

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO Mr. DeLoach, *W*

DATE 5/6/68

FROM T. E. Bishop *T.E.B.*

SUBJECT MURKIN

*W*  
*T.E.B.*

*Middle*

*Rocky*

This case involves the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King.

In a United Press International (UPI) story dated 5/3/68, which does not quote the FBI, the following sentences are included: "Officials said there were no indications that (James Earl) Ray had left the country despite a rash of reports from Mexico, Canada, Australia, Hong Kong and West Germany. The officials pointed out international travel requires identification papers that can easily be checked." On this UPI story the Director has noted: "Please stop talking & speculating to the press. H."

In a UPI story dated 5/4/68, which does not quote the FBI, the following sentence is included: "Officials said there were no indications Ray had left the country despite a rash of reports to the contrary from Mexico, Canada, Australia, Hong Kong and West Germany." On this story the Director noted: "I must insist that we stop giving off the cuff comments re Ray case."

For the information of the Director, the unnamed officials quoted as the sources in the above two stories are not Bureau representatives. In accordance with the Director's instructions, the men in my office have maintained a strict "no comment" policy with regard to inquiries being received concerning the above-captioned case or the hunt for James Earl Ray. We will continue this policy. It appears that our policy of not commenting on this case is frustrating some newsmen and they are resorting to the technique of writing stories with unnamed "officials" or "government sources," etc., as the source for their speculative stories.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

*44-38861-3198*

*APR 19*

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Gale
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Jones

**COPIES MADE FOR MR. TOLSON**

*EB*

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

UPI-27

(MANHUNT)

WASHINGTON--ONE MONTH AFTER A SNIPER KILLED DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., THE FBI IS "STILL LOOKING HARD" FOR THE MAN IT SUSPECTS DID IT--AN EX-CONVICT WHO APPARENTLY SPENT NEARLY A YEAR ESTABLISHING A FALSE IDENTITY.

THERE WERE NO INDICATIONS FRIDAY OF ANY IMMINENT BREAK IN THE SEARCH FOR JAMES EARL RAY, ALIAS ERIC STARVO GALT, ALTHOUGH THE MANHUNT HAS REACHED AT TIMES, AROUND THE WORLD.

OFFICIALS SAID THERE WERE NO INDICATIONS RAY HAD LEFT THE COUNTRY DESPITE A RASH OF REPORTS TO THE CONTRARY FROM MEXICO, CANADA, AUSTRALIA, HONG KONG AND WEST GERMANY.

5/4--DP936A

*I must insist that we stop giving out the info comm. out of the office*

44-38861-3199

EX-105 REC-20

Tolson   
 DeLoach   
 Mohr   
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*Please stop talking & speculating to the press -*

UPI-175

(MANHUNT)

WASHINGTON--A MONTH AFTER A SNIPER KILLED MARTIN LUTHER KING, THE FBI WAS "STILL LOOKING HARD" TODAY FOR THE MAN IT SAYS DID IT--AN EX-CONVICT WHO SPENT NEARLY A YEAR ESTABLISHING A FALSE IDENTITY.

THERE WERE NO INDICATIONS OF ANY IMMINENT BREAK IN THE SEARCH FOR JAMES EARL RAY, ALIAS ERIC STARVO GALT, ALTHOUGH THE MANHUNT FOR HIM HAD FOCUSED AT TIMES AROUND THE WORLD.

OFFICIALS SAID THERE WERE NO INDICATIONS THAT RAY HAD LEFT THE COUNTRY DESPITE A RASH OF REPORTS FROM MEXICO, CANADA, AUSTRALIA, HONG KONG AND WEST GERMANY. THE OFFICIALS POINTED OUT INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL REQUIRES IDENTIFICATION PAPERS THAT CAN EASILY BE CHECKED.

THE FBI HAS A FULL DOSSIER ON RAY, INCLUDING A FULL SET OF FINGERPRINTS, A DETAILED PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION FROM HIS TERMS IN VARIOUS PRISONS AND AN AMAZING ASSORTMENT OF PERSONAL HABITS.

BUT GALT, THE MAN THE FBI SAYS RAY WORKED ON ESTABLISHING FOR A YEAR BEFORE THE APRIL 4 ASSASSINATION OF KING, LEFT BEHIND LITTLE STATISTICAL DATA, PROBABLY BY DESIGN.

THERE IS GROWING BELIEF IN SOME OFFICIAL CIRCLES IN WASHINGTON THAT RAY ACTED ALONE IN ASSASSINATING KING IN MEMPHIS, ALTHOUGH THE ORIGINAL FBI WARRANT FOR HIS ARREST WAS BASED ON A CIVIL RIGHTS CONSPIRACY CHARGE.

RAY ALREADY IS WANTED ON A FEDERAL FUGITIVE WARRANT FOR ESCAPING THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY APRIL 23, 1967. DESPITE HIS RECORD OF ATTEMPTS TO ESCAPE, RECORDS FROM THE VARIOUS PRISONS WHERE HE SERVED SHOW HE WAS A MODEL PRISONER.

BUT THE RECORDS SHOW THAT TWICE, AT LEVENWORTH PRISON IN 1957 AND DURING HIS TERM IN MISSOURI PRISON, RAY TURNED DOWN OFFERS OF TRANSFERS TO MINIMUM CUSTODY SECTIONS BECAUSE THE HONOR CAMP DORMITORIES WERE INTEGRATED.

5/3--TS607PED

EX-116

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WASHINGTON OFFICIAL NEWS SERVICE