Mr. STEPHENS stated that the man who was in Apartment 5B had checked in about 3:00 or 3:30 p.m. on April 4, 1968. He stated he was sure of this because he had heard the landlady showing him the apartment at that time. He stated he glanced out of his door and got a fairly good look at the man who he described as being a white male; 5' 10-11"; weighing 165 pounds; slender build; ruddy complexion; sandy hair; had a long, sharp pointed nose; wearing what appeared to be a dark blue or black suit, white shirt and dark tie.

Mr. STEPHENS stated that the man who he saw running out of the bathroom closely resembled the man who had checked into Apartment 5B. He said he could only see the man who ran from the bathroom from behind, but his general build, hair coloring and clothes were the same as the individual in Apartment 5B.

Mr. STEPHENS described the individual he saw running out of the bathroom as follows:

Race White Male Sex Height 5'10-11" Weight 165 Build Slender Complexion Ruddy Hair Sandy, slightly on dark side Clothing Wearing dark suit

Mr. STEPHENS added that he had never met the man who checked into Apartment 5B, talked to him, or knew his name.

44-7-1

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#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date	4/10/68
Date	

Mr. CHARLIE QUITHAN STEPHENS, Room 6-B, second floor, 422½ S. Main Street, furnished the following information to Lieutenant J. D. HAMBY, Homicide Bureau, Memphis Police Department, and SA FRANKLIN L. JOHNSON:

Mr. STEPHENS, who stated he is 46 years of age, and his wife occupy 2 rooms in the north wing of a rooming house, the address of which is  $422\frac{1}{2}$  S. Main Street. This rooming house actually covers the second floor of 2 separate buildings, Mr. STEPHENS' room being located in the north building in the southeast corner of the north building.

Sometime in the late afternoon of April 4, 1968, he and his wife were in their room. His wife, who has recently been in the hospital for an extended period of time, was in bed in their combination of living-bedroom. He was in the kitchen, which is east of the living-bedroom. He was repairing a radio on a table located at the north wall of the kitchen. Immediately north of him is a common bathroom which is located at the east end of an east-west hallway in the north building. While he was repairing the radio, he heard what he is certain was a shot, and he is certain that shot came from the bathroom from a point within just a few feet of where he was sitting. He has no way of knowing the time but can only estimate it was sometime between 5:00 and 6:00 PM.

Upon hearing this shot, he walked out of the kitchen through his living-bedroom and opened the door leading onto the hallway and observed a man running west down this hallway and this man was carrying a large bundle of some kind. He would estimate that this bundle or package was at least 3 or 4 feet long and 6 to 8 inches thick. Although he saw the man and the bundle only momentarily, he gained the impression that the bundle was wrapped in something, possibly a newspaper. This man continued running to the end of the hallway turning left (south) and apparently thereafter ran down the stairways onto the street, although he could not actually see the man going down the stairway.

					_
On .	4/5/68 at	Memphis / Te	nnessee		4-1987-Sed D-70
				••	
by _	SA FRANKLIN	L. JOHNSON	/bbs	Date dictated _	4/9/68
		7)		Date dictated	

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.

ME 44-1987

It immediately occurred to Mr. STEPHENS that this was the same man he had seen earlier in the afternoon, possibly around mid-afternoon, standing at the door to room 5-B which is located immediately west of Mr. STEPHENS's living-bedroom. He stated that around mid-afternoon he had seen a man with Mrs. EREWER standing in the hallway at the entrance to room 5-B looking into room 5-B. He saw the man's left side. The man had nothing in his hands at the time. He assumed this was some new guest looking at a room.

Mr. STEPHENS stated that he and his wife remained in their room the rest of the afternoon. He pointed out that he, Mr. STEPHENS, is a disabled veteran who has been treated for tuberculosis, and he spends most of his time in his rooms with his wife who is also ill and who at present is a bed patient.

Sometime after seeing thisman with Mrs. BREWER, he heard someone in room 5-B and assumed the man hehad seen had rented the room next door. He stated that he recalls on several different occasions hearing footsteps in this room and also leaving from this room past his (Mr. STEPHENS's) room and into the common bathroom at the east end of the hall. He was also very much aware that when the person went from room 5-B to the bathroom, that person remained in the bathroom for a considerable period of time. He pointed out that this is particularly noticeable since this is a common bathroom which must be used by a number of different tenants. He also specifically recalled that only on one occasion did he hear the commode being flushed and he was therefore curious as to why this person was spending so much time in the bathroom.

He stated that on the last occasion that someone went from number 5-B to the bathroom prior to the time he heard the shot, he would estimate that that person remained in the bathroom for at least 20 to 30 minutes. During this period he heard no noises coming from the bathroom. He also specifically recalls that during this same period, Mr. WILLIS ANCHUATZ (phonetic), who occupies room 4-B, immediately west of 5-B where the new tenant apparently was located,

had knocked on Mr. STEPHENS's door and somewhat angrily inquired as to who was staying in the bathroom so long.

It was at the end of this latter period of time that Mr. STEPHENS heard the above described shot which he was certain came from the bathroom. He stated that immediately after the shot was fired he heard some people located across the street, east of the building where he lives, screaming. Due to the excitement of the moment, the fact that people across the street in the vicinity of the Lorraine Motel were screaming, and the fact that his hearing is not the best, he did not hear any additional noises coming from the bathroom. He pointed out that he would expect to hear a "scuffle" coming from the bathroom if the man in the bathroom had fired the shot that killed MARTIN LUTHER KING, but he cannot recall hearing such a "scuffle." He stated that he simply has no way of knowing whether the man came out of the bathroom, went into room 5-B and then ran out of 5-B down the hall toward the front of the building, or whether the man in the bathroom ran directly from the bathroom down the hallway toward the front of the building. He stated he did hesitate a few moments after hearing the shot and hearing the screaming outside before he went to the door and looked down the hall to see the man running carrying something in his hand.

Mr. STEPHENS advised that the only people in the north building of this rooming house at the time of this incident were (1) Mr. STEPHENS, (2) Mr. STEPHENS's wife, who was in bed and who was never in a position to observe anything, (3) Mr. WILLIS ANCHUTZ (phonetic), above, in room 4-B, who came out of his room and was seen by Mr. STEPHENS at the same time Mr. STEPHENS saw the man running down the hall, (4) Mrs. JESSIE LEDBETTER, a deaf and dumb lady who resides in room 1-B toward the front (west) of the morth wing or north building, and (5) the unknown man who had occupied room 5-B who was running down the hall as previously stated.

Mr. STEPHENS stated that Mr. ANCHULTZ made some remark to the unknown man who was running down the hallway and the unknown man apparently made some kind of reply.

ME 44-1987

Mr. STEPHENS advised that whereas he could hear footsteps in 5-B and could bear footsteps between 5-B and the bathroom, he at no time heard any conversation in 5-B. and he is certain that there was no conversation in 5-B from the time the new tenant checked in until the time he heard the shot. He stated he never heard any noise or footsteps which would indicate to him there was ever more than one person in room 5-B. He pointed out that whereas his hearing is not too good, it is very easy to hear noises in the adjoining rooms of this rooming house and he definitely can hear normal conversation coming from that room. Mr. STEPHENS stated that when he saw the new tenant with Mrs. BREWER standing in front of 5-B, he only saw the left side of the new tenant, and when he saw what he believes to be the same man running down the hallway carrying something, he only saw this person from the rear. He pointed out he never saw him directly in front, but based upon his observations he would describe this person as follows:

Unknown

Name:
Race:
Sex:
Age:
Height:
Weight:
Build:
Posture:
Hair:

White Male "in his 30's." 5' 10-11" 165 pounds Average Man stood erectly Described as sandy, also ' described as "dark blond" or having the appearance of unwashed sand. Further described barline as receding on left side (and presumably on both sides) making it appear he would have "peaks" on either side but with full thick hair toward the front center of his head between the peaks. Hair combed straight back. Normal or average haircut.

ME 44-1987 5

Dress:

Bare headed, wearing dark

General Appearance:

suit Clean shaven, neat appearing individual.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FLOOR PLAN BATHROOM WINDOW FROM WHERE SHOT WAS FIRED' OV YAWRIATE ROOME CHOOSE 5-0 4.3 3-3 2 OFFICE 1-3 PACKAGE DROPPED IN DOORWAY 10 PROBABLE EXIT ROU 418-420 SOUTH ENTRANCE (stairway) TO ROOMING HOUSE HORTH ENTRANCE (stairway)
TO ROOMING HOUSE

### THETTOAVIT

STATE OF THIMESEE )

COUNTY OF SHELBY )

- I, Charles Quitman Stephens, being duly sworn, depose and say:
- 1. I am 46 years old and right now I have no fixed address. From March of 1967 until June of 1968, I lived at 422½ South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee. On April 4, 1963, my common-law wife and I were living there in Apartment 6-B. The floor plan attached hereto and marked Exhibit I, the original of which I have signed, is a good likeness of the relationship of the rooms on the second floor, which was my floor.
- 2. Mrs. Bessie Brewer was the resident manager of the rooming house. At about 4:00 p.m., or a little later, on April 4, 1968, I thought I heard Mrs. Brewer's voice in the hall and I went out of my apartment to speak to her about the hot-water heater I had been working on. From the banister of the back stairs near my apartment door I saw her and a man standing in the hallway near the entrance to Room 5-B, which is just down the hall from my bedroom. I did not recognize the man with Mrs. Brewer and I assumed he was a new guest looking at the room. The man was looking into the room near the doorway and I got a glimpse at him from his left side. I have marked on the diagram the letter "A" where the man was standing, the letter "B" where Mrs. Brewer was standing, and the letter "X" where I was standing.
  - 3. On April 24, 1968, I looked at FBI Wanted Flyer 442-A, and I identified the profile photograph on the left as looking very much like the man I saw looking at Room 5-B on the afternoon of April 4, 1968. A duplicate of that Wanted

Flyor, which I have signed, is attached and identified as Inhibit II. I now re-emante the protograph and resident that identification. I also now countee another profile photograph, which appears to be a smaller copy of the one is the Tiyer, and allies that it looks very much like the man I saw looking at hoom 5-3 on the alternoom of April 4, 1988. This photograph is attached and identified as Imhibit III, and I have signed it. The pointed same and chia are the principal features that attach out in my identification of the man platered in Enhibit III as the man platered in Enhibit III as the man platered into Seen 5-3 on April 4, 1988.

- 4. If vilo and I spent the rest of the advances in our apartment. I im a discribed use vector the last been twented for telegolistic and speak ment of my time in my bedroom. By vilo was also ill and was at that time a bedroom.
- S. After esting the strange was which have, havener, I heard schools in Noon 5-3 and account the man I had seen had readed the room ment door. Coveral times that afternoon I heard footsteps in Noon 5-3, and two or three times I heard footsteps in Noon 5-3 and going past my room and into the common bathroom at the end of the hall. The first couple of times the person from 5-3 went to the beth he did not stay at a lew minutes and enter I heard the tellet flush. Nach time I heard footsteps going back to Room 5-3. About the third time I heard footsteps from Noom 6-3, to the bathroom the person stayed what seemed like a long time. It seemed like a long time because while he was in there I wanted to use the tellet.
  - 6. While this person was in there so long, he willie Amschol the lived in home delight, he could be my door and asked the the hell was strying in the bathroom so long. I opened my door and told him I didn't know, and he want had: to his room.

- 5:60 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., I was in my historian working on a small radio when I board a chart. I have placed a dualic "Hit mark on the floor plan, inhibit I, to show where I was when I board the shot. I could tak! that it came from the interest because it was very load and the partition between my hitchen and the hathroom he that physocre.
- O. I had not house footatops going back to home 6-1 between the time to yoursen went in for no long and the time I heard the that.
- 6. Right alter the mist, I beard through a broken gaire in my kitcher window a let of veloce politics and helicoring anger of the state locked out by winter tweet the moire and I am a let be people milling opposed moor the motel. Then I work to my door and opened it. I would may that about a minute, not more, passed between my bearing the chot and when I opened the deer. Thus, more the hads out that the tecthing about the branch before I and it was emply. Then I went to the bunister and looked the other way. Then I did, I sty a man rebaing mean the end of the hallmay. I have put on "O" much on the floor place Indibit I, to chou shout where he was then I can thin. The was carrying s bundle in his right hand. From what I could see, the bundle vas at least three or four feet leng and als or eight factor thick. The bundle appeared to be unapped in what looked like nouspaper. The sun turned loft toward the estate when he reached the end of the antibuy. Although I did not got a long look at the lefter to turked left, I think it was the east man I new carlier with lim. Econor looking at hoom 5-4. The ma can eat as case out, thus wash a no bas fiest out and galuant A was considered

10. Then I went book so my bischen window. This time I now a lot of people and politices at the localiding yelled at mo to got away from the window, so I not down in my bedreen.

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Evers to and subscribed before no this \_\_\_\_\_ day of June, 1903

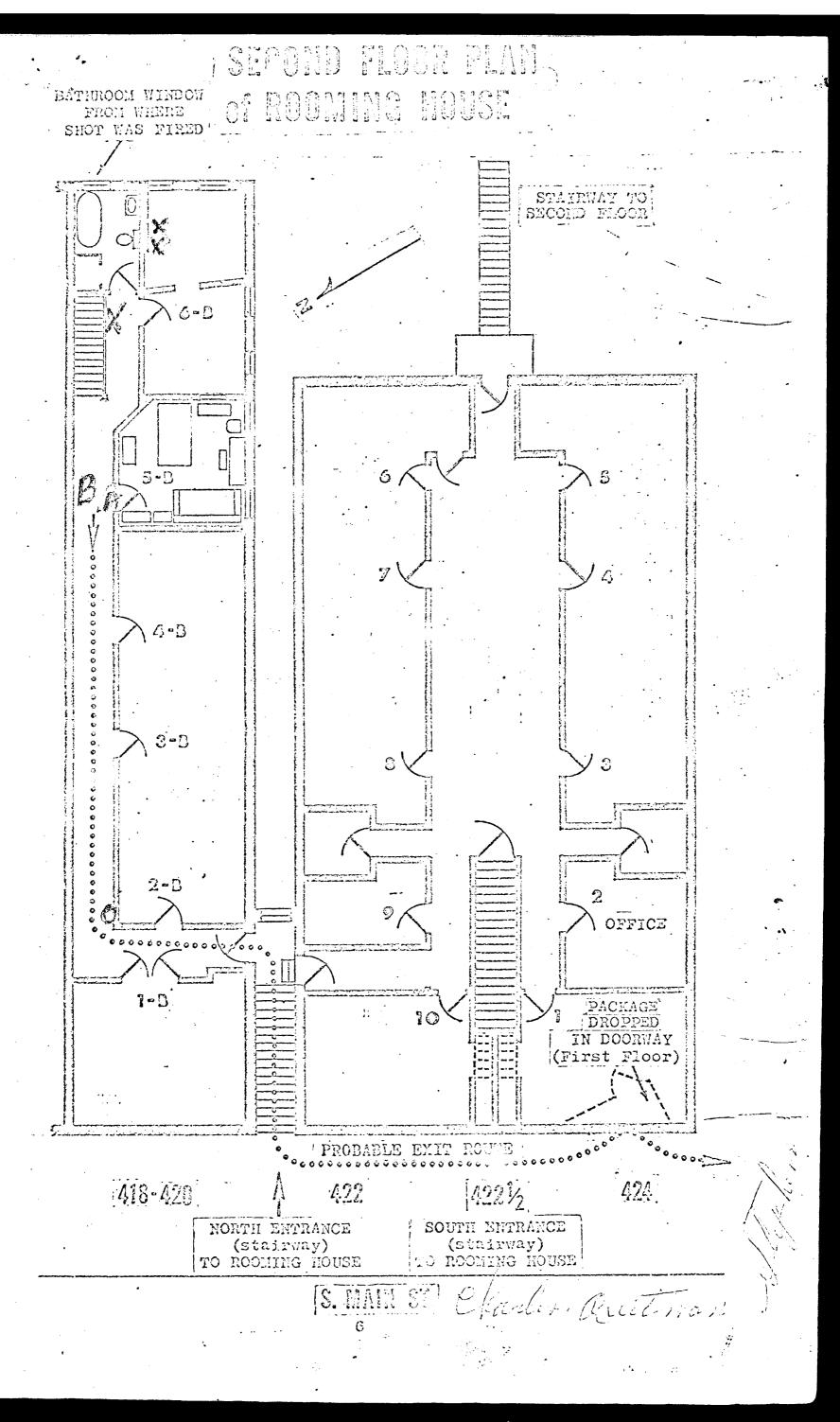
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pages and the attached documents identified as Ambibits I, II, and III comprise the original difficult of Charles Quituen Stephens entouted, swarm to, and subscribed before no this day of June, 1808.

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44-38861-591

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176



## REVACETER

STATE OF TEMBESSEE )

COUNTY OF SHELBY )

- I, Charles Quitman Stephens, being duly sworn, depose and say:
- 2. I am 46 years old and right now I have no fixed address. From March of 1967 until June of 1968, I lived at 422½ South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee. On April 4, 1968, my common-law wife and I were living there in Apartment 6-B. The floor plan attached hereto and marked Exhibit I, the original of which I have signed, is a good likeness of the relationship of the rooms on the second floor, which was my floor.
- 2. Mrs. Bessie Brewer was the resident manager of the rooming house. At about 4:00 p.m., or a little later, on April 4, 1968, I thought I heard Mrs. Brewer's voice in the hall and I went out of my apartment to speak to her about the hot-water heater I had been working on. From the banister of the back stairs near my apartment door I saw her and a man standing in the hallway near the entrance to Room 5-B, which is just down the hall from my bedroom. I did not recognize the man with Mrs. Brewer and I assumed he was a new guest looking at the room. The man was looking into the room near the doorway and I got a glimpse at him from his left side. I have marked on the diagram the letter "A" where the man was standing, the letter "B" where Mrs. Brewer was standing, and the letter "X" where I was standing.
  - 3. On April 24, 1968, I looked at FBI Wanted Flyer 442-A, and I identified the profile photograph on the left as looking very much like the man I saw looking at Room 5-B on the afternoon of April 4, 1968. A duplicate of that Wanted

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- 4. If wile and I opent the rest of the afternoon in our spartness. I am a discilled war velocus who had been treated for teleroulesia and apout must of my time in my bedroom. My wife was also this and was at that time a bed patient.
- 3. After pecing the strange and with fire. Arever, I house someone in Recombilities and I had seen had rented the room ment door. Coveral times that afternoon i heard footstops in Recombilities or three times I hourd footstops leaving Noom 5-3 and going past my room and into the common bathroom at the end of the hall. The first couple of times the person from 5-3 went to the beth he did not stay but a few minutes and ence I heard the toilet fixeh. Each time I heard footstops going back to Room 5-3. About the third time I heard footstops going back to Room 5-3. About the third time I heard footstops going back to Room 5-3. About the third time I heard footstops going thek to Room 5-3. About the third time I heard footstops from Room 6-3 to the bathroom the person stayed what seemed like a long time. It seemed like a long time because while he was in there I wanted to use the toilet.
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- 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., I was in my hitchen working on a small radio when I hand a chat. I have placed a double "III" annu on the floor plan, hubbit I, to show when I was when I heard the shot. I could tell that it came from the inthroca because it was very load and the partition between my hitchen and the bathreen is thin phytogra.
- 3. I had not hourd footatops going back to Room 6-D between the time the person went in for no long and the time I heard the shot.
- 9. Right after the shot, I heard through a troken Spino in my hiteion vindow a lot of voices polling and hellering The region of the first of the state of the looked out by window toward the moles and I can a let of people bes seed years from I now I thought seed beserve and eponed it. I would any that thest a minute, not more, passed between my bearing the mist and when I epened the door. Thust, note and cook est that had a cooksad est branch being I and to was emply. Than I want to the backuter and looked the other way. Then I did, I may a man rubaing near the end of the hallway. I have put on 'O' mark on the floor place Libible I, to phoughout there he then them I counties. To was carrying a bundle in his right hand. Error what I could see, the bundle van st Ionat three or four feet leve leve sai the or eight inches thick. The bundle appeared to be murphed in what looked like ed seds celege est beautiful fact found the realist when he reached the ond of the ballicry. Although I did not got a long look at him belove to turned left. I think it was the ease our I may earlier with Bra. Province inching at them B-H. The was renning down the hall had on a dark suit, the salie as the man I sen carlior.

10. Then I went back to by balcohon window. This time I can a lot of poople and policeman at the learning Hotel.
A policeman near the embrahment behind by building yelled at mosts got away from the window, so I wat down in my believe.

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no this \_\_\_\_ day of Juno, 1000

V. Lari Conton
Clerk, United Statos
District Court for the
Vestorn District of Toncocase,
U. S. A.

pages and the attached documents identified as inhibite I, II, sed III comprise the original distanted of Charles Quitum Stephens entacted, sweam to, and subscribed before so this day of June, 1988.

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TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM:

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

3 FD-302s re CHARLES Q. STEPHENS and one affidavit

Ref:

Memphis airtel to Bureau, 8/6/73

44-38861-5921

\*\*MCLOSUME\*\*

4–650 (Rev. 5–11–73) optional form no. 10 may 1962 edition gsa gen. reg. no. 27



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

то

Mr. Marshall

DATE: 301 3 - 1973

FROM

P. F. O'Connell

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

BUFILE: 44-38861

Me Meason to made men of the form

The above captioned file is presently maintained in the Special File Room of the Records Section, Files and Communications Division. You are requested to have the substantive supervisor, responsible for this matter, review the file to determine if it is necessary to continue to maintain the file in the Special File Room, or whether it may be returned to the regular file sequence. The appropriate notation should be made on this memorandum which should be returned to the Filing Unit, Room 1116 IB. This memorandum will be filed in the case file to record the action taken in connection with this review.

JEB:ncf
(2)

Removed. From the Special, File, Room per Memo dated 7-3-73 From O'Connell To Marshall (Gotation made on authorization)

NOT RECORDED

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Date Forw. AUG 24 1973

How Forw. O-6 (A -D)

By JJMF: Onco

REC-10 44-38861-57

I cc Civil Rights Unit

2- Bureau (Enc. 4)

JCH:ca (3)

Approved: \_

59 AUG 30 1973

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_M Per \_\_\_\_\_ U.S.Government Printing Office: 1972 — 455-574 RECEIVED
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# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to Hemphis, Tennessee August 17, 1973

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

Mr. Harvey L. Gipson, Attorney-At-Law, Exchange Building, Memphis, Tennessee, has advised the Memphis Office of the FBI that he is representing Mr. Charles Q. Stephens in the latter's efforts to obtain some or all of the reward money offered by local newspapers, and others, for information leading to the arrest of the killer of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. According to Mr. Gipson, a number of different reward offers were made shortly after King's murder, and these tdal more than \$100,000.

Mr. Gipson desires to have copies of all signed statements which Stephens may have furnished to the FBI. Mr. Gipson has been advised to direct his request to the Civil Rights Division of the U. S. Department of Justice, Washington, D. C.

It is noted that Stephens was a roomer in the rooming house from which James Earl Ray fired the shot that killed King. Stephens was interviewed by FBI Agents, but no signed statements were taken.

Much later, Stephens was interviewed by one or more representatives of the Department of Justice, and at that time he furnished a signed affidavit, the original of which is not in the possession of the FBI.

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.

44-38861-5422

FBI '

Date: **9/24/73** 

		(Type in plaintext or code)	
	AIRTEL	AIRMAIL (Priority)	
	TO:	DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) ATTN: LEGAL COUNSEL	
	FROM:	SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) - P* -	
1	SUBJECT:	MURKIN	1
		Re Memphis airtel to the Bureau 8/17/73.	
	GIBSON ar in the Ch requested 10/5/73. 9/21/73 f two copie	above reflecting the fact that Attorneys HARVEN AND RESERT A. TUCKER have filed a Motion for Discount Court of Shelby County, Tennessee, and I that SAC JOSEPH V. BAKER appear in that court Also enclosed are two copies each of letter defrom Attorneys GIBSON and TUCKER to SAC BAKER are of a Motion of Discovery filed by these attorneys of a Motion of Discovery filed by these	covery have on ated nd
	Tu the Ci	nancery Court of Shelby County, Tennessee.	
		As set out in the LHM, USA THOMAS F. TURLEY, V	NDT,
ì	Memphis,	As set out in the LHM, USA THOMAS F. TURLEY, Whas recommended that SAC BAKER not make such a see. SAC BAKER will not appear UACB.	NDT, court
	Memphis, appearance NOTE: PU SA AT	As set out in the LHM, USA THOMAS F. TURLEY, Whas recommended that SAC BAKER not make such a see. SAC BAKER will not appear UACB.  URSUANT TO THE CONVERSATION BETWEEN MR. FRANK AND RICHARD H. BLAY, ON 10/1/73 IN VIEW OF THE RECOMMENT OF U.S. ATTORNEY TURLEY, MEMPHIS SAC BAKER OPEAR IN COURT.	COURT AND COMEND-WILL NOT
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LEGAL COUNSEL

REC'D GERRARO FALSE AND ALMERAL WAS TREATING DIVISION 5710

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176



# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

Memphis, Tennessee September 24, 1973

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

On September 24, 1973, there was received at the office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Memphis, Tennessee, a letter dated September 21, 1973, addressed to Special Agent in Charge Joseph V. Baker, signed by Attorneys Harvey L. Gipson and Robert A. Tucker. Enclosed with this letter was a copy of a Motion for Discovery filed in the Chancery Court of Shelby County, Tennessee, in the case styled Charles Quitman Stephens, Complainant, versus State of Tennessee Et Al, Defendants.

On September 24, 1973, a copy of the letter and the enclosed Motion for Discovery were furnished to U. S. Attorney Thomas F. Turley, Western District of Tennessee, Memphis. Mr. Turley stated he had not received any notification and that service had not been made on him and this letter did not constitute service under the State law. He recommended that Mr. Baker not appear in Chancery Court on October 5, 1973, as requested and stated if necessary, a member of the U. S. Attorney's staff would appear and request that the complainant's Motion for Discovery be dismissed.

On September 24, 1973, Attorneys Gipson and Tucker were contacted by Special Agent Joe C. Hester and were advised that this matter had been referred to the U. S. Attorney. They advised that a similar letter had been directed to U. S. Attorney Thomas F. Turley. They also advised they had written a letter to the U. S. Department of Justice, Washington, D. C., several weeks ago requesting certain documents in this case and not having received a reply to their request, had filed this Motion of Discovery in the Shelby County Chancery Court.

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.

ENCLOSURE



UNDED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

Memphis, Tennessee September 24, 1973

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

On September 24, 1973, there was received at the office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Memphis, Tennessee, a letter dated September 21, 1973, addressed to Special Agent in Charge Joseph V. Baker, signed by Attorneys Harvey L. Gipson and Robert A. Tucker. Enclosed with this letter was a copy of a Motion for Discovery filed in the Chancery Court of Shelby County, Tennessee, in the case styled Charles Quitman Stephens, Complainant, versus State of Tennessee Et Al, Defendants.

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# FBI \*

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#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

Memphis, Tennessee September 27, 1973

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

Attention is called to the memorandum dated September 24, 1973, captioned as above, wherein it was reported that Attorneys Harvey L. Gipson and Robert A. Tucker, Memphis, Tennessee, had filed a Motion for Discovery in the Chancery Court of Shelby County, Tennessee, in the case styled "Charles Quitman Stephens, Complainant, v. State of Tennessee, Et Al, Defendants."

Attached to and made a part of this memorandum is a letter dated September 25, 1973, from United States Attorney Thomas F. Turley, Jr., Western District of Tennessee, Memphis, Tennessee, to Attorneys Gipson and Tucker, Memphis, Tennessee.

Gipson & Tucker Attorneys at Law Exchange Building Memphis, Tennessee

38103

Gentlemen:

Re: Charles Q. Stephens

٧.

State of Tennessee, et al Shelby Chancery 72,333-3 R.D.

The United States of America is not a party to the above suit, nor are the

"Memphis Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation"

or the

"local office of the Attorney General of the United States of America",

neither of which latter is a suable entity, so your notice to me that your "Motion For Discovery and Production of Documents and Things For Inspection, Copying or Photographing" will be called for disposition at 10:00 a.m. Friday, October 5, 1973, was a waste of your time to write and mine to read it.

If and when you get your suit in such shape that it would be appropriate for me to respond on behalf of the United States or any of its instrumentalities I shall be pleased to do so promptly, as I am confident the Chancellor well knows, but I Gipson & Tuck

()

Page Two

September 25, 1973

have no intention of anticipating that eventuality.

Yours very truly,

Thomas F. Turley, Jr. United States Actorney

or Jaren Balus

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

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.

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In Reply, Please Refer to

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## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

. FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Memphis, Tennessee October 12, 1973

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

Attention is called to previous memoranda in this matter, the most recent of which was dated October 11, 1973, concerning a Motion for Discovery filed in the Chancery Court of Shelby County, Tennessee, in the case styled Charles Quitman Stephens, Complainant, versus State of Tennessee, Et Al, Defendants.

Attached hereto and made a part of this memorandum are the following three documents:

- 1. A letter dated October 9, 1973, addressed to Mr. Joseph V. Baker, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Memphis, Tennessee, from attorneys Harvey L. Gipson and Robert A. Tucker.
- 2. Affidavit in Support of a Motion for Discovery and Production of Documents and Things for Inspection, Copying and or Photographing as Amended.
- 3. Documents and Things requested to be produced by United States Attorneys Office, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Attorney General's Office, State of Tennessee, Shelby County Sheriff's Office, City of Memphis, Memphis Police Department.

Documents two and three have been filed in the Chancery Court of Shelby County, Tennessee, in the Stephens versus Tennessee lawsuit.

United States Attorney Thomas F. Turley, Jr., Western District of Tennessee, Memphis, Tennessee, has advised that since no service of any kind has been made on either the United States Attorney's Office or on the Federal Bureau of Investigation, neither of these agencies is a party to this lawsuit, nor are they required to respond to this most recent action taken by Gipson and Tucker.

ENCLOSURE

AC 901-525-6331

October 9, 1973

HARVEY L. GIPSON ROBERT A. TUCKER

> Mr. Joseph V. Baker Special Agent in Charge Federal Bureau of Investigation 167 N. Main Street Memphis, Tennessee 38102

> > $\mathbf{C}$

Re: Charles Q. Stephens

vs

State of Tennessee, et al.

No: 72333-3 R.D.

Dear Sirs,

Please find enclosed the affidavit in Support of a Motion for Discovery and Production of Documents and Things for Inspection, Copying, and or Photographing as amended and the enumerated list of Documents and Things requested to be produced.

This affidavit and enumperated list was ordered filed by Chancellor Rond upon the hearing of the motion on Friday, October 5, 1973.

Sincerely,

GIPSON & TUCKER

Enclosure mik

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE

CHARLES QUITMAN STEPHENS,

Complainant,

VS

NO: 72333-3 R.D.

STATE OF TENNESSEE, et al.,

Defendants.

AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF A MOTION FOR DISCOVERY AND PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS AND THINGS FOR INSPECTION, COPYING, AND OR PHOTOGRAPHING AS AMENDED.

STATE OF TENNESSEE

COUNTY OF SHELBY

I, Harvey L. Gipson, residing in the City of Memphis in said County and then by me first duly sworn upon his oath disposes and says to-wit:

That affiant is one of the attorneys of record for Complainant Charles Quitman Stephens in the above mentioned cause and for the reasons enumerated herein files this his Affidavit in support of the afore mentioned motion.

Affiant further states that neither the Complainant or the Complaniant's attorney can secure the requested information from any of the sources other than the sources enumerated in his motion and that at a prior hearing the Complainant's attorney was denied the information even though the Complainant's attorney had issued a subpoena duces tecum.

Affiant further states that based upon the hereinafter enumerated reasons that your affiant is entitled to the motion sought to-wit.

- 1. That said information was given over five (5) years ago.
- 2. That the witness, Charles Quitman Stephens was caught up in shock and emotion of the events.

over rate and extraction.

- 3. That at the time of giving said statements and or information the witness was not represented by counsel and was held incommunicado and under court order not to reveal testimony.
- 4. That said information is in the sole possession of Defendant and the other parties listed in the afterforesaid Motion.
- 5. That the statements are relevant to the issues in this cause.
- 6. That the statements are not privileged and are not within the work product rule.
- 7. That it would be fruitless to attempt to gain information in any other manner other than by court order.
- 8. That production of statements will facilitate the trial of this cause.
- 9. That denial of discovery will unduly hinder the preparation of Complainant's case.
- 10. That production of the requested information is absolutely necessary to the adequate presentation of Complainant's case.
- 11. That denial of disclosure of statements is prejudicial to Complainant's ability to prove his case.
- 12. That non-production of the requested information will impair Complainant's ability to meet his burden of proof.

Further Affiant saith not.

HARVEY L. GIPSON-AFFIANT

Sworn to and subscribed to before me this 5th day of October, 1973.

NOTARY PUBLIC

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES:

CHARLES QUITMAN STEPHENS,

Complainant,

VS

NO: 72333-3 R.D.

STATE OF TENNESSEE, et al.,

Defendants.

DOCUMENTS AND THINGS

Requested to be Produced By:

I

\*United States Attorney's Office
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Attorney General's Office, State of Tennessee
Shelby County Sheriff's Office
City of Memphis
Memphis Police Department

- All signed statements made by Charles Stephens.
- All oral statements reduced to writing made by Charles Stephens.
- 3. Pictures identified by Stephens of the scene and the person committing the assassination of Martin Luther King.
- 4. All drawings made of James Earl Ray based upon information given investigators by Charles Stephens.
- 5. All statements, documents and other things which would show that information given by Charles Stephens led to the arrest and conviction of James Earl Ray.
- 6. All statements, documents and other things either written, oral, reduced to writing and electronic reproductions made or compiled from information given by Charles Stephens.
- 7. Identity and addresses of all investigative officers which interviewed Charles Stephens during their investigation of the assassination of Martin Luther King.

8. List of all places, dates and times in which charles
Stephens was interviewed by investigation officers.

9. Identity and addresses of all persons present during all interviews by law enforcement agencies of Charles Stephens.

10. Copy of any and all law enforcements files compiled by any law enforcement agency on Charles Stephens at the time he gave information.

ΙI

# City Councilmen Individually

- 1. All notes or memorandums made by the individual councilmen independantly or in connection with other councilmen
  during or after any meetings pertaining to the offer of a
  reward in this cause.
- 2. All electronic recordings any individual councilman made of meetings of the City Council pertaining to the offer of a reward.
- 3. All documents, notes, and things the above intends to use as evidence at the trial of this cause.

#### III

# City of Memphis

- 1. Copies of minutes of meeting of the Memphis City Council wherein the subject of reward was discussed for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King.
- 2. A list of the names and addresses of all persons present at such meeting or meetings.
- 3. A list of the dates, times, and places of all meetings referred to in #1 and the duration of said meetings.
- 4. A list of all witnesses which the City of Memphis intends . to use in the trial of this matter.

- 5. Copies all documents, notes, memorandum and photographs which defendant intends to use as evidence at the trial.
- 6. Copies of all electronic reproductions of meetings pertaining to offering of reward for the assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King.
- 7. All documents, notes, and things the above intends to use as evidence in the trial of this cause.

IV

Memphis Area Chamber of Commerce Downtown Association Future Memphis Incorporated National Alliance of Postal and Federal Employees

- 1. Copies of all minutes and resolutions of meetings discussing offer of rewards leading to the arrest and conviction of the assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King including any electronic reproducitons of said meetings.
- 2. Copies of any letters of transmittal in the publishing of said offer.
- 3. Identity of all persons present during any meeting concerning offering of reward with their addresss.
- 4. All documents, notes and things which the above intends to use as evidence at the trial of this cause.

Mark Softer Transpary

### Memphis Publishing Company Commercial Appeal

- 1. All letters, memorandums and or notes rece ived or made by Memphis Publishing Company pertaining to the offer of rewards for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King.
- 2. Copies of all sketches and information pertaining to offer of reward and assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King made by any servant, agent or employee of said Defendants.
- 3. Copies of all letters, memorandums or notes received

or sent by certain persons offering rewards through newspapers and copies of any replies thereto.

- 4. Copies of all editions of the Commercial Appeal and Press Simitar wherein any offer of reward was made for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King.
- 5. Copies of the minutes and resolutions of all meetings wherein an offer of the reward was discussed, authorized, and made.
- 6. All documents, notes, and things the above intends to use as evidence in the trial of this cause.

VI

First National Bank Union Planters National Bank Tri-State Bank of Memphis National Bank of Commerce

1. Copies of all records reflecting reward accounts pertaining to the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King.

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

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Approved:

Special gent in Charge

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In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION Memphis, Tennessee October 11, 1973

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

Attention is called to memorandum dated September 24, 1973, and memorandum dated September 27, 1973, regarding a Motion for Discovery filed in the Chancery Court of Shelby County, Tennessee, in the case styled Charles Quitman Stephens, Complainant, versus State of Tennessee, Et Al, Defendants.

Attached hereto and made a part of this memorandum is an "Amended Motion for Discovery and Production of Documents and Things for Inspection, Copying or Photographing" which has been filed in the Stephens versus Tennessee lawsuit.

Assistant United States Attorney Larry E. Parrish, Western District of Tennessee, Memphis, Tennessee, has advised that this amended motion in no way alters the fact that neither the United States nor the Federal Bureau of Investigation is involved in this matter, and he stated the filing of this amended motion requires no response on the part of the Government.

44-38861-51) 6 ENGLOSURE

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE CHARLES QUITMAN STEPHENS, Complainant, VS 72333-3 R.D. STATE OF TENNESSEE, et al. Defendants. AMENDED MOTION FOR DISCOVERY AND PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS AND THINGS FOR INSPECTION, COPYING OR PHOTOGRAPHING. Comes now your Complainant, Charles Quitman Stephens, through his attorneys of record, and would respectively show unto this Honorable Court as follows: That heretofore he filed his motion for Discovery in this cause alleging his entitlement to said Discovery under Rule 34 of the Tennessee Rules of Civil Procedure 1971. It is Complainant's contention that all rules of discovery are to be taken in pari materia, since Rule 34 is the basis for discovery in his Original Motion for Discovery, and to eliminate any question, Complainant brings this his Amended Motion for Discovery to include in his original motion all Rules for Discovery under the Tennessee Rules of Civil Procedure 1971. WHEREFORE PETITIONER PRAYS: That all defendants herein in addition to the Memphis office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the local office of the Attorney General of the United States of America, the Attorney General of the State of Tennessee for the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit. The Shelby County GIPSON AND TUCKER TOPNEYS AT LAW EACHANGE BUILDING MENERIUS, TENN, 38103 #C 901/825-6331 - 2 -

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