

FBI

Date: 8/24/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
ATTENTION: IDENTIFICATION DIVISION,
LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

ReBuairtel to Memphis 8/8/68, and Memphis
airtel to Bureau 5/20/68.

RE: SUSPECTS [REDACTED]

Enclosed herewith for the Identification Division
are three fingerprint cards bearing prints of Mrs. RUBY WIGGINS, and two fingerprint cards bearing prints of Miss ROSE PRATINI, both employees of the William Len Hotel, 110 Monroe, Memphis, Tennessee.

[REDACTED] Homicide Bureau, Memphis Police Department, Memphis, Tennessee, advised SA [REDACTED] on 8/12/68 that according to records of the Memphis Police Department, the registration cards of the William Len Hotel, 110 Monroe Street, Memphis, for [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on 4/4/68 were obtained by officers of the Memphis Police Department. He advised he has no way of knowing who touched or handled these registration cards. He explained these registration cards were not picked up by the Memphis Police Department until several days after these individuals came to their attention. Consequently the registration cards themselves were not treated as evidence and therefore no limitations were made by the

1-Bureau (Enc. 3) (RM)
2-Memphis
REG:vp
(5)

REC-111

FBI IDENT 38861-5165

C.C. Rosen

6 AUG 27 1968

Sent _____

M Per _____

EXHIBIT PR

10# 9075
8-27-68

RECEIVED REACHED IN LFPS

SEP 17 1968
Special Agent in Charge
and J.B. [initials]

Memphis Police Department for protection of these cards from being handled. He pointed out further the Memphis Police Department has no way of knowing if any other law enforcement agency personnel has handled these registration cards.

Inasmuch as it cannot be determined with any certainty the identity of the individuals at the Memphis Police Department that may have or likely handled these registration cards, no elimination prints will be obtained from personnel of the Memphis Police Department.

With regard to personnel of the William Len Hotel, mentioned above, who likely handled these cards, Mr. KENNETH W. NEWMAN, Manager of the William Len Hotel, advised SA [REDACTED] on 8/16/68 the only logical persons who would normally handle the above-described registration cards are Mrs. RUBY WIGGINS, who registered captioned individuals into the hotel, and Miss ROSE FRATINI, telephone operator, whose duty it is to file the registration cards for the hotel. He pointed out, however, all personnel of the hotel do have access to the registration cards should the need arise. He also commented other individuals such as the various law enforcement officers at times have access to and do handle the registration cards.

Bearing the above comments in mind as related by Mr. NEWMAN, elimination prints of Mrs. WIGGINS and Miss FRATINI were obtained. It is obvious the enclosed prints are not of good quality or clarity; however, the Bureau is requested to bear in mind the age of both of these women and the fact both commented while being printed that they are suffering from arthritis and therefore were not able to cooperate as well as they would have liked to, so as to furnish clear prints. Additional prints are enclosed of these two individuals so as to be of assistance, if possible, in the examination.

The FBI Identification Division, Latent Fingerprint Section, is requested to examine the enclosed fingerprint cards with the unidentified latent prints developed on the William Len Hotel registration cards concerning [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

See addendum page 3.

Note: See addendum General Investigative Division
Page 2.

ADDENDUM OF THE IDENTIFICATION DIVISION: *Red* ~~SEL~~/egd 8-29-68

Submitted elimination prints not identical with latent prints previously reported on William Len Hotel registration cards. Memphis Division advised.

Recommend matter (see memorandum A. Rosen to Mr. DeLoach, dated August 5, 1968, entitled "Murkin") be referred to General Investigative Division for further consideration.

C. J. [Signature]

As a result of checking various hotels and motels in Memphis, Tennessee, regarding suspects in the Martin Luther King, Jr. assassination, it was determined that an individual by the name of [REDACTED] and another by the name of [REDACTED] registered at the William Len Hotel in Memphis on April 4, 1968. On April 5, 1968, they made a hasty departure from the hotel taking a taxicab to the Memphis Airport. Investigation strongly indicates that these two individuals departed Memphis by Delta Airlines Flight No. 157, nonstop to Houston, Texas, on April 5, 1968, using the names of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

This matter has been thoroughly checked with negative results in order to determine the true identity of these individuals. It appears that these two individuals may have been in Memphis for the possibility of committing some illegal activity, or there as possible fugitives "cooling off" and departed immediately because of the pressure of law enforcement on the King assassination.

R | In view of the fact that these two individuals may be Bureau fugitives and could be possibly implicated as co-conspirators, it is recommended that this matter be referred to the Identification Division for the purpose of determining if it is feasible to check all unidentified latent fingerprints from the registration cards of the William Len Hotel with that of white Bureau fugitives between the ages of 20 and 35. It is noted that the best available information indicates that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are described as white males between the ages of 20 and 35.

CLM/jk

Egan

JRM