

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

- Assoc. Dir. _____
- Dep. AD Adm. _____
- Dep. AD Inv.
- Asst. Dir.:
- Admin. _____
- Comp. Syst. _____
- Ext. Affairs _____
- Files & Com.
- Ident. _____
- Inspection _____
- Intell. _____
- Laboratory _____
- Plan. & Eval. _____
- Spec. Inv. _____
- Training
- Legal Coun.
- Telephone Rm. _____
- Director Sec'y _____

TO : Mr. J. B. Adams

DATE: 10/8/74

FROM : Legal Counsel

SUBJECT: JAMES EARL RAY
REQUEST FOR LABORATORY DATA

On referral from the Director's Office, Inspector Herington spoke to James H. Lesar (redacted) S.W., Washington, D. C. 20024, telephone number (redacted). Lesar alleged he was Ray's attorney and was seeking copies of photographs of a bullet fragment removed from the body of Martin Luther King. He stated that his reason for calling the FBI was because he needed this data quickly and believed he could get it from us faster than from other sources. He noted that Ray had pled guilty but that the bullet evidence had been introduced into court and was presently being held by the court.

Lesar was advised that it would be impossible to furnish him copies immediately if at all since we would have to first check our records and he was further advised that if the evidence was not collected by the FBI we probably would not be in a position to furnish him a copy in any event without an appropriate release from the prosecutor or local investigating agency.

Contact with the Laboratory determined that the bullet evidence was submitted to the FBI Laboratory by the Memphis Police Department and our examination was accordingly made for that department.

Accordingly, attached is a letter to Mr. Lesar advising him that we are unable to be of assistance without specific authorization from the Memphis Police Department or the prosecutor. Bufiles indicate that James Lesar, the "present counsel for James Earl Ray" participated in a conference during November, 1973, at Georgetown University sponsored by the Committee to Investigate Assassinations.

- 1 - Mr. Adams
- 1 - Mr. Gebhardt
- 1 - Mr. White
- 1 - Mr. Mintz
- 1 - Mr. Farrington
- 1 - Mr. Herington

JH:deh
(8) 62-112697
Enc. 8

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EX 104

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Handwritten signature/initials

Memorandum Legal Counsel to Mr. J. B. Adams
RE: JAMES EARL RAY
REQUEST FOR LABORATORY DATA

RECOMMENDATION:

That attached letter be sent to Mr. Lesar.

MBH

JL

PSH

Ray

JL