

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 24, 19681.

HARVEY MINK, Night Auditor, Congress Airport Inn, 3433 North Lindbergh, advised as follows:

Sometime during the late year 1967, exact date not recalled, a white male registered at the said motel under the name of JAMES RAY, Allstate Insurance Company, St. Louis, Missouri, and left without paying his bill. MINK checked with the Allstate Insurance Company at St. Louis and was unable to identify this man as an employee.

During the night of April 18, 1968, while going through the motel guest list, MINK noticed the name of JAMES RAY as a guest in Room #114 at the motel. He also noted that the said guest in Room #114 had paid \$9.79 in advance, but he called Room #114 in an effort to obtain a further room advance, but got no answer to such a call.

MINK noted from the St. Louis Globe-Democrat of April 20-21, 1968, that one JAMES EARL RAY was wanted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and he advised WALTER L. BROOKS, Manager of the motel of the above circumstances regarding the former guest in Room #114.

MINK did not see the guest in Room #114 for April 18, 1968, nor did he see the car that the guest was driving. He could not describe the guest who registered as JAMES RAY, Allstate Insurance Company, St. Louis, Missouri, in late 1967, and who "skipped" on his bill and a search of motel records by MINK failed to locate any such record.

MINK commented that many small "skips" at the motel for one or two nights are charged off, after making a nominal attempt to identify such persons, and the records are destroyed.

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On 4/20/68 at St. Louis County, Missouri File # SL 44-775

by SA (A) JOHN J. BUCKLEY:bam Date dictated 4/23/68

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

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 24, 19681

NAOMI HAWKINS, Housekeeper, Congress Airport Inn, 3433 North Lindbergh, advised that when she came to work on the morning of April 19, 1968, a green colored car was parked in front of motel Room #114. The car bore Missouri license plates, number unknown.

Upon checking the premises later in the day at shortly before Noon, she noticed that the car was gone from in front of Room #114 and the room was vacant so she thereupon cleaned the room for the next tenant.

Nothing unusual was noted in cleaning the room and the only items left were sheets of newspaper from the floor which she threw in the trash can.

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1.

SL 44-775
JJB:bam

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

The following investigation was conducted at St. Louis, Missouri, by SA (A) JOHN J. BUCKLEY on April 20, 1968:

A check of the Missouri State License Directory failed to reflect a listing for SE4- or JE4-0861, it being noted that Missouri licenses contain only six digits, whereas such numbers contain seven digits. Derivations of such numbers, SE4-861, SE4-086 and JE4-860 although listed, had no apparent connection with a JAMES RAY or a 1967 Plymouth.

Miss SHERYL CARRIGER, 2501 Big Bend, a registration clerk at Congress Airport Inn, 3433 North Lindbergh Boulevard, advised that she was not on duty at about 5:08 PM on April 18, 1968, and had no knowingly seen the guest in Room #114 at the motel, nor his automobile, at any time.

Miss MARY LOU BEACHLER, Secretary, Allstate Insurance Company, Claim Department, 9231 West Florissant Avenue, advised that she is a long-time employee of the firm and that the firm has never employed a JAMES RAY as an agent in the St. Louis, Missouri, area. She remarked that the Allstate Insurance Company is represented in Columbia, Missouri, by an unrecalled independent agent at the Sears, Roebuck and Company store at Columbia, Missouri.

Kansas City was requested on April 20, 1968, to conduct logical investigation at Columbia, Missouri, to identify JAMES RAY, Allstate Insurance Company, and the Kansas City Office subsequently advised on April 20, 1968, that investigation at Columbia, Missouri, had failed to identify RAY as an employee of Allstate Insurance Company.

The Bureau advised on April 22, 1968, that comparison of the handwriting on the motel registration in this instance with known specimens of subject's handwriting resulted in the conclusion that subject had not executed the motel registration.

On April 25, 1968, the Bureau advised latent fingerprints developed on above registration card were not identical with the fingerprints of subject.

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SL: 44-775
HRD:mjb

SUSPECT - CHARLEY ROBERTS

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

On April 8, 1968, Mr. GENE CANTARELL, who requested that his identity be kept confidential so far as the individual regarding whom he furnished information might be concerned, of Sikeston, Missouri, telephone #GRI-1801, telephonically advised SA JACK A. FRENCH of the St. Louis Division that he is acquainted with an individual named CHARLEY ROBERTS who lives in Memphis, Tennessee, and is employed at the Firestone Tire Company there. Mr. CANTARELL said he last saw ROBERTS in Sikeston, Missouri, approximately two months ago at which time ROBERTS stated he had recently purchased a 30-6 rifle to kill Doctor KING. He stated ROBERTS was last known to be driving a white Mustang automobile, year unknown.

Mr. CANTARELL was of the opinion that ROBERTS has a prior arrest record with the Memphis, Tennessee, Police Department, for assault.

He had no knowledge or information as to ROBERTS' present whereabouts but described him as being a white male, age 23, medium height and build, light brown hair, green eyes, and having a "silly grin."

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SI. 44-775
JJB:ral

Re: Suspect GEORGE STEVEN RUDE

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

On April 28, 1968, the Los Angeles Office advised that one GEORGE RUDE, who resembled subject JAMES EARL RAY, FBI Number 405942G, was aboard TWA Flight #174, which left Los Angeles at 8:21 a.m. and was due to arrive at St. Louis, Missouri, on April 28, 1968, at 1:40 p.m. RUDE was described as wearing a white shirt with buttoned down collar and a yellow cardigan sweater, carrying a blue flight bag and sitting in the coach section of the aircraft, midway on the right side. He had made inquiry about connections to Marion, Ohio, via Ozark Airlines and had checked two pieces of luggage.

The following investigation was conducted by SA JOHN J. BUCKLEY and SA THOMAS L. BUCKLEY on April 28, 1968:

At 1:30 p.m. a white male, later identified as GEORGE STEVEN RUDE, was observed as he alighted from TWA Flight #174 which arrived at St. Louis Municipal Airport at 1:28 p.m. The said flight was determined to have been a non-stop flight from Los Angeles, California. RUDE was dressed in a white, buttoned-down shirt, no hat or tie, and wearing a yellow button-front cardigan sweater and black trousers.

Upon interview, RUDE identified himself by producing Illinois State Drivers License #390-3173-8080, a white male, born [redacted] at Harco, Illinois, his residence. RUDE is further described as being 5 feet 8 inches, 155 pounds, brown-grey hair, crew cut, blue eyes and having false upper front teeth. He has Selective Service Number [redacted].

It was noted that RUDE bore little resemblance to subject RAY. RUDE's left index finger was examined and, from the Identification Order on subject RAY, was determined not identical to that of subject RAY.

RUDE stated that he resided in Harco, Illinois, and had travelled to Los Angeles in an unsuccessful search for employment. He remarked that he had a three to four hour layover at St. Louis, Missouri, in order to connect with an Ozark Airlines flight toward his home in Harco, Illinois.

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HRD/leh

RE: RONALD WILLARD SPIVEY
LOOK-ALIKE

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

On April 8, 1968, Mr. EDWARD LIEBENGUTH, Claims Department, Volkswagen Corporation, St. Louis, Missouri, advised SA HOWARD G. SLACK that approximately two months ago, an individual named RONALD WILLARD SPIVEY came to his office to discuss a claims settlement. LIEBENGUTH had an extensive conversation with SPIVEY at that time during which SPIVEY stated he would take drastic action if Negroes rioted in Nashville, Tennessee. He displayed a revolver which he wore on his hip and also exhibited vials of what he termed was "mace" and a blackjack.

Mr. LIEBENGUTH stated that a Mr. FRISTOE, Professional Claims Company, Nashville, Tennessee, had advised him he had observed an arsenal of guns in SPIVEY's car as well as dynamite. He stated that FRISTOE had described SPIVEY as being emotionally unstable and that he had threatened to blow up the Superior Motor Company in Nashville, Tennessee, if his claim was not settled.

Mr. LIEBENGUTH viewed an artist's conception of The KING assassin and stated it closely resembled SPIVEY. He described SPIVEY as a white male, in his early 30s, 6' tall, weighing 150-165 pounds, slender build, brown hair, thin face, prominent nose, "funny smile," very talkative, owns House of Willard, a collection agency in Donelson, Tennessee.

On April 17, 1968, the Memphis Division advised that investigation in Nashville, Tennessee, had revealed SPIVEY to be a gun collector and somewhat of a "mental case" in that he had frequently boasted he could get people killed. It was indicated SPIVEY owns his own collection agency in Nashville and had been observed with firearms in his possession in the past.

St. Louis was requested to attempt to obtain a photograph of SPIVEY from his Army service record.

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Personnel at the Military Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri, advised on April 23, 1968, they had been unable to locate a service record for SPIVEY in the absence of his serial number or date and place of birth.

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SL 44-775
HRD:pav

Suspect: DONALD LEROY WILLARD

On April 12, 1968, the Newark Division advised of receipt of information from a source to the effect that one DONALD LEROY WILLARD bore a physical resemblance to subject RAY.

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

A review of the Marine Corps service record on file at the Military Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri, by IC EARL M. RANEY on April 13, 1968, for DONALD LEROY WILLARD disclosed he had Marine Corps Serial Number [REDACTED]. He enlisted in the Marine Corps on July 11, 1955, at Cleveland, Ohio, and served on active duty until July 10, 1959, when he was honorably released from active duty as a Corporal at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, and was transferred to the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve. He thereafter served inactively until July 10, 1963, when he was honorably discharged. His recruit training was at Parris Island, South Carolina.

No record appeared of disciplinary actions, mental or nervous disorders, or specialized training in demolitions or explosives. It was indicated he received treatment during January, 1961, for "urethritis - acute".

The following background information appeared in the record:

Born	[REDACTED] Toledo, Ohio
Height	Six feet one inch
Weight	185 pounds
Race	Caucasian
Hair	Blond
Eyes	Blue
Scars and Marks	Four-inch scar left ankle; tattoo of panther head on left arm
Education	Four years high school
Military Occupation	Rifleman and Property Sergeant and Supply Man, Prison Chaser, Embarkation Assistant, Administrative Clerk, and Mess Man

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HRD:paw

Residence Address 3635 Doyle Street, Toledo,
Ohio, July, 1955, and
July, 1959.

Relatives were listed as his father, WALTER LOUIS WILLARD, and mother, HELEN WILLARD, of the same address as of November, 1955. One WALTER WILLARD was listed, but the relationship was not shown. His address was 3611 Doyle Street, Toledo, Ohio, as of November, 1957. His Social Security Number was listed as [REDACTED] His photograph appeared in the file.

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SL 44-775
HRD:amb

RE: SUSPECT, JOHN RUFUS WILLARD, FBI #920 94 E

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI:

By letter received April 12, 1968, Colonel ROBERT MATTESON, Chief of Detectives, St. Louis, Missouri, Police Department, furnished a photograph and copies of the fingerprints and FBI Identification Record of one JOHN RUFUS WILLARD, white male, born [REDACTED] at Tyronaza, Arkansas, as possibly being the JOHN WILLARD wanted in this case.

The FBI Identification Division advised on April 12, 1968, that the remaining unidentified latent fingerprints and the latent impressions in this case were not identical with the fingerprints of JOHN RUFUS WILLARD, FBI #920 94 E.

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SI 44-775

KMR/pjh On April 25, 1968, the Phoenix Division requested review of the Army record for DAVID LINDSEY WILSON.

RE: DAVID LINDSEY WILSON

A review on April 25, 1968 of the U. S. Army service records on file at the Military Personnel Records Center (MPRC), St. Louis, Missouri, for DAVID LINDSEY WILSON, Serial Number 14 357 317, indicated he enlisted in the U. S. Army on September 28, 1950, and entered on active duty the following date at Knoxville, Tennessee. He served on active duty until October 8, 1952, when he was given a general discharge as a Private at Fort McPherson, Georgia, by reason of unsuitability due to character and behavior disorders.

U. S. Army records failed to contain any specific details regarding WILSON's reason for discharge, however, records contained a neuropsychiatric examination dated April 2, 1952, wherein he received a diagnosis of "Emotional Instability Reaction", moderate to severe, with four months combat duty in Korea, and severe environmental difficulty since. His condition was characterized by strong, uncontrollable tendencies to ward regression, furor attacks, pathological dependency on his family and wife, depressiveness, intolerance to anxiety, and rejection of his intropsychic stress into family affairs. He went absent without official leave (AWOL) because of nervousness and because of the emotional demands being made on him by his wife and parents. He gave a history of crying when treated roughly or having temper tantrums or furor attacks and of being emotionally tense at all times.

It was further noted his condition was not amenable to hospitalization, treatment, disciplinary action, training, transfer to another station, or reclassification. He was considered to be not insane, possessed sufficient mental capacity to know the difference between right and wrong, and was considered to be mentally responsible for his acts.

It was further noted he showed a straight-forward maturity reaction, and that this constitutional psychopathic was not considered a medical disease and was not a condition for which he would receive treatment in military institutions. It was the psychiatrist's opinion that considerable leniency was desirable in dealing with WILSON since the origin of his troubles began with a battle-incurred wound and his final illness had some of the nuisances of battle fatigue. It was then

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EMR/pjh

recommended that he be separated from the military service due to unsuitability.

On April 1, 1952, he was tried and convicted by a Special Court-Martial for being AWOL from November 7, 1951, to March 10, 1952, and sentenced to three months confinement at hard labor and forfeiture of \$25 per month for three months.

On July 21, 1952, he was tried and convicted by a Special Court-Martial for absenting himself without proper authority from June 2, 1952, to June 30, 1952, and sentenced to 84 days confinement at hard labor and forfeiture of \$28 per month for two months.

Records indicated WILSON is assigned Veterans Administration (VA) Claim Number C-20 939 779, Veterans Administration, St. Petersburg, Florida, October 7, 1958, with disability shown as gunshot wound, nervous condition and wounds, etcetera. Medical records for WILSON were forwarded to the VA at St. Petersburg on November 3, 1958.

It was further noted that additional medical records for WILSON were furnished to the VA Regional Office (VARO), Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on May 12, 1953. Medical records for WILSON have not been returned to date.

Records contained a letter dated September 21, 1967, from WILSON's parents who requested a complete copy of his service record which was forwarded to them on October 26, 1967, to 2213 North 14th Street, Dade City, Florida.

Army records for WILSON failed to indicate that he received any specialized training in the field of demolitions or explosives.

The following is background and descriptive data concerning DAVID LINDSKY WILSON:

Born
Birthplace
Height
Weight

[REDACTED]
West Burn, Tennessee
6'3"
150 pounds

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ZHR/pjh

Sex
Race
Hair
Eyes
Blood Group
Education
Civilian Occupation
Military Occupation
Home Addresses

Relatives

Employment

VA Claim Number
Local Draft Board
Photograph

Male
White
Brown
Gray
"A"
8 years grammar
Automobile Mechanic
Light Weapons Infantryman
(1950-52) 1533 Waterloo Road
Cedar Falls, Iowa
Father - MAYNARD ROOSEVELT WILSON
Mother - GENEVA CRAWFORD WILSON,
both of 2213 North 14th Street
Dade City, Florida (September
1967)
Wife - MARY LOU WILSON, C/O
W. E. HAMNOR, Route 1, Clinton,
Tennessee (1952)
WHITEHEAD NASH GARAGE, Waterloo,
Iowa (1948-50)
C-20 939 779
#1, Waterloo, Iowa
None available.

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1.
SL 44-773
WRB/pjh

RE: INDIVIDUAL RESEMBLING SUBJECT AT LIQUOR
STORE BETWEEN STEELE, MISSOURI, AND BLYTHEVILLE,
ARKANSAS

The Memphis Division advised on April 11, 1968, of receipt of information from Mr. DOUGLASS JOHNSON of Decatur, Alabama, that he had observed an individual who resembled the artist's sketch of subject at a liquor store on old highway 61 between Steele, Missouri and Blytheville, Arkansas, on March 30, 1968, at 1:30 p.m.

AT STEELE, MISSOURI:

The following investigation was conducted by SA WILLIAM R. BURTON, on April 18, 1968:

ISAAC MC KAY, U. S. Postmaster, Steele, Missouri (protect), advised that from Steele, Missouri, south to the Arkansas border on Old Highway 61, there are only three places where liquor or beer are sold, and only two of these are packaged stores, the third one being a private bottle club. The first, located in Steele, is EDDIE's Tobacco Store, operated by EDDIE RINEHART at 136 South Walnut. The second is the Rendezvous, a private bottle club which does not sell packaged liquor, operated by JACKIE PERRY at Holland, Missouri, three miles south of Steele on U. S. Highway 61. The third is the B & H Tobacco Store, operated by CLEATUS BAILEY, this being located right on the Arkansas - Missouri State Line on U. S. Highway 61 approximately ten miles south of Steele.

EDDIE RINEHART, Proprietor of EDDIE's Tobacco Store, 136 South Walnut, Steele, Missouri, was contacted. It is noted that RINEHART bears a resemblance to the photograph of ERIC STARVO GALT as shown in the right-hand photograph of I. O. #4182. This resemblance comes from the hairline, the dark-colored hair, the forehead and the full facial features. RINEHART does not have the long or obviously pointed nose that is shown on the photographs of I. O. 4182. RINEHART described himself as being born on [redacted] 5'7" tall, weighing approximately 215 pounds, with brown eyes and black hair. RINEHART advised he wears glasses all the time and has recently been in the U. S. Army. RINEHART advised that the only other persons employed at his store are his mother and father, both of whom are somewhat elderly, and bear no resemblance whatsoever to the photographs of JAMES EARL RAY.

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CLEATUS BAILEY, Proprietor of the B & H Tobacco Store, Route One, Steele, Missouri, advised that he is the sole proprietor of this store, runs the place virtually single-handed, but on occasion has employed persons from the Steele vicinity to help him. None of these have been young people and he has never seen anyone in his place which would bear the resemblance of JAMES EARL RAY.

JACKIE PERRY, Operator of the Rendezvous Club, advised that his establishment is generally not open until late in the afternoon. He does not sell packaged liquor and was not familiar with anyone who bore any resemblance to JAMES EARL RAY.

Visual observation of U. S. Highway 61, from the Arkansas border through Steele, Missouri, and on north to Hayti, which is approximately 20 miles north, disclosed no additional packaged liquor stores.

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HRD:jfb

PERSON BELIEVED TO BE ERIC STARVO GALT IN
LOBBY OF MIAMI INTERNATIONAL HOTEL, MIAMI,
FLORIDA

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

On April 18, 1968, Mrs. MABEL SCHRAY, 8816 Paragon, St. Louis, Missouri, advised Special Agent HOWARD G. SLACK that at 1:00 p.m. on April 11, 1968, she had observed an individual seated in the dark part of the lobby of the Miami International Hotel in Miami, Florida, who she was convinced was the subject of this case.

She stated that this individual's description was the same as published descriptions of subject GALT and that when she saw him he was wearing dark trousers and a white shirt opened at the collar. She stated that he appeared uneasy and wary and that he slept for a short time on a bench. He thereafter left the hotel between 1:30 and 1:45 p.m.

HRD:hcv
SL 44-775

RE: LOOK-A-LIKE WITH TENNESSEE
AUTO LICENSE JH6-578

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

On April 22, 1968, a letter was received from Mrs. HUGH E. KING, 4632 Pershing Place, St. Louis, Missouri, in which she stated that on April 5, 1968, in the vicinity of Harlansville, Kentucky, she had observed an individual who had a startling resemblance to subject JAMES EARL RAY driving an automobile make and model of which was unknown to her but which had Tennessee license plate JH6-578.

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JAD/jtc

UNKNOWN MALE, with
Tenn. Auto License KX 5-7590
RE: LOOK ALIKE JAMES EARL RAY

AT KIRKWOOD, MISSOURI

On May 2, 1968, VERA FUCHS, 419 Rose Lane, Kirkwood, Missouri, advised SA JOSEPH A. DUBYAK telephonically that between April 22 and April 26, 1968, she observed a white male with a short crew cut driving on U. S. Highway 244 going east, who resembled JAMES EARL RAY. FUCHS advised that the automobile was a small light-colored American model bearing Tennessee License number KN 5-7590.

Memphis advised Tennessee License Plates have two letter prefixes followed by four numbered digits. On May 3, 1968, VERNA FUCHS recontacted. FUCHS consulted original notes and she concluded a mistake was made in listing. FUCHS further advised she had no way of determining correct number now.

A-P-P-E-N-D-I-X

NATIONAL KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN
KLAVERN #14
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

A source advised that on October 25, 1965, at a meeting of the National States Rights Party of Missouri, a speaker identified himself as a member of and organizer for the Klan and requested all persons interested in joining the Klan to see him after the meeting. That on November 30, 1965, the first organizational meeting of Klavern #14 was held at 2806 North Grand Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri; that on January 14, 1966, William Lon Lockhart, announced at a meeting held at El Monti Tavern, 5201 Southwest Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri, that he had been commissioned by the Grand Dragon of the State of Missouri, and was granted a charter to institute a new klavern in St. Louis, Missouri, by James P. Venable, Imperial Wizard of the National Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. On August 9, 1967, source advised that the klavern was called Klavern #14 and currently holds its initiations and meetings at rented halls in St. Louis, Missouri.

NATIONAL KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN, INC.

A source advised that on May 22, 1960, the National Grand Council of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan met in Atlanta, Georgia, to discuss consolidation of the Klan's unit of effort and to establish a National Fund and a National Secretary and to design a new flag. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Federation of Ku Klux Klan, Alabama Association of Arkansas Klans, Arkansas, Florida Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Florida, Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Florida, Association of Georgia Klans, Georgia, Knights of the Klans, South Carolina, Dixie Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Tennessee, and Kansas Klan, Texas.

This source advised that at a consolidation meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, September 2-5, 1960, at which the North Carolina and Texas Klans were not represented, it was resolved and passed that their name be changed to National Ku Klux Klan.

A second source advised in March, 1964, that several meetings of Klan groups were held during the period 1960 to 1963 in an effort to unite the Klan groups under a single leadership.

The organization was granted a charter in DeKalb County, Georgia, November 1, 1963, under the name National Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc. as a patriotic, secret, social, and benevolent order.

A third source advised in December, 1963, that the organization had issued a statement of its program which indicated the organization to be anti-Negro, anti-Jewish, anti-Catholic, and anti-foreign born.

The third source advised in August, 1964, that the organization has its headquarters in Tucker, Georgia, and the day-to-day operations are under the direction of JAMES R. VENABLE, Chairman.

DO NOT DESTROY — PRESERVE FOR SELECT COMMITTEE
ON ASSASSINATIONS