

# Memorandum

TO: Mr. DeLoach *DM*

FROM: Mr. Rosen *h*

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: August 21, 1968

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

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

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

With reference to the dissemination to the Department of investigative reports in this case, such reports fall into two categories: a) reports containing information of evidentiary value pertinent to the prosecution of the Federal violation involved; and b) reports containing the results of the extensive fugitive investigation conducted to locate and apprehend the subject, James Earl Ray.

*conspiracy only file - copy  
see records*

All reports pertinent to the prosecution of the Federal violation involved, and in which the Department has a legitimate interest, have been disseminated promptly to the Department and there has been absolutely no delay in doing so.

The remaining reports contain the results of our extensive fugitive investigation to locate and apprehend Ray. Copies of these reports were not disseminated to the Department since they relate solely to the fugitive aspects of the case, and contain no evidentiary material or information of value to the Department in the discharge of its prosecutive function relative to the Federal charge involved.

*most records*

There are twenty such reports involving approximately 2,000 pages. They contain background data and results of extensive interviews and/or other investigation conducted to locate Ray. Although they do not relate to the prosecution aspect of the case, they will none the less be furnished to the Department in accordance with Mr. Pollak's specific request.

EX-100 REC-21 - 3-PT-1-5115

In this connection, by letter dated July 12, 1968, received at the Bureau July 15, 1968, Assistant Attorney General Fred M. Vinson, Jr. of the Criminal Division requested we review the records of the Missouri State Penitentiary pertaining to Ray, and summarize references to Ray's family background; education; physical, medical and psychiatric examinations and disciplinary proceedings. (R confi-

55 Enclosure *sent 1-22-68*  
 SEP 10 1968

CONTINUED - OVER

*6*

**Memo Rosen to DeLoach**  
**RE: MURKIN**

dentially came to our attention before Vinson's memorandum was written that British prison authorities had asked Vinson for information of this type in connection with their responsibility to maintain Ray's custody and the extradition proceedings.)

We had, of course, reviewed such records in the initial phase of the fugitive aspect of the investigation, and the results had been set forth in the fugitive reports dated May 15, 1968, and June 14, 1968, submitted by our Kansas City Office. Copies of these reports, which contained in full the information requested by Vinson in his letter, were furnished to him on July 19, 1968. Since the Attorney General had requested that information relating to the case be furnished to both Vinson and Assistant Attorney General Stephen J. Pollak of the Civil Rights Division, copies of the pertinent reports were also furnished to Pollak.

It should be noted Vinson did not furnish Pollak a copy of his (Vinson's) July 12, 1968, letter to the Bureau and consequently Pollak is apparently completely unaware the pertinent Kansas City reports were furnished to him and Vinson in answer to Vinson's specific request. This is another typical example in the Department of the left hand not knowing what the right hand is doing and explains why Pollak has gone off half cocked in erroneously accusing us of delay in disseminating the reports in question.

As a further example of this lack of coordination between Pollak and Vinson as relates to this case, it is noted that after Ray was turned over to state authorities in Tennessee we inquired of Vinson by letter whether the Federal process against Ray should be dismissed since the extradition order did not cite the Federal Civil Rights charges and it was our understanding that Ray could not, therefore, be prosecuted on Federal charges. A copy of our letter was furnished to Pollak.

Vinson in reply advised us that he felt the Federal process should be dismissed; however, Pollak, apparently unaware of Vinson's position, subsequently advised us that he felt the process should not be dismissed pending disposition of the state murder charges against Ray. It was necessary for us by memorandum to point out the discrepancy in the two views and request clarification in the matter.

Memo Rosen to DeLoach  
RE: MURKIN

ACTION:

Attached for approval is an appropriate letter to Pollak  
straightening him out in line with the above.

*This is typical of the  
inefficiency currently  
existing*

*John*

*✓*

*Reports to AG, CRD, Crime Riv  
8/28/68  
gmc*

Mr. Stephen J. Pollak  
Assistant Attorney General

August 22, 1968

Director, FBI

REG-21/4 - 3A 161 - 5114

1 - Mr. Long  
1 - Mr. Kelly

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

EX-100

Reference is made to your letter dated August 16, 1968, requesting that copies of all investigative reports and results of interviews prepared in this case be furnished you and referring to alleged delay on the part of this Bureau in furnishing the Department copies of reports dated May 15, 1968, and June 14, 1968, prepared by our Kansas City Office.

For your information, investigative reports prepared in this case fall into two categories: 1) those containing information of evidentiary value pertinent to the prosecution of the Federal violation involved; and 2) those containing the results of the extensive fugitive investigation conducted to locate and apprehend the subject, James Earl Ray.

MAILED 3  
AUG 22 1968  
COMM-FBI

All investigative reports pertinent to the prosecution of the Federal violation involved have been furnished to the Department promptly and on a timely basis.

The remaining reports prepared in this case pertain solely to the extensive fugitive investigation conducted to locate the subject. Such reports are not normally furnished to the Department since they contain only information relative to the fugitive aspect of the case and do not contain information of evidentiary value or of pertinence to the prosecution of the Federal violation involved.

The reports prepared by our Kansas City Office and referred to in your letter fall into this category. An additional twenty such reports have been prepared by our various field divisions, and in accordance with your specific request, copies of all these reports will be furnished under separate cover to the Attorney General, to you and to the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Criminal Division.

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

JONES  
SEP 5 - 1968

*Handwritten initials and signatures*

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO...

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

Mr. Stephen J. Pollak

For your information, Assistant Attorney General Fred M. Vinson, Jr., by letter dated July 12, 1968, which was received in this Bureau July 15, 1968, requested that the records of the Missouri State Penitentiary be reviewed pertaining to Ray and references to Ray's family background; education; physical, medical and psychiatric examinations and disciplinary proceedings be summarized. Such records had previously been reviewed in the initial phase of the fugitive aspect of this investigation, and the results of the review had been set forth in the pertinent reports prepared by our Kansas City Office and referred to in your letter. Since they contained the desired information requested by Assistant Attorney General Vinson, copies of these reports were furnished to Mr. Vinson on July 19, 1968, with a copy for you, even though they did not appear to contain information relevant to the prosecutive aspects of this case, but rather to the fugitive investigation.

We will continue to furnish to the Department, on a timely basis, copies of investigative reports and the results of interviews prepared in this case.

NOTE: See memo Rosen to DeLoach, dated 8/21/68, captioned, "MURKIN," JGK:ca.

August 20, 1968

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

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

Attached is a request from Department to obtain results of all investigation conducted by us. We have furnished Department results of all investigation pertinent to the prosecution of the case.

Department by letter of 7-12-68, requested Ray's background data, relatives and associates. Kansas City reports of 5-15-68, and 6-14-68, containing requested information furnished to the Department. There has been absolutely no delay in furnishing pertinent information to the Department.

Additional pertinent highlights of fugitive investigation were furnished the Department by memorandum although detailed reports were not furnished as they were not pertinent to prosecution of the case.

The reports containing efforts to locate Ray will be furnished to the Department in accordance with their request.

*Department will be advised -*

REL:hw

*CLM/UK*

*[Signature]*

*[Initials]*

# Memorandum

Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

TO : Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: AUG 16

SJP:efw

FROM : Stephen J. Pollak  
Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Rights Division

DJ 144-72-662  
DJ 95-100-473  
#41-157-147

SUBJECT: James Earl Ray - Subject;  
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. - Victim  
CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY

This Division is making an analysis of the facts in this case. To assure that no facts are overlooked, it is important that we have in our possession copies of all reports and interviews which your Bureau has conducted. In this connection, I note that on July 17, 1968, the Civil Rights Division and the Criminal Division received certain reports in connection with this matter transmitted by your Bureau on July 16, 1968. Two of the reports were dated June 14, 1968 from your Kansas City office, the third was dated May 15, 1968.

In order to insure that the Division file contains copies of all reports and interviews which your Bureau has conducted, I attach herewith the following lists of materials which we have received from your Bureau to date in reference to this matter:

- Attachment A: Reports of Special Agents
- Attachment B: Other Reports and Enclosures
- Attachment C: Memoranda to the Attorney General
- Attachment D: Memoranda to the Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division
- Attachment E: Letterhead Memoranda

Please review these lists and transmit to this Division, to the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Criminal Division and to the Attorney General copies of any reports or interviews which you have in your possession and which are not noted on the attached lists.

EX-100 REC-21 44-38861-5114

AUG 19 1968

*Handwritten notes:*  
8-21-68 JGK/co  
Letters ARE P...  
JGK/co

*Handwritten notes:*  
Key  
W.D. King

Please continue to furnish copies of all reports and interviews which your Bureau conducts as soon as they are received by your headquarters. I would request that delays such as that noted in the first paragraph of this memorandum be avoided if at all possible.

There does appear delay on getting Dept reports cited.

A



ATTACHMENT A

Reports of Special Agents

	<u>Special Agent</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>File No.</u>
1.	Joe C. Hester	Memphis, Tenn.	4/17/68	44-1987
2.	[REDACTED]	Birmingham, Ala.	4/17/68	44-1740
3.	[REDACTED]	Los Angeles, Calif.	4/18/68	44-1574
4.	[REDACTED]	Atlanta, Ga.	4/18/68	44-2386
5.	[REDACTED]	New Orleans, La.	4/29/68	157-10673
6.	JOE C. HESTER	Memphis, Tenn.	4/30/68	44-1987
7.	[REDACTED]	Jackson, Miss.	5/2/68	157-9586
8.	[REDACTED]	Newark, N.J.	5/13/68	44-854
9.	Joe C. Hester*	Memphis, Tenn.	6/10/68	44-1987
10.	[REDACTED]	Kansas City, Mo.	5/15/68	44-760
11.	[REDACTED]	Kansas City, Mo.	6/14/68	44-760

Prosecutive Summary Report

44-38861-5114  
ENCLOSURE

ATTACHMENT B

Other Reports and Enclosures

Description of  
Report and Enclosures

Date of  
Transmittal  
Memorandum

1. Memorandum dated 4/8/68 - 5/6/68 at Buffalo, N.Y.; Field Office File No. 44-374; Caption: James Earl Ray, aka Paul Bridgeman, Paul Bridgman, Paul Edward Bridgeman, Paul E. Bridgeman, Ramon George Sneyd; Toronto, Ontario, Canada. 6/13/68
2. Correspondence forwarded by "Ebony" magazine; report of interview with [REDACTED] *RAYMOND CORTES* 7/8/68
3. Report of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police dated 6/14/68 at Montreal; Caption: Dr. Martin Luther King - Murder of (Assistance to FBI.) 7/8/68
4. Identification Record of James Earl Ray; copy of telegram from the American Embassy, London, to the Department of State, dated 7/3/68. 7/16/68
5. Copies of correspondence of subject while in H. M. Prison in London; copies of reports of prison officials. 7/26/68

ENCLOSURE

44-38861-5114

ATTACHMENT C

Memoranda to the Attorney General on the following dates:

1. April 20, 1968
2. May 2, 1968
3. May 9, 1968
4. May 23, 1968
5. May 27, 1968
6. May 29, 1968
7. June 20, 1968
8. June 21, 1968\*
9. July 1, 1968
10. July 19, 1968
11. July 22, 1968
12. July 23, 1968

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\* Encloses 17 items made available by New Scotland Yard, London, England.

ENCLOSURE

44-38861-5114

ATTACHMENT D

Memoranda to Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights  
Division, on the following dates:

1. June 10, 1968
2. June 13, 1968
3. June 14, 1968
4. June 15, 1968
5. June 17, 1968
6. June 18, 1968
7. June 19, 1968
8. July 3, 1968

ENCLOSURE

44-38861-5114

ATTACHMENT E

Letterhead Memoranda

<u>Caption</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Date</u>
1. Murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.	Washington, D.C.	4/10/68
2. Murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.	Washington, D.C.	4/12/68
3. Murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.	Washington, D.C.	4/18/68
4. James Earl Ray, aka Eric Starvo Galt	Buffalo, N.Y.	6/5/68
5. James Earl Ray, aka Eric Starvo Galt	Buffalo, N.Y.	6/7/68
6. Assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.	Atlanta, Ga.	6/11/68
7. James Earl Ray	Washington, D.C.	6/13/68
8. James Earl Ray	Washington, D.C.	6/24/68
9. Assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.	Washington, D.C.	6/25/68
10. James Earl Ray	Washington, D.C.	7/1/68
11. James Earl Ray; Martin Luther King, Jr. - Victim Civil Rights	Atlanta, Ga.	7/5/68
12. James Earl Ray; Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. - Victim	New Orleans, La.	7/25/68

44-38861-5114  
ENCLOSURE