Form DJ-150 (Ed. 44-26-65)

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

${\it 1} emorandum$



TO

: Director

Federal Bureau of Investigation

FROM A!

Fred M. Vinson, Jr.

Assistant Attorney General

Criminal Division

SUBJECT:

James Earl Ray

44-38861

DEPARTMENT OF

Mohr. Mr. Bishop

Mr. Casper

FMV:mfc 95-100-473

July 10,

Mr. Tavel.

Mr. Trotter.

Tele. Room. Miss Holmes

Miss Gandy.

Attached you will find an original letter and envelope received by the Attorney General yesterday, purporting to be from R. G. Sneyd. I also attach a copy of my acknowledgement to Ray's attorney.

It occurred to me that you might wish this for your file in the event handwriting exemplars are needed.

Attachments

1 ENCLOSURE

EX-103

14 JUL 11 1968

REC- 15

59 JUL 22 1968

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FBI WASH DC

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUL 9 1968

FBI MEMPHIS

905PM URGENT 7-9-68 DGB

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861)

FROM MEMPHIS (44-1987)

MURK I N.

Mr. Lasper Mr. Callahan Mr. Callahan Mr. Gale Mr. Rose Mr. Rose Mr. Rose Mr. Tavel Mr. Tretter Tele. Room Miss Holmas Miss Gandy

Arr.

ON EVENING JULY EIGHT. SIXTYEIGHT. AT APPROXIMATELY ELEVEN P.M., PATROLMAN, MEMPHIS PD, WHILE AT "GREEN BEETLE,", THREE TWO FIVE SOUTH MAIN, MEMPHIS, HAD INDIVIDUAL AT BAR BROUGHT TO HIS ATTENTOON BY MANAGER. POLICE OFFICER APPROACHED MAN AT BAR WHO INFORMED HIM HE WAS JERRY RAY, BROTHER OF JAMES EART RAY. REPORTEDLY, JERRY ASSED PATROLMAN IF HE THOUGHT JAMES &UILTY AND IF THEY WOULD EVER BRING HIM BACK TO MEMPHIS. JERRY SAID HE AND BROTHER HAD ARRIVED MEMPHIS EARLIER ON AFTER-NOON JULY EIGHT AND WERE TRYING TO FIND OFFICE TO RENT. PLANNED TO SET UP COMMITTEE TO GET FUNDS FOR DEFENSE OF BROTHER. JERRY ALSO SAID THEY WERE GOING TO HIRE ANOTHER LAWYER FROM SAID HE AND BROTHER JOHN ST. LOUIS, NAME UNKNOWN. MEMPHIS POLICE OFFICER WHO AT LINDEN LODGE MOTEL. ROOM TWO TEN. ACCOSTED JERRY RAY NOT IN UNIFORM AND NO INFO AVAILABLE 1 20 JUL 12 1968 INDICATE JERRY RAY REALIZED THAT PERSON WITH WHOM HE WAS SPEAKING WAS MEMPHIS POLICEMAN.

SHORTLY AFTER ABOVE CONTACT, JERRY RAY WAS ARRESTED BY

59 JUL 23 1968

MR. DELOACH FOR THE DIRECTOR

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PAGE TWO

TWO MEMPHIS PATROLMEN FOR BEING DRUNK. HE WAS TAKEN TO POLICE HEADQUARTERS AND GIVEN INTOXIMETER TEST WHICH READ POINT SEVENTEEN.

JERRY WILLIAM RAY, WM, AGE THIRTYTWO, OF ONE NINE ZERO TWO CHEROKEE STREET. ST. LOUIS. WAS ARRESTED AT ONE FIFTEEN A.M., JULY NINE, AT MAIN AND VANCE, MEMPHIS, ON CHARGE PUBLIC DRUNKENESS. AT NINE A.M., JULY NINE, JERRY RAY APPEARED DIVISION TWO. CITY COURT. BEFORE JUDGE BERNIE WEINMAN ON CHARGE PUBLIC DRUNKENNESS. CHARGE AGAINST HIM DISMISSED. WHITE MALE CALLED, A JUM IN COURTROOM OBSERVED TO APPEAR INTERESTED IN CASE AND AFTER CASE DISMISSED, LT. O. B. HOLCOMB, MEMPHIS PD, POLICE, IDENTIFIED HIMSELF TO THIS WM, AND ASKED FOR HIS NAME. PERSON STATED HE WAS JOHN RAY, JERRY'S BROTHER. IN SUBSEQUENT INTER-MEMPHIS POLICE VIEW CONDUCTED THIS DATE BY MPD. JOHN RAY SAID HE AND JERRY HAD ARRIVED MEMPHIS AT SIX PM. JULY EIGHT. AND HAD CHECKED INTO LINDEN LODGE. ROOM TWO TEN. THEY PAID RENT FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY. HE SAID THEY CAME TO MEMPHIS IN HIS CAR, NINETEEN SIXTYTHREE CHRYSLER NEW YORKER, MISSOURI LICENSE A E TWO DASH FIVE FIVE I EIGHT. JOHN RAY INFORMED HE AND JERRY HAD BEEN TALKING TO

PAGE THREE

NEWSPAPER REPORTER JERRY LIPSON, WHO IS AFFILIATED WITH CHICAGO DAILY NNEWS. LIPSON HAD ADVISED THAT JOHN AND JERRY COULD POSSIBLY COME TO MEMPHIS AND BIRMINGHAM AND SET UP OFFICE FOR PURPOSE OF OBTAINING FUNDS FOR AN ATTORNEY TO REPRESENT JAMES EARL RAY. SUPPOSEDLY THIS REPORTER TOLD JOHN HE WOULD HANDLE ALL PUBLICITY PERTAINING TO THIS FUND RAISING AND JOHN SAID THEY WERE JUST LOOKING MEMPHIS OVER AND MIGHT RENT A ROOM OR AN OFFICE WHILE HERE. JOHN FURTHER STATED THEY WERE EITHER GOING TO BIRMINGHAM OR WERE GOING TO CALL THERE TO SEE IF JAMES EARL RAY'S ATTORNEY WAS BACK FROM LONDON.

JOHN RAY FURNISHED PERSONAL HISTORY AND BACKS OUND DATA TO INTERVIEWING OFFICERS, WHICH AGREES WITH THAT PREVIOUSLY COLLECTED BY BUREAU.

JERRY RAY INTERVIEWED BY MEMPHIS POLICE OFFICERS IN

PRESENCE OF JOHN. REPORTEDLY, JERRY COULD NOT GIVE LEGITIMATE

REASON FOR BEING IN MEMPHIS EXCEPT HE THOUGHT JAMES EARLY MIGHT

COME BACK TO MEMPHIS EARLY AND HE WANTED TO SEE HIM IF HE DID.

JERRY SAID HE WAS LEAVING MEMPHIS AND GOING TO KNOXVILLE, TENN.,

WHICH HE LATER CHANGED TO SAY WHITESBURG. TENN. TO VISIT HIS

CC-MR. ROSEN

PAGE FOUR

SIX YEAR OLD SON BY A PRIOR MARRIAGE.

PERSONAL PROPERTY IN POSSESSION JERRY RAY WAS PHOTOSTATTED BY MEMPHIS PO. COPIES BEING REVIEWED TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT ANY INFO OF PERTINENCE THEREIN. SOME DATA CONSISTED OF CAR IDENTIFICATION CARD AND CORRESPONDENCE WITH MARJORIE FETTERS AND VARIOUS NEWSPAPER CORRESPONDENTS. AIRMAIL COPY TO ST. LOUIS. P. END.

JTM

FBI WASH DC

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CC- MR. SULLIVAN

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OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA FFMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

DATE: 7/9/68

FROM

SAC, SAN ANTONIO (44-1242) (P)

SUBJECT:



00: MEMPHIS

RE: HUGH MERLON HENSON

The San Antonio Police Department advised the San Antonio Division that on 7/4/68, HUGH MERLOW HENSON of 1503 Santa Anna, San Antonio, Texas, stated to police officers that he had killed Dr. MARTIN L. KING, JR. The police officer's report reflected that after talking to HENSON he appeared to be drunk. He smelled of intoxicating beverages, his speech was slurred, and eyes were bloodshot. He was warned about making a false report. As the officers were leaving, HENSON came outside the house and wanted to fight. He was arrested for drunk and was taken to jail.

HENSON was interviewed by agents of this office and advised that he had been arrested on 7/4/68. He said he did not make the statement that he had killed Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. He said he could not recall making such a statement. He further advised he did not kill Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., and that he did not know JAMES EARL RAY.

This is being furnished for information purposes and no further action is being taken in this phase of this investigation.

REC- 60

2-Bureau (AM,RM) 2-Memphis (44-1987) (RM) 2-SA JMK:csh (6)





54 JUL 1 7 1968

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan.

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS FBI

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FBI

7/10/68 Date:

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Transmit the following in ___ (Type in plaintext or code) AIRTEL

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM:

SAC, NEW YORK (44-1609) (RUC)

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

Re Memphis airtel dated 7/3/68, requesting a check at Longines-Wittnauer Watch Company to identify case numbers on a watch of subject RAY.

CMARLES DIAZ, Longines-Wittnauer Watch Company, 580 Fifth Avenue, NYC, advised 7/9/68 the numbers: 8001/11K, are identifying numbers used to designate the model and style of watch in which the case will be used. numbers are thus of significance only at the assembly stage. Thousands of watches of each model (with the same numbers) are assembled both here and abread.

He pointed out that because the Wittnauer is an inexpensive watch, no movement number is inscribed and it is not possible to identify the outlet through which any particular watch is sold.

3-Bureau

2- Memphis (44-1987)

1- New York

JP0:jrf (7)

al Agent in Charge

Sent .

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FBI WASH DC

FBI SPRNGFLDD

PM 537 URGENT 7-10-68 DJK

TØ DIRECTOR (44-38861)

FROM SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

MURKIN, CR.

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

JUL 1 0 1968

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele, Room

Miss Holmes.

Miss Gandy.

Mc Sperson

RE SPRINGFIELD TELETYPE JULY NINE LAST.

DEMIS NICHOLAS, DEPUTY, MADISON COUNTY, ILLINOIS, SHERIFF'S OFFICE, ADVISED HE HAD TALKED TO WILLIE LEE, ASSOCIATE OF JOHN MC CLINTOCK AND HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON, AND INFORMED LEE THAT THE FBI WAS INTERESTED IN TALKING TO HIM, AT WHICH TIME LEE STATED HE WOULD GET IN TOUCH WITH THE FBI IN ALTON, ILLINOIS, IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY JOE HEINTZ (PHONETIC) HAVE BEEN UNPRODUCTIVE IN THE ALTON AREA. WILL CONTINUE EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY JOE HEINTZ AND INTERVIEW WILLIE LEE.

AIRMAIL CORY SENT ST. LOUIS, MEMPHIS AND CHICAGO. 44-38861-4217

END

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REC. NO

JUL 11 1968

FBI WASH DC AND

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Cc. Long

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DIVISION 5710

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

JUL**11** 1968

TELETYPE

FBI SPRNGFLD

620 PM 7/11/68 URGENT CEKG

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861)*

FROM SPRINGFIELD (44-561)*

McBylon

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

MURKIN

RE SI TEL TO BUREAU JULY TEN LAST. -

PAMENA JAME SCHNEIDER, EX WIFE OF JOHN MC CLINTOCH

ADVISED JULY TEN LAST MC CLINTOCH AND SHE LEFT FOR

CALIFORNIA APPROXIMATELY JULY FIFTEEN SIXTYSEVEN AND RETURNED TO ALTON, ILLINOIS IN NOVEMBER, SIXTYSEVEN, SHE ADVISED THE ELEVED HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON WAS LIVING WITH WILLIE LEE IN THE ELEVEN HUNDRED BLOCK OF EAST FOURTH STREET, ALTON IN JULY AND AUGUST, SIXTYSEVEN, SHE SAID SHE NEVER KNEW

COVINGTON OR LEE TO WEAR A HAT OR COVERALLS. SHE SAID SHE HAD HEARD COVINGTON HAD A GUN BUT DID NOT KNOW WHAT KIND AND HAD NEVER SEEN IT. SHE DID NOT ASSOCIATE WITH COVINGTON VERY MUCH AND HAD NEVER HEARD HER HUSBAND SPEAK OF ANY BANK ROBBERIES

IN HER PRESENCE. SHE STATED SHE NEVER KNEW OF SEITHER OF THEM

TO POSSESS MUCH MONEY.

END PAGE ONE

EX-116

10 JUL 12 1968

54 JUL 1 7 1968

Cc. Long

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

PAGE TWO

SI 44-561

SPRINGFIELD WILL CONTINUE EFFORTS TO INTERVIEW WILLIE
LEE AND KEEP BUREAU ADVISED. - P. -

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FBI WASH DC

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THE STATE OF THE S

Airtel

1 - Mr. McDonough

SACs, Memphis

Little Rock

From: Director, FBI

MURKIN

ReJNairtel dated 7-5-68.

Felt __ Gale _ Rosen . Sullivan Tavel Trotter
Tele, Roo 4

If not already done, handle leads and surepsor LHMs immediately.

1 - Jackson (info)

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TI JUL 12 1968

UNITED STATES GOVEK MENT

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TO

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

DATE: 7/8/68



SAC, SAN DIEGO (44-387)(44-394) (P)

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

Memphis

KENSALT

00: Los Angeles

Re San Diego airtels to the Bureau 6/17/68; Bureau letter to San Diego, 6/21/68; and Bureau airtel to San Diego, 6/21/68.

Enclosed for the Bureau are 7 copies of an LHM captioned GEORGE ROBERT LETSINGER, for appropriate dissemination. Enclosed for each office receiving this communication are two copies of the same LHM.

Dissemination has been made locally to U.S. Secret Service.

7 3 - Bureau (Encl. 7) (RM)
2 - Memphis (Encl. 2)
2 - Los Angeles (Encl. 2)

ST-113

2 - Richmond (Encl. 2) 2 - Seattle (Encl. 2) (2 - 44-387) (2 - 44-394) - San Diego

AWO'B: kdw (15)

20 JUL 11 1968

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION San Diego, California July 8, 1968

GEORGE ROBERT LETSINGER

On June 17, 1968, handprinting obtained from George Robert Letsinger along with the anonymous note received by Assistant Postmaster Joseph Forror, June 11, 1968, was forwarded to the Bureau Laboratory.

On June 21, 1968, the FBI Laboratory advised that no latent impressions of value were developed on the note or on the known handprinting of George Robert Letsinger.

On June 21, 1968, the Bureau advised that a handwriting examination of the anonymous note obtained by Assistant Postmaster Joseph Forror, June 11, 1968, was prepared by George Robert Letsinger as determined from the known handprinting of George Robert Letsinger.

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

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ENCLOSURE

		FBI	i
		Date: 7/5/68	
ransmit	the following in	(Type in plaintext or code)	
/ia	AIRTEL	(1) pe su pravincia di coaci	
		(Priority)	-
	TO: DI	RECTOR, FBI (44-38861)	
W	FROM: SAC	C, HOUSTON (44-1509)	
	SUBJECT: MUI	RKIN	
	captioned "Ja	closed for the Bureau are five copies of an AMES EARL RAY DEFENSE FUND, Columbus, Texas emphis for their information.	n LHM s", two
		e first source is GARY DELAUNE, reporter, : , Houston, Texas.	radio
	The U.S. Post Of:	e second source is FORREST BROOKS, Post Ma fice, Columbus, Texas.	ster,
	3 - Bureau (1 2 - Memphis 1 - Houston JSW/sjm	Enc-5) ENCLOSURE (Enc-2)	
	(6)		
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In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Houston, Texas
July 5, 1968

James Earl Ray Defense Fund Columbus, Texas

On July 3, 1968 a confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that he had received information that person by the name of Lonnal Wilhelm has started a defense fund for James Earl Ray. According to the source funds solicited are to be sent to Columbus, Texas.

On July 3, 1968 another source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised as follows:

On June 26, 1968, Lonnal Wilhelm, P.O. Box 686, Columbus, Texas with residence at 431 Front Street, Columbus, applied and received P.O. Box 602, U.S. Post Office, Columbus, Texas. Wilhelm reportedly listed the purpose for having P.O. Box 602 as being for the receipt of funds for the defense of James Earl Ray suspected murderer of Martin Luther King on April 4, 1968. Lonnal Wilhelm, a white male, is approximately 30 years old, married and is the son of Mrs. Fred M. Bentsen, P.O. Box 686, Columbus, Texas, residence 431 Front Street, Columbus, Texas. Mrs. Fred M. Bentsen, also known as Loyce Bentsen arrived at Columbus, Texas in August, 1967 from Harlingin, Texas.

Lonnal Wilhelm's Texas driver's license number is 0072544 and Mrs. Fred M. Bentsen's Texas driver's license is 0022346.

On July 3, 1968, Frances Davinport, Credit Bureau of Columbus, Texas, advised that on June 26, 1968 she had a local inquiry on a L.E. Wilhelm who was reported to be self-employed as a nurseryman.

On July 3, 1968 a check of records of Colorado County Sheriff's Office, Columbus, Texas, revealed no information identifiable with the name Lonnal Wilhelm.

Re: James Earl Ray Defense Fund

Records of the FBI, Houston, Texas contain no information identifiable with the name Lonnal Wilhelm.

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.



In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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1-336 (Rev. 12-10-63) **FEDER**/

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

11y 11, 1900

Washington, D. C. 20537

REPORT

of the

IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION

YOUR FILE NO. FBI FILE NO.

44-2574

44-30CL

LATENT CASE NO.

TO:

RE.

REFERENCE:

EXAMINATION REQUESTED BY:

1 - Mr. Rosen LNV:slc

Markey Land (44-1740)

SPECIMENS:

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Sullivan
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Tele, Room

Trotter 200 THIS REPORT
Holmes MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

John Edgar Houve

John Edga Hoover, Director

THIS REPORT IS FURNISHED FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS FBI

JUL 12 10 27 AM '68

Jul. 18 5 50 AM 198

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE DATE RECORDED 7/8/68-3:10 p. m. DATE RECEIVED 7/8/68 ro Laboratory Work Sheet

Re: MURKIN
CR
OO: Memphis (44-1987)

File # 144-38861 Lab. # D-680005006 JK

LC# > 91075

Examination requested by: SAC, Los Angeles (hh-1574) Airtel 7/1/68

Examination requested: Document, Fingerprint Date received: 7/5/68

Result of Examination: Examination by: Mortimer

Named for elimination:
RONALD G. HEWITSON
SA LEON J. MEYER

Bailey

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Specimens submitted for examination

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Destained - Spec returned one. - Job 169. 269.

Q385 Sheet of paper bearing typewritten letter dated 2/4/60, beginning "I RECENTLY RECEIVED....." and signed "Eric S. Galt"

Trap. 77-not 7/9/68 por

2 cc/2 Memplie (44-1987) 1 cc Berningham (44-1740) 1 40 (44-703)

A Company of the Comp

1 c.c. Mr. Boses

Examination completed Time Date Dictated 7/15/11 Date

FBI

Date:	7	17	/68
Dute:		/ 1	<i>,</i> 00

Transmit the following in		l I
Transmit the fortowing in	(Type in plaintext or code)	
ViaTELETYPE	AIR MAIL - REGISTERED	!
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TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) (ATTENTION: FBI LABORATORY)

SAC, LOS ANGELES (14-1574) (P) FROM:

MURKIN SUBJECT: CR.

Enclosed for the Laboratory is a typewritten letter dated 2/4/68 addressed to Mr. HEWITSON and signed by ERIC S. GALT. It is requested that this document be examined for handwriting and typing comparisons with other materials submitted in this matter. This document has been handled only by Mr. HEWITSON and SA LEON J. MEYER.

On 7/1/68 RONALD G. HEWITSON, 9692 Imperial Street, Garden Grove, California, furnished the following information. He advised that he is Sales Manager of the Terene Corporation. 2815 South Halladay Street, Santa Ana, California, and President of the Orange County, California, Chapter, Friends of Rhodesia, P. O. Box 613. Garden Grove. California.

HEWITSON stated that he had recently read a news item indicating that FBI Agents were investigating JAMES EARL RAY's alleged contacts with the American-South African Council, Washington, D. C. He stated that the Friends of Rhodesia work closely with the American-South African Council. He stated that he looked through some of his correspondence and found a letter bearing the signature ERIC S. GALT. This letter is quoted as follows:

(4) - Bureau (Enc. - 1) (AM-RM) Z - Memphis (44-1987)(AM)

1 - Birmingham (hh-1740) (Info.) (AM)
1 - Washington Field (hh-703) (Info.) (AM)

2 - Los Angeles

TJA: CM (10)

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	Special Agent in Charge		

JUL 8 2 15 PM '60 REC'D - LFPS FBJ

"2-4-68

"DEAR MR. HEWITSON.

"I RECENTLY RECEIVED A LETTER FROM YOUR OFFICE IN REPLY TO A LETTER I HAD SENT TO YOU REQUESTING INFORMATION ON RHODESIA, THE LETTER CLARIFED MOST OF MY QUESTIONS REGARDING IMMIGRATION. SUCH AS PASSPORT. IT WAS NOT MY INTENTION TO LEAVE BEFORE NOVEMBER BUT WANTED THE INFORMATION BEFORE HAND, ANY OTHER INFORMATION YOU SEND I WOULD APPREACITE. WOULD ALSO LIKE TO SUBSCRIBE TO RHODESIAN COMMENTARY.

"SINCERELY.

"ERIC S. GALT

"1535-N-SERRANO
"L.A. CALIF. 90027.

/s/ "ERIC S. GALT"

HEWITSON stated that he would review his files to determine if any other communications from GALT are contained therein. He stated he was the only person to handle the enclosed letter, as he has no secretary. He stated that the note "ANS" appearing on the lower portion of this letter was made by him.

HEWITSON stated his organization has received much publicity in the Los Angeles area resulting from exposure on the JOE PYNE Show, a daily late nighttime television talk show. He stated the address of the Friends of Rhodesia appears on its literature, which is widely circulated.

FBI

Date:	7/8	3/68
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ne following	in
ATRTEL	AIRMAIL
	(Priority)
TO:	DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM:	SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-10673)(P)
SUBJECT (CMURKIN
	(00: Memphis)
conclude: School pa	Re New Orleans airtel to Bureau, 6/27/68; and ratory report dated 6/26/68, the latter which is that the handwriting on the Palmer Writers amphlet submitted under the name "ERIC A. WAUGH" re handprinting, was not prepared by JAMES EARL
RAY.	To humapithology, was not properly by thinks which
	In view of the foregoing, New Orleans will not NS file in name of DEREK A. WAUGH or conduct credit inal checks in that name.
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F.D-36 (Rev	5-22-64)	•			
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		FBI			
		Dat	e: 6/28/6	8	
Transmit th	e following in _	(Type in plain	taut ar anda)		
Via	AIRTEL	A IRMA IL	text of code)		
			(Priority)		
				RECEIVED	M-135 100 2
	то :	DIRECTOR, FBI (44-3	38861) (CAL SECTIO	PRINTED ONENLARGEME COPIED	NTS BRK DOT G
	FROM:	SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44		INSPECTED	33
	Division registratin the Biparticula RAY first Birminghathat date purchase	Under date of 6/17/ested by Supervisor CI of the Bureau, to attition cards of guests of irmingham area for the ar date was considered to contacted the Aeroma am relative to the pure, and returned on 3/3 drifle for another or may have stayed durinam. It was also suggest	tem MC GOWA tempt photo of all moto e date 3/29 d pertinent arine Supply chase of a 80/68, to one. It was and that per	AN, Civil lographing of els and hored since sufficiently Company a rifle on exchange the short known and in	Rights of tels s bject of
Bulky Enclosure P(1)/7/e	the night of an inc Rebel Mot RAY was 1	s of individuals regist of 3/29/68, might redividuals who may have tel, Memphis, Tennésse registered. au (AM-RM) Package) his (44-1987) ingham COSURI	stered at lesult in a been registed, during	Birmingham simular nastered at the time	on ames the

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Photographing of all available registration cards in the Birmingham area motels and hotels was instituted on 6/19/68, and completed 6/26/68.

Being transmitted under separate package are eleven rolls of undeveloped Kodak Panatomic-X black and white film, of which ten are thirtysix exposures and one is twenty exposures. Also transmitted is one developed strip of thirtysix exposures of Roll #7, which was developed locally to verify photographic efforts.

The Mechanical Section is requested to make two 8" X 10" prints of each frame of the film. The enlarged prints are being requested since each frame contains multiple photographs of registration cards, and the larger prints would be necessary for viewing.

The rolls of film are numbered on the film itself and it is requested that the prints made from each roll by identified or maintained in packets of each roll in order that they might be readily identified with the photographic log being maintained in the Birmingham Office. The pencilled numbers on the cases of each roll are not pertinent. The prints should be maintained in each packet in chronological order and if possible numbered as such.

In accordance with request of Supervisor MC GOWAN, one set of the developed prints should be furnished to him, and the other set forwarded to the Birmingham Office. Please expedite.



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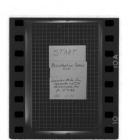
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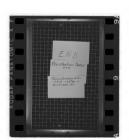
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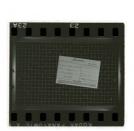


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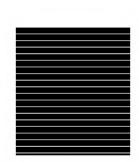
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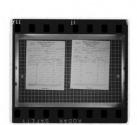
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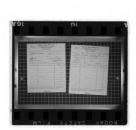
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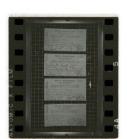
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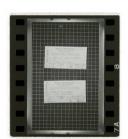
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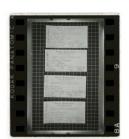
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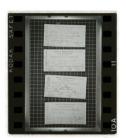
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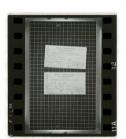
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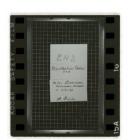
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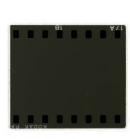
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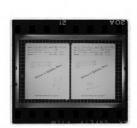
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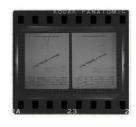
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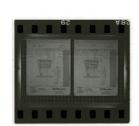
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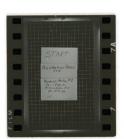
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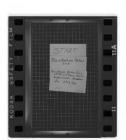
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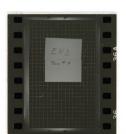
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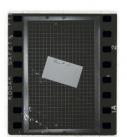
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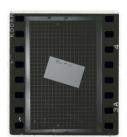
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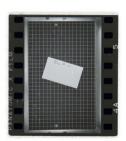
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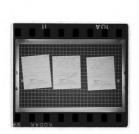
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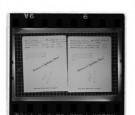
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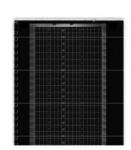
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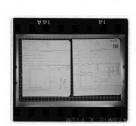
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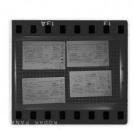
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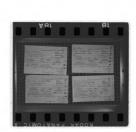
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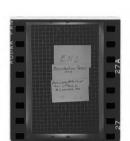
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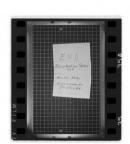
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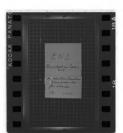
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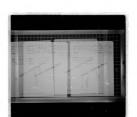
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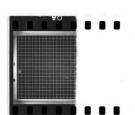
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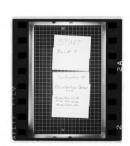
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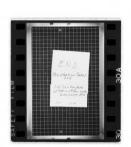
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This marker identifies the original location.

LIFE MAGAZINE PHOTO NEGATIVES

[44-HQ-38861_HS1-233652821_19-02-Part_3_of_4]

This item may be accessed on-site at the National Archives in College Park, Maryland

			FBI		! !	 	
			Date:	7/11/68	 	 - -	
Transmit	the following in	n	oe in plaintext o	or code)		<u> </u>	
Via	AIRTEL		REGISTERE	D MAIL		 	
			. (Prio				
9							
	TO:	DIRECTOR, FBI	(44 - 3	8861)			
	FROM:	SAC, BALTIMORE	(44-6	69) P			
	SUBJECT:	MURKIN					
		Re Chicago telety	pe to th	e Bureau,	dated 6/2	7/68.	
	Mrs. CECIL BONAS, National Institute of Dry Cleaners, 909 Burlington Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland, was contacted on 7/3/68 at which time she advised that she could have a list of cleaning establishments made up as requested; however, due to the scope of the list, and the mechanical operations involved, it may take approximately a week.						
	On $7/10/68$, Mrs. BONAS advised that the list would be available on Tuesday, $7/16/68$.						
	<u>LEAD</u> :						
	BALTIMORE DIVISION						
		AT SILVER SPRING,	MARYLAN	D			
	Institute	in requested list of Dry Cleaners, Paryland, 7/16/68 a	909 Burl	ington Av	enue, Silve		
	3-Bureau 1-Chicago 2-Baltimo PMV:lhs (6)	(REGISTE re	CRED MAIL	MΔTT.)	(44-1114) 44-5 <u>8</u>	361-486 JUL 12 1968	2.5
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	Date: 7/5/68	
mit the following	in	
AIRTEL	AIRMAIL	
	(Priority)	
TO:	DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)	
FROM:	SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386)	
SUBJECT:	MURKIN	
	Re Atlanta tel 7/3/68.	
suitable submitte	Enclosed for the Bureau are 10 copies of LHM for dissemination. Two copies each are being to Memphis and Jackson.	
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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176



In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Atlanta, Georgia July 5, 1968

JAMES EARL RAY; MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM CIVIL RIGHTS

Raymond Curtis submitted a letter to Mr. Charles L. Sanders, Ebony Magazine, which letter is as follows; the letter was semi literate and the following is not a direct quotation but sets forth the essentials:

"Mr. Charles L. Sanders

"Dear Mr. Sanders:

"I thank you for your answer to my letter. I think that details I give you in this letter will be of help to you.

"Well, Sir, I have written a story. No one but myself has read it but me. At this time I know that it will have to be re-wrote for I am not a writing it as bad as it is.

"It all about the crime I did and about a crime I did in 1954 with James Earl Ray and about the 13 years of prison pal and everything we talk about. About thing and about James Earl Ray wanted the job of killing Martin Luther King, Jr. We talk of killing King for three years. And we talked to the man from Mississippi that knew all about the KK businessman association that was to put up the money to kill King. I also know the men from Mississippi.

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ENCLOSURE

JAMES EARL RAY; MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM

"In that three year we made maps just had to find the right place to kill King. Well I have made the maps over myself. They are with the story also.

"And just where we would go after we killed King so yes when we talk about it I was to be in on it. But I was not. The story has it all in it. All the big thing and the little one also. And what Ray like and what he did not like. This story could get me killed. I know that. That is why I won't send the story by mail. I know that this is getting to be a long letter. But when you read this if you want the story O.K. If not just let me know, O.K. That way I won't talk to men about it.

"Mr. Sanders there are men in five states that is behind the King killing and they don't know what I know. But James Earl Ray did not. Now that they have Ray Tenn. will trial him if they get him back.

"Well, they want me to testify. Well, I just don't know yet what I will do.

"You see, me and Ray were pal. I could tell what I have to the news. That no much. Or I could not say everything. And I did not tell the FBI. Well, this is not a book. I am just trying to tell you what you ask of me in your letter.

"If you have a man or have someone down this way, if you will have them stop by the jail I will let them read the story and you can go from there. O.K.

"I thank you again.

"I will be looking to hear from you soon.

/s/ "Raymond Curtis

"I am still in the Dalton County Jail."

On July 3, 1968, CURTIS was interviewed at the Whitfield County Jail, Dalton, Georgia, and furnished the following information:

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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RAYMOND CURTIS was contacted at the Whitfield County Jail and advised of the identities of Special Agents THOMAS R. HENRY, JR. and ALBERT D. MILLARD. He was furnished a rights and waiver of rights form which he read, indicated he understood, but refused to sign. He was advised that he was being interviewed concerning statements he made in a letter he had mailed to Mr. SANDERS of Ebony Magazine.

CURTIS stated he was merely trying to sell a story to Ebony for approximately \$5,000 to help his mother pay off a mortgage on her home. She had obtained this mortgage as a result of paying attorney's fees for the defense of CURTIS at a previous trial.

CURTIS stated that he and JAMES EARL RAY participated in a burglary in Joliet, Illinois, in October or November, 1954. It was pointed out to CURTIS that certain statements made by him in his letter to Ebony Magazine could possibly involve him in a conspiracy with JAMES EARL RAY in connection with the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CURTIS then stated he wished to go on record as to the statements made in his letter to Mr. SANDERS. He categorically denied the following statements which were in his letter to Ebony Magazine:

- 1) That he and JAMES EARL RAY participated in a crime in 1954;
- 2) That RAY wanted the job of killing KING;
- 3) That he and RAY talked about killing KING for three years;
- 4) That he and RAY talked to the man from Mississippi that knew all about the KK Businessmen's Association which Association was to put up the money to kill KING;
- 5) That he knew the men from Mississippi;
- 6) That for three years he and RAY made maps just to find the right place to kill KING and that he made the maps over himself;
- 7) That he and RAY knew just where they would go after the killing of KING;
- 8) That he was to be in on the killing of KING;
- 9) That there are men in five states who are behind the killing of KING and these men do not know what he (CURTIS) knows.

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On	7/3/68	at_	Dalton, Georgia		AT 4	4-2386	
			MILLARD and HENRY, JR.	:jlh		7/5/68	
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AT 44-2386 2

During this interview CURTIS drew two maps setting out how he thought RAY would stalk KING. This map indicated the following towns where he said KING made most of his speeches: Atlanta, Georgia; Little Rock, Arkansas; Birmingham, Mobile, and Selma, Alabama; Jackson, Vicksburg, and Marks. Mississippi.

CURTIS further advised that there was a man living on a houseboat in Vicksburg, Mississippi, on the Mississippi River whose name he would not divulge who was to take RAY down the River on his boat to New Orleans after the killing. CURTIS further advised that in the past he had pulled several burglaries and armed robberies in towns along the Mississippi River and while police were looking for him on the highway he would be on a boat down the Mississippi. He added that he had written a story concerning the KING killing which was currently being typed and this was the story he mentioned in the letter to Ebany Magazine and which he intended to sell to Ebony.

JAMES EARL RAY; MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM

On July 3, 1968, Sheriff G. T. Mauldin, Whitfield County, Georgia, advised that Curtis sent no letters or communications from the Whitfield County Jail which passed over the jailer's desk. He stated Curtis probably sent his mail out with visitors and jail trustees which would probably not have been observed by men of his department. Sheriff Mauldin stated that Curtis' attorney, Erwin Mitchell, former U. S. Congressman from the Seventh District of Georgia, is of the opinion that most of Curtis' comments concerning his knowledge of Ray's alleged assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. are pure fabrications on the part of Curtis or the result of something Curtis has read in the newspapers.

Approximately one hour following the conclusion of the interview with Curtis, he sent a note to Sheriff Mauldin requesting to again see an FBI Agent and stating that he wanted to tell the entire truth. Curtis was re-interviewed at the Whitfield County Jail.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

	July	5,	1963	
Date				

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RAYMOND CURTIS was furnished a rights and waiver of rights form which he refused to sign. He then stated in connection with the previous interview that apparently in his letter to Ebony Magazine, he used the word "we" indicating that he and JAMES EARL RAY had planned the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., and he realized now this would involve him in a conspiracy. For that reason in the previous interview he denied the statements he had made in his letter to Ebony Magazine. CURTIS then advised he had written a story which he intended to sell to some magazine for the purpose of obtaining money for his mother. He stated the story was still in his possession and had not yet been sent out to be typed. He permitted SA HENRY to read this 20-page handwritten story one page at a time and he declared this story was true. The first five or six pages of the story merely set out his early life in crime and the prison sentences he had served as a result of the crimes, starting at the age of 15. The remainder of the story is the same as he originally furnished in an interview in April, 1968, concerning his knowledge and association with JAMES EARL RAY. The story reflects that he first became associatedn with RAY in 1934 when they pulled a payroll robbery together in Quincy, Illinois, with a third individual. Shortly thereafter CURTIS lost contact with RAY when RAY and this third individual were apprehended in connection with a bank robbery at Southwest City, Missouri. After that CURTIS again became acquainted with RAY in prison and while in prison they both learned of the death of President JOHN F. KENNEDY. At this time RAY stated the murder of KENNEDY sounded like a big job and he was always on the inside of a prison when big jobs and big money were to be had.

A Comment of the Comm

Shortly after the death of JOHN F. KENNEDY, MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. became prominent, and RAY stated on several occasions that somebody was going to kill KING. During this period an individual came into the Missouri State Penitentiary from Vicksburg, Mississippi. This individual upon learning of JAMES EARL RAY's feelings toward killing KING advised RAY of the KK Businessmen's Association of the South

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and stated that people in five states were putting up noney for KING's assassination. The story further reflected that RAY informed this individual that he intended to have everything set when he killed KING. RAY followed KING's movements through maps so that he could later stalk KING to the point of assassination. RAY indicated during the time that he would leave a false gun and false trail immediately following the murder. RAY was supposed to go to Vicksburg, Mississippi, following the murder, contact the man from Vicksburg who had the houseboat, and this man was to take him either to New Orleans or Canada via the Mississippi River.

At the conclusion of the inerview CURTIS stated he would not testify to any of the above information. He did advise that the name of the individual on the houseboat in Vicksburg, Mississippi, was (first name unknown) WILLETT, also known as "Mississippi," who served time in the Missouri State Penitentiary.

CURTIS refused to allow his story to be copied and stated he would not write it over again nor would he allow the pages to be removed from his prison cell. CURTIS then presented crude sketches of the Federal Pententiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, and the Missouri State Penitentiary.