

SI 44-561

LEADS:

ST. LOUIS DIVISION

At La Grange, Missouri

Will interview LAFAYETTE DILTS as set forth in enclosed airtel.

SPRINGFIELD DIVISION

At Quincy, Illinois

Will interview DIDRICK CLYDE HALL when located.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

F B I

Date: 5-25-68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) - P -
SUBJECT: MURKIN

(OO: MEMPHIS)

Re San Francisco airtel to Bureau dated 5-16-68,
a copy of which is enclosed for St. Louis.

On 5-22-68, 5-23-68, and 5-24-68, ORVILLE BURNETT, 615 Jefferson Street, Quincy, Illinois, advised SA ELYON H. DAVIS that DIDRICK CLYDE HALL, aka DIDRICK FRANKS, DITTY HALL, is a relative of his and normally resides at that address. HALL is an alcoholic and has been missing for several days. This is not unusual for HALL as he goes on extended drunks and will be gone from Quincy for several days at a time before returning.

On 5-22-68, and 5-23-68, efforts to locate LAFAYETTE DILTS in Quincy, Illinois, were unsuccessful as his whereabouts are unknown to the Quincy Police Department; Credit Bureau and other sources.

On 5-24-68, SI 1586-C advised that LAFAYETTE DILTS, aka LAFE DILTS, is presently residing at La Grange, Missouri, and either works as a commercial fisherman or operates a fish market in La Grange. DILTS has a girlfriend in La Grange by the name of MAHALA LA MARR.

3 - Bureau (44-38861) (RM)
2 - Memphis (44-1987) (RM)
2 - St. Louis (Enc. 1) (RM)
② - Springfield (44-561)
EHD:ras
(9) *ras*

SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED _____
INDEXED _____
FILED _____

Approved: TC/mr
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

44-561-565

SI 44-561

LEADS:

ST. LOUIS DIVISION

At La Grange, Missouri

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SPRINGFIELD DIVISION

At Quincy, Illinois

Will interview DIDRICK CLYDE HALL when located.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

DATE: 5/20/68

FROM : SA JOSEPH P. BENSON

-P-

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Laundry Checks

On 4/9/68, the following laundries were checked in Morgan County, Illinois, re brand mark 02B-6 with negative results:

Wards Launderette
Jacksonville, Illinois

Olson Cleaners
Jacksonville, Illinois

Howards Laundry
Jacksonville, Illinois

① - Springfield (44-561)

WRB/eab

(1)

eab



5010-108

44-561-566

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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MAY 20 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Roberts

Asac

SAC

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

FBI SPRNGFLD

FBI ST LOUIS

815PM URGENT 5-23-68 JJR

TO: DIRECTOR ; MEMPHIS AND SPRINGFIELD

FROM: ST. LOUIS (44-775) 3P

MURKIN - SUMMARY

RE JOHN EUGENE GAWRON.

SPRINGFIELD SEE BUAIRTEL MAY SIXTEEN LAST FOR GAWRON ALLEGATIONS
OF RAY BR PARTICIPATION SIXTY SEVEN.

GAWRON REINTERVIEWED LATE LAST NIGHT. REVEALED LOCATION OF
BANK ROBBED TO BE ALTON, ILL., AND IDENTITY OF UN NAMED MAN WHO
ALLEGEDLY TOLD HIM HE AND RAY ROBBED SAME AS JIMMIE LNU. LAST
SAW JIMMIE WITH MAN PREVIOUSLY UNKNOWN TO HIM NAMED JOHNNY LNU
WHEN THEY VISITED HIM NIGHTS OF MAY THIRTEEN AND FOURTEEN LAST.
EX CONS JOHNPAYL VELAYTI AND JAMES H. CARPENTER FBI NUMBER TWO
THREE ZERO TWO FOUR THREE, ALL KNOWN TO HAVE VISITED GAWRON THOSE
DATES.

SL FILES INDICATE BANK OF ALTON, ALTON, ILL., ROBBED BY TWO
UNSUBS, JULY THIRTEEN SIXTY SEVEN, SEE BUFILE NINE ONE DASH TWO.
END PAGE ONE

44-561-567 (P. 13)

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FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Harris
coe @ Robert

PAGE TWO

SL 44-775

SEVEN FOUR NINE FOUR, SPRINGFIELD FILE NINE ONE DASH THREE SIX NINE NINE. DESCRIPTION OF NUMBER TWO MAN COULD FIT RAY. DESCRIPTION NUMBER ONE MAN DOES NOT FIT CARPENTER WHO IS FIVE FEET EIGHT, ONE FORTY LBS, SLENDER.

SL CITY JAIL RECORD ESTABLISHED CARPENTER IN CITY JAIL, SL, FROM JUNE FIVE SIXTY SEVEN TO MARCH ONE SIXTY EIGHT. COULD THEREFORE NOT HAVE PARTICIPATED IN BR, OR HAVE CONTACTED GAWRON AS CLAIMED IN SIXTY SEVEN.

GAWRON LED AGENTS TO ABOVE BANK. IDENTIFIED IT AS ONE HE AND RAY HAD CASSED IN FIFTY NINE. MO PLANNED WAS SUBSTANTIALLY SAME USED IN ACTUAL BR. SAID HAD DELIBERATELY MISLED SA'S AS TO AMOUNT OF LOOT AND LOCATION TO GAIN TIME TO BE SURE HE WOULD BE IN CLEAR. HE AND RAY PLANNED TO STAY WITH WEEK FOOD SUPPLY AT ROOMING HOUSE IN ALTON WHICH HE DESCRIBED AND LED SA'S TO
1 2 0 9-4th St.
AT ONE TWO ZERO NINE FOURTH STREET.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

SL 44-775

IN VIEW OF ABOVE, GAWRON BEING CONSIDERED KNOWN UNRELIABILITY.
OTHER OFFICES RECEIVING REFERENCED AIRTEL BEING ADVISED BY AIRTEL.
RE JERRY RAYNES, JOHN LARRY RAY, CAROL PEPPER.

SOURCES AND SPOT CHECKS INDICATE NO SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY.

RE JUDGE JOHN C. CASEY

JUDGE CASEY NOT AVAILABLE THIS EVENING. WILL BE CONTACTED
PRIOR TO TIME COURT IN SESSION TOMORROW.

EFFORTS TO LOCATE FELLOW PRISONERS, TOLL CALL AND LOOK ALIKE
RESOLUTIONS CONTINUING.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS

CORR PG 1 LINE 10 WD 6 SHOULD READ ARE

END.

JRP

FBI SPRNGFLD

TU P

FBI SPRNGFLD

FBI ST LOUIS

815PM URGENT 5-23-68 JJR

TO: DIRECTOR ; MEMPHIS AND SPRINGFIELD
FROM: ST. LOUIS (44-775) 3P

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44-561-567

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FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

(1) Roberts
(2) Figgins

PAGE TWO

SL 44-775

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RESOLUTIONS CONTINUING.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS

CORR PG 1 LINE 10 WD 6 SHOULD READ ARE

END.

JRP

FBI SPRNGFLD

TU P

FBI SPRINGFIELD

FBI WASH DC

534PM IMMEDIATE 5-24-68 RJP

TO MEMPHIS 44-1987 CHICAGO 44-1114 SPRINGFIELD ST. LOUIS 44-775
FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861 1P

MURKIN. *44-561*

RE ST. LOUIS TEL INSTANT DATE.

BUREAU OFFICES ARE TO MAKE NO COMMENT WHATSOEVER
REGARDING ANY ORDER ISSUED BY JUDGE CASEY AND TO MAKE NO
PRESS RELEASE OR URGE ANY PRESS RELEASE CONCERNING
ORDER ISSUED BY JUDGE CASEY.

NO PROMISES ARE TO BE MADE TO SUBJECT'S RELATIVES
THAT SUBJECT MAY HAVE CONVICTION REVERSED OR THAT HE
"HAS GOOD CHANCE OF BEATING KING RAP."

END

WAL

FBI SPRINGFIELD

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MAY 24 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Lewis

44-561-568

FBI SPRNGFLD

FBI WASH DC

534PM IMMEDIATE 5-24-68 BJP

TO MEMPHIS 44-1987 CHICAGO 44-1114 SPRINGFIELD ST. LOUIS 44-775
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END

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FBI SPRNGFLD

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MAY 24 1968	
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44-561-568

FBI SPRNGFLD

FBI WASH DC

534PM IMMEDIATE 5-24-68 BJP

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END

MAL

FBI SPRNGFLD

X

2 XEROX
COPIES MADE
5-24-68
DATE INITIAL

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MAY 24 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Hobbs

44-561-568

FBI SPRINGFIELD

FBI WASH DC

URGENT IMMEDIATE 5-24-68 RJP

TO MEMPHIS 44-1987 CHICAGO 44-1114 SPRINGFIELD ST. LOUIS 44-775
FROM DIRECTOR 44-2361 1P

MURKIN. *44-561*

RE ST. LOUIS TEL INSTANT DATE.

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END

MAL

FBI SPRINGFIELD

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Heavis
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MAY 24 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Haines *RA*

44-561-568

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : FILE (44-561)

DATE: 5-24-68

FROM : SAC

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re St. Louis teletype to Springfield, 5-23-68, and airtel from the Director dated 5-16-68, both concerning JOHN EUGENE GAWRON.

At 3:15 p.m., this date, Section Chief CLEMENT MC GOWAN telephonically instructed that in view of referenced communications that the file and investigation of "UNSUBS (2); BANK OF ALTON, ALTON, ILLINOIS, 7-13-67, BR", SI file 91-3699 must be thoroughly reviewed and completely checked out to determine if RAY is identical with one of the unknown subjects in the Bank of Alton robbery.

According to MC GOWAN, GAWRON told St. Louis Agents that he, GAWRON, had lived with RAY's mother in commonlaw and that he and RAY had cased the bank as early as 1959. GAWRON advised agents the reason they did not attempt to rob was because, he, GAWRON, had hurt his leg. MC GOWAN noted that the Alton bank robbery occurred July 13, 1967, and it was determined that RAY was in Montreal, Canada, on July 18, 1967.

MC GOWAN specifically advised that determination should be made as to the denominations of the bills taken in the Alton bank robbery, specifically determine if there was a great number of \$20 bills.

Also any laundry mark clothing obtained in the Alton bank robbery should be considered in connection with laundry marks in the MURKIN investigation.

MC GOWAN noted that hair specimens in the Alton bank robbery had been returned to Springfield by the FBI Lab and that these specimens in the Alton bank robbery should be forwarded to the Lab with instructions for Memphis to return Caucasian hairs obtained in the MURKIN investigation for comparison with those obtained in the Alton bank robbery.

② - 44-561
1 - 91-3699
TC:VLS
(3)

44-561-569

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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MAY 24 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Harries



5010-108

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

SI 44-561

MC GOWAN said that photographs of any of RAY's associates available should be displayed in an effort to determine if they were involved in the Alton bank robbery. If possible, information should be obtained concerning bank robbery suspects during that period who subsequently went to Canada.

MC GOWAN advised that after reviewing the Bank of Alton bank robbery file at the Bureau there appeared to be very many possibilities of developing information concerning RAY. He noted that it had not been determined where RAY had obtained the vast sums of money he apparently spent.

MC GOWAN insisted that this matter be examined and investigated in depth to determine specifically if RAY had anything to do with the Alton bank robbery.

FILE (44-561)

5-24-68

SAC

MURKIN

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② - 44-561
1 - 91-3699
TC:VLS
(3)

44-561-569

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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SI 44-561

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DECODED COPY

☒ Radio☐ Teletype

URGENT 5-22-68

TO: ALL FIELD DIVISIONS

FROM: DIRECTOR

MURKIN.

INASMUCH AS RAY IS KNOWN TO STAY AT "FLOPHOUSES" AND LOWER CLASS ROOMING HOUSES, ALL OFFICES WILL FURNISH COPY OF IDENTIFICATION ORDER REGARDING RAY TO SALVATION ARMY AND OTHER CHARITABLE TYPE MISSIONS.

ALL OFFICES COVERING STATE CAPITALS, IF NOT ALREADY DONE, WILL AT DRIVERS LICENSE BUREAUS CHECK ALL DRIVERS LICENSE APPLICATIONS FOR MONTHS OF APRIL AND MAY, 1968, CONCERNING ALL MALE CAUCASIANS OVER THIRTY YEARS OF AGE AND UNDER FIFTYFIVE YEARS, IN VIEW OF FACT IT IS POSSIBLE SUBJECT SECURED DRIVERS LICENSE USING ANOTHER NAME OTHER THAN ALIASES KNOWN. AS RESULT OF REVIEWING THESE APPLICATIONS, YOU SHOULD CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE IF ANY SUCH INDIVIDUAL IDENTICAL WITH SUBJECT.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

(2)
WCM

17 XEROX
COPIES MADE
5/24 DATE INITIALS

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 22 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

44-561-570

DECODED COPY

☒ Radio☐ Teletype

URGENT 5-22-68

TO: ALL FIELD DIVISIONS

FROM: DIRECTOR

MURKIN.

INASMUCH AS RAY IS KNOWN TO STAY AT "FLOPHOUSES" AND LOWER CLASS ROOMING HOUSES, ALL OFFICES WILL FURNISH COPY OF IDENTIFICATION ORDER REGARDING RAY TO SALVATION ARMY AND OTHER CHARITABLE TYPE MISSIONS.

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ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

(2)
WCM

*Tal - ① coordinate lead in
all RAs re IO
② coordinate HVB
Lead off Reynolds
Hawthorn*

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 22 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Robert

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

44-561-570

DECODED COPY

☒ Radio☐ Teletype

URGENT 5-22-68

TO: ALL FIELD DIVISIONS

FROM: DIRECTOR

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ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

(2)
WCM

Inv. Lic. lead
@ Hammett & Reynolds
Case @ Roberts **ROBERTS**

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 22 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

NOTE: Per state contacts DLB this cannot be done without GREAT EXPENSE.

44-561-570

DECODED COPY

☒ Radio☐ Teletype

URGENT 5-24-68

TO: DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS, SPRINGFIELD, AND CHICAGO

FROM: ST. LOUIS

MURKIN. *44-561*

FOR INFO OF CHICAGO AND SPRINGFIELD, PRIOR TO ESCAPE, SUBJECT FILED MOTION TO VACATE JUDGEMENT AND SENTENCE IN '59 KROGER ARMED ROBBERY WHICH RESULTED IN MSP IMPRISONMENT. MOTION STILL PENDING BEFORE SL CIRCUIT JUDGE JOHN C. CASEY, WHO, SHORTLY AFTER 10 A.M. THIS DATE INTENDS TO ENTER PUBLIC ORDER DIRECTING SUBJECT TO APPEAR AND PROSECUTE MOTION BY JUNE 3 OR FACE DISMISSAL. WILL STATE FROM BENCH MOTION APPEARS GOOD, IF PROPERLY PRESENTED AND PURSUED. HAS CONFIDENTIALLY ADVISED CONVICTION WOULD BE VACATED IN LIGHT OF MIRANDA AND RECENT DECISIONS.

CASEY DESIRES MAXIMUM PUBLICITY ON THEORY THAT SUBJECT, IF ALIVE, MAY REALIZE HE CAN BEAT ARMED ROBBERY RAP, DECIDE HE HAS GOOD CHANCE OF BEATING KING RAP BEFORE SOUTHERN JURY AND GIVE SELF UP.

IF SUBJECT'S RELATIVES ARE MADE AWARE OF POSSIBILITIES AND IF

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MAY 24 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Davis

Harris adv. 3:30 PM
Robert [unclear] [unclear]
ACE [unclear] [unclear]
44-561-571

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

DECODED COPY

☒ Radio☐ Teletype

THEY ARE AWARE OF SUBJECT'S WHEREABOUTS, OR ARE IN CONTACT WITH HIM, THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS MIGHT BE DECIDING FACTOR IN HIS DECISION TO GIVE SELF UP. RELATIVES IN SL TERRITORY BEING CONTACTED WITH THIS INFO TODAY.

SUGGESTED OFFICES COVERING OTHER RELATIVES DO LIKEWISE.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

(2)
WCM

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

DECODED COPY

☒ Radio☐ Teletype

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FROM: ST. LOUIS

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SERIALIZED <i>ll</i>	FILED <i>ll</i>
MAY 24 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Haines

Haines adv. 3:15pm NW
Roberts advised
44-561-571

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DECODED COPY

☒ Radio☐ Teletype

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☒ Radio☐ Teletype

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MURKIN. *44-561*

FOR INFO OF CHICAGO AND SPRINGFIELD, PRIOR TO ESCAPE, SUBJECT FILED MOTION TO VACATE JUDGEMENT AND SENTENCE IN '59 KROGER ARMED ROBBERY WHICH RESULTED IN MSP IMPRISONMENT. MOTION STILL PENDING BEFORE SL CIRCUIT JUDGE JOHN C. CASEY, WHO, SHORTLY AFTER 10 A.M. THIS DATE INTENDS TO ENTER PUBLIC ORDER DIRECTING SUBJECT TO APPEAR AND PROSECUTE MOTION BY JUNE 3 OR FACE DISMISSAL. WILL STATE FROM BENCH MOTION APPEARS GOOD, IF PROPERLY PRESENTED AND PURSUED. HAS CONFIDENTIALLY ADVISED CONVICTION WOULD BE VACATED IN LIGHT OF MIRANDA AND RECENT DECISIONS.

CASEY DESIRES MAXIMUM PUBLICITY ON THEORY THAT SUBJECT, IF ALIVE, MAY REALIZE HE CAN BEAT ARMED ROBBERY RAP, DECIDE HE HAS GOOD CHANCE OF BEATING KING RAP BEFORE SOUTHERN JURY AND GIVE SELF UP.

IF SUBJECT'S RELATIVES ARE MADE AWARE OF POSSIBILITIES AND IF

SEARCHED <i>MC</i>	INDEXED <i>MC</i>
SERIALIZED <i>MC</i>	FILED <i>MC</i>
MAY 24 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Make notes for + Davis

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

DECODED COPY

☒ Radio☐ Teletype

THEY ARE AWARE OF SUBJECT'S WHEREABOUTS, OR ARE IN CONTACT WITH HIM, THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS MIGHT BE DECIDING FACTOR IN HIS DECISION TO GIVE SELF UP. RELATIVES IN SL TERRITORY BEING CONTACTED WITH THIS INFO TODAY.

SUGGESTED OFFICES COVERING OTHER RELATIVES DO LIKEWISE.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

(2)
WCM

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

DECODED COPY

☒ Radio☐ Teletype

URGENT 5-24-68

TO: DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS, SPRINGFIELD, AND CHICAGO

FROM: ST. LOUIS

MURKIN.

FOR INFO OF CHICAGO AND SPRINGFIELD, PRIOR TO ESCAPE, SUBJECT FILED MOTION TO VACATE JUDGEMENT AND SENTENCE IN '59 KROGER ARMED ROBBERY WHICH RESULTED IN MSP IMPRISONMENT. MOTION STILL PENDING BEFORE SL CIRCUIT JUDGE JOHN C. CASEY, WHO, SHORTLY AFTER 10 A.M. THIS DATE INTENDS TO ENTER PUBLIC ORDER DIRECTING SUBJECT TO APPEAR AND PROSECUTE MOTION BY JUNE 3 OR FACE DISMISSAL. WILL STATE FROM BENCH MOTION APPEARS GOOD, IF PROPERLY PRESENTED AND PURSUED. HAS CONFIDENTIALLY ADVISED CONVICTION WOULD BE VACATED IN LIGHT OF MIRANDA AND RECENT DECISIONS.

CASEY DESIRES MAXIMUM PUBLICITY ON THEORY THAT SUBJECT, IF ALIVE, MAY REALIZE HE CAN BEAT ARMED ROBBERY RAP, DECIDE HE HAS GOOD CHANCE OF BEATING KING RAP BEFORE SOUTHERN JURY AND GIVE SELF UP.

IF SUBJECT'S RELATIVES ARE MADE AWARE OF POSSIBILITIES AND IF

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 24 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

44-561-571

"DECODED COPY"☒ **Radio**☐ **Teletype**

THEY ARE AWARE OF SUBJECT'S WHEREABOUTS, OR ARE IN CONTACT WITH HIM, THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS MIGHT BE DECIDING FACTOR IN HIS DECISION TO GIVE SELF UP. RELATIVES IN SL TERRITORY BEING CONTACTED WITH THIS INFO TODAY.

SUGGESTED OFFICES COVERING OTHER RELATIVES DO LIKEWISE.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

(2)
WCM

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

F B I

Date: May 21, 1968

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

To: All SACs
LEGATS, Mexico City
Ottawa

Jms
From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

For your information and investigative assistance, subject James Earl Ray has been known to consort with prostitutes and "street bums." A photograph of subject was obtained from a prostitute in Mexico. This photograph showing subject wearing sunglasses was previously forwarded to your office.

This should be borne in mind in your daily contact with informants, officers of vice squads and prostitutes in covering leads in connection with this and other cases.

Armed and dangerous.

SAC *TC**Hartnett**Emm*

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 23 1968	
FBI - SEATTLE	

OK

Sent Via _____ M

Per

44-561-572

FBI

Date: May 21, 1968

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

To: All SACs
LEGATS, Mexico City
Ottawa

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

For your information and investigative assistance, subject James Earl Ray has been known to consort with prostitutes and "street bums." A photograph of subject was obtained from a prostitute in Mexico. This photograph showing subject wearing sunglasses was previously forwarded to your office.

This should be borne in mind in your daily contact with informants, officers of vice squads and prostitutes in covering leads in connection with this and other cases.

Armed and dangerous.

14 XEROX
COPIES MADE
5/27/68
DATE INITIALS

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
MAY 23 1968
FBI - ST. LOUIS
Hohens

Sent Via _____ M

Per

44-561-572

44-561-573

TO: SAC,

☐ Albany
☐ Albuquerque
☐ Anchorage
☐ Atlanta
☐ Baltimore
☐ Birmingham
☐ Boston
☐ Buffalo
☐ Butte
☐ Charlotte
☐ Chicago
☐ Cincinnati
☐ Cleveland
☐ Columbia
☐ Dallas
☐ Denver
☐ Detroit
☐ El Paso
☐ Honolulu

☐ Houston
☐ Indianapolis
☐ Jackson
☐ Jacksonville
☐ Kansas City
☐ Knoxville
☐ Las Vegas
☐ Little Rock
☐ Los Angeles
☐ Louisville
☐ Memphis
☐ Miami
☐ Milwaukee
☐ Minneapolis
☐ Mobile
☐ Newark
☐ New Haven
☐ New Orleans

☐ New York City
☐ Norfolk
☐ Oklahoma City
☐ Omaha
☐ Philadelphia
☐ Phoenix
☐ Pittsburgh
☐ Portland
☐ Richmond
☐ St. Louis
☐ Salt Lake City
☐ San Antonio
☐ San Diego
☐ San Francisco
☐ San Juan
☐ Savannah
☐ Seattle
☒ Springfield

☐ Tampa
☐ Washington Field
☐ Quantico

TO LEGAT:

☐ Bern
☐ Bonn
☐ Buenos Aires
☐ Hong Kong
☐ London
☐ Manila
☐ Mexico, D.F.
☐ Ottawa
☐ Paris
☐ Rome
☐ Santo Domingo
☐ Tokyo

Date 5-22-68

RE: **MURKIN**
PUBLICITY ON REWARDS OFFERED

<input type="checkbox"/> For information	<input type="checkbox"/> Retention optional	<input type="checkbox"/> For appropriate action	<input type="checkbox"/> Surep, by
<input type="checkbox"/> The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, all sources, <input type="checkbox"/> paraphrase contents.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA dated _____			

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 23 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Robert

Remarks: ReBulet 5-20-68.

In the event of inquiries regarding the identity of the sources of the reward money offered in the Murkin case, you may confidentially advise established sources that according to a compilation set forth in the April 27th edition of the "Commercial Appeal," Memphis, Tennessee, \$25,000 each has been offered by the "Commercial Appeal" and Scripps-Howard newspapers and that in addition, businessmen and citizens in Memphis have offered several thousands more and the Memphis City Council has under-written the reward up to a total of \$100,000.

Bufile

Ufile

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE BIRMINGHAM	OFFICE OF ORIGIN MEMPHIS	DATE 5/20/68	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 4/17/68 - 5/17/68
TITLE OF CASE JAMES EARL RAY, aka - FUGITIVE IO #4182 WF #442-A TOP TEN FUGITIVE; DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM		REPORT MADE BY SA HENRY A. SNOW	TYPED BY cap
		CHARACTER OF CASE CR - CONSPIRACY; UFAC - ROBBERY	

REFERENCES:

Report of SA HENRY A. SNOW at Birmingham, dated 4/17/68, and numerous communications and reports.

- P -

LEAD:

BIRMINGHAM:

AT BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA:

Will continue efforts to locate fugitive RAY.

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

APPROVED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW
COPIES MADE: 4 - Bureau (44-38861) 2 - Atlanta (44-2386) 1 - Chicago (Info) (44-1114) 1 - Kansas City (Info) (44-760) 1 - Los Angeles (Info) (44-1574) 3 - Memphis (1-USA, Memphis, HOLD) 1 - Newark (Info) (44-854) 1 - New Orleans (Info) (157-10673) 1 - St. Louis (44-775) ① - Springfield (44-561) 3 - Birmingham (44-1740) (1-USA, Birmingham)		SEARCHED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDEXED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SERIALIZED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MAY 23 1968 FBI - SPRINGFIELD <i>Robert</i>
Dissemination Record of Attached Report Agency - <i>Mobile - (157-2627)</i> Request Recd. Date Fwd. How Fwd. By		Notations <div style="font-size: 2em; font-family: cursive;">44-561-574</div>

BH 44-1740
HAS:jam

ADMINISTRATIVE:

No leads are being set forth in this report as all have been handled by telephone or teletype during the period covered in this report.

One extra copy is being furnished to the Memphis Office marked "Hold" for the U. S. Attorney, Memphis, which may be released only upon Bureau authority.

The voluminous negative information is not being reported herein as it would serve no useful purpose. However, in separate volumns of the Birmingham file related to this matter, all such investigation is recorded including elimination of numerous "look-alikes" and suspects.

In accordance with Bureau instructions each informant including CI's and PCI's as well as logical racial informants and sources of information have all been contacted personally during the period covered herein and each such individual has been supplied a copy of the Identification Order for RAY together with exhibition of several views of his photographs. This has resulted negatively to date.

The confidential source whose interview is set forth in this report at length who was a former inmate of subject RAY at the Missouri State Penitentiary is THOMAS BRITTON who resides at 1710 Alabama Avenue, Jasper, Alabama, and is presently employed at Foster's Cabinet Shop, Haleyville, Alabama. He is being contacted on a regular basis and it is believed that should he receive a call from subject RAY that he will notify the Birmingham Office immediately. It was deemed advisable not to

COVER PAGE

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BH 44-1740

disclose his identity in this report since he is apprehensive of possible retaliation by former inmates should it become known that he is being contacted by FBI Agents. Contacts with him have been had after his regular work-day hours in order that he not be compromised.

In connection with the information furnished in the body of this report by the above-mentioned confidential source regarding the possibility that subject RAY may have known that Walker County, Alabama was dry but that there were "beer joints" just over the neighboring county line of Jefferson near Birmingham, the following is noted:

The location of the "beer joints" described by the confidential source is in close proximity to the terminus of the navigable Warrior River upon which large tow barges operate to port Birmingham and Cordova, Alabama. The Warrior River is navigable from those locations through the length of Alabama to Mobile thence by inter-coastal canal to New Orleans and from there up the Mississippi River. Birmingham contemplates additional investigation on the possibility that RAY during the period 1958 to 1960 may have, in fact, been employed as a deck hand or cook on one of the barge lines operated on the Mississippi-Warrior system.

In connection with the information furnished by BRITTON, it was thought advisable to check the long distance telephone calls made from his home telephone to determine whether there might be any possibility of his having been contacted by such means by subject RAY.

On May 8, 1968, SA JOHN H. KRESEK secured from Mrs. ELAINE DOWNEY, Assistant Manager, Southern

COVER PAGE

C

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BH 44-1740

Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company, Jasper, Alabama, whose identity should be protected, a list of all such toll calls made to BRITTON's home telephone 387-7988 beginning on September 18, 1967, through April 4, 1968. The identity of the individuals called have been established and reflect no possibility of RAY being the recipient of any call. A record of this is maintained in the Birmingham file.

Information copies of this report are being furnished the auxiliary offices indicated due to their investigation conducted in this matter and possible future requests for additional investigation.

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D

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date May 15, 1968

Mrs. BEATRICE BRITTON, 1710 Alabama Avenue, Jasper, Alabama, furnished the following:

She is married to THOMAS BRITTON, a former inmate at the Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri. Mrs. BRITTON stated her husband never identified JAMES EARL RAY as a person known to him after or during the time when RAY's photograph and name were appearing frequently on TV and in newspapers and also stated her husband had never commented anything about RAY until about May 3, 1968, when Mrs. BRITTON was first contacted by the FBI in an effort to locate her husband. Her husband then told her that the FBI was seeking him concerning a man he had known in the penitentiary who had carried hot water to the prisoners' cells.

Mrs. BRITTON stated that neither she nor her husband, to her knowledge, has ever received any telephone calls from any unknown men who were attempting to contact her husband and who could be identical with JAMES EARL RAY. She stated she has never been contacted at her residence by anyone resembling RAY who was looking for her husband. She was unable to identify any photograph of RAY as a person ever seen by her at any time.

She stated that from June, 1967, until January, 1968, she and her family had not resided at 1710 Alabama Avenue, Jasper, but had resided in a rural area outside of Jasper. During the same time, however, they had kept the same telephone number they had had prior to moving from 1710 Alabama Avenue. In January, 1968, they moved back into the house at 1710 Alabama Avenue.

On 5/8/68 at Jasper, Alabama File # BH 44-1740
by SA ROBERT M. BARRETT and
SA WILLIAM A. SAUCIER / RMB:hss Date dictated 5/14/68

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E

BH 44-1740

ED HOLLIS, operator of the Allstate Cafe, U. S. Highway 78, advised he and his brother, HAROLD HOLLIS, had been operating the Allstate Night Club and Allstate Cafe as two separate businesses since 1957. HOLLIS stated he could not identify any of the photographs of JAMES EARL RAY as a person he had ever seen at the Allstate Cafe either during the period 1958-1960 or since April, 1967. HAROLD HOLLIS was also unable to identify subject RAY after viewing the photographs.

ELEANOR HOLLIS, wife of ED HOLLIS and who works as a waitress at the Allstate Cafe, identified the 1967 and 1968 photographs of JAMES EARL RAY as a person she has seen at the Allstate Cafe. She stated that quite frankly she is unable to furnish any other information whatsoever about the person she identified as RAY, as to description, time seen at the cafe, automobile used, or anything else. She was quite definite in that she had seen RAY at the cafe.

MYRTLE NELSON, cook at the Allstate Cafe, identified the 1967 and 1968 photographs of JAMES EARL RAY as a person she had seen in the Allstate Cafe as a customer. She stated, however, she could not furnish any other information whatsoever concerning this person.

Both Mrs. HOLLIS and MYRTLE NELSON stated they would give the matter considerable thought in an effort to recall any other information concerning the individual they identified.

cover page
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BH 44-1740

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Cover Page
G

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1 - USA, Memphis
1 - USA, Birmingham

Report of: SA HENRY A. SNOW
Date: 5/20/68

Office: BIRMINGHAM

Field Office File #: 44-1740

Bureau File #: 44-38861

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

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

Synopsis: Proprietor of the "Gun Rack", Birmingham, a store dealing in the sale of firearms, is of opinion that subject spent considerable time examining high power rifles in his place on 3/27/68, which was two days prior to his appearance at the Aeromarine Supply Company where murder weapon was purchased. Record located of bank draft purchased by subject, as GALT, on 9/28/67, in amount \$337.24, payable to Superior Bulk Film Company, Chicago, for photographic equipment. Son of seller of Mustang to subject believed photograph of subject identical to purchaser. Same opinion of photograph expressed by operator and cook at the Economy Rooming House, Highland Avenue, Birmingham, where subject resided from 8/26/67 to 10/7/67. JAMES W. BROWN, Reform, Alabama, who was well acquainted with subject RAY while both confined in Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri, recalled that RAY was considerably upset during demonstrations led by KING and about the Fall of 1963 RAY made the statement that he was going to kill KING when he got out and was under the impression that some organization would pay \$10,000.00 for KING's murder. BROWN also identified several former and present inmates who knew subject. Similiar information secured from another former inmate, who is now a parolee from Missouri State Penitentiary, residing near Birmingham, but who desired his identity not be made known. RAY eliminated as possible suspect in any bank robbery committed in Birmingham Office territory. Since

BH 44-1740

submission of last report and since issuance of Identification Order and wanted flyer for RAY's apprehension, extensive investigation has continued in Birmingham territory without securing any additional information as to his whereabouts, although numerous "look-a-likes" and suspects eliminated. This investigation included personal contacts and delivery of Identification Orders to all employees in the following business categories: outlets of salacious books, rooming houses, hotels and motels, bus stations, railroads, airline facilities, car rental agencies, public luggage lockers, laundries and dry cleaners, "lonely heart" type organizations, and bank safe deposit box departments. Classified ads of used cars for sale which appeared in Birmingham newspapers during pertinent period, 3/21-4/2/68, were reviewed and 486 cars advertised eliminated as having been sold to subject. Subject's photographs published in periodical distributed to all service stations in state. No record located of subject having applied for employment at any country club. No record of any unidentified deceased male who might be subject located. Check of marriage and divorce records of all counties in Birmingham territory negative. SUBJECT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

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- 2 -

BH 44-1740

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5/2/68

The following signed statement was furnished by CLYDE R. MANASCO, Route 9, Box 602, Birmingham, Alabama, clerk at the Gun Rack located at 1507 S.W. 31st Street, Birmingham, Alabama:

"Birmingham, Alabama
April 18, 1968

"I, CLYDE MANASCO, having viewed seven photographs exhibited to me by Special Agent J. T. ARNETT of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, have selected the photograph of ERIC STARVO GALT as appearing similar to the man who came to The Gun Rack Store, Birmingham, Alabama, where I am employed, and made inquiry regarding high-powered rifles and scopes. I believe the date the man appeared at The Gun Rack was March 27, 1968. The photograph of a man identified as ERIC STARVO GALT appears identical to this man with the exception in the photograph ERIC STARVO GALT's face appears slightly broader than I recall the man who was in The Gun Rack.

"I have read this statement and it is true to the best of my knowledge.

/s/ CLYDE R. MANASCO

"Witnessed:

Special Agent J. T. ARNETT (/s/), FBI, Birmingham, Ala.
April 18, 1968"

In addition to information furnished in the signed statement, Mr. MANASCO advised that as he had previously stated, the man who was in The Gun Rack making inquiry regarding high-powered rifles had light brown hair.

Photographs exhibited to Mr. MANASCO were as follows:

JOHN OSCAR LUCK, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office

On 4/18/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

by SA J. T. ARNETT:scb/epg Date dictated 4/25/68

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

2

BH 44-1740

#102955, Birmingham, Alabama, photograph taken April 21, 1962;

ROBERT CROSS, Birmingham FBI #91-1803;

CHARLES NEWMANT GAULT, Birmingham FBI #26-22408;

ERIC STARVO GALT, true name JAMES EARL RAY;

THOMAS FRANKLIN BRADY, Birmingham FBI #26-22408;

ERNEST GEORGE BLAND, Birmingham FBI #44-1740;

JAMES ROBERT LUKE, Atlanta Police Department
#251309, photograph taken October 20, 1967.

BH 44-1740
JTA:scb/epg
1

QUINTON B. DAVIS, 912 Ann Street, Birmingham, Alabama, owner of The Gun Rack, 1507 31st Street, S.W., Birmingham, Alabama, viewed the following photographs:

JOHN OSCAR LUCK, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office #102955, Birmingham, Alabama, photograph taken April 21, 1962;

ROBERT CROSS, Birmingham FBI #91-1803;

CHARLES NEWMANT GAULT, Birmingham FBI #26-22408;

ERIC STARVO GALT, true name JAMES EARL RAY;

THOMAS FRANKLIN BRADY, Birmingham FBI #26-22408;

ERNEST GEORGE BLAND, Birmingham FBI #44-1740;

JAMES ROBERT LUKE, Atlanta Police Department #251309, photograph taken October 20, 1967.

Mr. DAVIS advised, after viewing the above photographs on April 18, 1968, that he could not make a positive statement as to whether the photograph of any of the above individuals was identical to the photograph of the individual who had been in The Gun Rack making inquiry regarding the high-powered rifle and had specifically made inquiry regarding a Model 264 Browning automatic rifle.

BH 44-1740
JTA:scb/epg

1

JOHN MICHAEL KOPP, 1420 35th Street, Ensley, Birmingham, Alabama, employed as the manager of the Firearms Department, Long Lewis Hardware Store, Bessemer, Alabama, viewed photographs of the following individuals on April 18, 1968:

JOHN OSCAR LUCK, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, #102955, Birmingham, Alabama, photograph taken April 21, 1962;

ROBERT CROSS, Birmingham FBI #91-1803;

CHARLES NEWMANT GAULT, Birmingham FBI #26-22408;

ERIC STARVO GALT, true name JAMES EARL RAY;

THOMAS FRANKLIN BRADY, Birmingham FBI #26-22408;

ERNEST GEORGE BLAND, Birmingham FBI #44-1740;

JAMES ROBERT LUKE, Atlanta Police Department #251309, photograph taken October 20, 1967.

After viewing photographs of the above individuals, Mr. KOPP advised that he could not identify photograph of either of the above individuals as being the photograph of the customer who was in Long Lewis Hardware on March 29, 1968 making inquiry concerning purchasing a high-powered rifle.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 17, 19681

A review of records of the Exchange Security Bank, Birmingham, disclosed that on September 28, 1967, ERIC S. GALT purchased a bank draft #04012FPS, from the Exchange Security Bank's Five Points South Branch Office.

This draft was dated September 28, 1967, made payable to Superior Balk Film Company, in the amount of \$337.24, and was drawn on the City National Bank of New York, New York, and authorized signature contained thereon was BOB SELLERS. This draft did not contain any endorsement.

In the event the above document is to be introduced in court, a subpoena duces tecum should be addressed to BOB CRADDOCK, Exchange Security Bank, Birmingham, Alabama.

On 4/16/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

by SA ROBERT J. YARNALL:cap Date dictated 4/17/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 17, 19681

WAYNE RUSSELL, Assistant Auditor, Exchange Security Bank, Birmingham, Alabama, advised that when a customer purchases a bank draft, the customer will fill out a requisition form or application, or may submit to the teller a piece of paper containing necessary information for the preparation of a bank draft, and that this will be submitted to a teller, who will then type out the original and two copies of the bank draft, and will then have one of the bank officers sign the draft as the authorized signer.

The original draft and one copy will be returned to the customer and the second copy will be retained by the bank for their records. The application or requisition form or piece of paper handed to the teller will then be destroyed at the end of the day.

On 4/16/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

by SA ROBERT J. YARNALL:cap 8 Date dictated 4/17/68

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