



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Phoenix, Arizona  
September 4, 1969

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

JAMES EARL RAY  
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -  
VICTIM

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On July 25, 1969, C. R. CRANK, JR., Superintendent, Federal Detention Center, Florence, Arizona, made available the attached copy of a letter written by JOHN HAMILTON MORRIS, inmate of that institution to Mr. PETER GOLDMAN, 444 Madison Avenue, New York City, New York. Mr. CRANK pointed out that the significance of this letter was the fact that MORRIS indicated that JAMES EARL RAY had been paid by an individual known as "BIG D". Mr. CRANK advised that MORRIS was received at that institution on July 19, 1969, and was incarcerated there until July 25, 1969.

MORRIS was maintained at that institution as a stop-over while en route from San Francisco, California, to Leavenworth, Kansas. He explained that MORRIS was serving a sentence at U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, and had been removed from that institution to San Francisco, where he was afforded a hearing on a Writ of Habeas Corpus.

Mr. CRANK advised that an information card maintained by that institution on MORRIS indicated that he had been convicted for crimes of bank robbery in 1949, bank robbery in 1969 and aircraft piracy in 1969. His attorney was listed as PAUL L. LARSEN, 309 South Third Street, Las Vegas, Nevada.

MORRIS is described as follows:

44-1574-1890  
SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED  
A. Harn

JAMES EARL RAY

Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of Birth	<input type="text"/>
Place of Birth	Michigan
Weight	165 pounds
Hair	Gray
Eyes	Hazel
Tattoos	Multiple tattoos on both arms
Occupation	Journalist
Marital Status	Single
Social Security Number	<input type="text"/>

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.

U.S. v. McFarland, No. Cr-LV 177 - 2, 1st Cir., 1969  
22 July, 1969

Dear Mr. Goldwater: There is something of a similarity between Tennessee v. Ray and the above case — in the plea of guilty to alleged charges — but not I say that my attorney and I find you odd and of March 24 a bit naïve, when you assert that a plea is normal enough in U.S. Court in a time — and money-saving convenience — that permits authorities to settle far more cases than they bring to trial. Not exactly so, Pete — by reason of the following examples in both cases, supra. On the 4th day of July, 1968, I attempted to commit air craft piracy (i.e., the attempted hijacking of a TWA jetliner with 71 passengers onboard). Like in the case today of U.S. Government Marshal. The Government made a "deal" with the defendant [pursuant to Fed. R. 17.1, Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure — which provides for a Pretrial Conference] — not because of any time — and money-saving convenience — but because the thing is so grossly and obviously wrong that I did not want any of those seventy-one passengers to file a multi-million dollar civil action themselves suit against the U.S. Government at all, as provided for under Title 28, U.S. Code, Chap. 171, Sections 1346 and 2671. The magistrates of this case provided a "flexibility" beyond the normal routine of the so-called "top-out." In the Ray "deal" the same "convenience" applies — but since the apprehension of Ray in New Mexico two weeks ago, 44-1987-Sub-M-697, was made with now backfire! With the shocking events unfold — with the exposure of the plot to source within the "top-out" — Ray himself was paid by big "P" to "know" that the "top-out" was a "deal" —

44-1574-1891

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
NOV 1964	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	
A. J. Kern	

Attached is copy of 44-1574-1891  
which was telephonically dictated  
to Sacy Gayda Mangrum from  
the Phoenix office.

RAY

U.S. vs MOVIS  
#CR-LV1779  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
22 July 1969

Dear Mr. Goldman:

There is somewhat of a similarity between Tennessee vs. Ray and the above cause via the plea of guilty to alleged charges by ..... I say that my attorney and I find your objection of March 24 a bit naive ~~inappropriate~~ when you asserted that copping a plea is normal enough in U. S. Court. Coms... a time and money saving convenience that permits authorities to settle far more cases than they bring to trial. Not exactly so. Pete. By reason of the following examples in both cases supra. (1) ..... 4th day of July 1968 I attempted to commit aircraft piracy (i.e. the attempted highjacking of a TWA jetliner with 71 passengers aboard). While in the custody of U. S. Government Marshals, the Government made a deal with the defendant pursuant to Chapter 17.1, Federal Rules of Criminal Procedures, which provides for a pre-trial conference... not because of any time and money saving the trial..... primarily because the Government did not want any of those 71 passengers to file a ~~multi-million~~ multi-million dollar civil action damage suit against the U. S. Atty, etal, as provided for under Title 28, U. S. Code, Chapter 171, Sections 1346 and 2671. The magnitude

of this case provided a flexibility here and normal routine of the so-called copout. In the Ray deal the same convenience applies, but since the apprehension of the Big "D" in New Mexico 10 weeks ago, the deal which was made will now backfire. Also, the shocking events unfold with the exposure .....place was within. Ray himself was paid by Big "D" to ..... in the intricate staged.....

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

11/5/69

SAC, NEW YORK (44-1609)(RUC)

JAMES EARL RAY, aka;  
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -  
VICTIM  
CR - CONSPIRACY;  
UFAC - ROBBERY  
(OO: ME)

Re: Phoenix letter dated 9/4/69

Enclosed for Bureau are four copies of LHM.  
Enclosed for Kansas City and Memphis are two copies each  
of LHM. Enclosed for Phoenix is one copy of LHM for  
information.

Numerous efforts were made by New York to  
contact PETER GOLDMAN, Senior Editor, Newsweek Magazine,  
444 Madison Avenue, New York City during the period  
9/8/69 through 10/29/69 with unsuccessful results.

- 2 - BUREAU (Encl 4)
- ② - Kansas City (Encl. 2) *W*
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987)(Encl. 2)
- 1 - Phoenix (44-371)(Encl. 1)
- 1 - New York (44-1609)

(8)

OES:oes

44-1574-1892

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED <i>J</i>
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

*a. Hearn*





In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New York, New York  
November 5, 1969

James Earl Ray  
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. -  
Victim

Peter Goldman, Senior Editor, Newsweek Magazine,  
444 Madison Avenue, New York City furnished the following  
information to Special Agent O. Eugene Smith on November  
3, 1969:

He cannot recall having ever met or having ever  
received correspondence from a John Hamilton Morris. A  
review of the files of the Letter Department of the  
Magazine failed to reveal that he ever received a letter  
from John Hamilton Morris.

He has never heard of anyone referred to as  
"Big D" in connection with the James Earl Ray case and  
he has no knowledge of any statement being made that James  
Earl Ray was paid by "Big D".

He receives numerous "crank" letters which he  
deposits in the waste basket. No record is kept of these  
"crank" letters.

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

44-1574-1893

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

*a. Varn*

11-13-69

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) (RUC)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN

ReBuairtel to Kansas City 11-10-69.

Enclosed for the Los Angeles Office are one copy each of letter from Phoenix to the Director 9-4-69 with LHM and xerox copy of letter from JOHN HAMILTON MORRIS; also enclosed for Los Angeles is copy of New York letter to the Director 11-5-69 reflecting results of interview with PETER GOLDMAN.

On 11-13-69, CARL F. ZARTER, Administrative Assistant, U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, advised that inmate JAMES HAMILTON MORRIS, #83856, was released to the custody of the USM on 9-11-69 to be produced in the USDC, Los Angeles, California. MORRIS has not as yet returned to Leavenworth. Authorities at Leavenworth are unable to anticipate his return. It is therefore suggested that the interview set forth in Phoenix communication for the Kansas City Division be handled by the Los Angeles Division. Los Angeles should be able to determine whereabouts of MORRIS through the USM's office in that area.

It is to be noted that the copy of the handwritten letter from MORRIS to GOLDMAN is barely readable. If Los Angeles decides a more legible copy is needed, it is suggested they obtain one from the Phoenix Office. Kansas City believes that the individual mentioned in the letter as Big D, who was apprehended in New Mexico two weeks ago is possibly ROBERT DE PUGH, head of the Minutemen organization, who is also currently incarcerated at Leavenworth Penitentiary.

- 2 - Bureau (44-38861)
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987)
- 2 - Los Angeles (Enc. 5)
- 1 - Kansas City (44-760)

RBH:mts  
(7)

*Rec'd 11/11/69*  
*Desk 6*  
*11/21/69*

44-1574-1894

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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FBI - LOS ANGELES	

*Atkinson*

*T. 3 days*

KC 44-760

For the information of the Los Angeles Office,  
reairtel from the Director instructed Kansas City to inter-  
view JOHN HAMILTON MORRIS and submit LHM within three days  
of receipt without fail.



In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Los Angeles, California

December 10, 1969

**JAMES EARL RAY;  
Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM**

On December 1, 1969, John Hamilton Morris was interviewed at the Los Angeles County Jail, Los Angeles, California, regarding information contained in a letter written by him on July 22, 1969, to Peter Goldman, 444 Madison Avenue, New York, New York. This letter contained information that James Earl Ray was paid by "Big D".

Morris stated that he is a journalist, that as a journalist he has his sources, and that as a journalist he does not reveal the identity of his sources. Morris stated it was common knowledge that Ray was paid to kill Martin Luther King. Morris was asked to explain what he referred to as common knowledge. He said that everyone knew that the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) was behind the murder of Martin Luther King. He continued that the CIA backed the Minutemen and Robert De Pugh of the Minutemen. The CIA wanted King out of the way so it had De Pugh make the arrangements. Ray being a small time criminal, was selected to do the actual killing and CIA the brains behind the whole scheme. When De Pugh was no longer needed by the CIA, he was arrested. Morris said that this scheme is common knowledge.

Morris volunteered that he has been declared medically and criminally insane.

Records of Atascadero State Hospital, Atascadero, California, as of April 13, 1959, revealed that John Hamilton Morris, born [redacted] at Martin, Michigan, was admitted to that hospital on September 22, 1958, as criminally insane. At that time, he had a criminal record dating back to September 26, 1940, and had over 20 arrests, including grand theft, car theft, mail fraud, postal loss, forgery, and money postal orders. These records reveal that Morris was not found criminally insane by this hospital and had been turned over to the court in San Mateo, California, for further action.

- 4 - Bureau (44-38861)
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987)
- ① - Los Angeles (44-1574)

TJA/jah  
(7) *cler*

OFFICE COPY

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INDEXED

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44-1574-1895

JAMES EARL RAY,  
Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM

John Hamilton Morris appeared at U. S. District Court, Southern District of California, Los Angeles, on February 23, 1967, for jury trial. At the conclusion of the trial on February 24, 1967, Morris was found guilty of violation of Title 18, Section 2113 (a), U. S. Code. On March 20, 1967, Morris was sentenced to 15 years custody of the U. S. Attorney General.

Morris filed an appeal of this conviction April 21, 1969, before the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. He based his appeal on his not having been protected under Title 18, U. S. Code, Section 4244, in that under this statute, the U. S. Attorney failed in his responsibility to move for a determination of competency where he had reasonable cause to believe the accused might be incompetent. His appeal argues that under the same section and by Constitutional mandate, it was incumbent on the court to order a determination of competency, where reasonable cause appeared to indicate the accused might be incompetent; said failure violated Morris's guarantee of due process under the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution.

The appellant further argues that the court-appointed counsel failed to provide that assistance guaranteed by the Sixth Amendment of the Constitutional rights of due process in the fair trial.

The final point of the appellant's argument is that the Court's sentencing procedure was both a failure of its statutory responsibility and an abuse of its discretion under Title 18, U. S. Code, Section 4244; and under 4208 (b) which provides for commitment of the accused to the custody of the Attorney General for a period of time not to exceed six months, for the purpose of evaluation to assist the trial court in passing a meaningful rehabilitative sentence.

On July 28, 1969, Assistant U. S. Attorney Darrell Mac Intyre, Los Angeles, advised that on July 24, 1969, a decision was received from the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals that the conviction of John Hamilton Morris had been reversed.

JAMES EARL RAY,  
Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM

Morris appeared at U. S. District Court, Los Angeles, and entered a plea of guilty to violation of Title 18, Section 2113 (a), U. S. Code. Trial was set for November 4, 1969. Morris was to be afforded psychiatric examination prior to trial date. As of December 9, 1969, the trial of Morris had not commenced.

The Los Angeles Herald Examiner, daily metropolitan Los Angeles newspaper, in its issue of July 5, 1968, carried an article on Page A-1 captioned, "Dynamite Hijack Try Just a Dud", datelined Las Vegas, Nevada (UPI). This article reported that a Federal prisoner identified as John Hamilton Morris, 48 of Martin, Michigan, tried to hijack a commercial airliner, July 4, 1968, by falsely reporting he had dynamite on his person. His high altitude plot failed completely.

The U. S. Attorney at Las Vegas was expected to take this incident before the Grand Jury and ask for an indictment charging Morris with attempted hijacking.

The following is an arrest record of John Hamilton Morris, FBI Number 4 222 144:

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.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

12-14-66  
(139-PLM)

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
Director.

The following FBI record, NUMBER 4 222 144, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
War Dept Wash DC	John Hamilton Morris #6578257	enlisted 8-23-39		
PD Honolulu TH	John H. Morris #A-11460-D-1	2-26-40	vag	to Mil Auth
PD Sacramento Calif	John Hamilton Morris #28181	12-28-40	enrt to Martinez Calif BT and enrt to Los Angeles Calif PT	taken to Martinez 12-30-44 *claim dism because resitution was made.
SO Martinez Calif #27961	John Hamilton Morris #-- SO Sacramento Calif	12-30-44	503 CVC	1-22-45 rel 1-22-45 on 2 y prob
PD Los Angeles Calif	John Morris #75882	2-18-45	GT fug from Seattle	3-15-45 rel to Seattle Wash Auth 5-28-46 sent to time served and rel to return to Calif
SO Los Angeles Calif	John H. Morris #A-57532	3-9-45	GL - Wash	3-20-45 rel to Seattle Wash
PD Seattle Wash	John Hamilton Morris #30521	3-21-45	GL-money from hotel	5-26-45 time spent in jail
SO Seattle Wash	John Hamilton Morris #22038	3-26-45	GL	5-28-45 sent to time served to return to Calif
PD Jersey City NJ	John H. Morris #10578	4-7-47	poss stolen auto and RS 2-109-6	4-17-47 papers to CJ 5-20-47 bill on both
SO Jersey City NJ	John Hamilton Morris #31492	4-18-47	Me 1 burning auto rec stolen motor vehicle mal burning of a motor vehicle.	5-20-47 no bill of indictment No. 250 April term 1947
SO Jersey City NJ	John Hamilton Morris #31492	5-1-47	Vio Postal Laws	

- 4 -

Notations indicated by \* ARE NOT BASED ON FINGERPRINTS IN FBI files. The notations are based on data furnished this Bureau concerning individuals of the same or similar names or aliases and ARE LISTED ONLY AS INVESTIGATIVE LEADS.

16-70532-2 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

12-14-66  
(139-PLH)

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
Director.

2 The following FBI record, NUMBER 4 222 144, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
USM, Newark, NJ	John Hamilton Morris, #11520	custody 5-1-47	vio. of Lyer Act	6-16-47, 3 yrs.
USM, Newark, NJ	John Hamilton Morris, #11520	not given	forging checks, etc.	sent. 3 yrs. 6-16-47
Federal Ref., Chillicothe, Ohio	John H. Morris #27423	7-9-47	NMFTA, using mails to defraud	3 yrs.
USP, Terre Haute, Ind	John H. Morris #5090	8-27-47 (in trans. from Chillicothe)	trans. stolen auto int. Using mails to defraud	3 yrs.
USP, Leavenworth Kans	John H. Morris #64506	11-5-47 (in trans. from USP Terre Haute, Ind)	mails to defraud and NMFTA	3 yrs.
Medical Center for Fed Prisoners Springfield Mo	John H. Morris #6954-H	1-11-49 trans from USP Leavenworth	NMFTA & using mails to defraud	3 yrs. (3-3 yrs conc 2-13-50 disch OR pend.
USM, Springfield, Mo.	John Hamilton Morris #1211	2-13-50	forged Securities in Interstate Commerce	2-15-50, remove to Kans.
PD, Topeka, Kans.	John Hamilton Morris #7945	3-21-50	interstate vio (checks)	USM prisoner

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16-70593-2 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

12-14-66  
(139-PLH)

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
Director.

3 The following FBI record, NUMBER 4 222 144, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
USM Topeka Kans.	John Hamilton Morris #CR-13666	2-21-50	Interstate Comm. Viol.	3-21-50, sent. 5 yrs. on ct. 1; 5 yrs. on ea. of cts. 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, & 8 to run concurrent & to run concurrent with period of imprisonment imposed on ct. 1. and pay costs of this prosecution. serve at USP, Leavenworth, Kans.
US Penty Leavenworth Kans	John H. Morris #66575	4-20-50	transp I/S forged Secur	5 yrs 9-27-53 Cond. Rel
SO Riverside Calif	John Hamilton Morris #61246	3-1-56	Title 18 Sec 500 USC	Federal
PD Indio Calif	John Hamilton Morris #20787	3-1-56	raising & cashing US Postal Money Orders	held for USM
USM Los Angeles Calif	John H. Morris #24036	3-6-56	forg postal Money Order	11-12-57 case dismissed
SO Los Angeles Calif	John Hamilton Morris #A-57532/ B-412495	3-6-56	forgery/Postal Money Orders	5-2-56 rel cus Springfield Mo
USM Los Angeles Calif	John H. Morris #24242	4-27-56	subversive use of US Mails	
Med Center for Fed Prs Springfield Mo	John Hamilton Morris #P-185-H	5-5-56 MCFP Rec. fr. USM S-Calif	altering P.O. money orders	T-18 Sec. 4240 return to court 3-27-57

Notations indicated by \* ARE NOT BASED ON FINGERPRINTS IN FBI files. The notations are based on data furnished this Bureau concerning individuals of the same or similar names or aliases and ARE LISTED ONLY AS INVESTIGATIVE LEADS.

16-70592-2 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

12-14-66  
(139-PLH)

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
Director.

4 The following FBI record, NUMBER 4 222 144, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
SO Springfield Mo	John Hamilton Morris #S-20937	8-27-57	H/F U SCM (subversive use of mails Postal MO viol)	to be TOT US Calif
PD Los Angeles Calif	John Hamilton Morris #LA 75 882-M	11-12-57	forg of fict name forg 4 cts	nt glty by reason of insanity D45 1-29-58 Cs 196783 on ch of warr 130792(4) fo fict name fo 4 cts
SO Los Angeles Calif	John Hamilton Morris #A-57532/B-516022	11-7-57	failure to appear for jury trial	11-12-57 rel case dism & cust Los Ang PD
PD San Mateo Calif	John Hamilton Morris #28219	6-6-58	forg (chex)	7-10-58 held ans Sup Crt see supplement
SO Redwood City Calif	John Hamilton Morris #24505	7-10-58	forg & ETE Fresno & San Jose PD	1-26-59, 1 Co J susp on 1-27-59 to Fresno S 1-5-59 disc
St Bu Sacramento Calif	John Hamilton Morris #ASH 6096	9-22-58	criminally Insane 1368 PC Atascadero St Hosp Atascadero Calif	
SO Fresno Calif	John Hamilton Morris #60409	2-12-59	PC 836 escape	2-12-59 no chgs filed
PD Fresno Calif	John Hamilton Morris #12972	2-18-59	forg-PT escape	see supplement
FBI Chgo Ill	John Hamilton Morris #--	8-24-59	bank robb	

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Notations indicated by \* ARE NOT BASED ON FINGERPRINTS IN FBI files. The notations are based on data formerly furnished this Bureau concerning individuals of the same or similar names or aliases and ARE LISTED ONLY AS INVESTIGATIVE LEADS.

16-70582-4 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

12-14-66  
(139-PLH)

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
Director.

5

The following FBI record, NUMBER 4-222 144, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
PD Chgo Ill	John H. Morris #E-48842	8-24-59	GP	TOT USM Chgo 8-25-59
USM Chgo Ill	John H. Morris #60391	8-25-59	bank robbery	2 yrs & \$500. 12-23-59
Cook Co Jail Chgo Ill	John H. Morris #239175	8-25-59	safe keeping USM	1-10-60 del to USM
USP Leavenworth Kans	John Hamilton Morris #77308-L	1-11-60	bank rob	2 yrs
USP McNeil Isl Wash	John Hamilton Morris #28201-M	6-22-60	bank robb & armed bank robb	10 yrs & 5 mo & 11 das
USPen Leavenworth Kans	John Hamilton Morris #77308-L	5-31-61	Bank Robbery	5-31-61 Rec from USP McNeil Islan as transfer 8-10-66 MR
USM Los Angeles Calif	John Hamilton Morris #089-21749	12-7-66	Bank robbery	

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16-70582-4 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

12-14-66  
(139-PLH)

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
Director.

6 The following FBI record, NUMBER 4 222 144, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
	<p>As John Hamilton Morris wanted by Los Angeles Calif PD petty theft.</p> <p>John H. Morris 1<sup>st</sup> appre prior to 9-21-54 notify Chief US Prob Off US Crt House Rm 826 Chgo Ill per inf rec therefrom 10-1-53.</p> <p>WANTED: John H. Morris for viol of cond rel - warr issued 12-23-53. Notify US Bd of Par Wash DC by telephone per inf rec therefrom 1-6-54.</p> <p>IN CUSTODY PER PRINT No 24242 USM Los Angeles Calif.</p> <p>NO LONGER WANTED: per inf rec US Bd of Paroles Wash DC 5-23-56 (Warr withdrawn 5-17-56 &amp; Case (closed) NYC NY 1947 fraud use of mails; 7 yrs (as on prt #24242)</p> <p>#12972, 2-4-59 &amp; 2-19-59 2-4-59 forg dism interest of justice no chgs filed on PT 2-19-59 escape red to PC 650½, 3 yrs prob 180 das SS deft PG to PC 650½.</p> <p>#28219, 1-26-59 final disp subj sent to one year Co Jail susp.</p> <p>WANTED: John Hamilton Morris Location Desired Notify by phone USSS Intell Div Rm 825 1800 G St NW Wash DC inf rc 4-20-66 (To remain in effect until 4-18-69)</p> <p>Federal Parole or Mandatory release extends to 12-4-69 inf rec Chgo Ill</p>			
		- 9* -		SUPPLEMENT

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16-70582-2 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

DATE: 12/10/69

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574) (RUC)

SUBJECT: JAMES EARL RAY, aka;  
Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM  
OO: Memphis

Re Kansas City airtel to the Director dated 8/13/69.

Enclosed for the Bureau are four copies of a Letter-head Memorandum (LHM) and for Memphis two copies of an LHM recording interview of JOHN HAMILTON MORRIS regarding his allegation that JAMES EARLY RAY was paid to kill MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

A review of Los Angeles files reveals MORRIS to be the subject of Bureau files 91-25689 and 91-12519.

SEARCHED ☒  
INDEXED ☒  
SERIALIZED ☒  
FILED ☒

- 2 - Bureau (Encls. 4)
- 2 - Memphis (Encl. 2) (44-1987)
- ① - Los Angeles



5010-108

TJA/jah  
(5) doc

OFFICE COPY

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

44-1574-1896

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

2/17/70

SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (173-65)(RUC)

✓  
MURKIN

WILLIAM FORDEN, Associate Superintendent, State Prison, Soledad, California, furnished SA THOMAS P. DOWD with a copy of a page of a letter written to R. DENINNO, FBI Number 821464-D, Soledad Number B-12713, by his common-in-law wife, MARIE MARTIN DENINNO, 11075 Oxnard Street, Hollywood, California.

FORDEN advised DENINNO is receiving a great deal of mail from his common-in-law wife and it appears she is contemplating writing a book relative to her association with RAY.

Enclosed for the Bureau, Los Angeles, and Memphis is one copy each of the page of the letter furnished by FORDEN.

San Francisco is furnishing this for information purposes.

Memphis is requested to advise Los Angeles, if warranted, of the action to be taken regarding this letter.

*Also Marie Martin*

2 - Bureau (Enc. 1)(RM)  
2 - Los Angeles (Enc. 1)(RM)  
2 - Memphis (44-1987)(Enc. 1)(RM)  
1 - San Francisco  
MTG/sms #11  
(7)

44-1574-1897

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FEB 19 1970	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

R. Dominne, B-12713

Hi Sweetheart,  
seem like a long time since I have written baby but believe me I have thought about you all the time, Honey with this job seems like I have no time, It is almost driving me completely nuts.

Ronnie I just loved your card about the belated birthday it really was too much cause there is nothing more that I would love to give you is a whole lot of peace. Smile. Now to ans. your questions. But first do you know how much I love you. Well I do.

So you are going to be transferred to Chino, Baby thats great. I mean Real Great.

Baby dont worry about the frames,, I still have that one and really that one is enough. When you come home we dont want anything to remind us of these last 2 horrible years, I do t know how you think about it but I feel like I am just half here, I try and have fun Honey but nothing I do can take you off my mind. My soul id with you Ronnie, You will have to come home to make me feel complete, thats what I meant when I said about sex, Sweetheart I Honestly am just half here. My soul is dead, thats what I meant, not my love for you, that is all that is keeping me going. The thought of you being home.

Honey have you ever felt half there. All I want to do is work and come home. Everything that is happening is not happening like movies and groovy places to go, I want to wait and see it with you. I am still waiting to see 2001. That movie. We will do all that when you are here to share it with me. Baby believe me, nothing is nowhere when you are n not here and I wont let it be.

Christmas was just another day; sure did miss you. Now Honey about my condition, Only time will tell when I will be fine again, the new doctors have it down to a slipped disc, which is temporary, with the right treatments taking care of myself and my monthly visits, I should be fine within a year.

Of course those pictures were taken before the accident, the were taken for the book that was going to come out on Earl Ray. In fact those were the weights that he asked me to hold til he came back, I was keeping them for you but when all that commotion came up I gave them to the FBI, Babe it was off of those weights that they got his fingerprints, also off of the tv knobs, So babe if he gets a new trial we will make mucho bread.

Honey let me tell you what happened to me today, at first the car wouldn't start. I was getting late for work so I called Joel up to take me to work, well in the meantime I tried to start it again and it started so I left, I got on the freeway and the accelerator stuck me going 70 mph

Page of letter from C. L. wife Marie  
to inmate 12/26/69

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES (157-Dead)

DATE: 3/19/70

FROM : SA RICHARD WALLACE HELD

SUBJECT: JOEL M. LEVY  
RM

Re Los Angeles complaint form of IC PHILIP S. ANDRIST dated 3/9/70.

On 3/10/70, the writer and SA RONALD R. PUTNAM interviewed AL HARTGRAVES, Western Adjusters, 6862 Lankershim Boulevard, North Hollywood, California, who made available the following items he stated were located in a 1963 Plymouth convertible, California license number HAS 205, Serial Number 3331159016, repossessed from the captioned individual, 13813 Oxnard Street, Van Nuys, California, telephone number 781-8333:

(1) Three black and white posters described as follows:

(a) Picture of FIDEL CASTRO with the inscription "For Communism To Survive America Must Be Destroyed...We Must Take The Schools!!!";

(b) Picture of apparently German soldiers marching in front on an arch and the inscription "When Socialism Triumphs Freedom Falls";

(c) and, a picture of ADOLPH HITLER and the inscription "Basically National Socialism and Marxism Are the Same...The Whole of National Socialism is Based on It."

(2) One approximately 3" - 10" sticker showing the symbol identified with Nazi Germany as being equal to the hammer and sickle symbol identified with Communism and the note "2 for 50 cents, 100 for \$19, American United, P. O. Box 1122, Malibu."

2 - 157-Dead  
① - 44-1574  
1 - 100-74748



RWH/vjh

(4)

OFFICE COPY

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

44-1574-1898

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAR 25 1970	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	



LA 157-Dead

(3) One Standard Oil Company gas ticket dated 12/3/69 from Maeda's, 6300 Santa Monica, Los Angeles, to MARIE DENINNO, Credit Card No. [REDACTED], car license HAS 205, and a Standard Oil Company gas ticket dated 12/24/69 from Station No. 3371, 4166 Melrose, Los Angeles, to MARIE MARTIN, Credit Card No. [REDACTED], car license number HAS 205. It is noted that signatures on each slip appeared similar.

(4) A device utilized by film makers prior to the shooting of each scene which contained the following notations:

Prod.	The Breath of Life
Dir.	JOEL M. LEVY
Date	7/13/69
Prod. By	CHARLES STEIN

(5) One series of three typewritten pages containing information regarding ERIC STARVO GALT, a copy of which is attached.

(6) One letter dated 3/19/69 to Mrs. MARIE MARTIN, 5311 Melrose, Apartment 419, Los Angeles, California 90000, from PHIL M. CANALE, JR., District Attorney General, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit of Tennessee, Memphis, Tennessee, a copy of which is attached.

(7) One three page synopsis of C.O.B.R.A. News Conference held at the Los Angeles Press Club, 3/5/70, a copy of which is attached.

(8) One identification card for J & J Enterprises, 6311 Yucca Street, Hollywood, California 90029, which is attached.

On 3/12/70, a review of Los Angeles file 100-74748-1 reflected that an organization identified as COBRA or "Free Right" was a paramilitary right wing group with access to grenades.

16MM MOTION PICTURE SERVICE



***J & J Enterprises***

6311 YUCCA STREET  
HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA 90028  
HO 4-5161

JOSEPH N. BARBERA  
PHONE 766-0392

JOEL M. LEVY  
PHONE 781-8333

Eric Starvo Galt the people involved in this were Marie Martin, and her cousin Charles Stein. After the arrangements were made, Charles Stein started on a trip with Eric Galt known as James Earl Ray, to New Orleans. The trip took approximately 7 days round trip. About 1 day to a day and a half was spent in New Orleans, also the viewpoint of man and woman on the character of Eric Galt. Some of the highlights of the trip that Charles took with Eric are places that they stopped at, and experienced of running off the road in a snow storm, also a number of phone calls that were made along the way. In which none were accomplished with the exception of 1 call. After arriving in New Orleans it was interesting to note that Charles mentions how far at one time how Eric drove to get a glass of beer which was approximately 8 to 9 blocks from where he was staying. at his motel. It is known that in New Orleans there are bars on every corner therefore, it would not be necessary to go that far just for an ordinary glass of beer. Charles walking down the street had noticed Eric in this bar but did not acknowledge him that he recognized him. Later on when Eric was with Charles, Eric had said to Charles that he had seen him walking by this bar, Charles never made a comment to Eric why Eric did not acknowledge that he saw Charles at that time. It's funny that after traveling with a man for over 2 thou. miles and 3 days that when you see him walking by that you don't say hello or something of that nature. It's apparent that Eric did not want Charles to know where he was at that time. Also Charles indicates that there was another man with Eric. The other man did not see Charles that he knows of

but very possible Charles believes that this kman may be Raoul which could possibly have been the payoff After such other experiences in NEW Orleans Eric had told Charles that his business was finished in New Orleans and he was ready to make the trip back to LA so Eric and Charles started their trip back to LA Charles also talks about when in LA after the assination of Martin Luther King how the FBI was at his home and asking questions and sho3ing pictures of Eric Galt for Charles to recognize The first pictures that were shown to Charles Charles said that they were not the same in photos of the man that he made the trip to New Orleans with/~~and~~ the white Mustang believed to be/<sup>a</sup>1966 Also Charles indicates how the FBI handled the situation when asking questions about the case of James Earl Ray and his association with Eric Galt Marie Martin met Eric in a bar in Hollywood on Hollywood Blvd. the Sultan Room When she first met Eric she was serving some drinks as a cocktail waitress in the Sultan Room Now every time Eric would pay for his drinks hw would alwasly give Marie a 20\$ bill and told Marie to kepp the change. That night Marie indicates that it must have been at least 11 to 15 drinks that he had After Marie talked to Eric for a while Eric asked Marie if he could take her home and Marie saying yes Eric says where do you live, and Maries answeres jokingly New Orleans because that's where she originally comes from and this was the start of the trip to New Orleans Marie could not make the trip but told Eric that her cousin Charles Stein would make the trip instead of her. Some of the highlights of Marie and Eric were Eric had said that he was hoping that there would not be any funny business on this trip that Charles would not have any idea of rolling him or any kind of

trouble in that way. Eric also told Marie that there better not be any ~~xxx~~ trouble because I would hate to have to kill him and also indicated that he had a gun <sup>Eric</sup> Also/told Marie that he would make the trip with Charles on one condition and that's if Marie, Charles, and Rita which is Charles' sister go with Eric to No. Hollywood on Lankershim Blvd. to register for Wallace, in which they did.~~xx~~ Marie also talks about how she had conversations with Eric Galt about Erick liking to be around Lesbians it seemed that that was a challenge for him Also he at times was talking to Marie about whenever he was out of money he would always get money from a brother of his who lived in Alababa Now there were times when Marie saw money from an envelope that possibly was from his brother most of the time it was \$20 bills Marie also did at one time intorduce a Negro girl to have sex with Eric in which the girl was paid \$100 also a second girl was brought along and paid \$50 to watch. Marie also had a portable tv set which Eric wanted to exchange for a console model. Now Marie did make <sup>and</sup> the change/that is how the FBI got fingerprints on Eric Galt and associating Marie Martin with the case The fingerprints were taken off the back of the tv set Eric at one time did tell Marie the reason for the exchange of tv sets was that he needed a portable tv set because he was planning to be traveling Marie also ~~told him~~ ~~to~~ goes into explaingng of the FBI going over to her apartment and questionng her and at times where there were as many as 10 FBI agents at her place and how she got disturbed and couldn't even find a place to sit down herself Marie Martin and Charles Stein have to appear at the trial Mar. 3, 1969.

ROBERT K. DWYER  
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

LLOYD A. RHODES  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

JOHN L. CARLISLE  
H. J. BEACH  
E. L. HUTCHINSON, JR.  
CLYDE R. VENSON  
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATORS

EARL E. FITZPATRICK  
NON-SUPPORT DIVISION

PHIL M. CANALE, JR.  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY GENERAL  
FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF TENNESSEE  
COUNTY OF SHELBY

SHELBY COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING  
157 POPLAR AVENUE  
MEMPHIS, TENN. 38103

ASSISTANTS

WILLIAM D. HAYNES  
JAMES C. BEASLEY  
EWELL C. RICHARDSON  
JEWETT H. MILLER  
J. CLYDE MASON  
SAM J. CATANZARO  
LEONARD T. LAFFERTY  
ARTHUR T. BENNETT  
DON D. STROTHER  
DON A. DINO  
JOSEPH L. PATTERSON  
BILLY F. GRAY  
EUGENE C. GAERIG  
HARVEY HERRIN  
F. GLEN SISSON  
JOHN W. PIEROTTI

March 19, 1969

Mrs. Marie Martin  
5311 Melrose, Apt. 419  
Los Angeles, California 90000

Re: State of Tennessee vs. James Earl Ray  
Murder First Degree

Dear Mrs. Martin:

The above-named individual entered a plea of guilty to Murder in the First Degree on March 10, 1969, in Division III of our Criminal Courts. He received as punishment for committing that offense a sentence of ninety-nine years to be served in our State Penitentiary at Nashville, Tennessee.

I wish to thank you for your co-operation with the men in my office. We cannot exist in this country without Justice, Law, and Order. Your willingness to be a witness for the State in this case shows civic responsibility in keeping with traditions which have made this country the greatest in the world. My staff and I commend you for your co-operation which assisted us in bringing about a just end to this case.

Yours truly,

*Phil M. Canale, Jr.*  
PHIL M. CANALE, JR.

*Robert K. Dwyer*  
ROBERT K. DWYER

*James C. Beasley*  
JAMES C. BEASLEY

*John L. Carlisle*  
JOHN L. CARLISLE

PMCJr:RKD:MEF

*Cobra*

TO: All City Editors and News Media Personnel

Synopsis of C.O.B.R.A. News Conference Held  
at the Los Angeles Press Club March 5, 1970

1. Demand for the immediate closure of the University of California.

- a. Beatings, bombings and burnings have befallen the "California" campuses as a result of the "CONTROLLED CURRICULA" engineered to caress the student into the acceptance of COMMUNAZI rhetoric. For example, HENAC (Human and Educational Needs for the Academic Community), a 12-unit accredited course at UCLA, funded by the fascistic Ford Foundation (to the tune of \$75,000) and the University of California, uses textbooks by Joseph Stalin, Lenny Bruce, Rosa Luxembourg, Malcolm X, Frederick Engels, Che Guevara, Karl Marx, Eldredge Cleaver, Ho Chi Minh, Leon Trotsky, and Fidel Castro . . . and those are just the conservatives. Money through HENAC paid for the Pauley Pavillion "riot rally" supporting the "Chicago Seven" on campus at UCLA. HENAC distributes position papers of Jerry Rubin, and their office doubles as the Black Panther Information Center. The Panthers' "Negro Nazi" black bigots have allied themselves with the Al Fatah in a COMMUNAZI collusion that promotes hate and hostility toward the Hebrew minority. They support "Nasser, Nazi of the Nile" and the COMMUNAZI alliance of "socialist states" who plan a program to "exterminate the Jew off the face of the earth."
- b. UCSB, with open arms, offered William Kunstler tax-supported facilities to inflame the fury of the COMMUNIST-FASCIST fanatics which left the Isla Vista in flames.
- c. The students receive an indoctrination rather than an education . . . The curriculum is sick, slanted and subversive. There is no accurate concept of history . . . no such thing as original documentation research assignments. The ability to accept rather than think is accented in the freshman year and then accelerated quarterly, resulting in a "BRAIN BENDING" indoctrination program rivaling that of Adolph Hitler's at the height of his hysteria. The University of California is disseminating the seeds of discontent, designed to divide, distort and destroy the system of free enterprise.

2.. Abolition of property tax.

- a. Property tax is the base on which the abolition of private property is promoted . . . that being the first plank of the Communist Manifesto, which leads toward total

totalitarianism through its support of the tenth plank of the Communist Manifesto which is tax-supported, government "controlled" public education. It is better titled "Reducation."

- b. The property tax is discriminatory in that it takes from the industrious who have contributed to society, built homes, industry, and business, and penalizes "them" to aid the parasitic populace who feels that the "workers of the world" owe them a living. The Communists have been conned and controlled by the Establishment, proving that CommUNism is not built on empty bellies but built on empty heads. This COMMUNAZI tax base promotes and promulgates an aura of irresponsibility. Irresponsible parents then produce irresponsible children in an irresponsible socialistic "sick" society.

### 3. Gradual phase-out of tax-supported public schools.

- a. This tenth plank of the Communist Manifesto has resulted in the subversion, perversion and persuasion of the young people to turn against the freedom that once flourished in the freest, finest and foremost nation the world has ever known. Indoctrination, not education, has resulted in public Reducation.
- b. It is discriminatory against the "individual" who chooses to send his or her child to private or parochial schools; in that they are taxed "double," once for the perverse and subversive education they choose not to support, and then must pay again for the education they choose, the quality of both suffering severely. What the government pays for, the government controls . . . What the government receives it must first take away, and what the government takes away it must do so by force or threat of force . . . Thus COMMUFASCISM flourishes as with Adolph Hitler's public "PROGRAMMED" populace.
- c. Public Reducation further discriminates against the individual parent who wishes to tailor the education of a "talented" child toward specific "superior" capacities. The system, conversely, is geared down to meet the lowest standards rather than the highest . . . The bright students lose interest and imagination while being penalized, paralyzed and propagandized to the point of "severe" growth suppression.
- d. The socialist school system has been "regressive" creating a renaissance of Sodom and Gomorrah to antedeluvian concepts that once belched forth from the belly of Babelonian barbarians. The sickness saturates the society and permeates the peace and promise of freedom for all, with products of the public schools like Manson's maniacs and a multitude of other monstrosities that infest the streets with hypes, whores and heathens heralding hate and hostility for humanity.



Private or state banks could lend money to the parents for their children's education when a family is destitute. The parent would be required by law to pay for the education of his choice. We do not believe in the something-for-nothing concept.

The Bolshevik bureaucracy is beyond the belief of many parents who have grown to accept this COMMUNAZI "cancer" with concern but lack the courage and initiative to step out of their apathy into action. This C.O.B.R.A. news conference is designed to inspire them to cut out the cancer on the California campuses before it is too late. The elimination of public education will discourage irresponsible parents from foisting on society their "offspring" which they are not willing to pay for. We therefore encourage responsible parenthood designed to elevate society to new heights in the twentieth century.

- e. INSENSITIVITY TRAINING is being adopted by public schools which was first most effectively used by Adolph Hitler's storm troopers in his "strength through joy" program.

#### 4. Separation of school and state.

Separation of school, media, church and state are essential to the "free right" of choice. Separation of the media and church from government control has brought about the best financed and most formidable media and religious organizations in the history of mankind. The same argument for "controlled" media and "controlled" church has been presented by every "COMMUNAZI" tyranny of the twentieth century. We feel that the child is the ward of the parent and not of the state.

The participants in this news conference are: Frederick Young, Regional Director of C.O.B.R.A. (Santa Barbara County); Paul Croshier, C.O.B.R.A. Field Coordinator; and Chairman Scott Winchester of the Orange County Young Americans for Freedom.

The C.O.B.R.A. posters carry the captions:

Hitler Poster: "BASICALLY NATIONAL SOCIALISM AND  
MARXISM ARE THE SAME" --Adolph Hitler  
February 5, 1941

Source: Friedrich A. Hayek, The Road to Serfdom  
(University of Chicago Press, 1944), p. 30. Also see  
Bulletin of International News (published by the Royal  
Institute of International Affairs), XVIII, No. 5, 269.

Castro Poster: "FOR COMMUNISM TO SURVIVE AMERICA MUST  
BE DESTROYED . . . WE MUST TAKE THE  
SCHOOLS" --Fidel Castro

Source: Major Jose Duarte of the Cuban Rebel Army.

Arch de Triumph Poster: "WHEN SOCIALISM TRIUMPHS  
FREEDOM FALLS"  
--C.O.B.R.A. Caption

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## James Earl Ray now at New Prison

PETROS, Tenn. (UPI)—James Earl Ray, the convicted killer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was transferred today from the state penitentiary at Nashville to a smaller maximum security facility at Brushy Mountain near here.

"He arrived by car about 6:30 A.M.," said Wallace Flood, assistant corrections commissioner for adult programs.

"He will be housed in a single cell in one of the cell blocs," Flood said. "He will get exactly the same treatment as any other prisoner here. And we plan to work out a work program for him, but we don't know yet just what that will involve.

"Actually he will be better off here than in Nashville," Flood added. "He'll have more opportunity for recreation and exercise, because of the smaller number of prisoners here. There's a big difference between 3,000 inmates and 325."

Ray is serving 99 years for the slaying of King at Memphis two years ago.

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

A-3 Herald Examiner  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 3/25/70  
Edition: Star  
Author:  
Editor:  
Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574-18

SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED

MAR 26 1970  
FBI — LOS ANGELES

*Wb*  
*A. Heum*  
*info*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

DATE: 3/16/70

FROM : ~~ASAC~~ PHILIP R. SHERIDAN

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 3/16/70 Supervisor CLEMENT L. MC GOWAN, JR., Civil Rights Unit, SOG, advised he received an inquiry concerning matter appearing in a new book due to be released written by former FBI Agent WILLIAM TURNER which relates to the KING assassination. He stated on page 106 of chapter 6 reference is made to an unnamed Los Angeles Police Department official who purportedly attempted to provide the FBI with information indicating that there was a conspiracy behind KING's assassination, but that the FBI declined to accept this information stating, "We got our man and that is it."

MC GOWAN stated a review of this file failed to indicate any factual basis for this statement and he requested that any pertinent information be furnished to him from Los Angeles files.

2<sup>35</sup> pm. Mc Gowan advised see pg B of rept of SA Theodore J. Hearn L.A. (Serial 1400) re copy of letter from Chung Hing Lian to SAC Ingersoll & Lian and to L.A. Tel. to Bu 5/17/68 (Serial 1376) re L.A. Times Aug. "Bob" Lian.

Mc Gowan advises would handle matter

*PM*

*W. J. Hearn*

44-1574-1920

BC BC

Rec 2:15  
3/16/70  
y

PRS:cea  
(2)

*ca*

*JD*

*ty*

Date 6/14/68

Title and Character of Case

**MURKIN**

Date Property Acquired <b>4/12/68</b>	Source From Which Property Acquired <b>LOUIS PUTERMAN, Home Service Laundry and Dry Cleaning, 5280 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles</b>
Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit <b>Bulky Exhibit Room</b>	Reason for Retention of Property and Efforts Made to Dispose of Same <b>Evidence</b>
Description of Property or Exhibit and Identity of Agent Submitting Same <b>Instruction Booklet for Thermo Seal Marking machine, manufactured by Textile Marking Machine Company, Inc., Syracuse, New York for Model H 5-K, Serial Number 31454</b>	

SEARCHED —  
INDEXED —  
SERIALIZED BC  
FILED BC

SEMIANNUAL INVENTORY CERTIFICATION TO JUSTIFY RETENTION OF PROPERTY (Initial and Date)

Field File # **44-1574-1B1**

**44-1574-1901**

Date 4/18/68

Title and Character of Case

**MURKIN**

Date Property Acquired <b>4/18/68</b>	Source From Which Property Acquired <b>Fred Back, Owner, Avalon Laundry &amp; Dry Cleaning, 3020 Nines Avenue, Culver City, California</b>
Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit <b>Bulky Exhibit Room</b>	Reason for Retention of Property and Efforts Made to Dispose of Same <b>Evidence</b>
Description of Property or Exhibit and Identity of Agent Submitting Same	

Submitted by SA Richard H. Ross and SA Francis G. Kahl

1. Piece Count Ledger for color marking tapes SAS RICHARD H. ROSS and FRANCIS G. KAHL.
2. Lot Control Ledger for color marking tapes.

SEARCHED       
INDEXED       
SERIALIZED BC  
FILED BC

SEMIANNUAL INVENTORY CERTIFICATION TO JUSTIFY RETENTION OF PROPERTY (Initial and Date)

Field File #

44-1574-1902

44-1574-1902

Date 8/1/68

Title and Character of Case

MURKIN

Date Property Acquired

4/24/68

Source From Which Property Acquired

Marie Martin, aka, 5533 Hollywood Blvd. La. Calif.

Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit

Bulky Exhibit Room

Reason for Retention of Property and Efforts Made to Dispose of Same

Evidence

Description of Property or Exhibit and Identity of Agent Submitting Same

Submitted by SA Denis Le MasterOne (1) barbell set, the property of James Earl Ray.SEARCHED   INDEXED   SERIALIZED   FILED   

SEMIANNUAL INVENTORY CERTIFICATION TO JUSTIFY RETENTION OF PROPERTY (Initial and Date)

Field File # 44-1574-1B144-1574-1003

Date 11/29/68

Title and Character of Case

JAMES EARL RAY

MURKIN

Date Property Acquired

11/12/68

Source From Which Property Acquired

Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit

Bulky Exhibit Room

Reason for Retention of Property and Efforts Made to Dispose of Same

Reference

Description of Property or Exhibit and Identity of Agent Submitting Same

Submitted by SA

One (1) LIFE Magazine dated May 3, 1968.

One (1) LOOK Magazine dated Nov. 12, 1968

SEARCHED \_\_\_\_\_  
INDEXED \_\_\_\_\_  
SERIALIZED FR  
FILED BC

*on appeal*  
8/12/69 *z*  
*on appeal* 2/20/70 *f*  
SEMIANNUAL INVENTORY CERTIFICATION TO JUSTIFY RETENTION OF PROPERTY (Initial and Date)

Field File # 44-1574-1B4

44-1574-904

Bulky Exhibit - Inventory of Property Acquired as Evidence  
FD-192 (Rev. 10-6-65)

Date 1/15/69

Title and Character of Case

**MURKIN**

Date Property Acquired

**5/6/68**

Source From Which Property Acquired

Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit

Reason for Retention of Property and Efforts Made to Dispose of Same

~~Bulky Exhibit - Inventory of Property Acquired as Evidence~~  
Description of Property or Exhibit and Identity of Agent Submitting Same

**Submitted by SA**

**Copy of original toll statements from telephone numbers:**

213 - 463-9449  
213 - 462-9901  
213 - 462-9910  
213 - 469-8096

SEARCHED     

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*On appeal 8/12/69*  
*On appeal 2/20/70*  
SEMIANNUAL INVENTORY CERTIFICATION TO JUSTIFY RETENTION OF PROPERTY (Initial and Date)

Field File # **44-1574-1B5**

*44-1574-1905*



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

**FBI Sees No MLK Conspiracy**

NASHVILLE — A theory that James Earl Ray, killer of Dr. Martin Luther King, civil rights leader, took part in a conspiracy has been abandoned by the FBI, a spokesman declared. Ray, who is serving a 99-year jail term, has said repeatedly that he did not act alone. It has been reported, however, that hundreds of leads have been checked, none of which supported the claim that others had been involved with Ray in the murder plot.

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

A-2 Sentinel  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 7/2/70

Edition:

Author:

Editor:

Title:

Character:

or

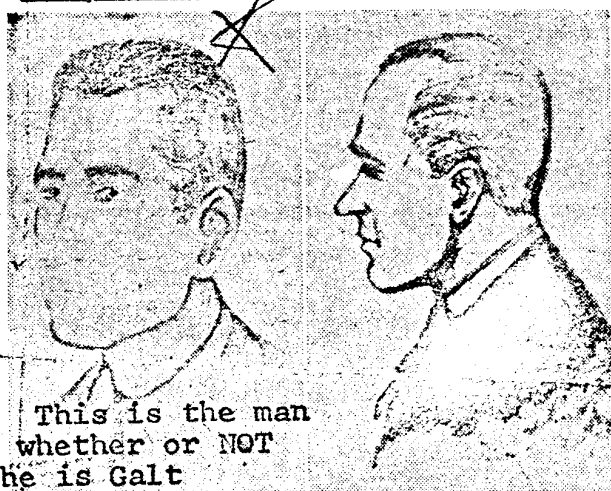
Classification:

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

44-1574

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 5 1970	
FBI — LOS ANGELES	



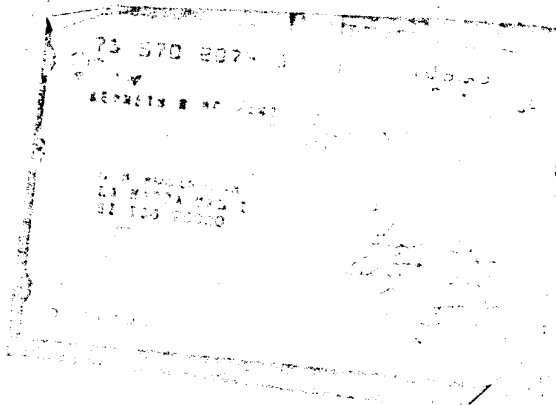
This is the man  
whether or NOT  
he is Galt

**VIEWS OF SUSPECT**—Sketches being used in the hunt for slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King include the one at left, being used by Mexican authorities based upon a description provided by the FBI, and the other, based on a description given by man who lives in building from where the shot was fired.

Wirephoto

## MYSTERY MAN

Still later, after the



44-1574-1907

**Indices Search Slip**  
FD-160 (Rev. 10-1-59)

Subject

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Aliases

Sex	
-----	--

☐ Male  
☐ Female

☐ Restrict to Locality of[illegible]

Searched by

7/20/70  
(date)

Consolidated by

(date)

Reviewed by

(date)

### File Review Symbols

GP 0 875-388

44-1574-1908

La Habra Calif  
July 9th, 1970

Subject: James Earl Ray

J. Edgar Hoover, Chief F. B. I.

Dear Sir:

It seems water under the bridge, as the above person has long been captured, and is now serving time.

The thing that got me was - I know I saw this man in La Habra Calif. April 9th, 1968, I tried to get help from the local police, the F. B. I. in Los Angeles, and no one seemed to care- Then I wrote a letter to you, and the F. B. I. from Los Angeles finally acted- I guess when they heard from YOU, because the two men who came to my house said: Why did I write You??

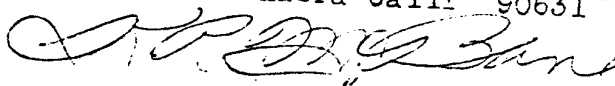
On April 9th, 1968, about 10AM, I was having my old car (1951 Hudson Hornet) serviced at the Texaco Station, the car was then was up on a hoist, this man walks in and asked for the Keys to the men's room- I sensed right there that was the James Earl Ray, as I had cold chills up my back, I just was frozen, could not phone, could not get my car, but said to myself, don't act as if you know anything-well he wasn't in the men's room 30 seconds came out hung up the Keys, and seemed to stagger towards his car-altho not drunk- He had to be a very marked man-I don't for the life of me see how anyone could have missed him. at all--

Have never heard whether I was right or wrong I know I was Right- All I want to know was I Right? I realize it is a touchy thing to advertise, as the Blacks would Love me, and there are a lot of Whites, would have it in for me, but I am a great believer in equality, and Justice for ALL. I even told the F B I -(LA) that he would drive East which would have taken him to Ontario Airport and to Canada.

Just Let me Know

Yours Truly

Kenneth McBane 641 Galen Dr  
La Habra Calif 90631



44-1574-1907

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SERIALIZED <i>mm</i>	FILED <i>mm</i>
JUL 23 1970	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

July 17, 1970

*✓*  
Mr. Kenneth McBane  
641 Galen Drive  
La Habra, California 90631

Dear Mr. McBane:

In response to your letter of July 9th, with enclosures, I am unable to furnish the specific data you requested as information in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice.

James Earl Ray, who was sought by the FBI in connection with the slaying of Martin Luther King, was arrested on June 8, 1968, in London, England. He pleaded guilty on a murder charge and is now serving a 99-year sentence in the State of Tennessee. I regret I am unable to be of further assistance to you in this instance.

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

① - Los Angeles - Enclosures (2)

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JUL 20 1970  
FBI - LOS ANGELES

44-1574-1909

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JUL 8 1970	
FBI — LOS ANGELES	

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16

115th

Sub: James Earl Ray Case

La Habra Calif  
7/25/70

144-1574-777  
776  
ALL  
121  
1213  
1834

Dear Sir:

I saw the above man in La Habra  
April 9th, 1968, two of your men came to my home  
I told them everything about this character.

As I know I was right in everything I  
told your two men, why was I never given a Thanks?

Never even got a letter- mind you I  
am not a bounty hunter- Just merely a Native of  
Los Angeles and a dam good citizen, trying to do  
the right thing.

Mind you I am well aware of what might  
happen if it ever got out -I was a lover of the  
Black Man, but really I don't run scared, only  
cold chills ran up my back when I saw that man above  
and my ear on a hoist- I just kinda looked the other  
way--

All I wish you to write is: Tell me  
wasn't I right, I even told your 2 men he would go  
East of La Habra, that would mean he boarded a ~~train~~ plane  
at Ontario Calif and wound up in Canada, then England.  
and the end--

Really don't see how any person could  
miss that awkward guy--

I Thank You

Kenneth McBane  
641 Galen Dr  
La Habra, California 90631

ps: Please forgive if I have misspelled your name sir  
it has been 2 years now, and don't recall seeing  
it since, maybe it should be Greib?

*Kenneth McBane*



Kenneth McBane  
641 Galen Dr  
La Habra Ca 90631



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
West 6th St.,  
Los Angeles 90054  
California

Atten: Mr Greb Personal

11000 Wilshire Boulevard  
Los Angeles, California 90024  
July 31, 1970

Mr. Kenneth Mc Bane  
~~641 Galen Drive~~  
La Habra, California 90631

Dear Mr. Mc Bane:

Thank you for your recent letter.

Please be advised that all information  
in this matter has been furnished to the appropriate  
local authorities.

Your interest in writing as you did is  
appreciated.

Very truly yours,

WESLEY G. GRAPP  
Special Agent in Charge

1 - Los Angeles (44-1574)

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44-1574-1910