

On April 1, 1968, Mr. WILLARD stated he was at his home resting due to inclement weather, but when the weather permitted around 10:00 a.m. he flew back to the Natchez-Adams Airport for the purpose of taking another flying lesson. He was at the airport for several hours, but due to inclement weather he did not rent the Cessna 150 plane and returned home by his Piper J-3 plane.

Mr. WILLARD stated that on April 2 and 3, 1968, he was at his home assisting his wife in the preparation of flower beds and sodding the lawn with St. Augustine grass. In addition he had some work painting his home and remained at home during the entire period of April 2 and 3, 1968.

WILLARD continued that on the morning of April 4, 1968, he again went turkey hunting in the Homochitta National Forest, but was very tired and came home around noontime. He ate, rested and he and his wife, EVA, sometime during the mid-afternoon fished in their pond on the farm. He stated that Mr. CLETUS SEALS, a neighbor, came by the farm pond and noted he and his wife fishing on the afternoon of April 4, 1968, and further that Mr. SEALS could verify that he was home most of the time between the period, March 29 through April 4, 1968.

Mr. WILLARD stated that he and his wife returned to their home between 4:00 and 5:00 p.m. on April 4, 1968, and he cleaned the fish while his wife cooked supper. He pointed out during the evening meal a special announcement came over his television stating that MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., had been shot in Memphis and a later announcement stated that KING was dead.

Mr. WILLARD stated that he has never been affiliated with any Klan or hate-type organization and in fact has a number of Negroes working under his supervision at the gravel pit.

He stated he is opposed to violence in any form and this is the first vacation he has had in several years working 12 to 14 hours per day.

Mr. WILLARD stated that he has not been in Memphis in ten or more years, does not own a white Mustang and is not aware of who assassinated MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Mr. WILLARD was shown the artist's conceptions of the unknown individuals in this matter and he stated he was not aware of this individual's identity.

The following is a description of WILLARD as obtained from interview and observation:

Name	JOHN RAY WILLARD
Race	Caucasian
Sex	Male
Age	42
Date of birth	
Place of birth	Natchez, Mississippi
Height	66"
Weight	174
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Brown
Complexion	Ruddy
Marital status	Married; wife, EVA WILLARD
Son	KENNETH WILLARD at home, age 17
Daughter	DIANNE HAVARD, age 23, married and lives in England
Facial features	Round face with small forehead

From observation and his facial features, WILLARD does not appear to be identical with the artist's conceptions of the unknown subject in this case.

JN 157-9586

4

WILLARD added that he is not aware of the identity of any other JOHN WILLARD or anyone who might have used his name as JOHN WILLARD. He is not acquainted with ERIC STARVO GALT and knows no one by the name of HARVEY LOWMEYER or LOWMYER.

Mr. WILLARD stated he served in the U. S. Navy as a Ships Cook, Second Class, from September 30, 1942, to January 20, 1946, and was honorably discharged under Navy Serial Number 7217671.

Mr. WILLARD showed the interviewing agent his gun collection which is as follows:

- 1) .35 caliber Marlin Carbine
- 2) 410 pump shotgun
- 3) 12 guage Remington automatic shotgun
- 4) .22 caliber pistol revolver

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS

DATE: 4/19/68

FROM : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re New York tel to Bureau, Birmingham, Jackson, Memphis, Minneapolis, 4/11/68.

Enclosed for Memphis are 15 copies of investigative insert re investigation at Tunica, Miss., and 15 copies of administrative insert re postal information at Tunica.

No further investigation being conducted at Jackson since suspect Mustang has been located.

2 - Memphis (Encs. 30)

② - Jackson

HLF/clm

(4)

*one copy destroyed 4/21/68*

*CCO attached marked for routing*

157-9586-308

SEARCHED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INDEXED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SERIALIZED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FILED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
APR 22 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	



5010-108-01

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

JN 157-9586

HLF/clm

1

The following investigation was conducted by  
SA HAROLD LEO FABRIZ on April 16, 1968:

At Tunica, Mississippi

PAUL JONNES and PAUL JOHNES were not identifiable in the Tunica telephone directory; the arrest records of the Tunica County Sheriff's Office; the motor vehicle registration records of the Tunica County Sheriff's Office; or voter registration records of the Tunica County Clerk of Circuit Court.

JONNES or JOHNES was not known to Sheriff JOE CARSLY; Deputy Sheriff MARY KOONCE; Deputy Clerk of Circuit Court Mrs. E. M. ELLETT; Chancery Clerk HUGH HAWKINS, or County Attorney MARTIN GARNER.

JOSEPH JONES, Route 2, Box 2, Tunica, advised that he has not used the name PAUL JONNES or JOHNES and that he was not acquainted with anyone by either of those names or the name PAUL JONES.

At Clarksdale, Mississippi

Mrs. JEAN UTROSKA, reporter, Credit Bureau of Clarksdale, advised on April 16, 1968, that PAUL JOHNES or JONNES was not identifiable in the records of that office, which retains credit information for Tunica, Mississippi.

At Batesville, Mississippi

The Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol radio dispatcher advised by radio on April 16, 1968, that Mississippi license [REDACTED] was listed to ANDREW STERICH, Nesbit, Mississippi, on a 1966 Mustang.

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JN 157-9586

HLF/clm

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ADMINISTRATIVE:

W. E. WALKER, Postal Clerk, U. S. Post Office, Tunica, Mississippi, advised SA HAROLD LEO FABRIZ on April 16, 1968, that he recalled seeing a letter which was mailed at the Tunica Post Office about two weeks previously. He stated that the letter caught his attention because it was addressed to the FBI, New York, and it was a printed address. He also recalled that the return address on the envelope was PAUL JONNES or JOHNES, which names were strange to him. He could not identify any known postal patron or resident of Tunica as PAUL JONNES or JOHNES. He stated that JOE JONES in the North Subdivision was the only name he could recall which was similar to those above.

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3

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC; Jackson (157-9586)

DATE: 4/17/68

FROM : SA H. MAX LOUDERMAN

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re JN memo, 4/11/68.

The following named individuals have been contacted by the writer, on the dates indicated, regarding any knowledge they may personally have, or any information their respective files might contain re ERIC STARVO GALT:

LAMAR OTIS, Circuit Clerk, Hancock County, Bay St. Louis, Mississippi re voters registrations and Hancock County Court records, 4/15/68.

Norma Stiglets, Hancock County Credit Bureau, Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, 4/15/68.

LATHON GARRIGA, Chief of Police, Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, 4/15/68.

FRED CURET, Hancock County Sheriff, Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, 4/15/68.

FRED BOURGEOIS, City Marshall, Waveland, Mississippi, 4/15/68.

HAROLD BECKER, Coast Electric Co., Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, 4/15/68.

JACQUELINE MARIE KIDD, Mississippi Power Co., Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, 4/15/68.

ROBERT HAMILTON, Vice-President, Hancock Bank, Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, 4/15/68.

None of these contacts resulted in any information regarding ERIC S. GALT.

All appropriate directories were checked with negative results.

2 - JN 157-9586 - 1 copy destroyed  
hml

*CCO marked for indexing*

*file 157-9586-309*

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5010-108-01

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

FBI JKSN MISS

FBI MIAMI

1144PM IMMEDIATE 4-18-68 LLD

TO ALL SACSEXCEPT KANSAS CITY, ANCHORAGE, HONOLULU AND SAN JUAN

MESSAGE RELAY PLAN

FROM DIRECTOR 5P

MURKIN. OO: MEMPHIS.

JAMES EARL RAY, AKA. EARL JAMES RAY, W. C. HERRON, EARL JALES, JAMES MC BRIDE, JAMES O'CONNER, JAMES WALTON, JAMES WALYON, JIM - FUGITIVE; UFAC - ROBBERY FIRST, BUFILE 88-41730. OO: KANSAS CITY, KC FILE 88-9449; DETERMINED TODAY BY BUREAU TO BE IDENTICAL WITH ERIC STARVO GALT, AGAINST WHOM FEDERAL COMPLAINT FILED APRIL SEVENTEEN LAST IN CONNECTION WITH FATAL SHOOTING OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR .

JAMES EARL RAY, INMATE, MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY, JEFFERSON CITY, MO., ESCAPED PEN APRIL TWO THREE, SIXTY-SEVEN. INVESTIGATION INDICATED RAY CONCEALED HIMSELF IN A BREAD BOX AND ESCAPED FROM TRUCK MAKING DELIVERY TO AN AUXILIARY FARM. RAY WAS SERVING TWENTY YEARS ON CHARGE OF ARMED ROBBERY - FIRST DEGREE AND FOR OPERATING A VEHICLE WITHOUT OWNER'S CONSENT. ON JULY TWENTY, SIXTY-SEVEN, END PAGE ONE

*Ingram advised  
4/19/68 Rem*

157-9586-310

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IN THIS CONNECTION, JAMES EARL RAY AND WALTER TERRY RIFE ON MARCH SEVEN, FIFTY-FIVE, BURGLARIZED THE U. S. POST OFFICE AT KELLERVILLE, ILL., AND STOLE SIXTY-SIX BLANK U. S. POSTAL MONEY ORDERS WHICH THEY PASSED DURING MARCH, FIFTY-FIVE, IN NUMEROUS STATES, WITH THE RESULT THAT BOTH WERE SENTENCED IN U.S.D.C., KANSAS CITY, MO., ON JULY ONE, FIFTY-FIVE, TO USP, LEAVENWORTH,  
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END PAGE THREE

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-P-

END

JWD

FBI JKSN MISS

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157-9586-310

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-P-

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JWD

FBI JKSN MISS

P

FBI JKSN MISS

FBI NEW ORLS

1056PM URGENT 4-19-68 CDC

TO JACKSON

FROM NEW ORLEANS 157-10673

MURKIN;

RE JACKSON TEL CALL THIS DATE.

RE: JOSEPH CLATON MONTAGNE (LOOKALIKE)

SPRINGFIELD OFFICE ADVISED THAT NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT ILLINOIS  
LICENSE D G THREE ONE ZERO NINE IS REGISTERED TO RAYMOND HILLBURN,  
SIX ZERO THREE NINE NORTH RIDGE, CHICAGO, FOR A NINETEEN FIFTYSIX  
DODGE, FOUR DOOR, VIN THREE TWO TWO THREE THREE ONE THREE NINE.  
AUTO REGISTRATION AND DRIVERS LICENSE CHECK RE MONTAGNE NEGATIVE.

DRIVERS LICENSE RECORDS RE HILLBURN DESCRIBE HIM AS  
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END PAGE ONE

*Ingram advised  
Files advised  
4/19/68 Bern*

*8:05 AM 4/20  
W.H. Pope furnished all  
available info. & no more  
to be sent.*

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PAGE TWO

CHICAGO REQUESTED TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW HILLBURN RE MONTAGNE.

JACKSON CONTACT CAPTAIN ON PASCAGOULA, MISS. PD, ORIGINAL  
SOURCE OF INFORMATION AND THOROUGHLY INTERVIEW.

AIRMAIL COPIES TO SPRINGFIELD AND CHICAGO.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

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ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

JWD

FBI JKSN MISS

TUCLRP

FBI JKSN, MISS

FBI WASH DC

347PM URGENT 4-19-68 SAA

TO ALL SACS  
FROM DIRECTOR 4P

MURKIN

THE FOLLOWING PRESS RELEASE HAS JUST BEEN ISSUED AT WASHINGTON THIS AFTERNOON AND YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO MAKE IT IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE TO THE LEADING NEWSPAPERS AND RADIO AND TV STATIONS IN YOUR DIVISION. EVERY EFFORT MUST BE MADE TO INSURE REPEATED AND WIDESPREAD DISTRIBUTION OF THIS INFORMATION. COPIES OF THE 1966 PHOTOGRAPH OF SUBJECT ALREADY IN YOUR POSSESSION AND WANTED FLYERS SHOULD ALSO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO MEDIA CONTACTS. NO ELABORATION WHATSOEVER MAY BE MADE REGARDING THIS RELEASE. ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING INVESTIGATIVE LEADS WILL FOLLOW SHORTLY.

*all SAs add to make  
release  
news media here have  
already received and aired the  
release.*

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PAGE TWO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APRIL 19, 1968

ATTORNEY GENERAL RAMSEY CLARK ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE FBI HAS IDENTIFIED JAMES EARL RAY, AN ESCAPEE FROM THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY, AS ERIC STARVO GALT, AGAINST WHOM A FEDERAL COMPLAINT WAS FILED LAST WEDNESDAY IN CONNECTION WITH THE FATAL SHOOTING OF THE REVEREND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

DIRECTOR J. EDGAR HOOVER SAID THAT A SYSTEMATIC AND EXHAUSTIVE SEARCH OF LATENT FINGERPRINTS UNCOVERED IN THE DR. KING CASE AGAINST THE FINGERPRINTS OF THE OVER 53,000 PERSONS FROM WHOM "WANTED NOTICES" HAVE BEEN POSTED IN THE FILES OF THE FBI'S IDENTIFICATION DIVISION LED TO THE DETERMINATION THAT GALT AND RAY ARE IDENTICAL.

MR. HOOVER SAID THAT RAY, WHO IS 40 YEARS OF AGE, WAS REPORTED MISSING FROM THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI, SINCE APRIL 23, 1967. HE HAD BEEN RECEIVED AT THAT INSTITUTION ON MARCH 17, 1960, TO SERVE A 20-YEAR SENTENCE FOLLOWING CONVICTION IN ST. LOUIS FOR ARMED ROBBERY AND FOR OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE OWNER.

PAGE THREE

IN SEPTEMBER, 1966, WHILE SERVING THIS SENTENCE, HE WAS CONFINED FOR A TIME IN THE MAXIMUM SECURITY WARD AT THE STATE HOSPITAL AT FULTON, MISSOURI.

ACCORDING TO MR. HOOVER, RAY HAS A KNOWN ARREST RECORD DATING BACK TO 1949. PRIOR TO THE 1960 CONVICTION FOR WHICH HE RECEIVED THE 20-YEAR TERM, RAY HAD BEEN CONVICTED OF BURGLARY IN LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, IN 1949; ARMED ROBBERY IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, IN 1952; AND FORGING UNITED STATES POSTAL MONEY ORDERS IN MISSOURI IN 1955.

HE HAS SERVED TERMS IN THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY JAIL IN 1949; IN STATE PRISONS AT JOLIET AND PONTIAC, ILLINOIS, IN 1952-54; AND IN THE FEDERAL PENITENTIARY AT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS, IN 1955-58.

RAY WAS AN ENLISTED MAN IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY FROM FEBRUARY, 1946, TO DECEMBER, 1948, AT WHICH TIME HE WAS GIVEN A GENERAL DISCHARGE DUE TO INEPTNESS AND LACK OF ADAPTABILITY FOR MILITARY SERVICE. WHILE IN THE ARMY, HE RECEIVED A THREE-MONTH SENTENCE AT HARD LABOR FOR BEING DRUNK AND BREAKING ARREST.

MR. HOOVER SAID THAT DURING HIS CRIMINAL CAREER, RAY HAS ALSO USED THE NAMES OF JAMES MCERIDE, JAMES WALTON, W. C. HERRON AND JAMES O'CONNER. HE IS A WHITE MALE; CLAIMS TO HAVE



PAGE FOUR

BEEN BORN [REDACTED] IN ILLINOIS; IS APPROXIMATELY 5 FEET 10 INCHES TALL AND WEIGHS ABOUT 163 TO 174 POUNDS. HE HAS BLUE EYES AND BROWN HAIR. THERE IS A SMALL SCAR ON THE CENTER OF HIS FOREHEAD AND A SCAR ON THE PALM OF HIS RIGHT HAND.

RAY HAS CLAIMED THAT HE ATTENDED SCHOOL THROUGH THE 10TH GRADE IN ALTON, ILLINOIS. HE HAS HAD THE REPUTATION OF BEING A "TRIFTER" SINCE LEAVING SCHOOL. HIS VOCATIONAL EXPERIENCE INCLUDES WORKING AS A BAKER, LABORER AND COLOR MATCHER.

IN CONNECTION WITH HIS ESCAPE FROM THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY, AN FBI COMPLAINT WAS FILED IN JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI, ON JULY 20, 1967, CHARGING RAY WITH UNLAWFULLY FLEEING FROM THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO AVOID CONFINEMENT. HE HAS BEEN A FEDERAL FUGITIVE SINCE THEN.

RAY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND EXTREMELY DANGEROUS. ANYONE HAVING INFORMATION CONCERNING HIM SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CONTACT FBI HEADQUARTERS IN WASHINGTON, D. C., OR THE NEAREST FBI OFFICE.

END

PGL

FBI JKSN MISS

P

FBI JKSN MISS

FBI WASH DC

347PM URGENT 4-19-68 SAA

TO ALL SACS

FROM DIRECTOR 4P

MURKIN

THE FOLLOWING PRESS RELEASE HAS JUST BEEN ISSUED AT WASHINGTON THIS AFTERNOON AND YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO MAKE IT IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE TO THE LEADING NEWSPAPERS AND RADIO AND TV STATIONS IN YOUR DIVISION. EVERY EFFORT MUST BE MADE TO INSURE REPEATED AND WIDESPREAD DISTRIBUTION OF THIS INFORMATION. COPIES OF THE 1968 PHOTOGRAPH OF SUBJECT ALREADY IN YOUR POSSESSION AND WANTED FLYERS SHOULD ALSO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO MEDIA CONTACTS. NO ELABORATION WHATSOEVER MAY BE MADE REGARDING THIS RELEASE. ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING INVESTIGATIVE LEADS WILL FOLLOW SHORTLY.

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157-9586-312

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APRIL 19, 1968

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END

PGL

FBI JKSN MISS

P

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

4/7/68

SA ORVILLE V. JOHNSON

MURKIN;  
CIVIL RIGHTS

On 4/6/68, Mr. ANGUS MC CARREN, Metro Editor, Commercial Appeal, Memphis, advised he has received information from PAUL NORMAN, 1067 S. Perkins Road, and who is a salesman of Chip Barwick Automobile Agency, which might be of value in instant case. According to MC CARREN, NORMAN told him that at approximately 2:00 PM on 4/4/65, an individual going by the name KEN SINGFIELD contacted NORMAN in an effort to obtain employment as an automobile salesman at Chip Barwick Company. NORMAN stated that SINGFIELD said he used operate either a Holiday Inn or some type of a motel in Clarksdale and also used to be an encyclopedia salesman. SINGFIELD was acquainted with BILL TIDWELL, whom NORMAN was also acquainted with, and who either operates a Howard Johnson Motel or some other motel in Clarksdale or somewhere in the Delta area.

NORMAN stated that he was reporting this information inasmuch as SINGFIELD acted rather strange and appeared to be either under the influence of narcotics or possibly drinking. NORMAN said that SINGFIELD's description fits the description of the person that shot Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING. According to NORMAN, SINGFIELD appeared to be nervous and expressed opposition to the policies of President JOHNSON.

NORMAN said he did not see any automobile in which SINGFIELD was traveling, but was merely reporting the information inasmuch as the description of SINGFIELD appears similar to that of the Unsub which appeared in the Commercial Appeal, and also because of his strange activities.

OVJ/bbs  
(2) *bbs*

*Locate Singfield  
and eliminate to* 157-9586-313

44-1987-Sub-48

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*Sammon Darlington*

F B I

Date: 4/18/68

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

TO: SAC, JACKSON

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN;  
CR

MEMPHIS OO

Re: Miscellaneous lead information

Enclosed for Jackson is one photocopy of memo to file from SA ORVILLE V. JOHNSON on 4/7/68.

For information of Jackson, Mr. PAUL ODELL NORMAN, 1076 Perkins Road, Memphis, Tenn., advised SA STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON on 4/17/68 that a KEN SINGFIELD fits the description of person in newspaper described as assassin of Dr. KING and acted strangely as if intoxicated and made derogatory remarks about President JOHNSON. NORMAN said a BILL TIDWELL who operates a Howard Johnson Motel in Clarksdale, Mississippi, knows SINGFIELD's current whereabouts in Mississippi.

LEADS

JACKSON

AT CLARKSDALE, MISS. Locate and interview BILL TIDWELL at Howard Johnson Motel and determine whereabouts of KEN SINGFIELD.

Airtel \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Interview KEN SINGFIELD regarding any information he has concerning assassination of Dr. KING.

Teletype \_\_\_\_\_  
② - Jackson (Enc. 1)A.M. \_\_\_\_\_  
2 - MemphisA.M.S.D. SMD:mjh  
(4)

Spec. Del. \_\_\_\_\_

Reg. Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Registered \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

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

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4/18/68

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- ② - Jackson (Enc. 1)  
2 - Memphis

SMD:mjh  
(4)

*Donnan has lead*

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FBI JKSN MISS

FBI NEW ORLS

1013PM URGENT 4/20/68 CLP

TO JACKSON  
FROM NEW ORLEANS (157-10673)

MURKIN

RE: JAMES EARL RAY (LOOK ALIKE)

INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM BRAD SWOLKIN, NEW ORLEANS, LA.,  
THIS DATE THAT ON EVEING OF APRIL NINETEEN LAST HE OBSERVED  
INDIVIDUAL RIDING IN A NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT CHEVROLET  
CAMERO, BLUE WITH BLACK VINYL TOP, BEARING NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT  
MISSISSIPPI LICENSE G E EIGHT ONE FOUR EIGHT.

UPON VIEWING LATLST PICTURES OF RAY IN TODAY'S NEW  
ORLEANS NEWSPAPER, HE STATED THAT UNKNOWN INDIVIDUAL  
BOPE A RESEMBLANCE TO RAY. SWOLKIN COULD FURNISH NO  
DESCRIPTION OF EITHER DRIVER OF VEHICLE OR PASSENGER OTHER  
THAT THEY WERE WHITE.

JACKSON DETERMINE IDENTITY OF OWNER OF VEHICLE, LOCATE  
AND INTERVIEW AND ASCERTAIN IDENTITY OF PASSENGER IN ORDER  
TO ELIMINATE AS BEING IDENTICAL TO RAY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

RLM

FBI JKSN MISS  
TU CLP

*Ingram advised  
Hurley advised  
4/20/68 Rem*

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FBI JKSN MISS

FBI NEW ORLS

1013PM URGENT 4/20/68 OLP

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ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

REM

FBI JKSN MISS  
TU CLR

157-9586-315

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FBI JKSN MISS

FBI CHICAGO

1122PM URGENT 4-20-68 TAE

TO: JACKSON, BIRMINGHAM, MEMPHIS

FROM: CHICAGO (44-1114)

MURKIN

MS. LENORE STEWART, THREE FIVE THREE EIGHT W. HIRSCH  
CHICAGO, TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED FOUR TWENTY INSTANT, THAT HER  
SON GERALD HULTGREN IS LIVING IN PASCAGOULA, MISS. FOR ONE NINE  
FIVE, WITH AN INDIVIDUAL NAMED E.M. RAY. RAY IS UNKNOWN TO  
STEWART AS TO DESCRIPTION OR BACKGROUND.

GERALD HULTGREN, IS WHITE MALE BORN THREE FIVE FORTY THREE  
SIX FEET THREE INCHES, ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY LBS IN NINETEEN  
SIXTY, SOCIAL SECURITY NO. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] HAS BACKGROUND OF JUVENILE TROUBLE AND  
IS NOW LATENTS, TOT JUVENILE AUTHORITIES COOK COUNTY, FOR PROSECUTION  
IN NINETEEN SIXTY.

STEWART LAST HEARD FROM HER SON AND RAY TELEPHONICALLY  
ABOUT THREE WEEKS AGO. THESE TWO MEN WERE TO TAKE A TRIP TO UNKNOWN  
LOCATION. EMPLOYMENT OF RAY AND HULTGREN NOT KNOWN TO STEWART.  
JACKET AT PASCAGOULA LOCATE AND INTERVIEW HULTGREN AND  
RAY, DETERMINE IF RAY POSSIBLY IDENTICAL WITH SUBJECT.

ENDREX

FBI JKSN MISS

*Diagram advised  
Files advised  
4/20/68 Ram*

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FBI JKSN MISS

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FBI JKSN MISS

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

DATE: 4/19/68

FROM : SA EDGAR L. O'NEILL, JR.

SUBJECT: MURKIN

## AT PASCAGOULA, MISSISSIPPI

On 4/19/68 the following persons were contacted by SA EDGAR L. O'NEILL, JR. Each was shown the photograph of ERIC STARVO GALT, and each checked their union records under names of GALT, GAULT, HARVEY LOWMYER, HARVEY LOWMEYER, and JOHN WILLARD. All persons contacted advised that the photograph was unfamiliar, and that records failed to reveal the afore-mentioned names; all checks made for current and inactive files:

- (1) MYRTIS JONES, Secretary,  
~~Machinists~~ Local # 1133,  
233 Delmas Ave.,  
Pascagoula, Miss.
- (2) GWIN FREEMAN, Secretary,  
~~Carpenters~~ Local # 569,  
233 Delmas Avenue,  
Pascagoula, Miss.
- (3) Mrs. KATHLEEN ALEXANDER, Secretary,  
~~Plumbers & Steam Fitters~~ Union,  
Local # 436,  
312 W. Ingalls Ave.,  
Pascagoula, Miss.
- (4) JANICE JERNIGAN, Secretary,  
~~Boilermakers~~ Union,  
Local # 693,  
324 West Ingalls Ave.,  
Pascagoula, Miss.
- (5) BRENDA BRUSHABER, Secretary,  
~~International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers~~,  
Local Union 733,  
504 South Market St.,  
Pascagoula, Miss.
- (6) RILZA NALL, Secretary,  
~~Laborers~~ Hall, Local # 1142,  
340 Market St.,  
Pascagoula, Miss.



ELO:elo

(2)

*one copy destroyed*

*CCO  
marked for mailing*

157-9586-317

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Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

JN 157-9586

Page 2, Memo to SAC from SA EDGAR L. O'NEILL, JR., Dated 4/19/68.

(7) ~~RONALD K. ROBINSON~~, President & Business Agent,  
~~International Longshoreman's Association~~,  
Local 1752,  
667 West Krebs Ave.,  
Pascagoula, Miss.

After the above interview, it was determined that ERIC STARVO  
GALT had been identified as JAMES EARL RAY, an escaped convict.

The following union halls were not contacted:

Painters Local 1225,  
315 S. Market St.,  
Pascagoula, Miss.

Rusters & Scalers Local 1730  
555 School, Ave.,  
Pascagoula, Miss.

Sheetmetal Local 407,  
947 Ingalls Ave.,  
Pascagoula, Miss.

Office & Professional Employees Local # 204,  
P. O. Box 2062, Pascagoula, Miss.

It was determined during contacts with other unions that  
the Operating Engineers Union is in Wiggins, Miss.; and that  
the Teamsters Union is in Mobile, Alabama.

F B I

Date: 4/19/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AM \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: SAC, ALBANY  
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P  
MURKIN

At about 6 p.m. on 4/4/68, while standing on the second floor balcony outside Room 306 of the Lorraine Motel, 406 Mulberry Street, Memphis, Tennessee, Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. was struck in the right side of the face by a single bullet fired from a 30-06 rifle. The bullet severed KING's spinal cord and death was almost instantaneous.

This investigation, predicated upon a specific request from the Attorney General of the United States, disclosed that the fatal shot had been fired from the bathroom of a cheap rooming house located at 422½ South Main Street, Memphis, which bathroom was located at the rear of the rooming house, and had a window overlooking the Lorraine Motel.

At about 3 p.m. on 4/4/68, an individual using the name JOHN WILLARD had rented Room 5-B in the rooming house at 422½ South Main Street and had paid one week's rent. After hearing the rifle shot at about 6 p.m. on that same day, other tenants in the rooming house observed a man presumably identical with WILLARD, fleeing from the rooming house carrying a large package which was subsequently abandoned by him on the sidewalk in front of the Canipe Amusement Co., 424 South Main Street, Memphis. A neighborhood investigation in the vicinity of 424 South Main Street disclosed that the subject had fled from the scene in a white Mustang.

Found abandoned in front of 424 South Main Street was a 30-06 Remington model 760 rifle which was determined to have been

2 ALBANY  
2 ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES  
1 MEMPHIS

RGJ:BN  
(111)

Approved: RG Jensen  
Special Agent in Charge

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

157-9586-318

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ME 44-1987

sold to one HARVEY LOWMEYER on 3/30/68 by Aeronarine Supply Co., Birmingham, Alabama.

Investigation at Memphis disclosed that an individual had purchased a set of binoculars at the York Arms Company in Memphis on 4/4/68. These binoculars were among the material abandoned with the rifle and recovered in Memphis. Also recovered was a brown and green herringbone bedspread. The items abandoned in Memphis were all wrapped in this bedspread. The blue bag which was inside the bedspread contained numerous items, among which were the binoculars and a set of underwear consisting of a T-shirt and shorts. The T-shirt and shorts are those on which appears the laundry mark which has been a matter of interest in this case.

A search of motel records in the Memphis area disclosed that an individual using the name ERIC S. GALT had spent the night of 4/3/68 at the Rebel Motel, Memphis, Tennessee, and was driving a 1966 white Mustang bearing Alabama License 1-38993. Investigation at Birmingham disclosed that this automobile had been purchased by ERIC S. GALT on August 30, 1968, from a private person in response to a newspaper ad. He paid a total of \$1995 cash. While in Birmingham he furnished the address of 2608 South Highland Avenue, Birmingham. This is also the address which appeared on a driver's license issued to him by the State of Alabama. The driver's license identifying data listed his birth date as [redacted], his height as 5'11", his weight as 170 and his eyes blue and hair brown.

The automobile in question, the white Mustang bearing the Alabama tags mentioned above, was recovered in Atlanta on 4/11/68 and determined to have been abandoned there prior to 9 a.m. on 4/5/68.

In connection with the evidence submitted by Atlanta, Birmingham, and Memphis, identifiable latent prints were recovered. It was on the basis of these latents that identification was made of JAMES EARL RAY. In handling future leads, all offices should be particularly interested in securing an identifying number, military, police, or FBI, in connection with suspects so that the necessary check can be made through the Identification Division.

On 4/17/68, AUSA R. MACEY TAYLOR, Birmingham, authorized the filing of a complaint charging ERIC STARVO GALT with a conspiracy to violate Section 241, Title 18, U. S. Code, and



ME 44-1987

recommended bond in the amount \$50,000. On that same date, SAC JOSEPH H. GAMBLE filed a complaint before USC MILDRED F. SPRAGUE, Birmingham, and warrant was issued that same date.

For further information re JAMES EARL RAY, all offices are directed to press release furnished them by the Bureau on 4/19/68.

ARMED & DANGEROUS.

F B I

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At about 6 p.m. on 4/4/68, while standing on the second floor balcony outside Room 306 of the Lorraine Motel, 406 Mulberry Street, Memphis, Tennessee, Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. was struck in the right side of the face by a single bullet fired from a 30-06 rifle. The bullet severed KING's spinal cord and death was almost instantaneous.

This investigation, predicated upon a specific request from the Attorney General of the United States, disclosed that the fatal shot had been fired from the bathroom of a cheap rooming house located at 422½ South Main Street, Memphis, which bathroom was located at the rear of the rooming house, and had a window overlooking the Lorraine Motel.

At about 3 p.m. on 4/4/68, an individual using the name JOHN WILLARD had rented Room 5-B in the rooming house at 422½ South Main Street and had paid one week's rent. After hearing the rifle shot at about 6 p.m. on that same day, other tenants in the rooming house observed a man presumably identical with WILLARD, fleeing from the rooming house carrying a large package which was subsequently abandoned by him on the sidewalk in front of the Canipe Amusement Co., 424 South Main Street, Memphis. A neighborhood investigation in the vicinity of 424 South Main Street disclosed that the subject had fled from the scene in a white Mustang.

Found abandoned in front of 424 South Main Street was a 30-06 Remington model 760 rifle which was determined to have been

2 ALBANY

2 ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES

1 MEMPHIS

RGJ:BN  
(111)

Approved: RG Jensen Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

157-9586-318

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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ME 44-1987

sold to one HARVEY LOWMEYER on 3/30/68 by Aeromarine Supply Co., Birmingham, Alabama.

Investigation at Memphis disclosed that an individual had purchased a set of binoculars at the York Arms Company in Memphis on 4/4/68. These binoculars were among the material abandoned with the rifle and recovered in Memphis. Also recovered was a brown and green herringbone bedspread. The items abandoned in Memphis were all wrapped in this bedspread. The blue bag which was inside the bedspread contained numerous items, among which were the binoculars and a set of underwear consisting of a T-shirt and shorts. The T-shirt and shorts are those on which appears the laundry mark which has been a matter of interest in this case.

A search of motel records in the Memphis area disclosed that an individual using the name ERIC S. GALT had spent the night of 4/3/68 at the Rebel Motel, Memphis, Tennessee, and was driving a 1966 white Mustang bearing Alabama License 1-38993. Investigation at Birmingham disclosed that this automobile had been purchased by ERIC S. GALT on August 30, 1968, from a private person in response to a newspaper ad. He paid a total of \$1995 cash. While in Birmingham he furnished the address of 2608 South Highland Avenue, Birmingham. This is also the address which appeared on a driver's license issued to him by the State of Alabama. The driver's license identifying data listed his birth date as [redacted] his height as 5'11", his weight as 170 and his eyes blue and hair brown.

The automobile in question, the white Mustang bearing the Alabama tags mentioned above, was recovered in Atlanta on 4/11/68 and determined to have been abandoned there prior to 9 a.m. on 4/5/68.

In connection with the evidence submitted by Atlanta, Birmingham, and Memphis, identifiable latent prints were recovered. It was on the basis of these latents that identification was made of JAMES EARL RAY. In handling future leads, all offices should be particularly interested in securing an identifying number, military, police, or FBI, in connection with suspects so that the necessary check can be made through the Identification Division.

On 4/17/68, AUSA R. MACEY TAYLOR, Birmingham, authorized the filing of a complaint charging ERIC STARVO GALT with a conspiracy to violate Section 241, Title 18, U. S. Code, and

ME 44-1987

recommended bond in the amount \$50,000. On that same date, SAC JOSEPH H. GAMBLE filed a complaint before USC MILDRED F. SPRAGUE, Birmingham, and warrant was issued that same date.

For further information re JAMES EARL RAY, all offices are directed to press release furnished them by the Bureau on 4/19/68.

ARMED & DANGEROUS.

F B I

Date: 4/19/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL  
(Priority)

TO SAC, JACKSON

FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
RM  
OO: Memphis  
Bufile 44-38861

Re Suspect Division

On 4/18/68 Miss JEAN WHITTINGTON, Manager, Indices Section, Arson and Fraud Division, American Insurance Association, Regional Office, 161 Peachtree Street, NE, Atlanta, Georgia, advised SA CHARLES PAUL ROSE that the records of her office failed to reflect any listing for ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER, or HARVEY LOWMYER.

The indices reflect that one JOHN M. WILLARD, 1227 Baggan Drive, Tupelo, Mississippi, reported an injury in an accident on 11/21/63. He was described as a white male, age 28 years, and married. It was alleged he sprained his back lifting a wrecked car in Tupelo, Mississippi and was seen by Dr. MALCOLM MOORE, Tupelo, Mississippi. The insurance company in this matter was U. S. Fidelity Guaranty, Tupelo, Mississippi and their file number is 142C3226.

The indices further reflect that JOHN E.

2-Jackson  
2-Tampa  
1-Memphis  
2-Atlanta  
CPR:sja  
(7)

*This has been  
handled & resolved  
not ident to subject*

157-9586-319

SEARCHED <i>95</i>	INDEXED <i>95</i>
SERIALIZED <i>95</i>	FILED <i>95</i>
APR 22 1968	
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Approved: *[Signature]* Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

AT 44-2386

WILLARD, Post Office Box 178, Zephyrhills, Florida, was involved in an accident receiving an abrasion on his face on U. S. 301, Zephyrhills, Florida, on 7/27/66.

At that time JOHN E. WILLARD was a white male, 26 years of age, and the insured in the accident was RILEY HARRIS, insured by State Farm Mutual, 5207 North Lois, Tampa, Florida. State Farm Mutual's case file number is 591073-036.

Jackson and Tampa will conduct logical investigation to ascertain if JOHN M. WILLARD, Tupelo, Mississippi and JOHN E. WILLARD, Zephyrhills, Florida, should be considered as logical suspects in captioned matter.

2\*

4/19/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: SAC, JACKSON

FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386) (P)

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4/22/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)  
FROM: SAC, JACKSON (157-9586) (P)  
MURKIN

Re Memphis tel to Jackson, 4/18/68.

For information of Memphis, W. E. BUSTIN is the owner and operator of a cafe at Moorhead, Mississippi, and he is acquainted with JOHN SIDNEY PARKER, who is a deputy sheriff on the Sunflower County SO, which covers Moorhead.

On 3/29/68, Sheriff JACK SESSUMS, Sunflower County SO, Indianola, Mississippi, advised PARKER had gone to Memphis, Tennessee, 3/28/68, on personal business and had been caught in the middle of a Negro riot there at that time. He advised PARKER had fired a shot in the direction of some approaching Negroes, but to his knowledge, had not hit anyone. SESSUMS advised he had telephonically contacted the COP and the SO at Memphis and was advised this incident was not reported to either department, and he was advised to forget about it. SESSUMS further advised on 4/19/68, PARKER was on duty at Indianola, Mississippi, at the time of the assassination of KING in Memphis.

Inasmuch as this appears to be the incident referred to by BUSTIN in re teletype which has no connection with MURKIN, no further investigation is being conducted in this matter.

2 - Memphis  
① - Jackson  
DD/clm  
(3)

cc: *injected*  
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Indexed \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed \_\_\_\_\_

157-9586-320

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586) (P)

DATE: 4/22/68

FROM : SA LYNN P. SMITH

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
RM

Re your memorandum, dated 4/11/68.

The following investigation was conducted by SA LYNN P. SMITH at the cities indicated. On April 16, and April 17, the following individuals were contacted and a check of their records were made relative to ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER or LOWMYER and JOHN WILLARD. All of these individuals contacted advised that their records were negative relative to these individuals.

~~BOBBY MURRY~~, Clay County Circuit Clerk,  
West Point, Mississippi

~~Mrs. MILDRED CALVERT~~, City Tax Rolls,  
West Point, Mississippi

~~Miss ANNE SIZEMORE~~, West Point Water & Light Department,  
West Point, Mississippi

Mrs. CECIL GROVES, Local Board #14,  
Selective Service System,  
West Point, Mississippi

Mr. RALPH BALLARD, Bank of West Point,  
West Point, Mississippi

Mr. JOHN WILSON, First National Bank,  
West Point, Mississippi

2 - Jackson  
LPS:bal  
(2) bal



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Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan