

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM : SA DARRELL L. HAMAR

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 12/1/75

On 12/1/75 Mr. DENNIS BATES, U. S. Parole Officer, Nashville, contacted the writer and advised as follows:

ROY RICHARDSON, Belfast, Tennessee, is currently on Federal parole for bank robbery and is under his, BATES', supervision. At approximately 3:15 a.m., 11/28/75 RICHARDSON called Mr. BATES at home stating he needed to talk to him. BATES made arrangements to meet RICHARDSON at the Sheraton Inn South motel, I-65, Nashville, Room 119.

RICHARDSON advised BATES he had information he desired to trade for consideration in being removed from parole status. BATES advised RICHARDSON this was not possible and RICHARDSON then stated he would give the information anyway.

RICHARDSON is described by BATES as a white male approximately 50 years of age and who formerly operated Richardson's Body Shop, Lewisburg, Tennessee, until his health forced him to retire. According to BATES, RICHARDSON has lupus, a terminal blood disease, and is a patient of the Veterans Administration Hospital.

RICHARDSON advised Mr. BATES that several months prior to the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING in Memphis he flew to Memphis in an airplane he had rented. He checked into a motel, name unrecalled but probably could recall additional details at a later date. RICHARDSON stated the motel was either the Downtowner or a motel across the street from the Downtowner. He had made arrangements to be visited by a prostitute and while waiting on

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the prostitute he heard voices from an adjoining room. One male voice was heard by RICHARDSON to state something to the effect there was plenty of money and that money was no problem. This same male voice was also heard to say something about a female named JANICE, stating that "JANICE" would get her money in the same manner as RAY would. This same voice was also heard to mention \$50,000 or \$60,000 and also mention the name of KING. The same voice was also heard to state something about there was about one chance in six that someone would be caught.

RICHARDSON stated he then left his motel room, and as he left he observed a white male leaving the adjoining room. RICHARDSON went to the motel bar, as did the man from the adjoining room, and he noticed this man kept looking at him. He recognized this man as being JOHN J. HOOKER.

RICHARDSON later went to prison on bank robbery conviction and while in prison two attempts were made on his life. One of the convicts that had tried to kill him stated he had been paid to kill him.

RICHARDSON stated he was released from prison later and after his release he received a telephone call from a male, who told him to forget about Memphis and the assassination. He recognized this voice as being that of JOHN J. HOOKER.

Since his release from prison he has had numerous problems, one of which included the shooting of the plate glass window from his body shop in Lewisburg, which indicates to RICHARDSON that someone is trying to keep him from talking.

Mr. BATES advised that RICHARDSON indicated that he possibly could furnish additional details at a later time, after he had an opportunity to think about the occurrences that happened in Memphis. Mr. BATES advised that RICHARDSON did not appear to have been drinking or to have been using narcotics at the time of his contact with him.

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AT BELFAST OR LEWISBURG, TENNESSEE.

It is suggested that ROY RICHARDSON, former operator of Richardson's Body Shop, Lewisburg, Tennessee, be interviewed for complete details of information he furnished to U. S. Parole Officer DENNIS BATES.

*Love*  
*11/5/76*  
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