

Honorable John Melcher

NOTE: Senator John Melcher's letter enclosed an article from "The Review of the News," a publication printed in Belmont, Massachusetts. This article discussed former King associates and their Communist connections and states that King's "public record" illustrates good reason for the FBI to have considered him "dangerous". The article is supportive of the FBI's investigation of King and criticizes the Senate Intelligence Committee, under Senator Frank Church, for refusing to release the FBI file on King and electronic surveillance results, which "proved that Martin Luther King was indeed a person of low moral character who had fallen under the control of the Communist."

In his letter, Senator Melcher believes that if electronic surveillance records existed on King they should not be kept secret and that the files and facts must be made public.

Although Senator Melcher does not request a reply, it should be pointed out to him that allegations of Communist influence on King and his associates have been investigated and that a Federal court has ruled regarding the results of our electronic surveillance of King being made public.

Delay in responding occurred because Senator Melcher's enclosure did not arrive with his original letter, and a copy of the enclosure was not provided our Congressional Liaison Unit until 4/21/77.

APPROVED:

Director.....
Assoc. Dir.....
Dep. AD Adm.....
Dep. AD Inv.....

Adm. Serv.....	Legal Coun.....
Ext. Affairs.....	Plan. & Insp.....
Fin. & Pers.....	Rec. M.....
Gen. Inv.....	S. & T.....
Ident.....	Spec. Inv.....
Intell.....	Training.....

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 5/10/77

FROM : SAC, CINCINNATI (157-1893)

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

Mr. WILLIAM G. IAEGER, 25 Stockens Grain, Knebworth, Herts, England, an official of Moral Rearmament, called at the office on 5/9/77 and during the conversation stated that one ANDRE SHERVINGTON, who was formerly with Rastafari, an Ethiopian terrorist organization who worked with one MICHAEL X in Trinidad, had made the statement two days prior to the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING that KING's trip to Memphis would be his last journey there. Mr. IAEGER stated that SHERVINGTON has broken with the terrorist group and is now residing in the Nottinghill Section of London, England.

Mr. IAEGER advised that he did not know any other details but that it appeared strange to him that SHERVINGTON would have made such a statement and then KING was murdered shortly thereafter.

The above is furnished to the Bureau for its information.

2 - Bureau
2 - Cincinnati
(1- CI 157-1893)
(1- CI 100-13648)

TWK:CN
(4)

REC-126

44-38861-6217

23 MAY 16 1977

TO: 100-16700
5-10-77
DATE: 5-10-77
1-446(CRO)
SEE FILE COPY



97 MAY 26 1977

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

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RECEIVED
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MAY 16 10 07 AM '68

F.B.I.
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

MEMO

TO : SAC, NEW YORK

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-100000)
SUBJECT: [Illegible]
RE: [Illegible]

[Illegible text block containing several paragraphs of a memorandum body]

ADMINISTRATIVE

100-100000 (100-100000)

100-100000

100-100000

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
Attention: Mr. Robert L. Keuch

FROM : Director, FBI

DATE: May 18, 1977

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Reference is made to _____ memorandum dated _____
(your file _____).

There is enclosed one copy of the report of Special Agent _____
dated _____ at _____.

A. ☐ This covers the preliminary investigation and no further action concerning a full investigation will be taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs.

B. ☐ The investigation is continuing and you will be furnished copies of reports as they are received.

C. ☐ The investigation requested by you has now been completed. Unless advised to the contrary no further inquiries will be made by this Bureau.

D. ☐ Pursuant to instructions issued by the Department, no investigation will be conducted in this matter unless specifically directed by the Department.

E. ☐ Please advise whether you desire any further investigation.

F. ☐ This is submitted for your information and you will be advised of further developments.

G. ☒ This is submitted for your information and no further investigation will be conducted unless specifically requested by the Department.

H. ☐ This covers the receipt of a complaint and no further action will be taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs.

Enc.

1 - Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

Our Cincinnati, Ohio, Office advised that:

Mr. William G. Jaeger, 25 Stockens Grain, Knebworth,
Herts, England, an official of Moral Rearmament, called at that

HNH:sas

*File
copy**1*

FBI/DOJ

Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
Attention: Mr. Robert L. Keuch

office on 5/9/77, and during the conversation stated that one Andre Shervington, who was formerly with Rastafari, an Ethiopian terrorist organization who worked with one Michael X in Trinidad, had made the statement two days prior to the murder of Martin Luther King that King's trip to Memphis would be his last journey there. Mr. Jaeger stated that Shervington has broken with the terrorist group and is now residing in the Nottinghill Section of London, England.

Mr. Jaeger advised that he did not know any other details but that it appeared strange to him that Shervington would have made such a statement and then King was murdered shortly thereafter.

The Rastafari have been described publicly as a pot smoking, religious cult founded on the Caribbean Island of Jamaica in the 1930's. Members of the movement consider Haile Selassie as divine.

No investigation is being initiated unless specifically requested by the Department.

F B I

Date: 5/16/77

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

TO: Director, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, Atlanta (44-2386)

MURKIN

Enclosed is a copy of a self-explanatory memorandum submitted to SAC, Atlanta by SC KELLEY, who was handling complaints in the Atlanta Division on 5/12/77. Also enclosed is a copy of a newspaper article regarding MARK LANE and his current book. Extensive background data regarding LANE is available to the Bureau.

LANE was in Atlanta in connection with a publicity campaign surrounding his new book, and was interviewed on the afternoon of 5/12/77, on a local radio station. Interview of LANE by local television newsman as mentioned in paragraph 1, page 1, of the enclosed memo, took place in public space outside the reception room of the Atlanta Office.

Based on LANE's background and his obvious desire to obtain publicity for his latest book, UACB, no reply to questions raised by him, as set forth on page 2 of attached memo, is being sent by SAC to LANE.

For the additional information of the Bureau, I received a telephone call on 5/13/77, from a member of the news media in Memphis, Tennessee, who advised he had interviewed LANE on that date in Memphis. LANE mentioned to this individual a "complaint" he had filed with the Atlanta Office of the FBI and also made a statement to this individual that the FBI was involved in the death of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. I acknowledged that LANE had visited the Atlanta Office seeking certain information and I described his charge against the Bureau's involvement in KING's death as ridiculous.

② - Bureau (Enc. 2)

1 - Atlanta

JJD:lck

(3)

ENCLOSURE

REC-50

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M Per _____

17 MAY 18 1977

56 JUN 3 1977

GPO : 1975 O - 590-992

NINE

SAC, ATLANTA

5-12-77

SC THOMAS E. KELLEY

MARK LANE

On 5-12-77, LANE, 105 2nd Street, NE, Washington, D.C., telephone 202-546-7500, after concluding an interview with PAUL SHIELDS, TV 5, outside the main entrance to the Atlanta Office, approached the counter and stated he had a complaint to file and wanted to talk to the Special Agent in Charge.

LANE presented his complaint to the writer while PAUL SHIELDS was present. At the outset LANE played a tape which was approximately 1½ - 2 minutes in length stating it was a recorded interview of ARTHUR MURTAUGH, former SA of Atlanta Div., presently practicing law and teaching in Constable, N.Y.

MURTAUGH was describing events at the time it was announced that KING had been shot and killed. There were no other voices on the tape and the voice attributed to MURTAUGH sounded identical to the writer's recollection of MURTAUGH.

MURTAUGH stated he and the relief supervisor of the squad were walking down the hall to place their salmon cards in the slot which told they were going home and it was either five till six or five till seven when the announcement was made over the radio in the office that KING had been shot. The relief supervisor was described as jumping for joy and exclaiming how they got the commie son of a bitch. MURTAUGH states how the discussion with this unnamed relief supervisor continued while they walked to the parking area about three blocks from the office. MURTAUGH used a great number of flashy adjectives in his description but always ended in stating "or something to that effect".

At the conclusion of the tape LANE remarked that the writer was not taking notes and inquired as to if the room was bugged. LANE was advised that the room was not bugged and that it was more important that I listen to the tape in order to determine what is said and that if he would furnish the question he would like answered and a location

2 - Atlanta
/tek

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
44-38861-6218 1977	
FBI - ATLANTA	

ENCLOSURE

where he could be contacted that the questions would be made available to the SAC.

1) Who the relief supervisor referred to by MURTAUGH is and is he still employed by the FBI

2) Was any punitive action taken against the individual and did the FBI condone its employees acting in such a manner over the death of an ~~indiv~~ individual.

LANE stated he could be reached at WRNG Radio station from 3-6PM, 6-7PM at the home of CHUCK McGIVEIN, telephone 934-8262. He stated his residence address as listed above and it was determined that this address is for Citizens Committee of Inquiry, WDC, when furnished by LANE on WRNG Radio.

When the writer asked PAUL SHIELDS for his name SHIELDS replied that he was just a reporter. It appeared as if SHIELDS did not in fact want to participate in the matter but was duped into it by LANE.

For information.

Author Mark Lane Claims FBI Plotted Against King

By CAROLE ASHKINAZE

Why was Martin Luther King Jr.'s police protection removed on the day of his assassination, and by whom?

Why was the same FBI squad which had originally been assigned to discredit King (whom they code-named 'Zorro') later directed to investigate his murder?

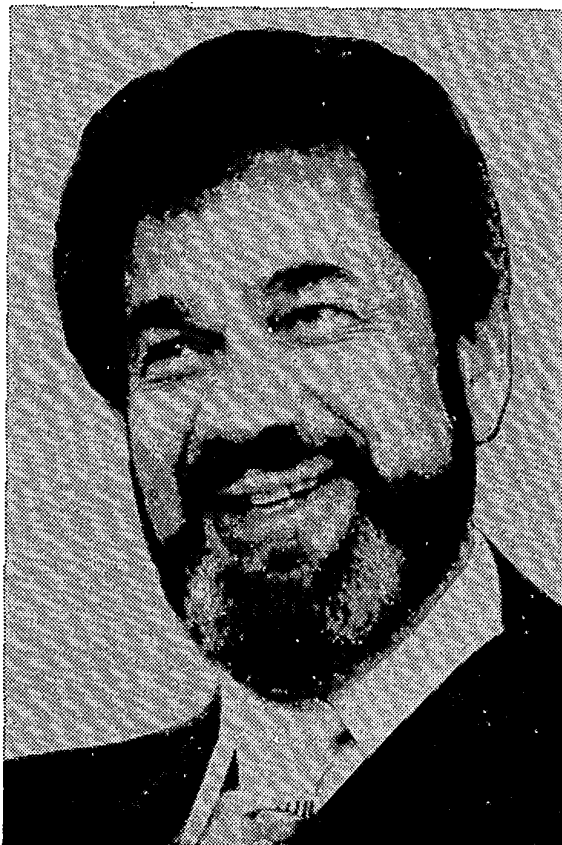
In what way has the most reliable witness been prevented, perhaps forever, from testifying in court?

These are some of the questions raised in "Code Name 'Zorro': The Murder of Martin Luther King Jr.," a chilling new book by the author of "Rush to Judgment," which 10 years ago poked holes in the Warren Commission's findings concerning the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

And Mark Lane, who collaborated with black comedian and civil rights worker Dick Gregory in the research and writing of "Code Name 'Zorro,'" said Thursday that their findings have led them to the grim conclusion that the FBI, under J. Edgar Hoover's direction, was deeply involved in a covert campaign to "destroy" King.

For example, Lane said in an interview in Atlanta, "Dr. King was subjected to electronic surveillance every minute of his life, starting in the early 1960s." Basing his allegations on information supplied by former FBI Special Agent Arthur Murtagh, who is widely quoted in the book, and others, Lane gave this account of one such episode:

"A microphone concealed in a hotel where King stayed picked up sounds of a party at which he was present," indicating "sexual activity." The trouble, Lane wrote in a segment dealing with the activities of an alleged "Destroy King" FBI squad, was that "it did not really relate King to the sexual activity and one could barely hear King's voice."



Staff Photo—George A. Clark

Lane: Still Probing

So Hoover ordered the FBI laboratory to "improve" or doctor the tapes so that King's voice could be clearly heard in a context that would prove embarrassing. He then ordered the tape "sanitized" to remove all fingerprints, had it placed in a package which was also sanitized, together with a threatening, typewritten letter, and directed that it be mailed to the Southern Christian Leadership Conference "from a Southern state," which entailed dispatching an FBI agent to Florida who mailed it, and then flew home.

Hoover's intention, Lane writes, was "to precipitate a separation between Dr. King and his wife in the belief that the separation would reduce

his stature."

Hoover also ordered agents, assigned to investigate King and other civil rights activists, to say that the investigations had been ordered by an assistant attorney general "because Hoover didn't want to be connected with any civil rights investigations," Lane quoted Murtagh. "This was the only time when we told anyone that the Justice Department was ordering us to conduct an investigation," Murtagh said. "In any other kind of case, the Bureau would be glad to take credit."

"It was an organized vendetta," in which the Atlanta, New York and Washington FBI field offices took part, Murtagh told Lane at another

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

Page 11-B
THE
ATLANTA CONSTITUTION
Atlanta, Georgia

Date: 5-13-77
Edition: Morning
Author: Ashkinaze
Editor: Hal Gulliver
Title: MARK LANE

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: ATLANTA
☐ Being Investigated

44-38861-6218

ENCLOSURE

FBI/DOJ

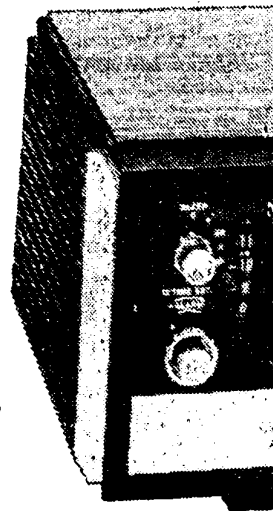
point. "The concentration of effort against King was greater than any other single investigation that I saw take place at the Bureau and I saw a lot of them in 20 years. There was a crew of people who did almost nothing for... seven or eight years, except investigate King and try to destroy him....They were going to get King in one way or another.

Lane charges that the removal of Detective Ed Redditt, who had been assigned to provide security for the civil rights leader during his fatal trip to Memphis on orders from "Washington," the commitment of an important witness to a Tennessee mental institution, and the deployment of "Destroy King" squad members in the ensuing murder investigation, were other elements of that vendetta.

Lane, who now directs the Washington-based Citizens Committee of Inquiry, an organization committed to urging Congress to investigate the murders of both King and Kennedy, does not know if the full extent of the FBI involvement in those events will ever be known. But Lane, who said he has personally received 254 threats against his own life since he began his independent investigation into Kennedy's assassination 14 years ago, says that he does have faith in the Senate Select Committee, which is now conducting its own investigation.

"There will be a moment of truth," he declares, "when they ask the FBI and the CIA to make certain documents available to them, and are refused."

Lane, a former New York State legislator who also founded the Wounded Knee Legal Defense Committee, says however that he has already embarked on his next project. It will be an investigation of "monumental importance," he says, delving into the backgrounds of Americans who provided Fidel Castro with the weapons used in the Cuban revolution.



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off to music. Snooze
morning. Lighted di

This document is a copy from the FOIA file. The original document was not in the file.

Mr. Fohl

5/16/77

J. S. Peelman

1 - Mr. Fohl
1 - Mr. Peelman
1 - Mr. Lavin
1 - Mr. McDermott
1 - Mr. Decker
1 - Mr. Bailey

REQUEST TO MAINTAIN PERTINENT
KENNEDY - KING FILES IN ROOM 8988, JEH, 1 -
CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY UNIT

MURKIN
PURPOSE: To request continuing authority to maintain those files relating to the assassinations of Martin Luther King, Jr., and President John F. Kennedy to respond to requests from the House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA).

CURRENT BUREAU POLICY: Manual for Bureau Supervisors, Page 16, Item 26, dated 12/23/76, sets out, in part, that the continued necessity and authority for maintenance of files in space other than that controlled by Records Management Division must be reviewed semiannually and approved by the Deputy Associate Director (Administration).

RECOMMENDATION: That continuing authority be granted to maintain pertinent Kennedy - King files in Room 8988, JEH.

DETAILS: By J. S. Peelman to Mr. Gallagher memorandum dated 11/29/76, captioned as above, authority was granted to maintain the following files in space occupied by the Congressional Inquiry Unit:

JCL:sas
(11)

CONTINUED - OVER

① - 44-38861
1 - 62-109050
1 - 62-109050
1 - 102-82555

44-38861-
NOT RECORDED
191 JUN 1 1977

97 JUN-2 1977

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-317

Memorandum to Mr. Feh1

Re: Request to Maintain Pertinent Kennedy - King files in Room 8988

44-38861 "MURKIN"

62-109060 "Assassination of JFK"

62-109090 "Liaison with Warren Commission"

105-82555 "Lee Harvey Oswald"

The retention of these files continues to be necessary in order to respond expeditiously to the continuing request from the HSCA for access to information contained in these files.

This document is a copy from the FOIA file. The original document was not in the file.

JOHN MELCHER
MONTANA

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

May 2, 1977

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The Honorable Clarence M. Kelley
Director
The Federal Bureau of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D. C. 20535

Dear Mr. Kelley:

Thank you for your April 26 response to my letter about allegations against the late Reverend Martin Luther King.

I have not requested the actual electronic tapes or other material gathered during the Federal Bureau of Investigation's surveillance of Dr. King and his associates. I am asking that the FBI's analyses of the investigations, which you say "have been made available to the Department of Justice and other interested agencies of the Government" be made public.

I look forward to hearing from you again on the availability of the investigation results you mentioned in your letter.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

John Melcher
John Melcher

REC 58

V-38

7 MAY 8 1977

Letter to Senator Melcher

5/16/77

JIA/3/77

54 JUN 10 1977

6219

Dep. AD Adm.	
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Serv.	
Crim. Inv.	
Ident.	
Intell.	
Laboratory	
Legal Coun.	
Plan. & Insp.	
Rec. Mgmt.	
Spec. Inv.	
Training	
Public Affs. Off.	
Telephone Rm.	
Director's Sec'y	

EXP. PROC.
30 MAY 8 1977
38

6219

44-38861-6219 **CHANGED TO** 62-117290-243X
6220 243X1

JUL 20 1978

CMK/NK

This document is a copy from the FOIA file. The original document was not in the file.

1 - Mr. Adams
 1 - Mr. ~~Edwards~~
 1 - Mr. Peelman
 May 16, 1977
 1 - Mr. Lawn
 1 - Mr. Aldhizer
 1 - Legal Counsel Div.
 1 - Records Management
 Div. (Att: R. C.
 Dennis)

Honorable John Melcher **FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**
 United States Senate
 Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Melcher:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your communication dated May 2, 1977, in which you requested that results of the FBI's investigation of Martin Luther King, Jr., be made public.

For your information, any decision which involves the release to the general public of FBI investigative results in the King investigation, would rest with the Attorney General. You may, therefore, wish to correspond directly with the Attorney General concerning your request.

There are, however, a number of ways in which results of our King investigation are publicly available. Under the Freedom of Information Act, individual requesters may gain access to some aspects of our King investigation. As you are aware, in its final public report, the Senate Select Committee To Study Governmental Operations With Respect To Intelligence Activities discussed in detail our King investigation. The assassination of King is currently under review by the House Select Committee On Assassinations, which no doubt in the future will release to the public a report of its findings. Lastly, a Department of Justice Task Force, which recently conducted an extensive review of our King investigation, issued a publicly releasable report. Copies of this document, stock number 027-000-00487-3, can be obtained by request through The Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 20402.

I hope the above information will be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,
 C. M. Kelley

Clarence M. Kelley
 Director

7 MAY 20 1977

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO.

Assoc. Dir. _____
 Dep. AD Adm. _____
 Dep. AD Inv. _____
 Asst. Dir.: _____
 Adm. Serv. _____
 Crim. Inv. _____
 Fin. & Pers. _____
 Ident. _____
 Intell. _____
 Laboratory _____
 Legal Coun. _____
 Plan. & Insp. _____
 Rec. Mgnt. _____
 Spec. Inv. _____
 Tech. Serv. _____
 Training _____
 Public Aff. _____
 Telephone Rm. _____
 Director's Sec'y _____

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

FBI/DOJ

Honorable John Melcher

NOTE: In April, 1977, Senator Melcher wrote, enclosing an article from "The Review of the News", a publication printed in Belmont, Massachusetts. This article supported the FBI's investigation of King and criticized the Senate Intelligence Committee for refusing to release the FBI file on King and his electronic surveillance results. Melcher did not request a reply, but stated that allegations of Communist influence on King and his associates should be investigated and that surveillance records on King should not be kept secret.

In response to this letter, we outlined the basis for our investigation of King. We stated allegations of Communist connections have been investigated, with results furnished appropriate agencies of the Government. Regarding Melcher's reference to surveillance records, we referred him to a recent court decision which ordered all tapes and documents obtained from our electronic surveillance of King to be sent to the National Archives and not to be made public for 50 years, except by court order. This decision was rendered in two civil suits filed against the FBI by a former assistant to King and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, which King headed until his death.

In his second letter, Melcher states he is not requesting actual electronic tapes or other material gathered during our surveillance of King and his associates. He asked that results of our King investigation be made public.

This matter was coordinated with SA R. C. Dennis, Freedom of Information - Privacy Acts Branch.

APPROVED:

Director _____

Assoc. Dir. _____

Dep. AD Adm. _____

Dep. AD Inv. _____

Adm. Serv. _____

Crim. Inv. _____

Fin. & Pers. _____

Ident. _____

Intell. _____

Laboratory _____

Legal Coun. _____

Plan. & Insp. _____

Rec. Mgmt. _____

Spec. Inv. _____

Tech. Servs. _____

Training _____

Public Affs. Of _____

F B I

Date: 5/26/77

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

Assoc. Dir.	_____
Dep. AD	_____
Dep. AD	_____
Asst. Dir.:	_____
Adm. Serv.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Fin. & Pers.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgnt.	_____
Spec. Inv.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM : SAC, SEATTLE (44-371) (RUC)

SUBJECT: MURKIN
OO: MEMPHIS

Re Bureau airtel to Seattle, dated April 22, 1977.

Enclosed for the Bureau are six (6) and for Memphis one (1), copies of a Letterhead Memorandum reflecting interview of RUFUS J. HAYSON, Spokane, Washington, May 25, 1977.

Repeated efforts to contact HAYSON culminated in his interview on May 25, 1977.

The indices of the Seattle Office contain no references to RUFUS J. HAYSON.

- ENCLOSURE**
- (2) - Bureau (44-38861) (Encl 6)
 - 2 - Memphis (44-1987) (Encl 1)
 - 1 - Seattle (44-371)
- LBD/jcb
(5)

REC 101

44-38861-6221

1 - Criminal Division
1 - Civil Rights Division
1 - Office of Professional Responsibility, U.S.D.J.
1 - Congressional Inquiry Unit, SID
0-70 (G) 6/1/77
HNH/ddp
See file copy

JUN 3 1977

Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

97 JUN 8 1977

0128 Mice

REC'D-CIV RIGHTS
F B I

MAY 31 6 45 AM 1977

F B I
U S DEPT OF JUSTICE
MAY 29 11 07 AM '77

RECEIVED
ASST. DIRECTOR
SPECIAL
INVESTIGATIVE



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Seattle, Washington

May 26, 1977

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

RE: MURKIN

On May 25, 1977, Rufus J. Hayson, West 1419 Water Avenue, Spokane, Washington, 99201, advised that he subscribes to Post Office Box 1721 at the Riverside Station, Spokane, Washington, 99210. He resides at West 1419 Water Avenue in Spokane, and has no telephone and is not employed. He recalls that in about April, 1977, he did write a letter to the Police Department at Memphis, Tennessee, propounding his views of the killing of Martin Luther King. His views are derived entirely from newspaper accounts and he has no acquaintanceship with James Earl Ray, Martin Luther King or anyone who knows either of these people personally. He has never been in Memphis, Tennessee.

His views of the murder of Martin Luther King are that James Earl Ray did not kill Martin Luther King, but rather that some unknown person or persons killed Martin Luther King and thereafter, lured James Earl Ray to a bathroom, from which the shot which killed King was allegedly fired, and thereafter, made their escape while Ray remained and was captured. He has no basis for his theory other than newspaper accounts, but felt that he should communicate with the Memphis Police Department and advise them of his considered views.

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.

ENCLOSURE

44-38861-6221



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Seattle, Washington

May 26, 1977

*In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.*

RE: MURKIN

On May 25, 1977, Rufus J. Hayson, West 1419 Water Avenue, Spokane, Washington, 99201, advised that he subscribes to Post Office Box 1721 at the Riverside Station, Spokane, Washington, 99210. He resides at West 1419 Water Avenue in Spokane, and has no telephone and is not employed. He recalls that in about April, 1977, he did write a letter to the Police Department at Memphis, Tennessee, propounding his views of the killing of Martin Luther King. His views are derived entirely from newspaper accounts and he has no acquaintanceship with James Earl Ray, Martin Luther King or anyone who knows either of these people personally. He has never been in Memphis, Tennessee.

His views of the murder of Martin Luther King are that James Earl Ray did not kill Martin Luther King, but rather that some unknown person or persons killed Martin Luther King and thereafter, lured James Earl Ray to a bathroom, from which the shot which killed King was allegedly fired, and thereafter, made their escape while Ray remained and was captured. He has no basis for his theory other than newspaper accounts, but felt that he should communicate with the Memphis Police Department and advise them of his considered views.

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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.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

File
Copy

TO : Assistant Attorney General
CRIMINAL DIVISION
(Attn: Mr. Robert L. Keuch)
FROM : Director, FBI

DATE: June 1, 1977

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF
MARTIN L. KING, JR.

Reference is made to _____ memorandum dated _____
(your file _____).

There is enclosed one copy of the report of Special Agent an LHM
dated 5/26/77 at Seattle, Washington.

A. ☐ This covers the preliminary investigation and no further action concerning a full investigation will be taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs.

B. ☐ The investigation is continuing and you will be furnished copies of reports as they are received.

C. ☐ The investigation requested by you has now been completed. Unless advised to the contrary no further inquiries will be made by this Bureau.

D. ☐ Pursuant to instructions issued by the Department, no investigation will be conducted in this matter unless specifically directed by the Department.

E. ☐ Please advise whether you desire any further investigation.

F. ☐ This is submitted for your information and you will be advised of further developments.

G. ☒ This is submitted for your information and no further investigation will be conducted unless specifically requested by the Department.

H. ☐ This covers the receipt of a complaint and no further action will be taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs.

Enc. (2)

1 - CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION (enc. - 2)

1 - OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY, U.S.D.J. (enc. - 2)

NOTE: Also enclosed is a copy of the letter Mr. RUFUS J. HAYSON furnished to the Memphis Police Department.

HNH/dhp

RA

FBI/DOJ

my friends I am writing to tell you
that Earl Ray didn't kill Lee Harvey
The one that looking in one that shot
from bath room. The told Ray go
down there he wouldn't have doing
the take of him when we go in in
bath room the one that shot
looking in one room is in bath room
so Earl Ray should be free and you
ever look in bath room for him
from Earl Ray was not in bath room
the one that looking in in bath room
so you work on that of bath room

I hope you have one that shot
from bath room

I am as ever your friend

Mr. Robert J. Gentry

Box 1721, 90210

Spokane Wash

44-38861-6222
CHANGED TO
62-117290-257X

JUL 20 1978

CMK/NK

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
memorandum

RLK:mal

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

MAY 31 1977

DATE:
REPLY TO
ATTN OF:

Robert L. Keuch, Special
Counsel to the Attorney General

SUBJECT:

Martin Luther King Assassination

TO:

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

The attached information was provided to me in my capacity as Special Counsel to the Attorney General. By separate memorandum I am forwarding a copy of the enclosure to the Civil Rights Division.

This information should, of course, be placed in the material available to the House Select Committee on Assassinations. The direction of any further investigative efforts would, of course, be the responsibility of the Civil Rights Division.

Enclosure

EXP. PROC.
34 JUN 1 1977

ENCLOSURE

6222

JUN 1 1977

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

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
(REV. 7-76)
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6
5010-112

97 JUN 9 1977

Memorandum

TO: Robert L. Keuch
Deputy Special Counsel
to the Attorney General
Martin Luther King Assassination

FROM: Ronald H. Hoevet
Trial Attorney
Tax Division

DATE: May 24, 1977
CRN:RHHoevet:per
5-41-804

SUBJECT: Martin Luther King Assassination

On April 7, 1977, James Travis Buckley, J.B. Stoner and I met in the United States Attorney's office in Jackson, Mississippi, to complete discovery and work out stipulations in United States v. James Travis Buckley, Criminal No. J76-54(N). On May 14, 1977, Buckley, an attorney, was convicted on five counts of failing to file income tax returns for 1970 through 1974 and three counts of tax evasion for 1970, 1973 and 1974.

During the conversation on April 7, 1977, J.B. Stoner mentioned that he had recently received his Federal Bureau of Investigation file covering 1483 pages under the Freedom of Information Act. He stated that the file reveals that the Federal Bureau of Investigation had bugged his automobile and his telephone. He mentioned that the F.B.I. had treated him like Martin Luther King. Stoner went on to say that in 1957 or 1958, he had been approached by the head of an Alabama Klavern of the Klu Klux Klan. Stoner said that everyone knew that this man was an F.B.I. agent. Stoner said that this individual offered him \$25,000 to hire a rifleman to kill Martin Luther King. He remarked to me that he did not mind the F.B.I. killing an individual like Martin Luther King but he did resent their attempt and the attempt of the House Committee to pin the murder on a scapegoat, James Earl Ray. (J.B. Stoner had represented James Earl Ray on his appeal).

J.B. Stoner is one of the leading white supremacists and anti-Semites in the nation. He is the president of the National States' Rights Party and edits a racist newsletter, Thunderbolt, in Marietta, Georgia. Special Agent William Jack Sykes of Jackson, Mississippi, was also present when Stoner made these comments.

ENCLOSURE

TELETYPE

PRIORITY

CLEAR

6/2/77

FM DIRECTOR (44-38861)
TO SEATTLE (44-371) (PRIORITY)
DALLAS (PRIORITY)
KNOXVILLE (PRIORITY)
MEMPHIS (PRIORITY)
NEW ORLEANS (PRIORITY)

1 - Mr. Helterhoff

BT

CLEAR

MURKIN

RESETEL JUNE 2, 1977.

SEATTLE INSURE THAT KEITH ERNEST LAMONICA IS COGNIZANT OF THE SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ORDER OBD 2110.2 REGARDING WITNESS PROTECTION. THIS ORDER STATES UNDER "CONDITIONS FOR PROTECTION" THAT THE PROTECTION OF A WITNESS AND MEMBERS OF A WITNESS FAMILY IN A FEDERAL CRIMINAL PROCEEDING IS A LOCAL OR STATE POLICE MATTER TO BE HANDLED BY THOSE AUTHORITIES. EXCEPTIONS TO THIS POLICY WILL BE ALLOWED ONLY UPON THE FINDING OF THE ASSISTANT

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE CONCERNED DIVISION THAT THE

Assoc. Dir. _____
Dep. AD Adm. _____
Dep. AD Inv. _____
Asst. Dir.:
Adm. Serv. _____
Crim. Inv. _____
Fin. & Pers. _____
Ident. _____
Intell. _____
Laboratory _____
Legal Coun. _____
Plan. & Insp. _____
Rec. Mgnt. _____
Spec. Inv. _____
Tech. Serv. _____
Training _____
Public Affs. Off. _____
Telephone Rm. _____
Tech. Serv. _____

HNH:bam (3)

SEE NOTE PAGE 3...

REC-126

44-38861-6223

JUN 3 1977

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

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This document is a copy from the FOIA file. The original document was not in the file.

PAGE TWO SE (44-371) CLEAR

PROPOSED WITNESS MEETS ALL OF THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

(1) THE PERSON IS A QUALIFYING WITNESS IN A SPECIFIC CASE IN PROCESS OR DURING OR AFTER A GRAND JURY PROCEEDING;

(2) EVIDENCE IN POSSESSION INDICATES THAT THE LIFE OF THE WITNESS AND/OR THAT OF A MEMBER OF THE WITNESS FAMILY OR

HOUSEHOLD IS IN IMMEDIATE JEOPARDY AND (3) EVIDENCE

IN POSSESSION INDICATES IT WILL BE ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE

FEDERAL INTEREST FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO PROTECT THE WITNESS

AND/OR A FAMILY OR HOUSEHOLD MEMBER. THIS ORDER STATES

THAT REQUESTS FOR PROTECTION OF A WITNESS SHALL BE MADE

THROUGH THE U. S. ATTORNEY OR BY A DIVISION ATTORNEY

OF THE DEPARTMENT. ACCORDINGLY, YOU SHOULD MAKE SURE THAT

[REDACTED] IS ADVISED THAT IF HE DESIRES TO PURSUE THIS MATTER

UNDER THE WITNESS PROTECTION PROGRAM, HE SHOULD CONTACT THE

APPROPRIATE U. S. ATTORNEY AND/OR THE DEPARTMENT FOR THEIR

CONSIDERATION AS TO WHETHER OR NOT HE IS A QUALIFYING WITNESS

AS SET FORTH ABOVE. YOU SHOULD ALSO ADVISE [REDACTED] TO

NOTIFY THE APPROPRIATE LOCAL AUTHORITIES OF THE FEARS

HE HAS FOR HIS PERSONAL SAFETY AND THAT OF HIS FAMILY.

PAGE THREE SE (44-371) CLEAR

ALL OFFICES CONDUCT NO INVESTIGATION CONCERNING
THIS LAMONICA ALLEGATION SINCE THIS MATTER HAS BEEN
REFERRED TO THE DEPARTMENT AND NO INVESTIGATION IS BEING
CONDUCTED UNLESS SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

BT

NOTE: See Peelman to Mr. Fehl memo, same date, same caption.

#

44-38861-6224
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62-117290-257X1

JUL 20 1978

CMK/NK

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Dep. AD Adm.	
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Crim. Inv.	
Fin. & Pers.	
Ident.	
Intell.	
Laboratory	
Legal Coun.	
Plan. & Insp.	
Rec. Mgnt.	
Spec. Inv.	
Tech. Servs.	
Training	
Public Affs. Off.	
Telephone Rm.	
Director's Sec'y	

FM BIRMINGHAM (44-1140) (RUC)

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) PRIORITY

BT

CLEAR

MURKIN

REBUCAL TO BIRMINGHAM MAY 18, 1977, REQUESTING CONTACT WITH FORMER BH 1079-PCI, TO DETERMINE IF HE CAN BE IDENTIFIED TO THE HOUSE ASSASSINATION COMMITTEE (HAC) AS THE SOURCE OF INFORMATION REGARDING LIBERTO, ET AL.

SOURCE WAS UNAVAILABLE FOR CONTACT MAY 18-30, 1977. ON MAY 31, 1977, HE ADVISED SA PATRICK J. MOYNIHAN THAT HE CAN BE IDENTIFIED TO THE HAC AS THE SOURCE OF THE INFORMATION HE FURNISHED. HE FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION GRATUITOUSLY:

HE IS DISENCHANTED WITH THE HAC AND BELIEVES IT IS TOO POLITICAL. HE HAS NOT TALKED TO THEM (MR. EDDIE EVANS) IN ABOUT THREE WEEKS. EVANS DESIRES SOURCE TO BE IN TOUCH TELEPHONICALLY AT LEAST TWICE A WEEK BUT IS NEVER AVAILABLE WHEN SOURCE PUTS HIMSELF OUT TO MAKE THESE CONTACTS.

REC-126

6224

1-0-70 AAG Crim Div. (M.H.H. Liberty)
(Enclosure 1)
H.H.H. 6/1/77

20 JUN 13 1977

6224

7 JUN 14 1977

PAGE TWO BH 44-1740

SOURCE DISAPPROVES OF ALL THE TV PUBLICITY THZ HAC RECEIVED IN BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA, AND MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, A FEW WEEKS AGO, AND AGAIN BELIEVES THEY ARE "TOO POLITICAL."

THROUGH THE HAC, HE HAS MET MARK LANE. SOURCE HAS NO USE FOR LANE AND ARGUED WITH HIM ON THE OCCASION WHEN THEY MET.

SOURCE HAS CONDUCTED INVESTIGATION HIMSELF IN MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, RECENTLY. JAMES EARL RAY LEFT BIRMINGHAM MARCH 30, 1968, AND WENT DIRECTLY TO MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, ON MARCH 30, 1968. HE STAYED AT MRS. DEATON'S ROOMINGHOUSE ON PEABODY STREET IN MEMPHIS, AND SOURCE INTERVIEWED HER APPROXIMATELY THREE WEEKS AGO.

SOURCE DEVELOPED A "LIBERTO MAN" WHO SHOWED SOURCE THE ABOVE ROOMING HOUSE. SOURCE HAS NOT FURNISHED THIS INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEATON ROOMINGHOUSE TO HAC SINCE THEY HAVE NOT BEEN IN RECENT CONTACT WITH HIM.

INFORMATION FURNISHED BY THIS SOURCE IN THE FUTURE WILL BE RECORDED AT BIRMINGHAM AND FORWARDED IF APPROPRIATE.

AIRMAIL COPES BZING FURNISHED MEMPHIS AND NEW ORLEANS.

BT.

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

File Copy

TO : Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
(Attn: Robert L. Keuch)
FROM : Director, FBI

DATE: 6/3/77

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Reference is made to _____ memorandum dated _____
(your file _____).

There is enclosed one copy of the report of Special Agent a teletype
dated 5/31/77 at Birmingham, Alabama.

A. ☐ This covers the preliminary investigation and no further action concerning a full investigation will be taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs.

B. ☐ The investigation is continuing and you will be furnished copies of reports as they are received.

C. ☐ The investigation requested by you has now been completed. Unless advised to the contrary no further inquiries will be made by this Bureau.

D. ☐ Pursuant to instructions issued by the Department, no investigation will be conducted in this matter unless specifically directed by the Department.

E. ☐ Please advise whether you desire any further investigation.

F. ☐ This is submitted for your information and you will be advised of further developments.

G. ☒ This is submitted for your information and no further investigation will be conducted unless specifically requested by the Department.

H. ☐ This covers the receipt of a complaint and no further action will be taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs.

Enc. (1)

- Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division (Enclosure 1)

1 - Office of Professional Responsibility, USDJ
(Enclosure 1)

NOT RECORDED

JUN 14 1977

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO . . .

17 JUN 14 1977

Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
(Attn: Robert L. Keuch)

NOTE: The House Select Committee On Assassinations has requested all information previously furnished by [REDACTED] which is being handled by separate communication. For your information, [REDACTED] previously furnished information on a confidential basis and the previous information he provided was furnished to the Department relating to the Liberto matter by my memoranda dated 12/17/75, 12/21/76, and 1/25/77.

Also for your information regarding the attached, previous investigation disclosed that James Earl Ray was in Atlanta, Georgia, on 3/31/68 and on 4/1/68. On 4/3/68 he registered at the Rebel Motor Hotel, 3466 Lamar Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee.

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FM BIRMINGHAM (44-1142) (RUC)

TO DIRECTOR (44-33861) PRIORITY

BT

CLEAR

MURKIN

REBUCAL TO BIRMINGHAM MAY 18, 1977, REQUESTING CONTACT WITH [REDACTED] TO DETERMINE IF HE CAN BE IDENTIFIED TO THE HOUSE ASSASSINATION COMMITTEE (HAC) AS THE SOURCE OF INFORMATION REGARDING LIBERTO, ET AL.

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