

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

Attorney General

June 17, 1968

Fred M. Vinson, Jr.  
Assistant Attorney General  
Criminal Division

James Earl Ray;  
Possible Defense Counsel

I received a telephone call this morning from one identifying himself as Lee Bailey, an attorney. He stated that he had gotten a letter which purported to be from Ray requesting him to serve as defense counsel in connection with the murder indictment in Memphis, Tennessee. Bailey was calling me to see if I had any knowledge of the bona fides of the letter. He also stated that he intended to tell Ray that "Because of his (Bailey's) close relationship with Dr. King, he would consider handling the matter only if Ray's defense was that he did not commit the crime".

Upon my inquiries about the substance of the letter, Bailey stated that it contained a convict number, gave his address as the prison in which he is actually being held, and named his solicitor as Michael Dresden and Co., 32 Tavistock Street, London. The letter also indicated that the writer thought he would be returned to this country on about June 19. I confirmed to Bailey that the information contained in the letter was accurate with the exception of the June 19 date which was uncertain. Bailey indicated that he would call Ray's solicitor in London to discuss the matter.

EXP. PROC.

JUN 18 1968

102 REC 36 44-38861-4700

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

12 JUN 18 1968