RECEIVED CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE

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U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

December 29, 1978

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. APRIL 4, 1968 MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

The following information was furnished from the Newark Office of the FBI:

On 12/1/78, DANIEL MC MAHON, 84 Sanford Avenue, Belleville, N. J., home telephone number 759-0244, occupation unemployed-disabled, furnished the following information to the Newark Division:

During the Winter of 1964-1965, MC MAHON was employed as a room clerk at the Sheraton-Mc Alpin Hotel, 34th Street and Broadway, Manhattan, New York. During that period, the following individuals registered at the hotel:

RALPH ABERNETHY, SR.
RALPH ABERNETHY, JR. (his son)
MARTIN LUTHER KING, SR.

These individuals were frequently guests at the hotel and when in New York, were usually involved in Southern Christian Leadership Conferences (SCLC) activities. On this occasion, during their visit to New York, MC MAHON took care of the SCLC group personally by registering them in suitable rooms and handling all of their needs.

A day or two after the SCLC party registered, a JOHN RAY registered at the front desk and a review of the reservation list reflected that he had made a reservation at the hotel before arriving. RAY, at that time, told MC MAHON that he was connected somehow with the ABERNETHY party. MC MAHON described RAY as a white male American, around 30-40 years of age, large frame, round features, who conveyed the impression to MC MAHON that he was a Southerner. MC MAHON remembers that Ray had a "deep penetrating personality."

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ROBERT J. POLICASTRO (PH), Room Clerk, who was also on duty the night RAY registered, can substantiate the fact that JOHN RAY registered at the hotel and indicated that he was connected somehow with the ABERNETHY party. MC MAHON is not aware of POLICASTRO's present whereabouts but speculates that he could be contacted through the New York City Hotel-Motel Association. On that evening, POLICASTRO made a remark to MC MAHON that he felt as if there was something strange regarding JOHN RAY.

Later that winter, MC MARON took a leave of absence from the hotel and returned around the Summer of 1965, at which time, he discovered POLICASTRO had been drafted in the U. S. Army. MC MARON advised that based on his brief encounter with JOHN RAY, coupled with the remark of POLICASTRO that there was something strange about RAY, MC NAHON became fearful for his life and around the Autumn of 1965, in Milwaukee, MC MAHON contacted SA JOHN MORAN of the Milwaukee Division, and told MORAN that he was disturbed because he "thought something might happen to him." MC MAHON acknowledged that he had no concrete basis for his apprehension, and during his contact with the Newark Division, was unable to be more specific on the basis for his apparent fear. MC MAHON, at that time, was undergoing some type of emotional turmoil and the only disturbing incident that he could recall was this brief encounter with JOHN RAY.

After reviewing the current publicity surrounding the House Assassination Committee Hearings in Washington, D. C., and the contemplated appearances before the Committee of JAMES EARL RAY's brothers, JERRY RAY and JOHN RAY, MC MAHON telephonically contacted the West Hunter Street Baptist Church, 1040 Gordon Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia, number 404-758-5563, where RALPH ABERNETHY, SR., is Pastor. Rev. ABERNETHY was not available but MC MAHON furnished the above information to one of ABERNETHY's associates. In addition, MC MAHON followed up the telephone call which was made a few days ago with a letter.

In addition, today, MC NAHON was in telephonic contact with MS. EMANUEL, Secretary to G. ROBERT BLAKEY, Chief Committee Counsel, House Assassination Committee, Washington, D. C.

MC MAHON added that he has no definite information that the JOHN RAY who registered at the Sheraton-Mc Alpin is in any way related to JAMES BARL RAY but added that he might have xeroxed or made notes of RAY's registration card and buried this document in a container on his uncle's

property, ALFRED HYDE, Spencertown, New York, who reportedly is a Municipal Judge in the area.

Records of the Belleville, NJPD, revealed no pertinent information re MC MAHON. Newark indices negative regarding MC MAHON.

On 12/4/78, DANIEL MC MAHON, 84 Sanford Avenue, Belleville, NJ, telephonically furnished the following information to the Newark Division.

After observing a picture of JOHN RAY on television, he concluded that the individual registered at the Sheraton-Mc Alpin Hotel, 34th Street and Broadway, Manhattan, New York, was not JOHN RAY, but may have been his brother, JERRY RAY. He further stated that RAY may have been in the company of one GENE HARRISON, address unknown, whom MC MAHON subsequently worked with at the Cozy Corner Restaurant, 76 West Third St., NY, NY.

FD-36 (Rev. 7-27-76)

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Records of the Belleville, NJPD, revealed no pertinent information re MC MAHON. Newark indices negative regarding MC MAHON.

Newark contemplates no action in this matter, but in view of the House Assassination Committee Hearings, above is being furnished for information of Bureau.

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				Date: 12/6 /	78	<u> </u>
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RE PITTSBURGH TELETYPE TO FBIHQ DECEMBER 19, 1978.

ON DECEMBER 28, 1978, MR ROBERT L. KEUCH, DEPUTY ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, CRIMINAL DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, WAS CONTACTED REGARDING CONTENTS OF REFERENCED TELETYPE. IT WAS MR. KEUCH'S OPINION THAT THE FBI SHOULD NOT ACCEPT FILES IN POSSESSION OF INFORMANT BECAUSE TO DO SO WOULD VIOLATE THE SIXTH AMENDMENT RIGHTS OF JAMES EARL RAY, WITH RESPECT TO THE ATTORNEY-CLIENT RELATIONSHIP WHICH EXISTED BETWEEN RAY AND FORMER ATTORNEY HILL. MR. KEUCH STATED THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA) SHOULD BE NOTIFIED THAT THESE FILES WERE AVAILABLE TO THE FBI AND HE WOULD IMMEDIATELY CONTACT HSCA OFFICIALS TO THAT EFFECT.

HAD DE 1973 12/29/78 8983/4 3685

SEE NOTE PAGE 3

REC-47

REC-47

- MR. INGRAM
- MR. MINTZ
- MR. BASSETT
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- MR. FOSTER

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MR. KEUCH SUBSEQUENTLY ADVISED ON DECEMBER 28, 1978,
THAT HE HAD CONTACTED HSCA COUNSEL JAMES WOLFE, WHO STATED
THE HSCA HAS NO INTEREST IN THE MATERIAL.

PITTSBURGH SHOULD THEREFORE NOT ACCEPT FROM PG 1365-C](C)
FILES OR ANY INFORMATION PERTAINING TO SAME.

NO SPECIFIC INFORMATION WHICH COULD POSSIBLY IDENTIFY

PG 1365-C WAS FURNISHED MR. KEUCH OR THE HSCA.

BT

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

TELETYPE TO PITTSBURGH
RE: MURKIN

CONFIDENTIAL

TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED THAT PG 1365-C AN INFORMANT SINCE 1973, WAS GIVEN FILES OF ROBERT W. HILL, JR., ABOUT 10 STARS AGO. HILL WAS A TENNESSEE ATTORNEY WHO WORKED ON RAY'S DEFENSE. INFORMANT HAS KEPT FILES IN SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX AND IS INTERESTED IN TURNING THEM OVER TO THE FBI IF HE CAN BE GUARANTEED CONFIDENTIALITY. ON DECEMBER 19, 1978, SAC NEHRBASS TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED MR. BASSETT THAT PG 1365-C HAS STATED HE WOULD TOOK DISCUSS THIS MATTER WITH THE HSCA.

MR. KEUCH ADVISED THAT ON JANUARY 2, 1979, HE WOULD FORWARD TO THE HSCA AND FBI A LETTER CONFIRMING DETAILS OUTLINED ABOVE REGARDING HIS OPINION AND CONTACT WITH THE HSCA.

THIS MATTER HAS BEEN COORDINATED WITH DEPUTY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR JAMES O. INGRAM. CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION AND DANNY O. COULSON. LEGAL LIAISON AND CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS OFFICE. LEGAL COUNSEL DIVISION.

TELETYPE BEING UTILIZED TO PROTECT PG 1365-C.](C)

APPROVED: Adm. Serv. Legal Coun Crim. Inv. Plan. & Insp. Director Rec Mgnt. Ident. Assoc. Dir. Tech. Servs. Intell. Dep. AD Adm. Training Laboratory Dep. AD Inv. Public Affs. Off.

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\mathcal{X}	TO:	DIRECTOR, FBI (44-	-38861)	-
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	SUBJECT	MURKIM		
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EMPLOYEES SECURITY
SPECIAL INQUIRY
SECTION

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U. S. DEPT, OF JUSTICE

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PH 44-1368

furnish information of value at that time due to his confinement at the State Correctional Institution, Huntingdon, Pa. (SCIH).

He was advised by SA DOLAN that if he still felt the way he did at that time when he is released he may desire to contact the nearest FBI office and offer his services. He said he would consider doing this.

On 4/13/77, CURTIS CARSON, Records Officer, SCIH, advised review of their records disclosed that RICKY WAYNE HILTON, Inmate number K-3065, was born at Kingsport, Tennessee and was currently serving a sentence of 7½ to 20 years on charges of three counts of robbery. His minimum release date is 9/21/83. In addition, a detainer has been lodged against HILTON by the State of Tennessee authorities.

Also for information of the Bureau, HILTON's letter to the FBI dated 5/9/77, was received by Philadelphia as an enclosure to referenced Bureau letter to Philadelphia dated 5/13/77. This letter contained substantially the same information and request that HILTON had made in his letter to the FBI on 3/23/77 and during his interview with the FBI on 4/13/77.

In view of the above, Philadelphia did not deem it advisable to recontact HILTON and no recontact was made.

Results of the interview with HILTON and his letters to the FBI dated 3/23/77 and 5/9/77, are recorded in Philadelphia file (137-9014 Sub Q).

In view of the above, no further investigation is being conducted by Philadelphia unless specifically directed by the Bureau.

1/15/79

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM:

SAC, PHILADELPHIA (44-1368) (RA) (RUC)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel to Philadelphia dated 4/4/77, entitled, "RICKY WAYNE HILTON," Information Concerning Possible Criminal Informant Matter." Bureau letter to Philadelphia dated 5/13/77, (Bufile 88-40223), and Bureau airtel to Philadelphia dated 12/22/78, (Bufile 44-38861).

Enclosed for the Bureau are five copies of a self-explanatory LHM suitable for dissemination.

For information of the Bureau, referenced Bureau airtel to Philadelphia dated 4/4/77, enclosed a letter from RICKY WAYNE HILTON to the FBI dated 3/23/77, in which he offered his services as an informer. HILTON was subsequently interviewed by SAS: ERNEST C. NEIL, II and THOMAS JL DOLAN on 4/13/77 and receipt of his letter to the FBI was acknowledged.

HILTON said that he now realized the serious errors he has made in his life in the past. He blames all past criminal behavior on his use of drugs. He wanted the FBI to know how he had changed and that he would be willing to do anything to combat the use of drugs and narcotics in the United States. He said he could not

3- Bureau (2-44-38861) (ENCLS.5) (1-88-40223) 2- Philadelphia (1-44-1368) (RA) (1-137-9014 Sub Q)

ECN:dls (5)

PH 44-1368

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In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

UNI_D STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

January 15, 1979

ROBERT WAYNE HILTON

The following letter was received by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Washington, D.C.:

> 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 - 6347 ENCLOSURE

71-27-78 141 I'm writing this let it at all possible for one to tack to of your F. B. I agent about Jumes Earl Ray see the reason i won't this is on account that i won't to do something right for a Change. Man i was in Brushy mt. Valian in Vetros Jenn, and the main Prison in Mach TEMMERREE and know James Earl Ray fried well and if i can be of some help to you all in This case i will be glad to, you can Check my Kelow in Jennessee if you care to my Dir if you do see m i can help you with informa information for your, hoping for a cepty toon. 1/ilton K-3065

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

EDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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RICHARD WAYNE HILTON, Inmate number K-3065, State Correctional Institution, Huntingdon, Pa., was advised that ERNEST C. NEIL, II and THOMAS J. DOLAN were Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

Receipt of his letter to the FBI, dated November 27, 1978, was acknowledged and he was requested to furnish any information in his possession regarding JAMES EARL RAY.

HILTON advised he also used the name "Ricky" and noted that he had signed the above described letter, "Ricky Hilton".

HILTON advised he was confined in the Brushy Mountain Prison, Petros, Tennessee and at the main prison in Nashville, Tennessee, from early 1967 through February, 1976. He said he was a barber and often cut JAMES EARL RAY's hair. He said he was also housed in a cell next to RAY for a considerable length of time. He said he was "fairly" well acquainted with RAY and they were "fairly" close friends.

He said RAY never discussed the assasination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., directly with him, however, on one occasion (date not recalled) he overheard RAY remark to another inmate, JAKE MORELOCK that he "did not do it alone" and "that if JAKE would help him escape, he would make it well worth his efforts."

HILTON advised the above remarks are the only remarks he could recall RAY making regarding the KING assasination.

HILTON advised he had heard that JAKE MORELOCK had since been released from prison on either parole or probation and had returned to the area of Kingsport, Tennessee.

Investigation on		1/8/79		at _	Hunt	ingdon, Pa.		Philadelphia File # 44-1368
•	SA	ERNEST THOMAS	c.	-	II	ECN:dls	Date dictated	1/9/79

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.

He could furnish no further information regarding MORELOCK.

HILTON further advised that DOUG SHELTON, another inmate at Brushy Mountain Prison was also a very close friend of RAY and he had heard that SHELTON was with RAY when they attempted to escape from Brushy Mountain Prison.

HILTON advised he could furnish no further information regarding RAY or his associates and only wrote that he could be of some assistance in the matter.

The following description of HILTON was obtained through interview and observation:

Sex: Male White Race: 5'11" Height: Weight: 190 pounds Hair: Brown Eyes: Hazel Date of Birth: Kingsport, Tennessee Home address: R.D.#1, Millerstown, Pa. Social Security Number: FBI number: 139-348 F

The interview was terminated at this point and HILTON was advised his information would be furnished to the proper authorities.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription	1	/12	/79	

CURTIS CARSON, Record Officer, State Correctional Institution, Huntingdon, Pa., furnished the following Initial Classification Summary, dated 6/25/76, for RICHARD WAYNE HILTON, Inmate number K-3065:

CARSON advised that he could furnish no further information than that which appears on the above summary.

Philadelphia

SA ERNEST C. NEIL, II

SA THOMAS J. DOLAN ECN:dls

Date dictated 1/9/79

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

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70	BIFTH INFORMATION
	Parental Status at birth: Single () Separated () Man ed XX) Divorced ()
, i	Deceased: M () I' (XX) Parental Status Change No () Yes
	Birth Order: 4 of 7 siblings (Mother remarried)
	Prenatal Status: Full term (XX Prenature () Birth injured ()
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17.	CHILDHOOD AND ADOLESCENCE
	Critical Incidents: No. (X) Yea ()
18.	FAMILY AND HOME CONDITIONS
	Socioeconomic Level: Assistance Poverty Average Above Average
	Developmental Years () () () () () () () ()
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22. Offense History

. See attached rap sheets.

ADJUSTMENT SINCE RECEPTION: Mr. Hilton has been in EW Receiving since his arrival here. He has been no problem in this area but has not had free mobility due to the Escape detains and his lengthy sentence. He is seen as a risk for an institution like SCI-Rockview.

23. Current Offense

OFFICIAL ACCOUNT: Mr. Hilton robbed Lester Shirk at knife point of \$22,00. He committed a similar robbery of Chester O. Grissinger and Joseph McLain. Illustre threatendd at knife point in separate incidents.

ACCOMPLICES AND DISPOSITION: None.

OFFENDER ACCOUNT: "I was using drugs (heroin) and have no knowledge of the crimes."

Escape Detainer: "I had made parole in Tennessee. I went out on a three day furlough in Tennessee. Other inmates wanted em to being drugs in. After being with my family I changed my mind. The people I was to pick up the trugsofrem started pressuring me. So I took off.

24. Psychological Report

See attached report.

25. Counselor Evaluation

STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES: Mr. Hiltoris confused by the escape detainer. He states it will be dropped according to his attorney dennessee on the other hand has lodged a detainer against him to be activated up n completion of this sentence. Overall, Rich has had a poor history within institutions. Indications from Tennessee are that he was less than a model prisoner. Therefore, recommendation for transfer to a more secure institution appears warranted.

While incarcerated, Mr. Hilton chould become involved in Narcotics Anonymous and other drug programming. This will help to alleviate his involvement in the drug subculture. It is also seen as advantageous for him to expand his present educational and vocational bases. In addition he should become involved in group therapy to explore his prior behavior patterns.

COMMUNITY SENSITIVITY: Rich is originally from Tennessee. He has a detainer for escape from Tennessee. Indications are that release would include eventual transfer to/Tennessee parole plan.

Richard J. Taranto Correctional Counselor II

j em

Approved by

Dale C. Sherman

Class. & Treatment Supv. I

К 3065

PSYCHOLOGICAL REPORT

Mr. Hilton was interviewed and was administered a series of tests to assist in the initial classification process. He was cooperative, readily completing all tasks a answering all questions. He did not seem very sincere in his presentation; the information he provided is, therefore, suspect. His affect was appropriate; his remory was good for both recent and remote recall. He was well oriented in all subcree; there is no indications of hallucinations, delusions, or loosening of associations.

Mr. Hilton relates that his father's death hit him hard; since that time (age sixter he has been getting into trouble. After a series of burglaries he was sent to refor school. He later committed an armed robbery that resulted in his being sentenced to cobbed a cab driver but ten years in a state prison in Tennessee. He relate that 1 not remember any of the details due to excessive driving. Its current account differentially from an earlier account in the records available from Tennessee. He inst that he did very well in prison (achieving trustee status) except that he became very volved in the use of drugs. He asserts that he had been granted parole, but was to h He was supposed to bring drugs anged his mind. The people who a temporary furlough prior to his release on parole but he into the institution following his furlough The people who to supply him with the drugs threatened him with a lun, so he avoided them and did no turn to prison. Traveling in Pennsylvania he apparently robbed three people at knife He denies any knowledge of these ribbaries that he was too involved with dru While he ates that he wants to do whatever was the time to know what he was doing. cessary to change and to stay out of trouble to carefully avoids an honest self-appr He externalizes the responsibility for the actions placing the blame on alcohol and

The results of the Bender-Gestalt, the Youse-Tree-Person, and the Minnesota Multiphas Personality Inventory (8-3-76) represent alidself reports, but suggest that he might have exaggerated negative aspects of himself. The results reflect a great deal of in pulsiveness and tension. Interports all relationships are poorly understood and are k at a cold, detached impersonal level. He feels very alienated and isolated from othe people. He tends to be evastve and non-disclosing in interpersonal situations. He s to be unsure of history heteros xual role. This is part of a much larger uncertainty about himself and about his own capacities. While he appears outgoing and friendly a times, he seems to be rather schizoid, withdrawing into private daydreaming or idiosy tic ruminations.

Mr. Hilton is currently pleasant, dooperative and expressing his motivations to achie good institutional adjustment. However, his motivation and his ability are suspect. is suggested that he be transferred to a more secure institution and that he be place program status II to monitor his initial adjustment in population. He has expressed terest in being transferred back to Tennessee to complete this sentence; if that coularranged it would be advisable. The staff there would be more familiar with him and able to deal with him. In addition it would avoid the disruption in any programming a later transfer (upon completion of this sentence) might entail. The prognosis appeared for any real change, but he could participate in school programs to earn his in Alcoholic Anonymous and/or a drug therapy program. It is anticipated that he would unresponsive to individual or group counseling, but it may be worthwhile to allow him participate for several sessions to more fully evaluate whether or not he is amenable such interventions.

Steve Wheeler Psychological Services Associate III AT0007 0372155

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FM ATLANTA (44-2386) (C) (SQUAD OF NVESTIGATION

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
TO BIRECTOR (44-38861) (ROUTINE)

BT

UNCLAS

ATTENTION CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY UNIT, RECORDS MANAGEMENT

DIVISION.

() MURKIN

ON 2/5/79 GEORGE M. GOLDMAN, VICE PRESIDENT, HAAS AND DODD REALTY COMPANY, 65 POPLAR STREET, NORTHWEST, ATLANTA, GEORGIA, ADVISED THAT IN RECENTLY CLEARING SOME ITEMS FROM HIS DESK, HE CAME ACROSS AN ARTICLE FROM THE AUGUST 3, 1978 EDITION OF THE ATLANTA JOURNAL WHICH CONTAINED AN ARTISTS CONCEPTION OF A "RALPH" THAT THE HOUSE ASSASSINATIONS COMMITTEE HAD BEEN TRYING TO IDENTIFY. GOLDMAN STATED HE HAD NOT GIVEN THE MATTER MUCH CONSIDERATION BUT UPON SEEING THE ARTICLE AGAIN BROUGHT TO MIND "A MAN I HAVE BEEN WALKING UP THE STREET WITH FOR 10 YEARS "WHOM HE BELIEVES BEARS A STRIKING RESEMBLANCE TO "RALPH." HE STATED THIS

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SPECIAL INGUIRY SPECIAL INGUIRY SECTION

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

(Number)

EMPLOYEES SECURITY
SPECIAL INQUIRY
SECTION

EMPLOYEES SECURITY
SECTION

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RECORDS MANAGEMENT

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U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE



In Reply, Please Refer to

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION Dallas, Texas February 1, 1979

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CIVIL RIGHTS

On January 30, 1979, an anonymous woman caller telephonically furnished the following information to Special Agent Udo H. Specht, FBI, Dallas, Texas:

She stated that an individual by the name of C. H. Wilson, residing at Boyd, Texas, in a brick house on the road between Boyd and Azle, Texas, might have been responsible or somehow involved in the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. She described Wilson as a white male, 6', 180 pounds, 51 years of age, and a pipe welder by trade. Wilson was involved in Ku Klux Klan activities and lived in Greenville, Mississippi in 1968 and prior to that. Prior to the assassination of King, Wilson allegedly stated that he would kill or was going to kill Martin Luther King. Wilson and another man, whom she would not identify, were in Memphis the day King was assassinated. At that time, Wilson owned a relatively new white Ford Mustang bearing Mississippi license plates. After Wilson returned to Greenville, Mississippi, from Memphis, Tennessee, he hid the white Mustang for approximately one month.

The caller stated that Wilson is an alcoholic and was during that time. He was drinking two and three quarts a day. The caller stated that Wilson is mean and capable of murder, especially if he has been drinking.

The caller would not identify the other man who was in Memphis with Wilson until she found out somehow that someone is investigating what she is saying.

On January 30, 1979, a telephone company information operator advised that a C. H. Wilson is listed as residing in Boyd, Texas, telephone number (817)433-5105.

The Dallas, Texas FBI indices to investigatory records did not reflect any information identifiable with C. H. Wilson.

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. 44-3886/-638

ENCLOSURE

FBI/DOJ

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PLEASE ADDRESS

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. 44-4

OUR NO. 68HQ-791-Q-60

1979-01-19

Mr. Robert L. Moore c/o United States Embassy 100 Wellington Street Ottawa, Ontario

Dear Mr. Moore:

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

Further to our letter of June 23, 1975, regarding disposition of exhibits being held by our Force, and your Memphis office reply of July 22, 1975.

It would be appreciated if we could once again cause enquiries to be conducted through the Assistant District Attorney in Memphis to determine if we can now dispose of the exhibits in this case.

Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Yours truly,

D. Chiarot, Inspector Acting Officer in Charge Federal Policing Branch

44-38001-6350

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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2/22/79

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) ःा

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SURJECT: MURKIN

de Bureau routing slip to Momphis, dated 2/3/79, enclosing Legat, octawa airtel to the Bureau, dated 1/24/79。

Enclosed for the Bureau are five copies of an LHN captioned "JAM"S FARD RAT; DR. MARTIN BUTHER KING, JE.-VICTIM: CIVIL RIGHTS-CONSPIRACY!

For the information of the Jareau, the Memphi: letter and LHM, dated 7/22/75, mentioned in the referenced Bureau routing slip is not available to the domphis office since the ontire MURKIN file was transformed from Momphis to the Rureau.

Contact with the District Attorney's Office, Memphis, Tonn., was by SA JAMES R. FLAKE.

SEQUEST OF THE BURSAU

Inquiry with the Department of Justine, Mashington, D. C. should be made relative to the disposition of exhibits being held by Canadian authorities in this anticer.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

Memphis, Tennessee February 22, 1979

RE: JAMES EARL RAY:

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.-VICTIM;

CIVIL RIGHTS-CONSPIRACY

On February 16, 1979, Leland M. McNabb, Assistant District Attorney, District Attorney's Office, 167 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee, was contacted by a Special Agent of the FBI regarding exhibits which pertain to the captioned matter.

Mr. McNabb advised he is currently the Assistant District Attorney assigned to this matter and has just filed an answer to a motion for a new trial on behalf of James Earl Ray. Mr. McNabb advised exhibits which pertain to this matter, should be retained in view of the motion for a new trial for James Earl Ray, and in view of the continuing legal questions which are being raised on behalf of Ray as to his original guilty plea in this matter.

An inquiry should also be made with the United States Department of Justice, Washington, D. C., relative to the disposition of exhibits in this matter.

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.

44-38861-6351

NCLOSURE

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TO: DIRECTUR, FEI (44-38861)

FWOM: SAC, MOMMPHIS (44-1987 Sub M) (C)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Enclosed for the Bureau are the original and four copies of an LMM dated as above.

The Memphis PD and AG's office at Memphis are aware of the information furnished by WISMILLER and no further action is being taken by the Acaphis Office in this matter.

SPECIAL THOUIRY SECTION JAR 30 12 19 PM *79 RECEIVED-FBI

U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

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In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Memphis, Tennessee April 27, 1979

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. (MEXXIV)
CIVIL RIGHTS

On April 4, 1979, Captain Barry Linville, Homicide Division, Memphis Police Department, Memphis, Tennessee, telephonically informed the Memphis Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that an individual identifying herself as Patricia Hays Wismiller, 1170 Dyer Place, telephone 323-3443, Memphis, Tennessee, had telephonically contacted the Memphis Police Department and informed them of a scheme whereby her uncle, Renfro Hays, would admit to the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., and then a movie would be made based on this confession with Hays receiving advance funds from the anticipated profits of this movie.

On April 4, 1979, Patricia Hays Wismiller was interviewed by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the following is a result of that interview:

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

ENCLOSURE:

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1	Date of transcription	4/20/79

PATRICIA HAYS WISMILLER, 1170 Dyer Place, telephone 323-3443, was informed of the identities of the interviewing Agents and the fact she was being contacted in regard to information she had furnished on April 4, 1979, to the Memphis City Police Department regarding the activities of RENFRO TURNER HAYS. WISMILLER furnished the following information:

RENFRO TURNER HAYS is the brother of WISMILLER's father and has been residing at her home with her and her minor son until the evening of April 3, 1979. Due to a fear on her part of HAYS which has developed, she had his belongings removed from her residence with the assistance of a friend, BOB MENENDEZ, employed with the Federal Aviation Administration, telephone 327-3387.

She advised HAYS is employed as a private detective and currently works from the office of BOB GILDER, an attorney, in Southaven, Mississippi. Since approximately the middle of February, 1979, until approximately four nights ago, she has overheard conversations between HAYS, GILDER, SKIP FALLER, ARNO (last name unknown), and MARK (last name unknown) inwiving a plan whereby HAYS will confess to the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING. In furtherance of this scheme, HAYS will travel to Mexico where he will sign a confession and FALLER, who is from California and produces movies, will make a movie based on the assassination of Dr. KING by HAYS. The confession by HAYS will be needed to establish the truthfulness of the movie. She described this confession as one which is non-binding on HAYS and would not establish legal liability for others involved in the movie for conspiracy.

Once HAYS has signed the confession in Mexico and the movie has been completed, HAYS will then travel to Argentina where he will reside. HAYS has indicated he would reside in Argentina based on his knowledge of the German language which is spoken by many people who live in Argentina and since following his confession, many individuals might seek revenge against him if he remained in the United States. HAYS, for his confession to the murder, would receive an advance payment of money based on anticipated profits from

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SKIP FALLER, who resides in California, is currently staying with his father, LOUIS A. FALLER, III, 5073 Whitworth Road, Memphis, and is accompanied by MARK (last name unknown) who has arrived in Memphis from Chicago. She stated the other individual involved in the project is ARNO (last name unknown) who has a Memphis telephone number of 396-1493. She advised her mother, BERTA HAYS, 3360 Rosamond, BOB MENENDEZ, and her minor son have also heard portions of the conversations between GILDER, HAYS, ARNO, FALLER and MARK regarding the proposed movie. She informed HAYS and the others she was going to the police with the information regarding the proposed movie and has been warned by HAYS not to do so and was warned indirectly through her mother that it would not be to her best interest to inform the police of their plans. Based on these warnings, WISMILLER advised she is fearful for her life which is additionally based on beliefs of her own of violence in the background of HAYS including three murders which she believes he committed. stated two of his former roommates have died and were ruled as suicides; however, she believes HAYS was involved in their deaths. She also advised approximately seven years ago when HAYS was a patient at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Memphis, a female patient died due to suffocation by placing a plastic bag over her head. WISMILLER stated HAYS has described on numerous occasions his discovery of this patient and having pulled the plastic bag from her head; however, WISMILLER believes HAYS was involved in the death of this patient.

HAYS was involved in the investigation of the murder of DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING and often laughs and jokes about his having been in the downtown area where the murder occurred. He was additionally driving a white Mustang at the time which had been given to him by WALTER BUFORD, a local Memphis attorney. HAYS has told WISMILLER he confessed to killing Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING to a local reporter. She advised she thinks HAYS was capable of the murder of KING; however, she does not believe that he did, in fact, kill KING.