

F B I

Date: 6-11-69

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)(P)

MURKIN

Attached are two Xerox copies of newspaper clipping which appeared in "The Commercial Appeal," a Memphis newspaper, on 6-10-69. It is noted that the Reverend JAMES L. BEVEL restated an earlier claim that he possessed information which could clear RAY of the assassination.

Authorization has previously been granted to conduct an interview of Reverend BEVEL for such information as he might be able to furnish. He has been previously contacted and furnished no information of significance. He has also reportedly spent some time in a hospital in the New York area because of a "breakdown." In view of the above, and despite restatement of his earlier claim that he has possessed information it does not appear that an interview would necessarily be productive.

UNLESS ADVISED TO CONTRARY BY BUREAU

UACB, no effort being made by Memphis to interview  
// Reverend JAMES L. BEVEL.

3 ENCLOSURE

2 BUREAU (Enc. 2) (AM)  
1 MEMPHIS  
RGJ:BN  
(3)

REC-19

44-38861-5775

15 JUN 17 1969

51 JUN 23 1969

Special Agent in Charge

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

9777M 521888

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR  
F. B. I.

JUN 13 1 18 PM '69

JUN 13 3 49 PM '69

REC'D DOM INTELL DIV

REC'D DELOACH

REC'D-CIV RIGHTS  
FBI

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

JUN 13 7 17 AM '69

JUN 16 12 44 PM '69

DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
F. B. I.

JUN 13 11 18 AM '69

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

JUN 13 9 09 PM '69

FBI

REC'D CIV RIGHTS

JUN 13 12 08 PM '69

REC'D DELOACH

JUN 13 12 08 PM '69

RECEIVED-TOLSON  
F. B. I.

JUN 13 3 32 PM '69

RECEIVED  
INVESTIGATIVE  
JUN 16 9 56 AM 1969  
F. B. I.  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

June 13, 1969

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

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

An article appeared in the "New York Times" on 3/18/69 quoting Bevel that a conspiracy to murder King existed a couple of days before King arrived in Memphis on 4/3/68 (King murdered 4/4/68) Bevel has not been available for interview, as it has been reported that he was confined to a hospital in New York as a mental patient.

We previously interviewed him as to similar type statements, he refused to furnish any information of value.

The attached advises that Bevel is currently in Memphis and again is making statements of a conspiracy.

In view of Bevel's reported mental condition, and in view of fact that he previously did not furnish any pertinent information, we will not interview him as any interview could dignify his position and remarks.

REL:rl

*OK*  
*AM*  
*nm*  
*R*

44-38861-5775  
ENCLOSURE

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## SCLC Leader Restates Claim He Could Clear King's Killer

The Rev. James L. Bevel, a director of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, who once offered to defend James Earl Ray, told The Commercial Appeal his "evidence" in the case "will never be heard."

The Rev. Mr. Bevel said the case of Ray, who pleaded guilty to killing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., is closed as far as he is concerned.

However, he restated his earlier claim that he possessed information which could clear Ray of the assassination.

The Rev. Mr. Bevel is in Memphis to conduct a five-day revival at Tree of Life Baptist Church at 407 East McLemore. He made his comments in an interview.

He also outlined the position of SCLC in regard to joining efforts to organize public employees, such as last year's sanitation workers' drive and the organizational push of hospital workers in Charleston, S.C.

"We (SCLC) help these unions organize because we feel they fill a need of the poor people. The big, established unions can't be counted on to help. Besides, unions like the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees are faced with the need to organize the whole community, rather than just workers in a factory.

"This community organization process is where SCLC has been trying to help the new unions."

But he declined to discuss the tactics of Local 1733 of the

AFSCME in Memphis which has threatened to strike all city services July 1 if its wage demands are not met.

On the "spread the misery" campaign which sends workers to shopping centers to clog trade, he said he was unfamiliar with "the way it's being used here."

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

PAGE

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: JUNE 10, 1969

Edition: GORDON HANNA

Author:

Editor:

Title: MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☒ Being Investigated

44-38961-5775  
ENCLOSURE

F B I

Date: **6-16-69**Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via **AIRTEL** **AM** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)TO: **DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)**  
FROM: **SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P****MURKIN**

Submitted herewith for the completion of the Bureau's file are two Xerox copies of a "Prayer for Appeal" which was heard before Judge ARTHUR C. FAQUIN, JR. at Memphis, 6-16-69. Judge FAQUIN denied the "Prayer for Appeal." J. B. STONER and RICHARD J. RYAN both appeared before Judge FAQUIN this date. Judge FAQUIN advised Attorneys STONER and RYAN that they had 60 additional days in which to file a "Wayside Bill of Exceptions," in order to protect the record and give them other avenues of legal appeal.

This matter will be followed and the Bureau will be kept advised.

**ENCLOSURE**

2 BUREAU (Enc. 2) (AM)  
1 MEMPHIS  
RGJ:BN  
(3)

REC-71 44-38861-5776

18 JUN 17 1969

JUN 18 1969

1 CC CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT

1cc: AAG Civil Rights Division,  
Form 6-94 (F) R.E. J. J. J.

54 JUN 24 1969

Approved: RC Jensen  
Special Agent in Charge

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

JUN 18 1969

6-16-69

AM

AIRTEL

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

Submitted herewith for the completion of the Bureau's file are two Xerox copies of a "Prayer for Appeal" which was heard before Judge ARTHUR C. WAGGIN, JR. at Memphis, 6-16-69. Judge WAGGIN denied the "Prayer for Appeal." J. B. STONER and RICHARD J. RYAN both appeared before Judge WAGGIN this date. Judge WAGGIN advised Attorneys STONER and RYAN that they had 60 additional days in which to file a "Wayside Bill of Exceptions," in order to protect the record and give them other avenues of legal appeal.

This matter will be followed and the Bureau will be kept advised.

3 BUREAU (Enc. 2) (AM)  
1 MEMPHIS  
RGJ:BN  
(3)

REC-11

JUN 17 4 07 PM 1969  
F.B.I.  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
JUN 17 4 16 PM '69  
FBI  
RECEIVED  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION - CIVIL RIGHTS

JUN 18 1969

JUN 18 1969

IN THE CRIMINAL COURT OF SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE

STATE OF TENNESSEE

VS

JAMES EARL RAY,  
Defendant

NO. 16645

FILED 6/10/69  
J. A. BLACKWELL, CLERK  
BY *[Signature]* D. C.

PRAYER FOR APPEAL

Comes now the defendant, James Earl Ray, by and through his attorney of record, Richard J. Ryan, having heretofore respectfully excepted to Your Honor's ruling upon his Motion for a New Trial, now moves this Honorable Court for permission and leave to file his Appeal from this Court to the Court of Criminal Appeals for the Western District of Tennessee.

*[Signature of Richard J. Ryan]*  
RICHARD J. RYAN,  
ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT

44-38861-5776  
ENCLOSURE

United States Department of Justice

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

WESTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE  
1058 FEDERAL OFFICE BUILDING  
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE 38103

June 11, 1969

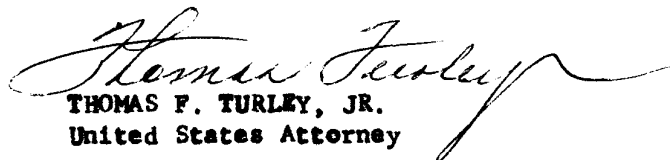
Mr. Harland F. Leathers, Chief  
General Litigation Section  
Civil Division  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C. 20530

Re: State of Tennessee v. Ray, et al,  
Nos. 11645, 16819, Criminal Court,  
Shelby County, Tennessee.  
DJ 51-72-47

Dear Mr. Leathers:

Enclosed for your files is a copy of my letter of today to Mr. J. A. Blackwell, Criminal Court Clerk, in Memphis, together with copy of "Order Dismissing Petitions For Citation For Contempt" therein referred to.

Yours very truly,

  
THOMAS F. TURLEY, JR.  
United States Attorney

TFTJr:es  
Enclosures

44-38861-5711

ENCLOSURE



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: JUN 17 1969

WDR:WPArnold:sf  
51-72-47

FROM : William D. Ruckelshaus  
Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Division

SUBJECT: State of Tennessee v. Ray, et al., Nos. 11645  
and 16819 (Criminal Court, Shelby County,  
Tennessee)

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	

Attached is a copy of a letter dated June 11, 1969, from the United States Attorney in Memphis, Tennessee, together with its enclosures relating to the dismissal of the petition for citation for contempt filed against your Fingerprint Examiner, George J. Bonebrake.

We are closing our file.

REC 29

44-38861-5777

15 JUN 17 1969

3 ENCLOSURE

60 JUL - 1 1969

15 DIRECTOR

REC'D - ROSEN  
FBI

JUN 10 11 11 AM '69

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR  
F. B. I.

JUN 24 11 31 AM '69

JUN 17 4 09 PM '69

REC'D  
SULLIVAN  
OFFICE

JUN 23 1 31 PM '69  
REC'D  
SULLIVAN  
OFFICE

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS  
FBI

JUN 18 2 50 PM '69

REC'D-DIRECTOR  
FBI

JUN 19 4 19 PM 1969

United States Department of Justice

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

WESTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE  
1058 FEDERAL OFFICE BUILDING  
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE 38103

June 11, 1969

Mr. J. A. Blackwell  
Criminal Court Clerk  
Shelby County Office Building  
157 Poplar Avenue  
Memphis, Tennessee

Re: State of Tennessee v. James Earl Ray,  
et al, Nos. 11645, 16819, Criminal  
Court, Shelby County, Tennessee

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

Thank you for the photocopy of the "Order Dismissing  
Petitions For Citation For Contempt" in this case.

I am confident that Mr. George Bonebrake is glad  
to have this behind him, as I am and am sure that you,  
Judge Faquin, the amici curiae, et al, are also.

I appreciate your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely,

THOMAS F. TURLEY, JR.  
United States Attorney

TFTJr:es

ENCLOSURE

44-38861-5711

IN THE CRIMINAL COURT OF SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE

DIVISION THREE

STATE OF TENNESSEE

vs.

NOS. 16645 and 16819

JAMES EARL RAY, Alias ERIC  
STARVO GALT, Alias JOHN  
WILLARD, Alias HARVEY LOHMEYER

ORDER DISMISSING PETITIONS FOR  
CITATION FOR CONTEMPT

In this cause it appearing to the court that Charles Edmundson, Roy Hamilton, Arthur J. Hanes, Sr., and Renfro T. Hays, were heretofore by this court, the Honorable W. Preston Battle then sitting as Judge, adjudged to be in contempt of court for violating the court's orders regarding pretrial publicity concerning this case; and it appearing that since the date of said adjudication the accused, James Earl Ray, has entered a plea of guilty and has been sentenced and is now serving such sentence in the State Penitentiary at Nashville; and it further appearing that the Honorable W. Preston Battle is now deceased, and the duties of the said Judge Battle, so far as this case is concerned, have devolved upon Judge Arthur C. Faquin, Jr., sitting by interchange; and it further appearing that the amici curiae heretofore appointed by Judge Battle for the purpose of assisting the court in presenting the petitions for citation for contempt in this case have been reappointed by the present court, Judge Arthur C. Faquin, Jr., sitting by interchange, and they have now filed in the cause a report reflecting their opinion that this court is without legal authority to pronounce sentence on said adjudication of contempt, it being their opinion that the said four respondents would have to be granted a new trial, and a new hearing held, and a new adjudication of contempt entered by the present court before sentence could be passed upon them; and it further

44-38861-5774  
ENCLOSURE

appearing that the amici curiae are doubtful whether, under the changed circumstances, the tension-charged atmosphere of the first hearing could be recaptured if a new hearing should now be held, and in view of this fact and the further fact that the objectives sought to be accomplished by the petitions have now been rendered nugatory by the conviction of James Earl Ray on his plea of guilty, the amici curiae have recommended that all petitions for citation for contempt heretofore filed in this cause now be dismissed; and it further appearing that similar petitions for citation for contempt were filed against George Bonebrake and James T. Bevel but no process was served upon them, they being non-residents and not found within the court's jurisdiction, and two similar petitions for contempt were filed against William B. Huie and process served upon him but no hearing was had or adjudication made by Judge Battle prior to his death; and this court, having duly considered the recommendation of the amici curiae, and having independently researched the legal questions presented, is of opinion that all of said petitions should be dismissed.

Accordingly, it is ordered, adjudged and decreed that Charles Edmundson, Roy Hamilton, Arthur J. Hanes, Sr., and Renfro T. Hays be and they are hereby, of the court's own motion, granted a new trial; that the judgment of contempt heretofore entered against them by this court, Honorable W. Preston Battle then sitting, be and it is hereby set aside, vacated and for naught held; and that the petitions for citation for contempt filed against said four respondents, as well as the petitions for citation for contempt filed against George Bonebrake, James T. Bevel and William B. Huie, be and they are hereby dismissed without costs to any of the respondents.

OK *Committee J. Clayton*  
for Edmundson, Hamilton & Huie

*Allen C. Day*  
JUDGE, Division II  
Sitting by interchange  
May 2, 1969  
*James*

OK *Rayner County Committee*  
*for George Bonebrake, James T. Bevel*  
*and William B. Huie*

F B I

Date: 6/12/69

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

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

This is to advise the Bureau that the model of the area and buildings where MARTIN LUTHER KING was slain, which model was built by the Exhibits Section, was turned over to American Air Lines 6/12/69 to be shipped under Air Bill No. 001MEM7809723. The shipment consisted of three crates weighing a total of 1,118 pounds. The shipment will depart Memphis via American Air Lines at 4:55 P.M., 6/13/69, and will arrive Philadelphia, Pa., 10:10 P.M., 6/13/69. American Air Lines was unable to state whether or not deliveries are made from Philadelphia on Saturday. If deliveries are made on Saturday, the shipment will be delivered on Saturday, 6/14/69, to the FBI at 5th and H Street NW, Washington, D. C. If deliveries are not made on Saturday, it will be delivered the following Monday, 6/16/69.

The Bureau should bear in mind that this exhibit may ultimately be needed for trial purposes as it is entirely possible that the subject JAMES EARL RAY will eventually be granted a new trial. RAY's appeal for a new trial made in the Court in which he was sentenced has been denied. While he has not yet filed an appeal with a higher Court, it is definitely anticipated that he will do so, and in all probability this case will eventually be heard in the U. S. Court of Appeals if not in the U. S. Supreme Court. It is therefore suggested that the Bureau not dispose of this exhibit until such time as the subject has exhausted all of his appeals.

Airtel \_\_\_\_\_

Teletype \_\_\_\_\_

A.M. ② - Bureau  
 2 - Memphis  
 A.M.S.D. JCH:jap  
 (4)  
 Spec. Del. \_\_\_\_\_

Reg. Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Registered \_\_\_\_\_ Special Agent in Charge

70 JUL 2 - 1969

REC 46

Sent

EX - 117

M

Per

22 JUN 25 1969

УБЕЛОВАНО:

Pressure gauge in place

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REC'D-CALLAHAN  
FBI

(c)

104:10b

100-443932

8 - 3511.6011

U S DEPT. OF JUSTICE

REC'D  
EXHIBITS SECTION

JUN 16 1 19 PM '61

F. B. I.

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

the subject's  
 expected until such time as the subject has explained all of  
 the above anticipated that the witness not discuss of this  
 Court of Appeals in not in the U. S. Supreme Court.  
 However, this case will eventually be heard in the  
 definitely anticipated that he will go to the  
 he has not for this in subject with a higher Court, it is  
 the Court in which he was sentenced has been granted. While  
 thought a new trial. While subject has a new trial made in  
 possible that the subject will have such with eventually be  
 may eventually be heard for. Every witnesses as it is certainly  
 the witness should feel in mind that this expected

THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

[illegible]

SUBJECT: RUMBLE

DATE: 273' APRIL 12 (44-1884) (1)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

A70 - 7346

11/12/2011 10:10 AM

Date: 8/16/00

13



F B I

Date: 6/23/69

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

Enclosed for the Bureau are 2 copies each of the following three documents:

1. Prayer for Appeal filed by the subject's attorney, RICHARD J. RYAN, in the Shelby County, Tenn., Criminal Court, asking the Court's permission to file an appeal in the Court of Criminal Appeals for the Western District of Tennessee.
2. Petition of JAMES EARL RAY for Writ of Certiorari (first application).
3. Memorandum Finding of Facts and Conclusions of Law, prepared by Judge ARTHUR C. FACQUIN, JR., 6/6/69, explaining his denial of the subject RAY's motion for a new trial.

1cc: AAG Civil Rights Division  
 Form 5-94

JUN 25 1969

1 cc CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT

REC-86

44-38861-5779

3 JUN 24 1969

Airtel \_\_\_\_\_

Teletype \_\_\_\_\_

(2) - Bureau (Encs. 6) ENCLOSURE

A.M. 2 - Memphis

JCH:jap

A.M.S.D. (4)

Spec. Del. \_\_\_\_\_

Reg. Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Registered \_\_\_\_\_

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

62 JUL - 1 1969

JUN 25 1969

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS  
FBI

RECEIVED  
INVESTIGATIVE

JUN 24 4 20 PM '69

JUN 24 4 11 PM 1969

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-441100)  
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-158741) (P)  
SUBJECT: MURDER OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.;  
RE: NEW YORK TELETYPE TO BUREAU, JUNE TWENTY, SIXTY NINE.

RE: NEW YORK TELETYPE TO BUREAU, JUNE TWENTY, SIXTY NINE.

RE: NEW YORK TELETYPE TO BUREAU, JUNE TWENTY, SIXTY NINE.

RE: NEW YORK TELETYPE TO BUREAU, JUNE TWENTY, SIXTY NINE.

RE: NEW YORK TELETYPE TO BUREAU, JUNE TWENTY, SIXTY NINE.

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RE: NEW YORK TELETYPE TO BUREAU, JUNE TWENTY, SIXTY NINE.

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RE: NEW YORK TELETYPE TO BUREAU, JUNE TWENTY, SIXTY NINE.

RE: NEW YORK TELETYPE TO BUREAU, JUNE TWENTY, SIXTY NINE.

RE: NEW YORK TELETYPE TO BUREAU, JUNE TWENTY, SIXTY NINE.

RE: NEW YORK TELETYPE TO BUREAU, JUNE TWENTY, SIXTY NINE.

F B I

Date: 6/24/69

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

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
 FROM : SAC, BUTTE (173-2) (P)  
 SUBJECT: MURKIN  
 CR  
 OO: Memphis

ReBuairtel to Butte, 4/23/69, and myairtel,  
 5/2/69.

Investigation has been conducted by the Butte Division to locate MORRIS R. McCARVER in the Idaho Falls, Idaho, area for the purpose of getting written permission from him to review his hospital records at Topeka State Hospital, Topeka, Kansas.

It was recently learned McCARVER is residing at the ROBERTS HOTEL, Roberts, Idaho. On 6/19/69, McCARVER was contacted and it was pointed out to him the Bureau desired to have his written consent to check his record at Topeka State Hospital. He stated at the time he would like to think this matter over and stated he could be contacted the following day. At the time of contact on 6/19/69, he was concerned as to whether or not the information he had furnished had been handled on a confidential basis and indicated he was still of the opinion if his identity was divulged his life might be in danger.

He seemed somewhat suspicious and unsure.

On 6/20/69, efforts were made to again contact

- 1 CRU  
 ② - Bureau (AM) (Reg.)  
 2 - Memphis (44-1987) (AM) (Reg.)  
 1 - Kansas City (AM) (Reg.) (Info)  
 2 - Butte  
 BSP/lly

EX-115

REC-30 44-38861-5780

JUN 28 1969

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

M. \_\_\_\_\_

70 JUL 11 1969

JUL 1 1969

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS  
FBI

JUN 30 7 31 AM '69

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

F.B.I.

JUN 28 2 14 PM '69

RECEIVED  
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE  
DIVISION 5700

BT #173-2

McCARVER for his written permission to check his record at the Topeka State Hospital; however, McCARVER did not show for this contact.

The Butte Division will continue to endeavor to get written consent from McCARVER to check the Topeka State Hospital records, Topeka, Kansas. If obtained, this written consent will be immediately sent to the Kansas City Division.

SAC, Butte (173-2)

7-2-69

Director, FBI (44-38861)

1 - Mr. McDonough

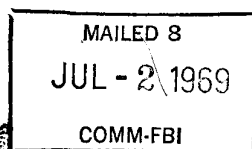
**MURKIN**

ReBTairtels 5-2-69 and 6-24-69.

SULHM setting forth pertinent information in both airtels appropriately covering identity of McCarter and make no further efforts to obtain his permission to review his hospital records other than insuring that he is on notice that your office will await his decision if he desires to contact your office at a later date.

Butte close your case.

1 - Memphis (Info) (44-1987)



REC-54

44-38861-5781

19 JUL 2 1969

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

EJM:jmv  
(5)

53 JUL 17 1969

MAIL ROOM ☒ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

July 9, 1969

AIRTEL

1 - Mr. McDonough

TO: SAC, Memphis (44-1987)  
FROM: Director, FBI (44-78861)

PERSONAL ATTENTION:

MURKIN

It is noted that on 3-10-69, James Earl Ray entered a plea of guilty to charges of murder in state court, Memphis, Tennessee, and received a sentence of 99 years. Attorneys for Ray then filed a motion for a new trial and on 5-26-69, the state court judge denied this motion.

Recent news accounts state that Chief Judge Mark A. Walker of the Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals, Covington, Tennessee, granted a petition submitted to him on 6-25-69, by Ray's attorneys to have the court review the trial record of Ray's conviction and the Appeals Court will rule on 7-15-69, in Knoxville, whether it should consider an appeal by Ray for a new trial.

You are requested to immediately ascertain through your appropriate state sources the current status of state prosecutive action on this matter. This should include information as to what the nature of proceedings will be if appeal granted or if denied what further legal recourse Ray will have and any other details of pertinence. You should ascertain from the prosecuting attorney what his evaluation or observations are relative to current or subsequent legal actions on the part of Ray and/or his attorneys.

Handle and submit reply promptly.

EJM:pjl  
(4)

NOTE:

This is for the purpose of determining the status of current and subsequent legal proceedings in this matter.

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

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

19 JUL 9 1969

1 - Mr. Mohr

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-442611) FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-100000)

RE: JAMES EARL RAY, AKA; ALLEGED ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN PASSPORT FOR TRIP TO AFRICA; NEW YORK, NEW YORK, JULY 1968.

On July 1, 1968, the New York Office received information from the New York State Department of State that James Earl Ray had applied for a passport for a trip to Africa.

The New York Office is currently conducting an investigation into the activities of James Earl Ray and is in contact with the New York State Department of State regarding the passport application.

REC'D DELOACH

JUL 9 10 56 AM '69

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

JUL 9 9 44 AM '69

RECEIVED  
FBI NEW YORK  
JUL 9 1969

#100-442611-100

JUL 22 3 48 PM '69

REC'D DELOACH

MAIL ROOM  
JUL 22 1969



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 7-10-69

FROM: SAC, Memphis (44-1987) P

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re WFO letter to Director 3-25-69, reporting a conversation between Mrs. MARJORIE ULEN, an employee of UPO, Washington, D. C., and LEONARD E. DOYLE, R (PROB), who, in addition to being an informant, is also a paid staff member of the Washington SCLC Office. Mrs. ULEN felt there was some connection between one J. R. WILLARD of Memphis, Tennessee, who was a frequent correspondent of former U. S. Representative GEORGE GRIDER, 9th Congressional District of Tennessee, and the fact that the subject RAY used the name WILLARD when he registered in a rooming house at Memphis, Tennessee, on the day he murdered KING.

Investigation has not disclosed any reason for the subject's using the name WILLARD, nor is he known to have used it except in this one instance.

There is no reason to believe that Mrs. ULEN's information is of any consequence or that it deserves any further action. Accordingly, it is suggested that WFO take no further action concerning this information.

2 Bureau  
1 WFO  
1 Memphis

JCH:BN  
(4)

REC 67

JUL 14 1969



5010-108

66 JUL 18 1969

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



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: July 14, 1969

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: MURKIN

1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. Rosen  
1 - Mr. Malley  
1 - Mr. McGowan  
1 - Mr. McDonough  
1 - Mr. Bishop

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

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

The Memphis Office was requested to furnish the current status of legal proceedings and the views of Tennessee state authorities as to the avenues of appeal that James Earl Ray may still pursue.

It is noted that on 3-10-69, James Earl Ray entered a plea of guilty to a charge of murder in state court, Memphis, Tennessee and received a sentence of 99 years. Attorneys for Ray then filed a motion for a new trial and on 5-26-69, the state court judge denied this motion.

Recent news accounts have stated that Chief Judge Mark A. Walker of the Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals, Covington, Tennessee, granted a petition submitted to him on 6-25-69, by Ray's attorneys to have the court review the trial record of Ray's conviction and the Appeals Court will rule on 7-15-69, in Knoxville, whether it should consider an appeal by Ray for a new trial.

On 7-10-69, Executive Assistant District Attorney General Lloyd A. Rhodes, Memphis, Tennessee, advised that the matter presently pending before the Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals is a Writ of Certiorari. If the ruling on this Writ is favorable to the subject, Ray, it means that the Court of Criminal Appeals will look into this case, following which they may or may not grant him a trial. If they do not rule favorably to Ray, it is expected that Ray will file a Writ of Habeas Corpus seeking consideration under the Post-Conviction Act. It would then be possible under this Act for Ray to receive a trial in the Shelby County Criminal Court.

EJM:jmv  
(7)

REC 55

44-38861-5111

22 JUL 16 1969

CONTINUED - OVER

51 JUL 22 1969

JUL 15 2 15 PM '69

FBI  
REC-D BISHOP

JUL 15 11 11 AM '69

RECEIVED-TOLSON  
FBI

RECEIVED DIRECTOR  
JUL 15 11 48 AM '69

JUL 15 4 08 PM '69  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

REC'D - ROSEN  
FBI  
JUL 15 4 39 PM '69

REC'D - ROSEN  
FBI  
JUL 15 2 57 PM '69

Memo Rosen to DeLoach  
RE: MURKIN

If Ray is denied relief under the Post-Conviction Act, it is anticipated that he will then file a Writ of Habeas Corpus in the U. S. District Court, presumably for the Western District of Tennessee, in which he would possibly allege he had been denied due process. It is within the power of the U. S. District Court to order that Ray be granted a trial in Shelby County Criminal Court. If the U. S. District Court does not so order, Ray would then have the right of appeal to the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit and thereafter to the U. S. Supreme Court. Mr. Rhodes stated he does not see an end to the possible appeals of James Earl Ray within the next several years.

ACTION:

For information. This will continue to be closely followed and you will be kept advised of pertinent developments.

*Egan* *Chen* *RM* *D* *H* *J* *✓* *RM*  
*L*

FBI WASH DC

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION FBI JUL 15 1969 TELETYPE
--

<i>Wright</i>	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 KNOXVLE

4:46PM 7-15-69 URGENT BPW

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)  
FROM KNOXVILLE (44-696)

MURKIN.

*R* A PETITION FOR CERTIORARI IN CASE OF STATE OF TENN.  
VS. JAMES EARL RAY FILED IN COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS AT  
KNOXVILLE, TENN., JULY NINE LAST. PETITION HEARD BEFORE  
COURT AT KNOXVILLE TODAY AND PETITION FOR CERTIORARI DENIED  
AS NOT WELL TAKEN. COPIES OF PETITIONS AND ORDER BEING  
FORWARDED.

END

PGH

FBI WASH DC

*J. H. Hammon*  
*cc: [unclear] EX-102*

REC-19

10 JUL 17 1969

*6-cpm*

*131*  
53 JUL 25 1969

REC'D-ROSEN  
FBI

JUL 16 5 13 PM '69

JUL 15 4 46 PM 1969

REC'D-TELETYPE UNIT  
FBI

REC'D-CIV RIGHTS  
FBI

JUL 17 7 08 AM '69

REC'D-ROSEN  
FBI

JUL 15 5 10 PM '69

REC'D DELOACH  
FBI

JUL 16 3 44 PM '69

REC'D DELOACH  
FBI

JUL 16 8 27 AM '69

RECEIVED-TOLSON  
FBI  
JUL 16 3 14 PM '69

RECEIVED DIRECTOR  
F.B.I.  
JUL 16 10 35 AM '69  
RECEIVED-TOLSON  
FBI  
JUL 16 8 43 AM '69

Jul 16, 1969

**GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION**

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

On 3/10/69 James Earl Ray entered a plea of guilty to charge of murder in state court, Memphis, Tenn., and received sentence of 99 years. Attorneys for Ray then filed motion for new trial which was denied.

Ray's attorneys then filed petition for Writ of Certiorari to have Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals review trial record of Ray's conviction. Attached teletype sets forth that this petition was denied.

State prosecuting attorney has previously advised that Ray can still continue his appeals by filing petitions for Writs of Habeas Corpus in state courts and later in Federal Courts.

We will continue to follow any subsequent court action. ✓

Department being advised of information in attached teletype.

EJM:fjh

*Chm* *Ejm* *Rjm* *RM*



7-17-69

1 - Mr. McDonough

**AIRTEL**

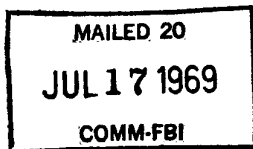
**To: SAC, Memphis**

**From: Director, FBI**

**MURKIN**

ST  
Reurlet 6-19-69, sending check to Bureau covering the three twenty dollar bills retained as evidence which bills were to be deposited in Memphis Confidential fund since according to your letter they are no longer of evidentiary value.

You should furnish specific basis for such determination and take no action regarding these bills unless specifically instructed to do so by the Bureau. H



EJM:jmv  
(4)

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

137  
MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

REC-31

44-38861-5786  
19 JUL 17 1969

F B I

Date: 7/10/69

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

Via AIRTEL

(Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-78861)  
 FROM : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)  
 SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Bureau Airtel to Memphis, 7/9/69.

On 7/10/69, Executive Assistant District Attorney General LLOYD A. RHODES, Memphis, Tenn., advised that the matter presently pending before the Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals is a Writ of Certiorari. If the ruling on this Writ is favorable to the subject, RAY, it means simply that the Court of Criminal Appeals will look into this case, following which they may or may not grant him a trial. If they do not rule favorably to RAY, it is expected that RAY will file a Writ of Habeas Corpus seeking consideration under the Post-Conviction Act. It would then be possible under this Act for RAY to receive a trial in the Shelby County Criminal Court.

If RAY is denied relief under the Post-Conviction Act, it is anticipated that he will then file a Writ of Habeas Corpus in the U. S. District Court, presumably for the Western District of Tennessee, in which he would undoubtedly allege he had been denied due process. It is within the power of the U. S. District Court to order that RAY be granted a trial in Shelby County Criminal Court. If the District Court does not so order, RAY would then have the right of appeal to the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit and thereafter to the U. S. Supreme Court.

Mr. RHODES stated he does not see an end to the possible appeals of JAMES EARL RAY within the next several years.

A. M. 2 - Bureau  
 A. M. 1 - Memphis  
 Spec. Del. CH:ME  
 (3)  
 Reg. Mail  
 Registered

53 JUL 28 1969

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

M \_\_\_\_\_

7/10/69

AIRTEL

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

Re Bureau Airtel to Memphis, 7/9/69.

On 7/10/69, Executive Assistant District Attorney General LLOYD A. RHODES, Memphis, Tenn., advised that the matter presently pending before the Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals is a Writ of Certiorari. If the ruling on this Writ is favorable to the subject, RAY, it means simply that the Court of Criminal Appeals will look into this case, following which they may or may not grant him a trial. If they do not rule favorably to RAY, it is expected that RAY will file a Writ of Habeas Corpus seeking consideration under the Post-Conviction Act. It would then be possible under this Act for RAY to receive a trial in the Shelby County Criminal Court.

If RAY is denied relief under the Post-Conviction Act, it is anticipated that he will then file a Writ of Habeas Corpus in the U. S. District Court, presumably for the Western District of Tennessee, in which he would undoubtedly allege he had been denied due process. It is within the power of the U. S. District Court to order that RAY be granted a trial in Shelby County Criminal Court. If the District Court does not so order, RAY would then have the right of appeal to the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit and thereafter to the U. S. Supreme Court.

Mr. RHODES stated he does not see an end to the possible appeals of JAMES EARL RAY within the next several years.

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED  
JUL 17 1969

RECEIVED  
JUL 17 1969

23 JUL 28 1969

F B I

Date: 7/19/69

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

**MURKIN**  
CR

Submitted herewith for the information of the Bureau and completion of its file are 2 copies of a petition filed on behalf of JAMES EARL RAY in the District Court of the United States, Western District of Tennessee. This petition was filed in District Court on Friday, July 18, 1969. The petition is a civil action and charges that PERCY FOREMAN, ARTHUR J. HANES, and WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE conspired to make money on this case.

cc: AAG Civil Rights Division  
Form 6-94

JUL 23 1969

1 cc CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT

Airtel \_\_\_\_\_

Teletype \_\_\_\_\_

A.M. \_\_\_\_\_

A.M.S.D. 2 - Bureau (Enc-2)  
2 - Memphis

Spec. Del. RGJ/acp

Reg. Mail (4)

Registered Approved: *[Signature]*

55 JUL 30 1969

Special Agent in Charge

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

SP-112  
REC-134  
ENCLOSURE  
ENC. BEHIND FILE  
EBF  
PEB/12/2/76

44-38861-5788  
10 JUL 21 1969

7/19/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

MURKIN  
CR

Submitted herewith for the information of the Bureau and completion of its file are 2 copies of a petition filed on behalf of JAMES EARL RAY in the District Court of the United States, Western District of Tennessee. This petition was filed in District Court on Friday, July 18, 1968. The petition is a civil action and charges that PERCY FOREMAN, ARTHUR J. HANES, and WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE conspired to make money on this case.

100-470-1000  
JUL 22 1968  
JUL 22 1968  
JUL 22 1968

JUL 22 7 32 AM '68

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

JUL 21 3 45 PM '68

RECEIVED  
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE  
DIVISION

ENC. BEHIND FILE

2 - Bureau (Enc-2)  
2 - Memphis

RG\scp  
(4)

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Assistant Attorney General  
**CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION**

DATE: **July 23, 1969**

FROM : Director, FBI

SUBJECT: **ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**

Reference is made to \_\_\_\_\_ memorandum dated \_\_\_\_\_  
(your file \_\_\_\_\_).

There is enclosed one copy of the report of Special  
Agent \_\_\_\_\_ dated \_\_\_\_\_  
at \_\_\_\_\_.

A. ☐ This covers the preliminary investigation and no further action concerning a full investigation will be taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs.

B. ☐ The investigation is continuing and you will be furnished copies of reports as they are received.

C. ☐ The investigation requested by you has now been completed. Unless advised to the contrary no further inquiries will be made by this Bureau.

D. ☐ Pursuant to instructions issued by the Department, no investigation will be conducted in this matter unless specifically directed by the Department.

E. ☐ Please advise whether you desire any further investigation.

F. ☐ This is submitted for your information and you will be advised of further developments.

G. ☒ This ~~is submitted~~ is submitted for your information and no further investigation will be conducted unless specifically requested by the Department.

H. ☐ This covers the receipt of a complaint and no further action will be taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs.

Enc. **Enclosed is a petition filed on behalf of James Earl Ray in the District Court of the United States, Western District of Tennessee.**

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>MOBILE</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>MEMPHIS</b>	DATE <b>7/16/69</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>7/1-7/14/69</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>JAMES EARL RAY, aka; DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>SA DONALD A. FLYNN</b>	TYPED BY <b>/tdr</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>CR - CONSPIRACY UFAC - ROBBERY</b>	

**7-25-69**

REFERENCE: Dallas airtel to Bureau, 3/19/69;  
Atlanta let to Bureau, 5/27/69.

- RUC -

ENCLOSURE:

Enclosed for the Memphis Division is one copy of Atlanta letter to Director, 5/27/69, enclosing LHM, 3/11/69, at Atlanta, and LHM, 3/19/69, at Dallas captioned "Anonymous Accusation Alleging Participation of Raymond Polacco in Assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr."

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
								PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
APPROVED <i>WMA</i>						SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		
COPIES MADE:						DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW		
② - Bureau (44-38861) 1 - USA, Montgomery 1 - Atlanta (44-2386) (Info.) 2 - Memphis (44-1987) (Encl. 1) 1 - Mobile (157-2627)						44-38861-5179 REC 37 JUL 22 1969 EX-115 FUG. SUP. STAT. SECT.		
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations		
Agency	CRD							
Request Recd.								
Date Fwd.	8-23-69							
How Fwd.	194(G)							
By	51 AUG 5 1969							

A\*  
COVER PAGE

GPO : 1968 O - 299-885

RECEIVED

JUL 24 4 26 PM '69

JUL 24 10 16 AM '69

JUL 23 5 00 PM '69

JUL 22 12 03 PM '69

FBI  
REC'D - CIV RIGHTS

JUL 24 11 07 AM '69



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

**Copy to:** 1 - USA, Montgomery

**Report of:** SA DONALD A. FLYNN  
**Date:** July 16, 1969

**Office:** Mobile

**Field Office File #:** MO 157-2627

**Bureau File #:** 44-38861

**Title:** JAMES EARL RAY;  
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM

**Character:** CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY;  
UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID CONFINEMENT - ROBBERY

**Synopsis:** On 7/14/69, ~~RAYMOND POLACCO~~ advised he has no knowledge of the MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. assassination other than that as received through news media. POLACCO believed that the allegation regarding his participation in this murder was instituted anonymously by ~~JOHNNIE ERNEST GRIFFIN~~, brother-in-law of the sister of his (~~POLACCO's~~) former paramour. No evidence found which indicates POLACCO involved in assassination.

- RUC -

**DETAILS:**

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent DONALD A. FLYNN in Phenix City, Alabama, on July 1, 1969:

Mrs. JENKINS T. SMITH, 1004 21st Street, advised that her son RAYMOND POLACCO was not at home and referred interviewing agent to his wife, Mrs. RAYMOND POLACCO. On the same date Mrs. RAYMOND POLACCO advised her husband is at home only on weekends. She advised her husband is a salesman and the only method of contacting him during the week would be to have her advise her husband and have him call the interviewing agent.

On the same date review of the arrest records in Phenix City, Alabama, Police Department and the Russell County Sheriff's Office reflected no files identifiable with RAYMOND POLACCO.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7/16/69

1

RAYMOND POLACCO, 5038 Seneca Drive (home address), Columbus, Georgia, telephone number 561-0813, and 1004 21st Street, Phenix City, Alabama, telephone number 298-8347, was interviewed in Phenix City Plaza Shopping Center in the presence of Phenix City, Alabama, Detective H. "BRAD" NOLAN. POLACCO was immediately advised as to identity of interviewing agent and Detective NOLAN. He was informed that the purpose of the interview was to determine if he (POLACCO) had any knowledge of the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., and to resolve the allegations made in an anonymous letter relating to the same substance.

POLACCO was then advised of his rights by Special Agent DONALD A. FLYNN. POLACCO waived them as shown on an executed warning and waiver form. POLACCO was then specifically asked if he wished to have an attorney present to represent him. POLACCO replied in the negative.

POLACCO stated that he had no knowledge of the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., except as he received through news media. He denied that he was, or is, in any way involved in any conspiracy or act connected with the assassination. POLACCO said he has no idea as to who killed MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. He stated that he never met JAMES EARL RAY.

POLACCO then denied the anonymous allegation furnished by Mr. JIM RANKIN of the Atlanta Constitution on March 7, 1969, postmarked Amarillo, Texas, which alleged that POLACCO was a "key pay-off" man in the MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. assassination conspiracy.

U.S. POLACCO advised that it was his feeling this letter had probably been written by JOHNNIE ERNEST GRIFFIN, brother-in-law of the sister of his (POLACCO's) former intimate girl friend, DEBBIE BLACKMAN. POLACCO stated that GRIFFIN and he had a strong mutual dislike for each other which evolved from GRIFFIN's attempt to divorce his wife. GRIFFIN wanted him to take photographs of his wife in the nude with another man in order to facilitate a divorce

On 7/12/69 at Phenix City, Alabama File # MO 157-2627

by SA DONALD A. FLYNN /tdr Date dictated 7/14/69

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 -

MO 157-2627

2

proceeding favorable to GRIFFIN. POLACCO said that he sent GRIFFIN a telegram on or about January 28, 1969, which he signed, "BRUCE MARKS". POLACCO also admitted a conversation regarding the divorce with Mr. DEE MILLER, an attorney in Amarillo, Texas. POLACCO told MILLER he would provide compromising photographs of GRIFFIN's wife if MILLER would send him money for a camera and a \$500.00 fee.

POLACCO stated that the whole matter had come to the attention of GRIFFIN's wife and acrimonious feelings developed among all parties involved.

POLACCO reiterated his denial of any knowledge of the MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. assassination. He concluded that GRIFFIN probably wrote the anonymous letter in order to get revenge for POLACCO's participation in the circumstances surrounding the divorce between GRIFFIN and his wife.

The following description of POLACCO was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	RAYMOND POLACCO, also known as Raymond Polacco, Jr., and Raymon Andino Polacio (as shown on current 1969 Georgia driver's license)
Date of Birth	
Place of Birth	New York City, New York
Social Security No.	
Former Military Service No.	-RA56333971
Driver's license No.	-O-487288
Address (on license)	5038 Seneca Drive, Columbus, Georgia
Height	5'9"
Weight	168 pounds
Hair	Black
Eyes	Brown
Current Employment	Salesman for Pennsylvania Life Insurance Company, 1214 First Avenue, Suite 422, Columbus, Georgia, 31901 Supervisor, Mr. HUBERT DAVIS, telephone No. 404-322-4844

MO 157-2627

3

**Former Employment**

POLACCO advised that he was formerly a police officer in California with the following departments:

Los Angeles County, Security Department from November 1964 to April 1966;

Bell Police Department, Bell California, Badge No. 14, from April 1966 until July 1966;

POLACCO then produced a Peace Officers Association of Los Angeles County card dated 1966, No. 488980.

POLACCO was observed in the following vehicle:

Make	Chevrolet
Year	1964
Color	White
Model	Impala, 2-door
License Tag No.	1969 Georgia, 4-18178
Characteristics	Left front fender damaged

SAC, New Orleans

7-18-69

Director, FBI

1 - Mr. McDonough

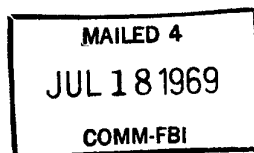
*1-5*  
**MURKIN**

*7*  
You should refer to a copy of a letter of acknowledgement to Mr. Robert E. Lee, Batesville, Mississippi, dated 7-14-69, enclosing a copy of "The Councilor."

The copy of "The Councilor" was dated 6-14-69, Volume 6, Number 14 and is printed in Shreveport, Louisiana. It makes reference to the fact that in the next issue of "The Councilor" it will repeat a prior story written indicating one of Martin Luther King's lieutenants was involved in the assassination.

You should obtain copies of that issue of "The Councilor" and furnish copies to the Bureau and Memphis. If warranted on the basis of the information therein; the Memphis Office should furnish appropriate evaluations and comments.

*W*



REC-5  
44-38861-5790  
EX-103

JUL 24 1969

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
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Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

EJM:jmv *jmv*  
(4)

*Chung*  
51 JUL 31 1969

MAIL ROOM ☒ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

100-100000-1

REC'D - ROSEN  
FBI

JUL 10 1 52 PM '69

JUL 10 12 58 PM '69

FBI

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS

JUL 10 1969

July 14, 1969

X  
Mr. Robert E. Lee  
Post Office Box 327  
Batesville, Mississippi 38606

Dear Mr. Lee:

I would like to thank you for sending the  
newspaper clipping to me which I received on July 10th.

Your thoughtfulness is certainly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

1 - New Orleans - Enclosure

NOTE: Mr. Lee is not identifiable in Bufiles. "The Councilor" is the official journal of the Citizens Council of Louisiana, Inc. It is a hate-type weekly newspaper edited by Ned O. Touchstone who is a former member of the Ku Klux Klan. He is well known to the Bureau as an avid segregationist and has been critical of the FBI. We have not investigated this publication.

REC-5

JUL 24 1969

MAILED 9  
JUL 14 1969  
COMM-FBI

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

ALA:cac (4)  
cac

edm  
pan

51 JUL 31 1969

REC'D - ROSEN  
FBI

JUL 17 10 53 AM '69

JUL 14 5 26 PM '69

REC'D DELOACH  
FBI

REC'D DELOACH  
FBI

JUL 14 11 20 AM '69

RECEIVED DIRECTOR  
F. B. I.  
JUL 14 2 23 PM '69

JUL 17 8 02 AM '69

REC'D - ROSEN  
FBI

JUL 14 1 58 PM '69  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI



*100-100*  
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

7/10/69

The attached was sent to  
the Director by Robert E.  
Lee, Post Office Box 327,  
Batesville, Mississippi.

jo

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 ☒  
MR. JONES ☒  
TELE. ROOM ☒  
MISS HOLMES ☒  
MRS. METCALF ☒  
MISS GANDY ☒

*ack  
7-14-69  
[signature]*

*44-2 44-5791*

RECEIVED - DIRECTOR  
F B I

JUL 10 10 01 AM '69  
JUL 10 12 07 PM '69

RECEIVED-TOLSON  
F B I

REC'D - COMM. TOURS

JUL 10 3 10 PM '69  
JUL 10 1 52 PM '69

REC'D - CICH

44-2 41-5741