

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. McGowan *J.M.*
FROM : A. Rosen *R*
SUBJECT : MURKIN

DATE: June 10, 1968

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

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
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Holmes _____
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Assistant Attorney General Stephen J. Pollak of the Civil Rights Division called to advise me that with reference to the extradition of Ray the Department had compiled a number of affidavits which will be necessary to submit to the British authorities. He indicated that our experts here at Washington had furnished information for the preparation of a ballistics and fingerprint affidavit; that two affidavits had been prepared with reference to the purchase of the rifle at Birmingham; and that affidavits will be prepared with reference to persons in the police department; namely, Zachary, who had possession of the gun and binoculars and material found at the crime scene. Also they plan to have medical expert testimony concerning the possibility that the trajectory could be fired from the room which Ray had rented.

He also mentioned that at Memphis there were four persons to be interviewed in connection with the preparation of affidavits and they had dispatched a Departmental attorney to contact our Memphis Office so these individuals could be located. He identified them as (1) Stephens, who saw profile of the subject in the rooming house; (2) Mrs. Brewer, the landlady; (3) the individual who sold the binoculars to Ray; and (4) Canipe, who ran the amusement parlor on Main Street in Memphis where the gun, binoculars and other personal belongings were abandoned.

With reference to the above, Mr. Pollak said he would send these to us today and he would appreciate our oral advice as to whether the affidavits are satisfactory.

I pointed out to him that it would appear that re-interviewing some of these witnesses at this stage of the proceedings would be to expose the Department to conflicting statements. I asked him why it was necessary to investigate the case, so to speak, at this stage of the proceedings. Pollak stated it was believed any information which might be furnished to the British authorities to insure his extradition would be

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desirable. He said the question which I raised concerning the re-interviewing of persons at this stage certainly was sufficiently important so he felt he would like to talk to the Solicitor concerning this matter because he felt this has some merit and should be considered. It was pointed out to Pollak that it was my understanding that all that need be presented would be information to establish probable cause that Ray was the individual mentioned in the indictment. Pollak advised me he would be in touch with me later.

ADDENDUM:

(Pollak called to advise me he was sending over the affidavits they had prepared for signature. They have eliminated Mrs. Brewer. We have reviewed and read these to Birmingham and Memphis. We have no changes, comments or suggestions. Pollak was so advised.

ACTION:

For your information.

R