

F B I

Date: 5/3/68

Transmit the following in PLAIN  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT  
(Priority)

TO DENVER  
FROM MOBILE 157-2627

MURKIN, CR. MO ME

RE JAMES E. RAY, THREE ELEVEN MAY ST., MONTGOMERY, ALA.

M. L. GRIFFIN, VICE PRESIDENT, RADCLIFF MATERIALS CO.,  
MOBILE, ALA., ADVISED JAMES E. RAY, WM, RESIDENCE THREE ELEVEN  
MAY ST., MONTGOMERY, ALA., WORKED FOR HIS COMPANY AT MOBILE AS  
WELDER FEB. TWENTYSIX THROUGH MARCH ELEVEN LAST, VOLUNTARILY  
QUITTING. THIS INDIVIDUAL WAS BORN [REDACTED] CLANTON,  
ALA., SOCIAL SECURITY NO. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], CLAIMED SERVED USN NINETEEN FORTYTHREE - FORTY  
SIX.

GRIFFIN RECEIVED LETTER TODAY FROM JAMES E. RAY, CARE OF  
SO WHEATLAND, WYOMING, ASKING THEM TO SEND MONEY DUE FROM EM-  
PLOYMENT. GRIFFIN STATED THIS MONEY HAD <sup>PREVIOUSLY</sup> BEEN SENT TO RAY'S  
HOME ADDRESS IN MONTGOMERY, ALA., AND CHECK HAD NOT BEEN  
END PAGE ONE

JTB:lpw

Approved: [Signature]

Special Agent in Charge

Sent 5:31 PMPer [Signature]

157-2627-406

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

MO 157-2627

PAGE TWO

RETURNED.

IT WAS DETERMINED THAT ONE JAMES E. RAY, SAME HOME ADDRESS, MONTGOMERY, ALA., CLAIMING NSN EIGHT NINE THREE TWO EIGHT SIX THREE HAD GIVEN BLOOD AT LOCAL CENTER, MOBILE MAR. TWELVE LAST.

AS THIS INDIVIDUAL REPORTEDLY SERVED IN USN AND REPORTEDLY OLDER THAN SUBJ RAY IT WOULD APPEAR NOT IDENTICAL WITH SUBJECT.

DENVER SHOULD INTERVIEW JAMES E. RAY AT <sup>WHEATLAND,</sup> WHEATON, WYOMING SO AND VERIFY NOT IDENTICAL WITH SUBJ AND DETERMINE ANY POSSIBLE RELATIONSHIP WITH SUBJ RAY.

AM COPY TO MEMPHIS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)



**STILL AT LARGE**—A massive and intensive nationwide and international search continues for James Earl Ray, 40, the escaped convict from a Missouri prison, wanted in connection with gunshot slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis, Tenn. W. M. Alexander, special agent in charge of the FBI's Mobile office today released the above photos of Ray. Ray has also used the name of Eric Starvo Galt, Harvey Lowmyer, John Willard, James McBride, James Walton, W. C. Herron and James O'Connor, Alexander said. He is described 5 feet 10 inches tall, weight 163 to 174 pounds, has blue eyes, brown hair, a small scar in center of forehead, scar on palm of right hand, straight narrow nose, even teeth and a noticeably protruding left ear. He is said to have a nervous habit of tugging an ear lobe. He should be considered armed and extremely dangerous. Anyone with knowledge of Ray is asked to call the FBI immediately—Telephone 438-3674.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

1F MOBILE PRESS  
MOBILE, ALA.

Date: 5/1/68

Edition:

Author:

Editor:

Title: MURKIN  
CR

Character:

or

Classification: MO 157-2627

Submitting Office: MOBILE

☐ Being Investigated

157-2627-407

SEARCHED <i>9</i>	INDEXED <i>9</i>
SERIALIZED <i>9</i>	FILED <i>9</i>
MAY 3 1968	
FBI — MOBILE	

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC ( 157-2627) P

DATE: 4/30/68

FROM : SA HOWARD R. LINSKOTT

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
OO: MEMPHIS

RE: ROOMINGHOUSE AT 107 13th STREET, N.E., ATLANTA, GA.

On 4/30/68, Mrs. FRANCIS GODWIN, (protect), Route 2, DOTHAN, ALA., advised that her brother, BILLY JOE FAULKNER, is presently in the DOTHAN, ALA., area. She stated that he does not have a permanent residence at this time; she stated that she would notify the writer as to his location as soon as she can determine it.

It is to be noted that FAULKNER is wanted by the HOLMES COUNTY, FLA., SHERIFF'S OFFICE for a charge of grand larceny, and that a warrant is presently held by the DALE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, OZARK, ALA., for the same charge. This information, as to FAULKNER'S location has been furnished to the DALE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE on 4/30/68, by SA LINSKOTT.

① 157-2627

HRL/

1-62-756



5010-108-01

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

157-2627-408

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>76</i>	FILED <i>76</i>
MAY 1 1968	
FBI - MOBILE	

*[Signature]*

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>JACKSON</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>MEMPHIS</b>	DATE <b>5/2/68</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>4/10 - 4/24/68</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>JAMES EARL RAY, aka - FUGITIVE IO # 4182, WF # 442-A, TOP TEN FUGITIVE; Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. (DECEASED) - VICTIM</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER</b>	TYPED BY <b>clm</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE  <b>CR - CONSPIRACY; UFAC - ROBBERY</b>	

REFERENCE:

Memphis report of SA JOE C. HESTER, 4/30/68.

- P -

LEAD:JACKSONAT JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

Will continue efforts to locate JAMES EARL RAY. All leads being handled immediately upon receipt.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:	
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		PENDING OVER ONE YEAR	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
							PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
APPROVED  COPIES MADE:  5 - Bureau (44-38861)  <i>[Signature]</i> (Continued on Cover Page B)  2 - Jackson (157-9586)						SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		
DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW  <b>157-2627-409</b>  <b>TC TC</b>  <b>Boston</b>								
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations		
Agency								
Request Recd.								
Date Fwd.								
How Fwd.								
By								

JN 157-9586

(Copies continued)

- 2 - Atlanta (44-2386)
- 2 - Birmingham (44-1740)
- 1 - Kansas City
- 2 - Los Angeles (44-1574)
- 5 - Memphis (44-1987)
- ② - Mobile (157-2627)
- 2 - New Orleans
- 1 - St. Louis

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COVER PAGE

B

JN 157-9586

ADMINISTRATIVE:

The Jackson Division, at the outset of this matter, conducted investigation concerning the names ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER and JOHN WILLARD in Federal agencies, state and local agencies, with negative results.

All credit and arrest agencies in the 82 counties in Mississippi were contacted. All city directories and telephone directories were checked. Selective Service System, State Office, as well as each local board, county voter registration records, county Departments of Public Welfare, county Tax Assessor Offices, county Clerks of Court, each county, marriage and divorce records, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Board of Health, Workmen's Compensation and Employment Security Commissions, all utility companies, electricity, gas and telephone, financial institutions, registrar's office in major universities, Port Director, Gulfport, Mississippi, all shrimp boat operators in the Gulf Coast area, all barge and towing companies at river ports at Greenville, Vicksburg and Natchez, Mississippi, were checked. One million, two hundred thousand drivers licenses checked through IBM computer concerning the birth date , all of the above with negative results.

All airports, motel and parking garage facilities in Mississippi were checked in an attempt to locate a 1966 white Mustang with negative results.

All dancing schools or academies were checked. Civilian personnel records, Keesler AFB, Biloxi, checked with negative results.

COVER PAGE

C

JN 157-9586

Ingalls Shipyard at Pascagoula, Mississippi, checked with negative results.

All criminal and racial informants contacted with negative results.

Whereabouts of each major bombing suspect in the State of Mississippi checked and verified to eliminate as possible suspects.

In addition to the above, numerous lookalikes reported to the Jackson Office were located, interviewed and eliminated as possible suspects.

All of the above information has been reviewed, indexed, and filed in the Jackson Office.

For the sake of brevity, negative type information is not being set out in this report.

No copies of this report are being disseminated outside the Bureau; however, sufficient copies of report being furnished to the OO in the event of future dissemination.

COVER PAGE  
D\*



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Copy to:

Report of: SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER  
Date: May 2, 1968

Office: JACKSON

Field Office File #: JN 157-9586

Bureau File #: 44-38861

Title: JAMES EARL RAY;  
Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
(DECEASED) - VICTIMCharacter: CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY;  
UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID CONFINEMENT - ROBBERY

Synopsis: Motels and Standard service stations on major highways in North Central and Northeastern section of State of Miss. contacted in attempt to identify individual depicted in artist conception of ERIC STARVO GALT, also known as Harry Lowmeyer, John Willard. Color photo received from Memphis FBI Office of a bedspread and bath towel exhibited to personnel at motels in attempt to identify as being property of the particular motel with negative results. Investigation at Southaven Minnow Shop, Highway 51, Southaven, Miss., just south of the Tenn. State Line, disclosed this shop is the only establishment located which handled Schlitz 12-ounce beer in pop-top cans, as well as Homestead Stubby No. 20, brown paper bags. One empty Schlitz beer can and one brown paper bag obtained from Southaven Minnow Shop and forwarded to FBI Lab., Washington, D. C., for examination purposes. Results of FBI Lab. examination discloses brown paper bag similar in all observable characteristics to paper bag previously submitted. Personnel at minnow shop unable to identify artist conception and unable to identify photo of JAMES EARL RAY as depicted on Wanted Flyer No. 442-A. IN VIEW OF THE CRIME FOR WHICH SUBJECT BEING SOUGHT, HE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- P -

DETAILS:

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

JN 157-9586

JWS/bls

1

The following investigation was conducted by  
SA JAMES W. SAMMON:

On the dates indicated, motels and Standard Service Stations on the below listed major highways in north central and northeastern portion of the State of Mississippi were contacted in this matter. Personnel at motels were exhibited composite drawings of ERIC STARVO GALT, also known as John Willard, Harvey Lowmeyer, received from the Memphis and Birmingham Divisions, along with a color photograph of a bedspread and bath towel received from the Memphis Division. Personnel at these motels failed to identify the composite photographs of GALT, as well as the bedspread or towel as property of their particular motel. The guest registration cards of motels contacted were personally checked by SA JAMES W. SAMMON from the period of March 29 to April 5, 1968, inclusive in an effort to determine if any guest using the name GALT, WILLARD, or LOWMEYER registered at that motel. These checks met with negative results.

Standard Service Stations on the indicated highways were also contacted and personnel at those service stations were also exhibited artist's conceptions of GALT, along with the colored photographs of the Standard Oil map of the United States and the Standard Oil map of Georgia - Alabama. Personnel at these service stations were questioned regarding a 1966 white Mustang with an Alabama tag. Contacts at these service stations also met with negative results.

April 10, 1968 - Highway 55 Interstate and Highway 51, north from Batesville, Mississippi, to the Tennessee State Line. Highway 78 southeast from the Tennessee State Line to the City Limits of Holly Springs, Mississippi.

April 11, 1968 - Highways 78, 6, and 45 within the City Limits of Tupelo, Mississippi. Highway 45 north from Tupelo, Mississippi, to Corinth, Mississippi. Highways 45

and 72 within the City Limits of Corinth, Mississippi.

April 12, 1968 - Highway 78 East from Tupelo, Mississippi, to the Alabama State Line. Highway 45 South from Tupelo, Mississippi, to Columbus, Mississippi. Highway 82 East from Mayhew, Mississippi, to the Alabama State Line. Highways 82 and 45 East within the City Limits of Columbus, Mississippi.

April 13, 1968 - Highway 82 West from Columbus, Mississippi, to Winona, Mississippi. Highway 51 North from Winona, Mississippi, to Grenada, Mississippi. Interstate 55 and Highway 51 North from Grenada, Mississippi, to Batesville, Mississippi.

April 16, 1968 - Highway 72 from the Alabama State Line to the Tennessee State Line. Highway 78 Southeast from Holly Springs, Mississippi, to Tupelo, Mississippi.

April 17, 1968, Highway 45 East from Shannon, Mississippi, to Columbus, Mississippi. Highway 278 East from Highway 45 East from New Wren, Mississippi, to the Alabama State Line. Highway 6 West from Tupelo, Mississippi, to Batesville, Mississippi. The notes from contacts with personnel at motels and Standard Oil Service Stations are being maintained in the Jackson file regarding this matter.

The following motels affiliated with Friendship Inns were contacted on the indicated dates and personnel there were interviewed as set forth above and in addition, the color photograph containing the Friendship Inn Cashmere Bouquet soap wrapper was exhibited with negative results.

MARY MILTON, Registration Clerk, Townhouse Motel, Friendship Inn, Highway 45 South, Tupelo, Mississippi, which motel uses Camay soap with Friendship Inn wrapper, on April 11, 1968.

Mrs. BROOKS PHILLIPS, Southern Motel, Friendship Inn, Corinth, Mississippi, which motel does handle Cashmere Bouquet with Friendship Motel wrapper, on April 11, 1968.

However, Southern Motel was negative on photographs of GALT; negative on bedspread; and negative on bath towel.

Mrs. ANNIE LOUISE HUDSON, Marshall Motel, Friendship Inn, Highway 45 North, West Point, Mississippi, contacted April 12, 1968.

WILLIAM DOVES, Registration Clerk, Columbus Motel, Friendship Inn, Highway 82 East, Columbus, Mississippi, does not use soap wrapped with Friendship paper, contacted April 12, 1968.

The following investigation was conducted by SA JAMES W. SAMMON on April 15, 1968, in the Southaven, Mississippi, area, Highway 51, south of the Tennessee State Line in Mississippi.

The following dealer outlets in that area were contacted in an effort to determine if they had any twelve-ounce Schlitz pop-top beer cans with the brewery date of March 15, 1968, which was sold by them in six packs held with a plastic ring. The following beer outlets in that area were contacted on April 15, 1968, with negative results:

SHIRLEY JERET, Stop and Go Store, Highway 51 South.  
MARY SNELL, Cashier, BILL RAGLAND, Manager, and LESTER ENOCHS, Stock Man, A and P Supermarket, Highway 51 South, Southaven, Mississippi.

BILL BEALE, Seven Eleven Store, Highway 51 South, Southaven, Mississippi.

MARY DRUMMOND, Drummond Drive-Inn, Highway 51 South, Southaven, Mississippi.

The composite photographs of GALT from Memphis and Birmingham were also exhibited to the above individuals at beer outlets in Southaven, Mississippi, with negative results.

In contacting motels on Highway 51 North on April 10, 1968, RAYMOND ROBINSON, owner of the Thrift Courts Motel

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at Senatobia, Mississippi, advised that for the past three or four weeks, a white male, name unknown, 25 to 30 years old, had been staying at that motel. ROBINSON said that this individual is employed in Stray Horn, Mississippi, on Highway 4 where he is employed constructing a water tower. ROBINSON said that this individual drives a white Mustang with an Alabama license.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/22/68

DONALD DICKSON was located in Stray Horn, Mississippi, at the sight of the construction of a water tower. DICKSON said that he has been in the Senatobia, Mississippi, area for the past three weeks and that he is employed for R. D. Cole Manufacturing Company of Newnan, Georgia, which company constructs water towers. DICKSON said he has been so employed for the past nine years and is a foreman of that company.

DICKSON said that on April 4, 1968, he was in bed asleep at the Thrift Courts Motel in Senatobia, Mississippi, when one of his employees came into the room advising him that Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING had been shot and killed in Memphis, Tennessee. DICKSON said that an employee, TOM CANNON, and DOUG IVEY can vouch for his presence at the motel when KING was assassinated. DICKSON said that his 1967 white Mustang automobile was parked at the motel at that time.

DICKSON said that he is not responsible for the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING, nor can he furnish any information in that regard.

The following is a description of DICKSON obtained through observation and interview:

Sex:	Male
Race:	White
Age:	29
Date of Birth:	
Place of Birth:	Fayetteville, Georgia
Residence:	Route 1, Fayetteville, Georgia
Height:	6 feet
Weight:	160
Eyes:	Brown

On 4/10/68 at Stray Horn, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA JAMES W. SAMMON/bls Date dictated 4/15/68

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

JN 157-9586

2

Hair:	Light brown, short, curly, and parted
Complexion:	Ruddy
Build:	Slender
Education:	10th grade
Marital Status:	Single
Military Service:	U.S. Army, 53348507 from 1961 to 1963 - honorable
Employment:	Foreman for R.D. Cole Manufacturing Company, Newman, Georgia, for past nine years
Automobile:	1967 white Mustang, 1968 Georgia license 112-D-484
Previous Arrests:	No admits

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

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.

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

by SA KENNETH P. HUGHES/pac Date dictated 4/19/68

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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 4/22/68

Located at the Southaven Minnow Shop, Highway 51, just south of the Tennessee State Line in Mississippi, were numerous six packs of Schlitz twelve-ounce beer in the pop-top can, held together in the six pack with a plastic ring, which beer was brewed by the date March 15, 1968. A can of this beer was obtained.

Also located in that minnow shop was a brown paper bag stamped "Homestead. Stubby. 20". One of the brown paper bags was obtained.

BILL and JANE MC LAUGHLIN and their son [REDACTED], the proprietors of that minnow shop, were all interviewed in this matter, and composite photographs of GALT exhibited to them with negative results. Neither they nor LAWRENCE PARKER, a frequent customer to the minnow shop, could identify GALT by photograph, nor did they recall an individual driving a white Mustang with an Alabama license purchasing a six pack of twelve-ounce pop-top Schlitz beer from their minnow shop.

Mr. MC LAUGHLIN advised that GUS (last name unknown), a salesman for the Service Beverage Company of Clarksdale, Mississippi, delivers their beer to them, and that from his records, on April 1, 1968, he purchased 17 cases of twelve-ounce Schlitz pop-top beer; on April 10, eight cases; on April 11, six cases; and on April 15, 1968, two cases.

It was noted that the Southaven Minnow Shop is one-half mile south on Highway 51 from the Tennessee State Line in Mississippi and exactly three miles south of the Oliver Rexall Drug Store on Highway 51, Whitehaven, Memphis, Tennessee.

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On 4/15/68 at Southaven, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586  
by SA JAMES W. SAMMON/bls Date dictated 4/19/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/22/68

LEW HOUSTON, Manager of Service Beverage, a Schlitz Beer Distributor, Clarksdale, Mississippi, advised that all their beer is brewed and sent to them from their Schlitz Brewery in Longview, Texas.

HOUSTON said that GUS THOMPSON is their truck salesman to the Southaven, Mississippi, area and does deliver Schlitz beer to the Southaven Minnow Shop in Southaven, Mississippi.

HOUSTON said on March 15, 1968, his company received 2100 cases of the twelve-ounce pop-top Schlitz beer from their Longview, Texas, brewery and all of that beer has been distributed.

HOUSTON said that on March 20, 1968, his company was shipped 924 cases of that beer from Longview, Texas, and that he has 35 cases of that particular beer left, which was brewed at Longview on March 15, 1968, which date is recorded on the cans. HOUSTON said that this particular shipment was sent on March 15, 1968, from Longview to him.

HOUSTON said that therefore all Schlitz beer brewed at Longview, Texas, on March 15, 1968, was received by him on March 20, 1968, and that of the 924 cases received, he has 35 cases remaining. HOUSTON said that from his records, the Southaven Minnow Shop on March 21, 1968, received four cases of the twelve-ounce pop-top Schlitz beer; on March 28, 1968, five cases; and on March 30, 1968, twelve cases. HOUSTON said that that beer received at the Southaven Minnow Shop would have been a portion of the beer brewed in Longview, Texas, on March 15, 1968, and received by him in Clarksdale on March 20, 1968.

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On 4/17/68 at Clarksdale, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA JAMES W. SAMMON/bls Date dictated 4/19/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/22/68

Mr. V. P. WAIT, Manager, Senatobia Tobacco Company, was interviewed concerning the distribution of a Number 20 brown paper bag with the name "Homestead Stubby" written on it, at which time WAIT furnished the following information:

WAIT advised that Senatobia Tobacco Company is a branch of Pettis Cigar Company and that they (Senatobia Tobacco) do handle a Number 20 brown paper bag with the name "Homestead Stubby" on it.

WAIT advised that the Southaven Minnow Shop, located on Route 51, adjacent to the Mississippi - Tennessee State Line, is the only store that is presently purchasing this bag. WAIT stated that the Southaven Minnow Shop has presently been purchasing about 250 of these bags every two weeks.

WAIT further advised that the Southaven Minnow Shop is the only store that is presently buying that particular bag in that area. WAIT stated that the "Market Place", located on Route 51, across from the Southaven Minnow Shop, had purchased this particular bag around Christmas of 1967, but this had only been a one time order.

WAIT advised that the closest store to the Southaven Minnow Shop that is presently using this particular bag is Treadways Grocery, which is in Cockrum, Mississippi, in the southern part of DeSoto County.

On 4/18/68 at SENATOBIA, MISSISSIPPI File # Jackson 157-9586  
by SA WILLIAM P. LAWLER, JR. /jdh Date dictated 4/19/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/27/68

GROVER KINNY, Stock Manager, Pettis Company, Oxford, Mississippi, was contacted concerning the distribution of a Number 20 brown paper bag with the name "Homestead Stubby" written on it, at which time KINNY furnished the following information:

KINNY advised that Pettis Cigar Company buys a Number 20 brown paper bag bearing the name "Homestead Stubby" from the Graham Paper Company in Memphis.

KINNY advised that distribution to stores in the extreme northern part of Mississippi is handled by Senatobia Tobacco Company, in Senatobia, Mississippi, which is a branch of Pettis Cigar Company, and that specific information concerning the sale of this bag would have to be obtained from Senatobia Tobacco.

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On 4/18/68 at OXFORD, MISSISSIPPI File # Jackson 157-9586  
by SA WILLIAM P. LAWLER, JR. /jdh Date dictated 4/19/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 29, 1968

The wanted flier on JAMES EARL RAY, Wanted Flier Number 442-A, was exhibited to BILL MC LAUGHLIN; his wife, Mrs. BILL MC LAUGHLIN; and his seventeen-year-old son, [REDACTED].

All advised that RAY is totally unknown to them and that they do not recall that individual purchasing a six-pack of twelve-ounce pop-top Schlitz beer, while driving a white Mustang automobile with an Alabama license.

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On 4/24/68 at Southaven, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA JAMES W. SAMMON /blw Date dictated 4/27/68

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

JN 157-9586

By communication dated April 17, 1968, the following items were forwarded to the FBI Laboratory, Washington, D.C., by the Jackson FBI Office:

One empty Schlitz beer can, 12-ounce size, from Southaven Minnow Shop, Southaven, Mississippi;

One brown paper bag from Southaven Minnow Shop, Southaven, Mississippi.

By communication dated April 24, 1968, the FBI Laboratory, Washington, D.C., furnished the following information:

Specimens received 4/19/68

K169 Empty Schlitz beer can, 12-ounce size, from Southaven  
Minnow Shop

K170 Brown paper bag from Southaven Minnow Shop

Results of examination:

Marks appearing in the number impressions on the bottoms of K169 and the previously submitted Q53 can of beer were identified as having been made by the same number dies. The marks on the Q52 can of beer were not identified with K169 or Q53, possibly because the marks were not so deeply or completely impressed in Q52.

The K170 paper bag was found to be similar in all observable characteristics to the Q55 paper bag which was previously submitted.



F B I

Date: 5/3/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: SAC, ALBUQUERQUE  
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN *157-2627*  
CR

(OO: Memphis)

Re Memphis tel 9:55 a.m. 4/17/68 requesting investigation of licensed drivers having birth date \_\_\_\_\_

Inasmuch as this investigation was requested at a time when it was not known that ERIC GALT was merely an alias of JAMES EARL RAY, it was then believed pertinent; however, now that RAY has been identified, this lead is no longer of value and all offices conducting same should discontinue.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- 2 - Albuquerque
- 2 - Atlanta
- 2 - Butte
- 2 - Denver
- 2 - Jackson
- 2 - Las Vegas
- 2 - Little Rock
- 2 - Milwaukee
- 2 - Minneapolis
- 2 - Mobile
- 2 - New Orleans
- 2 - Oklahoma City
- 2 - Philadelphia
- 2 - Phoenix
- 2 - Portland
- 2 - Sacramento
- 2 - San Antonio
- 2 - Seattle
- 2 - Memphis

JCH:cjs  
(38)

*157-2627-410*

SEARCHED <i>LB</i>	INDEXED <i>LB</i>
SERIALIZED <i>LB</i>	FILED <i>LB</i>
MAY 6 1968	
FBI - MOBILE	

*Boes*

Approved: *RC Jensen* Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date: 5/3/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)

SUBJECT: MURKIN - 157-2627  
CR

ReButel 4/25/68 to El Paso, Houston, San Antonio, advising that each office should determine from telephone company long distance calls placed at each public telephone on Interstate 10 over which subject and CHARLES STEIN allegedly traveled 12/15-17/67.

Set forth by field division are telephone calls made from the Houston Division, 12/15-17/67. Recipient offices will determine from the subscriber, or person receiving call, the identity of caller. If caller was JAMES EARL RAY, aka, obtain all available information.

- 3 - Bureau
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987)
- 2 - Indianapolis
- 2 - Kansas City
- 2 - Little Rock
- 2 - Los Angeles
- 2 - Mobile
- 2 - Oklahoma City
- 2 - San Francisco
- 2 - San Diego
- 2 - Houston

JSW:yk  
(23)

157-2627-411

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 6 1968	
FBI - MOBILE	

*Boston*

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

HO #44-1509

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CALLING NUMBER</u>	<u>CALLED NUMBER</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
<u>INDIANAPOLIS:</u>			
12/16/67	835-9040 (Beaumont, Texas)	317-872-4551	Mexico, Indiana
<u>KANSAS CITY:</u>			
12/17/67	835-9443 (Beaumont, Texas)	913-989-4468	Wathena, Kansas
<u>LITTLE ROCK:</u>			
12/17/67	673-9950 (Houston, Texas)	501-753-7404	Little Rock
12/16/67	468-9864 (Houston, Texas)	501-247-4890	Pine Bluff, Ark.
12/15/67	468-9818 (Houston, Texas)	501-623-2692	Hot Springs, Ark.
12/15/67	682-9114 (Houston, Texas)	501-535-1373	Pine Bluff, Ark.
12/15/67	682-9333 (Houston, Texas)	501-729-3283	Judsonia, Ark.
<u>LOS ANGELES:</u>			
12/16/67	892-9993 (Beaumont, Texas)	213-399-9676	Santa Monica, Calif.
12/17/67	452-9133 (Houston, Texas)	213-830-0453	San Pedro, Calif.
12/17/67	452-9133 (Houston, Texas)	213-830-0453	San Pedro, Calif.
12/17/67	452-9133 (Houston, Texas)	213-830-0453	San Pedro, Calif.
12/17/67	452-9133 (Houston, Texas) (Three calls same date)	213-320-9921	Torrence, Calif.

HO 44-1509

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CALLING NUMBER</u>	<u>CALLED NUMBER</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
12/17/68	452-9133 (Houston, Texas)	213-320-9921	Torrence, Calif.
12/17/67	452-9133 (Houston, Texas)	213-328-2380	Torrence, Calif.
12/17/67	673-9974 (Houston, Texas)	213-927-3989	Downey, Calif.
12/16/67	673-9395 (Houston, Texas)	213-927-3989	Downey, Calif.
12/16/67	468-9725 (Houston, Texas)	213-435-3662	Long Beach, Calif.
12/15/67	468-9725 (Houston, Texas)	213-421-4002	Long Beach, Calif.
12/17/67	468-9063 (Houston, Texas)	213-843-3747	Burbank, Calif.
12/16/67	468-9725 (Houston, Texas)	213-876-7897	Los Angeles
12/16/67	886-9976 (Orange, Texas)	805-256-2296	Rosamond, Calif.
12/16/67	682-9120 (Houston, Texas)	805-323-2660	Bakersfield, Calif.
12/16/67	682-9248 (Houston, Texas)	415-841-0501	Berkeley, Calif.
<u>MOBILE:</u>			
12/15/67	453-9577 (Houston, Texas)	205-479-7378	Mobile, Ala.
12/16/67	452-9133 (Houston, Texas)	205-479-8740	Mobile, Ala.

HO 44-1509

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CALLING NUMBER</u>	<u>CALLED NUMBER</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
12/15/67	886-9976 (Orange, Texas)	205-459-2461	Butler, Ala.
12/17/67	682-9322 (Houston, Texas)	205-342-1435	Mobile, Ala.

OKLAHOMA CITY:

12/15/67	453-9646 (Houston, Texas)	918-446-6041	Tulsa, Okla.
12/15/67	453-9646 (Houston, Texas)	918-446-6041	Tulsa, Okla.
12/16/67	452-9247 (Houston, Texas)	405-946-2137	Oklahoma City
12/17/67	452-9260 (Houston, Texas)	918-936-3644	Tulsa, Okla.
12/17/67	468-9150 (Houston, Texas)	405-842-5325	Britton, Okla.
12/17/68	673-9118 (Houston, Texas)	918-846-2996	Wynono, Okla.
12/17/67	673-9996 (Houston, Texas)	405-424-4153	Oklahoma City
12/17/67	673-9395 (Houston, Texas)	405-668-2423	Wilson, Okla.
12/17/67	468-9887 (Houston, Texas)	918-446-5042	Tulsa, Okla.

SAN FRANCISCO:

12/16/67	835-9439 (Beaumont, Texas)	415-538-1726	Hayward, Calif.
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HO 44-1509

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CALLING NUMBER</u>	<u>CALLED NUMBER</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
12/15/67	835-9324 (Beaumont, Texas)	415-345-1539	San Mateo, Calif.
12/16/67	673-9501 (Houston, Texas)	408-372-9730	Monterey, Calif.
<u>SAN DEIGO:</u>			
12/17/67	468-9844 (Houston, Texas)	714-469-6604	La Mesa, Calif.
12/17/67	468-9887 (Houston, Texas)	714-745-1548	Escondido, Calif.
12/17/67	769-9115 (Vidor, Texas)	714-279-1714	San Diego, Calif.
12/17/67	769-9104 (Vidor, Texas)	714-279-1714	San Diego, Calif.

F B I

Date: 5/3/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (173-65)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re San Francisco teletype to the Director, 5/2/68.

SUSPECT HAROLD EDWARD NICHOLS, aka Hal Nichols.

For information of offices not previously having information concerning NICHOLS, he is considered possible suspect and co-conspirator because of an alleged offer to an informant to furnish airline tickets and untraceable weapon if the informant would travel to unspecified place to kill certain designated Negro leaders including MARTIN LUTHER KING.

The reliability and credibility of the informant is unknown but is considered subject to doubt because of discrepancies of his stories, and because of information received from other sources.

NICHOLS has been extremely active in affairs of the American Independent Party in California, promoting GEORGE WALLACE for president.

AGENTS IN INTERVIEWS SHOULD EXERCISE DISCRETION AND CAUTION TO PREVENT ANY FALSE ALLEGATIONS THAT THE FBI IS CONDUCTING INVESTIGATION CONCERNING ACTIVITIES OF THE AIP.

- 3 - Bureau (RM)
- 1 - Birmingham (Info.) (AM)(RM)
- 2 - Los Angeles (AM)(RM)
- 2 - Knoxville (AM)(RM)
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987)(AM)(RM)
- ② - Mobile (AM)(RM)
- 2 - Sacramento (AM)(RM)
- 4 - San Francisco

WH: emg  
(18)

157-2627-412

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 6 1968	
FBI - MOBILE	

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

HAROLD EDWARD NICHOLS, commonly known as HAL NICHOLS, was interviewed at his apartment, #33 Los Palmas Apartments, 15375 Tropic Court, San Leandro, California. After proper identification, he was advised that investigation was being conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation concerning a violation of Federal Law in connection with the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING. Further, that an allegation had been received that Mr. NICHOLS might have information pertinent to this matter on the basis of remarks NICHOLS is reported to have made concerning such matters in the presence of others.

Mr. NICHOLS advised that he has no information concerning the murder, and except for his personal opinion as to who might be responsible, has no specific information concerning the murder. He said he had absolutely no objection to discussion of the matter.

Mr. NICHOLS advised that he is extremely active in the political field at the present time and in the recent past. He is a member of an eight man board in charge of promoting candidates for the American Independent Party (AIP) in California, and particularly in behalf of the candidacy of former Governor GEORGE WALLACE of Alabama for President. He stated that most persons not familiar with the AIP program and objectives, seem to assume that those favoring AIP are what is sometimes termed "negro-baiters." He denied that this is true, and said that from the view point of promoting the AIP, the murder of Dr. KING under such circumstances was a set back to the AIP who might have favored their principles.

He said that no one knowledgeable in affairs of the AIP would have caused or participated in a situation or action such as this in that it would be certain to make a "Martyr" of Dr. KING, which would hurt the AIP.

However, since persons generally seem to associate AIP members with "negro-baiters," he is frequently "kidded" along such lines by certain persons with whom he regularly comes into contact.



SF 173-65

WH:ay

He said that in recent months he has regularly frequented the Blue Dolphin, a San Leandro restaurant, and in fact assisted in arranging a couple of luncheons there in honor of WALLACE. Therefore, he has become acquainted with the owner of the Blue Dolphin, BILL PELUSO, and with many of the employees, including the bartenders.

When he goes to the cafe, he frequently goes to the bar and the bartenders frequently "kid" him concerning some current event involving Negroes or the AIP. This has been going on for several months, and everything said has been in jest.

However, he speculated that some person hearing such conversation might misinterpret the conversation, and draw a conclusion which would not be warranted.

In connection with Dr. KING's murder, he recalls such a conversation in the bar of the Blue Dolphin either the same night Dr. KING was killed, or possibly the evening after that.

As he recalled he had been driving on the Nimitz Freeway in Oakland, about 5:00 pm the night of the murder, April 4, 1968, when he first heard the announcement on the car radio.

When next visiting the Blue Dolphin, he recalled one of the employees greeting him with the comment "Well, I see you got him," or some similar comment. He believed he replied that "It wasn't me."

The next comment dealt with "How did you get back from Memphis so soon?"

As he recalled, he made some facetious remark such as "There's planes leaving every hour."

He again stated that the above conversation was strictly in the nature of "kidding," and except for the actual specific subject matter, was very similar to other comments made at the same place on numerous occasions.

He believed that these comments could have been misconstrued by someone who heard them, if the listener did not understand the circumstances or attached some literal interpretation to the remarks.

SF 173-65

WH:ay

Mr. NICHOLS said that he had no objection to furnishing his whereabouts on March 29,30, 1968 and April 4, 1968, and to furnishing independent substantiation if he could.

Relative to the date April 4, 1968, Mr. NICHOLS said that he could definitely establish his whereabouts on that date. He stated that he left the Bay Area in his own car sometime between 7:00 and 9:00 am, drove to Berkeley, California, where he picked up a real estate dealer named CYRIL STEVENSON, Jr., telephone 524-2392. They then proceeded to Oroville, California, to look at some real estate which they were considering for investment purposes.

He recalled that they visited a savings and loan association in Oroville, but does not recall the name of it, although Mr. STEVENSON would probably know. To the best of his recollection, they returned to the Bay Area about 5:00 pm. He dropped Mr. STEVENSON off at his car in Berkeley, and proceeded out the Nimitz Freeway toward San Leandro. It was at this time that he first heard of the killing of Dr. KING on his car radio.

In further support of his whereabouts, Mr. NICHOLS said that when in San Leandro he frequently charges his gasoline at a Douglas Service Station on Marina Blvd. When traveling, he pays cash. He does not use a credit card. Whether charged to his account, or when paying cash, he usually obtains a purchase ticket. He throws these tickets in the glove compartment of his Cadillac where they are available if needed for his business records.

He located in his glove compartment the following charge tickets which he said recorded purchases at Douglas Service Station, Marina Blvd., San Leandro, both dated April 4, 1968:

Ticket #B 036026 dated 4/4/68 recording purchase of \$5.00 of gasoline.

Ticket #B 36186 recording purchase of \$4.55 of gasoline.

Mr. NICHOLS said that undoubtedly he had put gas in the car in the morning when leaving for Oroville, and had put in gas upon his return that evening.

SF 173-65

WH:ay

A search of the available tickets failed to record any purchase of gasoline in the Oroville area, although Mr. NICHOLS believed they must have purchased gasoline. He does not recall, but thought that perhaps Mr. STEVENSON had paid for some gasoline in the area.

Relative to his whereabouts on March 29,30, 1968, Mr. NICHOLD said that he does not recall specifically where he was. He stated that he tries to go to his home in Southern California every other weekend to visit his wife and 2 1/2 year old son. By consulting a calendar, he determined that this would have been the weekend when he normally visited his wife.

When he makes this trip, he normally leaves on Saturday morning, which in this instance would have been March 30, 1968. He sometimes drives and sometimes flies via Air California from Oakland, California Airport to Orange County Airport.

He searched his available gasoline tickets and could locate no record of purchases on March 29 or 30, 1968. This indicated to him that if he had visited his home in Southern California that weekend he had probably gone by air.

Mr. NICHOLS was asked if he could establish his whereabouts on March 29 & 30, 1968 through other records. He said that his business records probably would not show such information, with the exception of his appointment book, which might give him a clue as to where he had been. He contacted his secretary and ascertained there were no notations in his appointment book for those dates.

He said that he has discontinued the use of a checking account due to several civil suits having been filed against him, so he could not establish his whereabouts by cancelled checks.

He does not use credit cards, whether for gasoline or airline travel. He examined numerous airline ticket folders which he found in his apartment. He said he makes no particular effort to save these. He found some undated and none for the pertinent dates. There were no copies of tickets.

SF 173-65

WH:ay

Mr. NICHOLS advised that he makes numerous long distance telephone calls, business, personal and political in nature. He makes them from his business phone, 483-3151, and from the phone in his apartment, 483-1270.

He said his telephone bill for the period contains record of numerous long distance telephone calls which could definitely establish that he was in San Leandro on March 29, 1968 and probably on March 30, 1968. He furnished the following concerning these records:

March 29, 1968

- 10:13 am Telephone call to 714 774 2969, Anaheim, California where he talked to an ex-business associate RUSSELL TOWNSEND.
- 4:34 pm Telephone call to 714 871 2950, Fullerton, California, where he talked to JIM TOWNSEND, brother of above RUSSELL TOWNSEND.
- 3:49 pm Telephone call to 805 831 5379, where he talked to Mr. MAYALL, State Chairman of the Committee directing AIP campaign in California. He believes this telephone number is no longer in use, but Mr. MAYALL can be reached through 871 6283 in Bakersfield, which Mr. NICHOLS believes is the home telephone of Mr. MAYALL.

Collect telephone call, person to person, received by him from AL STANLEY, who was calling from telephone 553 4530 in Oroville, California. Mr. STANLEY does not have a telephone, so location of above phone is unknown to him. STANLEY can be located through the M&K Hancock Service Station in Oroville.

March 30, 1968

His telephone records reflect that at 12:11 pm, a call was placed from his office to 916 725 2908, Roseville, California. He noted that this is the telephone number of his employee, CHUCK SULLIVAN, who works in San Leandro but returns to his home in Roseville on Friday evening for the weekend.

SF 173-65

WH:ay

Mr. NICHOLS does not specifically recall making this call, and in reality it could have been made by any company employee. However, he sometimes handles Saturday business at the office so SULLIVAN can go home on Friday, and it is most likely that he is the one who made the call.

Since this is the last recorded call on Saturday, March 30, 1968, and since he is quite certain he visited his wife in Southern California on that weekend, he feels that shortly after this call he went to the Oakland Airport and got a flight to Orange County Airport.

He said he would have flown Air California Air Lines and since they make their reservations by name, this line should have a record of his having made such a trip.

He also volunteered information on a trip he had made back East. He said his mother-in-law, JEANNETTE CRITTENDEN, 502 Lee Circle, Johnson City, Tennessee, died about two to three weeks prior to March 1, 1968. His wife had naturally gone back for the funeral. His wife remained there for two or three weeks after the funeral to clear up details of the death and the estate.

Mr. NICHOLS said that he desired to visit his wife's relatives and to bring his wife back to California. He decided to drive his car back to Johnson City, and because of his interest in activities of the AIP, he decided to stop and confer with leaders of that party in Montgomery, Alabama.

He said that en route to Johnson City, he stopped in Montgomery on the night of February 27, 1968, at which time he stayed at the Holiday Inn, Midtown. Next day he drove to Johnson City, where he stayed a few days at 502 Lee Circle.

On March 3, 1968, accompanied by his wife and small son, he was again in Montgomery en route to California. At this time, he stayed at the Town House Motel.

He next has record of a cash receipt from Cotton's Truck Stop, Las Cruces, New Mexico on March 5, 1968, which he said was for the purchase of gasoline on his return trip to California.

SF 173-65  
WH:ay

Mr. NICHOLS advised that he was born [redacted] Aberdeen, Washington. He has been in California most of the time since 1945. He attended high school at Golden Gate Academy, which was at that time in Berkeley, California, but which moved to some hill area near Oakland. He is not sure it is still in operation. He graduated in 1947.

During the school year 1950-51 he attended La Sierra College in Riverside, California.

From 1951 to 1953 he was in the U.S. Marine Corps under MSN 1206458. Since 1953, he has worked as a salesman, principally in California, but actually traveling in numerous states.

He is married and his wife lives in Southern California. He said he is reluctant to furnish her specific address because he feels that reprisals against his wife and child are very possible because of his political activities in behalf of AIP should her address become generally known.

He said that he established a business in Sacramento, California in July, 1967, known as Certified Wire Service. This business is still in operation but he intends to dissolve it as it is losing money.

He came to San Leandro in December, 1967, and established his present business known as Diamond Fence Co., 14494 Wickes Blvd., San Leandro.

He is active in experimenting with gold dredging combined with skin diving, and spends some weekends in the Sierra stream areas searching for gold, or conducting experiments along those lines.

He also had interest in speculative investment in businesses in the Oroville area, which are in a depressed state due to departure of the workmen engaged in building the now completed Oroville Dam. He believed such property could be purchased cheaply and held until business picks up, insuring an excellent profit. He has abandoned this idea, at least temporarily.

SF 173-65

WH:ay

He said that he has no photo of himself at the present time due to theft of his billfold, with the exception of the photo on his driver's license, California #B 295 330.

He said he has been arrested, but not since he was in the US Marine Corps.

He is described as:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Nationality	American
Date of birth	
Place of birth	Aberdeen, Washington
Height	5' 8"
Weight	220
Hair	reddish blond
Eyes	Grey-green
Build	Obese
Complexion	Light
Teeth	even & smoke stained

Mr. NICHOLS volunteered that should further information or clarification be desired, he would be pleased to attempt to furnish such information.

SF 173-65

WH: cmg

LEADS:

KNOXVILLE

AT JOHNSON CITY, TENNESSEE: Verify death of JEANNETTE CRITTENDEN about February, 1968, and conduct investigation to establish presence of NICHOLS in that city from about February 28, 1968 to March 3, 1968.

LOS ANGELES

AT ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA: Locate RUSSELL TOWNSEND through telephone number 714 774 2969, a business associate of NICHOLS to verify telephone call he received from NICHOLS 3/29/68.

AT FULLERTON, CALIFORNIA: Locate JIM TOWNSEND, brother of RUSSELL TOWNSEND, to verify telephone call he recieved from NICHOLS 3/29/68.

MOBILE

AT MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA: 1) Will check registration of Holiday Motel, Midtown, to verify presence of NICHOLS in that city 2/27/68. (He drives 1967 Cadillac convertible, white canvas over light blue, California license UPD 482).

2) Will verify that NICHOLS and his wife stayed at Town House Motel night of 3/3/68.

SACRAMENTO

AT OROVILLE, CALIFORNIA: Will locate AL STANLEY through M&K Hancock Service Station to verify that STANLEY placed collect person to person call to NICHOLS in San Leandro on 3/29/68, and talked to him.

SAN FRANCISCO

AT BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA: Will interview realtor CYRIL STEVENSON, Jr., telephone number 524-2392, to verify he took a trip with NICHOLS to Oroville on 3/29/68.



SF 173-65

WH: cmg

AT OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA: At Oakland Airport, ascertain if NICHOLS made trip to Orange County Airport on 3/30/68.

AT SAN LEANDRO, CALIFORNIA: Verify gas charges of NICHOLS at Douglas Station, Marina Boulevard, on 4/4/68, and any record of charges on 3/29,30/68.

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

5/6/68

SAC, MOBILE (157-2627) (P)

MURKIN

RE: MOTOR VEHICLES AND LICENSE  
PLATES STOLEN IN ALABAMA

Reference is made to Bureau airtel to Atlanta, Birmingham, Mobile, and Savannah, 4/26/68.

Transmitted to Mobile and Birmingham was a list of motor vehicles and license plates stolen in Alabama, as compiled from information retained in NCIC.

SA MYRON G. TURNER, on 4/30/68, 5/1, 2, and 3/68, reviewed the files concerning these stolen licenses and automobiles which were listed on the enclosure from the Bureau. The information reviewed by him was made available by MICHAEL SULLIVEN, Investigator, Investigation and Identification Division, Alabama Dept. of Public Safety, Montgomery, Alabama.

Information concerning each offense was recorded in handwriting on a separate sheet. Enclosed herewith for Birmingham are 96 sheets reflecting information concerning licenses and automobiles stolen in that portion of Alabama recovered by the Birmingham Division.

Mobile is instituting investigation concerning the licenses and automobiles stolen within that portion of Alabama, covered by Mobile to develop any information indicating whether or not subject RAY may have been involved in any of these thefts.

Details of these investigations are being handled in Subfile one of Mobile File 157-2627, and any pertinent information developed will be reported to the Bureau, Memphis, and Atlanta.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

2 - Bureau  
1 - Atlanta (44-2386)(Info)  
2 - Birmingham (44-1740)(Enc.96)  
2 - Memphis (44-1987)  
2 - Mobile (①) 157-2627)(1 - 157-2627 SF1)  
JTB:crb

(9) *CRB*

157-2627-413

*7D*  
*D*

MATCH BOOK FROM REID MOTEL,  
GREENVILLE, ALABAMA, FOUND BEHIND  
107-113 14TH STREET, N.E., ATLANTA, GEORGIA

The following investigation was conducted on May 3, 1968 by SA DANIEL W. MC ALLEN, III, at Greenville, Alabama:

Mr. LONNIE DANIELS, SR., Manager, Reid Motel, Highway 31, advised that he has been working at this motel for the past two years, and presently is managing same in the absence of the owner, Mrs. ETHEL B. DYKES. He said that he normally checks guests in and out of the motel and feels certain he would recognize individual guests from photographs. DANIELS said he was a law enforcement officer for 16 years and has had experience in identifying people from photographs.

DANIELS was shown photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and could not identify any of the photographs as anyone having stayed at this motel in the past. In addition he made available records of the motel which were examined by SA DANIEL W. MC ALLEN, III, but no registration for Subject RAY, under his true name or aliases, was found. This check covered the period from April, 1967 to date.

DANIELS stated that match books at this motel are not kept out in the open where anyone could pick them up, but are given out to persons only on request. He said that the motel has used several different colored match books, and the printing on the match books have differed at times. He stated that if the color of any particular match book and the writing thereon were made known to him, he would possibly be able to pinpoint the approximate time the match book was dispensed at that motel. DANIELS advised that numerous persons from the Atlanta, Georgia, area frequent this motel.

Mrs. MARY OWENS, maid, Reid Motel, was shown photographs of RAY, but could not identify the photographs as anyone having stayed at that motel in the past.

157-2627-414  
Searched \_\_\_\_\_  
Serialized SA  
Indexed SA  
Filed SA

5/6/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386)  
FROM: SAC, MOBILE (157-2627)(P)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN  
(OO: MEMPHIS)

Reference is made to Atlanta teletype to the Bureau, Memphis and Mobile, dated 5/2/68.

Enclosed herewith for Atlanta are 25 copies and for Memphis 2 copies, of insert reflecting investigation conducted by Mobile at Greenville, Ala., pursuant to request in referenced teletype.

It will be noted that Mr. LONNIE DANIELS, SR., Manager of the Reid Motel, Greenville, Ala., advised that if he were furnished the color of the match book found in Atlanta, and the writing thereon, he might be able to pinpoint the month or the approximate time the book was dispensed at that motel. It is noted the investigation does not reflect any information that subject has ever stayed at this motel.

2 - Atlanta (Enc. 25)  
2 - Memphis (44-1987)(Enc. 2)  
② - Mobile  
JTB:agf  
(6) *agf*

*[Signature]*

157-2627-415  
SEARCHED \_\_\_\_\_  
SERIALIZED *[initials]*  
INDEXED \_\_\_\_\_  
FILED *[initials]*

5/6/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
ATTN: FBI LABORATORY

FROM: SAC, MOBILE (157-2627)(P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
(OO: MEMPHIS)

Reference is made to Birmingham teletype to the Bureau, Atlanta and Mobile, airmail copy to Memphis, 5:53 PM, 4/26/68.

On 5/1 and 5/2/68, Lt. D. C. KIMBRO, Drivers License Division, and Mrs. GAYLORD TURNER, IEM Section, Drivers License Division, Alabama State Dept. of Public Safety, Montgomery, Ala., made available all records pertaining to Alabama driver's licenses issued throughout the State of Alabama, between 3/29/68 and 4/9/68. There were approximately 7500 driver's licenses issued for this period. SA DANIEL W. MC ALLEN, III examined these records and after eliminating applications of the young people, old people, Negroes, females, etc., there were approximately 800 application forms which were then examined by SA MC ALLEN.

Of these 800 applications, 10 persons were found generally fitting the description of subject and whose handwriting was thought somewhat similar to that of the subject. These 10 applications are enclosed herewith for the Bureau, and it is requested that the Laboratory compare the signatures on these applications with the handwriting

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. 10)
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987)
- 1 - Atlanta (44-2386) (Info)
- 1 - Birmingham (44-1740) (Info)
- ② - Mobile

JTB:agf  
(9)

157-2627-416

Searched \_\_\_\_\_  
Serialized *BP*  
Indexed \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed *BP*

MO 157-2627

of subject to determine if any of these signatures may have been prepared by the subject.

These application forms are for the following individuals:

WILLIAM ELMER JOHNSON  
941 8th St., Pleasant Grove, Alabama 35127;

FRANK GARRETT PERRY  
215 West Drake Ave., Auburn, Ala. 36830;

JAMES PRESTON RIDDICK  
322 First Ave., Saraland, Ala. 36571;

ROBERT CLIFTON SMITH  
Rt. 2, Box 221, Lineville, Ala. 36266;

FONTAINE (NOM) STORM  
P.C.S.R. (Big R Trailer Park, Lot No. 10)  
Greenville, Ala. 36037;

R. (Only) W. (Only) KERR  
Rt. 1, Box 109, Cave Springs, Ga. (Ala.) 36275;

CLYDE JUSTIN HILL, SR.  
Rt. 1, Box 373  
Bryant, Ala. 35958;

WINFORD PRESTON GILMORE  
1203 21st St., Phenix City, Ala. 36867;

PAUL EDGAR GOODPASTER, JR.  
1323 Perry St., Montgomery, Ala. 36104;

LEE EMERSON BELLAMY  
809 Nashville, Ave., Sheffield, Ala. 35660;

ROGER DAVID BROUSSARD  
2123 North 12th. Avenue  
Birmingham, Ala.

Copy of this letter is furnished to Birmingham, so that Birmingham may be aware that this license check for the State of Alabama, has been made, and a copy is furnished to Atlanta in view of the interest of the Atlanta Division in this particular phase of the investigation.

**MO 157-2627**

**Mobile is not retaining copies of these application forms, and if any investigation is needed concerning any of these application forms by either Birmingham or Mobile, the Bureau should furnish Birmingham or Mobile with the pertinent application.**

**Results of this review should be furnished to Memphis, Atlanta, Birmingham and Mobile. In the event the examination is negative, these forms need not be returned to Mobile.**

5/2/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, JACKSONVILLE (44-769) (P)  
SUBJ: MURKIN

Re Dallas teletype to Bureau, Jacksonville, Mobile, and New Orleans dated 5/1/68.

Re subject's calls made from coin telephone en route from Los Angeles to New Orleans.

Subscriber to telephone number 752-6460, Lake City, Fla., is ROBIN C. SHIVER, Westwood Acres, Lake City, Fla. SHIVER is in poultry business at Lake City and is owner of a Phillips '68 Service Station. He is reportedly reliable and a well respected citizen. SHIVER advised in December, 1967, exact date unknown, he received a telephone call from his partner, GARLAND STROBLE, age 35, from Texas regarding the poultry business. This was the only telephone call he received from the State of Texas.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

3 - Bureau  
1 - Mobile  
1 - New Orleans  
1 - Dallas (44-2649)  
2 - Jacksonville  
TJW:ser  
(8)

157-2627-417

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 7 1968	
FBI - MOBILE	

*Boston*



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, MOBILE (157-2627)

*SW*  
FROM : SAC, DENVER (157-203) (P)

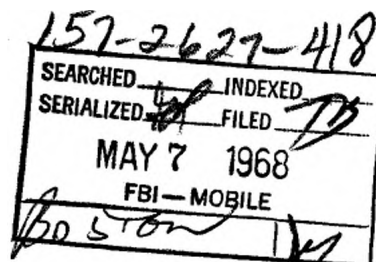
SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 5/4/68

Re Mobile teletype 5/3/68, concerning one JAMES E. RAY, 311 May Street, Montgomery, Alabama.

The JAMES EARL RAY who was in jail in Wheatland, Wyoming, as of 4/25/68, was checked out by the Denver Office through Sheriff EINAR MICKELSEN of Platte County. This particular RAY was arrested 4/22/68, on a Bad Check charge and is a white male, American, age 48, 5 feet 11 inches, 170 pounds, brown eyes, brown hair, which is receding very much in the center. He has no scar on his forehead and his left ear does not protrude. Fingerprints of this RAY were sent to the Identification Division, and by telephone, Denver learned from the Identification Division that the JAMES EARL RAY in Wheatland is not the RAY the Bureau is seeking.

② - Mobile  
2 - Denver  
BDA/can  
(4)



5010-108-01

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-2627)

DATE: 5/5/68

FROM : SA ROY H. EVELAND

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Butel 4/29/68

On 4/30/68 DUNCAN WARD, Detective, Opelika, Alabama Police Department advised that in response to the request made by this agent on 4/29/68 all unidentified latent fingerprints maintained in the files of that department pertaining to unsolved cases were compared with the fingerprints of JAMES EARL RAY FBI #405 942 G with negative results.

RHE/  
(1)

157-2627-419

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 7 1968	
FBI - MOBILE	

*Boesman*