

F B I

Date: 7/31/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL  
(Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, SAVANNAH (44-1768) (P)

*MURKIN*

Re Buairtel 7/25/68, and SVairtel to Director, 7/29/68, in captioned matter; and SVairtel to Director, 6/28/68, captioned "NATIONAL STATES RIGHTS PARTY, RM (ORGANIZATION)".

On 7/29/68, [REDACTED] (PROTECT IDENTITY), advised that with regard to the previously reported statements made by Dr. EDWARD R. FIELDS, NSRP, that he was a personal friend of ART HANES, Attorney for JAMES EARL RAY, alleged murderer of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., JESSE B. STONER recently mentioned that HANES had called them, apparently at the NSRP Office, acted mad, and pointed out to them that he did not even recall ever meeting them and that he was not "their friend". [REDACTED] FIELDS' and STONER were miffed that HANES was so unfriendly, but acknowledged at the time that they had met HANES on only one occasion for a brief moment. [REDACTED] heard nothing further about any correspondence from JAMES EARL RAY or of any efforts by FIELDS or STONER to intercede for him. [REDACTED]

*J.S.*

*65*

*Mem to Dir*  
*Proen to Dir*  
*8-6*  
3 - Bureau (RM)  
2 - Memphis (44-1987) (RM) **REC-34**  
1 - Birmingham (RM) **EX-105**  
2 - Savannah  
CMO/bb (8)  
C. C. Bishop  
**REC. B - CIAMBOI**  
**REC. B - CIA VICHIE**  
**REC. B - CIA VICHIE**  
AUG 2 1968  
44-38861-503

Approved: *[Signature]*  
61 AUG 15 1968 Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

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V. OUA

SV 44-1768

[REDACTED] STONER and  
FIELDS had made the initial offer to aid JAMES EARL RAY for  
the publicity and for the purpose of attempting to increase  
their own prestige.

The Savannah Office has instructed [REDACTED] to  
be alert for any future contacts between the NSRP officials and  
JAMES EARL RAY or his attorney or representatives.