

F B I

Date: 5/14/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM : SAC, SEATTLE (44-371)(P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

OO: MEMPHIS

RE: SIMILAR NAME OF EARL RAY

On 5/6/68, the manager of the Aurora-Midway Branch of the People's National Bank of Washington, telephonically advised that it had come to his attention that a check had been issued to a Mrs. EARL RAY by a Mrs. ROGER L. MILLER of 19724 80th West, Edmonds, Washington.

The manager reported this check had been cashed at the Liberty Supermarket, Memphis, Tennessee, and under the endorsement appeared the numbers "743-9797" which he thought might be a telephone number.

SA JOHN E. CONNOR checked the records of the Seattle Credit Bureau and the Edmonds Police Department and found both to be negative concerning Mrs. ROGER L. MILLER also known as KATHERYN MILLER, 19274 80th West, Edmonds, Washington.

SA CONNOR determined that the records of the Credit Bureau of Snohomish County, Everett, show that the MILLERS have been listed since January, 1965, coming to the Edmonds area from Seattle. Mr. MILLER was listed as a driver for Darigold Farms. His wife, KATHERYN MILLER, and Mr. MILLER had previously been employed by Muffler City in Seattle having lived in the Seattle area since at least 1958. The credit record was satisfactory.

3-Bureau
2-Memphis (44-1987)
2-Seattle
VPC:ms
(7)

44-1987-Sub B-753

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 16 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Memphis assigned
lead
medi
Connor

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

ME 44-1987

MM 44-1854

HAN:jth

1

AT MIAMI, FLORIDA

RE: LOOK ALIKE

On the evening of May 13, 1968, Mr. R. A. FLEMING, Owner, Fleming Super Market, East Geneva Avenue, telephone 322-1609 or 322-4307, Sanford, Florida, telephonically furnished the following information:

While in Garfield's Barber Shop, Sanford, Florida, an unknown white male, possibly identical with subject JAMES EARL RAY, was also in the barber shop. This individual claimed to be a taxi driver for the Yellow Cab Company of Sanford, Florida.

Mr. FLEMING believed this individual closely resembled the photograph and description of RAY as appearing in the local press.

44-1987-Sub B-753

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hunter

SE 44-371

A next door neighbor of the MILLERS, one Mrs. JAMES FARMER, 19730 80th Place West, Edmonds, advised that Mr. and Mrs. MILLER and their teenage daughter live next door; that both Mr. and Mrs. MILLER work in Seattle; and that one is a native of the Seattle area and the other a native of the Memphis, Tennessee area and still has relatives in that area.

On the evening of 5/6/68, Mr. and Mrs. ROGER L. MILLER, 19724 80th West, Edmonds, Washington, advised that Mrs. MILLER comes from Memphis, Tennessee, originally and that her sister, MELVA, has been married to EARL RAY for approximately the past 11 years and that they presently reside at 2680 Frisco Street in Memphis, Tennessee, with their two children.

The MILLERS advised that RAY is approximately 38 years of age, a white male, 5'6" in height; 140 pounds in weight; and has coal black hair. They said he has lived in the Memphis area all his life to the best of their knowledge and that he has been employed in iron work and in a battery shop there. They said he was previously in the military service and has never been in prison to their knowledge. The MILLERS said that EARL and his wife have lived in Memphis ever since they were married and his mother still lives next door. The MILLERS said that EARL's father died approximately one year ago and that he has sisters and brothers in the same area.

Mrs. MILLER stated that as soon as she and her husband read in the newspaper the identity of the suspect in the KING killing, they thought of the name of Mrs. MILLER'S brother-in-law; and having known of his whereabouts and activities of the past 11 years and knowing what he looked like, realized that this was only a similarity in names. The MILLERS concluded that to their knowledge, Mrs. MILLER'S brother-in-law's relatives are all in the Memphis area and they were in no way connected with or related to the person charged in the KING killing.

LEAD:

MEMPHIS DIVISION
At Memphis, Tennessee

Will, if not already done so at 2680 Frisco Street, check out EARL RAY and determine whether any of his relatives could be identical with JAMES EARL RAY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM : SAC, MIAMI (44-1854) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 5/14/68

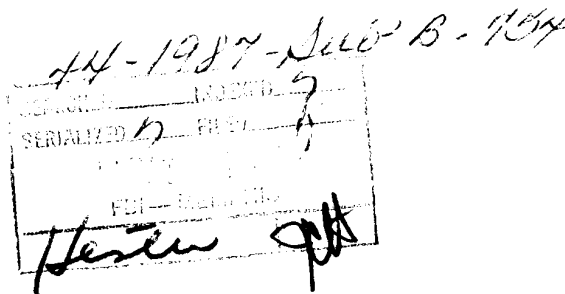
Re Miami teletype to Tampa, with airmail copies to Bureau and Memphis, 5/14/68.

Enclosed for the Memphis Division are 15 copies of an insert reflecting information furnished by Mr. R. A. FLEMING, Sanford, Florida, on May 13, 1968.

2 - Memphis (Enc-15)
1 - Miami
HAN:jth
(3)



5010-108-01



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

F B I

Date: **5/14/68**Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via **AIRTEL** _____
(Priority)

TO SAC, CHICAGO

FROM SAC, NEWARK (44-854) (P)

SUBJECT MURKIN
(OO: MEMPHIS)

Enclosed for the information of Memphis and Chicago are the following xeroxed copies of letters from JERRY RAY to PCI MARJORIE LOUISE FETTERS. Xeroxed copies of the envelopes these letters were sent in are also enclosed:

ENVELOPE POSTMARKLETTER DATE

4/6/68, Wheeling, Ill.	4/6/68; 5 pages
4/12/68, Wheeling, Ill.	4/12/68; 7 pages
4/15/68, Wheeling, Ill.	4/14/68; 7 pages
4/22/68, Wheeling, Ill.	4/22/68; 4 pages
4/29/68, Wheeling, Ill.	4/28/68; 6 pages
4/10/68, Wheeling, Ill.	5/10/68; 5 pages

The original of these letters were furnished to SA JOHN E. OTTO on 5/13/68, by PCI MARJORIE LOUISE FETTERS so they could be copied. These copies are being provided to the Memphis and Chicago Offices for information purposes. No attempt should be made to have JERRY RAY interviewed concerning any information in these letters because of the possibility he might become aware of the cooperation of FETTERS.

2-Memphis (enc. 12) *Wm*
2-Chicago (enc. 12)
4-Newark
(2-137-6826)

JEO/mp
(8)

Approved: *[Signature]*
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

44-1987-Sub B-755

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 16 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester *[Signature]*

5/14/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO SAC, ST. LOUIS
FROM SAC, INDIANAPOLIS (44-563)

MURKIN
CR

OO: ME

Re SI airtel to SL 5/9/68.

RALPH HOWARD, Indianapolis, Indiana, was member of State Department of Correction. Contact 5/14/68 with widow, MELVA B. HOWARD, reveals he has been dead four years.

- 2 - St. Louis
① - Memphis (Info)
1 - Springfield (Info)
1 - Chicago (Info)
1 - Indianapolis

PJT/kmg
(6)

44-1987-Sub B-756

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 16 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

NK 44-854

The original copies of these letters will be returned to FETTERS who has advised she will retain them in a secure manner. It is noted on 5/11/68 FETTERS advised she did not receive a telephone call from JERRY RAY on that day. On 5/13/68, FETTERS said she was gone from her Camden, NJ, residence most of the day and she therefore does not know if JERRY RAY tried to call her.

Per FETTERS request her identity and cooperation must be maintained in the strictest of confidence.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

5/14/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: SAC, ST. LOUIS (44-775)
FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) - P -
SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
(OO: MEMPHIS)

Re: Subject's brother, JOHN LARRY RAY, aka

Re St. Louis teletype to the Bureau dated 5/10/68
and Springfield airtel to St. Louis dated 5/9/68.

Enclosed for St. Louis is a copy of Menard State Prison report re JOHN LARRY RAY (23401) furnished by BILL KAUFMAN, Illinois Parole and Pardon Board, Springfield, Illinois. It has previously been determined by Springfield Division that subject's brother, under the name JOHN LARRY RYAN, was incarcerated at the Menard State Penitentiary on a charge of larceny of a motor vehicle and was released from that institution on 2/1/60. RYAN left Menard on a full discharge and immediately, thereafter, made application to the State of Illinois for restitution of his civil rights. He requested the results of this application be sent to 1728 North 10th Street, St. Louis, Missouri. Additional information of interest from RYAN's Menard file was furnished to St. Louis in referenced airtel.

2 - St. Louis (44-775) (Enc. 1)
1 - Chicago (44-1114) (Info)
1 - Memphis (44-1987) (Info)
2 - Springfield (44-561)
WR:jah
(8)

44-1987-Sub B-757

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 16 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle
Hester

5/14/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (173-65) -P-
SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
OO: Memphis

Re Bureau teletype, 4/24/68.

Re: HIPPIE ESTABLISHMENTS

The San Francisco Office has contacted all police departments in the San Francisco territory regarding hippie establishments, hang-outs and rooming houses. These departments were furnished photographs and/or I.O.s and wanted flyers regarding JAMES EARL RAY and were requested to have all sources of their respective departments be on the alert for RAY.

Informants and/or sources of the San Francisco Office, both in the criminal, security and racial fields, have been contacted regarding RAY.

Contacts with sources available to the San Francisco Office in hippie establishments will be maintained on a continuing basis, and the Bureau will be promptly advised if any information is developed.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

2 - Bureau (RM)
2 - Memphis (44-1987) (RM)
2 - San Francisco
MTG:hja
(7)

44-1987 Sub B-758

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 16 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle BT

5/14/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (178-65) -P-
SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
OO: Memphis

Re Bureau teletype, 5/12/68.

Re: LATENT FINGERPRINT EXAMINATIONS
BY LOCAL POLICE DEPARTMENTS

All of the law enforcement agencies in the San Francisco territory were contacted and requested to conduct a comparison of unidentified latent prints in their files with the fingerprints of JAMES EARL RAY.

All of these agencies, except those listed on page 2, advised their departments do not maintain a separate file of unidentified latent prints. They advised their usual procedure is to file the unidentified latent prints in the appropriate case file without duplication in a centralized file. These departments advised that new unidentified latent prints developed in current cases would be checked against RAY's prints; however, the unidentified latent prints now filed in the case file are not subject to ready examination and the requested examination and comparison of all old latent prints with RAY's would be beyond the capability of their departments.

The below listed law enforcement agencies who maintain a latent fingerprint section, on the date indicated, advised no latent print identifiable with RAY was located or that their review was continuing and the San Francisco Office would be notified if an "ident" was made.

3 - Bureau (RM)
② - Memphis (44-1987) (RM)
1 - San Francisco
MTG:bja
(7)

44-1987-Sub B-759

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 16 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Ronan

SF 173-85
MTG:bjz

Humboldt County Sheriff's Office;	5/1/68
Alameda Police Department conducting an examination and will advise if an "ident" is made;	5/1/68
Identification Division, Alameda County Sheriff's Office;	5/1/68
Piedmont Police Department;	5/1/68
Oakland Police Department, will advise if an "ident" is made;	5/1/68
El Cerrito Police Department;	5/5/68
Richmond Police Department;	5/9/68
San Pablo Police Department;	5/9/68
Pinole Police Department;	5/9/68
South San Francisco Police Department;	6/1/68
San Mateo County Sheriff's Office;	5/1/68
San Mateo Police Department;	5/1/68
Burlingame Police Department;	5/2/68
Identification Office, Santa Cruz Sheriff's Office, will advise if "ident" is made;	5/3/68
Santa Cruz Police Department, will advise if "ident" is made;	5/3/68
Merced County Sheriff's Office, will advise if "ident" is made;	5/1/68
San Francisco Police Department, Crime Laboratory.	5/8/68

Armed & Dangerous

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

5/15/68

ATTN: FBI LABORATORY

SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386)(P)

MURKIN

(OO: MEMPHIS)

Enclosed for the FBI Lab is one registration card of the Woodland Motor Court in name RICHARD B. MC GINNIS.

Local Thomasville, Georgia tourist court operator HARRY G. WICK initially contacted Thomasville Resident Agency 4/15/68, and advised a suspicious white male checked into his tourist court, the Woodland Motor Court, Thomasville, on 4/5/68 about 1:00 A.M. and departed following morning. White male driving 1966 white Ford Mustang bearing 1967 or 1968 Texas license PBG-848. White male described as about 32 years of age; 5'8", 160 pounds; muscular build and broad shoulders; sandy-colored hair. Subject's personal belongings only consisted of shaving kit and he left the following morning wearing the same clothes worn at time of entry. During registration this individual was very nervous and in attempting to reach assigned cabin, drove over sidewalk of motor court. Registrant did not appear to have been drinking, however.

WICK was subsequently shown Wanted Flyer of JAMES EARL RAY. WICK advised photo closely resembles suspicious person but is certain registrant had light-colored, sandy hair and that this was his natural-colored hair inasmuch as approximately one day's growth of beard was the same color.

2 - Bureau (Enc. 1)(RM)
② - Memphis
2 - Atlanta
RM:lee
(6)

44-1987-Sub B-760

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 16 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle

AT 44-2386

WICK made available registration card completed by above individual at time of registration 4/5/68, and advised that all handwriting appearing on this card is that of registrant's, with exception of letters "MUS" appearing above make of car and notations at bottom of card reflecting charges.

The FBI Lab is requested to develop any latent impressions of value on enclosed card and compare with known prints of JAMES EARL RAY. Lab is also requested to examine handwriting appearing on this card in effort to determine if identical with RAY's.

May 5, 1968

Justice Thurgood Marshall
United States Supreme Court
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am writing to you, as I have reason to theorize the slayer of Dr. Martin Luther King is being sheltered at Shelby County Penal Farm, Summer Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee. I believe this theory could be worth checking.

I prefer to remain anonymous, though I am keeping a carbon copy of this letter.

44-1987-Sub B-761

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 10 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Rosen

F B I

Date: 5-15-68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via Airtel _____
(Priority)

To: SAC, Memphis

✓ From: Director, FBI

MURKIN

Enclosed are two copies of an anonymous letter addressed to Justice Thurgood Marshall, United States Supreme Court, which was forwarded to the Bureau.*

Conduct necessary investigation at the Shelby County Penal Farm in an effort to resolve whether the subject is being sheltered there.

Enc. (2)

Memphis lead
handed by Sloan
44-1987-Sub B-162
Rec'd 5/20/68

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 1 2 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Ronan

Sent Via _____ M Per _____

5/13/68

A I R T E L

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (44-1114) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

Re Milwaukee airtel to the Director dated 5/13/68.

Referenced airtel requested investigation of Chicago and Memphis based upon the theft of credit cards from MARSHALL I. GOLDMAN, Aurora, Illinois, who was assaulted by three white males at Madison, Wisconsin, on 2/27/68, in view of a possible tie in this case because of phone calls made to and originating from Memphis, Tennessee, around 4/4/68.

Review of the airtel places the assailants in Madison, Wisconsin, on 2/27/68, in Chicago, Illinois, on 3/8 and 3/11/68 and 4/3/68. In addition, phone calls were made from Booneville, Mississippi, and Baldwin, Mississippi, on 3/29 and 3/31/68. In view of the fact that the subject was known to be in Los Angeles at the St. Francis Hotel from 1/23 to 3/17/68 and that he purchased the murder in Birmingham, Alabama, on 2/28-30/68 plus the fact that a call was made from Chicago, Illinois, on 4/3/68, it was known that the subject was registered in the hotel in Memphis, Tennessee, it appears to this office that the assailants of GOLDMAN and/or the individuals using his credit cards could not logically be identified as the subject and the requested investigation will not be conducted. SACB.

3 - Bureau
② - Memphis (44-1987)
1 - Milwaukee (44-388) (Info)
1 - Chicago
RJB:jap
(7)

Right

7624

1987-Sub B-1114

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 16 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle | *303*

5/16/68

AIRTEL

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

Enclosed for Seattle and Anchorage are 2 copies each of San Juan teletype to Memphis 5/15/68.

Seattle should make a reasonable effort to identify **BESS RAY**, mentioned in the enclosed teletype, and if it is possible to obtain an Anchorage address for her, the Anchorage Office should be requested to interview her to identify her husband and to make certain that he is not the subject, **JAMES EARL RAY**.

Since we have no reason to believe, in the first place, that the subject ever had a wife, Seattle should not conduct an extensive investigation or waste a large amount of manpower in identifying **BESS RAY**.

No investigation is requested of Anchorage until such time as Seattle further identifies **BESS RAY**.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

2-Seattle (Encs. 2)
2-Anchorage (Encs. 2)
1-Memphis
JCH:wp
(5)

Airtel.....
Teletype.....
A. M.....
A. M. S. D.....
Spec. Del.....
Reg. Mail.....
Registered.....

SEARCHED.....
SERIALIZED.....

44-1987-Sub B-763

Hester JCH

F B I

5/13/68

Date:

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

TO: SAC, ATLANTA

FROM: SAC, ALBANY (44-493) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Atlanta airtel to Bureau, 4/25/68.

The lists of automobiles impounded on which there is no record of a stolen report but which have not been released to any owner by the Syracuse, New York, Police Department, were obtained from Sgt. JOHN O'MALLEY, and Officer ROBERT BUSCH, and leads are being set forth to checks these automobiles in view of the possibility subject may have purchased an automobile which was subsequently abandoned:

Date Impounded	Description of Car	Registered Owner, (If Known)
(1) 5/1/68, 100 block Temple Street, Syracuse, N. Y.	1955 Ford Sedan, Fairlane, white and blue, 1968 S.C. license B52696 SN U5NT130747	
(2) 4/24/68, 215 Gertrude St., Syracuse, N. Y.	1958 or 1959 Buick Convertible, Electra, Grey, SN 8F3028736, no license plate	

2-Atlanta
2-Columbia
3-Philadelphia
2-Memphis (44-1987)
2-Albany
RSR/jmh
(11)

44-1987-Sub-B-764

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 17 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Mungshi
led
Mc
Sto
TR

(2)

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

AL 44-493

<u>Date Impounded</u>	<u>Description of Car</u>	<u>Registered Owner (If Known)</u>
(3) 4/22/68, 800 block, Erie Blvd. E, Syracuse, N. Y.	1956 Chevrolet Sedan, green, 1967 Pa. license 4E6698	NICHOLAS H. ALEX, 509 Harriet Lane, Havertown, Pa.
(4) 4/16/68, 1300 block, East Adam Street, Syracuse	1959 Rambler Station Wagon, color black, 1968 Pa. license 7D4-618	
(5) 4/14/68, 501 Dudley Street, Syracuse, N. Y.	1958 Pontiac, four- door Catalina, blue, VIN L858H8108, no license plate	
(6) 4/23/68, 100 block, McClure Ave., Syracuse	1959 Dodge Sedan, color brown, 1967 Tennessee license BW-6177	ROBERT B. MORTON, 3330 Highland Park Place, Memphis Tennessee.

For the information of Memphis, there are no stolen cars during the pertinent period in which subject may be considered a suspect.

LEADS

ATLANTA

AT ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Check stolen reports of appropriate law enforcement agencies to determine if cars #2 and 5 were stolen in that vicinity during pertinent period or if these automobiles were previously registered in Georgia if Motor Vehicle Bureau records contain serial number index.

AL 44-493

COLUMBIA

AT COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

Determine registered owner of automobile #1 and if owner determined, attempt to locate and interview regarding disposition of automobile.

PHILADELPHIA

AT HAVERTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

Contact NICHOLAS H. ALEX, 509 Harriet Lane, to determine disposition of car #3.

AT HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

Determine identity of registered owner of car #4 and thereafter attempt to locate registered owner to determine disposition of automobile.

MEMPHIS

AT MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

Attempt to locate and interview ROBERT B. MORTON, 3330 Highland Park Place, regarding disposition of car #6.

ALBANY

AT SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

Will continue to maintain contact with Syracuse Police Department regarding stolen and abandoned cars.