

Mr. Stephen J. Pollak
Assistant Attorney General

June 14, 1968

Director, FBI

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

The following additional pertinent information is being furnished relative to captioned case. The information set forth herein is based on preliminary communications and complete details will be incorporated in reports of results of investigation.

[redacted] Director of Prison Security, Wandsworth Prison where Ray is presently confined, on June 13, 1968, briefed Assistant Attorney General Fred M. Vinson, Jr., on all security arrangements relating to Ray. [redacted] went over in detail that the subject is in the "condemned cell" (death row), and that two prison wardens are with him on a 24-hour basis. Ray is never left alone, all toilet facilities are in the same cell, he is examined at different times in the prison yard where there are no outside buildings from which outsiders can look into the yard, he is under escort while exercising and the food comes from the prison mess but no one knows which portion will go to Ray.

[redacted] requested that if available, he be furnished certain prison background information relating to Ray. Some of these items include the medical history of the subject, details of his escape from the Missouri State Penitentiary, details of any other escapes or attempted escapes, any record of violence against prison staff. Any other available information that may be of value to prison authorities such as Ray's reported familiarity with drug traffic and practices in prison is also desired. We will furnish [redacted] available information along the lines of his request.

We have been advised that all information furnished by [redacted] is considered by the British Home Secretary to have been furnished with the understanding that it should not be disseminated in any fashion which would put the information in the realm of public knowledge.

EJM:bjf
(14)

NOTE: See Rosen to DeLoach memorandum dated June 14, 1968, entitled, "MURKIN."

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COMM-FBI

- Tolson _____
- DeLoach _____
- Mohr _____
- Bishop _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
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- Sullivan _____
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- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
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EXHIBIT F

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An individual identifying himself as a "Mr. Adam" of "Newsweek" contacted the American Embassy in London and stated he had been requested by the American Civil Liberties Union of New York to obtain the name of Ray's lawyer. He was advised that it was not the prerogative of the Embassy to release this information and he was referred to the New Scotland Yard Press Bureau. "Mr. Adam" is not known to the American Embassy as a member of the "Newsweek" staff in London. Ray is being represented by Mr. Eugene of Michael Dresden and Company, 32 Tavistock Street, London, W. C. 2. This same firm is representing Ray in the British Government's case against Ray on the fraudulent passport and gun carrying charges as well as in the extradition matter. The extradition papers have been sent from the British Home Office to the magistrate at Bow Street Court. The same magistrate is hearing both the British Government's case against Ray and the extradition matter. Indications are that the extradition hearing will still take place on June 21, 1968.

New Scotland Yard has advised that [REDACTED] born June 1, 1939, at Detroit, Michigan, having United States passport number [REDACTED] residing at 4 Tilney Street, London, W. 1, has contacted the court appointed attorney for Ray stating that he, [REDACTED] has an academic interest in the case as Ray is a United States citizen in custody in London. New Scotland Yard has reported that [REDACTED] appears to be affiliated on a fee basis in other matters with some United States law firms in London. He registered as a lawyer late in 1967, at the American Embassy in London stating he is a member of the California Bar specializing in motion picture contract work. He last entered England on May 9, 1968, but has been in and out of England prior to that date. At the request of New Scotland Yard, we are conducting appropriate record checks on [REDACTED]. You will be advised of any pertinent information developed as a result of these checks.

At the request of the FBI, [REDACTED] Metropolitan Toronto Police Department, Toronto, Canada, caused a check to be made of all unsolved major occurrences at Toronto from April 24, 1967, to July 18, 1967, covering the period from Ray's escape from prison to his approximate prior residence in Canada, but could locate none where the subject could be considered a logical suspect. A similar check of such major occurrences in Toronto for the period of April 8, 1968, to May 6, 1968, has previously been made with negative results.

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Deputy Chief of Police, [REDACTED] Metropolitan Toronto Police Department, has now advised that he is informing local press that the "mysterious fat man" has been located, interviewed and eliminated and that he was not significant in the investigation. [REDACTED] is not releasing any information concerning the identity of the "mysterious fat man." Other avenues of investigation are still being explored in the Toronto as well as other foreign and domestic areas.

Our New York Office has received an anonymous letter concerning an alleged plan to take the subject Ray from authorities upon his arrival in the United States. This letter bears the postmark "June 11, 1968, P.M. New York, NY" and was dated June 10, 1968. The letter reads as follows:

"Federal Bureau of Investigation

"Gentlemen:

"I believe it to be of interest to you to know of a plan afoot to take Ray from the authorities upon arrival in the U.S. The people involved have expressed themselves as being undaunted if he is surrounded by the 100 Federal Marshals or FBI personnel. They anticipate a large protective force but will not be stopped and expect to lose several in the attempt but these will be martyrs. They have anticipated his surprise return and have placed watchers at every conceivable airport including Air Force landing areas. Because of such reprisals I must abstain from signing this note to you. I am deeply concerned and hope that no one is hurt."

The letter is written in legible longhand probably with a ball point pen on regular plain yellow tablet paper and is unsigned. Neither the letter nor the envelope in which it was mailed contains a return address. This letter is being forwarded for processing and appropriate action will be taken on anything of pertinence developed, by the FBI Laboratory and Identification Division.