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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Mr. DeLoach

DATE April 9, 1968

A. Rosen

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. McGowan
- 1 - Mr. McDonough
- 1 - Mr. Long
- 1 - Mr. Martindale
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. Conrad
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan

Tolson _____
 DeLoach _____
 Mohr _____
 Bishop _____
 Casper _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 Felt _____
 Gale _____
 Rosen _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

MURKIN

Handwritten signatures and initials:
 [Signature]
 D. [Signature]
 [Signature]

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.,

4/4/68.

One of the most promising leads developed so far is the laundry tags appearing on a T-shirt and a pair of shorts apparently abandoned by the subject with the rifle that is believed to be the murder weapon. It has been determined that these laundry marks were made by a Thermo Seal marking machine manufactured by the Textile Marking Machine Company, Syracuse, New York. The manufacturer of this machine has advised that the laundry marks in question are unusual in that they consist of five characters whereas the usual code contains six characters.

These markings are also unusual because the first two characters are in smaller type while the remaining three characters are in larger type. The normal arrangement is for the first three characters to be in smaller type and for the following characters to be in larger type. The Textile Marking Machine Company has stated only a limited number of machines have been manufactured which print laundry marks in this manner. Investigation is proceeding on an expedited basis to locate these machines for the purpose of identifying the laundry marks.

EX-115

REC-4-38861-1174

Richard Helms, Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, has furnished the Central Intelligence Agency file on [redacted] whom Helms considers a suspect because of his resemblance to an artist's conception of the subject and because of the Central Intelligence Agency's experience with [redacted]. The Central Intelligence Agency file states [redacted]

Enclosure sent 4-9-68

REC'D - [redacted]

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Wlm: yea

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Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

He has been a chronic letter writer to the Central Intelligence Agency criticizing them and the Government. By letter of [REDACTED] requested the Central Intelligence Agency to pay him [REDACTED]

The only record of [REDACTED] found in Bureau files is a memorandum from the Central Intelligence Agency, 1/18/68, advising us of his letters to the Central Intelligence Agency. No record can be located in the Identification Division but [REDACTED] fingerprints are being obtained from the [REDACTED]

A. C. Hayden, Intra-Division Information Unit of the Department, advised on the evening of 4/8/68 that Beatrice Rosenberg, a secretary in the Attorney General's office, had received a telephone call from a man identifying himself as [REDACTED] who said he resided at [REDACTED] Whitefield, North Carolina. [REDACTED] said he was calling the Attorney General to report that a white man was in his house, was drunk, had a gun and said he had killed Martin Luther King, Jr.

There is no Whitefield, North Carolina. There is a Whiteville, North Carolina. Investigation by the Charlotte Division has failed to locate a [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] in the Whiteville area and no record of a [REDACTED] has been located. No record of [REDACTED] could be found in Bureau files.

A pair of duckbill pliers was found among the personal effects believed to have been abandoned by the subject. These pliers bear a trademark of the Rompage Hardware Company, Los Angeles. Employees at the hardware company believe this is one of twelve pliers purchased in October, 1966. Employees have no recollection of the sale of these pliers but an exhaustive search is being made of charge sale records.

It is noted that the rifle believed to be the murder weapon was purchased in Birmingham, Alabama, 3/30/68. Binoculars found with the rifle were purchased in Memphis, 4/4/68. A latent fingerprint found on the rifle is identical with a latent fingerprint found on the binoculars. This presents a strong probability that these fingerprints are those of the subject.

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Other major avenues of investigation include checking out white Mustang automobiles, since one was seen leaving at a high rate of speed after the shot was fired; efforts to trace a bedspread or blanket found with the gun, and the immediate processing of all suspects as soon as they are developed.

ACTION:

1. Attached is a memorandum for the White House, the Attorney General, the Deputy Attorney General and the Civil Rights Division.

2. Investigation is continuing on an all-out basis.

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*GK.
H*

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