

4/23/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, BUFFALO (44-374) (P)
MURKIN

CONTENTS OF

On 4/22/68, Mrs. MARY GROOMS, 159 Burkedale Crescent, Rochester, New York, furnished a letter which she received on 4/19/68. The letter was contained in an envelope postmarked "Rochester, NY, PM, 17 April 1968." The letter reads as follows:

"Mrs. Grooms -

"I read your column regularly they are good and factual, with lots of common sense. The King plot was hatched recently in Detroit by Black Nationalists, Muslims, and Commies (I was there). The job was done by a hired professional killer. The Commies paid for the job. The authorities will eventually find out.

"An anonymous black man"

Mrs. GROOMS, who writes a weekly column for the Rochester "Times Union," a daily Rochester newspaper, was unable to furnish any additional information.

The letter is being obtained and forwarded to the Laboratory.

RAY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- 3 - Bureau (AM)
- ① - Birmingham (44-1740) (Info) (AM)
- 1 - Kansas City (Info) (AM)
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
- 1 - Buffalo

RCH:mfa
(8)

44-1740-1312

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED <i>10</i>
APR 25 1968	
FBI - BIRMINGHAM	

[Signature]

4/23/68

AIRTEL

TO: Director, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, Philadelphia (44-1368)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Newark airtel to Director, 4/15/68; and New York airtel to Director, 4/17/68.

RE: DONALD CAMERON GAULT

Commander GEORGE HURK, U.S. Naval Air Base, Willow Grove, Pa., advised that DONALD CAMERON GAULT, Serial Number 905-74-32, is an aircraft ordnance chief senior grade. On 3/29/68 GAULT departed on a training mission to the Patrick Air Force Base, Florida, which is located in the vicinity of Cape Beach, Fla. GAULT returned with his crew to Willow Grove on 3/31/68.

3 - Bureau (44-38861)
① - Birmingham (Info)
1 - St. Louis (Info)
1 - Memphis (Info)
1 - Miami (Info)
1 - Newark (44-854) (Info)
1 - New York (Info)
1 - Philadelphia (44-1368)

HKS:ELS
(10)

44-1740-1313

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED 15
APR 25 1968	
FBI - BIRMINGHAM	

[Signature]

4/23/68

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861)
SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM KNOXVILLE (44-696)

MURKIN; CR.

RE BIRMINGHAM TEL TO BUREAU, MEMPHIS, ATLANTA, AND
KNOXVILLE APRIL TWENTY SECOND LAST.

T. F. DALY, POSTAL INSPECTOR IN CHARGE, CHATTANOOGA,
TENN., ADVISED THIS DATE THERE ARE FIFTEEN INSPECTION
SERVICE DIVISIONS LOCATED THROUGHOUT U. S. IN ADDITION,
THERE ARE FIVE POSTAL SERVICE HANDWRITING LABORATORIES
WHICH EXAMINE SUBMISSIONS BY REGIONAL INSPECTION OFFICES.
THESE LABS LOCATED AT CINCINNATI, CHICAGO, NEW YORK CITY,
SAN FRANCISCO AND WASHINGTON, D.C.

DALY SUGGESTED FEASIBILITY OF COMPARING KNOWN
HANDWRITING OF SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY WITH POSTAL MONEY
ORDERS STOLEN OR CASHED SINCE DATE OF ESCAPE AND CHECK
OF RECORDS AT REGIONAL INSPECTION OFFICES COULD BEST BE
DETERMINED THROUGH LIAISON OF BUREAU AND POSTAL INSPECTOR

- ① - Birmingham (Air Mail)
- 1 - Atlanta (Air Mail)

DLS:lm
(3)

44-1740-1314

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED <i>B</i>
APR 25 1968	
FBI - BIRMINGHAM	

KX 44-696

PAGE TWO

CHIEFS BUREAU, WASHINGTON, D.C.

SUGGEST BUREAU CONTACT POSTAL INSPECTOR CHIEFS
BUREAU, WASHINGTON, D.C., AND IF DEEMED FEASIBLE
INITIATE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO COMPLY WITH BIRMINGHAM'S
PROPOSED LEAD IN RE TEL.

F B I

Date: 4/25/68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

TO CINCINNATI (157-1893) AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)
MURKIN. CR. OO: MEMPHIS.

RE CINCINNATI TEL TO MEMPHIS AND BIRMINGHAM, THIS DATE, AND
CINCINNATI TEL TO BIRMINGHAM AND MEMPHIS, APRIL TWELVE, LAST.

CINCINNATI TEL DATED APRIL TWELVE, REFLECTS WALTON CLAIMS
LOWMEYER USED TO DRIVE GMC DIESEL TRUCK AND RESIDES CLEVELAND, OHIO.
ORIGINAL DESCRIPTION OF LOWMEYER AS FURNISHED BY WALTON IN NO WAY
RESEMBLES SUBJECT. PREVIOUS INVESTIGATION, FORT PAYNE, ALABAMA,
RE WALTON REFLECTS HE IS KNOWN TO EXAGGERATE AND INDIVIDUAL REFERRED
TO BY WALTON NOT IDENTICAL TO SUBJECT. WALTON COULD NOT HAVE OBSERVED
JAMES EARL RAY IN FORT PAYNE, ALABAMA, DURING SPRING, NINETEEN
SIXTYSIX, INASMUCH AS SUBJECT INCARCERATED MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY
UNTIL ESCAPE APRIL, SIXTYSEVEN. THEREFORE, INDIVIDUAL WHOM WALTON
REFERS TO AS HAVING SEEN IN FORT PAYNE DURING SPRING, SIXTYSIX,
COULD NOT BE IDENTICAL WITH RAY.

END AND ACK PLS.

WAS:epg

(1) *epg*

44-1740-1315
SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED *B*

Approved: *[Signature]*
Special Agent in Charge

CI - 4:25 P M
Sent
ME - 4:28 P

Per *[Signature]*

FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI WASH DC

803PM URGENT 4/24/68 LCC

TO ATLANTA BIRMINGHAM LOS ANGELES AND MEMPHIS
FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861 1P

MURKIN

THE REPORTS AS SUBMITTED IN THIS CASE ARE NOT BEING
DISSEMINATED AT THIS TIME. YOU SHOULD CONTINUE TO HOLD
THE COPY DESIGNATED FOR THE USA IN YOUR OFFICE UNTIL
BUREAU INSTRUCTS OTHERWISE.

BIRMINGHAM, IF NOT ALREADY DONE, CONFIRM PROSECUTIVE
OPINION OF USA BY LETTER.

END

HEP

FBI BIRMGHAM

44-1740-1316

Snaw - [initials]

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
1968	
FBI — BIRMINGHAM	

[Signature]

BH 44-1740

1400 - 2121 Building
Birmingham, Alabama 35203
April 25, 1968

Honorable Macon L. Weaver
United States Attorney
Federal Building
Birmingham, Alabama

Attention: Mr. R. Macey Taylor
Assistant United States Attorney

Re: James Earl Ray, also known
as, Eric Starvo Galt -
Fugitive;
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. -
Victim
Civil Rights - Conspiracy;
UFAC - Robbery

Dear Sir:

This will confirm your authorization for the filing of Federal process against this fugitive under his known alias at that time of Eric Starvo Galt. Such a complaint was filed by myself before United States Commissioner Mildred F. Sprague at Birmingham on April 17, 1968, and warrant issued by her on that date. The warrant charges violation of Section 241, Title 18, United States Code, in having conspired on March 29, 1968, at Birmingham, Alabama, to interfere with a Constitutional Right of a United States citizen. Our records reflect recommended bond is \$50,000.00.

A previous warrant is outstanding for Ray which was issued on July 20, 1967, at Jefferson City, Missouri, charging him with having fled that state after escaping from the Missouri State Penitentiary while serving a term for robbery.

- 2 - Addressee (Enc. 2)
- ② - Birmingham (44-1740) (P)

HAS:gas
(4)

44-1740-1317
SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED

At the present time, extensive investigation is being conducted regarding Ray by several of our offices and your office will be furnished complete reports in this matter.

Of possible interest, I am enclosing a copy of an Identification Order and Wanted Flyer issued for Ray's arrest.

Very truly yours,


JOSEPH H. GAMBLE
Special Agent in Charge

Enclosures

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

4/23/68

SAC, KNOXVILLE (44-696) (P)

MURKIN
CR
(OO:MEMPHIS)

Re Birmingham airtel to Knoxville dated 4/10/68.

The Dixie Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc. has only one active klavern this being located at 2523 Glass Street, East Chattanooga, Tennessee.

The Knoxville Division has 4 active racial informants who attend the meetings regularly of the DK, KKK, INC., East Chattanooga, Tennessee, and are familiar with the members and leaders of this organization. Photograph of ERIC STARVO GALT and composites of GALT were displayed to these 4 racial informants. All advised they did not know anyone resembling this individual who is a member or has been a member of the DK, KKK, INC. These informants are familiar with the former friends and associates of JACK WILLIAM BROWN, now deceased. None of these informants could recall any individual who associated with JACK WILLIAM BROWN that resembles the photograph, composites, and the general description of GALT.

Informants contacted were:

KX 1004-R, 4/18/68
KX 1016-R, 4/17/68
KX 1023-R, 4/17/68
KX 1025-R, 4/17/68

No additional investigation being conducted regarding the specific lead set forth in Birmingham airtel to Knoxville dated 4/10/68.

2 - Memphis
① - Birmingham (44-1740)
2 - Knoxville

GCH/pjw
(5)

44-1740-1318

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 25 1968	
FBI - BIRMINGHAM	

FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI MOBILE

3:42PM

URGENT 4/25/68 CRS

TO: BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM: MOBILE (157-2627)

MURKIN

RE: ALABAMA LICENSE N 6 TWO SIX NINE ONE SEEN MEMPHIS
FOUR TWENTYTWO SIXTYEIGHT.

RE BIRMINGHAM TELETYPE APRIL TWENTYFOUR INSTANT AT
FIVE FORTYNINE PM.

ALICE HUDSON, CHIEF CLERK, OFFICE OF PROBATE JUDGE,
BARBOUR COUNTY, CLAYTON, ALA., TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED THIS DATE
NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT ALA. NATIONAL GUARD LICENSE NUMBER TWO
SIX NINE ONE HAS NOT BEEN ISSUED AND IS STILL IN HER OFFICE. SHE
DESCRIBED THE LICENSE PLATE AS BEING WHITE WITH RED LETTERS.

NO INSERT BEING SUBMITTED.

END.CEB

FBI BIRMGHAM

44-1740-1319

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
1968	
BIRMINGHAM	

Read to Legian
Let him to release
the & handle
Legian

4/18/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS
FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
(OO: MEMPHIS)

Re: 1966 Mustang

Enclosed herewith for Memphis and Birmingham are one copy each of a set of five color photographs taken of 1966 Mustang recovered in the Capital Homes parking lot in the vicinity of Memorial and Conley Streets, Atlanta, Ga., on 4/11/68.

Above is being furnished for information and further investigation in this matter.

② - Memphis (Encs. 5)
② - Birmingham (Encs. 5)
1 - Bureau (Info.)
2 - Atlanta
JJH:rjb
(7)

Rampton RFB
Bonett

44-1740-1320

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED <i>B</i>
APR 19 1968	
FBI - BIRMINGHAM	

[Signature]



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

April 20, 1968

JAMES EARL RAY

James Earl Ray, a Missouri prison escapee who has been sought under the alias Eric Starvo Galt in connection with the gunshot slaying of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., is one of the FBI's "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives."

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover ordered the special addition of Ray to the "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives" list, which already contains ten fugitives, to insure the widest possible dissemination of Ray's photograph and description to help effect his prompt location. Ray has been the subject of a massive search since the gunshot slaying of Dr. King on April 4, 1968, as he stood on the balcony of a Memphis, Tennessee, motel.

An exhaustive FBI fingerprint search, comparing latent fingerprints uncovered in the Dr. King case against fingerprints of over 53,000 persons on whom FBI wanted notices have been posted determined that Galt and Ray are identical.

A Federal warrant, issued at Birmingham, Alabama, on April 17, 1968, charges Ray, under the alias Eric Starvo Galt, with conspiring to interfere with a Constitutional Right of a United States citizen. Ray, who escaped on April 23, 1967, from the Missouri State Penitentiary, is also sought for unlawful interstate flight to avoid confinement after conviction for armed robbery.

Possessing an arrest record dating back to 1949, Ray has been convicted of burglary, armed robbery and forging United States Postal Money Orders.

A 40-year-old white male, reportedly born in Illinois on [redacted], Ray is approximately 5'10" tall, weighs from 163 to 174 pounds, has blue eyes and short brown hair. He has a nervous habit of tugging at an ear lobe and his left ear protrudes noticeably.

Described as a "loner and "drifter," with a "rural" quality in his speech, Ray has worked as a baker, laborer and color matcher. He has taken dancing lessons and completed a course at a school of bartending.

Consider Ray armed and extremely dangerous. Report any information concerning him to the nearest FBI office.

44-1790-1321

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 25 1968	
FBI - BIRMINGHAM	

[Signature]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : All Investigative Employees

DATE: April 22, 1968

FROM : Director, FBI

SUBJECT: JAMES EARL RAY, aka - FUGITIVE
I.O. #4182; W. F. #442-A
CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY
INTERSTATE FLIGHT - ROBBERY
"TEN MOST WANTED FUGITIVES" PROGRAM
RELEASE DATE: SATURDAY P.M., APRIL 20, 1968

THE CRIMES: Ray escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri, on April 23, 1967, while serving a 20-year sentence for armed robbery and operating a motor vehicle without the owner's permission. He subsequently allegedly conspired, under the alias Eric Starvo Galt, to violate the civil rights of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., shot to death on the balcony of a Memphis, Tennessee, motel on April 4, 1968.

THE CRIMINAL: A 40-year-old white native of Illinois, who is known as a "loner" and "drifter" and has taken elaborate steps to establish a false identity, Ray has an extensive criminal record, including convictions for burglary, robbery and forging U. S. Postal Money Orders. Outstanding characteristics include a straight narrow nose, straight and even teeth, a noticeably protruding left ear and a nervous habit of tugging at an ear lobe. He has taken dancing lessons, attended bartending school, enrolled in a correspondence course in locksmithing and traveled widely in a 1966 Mustang recovered in Atlanta, Georgia, a week after Dr. King's murder. Ray likes western and country music, drinks vodka and beer and has worked as a baker, laborer and color matcher.

PROCESS: A Federal warrant issued at Jefferson City, Missouri, on July 20, 1967, charges Ray with unlawful interstate flight to avoid confinement for robbery. Another Federal warrant, issued at Birmingham, Alabama, on April 17, 1968, charges Ray, as Eric Starvo Galt, with conspiring to interfere with a Constitutional Right of a citizen.

"TEN MOST WANTED FUGITIVES": Ray is a special addition to the list of "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives." The list as of Saturday p. m., April 20, 1968, was:

John William Clouser	I. O. #3837	Charles Lee Herron	I. O. #4163
Howard Callens Johnson	I. O. #4039	George Edward Wells	I. O. #4175
George Benjamin Williams	I. O. #4072	David Evans	I. O. #4177
Gordon Dale Ervin	I. O. #4087	Franklin Allen Paris	I. O. #4178
Carmen Raymond Gagliardi	I. O. #4101	David Stuart Neff	I. O. #4179
James Earl Ray	I. O. #4182		

THEY ARE ALL ARMED AND DANGEROUS. If you receive any information, give it at once to your SAC or appropriate supervisor.

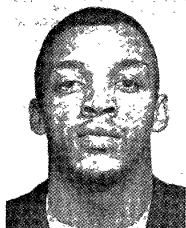
PHOTOGRAPHS, FINGERPRINTS AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA OF ALL FUGITIVES ON THE LIST ARE ON THE REVERSE SIDE.

44-1740-1322

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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APR 25 1968	
FBI - BIRMINGHAM	

April 20, 1968

CONSIDER ALL ARMED AND DANGEROUS



DAVID EVANS, also known as:
"Pee Wee."
N; born 10-11-44; 5'7"-5'8"; 140-150 lbs;
med bld; blk hair; brn eyes; lt comp;
occ - lab, upholsterer. Wanted by FBI
for BANK ROBBERY and UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO
AVOID PROSECUTION (Burglary, Larceny,
and Receiving Stolen Goods).
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-4177
FBI#-388 901 E
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1966

16 O 29 W IMO 15
I 26 U OOI 13



lt thumb

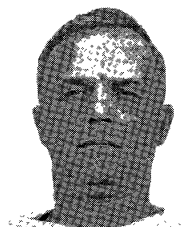


CHARLES LEE HERRON, also known as:
Lee Jones.
N; born 4-21-37 (?); 5'7"-5'8"; 145-
150 lbs; sldr bld; blk hair; brn eyes;
dk comp; occ - clerk. Wanted by FBI
for UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID PROSECU-
TION (Murder; Assault with Intent to
Commit Murder).
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-4163
FBI#-313 926 G
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: UNKNOWN

M
MM
13 O 29 W OOO 10
I 18 U OOI 14



lt thumb



GEORGE EDWARD WELLS, also known as:
George W. Cox, Lloyd Kuczmarski.
W; born 5-14-16; 5'8"; 165-175 lbs;
med bld; brn hair, gr; brn eyes; med
comp; occ - maintenance worker, painter.
Wanted by FBI for UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO
AVOID PROSECUTION (Armed Robbery);
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN
PROPERTY.
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-4175
FBI#-1 467 173
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1967

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LMM
14 O 13 U OOO 21
I 17 U OOO 12



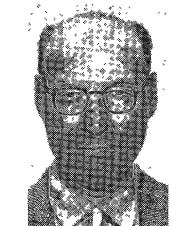
rt ring



CARMEN RAYMOND GAGLIARDI, also known as: 17 M 29 W IOM
Carmelo Raimondo Gagliardi (true name), I 32 W OOI 20
Carman R. Gagliardi.
W; born 10-1-40; 5'10 1/2"; 185-200 lbs;
hvy bld; blk hair; brn eyes; med comp;
occ - lab. Wanted by FBI for UNLAWFUL
FLIGHT TO AVOID PROSECUTION (Murder).
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-4101
FBI#-566 944 D
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1965



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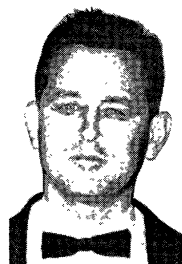


GEORGE BENJAMIN WILLIAMS, 23 M 21 W IMO AMP Ref: 22
also known as: Allen I 31 W OOO 19 31
Benjamin Colby, Ben Jackson,
George Benjamin William.
W; born 6-15-11; 5'6"; 155 lbs;
med bld; brn hair, gr, balding;
bl eyes; rdy comp; rt ring fnger
amp; occ - constr worker, dairy
worker, mech, miner, pipe fitter.
Wanted by FBI for BANK ROBBERY.
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-4072
FBI#-497 062
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1965



rt middle

JAMES EARL RAY, also known as:
Eric Starvo Galt, W. O. Herron,
Harvey Lowmyer, James McBride,
John Willard, "Jim."
W; born 3-10-28; 5'10"; 165-174 lbs;
med bld; brn hair, poss cut short; bl
eyes; med comp; occ - baker, color matcher,
lab. Wanted by FBI for CONSPIRING TO
INTERFERE WITH A CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT OF
A CITIZEN and UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID
CONFINEMENT (Robbery).
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-4182
FBI#-405 942 G
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1968



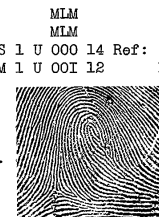
16 M 9 U OOO 12
M 4 W IOI 17



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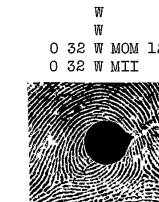
FRANKLIN ALLEN PARIS, also known as:
Franklin Allen Morrison, Al Paris,
Allie Paris, Frank Allen Paris, 11 S 1 U OOO 14 Ref: 9
Franklen Allen Paris. M 1 U OOI 12 1
W; born 1-20-34; 6'2"; 190-210 lbs;
med bld; brn hair; brn eyes; med comp;
occ - horse trader, horse trainer,
rancher. Wanted by FBI for UNLAWFUL
FLIGHT TO AVOID PROSECUTION (Burglary).
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-4178
FBI#-595 084 A
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1966



rt ring



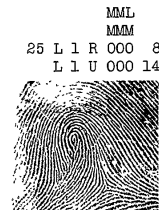
HOWARD CALLENS JOHNSON, also known as:
"Dirty Red."
N; born 4-14-16 (?); 5'9"; 160-170
lbs; med bld; blk hair; brn eyes;
med comp, freckled; occ - brickmason,
carpenter, lab. Wanted by FBI for
UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID PROSECUTION
(Murder).
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-4039
FBI#-1 501 726
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1959



lt little



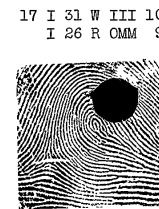
JOHN WILLIAM CLOUSER, also known as:
Jack Clouser, John William Clouser,
Chuck A. Williams.
W; born 3-29-32; 5'9"; 175-200 lbs;
stky bld; blond hair, may be dyed blk;
bl eyes; rdy comp; occ - clerical
worker, stock clerk. Wanted by FBI
for INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF
STOLEN MOTOR VEHICLE.
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-3837
FBI#-229 125 C
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1963



rt index



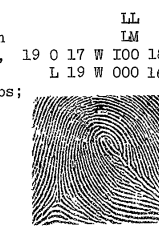
GORDON DALE ERVIN, also known as:
Dale Ervin.
W; born 5-30-26; 5'11"-6'0"; 170 lbs;
med bld; brn hair; bl eyes; med comp;
occ - carpenter, lifeguard, mach shop
worker, locomotive fireman, salesman,
shipyard worker, typist. Wanted by
FBI for UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID
CONFINEMENT (Armed Robbery).
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-4087
FBI#-290 533 A
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1965



lt index



DAVID STUART NEFF, also known as:
Steven Andrews, Solomon Baker, Steven
Greene, George Medina, David J. Neff, 19 O 17 W IOO 18
David Stewart Neff, Donald O'Brien. L 19 W OOO 16
W; born 12-26-36; 5'8"-5'9"; 190-200 lbs;
hvy bld; brn hair; brn eyes; med comp;
occ - horse trainer, lab, painter,
plumber, surveyor. Wanted by FBI for
BANK ROBBERY.
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-4179
FBI#-524 874 D
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1965



rt ring



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 20, 1968

JAMES EARL RAY, also known as
Eric Starvo Galt, Harvey Lowmyer,
John Willard, James McBride, James
Walton, W. C. Herron and James
O'Conner

FUGITIVE

CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY;
INTERSTATE FLIGHT - ARMED ROBBERY

"TEN MOST WANTED FUGITIVES" PROGRAM

James Earl Ray, a Missouri prison escapee who has been sought under the alias Eric Starvo Galt in connection with the gunshot slaying of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., has been added to the FBI's list of "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives."

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover ordered the special addition of Ray to the "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives" list, which already contains ten fugitives, to insure the widest possible dissemination of Ray's photograph and description to help effect his earliest possible location.

Ray has been the subject of a massive and intensive search since the brutal gunshot slaying of Dr. King on April 4, 1968, as he stood on the balcony of a Memphis, Tennessee, motel. One rifle bullet, believed fired from the window of a nearby rooming house, felled the victim.

44-1740-1323

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 25 1968	
FBI — BIRMINGHAM	

An exhaustive FBI fingerprint search, comparing latent fingerprints uncovered in the Dr. King case against fingerprints of over 53,000 persons on whom wanted notices have been posted in the FBI's Identification Division, succeeded in determining that Galt and Ray are identical.

A Federal warrant, issued at Birmingham, Alabama, on April 17, 1968, charges Ray, under the alias Eric Starvo Galt, with conspiring to interfere with a Constitutional Right of a United States citizen. Ray is also sought for unlawful interstate flight to avoid confinement after conviction for armed robbery, based on a Federal warrant issued on July 20, 1967, at Jefferson City, Missouri. He had been confined at the Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri, in March, 1960, with a 20-year sentence following conviction for armed robbery and operating a motor vehicle without permission of the owner. In September, 1966, while serving the sentence, he was confined for a time in the maximum security ward at the State Hospital, Fulton, Missouri. He was reported missing from the Missouri State Penitentiary since April 23, 1967.

Ray, who has an arrest record dating back to 1949 and has been convicted of burglary, armed robbery and forging United States Postal Money Orders, has also been confined in the Los Angeles County Jail, the Joliet and Pontiac, Illinois, State Prisons and the United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas.

He served in the Army between February, 1946, and December, 1948, received a three-month sentence at hard labor for being drunk and breaking arrest and was given a General Discharge due to ineptness and lack of adaptability for military service.

Ray is a 40-year-old white male, reportedly born in Illinois on He is approximately 5'10" inches tall, weighs from 163 to 174 pounds, has blue eyes and brown hair which he has worn cut short. He has a small scar on the center of his forehead and a scar on the palm of his right hand. He has been described as having a straight, narrow nose and straight and even teeth and to have a nervous habit of occasionally tugging at an ear lobe. His left ear protrudes noticeably.

Acquaintances describe him as a "loner" and "drifter" whose language and diction reflect a "rural" quality and indicate he has had limited education.

He is reportedly a fan of western and country music, drinks vodka and beer, dresses neatly and claims past employment as a merchant seaman and cook on Mississippi River vessels. He is known to have worked as a baker, laborer and color matcher.

He is known as an avid dancer who has taken dancing lessons. He also completed a course at a school of bartending in the Los Angeles area early in 1968.

Ray should be considered armed and extremely dangerous. Anyone with information concerning this fugitive is requested to immediately contact the nearest office of the FBI, the telephone number of which may be found on the first page of local telephone directories.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Washington, D. C. 20537

**REPORT**

of the

IDENTIFICATION DIVISION**LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION**

YOUR FILE NO.

44-1987

FBI FILE NO.

44-38861

LATENT CASE NO.

01075**April 24, 1968**

TO:

SAC, Memphis

RE:

MURKIN

REFERENCE:

Bureau telephone calls of 4/19/68

EXAMINATION REQUESTED BY:

Memphis

SPECIMENS:

This report confirms and supplements Bulet dated 4/19/68.

See the attached page for the results of the comparisons of six of the latent fingerprints previously reported in this case, and the page attached to the report dated 4/24/68 to Atlanta for results of comparisons of two of the latent fingerprints. The remaining latent fingerprints, with the exception of the latent fingerprint previously reported on the lift from the flophouse marked "Rt. side of fireplace (front)," are not identical with the fingerprints of James Earl Ray, FBI #405942G. The latent print lifted from the flophouse and the two latent impressions previously reported were compared, insofar as possible, with the fingerprints of Ray, but no identification was effected. Major case prints of Ray needed for conclusive comparison with these latent prints, as well as with the latent palm prints reported in this case.

2 - Birmingham (44-1740)**2 - Atlanta (44-2386)**

John Edgar Hoover, Director

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THIS REPORT IS FURNISHED FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

44-1740-1324

Your File No. 44-1987
FBI File No. 44-38861
Latent Case No. 91078

April 24, 1968

RE: JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #4059420

Latent fingerprint previously reported on the Remington model 760 rifle, serial #461476, Q2; the latent fingerprint on the telescopic sight, serial #A17358, on the rifle, Q2; latent fingerprint on the binoculars, Q14; the latent fingerprint on the newspaper, Q19; the latent fingerprint on the after shave lotion bottle, part of Q24; and the latent fingerprint on the Schlitz beer can, Q33, have all been identified with the fingerprints of James Earl Ray.

REPORT
of theFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

To: FBI, Memphis (44-1987)
Re: MURKIN
CR

Date: April 24, 1968
FBI File No. 44-38861
Lab. No. D-561271 JK

Specimens received 4/22/68

K171 Missouri State Penitentiary form dated 10/24/66,
bearing known handwriting of JAMES E. RAY

ALSO SUBMITTED: Copies of two-page report of psychiatric
examination dated 10/24/66

Result of examination:

The "Galt" writings considered together and specimen
K171 can be identified as having been prepared by the same
individual.

Because of the limited questioned material and the
lack of comparable letters and letter combinations, it could
not be determined whether the "Harvey Lowmyer" signature on
the Q72 gun invoice was prepared by JAMES E. RAY, K171.

Specimen K171 is being retained.

44-1740-1325

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[Signature] ✓



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535**

To: FBI, Memphis (44-1987)

Date: April 24, 1968

Re: MURKIN
BCR
OO: Memphis

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

FBI File No. 44-38861
Lab. No. D-561271 JK

Examination requested by: Kansas City
Reference: Airtel 4/20/68
Examination requested: Document

DO NOT INCLUDE ADMINISTRATIVE
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INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

Remarks:

It should be noted that the questioned writings on some of the items received in this case are limited to the "Galt" name alone. The identification of the "Galt" writings with K171, as set forth in the attached report, considered all these questioned writings as a unit and it may not be possible to identify a particular specimen with K171 because of the limited nature of the questioned writing involved and the lack of comparable known material. The "Galt" writings are those items attributed to ERIC S. GALT which were previously identified together.

For information, similarities were noted between K171 and the "Lowmyer" signature on Q72.

- Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)
2 - Kansas City (44-760) Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)
1 - Atlanta (44-2386) Enclosure (Lab report)
① - Birmingham (44-1740) Enclosure (Lab report)

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REPORT
of the



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

To: FBI, Memphis (44-1987)

Date: April 23, 1968

Re: MURKIN
CR

FBI File No. 44-38861

Lab. No. D-560880 JK
PC-A5688 IZ

Specimens received 4/16/68

- Q174 Booklet entitled "What is the John Birch Society"
- Q175 Gulf Oil Company map of Atlanta
- Q176 "Arrow" map of Greater Atlanta
- Q177 Box of Nabisco Saltine Crackers
- Q178 Jar of French's Mustard
- Q179 Coffee cup
- Q180 Water glass
- Q181 Small can of Carnation Evaporated Milk
- Q182 Jar of Maxwell House Instant Coffee
- Q183 Box of "C & H" Sugar
- Q184 One knife (Forgecraft)
- Q185 One National's Citation pencil
- Q186 Wire electric cup heater
- Q187 One portable Zenith television model #N 2205-6
- Q188 Jar of Kraft's Catalina French Dressing
- Q189 Package of Golden Grain California Lima Beans
- Q190 Can of "Iris" ground black pepper
- Q191 Box of five National's Citation pencils
- Q192 Gulf map of Southeastern USA
- Q193 Shell map of Texas and Oklahoma
- Q194 Map of Mexico
- Q195 Map of Los Angeles published by Mitock & Sons
- Q196 Map of Los Angeles (Atlantic Richfield Co.)
- Q197 Shell map of Louisiana
- Q198 Map of California
- Q199 Enco map of Arizona and New Mexico
- Q200 Standard Oil map of Birmingham and vicinity
- Q201 Tie (Brown with brown, blue and silver diagonal stripes)
- Q202 Pair of grey trousers
- Q203 Booklet entitled "Your Opportunities in Locksmithing"

Page 1 (continued on next page)

44-1740-1327

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[Signature]

Result of examination:

Examination of Q176 ("Arrow" map of Atlanta) revealed the following markings: In area number 17, ink lines were noted on Daniel Street between Arbor Avenue and Boulevard Drive; in area number 03 an ink circle approximately $3/8$ inch in diameter the center of which would be approximately on Auburn Avenue at Courtland; in area number 14, two ink circles which are approximately concentric with diameters of about $1/4$ inch and $1/2$ inch. The centers of these two circles lie approximately at the intersection of Simpson Road and Paines; in area number 09 an ink circle approximately $1/2$ inch in diameter and the numeral 10 were noted. The center of this circle lies approximately on 14th Street between Crescent Avenue and Peachtree Road; in area number 06 an ink circle approximately $3/8$ inch in diameter appears. The center of this circle is approximately at the meeting place of Highland View and Ponce de Leon Terrace.

The notations set out below were observed on Q196 ("Atlantic Richfield Co." street map of Los Angeles.") On the top of that side of this map which contains the alphabetical street listings a small pencil circle was noted in the "Van Nuys District" at the intersection of Buffalo Avenue and Oxnard Street.

On the large map on the other side of this map the following markings were noted in the Beverly Hills area. Two vertical lines in ink at the east end of the park which is located at Olympic Boulevard and Heath Avenue; vertical lines in ink at San Vicente Boulevard and Masselin Avenue; an ink line running between the two vertical lines previously mentioned generally following Pico Boulevard and Packard Street; an ink line extending from the vertical lines at the park along Olympic Boulevard to Alfred Street.

An ink line at the intersection of Beverly Glen Boulevard and Woodruff; an ink line at the intersection of Beverly Glen Boulevard and Warnall Avenue.

Also noted was an ink marking at Sunset Boulevard and Palm Drive.

Ink parentheses were noted around the words "Sonoma Way" and "Rocca Pl" which are located in Stone Canyon.

The pair of trousers, specimen Q202, is old and soiled. The lining and pockets are yellowed, the two front pockets have holes in them and the edge of the left front pocket is threadbare. The trousers have a "NEEDLECRAFT" label. The waist is 34 1/2 inches and the inseam is 26 inches. A name handwritten in black on the right rear pocket is probably a cleaners mark. This name appears to be "Z SOLOFF;" however, the last two letters are not clear. No invisible cleaners marks were found on Q202.

Several brown to dark brown head hairs of Caucasian origin were found on the trousers and in the pocket debris. These hairs are different from the hairs from the Mustang and Memphis scene. It was concluded that they did not originate from the same source. No hairs were found on the Q201 necktie.

No fibers were found on the Q202 trousers or on the Q201 necktie that could be associated with cloth items previously submitted in this case.

No marks or labels were found on the Q201 necktie.

Examination of the other items described above disclosed no other pertinent information.

The submitted evidence has been retained.

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D-560880 JK
PC-A5688 AT



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

To: FBI, Memphis (44-1987)

Date: April 23, 1968

Re: MURKIN
CR
OO: Memphis

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

FBI File No. 44-38861
Lab. No. D-560880 JK
PC-A5688 IZ

Examination requested by: Atlanta

Reference: Letter 4/15/68

Examination requested: Document - Fingerprint -
Hair & Fiber

Remarks:

The results of the latent fingerprint examination of the items described in the attached report will be furnished separately.

This report confirms and supplements Bureau teletype to Memphis, Birmingham, Atlanta and Los Angeles dated 4/16/68 and Bureau airtel dated 4/16/68, which furnished photographs of pertinent portions of the maps to Atlanta, Memphis and Los Angeles.

DO NOT INCLUDE ADMINISTRATIVE
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Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)

2 - Atlanta (44-2386) Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)

2 - Los Angeles (44-1574) Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)

① - Birmingham (44-1740) Enclosure (Lab report)

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

DATE: 4/25/68

FROM : SA ERVIN B. BRUNINGA

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
OO: MEMPHIS

Re telephone call 4/24/68, from SA RICHARD D. SCHWEIN regarding FRANK READY who allegedly resembled photograph of JAMES EARL RAY.

LOUIS MARDER, Manager, Merchants Financial Corporation, operating from City National Bank of Russellville, Russellville, Alabama, on 4/25/68, advised SA ERVIN B. BRUNINGA his company employed FRANK READY for a short period of time prior to March, 1968. READY worked for the company in Florida, Alabama, and in the St. Louis area.

MARDER's personnel file reflected READY is from St. Louis, and his last known address was 8901 Larchwood, St. Louis, Missouri. Prior to July, 1967, READY worked for the Allied Auto Acceptance Corporation, and on 7/24/67, READY worked for the Nationwide Auto Coverage Agency. READY also was formerly president of the Crestwood Mail Order Association. The credit report for READY in the St. Louis area reflected suits against READY were filed 3/16/67, and 3/21/67. The credit report indicated numerous accounts for collection were on file as of 2/28/67.

MARDER did not know the details but understood there was a Federal indictment against READY in the St. Louis area. MARDER stated READY was 24 years old and after viewing photographs of JAMES EARL RAY stated READY definitely was not identical to RAY.

It will be noted that on 4/25/68, after the above interview with MARDER, a long-distance telephone call was received by SA BRUNINGA from FRANK READY, St. Louis, who advised

EBB:jbt
(3)
jit



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[Signature]

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

BH 44-1740

that his current address is 3283 Lake Street, St. Louis County, St. Louis, Missouri. READY stated he worked for the Merchants Financial Corporation for about a four-week period during February and March, 1968. He advised he was born is 5'8" tall, and weighs 180 lbs. READY stated if further information about his background is desired, he can be contacted at the above St. Louis address.

No further action being taken regarding READY, UAC.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

DATE: 4/25/68

FROM : SA RICHARD D. SCHWEIN

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
(OO: MEMPHIS)

Re memorandum of SA JERRY L. EMMONS, 4/18/68.

The following investigation was conducted on 4/19/68 by SA RICHARD D. SCHWEIN and SA NEIL G. MARTIN:

MARTHA LOU TODD, 2321 Avenue I, Ensley, was interviewed by SA RICHARD D. SCHWEIN and SA NEIL G. MARTIN. TODD advised that RICHARD DAVIS is positively not identical to subject JAMES EARL RAY. She described the man known to her as RICHARD DAVIS as a white male, 29 years of age, 6'1" in height, 170 lbs., light brown curly hair and green eyes. She stated that DAVIS' facial characteristics and overall appearance do not bear the slightest resemblance to the identification order photographs displayed to her.

RDS:gas
(3)

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

DATE: 4/25/68

FROM : SA RICHARD D. SCHWEIN

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
(OO: MEMPHIS)

Re memorandum of SA RICHARD D. SCHWEIN
dated 4/13/68.

On 4/16/68, Mrs. FRANK C. BEBEE was interviewed by SA's RICHARD D. SCHWEIN and NEIL G. MARTIN. At this time, Mrs. BEBEE furnished photographs of her husband, FRANK C. These photographs bore no resemblance to the subject in this case. Mrs. BEBEE stated her husband was currently employed by the Zeigler-Ray Printing Company, 1414 Second Avenue, North, Birmingham, Alabama.

Inquiry at Zeigler-Ray Printing Company determined that BEBEE was indeed employed there, but had failed to show up for work on 4/16/68. Officials and employees of the Zeigler-Ray Printing Company viewed photographs of the subject and advised they did not resemble FRANK C. BEBEE. BEBEE has been passing true-name checks on a Louisiana bank.

On 4/19/68, Mrs. FRANK BEBEE telephonically advised that her husband has not returned home and has apparently again abandoned her and the children. Mrs. BEBEE stated that she has no idea as to her husband's present whereabouts but again reiterated that he did not resemble photographs displayed to her of the subject in this case.

RDS:gas
(3)

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

DATE: 4/25/68

FROM : SA RICHARD D. SCHWEIN

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
(OO: MEMPHIS)

The following investigation was conducted on
4/17/68:

Records of the United Electronics Laboratory, 1930 South 26th Street, were caused to be checked by Mrs. JANETTE REED, Registrar. Mrs. REED advised the subject had not registered for classes in the day school, evening school or correspondence section under his true name or known aliases. Photographs of the subject were displayed to D. N. STONE, Director of Training, to Mrs. REED and they stated that they had not seen this individual.

RDS:gas
(3) *JS*

44-1740-1332

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

DATE: 4/25/68

FROM : SA RICHARD D. SCHWEIN

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
(OO: MEMPHIS)

Re memorandum of SA CLAUDE TIMOTHY ADAMS
dated 4/24/68.

On 4/24/68, the following investigation was
conducted by SA'S RICHARD D. SCHWEIN and NEIL G. MARTIN:

G. R. KANE, 2229 3rd Street, N.E., Center Point, advised that he had called the FBI Office identifying himself as ROBERT KING and had requested to be contacted by FBI Agents. KANE stated that approximately one and one-half years ago he had been riding in a truck with a co-driver named SIDNEY STYLES. He and STYLES were and are currently employed by Mercury Freight Lines. STYLES commented on this trip "if we could run MARTIN KING and his wife off the road we would get a million dollars." KANE advised that STYLES is full of wild schemes and that today STYLES is probably running around with his, KANE's, ex-wife. Mr. KANE described STYLES as a white male, 45 years of age, 6'4" in height, 240 lbs. He stated he did not think STYLES looked like the photographs of the subject in this case. It was noted by interviewing Agents that Mr. KANE's train of thought tended to wander and that much of his conversation lacked coherence. It is believed he is not in a position to furnish information of value in this matter.

RDS:gas
(3)

44-1740-1333

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

DATE: 4/25/68

FROM : SA RICHARD D. SCHWEIN

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
(OO: MEMPHIS)

Re memorandum of Night Clerk STEPHEN PIERCE
dated 4/19/68:

The following investigation was conducted by
SA's NEIL G. MARTIN and RICHARD D. SCHWEIN:

Attempts to contact GERALD T. BUSH, the
complainant in this matter, met with negative results
on 4/22/68.

BUSH and his supervisor, JAMES M. GREEN, Used
Car Manager, Adamson Ford, 1922 Second Avenue, South,
were available for interview on 4/24/68. Mr. BUSH
and Mr. GREEN set forth the same information contained
in referenced memorandum. They were shown photographs
of the subject and both emphatically stated that upon
reflection, the man they sold the car to did not resemble
the subject. Mr. BUSH commented that, in fact, the person
to whom they sold the car had a Wisconsin driver's license
showing his age as 53. He further stated that this individual
had a burr haircut and that the hair he could see was gray
in color. Mr. BUSH and Mr. GREEN stated that they were
sorry they had bothered us with this matter but thought
it might have some bearing on this case.

RDS:gas
(3) *gas*

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gas



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)

DATE: 4/25/68

FROM : SA WILLIAM A. SAUCIER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 4/13/68 MARY JO DUNLAVEY, 2620 Highland Avenue, Apt. C, advised that a white Oldsmobile, sports model, with black vinyl top bearing Georgia license plate 1-64518, was parked on the island in front of the Hanover Court Apartments. She advised she observed a white male fitting the general description of the subject leave this car and go into the Economy Rooming House, 2608 Highland Avenue. Mrs. DONLAVEY said this individual looked very much like the man whose picture was in the Birmingham newspaper.

On the same date, Mr. PETER CHERPES, owner, Economy Rooming House, was contacted by SAs WILLIAM A. SAUCIER and ROBERT M. BARRETT, at which time he advised that the owner of the above-described Oldsmobile which was parked on the island in front of his rooming house is GARY C. SMITH, a tenant, and further, that he is employed by the Moore Business Company, 618 38th Street South, Birmingham. Mr. CHERPES said that Mr. SMITH comes from Columbus, Georgia, and is in no way identical with subject.

WAS:mas
(3) *mas*



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44-1740-1335

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[Signature]

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

DATE: 4-25-68

FROM : SA NEIL P. SHANAHAN

SUBJECT: MURKIN

PH 305-R was contacted on 4-5-68 regarding this case and at that time stated that he had no idea who might have been responsible for the shooting of Dr. KING. Source stated that he would be alert for any information of value concerning this case.

On 4-23-68 informant was furnished an I. O. of JAMES EARL RAY and again asked to be alert for any information concerning the whereabouts of RAY. Informant stated he would be alert for this man and also for any information or talk concerning this shooting.

① -44-1740
I -170-20 SF
NPS:nps



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)

DATE: 4/25/68

FROM : SA WILLIAM A. SAUCIER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 4/23/68 an individual telephonically contacted the Birmingham Office of the FBI and stated he could furnish information concerning the identity of the subject responsible for the death of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. This individual appeared to be intoxicated; however, he requested that agents meet him at the corner of 26th Street and 8th Avenue North, at which time he would furnish them information leading to the identity and arrest of the individual responsible for the death of KING.

SAs PATRICK J. MOYNIHAN and WILLIAM A. SAUCIER proceeded to 8th Avenue and 26th Street North, at which time an individual in a drunken condition approached the agents and advised he was the individual who had just recently contacted the Birmingham Office telephonically. This individual was in a drunken condition, incoherent, and rambled about many things; however, he was insistent that he did know the location where the assassin of MARTIN LUTHER KING could be located. He said he would not divulge this information to the agents since he desired to let this fellow have a good night's sleep.

At this point, in view of his drunken condition, the individual who identified himself as ROBERT ALLEN WEBSTER, JR., was instructed to contact the agents the following morning when he would be in a sober condition and in a position to discuss this matter thoroughly.

WEBSTER claimed to have been a salesman, and stated he was presently employed as a taxi cab driver for the Yellow Cab Company and presently residing in Room 214, Arden Hotel, Birmingham.

On the following day, agents contacted ROBERT ALLEN WEBSTER, JR., in Room 214, Arden Hotel, Birmingham, at which time he apologized to the agents for having caused the inconvenience the prior evening, and stated he could furnish no

WAS:mas
(3) *mas*



5010-108

44-1740-1337

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

BH 44-1740

information concerning MARTIN LUTHER KING or his assassin, and that he was unable to say what prompted him to call the FBI Office in Birmingham, except that he had been drinking heavily. He said that he is an alcoholic and has suffered from this illness for several years, which has resulted in his losing employments as well as his wife and family leaving him.

WEBSTER furnished the following information concerning himself:

Race	White
Sex	Male
DOB	<input type="text"/>
Height	Fayette, Ala.
Weight	5' 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Hair	185
Eyes	Brown
Tattoos	Brown
	Anchor and eagle, right forearm; anchor and USN, left forearm
Military Service	U. S. Navy, 1940-43, bad conduct discharge
Wife	LORETTA WEBSTER, 2409 6th Avenue North, Birmingham
Brothers	HAROLD DEAN WEBSTER, JR., JIMMY WEBSTER, contracting business, Richmond County.
Parents	Deceased
Prior Arrests	Driving while intoxicated, drinking, disorderly conduct, Birmingham, and Tuscaloosa, Alabama

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1740)

DATE: 4-24-68

FROM : SRA Charles W. Perry

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Reur memo dated 4-22-68.

On 4-24-68 writer contacted Asst. Chief of Police L.E. Hamrick (NA), Gadsden, Alabama and Sheriff Dewey Colvard in regard to captioned matter. All advised they have alerted all of their officers to be alert for any information which might help in locating subject. They also advised that they have contacted all of their sources and have alerted them to watch for subject.

There are no unsolved bank robberies or bank larcencies in the Gadsden RA.

44-1740-1338

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P) DATE: 4/25/68

FROM : SA NEIL G. MARTIN

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
OO: MEMPHIS

The following investigation was conducted by
SA's NEIL G. MARTIN and RICHARD D. SCHWEIN:

The following individuals were contacted regarding
the fugitive status of JAMES EARL RAY, aka Eric Starvo Galt,
and were given I.O. fliers of RAY to aid in his location and
apprehension:

MACY E. GREEN, Chief of Special Agents, L & N
Railroad, Birmingham, Alabama.

C. L. BRADFORD, JR., Superintendent, Birmingham
Railroad Station, 501 26th Street North, Birmingham, Alabama.

Mr. W. G. LE SEUR, Ticket Agent, L & N Railroad
Terminal, 1819 Morris Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama.

Mr. M. R. OWENS, Manager, Greyhound Bus Terminal,
Birmingham, Alabama.

Mr. DOTSON, Manager, Trailways Bus Terminal,
Birmingham, Alabama.

Miss JEANNE BROXTON, Hertz Rent-A-Car Agency,
2020 5th Avenue North, Birmingham, Alabama.

Mr. M. B. STARNES, Avis Rent-A-Car Agency, 2023
5th Avenue North, Birmingham, Alabama.

BILL WARD, Manager, American Rent-A-Car System,
Inc., 2116 5th Avenue North, Birmingham, Alabama.

NGM:cap
(3) *cap*

44-1740-1339

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[Signature]



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P) DATE: 4/25/68

FROM : SA NEIL G. MARTIN

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
OO: MEMPHIS

The following investigation was conducted by
SA's NEIL G. MARTIN and RICHARD D. SCHWEIN:

On 4/20/68, Dr. DAVID R. ARROWSMITH, Veterans Administration Hospital, advised that CALVIN WATSON is a patient under his care in Room 89, 5th Floor North, who has been confined for ten days due to a slight heart attack. Dr. ARROWSMITH stated that it would be possible for Agents to interview Mr. WATSON without fear of any physical damage or injury resulting from an interview.

On 4/20/68, CALVIN W. WATSON, 101 North 10th Court, Birmingham, Alabama, advised that he feels that he has information concerning the assassin of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. because he believes he was employed in approximately 1954 with an individual who resembles the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY. Mr. WATSON stated he was employed as a nurses aid for the Veterans Administration Hospital in Birmingham, Alabama, in the Spring of 1954, and at that time was in a new employee's orientation class with a white male, age 20-27, name unknown, who resembled RAY. He advised that this person stated he had been previously employed as an embalmer for the National Funeral Home on Peabody Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee, and that he was from Mississippi. Mr. WATSON advised that through his discussions with this individual, he ascertained that this man had been in the U. S. Army, and had expressed a sincere and vehement dislike for members of the Negro race. Mr. WATSON related that he was employed as a nurses aid at the Veterans Administration Hospital for approximately 1½ years, but believes that this individual remained for a much shorter period.

NGM:cap

(3) *cap*



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44-1740-1340

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BH 44-1740

Mr. WATSON further advised that he met this individual again about three years ago at the Stewart's Sport Shop in Birmingham, where this individual was employed. Mr. WATSON furnished the following description of this individual:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	37 years (1965)
Weight	200 pounds (1954)
Height	5'7" - 5'8"
Hair	Dark brown (brush cut)
Eyes	Blue or green
Clothes	Trousers and shirt
Hobbies	Skeet shooting

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P) DATE: 4/25/68

FROM : SA NEIL G. MARTIN

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
OO: MEMPHIS

Attached are three xerox pages of invoices on the Chace Rubber Company, 6118 1st Avenue North, Birmingham, Alabama, furnished to the FBI by Mrs. CLAUDINE DYER.

Mrs. CLAUDINE DYER, 401 21st Street South, advised that she believed that ROBERT EARL RAY may have some connection with JAMES EARL RAY, who is being sought by the FBI. She advised that her records indicate that ROBERT EARL RAY was formerly employed by Kelly's Jet Hamburgers, 6805 1st Avenue North, SALEM RICHEY, owner.

She further advised that ROBERT RAY attempted to purchase automobile tires using a Texeco Credit Card # [REDACTED], and listed his drivers license as Alabama License Number 2669211.

SALEM RICHEY, 5117 8th Terrace South, Birmingham, Alabama, advised on 4/22/68, that he is the manager of Kelly's Jet Hamburgers on 1st Avenue North, and that he employed one ROBERT EARL RAY as a cook for approximately 1½ to 2 years until the Summer of 1967, when he released him for failing to report to work. Mr. RICHEY, upon viewing a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY, advised that this does not resemble ROBERT EARL RAY or his brother, JAMES RAY.

Mr. RICHEY furnished the following description of ROBERT EARL RAY:

NGM:cap
(3) *cap*

Martin

44-1740-1341

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JS



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BH 44-1740

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	30
Height	5'8"
Weight	140
Build	Medium
Hair	Blond
Eyes	Blue
Address	Unknown

Mr. RICHEY furnished the following description and information concerning JAMES RAY:

Age	31
Height	6'1" - 6'2"
Build	Skinny
Weight	140-150
Hair	Sandy blond
Residence	Moved to Louisiana three or four weeks ago with wife, name unknown.
Occupation	Roofer

Mr. RICHEY advised that he believed that ROBERT and JAMES' mother lived in Birmingham across from the Egg and Poultry Place on 78th Street in a duplex. Mr. RICHEY stated that he would attempt to secure the mother's name for the FBI, and will immediately furnish such information to the Birmingham Office.

781-5182 781-3482

ACCT. REC. LEDGER

CREDIT APPROVAL

Robert
JOHN EARL RAY
6814 2nd AVE SO
BHAM, ALA.

7-12-66 me + note
4-17-67 me + note
108 ~~some note~~ ~~some note~~
6914 2nd Ave So

10-13-71 3-6-78
502 ewwb.
3-11-67 7 items
me

**SOUTHSIDE
WOODLAWN**

Statement Returned

DATE	REFERENCE	CHARGES	CREDITS	BALANCE	DUE NOW	PROOF
APR 18'66	1,196	43.74		43.74 *		
APR 25'66	6,999		5.00	38.74 *		
MAY 9'66	7,042		5.00 -	33.74 *	13.74 *	MAY 25'66
MAY 31'66	7,123		5.00 -	28.74 *		
JUN 14'66	7,175		5.00 -	23.74 *		
JUN 18'66	1,755	15.52 +		39.26 *		
JUN 23'66	7,205		5.00 -	34.26 *	10.00 *	JUN 25'66
JUN 27'66	1,836	13.10 +		47.36 *	20.00 *	JUL 25'66
AUG 24'66	7,386		5.00 -	42.36 *	35.00 *	AUG 25'66
SEP 20'66	7,466		5.00 -	37.36 *	37.36 *	SEP 25'66
OCT 26'66	7,535		5.00 -	32.36 *	37.36 *	OCT 25'66
NOV 8'66	7,561		5.00 -	27.36 *	27.36 *	NOV 25'66
JAN 24'67	7,686		5.00 -	22.36 *	27.36 *	DEC 25'66
MAY 10'67	14,649		5.00	17.36 *	22.36 *	JAN 25'67
MAY 15'67		.26		17.62 *	22.36 *	FEB 25'67
JUN 15'67SC		.26		17.88 *	22.36 *	MAR 25'67
JUN 21'67	7,975		17.62	.26 *	22.36 *	APR 25'67
JUL 15'67SC		.26		.00 *	17.62 *	
SEP 18'67	123	25.46		25.46 *	10.00 *	Re-10-20
OCT 15'67SC		.38		25.84 *	20.00 *	
					25.84 *	
					25.84 *	
					25.84 *	
					25.84 *	

Sent letter Certified

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)

DATE: 4/24/68

FROM : SA DONALD GUTHRIE

SUBJECT: MURKIN

BANKS

Supplementing previous memo, the following persons were contacted at the John C. Persons Branch, First National Bank of Birmingham, on 4/15/68, without being able to furnish any information about identity of artist's conception or source of large number of \$20 bills:

DENA SARRIS

HELEN STERLING

Mrs. SUE DeSHAZO

Mrs. JILL THOMPSON

Mrs. JEANETTE PONDER

Mrs. LOUNA WEAVER

At First National Bank of Birmingham, request was made of MACK McCOLLUM to check all cashier's checks and drafts issued by the 25 branches of First National Bank for period 8/26 - 10/15/67 to identify any draft purchased in the name of ERIC S. GALT. On 4/18/68 Mr. McCOLLUM reported that the Southside Branch of First National Bank had not located anything in the name of ERIC GALT, but found a draft that PETER CHERPES had purchased on 9/1/67, a draft on Chemical Bank, New York Deposit Company, for the amount of \$200.00. The cancelled draft was then located in the Main Office of First National Bank and determined to have #89764 payable to CONSTANTINOS TSERPES. This draft cleared through Bank of Greece and was paid 9/27/67 by the New York City Bank.

DG:mas
(3) *mas*



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BH 44-1740

He also reported that Gen. MATTHEWS, who is Manager of the Bessemer Branch of First National Bank, while not finding anything for ERIC S. GALT, did point out that two New York drafts were purchased on 8/24/67 by an unknown individual, that is, not known to banking officials, having the name J. V. WATKINS, had purchased two \$400 drafts that date, and thought this might be of some significance since the man was a stranger to them.

MISCELLANEOUS

In an effort to identify source of funds that would account for \$20 bills being spent by him which might have come from Workmen's Compensation or some other source, Mr. STERLING B. WILLIAMS, Regional Director, Wages and Hours and Public Contracts Division, Birmingham, was contacted on 4/10/68. He caused a check to be made in all of his field offices in the four-state area of Arkansas, Louisiana, Alabama, and Mississippi, without finding any record of ERIC S. GALT.

Mr. NORMAN WINSTON, Solicitor's Office, Wage and Hours and Public Contracts Division, U. S. Labor Department, was unable to furnish any positive information when contacted on 4/10/68.

Mr. FLOYD E. ROBERTSON, Fraud Investigation Supervisor, Unemployment Compensation Agency, State of Alabama, 8th Avenue North, Birmingham, on 4/10/68 caused a check to be made of his records in the different categories under Stevedores, Longshoremen, Warehousemen, and related industries connected with shipping and found nothing on ERIC S. GALT. He stated such a check should be made through state office and particularly the Mobile Office since the latter would have more contact with the shipping industries.

BH 410-PC was contacted on 4/9/68. He could not suggest anyone the artist's sketch looked like, except he might be the person who had caused trouble to HELEN PEARSON in the past, a girl that he knows, as this person fits the description.

BH 44-1740

HELEN PEARSON was contacted at her place of employment, Domino Lounge, Homewood, on 4/9/68. She said the artist's sketch is not that of the person who roughed her up in her apartment sometime ago. Her home address is 915 South 16th Street, and the person who had caused her trouble is named BUBBY YANCEY.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1740)

DATE: 4-23-68

FROM : SRA Charles W. Perry

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Divorce and marriage records for period of Jan. 1, 1967 to date were checked in Cherokee County, Alabama on 4-23-68 in effort to locate any record of subject under the following names securing a divorce or marriage license in this county with negative results:

James Earl Ray
Earl James Ray
W.C. Herron
Earl James
James McBride
James O'Conner
James Walton
James Walyon

44-1740-1343

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[Signature]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1740)

DATE: 4/23/68

FROM : SA EUGENE J. LANDOLFI

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

SMITH LEDBETTER, Morgan City, Ala., advised he was having breakfast between 5:00 and 6:00 a.m. at the A-1 Cafe, Route 231 S, Arab, Ala., on 4/19/68. While at the cafe, he saw a man who he thinks resembles ERIC STARVO GALT. This man was a white male, 5' 10", 160-165 lbs., 30 years old, black hair, acne marks on his face. SMITH LEDBETTER stated he never saw this person before, nor did he know his name. He advised this man was driving a Mack Tractor with a flat trailer, Alabama license FH 377, and the words "Alabama Express" on the side of the Mack Tractor.

He advised the above described person was traveling with a 15-year-old boy. When LEDBETTER asked the waitress of the A-1 Cafe if she ever saw the above person, she stated she never saw him before in her life.

When LEDBETTER was shown an FBI Wanted Flyer of ERIC STARVO GALT, he could not be sure if that was the person he saw in the A-1 Cafe on 4/19/68.

On 4/19/68, Mes. SUE DUNN, waitress, A-1 Cafe, Route 231 S, after seeing an FBI Wanted Flyer of ERIC STARVO GALT, advised she could not be sure if this was the man who was in the A-1 Cafe between 5:00 and 6:00 a.m., 4/19/68, while SMITH LEDBETTER was having breakfast. She further advised that it was the first time in her life that she saw the above described person, and did not know his name.

On 4/19/68, a check of the Huntsville Directories proved negative on an Alabama Express Company being located in Huntsville, Ala.

On 4/19/68, MARVIN BRYANT, Alabama State Trooper, advised he checked with his office and they do not have a listing for an Alabama license No. FH 377.

② - 44-1740
1 - 66-1022
EJL:mfl
(3) *mfl*



5010-108

Rampton - Lead

*Linker
Sullivan
Huntsville*

44-1740-1344

MT *Ry Townsend*
abg

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Schwein *QD*

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