

I went back outside and gave Jerry Prokos the four drinks and then went back to the car with Jon Frabbie with our two drinks. More time passes and when I was ready to go back home and go to sleep right before I left I saw that everyone but Jerry Prokos had left Aunt Charlie's. Jerry Prokos told me that he would have to wait until he was finished with buying the cocaine before he could purchase any antiques as he didn't know how much money he would have left.

Again I emphasized the fact that I wanted absolutely nothing to do with the drug dealings or any illegal activities. After speaking with Jerry Prokos I left Aunt Charlie's and went home to my mother's home to go to sleep. Before I left Aunt Charlie's, Jerry Prokos told me that he'll be through with his business by tomorrow night, so that he would know how much money he would have left to spend on art and antiques by then. He urged me to meet him at Aunt Charlie's the following night with photographs and materials.

The second night that Jerry Prokos was in town I went to Aunt Charlie's with my photographs of jade sculptures. When I arrived the second night neither Jerry Prokos or Special Agent Jerry Chapman were there. Scott Boyd, Tommy Rauschenberg, Jimmy Boyd and his girl friend, Jan Beechcamp and Anne Rhett had arrived. I was talking with Jimmy Boyd and his girl friend when Jerry Prokos came in with Special Agent Jerry Chapman.

When Jerry Prokos first walked in I asked him if he had finished his business yet, and he said that he hadn't. I told him that when he was through with his business for him to get with me which he assured me that he would. I sat with him and Special Agent Jerry Chapman for a few moments and showed them photographs of the ancient Chinese jade sculptures.

Tommy Rauschenberg was on the phone at this time and when he got off the telephone at this time and when he got off the phone, he whispered something into the ear of Jerry Prokos and then Jerry Prokos was whispering to Special Agent Jerry Chapman and then Special Agent Jerry Chapman got up and left with Tommy Rauschenberg and Scott Boyd.

The rest of the evening until I was arrested I was sitting with Jimmy Boyd, Jimmy Boyd's girl friend and Anne Rhett at a table with Jerry Prokos. We were not discussing drugs or anything of the sort. I was discussing ancient Chinese jade sculptures and old times, and what mutual friends were doing.

Just moments before Federal D.E.A. agents stormed into Aunt Charlie's Jimmy Boyd got up to use the rest room and his girl friend went to get more drinks or something, leaving just Anne Rhett, myself and Jerry Prokos there. At this time, Jerry Prokos attempted to give me a large amount of money in advance as a down payment for the purchase of ancient Chinese jade sculptures. He also attempted to purchase a black jade and 14K gold bracelet, an antique green jade Ching Dynasty jade amulet and 18K gold chain for more than what they were worth.

I didn't accept this money from Mr. Proctor and I had only photographs of jade sculptures with me and because I felt that Mr. Proctor's behavior was of a highly suspicious nature. There were people there that night who would be willing to testify to this. I now know that Mr. Proctor was attempting to give me marked one hundred dollar notes which would have linked me to that cocaine deal.

At the time of my arrest in Aunt Charlie's I offered absolutely no resistance to the agents of the D.E.A. but with handcuffs upon my hands I was beaten by the D.E.A. agents right in front of the front window of Aunt Charlie's so that all who were inside of Aunt Charlie's could see. There were many people there that night who will gladly testify to this, I'm sure. Yet, this is not the full extent of my abuse.

Upon entering Aunt Charlie's these same Federal D.E.A. agents cursed me and called me a faggot, loudly stating such slanderous insults as "Byron, you goddamn faggot! So you want to go back to prison and suck some more dicks and take it in the ass." I was also physically struck inside the establishment of Aunt Charlie's by these same fine representatives of the Federal Government. Furthermore, Agent Bennie Swint, Jr. made the remark very loudly so that all could hear "Come on you goddamn faggot, move it! You're going back to prison to suck some big dicks."

Certainly this is slander, not discounting the fact that I was struck numerous times in a public place. Many girl friends know that I have no unnatural sex drives. These same agents robbed me of over \$70.00. I can prove the manner in which I earned this money which was my Social Security check which I had cashed, some of which I had spent. I can produce people who were there to testify to the fact that I had the money just moments prior to my arrest. Plus, I have the receipt still where I had only \$1.85 when I entered the Fulton County Jail immediately after my arrest.

I shall not fail to mention that upon my arrival at the D.E.A. headquarters in Atlanta, where I was taken first after I was picked up at Aunt Charlie's, agent Bennie Swint, Jr. took me to an office to further search me and "talk to me." Once agent Bennie Swint, Jr. and I were alone in that office, Bennie Swint said to me "Now why don't you call Brad Marcello up and ask him to sell you a pound of heroin. I bet you he won't do it now."

Also, at this time agent Bennie Swint, Jr. removed a black jade and 14K gold bracelet from my arm which I had purchased for cash 12/5/74 and for which I still have my receipt as well as an antique silver malacite ring which I also still have my receipt for where I bought them. I also had in my possession one Chien Lung (ca. 1750 A.D.) white jade amulet of a lock which was buried with the dead to lock their spirits to the earth so that they wouldn't become ghosts. These items were never returned to me nor was I given a receipt for them by agent Bennie Swint. There are people who were there at Aunt Charlie's that night who would testify that I was wearing both the malacite ring, black jade and 14K gold bracelet and that I had the Chien Lung jade lock at the time of my arrest. I didn't have any of these articles when I arrived at the Fulton County Jail so I have no receipt for them

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from the D.E.A. as I wasn't given one. It is apparent that when officer Bonnie Swint, Jr. talked to me and searched me privately in an office of the D.E.A. he stole these articles from me. The D.E.A. now deny having these items.

At the Preliminary Hearing, Judge Joel Tolman dropped the charges against me because of a note he had received from the D.E.A. stating that I had been working with them providing information on drug trafficking. Harold A. Gold of Nadler and Gold (Suite 1710, Rhodes-Haverty Bldg., 134 Peachtree St., Atlanta) represented me at the Preliminary Hearing.

I was indicted by the Federal Grand Jury on the charge of conspiring to distribute six ounces of cocaine on March 6th. I was charged with conspiracy to sell and distribute 10 ounces of cocaine at the Preliminary Hearing at which the charges were dropped. What happened to the four missing ounces of cocaine?

The original charges against us was conspiracy to sell and distribute 10 ounces of cocaine and by the time the charges reached the Grand Jury, it's only 6 ounces. Now here is a surprise, while Tommy Rauschenberg was in jail with me, he told me that he had sold Special Agent Jerry Chapman 2 lbs of cocaine that night and Scott Boyd agreed with Tommy Rauschenberg as to this fact - that it was 2 lbs of cocaine that Tommy Rauschenberg sold - not 6 ounces as the charges stand now and not 10 ounces as the charges were at the Preliminary Hearing.

What happened to the rest of the cocaine which the agents seized, Tommy Rauschenberg has been sentenced to seven years in Federal prison with no parole, so he will probably be willing to testify as to the amount of cocaine which he sold to Special Agent Jerry Chapman the night of his arrest.

Mr. Harold A. Gold, who represented me at the Preliminary Hearing was an attorney for the Public Defenders office. William Scott Boyd was in the Fulton County Jail with me and was discussing with me the possibility of having Harold Gold represent him in this case. Jimmy Boyd, Scott Boyd's brother told my mother over the telephone that they were going to pay Mr. Gold to represent Scott Boyd. Shortly after this conversation occurred, Mr. Gold dropped my case completely.

While in jail Scott Boyd wrote a letter to Mr. Bernard Fensterwald stating that I had absolutely nothing to do with the sale or distribution of the cocaine for which I had been charged. Scott Boyd also indicated in his letter to Mr. Fensterwald that I was being framed by Jerry Prokos, as I had absolutely nothing to do with that dope deal.

Later, I was told that Mr. Gold took Scott Boyd before a closed session of the Federal Grand Jury on March 6, 1975 where Scott Boyd testified that I set the whole cocaine deal up. I was told that Scott Boyd did this because Mr. Gold had promised him that he would receive a light sentence by so doing. My trial is set for April 14, 1975, 10:00 A.M. in the Old Post Office Bldg., Room 318, Judge James C. Hill, later changed to Judge Edenfeld.

Jerry Prokos has been convicted of two felonies, one for sales of heroin in Michigan and the other one for stealing an airplane. Brad Marcello (this is not his real name) who is from New Orleans, Louisiana was arrested in New Orleans towards the end of 1967 or the early part of 1968 for possession of heroin which was found in the garage portion of a garage apartment in which Brad Marcello was living. Brad Marcello made bond on this charge and then promptly left the state of Louisiana. He never went to court on this charge, and, according to the information which I have, these old charges are still pending against Brad Marcello in the State of Louisiana, although, it isn't on the NCIC computer used by the police as they are old charges. According to my information, there is still a warrant outstanding for Brad Marcello's arrest in New Orleans. These men are Federal narcotics agents and are protected by the Drug Enforcement Administration. This is why I have been framed for this charge.

If you'll remember, I had arranged to make a very large buy of narcotics from Brad Marcello, Jerry Prokos and Nick Catra when I first started to work for the D.E.A. I was not allowed to proceed and have Brad Marcello and his associates go through with the sale of a large amount of narcotics to my buyer who was to be a D.E.A. agent. Instead, I was framed by Jerry Prokos and arrested by the D.E.A.

Furthermore, I had arranged for the D.E.A. to make a sizeable buy of narcotics from ~~Charlie Land~~ whom I mentioned earlier. Charlie Land's brother is ~~Lemar Land~~ and they sell every kind of drug or narcotic which there is to sell, and yet, they are never arrested or anything, with the exception of a few couple of arrests which resulted in Charlie spending absolutely no time in prison. ~~he has been in the jail~~

I had also arranged for the D.E.A. agents to purchase cocaine from Mr. Ambroise of Ambroise & Company which is located directly across the street from the Old Post Office Building. Mr. Ambroise is Ron Daveney's partner in that business.

I originally met Ron Daveney through Bill Arnett as Ron Daveney was working with Bill Arnett in William and Robert Arnett, Inc. until Mr. Ron Daveney did many dishonest things to undermine Bill Arnett's business which resulted in Ron Daveney being kicked out of the company. After Bill Arnett threw Ron Daveney out of his business, Ron Daveney became associated with a Mr. Ambroise.

When Mr. Ambroise and Ron Daveney formed their partnership, they opened up a small art gallery on Poplar Street which is directly across the street from the Old Post Office building. The company is now listed under "Jewelers - Retail," 87 Poplar Street, N. W. Mr. Ambroise and Ron Daveney are now using Ambroise and Company as a front for the smuggling of narcotics into this country from South America in particular.

After my return from Chile, just prior to my decision to attempt to work for the Federal gangsters, Mr. Ambroise and I made contact when I wandered into his business off of the street one day after doing some research work on art. Upon introducing myself, Mr. Ambroise recognized me, (although, I do not remember having met him before). Mr. Ambroise approached me with the proposition that he would like for me to distribute narcotics for himself and Mr. Daveney. Mr. Ambroise informed

me that Mr. Davoney was in South America at that time so I needn't worry about them running out of cocaine. Mr. Ambroise had then informed me that he was working in association with Herman and Bill Jackson. Once I was employed by the D.E.A. as a special employee, I called Mr. Ambroise where upon he agreed to sell to my "buyer" a quantity of cocaine. My buyer was going to be a special agent of the D.E.A. I was never allowed to set this bust up, although, Mr. Ambroise had agreed to make the sale. I wonder if Mr. Ambroise is being given protection by the Federal gangsters.

Mr. Ambroise didn't even seem to worry or care about the fact that he told me that Ron Davoney was in South America to smuggle cocaine into this country. If I was involved in something like that, I certainly wouldn't just tell anyone about what I was doing. Mr. Ambroise told me that if I would distribute cocaine for him and Ron Davoney, I wouldn't have to worry about being arrested if I was careful as Mr. Ambroise is a very close personal friend and business associate of a Federal narcotics agent by the name of Mr. Woods from Clayton County, Georgia.

I didn't believe Mr. Ambroise when he told me this as I felt that he was just trying to get me to sell his dope for him and get me into trouble. Now I do completely doubt that there is any honesty as far as the D.E.A. is concerned.

Going back to Wayne who was a big time syndicate figure flying dope out of Columbia up through Florida, if you'll remember I did not know Wayne's last name, although, he was living in the Hill Top apartments off of Piedmont Road. I still remember the apartment in which Wayne lived. Wayne's apartment was located directly across from that of Mr. Jeff Wilcox's who was a local heroin addict, with whom I did not associate but knew only briefly and mostly I know him by his terrible reputation. There should still be 45 caliber bullet holes in that apartment where Wayne's little boy was playing with one of Wayne's machine guns and it went off.

Wayne was married to a woman of short stature with blond hair whom he always referred to as "the hooker." I suppose he nick named her that.

Going back to Brad Marcello, during one of Brad Marcello's and Jerry Prokos' trips to Atlanta, I introduced Jerry Prokos to Mr. Gary Margol and Mr. Jim Plant who is doing research work at Emory University in the fields of Bio-Chemistry and Micro-Biology. Neither Gary Margol or Jim Plant are drug dealers, nor involved in any illegal activities to my knowledge.

In any event, on Brad Marcello's and Jerry Prokos' next trip to Atlanta, they approached both Mr. Plant and Mr. Margol with an offer to pay them for helping Brad Marcello and Jerry Prokos set up a lab to make such drugs as MDA, PCP, STP, etc. Mr. Marcello and Mr. Prokos offered to pay for the lab and all of its equipment, chemicals, etc., as well as paying both Mr. Plant and Mr. Margol for their services, plus a percentage of the profits from the sale of the drugs that they would be making.

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Jerry Prokos and Brad Marcello were to sell the drugs which would be made by the lab. Both Jim Plant and Gary Marsol are not drug dealers so they flatly refused Mr. Marcello's and Mr. Prokos' offers as they wanted absolutely nothing to do with any illegal activities. I was out of town when this incident occurred, but was informed of this upon my return to Atlanta as my friends were somewhat upset about this. Mr. Marcello and Mr. Prokos also offered to sell and to front (give drugs on credit) drugs to Gary Marsol. In any case, Gary Marsol also refused Jerry Prokos and Brad Marcello when they offered to give drugs on credit to him to sell for them.

During my last trip to Detroit which I accompanied Brad Marcello on, if you'll remember, Brad Marcello left me in Detroit and flew to New York where he was buying drugs from Max Schullman who owns a publishing house and an art gallery in New York. Then Brad flew back in his private plane to Detroit where I still was. When Brad Marcello returned to Detroit he told me that he had a deal going to sell Wally Eisenberg, Bob "Bo" Garrett (who was into musical promotions) and Michael Tutock who owns Quality Concerts, 1006 David Scott Blvd., Detroit, Michigan 48226, phone number (313) 963-5131, a large quantity of cocaine.

Brad Marcello had arranged all of these dope deals separately and had offered to give me \$5,000.00 to deliver the dope from his plane to each of these people or their representatives. To prove to me that he was not lying, Brad Marcello phoned Michael Tutock at his home in Farmington who confirmed that he was buying a pound of cocaine from Brad Marcello. Michael Tutock also stated that he was selling some pounds of P.C.P. to Brad Marcello. Shortly after Brad Marcello made this offer to me, I jumped on the next jet out of Detroit to Atlanta leaving Brad with his dope deals.

Another odd incident occurred just about December 29, 1975 (I'm not sure as to the date). I was picked up by this girl by the name of Jon Frabbiele. While at Jon Frabbiele's apartment, Jerry Prokos called me and told me that he had gotten the number where I was from my mother. Jerry Prokos was calling me regarding his purchases of ancient Chinese jade sculptures and other objects of art which was to take place during Jerry Prokos' next trip to Atlanta. During my conversation with Jerry Prokos, I mentioned Brad Marcello's name.

After I was through talking to Jerry Prokos, Miss Frabbiele told me that she knew Brad Marcello, Brad Marcello's father and his brothers and whole family. Miss Frabbiele also indicated that she knew Nial Catri as well. It was at this time that Jon Frabbiele informed me that her father is Mr. Frabbiele, and that she came to Atlanta from New Orleans to hide out from her father and his mobster friends. This came as a shock to me. Then Jon Frabbiele started telling me that I should have absolutely nothing to do with Brad Marcello or anyone associated with him.

At this time Jon Frabbiele started telling me about the murder of Greg Culpepper in New Orleans sometime ago. Oddly though it may seem, I knew Greg Culpepper and his family for many years as they lived only a few houses down from my parents home on Wildwood Road. (Greg Culpepper's father owns the Buckhead House of Travel in Atlanta).

Craig Culpepper was selling cocaine, marijuana, and not for Mr. Marcello, Sr., Brad Marcello and Mr. Frabbiele in New Orleans, until such time that Craig Culpepper decided he had made enough money so that he could buy the horse ranch he had always wanted. He decided that he would stop dealing drugs and return to Atlanta the next morning. He was supposed to have had \$100,000.00 cash in his possession. His mistake was that he had informed Mr. Frabbiele and Brad Marcello that he wasn't going to deal for them anymore.

That night Federal narcotics agents broke into Craig's apartment and blew his head off with a double barrel shot gun. The agents said that Craig was about to run out the back door so they had to shoot him. The truth is that Mr. Marcello and Mr. Frabbiele ordered Craig killed because he knew too much, he was no longer going to work for them and because they wanted to rob him of the money which he had made selling their dope. You see, Miss Jon Frabbiele says that she had gone to Craig's apartment to warn him because she knew what was going to happen to Craig because she had overheard her father and Mr. Marcello, Sr. discussing the matter. I am 100% sure that Jon Frabbiele was telling the truth.

Just as soon as I mentioned Brad Marcello's name over the phone to Jerry Prokos, she pulled out a piece of paper from her purse with Brad Marcello's name, address and phone number, plus she had photographs of Brad Marcello. The last time I saw Craig Culpepper alive I just happen to run into him at Piedmont Park. He was with Frank Craft, and Joe South (the rock star).

* While I was in Asia with Bill Jackson, I learned through him that he had sent a shipment of Asian heroin back to the United States concealed inside a teakwood log. While in Bangkok, Bill Jackson purchased a lot of huge teakwood logs - One of these had a hollow place in it in which the heroin was hidden. After the heroin was hidden inside this hollow place in the log, it was packed in with dirt, then a layer of cement was added, covering this thin layer of cement was a layer of plastic wood or "wood puddy."

Bill Jackson's shipment of teakwood logs went to New York City. Bill Jackson was in contact with Max Schullman in New York by means of correspondence. While we were in Bangkok I saw the letters which Bill Jackson wrote to Max Schullman.

* One more thing, when I was arrested at Aunt Charlie's by the D.E.A. agents I was never given my rights, as the agents are suppose to do under the law. The reason the agents didn't give me my rights is because they were too busy beating me up and cussing me.

Marcello Marcello is Brad Marcello's brother.

Recently you should have received some material regarding the knowledge I have of the murder of Dr. King as well as my tremendous troubles which have resulted from my attempts to give what information I have to the Federal Government.

As my materials stated, I overheard a portion of the conspiracy to assassinate Dr. Martin Luther King just one week prior to the actual assassination. In the conversation which I overheard concerning Dr. King's assassination, reference was also made to President Kennedy's assassinations.

Later I related what I had overheard to my mother. Dr. King is murdered, to my mother and she believed me as silently thereafter Martin Luther King was murdered just as I had told her he would be. We were both very fearful of our lives as the assassins gave me reason to believe that they suspected that I may have overheard a portion of their conspiracy to assassinate Dr. King.

The assassins threatened the lives of both my mother and myself which gave us cause to remain silent until 1970 when we attempted to bring this matter to the attention of officials within the Federal Government so that justice could be served. My mother and I contacted every branch within the Federal Government but were only treated rudely by those officials within the Federal Government.

In 1970 I read an article about Mr. Bernard Fensterwald, Jr. who heads a group called the Committee to Investigate Assassinations. After reading this article I decided to contact Mr. Fensterwald. Mr. Fensterwald sent his chief investigator, Mr. Ken Smith to Atlanta where I supplied him with all of the information which I know.

After contacting the officials within the Federal Government concerning what information I had regarding the assassination of Dr. King, the very assassins whom I had informed on contacted me and my mother and threatened to kill us and burn our house down for having informed on them. These assassins told me that they could not be informed on as they were syndicate and the syndicate was a government within a government as they had high people within the government whom they worked with.

Ever since that time my mother and I have been threatened, victimized and the objects of numerous dirty tricks by the Federal Government. Our home has been broken into by syndicate people to terrorize us in order to keep us silent. We have had heroin mailed to us from Bangkok so that my mother and I could be arrested and framed for the importation of heroin. We have been constantly afraid for our lives as we have received constant threats from these assassins.

Everytime my mother and I have gone to law enforcement agencies for help we received no help and matters only got worse for us. During this entire period of time Mr. Bernard Fensterwald, Jr.

and Mr. Ken Smith (Fensterwald & Omlundson Inc. Offices, 910 16th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20036, phone (202) 223-1667 and Mr. Ken Smith's home phone number is (703) 497-2122, have continued to investigate the information which I gave them and they have discovered some very important things. Mr. Fensterwald and Mr. Smith believe that I am being completely truthful and honest as they have spent the past five years investigating the information which I gave them and it has been very important to them in their recent attempts to get James Earl Ray a new trial.

In November, 1974 I called Mr. Ken Smith and Mr. Bernard Fensterwald as I wanted to work with the Federal Government. I felt that the Watergate case had sufficiently revealed the corruption within the Federal Government so that I could work with them in order to assist in making cases against the gangsters whom my mother and I had been fighting for years. I talked with Ken Smith about a major smuggling operation involving the smuggling of 50 kilos of cocaine into the United States from South America by Mr. Brad Marcello, Nick Catrì and Jerry Prokos.

Mr. Smith contacted Mr. Durzanski of the U. S. Customs, Falls Church, Virginia regarding this matter. Mr. Durzanski contacted Mr. Jack Boldin and George Schmoedky of the Dept. of Treasury Bureau of Customs. I gave what information I had to Mr. Jack Boldin and George Schmoedky. Since most of the information I had concerned smuggling and selling narcotics, Mr. Boldin contacted the Drug Enforcement Administration and they sent agents to his office to speak to me.

Special Agent Mike Dorsett of the D.E.A. wanted me to work with them in an undercover capacity as a "special employee" of the D.E.A. For nearly two weeks I went around arranging for D.E.A. agents to make buys from various drug dealers including Mr. Brad Marcello. Mr. Marcello had agreed to sell a pound of heroin as well as several pounds of cocaine. The D.E.A. would not go through with any of the buys and stated that I could not work in an undercover capacity. It shocked me that the D.E.A. would not go through with the purchase of narcotics from Brad Marcello.

Later the D.E.A., Brad Marcello and Jerry Prokos were instrumental in framing me for "conspiracy to distribute cocaine." I later learned that Brad Marcello is really Special Agent Ron Dixon Baker of the D.E.A. and that Jerry Prokos is a special employee of the D.E.A. While I was a "special employee" of the D.E.A. I actually arranged to make a purchase of narcotics from a Special Agent (Ron Baker) of the D.E.A. who was involved in smuggling the cocaine into the country. This is the reason that I have been framed.

I had actually uncovered a smuggling operation carried out by agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration, but I didn't know that the smugglers were Federal Agents until I had gone to the Federal Government to try to help in their arrest and conviction, and was framed by Jerry Prokos and Brad Marcello. All of this and much much is documented and in the possession of Mr. Ernest D.

Brookins (Brookins and Turoff Law Offices, 201 Cain Tower, Peachtree Center, Atlanta, Georgia 30303, telephone (404) 659-2000.

I am contacting you because I am not in the usual position where I must bring what information I have to the attention of some Senate or Congressional Committee or else I'll go to prison framed for a crime which I am innocent of. My only real hope of getting out of jail and clearing my name is to expose the real criminals for what they are.

I am attempting to bring my case to the attention of people who will act on it and investigate the material which I provide. I am asking you to help me with this in whatever way you can so that it can be properly investigated. Because I went to the government in good faith, I have suffered more than anyone should have and so has my family.

I have once again gone to the Federal Government in order to supply them with information and once again I have been framed for a crime which I did not commit. I urgently need help with this case or I'll be the victim of a terrible injustice. I'm already the victim of a terrible injustice, but if someone or some agency doesn't help me, the D.E.A. shall be successful in framing me so that I'll spend many years in prison for a crime which I am completely innocent of.

Though these materials are lengthy, I do urge you to study them closely as I can assure you the information contained therein is of major interest. My mother is typing this material for me and mailing it to you as I am in the Fulton County Jail in Atlanta. Though my mother may make minor errors and mistakes in her typing, I can assure you that what material you receive is completely true and factual to the best of my knowledge.

I do urge you to contact Mr. Bernard Fensterwald and Mr. Ken Smith in order to verify most of the information which I am supplying you. I can assure you that Mr. Ken Smith and Mr. Fensterwald can and will attest to my sincerity and honesty.

Sincerely yours,

P.S. In regards to the only major mistake which my mother made in typing up my story, the individual whom my mother referred to as "Wayne Smith from Winder, Ga." is actually Bill Smith from Winder, Ga. Also, it was Bill Jackson who told me that "President Kennedy was assassinated because he was conspiring with the Communist" and not Herman Jackson as my mother typed.

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F B I

Date: 6/26/75

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

Re Bureau airtel 6/20/75.

Enclosed for the Bureau are 4 copies and for Cincinnati 2 copies of an LHM dated 6/26/75.

- ② - Bureau (Encs. 4)
2 - Cincinnati (Encs. 2)
1 - Memphis

JCH:jap
(5)

ENCLOSURE
REC 844-38861-5981
[ST-10]

JUN 30 1975

18 JUL 9 1975
Approved: PSD
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Memphis, Tennessee
June 26, 1975

JAMES EARL RAY;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.,
(Deceased) - VICTIM;
CIVIL RIGHTS

On June 26, 1975, the Clerk of the U. S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee, Memphis, Tennessee, advised that attorneys for James Earl Ray filed a Notice of Appeal on March 28, 1975, indicating they were appealing to the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals the decision handed down February 27, 1975, by U. S. District Judge Robert M. McRae, Jr., Memphis, Tennessee, denying James Earl Ray's petition for a writ of habeas corpus. Attorneys for Ray have not yet filed their brief with the U. S. Court of Appeals at Cincinnati, Ohio.

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*

ENCLOSURE

44-38861-5981

B8
AIRTEL

6/27/75
JEB/KH
RTH

To: SAC, Atlanta

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

1 - Mr. Peelman

1 - Mr. McDonough

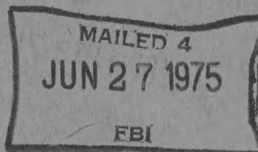
MURKIN

With respect to the information furnished your office by Public Safety Commissioner Reginald Eaves concerning captioned matter, you should advise him that this information is identical to information previously furnished by Robert Byron Watson to your office in April, 1971. He should be advised that Watson at that time admitted the information was entirely fabricated and that subsequent investigation failed to substantiate any of the information revealed by Watson and all of this information was forwarded to the Civil Rights Division, U. S. Department of Justice, in April, 1971.

EJM:bap (5)
mah

NOTE: See Peelman to Gebhardt memorandum, 6/26/75, same caption.

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58 JUL 17 1975
MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

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ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
INTELLIGENCE DIV.

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Assoc. Dir. _____
Dep. AD Adm. _____
Dep. AD Inv. _____
Asst. Dir.: _____
Admin. _____
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Plan. & Eval. _____
Spec. Inv. _____
Training _____
Legal Coun. _____
Telephone Rm. _____
Director Sec'y _____

TO : Mr. Gebhardt *REG 100*

DATE: June 26, 1975

FROM : J. S. Peelma *JS*

1 - Mr. Gebhardt
1 - Mr. Peelma
1 - Mr. McDonough
1 - Mr. Moore

SUBJECT: MURKIN

BACKGROUND: This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King in Memphis, Tennessee, in April, 1968. James Earl Ray had pleaded guilty in State Court, Tennessee, and is presently serving a 99-year sentence.

Ray had appealed his conviction on grounds that he was not properly represented or counseled by his attorney at the time he entered his guilty plea in 1969. However, in February, 1975, a Writ of Habeas Corpus was denied Ray in U. S. District Court, Western District of Tennessee.

On June 21, 1975, the Wire Services carried information revealed by Atlanta, Georgia, Public Safety Commissioner Reginald Eaves, to the effect that Eaves was in possession of "... strong information on the conspiracy" in the death of Martin Luther King. Eaves indicated that he had received this information from a second party, which information "warrants our serious consideration." A copy of this information was furnished by Eaves to our Atlanta Office.

A review of this information by the Atlanta Division revealed that the source, Robert Byron Watson, previously had been interviewed by Special Agents of the Atlanta Division on 4/7/71. At that time, Watson admitted that his information pertaining to the murder of Martin Luther King was completely fabricated. Subsequent investigation also failed to substantiate any of the information as revealed by Watson. The results of that interview and of the subsequent investigation were furnished to the Civil Rights Division, U. S. Department of Justice, in April, 1971.

The information furnished by Mr. Eaves to the Atlanta Office is identical to that previously furnished to the Atlanta Office in 1971.

44-38861
Enclosure

EJM:bap (5)

REC-5

44-38861-583
[Handwritten signatures and initials]

JUL 7 1975

CONTINUED OVER

58 JUL 21 1975

6-50

JUL 1 10 17 AM '75

RECEIVED (P)
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

REC'D GEBHARDT
FBI

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

JUL 2 2 19 PM '75

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REC'D DIRECTOR
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FBI
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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JUN 27 9 57 AM '75

JUN 30 2 51 PM '75

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

REC'D GEBHARDT
FBI

JUL 1 5 15 PM 1975

FBI
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Peelman to Gebhardt memorandum
RE: MURKIN

ACTION: If approved, to preclude any further misguided releases on the part of Mr. Eaves, he will be advised of the previous receipt and resolution of the information from Watson. Attached is an airtel along these lines.

The Civil Rights Division is being furnished a copy of the information received from Mr. Eaves and its attention will be directed to the results of the previous investigation conducted thereon.

EDM

JK

REG/ISP

JBA
PUN

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUL 17 1975

Assoc. Dir.	_____
Dep.-A.D.-Adm.	_____
Dep.-A.D.-Inv.	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Admin.	_____
Comp. Syst.	_____
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Training	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director Sec'y	_____

1. Mr. [Signature]
2. Mr. [Signature]
4. Mr. [Signature]
5. Mr. [Signature]

NR 004 ME PLAIN

8:30 PM NITEL JULY 17, 1975 JLC

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861)

FROM MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

MURKIN

RETIRED SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN, MEMPHIS, TENN., HAS BEEN CONTACTED BY ESTHER KARTIGANER AND BY ERNEST LEISER WHO DESIRE TO INTERVIEW HIM RE INSTANT CASE. THESE INDIVIDUALS CLAIM TO BE DOING A CBS TELEVISION DOCUMENTARY ON THE KING MURDER. JENSEN WAS SAC AT MEMPHIS WHEN KING WAS KILLED. HE HAS INDICATED THAT IF HE IS INTERVIEWED HE WILL SIMPLY EXPRESS OPINION THAT JAMES EARL RAY ACTING ALONE KILLED KING.

THIS IS FURNISHED FOR THE BUREAU'S INFORMATION.

E N D

HOLD

EX-117

REC 21

44-38861-5984

5 JUL 21 1975

56 JUL 30 1975

CC EXT. AFFAIRS (Mr. Moore)

6-E [Signature]

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

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GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

JUL 18 1 30 PM '75

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

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

REC'D GEBHARDT

JUL 18 9 10 AM 1975

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U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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TELETYPE UNIT

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUL 18 1975

TELETYPE

NR 005 AT PLAIN

3:25 PM URGENT JULY 18, 1975 LMM

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) ATTN : SUPV. JACK LAWN, ROOM 5978, JEH
FROM ATLANTA
MURKIN

RE ATLANTA TELCALL TO BUREAU, JULY 18, 1975.

FOR INFORMATION OF BUREAU, THE JULY 18, 1975, EDITION
OF THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION NEWSPAPER CARRIED A STORY
QUOTING ATLANTA PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSIONER A. REGINALD EAVES
AS ACCUSING THE ATLANTA OFFICE OF THE FBI OF FAILING TO
COOPERATE WITH THE ATLANTA POLICE DEPARTMENT (APD) IN THEIR
INVESTIGATION INTO THE ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING.
EAVES WAS ALSO REPORTED AS HAVING SAID THAT THIS OFFICE HAS
DENIED THE APD ACCESS TO FBI FILES CONCERNING THE KING
KILLING. THE SAME ARTICLE CARRIED SAC WILBURN K. DEBRULER'S
RESPONSE TO THIS CHARGE WHICH IN SUBSTANCE IS THAT HE
(WILBURN K. DEBRULER) KNOWS OF NO INSTANCE WHEREIN ATLANTA
OFFICE OF FBI HAS FAILED TO COOPERATE WITH APD NOR HAS
COMMISSIONER EAVES EVER INDICATED THAT THERE WAS LACK OF
COOPERATION ON OUR PART.

Assoc. Dir.	
Dep.-A.D.-Adm.	
Dep.-A.D.-Inv.	
Asst.	
Admin.	
Comp. Syst.	
Ext. Affairs	
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Plan. & Eval.	
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Training	
Legal Coun.	
Telephone Rm.	
Director Sec'y	

REC-33

5 JUL 24 1975

EX-101

51 JUL 29 1975
F46

REC'D-CIV RIGHTS
FBI

REC'D GEBHARDT
FBI

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
FBI

RECEIVED

JUL 18 5 07 PM 1975

JUL 18 4 06 PM 1975

JUL 22 5 25 PM '75

FBI

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE JUL 22 9 23 AM '75

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

JUL 21 8 44 AM '75

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

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GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION
JUL 22 7 20 PM '75
FBI
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

JUL 23 1 34 AM 1975

REC'D-CIV RIGHTS
FBI

IN THIS REGARD, THE HEAD OF THE APD CIVIL UNREST UNIT, CAPTAIN KEN BURNETTE, ALONG WITH DETECTIVE PHIL SULLIVAN AND JULDY WILLIAMS CAME TO THE ATLANTA OFFICE TODAY WITH THE REQUEST TO VIEW THIS OFFICE'S FILES CONCERNING THE MURKIN INVESTIGATION AND SPECIFICALLY THAT PORTION OF THE INVESTIGATION RELATING TO THE RECOVERY IN ATLANTA OF THE MUSTANG DRIVEN BY JAMES EARL RAY. CAPTAIN BURNETTE WAS ADVISED BY SAC DEBRULER THAT FBI COULD NOT RELEASE SUCH INFORMATION AND ANY INFORMATION RELATING TO OUR INVESTIGATION CONCERNING THE ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING COULD ONLY BE RELEASED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (USDJ), WASHINGTON, D. C. (WDC), CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION. CAPTAIN BURNETTE ADVISED THAT HE WAS APPRECIATIVE OF BEING SO ADVISED. CAPTAIN BURNETTE ALSO MADE INQUIRY AS TO ANY INFORMATION WE HAD PERTAINING TO THE INFORMATION FURNISHED BY ROBERT BYRON WATSON ALREADY FURNISHED THE BUREAU AND HE WAS AGAIN ADVISED THAT THIS OFFICE RECEIVED THE IDENTICAL INFORMATION IN 1971 FROM ROBERT BYRON WATSON AND THAT WHEN WATSON WAS INTERVIEWED

AT 44-2386

PAGE THREE

BY THE FBI CONCERNING HIS ALLEGATIONS, HE STATED THAT THE STORY WAS UNTRUE AND FURTHER HE FABRICATED THIS STORY IN HOPES OF RECEIVING A REWARD FOR HIS MOTHER WHO WAS ALLEGEDLY SWINDLED BY THE INDIVIDUAL WATSON NAMED AS CONSPIRATORS IN KING'S KILLING. HE WAS FURTHER ADVISED THAT THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED THE USDJ, WDC, IN 1971 AND THAT THE INFORMATION RECENTLY RECEIVED FROM COMMISSIONER EAVES WAS ALSO FURNISHED USDJ, WDC, AND TO DATE, NO REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION HAS BEEN MADE OF THE FBI AND NONE WOULD BE INSTITIUTED EXCEPT ON REQUEST OF THE USDJ, WDC.

BUREAU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED OF FURTHER PERTINENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS MATTER.

END

VLJ FBIHQ CLR

TELETYPE UNIT

JUN 18 3 35 PM '77

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

DATE: 7/22/75

FROM : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P*)

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

Re Legat, Ottawa, letter to the Bureau, 7/9/75.

Enclosed for the Bureau are 5 copies of an LHM in this matter dated 7/22/75. It is requested that a copy of this LHM be forwarded to Legat, Ottawa, for transmittal to the RCMP.

EXP. PROC.
30

-v.108

REC-36

44-38861-5986

29
15 JUL 25 1975

2 enc. to Legat, Ottawa
1 enc. - CRU
7/28/75
EJM/jet

ENCLOSURE

- 2 - Bureau (Encs. 5)
- 1 - Memphis

JCH:jap

(3)

11975



5010-108

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

(3)
ACH:70B

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

1 - Memphis
3 - Bureau (100-44-1081) (b*)
JUL 25 4 21 PM '75

FBI
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

12 107 52 1012

EXB' bPROC'

to the BUREAU.
of this FBI re requested to refer, Ottawa, for consideration
in this matter dated 1/33/72. It is requested that a copy
be referred for the Bureau and a copy of the FBI

be referred, Ottawa, letter to the Bureau, 1/33/72.

CE
HARRIS

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1981) (b*)

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

1/33/72



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Memphis, Tennessee
July 22, 1975

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

On July 18, 1975, Mr. Terry Lafferty, Assistant District Attorney General, 15th Judicial Circuit of Tennessee, Memphis, Tennessee, was reminded that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police are still holding certain items of evidence which were obtained by them during their investigation of the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Mr. Lafferty stated that James Earl Ray's attorneys are still actively seeking to have Ray's guilty plea voided with a view toward having the State of Tennessee try him before a jury for the murder of Dr. King. He stated he regrets any inconvenience this may be causing the Royal Canadian Mounted Police but he respectfully requests that they retain any and all evidence which might ever be of value in the event James Earl Ray is successful in obtaining a trial.

44-38861-5986

ENCLOSURE

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

Attached Atlanta teletype advised that Public Safety Commissioner Reginald Eaves has been quoted in Atlanta daily newspaper as stating that FBI has failed to cooperate with Atlanta Police Department in their recent investigation of this killing.

Representatives of Atlanta Police Department visited Atlanta FBI on 7/18/75, and requested to review FBI file pertaining to Murkin investigation with specific interest in investigation surrounding Mustang vehicle driven by James Earl Ray and abandoned in Atlanta after shooting of King, and in information pertaining to Robert Byron Watson.

Atlanta Police Department representatives were advised of background information pertaining to Watson and told that in the event they desired any information pertaining to FBI investigation, they should contact Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice.

Civil Rights Division has been advised.

1 - Mr. Moore

JCL:cjl

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Assoc. Dir. _____
Dep. AD _____
Dep. AD _____
Asst. Dir. _____
Admin. _____
Comp. Syst. _____
Ext. Affairs _____
Files & Com. _____
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Ident. _____
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Spec. Inv. _____
Training _____
Legal Coun. _____
Telephone Rm. _____
Director Sec'y _____

TO : Mr. Gebhardt *BS*

DATE: July 7, 1975

FROM : J. S. Peelman *JS*

- 1 - Mr. Gebhardt
- 1 - Mr. Peelman
- 1 - Mr. Lawn
- 1 - Mr. Moore

SUBJECT: MURKIN

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King in Memphis, Tennessee, in April, 1968. James Earl Ray had pleaded guilty in State Court, Tennessee, and is presently serving a 99-year sentence. *Reck*

By memorandum dated July 2, 1975, John C. Keeney, Acting Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, U. S. Department of Justice, requested that a representative of this Bureau appear at a meeting at the Department where Dick Gregory intended to furnish some information he has received pertaining to the assassination of Martin Luther King. *Left*

Pursuant to the instructions of Deputy Associate Director Thomas J. Jenkins to the General Investigative Division, Supervisors John C. Lawn and Edward J. McDonough attended this meeting at the Department on Thursday, July 3, 1975. Also in attendance was Departmental Attorney Steven Horn, Dick Gregory and Ralph Schoenman. *A*

Gregory advised that he desired to defer to Mr. Schoenman, his associate, who had received new information from Robert Byron Watson of Atlanta, Georgia, pertaining to the assassination of Dr. King.

The information related by Schoenman was the same information furnished to this Bureau in 1971 by Watson. During a subsequent interview, Watson had revealed that the information furnished by him was fabricated. The information furnished by Watson and the results of the interview were furnished to the Civil Rights Division in April, 1971. *REC-36*

Schoenman and Gregory were advised that this Bureau had received this information previously and that the information had also been furnished to the Civil Rights Division. *44-38861-5987*

44-38861

JUL 11 1975

CONTINUED - OVER *6-8pm*

RECEIVED DIRECTOR
F.B.I.
JUL 9 5 10 PM '75

REC'D GEBHARDT
FBI

REC'D GEBHARDT
FBI

JUL 7 4 34 PM 1975

JUL 8 8 40 AM 1975

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JUL 8 9 35 AM '75

FBI
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FBI
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

JUL 10 9 44 AM '75

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

REC'D GEBHARDT
FBI

JUL 10 12 36 PM 1975

FBI
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

JUL 10 4 06 PM 1975

REC'D CIV RIGHTS
FBI

Memorandum to Mr. Gebhardt
RE: MURKIN

Schoenman indicated that he planned to prepare a report of his findings and would send copies to the Civil Rights Division and to the FBI. The meeting was then terminated.

ACTION: None. For information.

3A m

82

1000

PLM

NY

AM

gm

K

Date: 7-9-75

To: Director, FBI

(Bufile : 44-38861)

Attention : _____

From: Legal Attache, Ottawa

(44-4)

Title JAMES EARL RAY; DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING - VICTIM CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY	Character Reference Ottawa letter dated 2-12-73.
--	--

Enclosed are the following communications received from the RCMP: Original and two copies of RCMP letter dated 6-23-75.

Remarks:

Memphis note RCMP's request and advise.

Dissemination

- ☐ May be made as received
☐ May be made as indicated by stamp on enclosure
☐ May not be made without further clearance with RCMP

Following offices would be interested in receiving copies of enclosures:

Memphis (44-1987)

Status with this office:

- ☐ RUC
☒ Pending

4 - Bureau (Enc. 1)
 1 cc - Memphis (Enc. 1)
 1 cc - Foreign Liaison Unit
 Direct (Enc. 1)

JFB:jhc

70 AUG 7 1975

ENCLOSURE

Do not write in space below			
44-	38861-	5988	REC-56
17 JUL 15 1975			EX 104
McDONOUGH			SIX

EXP. PROC.

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RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

JUL 15 11 42 AM '75

F. B. I.

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

MEMORANDUM (7-17-75)

FOR THE DIRECTOR (7-17-75) FROM THE SAC, NEW YORK (7-17-75)

RE: [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

THE ABOVE IS A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM [illegible]

ENCLOSURE

FOR THE DIRECTOR (7-17-75) FROM THE SAC, NEW YORK (7-17-75)

JOHN F. BAKER - CHAIRMAN	JOHN F. BAKER - CHAIRMAN
JOHN F. BAKER - CHAIRMAN	JOHN F. BAKER - CHAIRMAN
JOHN F. BAKER - CHAIRMAN	JOHN F. BAKER - CHAIRMAN

FOR THE DIRECTOR (7-17-75) FROM THE SAC, NEW YORK (7-17-75)

ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE

EXB. 9X3

PLEASE ADDRESS
CORRESPONDENCE TO:

THE COMMISSIONER
ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE
OTTAWA, CANADA
K1A 0R2



HEADQUARTERS
DIRECTION GÉNÉRALE

PRIÈRE D'ADRESSER LES
LETTRES COMME SUIT:

LE COMMISSAIRE
GENDARMERIE ROYALE DU CANADA
OTTAWA, CANADA
K1A 0R2

YOUR NO.
VOTRE NO 44-4

OUR NO.
NOTRE NO 68HQ-791-Q-60

June 23, 1975.

Mr. Joseph A. Marion Jr.,
c/o United States Embassy,
100 Wellington Street,
OTTAWA, Ontario.

Re: James Earl RAY
Dr. Martin Luther KING, Jr. -
Victim
Civil Rights - Conspiracy

Reference is made to our letter of February 8, 1973, and your Memphis report dated March 1, 1973, concerning disposition of exhibits being held by our Force in respect to captioned matter.

It would be appreciated if your Memphis office could once again cause enquiries to be made with Mr. J. Clyde Mason, Assistant District Attorney General, to determine the present status of matters before the Courts in respect to James Earl RAY.

Your assistance is appreciated.

E.A. Marshall
E.A. Marshall, Insp.,
Officer in Charge,
Federal General Branch.

44-38861-5988

ENCLOSURE

F B I

Date: 8/1/75

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
(ATTN: SUPV. JACK LAWN, ROOM 5078
JEH, AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS)

FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386) (C)

MURKIN

Re Atlanta teletype to the Bureau, 7/18/75.

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are the original and five copies of an LHM with attached newspaper clippings.

One copy of above LHM being furnished to Memphis Division for information.

Enclosed clippings set forth the newspaper articles appearing as a result of Atlanta Public Safety Commissioner A. REGINALD EAVES' news conference of 7/30/75, in which he set forth the results of his investigation into the assassination of Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

As pointed out in these clippings, the investigation produced no new evidence, however, EAVES stated that he would ask the U. S. Department of Justice, officials in Memphis, and U. S. Representative ANDREW YOUNG to initiate an investigation to insure that injustice has not been perpetrated.

REC-45

44-38861-5989

AUG 4 1975

4-Bureau (Enc. 6)
1-Memphis (44-1987) (Enc. 1) (Info)
2-Atlanta
WDC:cw
(7)

1-CRD
1-CRU
070G
8/5/75
JCL/jet

Division

RESEARCH SECTION

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

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

AUG 7 1975

REC'D-CIV RIGHTS
F B I

REC'D-RESEARCH
EXT AFFAIRS

AUG 4 5 19 PM 1975

AUG 6 9 24 AM 1975

RECEIVED
FBI

RECEIVED
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
DIVISION

AUG 5 3 29 PM '75



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Atlanta, Georgia

August 1, 1975

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

MURKIN

On July 30, 1975, Atlanta Public Safety Commissioner A. Reginald Eaves, held a news conference at which time he released the results of his investigation into the assassination of Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr. Two newspaper accounts of this conference are attached to this memorandum.

It is pointed out in these accounts Eaves advised that because of the many questions which remain in the case, he would ask the U. S. Department of Justice, Officials in Memphis, and U. S. Representative Andrew Young to initiate investigation to insure that injustice has not been perpetrated.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.



44-38861-5989

EAVES ADMITS

King Theory Flops

By CLIFF GREEN

Public Safety Commissioner A. Reginald Eaves conceded Wednesday that allegations the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was the result of an Atlanta-based conspiracy are "not substantiated."

Eaves then returned the ball to where it had been ever since the Nobel Prize winning civil rights leader was gunned down in 1968: The U.S. Department of Justice and local authorities in Memphis.

The commissioner ordered an investigation into the King murder a month ago after comedian Dick Gregory gave him a copy of a statement by a twice-convicted drug dealer, Robert Byron Watson, who claimed to have overheard several Atlanta men discussing King's murder a week before it occurred.

The Watson statement provided no accurate information on the assassination.

The Atlanta Constitution, Page 1-A, July 30, 1975

Eaves said the statement did give Atlanta investigators unspecified "leads" in the case, but indicated the "leads" had nothing to do with the Atlanta men.

In fact, he said two of the men named by Watson who are still living in Atlanta took polygraph examinations over the weekend, and the lie detector indicated the individuals

were not involved in the alleged conspiracy.

"Based on this evidence," Eaves said in a prepared statement, "our investigation, therefore, causes us to reject the probability of a conspiracy based upon the specific allegations made by Watson in the document he submitted relative to Dr. King's death."

Watson and his mother, Mrs. R. W. Watson, have been trying to convince officials of the truth of the 21-year-old's story since 1970, two years after Dr. King's death.

The Atlanta office of the FBI said it obtained the same information in 1971 and found it groundless.

Watson claims to have been framed on charges of importing heroin in 1972 and charges of conspiring to distribute cocaine in January 1975 by "high government officials and the syndicate" because of his knowledge of the conspiracy.

Eaves said the Atlanta Bureau of Police Services investigation "found no evidence to support his claims."

A mental examination has been ordered for Watson, who is confined to the Federal Youth Center in Ashland, Ky.

At one point during the bureau's probe, Eaves said it would have been impossible for the FBI to investigate the Watson statement four years ago, because some of the information was as new as 1974.

During the Wednesday press conference, however, Eaves admitted that the new information concerned drugs, not the assassination.

"Unless new information becomes available," Eaves said, "I consider the subject closed."



Staff Photo—George A. Clark

A. REGINALD EAVES DISCLOSES HE WAS UNABLE TO FIND NEW EVIDENCE IN KING MURDER CASE
Says Twice-Convicted Drug Dealer's Statement Named Two Men, But Lie Detector Apparently Cleared Them

Eaves' King Probe Called 'Waste, Embarrassment'

By JIM STEWART

Public Safety Commissioner Reginald Eaves' fruitless investigation into the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was "a waste of time, money and a source of embarrassment to me and my family," one of the targets of that investigation said Wednesday.

Bane Culley, a self-employed Atlanta businessman, said he had cooperated fully with investigators in the probe "at a great cost to me in terms of time and lawyers' fees."

Eaves said Wednesday a report he received alleging an Atlanta-based conspiracy to kill Dr. King "could not be substantiated."

"Unless new information becomes available, I consider the subject closed," Eaves announced at a press conference.

Culley and several other men were named by Robert Byron Watson, a federal inmate serving time for a drug conviction, as having plotted King's death a week before the civil rights leader was shot April 4, 1968, on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis.

"I have no comment on what Watson had to say until I have a chance to read his entire statement," Culley said. "But I think the fact that both the FBI and the Atlanta police have looked into it and dismissed it speaks for itself."

Culley said intelligence officers who interviewed him were "polite" but were not specific about what he was suspected of.

"I volunteered to take a polygraph examination," Culley said. "When it was completed I didn't even ask what the results were. I knew what they were."

Culley admitted that he knew his accuser when the young man worked at a Buckhead art gallery, the scene of the alleged plot to kill Dr. King. "If you know Watson or have ever talked with him, then you know what his charges are worth," Culley said.

Watson, 21, is currently serving a five-year sentence in Ashland, Ky., for conviction of narcotics trafficking. U.S. District Judge Newell Edenfield, who originally sentenced Watson, has since ordered that he undergo psychiatric examination.

A rambling, 34-page statement by Watson on his dealings in the drug market included about three pages of information alleging the King plot. Eaves said Wednesday the statement was given to him by comedian Dick Gregory.

"I can now state categorically that many of the names, places and dates concerning the alleged conspiracy have been corroborated," Eaves said. "However, equally as important, Watson's claims of involvement by individuals he named as conspiring to kill Dr. King could not be substantiated."

Eaves said that while the investigation of Watson's allegations proved fruitless, detectives did receive information "which indicates

possibility" that there may have been a conspiracy linked to King's death.

He added, however, "We are unable to attest to the reliability of persons who claim knowledge of a conspiracy."

Because of the "many questions" which remain in the case, Eaves said he would ask the Justice department, officials in Memphis and U.S. Rep. Andrew Young to initiate an investigation "to insure that an injustice has not been perpetrated."

Eaves declined to discuss what new information his investigators had received. He conceded that Watson's report was the same one received and dismissed as useless by the FBI in 1971.

In the course of the investigation Eaves had accused the FBI of being uncooperative and not allowing access to its records.

Eaves said his investigators talked with 11 law enforcement agencies and 35 "non-governmental persons" during the investigation.

The Atlanta Constitution
Page 1-A
July 31, 1975