File #:

Released under the John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 (44 USC 2107 Note). Case#:NW 55994 Date: 11-01-2021

Best available image

62-117290

Serial Scope:

EBF-1103

This document is made available through the declassification efforts and research of John Greenewald, Jr., creator of:

# The Black Vault



The Black Vault is the largest online Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) document clearinghouse in the world. The research efforts here are responsible for the declassification of hundreds of thousands of pages released by the U.S. Government & Military.

**Discover the Truth at: http://www.theblackvault.com** 

THIS REGISTRATION CARD ន NOTICE TO GUESTS: — This property is privately owned and management reserves right to refuse service to anyone, and will not be res; anible for accidents or injury to quests or for loss of money, jewelry or valuables of any kind. YOUR RENTAL PAYABLE IN ADVANCE RECEIPT MOTOR HOTEL American Hotel Register Ca., 226-232 W. Ontario St., Chicago 19, 111, CAR LICENSE STATE THANK MAKE OF CAR Zon 44-38861

NW 65994 Docld:32989731 Page 2

ME 44-1987

REVOLVER FOUND IN POSSESSION OF JAMES EARL RAY WHEN ARRESTED JUNE 8, 1968, IN LONDON, ENGLAND

When JAMES EARL RAY was apprehended by members of New Scotland Yard on June 8, 1968, in London, England, he had in his possession a .38 caliber "Liberty Chief" revolver manufactured by Miroku Firearms Manufacturing Company, a Japanese concern. This revolver has serial number 715.

The National Police Agency of Japan was requested to determine to whom this revolver was shipped by the manufacturer, and the following letter was forthcoming from that agency:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/20/10 BY Spanocours

ME 44-1987

On June 10, 1968, Kr. MILA SYDBODA, owner, Liberty Arms Company and Solingen Cutlery Company, Post Office Box 306, Montrose, California, advised that Liberty revolver #715 had been sold to R. TATUM, New and Used Gums, 118 Edwards Drive, Mableton, Georgia, on October 3, 1966, under Invoice No. 13909.

On June 11, 1968, Mr. ROBERT TATUM, 118 Edwards Street, Mableton, Georgia, advised SA JAMES RICHARD FLICK that the Liberty Chief revolver having serial number 715 had been sold by him on December 3, 1966, for \$50.00 to WALTER E. SPAIN, 2904-42nd Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama.

CASPINMAL

#### NATIONAL POLICE AGENCY

INTERPOL NATIONAL CENTRAL BUREAU

7/1. 2-Chome, Kasumigaseki Chiyoda ku, Tokyo Japan

Telegraphic Address:
"INTERPOLJAPAN TOKYO"

"J-NCB/ 27.8/68"

TOKYO, June 10, 1968.

Mr. Roderick V. Prechtl, Jr. Legal Attache American Embassy Tokyo

Re: Information about a pistol
"Liberty-Chief" No. 715

March 1888 1888 1888

Dear Sir:

In reply to your telephone request made this morning concerning the captioned matter, we wish to inform you as follows:

- 1. Destination of this weapon's shipment:
  This pistol in question was shipped from the manufacturing company given below on August 3, 1966, and was cleared by our Custems' inspection on August 19, 1966 and was loaded on the "HAVANA-MARU" at "SUMA-PORT" in Hyogo Prefecture for shipment to: Name of a company: LIBERTY AUGS CORPORATION.
  Address: P.O. BOX. 306, MONTROSE, CALIFORNIA, U.S.A.
- 2. Items for your reference:
  The name of this weapon's manufacturing company is "KABUSEIKI KAISHA, MIROKU SEISAKUSHO" (translated in English: HIROKU MANUFACTURING COMPANY LTD.).
  Address: 180, 1MARI-CHO, KOCHI-CITY, KOCHI PREFECTURE, JAPAN.
  Name of the President: 1DO Chiyoki.

Trusting the above information is of some assistance to you.

Yours sincerely.

for HEAD, NCB, JAPAN:

53

of Sode

(Yoshito sode)

Chief

Criminal Research & Statistics Section 359

FD-302 (Rev. 4-15-64)

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Data	June	20,	1968

WALTER E. SPAIN 2904 - 42nd Avenue North, Birmingham, Alabama, furnished the following:

Sometime in December, 1965, SPAIN went to Atlanta, Georgia, with his father, WALTER LEON SPAIN, so his father could attempt to obtain employment. While in Atlanta, WALTER E. SPAIN saw an advertisement in a newspaper for a .38 caliber Liberty snub-nose revolver, which was being sold by a gun dealer in a small town outside Atlanta, believed to be Mapleton, Georgia. SPAIN, accompanied by his father, went to this gun dealer and bought the gun and SPAIN returned it to his residence in Birmingham, Alabama.

In the Spring of 1967, SPAIN gave the gun to his father in partial payment of a debt he owed to his father. SPAIN was later told by his father that he had sold the gun after placing a want ad for it in a Birmingham newspaper. SPAIN was not present when his father sold the gun and therefore did not see the purchaser.

On	6/11/68 <sub>o1</sub>	Birmingham,	Alabama	BH 4	44-1740 14-1987
bу	SA ROBERT M. SA WILLIAM A			52 Date dictated	

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency:

Hend its contents ere not to be distributed outside your agency.

D-302 - Rev. 4 .5-6.

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date	June	20,	1968

WALTER LEON SPAIN, #3 Glen Iris Parkway, Birmingham, Alabama, furnished the following:

In the Spring of 1967, SPAIN's son, WALTER E. SPAIN, gave Mr. SPAIN a .38 caliber Liberty snub-nose revolver, which his son had purchased in late 1966 or early 1967 from a gun dealer near Atlanta, Georgia. His son owed Mr. SPAIN some money and the gun was a partial payment of this debt.

In the Fall of 1967, after having been hospitalized min August, 1967, at Huntsville, Alabama, for an illness and T being in need of money to pay bills, Mr. SPAIN sold many personal items by means of placing want ads for these items in the "Birmingham News." Among the items sold was the .38 caliber Liberty snub-nose revolver. Mr. SPAIN recalled he placed an ad for this gun in a Sunday paper, and that same Sunday he received a call from a man who asked about the gun, the price, and the directions to get to SPAIN's residence. The caller said he was in the western section of Birmingham. About an hour after this call, and while SPAIN's wife and daughter were at church, a man came to the front door and said he had called about the gun. He looked at the gun, stated he had been looking for a gun of the same type, and when told again that the price was \$65.00, he gave SPAIN two twenty dollar bills, two ten dollar bills, and a five dollar bill, after saying he would take it. SPAIN did not give the man a receipt for the money, nor did he record his name or see any identification of the man, and he did not obtain any information as to his name. The man left carrying the gun in his hand. SPAIN furnished neither ammunition nor any papers for the gun.

When the man first arrived, SPAIN observed he had parked his car, described by SPAIN only as a late model, white or light-colored, on the street in front of SPAIN's house, a distance of about 150 feet. SPAIN did not pay any further attention to the car. SPAIN did recall the buyer saying he lived in the western section of Birmingham, but he did not mention any specific address or employment.

On	6/11/68	o1	Birmingham,	Alabama_	•	_File#		44-1740 44-1987	
bу	SA ROBERT	M. A.	BARRETT and SAUCIER / R	MB:hss	53	_Date di	ctated	6/14/68	3

D-302 (Rev. 4 5-6.,

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1	DateJune 20, 1968

All Sunday issues of "The Birmingham News," for the months of September and October, 1967, were reviewed at "The Birmingham News." From this review, it was determined that only one want ad for a .38 caliber revolver was placed by WALTER LEON SPAIN, that being in the October 1, 1968, issue.

On 6/11/68 of Birmingham, Alabama File# ME 44-1740

SA ROBERT M. BARRETT and SA WILLIAM A. SAUCIER / RMB:hss Date dictated 6/14/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI, it is the property of the FBI and it found to your agency.

BH 44-1740

The buyer said he wanted the gun to keep around his house. Mr. SPAIN described the buyer as a white male, about forty to forty-five years of age, 5'8" or 5'9" tall, 170 to 175 pounds, dark hair slightly graying at the temples, with a local (Alabama) accent. The man was wearing a sport shirt and slacks, colors unrecalled, and he did not have glasses.

Mr. SPAIN was shown five different photographs of JAYES EARL RAY, and he chose one which had been taken in California during January or February, 1968, as "resembling the man" who bought the revolver; however, Mr. SPAIN would not make a definite identification of the photograph of RAY as the buyer.

Mr. SPAIN recalled he was contacted by FBI Agents on April 7, 1968, and shown an artist's conception of an individual the FBI was attempting to locate. At that time, he advised Agents the drawing reminded him of someone he may have seen previously, but was unable to furnish any other identifying information. After viewing the photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and being questioned about the sale of the revolver, SPAIN said he was now able to connect the sale of the revolver with the drawing in that the person depicted in the drawing reminded SPAIN of the person to whom he had sold the revolver.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date %/14/,16/63

JUNIE ENTON GAMER, 107 - 14th Street, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia, was contacted at 10:37 P.N., April 14, 1963. at which tire he furnished the following information:

GARIER made available a record book maintained by him concerning persons who rent rooms at both 167 and 113 -14th Street, II. , rooming houses operated by him on a lease A review of this record book failed to disclese any registration in the name GALT. It should be noted this book contains only a record of recors for the period beginning January 1.1938.

Upon being questioned concorning individuals renting at those addresses who might have cheeked out prior to the completion of the period for while they had paid, or others who for any reason might not be recorded in this record book. GAMEN named, among others, an individual named (First Name Unknown, CALA. On boing questioned concorning GALA, he said this individual was first soon by him on the afternoon of April 5, 1033, between the hours of 5:00 and 6:00 D.I. He complained that another receipt, TIDD C. 30/13, who complain room #1 at 113 - 14th Street, H.J., had been sitting in front of this building and was apprenated by GAM, who injured concorning the availability of a room. GARIDR joined the pair and GAM indicated to GARIDR be was interested in obtaining a single, quiet reem. Having no such room available, GAMMAR told GLM he would put him in Room #3, at 107 - 14th Street, which reen was a double reen and that he would be moved to a single reca as soon as one tagane available. GAMER said he noted GALT was driving a black car, probably a Ford, bearing an cut-of-state license plate (state of registration not rocalled), and that the car was possibly a 1982 or 1983 model.

GAM accepted this arrangement and paid GAMIDR while outside the Caelling and he believes he received a 510 bill and a \$1 bill in payment. The cost of the room was \$10.50 per week and a \$.50 key deposit. During the conversation, CAM indicated he was a welder and originally came from "Tho Carolinas." Es emplained that he had a tag for a different

•	,	
4/14,15/63	Atlanta, Georgia	7 Atlanta 44-2356
SAS JOHI R. ROTHR L.	CHIN and EAAS JID:loc	Date dictated

HERRIN ID UNCLACSIFIED DATE 3/20/86 BY DOOR AT 44-2386 2

At this point GARNER indicated that possibly the tag on the Ford was a Tennessee tag, but he was not at all certain of this.

GARMER described GALTERS being a white male, 32 - 35 years of age, 5' 11", 190 pounds, dark brown or black hair worn in a brush cut, blue eyes, medium "outdoor" complexion and having a southern accent. He noted no distinguishing features or characteristics and had no recollection of any ring or other jewelry. His dress was casual, specifically described as a shirt and slacks.

GALT moved into Room #5 at 107 - 14th Street, N.E., where he remained until Eunday, April 7, 1953. On this day GALT was moved to Room #6 at 113 - 14th Street, N.E. On this occasion, GAPADR observed GALT move his possessions and moved that he had no luggage and all of his possessions were either moved in a paper bag or box.

On April 7, 1968, MARCHD G. ANDERSON, an employee of the Albert Pick Motel, 14th and Spring Streets, N.N., Atlanta, was brought to the recning house by FADD C. JONES, who is also employed by this hotel. GARNER assigned ANDERSON Room #2 at 113 - 14th Street, N.E., and noted that the individual he believed to be GALT and ANDERSON became friendly.

On April 9, 1968, at approximately 9:00 P.N., GALT and ANDERSON came to CARED's room at 107 - 14th Street, N.E., at which time GALT advised GAREDR that both he and ANDERSON were checking out. He said both hen appeared to have been drinking. During the conversation, GALT advised he had received a telephone call from a friend in Michigan and had learned that welders were receiving a higher hourly wage there. For this reason, he had decided to go to Michigan to seek work. ANDERSON, who was a notel employee, indicated he was goty to Michigan with GALT and hoped to obtain employment as a welder's helper. GARER recalled he refunded approximately \$17 to ANDERSON, who had paid two weeks in advance on registering on April 7. GALT did not ask for a refund, although he was paid through April 11, but did receive the return of his \$.50 deposit for the key.

4 = /

AT 44-2386

Thereafter, GARMER accompanied GALT and ANDERSON to ANDERSON's room where he secured the room keys from both GALT and ANDERSON. At this time he noted several beer bottles in the room and presumed GALT and ANDERSON had been drinking together. GARMER did not actually observe the departure of GALT and ANDERSON, but noted both were gone on the norming of April 10, 1968, as was the previously-described block Ford auto.

GARMER made available the registration for HAROLD G. ANDERSON. This registration does not reflect an address for ANDERSON, but indicates that his father is G. F. ANDERSON, Duluth, Georgia, telephone number 443-4572. GARMER explained that he always attempts to obtain the name and address for a next of kin for his roomers.

GARMER provided the following physical description of HAROLD G. ANDERSON:

Race White Hale Sex 40 Age 51 9" Height Weight 155 - 160 pounds Light brown, parted on side Hair Ledium Complexion Lyes Unknown Distinguishing Characteristics None noted Casual, shirt and slacks Dress

CARIER identified other tenants who resided at 113 - 14th Street, N.E., during the same period that GALT was a roomer there.

GARMER said he was unable to recall GALT's first name, but advised he had observed nail on the hall table of the rooming house at 113 - 14th Street, N.E., which mail was

addressed to GALT. At this point, GARMER accompanied the interviewing Agents to 113 - 14th Street, N.E., where it was observed that there were two letters and a package on the hall table addressed to ERIC S. or E. GALT. The package was postnarked 4/1/68, and the letters were postnarked 4/9 and 4/10/68. GARIER advised his sister, PCBBIE LEE CARIER, a school teacher who resides in the Dixieland Apartments, . 1295 Donnolly Avenue, S.W., Atlanta, had visited him on either Friday or Saturday night, April 12 or 13, 1963. At this time his sister had thurbed through the mail on the table at the 113 - 14th Street address and upon noticing the mail addressed to ERIC GALT, she commented to GARMER that this was the same name as the individual who, according to newspaper publicity, was a suspect in the nurder of Dr. HAMTIN LUMER KING, JR. CAREER stated that he did not feel there was any likelihood that the CALF who had stayed at 113 - 14th Street, H.E., was identical with this suspect, stating many people have the same name.

GARRER stated that he had neither seen nor heard of GALT prior to April 5, 1838, and that during GALT's stay at his recaing house he saw nothing to indicate that GALT had any connection with any other tenant at this address prior to his arrival there. GARRER was asked whether he had any emplanation for the fact that GALT had mail postnarked 4/1/68 addressed to him at 113 - 14th Street, H.M., and according to GARRER, GALT did not arrive at this location until April 5, 1988. GALT said he was unable to explain this, and had no idea how this could occur.

GARNER was also questioned concerning the possibility that GALT or any other rocmers had left naterial with him in storage or for safekeeping. He assured that this was not so. He did report that Rooms #4 and #5 at 113 - 14th Street, N.E., both of which it was noted were fastened with hasps and padlocks, were storage rocms. He stated they contained only linens and possibly a few items of no value left behind by roomers.

AT 44-2386 5

With regard to Room #5 at 107 - 14th Street,
N.B., GARKER said that this room had not been occupied by
anyone since GALT was transferred from this room on April 7,
1968. He noted, however, that the maid, PERRY LEE ZACHRY
or her helper, identity unknown, would have changed the sheets
in Room #5 after GALT was noved.

With regard to Room #6 at 113 - 14th Street, N.E., this room remained vacant until April 13, 1933, when it was mented to <u>DAVID O'DONNELL</u>, 12 Andover Drive, Syossett, New York. He described O'DONNELL as a very young man who is also employed at the Albert Pick Lotel and who was brought to the rooming house by FRED C. JONES. It said he does not believe this room was made up prior to its being remted to O'DONNELL, but advised he had given O'DONNELL clean sheets so that he could change the linear himself.

GARMER said he did not know of any association between GALT and other recuers at either of the rocking houses except the association with HAROLD G. AMDERSON, as previously described.

In explanation for the failure of the name "GALT" to appear on the rooming house records, CARLIR said that he can only explain this by saying he received payment for the room while away from the place where he maintains his records and had inadvertently failed to record the name when he returned to his room.

The interview of GARMER concluded at 1:38 All, April 15, 1968.

Ż

Dote	4/16/68

During the interview of JIMIE DELTON GARNER, he asked the question, "How are you coming on the King murder?" He was then asked by interviewing Agent if he had heard or read much concerning this and he stated he had read quite a bit in the nemapapers and seen a lot on television. GARNER then indicated that he knew this was why we were asking about GALT.

	52	
On 6/16,15/60 Atlanta, Georgia	File # Atlanta 44-2386	
by BA POSDR L. KAAS:loc	Date dictated4/13/63	
	•	

This document contains neither recommendations not conclusions of the FBL It is the property of the FBI and is looked to your agency: than its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

Doi Pril 16, 1963

1

At 2:30 a.m. JIEHE DELTON GAZER telephonically contacted the Atlanta Office of the Foderal Bureau of Investigation at which time he provided the following information:

Since providing the information concerding ERIC GAMT during a personal interview by agents, he has rechecked his records and now believes that the individual phon he knew as CAMT actually was registered at the recoming house under the name of WILLIAM LOB, Route 1, Gastonia, North Carolina. CARNER said his records do not reflect the room number to which LOB was assigned but noted that the records do show LOB arrived April 5, 1988, and paid through April 12, 1988. When renting the room, LOB supplied the name Miss EDITY ROTIFIAM, 1982 Waltz Street, Warren, Hichigan, as the individual to be notified in case of emergency. GARNER said all information provided during the prior interview was accurate except that he now feels certain that WILLIAM LOB's registration pertains to EDIC CAMT.

CARMIN was questioned as to how he determined this man's name to be CLMP when the registration was in the name of LEM. CARMIN was unable to satisfactorily explain this except to say that he feels that he concluded that LEMP was CARMIN's sister called his attention to the nail at the recaing house which was directed to EMPC CARM.

On 4/15/63 of Atlanta, Georgia File# Atlanta 44-2835

This document contains neither recommendations not conclusions of the FSI. It is the property of the FSI and is loaned to your egency: it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

In response to a telephoxic request received at 9:31 a.m. from JIMHE DELTON GARHER, he was interviewed in front of his restaurant located at 1052 Northside Drive, Northwest, Atlanta, Georgia.

GARIER opened the conversation by stating "Lee is not Galt." He then made available the registration records for his rooming house. It was again noted these records do not reflect a registration in the name of GALT. At the same time, GARNER produced an envelope bearing the printed name "Eric S. Galt." GARNER said this name was printed thereon by GALT when GARNER requested his full naze. Other handwritten notations thereon were, according to CARUER, prepared by himself.

GARIER stated that subsequent to a prior interview, he had been searching his records and his memory and had now determined that on March 24, 1968, late in the evening, an individual knocked on his apartment door, introduced himself as Mr. GALT, and requested a single room.

He was placed in Room Humber 2, 113 14th Street, Northeast, Atlanta, Georgia, on noting that the room was small, was offered an adjoining storage room in which to place his surplus belongings. At this point, GMLT remarked he would be able to utilize a desk in the storage room for his television set.

GARNER did not see GALT unload his automobile or bring his possessions into the room. He next saw GALT on March 31, 1958, at which time the rent was due and GALT made the statement, "I may as well pay you for another week." This was botheen 1:00 and 2:30 p.m.

On April 5, 1968, CAREER entered the room at approximately 11:00 a.m. to change the linens. At this time, he found a note on the bed written on a piece of caraboard, believed by him to no a lummary smirt backing, which stated in effect "I've had to go to Birmingham. I've left my TV set here and will try to return for it in \_File#\_Atlanta 44-2386 or Aflanta, Caoraia

SA ROSER L. MAAS and bea July D. Colli

4/16/63

AT 44-2386 RLK:bjc

about a week." He does not recall whether the note was printed or written and destroyed it by throwing it in the trash immediately.

GARNER described GALT as a white male, 33 to 35 years of age, approximately six feet tall, slender build, black hair, worn very short with possibly a part on the side.

a light colored, possibly white, automobile and on the morning of April 15, 1958, telephonically contacted Mr. HAROLD HATERS, Room Runber 1, 107 14th Street, Northeast, as this automobile was parked near WATERS, at which time he asked WATERS generally if he recalled the make of car and WATERS advised him it was a late model Mustang, possibly 1956 or 1957.

OARTER estimated his total contact with GALT on both occasions did not exceed one-half hour. He stated on both occasions GALT was neatly dressed in a dark suit, white shirt, and tie. He characterized him as looking like a preacher.

The inconsistencies in the information previously furnished by GARGER and the foregoing were thoroughly discussed with him and he could attribute it only to "being confused", in that he had erroneously associated the name GALT with the roomer, WILLIAM LEE, about whom he had furnished the information.

At this time, GARMER made available a three page memorandum in his handwriting which chronologically sets forth his association with GALT. The envelope previously referred to, furnished by GARMER, on which GALT wrote his name, also contained the notation "Could do several different kinds of work." This note was prepared by GARMER.

AT 44-2386 RLK:bjc

GARNER stated he made this notation during his initial contact with GALT, at which time he asked his usual questions of new roomers about their line of work. He said he inadvertently failed to record the information on the envelope in his permanent records. GARNER added that at the time of renting the room, he received a \$1.00 key deposit from GALT and the key was left with the note on the bed by GALT.

Dole April 16, 1958

JHEMIE DELTON GARMER was interviewed in the office of the Federal Eureau of Investigation, 275 Peachtree Street, Northeast, Atlanta, Georgia, after voluntarily accompanying SAs ROSER L. KAAS and HARRY L. LEE from his place of business, 1052 Northside Drive, Northwest, Atlanta, Georgia. At this time, GARMER stated that he was aware of the discrepancies in the information furnished by him but insisted it was due solely to the confusion which existed in his mind in erroneously relating the name GALT with his roomer, WILLIAM LEE.

He stated he had no reason for telling the Agents that he had no items in his possession which belonged to GALT, when, in fact, he was holding a television. set, other than the confusion previously referred to.

In determining the individuals in each of the reming houses operated by him (107 14th Street, Northeast, Atlanta, Georgia) who may have been in a position to observe GALT, he advised that at the time of renting to GALT, there was no other occupant in this building.

He stated he had closed 113 14th Street on February 11, 1968; after the neighborhood hippies attempted to take it over.

He admitted that he had two double rooms vacant at the time CALT applied for a room and that he had previously rented these for the price of a single room, but CALT insisted on a single room, so he decided to open the other rooming house. He admitted it cost him more to do this than he would receive initially in rent, but that he had been planning to open it, as the other house was filling up.

		î •	. 5	7	"k "k #
Or	4/15/68	Atlanta,	Georgia	File#	44~2386
by	SA HARRY I SA ROGUR I		REK:bjc	Date dictated	4/16/33.
-					

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

AT 44-2386 RIK:bjc <u>2</u>

GALT remained the sole occupant of this building until April 1, 1968, at which time FRED C. JONES was placed in Room Number 1.

In continuing to question GARNER as to why he had denied holding property for GALT, he finally admitted that it had been his policy in the past to retain for 30 days possessions left behind by roomers, then to claim them as his own, and it was his intention to do this with the television set.

GARNER specifically denied that he had previously known GALT, that GALT had been referred to him by anyone, that he had accepted an extra amount of money from GALT for any reason, or that he had any knowledge concerning his present whereabouts.

GARNER stated that he was born and raised in Mississippi, was a member of the Eaptist Church, and was "not a Communist." He denied having any knowledge of the John Birch or other right wing organizations, stating he had joined only one organization which name he could not now recall, but described by him as a civic organization.

He reiterated that it had always been his intention to cooperate with the F3I and that he had, in fact, that morning given the address and telephone number of his restaurant to a roomer, Hr. BURGESS, where he could be reached should GALT return for the television set. He stated he did this so he could immediately notify the FBI of GALT's return.

# ADDITIONAL MATERIAL TO BE REFERRED TO

Chicago Field Office File 44-1114-772

NW 65994 Docld:32989731 Page 22

COMMUNICATION SECTION FBI WASH DO Mr. Felt. TELETYPE FBI MEMPHIS. 705 PM. URGENT 3-13-69 DND TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) ATTN: MR. AL ROSEN. ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION OF THE CONTROL OF TH FROM MEMPHIS (44-1987) MURKIN - ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR 'AT APPROXIMATELY TWO FORTYFIVE PM. INTERVIEW WAS BEGUN WITH JAMES EARL RAY DY SAC, MEMPHIS AT TENNESSEE STATE PRISON. CONCLUDED AT APPROXIMATELY THREE THIRTYFIVE PM. RAY ON ENTERING ROOM SAID. "YOU'RE THE GUY WHO TESTIFIED. I DON'T WANT TO TALK TO YOU OR ANYBODY FROM THE FBI. RAY WAS ASKED TO SIT DOWN AND WAS TOLD IT WAS POSSIBLE WE HAD THINGS WE COULD TALK ABOUT. RAY SAID. I'M NOT GOING TO TALK ABOUT CASE AS I'VE BEEN MISQUOTED ENOUGH. HE WAS UNABLE TO POINT OUT ANY SPECIFICS WHERE FBI HAD EVER MISQUOTED HIM. HE WAS ALSO TOLD FBI HAD NOT INTERVIEWE HIM SO IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE FOR US TO MISQUOTE HIM. RAY INDICATED HE BETTER GO BACK TO CELL AS SAC WAS ONLY TRYING TO TRICK HIM INTO TALKING ABOUT CASE. HE WAS THEN REMINDED OF HIS GUILTY IN OPEN COURT AND WAS ASKED IF HE INTENDED 18 MAR 17 1969 THEN CRITICIZED HIS ATTORNEY ART HANES, SA. THE SAIL THANES WAS NOT GOOD ATTORNEY AS HE REFUSED TO INVESTIGATE CASE. SAC INTERJECTED THAT HIS ATTORNEY HAD HIRED INVESTIGATORY TO CONTROL MR. DELOACH FOR THE DIRECTOR

69994 Pocid:32989731 Page 23

PAGE TWO

WHICH RAY REPLIED. "HE'S NO GOOD EITHER, AND HE ONLY BEGAN TO INVESTIGATE A FEW DAYS BEFORE THE TRIAL." RAY STATED HANES REALLY WASN'T HIS ATTORNEY AS WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE HAD HIRED HANED TO GO TO LONDON TO ACT AS ATTORNEY FOR RAY, IN RETURN FOR STORY CONTRACTS. RAY WOULD NOT AMPLIFY ON CONTRACTS BUT DID STATE HE HAD TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS IN CONTRACTS OUT. RAY SAID HE HADN'T RECEIVED ANY MONEY ON ANY OF THESE CONTRACTS YET. HE ALSO SHE HAD CONTRACTED WITH PERCY FOREMAN REGARDING POSSIBLE STORY. ALSO SAID PART OF HIS CONTRACT WITH FOREMAN WAS THAT RAY WOULD NOT EMBARRASS FOREMAN IN COURT. WHEN ASKED IF THAT IS WHY HE SAID NO MORE IN COURT WHEN HE ROSE TO MAKE COMMENT, RAY SAID HE WOULDN'T TALK ABOUT IT ANY MORE.

HE THEN BECAME CRITICAL OF FOREMAN, SAYING HE WOULDN'T INVESTIGATE HIS CASE EITHER. SAID THAT FOREMAN CAME TO HIM WITH A NEGATIVE ATTITUDE, SAYING "YOUR BEST DEFENSE IS TO PLEAD GUILTY OR YOU'LL GET THE DEATH SENTENCE." RAY INDICATED DISSATISFACTION WITH HIS PAST ATTORNEYS. HE SAID HE WAS TRYING TO GET AN ATTORNEY IN GEORGIA NOW. HE REFUSED TO INDENTIFY THIS ATTORNEY. (SAC HAD PREVIOUS DISCUSSION WITH WARDEN LAKE RUSSELL AT PRISON AND WARDEN HAD ADVISED RAY HAD TOLD HIM HE END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

WAS MAKING EFFORTS TO GET J. B. STONER, AN ATTORNEY IN GEORGIA, TO REPRESENT HIM. ( J. B. STONER WELL KNOWN FIGURE IN VARIOUS WHITE HATE GROUPS IN GEORGIA.)

RAY ALSO SAID HE DIDN'T WANT TO TALK ANY MORE ABOUT ANYTHING, AS HE FELT HIS ATTORNEY WOULD BE ABLE TO REOPEN HIS CASE. HE ALSO SAID HE HAD LETTER PREPARED TO SEND TO SENATOR EASTLAND AND THEN IN ABOUT TWO OR THREE MONTHS HIS CASE WOULD BE CLEARED UP. HE INDICATED HE MIGHT THEN BE WILLING TO SIT DOWN AND DISCUSS THE CASE FULLY.

SERIES. HE WONDERED WHY FEI ALWAYS HAD TO LET THE CRIMINALS DRAW FIRST BEFORE THEY WERE SHOT. HE WAS TOLD THIS IS ONLY CONSISTENT WITH THE FACTS, AS OUR WEAPONS ARE USED ONLY IN SELF DEFENSE. HE EXPRESSED SOME SKEPTICISM. HE THEN ASKED IF FBI THOUGHT HE WAS STUPID ENOUGH TO LEAVE HIS FINGERPRINTS IN THE AREA WHERE A PUBLIC FIGURE WAS XILLED. HE WAS ASKED IF HE WAS TRYING TO TELL SAC THAT SOMEONE PLANTED HIS PRINTS, AND IF SO HIS STORY WAS CETTING THIN AND SAC WOULD LEAVE. HE THEN RAISED SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT NOT EVER HAVING BEEN IDENTIFIED IN A

PAGE FOUR "

LINEUP AND WAS NOT SURE THAT ANYONE COULD IDENTIFY HIM. HE THEN INDICATED HE HAD READ IN A CANADIAN PAPER THAT ONE CHARLIE STEPHENS COULD PRODABLY CHARLIE IDENTIFY HIM AS HE THOUGHT CHARLIE STEPHENS HAD A GOOD LOOK AT HIM IN ROOMING HOUSE. HE DIE NOT WANT TO DISCUSS THIS FURTHER.

HE THEN FURTHER CLAIMED THAT NO ONE HAD IDENTIFIED HIM WITH A PHOTOGRAPH UNTIL HE MADE SOME PHOTOGRAPHS AVAILABLE ON THE WEST COAST. THE ABSURDITY OF THIS STATEMENT WAS POINTED OUT TO HIM AS HE KNEW THE STATE HAD SEVERAL WITNESSES WHO COULD IDENTIFY HIM.

HE WAS ASKED IF HE DIDN'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT SOMETHING ELSE,
SUCH AS HIS TRIP FROM LOS ANGELES TO NEW ORLEANS. HE SAID NO,
THAT HE HAD MADE A MISTAKE GETTING MIXED UP WITH STEIN. HE SAID
STEIN WAS ONLY A "HIPPIE." HE WOULD NOT TALK FURTHER ABOUT STEIN.

SAID HE NEVER RECEIVED A PROPERTY RECEIPT FROM BUTLER OF SCOTLAND YARD, WHEN ARRESTED THERE. HE SAID THIS RECEIPT MIGHT BE OF VALUE AT SOME FUTURE DATE. HE REFUSED TO CLARIFY THIS.

RAY WOULD NOT AT ANY TIME DISCUSS CONSPIRACY OR ANY ASPECTS
OF IT. HE CONTINUOUSLY CLAIMED THIS WOULD BE MATTER FOR HIS
END PAGE FOUR

ATTORNEY TO HANDLE AND POSSIBLY SENATOR EASTLAND'S COMMITTEE.

HE ALSO EXPRESSED DISLIKE FOR FORMER CLARK RECAUSE OF HIS

STATEMENTS BUT WOULD NOT CLARIFY WHAT STATEMENTS. HE DID, HOWEVER

SAY ADOUT CLARK THAT IF HE WAS SOFT ON CRIME AS THE NEWSPAPERS

SOMETIME REPORTED THIS WAS OKAY.

AT THIS TIME SAC ASKED RAY IF HE WOULD NOT LIKE TO MEET A
PAIR OF ASSOCIATES OF SAC, AGENTS JOE C. HESTER AND ROBERT F. BOYLE
RAY SAID HE DID NOT WANT TO TALK TO FBI BECAUSE ALL THEY WANTED TO
DO WAS TRICK HIM. RAY AT CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW SAID HE DID
NOT WANT TO TALK TO ANY OTHER AGENTS AT THIS TIME. HE WAS TOLD
THERE WERE TWO OTHER AGENTS WITH SAC. HE DID MEET THESE TWO AGENTS
JUST PRIOR TO BEING RETURNED TO HIS CELL. HIS PARTING COMMENT
WHEN GOING THROUGH CELL DOOR WAS, TAKE A GOOD LOOK AS YOU MAY BE
LOOKING FOR ME AGAIN.

SAC TOLD RAY THAT HE WOULD RECONTACT HIM AGAIN TOMORROW MORNING AND PERHAPS WE COULD AGAIN ENGAGE IN SMALL TALK. RAY SAIE "MAYDE I WILL NOT TALK WITH YOU AGAIN."

ARRANGEMENTS WILL DE MADE TO SEEK SECOND INTERVIEW IN

END PAGE FIVE

A. M. WITH RAY.

PAGE SIX

POINTED OUT TO THE OFFICERS ON DUTY IN THE MAXIMUM SECURITY SECTION AND IT WAS SUBSEQUENTLY POINTED OUT TO WARDEN RUSSELL. IN ADDITION, IN DISCUSSIONS WITH WARDEN RUSSELL, SAC REQUESTED THAT VISIT OF FEI TO TENNESSEE STATE PENITENTIARY SHOULD BE HELD CONFIDENTIAL. WARDEN INDICATED HE WOULD DO SO BUT, OF COURSE, STORY WOULD STILL GET AROUND IN THE PRISON YARD. P.

END

ERT

FBI WASH DC

r

OC MR. ROSEN

1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Data	4/11/68
Date	

At approximately 10:30 a.m. DONALD F. WOOD was contacted at Aeromarine Supply Company, 5701 Airport Highway, Birmingham, and advised that he is the son of ROBERT E. WOOD, SR., who is the owner of the Aeromarine Supply Company. WOOD was discreetly questioned concerning the sale of a Remington caliber 30.06 rifle, serial number 461476, which Aeromarine had purchased from Wimberley-Thomas in August, 1966. DONALD F. WCOD immediately stated that he had heard the accounts of the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING the previous day on the radio and had immediately recalled selling a rifle, as was described in the newspaper as the murder weapon, to an individual about a week before the murder. immediately searched for and found a sales invoice in his records and indicated that on Saturday, March 30, 1968, he had sold this gun to an individual using the name HARVEY LOWMEYER.

After obtaining both copies of this sales invoice, Mr. WOOD was requested to accompany the interviewing Agent to the Birmingham Office of the FBI, which he agreed to do. Mr. WOOD was transported to the Birmingham Office of the FBI, where he furnished the following signed statement:

> "Birmingham, Alabama April 5, 1968

"I, DONALD F. WOOD, hereby make this statement to Special Agent NEIL P. SHANAHAN who has identified himself to me as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. reside at 405 Lance Lane, Birmingham, Alabama and subscribe to telephone number 836-4918. employed by my father, ROBERT E. WOOD, SR. at the Aeromarine Supply Company, 5701 Airport Highway,

Birmingham, Ala., as a sa	lesman.
ı	HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  - DATE 2/20/20 BY Processor
n 4/5/68 at Birmingham, Alabar	ma File # BH 44-1740
SA NEIL P. SHANAHAN: jml	Date dictated4/11/68

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

"On Friday, March 29, 1968, sometime in the early afternoon I had just returned from lunch when I observed Mr. U. L. BAKER, also a , salesman, completing the sale of a rifle to an individual unknown to me. Mr. BAKER had just sold this man a Remington, Model 700, Caliber .243 Winchester with a 2x-7x Redfield Scope Mr. BAKER had made this sale mounted thereon. and had also mounted and bore sighted the scope on our machine. This individual also bought one box of 20 rounds of .243 Norma ammunition. payed cash for this sale. When I first observed this man he was dressed in a dark business suit with a white shirt and tie, as well as I remember. He was approximately 5'8" tall, 150 to 160 pounds and had dark hair. He had a medium complexion and appeared to be a meek individual. This individual had given his name as HARVEY LOWMEYER and stated that he resided at 1907 South 11th Street, Birmingham, Alabama. He also advised that he was 36 years of age.

"This information was not given to me personally by this individual, but I determined it from the bill of sale that was prepared by Mr. BAKER.

"Following the sale this individual left the store carrying the gun in a cardboard box utilized by the Browning Manufacturing Company. This box was used because with the scope mounted the rifle would not fit in the normal Remington box. He also took the empty Remington manufacturer's carton with him when he left.

"It was, as best I recall, either later that afternoon or early the following Saturday morning when this individual called on the telephone and stated that he had had a conversation with his brother and decided that the gun he had purchased was not the gun he wanted and he requested whether he could exchange it for a Remington, Model 760, 30.06 caliber. I advised him that we could make this exchange but that it would cost him an additional \$5.00.

"At approximately 9:00 AM on Saturday, March 30, this same individual returned to the store with the gun he had previously purchased. When he returned the gun he had the gun still in the Browning box. I told him that I would change the scope from the caliber .243 rifle to the Model 760, but that it would take me until approximately 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon and I instructed him to return at 3:00 o'clock and to bring the original Remington box for the caliber .243 weapon with him when he came as I would need a box to store the gun in. I gave him the Model 760 gun and I believe that I left it in the Browning carton. did not receive the \$5.00 because in exchanging the scope I had to use a Weaver base and rings instead of the Redfield base and rings and this made up the cost difference. I also exchanged the box of .243 caliber ammunition for a box of 30.06 ammunition which I believe was Peters Core Lokt, 150 grain, 20 rounds per box. He left the store carrying the gran in the cardboard box.

"During the course of our dealings on Saturday I asked this individual why he didn't want the caliber .243 gun and I told him that it was a big enough gun to bring down any deer in Alabama. He stated in an offhand manner, that he wanted the 30.06 caliber gun because he was going to use it to hunt in Wisconsin.

"At the present time this is all that I can remember concerning the transaction with this individual.

#### "4/5/68

"I have read this signed statement and accopt where I have initiated one correction. I find it to consist of this and two other pages and it is true and correct.

"/s/ DONALD F. WOOD

"/s/ NEIL P. SHANAHAN, Special Agent, FBI, 4/5/68.

"/s/ MARVIN M. EUBANKS, Special Agent, FBI, Birmingham, 4/5/68."

	Phone 595-2142  AIRCRAFT-AUTOMOTIVE  MARINE-SPORTING GOODS.  PARTS & SUPPLIES  TO  ADDRESS  ORDER NUMBER PHONE   WIRE   LETTER  PICK UP TO	ORT HIGHWA	AY	•	GUN 2251A 1968
	ACC 3/ SHUP VIA:		CASH CHECK	1 /	> .
	QUANTITY PART NUMBER 504A DESCRIPTION		7650	NET	TOTAL
ed to see some	1 17511# 7-57A REM N	100. 3			Œ
	PUMP ASTINATION RIFL	E. CA	<u>k.                                      </u>		
Zorome Zorom	243 NIN. SN	2539	49.461	4761	3495
8	1 2X-7X REDEVEL SCORE		91,50		7460
e e	1 - 10,200 BASE + D.C Reven	ſ	2390		20 32
	1 Box 243 Carl	. *			465
		الع لمار	J .	2	3452
	1/	NO 3		,	5/10/10
	- How				
- 5	71				
	- Is crice to eiven in full on past paratur for this invoice, Title anall bening by . Clears date in This nearly death, at the opinion of the stills.	ian verres beinr	CHICE DAD	TAX	1407
	RECEIVED BY		•	TOTAL	169
	MERCHANDISE CANNOT BE RETURNED FOR CREDIT, REFUND OR EXCHANGE AFTER TO PURCHASE INVOICE MUST ACCOMPANY ALL RETURNS.	O DAYS FROM S		7	-بدورون

1

	*			
Date	April	8,	1968	

DONALD F. WOOD, residence 405 Lance Lane, Birmingham, the son of the owner of Aeromarine Supply Company, Airport Highway, was asked if he could identify a customer who purchased a gun case for a Varmint model rifle on March 29, 1968. WOOD, after checking his invoices, noted that there was such a sale made on March 29, 1968, but the invoice was made out to "Cash." WOOD recalled, however, that this customer is a regular customer who is a white male, about 25 years old, five feet, ten inches, 170 pounds, long, black hair, whose first name is JOHN. WOOD further recalled that he had sold a Browning pistol to this man about two and one-half years ago. WOOD then checked his records and identified this man as JOHN WEBSTER DeSHAZO, 17 Montevallo Lane, Mountain Brook, Alabama, who purchased a Browning Standard Weight Pistol on December 11, 1965.

Later on April 7, 1968, DON WOOD made available the following weapons which had been identified by JOHN WEBSTER DeSHAZO as having been handled by the person who purchased a rifle and scope sight at the Aeromarine Supply Company on March 29, 1968:

One Browning Safari grade, caliber .243, bolt-action rifle, Serial No. 3700Z5, Stock No. 946A.

One Remington Model 700, heavy barrel,. Varmint .243 Winchester, Serial No. 266009, Stock No. 753A.

One Remington Model 788, caliber .30-30, bolt-action rifle, Serial No. 020726, Stock No. 756A.

Mr. WOOD was furnished a receipt for the above weapons.

On 4/7/68 at	Birmingham,	Alabama	File #BH 44-1740	
SAS ROBERT M.	BARRETT		ME 44-1987	· OO
and WILLIAM A		RMB:mas	Date dictated	02

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date April 14, 1968

Immediately following the receipt of a package at approximately 12:30 a.m., April 8, 1968, containing three weapons from Special Agent ROBERT M. BARRETT, Special Agent RALPH N. BUTLER hand-carried them aboard a Delta Airlines flight, changing to an Eastern Airlines flight in Atlanta, Georgia, and ultimately accompanied them to Mr. GEORGE BONEBRAKE of the FBI Identification Division at approximately 8:00 a.m. on April 8, 1968.

These items, from the time they were delivered to SA BUTLER, did not leave his possession until delivered to Mr. BONEBRAKE.

On	4/8/68a	Birmingham, Washington,			44-1740	
						028
•	SA RALPH N.	BUTLER:mas	¥	Date dictated _	4/31/68	

1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

<b>D</b> . 4-	4/11/68
Date	-, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -

At approximately 1:00 p.m. on April 5, 1968, Mr. ROBERT E. WOOD, SR., and DONALD F. WOOD accompanied the interviewing Agents to the Aeromarine Supply Company, 5701 Airport Highway, Birmingham, where DONALD F. WOOD made available a Remington Model 700, caliber .243, rifle, which was believed by them to have been handled by the unknown individual who had purchased the Remington Model 760 rifle on March 30, 1968. DONALD F. WOOD also furnished nine boxes of caliber .243 ammunition from their inventory stating that one box of this ammunition was believed to have been handled by the individual who purchased the gur. DONALD F. WOOD also furnished a set of Redfield bases and rings which had been the original bases and rings furnished by the manufacturer of the Redfield scope.

Mr. WOOD was, furnished a signed receipt for the above items.

Immediately following the receipt of these items, SA NEIL P. SHANAHAN hand carried them aboard a United Airlines flight, changing to a Delta flight in Atlanta, Georgia, and ultimately accompanied them to Mr. GEORGE BONEBRAKE of the FBI Identification Division at approximately 8:00 p.m. same date. These items, from the time they were delivered to SA SHANAHAN, did not leave his possession until delivered to Mr. BONEBRAKE.

On 4/5/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

SAS NEIL P. SHANAHAN and ---

NEIL G. MARTIN: NPS/jml

-Date dictated 4/11/68

1	\$ <b>*</b>	Date4/8/68

U. L. BAKER, 1408 Clermont Drive, advised he is an employee of the Aeromarine Supply Company, Airport Highway. Birmingham. In connection with the sale of a gun case for a varmint model rifle, BAKER said he recalled making such a sale, but could not recall the date nor the name of the customer. He said he could not state that this gun case was sold on the same date that he had sold a rifle and scope sight, which was March 29, 1968. He said the man who bought the gun case was a frequent customer, and described him as a white male. 27 - 28 years old, 5'9", 180 lbs., heavyset, with blond, thinning hair. BAKER identified the other salesman, who would have been behind the counter on March 29, 1968, as the manager of the store, J. HOYT STEPHENS.

In connection with the accent or speech of the person who purchased the rifle and scope sight, BAKER said he believed it was from "this" (Alabama) general area. BAKER said that the man who purchased the rifle had left the store on March 29. 1968, and came back later in the afternoon and picked up the rifle. He was asked if it was possible that the man stayed in the store during this time, and BAKER said he was not sure.

On	4/7/68 atat	Birmingham,	Alabama	File #	BH 4	4-1740	
hu	SAS ROBERT M WILLIAM A. S			27_Date di	atatad	4/8/68	: 035

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.

NW 65994 DocId:32989731 Page 36

UNITED STATES GO

*Iemorandum* 

Mr. Jenkins

DATE: 10-31-74

FROM : J. J. McDermott

SUBJECT: MURKIN (44-3886)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLACED DATE 3/1 30/1/6

Morris Cunningham, Washington representative of the Memphis Commercial Appeal, called Inspector Bowers during the afternoon of 10-30-74 from Memphis, where he is covering the James Earl Ray hearing in Federal District Court. Cunningham said Ray had testified to having sent a letter to Senator James O. Eastland (D-Miss.) shortly after he had been sentenced to prison for the King slaying. Ray allegedly said that he told Senator Eastland in the letter that he personally did not shoot King, but was partially responsible for his death. (News reports, 10-30-74, on the hearing corroborate this and indicated that Ray's letter to Senator Eastland was read into the record.)

Cunningham said he called Senator Eastland at his residence in Mississippi and asked him about this matter. Eastland recalled the letter and said he advised Cunningham about it when it was received, however, Cunningham does not recall this. He said Eastland had told him he had forwarded the letter to the FBI as he does many similar letters he receives from prisoners. Cunningham said Eastland suggested he call Bowers to determine if the FBI could locate the letter and to tell Bowers that he, Eastland, approves furnishing contents of the letter to Cunningham.

Bowers pointed out to Cunningham that we were precluded from doing so under Department regulations. It was pointed out to him, however, that should Senator Eastland desire, a copy of the letter, if located, could be made available to the Senator's office and the Senator could release the letter if he wishes. Cunningham said that should be satisfactory with him. He was told he would be advised as soon as this matter could be checked out. He can be reached through the news room of the Memphis Commercial Appeal, area code 901 526-8811 in Memphis. REC-544-38861-596

This matter was checked with Courtney Pace, Administrative Assistant to Senator Eastland, who indicated he was aware of Cunningham's request Enclosure

1 - Mr. Callahan

1 - Mr. Mintz

1 - Mr. Gebhardt

CBF:dkg/(9)

1 - Mr. McDermott

1 - Mr. McGowan

1 - Mr. Bowers

NOV 12 1974

CONTINUED

McDermott to Jenkins Memo

Re: MURKIN

He said that should we find the letter in question and furnish a copy to him, he would be glad to handle the matter with Cunningham for the Senator.

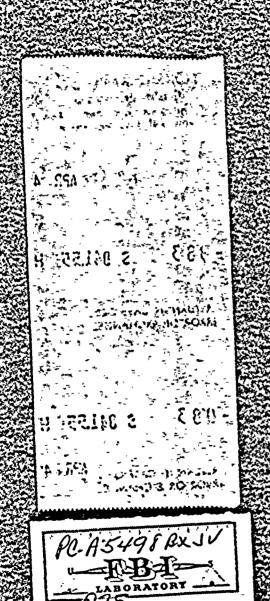
Bufiles reflect that Senator Eastland made a copy of Ray's letter available to Inspector Bowers on 3-17-69. Accordingly, a copy of Ray's letter, see attached, has been made available to Courtney Pace on 10-31-74 so that he can handle the matter with Cunningham.

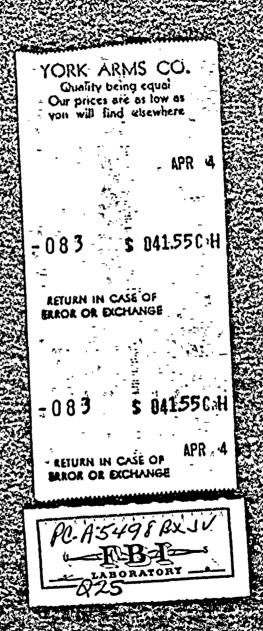
# RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

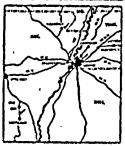
MAR 35 8 P

W





W 65994 Docld:32989731 Page 39



# Tornado Strikes Near Millington; At Least 30 Hurt

Fire Etches Bold Ledger

# King Challenges LBJ Going To Hawaii Today Court Restraint, To Consult On Peace Moves, Yows To March Set Stage For Red Meeting

US Wary Of Bid To Talk
Of Peace On Enemy Terms

HANOIOFFER OF TALKS

Bridwell Urges





# Republican Party of Georgia

State Finance Committee Suite 605 1430 West Peachtree Street, N. W. Atlanta, Georgia 30309

10-60 St. 36 ROOM 11 2 11.56 ROOM 11 2

115-14th. Stroot, 125 Atlanta, Georgia 30309

AEROMARINE SUPPLY CO. Phone 595-2142 AIRCRAFT-AUTOMOTIVE 5701 BIRMINGHAM AIRPORT HIGHWAY MARINE-SPORTING GOODS BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35212 PARTS & SUPPLIES/ PHONE [ SHIP VIA: LICASIN TO!AL QUANTITY PART NUMBER PUMP ACTION A DE 243 WIN. S.N. 2555 461476 2X-7X REDFIELD ScopE. JR700 BASE + D.L. RINGS. Box 243 C-TOI IN CARCE IS GIVEN IN PULL OR PART PAYMENT FOR THIS 1990ICE. TITLE SHALL BEMAIN CLEARED BANK IN WHICE PRANK, AT THE OFFICE OF THE PECEIVED BY AN REPORTULE CANNAINS OF HIS TOP TOP THE SERVICED HAVE BE FIREMASEINVOICE MUST ACCOUNTING ALL IN THE

NW.65994 Docld:32989731 Page 4

Your File No. 44-1987 FBI File No. 44-38861 Latent Case No. 91075 April 24, 1968

RE: JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #405942G

Latent fingerprint previously reported on the Remington model 760 rifle, serial #461476, Q2; the latent fingerprint on the telescopic sight, serial #A17350, on the rifle, Q2; latent fingerprint on the binoculars, Q14; the latent fingerprint on the newspaper, Q19; the latent fingerprint on the after shave lotion bottle, part of Q24; and the latent fingerprint on the Schlitz beer can, Q53, have all been identified with the fingerprints of James Earl Ray.

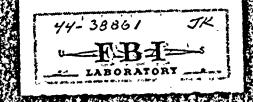
**1**1 :

...

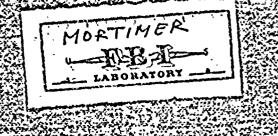
REGISTRATION CARD  NOTICE TO CUESTS: — This property is privately owned and riangument reserves right to reliase service to envisor, and will not be resolutive for accidents of injury to quests of to loss of money, jewelty or valuative of cay kind.  RENTAL PAYABLE IN ADVANCE  NAME  STREET 2608 + Light Co  CITY BUTCHES STATE CO-6722 W. Different, C. seago 10, 11L.  REPRESENTING  American Hart Register Co., 226-232 W. Different, C. seago 10, 11L.  SDOM AND CAR LICENSE STATE  ARR. DATE DEPT. DATE INO. IN PARTY RUSKY MAKE OF CAR  REMARKS	Uic Dupratt's New Rebel MOTOR HOTEL  PHONE PA 3-7641 3466 LAMAR AVE. MEMPHIS, TENN.  ROOM RATE OATE ANT. PAID RECEIVED PROM  THIS IS YOUR RECEIPT THANK YOU	
44-38861 TK  FB2  LABORATORY		

4

33	4
	en de la companya de
	The state of the s
	, / ROOM,
1-70/T, E.	34
/	
ARRIVE DEPART	624
DATE 4-3 44	
FORWARD	
ROOMS GX9	**
CAFE	
<b> </b>	
3	
PHONE	
<b>┊</b>	╼╂╼╂╼╂╼╂╤╂╼
} <del>        </del>	<del></del>
LONG DIS.	
MISC.	
LAUNDRY	
YELEG.	_ _ _ _ _
CASH	_ - - - - -
TOTAL	
CR, CASH	
BALANCE	



医多种性病 我们我不是我在我们不会不 我 医阿拉克氏病 人名英格兰人姓氏克克克斯



REGISTRATION CARD  NOTICE TO GUESTS: — This property is privately owned and management reserves right to retuse service to anyone, and will not be rest, amble for active deats or injury to quests or for loss of money, sewelly or valuables of any kind.  RENTAL PAYABLE IN ADVANCE  STREET 2608 + Leglia - Louis - STATE Culture - STATE CITY - STATE CITY - STATE	HIS IS YOUR RECEIPT	RATE DATE ANT. PAR	Vic Dupratt's New Rebel MOTOR HOTEL	
			1	4.7

BH 44-1740

PURCHASE OF 1966 WHITE MUSTANG TWO-DOOR BY ERIC S. GALT, 2608 HIGHLAND AVENUE, FROM OWNER, WILLIAM D. PAISLEY, ON AUGUST 29 and 30, 1967.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED.

HEREIN IS UNULASSIFIED.

DATE 8/20/46 BY Princepore

NW 65994 Docld:32989731 Page 47

48

<u>1</u> ·	. Date4/13/68
------------	---------------

At 8:30 A.M., the records of the Jefferson County Department of Revenue were examined to determine the registered owner of an automobile bearing 1968 Alabama tag no. 1-38993, These records indicated that this tag was issued on October 2. 1967, to Mr. ERIC S. GALT. 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, for a 1966 Mustang, two-door, eight cylinder, Vehicle Identification No. 6T07Cl90647. This record also indicated that this car bore a previous 1967 Alabama tag no. 1A-88354, A check of the records concerning this number revealed that this number was issued for the same automobile to a Mr. WILLIAM D. PAISLEY, 701 48th Street South, Birmingham, Alabama, who bought this car from Maring Crawford Ford Company, Birmingham on December 15, 1966. This car had originally been registered by Haring Crawford Ford Company, on March 11, 1966, as having been sold to MELVIN E. HARVEY, 3311 Highland Drive, Birmingham. The record shows the car was transferred from HARVEY's name to PAISLEY on December 15, 1966, and was then transferred from PAISLEY to ERIC S. GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, on August 30, 1967.

On 4/9/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

SAS NEIL P. SHANAHAN and BARRETT: NPS: jml: jbt Date dictated 4/11/68

BH 44-1740

PAISLEY recalls GALT mentioned that he worked on a barge line between New Orleans and St. Louis, and that he would work 20 days and then be off 10 days. He recalled GALT saying that he was married, and that his wife was row living "over in Rocky Ridge," referring to an area south of Honewood, Alabama.

PAISLEY described GALT as a white male, age about 32, five feet, ten and one-half inches tall, 160 to 16% penada dark brown hair, neat-looking, neat dresser, quiet, accert

さな。強力的ななない。こ Fig. Mr. PAISLEY said he did not believe he could identify CALT if he ever saw him again.

PAISLEY produced a bill of sale for this transaction.

المروق المراجع والمراجع

which shows the car was sold to ERIC GALT, 2608 Highland "Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, telephone 323-9487, for \$1,935 on August 30, 1967.

1

Date April 9, 1968

WILLIAM D. PAISLEY, 701 48th Street South, Birmingham, furnished the following.

But a nativity of the same On August 29, 1967, a man later identified as ERIC GALT came to the PAISLEY residence in a taxi cab. apparently was the same man who had called earlier in the day and talked to PAISLEY's wife about an ad the PAISLEYS had placed in a local newspaper in an effort to sell their 1966 white Mustang. PAISLEY showed the automobile which has a red interior to GALT and offered to let him test-drive the car GALT refused to drive the car, saying he did not have an Alabama drivers license, but he did have one in Louisiana PAISLRY then drove GALT around the area, and during this 🦠 😥 drive picked up PAISLEY's son DAVID. When they returned to the: PAISLEY residence, GALT said "I'll take it off your hands." GALT said he did not like the off-white color of the car, but apparently was otherwise satisfied. GALT then suggested that he give PAISLEY some earnest money, and asked if PAISLEY would drive GALT to the downtown area of Birmingham. It was then agreed that they would meet the next day at about 10:00 a.m. at the First National Bank to settle the deal. GALT told PAISLEY that he, GALT, had his bank account at the Birmingham Trust National Bank. GALT asked PAZSLET how he wanted payment for the car, and PAISLEY suggested a cashier's check. GALT said he did not know how to get a cashier's check, and PAISLEY said he would show him how the next day. PAISLEY, accompanied by his son DAVID, then tock GALT to First Avenue and North 20th Street, where GALT got out of the car.

The next day PAISLEY received a telephone call from GALT, who said he would meet him at the First National Bark to settle the deal. At about 10:15 a.m., they met in from of the bank, and GALT took \$2,000 cash out of his shirt pocket and gave it to PAISLEY. PAISLEY suggested they go inside the bank and count the money, which they did. PAISLEY deposited the money in the bank, and GALT went with PAISLEY's son to a parking lot where he took possession of the car.

On 4/9/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

SAS NEIL P. SHANAHAN

1/0/68

058

1	1	•	Data
*			Date

WILLIAM DAVID PAISLEY, JR., 701 South 48th Street, Birmingham, on April 9, 1968, furnished the following:

4/12/68

Sometime in late August, 1967, PAISLEY's father had run an ad in the Sunday newspaper in an effort to sell their 1966 white two-door hardtop Mustang with red interior and whitewall tires. They advertised the car as being for sale for \$1,995. A couple of days later, a man later identified as BRIC GALT and PAISLEY's father picked up PAISLEY at the home of one of his friends. PAISLEY's father was driving the car and GALT was riding in the front seat. They drove around the area for awhile and then returned to the PAISLEY residence, GALT did not ask any questions, look at the motor or in the truck jos the car: He said, "I'll be glad to take this car off your hands." He then agreed to give PAISLEY's father a down payment if Hr: PAISLEY would take GALT back to downtown Birmingham. They then agreed to meet the next morning at the Pirst National Bank to settle the deal, because PAISLEY's father has his office in that building and PAISLEY at the time was employed in the First National Bank.

check. PAISLEY suggested that GALT obtain a cashier's check. PAISLEY and his father then took GALT to First Avenue North and 20th Street, where he got out of the car. That evening, August 29, 1968, PAISLEY tried to call GALT at the telephone number GALT had left with PAISLEY's father. PAISLEY was unable to talk to GALT as he was not at the number called and PAISLEY learned this number was at a rooming house on Highland Avenue. The next day PAISLEY's father received a telepticae call from GALT who said he was six blocks away from the First National Bank building and would meet the PAISLEYs in front of the First National Bank at about 10:15 A.M. They met in front of the bank at 10:15 A.M. and GALT produced \$2,000 in cash. mostly twenties, with some 100-dollar bills. They stepped inside the bank where the money was counted and GALT was given a bill of sale.

	4	•		**	•	وتسوجا
· • **	•	•			, •	
On 4/9,10/68	at Birmingham	. Alabama '	File #BH	44-1740		
						٠ _
SAC METT.	D SHANAHAN	and				:- C

PAISLEY then took GALT to the parking lot where the car was parked and showed him how to drive the car. He then gave GALT the keys and GALT drove off.

DAVID PAISLEY recalled that he observed this same car for about six weeks after the sale, parked in front of the rooming house in the 2600 block of Highland Avenue, but that he had not seen this automobile since about the first of October, 1967. He also recalled that on one of these occasions he observed a front bumper tag with a drawing of a Confederate flag thereon.

PAISLEY recalled GALT saying that he worked on a barge on the Mississippi River "out of St. Louis" to New Orleans. He would work a month and then be off for two recks, and that this was a lonely life. He also said he had saved all his money from his job and would pay cash for the car.

PAISLEY also recalled that GALT was emphatic about not test driving the automobile, and said that his Louisiana license had expired and he had not obtained an Alabama driver's license yet. He also recalled GALT making a statement that he did his banking at the Birmingham Trust National Bank, and "I have my money there."

PAISLEY described GALT as a white male. 5'8"-82". age 32 tall, 145 pounds, dark brown or black hair with a widew's reak and cut short. This person was not a smoker, was very cleactut, very shy and quiet. He claimed he was divorced and that his wife was presently living on Rocky Ridge or Dolly Ridge Road "over the mountain," referring to an area south of Homewood, Alabama. PAISLEY recalled this person had an accept which was possibly Western, but was definitely not from the Alabama area. PAISLEY also recalled this person saying he was unemployed at that time.

PAISLEY said be could definitely identify this person if he ever saw him again.

3 BH 44-1740

On April 10, 1968, DAVID PAISLEY observed an artist's conception of a person who had purchased a rifle at Aeromarine Supply, Birmingham, on March 29, 1968. PAISLEY said this artist's conception did not resemble ERIC GALZ.

PAISLEY said his father had told GALT during the transaction that GALT would have to get insurance for the Mostar as the PAISLEYs would cancel their car insurance by calling State Farm Insurance Company that day (August 30, 1968).

PAISLEY recalled that GALT did not ask any questions or say anything further about car insurance.

During his contacts with GALT, PAISLEY said he never detected the odor of alcohol on GALT nor did he observe GALT smoke cigarettes. PAISLEY said the ad for the automobile had been run in the "Birmingham News" on Sunday, August 27; 195 only.

PAISLEY recalled GALT, after inspecting PAISLEY'S Mustang, saying that this was the cleanest one that GALT had seen He also recalled GALT saying, "I've get my money in the Birty," and did not refer to the bank as the "BTRB," which is commonly done by natives of Birmingham. In connection with GALT's divorced wife whom GALT claimed was living on Rock; Ridge Road or Dolly Ridge Road, "over the mountain," PAISLES recalls GALT saying, "Yeah, that's the way it goes."

PAISLEY said the price of \$1,995 for the Mustang was \$300 too much, but this price was never questioned by GALT and this price did not seem to bother GALT in any way.

GALT said he had been saving his money and because he worked a barge he had no place to spend it.

PAISLEY said he could not recall how GALT was dress on August 29, 1967, but did believe that on August 30, 1967. GALT was wearing a sport coat, a dress shirt, with no tie open at the neck.

August 30, 1967, PAISLEY's father asked GALT how GALT was going to get his driver's license. GALT replied that he had a friend "over at the rooming house," who would take him to the place where he could obtain a driver's license and change the registration on the car.

فإعبرنا أأراف وراولهم بمبتد والوج

shiny silver.

DAVID FAISLEY recalled that during the month to six weeks after the sale he had observed this car parked on numerous occasions in front of the rooming house in the 2600 block of Highland Avenue. He had noted that this car seemed to be datafrom non-use, rather than from being driven, and that on the land occasion of observing this car which would have been about the first of October. 1967, the car still had the slick bald tires that had been on it when it was sold.

PAISLEY furnished the following dotailed desert; its

1966 white Mustang, two-door hardtop, eight cylinder, 289, four individual red plastic floor mats, push button radio, heater remote control outside mirror, day-night inside mirror very clean engine, mileage 20,000 miles, cquip; with Autolite battery, four whitewall, bail lives. The spare was in good shape but had a wider whitewall than the tires on the whoels. The seats were medium red in color and the carpeting was maroon or dark red. The body condition of the car was excellent and the muffler was painted.

April 9, 1968, that on April 5, 1968, sometime between 1:00 f. and 1:30 P.M., while driving east on Fifth Avenue North, in front of the U.S. Post Office, PAISLLY observed a 1966 rear; white Mustang hardtop, which he thought could possibly be arrespected the back of a man getting into this car whose best resembled that of GLT. PAISLEY said he could not be decreated that this was the same car and that the individual was said as he only had a fleeting glimpse.

The following FEI record, NUMBER 405:942. G , is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY. Information shown on this Identification: Record represents date furnished FBI by fingerprint contributors. WHERE FINAL DISPOSITION IS NOT SHOWN OR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF CHARGE IS DESIRED, COMMUNICATE WITH AGENCY CONTRIBUTING THOSE FINGERPRINTS.

WITH AGENCY CONTR	ibuting those fingerpri	ints.	aR ***	•
CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPAINTS	- NAME AND INMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISFOSITION
rmy	James Earl Ray #16 163 129	February 19, 1946		
heriff's Office os Angeles, alifornia	James Earl Ray #B-119908	October 11, 1949	suspicion of burglary	
olice Department os Angeles, clifornia	James Eari Ray #139648	October 9 11, 1949	suspicion 459 Penal Code (burglary)	8 months Coundail suspende 2 years probation served; Tirst 90 days Count Jail; 146
eriff's Office dar Rapids, Iowa	James E. hay	April 18,	vagrancy	December 30, 1949 Cs12943
lice Department		1950 July 23, 1951	no operator's license - no State License - no City License	released to later
	James Ray #D90696	May 6, 1952	robbery (Gun)	Grand Jury \$3000
1 -	James Ray #131165	May 9, <b>√</b> 1952	robbery	June 13, 195 sentenced to penitentiary 1:to:2 years
	#32419	June 13, 1952	robbery	1 to 2 year
te Penitentiary tiac, Illinois	James E. Ray #19121	July 7, 1952 in	robbery	I to 2 years March 12, 19 discharged
ALL INFORMA' HEREIN IS UI DATE 2)	ION CONTAINED CLASSIFIED	transfer from Joliet		

Notations indicated by are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

Information shown on this Identification Record represents data furnished FBI by fingerprint contributors. WHERE FINAL DISPOSITION IS NOT SHOWN OR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF CHARGE IS DESIRED, COMMUNICATE WITH AGENCY CONTRIBUTING THOSE FINGERPRINIS.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	- CHARGE	Disposition
Sheriff's Office Edwardsville, Illinois	James Earl Ray #2640	August 30, 1954	burglary and larceny	
Police Department Hannibal, Missouri	James E. Ray #40714	March 23, 1955	investigation of breaking and entering Post Office	
State Highway Patrol Macon, Missouri	James Earl Ray #B-3376	March 23, 1955	cashing stolen postal money orders	released to Postal Inspec Kansas City, Hissourf March 24, 195
United States Varshal Vansas City, Vissouri	James Earl Ray #12018	March 28, 1955	States Postal	sentenced to 15 months custody of Attorney Gene
Sheriff's Office Cansas City, Lissouri	James Earl Ray #29637	March 28, 1955	Forgery - Government	July 7, 1955 3 years and nonths
nited States enitentiary eavenworth, ansas		July 7, 1955	Laws Forge: Noney Orders	3 years and 9 months May 20 1958 condition release March 1959 maximum April 5, 1958 conditional release on chof Post Offic forgery Post Office Money Orders
plice Department aint Louis, issouri	James Earl Ray #81071	October 10, 1959	suspicion of robbery	

Notations indicated by are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

John Edgar Hoover

The following FBI record, NUMBER 305 942 G , Is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE Information shown on this Identification Record represents data furnished FBI by fingerprint contributors. Y FINAL DISPOSITION IS NOT SHOWN OR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF CHARGE IS DESIRED, COMMUN WITH AGENCY CONTRIBUTING THOSE FINGERPRINTS.

	Buting those fingerpr	Y	,	
Contributor of fingerprints	, NAME WHO HAMBER	Arrested or Received	, CHARGE ,	- DISPOSITIO
Police Department Saint Louis, Nissouri	James Earl Ray #81071		suspicion of robbery stealing and fugitive other authorities	
State Penitentiary Jefferson City, Nissouri	Janes Earl Ray #00416	March 17, 1960 🗸	"TC" operating motor vchicle without permission of owner robbery first "b/m DDW" (2 charges)	20 years 7, 5, concurred April 23, escaped
State Hospital . Number 1 Fulton, Nissouri	James Earl Ray #37045 C-5	September 8,,1966	Patient	
SO Memphis Tenn	James Earl Ray #39728	7-19-68	murder 1st deg	

Notations indicated by are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative lead being possibly identical with subject of this record.

The following F81 record, NUMBER 405 942 G, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL US Information shown on this Identification Record represents data furnished F81 by fingerprint contributors FINAL DISPOSITION IS NOT SHOWN OR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF CHARGE IS DESIRED, COMMINITH AGENCY CONTRIBUTING THOSE FINGERPRINTS.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	- NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	• DISPOS	
	(oper 17/V w/o pd	rm of own (will ex	or escape 4-23-67 er; robb 1st deg tradite) Notify y Mo inf rec		
	NO LONGER WANTED	per inf	rec 7-19-69		
		•		•	
				3	
			¥.	•	
				# 175 # 478 48	

Notations indicated by \* are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leabeing possibly identical with subject of this record.

The following FBI record, NUMBER

405 942 G

, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE Information shown on this Identification Record represents data furnished FBI by fingerprint contributors. FINAL DISPOSITION IS NOT SHOWN OR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF CHARGE IS DESIRE

Controutor of Fingerprints	- NAME AND NUMBER .	ARRESTED OR . RECEIVED	: CHARGE ,	- DISPOSIT
C: Warden SPen Jefferson Ci	ту Мо			

Notations indicated by \* are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative lead being possibly identical with subject of this record.

Information shown on this Identification Record represents data furnished FBI by fingerprint contributors. WHERE FINAL DISPOSITION IS NOT SHOWN OR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF CHARGE IS DESIRED, COMMUNICATE

CONTRIBUTION OF THE STATE OF TH	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE ' * "	To DISPOSITION (4)
Chatham Co Pol. Savannoh Ga	Jerry William Ray #3-6690	7-25-70	agg A	11-24-70 KG
	and the same of the same	* ************************************	4	
, a				, ,
•				,
			•	
···				
e		•		
•		•		
•	•			<b>&lt;</b> .
		:	• ,	
	, ·			
				~*.
			,	

Notations indicated by \* are MOT based on fing apprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possilly identical with subject of this record.

IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

SHELBY COUNTY JAIL! Tennessea Percy Foreman, Esq., Attorney at Law, Memphis, Tennessee. Thear Mr. Foreman: You have asked me to put in writing my authorization to you to negotiate a plea of guilty in the murd er case pending in Shelby County, Tennessee (Memohis) in which I am indicted for the murder of Martin Luther King. That is the purpose of this letter. willing to contest this case through the trial court and the appellate courts of Tennessee; and, if necessary, to the Supreme Court of the United States. But you have told me that an appeal is not necessarily synonymous with a reversal, and I already knew that. We have, together, analyzed the evidence against me and both of us have concluded that it is impossible to controvert certain incriminating fingerprints, identification, and other circumstances. We both believe that, ultimately, trial or trials will result in a final conviction, and that the alternate punishments will be either life, ninety-nine years in the penitentiary or death in the electric chair. Therefore, this is my authority to you to negotiate a plea of guilty on my behalf for any term of years, but with a waiver of the death penalty. If you are successful in doing so, I will enter such a plea at the convenience of the Court and all concerned. You have guaranteed me that if I do enter such a plea, that the death papalty needs must be a such a plea, that the death papalty needs must be a such a plea. such a plea, that the death penalty needs must be waived and that I will not be sentenced to death. Sincerely yours, ALL IN CONTROL CONTROL Lo Unilati 19 Expormachore NW 65994 Docld:32989731 Page 61

Deta	Ann	11	5	1003
'IJAKA _	- Alist.	<u> </u>	-3.	

Mr. RALPH MEREDITH CARPENIER, 4844 Durbin Street, Nemphis, Tennessee, telephone 685-5618, advised that he is a salesman at the York Arms Company located at 162 South Eain Street, Memphis.

Mr. CARPENTER recalls that yesterday, April 4, 1960, he was in the above mentioned store talking to one of the other salesmen in the store when an individual entered and subsequently bought from him a pair of Bushnell binoculars. This individual entered the store at about 4.00 in the afternoon. Mr. CARPENTER estimates this to be the correct time and, in part, bases his estimate on the fact that there were pickets parading in front of the store at that time. Mr. CARPENTER recalls that as this individual proceeded further into the store he turned to this individual and asked if he could be of assistance. The individual stated that he wished to purchase some binoculars, and Mr. CARPENTER told hin that he was about out of binoculars and believed the only ones he had in stock were a pair selling for \$200 and another pair selling for ninety-some dollars. The individual stated that he believed these were too high priced for him, and then Er. CARPENTER recalled that there might be a cheaper tair of hinoculars in the window and advised the individual 15 the would find out. Mr. CARPENTER thereupon went to the display window in the front of the store and determined that there was on display a pair of Bushnell binoculars ac'ling for 939,95. He brought these binoculars back to the customer and explained that they were a Japanese import of better quality. The individual seemed to indicate that to obther recognized the name or that he agreed that there , very some good Japanese imports. The customer raised the binoquiars to his eyes and in some manner, not now recalled by In CARPENTER, indicated that these binoculars were receptable.

In. CARPENTER recalls that the customer asked if instructions were in the box, and Mr. CARPENTER advised him that there were instructions in the box, but not much was needed to be known to operate the binoculars, other than to

			<b></b>	
		118	ADD INVURRELUT	SKILD
			58/30/8 The St.	_B <b>XXXXXXXXX</b>
On	8at _Nemphis	. Tennessee	File # Memphis 44-1	987
	_	•		3
BA RO	BEST W. GOODVIN :	and		
	LPH J. LUEWER	· RJL/acp	Date dictated1/5/6	en.

just place them to the eyes and adjust the eye pieces. Mr. CARPENTER recalls that he wrote on the box in which he placed the binoculars the price \$39.95 and the amount of tax which was \$1.60 and added the two figures for a total of \$41.55. He placed the sales slip and the box with the binoculars in it in a gray paper bag which bears the name of York Arms on its side. The binoculars were in a leather or similar type carrying case. The store does not record or maintain serial numbers for these binoculars and it is not known what, it any, serial number was on this particular pair of binoculars.

Mr. CARPENTER stated that the binoculars were Bushnell brand and were 7 by 35 size.

Mr. CARPENTER described the customer as follows:

Race: White Sex: Wale

Age: 26 - 32 years
Height: 5 feet 11 inches

Weight:

Hair:

Black or dark brown, neat, combed straight back and not parted. It was neither very

parted. It was neither very long nor shaggy.

long nor shaggy.

Eyes: Color not recalled; no glasses worn

Complexion: Ruddy
Build: Medium

Scars and marks: None recalled Regional accent: None noticed

Regional accent: None noticed
Dress: Dark suit, not known whether
or not pants matched coat, but
recalls pants did not contrast

with coat; color of shoes not known but not in sharp contrast to other clothing; no hat worn; white shirt with noticeably wide space at the collar, neat looking; dark tie with light stripe which covered entire tie, which was tied in a long slender knot which did not fill the space between the collars, tie was noticeably pulled to one side, not in keeping with generally neat appearance of

customer; no jewelry remembered.

Facial characteristics:

Average fullness; nothing regarding the eyes, nose, ears or other features noticeable. Customer's hands were neat, though nothing outstanding was noticed about them.

Mr. CARPENTER recalls that the individual reached into his right front pants pocket to get the money with which to pay for the binoculars. The money was not in a billfold or a money clip. The customer withdrew two \$20 bills from a roll which contained several other bills, at least two of which Mr. CARPENTER believes were \$20 bills. The customer also took a \$1.00 bill from this roll and then reached into his other front pocket with his left hand and secured two quarters and a nickel, making a total of \$41.55 for the payment. After purchasing the binoculars, the customer walked from the store and Mr. CARPENTER told him to "hurry back" or some similar parting statement, and the customer's reply is not recalled, if any was made. Mr. CARPENTER does not know which direction the customer took after leaving the store.

Mr. CARPENTER does not recall ever having seen this individual before in the store or elsewhere, but feels relatively certain that if he sees him again he would be able to recognize him.

The customer, while in the store, did not ask to see any other merchandise such as rifles or guns or ammunition of any kind, and made no inquiry at all concerning any other merchandise.

Mr. CARPENTER stated that when the customer entered the store CARPENTER was near the front of the store talking to Mr. VERNON YORK. Further back in the store he believes CHARLES GIBSON was near the cash register, and Mr. HUGH BADDLEY, a clcrk, was also somewhere in the store. He believes also that possibly Mr. CORDRA YORK, JR., may have been in the store, but he does not know whether or not any of these individuals took notice of the customer.

	٠	b	
	1		

3° .	4/16/68
Date	4/10/00

SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN and SA RALPH J. LIEWER contacted RALPH M. CARPENTER, an employee of York Arms Company, 162 South Main Street, Memphis. Mr. CARPENTER was informed of the identity of SAC JENSEN and he has previously been interviewed by SA LIEWER. He was told we had an additional group of photographs we would like him to view. He was told that no significance should be attached to the sequence or arrangement the photographs might be in when he saw them. These photographs were laid out, one after another, on the second floor away from bystanders and other employees in the York Arms Company.

CARPENTER spent at least twenty minutes reviewing carefully each of the photographs. He expressed some hesitation for a time between a photograph of one RICHARD SMITH and the photograph of ERIC S. GALT. No names and no identifying data of any kind were furnished to CARPENTER in connection with his study of these photographs. He did state in connection with a photograph of SMITH that he thought this was a local Memphis boy whom he might have seen. He turned this photograph over and did reject the photograph as not being identical to the one to whom he sold the binoculars.

He studied carefully for approximately five minutes the photograph of ERIC S. GALT and made comments concerning the appearance of GALT. He stated the hair was generally similar to the customer but thought it might be just a little bit longer than when the customer had been in the store on April 4. He also said that he recalled the customer he waited on did not have heavy, bushy eyebrows but they were more like the eyebrows in the photograph of GALT. He also stated he had no recollection of seeing GALT's teeth and thought he had a smile when he waited on him. CARPENTER also said he had no independent recollection of GALT's ears appearing as they did in the photograph, but he then said he did not notice them particularly. He did furnish the following statement regarding his identification of the photograph of ERIC S. GALT:

121

On 4/16/68 at Nemphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

SA BOBERT G. JENSEN and Date dictated 4/16/68

# "April 16, 1968

"On April 16, 1968, I, Ralph M Carpenter was shown a group of 5 photographs by Special Agent in Charge Robert G Jensen and Special Agent Ralph J Liewer. After careful study of each of these pictures I placed my name on the back of the picture which I feel most resembled the man who bought a set of binoculars from me on April 4, 1968 at York Arms, 162 So. Main St., Memphis, Tennessee. I was not furnished any names or any descriptive data regarding any of the photographs shown. I was also told that no significance should be attached to any sequence or arrangement that the photographs were shown to me. I did turn one photograph over as I thought I recognized this to be a local Memphis boy. I did not however recognize him as the person to whom I sold the binoculars.

"In choosing the photograph I was guided by my best recollection. I remember that the man who bought the binoculars did not have heavy eyebrows and were about medium like the ones in the photograph selected by me. I did not sell any other binoculars on April 4, 1968

"My signature attests that I am in agreement with the information set forth on page one and page two of this statement.

/s/ Ralph M. Carpenter

- /s/ Robert G Jensen SAC, FBI, Memphis April 16, 1968
- /s/ Ralph J. Liewer Special Agent FBI April 16, 1968"

It should be noted that the name "ERIC S. GALT" was not furnished to CARPENTER, nor was he in a position to read the name when he signed the back of the photograph. His concluding remarks, which were made at approximately 11:20 a.m., 4/16/68, were to the effect that, "I don't own a suit. I suppose I will have to buy a suit so that I can go to court."

1

Date April 25, 1968

Photographs of JAMES EARL RAY taken 1955. 1960, and 1966, and of the bedspread recovered at Memphis, April 4, 1968, were shown to Mrs. BESSIE RUTH BREWER, Room No. 2, 4222 South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee. She said she had looked at the bedspread on April 4, 1968, when it was displayed to her after being recovered by the Memphis Police. She said the bedspread did not come from her rooming house and in fact she had never seen one like it before in her life. Mrs. BREWER said none of the men in the photographs She further advised that shown her were familiar to her. she did not believe she would recognize the man using the name JOHN WILLARD if he were to "walk up and say hello to me right now." She said she did not look at the man called WILLARD "squarely in the face" and as a result. does not think she will be able to identify him.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 3/20/30 B Procent

7

On April 24, 1968 Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

by SA STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON: jap Date dictated 4/25/68 79

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.

1	Date	4/10/68		
<u>.</u>			•	

Mr. CHARLIE QUITMAN STEPHENS, Room 6-B, second floor, 4222 S. Main Street, furnished the following information to Lieutenant J. D. HAMBY, Homicide Bureau, Memphis Police Department, and SA FRANKLIN L. JOHNSON:

Mr. STEPHENS, who stated he is 46 years of age, and his wife occupy 2 rooms in the north wing of a rooming house, the address of which is  $422\frac{1}{2}$  S. Main Street. This rooming house actually covers the second floor of 2 separate buildings, Mr. STEPHENS' room being located in the north building in the southeast corner of the north building.

Sometime in the late afternoon of April 4, 1968, he and his wife were in their room. His wife, who has recently been in the hospital for an extended period of time, was in bed in their combination of living-bedroom. He was in the kitchen, which is east of the living-bedroom. He was repairing a radio on a table located at the north wall of the kitchen. Immediately north of him is a common bathroom which is located at the east end of an east-west hallway in the north building. While he was repairing the radio, he heard what he is certain was a shot, and he is certain that shot came from the bathroom from a point within just a few feet of where he was sitting. He has no way of knowing the time but can only estimate it was sometime between 5:00 and 6:00 PM.

Upon hearing this shot, he walked out of the kitchen through his living-bedroom and opened the door leading onto the hallway and observed a man running west down this hallway and this man was carrying a large bundle of some kind. He would estimate that this bundle or package was at least 3 or 4 feet long and 6 to 8 inches thick. Although he saw the man and the bundle only mementarily, he gained the impression that the bundle was wrapped in something, possibly a newspaper. This man continued running to the end of the hallway turning left (south) and apparently thereafter ran down the stairways onto the street, although he could not actually see the man going down the stairway.

22

On	4/5/68at	Memphis,	Tennessee	File#	ME	44-1987	
				•	'	_	

/bba

It immediately occurred to Mr. STEPHENS that this was the same man he had seen earlier in the afternoon, possibly around mid-afternoon. standing at the door to room 5-B which is located immediately west of Mr. STEPHENS's living-bedroom. He stated that around mid-afternoon he had seen a man with Mrs. BREWER standing in the hallway at the entrance to room 5-B looking into room 5-B. He saw the man's left side. The man had nothing in his hands at the time. He assumed this was some new guest looking at a room.

Mr. STEPHENS stated that he and his wife remained in their room the rest of the afternoon. He pointed out that he, Mr. STEPHENS, is a disabled veteran who has been treated for tuberculosis, and he spends most of his time in his rooms with his wife who is also ill and who at present is a bed patient.

Sometime after seeing thisman with Mrs. BREWER, he heard someone in room 5-B and assumed the man hehad seen had rented the room next door. He stated that he recalls on several different occasions hearing footsteps in this room and also leaving from this room past his (Mr. STEPHENS's) room and into the common bathroom at the east end of the hall. He was also very much aware that when the person went from room 5-B to the bathroom, that person remained in the bathroom for a considerable period of time. He pointed out that this is particularly noticeable since this is a common bathroom which must be used by a number of different tenants. He also specifically recalled that only on one occasion did he hear the commode being flushed and he was therefore curious as to why this person was spending so much time in the bathroom.

He stated that on the last occasion that someone went from number 5-B to the bathroom prior to the time he heard the shot, he would estimate that that person remained in the bathroom for at least 20 to 30 minutes. During this period he heard no noises coming from the bathroom. He also specifically recalls that during this same period, Mr. WILLIS ANCHUMZ (phonetic), who occupies room 4-B, immediately west of 5-B where the new tenant apparently was located,

had knocked on Mr. STEPHENS's door and somewhat : angrily inquired as to who was staying in the bathroom so long.

It was at the end of this latter period of time that Mr. STEPHENS heard the above described shot which he was certain came from the bathroom. He stated that immediately after the shot was fired he heard some people located across the street, east of the building where he lives, screaming. Due to the excitement of the moment, the fact that people across the street in the vicinity of the Lorraine Motel were screaming, and the fact that his hearing is not the best, he did not hear any additional noises coming from the bathroom. He pointed out that he would expect to hear a "scuffle" coming from the bathroom if the man in the bathroom had fired the shot that killed MARTIN LUTHER KING, but he cannot recall hearing such a "scuffle." He stated that he simply has no way of knowing whether the man came out of the bathroom, went into room 5-B and then ran out of 5-B down the hall toward the front of the building, or whether the man in the bathroom ran directly from the bathroom down the hallway toward the front of the building. He stated he did hesitate a few moments after hearing the shot and hearing the screaming outside before he went to the door and looked down the hall to see the man running carrying something in his hand.

Mr. STEPHENS advised that the only people in the north building of this rooming house at the time of this incident were (1) Mr. STEPHENS, (2) Mr. STEPHENS's wife, who was in bed and who was never in a position to observe anything, (3) Mr. WILLIS ANCHUTZ (phonetic), above, in room 4-B, who came out of his room and was seen by Mr. STEPHENS at the same time Mr. STEPHENS saw the man running down the hall, (4) Mrs. JESSIE LEFTTTER, a deaf and dumb lady who resides in room 1-B toward the front (west) of the morth wing or north building, and (5) the unknown man who had occupied room 5-B who was running down the hall as previously stated.

Mr. STEPHENS stated that Mr. ANCHULE made some remark to the unknown man who was running down the hallway and the unknown man apparently made some kind of reply.

Mr. STEPHENS advised that whereas he could hear footsteps in 5-B and could hear footsteps between 5-B and the bathroom, he at no time heard any conversation in 5-B. and he is certain that there was no conversation in 5-B from the time the new tenant checked in until the time he heard the shot. He stated he never heard any noise or footsteps which would indicate to him there was ever more than one person in room 5-B. He pointed out that whereas his hearing is not too good. it is very easy to hear noises in the adjoining rooms of this rooming house and he definitely can hear normal conversation coming from that room. STEPHENS stated that when he saw the new tenant with Mrs. BREWER standing in front of 5-B, he only saw the left side of the new tenant, and when he saw what he believes to be the same man running down the hallway carrying something, he only saw this person from the rear. He pointed out he never saw him directly in front. but based upon his observations he would describe this person as follows:

Name:
Race:
Race:
Sex:
Age:
Height:
Weight:
Build:
Posture:
Hair:

Unknown White Male "in bis 30 5' 10-11" 165 pounds Average 🙏 🕆 Man stood erectly Described as sandy, also described as "dark blond" or having the appearance of unwashed sand. Further described hirline as receding on left side (and presumably on both sides) making it appear he would have "peaks" on either side but with full thick hair toward the front center of his head between the peaks. Hair combed straight back. average haircut.

ME 44-1987 5

Dress:

General Appearance:

Bare headed, wearing dark

suit

Clean shaven, neat appearing individual.

		. *; * * *			- +
•	• •		• *	A /2 /CO	
1			Data	4/7/68	
			, Date		

CHARLES STEPHENS, Apartment 6B, 422½ South Main Street, Memphis, advised that on the afternoon of April 4, 1968, he was with his wife at the above address. He stated that at about 3:30 p.m., on the above date, he began working on a table model radio of his which was in need of repair. He said he took a radio to the kitchen and placed it on the table which was against the wall that was adjacent to the bathroom which was used by all tenants on his floor. As he, was working on his radio he could hear the man in the next apartment to him, Apartment 5B, leave his room several times and go into the bathroom. Mr. STEPHENS stated that he knew it was the man who had just checked in to Apartment 5B that afternoon because he could hear the door of Apartment 5B open and then footsteps would go down the hall to the bathroom, the bathroom door would open and then close.

Mr. STEPHENS said that during these various trips that the individual in Apartment 5B made to the bathroom he failed to flush the toilet or to run any water with the exception of the last time he was in the bathroom. At this time he flushed He stated that this individual seemed to be spending the toilet. an undue length of time in this bathroom. At about 6:00 p.m., on April 4, 1968, Mr. STEPHENS heard a loud noise which he described as sounding like a gunshot come from the bathroom. Upon hearing this noise, Mr. STEPHENS can from the kitchen where he was repairing his radio to his door that led to the hallway. He stated this is only a distance of about 10 to 12 feet. Upon opening the door he saw a man leave the bathroom carrying a package of about three feet long and wrapped in what appeared to be newspaper. the man run down the hall and then turn left as if he were trying to leave the apartment building. As this was happening WILLIE ANSCHUTZ, who lived in Apartment 4B, came out of his apartment and went to the bathroom. ANSCHUTZ then told STEPHENS to look out of his window. STEPHENS said that he then looked out of his kitchen window which faced the Lorraine Hotel and saw a lot of policemen scurrying about and people running screaming in the vicinity of the hotel.

at Memphis. ME 44-1987

SA JOHN W. BAUER bySA STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON JWB:raj

218

ME 44-1987 2

Mr. STEPHENS stated that the man who was in Apartment 5B had checked in about 3:00 or 3:30 p.m. on April 4, 1968. He stated he was sure of this because he had heard the landlady showing him the apartment at that time. He stated he glanced out of his door and got a fairly good look at the man who he described as being a white male; 5' 10-11"; weighing 165 pounds; slender build; ruddy complexion; sandy hair; had a long, sharp pointed nose; wearing what appeared to be a dark blue or black suit, white shirt and dark tie.

Mr. STEPHENS stated that the man who he saw running out of the bathroom closely resembled the man who had checked into Apartment 5B. He said he could only see the man who ran from the bathroom from behind, but his general build, hair coloring and clothes were the same as the individual in Apartment 5B.

Mr. STEPHENS described the individual he saw running out of the bathroom as follows:

Race White
Sex Male
Height 5'10-11"
Weight 165
Build Slender
Complexion Ruddy
Hair Sandy, slightly on dark side

Clothing Wearing dark suit

Mr. STEPHENS added that he had never met the man who checked into Apartment 5B, talked to him, or knew his name.

	4/7/68	
Date		•

Mrs. PEGGY BURNS, 4802 Rickard, telephone number 397-0033, advised she is employed as a saleslady at the Oliver Rexall Drugstore in Whitehaven. Mrs. BURNS stated that she recalls selling a Gillette shaving kit, which was in a clear plastic container, to a white man a little before noon on April 3, 1968. She stated that this shaving kit contained a safety razor, shaving lotion, shaving cream, hair tonic, and deodorant, which is all manufactured by the Gillette Company, and was in a clear plastic container, approximately four inches by six inches.

Mrs. BURNS recalled that a white man came into the Oliver Rexall Drugstore shortly before noon, April 3, 1968, and asked her for a razor. She said she pointed out where the razors were located in her store, and directed him to that area of the store. She advised the white man walked down to this area, and picked out the Gillette shaving kit, and brought it back to the cash register, where she was located. Mrs. BURNS said she could not recall any other items which the white man purchased in her store. She could not recall how he paid for this purchase, and did not recall anything he said while he was paying for the item.

Mrs. BURNS stated that she got the impression from the white man's activities that he was a stranger in the area, and she said she does not believe he has ever been in her store before. She said she is sure that she has never seen him prior to the time he approached her, and she furnished the following description for him:

Race:
Age:
45
Height:
Weight:
Hair:
Black - could not recall how he combed it or anything further about his hair
Eyes:
Color unknown

On <u>4/4/68</u> at _	Memphis, Tennessee	File #	44-1987		
				_	

317

1

Date April 8, 1968

Mrs. BESSIE RUTH BREWER, Resident Manager, rooming house located at 422½ South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee, was interviewed at Central Police Headquarters, Memphis, Tennessee, Police Department, at which time she furnished the following information:

Between 3:00 P.M. and 3:30 P.M. on April 4, 1968, a white male knocked on the door of the second floor of the rooming house and asked Mrs. BREWER if she had a room. A She replied yes, and this individual then asked if he could see ... it. Mrs. BREWER showed him Room No. 8, which is located in the southwest part of the building, and the individual put his head into the doorway and after looking, stated that this. would not be satisfactory as he did not need a stove and refrigerator but only wanted a sleeping room. Mrs. BREWER then showed this individual Room 5-B, and he put his head in the doorway of this room and said it, would be fine. At this ... point the individual asked where the bathroom facilities were located, and she pointed to the bathroom located in the northeast portion of the hallway which is located in the same hallway as Room 5-B. She and this individual then returned to her office. The individual stated that his name was JOHN WILLARD and that he wanted a sleeping room for one week.

WILLARD then asked her how much the room rent would be for one week, and Mrs. BREWER replied \$8.50. WILLARD then put his hand into his right trouser pocket and withdrew a twenty dollar bill and two quarters and handed the money to her. She gave him change in denominations of one ten dollar bill and two one dollar bills. When WILLARD arrived at the rooming house, Mrs. BREWER did not notice any luggage in his possession, nor during the brief conversation with WILLARD did he volunteer any information concerning his home residence, line of business, or mode of transportation. WILLARD was not required to sign any type of register, and the only written record maintained of the transaction was a receipt for the \$8.50, which was made out in the handwriting of Mrs. BREWER.

	Mrs. B	REWER was unabl	e to state if W	ILLARD returne	<u>d</u>
		9		e gion-contained Laglasse acid	*
On	4/5/68 at _	Memphis, Ter	nessee File #	Memphis 44-	<u>epull</u> 1987
by	SA ROBERT F.	BOYLE: jap	Date di	ictated 4/8/68	. 2

dusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to

to Room 5-B or if he left the building at any time after renting Room 5-B. Mrs. BREWER did not again observe WILLARD after he rented the room.

Mrs. BREWER's husband returned home from work at 5:25 P.M. on April 4, 1968, and at that time Mr. and Mrs. BREWER commenced their dinner. After dinner Mr. BREWER then turned on the television set and was watching the "Rawhide" television program, and Mrs. BREWER did the dinner dishes. Shortly after completing the dinner dishes. Mrs. BREWER also sat down to watch the "Rawhide" television' program. Within a matter of a couple of minutes, Mrs. BREWER heard what she thought to be a gun shot coming from the back of her rooming house. Mrs. BREWER believed that this must have been around 6:00 P.M. on April 4, 1968. She advised her husband that she thought it was a gun shot. Her husband took time to put on his slippers and both of them then . proceeded to the southeast exit of the building. Upon arriving at this point, Mr. BREWER attempted to go out the back door; however, a law enforcement officer was in the back of the building and instructed both Mr. and Mrs. BREWER to close the door and return to their apartment. Mrs. BREWER did not hear any noise such as someone running through her building after hearing the gun shot, and the only noise she could recall hearing was a lot of hollering and screaming near the back of her building toward the Lorraine Motel.

Mrs. BREWER examined cash that she had on hand and determined that she had three \$20.00 bills in her possession. She was unable to specifically pinpoint which \$20.00 bill was furnished to her by WILLARD for payment of his room rent. Mrs. BREWER made available the following described twenty dollar Federal Reserve Notes:

- (1) Series 1963-A, Serial No. F14002844A
- (2) Series 1963-A, Serial No. H16164663A
- (3) Series 1963, Serial No. F06445143A

Mrs. BREWER furnished the following description of WILLARD:

Race:
Sex:
Age:

White

Mal

Approximately 35 years

ME 44-1987

Height:
Weight:
Build:
Appearance:

5'11" to 6'
180 pounds
Medium (carried weight well)
Real neat looking, clean
shaven.

Mrs. BREWER stated that WILLARD appeared to have a smile or a sneer on his face during their entire conversation; did not appear as though he was the outdoors type; was wearing a dark sport jacket or short jacket, as he did not have to pull the jacket back when he reached his right hand into his pocket for his money; did not notice any rings or watches; paid no attention to his shoes, pants, shirt, or whether he had on a tie, but was quite positive that he did not have a hat; did not give the appearance of needing a haircut, nor was he wearing a mustache or any long sideburns; paid no particular attention to his teeth while he was talking and did not particularly notice about any part of his face, including nose, mouth, ears, chin, or eyebrows.

Mrs. BREWER claims that she did not particularly look at this individual as she did not like the smile or sneer that he had on his face.

Mrs. BREWER did recall that when she pointed out the bathroom facilities to WILLAPD, she told him that everyone in the area of his room was usually quiet but that the guy next to him usually drinks a little bit. Mrs. BREWER claimed that WILLARD then stated, "I take a beer once in awhile myself." Mrs. BREWER claimed that she told him that was all right as long as he stayed in his room and kept quiet.

Mrs. BREWER was unable to state whether any of the other roomers at her rooming house had an opportunity to either observe or have any contact with WILLARD, nor was she able to furnish any additional information concerning WILLARD's activities during the brief period that he resided at her rooming house. She claims that she does not believe that she would recognize this individual again from a photograph or if she had an opportunity to see him in person, but qualified this by stating that she probably would be able to recognize him from the smile or sneer that he had on his face if she were able to observe that in the future.

She claimed that WILLARD did not volunteer any information concerning his personal background or volunteer any information concerning his reason for being in Memphis. She claimed that WILLARD's speech was "just like the rest of us around here," and that his vocabulary and accent were not out of place in her rooming house. Mrs. BREWER recalled that when WILLARD first looked in Room 8, he remarked that he only wanted a sleeping room as he would not be in the room in the daytime, just at night.

1

Mrs. FRANK (BESSIE) BREWER, Room 2, 4221 South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee, who manages the rooming house at this address and who has been interviewed previously by Agents of the FBI. telephonically contacted the FBI Office on April 10. 1968, at which time she requested to be contacted by an FBI Agent.

Mrs. BREWER was contacted by SA FRANKLIN L. JOHNSON and Lieutenant W. S. SCHULTZ, Homicide Bureau, Hemphis Police Department, at which time she advised that she was beginning to receive mail from individuals unknown to her: She displayed an envelope postmarked April 7; 1968, at Niagara Falls; New York, bearing the return address, Mrs. ZUCCO, 518 Ferry Avenue, Niagara Falls, New York, in which was located a one-page handwritten letter, which letter referred to newspaper publicity identifying Mrs. BREWER as operating a "flop house." the writer of the letter referring to the fact that Mrs. BREWER should "buy some paint" and ending by stating, "I'll bet you even have cockroaches!":

A second envelope was postmarked April 7, 1968, at Des Moines, Iowa, which contained a printed religious tract and neither the envelope nor the tract identified the sender.

On the occasion of this contact with Mrs. BREWER, she furnished the following information:

She stated she wanted to point out that she has previously forgotten to advice officers of the Police Department and FBI Agents that at the time she rented Room 5-B to a stranger using the name of JOHN . WILLARD on April 4, 1968, there was a small; cheap cnest of drawers, blond in color, in front of the east window on the south wall of Room 5-B, whereas after the shooting of Dr. KING and when she next saw Room 5-B. that chest of drawers was sitting against the west wall of that room and there was a chair sitting in front of

4/10/68 Memphis, Tenzessez

sa franklin L. Johnson: wp/

4/12/68

204

that window. She stated she was pointing this out since this would indicate that the occupant of the room definitely handled this chest of drawers.

Mrs. BREWER stated that since interviewed previously, she had been trying to think of anything else which might assist in identifying the guest who used the name of JOHN WILLARD. She stated as she has discussed the matter with her husband and thought more about it, the one thing which impressed her most about the appearance of this individual was the fact that when she first cracked open the door to her room after this man knocked, she observed that he was standing at the door with an unusual smile on his face. She went on to state that she would describe the smile as a "sneer" or a "smirk." She stated that she cannot be more specific other than to state that she was impressed by this expression on this man's face, as though he were trying to smile for no reason. She stated that she did not interpret the smile as an effort to be flirtatious. Same to the state of the state

She also stated that her initial impression of this man was that he did not "fit in" with other tenants in this rooming house. She pointed out that this rooming house is located in a poorer section of town where most of the tenants are older people or others with limited income, a number of whom are alcoholics, and this man was clean and neatly dressed, giving the impression that he could obtain lodging in nicer surroundings.

Mrs. BREMER at this time attempted to recall the words used by this person. As she recalls, when she went to the door and cracked open the door, leaving the chain fastened, the man's first words were, "Do you have a room for rent?" She answered in the affirmative and asked him whether he wanted a room by the week or by the month. He replied, as nearly as she can recall, by stating simply, "By the week." At this point she unfastened the chain which secured the partially opened door and walked directly to Room 8 located in the south wing of this rooming house. She stated that the man followed her to the room and locked inside the room but never actually entered the room, at which time his words,

as nearly as she can recall, were, "Well, I don't need the stove and refrigerator since I won't be doing any cooking. I was thinking more of a sleeping room."

At this point Mrs. BREMER explained that the only vacant "sleeping room" (or room with no stove and refrigerator) which she had in either wing of the rooming house was Room 5.B in the north wing. She therefore immediately walked from Room 8 in the south wing across the enclosed walkway which connects the south wing to the north wing of the rooming house, and thereafter to Room 5-B. Again she walked in front of the man. As soon as she opened the door to Room 5-B, the man immediately stated that he would take that room. She then walked to her room in the south wing of the building, followed by the unknown man, who paid her \$8.50, as outlined previously by her, for the rent of Room 5-B for one week in advance.

Mrs. BREWER stated that most of the rooms in this rooming house can be secured only with the use of a padlock, and after showing this individual Room 5-B, she removed the padlock from the door and took the padlock with her to her room. She stated it is necessary that tenants put up a deposit if they secure the padlock, but this tenant did not inquire as to how he could lock the door and did not request the padlock and a key. She also added that she did not explain to him the method of locking the door or that it was necessary that he put up a deposit in order to obtain the padlock.

She stated at this point that she had been somewhat unnerved when she first looked at this man, at which time he had the unusual smile on his face, or appeared to be "sneering" at her, and thereafter she made a point of having as little to do with him as possible, always walking in front of him and avoiding all unnecessary conversation or dealings with him.

Mrs. BREWER was asked whether she now feels that she could identify this man if she sees him again. She stated that she thought she might be able to identify this man if she sees him again. She stated the man used no slang or unusual expressions and she could not associate his accent with any particular area, adding he had no particular accent.

She also stated that she is positive she has never seen this man before. She pointed out that she has only been handling the rental of the rooms at this rooming house since March 12, 1968, however, and she would have no way of knowing whether he stayed at this rooming house prior to that time.

She stated that at the time she became the landlady at this rooming house, Room 5-B was occupied by an elderly man by the name of COMYODORE STEWART. This man was ill as of March 12, 1968, and she believed that it was on March 12, 1968, that he was taken to a Memphis hospital. A couple of days later, probably on either March 13 or 14, 1968, this man died. The room had not been rented from that time until the time the stranger using the name of JOHN WILLARD rented this room.

可用的现在分词 医腹膜炎 医髓囊管炎 She understands that a number of different persons have acted in the capacity of rental agent for this rooming house in recent menths, including Mr. WYATT MADDOX, who is now a clerk at the Tri-State Hotel located nearby, Mr. MADDOX never having lived in this rooming house, however, and apparently having acted as rental agent for only a short period of time. Another individual who bandled the rental of rooms in this rooming house was H. R. THOMPSON, an old drunk, according to other tenants, who never lived in the rooming house. One other rental agent at this rooming house prior to the time Mrs. BREWER assumed these duties was W. V. SAMMONS, who she understands is now at the Madison Hotel She is sure that Mr. SAMMONS was the rental in Memphis. agent in January 1968, based on copies of receipts in her receipt book. She recalled that Mr. SAMMONS stabbed his wife while he was rental agent at this rooming house and the matter received publicity.

Mrs. RREWER advised that most of the occupants of rooms in this rooming house are more or less permanent tenants, although the does occasionally rent a vacant room to transients for only one night.

Mrs. BREWER advised that there are 10 separate apartments or rooms in the south wing of this rooming house and six separate apartments or rooms in the north wing. The six rooms in the north wing are referred to as 1-B, 2-B, etc., whereas the rooms in the south wing have

no letter of the alphabet following the room number. She furnished the following information concerning the status of these rooms as of April 4, 1968, when the man using the name JOHN WILLARD checked juto Room 5-B:

# SOUTH WING:

(Rooms are numbered in a counter-clockwise order, starting with Room No. 1 in the southwest corner of this wing of the rooming house.)

- Room 1 Vacant
- Room 2 Occupied by Mr. and Mrs. BREWER and referred to as the "office."
- Room 3 Occupied by Mr. HERTIE L. REEVES, an elderly non who is retired and who appears to be reasonably responsible. She stated that Mr. REEVES came out of his room about the same time as Mr. and Mrs. HREVER after all heard what they believed to be a shot about 6:00 p.m., April 4, 1968.
- Room 4 Occupied by HOWARD VANCE, an older man, chronic alcoholic, who works as a handyman at Jim's Grill located nearby, but who as of April 4, 1968, was known by Mrs. BREWER to have been drunk for two days. Mrs. BREWER stated she know that VANCE was in his room as of 6:00 p.m., April 4, 1968, but she also knew that he had been on a two-day drunk and that he did not come out of his room.
- Room 5 Occupied by T. I. MESSER, a man 75 to 80 years of age, who has been ill recently, whose hearing is very defective, and who was in his room as of the time of the shooting. Mrs. BREWER added, however, that due to Mr. MESSER's age and his physical and mental condition, Mr. MESSER still does not understand what actually occurred and continues to ask what all the excitement wan about when police officers and FDI Agents questioned occurants of the building.

- Room 6 Vscant. Hen by the name of SAMUEL WILSON, who she understands had been a tenant for several months, vacated this room on April 3, 1968.
- Room 7 Occupied by FRANK M. MARLEY, an elderly man who is a chronic alcoholic, who was also drunk and in his room as of the time of the shooting. She stated that MARLEY did not come out of his room around the time of the shooting.
- Room 8 Vacant. (This is the room which Mrs. BREWER first showed to the man using the name JCHN WILLARD.)
- Room 9 Occupied by HAROID CARTER, a man 55 to 60 years of age, unemployed, who receives welfare checks and who has a physical affliction. (She stated one of his hands is deformed or "drawn up.") She stated this man also drinks considerably. She does not believe he was home at the time of the shooting.
- Room 10 Occupied by LEONARD EATON, age 60 to 65, who she understands to be a long-time resident at this rooming house, who reportedly formerly worked on a river boat. She stated it is her impression that he was in his room asleep at the time of the shooting and that he too had been drinking.

# NORTH WING:

(Rooms on north wing are numbered 1-B through 6-B, reading from west to east. Those doors having numbers have numerals only on them, but all of the tenants understand that the designation of "B" refers to the rooms in the north wing.)

Room 1-B - (located west of a north-south ballway which connects to an enclosed walkway connecting the two wings of the rooming house) Occupied by Mrs. JESSIE L. LEDBETTER, a widow who she understands has resided at this address for some 8 to 10 years. Mrs. LEDBETTER is a deaf muta.

209

Room 2-B - Vacant

Room 3-B - Vacant

Room 4-B - Occupied by WILLIS ANCHUTZ, employed at Duvall Transfer Company. Mrs. BREWER later learned that Mr. ANCHUTZ reportedly saw the man running down the hall following the shooting and had some conversation with him.

Room 5-B - Room occupied by the man using name
JOHN WILLARD and which room had not
been rented since former tenant,
COMMODORE STEWART, died about March 13
or 14, 1968.

Room 6-B - Occupied by Mr. and Mrs. CHARLIE STEPHENS.

Mr. STEPHENS is an unemployed tuberculosis patient and his wife is presently confined to her bed.

LOUIS STOKES, OHIO, CHARMAN SAMUEL L. DEVI STEWART B. MCKING

Select Committee on Assassinations

U.S. House of Representatibes 2331 House office Building, Annex 2 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

August 8, 1978

The Honorable Griffin B. Bell Attorney General of the United States Department of Justice Washington, D.C. 20530

Attention: Mr. Robert L. Keuch

Deputy Assistant Attorney General

Criminal Division

Room 2113

Department of Justice

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

In connection with the investigation of the House Select Committee on Assassinations into the death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., I have enclosed, pursuant to the agreement we have with the Department of Justice, those materials which we may refer to and consequently make public during our public hearings scheduled for the week of August 14 -August 19, 1978. We would appreciate it if you would inform us by this Friday if you have any objection to the release of any of this information. I assume much of it has been released under the Freedom of Information Act, but we do not have a document-by-document list of that information which has been released.

Thank you for your continuing cooperation.

Sincerely,

G. Rolex Blokery G. Robert Blakey

Chief Counsel and Director

GRB: jwc Enclosures BH 44-1740

PURCHASE OF 1966 WHITE MUSTANG TWO-DOOR BY ERIC S. GALT, 2608 HIGHLAND AVENUE, FROM OWNER, WILLIAM D. PAISLEY, ON AUGUST 29 and 30, 1967.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED \.
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE STATE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY

1 Date 4/13/68

At 8:30 A.M., the records of the Jefferson County Department of Revenue were examined to determine the registeredowner of an automobile bearing 1968 Alabama tag no. 1-38993, These records indicated that this tag was issued on October 2, 1967, to Mr. ERIC S. GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, for a 1966 Mustang, two-door, eight cylinder. Vehicle Identification No. 6707C190647. This record also indicated that this car bore a previous 1967 Alabama tag no. 1A-88354. A check of the records concerning this number revealed that this number was issued for the same automobile to a Mr. WILLIAM D. PAISLEY, Birmingham, Alabama, who bought this car from Maring Crawford Ford Company, Birmingham, on December 15, 1966. This car had originally been registered by Maring Crawford Ford Company, on March 11, 1966, as having been sold to MELVIN E. HARVEY, The record shows the car was transferred from HARVEY's name to PAISLEY on December 15, 1966, and was then transferred from PAISLEY to ERIC S. GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham. Alabama, on August 30, 1967.

On 4/9/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

SAS Date dictated 1/11/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the PD. 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.

1968 April 9.

Date .

WILLIAM D. PAISLEY; Birmingham, furnished the following.

On August 29, 1967, a man later identified as ERIC GALT came to the PAISLEY residence in a taxi cab. This man apparently was the same man who had called earlier in the day and talked to PAISLEY's wife about an adothe PAISLEY's rad placed in a local newspaper in an effort to sell their 1366 white Mustang. PAISLEY showed the automobile which bar a red interior to GALT and offered to let him test-drive the car. GALT refused to drive the car, saying he did not have an Alabama drivers license, but he did have one in Louisiana. PAISLEY then drove GALT around the area, and during this drive picked up PAISLEY's son DAVID. When they returned to PAISLEY residence, GALT said "I'll take it off your hands." GALT said he did not like the off-white color of the car, but apparently was otherwise satisfied. GALT then suggested that he give PAISLEY some earnest money, and asked it PAISLEY would drive GALT to the downtown area of Birminglan. It was then agreed that they would meet the next day at about 10:00 a.m. at the First National Bank to settle the GALT told PAISLEY that he, GALT, had his bank account at the Birmingham Trust National Bank. GALT asked FALSBLY how he wanted payment for the car, and PAISLEY suggested a cashier's check. GALT said he did not know how to get a cashier's check, and PAISLEY said he would show him how the next day. PAISLEY, accompanied by his son DAVID, then took GALT to First Avenue and North 20th Street, where GALT got. out of the car.

The next day PAISLEY received a telephone call from GALT, who said he would meet him at the First National Bank to settle the deal. At about 10:15 a.m., they met in from of the bank, and GALT took \$2,000 cash out of his shirt pocket and gave it to PAISLEY. PAISLEY suggested they go inside the bank and count the money, which they did. PARSIES deposited the money in the bank, and GALT went with PAISLEY's son to a parking lot where he took possession of the car.

On	4/9/68	at Birmingha	m, Alabama	File # Bl	1 44-1740	,, ,
	SAs			<b>-0</b> :	4/9/68	ŧ
ъу	and		-	Date dictate	47,0700	

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.

BH 44-1740

PAISLEY recalls GALT mentioned that he worked on a barge line between New Orleans and St. Louis, and that he would work 20 days and then be off 10 days. He recalled GALT saying that he was married, and that his wife was now living "over in Rocky Ridge," referring to an area south of Homewood, Alabama.

PAISLEY described GALT as a white male, age about 32, five feet, ten and one-half inches tall, 160 to 165 points, dark brown hair, neat-looking, neat dresser, quiet, accept was not from the Alabama area.

Mr. PAISLEY said he did not believe he could identify GALT if he ever saw him again.

PAISLEY produced a bill of sale for this transaction which shows the car was sold to ERIC GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, telephone 323-9487, for \$1,995 on August 30, 1967.

WILLIAM DAVID PAISLEY, JR.,
Birmingham, on April 9, 1968, furnished the following:

Date :

Sometime in late August, 1967, PAISLEY's father had run an ad in the Sunday newspaper in an effort to sell their 1966 white two-door hardtop Mustang with red interior and whitewall tires. They advertised the car as being for sale for \$1,995. A couple of days later, a man later identified as ERIC GALT and PAISLEY's father picked up PAISLFY at the home of one of his friends. PAISLEY's father was driving the car and GALT was riding in the front seat. They drove around the area for awhile and then returned to the PAISLEY residence, GALT did not ask any questions, look at the motor or in the trank of the car. He said, "I'll be glad to take this car off your hands." He then agreed to give PAISLEY's father a down parker if Mr. PAISLEY would take GALT back to downtown Birmingham. They then agreed to meet the next morning at the First National Bank to settle the deal, because PAISLEY's father has his office in that building and PAISLEY at the time was employed in the First National Bank.

Mr. PAISLEY suggested that GALT obtain a cashier's check. PAISLEY and his father then took GALT to First Avenue North and 20th Street, where he got out of the car. That evening, August 29, 1968, PAISLEY tried to call GALT at the tele phone number GALT had left with PAISLEY's father. PAISLEY was unable to talk to GALT as he was not at the number called and PAISLEY learned this number was at a rooming house on light and Avenue. The next day PAISLEY's father received a teleptonic call from GALT who said he was six blocks away from the First National Bank building and would meet the PAISLEY's in from the First National Bank at about 10:15 A.M. They met in from the bank at 10:15 A.M. and GALT produced \$2,000 in cash mostly twenties, with some 100-dollar bills. They stepped

On 4/9,10/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

SASTER And Date dictated 4/9,11/68

inside the bank where the money was counted and GALT was

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBJ. 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.

given a bill of sale.

PAISLEY then took GALT to the parking lot where the car was parked and showed him how to drive the car. He then gave GALT the keys and GALT drove off.

DAVID PAISLEY recalled that he observed this same car for about six weeks after the sale, parked in frost of the rooming house in the 2600 block of Highland Avenue, but that he had not seen this automobile since about the first of October, 1967. He also recalled that on one of these occasions he observed a front bumper tag with a drawing of a Confederate flag thereon.

PAISLEY recalled GALT saying that he worked on a barge on the Mississippi River "out of St. Louis" to New Orleans. He would work a month and then be off for two weeks and that this was a lonely life. He also said he had saved all his money from his job and would pay cash for the car.

PAISLEY also recalled that GALT was emphatic about not test driving the automobile, and said that his Louisiana license had expired and he had not obtained an Alabama driver's license yet. He also recalled GALT making a statement that he did his banking at the Birmingham Trust National Bank, and "I have my money there."

PAISLEY described GALT as a white male, 5'8"-82", age 32, tall, 145 pounds, dark brown or black hair with a widow's peak and cut short. This person was not a smoker, was very cleaned, very shy and quiet. He claimed he was divorced and that his wife was presently living on Rocky Ridge or Dolly Ridge Road "over the mountain," referring to an area south of Homewood, Alabama. PAISLEY recalled this person had an accept which was possibly Western, but was definitely not from the Alabama area. PAISLEY also recalled this person saying he was unemployed at that time.

PAISLEY said he could definitely identity this person if he ever saw him again.

On April 10, 1968, DAVID PAISLEY observed an artist's conception of a person who had purchased a rifle at Aeromarine Supply, Birmingham, on March 29, 1968. PAISLES said this artist's conception did not resemble LRIC GALT.

PAISLEY said his father had told GALT during the transaction that GALT would have to get insurance for the Mustern as the PAISLEYs would cancel their car insurance by calling State Farm Insurance Company that day (August 30, 1968). PAISLEY recalled that GALT did not ask any questions or saganything further about car insurance.

During his contacts with GALT, PAISLEY said he never detected the odor of alcohol on GALT nor did he observe GALT smoke cigarettes. PAISLEY said the ad for the automobile had been run in the "Birmingham News" on Sunday, August 27, 4803 only.

PAISLEY recalled GALT, after inspecting PAISLLY'S Mustang, saying that this was the cleanest one that GALT had seem He also recalled GALT saying, "I've get my money in the base Trust," and did not refer to the bank as the "BTNB," which is commonly done by natives of Birmingham. In connection with GALT's divorced wife whom GALT claimed was living on Rock; Ridge Road or Dolly Ridge Road, "over the mountain," PAISITE recalls GALT saying, "Yeah, that's the way it goes."

PAISLEY said the price of \$1,995 for the Mustang was \$300 too much, but this price was never questioned by GALT and this price did not seem to bother GALT in any way. GALT said he had been saving his money and because he worked a barge he had no place to spend it.

PAISLEY said he could not recall how GALT was dress on August 29, 1967, but did believe that on August 30, 1967, GALT was wearing a sport coat, a dress shirt, with no tie, open at the neck.

Prior to GALT's taking possession of the car on August 30, 1967, PAISLEY's father asked GALT how GALT was good; to get his driver's license. GALT replied that he had a friend "over at the rooming house," who would take him to the place where he could obtain a driver's license and change the registration on the car.

4 BH 44-1740

DAVID FAISLEY recalled that during the month to six weeks after the sale he had observed this car parked on numerous occasions in front of the rooming house in the 2600 block of Highland Avenue. He had noted that this car seemed to be dirty from non-use, rather than from being driven, and that on the last occasion of observing this car which would have been about the first of October, 1967, the car still had the slick bald tires that had been on it when it was sold.

PAISLEY furnished the following dotailed description of the automobile:

1966 white Mustaug, two-door hardtop, eight cylinder, 289, four individual red plastic floor mats, push button radio, heater, remote control outside mirror, day-night inside mirror, very clean engine, mileage 20,000 miles, equipped with Autolite battery, four whitewall, baid tires. The spare was in good shape but had a wider whitewall than the tires on the whoels. The seats were medium red in color and the carpeting was maroon or dark red. The body condition of the car was excellent and the muffler was painted shiny silver.

PAISLEY said that he had forgotten to advise on April 9, 1968, that on April 5, 1968, sometime between 1:00 %, and 1:30 P.M., while driving east on Fifth Avenue North, in front of the U.S. Post Office, PAISLEY observed a 1966 clean, white Mustang hardtop, which he thought could possibly be the same car he had sold to GALT. He also, at the same time, observed the back of a man getting into this car whose build resembled that of GALT. PAISLEY said he could not be definite that this was the same car and that the individual was GALT, as he only had a fleeting glimpse.

Dote 4/14/16/6

JULIE EXITON GARMER, 107 - 14th Stroot, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia, was contacted at 10:37 P.H., April 14, 1968, at which time he furnished the following information:

GARRER made available a record book maintained by him concerning persons who rent rooms at both 107 and 113 - 14th Street, N.B., rooming houses operated by him on a loase basis. A roview of this record book failed to disclose any registration in the name GALT. It should be noted this book contains only a record of records for the period beginning January 1,1938.

Upon being questioned concorning individuals renting at these addresses who might have checked out prior to the complotion of the period for whim they had paid, or others who for any reason might not be recorded in this record book. GAMMR named, among others, an individual named (First Rame Unknowny CAMA. On boing questioned concerning GAMA, he said this individual was first soon by him on the afternoon of April 5, 1983, became of the hours of 5:00 and 6:00 R.H. He omplainful that another recorer, MID C. JOIDS, who occupies room #1 at 113 - 14th Stroot, N.J., had been sitting in front of this building and was approached by GAM, who inquired concerning the availability of a room. GAMAR joined the pair and CALT indicated to GARLIB he was interested in obtaining a single, quiet room. Having no such room available, GARIER told GAM he would put him in Room #5, at 107 - 14th Street, which room was a double room and that he would be noved to a single room as soon as one became available. GARIDA said he noted GAM was driving a black car, probably a Ford, bearing an cut-of-state license plate (state of registration not rocalled), and that the car was possibly a 1932 or 1933 model.

GAIN accepted this arrangement and paid GANIDE while outside the Chelling and he believes he received a \$10 kill and a \$1 kill in payment. The cost of the room was \$10.50 per week and a \$.50 key deposit. During the conversation, GAIN indicated he was a welcer and originally came from "The Carolines." He explained that he had a tag for a diskerent state on the Ford because he had been working in another state.

-			
	* <b>↑</b> • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		ائد است. اقت است
On	4/14,15/68, Atlanta, Goorgia	. 47	File#_Atlanta 44-2386
by.	Sis and	1,00	Dote dictoted4/16/63
, The	s document contains neither recommendations not conclusions and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.		ts the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency:

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/20/20 BISDOCSTON

At this point GARIER indicated that possibly the tag on the Ford was a Tennessee tag, but he was not at all certain of this.

GARNER described GALTSas being a white male, 32 - 35 years of age, 5' 11", 100 pounds, dark brown or black hair worn in a brush cut, blue eyes, medium "outdoor" complexion and having a southern accent. He noted no distinguishing features or characteristics and had no recollection of any ring or other jewelry. His dress was casual, specifically described as a shirt and slacks.

GALT noved into Room #5 at 107 - 14th Street, N.E., where he remained until Eunday, April 7, 1983. On this day GALT was noved to Room #6 at 113 - 14th Street, N.E. On this occasion, GARWER observed CALT nove his possessions and noted that he had no luggage and all of his possessions were either moved in a paper bag or box.

On April 7, 1998, HAROLD G. ANDERSON, an employee of the Albert Pick Hotel, 14th and Spring Streets, N.R., Atlanta, was brought to the recoming house by FAND C. JOHES, who is also employed by this hotel. GARNER assigned ANDERSON Room #2 at 113 - 14th Street, H.R., and noted that the individual he believed to be GAMT and ANTERSON became friendly.

on April 9, 1963, at approximately 9:00 P.H., CAMA and AMDERSON came to CAMMER's room at 107 - 14th Street, N.E., at which time GALT advised GAMMER that both he and AMDERSON were checking out. He said both men appeared to have been drinking. During the conversation, CAMT advised he had received a telephone call from a friend in Hichigan and had learned that welders were receiving a higher hourly wage there. For this reason, he had decided to go to Hichigan to seek work. AMDERSON, who was a notel employee, indicated he was gofg to Hichigan with GALT and hoped to obtain employment as a welder's helper. GAMMER recalled he refunded approximately CAT to AMDERSON, who had paid two weeks in advance on registering on April 7. GAMMED did not ask for a refund, although he was paid through April 11, but did receive the return of his \$.50 deposit for the key.

4.4.

AT 44-2386

Thereafter, GARMER accompanied GALT and AMDERSON to AMDERSON's room where he secured the room keys from both CALT and AMDERSON. At this time he noted several beer bottles in the room and presumed GALT and AMDERSON had been drinking together. GARMER did not actually observe the departure of GALT and AMDERSON, but noted both were gone on the norning of April 10, 1968, as was the previously-described black Ford auto.

GARLER made available the registration for HAROLD G.
ANDERSON. This registration does not reflect an address for
ANDERSON, but indicates that his father is CARLER explained
that he always attempts to obtain the name and address for a
next of kin for his roomers.

of HAROLD C. (AIDERDON: ) / (A) (A)

White Race Sex Halo 40 Age 51 9" Height 155 - 160 pounds Weight Hair Light brown, parted on side Complexion lledium Unknown Lyes Distinguishing Characteristics None noted Dress Casual, shirt and slacks

GARMER identified other tenants who resided at 113 - 14th Street, N.E., during the same period that GALT was a recover there.

DARMER said he was unable to recall GALT's first name, but advised he had observed nail on the hall table of the rooming house at 113 - 14th Street, N.E., which mail was

addressed to GALT. At this point, GARNER accompanied the interviewing Agents to 113 - 14th Street, N.E., where it was observed that there were two letters and a package on the hall table addressed to ERIC S. or E. GALT. The package was postnarked 4/1/63, and the letters were postnarked 4/9 and 4/10/63. GARNER advised his sister, RODBIE LEE CARNER who resides in who resides in the letters were postnarked him on either Friday or Saturday night, April 12 or 13, 1968. At this time his sister had thumbed through the mail on the table at the 113 - 14th Street address and upon noticing the

either Friday or Saturday night, April 12 or 13, 1968. At this time his sister had thumbed through the mail on the table at the 113 - 14th Street address and upon noticing the mail addressed to ERIC CALT, she contiented to CARNER that this was the same name as the individual who, according to newspaper publicity, was a suspect in the nurder of Dr. MARTIN LUTIEN KILG, JR. GARNER stated that he did not feel there was any likelihood that the CALT who had stayed at 113 - 14th Street, N.E., was identical with this suspect, stating many people have the same name.

GARMER stated that he had neither seen nor heard of GALA prior to April 5, 1873, and that during GALA's stay at his recuing house he saw nothing to indicate that CALA' had any connection with any other tenant at this address prior to his arrival there. GARMER was asked whether he had any explanation for the fact that GALA had nail postmarked 4/1/68 addressed to him at 113 - 14th Street, N.E., and according to CARMER, GALA did not arrive at this location until April 5, 1968. GALA said he was unable to explain this, and had no idea how this could occur.

GARNER was also questioned concerning the possibility that GALT or any other rochers had left natorial with him in storage or for safekeeping. He assured that this was not so. He did report that Rochs #4 and #5 at 113 - 14th Street, N.E., both of which it was noted were fastened with hasps and paddecks, were storage rooms. He stated they contained only linens and possibly a few items of no value left behind by rochers.

AT 44-2386 5

With regard to Room #5 at 107 - 14th Street, N.E., GARMER said that this room had not been occupied by anyone since GALT was transferred from this room on April 7, 1968. He noted, however, that the maid, PERRY LEE ZACHRY or her helper, identity unknown, would have changed the sheets in Room #5 after GALT was noved.

With regard to Boom #5 at 113 - 14th Street, N.E., this room remained vacant until April 13, 1933, when it was lented to DAVID O'DOMBLL, Syossett, Hen York. He described O'DOMBLL as a very young man who is also employed at the said who was brought to the rooming house by FALD C. JANDA. He said he does not believe this room was made up prior to its being rented to O'DOMBLL, but advised he had given O'DOMBLL clean sheets so that he could change the linear himself.

GANNER said he did not know of any association between GALA and other rections at either of the recting houses except the association with HAROLD G. ANDERSON, as previously described.

In explanation for the failure of the name "GALT" to appear on the rooming house records, GANIER said that he can only explain this by saying he received payment for the room while away from the place where he maintains his records and had inadvertently failed to record the name when he returned to his room.

The interview of GARMER concluded at 1:38 AM, April 15, 1968.

4/16/68

During the interview of JHMIR EDLTON GAMBR, he asked the question, "How are you coming on the King murder?" He was then asked by interviewing Agent if he had heard or read much concerning this and he stated he had read quite a bit in the negatives and seen a lot on television. GARMER then indicated that he knew this was why we were asking about GALT.

On 4/14,15/68 Atlanta, Georgia File # Atlanta 44-2386

Date dictated 4/1.G/CS

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

DatApril 16, 1963

1 4

At 2:30 a.m. JIMME DELYCH GARNER telephonically contacted the Atlanta Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation at which time he provided the following information:

Since providing the information concerning ERIC GALT during a personal interview by agents, he has rechecked his records and now believed that the individual when he has knew as GALT actually was registered at the require house under the name of WIMARMARM, which castonia, North Carolina. CARNER said his records do not reflect the room number to which LDZ was assigned but noted that the records do show LDS arrived April 5, 1988, and paid through April 12, 1988. When renting the recm, LDS supplied the name of individual to be notified in case of energency. GADNER said all information provided during the prior interview was accurate except that he now feels certain that WILLIAM LEE's registration pertains to ERIC GALT.

GARRER was questioned as to how he determined this man's name to be CALT when the registration was in the name of LES. CARRER was unable to satisfactorily explain this except to say that he feels that he concluded that LES was CALT when CARRER's sister called his attention to the mail at the receing house which was directed to ERIC CALT.

53

on A/15/63 of Atlanta, Georgia File# Atlanta 44-2386

by Si-Date dictated ::/35/55

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

Dole April 16, 1958

In response to a telephonic request received at 9:31 a.m. from JEPHE DELTON GARNER, he was interviewed in front of his restaurant located at 1052 Northside Drive, Northwest, Atlanta, Georgia.

"Lee is not Galt." He then made available the registration records for his rooming house. It was again noted these records do not reflect a registration in the name of GALT. At the same time, GARNER produced an envelope bearing the printed name "Bric S. Galt." GARNER said this name was printed thereon by GALT when GARNER requested his full name. Other handwritten notations thereon were, according to GARNER, prepared by himself.

GARNER stated that subsequent to a prior intervieu, he had been searching his records and his memory and had now determined that on Harch 24, 1958, late in the evening, an individual knocked on his apartment door, introduced himself as Hr. GALY, and requested a single room.

He was placed in Room Number 2, 113 14th Street, Northeast, Atlanta, Georgia, on noting that the room was small, was offered an adjoining storage room in which to place his surplus belongings. At this point, GLLT remarked he would be able to utilize a desk in the storage room for his television set.

GARNER did not see GALT unload his automobile or bring his possessions into the room. He next sau GALT on Harch 31, 1963, at which time the rent was due and GALT made the statement, "I may as well pay you for another week." This was between 1:00 and 2:30 p.m.

On April 5, 1963, CARMIR entered the room at approximately 11:00 a.m. to change the linens. At this time, he found a note on the bed written on a piece of cardboard, believed by him to be a laundry which backing, which stated in effect "I've had to go to Dirmingham.

I've left my TV set here and will try to return for it in Only/15/68—of Atlanta, Georgia—File# Atlanta 14-2326

SA cond

54

4/16/53

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

AT 44-2385 RLK:bjc .

about a neck." He does not recall whether the note was printed or written and destroyed it by throwing it in the trash immediately.

GARNER described GALT as a white male, 33 to 35 years of age, approximately six feet tall, slender build, black hair, worn very short with possibly a part on the side.

GARNER had previously noted GAIA to be utilizing a light colored, possibly white, automobile and on the morning of April 15, 1553, telephonically contacted lir. HAROLD WATERS, Room Number 1, 107 l4th Street, Northeast, as this automobile was parked near WATERS, at which time he asked WATERS generally if he recalled the make of car and WATERS advised him it was a late model Musteng, possibly 1965 or 1937.

GARRER estimated his total contact with GARR on both occasions did not exceed one-half hour. He stated on both occasions GARR was neatly dreased in a dark suiv, white shirt, and tie. He characterized him as locking like a preacher.

The inconsistencies in the information previously furnished by GARMER and the foregoing were thoroughly discussed with him and he could attribute it only to "being confused", in that he had erroneously associated the name GALM with the roomer, WILEIAM INE, about whom he had furnished the information.

At this time, GANNER made available a three page memorandum in his handuriting which chronologically sets forth his association with GALA. The envelope previously referred to, furnished by GANNER, on which GALA wrote his name, also contained the notation "Could do several different kinds of work." This note was prepared by GANNER.

AT 44-2386 RLK:bjc 3

GARNER stated he made this notation during his initial contact with GALT, at which time he asked his usual questions of new roomers about their line of work. He said he inadvertently failed to record the information on the envelope in his permanent records. GARNER added that at the time of renting the room, he received a \$1.00 key deposit from GALT and the key was left with the note on the bed by GALT.

7

JIMIE DELTON GARMER was interviewed in the office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, 275 Peachtree Street, Northeast, Atlanta, Georgia, after voluntarily accompanying SAs Line and From his place of business, 1052 Northside Drive, Northwest, Atlanta, Georgia. At this time, GARMER stated that he was

<u> April 16, 1968</u>

He stated he had no reason for telling the Agents that he had no items in his possession which belonged to GALT, when, in fact, he was holding a television set, other than the confusion previously referred to.

aware of the discrepancies in the information furnished by him but insisted it was due solely to the confusion which

existed in his mind in erroneously relating the name

GALT with his roomer, WILLIAM LEE.

In determining the individuals in each of the recoming houses eperated by him (107 14th Street, Mortheast, Atlanta, Georgia) who may have been in a position to observe GALT; he advised that at the time of renting to GALT, there was no other occupant in this building.

He stated he had closed 113 14th Street on February 11, 1958; after the neighborhood hippies attempted to take it over.

He admitted that he had two double rooms vacant at the time GALT applied for a room and that he had previously rented these for the price of a single room, but GALT insisted on a single room, so he decided to open the other rocaing house. He admitted it cost him more to do this than he would receive initially in rent, but that he had been planning to open it, as the other house was filling up.

On 11/15/68 of Atlanta, Georgia File # Atlanta 44-2386

SA Dote dictoted 11/16/63

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency.

AT 44-2386 RLK:bjc 2

GALT remained the sole occupant of this building until April 1, 1968, at which time FRED C. JONES was placed in Room Number 1.



GARNER specifically denied that he had previously known GALT, that GALT had been referred to him by anyone, that he had accepted an extra amount of money from GALT for any reason, or that he had any knowledge concerning his present whereabouts.

GARNER stated that he was born and raised in Mississippi, was a member of the Eaptist Church, and was "not a Communist." He denied having any knowledge of the John Birch or other right wing organizations, stating he had joined only one organization which name he could not now recall, but described by him as a civic organization.

He reiterated that it had always been his intention to cooperate with the FBI and that he had, in fact, that morning given the address and telephone number of his restaurant to a roomer, Mr. BURGESS, where he could be reached should GALT return for the television set. He stated he did this so he could immediately notify the FBI of GALT's return.

Date \_April 5. 1963

Mr. RALPH MEREDITH CARPENTER, advised that he is a salesman at the York Arms Company located at 162 South Main. Street, Memphis.

Mr. CARPENTER recalls that yesterday, April 4, 1968, he was in the above mentioned store talking to one of the other salesmen in the store when an individual entered and subsequently bought from him a pair of Bushnell binoculars. This individual entered the store at about 4.00 in the War Mr. CARPENTER estimates this to be the correct time and, in part, bases his estimate on the fact thatigme there were pickets parading in front of the store at that Mr. CARPENTER recalls that as this individual proceeded further into the store he turned to this individual and asked if he could be of assistance. The individual stated that he wished to purchase some binoculars, and Mr. CARPENTER told and him that he was about out of binoculars and believed the: only ones he had in stock were a pair selling for \$200 and w another pair selling for ninety-some dollars. The individual stated that he believed these were too high priced for him, and then Mr. CARPENTER recalled that there might be a cheaper mair of binoculars in the window and advised the individual that he would find out. Mr. CARPENTER thereupon went to the display window in the front of the store and determined. that there was on display a pair of Bushnell binoculars selling for \$39.95. He brought these binoculars back to the customer and explained that they were a Japanese import of better quality. The individual seemed to indicate that he either recognized the name or that he agreed that there were some good Japanese imports. The customer raised the binoculars to his eyes and in some manner, not now recalled by Hr. CARPENTER, indicated that these binoculars were determined acceptable.

Mr. CARPENTER recalls that the customer asked if instructions were in the box, and Mr. CARPENTER advised him that there were instructions in the box, but not much was needed to be known to operate the binoculars, other than to

On 4/5/68 at Memphis Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

just place them to the eyes and adjust the eye pieces. Mr. CARPENTER recalls that he wrote on the box in which he placed the binoculars the price \$39.95 and the amount of tax which was \$1.60 and added the two figures for a total of \$41.55. He placed the sales slip and the box with the binoculars in it in a gray paper bag which bears the name of York Arms on its side. The binoculars were in a leather or similar type carrying case. The store does not record or maintain serial numbers for these binoculars and it is not known what, it any, serial number was on this particular pair of binoculars.

Mr. CARPENTER stated that the binoculars were Bushnell brand and were 7 by 35 size.

Mr. CARPENTER described the customer as follows:

Race: Sex: Age:

Height:

Weight:

Hair:

Eyes:

Complexion:

Build:

Scars and marks: Regional accent:

Dress:

White Male

.26 - 32 years

5 feet 11 inches 160 pounds to 175 pounds

Black or dark brown, neat, combed straight back and not parted. It was neither very

long nor shaggy.

Color not recalled; no glasses

worn Ruddy

Medium

None recalled

None noticed Dark suit, not known whether or not pants matched coat, but

recalls pants did not contrast with coat; color of shoes not known but not in sharp contrast to other clothing; no hat worn;

white shirt with noticeably wide space at the collar, neat looking; dark tie with light stripe which covered entire tie, which was

tied in a long slender knot which did not fill the space between

the collars; tie was noticeably pulled to one side, not in keeping with generally neat appearance of

customer; no jewelry remembered.

Facial characteristics:

Average fullness; nothing regarding the eyes, nose, ears or other features noticeable. Customer's hands were neat, though nothing outstanding was noticed about them.

Mr. CARPENTER recalls that the individual reached into his right front pants pocket to get the money with which to pay for the binoculars. The money was not in a billfold or a money clip. The customer withdrew two \$20 bills from a roll which contained several other bills, at least two of which Mr. CARPENTER believes were \$20 bills. The customer also took a \$1.00 bill from this roll and then reached into his other front pocket with his left hand and secured two quarters and a nickel, making a total of \$41.55 for the payment. After purchasing the binoculars, the customer walked from the store and Mr. CARPENTER told him to "hurry back" or some similar parting statement, and the customer's reply is not recalled, if any was made. Mr. CARPENTER does not know which direction the customer took after leaving the store.

Mr. CARPENTER does not recall ever having seen this individual before in the store or elsewhere, but feels relatively certain that if he sees him again he would be able to recognize him.

The customer, while in the store, did not ask to see any other merchandise such as rifles or guns or ammunition of any kind, and made no inquiry at all concerning any other merchandise.

Mr. CARPENTER stated that when the customer entered the store CARPENTER was near the front of the store talking to Mr. VERNON YORK. Further back in the store he believes "CHARLES GIBSON was near the cash register, and Mr. HUGH BADDLEY, a clerk, was also somewhere in the store. He believes also that possibly Mr. CORDRA YORK, JR., may have been in the store, but he does not know whether or not any of these individuals took notice of the customer.

4/16/68

SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN and SA RALPH M. CARPENIER, an employee of York Arms Company, 162 South Main Street, Memphis. Mr. CARPENTER was informed of the identity of SAC JENSEN and he has previously been interviewed by SA He was told we had an additional group of photographs we would like him to view. He was told that no significance should be attached to the sequence or arrangement the photographs might be in when he saw them. These photographs were laid out, one after another, on the second floor away from bystanders and other employees in the York Arms Company.

CARPENTER spent at least twenty minutes reviewing carefully each of the photographs. He expressed some hesitation for a time between a photograph of one photograph of FRIC S. GALT. No names and no identifying data of any kind were furnished to CARPENTER in connection with his study of these photographs. He did state in connection with a photograph of that he thought this was a local Memphis boy, whom he might have seen. He turned this photograph over and did reject the photograph as not being identical to the one to whom he sold the binoculars.

He studied carefully for approximately five minutes the photograph of ERIC S. GALT and made comments concerning the appearance of GALT. He stated the hair was generally similar to the customer but thought it might be just a little bit longer than when the customer had been in the store on April 4. He also said that he recalled the customer he waited on did not have heavy, bushy eyebrows but they were more like the eyebrows in the photograph of GALT. He also stated he had no recollection of seeing GALT's teeth and thought he had a smile when he waited on in CARPENTER also said he had no independent recollection of GALT's ears appearing as they did in the photograph, but he then said he did not notice them particularly. He did furnish the following statement regarding his identification of the photograph of ERIC S. GALT:

121

File # <u>Memphis</u> 44-1987 Memphis, Tennessee

SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN and

<u>4/16/68</u> -Date dictated ---

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to NW 65994 Docid:32989731 Page, 111

"April 16, 1968

"On April 16, 1968, I, Ralph M Carpenter was shown a group of 5 photographs by Special Agent in Charge Robert G Jensen and Special Agent a

"In choosing the photograph I was guided by my best recollection. I remember that the man who bought the binoculars did not have heavy eyebrows and were about medium like the ones in the photograph selected by me. I did not sell any other binoculars on April 4, 1968

"My signature attests that I am in agreement with the information set forth on page one and page two of this statement.

/s/ Ralph M. Carpenter

/s/ Robert G Jensen SAC, FBI, Kemphis April 16, 1968

Special Agent FBI
April 16, 1968"

It should be noted that the name "ERIC S. GALT" was not furnished to CARPENTER, nor was he in a position to read the name when he signed the back of the photograph. His concluding remarks, which were made at approximately 11:20 a.m. 4/16/68, were to the effect that, "I don't own a suit. I suppose I will have to buy a suit so that I can go to court."

١	٩	i	ı	
	ı		ı	
	1		ľ	
	1			,

Deta April 25, 1968

Photographs of JAMES EARL RAY taken 1955, 1960, and 1966, and of the bedspread recovered at Memphis, April 4, 1968, were shown to Mrs. BESSIE RUTH BREWER, Room No. 2, 4222 South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee. She said she had looked at the bedspread on April 4, 1968, when it was displayed to her after being recovered by the Memphis Police. She said the bedspread did not come from her rooming house and in fact she had never seen one like it before in her Mrs. BREWER said none of the men in the photographs shown her were familiar to her. She further advised that she did not believe she would recognize the man using the name JOHN WILLARD if he were to "walk up and say hello to me right now." She said she did not look at the man called WILLARD "squarely in the face" and as a result, does not think she will be able to identify him.

DITE BISOLON BERNACOUS

Date dictated.

7

On	April 24, 1968	Memphis, Ter	nnessee	File#	Memphis 44-1987
<i>On</i> 2	.,			1 110 // January	
Las	SA CONTRACTOR			D.4. 31.4.	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.

1 charles

Date \_\_4/10/68

19 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 W

Mr. CHARLIE QUITMAN STEPHENS, Room 6-B, second floor, 4221 S. Main Street, furnished the following information to Department, and SA Department, a

Mr. STEPHENS, who stated he is 46 years of age, and his wife occupy 2 rooms in the north wing of a rooming house, the address of which is 422½ S. Main Street. This rooming house actually covers the second floor of 2 separate buildings, Mr. STEPHENS' room being located in the north building in the southeast corner of the north building.

Sometime in the late afternoon of April 4, 1968, he and his wife) were in their room. His wife, who has recently been in the hospital for an extended period of time, was in bed in their combination of living-bedroom. He was in the kitchen, which is east of the living-bedroom. He was repairing a radio on a table located at the north wall of the kitchen. Immediately north of him is a common bathroom which is located at the east end of an east-west hallway in the north building. While he was repairing the radio, he heard what he is certain was a shot, and he is certain that shot came from the bathroom from a point within just a few feet of where he was sitting. He has no way of knowing the time but can only estimate it was sometime between 5:00 and 6:00 PM.

Upon hearing this shot, he walked out of the kitchen through his living-bedroom and opened the door leading onto the hallway and observed a man running west down this hallway and this man was carrying a large bundle of some kind. He would estimate that this bundle or package was at least 3 or 4 feet long and 6 to 8 inches thick. Although he saw the man and the bundle only momentarily, he gained the impression that the bundle was wrapped in something, possibly a newspaper. This man continued running to the end of the hallway turning left (south) and apparently thereafter ran down the stairways onto the street, although he could not actually see the man going down the stairway.

25

On	4/5/68	. *at	Memphis,	Tennessee	File # .	ME	44-1987	·
O., _	٠,				•		) k	,
ħu.	SA 4				Date di	ctated	4/9/68	

ME 44-1987

It immediately occurred to Mr. STEPHENS that this was the same man he had seen earlier in the afternoon, possibly around mid-afternoon, standing at the door to room 5-B which is located immediately west of Mr. STEPHENS'S living-bedroom. He stated that around mid-afternoon he had seen a man with Mrs. BREWER standing in the hallway at the entrance to room 5-B locking into room 5-B. He saw the man's left side. The man had nothing in his hands at the time. He assumed this was some new guest looking at a room.

Mr. STEPHENS stated that he and his wife remained in their room the rest of the afternoon. He pointed out that he, Mr. STEPHENS, is a disabled veteran who has been treated for tuberculosis, and he spends most of his time in his rooms with his wife who is also ill and who at present is a bed patient.

Sometime after seeing thisman with Mrs. BREWER, he heard someone in room 5-B and assumed the man hehad seen had rented the room next door. He stated that he recalls on several different occasions hearing footsteps in this room and also leaving from this room past his (Mr. STEPHENS's) room and into the common bathroom at the east end of the hall. He was also very much aware that when the person went from room 5-B to the bathroom, that person remained in the bathroom for a considerable period of time. He pointed out that this is particularly noticeable since this is a common bathroom which must be used by a number of different tenants. He also specifically recalled that only on one occasion did he hear the commode being flushed and he was therefore curious as to why this person was spending so much time in the bathroom.

Went from number 5-B to the bathroom prior to the time he heard the shot, he would estimate that that person remained in the bathroom for at least 20 to 30 minutes. During this period he heard no noises coming from the bathroom. He also specifically recalls that during this same period, Mr. WILLIS ANCHUAZ (phonetic), who occupies room 4-B, immediately west of 5-B where the new tenant apparently was located,

had knocked on Mr. STEPHENS's door and somewhat ( angrily inquired as to who was staying in the bathroom so long.

It was at the end of this latter period of time that Mr. STEPHENS heard the above described shot which he was certain came from the bathroom. He stated that immediately after the shot was fired he heard some people located across the street, east of the building where he lives, screaming. Due to the excitement of the moment, the fact that people across the street in the vicinity of the Lorraine Motel were screaming, and the fact that his hearing is not the best, he did rat hear any additional noises coming from the bathroom. He pointed out that he would expect to hear a "scuffle" coming from the bathroom if the man in the bathroom had fired the shot that killed MARTIN LUTHER KING, but he cannot recall hearing such a "scuffle." He stated that he simply has no way of knowing whether the man came out of the bathroom, went into room 5-B and then ran out of 5-B down the hall toward the front of the building, or whether the man in the bathroom ran directly from the bathroom down the hallway toward the front of the building. He stated he did hesitate a few moments after hearing the shot and hearing the screaming outside before he went to the door and looked down the hall to see the man running carrying something in his hand.

Mr. STEPHENS advised that the only people in the north building of this rooming house at the time of this incident were (1) Mr. STEPHENS, (2) Mr. STEPHENS's wife, who was in bed and who was never in a position to observe anything, (3) Mr. WILLIS ANCHUTZ (phonetic), above, in room 4-B, who came out of his room and was seen by Mr. STEPHENS at the same time Mr. STEPHENS saw the man running down the hall, (4) Mrs. JESSIE LEGATTER, a deaf and dumb lady who resides in room 1-B toward the front (west) of the north wing or north building, and (5) the unknown man who had occupied room 5-B who was running down the hall as previously stated.

Mr. STEPHENS stated that Mr. ANCHUIZ made some remark to the unknown man who was running down the hallway and the unknown man apparently made some kind of reply.

Mr. STEPHENS advised that whereas he could hear footsteps in 5-B and could hear footsteps between 5-B and the bathroom, he at no time heard any conversation in 5-B. and he is certain that there was no conversation in 5-B from the time the new tenant checked in until the time he heard the shot. He stated he never heard any noise or footsteps which would indicate to him there was ever more than one person in room 5-B. He pointed out that whereas his hearing is not too good, it is very easy to hear noises in the adjoining rooms of this rooming house and he definitely can hear normal conversation coming from that room. Mr. STEPHENS stated that when he saw the new tenant with Mrs. EREWER standing in front of 5-B, he only saw the left side of the new tenant, and when he saw what he believes to be the same man running down the hallway carrying something, he only saw this person from the rear. He pointed out he never saw him directly in front, but based upon his observations he would describe this person as follows:

Unknown.

Name:
Race:
Sex:
Age:
Height:
Weight:
Build:
Posture:
Hair:

White Male "in his 30's." 5' 10-11" 165 pounds Average Man stood erectly Described as sandy, also described as "dark blond" or having the appearance of unwashed sand. Further described harline as receding on left side (and presumably on both sides) making it appear he would have "peaks" on either side but with full thick hair toward the front center of his head between the peaks. Hair combed straight back. or average haircut.

Dress:

General Appearance:

Bare headed, wearing dark suit

Clean shaven, neat appearing individual.

CHARLES STEPHENS, Apartment 6B, 422½ South Main Street, Memphis, advised that on the afternoon of April 4, 1968, he was with his wife at the above address. He stated that at about 3:30 p.m., on the above date, he began working on a table model radio of his which was in need of repair. He said he took a radio to the kitchen and placed it on the table which was against the wall that was adjacent to the bathroom which was used by all tenants on his floor. As he was working on his radio he could hear the man in the next apartment to him, Apartment 5B, leave his room several times and go into the bathroom. Mr. STEPHENS stated that he knew it was the man who had just checked in to Apartment 5B that afternoon because he could hear the door of Apartment 5B open and then footsteps would go down the hall to the bathroom, the bathroom door would open and then close.

Mr. STEPHENS said that during these various trips that the individual in Apartment 5B made to the bathroom he failed to flush the toilet or to run any water with the exception of the last time he was in the bathroom. At this time he flushed the toilet. He stated that this individual seemed to be spending an undue length of time in this bathroom. At about 6:00 p.m., on April 4, 1968, Mr. STEPHENS heard a loud noise which he described as sounding like a gunshot come from the bathroom. Upon hearing this noise, Mr. STEPHENS ran from the kitchen where he was repairing his radio to his door that led to the hallway. He stated this is only a distance of about 10 to 12 feet. Upon opening the door he saw a man leave the bathroom carrying a package of about three feet long and wrapped in what appeared to be newspaper. the man run down the hall and then turn left as if he were trying to leave the apartment building. As this was happening WILLIE. ANSCHUTZ, who lived in Apartment 4B, came out of his apartment ANSCHUTZ then told STEPHENS to look out and went to the bathroom. of his window. STEPHENS said that he then looked out of his kitchen window which faced the Lorraine Hotel and saw a lot of policemen scurrying about and people running screaming in the vicinity of the hotel.

27

at Memphis, Tennessee

On 4/5/68

ME 44-1987

4/5/68

Date dictated

Mr. STEPHENS stated that the man who he saw running out of the bathroom closely resembled the man who had checked into Apartment 5B. He said he could only see the man who ran from the bathroom from behind, but his general build, hair coloring and clothes were the same as the individual in Apartment 5B.

hair; had a long, sharp pointed nose; wearing what appeared to

be a dark blue or black suit, white shirt and dark tie.

Mr. STEPHENS described the individual he saw running out of the bathroom as follows:

Race White Sex. Male 5'10-11" Height 165 Weight 34 Slender Build Complexion. Ruddy Hair Sandy, slightly on dark side Clothing . Wearing dark suit

Kr. STEPHENS added that he had never met the man who checked into Apartment 5B, talked to him, or knew his name.

, D	,"	4/7/68	,	
U	ue			

Mrs. PEGGY BURNS, the telephone number advised she is employed as a saleslady at the Oliver Rexall Drugstore in Whitehaven. Mrs. BURNS stated that she recalls selling a Gillette shaving kit, which was in a clear plastic container, to a white man a little before noon on April 3, 1968. She stated that this shaving kit contained a safety razor, shaving lotion, shaving cream, hair tonic, and deodorant, which is all manufactured by the Gillette Company, and was in a clear plastic container, approximately four inches by six inches.

Mrs. BURNS recalled that a white man came into the Oliver Rexall Drugstore shortly before noon, April 3, 1968, and asked her for a razor. She said she pointed out where the razors were located in her store, and directed him to that area of the store. She advised the white man walked down to this area, and picked out the Gillette shaving kit, and brought it back to the cash register, where she was located. Mrs. BURNS said she could not recall any other items which the white man purchased in her store. She could not recall how he paid for this purchase, and did not recall anything he said while he was paying for the item.

Mrs. BURNS stated that she got the impression from the white man's activities that he was a stranger in the area, and she said she does not believe he has ever been in her store before. She said she is sure that she has never seen him prior to the time he approached her, and she furnished the following description for him:

Race:
Age:
45
Height:
5'7"
Weight:
165 pounds
Hair:
Black - could not recall how he combed it or anything further about his hair
Eyes:
Color unknown

126

On	4/4/68 at	Memphis, Ten	nessee	File #	4-1987	7
h.,	SA		1, 1	Data Statut	4/6/68	,

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.

1

1 Busice mis Frank Brown.

Mrs. BESSIE RUTH BREWER, Resident Manager, rooming house located at 422½ South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee, was interviewed at Central Police Headquarters, Memphis, Tennessee, Police Department, at which time she furnished the following information:

Between 3:00 P.M. and 3:30 P.M. on April 4, 1968, a white male knocked on the door of the second floor of the rooming house and asked Mrs. BREWER if she had a room. She replied yes, and this individual then asked if he could see it. Mrs. BREWER showed him Room No. 8, which is located in the southwest part of the building, and the individual put his head into the doorway and after looking, stated that this. would not be satisfactory as he did not need a stove and refrigerator but only wanted a sleeping room. Mrs. BREWER then showed this individual Room 5-B, and he put his head in the doorway of this room and said it would be fine. At this point the individual asked where the bathroom facilities were located, and she pointed to the bathroom located in the northeast portion of the hallway which is located in the same hallway as Room 5-B. She and this individual then returned to her office. The individual stated that his name was JOHN WILLARD and that he wanted a sleeping room for one week.

WILLARD then asked her how much the room rent would be for one week, and Mrs. BREWER replied \$8.50. WILLARD then put his hand into his right trouser pocket and withdrew a twenty dollar bill and two quarters and handed the money to her. She gave him change in denominations of one ten dollar bill and two one dollar bills. When WILLARD arrived at the rooming house, Mrs. BREWER did not notice any luggage in his possession, nor during the brief conversation with WILLARD did he volunteer any information concerning his home residence, line of business, or mode of transportation. WILLARD was not required to sign any type of register, and the only written record maintained of the transaction was a receipt for the \$8.50, which was made out in the handwriting of Mrs. BREWER.

# Mrs. BREWER was unable to state if WILLARD returned

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2010 BAPINGS

Memphis, Tennessee

File # Memphis 44-1987

SA CONTRACTOR OF THE SAME

4/8/68

to Room 5-B or if he left the building at any time after renting Room 5-B. Mrs. BREWER did not again observe WILLARD after he rented the room.

Mrs. BREWER's husband returned home from work at 5:25 P.M. on April 4, 1968, and at that time Mr. and Mrs. BREWER commenced their dinner. After dinner Mr. BREWER then turned on the television set and was watching the "Rawhide" television program, and Mrs. BREWER did the dinner dishes. Shortly after completing the dinner dishes, Mrs. BREWER also sat down to watch the "Rawhide" television program. Within a matter of a couple of minutes, Mrs. BREWER heard what she thought to be a gun shot coming from the back of her rooming house. Mrs. BREWER believed that this must have been around 6:00 P.M. on April 4, 1968. She advised her husband that she thought it was a gun shot. Her husband took time to put on his slippers and both of them then proceeded to the southeast exit of the building. arriving at this point, Mr. BREWER attempted to go out the back door; however, a law enforcement officer was in the back of the building and instructed both Mr. and Mrs. BREWER to close the door and return to their apartment. Mrs. BREWER did not hear any noise such as someone running through her building after hearing the gun shot, and the only noise she could recall hearing was a lot of hollering and screaming near the back of her building toward the Lorraine Motel.

Mrs. BREWER examined cash that she had on hand and determined that she had three \$20.00 bills in her possession. She was unable to specifically pinpoint which \$20.00 bill was furnished to her by WILLARD for payment of his room rent. Mrs. BREWER made available the following described twenty dollar Federal Reserve Notes:

- (1) Series 1963-A, Serial No. F14002844A
- (2) Series 1963-A, Serial No. H16164663A
- (3) Series 1963, Serial No. F06445143A

Mrs. BREWER furnished the following description of WILLARD:

Race: White Sex: Male

Age: Approximately 35 years

Height:
Weight:
Build:
Appearance:

5'11" to 6'
180 pounds
Medium (carried weight well)
Real neat looking, clean
shaven.

Mrs. BREWER stated that WILLARD appeared to have a smile or a sneer on his face during their entire conversation; did not appear as though he was the outdoors type; was wearing a dark sport jacket or short jacket, as he did not have to pull the jacket back when he reached his right hand into his pocket for his money; did not notice any rings or watches; paid no attention to his shoes, pants, shirt, or whether he had on a tie, but was quite positive that he did not have a hat; did not give the appearance of needing a haircut, nor ras he wearing a mustache or any long sideburns; paid no particular attention to his teeth while he was talking and did not particularly notice about any part of his face, including nose, mouth, ears, chin, or eyebrows.

Mrs. BREWER claims that she did not particularly look at this individual as she did not like the smile or sneer that he had on his face.

Mrs. BREWER did recall that when she pointed out the bathroom facilities to WILLARD, she told him that everyone in the area of his room was usually quiet but that the guy next to him usually drinks a little bit. Mrs. BREWER claimed that WILLARD then stated, "I take a beer once in awhile myself." Mrs. BREWER claimed that she told him that was all right as long as he stayed in his room and kept quiet.

Mrs. BREWER was unable to state whether any of the other roomers at her rooming house had an opportunity to either observe or have any contact with WILLARD, nor was she able to furnish any additional information concerning WILLARD's activities during the brief period that he resided at her rooming house. She claims that she does not believe that she would recognize this individual again from a photograph or if she had an opportunity to see him in person, but qualified this by stating that she probably would be able to recognize him from the smile or sneer that he had on his face if she were able to observe that in the future.

She claimed that WILLARD did not volunteer any information concerning his personal background or volunteer any information concerning his reason for being in Memphis. She claimed that WILLARD's speech was "just like the rest of us around here," and that his vocabulary and accent were not out of place in her rooming house. Mrs. BREWER recalled that when WILLARD first looked in Room 8, he remarked that he only wanted a sleeping room as he would not be in the room in the daytime, just at night.

1

Date	4/13/68
Daw	The second secon

Mrs. FRANK (BESSIE) BREWER, Room 2, 422½ South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee, who manages the rooming house at this address and who has been interviewed previously by Agents of the FBI, telephonically contacted the FBI Office on April 10, 1968, at which time she requested to be contacted by an FBI Agent.

Mrs. BREWER was contacted by SA
and Example of the End of the She advised that she was beginning to receive mail from individuals unknown to her. She displayed an envelope postmarked April 7, 1968, at Niagara Falls, New York, bearing the return address, Mrs. ZUCCO, 518 Ferry Avenue, Niagara Falls, New York, in which was located a one-page hand-written letter, which letter referred to newspaper publicity identifying Mrs. BREWER as operating a "flop house," the writer of the letter referring to the fact that Mrs. BREWER should "buy some paint" and ending by stating, "I'll bet you even have cockroaches!"

A second envelope was postmarked April 7, 1968, at Des Moines, Iowa, which contained a printed religious tract and neither the envelope nor the tract identified the sender.

On the occasion of this contact with Mrs. BREWER, she furnished the following information:

She stated she wanted to point out that she has previously forgotten to advise officers of the Police Department and FBI Agents that at the time she ranted Room 5-B to a stranger using the name of JOHN WILLARD on April 4, 1968, there was a small, cheap chest of drawers, blond in color, in front of the east window on the south wall of Room 5-B, whereas after the shooting of Dr. KING and when she next saw Room 5-B, that chest of drawers was sitting against the west wall of that room and there was a chair sitting in front of

On 4/10/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

SA Memphis 44-1987

Date dictated

13

that window. She stated she was pointing this out since this would indicate that the occupant of the room definitely handled this chest of drawers.

Mrs. BREWER stated that since interviewed previously, she had been trying to think of anything else which might assist in identifying the guest who used the name of JOHN WILLARD. She stated as she has discussed the matter with her husband ald thought more about it, the one thing which impressed her most about the appearance of this individual was the fact that when she first cracked open the door to her room after this man knocked, she observed that he was standing at the door with an unusual smile on his face. She went on to state that she would describe the smile as a "sneer" or a "smirk." She stated that she cannot be more specific other than to state that she was impressed by this expression on this man's face, as though he were trying to smile for no reason. She stated that she did not interpret the smile as an effort to be flirtatious.

She also stated that her initial impression of this man was that he did not "fit in" with other tenants in this rooming house. She pointed out that this rooming house is located in a poorer section of town where most of the tenants are older people or others with limited income, a number of whom are alcoholics, and this man was clean and neatly dressed, giving the impression that he could obtain lodging in nicer surroundings.

Mrs. BREWER at this time attempted to recall the words used by this person. As she recalls, when she went to the door and cracked open the door, leaving the chain fastened, the man's first words were, "Do you have a room for rent?" She answered in the affirmative and asked him whether he wanted a room by the week or by the month. He replied, as nearly as she can recall, by stating simply, "By the week." At this point she unfastened the chain which secured the partially opened door and walked directly to Room 8 located in the south wing of this rooming house. She stated that the man followed her to the room and looked inside the room but never actually entered the room, at which time his words,

as nearly as she can recall, were, "Well, I don't need the stove and refrigerator since I won't be doing any cooking. I was thinking more of a sleeping room."

At this point Mrs. BREWER explained that the only vacant "sleeping room" (or room with no stove and refrigerator) which she had in either wing of the rooming house was Room 5-B in the north wing. She therefore immediately walked from Room 8 in the south wing across the enclosed walkway which connects the south wing to the north wing of the rooming house, and thereafter to Room 5-B. Again she walked in front of the man. As soon as she opened the door to Room 5-B, the man immediately stated that he would take that room. She then walked to her room in the south wing of the building, followed by the unknown man, who paid her \$8.50, as outlined previously by her, for the rent of Room 5-B for one week in advance.

Mrs. BREWER stated that most of the rooms in this rooming house can be secured only with the use of a padlock, and after showing this individual Room 5-B, she removed the padlock from the door and took the padlock with her to her room. She stated it is necessary that tenants put up a deposit if they secure the padlock, but this tenant did not inquire as to how he could lock the door and did not request the padlock and a key. She also added that she did not explain to him the method of locking the door or that it was necessary that he put up a deposit in order to obtain the padlock.

She stated at this point that she had been somewhat unnerved when she first looked at this man, at which time he had the unusual smile on his face, or appeared to be "sneering" at her, and thereafter she made a point of having as little to do with him as possible, always walking in front of him and avoiding all unnecessary conversation or dealings with him.

Mrs. BREWER was asked whether she now feels that she could identify this man if she sees him again. She stated that she thought she might be able to identify this man if she sees him again. She stated the man used no slang or unusual expressions and she could not associate his accent with any particular area, adding he had no particular accent.

She also stated that she is positive she has never seen this man before. She pointed out that she has only been handling the rental of the rooms at this rooming house since March 12, 1968, however, and she would have no way of knowing whether he stayed at this rooming house prior to that time.

She stated that at the time she became the landlady at this rooming house, Room 5 %B was occupied by an elderly man by the name of COMMODORE STEWART. This man was ill as of March 12, 1968, and she believed that it was on March 12, 1968, that he was taken to a Memphis hospital. A couple of days later, probably on either March 13 or 14, 1968, this man died. The room had not been rented from that time until the time the stranger using the name of JOHN WILLARD rented this room.

She understands that a number of different persons have acted in the capacity of rental agent for this rooming house in recent months, including Mr. WYATT MADDOX, who is now a clerk at the Tri-State Hotel located nearby, Mr. MADDOX never having lived in this rooming house, however, and apparently having acted as rental agent for only a short period of time. Another individual who handled the rental of rooms in this rooming house was H. R. THOMPSON, And the short of the coming house. One other rental agent at this rooming house prior to

One other rental agent at this rooming house prior to the time Mrs. BREWER assumed these duties was W. V. SAMMONS, who she understands is now at the Madison Hotel in Memphis. She is sure that Mr. SAMMONS was the rental agent in January 1968, based on copies of receipts in her receipt book. She recalled that Mr. SAMMONS stabbed his wife while he was rental agent at this rooming house and the matter received publicity.

Mrs. BREWER advised that most of the occupants of rooms in this rooming house are more or less permanent tenants, although she does occasionally rent a vacant room to transients for only one night...

Mrs. BREWER advised that there are 10 separate apartments or rooms in the south wing of this rooming house and six separate apartments or rooms in the north wing. The six rooms in the north wing are referred to as 1-B, 2-B, etc., whereas the rooms in the south wing have

no letter of the alphabet following the room number. She furnished the following information concerning the status of these rocms as of April 4, 1968, when the man using the name JOHN WILLARD checked into Room 5-B:

## SOUTH WING:

(Rooms are numbered in a counter-clockwise order, starting with Room No. 1 in the southwest corner of this wing of the rooming house.)

Room 1 - Vacant

Room 2 - Occupied by Mr. and Mrs. BREWER and referred to as the "office."

Room 3 - Occupied by Mr. BERTIE I. REEVES, an elderly man who is retired and who appears to be reasonably responsible. She stated that Mr. REEVES came out of his room about the same time as Mr. and Mrs. BREWER after all heard what they believed to be a shot about 6:00 p.m., April 4, 1968,

Room 4 - Occupied by HOWARD VANJE, an older man,

but who as of April 4, 1968, was known by Mrs. BREWER to have been drunk for two days. Mrs. BREWER stated she knew that VANCE was in his room as of 6:00 p.m., April 4, 1968, but she also knew that he had been on a two-day drunk and that he did not come out of his room.

Room 5 - Occupied by T. L. MESSER, a man 75 to 80 years of age, who has been ill recently, whose hearing is very defective, and who was in his room as of the time of the shooting. Mrs. BREWER added, however, that due to Mr. MESSER's age and his physical and mental condition, Mr. MESSER still does not understand what actually occurred and continues to ask what all the excitement was about when police officers and FBI Agents questioned occupants of the building.

ME 44-1987

Room 6 - Vacant. Man by the name of SAMUEY WILSON, who she understands had been a tenant for several months, vacated this room on April 3, 1968. Margaret March

Room 7 - Occupied by FRANK M MARLEY, an elderly w who was also drunk and in his room as of the time of the shooting. She stated that MARLEY did not come out of his room around the time of the shooting.

Room 8 - Vacant. (This is the room which Mrs. BREWER first showed to the man using the name JOHN WILLARD.)

Room 9 - Occupied by HAROLD/CARTER years of age, does not believe he was home at the time 1902 11.8

of the shooting.

Room 10 - Occupied by LEONARD EATON, age 60 to 65, who she understands to be a long-time resident at this rooming house, who reportedly formerly worked on a river boat. She stated it is her impression that he was in his room asleep at the time of the shooting and that he too had been drinking.

# NORTH WING:

(Rooms on north wing are numbered 1-B through 6-B, reading from west to east. Those doors having numbers have numerals only on them, but all of the tenants understand that the designation of "B" refers to the rooms in the north wing.)

Room 1-B - (located west of a north-south hallway which connects to an enclosed walkway connecting the two wings of the rooming house) Occupied by Mrs. JESSIE L/ LEDBETTER. a widow who she understands has resided at this address for some 8 to 10 years. LEDRETTER is & deaf mute.

NW 65994 Docld:32989731 Page 131

Room 2-B - Vacant.

Room 3-B - Vacant.

- Room 4-B Occupied by WILLIS ANCHUTZ, employed at Duvall Transfer Company. Mrs. BREWER later learned that Mr. ANCHUTZ reportedly saw the man running down the hall following the shooting and had some conversation with him.
- Room 5-B Room occupied by the man using name JOHN WILLARD and which room had not been rented since former tenant, COMMODORE STEWART, died about March 13 or 14, 1968.
- Room 6-B Occupied by Mr. and Mrs. CHARLIE STEPHENS.
  Mr. STEPHENS is an unemployed tuberculosis patient and his wife is presently confined to her bed.

19

18 MAR 17 1959

FEI YE PHIS

705 PH 03 ZXT 2-13-22 EVID.

TO DISERTO (44-38131) TIN: MA. AL ROSEN, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

GFHEZAL-INVESTIGATIVE FIVISION

FROM MEYPHIS (44-1937)

MULKIN - ASSISSINATION OF WIFTIN LUTHER VING, JR

AT APPROXIMATELY TWO FORTYFIVE PM. INTERVIEW WAS BEGUN WITH

JAMES TABLE FAY BY SAC. MEMPHIS AT TENNESSEE STATE PRISON. INTERVIEW

CONCLUDED AT APPROXIMATELY THREE THIRTYFIVE PM. PAY ON ENTERING

ROOM SAID. TYOU'RE THE CUY WHO TESTIFIED. I DON'T WANT TO TALK

TO YOU OR ANYTODY FROM THE FOLL RAY WAS ASKED TO SIT DOWN AND WAS TOLD IT WAS POSSIBLE WE HAD THINGS WE COULD TALK ABOUT. RAY

SAID, TI'M IOT COIND TO TALK ADOUT CACE AS I VE SEER MISQUOTED

ENDUCH. 12 AS UNILE TO POINT OUT ANY SPECIFICS UNERE FEI HAD

EVER MISTURES HIM. HE AS ALCO TOLE FEI HAD NOT INTERVIEWED

HIM SO IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE FOR US TO MISQUOTE HIM. RAY INDICATED

WE BETTER TO EACK TO CELL AS EAC WAS ONLY TRYING TO TRICK HIM

INTO TALKING ABOUT CASE. HE WAS THEN TEMINDED OF HIS GUILTY PLEA

THE PRINCE TAND IN STATES IF HE INTENDED TO CHARACTER THE

FAY: THE CALTICATE FOR THE STATE AND SATE AND SATE OF THE SALES (

HOURS WAS NOT AS A SECULITY OF AN AUTOST TO INVESTIGATE CASE.

SAC TOTALIST OF THE PROPERTY OF A PARTIE BO INVESTIGATOR. TO I

56 Figh 21 1969 Figure December 100 the Energy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIBLED
DATE 20 20 BY PROCESSION

NW 65994 Docld;32989731 Page 133

SAID NO.

P: 77 7:

WHICH SALES, THE COMMISSION AND SECRET TO AND SECRETARIES HEALLY

WASH THIS TIS NEW AND AND ALLIAN SHALFORD HUIS HAD HIRES HAVER TO

GO TO LOW AND SECRETARIES IN CONTRACTS BUT DIE STATE HE

LUC TWO HUMBERS HOW AND HOURS IN CONTRACTS BUT DIE STATE HE

HAIN TO ECCIVED AND HOURS IN ANY OF THESE CONTRACTS MET. WE ALSO SAW

PE HAD CONTRACTED HIM PERCY FOREMAN REGARDING ROSSIBLE STORY.

ALSO SAID SATE OF HIS CONTRACT WITH FOREMAN WAS THAT RAY WOULD

KOT ET AT 100 FOREMAN HE ROSE TO MAKE COMMENT, RAY SAID HE

SAID NO MORE IN SOUTH WHEN HE ROSE TO MAKE COMMENT, RAY SAID HE

THE TARGET STATE STATES AND STATES OF FORESTS, SAYING ME MOULD STATES AND STA

PACE THIEF

WAS TAKING IFFOOTS TO CET U. B. STONER, AN ATTORNEY IN CEORGIA,

TO REPORTE HIM. U. S. STONER WELL KNOWN FIGURE IN VARIOUS WHITE

HATE CROWNS IN CEORGIA.

ANYTHING, IC HE FELT WIS ATTORNEY WOULD BE ABLE TO RESPEN HIS CASE. HE ALSO SAID HE MAD LETTER PREPARED TO SEND TO SENATOR EASTLANT AND THE TOUR TWO OR THREE MONTHS HIS CASE WOULD BE CLEATED UP. HE INSIGNTED HE MONTHS HE WILLING TO SIT DOWN AND DISCUST THE CASE FULLY.

SERIES. WE WAS ELECTED BY FILL LWAYS WED TO LET THE CRIMINALS

DRAW PIROT TERODE THEY NERE SHOT. HE WAS TOLD THIS IS ONLY

CONSISTED BY THE FROTS, AS DUR VERPONS ARE USED ONLY IN SELF.

DEFENCE. TO EXPRESSED COME SHOPTICISM. HE THEN ASKED IF FRI

THOUGHT HE WAS STURIN ENOUGH TO LEAVE HIS FINGERPRINTS IN THE

AREA THESE PUBLIC TIQUES WAS KILLED. HE WAS ASKED IF HE WAS

TRYING TO TELL DROCTUAT SOMESHED PLANTED HIS PRINTS, AND IF SO

HIS STORY OF SETTING THE ANS CAS COULD LEAVE. HE THEN RAISED

SOME CHUCK HE WAS FINE HAVE AVENUE FOR INSTITLED IN A

PACE TOW

LINIUP AND MAGINET COME THAT SUNDHE COULT LIBERTY MIN. HE THEN

INDICATES SE MAGINET SE A COMMETAN PARES THAT ONE CHARLIE

STERVERS COMED FOR ANY - IDENTIFY HIM AS HE THOUGHT

CHARLIE CTERVENCE SOOD LOOK AT HIM IN ROOMING HOUSEL HE DID

HOT WANT TO DISCUSS THIS FURTHER.

WITH A PUSTOSSIF WHILE WE MADE SOME PHOTOGRAPHS AVAILABLE ON THE VIST COMMITTE THE SECURITY OF THIS STATEMENT WAS POINTED OUT TO MIT AS US TO THE STATEMENT WAS POINTED OUT TO MIT AS US TO THE STATEMENT WAS POINTED OUT

SICH AS MUST THE FROM LOS ANGELES TO MEN ORLEANS. ME SAID NO.

THAT HE HAD A SECRETARE SETTING HIMES UP WITH STEIN. WE SAID

STEIN WAS SAID STEIN.

SAID NE SENER DECEMBERS PROPERTY RECLIFY FROM SUTLET OF SCOTLAND
VARB. VENER DECEMBERS. HE SAID THIS RECEIPT MIGHT SE OF
VALUE AT DOMESTIC THIS RECEIPT MIGHT SE OF

TIME BIBOURD CONSTITUTE ASPECTS

HE ALSO IN THE STATE OF A STATEMENTS. HE DID, HOWEVER, SOMETIME OF STATEMENTS. HE DID, HOWEVER, SOMETIME AS THE MEMBERS FOR STATEMENTS.

PAIT OF ACCIDENCE OF SAC, AGENTS JOE C. HESTER AND ROSERT F. BOYLE.

PAY SAIT HE DIT NOT MANT TO TALK TO THE DECAMOE ALL THEY WANTED TO

BE MAS TRICK HIM. TO MY STHEM ACENTS AT THIS TIME. HE WAS TOLD

THERE WERE THE STREET AGENTS WITH SAC. HE DID HEST THESE TWO AGENTS

JUST PRIOR TO SELECT SET MAS CELL. HIS PARTIES COMMENT

WHEN COINT THEOLOGY CELL BOOK MAS, TAKE A SOOD LOOK AS YOU MAY BE

LOOKING FOR ME ACAIN.

5:0 Told hay That HE MOULD ADONTACT HIM AGAIN TOMORROW

MOTHING AND GENEARD WE COULD AGAIN ENGAGE IN EMALL TALK. RAY

SAID THATE I MILL MOTHALK WITH MOU AGAIN.

POPOLOGICA NELECTRICATION DE LA COMPANIO DE LA COMPANIO DE CONTRA LA COMPANIO DE la co

A. M.

END PAGE FINE

PROTOTO CONTENT TO THE OFFICERS OF SUTY IN THE MAXIMUM SECURITY

SECTION OF THE OFFICERS OF SUTY IN THE MAXIMUM SECURITY

SECTION OF THE OFFICERS OF SUTY IN THE MAXIMUM SECURITY

FOR A STATE OF THE OFFICERS OF SUTY IN THE MAXIMUM SECURITY

THAT VISIT OF THE TO REPRESENT THAT PENITERTIARY SHOULD BE HELD

CONTINENTLE MARKET FOR SUTY IN THE ROYS OF BUT, OF COURSE,

STORY ONLY STELL LESS OF THE ROYS OF YARD.

FOR

FOR THE TO THE TO THE THAT THE PENITER OF THE ROYS OF THE RO

Date \_\_\_4/11/68

At approximately 10:30 a.m. DONALD F. WOOD was contacted at Aeromarine Supply Company, 5701 Airport Highway, Birmingham, and advised that he is the son of ROBERT E. WOOD, SR., who is the owner of the Aeromarine Supply Company. WOOD was discreetly questioned concerning the sale of a Remington caliber 30.06 rifle, serial number 461476, which Aeromarine had purchased from Wimberley-Thomas in August, 1966. DONALD F. WCOD immediately stated that he had heard the accounts of the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING the previous day on the radio and had immediately recalled selling a rifle, as was described in the newspaper as the murder weapon, to an individual about a week before the murder. WOOD immediately searched for and found a sales invoice in his records and indicated that on Saturday, March 30, 1968, hhad sold this gun to an individual using the name HARVEY LOWMEYER.

After obtaining both copies of this sales invoice, Mr. WOOD was requested to accompany the interviewing Agent to the Birmingham Office of the FBI, which he agreed to do. Mr. WOOD was transported to the Birmingham Office of the FBI, where he furnished the following signed statement:

"Birmingham, Alabama April 5, 1968

"I, DONALD F. WOOD, hereby make this statement to Special Agent; who has identified himself to me as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I reside at the first property, Birmingham, Alabama and subscribe to telephone number to the first property of the Aeromarine Supply Company, 5701 Airport Highway, Birmingham, Ala., as a salesman.

 	•
Carpet of the consumption of the Line	<b>Y</b>
Trooped to the second the 1800	· TORKAGE
DILE 3/30/20 BAZ bows	بدرركأف
DVI 9/30/10 DI 70/110	7/17/2

On 4/5/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

by SA Date dictated 4/11/68

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.

"On Friday, March 29, 1968, sometime in the early afternoon I had just returned from lunch when I observed Mr. U. L. BAKER, also a salesman, completing the sale of a rifle to an individual unknown to me. Mr. BAKER had just sold this man a Remington, Model 700, Caliber .243 Winchester with a 2x-7x Redfield Scope mounted thereon. Mr. BAKER had made this sale and had also mounted and bore sighted the scope on our machine. This individual also bought one box of 20 rounds of .243 Norma ammunition. paved cash for this sale. When I first observed this man he was dressed in a dark business suit with a white shirt and tie, as well as I remember. He was approximately 5'8" tall, 150 to 160 pounds and had dark hair. He had a modium complexion and appeared to be a meek individual. This individual had given his name as HARVEY LOWMEYER and stated that he resided at 1907 South 11th Street, Birmingham, Alabama. He also advised that he was 36 years of age.

"This information was not given to me personally by this individual, but I determined it from the bill of sale that was prepared by Mr. BAKER.

"Following the sale this individual left the store carrying the gun in a cardboard box utilized by the Browning Manufacturing Company. This box was used because with the scope mounted the rifle would not fit in the normal Remington box. He also took the empty Remington manufacturer's carton with him when he left.

"It was, as best I recall, either later that afternoon or early the following Saturday morning when this individual called on the telephone and stated that he had had a conversation with his brother and decided that the gun he had purchased was not the gun he wanted and he requested whether he could exchange it for a Remington, work 1760, 30.06 caliber. I advised him that we could make this exchange but that it would cost him an additional \$5.00.

"At approximately 9:00 AM on Saturday, March 30, this same individual returned to the store with the gun he had previously purchased. When he returned the gun he had the gun still in the Browning box. I told him that I would change the scope from the caliber .243 rifle to the Model 760, but that it would take me until approximately 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon and I instructed him to return at 3:00 o'clock and to bring the original Remington box for the caliber .243 weapon with him when he came as I would need a how to store the gun in. I gave him the Model 760 gun and I believe that I left it in the Browning carton. did not receive the \$5.00 because in exchanging the scope I had to use a Weaver base and rings instead of the Redfield base and rings and this made up the cost difference. I also exchanged the box of .243 caliber ammunition for a box of 30.06 ammunition which I believe was Peters Core Lokt, 150 grain, 20 rounds per box. He left the store carrying the gen in the cardboard box.

"During the course of our dealings on Saturday I asked this individual why he didn't want the caliber .243 gun and I told him that it was a big enough gun to bring down any deer in Alabama. He stated in an offhand manner that he wanted the 30.06 caliber gun because he was going to use it to hunt in Wisconsin.

"At the present time this is all that I can remember concerning the transaction with this individual.

"4/5/68

"I have read this signed statement and accept where I have initiated one correction. I find it to consist of this and two other pages and it is true and correct.

"/s/ DONALD F. WOOD

"/s/ Special Agent, FBI, 4/5/68.

"/s/ Special Agent, FBI, Birmingham, 4/5/68."

		AIRCRAFT-AUTOMOTIVE AEROMARINE SUPPLY CO.  AIRCRAFT-AUTOMOTIVE STOLL BIRMINGHAM AIRPORT HIGHWAY  PARTS & SUPPLIES  AEROMARINE SUPPLY CO.  STOLL BIRMINGHAM ALABAMA 35212  INVOICE NUMBER 2251A
		10 - ARKEY LOWMEYER DATE 3/29 1968
		ADDRESS /307-SS. // TH. ST. /5 /1 Am /7 /4
		QECLE NUMBER PHONE O WIRE D LETTER D PICK UP S NAME: SALESMAN
		OHANTITY PART NUMBER TOTAL
		1 175-11-# 7-57-A REM NOD 500
	<u> </u>	PUMP ACTIONS OF BIFLE CAL.
;; · ·	2	243 WIN. SN 25349 401476 13495
	8	1 2x-7x REDELEUS SCOPE 9150 7460
	E CO	1 - 11 700 BASE TO DIC RIVER 2390 - 2032
•		1 Box 243 CACE 465;
	O a management of the second o	23452
		1 James James
		Jawy -
	i V	
=		TAX 14 OF CLEARED BARE IN THICK DRAWN, AT THE OFFICE OF THE SELLER.
44	•	RECEIVED BY TOTAL 9 / 59
•		MERCHANDISE CANNOT BE RETURNED FOR CREDIT, REFUND OR EXCHANGE AFTER 10 DAYS FROM SALE DATE : 27. 27. 27. 27. 27. 27. 27. 27. 27. 27.
	· -	

Date April 8, 1968

DONALD F. WOOD, residence Birmingham, the son of the owner of Aeromarine Supply Company, Airport Highway, was asked if he could identify a customer who purchased a gun case for a Varmint model rifle on March 29, 1968. WOOD, after checking his invoices, noted that there was such a sale made on March 29, 1968, but the invoice was made out to "Cash." WOOD recalled, however, that this customer is a regular customer who is a white male, about 25 years old, five feet, ten inches, 170 pounds, long, black hair, whose first name is JOHN. WOOD further recalled that he had sold a Browning pistol to this man about two and one-half years ago. WOOD then checked his recorded and identified this man as JOHN WEBSTER DESHAZO, Mountain Brook, Alabama, who purchased a Browning Stardard Weight Pistol on December 11, 1965.

Later on April 7, 1968, DON WOOD made available the following weapons which had been identified by JOHN WEBSTER DeSHAZO as having been handled by the person who purchased a rifle and scope sight at the Aeromarine Supply Company on March 29, 1968:

One Browning Safari grade, caliber .243, bolt-action rifle, Serial No. 3700Z5, Stock No. 946A.

One Remington Model 700, heavy barrel, Varmint .243 Winchester, Serial No. 266009, Stock No. 753A.

One Remington Model 788, caliber .30-30, bolt-action rifle, Serial No. 020726, Stock No. 756A.

Mr. WOOD was furnished a receipt for the above weapons.

On 4/7/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-174C .

SAS and by Date dictated

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

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

April 14, 1968

4/31/68

Date dictated -

Immediately following the receipt of a package at approximately 12:30 a.m., April 8, 1968, containing three weapons from Special Agent Special Agent hand-carried them aboard a Delta Airlines flight, changing to an Eastern Airlines flight in Atlanta, Georgia, and ultimately accompanied them to Mr. GEORGE BONEBRAKE of the FBI Identification Division at approximately 8:00 a.m. on April 8, 1968.

These items, from the time they were delivered to SA did not leave his possession until delivered to Mr. BONEBRAKE.

Birmingham, Alabama 4/8/68 Washington, D. C.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to NWW 555940 Doc 10.329897311 page 144 be distributed outside your agency.

1

Data	.*	4/11/68

At approximately 1:00 p.m. on April 5, 1968, Mr. ROBERT E. WOOD, SR., and DONALD F. WOOD accompanied the interviewing Agents to the Aeromarine Supply Company, 5701 Airport Highway, Birmingham, where DONALD F. WOOD made available a Remington Model 700, caliber .243, rifle, which was believed by them to have been handled by the unknown individual who had purchased the Remington Model 760 rifle on March 30, 1968. DONALD F. WOOD also furnished nine boxes of caliber .243 ammunition from their inventory stating that one box of this ammunition was believed to have been handled by the individual who purchased the gun. DONALD F. WOOD also furnished a set of Redfield bases and rings which had been the original bases and rings furnished by the manufacturer of the Redfield scope.

Mr. WOOD was furnished a signed receipt for the above items.

Immediately following the receipt of these items, SA that hand carried them aboard a United Air-lines flight, changing to a Delta flight in Atlanta, Georgia, and ultimately accompanied them to Mr. GEORGE BONEBRAKE of the FBI Identification Division at approximately 8:00 p.m. same date. These items, from the time they were delivered to SA that did not leave his possession until delivered to Mr. BONEBRAKE.

On 4/5/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

SAS Date dictated 4/11/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to our agency; it and its contents are not to be distribute triaide year agency.

1

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

U. L. BAKER, Company, Airport Highway. Birmingham. In connection with the sale of a gun case for a Varmint model rifle, BAKER said he recalled making such a sale, but could not recall the date nor the name of the customer. He said he could not state that this gun case was sold on the same date that he had sold a rifle and scope sight which was March 29, 1968. He said the man who bought the gun case was a frequent customer, and described him as a white male 27 - 28 years old, 5'9", 180 lbs., heavyset, with blond, thinning hair. BAKER identified the other salesman, who would have been behind the counter on March 29, 1968, as the manager

In connection with the accent or speech of the person who purchased the rifle and scope sight, BAKER said he believed it was from "this" (Alabama) general area. BAKER said that the man who purchased the rifle had left the store on March 29, 1968, and came back later in the afternoon and picked up the rifle. He was asked if it was possible that the man stayed in the store during this time, and BAKER said he was not sure.

of the store, J. HOYT STEPHENS.

4/7/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the For. 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.

4/8/68

REVOLVER FOUND IN POSSESSION OF JAMES EARL RAY WHEN ARRESTED JUNE 8, 1968, IN LONDON, ENGLAND

When JAMES EARL RAY was apprehended by members of New Scotland Yard on June 8, 1968, in London, England he had in his possession a .38 caliber "Liberty Chief", revolver manufactured by Miroku Firearms Manufacturing Company, a Japanese concern. This revolver has serial number 715.

The National Police Agency of Japan was requested to determine to whom this revolver was shipped by the manufacturer, and the following letter was forthcoming from that agency:

ALL INFORMATION COMPAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/30/80 BX processor

" MD 44-190/

On June 10, 1968, Mr. MILA SVOBODA, owner, Liberty Arms Company and Solingen Cutlery Company, Post Office Box 306, Montrose, California, advised that Liberty revolver #715 had been sold to R. TATUM, New and Used Guns, 118 Edwards Drive, Mableton, Georgia, on October 3, 1966, under Invoice No. 13909.

On June 11, 1968, Mr. ROBERT TATUM. 118 Edwards Street, Mableton, Georgia, advised SA that the Liberty Chief revolver having serial number 715 had been sold by him on December 3, 1966, for \$50.00 to WALTER E. SPAIN, Alabama.

## NATIONAL POLICE AGENCY

INTERPOI.
NATIONAL CENTRAL BUREAU

1/1, 2-Chome, Kasumigaseki Chiyoda ku, Tokyo Japan

Telegraphic Address:
"INTERPOLJAPAN TOKYO"

"J-KUB/ ~ 7.8/68"

TONYO, June 10, 1968.

Legal Attache American Embassy Tokyo

Re: Information about a pistol
"Liberty-Chief" No. 715

Dear Sir;

In reply to your telephone request made this morning concerning the captioned matter, we wish to inform you as follows:

- 1. Destination of this weapon's shipment:
  This pistol in question was shipped from the manufacturing company given below on August 3, 1966, and was cleared by our Customs' inspection on August 19, 1966 and was loaded on the "HIVANA-MARU" at "SUMA-PORT" in Hyogo Prefecture for shipment to:
  Name of a company: LIBERTY ANDES CORPORATION.
  Address: P.O. BOX. 306, MONTROSE, CALIFORNIA, U.S.A.
- 2. Items for your reference:
  The name of this weapon's manufacturing company is "KABUSHIKI KAISHA, MIRONU SEISAKUSHO" (translated in English: MIRONU MANUFACTURING COMPANY LTD.).
  Address: 180, 1NAMI-CHO, KOCHI-CITY, KOCHI PREFECTURE, JAPAN.
  Name of the President: 100 Chiyoki.

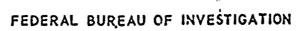
Trusting the above information is of some assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

for HEAD, NCB, JAPAN:

51

Criminal Research & Statistics Section Criminal Investigation Bureau



Date \_\_\_\_June. 20, 1968

WALTER E. SPAIN, North, Birmingham, Alabama, furnished the following:

Sometime in December, 1966, SPAIN went to Atlanta, Georgia, with his father, WALTER LEON SPAIN, so his father could attempt to obtain employment. While in Atlanta, WALTER E. SPAIN saw an advertisement in a newspaper for a .38 caliber Liberty snub-nose revolver, which was being sold by a gun dealer in a small town outside Atlanta, believed to be Mapleton, Georgia. SPAIN, accompanied by his father, went to this gun dealer and bought the gun and SPAIN returned it to his residence in Birmingham, Alabama.

In the Spring of 1967, SPAIN gave the gun to his father in partial payment of a debt he owed to his father. SPAIN was later told by his father that he had sold the gun after placing a want ad for it in a Birmingham newspaper. SPAIN was not present when his father sold the gun and therefore did not see the purchaser.

On 6/11/68 of Birmingham, Alabama File# ME 44-1740

SA and SA and SA 6/14/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBL It is the property—of the FBI and is loaned to your agency.

If and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.





#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date \_\_\_ June 20, 1968

WALTER LEON SPAIN, Alabama, furnished the following:

Birmingham,

In the Spring of 1967, SPAIN'S son, WALTER E. SPAIN gave Mr. SPAIN a .38 caliber Liberty snub-nose revolver, which his son had purchased in late 1966 or early 1967 from a gun dealer near Atlanta, Georgia. His son owed Mr. SPAIN some money and the gun was a partial payment of this debt.

In the Fall of 1967, after having been hospitalized in August, 1967, at Huntsville, Alabama, for an illness and being in need of money to pay bills, Mr. SPAIN sold many personal items by means of placing want ads for these items in the "Birmingham News." Among the items sold was the .38 caliber Liberty snub-nose revolver. Mr. SPAIN recalled he placed an ad for this gun in a Sunday paper, and that same . Sunday he received a call from a man who asked about the gun, the price, and the directions to get to SPAIN's residence. The caller said he was in the western section of Birmingham. About an hour after this call, and while SPAIN's wife and daughter were at church, a man came to the front door and said he had called about the gun. He looked at the gun, stated he had been looking for a gun of the same type, and when told again that the price was \$65.00, he gave SPAIN two twenty dollar bills, two ten dollar bills, and a five dollar bill, after saying he would take it. SPAIN did not give the man a receipt for the money, nor did he record his name or see any identification of the man, and he did not obtain any information as to his name. The man left carrying the gun in his hand. SPAIN furnished neither ammunition nor any papers for the gun.

When the man first arrived, SPAIN observed he had parked his car, described by SPAIN only as a late model, white or light-colored, on the street in front of SPAIN's house, a distance of about 150 feet. SPAIN did not pay any further attention to the car. SPAIN did recall the buyer saying he lived in the western section of Birmingham, but-he-did-not-mention-any-specific address or employment.

0^	6/11/68	_at_	Birmingham,	Alabama	,4 *	_File#_		4-1740 4-1987	
bу	SA -SA		and		53	_Date d	ictated_	6/14/6	8

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBL II is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency: If and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

BH 44-1740

The tuyer said he wanted the gun to keep around his house. Mr. SPAIN described the buyer as a white male, about forty to forty-five years of age, 5'8" or 5'9" tall, 170 to 175 pounds, dark hair slightly graying at the temples, with a local (Alabama) accent. The man was wearing a sport shirt and slacks, colors unrecalled, and he did not have glasses.

Mr. SPAIN was shown five different photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, and he chose one which had been taken in California during January or February, 1968, as "resembling the man" who bought the revolver; however, Mr. SPAIN would not make a definite identification of the photograph of RAY as the buyer.

Mr. SPAIN recalled he was contacted by FBI Agents on April 7, 1968, and shown an artist's conception of an individual the FBI was attempting to locate. At that time, he advised Agents the drawing reminded him of someone he may have seen previously, but was unable to furnish any other identifying information. After viewing the photographs of JAMLS EARL RAY and being questioned about the sale of the revolver, SPAIN said he was now able to connect the sale of the revolver with the drawing in that the person depicted in the drawing reminded SPAIN of the person to whom he had sold the revolver.

	D.	٤.	02	(R	٠v.	4	.\$-6		4
k			**	****	,,,	•	7 A - A	••	





## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

, '		•	June	20.	1968
<u> </u>		· Dat	e		

All Sunday issues of "The Birmingham News," for the months of September and October, 1967, were reviewed at "The Birmingham News." From this review, it was determined that only one want ad for a .38 caliber revolver was placed by WALTER LEON SPAIN, that being in the October 1, 1968, issue.

On 6/11/68 of Birmingham, Alabama File# ME 44-1740

SA SA Date dictoted 6/14/68

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

V. IDENTIFICATION RECORD AND DESCRIPTION

90

ALT INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSICIED DATE 2/20/20 BY PROCESSIONS

The following is subject's identification record as furnished by the FBI Identification Division on April 23, 1968, under FBI # 405 942 G:

CONTRICTOR OF LINGERPRINTS	r nave and number	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
Army	James Earl Ray #16 163 129	2/19/46	•	
Sheriff's Office Los Augeles, Calif.	James Earl Ray #6-119908	10/11/49	suspicion of burglary	
Pl'r tos Angeles Calif	James Earl Ray #139648	10/11/49	suspicion 459 Penni (burglary)	8 months County Jail suspended; 2 years proba- tion served: first 90 days County Jail: 146 12/30/49 Cs129438
No (edar Papids, lova	Jawes C. Ray #5937	4/18/50	vagrancy	
PD Alton, 111.	James Farl Ray #7514	7,723751	no opera- tor's lic- ense - no City License	later
PD Chicago	James Ray #D90696	5/6/52	robbery (Gun)	Grand Jury \$3000
Cook County Jail Chicago J11	James Ray #131165	5/9/52	robbery	6/13/52 sen- tenced to peni- tentiary 1 to 2 years
State Peni- tentiary, Joliet, 111.	James E. Ray #32419	6/13/52	robbery	1 to 2 years

•	•			4 , -4 -1 , 3, "
CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	· <del>-</del> ·-	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
State Peni- tentiary Pontiac, III.	James E. Ray #19121	7/7/52 1952 in transfer from Jol:	robbery	1 to 2 years 3/12/54 discharged
SO Edwards- ville, III.	James Earl Ray #2640	8/30/54	burglary & larceny	****
W Hannibal Mussouri	James E. Ray #40714	3/23/55	investigati of breaking entering Po Office	&
Frate Righ- Pay Patrol Wacon, Mo.	James Earl Ray #R-3376	3/23/55		released to Postal Inspec- tor Kansas City Mo., 3/24/55
USM Kansas City, Mo.	James Earl Fay #12018	3/28/55 	forgery U.S. Postal Money Order	sentenced to 15 months custody Attorney Genera
SO Kansas City Mo.	James Earl Ray #29637	3/28/55	forgery - Government	3/7/55, 3 years and 9 months
U.S. Peni- tentiary Leavenworth, Kan	James Earl Ray #72498-I.	7/7/55	Post Office Lavs Forge Money Orders	3 years and 9 months 5/20/58, conditional release 3/31/59, maximum 4/5/58, conditional release on charge of Post Office forgery Post Office Money Orders
PD St. Gauss, Mo.	James'Earl Ray #81071	10/10/59	suspicion of robbery	

,	CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGER PRINTS	OF NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
1	PD St. Louis	Jawes Earl Ray #81071	10/16/59	of robbery	
	State Peni- tentiary Jefferson City, Mo.	Jamus Enrl Ray #00416	3/17/60	operating motor vehi- cle without permission of owner robbery fir "b/m DDW" (2 charges)	current)

The following is a description of the subject, obtained from sources set out elsewhere in this report:

Naso:	JAMES EARL RAY, aka
Sex:	Male
Race:	White
Date of Birth:	March 10, 1928
Place of Birth:	Alton, Illinois
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	163 - 174 pounds
Hair:	Brown
Eyes:	Blue
Social Security No.:	334-22-6876
Army Serial Number:	16 163 129
FBI Number:	405 942 G

LY.

8 months Cour

Jail suspende

released to

sentenced to

2 years.

probation served; first 90 days Coun

Raci

				1			, 10	10
(*). Y	,		• ,	•		.,	•	10
The following FE	a record,	NUMBER	•	405 · 942 · G	, is	furnished FOR	OFFICIA	L USE
Information show	wn on thi	s Identific	alien p	Record represents dat	a formished.FB	by fingerprin	t contribu	ulors. Y

7-26-68 560 7

suspicion

(burglary)

459 Penal Code

no operator's

•	$X \subset X$		MASSING O.T. D.C.	20007	•	٠, ٠, ٠
1		• ,	•	,		•
•	The following FBI recor	d, NUMBER	405: 942' G		, is furnished FO	R OFFICIA
•	Information shown on t	his Identification	Record represents date	a fürnislied	i.FBI by fingerpri	nt contribu
1	FINAL DISPOSITION IS	NOT SHOW	OR FURTHER EXPLAN	to koita	CHARGE IS DES	Sired, Co
	WITH AGENCY CONTI	ributing thos	f fingerprints.		•	
١, .	CONTRIBUTOR OF		ARRESTED (	25		

James Earl Ray

James E. hav

#7514

James Ray

James Ray

James E. Ray

#D90696

#131165

#32419

#19121

James E.

James Earl Ray

**|#139648** 

FINAL DISPOSITION I	d, NUMBER 405 9 this Identification Record rep S NOT SHOWI OR FURTH RIBUTING THOSE FINGERP	oresents data fü ER EXPLANATIO	rnished. FBI by fingerprint	
CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	- NAME AND RUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	- DISPOSITION
Army	James Earl Ray	February 19, 1946		
Sheriff's Office	James Earl Ray	October	suspicion of	

October V 11, 1949

April 18,

July 23,

1950

1951

May 6,

May 9,

June 13,

July 7,

transfer from Joliet

1952

1952

1952

1952

in

Jail; 146. December: 30, 1949 Cs12943 vagrancy

later license - no State License no City License robbery (Gun) Grand Jury \$3000 June 13, 195 robbery

penitentiary 1:to:2 years 1 to 2 year robbery 1 to 2 years robbery

March 12, 19 discharged

ALL INTO THE THE CONTENT TO LARGE TELED DILE 3/20/80 BKJA MODING

John Edgar Hoover

Director

Notations indicated by are NOT basow on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as

being possibly identical with subject of time record. NW 65994 Docid:32989731 Page 159

California

ios Angeles,

California -

Police Department

Sheriff's Office

cilice Department

Police Department

Licago, Illinois

by County Jail

'hicago, Illinois

tate Penitentiary

oute Penitentiary

. ntiac, Illinois

. list, Illinois

Liton, Illinois

Ludar Rapids, Iowa #5937

The following FBI record, NUMBER 495 942 G , is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY. Information shown on this Identification Record represents data furnished FBI by fingerprint contributors. WHERE FINAL DISPOSITION IS NOT SHOWN OR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF CHARGE IS DESIRED, COMMUNICATE WITH AGENCY CONTRIBUTING THOSE FINGERPRINTS.

CONTRINUON OF FINGERPRINTS	. NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	- DISPOSITION
	James Earl Ray #2640	August 30, 1954	burglary and larceny	
olice Department annibal, issouri	James E. Ray #40714	March 23, 1955	investigation of breaking and entering Post Office	
State Highway Patrol Macon, Missouri	James Earl Ray #B-3376	March 23, 1955	cashing stolen postal money orders	released to Postal Inspec Kansas City, Missouri March 24, 195
Inited States Larshal Lansas City, Lissouri	James Earl Ray #12018	March 28, 1955	forgery United States Postal Money Order	sentenced to 15 months custody of Attorney Gene
Sheriff's Office Cansas City, Lissouri	James Earl Ray #29637	March 28, 1955	Forgery - Government	July 7, 1955 3 years and nonths
	James Earl Ray #72498-L	July 7, 1955	Post Office Laws Forge : Money Orders	3 years and 3 nonths May 20 1958 conditional 1959 maximum April 5, 1958 conditional release on clof Post Office Money Orders
Police Department Saint Louis, Hissouri	James Earl Ray #81071	October 10, 1959	suspicion of robbery	

Notations indicated by \* are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

John Edgar Hoover
\_\_\_\_\_Director

The following FBI record, NUMBER 405 942 G , is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.
Information shown on this Identification Record represents data furnished FBI by fingerprint contributors. WHERE FINAL DISPOSITION IS NOT SHOWN OR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF CHARGE IS DESIRED, COMMUNICATE WITH AGENCY CONTRIBUTING THOSE FINGERPRINTS.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	' NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	. CHARGE	- DISPOSITION
Police Department Saint Louis, Missouri	James Earl Ray #81071	October 16, 1959	suspicion of robbery stealing and fugitive other authorities	
State Penitentiary Jefferson City, Missouri	Janes Earl Ray #00416	March 17, 1960 ✓	operating motor vehicle without permission of owner robbery first "b/m DDW" (2 charges)	20 years (207, 5, concurrent) April 23, 19 escaped
State Hospital Number 1 Fulton, Missouri		Soptember 8,,1966	Patient	
SO Memphis Tenn	James Earl Ray #39728	7-19-68	murder 1st deg	

Notations indicated by \* are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

John Edgar Hoover
Director

The following FBI record, NUMBER 405 942 G , is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ON Information shown on this Identification Record represents data furnished FBI by fingerprint contributors. Y/KE FINAL DISPOSITION IS NOT SHOWN OR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF CHARGE IS DESIRED, COMMUNICA WITH AGENCY CONTRIBUTING THOSE FINGERPRINTS.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	· NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	Charge	• DISPOSITION
	WANTED: James I (oper M/V w/o po b/m of a D & DW) Warden SPen Jefr 5-10-67 NO LONGER WANTER	rm of own (will ex erson Cit	or escape 4-23-67 er; robb 1st deg tradite) Notify y Mo inf rec rec 7-19-68	
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *		,		
*,				, ,
	ė ,	' '4	•	
		· ,		
		•		*5,*
		•		
		,		
				-

Notations indicated by \* are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

John Edgar Hoover
Director

405 942 G

CONTRIUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	- DISPOSMIO
C: Warden SPen Jefferson Ci	ту Мо			
•				
		,		
		atí a s <sub>a</sub> t		

Notations indicated by \* are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads being possibly identical with subject of this record.

NW 65994 Docld:32989731 'Page 163

John Edgar Hoover

# S JERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537

The following FBI record, NUMBER 368 725 A 725 A 725 Information shown on this Identification Record represents data furnished FBI by fingerprint contributors. WHERE FINAL DISPOSITION IS NOT SHOWN OR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF CHARGE IS DESIRED, COMMUNICATE WITH AGENCY CONTRIBUTING THOSE FINGERPRINTS.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
State Police Ligonier Indiana	Jack Larry Rayns #2-16412	December 30, 1949		.,
State Reformatory Pendleton Indiana	John L. Rayns #35297	January 24, 1950	second degree burglary	2-5 years
Police, Department Holtville California	Johnny Larry Ray #1341	December 3, 1952	sleeper	released
Police Department Quincy Illinois	Johnny Ray	April 7, 1953	20 years to 10 years	continued to Circuit Court \$1,000 bond \$53 l year to sinimum 5 years s Illinois ary, Menard
State Fenitentiary Benard Illinois	John Ryan #23401	June 2, 1953	larceny motor vehicle	5-10 years discharged February 1, 1960
State Highway Patrol Kirkwood Nissouri	John Larry Ray #C-10670	November 8, 1961	investigation of burglary and larceny	released November 9, 1961
Police Department Highland Filinois	John Larry Ray #415	March 9, 1962	investigation	released
Police Department Saint Louis Missouri	John Larry Ray #112763-7 .	November 25, 1967		
•		E	LL INFORMATION CONT TREIN IS UNCLASSIFT TTE 2/20/80 BY	

Notations indicated by \* are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

Nocida 2989 Mar Page 11

2

# STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUIC DERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION WASHINGTON, D.C. -20537

368 725 A The following FBI record, NUMBER , is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY. Information shown on this Identification Record represents data furnished FBI by fingerprint contributors. WHERE

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	' DISPOSITION
Memphis Tenn	John Larry Ray	8-2-68	inquiry SCSO	: 4
sk t Toyls No dull ort ret)	John Larry Ray	10-27-70	bank robbery	18 yrs V.S District (
O t Charles Mo	Jerry William Ryan	10-26-70	susp bank rob	74 .á.
P evenworth Kans	John Larry Ray #86798-132	6-3-71	Bank Robbery	18 years
USP Marion IL	John Larry Ray 86798-132	7-11-73	bank rob	18 yrs
•		ı		,
•	•	•		•
				·
• •			•	

latations indicated by \* are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as wing possibly identical with subject of this record.

The Allowing FBI record, NUMBER - 862 651 A , is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.
Information shown on this identification Record represents data furnished FDI by finguration constitutors. WHERE
FINAL DISPOSITION IS NOT SHOWN OR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF CHARGE IS DESIRED, COMMUNICATE
WITH AGENCY CONTRIBUTING THOSE FINGERPRINTS.

Contrinctor of Finderic rints	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	. CILARGE	DISPOSITION
Cuincy Ill	Jerry In Ryan	3-22-52	invest L	pind
of Sheridan Ill.	Jerry William Ryan #164	9-20-51	riot	1 wher to 18
Menard III	Jerry Ryzn #23737	2-26-54	lare	of 5000 2-10 yms 12-12-55 par disch 5-6-60
Pontiac III	Jerry Ryan #20229	4-8-54 trans fr Menard	lare	2-5 yrs
Menard Ill	Jerry Ryan #23737	·12-30-5 <sup>‡</sup>	T	2 <b>-</b> 5 yr3
Hwy Pat Macon	Jerry William Ryan #8-4829	2-24-56	Armed Robb (ls: degree) Circuit Crt Mo	Xo SP 7-19-
Jefferson City	Jerry William Ryan #71354	7-21-56	Circuit Crt Mo armed robb, brk jail	bar 8-1-23
enard Ill	Jerry Ryan #23737	8-1-58	2V. (larceny).	2-5 yns:
		~		• • •
ighland Ill	Jerry William Ray	3-9-62	inv & operating on 1 st lic plat	\$100 F \$5   
t Louis No	Derry William Ray	8-20-63	FOA PL	zel .
Memphis Tenn	Jerry. William Ray #105533	7-9-68	Drl:	dism 7-9-6
Memphis Tonn	Jerry William Ray #39762	7-25-68	inquiry	

IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

ear Suntry Eithial: I in the love nouse on when your committee. investigating The Dr. Hing come and the Committee II to The Thereof git Its guilty plus I person Dan juity briefly attingt to explicitly ATTO Time Vir. pery Forene ogget to Drs. Githen House se- quilty began in cont doing Ilat general Mu. Foreron Kene Guina svery from my of mr. Huis's In a sign another critical viet me. Have sond mer. Hence ofthe This Ver. Feren lack ct, This picture wo Heir. Huie bol get to juto Dictor to felul government. The fillearly two or 3 pelvinca at the men sai the quitie or or arte comme at It Time printe non tell Diem ORIGINAL DOCUMENT SENT TO NATIONAL ARCHIVES (JFKARCA) Re: HSCA To proceed Docld:32989731 Page 167

to mapping 2 sind moulthe bedil like sinds to the - person 3 you include with of the 2 wouldn't clinty This seems about all I were tell were the I would go to Its clicke - close of 3 west to trie, 3 un even teld say levely wonter Rut 3 did not plant quilly for It above ween 3 Fillse becare a did not unt to go to trick with a langue with - Eliza Lever ging to lesser, I believe if you think you will lose you prosby will on the dy before 3 plants I signal contlin cottent with our Inveney in This one 2 orule to Jus Sun 165,000, Le aguel to give my dritte 450000 in the evist 2 would to live outher layer to respect the case mr. Ferman wat ... into-lie contint The if a comberned Grance From the count reme he could without the all contrat week go it effect out? in in in in suitant forbeit his writer alling sien best ti-Dr. Hun for a mint, while Mr. Hous war my allow, om. Hes aski we lange his about public figure and waring congregations. 2 got It inproved let be They's There ie a Compring let to world to me the conjustion and I similar felt The my stimp were sent of for his metal of for me. In cliving a would like to say if a cont get the core recognition should be in inspect, oso her sized and scace to attismy Cil set you of the suiteren love her interne, Mr on we to Le civile on new selme when I think much of the end Dis Fremand in open contil tillit true constitution, and the one mr. Howe hird mare left maple. 2 week ale like to my to & classet what the present · · Back with guite me as voging is how on intertion · discouring this one will ongone worked intil it is closed my swill so it is court or to 21 2 Irue on the ste m. in letter from like the Setter

3-14-69

## Dear Senator Eastland;

I read in the local newspaper where your committee is considering investagating the Dr. King case. I would like to inform you and the committee that I would cooperate in any such hearing. However, at the time I am going to attempt to get the guilty plea set aside, I know that the odds against having this done are greatly against me. But I think due to the unusual circumstances in the guilty plea it mite be possible. I personaly did not shoot Dr. King but I believe I am partly responsible for his death. I will briefly attempt to explain why I entered the guilty plea. At the time Mr. Pery Foreman aggred to take over the defense from Mr. Arthur Hanes we had a verbal agreement that their would be no guilty plea, as I wanted to try the case in court. I had every reason to believe during the first two months Mr. Foreman was on the case their would be a trial, during that period Mr. Foreman had me sign a new contract with him and Mr. Huie giving Mr. Foreman all the money from any of Mr. Huie's money making ventures. (I had sign another contract with Mr. Huie and Mr. Hanes) Shortly after this Mr. Foreman came to visit me and he had a picture for me to look at. This picture was about 8 x 10 in. Mr. Foreman said Mr. Huie had given him the picture and that Mr. Huie had got the picture from someone in the federal government. The picture contain 2 or 3 men followed by two or 3 policemen. Mr. Foreman described on of the men in the picture as an 'anti communist' cuban refugee who was arrested at the time president Kennedy was shot. "The arrest took place in Dallas I was told" I was asked if I would identify the man if he was brought to Memphis. I said no, althoe he did look similar to the person I was ... involved with. After I wouldn't identify this man, about all I was told was that I would go to the electric chair if I went to trial. I was even told my family wanted me to plead guilty, but I found out this was not so. But I did not plead guilty for the above reasons. I did so because I did not want to go to trial with a lawyer who thought he was going to lose. I believe if you think you will lose you proably will. On the day before I plead guilty I signed another contract with Mr. Foreman. In this one I agreed to give him \$165,000, he agreed to give my brother \$500.00 in the event I wanted to hire another lawyer to reopen the case. Mr. Foreman wrote into the contract that if I embarres him (disagreed) in the court room he could withdraw, the old contract would go into effect and I would be without funds to hire another

516.78

3/20/20 Johnachare

attorney. Getting back to Mr. Huie for a minute, while Mr. Hanes was my attorney Mr. Huie asked me through him about public figures and various organizations. I got the impression that he thought their was a conspiracy but he wanted to name the conspirators. And I sometime felt that my attorneys were working for him instead of for me. In closing I would like to say if I can't get the case reopen, their should be an invegestion, as I have signed over \$200,000 to attorneys and not 1/20 of the witnesses have been interview. No one went to Los Angeles or New Orleans where I think much of the evidence lies. Mr. Foreman said in open court that he didn't trust investigators, and the one Mr. Hanes hired never left Memphis. I would also like to say that despite what the papers and book writer's quote me as saying, I have no intention of discussing this case with anyone 'verbaly' until it is closed. If I have anything to say I will say it in court or to lawyers, or in letter form like this letter.

Sincerely, James E. Ray.

COPY:mls\_

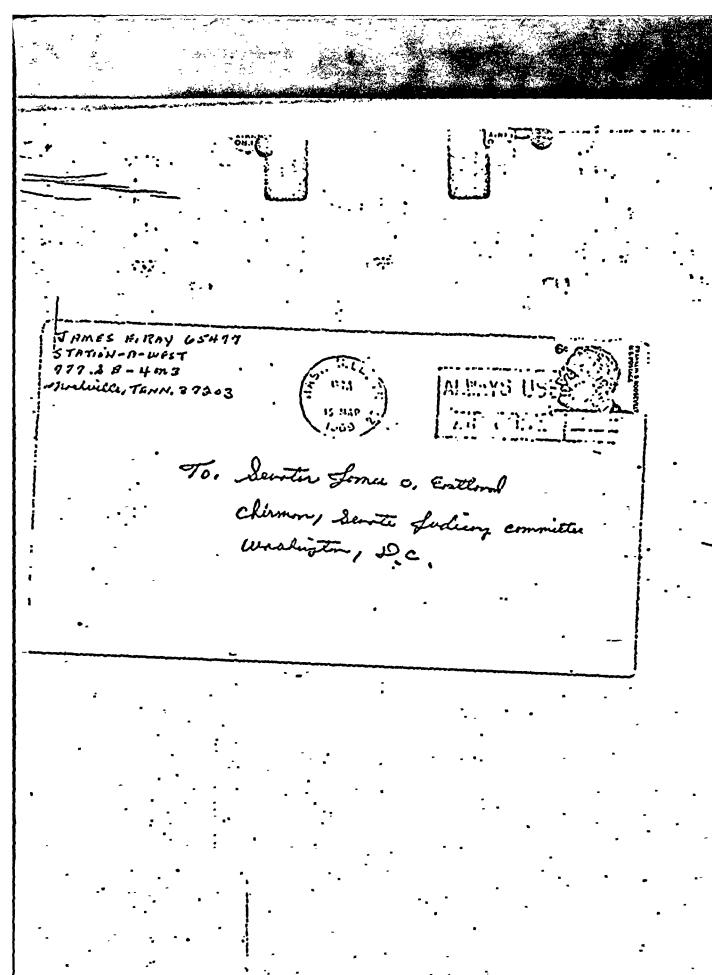
Dear Senator Eastland;

I read in the local newspaper where your committee is considering investigating the Dr. King case. I would like to inform you and the cominities that I would cooperate in any much hearing. However, at the time I am going to altempt to get the guilly plea set aside, I know flight the other claimst having this done are greatly against me. But I thirk due to the unusual circumclances in the guilty plan it mite be possible. I remorally did not shoot Dr. King but I believe I am partly responsible for his death. I will briefly attempt to explain why I entered the guilty plea. At the time Mr. Pery Foreman aggred to stake over the Calonse from Mr. Arthur Hones we had a vorbal agreement that their would be no guilty plea, as I wanted to try the case in court. I had every reason to believe during the first two months hir. Foreman was on the case their would be a trial, during that period Mr. Foreman had me sign a new contract with him and-Mr. Huie giving Mr. Foreman all the money from any of Mr. Huie's money making ventures. (I had sign another centract with Mr. Huie and Mr. Hanes) Shortly after this Mr. Foreman came to visit me and he had a picture for me to look at. This picture was about 8 x 10 in. Air. Foreman said Air. Huis had given him the picture and that Mr. Huis had got the picture from someone in the federal' government. The picture contain 2 or 3 men followed by two or 3 policemen. Mr. Foreman described on of the men in the picture as an 'anti communist' cubaa refugee who was arrested at the time president Kennedy was shot. "The arrest took place in Dalias T was told" I was asked if I would identify the man if he was brought to Memphis. I said no, althoe he did look similar to the person I was involved with. After I wouldn't identify this man, about all I was told was that I would go to the electric chair if I went to trial. I was even told my family wanted me to plead guilty, but I found out this was not so. But I did not plead guilty for the above reasons. I did so because I did not want to go to trial with a lawyer who thought he was going to. lose. I believe if you think you will lose you proably will. On the day before I plead guilty I signed another contract with Mr. Foreman. In this one I agreed to give him \$165,000, he agreed to give my brother \$500.00 in the event I wanted to hive another lawyer to reopen the case. Mr. Foreman wrote into the contract that if I embarres him (disagreed) in the court room he could withdraw, the old contract would go into effect and I would be without funds to hire another .

attorney. Getting back to Mr. Huie for a minute, while Mr. Hanes was my alterney Mr. Huie asked me through him about public figures and various organizations. I got the imprecation that he thought their was a constitute but he wanted to name the conspirators. And I sometime felt that my alterneys were working for him instead of for me. In closing I would like to say if I can't get the case reopen, their should be an inversation, as I have signed over \$209,000 to attorneys and not 1/20 of the witnesses have been interview. No one went to Los Angeles or New Calcans where I think much of the evidence lies. Mr. Fereman said in open court that he disn't truct investigators, and the one Mr. Hones hired never left Momphis. I would also like to say that despite what the papers and book writer's quote me as saying, I have no intention of discussing this case with anyone 'verbaly' until it is closed. If I have anything to say I will say it in court or to lawyers, or in lefter form like this letter.

Sincerely, James E. Ray.

COPY:mls



VIE INTOLLIABILITI COMINIMED

NW 65994-Doold:32989731-Page-179

FILED. . . . . . . . . . . . الخير فأفقي فللمرجل المخاجي الخبايات 2275 19/30/20 Explusain

NW 65994 Docld:32989731 Page 174

Sister Pivo Ill just winter a sheet letter to let you someweything is olively on still going weeft and sleeping & y her a dip. Levy is coming clinion shortly but amgoing To have him want entil I see you open, serve I won't to give him them propers also if you have one of then block power of attemps went him to howe one of them. I will close for now.

NW 65994 Docld:32989731 Page 175

─NW-65994─Docld:<del>3298973</del>1—Page-176

 $(\hat{\cdot}, \hat{\cdot}, \hat{\cdot})$ Three; 2, Janu E. By in tor, Sur not purmup receil, They only reason for bringing the africation fronts
The allowing of the court in the a week respection, on the person of the proceeding a function of the proceeding a function of the form any source to on It- police depole pelition voca the word assist, as I lovely request. The court, that I be personly present at Its, levery, and It assist court appointed course so that their however To assist court appointed court Respectfully nes Earl Py Machalle, Tenn. 37605. J. A. BLACKYELL, CLERK
BY MARKET MICED. aucho. o.

mail of the contract of the co			
	AIRCRAFT-AUTOMOTIVE AEROMARINE	SUPPLY CO.	UN
	MARINE-SPORTING GOODS 5701 BIRMINGHAM AIRP	ORT HIGHWAY : INVOICE	251 A
	TARIO di SOTI GLES	7/2	.0
	10 ARYEY COMMEYER	DATE TO S	968
	ADDRESS JOJ-SAJITH ST. 15	It Am It IA	
	GEDER NUMBEL PHONE O WIRE O LETTER PICK UP TO	NAME: SALESMAN SALESMAN	
	QUANTITY PART NUMBER SOLE DESCRIPTION		OTAL
	1 175111# 757A REM N	100 700	C
D and Remarks	PUMP ACTIONS 1 1 RIFL	E. CAL.	· ·
Z. nonthanna	243 NIN. SN	20000 401476 13	495
8	1 2X-7X REDEVEL SCOPE	9450 7	460
y	1 - TR 700 BASE TO DIC RENCE	r. 2390 . 2	0 32
	1 Box 243 CALL		465
a management of		(23	452
	1/ Jan	***	
	- Horry		
			E 150-33
	- IF COPER IS GIVEN IN PULL ON PART PARNERY FOR THIS INVOICE, TITLE SHALL BEHALE B. CLEARS DADE IN WHICH DRAWN, AT THE OFFICE OF THE SELLES.	TAX 14	407
	RECEIVED BY	-TOTAL 9_	159
	MERCHANDISE CANNOT BE RETURNED FOR CREDIT, REFUND OR EXCHANGE AFTER PURCHASE INVOICE MUST ACCOMPANY ALL RETURNS.	10 DAYS FROM SALE DATE :	
1	ار اور اور اور اور اور اور اور اور اور ا		
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			

NW 65994 Docld:32989731 Page 178 .



die teil fra december

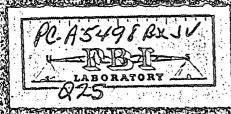
APR 4

5015516H

THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF TH

083 S 041.55 (1)

A TAN CARE TO A CARE



YORK ARMS CO.

Quality being equal
Our prices ero as low es
you will find alsewhere

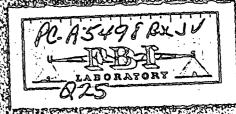
APR 4

-083 \$ 041.55CH

Beturn in Case of Urroe or Dichange

-087 \$ 04155CH

BRIOT OF SICHANDS



MW 65994 Docid: 329898314 Page 100 20 Carry

Your File No. 44-1987 FBI File No. 44-38861 Latent Case No. 91075 April 24, 1968

RE: JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #405942G

Latent fingerprint previously reported on the Remington model 760 rifle, serial #461476, Q2; the latent finger-print on the telescopic sight, serial #A17350, on the rifle, Q2; latent fingerprint on the binoculars, Q14; the latent fingerprint on the newspaper, Q19; the latent fingerprint on the after shave lotion bottle, part of Q24; and the latent fingerprint on the Schlitz beer can, Q53, have all been identified with the fingerprints of James Earl Ray.

1: ,;

JAcks Atlant Name	ia, Georgia	126 / 1968
Addr	• ,	. 11.31.
Sour		management & Chipmen
	a a l	. 71
ૂ. જી .		-/ J 1
मुख्या	DESCRIPTION	H - PRICE
-100	3-PC SUIT	
	2-PC. SUIT -	
7	COATS BURY C.R.	1.5
7	TROUSERS KLLLI	7.13
	OVERCOÁTS	
	SHIRTS .	
7	TIES, B. R. W/ Law 91	020 STF 25
7	JACKETS /	-
	-	
	DRESSES	1/515
	BELTS	1,
	SKIRTS	
	BLOUSES	
	SUITS	
	COATS	
	SWEATERS .	
·	BLANKETS	' <u>-</u>
	RETURN T. \$195	1/4/
•	verouse or 25 ·	<b>?</b>
*		
.*	्राह्म कुरुक्त के किस्सार के किस् किस्सार के किस्सार के किस्सार के किस्सार के किस्सार के किस्सार के किस्सार के किससार के किससार के किससार के कि	المناهدة
		10 10

Armed and Dangerous

		1. N.	٠.		,	•		
	<b>.</b>	PIĘDM	ŲN'	Ļ,	LAU!	NDR	Y/0	<b>y</b>
,	JAc	kson 5-8393	'Atlanta,	Ga.	<u> </u>	<u> (E)                                   </u>	18(2)	
,	Nam		REFI	2	Jack			
		SOURCE .	MARK		MARKER I	- LOT 1	PIN NO.	
<b>[</b> [	T	23 2	HA	5/	A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A	110	PAN NO.	,
ij	=)-	( <u>)</u> (2)(1)	×. / • • •	<u></u>	$\stackrel{\checkmark}{\leftarrow}$	<del></del>		•
3		HR ( ) O STARCH (	RE RE	G	<b></b>	TWI	FS	-
		LT. STARCH [	<u>ئ</u> 01	N HA	INGERS [	$\neg$ $l'$	クーゴロ	
	,	HVY. STAR			UFF DRY	口次	CREE (	7
_	2	Shirts (2-B)			Dresses		<u></u>	
ب	2	Drawers 2		-6	- - -		<u>;}</u>	
4	2	Undershirts L		-177		400		
سسر		Pajamas		1	Slips			
		Union Suits			Gowas .			
	<u>/_</u>	Sox Pr.			Slocks			
1		Handkerchiels			House Coa	ts		
	,	Polo Shirts			Uniforms		11	
		Shorts			<b>Belts</b>		110	
		Pants				/	1/	
		Còat						
		Jackels			MO_	<u> </u>	21.6°	7
		Overail Comb.	لروب			<del> </del>		•
		Bath Pobes			* C./	ald	10-06-	
1	ш,	Both Towels			· - /-		<u> </u>	
	_/_	Was /	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Serrice Co	7-2	102	
	-	Laundry Lag		<b>L</b>	To ar Car	1-11-5	<u> </u>	
-		Hand to vis	المستورة ويستو		Tolar Core	2	1	
•		Sheels 12 marin	(x: -33:4				-	
		Dilland Cares	1"		707	AT TO	1	

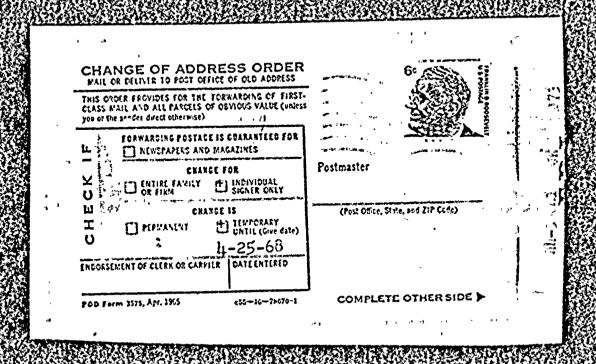
STARCH

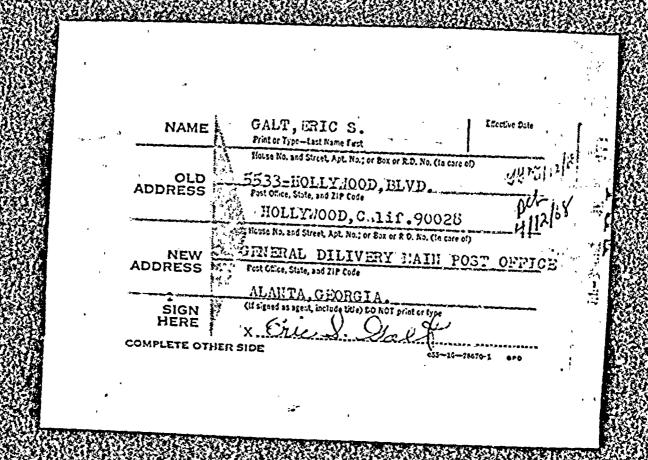
NAME FOR THE STOE

NAME FOR THE STOE AND STORES AND STORES OF THE STORES

CHANGE OF ADDRESS ORDER MAIL OR ELECTION FOR FOUND FOR THE FORWARDING OF FIRST-CLASS WALL AND ALL PARCELS OF OBVIOUS VALUE (UNIESS SCION THE S. OF OBJECT CHAIRS OF OBJECTS OF O		· 1
FORWARDING POSTAGE IS CHARACTED FOR LA ALASPAPERS AND MAGAZINES  CHARGE FOR  LATIRE FAVILY A INCIVIDUAL CONFIRM  CHARGE IS  CHARGE IS  LATIN CHARGE IS  CHARGE IS  LATIN CONFIRM  LATIN CO	Postmaster  strost Office, State, and Ziff Cores	产任业
POD Form 3575, Apr. 1965 e55-26-74670 f	COMPLETE OTHER SIDE >	

20090731 Page 184

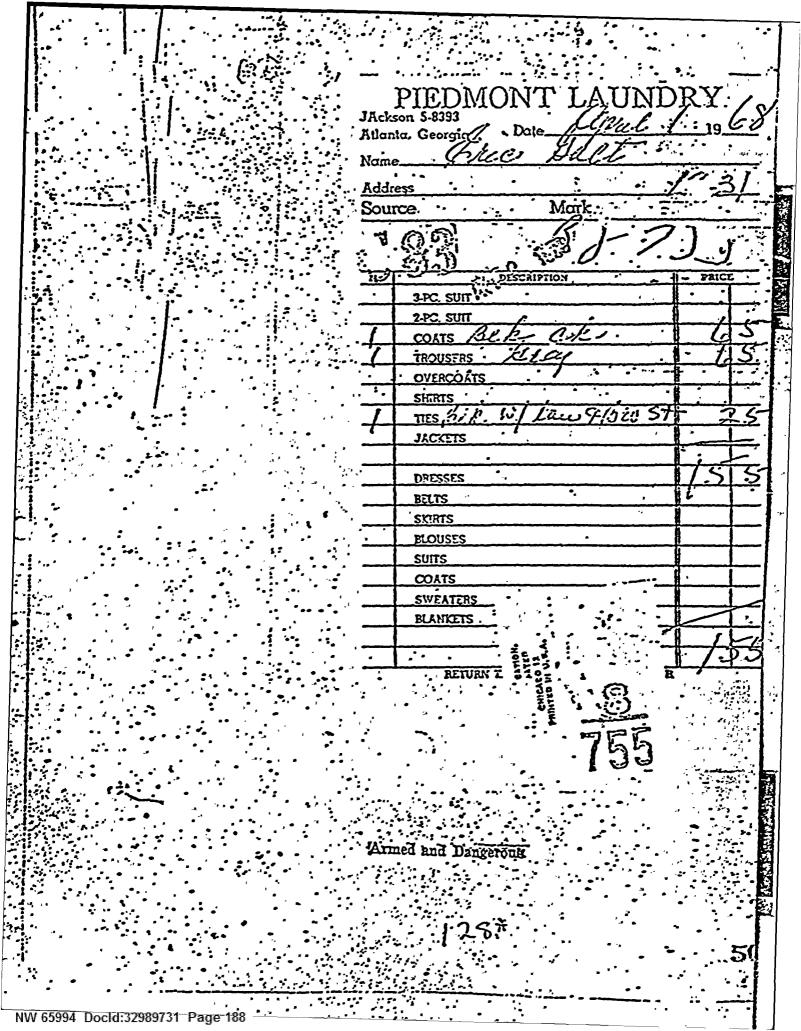


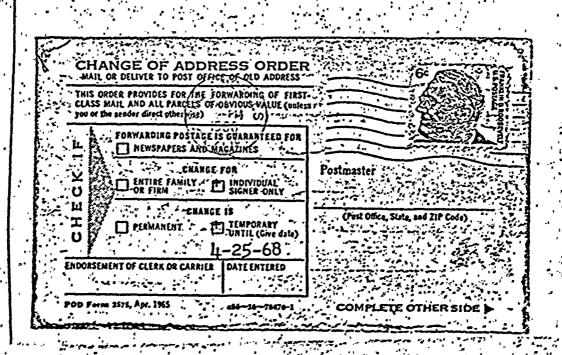


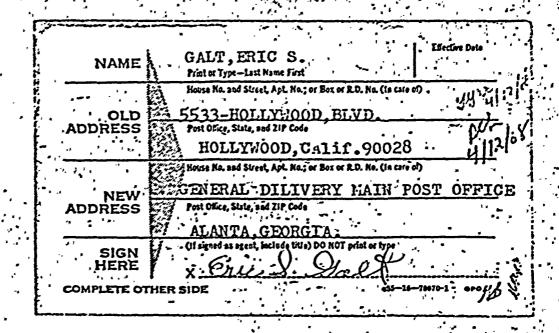
TO STATE A CONTINUES OF THE SEASON STATES AND SEASON SEASO

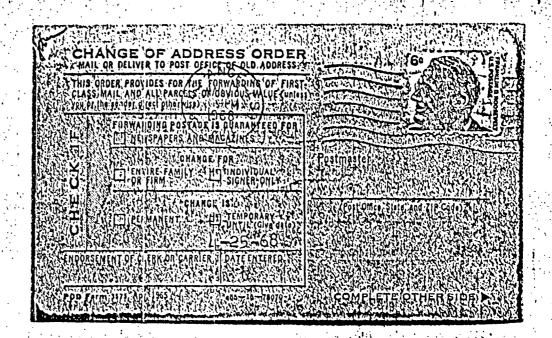
From Haves Fileoriginal in contil possession

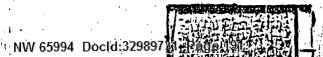
	* * * *
FLAMINGO MOTEL.	
Selma, Alabama  Selma, Alabama  8.00  Date Mulu 22-68 Room No. 3 \$ 32	,
Name Fru S. Galt 8.32	B
Street 260 8-Highlind one City Bermington:	1
Make of Car Muetry State alsoming	* *
License No. 138 49 3	# ## # ## ##

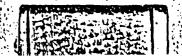












the first facilities are recognificant division for the first facilities.	
	SECOND DATE OF THE PARTY DATE AND THE PARTY OF THE PARTY
NAME A CALT, ERIO S N	
SALES NAME BASIS AND STRUCK TO SALES	
FOR ASSESSMENT SAND SERVICE TO THE SECTION OF THE WASHINGTON TO THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY O	WHEN THE WASHINGTON TO SELECT THE TANK THE PROPERTY OF THE PRO
	or R.D. No. (in care of)
	REAL RESOLUTION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERT
OLD 5533-HOMEYWOOD	arter and activity of the state
	A TOTAL SECTION OF THE PARTY OF
ADDRESS Pool Office State and all Cook (18)	TANKE CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPER
ADDRESS POLOMO Sole and IP code (1) HOLLYWOOD TAIL	10.90028
	A STATE OF THE STA
House Ho, and Suger Ho. on and Suger Apt. No.; of Box	or R.D. No. sin care of the state of the
到4000000000000000000000000000000000000	Although the control of the control
NEW TO LETTER YOUR PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY OF	YAMAINA POSTA OFFICE
CADDRESS POLOMO SING IN AIP COURS	
	1270203000000000000000000000000000000000
DATANDA GEORGTA	
	SCHOOL STORY STORY STORY
Section of the sectio	
。 11. 12. 12. 12. 12. 12. 12. 12. 12. 12.	MAN AND THE RESERVEN
EL COMPLETE OTHER BIDE THE ANDREAS	101 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
P. COMPLITE OTHER BIDE (1)	MANUEL TO SEASON OF THE PARTY O
	<b>医结合性的变形的位置性,这种种种种种种种种种种种种种种种种种种种种种种种种种种种种种种种种种种种种</b>



## REGISTRATION CARD

NOTICE TO GUESTS: — This property is privately award and management reserves right to refuse service to cayone, and will not be responsible for accidents or injury to quests or for loss of money, jewelry or valuables of any kind.

## RENTAL PAYABLE IN ADVANCE

		-	-
NAME ETTE	I Ine	t	, u
STREET 2608 +	lighten	ا متد	
CHY Birmingl	<i>√</i> Si	TATE Olobas	<u></u>
REPRESENTING	American Black Recipies (	a., 226-232 W. Octaria St., C	Jeses 10, 1M
34 6.24	38993	a De	
41468 79	NO. SH PARTY PLEA	7 mist	CAR
REMARKS HD	•	`	

1 270/1, E.S. 1 34				
ARRIVE	DEPART	6.24		
DATE 5	44			
CAPE 614				
PHONE				
LONG DIE.	<del></del>	<del> - - - - </del>		
MISG.				
TELEG.			<del>- - - </del> .	
TOYAL				
CR. CASH				
CS, ALLOW,				

m 1172-90-1103

---- Dane 19