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Date: 10-7-68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, NEW HAVEN (157-818)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
OO:MEMPHIS

Enclosed for the Bureau are 5 copies; for Memphis two copies and for New York one copy of an LHM captioned JAMES EARL RAY, which is self-explanatory. A copy of this communication and the LHM is being designated for the New York Office for information since Mc Call's and Look Magazines both have their headquarters in New York City.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] New Haven, Conn., whose identity is protected at his request. He declined to furnish the name of the Mc Call's employee since he feared if it became known the employee might lose his job..

[REDACTED] was concerned that the U.S. District Attorney prosecuting the case might be caught by surprise by the revelation that the Ku Klux Klan hired RAY to assassinate Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. and that the resulting publicity might cause difficulty in selecting an unbiased jury.

- 3 - Bureau (Encs. 5) (RM)
 - 2 - Memphis (44-1987) (Encs. 2) (RM)
 - 1 - New York (INFO) (Enc. 1) (RM)
 - 2 - New Haven
- JAH:jml
(3)

EX 116

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Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

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NH 157-818

 was under the impression that both Mc Call's and Look Magazines were jointly owned by one corporation.

The above is being submitted for the information of the Bureau and the Memphis Office.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New Haven, Connecticut 06510

October 7, 1968

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

JAMES EARL RAY

On October 7, 1968, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that on October 5, 1968, he was in a small social gathering of four individuals, one of whom was an employee of Mc Call's Publications, whom he refused to identify.

During the course of the conversation, the Mc Call's employee mentioned in a matter-of-fact manner that Look Magazine beginning with the issue of October 29, 1968, will run a serial on JAMES EARL RAY. In this series of articles, RAY reportedly will state that the Ku Klux Klan hired him to assassinate Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

A characterization of the Ku Klux Klan appears in the Appendix.

[REDACTED] stated that the Mc Call's employee impressed him as a down-to-earth, level-headed, business man who appeared at the time to be making a factual statement. The Mc Call's employee also stated that the rights to this article have been sold world wide.

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APPENDIX

NATIONAL KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN, INC.
(NKKKK)

A source advised that on May 22, 1960, the National Grand Council of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan met at Atlanta, Georgia, to discuss consolidation of the Klan's unity of effort and activities to establish a National Fund, and a National Secretary, and to design a new flag. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Federation of Ku Klux Klan, Alabama; Association of Arkansas Klans, Arkansas; Florida Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Florida; Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Florida; Association of Georgia Klans, Georgia; Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, North Carolina; Association of South Carolina Klans, South Carolina; Dixie Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Tennessee; and Kyksos Klan, Texas.

This source advised that at a consolidation meeting at Atlanta, Georgia, September 2-5, 1960, at which the North Carolina and Texas Klans were not represented, it was resolved and passed that their name be changed to National Ku Klux Klan.

A second source advised in March, 1964, that several meetings of Klan groups were held during the period 1960 to 1963 in an effort to unite the Klan groups under a single leadership.

The organization was granted a charter in DeKalb County, Georgia, November 1, 1963, under the name National Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc., as a "patriotic, secret, social, and benevolent order."

A third source advised in December, 1963, that the organization had issued a statement of its program which indicated the organization to be anti-Negro, anti-Jewish, anti-Catholic, and anti-foreign born.

A fourth source advised in July, 1968, that the organization has its headquarters in Tucker, Georgia, and the day-to-day operations are under the direction of James R. Venable, Imperial Wizard.