CALLED STATES OF THE ACTION OF

ULESCTOR, TRI (44-38861)

69/58/69

SAC, BULTH (172-2) (200)

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MURKIN GR

00: Memphals

Rem; airtel, 7/24/69.

On 3/21/59, MYRMA MCCARVER was contacted at 1060 Ratherine Avenue, Idaho Falls, Idaho, at which time she advised that she is married to MORRIS McCARVER,

Mrs. McChRVER stated that MORRIS McCARVER was wording for thankly DARMEY, out of Mud Lake, Idano, during the carly summer of 1969, and quit that job because of some comments made by MARMEY sometime around the Three of August, 1969. She stated that BARMEY gave she and her husband a ride to Mud Lake where she stayed at a motel. She assumed that her husband was also staying there; nowever, he left the carea and has not returned.

thinks that he is in the area somewhere working. However, the is not going to make any effort to locate that. Hrs. McCanver to acte that che feels sooner or later McCanver will be in touch with her. The pointed out that McCanver is a good man when to is sober and is a hard working individual. She stated that she feels sometimes, when he starts drinking a little bit excessively, he gets wild ideas and does contain things which she cannot explain.

Mrs. MARVER stated that she will containly fell konfils mcCARVER fien she sees thin, the first desirous of having the firsteck his record at copeka State Hospital, Topeka, hansas, and Stand Stand Record the FUI Office in Idaho Falls and advise them personally that they can check his record.

Ap. New Contraction of FEET

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OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

UNITED STATES GERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

DATE: 9/30/69

FROM:

AC, KNOXVILLE (44-696) (RUC)

SUBJECT:

Re Knoxville letter to Bureau 7/29/69.

A review of the Knoxville file concerning this subject shows that no investigation remains to be done in the Knoxville Division at the present time.

This file is being placed in a closed status at Knoxville.

2 - Bureau

2 - Memphis (44-1987)

EX-106

1 - Knoxville

JLF:1hm (5)

**REC-139** 

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AIRTEL

1 - Mr. McDonough

To: SAC, Birmingham (44-1740)
From: Director, FBI (44-38861)—

MURKIN ST 109

REC 11

Reurairtel 9-26-69.

You should interview Arthur Hanes for all details he may have relative to alleged gunrunning conspiracy involving James Earl Ray as outlined in urairtel 9-26-69, in order that appropriate action can be taken to run out such allegations. Hanes should be thoroughly pinned down for specifics.

For your additional information you will recall that only one bullet slug was recovered from King's body which was mutilated to the extent that it could not be identified as having been fired from the suspect gun although it was the type of projectile which could have been fired from such weapon.

Handle and advise results of interview within 5 days and include your recommendations as to any further action to be taken on the results of this interview. SuLHM suitable for dissemination on pertinent information in reairtel and results of interview. Conduct no investigation on this aspect UACB.

1 - Memphis (Info) (44-1987)

EJM: jmv MAILED 22 Tolson OCT 6 Mohr Bishop Casper. COMM-FB Callahan . Conrad \_ Felt -Gale Rosen Sullivan -Tavel -Trotte Tel. Holmis TELETYPE UNIT Gandy

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l - Mr. McDonough

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
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UNITED STATES GOORNMENT

Memorandum

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TO

Mr. DeLoach

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: October 2, 1969

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Malley

1 - Mr. McGowan

1 - Mr. McDonough

1 - Mr. Bishop

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

The Birmingham Office has furnished information received from Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) Macey Taylor who received it from Arthur Hanes, one of James Earl Ray's former attorneys. Hanes is a former Bureau Agent and an individual who will do anything for publicity. He is known to be closely affiliated with the United Klans of America and as an attorney has represented many Klan members.

AUSA Taylor advised that Hanes contends that Ray was involved in a gunrunning conspiracy with one James Robert Blow, one Bob Loveless, one Claude Cockrell and one James Carlisle. Hanes claimed that Ray was in Memphis at the time of the shooting of King for the purpose of disposing of these weapons (rifles and other automatic weapons) to black militants in that city and the guns were obtained through Pascagoula, Mississippi, implying that they came from outside the country.

Hanes also told AUSA Taylor that when he reviewed the evidence as Ray's attorney he noted that one rifle slug which had been obtained from the body of the victim was not mutilated beyond comparison purposes but he had been informed that only partial fragments of the fatal bullet were recovered which would preclude possible identification. It is to be noted that only one bullet slug was recovered from King's body and although because of mutilation it cannot be identified as having been fired from the suspect gun, it was the type of projectile which would have been fired from such weapon. No information has been developed to substantiate any conspiracy involving James Earl Ray in connection with the King murder or any so called gunrunning.

ACTION:

ST-113 REC 11

Although investigation to date has failed to connect Ray with any gunrunning, it is felt Hanes should be interviewed for any additional details so that it can be appropriately run out.

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| Via _  | AIRTEL                | AIRMAIL                     |  |

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM:

SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P) SEE NOTE ON REVERSE SIDE

(Priority)

**MURKIN** 

On 9/25/69, AUSA R. MACEY TAYLOR, Birmingham, was interviewed, at his request, stating that he had been in conversation with Attorney ART HANES, Birmingham, former defense counsel for subject RAY. AUSA TAYLOR related that the information set forth below, as obtained from HANES, was being passed on for whatever it might be worth.

TAYLOR stated that HANES contends that subject RAY had been engaged in transportation of weapons (rifles and other automatic weapons), and that the reason he was in Memphis was his interest in disposing of such weapons to black militant groups in that city. HANES contends that there had existed a conspiracy in the transportation of such weapons on the part of RAY whom he contends was operating with one JAMES ROBERT BLOW, formerly of Cahaba Heights, a Birmingham suburb, who is supposed to work for some printing company in Birmingham known as the P&L Printing Co., and according to HANES, BLOW had previously been charged in Jefferson County Court, at Birmingham, by Deputy Sheriff WALTER DEAN on some unknown charge, the status of which he does not now know. RAY and BLOW were supposed to have been engaged in their gun transportation details by one BOB LOVELESS, believed from Birmingham, one CLAUDE COCKRELL, believed to be a Memphis resident, and one JAMES CARLISLE, believed to be of Birmingham. According. - Bureau
- Memphis (44-1987)
- Birmingham

REC-23 45-3886/-

2 - Birmingham

HAS: bsg

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10/2/69 17 SEP 29 1969

Sent. Per -

Special Agent in Charge

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BH 44-1740

to HANES' conjectures, BLOW and the others were obtaining these weapons through Pascagoula, Mississippi, implying that they were from out of the country.

Aside from the above, TAYLOR stated that during his conversation with HANES, that individual had mentioned that while he was employed by RAY, he had filed a motion in Memphis to observe the physical evidence, and noted that one rifle slug, which had been obtained from the body of the victim, was not mutilated to such an extent that it could not be identified by laboratory examination, although he had been informed that only partial fragments of the fatal bullet were recovered which precluded any positive identification.

As stated above, AUSA TAYLOR did not consider information furnished by HANES to be of material value, but stated that due to HANES' proclivity for publicity, he did not desire to be placed in the position of not having passed on to authorities any information furnished by HANES. He suggested that the Bureau may consider informing the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division of the Treasury Department of information relating to instant transportation of weapons on the part of RAY, BLOW and others.

The Bureau is familiar with the fact that HANES is very closely allied with the UKA and previous information has been furnished to the Bureau that he received a sum of \$12,500 as an attorney for Klan members charged in North Carolina, and also met with UKA officials recently in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

A file review of this matter fails to reflect any reference of individuals mentioned by HANES.

### REQUEST OF BUREAU:

Birmingham does not intend to contact HANES or otherwise institute further investigation in this matter. UACB. The Bureau is requested to advise Birmingham whether

BH 44-1740

the meager information furnished by HANES regarding instant transportation of weapons on the part of those named by him should be given to the Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms Division.

10-9-69

AIRTEL

1 - Mr. McDonough

To:

SAC, Memphis (44-1987)

From:

Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

News reports indicate James Earl Ray petitioned the Tennessee Supreme Court to grant him a full trial in the Martin Luther King, Jr., murder case.

If not already done, obtain copy of petition and forward to the Bureau.

MAILER 2 0CT - 9 1969 COMM-FBI

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EJM: jmv (4)

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

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|  | Date: <b>10/9/69</b>  |                 |       |
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| a AIRTEL   | (Priority)            |                 |       |
|  |                       |                 |       |
| To: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)                                     |                       | C. Comment      |       |
| FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)                                     | (P)                   | Tr.             |       |
| SUBJECT: MURKIN  |                       |                 |       |
| Enclosed for the Bures   | au are 2 copies       | each of a       |       |
| "Petition of JAMES EARL RAY for defendant's brief filed with the | Writ of Certior       | ari" and of the |       |
| Court on 10/6/69 at Jackson, Ter                                 |                       | emessee suprem  |       |
| Memphis will follow the  | he subject's app      | eal and will    |       |
| keep the Bureau advised.   |                       |                 |       |
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30/8/88

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DIRECTOR, FRI (44-38861) JO:

FROM: SAC, MEMINIS. (ALLISSY)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Court on 10/6/69 at Jackson. Tounesage. detendant's brief filted with the Clerk of the Teumorsee Sungeme "Potition of JAMES EARL RAY for Writ of Certiorari" and of the Inclosed for the Suresu are 2 copies each of a

keen the Bureau advised. . Memphis will follow the subject's appeal and will

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OCT 6 1969

BESSIE BUFFALOE, Clerk

TO THE HONORABLE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, SITTING AT JACKSON, TENNESSEE, OR TO ANY OF THE JUDGES THEREOF:

STATE OF TENNESSEE
VS
JAMES EARL RAY

FROM THE CRIMINAL COURT

OF

SHELBY OUNTY, TENNESSEE

PETITION OF JAMES EARL RAY FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI

Your petitioner would respectfully show to the Court that he is much apgrieved by the judgment of the Criminal Court Division II of Shelby County, Tennessee, the Honorable Arthur C. Faquin, Judge, presiding, said judgment being rendered on the 26th day of May, 1969, and sustaining the State of Tennessee' Motion to Strike the petitioner's Motion for a New Trial.

Your petitioner would further relate that he timely petitioned the Criminal Court of Appeals for a Writ of Certiorari, and that the same was denied, hence this appeal to this Honorable Court.

## YOUR PETITIONER STATES:

1. That the Criminal Court of Shelby County,
Tennessee, the Honorable Judge Arthur C. Faquin presiding,
erred in the hearing of May 26, 1969, in allowing the
introduction of testimony by Mr. J. A. Blackwell, Clerk
of the Criminal Court of Shelby County, Tennessee, and

44-38861-5831

the introduction of other evidence by Mr. Blackwell to show that the confession of James Earl Ray, petitioner, was freely and voluntarily given at a prior hearing.

- 2. That the Court erred in not sustaining the objections to testimony of Mr. Blackwell and the introduction of documents in this cause on May 26, 1969.
- 3. That the Court erred in not holding that the letters and amendments as presented by petitioner-defendant do not constitute a Motion for a New Trial.

  The letters and Motion for a New Trial are herein exhibited and attached hereto as Exhibits Nos. 1, 2 and 3.
- 4. That the Court erred in holding that the petitioner, James Earl Ray, waived his right to a Motion for a New Trial and an appeal.
- 5. That the Court erred in holding that a guilty plea precludes the petitioner from filing for a Motion for a New Trial.
- 6. That the Court erred in holding that the petitioner-defendant, James Earl Ray, knowingly, intelligently, and voluntarily expressly waived any right he might have to a Motion for a New Trial and/or Appeal.
- 7. That on June 16, 1969, the Court ruled erroneously in denying petitioner-defendant's prayer for leave
  or permission to file an appeal holding (a) that your
  defendant had waived his right of appeal, (b) that the
  sustaining of the State of Tennessee's Motion to Strike
  your defendant's Motion for a New Trial was an Interioc-

utory Order, and that, therefore, there was no appeal from the same.

8. That the Court erred in not granting your defendant's Motion for a New Trial pursuant to and in accordance with Code Section 17-117 of the Tennessee Code Annotated.

To all of the above citations of error the petitionerdefendant has heretofore reserved his exceptions.

Your petitioner would respectfully allege that he has no other remedy of speedy available appeal other than this Application for Writ of Certiorari.

Petitioner would state that notice was served on the Attorney General of the State of Tennessee, more than five (5) days before the filing of the Petition for Certiorari; and that the Petition would be presented to the State Supreme Court or one of the Judges thereof on October 6, 1969, at Jackson, Tennessee, and that a copy of the Petition was presented to the Attorney General of the state of Tennessee, as well as a copy of the Brief filed herein; a copy of the Notice and receipt thereof is attached hereto.

P EMISES CONSIDERED, PETITIONER PRAYS:

I. That a Writ of Certiorari issue by this Honorable Court to the Crimnal Court Division II of Shelby County, Tennessee, directing that Court and the Clerk thereof to certify and transmit to this Court the entire record and proceding in this cause including the opinion and judgment of the Trial Judges, consisting of the late Honorable Judge Preston W. Battle and the Honorable Judge Arthur C. Faquin, Judge of Division II of the Criminal Court of Shelby County, Tennessee.

- 2. That the judgment of the Criminal Court Division II in sustaining the State of Tennessee's Motion to Strike the Motion for a New Trial be reviewed and error complained of corrected; that your petitioner be granted a new trial and this cause remanded to the Courts of Shelby County, Tennessee, for a new trial and for further handling.
- 3. That petitioner have all such other, further, and different relief to which he is entitled, and he prays for general relief.

THIS IS THE FIRST APPLICATION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI IN THIS CAUSE BEFORE THIS HONORABLE COURT.

STATE OF TENNESSEE COUNTY OF SHELBY

RICHARD J. RYAN, who being first duly sworn, states that he is one of the attorneys for the petitioner, James Earl Ray; that he is familiar with the facts set forth in the foregoing Petition for Certiorari, and that the statements contained herein are true, except those made as upon information and belief, and these he believes to be true.

Subal fly

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 3

day of October, 1969.

Bennie Lu Turner NOTARY PUBLIC

My commission expires:

10-7-71

-4-

STATE OF TENNESSEE

VS

JAMES EARL RAY

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STAIE OF TENNESSEE

AT

JACKSON, TENNESSEE

## NOTICE

TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE F. McCANLESS, ATTORNEY GENERAL and HONORABLE THOMAS E. FOX, ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL:

You and each of you are hereby notified that James
Earl Ray, by and through his Attorneys of Record, will on
the 6th day of October, 1969, present to the Supreme Court
of the State of Tennessee at Jackson, Tennessee, or to one
of the Judges thereof, are Petition for Writ of Certiorari,
seeking to have his case reviewed, and to have reviewed,
also the judgment of May 26, 1969, of the Criminal Court,
Division II, of Shelby County, Tennessee, the Honorable
Arthur C. Faquin presiding, said judgment consisting of
sustaining the State's Motion to Strike your petitioner's
Motion for a New Trial. This action will seek to have the
Motion for a New Trial sustained and the cause remanded for
further handling by the Criminal Court of Shelby County,
Tennessee.

This the 46h day of October, 1969.

Suchard J. 1.

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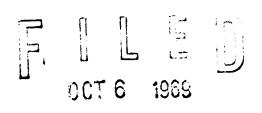
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|  | MOTIONFOR A NEW TRIAL  |
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| Miller William                           | Comes now JAMES EARL RAY, the defendant in the above styled  |
|  | cause, through his attorneys J. B. Stoner, Richard J. Ryca,  |
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|  | and Robert W. Hill, Jr., and respiectfully moves the Court:  |
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|  | To set aside his plea of Equilty, to set aside his conviction,   |
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|  | and grant him a new trial on the following:  |
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|  | APIER OF GUILTY  |
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ELLION NOWBER

| PETITION FOR CERTIORARI  |
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| No. 55 Chancery Law Docket of Helly County                       |
| Petition Filed October 6 1969                                    |
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| Date of Judgmens in C. of A. |
| 15 Days Time Expires for Filing Reply Brief                      |
| When Ext. Time to Not. 13, 1969 to fall                          |

44-38861-5831



BESSIE BUFFALOE, Clark

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE

STATE OF TENNESSEE

VS

JAMES EARL RAY

DEFENDANT'S BRIEF

RICHARD J. RYAN
523 FALLS BUILDING
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE 38103
527-4715

J. B. STONER
P. O. Box 6263
Savannah, Georgia

31405

ROBERT W. HILL, CR. 418 PIONEER BLDG CHATTANOOGA, TENN. 37402 TO THE HONORABLE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, SITTING AT JACKSON, TENNESSEE, OR TO ANY OF THE JUDGES THEREOF:

STATE OF TENNESSEE

FROM THE CRIMINAL COURT

VS

OF

JAMES EARL RAY

SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE

STATEMENT OF CASE
AND
MEMORANDUM OF AUTHORITIES
RELIED UPON IN SUPPORT OF
PETITION FOR CERTIORARI

Statement of Facts:

On March 10, 1969, in Division III of the Criminal Court of Shelby County, TEnnessee, before the Honorable Judge Preston W. Battle the defendant, James Earl Ray, entered a Plea of Guilty to the charge of Murder in the First Degree of one JDr. Martin Luther King and was sentenced to the term of ninety-nine (99) years to be served in the State Penitentiary in Nashville, Tennessee. Three (3) days later on March 13, 1969, the defendant wrote to Judge Preston Battle of his intention to file in the near future a post conviction hearing. See Exhibit marked No. 1 attached to Petition.

On the 26th day of March, 1969, at the request of the defendant, James Earl/Ray, his attorney, Richard J. Ryan, along with co-counsel, J. B. Stoner and Robert W. Hill, Jr., attempted to gain entrance in the State Penitentiary in order to confer with the defendant, James Earl Ray, but were refused;

that a document was prepared entitled "Motion for a New Trial" (See Exhibit No. 3). This document was given to the Warden who made a copy of the same and later presented it to James Earl Ray, the defendant; that he refused to sign the same without advice of counsel; that same day James Earl Ray wrote another letter to the Honorable Preston W. Battle, (See Exhibit No. 2), and this time stated that he wanted to go the thirty day appeal route.

On March 31, 1969, Judge Battle returned to Memphis from a short vacation period and was met at 9 A.M. of that day by one of the attorneys for James Earl Ray, the defendant herein. On that day Judge Battle exhibited the two letters he had received from James Earl Ray. Shortly thereafter in mid-afternoon of March 31, 1969. Judge Battle died of a heart attack. Shortly thereafter an Amended and Supplemental Motion was filed on behalf of James Earl Ray setting out the death of Judge Battle, and among other things, that the Plea of Guilty extended to Judge Battle was not one of a voluntary nature.

Subsequent to this the State of Tennessee filed a Motion to Strike the Motion for New Trial of the defendant-petitioner. On May 26, 1969, upon a hearing of this cause before the Honorable Arthur C. Faquin, Judge of Division II of the Criminal Court of Shelby County, Tennessee, the Honorable Judge Arthur C. Faquin found for the State of Tennessee and sustained their Motion to Strike.

Subsequent to this defendant-petitioner filed a Prayer for Appeal asking for permission and leave to file his appeal from this ruling, and this was denied by the Honorable Judge Arthur C. Faquin on June 16, 1969.

MENORANDUM GF AUTHORITIES: Defendant would allege that at the time the letters of record were written (attached to Petition as exhibits) there was in effect in the State of Tennessee a statute, namely:

T.C.A. Sec.27-201.

Motion for Rehearing or New Trial. A rehearing or motion for new trial can
only be applied for within thirty (30)
days from the decree, verdict or judgment
sought to be affected, subject, however,
to the rules of court prescribing the
length of time in which the application
is to be made, but such rules in no case
shall allow less than ten (10) days for
such application. The expiration of a
term of court during said period shall
not shorten the time allowed.

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In <u>Life & Casualty Ins. Co. vs Bradley</u> 178 Tenn. Page 531 it was found "Any motion to set aside a verdict is in legal effect a motion for a new trial".

Defendant would further allege that at the time of Judge Battle's demise there was a certain Statute in effect in the State of Tennessee, namely:

T.C.A. ec.17-347

New Trial after Death or Insanity. Whenever a vacancy in the office of trial
judge shall exist by reason of the death
of the incumbent thereof, or permanent
insanity, evidenced by adjudication,
after verdict but prior to the hearing
of the motion for new trial, a new trial
shall be granted the losing party if
motion therefor shall have been filed
within the time provided by rule of the
court and be undisposed of at the time
of such death or adjudication.

Jackson vs Handel

State vs McClain

ennis vs State 'Quinn vs aptist Nemoial Hosp.

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Defendant would state that the demise of the trial judge was within the contemplation of the above statute and cites further, "Decisions long acquiesced in upon which important rights are based, should not be disturbed, in the absences of cogent reasons to the contrary, as is of the utmost importance that our organic and statute law be of certain meaning and fixed interpretation.

<u>Jackson vs Handel</u> 327 SW2d 55, citing <u>Pitts vs Nashville</u>
<u>Baseball Club</u> 127 Tenn. 292 and <u>Monday vs Millsaps</u> 197 Tenn.
295, and 46 C.J.286 cited in <u>Life & Casualty Ins. Co.</u> vs

Bradley 178 Tenn. Page 530.

Defendant further cites under said statute, "Only authority who may approve verdict and overrule motion for new trial by signing the minutes is the judge who heard the evidence and actually tried the case. State vs McClain, 210 S.W.2d 680, 186 Tenn. 401.

Also cites, "Motion for new trial must be acted on by the trial court, before the appellate court will consider it, because such action is indispensable for the purpose of enabling the appellate court to say whether the trial court acted correctly, under this statute, in granting a new trial", Louisville & N.R.Co. v Ray, 124 Tenn. 16, 134 S.W. 858, Ann Cas. 1912 D. 910.

Also cites, "The only authority to approve the verdict and overrule the first motion for a new trial by signing the minutes, was the Judge who neard the evidence and actually tried the case", <u>Dennis v. State</u>, 137 Tenn. 543 and <u>O'Quinn v. Baptist Memorial Hospital</u>, 183 Tenn. 558.

Howard vs. State Also cites, "This situation has given the Court grave concern; and has led us to an assiduous re-examination of what we believe to be all of the case and statutory authority in Tennessee bearing upon the question of whether the abovementioned minutes of the Court's actions are valid and efficacious - without authentication by the signature of the Trial Judge. If not, it seems to inescapably follow that (1) there is no valid and effective judgment on the verdict of the jury; and (2) there is no valid and efficacious ruling of the Court on defendant's motion for new trial", Howard v. State, 399 S.W.2d, 739.

laīker vs Graham

Defendant would allege that springing from the Motion for a new trial, if it were denied in the ordinary course, is the Bill of Exceptions, and defendant cites, "In the absence of a properly authenticated bill of exceptions the admission of evidence cannot be reviewed by the Supreme Court", Walker v. Graham 18 Tenn. 231, cited in Dennis v. State, 137 Tenn. 543.

arpenter vs Wright Also citex, "The right to a bill of exceptions is made dependent upon motion for a new trial in Circuit and Criminal Courts", Carpenter vs. Wright, 158 Kenn. 289.

ennis vs State Defendant also cites, "It seems to be well established as a general rule that, where a party has lost the benefit of his exceptions from causes beyond his control, a new trial is properly awarded. That rule has been recognized and applied more frequently perhaps in cases where the loss of

the exceptions has occurred through death or illness of the judge, whereby the perfection of a bill of exceptions has been prevented", <u>Dennis vs State</u>, 137 Tenn. 554.

Swang vs State That the Plea of Guilty of itself does not forfeit the Motion for a New Trial, and he cites, "By the Constitution of the State (Article I, Sec. 9), the accused, in all cases, has a right to a "speedy public trial by an impartial jury of the county or district in which the crime shall have been committed", and this right cannot be defeated by any deceit or device whatever. The courts would be slow to disregard the solemn admissions of guilt of the accused made in open court, by plea, or otherwise; but when it appears they were made under a total misapprehension of the prisoner's rights, through official misrepresentation, fear or fraud, it is the duty of the Court to allow the plea of guilty, and the submission, to be withdrawn, and to grant to the prisoner a fair trial, by an impartial jury", Swang vs. State, 42 Tenn. 212.

Knowles vs State Defendant would further cite <u>Jake Knowles vs the State</u>,

155 Tenn. Page 181, in which the Court states as follows:

"The bill of exceptions shows that when the case
was first called for trial on the 22nd of September,
a continuance was had upon the agreement that unless
settlement should be made before October 2nd following
a plea of guilty would be entered. It appears that
both the presiding judge and Attorney General
understood it to be agreed also that a sentence of
from five to twenty years would be accepted, but

upon the calling of the case on October 2nd, counsel for the defendant disclaimed having so understood the agreement and insisted that the determination of the punishment should be submitted to the jury. Thereupon the plea of guilty was entered and counsel for the State and the defendant addressed and the judge charged the jury. Some discussion was had before the jury of the disagreement as to the term of punishment, but the judge properly charged that they were to disregard this matter.

However, as before stated, no evidence was introduced. The jury after hearing the charge returned their verdict assessing the punishment.

Shannon's Code, Section 7174, is as follows:

'Plea of guilty.--Upon the plea of guilty, when the punishment is confinement in the penitentiary, a jury shall be impaneled to hear the evidence and fix the time of confinement, unless otherwise expressly provided by this Code.'

We have no reported case deciding the question thus presented, but the provision that upon a plea of guilty a jury shall be impaneled to hear the evidence and fix the time of confinement in felony cases seems clearly to indicate a purpose to vest in the jury the power to exercise a sound discretion impossible of intelligent exercise without a nearing of at least such of the evidence as might reasonably affect the judgment of the jury as to the proper degree and extent of the punishment. And especially is this true under the maximum (1923) sentence law applicable to this case.

While loathe to reverse and remand in a case of such obvious and admitted guilt, we find it necessary to do so for the reasons indicated. It becomes unnecessary to consider other assignments of error."

Defendant denies that he waived a right that was available to him, and cites:

"Waiver - Existence of Right - To constitute a waiver, the right or privilege alleged to have been waived must have been in existence at the time of the alleged waiver", 56 Am.Jr.13, Page 113. "Thus, one accepting dividends declared by a receiver in bankruptcy without demanding interest on the amount due does not waive his right to interest, where no right to demand interest at the time of dividend payment thinted", 56 AmJr.13, Page 114, citing State ex rel, McConnell v.Park Bank & T.Co. 151 Tenn.195.

In an unreported opinion the Court of Criminal Appeals of Tennessee in the cause of <u>State of Tennessee</u>, ex rel.

..ermon R. Owens vs. Lake F. Russell, No. 49 Hamilton County,

onorable Campbell Carden, Judge, it was stated:

"Without in any way criticizing the content and use of these forms for preserving a formal record of guilty pleas of defendants, we hold that execution of these forms by the petitioner and his attorneys and the trial court's acceptance of the petitioner's plea of guilty upon that basis, does not and cannot forever preclude the petitioner from raising any question about the voluntariness of the guilty plea. Surely it

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Stana Russall State ex rel

cannot be said that such a procedure permanently forecloses the issue of voluntariness and prevents the accused from ever asserting that his guilty plea was induced by promises of lenient treatment or threats or misrepresentation or fraud, if such was the fact.

"This is true for the plain and simple reason that a conviction based upon an involuntary plea of guilty is void, and, therefore, the question of the voluntariness of a plea of guilty is never foreclosed while any part of the resulting sentence remains unexecuted. The law is no longer open to debate or question that a guilty plea is involuntary and void if induced by promises of preferential treatment or threats or intimidation or total misapprehension of his rights, through official misrepresentation, fear or fraud. Henderson v. State ex rel. Lance, 419 S.W.2d 176; Machibroda v.United States, 368 U.S.487, 82 S.Ct.510, 7 L.Ed2d 473: Olive v. United States, 327 F2d 646 (6th Cir., 1964), cert. den., 377 U.S.971, 84 S.Ct. 1653,12LEd2d 740; Scott v. United States 349 F2d 641 (6th Cir. 1965)." Said opinion was concurred in by the Honorable Mark A. Walker and was written by W. Wayne Oliver, Judge of the Criminal Court of Appeals. Honorable Judge Galbreath did not participate in this cause.

"The voluntary or involuntary character of the confession is a question of law to be determined by the trial judge from the adduced facts", WHARTON ON CRIMINAL EVIDENCE Vol.2, Page 38, citing Boyd v. State, 21 Tenn. 39.

Requiring a waiver of right to appeal was held improper in <a href="People v. Ramos">People v. Ramos</a>, 282 N.Y.State 2d 938 (2nd Dept. 1968).

Boyd 7. State

People v. Ramos London v. Step

Sifton v. Clements Defendant states that he has lost the benefit of the thirteenth juror through the death of the trial judge.

"Trial judge is charged by law to act as the thirteenth juror, and if he is dissatisfied with verdict of jury, it is his duty to grant a new trial", London v. Step, 405 SW2d 598, 34 Tenn. L. R713. "Federal district court does not sit as thirteenth juror as do Tennessee state trial judges, Sifton v.Clements, 257 F. Supp. 63.

| Respectfully submitted,      |
|------------------------------|
| ATTORNEYS FOR THE DEFENDANT: |
|                              |
| RICHARD J. RYAN              |
| AZOIMAD OF ATAM              |
|                              |
| J. B. STONER                 |
| •                            |
| SORGET W. UTLL 1D            |

(Ad-Squar)

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

Two copies each of a "Petition of JAMES EARL RAY for Writ of Certiorari" and of the defendant's brief file with the Clerk of the Tennessee Supreme Court on 10/6/60 at Jackson, Tennessee.

THE PLANS IN DIRECTOR 16/9/60

327

ENCLOSURE

44 38861-5831

| · FD            | 36 (Rev. 5-22-64)  | Mr. Tolson   |
|-----------------|--|--|
| •               | FBI  | Mr. Callahan<br>Mr. Conrad<br>Mr. Felt<br>Mr. Gale |
| Tra             | Date: 10/10/69   | Mr. Rosen<br>Mr. Sullivan<br>Mr. Tavel             |
| Via             | (Type in plaintext or code)  A TRTEI.  A TRMA II.  | Mr. Trotter Tele. Room Miss Holmes Miss Gandy      |
| ek              | TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  | williams   |
|                 | FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)  MURKIN  |  |
|                 | Re Bureau airtel to Birmingham, dated 10/6/  Attorney ARTHUR HANES was interviewed by SA  HENRY A. SNOW upon HANES return to Birmingham, statis that he had spent the entire week in eastern North Ca in the defense of criminal cases there.  | ng   |
|                 | During interview, HANES was very indefinite in any of his statements and appeared to merely wish discuss his theories on the MURKIN case. The informa he related as far as gunrunning would appear to in no way relate to JAMES EARL RAY, and for that reason, Bi suggests no further action in this matter concerning formation furnished by HANES.   | to<br>tion<br>rmingham                             |
|                 | EMCLOSURE  2 - Bureau (Enc.4)  2 - Memphis (44-1987) (Enc.2)  3 - Birmingham  HAS: cab  (6)  COPIES MADE, DATE OF THE PROPERTY | wid - Fi   |
| Rights Division | 1868 1868 I RIGHTS- UNIT   | ·<br>·60-6832                                      |
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| lcc: /<br>Form  |  | 47   |
|                 | Approved:M PerM PerM Special Agent in Charge   | CC. William  |

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#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

Birmingham, Alabama October 10, 1969

Re: JAMES EARL RAY;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS CONSPIRACY

Assistant United States Attorney R. Macey Taylor, Birmingham, Alabama, advised on September 25, 1969, that he had been in conversation with Arthur Hanes, former defense counsel for subject Ray. Assistant United States Attorney Taylor related certain allegations that Hanes had proposed to him to the effect that one James Robert Blow, a former resident of Cahaba Heights, a Birmingham suburb, may have conspired with other named individuals and subject Ray in interstate transportation of weapons to Memphis, Tennessee, where Hanes believed they were intended for black militant groups.

On October 10, 1969, Attorney Arthur J. Hanes was interviewed at his office, 617 Frank Nelson Building, after the absenge of a week from Birmingham. Hanes entered into a lengthy discourse of his theories concerning the James Earl Ray case and stated that although Ray undoubtedly was involved, it was his theory that Ray had been led or instructed in his actions by other unknown individuals. He stated that he had two theories of groups who may have led Ray; one being the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), and the other being black militant groups. He had no definite information in this connection whatsoever. He also commented that he had, while serving as Ray's defense counsel, observed the bullet which was alleged to have been fired from the rifle involved in this matter, and it was his personal opinion that the bullet was sufficently intact to be identified as the murder projectile. 3218 GILLEWAPLE HOLD CHAPPER LE

Regarding his former client, James Robert Blow also known as Robert Blow, Hanes related as follows.

Warge 561 - 583

Re: JAMES EARL RAY; DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM CIVIL RIGHTS CONSPIRACY

On December 18, 1968, the residence of Mr. J. E. Woods, III, 2432 Crest Road, Mountain Brook, a residential suburb of Birmingham, had been burglarized, and numerous shotguns, including automatic shotguns together with silver service, had been taken by a local thief, James Warren Carlisle, who is now serving a penitentiary term for burglary. Carlisle had informed Deputy Sheriff Walter Dean, Birmingham, that some of the stolen effects might be located in the residence of James Robert Blow and wife Janice Blow who at that time were living at 3218 Greendale Road, Cahaba Heights. This led to Dean securing a search warrant for the residence and the recovery of the silver service belonging to the Woods family. Blow was subsequently charged with receiving and possessing stolen goods.

Hanes by reference to his file related that on May 15, 1969, he appeared with Blow in the Jefferson County Courthouse at which time Grand Jury action was waived. On that date, Hanes discussed with Deputy Walter Dean possible cooperation of his client Blow in connection with recovery of the numerous guns taken from the Woods residence. Blow agreed to cooperate and in the presence of Deputy Dean and an agent of the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division of the Treasury Department identified a photograph of one Claude Cockrell of Memphis, Tennessee, as being the owner of a Cadillac into which he had observed Carlisle and Cockrell loading the weapons which were then taken to Memphis, and it was the information of Hanes that Cockrell was later charged by the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division with having transported automatic weapons from Birmingham to Memphis. Hanes stated that a local Birmingham hoodlum, Bob Loveless, had also assisted in loading the weapons into Cockrell's Cadillac according to information furnished by his client Blow. He stated that it was his opinion also that weapons such as these had been intended for black militant groups in Memphis, who might have intended to use them in King's assassination. It should be noted that all weapons involved in the transportation by Cockrell to Memphis which had been stolen from the Woods residence were shotguns and not rifles.

Re: JAMES EARL RAY;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS CONSPIRACY

Mr. Hanes stated that he had read of weapons being brought to the United States through Gulf Coast ports such as Mobile, Alabama, and Pascagoula, Mississippi, and thought possibly some of these weapons may have been intended for use in the murder of Dr. King.

Hanes stated that his client James Robert Blow was arraigned on June 20, 1969, and on August 21, 1969, was sentenced to one year and one day which was suspended and he was placed on probation for two years.

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.

6-94 (Rev. 1-31-63)
OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 SPITION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27 UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

| TO |
|----|
|    |

: Assistant Attorney General

DATE: October 15, 1969

CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION

FROM : Director, FBI

SUBJECT:

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

| (your file | Reference is made to memorandum dated   |
|------------|---|
| Agent      | There is enclosed one copy of the report of Special dated   |
| at         |   |
|            | A. This covers the preliminary investigation and raction concerning a full investigation will be taken areau unless the Department so directs.              |
| be furnish | B The investigation is continuing and you will ned copies of reports as they are received.  |
|            | C The investigation requested by you has now leted. Unless advised to the contrary no further in-ill be made by this Bureau.                                |
| •          | D. Pursuant to instructions issued by the Depart-<br>investigation will be conducted in this matter unless<br>lly directed by the Department.               |
| vestigatio | E. Please advise whether you desire any further in-   |
| will be ad | F This is submitted for your information and you dvised of further developments.  |
|            | G. <b>TXX</b> Thi <b>co</b> is spinithed for your information and no nvestigation will be conducted unless specifically rety the Department.                |
| further ac | H. This covers the receipt of a complaint and no ction will be taken by this Bureau unless the Departments.   |
| Enc · Cer  | TE: Enclosed is one copy each of a Petition for Writ of torari and a brief filed by attorneys for James Earl Ray to the Tennessee Supreme Court on 10-6-69. |

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OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10 MAY 1962 EDITION GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27 5010-106

UNITED STATES COVERNMENT

# Memorandum

OT

Mr. DeLoach

FROM : A. RO

SUBJECT MURKIN

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| DeLoach       |
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| Calahan       |
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Tolson —

**DATE: October 16, 1969** 

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Malley

1 - Mr. McGowan

1 - Mr. McDonough

1 - Mr. Bishop

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

The Birmingham Office previously advised that Arthur Hanes, a former attorney for James Earl Ray, the subject of this case, recently stated to an Assistant U. S. Attorney in Birmingham that he, Hanes, believed Ray was involved in a gunrunning conspiracy which was supplying guns to black militants and others when King was shot. Birmingham was instructed to interview Hanes and pin him down for specifics. Hanes is a former Bureau Agent and an individual who will do anything for publicity. He is known to be closely affiliated with the United Klans of America and as an attorney has represented many Klan members.

Hanes on interview entered into a lengthy discourse of his theories concerning the James Earl Ray case and stated that although Ray undoubtedly was involved, it was his theory that Ray had been led or instructed in his actions by other unknown individuals. He stated that he had two theories of groups which may have led Ray; one being the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), and the other being black militant groups. He had no definite information in this connection whatsoever.

In alleged furtherance of the gunrunning conspiracy theory, Hanes furnished information regarding a local Birmingham burglary of some shotguns and silver service in December, 1968, which involved a client of his who was convicted in August, 1969, in connection with the local burglary. Hanes furnished no information to tie this burglary in with the gunrunning theory and it is noted that King was shot on 4-4-68, eight months before the burglary occurred.

ACTION: For information. The information furnished by Hanes is being forwarded to the Civil Rights Division for its information.

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10-21-69

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1 - Mr. McDonough

To: SACs, Memphis (44-1987) (Enclosure) Savannah (44-1768) (Enclesure)

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

Enclosed for each office is a copy of a letter from the Internal Security Division of the Department dated 10-15-69.

For your information Bureau files show that one Harold Weisberg who is probably identical with the Weisberg mentioned in the attached letter, has been most critical of the Bureau in the past. He is the author of several books including one entitled, "Whitewash - The Report of the Warren Report" and has been critical of the FBI, Secret Service, police agencies and other branches of Government. He was one of ten employees fired by the State Department during 1947 because of his loyalty being MAILED 22 a torthco gacknowledged. suspected. He was later allowed to resign. Weisberg by letter in April, 1969, requested information on the King murder case for a forthcoming book. It was approved that his letter not be

J. B. Stoner, one of the present attorneys for James CVER'I Ray who has petitioned the Supreme Court of Tennessee for a whit of Certiorari in connection with his motion for a new trial, is a notorious segregationist who continually attacks the Bureau and the Director. On the basis of the information furnished the two alleged former informants referred to cannot be identified in Bureau files.

In view of the nature of the information in the attached letter and the background on Weisberg and Stoner they

| Tolson<br>DeLoach<br>Walters<br>Mohr<br>Bishop | _are not bei    | ng intervi   | ewed regard. | ling this | matter.  | 1              |                 |
|--|-----------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|----------|----------------|-----------------|
| Casper<br>Callahan<br>Conrad<br>Felt<br>Gale   | EJM: jmv<br>(6) | gamen (      | PM Ju        | SEE NOTE  | PAGE TWO | /-3886/-5      | 6834            |
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Airtel to SACs, Memphis Savannah

RE: MURKIN

The Savannah Office which is the office of origin in the case covering activities of the National States Rights Party and Stoner and the Memphis Office which is following the court action in the James Earl Ray case should be alert for any additional information along these lines from any source including future court proceedings and immediately advise the Bureau of such information.

The Memphis Office should advise appropriate responsible Tennessee state officials handling the King murder case of the information from the Department and that there is no basis to the allegation that the FBI offered anyone any money to frame Ray for the assessination of King. Information furnished Tennessee state authorities is to be confirmed in writing.

#### NOTE:

See Memorandum Rosen to DeLoach dated 10-20-69, captioned, "MURKIN," EJM: jmv.

Assistant Attorney General Internal Security Division October 21, 1969

Director, FBI

1 - Mr. McDonough

GMURIN

assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Reference is made to your letter dated October 15, 1969, entitled "Harold Weisberg" wherein you advised that Mr. Weisberg, pursuant to his request, was interviewed by a Departmental attorney. According to your letter, during the course of the interview on October 8, 1969, Mr. Weisborg advised that he had recently received a telephone call from J. B. Stoner, National Chairman of the National States Rights Party. He said that Mr. Stoner told him that two men in his Party formerly served as informants of the FBI. Mr. Stoner allegedly said that these two men are prepared to testify in court that the FBI offered them \$25,000 to frame James Earl Ray for the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. Mr. Weisberg said that the testimony presumably would be furnished in a habeas corpus proceeding.

In order that the record will be correct, there is no basis to the allegation that the FBI offered money to anyone to frame James Earl Ray for the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

1 - Assistant Attorney General Civil Rights Division

EJM: jld

NOTE:

See Memorandum Rosen to DeLoach 10/20/69, captioned

"MURKIN"

Walters \_ Mohr. Bishop Casper Callahan Conrad Felt -Gale Rosen Sullivan Tavel Trotter Tele. Room \_ Holmes \_\_\_\_

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### Memorandum

TO

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

DATE:

10/20/69

FROM

SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) -P-

SUBJECT:

JAMES EARL RAY, aka;

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM;

CR - CONSPIRACY; UFAC - ROBBERY

(OO-Memphis)

Re Phoenix letter to Bureau, dated 9/4/69.

On 9/26/69, Senior Officer Specialist CLYDE STEWART, U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, advised SA WALTER A. WITSCHARD that inmate JOHN HAMILTON MORRIS #83856 was "out to Court" since 9/11/69. STEWART advised that it would be impossible to anticipate MORRIS' return but that he would notify SA WITSCHARD upon MORRIS' return.

LEADS:

KANSAS CITY DIVISION:

AT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS:

Will at USP-L at Leavenworth, interview JOHN HAMILTON MORRIS, USP-1 #83856, Cell B 576, employed Shoe Factory, reference Phoenix letter to Bureau, 9/4/69, upon MORRIS' return faracourt.

(2)\_ Bureau

2 - Memphis (44-1987)

2 - New York

2 - Kansas City

WAW:ENL

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