

JN 157-9586

2

W. S. BLOUNT
3496 Lenardo Drive, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia
(Wright Contracting Company)

R. C. BOBO
212 North West
Waukegan, Illinois

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. GRACE
2920 Grail
Wichita, Kansas

GEORGE WALKER
14 Hilby Road
Louisville, Kentucky
License J29-270, Chevrolet

Mr. and Mrs. M. PLATT
P. O. Box 163
Angola, Louisiana

JOHN D. SMITH
2334 Coronet Place
Jackson, Mississippi

M. COLEMAN
9764 McCoughan Avenue
Long Beach, Mississippi

SHIRLEY JACKSON
4 Elm Street
Natchez, Mississippi

JIMMIE L. KIMERY
Byhalia, Mississippi
License 47-504, 1965 Dodge

JAMES L. TERPO
214 Pollard
Batesville, Mississippi
License 54-1293, 1966 Plymouth

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JAMES E. SWOPE
Box 97
University, Mississippi

Reverend WILSON W. BOGGAN
Box 643
Lucedale, Mississippi
George County Baptist Association

JAMES E. WASHBURN
Caruthersville, Missouri

TOMMY LEE JONES
P. O. Box 5552
Raleigh, North Carolina

JOE BEE (illegible) and family
34 Clemson Drive
Aiken, South Carolina

SAM NORRIS
56 North McLean
Memphis, Tennessee

JOE N. SMITH
Memphis, Tennessee

OLIVER HENDERSON
4050 Kenach
Memphis, Tennessee

FLOYD PALMER
427 North Graham
Memphis, Tennessee
License PB 9481

ELIZABETH TRULY
130 North Willomet
Dallas, Texas

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/24/69

WALTER COUTURE, Manager, Cannoneer Motel,
Highway 45 South, Corinth, Mississippi, made available
the motel registration records for the period March 29,
1968, through April 3, 1968. The following individuals
were registered during this period:

GEORGE GRAHAM
Box 925
Hartselle, Alabama

JOHN M. COLLINS
Box 6227
University, Alabama
Alabama license 63-3013

WILLIAM S. HELMS
3310 Meadow Lane
Montgomery, Alabama
Alabama license 3-42187

CARL COLLEY
102 Colonial Court
Prattville, Alabama

GARWIN DRUMMOND
401 W. Pasades Avenue
Muscle Shoals, Alabama

H. H. ROBBINS
2125 31st Street, Southwest
Birmingham, Alabama

Mr. and Mrs. P. T. CARSON
945 45th Street
Sacramento, California

44-775-1132

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 10 1969	
ST. LOUIS	

[Signature]

On 4/14/69 at Corinth, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA JOHN S. CASTLES /bdb Date dictated 4/18/69

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CHARLES BEETS and wife
5805 South Fox Street
Littleton, Colorado

Mr. and Mrs. JAMES BAILEY
751 Northeast 83 Terrace
Miami, Florida

Reverend EVERET BATY
6000 East Colonial Drive
Orlando, Florida
Florida license 7W64305

Mr. and Mrs. JOHN D. CORY
801 North Harding Street
Albany, Georgia
Illinois license HH893

Mr. and Mrs. MACK OMLORFF
1645 Fox Drive
Dubuque, Iowa

GROVER F. FULLER
1432 North Druid Hills
Atlanta, Georgia
Georgia license 2-15080

Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs. A. R. SLATTERY
2738 Henry Street
Augusta, Georgia

Mr. and Mrs. GEORGE C. ENGEL
Chatham, Illinois
Illinois license 656738

DON SMITH
2145 Lake Avenue
Wilmette, Illinois

Mr. and Mrs. OLEN KEISTER
218 Pine Park
Monmouth, Illinois
Illinois license 500-700

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Mr. and Mrs. J. CLANEY and sister
South 7th Street
Fairbury, Illinois
Illinois license FR 3805

C. M. BECKTOL
1201 W. Daniel Street
Champaign, Illinois

Mr. and Mrs. J. CLYDE EVANS
1715 South Park
Springfield, Illinois

FRANK J. CLARKE
82 Birch
Park Forest, Illinois

EDWIN LEWIS
Cameron, Illinois
Illinois license 192663

K. RODEEN
423 East Pells
Paxton, Illinois

R. E. HOISINGTON
Stillman Valley, Illinois
Illinois license 211-190, Chrysler

J. BARCUS
315 Ellis Street
Centralia, Illinois

Mr. and Mrs. EDWIN SUDBRIUK
281 Division
Virginia, Illinois
Illinois license

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Mr. and Mrs. J. E. SCOTT
1601 Oklahoma Avenue
Matloosa, Illinois
Illinois license 47474

Mr. and Mrs. JOHN MOLENSTRA
3628 West 111th Street
Chicago, Illinois
Illinois license G06051

Mr. and Mrs. C. M. HIGGINS
Ellisville, Illinois
Illinois license 437-804

Mr. and Mrs. ROBERT HUNT
8 Lourst Hill
Crawfordsville, Indiana
Indiana license 54A8415

R. L. THREIKELD
317 South 8th
Chariton, Iowa
Iowa license 59-2866

Mr. and Mrs. D. D. REYNOLDS
455 Westwood Drive
Ames, Iowa
Iowa license 85-4798

S. G. BERANOK and wife
Solon, Iowa
Iowa license 52-256

JAMES L. MacLOUD
502 East Academy
Jennings, Loisiaana

Mr. and Mrs. MARK E. CONKLIN
17321 Kentfield
Detroit, Michigan
Michigan license AL7744

A. E. WERP
15909 Hubbell
Detroit, Michigan 48227
Michigan license BH 0383

LEO GERCHMAN
137 Spruce
Eveleth, Minnesota
Minnesota license 8FG136

STUART C. STETSON
1232 Winnrose
Jackson, Mississippi
Mississippi license HD10508

W. C. McMASTER
101 Redrich Avenue
Grenada, Mississippi
Mississippi license 22-4226

JOE POLLOCK
18 Monroe, Apartment 9
Grenada, Mississippi
Mississippi license 22-9526

A. J. NEAL
1004 Fulton Avenue
Meridian, Mississippi
Mississippi license F/673686

JAMES E. HUNT
5002 Kendall Avenue
Gulfport, Mississippi
Mississippi license 610661

GERALD RAYMAN
Tupelo, Mississippi

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MARVIN ALFORD
Florence, Mississippi
Mississippi license T-2925

J. A. WAINWRIGHT, JR.
6077 Waverly Drive
Jackson, Mississippi

ROBERT L. BOUNDS
P. O. Box 536
Brandon, Mississippi

LEON ARMSTRONG
Box 299
Verona, Mississippi

Mr. and Mrs. HERBERT W. BERZ
186 East Market Street
Winona, Mississippi

JOE COX
Ripley, Mississippi

RAYMOND YANCEY
Ripley, Mississippi

PRENTISS PEARSON
1110 Fillmore Drive
Tupelo, Mississippi

JOHN SIMPSON
110 Vance Place
Long Beach, Mississippi

P. G. STEELE
Greenwood, Mississippi
Mississippi license N-7153

THOMAS L. McNAMARA and wife
611 East 110th Terrace
Kansas City, Missouri
Missouri license 9-137

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GLENN MUNSON
801 Delchester
Kirkwood, Missouri

Mr. and Mrs. I. SCHOENWALD
615 Wyandotte
Kansas City, Missouri

LOREN ATKINS
3690 James Road
Hannibal, Missouri

L. S. MORTON
7430 Hazel
St. Louis, Missouri

BILL WOOLERY
1717 West 18th Street
Sedalia, Missouri
Missouri license BE9-596

Mr. and Mrs. HARTMAN
5830 Wilshire
Lincoln, Nebraska
Nebraska license 2-F9649

Mr. and Mrs. EATON P. HUTCHINSON
146 Sanford Street
Glen Falls, New York

ROBERT W. VINCENT
320 Park Avenue
New York, New York

MARTIN LANGENBERG
408 East Grand Avenue
Springfield, Ohio
Tennessee license HP9562

EDWARD PILOSKE
10156 Winstead Lane
Cincinnati, Ohio

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H. GAEDE
5369 Lauren
Cincinnati, Ohio
License 8-88-CG

R. E. GARLINGTON
5928 East 36 Street
Tulsa, Oklahoma
Oklahoma license ZA7535

GLENN U. SMITH
2501 Oregon Pike
Lancaster, Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania license K82-201

JAMES W. MYERS
219 South Aberdeen Avenue
Wayne, Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania license 196-614

Mr. and Mrs. LEWIS SNEESBY
Lake Preston, South Dakota
License 42-1159

CECIL D. BARTHOTON
975 Illinois Avenue, Southwest
Huron, South Dakota
South Dakota license 4-10226, Imperial

H. D. McCLENDON
540 Vine Street
Chattanooga, Tennessee

J. W. CALDWELL
334 Lynn Drive
Nashville, Tennessee
Tennessee license AL8350

ROBERT COLLINS
Nashville, Tennessee

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NICK BINGHAM
500 High
Dyersburg, Tennessee
Tennessee license SD1154

GEORGE W. LOGAN
1250 Cooper
Memphis, Tennessee

ROSS DYSON
4355 Cherrydale
Memphis, Tennessee

W. H. TATE
4880 Spottswood Road
Memphis, Tennessee
Tennessee license K0-3289

JOHN E. JACKSON
1033 Vaughn
Memphis, Tennessee

W. O. CALDWELL, Sr.
1564 Hayne Road
Memphis, Tennessee
Tennessee license BG4770

LOIS WOOD
1314 Summer Street
Union City, Tennessee

JOHNNY SPARKE
1915 Evelyn
Memphis, Tennessee

BARTON C. BROOKS
1437 Yorkshire Drive
Memphis, Tennessee

BILL GREGORY
404 West Grand
Jackson, Tennessee

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TAD SMITH
4537 Tammy Lane
Memphis, Tennessee

T. C. FORD and wife
Bristol, Tennessee
Tennessee license CY2100

JAMES B. CASON
1673 Southwall Street
Memphis, Tennessee
Michigan license CN-1162

RUSS FRISBIE
4545 Windward Drive
Whitehaven, Tennessee

A. T. MORGAN
293 Cecilia Drive
Memphis, Tennessee

BARTON C. BROOKS
1437 Yorkshire Drive
Memphis, Tennessee
Tennessee license BF6726

PETER KNOOP
Box 3637
Nashville, Tennessee
Tennessee license JJ8970

HARRY LANE and JACK WRIGHT
102 Mason Street
Jackson, Tennessee
Tennessee license LR1471

DANNY JAMES
213 East Cheatan
Union City, Tennessee

BOB SWITZER
Trimble, Tennessee

DAVID W. WILKINS
5157 Woodlark
Memphis, Tennessee

ROBERT COLLINS
Nashville, Tennessee

HARRY LANE
102 Mason Street
Jackson, Tennessee
Tennessee license LR 4177

J. W. HAWK
Post Office Box 12385
Memphis, Tennessee
(Sunray DX Oil)

BILL MOONEY
1974 Burnham Avenue
Memphis, Tennessee

JERRY MacGREGOR
4990 Haleville Road
Memphis, Tennessee

R. A. FAIRCLOTH
3777 Coral Street
Memphis, Tennessee
Tennessee license KP2090

DENT BRANDT
Route 2
Potosi, Wisconsin

WILLIAM HOMOLA, Sr.
Route 2
Stone Lake, Wisconsin
License Z1A-527

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/24/69

Mrs. LOUISE BREWER, Manager, Round-Town Motel,
Highway 45, North, Corinth, Mississippi, made available
the motel registration records for the period March 29,
1968, through April 3, 1968. The following individuals
were registered during this period:

JAMES R. GREEN
Route 2
Red Bay, Alabama

LEON BLAXTON
Courtland, Alabama

NORRIS McDADE
Little Rock, Arkansas
(representing Sterling Store)

WILLIAM CHITTY
Widener, Arkansas
Arkansas license 3950

WAYNE BAKER
Forest City, Arkansas
License J5034

HOMER (last name illegible)
425 Pike
North Little Rock, Arkansas

N. V. PEDERSON
Congress, Saskatchewan, Canada

JESSE COCHRAN
10818 1087 Street North
Largo, Florida

44-775-133

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 10 1969	
FBI - ST. LOUIS	

Dr. Kern *W*

On 4/14/69 at Corinth, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA JOHN S. CASTLES /bdb Date dictated 4/18/69

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SID CLEVLEN
115 Wallmanda
Port Richey, Florida
Florida license 28D1760, Rambler

SAMMY S. BULLIGTER
New Port Richey, Florida

Mr. and Mrs. O. RUNNER
Route 1, Box 236A
Clermont, Florida

Mrs. PAUL W. HAYES
857 Northwest Deedra Street
Port Charlotte, Florida
Florida license 53-503

N. C. LADNER
Big Pine Key, Florida
Florida license 38-2211, Dodge

HOWARD H. LAVON
518 Tschetter Drive
Auburndale, Florida

JAMES COLLIN
Sheldon, Illinois
Indiana license 7829E

Mr. and Mrs. CECIL M. CARTER
1745 West Division Street
Decatur, Illinois
Illinois license CC 1745

O. H. WOLTERS
Route 3
Sparta, Illinois
Alabama license 1A92256

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Mr. and Mrs. EARL JURZE
2919 Custer Avenue
Rockford, Illinois

Mr. W. L. PARKERSON
1115 Harlem Boulevard
Rockford, Illinois

ALLEN AUGHENBAUGH and wife
3845 Aberdeen
Alton, Illinois

M. L. SHAFFER
609 South 10th
Quincy, Illinois

Mr. and Mrs. J. MacGREGOR
7704 Adams Street
Forest Park, Illinois
Illinois license JM 7704

Mr. and Mrs. I. PESSES
1804-16th Street
Rock Island, Illinois
Illinois license PA 2401

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. ANDERSON
814 Oakland Avenue
Joliet, Illinois
Illinois license 87-317

CHESTER W. BRADLEY
730 West Harrison Street
Decatur, Illinois

BUELL PATTERSON
223 East Jeffries
Winchester, Illinois
Illinois license E2-5548

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Mr. and Mrs. JOHN THOMPSON
Nelson, Illinois

STEPHEN JEGEL
153 East High Street
Edwardsville, Illinois

C. D. RUGRODEN
306 East Main Street
Sidney, Illinois

R. W. ROGERS
6970 Conn Street
Merrillville, Indiana

K. L. DuMONT
4741 Baltimore
Hammond, Indiana

L. PIGG
Route 1
Terre Haute, Indiana

Mr. and Mrs. P. E. SPENCER
Star Park
Charles City, Iowa

Mrs. W. W. FREEBERU
19 Colony Drive
Muscatine, Iowa
Iowa license 70-1288

FRED LYKINS
Route 1
Tollesboro, Kentucky

Mr. and Mrs. R. M. RUDOLPH
330 North 31 Street
Paducah, Kentucky
Kentucky license 558849

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GOLDER KIRK
Benton, Kentucky
Kentucky license KY 9654

Mr. and Mrs. HARRY M. SMITH and sons
65720 Place Road
Richmond, Michigan
Michigan license MG3356

Mrs. CARL A. BEA
Route 2, Box 150
Ironton, Minnesota
Minnesota license MIG 985

CHARLES L. EZELL
3615 Hood Drive
Jackson, Mississippi
Mississippi license T-2038

WOODY BIGGS
906 East College
Clinton, Mississippi

THOMAS GRAYSON
334 Murdock Street
Corinth, Mississippi

Mr. and Mrs. ROBERT Y. LAMERE
109 Katherine Drive
Vicksburg, Mississippi

TED M. GOSNELL
4717 Oak Ridge Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri

Mr. and Mrs. ED GRABEN
36 Frass Street
University City, Missouri

CARL TRASSER

2521 Tyrell

Jennings, Missouri

License EC1720

GORDON L. MOORE

Columbia, Missouri

Missouri license PS0-393, Mustang

LEROY OLDER

6913 Frostview

Hazelwood, Missouri

ELMER SARGINT

3501 Chevrelet Avenue

St. Louis, Missouri

Missouri license 2147

LOUIS LAFFREDO

8735 17 Avenue

Brooklyn, New York

DAVID MORTON

6851 West Ridge Road

Lorain, Ohio

Ohio license ZV720

WAYMON MICHALL

607 Johndon Street

Savannah, Tennessee

Tennessee license LF 6109

T. O. PANKY

6214 Heather Drive

Memphis, Tennessee

Tennessee license BE5221

TERRY HATCH

999 Wood Long Street

Memphis, Tennessee

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ALBERT DILLON
2221 North Third
Memphis, Tennessee
Tennessee license 1P9688

Mr. and Mrs. ELMER NICHOLS
P. O. Box 931
Selmer, Tennessee

L. N. BURY
Rockvale, Tennessee
(Memphis Silo Company)

PEGGY THOMPSON
306 Ardes Street
Sulphur Springs, Texas
License KE0219

(Name and street illegible)
Hayward, Wisconsin
Wisconsin license T22-361

Mr. GOLDA PEARSON
5036 Fond de Lac Road
Oshkosh, Wisconsin

Mr. and Mrs. S. FOTE
4052 North 91st Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/25/69

Mrs. BERRY (SHIRLEY) SMITH, owner and manager,
El-Ray Motel, Highway 45 South, Corinth, Mississippi,
made available the motel registration records for the
period March 29, 1968, to April 3, 1968. These records
reveal the names of guests as follows:

Mr. and Mrs. GRADY THOMPSON
Route 1
Cherokee, Alabama

Mr. and Mrs. R. HOLMES
1571 5th Avenue
Vero Beach, Florida
Florida license 32W-5673, Oldsmobile

JIMMY SINTER
6111 Prushing
Danvers Grove, Illinois

T. W. RICHARDSON
Sims, Illinois

L. L. ROBERTSON
Sims, Illinois

JAMES JOHNSON
Chicago, Illinois
Illinois license IL 4692, Oldsmobile

J. LAMBERT
1508 N. Elk Grove
Chicago, Illinois

BERT YEAGER
4203 S. Sheridan

Zion, Illinois
Illinois license MY8682, Pontiac Tempest

On 4/21/69 at Corinth, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA DONALD H. GREENE /bdb Date dictated 4/24/68

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Jackson

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GEORGE FLAYER
LEO WACKER
Marion, Illinois

CHARLES CHOGENGEN
142 Parton Avenue
Calumet City, Illinois
Illinois license 101-101

JIMMY SINTER
6111 Pershing Road
Danvers Grove, Illinois
HN 1228

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. SUMMERS
2033 Broadway
Quincy, Illinois

CLYDE HANCOCK
1807 S. 49th Avenue
Lyons, Illinois

BILLY HANCOCK
8430 45th Street
Lyons, Illinois
Illinois license AR 988, 1964 Pontiac

TALL HUMBERS
212 Cauden Avenue
Michigan City, Indiana

HERSHEL BAIN
512 W. Louisiana Street
Evansville, Indiana
Indiana license 826-512, Chevrolet

J. RICHARD LEE
615 Madison
Gary, Indiana

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3

DAN E. BRYANT and wife
608 Will
Evansville, Indiana

JAMES ROSSO
1330 Delery Street
New Orleans, Louisiana
Louisiana license 106B788
1968 Chevrolet

GENE ARMSTRONG
1401 Airline Highway
New Orleans, Louisiana
Louisiana license 690-345

CHARLES GRUNDY
36 Avonlea Street
Grand Rapids, Michigan

C.A. EVANS
Southern Household
Shubuta, Mississippi

NOEL SIMMONS
AUDLEY PHELPS
University, Mississippi

PAUL W. CHAPPELL
787 Davis Street
Corinth, Mississippi

KENNETH FORD
Route 4
Booneville, Mississippi

AUDIE RAY DAVIS
Fulton, Mississippi

C. S. COX
Jackson, Mississippi
(Standard Oil Company)

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4

C. R. LEONARD
Brookhaven, Mississippi
Mississippi license 23555

B. W. PURGASON
Maston, Mississippi

W. C. SEATON
40 Plaza Square
St. Louis, Missouri

Mr. and Mrs. S. R. DICKINSON
16 St. Rita
Bridgeton, Missouri
Missouri license KG7-506, Mercury

C. RALPH GASCHE
Box 42
Delta, Ohio
Ohio license 9518Y

L. E. PRICE and family
Route 2
Greenville, South Carolina
Ohio license 177190

ROBERT PAYNE
Route 7
Sparta, Tennessee
Tennessee license IT-6780

BILL BARNES
Savannah, Tennessee
Tennessee license 3215

JOHN HAYS
111 State Street
Memphis, Tennessee

Mr. and Mrs. G. JOHNSTON
Box 876
Jackson, Tennessee

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ELMER ALSTON
College Street
Halls, Tennessee

Mr. and Mrs. WILLIAM PHILLIPS
Crump, Tennessee
Tennessee license IP8559

ROBERT FARRIS
Dyer, Tennessee
1968 Mustang

LAWRENCE SUMMERS
Denton, Texas

4/7/69

Airtel

To: SACs, Birmingham (44-1749)
Jackson (157-9586)
Memphis (44-1987)

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

William Bradford Huie has written a third article for "Look" magazine. The article appears in the issue dated April 15, 1969, but this issue was circulated on April 1, 1969. A review of the article reveals that James Earl Ray allegedly registered at the Travelodge Motel, Five Points, Birmingham, Alabama, on March 29, 1968; at a motel near Florence, Alabama, on April 1, 1968; and at a motel near Corinth, Mississippi, on April 2, 1968. It is to be noted that Ray, using the name Harvey Lowmyer, negotiated the purchase of a rifle at the Aeromarine Supply Company, Birmingham, Alabama, on March 29 and 30, 1968. On April 3, 1968, he was registered at the Rebel Motel in Memphis, Tennessee.

In an effort to establish whether or not Ray was in contact with any individuals immediately prior to the assassination, appropriate investigation should be conducted by the Birmingham and Jackson Offices. It should be understood that there is to be no indication made whatsoever that the following investigation has any connection whatsoever with the case involving James Earl Ray.

Birmingham and Jackson Offices should make inquiries of the motels in or near the cities indicated above to determine the identities of individuals registered during the period March 29 to April 3, 1968. Efforts should be made to identify all individuals listed, as well as

44-775-1135

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[Signature]

Airtel SACs, Birmingham, Jackson, Memphis
RE: MURKIN

obtaining descriptions and registrations for the automobiles of such persons. A review of such records might indicate whether any one individual might have accompanied Ray or been in contact with him during this period. Pertinent or questionable registration records should be obtained if possible for examination by the FBI Laboratory.

Memphis should insure that the Bureau is kept currently advised of pertinent developments in this case, particularly all aspects of court action since the death of Judge Battle on March 31, 1969.

F B I

Date: 5/7/69

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

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM: SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel, dated 4/7/69; Birmingham airtel to Bureau, dated 4/15/69, and Jackson airtel to Bureau, dated 4/18/69.

2 - Memphis (Enc. 13) (RM)	2 - Minneapolis (Enc. 6) (RM)
2 - Albany (Enc. 2) (RM)	2 - Mobile (Enc. 6) (RM)
2 - Albuquerque (Enc. 2) (RM)	2 - Newark (Enc. 2) (RM)
2 - Atlanta (Enc. 8) (RM)	2 - New Haven (Enc. 2) (RM)
2 - Birmingham (Enc. 10) (RM)	2 - New Orleans (Enc. 6) (RM)
2 - Buffalo (Enc. 2) (RM)	2 - New York (Enc. 4) (RM)
2 - Charlotte (Enc. 3) (RM)	2 - Oklahoma City (Enc. 5) (RM)
2 - Chicago (Enc. 7) (RM)	2 - Omaha (Enc. 7) (RM)
2 - Cincinnati (Enc. 3) (RM)	2 - Philadelphia (Enc. 3) (RM)
2 - Cleveland (Enc. 5) (RM)	2 - Richmond (Enc. 3) (RM)
2 - Columbia (Enc. 5) (RM)	2 - Sacramento (Enc. 3) (RM)
2 - Dallas (Enc. 8) (RM)	2 - St. Louis (Enc. 2) (RM)
2 - Denver (Enc. 4) (RM)	2 - Salt Lake City (Enc. 3) (RM)
2 - Detroit (Enc. 8) (RM)	2 - San Antonio (Enc. 2) (RM)
2 - Houston (Enc. 3) (RM)	2 - San Diego (Enc. 2) (RM)
2 - Indianapolis (Enc. 9) (RM)	2 - Savannah (Enc. 6) (RM)
2 - Jacksonville (Enc. 4) (RM)	2 - Seattle (Enc. 2) (RM)
2 - Kansas City (Enc. 8) (RM)	2 - Springfield (Enc. 10) (RM)
2 - Knoxville (Enc. 6) (RM)	2 - Tampa (Enc. 6) (RM)
2 - Little Rock (Enc. 9) (RM)	2 - Jackson
2 - Los Angeles (Enc. 2) (RM)	JSC:bal
2 - Louisville (Enc. 5) (RM)	(88)
2 - Miami (Enc. 6) (RM)	
2 - Milwaukee (Enc. 6) (RM)	

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

44-725-1136

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CECH 5-15

JN 157-9586

Enclosed for each office, except for Memphis and Birmingham, is one copy of referenced Bureau airtel, dated 4/7/69.

As directed by Bureau, a review of all motel records for the period March 29, to April 3, 1968, of motels in Corinth, Miss., made and the names of those individuals registered at the motels during this period have been obtained, and their names are revealed on appropriate FD-302s. One copy each of the FD-302s, where appropriate, are being submitted to the appropriate offices, as set out below:

FD-302

Mrs. LOUISE BREWER, Mgr.
Round-Town Motel

Division

Birmingham
Chicago
Dallas
Detroit
Indianapolis
Jacksonville
Kansas City
Little Rock
Louisville
Memphis
Miami
Milwaukee
New York
Omaha
St. Louis
Springfield
Tampa

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FD-302

Mr. DON M. STRICKLAND, Mgr.,
Holiday Inn Motel

Division

Atlanta
Birmingham
Charlotte
Chicago
Cincinnati
Columbia
Dallas
Denver
Detroit
Houston
Indianapolis
Jacksonville
Kansas City
Knoxville
Little Rock
Louisville
Memphis

Miami
Minneapolis
Mobile
Newark
New Haven
New Orleans
New York
Oklahoma City
Omaha
Philadelphia
Richmond
Salt Lake City
Savannah
Seattle
Springfield
Tampa

WALTER COUTURE, Mgr.
Cannoneer Motel

Albany
Atlanta
Birmingham
Cincinnati
Denver
Detroit
Indianapolis
Kansas City
Knoxville
Memphis
Miami
Milwaukee

Minneapolis
Mobile
New Orleans
New York
Oklahoma City
Omaha
Philadelphia
Sacramento
St. Louis
Savannah
Springfield
Tampa

JN 157-9586

FD-302

Division

BROOKS PHILLIPS, Owner,
Southern Motel

Atlanta
Birmingham
Charlotte
Chicago
Columbia
Dallas
Kansas City

Little Rock
Louisville
Memphis
Mobile
New Orleans
St. Louis

HOWARD STARNES, Mgr.,
Illinois Motel

Atlanta
Birmingham
Chicago
Cleveland
Dallas
Detroit
Indianapolis
Jacksonville
Kansas City

Knoxville
Little Rock
Memphis
Milwaukee
Mobile
St. Louis
Savannah
Springfield
Tampa

WILLIAM PHILLIPS, Owner,
Phillips Motel

Atlanta
Birmingham
Cleveland
Columbia
Dallas
Detroit
Kansas City
Knoxville

Little Rock
Los Angeles
Memphis
Omaha
Sacramento
St. Louis
San Diego

H. C. FREEMAN, Owner and
Operator, Carona Plaza Motel

Birmingham
Chicago
Cleveland
Dallas
Denver
Houston
Indianapolis
Kansas City
Louisville
Memphis

Miami
Minneapolis
Mobile
Oklahoma City
Omaha
Salt Lake City
San Antonio
Savannah
Springfield

JN 157-9586

FD-302

Division

Mrs. FREDDIE GLOVER, Owner,
Merry Acres Motel

Birmingham
Little Rock
Memphis

Milwaukee
Minneapolis
Springfield

Mrs. BERRY (SHIRLEY) SMITH,
Owner and Manager,
El-Ray Motel

Birmingham
Chicago
Cleveland
Columbia
Dallas
Detroit

Indianapolis
Memphis
Miami
New Orleans
St. Louis
Springfield

Mr. PAUL HAYES, Mgr.,
Dixie Court

Memphis
Milwaukee

J. H. WICKER, Mgr.,
No-El Motel

Albuquerque
Atlanta
Birmingham
Buffalo
Detroit
Indianapolis
Knoxville

Little Rock
Memphis
New Orleans
Oklahoma City
Savannah
Springfield
Tampa

Mrs. G. N. PRUETTE, Owner,
Teetotum Motel

Memphis

Mrs. BERRY (SHIRLEY) SMITH,
Nite-Fall Motel

Atlanta
Indianapolis
Little Rock
Memphis
Minneapolis

Omaha
Richmond
St. Louis
Springfield

JN 157-9586

A Xerox copy of each motel registration has been made by the Jackson Division, and copies of these registrations are being maintained in the bulky exhibit file of Jackson File 157-9586.

It is noted on the registrations that there is registration from Saskatchewan, Canada, at the Round-Town Motel, and a registration from Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, at the Holiday Inn, during the pertinent period. It is being left to the discretion of Memphis, the Office of Origin, as to whether appropriate LHM should be submitted to the Bureau to have these individuals identified in Canada.

The names of those individuals appearing on the motel registrations who reside within the Jackson Division are being identified through indices check in the Jackson Office and appropriate credit and criminal being conducted within the cities in which they indicate they reside.

LEADS:

ALL RECEIVING OFFICES

All offices receiving copies of this communication will review the FD-302s which they have received for names of those individuals who reside within their respective divisions and will review the names through the appropriate office indices and will identify the individual through appropriate credit and criminal check, and if deemed advisable, will interview the individual if there is a possibility of any association with JAMES EARL RAY.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, ST. LOUIS (44-775) DATE: 5/16/69

FROM : SA HAROLD R. DOBSON (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Jackson airtel to Memphis, 5/7/69, and Buairtel to Birmingham, Jackson and Memphis, 4/7/69.

Referenced Buairtel reviewed an article by WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE, in the 4/15/69 issue of "Look" magazine, which alleged RAY stayed at a motel near Corinth, Miss., on 4/2/68.

In an effort to determine if RAY was in contact with any individuals immediately prior to the assassination, the Bureau directed those offices to determine the identities of individuals registered in motels in those cities 3/29/68 to 4/3/68 and to obtain descriptions and registrations of automobiles used by them. It was hoped a review of motel records might indicate whether any of such individuals might have accompanied, or been in contact with, RAY during this period.

It was emphasized no indication was to be made that the requested investigation was in any way connected with the case involving RAY.

Referenced Jackson airtel set forth identities of numerous persons registered at motels in or near Corinth, Miss., during the pertinent period, and requested:

- (1) Their names be checked thru office indices.
- (2) They be identified thru appropriate credit and criminal record checks.
- (3) If deemed advisable, they be interviewed if any possibility of their association with RAY appeared.

SA HAROLD R. DOBSON is handling office indices check, and handling those residing in metropolitan St. Louis.

1 - 44-775
1 - SA WILLIAM R. BURTON
1 - SA JAMES A. DUFFEY
HRD: pdp
(3)



5010-108

44-775-1137
SEARCHED

INDEXED

MAY 1969

ST. LOUIS

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

SL: 44-775

Hannibal and Poplar Bluff RA's are requested to identify those residing in their respective territories by appropriate credit and criminal record checks, obtain descriptions and license numbers of their automobiles, and to interview them if any possibility of their association with RAY appears. They are as follows:

Hannibal, Mo.:

LOREN ATKINS
3690 James Rd.
Hannibal, Mo.
Registered at Cannoneer Motel
Hwy 54 South
Corinth, Miss.

Caruthersville, Mo.:

JAMES E. WASHBURN
Caruthersville, Mo.
Registered at Southern Motel
Hwy 72 West
Corinth, Miss.

JAMES FERGUSON
HAROLD HUDGINS,
801 Beckwith

JAMES E. CAGLE
Rt. 1, Box 1374
All of Caruthersville
Registered at Night Fall Motel
Hwy 45 South
Corinth, Miss.

Results should be reduced to FD-302 form, 15 copies to Memphis, and marked for the attention of SA DOBSON.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5-12-69

Mrs. CAROL PEPPER, 2025 Belleview, St. Louis County, Missouri, advised her brother, JERRY RAY, had left the St. Louis, Missouri area about April 1, 1969. He failed to indicate to her his purpose in leaving, or his destination, but promised to telephone her. He has not called her, and she had no knowledge or information as to his whereabouts. She had no reason to believe her brother, JOHN RAY, had any more information.

She denied knowledge of any evidence or information which might form the basis for any statements allegedly made to the press by JERRY RAY as to the existence of a conspiracy in the KING assassination. She expressed the opinion that the FBI would be the proper agency to investigate allegations of a conspiracy and stated she would promptly report any information of that nature, or as to the whereabouts of her brother JERRY, to the FBI.

On 4-30-69 at St. Louis County, Missouri File# SL 44-775 - 1138

by SAA HOWARD C. KENNEDY *[Signature]* ral Date dictated 5-6-69

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.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5-13-69

Mr. JOHN RAY, 1982 Arsenal, St. Louis, Missouri, stated he had received a telephone call from his brother, JERRY RAY, from Jacksonville, Florida, during the late evening hours of April 30, 1969, in which JERRY told him he was traveling with the family's civil attorney, J. B. STONER, of Savannah, Georgia; that he had just finished a speaking engagement at Jacksonville and was just leaving, with STONER, for a brief visit in Memphis, Tennessee, after which he would reside in Savannah with STONER, and travel between there and Memphis periodically.

JOHN RAY stated he had absolutely no opinion as to the existence of a conspiracy in the KING assassination. He denied that his brother JERRY had ever furnished him any credible evidence or information regarding any such conspiracy. He offered the opinion that, if his brother JERRY had made statements to the press regarding the existence of a conspiracy, they would undoubtedly have been based on information JERRY had received from their brother, JAMES EARL RAY.

On 5-1-69 at St. Louis, Missouri File# SL 44-775 - 1139
by SA PATRICK W. BRADLEY /ral Date dictated 5-7-69

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.

St. Louis, Missouri

May 21, 1969

JAMES EARL RAY

In efforts to determine the whereabouts of Jerry Ray, brother of James Earl Ray, in order that an attempt might be made to ascertain from him the basis for statements allegedly made by him to the press as to the existence of a conspiracy in the King assassination, his sister, Mrs. Carol Pepper, and brother, John Ray, were contacted with the following results:

5 - Memphis (44-1987)

1 - St. Louis (44-775)

HRD/ral

(6)

Reed

44-775-1140

PROPERTY OF FBI

This communication and its contents are loaned to you by the FBI, and neither it nor its contents are to be distributed outside of the agency to which loaned.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5-12-69

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She denied knowledge of any evidence or information which might form the basis for any statements allegedly made to the press by JERRY RAY as to the existence of a conspiracy in the KING assassination. She expressed the opinion that the FBI would be the proper agency to investigate allegations of a conspiracy and stated she would promptly report any information of that nature, or as to the whereabouts of her brother JERRY, to the FBI.

- 2 -

On 4-30-69 at St. Louis County, Missouri File # SL 44-776

by SAA HOWARD C. KENNEDY /rct Date dictated 5-12-69

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.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 5-13-69

Mr. JOHN RAY, 1982 Arsenal, St. Louis, Missouri, stated he had received a telephone call from his brother, JERRY RAY, from Jacksonville, Florida, during the late evening hours of April 30, 1969, in which JERRY told him he was traveling with the family's civil attorney, J. B. STONER, of Savannah, Georgia; that he had just finished a speaking engagement at Jacksonville and was just leaving with STONER, for a brief visit in Memphis, Tennessee, after which he would reside in Savannah with STONER, and travel between there and Memphis periodically.

JOHN RAY stated he had absolutely no opinion as to the existence of a conspiracy in the KING assassination. He denied that his brother JERRY had ever furnished him any credible evidence or information regarding any such conspiracy. He offered the opinion that, if his brother JERRY had made statements to the press regarding the existence of a conspiracy, they would undoubtedly have been based on information JERRY had received from their brother, JAMES EARL RAY.

- 3* -

On 5-1-69 at St. Louis, Missouri File # SL 44-775
by SA PATRICK W. BRADLEY /ral Date dictated 5-7-69

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.

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

5/21/69

SAC, ST. LOUIS (44-775)(RUC)

MURKIN

Re Memphis airtel to Bureau, 5/6/69; Jackson airtel to Memphis, 5/7/69; and Memphis airtel to Bureau, 5/14/69.

Enclosed herewith are original and four copies of letterhead memorandum concerning interviews with subject's relatives in an effort to determine the whereabouts of JERRY RAY, as requested in referenced Memphis airtel to Bureau, 5/6/69. In view of referenced Memphis 5/14/69 airtel, leads as set forth in referenced Jackson airtel will not be covered, unless specifically directed by the Bureau.

2 - Memphis (Encls. 5)
1 - St. Louis
HRD/ral
(3) *RUC*

44-775-1141

5/23/69

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: MEMPHIS (44-1987) (3P)
MURKIN.

SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY HAS BEEN RETURNED TO THE SHELBY COUNTY JAIL AT MEMPHIS, TENN., FROM THE TENNESSEE STATE PRISON AT NASHVILLE, TENN., FOR A HEARING ON MAY TWENTYSIX NEXT ON HIS MOTION FOR A NEW TRIAL.

JERRY RAY WAS DISCOVERED BY AGENTS TODAY VISITING THE SUBJECT AT THE SHELBY COUNTY JAIL. AS JERRY RAY WAS LEAVING THE JAIL, HE WAS APPROACHED IN THE CORRIDOR BY AGENTS WHO REQUESTED THAT HE ACCOMPANY THEM TO SOME PLACE SUITABLE FOR INTERVIEW. JERRY AGREED TO GO WITH THE AGENTS INTO ONE OF THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT OFFICES, AND AS JERRY AND AGENTS WERE ENTERING THIS OFFICE, THEY WERE JOINED BY THE SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY'S ATTORNEY, J. B. STONER. STONER REFERRED TO THE BUREAU AS THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION AND ADVISED

Airtel

Teletype

A.M. 1 - Birmingham (AM)
1 - Chicago (AM)
A.M.S.D. 1 - Kansas City (AM)
1 - Savannah (AM)
Spec. Del. 1 - St. Louis (AM)
JCH:jap
Reg. Mail (8)

Registered

44-775-1142

SEARCHED <i>m</i>	INDEXED <i>m</i>
SERIALIZED <i>m</i>	FILED <i>m</i>
MAY 25 1969	
FBI - ST. LOUIS	
<i>D. B. SON</i>	

5/23/69

ME 44-1987

PAGE TWO

REMINDED JERRY THAT HE HAD BEEN WIDELY QUOTED IN THE NEWSPAPERS AS HAVING SAID THAT JAMES EARL RAY WAS A PART OF A CONSPIRACY TO MURDER MARTIN LUTHER KING. JERRY WAS ADVISED THAT IF HE HAS ANY INFORMATION OF A CONSPIRACY HE SHOULD TURN IT OVER TO THE FBI. STONER AGAIN ADVISED JERRY RAY NOT TO TALK, AND JERRY RAY THEN SAID HIS INFORMATION WOULD BEST BE GIVEN AT A TRIAL. JERRY WAS REMINDED THAT AT THIS TIME THERE IS NO REASON TO BELIEVE THERE WILL BE A TRIAL, AND JERRY RAY WAS ASKED IF BY THE TERM TRIAL HE MEANT HE INTENDED TO TESTIFY BEFORE A GRAND JURY. STONER AGAIN CAUTIONED RAY NOT TO TALK AND SAID HE IS CONVINCED JAMES EARL RAY WILL BE GIVEN A TRIAL FOR THE KILLING OF KING.

AS THE AGENTS TURNED TO LEAVE STONER AND RAY, STONER CALLED OUT TO THE AGENTS TO "BE GOOD" AND TO "PROTECT ALL THE NIGGERS." MOMENTS LATER RAY AND STONER WERE OBSERVED TALKING TO A REPORTER FROM ONE OF THE LOCAL NEWSPAPERS.

NO FURTHER CONTACT IS CONTEMPLATED WITH EITHER JERRY RAY OR WITH STONER. P. 10.

ME 44-1987

PAGE THREE

SAC AT MEMPHIS HAS RECEIVED INQUIRY FROM LOCAL NEWS REPORTER. REPORTER WANTED TO CONFIRM THAT AGENT HAD BEEN IN CONTACT WITH JERRY RAY AND WANTED TO KNOW WHAT MATTERS HAD BEEN DISCUSSED. REPORTER WAS ADVISED THAT NO COMMENT COULD BE MADE BY THE SAC RE THIS MATTER. SAC DID CONFIRM THAT AGENT BY THE NAME OF JOE C. HESTER IS ASSIGNED TO THIS OFFICE, BUT DECLINED FURTHER COMMENT RE NATURE OF INTERVIEW. REPORTER DID HAVE NAME OF AGENT, WHICH HE HAD RECEIVED FROM HIS EDITOR. NO OTHER INQUIRIES RECEIVED, HOWEVER, MEMPHIS DIVISION WILL CONTINUE WITH NO COMMENT IN REGARD TO INQUIRIES FROM NEWSPAPERS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS REPRESENTATIVES.

AM COPIES TO BIRMINGHAM, CHICAGO, KANSAS CITY, SAVANNAH, AND ST. LOUIS. P. END.

Routing Slip
0-7 (Rev. 9-25-67)

Copies to Offices Checked)

TO: SAC,

☐ Albany
☐ Albuquerque
☐ Anchorage
☐ Atlanta
☐ Baltimore
☐ Birmingham
☐ Boston
☐ Buffalo
☐ Butte
☐ Charlotte
☐ Chicago
☐ Cincinnati
☐ Cleveland
☐ Columbia
☐ Dallas
☐ Denver
☐ Detroit
☐ El Paso
☐ Honolulu

☐ Houston
☐ Indianapolis
☐ Jackson
☐ Jacksonville
☐ Kansas City
☐ Knoxville
☐ Las Vegas
☐ Little Rock
☐ Los Angeles
☐ Louisville
☐ Memphis
☐ Miami
☐ Milwaukee
☐ Minneapolis
☐ Mobile
☐ Newark
☐ New Haven
☐ New Orleans
☐ New York City

☐ Norfolk
☐ Oklahoma City
☐ Omaha
☐ Philadelphia
☐ Phoenix
☐ Pittsburgh
☐ Portland
☐ Richmond
☐ Sacramento
☒ St. Louis
☐ Salt Lake City
☐ San Antonio
☐ San Diego
☐ San Francisco
☐ San Juan
☐ Savannah
☐ Seattle
☐ Springfield

☐ Tampa
☐ Washington Field
☐ Quantico

TO LEGAT:

☐ Bern
☐ Bonn
☐ Buenos Aires
☐ Hong Kong
☐ London
☐ Manila
☐ Mexico, D.F.
☐ Ottawa
☐ Paris
☐ Rome
☐ Santo Domingo
☐ Tokyo

Date 6/17/69

RE:

- ☐ For information ☐ Retention optional ☐ For appropriate action ☐ Surep, by _____
- ☐ The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, ☐ conceal all sources, ☐ paraphrase contents.
- ☐ Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA _____ dated _____

Remarks: For your information and guidance.

Enclosures (3)

Enc.
Bufile
Urfile

Ceo Lill
MURKIN
file
S.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR



*Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.*

June 16, 1969

Carl T. Rowan ⁰
The Evening Star
225 Virginia Avenue, S. E.
Washington, D. C. 20003

Sir:

My attention has been called to the malicious article which you wrote in the Sunday Star on June 15, 1969, concerning Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the FBI.

For your information, the wire tap on Martin Luther King, Jr., was specifically approved in advance in writing by the late Attorney General of the United States, Mr. Robert F. Kennedy. This device was strictly in the field of internal security and, therefore, was within the provisions laid down by the then President of the United States.

It is to be hoped that you will give the same publicity to this letter as was given to your scurrilous editorial.

Yours truly,

Clyde A. Tolson

Clyde A. Tolson

cc Mr. Newbold Noyes
Editor
The Evening Star
225 Virginia Avenue, S. E.
Washington, D. C. 20003

*ASAC [initials]
J. Buckley
Bender [initials]*

44-775-1143

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUN 19 1969	
FBI — SAINT LOUIS	

Government Admits FBI Altered Wiretapping Log Of King-Clay

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government has admitted the FBI changed—without informing the Justice Department—a recorded log of wiretapped conversations involving former heavyweight boxing champion Cassius Clay.

In disclosing this to Clay's attorneys, the department Monday contended it did not learn of the FBI action until June 13, several days after copies of what were purported to be the original logs were filed in U.S. District Court in Houston.

John S. Martin Jr. and Michael T. Epstein, who are handling the government's case against Clay, said the original record contained the notation, "Sum up in memo."

But the hand-written phrase was blanked out on documents submitted to the court concerning a Sept. 4, 1964, telephone conversation between Clay and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The discrepancy came to light when Clay's lawyers, unsatisfied with copies, demanded to

see the original transcripts. Epstein and Martin then checked with the FBI and found the penned-in portion was left off copies submitted in court.

Government attorneys were unhappy about the affair, expressing concern that the differences would cast doubts on the validity of the documents themselves.

No reason was given for the omission. The FBI had no comment. And special FBI Agent Robert R. Nichols, who supervised the tap on King's telephone, claimed in an affidavit the notation was of no consequence.

"When I initially scanned this log," Nichols said, "I made the handwritten notation 'sum up in memo,' as a flag to myself to consider this as an item to be placed in memorandum form."

"Upon subsequent detailed review of the entire log and evaluation of its contents," he added, "I decided the substance of the information did not warrant the preparation of a memoran-

dum."

As summarized in the record, the conversation which Nichols considered unimportant was one in which Clay advised King to "watch out for them whities."

Clay, sentenced to five years' imprisonment for refusing induction into the armed forces, is seeking further federal court hearings in an effort to overturn his conviction.

Meanwhile, Clay's lawyers contended at the Houston hearing the government took positions which "test the naivete of even their most willing believers."

"In short," they said, "the gap of credibility in this case now approaches a crater."

The Clay attorneys, headed by Charles Morgan Jr. of Atlanta, cited statements by FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover last week during a controversy over whether Hoover, or the late Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy, authorized the plan to tap King's telephone.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

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

Page 4

Hannibal Courier-
Post

Hannibal, Mo.

Date: 6-24-69

Edition: PM

Author: AP Wire Serv.

Editor: HOWARD HOFFMASTER

Title: "GOV'T ADMITS FBI
ALTERED WIRETAPPING
LOG OF KING-CLAY"

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: SL

☐ Being Investigated

44-775-1144
SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
JUN 25 1969
FBI - ST. LOUIS

King Wiretap Called RFK's Idea Hoover Asserts Memo to FBI Cited Concern Over Marxism

(Copyright 1969 by
The Evening Star Newspaper Co.)

By JEREMIAH O'LEARY
Star Staff Writer

Wiretapping of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s telephone was proposed to the FBI by then Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy in June, 1963, and authorized by him in writing later that year, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover told The Star today.

Hoover revealed the contents of two memorandums in one of which Kennedy expressed concern about possible infiltration of the race issue by Marxists and spoke of allegations that the Negro leader was closely associated with Marxist ideas and followers.

That memorandum to Hoover, dated June, 1963, was written by Courtney Evans, then assistant director of the FBI and liaison man with the Justice Department. It reported the substance of a conversation Evans had just had with Kennedy in which the Attorney General asked about the feasibility of installing electronic devices on King's telephones. King headed the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

Concerned About Allegations

Kennedy, according to the Evans memo, was concerned about reports that King was a student of Marxism, that he was associating with a New York attorney with known Communist connections, but that he did not openly espouse Marxism because of his religious beliefs. The Evans memorandum indicated Kennedy wanted to know if it was technically feasible to use electronic devices to prove or disprove these allegations.

The Evans memo said Evans replied to Kennedy that King was a man who traveled almost constantly and that it was extremely difficult to use wiretaps effectively in such cases.

Hoover told The Star that FBI officials also informed Kennedy at that time that they doubted the advisability of undertaking electronic surveillance of Dr. King because of possible political repercussions.

However, the second memorandum cited by Hoover shows that on October 7, 1963, the FBI chief reported to Kennedy that it was then technically feasible to apply wiretaps to King's telephones at two places, one of them at an unnamed location in New York.

That memorandum constituted the FBI's request for authority

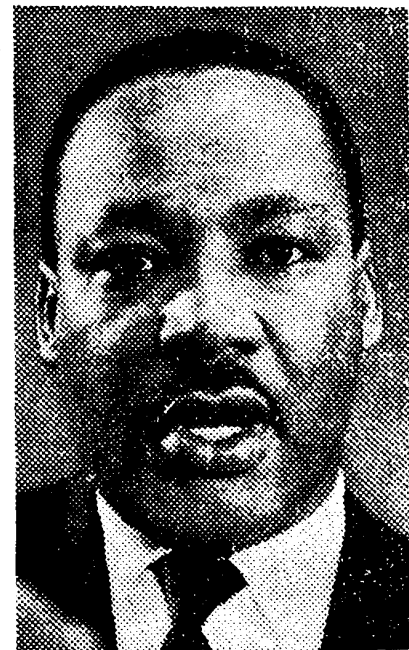
See WIRETAP, Page A-6



J. EDGAR HOOVER



ROBERT F. KENNEDY



44-775-1145

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 19 1969	
FBI - ST. LOUIS	
B.B.	18

File Martin

"The Evening Star"
Washington, D. C.
June 19, 1969

*ASAC 2/10/69
Bender
J. Bookley*

WIRETAP

King Wiretap RFK's Idea, Hoover Says

Continued From Page A-1
to proceed with the wiretap proposed by Kennedy four months before. The document bears in the lower left-hand corner the signature, "Robert F. Kennedy," and under the name the date "10-10-63."

Hoover did not indicate to The Star when the surveillance was started but said the taps were discontinued on April 30, 1965. At that time Nicholas Katzenbach was serving as Attorney General.

Asked about the results of the electronic surveillance today, Hoover declined comment.

The FBI director told The Star: "I have never authorized installation of technical electronic devices without written authority of the Attorney General."

Today's disclosures climaxed a long smoldering controversy over the role of the FBI, a subordinate bureau of the Justice Department, in using wiretaps or other electronic devices in investigative matters. The matter came to a head Sunday when Carl Rowan, a columnist for The Star, charged that the FBI had no authority to wiretap Dr. King's conversations. He quoted former Attorney General Ramsey Clark, who succeeded Katzenbach, as saying "the implication that people thought Dr. King was a security threat is outrageous."

The Rowan charges prompted Associate FBI Director Clyde A. Tolson to write to Rowan early this week defending legality of the King wiretaps.

"For your information," Tolson said in his letter, "the wiretap on Martin Luther King Jr. was specifically approved in advance in writing by the late attorney general of the United States, Mr. Robert F. Kennedy."

Tolson added that the monitoring device was "strictly in the field of internal security and therefore was within the provision laid down by the President of the United States."

Evans, now a Washington lawyer, was en route to Puerto Rico today and could not be reached for comment. However, Tuesday night Evans said he had no recollection of whether a wiretap authorization directed at King had ever been involved in his discussion with Kennedy.

Aides to Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., said today he would have no comment on Hoover's disclosure.

Friends of Robert Kennedy had suggested in recent days that, during 1964, in the period after the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, the attorney general's interest in some of his official affairs had flagged. However, the assassination came nearly six weeks after Robert Kennedy signed the authorization for the King wiretap.

Hoover and Kennedy, after the latter became a New York senator, accused each other of being responsible for use of hidden microphones in investigations.

Evans figured in that controversy when Kennedy made public a February, 1966, letter to him from Evans which made the point that the use of hidden microphones was not Kennedy's responsibility but suggested he may have directly approved the use of wiretaps on phones. That letter said the FBI sent national security wiretap requests to Kennedy for approval.

It is reliably reported that Kennedy was reminded by the FBI that it still had in its files the authorizations signed by him as Attorney General for telephonic wiretaps. However, Hoover did not disclose at that time any names of persons under wiretap surveillance with Kennedy's approval.

At that stage, Kennedy and Hoover broke off the public exchange of charges as if by mutual consent. This was regarded partly as due to Kennedy's realization that his signed authorizations were still in FBI files, partly to the FBI's desire not to have special attention drawn to its investigative techniques nor to engage in a battle with the Kennedy forces that could have political overtones.

The Justice Department on Tuesday declined a direct answer when asked for documentation of Tolson's contention in his letter to Rowan. But earlier this month, a Justice Department spokesman said Hoover was "accurate in every respect" in his repeated statements that all wiretaps were being authorized in advance and in writing by the Attorney General during the time-span of the controversy.

A Justice department spokesman, asked today if Attorney General John N. Mitchell had given Hoover permission to discuss the contents of secret documents of the King wiretapping, replied simply, "no comment."

However, the spokesman recalled that the attorney general had declined to authorize disclosures in court of the basic authority for the wiretapping. Such disclosures had been demanded by defense lawyers in the Houston draft evasion hearing for former boxing champion Cassius Clay. It was during that hearing that the King wiretapping was officially revealed for the first time.