UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

$\it 1emorandum$

то

Mr. DeLoach

FROM

SUBJECT

(THE KING MURDER CASE)

PERSONNEL MATTER

DATE: April 25, 1968

1 - Mr. DeLoach

- Mr. Rosen

- Mr. Malley

- Mr. McGowan

- Mr. McDonoug

- Mr. Callahai

Mr. Mohr

Holmes

This is the case involving the murder of Martin

King, Jr.

Tulip Drive Peter Paul Rasper, resident of fords, New Jerses at 8:45 p.m., 4/19/68, telephonically contacted the Newark New Jeasey Office to complain relative to actions of SA Peter G. Logtus assigned to the New York Office. Kasper questioned whether SA Loftus was acting within FBI jurisdiction when Kaspe & was being checked out as suspect in the King murder case.

New York Office fizes show that Kasper filed application for Bureau employment on 1/11/68, but failed to appear for interview set for 1/22/68, and no further action was taken on his application. The New York file on Kasper indicates he had two previous arrests, owes approximately \$4,000 to various banks and credit associations and during last four years has been unable to keep a job for a period longer than nine months.

SAC, New York feels actions of SA Loftus in this isstance appear to be proper and no administrative action is recommended.

DETAILS:

88el 6 EXAM

SA Peter G. Loftus, who resides in Fords, New Jersey and who was at home on night of 4/19/68, was added by detectives of the Woodbridge, New Jersey, Police Department that a complaint had been received that a man resembling James Earl Ray was seen drigging a 1968 Chewrolet Impala with the complaint of the co New York license plates in the area. The detectives stat they were in the process of checking the registration through their office and asked SA Loftus if he desired to join them, which he did. After about twenty minutes, the officers received a message that the license was registered to a Peter Kasper Bellmore, New York, and the license had been issued for a 1967 yellow Pontiac.

MAY27 1966 eck of the mail boxes disclosed the apartment assigned to Kasper. SA Loftus and the officers discussed the situation and decided that a pretext interview would be conducted.

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King, Ir.

Memo Rosen to DeLoach RE: MURKIN

One of the officers was to identify himself and advise Kasper he had received a complaint that the Impala had been seen speeding on a local street and upon checking the registration it was discovered the plates were not on the automobile to which originally issued. Since the officer was not certain of making an identification on Kasper, SA Loftus stated he would accompany him and be in a position where he could observe the person when he came to the door.

The officer knocked on the door and it was opened by a woman at which time the officer identified himself and asked to see Kasper. When Kasper appeared at the door, it was obvious that he was not the subject James Earl Ray. The officer used the pretext upon which Kasper became indignant stating he had recently purchased the car and it was officially registered. Kasper assumed a very belligerent attitude.

Upon entering the apartment with the officer SA Loftus identified himself showing Kasper his badge at which point Kasper became obnoxious and insulting stating he was not impressed with the "little tin badge." He went on to state that he did not mind the police coming around but didn't see how the FBI had any jurisdiction. SA Loftus attempted to explaint the Bureau's (Interstate Transportation of Stolen Motor Vehicle) responsibility but he was openly hostile and refused to listen stating he had several complaints of his own, including such items as the dogs on the loose, children knocking on the windows and loud hi-fi sets. He appeared irrational and unwilling to listen to further explanations.

Thereafter Kasper called the Woodbridge Police Department and our Newark Office to complaint of the situation. Kasper then calmed down considerably and produced his registration after which he shook hands with SA Loftus and the contact was terminated.

After SA Loftus had left, Kasper again called the Newark Office inquiring of what action would be taken on the complaint and when informed the matter would be given proper attention he appeared agreeable and hung up. At 1:00 a.m., 4/20/68, Kasper again contacted Newark Office and stated he wished to withdraw any charges against SA Loftus.

- 2 - CONTINUED - OVER

Memo Rosen to DeLoach

RE: MURKIN

RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the above circumstances requiring immediate action and since there was a discrepancy in the registration records which might reflect that the car was stolen in New York and transported to New Jersey, it is felt that the actions of SA Loftus were proper and no administrative action is recommended.

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HON-3 (12-21-67)
OPTIO 11 FORM NO. 10
MAY 1992 BOITION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

то	: Director, FBI	(DATE:	5/6/68	
FROM	EGAT, Hong Kong	(44-1)	₭ Pe	- , <u>-</u>	
SUBJEC				Character:	CR	
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	Copies of a memo	orandum from the S	ecurity Liaiso	on Office (MI-	5), Hong Kong	
	Copies of a memo	orandum from CIA,	Hong Kong			
		estigative report fro ate General, Hong		ch Subunit, C	Consular Section,	
	3 Copies of _new	s article f	com 4/26/	68 "Sout	h China Mornin	g Post"
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	Copies of a memorandum from	CIA, H	fong Kong					
	Copies of a memorandum from	the Se	curity Liaiso	n Office (MI-)	5), Hong I	ong		
	Copies of a memorandum from	Special	l Branch, Hoi	ng Kong Poli	ce (SB)			
	Enclosed herewith are.							
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H.K. POLICE PUT ON ALERT FOR KING MURDER SUSPECT

The Hongkong Police have been asked by the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to be on the alert for an escaped convict who allegedly assassinated Dr Martin Luther King, the civil rights leader.

The convict, James Earl Ray, an escapee from the Missouri State Penitentiary, is alleged to have shot Dr King in Memphis, Tennessee, on April 14.

While there is no reason to suspect that Ray might be in Hongkong or coming here, the following details are given in response to the FBI's request.

During Ray's criminal career since 1949, he has used the names of James McBride, James Walton, W. C. Herron, John Willard, H rvey Lowmyer and James O'Connor.

He is five feet ten inches tall and weighs about 163 to 174 pounds. He has blue eyes and brown hair. There is a small scar on the centre of his forehead and a scar on the palm of his right hand.

Meanwhile, an AP report said a 41-year-old man, detained in northwestern Mexico because a hotel operator thought he looked like the accused slayer of Dr King, was released yesterday without charges.

David Daniel Kennedy, who said he was on a walking tour of the State of Sonora, denied any connection with the assassination of the civil rights leader.

Lieutenant Roberto Fletcher, of the Judicial Police in Caborca, Sonora, detained Kennedy in a Caborca hotel because the hotel owner said he thought Kennedy resembled published photographs of Rav.

of Ray.

Lt Fletcher said the man carried a U.S. passport issued to Daniel David Kennedy. He said the man denied any connection with Dr King's assassination and said he was from Baltimore.

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him in Caborca.
Police from Hermosillo, the Sonora State capital, took Kennedy to Hermosillo from Caborca in the early morning hours and asked the FBI to send a man to investigate.

Judicial Police in Hermosillo reported an FBI agent named Smith could see no resemblance in Kennedy to Ray.

"South China Morning Post" Hong Kong, B.C.C. Page 1. April 26, 1968

44-38861-3429

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"South China Morning Post" Hong Kong, B.C.C. Page 1. April 26, 1968

Airtel

To:

SAC's St. Louis (44-775) Memphis (44-1987)

REC-40

From:

Director, FBI (44-38861) - 34 30

MURLIN

He St. Louis sirtel 5/7/68.

Latent fingerpriate proviously reported and remaining unidentified in the case entitled "Unsubs.; Perry State Bank, Perry, Missouri, 3/8/68, BB, Bufile #91-29677, Intent case #91189, are not identical with the fingerprints of James Earl Ray, FBI #4059426. The latent impression of the lower joint of a finger previously reported in this case was compared, insolar as possible, with the fingerprints of James mari Ray, but so identification was effected. No palm prints in Bentification Division files for Ray.

MAILED 10

Tolson DeLoach 1 - St. Louis (91-4243)

1 - Mr. Rosen

- Bufile (91-29677)

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TELETYPE UNIT

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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	Date: 5-7-68
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	(Type in plaintext or code)
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TO:	DIRECTOR, FBI 44-3886/ ATTENTION: LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION
FROM:	SAC, ST. LOUIS (44-775)
RE:	MURKIN
	OU: WE
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EARL RAY	, aka, FUGITIVE; FBI # 405 942 G; IO # 4182: WF 442-A.
subject	of this case:
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Approved:	
	Special Special Special in Charge

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5-7-68

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AIRMAIL

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI

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ATTENTION:

LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION

FROM:

SAC, ST. LOUIS (44-775)

RE:

MURKIN

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subject of this case: EARL RAY, aka, FUGITIVE; FBI # 405 942 G; IO # 4182; WF 442-A, following case be compared with the available prints of JAMES It is requested that the unidentified latents in the

UNSUES;

PERRY STATE BANK

PERRY, MO., 3-8-68

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oo: sr

BUFILE: 91-29677

SLFILE: 91-4243.

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12 MAY 8 1968

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To: SAC's, Atlanta (44-2386) - Enclosures (11)

Memphis, (44-1987)

From: Directos (44-38861) 2431

MURKIN

Re Atlanta letter 5/8/68, submitting eleven lifts of latent impressions taken from a 1964 Chevrolet, 1968 Michigan license DC8114, which was found 5/7/68, at the Atlanta Airport.

Six latent fingerprints and three latent palm prints of value were found on the lifts. The latent fingerprints are not identical with the fingerprints of James Earl Ray, FEI #405942C, or Robert Joseph Dunaway, FEI #841310C. No palm prints identification Division files for these two individuals.

Based on the information furnished, no fingerprint record located for Mary Jane Salvadori or Joan Masters listed as owners of the Chevrolet in Atlanta teletype 5/8/68.

MAILED 4 MAY 1 0 1968 COMM-FBI

Lifts enclosed to Atlanta.

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1.11.01

Memorandum

TO

DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 5/8/68

ATTN: LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION,

IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

FROM

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SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386)

SUBJECT:

- Law

MURKIN

Enclosed herewith are 11 lifts of latent impressions taken from a 1964 Chevrolet, 1968 Michigan license DC8114 which was found on the evening of 5/7/68, at the Atlanta Airport with one deadybody inside the trunk. Fingerprints were taken from the body and submitted to the Identification Division where he was identified as ROBERT JOSEPH DUNAWAY, FBI Number 841 310 C. The enclosed lifts were made on the automobile and on the material inside the automobile by fingerprint technicians of the Atlanta Police Department.

The Latent Fingerprint Section is requested to examine these lifts for latents of value and to retain photographs for possible future comparisons.

8-9-80 SC 5-9-8075

REC-74

44-38861-3431

6 MAY 14 1968

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FBI

Date: 5/9/68

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U. S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

NO 157-10673

Hair Marital Status Brown

Married to BETTY LUE RAMSEY

MUSGROVE Box 1002

Farmington, New Mexico

Social Security Number Previous Employment

Fouty D. Bursun

Farmington, New Mexico,

1954-67

Mr. HYDEN advised that Mr. MUSGROVE can be located through the Overseas Office, care of McDermott Overseas, Inc., Post Office Box 2841, Lagos, Nigeria. He further stated that it is very possible Mr. MUSGROVE may have resided at the Bristol Hotel, Lagos, Nigeria, during his days off or for any vacation.

BuAgent viewed a photograph of MUSGROVE which appeared on his application for employment and this picture does not appear to be identical with JAMES EARL RAY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

1emorandum

Mr. Bishop

DATE: 5-9-68

FROM

SUBJECT: (MURKI

> By teletype of 5-7-68, the Memphis Office suggested that consideration be given to publishing the photograph of James Earl Ray furnished by Patricia Anderson in the next issue of the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin. The June issue of the Bulletin is already being processed; however, we can pull out the present "Wanted by the FBI" article on the last page and replace it with one of Ray. This may delay the delivery date of the magazine by one or two days; however, it is believed desirable to place the latest picture of Ray, together with a suitable write-up, in the June issue.

Attached is a letter to Memphis advising that this is being done. Also attached is a manuscript of the proposed article on Ray along with the designated photograph.

IT IS RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED THAT THIS MEMO BE HANDLED EXPEDITIOUSLY AND RETURNED TO CRIME RECORDS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the attached article and photograph of Ray be published in the June issue of the Bulletin, and that the letter to Memphis be approve and sent.

Enclosures (3) Article +photo detached

1 - Mr. DeLoach - En

1 - Mr. Rosen -

1 - Mr. Billion

CBF:bhm

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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RECEIVED BIRESTOR 1974 F. B. I.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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Roser

FROM

SUBJECT: MURK

DATE: May 9, 1968

1 - Mr. DeLoach 1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Mohr 1 - Mr. Bishop

1 - Mr. Malley 1 - Mr. McGowan 1 - Mr. Conrad 1 - Mr. Gale

1 - Mr. Long

1 - Mr. Sullivan

1 - Mr. McDonough

1 - Mr. Trotter

1 - Mr. Martindale

SEE NOTE ON REVERSE SIDE

An Agent on the scene in Guatamala has obtained extensive coverage through the Guatemalan Immigration and Judicial Departments. These agencies have been instrumental in widely publicizing Ray's photograph and description throughout Guatamala and border stations have been alerted. Guatamalan officials have stated that if Ray is found within that country he will be deported to the United States as an undesirable alien on the first available airplane.

State police agencies have completed a search throughout the City of Campache and all outlying areas of the State with negative results. Extensive distribution has been made of identification orders and wanted flyers and every police unit in the State has been alerted through personal contact. An investigative informant is continuing to check small communities on the Yucatan Peninsula beyond the State of Campeche.

It was previously reported that a man resembling Ray and using the name A. D. Stange, Jr., was in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, from 4/19/68 to 4/30/68. It has been determined Stange is identical with A. H. Stange, Jr., a prominent businessman in Redding, California, **RFC-27**

Holmes

Thomas Britton, Haleyville, Alabama, knew Ray in 13 MAY 15 1968 Missouri State Penitentiary. Britton Felated that Ray was the "walk boy" who brought hot water for maying, candy and other items to Britton's each block. Reg noticed Britton was receiving a Birmingham newspaper. Ray mentioned he had lived in Birmingham and asked Britton tagage the newsphipers for him. Britton did so they became friends.

57 MAY 23 1968

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Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach RE: MURKIN

Britton stated Ray was money crazy and once told Britton, "One of these days, if I ever get out of here, I'm going to make myself a bunch of money." When asked how he intended to do this, Ray replied, "There are more ways of making money than robbing banks."

Ray once told Britton about an organization outside the prison called the "Business Mens Association" which offered \$100,000 "for people like King to be killed" and added that King was five years past due.

It was previously reported Ray had alleged in 1963 that Cooley (phonetic) or Cooley's organization would pay \$10,000 to have King killed. Britton stated Cooley's organization operated within the prison. Membership was gained by paying \$10 and members received help against other prisoners when needed. For additional fees members could obtain special services such as straightening out difficulties with prison authorities, obtaining items of contraband, or even having a prisoner murdered.

Britten said he did not know who headed this organization or if there was anyone actually named Cooley. He believed the organization might have been operated by a group of five to seven prisoners. Britten stated he had never heard of Cooley's organization offering a reward for King's assassination.

Britton described Ray as a loner, a daydreamer and a heavy drinker, who was definitely slue-footed with his toes noticeably pointed out when walking causing his heels to wear down on the outside edges.

The body found at the Atlanta airport on 5/7/68 has been identified with Robert Joseph Dunaway, a Michigan hoodlum, and has no apparent connection with this case. Dunaway was shot in the back of the head.

Dunaway was a muscleman for Bernard Marchesani, a Detroit shylocker. One Sam Di Maggio, Albion, Michigan, was taken from his home by several hoodlums on 3/28/68 and fatally beaten. In a dying declaration he named "Bob Dunaway" when asked who had beaten him. A reliable informant has advised Di Maggio was "hooked" on a large shylock loan by Marchesani and Dunaway was the juice collector. Police believe Dunaway was murdered because he had been

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach

RE: MURKIN

ordered to only beat Di Maggio, not to kill him.

ACTION:

This investigation is continuing to receive top priority

attention.

- 3-

FBI WASH DC

FBI ST LOUIS

916PM URGENT 5-9-68 JHH

MURKIN

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATION SECTION
MAY 9 1968

TELETYPE

TO: DIRECTOR MEMPHIS CHICAGO LOSANGELES OMAHA

FROM: ST. LOUIS (44-775)

ES OMAHA MUELONO

ne Blogen

Mr. Trotter.

Miss Holmes. Miss Gandy_

Mr. DeLoach

Mr. Mohr ...

Mr. Bishop ...

Mr. Casper___ Mr. Callahan_ Mr. Conrad__

Mr. Felt Mr. Gal

Mr. Rollivan Mr. Sullivan Mr. Tavel

FOR ASSISTANCE OFFICES NOT RECEIVING PREVIOUS INFO, JOHN EUGENE GAWRON, FBI NUMBER ONE THREE FOUR THREE THREE FOUR, LIVED WITH SUBJECTS MOTHER BETWEEN IMPRISONMENTS NINETEEN FIFTY FOUR TO HER DEATH NINETEEN SIXTY ONE. APPEARS CLOSEST PERSON TO FAMILY. CLAIMS TAUGHT SUBJECT BURGLARY AND CASED SEVERAL JOBS TOGETHER FIFTY EIGHT FIFTY NINE.

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IN CONVERSATIONS, AND AGENTS EXPERIENCE DIFFICULTY KEEPING
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CONJECTURE. JERRY RAY HAS DESCRIBED HIM AS KOOK, AND OTHER SOURCES
REGARD HIMS CRAZY OLD MAN WHO TALKS TOO MUCH.

ON INTERVIEW TODAY GAWRON STATED WITHIN DAY OR TWO FOLLOWING REC. 74 4 3 6 6 6 7 3 6 7 3 6 7

54 MAY 21 1968

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TOGETHER FIFTY EIGHT FIFTY MINE.

TO: DIRECTOR MEMPHIS CHICAGO LOSANGELES OMAH

FROM: ST. LOUIS (44-775)

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HE FEAD INTERICAGO TRIBUNE OF BANK ROBBERS MARTY THOUSAND
DOLLARS INTERICAGO TRIBUNE OF BANK ROBBERS MARTY THOUSAND
SUBJECT AND SELF ON TWO FRIDAYS, FIG. BACK HAD BEEN CHEEF BY
FIFTY MINI. BUT NOT ROBBED DUF TO GAMPON LES INJURY.

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PAGE ONT

54 MAY 21 1968

PAGE TWO

FEW DAYS AFTER ARTICLE WAS VISITED BY MAN HE REFUSED TO NAME, WHO HE BELIEVED HE HAD INTRODUCED TO RAY IN FIFTY NINE, WHO TOLD HIM HE AND OTHERS HAD ROBBED BANK, DISPLAYED VALISE FULL OF MONEY AND GAVE HIM TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS.

GAWRON HAS ADVISED FEW DAYS LATER HE VISITED FAMILY AND CAROL PEPPER, SISTER AND JOHN RAY, BROTHER, TOLD HIM SUBJECT WAS NOT IN MISSOURI. WEEK OR SO LATER THEY SAID SUBJECT IN OMAHA, DOING WELL, HE BELIEVED AS SALESMAN. WEEK OR SO LATER THEY SAID SUBJECT IN LOS ANGELES. CLAIMED NO DIRCUSSION AS TO HOW THEY KNEW, OR INFO AS TO DIRECT OR INDIRECT CONTACT.

SIX WEEKS AGO WAS VISITED BY SAME MAN WHO INDICATED SUBJECT AND ONE OR MORE OTHERS WERE ACCOMPLICES IN BANK ROBBERY.

GAWRON DECLINED TO GIVE LOCATION OF BANK OR IDENTITY OF
MAN AT THIS TIME, SAYING WANTED TO SEE MAN AGAIN AND IDENT ALL
ACCOMPLICES, AND BE SURE HIMSELF IN THE CLEAR. PROMISED ADDITIONAL

DETAILS IN FEW DAYS. INTERESTED IN BANK ROBBERY REWARD. WAS PRESSED FOR DETAILS ON PROBABILITY OF IMMEDIATE REWARD BUT DECLINED.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

DURING PRESS FOR DETAILS STATED CITY WHERE BANK LOCATED

WAS NOT SMALL, WAS NEAR RIVER WHICH IS STATE LINE, ROBBERS IN

ANOTHER STATE FIVE MINUTES AFTER ROBBERY. WAS IN DEEP SOUTH,

"LIKE MISSISSIPPI" BUT NOT MISSISSIPPI. LOOT PLUS OR MINUS

TWO THOUSAND WAS FIFTY THOUSAND. SIZEABLE AMOUNT IN VAULT MISSED

BY ROBBERS. SAID UN NAMED MAN NOT ST. LOUISAN, BUT BELIEVED

FROM SOUTH WEST AND HAS SERVED SOME SENTENCE POSSIBLY IN ARKANSAS.

CLAIMED DID NOT MENTION ROBBERY EARLIER AS SUBJECT SOUGHT FOR MURDER AND DID NOT BELIEVE ANYONE INTERESTED IN LESSER CRIME.

JOHN LARRY RAY TODAY EMPHATICALLY DENIED ALL KNOWLEDGE OF SUBJECTS WHEREABOUTS SUBSEQUENT TO ESCAPE, SPECIFICALLY DENIED AND INFO OR STATEMENT THAT SUBJECT IN OMAHA OR LOS ANGELES PRIOR TO NEWSPAPER REPORTS THIS CASE, AND STATED CONVICTION SISTER CAROL AND BROTHER JERRY HAVE SIMILAR LACK OF KNOWLEDGE.

TO ASSIST ST LOUIS IN EVALUATING CREDIBILITY OF GAWRON,
BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO EXAMINE REPORTED BANK ROBBERIES IN
SOUTHERN STATES JUNE JULY SIXTY SEVEN TO SEE IF CITIES INVOLVED
ARE NEAR STATE LINE RIVER AND LOOT IN VICINITY OF FIFTY THOUSAND.

END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

CHICAGO IS REQUESTED TO REVIEW JUNE TWENTY THIRD TO END OF JULY ISSUES OF GHICAGO TRIBUNE FOR ACCOUNT OF SUCH ROBBERY.

OMAHA AND LA THROUGH SUCH SOURCES AS MAY BE DEEMED

APPROPRIATE ATTEMPT DETERMINE PRESENCE OF SUBJECT IN THE

TERRITORIES JUNE AND JULY SIXTY SEVEN.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

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FBI WASH DC

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ORANA AND IN THROUGH SUCH SOURDIS AS MAY BE CREWED
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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

	FBI	1 v.	Mr. Caspe Mr. Calial Mr. Conre Mr. Felt	ad
	Date: 5/10/	68	Mr. Rosen	Ky
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MURKIN	SAC, WFO (44-703) (P)		defig	
	Re WFO teletype, 5/9/68.			
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lo: DIRECTOR, TET (44-38861)

TROS: SAC, WPO (44-705) (P)

PURKIN

Re *FO teletype, 5/9/68.

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On 5/10/65, MR. MEN U. TOWSKY, Whodesian Internation Office, WDC, advised that a check of records of his office located no internation identifiable with JAMES EARL WAY, and LRIC S. CALT.

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	Date: 5/10/68
the following in	(Type in plaintext or code) Ar. Ta
AIRTEL	(Priority) Tele. R
TQ:	DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM:	SAC, WFO (44-703)
ROGER D.	Re let dated 12/28/67 signed ERIC S. GALT, 1535 rano, Los Angeles, California, received by SA ASHLAND from JOHN ACORD, Chairman, American-Southern uncil, 800 Fourth Street, Washington, D. C.,
SA JAMES	The above was hand carried by SA ASHLAND to MORTIMER, FBI Laboratory on 5/9/68.
# 13 13	
	top
	REC-271 44-38861-3438
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RDA:cabb (6)	

5/10/63

ALTRIA

TO: MRUGTOR, FBI (44-38861)

F20A: SAU, NFO (44-703)

MIRKIN

Re let dated 12/28/67 signed SRIC S. CALL, 1535 North Serrano, Los Angeles, California, received by SA ROGAN D. ASHL'MD from JOHN ACCID, Chairman, American-Southern Africa Council, 500 Fourth Street, Washington, D. C., on 5/9/68.

The above was hand carried by SA ASHLAND to SA JAMAS MORTIMAR, FBI Laboratory on 5/2/68.

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Service Rooms



Laboratory Transmittal Form



1 - Mr. Rosen (Mr. Long 2260)

- Mr. Conrad

1 - Mr. Mortimer

1 - Lab File

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

FBI, Memphis (44-1987) To:

May 10, 1968

Date:

0 MURKIN

CR 00: Memphis John Edgar Hoover, Director

44-38861 FBI File No. **D-562676 JK** Lab. No.

Examination requested by:

Mobile

Reference:

Airtel 5/6/68

Examination requested:

Document

Remarks:

44-38861-3431

19 MAY 15 1968

MAILED 12 MAY 101968

COMM-FBI

Tolson __ DeLoach . Mohr_

Bishop

Callahan Felt

Tavel

Tele. Room Holmes ____

(2 Lab report)

1 - Mobile (157-2627) Enclosure (Lab report) 1 - Atlanta (44-2386) Enclosure (Lab report)

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

TELETYPE UNIT

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REPORT of the



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

FBI, Memphis (44-1987) To:

Date: May 10, 1968 FBI File No. 44-38861

MURKIN Be: CR

Lab. No.

D-562676 JK

Specimens received

5/8/68

Photocopies of documents obtained from Alabama State Department of Public Safety, Montgomery, Alabama, comprising the known handwriting of eleven individuals, further described as follows:

SPECIMEN	NAME	
Kc258	WILLIAM ELMER JOHNSON	
Kc259	FRANK GARRETT PERRY	
Kc260	JAMES PRESTON RIDDICK	
Kc261	ROBERT CLIFTON SMITH	
Kc262	FONTAINE STORM	
Kc263	R. W. KERR	
Kc264	CLYDE JUSTIN HILL	
Kc265	WINFORD PRESTON GILMORE	
Kc 266	PAUL EDGAR GOODPASTER, JR.	
Kc267	LEE EMERSON BELLAMY	
Kc268	ROGER DAVID BROUSSARD	

Result of examination:

Nothing of particular significance was noted from such comparisons as could be made between the writings on Kc258 through Kc268 when compared with the known handwriting of JAMES EARL RAY, whose known handwriting appears on specimens K171, K211 and K257.

The submitted items have been retained.

Tolson		
DeLoach		
Mohr		
Bishop		TYPE ATE (33)
Casper		JHM: AW (11)
Callahan		
Conrad		
Felt		
Gale		
Rosen		
Sullivan		
Tavel		
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FBI WASH DC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATION SECTION
MAY 1 0 1968

TELETYPE

FBI BIRMGHAM

115 PM URGENT 5-10-68 JGA

TO DIRECTOR, ATLANTA, MEMPHIS, KANSAS CITY, ST. LOUIS

FROM BIRMINGHAM 5 P M 44-1740

MURKIN.

REMYTEL MAY ONE LAST.

JAMES W. BROWN REINTERVIEWED MAY NINE LAST AND FURNISHED FOLLOWING:
BROWN MET RAY THROUGH RAY'S "PERSONAL FRIEND," JOHNNIE VALENTI,
SHORTLY AFTER ASSASSINATION OF JOHN F. KENNEDY. BROWN WAS DOING
TWENTY YEAR SENTENCE FOR MURDER AFTER CONVICTION IN KANSAS CITY, MO.,
VALENTI WAS DOING IWENTY YEAR SENTENCE FOR ROBBERY AFTER CONVICTION
IN KANSAS CITY. COORDING TO BROWN, VALENTI AND BROWN WERE IN KANSAS
CITY JAIL AT SAME TIME (BUT DIFFERENT TANKS), PRIOR TO BEING SENT TO
JEFFERSON CITY: MO. AT TIME OF FIRST MEETING, RAY WAS INVOLVED IN
POKER GAME IN THE PRISON YARD. BROWN CLAIMS HE OBSERVED RAY ON MORE
THAN ONE OCCASION DEAL CARDS LEFT-HANDED. VALENTI INTRODUCED RAY TO
BROWN AS "JAMES RAY" BUT EVERYONE CALLED HIM "RAY". AT LATER TIME
VALENTI TOLD BROWN THAT HE, VALENTI AND RAY HAD COMMITTED A ROBBERY
END PAGE ONE

66MAY 221968

MAY 1 5 1968

Mr. Tolson___ Mr. DeLoach

Mr. Mohr.

Mr. Bishop.

Mr. Casper Mr. Callahan Mr. Conrad Mr. Felt Mr. Gale

Mr. Sullivan Mr. Tavel

Mr. Trotter Tele. Room_

Miss Holmes

Mr

REC'D - ROSEN

May 10 3 16 PH '68

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PAGE TWO

OF AN OIL COMPANY IN ATLANTA, GA., PRIOR TO VALENTI'S ARREST IN KANSAS CITY ON ANOTHER ROBBERY CHARGE. VALENTI CLAIMED HE AND RAY HAD WATCHED AN OIL COMPANY FOR A WEEK BEFORE COMMITTING THE ROBBERY ABOUT MIDNIGHT. BROWN BELIEVES VALENTI SAID IT WAS A ROBBERY, BUT THAT IT COULD HAVE BEEN A BURGLARY. BROWN SAID HE WAS SURE VALENTI IDENTIFIED ATLANTA AS THE PLACE OF THE ROBBERY BELAUSE LATER VALENTI TOLD BROWN THAT VALENTI'S WIFE WAS THEN (LATE SIXTYTHREE AND EARLY SIXTYFOUR) LIVING IN ATLANTA, WITH THEIR THREE CHILDREN. THE OLDEST OF WHOM WAS KILLED IN AN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT IN SIXTYFOUR. ABOUT SAME TIME VALENTI'S WIFE QUIT WRITING TO VALENTI AND EFFORTS OF VALENTI THROUGH THE CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN TO HAVE WIFE RESUME WRITING, WERE NEGATIVE. AT TIME OF MEETING RAY, RAY WAS LIVING IN C HALL, WHILE VALENTI AND BROWN WERE LIVING IN G HALL. VALENTI ALSO CLAIMED TO BROWN THAT AT TIME OF ARREST IN KANSAS CITY. VALENTI HAD THE NAME OF A KANSAS CITY GANGSTER (NAME NOT GIVEN BY VALENTI). IN HIS POSSESSION WHICH HAD BEEN GIVEN TO HIM BY AN ASSOCIATE. UNNAMED. IN NEW ORLEANS. AND VALENTI WAS QUESTIONED EXTENSIVELY BY KCPD AS TO HIS CONNECTIONS WITH THIS GANGSTER. VALENTI TOLD BROWN HE HAD RELATIVES IN BATON ROUGE. LA.

IN ALL HIS CONTACTS WITH RAY, BROWN WAS WITH VALENTI, AND END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

SOMETIMES OTHER PRISONERS WERE PRESENT, NAMES UNRECALLED, OTHER THAN POSSIBLY "NOONEY" EDEN OR EATON (PH). FROM C HALL. RAY AND BROWN NEVER HAD ANY INVOLVED CONVERSATIONS. BUT BROWN WAS PRESENT ON ABOUT FOUR OCCASIONS WHEN RAY AND VALENTI WOULD DISCUSS THINGS. AMONG ITEMS DISCUSSED WAS ESCAPE BY EACH. RAY SAID HE WOULD RUNNEL OUT OF THE PRISON IF NECESSARY AND GO TO LIBERIA WHERE HE HAD A BROTHER-IN-LAW MAKING GOOD MONEY. NO OTHER INFORMATION RECALLED ABOUT ALLEGED BROTHER-IN-LAW. ON ANOTHER OCCASION RAY SAID HE KNEW A CAVE IN VIRGINIA WHERE HE COULD HIDE ONCE HE ESCAPED. CONCERNING THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION. VALENTI ONCE SAID TO RAY THAT VALENTI DID NOT BELIEVE ANYONE SHOULD KILL THE PRESIDENT, BUT RAY SAID HE, RAY, WOULD HAVE DONE IT HIMSELF. IF HE WOULD HAVE HAD THE CHANCE. AND THAT KENNEDY WAS "NOTHING BUT A DAMN CATHOLIC." ACCORDING TO BROWN, RAY WAS VERY ANTI-CATHOLIC AND ANTI-NEGRO. ON ANOTHER OCCASION IN LATE SIXTYTHREE. BROWN CLAIMED HE OVERHEARD RAY SAY TO VALENTI THAT HE. RAY. WAS GOING TO GET OUT OF THE PEN. AND THAT RAY KNEW A GUY NAMED "COLLEY" (PH) WHO WOULD HIDE RAY WHERE NO ONE WOULD FIND HIM. ALSO THIS COOLEY WOULD PAY TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS TO ANYONE WHO WOULD KILL MARTIN LUTHER KING. RAY WAS AWARE THAT BROWN CAME FROM ALABAMA. BUT DID NOT TALKE TO HIM END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

ABOUT ANY TOWNS IN ALABAMA, EXCEPT THAT BIRMINGHAM WAS A GOOD TOWN TO STEAL IN, AND THAT RAY HAD STOLEN A CAR IN BIRMINGHAM, BEFORE GETTING SENT TO THE MISSOURI PEN.

CREDIBILITY OF BROWN HAS NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED TO DATE, AND
IT HAS BEEN NOTED HE HAS FURNISHED CONFLICTING INFORMATION ABOUT
THE PERSONAL HABITS OF RAY, SUCH AS RAY BEING LEFT-HANDED, WALKING
PIGEON-TOED AND SMOKING WINSTON CIGARETTES. IT IS ALSO NOTED THAT IN
FIRST INTERVIEW, BROWN CLAIMED RAY HATED MANNEDY BECAUSE HE WAS A
"NIGGER-LOVING SOB," WHEREAS THIS TIME BROWN CLAIMED RAY HATED
KENNEDY BECAUSE HE WAS A CATHOLIC. BROWN CLAIMED HE DID NOT KNOW RAY'S
RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION. BROWN CLAIMS HE KNEW NOTHING OF ANY LOTTERIES
BEING OPERATED IN THE PRISON, NOR OF ANY ORGANIZATION OF PRISONERS
WHO WOULD COLLECT DEBTS, AND ACT AS A PROTECTIVE AGENCY FOR THE PRISONERS. HE CLAIMED COOLEY WAS AN INDIVIDUAL WHOSE NAME WAS MENTIONED
ONLY BY RAY AND HE NEVER HEARD THIS NAME MENTIONED BY ANY OTHER
PRISONER. BROWN ALSO STATES THAT "A" HALL WAS FOR NEGRO PRISONERS,
WHEREAS THOMAS BRITTON (SEE MYTEL OF MAY NINE LAST) HAD CLAIMED "A"
HALL WAS FOR TRUSTEES.

ALL RECEIVING OFFICES ADVISE BIRMINGHAM IF JOHNNIE VALENTI HAS BEEN LOCATED AND INTERVIEWED. IF SO, SUTEL BIRMINGHAM RESULTS OF THIS INTERVIEW.

KANSAS CITY, AT JEFFERSON CITY, MO., FROM PRISON RECORDS, FURNISH FOLLOWING:

END PAGE FOUR

PAGE FIVE

IDENTITY OF PRISONER "NOONEY" EDEN PH OR EATON. WHO. IN LATE SIXTYTHREE, WAS DOING FIVE YAEAR SENTENCE. IF IDENTIFIED, SET OUT LEAD TO HAVE HIM INTERVIEWED FOR HIS KNOWLEDIGE OF RAY AND VERIFICATION OF INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM THOMAS BRITTON AND/OR JAMES W. BROWN. ASCERTAIN FROM RECORDS RE VALENTI. IF HE. OR HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN. EVER LIVED IN ATLANTA. AND IF HIS OLDEST CHILD WAS KILLED. AS CLAIMED BY BROWN. IF THIS INFORMATION VERIFIED. SET OUT LEADS TO HAVE WIFE LOCATED AND INTERVIEWED FOR ANY INFORMATION SHE HAS RE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN HER HUSBAND, JOHNNIE VALENTI, AND RAY. AND IF THEY WERE INVOLVED IN ROBBERY OF OIL COMPANY IN ATLANTA. PRIOR TO VALENTI'S IMPRISONMENT IN JEFFERSON CITY. IN EFFORT TO VERIFY BROWN'S INFORMATION. ASCERTAIN IF RAY RESIDED IN "C" HALL IN LATE SIXTYTHREE. AND IF AT THAT TIME. RAY WAS WORKING IN THE LICENSE PLATE FACTORY. FROM RECORDS OF KANSAS CITY PD. ASCERTAIN IF BROWN AND VALENTI WERE IN CUSTODY AT SAME TIME. AND IF AT TIME OF VALENTI'S ARREST. THERE WAS SOME INFORMATION HE HAD CONNECTION WITH WELL KNOWN KANSAS CITY "GANGSTER." KANSAS CITY ALSO FURNISH BIRMINGHAM PHOTOS AND DESCRIPTION OF VALENTI.

ATLANTA ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY ROBBERY REFERRED TO BY BROWN.

ABOVE BEING FURNISHED ST. LOUIS, AS BIRMINGHAM'S LAST INFORMATION AS TO WHEREABOUTS OF VALENTI, WAS THAT HE WAS IN ST. LOUIS.

CORRECTION: PG 3 LN 5 WD U IS "TUNNEL" PG 4 LN 8 WD 7 IS "KENNEDY"
PG 5 LN 2 WD 3 IS YEAR"

END

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