

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM : SAC, BUTTE (173-2) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR  
OO: Memphis

DATE: 4/1/69

On 3/25/69, [REDACTED] (protect identity), who has furnished insufficient information to determine his reliability, contacted the Butte Division and indicated he had some information concerning JAMES EARL RAY, which he wanted to furnish. [REDACTED] was contacted personally in Blackfoot, Idaho, and interviewed. He stated at the outset of the interview that he had been drinking considerably, but that it was only after several drinks that he could build enough courage to contact the FBI. He stated he was furnishing this information for whatever it was worth to the FBI and pointed out that if the information was traced back to him, his life would not be "worth a plugged nickel."

[REDACTED] advised that in 1951, he spent six months in the Arkansas State Prison for involuntary manslaughter.

In 1951, Mr. CHERRY was Governor of the State of Arkansas and ORVAL FAUBAUS was his Lt. Governor. Later, FAUBAUS became Governor and actually ALBERT TALMAGE and GEORGE WALLACE financed FAUBAUS in his political aspirations. An appointee of FAUBAUS to the State Alcohol Tax Department was ROLO FITCH (phonetic).

[REDACTED] stated that (FNU) FULMER was a State Representative from Eureka Springs, Arkansas, area. In 1953, [REDACTED] (phonetic), [REDACTED] and a "political hack" in northwest Arkansas, who at that time was working as a guard on the dam project on the White River below Gateway, Missouri, approached [REDACTED] and offered

- 2 - Memphis (Reg.)
  - 2 - Little Rock (Reg.)
  - 2 - Kansas City (Reg.)
  - 2 - Butte
- BSP/sdj  
(8)

*44-1987-Sub-M-792*

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED <i>ll</i>
SERIALIZED <i>ll</i>	FILED <i>ll</i>
APR 7 1969	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

*[Signature]*



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[REDACTED] a considerable amount of money to eliminate ORVAL FAUBAUS. [REDACTED] turned this down, but at the time was of the understanding that the offer was made as a result of interest from Representative FULMER.

[REDACTED] stated that in 12/67, he was back in the Eureka Springs, Arkansas, area visiting. In about 2/68, he was on a drinking spree with [REDACTED] (phonetic).

[REDACTED] told him that he was aware of [REDACTED] background and also asked [REDACTED] what it would take to get [REDACTED] to eliminate MARTIN LUTHER KING. [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] he would not get involved in this type of a deal. [REDACTED] stated, "Well KING will die." [REDACTED] pointed out that [REDACTED] has a strong dislike for Negroes and talked in terms of doing the community a service by eliminating KING.

[REDACTED] stated that after this drinking spree he traveled to the State Hospital, Topeka, Kansas, where he admitted himself and was under the care of Dr. SHAKER for three months. He stated that about a week after he entered this hospital KING was killed.

[REDACTED] advised that in his opinion [REDACTED] could shed light on this matter, as well as others involved in KING's murder. [REDACTED] stated he does not feel RAY did this act alone or of his own volition. [REDACTED] is of the opinion that GEORGE WALLACE and the Independent Party are actually behind the entire affair, but is of the opinion that it would be impossible to ever associate WALLACE with the actual deed.

[REDACTED] also stated that he had heard something to the effect that there was a Black Beret in existence in the South, and it was his understanding that this was some type of government organization. He stated that also he heard that WALLACE and FAUBAUS were connected with the Black Beret. He pointed out it is his understanding that the Black Beret was organized to get rid of undesirables by permanent elimination.

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[REDACTED] stated that he would be available to answer additional questions if necessary.

[REDACTED] furnished the following background information concerning himself:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Nationality	American
Date of birth	[REDACTED]
Place of birth	[REDACTED], Oklahoma
Height	6'1"
Weight	170#
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Brown
Complexion	Dark
Social Security #	[REDACTED]
Occupation	[REDACTED]
Residence	[REDACTED]
Marital status	Married
Wife	[REDACTED]

The foregoing investigation was conducted by SA .  
BRYCE S. PLESNER.

No lead is being set out to have [REDACTED] (phonetic) interviewed, as the Butte Division is not familiar with previous investigation conducted in this regard, and this type interview is being left to the discretion of the OO.

LEADS

MEMPHIS DIVISION

AT MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

Advise Butte if need exists to recontact [REDACTED] and forward specific matters desired to have discussed with [REDACTED]

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LITTLE ROCK DIVISION

AT ARKANSAS STATE PRISON

Check records for [REDACTED] and furnish information concerning him to Butte and Memphis Divisions.

KANSAS CITY DIVISION

AT TOPEKA, KANSAS

Check records at State Hospital concerning [REDACTED] and furnish any information reflecting [REDACTED] reason for being admitted to that hospital to Butte and Memphis.

BUTTE DIVISION

AT IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO

Will await information from Memphis relative to recontact of [REDACTED]