

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: August 6, 1968

FROM : A. Rosen *AR*

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. McGowan
- 1 - Mr. Long
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan

SUBJECT: MURKIN

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

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Our Legal Attache in London previously furnished a copy of a letter from subject as Ramon S. Sneyd dated July 4, 1968, addressed to a Mr. J. B. Stoner, Attorney-at-Law, Savannah, Georgia. This letter in essence stated that subject was shown a letter written by Stoner concerning a legal fund which Stoner represents and subject advises that he had retained Mr. Hanes and would like to get his advice before he takes any action. Letter continues by advising that subject appreciates Stoner's offer of assistance. It is noted that this Stoner is possibly identical to one Jesse B. Stoner, who is Vice President of the National State Rights Party (NSRP) with headquarters in Savannah, who has been described as a racial rabble rouser.

We have learned that Dr. Edward R. Fields, a NSRP Director, had announced that the Patriotic Legal Aid Fund of Savannah had offered to defend James Earl Ray, the accused slayer of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dr. Fields made a statement that he was a personal friend of Arthur Hanes, Jr., the attorney for James Earl Ray, and Jesse B. Stoner recently mentioned that Hanes had called them apparently at the NSRP Office, acted mad and pointed out that he did not even recall meeting [redacted] and he was not "their friend." [redacted] Fields and Stoner were miffed that Hanes was so unfriendly, but acknowledged they had met Hanes only on one occasion which was for a brief moment. [redacted] the financial status of the NSRP is such that they could not afford to contribute any money to Ray's defense [redacted] Fields and Stoner had made the initial offer to aid Ray for their own publicity and for the purpose of attempting to increase their own prestige.

W.C.
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J. P. [unclear]

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Memo Rosen to DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

ACTION:

For your information. You will be advised of
pertinent developments.

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Rosen *CLM/KK*

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