

1 - Mr. McDonough

June 23, 1970

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

On June 18, 1970, Assistant District Attorney General Clyde Mason, Memphis, Tennessee, made available the following documents filed in the Criminal Court of Shelby County, Tennessee, by attorneys for the subject Ray. One copy of each of these documents is enclosed for the Department.

1. Motion to Produce, directing the Sheriff of Shelby County, Tennessee, to furnish the name of the person or persons who constructed and designed the quarters in the Shelby County Jail wherein the subject was incarcerated. This motion has been denied by Judge William H. Williams.
2. Motion to Produce, requesting that the Clerk of the Shelby County Criminal Court produce date books, log books, or notebooks, or other personal data belonging to the late Judge Preston Battle. This motion has been denied by Judge Williams. *Wa*
3. A motion to declare the subject Ray indigent. Judge Williams has withheld decision on this pending receipt of an affidavit from Ray stating that he is indigent.
4. Motion for an order to require the Shelby County Sheriff to permit psychiatrists to visit the Shelby County Jail quarters where Ray was confined. This motion has been denied by Judge Williams.

EJM:js
(4)

REC-100

44-38861-5886
19 JUN 25 1970

51 JUN 30 1970

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

5. Motion to Produce, asking that the Shelby County Sheriff make available all records pertaining to the visits made to the subject by Percy Foreman and by Jerry Ray. Judge Williams has denied this motion.
6. Motion for production of books, papers, documents, and tangible objects. Judge Williams ruled that those items of evidence mentioned in the stipulation at the time of the subject's guilty plea may be reviewed by the subject's counsel. He directed subject's counsel to request the Clerk of the Criminal Court to make these items available for examination.
7. Brief and Argument furnished in support of Item 6, above.

Enclosures (7)

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 6-25-70

FROM : T. E. Bishop

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Walters _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Soyars _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

In memorandum from Bishop to DeLoach of 6-24-70, it was stated that Bill King in the Information Office of the Department of Justice advised Bishop on 6-24-70 that the Department had decided it would not be possible for the Government to successfully defend the civil action by Harold Weisberg against the Department for the release of the documents which Weisberg is seeking to secure from the Department, and copies of these documents were, accordingly, furnished to Weisberg by the Department. King also advised that the Department was going to release these documents to the press at 3:00 p.m. on 6-24-70. The Director has inquired "Did you get a written instruction from Dept confirming conversation King had with you? H".

For the information of the Director, no written notice has been received from the Department to the effect that it had decided that it would not be possible for the Government to successfully defend the civil action by Weisberg against the Department for the release of the documents in question, or that these documents were, therefore, furnished to Weisberg. The first notice that the Bureau had of this action was when King telephoned Bishop at approximately 11:50 a.m. on 6-24-70, at which time King also stated that the Department was releasing copies of these documents to the press at 3:00 p.m. on 6-24-70. King, subsequently, on 6-24-70 furnished Bishop copies of the documents being released.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

JUN 29 1970

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. M. A. Jones

TEB:hak (6)

70 JUN 30 1970

*We must certainly
should insist upon
written confirmation
of such matters.*

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

JUN 25 10 38 AM '70

RECEIVED-TOLSON

FBI

JUN 25 9 28 AM '70

RECEIVED-TOLSON

FBI

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

JUN 25 9 46 AM '70

JUN 26 7 15 AM '70

JUN 25 11 07 AM '70

REC'D DELOACH
FBI

JUN 26 2 01 PM '70
REC'D DELOACH
FBI

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 6/24/70

FROM : T. E. Bishop

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING

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

By way of background, on 4/27/70 Assistant Attorney General William Ruckelshaus, Civil Division, Department of Justice, advised the Director that Harold Weisberg, the author of the books "Whitewash I" and "Whitewash II" has filed a civil action against the Department of Justice and Department of State demanding copies of all the papers which were employed in the extradition in the James Earl Ray matter. These documents were used in the extradition proceedings against James Earl Ray in England and were thereafter returned to the State Department and were transferred to the Department of Justice. Included in the documents were a considerable number of affidavits of FBI Agents, affidavits covering fingerprints, ballistics' examinations, etc. Ruckelshaus asked if the release of these documents to Weisberg would in any way prejudice the work of the FBI. It is noted that Weisberg is an author who has been extremely critical of the FBI, the Secret Service and other police agencies in books which he has written about the assassination of President Kennedy.

By memorandum of April 30th the Director advised Ruckelshaus that the determination as to the release of the pertinent documents is within the province of the Department of Justice and the FBI interposes no objection. It was suggested, however, that the Civil Division communicate with the Civil Rights Division of the Department on this matter since Federal process was still outstanding against Ray charging a violation of a Federal Civil Rights Statute.

The Bureau is in possession of a copy of a letter dated May, 1970, from Jerris Leonard, Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, to Ruckelshaus stating that any release of any information in the files pertaining to the investigation regarding James Earl Ray would be inimicable to the investigation.

Enc. **ENCLOSURE**

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Jones

(CONTINUED-OVER)

97 JUL 30 1970

JUN 29 1970

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

REC-3

6/25/70

JUN 29 1970

Bulky
Enclosure
PB 12/1/76

22-10000-100

7-10

RECEIVED-TOLSON
FBI

JUN 24 12 27 PM '70

RECEIVED DELOACH
FBI

JUN 24 12 21 PM '70

REC'D SULLIVAN
FBI JUSTICE

JUL 7 1 41 PM '70
JUN 24 12 41 PM 1970

JUN 24 1 23 PM '70

RECEIVED CHIRAD
JUL 2 10 33 AM '70
LABORATORY DIVISION

RECEIVED

JUL 5 4 42 PM '70

LABORATORY DIVISION

REC'D-WALTERS
FBI

JUL 16 8 55 AM 1970

JUL 14 10 30 AM 1970

REC'D-WALTERS
FBI

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
Re: Assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King
Current Developments

On 6/24/70 Bill King in the Information Office, Department of Justice, advised that the Department subsequently ~~decided~~ that it would not be possible for the Government to successfully defend the civil action by Weisberg against the Department for the release of the documents in question. Accordingly, copies of these documents were furnished to Weisberg. King advised that in view of the fact that the Department had released the documents to Weisberg the Department did not wish Weisberg to make a profit from his possession of the documents and, accordingly, has decided to make similar copies available to the press and others who might desire them. King stated that the documents to be released consist of approximately 200 pages of copies of affidavits, autopsy reports, affidavits with regard to fingerprint examinations and ballistics tests, and copies of other documents which serve to link Ray with the assassination of Martin Luther King. At Bishop's request King furnished the attached set of the documents being released. King stated that these documents will be released to the press at 3 p.m. on 6/24/70.

The General Investigative Division has been orally advised of the above information.

RECOMMENDATION

None. For information.

Did you get a written instruction from Dept. confirming representation that they will be released to the press?

TEB
WBS
K

F B I

Date: 6/26/70

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via Airtel _____
(Priority)

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

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau and Milwaukee are two copies each of a letter received by the State Attorney General's Office, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee, from Mrs. PRISCILLA SCHWEI, Kenosha, Wisconsin.

On 6/2/70, Mr. JOHN L. CARLISLE, Criminal Investigator, District Attorney General's Office, 15th Judicial Circuit of Tennessee, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee, made available the original of the enclosed letter wherein Mrs. SCHWEI claims that she has possession of information concerning the conspiracy involved in the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING.

LEADS:MILWAUKEE DIVISIONAT KENOSHA, WISCONSIN.

Unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau and unless records would make interview inadvisable, will interview Mrs. PRISCILLA SCHWEI at 1902 17th Avenue, to determine if she does possess any information of value concerning captioned matter.

Airtel _____ Mr. CARLISLE advised that his office is not acknowledging receipt of the enclosed letter from Mrs. SCHWEI.

Teletype _____
② - Bureau (Encs. 2)
A.M. 2 - Milwaukee (Encs. 2)
2 - Memphis

A.M.S.D. _____
RFB:tjm
cc. Del. (6)

Reg. Mail _____

Approved: 451
Registered _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

56 JUL 10 1970

7-10-70

JUL 1 1970

JUN 29 4 52 PM 1970

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

JUN 29 5 03 PM '70

[Faint, mostly illegible typed text, likely a memorandum or letter, covering the majority of the page.]

1902 - 17th Ave.
Kenosha, Wis. 53142
June 22, 1970

Dear Sir,

I was advised by the local police department that I should write to you to find out about petitioning the court to reopen a case that has been closed on the basis of further information (information involving material evidence which was disposed of but of which I have certain knowledge). I am referring to the case of James Earl Ray in the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. The assassination was definitely a conspiracy on the part of some Nazi or Nazis from the evidence I received, meaning other than Mr. James Earl Ray. The local district attorney's office and the local police department said I might need an attorney to file such a petition. I would like the name of an attorney in Memphis (other than Richard J. Ryan, to whom I have already written) if this is necessary. If your office can handle the matter, I would appreciate that information also. Thank you.

Yours respectfully,
Mrs. Priscilla Schwei
(MRS. PRISCILLA SCHWEI)

44-38861-5889
ENCLOSURE

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 23 1970	
FBI-MEMPHIS	

RA

REC 18

EX-117

44-38861-5890

July 17, 1970

Mr. Kenneth McBane
641 Galen Drive
La Habra, California 90631

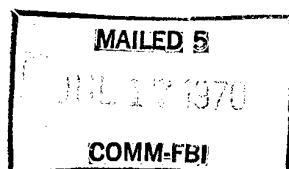
Dear Mr. McBane:

In response to your letter of July 9th, with enclosures, I am unable to furnish the specific data you requested as information in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice.

James Earl Ray, who was sought by the FBI in connection with the slaying of Martin Luther King, was arrested on June 8, 1968, in London, England. He pleaded guilty on a murder charge and is now serving a 99-year sentence in the State of Tennessee. I regret I am unable to be of further assistance to you in this instance.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover



1 - Los Angeles - Enclosures (2)

NOTE: Bufiles reveal nothing unfavorable regarding Mr. McBane who was interviewed by the Los Angeles Office on 5-9-68 regarding the slaying of Martin Luther King. He enclosed a copy of a receipt for the purchase of gasoline by credit card and a copy of a news clipping from the "Los Angeles Times" 4-13-68, which sets forth sketches used in connection with this investigation.

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Walters _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Soyars _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

REK:sls (4)

56 JUL 24 1970

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

TEB/a
L. Sullivan

REK

JUL 16 5 22 PM '70
FBI

JUL 16 11 42 AM '70

FBI
REC'D BISHOP

RECEIVED

JUL 16 11 52 AM '70

REC'D DELOACH
FBI

JUL 16 6 04 PM '70

JUL 17 2 43 PM '70

RECEIVED-TOLSON
FBI

JUL 16 1 19 PM 1970

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. DeLoach _____
 Mr. Walters _____
 Mr. Mohr _____
 Mr. Bishop _____
 Mr. Casper _____
 Mr. Callahan _____
 Mr. Conrad _____
 Mr. Felt _____
 Mr. Gale _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Sullivan _____
 Mr. Tavel _____
 Mr. Soyars _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Miss Holmes _____
 Miss Gandy _____

La Habra Calif
 July 9th, 1970

Subject: James Earl Ray

J. Edgar Hoover, Chief F. B. I.

Dear Sir:

It seems water under the bridge, as the above person has long been captured, and is now serving time.

The thing that got me was - I know I saw this man in La Habra Calif. April 9th, 1968, I tried to get help from the local police, the F. B. I. in Los Angeles, and no one seemed to care- Then I wrote a letter to you, and the F. B. I. from Los Angeles finally acted- I guess when they heard from YOU, because the two men who came to my house said: Why did I write You??

On April 9th, 1968, about 10AM, I was having my old car (1951 Hudson Hornet) serviced at the Texaco Station, the car was then was up on a hoist, this man walks in and asked for the Keys to the men's room- I sensed right there that was the James Earl Ray, as I had cold chills up my back, I just was frozen, could not phone, could not get my car, but said to myself, don't act as if you know anything-well he wasn't in the men's room 30 seconds came out hung up the Keys, and seemed to stagger towards his car-altho not drunk- He had to be a very marked man-I don't for the life of me see how anyone could have missed him. at all--

Have never heard whether I was right or wrong I know I was Right- All I want to know was I Right ? I realize it is a touchy thing to advertise, as the Blacks would Love me, and there are a lot of Whites, would have it in for me, but I am a great believer in equality, and Justice for ALL. I even told the F B I -(LA) that he would drive East which would have taken him to Ontario Airport and to Canada.

Just Let me Know
 Yours Truly

Kenneth McBane 641 Galen Dr
 La Habra Calif 90631

JUL 13 1970

EXP. PROC.
 37 JUL 13 1970

ENCLOSURE

1 DIRECTOR

REC'D COMM & TOURS

JUL 13 4 40 PM '70

FBI
REC'D BISHOP

JUL 13 2 58 PM '70

RECEIVED
F. B. I.

JUL 14 8 01 AM '70

JUL 13 1 45 PM '70

JUL 13 5 32 PM '70

REC'D COMM & TOURS

7 PM 1-Sat., April 13, 1968

Los Angeles Times 2★



This is the man
whether or NOT
he is Galt

VIEWS OF SUSPECT—Sketches being used in the hunt for slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King include the one at left, being used by Mexican authorities based upon a description provided by the FBI, and the other, based on a description given by man who lives in building from where the shot was fired.

(P) Wirephoto

MYSTERY MAN

Still later, after the

ENCLOSURE

Routing Slip

FD-4 (Rev. 12-69)

Date 1/14/70

To: XXX Director

BUFILE 44-38861

Att.: _____ FILE ME 44-1987

Title _____

MURKIN

☐ SAC _____

☐ ASAC _____

☐ Supv. _____

☐ Agent _____

☐ SE _____

☐ IC _____

RE: _____

☐ CC _____

☐ Steno _____

☐ Clerk _____

☐ Rotor #: _____

ACTION DESIRED

☐ Acknowledge

☐ Open Case

☐ Assign _____ Reassign _____

☐ Prepare lead cards

☐ Bring file

☐ Prepare tickler

☐ Call me

☐ Return assignment card

☐ Correct

☐ Return file

☐ Deadline _____

☐ Search and return

☐ Deadline passed

☐ See me

☐ Delinquent

☐ Serial # _____

☐ Discontinue

☐ Post ☐ Recharge ☐ Return

☐ Expedite

☐ Send to _____

☐ File

☐ Submit new charge out

☐ For information

☐ Submit report by _____

☐ Handle

☐ Type

☐ Initial & return

☐ Leads need attention

☐ Return with explanation or notation as to action taken.

Original and one copy each of three newspaper clippings in captioned matter attached.

SAC ROBERT G. KUNKEL

See reverse side

Office MEMPHIS

2 JUL 16 70

8333
ENCLOSURE
59 JUL 22 1970

NOT RECORDED
48 JUL 20 1970

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Envelope Is Cited By Ray Attorney

By WAYNE CHASTAIN
Press-Scimitar Staff Writer

A battered envelope, postmarked one month before James Earl Ray escaped from the Missouri State Prison, was one of the leads obtained by Ray's defense attorneys this week after they examined in detail for the first time the state's evidence against Ray, who is now serving 99 years for the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King, one of the defense attorneys said today.

Bernard (Bud) Fensterwald, a Washington, D.C. attorney who joined Memphis attorney Richard Ryan last month in defending Ray, said the envelope was addressed to a "doctor" at a flophouse in Atlanta with a return address of a political organization.

"Marked across the top was Eric Starvo Galt," Fensterwald said. "There were some penciled notations about Galt being a man good for some odd jobs . . ."

The state contends that Galt was an alias Ray used when he registered in a Memphis motel the night before Dr. King was fatally shot on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel.

Fensterwald, who received permission from the court last month to examine the state's evidence for the first time, said the envelope was among the evidence he examined at the Memphis police department's property room where the Ray evidence is stored.

There was nothing in the state's summary of proof, Fensterwald said, about the envelope or about the individual the letter was apparently addressed to.

The attorney also said the 30 caliber metal jacketed bullet extracted from Dr. King's body was intact enough that it could be subjected to a spectrographic analysis, adding that there was no indication in the state's proof that it had ever undergone any such tests.

A new trial motion will be heard Sept. 2. Atty. Gen. Phil M. Canale will ask for dismissal of Ray's request for a new trial on the grounds that it does not allege any violations of Ray's constitutional rights.

Yesterday, Criminal Court Judge William Williams denied a defense motion by Fensterwald and Ryan for a spectrographic analysis of the bullet that killed Dr. King.

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

PAGE 1

PRESS SCIMITAR

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 7/11/70
Edition:
Author:
Editor: CHARLES H.
Title: SCHNEIDER

Character:

or

Classification: 44-1987
Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

ENCLOSURE

ice cuu
ERO 645 (A)
ETM/pif
7/14/70
Jul 6-6pm

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ray Case Claim: 'New Evidence'

By **ROY B. HAMILTON**
Press-Scimitar Staff Writer

An attorney for James Earl Ray said today he has uncovered new evidence "that runs very contrary" to the state's theory that the bullet taken from the body of Dr. Martin Luther King was fired by the rifle found at the assassination scene.

The claim was made by Bernard Fensterwald Jr. of Washington, D.C., during a brief hearing before Criminal Court Judge William H. Williams in connection with Ray's petition for a new trial under the Tennessee Post Conviction Relief Act.

Judge Williams set a hearing for oral arguments on the issue for Wednesday, Sept. 2.

Fensterwald told the judge that he had been unable to determine if a spectographic analysis had ever been made of the bullet that killed King. The attorney asked the judge to authorize such a test.

Fensterwald said the FBI evidence relating to the bullet presented at Ray's guilty plea trial on March 10, 1969, was "very vague."

Fensterwald did not elaborate on his new evidence claim at the hearing, but he went into some detail with reporters after the hearing.

Among the documents, he told newsmen, was a sworn statement by an FBI ballistics expert identified as Robert Frazer that the bullet recovered from King's body was so mutilated it could not be identified as having been fired by the rifle traced to Ray.

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

PAGE 26

PRESS SCIMITAR

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 7/10/70

Edition:

Author:

Editor: CHARLES H.

Title: SCHNEIDER

Character:

or

Classification: 44-1987

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

ENCLOSURE

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ray Denied Court Approval For Analysis Of Fatal Bullet

By CHARLES EDMUNDSON

Criminal Court Judge William H. Williams yesterday denied a motion by an attorney for James Earl Ray, confessed slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., for a spectrographic analysis of the bullet that killed the Negro leader.

Bernard Fensterwald Jr., the 11th attorney to be employed by Ray, contended the analysis is needed to establish whether the bullet taken from Dr. King's body here in April, 1968, is of the same composition as either of two lots of bullets left on the sidewalk at 422½ Main just after the slaying.

Judge Williams denied this and other defense motions as not in order for arguments to be made before him on a defense move for a new trial under the Tennessee post-conviction relief act. Judge Williams set the new trial hearing for Sept. 2.

Atty. Gen. Phil M. Canale will contend Ray's motion for a new trial should be dismissed because it alleges no violation of Ray's constitutional rights.

Mr. Fensterwald, executive director of the Committee to Investigate Assassinations, with offices in Washington, contends Ray did not fire the shot that killed Dr. King. A spectrographic analysis of the fatal bullet might show, he maintains, that it belongs to neither of two lots 30-06-caliber cartridges left on the sidewalk in front of the rooming house from the second floor of which the state contends Dr. King was shot.

Robert A. Frazier, an FBI ballistics expert, found that the bullet extracted from Dr. King's body was a 30-caliber

metal-jacketed self-point sporting type bullet. He found it identical to five unfired bullets the state claims Ray left behind but dissimilar from four others, also left behind, that had full metal jackets.

If the FBI made a spectrographic analysis of the bullets, the 560 word affidavit prepared by Dr. Frazier for use at the trial does not mention it.

"This is a serious flaw in the investigation and should be corrected," Mr. Fensterwald said.

Judge Williams refused a defense request for Ray to be brought to Memphis from Brushy Mountain Penitentiary in East Tennessee for the Sept. 2 hearing.

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

PAGE 13

COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 7/10/70

Edition:

Author:

Editor: GORDON HANNA

Title:

Character:

or

Classification: 44-1987

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

ENCLOSURE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUL 24 1970

TELETYPE

NR001 PH PLAIN

10:15 AM URGENT 7-24-70 KLY

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861)

ATLANTA (26-48376)

FROM PHILADELPHIA (26-40535) (P)

Report 10/14

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

Reid

MURKIN; UNSUB; SIXTYFIVE WHITE MUSTANG, NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT

GEORGIA LICENSE ONE D SIX THREE SIX FOUR SIX; POSSIBLE ITSMV.

OFFICE OF ORIGIN
OO PHILA.

INTER STATE TRANSPORTATION
STOLEN MOTOR VEHICLE

ON JUNE TWENTYFOUR LAST, LAWRENCE GELLER, CITY EDITOR,
PHILADELPHIA TRIBUNE (PHILA NEGRO NEWSPAPER), ADVISED CAPTIONED
VEHICLE APPARENTLY IN ABANDONED STATE IN PHILA AREA FOR
PAST SEVERAL MONTHS AND REQUESTED FBI ASSISTANCE TO DETERMINE IF
VEHICLE WAS STOLEN. GELLER REFUSED TO GIVE LOCATION OF VEHICLE AT
THAT POINT STATING HE DID NOT WISH TO DIVULGE SOURCE UNTIL IT
WAS DETERMINED THAT A CRIME HAD BEEN COMMITTED. NCIC AND PHILA
INDICES WERE NEGATIVE RE CAPTIONED VEHICLE

ON JULY SIX LAST GELLER AGAIN CONTACTED BY PHILA AGENT
IN ATTEMPT TO LOCATE VEHICLE AND EXAMINE IT FOR VIN TO ASSIST
IN DETERMINING IF VEHICLE STOLEN AND ITSMV VIOLATION EXISTED

GELLER ADVISED VEHICLE WAS STORED IN A GARAGE IN PHILA WHERE IT
HAD BEEN ABANDONED SINCE NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT. GELLER AGAIN REFUSED

END PAGE ONE

66 AUG 3 1970

MR. SULLIVAN FOR THE DIRECTOR

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

RECEIVED
F.B.I.

JUL 24 2 14 PM '70

JUL 24 5 11 PM '70

REC'D SULLIVAN
FBI JUSTICE
RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION 5710

JUL 24 4 36 PM '70
RECEIVED-TOLSON
FBI

JUL 24 10 53 AM '70 JUL 24 11 15 AM '70

JUL 24 1 31 PM '70

REC'D SULLIVAN
FBI JUSTICE

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

JUL 24 2 06 PM '70

REC'D SULLIVAN
FBI JUSTICE

RECEIVED-TOLSON
FBI

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION 5710

JUL 24 5 54 PM '70

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

REC'D BISHOP
FBI

JUL 24 5 35 PM '70

PH (26-40535)

PAGE TWO

TO REVEAL EXACT LOCATION OF THE VEHICLE STATING THAT HE BELIEVED THERE MIGHT BE SOME CONNECTION OF THIS VEHICLE AND THE ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. GELLER REFUSED TO GIVE ANY DETAILS IN THIS REGARD OR TO STATE WHY HE THOUGHT THIS VEHICLE MIGHT BE INVOLVED IN THE KING MURDER.

BY AIRTEL JULY TEN LAST ATLANTA ADVISED CAPTIONED VEHICLE REGISTERED TO LOIS J. FLOYD, FIVE SEVEN TWO - C CASANOVA ST., SOUTHEAST ATLANTA, GA., ON SIXTYFIVE FORD MUSTANG, VIN FIVE F ZERO SEVEN F ONE ZERO EIGHT FOUR SIX FIVE. ATLANTA ALSO DETERMINED OWNER TO BE LOIS JANE FLOYD, AKA LOIS J. KING, WHITE FEMALE, DOB

[REDACTED] PROBATION VIOLATOR, GEORGIA PROBATION SYSTEM, WHOSE WHEREABOUTS WERE UNKNOWN SINCE DECEMBER SIXTYNINE. HOWEVER, NO FUGITIVE WARRANT OUTSTANDING.

ON JULY TWENTY THREE LAST, A WHITE NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE FORD MUSTANG, TWO-DOOR HARDTOP, BEARING NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT GEORGIA LICENSE ONE DASH D DASH SIX THREE SIX FOUR SIX AND VIN FIVE F ZERO SEVEN F ONE ZERO EIGHT FOUR SIX FIVE, WAS EXAMINED BY BUAGENT. VEHICLE LOCATED IN FOURTH FLOOR, SLAY SYSTEM GARAGE, PHILA., PA. VEHICLE EXAMINED FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING IF IN VIOLATION OF

END PAGE TWO

PH (26-40535)

PAGE THREE

ITSMV AS ABANDONED ABOVE GARAGE SINCE SEPTEMBER THIRTEEN,
NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT BY UNKNOWN INDIVIDUAL.

AT REQUEST OF MERCELL RANDOLPH, CHAIRMAN, PHILA CHAPTER ~~SOLE~~ ^{SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP} ~~CONFERENCE~~,
BUAGENT MET WITH HIM AND GELLER WHO SHOWED BUAGENT WHERE VEHICLE
LOCATED. RANDOLPH STATED BELIEVED VEHICLE POSSIBLY CONNECTED
^(K. M.)
WITH MURKIN CASE AND DESIRED FBI CONDUCT INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE
IF VEHICLE CONNECTED. RANDOLPH WAS ADVISED FBI ATLANTA HAD RECOVERED
MUSTANG VEHICLE IN

MURKIN CASE AND INSTANT VEHICLE BEING EXAMINED FOR SOLE PURPOSE OF
RESOLVING WHETHER VEHICLE STOLEN AND TRANSPORTED INTERSTATE, UNLESS
HE HAD INFO CONNECTING VEHICLE TO MURKIN MATTER. NOTHING DETERMINED
TO BE ALTERED ON VEHICLE AND NO RECORD NCIC RE VEHICLE OR FLOYD.

RANDOLPH SUBSEQUENTLY CALLED PHILADELPHIA FBI OFFICE AND
ASKED IF FBI PLANS TO CONDUCT INQUIRY RE POSSIBLE CONNECTION WITH
MURKIN CASE, HOWEVER, HE FURNISHED NO CONCRETE REASON WHY FBI
SHOULD DO SO, OTHER THAN FACT ABOVE VEHICLE MEETS DESCRIPTION OF
ONE USED IN SLAYING, IS FROM ATLANTA, GA., AND ABANDONED FOR ALMOST
TWO YEARS. RANDOLPH WAS ADVISED KING SLAYING OCCURRED APRIL SIXTY-
EIGHT AND INSTANT VEHICLE ABANDONED PHILA SEPTEMBER SIXTYEIGHT,
END PAGE THREE

PH (26-40535)

PAGE FOUR

AND NO CONNECTION BELIEVED TO EXIST.

EARLY MORNING HOURS JULY TWENTYFOUR INSTANT, SAC NEWSPAPER CONTACT ADVISED RANDOLPH AND GELLER INTEND TO HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE, ELEVEN O'CLOCK AM THIS DATE AND BELIEVES INTENDS TO CREATE ISSUE RE ABOVE VEHICLE.

IT APPEARS LIKELY THAT LOCAL SCLC INTENDS TO USE VEHICLE AS MEANS FOR OBTAINING LOCAL PUBLICITY ALTHOUGH IT HAS NO FACTUAL INFO TO OFFER RE MURKIN MATTER.

PHILA WILL FURNISH BY SEPARATE CORRESPONDENCE TO ATLANTA RESULTS OF VEHICLE EXAMINATION SO THAT APPROPRIATE GEORGIA AUTHORITIES MAY BE ADVISED IN VIEW OF POSSIBLE WANTED STATUS OF VEHICLE OWNER.

PHILA POLICE DEPARTMENT NOTIFIED OF ABANDONED STATE OF VEHICLE SO THAT APPROPRIATE ACTION MIGHT BE TAKEN RE ITS RECOVERY.

PHILA WILL KEEP BUREAU ADVISED OF ANY PERTINENT DEVELOPMENTS.

MAIL COPY MEMPHIS.

END

RSP FBI WASH DC

CC-MR. ROSIN

RECEIVED

TELETYPE UNIT

JUL 24 10 41 AM '70

JUL 25 12 13 PM '70

REC'D - JUL 25 1970

F B I

Date: 7/29/70

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, PHILADELPHIA (26-40535) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN;
UNSUB; 1965 White Mustang
1968 Georgia License 1-D-63646
POSSIBLE ITSMV
(OO: PHILADELPHIA)

Re Philadelphia teletype to Bureau 7/24/70, captioned
as above. *su 5891*

Enclosed for the Bureau are two newspaper articles,
one of which appeared in "The Philadelphia Inquirer" on
7/25/70 and one which appeared in "The Philadelphia Tribune"
on 7/25/70.

For the information of the Bureau, LAURENCE HOWARD
GELLER, the individual who first brought the matter of the
abandoned 1965 Mustang to the attention of the Philadelphia
FBI Office, is on the Security Index of this office (BUfile
105-92633). GELLER is notoriously unfriendly towards the
FBI and will utilize any method and/or information in efforts
to place the FBI in an unfavorable position in the eyes of
the public. "The Philadelphia Tribune" is predominantly a
Negro newspaper and material published therein is normally
geared for circulation to the Negro populace. The enclosed
article from "The Philadelphia Tribune" is such an article
designed to create doubt concerning the FBI's investigation of
MARTIN LUTHER KING's assassination. It should be noted that
the FBI has received no unfavorable publicity as a result of

3 - Bureau (44-38861) (Encls.-2) EX-100
2 - Philadelphia (26-40535)

RDK:jb
(5)

ENCLOSURE

REC-61
100 CRU
CRP 696
REF/RT 8/4/70

9 JUL 30 1970

Approved: *[Signature]*

55 AUG 12 1970

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

RECEIVED
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 30 1 16 PM 1970

AUG 4 1970

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

TO: SAC, NEW YORK (100-100000)
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-100000) (P)

RE: [Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

200* [Illegible text] (100-100000) (P)

200* [Illegible text] (100-100000)

PH 26-40535

the article written by GELLER. It should also be noted that the Philadelphia FBI Office made it abundantly clear to both GELLER and RANDOLPH that the only investigation deemed feasible by this office is to determine whether or not an ITSMV violation exists re the 1965 Mustang in question.

In this regard, the Atlanta Office is currently in the process of attempting to locate and interview the owner of the vehicle to determine how the vehicle came to be located in Philadelphia, Pa.

ITSMV investigation is also continuing at Philadelphia;

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

FBI Says Mustang Left Here 2 Years Ago Not Linked To Martin Luther King Murder Car Looks Like One Implicated In Assassination

By LAURENCE H. GELLER
(Of The Tribune Staff)

A Georgia-licensed white Mustang abandoned almost two years ago in a center-city garage, and similar to the one implicated in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., is not linked to the murder, an FBI spokesman in Philadelphia told the Tribune yesterday.

However, the local branch of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, officially asked the FBI yesterday, for a "thorough investigation of the 1965 model car and the owner." Her whereabouts are unknown.

ON PROBATION

The FBI has already reported to the Tribune that the owner of the car is a probation violator (narcotics charge), missing since December 1969.

Her name is Lois Jane Floyd, 36, white. Ironically, likewise, she sometimes uses the alias of Lois King. She was born November 1933.

The car arrived in Philadelphia on September 13, 1968, five months after the assassination.

An FBI spokesman told the

Tribune that "we have the Mustang owned by James Earl Ray. As of now, we see no connection between the abandoned Mustang bearing Georgia license plates and the King assassination."

SCLC PRESIDENT

Dr. King was the president of SCLC at the time of his death on April 4, 1968.

The relation of a white Mustang to the assassination is as follows:

—The accused killer of Dr. King, James Earl Ray, is alleged by the FBI to have purchased a white '66 Mustang sometime in 1967 and traveled extensively in it to Los Angeles, New Orleans, Birmingham, Mexico, Memphis and Atlanta.

—Memphis policemen were drawn to the northside of the city about a half-hour after Dr. King was killed by a false report that a white Mustang, believed to be the getaway car, was speeding through the city streets.

—A white Mustang, allegedly belonging to Ray, and bearing Alabama license plates, was

P.1—"The Philadelphia Tribune"
Philadelphia, Pa.

Date: 7/25/70

Edition: Vol. 86 - No. 73

Author: Laurence H. Geller

Editor: F. Washington

Title: Rhodes

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: PH

☐ Being Investigated

found in Atlanta, Ga., one week after the assassination. It has been and remains in Fedral custody.

STORY DOUBTED

It goes without saying that the car in the center-city garage may have no connection whatsoever with Dr. King's assassination. But many persons throughout the country have never completely believed that the whole story of the assassination is known.

—James Earl Ray has indicated that there is more to the case than the public knows.

—It has never been proven that the rifle found was the weapon used to kill Dr. King.

—Dr. King's associate, James Bevel, SCLC education director, believes Ray is innocent of the assassination.

—The source of the police radio reports that a white Mustang was speeding through Memphis,

have never been uncovered.

DUST-CO0VERED

Sitting in the center-city garage, the white Mustang, now thickly covered with dust, looks black at first glance.

It was first reported to the Tribune several weeks ago via a phone caller who said he had worked part-time at the garage, and that the mysterious car had become a conversation piece amongst the employees there.

The information given to the Tribune was then turned over to the FBI; but it turned out that the license number was not carefully given. The Tribune went to the garage, obtained the license number and then called in local SCLC.

The most that can be hoped from whatever investigation is held is another clue to that is unknown about Dr. King's assassination.

The least that would result from such an investigation is that the missing Lois Jane Floyd, alias Lois King, will be retrieved from the depths of society in which she has submerged herself, to reveal why she drove a 1965 white Mustang, bearing Georgia license plates, to Philadelphia almost two years ago and left it there to gather dust.

— Feed The Poor —



MARZELL RANDOLPH, SCLC board chairman in Philadelphia, is shown talking with the FBI, asking for a thorough investigation of the abandoned Mustang and its owner, whose whereabouts are unknown.



...out of the house, several gang members shot into the front windows and then forced their way in at gunpoint, she said.

Holding a loaded shotgun and pistol to the head of the younger children, the gang demanded that the oldest son, Simon, 18, accompany them outside for a fight.

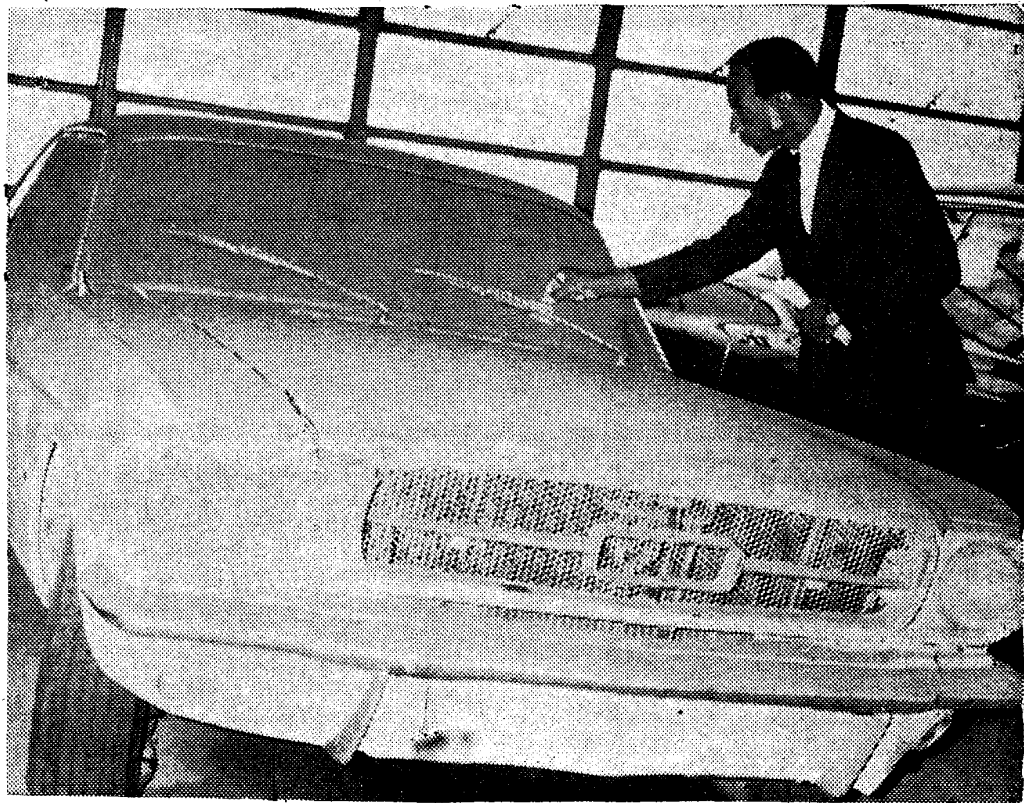
Simon refused to go, Mrs. Jackson said, and the angry gang members broke all the Christmas gifts, in the home, every window on the first floor and smashed a television set which the children had worked all year to give their mother as a present. The gang picked up the family's newly decorated Christmas tree and threw it out of a window.

Phila. Head Opportunity

By ETHEL L. PAYNE

WASHINGTON — The beleaguered Equal Employment Opportunity Commission was the target

Ho
I
de
EP



ABANDONED FIVE MONTHS AFTER DR. KING'S assassination, this 1965 Georgia-licensed Mustang has been sitting in a center-city Philadelphia garage ever since. The FBI denies it is in any way connected with the murder. That's Marzell Randolph, board chairman of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (Philadelphia branch) examining the car. (Tribune Photos by Laurence H. Geller)

quickly as he does to the shorter ones.

3. Include a phone number where you may be reached during the day.

4. If you wish a response by mail, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

If you follow these rules, you will help MR. HELP help you.

* * *

MR. HELP'S POINT OF VIEW

Interesting how the press always seem to play up—in a negative way—the rising wage rate for plumbers, carpenters, laborers, and other working class persons.

The daily press gives the decided impression that such workers aren't worth the \$6, \$7 and \$8 an hour many of them now command. Yet the same daily press never bothers to make mention of the \$50,000 and up salaries many corporation and advertising executives make year in and year out. If the executive put in an average of 50 hours a week, that brings his hourly rate to \$20 an hour.

What makes them worth so much while an electrician, carpenter, etc. has to almost apologize for half that rate?

Where would this country be without the skilled craftsmen who wire our homes and office buildings, man the pipes through which our water runs, help erect buildings throughout the country? It would be a poor country indeed without them . . . very poor.

Let us not forget that when they stop work, almost everything stops.

More power to them for the money they get. They're worth it and more.

ATTENTION, MR. D. W., of the 2800 block W. Oakdale St.

You wrote in asking for a bed not long ago.



MRS. IDA JACKSON sits on the porch of her home at 3800 block of Cambridge St. She says, she has taken all six of her children to a safer place, son, Elaine, 13, and Dorothy



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Mustang a Link to King Murder?

A Philadelphia civil rights leader said Friday he believes a 1965 white Mustang abandoned for two years in a downtown parking garage here was "somehow involved" in the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Mercel Randolph, board chairman of the Philadelphia chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference said he believes the car either was driven by the man who killed Dr. King or was used as a decoy to lead police away from the murderer.

Speaking at a press conference at the Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, 42d and Wallace sts., Randolph said a white, 1965 Mustang with Georgia tags has been parked at a garage at 12th and Chestnut sts. since September 1968, almost four months after Dr. King's death.

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

P. 19-"The Phila -
delphia Inquirer"
Philadelphia, Pa

Date: 7/25/70

Edition: Final

Author:

Editor: John Mc Mullen

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: PH

☐ Being Investigated

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

7/24/70

Attached relates Lawrence Geller, City Editor, "Philadelphia Tribune" and Merzell Randolph, Chairman, Philadelphia Chapter, Southern Christian Leadership Conference, revealed to our Philadelphia Office location of an abandoned white 1965 Mustang automobile and requested investigation be conducted to determine if car connected with murder of Dr. Martin Luther King. Our Atlanta Office previously recovered a 1966 white Mustang purchased by James Earl Ray, convicted slayer of King, and Geller and Randolph so advised. The car purchased by Ray and recovered by our Atlanta Office, contained items of an evidentiary nature pertinent to the case.

A Philadelphia SAC contact has advised Geller and Randolph intend to hold press conference today and may create issue regarding this vehicle. Instant vehicle registered to one Lois J. Floyd, a missing Georgia probation violator. No record in National Crime Information Center on vehicle identification number or 1968 Georgia license plate of car located at Philadelphia and vehicle identification number not identical to that of Mustang owned by Ray. Philadelphia will keep Bureau advised of any pertinent developments.

RFB:mpd

RFB

✓

WBS

CMH

ACB

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

Young
FROM : SAC, PITTSBURGH (44-578) (C)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 8/19/70

On 7/31/70, GEORGE BEN EDMONDSON, a former Top Ten Fugitive, who is presently residing and working in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, under the assumed name of ALEX BORMANN, personally appeared at the Pittsburgh Office at which time he furnished the following information:

EDMONDSON advised that he is presently residing with his wife JINETTE and his young son at Brighton Terrace, Apartment 403, 721 Brighton Road, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15233, after having recently moved to Pittsburgh from Montreal, Canada, where he had been living and working since his release from the Missouri State Prison (MSP), Jefferson City, Missouri, on \$5,000 bond pending an appeal with the Missouri Supreme Court on his armed robbery sentence. EDMONDSON stated that since his release from MSP he has been living and working under the assumed name of ALEX BORMANN. He stated he is employed as a project engineer by Rust Associates, Ltd., Montreal Canada, a Division of Litton Industries and was recently transferred to Rust Engineering, Pittsburgh, Pa., for a new work assignment. EDMONDSON stated that officials of Rust Associates, Ltd., and Rust Engineering, Pittsburgh are cognizant of his present status and his background as a former Top Ten Fugitive. *P*

EDMONDSON advised that his purpose in contacting FBI, Pittsburgh at this time was because he was greatly disturbed over some recent developments that have come to his attention which could result in his identity being exposed, thereby jeopardizing his employment and all that he has accomplished since his release from prison.

② - Bureau EX-117 1 - Kansas City (Info.)
2 - Pittsburgh REC-5 1 - Memphis (REC-51) *5793*
1 - 88-5467

NSS/jms

(6)

EX-105

AUG 20 1970



5010-108

7 1970

SEE NOTE ON BACK OF CARD

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

OCT 1 1970

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

AUG 26 11 35 AM '70

NOTE

1 copies made
2-2-78 JTA/jm
re: Huie
for review by
HSCA re: 2-20-78 request.
(See Bufile #33-117200)

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

AUG 25 9 01 AM '70

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

SEP 30 2 13 PM '70

MR. JONES

AUG 26 4 16 PM '70

RECEIVED
FBI

710 100
EDMONDSON stated that he recently learned that a book entitled, "I Slew a Dreamer," written by WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE, published by Delacorte Press, New York City, is being sold throughout the United States and Canada. He stated that this book is a story about JAMES EARL RAY and the events leading up to the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING. He stated that upon reading this book, he determined that his name and some of his aliases, including ALEX BORMANN, are frequently mentioned in several chapters of the book with regard to the author's suspicions that he, EDMONDSON may have been involved with and influenced JAMES EARL RAY in the plot to murder KING, while both he and JAMES EARL RAY were serving prison sentences together in the MSP.

EDMONDSON stated he is fearful that notoriety of this book will lead to his subsequent exposure by some news media tracing him to Pittsburgh. He stated he has already received one anonymous telephone call at his place of employment wherein the caller suggested he go to a bookstore and read, "I Slew a Dreamer" which he would find very interesting.

EDMONDSON stated that he immediately notified his attorney, JAMES A. DUNN, Carthage, Missouri, of the contents of the book and mailed him a copy to read. He stated that he has also brought this book to the attention of his superiors at Rust Engineering, Pittsburgh. He stated that if he should be exposed he will consider filing a damage suit for slander against the author and publisher of the book. He stated that insofar as the author's suspicions, that he was involved with JAMES EARL RAY in the murder of KING are concerned, they are not true and FBI records would substantiate him on this as he was extensively interviewed along these lines by the FBI after his apprehension as a Top Ten Fugitive.

EDMONDSON stated that he was merely bringing the above mentioned developments to the attention of the FBI for informational purposes. He stated he is awaiting instructions from his attorney as to what action he should take with regard to his problems.

The above information is being forward to the Bureau for informational purposes only.

Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

August 19, 1970

Director, FBI

REC-55

44-38861-5894
GEORGE MC MILLAN

COFFIN POINT

FROGMORE, SOUTH CAROLINA 29920

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING
JAMES EARL RAY, CONVICTED ASSASSIN OF
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING

Enclosed is one copy each of a self-explanatory letter received from captioned individual dated August 14, 1970, and my reply to him.

It is noted that McMillan is a free-lance writer who appeared in the office of Mr. Thomas E. Bishop, Assistant Director of the FBI Crime Records Division, on June 4, 1968. He requested information concerning James Earl Ray for a book he was writing about the latter, and he was informed that no assistance could be given him since investigation of Ray was continuing.

Our files also disclose that McMillan was the author of an article entitled "The Birmingham Church Bombing," which appeared in "The Saturday Evening Post" issue of June 6, 1964, and that he also authored another article, "Racial Violence and Law Enforcement," which was published in pamphlet form by the Southern Regional Council, which has allegedly been affiliated with the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, an organization cited as subversive by the House Committee on Un-American Activities (now known as the House Committee on Internal Security). On several occasions during the past few years, McMillan has contacted several FBI Field Offices for information in connection with articles he was writing concerning civil rights matters. No cooperation has been extended to him by the FBI in the past.

Enclosures (2)

- 1 - Mr. Sullivan (detached)
1 - Mr. Bishop (detached)
1 - Mr. Rosen (attention: W.L. Martindale - route through for review) (detached)
1 - M. A. Jones (detached)

NOTE: See M. A. Jones to Bishop Memo, dated 8-18-70, captioned as above.

JHC:cl/rog

38 AUG 20 1970

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FBI

FBI

RECEIVED DIRECTOR

F.B.I.

REC'D BISHOP

REC'D BISHOP

AUG 19 2 43 PM '70

AUG 19 2 12 PM '70
REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI

August 19, 1970

REC-55

44-21841-894
Mr. George McMillan
Coffin Point
Frogmore, South Carolina 29920

Dear Mr. McMillan:

I have received your letter of August 14, 1970, requesting information for a book you are writing about James Earl Ray, convicted assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King.

While, as you noted in your letter, Ray has nearly exhausted all of the appeal remedies available to him under state law, Process for violation of Federal civil rights laws is still outstanding against Ray. In view of this and since the release of information in such matters is a determination within the province of the Department of Justice, I am referring your request to Mr. Jerris Leonard, Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, United States Department of Justice.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

- 1 - Mr. Jerris Leonard, AAG, Civil Rights Division, DJ
1 - Mr. Sullivan (detached)
1 - Mr. Bishop - (detached)
1 - Mr. Rosen (detached)
1 - M. A. Jones (detached)

NOTE: See M. A. Jones to Bishop memo dated 8/18/70, captioned "George McMillan, Coffin Point, Frogmore, South Carolina, Request for Information Concerning James Earl Ray, Convicted Assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King."

JHC:mjl (9)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

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AUG 19 1970
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AUG 19 10 59 AM '70

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REC'D BISHOP

AUG 19 10 32 PM '70

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
F. B. I.

AUG 19 2 43 PM '70

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REC'D-CIV RIGHTS
FBI

GEORGE McMILLAN

August 14, 1970

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Bishop	✓
Mr. Brennan CD	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. Felt	✓
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Walters	✓
Mr. Soyars	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

M A Goffe

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am writing a biography of James Earl Ray for Little, Brown and Company-- the shape and approach of my book are known to Mr. Tom Bishop, your assistant.

I write you to ask whether the time has not perhaps arrived when you can release more information about Ray? He seems to be about through with his procedures for appeal. The last one may be his post-conviction hearing which is to be held in Memphis on September 2, 1970.

If this appeal is turned down, would it be appropriate for me to submit a list of questions to you which I need answered to prepare a useful biography of Ray?

Sincerely,

George McMillan
REC

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

EXP. PROC.
AUG 17 1970

*Jan 1971
8-17-71
JTH*

44-38861-594

AUG 17 1970

CORRESPONDENCE

8-17-70

FBI
ATLANTA

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
F. B. I.

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RECEIVED-TOLSON
FBI

11/8/70
AUG 17 4 34 PM '70

REC'D SULLIVAN
FBI JUSTICE

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Bishop *BA*

DATE: August 18, 1970

FROM : M. A. Jones *MAJ*

SUBJECT: ~~GEORGE~~ MC MILLAN
COFFIN POINT
FROGMORE, SOUTH CAROLINA
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING
JAMES EARL RAY, CONVICTED ASSASSIN OF
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING

W. Bishop
Tolson ☒
Sullivan ☒
Mohr ☒
Bishop ☒
Brennan, C.D. ☒
Callahan ☐
Casper ☐
Conrad ☐
Felt ☐
Gale ☐
Rosen ☐
Tavel ☐
Walters ☐
Soyars ☐
Tele. Room ☐
Holmes ☐
Gandy ☐

205890
This is to record receipt of a letter from captioned individual, dated 8/14/70, in which he requested information for a biography of James Earl Ray which he is preparing for the publishing house of Little, Brown and Company.

McMillan & P. A. Jones
Files disclose that, in connection with his book on Ray, McMillan appeared in your (Mr. Bishop's) office on 6/4/68 seeking our cooperation. At that time, you (Mr. Bishop) pointed out to him that we could be of no assistance since the Ray case was still pending investigation and that no additional information could be released other than previously issued press releases. In addition, files reflect that McMillan is a free-lance writer who was the author of an article entitled "The Birmingham Church Bombing" which appeared in "The Saturday Evening Post" issue of 6/6/64. The article was not unfavorable to the FBI. McMillan also was the author of an article which appeared in November, 1960, captioned "Racial Violence and Law Enforcement" dealing with troubles in Little Rock, Chattanooga, and Montgomery. The article was printed in pamphlet form by "New South" a publication of the Southern Regional Council which, in turn, was interlocked with the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, an organization cited as subversive by the House Committee on Un-American Activities. McMillan wrote some studies in 1956 on "Individual Rights and Civil Liberties" for which he was paid by the "Fund for the Republic, Inc." He has contacted several of our Field Offices in connection with his writings; the last of which occurred in August, 1969, when he reported to our Columbia Division an anonymous threat he received locally as a result of research he had been conducting on the bombing of a Negro church in Birmingham, Alabama. No action was taken on his complaint, and we have given him no assistance in the preparation of his articles.

Enclosures (2) *sent*

1 - Mr. Sullivan - encs.

1 - Mr. Bishop - encs. *358*

1 - Mr. [unclear] - encs. (Attention: W.L. Martindale - route through for review)

1 - M. A. Jones - encs.

REC-2

EX 106

CONTINUED - OVER

shw
8.26

F B I
J. BISHOP

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
F. B. I.
DIVISION 5

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REC'D SULLIVAN
F. B. I.

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

RECEIVED
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AUG 19 8 21 AM '70

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

AUG 19 1 28 PM '70

REC'D TOLSON
F B I

AUG 20 8 30 AM '70
RECEIVED-TOLSON
F B I

AUG 20 10 22 AM '70
RECEIVED
F B I
MR. JONES

M. A. Jones to Bishop memo
RE: GEORGE MC MILLAN

It is noted that the Civil Rights Section of the General Investigative Division has advised that while James Earl Ray has nearly exhausted all of the appeal remedies available to him under state law, process continues outstanding against him for violation of Federal civil rights laws.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the attached letter be sent correspondent.
2. That the attached memorandum, enclosing a copy of correspondent's letter to the Director and a copy of Mr. Hoover's reply to him, be sent to Jerris Leonard, Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice.

TZBN *Don* *John* *James*
R *W* *V. P. WBS*