

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 10-31-68

FROM : SA FRANCIS W. NORWOOD

SUBJECT: MURKIN

*Sub N-60 p7*

*James David*

On 10/31/68, the writer contacted JAMES SQUIRES, Assistant Editor, "Nashville Tennessean," at his residence, Hendersonville, Tennessee. At this time, SQUIRES stated that he is covering the trial of JAMES EARL RAY at Memphis, Tennessee, for his newspaper. He stated he has done some research in connection with this and also has been interested in the past in the Warren Commission report on the Kennedy Assassination.

For the purpose of laying the groundwork for the information which he was about to furnish, SQUIRES noted that in February, 1964, a man named RICHARD DICK GIESBRECHT from Winnipeg, Man., Canada, announced to the Press in Canada and the U. S. that he had overheard a blond Latin individual who appeared to be a salesman talking about a plot to kill KENNEDY.

SQUIRES stated that in connection with his coverage of the RAY trial he has been doing background inquiry and in connection therewith had been in touch with WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE, who is the only individual who has had specific contact with RAY from the Press media. SQUIRES was aware of the fact that HUIE was going to publish a story relating to RAY's possible defense which was to appear in "Look" magazine. SQUIRES had information for a story concerning RAY's defense and in order to beat HUIE's release he published this story in the "Nashville Tennessean," a daily newspaper, on Monday morning, 10/28/68. Associated Press picked up his story, combined information from Huie's "Look" article, and put it on the AP wire. He noted that HUIE in his story stated that RAY had claimed that he was approached by a blond man in Montreal, Canada, named RAOUL. He noted that his story had only indicated that RAY claimed he had been contacted by a man in Canada.

As a result of the Associated Press release which apparently went into Canada, on Tuesday night, 10/29/68, at 8:30 PM, SQUIRES received a long distance telephone call from Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, from a man giving his name as DONALD STEWART APPELL. APPELL identified himself as an investigator employed by GIESBRECHT in connection with the KENNEDY case. He apparently misunderstood the Associated Press story and was under the impression

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*Hester*

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that SQUIRES was the reporter who had published information relative to RAY being contacted in Canada by RAOUL. He began pumping SQUIRES concerning RAY and the information that RAY had given concerning RAOUL. He stated to SQUIRES that GIESBRECHT is of the opinion that the RAOUL who allegedly contacted RAY is identical with the blond Latin seaman that he had heard discussing the KENNEDY assassination.

SQUIRES stated he thought something might be fishy and he called back to Winnipeg, Canada, on Wednesday, 10/30/68, to see if such a person as GIESBRECHT existed and if he could contact APPELL again. He stated that prior to his call he checked the Warren Commission report and could find no reference to GIESBRECHT. He stated that when he did call back to Canada he did get in touch with RICHARD "DICK" GIESBRECHT's wife, who told him that her husband was out. Through her, he got in touch with DONALD STEWART APPELL again, at which time they discussed the RAY case and APPELL's interest in the KENNEDY case, and again APPELL told him that GIESBRECHT was of the opinion that the man who allegedly contacted RAY and the man who had been discussing the plot to assassinate KENNEDY were the same individual. APPELL advised SQUIRES that he and GIESBRECHT planned to go to New Orleans next week (first week in November) to give information which they had in their possession to District Attorney General GARRISON in New Orleans.

SQUIRES stated that the telephone number for GIESBRECHT in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, is 339-5652. The telephone number where he reached APPELL in Winnipeg is 452-8468.

SQUIRES advised that some years back he met and interviewed an investigator for the House Committee on UnAmerican Activities in Washington, D. C. named DONALD APPELL, a former Agent with the FBI. He stated he asked DONALD STEWART APPELL on the telephone if he were identical with the investigator for the HCUA and DONALD STEWART APPELL said he was not the same individual.