

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

FROM : SA EUGENE A. MEDORI, JR.

SUBJECT: MURKIN;  
CR

DATE: 5/22/68

Re: 44-1987-SUB-B-752

On 5/17/68 Mr. EARL RAY, JR., 2680 Frisco Ave., Memphis, Tenn., and his wife Mrs. MELVA RAY, same address, were contacted at the R and H Iron Works, 447 East Mallory Ave., Memphis, Tenn. The following information pertaining to Mr. RAY was obtained from both of these individuals:

EARL RAY, JR., is part owner of the R and H Iron Works Company and his wife has been employed as a part-time secretary by the company for a period of approximately seven or eight years. They have resided with their three children at the Frisco Avenue address for approximately nine years. Other than Mr. RAY, no one else in their family bears the name of EARL RAY, to their knowledge, and they were certain that no one in their family had anything whatsoever to do with the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Mr. and Mrs. RAY were married on 11/17/56 in Hernando, Miss., and they have three children, GLENN - age 11 years, TERESA - age 8 years, and DONNA - age 7 years. Mr. RAY has a daughter by a previous marriage, SHARON RAY, age 14 years. Mr. RAY's former wife is also remarried and her name is BETTY SUE DECKLEMAN nee JOHNSON, and she presently resides on Benvenue St., Memphis, Tenn., with her family.

The following description of Mr. RAY was obtained during interview:

Name	EARL RAY, JR.
Sex	Male
Race	White
Age	Approximately 37 years
DOB	2/17/31
POB	Crenshaw, Miss.
Height	5' 7"
Weight	145 lbs.

EAM:mjh  
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44-1987-Sub B-752

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Hair	Black
Complexion	Dark
Eyes	Brown
Residence	2680 Frisco Ave., Memphis, Tenn. (for approximately nine years)
Military Service	United States Army, 8/12/53 - 6/23/55
U. S. Serial No.	[REDACTED]

Brothers	RALPH EDWARD RAY, age 21, United States Army, presently in Vietnam, home address - Memphis, Tenn. HANCLE P. RAY, age 29, married with three children, presently residing in a trailer park off W. M. C. Road, Memphis, Tenn.
Sisters	AURETTA GOODSON, age 41, Batesville, Miss. MARY LEE TOWNSEND, age 35, Woodale Subdivision, Parkway Village, Memphis, Tenn. NETTE MAY CLARK, age 32, Laurie Lane, Memphis MAXINE KENNEDY, age 27, Clarksdale, Miss. EARLENE WOODLIEF, age 24, Longview, Texas
Father	MARVIN EARL RAY (deceased)
Mother	MARY S. RAY, 4035 New Willow Road, Memphis.

Mrs. RAY made available for identification purposes Tennessee Driver's License [REDACTED] which reflected that MELVA L. RAY, 2680 Frisco, Memphis, was issued this license on 11/18/66.