

MWS

Dear Phil,

11/15/77

Thanks for your 11/12 and the enclosed copies of clips. Helpful, as I'll try to be.

I knew what you say re Eggs and Sausage Man from Jowers in early 1971 and from Wayne later. Wayne knows that I believe there was such an incident and also believe it did not involve Youngblood. I have known since early 1971 that Youngblood was in Memphis at about that time.

I am not trying to talk you or Wayne out of anything and I have no book to compete with his. It will be some time before I can get back to writing one. I'm much too busy in court and out with FOIA matters. And I recognize that if as I believe I am correct then he has no book, although it is written. On the other hand he'd better recognize now that if a publisher does go for the book then maybe with a publisher from whom to collect Youngblood might file suit. Knowing these things and liking Wayne it is not easy for me to tell you or him but I feel I must.

My recollection was incorrect with Campbell. It came back to me later that it was Crawford. Except for the later ID of Youngblood it was as Jowers said insofar as Jowers knew. I have no reason to believe there was an actual arrest so none to believe that there is a written record. What I believe is that Crawford was interviewed by the police. His story was checked out and it did check out. When he was seen with the police I think it was assumed that he was arrested.

I know something about the files Crumby burned. There really was a massive domestic intelligence operation down there. Tell Wayne please that all I asked him about preparatory to turning it over to Les Payne and afterward when we both saw Wayne is correct on this. I believe that the vet's suit was merely the needed excuse for unloading all of that stuff. It was really dreadful stuff over which I believe the city could have been sued successfully. Any opening of the dam would have been a flood. So they took no chances and destroyed all. I doubt that any reporter can get anyone involved to talk. There is a better chance of what Wayne knows about, the electronic and other surveillances. I have a best-possible but must-be-protected source on the inside.

Particularly glad to get the "blockbuster" story because it has since been denied by the committee. I knew of it from radio broadcasts first and then a couple of pieces generally of less than a stick. I believe but do not know that Blakey got after Stokes, who is neither very responsible nor very bright from what reporters tell me. He is unwise with them, asking to get clobbered and acting and speaking foolishly.

On Lane, and I have no objection to telling Kay as long as it being my idea is not disclosed, there is more than these stories report and as usual Lane is less than truthful. Jerry told me a long time ago that Lane represented the entire family. On a New York City broadcast with Lifton and Jeff Cohen after their New Times piece on Jerry was out Lane did say that he represented Jerry and that he would sue them all for libel. If I have not given the tape away I have it. It was sent to me by someone in New York. Station WMCA, I think the show of Lane's old pal Jerry Williams.

Neither the language nor the ideas in Kay's story about Jerry's suit can be Jerry's. He may not even know what some of the words mean. Not from anything Jimmy ever told me but merely from what has been attributed to him and his subsequent lawyers in the papers all those interrogatories are what Jimmy is hung up on and clearly intends using the phoney Jerry civil suit as a means of trying to obtain. If it is irrational Jimmy still believes that he can get legal help from the operations against King. Nonsense. Lane has conned him into believing the junk he has in that very bad book. And Jimmy's major trouble for some years has been that he thinks he is Perry Mason. Jerry does, too. Jerry is a mark, what he calls a Hoosier. But he thinks he is bright and a master of p.r. The stories, old, place him in Georgia. I heard he was in St. Louis. Best to you all,

JL

11/12/77

Dear Harold,

Thanks for writing your friend in publishing re Presley book. It's still to be published.

For all of Oct., I was again in NY. On catching up w/clippings, I found little unusual James Earl Ray-wise. Will try to enclose some photocopies w/this letter.

Re your Miss. friend's account: Wayne thinks it refers to a story of about '67 or '68, in which a former ~~Gen~~ Garrison aide was ~~finally~~ fired.

The man who served the food said it was eggs & sausage; the man serving was Lloyd Jowers. It's a mystery who the man was who had eggs&sausage; Campell must be somebody else. Jowers said the FBI was trying to find a man on the afternoon the "eggs&sausage man" was released. Jowers then identified Youngblood, first in 1969, and then as late as Aug. 1976 in the presence of Chastain & a WCoast investigator.

^{10/}Sept./76 was when files were burned. Viet vet (whose name I don't have offhand) had asked Mf's Police Dept for his own individual file re campus activism.during Cambodian invasion. Crumby burned this vet's file. This precipitated by the vet & the ACLU for all of the files. As lawsuit pended in Fed Court, and a subpoena for the files was being delivered to Mayor's office, Crumby order a massive burning of all of the files.

Re Anderson-Whitten colum re Pepper bugging, we saw it. Thanks.

Best,

Phil

Wayne & I don't know Morris Davis.

While in NY, I attended Marina Oswald press conference at Harper & Row.

King Probers Told to Expect 'Blockbusters'

MEMPHIS PRESS-SCIMITAR, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1977

By TIM WYNGAARD
Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — Chairman Louis Stokes, D-Ohio, of the House Assassinations Committee has informed panel members to expect "blockbuster" developments in the investigation of the killing of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

Committee members said Stokes told them the committee's investigating staff has developed "startling" information about the slaying of the civil rights leader in 1968. They said Stokes promised them a full briefing by the middle of next month.

The committee's investigation of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy has been scaled down and the panel's professional staff apparently has been spending virtually all its time exploring new leads in the King case.

Sources said Stokes has moved the headquarters for that investigation to St. Louis from Washington to lessen national media attention and to allow the staff to spend all the time it needs in Memphis.

In addition, the sources said, Stokes has told them the King investigators turned up "more than 100" witnesses who never have been interviewed by police officials. The probe has taken congressional investigators to Canada to pursue possible leads there as well, the sources said.

Word that new information is forthcoming, based on partial briefings of committee members by Stokes in recent days, is the first indication of any progress in the investigations.

Last August, after the committee was wracked by feuds between members and staff aides, Stokes slammed a tight secrecy seal on its work and hired Cornell University Law School Prof. G. Robert Blakey as new staff director.

To prevent leaks, only Stokes is being fully briefed by Blakey's staff on progress of the investigation, and Stokes is passing along part of the information to committee members. But Stokes promised the committee a full staff report by mid-November.

Some work is continuing in the Kennedy case, primarily on possible links between Lee Harvey Oswald, Jack Ruby and right-wing Cubans, according to the sources.

But primary attention is being devoted to the King matter "because the trail is a lot fresher there" and because early investigative work apparently has been more productive, according to the committee

members.

Of the new witnesses in the King probe, about 60 are considered to be of little use, the sources quote Stokes as reporting. But the remaining 40 or more have turned over some "significant" information, according to those reports.

The Canadian end of the investigation centers on convicted King assassin James Earl Ray's claim that he was recruited there by a mysterious man whom he knew only as "Raoul" to take part in a gun and drug-smuggling plan. Instead he was framed for the King killing, Ray claims.

10/2/77

Jerry Ray Poses Queries To FBI

Jerry Ray yesterday presented questions to the Federal Bureau of Investigation in connection with a libel suit filed last month over a book about his brother, James Earl Ray, and the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Jerry Ray listed 53 questions for the FBI, many concerning the agency's alleged surveillance of both Ray brothers and King, whose slaying James Earl Ray admitted.

The inquiries also deal with Jerry Ray's allegations that the FBI cooperated with George McMillan, author of "The Making of an Assassin," in providing information on the King case.

FBI officials have 30 days to respond.

A similar suit filed by James Earl Ray last year was dismissed by U.S. Dist. Judge Harry W. Wellford as frivolous. This suit has also been assigned to Wellford.

Eighteen questions were also filed yesterday for responses from Little Brown & Co., publisher of the McMillan book, which was also named as a defendant. Time, Inc., the parent firm, was a defendant in the earlier suit.

James Earl Ray's Brother Queries FBI

By KAY PITTMAN BLACK
Press-Scimitar Staff Writer

Jerry Ray — brother of James Earl Ray, the man serving a 99-year prison sentence for the slaying of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. — has filed briefs in federal court seeking to find out details about the Federal Bureau of Investigation's alleged electronic surveillance of King.

Filing a set of interrogatories (legal questions in writing which seek written answers from defendants), Jerry Ray's questions to the FBI deal chiefly with its investigations of King before and after his death.

Now living in Marietta, Ga., Jerry Ray in August filed a civil suit naming numerous defendants, including book writers and a publishing company as well as the FBI. He contended that he believes the FBI was furnishing material to writers and said he had been libeled by published accounts saying lately "that I knew my brother James killed Dr. King, that I was told by him he was going to do it and all sorts of other lies."

Ray wants the FBI to tell him if they have ever opened his mail or searched his residences after King's death.

Ray also wants to know if the FBI has any "knowledge or creditable information that plaintiff (himself) was culpable in the murder of Dr. King?"

He also asked if any members of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, which Dr. King headed, were under electronic surveillance by the FBI between March 28 and April 2, 1968, and if so, a list of their names. Ray wants to know on what date did the FBI first use an electronic device to record conversations between King and other parties he communicated with and what date "did the FBI terminate permanently the electronic surveillance of Dr. King."

Other questions include:

- Who initiated any alleged King surveillance?
- Who in government authorized it?
- How many times was such surveillance done without any authorization?

Ray also wants to know if the FBI has delivered to the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia and U.S. Dist. Judge John Lewis Smith Jr. any material resulting "from the bureau's electronic surveillance of Dr. King" which Ray claims Smith ordered placed in the National Archives.

10/4/77

FINAL

Judge May Dismiss Jerry Ray's Lawsuit

U.S. District Judge Bailey Brown has issued a written ruling stating that if Jerry Ray, brother of James Earl Ray, does not respond to motions to dismiss his libel case by Nov. 25, the judge himself may dismiss it.

Brown said that some motions to dismiss the case have been on file with the court since Oct. 7, but that Ray has not answered any of them.

Brown said that because there seems to be some confusion about whether Ray is represented by an attorney and as to what Ray's current address is, Brown will not take any additional motions until Nov. 25 date for answers. If Ray does not answer, Brown said, that may be deemed grounds for granting dismissal motions under federal court rules.

In his libel suit filed in September, Ray charged that former Nashville prosecutor Henry Haille, the director of the State Corrections Department; Alabama writer Bradford Huie, and the FBI conspired with writer John McMillan and the publishing company Little Brown to imply that he knew in advance that his brother was going to kill Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis.

McMillan, 62, is author of the book, *The Making of a Assassin*, which purports to be a psychological study of James Earl Ray.

All defendants have asked Brown to dismiss the case on the grounds that it has no proper legal basis.

AP PRESS-SCIMITAR TIMES BY AP/WIDEWORLD

Judge May Dismiss Jerry Ray's Lawsuit

By KAY FITTMAN BLACK
Press-Scheduler Staff Writer

U.S. District Judge Dudley Brown has issued a written ruling stating that if Jerry Ray, brother of James Earl Ray, does not respond to motions to dismiss his libel case by Nov. 25, the judge likely may dismiss it.

Brown said that some motions to dismiss the case have been on file with the court since Oct. 7, but that Ray has not answered any of them.

Brown said that because there seems to be some confusion about whether Ray is represented by an attorney and as to what Ray's current address is, Brown will give Ray additional time (through the Nov. 25 date) to file answers. If Ray does not respond, Brown said, that may be deemed grounds for granting dismissal motions under federal court rules.

In his libel suit filed in September, Ray charged that former Nashville prosecutor Henry Haille, the Missouri State Corrections Department, Alabama writer William Bradford Huie, and the FBI conspired with writer George McMillan and the publishing company to the Brown to imply that he knew in 1963 that his brother was going to kill Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

McMillan, 62, a freelance investigative reporter from Tennessee — now living in Framingham, Mass. — spent seven years researching his book, *The Making of a Martyr*, which purports to be a psychological study of James Earl Ray.

In his suit, Jerry Ray posed a number of legal questions, many unanswered — some directed to heretofore unpublished information which may or may not be contained in the files — questions revolving around such things as alleged surveillance of both Ray brothers and King and other members of the Ray family.

All defendants have asked Brown to dismiss the case on the grounds that it has no proper legal basis.

In addition, U.S. Attorney Mike Cody and Haille, now in private practice but formerly with the state attorney general's office, have asked Brown not to make them answer any of the legal questions put forth by Jerry Ray until after the motions to dismiss have been acted upon.

The latest correspondence from Jerry Ray in the court file is a letter dated Nov. 3, in which Ray states that he is now represented by attorney Mark Lane of Venice, Calif. Lane is the lawyer who is now also representing James Earl Ray. The letter also indicated that Jerry Ray had moved from Marietta, Ga., back to St. Louis, Mo., where other members of the Ray family live.

THE DAY OCTOBER 10 1977

Lane Denies Tie To Jerry Ray's Suit

By OTIS L. SANFORD

Tenn. lawyer Mark Lane denied today he is representing Jerry Ray in a suit over a book about Ray's brother, James Earl Ray, and the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

"I am not representing him in the libel suit. I wish him the very best of luck and I have called around to try to find a lawyer for him, but I have no interest or connection with that (lawsuit) at all," Lane said.

Jerry Ray filed the suit here Aug. 31, arguing he has been libeled and his constitutional rights violated by the author and publisher of the book "The Making of an Assassin."

In a letter dated Nov. 3, Jerry Ray informed the court clerk's office that Lane is representing him in the suit, but Lane,

reached at his Venice, Calif., law office, said, "I have nothing to do with the case. I have never filed anything and there is nothing there (clerk's office) with my signature on it."

Lane said he had represented Jerry Ray when he was fired from a suburban Cal. electronics company after his brother's escape from Brush Mountain State Prison in June.

He said, however, he is currently representing James Earl Ray "in everything" and is scheduled to meet with him next week at the prison.

James Earl Ray is serving a 99-year prison term for the April 4, 1968, slaying of King in Memphis.

A spokesman for the court clerk's office said yesterday all motions in the libel suit are being sent to Lane in California "because he is the attorney of record." But

Lane said he has not received any paper from the court.

The suit claims the FBI supplied Lane with the information to George Jackson, author of the book, which is published by Little Brown & Co., which published the book.

Also named as defendants are Little Brown & Co., which published the book; the FBI; William Bradford Huie, who also has written about the King case and allegedly made his research available to McMillan; and W. Henry Halle, a former assistant state attorney general.

The suit seeks \$750,000 in damages from each defendant.

Meanwhile, motions by all defendants to dismiss the suit on grounds that it has no legal basis have gone unopposed by Ray or his attorney.

