FNCIPHERED

Mr. Bishop . Mr. Convad Mr. Felt. Mr. Gale

Mr. Tol son ...

Mr. Rosen Y Mr. Sultivan...

Mr. Trotter.

Miss Gandy.

Mr. Tavel Tele. Room Miss Holmes

WA 2

105PM

URGENT 1/21-69 MSJ

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861)

CODE

FROM PHILADELPHIA (44-1368)

MURKIN

RE PHILADELPHIA TELETYPES JANUARY ONE NINE, LAST.

PH EIGHT NINE SEVEN DASH R ADVISED EARLY A.M., THIS DATE, JAMES BEVEL WAS IN WASHINGTON, D.C., ON JANUARY TWO ZERO, LAST. HE IS EXPECTED TO RETURN TO PHILADELPHIA TODAY.

INFORMANT ADVISED HE CONTACTED ERIC WARD, SCLO OFFICIAL MENTIONED BY BEVEL ON NEWSBROADCAST, AS PERSON AGREEING WITH HIM THAT JAMES EARL RAY DID NOT KILL KING.

WARD TOLD SOURCE THAT BEVEL IS QUOTE PLAYING A GAME " UNQUOTE BECAUSE HE DID NOT WANT RAY EXECUTED. BEVEL FEELS RAY IS PART OF A CONSPIRACY, AND HIS DEATH WOULD END ALL TALK OF CONSPIRACY. PEOPLE WOULD THEN FORGET ABOUT CONSPIRACIES TO KILL KING.

INFORMANT ALSO ADVISED MILITANTS IN PHILADELPHIA AREA FEEL BEVEL HAS QUOTE SOLD OUT UNQUOTE.

AIR MAIL COPY SENT MEMPHIS.

10 JAN 200 1989

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END.

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FBI WASH DC

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

AIRTEL

1 - Mr. Long

70:

SAC. Philadelphia (44-1368)

From:

Director, FBI (44-33861)

MUDKIN

RePliteletype to the Bureau dated 1-19-69.

This will be to confirm Bureau instructions given to you on January 21, 1969. You should immediately interview Reverend James Bevel, of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference for complete details as to what evidence and information he may have bearing on the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

You should keep the Bureau advised of all pertinent developments.

1 - Memphis (44-1987)

REC 5

REL: jms
(5)
NOTE:

19 JAN 22 1969

Philadelphia advised us that Reverend James Bevel, Southern Christian Leadership Conference Official in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, appeared on television on 1-19-69, and stated that he had evidence that James Earl Ray did not kill Martin Luther King, Jr. On this interview Bevel refused to divulge the evidence and further stated he has offered to defend Ray in court.

Tolson

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

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

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

January 21, 19 GENERAL INVESTIGATIV _ DIVISION

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

The attached relates to a television interview of the Reverend James Bevel, Southern Christian Leadership Conference in Philadelphia, PA., who stated he has evidence that Ray did not kill Martin Luther King, Jr. Bevel also stated he refuses to divulge evidence and he has offered to defend Ray in court although he is not a licensed attorney.

We have no information indicating any evidence that Bevel may have.

The Philadelphia Office has been instructed to interview Bevel.

You will be advised of pertinent

developments.

REL: jld

FBI WASH DC

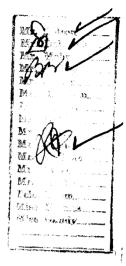
COMMUNICATION SECTION

JAN17 1969

FBI MEMPHIS

151 PM URGENT 1-17-69 MCP

TO DIRECTOR 44-38861 FROM MEMPHIS 44-L987 1 P Oliph)



MURKIN.

SUBJECT'S ATTORNEY, PERCY FOREMAN, AND MR. HUGH STANTON, SHELBY COUNTY, TENN., PUBLIC DEFENDER WHO HAS BEEN NAMED CO-COUNSEL, WERE SCHEDULED TO APPEAR THIS DATE BEFORE JUDGE W. PRESTON BATTLE TO REPORT ON THEIR PROGRESS IN PREPARING RAY'S DEFENSE.

MR. STANTON APPEARED AS SCHEDULED AND STATED THAT
FOREMAN HAS BEEN ILL WITH INFLUENZA SINCE DECEMBER TWENTYSIX
LAST, AND WAS THUS UNABLE TO APPEAR THIS DATE. MR. STANTON
STATED THAT DUE TO FOREMAN'S ILLNESS HE WAS UNABLE TO STATE
DEFINITELY THAT INSTANT MATTER WOULD GO TO TRIAL
BY MARCH THREE NEXT. JUDGE BATTLE ORDERED MR. STANTON TO
PREPARE THIS CASE WITH OR WITHOUT FOREMAN'S ASSISTANCE IN
SUCH A MANNER AS TO BE READY TO GO TO TRIAL MARCH THREE NEXT.

JUDGE BATTLE FURTHER ORDERED MR. STANTON AND MR. FOREMAN
TO AGAIN MAKE A PROGRESS REPORT TO HIM FEBRUARY FOUR DEEN NEXT.

P.

END

EC- 92

6 JAN 23 1969

CORR: PARA TWO, LINE SIX, WORD TWO IS "MARCH".

END

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FBI WASH DC

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COMMENSATIVE STATES OF THE STA

January 17, 1969 GENLRAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

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

The attached relates to a progress report made to Judge W. Preston Battle regarding the preparation of the defense in the state trial of James Earl Ray scheduled for March 3, 1969, at Memphis, Tennessee.

Department being advised.

REL: jms

DeLoa Mr. Mohr. Mr. Bishop Mr. Casper Mr. Callahan Mr. Conrad Mr. Felt JAN 2 1 1969 ENCIPHERED Mr. Tavel. Mr. Trotter 1102 AM BROENT 1-21-69 JAS Tele. Room. Miss Holmes Miss Gandy TO DIRECTOR 44-38861, 188-438794, ATLANTA AND LOS ANGELES. ATLANTA AND LOS ANGELES VIA MASHIMOTON ALL INEORMATION PRON NEW YORK 44-493, 186-149194 SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN OOT ATLANTA CommunisT INFLITANTION INFIDENTIAL SOURCE. WHO HAS FURNISHED formation in the past. Learned on the hineteen sixtymine. THAT A PERSON, WHOM THE SOURCE BELIEVES TO BE A SECRETARY TO Southward Christian Leadership Conference CORETTA RING, TOLD STANLEY LEVISON, SCHOOL ARVISON THAT SHE had received a call from a malcoln davis und claimed to be. A CORRESPONDENT OF RADIO JAMAICA AND THE BRITISH BROADCASTING "SHEFSHID DAVIS ADVISED HER THAT HE Mack the experience wherea PAGE IL COMPERSETTOS SHE SALD THE PURPOSE OF

1:02 AM URGENT 1-29-69 JAS

TO DIRECTOR 44-38261, 128-433794, ATLANTA

ATLANTA AND LOS ANGELES VIA WASHINGTON

RESPONDENT OF TABLO JAMAICA AND THE BRITISH BROADCAST A MALCOLM DAVIS WHO CLAIMED TO BE IA MAIG, TOLD STANLTY LEVISON, SCLC, AGVAGED THAT SHE WHOM THE SOURCE BELIEVES TO BE A SECRETARY TO THE PAST, LEARNED ON ONE NIMPTEEN SIXTYNIME, CONFIDENTIAL SOUPCE, WHO HAS FURNISHED RELIABL

S WESTER OF THE WAD WHICH CORECIDE LOACH

ME, DOES MOTE

SECKET SE

PAGE TWO WY 44-493, 188-149194

AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC AND DESIRED TO GIVE CORETTA KING A COPY FOR NER LAWYERS. SHE CONTINUED BURE DAVIS DISCLOSED THAT A JOIL LEVY IN LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIS, HAS THE TAPE AND WILL BE FORWARDING IT TO HIM. SHE SAID THE TAPE IS SUPPOSED TO SEE DETAILS OF A PAYOFF PLANTAGE.

LEVISON ADVISED CORETTA KING'S SECRETARY TO CONTACT
DAVIS IN A PEW DAYS TO SEE IF HE HAS RECEIVED THE TAPE. HE
SAID THEN SHE COULD JUDGE DAVIS' REACTION AND PERHAPS HE,
LEVISON, WOULD THEN GET INTO THE MATTER. HE SAID HE FELT HE
SHOULD NOT INTERVENE AT THE PRESENT BECAUSE IT NIGHT UPSET
RELATIONS BETWEEN CORETTA KING AND DAVIS IN THE EVENT DAVIS
MAS SONETHING OF VALUE. & M.

THE SOURCE ALSO LEARNED THAT LEVISON DISCUSSED THE OFFER OF THE TAPE WITH MARRY WACHTEL, NEW YORK CITY ATTORNEY AND ADVISOR TO SCLC. WACHTEL'S POSITION WAS THAT AS NEMBERS OF THE BAR THEY SOULD NOT GEN INVOLVED BECAUSE THEY DID NOT WANT TO BE KINCELL PAGE TWO



TOP

PAGE THREE NY 44-493, 106-149194

PUT IN THE POSITION OF SUPPRESSING EVIDENCE. HE SAID THEY SHOULD NOT BE PLACED IN THE POSITION OF DIGNIFYING THE TAPE BY ENTERING NEGOTIATIONS FOR IT. THEY AGREED THAT CORETTA KING'S SECRETARY SHOULD HANDLE ANY NEGOTIATIONS AND THAT WHEN DAVIS SENDS THE TAPE TO CORETTA KING THEY WOULD LISTEN TO IT AND TAKE THE NECESSARY ACTION.

A SECOND CONFIDETIAL SOURCE, WHO HAS FURNISHED RELIABLE INFORMATION IN THE PAST, IN APRIL SIXTY FOUR DESCRIBED STANLEY LEVISON AS A SECRET MEMBER TO THE COMMUNIST PARTY AS OF JULY SIXTY THREE.

A THIRD CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE, WHO HAS FURNISHED RELIABLE INFORMATION IN THE PAST ON DECEMBER FORTY FOUR FURNISHED INFORMATION WHICH REVEALED THAT THE NAME HARRY $\mathcal U$ END PAGE THREE



PAGE FOUR
NY 44-493, 100-149194

WACHTEL WAS ON A LIST OF NAMES, SIGNIFICANCE UNKNOWN, MAINTAINED AT THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE KINGS COUNTY COMMUNIST PARTY, TWENTY SIX COURT STREET, BROOKLYN, NEW YORK. ADMINISTRATIVE.

THE FIRST SOURCE IS NEW YORK THREE EIGHT ONE ZERO DASH S ASTERICK. U

THE SECOND SOURCE IS NEW YORK SIX NINE FOUR DASH S ASTERICK, AND THE THIRD SOURCE IS FORMER NEW YORK ONE ONE NINE ZERO

DASH S ASTERICK.

THIS INFORMATION IS TO BE CLASSIFIED "SECRET"

BECAUSE IT CONTAINS INFORMATION FROM NEW YORK THREE

EIGHT ONE ZERO DASH S ASTERICK AND BECAUSE OF THE INFORMATION

FROM NEW YORK SIX NINE FOUR DASH S ASTERICK USED IN THE

CHARACTERIZATION OF LEVISON. U

FOR THE INFORMATION OF ATLANTA THE PERSON WHO CONTACTED LEVISON WAS A FAAN LUCAS (PHONETIC). 4
END PAGE FOUR

SECRET SECRET

PAGE FIVE

NY 44-493, 188-149194

FOR THE INFORMATION OF LAS ANGELES, FRAN LUCAS SAID
THAT MALCOLM DAVIS FURNISHED THE TELEPHONE NUMBER OF
JOEL LEVY (PHONETIC) IN CALIFORNIA AS TWO ONE THREE DASH
SEVEN EIGHT ONE DASH EIGHT THREE THREE TWO. LOS ANGELMES
IS REQUESTED TO IDENTIFY JOEL LEVY.

END

LRC R RELAY

FBINEASH DC

BEDET



SELVE

PAGE FIVE

NY 44-683, 100-149194

FOR THE INFORMATION OF LAS AMERIES. FRAN LUCAS SAID THAT MALCOLM DAVIS FUPRISHED THE TELEPHOUS MINUSES OF JOEL LEVY (PHONETIC) IN CALIFORNIA AS TWO ONE THEFE DASH SEVEN EIGHT ONE DASH TIGHT THEER THEET TWO. LOS AMEELLES IS REQUESTED TO IDENTIFY JOEL LEVY.

CAT

LRC R RELAY

59. WW 12

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January 21, .969(C) CENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

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

The attached states that information has been received that one Malcolm Davis who claims to be a correspondent of radio America and the British Broadcasting Company in New York City, allegedly has a tape of an interview between James Earl Ray and an unknown individual regarding the details of a pay-off of the assassination. The interview is alleged to have taken place three months before the assassination. (Assassination April 4. 1968)

We do not have any information that

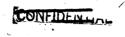
such a tape exists. A L

In view of the manner in which this information has been required, we are instructing four few fork Office to determine if Malcolm Davis does exist, his affiliations, and to closely follow this matter.

Exempt Cost Categoria

REL:rl

Date of Ucclassification Indefinite



OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10 MAY 1962 EDITION 35A GEN. REG. NO. 27

5010-100

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO

FROM

Mr. Rosen

C. Quelgowa

SUBJECT MURKIN

DATE:

January 19, 1969

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Malley

1 - Mr. McGowan

1 - Mr. Long

1 - Mr. Gordon

Tolson

DeLoach

Mohr

Bishop

Casper

Callahan

Contad

Felt

Gale

Rosen

Sullivan

Tavel

Trotter

Tele, Room

Holmes

Gandy

Jaken

Philadelphia Office directed a communication to the Bureau on 1-19-69, advising a Philadelphia news media on 1-19-69, had furnished information Reverend James Bevel, Southern Christian Leadership Conference official, sent a communication to James Earl Ray in Memphis stating Ray did not kill Martin Luther King, Jr., as Bevel was present when King was killed. Bevel offered to testify in Ray's behalf. Lieutenant George Fencl, Civil Disobedience Unit, Philadelphia Police Department, advised Bevel was to hold a press conference with the local CBS affiliate at 2:00 p.m., 1-19-69, in Philadelphia.

ACTION:

The Philadelphia Office was instructed to monitor the CBS program, 2:00 p.m., 1-19-69, and submit a teletype summary. Included in the summary is to be the information which Bevel alleges he can testify to.

JCG: erg 🗪 (6)

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51, 20%

SEE ADDENDUM: GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION PAGE 1a.

REC-42

44-38861-5511

10 JAN 24 1969

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Ski

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Memorandum

Mr. Rosen

C. L. McCowan

TELL MORNIN

January de, 1 de

l - Mir. Mosen

i - Mr. Malley i - Mr. McCaren

1 - Mr. Long

1 - Mr. Cordon

Dhissheighia Office directed a communication to the Pureau on 1-18-68, advising a Philadelpaia news reduis on 1-18-68, add furnished information Reverend James Gevel, Southern Christian Anadership Conference official, sent a communication to James Earl Ray in New phile stating Ray did not kill Martin Vuther King. Jr. as Bevel was present when King was killed. Sevel offered to testify in Ray's behalf. I jeutenant cherry Bencl. Civil Disobedience Unit, Philade, phia Police Department at 2:00 p.m. I-18-68, in Whiladelbyla.

VCGRUN:

The Philadelphia Office was instructed to monitor the COS programs; 0.00 p.m., 1 48-68, and submit a teletype summary. Included in the semi-mary is to be the information which Meyel alleges he can testify to.

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REC-42

SEE ADDENDUM: GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION PAGE 1a,

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JAN 23 9 26 AH 1989

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JAN 22 10 13 AM 1969

"S DEPT OF JUSTICE

At 2:45 p.m., 1/19/69 Supervisor Joseph Spivey, Philadelphia Division, advised there were no CBS T. V. or radio programs on the air in Philadelphia at 2 p.m., in which Reverend James Bevel participated in a press conference. Philadelphia is checking with their sources.

...

FBI

-				
Date:	7	122	16	C

	Date: 1/22/69	
Transmit the following in		
	(Type in plaintext or code)	
Via AIRTEL	AIR MAIL	
Via AIRTEL	(Priority)	

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) FROM:

RE:

 $U_{\mathtt{MURKIN}}$

00: Memphis

Re report of SA RAYMOND B. HOWE dated 12/13/68 at Kansas City.

On 1/21/69 DALE POLLACK, 4408 Northeast 45th Terrace, Kansas City, Missouri, telephonically furnished the following information:

He was reading an Associated Press feature story on JAMES EARL RAY which appeared in the Kansas City Star, January 19, 1969. In this story it mentioned that RAY spent time in Puerato Vallarta, Mexico. This brought to his attention that an individual by the name of HEINZ MANGER, a former SS officer with the Third Reich during World War II and reportedly a member of an organizaton called "Odessa" which is reportedly an organization of former SS officers, spent considerable time in Puerato Vallarta, Mexico.

POLLACK advised that he did not know MANGER personally but has been a student of post-war German history and knows that MANGER has been involved in numerous radical movements.

POLLACK further advised that MANGER presented a Mr. and Mrs. KARL RAPP, Leawood, Kansas, a painting while they were visiting in Puerato Vallarta. POLLACK did not

3)Bureau 1-Memphis (44-1987) 2-Kansas City RBH: jlh (6)

JAN 23 1969

C. C. Bishop

pproved: Sent Per:

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transport the following the

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Type to fullitest or code.

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DERECTOR, FEI (44-38861)

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00: Memphis

Kansas Clty. we report of SA RAYMOND B. HOWE dated 12/13/68 at

ictioning information: Terrace, Kansas City, Massouri, telephonically furnished the On 1/21/69 DALE POLLACK, 4408 Northeast 45th

spent considerable take in Puerato Vallarta, Mexico. which is reportedly an organization of former 55 officers, and reportedly a number of an organizaton called "Odessa" fermer SS officer with the Thire Meich curing World War II attention that an individual by the name of HIIME MANGLE, a time in Puerate Vailarta, Mexico. This brought to his danuary 19, 1969. In this story it mentioned that RAY spent on Jahlas EARL RAY which appeared in the Kansas City Star, Le was reading an Associated Press feature story

movements. and knows that MaNGEk has been involved in numerous recital personally but has been a student of post-war German history FOLLACK advised that he did not know mANGER

they were visiting in Puerato Vallarta. FOLLACK and not a Mr. and Mrs. MARL MAPP, Leawood, Kansas, a painting while POLLACK further advised that MANGER presented

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JAN ZS 3969 C. C. . Bishop JAN 23 4 12 PH 169 wgu:]]p Z-Kansas Clry l-her nis (44-lus7) 34Burdau BEC 85

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KC 44-760

give the subject matter of the painting but stated it was signed by HEINZ MANGER. POLLACK did not believe MANGER painted it. POLLACK stated that Mrs. RAPP gave him the painting inasmuch as she knew he was a student of German history. POLLACK advised that his home telephone is GL 3-2191, his business telephone is GL 2-6181 and that he would be glad to cooperate with the FBI in this matter at any time.

Indices of the Kansas City Office negative re POLLACK, MANGER or RAPP.

Kansas City Office will interview Mr. or Mrs. KARL RAPP, Leawood, Kansas, and reinterview DALE POLLACK for any additional information they may have connecting MANGER with JAMES EARL RAY.

FD-36	(Rev	5-22-6	a١

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		FBI	
		Date: 1/22/69	
Tran	smit the follow	ring in	
		(Type in plaintext or code)	
Via.	AIRTEL	AM	
		(Priority)	
	TO:	DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)	
1	FROM:	SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P	
	PROM.		
		MURKIN	
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ED-3: (Ben 3-15-64)

F B I

Date: 1/22/69

Transmit the following in

AIRTEL

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM:

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P

MURKIN

newspaper clippings in captioned matter. There are enclosed original and one copy each of

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MEMPHIS

(4)RGJ:BN U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

JAN 23 4 55 PH 1984N 23

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JAN 24 12 16 PH 1969

Judge Gives Order

Stanton Readied In Ray Defense

By ROY B. HAMILTON Press-Scimilar Staff Writer

Public defender Hugh Stanton Sr. today was ordered to be ready to assume full responsibility for the defense of ames Earl Ray, if for any reason, Percy Foreman has to withdraw as counsel.

The instructions were issued by Criminal Court Judge W. Preston Battle during a six-minute hearing attended by Ray.

In issuing the order, Battle repeated his earlier assertion

that he wanted the Ray trial ti begin as scheduled on March 3 "if humanly possi-

ble."

Foreman has been ill with influenza and pneumonia in Houston and sent word he was unable to come to Memphis. Battle had asked the Texas attorney and Stanton to give him a progress report on their trial preparations.

CLEAR ORDER

.

Battle said he was sorry to hear about Foreman's illness but he made it clear he wanted no further delay in the trial, which has already been continued once.

Battle told Stanton that he wanted his office "to prepare this case in such a manner that if for any reason it becomes necessary your office could take full charge of his defense.

James A. Blackwell, Criminal Court clerk, was ordered to draw up a copy of the order and send it to Foreman. The judge asked for another progress report

on Friday, Feb. 14. Stanton, who had been appointed previously to assist Foreman, said his work on the case so far had con-vinced him there is still "work to be done."

NO ASSURANCE

Said Stanton: "We have accumulated quite a batch of evidence."

But he said he could not say "with assurance" the defense could be ready for trial by March 3.

Stanton, 72, a tail, white haired, distinguished looking man, has been practicing law in Memphis for 43 years and is regarded as elder statesman of local criminal lawyers. As head of the Public Defender's office, he was named by Battle as associate defense counsel when Foreman said Ray had no funds to help in his defense.

Ray, charged with murder in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King in Memphis last April, also has on his defense team Stanton's son, Hugh Stanton Jr.

The state was represented at the hearing by Atty. Gen. Phil Canale and his two trial assistants, Robert & Dwyer and James Beagley.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)
—PAGE /
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MENTELS, 252N.
Date: 1-17-69
Edition: Author: CHAS. H. SCHNEIDE
Editor:
Title:
Character:
or Signature Manager 15
Classification:
Submitting Office:
Being Investigated

ENCLOSURE

44-38861

Silent Ray Spends 6 Minutes in Court

By CLARK PORTEOUS
Press-Scimilar Staff Writer

Six minutes in the life of James Earl Ray:

He was led into the courtroom at 10:52 a.m. by two Sheriff's deputies and sat behind Hugh Stanton, 72, chief public defender who is aiding in the defense and handling it while Ray's chief counsel, Percy Foreman, is ill.

Ray looked neat. He was wearing the same dark blue suit with a check design of the same color that he has worn

in previous court appearances. He had on a white shirt and solid blue tie. He looked rather pale, which is understandable as he has been in custody since June 8 when he was arrested in London. He has been in Shelby County jail since July

When Ray was being sought as a suspect the FBI reported he had a nervous habit of pulling on his left ear lobe. During the six minutes he was in court he did not touch his ear.

Graying a bit at the temples and in the back, his dark hair was neatly trimmed. He stood with others in the court when Judge Preston Battle entered immediately after his own unity.

Then Ray sat quietly looking at the Judge, who did most of the talking, and litened intently. After a couple of minutes he put his

right arm on the arm of his chair and his hand on his thigh. He pulled his feet up under the chair and sat motionless except for an occasional slight motion of his head.

Once he glanced at Stanton.

When court recessed, Stanton leaned over and told Ray he was going to call Foreman and tell him of the judge's instructions (to proceed with the case for trial March 3 if humanly possible) and that he would see Ray after talking with Foreman.

Ray barely nodded, indicating he understood — but didn't say a word,

He was led out of the courtroom at 10:58. He hadn't
said a word. All he has said
in previous appearances was
"yes, sir" a couple of times
— a total of four words.

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Εd	thor: CHAS. H. SCHNEID
Ti	tle:
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	Being Investigated

ENCLOSURE

44-38 61



-Press-Scimitar Staff Photo by Tom Barber

CARRYING BALL FOR RAY

Hugh Stanton Sr., left, public defender, and his son and aide, Hugh Stanton Jr. leave Courthouse after the defender was told by Judge Preston Battle to be prepared to assume full responsibility for James Earl Ray's defense in the Martin Luther King slaying. (Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Foreman Visits Doctor, May Miss Court Today

By JOHN MEANS

James Earl Ray's chief counsel went to a doctor yesterday in Houston, Texas, but no one seemed to know whether he is too sick to appear with his famous client in Judge Preston Battle's courtroom this morning.

Mrs. Percy Foreman would only say, "He went to the doctor's office this morning. I haven't heard from him."

Shelby County Public Defender Hugh Stanton, who is Mr. Foreman's co-counsel, said he understood his flamboyant col- sion transmission from the league had contracted pneumonia during a bout with the flu. Mr. Foreman's illness was expected to leave Mr. Stanton alone to report to Judge Battle is in operation. today on the progress of Ray's defense.

scheduled to appear with Ray photographs and filming of Ray today, to tell Judge Battle away from the courthouse. whether he needed another continuance to prepare his procedures can be worked out defense for the man accused of to satisfy the judge. Judge assassinating Dr. Martin Lu-Battle said only: "It's still be-

Ray will appear in court, to it yet." with or without Mr. Foreman, which means the maximum security procedures will go into effect around the Shelby County Jail and Criminal Courts Building again. The security measures are a rehearsal for the March 3 trial date, assuming no further delays are granted.

Judge Battle indicated at Mr. Foreman's last appearance in his courtroom that he would not look favorably on further requests for continu-

The security measures were the subject of a meeting between J u d g e Battle, Sheriff William N. Morris Jr. and the sheriff's press officer, Charles Holmes, yesterday.

Sheriff Morris said the meeting resulted in a decision not to allow closed circuit televicourtroom, despite his report to Judge Battle on the Sirhan Sirhan trial in Los Angeles, where such a television system

The sheriff said, however, 'it's a good possibility" a sys-Mr. Foreman had been tem will be devised to allow

"It's pretty much yes" if the ther King Jr. last April 4. ing discussed. I haven't agreed

newspaper, city and state.)
PAGE /
COMMERCIAL APPEA
NEMPHIS, TENN.
Date: / 12-69
Author: FRANK R. AHLGRE
Editor:
Title:
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Classification:
Submitting Office: MEMPHIS
Being Investigated

(Indicate page, name of

ENCLOSURE 44-3886/

Spotlight On Ray Case Pales Beside Gaudy Garrison Style

By CHARLES EDMUNDSON

The legal profession is watching the contrast between the no-holds-barred, pre-trial conduct of principals in the New Orleans case against Clay Shaw, accused by Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison as a conspirator in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, and the stringent guidelines laid down by the trial judge here in the upcoming trial of James Earl Ray, accused in the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The feverish, two-year-long drive of Garrison to establish an entirely new theory of the assassination of President Kennedy may have foundered on the evidence of X-ray pictures of the late President's wounds.

Mr. Garrison's case has been built on the theory that Kennedy was shot by two, or possibly three, gunmen situated in front of and at a level below that of their victim. Four physicians of high repute now have studied 69 hitherto little-publicized X-ray photos of President Kennedy's wounds and found the shots were fired from above and slightly to the rear of the President's car.

The X-ray photos which have stopped Mr. Garrison—at least for the time being—were the subject of a report made public Thursday. The six-foot, six-inch Mr. Garrison promptly sent an assistant before General Sessions Judge Charles W. Halleck in Washington and asked access to the pictures.

Judge Halleck replied he would release the photographs to Mr. Garrison only if he wer shown this was not "a fishing expedition, a frivolous attempt to obtain what certainly must be sensational K-ray pictures and material."

Mr. Garrison, known in New Orleans as the 'Jolly Green Giant,' impatiently has swept aside all previous contradictions exposed in his "evidence" by such reporters as those for The New York Times, The New Yorker magazine and the National Broadcasting Company.

casting Company.

The Commercial Appeal also has looked into Garrison's charges. Yesterday he accused United States Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark of seeking to hide the truth about President Kennedy's murder. But New Orleans observers said there appeared to be reason to suspect he may welcome a chance to bring to an end his endlessly changing projection of a presidential murder plot which he has peopled, at one time or another, with 16 plotters.

The prime target of Mr. Garrison's charges, Mr. Shaw, a retired director of the International Trade Mart in New Orleans who has visited and spoken in Memphis, was to have gone on trial before Criminal District Court Judge Edward A. Haggerty Tuesday.

In view of the X-rays, Mr. Garrison will go into court at 10 a.m. tomorrow and ask that the trial be continued.

If the motion is denied, Mr. Garrison could drop the prosecution and withdraw from the glare of publicity he has basked in since November, 1966.

Some responsible New Orleans citizens would apparently approve. Their sentiments seem to have been summed up by Aaron M. Kohn, managing director of the Metropolitan New Orleans Crime Commission, who said, "Garrison never lets the responsibilities of being a prosecutor interfere with being a politician."

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It is not entirely clear whether Mr. Garrison thinks Lee Harvey Oswald, the man generally considered President Kennedy's assassin fired one or more of the shots. Among a long are potheses, Mr. Garrin occasion assumed the existence of a "second Lee Harvey Oswald," without fully distinguishing between the role of the No. 1 and No. 2 claimants to the name.

Many of his principal plotters are drawn from New Orleans' populous and bizarre underworld. Some of his "witnesses" have been ex-convicts. homosexuals, narcotics addicts and former mental patients.

New Orleans may well be drawing unflattering comparisons between Mr. Garrison's performance and the manner the Shelby County Criminal Court and district attorney's office are preparing for the trial of Ray.

While Judge Haggerty has imposed no limits on Mr. Garrison's television appearances and cross-country personal appearances, Judge W. Preston Battle has limited pretrial publicity in the Ray case by forbidding interviews from being given by law officers and the



Pistol-Packing Garrison And Assistant District Attorney With Andrew Sciambra (Right) -AP Wirephoto

self pending the trial. On Judge Battle's attempt to fore the trial opens.

attorney general's staff. While stop the press from printing Mr. Garrison has welcomed the news developments in the the tales of hangers-on who Ray case, opinion is more always appear in the wake of a mixed. In a long article in The sensational murder, here Atty. New Yorker, Edward J. Ep-Gen. Phil M. Canale has stuck stein notes that it is the press to the responsible evidence and TV that have stood in the and kept much of that to him- way of Mr. Garrison's attempt to convict Mr. Shaw even be-

Former King Aide Volunteers To Serve As Counsel For Ray

By ANGUS McEACHRAN

James Earl Ray reportedly was sent a telegram last night from a former aide of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. offering to om die 😁 🙊 take over Ray's defense.

It was sent to Ray, charged with the April 4 murder of Dr. King, at the Shelby County Jail by the Rev. James L. Bevel, a Southern Christian Leadership Conference director.

The text of the telegram, according to sources, read:

"I would like to inform you that I would be very happy to

was present at the Lorraine phone call at its New York take your case without fee. I Hotel when Dr. King was been sent. killed. You have been charged with murdering him. Of the SCLC, a high-ranking course, I know that you are not spokesman told The Commer-

tails of where the Rev. Mr. Bevel could be reached in Philadelphia.

Sheriff William N. Morris Jr. confirmed last night that Ray had received a telegram but declined to reveal the contents and the name of the sender.

In Philadelphia, a woman who identified herself as an aide to the Rev. Mr. Bevel told The Commercial Appeal such a telegram had been sent but all details would have to come from the minister.

"Reverend Bevel is in a him," said Miss Beverly Sterner. "I can only say that a could speak their language. telegram has gone to James Earl Ray offering assistance."

Miss Sterner was reached at the residence of the Rev. Mr. Bevel.

There was no answer at the Rev. Mr. Bevel's home early Negro ranks when he tried to

The latest strange development in a case which has been other SCLC staff members overlaid with mystery and from Atlanta. strange developments, started to unfold early yesterday aft. delphia as director of non-viernoon when Reuters, a British olent education. wire service, received a tele-

office saying the telegram had

In Atlanta, headquarters for cial Appeal the Rev. Mr. Bevel "has been under a lot of pres-The telegram was also said sure lately. Since Dr. King's to have contained added de- death, he has gone into a deep depression, and if he sent that telegram he is speaking for himself."

> In SCLC, the Rev. Mr. Bevel is known as somewhat of a mystic. With his balding top and full beard he has the appearance of a monk.

> An ordained minister, he does not have a law degree and therefore there is little likelihood he could represent Ray in court. The trial is scheduled to begin March 3.

Observers close to SCLC said Dr. King relied on the meeting in the city right now Rev. Mr. Bevel to keep him in and it is impossible to reach touch with the young and most militant Negroes because he

> In last year's Poor People's March to Washington, the SCLC director was sent to Memphis to recruit young marchers. But he reportedly created so much dissention in persuade youths to leave school before final examinations that he was replaced by

He was sent later to Phila-

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OFFERS HELP — The Rev. James L. Bevel, a Southern Christian Leadership Conference director, reportedly has sent James Earl Ray a telegram offering to take over the defense of Ray, charged with the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Bevel Declines To Divul His 'Evidence' In Ray Case

By P. H. BREESE.

The Rev. James L. Bevel, a ranking figure in the Southern
Christian Leadership Conference, declined yesterday to elaborate on svidence he claims could free James Earl Ray, accused in the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The Rev. Mr. Bevel, 32-year-old director of the SCLC's nonviolent and direct action program, sent a telegram Saturday to Ray in the Shelby County Jail which, according to sources, read:

"I would like to inform you" that I would be very happy to take your case without fee. I fender Hugh Stanton declined was present at the Lorraine to comment on the Bevel state-Hotel when Dr. King was ment. killed. You have been charged The with murdering him. Of minister, who was born at Itta course, I know that you are not Bena, Miss., could ever repreguilty.

"I have evidence that, if pre-

But in a telephone conversation at his home in Philadelphia yesterday, the balding minister told The Commercial Appeal, "I have many reasons to the part of the pa for wanting to defend Mr. Ray, but to discuss the evidence at this point would be to his disadvantage."

The Rev. Mr. Bevel said that he did not know or care what Ray's attorney, famed Texas lawyer Percy Foreman, thought of his offer. "If Mr. Ray wants me to defend him I will. I don't know what Mr. Foreman will do.'

Mr. Foreman, in bed with pneumonia at his home in Houston, was not available for comment.

"I am confident that Mr. Ray would not be found guilty on the basis of evidence I now have," the Rev. Mr. Bevel said:

Shelby County Public De

There is little possibility the sent Ray in court. He does not have a law degree.

When asked his legal qualifisented to a jury, would free him (Ray)," the Rev. Mr. cations, the Rev. Mr. Bevel said, "Well, I've been arrested 25 times." He added that he 25 times." He added that he

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Court Turns Down Reporters' Appeal

Review Of Contempt Ruling Is Refused

From The Commercial Appeal Nashville Bureau

NASHVILLE, Jan. 20. —The Tennessee Supreme Court Monday refused to review the case of two Memphis newspaper reporters cited for contempt for violating court orders on pretrial publicity in the James Earl Ray murder case,

The high court gave no reason for denying a petition for a writ of certiroari, which if granted would have opened the way for a Supreme Court review of the contempt citation.

On Sept. 30, Criminal Court Judge Preston Battle ruled the reporters — Charles Edmundson of The Commercial Appeal and Roy Hamilton of the Memphis Press-Scimitar — and two other men were in contempt of court.

He did not impose sentence on any of the men pending their "future actions" despite a request by attorneys for Memphis Publishing Co., that sentence be handed down promptly so the case might be appealed.

Others cited by Judge Battle were Arthur Hanes, then an attorney for Ray, and Renfro Hays, a private investigator who worked for Mr. Hanes. Ray is accused of the sniper slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

In November, the newsmen through their attorney petitioned Court of Criminal Appeals Judge Mark Walker of Covington to review the contempt citation. Judge Walker denied the petition, saying in effect that a contempt citation is not final until punishment is imposed and that the appeal was premature.

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January 20, . 69 GENERAL INVESTIGATIV DIVISION

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

The attached relates to a television interview of the Reverend James Bevel. Southern Christian Leadership Conference in Philadelphia, PA., who states he has evidence that Ray did not kill Martin Luther King, Jr. Bevel also stated he refuses to divulge evidence he has offered to defend Ray in court although he is not a licensed attorney.

We have no information indicating any evidence that Bevel may have.

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

JUNE

TO :

Mr. DeLoach

FROM :A. Rosen

SUBJECT MURKIN

To Anne

DATE: January 22, 1969

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Malley1 - Mr. McGowan

1 - Mr. Long

l - Mr. Sullivan

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr. $\ensuremath{\mathcal{U}}$

We have received information that one Marcolm Davis, who claims to be a correspondent of Radio America and the British Broadcasting Company in New York City, allegedly had a tape of an interview between James Earl Ray and an unknown individual regarding the details of a payoff of the assassination. The interview is alleged to have taken place three months before the assassination (assassination April 4, 1968). We do not have any information that such a tape exists.

The information regarding the tape has been obtained from a technical surveillance of the telephone of one Stanley Levison. A confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past, described Stanley Levison as a secret member of the Communist Party as of July, 1963. We have also learned that this alleged tape will be forwarded to an individual by the name of Joel Levy in Los Angeles. California. We have learned of the telephone number of Joel Levy

We have further determined that Malcolm Davis resides in New York City and Davis was formerly with the British Broadcasting Company, but is now a free-lance writer who makes occasional appearances whenever there is a need for a person with a pronounced British accent, on television U

Our Los Angeles Office advises us that Joel Levy is not identifiable in their files nor is he identifiable in the records of the various law enforcement agencies in the area. Los Angeles has further determined that the telephone number of Levy is listed to one Marjorie Largent of Van Nuys, California. We do not have any information regarding Marjorie Largent in our records.

ACTION: In view of the nature in which the telephone number of Levy, registered to Marjorie Largent, was obtained (technical surveillance) Los Angeles being instructed not to interview Largent at this time.

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January 23, 1969

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1 - Mr. Long

TO: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

PROM: DIRECTOR, FBE (44-38861) - 55/3

MURKIN

JANUARY 21, LAST.

YOU SHOULD NOT INTERVIEW MARJORIE LARGENT, NOR SHOULD YOU CONDUCT ANY FURTHER INVESTIGATION UNLESS BUREAU SPECIFICALLY ADVISES.

1 / MEMPHIS (44-1987) (airmail)

FOR REVIEW AT FBIHQ AND/OR DELIVERY TO HSCA RE REQUEST DATED 5/3/26 (LE BUFILE 62-117290)

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DeLoach .

Mohr ____

Bishop ___

Casper __

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TO DIRECTOR 44-38861 AND 100-438794 (PLAINTEXT)
ATTENTION DOMETIC INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

FROM NEW YORK 44-493 AND 100-149194 1P

Mr. Tolson Mr. DeLoach. Mr. Mohr. Mr. Bishop. Mr. Casper Mr. Callahan. Mr. Conrad Mr. Felt Mr. Gale Mr. Rosen Mr. Suhlvas Mr. Tavel.... Mr. Trotter.... Tele. Room_ Miss Holmes. Miss Gandy.

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MURKIN-CR (00-MEMPHIS) COMINFIL SCLC IS-C (00-ATLANTA).

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NEW YORK INDICES REFLECT NO IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION. JAMES
BUTLER, VICE COUNSEL, BRITISH CONSULATE EIGHT FORTY FIVE
THIRD AVE., NYC, ADVISED MALCOLM DAVIS IS KNOWN TO THEM AS
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TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), MEMPHIS (44-1987) AND ATALNTA

FROM PHILADELPHIA (44-1368) (P)

(PLAINTEXT)

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REMYTT ONE NINETEEN SIXTYNINE.

REV. JAMES BEVEL, SCLC OFFICIAL IN PHILA. APPEARED ON WCAU TV

SPECIAL NEWS INTERVIEW BETWEEN HALVES OF NFL ALL STAR FOOTBALL GAME TOP.

STATE HE HAS EVIDENCE THAT JAMES EARL RAY DID NOT KILL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BEVEL REFUSED TO DIVULGE EVIDENCE TO INTERVIEWER BUT SAID HE HAD OFFERED TO DEFEND RAY IN COURT BEACAUSE ALTHOUGH HE WAS NOT A LICENSED ATTORNEY, HE WAS LEARNED IN THE LAW AND HAD SPENT MUCH TIME DEFENDING CASES IN COURT AND HAD PUT ALL THEFACTS TOGETHER TO SHW SHOW RAY WAS NOT GUILTY.

BEVEL ALSO SAID ALL HIS FRIENDS DID NOT BELIEVE RAY WAS GUILTY.

TX JAN 27 1969

HE SAID HE WAS SPEAKING FOR THE REV. RALPH ABERNATHY AND SCLC BUT

THE PRESS INTERVIEWER SAID THATAN OFFICIAL OF SCLC IN ATLANTA TOLD THE

NEWS MEDIA THAT BEVEL WAS UNDER PRESSURE AND SPEAKING FOR HIMSELF ONLY.

BUREAU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED. LHM FOLLOWS.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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TO DIRECTOR 44-38861

FROM MEMPHIS 44-1987 2P

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Mr. Mohr.
Mr. Rishop...
Mr. Casper...
Mr. Callahan...
Mr. Conrad...
Mr. Felt...
Mr. Rafe...
Mr. Sull as...
Mr. Tavei...
Mr. Trotter...
Tele. Room...
Miss Holmes...
Miss Gandy

Mr. Tolson.... Mr. DeLouch

ON JAN. TWENTYFOUR, SIXTY NINE, ME THREE THREE EIGHT R ADVISED THAT JAMS BEVEL OF SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SCLC). ACCOMPANIED BY YOUNG MALE NEGRO. CEDRIC MOORE, FORMERLY OF MEMPHIS, NOW OF PHILADELPHIA, PA., ONE (FNU) RUTHERFORD, SCLC GENERAL MANAGER. AND (FNU) NIXON (PHONETIC). FORMER CAMPAIGN MANAGER OF PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY OF COMEDIAN DICK GREGORY. WERE IN MEMPHIS. TENN. ON NIGHT JANUARY TWENTYTHREE. SIXTYNINE. BEVEL CLAIMED TO HAVE CONFERRED FOR SEVERAL HOURS JANUARY TWENTYTHREE. SIXTY NINE. ON EIGHTH FLEOR OF PEABODY HOTEL WITH JAMES EARL RAY'S ATTORNEY. PERCY FOREMAN. AND LATER FOREMAN AND BEVEL CONFERRED WITH RAY IN SHELBY COUNTY JAIL. AT ABOUT TEN P. CONFERENCE AT CLAYBORN TEMPLE AME CHURCH, AT WHICH HE INVITED DELEGATES TO NATION COUNCIL OF CHURCHES MI-WINTER CONFERENCE THEN MEETING IN MEMPHIS. BEVEL CALIMED THAT HE WAS CONVINCED OF RAY'S INNOCENCE IN KILLING MARTIN LUTHER KING. JR. CLAIMED AMERICA IS TRYING TO!LYNCH RAY. CLAIMED SCLC PRESIDENT. REV. RALPH ABERNATHY. IS ALSO CONVINCED OF RAY'S INNOCENCE. HE REFUSED TO FURNISH THE BASIS FOR HIS STA'EMENTS. OTHER THAN TO CLAIM HE HAD "PROPHETIC VEL ADDED THAT HIS CONVICTIONS REGARDING RAY'S INNOCENCE HAD BEEN DISCUSSED BY HIM WITH ABERNATHY AND OTHER SCLC LEADERS

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ME 44-1987

A RECENT SCLC RETREAT IN SOUTH CAROLINA AND HE HAD CONVINCED THEM HE HAD PROOF OF RAS INNOCENCE, INDICATING THAT HE IS MAKING THESE CHARGES WITH ACQUIESCENCE OF SCLC LEADERS.

AIR MAIL COPIES TOO ATLANTA AND PHILADELPHIA.

P. END.

PGH

FBI WASH DC

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		Section 1		
	Routing Slip 0-7 (Rev. 9-25-67)	(Copies to	Offices Checked)	
	TO: SAC,	•	,	
	Albany Albuquerque Anchorage Atlanta Baltimore Birmingham Boston Buffalo Butte Charlotte Chicago Cincinnati Cleveland Columbia Dallas Denver Detroit El Paso Honolulu	Houston Indianapolis Jackson Jacksonville Kansas City Knoxville Las Vegas Little Rock Louisville Memphis Miami Milwaukee Minneapolis Mobile Newark New Haven New Orleans New York City	Norfolk Oklahoma City Omaha Philadelphia Phoenix Pritsburgh Portland Richmond Sacramento St. Louis Salt Lake City San Antonio San Diego San Francisco San Juan Bavannah Seattle Springfield	Tampa Washington Field Quantico TO LEGAT: Bern Bonn Buenos Aires Hong Kong London Manila Mexico, D.F. Ottawa Paris Rome Banto Dominge Tokyo
	REI TANTER	. Burst		
ATLANTA, GEORGIA RESEARCH (CORRESPONDENCE AND TOURS) Retention For information optional action Surep, by 2/3/60				
The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, conceal all sources, paraphrase contents.				
Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA dated				
inclosed are two copies of a communication from explicated individual who cannot be identified in Buliles. Ince there is no return address, this communication is not being acknowledged. We significance can be attached to the information in correspondent's telegram. Advise Bureau by romin routing slip of any pertinent information in your lifes which would clarify the meaning of this communication. Submit routing slip, under above caption, to reach gureau no later than 2/5/69.				
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J EDGAR HOOVER, EXECUTOR OF THE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION WASHDC

CERTIFIED INFORMATION THAT GERALD OSWALD WAS NOT THE MAN THAT KILLED PRESIDENT PER J.T RAY THE MURDER OF MARTIN LUTHER KING CANNOT BE TRIED IN THE UNITED STATES YOUR LOCAL OFFICE TRIED TO TELL ME THAT WE KNOW WE HAVE RECIPROCAL CONTACT WITH CUBA MY SUGGESTION IS YOU CONTACT MYSELF AND A COUPLE OTHER MARINES I WANT GOOD MARINES WHEN THOSES PLANES LAND WE WILL SEND THEM

BACK TO MAAMI

JAMES O HURST.

REC. 90 44. 38261-5517 NOT RECORDED

79 FEB 6-1969