

on behalf of the defense in the Criminal
case hereinafter mentioned,

For such other and further relief as to do
equity and justice in the premises which will
serve the well being of petitioner and defendant
James EARL Ray, and

This he will ever pray.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert James Pitt

petitioner, pro se

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this
the 12th day of September 1968.

W. L. Tappan, Administrative Assistant
Medical Center for Federal Prisoners
Springfield, Missouri

W. Tappan
Administrative Assistant (Record Clerk)
Authorized by the Act of July 7, 1955
to Administer Oaths (18 USC 4004)

Notary Public

Witnesses:

James E. France 17074

Daniel a Burch P-17545-H

Anthony J. Machado 17260-H

Certificate of Service

I, Certify That a True Copy of The foregoing Petition for a writ of Habeas Corpus has been mailed post paid To The District Attorney General for Shelby County Tennessee at his office in The Shelby Co. Courthouse on This day of September 1968.

Hubert J. Putt
Hubert James Putt
17232
Post Office Box 400
Springfield, Missouri

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 11th day of Sept, 1968

W. E. Tappano
W. E. Tappano, Administrative Assistant
Medical Center for Federal Prisoners
Springfield, Missouri

Administrative Assistant (Record Clerk)
Authorized by the Act of July 7, 1953
to Administer Oaths (18 USC 4004)

44-1987-Sub-K-163

44-87⁶
26-25697

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
BUREAU OF PRISONS
MEDICAL CENTER FOR FEDERAL PRISONERS
SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI 65802

TO: Clerk
Criminal Court
Shelby County Courthouse
Memphis, Tennessee

Date: September 16, 1968

RE: PUTT, Hubert James
Reg. No. A-17232-H

The enclosed letter, petition, or document is being forwarded at the request of the above-named inmate for whatever attention it may merit.

Little or no review is made of legal material prepared for mailing to the Courts by inmates of this institution. In event of improper content we would appreciate being advised. If material, other than that indicated for proper service, is enclosed for forwarding to addressees other than yourself, we would appreciate return thereof where indicated for handling through our regular administrative procedures.

Applicable information regarding filing fee, if indicated, is checked below:

☒ FORM PAUPERIS APPLICATION has been indicated by the petitioner. He presently has in hand in his Inmate Trust Fund Account personal funds in the amount of \$ 13

☐ PREPAYMENT OF FILING FEE is desired by petitioner, he has authorized withdrawal of personal funds from his Inmate Trust Fund Account for the filing fee, and remittance should be effected within the next few days in the amount of \$

☐ NO INFORMATION relative to filing fee has been indicated by the inmate or special information will be shown in a post script in this letter.

Very truly yours,

Pasquale J. Ciccone, M.D.
Director, Medical Center

[Signature]
W. L. TAPPANA
Administrative Assistant
Social Service

K

44-1987
llh
llh
135

44-1987-Sub-K-164

44-1987-Sub-K-164

HUBERT JAMES PUTT
PRISON NO. A17232H

On September 19, 1968, the file concerning PUTT at the Medical Center for Federal Prisoners, Springfield, Missouri, was reviewed.

The file contains a psychiatric report dated June 10, 1968, which describes PUTT as a 39-year-old divorced white male serving a 5-year sentence for Interstate Transportation of Stolen Motor Vehicle, and was transferred from U. S. Penitentiary, Atlanta, Georgia, to the Medical Center on April 4, 1968, for psychiatric treatment.

His case was reviewed and certified under Title 18, Section 4241, and Title 18, Section 4247.

PUTT refused to leave the cell for interview and it was necessary for three doctors to go to his cell. He looked threatening and an officer had to stand in his way to prevent him from attacking a doctor.

PUTT complained of being unjustly persecuted. It was recommended he be certified psychotic under Section 4241 and to be held until his full sentence expires, July 31, 1969. This certification was approved by the Bureau of Prisons, Washington, D. C., July 25, 1968.

The file reflects he has a long history of behavioral problems and has had trouble adjusting since his incarceration December 30, 1964. At Terre Haute, he threatened to kill a case worker. At Atlanta, he was involved in multiple offenses, disobeying orders, out of bounds, illegal possession of lethal material, cursing officer, and a need to be segregated. He was diagnosed at Atlanta as suffering from schizophrenic reaction, paranoid type, chronic, severe.

Psychiatric report dated December 2, 1964 reflects he had personality trait disturbances manifested by passive-aggressive trends, with compulsive trends and an individual with sociopathic trends. He was involved in a good deal of litigious activity for himself and others. He tends to see himself has a

*This info given
to H. J. Putt
RJ*

K

44-1987-Sub-K-165

ll	lll
ll	lll
	RJ

champion of the underdog. He dropped out of high school in the second year. At the age of 22, while in the Navy, he was referred for psychiatric examination because of hostile behavior while serving a sentence in the brig. He was described as sullen, insolent, and the combative type on the slightest provocation.

He has been married four times and is presently divorced. He has a history of molesting minor females and has poor controls over his sadistic impulses. He is in need of long-term institutional care which can best be provided in a hospital for the criminally insane, which would provide controls to prevent him from hurting others or himself. He is considered a dangerous individual.

PUTT is described as a white male American, born [redacted] Corinth, Mississippi. He is 5 ft. 7 inches in height, weighs 119 pounds, has brown hair and eyes. His FBI Number is 243793 C.

His mother is MABLE PUTT, 2211 Vine Hill Road, Nashville, Tennessee. He has a brother, ROYCE PUTT, 311 Centinella Drive, Nashville, Tennessee.

The file is full of numerous letters written by PUTT to various individuals complaining about his treatment and also letters to Senator EDWARD BROOKE.

In the event the Prosecuting Attorney desires to correspond with an official of the Medical Center, he should direct his correspondence to: Dr. P. J. CICCONE, Director, Medical Center For Federal Prisoners, Springfield, Missouri.

F B I

Date: 11/8/68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: MEMPHIS (44-1987)

MURKIN

BY LETTER DATED SEPTEMBER SIXTEEN LAST, THE MEDICAL CENTER FOR FEDERAL PRISONERS, SPRINGFIELD, MO., FORWARDED TO CLERK OF THE CRIMINAL COURT OF SHELBY COUNTY, MEMPHIS, TENN., A PETITION FOR WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS AD TESTIFICANDUM, DATED SEPTEMBER TWELVE LAST, PREPARED BY HUBERT JAMES PUTT, PRISON REGISTRATION NO. A - ONE SEVEN TWO THREE TWO - H.

IN THIS PETITION PUTT REQUESTED THAT THE CRIMINAL COURT OF SHELBY COUNTY ISSUE A ~~WRIT~~ OF HABEAS CORPUS TO ASSURE PUTT'S APPEARANCE IN SHELBY COUNTY COURT TO TESTIFY ON BEHALF OF JAMES EARL RAY WHEN THE CRIMINAL CASE AGAINST RAY COMES TO TRIAL. PUTT IN HIS PETITION STATED THAT IT WOULD BE PREJUDICIAL TO RAY FOR PUTT TO DISCLOSE WHAT TESTIMONY HE WILL OFFER IN THE CASE, AND STATED THAT IN ALL FAIRNESS TO THE PROSECUTION PUTT WAS INADVERTENTLY INVOLVED IN THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY AND KNEW THE VERY DAY THAT DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., AND SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY WERE TO BE KILLED.

RFB:jap
(1)

SEARCHED

SERIALIZED *llh*

INDEXED

Approved: *jap*
Special Agent in ChargeSent *On 6:30 p M* *llh* *DR*

F B I

Date:

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

ME 44-1987

PAGE TWO

PUTT FURTHER INFORMED THE COURT IN HIS PETITION THAT HE WAS SUSPECTED OF LIQUIDATING ALBERT ANASTASIA OF MURDER, INC. PUTT STATED THAT HE MUST RESERVE THE RIGHT TO ENVOKE THE FIFTH AMENDMENT UNLESS THIS COURT AND OTHER COURTS IN OTHER STATES WILL GUARANTEE THAT HE WILL NOT BE SUBJECTED TO PROSECUTION AS A RESULT ~~OF~~ ANY AND ALL TESTIMONY GIVEN IN THIS CASE, AND THE CRIMINAL CASE PENDING IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, TO WIT, PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA V. SIRHAN B. SIRHAN.

RECORDS OF THE MEDICAL CENTER FOR FEDERAL PRISONERS, SPRINGFIELD, MO., REVEAL THAT HUBERT JAMES PUTT, FBI NO. TWO FOUR THREE SEVEN NINE THREE C, WAS THE SUBJECT OF AN ITSMV CASE AND UPON CONVICTION WAS TRANSFERRED FROM THE U. S. PENITENTIARY AT ATLANTA, GA., TO THE MEDICAL CENTER ON APRIL FOUR LAST, FOR PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT. WHILE CONFINED AT THE MEDICAL CENTER, PUTT HAS COMPLAINED OF BEING UNJUSTLY PERSECUTED, AND IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT HE BE CERTIFIED PSYCHOTIC UNDER SECTION FOUR TWO FOUR ONE AND BE HELD UNTIL HIS FULL SENTENCE EXPIRES ON JULY THIRTYONE NEXT. THIS

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

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(Priority)

ME 44-1987

PAGE THREE

CERTIFICATION WAS APPROVED BY THE BUREAU OF PRISONS, WASHINGTON, D.C., JULY TWENTYFIVE LAST.

THE FILE REFLECTS THAT PUTT HAS A LONG HISTORY OF BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS AND HAS HAD TROUBLE ADJUSTING SINCE HIS INCARCERATION ON DECEMBER THIRTY, SIXTYFOUR. AT TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA, HE THREATENED TO KILL A CASE WORKER, AND AT ATLANTA HE WAS INVOLVED IN MULTIPLE OFFENSES SUCH AS DISOBEYING ORDERS, OUT-OF-BOUNDS, ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF LETHAL MATERIAL, CURSING AN OFFICER, AND WAS NEEDED TO BE SEGREGATED. HE WAS DIAGNOSED AT ATLANTA AS SUFFERING FROM SCHIZOPHRENIC REACTION, PARANOID TYPE, CHRONIC, SEVERE. THE PSYCHIATRIC REPORT DATED DECEMBER FOUR, SIXTYFOUR, REFLECTS HE HAD PERSONALITY TRAIT DISTURBANCES MANIFESTED BY PASSIVE - AGGRESSIVE TRENDS WITH COMPULSIVE TRENDS AND AN INDIVIDUAL WITH SOCIOPATHIC TRENDS. HE WAS INVOLVED IN A GOOD DEAL OF LITIGIOUS ACTIVITY FOR HIMSELF AND OTHERS, AND HE TENDS TO SEE HIMSELF AS A CHAMPION OF THE UNDERDOG.

PUTT HAS BEEN MARRIED FOUR TIMES AND IS PRESENTLY DIVORCED. HE HAS A HISTORY OF MOLESTING MINOR FEMALES AND

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

F B I

Date:

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(Type in plaintext or code)Via _____
(Priority)

ME 44-1987

PAGE FOUR

HAS POOR CONTROL OVER HIS SADISTIC IMPULSES. HE IS IN NEED OF LONG-TERM INSTITUTIONAL CARE WHICH CAN BEST BE PROVIDED IN A HOSPITAL FOR THE CRIMINALLY INSANE WHICH WOULD PROVIDE CONTROLS TO PREVENT HIM FROM HURTING OTHERS OR HIMSELF. HE IS CONSIDERED A DANGEROUS INDIVIDUAL.

UPON RECEIPT OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PETITION, W. PRESTON BATTLE, SHELBY COUNTY CRIMINAL COURT JUDGE, MEMPHIS, INSTRUCTED THE SHELBY COUNTY CRIMINAL COURT CLERK TO FILE ABOVE DESCRIBED PETITION. IN RESPONSE TO THIS PETITION, MR. JAMES BEASLEY, ASSISTANT STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL WHO WILL ASSIST IN THE PROSECUTION OF JAMES EARL RAY IN CONNECTION WITH THE MURDER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, FILED A MOTION IN SHELBY COUNTY CRIMINAL COURT IN OPPOSITION TO THE PETITION, STATING THAT THE SHELBY COUNTY CRIMINAL COURT JUDGE HAD NO JURISDICTION IN THE MATTER. MR. BEASLEY ALSO FILED A RECORD OF PUTT'S INCOMPETENCY AND REQUESTED THAT A COPY OF THE PETITION AND HIS MOTION BE FURNISHED TO ARTHUR B. HANES, ATTORNEY FOR JAMES EARL RAY, IN THE EVENT HANES DESIRES TO OBTAIN A DEPOSITION FROM PUTT.

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

F B I

Date:

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(Type in plaintext or code)

Via _____
(Priority)

ME 44-1987

PAGE FIVE

ON NOVEMBER EIGHT, SIXTYEIGHT, JUDGE BATTLE DENIED TO
ISSUE A WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS FOR PUTT, AND IN EFFECT DISMISSED
THE PETITION. P. END.

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

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI LOS ANG.

3:09PM URGENT 11-8-68 LJF

TO DIRECTOR (62-587, 44-38861) AND SAC MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM LOS ANGELES (56-156, 44-1574)

KENSALT; MURKIN.

RE HUBERT JAMES PUTT.

REBUTELCAL TO LOS ANGELES NOVEMBER EIGHT INSTANT.

ONLY INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT LOS ANGELES IS TELETYPE
FROM MEMPHIS JULY EIGHT, SIXTY FIVE, CAPTIONED QUOTE ROBERT L.
WZELL, JR.; CHARLES L. HENDRICKS; WILLIAM D. LARKIN; ELMER E.
WILLIAMS; HUBERT JAMES PUTT - VICTIM; CR UNQUOTE, WHICH ADVISES
THAT PUTT WAS A TRUSTY IN DAVIDSON COUNTY JAIL WHERE SERVING
SENTENCE ON CHARGE OF PETTY LARCENY AND ALLEGED HE HAD
BEEN MISTREATED. NO INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED AT LOS ANGELES.
NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE.

END

DND

FBI MEMPHIS

①

44-1987-Sub-K-167

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NOV 8 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

gtt

K

STATE OF KANSAS
ROBERT B. DOCKING, Governor



S. H. CROUSE
Warden

Area Code: 913 - Parkview 7-3235

KANSAS STATE PENITENTIARY

P. O. Box 2

Lansing, Kansas 66043

December 31, 1968

RE: MORTON, Wilbur O.
KSP No. 17326


I interviewed Morton, an inmate of this institution on Tuesday, December 31, 1968 (p.m.). Morton's interview consisted of information concerning the killing of Martin Luther King by suspect (Missouri Penitentiary Escapee, Ray). Morton states to me that he has received his information from numerous conversations he has had with an unnamed inmate of this institution. This inmate X was a friend of Ray's in Jefferson City Penitentiary, as good a friend as Ray had. (As my informant understands Ray did not have many close friends). This inmate X was supposed to have been separated from Ray in the Missouri Penitentiary yard several times by a Custodial Lieutenant by the name of Holt who is now employed at the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth as Custodial Officer. As inmate X stated, Ray had an escape record and so did he from Illinois and the institution watched them. My informant stated that Ray stated to inmate X he was figuring on trying to escape and inmate X agreed to go with him. Their play was to saw the bars in I Building basement and some way go through to a water main or sewer outside the walls and during the process of making arrangement, inmate X wanted to know what they were going to do after they got out, where they were going to get money and hole up. Ray didn't tell him at first and later on he told inmate X that they wouldn't have to worry about a thing especially money as they would have a world of money and would be taken care of. Then I understand Ray told inmate X that he was going to kill Martin Luther King and everything was taken care of. Upon learning this, inmate X stated he did not want anything to do with this and then backed out escaping with Ray. Although Ray did not use the method that they were going to use. Inmate X is fairly certain he knows how he escaped. My informant stated that the bars in the basement of I Building are supposed to be cut and water or sewer line is supposed to run along the outside wall, also, a circle band saw-blade was supposed to be stolen and that was what was used to saw the bars of basement of I Building. Ray's brother came to visit him just about a week before he escaped. These were just some points to check to see how much truth in the story. My informant stated he would talk to a FBI Agent but doesn't want to be drawn into the deal but will talk to an agent under the pretext of something to do with his federal time, legal action in court or anything to throw off suspicion and wants any information that might point to inmate X to show up from in-

44-1987-Sub-R-768

RE: MORTON, Wilbur O.
KSP NO. 17326

Interview on 12-31-68 Cont.

vestigation on the outside as he stated inmate X said the reason he has not said anything before now, was because he was afraid of getting his throat cut. My informant stated he is afraid of something happening to him if information indicated my informant put inmate X on the spot. After talking to informant at some length he doesn't appear to be a psycho but he has some previous time.


S. H. CROUSE
Warden

SHC:hes

1/22/69

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) -P-
RE: MURKIN ✓ 44-1987

Re report of SA RAYMOND E. HOWE, 12/13/68 at Kansas City.

Attached hereto is a memo from S. H. CROUSE, Warden, Kansas State Penitentiary, Lansing, Kansas, dated 12/31/68.

On 1/10/69 Warden CROUSE furnished the attached self-explanatory memo that he prepared regarding interview with inmate WILBUR O. MORTON. Warden CROUSE stated that he was sure that MORTON does not know any additional information other than that which he already related to him. However, he felt MORTON may possibly identify "Inmate X". Warden CROUSE stated he is attempting through prison records, to identify "Inmate X" in the event that MORTON is unwilling to identify himself. Warden CROUSE stated that on 1/5/69 WILBUR O. MORTON, KSP #17326, was returned to Wichita, Kansas, for trial.

The following interview was conducted by SAs ELMER R. FLETCHER and JAMES B. KELLY:

AT WICHITA, KANSAS:

WILBUR O. MORTON, presently confined Sedgwick County Jail, Wichita, Kansas, on a writ from Kansas State Penitentiary

3-Bureau (Enc. 1)

2-Memphis (Enc. 1) *llh*

1-Kansas City

RBH:jlb

(6)

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44-1987-Sub-K-169
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SERIALIZED *llh* FILED *llh*
Fletcher *JTB*

KC 44-760

in connection with a local armed robbery charge, volunteered on 1/14/68 he was previously confined in Missouri State Penitentiary Jefferson City, Missouri, at the same time an inmate -- he declined to name -- was a guest of the State of Missouri. The unidentified inmate, according to MORTON, was very friendly with JAMES EARL RAY, accused killer of MARTIN LUTHER KING. During time MORTON and the unidentified convict were in MSP, MORTON was able to learn from this convict that RAY had planned an escape for some time and confided to the convict that RAY had made arrangements for lots of money after the escape and inferred he would get it in return for killing KING. MORTON acknowledged he had no first hand information concerning the threats of RAY or his plan for escape. He was hesitant to identify his convict friend in MSP claiming he feared for his life if an Agent approached the convict with the allegation MORTON had put the "con" on the spot.

When bluntly asked what MORTON wanted for the information he possessed, he agreed he was interested in a trade, and would reveal the name of the convict who reportedly had first hand information of these pertinent developments if Agent would approach the local judge in Wichita who is about to hear MORTON's charge of Armed Robbery, and arrange to have these charges dismissed. He explained this would preclude his having to return to the pen and thus decrease his chances of being harmed for furnishing information about his buddy.

MORTON was informed his proposal would be reported to Agent's supervisor and if additional facts were desired, he would be contacted.

LEADS:

KANSAS CITY:

AT LANSING, KANSAS:

Will maintain contact with Warden S. H. CROUSE to determine if he identifies "Inmate X".

KC 44-750

AT WICHITA, KANSAS:

Will follow results of MORTON's prosecution and reinterview him if it is deemed advisable.

F B I

Date: 2/10/69

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

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM : SAC, SACRAMENTO (100-427)

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CIVIL RIGHTS

On February 3, 1969, JAMES DALE MALLOY California State Prison Number B-11646, an inmate in the Sierra Conservation Center, Jamestown, California, advised that he served in the Missouri State Prison with JAMES EARL RAY, for a period of about nine years. He advised that from his contacts with RAY he was very surprised to hear that he had committed a murder.

He further advised that he saw a newspaper article in the paper a few weeks ago, which related to the shooting of two men in Kansas City. He advised that the last names of the two men who were killed were MILLER and JOHNSON. He advised that MILLER was the owner of a car rental agency, and that MILLER was an ex-con who also served time with JAMES EARL RAY. He advised that MILLER and RAY were rather close while in prison.

MALLOY advised that he has no specific information linking RAY and MILLER, but, that he desired to have the information made available to the local authorities in Kansas City, in the event they were not aware of the relationship between the two.

② - Memphis (RM)
2 - Kansas City (RM)
1 - Sacramento
DPF:slp
(5)

44-1987-Sub-K-170

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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FEB 12 1969	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester

DATE FILE STRIPPED 6/2/87

INITIALS

RE: BU AIRTEL DTD 11/3/86

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

SC 100-427

MALLOY requested that his identity not be revealed, as the source of the above information.

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FBI - MEMPHIS	