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FBI

Date: 6/4/74

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

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P*)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

For Savannah's information, JAMES EARL RAY is to be afforded an evidentiary hearing in the USDC, WDT, Memphis, to determine whether or not he was properly represented by Attorney PERCY FOREMAN at the time that RAY pleaded guilty in State Court to the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING. RAY is being represented by Attorneys BERNARD FENSTERWALD, WDC, and ROBERT LIVINGSTON of Memphis. The State's case is being handled by HENRY HAILE of the Attorney General's Office, Nashville, Tenn.

ROBERT LIVINGSTON has recently made statements to the news media that he has been in touch with a man who claims that he and two others are responsible for the murder of KING and that RAY was an innocent "fall guy" who was used by the real killers. According to LIVINGSTON, these three men will testify if granted immunity and will name the four men who hired them to kill KING. LIVINGSTON appears to believe this story and has confidentially advised the District Attorney General at Memphis of two meetings had by him with one of the three men. One such meeting was at Memphis during late March, 1974, and the other meeting was in Detroit on 4/20/74. At the Detroit meeting this individual, using the name [REDACTED] was accompanied by his wife who used the name [REDACTED]

On 6/3/74, Mr. HENRY HAILE advised SA JOE C. HESTER that GEORGE McMILLAN, an author writing a book about KING's murder, has told HAILE that he believes LIVINGSTON's contact is one RAYMOND CURTIS who escaped from the Georgia State Prison at Reidsville, Ga., about 6 months ago.

- ② - Bureau
- 2 - Savannah
- 2 - Memphis
- JCH:jap
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REC-85

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15 JUN 6 1974

54 JUN 13 1974

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

Section 84

ME 44-1987

LIVINGSTON has described [REDACTED] as a middle aged white male having a large frame, brown hair streaked with gray, and as being very distinguished looking. [REDACTED] also spoke with a French accent and claimed to be a resident of Canada. McMILLAN has apparently been in contact with RAYMOND CURTIS and states he fits this general description. McMILLAN also told HAILE that CURTIS claimed to have information regarding the KING murder but, in fact, he did not.

LEADS:

SAVANNAH DIVISION

AT REIDSVILLE, GEORGIA Will promptly furnish Memphis copies of the best available photograph of CURTIS plus any psychiatric evaluation documents available from prison or parole files.

Will furnish all available information concerning his criminal background with particular emphasis on whether or not he has ever been involved in any confidence schemes.

Will furnish details regarding any State or Federal process outstanding against CURTIS.

PLEASE EXPEDITE.