

F B I

Date: 9/2/70

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 for the Bureau are 4 copies of an LHM dated 9/2/70 at Memphis, Tenn., regarding captioned matter, and 2 copies each of the following documents filed in the Criminal Court of Shelby County, Tenn., in this matter:

1. A motion filed by the prosecution to strike the subject's Petition for Post Conviction Relief.
2. The subject's answer to the prosecution's Motion to Strike, to which document is attached an affidavit prepared by the subject RAY.
3. A brief filed by the prosecution which contains arguments relating to Document 2, above.
4. A motion filed by the defense asking that the State produce bullet fragments taken from the body of the victim KING and bullets found outside 424 S. Main St., and which had allegedly been purchased by the subject.

2 - Bureau (Encs. 12)
2 - Memphis

JCH:jap
(4)

REC 14

EX-109

SEP 4 1970

54 SEP 16 1970

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

RECEIVED
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SECTION

SEP 10 1970

SEP 4 11 02 AM '70 SEP 4 10 59 AM 1970

F. B. I.

U. S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

()
105-1130

2 - MEMPHIS
1 - MEMPHIS (105-1130)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (105-1130)
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (105-1130)
SUBJECT: [REDACTED]
RE: [REDACTED]

1. [REDACTED]

2. [REDACTED]

3. [REDACTED]

4. [REDACTED]

5. [REDACTED]

6. [REDACTED]

7. [REDACTED]

8. [REDACTED]

9. [REDACTED]

(105-1130)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Memphis, Tennessee
September 2, 1970

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

On September 2, 1970, Assistant District Attorney General Clyde Mason, Memphis, Tennessee, advised that on that date a hearing had been held before Judge William H. Williams in the Criminal Court of Shelby County, Tennessee, at Memphis, Tennessee, concerning Ray's petition for post conviction relief under the Post Conviction Relief Act.

During this hearing on September 2, 1970, Judge Williams allowed the attorneys for the defendant to amend their petition to reflect that (1) the defendant Ray's guilty plea was negotiated with the late Judge Preston Battle rather than with the District Attorney General's Office, and (2) to allege that the defendant's attorney Percy Foreman was not in sufficiently good health to effectively represent Ray at the time of Ray's guilty plea.

Judge Williams has granted the defendant's attorneys additional time in which they are to make their allegations more specific. The amendment must be filed with the Court no later than September 16, 1970, and the District Attorney General's Office will thereafter be allowed several days in which to study the amendments. Following their review of the amendments, application will be made to Judge Williams to set a date for which this matter will be heard before him.

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.

4/4 - 581
1*

ENCLOSURE

64
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

September 22, 1970

Director, FBI

~~X~~
GEORGE MC MILLAN
COFFIN POINT
FROGMORE, SOUTH CAROLINA 29920
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING
JAMES EARL RAY, CONVICTED ASSASSIN OF
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING

Reference my memorandum to you, with enclosures,
dated August 19, 1970, captioned as above.

Enclosed is one copy each of a self-explanatory letter
received from captioned individual, dated September 15, 1970, and
my reply to him.

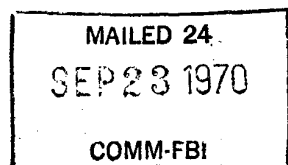
Enclosures (2)

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

NOTE: See Director's reply to Mr. McMillan, dated same date.

~~X~~ JHC:mjl (9)

64
Tolson _____
Sullivan _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Brennan, C.D. _____
Callahan _____
Casper _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Tavel _____
Walters _____
Soyars _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____



ST-112

REC-10

19 SEP 23 1970

58 OCT 1 1970

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

SEP 22 2 22 PM '70

REC'D-READING ROOM

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
F. B. I.

SEP 22 11 00 AM RECEIVED-TOLSON
F B I

F B I
REC'D BISHOP

SEP 22 12 05 PM '70

SEP 22 11 16 AM '70

REC'D SULLIVAN
F B I JUSTICE

September 22, 1970

REC- 56

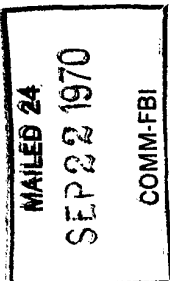
44-38861-7898
Mr. George McMillan
Coffin Point
Frogmore, South Carolina 29920

Dear Mr. McMillan:

I have received your letter of September 15, 1970,
a copy of which I have furnished to Mr. Jerris Leonard, Assistant
Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, United States Department
of Justice, with whom you may desire to communicate concerning
your request.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover



- 1 - Jerris Leonard, Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division,
Department of Justice SENT
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - M. A. Jones
- ✓ WCL
-m-2
PER

NOTE: McMillan is a writer who in previous contacts with us indicated he
is writing a biography of James Earl Ray to be published by Little Brown
and Company. He last wrote the Director, 8/14/70, requesting information
about Ray for his book at which time he was informed that since Federal
process was still outstanding for Ray, we could offer no assistance. His
last letter (8/14/70) was referred to AAG Leonard by memorandum, and it
is recommended that this letter be referred to Leonard in the same manner.

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

JHC:mjl/pjp (10)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

SEP 22 2 22 PM '70

REC'D-ATHAN
FBI JUSTICE

REC'D-READING ROOM

SEP 23 11 36 AM '70

SEP 22 11 00 AM '70

F B I

F B I

REC'D BISHOP

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

F.B.I.

SEP 22 11 16 AM '70

REC'D-TOLSON

F B I

SEP 22 2 46 PM '70

REC'D SULLIVAN
FBI JUSTICE

SEP 22 12 04 PM 1970

SEP 23 5 06 PM '70

REC'D
DOM INTELL DIV.

SEP 23 8 42 AM 1970

GEORGE McMILLAN

September 15, 1970

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

You wrote me on August 19 informing me that you had passed on to Mr. Jerris Leonard, Department of Justice, my query about James Earl Ray. I have not heard from Mr. Leonard up to this point. Should I write him directly?

Sincerely,

George McMillan
George McMillan

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C. 20535

REC-56

ST-113

17 SEP 18 1970

CORRESPONDENCE

REC'D-CORR & TOURS

SEP 21 8 12 AM '70

SEP 18 3 29 PM '70

FBI
REC'D BISHOP

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
F. B. I.

SEP 18 3 39 PM '70

17 DIRECTO

REC'D-TOLSON

SEP 25 4 28 PM '70

MR JONES

SEP 16 6 58 PM '70

RECEIVED
FBI

SEP 18 4 38 PM 1970

RECEIVED-TOLSON
FBI

MR JONES

SEP 21 10 00 AM '70

RECEIVED
FBI

C. Eardly
Dep. AAG
Civil Div.

W. R. Wilson
Assist. AG
Criminal Div.

Jerris Leonard
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

Files Pertaining to James Earl Ray,
Martin Luther King, Jr.

DEC 15

JL:MG:

DJ 144.

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

Department of Justice file number 95-100-473 contains materials pertaining to the extradition of James Earl Ray from Great Britain for the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr. and for his escape from the Missouri State Penitentiary. As an international extradition proceeding the matter came within the jurisdiction of the Criminal Division. File number 125-12-1403 contains materials pertaining to a civil suit against this Department under the Public Information Act in which the plaintiff sought access to certain documents filed in the Ray extradition proceedings, and is assigned to the Civil Division.

The Department's investigation of the King assassination was predicated on a possible conspiracy violative of 18 U.S.C. 241, and accordingly the substantive investigation file (144-72-662) is assigned to this Division.

I am aware that, in connection with the civil suit brought under the Freedom of Information Act, certain portions of the extradition file have been made available to the private plaintiff and thereafter to members of the public, including publishers. In order that the Department will continue to observe a

cc: Director
F.B.I.

REC-43

44-38861-5899

12 DEC 17 1970

66 DEC 24 1970

EXP. PROC.

35 DEC 17 1970

REC'D DEC 17 1970

12 DIRECTOR

Dec 17 5 16 PM '70

REC'D SULLIVAN
FBI JUSTICE

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
F. B. I.

12 DEC 15 1970

Dec 17 4 53 PM '70

Dec 18 9 47 AM 1970

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

EX-115 PROC

32 DEC 11 1970

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATION
DIVISION 5000

Dec 17 5 31 PM '70

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

uniform policy with respect to this matter, I am going to notify those authors, publishers and others who have requested access to the Ray files through this Division, or who have been referred to this Division through the FBI, that they may now inspect these papers.

However, because there is an outstanding complaint charging Ray with a civil rights violation, and because the matter is still under consideration in this Division, I do not believe it would be appropriate to disclose any further contents of the Ray files at this time.

Accordingly, I am seeking your agreement to restrict access to each of these files to officials of your Division who may have responsibilities in connection with the matter and to officials of this Division. With your agreement, I would ask the Records Administration Office to notify the responsible attorney in this Division whenever one of these files is charged out, so that we will stay advised as to the status of this matter.

F B I

Date: 12/31/70

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

To: Director, FBI (44-38861)ATTENTION:

From: SAC, KNOXVILLE (44-696) ☒ CIVIL RIGHTS SECTION
GENERAL INVEST. DIV.Subject: JAMES EARL RAY, aka, ☐ DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE DIV.
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -
VICTIM

CR - CONSPIRACY;

UFAC - ROBBERY (OO: MEMPHIS)

☐ CR ☐ EL ☐ DIH ☐ CRA-64☐ PA ☐ PE ☐ PF ☐ E☐ BM ☐ BM-Threats ☐ Racial Matters☐ Klan ☐ Organization

Summary of Complaint:

On 12/31/70 Warden LEWIS S. TOLLETT, Brushy Mountain State Prison, Petros, Tennessee, advised he had received a Christmas card mailed from Walton-on-Thames, GB. This card was addressed to Mr. JAMES EARL RAY, Federal Prison System, Memphis, Tennessee, and contained a greeting and note from WILLIAM PATON CAAN. The card indicated CAAN was "1/2 of the original Eric Starvo Galt." CAAN noted neither he nor his brother shot the Reverend KING and advised his brother was MICHAEL NOWLIN CAAN.

Warden TOLLETT stated the envelope contained a message that a Colonel GLEN HEMPLEMAN would vouch for his, CAAN's innocence, and HEMPLEMAN's apparent address is 437 M.A.W. Charleston, South Carolina. CAAN further indicated he had a former service number of [REDACTED]

ACTION: UACB:

- ② - Bureau ☒ No further action being taken and 144-38861-59001
(Enc. 4) ☒ LHM enclosed ☐ Copy furnished to USA
2 - Memphis (Enc. 2) ☐ LHM being submitted
1 - Knoxville ☐ Report being submitted
TVR/kcm ☐ Preliminary investigation instituted
(5) ☐ Limited investigation instituted

3 JAN 4 1971

Approved: 57 JAN 2 1971
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

137

[illegible][illegible]

(continued)

(00000)

1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 26

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

JAN 94 31 21 49 PM '71



04H 5 9 10 AM 1971

RECEIVED
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

FBI

[illegible]

IDENTIFY: NUMBER: 0012

[illegible]

100-100000 - ROBERTSON (OO: TUESDAY)

CONFIDENTIAL

Abstract

DIS • 1070111 • 11/10/11 • 11:00 • 11:00

DATE: 10/10/1964

1010-11173 (4-100)2

(44-38861)

1537-200



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Knoxville, Tennessee
December 31, 1970

JAMES EARL RAY, also
known as;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -
VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY;
UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID
CONFINEMENT - ROBBERY

On December 31, 1970, Warden Lewis S. Tollett, Brushy Mountain State Prison, Petros, Tennessee, advised James Earl Ray, the convicted killer of the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. is incarcerated at Brushy Mountain State Prison. Warden Tollett stated a Christmas greeting had been sent to Ray addressed to "Mr. James Earl Ray, in care of Federal Prison System, Memphis, Tennessee, United States of America."

Tollett advised this piece of mail had been forwarded to his prison and noted the envelope bore what is believed to be a registry number 4808 from Walton-on-Thames, in Great Britain and was sent by airmail.

Warden Tollett stated the back of the envelope contains a return address:

"Mr. William Paton/Caan
ex [REDACTED]
White Willows
Cricket Way
Weybridge,
Surrey, Great Britain

Tollett stated the bottom of the envelope on the reverse side contains a message:

"P.S. Colonel Glen Hempleman
has said he will vouch for
my innocence, 437 M.A.W.
Charleston, South Carolina"

ENCLOSURE

44-38861-5900

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

Warden Tollett advised the Christmas card contains a printed greeting under which was the following:

"Merry Christmas Mr. Ray
from William Paton Caan
½ of the original "Eric
Starvo Galt."

The back of the card contains this message:

"Dear Mr. Ray, I do not
approve of capital punishment.
I believe that I probably did
not shoot the Reverend Martin
Luther King. I would like to
see you recieve a fair, open,
honest, merciful trial. I
believe that my brother Michael
Nowlin Caan probably did not
shoot the Reverend King either.
Yours truly, William Paton Caan."

Warden Tollett stated inside the front cover of the greeting card is the following:

"p.s. I do not like the Klu Klux
Clan. Please to not publizise
this Christmas card. It could
start a race war, then a civil
war, and then World War three.
Cool it Man, I have a lot of
friends. Use your head, turn
around what's in it. Cool it.

-2*-

This document contains neither recommendation 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.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Assistant Attorney General
CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION

DATE: December 22, 1970

FROM : Director, FBI

ATTENTION: MR. TURNER

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Reference is made to _____ memorandum dated _____
(your file _____).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

58 JAN 1 1971

Enc. See note attached.

ENCLOSURE

NOTE: Attached material was furnished by Mr. Donald Sanders, Chief Counsel of the House Committee on Internal Security which had been forwarded to the Committee by one Jim Brown

William Carey College
P.O. Box 405
Hattiesburg, Mississippi

D

TO: HON. RICHARD ICHORD, M.C.
FROM: JIM BROWN (ADDRESS ON REVERSE)
RE: (1) FAILURE OF JUSTICE DEPT. TO
INVESTIGATE NEW EVIDENCE OF
CONSPIRACY LINK IN ASSASSINATIONS
OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY, DR. KING, AND
SENATOR KENNEDY BY EXTREMIST GROUP
(2) FAILURE OF JUSTICE DEPT, CIA, SECRET
SERVICE TO DISCLOSE PREVIOUS INVESTI-
GATION INFORMATION, THUS NEED FOR
A CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY.
(3) REQUEST INFORMATION RE PROLEDURE
FOR REQUESTING INVESTIGATION BY YOUR
INTERNAL SECURITY COMMITTEE.

BERNARD F. FENSTERWALD, JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ASSASSINATIONS

927 FIFTEENTH ST., N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20005

(202) 347-3837

Received 12-21-70 from
Donald Sanders, Chief Counsel
of the House Committee on
Internal Security.
DWB

44-38861-5901

100 ORA
000004(1)
12/21/70
12-22-70
see note
attached.

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

DEC 22 11 43 AM 1970

JIM BROWN

BOOK REVIEWS - FREE-LANCE REPORTING

TEMPORARY INTERIM ADDRESS
WILLIAM CAREY COLLEGE,
P.O. BOX 405, HATTIESBURG, MS 39401
410 BURKE AVENUE LONG BEACH, MISS. 39560

JIM BROWN

Current temporary interim address:

WILLIAM CAREY COLLEGE
P.O. BOX 405
HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI
39401

Insider Exclusive!

"James Earl Ray didn't kill Dr. Martin Luther King. And I can prove it, but state officials won't let me," says Renfro Turner Hays, a Memphis private detective.

"I've got the goods to prove they've locked up the wrong man in the state penitentiary at Nashville," said Hays, who worked for Ray's first attorney, Arthur Hanes of Birmingham, Ala.

"Not only that—but they've got the only living witness who knows Ray isn't the killer hidden away in a nut house so she can't talk to the press," he added.

This is what Hays told a NATIONAL INSIDER reporter in an exclusive copyrighted interview.

"It seems everyone wants to cover up the real story behind King's death," he said. "But not me. I'm going to tell what I know."

Hays said the woman who can prove Ray didn't kill King is a former employee of the Lorraine Hotel.

That's where King spent his last living hours with his close friends, the Rev. Ralph Abernathy, now head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and the Rev. Jesse Jackson, a Chicago civil rights leader.

Hays identified the woman as Grace Stevens.

"She saw the man who really nailed King," said Hays.

**...I can prove
that Ray did not
kill Dr. King...**

Miss Stevens has been a patient at Western State Mental Hospital in Bolivar, Tenn., since King was gunned down on a hot April morning in 1968.

"I visited her two years ago right after King was killed," Hays said.

"She had a picture of the man who killed King. It wasn't a picture of Ray either.

"Not only that, but I've got her statement describing the gunman, and I've got a witness to what was said in her room."

Hays identified the witness as a Dr. Scott. However, hospital authorities refuse to say if Scott still is on the staff, or whether Miss Stevens is, or was, a patient at the institution.

"When I got through questioning her, Scott turned to me and said, 'There's nothing in the world wrong with the woman,'" reported Hays.

Hays has raised some other rather curious questions regarding the investigation.

"There is a good deal of evidence to indicate that whoever killed King didn't do the job without help," Hays added.

"Let's go back and reconstruct the last hours of King's life," he said.

"First of all, you've got to go back and look at the scene. You know, make a diagram of it."

"The place where King was supposed to have been shot down was in two sections. Now this shot could only have been fired from



Arthur Hanes, attorney for James Earl Ray, talks with newsmen in front of the Shelby County Jail in Memphis. That's where Ray was kept pending the trial.

one spot in the rooming house or the killer wouldn't have had a clear shot at King.

"The curious thing is there hadn't been a vacancy in that rooming house for almost four years before the assassination," he said.

"Then, on March 20, a man is found dead in bed in that rooming house. That's the day Ray goes into a store in Birmingham and buys a rifle," he said.

"And on that same particular day by sheer coincidence—if that's what you want to call it—some people come along and chop down some trees that open up the line of fire between the rooming house and the motel where King is going to stay," he said.

"Even when King decided to return to Memphis, he didn't think he was going to the Lorraine Hotel," Hays went on. "King thought he was going to stay at the River Motel Hotel—that's where he had his reservations."

"By the time King got back to Memphis his reservations had been changed to the Lorraine and that's when the real game of musical chairs began."

**...Key witness
is being hid in
a nut house...**

changed. He was moved upstairs and after that his room was changed again.

"The room he finally received put him in direct line of fire with the room from which the sniper cut him down," Hays said.

"They made three separate moves to get him in the right room," the detective stated.

Hays said that there had been a good deal of pressure placed on King to get him to return to Memphis—"and even more to get him into that room."

Hays also pointed out that the woman who ran the hotel, Lorraine Bailey, died of a cerebral hemorrhage within two hours of King's death.

Rev. King's Killer Still On The Loose!

"But I got a copy of a statement made by a guy who overheard the deal she made to shift King's room," he said. "They came to her and set up the deal before he ever got there."

Hays explained that the man—a former employee of the hotel—died the day after King was shot.

"He was up in one of the hotel rooms by himself, and his pistol accidentally fell out of his belt and hit the floor. The gun went off and he shot himself through the heart."

Kind of peculiar, wouldn't you think? asked Hays.

To add to the list of quirks in King's death, Hays said even the judge died shortly after Ray pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 99 years.

The jurist, Judge W. Preston Battle, accepted Ray's guilty plea on March 10. Fourteen days later, he died of a heart attack in his chambers.

*...The events
were just too much
of a coincidence...*

"Either all these people suddenly developed heart trouble or were accident prone or someone arranged to help them," said Hays.

Battle never had a "heart problem in his life," added Hays, although he was a diabetic.

While Ray has asked for a new trial, there is doubt if he ever will get it.

For while Ray has asked for a new trial, the law has been interpreted to bar him from it.

The Tennessee Supreme Court has ruled that a convicted criminal cannot invalidate his prison sentence on grounds that he pleaded guilty because of faulty advice by his attorney.

Ray has been seeking a new trial on grounds that his second attorney, Percy Foreman of Houston, pressured him into pleading guilty.

A high legal source says that's why Ray's appeal for a new trial was turned down.

"There's still one more piece to the puzzle that needs an explanation," one source has said. "That's the strange death of King's

attorney, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was drowned in a recently installed swimming pool at his Atlanta home on July 22, 1969.

"I can't say his death is linked to the others," said Hays, "but he is the one person who could have forced a full investigation."

"From several points of view there was a conspiracy. And Ray isn't the killer," Hays claims.

"I'm going to get my evidence aired by a court," vowed the investigator.

And perhaps Hays will. His suit in Memphis, seeking possession of Ray's white Mustang and the rifle used in the slaying in lieu of a \$6,000 fee he's owed for his work, may be heard.

Says Ray Not Guilty



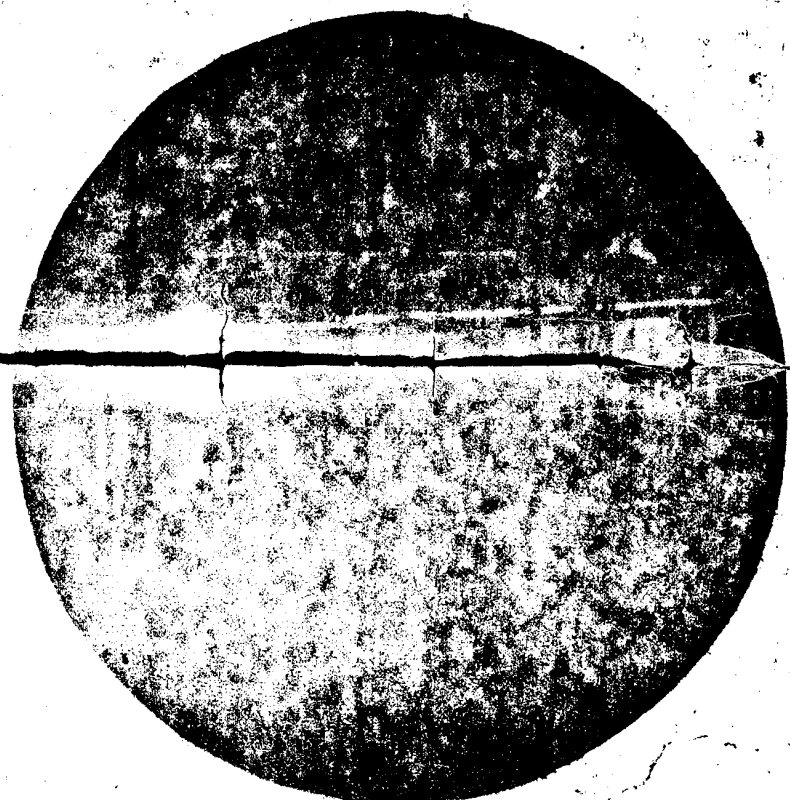
"Ray didn't kill Dr. King," says **Samuel T. Hays**, the Memphis detective who worked on the case for attorney **Arthur Hanes**.



James Earl Ray continues to fight for a new trial from his heavily guarded cell in the state penitentiary at Nashville.



This picture of **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.** was taken while standing with his two closest advisors, the **Rev. Jesse Jackson** and **Dr. Ralph Abernathy**, as they stood on the porch of the **Lorraine Hotel**.



The killer with a rifle mounted by a telescopic sight had a clear view of his target, **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.** All the trees had been cut down to give him a clear shot at the **chapel** **before** **the** **shooting**.

F
(Ed

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

DEPARTMENT OF

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

DATE: JAN 15 1971

JL:MG:pg
DJ 144-72-66:

36 FROM : Jerris Leonard
Kwool Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

SUBJECT: Assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

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

Reference is made to your memorandum of August 19, 1970, concerning author George McMillan's request for information pertaining to James Earl Ray, and other communications transmitting similar requests by Mr. McMillan; and to your memorandum of January 21, 1970, concerning among other things requests received by your Bureau for information pertaining to the Ray case.

While I do not believe it would yet be appropriate to make public the contents of the Ray files, a certain portion of the file has already been made available, in connection with a civil suit brought under the Public Information Act by Harold Weisberg, to Mr. Weisberg and thereafter to other individuals. Those papers consist only of the original documents filed on behalf of the States of Tennessee and Missouri in the extradition proceedings in the British Court.

It is our intention to make these papers available in the future to authors, publishers or members of the public who wish to inspect them and who make appropriate arrangements through this Division.

I am attaching for your information a copy of our letter to Mr. McMillan to this effect.

ENCLOSURE

56 JAN 27 1971

REC-57

EX-111

12 JAN 18 1971

EXP. PROC.

JAN 18 1971

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF

Memorandum

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

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JL:MG:pg
DJ 144-72-662

36
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Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

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56 JAN 27 1971

REC-57

EX-111

12 JAN 18 1971

EXP. PROC.

JAN 18 1971

38

29 JAN 1971

JAN 10 5 05 PM '71

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JAN 12 12 12 PM '71
FBI

JAN 19 4 55 PM 1971

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FBI

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JAN 20 10 34 AM 1971

JAN 18 3 38 PM '71

MR. JONES
JAN 19 4 46 PM 1971
RECEIVED
FBI

MR. JONES
JAN 18 7 21 PM 1971
RECEIVED
FBI

RECEIVED
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 19 5 47 PM '71
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED
FBI

JAN 20 7 59 AM '71

cc: J. Edgar Hoover
Director, FBI

JL:KWO'C:MG:pg
DJ 144-72-662

JAN 15 1971

Mr. George McMillan
Coffin Point
Frogmore, South Carolina 29920

Dear Mr. McMillan:

I am writing in response to your letter of September 28, 1970, to Mr. Leonard, and to your several letters to Mr. Hoover which have been referred to this Division.

Department of Justice files pertaining to James Earl Ray are confidential, since they relate to an official investigation of a possible violation of federal law. Accordingly, we cannot comply with your request for further information based on the FBI's investigation.

I would like to advise you that the documents and exhibits which were filed on behalf of Tennessee and Missouri in the Ray extradition proceedings in the British Court do not come within this rule, and will be made available for your inspection in our offices in Washington at your request. If you wish to inspect these papers, you may make the appropriate arrangements with Miss Monica Gallagher, an attorney in the Criminal Section, Civil Rights Division.

Sincerely,

JERRIS LEONARD
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

By: K. WILLIAM O'CONNOR
Chief, Criminal Section

ENCLOSURE

44-35861-5902

J. Edgar Hoover, Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation

JAN 15 1971

JL:MG:pg
DJ 144-72-662

Jerris Leonard
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

Assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

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I am attaching for your information a copy of our letter to Mr. McMillan to this effect.

FEB 8 1971

F B I

Date: 2/3/71

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
 OO: MEMPHIS

Re Memphis letter to Bureau, 9/2/70. *per 5896*

Enclosed for the Bureau are five copies of a Letterhead Memorandum concerning a hearing to be held in this case on 2/26/71 at Memphis, Tennessee. Copies of legal documents pertaining to this matter were furnished to the Bureau as enclosures in referenced letter. *See*

ST-114

REC 85

Airtel 1 2 - Bureau (Encls-5)
2 - Memphis

ENCLOSURE

Teletype

JCH:lfm

A.M.

(4)

A.M.S.D.

Spec. Del.

Reg. **58 FEB 23 1971**

Reg. Approved: [Signature]
 Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

RACIAL INT. SECT.
 Per [Signature]

*100cc
 CRABAPPLE
 REH
 2-8-71
 Hester
 Mr. James Turner*

44-38861-5903

13 FEB 5 1971



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Memphis, Tennessee
February 3, 1971

*In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.*

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

On February 26, 1971, arguments will be heard by Judge William H. Williams of the Shelby County Criminal Court, Memphis, Tennessee, concerning the prosecution's motion to strike James Earl Ray's Petition For Post Conviction Relief.

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.

1*

5903
100

2/5/71

Airtel

1 - Mr. Long

To: SACs, Atlanta (44-3386) (Enclosures 2)
Memphis (44-1987) (Enclosures 2)

From: Director, FBI (44-38861) *REC-6 5704*

MURKIN

Enclosed for Atlanta and Memphis are two copies of a memorandum received from the Department as an enclosure to their memorandum, dated 2/1/71, which is not being forwarded with this communication.

Atlanta and Memphis check all names appearing in the memorandum with the exception of Mr. Queen, Monica Gallagher, Mr. Ken Smith, Bud Fensterwald, Senator Kennedy, Lynwood Maddox, Governor Maddox through your office indices and the records of local authorities.

Atlanta through discreet public sources check the existence of the companies mentioned in the Departmental memorandum.

According to Departmental memorandum it appears that Secret Service in Atlanta made an investigation concerning Byron Watson and Lillian Watson. Atlanta should determine if such an investigative report exists and if so if it can be obtained and forwarded to the Department for their information.

The above investigation must be conducted on a most discreet basis and no indication should be given that these inquiries are connected with the investigation of the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Atlanta and Memphis submit the information by LHM as this information will be disseminated to the Department. Handle this investigation on an expedited basis.

MAILED 8 FEB 5 - 1971 COMM-FBI

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

REL/pwl (6) NOTE: Department in their memorandum of 2/1/71 requested that we conduct extensive investigation concerning aspects of a possible conspiracy existing in the King assassination. The request of the Department discussed with Mr. James Turner on 2/5/71 who advised that the requested investigation should not be conducted with the exception of that listed on this airtel. The conversation with Mr. Turner will be confirmed in writing.

60 FEB 22 1971
70 FEB 18 1971

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Handwritten signatures and initials: Jm, LHM, 2264

20 FEB 18 1971

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FBI

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RECEIVED
FEB 11 1971
FBI

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Memorandum *WLP*

TO : Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: **FEB 1 1971**

FROM : *J.L.* Jerris Leonard
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

JL:KWO'C:MG:pg
DJ 144-72-662

SUBJECT: Assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

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	

202 5901
Reference is made to your memoranda dated December 22, 1970 and January 1, 1971, and to other communications in the captioned matter.

I. The material enclosed with your memorandum of 12/22/70, which appears to be an undated flyer or newsclipping, refers to an interview between Renfro T. Hays, Memphis private detective, and a "'National Insider' reporter," possibly Jim Brown, in which Mr. Hays allegedly disclosed certain facts discovered by him in the course of his inquiries into the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Please interview Mr. Hays with respect to the statements quoted in the enclosed document and generally with respect to his knowledge of matters related to the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

II. Your communication of January 1, 1971, contains information concerning a piece of mail addressed to James Earl Ray by one William Paton Caan, return address Surrey, Great Britain, suggesting that Mr. Caan is or was "1/2 of the original 'Eric Starvo Galt'".

ST 101

EXP. PROC.

37 FEB 2 1971

except

UNRECORDED COPY AND COPY OF ENCL FILED IN 105-34074-2

*AIRTEL to SAC, AT & ME
2/5/71 REL/pwr*

REC-6 44-37861-590

FEB 2 1971

*Jim Turner
Don't know if 2/5/71
to him or not*

**XEROX
FEB 10 1971**

8 DIRECTOR

REC'D LUTHER
FBI

REC'D TOLSON
FBI
FEB 2 12 24 PM 1971

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
F.B.I.
FEB 2 2 26 PM '71

FEB 2 9 39 AM '71
FEB 2 1 36 PM 1971

TO DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM SAC, NEW YORK (100-157111)
SUBJECT: [illegible]
RE: [illegible]

REC'D SULLIVAN
FBI JUSTICE

TO DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM SAC, NEW YORK (100-157111)
SUBJECT: [illegible]
RE: [illegible]

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

FEB 2 2 32 PM 1971

TO DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM SAC, NEW YORK (100-157111)
SUBJECT: [illegible]
RE: [illegible]

TO DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM SAC, NEW YORK (100-157111)
SUBJECT: [illegible]
RE: [illegible]

TO DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM SAC, NEW YORK (100-157111)
SUBJECT: [illegible]
RE: [illegible]

TO DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM SAC, NEW YORK (100-157111)
SUBJECT: [illegible]
RE: [illegible]

TO DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM SAC, NEW YORK (100-157111)
SUBJECT: [illegible]
RE: [illegible]

Please interview Col. Glen Hempleman, allegedly of Charleston, South Carolina, with reference to any knowledge he may have of Mr. Caan, of Eric Starvo Galt, or of the circumstances surrounding the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. The substance of Mr. Caan's communication may be discussed with Col. Hempleman if necessary. In addition, please make discrete inquiries of appropriate British sources to determine whether Mr. Caan has a record or reputation of mental instability, criminal activity, etc.

III. Please find attached copies of a memorandum prepared by Miss Gallagher of this Division, reflecting the report of an interview with Mr. Ken Smith, a "researcher" for the "Committee to Investigate Assassinations." Because of the serious implications of the information supplied by Mr. Smith, I believe it will be necessary to make appropriate investigation to determine the extent to which this information is factual and accurate.

However, because it appears that inquiries involving the Watsons or the persons involved with Magellan might if known jeopardize both the completion of the investigation and even possibly the physical safety of Byron Watson, I believe it would be desirable to obtain certain background and peripheral information before any of the principals become aware that an investigation is or may be in progress. Accordingly, please conduct the following investigation:

1. Please obtain full background information on Mr. Smith, including any information which would help to evaluate his reliability as a source.

2. Please provide name check and indices information for all persons identified by Mr. Smith, as reflected in the attached memorandum, including criminal records and, if accessible, index information reflecting investigation by other federal agencies such as the Internal Revenue Service, Customs Bureau, etc.

3. To the extent it can be obtained from records or from any other source except interview of the principals or interview of persons likely to communicate the fact of the interview to the principals, please obtain full background on Byron Watson and Mrs. Lillian Watson. Please include school records of Byron and employment, financial, etc., records for Mrs. Watson.

4. Please obtain from public sources all available information concerning the incorporation, licensure, business activities, financial status, etc. of the corporations or other business entities identified by Mr. Smith including Magellan, the establishments at 3340 Peachtree Road, "Par-Take-Of-Atlanta," and the Arnett antique dealership in Columbus, Georgia. Please supply any information contained in the incorporation papers or elsewhere which reflects the identities of persons having ownership or managerial interests in these businesses, and the amount of their capitalization.

5. Please ascertain the identities of the Secret Service personnel who interviewed Byron Watson and/or Mrs. Watson; obtain copies of any reports made by them in this connection; and interview the agents with respect to all details of their contact with the Watsons. If available in their files, please obtain a copy of the Watson letter to the President.

6. Please ascertain from appropriate Georgia Executive Branch personnel whether records would reflect that the Watsons made some presentation to Governor Maddox. If so, please supply any details reflected by such records, and interview anyone present at the presentation other than the Governor, attorney Maddox and the Watsons with respect to all details of what transpired. If there are no such records, or if they do not reflect the identity of anyone other than the above named persons who was present, please interview Governor Maddox about the details of his contact with the Watsons.

7. Please identify polygraph expert FNU Baxter in New York. Please ascertain from Mr. Baxter whether the polygraph chart, Mr. Baxter's report, or the tape recorded transcription of the Watson examination (or any of them) can be obtained for inspection or duplication from him. Please do not invite consultation by Mr. Baxter with Mr. Fensterwald or with the Watsons; if Mr. Baxter advises that the permission of any of the above would be required, please advise him that an attorney of this Division will make such arrangements as are deemed appropriate in that regard. (i.e., we would wish to consider the matter further before deciding whether to attempt to obtain such authorization). Please obtain copies or advise as to the contents of any of the above items which Mr. Baxter makes available.

8. Please ascertain the charges against Byron Watson arising out of the Columbus burglary; the identities and charges against his companions; the status of the cases against them including hearing and trial dates if set; and the identity of their counsel if apparent of record. Please obtain copies of any police records involving this incident and of any local news coverage.

Memorandum

TO : K. William O'Connor
Chief, Criminal Section

DATE: January 25, 1971

MG:pg

FROM : Monica Gallagher
Attorney
Criminal Section

SUBJECT: Assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

At your request Mr. Queen and I met on January 13, 1971 for some four hours with Mr. Ken Smith, a self employed "researcher" and sometime investigator for the "Committee to Investigate Assassinations" which is headed by Attorney Bud Fensterwald. The following is a report of the significant or possibly significant matters which Mr. Smith reported to me. Mr. Smith advised that he can supply addresses and further information in connection with some of the persons referred to if we so desire. Mr. Smith did not interrogate me or Mr. Queen about our knowledge of the case, nor did either of us volunteer any information whatever. Mr. Smith advised as follows:

I. Personal Data

I retired in 1960 from my employment with the U.S. Treasury after 22 years as an investigator with the Alcohol-Tobacco-Tax unit. During my government employment I worked mainly out of Chicago although I also had other assignments. During a portion of my government employment I worked for the Internal Security Division as a supervisor of criminal investigations, and I was a deputy chief of an investigative unit.

After my retirement I opened a real estate office in Washington, D.C., and I still work in real estate part time. Recently I have been spending much of my time as a contract researcher for various clients. For example, I did research for a legislative lobby seeking

(211) XEROX

FEB 10 1971

BC

44-38861-5904
ENCLOSURE

prohibition of the "soreing" of Tennessee Walking Horses; I am now engaged to do research on baby seals in the Alleutian Islands. I accept these projects when my services are not needed by my old friend Bud Fensterwald, who has first call on my time. Also I work for Mr. Fensterwald for \$50 per day plus expenses, whereas my usual rate is \$100 plus expenses.

I met Fensterwald when I testified before Senator Long's Committee on Wiretapping, of which Fensterwald was Chief Counsel. Thereafter I worked as Chief Investigator for the Committee for about three years, until the whole staff resigned when Senator Kennedy assumed the chair.

In checking my references, you will find that a bad report will be given by the Assistant Commissioner for Internal Revenue. Otherwise, I believe my superiors have thought reasonably highly of me and my work.

II. The Ray - Raoul Linkup in Atlanta

I have a source nicknamed Fruitjar, whose full identity I do not care to disclose at this time. Fruitjar (hereinafter FJ) is a former small-time criminal. He is about my age; in poor health (in and out of, mostly in, a government hospital in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area); married to a much younger woman (possibly 30 or so), a former prostitute. FJ got his nickname because he sold moonshine out of a fruit jar during prohibition. I do not believe FJ is presently engaged in any criminal activities.

FJ came to Fensterwald in approximately February, 1970, and volunteered that he had information concerning James Earl Ray's activities in Atlanta. I was asked to and did check out FJ's background. He has in the past been a paid informant for the A.T.U., and an agent whom I knew while working for the government told me this man had sometimes furnished reliable information.

When I went to interview FJ I found him difficult to draw out. I thought at first he wanted money - more than I was able to offer; but it turned out what he really wanted was legal representation in some civil suit he wanted to bring. I think it may have been against the government. Fensterwald agreed to represent him; but as far as I know the action has not yet been filed.

FJ said he knew a man in Atlanta called "Starvo" whom he identified from pictures as identical with James Earl Ray. He said that in Atlanta I would find other individuals, frequenters of the 10th and Peachtree area or people who "hang out" there, probably mainly small time criminals, who would remember Starvo and his association with Raoul. FJ said Starvo, Raoul and two girls went away for several days to a fishing camp together. The leads furnished by FJ were checked out by me as follows.

A. Ralph George Dickerson or George Ralph Dickerson, aka Rocky, aka Raoul, is an ex-prize fighter. He is half Norwegian (paternal) and half Indian (maternal), has a swarthy complexion, is a "torpedo" or muscle man, and was or may have been in army intelligence at some time in the past. He is now an alcoholic and on the two occasions I saw and spoke to him he was pretty well gone on alcohol. Accordingly, I got no useful information from him. I do know he speaks Spanish and I have heard him called Raoul, although he is apparently more often called Rocky. Raoul hangs around a bar called "Doc's Place" at 10xx Peachtree.

I understand from FJ that Starvo had let it be known in Atlanta that he was a "safe man", i.e. that he specialized in safecracking. FJ says he tried to interest Starvo in a safe "job" involving \$200,000 in cash, and that Starvo told Raoul he would do it. However, this job never came off.

I do not have a picture of Raoul but I do have a picture of a Mexican friend of Fensterwald's who looks quite a lot like Raoul. Sometimes I show people this picture of the Mexican in seeking an identification of Raoul.

B. Becky aka Be Mart aka Becky Jones (allegedly after a man named Jon whom she lived with for a while) and Martha aka Martha Palmer. I believe that these two girls went with Starvo and Raoul to a fishing camp for several days. Neither of these girls provided me with any directly useful information, but that did not surprise me greatly.

Becky and Martha are hustlers. Becky is on and off drugs. It was once reported to me that Becky had died of an overdose in St. Louis; but I saw her subsequently. Becky and Martha lived at a rooming house operated by Mrs. FNU Edwards at 107 6th Street, N.E. in Atlanta. Mrs. Edwards told me she remembered the girls' driving a white Mustang, sometimes alone and sometimes with two men who meet the descriptions of Starvo and Raoul.

C. FJ had described to me roughly the place where he thought Starvo and Raoul had gone with the girls. I followed his directions to a fishing camp about 10-12 miles from Perry (phonetic), Florida, where Route 14, a gravel road, goes down toward the gulf and dead-ends. The camp is called Nutall Rise. The operator of the camp, name unrecalled, told me he vaguely remembered a white car, red-headed girl, blond girl, Indian fellow and white fellow being around the area for several days. He did not think they stayed at his camp, but wasn't sure.

As I was walking back to my car on Route 14 I saw what appeared to be a "path" leading to a still, and I found and interviewed the moonshiner, name unknown. He was driving a 1951 or 52 faded blue Chevrolet quarter-ton pickup. He said he remembered these four people clearly, as they were doing a lot of shooting, possibly target shooting, in the area (which made him nervous) and it was after the Turkey season. He identified pictures of Ray and of the Mexican who resembles Raoul. He described the girls as one redhead and one short brunette, and thought they were driving a car with Georgia plates.

D. A person who told me he remembered Raoul (Rocky) and Starvo hanging around together, and going on a fishing trip together; is Henry (I think that is his first name but it could be his last name). He is a "wino" and an itinerant house painter, and possibly a small time criminal, who hangs around 10th and Peachtree.

III. The Overhead Conversation

A. The Substance

Byron Watson is a boy now 17 years old. His father, a former Deputy Sheriff, was killed in December 1966. His mother, Lillian Watson, is an overbearing individual and the boy's principal companion. The boy is extremely intelligent but in my judgment very strange or "weird". He has been preoccupied since childhood with antiques, relics, rare coins, etc., to the exclusion of usual youthful interests. I understand he is reputed to be one of the most skilled coin appraisers in the United States. He impresses me as a modern but non-hippe type boy, mildly anti-establishment as today's youth tend to be; he reminds me of the fellow on "Laugh In" who carries the flower (Harry Gibson). He does not smoke; uses no drugs (except for his asthma); drinks only wine with dinner. He impresses me asexual with a potential for homosexuality.

In the spring of 1968 Byron (then 14) was employed part-time after school and on Saturdays at an establishment in Atlanta called Magellan, 3340 Peachtree Road, apparently a semi-museum and semi-sales outlet for antiques, rare coins, gems, relics, etc. I believe that Magellan or its associates may also have been involved with smuggling, as appears below. Byron was being paid \$5.00 per hour plus the opportunity to buy coins at wholesale prices.

On a Thursday in March 1968, which I believe to have fixed as March 28, 1968, (Byron remembers hearing the noon news about the garbage workers strike), Byron reported for work at about 12:30 p.m. There was no school that day. In the building occupied by Magellan there is a room just to the right of the main entrance which was used as the office; it was a "den" when the building was

formerly occupied as a residence. Byron went into the office where he observed a meeting in progress. Present were Gene Purcell, Larry Meier, Bayne Culley, and five or six other men unknown to him, of which he thinks perhaps one and possibly two were Negroes, although because of the physical layout and lighting he is not at all sure. Gene Purcell handed him \$2.00 and said "Go get yourself some lunch." Byron told Gene he had just had lunch. Gene said then "go get me a pack of cigarettes, and get yourself a coke, and take your time about it." Byron left with the \$2.00. Outside in the rear he saw parked a black Cadillac, thought to have had New York license plates, which he associated with the unknown persons inside at the meeting.

Byron returned in about 10-15 minutes with Gene's cigarettes. He found that he had left the door slightly ajar and, as he stood in the entryway, he overheard the following conversation:

Gene said: "I'm going to kill that nigger bastard King next Thursday in Tennessee just like I killed Kennedy."

Larry Meier said: "You sure pulled that one off good. They'll never know in a hundred years who did it."

Gene: "I've got a jailbird set up to take the rap on this one just like the other one."

Byron became frightened. He rattled the door which had been ajar as though he was just coming in, entered and delivered the cigarettes to Gene. The meeting seemed to be breaking up or broke up shortly afterward.

When the meeting had broken up, Gene and Larry Meier interviewed Byron about whether he had been eavesdropping. Their manner was very threatening, and although Byron denied having overheard anything, they seemed to be suspicious. Byron thinks it is possible someone in the office may have seen him as he approached the house or just before he came in. At one point in the interview Gene threw a bowie knife into the wall near Byron and said that it could as easily have gone through him, or words to that effect.

Byron claimed he wasn't feeling well, called his mother, and went home with her. He told his mother about the conversation that afternoon. Both became frightened and decided that Byron should not continue working at Magellan. However, they decided they should go back on Saturday to make an explanation rather than just having him fail to return.

On Saturday Mrs. Watson took Byron to Magellan where she explained to Gene Purcell that Byron could not work there any more because it was interfering with his school work. While Mrs. Watson was talking to Purcell in the office, Byron was taken by Larry Meier to Meier's apartment on the second floor, where he was again interrogated about overhearing the conversation, which he continued to deny. During this interview Meier threatened Byron, saying in effect that if he had overheard anything he had better forget it fast, or a bomb might explode in his mother's car or he could be shot by a high powered rifle from a long way away.

On or about April 1, 1968, Purcell, Meier and Culley left Magellan and are believed to have left

Atlanta. They did not return until June 10 or 11, 1968. During this interval Jean Sayre operated Magellan.

B. Other Accounts

The preceding information reflects what Byron and Mrs. Watson told me. I understand they have reported substantially identical information to others, as described below. What follows incorporates information received from the Watsons, Mr. Fensterwald and Atlanta attorney Lynwood Maddox.

At some point Mrs. Watson became concerned about the fact that the information she and Byron had concerning the overheard conversation had not been communicated to the proper authorities. She wrote a letter to the White House, possibly addressed to President Nixon, in which she said she had some information. Thereafter she and Byron were called on by two Secret Service agents, one of whom was named Manning. According to the Watsons the Secret Service agents received this information with open disbelief and hostility, one of them saying to Byron, among other things, "Don't tell me what happened in Dallas; I was there." Mrs. Watson and Byron were badly frightened by this interview.

Attorney Lynwood Maddox represented Mrs. Watson in connection with a civil suit she wanted to file or filed against William S. Arnett, an individual formerly associated with Magellan and who she claims defrauded her of some \$50,000. Trusting Mr. Maddox, Mrs. Watson reported to him both the substance of the overheard conversation (as substantiated by Maddox to me) and the incident with the Secret Service.

Mr. Maddox arranged for Mrs. Watson and Byron to have an appointment with Governor Maddox of Georgia, during which, in Attorney Maddox's presence, the story was repeated. According to Attorney Maddox, Mrs. Watson insisted to the Governor during this interview that they were entitled to some reward as a result of furnishing this information; the Governor was unreceptive; and the interview was not successful. The Governor's position was, in effect, that the matter was a federal one and should be taken up with federal authorities.

After this interview Attorney Maddox contacted Congressman Weltner, who knew of the work of the Committee to Investigate Assassinations and referred Maddox to Mr. Fensterwald. This is how we learned of the Watsons' story, and this happened about the first week in August 1970.

Mr. Fensterwald thereafter arranged for Byron to submit to a polygraph examination. This was done by an expert named (FNU) Baxter in New York. I have listened to the tape recording of this examination and I believe that the results are utterly invalid. It appears from the tape that within a few hours prior to the examination Byron had had some six shots of isopril (medication for his asthma), which would alone completely negative the possibility of reaching any conclusions from the polygraph. Also in my judgment the examiner used an overbearing tone and manner which would tend to intimidate the person questioned, thus affecting the polygraph results. I understand that Mr. Baxter's report indicates that the examination was "partly inconclusive and partly negative," suggesting that Byron was lying in certain areas. I think this examination must be regarded as wholly inconclusive. While Byron may be lying about whether he deliberately eavesdropped (he says it was accidental and not deliberate, whereas I

believe it was probably deliberate), I honestly believe from my interviews and impressions that he is telling the truth about what he heard or thought he heard.

C. Persons Associated with Magellan

The following are people who have been associated with Magellan:

1. William S. Arnett, aka William S. Arnowich, of Columbus, Georgia. Arnett managed Magellan for a period of time on a 10% commission basis until December 1967, when he was "thrown out," possibly because he is Jewish. (This version reported by Byron and confirmed by Arnett). He is engaged in antique dealing. Mrs. Watson thinks Arnett defrauded her of \$50,000 in connection with antique transactions. Mrs. Watson also claims to have evidence against Arnett of smuggling and income tax violations. (See the Byron burglary, below). Arnett admitted to me that he has been arrested for smuggling but told me that he beat the rap. Arnett told me Magellan robbed him and that he is now being "extorted" of \$500 per month by Magellan interests. Arnett was financially backed in Magellan by William Moog, a real estate developer. Arnett told me that Adams, Sutherland and Nelson were all admitted John Birchers. He also said he thinks Purcell, Culley and Meier are violent or potentially violent individuals.

Arnett told me that Sutherland told him that Purcell is now occupied as a part-time gun-runner in or near Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

2. FNU Clifford, financially backed by William Thibodeaux, Atlanta-Decatur real estate speculator and bank president. He leased the premises at 3340

Peachtree and was licensed as Magellan, Blocade Runners, and Southeast Restoration Laboratories.

3. Harold Eugene Purcell, aka Gene Purcell, knowledgeable about guns and relics and in charge of that phase of the Magellan operation, as well as apparently exercising the biggest share of control over the whole Magellan operation. Purcell has bragged of "beating the rap" in connection with the burning of a Negro church in Tennessee in the late 1950's. Also he is proud of having his picture in Life Magazine in connection with the Clinton, Tenn. "school riots" during the same era. He allegedly told Arnett he had been tried and acquitted three times for aggravated assault on "niggers".

4. Jean (Mrs. John) Sayre (phonetic), who managed Magellan for a short time. She and her husband have disappeared from Atlanta and can't be found. Her husband was president of a corporation called "Par-Take-Of-Atlanta" which may have been a non-existent corporation. They are originally from Virginia, she from an old-line Virginia family. After Magellan closed, she also operated the premises for a short time doing business as "Tudor Fair".

5. Lawrence (Larry) Meier, who is now teaching in a high school in Six Flags, Georgia. Meier is a notorious homosexual and has been involved in a car theft ring. He specialized at Magellan in restoration and appraisal of antique pottery.

6. Bayne Culley, a muscle man whose association with the others is unknown.

7. John Seymour, executive at Lockheed in Atlanta, who was involved in an unknown way, and was apparently the largest stockholder (of a total of 22) in Magellan.

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8. Jerry Adams, private detective and possible wiretapper, sometimes operating as a TV-radio repairman. Formerly employed Jimmy Kempf, now deceased. Present employer of Buzz McQueen, a bill collector and "tail".

9. Ben Sutherland

10. FNU Nelson

11. FNU Sutton