

Characteristics

Well-mannered and always  
well-dressed

During the week he spent at the Economy Boarding House, exact date unrecalled, the individual described above drove SMITH in his (SMITH's) vehicle to Leeds, Alabama, to visit SMITH's dying brother. This trip, which took one day, resulted in this individual meeting SMITH's sister-in-law, FRANCIS SMITH, and her daughter, GAIL SMITH in Leeds, Alabama. FRANCIS SMITH is presently employed as a nurse at the Leeds Hospital in Leeds, Alabama. During the entire period of SMITH's contact with the above described individual, SMITH advised he does not believe the man identified himself by name. He stated the man did very little talking about himself and would only respond to questions. SMITH advised that one thing he remembered was that the man indicated that he was an artist and he gave SMITH the impression he was not employed at present.

The individual described above, who drove with him to Leeds, Alabama, appeared to be friends with (First name unknown) CHEETER (Phonetic), the owner of the Economy Boarding House. SMITH advised he saw this individual speaking with CHEETER several times during the week he stayed at the Economy Boarding House. SMITH advised further that during the entire period of his stay at the Economy Boarding House, he was under extreme nervous tension and was distraut. He advised that he could not recall anything else concerning the individual described above, but that should he recall anything further, he would immediately contact the FBI.

SMITH advised that he did not recognize any of the following names as being identical with people he had previously met:

JN 157-9586

JOHN WILLARD

HARVEY LOWMEYER or LOWMYER

ERIC STARVO GALT

The following description was obtained through observation and interview:

|                |                                |
|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Name           | LONNIE PHIL SMITH              |
| Home address   | Route 1, Eastaboga,<br>Alabama |
| Race           | White                          |
| Sex            | Male                           |
| Date of birth  | [REDACTED]                     |
| Place of birth | Gallant, Alabama               |
| Height         | 5'8"                           |
| Weight         | 150                            |
| Hair           | Brown, grey                    |
| Eyes           | Blue                           |

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/15/68

Mr. LONNIE PHIL SMITH was recontacted at the Veterans Administration Hospital (VA) and was shown an artist's conception of an unknown subject who meets the description of the person who shot Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., at Memphis, Tennessee. This conception was obtained through interviews at Memphis. He was also shown an artist's conception of an unknown subject who meets the description of unknown subject who was in Birmingham, Alabama during pertinent period.

After viewing both artist's conceptions, Mr. SMITH advised that he could not identify either as being identical or closely resembling anyone with whom he has had previous contact. Specifically, he stated he could not identify either of the individuals described in the photographs as being identical with the individual he met at the Economy Boarding House in Birmingham, Alabama during September, 1967, who drove him to Leeds, Alabama.

On 4/15/68 at Biloxi, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-31  
by SA PAUL A. MEISSNER, JR.,/brh Date dictated 4/15/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/11/68

RAY ADAMS, Manager, Columbus Motel, affiliate of the Friendship Motels, Highway 82 East, Columbus, Mississippi, reviewed his registration records from March 20, 1968, through April 3, 1968, for the following names and advised none of these names could be located in these records:

JOHN WILLARD  
HARVEY LOWMEYER, HA  
HARVEY LONYER  
ERIC STARVO GALT  
2608 Highland Avenue  
Birmingham, Alabama

The records were also checked for a white Mustang bearing Alabama license 1-389-93 for the same time with negative results.

On 4/11/68 at Columbus, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-372-32  
by SA LYNN P. SMITH:pdb Date dictated 4/11/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 15, 1968

Mrs. JOAN EDWARDS, Manager, Credit Bureau of Tupelo, Mississippi, stated that her files reveal that one JOHN M. WILLARD, 2929 Bogan Drive, Tupelo, Mississippi, was employed by Fred Strange Motor Company in January of 1964. The record indicates that WILLARD had previous employments at Sedalia, Missouri, and Rolla, Missouri, and the credit check at that time was being conducted for Universal CIT.

Mrs. EDWARDS advised that JOHN M. WILLARD had a satisfactory credit record in Tupelo, Mississippi, and that no inquiry has been made concerning him since January of 1964.

On 4/5/68 at Tupelo, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-33  
by SA JOHN S. CASTLES:yv Date dictated 4/8/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 15, 1968

FRED STRANGE, owner, Fred Strange Motor Company, Incorporated, 811 Varsity Drive, Tupelo, Mississippi, advised that his records reveal that JOHN MILBURN WILLARD, whose wife is CAROL was employed as a mechanic by the company between September 6, 1963, and March 5, 1964, and his local residence was 328 North Madison Street, Tupelo, Mississippi, and later 2929 Bogan Drive, Tupelo, Mississippi. STRANGE said his records reveal that WILLARD left employ of his company of his own volition allegedly to return to Sedalia, Missouri.

STRANGE said that his records indicate that WILLARD has had previous employment at Sowers Motors, Incorporated, Rollo, Missouri; Druitt Motor Company, Sedalia, Missouri, and Kinder Motors, Poplar Bluff, Missouri. He stated that at this time he believes JOHN MILBURN WILLARD is employed with his former service manager, J. W. SHEPHERD at a Volkswagen Company in Kansas City, Missouri.

Mr. STRANGE said that WILLARD was a satisfactory employee and to the best of his recollection he was a white male, according to records, was born [REDACTED] is 5 feet 4 inches, weight approximately 110 pounds, black hair parts on the left side.

On 4/5/68 at Tupelo, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-34  
by SA JOHN S. CASTLES:yv Date dictated 4/8/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/11/68

Mrs. GRACE ROSCHELLE, 946 Myrtlewood Street, Jackson, Mississippi, telephonically advised as follows on this date:

She said her husband, RAYMOND ROSCHELLE, had stopped at a truck stop in Brookhaven, Mississippi, managed or operated by a Mrs. (first name unknown) MARTIN on the late evening of April 4, 1968. She said her husband overheard a conversation that one JESSIE KIMBELL, or KIMBALL, a white male from Brookhaven, Mississippi, had been having with some truck drivers at the truck stop. She said her husband told her that KIMBELL, or KIMBALL, who appeared to have been drinking, said he had just arrived from Memphis, and made some remarks about MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.'s being shot there and about a blanket muffling the shot from the assassin. She said her husband continued that KIMBELL, or KIMBALL, related information that the gun used by the assassin had been purchased at a Sears, Roebuck and Company Store in Memphis, Tennessee, on Jefferson or Poplar Street. She said her husband overheard KIMBELL, or KIMBALL, to say he worked for a wholesale drugstore or pharmaceutical company in Brookhaven.

Mrs. ROSCHELLE said her husband told her that KIMBELL, or KIMBALL, was driving a late model white Chevrolet but her husband had been unable to obtain the license number. She said her husband did not want to be contacted by the FBI in this regard. She said the information she had provided from her husband could possibly have a bearing on the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Mrs. ROSCHELLE said she does not have a telephone at her residence but, if necessary, can be contacted at the home of a neighbor at telephone number 352-6010.

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On 4/6/68 at Jackson, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-SF2-35  
by SA THOMAS FITZ PATRICK : cmb Date dictated 4/11/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/68

FLORENCE MARSHALL, Marshall Motel, was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent. She made available the registration records of the Marshall Motel, a Friendship Inn.

The registration records for the Marshall Motel were searched for the names HARVEY LOWMEYER, JOHN WILLARD, WILLIAM DELL LEHMEYER and ERIC STARVOGALT. The records failed to reflect that any of these individuals had stayed at the Marshall Motel from a period of March 20, 1968 through April 3, 1968.

Mrs. MARSHALL stated that since the first of the year their motel has not lost any articles, including towels, bedspreads, et cetera from the motel.

She further stated that their motel uses Cashmere Bouquet soap and this soap is wrapped in Cashmere Bouquet wrapping. She stated the motel has not ~~exhausted~~ its supply of this soap, but when it does, they will use soap bearing a Friendship Inn label.

On 4/11/68 at WEST POINT, MISSISSIPPI File # Jackson 157-9586-242-36  
by SA BRENT W. WARBERG /jdh Date dictated 4/12/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 16, 1968

F. M. VAUGHAN, Assistant Manager, Hunter Distributing Company, Highway 82 East, Columbus, Mississippi, furnished the following information:

The Hunter Distributing Company, which distributes Schlitz beer in the Columbus, Mississippi, area, did not receive any shipments of beer from Longview, Texas, dated March 15, 1968. He explained that the code 03/158 meant that the beer was shipped from Longview, Texas, on that date.

He stated that they received three cars of beer with beer dated March 28, 1968, and that they received one car of beer with beer dated March 14, 1968, but none dated March 15, 1968.

On 4/12/68 at Columbus, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-37  
by SA LYNN P. SMITH /blw Date dictated 4/15/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/15/68

M. E. TOOTLE, Manager, base laundry, Keesler Air Force Base, advised that his business employs four Thermo-Seal machines manufactured by Textile Marking Machines Company, Syracuse, New York.

Mr. TOOTLE advised that to the best of his knowledge, his is the only laundry on the Gulf Coast which utilizes the Thermo-Seal marking machines. He advised that the machine is supplied with tapes which come in eleven various colors, including the color red and he stated his employees merely rotate the color and that therefore, colors have no significance per se.

He further stated that the marking system which he devised for himself, reflects the lot number, employees initials, and bundle number. Mr. TOOTLE advised that his company would not use either of the following codings:

O2B-6 or D2B-6.

Mr. TOOTLE made available the following samples from his Thermo-Seal machines as indicated below for submission to the FBI Laboratory for analysis and comparison:

| <u>Number of Tape</u> | <u>Code Number</u> | <u>Serial Number of machines</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| 5                     | O2B-6              | 33746                            |
| 5                     | D2B-6              | 33746                            |
| 5                     | D2B-6              | 33891                            |

On 4/11/68 at Biloxi, Mississippi File # Jackson, 157-9586-212-38  
by SA PAUL A. MEISSNER, JR./brh Date dictated 4/15/68

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JN 157-9586

| <u>Number of Tape</u> | <u>Code Number</u> | <u>Serial Number of machines</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| 5                     | D2B-6              | 33743                            |
| 5                     | O2B-6              | 33891                            |
| 4                     | D2B-6              | 33742                            |
| 4                     | O2B-6              | 33743                            |
| 5                     | O2B-6              | 33742                            |

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

C. H. HESTER, 801-12th Avenue North, was contacted at his place of employment, the Mississippi National Guard, Amory, Mississippi. He was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and he furnished the following information:

HESTER stated that his father-in-law, FLOYD AGNEW, is currently the manager at the Ramada Inn in Mobile, Alabama. He stated his father-in-law's address is 2212 St. Teresa, Mobile, Alabama.

HESTER stated he does not know very much about his father-in-law's operation of the Amory Steam Laundry, but he does recall that when laundry was marked, it was marked in indelible ink on the garment and the marking had the initials of the garment owner, then a single numeral designation which was utilized for route delivery in and around the Amory, Mississippi, area. He stated he did not know what brand of machinery is father-in-law utilized at the laundry.

On 4/10/68 at Amory, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-39  
by SA BRENT W. WARBERG: cmb Date dictated 4/10/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

W. J. DUNCAN was contacted at his place of employment, Duncan Steam Laundry. He was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent. He furnished the following information:

DUNCAN stated he is the owner-manager of the Duncan Steam Laundry. He stated he purchased this laundry from M. D. HOOD in May, 1964, and took over operation on May 4, 1964. He stated the laundry was originally known as the Amory Steam Laundry.

DUNCAN stated that he has two marking machines, which he uses to mark laundry. He stated that both of these machines are national marking machines which are manufactured by the National Marking Machine Company, Cincinnati, Ohio. The serial numbers of these machines are 1158-C and 1155-C.

DUNCAN continued that when he took over operation of the laundry, there were also three other marking machines; however, these machines were obsolete and broken down. He stated two of them were national marking machines and the other was a perfection marker which was manufactured in Denver, Colorado. He stated that the machines now in operation were there when he took operation of the laundry and to his knowledge, had been in use at the laundry for several years prior to his taking over control.

DUNCAN stated that his marking machines do not use tape. He marks laundry right on the garment. The ink utilized is indelible black ink. He stated the only code he uses has the initials of the persons or the owner of the laundry, and a dash and a number designation, which is utilized for deliveries by his laundry in the surrounding area. This number designation goes from one to five; the number one being deliveries in Amory, Mississippi, and orders ~~which are brought into the laundry and picked up at the laundry.~~

On 4/10/68 at Amory, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-342-40  
by SA BRENT W. WARBERG: cmb Date dictated 4/10/68

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JN 157-9586

Numbers two through five are route numbers, the routes of which are designated by the laundry. He stated that he knew nothing concerning a Thermoseal machine but the previous owner, M. D. HOOD, may know if a Thermoseal machine was utilized by the laundry.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

M. D. HOOD was contacted at his place of employment, Hood Laundry. He was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent. He furnished the following information:

HOOD stated that he purchased the Amory Steam Laundry during the first part of 1964 from FLOYD AGNEW. He stated that he sold the laundry in May, 1964, to W. J. DUNCAN. HOOD continued that during the time he operated the laundry, he knew of no marking machine utilized by the laundry other than the national marking machines that are presently at that laundry. He stated if there was a Thermo-seal machine in use prior to his owning the laundry, Mr. AGNEW would have this information. He stated he did not know AGNEW's location, except that he lived in Mobile, Alabama; however, AGNEW's son-in-law, C. H. HESTER, would know AGNEW's address.

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On 4/10/68 at Amory, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-41  
by SA BRENT W. WARBERG: cmb Date dictated 4/10/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

DONALD KILLEN was contacted by agents at the J. F. Barnett Electric and Plumbing Company, 279 West Beacon Street. The identities of the interviewing agents and the nature of the inquiry were made known to KILLEN. He was advised by SA RUCKER that he did not have to talk with the agents and that anything he did say could be used against him in a court of law. He was told that he could consult with an attorney of his own choice before making any statement and could have an attorney with him during interview if he so desired. No threats or promises were made to induce KILLEN to talk with the agents. An attempt was made to allow KILLEN to read a warning and waiver of rights form, which form he declined to read or sign.

KILLEN denied having played any part or having knowledge, other than what he had heard or read in the news, about the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. He related that he is employed at the Barnett Electric and Plumbing Company in Philadelphia, Mississippi, and that he did not work on the afternoon of April 4, 1968. He said that he could not recall his whereabouts on March 29 and 30, 1968. KILLEN did say that he does recall that on April 4, 1968, shortly after 6:00 p.m. he was at his home in rural Philadelphia, Mississippi, watching television when his television program was interrupted with a special announcement of KING's having been shot in Memphis, Tennessee. KILLEN then terminated the interview by saying that he was the brother of EDGAR RAY KILLEN who has been arrested by FBI agents in the past and "I'm a God-fearing man and have nothing further to say."

The following descriptive data was obtained  
obtained through observation:

On 4/9/68 at Philadelphia, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-542-42  
by SA JOHN B. RUCKER, JR. & SA FRANK B. WATTS:JBR/pdb Date dictated 4/12/68

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JN 157-9586

|                |                           |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| Name           | DONALD KILLEN             |
| Race           | White                     |
| Sex            | Male                      |
| Date of birth  | [REDACTED]                |
| Place of birth | Philadelphia, Mississippi |
| Height         | 5'10"                     |
| Weight         | 155-160                   |
| Hair           | Black                     |
| Build          | Medium                    |
| Features       | Sharp                     |

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/16/68

Reverend EDGAR RAY KILLEN was contacted at his home and made aware of the identity of the interviewing agent and advised of the nature of the inquiry.

KILLEN stated that as best he can recall he and his two brothers, JERRY and BOBBY, were employed at their mill in Brandon, Mississippi, on March 29-30, 1968. He said that he definitely recalls that he and BOBBY were at the mill on April 4, 1968, and that JERRY was in the woods cutting logs. KILLEN said that he is married, but has no children. He added that his other two brothers, DONALD and ROY were at their respective employments. KILLEN added that all his brothers live at home with their mother and father with the exception of ROY who lives nearby in a small house. He added that he recalls that all were home on the evening when the news of the murder of Reverend KING was heard.

KILLEN stated that he did not desire to comment regarding the death of KING since anything he might say could be taken the wrong way.

On 4/9/68 at Neshoba County, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-43  
by SA JOHN H. PROCTOR, JR.:pdb Date dictated 4/10/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 10, 1968

RAYMOND L. WILSON, Supervisor of Maintenance, Ellisville State School, made available sample markings of the state school laundry marking machines described below:

Thermo - Seal  
Identification Machine  
Textile Marking Machine Company, Inc.  
Syracuse, New York  
Model Number H5K2  
Serial Number 31214

Thermo - Seal  
Identification Machine  
Textile Marking Machine Company, Inc.  
Syracuse, New York  
Model Number H5K2  
Serial Number 31215

According to Mr. WILSON, these marking machines are used only to mark employees' laundry. Usually, the employee's name or initials and numbers are used in the markings.

Mr. WILSON pointed out that the red samples were made on machine with serial number 31214; and he stated that metal staples were never used in these markings tags to his knowledge.

4/10/68 at Ellisville, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-44  
SA BERNARD C. LANG/bkh *[Signature]* 4/10/68  
Date dictated \_\_\_\_\_

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

MARTIN KOGON, also known as Marty, advised that he is the manager of the Midland Shirt Company, Union, Mississippi. He advised that ROY GENE KILLEN is an employee of that company. He advised that according to their records (time clock), ROY KILLEN arrived for work on 6:40 a.m. and departed at 4:12 p.m. on March 29, 1968. He said that March 30, 1968, was a Saturday and that they did not operate on that date. He said that on April 4, 1968, ROY KILLEN checked in at 6:40 a.m. and departed at 4:12 p.m. He added that KILLEN has been employed with his company for several months and is a good employee.

KOGON described KILLEN as follows:

|                |                             |
|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Name           | ROY GENE KILLEN             |
| Sex            | Male                        |
| Race           | White                       |
| Date of birth  | [REDACTED]                  |
| Place of birth | Neshoba County, Mississippi |
| Height         | 6'2"                        |
| Weight         | 190                         |
| Hair           | Dark                        |
| Education      | Three years high school     |
| Marital status | Married; has no children    |

On 4/9/68 at Union, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-45  
by SA JOHN H. PROCTOR, JR. & SA DONALD J. CESARE/JHP/pdb Date dictated 4/11/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

Mrs. LONNIE RAY KILLEN, Route 4, Union, Mississippi, was contacted by SA's DONALD J. CESARE and JOHN H. PROCTOR, JR., who immediately advised her of their identities as special agents of the FBI. Mrs. KILLEN was advised of the nature of the interview and voluntarily furnished the following information:

Mrs. KILLEN identified herself as the mother of EDGAR RAY KILLEN. She stated EDGAR had been "logging and sawing" as of late near Brandon, Mississippi, and would not return home until 8:00 or 8:30 p.m. each evening. She stated that EDGAR RAY is married, but does not have any children.

She related that she has five sons including EDGAR RAY. All but one married son reside with her at home. One son, ROY GENE, also known as "shorty", lives at the home adjacent to hers with his wife. ROY GENE is employed at the Midland Shirt Company in Union, Mississippi. The other sons she identified as JERRY, age 29, born [REDACTED]; and, BOBBY, age 36, born [REDACTED]. She further advised that DON is employed by Barnett's Electric Company of Philadelphia and that BOBBY and JERRY work with EDGAR RAY logging.

Mrs. KILLEN stated that none of her sons have been out of the state or on any extended trips during the past year or so. She stated that to the best of her recollection all her sons were at home on March 29, 1968, and March 30, 1968. She further recalled that at the time of the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., in Memphis, Tennessee, on April 4, 1968, she was watching television

On 4/9/68 at Union, Mississippi

File # Jackson 157-9586-572-46

by SA DONALD J. CESARE & SA JOHN H. PROCTOR, JR.:DJC/pdb

Date dictated 4/11/68

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JN 157-9586

advising of the incident. At the time she remembered EDGAR RAY relate to the other members of the family gathered to watch that it was a good thing that he was not in Memphis.

Mrs. KILLEN could furnish no further information.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

R. B. TULLOS, manager, Mississippi State Laundry, Mississippi State University, State College, Mississippi, telephonically furnished the following information:

He said he was mistaken regarding the Thermo-Seal machine bearing Serial Number 31214 and Serial Number 31215 having been given to the University of Mississippi at Oxford, Mississippi two or three years ago.

He said a complete check of the records of the Mississippi State Laundry discloses that the two marking machines referred to above were turned over to the Ellisville State School, Ellisville, Mississippi in August, 1965, by the authorities at the Mississippi State Laundry, State College, Mississippi.

On 4/10/68 at Columbis, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-47  
by SA LYNN P. SMITH/brh Date dictated 4/10/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/11/68

Mr. CHALMERS LANE, Director, Ellisville State School, advised that there is no one employed at the school by the following names:

JOHN WILLARD,  
HARVEY LOWMEYER,  
HARVEY LOWMYER,  
ERIC S. GALT.

Mr. LANE further advised that the only male employee who was off work in late March and early April was RICHARD DUHON. DUHON did not work the following days due to normal days off and reported illness: March 27,28,29, 1968, and April 3,4,5, 1968.

Mr. LANE stated that according to his employment records DUHON who has been employed for approximately two months is described as follows:

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Race            | White   |
| Sex             | Male  |
| Age             | 39  |
| Height          | Five feet eight inches                                  |
| Build           | Medium  |
| Hair            | Dark brown and wavy                                     |
| Characteristics | Slight French appearance                                |
| Address         | Moselle, Mississippi                                    |
| Employment      | Attendant, Men's Dormitory,<br>Ellisville State School. |

On 4/11/68 at Ellisville, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-48  
by SA BERNARD C. LANG:ccs Date dictated 4/11/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

Mrs. GRADY MARTIN, JR., Route 2, Bogue Chitto, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent, who also advised her that she did not have to furnish any information, that any information she did furnish could be used in a court of law and that she could contact an attorney or anyone else at any time.

Mrs. MARTIN advised that she is the owner and operator of "The Chef" in Brookhaven, Mississippi, the only all-night truck stop from Jackson, Mississippi to the vicinity of New Orleans, Louisiana.

Mrs. MARTIN advised that she and one other girl worked the counter and tables at the cafe on the night of April 4, 1968. She advised the other waitress, worked only that one night and is a stranger to the Brookhaven, Mississippi area. She advised that during the night some four to six people (probably truck drivers) came into the place who stated they were in Memphis when Dr. KING was killed. She could not recall the names of any of them. She advised that at some time during the night a man did make a statement that the "blanket being used to muffle the sound of the rifle and the rifle being thrown into a store where they keep juke boxes."

Mrs. MARTIN could furnish no information regarding the identity of the party who made the above statement. She could not recall anything being said about where the rifle was purchased. She advised she does not know anything about a man by the name of JESSE KIMBALL who works for a wholesale drug store or pharmaceutical company in Brookhaven, or anyone who

On 4/7/68 at Bogue Chitto, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-49  
by SA REESIE L. TIMMONS/brh Date dictated 4/9/68

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JN 157-9586

drives a white late model Chevrolet who may have made such statements. She advised that with the new girl working for her, she was very busy and simply does not recall who was in the place during that night. She recalled that many discussed the assassination in some manner, but she could recall only the statement about the blanket being used to muffle the rifle.

Mrs. MARTIN advised that should she remember anything further about the conversation, or who was present, she would contact the FBI.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

Mr. ERNEST LEVON WILSON, 115 Montana Avenue, McComb, Mississippi, on April 7, 1968 advised that he is a wholesale drug salesman for Meyer Brothers Drug Company, Jackson, Mississippi, traveling in eight counties of Southwest Mississippi.

Mr. WILSON who is known to SA REESIE L. TIMMONS, advised that he is certain there is no man by the name of KIMBLE (Phonetic) traveling in Southwest Mississippi as a drug salesman.

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On 4/7/68 at McComb, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-512-50  
by SA REESIE L. TIMMONS/brh Date dictated 4/9/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

Mr. ERNEST LEVON WILSON, 115 Montana Avenue, McComb, Mississippi, contacted the McComb Resident Agency of the FBI on April 9, 1968, and advised that he was contacted by a Mrs. MARTIN who operates "The Chef" in Brookhaven, Mississippi and advised that the "FBI" was by her home asking about him on April 7, 1968.

Mr. WILSON advised that from what Mrs. MARTIN told him, he feels certain he must be the party SA REESIE L. TIMMONS was seeking. He advised that he not only is a wholesale drug salesman, he drives a white 1967 Chevrolet, was in "The Chef" at midnight April 4, 1968, talking about the Rev. KING's assassination and was originally from Lincoln County.

Mr. WILSON advised that he sat at the counter with some six to eight unknown truck drivers and related a radio broadcast he had just heard on his way from Jackson, Mississippi to Brookhaven.

Mr. WILSON advised that the station broadcast an interview with a man in Memphis, Tennessee, who stated on the air that he saw a man throw a rifle and bag of some kind into his "amusement center" that must have been the rifle used in the assassination. He stated that the man stated on the air that he only saw the man's back and could not identify him. Mr. WILSON advised he did not make any statement about where the rifle was purchased or that if it was wrapped in a blanket to muffle the sound, nor did he hear anyone else at the place make such a statement.

On 4/9/68 at McComb, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-542-51  
by SA REESIE L. TIMMONS/brh Date dictated 4/9/68

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JN 157-9586

Mr. WILSON advised that Mrs. MARTIN told him she did not tell the FBI of his presence as she has known him all her life and did not want to get him in trouble. Mr. WILSON advised that Mrs. MARTIN's husband is currently under heavy bond, having been arrested for selling drugs, and Mrs. MARTIN was apparently concerned that she might be in trouble of some kind.

Mr. WILSON advised he knows nothing further about the conversation.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

The below-captioned individuals were telephonically contacted to determine if their files contained any information relative to ERIC STARVO GALT. The results of these contacts were negative:

DOROTHY WRIGHT, Manager, Credit Bureau of West Point, West Point, Mississippi;

JESSIE REYNOLDS, Manager, Credit Bureau of Starkville, Starkville, Mississippi;

Mrs. W. J. GILLESPIE, Manager, Credit Bureau of Aberdeen, Mississippi;

MARY HUCKAREE, Credit Bureau of Columbus, Columbus, Mississippi;

EARLINE LIVINGSTON, Merchant Credit Association, Louisville, Mississippi;

JAMES FOWLER, Identification Officer, West Point, Police Department, West Point, Mississippi;

VIRGIL MIDDLETON, Sheriff, Clay County, West Point, Mississippi;

H. H. WALTERS, Chief of Detectives, Columbus Police Department, Columbus, Mississippi;

RICHARD POPERINICK, Chief of Police, Louisville Police Department, Louisville, Mississippi;

LENA SCURRIA, City Clerk, Starkville, Mississippi;

On 4/9/68 at Columbus, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-52  
by SA BRENT W. WARBERG & SA LYNN P. SMITH:BWW/pdb Date dictated 4/10/68

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JN 157-9586

DAN ADAMS, Chief of Police, Aberdeen Police  
Department, Aberdeen, Mississippi;

NOBLE GARRETT, Chief of Police, Amory Police  
Department, Amory, Mississippi.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 10, 1968

Mr. R. B. TULLOS, Manager, Laundry, Mississippi State University, State College, Mississippi, furnished the following information:

He said that the Mississippi State University Laundry had two Thermo Seal machines which he utilized in marking khaki clothing three or four years ago. He stated that he does not know the serial number of these machines but that to the best of his recollection, he believes that he transferred these two Thermo Seal machines two or three years ago to the laundry at the University of Mississippi, Oxford, Mississippi. He knows for positive that he has not used the Thermo Seal machines for at least three years. The only marking machine that he currently has in the plant is a Tag-O-Lectric which is manufactured by the Textile Marking Machine Company of Syracuse, New York. This machine bears Serial #23730.

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On 4/10/68 at State College, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-53  
by SA LYNN P. SMITH:mah Date dictated 4/10/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/68

MURPHY JOHN DUNCAN, JR., contacted at his rural Ruth, Mississippi residence in Pike County, Mississippi, by telephone, was advised by SA REESIE L. TIMMONS, who is well known to DUNCAN, of the nature of the inquiry.

Mr. DUNCAN advised that he was expecting some kind of contact by the FBI, that he has been at his residence all afternoon and evening with members of his immediate family.

DUNCAN who was contacted at 8:43 p.m., advised that he could furnish no information regarding the assassination of Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING. DUNCAN advised that he worked for the county supervisor until approximately 4:00 p.m., drove to his residence after work, and had not been out of his house since arriving home from work.

On 4/4/68 at Ruth, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-542-54  
by SA REESIE L. TIMMONS/pac Date dictated 4/8/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/8/68

Mrs. PAUL DEWEY WILSON, wife of PAUL DEWEY WILSON, was contacted at her home in rural Jayess, Mississippi, in Lawrence County, Mississippi, by SA REESIE L. TIMMONS, who advised her of his identity and the nature of the inquiry.

Mrs. WILSON advised that her husband continues to work on a drilling rig in the Gulf of Mexico off the Louisiana coast. She advised that he went out to his job on Sunday, March 31, 1968, and would not return until Sunday night, April 7, 1968. She advised that she is certain that her husband is still out in the Gulf of Mexico as he drove some three other men to their job in his red Mustang the past Sunday. She advised that when he goes out in the Gulf of Mexico, he cannot get back to land unless there is an extreme emergency until his seven days are up.

On 4/5/68 at Jayess, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-55  
Jackson 157-2094  
by SA REESIE L. TIMMONS/pac Date dictated 4/8/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/68

STERLING LEWIS GILLIS, Park Drive, McComb, Mississippi, who is known to SA REESIE L. TIMMONS, was contacted by telephone at his residence at 8:40 p.m., April 4, 1968. Mr. GILLIS was sleeping at that time according to his wife.

Mr. GILLIS advised that he was not aware of the assassination of Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, that he had been at his home with his family all afternoon and evening and that no one would know of his whereabouts other than his wife and immediate family.

Mr. GILLIS advised that he has not been in the Memphis, Tennessee area in years and could furnish no information regarding the assassination of Reverend KING.

On 4/4/68 at McComb, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-56  
Jackson 157-2400  
by SA REESIE L. TIMMONS/pac Date dictated 4/8/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/15/68

Mrs. GLORIA GIBSON, Clerk, Personnel Department, Day-Brite Lighting Company, Incorporated, South Green Street, and Day-Brite Drive, Tupelo, Mississippi, made available the time cards for JOHN H. WILLARD for review. These time cards revealed the following:

| <u>Date</u>              | <u>In</u> | <u>Out</u> |
|--------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Friday, March 29, 1968   | 6:46      | 3:32       |
| Saturday, March 30, 1968 | 6:45      | 3:31       |
| Sunday, March 31, 1968   | No Work   |            |
| Monday, April 1, 1968    | 6:46      | 3:32       |
| Tuesday, April 2, 1968   | 6:45      | 3:31       |
| Wednesday, April 3, 1968 | 6:45      | 3:31       |
| Thursday, April 4, 1968  | 6:46      | 3:32       |

Mrs. GIBSON advised that a review of the personnel records at Day-Brite failed to reveal any record of a HARVEY LOWMEYER, HARVEY LOEFMEYER, or ERIC STARVO GALT, as being a current or past employee of the company.

She also stated that the records did not reveal that there are any other JOHN WILLIARDS employed at the company other than the JOHN H. WILLARD mentioned above.

On 4/12/68 at Tupelo, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-57  
by SA JOHN S. CASTLES  
SA FRANCIS G. HONAN JSC/wgj Date dictated 4/12/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

DELMA PIERCE was telephonically contacted from Dee Dell's Photo Studio in Walls, Mississippi, at which time PIERCE voluntarily advised the following information:

PIERCE advised that due to her employment at Dee Dell's Studio, she travels quite extensively and therefore does not have a permanent address in Walls, Mississippi but can always be contacted through the photo studio. She advised that when she is in Walls she will often stay at a motel in Memphis, Tennessee.

PIERCE advised that to the best of her knowledge, she remembers calling her sister in Muncie, Indiana, on either April 5 or 6, 1968, PIERCE stated that the first time she had called had been from Jackson, Mississippi, and that the second time she called from Memphis, Tennessee, on either the same day or the ~~day~~ <sup>day</sup> after. PIERCE stated that during the conversation her sister had expressed a concern for PIERCE, being in Memphis during the riot, and this led to a discussion of the circumstances concerning Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING's death.

PIERCE stated that she uses the name LABELLA when calling her sister in Indiana, due to the fact that she, PIERCE, has a former husband in Indiana, and she is attempting to conceal her activities from him. PIERCE stated that due to her marital difficulties, she uses the name LABELLA, and this is the only time that she ever uses this name. PIERCE stated that there is no such person as DENO or DEE LABELLA.

PIERCE stated that on the night of April 4, 1968, at about 6:00 PM, she was traveling in connection with their business with DEE ARAMIAS. PIERCE stated that at about

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On 4/12/68 at Walls, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-512-58  
by SA WILLIAM P. LAWLER, JR. / mlt <sup>copy</sup> Date dictated 4/15/68

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JN 157-9586

6:00 PM on April 4, 1968, she and ARANIAS had been in Biloxi, Mississippi, and recalled checking both herself and ARANIAS into the Holiday Inn at Biloxi.

PIERCE advised that she is presently driving a 1968 Chevrolet, sea frost green in color, with a black vinyl top, and Tennessee license. PIERCE further stated that this is a company car, and that she does not own a personal car. PIERCE further advised that she also has access to a Buick Wildcat and a 1968 Chevy II.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 16, 1968

Mr. ROBERT EARL DAVIS, 101 McLaurin Drive, advised he is employed by the Mid-Valley Pipeline in Oxford, Mississippi, and in connection with his duties, holds a private pilot's license to fly company planes. He explained that he spends a lot of his time around the University - Oxford Airport and stated that on the morning of April 8, 1968, he was at the lobby in the airport where he observed an unknown white male in the lobby and stated he believes this person had just arrived on a Southern Airlines flight from Memphis, Tennessee. He advised he struck up a conversation with this person and recalls this individual claimed he was an Eastern Airlines pilot who flies DC-8 aircraft. He stated that during his conversation with this person, he was of the opinion that he was not an airline pilot since he apparently did not know much about flying. He also recalls this individual questioned him concerning the cost of a small plane.

DAVIS stated that this person used the Hertz Rent-A-Car telephone located at the lobby of the airport and talked with someone in Tupelo, Mississippi. DAVIS advised he was somewhat suspicious of this person at this time and stated he picked up an extension phone and heard only a brief portion of their conversation. He recalls the person remarked over the telephone, "I'm here; I'm not in Tupelo." He stated that sometime thereafter, someone driving a white Buick picked this person up at the airport and DAVIS assumed this was the person he contacted in Tupelo, Mississippi.

DAVIS stated that during the period of time this person was waiting around the airport, he observed him carrying a blue flight bag with a name stenciled on the side which he believes was either GAULT or GOLT.

On 4/13/68 at Oxford, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-59  
by SA ROBIN O. COTTEN /blw Date dictated 4/15/68

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JN 157-9586

He advised that earlier on April 13, 1968, he had observed a composit drawing of the person responsible for the shooting of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., in Memphis, Tennessee, and stated this was apparently some artist's conception drawn by a newspaper in Memphis. He stated that as he recalled this person, the composit drawing compares favorably with this individual. He described this individual as follows:

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| Race   | White   |
| Sex    | Male  |
| Age    | Approximately 32                                  |
| Height | Six feet  |
| Weight | 180   |
| Hair   | Brown, short and wavey<br>with receding hairline. |

DAVIS stated this person was well dressed and wearing a brown suit.

DAVIS advised he had not seen this individual prior to this occasion in the University - Oxford Airport.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 10, 1968

TOM MELSON DAVIS, South Acres Drive, New Albany, Mississippi, was interviewed at the Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol (MHSP) Substation, at New Albany, Mississippi. He voluntarily appeared for interview.

TOM MELSON DAVIS was warned of his rights by SA ROBIN O. COTTEN and waived them, but refused to sign the Warning and Waiver form. He advised that he fully understood his rights and did not desire to execute any waiver until he learned the nature of the purposed interview.

When questioned concerning his activities on April 4, 1968, TOM MELSON DAVIS advised that he was at his home on South Acres Drive, in New Albany, Mississippi, at approximately 4:00 P.M., when his cousin ROY HARDY, who resides on Highway 30 East, stopped by his house and offered him a drink of whiskey. DAVIS pointed out that he lived at this residence with his mother, and suggested that they drive to the Beacon Hill Drive-In, located west of New Albany. He stated that he drove his 1967 white Mustang, and was followed by his cousin, ROY HARDY, in HARDY's pickup truck. He stated they sat in the truck for a few minutes in front of a small cafe, and each had a drink of whiskey.

He estimated that he left the area of the Beacon Hill area between 4:30 and 5:00 P.M., alone, driving his white Mustang, and stated he was en route to Memphis. He explained that he had planned to meet friends, BETTY SMITH and BOBBY EARWOOD, at the Manhattan Club, Highway 51 South, located just north of Lil Abners Tavern in South Memphis.

On 4/8/68 at New Albany, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-60  
by SA JOHN DENNIS MILLER and  
SA ROBIN O. COTTEN:ROC:bal Date dictated 4/9/68

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JN 157-9586

He recalled that he drove to Holly Springs, Mississippi, and stopped at a whiskey store, located on the north side of the square, where he purchased a pint of Old Charter whiskey. Thereafter, he stated that he drove on United States Highway 78 to a Savings Gas Station, located just north of Holly Springs, Mississippi, on the east side of the road, and stated he asked to see a friend, JUNIOR KIRKINDAL, who previously had allowed him to purchase gasoline on credit in the amount of \$3.00. He stated that he inquired concerning KIRKINDAL, and learned from a "redheaded boy" who was employed there, that KIRKINDAL was not working at that time. He advised that he paid this "redheaded boy" \$3.00, and in return was given his gasoline charge ticket.

He recalled that almost immediately, after he got back into his Mustang and turned on the radio, he heard a newscast concerning the shooting of Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., in Memphis. He stated that he continued listening to the newscast until he arrived at the Tennessee-Mississippi state line on United States Highway 78, where he stopped at a beer joint located on the east side of the highway, just a few feet south of the Tennessee state line, located in Mississippi. He advised he had been there on previous occasions and knows the owner only by sight, and stated he is certain the owner knows him as a customer, but not by name. He stated he talked with the owner, described only as a white male in his fifties, and stated they discussed the KING shooting. He advised he drank one beer and ate a hamburger. He estimated he stayed at this beer joint approximately 30 or 40 minutes and while having a hamburger, he stated he heard over the newscast at the beer joint that KING had died.

JN 157-9586

He stated he could not recall the exact time, but stated it was after dark when he heard concerning KING's death.

Thereafter, he advised he drove to the Manhattan Club, located on Highway 51 South, for the purpose of meeting BETTY SMITH and BOBBY EARWOOD, and upon arriving at the Manhattan Club, stated he observed several police officers armed with shotguns guarding the area. He advised that at this time, the Manhattan Club was closed, and he then drove to "Lil Abners" Club nearby, where he met BETTY SMITH and BOBBY EARWOOD. He pointed out that EARWOOD, a white male, approximately 32, is employed at the "Lil Abners" club. He recalled they were closing the club on orders of the police at the time he arrived there, and estimated it was approximately 8:00 P.M., when he met his two friends.

He recalled that BOBBY EARWOOD owned and operated a red Chevrolet pickup truck, and was invited by EARWOOD to visit his apartment for a drink, since the club was closed. He stated he followed EARWOOD in his white Mustang to EARWOOD's apartment, located approximately two miles away. He stated he was not familiar with the address, and could not state the exact whereabouts of the location of the apartment.

He estimated that he stayed at this apartment with BETTY SMITH and BOBBY EARWOOD until at least 2:00 A.M., the following morning, after drinking a considerable amount, and drove back to New Albany, Mississippi, arriving there shortly after daylight on April 5, 1968.

JN 157-9586

He advised that on this occasion he was wearing a dark business suit, dark tie, and white shirt.

He volunteered to accompany Agents along the same route, if necessary, in an effort to establish his whereabouts on this date as he claimed.

With reference to his whereabouts, during the latter part of march and the first day of April, 1968, he advised he could not specifically give the names of any persons who could account for his whereabouts other than his mother, since he advised he was in New Albany at this time, and definitely had not gone to the State of Alabama. He advised that perhaps neighbors could vouch for the fact that he was in New Albany. He stated he did not recall going to Memphis on this weekend.

He advised that he does not know a JOHN WILLIARD or a HARVEY LOWLEYER, and advised he has never used either of these names as an alias.

He advised that on the night of April 4, 1968, he did not at anytime go into the city area of Memphis, where the shooting took place.

The following description was obtained through observation and interview:

|                |                           |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| Name           | TOM MELSON DAVIS          |
| Race           | White                     |
| Sex            | Male                      |
| Age            | 41                        |
| Date of Birth  | [REDACTED]                |
| Place of Birth | Union County, Mississippi |

JN 157-9586

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Height                                 | 6 feet, 1 inch  |
| Weight                                 | 194 pounds  |
| Hair                                   | Brown - crewcut<br>(was not recent crewcut)                                     |
| Eyes                                   | Blue  |
| Complexion                             | Medium  |
| Address                                | South Acres Drive<br>New Albany, Mississippi                                    |
| Military Service                       | Claims service with<br>United States Navy,<br>1944-1945, Honorable<br>Discharge |
| Navy Serial Number                     | [REDACTED]  |
| Social Security<br>Number              | [REDACTED]  |
| Mississippi Driver's<br>License Number | [REDACTED]  |
| Education                              | High School   |
| Characteristics                        | Droop of left eye<br>(artificial eye)   |
| Mother                                 | LOLA MAE DAVIS<br>South Acres Drive<br>New Albany, Mississippi                  |
| Father                                 | A. M. DAVIS (deceased)  |
| Brother                                | WALTER DAVIS<br>New Albany, Mississippi   |
| Brother                                | RAY DAVIS<br>New Albany, Mississippi  |
| Sister                                 | Mrs. J. P. LOMNICK<br>Highway 30 East<br>New Albany, Mississippi                |

JN 157-9586

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Sister                    | Mrs. ORLIS FARRIS<br>Old Highway 15 South<br>New Albany, Mississippi  |
| Sister                    | Mrs. BILL ELLIOTT<br>Alameda, California<br>(address unknown)   |
| Sister                    | Mrs. CHARLES MORRIS<br>Frankfurt, Germany<br>(in Military Service)  |
| Occupation                | Unemployed  |
| Marital Status            | Single  |
| Arrests                   | Admits arrest Memphis,<br>Tennessee, 1946, armed<br>robbery and kidnaping -<br>received 3 years.<br>1957, Caine County, Illinois,<br>forgery and con game -<br>received 1 to 3 years.<br>1965, Oxford, Mississippi,<br>possession of non-tax paid<br>whiskey - received 2 years |
| Description of<br>vehicle | White Mustang, 1967 model<br>189, two-door, 8 cylinder,<br>Vehicle Identification<br>Number 7F01C162781; 1968<br>Mississippi License 73B-708;<br>Car has blue interior;<br>Purchased August, 1967,<br>Tutor Ford Company,<br>New Albany, Mississippi                            |

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/22/68

DONALD SEWELL, employee, 7-11 Store, Number 34, 6099 Millbranch, Southaven, Mississippi, after being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the nature of the investigation, furnished the following information:

He stated that the 7-11 Store purchases its beer from the Service Beverage Company at Clarksdale, Mississippi.

He stated that the Schlitz delivery man appears at that store every Wednesday.

He advised after examining his stock of Schlitz 12 ounce pop top cans that he had two six packs in his refrigerator with the date March 15, 1968. He stated that this 7-11 Store uses Toreador paper sacks. He advised they do not utilize a number or size 20 paper sack.

He was displayed artist's conception drawings from Birmingham and Memphis, Tennessee.

SEWELL recalled that in the latter part of March, 1968, a white male approximately 5'9" to 5'10" in height, age 27 to 28 years of age, small frame, with a dark crew hair cut, wearing a gray suit with black pin stripes, glasses with black rims, purchased beer at that store.

SEWELL stated that he could not recall what brand of beer this individual bought or how he paid for it.

SEWELL stated that he recalled this incident as the authorities in Memphis, Tennessee, had put a curfew on beer and liquor sales and that at the same time this individual was in the checkout line, a highway patrolman came to the store and told him to cut off beer sales.

On 4/15/68 at Southaven, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-61  
by SA KENNETH P. HUGHES/pac Date dictated 4/19/68

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JN 157-9586

According to SEWELL, the patrolman advised him that the individuals in line could make their purchases but no other individuals would be allowed to purchase beer. SEWELL estimated the time at 3:30 p.m.

He stated that he recalled this incident as after this white male purchased the beer, he, SEWELL, had to request him to leave the store as he was "cursing" due to the fact that the beer sales had been cut off.

SEWELL stated that he had to tell this individual to leave the store.

SEWELL again stated that he believes this incident took place during the latter part of March, 1968, when the City of Memphis first experienced racial problems.

SEWELL stated that he had never seen this individual before and has not seen him since. He stated he did not see which way he turned when he left the store nor did he observe an automobile.

He stated that this individual vaguely resembled the artist's conception drawing from Birmingham.

SEWELL stated that he doubted he could recognize this individual if he saw him again.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

Mrs. JOHN RAY (EVA) WILLARD, Route 1, Roxie, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the nature of the inquiry at the outset of the interview;

Mrs. WILLARD advised that her husband was on vacation from March 29 through April 8, 1968. She stated on March 29 and 30, 1968, her husband hunted turkey alone in the Homochitta National Forest which is located directly behind their home.

She continued that on Sunday morning, March 31, 1968, he hunted turkey in the forest with their son, KENNETH WILLARD, age 17. They returned home at noon and her husband flew his Piper J-3 airplane from the strip in front of his home to the Natchez-Adams Airport. She said that her husband rented a Cessna 150 and flew solo for about an hour and twenty-four minutes, traveling to Vicksburg, Mississippi and returning. She pointed out her husband is taking flying lessons and the log should reflect the time that he flew. She added her husband returned home from the airport during the afternoon of March 31, 1968.

She said on April 1, 1968, he went to the airport to fly, but due to inclement weather, he returned to his home in the Piper J-3 airplane.

She said on April 2 and 3, 1968, Mr. WILLARD assisted her in the preparation of flower beds, sodding her lawn with St. Augustine grass and did some painting in the home. She recalled that he remained at home during the entire period of April 2 and 3, 1968.

On 4/15/68 at Route 1, Roxie, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586-572-62  
by SA GEORGE P. GAMBLIN/bch Date dictated 4/15/68

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Mrs. WILLARD stated on April 4, 1968, her husband again went turkey hunting in the Homochitta National Forest and returned home at noon. They ate, rested and she and her husband fished in their pond on the farm. She said Mr. CLETUS SEALE, a neighbor, came by the farm pond and saw she and her husband fishing. She added that Mr. SEALE also saw her husband on several occasions between the period March 29, through April 4, 1968.

The WILLARDS, according to Mrs. WILLARD, returned to their home some time between 4:30 and 5:00 p.m. on April 4, 1968, and Mr. WILLARD cleaned fish. She cooked steak for herself and her son and fried the fish for her husband. During the evening meal, they heard a special announcement over the television stating that MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR, had been shot and later the announcement came over the television indicating that MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR, was dead.

She pointed out that neither she nor her husband have been in Memphis in over ten years and was not aware of the slayer of MARTIN LUTHER KING. The artist's conception of the unknown subject in this case was shown to Mrs. WILLARD and she stated she did not know this individual. She pointed out that her husband for the past several years has been too busy working as Superintendent of the Natchez Gravel Company supervising Negroes at the gravel pit that he has little or no time to plan anything. She pointed out her husband is not that type of individual and is a very tolerant, easy-going individual. She was not aware of anyone who might have used her husband's name in connection with the slaying.

She stated that to her knowledge, her husband had never been arrested in his entire life.