

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Records Branch

, 19

☐ Name Searching Unit, 4543 JEH-FBI Bldg.☐ Service Unit, 4654 JEH-FBI Bldg.☐ Forward to File Review☒ Attention☒ Return to

Supervisor

Room

Ext.

Type of Search Requested:

☐ Restricted Search **Not** Applied☐ All Reference (Subversive & Nonsubversive)☐ Subversive Search☐ Nonsubversive Search☐ Main References Only

Special Instructions:

☐ Restricted to Locality of☐ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)☒ Buildup☐ Variations

Subject

Birthdate & Place

Address

Localities

R#

Date

Searcher

Initials

Prod.

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

N.I.

Drape Vine Pub
173-11385

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Records Branch

, 19__

☐ Name Searching Unit, 4543 JEH-FBI Bldg.☐ Service Unit, 4654 JEH-FBI Bldg.☐ Forward to File Review☒ Attention Halter/Dole X 4269☒ Return to Halter/Dole 3121
Supervisor Room Ext.

Type of Search Requested:

☐ Restricted Search **Not** Applied☒ All Reference (Subversive & Nonsubversive)☐ Subversive Search☐ Nonsubversive Search☐ Main _____ References Only

Special Instructions:

☒ Restricted to Locality of Mo☐ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)☒ Buildup ☐ VariationsCarol Pepper

Subject _____

Birthdate & Place Mo

Address _____

Localities _____

R# _____ Date 4.25 Searcher Initials one

Prod. _____

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

I. 105-66233-2593029

I. 44-38861-33330221

I. - 47600131

I. - 4585

I. - 3354

I. - 4140

I. - 2897

I. - 4503

I. - 3127

F. Carol Ann

190-10867

I. 44-38861-1725

Carol Ann Pepper

I. 44-38861-4585

I. - 2897

N.I. Carol Ann

31-90852

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Records Branch

, 19__

☐ Name Searching Unit, 4543 JEH-FBI Bldg.☐ Service Unit, 4654 JEH-FBI Bldg.☐ Forward to File Review☐ Attention☐ Return to

Supervisor

Room

Ext.

Type of Search Requested:

☐ Restricted Search **Not** Applied☒ All Reference (Subversive & Nonsubversive)☐ Subversive Search☐ Nonsubversive Search☐ Main _____ References Only

Special Instructions:

☐ Restricted to Locality of _____☐ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)☐ Buildup☐ Variations

Subject

Birthdate & Place

Address

Localities

R#

Date

Searcher

Initials

Prod.

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

I.	44-38861-2897
F.	-3127
F.	-3332 p256

Albert B.
SIAlbert Bennie
SIAlbert Bennie
SI

SL0005 1161950

PP HQ

DE SL

P 261945Z APR 78

FM ST. LOUIS (44-775) C

TO DIRECTOR PRIORITY

BT

UNCLAS

MURKIN

26 APR 78 19 54z

RECEIVED
FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Assoc. Dir.	
Dep. AD Adm.	
Dep. AD Inv.	
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Serv.	
Crim. Inv.	
Ident.	
Intell.	
Laboratory	
Legal Coun.	
Plan. & Insp.	
Rec. Mgnt.	
Tech. Servs.	
Training	
Public Affs. Off.	
Telephone Rm.	
Director's Sec'y	

RE BUREAU PRIORITY FACSIMILE APRIL 25, 1978, AND BUREAU TEL
CALLS TO ST. LOUIS APRIL 26, 1978.

ST. LOUIS REVIEW OF CAPTIONED FILE, ELSUR INDICES AND ELSUR
FILES ALL NEGATIVE FOR ANY RECORD OR INFORMATION INDICATING THAT
FBI ENTERED OR INSTALLED SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT ON THE RESIDENCE
PAST OR PRESENT OR THE BUSINESS (GRAPEVINE TAVERN) OF CAROL AND
ALBERT PEPPER. ELSUR INDICES AND ELSUR FILES REVIEWED BY NAME,
RESIDENCE, (PAST AND PRESENT), BUSINESS ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE
NUMBERS, INCLUDING THE PEPPERS' NON-PUBLISHED NUMBER 645-9152,

BT

Relay Sup. Ken Williams,
St. Louis, was called to
also have this number
checked after locating the
new number in
44-38861-4760

4/26/78

11 MAY 16 1978

#

84 MAY 23 1978

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

REC'D-CORRIGTS

APR 25 4 36 PM 1970

RECEIVED

8000000000000000

RECEIVED

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK
SUBJECT: [Illegible]

RE: [Illegible]

1. [Illegible]

2. [Illegible]

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 25 1970	
FBI - NEW YORK	

memorandum

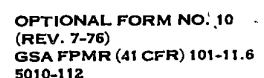
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

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markina

PC

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REC'D-CIV RIGHTS
FBI
APR 24 4 15 PM 1978

RECEIVED
CRIMINAL
INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

APR 24 11 33 AM '78

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
RECEIVED

APR 24 10 23 AM '78 MAY 1 2 13 PM '78
F.B.I. ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE FBI

CRIMINAL
INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

APR 24 1 59 PM RECEIVED
PLANNING AND
INSPECTION DIVISION
FRONT OFFICE FBI

APR 17 4 31 PM 1978

RECEIVED
RECORDS MANAGEMENT
DIVISION
F.B.I.
APR 25 11 07 AM '78
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

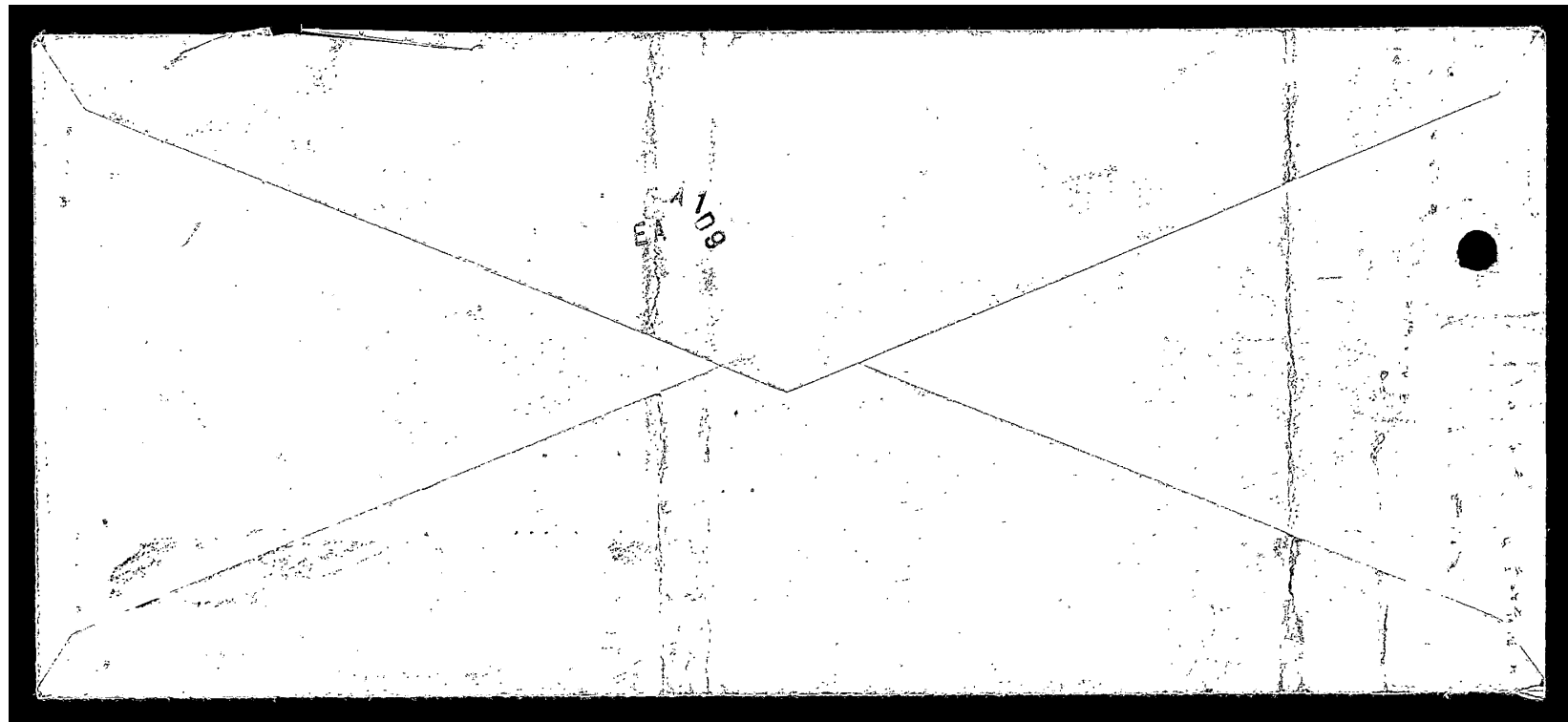
REC'D-CIV RIGHTS
FBI

APR 25 3 01 PM 1978

Pepper
523 Franru Lane
Lemay, Mo. 63125.



Mr. Benjamin Civiletti
Asst. Atty. Gen.
U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20530.



2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Mr. Benjamin Civiletti
Asst. Atty. Gen.
U.S. Dept. of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20530.

12 March 1978

RECEIVED

MAR 20 1978

CRIMINAL DIVISION

Dear Sir:

I understand your office is investigating break-ins by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

There has been a published report, and other information, that the F.B.I. committed some type offense as described in the enclosure, a column by columnist, Jack Anderson.

I would appreciate it very much if you could tell me whether there is any substance to Mr. Anderson's allegation about the F.B.I.

I live in the St. Louis, Missouri, area so the records, if any, may be located in the St. Louis F.B.I. field office.

RECEIVED

MAR 28 1978

Sincerely: Albert Pepper

Albert Pepper

523 Franru Lane
Lemay, Mo. 63125.

PUBLIC INTEGRITY SECTION

Note, if in fact the F.B.I. or other government agencies did not illegally entered or installed some type surveillance equipment therein (my home), could I receive from the government some type sworn affidavit to that effect so the matter can be disposed of ?

cc; U.S. Senate Judiciary committee.

P.S. I understand in sworn testimony in U.S. Dis. ct. Chattanooga, Tenn., in 1964, in the Hoffa jury tampering trial, F.B.I. special agent, Charles Bolz, testified the F.B.I. files "recorded transcripts or both of all conversations which the federal agency bugs illegally".

RECEIVED

MAR 31 1978

Office of
Professional Responsibility

RECEIVED

MAR 24 1978

CD CU

177-43-0	
29	MAR 22 1
CRIMINAL DIV. CRIME SEC.	
Public Integrity	
Gman/ps	

44-38861-6259

ENCLOSURE

LETTER, MARCH 1, 1961

ARCHIVE

RECEIVED

November 1977 FBI Aimed At Ray's Kin

By JACK ANDERSON and LES WHITTEN

WASHINGTON — The FBI, which used electronic skulduggery in an effort to discredit Martin Luther King Jr., tried to employ similar illegal tactics to catch his killer.

Long-buried FBI documents reveal that then-director J. Edgar Hoover personally approved a break-in and illegal electronic bugging aimed at innocent relatives of James Earl Ray, who was later convicted of killing King.

For years, Hoover had conducted a vicious smear campaign against King. The FBI peddled malicious anti-King stories to the press and had sent doctored tapes concerning King's personal life to his wife. When King was slain in 1968, whispers about possible FBI involvement put Hoover under great pressure to find the assassin.

While FBI agents were hot on Ray's trail, a May 10, 1968, memo prepared for top Hoover aide J.P. Mohr outlined elaborate illegal plans to catch the murderer.

AS PART OF the overall investigation, code-named MURKIN — an acronym for murder and King — a memo was written which declared: "Consideration is given to microphone installations on certain properties of Albert and Carol Pepper, the brother-in-law and sister of James Earl Ray."

"The proposal," cautioned the memo, "raises a question concerning the legality of any action taken against the subject of this case on the basis of information obtained from the microphones." If Ray

called the Peppers and the bugged conversations were used to arrest him, the memo said, Ray "then could claim that the surveillance violated his right of privacy." This could prejudice the court case against him.

But if certain precautions were taken, the memo continued, "the worst that could happen" is that the arrest would be declared illegal. Using tortured logic, the document insisted that Ray could still be convicted despite the FBI lawbreaking.

The FBI plotters bluntly admitted that the whole scheme was unconstitutional and a "technical violation" of the law. "Be aware," the memo warned, "that since this search and seizure is unconstitutional as to the Peppers, they have at least a theoretical cause of action for damages against those who installed the (bugging) devices by trespass." Trespass is FBI lingo for a break-in.

We have been unable to determine whether the FBI actually bugged or bugged the Peppers' home. Indeed, assassinations expert Harold Weisberg has developed evidence indicating the Justice Department vetoed the plan. But inside sources insist the FBI did use dubious and possible illegal means to capture Ray, who later pleaded guilty to murdering King and was sentenced to 99 years in prison.

The FBI has acknowledged that abuses occurred in the past. Since 1973, however, the present director, Clarence Kelley, has halted most of these practices. We were unable to reach the Peppers.

44-38861-6259
ENCLOSURE

TRUE COPY

Nov. 1977

FBI AIMED AT RAY'S KIN

BY JACK ANDERSON AND LES WHITTEN

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TRUE COPY

44-38861-625-9
ENCLOSURE

TRUE COPY

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TRUE COPY

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Mr. Michael E. Shaheen, Jr.
Counsel, Office of Professional
Responsibility
Director, FBI

- 1 - Mr. Moore
- 1 - Mr. Ingram
- 1 - Mr. Peelman

April 28, 1978

LETTER FROM MR. ALBERT PEPPER

- 1 - Mr. Helterhoff
- 1 - Mr. Bassett
- 1 - Mr. Mintz
- 1 - Mr. Coulson
- 1 - Mr. Colwell (Attn: Mr. Biamonte)

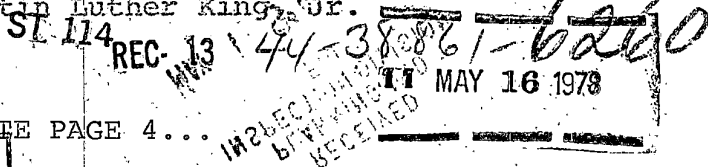
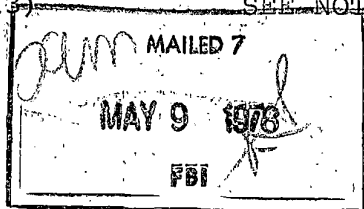
Reference is made to your memorandum dated April 14, 1978, wherein you requested to be advised of our findings concerning a letter you received from Albert Pepper, who requested information as to whether the FBI ever illegally entered his home or other properties and installed a microphone surveillance.

A review of our MURKIN file 44-38861 (the civil rights assassination investigative file), shows that by a letter dated May 13, 1968, to the Attorney General captioned "Assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.," the Director of the FBI advised that extensive investigation had been conducted concerning James Earl Ray and no information had been developed indicating his present whereabouts. This letter pointed out that in order to possibly assist in locating and apprehending Ray, that it would be of extreme value to know if Ray had made any contact, either personally or by telephone, with his sister, Carol Pepper, as well as his brother, John Larry Ray. The Director therefore requested in this letter that the Attorney General authorize the installation of an electronic surveillance on the residence of Carol Pepper (married to Albert Pepper and residing at 2025 Bellevue, St. Louis, Missouri, telephone number 645-2948), on the residence of John Larry Ray and at the Grapevine Tavern (1982 Arsenal, St. Louis, Missouri, telephone PR6-9417), owned by Carol Pepper and operated by John Larry Ray. The Director advised that these installations could assist in the early apprehension of Ray, which could possibly be instrumental in reducing the stresses and tensions placed on our national security subsequent to the death of Martin Luther King, Jr.

- Assoc. Dir. _____
- Dep. AD Adm. _____
- Dep. AD Inv. _____
- Asst. Dir.: _____
- Adm. Servs. _____
- Crim. Inv. _____
- Ident. _____
- Intell. _____
- Laboratory _____
- Legal Coun. _____
- Plan. & Insp. _____
- Rec. Mgnt. _____
- Tech. Servs. _____
- Training _____
- Public Affs. Off. _____
- Telephone Rm. _____
- Director's Sec'y _____

HNH:bam (13)

SEE NOTE PAGE 4...



84 MAY 23 1978

FBI/DOJ

MAIL ROOM
TELEPHONE ROOM
RECORDS SECTION
TRAINING CENTER
LABORATORY
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION
CRIMINAL DIVISION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
PROPERTY SECTION
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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MAY 1 2 12 PM '78
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
FBI COUNSEL
LEGAT

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
FBI
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PLANNING AND
INSPECTION DIVISION
FBI
MAY 1 9 47 AM 1978

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FBI
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INVESTIGATIVE
FRONT OFFICE
MAY 9 1 20 PM 1978
F.B.I.
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

REC'D CIV RIGHTS
FBI
MAY 9 3 41 PM 1978

RECEIVED

Mr. Michael E. Shaheen, Jr.

There is no indication in our files that the Attorney General responded to this May 13, 1968, request of the FBI and by letter dated June 11, 1968, captioned, "Electronic Surveillances," the Director of the FBI advised the Attorney General, in part, that inasmuch as Ray had been apprehended, the request for electronic surveillance mentioned in the FBI letter dated May 13, 1968, was hereby withdrawn.

An internal FBI memorandum dated May 10, 1968, in the MURKIN file discusses certain legal ramifications regarding this May 13, 1968, electronic surveillance request and portions of this memorandum are quoted in the newspaper article by Jack Anderson and Les Whitten, enclosed by Mr. Pepper. For your information, the material in these MURKIN communications was made available to Harold Weisberg (mentioned in the Anderson/Whitten article), under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act.

As you may recall, the Task Force from your office, which reviewed the FBI's investigation of Martin Luther King, Jr., had access to these above-described MURKIN communications.

A review has been made of the indices and files, including our electronic surveillance indices at FBI Headquarters regarding this request of Mr. Pepper. (During this review, the MURKIN file showed that in May of 1968, Albert and Carol Pepper had their home telephone number changed to an unpublished number of 645-9152, at the same address of 2025 Bellevue). In addition, since Mr. Pepper states "... so the records, if any, may be located in the St. Louis F.B.I. field office," this same type of review was made at our St. Louis FBI Field Office.

Mr. Michael E. Shaheen, Jr.

Based upon this review both at FBI Headquarters and our St. Louis Field Office, no record could be located showing that any electronic surveillance was conducted by the FBI on the persons of Albert or Carol Pepper or that any entry or electronic surveillance was conducted by the FBI on any properties or telephone numbers listed under their names, or on the specific addresses and telephone numbers previously set forth: the home of Albert and Carol Pepper (2025 Belleview), telephone numbers 645-2948 and 645-9152; the Grapevine Tavern (1982 Arsenal), telephone number PR6-9417; or at the present address of Albert Pepper (523 Franru Lane).

- 1 - Mr. Robert L. Keuch (Enclosures 3)
Special Counsel to the Attorney General
- 1 - Assistant Attorney General (Enclosures 3)
Civil Rights Division

Mr. Michael E. Shaheen, Jr.

NOTE: This responds to a request from the Office of Professional Responsibility, U. S. Department of Justice, as to whether the FBI ever illegally entered the home or other properties of Albert Pepper and installed a microphone surveillance. Albert Pepper was the husband of Carol Pepper, a sister of James Earl Ray. (Ray was subsequently convicted in local court for the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.).

This advises the Department that no record could be located of any electronic surveillance based upon a review at FBIHQ and at our St. Louis Field Office. (Based upon a request by FBIHQ, our St. Louis Field Office advised by teletype dated 4/26/78, that no record of any electronic surveillance regarding this matter could be located).

APPROVED: *WSE*

Director _____
Assoc. Dir. *JSB/jem*
Dep. AD Adm. _____
Dep. AD Inv. _____

Adm. Serv. _____
Crim. Inv. *DM/106*
Ident. _____
Intell. _____
Laboratory _____

Legal Coun. *WJH*
Plan. & Insp. *WJH*
Rec. Mgnt. _____
Tech. Servs. _____
Training _____
Public Affs. Off. _____

APR 14 1978

OPR

Letter from Mr. Albert Pepper

Thomas J. Biamonte, Inspector-Deputy
Assistant Director
Office of Professional Responsibility
Federal Bureau of Investigation

This is in reference to the attached letter of Albert Pepper dated March 12, 1978. As you can see from his letter, Mr. Pepper requests whether the FBI ever illegally entered his home or other properties and installed a microphone surveillance.

We are referring this matter to your Office for appropriate inquiry. Please advise us of your findings so that we can respond to Mr. Pepper.

151

Michael E. Shaheen, Jr., Counsel
Office of Professional Responsibility

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☒ Airtel

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ E F T O
☐ CLEAR

Date 5/26/78

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
 (ATTN: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY UNIT)
 FROM: *RK* SAC, ST. LOUIS (44-775) *MURKIN*
 SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING

PHOTOGRAPH CAR
SOC SAC HE
 Re Bureau telephone call to SL, 5/26/78.
D.O.B. 11-14-39 DSB MUNICE TN RACE WHITE
 Enclosed herewith are two copies of photographs
 of JERRY LEE MILLER, FBI *[REDACTED]* and two photographs of
 JAMES ALLEN BENNY, FBI *[REDACTED]* *CARD*

WILLIAM HAROLD DODSON
WHITE MALE
D.O.B. 4-2-45
P.O.B. JONES BURG MO

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

ENCLOSURE

(3) - Bureau (Enc - 4)
 2 - St. Louis
 (1- 44-775 & 1- 91-5279)
 JFS:kmt
 (5)

EX-115
DE-74
1- CID pm 8988

6 MAY 30 1978

57 JUL 10 1978

Transmitted

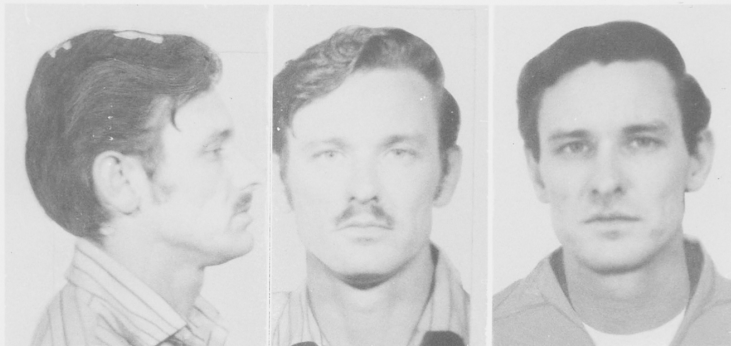
(Number)

(Time)

Per



JAMES ALLEN BENNEY aka Wm. Harold Dodson
FBI # 11 175 F, SLPD # 129 594.
White Male, born 4/2/45, Jonesburg, Mo.
5'11", 175, med build, brown hair, brown



JERRY LEE MILLER
FBI No. 79,774 E

JERRY LEE MILLER

FBI No. 79,774 E

BANK ROBBERY; PAROLE VIOLATOR

F.P.C.: 4 S 1 U 3

S 1 Ut

Photographs on left taken 1970, other taken 1969

DESCRIPTION

AGE	32 born [redacted]	HAIR	brown
HEIGHT	5'11" to 5'	EYES	blue
WEIGHT	150 to 160 pounds	COMPLEXION	medium some scars
BUILD	medium	RACE	white
HAIR	brown	NATIONALITY	American
OCCUPATIONS: accountant, electrician, laborer, salesman			
SCARS AND MARKS: appendectomy scar, scar groin right leg			
REMARKS: may wear glasses			
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER USED [redacted]			

44-38861-6261

SA 91-5279-1a-48

REPRODUCTION OF MATERIAL FORM
CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY UNIT

DATE 6.22.77 thru 6.13.78

The following material has been repro-
duced for excising and review at FBIHQ and/or
delivery to the House Select Committee on
Assassinations:

(See Bufile 62-117290; re HSCA request dated Basic)

Processing

FILE NO. 44-38861

SECTION 92

SERIALS 6218 through 6260

(except following serials
not in file on this date:)

6256

EBF or BULKY: _____

Number of copies made 2 By AFB

RETAIN THIS FORM AS TOP SERIAL

22 JUN 78 00 02z

RECEIVED
FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

P 211246Z JUN 78

FM LONDON (88-228)

TO DIRECTOR FBI (62-117290) PRIORITY 630 228-21

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

MURKIN.

ALEC

ALEX EIST, FORMERLY NEW SCOTLAND YARD - COMPLAINANT.

REFERENCE IS MADE TO COMMUNICATIONS IN BUFILE, HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS. (BUFILE 62-117290) (HSCA).

ON 6/20/78, ALEC EIST, OWNER GREEN MAN PUBLIC HOUSE, SIX MILE BOTTOM, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, ENGLAND, TELEPHONE 247, TELEPHONED AMERICAN EMBASSY, LONDON, ASKING FOR FBI. CLAIMED WORKED WITH LEGAT OFFICE WHEN WAS WITH FLYING SQUAD OF NEW SCOTLAND YARD (NSY). AS SUCH WAS IN ON APPREHENSION OF JAMES EARL RAY IN LONDON AND WAS WITH HIM THEREAFTER CONTINUALLY. KNOWS THERE IS CERTAIN CONTROVERSY IN THE CASE AND LOTS OF NEWSPAPER REPORTING CONCERNING RAY. HE IS ABOUT TO MAKE A MOVE IN THIS MATTER, "A FINANCIAL" MOVE BUT WANTS TO TALK TO SOMEONE FROM LEGAT OFFICE FIRST OUT OF LOYALTY. REFUSES TO COME TO LONDON.

EIST WELL KNOWN TO NSY, FORMERLY WITH FLYING SQUAD AND BELIEVED PARTICIPATED IN RAY ESCORT. SUSPENDED FROM NSY AND RECENTLY ACQUITTED OF CORRUPTION CHARGES. CONSIDERED CONTROVERSIAL AND

70 JUL 10 1978

Asst. Dir.:	
Dep. AD Adm.	
Dep. AD Inv.	
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Serv.	
Crim. Inv.	
Ident.	
Intell.	
Laboratory	
Legal Coun.	
Plan. & Insp.	
Rec. Mgmt.	
Tech. Servs.	
Training	
Public Affs. Off.	
Telephone Rm.	
Director's Sec'y	

HAL HEATERHOFF D116
Advised 6/22/78

ST-131

REC-79

44-38861-6262
22 JUN 27 1978

4-ADH120JH
BUSHN
RCB

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

JUN 28 1978

REC'D-CIV RIGHTS
F.B.I.

REC'D-CIV RIGHTS
F.B.I.

JUN 28 10 23 AM 1978

JUN 23 10 22 AM 1978

U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE
F.B.I.

JUN 22 9 43 AM '78

RECEIVED
RECORDS MANAGEMENT
DIVISION

JUN 23

F.B.I.

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

PAGE TWO

DISAFFECTED. NSY DOES NOT CONSIDER HE COULD HAVE INFO OF VALUE AS NOT PART OF INTERROGATIONS, NEVER ALONE WITH RAY AND ANYTHING OF INTEREST WOULD HAVE BEEN FORWARDED IN REPORTS FURNISHED AT THE TIME.

CONSIDERED HE HAS SOME SORT OF INFORMATION DEROGATORY TO NSY WHICH WILL TRY TO PEDDLE TO LEGAT OR PRESS.

NEVERTHELESS UACB WILL BE CONTACTED AND ADVISED TWO LEGAT PERSONNEL WILL MEET WITH HIM IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

NO INDICATION THIS RELATED TO PROPOSED HSCA VISIT TO LONDON. MATTER WILL BE COORDINATED WITH NSY.

CIRRECTION - FIRST LINE OF MESSAGE - NAME IS ALEC NOT "ALEX"

BT

2

R 231625Z JUN 78

FM LONDON (88-228)

TO DIRECTOR ROUTINE 640-23

BT
UNCLAS E F T O

MURKIN.

RELONTEL JUNE 21, 1978.

ON JUNE 22, 1978, ALEXANDER EIST, WILLOW COTTAGE, NINE HIGH STREET, WEST WRATTING, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, ENGLAND, WHO IS A FORMER METROPOLITAN POLICE, LONDON, OFFICER, WAS CONTACTED AT HIS REQUEST.

EIST ADVISED THAT WHILE A DETECTIVE SERGEANT WITH THE METROPOLITAN POLICE, LONDON, HE WAS ASSIGNED FOR APPROXIMATELY FOUR MONTHS TO GUARD JAMES EARL RAY WHILE HE WAS INCARCERATED IN ENGLAND, AND DURING HIS APPEARANCES IN COURT, ETC., IN CONNECTION WITH HIS ARREST IN ENGLAND AS A RESULT OF THE MURDER OF REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING. EIST RECENTLY READ IN THE NEWSPAPERS THAT THE U. S. CONGRESS WAS REVIEWING THE FBI INVESTIGATION OF THE KING CASE, INCLUDING A POSSIBLE CONSPIRACY THEORY.

EIST NOTED THAT DURING HIS STAY WITH RAY, HE DEVELOPED A CLOSE RAPPORT, AND AT NO TIME DID RAY EVER GIVE ANY INDICATION OF ANYONE OTHER THAN RAY HIMSELF AS BEING INVOLVED IN THE MURDER OF KING; RATHER, RAY INDICATED THE EXACT OPPOSITE AND BRAGGED THAT HE

JUL 7 1978

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FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Assoc. Dir.	_____
Dep. AD Adm.	_____
Dep. AD Inv.	_____
Asst. Dir.:	_____
Adm. Serv.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgmt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

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RELATIVE
DIVISION

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FBI
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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U.S. DEPARTMENT
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PAGE TWO LON 88-228 UNCLAS E F T O

WAS PROUD OF THE FACT HE ALONE WAS ABLE TO KILL KING. EIST ADVISED HE WAS VERY IMPRESSED WITH THE FBI HANDLING OF THE RAY CASE DURING EIST'S ASSOCIATION WITH IT, AND WOULD BE AMENABLE TO INTERVIEW BY ANYONE REGARDING HIS ASSOCIATION WITH RAY.

NO PERTINENT INFORMATION DEVELOPED DURING INTERVIEW, AND COMPLETE RESULTS OF INTERVIEW WILL BE FORWARDED AT LATER DATE.

BT

F B I

Date: 6/28/78

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Precedence)TO DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM LEGAT, LONDON (88-228) (RUC)

MURKIN

ReLONtels 6/21 & 23/78.

ALDHIZER
BROCKE
Busch RB

Enclosed herewith are five copies of an LHM dated 6/28/78, setting forth results of interview with ALEXANDER EIST, Cambridgeshire, England.

EIST advised he had recently read in the newspapers and heard on the radio that the U. S. Congress was reviewing the FBI investigation of the KING case to include the possible conspiracy theory and for this reason EIST contacted Legat, London, advising that at no time during his association with RAY was there ever any indication of an accomplice with RAY and that he was willing to be interviewed by any authority regarding his knowledge of RAY. He advised he was very impressed with the FBI's handling of the RAY case in England including the thorough interviews and tight security that was afforded RAY. He noted that any pertinent comments by RAY to him during his incarceration in England was reported to his seniors.

ENCLOSURE

EX-125

REC-79

- 4 - Bureau (5 encls)
(1 - Foreign Liaison Unit)
1 - London

DRD:rn
(5)

1-AAG/CD
1-AAG/CRD
1-CIU

070 (G) 7-18-78

JTA/PRM

44-38861-6264

9 JUL 12 1978

Foster
Redman

DOC. CLASS. REV.

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

57 AUG 3 1978

ORGANIZED CRIME
SECTION

JUL 13 4 19 PM 1978

F.B.I.
U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED
CRIMINAL
INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

JUL 25 1978

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U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
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EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Grosvenor Square
London, England

88-228

June 28, 1978

Re: Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING

On June 22, 1978, Assistant Legal Attaches DENNIS R. DICKSON and ROBERT A. KEANE, traveled to Cambridgeshire, England, to contact Mr. ALEXANDER EIST, Willow Cottage, 9 High Street, West Wratting, Cambridgeshire, England, at his request. EIST is the publican at the "Green Man" pub, Six Mile Bottom, Cambridgeshire, England. EIST advised that he was formerly employed by the Metropolitan Police, London, and has recently retired.

During his employment with the Metropolitan Police, one of his assignments was to guard and escort JAMES EARL RAY who was arrested in London, England, in connection with the assassination of Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING. EIST stated that during the approximately four months when RAY was incarcerated in England awaiting extradition to the United States it was EIST's assignment to be present in the cell with RAY and to escort him weekly to the court for remand hearings.

EIST advised that as a result of having spent so much time with RAY he developed a very close rapport and RAY became very talkative with him. RAY admitted that he had escaped from a Missouri prison by hanging on to the undercarriage of a prison laundry vehicle or garbage truck.

With regard to the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING, RAY on many occasions admitted that he killed KING and on no occasion did RAY ever indicate that there was an accomplice with him, but rather he expressed and even bragged that he was proud of the fact that he alone was able to kill KING. RAY stated that the only mistake he made was that upon leaving the boarding house he was carrying the rifle he used to kill KING and spotted a police officer in the area. He subsequently dropped the rifle in the doorway to a shop and continued on his way, knowing full-well that his prints were on the weapon and that the investigation would subsequently lead to him.

44-38861-6264
ENCLOSURE

LON 88-228

RAY indicated that he was a loner and did not associate with anyone else and that the only person he received assistance from was his brother, believed by EIST to be his elder brother, and according to RAY his brother accompanied him on several robberies subsequent to his escape from the Missouri prison.

EIST stated that he had recently been in conversation with a U. S. Air Force major who is stationed in England and upon hearing that EIST was involved in the RAY case suggested that EIST should sell his story to a newsman. EIST advised that during his assignment with RAY he reported to his superiors any comments made by RAY and thus the appropriate authorities were in possession of all pertinent information. He did not desire to contact any newsmen regarding his story, however, was willing to be interviewed by any official authority regarding his association with RAY in England.

The above interview was conducted by Assistant Legal Attache DENNIS R. DICKSON, in the presence of Assistant Legal Attache ROBERT A. KEANE, on June 22, 1978.

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RR HQ AT ME

DE TP

R 262047Z JUL 78

FM TAMPA (157-3231) (RUC)

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) ROUTINE

ATLANTA (44-2386) ROUTINE

MEMPHIS (44-1987) ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

MURKIN

RE TAMPA AIRTELS JULY 2, 1974 AND DECEMBER 19, 1975, WITH ENCLOSED LHMS CAPTIONED, "JAMES EARL RAY; DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM."

ON JULY 26, 1978, SGT. ROBERT THOMAS WEHUNT, JR., HEADQUARTERS SQUADRON, MAC DILL AFB (MAFB), TAMPA, FLA., HOME ADDRESS, 3109 HARTNETT AVE., TAMPA, FLA., CAME TO THE TAMPA OFFICE (TPO) OF THE FBI AND ADVISED THAT HE HAD READ AN ARTICLE IN "THE TAMPA TRIBUNE" OF JULY 26, 1978, TO THE EFFECT THAT A RUSSELL G. BYERS HAD TOLD THE HOUSE ASSASSINATION COMMITTEE THAT HE HAD BEEN OFFERED MONEY ON BEHALF OF A GROUP OF

1-AAG/CRD
1-AAG/CD
1-CIU
0-70(6) 7-28-78
JTA/dap
SEE FILE COPY

79 AUG 03 1978

27 JUL 78 04 12z

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FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Assoc. Dir.
Dep. AD Adm.
Dep. AD Inv.
Asst. Dir.:
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Crim. Inv.
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Legal Coun.
Plan. & Insp.
Rec. Mgnt.
Tech. Servs.
Training
Public Affs. Off.
Telephone Rm.
Director's Sec'y

U.S. DEPARTMENT
OF JUSTICE

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JAN 10 1964
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

1. HARRIS (77-1064) JUNE 1
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 10. HARRIS (77-1064) JUNE 1

PAGE TWO TP 157-3231 UNCLAS

BUSINESSMEN TO KILL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. IN 1966 OR EARLY 1967. SGT. WEHUNT ADVISED THAT HE HAD PREVIOUSLY FURNISHED INFORMATION TO THE TPO OF THE FBI IN 1974, TO THE EFFECT THAT HIS FATHER, WHO WAS FORMERLY A GUARD AT THE FULTON COUNTY JAIL, ATLANTA, GEORGIA, HAD STATEMENTS FROM CONVICTS IN THE FULTON COUNTY JAIL THAT THESE CONVICTS HAD BEEN APPROACHED BY VERY INFLUENTIAL BUSINESSMEN TO KILL DR. KING FOR ONE-HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS. SGT. WEHUNT ADVISED THAT HE DID NOT FEEL THAT APPROPRIATE ACTION HAD BEEN TAKEN CONCERNING THE INFORMATION THAT HE HAD FURNISHED AS HIS MOTHER AND SISTER HAD NEVER BEEN INTERVIEWED. SGT. WEHUNT STATED THAT HE HAD TALKED WITH THE LEGAL ADVISOR AT MAFB CONCERNING THIS MATTER AND WAS ADVISED TO RECONTACT THE TPO OF THE FBI. SGT. WEHUNT MADE AVAILABLE A THREE PAGE STATEMENT THAT HE HAD WRITTEN OUT AND WHICH HE HAD SIGNED. THIS STATEMENT IS AS FOLLOWS:

"IN 1966-67 MY FATHER HAD STATEMENTS THAT I SAW THAT WAS MADE BY APP-3 PRISONERS AT THE FULTON COUNTY JAIL THAT STATED THEY WERE OFFERED LARGE SUMS OF MONEY TO KILL MARTIN LUTHER

PAGE THREE TP 157-3231 UNCLAS

KING, JR. MY FATHER WAS A DEPUTY SHERIFF OF FULTON COUNTY AND WAS WORKING AT THE FULTON COUNTY JAIL AT THE TIME. (COVER 9 YEARS). I SAW THE STATEMENTS. I DO NOT REMEMBER THE NAMES, HOWEVER, I DO REMEMBER THAT THERE WERE THREE PEOPLE MY FATHER DESCRIBED AS INFLUENTIAL BUSINESS MEN WHO OFFERED THE MONEY. LATER MY FATHER TOLD ME HE HAD TRIED TO TURN THE STATEMENTS OVER TO THE GBI AND WAS TOLD HE HAD BETTER NOT IF HE WANTED TO LIVE. LATER HE TOLD ME THAT HE HAD BEEN TOLD IF HE TOLD ANY ONE THEY WOULD KILL MY FATHER AND HIS ENTIRE FAMILY. MY FATHER ALSO TOLD ME THAT HE KEPT THE STATEMENTS AND A LARGE SUM OF MONEY THAT HE HINTED TO BEING AROUND \$3 MILLION TO 3! MILLION DOLLARS. LATER MY MOTHER TOLD ME SHE THOUGH MY FATHER TOLD HER HE TURNED THE STATEMENTS OVER TO A MAN WHO WAS GOING TO WRITE A BOOK. THE MAN'S NAME IS BOB SOMETHING - MY MOTHER KNOWS HIS NAME. MY FATHER DIED IN 1973 AND I TOLD ALL THIS TO THE FBI IN 1974.

I DO NOT KNOW THE NAME OF THE BANK WHERE MY FATHER

PAGE FOUR TP 157-3231 UNCLAS

KEPT THE STATEMENTS BUT IT WAS LOCATED IN LITTLE FIVE POINTS IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA. MY SISTER, NOW MRS. WAYNE UPSHAW OF STONE MT. GEORGIA, SAID SHE TYPED THE STATEMENTS FOR MY FATHER. MY MOTHER, ALMA L. WEHUNT OF 3015 ALBATROSS LANE, DECATUR, GEORGIA, KNOWS, PROBABLY, MORE THAN I, HOWEVER, I KNOW SHE IS SCARED ABOUT TALKING ABOUT IT.

MY NAME IS ROBERT THOMAS WEHUNT, JR. OF 3109 HARTNETT AVE., TAMPA, FLA. 33611 - TEL. 839-7281. I WORK AT A 56 HEADQUARTERS SQ. MACDILL AFB, TEL# 830-3942-2724.

MY FATHER HAD A NICK NAME OF TWILIKER. (SPELLING UNKNOWN). I TALKED TO CPT. WHITE, LEGAL OFFICE AT MAC DILL WHO DIRECTED ME HERE AFTER TALKING TO HIS FRIEND, A FBI AGENT IN CALIFORNIA. SIGNED: ROBERT T. WEHUNT, JR."

SGT. WEHUNT WAS ADVISED THAT THE INFORMATION THAT HE HAD PREVIOUSLY FURNISHED TO THE TPO OF THE FBI HAD BEEN FURNISHED TO FBIHQ AND IN TURN WAS FORWARDED TO THE CIVIL RIGHTS DIV. OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

BT

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

*File
Copy*TO : Assistant Attorney General
CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISIONDATE: **July 28, 1978**FROM : Director, FBI (**44-38861**)SUBJECT: **ASSASSINATION OF
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
APRIL 4, 1968
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE**Reference is made to _____ memorandum dated _____
(your file _____).There is enclosed one copy of the report of Special Agent _____
dated _____ at _____.A. ☐ This covers the preliminary investigation and no further action concerning
a full investigation will be taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs.B. ☐ The investigation is continuing and you will be furnished copies of
reports as they are received.C. ☐ The investigation requested by you has now been completed. Unless
advised to the contrary no further inquiries will be made by this Bureau.D. ☐ Pursuant to instructions issued by the Department, no investigation will
be conducted in this matter unless specifically directed by the Department.E. ☐ Please advise whether you desire any further investigation.F. ☐ This is submitted for your information and you will be advised of further
developments.G. ☒ This is submitted for your information and no further investigation will
be conducted unless specifically requested by the Department.H. ☐ This covers the receipt of a complaint and no further action will be
taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs.Enc. (3) **ENCLOSURE****1 - AAG/Criminal Division****SEE ATTACHED NOTE.***J4*

FBI/DOJ

**Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division
Page 2**

NOTE: Attached is a teletype received July 27, 1978 from the Tampa Office of the FBI containing information received from Sgt. Robert Thomas Wehunt, Jr., Tampa, Florida. This information was previously furnished the FBI as reported in memorandum dated July 2, 1974 and December 19, 1975, copies of which are attached for information.

FBI

Date: 12/19/75

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

AIRTEL

(Precedence)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)(C)

MURKIN

ReTPtel 12/12/75 and Buairtel 12/15/75.

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are four copies of an LHM setting forth information that was contained in reTPtel.

ROBERT THOMAS WEHUNT upon contacting the Tampa Office on 12/17/75 was advised that a copy of the results of his interview by Tampa FBI Agent was forwarded to the Civil Rights Division of the U. S. Department of Justice in 1974 and no additional dissemination was made by the FBI. Mr. WEHUNT advised that any additional information that he receives concerning this matter will be brought to the attention of the Tampa Office.

A review of Tampa files fails to indicate that any further dissemination was made by the Tampa Division of Tampa airtel and LHM 7/2/74.

② - Bureau (Enc. 4)
1 - Tampa
JEH:bg
(3)

ENCLOSURE

ST-110

1-CRD
1-CRU
070F
12/23/75
JCL/jet

REC-9 44-38861-6016

3 DEC 22 1975

SJD

79 JAN 7 1976

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

M Per _____

Note: Info previously furnished by Mr. Wehunt was forwarded to CRD via LHM on 12/15/74.



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Tampa, Florida
December 19, 1975

JAMES EARL RAY;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM

Reference is made to Tampa memorandum dated
July 2, 1974.

On December 12, 1975, Robert Thomas Wehunt, Jr., 3109 Hartnett Avenue, Tampa, Florida, telephonically contacted the Tampa Office of the FBI and advised that on December 12, 1975, Angel Castillo, a reporter for the "St. Petersburg Times," a daily newspaper published in St. Petersburg, Florida, had contacted Wehunt and had requested that Wehunt telephone collect to John Crewdson, a reporter for the "New York Times," a daily newspaper published in New York, New York. Mr. Wehunt advised that Castillo indicated that Crewdson should be contacted by telephone number 202-293-3100.

Wehunt advised that he subsequently contacted John Crewdson at the above-listed telephone number at which time Crewdson indicated that he desired to come to Tampa, Florida, to interview Wehunt concerning information that Wehunt had previously furnished to the FBI concerning three signed statements that Wehunt's father had obtained from convicts in the Fulton County Jail, Atlanta, Georgia, indicating that these convicts had been approached by very influential businessmen to kill Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. for \$100,000. Wehunt stated that from his conversation with John Crewdson it was obvious to him that Crewdson had obtained the results of the interview of Wehunt by an FBI Agent of the Tampa Office which interview took place on July 1, 1974. Wehunt advised that he did not give a definite answer to Crewdson but indicated that he would recontact Crewdson at which time he would furnish a definite answer.

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.

**JAMES EARL RAY;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM**

Wehunt advised that he desired to bring this to the attention of the FBI and he indicated that he planned to contact Angel Castillo and have Castillo contact Crewdson to notify Crewdson that Wehunt did not desire to be interviewed inasmuch as Crewdson apparently had all of the information that Wehunt had previously furnished to the FBI. In addition, Wehunt advised that he was going to notify Castillo that he is fearful of his life if it becomes public knowledge that he furnished information to the FBI to the effect that very influential businessmen had plotted to kill Dr. King.

On December 17, 1975, Wehunt telephonically contacted the Tampa Office and advised that upon instructions from his attorney he had contacted John Crewdson telephonically and had advised Crewdson that he did not desire to be interviewed by Crewdson.

2*

FBI

Date: 7/2/74

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Precedence)

To: Director, FBI (44-38861) ATTENTION: *McLoughlin*
From: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231) ☒ CIVIL RIGHTS SECTION
(RUC) GENERAL INVEST. DIV.
Subject: MURKIN ☐ INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
OO: ME

☒ CR ☐ EL ☐ DIH ☐ CRA-64
☐ PA ☐ PE ☐ PF ☐ E
☐ EID ☐ Bomb Threats ☐ Extremist Matters
☐ White Hate ☐ Black

Summary of Complaint:

Re Tampa telephone call to Bureau, 7/1/74.

Enclosed for the Bureau are four copies of an LHM; also, enclosed for Memphis are three copies, one for the USA, Western District of Tennessee; and two for the Atlanta Office.

In view of Tampa's limited knowledge of information contained in LHM and possible leads that have already been covered, any leads concerning information contained in LHM are being left to the discretion of the Office of Origin.

ACTION: UACB

- 2 - Bureau (Enc. 4) ☒ No further action being taken and
2 - Atlanta (44-2386) ☒ LHM enclosed ☒ Copy to:
(Enc. 2) ☐ FD-376 (Enc. to LHM) ☒ USA, Memphis
2 - Memphis (44-1987) ☐ LHM being submitted ☐ Secret Service
(Enc. 3) ☐ Report being submitted ☐ ATF
1 - Tampa ☐ Preliminary investigation instituted
JAH:ef ☐ Limited investigation instituted

REC-13 44-38861-5754
JUL 4 1974

Approved: *[Signature]*

Special Agent in Charge

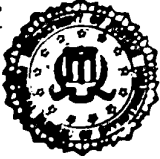
Sent

M

Per

TP 157-3231

Tampa indices do not contain any information
identifiable with ROBERT THOMAS WEHUNT, JR. or SR.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Tampa, Florida
July 2, 1974

RE: JAMES EARL RAY;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -
VICTIM

On July 1, 1974, Robert Thomas Wehunt, Jr. personally appeared at the Tampa Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the company of his wife, Arnette Jean Wehunt, maiden name Balsinger, and Wehunt furnished the following information:

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.

44-38861-5954
ENCLOSURE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

July 2, 1974

Date of transcription

ROBERT THOMAS WEHUNT, JR., 3109 Hartnett Avenue, Tampa, Florida, personally appeared at the Tampa, Florida, Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He was advised of the official identity of the interviewing Agent, the nature of the inquiry and that any information he furnished could be used in a court of law. He did not desire to furnish a signed statement but orally furnished the following information:

WEHUNT has been in the U. S. Air Force for the past six years, and he is presently a Staff Sergeant in the First Munition Maintenance Squadron at MacDill Air Force Base (AFB), Tampa, Florida. He recently read in the newspaper that JAMES EARL RAY, who was convicted of killing Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. in 1968, is attempting to get a new trial and is stating that he wants to tell who was involved with him in this killing. This article reminded WEHUNT of information that he had received from his father, ROBERT THOMAS WEHUNT, SR., in 1968. WEHUNT furnished this information to his Commanding Officer, Major OZOL. Major OZOL referred WEHUNT to Colonel HOLMES of the Legal Office of MacDill AFB, who in turn referred WEHUNT to the Federal Bureau of Investigation Office in Tampa.

WEHUNT's father was a criminal investigator in the U. S. Army for 20 years. After his father retired from the Army, he worked as an investigator for Fidelofax, later for a bonding company and then for eight years as a guard at the Fulton County Jail, Atlanta, Georgia, up until his death in August, 1973.

Approximately two months after KING's death in 1968, WEHUNT's father showed WEHUNT, WEHUNT's mother, ALMA LOUISE WEHUNT, maiden name RALSTON, and WEHUNT's sister, JANET UPSHAW, maiden name WEHUNT, at least three signed statements that WEHUNT's father stated he had obtained from "hard-core" convicts in the Fulton County Jail. Each statement stated that these convicts had been approached by "very influential businessmen" to kill Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. for \$100,000.

Interviewed on 7/1/74 at Tampa, Florida File # Tampa 157-3231
Memphis 44-1987
by SA JOHN ALLEN HARTINGH: sf Date dictated 7/2/74

2

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.

At this time WEHUNT's father was a jailor and he told WEHUNT that these criminals furnished him this information and he took it from them in the form of signed statements. The father told WEHUNT that on one occasion he attempted to turn these statements over to proper authorities for investigation but that the father's life and that of his family were threatened, and the father told WEHUNT that he had decided to keep his mouth shut. The father did not tell WEHUNT to whom he had offered the statements or who had threatened the father.

The father formerly had these statements and other related papers at his house in Atlanta, Georgia, but after the father died in August, 1973, WEHUNT and his mother attempted to locate these papers but to date they have not located them. WEHUNT assumes that it is possible his father had a safe deposit box that no one has yet discovered and that possibly the statements and papers are contained in the safe deposit box.

WEHUNT cannot recall names of the individuals who furnished the statements or names of the "very influential businessmen", but these names were all contained in the statements.

WEHUNT doubts that his mother or sister would recall any additional information about the statements or that contained in the statements, and WEHUNT does not know of anyone else who has any information concerning these statements.

WEHUNT noted that shortly before the death of his father his father was an alcoholic and he had many girl friends and more money than he could have possibly been earning as a jail guard. WEHUNT, therefore, at that time surmised that it was possible that his father had been paid off by unknown individuals to remain quiet about the statements.

WEHUNT mentioned this story to his commanding officer about two months ago but the commanding officer did not give WEHUNT any response to it and WEHUNT dropped the matter at that time. WEHUNT brought this matter up at this time after reading the newspaper article about RAY and after thinking that if RAY talks possibly WEHUNT and his father's name might be brought up and there might be some danger to WEHUNT and

3
TP 157-3231

his family. WEHUNT noted that another reason that he never mentioned this story to anyone before is because he did not feel that anyone would believe him. WEHUNT advised that if he recalled any additional information or was able to develop any additional information he would immediately recontact the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The following descriptive data was obtained through observation and interview:

Name:	ROBERT THOMAS WEHUNT , JR.
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Born:	
Place of Birth:	FT. McPherson, Georgia
Height:	5'11"
Weight:	175 lbs.
Education:	Graduate of Walker High School, Atlanta, Georgia
Disabilities:	None
Social Security Account No.:	
Employment:	Staff Sergeant, U. S. Air Force, First Munition Maintenance Squadron, MacDill Air Force Base, Tampa, Florida
Business Telephone No.:	830-4311
Residence:	3109 Hartnett Avenue Tampa, Florida
Wife:	ANNETTE JEAN WEHUNT, maiden name BALSINGER
Race:	White
Sex:	Female
Born:	
Place of Birth:	Comersville, Indiana
Mother:	ALMA LOUISE WEHUNT, maiden name RALSTON
Residence:	Albatross Lane Decatur, Georgia
Telephone No.:	404-241-5253
Employment:	Sears and Roebuck Ponce De Leon Atlanta, Georgia