JN 157-9586

been involved in Klan activities for many years and due to past action, has a propensity for violence.

## LEADS:

## BIRMINGHAM

## AT BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

Should immediately exhibit photographs to employees of hardware store where weapon purchased.

## **MEMPHIS**

## AT MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

Memphis previously furnished photographs to exhibit to appropriate persons.

## FBI JKSN MISS 41 5CAF FBI MEMPHIS 2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FBI WASH DC

FBI JKSN MISS

413PM DEFERRED 4-6-68 JKK

TO DIRECTOR AND MEMPHIS

FROM JACKSON (157-9586)

ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.;

RM.

RE JACKSON PHONE CALL TO MEMPHIS THIS DATE.

ANDREW JAFFE, REPORTER, NEWSWEEK MAGAZINE, TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED SAC, JACKSON, TWO P.M., THIS DATE. STATED HE WAS CALLING FROM MEMPHIS AND DESIRED TO FURNISH THE FOLLOWING:

WHILE COVERING STORY ON KING'S DEATH, RECEIVED INFORMATION
FROM NEWS FRIENDS, NAMES NOT RECALLED AT TIME, THAT A WHITE MUSTANG
WAS SEEN IN CLOSE PROXIMITY WHERE INCIDENT OCCURRED APRIL FOUR, LAST.
AN INDIVIDUAL WAS OBSERVED IN MUSTANG SPEAKING INTO CB MICROPHONE.
LICENSE NUMBER ON WHITE MUSTANG WAS SHELBY CO. B (2) FOUR FOUR
SEVEN OR FOUR FOUR FOUR EIGHT.

ABOVE WAS IMMEDIATELY TELEPHONICALLY FURNISHED TO MEMPHIS
FOR INVESTIGATIVE ASSISTANCE.

END

GFH

FBI WASH DC

157-9586-35 Indexed 19

## FBI

		Date: 4/6/68	
ransmit ti	ne following in _	PLAINTEXT	
'ia	TELETYPE	(Type in plaintext or code)  IFFGENT De Levre S  (Priority)	
	то:	DIRECTOR AND MEMPHIS	
		JACKSON (157-9586)	
		ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.;	
	RM.		
	O Qu	RE JACKSON PHONE CALL TO MEMPHIS, THIS DATE.	
	mar	ANDREW JAFFE, REPORTER, NEWSWEEK MAGAZINE,	
	TELEPHONI	CALLY CONTACTED SAC, JACKSON, TWO P.M., THIS	
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	TIME, THA	T A WHITE MUSTANG WAS SEEN IN CLOSE PROXIMITY	
	WHERE INC	IDENT OCCURRED APRIL FOUR, LAST. AN INDIVIDUAL	4
	WAS OBSER	VED IN MUSTANG SPEAKING INTO CB MICROPHONE.	
	LICENSE N	UMBER ON WHITE MUSTANG WAS SHELBY CO. B (?)	
	FOUR FOUR	FOUR SEVEN OR FOUR FOUR EIGHT.	6.3
	/	ABOVE WAS IMMEDIATELY TELEPHONICALLY FURNISHED	
L		S FOR INVESTIGATIVE ASSISTANCE Indexed END	
Appro			

ORIGINAL

TELETYPE

URGENT

PLAINTEXT

TO DIRECTOR, BIRMINGHAM, AND MEMPHIS FROM JACKSON (157-9586)

4-5-68

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING. JR. RM.

RE ME PHONE CALL THIS DATE.

MEMPHIS ADVISED BY PHONE THIS DATE THAT SUSPECT WHILE RUNNING FROM ROOMING HOUSE ACROSS FROM LORRAINE HOTEL MEMPHIS, AFTER KING WAS SHOT DROPPED BAG AND WEAPON. SOME ITEMS IN BAG WERE HEAD AND SHOULDERS SHAMPOO TICKET NUMBER ONE SIX SEVEN EIGHT WITH PRICE ONE DOLLAR TEN CENTS AND PALMOLIVE RAPID SHAVE TICKET NUMBER THREE FOUR FIVE EIGHT WITH PRICE SEVENTY NINE CENTS. NO DATES ON TICKETS OR CITY AND STATE LISTED. PURCHASED LIGGETT REXALL PHARMACY. MEMPHIS ADVISED THERE IS LIGGETT REXALL IN COLUMBUS. MISS.

TOMMY HARROLSON, OWNER G & H LIGGETT REXALL, COLUMBUS, MISS., ADVISED TODAY ALL CASH REGISTER RECEIPTS FROM HIS STORE BEAR TITLE "G & H REXALL DRUG, COLUMBUS, MISS"; FOLLOWING TITLE IS DATE OF PURCHASE, AMOUNT OF PURCHASE; SACKS FOR PURCHASES DO NOT BEAR STORE'S NAME.

HARROLSON ADVISED HIS STORE IS ONLY LIGGETT DRUGS IN MISSISSIPPI;
OTHER STORES LOCATED PREDOMINENTLY IN ALABAMA AND IN GEORGIA AND FLA.
END PAGE ONE

TF/REM

APPROVE

NA 91436

SENT. NE. 9.49 P. PER. Allan

Serializad

Filed

157-9586-36

### PAGE TWO

HARROLSON AND OTHER STORE EMPLOYEES CANNOT RECALL ANY ONE FITTING DESCRIPTION OF KING ASSASSIN HAVING MADE PURCHASES OF ITEMS RECOVERED BY MEMPHIS. NO MOTELS OR SERVICE STATIONS LOCATED NEAR VICINITY OF H HARROLSON'S STORE.

LOCAL HARDWARE STORE OWNER, COLUMBUS ADVISED NO COMPAGE OR RAMPAGE HARDWARE LOCATED IN OR NEAR COLUMBUS, MISS., OR KNOWN TO HIM. END

FBI WASH DC

FBI JKSN MISS

943 PM URGENT 4-5-68 REM

TO DIRECTOR, BIRMINGHAM, AND MEMPHIS

FROM JACKSON (157-9586)

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. RM.

RE ME PHONE CALL THIS DATE.

MEMPHIS ADVISED BY PHONE THIS DATE THAT SUSPECT WHILE RUNNING FROM ROOMING HOUSE ACROSS FROM LORRAINE HOTEL MEMPHIS, AFTER KING WAS SHOT DROPPED BAG AND WEAPON. SOME ITEMS IN BAG WERE HEAD AND SHOULDERS SHAMPOO TICKET NUMBER ONE SIX SEVEN EIGHT WITH PRICE ONE DOLLAR TEN CENTS AND PALMOLIVE RAPID SHAVE TICKET NUMBER THREE FOUR FIVE EIGHT WITH PRICE SEVENTY NINE CENTS. NO DATES ON TICKETS OR CITY AND STATE LISTED. PURCHASED LIGGETT REXALL PHARMACY. MEMPHIS ADVISED THERE IS LIGGETT REXALL IN COLUMBUS, MISS.

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HARROLSON ADVISED HIS STORE IS ONLY LIGGETT DRUGS IN MISSISSIPPI; OTHER STORES LOCATED PREDOMINENTLY IN ALABAMA AND IN GEORGIA AND FLA.

END PAGE ONE

Searched

FBI JEST MESS 949-TSJ FBI MEMPHIS 2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

## THE JKSH HESS -1020 2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

#### PAGE TWO

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LOCAL HARDWARE STORE OWNER, COLUMBUS ADVISED NO COMPAGE OR RAMPAGE HARDWARE LOCATED IN OR NEAR COLUMBUS, MISS., OR KNOWN TO HIM.

END

LCC

FBI WASH DC

SA JAMES F. BODMAN

ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -RM

The following is being furnished for information and evaluation:

On 4/5/68, CHARLES D. BARRENTINE, Barrentine Manufacturing Company, Lac., Greenwood, Miss., advised that BYRON DE LA BECKWITH is employed by that firm as a farm equipment and mapine salesman.

Mr. BARRENTINE advised that DE LA BECKWITH left the Greenwood area on March 30, 1968, for a selling trip through the Florida area. BARRENTINE stated that DE LA BEEKWITH is traveling in a Chevrolet pick-up truck bearing the name Barrentine Manufacturing Company on it. BARRENTINE stated that he received daily reports from DE LA BECKWITH and received one 4/5/68. postmarked Panama City, Florida. BARRENTINE stated that DE LA BECKWITH is probably working the area south of Tallahassee, Florida at the present time. BARRENTINE stated that DE LA BECKWITH only calls into the Greenwood office if a problem arises. MARRENTINE stated that he has not seen or talked to DE LA RECKWITH since about 6:30 P.M., 3/29/68, when DE LA BECKWITH was in Greenwood. BECKVITH advised that DE LA BECKVITH is not scheduled to return to Greenwood for another four weeks.

BARRENTINE stated he has no idea as to the specific location of DR LA BECKWITH at anytime during the selling trips.

2 - Jackson JFB/bjk (2) ege 157-9586-37 R- DD

#### JN 157-9586

It is to be noted that a black Ford Fairlane, 500, Miss. Lefbre Co. license N6446, registered to BYRON DE LA BECKWITH, 1001 Dewey Street, Greenwood, Miss., was observed at that address at 6:30 P.M., on 4/4/68.

PCI MURRY WEEKS (Jackson 137-710), advised on 4/4/68, that the car had been parked at that location since 4/28 or 29/68. WEEKS stated that DE LA BECKWITH maintains an apartment at that address.

A pretent call to a Mrs. WALTER PORTER at 1001 Deway Street, Greenwood, Miss., at 8:45 P.M., on 4/4/68, determined that DE LA BECKWITH had left his apartment for Florida on a business trip about one week previous and his apartment was unoccupied.

## LEAD:

## JACKSON DIVISION

Will maintain contact with BARRENTINE and review DE LA BECKWITH's daily report for 4/4/68, for pertinent period and set out lead to Florida.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10 MAY 1862 EDITION GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.5

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

DATE: 4/6/68

FROM : SA JAMES F. BODMAN

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF DR.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -

RM

The following is being furnished for information and evaluation:

On 4/5/68, CHARLES D. BARRENTINE, Barrentine Manufacturing Company, Inc., Greenwood, Miss., advised that BYRON DE IA BECKWITH is employed by that firm as a farm equipment and marine salesman.

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BARRENTINE stated he has no idea as to the specific location of DE LA BECKWITH at anytime during

the selling trips.

**② -** Jackson JFB/bjk (2)

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

JN 157-9586

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#### LEAD:

## JACKSON DIVISION

## AT GREENWOOD, MISSISSIPPI

Will maintain contact with BARRENTINE and review DE LA BECKWITH's daily report for 4/4/68 for pertinent period and set out lead to Florida.

450 CA F

FEI MEMPHIS

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

#### FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI JKSN MISS

447 PM URGENT 4-6-68 REM

TO BIRMINGHAM AND MEMPHIS

FROM JACKSON (157-9586)

ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.: RM.

EUGENE SMITH MANSFIELD, W/M, PDOB OCTOBER TWENTYTWO, THIRTYTWO, ELMORE CO., ALA., HEIGHT, FIVE FOOT, NINE INCHES, WEIGHT, ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY, HAIR BROWN, EYES BROWN, FBI NUMBER THREE ZERO TWO FOUR FIVE FIVE B, TUSCALOOSA CO., ALA., SO NUMBER ONE ZERO SEVEN SEVEN, AND ALLEGEDLY MEMBER UKA, INC., KLAVERN NUMBER FIVE, TUSCALOOSA, ALA., WAS KNOWN TO BE IN JACKSON, MISS., MARCH TWENTYTWO - TWENTYFOUR, SIXTYEIGHT, ALLEGEDLY TO HANDLE A "HIT" FOR L. E. MATTHEWS, PROVINCE GIANT, WKKKKOM. PRESENT WHEREABOUTS OF MANSFIELD NOT KNOWN TO JACKSON.

JACKSON PREVIOUSLY FURNISHED PHOTOS OF MANSFIELD TO MEMPHIS TO EXHIBIT IN CAPTIONED MATTER.

BIRMINGHAM, AT TUSCALOOSA, ALA. DETERMINE WHEREABOUTS OF MANSFIELD DURING PERTINENT PERIOD OF CAPTIONED MATTER.

END

JGA

FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI

Date: 4/6/68

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

URGENT TELETYPE (Priority)

> TO: BIRMINGHAM AND MEMPHIS

FROM: JACKSON (157-9586)

ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING,

JR.; RM.

EUGENE SMITH MANSFEELD, W/M, PDOB OCTOBER TWENTYTWO, THIRTYTWO, ELMORE CO., ALA., HEIGHT, FIVE FOOT, NINE INCHES, WEIGHT, ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY, HAIR BROWN, EYES BROWN, FBI NUMBER THREE ZERO TWO FOUR FIVE FIVE B. TUSCALOOSA CO., ALA., SO NUMBER ONE ZERO SEVEN SEVEN, AND ALLEGEDLY MEMBER UKA, INC., KLAVERN NUMBER FIVE, TUSCALOOSA, ALA., WAS KNOWN TO BE IN JACKSON, MISS., MARCH TWENTYTWO - TWENTYFOUR, SIXTYEIGHT, ALLEGEDLY TO HANDLE A "HIT" FOR L. E. MATTHEWS, PROVINCE GIANT, WKKKKOM. PRESENT WHEREABOUTS OF MANSFIELD NOT KNOWN TO JACKSON.

JACKSON PREVIOUSLY FURNISHED PHOTOS OF MANSFIELD TO MEMPHIS TO EXHIBIT IN CAPTIONED MATTER.

BIRMINGHAM, AT TUSCALOOSA, ALA. DETERMINE

(1) - Jackson BOK/bjk (1)4/c

Approved: \_

Sent 10 + 4:47 P M Per lem 157-9586-38

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_ Special Agent in Charge OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1982 EDITION
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.8
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

DATE: 4/6/68

FROM

SA THOMAS FITZPATRICK

SUBJECT:

ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN

LUTHER KING, JR. -

RM

(00: Memphis)

On 4/6/68, Mrs. GRACE ROSCHELLE (PI), 946 Myrtlewood Street, Jackson, a former neighborhood source of the Jackson Division, regarding Klansmen in the Myrtlewood Street vicinity, advised as follows:

She advised her husband, RAYMOND ROSCHELLE, had stopped at a truck stop in Brookhaven, Miss., managed or operated by a Mrs. MARTIN, on the late evening of 4/4/68, and overheard a conversation that one JESSE KIMBELL or KIMBALL, a white male, from Brookhaven, had been having in the truck stop. He said KIMBELL or KIMBALL, who appeared to have been drinking, said he had just arrived from Memphis, and said the man said something about KING's being shot and about a blanket muffling the shot from the assassin. KIMBELL or KIMBALL related information that the gun used had been bought at a Sears and Roebuck Store in Memphis, Tenn., on Jefferson or Poplar Street. KIMBELL or KIMBALL said he worked for a wholesale drug store or pharmaceutical company in Brookhaven.

Mr. ROSCHELLE told his wife that this individual was driving a late model white Chevrolet, but he could not obtain the license number. She said her husband did not want to be contacted by the FBI,

3 - Jackson TF/bjk (3)

SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED 1958

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

and that she wanted her identity protected concerning the above information. She said it could possibly have a bearing on the KING shooting. Mrs. ROSCHELLE said she does not have a telephone at her residence, but if necessary, can be recontacted at the home of a neighbor at telephone number 352--6010.

Jackson indices negative regarding JESSE KIMBELL or KIMBALL or KIMBLE.

#### LEADS:

## JACKSON

## AT BROOKHAVEN, MISSISSIPPI

Based on above information, and without disclosing source, attempt to interview KIMBELL or KIMBALL regarding activities evening of April 4, 1968, noting KING was assassinated at 6:03 P.M., on 4/4/68, as he stood on a second floor balcony at the Lorraine Hotel in Memphis. (For background information, the suspected assassin of KING ran from a flophouse across the street from the Lorraine Hotel, leaving a 30.06 Remington Rifle with a Redfield. He also dropped a small package of toliet articles which had apparently recently been purchased and which contained purchase slips showing they were bought at a Liggett-Rexall Drugs. These drugstores are located in Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and Florida; however, only one store in Columbus, Mississippi, exists in this State. Memphis has traced the 30.06 rifle to a store in Birmingham, Alabama where it was purchased on March 31, 1968.)

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10 MAY 1982 EDITION GSA FPMR (41 CFR) MI-11.6

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO

: SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

DATE: 4/6/68

FROM

SA THOMAS FITZPATRICK

SUBJECT:

ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -

RM

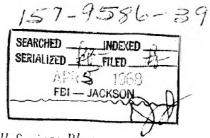
(00: Memphis)

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3 - Jackson TF/bjk (3)



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

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Jackson indices negative regarding JESSE KIMBELL or KIMBALL or KIMBLE.

## LEADS:

## JACKSON

## AT BROOKHAVEN, MISSISSIPPI

Based on above information, and without disclosing source, attempt to identify and interview KIMBELL or KIMBALL regarding activities evening of April 4, 1968, noting KING was assassinated at 6:03 P.M., on 4/4/68, as he stood on a second floor balcony at the Lorraine Hotel in Memphis. (For background information, the suspected assassin of KING ran from a flophouse across the street from the Lorraine Hotel, leaving a 30.06 Remington Rifle with a Redfield. He also dropped a small package of toliet articles which had apparently recently been purchased and which contained purchase slips showing they were bought at a Liggett-Rexall Drugs. These drugstores are located in Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and Florida; however, only one store in Columbus, Mississippi, exists in this State. Memphis has traced the 30.06 rifle to a store in Birmingham, Alabama where it was purchased on March 31, 1968.)

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10 MAY 1902 EDITION GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.8

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

DATE: 4/6/68

FROM

SA THOMAS FITZPATRICK

SUBJECT:

ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN

LUTHER KING, JR. -

RM

(00: Memphis)

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3 - Jackson TF/bjk

(3)

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

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#### LEADS:

#### JACKSON

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OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10 MAY 1962 EDITION GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO

SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

DATE: 4/6/68

FROM :

SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER (P)

SUBJECT:

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN

LUTHER KING, JR.

RM

At 3:28 P.M. SAC JENSEN, Memphis, telephonically advised that the bar of Cashmire Bouquet Soap found in the subject's bag contained a Friendship Inn wrapper. The SAC said a list was obtained of Friendship Inn Associated Motels in Mississippi and furnished same as follows:

Columbus Motel - Columbus (GORMAN advised 3:35 P.M.)

Southern Motel - Corinth (HONAN advised 3:45 P.M.)

Gilhara - Greenville (MEARNS advised 4:10 P.M.)

Naaman - Greenwood (BODMAN advised 4:17 P.M.)

Dumas - Hattiesburg

Townhouse - Tupelo (HONAN advised 3:45 P.M.)

Marshall Motel - West Point (GORMAN advised 3:35 P.M.)

SERIALIZED Z

Attempts to contact SA EDGAR L. FORTENBERRY and SA J. L. MARTIN negative at 4:35 P.M.

At 4:36 P.M. SA HONAN advised that Southern Motel in Corinth and the Townhouse at Tupelo were negative.

SAC JENSEN's instructions were to contact the above motels and check registrations for the period immediately prior to April 4, 1968, for the names JOHN WILLARD, HARVEY LOWMEYER, and WILLIAM J. LEHMEYER. LEHMEYER allegedly purchased airlines ticket from Birmingham to Minneapolis

on Monday, April 1, 1968. 1 - Jackson (157-9586)

JLP/bls

(1)

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



JN 157-9586

Resident Agents listed above were contacted at the time indicated and instructed to handle immediately.

Continued attempts are being made to contact Hattiesburg RAs.

FBI

Date: 4-6-68

Transmit the following in -

(Type in plaintext or code)

TELETYPE Via

PLAIN TEXT

(Priority)

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS

FROM: SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., RM. RETELCALL SAC JENSEN, MEMPHIS, APRIL SIX INSTANT. THE FOLLOWING MOTELS AFFILIATED WITH FRIENDSHIP INN CHECKED THIS DATE FOR PERIOD IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO APRIL FOUR LAST FOR NAMES OF JOHN WILLARD, HARVEY LOWMEYER AND WILLIAM J. LEHMEYER, WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS: COLUMBUS MOTEL, COLUMBUS, SOUTHERN MOTEL, CORINTH, GILHARA MOTEL, GREENVILLE, NAAMAN MOTEL, GREENWOOD, DUMAS MOTEL, HATTIESBURG, TOWNHOUSE MOTEL, TUPELO, MARSHALL MOTEL, ALL MISSISSIPPI.

TBW

Approved: -

Special Agent in Charge

Sent 7:40g M Per Den

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI JKSN MISS

740 PM URGENT 4-6-68 REM

TO MEMPHIS

FROM JACKSON (157-9586)

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., RM.

RE TELCALL SAC JENSEN. MEMPHIS, APRIL SIX INSTANT.

THE FOLLOWING MOTELS AFFILIATED WITH FRIENDSHIP INN CHECKED
THIS DATE FOR PERIOD IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO APRIL FOUR LAST FOR
NAMES OF JOHN WILLARD, HARVEY LOWMEYER AND WILLIAM J. LEHMEYER, WITH
NEGATIVE RESULTS: COLUMBUS MOTEL, COLUMBUS, SOUTHERN MOTEL, CORINTH,
GILHARA MOTEL, GREENVILLE, NAAMAN MOTEL, GREENWOOD, DUMAS MOTEL,
HATTIESBURG, TOWNHOUSE MOTEL, TUPELO, MARSHALL MOTEL, ALL MISSISSIPPI.

EN D CA F

FBI MEMPHIS

Searched Serialized To 12xed To 12xed

FBI DENVER 647PM URGENT 4-6-68 JRW RO MEMPHIS AND JACKSON FROM DENVER 157-203

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. RACIAL MATTERS.

DOYLE MAY, SALES MANAGER JOHNNIE HARPER FORD, WHEATRIDGE,
COLORADO, ADVISED DRAWING OF ASSASSIN OF KING CLOSELY RESEMBLES ONE
BEN LYNN HART WHO RESIDES AT CANTON, MISSISSIPPI. HART DESCRIBED
AS WM, AGE THIRTYTWO, FIVE FEET TEN, ONE SEVENTY LBS., BLACK HAIR
WHICH IS RECEDING AND COMBED STRAIGHT BACK. HART IS SHARP DRESSER,
OWNED LOTS OF GUNS AND FORMERLY HAD A HARDWARE STORE BUT IS NOW A
FARMER. MAY STATES HART WAS ALWAYS ROUGH WITH NEGROES AND IS FORMER
KLANSMAN. JACKSON CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION.
END

REM

FBI JKSN MISS

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SERVINED A INDEXED FOR SERVINED DISTRICT OF STREET AND SERVINED ASSOCIATION OF THE SER

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FBI DENVER 647PM URGENT 4-6-68 JRW

RO MEMPHIS AND JACKSON .

FROM DENVER 157-203

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. RACIAL MATTERS.

DOYLE MAY, SALES MANAGER JOHNNIE HARPER FORD, WHEATRIDGE, COLORADO, ADVISED DRAWING OF ASSASSIN OF KING CLOSELY RESEMBLES ONE BEN LYNN HART WHO RESIDES AT CANTON, MISSISSIPPI. HART DESCRIBED AS WM, AGE THIRTYTWO, FIVE FEET TEN, ONE SEVENTY LBS., BLACK HAIR WHICH IS RECEDING AND COMBED STRAIGHT BACK. HART IS SHARP DRESSER, OWNED LOTS OF GUNS AND FORMERLY HAD A HARDWARE STORE BUT IS NOW A FARMER. MAY STATES HART WAS ALWAYS ROUGH WITH NEGROES AND IS FORMER KLANSMAN. JACKSON CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION.

REM

FBI JKSN MISS

FBI BIRMGHAM

923PM URGENT 4-6-68 HEP TO JACKSON AND MOBILE FROM BIRMINGHAM 1P

MURKIN

151

RE JACKSON TELEPHONE CALL TO BIRMINGHAM TODAY TO DETERMINE WHEREABOUTS JAMES MC KAY, BOMBING SUSPECT JACKSON DIVISION, AT SIX PM, APRIL FOUR, SIXTYEIGHT, AND BIRMINGHAM TELEPHONE CALL TO MOBILE TODAY.

INQUIRY INDICATES MC KAY WAS DIRECTED TO MOBILE, ALABAMA. MOBILE SHOULD CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION AS REQUESTED

IN REFERENCED TELEPHONE CALL.

END

REM FBI JKSN MISS

P

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	Employee	
	Location	

FBI BIRMGHAM

923PM URGENT 4-6+68 HEP TO JACKSON AND MOBILE FROM BIRMINGHAM IP

MURKIN

RE JACKSON TELEPHONE CALL TO BIRMINGHAM TODAY TO DETERMINE WHEREABOUTS JAMES MC KAY, BOMBING SUSPECT JACKSON DIVISION, AT SIX PM, APRIL FOUR, SIXTYEIGHT, AND BIRMINGHAM TELEPHONE CALL TO MOBILE TODAY.
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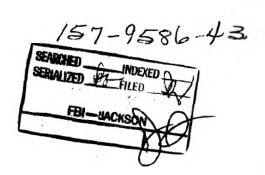
IN REFERENCED TELEPHONE CALL.

END

REM FBI JKSN MISS

P

100in 157-2866



26-3034 W, 1115 D. Rose

FBI MEMPHIS

454PM URGENI 4/7/68 CAF

TO DIRECTOR AND JACKSON

FROM MEMPHIS (44-1987) 1P

MURKIN.

87-185.34 1211 18 12 13 -24 KY

ROBERT GENTRY, SMYRNA, TENNESSEE, AN ADMITTED FORMER
MEMBER OF KKK, ADVISED APRIL SIX LAST THAT HE DESIRES REWARD
IN THIS CASE BUT WISHES HIS NAME BE KEPT STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.

GENTRY CLAIMS THAT ABOUT FOUR YEARS AGO HE KNEW ONE WILLIAM ROSE, WHITE MALE, TWENTYSEVEN TO THIRTY YEARS, FIVE FEET ELEVEN INCHES, ONE HUNDRED SIXTYFIVE POUNDS, STRAWBERRY BLOND HAIR, WHO WAS THEN EMPLOYED AS A MACHINIST AT GREENVILLE, MISSISSIPPI, AND RESIDED IN THAT CITY.

WILLAND, ALSO OF GREENVILLE. GENTRY BELIEVES ROSE AND WILLAND WERE BOTH KKK MEMBERS. GENTRY BELIEVES ROSE CAPABLE OF VIOLENCE AND BELIEVES POSSIBLE HE MAY HAVE MURDERED KING.

JACKSON ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY, LOCATE AND ELIMINATE WILLIAM

ROSE. P.

**END** 

REM

FBI JKSN MISS

**QLRP** 

1 1/68 Commander of 1/68 to 1/68

SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED FILED FROM

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FBI MEMPHIS

454PM URGENT 4/7/66 CAF

TO DIRECTOR AND JACKSON

FROM MEMPHIS (44-1987) IP

MURKIN.

ROBERT GENTRY, SMYRNA, TENNESSEE, AN ADMITTED FORMER MEMBER OF KKK, ADVISED APRIL SIX LAST THAT HE DESIRES REWARD IN THIS CASE BUT WISHES HIS NAME BE KEPT STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.

GENTRY CLAIMS THAT ABOUT FOUR YEARS AGO HE KNEW ONE WILLIAM POSE, WHITE MALE, TWENTYSEVEN TO THIRTY YEARS, FIVE FEET ELEVEN INCHES, ONE HUNDRED SIXTYFIVE POUNDS, STRAWBERRY BLOND HAIR, WHO WAS THEN EMPLOYED AS A MACHINIST AT GREENVILLE, MISSISSIPPI. AND RESIDED IN THAT CITY.

GENTRY CLAIMS ROSE OFTEN MENTIONED A FRIEND, (FNU)
WILLAND, ALSO OF GREENVILLE. GENTRY BELIEVES ROSE AND WILLAND
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VIOLENCE AND BELIEVES POSSIBLE HE MAY HAVE MURDERED KING.

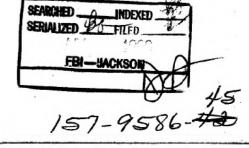
JACKSON ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY, LOCATE AND ELIMINATE WILLIAM ROSE. P.

END

REM

FBI JKSN MISS

CLRP



FBI SPRNGFLD
BI8PM URGENT 4-7-68 DJK
TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS, NEW ORLEANS AND JACKSON
FROM SPRINGFIELD (44-561) 3PP

#### MURKINN

ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS PD RECEIVED ANONYMOUS CALL APRIL SEVEN

INSTANT, INDIVIDUAL WEARING GOLD COLORED CLOTHING AT FORT ARMSTRONG HOTEL CARRYING GUNS OR SHOT AT SOMEONE OR HAD BEEN IN MEMPHIS WHEN VICTIM KILLED. THE COMMENTS NOT CLEAR. DETECTIVES LOCATED BILLY RAY KING AKA. WILLIAM, WHITE MALE, DOB:

ST. JOSEPH, LOUISIANA, SIX FEET ONE, ONE EIGHTYFIVE LBS., DARK BROWN CURLY HAIR, BLUE EYES, TATTOO DEVILS HEAD RIGHT FOREARM, "MARGE" AND SMALL HEART UPPER RIGHT ARM, "GLENDA" LEFT UPPER ARM, SIX INCH AREA ACID BURN LEFT FOREARM. PHOTOS AND MAJOR CASE PRINTS OBTAINED.

KING INTERVIEWED, STATES EMPLOYED WITH KGW TOWING COMPANY,
GREENVILLE, MISS. LEFT HIS HOME ONE ZERO TWO ARLINGTON, LAKE
PROVIDENCE, LOUISIANA AROUND NOON APRIL FOUR LAST, WHERE HE RESIDES
WITH MOTHER GERTRUDE FRITH, VIA TRAILWAY BUS TO MEMPHIS, TENN.
ARRIVING MEMPHIS LATE AFTERNOON. AFTER ARRIVAL PLOT BROKE OUT
WHILE HE WAS IN BUS STATION THREE OR FOUR BLACKS FROM LORRAINE

END PAGE ONE

MOTEL. KING ADMITTED HE HAD STAYED AT LORRAINE IN PAST. BECAUSE OF RIOTS NOONE COULD LEAVE BUS DEPOT WHERE HE STAYED ALL NIGHT.

EARLY AM APRIL FIVE LAST BEFORE DAYBREAK HE TOOK TAXI TO AIRPORT.

HE HAD IN HIS POSSESSION PLANE TICKET WHICH HE CLAIMS GIVEN TO HIM BY KGW COMPANY FOR FLIGHT FROM GREENVILLE, MISS., TO ST. LOUIS AND QUINCY, ILLINOIS, DATED APRIL FIVE LAST. CLAIMS HE WAS TO BOARD HIS TOWBOAT, "GEORGE WEATHERS" AT QUINCY. WHEN ALL PLANE RESERVATIONS FILLED IN GREENVILLE, HE THEN TOOK ABOVE BUS TO MEMPHIS. ALSO AT MEMPHIS AIRPORT PLANES ALL FULL AND HE THEN CALLED JERRY WILSON, KGW CO., GREENVILLE, MISS., WHO INSTRUCTED HE TAKE BUS TO QUINCY.

KING RETURNED TO MEMPHIS BY TAXI AND TOOK BUS TO ST. LOUIS AND QUINCY, ILLINOIS. HE MISSED TOWBOAT WHICH HAD PASSED AND HE THEN CAME TO ROCK ISLAND.

KING ADMITS OWNERSHIP SIXTYSEVEN BLUE MUSTANG WHICH CAR AS AT HIS HOME AND PAPERS FOR CAR IN NAME OF FRIEND, TRAVIS SKEFFIELD, ALTHOUGH HE IS PAYING FOR CAR. KING DENIES KILLING MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., OR KNOWLEDGE OF SAME. ALSO DENIES MEMBERSHIP KKK BUT HASTILY ADDED TO THESE QUESTIONS "EVEN IF HE DID HE WOULD NOT END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

ADMIT IT."

NO CHARGES FILED BY ROCK ISLAND PD. KING WILL BOARD TOWBOAT AT MIDNIGHT INSTANT DATE AT ROCK ISLAND.

PHOTOS BEING MAILED DIRECTLY TO MEMPHIS AND PRINTS DIRECTLY TO BUREAU.

JACKSON VERIFY FACTS AT KGW COMPANY AND INTERVIEW JERRY WILSON FOR ALL DETAILS INCLUDING DESTINATION TOWBOAT.

NEW ORLEANS INTERVIEW MOTHER FOR ALL PERTINENT FACTS. VERIFY OWNERSHIP, DESCRIPTION AND PRESENCE OF CAR.

MEMPHIS DISPLAY PHOTOS TO WITNESSES.

CORR: A CAPTION SH

FBI JKSN MISS

CASE PRINTS OBTAINED.

FBI SPRNGFLD

818PM URGENT 4-7-68 DJK

TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS, NEW ORLEANS AND JACKSON

FROM SPRINGFIELD (44-561) 3PP

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INSTANT, INDIVIDUAL WEARING GOLD COLORED CLOTHING AT FORT ARMSTRONG
HOTEL CARRYING GUNS OR SHOT AT SOMEONE OR HAD BEEN IN MEMPHIS WHEN
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UPPER ARM, SIX INCH AREA ACID BURN LEFT FOREARM. PHOTOS AND MAJOR

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ARRIVING MEMPHIS LATE AFTERNOON. AFTER ARRIVAL RIOT BROKE OUT
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END PAGE ONE

SERIALIZED PROTECTION SERIALIZED SERIALIZED

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FOR ALL DETAILS INCLUDING DESTINATION TOWBOAT.

NEW ORLEANS INTERVIEW MOTHER FOR ALL PERTINENT FACTS. VERIFY

OWNERSHIP, DESCRIPTION AND PRESENCE OF CAR.

MEMPHIS DISPLAY PHOTOS TO WITNESSES.

CORR: A CAPTION SH

FBI

Date: 4/7/68

Trans	mit the following in		
		(Type in plaintex	t or code)
Via_	TELETYPE	URG	ENT
		(Priority)	

TO: MEMPHIS and INDIANAPOLIS

FROM:

JACKSON (157-9586)

MURKIN

ANNONYMOUS CALL RECEIVED THIS DATE FROM ASSUMED NEGRO MALE, STATING WAS CALLING FOR FRIEND WHO HAD OVERHEARD TELEPHONE CONVERSATION ON PARTY LINE. CALL ALLEGLY MADE FROM JACKSON TO INDIANA AREA CODE THREE ONE SEVEN TWO EIGHT TWO THREE NINE DERO ONE.

ALLEGED CONVERSATION TO EFFECT THAT CALLER HAD LEFT MEMPHIS APRIL FOUR LAST AND HAD TRAVELED TO GULFPORT, MISS. WHERE CALLER HAD GOTTEN RID OF VEHICLE TRAVELING IN, AND HAD RENTED LODGING. THE WORD "KING" WAS MENTIONED SEVERAL TIMES DURING CONVERSATION. ANNONYMOUS CALLER STATED FRIEND WOULD NOT IDENTIFY SELF TO FBI. AS FEARED FOR SAFETY.

INDIANAPOLIS DETERMINE SUBSCRIBER TO TELEPHONE NUMBER TWO EIGHT TWO THREE NINE ZERO ONE AND INTERVIEW RE CAPTIONED MATTER.

Approved:

Special Agent in Charge

# FBI JKSN MISS 41 5EXS FBI INDAPOLS

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI JKSN MISS

405 PM URGENT 4-7-68 REM

TO MEMPHIS AND INDIANAPOLIS

FROM JACKSON (157-9586)

MURKIN

ANNONYMOUS CALL RECEIVED THIS DATE FROM ASSUMED NEGRO MALE,
STATING WAS CALLING FOR FRIEND WHO HAD OVERHEARD TELEPHONE CONVERSATION
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INDIANAPOLIS DETERMINE SUBSCRIBER TO TELEPHONE NUMBER TWO EIGHT TWO THREE NINE ZERO ONE AND INTERVIEW RE CAPTIONED MATTER.

END

CA F

FBI MEMPHIS

157-9586-49

ORIGINAL

TELETYPE

URGENT

PLAINTEXT

TO MEMPHIS

FROM JACKSON (157-9586)

MURKIN

MRS. GRACE ROSCHELLE, NINE FOUR SIX MYRTLEWOOD, JACKSON,
ON APRIL SIX, LAST, ADVISED SHE AND HUSBAND STOPPED AT TRUCK
STOP, BROOKHAVEN, MISS. NIGHT OF ABRIL FOUR, LAST, AND HEARD
WHITE MALE IDENTIFIED AS JESSIE KIMBLE (PH) STATE JUST ARRIVED
FROM MEMPHIS WHERE HAD HEARD A BLANKET WAS USED TO MUFFLE SOUND
OF RIFLE RIFE. SAID RIFLE PURCHASED AT SEARS STORE ON
JEFFERSON OR POPLAR ST. IN MEMPHIS.

ROSCHELLE ADVISED KIMBLE STATED EMPLOYED AS WHOLESALE DRUG SALESMAN.

MRS. GRADY MARTIN, JR., OWNER OF "THE CHEF CAFE" ON APRIL
SEVEN, INSTANT, ADVISED FOUR TO SIX PEOPLE IN CAFE THRUSDAY
NIGHT, FOUR FOUR, LAST, WHO SAID THEY WERE IN MEMPHIS WHEN KING
KILLED. CAN NOT REMEMBER WHO THEY WERE BUT DOES RECALL A
MAN MAKING A STATEMENT ABOUT BLANKET BEING USED TO MUFFLE RIFLE
SHOT AND RIFLE LATER BEING THROWN IN A STORE WHERE THEY KEEP JUKE

BOXES.

END PAGE ONE

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MARTIN UNABLE FURNISH INFORMATION RE MADE ABOVE STATEMENT OR WHO IN CAFE WHEN STATEMENT MADE THRUSDAY NIGHT.

 REVIEW OR LICENSE REGISTRATIONS LINCOLN COUNTY, MISS. RE JESSIE KIMBLE. NEGATIVE.

CANVAS OF BROOKHAVEN PD AND LINCOLN COUNTY SO, NEGATIVE.

ERNEST WILSON, MC COMB, MISS., WHO TRAVELES IN EIGHT SOUTH WEST MISS. COUNTIES FOR DRUG COMPANY ADVISED THERE IS NO JESSIE KIMBLE (PH) WHO WORKS FOR PHARMACEUTKAL OR DRUG COMPANY IN HIS EIGHT COUNTIES.

INVESTIGATION CONTINUING.

END

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI JKSN MISS
427 PM URGENT 4-7-68 KCH
TO MEMPHIS
FROM JACKSON (157-9586)
MURKIN

MRS. GRACE ROSCHELLE, NINE FOUR SIX MYRTLEWOOD, JACKSON, ON APRIL SIX, LAST, ADVISED SHE AND HUSBAND STOPPED AT TRUCK STOP, BROOKHAVEN, MISS. NIGHT OF APRIL FOUR, LAST, AND HEARD WHITE MALE IDENTIFIED AS JESSIE KIMBLE (PH) STATE JUST ARRIVED FROM MEMPHIS WHERE HAD HEARD A BLANKET WAS USED TO MUFFLE SOUND OF RIFLE FIFE. SAID RIFLE PURCHASED AT SEARS STORE ON JEFFERSON OR POPLAR ST. IN MEMPHIS.

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SHOT AND RIFLE LATER BEING THROWN IN A STORE WHERE THEY KEEP JUKE

BOXES.

END PAGE ONE

157-9586-48

MARTIN UNABLE FURNISH INFORMATION RE MADE ABOVE STATEMENT OR WHO IN CAFE WHEN STATEMENT MADE THRUSDAY NIGHT.

REVIEW OR LICENSE REGISTRATIONS LINCOLN COUNTY, MISS. REJESSIE KIMBLE. NEGATIVE.

CANVAS OF BROOKHAVEN PD AND LINCOLN COUNTY SO, NEGATIVE.

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INVESTIGATION CONTINUING.

CORR. PAGE ONE LINE SIX WORD THREE "FIRE" PAGE ONE LINE TWO PARA THREE "THURSDAY"

ENDDND

FBI MEMPHIS

Ρ

F

### FBI JKSN MISS

FBI MILWAUK

841PM IMMEDIATE 4/7/68 PJR

TO MEMPHIS, BIRMINGHAM AND JACKSON
FROM MILWAUKEE (44-388)

MURKIN: CR. OO MEMPHIS.

JOHN BREMPELL, STANDARD SERVICE STATION ATTENDANT, TWO
SEVEN ZERO FIVE W. CLYBOURN, TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED THAT MAN
ANSWERING NEWSPAPER DESCRIPTION AND ARTIST'S CONCEPTION OF
UNSUB APPEARED AT ABOVE STATION AT SEVEN FORTY PM TODAY DRIVING
LIGHT BLUE SIXTYSIX OR SIXTYSEVEN FORD BEARING MISSISSIPPI
LICENSE TWO F F FIVE ONE FIVE. BREMPELL DESCRIBED DRIVER AS
WM, TWENTYSEVEN TO THIRTY, SIX FEET, ONE SIX ZERO LBS., LONG
NOSE AND CHIN, SANDY HAIR, DRESSED COWBOY BOOTS, BLUE JEANS,
CHECKERED COAT.

F

## FBI JKSN MISS

FBI MILWAUK

841PM IMMEDIATE 4/7/68 PJR

TO MEMPHIS, BIRMINGHAM AND JACKSON
FROM MILWAUKEE (44-388)

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JACKSON IMMEDIATELY CONDUCT LICENSE CHECK, DETERMINE IF SIGNIFICANT AND FURNISH PERTINENT DATA TO INTERESTED OFFICES. P.

END

REM

FBI JKSN MISS

TUP

