

Memorandum

DeLoach
Moore

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

TO : MR. MOHR

DATE: December 4, 1968

FROM : N. P. CALLAHAN

SUBJECT: ✓ COST OF AIRPLANE TO RETURN JAMES EARL RAY FROM LONDON, ENGLAND, TO MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

W. J. ...
L. J. ...

On October 2, 1968, a memorandum from the Director went forward to Mr. Leo M. Pellerzi, Assistant Attorney General for Administration in the Department, transmitting a voucher in the amount of \$9,214.60 received from the Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, which covered the cost of the flight of the plane from the United States to England to pick up James Earl Ray and return him to the United States and that the Department could effect payment of this voucher which was erroneously directed to the Bureau. The Budget Officer of the Department at the time that this voucher was forwarded to the Department indicated that it would probably be paid from Department funds and that the State of Tennessee promised to reimburse the Department.

BC

By way of background, when the arrangements were being effected for Ray's return to this country from London, England, by Fred Vinson, Assistant Attorney General of the Criminal Division in the Department, it was recommended that the Department should bear the expense and the Director indicated "Most certainly."

REC 43

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Pellerzi of the Department telephonically contacted the writer on December 3rd and stated he wondered if the Bureau as a favor would consider paying the voucher received from the Air Force in the amount of \$9,214.60 since the Department has endeavored to have both the State of Tennessee and the State of Missouri, where Ray escaped prison, reimburse it for this expense with negative results. Pellerzi stated that the Marshals' funds are practically exhausted and if there was any way the Bureau could pay this voucher it would be appreciated.

DEC 10

Inasmuch as the Director has previously concurred in the Department bearing this cost since they made all of the arrangements in connection therewith and further since this Bureau has itself expended over a million dollars in manpower and other expenses incidental to the King assassination case, it is not felt the Bureau should pay the voucher.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Pellerzi be informed that the Bureau cannot pay the voucher as requested by him.

1 - Mr. DeLoach 1 - Mr. Rosen NPC:gt

most certainly
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