OPTIONAL FORM NO. 16 S010-104
MAY 1641 ENTINE NO. 17

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

m . Mr. DeLoach 6

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT MURKIN

DATE: March 14, 1969

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1-Mr. Malley 1-Mr. McGowan

1-Mr. Long

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

In accordance with approval, I called Jerris Leonard, Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, and gave him a brief run down of the interview which SAC Jensen had with subject James Earl Ray at the Tennessee State Penitentiary, Nashville, Tennessee, yesterday (3/13/69).

After giving him a run down, he said he was most appreciative and wanted to know if we were going to talk with Ray again. I told him we had planned to do that perhaps sometime today. He asked to be advised along the same lines as above.

It is recalled he had called the first thing this morning asking that he be advised of the results of the interview because he was to meet the Attorney General with Will Wilson of the Criminal Division concerning the possibility of any future action against Ray. In this connection, it was mentioned by Leonard they might consider calling him before a grand jury in order to question him under oath.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

As previously indicated, Jensen plans to try to talk with Ray today. He was instructed to advise me definitely concerning this and also to advise the Bureau of the results of such an interview.

In talking with Leonard, I again stressed the Director's views that it is most important that our visits with Ray not be publicized as the press and TV would descend upon the penitentiary and cut off any possibility of getting Ray to cooperate to any degree.

You will be advised of further developments.

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ADDENDUM: Subsequent to the alove, I was advised by the Nashville Resident Agency that Jonsen is meeting with Ray at the state penitentiary. We will get the results of such interview later today and you will be advised. Shortly after this call,

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Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach

Re: MURKIN

I received a personal call from Jensen, who said he had been in to see Ray and that Ray said he was not talking, he had thought the matter over during the night and he was not going to talk. He indicated on the way up from Memphis, Tennessee, to Nashville when he was transported by state officials he had said about three words and the newspapers had made a story out of that. He said he was not going to talk any more. Jensen indicated he then left and before doing so said if Ray changed his mind he could write him a letter.

If approved by the Director, Leonard will be advised that Ray refused to do any talking today.

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