

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach *JD*

DATE: July 12, 1968

FROM : A. Rosen *AR*

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Martindale

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Tolson	
DeLoach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mohr	
Bishop	
Casper	
Callahan	
Conrad	
Felt	
Gale	
Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sullivan	
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Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Holmes	
Gandy	

In accordance with the Director's instructions, there is attached hereto a memorandum to the Attorney General, with a copy to Vinson, to the effect that the Director has, in accordance with his conversation with the Attorney General, immediately issued instructions to go forward with the appropriate plans in order to carry out the Bureau's responsibilities insofar as the transportation of subject James Earl Ray from London to the United States is concerned. We will also advise the Attorney General that he will be informed of the proposed arrangements at the jail and of its security, in addition to the plans of the Sheriff for the take over of subject Ray from the FBI at the Naval Air Station in Memphis.

For your information, the Memphis Office has been instructed to immediately obtain this information and the plans of the Sheriff for the transportation of the prisoner from the Naval Air Station to the jail and his subsequent plans concerning the detention of the individual in the Shelby County Jail. Memphis has also been instructed to keep in touch with the situation so as to know of all intelligence that would be of value in preventing any overt act against Ray after he is placed in the custody of the Sheriff.

REC 37 44-38861-4882

The Director's comment to the Attorney General that there would be three Special Agents and an Air Force physician accompanying Ray, rather than four Agents, is correct, according to my understanding. It is also pointed out that in accordance with the Director's instructions, ASAC Harold Light was not being sent to Memphis inasmuch as the Director had approved sending only one man to Memphis to look things over and this would be about two days prior to Ray's arrival rather than sometime next week as Vinson has indicated.

Enclosure

AR:erg
(4)

CONTINUED - OVER

Vinson's memo said 4 since that was my commitment I want it kept.

*Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
7/15/68
to 117
7/15/68*

167

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

With reference to Vinson's memorandum to the Director which was received subsequent to the Attorney General's visit, Vinson sets forth several items which are entirely new insofar as details are concerned.

The details concerning the arrangements on the aircraft, the identity of the Major General who will maintain liaison with Minnich, the selection of the air crew are new items which have not been discussed in detail. The other items mentioned have been brought up generally in discussions but no final decision was reached. For example, as to whether an Air Force physician would be used, we had previously advised you that an Air Force surgeon would be more desirable than a Public Health physician.

Vinson had never reached a definite decision as to whether he would ask the Bureau to transport the subject from the Naval Air Station to the Shelby County Jail and had specifically asked that the Bureau inquire concerning the Sheriff's intentions. When this was discussed with Vinson on July 10, 1968, and pursuant to the Director's instructions, I called the SAC at Memphis concerning this and he advised me as reflected in my memorandum of July 11, 1968, that the Sheriff had made detailed plans concerning the transportation and detention of Ray.

It is also pointed out that the other matters which have been referred to by Vinson have previously been the subject of memoranda showing that these items were being considered. At no time did I represent to Vinson that any discussion with him was other than for the purpose of being aware of the plans which he had made in order to assist us in carrying out our responsibility. No commitment was made to Vinson except for those matters which were specifically approved in memoranda heretofore submitted.

ACTION: Memorandum to the Attorney General is attached.

R. H. W. ✓

SECRET

The Attorney General

July 15, 1968

Director, FBI

44-37861-4882

JAMES EARL RAY

REC 371

EX 100

In connection with our discussion concerning the plans for the transportation of subject James Earl Ray upon his being ordered extradited from England, I wish to advise you that steps have been taken to put into effect those plans which will implement the FBI's responsibility in this matter.

In this connection, our Special Agent in Charge of the Memphis Office has conferred with the Sheriff of Shelby County concerning his detailed arrangements for transporting Ray from the Memphis Naval Air Station to the Shelby County Jail. He has also advised our Memphis Office of his detailed plans concerning detention arrangements with special reference to security aspects. I will advise you of these arrangements as soon as the details are received from our Memphis Office. Any information coming to our attention affecting the security of Ray will be brought to the attention of the Sheriff.

With reference to the removal of the prisoner, I have assigned four Agents completely familiar with our plans to receive the prisoner from the British authorities upon his delivery by them to the Air Force plane. Our Agents will then be able to request the Air Force flight surgeon to immediately give the prisoner a physical examination. In this connection, Mr. Vinson has indicated in his memorandum of July 11, 1968, that an Air Force flight surgeon will be furnished for the flight.

Inasmuch as the Sheriff has planned to transport the subject from the Naval Air Station to the Shelby County Jail and in line with our concern for the security measures instituted by the Sheriff, I have instructed an Agent completely familiar with our plans to proceed to Memphis a couple of days in advance of Ray's arrival to check over the procedures which have been instituted.

1 - Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General

AR:erg:ww

NOTE: Classified Secret inasmuch as incoming from Department so classified. See memo Rosen to DeLoach 7/15/68 capt'd. MURKIN AR:ww

From _____
To _____
cc _____
Info _____
Date _____
By _____

79 JUL 25 1968

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

SECRET

R

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

JUL 15 1968

COMM-FBI