

FBI

ASST. DIR.

SAC I

SAC II

Date: 7/17/68 SAC III

SAC IV

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via Airtel

(Priority)

SUPV. 23

To: SAC, New York (44-1609)

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

Legat, London has learned from New Scotland Yard that it has been determined that Ray under the name Ramon George Sneyd, stayed at the Heathfield House Hotel, 181 - 183 Cromwell Road, London, 5/17-28/68, the period previously unaccounted for relative to Ray's activities in England.

The proprietress of the Heathfield House Hotel, Mrs. Doris Catherine Westwood, advised that sometime after Ray checked out on 5/28/68, her husband deposited three \$10 American Express checks to their account at their bank. Neither she nor her husband can specifically recall but believe there is a possibility that these travelers checks could have been received from Ray.

It is not known whether it is possible for American Express, New York to check for any checks issued to Ray under the name Ramon George Sneyd without the check numbers, however, if it can be done, New York appropriately handle.

1 - SAC, Memphis (44-1987)

44-1609-661

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 18 1968	
FBI - NEW YORK	

*[Signature]*

Sent Via \_\_\_\_\_

M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

7/17/68

Airtel

To: SAC, New York

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

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1 - SAC, Memphis (44-1987)

44-1609-661

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 18 1968	
FBI - NEW YORK	

*Ref.*

PLAIN TEXT

7/22/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (44-1609) (RUC)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel to New York dated 7/17/68, with copy for Memphis requesting New York to determine if American Express Company could check for any checks issued to RAMON GEORGE SNEYD without the check numbers.

Mr. CAMPBELL in Mr. LAWRENCE SHOEMAKER's Office, American Express Company, Inspector's Office, 351 Park Avenue South, New York, stated that a check by name only cannot be made.

3- Bureau  
1- Memphis (44-1987)  
1- New York

FLC:jrf  
(6)

1- SUPV: #23

44-1609  
7-22-68  
23  
REOPEN CASE  
ORIGINAL DATE  
COPY

44-1609-662

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
FBI - NEW YORK	

F.L. Cashin

6

FBI NEW YORK

FBI MEMPHIS

3 448 PM URGENT 7-22-68 MCP

TO NEW YORK CITY

FROM MEMPHIS 44-1987 1 P

✓  
MURKIN.

NEW YORK IS REQUESTED TO OBTAIN TWO COPIES OF THE APRIL SEVEN, SIXTYEIGHT, ISSUE OF THE "NATIONAL ENQUIRER," PUBLISHED BY THE "NEW YORK EVENING INQUIRY, INC.," SIX FIVE FIVE MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY, EDITED BY MATT CHRZAN, AND FORWARD TO MEMPHIS. IF FEASIBLE, IDENTIFY JAMES TAGUE WHO WROTE AN ARTICLE APPEARING IN THIS ISSUE OF THE "ENQUIRER." P.

END TIME SENT WAS 458 PM

WPK

FBI NEW YORK

9

R/G: 02 PM

44-1609-663

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 22 1968	
FBI - NEW YORK	

Roemer/WK

FBI NEW YORK

FBI MEMPHIS

3 448 PM URGENT 7-22-68 MCP

TO NEW YORK CITY

FROM MEMPHIS 44-1987 1 P

MURKIN.

NEW YORK IS REQUESTED TO OBTAIN TWO COPIES OF THE APRIL SEVEN, SIXTYEIGHT, ISSUE OF THE "NATIONAL ENQUIRER," PUBLISHED BY THE "NEW YORK EVENING INQUIRY, INC.," SIX FIVE FIVE MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY, EDITED BY MATT CHRZAN, AND FORWARD TO MEMPHIS. IF FEASIBLE, IDENTIFY JAMES TAGUE WHO WROTE AN ARTICLE APPEARING IN THIS ISSUE OF THE "ENQUIRER." P.

END TIME SENT WAS 458 PM

WPK

FBI NEW YORK

@

44-1607-653

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 23 1968	
FBI - NEW YORK	

Py

F B I

Date: 7/25/68

PLAIN TEXT

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

TO: SAC, NEWARK

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (44-1609)

MURKIN

RE MEMPHIS TELETYPE TO NEW YORK DATED JULY TWENTY TWO  
LAST.

RETEL REQUESTED NEW YORK TO OBTAIN TWO COPIES OF THE  
APRIL SEVEN, SIXTY EIGHT ISSUE OF THE "NATIONAL ENQUIRER",  
PUBLISHED BY THE "NEW YORK EVENING INQUIRY, INC.", EDITED  
BY MATT CHRZAN, AND FORWARD TO MEMPHIS. IF FEASIBLE, IDENTIFY  
JAMES TAGUE WHO WROTE AN ARTICLE APPEARING IN THIS ISSUE OF  
THE "ENQUIRER".

"NEW YORK EVENING INQUIRY, INC.", <sup>HAS</sup> ~~WHO~~ MOVED TO TWO ONE  
ZERO ~~S~~YLVAN AVENUE, ENGLEWOOD CLIFFS, ENGLEWOOD, NJ,  
TELEPHONE NUMBER FIVE SIX NINE DASH FIVE SIX ZERO ZERO.

NEWARK HANDLE.

- 1- New York  
1- Memphis (44-1987) (AM)  
1- Supv. #23

WJR:jrf

WJR(3)

JUL 26 11 13

44-1609-6651

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI - NEW YORK	

Ry

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

1  
2  
NK...02

FBI NEW YORK

10-02 PM URGENT 7-25-68 WPK

TO NEWARK (PLAINTEXT)

FROM NEW YORK 44-1609 1P

MURKIN

RE MEMPHIS TEL TO NEW YORK DATED JULY TWENTY TWO  
LAST.

RETEL REQUESTED NEW YORK TO OBTAIN TWO COPIES OF THE  
APRIL SEVEN, SIXTY EIGHT ISSUE OF THE "NATIONAL ENQUIRER",  
PUBLISHED BY THE "NEW YORK EVENING INQUIRY, INC.", EDITED  
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JAMES TAGUE WHO WROTE AN ARTICLE APPEARING IN THIS ISSUE OF  
THE "ENQUIRER".

"NEW YORK EVENING INQUIRY, INC.", HAS MOVED TO TWO ONE  
ZERO SYLVAN AVENUE, ENGLEWOOD CLIFFS, ENGLEWOOD, NJ,  
TELEPHONE NUMBER FIVE SIX NINE DASH FIVE SIX ZERO ZERO.

NEWARK HANDLE.

END

NK...JON

FBI NEWARK

44-1609-124

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
FBI - NEW YORK	
Roemer WJR	



8/2/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, LAS VEGAS (157-133) (P)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Las Vegas telephone call to Memphis, 7/31/68.

On 7/31/68, RON BATISTE, City Editor's Desk, "Las Vegas Review Journal" contacted SAC HAROLD E. CAMPBELL, JR., and advised that one BILLY JOE CHEEK, aka Scott Owen Bell, had told him that CHEEK was a bodyguard for MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. in Memphis when KING was assassinated. According to BATISTE, when BELL heard the shots, he and another bodyguard ran toward the motel where KING was staying. As they approached the area of the boarding house, a man was observed running in the street who obviously had come from the boarding house. CHEEK tackled this man, who he now identifies as JAMES EARL RAY. RAY struck CHEEK forcefully and was able to escape. CHEEK told BATISTE that the FBI and the Memphis PD have been unsuccessfully looking for him since the assassination of KING. CHEEK said the FBI wished to interview him concerning his activities that night and his involvement in the general situation.

SCOTT OWEN BELL was located at 1025 Desert Inn Road, Apartment 7, Las Vegas, Nevada, and interviewed by SA JOHN R. KINSINGER and SA JOHN A. NORRIS, JR.

BELL, who is 18 years of age, gave a rambling and at times incoherent account of his activities over the past

2 - Bureau  
1 - Memphis (44-1987) (Info)  
2 - New York  
2 - WFO  
1 - Las Vegas  
JAN/kam  
(8)

44-1609  
8-7-68  
23  
FOR REOPEN CASE  
ORIGIN ME  
SUPV Ray  
DATE  
SECT

44-1609-665

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 5 1968	
FBI - NEW YORK	

Assign to V.P. Doherty



LV 157-133

seven months. He states that while in Los Angeles during April, 1968, he became involved with the Southern Christian Conference League (SCCL) and after working in the Watts area he was sent by the SCCL to Washington, D.C. as a "Tennessee Ranger" or "Tent City Ranger". As such, he was to help erect Resurrection City in Washington, D.C., and then to police same.

In late April or early May, 1968, BELL with other Rangers traveled to Atlanta then to Memphis to act as bodyguards for KING.

On April 24, 1968, BELL and "JOHNNY" LNU were relieved as guards and proceeded to a nearby bar to eat breakfast. They saw KING come onto the balcony of his hotel and saw him fall. BELL heard no shot. BELL looked at his watch and noted the time to be 10:30 AM. BELL and "JOHNNY" had started back to the hotel when a man came out of a building next door to the hotel and knocked BELL down and slugged "JOHNNY". BELL said this man was JAMES EARL RAY.

BELL carried no identification and at the beginning of interview stated he had no Selective Service registration card. Later he volunteered the fact he was registered with Selective Service System, LB#43, 1916 "G" Street, Washington, D.C.

BELL said he had been in Bellevue Hospital, New York City, in 1967, after trying to commit suicide. He also stated he had escaped from Brentwood Reform School on Long Island, New York, where he had been sent as a runaway juvenile. BELL further stated he had been at St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Washington, D.C. from late February, 1968, until March 28, 1968, when he went AWOL. During the "Poor People's March" BELL said he had been arrested by WMPD, Washington, D.C., and was in jail for a time there.

ROBERT E. MURRAY, Shield Number 110, Las Vegas PD, on 7/31/68 advised SCOTT OWEN BELL is his cousin. MURRAY said BELL had appeared at the Las Vegas PD 7/26/68 and asked for MURRAY. MURRAY said BELL is known to lie and a year or so ago had written MURRAY's mother and an uncle, STERLING BELL, saying that he, SCOTT BELL, was in Bellevue Hospital in New York City. MURRAY had no personal knowledge that BELL

LV 157-133

had been in a mental hospital or in jail. On Saturday, 7/28/68, BELL passed out and MURRAY took him to the Southern Nevada Memorial Hospital in Las Vegas for treatment of an enlarged intestine. At this time MURRAY and STERLING BELL spoke with a doctor re the possibility of having BELL committed. The doctor said there was insufficient evidence indicating that BELL should be committed.

The following is a description of BELL obtained through observation and interview:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Nationality	American
Age	18 years
Date of birth	8/7/50
Place of birth	El Paso, Texas
Height	5'11"
Weight	130 pounds
Hair	Brown, short
Eyes	Brown
Build	Slender
Scars	Upper right arm and on back, allegedly inflicted during a beating by a motorcycle gang
Relatives	
Father	GEORGE ALONZO BELL
Mother	MARYANN EDWARDS, deceased
Step-mother	VIOLET BELL
Sister	PATRICIA ANN BELL

NEW YORK

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

1. Will review records NYCPD to determine if BELL wanted.
2. Will determine if BELL is an escapee of Brentwood Reform School.



LV 157-133

3. Will determine if BELL was a patient at Bellevue Hospital, NYC.

WFO

AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

1. Will determine if BELL a patient of St. Elizabeth's Hospital, WDC, and if he is an escapee of that institution.

2. Will review records of the WMPD for any information concerning BELL.

3. Will determine through records of LB#43, WDC, if BELL is registered with Selective Service System.

BELL MAY HAVE SUICIDAL TENDENCIES.

8/2/68

AIRTEL

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FROM: SAC, LAS VEGAS (157-133) (P)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN

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1 - Memphis (44-1987) (Info)  
2 - New York  
2 - WFO  
1 - Las Vegas  
JAN/hmm  
(8)

44-1609-665

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 5 1968	
FBI - NEW YORK	

Ry



LV 157-133

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LV 157-133

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LV 157-133

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BELL MAY HAVE SUICIDAL TENDENCIES.



P *Ref*

PRESS RELEASE

7/19/68

JAMES EARL RAY, who is charged with the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING, was returned safely to the United States today according to an announcement by Director of FBI J. Edgar Hoover. British Authorities turned RAY over yesterday evening to the custody of FBI Agents, who transported him on a non-stop flight from London aboard a U. S. Air Force Plane to Memphis, Tenn. The plane left Great Britain at 7:38 PM EDT yesterday and arrived at the Memphis Naval Air Station at 4:37 AM EDT today. Upon arrival, he was turned over by the FBI to Shelby County, Tenn. Sheriff's Office, and was placed in the Shelby County Jail. Mr. Hoover said the removal of RAY to the U.S. was accomplished without incident.

Full cooperation of the New Scotland Yard was received. The plane originated from Lakenheath, an RAF Base 60 miles from London.

*Case file*

*11/1* *666*

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 19 1968	
FBI - NEW YORK	

*O'Neil* *on*

*R 23*

# PRESS RELEASE

<u>NEWSPAPERS &amp; RADIO STATIONS</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>ACCEPTED BY</u>	<u>BU EMPLOYEE</u>
DAILY NEWS	5:15	VINCENT LEE	PJ FORAN
AP	5:20 AM	SCHJOSLS	"
NBC	5:25	BOWERS	"
NY TIMES	5:30	TETHS	"
CBS	5:35	SMITH	"

8/7/68

**AIRTEL**

**TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)**

**FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703) (P)**

**MURKIN**

**Re Las Vegas airtel to Director, 8/2/68.**

**The following investigation was conducted by SA ROGER D. ASHLAND on 8/7/68, in Washington, D.C.**

**Officer R. W. CAULEY, Identification Bureau, Metropolitan Police Department said he was unable to locate any record concerning SCOTT OWEN BELL.**

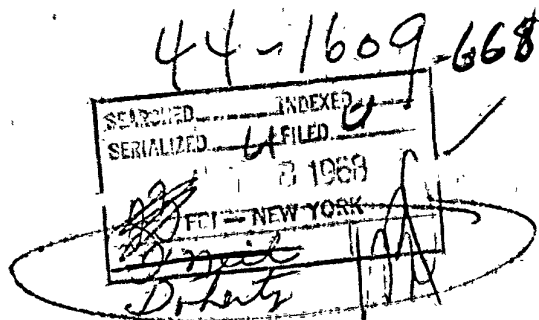
**DELORES HARRIS, Executive Secretary, Selective Service System, District of Columbia, 806 G St., N.W., said she was unable to locate any information concerning SCOTT OWEN BELL registered with any Local Board in the District of Columbia. She added he would not have to register until within five days of his eighteenth birthday, 8/7/50. Also, the District does not have a Local Board # 43. The address he furnished for his Local Board is 1916 G Street, North West, which is the National Headquarters of the Selective Service System.**

**LOU SQUAROK, Information Clerk, St. Elizabeth's Hospital said SCOTT OWEN BELL, born 8/7/1949 in El Paso, Texas, was a patient in February, 1968. He escaped in March, 1968, and was readmitted on 4/1/68. He was discharged on 5/1/68.**

**BELL MAY HAVE SUICIDAL TENDENCIES**

**2- Bureau (44-38861)  
1- Memphis (44-1987) (Info)  
1- New York (44-1609) (Info)  
1- Las Vegas (157-133) (Info)  
1- WFO (44-703)  
RDA:sfi  
(6)**

**AIRTEL**



8/15/68

PLAIN TEXT

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (44-1609) (RUC)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Las Vegas airtel to the Bureau dated  
8/2/68.

The following investigation was conducted  
by SA VINCENT P. DOHERTY on 8/14/68 at New York,  
New York:

Captain CARL ORSCO, Identification Unit,  
NYCPD, advised that their wanted records do not  
contain anyone identifiable with SCOTT OWEN BELL.

Review of Suffolk County Telephone Directory  
for a Brentwood Reform School did not reflect any reform  
school with that name.

FREDERICK R. GRAF, Assistant Director,  
Records Department, Bellevue Hospital, advised a SCOTT  
BELL admitted to the hospital on 7/22/67 and subsequently  
discharged on 8/2/67. BELL MAY HAVE SUICIDAL TENDENCIES.

3- Bureau  
1- Memphis (44-1987) (INFO)  
1- Las Vegas (157-133) (INFO)  
1- Washington Field (44-703) (INFO)  
1- New York

VPD:jrt  
(5)  
1- SUPV. #23

Chief Clerk  
Close Case on file  
SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
FILED

44-1608-669

8/16/68

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN

TOMAS REYES LAU, owner, International School of Bartending, Los Angeles, California, advised on 8/16/68 that he had been approached by an individual named CLAY BLAIR, JR., 11901 Piney Glen Lane, Potomac, Maryland 20854, for information regarding the MURKIN case.

BLAIR identified himself as a writer for Bantam Books. BLAIR displayed to LAU a letter of identification signed by MARK C. JAPPE, Senior Vice-President, Bantam Books, New York.

BLAIR explained to LAU he was writing a book regarding JAMES EARL RAY and solicited information from LAU regarding LAU's knowledge of RAY and RAY's attendance at the International School of Bartending.

LAU stated he told BLAIR he had received a court order from Memphis in which he was forbidden to discuss any information he had regarding the MARTIN LUTHER KING assassination until after the trial of RAY. LAU stated he has no intention of violating this court order and told BLAIR he would furnish him no information.

3 - Bureau (AIR MAIL)  
2 - Memphis (44-1987) (AIR MAIL)  
1 - Baltimore (44-669) (Info.) (AIR MAIL)  
① - New York (Info.) (AIR MAIL)  
1 - Los Angeles  
TJA:CM  
(8)

44-1607-670  
SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
FILED  
CASHIN



In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New Haven, Connecticut 06510

October 7, 1968

**JAMES EARL RAY**

On October 7, 1968, NH T-1, an English professor in the academic field, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that on October 4, 1968, he was in a small social gathering of four individuals, one of whom was an employee of Mc Call's Publications, whom he refused to identify.

During the course of the conversation, the Mc Call's employee mentioned in a matter-of-fact manner that Look Magazine beginning with the issue of October 29, 1968, will run a serial on JAMES EARL RAY. In this series of articles, RAY reportedly will state that the Ku Klux Klan hired him to assassinate Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

A characterization of the Ku Klux Klan appears in the Appendix.

NH T-1 stated that the Mc Call's employee impressed him as a down-to-earth, level-headed, business man who appeared at the time to be making a factual statement. The Mc Call's employee also stated that the rights to this article have been sold world wide.

**PROPERTY OF THE FBI**

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

44-1609-671

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 8 1968	
FBI - NEW YORK	
V. ROBERTY	

APPENDIX

NATIONAL KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN, INC.  
(NKKKK)

A source advised that on May 22, 1960, the National Grand Council of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan met at Atlanta, Georgia, to discuss consolidation of the Klan's unity of effort and activities to establish a National Fund, and a National Secretary, and to design a new flag. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Federation of Ku Klux Klan, Alabama; Association of Arkansas Klans, Arkansas; Florida Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Florida; Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Florida; Association of Georgia Klans, Georgia; Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, North Carolina; Association of South Carolina Klans, South Carolina; Dixie Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Tennessee; and Kyksos Klan, Texas.

This source advised that at a consolidation meeting at Atlanta, Georgia, September 2-5, 1960, at which the North Carolina and Texas Klans were not represented, it was resolved and passed that their name be changed to National Ku Klux Klan.

A second source advised in March, 1964, that several meetings of Klan groups were held during the period 1960 to 1963 in an effort to unite the Klan groups under a single leadership.

The organization was granted a charter in DeKalb County, Georgia, November 1, 1963, under the name National Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc., as a "patriotic, secret, social, and benevolent order."

A third source advised in December, 1963, that the organization had issued a statement of its program which indicated the organization to be anti-Negro, anti-Jewish, anti-Catholic, and anti-foreign born.

A fourth source advised in July, 1968, that the organization has its headquarters in Tucker, Georgia, and the day-to-day operations are under the direction of James R. Venable, Imperial Wizard.



10-7-68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, NEW HAVEN (157-818)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN  
OO:MEMPHIS

Enclosed for the Bureau are 5 copies; for Memphis two copies and for New York one copy of an LHM captioned JAMES EARL RAY, which is self-explanatory. A copy of this communication and the LHM is being designated for the New York Office for information since Mc Call's and Look Magazines both have their headquarters in New York City.

IN T-1 is Dr. BERTRAM D. SARASON, professor of English, Southern Connecticut State College, New Haven, Conn., whose identity is protected at his request. He declined to furnish the name of the Mc Call's employee since he feared if it became known the employee might lose his job.

Professor SARASON was concerned that the U.S. District Attorney prosecuting the case might be caught by surprise by the revelation that the Ku Klux Klan hired RAY to assassinate Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. and that the resulting publicity might cause difficulty in selecting an unbiased jury.

3 - Bureau (Encs. 5) (RM)  
2 - Memphis (44-1987) (Encs. 2) (RM)  
① - New York (INFO) (Enc. 1) (RM)  
2 - New Haven  
JAH:jml  
(8)

WF 44-1609-672

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
23 OCT 8 1968	
FBI - NEW YORK	
V. D. HEARTY	

NH 157-818

Professor SARASON was under the impression that both Mc Call's and Look Magazines were jointly owned by one corporation.

The above is being submitted for the information of the Bureau and the Memphis Office.

2\*

10/10/68

PLAINTEXT

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)  
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (44-1609)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN

RE COST DATA.

Re Memphis airtel dated 4/19/68; and Memphis airtel dated 7/1/68.

The following information is submitted in accordance with instructions in captioned airtel:

Number of man hours spent on instant matter:

	<u>Regular Hours</u>	<u>Overtime Hours</u>	<u>Total Hours</u>
SAS	0	0	0
Clerical Employees	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

Total mileage travelled by Bucars on instant matter - none.

Unusual or out of the ordinary costs - None.

Peak number of SAS working on instant case during September - None.

2-Memphis  
1-New York

FLC:ram

(4)

8/6/68

PLAIN TEXT

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)  
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (44-1609)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN

RE COST DATA.

Re Memphis airtel dated 4/19/68 and Memphis airtel dated 7/1/68.

The following information is submitted in accordance with instructions in captioned airtel:

Number of man hours spent on instant matter:

	<u>Regular Hours</u>	<u>Overtime Hours</u>	<u>Total Hours</u>
SAS	12	0	12
Clerical Employees	4	0	4
Total	16	0	16

Total mileage travelled by Bucars on instant matter - none.

Unusual or out of the ordinary costs - None.

Peak number of SAS working on instant case during July - 1.

2- Memphis  
1- New York

JPO:jrf  
(4)  
1- SUPV. #23

44-1609-667

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Behind the Delays in the Ray Trial

**MEMPHIS**—James Earl Ray was arrested in London last June 8. A lawyer of his own choice began on June 13 to prepare his defense against the charge of killing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Since July 21 Ray has been in jail here in Memphis, awaiting a trial that by agreement of his own counsel was to begin Nov. 12.

Last Sunday night, two days before the scheduled trial date, Ray decided to change lawyers. As a result, the court put off the trial until March 3. And even that date is subject to further negotiation with his new lawyer, Percy Foreman of Houston. Thus it could well be a year or longer after his arrest before Ray is actually brought to trial.

The reason for the extreme deliberation of the legal process in the Ray case is not hard to understand. It is a notorious case, a subject of worldwide fascination, and Judge W. Preston Battle of the Shelby County Criminal Court wants to avoid all possible risk that a conviction will be upset on appeal because of unfairness to Ray.

If someone objects that this defendant is being given special treatment, then, the candid answer is that this is necessarily so. The nature of the crime requires it—not only particular care for Ray's legal rights but the extreme courtroom security rules being applied to protect his person.

But the Ray proceeding reflects in extreme form a basic American attitude toward criminal justice: That the system must be padded with devices to protect the accused from official abuse. And the case thus renews the debate about the soundness of that attitude.

Experience is what has produced the trend toward greater rights for the criminal defendant in this country. Critics of the Supreme Court to the contrary, the ideas were not invented by Earl Warren and his colleagues but developed in many minds as a reaction to ugly facts.

The third degree was not fiction in American history. When the Supreme Court in 1936 for the first time upset a state criminal conviction because of unfair treatment of the defendants, it did so in a brutal third-degree case from Mississippi.

Everyone knows more recent examples of coercive tactics by the police, often showing sophisticated refinements in technology or psychology. It is these practices at which the much-argued contemporary Supreme Court decisions in the confession area are aimed.

Thus in the *Miranda* decision of 1966, Chief Justice Warren listed some of the ways modern police forces in the United States may attempt to overbear ignorant or weak suspects. Long questioning, alternation of tough and sympathetic interrogators, promises to help if only the suspect will talk freely, implied threats to his wife and family—all these tactics have come up in Supreme Court cases again and again. And on the mechanical side, there is the growth of wiretapping and eavesdropping devices against which the courts have fought a rearguard action.

Concern for the defendant is heightened in this country because he is so likely to be a black or otherwise disadvantaged person without the experience or education to know his rights. It is not the hardened criminal but the young or ignorant who would most benefit, for example, from the right to counsel before being questioned that the *Miranda* case sought to insure.

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

E5 NEW YORK TIMES

Date: NOV 19 1968

Edition: Late City

Author:

Editor:

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

☐ Being Investigated

44-1609-674

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
NOV 19 1968	
FBI - NEW YORK	
F. CASHIN	

~~There is, therefore, no better~~ way to improve the system of criminal justice in the United States, many persons argue, than to raise the quality of the police. That is why the President's Riot Commission so strongly recommended higher levels of police pay, leading, hopefully, to better men and more confidence in the police. Of course it takes a long time to change attitudes. And the emphasis on "law and order" in the election campaign just past indicates that large numbers of the public would prefer some simpler, swifter way out of the crime problem.

It is only fair to these critics

~~to note, when comparing the~~ criminal process here and abroad, that the volume of crime is vastly greater here. Murder, assault, robbery — the American figures in any category are appalling.

Reversing recent Supreme Court decisions would not really affect the crime statistics. The problem is infinitely deeper. Yet it is not only illiberal men who may question the complex form our criminal procedure has taken.

Too often in the United States trials become a game, played with an eye on the long and intricate possibilities for appeal. Anyone may fairly question the delays, the upsetting of convictions on narrow grounds of error that could not really have affected a jury.

Americans, from their history, are sensitive to the possibility of miscarriages of justice. But they evidently have begun to feel that the criminal law must take greater account of other social interests.

The Ray case provides a dramatic example of the fact that there is more in the social balance than a defendant's rights.

No one said it in the Memphis courtroom last week, but Negroes and others who revered Dr. King are very much interested in having the facts of his murder disclosed and justice done to the guilty man or men. It is necessary and wise to accord every right to the accused, James Earl Ray; but it is just as important to the country to deal firmly with the evil of assassination.

—ANTHONY LEWIS

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# King Killing Eyewitnesses Turn Up

Memphis, Nov. 16 (UPI)—The case against James Earl Ray in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. showed signs today of becoming even more tangled before a word of testimony is heard in court.

Since Ray dismissed Arthur J. Hanes as defense attorney and hired Percy Foreman last Tuesday, the case has taken on these elements:

- Eyewitnesses, one an 11-year-old Negro boy, are turning up to say they saw the assassin.

- Attorneys, brothers, defendant and authors are squabbling over who should make how much money out of the case.

- Hanes is negotiating to sell his story of Ray's defense and refusing to turn over his files, if he has any, to Foreman.

- The possibility has arisen that Hanes may have been hired only to add more racial tension to the April 4 slaying of the nation's major civil rights figure.

Ray's trial was postponed



James Earl Ray



Percy Foreman

New attorney and defendant

out of hand in a penciled, two-paragraph letter signed "Sincerely" by Ray, the attorney remained in the center of the case.

In an interview, Hanes, former mayor of Birmingham, said: "It wouldn't surprise me at all," when asked if it was likely that his hiring was "set up" by men who plotted King's murder, and he was never intended to take the case to trial.

## Was Hiring a Setup?

Author William Bradford Huie, in a copyright series of articles based on information from Ray, contends there was a conspiracy to kill King and that its aim was to touch off waves of racial violence.

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

14 N.Y. DAILY NEWS

Date: NOV 19 1968

Edition: Final

Author:

Editor:

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

☐ Being Investigated

44-1609 675

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
NOV 19 1968	
FBI-NEW YORK	



Tuesday when Foreman, the celebrated Texan who defended heiress Candy Mossler and claims one loss to the electric chair in 1,000 murder cases, took over the defense.

The new trial date is March 3. There are indications that it may be postponed again. The possibility of moving the trial to another Tennessee city also exists.

Although Hanes was dismissed

F B I

Date: 12/24/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: ALL SAC's  
FROM: SAC, Memphis (44-1987) (P)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN - COST DATA  
(OO: MEMPHIS)  
BUFILE 44-38861

Re Memphis airtel to Albany dated 4/19/68, and  
Memphis airtel to All SAC's, dated 7/16/68.

Discontinue the monthly submission to the Memphis  
Division of the cost data requested in referenced airtels,  
since the Bureau has agreed this submission can be discon-  
tinued.

2-All SAC's  
2-Memphis  
HEG:mas  
(116)

44-1609-676

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
DEC 26 1968	
FBI - NEW YORK	

Approved: R. Jensen Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date: 12/24/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: ALL SAC'S  
FROM: SAC, Memphis (44-1987) (P)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN - COST DATA  
(OO: MEMPHIS)  
BUFILE 44-38861

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Discontinue the monthly submission to the Memphis  
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since the Bureau has agreed this submission can be discon-  
tinued.

2-All SAC's  
2-Memphis  
HEG:mas  
(116)

44-1609-676

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
DEC 26 1968	
FBI - NEW YORK	

Cashin

Approved: R. Jensen Sent u M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date: 1/20/69

Transmit the following in CODE  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT  
(Priority)TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861 and 100-438794) and  
SACS ATLANTA and LOS ANGELES

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (44-1609 and 100-149194)

MURKIN - CR (OO:MEMPHIS ) COMINFIL SCLC - IS - C  
(OO:ATLANTA)

A CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE, WHO HAS FURNISHED RELIABLE INFORMATION IN THE PAST, LEARNED ON ONE NINETEEN SIXTY NINE, THAT A PERSON, [REDACTED] TOLD STANLEY LEVISON, SCLC, ADVISED THAT [REDACTED] HAD RECEIVED A CALL FROM A MALCOLM DAVIS WHO CLAIMED TO BE A CORRESPONDENT OF RADIO JAMAICA AND THE BRITISH BROADCASTING COMPANY IN NEW YORK CITY. [REDACTED] SAID DAVIS ADVISED [REDACTED] THAT HE IS GETTING A TAPE ALLEGEDLY OF A CONVERSATION BETWEEN JAMES EARL RAY AND AN UNKNOWN PERSON WHICH WAS MADE THREE MONTHS BEFORE MARTIN LUTHER KING'S ASSASSINATION AND WHICH CONTAINS DETAILS OF THE ASSASSINATION. [REDACTED] SAID THE PURPOSE OF DAVIS' CALL WAS THAT HE DOES NOT WANT TO DISTURB CORETTA KING BECAUSE AS A JOURNALIST HE IS APPARENTLY GOING TO MAKE THIS TAPE

1- Memphis (AM) (RM)  
 ① New York

JFO:lng #43  
 (3)  
 1- Supv. #43

Searched \_\_\_\_\_  
 Serialized \_\_\_\_\_  
 Indexed \_\_\_\_\_  
 Filed \_\_\_\_\_

SEARCHED INDEXED  
 SERIALIZED FILED

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M Per

JAN 21 1969  
 FBI - NEW YORK

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)44-1609  
NY 44-193  
NY 100-149194

PAGE TWO

AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC AND DESIRED TO GIVE CORETTA KING A COPY FOR HER LAWYERS. [REDACTED] CONTINUED THAT DAVIS DISCLOSED THAT A GOEL LEVY IN LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, HAS THE TAPE AND WILL BE FORWARDING IT TO HIM. [REDACTED] SAID THE TAPE IS SUPPOSED TO HAVE DETAILS OF A PAYOFF PLAN.

LEVISON ADVISED [REDACTED] [REDACTED] TO CONTACT DAVIS IN A FEW DAYS TO SEE IF HE HAS RECIEVED THE TAPE. HE SAID THEN [REDACTED] COULD JUDGE DAVIS' REACTION AND PERHAPS HE, LEVISON, WOULD THEN GET INTO THE MATTER. HE SAID HE FELT HE SHOULD NOT INTERVENE AT THE PRESENT BECAUSE IT MIGHT UPSET RELATIONS BETWEEN CORETTAKING AND DAVIS IN THE EVENT DAVIS HAS SOMETHING OF VALUE.

THE SOURCE ALSO LEARNED THAT LEVISON DISCUSSED THE OFFER OF THE TAPE WITH HARRY WACHTEL, NEW YORK CITY ATTORNEY AND ADVISOR TO SCLC. WACHTEL'S POSITION WAS THAT AS MEMBERS OF THE BAR THEY SHOULD NOT GET INVOLVED BECAUSE THEY DID NOT WANT TO BE

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)44-1609  
NY 44-1609  
NY 100-149194

PAGE THREE

PUT IN THE POSITION OF SUPPRESSING EVIDENCE. HE SAID THEY SHOULD NOT BE PLACED IN THE POSITION OF DIGNIFYING THE TAPE BY ENTERING NEGOTIATIONS FOR IT. THEY AGREED THAT [REDACTED] [REDACTED] SHOULD HANDLE ANY NEGOTIATIONS AND THAT WHEN DAVIS SENDS THE TAPE TO CORETTA KING THEY WOULD LISTEN TO IT AND TAKE THE NECESSARY ACTION.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

(Type

100-149194

CONFIDENTIAL  
RELIABLE [REDACTED] IN [REDACTED] IN APRIL SIXTY [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] LEVISON [REDACTED] A [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] AS [REDACTED] JULY SIXTY THREE.

A THIRD CONFIDENTIAL [REDACTED] [REDACTED] FURNISHED  
RELIABLE [REDACTED] IN [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] N [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] A [REDACTED] [REDACTED] SIGNIFICANCE [REDACTED]  
MAINTAINED [REDACTED] [REDACTED] S OF [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] SIX [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

ADMINISTRATIVE:

FIRST [REDACTED] IS NEW [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] IS [REDACTED] SIX [REDACTED] S\*,



F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)NY ~~44-493~~ 44-1609  
NY 100-149194

PAGE FIVE

THIS INFORMATION IS TO BE CLASSIFIED "[REDACTED]"  
BECAUSE IT CONTAINS INFORMATION FROM [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] AND BECAUSE OF THE INFORMATION  
FROM [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] R [REDACTED] [REDACTED] USED IN THE  
CHARACTERIZATION OF LEVISON.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF ATLANTA THE PERSON WHO  
CONTACTED LEVISON WAS A FAAN LUCAS (PHONETIC).

FOR THE INFORMATION OF LOS ANGELES, FRAN LUCAS SAID  
THAT MALCOLM DAVIS FURNISHED THE TELEPHONE NUMBER OF  
JOEL LEVY (PHONETIC) IN CALIFORNIA AS TWO ONE THREE DASH  
SEVEN EIGHT <sup>b7c</sup> DASH EIGHT THREE THREE TWO. LOS ANGELES  
IS REQUESTED TO IDENTIFY JOEL LEVY.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

FBI NEW YORK

FBI LOS ANG

900PM DEFERRED 1/21/69 BCD

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), ATLANTA, AND NEW YORK  
FROM LOS ANGELES (44-1574) 2P

(44-1609)

MURKIN

RE NY TEL, JANUARY TWENTY LAST.

RECORDS PACIFIC TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY, LOS ANGELES, REVEALED SUBSCRIBER TO PHONE NUMBER TWO ONE THREE DASH SEVEN EIGHT ONE DASH EIGHT THREE THREE TWO IS MARJORIE LARGENT, SIX NINE FIVE TWO VESPER AVENUE, VAN NUYS, CALIFORNIA. LOS ANGELES INDICES, LAPD, LASO NEGATIVE REGARDING LARGENT. RECORDS, LOS ANGELES RMCA, HAVE FILE ON LARGENT WITH ABOVE ADDRESS, SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

FILE

CONTAINS NO DEROGATORY INFORMATION.

BASED ON INFORMATION AVAILABLE IN REFERENCED TELETYPE, REGARDING JOEL LEVY, LOS ANGELES INDICES, RECORDS LAPD, LASO, LOS ANGELES RMCA NEGATIVE.

END PAGE ONE

44-1609-678

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JAN 21 1969	
FBI - NEW YORK	

44-1609-678

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JAN 21 1969	
FBI - NEW YORK	

Rec'd 2/5/69

44-1609-678

PAGE TWO

(NY 44-1609)

LA MURKIN

UACB, NO FURTHER ACTION BEING TAKEN AT LOS ANGELES.  
BUREAU REQUESTED TO ADVISE IF LARGENT TO BE INTERVIEWED  
REGARDING KNOWLEDGE OF JOEL LEVY.

END

JAS

FBI NEW YORK

F B I

Date: 1/21/69

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPEURGENT

(Priority)

Classified by 6080 Secret  
Exempt from GDS, Category 2  
Date of Declassification Indefinite 6-9-77

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861 AND 100-438794)

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (~~44-195~~ <sup>44-1609</sup> AND 100-149194)MURKIN -CR (OO: MEMPHIS) COMINFIL SCLC IS-C  
(OO:ATLANTA)

RE NEW YORK TEL ONE TWENTY SIXTY NINE.

MALCOLM DAVIS, MENTIONED IN RE TEL, RESIDES ONE FORTY  
TWO EAST FORTY NINTH ST., NYC, AND IS SUBSCRIBER TO UN-  
LISTED TELEPHONE NUMBER PL NINE - SEVEN FIVE FOUR SIX.NEW YORK INDICES REFLECT NO IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION. JAMES  
BUTLER, VICE COUNSEL, BRITISH CONSULATE EIGHT FORTY FIVETHIRD AVE., NYC, ADVISED MALCOLM DAVIS IS KNOWN TO THEM AS  
FORMERLY WITH BBC BUT IS NOW A FREE - LANCE WRITER WHO MAKES  
OCCASIONAL TV APPEARANCES WHENEVER THERE IS NEED FOR PERSON  
WITH PRONOUNCED BRITISH ACCENT.

AIR MAIL COPIES SENT ATLANTA, MEMPHIS AND LOS ANGELES.

- 1- Atlanta (AM) (RM)
- 1- Memphis (AM) (RM)
- 1- Los Angeles (AM) (RM)
- 1- New York

JFOC:tf

(5) *tf*

1- Supv. #43

Searched \_\_\_\_\_  
Serialized \_\_\_\_\_  
Indexed \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed \_\_\_\_\_

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

SERIALIZED \_\_\_\_\_ FILED \_\_\_\_\_  
MAR 1969  
FBI - NEW YORK

NOTE: Hand print names legibly; handwriting satisfactory for remainder.

Indices: ☐ Negative ☐ See below

Subject's name and aliases  <i>JAMES EARL RAY</i>				Character of case  <i>CR</i>		
				Complainant  <i>JACK GREENBERG</i>		
				Complaint received  <input type="checkbox"/> Personal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Telephonic Date <i>3/14/69</i> Time <i>5:45</i>		
Address of subject				Complainant's address and telephone number <i>BUSINESS ADDRESS - 10 COLUMBUS CIRCLE - NYC</i> <i>HOME PHONE SIC 466-0781 or SIC 487-7694</i>		
Subject's Description	Race	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	Height	Hair	Build	Birth date and Birthplace
	Age		Weight	Eyes	Complexion	
	Scars, marks or other data					
	Facts of complaint					
<p><i>Attorney JACK GREENBERG, Director, Legal Defense Fund, NAACP advised that he had received a phone call from RUSSEL THOMPSON, a MEMPHIS attorney who stated to MR. GREENBERG that he has inside information on the JAMES EARL RAY case that he would like to discuss with GREENBERG.</i></p> <p><i>MR. GREENBERG stated that he has set up an appointment to meet with MR. THOMPSON at GREENBERG'S office at captioned address at 9<sup>30</sup> AM on MONDAY, 3/17/69.</i></p> <p><i>MR. GREENBERG stated that THOMPSON was the local MEMPHIS attorney retained by JAMES EARL RAY'S prior lawyer, HANES (PH) of BIRMINGHAM, ALA. at an early stage of the proceedings against RAY.</i></p> <p><i>MR. GREENBERG advised that he would like to have an agent present when he meets with THOMPSON on Monday. He can be reached at either of the above two phone numbers over the weekend.</i></p>						
Action Recommended						SEARCHED _____ INDEXED _____ SERIALIZED <i>h</i> FILED <i>h</i> <i>BS</i> MAR 14 1969 FBI - NEW YORK <i>Cashin 44-1609-679</i>
<i>Russell</i> (Agent)						

NOTE: Hand print names legibly; handwriting satisfactory for remainder.

Indices: ☐ Negative ☐ See below

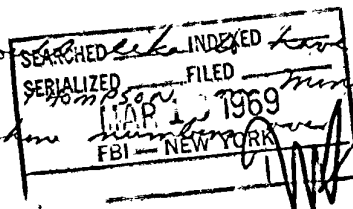
Subject's name and aliases  <i>JAMES EARL RAY</i>				Character of case		
				Complainant <i>JACK GREENBERG</i>		
				Complaint received <input type="checkbox"/> Personal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Telephonic Date <i>3/14/69</i> Time <i>5<sup>15</sup></i>		
Address of subject				Complainant's address and telephone number <i>BUSINESS ADDRESS - 10 COLUMBUS CIRCLE - NYC</i> <i>HOME PHONE SIC 466-0786 OR SIC 487-7094</i>		
Subject's Description	Race	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	Height	Hair	Build	Birth date and Birthplace
	Age		Weight	Eyes	Complexion	
	Scars, marks or other data					

Facts of complaint

Attorney JACK GREENBERG, Director, Legal Defense Fund, NAACP advised that he had received a phone call from RUSSEL THOMPSON, a MEMPHIS attorney who stated to MR. GREENBERG that he has inside information on the JAMES EARL RAY case that he would like to discuss with GREENBERG.

MR. GREENBERG stated that he has set up an appointment to meet with MR. THOMPSON at GREENBERG'S office at captioned address at 9<sup>30</sup> AM on MONDAY, 3/17/69. MR. GREENBERG stated that THOMPSON was the local MEMPHIS attorney retained by JAMES EARL RAY'S prior lawyer, HANEY (PH) of BIRMINGHAM, ALA. at an early stage of the proceedings against RAY.

MR. GREENBERG advised that he was going to have an agent present when he meets with THOMPSON. He can be reached at either of the above two phone numbers on the weekend.



Action Recommended

*Rosell*

(Agent)

*44-1609-679*

in folder

Re: James EARL RAY;  
Martin Luther King

USA. Robert M. Morgenthau, SDNY  
called Pat Henry at 5:55 PM Tonight &  
furnished the following:

JACK GREENBERG, General Counsel  
NAACP (Office: Room 2030, 10 Columbus Circle,  
NY, NY — Tel # 586-8397) Was in Morgenthau's  
office ~~just before~~ the call. Greenberg HAD  
~~TOLD~~ Morgenthau that  
~~that~~ an attorney named Robert X.

Thompson from Memphis, TENN was  
coming to NYC and would be in  
Greenberg's office at 9:30 AM next  
Monday, 3/17/69. Thompson had asked  
to see Greenberg to tell him the  
names of "the other people" involved  
with Ray in the Martin Luther King  
Killing. Thompson also allegedly  
claims to have supporting details,  
other than mere names.

Greenberg told Morgenthau  
Thompson is known to NAACP as a  
reputable individual who previously  
has done reliable work for the NAACP.

in the Memphis Area.

Greenberg however said that he did not know ~~the~~ anything else about Thompsons current info - and did not know if it was some sort of a publicity stunt.

Greenberg said the NY Daily News called him today and knows Thompson is due in NYC next Monday - However the News did not know the purpose of the trip and Greenberg did not tell them. Greenberg did not tell the press about Thompsons visit and does not know how the Daily News learned about it.

Greenberg told Morgenthau that he cannot do anything with ~~the~~ Thompsons info and has no way to evaluate it. Greenberg ~~says~~ told Margie that he felt an FBI Agent should be present and take all the info down 1st Hand. Morgenthau told Greenberg he would contact the FBI and ask us to make a decision



on the matter and furnish the decision  
(on whether or not to send an agent to the meeting or  
~~what action to take~~ Monday morning) and advise Greenberg  
of our decision before Thompson arrives  
at 9<sup>30</sup> AM Monday.

Margenau also requested  
that someone let him know of our decision  
early Monday.

Above furnished to Jack Joyce  
tonight. Joyce suggested Roger  
Young be called since King Case is  
on this Squad.

Jack suggested that  
we send a Teletype to Bureau &  
Memphis. Ask Memphis who  
Thompson is, if we don't know and  
Recommend to Bureau that we  
Not send a Agent to Meeting but  
Call Greenberg after meeting to  
find out what when on —

Jack Joyce will be home  
if Roger wants to talk to him  
about this. Pat Henry will be  
home about 11 PM but has no other info.

WA ----28----

FBI NEW YORK

9:35 PM URGENT 3-13-69 AWS

TO DIRECTOR AND MEMPHIS (PLAIN)

FROM NEW YORK 44-1609

MURKIN;

ATTORNEY JACK GREENBERG, DIRECTOR, LEGAL DEFENSE  
FUND, NAACP, TEN COLUMBUS CIRCLE, NYC CONTACTED USA ROBERT  
M. MORGENTHAU, SDNY, THREE FOURTEEN, AND ADVISED HE  
HAD RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL FROM RUSSELL THOMPSON,  
A MEMPHIS, TENN. ATTORNEY WHO CLAIMED HE HAD BEEN  
RETAINED BY JAMES EARL RAY AT AN EARLY STAGE OF THE PROCEED-  
INGS AGAINST RAY, PRIOR TO REPRESENTATION BY ATTORNEY  
HANES OF BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA.

END PAGE ONE

*3/20/69*  
*44-1609*  
*Memphis*  
*Assign to*

*44-1609-680*

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAR 8 1969	
FBI NEW YORK	

*F. J. Cashin*

PAGE TWO

ACCORDING TO GREENBERG, THOMPSON ASKED TO SEE HIM IN ORDER TO TELL HIM THE NAMES OF OTHER PEOPLE INVOLVED WITH RAY IN THE MARTIN LUTHER KING KILLING, AND TO FURNISH SUPPORTING DETAILS. GREENBERG ARRANGED AN APPOINTMENT TO MEET WITH THOMPSON AT GREENBERG'S OFFICE AT NINE THIRTY AM, MONDAY, THREE SEVENTEEN, SIXTYNINE. GREENBERG TOLD MORGENTHAU THAT THOMPSON IS KNOWN TO NAACP AS A REPUTABLE INDIVIDUAL WHO PREVIOUSLY HAS DONE RELIABLE WORK FOR THE NAACP IN THE MEMPHIS AREA. GREENBERG INFORMED MORGENTHAU, HOWEVER, THAT HE DID NOT KNOW ANYTHING ELSE ABOUT THOMPSON'S INFORMATION, AND DID NOT KNOW IF IT WERE A PUBLICITY STUNT. GREENBERG SAID THE NY DAILY NEWS CALLED HIM TODAY AND KNOWS THOMPSON IS DUE IN NYC NEXT MONDAY. HOWEVER, THE DAILY NEWS DID NOT KNOW THE PURPOSE OF THE TRIP, AND GREENBERG DID NOT TELL THEM. GREENBERG TOLD MORGENTHAU HE CANNOT DO ANYTHING WITH THOMPSON'S INFORMATION, AND HAS NO WAY TO EVALUATE IT, AND ~~TH~~US SUGGESTED AN FBI AGENT BE PRESENT AT THE MEETING. MORGENTHAU TOLD GREENBERG THE FBI WOULD HAVE TO MAKE THAT DECISION. GREENBERG THEN CONTACTED THE NYO AND FURNISHED THE SAME INFORMATION SET OUT

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

ABOVE.

IT IS NOTED THAT RUSSELL THOMPSON HAS BEEN REPORTED ON NY RADIO NEWSBROADCASTS, THREE FOURTEEN, SIXTYNINE, AS GOING TO NY FROM MEMPHIS ON SUNDAY THREE SIXTEEN, SIXTYNINE TO TALK TO THE NAACP.

THE NYO HAS HAD FREQUENT CONTACT WITH NAACP OFFICIALS OVER A NUMBER OF YEARS, AND RELATIONS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN CORDIAL, BUT NO SPECIFIC CONTACTS WITH GREENBERG.

THE BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO ADVISE THE NYO WHETHER NY SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE INTERVIEW OF THOMPSON AND GREENBERG'S OFFICE ON THREE SEVENTEEN, SIXTYNINE.

END

WA...

THIS THIS BE NUMBER TWENTYSEVEN GA

YES TU

WA...

FJB

FBI WASH DC

F B I

Date: 3/14/69

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via TELETYPEURGENT

(Priority)

TO DIRECTOR AND MEMPHIS (PLAIN)  
FROM NEW YORK 44-1609

MURKIN;

ATTORNEY JACK GREENBERG, DIRECTOR, LEGAL DEFENSE  
FUND, NAACP, TEN COLUMBUS CIRCLE, NYC CONTACTED USA ROBERT  
M. MORGENTHAU, SDNY, THREE FOURTEEN, AND ADVISED HE  
HAD RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL FROM RUSSELL THOMPSON,  
A MEMPHIS, TENN. ATTORNEY WHO CLAIMED HE HAD BEEN  
RETAINED BY JAMES EARL RAY AT AN EARLY STAGE OF THE PROCEED-  
INGS AGAINST RAY, PRIOR TO REPRESENTATION BY ATTORNEY  
HANES OF BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA.

44-1609-680

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAR 14 1969	
FBI - NEW YORK	

23

Approved: [Signature]

Special Agent in Charge

Sent 6:27pPer [Signature]

PAGE TWO

ACCORDING TO GREENBERG, THOMPSON ASKED TO SEE HIM IN ORDER TO TELL HIM THE NAMES OF OTHER PEOPLE INVOLVED WITH RAY IN THE MARTIN LUTHER KING KILLING, AND TO FURNISH SUPPORTING DETAILS. GREENBERG ARRANGED AN APPOINTMENT TO MEET WITH THOMPSON AT GREENBERG'S OFFICE AT NINE THIRTY AM, MONDAY, THREE SEVENTEEN, SIXTYNINE. GREENBERG TOLD MORGENTHAU THAT THOMPSON IS KNOWN TO NAACP AS A REPUTABLE INDIVIDUAL WHO PREVIOUSLY HAS DONE RELIABLE WORK FOR THE NAACP IN THE MEMPHIS AREA. GREENBERG INFORMED MORGENTHAU, HOWEVER, THAT HE DID NOT KNOW ANYTHING ELSE ABOUT THOMPSON'S INFORMATION, AND DID NOT KNOW IF IT WERE A PUBLICITY STUNT. GREENBERG SAID THE NY DAILY NEWS CALLED HIM TODAY AND KNOWS THOMPSON IS DUE IN NYC NEXT MONDAY. HOWEVER, THE DAILY NEWS DID NOT KNOW THE PURPOSE OF THE TRIP, AND GREENBERG DID NOT TELL THEM.

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