE 8

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date:

5-8-68

Edition:

Author:

FRANK J. ANGLON

Editor:

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

MEMPHIS

☒ Being Investigated

114-38561-3
ENCLOSURE

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

FBI Hints Conspiracy Against King

By VICTOR RIESEL

WASHINGTON, May 8. —

The FBI's central Martin Luther King desk, under the personal direction of J. Edgar Hoover, is operating on the hard theory that the Negro leader was the victim of a conspiracy of "several or more persons."

There are those high in the Justice Department, therefore, who believe that Eric Starvo Galt-James Earl Ray was a hired killer, heavily paid and amply supplied with cash. Most of this was in \$20 bills.

Evidence is piling up inside the bureau to justify investigation of a conspiracy beyond Galt and a man he said was his brother. This evidence moves the case swiftly beyond the conjectures of amateur detectives and dilettante criminologists.

Part of the evidence is the provable free flow of cash (some \$7,000). Galt-Ray was able to pour out whenever he wished. In addition to the white Mustang, the dance lessons and the bartenders' schedule, the accused assassin crisscrossed this country in a manner no poor man could. The car has 19,000 miles on its speedometer.

Whether or not he drove, he is known to have lived well in cities so distant from each other that Galt-Ray would have had to have traveled more than 15,000 miles in the past nine or ten months.

Whoever planned his itinerary, his make-up, his aliases, had a novelist's imagination. Ray, for example, is (or was) a James Bond fan. "Eric Starvo" is one of Bond's suave characters. The name "Galt" was contrived by novelist Ayn Rand, who fashioned the "John Galt" in "Atlas Shrugged" after the late John Galt, one of the most prestigious of capital attorneys and once a power in the iron and steel industry.

So the pseudonym apparently not the creation of an illiterate, reflects a smooth fellow, suave and dynamic and a leader of men.

No one in the FBI or the Justice Department, despite weeks of questioning, would conjecture over the nature of the conspiratorial cell. It could be Klan-like. But it could be northern as well as southern.

One thing is certain. There's been a fantastic search. For example, every "John Willard" (Galt's Memphis boardhouse alias) in the United States has been checked out.

Investigators don't put much stock in the interpretation that because Galt-Ray frequented Atlanta and Birmingham the conspiracy was centered in the Deep South. The probes believe that the white car and the Remington rifle were purchased and planted in such a manner that the leads would point southward.

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

PAGE 26

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 5-9-68

Edition:

Author: FRANK P. AHLGREN

Editor:

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated44-38861-
ENCLOSURE

Galt-Ray had Chicago connections of some kind, it's believed. There is obvious evidence and there are leads which the authorities grimly refuse to discuss. The obvious leads are the letters which Eric Starvo Galt received from Chicago while living in the Birmingham rooming house.

The Bureau and the Justice Department, as well as Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark, are silent because they think too much has been said already.

But there is no doubt that at least 3,000 of the FBI's 6,000 men and virtually all its 600 resident agents (placed so

that the FBI can get to any part of the nation in an hour) are working on the murder of Martin Luther King.

This is the second biggest manhunt in history — second only to the investigation of the John Kennedy assassination

when each of the Bureau's 6,000 agents was involved in some fashion.

Where is Galt-Ray? Of course he can be on any continent. But the prevailing Justice Department theory now is that the killer is in some tiny

hamlet or village — so small that big town dailies just aren't followed closely by all the residents.

So, the federals now are preparing to get the sniper's photo into those isolated clusters of rural communities. It worked once in a bloody murder case

years ago and the technique may produce results again.

What thought is there of the nature of the conspirators?

There's only conjecture. There are literally thousands of cells made up of men and women capable of planning

this murder. They are not all Klan operations either.

Many units have tiny "armies," storm troopers, arm band identifications, private uniforms. They drill in secret in lonely woods and curtained basements. They are in the heart of many big cities.

They are of all extremes. They would have the kind of money Galt-Ray spent and still not be wealthy. Or they could be provocateurs.

One thing is certain: The Justice Department believes it has evidence leading to a conspiracy.

1 - Mr. Long

May 13, 1968

REC 36

AIRTEL

44-38861-3422

To: Legat, Ottawa

From: Director, FBI

MURKIN

Enclosed are two copies of a photograph of Rita Stein taken 5-18-67, furnished by Los Angeles Office.

Los Angeles by airtel 5-10-68, referenced a Memphis telephone call to Los Angeles 5-9-68, and advised as follows: "Referenced Memphis telephone call advised that information received by Memphis Office indicated that two elderly women, 40-42 years of age, visited James Earl Ray while he resided at the Harkey Apartments in Montreal, Canada. Apparently this information was contained in a portion of a Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) report received by the Memphis Office. This RCMP report noted that possibly these women were identical to Rita Stein and Marie Martin." The Los Angeles Division is not in possession of a photograph of Marie Martin.

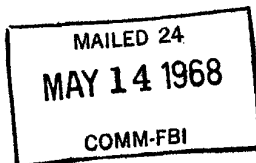
You should arrange to have above photograph displayed to appropriate personnel at Harkey Apartments, Montreal, Canada, to determine if Stein is identical with one of the two women who visited Ray while he resided there.

Enclosures (2)

1 - Foreign Liaison

HEH:hw (5)

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



20 MAY 16 1968

MAIL ROOM ☒ TELETYPE UNIT ☐