

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Director, FBI

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Sullivan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Bishop	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Brennan, C.D.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Callahan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Casper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Conrad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Felt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Gale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tavel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Walters	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Soyars	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Miss Holmes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Miss Gandy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

TO : J. Edgar Hoover, Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: JAN 15 1971

FROM : *JL* Jerris Leonard *MURKIN*
KWOL Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

JL:MG:pg
DJ 144-72-66;

SUBJECT: Assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Reference is made to your memorandum of August 12, 1970, concerning author George McMillan's request for information pertaining to James Earl Ray, and other communications transmitting similar requests by Mr. McMillan; and to your memorandum of January 21, 1970, concerning among other things requests received by your Bureau for information pertaining to the Ray case.

While I do not believe it would yet be appropriate to make public the contents of the Ray files, a certain portion of the file has already been made available, in connection with a civil suit brought under the Public Information Act by Harold Weisberg, to Mr. Weisberg and thereafter to other individuals. Those papers consist only of the original documents filed on behalf of the States of Tennessee and Missouri in the extradition proceedings in the British Court.

It is our intention to make these papers available in the future to authors, publishers or members of the public who wish to inspect them and who make appropriate arrangements through this Division.

I am attaching for your information a copy of our letter to Mr. McMillan to this effect.

EXP. PROC. 38
JAN 18 1971

So
ENCLOSURE

*1cc Dept. of Justice
per official FOIA
req. of George McMillan
2/15/71*

REC-57 44-35861-5902
EX-111

21
12 JAN 18 1971

56 JAN 27 1971

3 folders

Director, FBI

JL:KWO'C:MG:
DJ 144-72-662

JAN 15 1971

Mr. George McMillan
Coffin Point
Frogmore, South Carolina 29920

Dear Mr. McMillan:

I am writing in response to your letter of September 28, 1970, to Mr. Leonard, and to your several letters to Mr. Hoover which have been referred to this Division.

Department of Justice files pertaining to James Earl Ray are confidential, since they relate to an official investigation of a possible violation of federal law. Accordingly, we cannot comply with your request for further information based on the FBI's investigation.

I would like to advise you that the documents and exhibits which were filed on behalf of Tennessee and Missouri in the Ray extradition proceedings in the British Court do not come within this rule, and will be made available for your inspection in our offices in Washington at your request. If you wish to inspect these papers, you may make the appropriate arrangements with Miss Monica Gallagher, an attorney in the Criminal Section, Civil Rights Division.

Sincerely,

JERRIS LEONARD
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

By: K. WILLIAM O'CONNOR
Chief, Criminal Section

ENCLOSURE

44-38861-5902