

NO 157-10673

interviews are being maintained in the New Orleans file in this matter. Of these individuals where it has been determined they no longer reside in Louisiana, leads have been set out to other offices to have them located and interviewed for any pertinent information.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: SA STEPHEN M. CALLENDER Office: NEW ORLEANS
Date: 7/12/68

Field Office File #: NO 157-10673 Bureau File #: 44-38861

Title: JAMES EARL RAY;
I. O. # 4182, WF # 442-A;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
(Deceased) - VICTIM

Character: CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY;
UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID CONFINEMENT - ROBBERY

Synopsis: Information received regarding identities of
22 New Orleans telephone numbers, which were
called from Texas during period of 12/15 -17/67.
Subscribers identified and interviewed. Some
recall receiving calls from friends or relatives,
while others could not recall receiving calls.
All state JAMES EARL RAY is unknown to them.

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DETAILS:

NO 157-10673

On May 2, 1968, the Houston Office of the FBI provided information that long distance telephone calls were placed to the below listed New Orleans telephone numbers on the dates indicated. These telephone calls were placed during the period December 15 - 17, 1967, from coin telephones located within the Houston Division on Interstate Highway 10 and Route 90:

NO 157-10673

DATE	NEW ORLEANS TELEPHONE NUMBER
December 17, 1967	242-5962
December 16, 1967	242-8580
December 15, 1967	283-1173
December 17, 1967	361-0465
December 15, 1967	361-3374
December 15, 1967	361-4360
December 17, 1967	522-8495
December 15, 1967	524-0001
December 16, 1967	525-7532
December 15, 1967	721-2027
December 15, 1967	861-7067
December 17, 1967	887-8469
December 16, 1967	888-0404
December 17, 1967	888-7744
December 16, 1967	895-3872
December 16, 1967	945-4302
December 17, 1967	947-3471

Date 5/10/681

Sister MARY ERNSTINE, S.C., Principal St. Paul's Catholic School, 6828 Chef Menteur Highway, advised that number 242-5962 is the school's telephone number and she cannot recall who may have telephoned the school from Texas during the month of December, 1967.

Sister ERNSTINE explained that one of many salesmen, with whom the school does business, may have called for an appointment prior to his arrival in New Orleans. This could possibly be an explanation for the Texas call. Sister ERNSTINE advised she could furnish no specific information regarding the matter.

Sister ERNSTINE was shown photographs of the subject, JAMES EARL RAY, whom she could not identify as anyone seen at St. Paul's School.

On 5/9/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673
by SA PATRICK J. DENTE -epk 6 Date dictated 5/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5/17/681

JOSEPH J. HILTON, 9318 Haynes Boulevard, self-employed as a paint contractor, was contacted at his residence and advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent.

He advised that he is the subscriber to telephone number 242-8580, and the only telephone call he could remember around December 15 - 17, 1967, from Houston, Texas, would be one his wife received from CECIL LEE.

HILTON was exhibited various photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, and upon viewing these photographs, advised that RAY was unknown to him.

On 5/10/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673
by SA WILLIAM E. BOE / 7 njc Date dictated 5/13/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5/17/681

Mrs. FLORENCE HILTON, 9318 Haynes Boulevard, was located at her place of employment, Schwegmann Brothers Giant Supermarket, 5300 Gentilly Road, and advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent.

She advised that the only telephone call she received from Texas during the period of December 15 - 17, 1967, was from IRMA LEE, wife of CECIL LEE. LEE had called to see if HILTON's relatives were going to Texas relative to a local charge pending against CECIL LEE. Her relatives did not go to Texas, and she believed the LEEs live in the Houston, Texas area.

Upon being shown various photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, HILTON advised that RAY was unknown to her.

On 5/10/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673
by SA WILLIAM E. BOE / 8 njc Date dictated 5/13/68

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1Date 5/10/68

Mrs. ETHEL MADELINE JONES, formerly Mrs. ETHEL MITCHELL, 1448 Milton, New Orleans, Louisiana, furnished the following information:

Mrs. JONES has lived at her present residence for approximately 13 years. She is the subscriber to telephone number 283-1173, in the name of Mrs. ETHEL MITCHELL.

Mrs. JONES received a telephone call from her niece, BERTHA SELLERS, address unknown, Houston, Texas, on December 15, 1967, Mrs. JONES' birthday. She stated BERTHA SELLERS placed the telephone call from a pay telephone booth in Houston, Texas, even though SELLERS has a phone of her own, because Mrs. SELLERS did not want to acquire a large telephone bill which has happened so often in the past when Mrs. SELLERS places long distance telephone calls from her personal phone.

Mrs. JONES stated her nephew, LOUIS SELLERS, 3024 Connecticut, Houston, Texas, would know the address of BERTHA SELLERS.

Mrs. JONES stated she was not a member of any racist or hate-type group and was, in fact, a member of the Eastern Stars. Mrs. JONES stated she had seen photographs of JAMES EARL RAY in the newspapers, but knew nothing about RAY outside of what she had read in the newspapers.

On 5/9/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673

by SA RONALD G. HINKLE - kat 9 Date dictated 5/10/68

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Date 5/10/681

ALMA STEWART, 1207 Belleville, Algiers, phone 361-0465, was questioned concerning a phone call she received on December 17, 1967, from Texas. She stated she could not remember this particular call as she received calls from Houston, Texas, quite regularly as she had a friend there.

She advised that this person was ALBERT CAMOUS. She stated she did not know his address as he was a seaman cook and was out at sea quite a bit of the time and called her when he got in. She stated she thought he sailed on the ship "American Trader." She stated that this is the only person she has received phone calls from in Texas.

STEWART was shown photographs of JAMES EARL RAY but advised she did not know him nor had she ever seen him before.

On 5/9/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673
by SA's PHILIP L. PETLEY and ROBERT POTHIER PLP/jpb 10 Date dictated 5/10/68

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LUCILLE SENATE, 1801 Opelousas Street, Apartment B, advised that in the past she had received several phone calls from H. LOVRIC. SENATE further advised that she met LOVRIC at a party in New Orleans and that he presently lives in Orange, Texas, from where questioned call came.

SENATE stated that she had gone out several times with him but does not know his first name. SENATE further stated that LOVRIC is a seaman and may be reached at this address:

H. LOVRIC, C/O J. PASKROW,
525 East 82nd Street, New
York, New York 10028

SENATE was shown various photographs of JAMES EARL RAY with negative results.

SENATE stated that she believes she received a call from LOVRIC on or about December 15, 1967. She advised that she is the subscriber to telephone number 361-3374.

On 5/9/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673
by SA KEITH D. COY/jdb 11 Date dictated 5/10/68

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JOYCE LYONS, 601 East Marlin Court, Gretna, Louisiana, phone number 361-4360, advised that the above phone number is registered in the name of J. A. LYONS, who is her husband. LYONS advised that her husband is currently employed by Brown and Root, Incorporated, Post Office Box 3, Houston, Texas. LYONS stated that her husband is employed in the pipeline department and that the company has a local office on Peters Road in Belle Chasse, Louisiana. LYONS advised that the address used by the company in New Orleans is Post Office Box 425, Harvey, Louisiana. LYONS stated that her husband is employed as a pipeline superintendent.

LYONS advised that her husband is currently on a pipeline barge, Brown and Root, Incorporated barge number M211, located on the Gulf of Mexico. LYONS stated that this barge will be in the Gulf of Mexico for approximately two weeks and that this current job was begun on Wednesday, May 8, 1968.

LYONS recalled that from approximately December 15-17, 1967, her husband was out in the Gulf of Mexico on Brown and Root barge "Booth".

LYONS stated that it was possible that some employee could have called her husband at the above number sometime around that period of time. LYONS stated that Brown and Root employs many people who live in Texas.

LYONS stated that she was unable to recall receiving any long distance telephone call from the Houston area from a pay phone.

LYONS advised that her husband's mother, Mrs. ETHA SCHADE, lives in Houston, Texas, at 6318 Ridgeway. LYONS stated that SCHADE very rarely leaves her house and would definitely not be calling from a pay phone. LYONS

On 5/10/68 at Gretna, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673

by SA DONALD P. MAIBERGER - jah 12 Date dictated 5/13/68

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advised that both she and her husband have no other relatives in Houston, or the Houston, Texas, area.

LYONS was shown Identification Order Number 4182 of JAMES EARL RAY and advised that she did not recognize this individual.

Date 5/10/681

HILDA DeLosREYES, Apartment 7, 1410 St. Andrews,
was contacted and furnished the following information:

She advised her telephone number is 522-8495; however, she advised that to the best of her knowledge she has not received any long distance telephone calls from Texas during December, 1967, or at any other time. She advised she has no relatives, friends or any other persons known to her to be residing in Texas. In addition, she advised that she is divorced from her husband and lives at her present address with her two sons, ages ten and eighteen. Her oldest son is working but she stated he also has no friends or relatives in the Texas area.

She advised after viewing all available photographs of JAMES EARL RAY that such a person was completely unknown to her by either name or photograph.

It was noted during interview of HILDA DeLosREYES, that she was of Cuban extraction and spoke broken English. The interview was conducted with some difficulty, although she was emphatic in her denial of herself or anyone else ever receiving any long distance telephone calls from Texas to her present telephone number at any time.

On 5/10/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673
by SA KEVIN J. HARRIGAN :epk 14 Date dictated 5/10/68

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1Date 5/10/68

Miss RUTH A. GEISBUHLER, 638 Royal Street, Apartment 303, New Orleans, telephone 524-0001, advised she could not recall receiving a telephone call possibly in December, 1967 but she thought probably it was November, 1967, from one SOLOMON MOSES. Miss GEISBUHLER stated that Mr. MOSES was from Tel Aviv, Isarel, and that she had met him sometime in the previous summer while on a shipboard cruise. She stated that she recalled Mr. MOSES was calling her from a telephone booth in Houston and from the noise she heard in the background, she thought that the telephone was located near the docks in Houston.

Miss GEISBUHLER stated that she had never heard of JAMES EARL RAY prior to the recent publicity and the photographs of him were unknown to her. She further related that Mr. MOSES did not resemble RAY.

On 5/9/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673

by SA PHILLIP M. KING/bnk 15 Date dictated 5/10/68

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Miss GAYE LYNN DROST, after being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents, was interviewed at her residence, 1900 Perdido, Apartment A-98. She furnished the following information:

Miss DROST stated that she was unaware of any telephone calls being made from Texas to her residence telephone, telephone number 525-7532, from December 15, 1967, through December 17, 1967. Miss DROST did state that her roommates received telephone calls from Texas, but that the last call she remembers was made in the earlier part of December. Miss DROST stated that DRENDA KENT, a roommate, has a father who is a Lieutenant Colonel stationed in San Antonio, Texas. She further advised that MYRTLE DOESCHER, another roommate, has a boyfriend who is with the Merchant Marines and who was stationed in Galveston, Texas, before leaving for London, England.

Miss DROST was shown various photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, but upon viewing these photographs, she stated that RAY was unknown to her.

On 5/9/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673
by SAs CHRISTOPHER MAZZELLA and 16
THOMAS E. DUHADWAY CM:mak Date dictated 5/10/68

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Miss MYRTLE MAE DOESCHER, after being advised of the identity of the interviewing agents, was interviewed at her residence, 1900 Perdido, Apartment A-98, and furnished the following information:

Miss DOESCHER advised that her residence telephone number is 525-7532, but that this number is subscribed to by one of her roommates, GAYE DROST. Miss DOESCHER advised that she was unaware of any telephone calls being made from Texas to her telephone number in New Orleans from December 15, 1967, through December 17, 1967. She stated, however, that she remembers her boy friend telephoning her from a pay telephone in Galveston, Texas, on either December 6, or December 7, 1967. She advised that her boy friend's name is WARREN MAC QUARRIE, JR., and that he is a Second Mate on the ship Old Louise Lykes. She stated that when WARREN telephoned, his ship was located in Galveston, Texas. Miss DOESCHER noted that WARREN was en route for London, England, and was due to arrive on either May 9, 1968, or May 10, 1968.

Miss DOESCHER was displayed various photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, but upon viewing these photographs, she advised that RAY was unknown to her.

On 5/9/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673
by SAs CHRISTOPHER MAZZELLA and
THOMAS E. DUHADWAY CM:mak 17 Date dictated 5/10/68

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Date 5/13/681

Miss DRENDA SUE KENT, after being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents, was interviewed at her home address, 1900 Perdido, Apartment A-98. She furnished the following information:

Miss KENT advised that her home telephone number is 525-7532, but that this number is subscribed to by one of her roommates GAYE DROST.

Miss KENT stated that she was unaware of any telephone calls being made from Texas from December 15, 1967, through December 17, 1967.

Miss KENT did state, however, that her father, Lieutenant Colonel BURNARD B. KENT, 42 Main Circle, Randolph Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas, telephone number 512-OL 24191, called her from Texas sometime around Thanksgiving. Miss KENT advised that this was the last telephone call from Texas that she could recall.

Miss KENT was displayed various photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, and upon viewing these photographs, she advised that RAY was unknown to her.

On 5/9/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673
by SAs CHRISTOPHER MAZZELLA and THOMAS E. DUHADWAY 18 CM:mak Date dictated 5/10/68

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Date 5/10/681

CLEO F. SNIPES, 3009 Huntsville Road, Kenner, advised he is presently employed as a painter at the Henry Lamia Company. He stated that he previously had telephone number 721-2027, which was disconnected January, 1968. He stated that to the best of his memory he probably received a long-distance call from the Houston, Texas area in December, 1967, from his twin brother, LEO SNIPES. He stated that his twin brother left New Orleans, before Christmas, 1967, and called several times from Bridge City, Texas, where he presently resides. Photographs of JAMES EARL RAY were not identified by SNIPES nor has he ever heard of JAMES EARL RAY or CHARLES STEIN.

On 5/10/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673

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by SA DELBERT W. HAHN:kbz Date dictated 5/10/68

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Date 5/21/681

CHARLES R. CONEWAY, JR., student, Tulane University, was interviewed at his residence, 1809 St. Charles Avenue, Apartment H. CONEWAY stated that his home address is 1718 Bayrum Street, Houston, Texas, where his mother, Mrs. WAYNE S. CONEWAY, resides.

CONEWAY advised that during the Fall Term of the 1967-68 school year, he lived in an apartment at 1800 Pine Street, with SAYERS BRENNER, who is also from Houston, Texas.

CONEWAY stated he left New Orleans for Houston on December 17, 1967, for Christmas vacation. CONEWAY advised he had not received any long distance calls from Texas during the period from December 15 to 17, 1967.

CONEWAY advised that his roommate, SAYERS BRENNER, received a long distance telephone call from his, BRENNER's, father, MILTON BRENNER of Houston, Texas. CONEWAY stated he thought this call was on December 15, 1967, and that arrangements were made for BRENNER's father to pick BRENNER up on December 16, 1967, in New Orleans.

CONEWAY reviewed photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and stated that this individual was unknown to him.

CONEWAY advised that he is the subscriber to telephone number 861-7067.

On 5/16/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673

by SA WILLIAM B. WOOD -epk 20 Date dictated 5/17/68

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Date 5/17/681

DONALD EDWARD JOHNSON, 4617 Senac Drive, advised that he is the subscriber to New Orleans telephone number 887-8469.

Mr. JOHNSON informed that he could not specifically recall receiving a long distance telephone call at his residence on December 17, 1967, from the general area of Houston, Texas.

He stated that in the past he has received many long distance telephone calls at his residence in connection with his employment. He advised that he is a salesman for Clark Brothers.

Upon viewing photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, he advised that RAY was unknown to him. He stated that he had observed photographs of RAY in local newspapers as a suspect in the shooting of Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING.

On 5/9/68 at Metairie, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673

by SA STEPHEN M. CALLENDER / njc 21 Date dictated 5/13/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5/17/681

Mrs. JOAN L. ROD, 1604 David Drive, Metairie, Louisiana, furnished the following information:

She and her husband RICHARD ROD, and their four children have resided at 1604 David Drive for approximately ten years and they presently have a telephone with number 888-0404. The telephone is listed in her husband's name and the telephone bill is made out in her name because she had previously been employed by Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company. Her husband is employed as a diesel engine mechanic for Gerhardt's Incorporated, 819 Central Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana.

She advised she cannot recall receiving a telephone call from Houston, Texas, or from that area during December 15 through 17, 1967. Neither she nor her husband have any relatives, friends, or acquaintances who were living in Texas during December, 1967, nor does she know of anyone who passed through that area and called them in December, 1967.

She further advised that only her family uses the telephone and no one else received a call on their telephone in December, 1967. Her husband sometimes receives business calls on their home telephone, and possibly he received a telephone call from that area.

On 5/9/68 at Metairie, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673

by SA STEPHEN M. CALLENDER / ²² njc Date dictated 5/13/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5/17/68

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RICHARD ROD was interviewed at his place of employment, Gerhardt's Incorporated, 819 Central Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana, and furnished the following information:

He is employed as a diesel mechanic and he and his wife JOAN have resided at 1604 David Drive, Metairie, Louisiana, for approximately ten years. Their telephone number is 888-0404.

He advised that his wife had called him on the telephone just before the Agent arrived and informed him of the questions asked her. He advised that he cannot recall receiving a telephone call from either Houston, Texas, or that immediate area during December 15 through 17, 1967. He does not have any friends, relatives or acquaintances who were in, or passed through that area during December, 1967.

He further advised that from time to time he receives business calls from customers at his home and therefore, he has tried to recall if he received a telephone call from a customer in Texas during the December 15 through 17, 1967, period and he just cannot recall receiving such a call. He has the office personnel checking their December, 1967, job orders for any calls coming from the Houston, Texas area, but so far, no job orders have been located coming from that area.

On 5/9/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673

by SAA ROBERT LOUIS WERTMAN / 23 njc Date dictated 5/13/68

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Mr. ROD was shown photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and after reviewing same, he advised that he has never seen this individual.

He further commented that he would discuss this matter with his wife and try to further recall if they received such a call and he would continue to have his office check their records for such a call and advise the interviewing Agent.

At a later time on May 9, 1968, Mr. ROD telephonically contacted the interviewing Agent and advised that a search of their office records failed to reflect that he received a telephone call from the Houston, Texas area during the period December 15 through 17, 1967.

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NO 157-10673/jmc

The following investigation was conducted by
SAA ROBERT LOUIS WERTMAN at Metairie, Louisiana:

On May 12, 1968, RICHARD ROD, 1604 David Drive, telephonically advised that he and his wife had been discussing the possibility of receiving a telephone call from the Houston, Texas area between December 15-17, 1967 and determined that possibly one of their babysitters had received such a telephone call at their home. In contacting one of five of their babysitters, Mrs. THOMAS W. WEST, who was babysitting for them on December 16, 1967, advised that her then fiance, THOMAS WEST was in Pasadena, Texas near Houston, Texas on the weekend of December 15-17, 1967 and her fiance contacted her by telephone at the ROD residence. Mr. ROD stated that Mr. and Mrs. WEST now reside at 3631 St. Rene Street, Metairie, Louisiana.

On May 13, 1968, Mrs. VIRGINIA PEQUENO WEST, 3631 St. Rene telephonically advised that she had received a telephone call on December 16, 1967 while babysitting at the ROD residence and this telephone call was received from her husband, THOMAS W. WEST, who was in Pasadena, Texas. She stated that her husband is presently employed at Baroid, 1738 Peters Road, Harvey, Louisiana.

Date 5/14/68

THOMAS W. WEST, 3631 St. Rene Street, Metairie, Louisiana, was contacted at his place of employment, Baroid, 1738 Peters Road, at which time he furnished the following information:

In 1960, he was involved in an automobile accident, in Jamestown, Louisiana and received severe head injuries and since that time he has been under medical treatment at the Methodist Hospital in Houston, Texas. He stated that since residing in New Orleans he has traveled to Houston, Texas on the weekends for medical treatment in that since the accident he has been bothered with severe headaches.

During the weekend of December 15-17, 1967, he telephonically contacted his fiancée, VIRGINIA PEQUENO, who he is presently married to, at the RICHARD ROD residence, 1604 Davis Drive, Metairie, Louisiana. He recalls that he first attempted to contact his fiancée at her home without success and he then called his fiancée's sister, who is the neighbor of RICHARD ROD and his fiancée's sister said that VIRGINIA was babysitting at the ROD residence. He then placed a long distance call to his fiancée at the ROD residence. This telephone call was made from one of two telephone booths in Pasadena, Texas, one of which is located at a Seven - Eleven Grocery Store, approximately 8 or 9 miles away from Route I-10 in ~~Texas~~ Texas at a telephone booth at a cut rate service station in Pasadena, Texas. He stated that the Seven - Eleven Grocery Store is located on the corner of South Shaver and Pauline in Pasadena, Texas and the cut rate service station is located on South Shaver between the Seven - Eleven Grocery Store and Pasadena, Texas. He stated that during the weekend he made the telephone call to his fiancée, he was residing with friends at 712 Trimm Street, Pasadena, Texas.

WEST was shown photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and after reviewing same stated that he does not know this individual nor has he ever seen this individual. He did comment that he recalls reading about this individual in the newspaper, however, he has never seen this individual in or around the telephone booths in Pasadena, Texas.

On 5/13/68 at Harvey, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673
by SAA ROBERT LOUIS WERTMAN 25 /jmc Date dictated 5/14/68

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Mr. WEST advised that he was born [redacted] in Sweetwater, Alabama and he is presently employed as a district mechanic for Bariod. He requested that his employer not be told the reason he was being contacted in this matter, inasmuch as he has lost several jobs in the past three years due to his physical condition in that he blacks out due to severe headaches. He also requested that his employer not be advised regarding his treatment for this illness at the Methodist Hospital in Houston, Texas.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5/13/681

WALTON C. HALL, JR., 5911 Airline Highway, advised that he is the subscriber to New Orleans telephone number 888-7744. He advised that friends of theirs, JAMES and DOROTHY BLALOCK, moved from New Orleans to Houston, Texas, in December, 1967, shortly before Christmas. The BLALOCKs advised that they would call Mr. and Mrs. HALL as soon as they arrived safely in Texas. Mr. HALL stated that the BLALOCKs called them from the vicinity of Port Arthur, Texas, on the Sunday before Christmas, December 17, 1967, to advise them that they had arrived safely in Texas, and had moved to Houston. Mr. HALL added that he believes this call was made from a pay phone and was of short duration because the BLALOCKs were still on the road. Mr. HALL commented that he and his wife were concerned because the BLALOCKs were pulling a house trailer.

Mr. HALL furnished the following address for JAMES and DOROTHY BLALOCK:

4922 Griggs Road,
Houston, Texas
77021
Telephone number 748-2902
Area Code 713

Mr. HALL added that JAMES BLALOCK is an employee of Texas Automatic Sprinkler Company in Houston, Texas.

HALL viewed photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and advised that the face looked familiar because he has seen photographs of RAY either in the newspapers or on television; however, JAMES EARL RAY was unknown to him. HALL commented that he knows of no one using the names of ERIC STARVO GALT, W. C. HERRON, HARVEY LOWMYER, JAMES MC BRIDE, JAMES O'CONNER, JAMES WALTON, JOHN WILLARD or JAMES EARL RAY.

On 5/10/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673

by SA PEIRRE D. FOURNIER - kmt, njc Date dictated 5/13/68

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Date 5/13/681

Mrs. ETHELL R. JACKSON, Negro female, 2989 Lasalle Street, furnished the following information:

Mrs. JACKSON advised that she is the subscriber to telephone number 895-3872; however, she does not recall receiving a long distance telephone call from the State of Texas during the month of December, 1967. Mrs. JACKSON stated that to the best of her knowledge, she has no relatives or friends residing in the State of Texas and could not imagine who possibly may have called her from this destination. She advised, however, that it was possible one of her relatives may have called and not indicated the place where they were calling from. She indicated that she could not furnish any specific information regarding this telephone call.

Mrs. JACKSON was shown several photographs of the subject, JAMES EARL RAY, whom she could not identify as anyone whom she has seen.

On 5/11/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673
by SA PATRICK J. DENTE - jah 28 Date dictated 5/13/68

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Date 5/13/681

Mrs. IVAN SKOGLUND (JULIA), 2716 D'Able Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, advised that she has telephone number 945-4302.

Mrs. SKOGLUND stated that her husband IVAN is presently a patient in a mental hospital in Fort Worth, Texas, and that she receives numerous calls from RICHARD TATUM, her nephew, concerning the well-being of her husband.

Mrs. SKOGLUND advised that to the best of her knowledge, the telephone call from Texas during December was either from her nephew, RICHARD TATUM, or from her son, MILTON PHELPS, who was traveling from California to New Orleans for the Christmas holidays. She stated she can recall receiving a telephone call from MILTON sometime during the month of December, 1967, and that during this short conversation, MILTON had advised her that he would be in New Orleans shortly.

Mrs. SKOGLUND stated that to her knowledge, MILTON has never been in trouble with the law and is considered a highly respected individual.

She stated that she is employed by the United States Coast Guard, Gateway Building, Marine Inspection Office, as a Supervisory Clerk in Licensing and Certification. She stated that she has been so employed by the Coast Guard for the last 27 years.

Mrs. SKOGLUND stated that she has conducted numerous name checks for the FBI since the assassination of Doctor KING in reference to GALT, LOWMYER and RAY. She added that she is familiar with photographs of RAY, having seen these photographs in various newspapers and magazines. She added that JAMES EARL RAY is unknown to her.

On 5/10/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673
by SA JAMES D. HILL : 29 njc Date dictated 5/13/68

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Date 5/10/68

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GEORGE (NO MIDDLE NAME) PREISS, 2718 Ideal Place, after being made aware of the official identity of the interviewing Agent, furnished the following information:

His residence telephone number is 947-3471 at the above address, which is occupied by PREISS and his wife. PREISS said that he is unable to recall any telephone call received on his residence telephone during the period December 15-17, 1967. He said that he knows of no relatives or acquaintances who might have been traveling in Texas during the pertinent period and who may have telephoned PREISS' home. He can recall absolutely nothing regarding any telephone call to his home.

PREISS mentioned that his wife is presently visiting relatives in Kentwood, Louisiana. He said that it is remotely possible that she may have received a call in December, but he is certain that she would have mentioned it to him, and he can remember no telephone call during December which his wife spoke of receiving. He said that his wife plans to return to New Orleans in about ten days.

PREISS said that he has two relatives who live in Texas, and it is possible that either of them may have telephoned his home, especially since the call was made during the Christmas season; PREISS recalls no such call from either relative, however. He identified the Texas relatives as his wife's brother, ROY E. MC DANIEL, SR., who resides at 2414 Lovers Lane, Dallas, Texas, and MC DANIEL's son, ROY E. MC DANIEL, JR., residing at 2964 Lavita Lane, Dallas, Texas.

After viewing photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, PREISS advised that he had previously seen photos of RAY in the newspaper, but the face does not appear at all familiar to him and he has never seen the man before. RAY's name and all known aliases likewise had no significance to PREISS.

During the interview, it was noted that PREISS is an elderly man who speaks with a noticeable German accent.

On 5/9/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673
by SA WILLIAM R. RUMPH 30 Date dictated 5/9/68

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NO 157-10673
WRR/jpb

He indicated that in March of 1968, he became seventy years old, and he is presently retired and living on Social Security. PREISS said that he is a native of Bavaria, Germany, and came to the United States in 1922. PREISS further said that, while he had learned of the death of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., from news sources, he paid very little attention to the matter or indeed to any current events, preferring to spend his time working on his hobby of horticulture. It was noted that a large variety of unusual plants were growing on PREISS' property.

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SMC:njc

On May 9, 1968, information was received from the Houston Office of the FBI that it had been determined that long distance telephone calls had been placed from coin telephones in the Beaumont, Texas area on December 16, 1967, to the following New Orleans telephone numbers:

282-6540

899-4323.

Date 5/13/681

Mrs. MARION LARKINS, Negro female, 5818 Lafaye Street, furnished the following information:

She is the subscriber of telephone number 282-6540, but does not recollect receiving a long distance telephone call from the State of Texas during the month of December, 1967. She advised that she does have a niece, Miss PATRICIA CONDOLL, who resides in Houston, Texas, but does not recall receiving a telephone call from Miss CONDOLL. Mrs. LARKINS further advised that her niece has subsequently been married and she has no knowledge of her marriage name or present address.

Mrs. LARKINS was shown several photographs of the subject, JAMES EARL RAY, whom she could not identify as anyone she has known or seen. She advised she could furnish no specific information regarding the long distance telephone call.

On 5/11/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673
by SA PATRICK J. DENTE - jah 33 Date dictated 5/13/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date May 14, 1968

GUY L. WILLIAMS, 5373 Magazine Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, advised that telephone number 899-4323 is listed under his mother's name, but that she has been dead since 1964. He said he lives with his half brother, ~~XXXXXX~~ GARLAND COOPER JARVIS, who is 56 years old.

He said that he does not recall receiving a telephone call from Beaumont, Texas, on December 16, 1967. He said, however, that his brother is a seaman and may have called him from Beaumont, Texas. He said that GARLAND COOPER JARVIS is currently en route to Saigon, Vietnam, on board the "Wesleyan Victory," a Gulf South American Lines vessel out of New Orleans and Beaumont, Texas, or some Grace Lines ship.

He was exhibited a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY, and he stated that RAY is unknown to him, except that he has seen his picture in the newspapers.

On 5/13/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673

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by SA DANIEL P. MC LAUGHLIN - nmb Date dictated 5/13/68

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NO 157-10673
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On May 7, 1968, information was received from the San Antonio Office of the FBI that it had been determined that the following long distance telephone calls had been made from coin telephones located at or near San Antonio, Texas, to the following listed telephone numbers at New Orleans, Louisiana, on the dates indicated:

Telephone Number	Date
834-0436	December 17, 1967
895-9029	December 16, 1967
943-9109	December 15, 1967.

Date 5/13/681

Mrs. IRMA BLANCHARD, 3838 Airline Highway, Apartment 2, advised that she is the subscriber of telephone number 834-0436, but does not specifically recall receiving a long distance telephone call from the State of Texas during the period December 15-17, 1967. Mrs. BLANCHARD advised, however, that she does telephonically communicate with the Reverend ALVIN BILLIMEK of San Antonio, Texas. She advised that Reverend BILLIMEK is a Redemptorist missionary priest who travels throughout the State of Texas and very possibly called her on this particular occasion. She advised that this is the only individual whom she knows in the State of Texas who would possibly contact her.

Mrs. BLANCHARD stated that in view of the fact of Reverend BILLIMEK's position, she did not particularly care to get him involved in this matter and as such, declined to furnish Reverend BILLIMEK's address other than stating that his residence is located at a Redemptorist parish in San Antonio, Texas.

Mrs. BLANCHARD was shown several photographs of the subject, JAMES EARL RAY, whom she could not identify as anyone she may have met or previously seen.

On 5/11/68 at Metairie, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673

by SA PATRICK J. DENTE - jah 36 Date dictated 5/13/68

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Date May 10, 1968

Miss FAY JOHNSON was contacted at 3003 Toledano Street, Apartment 211 where she advised that she resides with Miss BEVERLY GUIDRY and Miss YVETTE SOUCY.

JOHNSON advised that their telephone number at the apartment is 895-9029.

JOHNSON was questioned concerning any telephone calls received at the apartment from December 15 to December 17, 1967 from anywhere in Texas. She advised that a mutual friend of theirs who is in the U.S. Air Force and was stationed somewhere near San Antonio, Texas during that period has called the apartment on numerous occasions and that she feels fairly certain that he called shortly before Christmas, 1967. She said that she could not be certain that the call was between December 15 to 17, but that it was near those dates. She advised his name is GERARD DARENSBOURG.

JOHNSON advised that Miss GUIDRY also has a friend in Houston, Texas and that individual occasionally calls the apartment, but she does not know this person's name and could not say he called during the above period.

JOHNSON advised that Miss GUIDRY is in Lafayette, Louisiana and will not return until May 13, 1968.

JOHNSON was shown various photographs of JAMES EARL RAY at which time she advised that she did not know this person although she was aware that he was being sought for the murder of Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING.

On 5/10/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673
by SA PAUL C. HENSEL 37 Date dictated 5/10/68


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Date May 10, 1968

Miss YVETTE SOUCY was contacted at the Katz and Benzhoff Drug Store, Napoleon Avenue and St. Charles Street, where she advised she is employed. She stated that she lives at 3003 Toledano, Apartment 211 and has telephone number 895-9029.

She advised that she has not received any telephone calls from Texas during the period December 15 to 17, 1967 although her roommates, Miss RAY JOHNSON and Miss BEVERLY GUIDRY do have friends in Texas and they sometimes receive calls from those friends.

SOUCY was shown various photographs of JAMES EARL RAY at which time she advised that she did not know him but recognized him as the man being sought for the slaying of DR. KING.



On 5/10/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673

by SA PAUL C. HENSEL 38 Date dictated 5/10/68

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5/10/68

Louisiana

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 5/13/68

Miss BEVERLY GUIDRY was contacted at 3003 Toledano Street, Apartment 211, at which time she advised that she resides at that apartment and subscribes to telephone number 895-9029 which is located at that apartment.

GUIDRY stated that she cannot recall receiving any telephone call from any place within the State of Texas, during the period December 15 to 17, 1967. She advised that she cannot recall her roommates Miss YVETTE SOUCY or Miss FAY JOHNSON receiving calls from Texas during that period.

GUIDRY advised that she has one friend in Houston, Texas, with whom she communicates but that at best she can recall she generally telephones this individual in Houston. She advised that person's name is LILLY THIBEAUX, 5016 Blossom.

Miss GUIDRY was shown various photographs of JAMES EARL RAY at which time she advised she recalls seeing RAY'S photograph in a newspaper but that she was not familiar with RAY and had never received a call from him.

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On 5/13/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673

by SA PAUL C. HENSEL/ac

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Date dictated 5/13/68

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5/13/68

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NO 1

Date 5/10/681

Mrs. RUSSELL FARLEY, 4816½ North Prieur Street, advised her telephone number is 943-9109 and she has had this telephone since an unrecalled date in 1964.

Mrs. FARLEY advised that she cannot recall receiving a telephone call from anyone in the State of Texas between December 15 and December 17, 1967. Mrs. FARLEY stated if she did receive this call, the only person that would call her from Texas is her son, RUSSELL FARLEY, JR., who is currently enrolled in the Job Corps and is staying at the Job Corps Training Center at San Marcos, Texas.

Mrs. FARLEY advised her son can be reached through Mr. T. J. GIZELBACH, Area Manager, Texas Educational Foundation, Gary Job Corps Training Center, Box 1108, San Marcos, Texas.

Mrs. FARLEY, a Negro, was shown photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and she advised that she has never seen this individual and knows nothing about the individual.

Mrs. FARLEY further advised that if her son, RUSSELL FARLEY, JR., did in fact telephone her in December of 1967, he would have made this telephone call from a pay telephone booth as he would not have been permitted to use any of the telephones at the Job Corps Training Center to make a personal long distance telephone call.

On 5/9/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673
by SAs THOMAS E. DUHADWAY and 40
CHRISTOPHER MAZZELLA TED:mak Date dictated 5/10/68

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