March 24, 1969

Mr. Jerris Leonard
Assistant Attorney General

Director, FBI

1 - Mr. Long

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

In accordance with your request, James Earl Ray was interviewed at the Tennessee State Prison, Nashville, Tennessee, on March 13, 1969, by the Special Agent in Charge of our Memphis Office and during the interview he would not at any time discuss a conspiracy or any aspects of it. The entire interview, which lasted approximately fifty minutes, was cordial; however, Ray did not commit himself on any specific points pertinent to issues of interest to the Government.

Ray was again interviewed on March 14, 1969, and he stated that he had nothing to say. He stated if he changed his mind he knew how he could get in touch with our Special Agent in Charge in Memphis, Tennessee.

Information has come to our attention that Judge W. Preston Battle, Criminal Court, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee, has received a letter from James Earl Ray requesting a hearing; however, no writ or motion has been filed with Clerk of the Court. In view of this recent development, no further attempt will be made to interview Ray at this time.

REL:sds
(4)

NOTE: See memo A. Rosen to Mr. DeLoach dated 3-21-69 captioned "MURKIN," JGK:eam.

Tolson
DeLoach
Mohr
Bishop
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

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