

4/22/76

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
(ATTN: FOIPA SECTION;
RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION (SA THOMAS WISEMAN))

FROM: ADIC, NEW YORK (44-1609)

SUBJECT: MURKIN;
HAROLD WEISBERG VIA U.S.
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
U.S.D.C., D.C., CIVIL
ACTION NO. 75-1996

On 4/21/76, Mr. RICHARD M. SEAMON, Director of Editorial Services, Time Inc., 1271 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York, 10020, Telephone Number 212-556-4857, advised the NYO that he has no objections to said 107 photographs of the assassination scene of MARTIN LUTHER KING taken by Photographer JOSEPH LOUW, and made available to the FBI on 4/18/68, being viewed on request under the FOIA, but would object to having them removed from FBI files or copies being made.

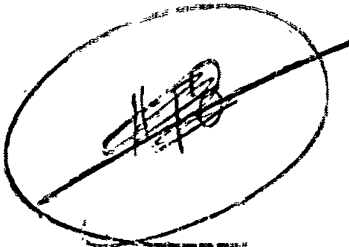
Mr. SEAMON said that any request for copies of the photos and/or request to have them taken from FBI files, should be directed to him personally at the above address.

2 - Bureau
① - New York

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1 - Supv. #48



44-1609-725

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ray implied he killed King: ex-British sleuth

By JOSEPH VOLZ

Washington (News Bureau)—

A retired Scotland Yard chief inspector testified yesterday that 10 years ago James Earl Ray told him that he panicked after the shooting of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and tossed away the murder rifle loaded with his fingerprints.

Alexander Eist, who was assigned to guard Ray for two months after Ray was arrested in London in 1968, said Ray did not flatly admit he pulled the trigger. But Eist said that Ray, now serving a 99-year sentence for the murder of the civil rights leader, implied that he killed King.

Ray further told Eist that he wanted to go to Africa some day to "kill some more of them (blacks)," the retired cop related.

Eist, who now operates a pub near the English university town of Cam-

bridge, also made these points in his testimony before the House Assassination Committee:

- Ray believed that he would never be convicted of killing King because no one could "pin" the shooting on him. Instead, he told Eist he might be sentenced to 12 years for conspiracy because his prints were on the rifle.

- Ray supported himself after escaping from a Missouri prison before the 1968 assassination by committing minor robberies. On one occasion, Ray said, he fell out of the getaway car. Ray named no accomplices to Eist, but did mention that one of his brothers helped him.

- Ray, while in a London jail, continually asked how big the headlines were on the story. He was quite proud of the fact he was going to make headlines.

- Ray "never showed any regret" in his talks with Eist.

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

Only News
Pg. 14

Date: *11/10/78*Edition: *final*

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

44-1609-726

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12/1/78

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, NEWARK (44-0)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
INFORMATION CONCERNING

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

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

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

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

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

2-Bureau
1-Memphis (Info)
1-New York (Info)
2-Newark
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RAY had a "deep penetrating personality."

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

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

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

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

MC MAHON added that he has no definite information that the JOHN RAY who registered at the Sheratin-Mc Alpin is in any way related to JAMES EARL RAY but added that he might have xeroxed or made notes of RAY's registration card and buried

NK 44-0

this document in a container on his uncle's property, ALFRED HYDE, Spencertown, New York, who reportedly is a Municipal Judge in the area.

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

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

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Date: 12/6/78.

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, NEWARK (44-0)

SUBJECT: MURKIN
INFORMATION CONCERNING44-1609* 4/68
100-149194-3416 5/69
Full Search

Re Newark airtel to Director, 12/1/78.

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

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

The above is being submitted for information. Newark Division contemplates no further action.

2 - Bureau
1 - Memphis (Info)
1 - New York (Info)
1 - Newark
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Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge