

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, (44-1987)

DATE: March 20, 1969

FROM : SA FRANKLIN L. JOHNSON

*Sub-73p2*

SUBJECT: MURKIN

[REDACTED]  
On March 20, 1969, [REDACTED], home telephone [REDACTED] appeared at the Memphis office and advised as follows:

Soon after the KING murder, he had furnished information to SA JOSEPH H. KEARNEY concerning EARNEST HEATH, Owner, A & A Interiors, 2476 S. Bellevue, Memphis, since he knew that HEATH hated Negroes and HEATH was out of town about a day and a half around the time of the KING murder. [REDACTED] at the time operated [REDACTED] at [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] stated he has since been to the office and talked to other persons and his purpose in returning at this time was to advise that he now recalls having seen JAMES EARL RAY in A & A Interiors talking with HEATH a day or two before the KING murder.

At one point he stated that the first time he saw RAY's picture he knew he had seen RAY in HEATH's place and when asked why he had not previously furnished this information, he said he had been busy, "up to Chicago and around". [REDACTED] had with him a Press-Scimitar dated March 13, 1968 which contained what quoted to be a sketch of the KING murderer prepared by Mexican authorities. He stated that this sketch looks like EARNEST HEATH.

*Sub-73p2*

### EVALUATION

*Earnest A - Sub E-114*

[REDACTED] is an elderly man who rambles somewhat and Agent got the definite opinion that he has no information of any value whatsoever. It is noted that he stated that he has also been to the State District Attorney General's Office with his information and that he stated he tried to call PERCY FOREMAN, RAY's defense attorney, but was unable to reach FOREMAN. He stated that FOREMAN did not want to fool with him.

*44-1987-Sub-E-114*

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