

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU
OF
INVESTIGATION

ENTIRE FILE REVIEWED
FOR HISTORICAL
DECLASSIFICATION

HEADQUARTERS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10-19-01 BY SP1C/SC/102

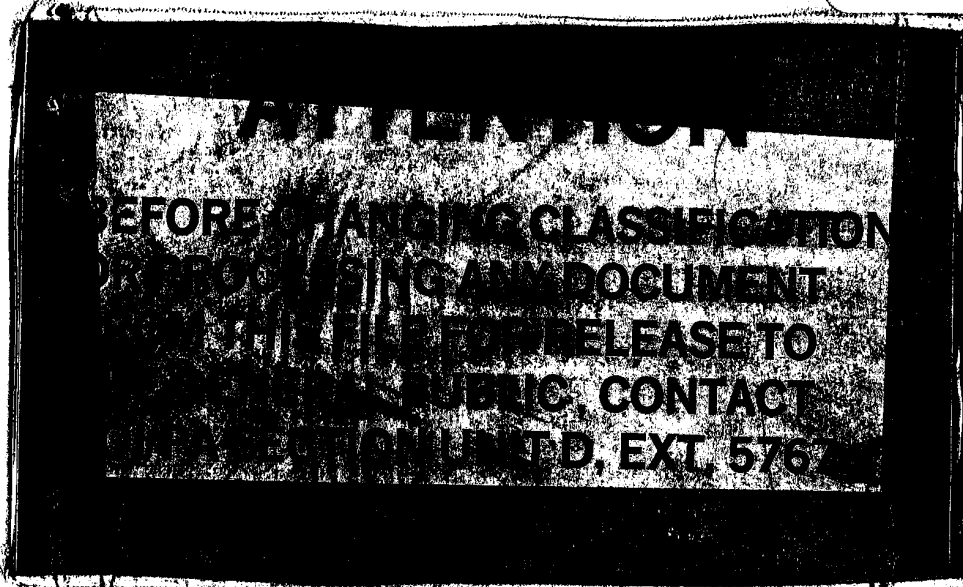


Serials 5932-5989

44-

HQ-38861

Sec. 84



DO NOT DESTROY
HISTORICAL VALUE
NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Transfer - Call 3421
Use Care in Handling this file

MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE

SUBJECT
FILE #

MARTIN LUTHER KING
MEMPHIS

WORK SHEET - XEROX REQUEST

ANALYST - H. C. G. HAS. J. F. J. R.
EXT -
TEAM - A. Y.

186 Pages

46 Documents

PAGE 1

SECTION 8X

b7(c)(1)

FILE #	SERIAL/ENC OR DATE	DESCRIPTION	XEROX INSTR.	# OF ACT.	PAGES REL.	b1	2	5	EXEMPTIONS - 7C D OTHER	b1	2	5	6	OTHER	REMARKS
100-388601	5932	AIRTEL TO DIR FBI MEMPHIS 4/19/74	.	3	3										
	5933	AIRTEL TO DIR FBI MEMPHIS 4/23/74	.	4	4				J						RELEASE
	UNRECORDED	AIRTEL TO DIR FM JAIL 2/13/74	.	9	9				J J						EXCISE
	5934	AIRTEL TO DIR FBI MEMPHIS 4/24/74	...	28	28										
	5935	LET TO DIR FM ASG 4/12/74	.	1	1										
	5936	AIRTEL TO DIR FBI 4/12/74	.	4	4				J J						RELEASE
	UNRECORDED	LET TO DIR FM CR 4/12/74	.	30	30				J J b6						EXCISE
	5937	AIRTEL TO DIR FBI MEMPHIS 4/12/74	.	1	1				J						
	5938	LET TO DIR FM COL 4/15/74	.	1	1				J						RELEASE
	5939	FM TO DIR FM ASG 4/12/74	.	2	2				J						RELEASE
	5940	LET TO DIR FM MEMPHIS 5/1/74	.	2	2										
	5941	LET TO DIR FM MEMPHIS 4/22/74	.	1	1										RELEASE
	5942	LET TO DIR FM ASG 4/24/74	.	11	11										RELEASE done After 6 pages to JUDGE
	5943	LET TO DIR FM MEMPHIS 4/24/74	.	1	1										
	5944	LET TO DIR FM MEMPHIS 5/1/74	.	3	2										
	5945	AIRTEL TO DIR FM ROD 5/15/74	.	4	4				J						RELEASE
	5946	AIRTEL TO DIR FBI MEMPHIS 4/10/74	.	1	1				J						RELEASE

106

SHOWN BY _____ DATE _____

XEROXED BY _____ DATE _____

REFILED BY _____ DATE _____

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING
FILE # 100-441100-100

WORK SHEET - XEROX REQUEST

ANALYST - HIGGINS, J. T. JR.
EXT - 1A-7
TEAM -

PAGE 2

SECTION 84

FILE #	SERIAL/ENC OR DATE	DESCRIPTION	XEROX INSTR.	# OF ACT.	PAGES REL.	EXEMPTIONS											REMARKS
						b1	2	5	7C	D	OTHER	k1	2	5	6	OTHER	
100-38861	5947	AIRTEL TO DIR FM MEM, 5/11/74	.	11	11				✓	✓							RELEASE
	5948	AIRTEL TO DIR FM MEM, 6/14/74	.	2	2				✓	✓							RELEASE
	5949	AIRTEL TO DIR FM MEM, 6/11/74	.	10	10												
	5950	AIRTEL TO DIR FM MEM, 6/12/74	...	1	1				✓	✓							RELEASE
	5951	AIRTEL TO DIR FM MEM, 6/14/74	.	17	17				✓								RELEASE
	5952	AIRTEL TO DIR FM MEM, 6/12/74	.	3	3				✓								RELEASE
	5953	AIRTEL TO DIR FM MEM, 6/12/74	.	3	3				✓								RELEASE
	5954	AIRTEL TO DIR FM MEM, 7/2/74	.	7	7				✓		b6						EXCISE
	5955	TT TO DIR FM MEM, 7/16/74	.	3	3				✓	✓							RELEASE
	5956	TT TO DIR FM MEM, 7/17/74	.	1	1				✓	✓							EXCISE
	5957	TT TO DIR FM MEM, 7/17/74	.	3	3				✓	✓							RELEASE
	5958	AIRTEL TO DIR FM MEM, 7/17/74	.	1	1				✓								RELEASE
	5959	AIRTEL TO DIR FM MEM, 7/11/74 PART OF 5957	.	1	1				✓								RELEASE
	5960	TT TO DIR FM MEM, 7/29/74	.	2	2				✓	✓							RELEASE
	5961	AIRTEL TO DIR FM MEM, 7/24/74	.	3	3				✓								RELEASE
	5962	AIRTEL TO DIR FM MEM, 8/26/74	.	3	3				✓	✓							RELEASE
	5963	AIRTEL TO DIR FM MEM, 9/14/74	.	1	1												RELEASE

REMOVED BY _____ DATE _____

XEROXED BY _____ DATE _____

REFILED BY _____ DATE _____

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING
FILE # 100-441000

WORK SHEET - XEROX REQUEST

ANALYST - HIGGINS J.F. JR.
EXT -
TEAM - A-4

PAGE 3

SECTION 64

LS	SERIAL/ENC OR DATE	DESCRIPTION	XEROX INSTR.	# OF ACT.	PAGES REL.	EXEMPTIONS										REMARKS	
						b1	2	5	7C	D	OTHER	k1	2	5	6		OTHER
4-3-86	5964	AIRTEL TO DIR FM AY 9/19/74	.	1	1				✓								Release
1	5965	AIRTEL TO DIR FM AY 10/18/74	.	1	1				✓								Release
	5966	AIRTEL TO H.Q. FM DIR 10/11/74	.	10	10												Release
	5967	LETTER TO O.G. FM DIR 10/9/74	...	5	5				✓								Release
	5968	LETTER TO O.G. FM MEM 10/20/74	.	2	2												
	5969	INTERNAL MEMO 10/31/74	.	4	4				✓								Release
	5970	INTERNAL MEMO 11/7/74		1	1												
	5971	LETTER TO O.G. FM DIR 2/5/75		6	6				✓								Release
	5972	AIRTEL TO DIR FM ATISH 4/21/75		1	1												
	5973	INTERNAL MEMO 2/12/75		1	1												
	5974	AIRTEL TO CIO FM DIR 3/28/75		1	1												
	5975	AIRTEL TO DIR FM CIO 5/12/75		2	2												
	5976	AIRTEL TO CIO FM DIR 6/13/75		1	1												
	UNRECORDED	LETTER TO O.G. FM AAG 7/2/75		1	1												JUSTICE
	5977	AIRTEL TO DIR FM CIO 6/6/75	.	2	2				✓								Release
RECORDED		INTERNAL MEMO 5/13/75		2	2												
	5978	AIRTEL TO H.Q. FM DIR 6/20/75		3	3												

REMOVED BY _____ DATE _____

XEROXED BY _____ DATE _____

REFILED BY _____ DATE _____

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING
FILE: MURKIN

WORK SHEET - XEROX REQUEST

ANALYST: HIGGINS, J.F. JR.
EXT: 1A-4
TEAM: 1

PAGE 4
SECTION 84

FILE #	SERIAL/ENC OR DATE	DESCRIPTION	XEROX INSTR.	# OF ACT.	PAGES REL.	EXEMPTIONS										REMARKS	
						b1	2	5	7C	D	OTHER	k1	2	5	6		OTHER
NY 38601	5979	LT TO DIR FBI ATL 6/23/78	.	1	1				✓								RELEASE
	5980	AIRTEL TO DIR FBI ATL 6/23/78	.	44	44				✓								RELEASE
	5981	AIRTEL TO DIR FBI HBM 6/23/78	-	2	2												
	5982	AIRTEL TO ATL FBI HBM 6/23/78	-	1	1				✓								RELEASE
	5983	INTERNAL MEMO 6/23/78	.	2	2				✓								RELEASE
	5984	LT TO DIR FBI HBM 7/17/78	-	1	1												
	5985	LT TO DIR FBI ATL 7/18/78		4	4				✓								RELEASE
	5986	LT TO DIR FBI HBM 7/22/78		2	2												
	5987	INTERNAL MEMO 7/17/78		2	2				✓								RELEASE
	5988	LT TO DIR FBI ATL 7/19/78	-	2	1					✓							EXEMPT
	5989	AIRTEL TO DIR FBI ATL 7/19/78	-	6	5				✓								RELEASE
	UNRECORDED	BOOK W/LETTER 7/13/78		1	1												
					66												

REMOVED BY _____ DATE _____

XEROXED BY _____ DATE _____

REFILED BY _____ DATE _____

Reproduction of Material Form
Congressional Inquiry Unit
6-

Date February 10, 1977

The following material has been reproduced
for excising and review at FBIHQ by representatives of
the House Select Committee on Assassinations:

File No. 44-38861

Section 84

Serials 5932 through 5989

(except following serials not in
file on this date:

Enclosure Behind File or Bulky Enclosure:

No. Copies 2

By gtb

RETAIN THIS FORM AS TOP SERIAL



NEWS of BOOKS & AUTHORS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MURKIN

BUFILE 44-38861

CONTACT: Mr. William Gutter

5030 jcl

2M The first definitive biography of the alleged assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King is scheduled for publication in the fall of 1975 by Little, Brown. It is JAMES EARL RAY: An American Life by George McMillan, a portrait of the man who once pleaded guilty to the murder of the prominent civil rights leader but who now insists that he was coerced into that plea.

Interest in the book will be heightened by the fact that Ray's appeal is certain to be going through the courts, with attendant publicity, until and perhaps long after the book's publication date.

The assumption of the book is that Ray committed the crime and acted alone, and the major stress of the book is that of creating a psychologically-sensitive portrait of Ray, beginning with his heritage and his impoverished childhood in a small Missouri town, up through the time he drove a white Mustang into Memphis the day before Dr. King was murdered.

Unlike other books published recently about American political assassinations in the 1960's, this biography of Ray is not centered on a conspiracy theory.

The author, a former Lasker Fellow in Civil Rights and Guggenheim Fellow, who has contributed civil rights articles to many national magazines, has spent more than five years on the book. In preparation for this study, McMillan has talked at length with Ray's family, with his friends, with his fellow-convicts, school teachers, social workers, and consulted many distinguished psychiatrists about Ray's life.

24 JUL 31 1975

44-38861-
NOT RECORDED

12 JUL 3 1975

LITTLE, BROWN AND CO. 34 BEACON ST. BOSTON, MASS. 02106

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS

JUN 27 6 38 AM 1975

NOT RECORDED

JUN 30 1975

JUN 20 1975

JUL 07 1975

F B I

Date: 5/25/74

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

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

Enclosed for the Bureau are two copies each of newspaper articles which appeared in the 5/24/74 edition of "The Memphis Press-Scimitar" and in the 5/25/74 edition of the "Commercial Appeal" both of which are daily newspapers published in Memphis, Tenn. Also enclosed for the Bureau are the original and four copies of LHM dated 5/25/74 concerning this matter.

1- COPIES MADE, DATE 5/4/78 BY
RCB/SS RE M.L.King, Jr.
FOR REVIEW AT FBIHQ AND/OR DELIVERY
TO HSCA RE REQUEST DATED 5/3/78.
(SEE BUFILE 62-117290)

REC-47

EX-105

ENCLOSURE

② - Bureau (Enc. 9)
2 - Memphis
JCH:plc
(4)

3-CRD

3-CRD

0-70-B

JCH:plc

5-30-74

14 MAY 30 1974

Approved: *TJH*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M

Per

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1972 - 455-574

54 JUN 12 1974

24 JUN 1974

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

MAY 30 11 58 AM '74

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

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

MAY 30 11 57 AM '74

(2)
TO: DIRECTOR
FROM: MEMPHIS
SUBJECT: MURKIN (ENC. 4)

BEC-44

(SEE POLICE 44-11100)
TO: MEMPHIS (44-1981) (P*)
FROM: DIRECTOR (44-38861)
SUBJECT: MURKIN (ENC. 4)

Re Memphis letter dated 5/29/74 concerning
the existence and location of copies of the 2/29/74
edition of the "Commercial Appeal" paper of which the
"The Memphis Press-Scimitar" and the 2/29/74 edition of
the Memphis "Commercial Appeal" are the only copies
known to exist.

TO: MEMPHIS

SUBJECT: MURKIN

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1981) (P*)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

WJL:JF

44-38861



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Memphis, Tennessee
May 25, 1974

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

On May 24, 1974, District Attorney General Hugh Stanton, Jr., Memphis, Tennessee, confidentially advised that he had been approached by Mr. Robert Livingston who is one of the attorneys for James Earl Ray. Mr. Livingston insisted that Mr. Stanton not inform the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) of the story that Livingston was to tell Stanton, claiming that his life was in great danger. The story related by Livingston to Stanton is as follows:

During late March, 1974, Livingston was telephonically contacted at Memphis by a man who identified himself as Cliff Andrews, Owen Sound, Ontario, Canada. Andrews told Livingston that he and two others were responsible for the murder of King and that all would testify, provided they were granted total immunity from prosecution. Andrews indicated either on this occasion or later that he and his two friends had been hired by three Memphis businessmen and by a fourth man from Cape Girardeau, Missouri, to murder King. They were to receive \$250,000 for the murder, but due to circumstances not explained by Livingston, they were never paid.

Shortly after receiving this phone call, Andrews came to Memphis and was met by Livingston at the airport. According to Livingston, Andrews searched Livingston's car and later his office and made a big production of being certain that his conversation was not being taped. According to Livingston, Andrews kept one hand in his coat at all times as though he were wearing a shoulder holster.

44-38861-5947

ENCLOSURE

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

Livingston described Andrews as being a large, middle aged white male who spoke with a strong French accent. Andrews had brown hair with streaks of gray and was described by Livingston as being very distinguished looking.

Andrews left Memphis following his discussion with Livingston and returned several days later at which time Livingston and Andrews traveled to Nashville where James Earl Ray is incarcerated in the Tennessee State Prison. Andrews waited in the car while Livingston went in and told Ray that he had someone who wished to see him. Ray claimed not to know Andrews and refused to see him. Livingston is convinced that Ray recognized his description of Andrews and that Ray was afraid to talk with him. Andrews and Livingston separated and arrangements were made for them to meet again in Chicago on April 16, 1974. Ray's other attorney, Bernard Fensterwald, was to be present at this meeting. Livingston received no further confirmation but was later contacted by Andrews, and Livingston and Fensterwald met with Andrews at Detroit on April 20, 1974. A woman named Margaret was accompanying Andrews and he introduced her as his wife. Andrews told Fensterwald and Livingston that his two confederates were also present in the Holiday Inn motel and that they were watching him. He again made his offer to furnish full details of the conspiracy including the identity of the actual killer, provided they could be granted immunity. Livingston and Fensterwald left Detroit with a promise that they would attempt to secure such immunity from the District Attorney General at Memphis, Tennessee. It was for this reason that Livingston has had several meetings with the District Attorney General Hugh Stanton, Jr.

Mr. Stanton stated he is convinced that Livingston is sincere and that Livingston actually believes that there was some sort of conspiracy to murder King, and that Ray was not King's killer. Mr. Stanton said that he believes Livingston is being "conned" by Andrews but he does give Livingston credit for believing that Andrews is what he says he is.

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

Mr. Stanton stated he does not want Livingston to know that he has discussed this matter with the FBI and he does not want the FBI to take any action to identify Andrews. He said he feels the only way to resolve this is to have Andrews come to his office with his two confederates. He does not believe that this will ever happen but he does not want to do anything that Livingston could later use to say that he had discouraged or scared off Andrews and his two friends.

Mr. Stanton has told Livingston that he will meet with Andrews but it will be under Mr. Stanton's terms and that the state of Tennessee will not advance any travel funds to bring Andrews and his friends to Memphis. He said that Livingston is disturbed that the state will not provide funds for their travel and Mr. Stanton believes Andrews may be attempting to swindle Livingston.

In view of Mr. Stanton's request, no investigation is being conducted by the Memphis Office. Mr. Stanton has agreed to keep the FBI informed of any contact which he might have with the alleged conspirators.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Revelations in First Interview With a Memphis Reporter**Ray Says He Wasn't at
Scene When King
Was Slain****By WAYNE CHASTAIN JR.**
Press-Scimitar Staff Writer

A Memphis attorney today said he had been contacted by an intermediary for two professional gunmen seeking immunity from prosecution in connection with the April 4, 1968, assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis.

**Chastain**

The attorney, Robert I. Livingston, represents James Earl Ray, 46, who is now serving a 99-year sentence after pleading guilty in February 1969 to Dr. King's murder.

In an interview with Ray and Livingston at the Tennessee State Prison in Nashville yesterday, Ray told this reporter he did not shoot and kill Dr. King. His attorney said:

"Within the past 90 days, I have had several contacts with a man who says he is an intermediary for the two men — including the trigger man — who are seeking immunity from prosecution."

Livingston said he provided Hugh Stanton Jr., Shelby County attorney general, with information provided by the intermediary and has offered to take a polygraph or lie detector test.

Stanton confirmed that Livingston had made contact

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

— PAGE 1

— MEMPHIS PRESS
— SCIMITAR

— MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 5/24/74

Edition: Final

Author: CHARLES H.

Editor: SCHNEIDER

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

44-38861-5947

ENCLOSURE



JAMES EARL RAY



ROBERT LIVINGSTON

In a news conference at the prison, a Nashville television newsman, Stanley Siegel, asked Livingston if the trigger man was famous.

with his office and informed him about the "intermediary's request," added:

"We will be glad to sit down and talk to either the intermediary, or the two men, but from the information we now have there is no way we can contact them — they must contact us."

Livingston said the intermediary informed him that the gunmen are seeking immunity so they can testify against four wealthy, socially prominent Americans—black and white — who paid to have Dr. King killed.

"The gunmen — both white — did it strictly for money," Livingston said. "They had no feelings one way or the other for Dr. King. The motives of the men who paid to have Dr. King killed sprang out of hate, although they could probably rationalize what they did as consistent with national security."

By "national security," Livingston said, he meant that the men paying for Dr. King's death believed King was working for a foreign power and that his "Poor People's March" throughout the South to Washington, D.C., in June, 1968, was a plot to "touch off a racist revolution in the nation."

"One report was that the trigger man was supposed to get at least \$250,000, but was paid \$100,000," Livingston said. "Because he did not get all the money he felt he was entitled to may be his motive for wanting to testify against the men putting up the money."

"He is probably the most famous obscure man I have ever heard of," Livingston said. "He is not famous, however, despite many daring escapades. He is known to the FBI, although to my knowledge, they have not connected him with this case."

Livingston said the trigger man is known as "an international gun runner" and is believed to be still living in the continental limits of the U.S.

"Ray did not know this man," Livingston said. "Ray was nothing but a fall guy . . . a patsy in the murder of Dr. King. They set him up and sucked him in. This is what has made the defense's job so tough. Ray had not been able to tell us what happened, because he does not know himself. He was not there when it happened. He did not know there was a conspiracy to kill Dr. King but thought he was participating in a gun-running venture."

Livingston said Ray left the upstairs rooming house at 422½ South Main at about 5:20 p.m. on the day King was killed. King was shot as he stood on the balcony of the Lorraine about 6:01 p.m. from a shot fired either from the bathroom of the rooming house or bushes outside the rooming house, he added.

"One of the men seeking immunity paid Ray \$200 and told him to go downtown to a movie," Livingston said. "There was supposed to be an important visit from an ex-

Turn to Page 6— **RAY'S LAWYER**

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ray's Lawyer Tells Of 'Intermediary'

From Page 1

pert gun runner about 6 in the room Ray rented for the men."

The trigger man, Livingston said, did not show up until a few minutes before 6.

This reporter, who has investigated the King slaying for some six years, showed Ray some photographs of a man suspected of being the gun runner and trigger man. Ray said:

"Yes, I believe I saw this man in Jim's Cafe (422 S. Main below the rooming house) and Jim's Place (a beer lounge two blocks away) the afternoon before the slaying. I got the feeling he was following me, so I left both places while he was still inside."

Low Tire on Mustang

In his first interview with a Memphis newsman since he pleaded guilty, Ray said that when he left the rooming house about 5:20, he noticed a low tire on the Mustang he had parked in front of Jim's Cafe.

"The man who gave me the money to go to the picture show said I was to leave the Mustang as they would be using it. When I noticed the low tire, I thought I would drive it over to a nearby service station."

At a station at Second and Linden, Ray said he waited for a long time before he got an attendant to fill up the tire.

"When I drove back to the rooming house, the whole block was sealed off and police were all over the place," Ray said. "There was a policeman standing in the middle of the street, and he yelled 'Get out of here!' as I was trying to drive and park somewhere in front of the rooming house."

Ray said he asked the policeman if he could make a U-turn and proceed north on South Main Street. He quoted the policeman as saying:

"I don't care what you do, just get out of here."

Ray said he made the U-turn and proceeded to drive south out of Memphis toward Mississippi.

Turned on the Radio

"It wasn't until I almost got to Grenada, Miss., that I turned on the radio and heard what had happened," Ray said. "The radio broadcast mentioned 422 South Main Street and it wasn't until then I learned that I had been associated with men who conspired to kill Dr. King."

Ray said he did not travel via Interstate 55 to Grenada, but took back roads because he feared he was the object of a search — even before learning of Dr. King's death.

"After all, as an escapee from the Missouri State Prison, I still owed the State of Missouri 18 years," Ray said. "When I saw all those policemen at 422½ South Main Street, I knew something important had happened. The man I noticed who had been following me earlier in the afternoon may have described me to the police. For this reason, I proceeded as cautiously as I could to Atlanta, first through Mississippi, and then through Birmingham, by as many back roads as I could."

Ray said he met a man named "Raoul" when he was a fugitive in Canada in 1967. He was on the docks looking for seaman papers when he met Raoul, Ray said.

Raoul, Ray said, "set him up" by convincing him he could get rich in a "gun running scheme."

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

PAGE 6

MEMPHIS PRESS
SCIMITAR

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 5-24-74

Edition: Final

Author: CHARLES H.

Editor: SCHNEIDER

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated

Bought Rifle in Birmingham

Ray said he purchased the rifle left in front of the rooming house in Memphis from a Birmingham, Ala., sporting goods store in March 1968 on orders of Raoul.

"After buying the rifle, I was then instructed to proceed to Memphis, but take my time, as I was supposed to deliver the rifle either on April 3 or April 4," Ray said.

"Contrary to the story put out by the FBI that I went to Atlanta after buying the rifle, I proceeded toward Memphis, driving less than four hours a day and spending the nights in motels," Ray said.

On the night of April 2, Ray said he spent the night at the DeSoto Motel in DeSoto County, and the Rebel Motel in Memphis on the night of April 3, Ray said.

Ray said he pleaded guilty to the charge because of "misrepresentations" by his former attorney, Percy Foreman, and because of his "mental state" resulting from solitary confinement in the Shelby County jail.

The Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati reversed a federal court ruling in Memphis and held that Ray was entitled to an "evidentiary hearing" as to whether Foreman, a Houston attorney, improperly negotiated a guilty plea with the late Judge W. Preston Battle.

Effort to Get New Trial

Ray is seeking the evidentiary hearing so he can obtain a new trial in the criminal courts of Tennessee, contending Foreman obtained the guilty plea by coercion and misrepresentation.

The State of Tennessee is appealing the Court of Appeals ruling, and the U.S. Supreme Court is expected to rule on the matter any day.

By coercion, Ray said he meant that Foreman had told him that he was going to be electrocuted if he pleaded innocent, because the state had "an air tight case" against him.

He also told him that a book about the murder by William Bradford Huie would "not make any money" if it were about a man who was innocent of Dr. King's murder.

The money from the book, Foreman reminded him, was paying for his defense, Ray said.

How Ray Looks Today

This was the first time this reporter had ever seen Ray in person. He looked just like his pictures, except his hair is rapidly turning gray at the temples.

He looked surprisingly young and healthy in the face. Except for a trace of prison pallor, there was color in his face and his complexion appeared free of wrinkles.

"I exercise, try to keep in good shape, but my waist line is about 34 inches, compared to 30 or 32 before I came in here. It is all this slop I eat in prison that put it here," said Ray, as he slapped a slight bulge over his stomach.

Ray said he had granted only one other interview to a newspaper and that was the National Enquirer in February. Several television newsmen have photographed and gotten brief quotes from him at the prison.

"I rarely feel up to giving interviews," Ray said. "When you have been in solitary confinement for as long as I have, and the only people you have talked to are lawyers and prison guards, you get kinda nervous talking to others."

After an interview with The Press-Scimitar, Ray refused to be photographed and interviewed by a Nashville television crew.

"Interview my attorney — I don't feel up to any more questions today," he told the television crew.

It was at this point, Livingston revealed the information

concerning the intermediary seeking immunity for the two gunmen.

During the interview with Ray, Ray said he had quit reading the books about the King assassination and those contending that he had fired the shot out of "racist motives."

Ray said: "I have never hated blacks. If you will check the psychiatric tests given to me at the Missouri State Prison, you won't find any reference to any prejudice or bias against blacks. If I were prejudicial, you would think it would show up in prison psychiatric interviews."

Ray said he spends most of his reading time studying law books — when he can get them from the prison library. He said he has become very interested in criminal and constitutional law, as well as contracts in the field of civil law.

Another Memphis attorney, Richard Ryan, who has represented Ray in civil matters, told this reporter to ask Ray how he so quickly obtains the decisions of recent cases rendered by U.S. Supreme Court and federal courts.

Ray Gets News Quickly

"Ray finds out about these case holdings before they are in the advance sheets sent by the courts to the lawyers," Ryan said. "Yet, Ray is complaining he does not have access to enough law books."

When asked how he gets access to these court decisions, he grinned:

"The news travels fast in prison — even to a guy in solitary confinement."

Ray explained that when a decision is rendered by a court, the prisoner involved in the case is usually promptly contacted by his lawyer. Then the prisoner tells his fellow prisoners, and the news is rapidly transmitted through the prison population by word of mouth.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

'Conspiracy' Killed King, Says Lawyer

By MICHAEL LOLLAR

James Earl Ray's Memphis attorney claimed yesterday he has been in periodic contact since March with a representative of "the three men who actually carried out the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr."

Promoting a "conspiracy theory" behind the April 4, 1968, slaying, Robert I. Livingston said the intermediary is seeking immunity from prosecution for the slaying conspirators. The attorney said the slayers want to testify—"in revenge"—against "four Southern gentlemen" who hired them, not Ray, to murder King.

U.S. Atty. Thomas F. Turley Jr. was doubtful of the intermediary's claims, and an investigator who was closely associated with the King case said, "I can't get excited about it"

Any renewed federal investigation of the slaying would be at Turley's request. But, he said, "This office has not received any evidence from anybody which changes the conclusions about this case reached years ago after exhaustive review of the results of a thorough worldwide investigation."

"If Mr. Ray, his latest lawyer or both have any such evidence we will be pleased to receive and pursue it. Meanwhile, we are not going to be made pawns in a publicity game, nor inveigled into chasing easily fabricated self-serving rumors."

"Mr. Livingston may have been denied such experiences, but this office is contacted regularly by intermediaries of unidentified persons said to be willing and claimed to be able to solve, in exchange for immunity, crimes ranging from the so-called 'Donation of Constantine' to the murder of Cock Robin. And we have no intention of running such rabbit tracks in the Ray case or any other. As Justin Wilson (the comedian) says, 'We've been dar.'"

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

— PAGE 23

— COMMERCIAL APPEAL

— MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 5/25/74

Edition:

Author:

Editor: GORDAN HANNA

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: MEMPHIS

☐ Being Investigated44-38861-5947
ENCLOSURE

Shelby County Atty. Gen. Hugh Stanton Jr. said he discussed the conspiracy theory with Livingston yesterday morning. "It was all real secret until he later got on television." Stanton said he "got the impression" that the intermediary actually was one of the "three men" Livingston claims to be the slayers.

"I told him I would be glad to talk to anybody who has any information about the case or any other case. But I can't grant immunity to anyone without knowing what they're talking about. I'll have to talk to them before making a decision. You can't call balls and strikes from left field."

sination.

Livingston had said earlier: "They all think this is a hoax, a farce and a sham, a grandstand play, but if they find my dead body lying out here somewhere they'll say, 'Well, maybe there was a conspiracy.'"

He said he doesn't believe a "lone gunman theory" in any political assassination.

The attorney said he has met the intermediary—a 50- to 60-year-old educated white man — in person twice and talked to him by telephone on several occasions. He doesn't know where the telephone calls originated.

Livingston said the man did identify himself, "but I'm sure it was a bogus name." He refused to divulge the name. "I wouldn't even tell the FBI that. I'd rather die. I'm not trying to set anybody up."

He said the intermediary has told him eight men were involved altogether, including Ray as the "patsy." He said Ray was chosen as the patsy, because, "He's just a gullible-type sort of fellow, easily influenced and led around. He had never been a high-powered criminal all his life, just penny ante stuff like sticking up grocery stores and things like that."

Livingston said four Southern men — at least one of whom is black — originated the murder plot. He said their motive was either "hate" or the belief that "eradication of Dr. King would be for the good of the American nation."

The attorney said the intermediary strongly indicated one of the four — “each socially and financially prominent” — is from Memphis. “I didn’t ask for any names. When someone is volunteering information you can’t push them, because all they have to do is stop talking.”

Supposedly, they hired three men to carry out the murder. Two of the men were professional gunmen, the third “something else.” Livingston said each of the three is a white male, and one, the actual gunman, “is a professional triggerman known to the FBI because of other offenses and wild escapades he’s been involved in.”

According to his conspiracy theory, the three slayers were promised \$250,000, of which \$100,000 would go to the triggerman. Their current efforts to seek “revenge” stem from a “failure to make the full payoff and possibly other things,” Livingston said.

Denying a publicity scheme, Livingston said, “They (disbelievers) think the same thing about me that they think about UFOs, but I know what I’ve seen and heard.”

F B I

Date: 6/4/74

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

For Savannah's information, JAMES EARL RAY is to be afforded an evidentiary hearing in the USDC, WDT, Memphis, to determine whether or not he was properly represented by Attorney PERCY FOREMAN at the time that RAY pleaded guilty in State Court to the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING. RAY is being represented by Attorneys BERNARD FENSTERWALD, WDC, and ROBERT LIVINGSTON of Memphis. The State's case is being handled by HENRY HAILE of the Attorney General's Office, Nashville, Tenn.

ROBERT LIVINGSTON has recently made statements to the news media that he has been in touch with a man who claims that he and two others are responsible for the murder of KING and that RAY was an innocent "fall guy" who was used by the real killers. According to LIVINGSTON, these three men will testify if granted immunity and will name the four men who hired them to kill KING. LIVINGSTON appears to believe this story and has confidentially advised the District Attorney General at Memphis of two meetings had by him with one of the three men. One such meeting was at Memphis during late March, 1974, and the other meeting was in Detroit on 4/20/74. At the Detroit meeting this individual, using the name CLIFF ANDREWS, was accompanied by his wife who used the name MARGARET.

On 6/3/74, Mr. HENRY HAILE advised SA JOE C. HESTER that GEORGE McMILLAN, an author writing a book about KING's murder, has told HAILE that he believes LIVINGSTON's contact is one RAYMOND CURTIS who escaped from the Georgia State Prison at Reidsville, Ga., about 6 months ago.

② - Bureau
2 - Savannah
2 - Memphis
JCH:jap
(6)

REC-85

44-38861-5948
15 JUN 6 1974

54 JUN 13 1974
Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1972 - 455-574

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

JUN 6 12 17 PM '74

F.B.I.

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

JUN 6 12 17 PM '74

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-100000)
SUBJECT: [Illegible]

[Illegible body text]

[Illegible body text]

RE: [Illegible]

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-100000)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-100000)

ME 44-1987

LIVINGSTON has described CLIFF ANDREWS as a middle aged white male having a large frame, brown hair streaked with gray, and as being very distinguished looking. ANDREWS also spoke with a French accent and claimed to be a resident of Canada. McMILLAN has apparently been in contact with RAYMOND CURTIS and states he fits this general description. McMILLAN also told HAILE that CURTIS claimed to have information regarding the KING murder but, in fact, he did not.

LEADS:

SAVANNAH DIVISION

AT REIDSVILLE, GEORGIA Will promptly furnish Memphis copies of the best available photograph of CURTIS plus any psychiatric evaluation documents available from prison or parole files.

Will furnish all available information concerning his criminal background with particular emphasis on whether or not he has ever been involved in any confidence schemes.

Will furnish details regarding any State or Federal process outstanding against CURTIS.

PLEASE EXPEDITE.

F B I

Date: 6/5/74

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)

Enclosed for the Bureau are two copies of a transcript of a television interview given by RAY's attorney, ROBERT LIVINGSTON, at Nashville, Tenn., on 5/24/74. This transcript was furnished to SA JOE C. HESTER by Assistant District Attorney General HENRY HAILE of Nashville, Tenn.

② - Bureau (Encs. 2)
1 - Memphis
JCH:mrp
(3)

EX-115
REC-25

4 JUN 7 1974

JUN 17 1974
Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

Per _____

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1972 - 455-574

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

JUN 7 11 39 AM '74

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

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

JUN 7 11 40 AM '74

Friday - May 24, 1974 ---

Channel 5, - "Stanley Seigel Talk Show" ---

ROBERT LIVINGSTON: Interview

SEIGEL: This was taped yesterday at the Tennessee State Prison, May 23, 1974. His name is Robert Livingston, and here is his assessment as to who, in fact, did kill Dr. Martin Luther King.

Q. All right, sir. You are going to defend James Earl Ray if he goes to trial?

A. Yes, that's true. We have the matter in the U. S. Supreme Court right now. I say we do - the State of Tennessee does. They filed their petition for writ of certiorari and when the case is tried in Shelby County Tennessee on its merits, well, the present plan is - there are three lawyers involved and the understanding with Mr. Ray is that I will be the lead counsel and serve in the actual trial because the other two lawyers who are from Washington D. C. have never tried a case inside the state of Tennessee and I have had twenty years experience in this field.

Q. You are telling us that you have significant information

44-38861-5949
ENCLOSURE

to give the impression that James Earl Ray did not pull the trigger on the rifle that killed Dr. Martin Luther King?

A. Mr. Ray is willing to take a polygraph test to that effect and answer that question, "did you actually pull the trigger on the rifle that killed Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.?" He says he did not. We have information during the past ninety days that is sufficient to convince us that he was the "fall guy", he was "set up" and he was "sucked in" by a group of highly trained professionals.

Q. You also have information that would identify the man who did do it, is that what you are telling us?

A. We have strong suspicions in that direction.

Q. Is he a famous man?

A. Well, no, he is not a famous man and ... well, some of his ... from many of his escapades, it is a wonder he hasn't become a famous man, but he is not widely known.

Q. Is he living in the United States?

A. We have reason to believe that he is. Now, he is famous to the F.B.I. I will go that far.

Q. The man that killed Dr. Martin Luther King, then, is living in the United States?

A. It is my impression that he is, yes.

Q. How did you get that information?

A. Well, we were contacted by certain individuals that had information pertaining to this case and we met with those individuals and they divulged what information that they had; to us, and through investigations and talking to various and sundry people around the country we have come to these conclusions.

Q. For what purpose did he do it?

A. For what purpose did the man kill King? The guy who actually pulled the trigger?

Q. Yes, sir.

A. For money, for money - a substantial sum of money. He had no feelings one way or the other toward Dr. King. He is a hired killer. He done his thing, and Dr. King was doing his thing. He had no qualms with Dr. King.... no interest in Dr. King's stand on any matter or philosophy. He did it for money, a substantial sum of money.

Q. How much money?

A. I would say about \$250,000.00 - is the figure reputed to us.

Q. Was he paid that money?

A. It is my understanding that he got \$100,000.00 of it.

Q. Can you tell us something about the man - was he a white man, a black man, a rich man, a poor man?

A. From the information that we have, he is a white man.

Q. And what does he do, is he a member of the Mafia, for example?

A. No, no ties with the Mafia.

Q. Does he have any political ties at all?

A. No political ties whatever.

Q. He is a hired mercinery?

A. He is a professional killer.

Q. You say the F.B.I. know this man? Know who he is?

A. They know this man and uh,.... yes, they know this man. They have not yet, as of our knowledge, connected him up with this particular case, but he is known to the FBI.

Q. So, they don't know that he did do this?

A. They don't know it yet.

Q. Well, when are you going to blow the whistle on this man?

A. We may never.

Q. Why not?

A. Well, because of this. We are fighting a legal battle involving Mr. Ray, at the present time, and if we can

win in the courtrooms on the legality of this matter, very likely this will never be revealed ... it very likely will never be revealed.

Q. In other words, James Earl Ray might get out based on the evidentiary hearing and then the killer would still be at large?

A. That is entirely possible ... entirely possible.

Q. Have you talked to the killer?

A. No, I haven't.

Q. Why did this man tip you off - the person that tipped you off about the killer?

A. Seeking immunity....for the, for the man that committed the offense.

Q. I don't understand what you mean. Was he in trouble too, though?

A. Immunity from prosecution.

Q. He's in trouble himself, the tipster is in trouble, too?

A. Professional ... professional criminals.

Q. Have you told anybody about this yet?

A. I told Bernard Fensterwald in Washington, D.C. I told you here today. That's it.

Q. Are you willing to take a polygraph test to establish the truth of this story?

A. Why, of course I would. I would take a polygraph test.

Q. So you believe there was some conspiracy?

A. Oh, most assuredly. I believe there was a conspiracy.

Q. Well, speculate on the motive?

A. Motive? Well, hate .. hate for Dr. King, and his stand and his position, and his philosophy. Just sheer hate, nothing more, nothing else.

Q. But the man who killed him himself had no hate, he was just a

A. No feelings.

Q. He was just as a hired gun.

A. No feelings whatever. Would have no more feeling than shooting a dog. No argument, no quarels with Dr. King, just a gun for hire.

Q. Well, then, how did Mr. Ray get involved in this, how did he become the fall guy?

A. He was set up and sucked in by a group of highly trained professionals.

Q. Well, how do they operate, Mr. Livingston?

A. Well, they bring people in and they give them certain assignments under the guise that they are doing one thing when, in effect, they are in reality doing something else, and not realizing the full extent of their action.

Q. Well, let's suppose, for example, that I am James Earl Ray, the man now convicted for the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King. How do they get to me. How did this come about?

A. Well, the information that we have, it was decided by a group of individuals that Dr. King had to go, and these professionals were contacted to carry out the job. They needed a fall guy and Ray had just escaped from the Missouri State Prison in Missouri, Jefferson City, Mo. and he was singled out as being a person to qualify to be set up and inticed into this. Ray admits that he was at 422-1/2 South Main, on April 4th, 1968, the day that Dr. King was killed, but he was told that he was going there for the purpose of showing this rifle to a professional gun runner and then if this gun runner liked this rifle then they were going to get into the gun-running business, and Ray went there, he admits he was there, but he was under the impression that he was there for the purpose of getting into the gun-running business between here and Latin America ... that he was not there for the purpose of killing Dr. King, he had no knowledge that Dr. King was going to be killed, he admits that he

there for the purpose of engaging in illegal activities but that he had no knowledge that King was going to be killed and did not know that King had been killed until he had reached Renada, Mississippi, some seventy-five miles south of Memphis.

Q. Well, why were his fingerprints on the gun?

A. His fingerprints were on the gun because the people had set him up ... had sent him into the store in Birmingham to buy the rifle, he handled the rifle continuously because he was told that that was the rifle that was going to be shown to this professional gunman

Q. What do you mean was going to be shown ... do you mean like a rifle that was to be given, or something?

A. Exhibited ... exhibited to this man.

Q. For what purpose?

A. To see if that was the type of rifle he wanted and if it was the type of rifle that he wanted then they were going to get into the business of supplying this particular type of rifle to this particular individual to carry them down into the Latin American country... It was to be used in Revolutions.

Q. So he was a gun-runner, then, James Earl Ray?

A. He was trying to get in it, he thought ... he was not a gun runner, he had never been a gun runner, but he was led to believe by these professionals that they were going to get into the gun running business.

Q. Well, then why did he run away to England ... I mean, if his offense was relatively minor, why did he escape?

A. Why wouldn't anybody run ... they found a rifle with his fingerprints on it. He had handled the rifle ... he admits he had handled the rifle, but

Q. But you said that he didn't know about the killing until afterwards?

A. Until after it had been committed.

Q. And then he realized that his fingerprints were on the gun?

A. Why, he had to know it.

Q. Well, didn't he surrender the gun to these men?

A. No, he didn't surrender the gun there. The gun was found in front of Canipe's Amusement Store in Memphis on South Main Street. It was thrown down. And we say it was not thrown down by James Earl Ray.

Good

F B I

Date: 6/12/74

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
 FROM: SAC, SAVANNAH (44-1768) (RUC)
 SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re ME airtel to Bureau 6/4/74.

Enclosed for Atlanta is one copy of reairtel.

Enclosed for Memphis is one photograph of RAYMOND LEWIS CURTIS and a copy of an autobiography written by CURTIS for his parole officer in approximately 1970.

On 6/11/74, L. L. MC GREGOR, Records Custodian, Georgia State Prison, Reidsville, Ga., advised that RAYMOND LEWIS CURTIS was convicted of Murder and sentenced to life imprisonment in Whitfield Co., Ga., on 7/26/67. CURTIS was transferred to Ware County Correctional Institution, Waycross, Ga., on 4/1/71. MC GREGOR stated that he has no records of CURTIS other than the index card.

Review of Savannah file 88-6573, reveals that CURTIS escaped from Ware County Correctional Institution in 1972, and was the subject of a UFAC matter.

~~RE: 44-38861~~ Atlanta designated Office of Origin in this case.

LEAD:ATLANTA

Furnish Memphis all pertinent information with regard to CURTIS, AT 88-13285. Pay particular attention to information requested by Memphis in re airtel.

- (2)-Bureau
- 2-Atlanta (Enc. 1)
- 2-Memphis (Encs. 2)
- 2-Savannah

CRC/hja

(9)

REC-73

ST-101

4 JUN 19 1974

McDONALD

Approved: 58 JUN 25 1974

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M

Per

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

JUN 19 1 49 PM '74

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

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

JUN 19 1 49 PM '74

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (100-441100) FROM SAC, NEW YORK (100-100000) (P)
SUBJECT: [REDACTED] (NY 100-100000) (P)

RE: [REDACTED]

NY 100-100000

[REDACTED] (NY 100-100000) (P)

On June 18, 1974, [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] had been
contacted by [REDACTED] who stated that [REDACTED] was
interested in [REDACTED] and was willing to pay [REDACTED] for the same.

On June 18, 1974, [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] had been
contacted by [REDACTED] who stated that [REDACTED] was
interested in [REDACTED] and was willing to pay [REDACTED] for the same.

On June 18, 1974, [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] had been
contacted by [REDACTED] who stated that [REDACTED] was
interested in [REDACTED] and was willing to pay [REDACTED] for the same.

NY 100-100000

NY 100-100000 (100-100000) (P)

NY 100-100000 (100-100000) (P)

NY 100-100000

F B I

Date: 6/18/74

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

Assoc. Dir.	_____
Dep.-A.D.-Adm.	_____
Dep.-A.D.-Inv.	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Admin.	_____
Comp. Syst.	_____
Ext. Affairs	_____
Files & Com.	_____
Gen. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Inspection	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Plan. & Eval.	_____
Spec. Inv.	_____
Training	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director See'y	_____

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703)

MURKIN
(OO:ME)

Enclosed for the Bureau and each office is a transcript of a conversation between SHIRLEY GAINES and BILL (MNU) HARRIS concerning captioned matter.

On 5/28/74, DAVID J. GAINES, 6171 Leesburg Pike, Apartment 532, Falls Church, Virginia, telephone 534-5572, contacted WFO and stated he would like to make available a tape recording for the FBI's consideration concerning the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING.

GAINES stated that the tape contains a conversation between his wife, SHIRLEY GAINES, and an individual who identifies himself as BILL (MNU) HARRIS. According to GAINES, both participants on the tape were in a semi-intoxicated condition when the recording was made. In the recording, HARRIS states that JAMES EARL RAY had nothing to do with the assassination of KING but that he and others connected with the United Auto Workers and the Teamsters Union planned and paid for the assassination.

The record reportedly was made while GAINES was on a job as a private court and conference reporter at a public hearing on Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Citizen Advisory Commission at Brunswick, Maryland, sometime in June of 1972. He stated that during this time he and his wife were staying at the Hawaiian Hotel in Brunswick, Maryland. HARRIS and several other men were staying in the room next to theirs.

GAINES stated that his wife, SHIRLEY, heard on the radio recently that several men were being investigated for their part in the assassination of KING. She then remembered the tape that she and HARRIS had made. GAINES stated that after listening to the tape he decided to bring it to the FBI.

ENCLOSURE

- ② - Bureau (Enc 1)
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987) (Enc 1) **REC-84**
- 1 - Alexandria (Info) (Enc 1)
- 1 - Baltimore (Info) (Enc 1)
- 1 - WFO

ABK:ctw
(7)Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per 24 1974

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1972 - 455-574

RECEIVED
F.B.I. INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION 5710

4/18/74
for

REC'D-CIV RIGHTS
F.B.I.

JUN 18 8 06 PM '74

JUN 19 7 27 AM '74

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

COPIES MADE, DATE 5/14/78 BY
RCP/SS RE M.L. King, Jr.
FOR REVIEW AT FBI JAMISON DELIVERY
TO HSCA RE REQUEST DATED 8/13/78
(SEE BUFILE 62-117280)

WFO 44-703

He stated that the tape is a copy and that he retains the original at his home, which the FBI may have if they desire to.

In view of the fact that WFO does not have available all the facts concerning the assassination of KING and since Memphis was office of origin, the Memphis Office should review the transcript to determine if any investigation need be conducted as a result of information contained in the transcript.

Information copies are being sent to Alexandria and Baltimore in the event additional investigation is requested by Memphis.

Woman: Before you start talking, your first name?

Male: Bill Harris.

Woman: What?

Male: Bill Harris.

Woman: Bill Harris is taling.

Male: With the (inaudible)

Woman: All right. Hold on just a minute. Bill, Bill;
would you shut up a minute.

Male: Right.

Woman: This is Bill Harris here at the Hawaiian Hotel.

He's sitting here across from me and we're doing a bit
of talking and he's chuckling in the process, but he has
something to say. He's a very, very intelligent person.
Would you shut up a minute. I've read you out already.

Male: I've read you out honey, and you're more better
than I am.

Woman: Would you hush a minute.

Male: Yeah.

Woman: Now, here is an individual who's lived a great
deal. I think (inaudible) would you shut up a minute.
I've seen his hand, I've washed his body, I've listened
to him, I've watched him. He's a fine person. I think
in some ways, because of the extent of his intelligence

44-38861-5951

ENCLOSURE

he's a bit frustrated because ah, I think he's deeply soggy, and I've washed him and listened to him. Many times people with the lower levels of psychic ability have this thing. I think Bill is one of them. (tape brke, approximately 30 seconds) I don't think to the extent you and I have, David. Ah, and I think maybe we can introduce him to some areas of study that will mean a great deal to him, and I will try to do so. But, I, I'm going to leave this tape on because he's had some very, very significant experiences in his life that are interesting to listen to and to assess. And so, Bill, come on, in an organized way say, how it is with you.

Bill: I've been tied up with organized labor for the last eleven years.

Woman: All right, organized labor in what form?

Bill: In form of organizing.

Woman: What level?

Bill: In the organizing labor form and the ah, ah, the form of deciding where we strike and when we strike in public employees. I was with Martin Luther King when he was struck in Memphis, Tennessee. I was with Jim Pierce when we decide whether we're going to strike in Memphis, and I was the predominant figure that strived that this was the place that we ought to decide the South.

The only ah, decedent that I had was in the black organization, was when we was going against Globe, a Jewish fellow who was elected by organized labor in Memphis. And, ah, then, the president of the Acme Corporation was Jerry Worth, the side we would win and they asked me, that we would win in Memphis because of whether we had to sacrifice who it was and what it was. Ah, I firmly believe that Martin Luther King was a sacrifice for labor movement and he was killed by the labor movement. They can accuse who they want to, but, I firmly believe that Mr. Ray, or whoever it was, was committed to kill Martin Luther King, was killed by assassines, unknown, was killed by the labor movement. And I'll tell you why. Jerry Worth, at that time, was committed when I was at the last meeting with Martin Luther King in Memphis, Tennessee. Now, I was there when the President of the Union was there. I was their national organizer. I was the Regional Director of the American Federation of State State (inaudible) Employees. And when Martin Luther King was assassinated I was the Director of the Regional Director, Southern Director of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees. And, Mr. Worth walked in and took over the operation and he told me period I was no longer in charge of the operations, that he was in charge of the operations. From then on, and from

that day forward, until the 27th day of Martin Luther King's assassination, he was in charge period.

Woman: What was that man's name again?

Bill: Jerry Worth. He was the President of our International. Until that day, Martin Luther King went to Atlanta, two days prior to that he went to Atlanta to go to the Flowers Church. He asked that he not be brought back in a field of violence and subside. He did not want to participate in any organization with violence. My international president assured him that there would be no violence.

I was the principle organizer of the drive.

Female: What drive?

Bill: In Memphis, Tennessee. You don't believe me do you? All right. I asked him. And Jim Pierce was my Regional Director. I asked Jerry Worth whether or not he could assure me that there would be no violence, no other thing, and we would ask Martin Luther King to return to Memphis. He told me in his own words, he guaranteed me there would be no violence on any part. The preachers in the church in Memphis and the Alabama Church in the Albania Church, the Lutheran Church, told me that there would be no violence and I told my president and Jerry Worth quoted me. We paid Martin Luther King to be flown to Memphis, Tennessee and there was a conspiracy to assassinate him among the unions before he

got there.

Woman: Which union?

Bill: Teamsters. And they paid for it.

Woman: Was there other unions involved in that?

Well, ask him.

Bill: All the workers, the teamsters, and AFLCIO conspired to pay the man to kill Martin Luther King.

Woman: How do you know this?

Bill: I know this because I was there. The money was paid to the man and he got him in a \$10,000, collect (inaudible)

Woman: Well, David, you've heard Bill, ah, what is your last name? Oh that's right.

Bill: (inaudible)

Woman: Of course honey. Listen, I've had so many thing said to me where I could never say anything.

Male: (inaudible)

Woman: What are you laughing at? How do you spell your last name? How do you spell your last name?

Harris. Don't worry about it. Now, you tell me that you think you are an alcoholic. I don't think so, you've gone through an awful lot. Sure, you have memories. All right you say this on tape. In just a moment. Wait just a moment. Will you wait just a moment. Let me talk again. I would never ever presume to print anything that I have on this

tape. No. I would never do it. But, I tell you one thing right now, Bill, you're there. A lifetime in a short time. There are others you know, who live a lifetime in a short time. You've learned something.

Bill: (inaudible)

Woman: Let me ask you a question? Would you let me ask you a question? Shhhhhhh. Let me ask you a question. Would you shut up a minute. Let . . . I want to ask you a question.

Bill: (inaudible) Go ahead.

Woman: Out of the all the life experience that you had, and some of it I know has been very very rough, I know it could have been more so in this life. Shhhhhh, just a moment. Gather your thoughts together, because I want a concrete answer.

Bill: (inaudible)

Woman: I want you to say on this tape what it is in your inner most self you feel you've learned from all this turbulence and life experience you've passed through. I know it has changed your life in many ways. I'm hoping it has changed it in a positive way rather than a negative way and perhaps you can say what has all this meant to you, within the last five years, can you say? All right, take the mike, gather your thoughts together and see if you can say what all this has meant to you. From a perhaps detached and

philosophical point of view at this stage in your life.

It's been rough I know, but see if you can say, all right.

Bill: All right, before this all happened, I was a beautiful individual. There was a point where I was ah, we had to have Martin, we had to have somebody to win this thing. I was subjected first of all to killing Martin Luther King. I objected violently to it.

Woman: And when were you born?

Bill:

P11

Woman: Where?

Bill: In a little southern town in North Carolina.

Woman: Where?

P11

Bill: I was born in North Carolina in [] in a little town called, White Lake, North Carolina. I was violently opposed to the assassination when I started out with. I was told, now this is, in personal invitation, I've left the labor movement since then. I've not been associated with the labor movement since then. I was violently opposed to the assassination when I was told it had to be. And Ray has no connection with the assassination whatsoever. He was perpetrated by the labor movement, he was marked by the teamsters union. He was shot and killed by the teamsters union and the figure you have there today was only a figure. Ray is only a damn figure of the imagination.

A guy who was perpetrated, put there, gave him money to be there and perpetrated for it. The International Organization paid politically to assassinate Martin Luther King. They had to win in Memphis, they had to beat the governor there, the Mayor there, because he was Jewish. He was elected by the labor movement.

Woman: Who was it?

Bill: I don't know who the hell it was. The Jew there was a guy who owned all of his cars, a damn hamburger stand. He was Jewish to start out with. His name was Jewish.

Now I was brought in there, not as a participant. I was brought in there as a damn organizer. I was told what to do. Martin Luther King was assassinated by the labor movement, by the teamsters union, and Ray had nothing to do with it. Not one thing. No part of it. No part of it. He couldn't have fired the first shot. Because nobody knew he was then at, but Jerry Worth, myself and Ray, let's see, knew where Martin Luther King was staying at.

Woman: My darling. If you've sort of bared your soul.

Bill: I haven't bared my soul.

Woman: Well, up to a point, yes. Ah, it's good for you. Would you hush a minute. The FBI, you know, has worked on this too. Well, would you hush a minute.

Bill: (inaudible)