

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

---

On March 26, 1969, a representative of the FBI contacted Harry Pope at Columbia, Mississippi, concerning the above letter. Mr. Pope advised that he did not recall having written the above letter and denied ever having had a conversation with Doctor Bush concerning the death of Martin Luther King, Jr.

On March 26, 1969, Tom Rainey, Chief of Police, Columbia, Mississippi, advised a representative of the FBI that Harry Pope suffers from a mental disorder and frequently makes unfounded allegations and complaints concerning various citizens and their activities in Columbia, Mississippi.

Chief Rainey advised that Doctor Bush referred to in Mr. Pope's letter would be Doctor Russell Bush, 911 Main Street, Columbia, Mississippi. Chief Rainey advised that Doctor Bush is a retired dentist and is currently a lay preacher who is extremely active in religious affairs and is one of the most respected citizens in Columbia, Mississippi. Chief Rainey advised that in his opinion, Doctor Bush would be the least likely person in Columbia, Mississippi, to have made any remarks concerning the possible assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

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.

2\*



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Jackson, Mississippi  
March 26, 1969

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

The following letter was received at FBI  
Headquarters dated March 19, 1969:

"3/19/69

"Dear Director;

"Last spring I was staying at a boarding  
house in Columbia. Mrs. Rawls on Church St.

"One Sunday about one week before Dr. King  
was killed. I was sitting on the front porch talk-  
ing to a retired Dentist. It was after dinner on  
a Sunday.

"He told me that They were going to kill  
Dr. King this next week. A few days later he  
was killed!

"If you think this meant any thing the doctor's  
name was Bush! It sounded like he was in on the  
knowing about it ot me. I thought I would pass  
this information on along to the Bureau. No  
one knows about this but me I hope. There were  
one or two others on the porch at the time  
we were but I don't know if they heard him tell  
me this or not. (Weather they were listening to  
our conversation or not.) I would like to remain  
unknown to them (The Dr. Bush) if you decide it  
is worth any thing.

Your Friend,

"/S/Harry Pope."

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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2\*

NA 1201  
3/28/69  
JB

VIA TELETYPE  
MAR 27 1969  
ENCIPHERED

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	_____

WAS FBI PHILA

1130PM 3-27-69 URGENT JLK

TO DIRECTOR, WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE, ATLANTA, AND MEMPHIS

(PLAINTEXT)

WFO VIA WASHINGTON

FROM PHILADELPHIA 44-1368

*Handwritten:* make in [unclear] [unclear]

MURKIN

REBUAIRTEL THREE TWENTYSIX SIXTYNINE.

RETEL INSTRUCTED PHILA TO IMMEDIATELY INTERVIEW REVEREND JAMES BEVEL SCLC OFFICIAL CONCERNING HIS STATEMENT IN "NEW YORK TIMES" THAT LETTER WAS TURNED OVER TO MEMPHIS PD APPROXIMATELY FOUR THREE SIXTY-EIGHT CONTAINING INFORMATION THAT MARTIN LUTHER KING WAS TO BE ASSASSINATED WHILE IN MEMPHIS.

MEMPHIS PD KNOWS NOTHING OF LETTER.

BEVERLY STERNER, GIRL FRIEND OF BEVEL TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED THIS DATE BEVEL WAS OUT OF TOWN AT A MEETING FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK. SHE STATED SHE WOULD ATTEMPT TO CALL BEVEL AND HAVE HIM CALL PHILA. SHE WAS TOLD FBI WOULD TALK TO HIM WHEREVER HE WAS LOCATED.

ATLANTA, MEMPHIS, AND WFO CONTACT SOURCES TO DETERMINE BEVEL'S LOCATION AND IF THERE IS ANY SCLC CONFERENCES.

END

WA...JDR R RELAY

FBI WASH DC

TELETYPED TO:  
70 APR 8 1969  
WF

REC-128

44-38861-5665

3 MAR 28 1969

cc - Long

*Handwritten signature*



RECEIVED  
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE  
DIVISION 5/31

MAR 28 12 01 AM '69

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

MAR 28 7 03 AM '69

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS  
FBI

CODING UNIT  
MAR 27 11 35 PM '69

MAR 27 11 38 PM 1969  
REC'D-TELETYPE UNIT  
F B I

*NA 3/29/69 2:45 AM JH*  
FBI WASH DC\*

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

MAR 28 1969

FBI ATLANTA

**TELETYPE**

1015PM URGENT 3/28/69 LWG

TO DIRECTOR, WASHINGTON FIELD, PHILADELPHIA  
FROM ATLANTA (44-2386)

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	_____

*alm*  
*M. E. J. Jovan*  
*Rog*

**MURKIN**

*A* RE PHILADELPHIA TEL MARCH TWENTYSEVEN LAST.

ATLANTA SOURCES CONTACTED THIS DATE AND ADVISED BEVEL  
IS NOT IN ATLANTA AND WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN TO THEM, ALTHOUGH  
SUPPOSED TO BE IN PHILADELPHIA WHERE HE RESIDES.

CONTACT BEING MAINTAINED WITH SOURCES AND IF LOCATED IN ATLANTA,  
WILL BE INTERVIEWED.

AM COPY TO MEMPHIS.

~~CORR TIME SHOULD BE 11:15PM~~

END

MXS

FBI WASH DC\*

*cc-frog*  
REC-128 44-38861-5666

1 APR 1 1969

TELETYPE TO:  
66 APR 11 1969  
*WJH*

RECEIVED  
FBI WASH DC  
APR 1 1966

FBI WASH DC

TELETYPE

FBI ATLANTA

URGENT 4-1-66

TO DIRECTOR, WASHINGTON FIELD, PHILADELPHIA

FROM ATLANTA (44-388)

MURKIN

RE PHILADELPHIA TEL APRIL 1, 1966.

ATLANTA SOURCE REPORTED THIS DATE AND ADVISED REAR

IS NOT IN ATLANTA AND WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN TO INQ. ALTHOUGH

SUPPOSED TO BE IN PHILADELPHIA WHERE HE RESIDES.

PHILADELPHIA POLICE MAINTAINED WITH SOURCE AND IS LOCATED IN ATLANTA.

END

APR 1 1966

WASH FIELD 4-1-66

END

END

FBI WASH DC

APR 1 7 07 AM '66

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS  
FBI

NA  
3/29/69  
12:45 PM  
12/1/67

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

MAR 28 1969

TELETYPE

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	_____

FBI WASH DC\*

FBI MEMPHIS

547 PM URGENT 3-28-69 DND

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), WFO, ATLANTA, AND MOBILE

FROM MEMPHIS (44-1987)

MURKIN.

RE PHILADELPHIA TEL TO BUREAU MARCH TWENTYSEVEN LAST.

FOR MOBILE'S INFORMATION, BUREAU HAS INSTRUCTED THAT REV. JAMES BEVEL, SCLC OFFICIAL, BE LOCATED AND INTERVIEWD CONCERNING HIS STATEMENT IN NEW YORK TIMES THAT LETTER WAS TURNED OVER TO MEMPHIS PD APPROXIMATELY APRIL THREE, SIXTYEIGHT, CONTAINING INFORMATION THAT MARTIN LUTHER KING WAS TO BE KILLED WHILE IN MEMPHIS. MEMPHIS PD HAS NO KNOWLEDGE THIS LETTER.

BEVEL IS NOT NOW IN MEMPHIS BUT INFO AVAILABLE TO MEMPHIS INDICATED ABERNATHY OF SCLC IS TO BE IN ATLANTA MARCH TWENTYNINE NEXT AND ALSO THAT NUMEROUS SCLC OFFICIALS ARE TO MEET AT MONTGOMERY, ALA. ON APRIL FOUR NEXT. ATLANTA AND MOBILE ATTEMPT TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW BEVEL. P.

END

PGH

FBI WASH DC\*

REC-128

44-38861-5667

EX-111

1 APR 1 1969

cc-Lorg

6-Sub

TELETYPE TO:

APR 11 1969

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

WASHINGTON, D. C.

TELETYPE UNIT

APR 1 1968

RECEIVED

APR 1 1968

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), WFO, ATLANTA, AND MOBILE

FROM BUREAU (44-1987)

URGENT

REPHILADELPHIA TEL TO BUREAU MARCH TWENTYSEVEN LAST.  
BUREAU HAS INSTRUCTED THAT NEW  
YORK OFFICE, BE LOCATED AND INTERVIEW CONDUCTING  
IN NEW YORK CITY THAT LETTER HAS TURNED OVER TO  
APPROXIMATELY APRIL THREE, SIXTYEIGHT, CONTAINING  
INFORMATION THAT MARTIN LUTHER KING WAS KILLED WHILE IN  
ATLANTA. MEMPHIS HAS NO KNOWLEDGE THIS LETTER.  
LEVEL IS NOT NOW IN REPAIRS BUT INFO AVAILABLE TO BUREAU  
INDICATES REPAIRING OF SOLO IS TO BE IN ATLANTA MARCH TWENTY  
LAST AND TWO THAT WORKING SOLO OFFICIALS ARE TO GO AT  
ATLANTA, ALA. ON APRIL FOUR NEXT.

ATLANTA AND MOBILE ATTEMPT TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW REVEAL. P.

APR 1 7 06 AM '68

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS  
FBI

APR 1 1968

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAR 28 1969

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

FBI WASH DC

FBI SPRNGFLD

6:16 PM DEFERRED 3-26-69 AEF

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

MURKIN.

COPIES MADE, DATE 5/4/78 BY  
SP-105 RE M.L. King, Jr.  
FOR REVIEW AT FBIHQ AND/OR DELIVERY  
TO USCA RE REQUEST DATED 5/3/78  
SEE BUFILE 62-117290

ON MARCH TWENTYSIX, SIXTYNINE, DON DOWNEY APPEARED AT THE  
QUINCY, ILLINOIS, RESIDENT AGENCY OFFICE, AND ADVISED THAT HE  
IS A REPORTER FOR THE TIME MAGAZINE. DOWNEY BEGAN TO ASK QUESTIONS  
CONCERNING THE FACTS IN THE JAMES EARL RAY CASE. HE WAS  
ADVISED THAT NO COMMENT WOULD BE MADE CONCERNING THIS MATTER.

DOWNEY ADVISED HE IS WRITING AN ARTICLE TO PROVE  
OR DISPROVE THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN HUIE'S ARTICLE  
THAT APPEARED IN LOOK MAGAZINE. HE STATED THAT HE HAS INTER-  
VIEWED THE TWO BROTHERS OF RAY.

NO INFORMATION OF ANY TYPE WAS FURNISHED TO DOWNEY.

END

CKG

FBI WASH DC

66 APR 11 1969  
CO-MR. ROSEN

MR. DELOACH FOR THE DIRECTOR

REC'D - TOLSON

REC'D - TOLSON

REC'D - TOLSON

REC'D - TOLSON

REC'D - TOLSON

MAR 26 7 20 PM '69

RECEIVED  
TELETYPE UNIT

MAR 26 8 10 PM '69

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

MAR 27 4 13 PM '69

REC'D - CIV. RIGHTS  
FBI

REC'D DELOACH  
FBI

MAR 27 11 01 AM '69

MAR 27 2 23 PM '69

REC'D DELOACH  
FBI

MAR 27 8 26 AM '69

REC'D - ROSEN  
FBI

REC'D - TOLSON  
FBI

MAR 27 10 12 AM '69

MAR 27 9 21 AM 1969

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR  
F.B.I.

REC'D - TOLSON'S OFFICE  
MAR 27 2 55 AM '69

March 27, 1969

**GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION**

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

Attached advises that a person identifying himself as Don Downey, a reporter for "Time Magazine" contacted our Quincy, Illinois, Resident Agency for information regarding the assassination of King. Our Agents offered no comments.

William Bradford Huie has written two articles for "Look" magazine concerning Ray regarding the assassination of King.

The two brothers of Ray referred to in the teletype are John Ray and Larry Ray. We previously interviewed both of them and they offered no information relative to a conspiracy.

  
REL:mfd  
  
  




MAR 27 12 18 PM '69

**FBI**  
REC-D BISHOP

F B I

Date: 3/26/69

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
 FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)  
 SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Springfield airtel to Bureau 12/6/68.

On 3/25/69, DAVE BAIRD, Reporter for the newspaper "Commercial News", Danville, Illinois, advised that on 3/24/69, he was telephonically contacted by ROBERT H. STRADER, 1220 East Fairchild Street, Apartment 7, Danville, Illinois, and STRADER related that he had vital information concerning the assassination of Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING. STRADER told BAIRD that prior to KING's death he was in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where he was approached by unknown individuals and these individuals attempted to hire STRADER to murder Doctor KING. STRADER said he refused the offer and related that since that date he had been followed and several attempts have been made on his life. STRADER told BAIRD that if the "Commercial News" newspaper was interested in his story that arrangements could be made through STRADER's attorney, DONALD FOLEY, Indianapolis, Indiana, for payment for this story. STRADER requested BAIRD to meet him in the near future, however, BAIRD said he felt that STRADER was a "nut" and he doubted if any action would be taken by this newspaper.

As noted in referenced communication, as well as other communications to the Bureau, STRADER has alleged he had information concerning the assassination of KING. In view of past information concerning STRADER, no action is recommended regarding contact with STRADER or his wife, MARGARET CARMICHAEL STRADER.

③ - Bureau (44-38861) REC-25  
 1 - Memphis (44-1987) (Info)  
 1 - Indianapolis (44-563) (Info)  
 1 - Chicago (44-1114) (Info)  
 1 - Springfield (44-561)

JAC/ssj  
 (7)

3 MAR 26 1969

Approved: 56 APR 9 1969  
 Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

(44-38861-10) Adm. 100-100000-100

(104-24) SHERIDAN, Sam :KODK

**WILSON : CONSUMERS**

88% of the sample of 10718 biological...

[illegible]

On the other hand, the fact that the information was not used in the report is not a sufficient reason to conclude that the information was not reliable. The fact that the information was not used in the report is not a sufficient reason to conclude that the information was not reliable. The fact that the information was not used in the report is not a sufficient reason to conclude that the information was not reliable.

RECEIVED  
MAR 28 1964

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS  
FBI

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. Bishop

FROM : M. A. Jones ✓

SUBJECT: JAMES EARL RAY

DATE: March 17, 1969

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

*Malone*  
*haley*

Senator James O. Eastland (D - Miss.) last week indicated the Senate Subcommittee on Internal Security which he chairs was going to look into the Ray case, in an effort to develop information concerning a possible conspiracy in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

On 3/17/69, Senator Eastland telephonically advised Special Agent Bowers he had that date received a letter from Ray in which Ray says he did not kill King and offers to cooperate with the Senate Subcommittee. The Senator made available the enclosed copy of the letter which is dated 3/14/69, and the envelope in which it was mailed.

## RECOMMENDATION:

That this be referred to the General Investigative Division.

## Enclosures

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach (enclosure)
- 1 - Mr. Bishop (enclosure)
- 1 - Mr. Rosen (enclosure)

ENCLOSURE

DWB:jmb

REC-72

44-31161-5676

3 APR 1 1969

ENCLOSURE

APR 08 1969

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS  
FBI

MAR 19 10 47 AM '69

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

MAR 19 1 02 PM '69

MAR 19 1 02 PM '69

MAR 18 10 02 AM '69  
REC'D DELOACH  
FBI  
MAR 18 10 02 AM '69  
REC'D DELOACH  
FBI  
MAR 18 10 02 AM '69  
REC'D DELOACH  
FBI

MAR 18 4 12 PM '69

MAR 19 1 20 PM '69

REC'D DELOACH  
FBI

MAR 18 8 40 AM '69

MAR 18 12 11 PM '69

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS  
FBI

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS  
FBI

MAR 19 12 25 PM '69

3-14-69

Dear Senator Eastland;

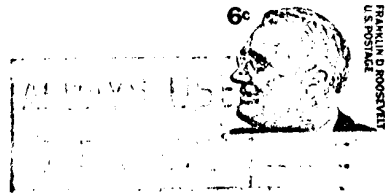
I read in the local newspaper where your committee is considering investigating the Dr. King case. I would like to inform you and the committee that I would cooperate in any such hearing. However, at the time I am going to attempt to get the guilty plea set aside, I know that the odds against having this done are greatly against me. But I think due to the unusual circumstances in the guilty plea it mite be possible. I personally did not shoot Dr. King but I believe I am partly responsible for his death. I will briefly attempt to explain why I entered the guilty plea. At the time Mr. Pery Foreman agreed to take over the defense from Mr. Arthur Hanes we had a verbal agreement that there would be no guilty plea, as I wanted to try the case in court. I had every reason to believe during the first two months Mr. Foreman was on the case there would be a trial, during that period Mr. Foreman had me sign a new contract with him and Mr. Huie giving Mr. Foreman all the money from any of Mr. Huie's money making ventures. (I had sign another contract with Mr. Huie and Mr. Hanes) Shortly after this Mr. Foreman came to visit me and he had a picture for me to look at. This picture was about 8 x 10 in. Mr. Foreman said Mr. Huie had given him the picture and that Mr. Huie had got the picture from someone in the federal government. The picture contain 2 or 3 men followed by two or 3 policemen. Mr. Foreman described one of the men in the picture as an 'anti communist' cuban refugee who was arrested at the time president Kennedy was shot. "The arrest took place in Dallas I was told" I was asked if I would identify the man if he was brought to Memphis. I said no, althoe he did look similar to the person I was involved with. After I wouldn't identify this man, about all I was told was that I would go to the electric chair if I went to trial. I was even told my family wanted me to plead guilty, but I found out this was not so. But I did not plead guilty for the above reasons. I did so because I did not want to go to trial with a lawyer who thought he was going to lose. I believe if you think you will lose you proably will. On the day before I plead guilty I signed another contract with Mr. Foreman. In this one I agreed to give him \$165,000, he agreed to give my brother \$500.00 in the event I wanted to hire another lawyer to reopen the case. Mr. Foreman wrote into the contract that if I embarres him (disagreed) in the court room he could withdraw, the old contract would go into effect and I would be without funds to hire another

attorney. Getting back to Mr. Huie for a minute, while Mr. Hanes was my attorney Mr. Huie asked me through him about public figures and various organizations. I got the impression that he thought their was a conspiracy but he wanted to name the conspirators. And I sometime felt that my attorneys were working for him instead of for me. In closing I would like to say if I can't get the case reopen, their should be an invegestion, as I have signed over \$200,000 to attorneys and not 1/20 of the witnesses have been interview. No one went to Los Angeles or New Orleans where I think much of the evidence lies. Mr. Foreman said in open court that he didn't trust investigators, and the one Mr. Hanes hired never left Memphis. I would also like to say that despite what the papers and book writer's quote me as saying, I have no intention of discussing this case with anyone 'verbaly' until it is closed. If I have anything to say I will say it in court or to lawyers, or in letter form like this letter.

Sincerely, James E. Ray.

COPY:mls

JAMES E. RAY 65477  
STATION-A-WEST  
777 & B-403  
Memphis, TENN. 37303



To. Senator James O. Eastland  
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee  
Washington, D.C.



100 - 11112 - 617

ENCLOSURE

Dear Senator Eastland;

I read in the local newspaper where your committee is considering investigating the Dr. King case, I would like to inform you and the Committee that I would cooperate in any such hearing. However, at the time I am going to attempt to get the guilty plea set aside, I know that the odds against having this done are greatly against me, But I think due to the unusual circumstances in the guilty plea it might be possible. I personally did not shoot Dr. King but I believe I am partly responsible for his death. I will briefly attempt to explain why I entered the guilty plea. At the time Mr. Jerry Foreman agreed to take over the defense from Mr. Arthur Hanes, we had a verbal agreement that there would be no guilty plea as I wanted to try the case in court. I had every reason to believe during the first two months Mr. Foreman was on the case there would be a trial, during that period Mr. Foreman had me sign a new contract with him and Mr. Huie giving Mr. Foreman all the money from any of Mr. Huie's money making ventures, (I had sign another contract with Mr. Huie and Mr. Hanes) Shortly after this Mr. Foreman came to visit me and he had a picture for me to look at, This picture was about 8x10 in. Mr. Foreman said Mr. Huie had given him the picture and that Mr. Huie had got the picture from someone in the federal government. The picture contained 2 or 3 men followed by two or 3 policemen. Mr. Foreman described one of the men in the picture as an 'anti communist' Cuban refugee who was arrested at the time president Kennedy was shot. "The arrest took place in Dallas I was told" I was asked if I would identify the man if he was in set

to Memphis, I said no, altho he did look similar to the person I was involved with. After I wouldn't identify this man, about all I was told was that I would go to the electric chair if I went to trial, I was even told my family wanted me to plead guilty, but I found out this was not so.

But I did not plead guilty for the above reasons, I did so because I did not want to go to trial with a lawyer who thought he was going to lose, I believe if you think you will lose you probably will. On the day before I pled guilty I signed another contract with Mr. Foreman, in this one I agreed to give him \$65,000, he agreed to give my brother \$500.00 in the event I wanted to hire another lawyer to reopen the case. Mr. Foreman wrote into the contract that if I <sup>was</sup> ~~embarrassed~~ (DISAGREED) in the court room he could withdraw, the old contract would go into effect and I would be without funds to hire another attorney. After back to Mr. Hume for a minute, while Mr. Hume was my attorney Mr. Hume asked me through him about public figures and various organizations. I got the impression that he thought there was a conspiracy but he wanted to name the conspirators, and I sometimes felt that my attorneys were working for him instead of for me.

In closing I would like to say if I can't get the case reopened, then should be an investigation, and have signed over \$200,000 to attorneys and not 1/20 of the witnesses have been interviewed, no one went to Los Angeles or New Orleans where I think much of the evidence lies. Mr. Foreman said in open court that he didn't trust investigators, and the one Mr. Hume hired never left Memphis.

I would also like to say that despite what the papers and back writers quote me as saying, I have no intention of discussing this case with anyone "verbally" until it is closed. If I have anything to say I will say it in court or to Congress, or in letter form like this letter.

Sincerely, James E. Ray.

F B I

Date: 3/27/69

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN

ReBureau airtel 3/26/69, a xerox copy of which is enclosed for St. Louis.

JERRY RAY visited the subject 3/22/69 at the Tennessee State Penitentiary, Nashville, Tenn., and indicated to prison officials that his residence is now in St. Louis, Mo. No street address was given.

For the Bureau's information, Tennessee State Attorney General PHIL M. CANALE has not been contacted by Mr. KENT COURTNEY, publisher of the Conservative Journal.

LEAD

ST. LOUIS

AT ST. LOUIS, MO.

Through subject's sister, CAROL PEPPER, attempt to locate and interview JERRY RAY.

3 - Bureau  
2 - St. Louis (Enc 1)  
2 - Memphis  
JCH:LF  
(7)

REC-71

44-38861 5671  
APR 1 1969

Approved: *R. Jensen*  
55 APR 10 1969

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_



FBI

Date: *mlp* 3/28/69Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT  
(Priority)

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	_____

*018*  
*5* TO: DIRECTOR, FBI AND SACS ATLANTA  
MEMPHIS  
PHILADELPHIA

FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703)

MURKIN

RE PHILADELPHIA TEL MARCH TWENTY-SEVEN, LAST.

LEONARD E. DOYLE, R (PROB), (PROTECT) ADVISED MARCH  
TWENTY-EIGHT INSTANT THAT BEVEL NOT IN WDC. ACCORDING TO  
SOURCE BEVEL BELIEVED TO BE IN ATLANTA ATTENDING AN SCLC  
STAFF MEETING.

*cc-forg*

- ② - Bureau  
3 - Teletype Unit  
3 - WFO  
(1 - 170-735) (SUB A)

JB:arw  
(8)

REC-10

44-38861-5672

APR 1 1969

FBI

REC'D - CIVIL RIGHTS

Approved: *SP8 LAC*  
36 APR 9 1969  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

FBI

3/28/69

Date:

PLAINTEXT

(Type in plaintext or code)

URGENT

(Priority)

TELETYPE

Via

Transmit the following in

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI AND SACS ATLANTA  
MEMPHIS  
PHILADELPHIA

FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703)

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MEETING.

RECEIVED  
TELETYPE UNIT  
MAR 28 8 24 PM '69

2 - Bureau  
3 - Teletype Unit  
3 - WFO  
(1 - 170-735) (SUB A)

JB:slw  
(8)

REC-10  
MAR 28 9 18 PM '69  
F.B.I.  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
REC'D - CIV RIGHTS  
FBI  
APR 1 7 07 AM '69

Approved: [Signature]  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

3-28-69

1 - Mr. Long

AIRTEL

To: SAC, Savannah (44-1768)

From: Director, FBI (44-38861) *5673*

**MURKIN**

Enclosed for Savannah are two true copies and one true copy for Memphis of a letter received at the Bureau from ~~Roy Erwin~~, who is incarcerated by the Georgia Board of Corrections at Reidsville, Georgia. *Tenn.*

Savannah should immediately interview Erwin for all information he possesses concerning the contents of his letter and set forth necessary leads to thoroughly resolve issues. It is to be noted that James Earl Ray owned a 1966 Mustang which was abandoned in Atlanta, Georgia, on April 5, 1968. It is also to be noted that Martin Luther King, Jr., was shot at 6:01 p.m. (Memphis time) on April 4, 1968, at Memphis, Tennessee.

Bufiles indicate that one Roy Erwin admitted stealing a 1963 Ford Fairlane in Dalton, Georgia, on 8-16-65, and abandoned same in Columbia, South Carolina. In this matter the Assistant United States Attorney in Columbia declined prosecution as subject juvenile and had been charged by local authorities for theft of same vehicle.

Bufiles further indicate that under FBI number 402 591 F one ~~Roy Erwin~~, white male, born   was fingerprinted by the State Board of Corrections at Atlanta, Georgia, (number A-71338-57075) on 6-20-68, in connection with charges of forgery and received a sentence of two years and seven months.

Enclosures (2)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_ 1 - Memphis (44-1987) (for info) (Enc. 1)

DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_

Mohr \_\_\_\_\_

Bishop \_\_\_\_\_

Casper \_\_\_\_\_

Callahan \_\_\_\_\_

Conrad \_\_\_\_\_

Felt \_\_\_\_\_

Gale \_\_\_\_\_

Rosen \_\_\_\_\_

Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_

Tavel \_\_\_\_\_

Trotter \_\_\_\_\_

Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_

Holmes \_\_\_\_\_

Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

REL:jms

(5) *jms*

SEE NOTE PAGE THREE. . .

59 APR 11 1969 *Run*

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐



U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS  
FBI

(6)

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

MAR 27

MAR 27 4 02 PM '69

MAR 28 1 34 PM '69

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

**Airtel to SAC, Savannah**  
**RE: MURKIN**

**Under this same FBI number one Richard Erwin was fingerprinted by Georgia Industrial Institution (number A-61871/7616) at Alto, Georgia, on 10-8-65, in connection with charges of larceny of an automobile and received a sentence of two years. It is not known if this entire sentence or portion thereof was served.**

**NOTE:**

Roy Erwin, who is incarcerated at Reidsville, Georgia, wrote to the Bureau and advised that he would like to inform the Bureau that he drove a 1965 Mustang from Memphis, Tennessee, to Atlanta, Georgia, on April 4, 1968. Erwin stated, "If this date reminds you of anything that happen in Memphis, last April 4th at 9:45 p.m."

We are instructing our Savannah Office to interview Erwin concerning the contents of his letter.

INMATE'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ State Serial Number: \_\_\_\_\_

INSTITUTION: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Sir: I would like to inform  
you that I drove a 1965 Model  
Mustang from Memphis, Tenn. to  
Atlanta, Ga. on April 4<sup>th</sup>, 1968.

If this date reminds you of anything  
that happened in Memphis, last April 4<sup>th</sup>  
at 9:45 a.m.

Sincerely,  
Roy Erwin

REC-10

44-38861-5673

4-1  
2 MAR 26 1969

30  
EXP. PROC.  
34 MAR 26 1969

airtel SV + cc ME

3-28-69

RED:jms

2 true copies of let sent SV

1 " " sent ME

BEFORE CORRESPONDING READ RULES ON REVERSE SIDE

LAW  
SIX

GEORGIA BOARD OF CORRECTIONS  
CORRESPONDENCE AND VISITATION REGULATIONS

CORRESPONDENCE RULES

Mail will not be delivered which does not conform with these rules

**LETTERS** Each inmate is allowed to write 7 letters per week, only on letterhead stationery, written on one side, not to exceed two sheets per letter. All letters must be in English only. All letters must contain the full committed name of the inmate, with state serial number, institution and date in the space provided.

Each inmate may receive mail from those on his approved mailing list. All letters to inmates must be in English, written on one side of not more than two sheets of letter size paper. Each letter must be addressed in the inmates full committed name with institution and state serial number on the envelope.

**PACKAGES** Effective March 15, 1968 all packages for inmates delivered to any institution in the Georgia Correctional System must come through the United States Mail. No packages for inmates may be brought to any institution by visitors, except food which is to be consumed during the visit. Effective March 15, 1968 no packages for inmates will be accepted through the United States Mail or otherwise by an institution in the Georgia Correctional System with the following exceptions:

1. Packages containing low-quarter shoes, plain white tee-shirts, shorts, socks, pajamas, towels, handkerchiefs or work gloves.
2. Eyeglasses or other essential health devices may be received -- but only with the prior approval of the institution Doctor and Warden.
3. Three weeks before the discharge date of an inmate, civilian clothing may be sent to the inmate being discharged. A permit must be obtained from the Warden.
4. Educational books and/or other approved reading material may be sent to inmates, but only when shipped directly to the inmate from a reputable book supplier or publisher.
5. Materials needed for hobbies and crafts, such as leather, if shipped directly from reputable supplier, will be permitted. Approval must be obtained from the Warden prior to ordering materials.

Christmas packages will be allowed under regulations which will be distributed to all concerned 30 days before December 25.

All other packages received at any institution after March 15 will be returned to the sender.

**MONEY** Inmates may receive money from those on their approved mailing list only in the form of United States Postal Money Order, American Express Money Order or Cashier's Check. DO NOT send any other form of money order, checks or cash.

**DO NOT SEND** clippings, stationery or letters from other people in your letter.

**CENSOR** All mail written by an inmate to those on his approved mailing list or received from those on his approved mailing list will be censored by the delegated official at the institution. Inmates may write uncensored letters only to the Governor, Members of the State Board of Corrections, Director, Associate Director and Assistant Director of the State Board of Corrections and members of the State Board of Pardons and Paroles.

VISITING RULES

**APPROVED VISITING LIST** Inmates will be allowed to have visits only from those on their approved visitors' list. Institutional authorities will notify inmates and those on their approved list of the visiting days and schedule at the institution.

TRUE COPY

Dear Sir:

I would like to inform you that I drove a 1965 model Mustang from Memphis, Tenn. to Atlanta, Ga. on April 4th, 1968. If this date reminds you of anything that happen in Memphis, last April 4th at 9:45 p.m.

Sincerely,

Roy Erwin

GEORGIA BOARD OF CORRECTIONS  
CORRESPONDENCE AND VISITATION REGULATIONS

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163  
VISITING RULES 37

**APPROVED VISITING LIST** Inmates will be allowed to have visits only from those on their approved visitors' list. Institutional authorities will notify inmates and those on their approved list of the visiting days and schedule at the institution.



AP Wirephoto

**SAME MAN** — THE FBI yesterday identified the man in these two pictures as James Earl Ray, sought in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. On Wednesday the FBI released photo at left and identified it

as Eric Starvo Galt. Photo at right was released yesterday with explanation that Galt has been identified as Ray, an escapee from a Missouri prison. Photo at left was made in 1968 and the one at right in 1960.

## *4-20-68* **Discrepancy Arises as FBI Decides Galt's Name Is Ray**

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The FBI said yesterday that the "Eric Starvo Galt" who was sought across the nation for murdering Dr. Martin Luther King was in fact James Earl Ray, who escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary 51 weeks ago.

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover said a systematic search of fingerprints uncovered in the case against the prints of more than 53,000 persons led to the determination "that Galt and Ray are identical."

But the announcement raised some perplexing questions. On Wednesday, when Hoover identified Galt as the man sought for conspiracy in the slaying, he said that Galt had taken dancing lessons in New Orleans in 1964 and 1965. But yesterday's FBI announcement said Ray was in prison between 1960 and April 23, 1967, when he escaped.

The discrepancy, federal sources said, arose from an error into the investigation of the background of "Galt."

Ray was sentenced to 20 years on Dec. 18, 1959, in St. Louis Circuit Court on a charge of armed robbery. He and another ex-convict, James Owens, were convicted of robbing a St. Louis supermarket of \$190.

Convicted by a jury which deliberated 20 minutes, Ray attempted to escape from the court room by jumping into an elevator. He made two unsuccessful attempts to escape from the Missouri penitentiary before he succeeded last year.

Hoover did not mention the discrepan-

cies between his statement Wednesday and his latest announcement. FBI officials handed the announcement to reporters but would answer no questions

The FBI handed out two pictures of Ray taken in 1960. In several ways, they matched pictures of Galt taken in 1968. In both pictures, deep lines ran from the subject's nose to his mouth. The ears looked identical and so did the lines around the eyes.

In its announcement Wednesday, the FBI said a warrant had been filed charging that Galt entered into a conspiracy with "an individual whom he alleged to be his brother." It said the conspiracy "continued until on or about April 5, 1968, to injure, oppress, threaten or intimidate Martin Luther King Jr."

King was slain on the porch of a mo-



California Supreme Court Justice Stanley Mosk told a group of 200 lawyers and judges in Fontana yesterday that recent landmark court decisions have helped law enforcement and not contributed to increased lawlessness, as has been charged by some police officials.

## California--

University of California regents approved an \$81 increase in student fees for the 1968-69 school year only, a move Gov. Reagan said was a "small step" toward meeting future financial needs.

Sen. Robert F. Kennedy called in Los Angeles for a redirection of American industry "not simply to improve the quality of our goods, but the quality of our lives. Campaigning for California's delegates to the Democratic National Convention, the presidential contender proposed at a Town Hall meeting "a new fusion between the genius of private technology and the resources of public authority."

The State Supreme Court refused to place on the June primary ballot a Republican presidential delegation variously described as a "free slate" or "anti-Gov. Reagan."

Tax-backlash week in the legislature climaxed with Assemblyman John V. Briggs, R-Fullerton, urging repeal of the 1967 state income tax increase. Briggs voted for the big tax boost last year after Gov. Reagan twisted his arm.

## Martin Warns . . .

(Continued from A-1)

assessed and a repetition of the 1966 credit crunch" avoided.

Martin divided blame between the administration's guns-and-butter policy and the "recalcitrance of Congress" in refusing to approve a tax increase and pending reductions.

"I think it is the duty of the Federal Reserve to point out the disastrous effects of the perpetual deficit, both in our balance of payments and in our domestic economy," Martin said.

In what may have been the first public admission by a high government official that a devaluation of the dollar is conceivable, Martin said: "Unless we reverse our current trend, it will inevitably lead to worldwide devaluation of

ON THE MARCH — Striking Western Electric installers turned out in force between 8

## Few Difficulties In S.B. From P

BY JOE BAKER

Sun-Telegram Business Editor

Long distance calls placed through operators were delayed, but otherwise the nationwide strike against the Bell Telephone system had little visible effect on San Bernardino County telephone users yesterday.

Western Electric installers of the Communications Workers of America (CWA) AFL-CIO, the striking union, continued picketing Pacific Telephone Co.'s county installations. The strike started at noon Thursday.

The company said a "high" percentage of members of other unions reported for work at most of the company's county installations, except at the regional toll center at 455 W. 2nd St., San Bernardino, where mass picketing took place between 7 and 9 a.m.

The center, a major long distance relay station, employs some 600 persons and about 100 supervisors on three shifts.

Only about 25 per cent reported for work yesterday morning, and only 26 per cent — 35 out of 136 scheduled to work — reported for the evening shift.

Of the company's total county work force of 800, the spokesman said, about 80 per cent of the plant men and 66 per cent of the operators reported yesterday morning. He had no information on later shifts.

A union spokesman at the CWA's Riverside office said the strike was "almost 100 per cent" effective and "most" members of other unions were honoring the picket lines.

A survey of major long distance users in the county indicated there were few problems where direct dialing was used.

But county offices and such major telephone users as TRW Inc., Aerospace Corp. and others, who make some, or all, long distance calls through operators, said they went to direct dialing in many cases because of delays, especially during peak periods between 10 a.m. and noon, and 4 to 5 p.m.

A General Telephone Co. spokesman said his company's traffic was not vis-

## Senate Votes . . .

(Continued from A-1)

itself yesterday imposed an additional cut of \$660 million.

The Senate's 3 per cent cutback from the committee figure was approved, 45 to 13, after senators rejected a series of similar economy proposals.

Sen. John J. Williams, R-Del., the cutback sponsor, said the 3 per cent figure was the same ratio the Senate used when it recently approved a \$6 billion cut in federal spending to go along with a 10 per cent income tax increase.

"This is the same formula we are going to be required to apply to all other programs if we are going to realize the \$6 billion savings," Williams said. "We can make some reductions not only

F10

ENCLOSURE

44-38861-5674

P.O. Box 201  
Colton, Calif.

March 24, 1969

Mr. Hoover  
Dear Sir:

Herewith is an analysis of two pictures which the FBI handed out, purporting to be James Earl Ray, taken several years apart, but as you can see by looking at the percentages of the various facial features they are miles apart in appearance. There is another man also but this is enough to prove my theory that there was a conspiracy.

You will notice I make no comparison of picture to picture but I compare every salient feature of the face using the length of the face from hair-line to point of chin as the yard-stick and compute the percentage of each feature to the face-length. In order to avoid confusion I always measure the forehead from the hair line to the inside corner of the eye so there can be no question as to where the forehead stops etc. Absolute accuracy with this type of picture is impossible, but you can see for yourself that the difference in percentages is not due to a slight difference in measurement.

Picture #1

REC-49 44-2001-5674

Length of face	1.7"	
Width of face	1.25"	% width to length 73%
Height of forehead	0.7"	% forehead to length of face 41%
Length of nose	0.35"	% of nose to length of face 20%
Point of nose to chin	0.65"	% chin to face 38%
Left ear	0.6"	% to length of face 35%
Right ear	0.5"	% " " 30%

22 APR 3 1969

54 APR 5 1969

ENCLOSURE

54 APR 15 1969

CORRESPONDENCE

MAR 28 5 25 AM '69  
REC'D DELOACH  
FBI

MAR 27 9 21 AM '69  
REC'D - CIV RIGHTS  
FBI

MAR 26 3 05 PM '69  
REC'D - CIV RIGHTS

MAR 26 5 10 PM 1969  
F.B.I.  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
RECEIVED  
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE

MAR 26 3

Picture #2

Length of face 1.6"

Width of face 1.3" % width to length of face 81%

Height of forehead 0.7" % forehead to length of face 43%

Length of nose 0.4" % of nose to length of face 25%

Point of nose to chin 0.6" % of chin to length of face 37%

Left ear 0.55" % of ear to length of face 34%

Right ear, same.

You will notice a line drawn across the eyes in these two photos. I tried to get the line exactly on the spot where the ears join the side of the head, but even a slight inaccuracy at this point does not change the fact that there is marked difference ~~tin~~ in the set of the eyes, in number one the pupils of the eyes are almost entirely above the line while in the other the pupils are below the line.

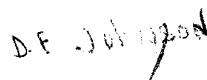
There are many other measurements and comparisons that could be made but one would need much clearer photos than these to do the job right.

As I mentioned previously, there is another picture of this same type, which is of an entirely different person, and all ~~three~~ are designated by the FBI as one man, but you can see by checking these percentages that they are three separate, distinct and unique persons.

Now if all three photos came out of your files it should be a comparatively simple matter to identify the other two persons.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Yours truly,



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

MAR 31 1969

TELETYPE

*Viper*

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	

*Long*

FBI WASH DC

FBI MEMPHIS

754 PM URGENT 3/31/69 RJT

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM MEMPHIS (44-1987)

*MURKIN*

JIM BEASLEY, ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE, ONE OF THE ATTORNEYS WHO HANDLED THE JAMES EARL RAY CASE, ENTERED JUDGE W. PRESTON BATTLE'S CHAMBERS AT APPROXIMATELY FIVE THIRTYFIVE P. M. THIS DATE AND FOUND JUDGE BATTLE SLUMPED OVER HIS DESK. BEASLEY IMMEDIATELY CALLED AN AMBULANCE WHICH TOOK JUDGE BATTLE TO METHODIST HOSPITAL WHERE HE WAS PRONOUNCED DEAD ON ARRIVAL.

ACCORDING TO THE MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT THERE IS NO INDICATION OF FOUL PLAY. INDICATIONS ARE THAT JUDGE BATTLE DIED FROM NATURAL CAUSES.

REC-25

BUREAU WILL BE ADVISED OF ANY ADDITIONAL PERTINENT DETAILS.

END

MSE

FBI WASH DC

56 APR 9 1969

MR. DELOACH FOR THE DIRECTOR

CC-MR. ROSEN

TELETYPE

214987 109

VIA RUA

MAR 31 9 19 PM '69

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

APPROPRIATE UNIT

MAKRELI 0554141039

DELOACH  
B I

THE DEASLEY, ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, WHEELING COUNTY, YININGO YELIHA, JARHED YAROTIA TATIGI, YELISATE YIL

AS 23MAL 2117 25JAN68 ONW 212100TIA 2MT 40 600 . 230200Z

RAY (ABT) ENTERED JUDGE W. PRESTON GATTE'S CHAMBERS AT

APPROXIMATELY FIVE THIRTYFIVE P. M. THIS DATE AND SOUNDING INDICATE

3. TITLE PLANTED OVER HIS DESK. SECRETLY IMPOUNDINGLY CALLED AN

ARMED FORCE WHICH TOOK JUNG BATTAL TO NEUROLOGIST HOSPITAL WHERE

HE WAS PROTECTED DURING HIS ARRIVAL.

ACCORDING TO THE NEW YORK POLICE DEPARTMENT THERE IS NO

INDICATION OF FOUR RE-DEFORMATION F B I  
RECORDS SECTION ARE THAT JUDGE RALPH  
MAY 1 3 10 PM '69

APR 1 8 22 PM '69

[illegible]

RECEIVED-TOLSON

APR 1 9 06 AM '69

RECEIVED  
F. B. I.  
DIRECTOR

APR 1 9 50 AM 12 42 PM '69  
FBI  
RECEIVED-TOLSON  
APR 1 9 50 AM 12 42 PM '69

REC'D - 10/10/68

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach *DeLoach*

DATE: March 28, 1969

FROM : A. Rosen *AR*

SUBJECT: MURKIN

1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. Rosen  
1 - Mr. Malley  
1 - Mr. McGowan  
1 - Mr. Long  
1 - Mr. Bishop  
1 - Mr. Sullivan

*Tolson*  
*DeLoach*  
*Bishop*  
*Casper*  
*Gallahan*  
*Rosen*  
*Sullivan*  
*Tavel*  
*Trotter*  
*Tele. Room*  
*Holmes*  
*Gandy*

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

Bureau received a letter dated March 24, 1969, from an individual identifying himself as D. E. Johnson, Post Office box 201, Colton California. Enclosed to his letter is a newspaper article (possibly published on April 20, 1969) which sets forth a photograph of James Earl Ray as taken in 1960 and a photograph of Ray obtained at a bartending school in Los Angeles, California, (as Eric Starvo Galt) taken in 1968.

In Johnson's letter he makes a comparison of the two photographs setting forth his own measurements of facial areas and states in his opinion the photographs are not of the same individual (James Earl Ray). He, in essence, states that as a result of his comparison there is another man involved in the case, and he further states, "this is enough to prove my theory that there was a conspiracy." We know for a fact that the two photographs, as cited by Johnson, are the photographs of James Earl Ray.

Based upon available data, D. E. Johnson not identifiable in Bufiles.

## ACTION:

It is recommended that Johnson's letter not be acknowledged as any acknowledgment could invite further irrelevant correspondence from Johnson.

44-38861-5876  
22 APR 3 1969

REL:jms  
(8) *ms*

70 APR 8 1969



REC'D - CIV RIGHTS  
FBI  
MAR 28 4 24 PM '69

REC'D DELOACH  
FBI  
MAR 28 10 26 AM '69

REC'D DELOACH  
FBI

APR 1 4 52 PM '69

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS  
FBI

REC'D DELOACH  
FBI  
MAR 28 9 25 AM '69

LABORATORY DIVISION

MAR 29 9 06 AM '69

REC'D - CONRAD

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED-TOLSON  
FBI  
MAR 28 9 47 AM '69

NA 4-3-69  
6-2-69

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

5:37 PM URGENT 4/3/69 VSC

APR 3 1969

TELETYPE

TO DIRECTOR 44-38861, CHICAGO, MEMPHIS, MOBILE, PHILADELPHIA AND  
NEW YORK  
FROM ATLANTA 44-2386

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 MEMPHIS TELETYPE TO BUREAU, MARCH TWENTYEIGHT, 'SIXTYNINE.

ON APR. TWO, 'SIXTYNINE, A T THIRTEEN EIGHTYSEVEN DASH R  
ADVISED DURING PRESENT WEEK THERE WAS RUMORED AMONG MEMBERS SOUTHERN  
CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE STAFF THAT JAMES BEVEL, DIRECTOR,  
NON-VIOLENT EDUCATION, SCLC, HAD RECENTLY COMMITTED HIMSELF TO A  
HOSPITAL IN ORDER TO OBTAIN A REST AND SEEK WHATEVER MEDICAL ATTEN-  
TION MAY BE NECESSARY. SOURCE UNABLE TO SUBSTANTIATE THIS INFO  
OR PROVIDE FURTHER DETAILS; HOWEVER, POINTED OUT MEMBERS OF SCLC  
STAFF FROM TIME TO TIME IN PAST HAVE EXPRESSED OPINION BEVEL'S ACTIONS  
SUGGEST HE IS IN NEED OF MEDICAL TREATMENT.

SOURCE HAS NO INFO BEVEL IS OR HAS RECENTLY BEEN IN ATLANTA.  
WILL REMAIN ALERT TO INFO INDICATING WHEREABOUTS.

IN VIEW OF FOREGOING INFO, IT IS SUGGESTED CHICAGO, NEW YORK  
AND PHILADELPHIA CONTACT SOURCES FOR INFO BEVEL MAY BE HOSPITALIZED  
IN ONE OF THOSE CITIES.

END

GMJ

FBI WASH DC

12 APR 4 1969

56 APR 11 1969

copy to Long

6-4-69