

Date	4/8/68	
Date		

JOHN HUBEART WILLARD, after being advised of the nature of the inquiry and the identity of the interviewing agents, was given a form entitled "Your Rights" and after reading the form and signing the 'Waiver of Rights" section of the form, furnished the following information concerning his activities. On April 4, 1968, he stated that he arrived at his place of employment, the Day Brite Lighting, Incorporated, plant located at South Green and Day Brite Drive, Tupelo, Mississippi, shortly before 7:00 A.M. He said that he was at the plant all the day long and punched out several minutes after 3:30 P.M. on April 4, 1968. He related after leaving the plant he and BILLY GLENN DOWDY went to the Union Hall located on North Spring Street, Tupelo, Mississippi, and attended a union meeting of local 1028, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. This union meeting lasted until shortly before 5:00 P.M., after which time he and DOWDY got into his 1968 Ford pickup Deluxe, yellow and white, having no license plate, and drove to the home of DOWDY located on Warren Street, Pontotoc, Mississippi, where he let DOWDY out of the truck and then he proceeded to his home located west of Pontotoc, Mississippi, on Highway 6, approximately five miles.

WILLARD stated that when he arrived at his home around 5:30 P.M. on April 4, 1968, his wife, BARBARA NELL, and their son, RANDY JOE, were already at home. He said he did not leave his home after arriving home and retired for the evening around 8:30 P.M. He stated that prior to his evening meal, he started mowing the lawn.

WILLARD stated he did not go to Memphis on April 4, 1968, and has not been to Memphis in approximately a month, at which time he had visited a brother who resides in Southaven, Mississippi. WILLARD further stated that he has no knowledge of the individual or individuals responsible for the shooting of Dr. KING, stating that the only information he has is what he

On 4/5/68 at Tupelo, Mississippi File# Jackson 157-9586 5 72-/
SAF JOHN S. CASTLES
by SAFRANCIS G. HONAN/JSC:bls
Date dictated 4/5/68

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learned while viewing television.

The following description of WILLARD was obtained through interview and observation:

Name: JOHN HUBEART WILLARD

Race: White Sex: Male

Date of Birth: Pontotoc County, Mississippi

Height: 5 feet 11 inches

Weight: 160 Eyes: Blue

Hair: Brown - normally wears crew cut but now hair

growing out

Education: 9th grade, Hurricane School, Pontotoc County, Mississippi

Military Service: None

Selective Service Board: Pontotoc County, Pontotoc,

Mississippi

Marital Status: Married

Wife: BARBARA NELL WILLARD, nee

DAY, Route 5, Pontotoc, Mississippi, employed Credit Bureau, Oxford,

Mississippi

Children: One, son RANDY JOE WILLARD,

4th grade student, Thaxton School, Pontotoc County,

Mississippi

Parents: Mr. and Mrs. ENIS D. WILLARD,

Hurricane Community,

Pontotoc County, Mississippi,

mailing address Route 1, Thaxton, Mississippi

Brothers: KENNETH D. WILLARD, 28

Sisters:

Admitted arrests:

Previous residences:

Social Security Number: Occupation:

Dudley Street, Southaven, Mississippi, employed Mengle Box Company, Memphis, Tennessee SHIRLEY QUAY WILLARD, 22 Pontotoc, Mississippi, employed Brookwood Manufacturing Company, Pontotoc, Mississippi LINDER WILLARD, 36, Route 1, Thaxton, Mississippi Mrs. W. K. (BILLY JOYCE) WILLIAMS street address unknown, Southaven, Mississippi Mrs. PETE (JUNE) BLACK, street address unknown, Southaven, Mississippi Mrs. KENNETH (FRANCES) FRANKLIN. street address unknown, Southaven, Mississippi Mrs. GARDNER (JEAN) BULLINGTON, street address unknown, Southaven, Mississippi 1958 - offense occurred Pontotoc County, Mississippi, but arrested in Memphis, Tennessee, three years probation; 1966 - public drunk, Pontotoc, Mississippi; several traffic violations Pontotoc County, Mississippi, except a period of residence, 1958, at 1850 Jefferson Street. Memphis, Tennessee

Assemblyman, Day Brite Lighting, Incorporated, Tupelo, Mississippi, five years

3

Vehicles:

1968 Ford pickup
Deluxe, yellow and
white, no license
plates, owned approximately
two weeks; white 1968
model Volkswagen used by
wife for transportation
to Oxford

WILLARD voluntarily consented to be photographed and photographs obtained.

JOHN WILLARD stated he knows of no other person named JOHN WILLARD and he knows of no reason why anyone might use his name. He stated he owns a Remington Semi-Automatic .22 caliber rifle and a very old .410 shotgun.

Date	4/8/68	

Mrs. KATHLEEN WEST, Personnel Clerk, Personnel Department, Day Brite Lighting, Incorporated, South Green and Day Brite Drive, Tupelo, Mississippi, made available the time card of JOHN H. WILLARD for the current work week. This card revealed that WILLARD is employed in department number 332, clock number 193, and that on Thursday, April 4, 1968, he checked in at 6:46 A.M. and checked out at 3:32 P.M.

On 4/5/68 Tupelo, Mississippi File# Jackson 157-9586-5/2-2

SA JOHN S. CASTLES

by FRANCIS G. HONAN/JSC:bls

Date dictated 4/5/68

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BILLY GLEN DOWDY, 115 Warren Street, Pontotoc, Mississippi, was interviewed at the Day Brite Lighting, Incorporated, South Green and Day Brite Drive, Tupelo, Mississippi.

Mr. DOWDY advised that he works in the same department at Day Brite's Lighting, Incorporated, as does JOHN WILLARD and they are in the same car pool together. He advised that on April 4, 1968, he and WILLARD punched out about the same time and got into WILLARD's 1968 Ford pickup Deluxe, yellow and white, and drove to the Union Hall located on North Spring Street, Tupelo, Mississippi, and attended a meeting of local 1028, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. He said the union meeting ended shortly before 5:00 P.M. on April 4, 1968, after which time the two of them got into WILLARD's truck and drove to Pontotoc, Mississippi, where WILLARD let him out at his home around 5:10 or 5:15 P.M. and WILLARD left his home en route to his, WILLARD's, residence located on Highway 6 west of Pontotoc, Mississippi.

SA JOHN S. CASTLES

SA FRANCIS G. HONAN/JSC:bls

File # Jackson 157-9586-S-42-.

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Date	7/0/00	

Mr. WATSON MARLIN, Supervisor, Line 1, Day Brite Lighting, Incorporated, South Green Street, Tupelo, and Day Brite Drive, Tupelo, Mississippi, stated that he had occasion to immediately supervise JOHN H. WILLARD on Line 1 in the Day Brite factory on April 4, 1968. Mr. MARLIN stated that he recalls JOHN H. WILLARD being on the line during the entire working period which consisted of the period of time from 7:00 A.M. until 3:30 P.M. MARLIN stated that the only period of absence he could recall would have been from 11:45 A.M. until 12:15 P.M. during which time WILLARD would have been on his lunch break.

Mr. MARLIN stated that he could not verify the exact time that WILLARD punched in to work on April 4, 1968, nor could he verify the punching out at 3:30 P.M.; however, he stated that in WILLARD's absence the entire assembly line would have been closed down and this was not done.

On 4/5/68 Tupelo, Mississippi

File# Jackson 157-9586-542-4

SA DONALD H. GREENE/bls

Date dictated 4/5/68

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4/9/68	
	4/9/68

JERRY WILSON, Office Manager, K G W Towing Company, Greenville, advised that BILLY RAY KING is an employee of that concern. He advised that on April 4, 1968, he personally observed KING get on a Greyhound Bus in Greenville at 7:55 P.M. He advised that on that date, he first saw KING in the K G W Towing Company, Greenville, Mississippi, at 5:00 P.M. He stated that at this time, he advanced KING money for a bus trip from Greenville to Quincy, Illinois. He stated that he received a telephone call from KING at approximately 10:00 P.M., April 4, 1968, from Clarksdale, Mississippi, during which KING advised the Greyhound Bus he had been riding had been stopped in Clarksdale. WILSON advised that he told KING to get a room in Clarksdale and go back to his home in Lake Providence, Louisiana, the next morning. He stated that WILSON stayed in a Downtowner in Clarksdale during the evening of April 4-5, 1968. WILSON furnished a paid receipt showing that KING had checked into the Downtowner in Clarksdale at 10:12 P.M., April 4, 1968.

WILSON advised that he next heard from KING during the morning of April 5, 1968. He advised that KING advised him at that time that his mother had come to the Downtowner in Clarksdale and picked him up. He advised that KING had stated his mother had taken him back to his home in Lake Providence, Louisiana.

WILSON advised that KING came back to Greenville on April 5, 1968, and at his instructions, caught a plane to Memphis, Tennessee. WILSON advised that the ticket had been confirmed from Greenville to Quincy, Illinois, with Southern Airlines. He advised that the plane had been forced to land in Memphis. He stated that KING

On 4/8/68 at Greenville, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586 542-5

SA JOHN W. NEELLEY

by SA WILLIAM C. MEARNS WCM/wgj Date dictated 4/8/68

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then took a bus from Memphis, Tennessee, to Rock Island, Illinois. WILSON advised that KING checked in on the boat "George Weathers" at 3:00 A.M., April 8, 1968, at Rock Island, Illinois.

# WILSON described KING as follows:

Name

Address

1201 Blount Street

Lake Providence, Louisiana

Height

Six feet one inch

Weight

One Hundred eighty

Hair

Dark

Age Twenty-two

WILSON advised that he had never heard KING make any statements indicating KING had a violent nature or that KING had any Klan affiliation.

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ROME A. EMMONS, JR., President, The Phoenix Laundry Corporation, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, furnished the following information:

His corporation is the only laundry in Mississippi he knows of which uses the Thermo-Seal laundry-marking machine. He stated that the Phoenix Laundry does work for itself and for one other company, the Rite-Way Cleaners, Bowie Street, Hattiesburg.

Mr. EMMONS advised that laundry marking 02B6 is not a marking of his company. He stated that the marking of his company consists of a letter of the alphabet, followed by a number, followed by another letter, followed by a number up to 25. EMMONS furnished the following key to this laundry code:

First Letter Day of the week (M T W X F S)

First Number Series in alphabet

Second Letter Lot

Final Number Bundle within this lot

EMMONS advised that lots are lettered beginning on the Monday of each week with consecutive alphabets, thus the first lot on Monday begins 1A.

EMMONS stated that the tape for this machine is 5/16-inch laundry-marking tape made by the Textile Marking Machine Company, Syracuse, New York. He stated that the Phoenix Laundry purchases this tape from F. H. ROSS and RUDOLPH RAMELLI, both of Jackson, Mississippi.

On_	4/9/68	Hattiesburg,	Mississippi	file#_	Jackson	157-9586-572-	6
		ers A					

by SA THOMAS E. BURG:mif

Date dictated 4/9/68

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EMMONS advised that this tape comes in eight to ten colors; however, red is not a good color, in that the ink from the machine tends to fade and run on red tape. He advised that all colors are used in regular rotation, changing after approximately 20 tickets in a lot.

EMMONS stated that a competitive machine called the Poly-Mark makes similar markings to the Thermo-Seal machine but uses slightly smaller tape, believing this tape to be one-quarter inch wide. He stated that the Crescent Laundry and Southern Cleaners, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, may use this type of machine.

EMMONS furnished samples of the tape used by his machine and several different markings made by this machine.

Date .	4/12/68	
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REGGIE SMITH, cameraman, Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS), Atlanta, Georgia, telephonically contacted SA JAMES O. INGRAM on April 12, 1968. He stated he had just arrived in Atlanta upon instructions issued by officials of CBS. The news media is presently carrying headlines indicating that ERIC STARVO GALT is a prime suspect in the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. at Memphis, Tennessee. A white Mustang registered to GALT was found in Atlanta, on April 11, 1968, abandoned. Through news media, SMITH has obtained description of GALT and believes he has information which could be of value to the FBI. He furnished the following information:

On Saturday, April 6, 1968, he and his soundman, LEROY COLLINS, traveled to Spelman College, Atlanta, Georgia, to film persons viewing the body of Dr. KING, or incidents. The first roll of film that he shot was of a group of about ten people. There was one lone white male who viewed the body in this first group and he and his soundman, COLLINS, noticed the unknown male pass by the coffin and smile. He appeared to laugh, looked around to see if anyone was observing him, and he left "with a smile on his face." SMITH did not consider the incident of any value at that time, until he reviewed the information on GALT and GALT's description.

He described the unknown subject who viewed the body of KING as a white male, in his early thirties, 5' 10" to 5' 11", weight 160 - 170 pounds, dark hair, and was wearing a light-colored suit. SMITH suggested that the FBI may desire to review his first can of sixteen

On	4/12/68	_at _Jackson,	Mississippi	File # _Jackson	157-9586-572-7
by _	SA JAMES O.	INGRAM/bjk		Date dictated4	/12/68
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millimeter sound film which is presently stored at CBS Headquarters, New York, New York. He identified the film as the only white male on the first roll of film and feels he has a good photograph of him. SMITH stated he would contact SA INGRAM later and advise where he could be reached, if needed, in the future.

At 12:32 P.M., April 12, 1968, SMITH telephonically advised from Atlanta that he was residing at the Roswell Road Apartments, Atlanta, telephone number 252-3428, and could always be reached through CBS Headquarters, Atlanta 873-3195.

Date	4/9/68	

Mrs. BARBARA WILLARD, who is employed at the Credit Bureau of Oxford, Oxford, Mississippi, advised that her husband, JOHN H. WILLARD is employed at Day Bright Corporation, Tupelo, Mississippi.

Mrs. WILLARD stated that her husband is the son of ENOS and MAMIE WILLARD who reside in the Thaxton Community in Pontotoc County, Mississippi. Mrs. WILLARD could not recall ENOS and MAMIE ever living in Nesbit, Mississippi.

She continued that on Thursday, April 4, 1968, her husband was at the family home, Highway 6, Pontotoc County, Mississippi, at approximately 5:30 p.m., when she arrived following the completion of her day's work in Oxford, Mississippi. She recalled that her young son was there with her husband at that time.

Mrs. WILLARD stated that her husband remained at the house the remainder of the day and the night of April 4, 1968. He mowed the lawn for a short period of time.

Normally, Mr. WILLARD completes work in Tupelo, Mississippi, at 3:30 p.m., and returns home where he awaits the return of Mrs. WILLARD. Mrs. WILLARD advised she could not say for certain where her husband was from 3:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m., April 4, 1968, but repeated that she is absolutely certain that he was at home at 5:30 p.m., and remained there the rest of the day.

She concluded by stating that to the best of her knowledge, no one has ever used her husband's name.

On	4/5/68	at Oxford, Mississippi	File # <b>Jackson 157-9586</b> - 542-8
	SA JOHN	DENNIS MILLER: yv/ccs	4/8/68
by			——Date dictated —————

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Date April 9, 1968

Mrs. JOHN (BARBARA) WILLARD, an employee of the Credit Bureau of Oxford, Mississippi, advised that, since speaking with the Federal Bureau of Investigation earlier in the day, she recalled that while employed by the Tupelo, Mississippi, Credit Bureau (specific year unrecalled, but perhaps 1966) she was made aware of another JOHN WILLARD in the Tupelo, Mississippi, area through credit files.

She could furnish no information about this individual other than the fact that he moved to Tupelo, Mississippi, from some other city. Mrs. WILLARD could furnish no additional information.

On	4/5/68	at	Oxford,	Mississippi	File #	Jackson 157-9586-542-9
by .	SA JOHN	DENNIS	MILLER:yv		—Date dictat	4/8/68

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

### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date	4/11/68	
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Mr. JAMES L. TATUM, Laundry Department Director, University of Mississippi, was interviewed at the University Laundry.

Mr. TATUM advised that the University Laundry presently uses two poly-mark machines in placing laundry marks on clothing and stated that the ply-mark machines are made by the Pinnacle Company of England and are distributed by W. A. Pullrin Company of New Orleans.

He described his machines as number 1, motor number 5069033, and serial number MC1247.

He identified as machine number 2 a poly-mark, motor number G3455C-8, and serial number MC14182.

Mr. TATUM advised that these are the only two machines in use at present and stated they have been in use at least five years since he has been director at the laundry for that period of time. He could not state how much longer they had been in operation, however, he located an inventory card listing machine MC14182 having been purchased August 1, 1961. He advised the other machine MC1247 was purchased according to his records in approximately 1955. He advised his records were incomplete concerning this stamping machine.

He explained that each of these poly-mark machines have five adjustable dials to adjust various variations of laundry marks. He explained that the first and second ring were listed only as numerals one through nine and stated the third ring was letters A through Z and stated the two remaining rings numbers 4 and 5 were numerals one through nine. He also explained that the first ring did not have a zero and it was impossible to print such a laundry mark as 02B-6 or D2B-6, it

On	4/10/68 at Oxford, Mississippi	File #Jackson 157-9586 - S + 2 - 10
by	SA ROBIN O. COTTEN/pac	Date dictated4/10/68

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being noted that the first digit ring was numerals only one through nine.

He made available samples from both of these machines which have been properly marked and identified.

With reference to a thermo-seal stamping machine, he advised that he has no such machines at the University Laundry. He also checked all available records concerning the existence of a thermo-seal machine, however, could find no record of any such machine ever having been the property of the University Laundry.

He did state, however, that the laundry has blue tago electric serial numbers 23463 and 24048, both being model number BPDC5S3B1. He stated these machines have not been used in many years and that they staple on the laundry mark rather than glue it on with heat as the poly-mark machine does.

Mr. TATUM advised that he has another poly-mark machine, serial number A1576, which has not been used in approximately three years since the machine is not in working order. He advised that he purchased this machine from Mississippi State University in 1965.

He concluded by stating that he is unable to furnish the significance of either laundry mark 02B-6 or D2B-6.

Date 4/12/68

JOHN A. ANDERSON was interviewed at his place of incarceration, Natchez Police Department, Natchez, Mississippi. ANDERSON was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the nature of the interview, and was immediately advised of his constitutional rights. ANDERSON waived these rights by executing the waiver of rights form and voluntarily provided the following information:

ANDERSON stated that during the evening of April 8 and April 9, 1968, he was at the Fountain Lounge in Natchez, driving heavily. He stated that the owner of the Fountain Lounge, JAKE GUERCIO, whom he knew from Woodwille, Mississippi, recognized that he was in an intoxicated condition and asked how he was going to get to Woodville. ANDERSON stated that he told GUERCIO he had intended to ride down with a truck driver but that it appeared that he had forgotten him. ANDERSON stated that GUERCIO told him that he would let him sleep in the Fountain Lounge and "sleep it off" so that he would not be arrested by the police for public intoxication. ANDERSON stated that GUERCIO left him in the Fountain Lounge, locked the door, and apparently went home.

ANDERSON advised that after he was left alone in the lounge, he continued to drink beer and become even more intoxicated. He stated that he found a notepad and decided to write a note and leave it in the lounge as a joke. He stated that he found a pen and wrote the following on a notepad, "I killed M.L.K. in Memphis, Tenn. The Mayor is next. The Klan." ANDERSON further stated that he had written the note he dropped the pad and misplaced it and could not find it again. ANDERSON advised that he was very drunk at the time and did not realize that the note would be taken seriously.

On 4/9/68 of Natchez, Mississippi File# Jackson 157-9586-542-//
by SA PAUL W. ROEMER / mlt Date dictated 4/11/68

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ANDERSON concluded that he has been in Woodville for approximately a week and that on the night that MARTIN LUTHER KING was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, April 4, 1968, he was at the J. B. Nettles Truck Stop, Route 61 South, Wilkinson County, Mississippi, from 7:00 PM to 7:00 AM the following morning, in a drunken condition. ANDERSON stated that he is a good friend of the owner of Nettles Truck Stop and that MILDRED NETTLES would be able to verify his story.

The following is a description of ANDERSON obtained by observation and interview:

Name:

Race:

Sex:

Eyes:

Hair:

Height:

Weight:

Date of Birth:

Social Security #:

Georgia operator's

license number:

Address:

Marital Status:

Wife:

JOHN A. ANDERSON

White

Male

Blue

Black

6 feet

180

3003½ Reese Road
Columbus, Georgia
Married
PEGGY ANN ANDERSON
(separated), presently
living with Mrs. LUCILLE
BUCKEL, Woodville,
Mississippi

D.4.	4/11/68	
Date	4/11/00	

EFFIE LEE WALTON, nee JENKINS, Route 2, Box 119, Potts Camp, Mississippi, was located and interviewed in Marshall County, Mississippi. After being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents, WALTON volunteered the following information:

WALTON explained she is employed at Jack's Truck Stop located on Highway 78, between Holly Springs and Potts Camp, Mississippi. She stated that in conjunction with her employment, she was at work on Thursday, April 4, 1968.

WALTON stated that on April 4, 1968, at approximately 6:30 P.M., just before dark, she was standing in the front window at Jack's Truck Stop. She explained that she had just heard a few minutes prior about the shooting incident involving Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING. She further pointed out that she is relatively certain of the time being approximately 6:30 as she gets off of work at 7:00 P.M., and the incident she has in mind occurred prior to her quitting time of 7:00 P.M.

WALTON stated as she was looking out the front window at Jack's Truck Stop, she observed a white Mustang which she believed to be a 1967 model, pull off of Highway 78 onto the driveway of Jack's Truck Stop. She stated that two white males were sitting in the front seat of this vehicle, and that

On .	4/9/68	_at	Marshall County, Mississi	ppi Jackso	on 157-9586-5+2-6
	SA RICHARD	T.	RABIDEAU / RTR/bjk		
by _	SA KENNETH	Р.	HUGHES // /RTR/bjk	Date dictated	4/9/68
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there was one white male sitting in the rear of this car on the passenger side of the vehicle. She stated there was possibly a second individual sitting in the rear seat of the vehicle; however, she could not be certain of this. She pointed out that the car apparently had clothing, or items, hanging in the car, and she just could not be certain whether or not she had observed a second individual sitting in the back seat of the car.

WALTON stated that the Mustang came to a quick stop and the white male sitting on the passenger side of the front seat got out of the car, proceeded around the vehicle, and got behind the steering wheel of the vehicle. She stated that the driver of the car apparently just scooted over the front seat and never actually got out of the car. WALTON stated that the vehicle immediately departed in what she considered to be a rather hasty fashion, spinning its tires in the gravel.

WALTON stated that the vehicle was definitely a white Mustang and she is relatively certain that it was a 1967 model vehicle. WALTON was requested to describe this vehicle in detail, and thereafter, furnished the following information:

WALTON stated she believed the vehicle was a two door, and was definitely not a convertible or sports model car. She stated she recalls observing a chrome strip running the complete length of the vehicle, and further recalls that the car was very clean, with shiny chrome hubcaps. WALTON stated she could not be certain concerning the license plates of the car, but believed the license plates had a white background and that the numbers or letters on the license plates were a dark color. WALTON stated that the only thing she could be certain about concerning the license plates was tat the license plates were not Mississippi tags.

WALTON was requested to describe the white males she observed in the white Mustang. She pointed out that

the individuals remaining in the car while it was stopped at Jack's Truck Stop were not observed by her very closely and she could not furnish any real details concerning their description. She did recall that the individuals were all white males, and she estimated the individuals to be in their early twenties. She stated that her first impression concerning these individuals was that they were young college men.

WALTON furnished the following description of the individual that actually got out of the white Mustang, and who walked around to the driver's side of this car:

Race: White Sex: Male Age: 23-24

Hair:

iight-colored and
rather long like a
Beatle haircut; she
explained the hair
was combed to the side

WALTON stated this individual was tall and rather slim, and was wearing what she believes to have been a dark brown sports coat with a white shirt. She stated this individual was not wearing a tie, to the best of her memory. She further stated this individual walked with the top portion of his body leaning over. She explained that he did not walk standing straight up. She explained that the only other way she could describe this walk was that the individual appeared to be walking in a hurry.

WALTON has stated she did not recognize any of the individuals in this automobile, and that she did not recognize the car as belonging to anyone she was familiar with. She further stated it was questionable whether she could ever identify the one white male that she observed get out of the 1967 Mustang and walk around the car.

WALTON concluded by stating she could furnish no other information regarding the white males or the vehicle

they were driving. She did recall that the vehicle approached Jack's Truck Stop on Highway 78 from the north, and was headed south when it departed.

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Date	4/10/00	

J. E. RICKS, Laundry Manager, Delta State College, Cleveland, Mississippi, advised the laundry owned a Thermo Seal machine for marking laundry but the machine had not been used for over four years. He said for the last four years laundry had been marked at Delta State College by stamping each garment with the first initial of the student's last name and his student number in indelible ink.

Mr. RICKS said when the Thermo Seal machine had been used, it had placed a tape bearing a lot and serial number on each garment. He said there were no printed tapes available and there was no way the machine could be operated in its present location and condition.

He made available for examination a Thermo Seal machine, Model H5Kl, serial number 31355, which was stored in a building about one block from the laundry on the Delta State campus. The machine was covered with dust and surrounded by other miscellaneous pieces of equipment.

Un	LU/00 at	Cleveland,	Mississippi	File # _	Jackson	157-9586-5+2-13
		. WILMORE,				4/10/68
by				Date dic	tated ——	

	4/9/68
Date	4/3/00

Mr. JAMES EADY, manager, F. H. Ross Company, Commerce Street, Jackson, Mississippi, advised that his company distributes cleaning and laundry supplies to retail outlets in central Mississippi.

When shown a photograph of a pair of men's shorts and a T-shirt which bore a red-colored laundry mark, Mr. EADY stated that this tape was placed on the garments by a Thermo-Seal temporary identification machine. He said his company distributes this machine in central Mississippi. The only machine he knows about in his area is the Phoenix Laundry in Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

Mr. EADY said his company, which also maintains offices in Mobile, Alabama, handles any sales in the southern part of Mississippi, while the same company, with offices in Memphis, Tennessee, handles all business in northern Mississippi.

On 4/9/68 of Jackson, Mississippi File# Jackson 157-9586-542-14

by SA L. DEAN PAARMANN:mif Date dictated 4/9/68

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Date	4/9/68	
Date		

Mr. JAMES LLOYD, Branch Manager, Rudolph Ramelli Company, South Commerce Street, Jackson, Mississippi, advised that his company distributes the Thermo-Seal marking machine in central and northern Mississippi, but that he knows of no machines in use in these areas, with the exception of the Phoenix Laundry in Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

Mr. LLOYD said his company's offices in New Orleans, Louisiana, handle any sales in the southern part of Mississippi.

On	4/9/68 of Jackson, Mississippi	File#Jackson	157-9586-542-15
by	SA L. DEAN PAARMANN:mif	Date dictated	4/9/68

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Date	4/9/68

Mr. JAMES JONES, Mississippi Use Tax Division, Mississippi State Tax Commission, Woolfolk Building, Jackson, Mississippi, advised that the numbering on beer cans has no special significance to his office or to the State of Mississippi.

Mr. JONES said that all Schlitz beer shipped into the state of Mississippi is canned in Longview, Texas, at the Schlitz Brewing Company, and that the Schlitz Company might be in a position to furnish information concerning numbering data on its cans.

On 4/9/68 of Jackson, Mississippi File# Jackson 157-9586-572-/6

SA L. DEAN PAARMANN: mif

\_Date dictated\_

4/9/68

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Date 4/11/68

Mr. RICHARD DAVIS, Superintendent, Crescent Laundry, furnished the following information:

The Crescent Laundry is one of two laundries in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, to use the poly-mark system of laundry markings, the other being Southern Cleaners. The poly-mark machine, purchased from the South's main distributor, Pellerin Laundry Machine Company, New Orleans, Louisiana, prints a laundry mark on a piece of cloth tape and affixes this tape to the garment.

DAVIS advised that the cloth and tape for this machine comes in six colors plus stripes of white with these colors. He advised that the solid and striped colored tapes are varied weekly. DAVIS advised that no red tape is used, but that a shade of pink is a popular color. DAVIS related that this tape is bought from F. H. ROSS, Jackson, Mississippi.

DAVIS stated that all poly-mark machines print a laundry mark consisting of three segments, a number followed by a letter, followed by another number. He furnished the following key to the laundry mark used by Crescent Laundry:

First Number

1-99

Lot Number

Week

Letter

A through Z

(except I & 0)

Second Number

1-15

Customer Number

DAVIS advised that at the beginning of each week the lot number begins at one and continues as far as needed. He stated that lot numbers of less than ten use only this number and are not preceded by a zero in his system. He advised that some poly-mark machines may use a zero preceding a single digit, as he has seen such markings.

On 4/10/68 at Hattiesburg, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586 572-17

SA THOMAS E. BURG/pac

\_Date dictated \_4/11/68

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Thus, DAVIS advised the laundry mark 02B6 would not be made by his machines, for his machine would number this simply 2B6.

DAVIS stated that Crescent Laundry does work for nine other laundries in Hattiesburg, and that work for all these laundries bears these same markings. He stated that there is no way to tell what specific laundry has done a piece of work simply from looking at a laundry mark.

He stated that one other company, Southern Cleaners, uses the poly-mark method in this area. He advised that a competitive method, called thermo-seal, is of about the same popularity as poly-mark, and is used by one one laundry in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, this being the Phoenix Laundry. He stated that the tapes for these two systems are similar, but that the Thermo-seal machine uses thinner tape which is harder to remove from the garment.

DAVIS stated that he had no knowledge of whether or not the Southern Cleaners used a zero in front of a single digit in their laundry mark. He made available samples of unused poly-mark tape and several printed samples from his machine.

Date	1. 1	/1	7 /	40	)	
Date	4.7		L. I	O.C	)	

GEORGE W. COVINGTON, residing Bob White Drive, was interviewed at his place of business Covington and Tyner, 243 West Center Street.

COVINGTON advised that his partner WELDON HARVEY TYNER, JR., was working with COVINGTON in the cleaning of a drainage ditch on April 4, 1968.

COVINGTON advised that he could recall this since he kept record of their work day which he had checked and because he remembered Thursday being the day that it rained a good bit.

COVINGTON advised that he and TYNER were working in conjunction with some Canton, Mississippi city employees in the ditch project.

On	4/11/68 at Canton, Mississippi	File # Jackson 157-9586-542-/8
by	SA JERRY R. PARKER/pac	Date dictated4/12/68

Date4/12/68	Date	4/	12	/68	8	
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WELDON HARVEY TYNER, JR., 770 George Street, was interviewed at his place of business, Covington & Tyner Civil Engineers, 243 West Center Street.

TYNER advised that he did attend U. S. Naval Reserve Training Session at Camp LeJeune, North Carolina, in March or April of 1966. TYNER advised that at this training session he qualified as an expert with both the M-l rifle carbine and the .45 caliber automatic service pistol.

TYNER advised that he might have made such a statement as he would like to see MARTIN LUTHER KING killed, but TYNER advised he could not recall for certain whether he made such a statement at the Camp LeJeune Training Session.

TYNER advised he was in Canton, Mississippi, all day on April 4, 1968, and was working with Canton, Mississippi city employees and his partner GEORGE COVINGTON, cleaning a drainage ditch in Canton, Mississippi.

TYNER said he would furnish more names of the city employees if the interviewing Agent anytime in the future thought it was necessary. TYNER advised that no one had ever called TYNER by the first name of JACK.

On	4/11/68 at Canton,		File # Jackson	157-9586 -572-19
by	SA JERRY R. PARKER	SQP /pac	Date dictated _4/3	12/68

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Date	41	12	/68	

DOROTHY, 770 George Street,

Canton, Mississimi

Commander CHESTER POOLE, U. S. Naval Reserve Training Center, 728 East Pearl, advised that his personnel records contain a jacket for Lieutenant J.G. WELDON HARVEY TYNER, JR.

POOLE advised his records reflect the following description and miscellaneous information concerning TYNER:

WELDON HARVEY TYNER, JR. Name -Present Rank -Lieutenant J.G. U. S. NR Service Number -Date of Birth -Place of Birth -Not Shown 5'11" Height -160 Weight -Hair -Brown Eyes -Brown Blood type -A Positive Address -770 George Street, Canton, Mississippi Former address -1304 Carolyn Avenue, Yazoo City, Mississippi as of November 27, 1962 Father -WELDON HARVEY TYNER, SR 311 10th Avenue Hattiesburg, Mississippi ANNIE LAURA TYNER Mother ~ 311 10th Avenue, Hattiesburg, Mississipi

POOLE advised according to his records, TYNER attended a reserve training session for a construction battalion at Camp LeJeune, North Carolina, in April, 1966.

Wife -

On	4/11/68 at Jackson, Mississippi	File # <u>Jackson 157-9586-542-</u> 20
by	SA JERRY R. PARKER/pac	Date dictated4/12/68

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POOLE advised that according to his records TYNER was qualified as expert with the M-l carbine rifle and .45 caliber pistol by B. F. BERKAU, Commander, C.O., MCB24 at the training session. POOLE advised that he could not be sure but he believed that he had heard TYNER called by the name of JACK previously.

Dote April 16, 1968

Mr. JACK C. PETERS, owner, Briarwood Texaco Service Station. 5575 Interstate 55, North, Jackson, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the nature of the inquiry.

PETERS advised that OSCAR M. WORD has been employed regularly by this service station for approximately one year. He stated WORD works from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. or later, six days aweek. His regular day off is Thursday of each week.

PETERS stated that WORD has not been absent from work any day this year to his recollection other than the past few days when he made a trip to Nevada to obtain his 1965 black Mustang convertible with a white top, which his wife had taken, about a week ago.

PETERS advised that WORD is a steady worker, has a good reputation, and he stated he has no reason to believe WORD would be involved in any type of racial violence.

On 4/15/68 of Jackson Mississippi File# Jackson 157#9586 572-2

SA SAMUEL N. JEMNINGS/bkh

4/16/68

\_\_Date dictated\_

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Date April 16, 1968

OSCAR MAYNARD WORD, 3434 Midlawn Street, Jackson, Mississippi, in care of Mrs. M. M. HEARD, telephone number 366-8209, was interviewed at his place of employment, Briarwood Texaco Service Station, 5575 Interstate 55 North, Jackson, Mississippi. He was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and of the nature of the inquiry.

WORD advised that about one week ago his wife, MARY, took their five children and his Mustang automobile and left him, driving to the home of her mother in Las Vegas, Nevada. WORD subsequently found out where she was and left Jackson, Mississippi, on Wednesday, April 10, 1968, to go and get her or at least pick up the automobile which he had only made two payments on.

He stated he hitched a ride and also traveled by bus part of the way to Nevada. He stated he obtained the black Mustang convertible with a white top from his wife and drove it back to Mississippi alone. He stated he passed through Oklahoma City late Saturday afternoon.

WORD advised he arrived back in Jackson, Mississippi, Sunday night, first stopping by his place of employment and then checking into Baker Motel, Highway 49, North Jackson. He stayed in Unit Number 8 of this motel for one night. He stated he plans to live with his mother temporarily in Jackson since he and his wife are now separated.

WORD stated that the Mustang which he now has possession of was purchased by DAVID BREWER, an acquaintance of his at Jackson, Mississippi, but BREWER was unable to keep up the monthly payments and let WORD have the vehicle on February 12, 1968, letting WORD take up the payments.

SA SAMUEL N. JENNINGS/bkh	4/16/68

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WORD advised that the Mississippi License Plate which is on the Mustang now, 1968 Mississippi HB-9317, is the same license plate that has been on the vehicle since he obtained it. He stated he understands BREWER bought this license plate for a Ford Falcon but switched it to the Mustang after selling the Falcon.

WORD advised he works regularly at the Briarwood Texaco Service Station from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. six days a week and has not been off from work any this year other than the trip to Nevada mentioned above. He stated he is off each Thursday all day which is his regular day off. WORD advised he has not been in Memphis, Tennessee, or Birmingham, Alabama, during the past six months. He stated that on April 4, 1968, he was at Jackson, Mississippi. He stated he was working on a car behind the service station where he works at about 6:00 p.m. on April 4, 1968, and was talking to CLINTON BROWN, at which time he heard about Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING's being shot at Memphis, Tennessee.

WORD is described as follows through interview and observation:

Sex
Race
White
Date of Birth
Place of Birth
Carrollton, Georgia
Height
5'11"

Weight 137 Pounds
Build Slim

Hair Medium Brown
Long and Curly
Eves Hazel

Eyes Hazel
Scars and Marks Small diagonal scar across bridge of nose

Tattoos

Colored flower with word "Love" on left forearm; butterfly on right forearm shaped like

",,"

Marital Status

Wife

Children |

Employment

Married MARY RUTH

Six, ages 4 through 17 Attendant, Briarwood Texaco

Service Station, 5575 Interstate 55 North, Jackson, Mississippi

employed for past year

Previous

**Employment** 

Truck driver for various

companies, traveling throughout

the United States

Date	4/11/68	
Date	11 100	

THOMAS N. BEARD, JR., Officer Manager, Long's Laundry and Cleaners, 130 East Main Street, Tupleo, Mississippi, after being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the nature of the inquiry, advised that his organization has two Thermal-seal marking machines manufactured by Textile Marking Machine Company, Syracuse, New York. Mr. BEARD stated that these marking machines are used only on laundry and are not used on dry-cleaning.

Mr. BEARD stated that the code '02B6" or "D2B6" are not codes used by his company. Mr. BEARD made available two samples of marking tapes, one sample being a striped white and blue tape with the number 66B 1 and a pink tag tape with number 67 B I on it. Mr. BEARD stated that the first numerals appearing before the letter are numbered 1 to 100 which denotes the lot number. He stated the letter B would be the first hundred tickets in the lot number, and after 100, would appear a double letter; for example, BB. Mr. BEARD stated the last number, #1, would be the ticket number in the lot. Mr. BEARD stated that his above two colors are the only two colors used by his laundry, and that they do not use a red-colored marking tape.

Mr. BEARD could offer no information concerning the identity of the laundry using the code 02B 6 or D2B 6. He stated that each individual laundry uses their own code.

Mr. BEARD stated that inasmuch as his company was in the process of running full production on laundry,

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he could not change his machines to stamp out a code number 02B 6 inasmuch as he would have to run his machine completely through its series and then start over, and this would be impractical to do at the present time.

Mr. BEARD further advised that his company does not keep permanent records concerning customers; however, stated that the following names were not familiar to him:

> JOHN WILLARD; HARVEY LOWMEYER; HARVEY LOWMYER or ERIC STARVAL GALT

Mr. BEARD stated that the above machines, which bears serial numbers 11803 and 11804, are the only textile marking machine company machines used by his company in Tupelo, Mississippi. He further stated that he knows of no other laundries in Tupelo, Mississippi, that use this marking machine.

Date	4/5/68
174145	

TOMMY HARROLSON, manager and owner, G and H Liggett Rexall Drugstore, furnished the following information:

HARROLSON stated that cash-register receipts for cash purchases made in his drugstore are automatically dated by the cash register. He stated that each cash-register receipt carries the title

G and H
Rexall Drug
Columbus, Mississippi

Following this heading is the date of the purchase and below the date of the purchase is the amount of the purchase.

HARROLSON stated that each cash-register receipt has a number; however, these numbers are immaterial to the business of his store. He stated that when the numbers reach a level which he thinks is high, he flips a switch on the cash register and the numbers start over. Therefore, the numbers mean nothing and no information concerning the accounting procedure of the store is filed by these numbers.

HARROLSON continued that the only other tickets handled by his drugstore are charge tickets, which carry the name G and H Liggett Rexall Drugstore, Columbus, Mississippi. He stated that the date has to be written in by a clerk and the numbers on these receipts go only to 50.

Ca 4/5/68 at Columbus, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586 542-24

SA BRENT W. WARBERG &
by SA LAWRENCE W. GORMAN: BWW:mif

\_\_\_Date dictated \_\_\_\_\_4/5/

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HARROLSON stated that his drugstore does put price tags on some articles. He stated that these price tags are labeled Liggett Rexall, and then the price of the article is written on the price tag and the price tag is put on the article.

HARROLSON stated that sacks in which merchandise is placed do not carry the name of his drugstore. He stated that the only other labels used by his drugstore are the labels which are put on prescriptions and that these carry the name G and H Rexall Drugs, Columbus, Mississippi; however, these are not placed on toilet articles.

HARROLSON continued that Liggett Rexall Drugs is a chain operation throughout the South. He stated that his drugstore is the only Liggett Rexall Drugs in the state of Mississippi; however, other Liggett Rexall Drugs are predominant in Alabama, Georgia, and Florida.

HARROLSON was given a description of the unknown subject, and he stated he could not recall having sold any Head and Shoulders shampoo or Palmolive Rapid Shave to any individual answering this description.

	4/5/68
Date	

SONNY SMITH, clerk, G and H Liggett Rexall Drug Company, Columbus, Mississippi, stated he could not recall selling any articles to an individual answering the description of the unknown subject.

Date	4/5/68
Dave	

ROBERT A. MC PHERSON, Mississippi Wholesale
Hardware, Columbus, Mississippi, stated that he knew of no
Compage or Rompage Hardware in or around the area of
Columbus, Mississippi. He stated that the only way he
would be able to check something like this would be through
Dunl and Bradstreet and even at that, he would have to have
the name of a city.

On 4/5/68 at Columbus, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-542-26

SA BRENT W. WARBERG & Date dictated 4/5/68

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Date	4/10/68
170110	

Mrs. JOAN EDWARDS, manager, Credit Bureau of Tupelo, Mississippi, stated that she has no file identifiable with JOHN H. WILLARD; however, she stated she knows WILLARD personally through his wife, BARBARA WILLARD, who formerly worked for Mrs. EDWARDS at the Tupelo Credit Bureau and is presently the manager of the Credit Bureau at Oxford, Mississippi.

Mrs. EDWARDS stated that she has personal knowledge that JOHN H. WILLARD is presently employed at the Day Brite Lighting Company, Incorporated, Tupelo, Mississippi. She stated that as far as she knows, JOHN WILLARD is an honest, trustworthy individual, who does not normally get involved in any type of trouble. She stated that to the best of her knowledge WILLARD presently owns a pickup truck and his wife drives a new 1968 white Volkswagen. Mrs. EDWARDS stated that she has never known WILLARD to be a radical individual; nor has she ever known him to carry any firearms.

Mrs. EDWARDS stated that she could not furnish any additional information concerning JOHN H. WILLARD, since she and Mrs. WILLARD are not in daily contact since BARBARA WILLARD is no longer employed at the Tupelo Credit Bureau.

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Date	4/10/68	
Date		

Mrs. W. J. BAKER, Circuit Clerk, Pontotoc County, Mississippi, advised that the Circuit Court records reveal that one JOHN H. WILLARD of Pontotoc County, Mississippi, was indicted by the Circuit Court Grand Jury during the June term of 1958 for arson. When WILLARD appeared in court he entered a plea of guilty and was placed on probation for three years, which probation terminated May 3, 1961.

Mrs. BAKER advised that she is not personally acquainted with WILLARD but stated that in 1958 Mr. M. C. HEMBREE, who currently resides in the Ecru community of Pontotoc County, Mississippi, was sheriff.

On 4/5/68 of Pontotoc, Mississippi File# Jackson 157-9586-5+2-28

by SA JOHN S. CASTLES:mif Date dictated 4/8/68

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	4/15/68	
Date	4/13/00	

DAVID MARLON BREWER, 1043 Pyle Street, Jackson, Mississippi, telephone number 352-6813, was interviewed at his place of employment, Hodges Engineering Company, 5175 Galaxie Street, Jackson, Mississippi. BREWER was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the nature of the inquiry. He furnished the following voluntary information:

BREWER advised that he is the owner of a 1965 black Mustang convertible with a white top and the vehicle has 1968 Mississippi license HB-9317 on it. This tag was purchased for a 1962 Ford Falcon which was sold to a teenager in Jackson, Mississippi, and BREWER removed the tag and placed it on the Mustang when he purchased it, without advising anyone of the transfer of license plate. BREWER advised that he has not been in this Mustang recently since he was having trouble making the monthly payments and he let OSCAR WORD, an employee of the Briarwood Texaco Station, Interstate 55 North, Jackson, Mississippi, take over the vehicle and the monthly payments in February, 1968. BREWER advised that WORD has been having trouble with his wife recently and about a week ago, she took the Mustang and their children and left WORD, allegedly going to stay with her mother at Las Vegas, Nevada. About Wednesday, April 10, 1968, WORD found out where his wife was in Nevada and took a bus there immediately to either bring her back or bring the Mustang vehicle back.

BREWER advised he has not seen WORD for about a week but believes he will be back at work at the Briarwood Texaco Station as soon as he returns to Mississippi.

BREWER described OSCAR WORD as follows:

On _	4/15/68	at Jackson, Mississippi	File # <b>Jackson 157-9586</b>
	SA SAMUEL	N. JENNINGS:ccs	4/15/68
by _			Date dictated

Race White Sex Male

Age About 36 years of age

Height Six feet tall Weight 150 pounds

Hair Dark brown, curly

Complexion Dark

Scars Scar over bridge of nose Employment Briarwood Texaco Station,

Interstate 55 North, Jackson,

Mississippi,

Marital Status Married

Children Three or four school children.

# BREWER described himself as follows:

Race White Sex Male

Date of Birth
Place of Birth Terry, Mississippi

Height Five feet eleven inches Weight 160 pounds

Weight 160 pour Hair Brown Eyes Green

Scars One inch scar on outside of left

eve

Employment Employed for about 2 years at Hodges

Engineering Company, 5175 Galaxie

Street, Jackson

Marital Status Married

Children One son, DAVID BREWER, JR., age 1.

BREWER advised that the manager of the Briarwood Texaco Service Station, Mr. JACK C. PETERS, would be able

to assist in locating OSCAR WORD in the event he has not returned to work in Jackson. BREWER said he feels certain WORD would have been the individual driving the above Mustang convertible in Oklahoma on April 13, 1968, and very likely WORD was returning to Mississippi with this vehicle.

Date	4/15/68	

Mr. LONNIE PHIL SMITH was contacted at the Veterans Administration Hospital (VA). SMITH was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and furnished the following information:

SMITH is presently a patient, suffering from failing eye sight and an arthritic condition who has been assigned to domiciliary number 2 since March 15, 1968. Prior to his admission at the Biloxi VA Hospital, he was a patient at the VA Hospital in Birmingham, Alabama, having been first admitted there December 3, 1967. SMITH has worked as a licensed pratical nurse (LPN) in Birmingham, Alabama. He was last employed as an LPN at the Hanover House Nursing Home in Birmingham for one week in September, 1967, he believes the dates to be September 2, 1967 to September 9, 1967.

He had a room at the Economy Boarding House. SMITH could not remember the room number and indicated that he was not particularly friendly with other roomers in that dwelling. During the week he spent at the Economy Boarding House in September, he became acquainted with an individual also rooming at the Economy Boarding House whom he described as follows:

Race White
Sex Male
Age Middle or late 20's
Height Medium
Weight 170
Build Medium
Hair Brown, business cut.

On _	4/13/68	at	Biloxi,	Miss	issippi	File #	Jackson	157-9586 5+2-30
	SA	PAUL	A. MEISS	NER,	JR.,/brh	OK-	4,	15/68
by						Date di	ctated	
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