

U. S. Department of Justice

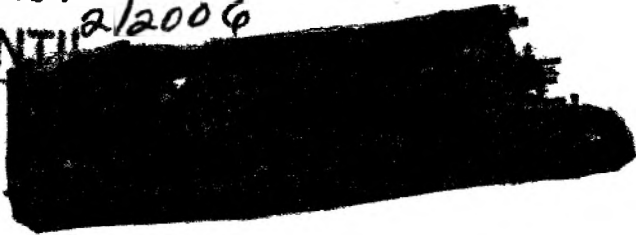
(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

F. O. I. P. A.
REQUEST

DO NOT DESTROY UNTIL 1-27-83

FEDERAL BUREAU
REQUEST Ser 190-JN-26834

DO NOT DESTROY UNTIL 2/2006



INVESTIGATION

Bureau File Number 44-38861

FOI/PA
DO NOT DESTROY SERIAL 423
PRIOR TO 6/2005
FILE 190-JN-26213

See also Nos. 157-9586-541 Newspapers
157-9586-542 Orig 302's
Separate 1A Vol-

CLASSIFICATION NO.
157-9586

Volume Number 9
Serials 410-453

Quaddler 4-5-68

SHAW-WALKER 16-32850

Date received 4/9/68	Received from (name or symbol number) JN 144-R (PROB)	Received by SA GEORGE P. GAMBLIN
Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in person <input type="checkbox"/> by telephone <input type="checkbox"/> by mail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> orally <input type="checkbox"/> recording device <input type="checkbox"/> written by Informant		
If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent: Dictated ^{Date} 4/18/68 to Jennifer Ruth Savell (MB) Transcribed 4/24/68 Authenticated by Informant _____		Date of Report 4/9/68 Date(s) of activity 4/9/68
Brief description of activity or material Source advised he is not aware of the identity of the assassin of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.		File where original is located if not attached JN 170-228-SF1-29

Remarks: INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE ENCLOSED REPORT, IS USED IN A REPORT BEING PREPARED FOR DISSEMINATION, SHOULD BE SUITABLY PARAPHRASED IN ORDER TO ADEQUATELY PROTECT THE IDENTITY OF THIS INFORMANT.

Copies:

1-170-228-SF1

①-157-9586 (MURKIN)

Block Stamp

157-9586-410

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 24 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

Ruddister

April 9, 1968
Natchez, Mississippi

MURKIN

Source advised on April 9, 1968, that he was not aware of the identity of the assassin who murdered MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. in Memphis on April 4, 1968. Source stated he did not know of any Klansmen or anyone by the names of ERIC STARVO GALT, JOHN WILLARD, HARVEY LOWMEYER or LOWMYER.

Source advised that he had undergone surgery and would not be available for contact until he has recuperated and released from the hospital. Source requested that he contact the FBI prior to any other meet with representatives of the FBI.

SAC, JACKSON (170-326)

4/24/68

SA RALPH D. GARDNER

JN 258-R (PROB)
RI

On 4/5/68 source stated that he had not attended any meetings but had received a letter from EC W. L. ELLIS, JR., inviting him to travel to Lexington, Miss., for a meeting. Source stated that until his sick relative in the hospital at Ackerman recovers, he will be unable to attend meetings, however, source stated he will remain in the position to furnish reliable information from other members who do attend the meetings.

Source stated that he had independently determined that very few meetings have been held in view of W. L. ELLIS, JR. 's business obligations.

Source stated that he had moved to "Mrs. COOPER's Apartments", located on Old Highway 35, Kosciusko, Miss., telephone no. 289-1275. Source stated he does not have an apartment number.

On 4/10/68 source advised that he did not know and has never heard of the following individuals:

HARVEY LOWMEYER
ERIC STARVO GALT
JOHN WILLARD

2 - Jackson (1 - 170-326)
(2 - 157-9586)

RDG/bdb
(2)

erb

157-9586-411

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 24 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

Gardner

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (170-372)

DATE: 4/25/68

FROM : SA DONALD J. CESARE

SUBJECT: BRUCE LATIMER
CRS

On 4/10/68 LATIMER advised that he had no information regarding any past or projected Klan activities in Philadelphia, Miss. He relates that the newly appointed Chief of Police, BOBBY HOLTON, who was formerly on the Louisville PD has "cleaned house" and removed all the old members of the Philadelphia PD. HOLTON'S only appointment to date has been CECIL HEMBREE, a former deputy on the Neshoba County SO. As far as LATIMER knows HEMBREE has no present or past Klan connections. LATIMER advised that he did not know the full particulars connected with HOLTON'S appointment, but doubted that he would be given a "free rein" in running the Philadelphia PD.

LATIMER also advised that CECIL PRICE, former deputy sheriff of Neshoba County, is now employed by the Neshoba County Co-op as a truck driver.

LATIMER was unable to furnish any information regarding the following names:

JOHN WILLARD
HARVEY LOWMEYER
HARVEY LOWMYER

- 1 - 170-372
- ① - 157-9586 (MURKIN)
- 1 - 157-3731 (NESHOBIA COUNTY UKA)
- 1 - 44-1512 (DABURN)
- 1 - 157-399 (RACIAL SITUATION)

DJC/jdh
(5)

jdh



5010-108-01

157-9586-412

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 25 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

Suddister

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

JN 170-372

He relates that he has never known anyone in Neshoba County with the above mentioned names. In addition, a composite description was furnished to LATIMER pertinent to the MURKIN matter and he was unable to recall any Klan figure, past or present, from within Neshoba County who might possibly possess similar physical characteristics.

LATIMER was again contacted on 4/16/68 and related that he had no information regarding the identity of the persons responsible for the burning of the Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church in Meridian, Miss., which occurred on Easter Sunday morning April 14, 1968. He advised he would be alert for any information he might hear and immediately advise the FBI.

On 4/18/68 LATIMER was advised of the conditions regarding travel restrictions imposed on SAM BOWERS, Imperial Wizard, WKKKKOM, before USC in Hattiesburg, Miss. LATIMER states that should he observe BOWERS in Neshoba County, Miss. he would immediately contact the handling Agent.

LATIMER was asked to comment on the general tenor of the present racial situation in Neshoba County and he advised that he personally felt that conditions have gradually improved during the past two years. By way of explanation he states that Negroes are now employed on city maintenance crews and that jobs are plentiful in the area if an individual is desirous of working. LATIMER, in conclusion, stated that he could not foresee any great problems arising in the near future.

LATIMER advised on 4/18/68 that he knew of no one in Neshoba County possessing the last name GALT and knew no one by the name of ERIC STARVO GALT.

Date received 3/5, 18/68 4/2, 17/68	Received from (name or symbol number) JN 247-R (PROB)	Received by SA DONALD J. CESARE
Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> by telephone <input type="checkbox"/> by mail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> orally <input type="checkbox"/> recording device <input type="checkbox"/> written by Informant		
If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent: Dictated <u>4/24/68</u> to <u>JANET D. HOWERTON</u> Transcribed <u>4/25/68</u> Authenticated by Informant _____		Date of Report <u>4/17/68</u> Date(s) of activity <u>March and April, 1968</u>
Brief description of activity or material <u>Lack of UKA activity in Neshoba County, Miss.</u> <u>and miscellaneous.</u>		File where original is located if not attached <u>JN 170-374-SF1-17</u>

Remarks:

INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE ENCLOSED REPORT, IF BEING USED IN A REPORT BEING PREPARED FOR DISSEMINATION, SHOULD BE SUITABLY PARAPHRASED IN ORDER TO ADEQUATELY PROTECT THE IDENTITY OF THIS INFORMANT.

1 - 170-374-SF1
1 - 157-471 (STATE, UKA)
1 - 157-3731 (UKA, NESHOPA COUNTY)
① - 157-9586 (MURKIN)
1 - 44-1512 (DABURN)

Block Stamp

157-9586-413

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 25 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

Quiddesta

Jackson Form 2's have been prepared in the following cases and appropriate information reported therein:

157-9318

157-9317

157-9316

COLEMAN HUDNALL

T. J. GEORGE

R. B. CUMBERLAND

B*
(COVER PAGE)

LACK OF UKA ACTIVITY, NESHOPA COUNTY

On 3/5/68 source related that he was not initiating any new attempts to reactivate the Klan in Philadelphia. He states that his efforts to date have met with unsuccessful results and he has not succeeded in recruiting anyone into the Klan since being instructed to do so by JAMES THORNTON, Province Titan, UKA. Source related that NORMAN STEVENS recently has had contact with THORNTON and he has expressed a desire to reassociate with the UKA. However, according to the source, THORNTON did not encourage STEVENS in his desire to reassociate. The source related that there is no UKA activity in Philadelphia, Miss. and that all the former members have not indicated any desire to reassociate.

MISCELLANEOUS:

On 3/18/68 the source was contacted regarding any knowledge he may possess concerning the recent rash of church burnings in Meridian, Miss. At the time of the contact the source related that he had heard of no Klan talk regarding these burnings through his contacts with Klansmen within the Philadelphia and Meridian areas of Miss.

On 4/2/68 the source related that the City of Philadelphia had appointed a new chief of police and had gone to Winston County to recruit him. He identified the Chief of Police as (FNU) HOLTON and stated that he had no indication that HOLTON had any Klan connections in Winston County.

On 4/17/68 the source advised that he had no information regarding one ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER, or HARVEY LOWMYER or JOHN WILLARD as having been residents of Neshoba County, Miss. or ever having been a member of Neshoba Klavern, UKA. The source was furnished with a composite description of a white male, and advised that he knew of no one with Klan affiliations who might possess similar physical characteristics.

The source was also advised of the recent travel restrictions placed against SAM BOWERS at Hattiesburg, Miss. and the source related that he would immediately advise the FBI should he observe BOWERS presence in Neshoba County, Miss.

On 4/17/68 the source advised that he could not furnish any Klan information regarding any of the following individuals:

COLEMAN HUDNALL
T. J. GEORGE
R. B. CUMBERLAND

2*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-75)

DATE: April 20, 1968

FROM : SA [redacted]

☒ CI ☐ SI ☐ R (Prob)
☐ PCI ☐ PSI ☐ R
☐

SUBJECT: JN 157-C

Dates of Contact	
3/22; 4/8, 17/68	
Titles and File #s on which contacted	
<u>Grand. Burglary of Louis Discount Mart,</u> <u>Cleveland, Missis. 12/23/63 ITL</u>	<u>157-9586</u>
<u>MURKIN</u>	<u>157-9586</u>
<u>POSSIBLE SOCIAL VIOLENCE</u>	<u>157-399</u>
Purpose and results of contact	
<input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE <input type="checkbox"/> STATISTIC	
<p>Informant advised on March 22, 1968 that he had not heard of the theft of guns from this company in Cleveland, Miss. He advised that often, persons attempt to "pawn" guns to him which he believes are stolen. He will be alert to obtain serial numbers of any new guns in the future.</p> <p><i>Interviewed and eliminated as suspect.</i></p> <p><u>MURKIN</u> - Informant advised on April 8, 1968 that he is personally acquainted with <u>Mr. Martin</u>. He was questioned concerning the who shot of <u>Mr. Martin</u> on 4-4-68. Informant advised he does not know, but knows he owns a white Mustang and could be capable of shooting Mr. Martin later than 4-4-68.</p> <p><u>POSSIBLE SOCIAL VIOLENCE</u> : Informant has no reason to believe any violence will occur in Union or Pontotoc Counties in the next 6 months.</p> <p>It was learned from <u>Miss Investigator, Mrs. M. BURKE, New Albany, Miss.</u> that the above informant shot into a car belonging to a <u>Miss Martin</u> in Pontotoc County on the night of April 24, 1968 because he thought his divorced wife was in the car. There were no injuries, but the car was hit 6 times and informant fled.</p>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating good
Coverage Sole	

157-75

67-

157-399

157-9586

General Criminal (Oxford, La)

157 (5)

157-9586-414

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 29 1968	
FBI-JACKSON	
H 5	

Puddister

Cover Sheet for Informant Report or Material
FD-306 (3-21-58)

Date received 3/30/68 4/4,13/68	Received from (name or symbol number) JN 337-R (PROB)	Received by SA ROBERT EDWARD LEE
Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in person <input type="checkbox"/> by telephone <input type="checkbox"/> by mail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> orally <input type="checkbox"/> recording device <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> written by Informant		
If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent: Dictated <u>4/29/68</u> to <u>Connie M. Bagwell (MB)</u> Transcribed <u>4/29/68</u> Authenticated by Informant _____		Date of Report 4/13/68 Date(s) of activity 3/26,27,30/68 4/2,3,4,9/68
Brief description of activity or material Information concerning meetings of the Jones County Chapter of the APWR on 3/26/68; 4/2/68; and 4/9/68.		File where original is located if not attached 170-457-SF1 - 13
Remarks:		

INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE ENCLOSED REPORT, IF USED IN A REPORT BEING PREPARED FOR DISSEMINATION, SHOULD BE SUITABLY PARAPHRASED IN ORDER TO ADEQUATELY PROTECT THE IDENTITY OF THIS INFORMANT.

Seven informant reports attached.

- 1 - 170-457-SF1
- 1 - 157-18 (SAM BOWERS)
- 1 - 157-36 (APWR, State)
- 1 - 157-3484 (DEAVOURS NIX)
- 1 - 157-4027 (SPEED LIGHTSEY)
- 1 - 157-4338 (GEORGE POORE, JR.)
- 1 - 157-5512 (BILLY ROY PITTS)
- 1 - 157-7363 (BIRL HINTON)
- 1 - 157-9414 (APWR, Jones County)
- ① - 157-9586 (MURKIN)
- 1 - 157-9542 (SONNY COOLEY)
- 1 - 44-1512 (DABURN)

Block Stamp

157-9586-415

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 29 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

Ruddistal

A separate memo is being placed in the following
files:

157-505	LAWRENCE BYRD
157-1954	RUBY SESSUM
157-2473	V. L. LEE
157-2580	Rev. J. E. NIX
157-3643	ELMER HENDRY
157-4054	ANDRE HENDRY
157-4196	Rev. GEORGE MILES
157-4371	Mrs. LESTER THORNTON
157-5409	Mrs. TRAVIS BUCKLEY
157-5484	ROY STRICKLAND
157-5508	Mrs. FRANK LYONS
157-6654	CARL FORD
157-8102	RALPH STRICKLAND
157-8099	JAMES YOUNT
157-8151	BUDDY YOUNT
157-8272	BENTON BROADHEAD
157-8285	LUCILLE YOUNT
157-2983	ROY CAMPBELL
157-536	ERNEST GILBERT
157-6320	JOE DENVER HAWKINS
157-	GEORGE NIX
157-	CHEVIS ODOM (SHERIS M. ODOM)
157-	MARY SESSUM
157-	HOMER SULLIVAN
157-	Mrs. J. D. STEWART

B*
(COVER PAGE)

April 15, 1968
Jones County, Miss.

APWR, JONES COUNTY, MISS., MEETING, 3/26/68:

On 3/30/68, information was received that the Jones County Chapter of the APWR held a meeting on 3/26/68 at the Marion Motor Court, U. S. Highway 11 South, of Laurel, Miss. There were 22 adults and one minor present. The following were observed in attendance at this meeting:

DEAVOURS NIX
SYBIL NIX
RALPH and LUCILLE STRICKLAND
Mr. and Mrs. CHEVIS ODOM
Mr. and Mrs. RUBY SESSUM
(Father of CECIL SESSUM)
MARY SESSUM (Wife of CECIL
SESSUM) and her son
JAMES and LUCILLE YOUNT
SAM BOWERS
Mrs. J. D. STEWART
BENTON BROADHEAD
ANDRE HENDRY
Mrs. FRANK LYONS
Reverend GEORGE MILES
Mrs. TRAVIS BUCKLEY
Mr. ELMER HENDRY
HOMER SULLIVAN
Mr. and Mrs. LAWRENCE BYRD

During the meeting, SAM BOWERS gave a talk about the operation of the APWR and about the trials of CECIL SESSUM in Hattiesburg, Miss., in connection with the firebomb slaying of VERNON FERDINAND DAHMER, SR. BOWERS said that all the people in Forrest County knew about CECIL SESSUM being beaten by the FBI. BOWERS commented that SESSUM had done a lot for freedom and advancement of the white race.

A motion was made that the chapter buy a shotgun to be raffled off to raise money for the attorneys in connection with the future trials at Hattiesburg. This was voted into effect and DEAVOURS NIX was instructed to have 10,000 tickets

printed. The tickets will be sold for \$1 each and the drawing will be on April 30, 1968.

DABURN; BILLY ROY PITTS; SPEED LIGHTSEY:

On 3/30/68, information was received that SPEED LIGHTSEY, former EC, Unit #1, WKKKKOM, Jones County, Miss., was overheard talking with another individual, believed to be a member of the Klan, about the DAHMER case. LIGHTSEY said that BILLY ROY PITTS was given a new Plymouth and \$25,000 by the FBI to testify in the case. He said he was also given \$1600 to send LAURA WELBORN to California while he was in jail.

LIGHTSEY said that BILLY ROY PITTS' father said that PITTS was mentally retarded and did not have any sense.

OKKKK, GEORGE POORE, JR., "SONNY" COOLEY,
BIRL HINTON:

On 3/30/68, information was received that early that date, GEORGE POORE and SONNY COOLEY, were observed talking with BIRL HINTON at John's Cafe. POORE was overheard telling HINTON that he and COOLEY had been to a rally of the old OKKKK on 3/29/68. POORE said that they had been granted a charter for Jones County and had openings for three officers and were trying to talk HINTON into taking the job of investigator. POORE was overheard to state that ERNEST GILBERT, Grand Dragon, State of Miss., and the lady dragon, not identified, would be in Laurel in a few days for the purpose of further organization. Source stated that HINTON did not appear too interested at the time but was heard telling POORE and COOLEY that he would be in touch with them later.

APWR, JONES COUNTY, MISS., CHAPTER,
MEETING, APRIL 2, 1968:

On 4/4/68, information was received that on 4/2/68, a meeting of the Jones County Chapter of the APWR was held at Marion Motor Court on U. S. Highway 11, South of Laurel. There were 26 adults and four children present at this meeting. The following were recognized as being present at this meeting:

DEAVOURS and SYBIL NIX
Mr. and Mrs. GEORGE NIX
Mr. and Mrs. RUBY SESSUM
CECIL SESSUM's son
RALPH and LUCILLE STRICKLAND
JAMES and BUDDY YOUNT
and their two children
Mr. and Mrs. CHEVIS ODOM
and their little boy
Mrs. LESTER THORNTON, wife
of LESTER THORNTON, who
is in jail
SAM BOWERS
Reverend GEORGE MILES
HOMER SULLIVAN
SONNY COOLEY
GEORGE POORE
ANDRE HENDRY
Mrs. TRAVIS BUCKLEY
BENTON BROADHEAD

During this meeting, it was announced that a 12 gauge Winchester shotgun had been purchased for \$115 to be raffled off for the purpose of raising funds for attorney fees in connection with the trials at Hattiesburg, Miss.

BOWERS reported that he had a board made to hold the gun and it had cost \$15. It was also reported that 10,000 tickets had been received and the cost was \$108.50.

During the meeting, the hat was passed and \$16.50 was collected. Source reported that the tickets are to be sold for \$1 each and the drawing is to be on the 30th of April.

TRAVIS BUCKLEY; CARL FORD; BILLY ROY PITTS;
ROY STRICKLAND:

ON 4/4/68, information was received that during the meeting of the APWR, on 4/2/68, that the wife of TRAVIS BUCKLEY had reported that CARL FORD and HERCY QUINN, attorneys for the Klan, had played a tape of a conversation reported to be that of BILLY ROY PITTS, ROY STRICKLAND, and JACK WATKINS, for the judge in Jackson County, Miss. Based on this tape, the judge has indicated he may grant BUCKLEY a new trial.

DEAVOURX NIX said that the judge is asking for a transcript of the Forrest County trials as he has read in the paper about the money PITTS said he had received after testifying in Jackson County. NIX said that PITTS testified he had not been paid anything in Jackson County, but the judge, after reviewing the transcript, may want to charge PITTS with perjury.

Information was received that plans are underway to play this tape for the membership of the APWR on the 19th of April.

BENTON BROADHEAD has arranged for five rallies in the next five weeks. The first, on 4/9/68, is to be at the Robinson Skating Rink at Tucker's Crossing, Highway 15 South.

SAM BOWERS; SPEED LIGHTSEY, BIRL HINTON,
V. L. LEE:

On 4/4/68, it was learned that on 4/3/68, SPEED LIGHTSEY was observed talking with an individual later identified as BIRL HINTON and SAM BOWERS. LIGHTSEY was heard asking BOWERS what he thought about the report that the Black Nationalists would be taking over the South. BOWERS said that in his opinion when the riots got bad up North, the conservatives like EVERETT DIRKSON would be ready to give the Negroes the five states they are asking for just like the Communists planned it. BOWERS stated that if we stop them it will not be legally.

After BOWERS left, LIGHTSEY was overheard telling HINTON that he figured V. L. LEE was responsible for burning the houses of HINTON's father. LIGHTSEY indicated that it was not planned by the WKKKKOM or he (LIGHTSEY) would have known about it. There were some other conversations, but the source was unable to determine the nature of the conversation.

MURKIN; SAM BOWERS:

On 4/4/68, SAM BOWERS was observed in John's Cafe, Laurel, Miss., around 8:00 p.m., talking with another individual, later identified as BIRL HINTON. Source overheard HINTON asking BOWERS what he thought about MARTIN LUTHER KING

being shot, and BOWERS remarked that it was a bad time for it to have happened. BOWERS commented that he would not have shot KING at this time. BOWERS was also heard to make the statement that the "Feds" may have done it to put the heat on the Klan.

APWR, JONES COUNTY CHAPTER MEETING, 4/9/68:

On 4/13/68, information was received that on 4/9/68 a meeting of the Jones County Chapter of the APWR was held at Robinson's Skating Rink, Tucker's Crossing, Highway 15 South of Laurel, Miss. There were about 85 people present. The following were recognized in attendance at the meeting:

ROY CAMPBELL, National President, APWR.

JOE DENVER HAWKINS, Jackson, Miss.

DEAVOURS and SYBIL NIX

SAM BOWERS

Mr. and Mrs. RUBY SESSUM

RALPH and LUCILLE STRICKLAND

JAMES and LUCILLE YOUNT

Mrs. ROY CAMPBELL, Jackson, Miss.

MARY SESSUM, wife of CECIL SESSUM

Mr. and Mrs. BENTON BROADHEAD

Reverend J. E. NIX, Ellisville, Miss.

The first speaker was SYBIL NIX, wife of DEAVOURS NIX, who talked about the tape that is to be played on the 19th of April. This tape is reported to be a conversation between ROY STRICKLAND and JACK WATKINS at the time they were planning the kidnaping of LAWRENCE BYRD.

DEAVOURS NIX talked about the shotgun raffle and reported that SONNY COOLEY has sold 116 tickets already.

He suggested that everybody get busy on the ticket sales.

BOWERS talked about Negroes, Jews, and Communists, and how they would eventually take over this state if the APWR and other organizations did not do something about it.

ROY CAMPBELL had a book of the John Birch Society and read portions of this book, which pointed out how the "Feds" will take over this country by taking away our guns and everything that we could use to protect ourselves with.

The next meeting was to be held at Sandersville, Miss., on 4/16/68.

FBI JKSN MISS

FBI PHOENIX

329 PM URGENT 4-29-68 LYH

TO DALLAS 44-2649

JACKSON ~~44-769~~

wrong file #

LITTLE ROCK 157-1215

SACRAMENTO

FROM PHOENIX 44-371

MURKIN; CR

RE DALLAS TEL APRIL TWENTYFOUR LAST AND SAN FRANCISCO
TEL APRIL TWENTYSIX LAST.

ALL OFFICES DISCONTINUE EFFORTS TO LOCATE R.B. HARRELL
SINCE LATTER HAS BEEN INTERVIEWED BY LOS ANGELES AND DENIES
MAKING ANONYMOUS TELEPHONE CALL TO COCONINO COUNTY SO,
FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA, APRIL TWENTY LAST.

MEMPHIS ADVISED AIRMAIL.

PENDING

END

KCH

FBI JKSN MISS

P

*Broch advised to discontinue
lead at morton, miss
4/29/68*

157-9586-416

SEARCHED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INDEXED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SERIALIZED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FILED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
APR 29 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

FBI JKSN MISS

FBI PHOENIX

329 PM URGENT 4-29-68 LYH

TO DALLAS 44-2649

JACKSON 44-769

LITTLE ROCK 157-1215

SACRAMENTO

FROM PHOENIX 44-371

MURKIN; CR

RE DALLAS TEL APRIL TWENTYFOUR LAST AND SAN FRANCISCO
TEL APRIL TWENTYSIX LAST.

ALL OFFICES DISCONTINUE EFFORTS TO LOCATE R.B. HARRELL
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MAKING ANONYMOUS TELEPHONE CALL TO COCONINO COUNTY SO,
FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA, APRIL TWENTY LAST.

MEMPHIS ADVISED AIRMAIL.

PENDING

END

KCH

FBI JKSN MISS

P

157-9586-416

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI — JACKSON	

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : ALL AGENTS

DATE: 4/29/68

FROM : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Bureau tel to all SAC's, 4/24/68.

Contacts should be maintained with all mass communications media in your territory to insure that there is frequent reference to RAY and his connection with this case.

Since you have previously been advised that JAMES EARL RAY is identical with ERIC STARVO GALT and you have been furnished IO's and Wanted Flyers on RAY, you are to be certain that all appropriate stops have been renewed on JAMES EARL RAY and under all of his known aliases as set forth on the IO's and Wanted Flyers. This is to insure that the Bureau will be immediately notified if the subject is arrested or comes to the attention of authorities with whom stops placed.

Offices covering departure or arrival of overseas flights should have renewed stops, and subject's photograph should be displayed appropriately.

All offices should conduct appropriate investigation at all "hippie" rooming houses and similar establishments to obtain any information whatsoever concerning RAY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.



5010-108-01

① - 157-9586
1 - Each Agent
JLP/bjk (86) *bjk*

157-9586-417

SEARCHED <i>h</i>	INDEXED <i>h</i>
SERIALIZED <i>h</i>	FILED <i>h</i>
APR 29 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

[Signature]

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

FBI JKSN MISS

FBI MIAMI

436PM PM URGENT 4/29/68 CAB
TO ALL SACS - RELAY MESSAGE PLAN
FROM DIRECTOR, 44-38861 1P

MURKIN

ALL OFFICES HAVING LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IN THEIR
TERRITORIES WHICH MAINTAIN UNIDENTIFIED LATENT FINGERPRINTS
IN CONNECTION WITH MATTERS UNDER THEIR JURISDICTION SHOULD
IMMEDIATELY CONTACT THESE AGENCIES AND REQUEST THAT THE
FINGERPRINTS OF SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY AS SET FORTH ON THE
IO BE COMPARED WITH LATENTS OBTAINED SINCE HIS ESCAPE
FROM MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY ON FOUR TWENTY-THREE
SIXTY-SEVEN.

THIS IS FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLY ESTABLISHING
RAY'S PAST WHEREABOUTS AND SOURCE OF FUNDS. LEGATS OTTAWA AND
MEXICO CITY REQUESTED TO DO LIKEWISE. ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

PGL

FBI JKSN MISS

P

157-9586-418

INDEXED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FILED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
APR 29 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

Richard

FBI JKSN MISS

FBI MIAMI

436PM PM URGENT 4/29/68 CAB
TO ALL SACS - RELAY MESSAGE PLAN
FROM DIRECTOR, 44-38861 1P

MURKIN

ALL OFFICES HAVING LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IN THEIR TERRITORIES WHICH MAINTAIN UNIDENTIFIED LATENT FINGERPRINTS IN CONNECTION WITH MATTERS UNDER THEIR JURISDICTION SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CONTACT THESE AGENCIES AND REQUEST THAT THE FINGERPRINTS OF SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY AS SET FORTH ON THE IO BE COMPARED WITH LATENTS OBTAINED SINCE HIS ESCAPE FROM MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY ON FOUR TWENTY-THREE SIXTY-SEVEN.

THIS IS FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLY ESTABLISHING RAY'S PAST WHEREABOUTS AND SOURCE OF FUNDS. LEGATS OTTAWA AND MEXICO CITY REQUESTED TO DO LIKEWISE. ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

PGL

FBI JKSN MISS

P

157-9586-418

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 29 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

FBI

Date: **4-29-68**Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via **Airtel** _____
(Priority)✓ **To: SAC, Jackson****From: Director, FBI****MURKIN****ReDLairtel 4-24-68, referring to JNtel to Bureau dated 4-17-68.****On basis of information furnished by Dallas, Bureau not able to identify referenced Jackson teletype. By return airtel furnish Bureau identifying data.****1 - Memphis (info)**

*Handled -
see in airtel to Bm, 4/30/68.
B*

SEARCHED <i>ll</i>	INDEXED <i>ll</i>
SERIALIZED <i>ll</i>	FILED <i>ll</i>
APR 30 1968	
FBI-JACKSON	

B

157-9586-419

Sent Via _____ M. Per _____

4-29-68

Airtel

To: SAC, Jackson

From: Director, FBI

MURKIN

Re: Airtel 4-24-68, referring to JNtel to Bureau dated 4-17-68.

On basis of information furnished by Dallas, Bureau not able to identify referenced Jackson teletype. By return airtel furnish Bureau identifying data.

1 - Memphis (info)

157-9586-419

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 30 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

FROM : SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE:

On April 11, 1968, Inspector JOSEPH A. SULLIVAN telephonically advised that he did not desire that any negative type investigation, which eliminates local Jackson suspects, be sent to Memphis. He advised that negative type information should be indexed and filed at Jackson rather than be furnished to Memphis.

The attached investigative results concern inquiries at beverage stores, laundries. Each page has been marked for indexing.

1 - Jackson
JLP/brh
(1)



5010-108-01

cc'd memo for indexing

157-9586-420

SEARCHED <i>h</i>	INDEXED <i>h</i>
SERIALIZED <i>h</i>	FILED <i>h</i>
MAY 1 1968	
FBI-JACKSON	

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

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/15/68

MONROE FOSTER, Owner, Foster Beverage Company, West Main Street, Tupelo, Mississippi, advised that on March 20, 1968, he received a shipment of Schlitz Beer from the Schlitz Brewery, Long View, Texas. He stated that he received 840 cases of Hi-cone six packs, packed 24 cans to the case, and 336 cases of 24 cans each packed loose. Mr. FOSTER stated that a check of his inventory reflects that all of this beer which was brewed with a date, March 15, 1968, has been distributed to his customers, and he is now working on beer that was brewed March 20, 1968.

Mr. FOSTER commented that the only beer he purchases from Schlitz is the pop-top cans, commenting that these cans need no can opener to open.

He stated that he serves approximately 130 customers in Lee County and Okolona, Mississippi.

Concerning a brown bag, manufactured by Graham Paper Company, with a trademark "Homestead", he stated that his company does not use these bags, and he does not know if any of his retailers use this type of bag.

On 4/11/68 at Tupelo, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA FRANCIS G. HONAN/bjk 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.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/24/68

HUBERT TOMLINSON, Service Beverage Company, Holly Springs, Mississippi, was located and interviewed at his place of business. TOMLINSON was advised the identity of the interviewing Agents.

TOMLINSON stated that he is a distributor for the Service Beverage Company of Clarksdale, Mississippi, and in conjunction with this employment, he distributes Schlitz Beer in Marshall County, Mississippi, and a portion of the De Soto County, Mississippi area.

TOMLINSON advised that it would have been impossible for him to have distributed any Schlitz Beer in Marshall County or De Soto County before the date March 15, 1968. TOMLINSON explained that the last shipment of Schlitz Beer he received, twelve and sixteen ounce cans, bore the date of March 8, 1968. He pointed out that he has not received any shipment of Schlitz beer with the cans of beer bearing a date subsequent to March 8, 1968.

TOMLINSON stated that any Schlitz beer purchased in De Soto County and bearing a date of March 15, 1968, would have had to be distributed by the Service Beverage Company in Clarksdale, Mississippi.

On 4/15/68 at Holly Springs, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586
by SA's RICHARD T. RABIDEAU, and
JOHN DENNIS MILLER/RTR/brh Date dictated 4/19/68

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.

JN 157-9586

JDM/wgj

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA RICHARD T. RABIDEAU and SA JOHN DENNIS MILLER on
April 15, 1968:

EDDIE FIORETTI, owner and operator, Corner Package
Store, Holly Springs, Mississippi, advised that his package
store is the only package store located on the north side
of the Square of Holly Springs, Mississippi.

FIORETTI advised that he was working in his place
of business on the day that MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., was
killed in Memphis, Tennessee. He advised that he could not
state one way or the other whether or not anyone meeting
the description of TOM NELSON DAVIS made a purchase in
his store. He advised that his failure to recall the
existence or nonexistence of such a fact is due to the
volume of business which his store does.

FIORETTI emphasized that he did not desire to have
his remarks interpreted as meaning that the individual in
question did or did not enter his store on the day of the
slaying.

He concluded by stating that a Negro male,
BAILEY VANDERBILT, was in the store talking to him for
a great portion of the afternoon of the KING slaying.

On April 15, 1968, BAILEY VANDERBILT advised
he could not state whether or not any particular individual
made liquor purchases at EDDIE FIORETTI's store on the
Square in Holly Springs, Mississippi. He explained that
he pays little if any attention to the customers who
enter the store.

On April 15, 1968, WILLARD KUYRKENDOLL, manager,
Billups Gas Station, Highway 78, Red Banks, Mississippi,

4

JN 157-9586

2

advised that on the day of the KING slaying, he was not working.

On April 15, 1968, PAUL CREDDLE, employee of the above mentioned Billups Gas Station, advised that he was working on the day of the KING slaying. CREDDLE stated that on that day at approximately 4:00 or 5:00 P.M., TOM DAVIS arrived at the station driving a late model white Ford Mustang. CREDDLE stated that DAVIS, who was traveling alone, paid a \$3.00 gas bill and left the station on Highway 78, headed in a northerly direction.

CREDDLE stated he is certain that DAVIS was traveling alone. He continued that he observed no guns in DAVIS' car. He also advised that DAVIS had been drinking but was not "drunk".

He concluded by advising that in the brief conversation he had with DAVIS no mention was made of KING's presence in Memphis, Tennessee.

5

JN 157-9586

PHC:mah

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA PETER H. CROOKS:

On April 16, 1968, Mrs. VIOLA FINCH, Manager, City Cleaners, 806 Main Street, Moss Point, Mississippi, advised the writer that she had been contacted by an agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in connection with the type of laundry mark employed by the laundry. She advised that at this time, the agent had asked her if she was acquainted with the name GAULT. She advised that at the time, she did not recall ever hearing this name before; however, she has since recalled one incident where she may have seen this name.

She stated that a white male, whom she described as in his early 30's, height 5' 11", weight 140-145 pounds, build slim, complexion very red, had come into the City Cleaners on April 4, 5, 8, or 9, 1968, and left one pair of jockey shorts, one T-shirt, and an unknown number of shirts to be cleaned to be picked up the following day. She advised that this individual gave the name of ERIC GOFF. She advised that in the band of the jockey shorts and on the back of the collar of the T-shirt, in letters approximately 1/8 of an inch in height, she had noticed the initial E plus one more unrecalled initial and the name GALT or GAULT. She advised that this individual picked up his shirts on the following day and she has never seen him in the City Cleaners prior to this occasion or following it. She advised that no laundry records are kept at the City Cleaners. She advised that MARTHA BALLENCER was present at the time this individual

JN 157-9586

2

was in the City Cleaners establishment; however, Mrs. BALLENGER was not available today.

On April 17, 1968, Mrs. MARTHA BALLENGER, employee, City Cleaners, 806 Main Street, Moss Point, Mississippi, advised the interviewing agent that she never actually saw the individual that left some clothing to be laundered at the City Cleaners on a date which she recalled as the 8th or 9th of April. She advised that she was at this time working in the shirt section and recalled Mrs. FINCH making some remark about the discrepancy between the name given by the individual GOFF and the name appearing in the shorts and T-shirt. She advised that she herself did not see the name GOFF in the T-shirt or jockey shorts; however, she had seen the name GOFF which corresponded with the name given by the individual in the shirts which he had left. She advised she could furnish no further information in connection with the shirts.

Mrs. BALLENGER and Mrs. FINCH examined the artist's conceptions of GOFF and stated that neither photo looked anything like anyone they had ever seen before.

Jackson 157-9586

FGH/blw

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA FRANCIS G. HONAN on April 17, 1968, at Fulton, Mississippi:

Mrs. PAULINE WALDON, Office Clerk, Itawamba County Sheriff's Office, Fulton, Mississippi, advised that her records reflect that 1968 Itawamba County, Mississippi, License 29-4700 was issued on April 11, 1968, for a 1962 Ford Galaxie 500, eight cylinder, four door, VIN 2W62X128373, registered to Mrs. PEGGY J. WORKS, Fulton, Mississippi. The tag receipt reflects the 1962 Ford Galaxie was purchased from BILLY WALLACE, Fulton, Mississippi, on April 11, 1968.

Mrs. PEGGY J. WORKS was interviewed at her place of employment, Itawamba Manufacturing Company, Fulton, Mississippi, at which time she stated that her vehicle bearing Itawamba County License 29-4700 is presently in the possession of her husband, RICHARD A. WORKS, who is presently visiting his sister, Mrs. GLENDA LESTER, 605½ Garfield Street, Glendale, California. Mrs. WORKS stated that her husband arrived in Glendale, California, on April 14, 1968, visiting relatives. Mrs. WORKS stated that she did not know when her husband would arrive back in Fulton, Mississippi.

8

FBI NEW ORLS

FBI JKSN MISS

11:00 AM URGENT 4-30-68 BLT
TO DIRECTOR (MAIL) (44-38861) AND NEW ORLEANS
FROM JACKSON (157-9586)
MURKIN

REX P. ARMISTEAD (NA), CHIEF INVESTIGATOR, MISS.
HIGHWAY SAFETY PATROL, JACKSON, ADVISED TODAY THAT AFTER
VIEWING PHOTOGRAPHS OF JAMES EARL RAY THESE PHOTOGRAPHS
CLOSELY RESEMBLE AN INDIVIDUAL HE OBSERVED IN WANDA'S
SEVEN SEAS RESTUAURANT, NEW ORLEANS, IN DECEMBER, SIXTY
SEVEN. ARMISTEAD RECALLED THAT ON THAT PARTICULAR DAY,
SEVERAL ARRESTS WERE MADE BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES AT SEVEN
SEAS AS A RESULT OF AN INCIDENT INVOLVING A DOG BROUGHT
IN BY ONE OF THE CUSTOMERS. A MINOR BRAWL RESULTED AND
SEVEN OR EIGHT CUSTOMERS WERE ARRESTED. ARMISTEAD COULD
NOT RECALL WHETHER THE INDIVIDUAL RESEMBLING RAY WAS ONE
OF THOSE ARRESTED.

NEW ORLEANS EXHIBIT AVAILABLE PHOTOS OF RAY AT SEVEN
SEAS RESTAURANT AND CONDUCT INQUIRY AT PD TO IDENTIFY
THOSE ARRESTED. AIRMAIL COPY TO MEMPHIS.

END.

MMW

FBI NEW ORLS

Searched _____
Serialized _____
Indexed _____
Filed _____

157-9586-421

4/30/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR (MAIL) (44-38861) AND NEW ORLEANS
FROM: JACKSON (157-9586)

MURKIN

SEN P. ARMISTEAD (MA), CHIEF INVESTIGATOR, MISS.
HIGHWAY SAFETY PATROL, JACKSON, ADVISED TODAY THAT AFTER
VIEWING PHOTOGRAPHS OF JAMES EARL RAY THESE PHOTOGRAPHS
CLOSELY RESEMBLE AN INDIVIDUAL HE OBSERVED IN WANDA'S
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IN BY ONE OF THE CUSTOMERS. A MINOR BRAWL RESULTED AND
SEVEN OR EIGHT CUSTOMERS WERE ARRESTED. ARMISTEAD COULD
NOT RECALL WHETHER THE INDIVIDUAL RESEMBLING RAY WAS ONE
OF THOSE ARRESTED.

NEW ORLEANS WILL SEND AVAILABLE PHOTOS OF RAY AT SEVEN
SEAS RESTAURANT AND CONDUCT INQUIRY AT PD TO IDENTIFY
THOSE ARRESTED. AIRMAIL COPY TO MEMPHIS. END.

1 - Bureau (Mail)

1 - Memphis (AM)

1 - Jackson

JLF/bdt

(3)

Lab

PKM

157-9586-421
11:40 AM B.S.J.

4/27/68

TELETYPE

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861), MEMPHIS (44-1987), ATLANTA
FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

MURKIN. CR

RE OKLAHOMA CITY AIRTEL TO BUREAU, APRIL TWENTY FOUR LAST.
BUREAU AGENTS ATTEMPTED TO INTERVIEW DONALD EUGENE SPARKS,
FBI NUMBER SEVEN ONE SIX EIGHTEEN A, FORMER TOP TEN SUBJECT,
AT DE KALB COUNTY JAIL, FORT PAYNE, ALABAMA THIS DATE. SPARKS
REFUSED TO BE INTERVIEWED OR TO DISCUSS ANYTHING WITH AGENTS AND
WAS EXTREMELY UNCOOPERATIVE.

AIR MAIL COPIES TO JACKSON, TAMPA AND OKLAHOMA CITY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

1-Birmingham
1-JACKSON (AM)
1-TAMPA (AM)
1-OKLAHOMA CITY (AM)
RJY:scb
(4)
sch

SAC [Signature]

157-9586-422

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 30 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

ud [Signature]

FOI PA
DO NOT DESTROY SERIAL 423
PRIOR TO 6/2005
FILE # 190-JN-26213

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

DATE: 4-29-68

FROM : SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On April 11, 1968, Inspector JOSEPH A. SULLIVAN telephonically advised that he did not desire that any negative type investigation, which eliminates local Jackson suspects, be sent to Memphis. He advised that negative type information should be indexed and filed at Jackson rather than be furnished to Memphis.

The attached pages have been marked for indexing into the Jackson file.

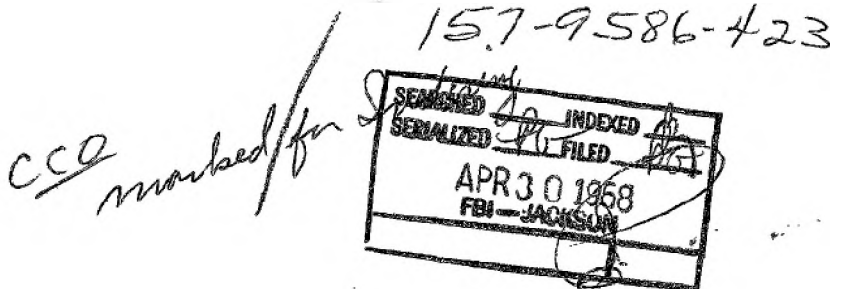
Investigation concerns the elimination of Aaron Isaac Lofton as possible subject.

#903117
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/27/99 BY SP2-BLM/LUT/

1 - Jackson
JLP/brh
(1)



5010-108-01



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

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 18, 1968

HARVEY VEST, Manager of Vest's Department Store, and President of the Do-Si-Do Square Dance Club, was advised of the identity of the interviewing agent.

Mr. VEST noted that most of the individuals who attended square dancing in Mc Comb are known to him. He recalled that approximately two years ago, there was one individual who was single and a stranger to Mc Comb who attended square dancing for about three months. He said that this individual's name was RON (LNU) and was employed at Howell Motor Company, Mc Comb, Mississippi, as a salesman. VEST noted that RON always came to the dance alone, talked about having been in Mexico and appeared to be somewhat "odd." VEST noted that RON was considered a good dancer.

He advised that he has not seen RON in or around the Mc Comb area for about two years and could furnish no information concerning his present whereabouts. He described RON as a white male, 5' 10", 150-160 pounds, approximately 33 years old, brown hair, and fair complexion.

VEST stated that there are no other dancing clubs other than in Mc Comb, Mississippi, in the Counties of Amite, Lawrence, Lincoln, Pike and Walthall.

On 4/15/68 at Mc Comb, Mississippi File # 157-9586

by SA CYRUS V. HOAGLUND, JR.:mah Date dictated 4/18/68

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

2

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 18, 1968

1

KRANDALL HOWELL, Manager, Howell Motor Company, Mc Comb, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the interviewing agent.

HOWELL stated that an individual by the name of AARON I. LOFTON, also known as RON LOFTON, had been employed as a salesman by him from February, 1965, through May, 1965. He stated that LOFTON's folks originally were from Summit, Mississippi, but all of the family had allegedly moved to the Gulf Coast sometime in 1965 or 1966. He noted that AARON LOFTON had a brother by the name of BILLY JOE LOFTON who is supposedly a mathematics teacher at a junior college on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

HOWELL stated that AARON LOFTON had graduated from the Summit High School about 1954, had been in the service, was a hair stylist in Atlanta, Georgia, then went to California, where he lived for sometime and then returned to Mc Comb in 1965. HOWELL stated that it was necessary to fire LOFTON from his position as salesman because of his appearance and odd philosophy. He had professed to be an atheist and constantly was engaging customers in conversations concerning philosophy and politics. HOWELL noted that LOFTON's appearance and actions indicated that he might have homosexual tendencies.

HOWELL furnished the following description of LOFTON:

White male, 5' 11", 160 pounds, brown hair, fair complexion, age 32, last known address 708 Avenue B,

On 4/15/68 at Mc Comb, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA CYRUS V. HOAGLAND:mah Date dictated 4/18/68

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JN 157-9586

2

Mc Comb, Mississippi, Social Security

HOWELL advised that he could furnish no information concerning LOFTON's present whereabouts other than he might possibly be on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

4.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 17, 1968

Mr. VERNON SILLS, Principal, Gibson High School, McComb, Mississippi, was advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents by SA REESIE L. TIMMONS and the nature of the inquiry.

Mr. SILLS advised that he would furnish any information available from the records of the Gibson High School regarding individuals who attended the Summit High School prior to its closing.

Mr. SILLS obtained the record of BILLY JOE LOFTON and therefrom determined that BILLY JOE LOFTON had only one brother, no sisters, and that his father's name was AARON LOFTON, no address given.

Mr. SILLS advised there was no record of a RON LOFTON having attended the Summit High School at any time.

Thereafter, Mr. SILLS located the record of AARON ISAAC LOFTON who graduated third in a class of eighteen at the Summit High School in 1953.

This record listed his date of birth as [redacted]; place of birth Brookhaven, Mississippi; father, AARON LOFTON, occupation mechanic. The record listed the father's former address as Natchez, Mississippi, and indicated AARON ISAAC LOFTON attended school at the "Institution" in the fourth grade.

Attached to the high school record of AARON ISAAC LOFTON is a "college entrance certificate for Mississippi" for AARON (IKE) ISAAC LOFTON born [redacted] parent or guardian AARON LOFTON. This form indicated that AARON ISAAC LOFTON attended the Hazlehurst, Mississippi, High School from August, 1949, to May, 1950.

On 4/15/68 at Summit, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586
by SA CYRUS V. HOAGLUND, JR.
SA REESIE L. TIMMONS/RLT/bkh Date dictated 4/17/68

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

JN 157-9586

This form contains notations indicating a transcript of AARON ISAAC LOFTON's high school record was sent to "S. W., August, 1954," and to "Memphis Academy of Arts, October 12, 1957."

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 17, 1968

Mr. C. R. BRELAND, Registrar, Southwest, Mississippi, Junior College, Summit, Mississippi, was advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents by SA REESIE L. TIMMONS who also advised him of the nature of the inquiry.

Mr. BRELAND made available the record of AARON LOFTON, born [redacted] who was admitted to Southwest Junior College in September of 1954, and who dropped out in January of 1955, at the end of the first term.

A review of this record indicates that a transcript thereof was sent to "Memphis Academy of Arts, 690 Adams Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee, on October 14, 1957.

A transcript was sent to "Dean, Balboa Junior College, Panama Canal Zone." Mr. BRELAND advised that this transcript was sent before 1963 when he became registrar. He advised that he could fix no date for that action.

Mr. BRELAND advised that he is positive that he has sent transcripts to at least two colleges in the State of California during the past two years for AARON LOFTON. He stated there is no notation of subject in his records but he personally recalls sending the transcripts.

Mr. BRELAND further advised he is positive that at sometime in August, 1967, he sent a copy of the transcript of AARON LOFTON to Ingalls Shipyard at Pascagoula, Mississippi.

Mr. BRELAND stated there is a notation in the record of AARON LOFTON indicating that LOFTON appeared at the registrar's office on August 22, 1967, and was given a copy of his transcript.

On 4/15/68 at Summit, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586
by SA CYRUS V. HOAGLUND, JR.
SA REESIE L. TIMMONS/RLT/bkh Date dictated 4/17/68

JN 157-9586

Mr. BRELAND advised that he knows AARON ISAAC LOFTON, has seen him in the McComb - Summit areas on three or four occasions during the past two to three years.

He advised that he has heard that AARON LOFTON has been employed as a hair stylist in Southern California and in Atlanta, Georgia, sometime during the past three to five years.

He stated that he knew LOFTON was employed by Howell Motor Company near Summit, Mississippi, approximately three years ago and thereafter eventually obtained some type of employment in the vicinity of Pascagoula, Mississippi.

JN 157-9586

RLT/bkh

1

ADMINISTRATIVE:

The following investigation was conducted by
SA REESIE L. TIMMONS:

ROSE MARY FANCHER, Clerk, Local Board 62,
McComb, Mississippi, on April 15, 1968, confidentially
made available the selective service record of AARON ISAAC
LOFTON, Selective Service Number [REDACTED]

This record listed the address of AARON ISAAC
LOFTON as Post Office Box 64, Summit, Mississippi.

He is described as follows:

Height	5'11"
Weight	145 Pounds
Hair	Blonde - Brown
Eyes	Gray
Complexion	Fair

The record indicates that LOFTON entered
the U. S. Army on January 24, 1955, and was discharged
November 1, 1957. His serial number is RA 24-919-772.
He was discharged while at Walter Reed Army Medical Center
under honorable conditions and was transferred to the
Mississippi Military District where he served in Ready
Reserves at Summit, Mississippi, in the 154th Infantry
Battalion. He was discharged from the reserves by letter
from the 12th U. S. Army Corps Control Group on March 31,
1962, and his "home of record" listed as 343 8th Street
Northeast Atlanta, Georgia, Apartment F and I.

Review of this record indicates he was discharged
"reason and authority, Par 8 AR 635-205-SPN412-Pets-Convenience
of Government."

JN 157-9586

CVH:mah

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA CYRUS V. HOAGLUND at Mc Comb, Mississippi:

ROBERT CULLOTTA, Clerk, United States Post Office,
Mc Comb, Mississippi (Protect Identity), advised that
an AARON LOFTON, 708 Avenue B, Mc Comb, Mississippi,
had left a forwarding address of Route 1, Box 8,
Gautier, Mississippi, and that the forwarding address
card was dated July 16, 1965.

JN 157-9586

CVH:mah

1

The following investigation was conducted
by SA CYRUS V. HOAGLUND at Mc Comb, Mississippi:

LILLIAN LAMKIN, Credit Bureau of Mc Comb,
Pike County, Mississippi, furnished the following
information concerning AARON LOFTON, nicknamed RON,
former address 708 Avenue B, Mc Comb, Mississippi.

A credit report dated October 21, 1966, had
been prepared for the Jackson County, Mississippi,
Credit Bureau which disclosed the following:

Name	AARON I. LOFTON
Address	Box 291, Gautier, Mississippi
Former Addresses	708 Avenue B, Mc Comb, Mississippi; 915 Ferry Street, Pascagoula, Mississippi
Race	White
Sex	Male
Employment	Welder Department 6-32504 Ingalls Shipbuilding, Pascagoula, Mississippi
Former Employment	Howell Motor Company
Remarks:	Subject, prior to above employment, was reported to be a hair stylist in California and prior to that in military service.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

Mr. J. D. ASHLEY, Security Guard, Ingalls Shipbuilding Corporation, Pascagoula, Mississippi, advised the Security Office files contain an Active File Card for one AARON I. LOFTON, Social Security Number [redacted] who is presently assigned in Department 68. Mr. ASHLEY said the Active File Card bears LOFTON's signature and indicates the following employment history with that corporation:

First hired November 10, 1965, assigned
Department Number 6, Clock Number 32504.

Transferred January 31, 1966, Department
Number 9, Clock Number 32504.

Transferred March 15, 1968, Department
Number 68, Clock Number 12724.

Mr. ASHLEY advised that Mr. WALTER L. POL, Chief Security Officer, would have additional background information on file on LOFTON. He said the payroll records which would include the time cards for LOFTON would be on file in the Paymasters Office.

On 4/15/68 at Pascagoula, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

SA LEON ROSS GRABEN

by SA DAVID P. HURLEY LRG/wgj Date dictated 4/16/68

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