7/18/68

sirtel

1 - Name Check

TO:

SAC, Memphis (44-1987)

FROM:

Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

Reurtel July 17, 1968.

Pursuant to your request, Bufiles have been reviewed and contain no pertinent derogatory data concerning any of the names listed in retel other than data which appears in your files.

Under date of July 18, 1968, AAG Vinson furnished a list of 25 local officers who will be responsible for Ray's security, with a request for check of Bufiles.

For your information, there is enclosed herewith a copy of Mr. Vinson's request, together with a copy of the Bureau's reply thereto dated July 18, 1968.

The above is for your information.

Enclosures (2)

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Form DJ-150 (Ed. 4-26-65)

UNITED STATES GOVER

ARTMENT OF JUNTICE hop.

95-100-473

Mr. Tolson... Mr. DeLoach..... Mr. Mohr

Mr. Callahan... Mr. Conrad

Mr. Felt....

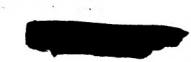
Mr. Gale.... DATE: July 18, 1968 Mr. Rosen Sullivan.

Mr. Tavel ... Mr. Thotter.

Tele. Room...

Miss Holmes... Miss Gandy_

Memorandum



TO Director

Federal Bureau of Investigation

FROM A: Fred M. Vinson, Jr.

Assistant Attorney General

^c Criminal Division

subject: James Earl Ray

Murken

Attached is a list setting forth the names, birth dates, race and residence of those members of the Shelby County Sheriff's Department, Memphis Police Department and the Tennessee Highway Patrol who will be assigned to security detail during the above subject's incarceration in Shelby County.

Will you please run an indices check and let me know the results as soon as possible.

Attachment

fied by 608 OLFD/Och Solid 5-26-77

ENCLOSURE

44-38861-4902

15 JUL 23 1968

Xaray to Munglish

REC'D - ROSEN

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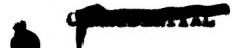
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JUL 211968

1 - Mr. DeLoach

NAME CHECK

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Malley

1 - Name Checkuly 19, 1968

Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr. Assistant Attorney General

Director, FBI

REC 22

44-28561-4902

JAMES BARL RAY

14-114

Reference is made to your letter of July 18, 1968, your reference 95-100-473, requesting a check of the files of this Bureau concerning 25 members of local law enforcement agencies who will be assigned to security detail during the above subject's incarceration in Shelby County.

The files of the FBI have been reviewed based on the identifying data furnished by you and our files reveal no identifiable pertinent information concerning the individuals listed by you with the exception of the following:

Hobert Jackson Beckham, Jr. We have not investigated Beckham. However, our files reveal that Hobert Jackson Beckham, Sr., who may be the father of Hobert Jackson Beckham, Jr., was the subject of two civil rights investigations. He, the father, was a deputy sheriff of Hardin County, Tennessee. Copies of the reports of these investigations were furnished the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice in the cases captioned "Con D. Seaton, Sheriff, Hardin County, Savannah, Tennessee; Hobert Jackson Beckham, Sr., aka, Deputy Sheriff, Hardin County, Savannah, Tennessee; James L. Hunt - Victim" and "Richard Clay Jerrolds; Et Al.; Harvey McHeal Vanhoose, Et Al. - Victims."

Movard Don Clifton. This individual was the subject of a civil rights investigation in September, 1964. A copy of the investigative report was furnished the Civil Rights Division of the Department under the title "Howard Don Clifton; Jimmy Donald Music; Memphis, Tennessee, Police Department; James Edward Pugh - Victim."

William A. DuFour. This individual was the subject of a civil rights investigation along with others in 1966. Copies of the investigative reports were forwarded to the

EAC.	Memphis	(Info) BY SEPARATE	AIRTEL
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SEE NOTE, PGS 2 & 3

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JR.

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DeLoach.

Mohr ____ Bishop ___ Casper ___ Callahan _

Felt . Gale

Rosen
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Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr.

Civil Rights Division of the Department under the title of "James Roy Edwards; William Albert DuFour; Fred McCoy Sansone; Carlton Eugene Mendenhall, Officers, Shelby County Sheriff's Office, Memphis, Tenn.; R. C. (IO) Mitchell - Victim."

John Bunet Overbey. Investigations were conducted involving Overbey and others on civil rights matters in June, 1963, and November, 1965. Copies of the investigative reports in both cases were furnished to the Civil Rights Division of the Department under the titles "Patrolmen J. E. Overby, R. R. Davis, Memphis PD; Alonzo Houston, aka Lonzo Houston, Joe Joe Fonzo - Victim" and "John Emmett Overbey; Don Owen Lewis; Officers, Memphis, Tenn., PD; Roscoe Baggett - Victim."

Jerry Joseph Wells. This individual was the subject of a civil rights investigation in March, 1967, and a copy of the investigative report was furnished to the Civil Rights Division of the Department under the caption "William Thad Knight, Jerry Joseph Wells, Patrolmen, Memphis Police Department, Memphis, Tennessee; Herman Richard Taylor, Jr. - Victim."

NOTE: Regarding Beckham matter, two civil rights investigations alleging the father of subject of inquiry and other deputy sheriffs beat a drunk and cafe owner, both white. Case was tried by jury and subjects found not guilty in July, 1965. The other investigation was typical allegation of beating. Department furnished copies; no further action. (44-21964) (44-25219)

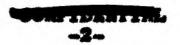
The Clifton matter was a typical civil rights allegation of brutality involving the beating of a white male. Reports furnished Department and no further action taken.

(44-26792)

In the DuFour matter, complete investigation conducted concerning four highway patrolmen in Memphis. Reports furnished the Department; no further action taken. Allegation was that officials manhandled a Negro male, his wife and two daughters. Allegations denied. (44-31655)

In the Overbey matter, both investigations involved Negro victims who were drunk and disorderly. Preliminary investigation conducted and no further action requested by the Department. (44-22398)

NOTE CONTINUED, PAGE THREE.



CONTIDENTIAL

Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr.

NOTE, CONTINUED:

In the Wells matter, victim, white male, alleged beaten by subjects. Subject advised victim hit with flashlight when resisted arrest. No further action requested by Department. (44-35582)

In addition to the above data, Warner J. Berry was the subject of a Bureau applicant matter in July, 1955. Investigation developed no derog re Berry but did raise some question regarding morals of his in-laws. In view of the nature of this information, it is not being furnished to Vinson. (67-539740). Berry was also investigated as an applicant for INS in 1962. No derogatory information was developed. (77-90617).

Re Eugene Joseph Miller, he EOD'd in the Bureau 12/2/57 and resigned 1/24/58 as he desired to be nearer his home in Tennessee. No derogatory information and above not furnished to Vinson. (67-556048)

Classified "Confidential" inasmuch as incoming so classified. No "group" classification being assigned as Vinson had no such classification on incoming.

Name	DOB	Department	Race	Residence
Hobert Jackson Beckham	1			
Jr.		Tennessee Highway Patrol	white	Memphis
Buddy Edward Bowers		Tennessee Highway Patrol	11	**
Howard Don Clifton		Tennessee Highway Patrol	11	T†
James Earl Hardin		Shelby Co. Sheriff's Dept.	**	11
John William Horton		Tennessee Highway Patrol	*1	***
Cecil A. Hurst		Shelby Co. Sheriff's Dept.	**	11
Leonard E. Schultz		Tennessee Highway Patrol	71	**
Clifford A. Ballard		Shelby Co. Sheriff's Dept.	*1	**
Warner J. Berry		Shelby Co. Sheriff's Dept.	71	ff
Eulton L. Cobb		Shelby Co. Sheriff's Dept.	**	tt
William A. DuFour		Shelby Co. Sheriff's Dept.	*1	**
Elwym Quinn Hartline		Shelby Co. Sheriff's Dept.	71	*1
Walter R. Lincoln		Shelby Co. Sheriff's Dept.	*1	††
Stephen Boyd Scott		Shelby Co. Sheriff's Dept.	**	**
Guy Amon Cain, JR.		Memphis Police Dept.	**	**
Carroll Douglas Dunn		Memphis Police Dept.	tt	11
Luther Edward Jamison		Shelby Co. Sheriff's Dept.	11	†1
Joe Rus Kent		Memphis Police Dept.	*11	ŤŤ
Eugene Joseph Miller		Memphis Police Dept.	**	Ŧŧ
Ralph Frederick Muench		Memphis Police Dept.	11	ŧτ
John Emmet Overbey		Memphis Police Dept.	21	11
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		contin	ued next p	a ge

Name	DOB	Department	Race	Residence
Raphm Lane Roby		Memphis Police Dept.	white	Memphis
Jerry Joseph Wells		Memphis Police Dept.	***	**
James Ronald R iechert		Memphis Police Dept.	***	"
Richard King Wilson		Memphis Police Dept.	"	**

July 19, 1968

BY LIAMON

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. McGowan

Mrs. Mildred Stegall The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Stegall:

Mul Kin

With reference to the extradition of James Earl Ray. who is charged with the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr., I thought the following information might be of interest to the President.

British authorities turned Ray over yesterday evening to the custody of Agents of this Bureau who accompanied him, aboard a United States Air Force plane, to the Naval Air Station at Memphis, Tennessee,

Ray was turned over by FBI Agents to officers of the Shelby County, Tennessee, Sheriff's Office and was incarcerated in the Shelby County Jail at 5:32 a. m., Eastern Daylight Time, July 19, 1968.

The transportation of Ray from Great Britain to the Memphis Naval Air Station as well as from the Naval Air Station to the Shelby County Jail was accomplished without incident.

The Air Force flight surgeon who conducted physical examinations of Ray abourd the plane en route from Great Britain to the United States stated that Ray was in good physical condition.

> REC 22 Sincerely yours,

MIM

TELETYPE UNIT

61JUL 301968

Tolson DeLoach Bishop

Casper Callahan

Contad _

RESEIVES-BINESTOR FBI

Jul 19 8 11 AM 368

COPIES MADE DATE 5 4 78 BY
RCB. 1-55 RE M. L. Fing JC.
FOR REVIEW AT FEIRE AND/OR DELIVERY
TO HOGA RE NEGLECT DATED 5/3/26 (SEE DUTILE 62-117290)

FBI WASH DC

FBI MEMPHIS

645

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

JUL 19 1968

TELETYPE

K

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 Hames
Miss Gandy

morning

AM URGENT 7/19/68 RJT TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) FROM MEMPHIS (44-1987)

MURKIN.

SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY ARRIVED ABOARD MILITARY AIRCRAFT
AT MILLINGTON NAVAL AIR STATION THREE THIRTYSEVEN A.M. THIS DATE
PRE-PLANNED ARRANGEMENTS WENT SMOOTHLY. TRANSFER OF PRISONER
TO SHERIFF COMPLETED FOUR ZERO ONE AM. DEPARTURE FROM NAVAL
AIR STATION IN CONVOY AT FOUR ZERO SIX AM. SUBJECT ENTERED INTO
SHELBY COUNTY JAIL FOUR TWENTYNINE AM. THIS DATE. ENTIRE
PROCEEDINGS HELD WITHOUT INCIDENT.

REC 22

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MR. DELOACH FOR THE DIRECTOR

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LECTION

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) FROM MEMPHIS (44-1987)

MURKING ST

SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY ARRIVED ABCARD MILITARY AIRCHAFT A FMILLIFFTON NAVAL AIR STATION THREE THIRTYSEVER A.Y. THIS DATE PRE-PLASED ARRANGEMENTS WENT SMOCTALY. TRANSFER OF PRISONER TO SHERIFF COMPLETED FOUR-ZERO ONL AM. DEPARTURE FROM NAVAL AIR STATION IN CONVOY AT FOUR ZERO SIX AM. SUBJECT ENTERED INTO SHELDY COUNTY JAIL FOUR TWEATYNINE AM. THIS DATE. ENTIRE PROCEEDINGS HELD WITHOUT INCIDENT.

Jan 19 11 42 AM '68

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P. END.

Lel Avek DC

IN

Wash DC FBI

4:14 PM URGENT 7-22-68 DJM DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) FROM SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTIC COMMUNICATION SECT

MURKIN

RE SI TEL TO BUREAU JULY NINETEEN LAST.

HAZEL DREW, PAMELA SCHNEIDER, CAROLYN LEE, CAROL WYATT AND PCI HELEN GRABLE. ALL OF WHOM ARE AQUAINTED WITH SUSPECTS IN ROBBERY THE BANK OF ALTON, AND HAVE EXPRESSED DESTRE TO COOPERATE WITH BUREAU, ADVISED THEY HAVE BEEN UNABLE, TO DEVELOP ANY INFORMATION IN ADDITION TO THAT ALREADY PURNISHED. ALL INDICATE THEY WILL CONTINUE TO SEEK POSITIVE INFORMATION IN THIS REGARD.

DEMOS NICHOLAS, MADISON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, DEVELOPING WILLIE LEE AS INFORMANT: STATES HE FEELS LEE HAS INFORMATION TO PROVIDE AND WILL ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP SAME AND PROVIDE INTELLIGENCE TO BUREAU.

MAIL COPY TO CHICAGO,, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS

44-38261-4905

REC 22

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4 JUL 23 1968

END

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FBI WASH DC

61JUL 30 1968

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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F. B. I. U. S. DEPT. OF AUSTICE

FBI

7/22/68 Date:

PLATN TEXT

Transmit th	e following in		
ridiisiiit ti	le following in	(Type in plaintext or code)	
Via A	RTEL		
		(Priority)	

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM:

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

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel to New York dated 7/17/68, with copy for Memphis requesting New York to determine if American Express Company could check for any checks issued to RAMON GEORGE SNEYD without the check numbers.

Mr. CAMPBELL in Mr. LAWRENCE SHOEMAKER'S Office, American Express Company, Inspector's Office, 351 Park Avenue South, New York, stated that a check by name only cannot be made.

Bureau - Memphis (44-1987)

1- New York

EX-114

FLC:jrf (6)

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REC 22

44-38861-4900

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Agent in Charge

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO

Director, FBI (44-38861)

7-22-68 DATE:

SAC, Memphis (44-1987) P

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

Submitted herewith for the completion of Bufile instant case is a property list pertaining to subject this case. noted that Legal Attache JOHN T. MINNICH signed this list as being the data and material which he received from Scotland Yad. The second signature is that of SAC, who acknowledged receipt of same from Legat MINNICH, and the third signature is that of the Chief Jailer, Shelby County Sheriff's Department, H. L. PARKER, who received the material from SAC, Memphis. The original is being maintained in the Memphis file.

Bureau (Enc. 1) Memphis

RGJ:BN (3)

REC. 22

6 JUL 24 1968

recharakin't

7,9 AUG 1-1968
Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS FBI

JUL 26 4 13 PM '68

Jul 26 - 35 PH '81:

PROPERTY IN RESPECT OF RAMON GEORGE SNEYD

On Person

ONE .33 'Liberty Chief' revolver

FIVE rounds of .38 ammunition

ONE Canadian Passport No. in name of Ramon George Sneyd.

ONE Canadian Passport (cancelled) No. in the name of Ramon George Sneya.

ONE Birth Certificate No. NO in the name

of Ramon George Sneyd

ONE black billfold

ONE comb

ONE pencil

ONE Airline ticket B.E.A. No. 0602/9903/116-London to Brussels

ONE Airline ticket B.O.A.C. No. 0614/4256/8753-

London to Toronto

ONE Key on ring

ONE yellow metal tie clip

ONE white metal wristlet watch on white metal bracelet

A quantity of correspondence

ELSEWHERE

ONE suitcase

ONE light brown jacket

CNE pair blue trousers

ONE pair brown trousers

ONE pair grey trousers

one periodicy from the

GNE Polaroid 220 camera

SIX gent's shirts

THREE pairs of underpants

NOUR gent's singlets (T-shirts)

FIVE handkerchiefs

FIVE pairs of socks

TWO towels

ONE blue cap

FIVE ties

ONE Hifi Deluxe radio in case

TWO pairs of sunglasses

CNE Collin's dictionary

ONE plastic wallet

Robert & Jenoin
77.2 Park

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 1417

44-38861-4907

ENCLOSURE

Elsewhere (continued)

ONE Portuguese 50 centavas piece

TWINTY-ONE air mail envelopes

CNE bottle opener

ONE writing pad

ONE screwdriver

ONE pair of nail clippers

FIFTEEN Aspros

ONE can shaving foam

CNE safety razor

ONE can decdorant

CNE jar skin cream

ONE bottle shampoo

ONE tube hair dressing

TWO tubes toothpaste

ONE toothbrush

ONE inhaler

ONE bottle liniment

ONE suede brush

ONE tin shoe polish

ONE hand mirror

TWO bars soap

TEN safety pins

ONE book matches

THREE plasters

TWO metal clips

ONE real thread

CNE comb

CNE roll adhesive tape

ONE raincoat

ONE tie

CNE belt

ONE pair of trousers

ONE jacket

CNE baggage ticket

CNE envelope bearing name 'R. SNEYD' 982 Dundas Street, Toronto

902 Dundas Street, Toronto

CNE Earclays Bank slip in name of Sneyd
ONE passenger ticket No. 0471"125363 T.A.P. Airlines

ONE envelope containing four photographs of self

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 1417

islsewhore(continued)

- ONE receipt No. 177 from Hotel Portugal
- ONE Kennedy travel bureau receipt No. 33273
- CNE 1967 almanac
- CNE book on Rhodesia
- ONE book 'The Ninth Directive'
- ONE map of London
- ONE S.A.L. timetable
- CNE map of Portugal
- ONE picture magazine
- ONE book 'Self Hypnotism'
- CNE book 'Psycho'
- ONE book 'How to cash on your hidden memory power'
- TWO paper-backed books on hypnotism
- TEN 5-pound Bank of England notes
- ONE 1-pound Bank of England note
- 9/6d silver

One blue plastic carrier bag.

Two brown suits

One multi-colored handkerchief

One pair brown shoes

One pair black socks

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 1413

JUL 1 8 1968 ENCIPHERED

OTT O 4 359PM X JL
URGENT 7-18-68
TO DIRECTOR (44-38861)
FROM LEGAT, OTTAWA (44-4) 1P



Mark March

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...

REBUTEL JULY THELVE LAST.

REQUEST CONTAGNED IN REBUTEL JULY TWELVE LAST WAS DISCUSSED WITH ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER H. S. COOPER, DIRECTOR OF CRIMINAL-INVESTIGATION, RCMP HEADQUARTERS, ON JULY SEVENTEEN LAST AND A ME SAID NO OBJECTION TO FURNISHING TENNESSEE AUTHORITIES ANY OF IMPO DEVELOPED AS RESULT RCMP'S INVESTIGATION.

IN VIEW ABOVE, ADVISE IF STILL NECESSARY TO SUBMIT COMPLETE

END .

F.B.

FBI WASH BE

Carlinant Carlinant Garden 1968

22 44-3886/ 22 JUL 24, 1968

SED CC ME BRENNAN

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10 DIRECTOR (44-38861)

FROM LEGET, OTTAWA (44-4). IP

MURKIN.

REBUTEL BLY BELVE LAST.

WITH ASSISTANE COMPISSIONER H. S. COOPER, DIRECTOR OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION, RCHE HEADQUARTERS, ON JULY SEVENTEEN LAST AND HE SAID NO OBJECTION TO FURNISHING TENNESSEE AUTHORITIES ANY DITHOO DEVELOPED AS RESULT RCMP'S INVESTIGATION.

IN VIEW ABOVE, ADVISE IF STILL NECESSARY TO SUBMIT COMPLETE

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FBI WASH DC

Jul 19 8 51 AH '68

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REC'DE BLY RIGHTS

7/23/68

1 - Mr. McGowan

1 - Mr. Long

CODE

CABLEGRAM

URGENT

EX-114 TO LEGAT OTTAWA (44-4)

FROM DIRECTOR PBI (44-38861) 4908

MURKIN

REURDAB JULY EIGHTEEN LAST.

YOU SHOULD FURNISH COMPLETE LISTING OF ITEMS

SUBMITTED BY YOU UNDER MURKIN CAPTION.

COPY MAILED MEMPHIS.

213

1 A BAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (Enc.) (H2W)

1 - Foreign Liaison Unit (cleared with SA Graham Day)

REL:cs
(6)

NOTE: In view of subject being prosecuted by Tennessee authorities, Legat, Ottawa had been requested to advise if items submitted by them can be disseminated to Tennessee authorities. They advised that items of investigation as conducted by RCMP can be disseminated and requested to advise if a complete listing should be submitted. Legat is being requested to submit a complete listing to Bureau in order to insure that we are in receipt of all items.

VIA TELETYPE

JUL 24 1968
9-30 AMERICAL
ENCIPHERED

Regn

1 - Mr. McGowan

1 - Mr. Long

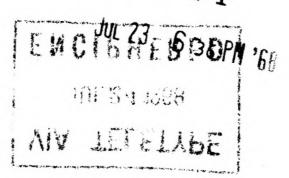
1 - Foreign Liaison Unit (cleared with SA Greham Day)

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order to insure that we are in receipt of all items. boing requested to submit a complete listing to Bureau in advise if a complete listing should be submitted. Legat is conducted by RCMP can be disseminated and requested to authorities. They advised that items of investigation as items submitted by them can be disseminated to Tennessee authorities, Legat, Ottawa had been requested to advise if In view of subject being prosecuted by Tennessee



FBI

THE PROPERTY FILTED IN

July 19, 1968

D. 105

REC- 14 44 - 38861-4409

Honorable Harold Brown Secretary of the Air Force Washington, D. C. 20330

Dear Dr. Brown:

I want to express my sincere appreciation to you, Mr. John A. Lang, Jr., and Colonel Frank Simokaitis for the invaluable assistance you rendered in connection with the transportation of James Earl Ray back to the United States.

The importance of this task cannot be overstated and without your complete cooperation, it could not have been accomplished so successfully. My associates and I are indeed grateful and send our thanks to each of you.

Sincerely yours,

1 - Memphis

NOTE: See Rosen to Mr. DeLoach memorandum, dated 7-19-68, captioned: "MURKIN."

Con

DeLoach Mohr ____ Bishop __ Casper __ Callahan Conrad __ AWT:rlf
(5)

JUL 25 1968

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Memorandum

TO

Mr. DeLoach

DATE:

July 19, 1968

Sullivan Tavel Trotter Tele. Room

FROM

A. Rosen

SUBJECT MURKIN

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Malley

1 - Mr. McGowan

1 - Mr. McDonough

1 - Mr. Bishop

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

In connection with the handling of the transportation of James Earl Ray back to the United States and his delivery to custody of local authorities in Memphis, Tennessee, on 7/19/68, the following individuals are being suggested for letters of appreciation in recognition of their contribution to the successful completion of this mission.

> Honorable Harold Brown Secretary of the Air Force

Mr. John A. Lang, Jr. Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of the Air Force (rode in the plane and perfected arrangements for obtaining the Air Force plane)

Colonel Frank Simokattis Aide to Mr. Lang (rode in the plane and also assisted in the obtaining of the aircraft)

REC- 14 Colonel Aaron C. Burleson (Air Force liaison with the Department in working out arrangements for Air Force transportation)_

Major Frank K. Babbitt and crew 2 JUL 24 1968 (Babbit was Flight Commander and crew, of course, were fully cooperative)

JUL 25 18

EJM:vea

ADDRESSES OBTAINED BY LIAISON

RIL MILITARY

CONTINUED - OVER

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Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach RE: MURKIN

Captain Charles A. Rohrmann (Air Force flight surgeon who examined Ray in the aircraft en route to the United States)

Major General Lawrence Lightner
Commander, Third Air Force
Ruislip, England, and Staff
(General Lightner and his staff afforded full cooperation to
Legat, London in perfecting the phases of this mission in England)

Sheriff William N. Morris, Jr.
Shelby County (Memphis), Tennessee
(Sheriff Morris took custody of the subject in Memphis and was fully cooperative in connection with the security arrangements worked out for the transfer of the prisoner from FBI custody to his custody)

Chief Henry Lux
Memphis Police Department
(furnished assistance in security arrangements connected with
the transfer of custody of the subject)

Captain William B. Morton
Chief of Naval Air Technical Training
Naval Air Station
Memphis, Tennessee
(afforded cooperation in connection with touch down area)

Captain L. A. Hoke, Jr.
Commanding Officer
Naval Air Station
Memphis, Tennessee
(afforded cooperation in connection with touch down area)

It is suggested that the letter involving Secretary of the Air Force Brown, Mr. John A. Lang and Colonel Frank Simokatis be addressed to Mr. Brown only but that it comment on Mr. Lang and Colonel Simokatis specifically for their cooperation.

ACTION:

That this be forwarded to the Crime Records Division for appropriate letters of recognition to the indicated individuals.

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



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Mr. DeLoac

A. Rosen

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

DATE: July 19, 1968

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Malley

1 - Mr. McGowan

1 - Mr. McDonough

1 - Mr. Bishop

Mohr Bishop Casper Collahan Contad -Rosen 👤 Sullivan Tavel. Trotter Tele, Room Holmes

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

James Earl Ray was returned to the United States today on a U.S. Air Force plane in the custody of FBI Agents and was turned over to the Sheriff's Office of Shelby County (Memphis), Tennessee, early this morning. This mission was completed without incident.

The extradition order was signed by the British Home Secretary at 6 p.m., London time, 7/18/68 (1 p.m., Washington, D. C., time).

The Air Force plane departed London at 7:38 p.m., Washington, D. C., time, 7/18/68, and touched down at the Naval Air Station in Memphis, Tennessee, at 4:37 a.m., Washington, D. C., time, 7/19/68. The subject was afforded a physical examination by the Air Force flight surgeon aboard the aircraft, was processed by the Customs Inspector and Ray was then turned over to the custody of Sheriff William M. Morris of the Shelby County (Memphis), Tennessee, Sheriff's Office. REC-14 4/4 6/ - 4/910

The subject was then transported in an armored van preceded by three Sheriff's Office cars and followed by three additional Sheriff's Office cars. The party escorting the prisoner left the Naval Air Station at Memphis at 5:07 a.m., Washington, D. C., time, and Ray was incarcerated in the Shelby County Jail at 5:32 a.m., Washington, D. C., time. The transportation of the subject from Great Britain to the Naval Air Station in Memphis and from thence to the jail was accomplished without incident.

Enclosures (2)

EJM:cs/ml

CONTINUED - OVER

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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Memo Rosen to DeLoach

RE: MURKIN

According to SA Harold Light, who was in charge of the FBI escort crew, Ray was no problem on the plane, was docile and although food and drink was offered to him, he declined to eat or drink. No effort was made to interview him and he volunteered no information. Just prior to touchdown in Memphis Ray complained of having a headache, the Air Force doctor was notified and he provided Ray a couple of aspirins. The Air Force flight surgeon, after giving Ray a physical examination on departure from England and arrival in Memphis, stated that he was in good physical condition.

The original proposed press release (copy attached) was discussed with Cliff Sessions, Departmental Public Information Officer, on 7/18/68 and he insisted the release be discussed with Assistant Attorney General Vinson and the Attorney General. Vinson and the Attorney General instructed that the press release be shortened and the names of the Attorney General and the Director be omitted in order to, as they stated, play the release in a lower key. Appropriate action, however, was taken by the Crime Records Division on conferring with our news contacts in making an extensive dissemination to the news media of the attached approved release at 5:34 a.m., Washington time, today, 7/19/68. The release was also furnished to the Memphis Office.

Letters have been prepared for the White House and the Attorney General advising them of the successful completion of this mission.

ACTION:

For information.

Jerry Rom

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In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 19, 1968

James Earl Ray, who is charged with the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr., was returned safely to the United States today.

British authorities turned Ray over yesterday evening to the custody of FBI Agents, who accompanied him on a nonstop flight from London aboard a U.S. Air Force C-135 to Memphis, Tennessee.

The plane left Great Britain at 7:38 p.m., EDT, yesterday and arrived at the Memphis Naval Air Station at 4:37 a.m., EDT, today.

Upon arrival he was turned over by the FBI to the Shelby County, Tennessee, Sheriff's Office and was lodged in the Shelby County jail.

The transportation of Ray to the United States was accomplished without incident.

114-11-61-41



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

James Earl Ray, wanted in connection with the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was returned to the United States today according to an announcement by Attorney General Ramsey Clark.

authorities released Ray at today to the custody of FBI
Agents. Ray was immediately placed aboard a U.S. Air Force
plane which proceeded nonstop to the Memphis Naval Air Station,
Memphis, Tennessee. Upon arrival in Memphis, FBI Agents released
Ray to the custody of the Shelby County Sheriff's Office.

Mr. Hoover explained that Ray, due to his failure to appeal a British court ruling that he be extradited to the U.S., had, in effect, waived further judicial proceedings in Great Britain. Mr. Hoover said that the extradition proceedings in Great Britain had been based on a first degree murder indictment which was returned by the Shelby County Grand Jury in Memphis on May 7, 1968, and on his escape from the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City, Missouri, in April, 1967.

ENCLOSURE

Mr. Hoover further advised that Ray will be held

in custody in Memphis pending prosecutive action by local authorities.

FBI

Date: 7-22-68

smit the following in _	(Type in plaintext or code)		
AIRTEL	AM		
	(Priority)		

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Are Joach
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

TO:

DIRECTOR (44-38861)

FROM:

MEMPHIS (44-1987) P

MURKIN

Criminal Court Judge W. PRESTON BATTLE will hear trial of JAMES EARL RAY. Memphis indices disclose no pertiment derogatory data concerning BATTLE. Memphis indices disclose Airtel submitted to Bureau in Bufile 44-30948 captioned "Deputy (FNU) BONNANO, East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana, Sheriff's Office; UNSUB, Jailer, East Baton Rouge Parish Jail, East Baton Rouge, Louisiana; UNSUB, Jailer, Memphis Police Department Jail, Memphis, Tennessee; Judge W. PRESTON BATTLE, Shelby County Criminal Court, Division #3, Memphis, Tennessee; DOUGLAS LANIER - VICTIM, CR." This Airtel was RUC communication from Memphis. Victim instant case alleged Judge BATTLE violated his constitutional rights.

Another reference in Memphis file disclosed Airtel dated 11-1-65 submitted to Bureau under caption "W. PRESTON BATTLE, Judge, Shelby County Court, Memphis, Tennessee; GEORGE EDWARD DRAPER, Public Defender, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee; WILLIAM D. HAYNES, Assistant Attorney General, Shelby County, Memphis, Tenn.; Lt. JAMES P. TALLEY, Police Department, Memphis, Tennessee; HAROLD WARD YATES - VICTIM, CR." In this Civil Rights complaint, victim YATES alleged that Judge BATTLE refused to let him say anything during course of trial and alleged BATTLE violated his rights by this and the excessive sentence which was given him.

In addition, City Attorney JOSEPH A. CANALE, former Special Agent (Retired), advised he has known Judge BATTLE personally for 25 years. He described BATTLE has being respected both socially and professionally in the community. Judge BATTLE further described as Judge who makes all attorneys "toe the line" in his courtroom and is strict in regard to proceedings. Former SA CANALE advised in confidence that he had never heard a word against Judge BATTLE's character, regulation, integrity, or ethics as a Judge 286/-

3 BUREAU (En 22 486 - C)

1 MEMPHIS

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Approved: Assert in Charge

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Battle, vicinted bis constitutional rights. AUC communicative from Momphas. Fictim instrut onse alloyed Justo Memphis, Touroscop; Dube as Lawies - Ticfin, Ca." This Airtel was W. Burgara Letalia, Chethy Jounty Orinian Lount, Advisor 65, Ja Lan, Mempana Police Department Jail, Memphas, Monnessoo, Jack anst auten amme barish Joha, Gast Suton Lougo, Leaterfast Massa, Baton Trupe Marish, Loudstone, Cheriff's Office; Unove, Jeiler, to Bureau in Bedille 44-501-55 onptioned "Peputy (TNU) Bolivake, west data concernian Marrill. Fomblis indices disclose Airtel submitted STERM DVSE TEXT Mempata indican disclose no pertiunt deregationy Ordernal Peart Jungo W. PARSTON MATTLE Tall hear trial of

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character, reputation, integraty, or ethios as a Judge.

A straint (when the straint of 15 18 by . PH in considerio cast he had never hourd a word against Jungo Mallud's 25 yearst , ye doserabed WATTLE has boing vespected both socially we and professionally in the community. Judge RATTLE further described as Manage who makes all attenneys "too the line" in his courtross red is structure regard to proceedings. Forest de UNESE, adviser (Lettred), advised he has known Judge Mary horsenness for

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS FBI

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Miss Hounes. Take Tireth agains M. LOOMER.

FBI

Date:

Transmit the following in (Type in plaintext or code)

Via (Priority)

ME 44-1987

Further, for the assistance of the Bureau, there is submitted herewith an article which appeared in the Mid-South Edition of the "Memphis Press Scimitar" on 7-19-68, which further described Judge BATTLE.

-2-

Approved: _____ Sent ____ M Per ____

He's 'Stickler For the Law'

Criminal Court Judge W. Preston Battle, one of the most experienced trial judges in Memphis, was announced today as the judge in the trial of James Earl Ray for the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

A short, heavyset man who runs a no-nonsense courtroom, Battle has been trial judge for a number of major cases since he first took the bench in 1959.

He presided at both trials of Louis F. Montesi, grocery executive convicted of killing his wife.

Battle's decisions have been reversed several times, including the first Montesi trial, but lawyers say this is the mark of a judge who hears a lot of cases and isn't afraid to blaze new trails.

Serious, almost scowling, on the bench, the 60-year-old

judge is a stickler for legal aspects of a case and often recesses court to check a point of law.

Lawyers who try grandstand tactics in the courtroom are likely to draw sharp words from the judge, but he displays exceptional patience with defendants or witnesses who appear nervous or seem not to understand legal procedures.

A lifelong Memphian, Judge Battle attended Washington & Lee University and the University of Memphis Law School, now part of Memphis State University School of Law.

ONCE SHY

He has said in the past that his shyness and timidity in his younger days led indirectly to his law career, that he had an aversion to speaking in public and joined the literary society at Memphis University School to overcome it. After receiving his license to practice law in 1933, he became assistant district attorney general for Shelby County, a post he held for 11 years, serving on the staffs of Atty. Gens. W. T. McLain, Marion Boyd and Will Gerber.

In 1945 he entered private law practice in Memphis, with the majority of his cases devoted to criminal law. In 1959 he was appointed judge for Division III of the Criminal Court of Shelby County, a newly created court, and has since been elected to the bench.

BAR LEADER

A member of the Memphis and Shelby County Bar Association, he has served on the board of directors and executive committee. He has served as president of the Memphis and Shelby County Mental Health Association, has been active in adult education classes at Southwestern and goes deep sea fishing for a hobby.

Married in 1941 to the former Florence Warfield Boyce of Memphis, he has four children, Mrs. E. Frank King, W. J. Britton III, Mrs. E. R. Kinnebrew III, and W. Preston Battle Jr.

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

- Page /

MEMPHIS PRESS SCINITAR

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 7-19-68 Edition: Mid-South

Author:

EditoCHARLES H.
Title: SCHNEIDER

Character:

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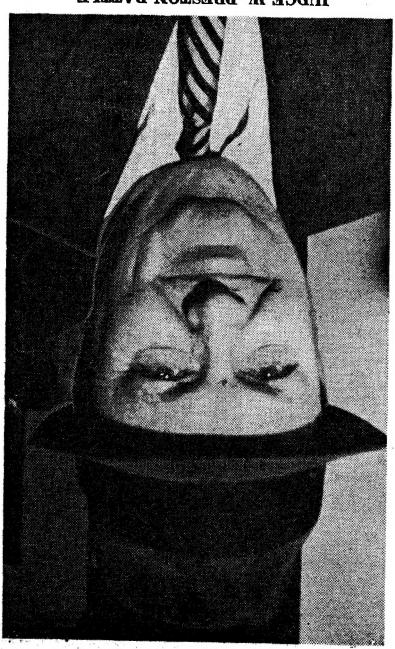
Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

Being Investigated

44-30.1-4111

JUDGE W. PRESTON BATTLE.



Fle's Sticklet

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

— Page i

— IMPRIS PRESS SCINITAR

— MENDINS, TENN.

Date: 7-19-69
Edition: Mid-Scuth

Author:

Title:

Character:

Classification:

OF

Edito SEARLES W.

Being Investigated

SCHNUIDER

Submitting Office:



JUDGE W. PRESTON BATTLE
To Preside in Ray Trial

FBI

Date: 7/22/68

Transmit the following in					
ViaAII	AIRTEL	RTEL AIR MAIL			
V10		(Priority)			
	TO: DIREC	CTOR, FBI (44-38861)		-	
	FROM: SAC.	LITTLE ROCK (157-1215) (P)			
	RE: MURK	IN .			
		Atlanta teletype, 7/3/68; Jackso Little Rock airtel, 7/11/68.	on airtel,		
h	Re	RAYMOND CURTIS, INTERVIEW IN COUNTY JAIL			
1		AT DALTON, GEORGIA			
	Assistant To Bluff, Arkan BARRON, JR. telephone can Louisiana. the FBI destat that time 387-0214. If personally a the fact that BARRON, he was a series of the fact that the fact that BARRON, he was a series of the fact that BARRON, he was a s	July 21, 1968, Mr. DUKE C. ALLIStust Officer, National Bank of Compass, telephonically contacted SA at Pine Bluff, advising he had reall from Mrs. J. BURNETT from New Mrs. BURNETT told Mr. ALLISON sheared to talk with her and she could at New Iberia, Louisiana, telephone Mrs. BURNETT that acquainted with SA GEORGE A. BARRO at Mrs. BURNETT was also acquainted would attempt to reach SA BARRON appears of the Mrs. BURNETT.	mmerce, Pine GEORGE A. Eceived a Iberia, E understood Id be reached none E as he was ON, JR. and ed with SA		
	from Pine B. contacted M. Iberia, Lous through her with her and	In July 21, 1968, SA GEORGE A. BARF luff, Arkansas, Resident Agency, to cs. J. BURNETT at telephone number isiana. Mrs. BURNETT stated she had cousin, JIM RHODES, that the FBI that was why she was trying to co e furnished the following informate	telephonically r 387-0214, No had heard wanted to tal ontact Agent tion:	ew	
	3 - Bureau 2 - Memphis 2 - Jackson 1 - New Orle 2 - Little GAB/ds	(157-9586) eans (Info.) Les Rock #EG.D - Old Bloom	-	<i>پ</i> ر	

Special Agent in Charge

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LR 157-1215

She and her former husband, CHARLES WILLIE, owned a houseboat known as the "Nell Willie." After her former husband's death, she sold this houseboat to a Mr. CARTWRIGHT, owner and operator of Cartwright Nursery Company near Memphis, Tennessee, and delivered the boat to him about February 1966. She was not acquainted with anyone named RAYMOND CURTIS or JAMES EARL RAY. She stated Mr. ALLISON could furnish the name and address of the party to whom she sold the boat.

On July 22, 1968, Mr. DUKE C. ALLISON, JR., Assistant Trust Officer, National Bank of Commerce, furnished SA GEORGE A. BARRON, JR. the following information:

Mrs. BURNETT sold the houseboat "Nell Willie" to A. D. CARTWRIGHT, JR., owner of Cartwright Nursery Company, Collierville, Tennessee, and delivered the boat approximately February 3, 1966. Mr. CARTWRIGHT re-named the boat "The Ponderosa." The boat is believed to be presently docked out of Memphis, Tennessee.

LEADS:

MEMPHIS:

AT COLLIERVILLE, TENNESSEE:

Will locate Mr. A. D. CARTWRIGHT, JR. in order to substantiate information or to disprove information set out in Atlanta teletype of July 3, 1968.

NEW ORLEANS discontinue efforts to locate Mrs. J. BURNETT.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE COMMUNICATION SECTION JUL 23 1968.

FBI WASH DC

TELETYPE

FBI SPRNGFLD

1220PM URGENT 7-23-68 DJM

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC. SPRINGFIELD (44-561) (1P)

MURKIN

RE SI TEL TO BUREAU JULY TWENTY TWO, LAST.

AS RESULT OF DREW PEARSONESYNDICATED

COLUMN ON JULY TWENTYTWO, LAST, ALTON AREA POLICE AGENCIES AND NEWS MEDIA CONTACTED AND WILL IMMEDIATELY FURNISH CONTENTS OF CITIZEN CALLS RESULTING THEREFROM.

SI SIXTEEN FOURTEEN - C WILL NOT RETURN TO ALTON AREA UNTIL FRIDAY.

MADISON COUNTY SO, TO INTERVIEW WILLIE LEE WHOM NICHOLAS IS USING AS INFORMANT. RESULTS WILL BE FURNISHED BUREAU PROMPTLY.

MAIL COPIES TO CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS. P.

END.

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COR LINE 2 PEARSON SYNDICATED

14 JUL 24 1968

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FBI WASH DC 638

e 54 JUL 301968

CC-MR. ROSEN

MR. DELOACH FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. DeLoach

Mr. Mohr

Mr. Bishop

Mr. Carper

Mr. Callahan

Mr. Contad

The Welt

Mr. Gale

Mr. Rock

Mr. Bullian

Mr. Favel

Gr. Tretter

Tele. Room

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