Memorandum

TO Mr. DeLoach

FROM A. Rosen R

SUBJECT MURKIN

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DATE: October 1, 1968

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen 1 - Mr. Malley

1 - Mr. McGowan

1 - Mr. Long

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SYNOPSIS:

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr. With reference to the dissemination of investigative reports in this case to Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr., State Attorney General, Shelby County, Tennessee, there has been absolutely no delay in furnishing pertinent reports to him on our part. With Departmental approval we furnished a copy of our prosecutive summary report, as well as ten additional investigative reports to Mr. Canale. These reports contain the information of evidentiary value to the prosecution of the state violation involved.

Since the Department did not authorize us to furnish the results of our fugitive investigation to locate Ray, such reports were not furnished to Mr. Canale at that time. Although these reports did not pertain directly to the prosecution of the state violation it appeared to us they might be of value to Mr. Canale since they clearly established his fugitive status and his use of various aliases to avoid apprehension. Consequently by memorandum dated 9/18/68, we raised the question with the Department as to whether such fugitive reports should be forwarded to Mr. Canale. To date we have received no reply from the Department, although on 9/30/68, D. Robert Owen of the Civil Rights Division advised he intends to proceed to Memphis on 10/1/68, to discuss the case with Mr. Canale and prior to his departure will advise us what additional reports should be furnished Mr. Canale.

Mr. Canale has advised our Memphis Office that the purpose of his letter was to "needle" the Department into taking action. He stated the cooperation between his office and the FBI has been extraordinary and to the Department and not to the FBI.

ACTION:

Upon receipt of authorization from the Department, we will disseminate the designated reports to Mr. Canale.

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SEE DETAILS PAGE TWO