

4/30/68

To:

☐ Director

FILE

BU 44-374

Att.:

☒ SAC BIRMINGHAM

Title

MURKIN

☐ ASAC (44-1740)

☐ Supv. _____

☐ Agent _____

☐ SE _____

☐ IC _____

RE:

☐ CC _____

☐ Steno _____

☐ Clerk _____

☐ Rotor #: _____

ACTION DESIRED

☐ Acknowledge

☐ Assign _____ Reassign _____

☐ Bring file

☐ Call me

☐ Correct

☐ Deadline _____

☐ Deadline passed

☐ Delinquent

☐ Discontinue

☐ Expedite

☐ File

☐ For information

☐ Handle

☐ Initial & return

☐ Leads need attention

☐ Return with explanation or notation as to action taken.

☐ Open Case

☐ Prepare lead cards

☐ Prepare tickler

☐ Return assignment card

☐ Return file

☐ Search and return

☐ See me

☐ Serial # _____

☐ Post ☐ Recharge ☐ Return

☐ Send to _____

☐ Submit new charge out

☐ Submit report by _____

☐ Type

Attached for information is one copy of story by reporter LOUIS LOMAX, affiliated with North American Newspaper Alliance, which story is self-explanatory.

Copies furnished Bureau, KC, ME, CG

SAC

NEIL J. WELCH

See reverse side

Office

BUFFALO

NANA-LOMAX-KING

(NATIONAL)

Mail to Mel Weld FBI here

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EDITORS: PLEASE CONFIRM WHETHER YOU PLAN TO USE THIS ARTICLE AND ANY SUBSEQUENT PIECES ON THE BASIS OF A NOMINAL FEE TO COVER THE HIGH COSTS OF THIS INVESTIGATION.

DRAGGING FEET?

FBI CAN'T KEEP STORIES STRAIGHT
IN INVESTIGATION OF KING'S MURDER

PRECEDE: IS THE FBI BUNGLING THE INVESTIGATION OF CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.? IT WOULD APPEAR SO FROM THIS, THE FOURTH IN A SERIES BY FAMED NEGRO REPORTER LOUIS LOMAX, NOW RETRACING THE STEPS OF JAMES EARL RAY ON HIS JOURNEYS WITH HOLLYWOOD SONGWRITER CHARLES STEIN FROM LOS ANGELES TO NEW ORLEANS. THE FBI HAS BEEN FORCED TO ADMIT THAT FINGERPRINTS, CIRCULATED AS THOSE OF RAY, WERE IN FACT OF SOMEONE ELSE. THIS IS BUT ONE OF A SERIES OF CONTRADICTIONS AND CONFUSIONS EMANATING FROM THE FEDERAL AGENCY.

BY LOUIS LOMAX

NORTH AMERICAN NEWSPAPER ALLIANCE

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SAN ANTONIO, TEX., APRIL 29 (NANA)--AN FBI SEARCH OF THE 1966 WHITE MUSTANG DRIVEN BY JAMES EARL RAY, ALIAS STARVO GALT, AND THE ALLEGED SLAYER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., UNEARTHED GREEN STAMPS THAT WERE ISSUED AS A RESULT OF A PURCHASE AT A BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA GAS STATION IN MID-FEBRUARY OF 1968. THIS REPORTER LEARNED OF THE GREEN STAMPS WHILE HERE IN SAN ANTONIO AND WAS ABLE TO CONFIRM THE ITEM BY TELEPHONE. THE BIRMINGHAM GAS STATION OWNER SAID THE STAMPS WERE ISSUED AT HIS STATION, AND HE ALSO IDENTIFIED A PICTURE OF RAY AS THAT OF THE MAN INVOLVED IN THE TRANSACTION. THE STATION OWNER RECALLS THE TRANSACTION BECAUSE THE WHITE MUSTANG HAD A CLUTCH PROBLEM.

FBI REPORTS CONSISTENTLY PLACE RAY IN LOS ANGELES AS A STUDENT AT DANCING AND BARTENDING SCHOOLS AT THE TIME OF THE GAS STATION TRANSACTION. HOWEVER, THESE REPORTS ARE BOLDLY CHALLENGED BY THE STATEMENT OF THE BIRMINGHAM GAS STATION OWNER. THIS IS BUT ONE OF A SERIES OF DISTURBING CONTRADICTIONS AND APPARENT "FBI" DISTORTIONS OF FACTS DISCOVERED DURING THIS REPORTER'S FOUR-DAY RETRACING OF RAY'S DECEMBER, 1967 AUTOMOBILE TRIP FROM LOS ANGELES TO NEW ORLEANS. RAY MADE THE TRIP ON DEC. 15 WITH THE HOLLYWOOD SONGWRITER CHARLES STEIN AS A DRIVING COMPANION. STEIN IS MAKING THE DRIVE OVER THE SAME ROUTE WITH THIS REPORTER.

(MORE)

DATA-LOMAX-KING--ADD ONE

THE FBI REPORTS INDICATE THAT CIGARETTE BUTTS AND ASHES WERE FOUND IN THE ASH TRAY AND ON THE FLOOR OF THE WHITE MUSTANG WHEN IT WAS RECOVERED IN ATLANTA, GA. I HAVE BEEN ON THE ROAD WITH STEIN, RAY'S DECEMBER DRIVING COMPANION FOR TWO DAYS AND HE DISTINCTLY RECALLS THAT RAY DID NOT SMOKE.

THE FBI REPORTS INDICATE THAT RAY WAS IN LOS ANGELES UNTIL MARCH 27TH; HE IS REPORTED TO HAVE BOUGHT THE FATAL WEAPON IN BIRMINGHAM, ALA., ON MARCH 30TH. THIS REPORTER DISCLOSED LAST WEEK THAT RAY DELIVERED A PACKAGE TO THE NEW ORLEANS FAMILY OF ONE OF HIS HOLLYWOOD GIRL FRIENDS DURING HIS LAST WEEK THERE. THE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS, THEN, IS CLEARLY IMPOSSIBLE. THE FBI INTERVIEWED THE FAMILY FOLLOWING MY DISCLOSURE OF THE INCIDENT AND CONFIRMED THAT RAY HAD DELIVERED THE PACKAGE. THE TRIP FROM LOS ANGELES TO BIRMINGHAM VIA NEW ORLEANS IS IN EXCESS OF 2,500 MILES. RAY COULD NOT HAVE DRIVEN THAT ROUTE, PARTICULARLY IN A MUSTANG IN THE SHORT PERIOD BETWEEN MARCH 27TH AND MARCH 30TH. THERE IS AN OUTSIDE CHANCE THAT THE TRIP COULD HAVE BEEN ACCOMPLISHED IF RAY HAD A DRIVING COMPANION AS HE DID IN DECEMBER. THERE HAVE BEEN NO INDICATIONS THAT HE DID HAVE A COMPANION.

--CONTRADICTIONS--

THESE CONTRADICTIONS AND CONFUSIONS ARE COMPOUNDED BY OTHERS THAT HAVE OCCURED DURING THE INVESTIGATION INTO THE SLAYING OF DR. KING. THE FBI ISSUED A REPORT THAT RAY HAD TAKEN DANCING LESSONS IN NEW ORLEANS DURING A TIME THE AGENCY'S OTHER REPORTS AND RECORDS SHOWED THAT RAY WAS IN PRISON.

THE FBI HAS BEEN FORCED TO ADMIT THAT THE FINGERPRINTS, CIRCULATED DURING THE EARLY DAYS OF THE MANHUNT WERE NOT THOSE OF RAY. THE BLAME FOR THIS, ACCORDING TO THE FBI, MUST BE ASSUMED BY THE WARDEN OF THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY. THE WARDEN, THE FBI CLAIMED, ISSUED MISTAKEN FINGERPRINTS ON RAY WHEN THE CONVICT ESCAPED FROM PRISON IN APRIL, 1967. THIS MEANS TWO THINGS: (1) HAD RAY BEEN ARRESTED AFTER HIS ESCAPE FROM PRISON; HE WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN HELD BY THE LOCAL ARRESTING OFFICERS AS A FUGITIVE; (2) HAD RAY BEEN ARRESTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE SLAYING OF DR. KING THE MISTAKEN FINGERPRINTS WOULD HAVE CONFUSED THE INVESTIGATION AND POSSIBLY WOULD HAVE LED TO HIS RELEASE.

THE SIGNIFICANT FACT IS THAT THE GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (CAPS G,B,I) HAD MISTAKEN FINGERPRINTS OF RAY UP UNTIL LAST WEDNESDAY. HAD RAY BEEN ARRESTED IN ATLANTA, THEN, ON THE DAY HE PARKED THE WHITE MUSTANG, THE GEORGIA AUTHORITIES WOULD HAVE BEEN ATTEMPTING TO IDENTIFY HIM BY MATCHING HIS FINGERPRINTS AGAINST A SET OF PRINTS THAT BELONGED TO SOMEBODY ELSE.

(MORE)

NANA-LOMAX-KING--ADD TWO

THEN THERE ARE THE INCREDIBLE OMISSIONS THAT HAVE BEEN DISCOVERED DURING THIS REPORTERS TRIP BACK INTO THE LIFE AND ACTIVITIES OF RAY. APPARENTLY IT NEVER OCCURED TO THE FBI TO RETRACE RAY'S TRIP WITH STEIN AS THIS REPORTER IS DOING IN SEARCH OF THE PHONE BOOTH FROM WHICH RAY MADE HASTY CALLS TO SOMEONE IN NEW ORLEANS. APPARENTLY IT ALSO DID NOT OCCUR TO THE FBI TO INVESTIGATE THE POSSIBILITY THAT RAY WAS IN TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH NEW ORLEANS WHILE HE WAS STILL IN LOS ANGELES. THIS REPORTER LOCATED THE PHONE BOOTH USED BY RAY IN THE LOBBY OF THE ST. FRANCIS HOTEL LAST WEDNESDAY. THE WALLS OF THE BOOTH WERE COVERED WITH GRAFFITI. ONE LINE READ "DOWN WITH MEXICANS, NIGGERS, AND MARTIN LUTHER COON."

--FATAL OVERSIGHT--

THE MOST FATAL OVERSIGHT WAS THE FBI'S FAILURE TO UNCOVER THE CONSOLE TELEVISION SET RAY GAVE TO A HOLLYWOOD GIRL FRIEND IN RETURN FOR HER PORTABLE. THE SWAP OCCURED AROUND VALENTINE'S DAY--FEBRUARY 14--AND RAY TOLD THE GIRL HE WAS LEAVING TOWN. THIS REPORTER FOUND BOTH THE GIRL FRIEND AND THE TELEVISION SET. THE BACK OF THE TELEVISION SET CONTAINED HANDWRITING BELIEVED TO BE THAT OF RAY AND CAN BE MATCHED AGAINST THE GRAFFITI ON THE WALLS OF THE TELEPHONE BOOTH.

A CLEAR READING OF THIS MAKES IT ALL BUT CERTAIN THAT RAY TOOK THREE TRIPS TO NEW ORLEANS BETWEEN DEC. 15 AND THE END OF MARCH. THERE WAS THE TRIP OF DEC. 15 WHICH STEIN AND I ARE NOW RETRACING; THERE WAS A SECOND TRIP THAT BEGAN ON VALENTINE'S DAY. FINALLY THERE WAS THE TRIP THAT BEGAN A FEW DAYS BEFORE THE END OF MARCH AND CULMINATED IN THE DEATH OF DR. KING.

THE VALENTINE'S DAY TRIP EXPLAINS THE GREEN STAMP TRANSACTION IN THE MIDDLE OF FEBRUARY. IT ALSO EXPLAINS THE MYSTERIOUS PHONE CALL TO THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES REQUESTING THAT A DUPLICATE OF "GALT'S" DRIVERS LICENSE BE SENT TO A BIRMINGHAM BOARDING HOUSE. THE LICENSE WAS MAILED ON MARCH 1, THE DAY BEFORE RAY IS ALLEGED TO HAVE GRADUATED FROM A LOS ANGELES DANCING SCHOOL. IT IS CLEAR THAT RAY "DROPPED OUT" FROM THE SCHOOL FOR SEVERAL DAYS TO MAKE THE SECOND TRIP.

THE ONE UNASSAILABLE FACT IS THAT RAY DID MAKE THESE TRIPS. AND THAT HE WAS IN TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH SOMEONE IN NEW ORLEANS. RAY TOLD STEIN THAT HIS CONTACT WAS AN IMPORTANT PERSON, A CONTRACTOR AND BUILDER. THE KEY, THEN, LIES IN LOCATING THE PHONE BOOTH ALONG THE HIGHWAY FROM WHICH THESE CALLS WERE MADE. TELEPHONE COMPANY OFFICIALS BELIEVE THEY CAN TRACE THE CALLS IF THE BOOTH CAN BE LOCATED.

CHARLES STEIN REMEMBERS GRAPHICALLY THE GAS STATION FROM WHICH THE CALLS WERE MADE. WE ARE NOW IN THE GENERAL AREA OF THE STATION. OUR HOPE IS TO LOCATE THESE PHONE BOOTHS BEFORE COMPLETING THE JOURNEY.

END-LOMAX-KING NO. 4-NANA-68

06801PES

Snow
(wife) *ms*

44-1740-1578

SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED <i>6</i>	FILED _____
MAY 3 - 1968	
FBI — BIRMINGHAM	

[Signature]

F B I

Date: 5/1/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, CLEVELAND (44-565) (P)
RE: JAMES EARL RAY, AKA -
FUGITIVE
MURKIN
CIVIL RIGHTS; UFAC-ROBBERY
(OO: MEMPHIS)

Re Cincinnati teletype to Director and auxiliary offices,
4/20/68; Cleveland teletype to Director and auxiliary offices,
4/21/68, and Louisville airtel to Director and auxiliary offices,
4/25/68.

The following investigation was conducted at Monclova,
Ohio:

Mrs. MARIE PAYNE, aka Millie Marie Huff, 9855
Maumee-Western Road, Monclova, Ohio, advised on 4/22/68, that
she was formerly married to MANCEL VERNON PAYNE, who now resides
in Springfield, Ohio. She and PAYNE lived together in Toledo,
Ohio, for two years prior to their marriage in Toledo during
1961. She had one child with someone else prior to this
marriage and had three children with PAYNE. All of the children
are being cared for by Welfare authorities in Springfield, Ohio.
She thinks she is legally divorced from PAYNE but has never seen
any legal papers in connection with the divorce.

- 3 - Bureau
- ② - Birmingham
- 2 - Cincinnati
- 2 - Kansas City (88-9449)
- 2 - Louisville (44-947)
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987)
- 2 - Cleveland

MPM/jky
(15)

44-1740-1579

B

[Handwritten signature]

Approved: *[Signature]*
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

CV 44-565

While she was living with PAYNE on Airport Hiway, Toledo, during 1958-59, one JAMES EARL HARRIS, white, male, about 29 or 30 years of age at the present time, visited Toledo, Ohio, from somewhere in Kentucky. PAYNE and she became friendly with HARRIS and he visited their home on a few occasions. HARRIS had come to Toledo to visit his aunt, MABEL HARRIS, 214 10th Street, 4th Floor.

Subject is unknown to her by name, photo, or descriptive data and is not related to her by blood or marriage. HARRIS does not resemble subject in any manner, however, she feels PAYNE is confused because HARRIS and subject have the same first and middle names.

She also added that she is generally known as MARIE, however, PAYNE refers to her as MILLIE although this is not a given name or a nickname. She can be reached at her mother's address, above, phone number 865-5276.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

FBI

Date: 5/1/68

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(Type in plain text or code)

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(Priority or Method of Mailing)

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- ② - Birmingham
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- 2 - Louisville (44-947)
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987)
- 2 - Cleveland

MPM/jky
(15)

44-1740-1579

SEARCHED
SERIALIZED B

[Handwritten signature]

Approved: *[Signature]* Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

CV 44-565

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ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

5/2/68

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND SAC BALTIMORE (44-669)
FROM SAC LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

MURKIN.

RE BALTIMORE TEL TO LOS ANGELES MAY ONE LAST CONCERNING
LOOKALIKE OF RAY ON BOARD AMERICAN AIRLINES FLIGHT THREE THREE
EIGHT FROM DALLAS TO BALTIMORE AND PHILADELPHIA APRIL SIX LAST.

DONALD HAISCHER, BENDIX AVIATION REPRESENTATIVE, ADVISED
THIS DATE HE WAS TOURIST CLASS PASSENGER ON ABOVE FLIGHT.
PHOTOS OF RAY EXHIBITED AND HE ADVISED COULD NOT RECALL
OBSERVING ANYONE ON FLIGHT RESEMBLING RAY. HAISCHER IN NO
WAY RESEMBLES RAY.

AIR MAIL COPIES MEMPHIS AND BIRMINGHAM.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

1 - Birmingham (44-1740)(AM)
1 - Memphis (44-1987)(AM)
1 - Los Angeles
VJH:CM
(3)

44-1740-1581

B

[Handwritten signature]

4/30/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL - REGISTERED

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)
RE: MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel to Los Angeles, 4/24/68, re ALMENA LOMAX - COMPLAINANT.

On 4/29/68, Mrs. ALMENA LOMAX was telephonically contacted per her request to arrange an appointment for interview. She stated she was too busy to see an agent during the week of 4/29 - 5/3/68 since she went to Berkeley every Thursday and Friday to write for a publication called "The Post". She stated she had to take care of her family and house and had no spare time. She said that after she wrote her letter to Attorney General RAMSEY CLERK concerning the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., she had second thoughts and believed her theory that individuals who subscribe to the "Tuskegee Tribune" might have something to do with KING's assassination, was a far-fetched idea.

Mrs. LOMAX sounded nervous and harassed when talking to agent but stated she would try to find time to mail in a list of subscribers to the "Tuskegee Tribune", marking the names of those she believed to be white people, in the event the Bureau desired to check them out as possible suspects.

Mrs. LOMAX suggested an agent contact her again on 5/6/68 to determine if she had the list prepared.

Los Angeles will contact Mrs. LOMAX on 5/6/68.

3 - Bureau (AM-REGISTERED)
1 - Atlanta (44-2386) (AM-REGISTERED)
1 - Birmingham (44-1740) (AM-REGISTERED)
1 - Memphis (44-1987)
1 - Los Angeles
LDJ:gcw

44-1740-1580

B

[Handwritten signature]

(7)

5/2/68

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR, AND CHICAGO
FROM: MEMPHIS (44-1987)
MURKIN.

RE CHICAGO TEL ELEVEN FORTY PM, MAY ONE PAST.

INFO O. PAGE TWO RETEL MAKES COMMENT TO EFFECT JERRY RAY
STATED HE RECEIVED NO INDICATION IN CONVERSATION WITH JOHN OR
CAROL THAT THEY AWARE OF SUBJECT'S PRESENT WHEREABOUTS OR WHERE-
ABOUTS SINCE ESCAPE UNTIL SEPTEMBER ONE LAST.

REQUEST CHICAGO CLARIFY INFO SINCE MEMPHIS HAS NO DATA
TO DISCLOSE THAT BROTHER JOHN OR ^{SISTER} CAROL HAD PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE AS
TO WHEREABOUTS OF SUBJECT. INFO AVAILABLE AT MEMPHIS DISCLOSES
THAT SUBJECT PROBABLY IN BIRMINGHAM AT THAT TIME.

REQUEST CHICAGO ADVISE HOW JOHN OR CAROL KNEW WHEREABOUTS
SUBJECT, DID SUBJECT CONTACT THEM BY TELEPHONE, IN PERSON, OR BY
LETTER? IF CONTACT WAS MADE FROM BIRMINGHAM, DETERMINE IF POSSIBLE
WHETHER OR NOT INFO AVAILABLE INDICATING SUBJECT RESIDED AT
HIGHLAND AVENUE ADDRESS OR DID HE HAVE NEW ADDRESS.

SUTEL.

AM COPIES TO ATLANTA, SPRINGFIELD, ST. LOUIS, BIRMINGHAM.

A & D. P.

END RGJ:BN CC: 1 - ATLANTA (AM) 1 - SPRINGFIELD (AM)
(50) 1 - ST. LOUIS (AM) 1 - BIRMINGHAM (AM)

44-1740-1582

RAY

13

5/2/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL - REGISTERED R.R.R.

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)(ATTENTION: FBI LABORATORY)
FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Enclosed for latent fingerprint examination and typewriting comparison with samples previously submitted in captioned matter are the following:

1. One photograph of ERIC S. GALT, taken approximately August 1967 - February 1968.
2. Typewritten letter dated 2/17/68 addressed "Dear Miss:" and signed "ERIC S. GALT, 5533 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood, Calif., 90028, Phone number 464-1131."
3. Typewritten advertisement sent to "Los Angeles Free Press" by ERIC S., with return address 406 So. 2nd Avenue, Alhambra, 91802.

Also submitted to the Bureau is one copy of the 2/2/68 issue of the "Los Angeles Free Press." On page 27, column 7, item 2, appears the advertisement submitted by ERIC S.

The copy of the advertisement submitted to the "Los Angeles Free Press" was furnished to SA's JAMES PAGE and EUGENE B. MC CARTHY on 5/2/68 by GENE TURNER, Accountant, "Los Angeles

4 - Bureau (Encs. - 4)(AM - RM)(RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED)
1 - Atlanta (44-2386)(AM)
① - Birmingham (44-1740)(AM)
1 - Memphis (44-1987)(AM)
2 - Los Angeles
TJA:CM
(9)

44-1740-1583
B

[Handwritten signature]

LA 44-1574

Free Press", 938 North Fairfax Avenue, Los Angeles.

It is requested that enclosures 1, 2 and 3 be returned to the Los Angeles Office for return to the respective donors. These enclosures were handled by numerous individuals during the normal course of business, both at the Postal Inspector's office and the "Los Angeles Free Press."

It is to be noted that the address 402 South 2nd Avenue, Alhambra, California, is a mail forwarding service subscribed to by ERIC S. GALT, according to information furnished by C. M. HEDGPETH, owner of this service, on 4/14/68.

Polaroid Corporation, Los Angeles, advised that the number H 716664 on reverse side of film indicates the date of manufacture. H indicates the month of August, and the 7 indicates 1967. Polaroid Corporation advised that they keep no record of distribution of film.

Two witnesses at Los Angeles have viewed the enclosed photograph and stated that it is an extremely good likeness of the subject. The Bureau may wish to consider giving this photograph circulation to other field offices for viewing as to likeness of subject.

Enclosures 1 and 2 were obtained from Mr. L. O. POINDEXTER, U. S. Postal Inspector, Los Angeles, California, on 5/2/68 by SA THEODORE J. A'HEARN. A polaroid copy of enclosure 1 and a photographic copy of enclosure 2 were received at the Los Angeles Office on 5/2/68 from JAMES V. P. CONWAY, Postal Inspector in Charge, Post Office Department, San Francisco, California. He advised the original photograph and letter were furnished his office by PATRICIA K. ANDERSON, 2800 Glenview Avenue, Los Angeles, who had received them via "The Local Swinger", a correspondence club operating from P. O. Box 3802, Downey, California 90242, which club is a subject of investigation of the Postal Inspector's Office.

5/1/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, MIAMI (44-1854) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

Re Los Angeles teletype to Bureau dated 4/29/68.

Re: Telephone Booths St. Francis Hotel, Los Angeles

Investigation at Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, indicates that telephone number 564-2371 is the listed number for the Holy Cross Hospital, 4725 North Federal Highway, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Hospital officials advised that no record is maintained of who received telephone calls coming in through the hospital switchboard.

Photographs of subject JAMES EARL RAY displayed to hospital officials and employees and none were able to identify. No record of RAY or any aliases used by RAY in hospital records. Wanted flyer of RAY was posted on the hospital bulletin board. ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

3 - Bureau (RM)
① - Birmingham (Info) (RM)
2 - Los Angeles (44-1574) (RM)
1 - Memphis (44-1987) (Info) (RM)
1 - Miami
DNJ:vc
(8)

44-1740-1584

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 2 1968	
FBI - MIAMI	

[Handwritten signature]

5/2/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, MIAMI (44-1854) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

(OO: Memphis)

Re Memphis teletype to Miami dated 4/30/68.

Re: Alterman Transport Lines Delivery Man

Referenced teletype stated that JAMES L. THOMAS, 5032 Ewing Avenue, North, Minneapolis, Minnesota, advised the Minneapolis Office that an unidentified individual resembling a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY delivered a variety of seafood of Michael's Restaurant, Minneapolis, on 4/30/68. This individual was driving an Alterman Transport Lines truck bearing 1967 Florida license 1-0-614. Alterman Transport Lines home office was determined to be Miami, Florida.

DAVID ALTERMAN, proprietor, Alterman Transport Lines, Miami, Florida, advised that Alterman truck bearing 1967 Florida license 1-0-614 left Miami on 4/27/68 and was driven by DONALD EUGENE ANPLANALP. GLEN HECTOR BOWCOTT accompanied ANPLANALP on this trip as a helper. Company records indicate that both men were working in the greater Miami, Florida area on 4/4/68 and they were eliminated as suspects in this matter on that basis.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

3 - Bureau (RM)
1 - Kansas City (44-760) (RM) (Info)
1 - Minneapolis (157-450) (Info) (RM)
1 - Memphis (44-1987) (Info) (RM)
① - Birmingham (Info) (RM)
1 - Miami
DNJ:vc
(8)

44-1740-1585

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 3 1968	
FBI - BIRMINGHAM	

[Signature]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 5/1/68

Mr. JOSEPH POWERS, Secretary-Treasurer, Barnett Buick Company, 500 South San Fernando Road, advised the automobile they had sold HAROLD J. THOME had been financed through the Union Bank of Los Angeles and they had been looking for THOME. He stated the Union Bank should have details on the purchase of the car.

44-1741-1586

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 3 - 1968	
FBI - BIRMINGHAM	
<i>Snow</i> <i>Wae</i>	

On 5/1/68 at Burbank, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574

by SA LLOYD D. JOHNSON/dlp Date dictated 5/1/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 5/1/68

Mr. STEPHEN HILL, Union Oil Company Credit Department, advised that as their account in the name of HAROLD J. THOME had been let out for collection, the collection agency would have the most recent charges, and the only credit purchased they would have on microfilm would be of purchases made prior to the time it was turned over to the collection agency.

44-1740-1587

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 3 - 1968	
FBI - BIRMINGHAM	
<i>Snow</i>	<i>Had</i>

On 5/1/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44/1574

by SA LLOYD D. JOHNSON/dlp Date dictated 5/1/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 5/1/68

Mr. WILLIAM REYNOLDS, U. S. Credit Bureau, 125 South Vermont Avenue, advised they were handling the collection on the Union Oil Company credit card of HAROLD J. THOME. Mr. REYNOLDS had charged cards indicating THOME had purchased gasoline in the following cities on the following dates:

October 11, 1967	Bouse, Arizona
October 22, 1967	Hightown, New Jersey
November 1, 1967	Atlanta, Georgia
November 6, 1967	Decatur, Georgia
March 8 or 9, 1968	Van Horn, Texas

The gasoline was purchased in Van Horn for an automobile bearing California license KDT 654, which Mr. REYNOLDS said was registered with the Department of Motor Vehicles in California to JAMES E. SIMS, 254 1/8 Coronado, Number 40, Los Angeles. Mr. REYNOLDS stated older gasoline charges would be in the possession of Union Oil Company.

44-1740-1588

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 3 - 1968	
FBI - BIRMINGHAM	
<i>Snow</i>	<i>Hes</i>

On 5/1/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574
by SA LLOYD D. JOHNSON/dlp Date dictated 5/1/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 5/1/68

Mr. DONALD PARNELL, Credit Department, Shell Oil Company, advised he had no record of a credit card in the name of HAROLD J. THOME, but would check company records in Oklahoma to determine if such card existed. He stated it would take him two or three days to obtain the information for review.

44-1741 1509

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 3 - 1968	
FBI — BIRMINGHAM	
<i>Snow</i>	<i>Hps</i>

On 5/1/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574

by SA LLOYD D. JOHNSON/dlp Date dictated 5/1/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 5/1/68

STEVEN THOME, 355 West Acacia, Glendale, son of HAROLD JAMES THOME, was telephonically contacted to determine the whereabouts of his father, who had attempted to have an audience with MARTIN LUTHER KING in Atlanta, Georgia in November, 1967, for an unknown reason. He stated his father left Los Angeles, California, sometime in late 1967 and his whereabouts have been unknown since that time. He stated his father had called him long distance collect on two occasions since Christmas, 1967. However, he did not know the origin of the calls and would advise this office when he received his telephone bill indicating the charges. THOME stated his father was alienated from his son TIM THOME and from his former wife, and would not contact either of them. He refused to furnish the current address or telephone number of his mother stating she knew nothing concerning HAROLD THOME's whereabouts and he did not want her to be interviewed. THOME suggested contacting the Barnett Buick Company, who had sold his father a 1966 Buick, as he knew they were looking for his father.

44-1740-1590

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 3 - 1968	
FBI - BIRMINGHAM	

Snow

On 4/29/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574

by SA LLOYD D. JOHNSON/dlp Date dictated 5/1/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 5/1/68

PAUL ZANDER, Collection Manager, Union Bank, Ventura and Sepulveda Boulevards, stated he had accomplished the recovery of the 1966 Buick, purchased by HAROLD J. THOME, in Atlanta, Georgia. He stated the car had been repossessed by the Auto Recovery Bureau, 2680 Gordon Road, Southwest, Atlanta, on January 15, 1968. He stated this agency would have the residence and employment of THOME on file as of that date. ZANDER understood THOME, who has been confined in Camarillo State Hospital, had become a hippie type, and before leaving Los Angeles, had lived with a group of hippies on a farm called the "hog farm" near Tujunga, California. He stated his investigation had established THOME had travelled about the United States between June, 1967 and January, 1968 for an unknown reason. He said THOME had Union Oil and Shell Oil credit cards which he had used in his travels, and the Union Oil Company had turned their account over to the U. S. Credit Bureau, Los Angeles, for collection. He knew nothing of the Shell Oil account.

He stated the interest of the Union Bank was terminated when the Buick was recovered.

44-1791-1591

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 3 - 1968	
FBI - BIRMINGHAM	

Snow

On 5/1/68 at Sherman Oaks, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574
by SA LLOYD D. JOHNSON/dlp Date dictated 5/1/68

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 5/1/68

ReButel to Los Angeles, 4/26/68.

Referenced teletype advised HAROLD J. THOME, a possible mental case, had been attempting to have an audience with MARTIN LUTHER KING in Atlanta. He had reportedly threatened a neighbor in the past with a shotgun. The Bureau instructed that although subject RAY had been identified as the assailant, investigation should be conducted to determine if THOME might be implicated as a conspirator.

A review of Los Angeles files reflects HAROLD J. THOME had advised the Los Angeles Office office on 4/19/67 he had observed a pickup truck and dune buggy in a ravine near Tujunga, California, and the occupants of the vehicles were apparently burying something. He brought this to the attention of the FBI because he thought it was of possible interest in the YOUNG kidnapping case.

In September, 1967, THOME's son, STEVEN THOME, 355 West Acacia, Glendale, California, was interviewed at the residence of his father, 10520 Hillhaven Street, Tujunga, and advised his father had written President JOHNSON and the Pope on numerous occasions, voicing opposition to the war in Vietnam. He stated his father had been arrested in the past for pulling a gun on police officers who were attempting to stop some hippies from marching through a canyon area.

In September, 1967, Mrs. HAROLD THOME, former wife of THOME, stated she did not know his current address, but said he had been confined to mental wards in various hospitals in the Los Angeles area. She said besides having a mental problem, she considered THOME an alcoholic.

- 2 - Memphis (Encls. 59) (AM)
- 2 - Atlanta (Encl. 61) (AM) (Info) (44-2386)
- 2 - Birmingham (Encl. 61) (AM) (Info) (44-1740)
- 2 - Los Angeles

LDJ/dlp
(8)

Snow

MS

44-1740-1592

LA 44-1574

On 1/4/67, TIM THOME, son of HAROLD J. THOME, advised this office his father was attempting to travel to Washington D. C. to see President JOHNSON.

Subsequent investigation of the dune buggy incident established the people working around the automobile were attempting to tow it out of an area in which it had been stuck and there was no apparent relationship to the Young kidnaping case.

The Atlanta Office advised that THOME had appeared at SCLC Headquarters, Atlanta on 11/6/67, insisting upon having an interview with MARTIN LUTHER KING for an unknown reason.

On 11/7/67, TIM THOME (above), advised his father had a history of mental difficulties, frequency of suicide and had been in and out of Camarillo State Mental Hospital.

On 9/14/67, KENNETH C. MERRYHEW, U. S. Secret Service, Los Angeles, advised his department had investigated HAROLD JAMES THOME after receipt of a letter he had written President JOHNSON at his ranch in Texas, dated 12/21/66. MERRYHEW stated the letter in essence warned President JOHNSON he was "in grave danger" and set forth THOME's opposition to the United States involvement in Vietnam. MERRYHEW stated the letter indicated THOME had written the President on two previous occasions. Mr. MERRYHEW stated the records of Camarillo State Hospital reflected THOME was a patient from 1/30/64 to 5/2/64 and from 10/2/64 to 12/10/65. He was classified as a schizophrenic paranoid, disorganized, troublesome and unapproved. No further investigation was conducted by Secret Service.

Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) records reflect that on 3/13/66, THOME was arrested for threatening a neighbor with a gun. No disposition of this arrest was shown. On 6/4/67, THOME was arrested for drunk driving and at the time of arrest had a .410 shotgun on the dashboard of the car which was unloaded. No disposition for this arrest was shown.

LA 44-1574

FD-302s concerning THOME are attached.

The following description of THOME was obtained from the records of the LAPD:

Name	HAROLD JAMES THOME
Birth Data	<input type="text"/> in Chicago
Height	5' 10"
Weight	145 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue (wears metal rim glasses)
CII No.	294-617
LAPD No.	787-450T
Social Security Number	<input type="text"/>

THOME SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE JACKSON	OFFICE OF ORIGIN MEMPHIS	DATE 5/2/68	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 4/10 - 4/24/68
TITLE OF CASE JAMES EARL RAY, aka - FUGITIVE IO # 4182, WF # 442-A, TOP TEN FUGITIVE; Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. (DECEASED) - VICTIM		REPORT MADE BY SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER	TYPED BY clm
		CHARACTER OF CASE CR - CONSPIRACY; UFAC - ROBBERY	

REFERENCE:

Memphis report of SA JOE C. HESTER, 4/30/68.

- P -

LEAD:

JACKSON

AT JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

Will continue efforts to locate JAMES EARL RAY. All leads being handled immediately upon receipt.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN: PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		

APPROVED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE: 5 - Bureau (44-38861)		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> 44-1740-1593 SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED <i>CB</i> FILED MAY 4 - 1968 FBI - BIRMINGHAM </div>	
<i>D. Birmingham</i> (Continued on Cover Page B) 2 - Jackson (157-9586)			

Dissemination Record of Attached Report					Notations <i>FD 204 sent USA B'ham, ALA. 5/21/68 clm</i>
Agency					
Request Recd.					
Date Fwd.					
How Fwd.					
By					

JN 157-9586

(Copies continued)

- 2 - Atlanta (44-2386)
 - (2) - Birmingham (44-1740)
 - 1 - Kansas City
 - 2 - Los Angeles (44-1574)
 - 5 - Memphis (44-1987)
 - 2 - Mobile (157-2627)
 - 2 - New Orleans
 - 1 - St. Louis
-

COVER PAGE
B

JN 157-9586

ADMINISTRATIVE:

The Jackson Division, at the outset of this matter, conducted investigation concerning the names ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER and JOHN WILLARD in Federal agencies, state and local agencies, with negative results.

All credit and arrest agencies in the 82 counties in Mississippi were contacted. All city directories and telephone directories were checked. Selective Service System, State Office, as well as each local board, county voter registration records, county Departments of Public Welfare, county Tax Assessor Offices, county Clerks of Court, each county, marriage and divorce records, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Board of Health, Workmen's Compensation and Employment Security Commissions, all utility companies, electricity, gas and telephone, financial institutions, registrar's office in major universities, Port Director, Gulfport, Mississippi, all shrimp boat operators in the Gulf Coast area, all barge and towing companies at river ports at Greenville, Vicksburg and Natchez, Mississippi, were checked. One million, two hundred thousand drivers licenses checked through IBM computer concerning the birth date all of the above with negative results.

All airports, motel and parking garage facilities in Mississippi were checked in an attempt to locate a 1966 white Mustang with negative results.

All dancing schools or academies were checked. Civilian personnel records, Keesler AFB, Biloxi, checked with negative results.

COVER PAGE

C

JN 157-9586

Ingalls Shipyard at Pascagoula, Mississippi, checked with negative results.

All criminal and racial informants contacted with negative results.

Whereabouts of each major bombing suspect in the State of Mississippi checked and verified to eliminate as possible suspects.

In addition to the above, numerous lookalikes reported to the Jackson Office were located, interviewed and eliminated as possible suspects.

All of the above information has been reviewed, indexed, and filed in the Jackson Office.

For the sake of brevity, negative type information is not being set out in this report.

No copies of this report are being disseminated outside the Bureau; however, sufficient copies of report being furnished to the OO in the event of future dissemination.

COVER PAGE
D*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER
Date: May 2, 1968

Office: JACKSON

Field Office File #: JN 157-9586

Bureau File #: 44-38861

Title: JAMES EARL RAY;
Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
(DECEASED) - VICTIMCharacter: CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY;
UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID CONFINEMENT - ROBBERY

Synopsis: Motels and Standard service stations on major highways in North Central and Northeastern section of State of Miss. contacted in attempt to identify individual depicted in artist conception of ERIC STARVO GALT, also known as Harry Lowmeyer, John Willard. Color photo received from Memphis FBI Office of a bedspread and bath towel exhibited to personnel at motels in attempt to identify as being property of the particular motel with negative results. Investigation at Southaven Minnow Shop, Highway 51, Southaven, Miss., just south of the Tenn. State Line, disclosed this shop is the only establishment located which handled Schlitz 12-ounce beer in pop-top cans, as well as Homestead Stubby No. 20, brown paper bags. One empty Schlitz beer can and one brown paper bag obtained from Southaven Minnow Shop and forwarded to FBI Lab., Washington, D. C., for examination purposes. Results of FBI Lab. examination discloses brown paper bag similar in all observable characteristics to paper bag previously submitted. Personnel at minnow shop unable to identify artist conception and unable to identify photo of JAMES EARL RAY as depicted on Wanted Flyer No. 442-A. IN VIEW OF THE CRIME FOR WHICH SUBJECT BEING SOUGHT, HE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- P -

DETAILS:

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JN 157-9586

JWS/bls

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA JAMES W. SAMMON:

On the dates indicated, motels and Standard Service Stations on the below listed major highways in north central and northeastern portion of the State of Mississippi were contacted in this matter. Personnel at motels were exhibited composite drawings of ERIC STARVO GALT, also known as John Willard, Harvey Lowmeyer, received from the Memphis and Birmingham Divisions, along with a color photograph of a bedspread and bath towel received from the Memphis Division. Personnel at these motels failed to identify the composite photographs of GALT, as well as the bedspread or towel as property of their particular motel. The guest registration cards of motels contacted were personally checked by SA JAMES W. SAMMON from the period of March 29 to April 5, 1968, inclusive in an effort to determine if any guest using the name GALT, WILLARD, or LOWMEYER registered at that motel. These checks met with negative results.

Standard Service Stations on the indicated highways were also contacted and personnel at those service stations were also exhibited artist's conceptions of GALT, along with the colored photographs of the Standard Oil map of the United States and the Standard Oil map of Georgia - Alabama. Personnel at these service stations were questioned regarding a 1966 white Mustang with an Alabama tag. Contacts at these service stations also met with negative results.

April 10, 1968 - Highway 55 Interstate and Highway 51, north from Batesville, Mississippi, to the Tennessee State Line. Highway 78 southeast from the Tennessee State Line to the City Limits of Holly Springs, Mississippi.

April 11, 1968 - Highways 78, 6, and 45 within the City Limits of Tupelo, Mississippi. Highway 45 north from Tupelo, Mississippi, to Corinth, Mississippi. Highways 45

and 72 within the City Limits of Corinth, Mississippi.

April 12, 1968 - Highway 78 East from Tupelo, Mississippi, to the Alabama State Line. Highway 45 South from Tupelo, Mississippi, to Columbus, Mississippi. Highway 82 East from Mayhew, Mississippi, to the Alabama State Line. Highways 82 and 45 East within the City Limits of Columbus, Mississippi.

April 13, 1968 - Highway 82 West from Columbus, Mississippi, to Winona, Mississippi. Highway 51 North from Winona, Mississippi, to Grenada, Mississippi. Interstate 55 and Highway 51 North from Grenada, Mississippi, to Batesville, Mississippi.

April 16, 1968 - Highway 72 from the Alabama State Line to the Tennessee State Line. Highway 78 Southeast from Holly Springs, Mississippi, to Tupelo, Mississippi.

April 17, 1968, Highway 45 East from Shannon, Mississippi, to Columbus, Mississippi. Highway 278 East from Highway 45 East from New Wren, Mississippi, to the Alabama State Line. Highway 6 West from Tupelo, Mississippi, to Batesville, Mississippi. The notes from contacts with personnel at motels and Standard Oil Service Stations are being maintained in the Jackson file regarding this matter.

The following motels affiliated with Friendship Inns were contacted on the indicated dates and personnel there were interviewed as set forth above and in addition, the color photograph containing the Friendship Inn Cashmire Bouquet soap wrapper was exhibited with negative results.

MARY MILTON, Registration Clerk, Townhouse Motel, Friendship Inn, Highway 45 South, Tupelo, Mississippi, which motel uses Camay soap with Friendship Inn wrapper, on April 11, 1968.

Mrs. BROOKS PHILLIPS, Southern Motel, Friendship Inn, Corinth, Mississippi, which motel does handle Cashmire Bouquet with Friendship Motel wrapper, on April 11, 1968.

However, Southern Motel was negative on photographs of GALT; negative on bedspread; and negative on bath towel.

Mrs. ANNIE LOUISE HUDSON, Marshall Motel, Friendship Inn, Highway 45 North, West Point, Mississippi, contacted April 12, 1968.

WILLIAM DOVES, Registration Clerk, Columbus Motel, Friendship Inn, Highway 82 East, Columbus, Mississippi, does not use soap wrapped with Friendship paper, contacted April 12, 1968.

The following investigation was conducted by SA JAMES W. SAMMON on April 15, 1968, in the Southaven, Mississippi, area, Highway 51, south of the Tennessee State Line in Mississippi.

The following dealer outlets in that area were contacted in an effort to determine if they had any twelve-ounce Schlitz pop-top beer cans with the brewery date of March 15, 1968, which was sold by them in six packs held with a plastic ring. The following beer outlets in that area were contacted on April 15, 1968, with negative results:

SHIRLEY JERET, Stop and Go Store, Highway 51 South.
MARY SNELL, Cashier, BILL RAGLAND, Manager, and LESTER ENOCHS, Stock Man, A and P Supermarket, Highway 51 South, Southaven, Mississippi.

BILL BEALE, Seven Eleven Store, Highway 51 South, Southaven, Mississippi.

MARY DRUMMOND, Drummond Drive-Inn, Highway 51 South, Southaven, Mississippi.

The composite photographs of GALT from Memphis and Birmingham were also exhibited to the above individuals at beer outlets in Southaven, Mississippi, with negative results.

In contacting motels on Highway 51 North on April 10, 1968, RAYMOND ROBINSON, owner of the Thrift Courts Motel

JN 157-9586

4

at Senatobia, Mississippi, advised that for the past three or four weeks, a white male, name unknown, 25 to 30 years old, had been staying at that motel. ROBINSON said that this individual is employed in Stray Horn, Mississippi, on Highway 4 where he is employed constructing a water tower. ROBINSON said that this individual drives a white Mustang with an Alabama license.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/22/68

1

DONALD DICKSON was located in Stray Horn, Mississippi, at the sight of the construction of a water tower. DICKSON said that he has been in the Senatobia, Mississippi, area for the past three weeks and that he is employed for R. D. Cole Manufacturing Company of Newnan, Georgia, which company constructs water towers. DICKSON said he has been so employed for the past nine years and is a foreman of that company.

DICKSON said that on April 4, 1968, he was in bed asleep at the Thrift Courts Motel in Senatobia, Mississippi, when one of his employees came into the room advising him that Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING had been shot and killed in Memphis, Tennessee. DICKSON said that an employee, TOM CANNON, and DOUG IVEY can vouch for his presence at the motel when KING was assassinated. DICKSON said that his 1967 white Mustang automobile was parked at the motel at that time.

DICKSON said that he is not responsible for the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING, nor can he furnish any information in that regard.

The following is a description of DICKSON obtained through observation and interview:

Sex:	Male
Race:	White
Age:	29
Date of Birth:	
Place of Birth:	Fayetteville, Georgia
Residence:	Route 1, Fayetteville, Georgia
Height:	6 feet
Weight:	160
Eyes:	Brown

On 4/10/68 at Stray Horn, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA JAMES W. SAMMON/bls Date dictated 4/15/68

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Hair:	Light brown, short, curly, and parted
Complexion:	Ruddy
Build:	Slender
Education:	10th grade
Marital Status:	Single
Military Service:	U.S. Army, 53348507 from 1961 to 1963 - honorable
Employment:	Foreman for R.D. Cole Manufacturing Company, Newnan, Georgia, for past nine years
Automobile:	1967 white Mustang, 1968 Georgia license 112-D-484
Previous Arrests:	No admits

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/22/68

DONALD SEWELL, employee, 7-11 Store, Number 34, 6099 Millbranch, Southaven, Mississippi, after being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the nature of the investigation, furnished the following information:

He stated that the 7-11 Store purchases its beer from the Service Beverage Company at Clarksdale, Mississippi.

He stated that the Schlitz delivery man appears at that store every Wednesday.

He advised after examining his stock of Schlitz 12 ounce pop top cans that he had two six packs in his refrigerator with the date March 15, 1968. He stated that this 7-11 Store uses Toreador paper sacks. He advised they do not utilize a number or size 20 paper sack.

He was displayed artist's conception drawings from Birmingham and Memphis, Tennessee.

SEWELL recalled that in the latter part of March, 1968, a white male approximately 5'9" to 5'10" in height, age 27 to 28 years of age, small frame, with a dark crew hair cut, wearing a gray suit with black pin stripes, glasses with black rims, purchased beer at that store.

SEWELL stated that he could not recall what brand of beer this individual bought or how he paid for it.

SEWELL stated that he recalled this incident as the authorities in Memphis, Tennessee, had put a curfew on beer and liquor sales and that at the same time this individual was in the checkout line, a highway patrolman came to the store and told him to cut off beer sales.

On 4/15/68 at Southaven, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA KENNETH P. HUGHES/pac Date dictated 4/19/68

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According to SEWELL, the patrolman advised him that the individuals in line could make their purchases but no other individuals would be allowed to purchase beer. SEWELL estimated the time at 3:30 p.m.

He stated that he recalled this incident as after this white male purchased the beer, he, SEWELL, had to request him to leave the store as he was "cursing" due to the fact that the beer sales had been cut off.

SEWELL stated that he had to tell this individual to leave the store.

SEWELL again stated that he believes this incident took place during the latter part of March, 1968, when the City of Memphis first experienced racial problems.

SEWELL stated that he had never seen this individual before and has not seen him since. He stated he did not see which way he turned when he left the store nor did he observe an automobile.

He stated that this individual vaguely resembled the artist's conception drawing from Birmingham.

SEWELL stated that he doubted he could recognize this individual if he saw him again.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/22/68

Located at the Southaven Minnow Shop, Highway 51, just south of the Tennessee State Line in Mississippi, were numerous six packs of Schlitz twelve-ounce beer in the pop-top can, held together in the six pack with a plastic ring, which beer was brewed by the date March 15, 1968. A can of this beer was obtained.

Also located in that minnow shop was a brown paper bag stamped "Homestead. Stubby. 20". One of the brown paper bags was obtained.

BILL and JANE MC LAUGHLIN and their son WILLIE MC LAUGHLIN, the proprietors of that minnow shop, were all interviewed in this matter, and composite photographs of GALT exhibited to them with negative results. Neither they nor LAWRENCE PARKER, a frequent customer to the minnow shop, could identify GALT by photograph, nor did they recall an individual driving a white Mustang with an Alabama license purchasing a six pack of twelve-ounce pop-top Schlitz beer from their minnow shop.

Mr. MC LAUGHLIN advised that GUS (last name unknown), a salesman for the Service Beverage Company of Clarksdale, Mississippi, delivers their beer to them, and that from his records, on April 1, 1968, he purchased 17 cases of twelve-ounce Schlitz pop-top beer; on April 10, eight cases; on April 11, six cases; and on April 15, 1968, two cases.

It was noted that the Southaven Minnow Shop is one-half mile south on Highway 51 from the Tennessee State Line in Mississippi and exactly three miles south of the Oliver Rexall Drug Store on Highway 51, Whitehaven, Memphis, Tennessee.

On 4/15/68 at Southaven, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA JAMES W. SAMMON/bls Date dictated 4/19/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/22/68

LEW HOUSTON, Manager of Service Beverage, a Schlitz Beer Distributor, Clarksdale, Mississippi, advised that all their beer is brewed and sent to them from their Schlitz Brewery in Longview, Texas.

HOUSTON said that GUS THOMPSON is their truck salesman to the Southaven, Mississippi, area and does deliver Schlitz beer to the Southaven Minnow Shop in Southaven, Mississippi.

HOUSTON said on March 15, 1968, his company received 2100 cases of the twelve-ounce pop-top Schlitz beer from their Longview, Texas, brewery and all of that beer has been distributed.

HOUSTON said that on March 20, 1968, his company was shipped 924 cases of that beer from Longview, Texas, and that he has 35 cases of that particular beer left, which was brewed at Longview on March 15, 1968, which date is recorded on the cans. HOUSTON said that this particular shipment was sent on March 15, 1968, from Longview to him.

HOUSTON said that therefore all Schlitz beer brewed at Longview, Texas, on March 15, 1968, was received by him on March 20, 1968, and that of the 924 cases received, he has 35 cases remaining. HOUSTON said that from his records, the Southaven Minnow Shop on March 21, 1968, received four cases of the twelve-ounce pop-top Schlitz beer; on March 28, 1968, five cases; and on March 30, 1968, twelve cases. HOUSTON said that that beer received at the Southaven Minnow Shop would have been a portion of the beer brewed in Longview, Texas, on March 15, 1968, and received by him in Clarksdale on March 20, 1968.

On 4/17/68 at Clarksdale, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586
by SA JAMES W. SAMMON/bls Date dictated 4/19/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/22/68

Mr. V. P. WAIT, Manager, Senatobia Tobacco Company, was interviewed concerning the distribution of a Number 20 brown paper bag with the name "Homestead Stubby" written on it, at which time WAIT furnished the following information:

WAIT advised that Senatobia Tobacco Company is a branch of Pettis Cigar Company and that they (Senatobia Tobacco) do handle a Number 20 brown paper bag with the name "Homestead Stubby" on it.

WAIT advised that the Southaven Minnow Shop, located on Route 51, adjacent to the Mississippi - Tennessee State Line, is the only store that is presently purchasing this bag. WAIT stated that the Southaven Minnow Shop has presently been purchasing about 250 of these bags every two weeks.

WAIT further advised that the Southaven Minnow Shop is the only store that is presently buying that particular bag in that area. WAIT stated that the "Market Place", located on Route 51, across from the Southaven Minnow Shop, had purchased this particular bag around Christmas of 1967, but this had only been a one time order.

WAIT advised that the closest store to the Southaven Minnow Shop that is presently using this particular bag is Treadways Grocery, which is in Cockrum, Mississippi, in the southern part of DeSoto County.

On 4/18/68 at SENATOBIA, MISSISSIPPI File # Jackson 157-9586
by SA WILLIAM P. LAWLER, JR. /jdh Date dictated 4/19/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/27/68

GROVER KINNY, Stock Manager, Pettis Company, Oxford, Mississippi, was contacted concerning the distribution of a Number 20 brown paper bag with the name "Homestead Stubby" written on it, at which time KINNY furnished the following information:

KINNY advised that Pettis Cigar Company buys a Number 20 brown paper bag bearing the name "Homestead Stubby" from the Graham Paper Company in Memphis.

KINNY advised that distribution to stores in the extreme northern part of Mississippi is handled by Senatobia Tobacco Company, in Senatobia, Mississippi, which is a branch of Pettis Cigar Company, and that specific information concerning the sale of this bag would have to be obtained from Senatobia Tobacco.

On 4/18/68 at OXFORD, MISSISSIPPI File # Jackson 157-9586
by SA WILLIAM P. LAWLER, JR. /jdh Date dictated 4/19/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 29, 1968

The wanted flier on JAMES EARL RAY, Wanted Flier Number 442-A, was exhibited to BILL MC LAUGHLIN; his wife, Mrs. BILL MC LAUGHLIN; and his seventeen-year-old son, [REDACTED]

All advised that RAY is totally unknown to them and that they do not recall that individual purchasing a six-pack of twelve-ounce pop-top Schlitz beer, while driving a white Mustang automobile with an Alabama license.

On 4/24/68 at Southaven, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA JAMES W. SAMMON /blw Date dictated 4/27/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

JN 157-9586

By communication dated April 17, 1968, the following items were forwarded to the FBI Laboratory, Washington, D.C., by the Jackson FBI Office:

One empty Schlitz beer can, 12-ounce size, from Southaven Minnow Shop, Southaven, Mississippi;

One brown paper bag from Southaven Minnow Shop, Southaven, Mississippi.

By communication dated April 24, 1968, the FBI Laboratory, Washington, D.C., furnished the following information:

Specimens received 4/19/68

K169 Empty Schlitz beer can, 12-ounce size, from Southaven
Minnow Shop

K170 Brown paper bag from Southaven Minnow Shop

Results of examination:

Marks appearing in the number impressions on the bottoms of K169 and the previously submitted Q53 can of beer were identified as having been made by the same number dies. The marks on the Q52 can of beer were not identified with K169 or Q53, possibly because the marks were not so deeply or completely impressed in Q52.

The K170 paper bag was found to be similar in all observable characteristics to the Q55 paper bag which was previously submitted.

FBI-HOUSTON

FBI NEW ORLS

712PM URGENT 5-2-68 CDC

TO DIRECTOR 44-38861, AND HOUSTON
FROM NEW ORLEANS 157-10673

MURKIN.

RE: CALL MADE FROM COIN TELEPHONE, ALPINE,
TEXAS ON DEC. SIXTEEN LAST TO NINE
THREE EIGHT FIVE SIX THREE EIGHT, GREENWOOD,
LA.

TELEPHONE NUMBER NINE THREE EIGHT DASH FIVE SIX THREE EIGHT
IS LISTED TO R. L. HAMMETT, GREENWOOD, LOUISIANA. UPON INTERVIEW
HAMMETT ADVISES HE CAN NOT SPECIFICALLY RECALL WHO CONTACTED
HIM ON DEC. SIXTEEN LAST FROM ALPINE, TEXAS., HOWEVER, HAMMETT
STATES DURING DECEMBER NINETEEN SIXTY SEVEN HE RECEIVED
NUMEROUS LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE CALLS FROM HIS UNCLE,
ED HUNSUCKER, INQUIRING ABOUT THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF HAMMETT'S
FATHER WHO WAS IN POOR HEALTH. THESE CALLS WERE RECEIVED
FROM VARIOUS AREAS IN TEXAS INASMUCH AS HUNSUCKER IS A TRUCK
DRIVER AND TRAVELS EXTENSIVELY THROUGHOUT TEXAS. HAMMETT VIEWED
PHOTOGRAPHS OF JAMES EARL RAY AND STATES THAT RAY IS COMPLETELY
UNKNOWN TO HIM. NEW ORLEANS INDICIES CONTAIN NO INFO IDENTIFIABLE
WITH HAMMETT OR HUNSUCKER.

END PAGE ONE

FBI WASH DC

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CAB

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MAY 4 - 1968	
FBI - BIRMINGHAM	

[Signature]

PAGE TWO

RE NOEL GRAY, PROFESSOR, HISTORY DEPARTMENT, SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY, BATON ROUGE, LA.

IN JUNE, SIXTYFIVE, NEW ORLEANS POSSESSED INFORMATION CONCERNING REMARKS ALLEGEDLY MADE BY NOEL GRAY THAT THE NEGRO RACE NEEDED A "NEW MONUMENT," AS CHRIST HAD BEEN DEAD TWO THOUSAND YEARS AND IT WOULD BE BETTER IF KING OR JAMES FARMER WERE KILLED. THIS INFORMATION WAS RECEIVED FROM JACK N. ROGERS, THEN COMMITTEE COUNSEL FOR THE JOINT LEGISLATURE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES FOR THE STATE OF LOUISIANA. ROGERS IN JUNE, SIXTYFIVE, DECLINED TO REVEAL HIS SOURCE OF INFORMATION CONCERNING GRAY.

ON APRIL THIRTY, SIXTYEIGHT, DR. FELTON G. CLARK, PRESIDENT, SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY, BATON ROUGE, ADVISED GRAY IS PROFESSOR IN HISTORY DEPARTMENT AT SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AND RESIDES ONE ZERO SEVEN FIVE MAYHAW DRIVE, BATON ROUGE. FURTHER GRAY TEACHING AT SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY SINCE FIFTYTWO AND DURING

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THAT TIME HAS NOT ENGAGED IN ANY ACTIVITIES TO AGITATE MEMBERS OF THE STUDENT BODY OR ENGAGED IN ANY CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVITIES. CLARK STATED GRAY WELL RESPECTED ON CAMPUS AND LIKED BY BOTH STUDENTS AND FACULTY.

RECORDS, BUREAU OF IDENTIFICATION, LSP, AS OF APRIL THIRTY, SIXTYEIGHT, DISCLOSED NOEL GRAY, BORN [REDACTED] [REDACTED], ARRESTED BY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, BATON ROUGE, DECEMBER SEVENTEEN, SIXTYONE, ON CHARGE OF VAGRANCY, WHICH WAS SUBSEQUENTLY NOLLE PROSSED.

JACK N. ROGERS, ATTORNEY, BATON ROUGE, LA., CONTACTED MAY ONE, SIXTYEIGHT, AT WHICH TIME ROGERS ADVISED HIS SOURCE OF INFORMATION CONCERNING GRAY IS NOW DECEASED. ROGERS STILL DECLINES TO DISCLOSE IDENTITY OF THIS SOURCE. ROGERS STATED HOWEVER, HIS SOURCE HAD ADVISED HIM ON MARCH FIVE, SIXTYFIVE, THAT GRAY HAD TOLD SOURCE THAT MOST NEGROES CONSIDERED JAMES FARMER A REVISIONIST AND CONSIDERED MARTIN LUTHER KING A MESSIAH. FURTHER, GRAY STATED THE NEGROES NEED A NEW
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MONUMENT AS JESUS CHRIST HAD BEEN DEAD FOR TWO THOUSAND YEARS. ROGERS STATED SOURCE TOLD HIM "THE ASSASSINATION OF FARMER HAD BEEN A MATTER OF OPEN CONJECTURE." ROGERS SAID NO MENTION WAS MADE OF ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, HOWEVER, IT WAS ROGERS' OPINION THAT PROBABLY ASSASSINATION OF BOTH FARMER AND KING A MATTER OF CONJECTURE.

APPROPRIATE RI-PROB SOURCE CONTACTED BATON ROUE AREA MAY ONE, SIXTYEIGHT, AND GRAY UNKNOWN TO SOURCE.

FILES OF NEW ORLEANS OFFICE CONTAIN NEWSPAPER CLIPPING OF BATON ROUGE MORNING ADVOCATE NEWSPAPER DATED JANUARY TWENTYNINE SIXTYTWO WHICH REVEALS THAT NOEL G. GRAY DESCRIBED AS A MEMBER OF FACULTY AT SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY IN BATON ROUGE WAS ONE OF ONE HUNDRED AND TWO FACULTY MEMBERS WHO HAD SIGNED A STATMENT REGRETING ACTION TAKEN AGAINST SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS IN REGARDS TO THE RACIAL QUESTION. NEW ORLEANS FILES CONTAIN NO OTHER INFO IDENTIFIABLE WITH GRAY. IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE GRAY IS NOT NOT BEING CONTACTED FOR INTERVIEW.

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RE: TELEPHONE CALLS ORIGINATING FROM
PROVINCIAL MOTEL, NEW ORLEANS.
DEC. SEVENTEEN THRU NINETEEN ,
NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN.

RALPH BENNETT, DISTRICT PLANT MANAGER, SOUTHERN
BELL TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY ADVISES THAT SOUTHERN BELL,
NEW ORLEANS, HAS NO TAPE OR IBM TYPE OF SYSTEM THAT WOULD ENABLE
THE TELEPHONE COMPANY TO KEEP ANY RECORD OF OUTGOING LOCAL CALLS
MADE FROM THE PROVINCIAL MOTEL.

RE: COOLEY (PH) OR COOLEY'S ORGANIZATION
NEW ORLEANS INDICIES CONTAIN NO INFORMATION IDENTIFIABLE
WITH THIS INDIVIDUAL OR ORGANIZATION.

RE: JOHNNY VALENTI (PH)
KANSAS CITY OFFICE ADVISED MAY TWO INSTANT THAT
JOHNNY VELANTIE WAS PAROLLED ON MARCH TWENTY EIGHT, SIXTY
SEVEN AND WAS ORIGINALLY FROM ATLANTA, GA. IN VIEW
OF THIS NEW ORLEANS HOLDING LEAD AT BATON ROUGE IN ABEYANCE
IN EFFORT TO IDENTIFY AND LOCATE VALENTI UNTIL INFO RECEIVED
FROM PRISON RECORDS. NEW ORLEANS INDICIES CONTAIN NO INFO IDENTIFIABLE
WITH VALENTI OR VELANTIE.

RE: CONTACTS WITH MOTELS AND HOTELS
LOCATED IN FRECH QUARTER, NEW ORLEANS.
INASMUCH AS IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT JAMES EARL RAY
STAYED AT A FRENCH QUARTER MOTEL IN DEC. NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN AND THEN
WAS IN NEW ORLEANS AGAIN ON PROBABLY MARCH TWENTY ONE SIXTYEIGHT,
THE RECORDS OF MOTELS AND HOTELS IN FRENCH QUARTER HAVE BEEN
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