

December 3, 1968

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TO : SAC, SAVANNAH (44-1768)
FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (44-1114) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
OO: MEMPHIS

Enclosed for Memphis and Savannah is one Xerox copy of letter and envelope sent to Mrs. DONNELLY by RAY RUSSELL.

Mrs. GLORIA DONNELLY, owner, 2731 North Sheffield, Chicago, Illinois, made available a letter from RAY RUSSELL and the envelope the letter came in, to Agents of the Chicago Division. For the information of Savannah, investigation has previously established that JAMES EARL RAY, using the name of JOHN LARRY RAYNS, rented a room, which was the rear basement apartment at 2731 North Sheffield, and resided at that address from April 30, 1967, to sometime in May or June, 1967.

Mrs. DONNELLY contacted Agents due to the fact that letter signed by RAY RUSSELL, who is apparently an inmate at the prison at Reidsville, Georgia, refers to the rear basement apartment and mentions the name, JOHN LARRY RAYNS. Mrs. DONNELLY cannot recall the identity of RAY RUSSELL. She has checked her rent records and cannot find anyone by that name that rented from them. Mrs. DONNELLY also advised she does not understand why RUSSELL would be writing to her asking her for help in getting money.

- 2 - Savannah (Enc. 1)
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987) (Enc. 1)
- 1 - Chicago

JMB/kag
(5)

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44-1114-774

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CG 44-1114

LEADS -

SAVANNAH

AT REIDSVILLE, GEORGIA. 1. Interview RAY RUSSELL at the Reidsville Prison. Determine if and when RUSSELL resided at 2731 North Sheffield, check what name he used at the time, what money he is referring to in his letter, and what knowledge he has of JOHN LARRY RAYNS.

2. Obtain photographs, description, and FBI Number of RUSSELL, and make same available to Chicago.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 5, 1968

Mrs. GLORIA DONNELLY, 2731 North Sheffield, Chicago, Illinois, was interviewed at her place of employment, 4501 West Irving Park Road, Chicago, Illinois. Mrs. DONNELLY made available to interviewing agents a letter and the envelope which the letter came in. This envelope is postmarked November 25, 1968, Reidsville, Georgia. It is addressed to Mrs. DONNELLY, 2731 North Sheffield Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. It shows a return address for RAY RUSSELL. Under the name RUSSELL is a number which is not clearly legible. The letter itself is addressed to Mrs. DONNELLY and is signed by RAY RUSSELL. The letter makes reference to the fact RAY RUSSELL resided in the rear basement apartment and also mentions the name JOHN LARRY RAYNS and it requests Mrs. DONNELLY to get some money for RUSSELL.

Mrs. DONNELLY advised she did not recognize the name RAY RUSSELL. She checked her rent record books and could not find anyone by that name that had stayed at 2731 North Sheffield. She also stated she did not know of what money this RAY RUSSELL was talking about.

On 11/29/68 at Chicago, Illinois File # CG 44-1114 - 29
 by SA RICHARD G. STILLING *RGS*
SA JOSEPH M. BURKE JMB :DRD Date dictated 12/5/68

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