

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Memorandum

TO : Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: SEP 23 1965

FROM : Jerris Leonard
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

JL:JHF:dcr
DJ 144-72-662

SUBJECT: James Earl Ray - Subject;
Martin Luther King, Jr. - Victim.
Conspiracy Against Rights
CIVIL RIGHTS

This is to confirm the telephone conversation of this date between [redacted] of your Bureau and Mr. Flannery of this Division, concerning information to be released by the R.C.M.P. with respect to their assistance in apprehending the fugitive James Earl Ray.

"Assuming that the prosecutive authorities of Shelby County, Tennessee, have no objection to the release of such information, on the basis of the prior court order limiting pre-trial publicity, or otherwise, it is our view that the R.C.M.P. should limit their release of information to their role in apprehending the fugitive; and that their other investigative activity, particularly with respect to whether Ray was part of a conspiracy to kill Dr. King, should not be discussed."

REC-66 1/1 38861-586
J.L. Leonard
9/23/65