

U. S. Department of Justice

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FOIPA Matter Serials *Entire File*
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Re: 190-KX-66942

INVESTIGATION

FILE STRIPPED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

Bureau File Number

44-38861

DATE 6/13/03 BY SP1CLH/SS

CLASSIFICATION NO.

44-696

Serials

Volume Number

430

4

See also Nos. *1A Section*

157-1298

ENTIRE FILE REVIEWED
FOR HISTORICAL
DECLASSIFICATION

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PRESERVE FOR SELECT
COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

see 197-1-1

Re 612477

High 6-17-77

6-16-77

W. F. Hamey 8-16-77

Re 8-2-76

Memorandum



To : SAC, ~~EMBA~~ KX

Date 2/14/2000

From : LEGAL SECTION (190-KX-66942)

Subject : FREEDOM OF INFORMATION - PRIVACY ACTS (FOIPA)
(FILE DESTRUCTION)

The following have been reviewed pursuant to an FOIPA
matter and may not be destroyed until indicated.

FILE

SERIAL

44- 696

**CONTACT LEGAL SECTION
BEFORE DESTROYING
MAINTAIN AS TOP SERIAL**

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Court Hears Appeal Suit In Ray Case

CINCINNATI (AP)—The 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals heard arguments Wednesday on a suit by James Earl Ray, admitted slayer of Negro leader Martin Luther King Jr., to void literary contracts with two attorneys and a magazine writer.

The suit was dismissed by Judge Robert McRae of the U.S. District Court in Memphis, Tenn., and came before the Court of Appeals on an appeal.

It was directed against attorneys Arthur J. Hanes and Percy Foreman and magazine writer William Bradford Huie. It asked that Foreman be prevented from collecting any further royalties on Ray's story of the King slaying.

Richard J. Ryan of Memphis, Ray's attorney, told the court Ray signed contracts to raise money for his defense and "did not receive one red dime." He said Foreman charged Ray \$165,000 to plead him guilty and get 99 years in prison. Hanes was a previous attorney for Ray.

Gareth S. Aden of Nashville argued Ray assigned the literary rights to Foreman as recompense for saving him from the electric chair.

The court took the case under advisement.

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

**The Knoxville
Journal**

Knoxville, Tenn

PAGE 14

Date: **2-11-71**
Edition: **CITY**
Author:
Editor: **W. F. CHILDRESS**
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: **KNOXVILLE**
☐ Being Investigated

44-696-430

SEARCHED <i>XB</i>	INDEXED <i>XB</i>
SERIALIZED <i>XB</i>	FILED <i>XB</i>
FEB 17 1971	
FBI - KNOXVILLE	

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Just Another Prisoner An Interview With James Earl Ray

By WILLARD YARBROUGH
News-Sentinel Staff Writer

PETROS, March 26 — Why does James Earl Ray avoid reporters? "Because," he told this reporter late yesterday, "my lawyer told me interviews could jeopardize my appeals to overturn my conviction, since something I might say could be misinterpreted or lifted out of context."

Then why did the convicted assassin of Civil Rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King in Memphis some three years ago grant me an exclusive interview for this newspaper? The first one, incidentally, since his apprehension in England as he attempted to board a plane to Spain in his flight from America.

He permitted the interview, as some 20 newsmen and television cameramen on annual open house day at Brushy Mountain State Prison here gnashed their teeth outside, because I asked him. It was a simple thing.

PULLED COVER OVER HEAD

Earlier, during a special visit here by this writer and WBIR-TV newsmen Carl Warner, Ray lay on his cot behind his locked door in Cellblock B and pulled covers over his head. He feigned sleep, but even then I spoke to him and got silence in return.

This time, as others of the media interviewed his cellblock mates about the most celebrated inmate among the 360 here, I merely knelt at his cell, told the again-covered form who I was, that I would like to interview him now or later, and to check with others about my credentials.

Fifteen minutes later, Chaplain Herbert Carlock Jr., who pastors Oak Ridge's First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, sought me out in the prison yard, said Ray wanted to talk with me and nobody else. Rev. Carlock obtained a master key and we were in Ray's cell within a minute.

WORKS SIX HOURS EACH DAY

Here's what Ray had to say:

"I decided to trust you so that I could let ..

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

PAGE /

THE KNOXVILLE
NEWS-SENTINEL

KNOXVILLE, TENN.

Date:

3-26-71

Edition: HOME

Author: Willard YARBROUGH

Editor: RALPH L. MILLETT

Title:

MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: KX 44-696

Submitting Office: KNOXVILLE

☐ Being Investigated

44-696 - 431

1 - MEMPHIS (44-1987)

1 - BUREAU (44-38861)

A News-Sentinel Exclusive

people outside know that I wasn't crazy. Some people have thought so, since I always hide when the press come around.

"I do not cause trouble here. I work six hours a day, seven days a week. My job is serving food to my cellmates, which requires two hours at each meal, and to housekeep in our cellblock.

"Once a day I get outside the cellblock—our doors to individual cells are always open—and go to the gymnasium for exercise. I do this soon after arising around 5:30 a.m."

What does he do in-between?

"I write memos to my lawyer, Bernard Finsterwald, in Washington. He was down to see me about appeals of my conviction two weeks ago. I read Knoxville newspapers. I read magazines. I watch television."

ASLEEP BY 8 EVERY NIGHT

His 11-inch set is suspended above his cot, and lights and electricity are turned off at 11 p.m. weekdays, later on weekends. Ray couldn't care less.

"I'm in bed and asleep by 8 every night," he said. "I must sack in early because I'm up at 5:30 a.m. next day, and when I finish working and exercising I'm beat."

Warden Robert Moore and Ray's cellmates term him a "model prisoner." One longtimer in Cellblock B said cellmates don't ask Ray about the assassination that rocked the world. "We don't pry into his affairs, he doesn't talk about the slaying, and he doesn't pry into our personal affairs," said a Ray next-door neighbor.

On one cot in Ray's cell was a portable typewriter, furnished by lawyer Finsterwald. Ray is sparing with stamps and paper, since he earns only 35 cents daily for his six-hour work

chores. But he insists he wants for nothing, points out he doesn't smoke, and that he is "just another prisoner and am treated as one." He gets no special favors, expects none.

HAS GAINED SINCE TRANSFER

Now 42 and weighing around 175 pounds, he said he had gained 20 pounds since being transferred to Tennessee's maximum security prison here a year ago from the main penitentiary at Nashville.

Ray is supremely confident that his lawyer will win his case eventually, whether exoneration via a new trial or whatever, but he steadfastly declines to discuss his predicament on advice of counsel.

He is, nonetheless, somewhat nervous but quite calm when he explains he has no fear of bodily harm from fellow inmates—even the blacks whose onetime hero he stands convicted of slaying.

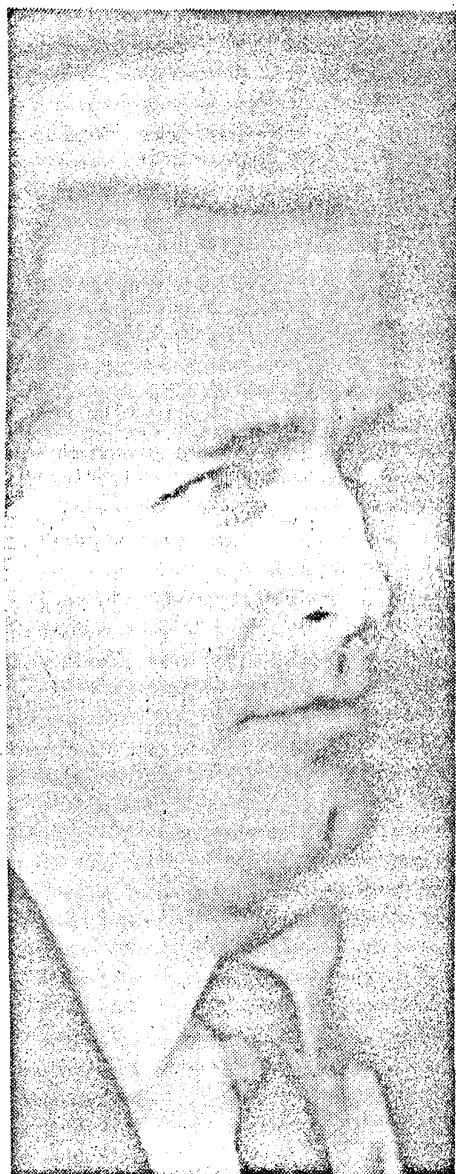
"Prisoners here, white or black, aren't concerned about such things," Ray said. "All of us are concerned about day-to-day existence and perhaps the day when we won't be locked up anymore."

URNS BACK ON NEWSMEN

By now prison guard Richard Davis, who had carried the message that Ray would talk with me, entered the cell and sat down. Behind him came the press. And Ray's only media interview was over.

He rose slowly and turned his back on them. TV cameraman Warner got one answer to one question: "I cannot talk with you because my lawyer said I could not discuss the case with the press."

State Corrections Commissioner Mark Luttrell suggested the jammed cellblock hallway be cleared, since Ray didn't want to be interviewed, and that's what happened. But earlier, Warner and a Nashville television crew let their cameras whirr as Ray lay under the covers. WBIR-TV will show its strip at 6 p. m. Saturday.



JAMES EARL RAY



WILLARD YARBROUGH

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, (44-696)

DATE: 5/6/71

FROM : SA JEAN B. ST. PIERRE, JR.

SUBJECT: JAMES EARL RAY

Warden R. H. MOORE, Brushy Mountain Prison, Petros, Tenn., was contacted by the writer concerning the attempt by JAMES EARL RAY to escape from this prison 5/3/71.

Warden MOORE stated that he had received information from inside the prison that RAY was going to attempt to escape after "he got a visit". Warden MOORE speculated that "visit" was a code word for outcome of appeal, which appeal was turned down. MOORE advised that RAY attempted his escape as described in the newspaper article taken from The Oak Ridger, Oak Ridge, Tenn., dated 5/3/71, and that he was accompanied by another inmate by the name of MORELOCK. MOORE stated that MORELOCK had been assigned to inside plumbing, knew the tunnel work and also had access to tools which probably accounted for RAY's choice of MORELOCK as an escape companion.

Warden MOORE was specifically questioned as to whether any outside help had been utilized in attempting to perpetrate RAY's escape and as to the identity of this outside help, if any. He advised that JAMES EARL RAY's brother, name unknown, who was believed to be staying with RAY's lawyer, a Mr. STONE, appeared at Brushy Mountain Prison around 2 P.M., 5/3/71, and requested to visit RAY. He was questioned by the warden as to why he had happened to be at the prison on that date and he replied that STONE had gone to Florida, and he decided to visit his brother. After the story of RAY's attempted escape was released to the press and became public, RAY's brother was advised that RAY could not receive visitors.

It is Warden MOORE's theory, although he cannot substantiate it, that RAY's brother was aware of the escape plan well in advance of the attempt and that he was in the area to pick up RAY once he made good his escape.

JSP/jss
(2)

T 5/20

44-696-432

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 6 1971	
FBI - KNOXVILLE	

St Pierre



5010-108

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

Escape Attempt By James Earl Ray Foiled At Petros

James Earl Ray, convicted of killing Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis in April, 1968, broke out of his cell at Brushy Mountain State Prison at Petros during the night.

But he was recaptured in the yard of the maximum security

prison as he looked for a way to get over the prison wall.

The escape attempt was confirmed early this afternoon by Mark Luttrell, State Corrections Commissioner in Nashville, after he was asked about unofficial reports of the escape attempt.

Luttrell credited Prison Warden Robert Moore with foiling Ray's escape.

Luttrell said Moore heard a noise in the prison about 3 a.m. and ordered guards to check Ray's cell first.

There, they said, they noticed what appeared to be a man asleep in a bunk, but further examination showed that Ray had somehow come upon a wig and put it atop a roll of blankets in the bunk.

Guards discovered that Ray had chipped through concrete in his cell and sawed through bars to gain access to a heating vent.

Luttrell quoted Moore as saying Ray slipped outside

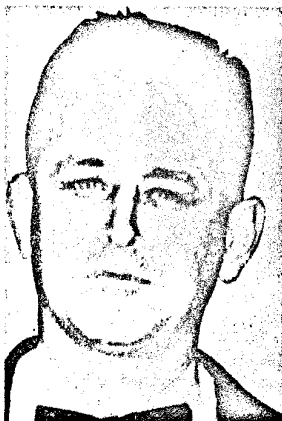
through the heating vent and into the compound.

Luttrell said Ray was recaptured within 25 minutes after the disturbance in or near Ray's cell was first noticed by the guards.

Ray pled guilty March 10, 1969, to the sniper slaying of King in Memphis on April 4, 1968. He entered the state penitentiary in Nashville the next day and was transferred a year ago to the East Tennessee prison at Petros. At that time Brushy Mountain became the state's maximum security prison under a reclassification of the Tennessee prison system.

Ray has sought several times to get a new trial in the King slaying, each time on grounds that he was pressured into the plea by his attorney. Each time he has lost, the latest turndown coming in Memphis Feb. 27.

No announcement of the incident was made. Confirmation (Continued on Page 11 No. 13)



RAY

— From Page One

came only after unofficial reports. An anonymous caller said that prison officials were trying to keep the incident "secret" but that he (the caller) felt the public had a right to know about it.

The unidentified caller's information was promptly confirmed by the state corrections commissioner, however.

The unofficial report was that Ray was acting as a janitor at the time the attempted escape was tried. Some new inmates were being transferred in from county jails and Ray is reported to have "traded them out of some street clothes," which he apparently then donned before attempting the break-out.

According to these reports another life term prisoner was helping Ray with his escape attempt.

Both are today said to be confined in maximum security within the prison.

In late March, during a "Press Day" tour at the prison, Ray granted an exclusive interview to Willard Yarbrough, of The Knoxville News-Sentinel. At that time he had been described by prison officials as a model prisoner.

orig sent Bureau & ce to Memphis 5/6/71

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

Front Page

The Oak Ridger

Oak Ridge

Tennessee

Date: May 3, 1971

Edition:

Author:

Editor:

Title: JAMES EARL RAY;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING,
JR. — VICTIM

Character: CR — CONSPIRACY;
or UFAC-ROBBERY

Classification:

Submitting Office: Knoxville

☐ Being Investigated

Bufile 44-38861

44-696 - 433

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
MAY 6 - 1971
FBI — KNOXVILLE

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

5/6/71

SAC, KNOXVILLE (44-696) (RUC)

JAMES EARL RAY, aka;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
CR - CONSPIRACY;
UFAC - ROBBERY

Enclosed is a clipping from The Oak Ridger newspaper dated 5/3/71, relating an escape attempt by subject.

Subsequent to the publication of this article, contact was made with Warden R. H. MOORE, Brushy Mountain Prison, at which time he furnished the following information:

Warden MOORE stated that he had received information from inside the prison that RAY was going to attempt to escape after "he got a visit". Warden MOORE speculated that "visit" was a code word for outcome of appeal, which appeal was turned down. MOORE advised that RAY attempted his escape as described in the newspaper article taken from The Oak Ridger, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, dated 5/3/71, and that he was accompanied by another inmate by the name of MORELOCK. MOORE stated that MORELOCK had been assigned to inside plumbing, knew the tunnel work and also had access to tools which probably accounted for RAY's choice of MORELOCK as an escape companion.

Warden MOORE was specifically questioned as to whether any outside help had been utilized in attempting to perpetrate RAY's escape and as to the identity of this outside help, if any. He advised that JAMES EARL RAY's brother, name unknown, who was believed to be staying with RAY's lawyer, a Mr. STONE, appeared at Brushy Mountain Prison around 2:00 PM, 5/3/71, and requested to visit RAY. He was questioned by the warden as to why he had happened to be at

2 - Bureau (Enc.)
2 - Memphis (Enc.)
① - Knoxville
WFE:at
(5)

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SERIALIZED
INDEXED
FILED

44-696-434

KX 44-696

the prison on that date and he replied that STONE had gone to Florida and he decided to visit his brother. After the story of RAY's attempted escape was released to the press and became public, RAY's brother was advised that RAY could not receive visitors.

It is Warden MOORE's theory, although he cannot substantiate it, that RAY's brother was aware of the escape plan well in advance of the attempt and that he was in the area to pick up RAY once he made good his escape.

Foregoing furnished as of possible interest to the Bureau and OO.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ray's Escape Attempt From Petros Fails

PETROS (AP) — James Earl Ray, serving 99 years for the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., made what the prison warden termed a well-planned but unsuccessful attempt Monday to escape.

Ray got out of his cell at Brushy Mountain Prison, Tennessee's maximum security facility, but was turned back by heat in a steam pipe tunnel.

"It was a well-conceived escape attempt and one he obviously had planned a long time," said Warden Robert H. Moore.

"First, he removed a concrete block in his cell and got out into an air chamber — a ventilating area behind the cell block. He crawled along the air chamber to the end and sawed one bar and broke another with a crowbar.

"He pulled himself through the hole and got out into the prison yard behind the cell block. Then he went to the steam tunnel which leads to our steam plant about 100 yards outside the prison.



Ray

"It obviously got too hot for him in the tunnel — our engineer tells me it gets up to 400 degrees fahrenheit in there — and he had to come back out.

"Some guards in the cellblock next to Ray's heard the noise when he was sawing through the bar, checked and found Ray missing and sounded an alarm."

Moore said guards notified him at 3 a.m. of the escape attempt and that Ray was found in the prison compound yard at 3:15.

Even if Ray had gotten to the end of the steam tunnel, Moore said, he would have run into more trouble.

"There is concrete and bars at the end of the tunnel and if he could have stood the heat he would still have had to saw his way through the bars," Moore said.

Moore said Ray, who pleaded guilty to the sniper slaying of

King outside a Memphis motel on April 4, 1968, got help in his escape bid from his cellmate, Roy Morelock, 44, of Greene County.

Moore said Morelock, serving a life term as an habitual criminal, was a prison maintenance man and apparently supplied Ray with a hacksaw, crowbar, hammers and chisel he use in the escape bid.

"Morelock had access to such tools as these and he obviously intended to escape with Ray," Moore said. "Our guards caught up with the attempt so fast he didn't have time to get out of the cell."

"You know, Ray escaped from the Missouri State Prison before he was arrested for the King murder," the warden recalled. "I think he escaped through a tunnel there."

Moore became warden of Brushy Mountain prison in East Tennessee in early March. About two weeks later he held an open house for newsmen and at that time he described Ray

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

The Knoxville Journal

Knoxville, Tenn.

PAGE 1

Date: 5-4-71
Edition: CITY
Author:
Editor: W. F. CHILDRESS
Title: MURKIN
BUFILE 44-38861
Character: ME 44-1987
or KX 44-696
Classification:
Submitting Office: KNOXVILLE
☐ Being Investigated

44-696-435
SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
MAY 7 1971
FBI - KNOXVILLE

Brushy's most famous inmate, as a "model prisoner."

Ray himself granted the first interview since his arrest and

conviction in Memphis in March 1969 for the King killing.

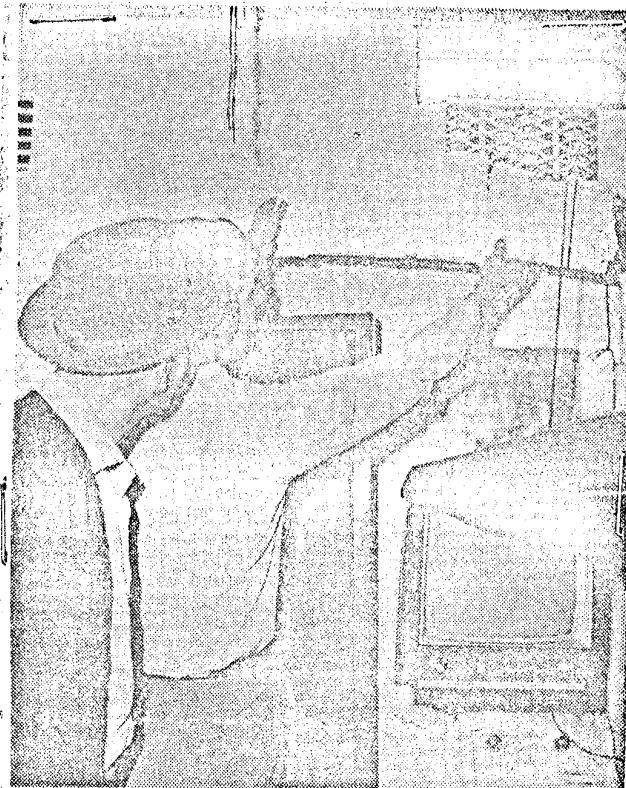
"I do not cause trouble here,"

Ray told a reporter. "I work six hours a day, seven days a week. My job is serving food to my cellmates, which requires two hours at each meal."

He said he had gained 20 pounds since being transferred from the main prison in Nashville 14 months ago to Brushy and now weighed 175 pounds.

Moore said both Ray and Morclock had been moved from what he called a working area of the prison to its maximum security section. They were put in separate cells.

Ray has sought several times to obtain a new trial in the King killing, contending he was pressured by his lawyer into pleading guilty. Each time he has lost, the latest rejection coming in Memphis Feb. 27.



Over And Out

Brushy Mountain State Prison Warden Robert H. Moore holds a piece of concrete James Earl Ray chipped through the wall of his cell to gain access to a heating vent through which he attempted to escape Monday morning. The convict was recaptured in the compound at the maximum security prison at Petros ~~shortly~~ after climbing through this hole above his bunk.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Steam Heat Thwarted Plan

'Impatience' Foiled Ray's Escape Bid

Compiled From Press Dispatches

PETROS, Tenn., May 4—James Earl Ray, termed by Brushy Mountain State Prison Warden Robert Moore and cellmates as a "model prisoner" just a month ago, failed in an escape attempt yesterday at the maximum security prison.



JAMES EARL RAY
Too hot in tunnel

News-Sentinel staff writer Willard Yarbrough quoted Ray in an exclusive interview March 25 as saying he was "just another prisoner" at Brushy Mountain, and was treated like one. It was the first interview with the convicted slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. since Ray's arrest and conviction.

Ray was housed in a "minimum security" cellblock, and was allowed the run of the block as much as other prisoners held there, working as a meal server for other men in the block.

Ray tried to flee the prison at about 3 a.m. yesterday, but was caught in the prison yard about 20 minutes after he broke out of his cell.

Went Through Tunnel

Had he waited a few weeks, he might have been successful in his escape attempt.

His carefully-planned escape route was to be through a huge concrete steam tunnel that runs about 100 yards outside the prison walls. But the 400-degree heat in the tunnel drove Ray back and he was captured while trying to find some other route of escape.

The tunnel carries 10-inch steam lines to various parts of the prison for heat and the steam will be shut off for the summer in several more weeks.

No Chance in Tunnel

"He didn't have a chance in that tunnel," said Warden Robert Moore. "Apparently he found it too hot in there for comfort and backed out. That steam

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

THE KNOXVILLE
NEWS-SENTINEL

KNOXVILLE, TENN.

PAGE /

Date: 5-4-71
Edition: HOME
Author:
Editor: RALPH L. MILLETT
Title:

MURKIN

BUFILE 44-38861

Character: ME 44-1987

or

KX 44-696

Classification:

Submitting Office: KNOXVILLE

☐ Being Investigated

44-696-93p
ARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED

MAY 7 1971
FBI - KNOXVILLE

tunnel is about 400 degrees Fahrenheit."

Even if Ray had gotten to the end of the steam tunnel, Moore said, he would have run into more trouble.

"There is concrete and bars at the end of the tunnel and if he could have stood the heat he would still have had to saw his way through the bars," Moore said.

"He was in the tunnel for only about 10 minutes," Moore said, "and he had a few burns but they didn't appear to be serious."

Moore said it would have been impossible for Ray to have reached the end of the tunnel without being scalded to death in the 400-degree heat. The tunnel, which leads to the prison steam plant outside the prison walls, supplies steam to the prison mess hall and is in use year round.

Well-Planned Effort

Otherwise, it was a "well-conceived escape attempt," Moore said.

"I believe that he had his plans ready, and you know, he recently lost an appeal for a new trial. That probably set him off," Moore said.

"First, he removed a concrete block in his cell and got out into an air chamber, a ventilating area behind the cellblock. He crawled along the air chamber to the end and sawed one bar and broke another with a crowbar."

"He pulled himself through the hole and got out into the prison yard behind the cellblock. Then he went to the steam tunnel which leads to our steam plant about 100 yards outside the prison."

Offers No Resistance

Ray, who came here about a year ago to serve his 99-year prison term for the King slaying, offered no resistance when he was found by prison guards, crouching in shadows of another building on the grounds—the maximum security building.

"I believe he was looking for some place to hide until he could find another way out," Moore said.

But getting out of here isn't easy. There's a 20-foot concrete block wall carrying an electric charge of 2300 volts in wires at the top. Some have made it, but not often. The wall is guarded by eight guard towers manned night and day.

Ray is no stranger to escapes and was, in fact, a fugitive from Missouri at the time King was slain.

Escaped in Missouri

Ray had served seven years of a 20-year armed robbery sentence when he escaped from the Missouri State Prison at Jefferson City on April 23, 1967.

He made good his escape by hiding in a bread truck that was leaving the prison after boasting, according to fellow prisoner Raymond Curtis, that he would collect a reported bounty of \$1 million that had been offered for King.

During the intensive manhunt for Ray after the assassination of King, Curtis, then serving time at Dalton, Ga., told newsmen that Ray never talked about his plans.

Called a 'Loner'

"He was a loner," said Curtis, "but if he was planning something, you could bet they'd be thorough plans."

His arrest record before he entered the Tennessee prison system shows he first was booked on suspicion of burglary in Los Angeles and was placed on two years' probation. He had been in and out of various jails and prisons on various charges until he was sentenced to the Missouri prison in 1967.

Ray apparently had been working on the escape for months, with his cellmate, a lifer named Roy Morelock.

Aide Is a Plumber

Morelock, a plumber on the inside maintenance crew, is believed to have supplied the tools from the shop that Ray needed to make the break attempt.

"Morelock had access to such tools as these and he obviously intended to escape with Ray," Moore said. "Our guards caught up the attempt so fast he didn't have time to get out of the cell."

"We knew something was wrong when a guard found the bar cut away from the ventilation fan at the back of the cell block," Moore said. "Then the manhole cover (to the tunnel) was found lying on the ground. We made a quick bed check and discovered Ray missing."

Ray had set up a dummy in his bunk in an attempt to fool the guards.

Board Meeting Due

Ray's future here will be determined by a disciplinary board made up of three members of the prison staff. They will decide on punishment and where he will be housed in the future.

Moore became warden of Brushy Mountain Prison in East

Tennessee in early March. About two weeks later he held an open house for newsmen and at that time he described Ray, Brushy's most famous inmate, as a "model prisoner."

Ray himself granted the first interview since his arrest and conviction in Memphis in March 1969 for the King killing.

"I do not cause trouble here," Ray had told Yarbrough. "I work six hours a day, seven days a week. My job is serving food to my cellmates, which requires two hours at each meal."

He said he had gained 20 pounds since being transferred from the main prison in Nashville 14 months ago to Brushy and now weighed 175 pounds.

One thing is for certain, Ray's stay here won't be quite as relaxed as it has been.

Surveillance Vowed

Up to now he has been housed in a cellblock, along a corridor with 10 cells which have little confinement in the individual cells.

The inmates of this section are able to visit from cell to cell during their leisure time. Ray was assigned to a cleanup detail, and carried food to other prisoners in the section.

"I don't know what punishment Ray will get for this," said State Correction Commissioner Mark Luttrell, but he said he would be under closer surveillance from now on.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

James Earl Ray Caught in Effort To Flee Brushy Mountain Prison

PETROS, Tenn. (AP) — James Earl Ray, serving '99 years for killing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., made an unsuccessful attempt Monday to escape from prison.

Ray sawed and hacked his way out of his cell in Brushy Mountain prison, but guards recaptured him in less than a half hour before he could find a way to get over the prison wall.

The 42-year-old Ray pleaded guilty to the sniper slaying of King outside a Memphis motel on April 4, 1968.

Warden Robert H. Moore said Ray used a hacksaw, apparently slipped to him by his cellmate, Roy Morelock, to cut through one bar of his cell.

"He sawed through the bar and got a clearance of 18 to 24 inches," Moore said. "Then he crawled out and got into a heating tunnel where the temperature sometimes gets up to 400 degrees.

"It apparently got too hot for him in there and he came out. Our guards apprehended him."

Moore said Morelock, serving a life term as an habitual criminal from Greene County, worked as a prison maintenance man and had access to such tools as hacksaws.

"I figure Morelock slipped the hacksaw to Ray and they both intended to escape," Moore said. "But guards heard a noise, checked Ray's cell and discovered him missing. Morelock didn't have time to try and get out."

Moore became warden of Brushy Mountain prison in early March. About two weeks later he held an open house for newsmen, and at that time he described Ray as a "model prisoner."

Ray himself granted the first interview since his arrest and conviction in Memphis in March 1969 for the King killing.

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

THE CHATTANOOGA TIMES
CHATTANOOGA, TENN.

PAGE 1

Date: 5-4-71

Edition: 3 STAR

Author:

Editor: NORMAN BRADLEY,

Title: Acting Editor

MURKIN

BUFILE 44-38861

Character: ME 44-1987

or

KX 44-696

Classification:

Submitting Office: KNOXVILLE

☐ Being Investigated

44-696-437
SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED

MAY 7 1971

FBI - KNOXVILLE

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

But Warden Holds to Report

Ray Denies 2nd Petros Escape Bid

James Earl Ray, convicted slayer of Civil Rights leader Martin Luther King, has denied to The Knoxville News-Sentinel that he attempted a second escape from Brushy Mountain State Prison earlier this month.

Ray, in a letter to News-Sentinel staff writer Willard Yarbrough carried from the Petros prison yesterday by his brother Jerry, said he was asleep in his cell when awakened and accused of attempting to escape.

The prison warden today reaffirmed that Ray was caught while trying to escape and named Corrections officers Troy Dyer and John Owens as the guards who seized him.

UPI reported Feb. 15 that Ray attempted escape Feb. 5 and quoted both State Corrections Commissioner Mark Luttrell and prison Warden Robert H. Moore to that effect. Mr. Luttrell said Ray "was found crawling to or from a place where he could work and not be seen." Warden Moore said Ray had acquired a makeshift hand-saw and was attempting to saw a hole through the ceiling of a room adjoining an auditorium where inmates watched movies.

All Not Reported

Warden Moore told the News-Sentinel today that he did not report the escape attempt to the press when it occurred and that it was released from a Nashville office after it came to the attention of officials there.

The warden said he does not announce each escape attempt to the press. "There is nothing unusual about an escape attempt over here. Last Friday we caught an inmate trying to es-

cape him, stopped the truck outside the prison walls, and found the inmate inside. Something is going on here all the time, such as finding prisoners equipped with knives and saws," he said.

Written in Isolation

A year ago Ray granted Mr. Yarbrough the only press interview he has ever given, the article dealing with Ray's life in prison but not discussing the assassination of Dr. King in Memphis. Ray insists he is innocent of that charge and his legal counsel has filed many suits, including a habeas corpus petition in Federal Court here, in seeking a new trial.

Ray's letter to Mr. Yarbrough was dated yesterday and written from his isolation cell, where he was moved following the report of the escape attempt. It was handwritten, his typewriter being denied him while he is in what he termed "the hole." Jerry Ray read the letter to Mr. Yarbrough, then mailed it to him.

Ray's contention, according to the letter, is that state authorities are trying to paint him as

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

THE KNOXVILLE
NEWS-SENTINEL

KNOXVILLE, TENN.

PAGE /

Date: 2-22-72
Edition: HOME
Author:
Editor: RALPH L. MILLETT
Title:

Character: 44-696-458
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: KNOXVILLE
☐ Being Investigated

other than a model prisoner to impair his chances at freedom via the courts. The letter follows:

"DEAR WILLARD,

"I believe I commented to you several times during your visit to the prison that I thought my legal problem should be adjudicated first in the courts before (it appears) in the press.

"However, that method doesn't seem fashionable in some quarters, and since March 1971 a series of exposes and comments or stories seem to be in serial form — something on the order of Mission: Impossible. Would the keeper of the keys cast it as Mr. Clean?

"Now on Feb. 5 another one of the stories took place, where

in Ray was snatched out of bed, not (while) boring through the roof, and subsequently (was) charged with attempt to escape.

"Several days later a decision was made by someone to release the story to the press. I don't know the details of said story, since as usual I was in the hole, and the warden was handling the public relations end. But I do know that for the last two years I have been attempting to receive a habeas corpus hearing and these stories seem calculated to make it infinitely more easy for the state's attorney general's office to keep the great writ suspended.

"Further, there seems a parallel between the heretofore referred to jailhouse story and the charge I am confined on, in that

the prosecution likes nothing better than to perform for the press while it seems impossible to lure them into the courtroom.

"Concluding, much more serious things have taken place at the prison than the aforementioned. There was a serious disturbance at the prison about six weeks ago — why was no performance given on this?

"Sincerely,

"J. E. RAY

"65477-B6X 73

"Peterson

Asked about Ray's reference to the prison disturbance some six weeks ago, Warden Moore said there was a brief sit-down among prisoners who refused to eat while he was negotiating with an inmate council.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

James Earl Ray Gets Early Trip

PETROS, July 22 — While Brushy Mountain convicts were being whisked out of their cells in the pre-dawn hours Saturday, the prison's most famous inmate, James Earl Ray, was being moved even more quickly.

While the rest of the prison was bustling with activity, the confessed slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was being quietly placed in a Tennessee Highway Patrol car and sent ahead of the main convoy.

Armour Leads

Ray, in a car with four troopers, traveled in a three-car convoy led by Commissioner of Safety Claude Armour. The three cars arrived in Nashville four hours ahead of the main group of 185 prisoners.

Commissioner Armour said the mode of transportation was "nothing significant." Then he added, "Ray is nationally known and we wanted to make sure there was no reason to direct criticism at his method of transfer."

Troopers said the journey was completed without incident.

Return Home

For Ray, it was a return to an earlier home.

Ray, who twice tried to escape from Brushy Mountain, was housed in isolation at Central Prison before his transfer here.

The arrival, and Ray's entry into Central Prison was accomplished so quietly that waiting reporters and photographers got only a glimpse of him.

—BILL PIERCE.

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

THE KNOXVILLE
NEWS-SENTINEL

PAGE A2

Date: 7-23-72
Edition: HOME
Author:
Editor: RALPH L. MILLETT JR.
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office:
☐ Being Investigated

44-696-439

SEARCHED <i>C</i>	INDEXED <i>RC</i>
SERIALIZED <i>RC</i>	FILED <i>RC</i>
JUL 23 1972	
FBI - KNOXVILLE	

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

12/26/72

SAC, KNOXVILLE (44-696)

[Signature]
MURKIN

On 12/24/72, at approximately 9:34 AM, the Chattanooga, Tennessee, telephone security operator telephonically advised the Security Patrol Clerk RONALD CRUM of the Knoxville Office that one of the Chattanooga telephone operators had on that date received a call from Tulsa, Oklahoma, from an unknown person. The person calling stated that a Dr. W. R. REID (phonetic) of Tulsa, Oklahoma, knew all about Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING'S death and stated that it would be worth while to notify the FBI and have it investigated. No reason was given by the caller for not contacting the FBI directly.

This is furnished for possible information.

2 - Memphis
1 - Oklahoma City
① - Knoxville

WFE/wsw

(4) *R. S. P.*

SEARCHED _____

SERIALIZED *PS* _____

INDEXED _____

FILED *PS* _____

44-696-470

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC

DATE: 6-16-74

FROM : WILLIAM T. BECKLER

SUBJECT: JAMES EARL RAY (44-696)

6 At 12:30 AM this date an individual giving name as John Travers, Chattanooga, Tenn., telephonically advised that earlier in the evening he heard a man in a motel state that he was going to "Bust" James Earl Ray out of prison sometime next week. Complainant said that the unknown man was in travelling status and did not know where he was going.

When pressed for an address or phone number where he could be contacted caller refused. He said that he was calling from a pay phone and that he was going to call the police dept. in Chattanooga or the Secret Service. He would not give any details concerning the matter other than stated above.



5010-108

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

44-696-441

SERIA	INDEXED
FILED	FILED
JUN 18 1974	
FBI - KNOXVILLE	

6/17/74

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, KNOXVILLE (44-696) (RUC)
RE: MURKIN

Re Knoxville telephone call to Memphis, 6/17/74.

In the early A.M., 6/16/74, a Security Patrol Clerk of the Knoxville Office received a telephone call from an individual identifying himself only as JOHN TRAVERS, Chattanooga, Tennessee. This individual stated that earlier that evening he had overheard a man in a motel, not further identified, state that he was going to "bust" JAMES EARL RAY out of prison sometime the following week. The caller said that the person making such statement was unknown to him.

When pressed for an address or phone number where he could be contacted, the telephone caller refused and would not give any further details.

Knoxville indices negative concerning JOHN TRAVERS. Telephone and City Directories also negative re JOHN TRAVERS.

This is furnished for information of Memphis.

2 - Memphis
① - Knoxville

WWS:1hm
(3) *elms*

44-696-442

Searched	_____
Serialized	_____ <i>cl</i>
Indexed	_____
Filed	_____ <i>cl</i>

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

King Revealed

FBI Plot To Ruin

WASHINGTON (AP) — The staff of a Senate committee said Tuesday that the FBI waged a campaign against the late Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. including sending a letter which King interpreted as a suggestion he commit suicide.

The campaign to destroy King's influence also included the planting of 16 electronic bugs and eight wiretaps and an effort to hand pick and promote a successor as the nation's most influential black leader, committee lawyers said.

The disclosures came as the top lawyers of the Senate intelligence committee detailed FBI efforts to investigate, infiltrate and discredit thousands of persons in groups ranging from the Ku Klux Klan and the Communist Party to the women's liberation movement.

Chief counsel F. A. O. Schwarz III and minority counsel Curtis Smothers said the full extent of the bureau's activities may never be known because most of Director J. Edgar Hoover's personal files were destroyed shortly after his death in 1972.

The staff lawyers gave the most complete account to date of the FBI's counterintelligence, or Cointel programs, which were aimed at disrupting the personal lives of members of alleged terrorist, radical or new left groups by causing them to lose their jobs, fight among themselves or be arrested by local police.

They documented several attempts at

destroying the marriages of such persons through anonymous letters written by FBI agents.

In the case of King, Smothers testified that a draft of the anonymous letter his wife received was found at FBI headquarters in the file of deputy director William Sullivan.

They said Sullivan maintains the draft letter was planted in his files by persons attempting to discredit him.

But they added the FBI does not dispute its authorship of the letter or the fact it was delivered to King.

King received the letter just 34 days before he was to receive the Nobel Peace Prize in 1965, an event which Schwarz said generated intense FBI efforts to find information to discredit King.

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

The Knoxville Journal

Knoxville, Tenn.

PAGE 9

Date: 11/19/75

Edition: CITY

Author:

Editor:

W. F. CHILDRESS

Title:

MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: 44-696-443

Submitting Office: KNOXVILLE

☐ Being Investigated

ORIGINAL SENT BU
ON 11-20-75

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

NCCJ Condemns FBI 'Harassment' of King

In the wake of revelations relating to FBI harassment of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the Knoxville Round Table of the National Conference of Christians and Jews (NCCJ) has condemned the bureau for its alleged persecution of the Civil Rights leader.

Members of the Knoxville chapter's board registered their protest at a recent meeting. "Dr. King was one of the strongest advocates and embodiments of the brotherhood of man and fatherhood of God," which is NCCJ's stated purpose," chapter director Lillian Mashburn observed after the meeting.

At the meeting, according to Mrs. Mashburn, the group resolved to "urge and insist that our congressmen oversee with greater scrutiny the conduct of the FBI in their investigations of Civil Rights activists seeking to secure their rights under the Constitution."

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

The Knoxville
News-Sentinel
Knoxville, Tennessee

PAGE A-9

Date: 11/30/75
Edition: CITY
Author:
Editor: Ralph L. Millett, Jr.
Title:
MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification: 44-696-444
Submitting Office: Knoxville

☐ Being Investigated

ORIGINAL SENT BY

C. 12-4-75 JC

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Request To Test King Case Evidence Studied

JACKSON, Tenn. (AP) — A request by CBS to test ballistics evidence in the Martin Luther King Jr. slaying has been taken under advisement by the Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals.

The judges on the panel said yesterday that initial issues to be decided are whether the court has jurisdiction in the matter.

CBS wants to examine and photograph evidence in the King case for a Jan. 6 broadcast.

Judge Joe Duncan, Knoxville, a member of the appeals court panel, expressed reservations about giving CBS access to the evidence because it might cause a stampede.

"Every nut in the world would be here with his expert," Duncan said.

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

THE KNOXVILLE
NEWS-SENTINEL

Page 2

Date:

12/9/75

Edition: HOME

Author: W.F. CHILDRESS

Editor:

Title:

MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification:

44-696

Submitting Office: KNOXVILLE

☐ Being Investigated

44-696-495

8 8

44

ORIGINAL SENT TO
12-11-75 JC

12/12/75

CODE

TELETYPE NITEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-106670)

FROM: KNOXVILLE (100-3550) (RUC)

ATTENTION: INTD

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BUDED DEC. 12, 1975.

RE BUREAU TELETYPE DEC. 10, 1975.

FOR INFORMATION OF THE BUREAU, THE BELOW-LISTED FILES CONTAIN NO INFORMATION REGARDING ANY COINTELPRO PROPOSALS OR REQUESTS FOR ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCES BY THE KNOXVILLE DIVISION ON THE INDIVIDUALS OR ORGANIZATIONS SET FORTH IN REFERENCED TELETYPE. IN ADDITION, THESE FILES CONTAIN NO TAPES, ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE LOGS, TRANSCRIPTS, PHOTOGRAPHS OR BULKY EXHIBITS.

FOLLOWING IS AN INVENTORY OF MAIN FILES ON INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS REQUESTED BY THE BUREAU.

1. A. KX FILE 44-696, BUFILE 44-3886].

B. MURKIN.

C. COVERAGE OF LEADS FROM OTHER OFFICES TO IDENTIFY PURCHASER OF RIFLE AND CAR USED BY SUBJECT IN KILLING;
TO IDENTIFY LAUNDRY MARKS FOUND ON CLOTHING ABANDONED BY

1 - 44-696

HAM/sjw

(2)

McKamey
44-696-446

KX 100-3550 PAGE TWO

SUBJECT; TO LOCATE AND IDENTIFY SUSPECTS IN THIS CASE;
AND TO CONTACT LOGICAL SOURCES, INCLUDING INFORMANTS,
POLICE DEPARTMENTS, CREDIT BUREAUS, AUTOMOBILE REGISTRA-
TION AGENCIES, DANCE STUDIOS, COUNTY COURT CLERKS AND
VARIOUS COURTS, HOUSING FACILITIES, BANKING INSTITUTIONS,
ETC.; AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION REGARDING JAMES EARL RAY.

D. THREE VOLUMES WITH 444 SERIALS AND A 1A FILE
WITH 18 ENTRIES, THE MAJORITY OF WHICH ARE PHOTOGRAPHS
OF RAY AND ARTIST'S CONCEPTION PHOTOS.

2. A. KX FILE 100-3550, BUFILE 100-106670.

B. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.; SM-C.

C. COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER OFFICES SETTING FORTH
INFORMATION REGARDING INDIVIDUALS IN KNOXVILLE DIVISION,
INFORMATION RE TESTIMONIAL DINNER FOR KING AT CHATTANOOGA,
TENN., IN 1965, INFORMATION RE KING'S VISIT TO HIGHLANDER
FOLK SCHOOL IN 1957 AND TWO NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS.

D. ONE VOLUME WITH 12 SERIALS.

A. KX FILE 157-253, BUFILE 157-1025.

B. PLOT TO ASSASSINATE MARTIN LUTHER KING AND

KX 100-3550 PAGE THREE

JACK GREENBERG, ATTORNEY, NAACP, MOBILE, ALABAMA, MAY 17, 1964; RM.

C. CONTACTS WITH CONFIDENTIAL SOURCES RE ABOVE PLOT AS INFORMATION RECEIVED THAT SEVERAL ARMED MEN TO BE STATIONED WHERE GREENBERG AND KING SCHEDULED TO SPEAK MAY 17, 1964, MOBILE, ALABAMA.

D. ONE VOLUME WITH 14 SERIALS.

A. KX FILE 157-2319.

B. FIRST ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. PARADE, CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE, JAN. 15, 1972; CIVIL UNREST.

C. A PEACEFUL PARADE WAS HELD IN HONOR OF KING'S BIRTHDAY AT CHATTANOOGA JAN. 15, 1972, WITH NO INCIDENTS. SOME PARTICIPANTS IN PARADE SET FORTH.

D. ONE VOLUME WITH 37 SERIALS, INCLUDING NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS.

A. KX FILE 157-2127.

B. DEMONSTRATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH ANNIVERSARY OF DEATH OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., APRIL 4, 1971; RM.

KX 100-3550 PAGE FOUR

C. INFORMATION RECEIVED VARIOUS GROUPS TO DEMONSTRATE APRIL 4, 1971, ON THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF DEATH OF KING; CONTACTS WITH LOGICAL SOURCES, KNOXVILLE DIVISION, REVEALED NO DEMONSTRATION REPORTED.

D. ONE VOLUME WITH 6 SERIALS.

A. KX FILE 157-1597, BUFILE 157-12709.

B. COMMEMORATION OF THE DEATH OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., APRIL 4, 1969; RM.

C. INFORMATION RECEIVED THAT SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SCLC) PLANNED TO COMMEMORATE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF DEATH OF KING ON DAYS PRECEDING AND FOLLOWING APRIL 4, 1969. CONTACT WITH LOGICAL SOURCES AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS, KNOXVILLE DIVISION, REVEALED NO ACTIVITY OTHER THAN MEMORIAL SERVICE HELD LATE MARCH 1969, IN CHATTANOOGA, WHERE FORMER TEACHER OF KING SPOKE.

D. ONE VOLUME WITH 28 SERIALS.

A. KX FILE 157-1597, BUFILE 157-12709.

B. SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF DEATH OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., APRIL 4, 1970; RM.

KX 100-3550 PAGE FIVE

C. INFORMATION RECEIVED DEMONSTRATIONS TO OCCUR THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES APRIL 4, 1970, COMMEMORATING THE DEATH OF KING. CONTACT WITH LOGICAL SOURCES INDICATED NO ACTIVITY OCCURRED, KNOXVILLE DIVISION.

D. ONE VOLUME WITH 11 SERIALS.

A. KX FILE 157-1298. (NOTE: FOUR BELOW-LISTED CASES MAINTAINED IN ONE KX FILE, NO BUFILE NO. AVAILABLE.)

B. 1) ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.; RM.

2) MARTIN LUTHER KING MEMORIAL SERVICE, SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 1968, EAST TENNESSEE.

3) PROPOSED MOTORCADE, KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE, TO MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, APRIL 8, 1968, TO SUPPORT CITY OF MEMPHIS SANITATION WORKERS; RM.

4) RACIAL SITUATION FOLLOWING ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., APRIL 4, 1968.

C. 1) INFORMATION SET FORTH RIOTS MIGHT DEVELOP AFTER DEATH OF KING. INFORMANTS AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES CONTACTED.

KX 100-2550 PAGE SIX

2 & 4) LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS AND OTHER SOURCES REPORTED MEMORIAL AND PROTEST MARCHES HELD APRIL 7, 1968, KNOXVILLE, KINGSPORT AND JOHNSON CITY, TENNESSEE.

3) POLICE OFFICER REPORTED MOTORCADE TO LEAVE KNOXVILLE FOR MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, APRIL 8, 1968, TO GIVE SUPPORT TO SANITATION WORKERS' STRIKE IN THAT CITY.

D. ONE VOLUME WITH 14 SERIALS.

A. KX FILE 157-1279, BUFILE 157-8424.

B. POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN; RM.

C. CONTACTS WITH INFORMANTS, LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, MILITARY INTELLIGENCE GROUPS AND TRANSPORTATION COMPANIES RE TRAVEL OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EAST TENNESSEE TO WASHINGTON, D. C., AND INFORMATION RE STOPOVER OF PARTICIPANTS IN ELEVEN CHARTERED BUSES, CHILHOWEE PARK, KNOXVILLE, TENN., MAY 9, 1968, AND INDIVIDUALS IN KNOXVILLE AREA PARTICIPATING IN THIS MATTER. MAJORITY OF FILE CONSISTS OF NUMEROUS COMMUNICATIONS SETTING FORTH ITINERARY OF PARTICIPANTS TO WASHINGTON, D. C., AND INDIVIDUALS CONNECTED WITH THIS MATTER.

KX 100-3550 PAGE SEVEN

D. THREE VOLUMES WITH 237 SERIALS.

3. A. WIFE, CORETTA KING - NO MAIN FILE.

B. FATHER, MARTIN LUTHER KING-SR. - NO MAIN FILE.

C. A. KX 44-1343, BUFILE 44-60978.

B. MARCUS WAYNE CHENAULT, AKA; MRS. MARTIN LUTHER KING, SR. - VICTIM; EDWARD BOYKINS - VICTIM; JIMMIE MITCHELL - VICTIM; CR.

C. CONTACT WITH DRIVER OF GREYHOUND BUS, CHATTANOOGA, TENN., WHO REPORTEDLY DROVE BUS OCCUPIED BY SUBJECTS TO ATLANTA, GA., JUNE 30, 1974.

D. ONE VOLUME WITH 11 SERIALS.

D. A. KX FILE 157-168, BUFILE 157-881.

B. UNSUBS; BOMBING OF GASTON MOTEL, BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA, MAY 11, 1963; BM.

UNSUBS; BOMBING OF THE RESIDENCE OF REV. A.D.W. KING, BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA, MAY 11, 1963; BM.

SIT-INS, BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA, BEGINNING APRIL 3, 1963; RM.

KX 100-3550 PAGE EIGHT

C. INFORMATION RE WHEREABOUTS OF BOMBING SUSPECTS DURING PERTINENT DATES OF BOMBINGS, CONTACTS WITH INFORMANTS, ATTEMPTS TO ASCERTAIN IDENTITY OF AUTOMOBILE USED IN ABOVE, CHECK OF LONG-DISTANCE TELEPHONE CALLS MADE BY BOMBING SUSPECTS 30 DAYS PRIOR TO MAY 12, 1963, AND INTERVIEWS WITH MEMBERS OF UKA, INC., KKKK, WHO ATTENDED KLAN RALLY MAY 11, 1963, AND PHOTOGRAPHS OBTAINED.

D. SEVEN VOLUMES WITH 133 SERIALS. MAJORITY OF FILES CONTAIN LENGTHY BIRMINGHAM REPORTS IN CAPTIONED MATTER. TWO 1A VOLUMES CONSISTING OF 6 ENTRIES, INCLUDING PHOTOGRAPHS OF SUSPECT AUTOMOBILE AND INTERVIEWS WITH MEMBERS OF UKA, INC., KKKK, AND OWNERS OF 1960-61 BUICKS IN TENNESSEE AND MISSISSIPPI.

E. SISTER, CHRISTINE KING FARRIS, AKA - NO MAIN FILE.

4. A. KX FILE 157-136, BUFILE 100-438794.

B. COMINFIL OF SCLC; EM - SCLC.

C. IDENTIFICATION OF INDIVIDUALS IN KNOXVILLE DIVISION REPORTED TO BE CONNECTED WITH SCLC. MAJORITY OF FILE CONSISTS OF LENGTHY ATLANTA REPORTS FOR YEARS 1965 - 1972.

KX 100-3550 PAGE NINE

D. FOUR VOLUMES WITH 98 SERIALS.

5. A. KX FILE 100-3520, BUFILE 100-442529.

B. COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS (CIRM);
IS - C.

C. MAJORITY OF FILE CONSISTS OF LENGTHY REPORTS
FROM OTHER DIVISIONS AND COPIES FURNISHED TO KNOXVILLE
DIVISION AS INDIVIDUALS CONNECTED WITH THIS MATTER
TRAVEL OR MIGHT TRAVEL TO KNOXVILLE. DIVISION.

D. FOUR VOLUMES WITH 97 SERIALS.

6. A. KX FILE 100-238], BUFILE 100-3-116.

B. CPUSA - NEGRO QUESTION; IS - C.

C. CONSISTS OF VARIOUS INFORMATIVE COMMUNICATIONS
AND IDENTITIES OF INDIVIDUALS IN KNOXVILLE DIVISION;
NO PERTINENT INFORMATION RE THIS INQUIRY OTHER THAN
NAMES LEVISON, SCLC AND MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. MENTIONED.

D. ONE VOLUME WITH 32 SERIALS.

7. STANLEY DAVID LEVISON - NO MAIN FILE.

END.

FBI Actions in King Slaying Probed Deeply

By DAN THOMASSON
Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — The Justice Department is delving deeply into the FBI's handling of the investigation of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination to determine whether the bureau was involved in any way in the Civil Rights leader's slaying.

A team of attorneys from the department's Civil Rights Division, headed by Assistant Atty. Gen. J. Stanley Pottinger, has been pouring through nearly 100 super-sensitive FBI files on King and on his assassination. Until now most of those files have been so secret that only a few of the bureau's top officials have had access to them.

The department's probe of an FBI investigation — rare if not unique in the history of the bureau — has been prompted by increased public debate over the thoroughness of the FBI inquiry into King's 1968 slaying in Memphis. That debate was stimulated by new Senate Intelligence Committee disclosures of FBI harassment of King during the 1960s.

"We seriously doubt anyone in the bureau was involved in the assassination," a department source said. "But the FBI's actions against King certainly raise questions we want to get answered."

The inquiry began in November, shortly after the Intelligence Committee revealed bureau activities against King — wiretaps, bugs, personal surveillance and even a letter aimed at convincing him to take his own life — were far more extensive than previously disclosed.

The investigation also comes at a time when at least one congressional subcommittee — a Senate Judiciary Committee panel set up to oversee the FBI — is preparing to conduct its own inquiry into the King case.

"What the department can't ignore, as we can't," said a congressional source, "is whether the intense harassment of King led someone or some element in the bureau into something more serious or tempered the investigation. I have doubts the department will get very far, because I don't think FBI files will show very much ... unless someone really was stupid."

The department also actively is investigating a number of other FBI activities including possible violations of Federal Civil Rights statutes by agents carrying out a bureau program to disrupt and harass antiwar activists and others during the late 1960s and early 1970s.

It further is trying to ascertain whether there were law violations in the award of bureau contracts, and whether there was any bureau involvement — other than use of informants — with a militant, right-wing San Diego, Calif., terrorist group known as the Secret Army Organization.

The Senate Intelligence Committee is investigating allegations the bureau supplied the group weapons. FBI Director Clarence E. Kelley denied flatly Sunday that the bureau did any more than use an informant in trying to investigate the organization.

(Mount Clipping in

At the same time, the department's Civil Rights and criminal divisions are investigating the CIA's actions in the 1971 break-in of a Fairfax City, Va., photo shop. Former CIA Director Richard Helms reportedly faces being charged with misdemeanors for the agency's participation with Fairfax police in the break-in.

Department sources said a decision on prosecution of Helms will be made in a week. The five-year statute of limitations is expected to run out on the case in about one month.

The department also is investigating Helms' appearances before a number of congressional committees to see if Helms, now ambassador to Iran, committed perjury.

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

THE KNOXVILLE
NEWS-SENTINEL

PAGE 11

Date: 1/13/76
Edition: HOME
Author: W.F. CHILDRESS
Editor:
Title: MURKIN

Character:
or
Classification: 44-696-447
Submitting Office: KNOXVILLE
☐ Being Investigated

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JAN 14 1976	
FBI - KNOXVILLE	

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Byrd Capitalizing on Probe of FBI, King Case

A Weekly Size-Up by the Washington Staff
of The Scripps-Howard Newspapers

WASHINGTON — New probe of alleged FBI failings in the investigation of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination is being set up by Senate's toughest interrogator, Senate Democratic Whip Robert C. Byrd (W. Va.).

Byrd, favorite-son presidential hopeful, has told his special Senate Judiciary Committee staff to begin thorough investigation of FBI handling of still-troubling King case. Full Senate hearings could follow by spring.

Byrd, only really active member of a Judiciary Committee subpanel charged with FBI oversight, wants to find out if there is any connection between bureau's harassment of King and the apparently sloppy investigation after his murder.

Headline-making revelations could boost Byrd's bid for place on party's national ticket, offset his long-ago membership in Ku Klux Klan and so-so civil rights voting record.

Byrd's incisive, persistent questioning of former acting FBI Director W. Patrick Gray on FBI's Watergate follow-up helped lead to major Watergate revelations, undid Gray's confirmation chances.

Aided by top-notch staff, 57-year-old Byrd is a Senate powerhouse, patient but tenacious. "When he goes after something," said a Senate colleague, "watch out."

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

THE KNOXVILLE
NEWS-SENTINEL

PAGE B-3

Date: 1/11/76
Edition: HOME
Author: W.F. CHILDRESS
Editor:
Title:

MURKIN

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: KNOXVILLE

☐ Being Investigated

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JAN 12 1976	
FBI — KNOXVILLE	
#3	Jan

1-12-76 J

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

City Council Rejects King Holiday; 2 Hurt as Police Oust Protesters

By LOIS THOMAS

News-Sentinel Staff Writer

In a bitter, disrupted meeting, City Council last night finally turned down the proposal that would have made the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday a city holiday.

The action came after police removed about a dozen chanting and shouting black persons from the meeting at the Civic Coliseum Ballroom and resulted in several gatherings of angry black groups after the meeting. One person was arrested and he and the arresting officer were injured, police said.

Clarence Hardin, 24, of 2406 McCalla Ave., was charged with assault and battery, failure to obey a lawful police order and resisting arrest. He was treated for a head cut at University Hospital. He was returned to City Jail but later released on his own recognizance for a City Session Court hearing Friday. Policeman Roger W. Bates was taken to Presbyterian Hospital for injuries received in an altercation with Hardin, police said. Attendants said he had a black eye but was admitted after complaining of chest pains and was in satisfactory condition today.

The decision to release Hardin on his own recognizance was made by Mayor Randy Tyree and Safety Director George Caldwell, after they talked with the arresting officer, the mayor said today. He said he knows Hardin's father and is sure there'll be no problem with Hardin's appearance in court.

Council also voted 5-to-3 to name Councilman Willie Belle Hembree vice mayor instead of Councilman Arthur (Smiley) Blanchard, whose election to the post was overturned two weeks ago.

During discussion last night on the holiday question, Mayor Tyree was jeered for commenting the city has experienced "an excellent racial situation." He urged that the matter be discussed in a "rational intelligent manner," warning if "emotions take over on either side it could cause serious damage to the community for a long, long time."

Councilman Theotis Robinson countered he didn't think the city has enjoyed good race relations as much as "we have enjoyed an atmosphere in which we have not had to come to grips with the problems black people face in this city."

He said the absence of confrontation "does not represent good race relations, but the fact there has been a deaf ear on the part of certain segments of the community in hearing and understanding the needs and aspirations of the black community."

There was standing room only in the ballroom when the matter was brought up, and a large number of the audience

queued up to speak on the issue. Mayor Tyree asked that discussion be limited to three minutes each, but after a couple of persons had so spoken, Councilman Rex Davis asked that the discussion be limited to persons who had not spoken at the previous two council meetings where the matter had been brought up. After receiving some catcalls and remarks from the audience, Councilman Davis made a motion to deny the holiday. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jack Sharp.

Councilman Robinson then made a substitute motion that the holiday be approved. This died without a second. Councilman Blanchard then made a substitute motion that the holiday be approved with pay "for those city employees who wish to take it." Councilman Robinson seconded this motion "not because it's the way I want it to go but to try to salvage something out of this whole debacle."

Before council could vote on the motions, Bob Butler, Taliwa Court, interrupted the proceedings and demanded to speak, saying he had sat through the meeting for two hours and was not going to be denied his chance.

He said he wanted to "pose a solution before this gets out of hand," and suggested council "vote yes to legalize the holiday now and work out the specifics later." He said his "constituency" had told him "not to leave here until we get what we want."

After the substitute motion failed 7-2, with Councilmen Robinson and Blanchard as those voting for it, Mr. Butler began chanting a demand for the holiday that was picked up by others in the audience.

Police led Mr. Butler and then others away as they came chanting toward the microphone at the front of the council chambers. The group was escorted by police out of the coliseum.

Council agreed to listen to those persons remaining who wished to speak on the issue and then voted 6-to-3 to deny the holiday. Voting to deny were Councilmen Davis, Sharp, Hembree, Jean Teague, Bernice O'Connor and M.T. Bellah. Councilman Milton Roberts joined Mr. Robinson and Mr. Blanchard in voting against the denial motion. Councilman Roberts said he was voting against denial because he thought it should be observed as a memorial day.

The proposal to make the Jan. 15 a paid city holiday in honor of the late Civil Rights leader had been on council's agenda for the past three meetings, with council declining to act on it one way or another until last night.

Councilman Robinson said today the King holiday question "has not been de-

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

THE KNOXVILLE
NEWS-SENTINEL

PAGE 1

Date: 1/25/76
Edition: HOME
Author: W.F. CHILDRESS
Editor:
Title: MURKIN
Character:
or
Classification: 44-696-449
Submitting Office: KNOXVILLE
☐ Being Investigated

ORIGINAL SENT BU

ON 1-29-76

feated; it has only been delayed. I'll bring it up again and if it is defeated, I'll bring it up again and again," he said.

Mr. Robinson said he had not set a date on which to bring the question before council again.

Safety Director George Caldwell said today an investigation was being made to determine if any officers involved in last night's trouble at the council meeting were guilty of police brutality.

He said from the reports he had read thus far the police officers did an "outstanding" job in handling the situation.

He said he would review all affidavits before making any more statements.

Council elected Mrs. Hembree the vice mayor despite the fact parliamentary rules state elections cannot be reconsidered, as was the case in this instance.

Council two weeks ago voted to reconsider the election of Mr. Blanchard to the post by a 5-to-4 vote after Mrs. Teague said she had "made a mistake" in voting for Mr. Blanchard.

Last night, when Mr. Blanchard asked for a ruling regarding the legalities of reconsideration, City Law Director Jon Roach said according to parliamentary procedures "the elections of individuals cannot be reconsidered." However, Mr. Roach said because of irregularities in the election, it was his opinion that it could be reconsidered. Mayor Tyree ruled that "because of procedural errors we will reconsider."

Mr. Roach said the errors evolved in that seconds were asked for the nominations, which is not required, and that no motion was ever made to close the nominations.

An effort by Councilman Robinson to defer action on the election until Councilman Bellah could be present also failed. Mr. Bellah was out of town on business and arrived after at the council meeting after the vote was taken. Voting for Mrs. Hembree were Councilmen O'Connor, Roberts, Teague, Sharp and Hembree.

Councilman Blanchard said he "hated we had to get off to such a bad start, and I hope we can work together. I felt like 'queen for a day.' I just felt the top vote getter was automatically the vice mayor."

Councilman Roberts disputed Mr. Blanchard's statement, saying that he had been the top vote getter in several elections and had not served as vice mayor.

Council also voted unanimously to "defer indefinitely" an ordinance amendment that would make less restrictive the rules on who can hold wholesale and retail liquor licenses.

Council voted 8-1 to deny permission of First Evangelical Church to build a church in the Residential zone. Neighborhood residents around the 1812 Fair Drive site protested the church would be detrimental to the neighborhood in terms of traffic and congestion problems. Metropolitan Planning Commission had granted permission for the zone change to allow for the church over the objections of the MPC staff. Mrs. Teague was the lone dissenter.

Council also approved purchasing the site for the new Bearden Junior High School for \$575,000.

NR021 AT PLAIN

8:01 PM URGENT 2-6-76 HLF

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861)

EL PASO (44-920)

MEMPHIS (44-1937)

KNOXVILLE

FROM: ATLANTA (44-2386) (P)

MURKIN.

RE ATLANTA TEL TO THE DIRECTOR, FEBRUARY 5, 1976. FOR THE INFORMATION OF KNOXVILLE, LEON POWELL, A RESIDENT OF ATLANTA, CONTACTED THE ATLANTA OFFICE ON JANUARY 4, 1976 AND ADVISED HE AND HIS BROTHER, CLAUDE POWELL, JR. WERE APPROACHED BY AN INDIVIDUAL NAMED ARNOLD RAY GODFREY IN LATE NOVEMBER, 1967 WITH AN OFFER TO ASSASSINATE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. FOR A SUM OF MONEY. GODFREY ALLEGEDLY PUT THEM IN CONTACT WITH A RALPH (LNU) WHO OFFERED THE POWELL'S \$75,000 TO ASSASSINATE KING. THE POWELLS REFUSED THE OFFER. LEON AND CLAUDE POWELL HAVE BEEN POLYGRAPHED. LEON'S POLYGRAPH WAS INCONCLUSIVE, HOWEVER, EXAMINER FOR CLAUDE POWELL WAS OF OPINION POWELL TELLING TRUTH. ARNOLD RAY GODFREY DENIES INVOLVEMENT, HOWEVER, REFUSED POLYGRAPH AND HAS SINCE HIRED ATTORNEY AND REFUSED TO ANSWER FURTHER QUESTION. GODFREY IS A WHITE MALE, BORN [REDACTED] AT COPPER HILL, TENNESSEE.

END PAGE ONE.

*Supervisor Matthews
& SA M. Roberts advised
a*

CF Red & A

44-696-450

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FEB 6 1976	
FBI - KNOXVILLE	

PAGE TWO (44-2386)

EFFORTS TO LOCATE LEON POWELL ON THIS DATE STILL NEGATIVE. POWELL'S DAUGHTER-IN-LAW CONTACTED AND ADVISED SHE HAS NOT SEEN HER FATHER-IN-LAW SINCE HE LEFT HER RESIDENCE. SHE WOULD ATTEMPT TO LOCATE HIM AND ADVISE HIM TO CONTACT THE ATLANTA OFFICE OF THE FBI.

MRS. L. N. PENNINGTON, DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL, CITY OF ATLANTA, REVIEWED HER RECORDS ON THE EMPLOYMENT OF ARNOLD RAY GODFREY. THE RECORDS SHOW THAT GODFREY HAS A WIFE NAMED MILLIE. NO OTHER RELATIVES ARE LISTED ON THE EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION. EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION WAS FILED IN 1949 AND THE FOLLOWING REFERENCES WERE NOTED: FRANK WALDON, ROUTE 1, COPPER HILL, TENNESSEE; WALTER STYNUS, ROUTE 1, COPPER HILL; CLAUDE CRANFORD, ROUTE 1, COPPER HILL. RECORDS FURTHER REFLECT THAT GODFREY WENT THROUGH THE FIFTH GRADE AT COPPER HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

CLINTON STANFORD, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, ENVIRONMENT AND STREET SERVICES, CITY OF ATLANTA, WAS CONTACTED AND ADVISED ALL RECORDS CONCERNING THE EXACT DAYS WORKED BY ANY CITY EMPLOYEES ARE CURRENTLY STORED IN A VAULT AT CITY HALL. HE WOULD ATTEMPT TO LOCATE THESE RECORDS AND VERIFY THE WHEREABOUTS OF ARNOLD RAY GODFREY DURING THE MONTHS OF NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER.

END PAGE TWO.

PAGE THREE (44-2386)

1967, AND MARCH AND APRIL, 1968 HE STATED HE WOULD TELEPHONICALLY CONTACT THE FBI OFFICE WHEN HE LOCATED THESE RECORDS.

KNOXVILLE AT COPPER HILL. WILL ATTEMPT TO LOCATE REFERENCES FOR ARNOLD RAY GODFREY AND ALSO ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY RELATIVES OF ARNOLD RAY GODFREY. CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, HAS REQUESTED THAT GODFREY'S RELATIVES, ASSOCIATES BE IDENTIFIED AND INTERVIEWED CONCERNING ANY ASSOCIATE OF GODFREY NAMED RALPH.

ATLANTA AT ATLANTA. WILL CONTINUE EFFORTS TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW LEON POWELL.

END.

PLS HOLD

FBI

Date: 2/7/76

Transmit the following in PLAIN
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Precedence)

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (44-3886])
ATLANTA (44-2386)
EL PASO (44-920)
MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM KNOXVILLE (44-696) (RUC) ✓
MURKIN.

RE ATLANTA TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR FEB. 6, 1976.

LOIS WALDEN GODFREY AND HUSBAND, ROBERT K. GODFREY,
ROUTE ONE, GRASSY CREEK ROAD, COPPER HILL, TENN., INTER-
VIEWED FEB. 7, 1976. GODFREY STATED ENTIRE FAMILY MOVED
TO ATLANTA, GA. AREA IN LATE 1940'S AND HE IS ONLY
MEMBER OF FAMILY CURRENT IN TENN.

HE ADVISED HIS MOTHER, MARY GODFREY, RESIDES WITH
HIS SISTER, SHIRLEY BULLOCK, ADDRESS UNKNOWN, BUT THAT
BULLOCK CAN BE REACHED THROUGH THE MARIETTA, GA. SCHOOL
BOARD WHERE SHE IS EMPLOYED DIRECTING TRAFFIC AT SCHOOL
CROSSINGS. OTHER SISTERS, MRS. R. L. (EDNA) ENSLEY AND
MRS. IRA (DENA) SMITH, RESIDE ON ROUTE ONE, BLUE RIDGE, GA.
BROTHER, JAMES T. GODFREY, ALSO RESIDES ROUTE ONE, BLUE
MJR/kjj

(1)

Approved: *ACS*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent *me*

M

Per *CS*

F B I

Date:

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

PAGE TWO

KX 44-696

RIDGE, GA. MRS. GODFREY ADVISED OTHER BROTHER, LEE CARROLL GODFREY, HAS IN THE PAST BEEN INVOLVED IN CRIMINAL ACTIVITY AND HAS USED THE NAME ARNOLD RAY GODFREY IN THE PAST. ACCORDING TO THE GODFREYS, LEE CARROLL GODFREY'S WHEREABOUTS PRESENTLY UNKNOWN, HOWEVER, WAS INCARCERATED AT BLUE RIDGE COUNTY JAIL DURING CHRISTMAS, 1974. THEY ALSO ADVISED THAT IN NOV. 1975, ANOTHER BROTHER, RAY S. GODFREY, DIED AND EFFORTS TO LOCATE LEE GODFREY AT THAT TIME NEGATIVE. LEE GODFREY IN THE BLUE RIDGE, GA. AREA SINCE NOV. AND RELATIVES BELIEVE HE IS RESIDING IN ELLIJAY, GA. NEITHER LOIS OR ROBERT GODFREY ACQUAINTED WITH A RALPH (LNU) AND STATED THAT BROTHER ARNOLD HAS NOT RESIDED IN THE COPPER HILL AREA IN 27 YEARS AND HAS NO ASSOCIATES IN THE AREA. THEY ADVISED ARNOLD MARRIED TO MILLIE CAMERON AFTER MOVING TO ATLANTA.

REFERENCES FRANK WALDEN, WALTER STYMUS AND CLAUDE CRAWFORD LISTED AS REFERENCES BY ARNOLD IN 1949 WERE NEIGHBORS OF THE GODFREY FAMILY IN COPPER HILL PRIOR TO

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via _____
(Precedence)

PAGE THREE

KX 44-696

MOVING TO ATLANTA. LOIS GODFREY ADVISED ARNOLD NOT IN
CONTACT WITH THESE INDIVIDUALS SINCE MOVING TO ATLANTA.

LEAD. ATLANTA. AT MARIETTA AND BLUE RIDGE, GA.
LOCATE AND INTERVIEW RELATIVES OF ARNOLD RAY GODFREY
CONCERNING ASSOCIATE BY THE NAME OF RALPH (LNU). ALSO
ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE WHEREABOUTS OF BROTHER, LEE CARROLL
GODFREY, WHITE MALE, AGE 42, AND SET FORTH LEADS TO
LOCATE AND INTERVIEW HIM CONCERNING INSTANT MATTER.
END

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

7/8/76

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

NITEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-3886])
SAC, MEMPHIS (44-2366)
ADIC, NEW YORK (]74-2366)
FROM: KNOXVILLE (]49-]]4) (44-696) (RUC)
LAGBOM. EID. OO: NEW YORK. KX FILE-]49-]]4.
MURKIN. OO: MEMPHIS. KX FILE 44-696.

FOR INFO BUREAU AND RECEIVING OFFICES, ANONYMOUS
TELEPHONE CALLER ADVISED AT 2:45 P.M., JULY 8, 1976,
THAT THE INDIVIDUAL WHO KILLED DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING
AND WHO WAS ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR THE RECENT BOMBINGS
IN THE AIRPORTS IS ONE RICHARD OSBON (PHONETIC), JR.

THIS WAS ALL OF THE INFORMATION WHICH THE CALLER
FURNISHED AND THE CALL WAS THEN TERMINATED IMMEDIATELY
BY THE CALLER. NO RECORD IDENTIFIABLE KNOXVILLE INDICES.

INFORMATION BEING FURNISHED RECEIVING OFFICES
FOR EVALUATION AND POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE IN INVESTIGATION.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END.

(1) - 44-696
DRB/sjw
(2)

Jan

44-696-452

NR022 NY PLAIN

7:14 PM NITEL 7-9-76 JPZ

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-3386L) (;4-6607) AND SACS
MEMPHIS (44-2366)

KNOXVILLE (149-114) (44-696)

FROM: ADIC, NEW YORK (174-2366)

LAGBON; ELD

NY INDICES NEGATIVE FOR (X) RICHARD OSBON, JR. (X).

NO FURTHER INVESTIGATION BEING CONDUCTED BY NEW YORK.

SUSPECT'S NAME WILL BE RETAINED FOR FUTURE
INVESTIGATIVE ASSISTANCE.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END.

DCK FBI KX PLS HOLD

44-696-453

SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED _____	FILED _____
JUL 9 - 1976	
FBI - KNOXVILLE	

Busby
dyd

ACC made for 44-696
7/10/76

KING, Martin Luther, Jr. (Rev)

(8-57)

61-12-440

116-913

(10-58) 62-618-274

(3-68) 157-1279* WA-Spring Project

(10-57) 105-0A_21

157-61-1598, 1602, 1605, 1607,

(3/61)

100-3301-641

1623, 1970,

(3/60)

157-37-3K

(10-58) 62-618-274

(12/60)

157-35-17

(6-65) 157-117-337, 338

(9/60)

157-63-5

(11-65) 100-121-258

(6-61)

100-0-2785

(6/65) 100-3550* (2-71) 62-0-5927

(2-66) 100-0-2973 (3-71) 157-2127* 100-3301-758,

(6/66) 100-3592 (3-69) 157-1597* (5-62) 157-350-67

(1-68) 61-12-1136

(7-62)

157-153-1

(4-68) xxxx 157-1298*

(8-62)

157-153-15

(4-68) Rac. Sit. after murder of
157-1298*

(4-64)

157-350-152

(5/64) 157-253*

(4-68) victim, Murkin 44-696*

(12-67)

157-00-184

(3-69) 157-1218-101

(5/68)

157-1324-1

Demonstration in 157-2127*

Connection with Anniversary

of Death of

Commemoration of the

157-1597*

death of King 4/4/69

NR0002 WA CODE SENT 3:55AM 7/30/76 MJW

PM NITEL 07/29/76 MDP

TO ALL SACS

FROM DIRECTOR (100-106670)

*44-696
num up*

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BUDED AUGUST 9, 1976

FOR INFORMATION OF RECIPIENTS THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (AG) HAS ORDERED A REVIEW OF THE FBI'S INVESTIGATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING. ASSIGNED TO CONDUCT THIS REVIEW IS A TASK FORCE WORKING UNDER DIRECTION OF THE OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY (OPR) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL HAS INDICATED THE REVIEW IS TO RESOLVE THE FOLLOWING FOUR QUESTIONS: (1) WAS THE FBI INVESTIGATION OF KING'S ASSASSINATION THOROUGH AND HONEST? (2) IS THERE ANY EVIDENCE THE FBI WAS INVOLVED IN THE ASSASSINATION? (3) IS THERE ANY NEW EVIDENCE WHICH HAS COME TO THE ATTENTION OF THE DEPARTMENT CONCERNING THE ASSASSINATION? (4) DOES THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE BUREAU AND KING CALL FOR CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS, DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS OR OTHER APPROPRIATE ACTION?

THIS REVIEW IS A CONTINUATION OF A "PARTIAL REVIEW" RECENTLY

SAC
1-8/6/76

QVC

44-696-454

SEARCHED <i>JP</i>	INDEXED <i>JP</i>
SERIALIZED <i>JP</i>	FILED <i>JP</i>
JUL 30 1976	
FBI-KNOXVILLE	
<i>McKamey</i>	

PAGE TWO

CONDUCTED BY THE CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT UNDER DIRECTION OF ASSISTANT AG J. STANLEY POTTINGER9 ALL PERSONNEL ON THE TASK FORCE ARE AUTHORIZED TOTAL ACCESS TO OUR FILES PERTAINING TO KING'S ASSASSINATION, OUR INTELLIGENCE INVESTIGATION OF KING AND ANY FILES RELATING TO BASIS FOR THESE INVESTIGATIONS. THIS WILL INCLUDE COVER PAGES OF COMMUNICATIONS CONTAINING IDENTITIES OF SOME FBI SOURCES AND INFORMANTS WHO WERE NOT AFFORDED SYMBOL NUMBERS AT THAT TIME AND INDIVIDUALS WHO EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED CONFIDENTIALITY.

TO DATE THE TASK FORCE HAS REVIEWED FBIHQ AND WFO FILES CONCERNING THE ASSASSINATION OF KING CAPTIONED "MURKIN, BUREAU FILE 44-33861. TASK FORCE MEMBERS HAVE TRAVELED TO MEMPHIS, MILWAUKEE, KANSAS CITY, OMAHA, SAN FRANCISCO AND LOS ANGELES AND REVIEWED MURKIN AND INTELLIGENCE INVESTIGATION FILES OF THOSE OFFICES. FUTURE TRAVEL BY THE TASK FORCE IS PLANNED FOR ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM, CHARLOTTE, CHICAGO, NEW ORLEANS, NEW YORK, SPRINGFIELD AND ST. LOUIS.

AFTER ABOVE TRAVEL IS COMPLETED AND KING RELATED SECURITY FILES AT FBIHQ ARE REVIEWED, THE TASK FORCE WILL HAVE SEEN THE MAJORITY OF SERIALS IN OUR FILES RELATING TO THE KING INVESTIGATIONS. HOWEVER, SINCE IT IS THE GOAL OF THE TASK FORCE TO REVIEW KING RELATED FILES IN EVERY FIELD OFFICE, IT WILL BE

PAGE THREE

NECESSARY TO FORWARD XEROX COPIES OF FILES FROM THE REMAINING OFFICES TO FBIHQ FOR REVIEW.

THEREFORE, ALL RECIPIENTS WITH EXCEPTION OF THOSE OFFICES NAMED ABOVE, FURNISH FBIHQ ONE XEROX COPY OF EACH SERIAL CONTAINED IN YOUR KING ASSASSINATION FILE CAPTIONED "MURKIN." IT IS REQUESTED THIS MATERIAL BE PROCESSED AND MAILED TO REACH FBIHQ PRIOR TO AUGUST 9, 1976. THIS MATERIAL SHOULD BE SENT BY REGISTERED MAIL, ATTENTION DEPUTY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR INGRAM, INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

IF MURKIN FILES CONTAIN ANY PHOTOGRAPHS, EXHIBITS OR OTHER ITEMS WHICH CANNOT BE XEROXED A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EACH ITEM AND ITS LOCATION SHOULD BE SET FORTH IN YOUR COMMUNICATIONS TRANSMITTING THE DOCUMENTS TO FBIHQ.

SUBSEQUENT INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE ISSUED CONCERNING SUBMISSION OF COPIES OF OUR INTELLIGENCE INVESTIGATION OF KING AND RELATED SECURITY FILES. OFFICES TO BE VISITED IN THE FUTURE BY TASK FORCE PERSONNEL WILL ALSO BE FURNISHED APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTIONS BY SEPARATE COMMUNICATION.

END

AA