

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, SAN JUAN (157-61)(P)

FROM : SA JOE C. SPARKS

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

DATE: 5/7/68

Re memo of SA JAMES R. MARTIN, 4/17/68, and Albany airtel, 4/12/68.

The following investigation was conducted by SA JOE C. SPARKS, 5/1/68, in the Virgin Islands:

WILFRED VOGEL, Manager, La Croix Laundry and Cleaners, Fredericksted, St. Croix, advised that he uses Thermo-Seal only on laundered items received from individuals and neither on dry cleaning nor commercial laundry received. Red, blue, yellow, green, tan, and brown tapes are used to differentiate between various laundry "batches." The code system is such that the first and/or second digit of the group indicates the number of articles to be laundered in the particular order. For example, in an 8 item order the first 2 digits would be -8; in a 12 item order the first digits would be 12. The third entry is a letter *from* ~~the~~ designating the particular week of the month. The fourth entry is a number designating the day of the week. The fifth and sixth numbers are customer numbers that identify the individual who brought the order for laundry. VOGEL checked with all of the operators of the Thermo-Seal tape machine and advised that in no instance do they ever use a zero to begin the code group. He advised that his Thermo-Seal tape machine was not at the moment operable but as soon as it was repaired he would run off several samples of the tape and make them available to the interviewing agent.

2-San Juan
JCS: cab

(2) cab



5010-108-01

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

157-61-111

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 10 1968	
FBI - SAN JUAN	

Martin *PM*

SJ 157-61

OS BORNE

~~OSGOOD~~ HARVEY, Manager, Band Box Laundry and Dry Cleaners, St. Thomas, advised that he uses a Thermo-Seal tape machine to identify both laundry and dry cleaning processed by his plant. A different colored tape is used for each day of the week: pink on Tuesday, yellow on Wednesday, orange on Thursday, purple on Friday, and white on Saturday. The colors blue and green are used in emergency when one of the other colors is not available. He advised that his code system is entirely different from that apparently utilized in the photograph displayed to him. His code is a 6 digit system that uses no dashes. After examining the photograph and showing the photograph to the Thermo-Seal tape operators all agreed that the tape photographed would not have been produced in that particular laundry.

M

RECEIVED VIA CODED TELETYPE

SAN JUAN NR 2 606 PM EFH

URGENT 5-13-68 RNK

TO ALL SACS PLAINTEXT

FROM DIRECTOR (44-38861)

MURKIN

IN VIEW OF FACT THAT SUBJECT SPENT A CONSIDERABLE SUM OF MONEY FROM APRIL TWENTY-THREE, SIXTY-SEVEN TO APRIL FOUR, SIXTY-EIGHT, AND THE SOURCE OF HIS MONEY HAS NOT BEEN DETERMINED, HIS PHOTOGRAPH SHOULD BE DISPLAYED TO APPROPRIATE WITNESSES IN UNSOLVED BANK ROBBERIES AND BANK BURGLARIES IN THOSE INSTANCES WHERE WITNESSES ARE AVAILABLE. YOU SHOULD ALSO CONSIDER THE REQUESTING OF POLICE DEPARTMENTS TO DISPLAY PHOTOGRAPH OF RAY TO WITNESSES IN THEIR UNSOLVED ROBBERIES.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

JEB FBI

SAN JUAN

RECEIVED VIA CODED TELETYPE

157-61-112

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 13 1968	
FBI - SAN JUAN	

Martin

"EL MUNDO"
5/13/68
P.16

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)



Nuevas Fotos Alegado Asesino de King

El señor Clark D. Anderson, agente especial a cargo de la Oficina de San Juan del Negociado Federal de Investigaciones (FBI), dio a publicidad dos nuevas fotografías del individuo acusado de haber dado muerte al doctor Martin Luther King, e identificado como James Earl

Ray. La primera de esas fotografías fue tomada en 1967, durante un viaje que Ray hizo a México. La de la derecha data de fines de enero o principios de febrero de este año, fue obtenida en California.

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

Date:

Edition:

Author:

Editor:

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

☐ Being Investigated

157-61-113

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 14 1968	
FBI - SAN JUAN	

Martin

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, SAN JUAN (

DATE: 5/13/68

FROM : SA THOMAS H. GREENE

SUBJECT: JAMES EARL RAY, aka - FUGITIVE
CIVIL RIGHTS etc.
UFAC-ROBBERY
IO # 4182
TOP TEN

On this date, S/Sgt. EDWARD WIENCLAW, Ramey AFB, telephonically advised that during 1962 he dated a girl by the name of BESS RAY. ~~At the time he did not know she was married, and later he~~ learned that she was married and her husband was serving time for armed robbery. He said he dated BESS RAY in Spokane, Wash. where she was living on Maxwell St. (number unknown) with her mother. She was also working in one of the "chain" stores in Spokane.

He said he later heard she had moved and was recently living in Juneau, Alaska.

WIENCLAW said he could furnish no further information regarding the matter, but thought it might be of interest to the F.B.I. He advised he did not know the name of BESS' husband, where he had served time, the name of BESS' mother, her address, nor where exactly BESS was living or working in Juneau.

SAN JUAN @ San Juan, P.R.

Above information is for appropriate action by case agent at San Juan.

1 (88-
THG:
(1)



5010-108-01

159-61-114

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI - SAN JUAN	

Martin *[Signature]*

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

Routing Slip
0-7 (Rev. 9-25-

(Copies to Offices Checked)

TO: SAC,

☐ Albany
☐ Albuquerque
☐ Anchorage
☐ Atlanta
☐ Baltimore
☐ Birmingham
☐ Boston
☐ Buffalo
☐ Butte
☐ Charlotte
☐ Chicago
☐ Cincinnati
☐ Cleveland
☐ Columbia
☐ Dallas
☐ Denver
☐ Detroit
☐ El Paso
☐ Honolulu

☐ Houston
☐ Indianapolis
☐ Jackson
☐ Jacksonville
☐ Kansas City
☐ Knoxville
☐ Las Vegas
☐ Little Rock
☐ Los Angeles
☐ Louisville
☐ Memphis
☐ Miami
☐ Milwaukee
☐ Minneapolis
☐ Mobile
☐ Newark
☐ New Haven
☐ New Orleans
☐ New York City

☐ Norfolk
☐ Oklahoma City
☐ Omaha
☐ Philadelphia
☐ Phoenix
☐ Pittsburgh
☐ Portland
☐ Richmond
☐ Sacramento
☐ St. Louis
☐ Salt Lake City
☐ San Antonio
☐ San Diego
☐ San Francisco
☒ San Juan
☐ Savannah
☐ Seattle
☐ Springfield

☐ Tampa
☐ Washington Field
☐ Quantico

TO LEGAT:

☐ Bern
☐ Bonn
☐ Buenos Aires
☐ Hong Kong
☐ London
☐ Manila
☐ Mexico, D.F.
☐ Ottawa
☐ Paris
☐ Rome
☐ Santo Domingo
☐ Tokyo

Date May 13, 1968

RE:

MURKIN

☒ For information ☐ Retention optional ☐ For appropriate action ☐ Surep, by _____

☐ The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, ☐ conceal all sources, ☐ paraphrase contents.

☐ Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA _____ dated _____

Remarks:

Enclosed for assistance of each office in connection with any laundry checks being made are photographs of laundry marks placed on shirt and bed linen for James Earl Ray while using the name of Eric Starvo Galt in the Los Angeles area.

Enc. (4)
Bufile (44-38861)
Urfile

157-41-115

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 15 1968	
FBI - SAN JUAN	
MARTIN	

Will be photo.

SAN JUAN01 3-07 PM LRC
2-27 PM URGENT 5-15-68 LH

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND SAN JUAN
SAN JUAN VIA WASH.

RECEIVED VIA CODED TELETYPE

FROM NEW HAVEN (157-818) 2P

MURKIN.

~~RE PHONE CALL NEW HAVEN TO SAN JUAN MAY FIFTEEN INSTANT.~~

LUZ E. GOMEZ, AGE ONE NINE, AND [REDACTED], AGE
ONE SIX, BOTH ONE ONE THREE COLEMAN DRIVE, HARTFORD, CONN., ADVISED
INSTANT DATE THEY WERE IN LINE AT PAN-AM COUNTER, SAN JUAN AIRPORT,
SIX THIRTY AM, MAY FOURTEEN LAST. UNKNOWN MALE WENT DIRECTLY TO
ONE OF FIVE CLERKS AND INQUIRED RE FLIGHT TO JAMAICA OR ARUBA.
WAS TOLD HE WOULD NEED PASSPORT OR IDENTIFICATION. EXHIBITED
DRIVER-S LICENSE OF UNKNOWN STATE BRIEFLY, WITH PHOTO, AND IM-
MEDIATELY RETRACTED SAME. APPEARED HIGHLY NERVOUS, MOVING LIPS
CONSTANTLY AND PULLING LOBE OF RIGHT EAR. SAID HE WOULD PAY ANY
NECESSARY AMOUNT FOR FLIGHT. HE QUICKLY REJECTED SUGGESTION OF
MIAMI FLIGHT. DESCRIBED: THIRTY-FIVE, FIVE NINE OR FIVE TEN,
SLENDER BUT STRONG BUILD, NO HAT, BROWN HAIR TINTED REDDISH BLOND,
END PAGE ONE

RECEIVED VIA CODED TELETYPE

157-61-116

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 15 1968	
FBI - SAN JUAN	

Martin

*3/11/68
No phone call
rec'd per*

PAGE TWO

TEETH NORMAL BUT UPPER CENTER APPEARED TO PROTRUDE SLIGHTLY AS LIPS WERE MOVED OVER THEM, EARS PROTRUDED SLIGHTLY, RIGHT MORE THAN LEFT, EYES BLUE, ROUND, AND PIERCING, COMPLEXION MEDIUM, NO SCARS NOTED, WORE MEDIUM-BROWN SUIT, LIGHT BLUE SHIRT, TIE AND PLAIN BLACK SHOES, AMERICAN IN APPEARANCE. UNKNOWN STATED WOULD GO TO A COURT TO OBTAIN IDENTIFICATION. CARRIED LIGHT TAN SUITCASE WITH LARGE HANDLE.

BOTH GIRLS CONTACTED POLICE OFFICER WITH NAME PLATE DE LA CRUZ, AND REPORTED SUSPICION OF IDENTITY OF UNKNOWN WITH KILLER, INSTANT CASE. OFFICER OBSERVED MAN BUT TOOK NO ACTION STATING HE COULD BE ARMED. UNKNOWN LEFT AND RETURNED IN FEW MINUTES AND AGAIN CONVERSED WITH SAME PAN-AM CLERK IN NERVOUS MANNER, REMARKS NOT BEING HEARD. HE THEN WALKED RAPIDLY TO EXIT.

IO FOUR ONE EIGHT TWO EXHIBITED GIRLS WHO FEEL CERTAIN ALL FEATURES OF SUBJECT RESEMBLE THOSE OF UNKNOWN WITH EXCEPTION OF HAIR OF LATTER WHICH IS LONGER. BOTH BELIEVE UNKNOWN IDENTICAL WITH RAY. BOTH GIRLS APPEARED INTELLIGENT AND ALERT.

SAN JUAN HANDLE. CAUTION, ARMED AND DANGEROUS. AIR MAIL COPY SENT MEMPHIS. P.

END

ALL FBI SJ

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC SAN JUAN (137-470)

DATE: 5/10/68

FROM : SA HAROLD K. ALLEN, JR.

☒ CI ☐ SI ☐ R (Prob)

☐ PCI ☐ PSI ☐ R

SUBJECT: SJ 472-C

Dates of Contact		
4/5, 5/2/68		
Titles and File #s on which contacted		
MURKIN - CIVIL RIGHTS		157-61
DENNIS LAZAR MERRITT, Parole Violator FUG.		76-458
Purpose and results of contact		
<input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE	On 4/5/68 CI stated that he had no information relating to the Murkin case.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE		
<input type="checkbox"/> STATISTIC		
On 5/2/68 CI said he had no information concerning DENNIS LAZAR MERRITT but would be alerted to his presence.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating	Coverage
	Very good	BR, CHS, FAG, FUG, SSA, TGP, UFAP, UFAC, IWU, GEN. CRIME, CGR., IMP. ITSMV, JEWEL THEFT, TFIS.

1 - 137-470
1 - 157-61
1 - 76-458
(3)HKA:hka

157-61-117
MAY 13 1968
Martin

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC SAN JUAN (137-762)

DATE: 5/10/68

FROM : SA HAROLD K. ALLEN, JR.

☐ CI ☐ SI ☐ R (Prob)

☐ PCI ☐ PSI ☐ R

SUBJECT: SJ 556-C

Dates of Contact		
4/5 & 5/2/68		
Titles and File #s on which contacted		
MURKIN - CIVIL RIGHTS	157-61	
DENNIS LAZAR MERRITT, Parole Violator, FUG.	76-458	
Purpose and results of contact		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE	On 4/ 5/68 CI stated that he had no information relating to the Murkin case.	
<input type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE	On 5/2/68 CI said he had no information concerning DENNIS LAZAR MERRITT and did not believe him to be in Puerto Rico	
<input type="checkbox"/> STATISTIC		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating Good	Coverage
Informant said he was back working at Roosevelt Roads Naval Station as a bowling alley attendant.		

1 - 137-762
1 - 157-61
1-76-458
(3) HKA:hka

157-61-118
MAY 13 1968
Martin

F B I

Date: 5/15/68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via TELETYPE

URGENT

(Priority)

SENT VIA CODED TELETYPE

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS

FROM: SAC, SAN JUAN (157-61)

MURKIN, CR.

S/SGT. EDWARD WIENCLAW, RAMEY AIR FORCE BASE, PUERTO RICO, ADVISED ON MAY THIRTEEN LAST THAT DURING ONE NINE SIX TWO, HE DATED A GIRL IN SPOKANE, WASHINGTON, NAMED BESS RAY. HE STATED HE LATER LEARNED SHE WAS MARRIED AND HER HUSBAND WAS SERVING TIME IN PRISON FOR ARMED ROBBERY. HE STATED SHE LIVED ON MAXWELL STREET WITH HER MOTHER.

WIENCLAW STATED HE LATER LEARNED THAT BESS RAY HAD MOVED AND WAS RECENTLY LIVING IN JUNEAU, ALASKA. WIENCLAW FURNISHED ABOVE INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE IN APPREHENSION OF JAMES EARL RAY. WIENCLAW STATED HE COULD NOT FURNISH ANY ADDITIONAL INFO SINCE HE DID NOT KNOW NAME OF BESS RAY'S HUSBAND, HER MOTHER'S NAME OR HER ADDRESS.

1 - SAN JUAN
JRM:lgg
(1)

Murkin

157-41-119

SEARCHED me
SERIALIZED me
INDEXED me
FILED me

SENT VIA CODED TELETYPE

Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

Sent

4:30P

M

Per

[Signature]

#3

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via _____
(Priority)

SJ 157-61

PAGE TWO

NO LEADS BEING SET OUT SINCE THIS OFFICE HAS NO
INFO REGARDING MARITAL STATUS OF SUBJECT RAY; LEADS
BEING LEFT TO ^{DISCRETION OF} OFFICE OF ORIGIN.

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

Airtel to All SACS and LEGATS, Mexico City and Ottawa
RE: MURKIN

unidentified dead for the period beginning 4-5-68; and if fingerprints on such dead are maintained, they should be compared with those on the Identification Order on Ray in order to effect identification or nonidentification. This should be handled in the normal course of business and only reasonable investigation should be pursued along these lines.

The Identification Division has placed an appropriate stop on unidentified deceased inquiries it may receive. If feasible, appropriate offices and Legats, Mexico City and Ottawa should place similar stops with appropriate state, local or national agencies in your territories.

Armed and Dangerous.

F B I

Date: May 10, 1968

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via Airtel _____
(Priority)

To: All SACS
LEGATS, Mexico City
Ottawa

File
From: Director, FBI

MURKIN

For your information and investigative assistance, subject James Earl Ray took a bartending course in Los Angeles, California, during the early part of 1968, and prior to his departing Los Angeles, in March of 1968, he made several telephone calls to country clubs in an effort to obtain employment.

This should be borne in mind in covering leads in connection with this and other cases.

Armed and Dangerous.

157-61-121

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 16 1968	
FBI - SAN JUAN	
<i>Martin</i>	<i>JA</i>

Sent Via _____ M Per _____

SENT VIA CODED TELETYPE
F B I

Date: 4/15/68

Transmit the following in CODE
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR
PORTLAND
WASHINGTON FIELD

FROM: SAN JUAN (157-61)

MURKIN

RE SAN JUAN TELETYPE TO BUREAU, APRIL ONE THREE, LAST.

ON APRIL ONE FIVE, INSTANT, JOANNE MARTIN, ANTILLES
AIR BOATS (AAB), ST. THOMAS, VIRGIN ISLANDS, FURNISHED THE
FOLLOWING INFORMATION CONCERNING DONALD CHURCHILL:

SHE FIRST SPOKE WITH HIM ON APRIL SIX, LAST, WHEN HE
CALLED AAB FROM SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO, INQUIRING BEST WAY TO
ST. THOMAS. SEVERAL HOURS LATER, HE APPEARED IN ST. THOMAS
AND PROCEEDED TO ST. CROIX, VIA AAB. HE WAS DRUNK. MARTIN
HAS NOT SEEN CHURCHILL SINCE. HE TELEPHONED AAB AGAIN
ON APRIL ELEVEN, LAST, SAYING HE WAS IN PORTLAND, OREGON,
AND CONVEYED A DRUNKEN, UNINTELLIGIBLE MESSAGE FOR A MR.
WEISS IN ST. CROIX, VIRGIN ISLANDS.

FOR INFO PORTLAND AND WASHINGTON FIELD, NOT RECEIVING
RETEL, CHURCHILL FITS DESCRIPTION OF ERIC STARVOS GALT AND

JCS:lla
(1)

157-61-122
SEARCHED

SERIALIZED

INDEXED

FILED

Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

Sent WFA - 11:35A M
#1

Per JEB

SENT VIA CODED TELETYPE

SENT VIA CODED TELETYPE

F B I

Date: 4/15/68

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

PAGE TWO

SJ 157-61

LOOKS LIKE COMPOSITE UPI TELEPHOTO SKETCH OF POLICE DRAWING IN APRIL EIGHT NEW YORK DAILY NEWS OF MURKIN SUSPECT. CHURCHILL, WHO RESIDED AT SEVEN FIVE WILLOW STREET, NEW YORK CITY, UNTIL ABOUT MARCH TWO FIVE, LAST, WHEN HE WENT TO WASHINGTON, D. C., WAS IN CONTACT WITH ATTORNEY FRED C. SACKS, EIGHT FIVE SIX EXECUTIVE BUILDING, ONE ZERO THREE ZERO FIFTEENTH STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D. C., BETWEEN MARCH TWO FIVE AND APRIL FIVE, LAST, WHEN CHURCHILL TRAVELED TO SAN JUAN, P. R., RE MARITAL PROBLEMS AND CUSTODY OF CHILDREN.

PERSONAL EFFECTS OF CHURCHILL LEFT AT HOTEL IN ST. CROIX SHOW HIM AS WHITE MALE, BORN [REDACTED] PORTLAND, OREGON, FIVE FEET ELEVEN INCHES, BROWN HAIR, GRAY EYES, MARRIED TO FAITH DENNIS CHURCHILL, AND SONEOF DECEASED ATTORNEY ARTHUR CHURCHILL OF PORTLAND, WHO LEFT A SIZEABLE ESTATE TO DONALD.

ON APRIL ONE THREE, BUREAU TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED INVESTIGATION WOULD BE CONDUCTED AT EBBITT HOTEL AND HOLIDAY

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge SENT VIA CODED TELETYPE

SENT VIA CODED TELETYPE

F B I

Date: 4/15/68

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

PAGE THREE

SJ 157-61

INN AT WASHINGTON, D. C., AS WELL AS CONTACT OF ATTORNEY
SACKS IN EFFORT TO ELIMINATE CHURCHILL AS MURKIN SUSPECT.

BUREAU REQUESTED CONTINUING EFFORTS TO LOCATE AND
INTERVIEW CHURCHILL.

WASHINGTON FIELD CONTACT SACKS FOR ANY ADDRESS HE MAY
HAVE FOR CHURCHILL IN PORTLAND AND FURNISH SAME TO THAT
OFFICE.

PORTLAND REQUESTED TO ATTEMPT TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW
CHURCHILL.

SENT VIA CODED TELETYPE

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-61)

FROM : SA JOE C. SPARKS

DATE: 4/10/68

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN
LUTHER KING
RACIAL MATTERS

As instructed by ASAC YATTEAU, PSI RAYMOND CARL MEVS was contacted on 4/5/68, concerning captioned matter.

MEVS advised that he shared the grief of the community upon learning of the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING. He advised that he has no knowledge of any demonstrations or retaliatory actions planned on the part of any residents of the Virgin Islands. He was instructed to keep alert for any such information and would report it immediately to the contacting agent. Arrangements were made to recontact PSI on 4/8/68 for any information he might have developed.

- 1 - San Juan (134-904) (MEVS)
- ① - San Juan (157-61)

JCS:vem
(2)



5010-108

ASAC

157-61-123

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 10 1968	
FBI - SAN JUAN	

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC San Juan(137-687)

DATE: 4/8/68

FROM : SA Robert H. Dwyer

☒ CI ☐ SI ☐ R (Prob)

☐ PCI ☐ PSI ☐ R

SUBJECT: SJ 505-C

☐

Dates of Contact	
3/29 4/5/68	
Titles and File #s on which contacted	
MPI- Aguas Buenas Mission	105-4546
Assassination of M.L.King Jr.	105-5208
Incendiarism in PR	157-61
Purpose and results of contact	
<input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE <u>105-4546</u>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE CI advised that he had observed what appeared to be a meeting of the MPI Aguas Buenas Mission on the eve of 4/4/68. CI said that he saw about thirty people attend this meeting and was able to identify about ten as residents of Aguas Buenas. A report of those identified is being submitted separately for channelizing.	
<u>105-5208</u>	
CI said that he had not heard of any racial reaction to the death of Martin Luther King but he would remain alert and notify the writer at once should he hear of anything indicative of racial violence.	
<u>157-61</u>	
CI	CI said he was well aware of the fire bombing activity in Puerto Rico. He said he was sure radical independentistas of a Pro-Castro ilk were responsible however he had no positive knowledge as to the culprits. He said he would notify the writer at once should he develop any info whatsoever.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating V. Good
Coverage General Criminal	
1 137-687 1 105-4546 1 157-61	

RHD/rhd

157-61-124

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 8 1968	
FBI - SAN JUAN	

SAN JUAN 2 753 PM EFH

URGENT 4-15-68 EFH

RECEIVED VIA CODED TELETYPE

TO SAN JUAN (PLAINTEXT)

FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861 1P

MURKIN

RE DONALD CHURCHILL SUSPECT.

CHURCHILL ELIMINATED IN WASHINGTON, D.C., AREA.

DISCONTINUE.

COPY TO WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE AND PORTLAND.

END

RECEIVED VIA CODED TELETYPE

FBI SAN JUAN RKK

SA Monahan
9/10
SA Spinks
9/17
PB

157-61-125

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 15 1968	
FBI - SAN JUAN	

[Signature]

F B I

Date: 5/15/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
SACS, MEMPHIS AND LOS ANGELES
FROM: SAC, SAN JUAN (157-61) SENT VIA CODED TELETYPE
MURKIN. CR.

RE NEW HAVEN TELETYPE TO BUREAU AND SAN JUAN, MAY
FIFTEEN LAST.

FOR INFO LOS ANGELES, LUZ E. GOMEZ, AGE ONE NINE, AND
[REDACTED], AGE ONE SIX, ADVISED AGENTS OF NEW
HAVEN, MAY ONE FIVE ~~INSTANT~~, THEY OBSERVED UNKNOWN INDIVIDUAL AT
SAN JUAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, SIX THIRTY AM, MAY FOURTEEN
LAST, WHO THEY FEEL IDENTICAL WITH JAMES EARL RAY. INDIVIDUAL
TRIED TO PURCHASE TICKET AT PAN AM COUNTER TO JAMAICA OR
ARUBA. BOTH DESCRIBED UNKNOWN INDIVIDUAL AS HIGHLY NERVOUS,
MOVING LIPS CONSTANTLY AND PULLING LOBE OF RIGHT EAR, THIRTY
FIVE, FIVE NINE OR FIVE TEN, SLENDER BUT STRONG BUILD, NO
HAT, BROWN HAIR TINTED REDDISH BLOND, TEETH NORMAL BUT UPPER
CENTER APPEARED TO PROTRUDE SLIGHTLY AS LIPS WERE MOVED OVER

1 - SAN JUAN
JRM:lgg
(1)

157-61-126
SENT VIA CODED TELETYPE

SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
FILED

Approved:
Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M

Per

F B I

Date:

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

SJ 157-61

PAGE TWO

SENT VIA CODED TELETYPE

THEM, EARS PROTRUDED SLIGHTLY RIGHT MORE THAN LEFT, EYES BLUE, ROUND, AND PIERCING, COMPLEXION MEDIUM NO SCARS NOTED, WORE MEDIUM BROWN SUIT, LIGHT BLUE SHIRT, TIE AND PLAIN BLACK SHOES, AMERICAN IN APPEARANCE. CARRIED LIGHT TAN SUITCASE WITH LARGE HANDLE. IO FOUR ONE EIGHT TWO EXHIBITED GIRLS WHO FEEL CERTAIN ALL FEATURES OF SUBJECT RESEMBLE THOSE OF UNKNOWN WITH EXCEPTION OF HAIR OF LATTER WHICH IS LONGER.

JOSE RUIZ, PAN AM RESERVATIONS AGENT, SAN JUAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, ADVISED MAY FIFTEEN ~~██████~~ ^{INSTANT} THAT HE RECALLS PERSON BEING FIRST IN LINE AT RESERVATIONS BOOTH AT SIX FIFTEEN AM, APRIL FOURTEEN LAST WHO TRIED TO PURCHASE TICKET FOR MONTEGO BAY, JAMAICA, BUT BECAUSE HE DID NOT HAVE BIRTH CERTIFICATE OR PROOF OF AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP TICKET WAS NOT SOLD. THIS PERSON STATED HE WOULD STAY AT AIRPORT AT JAMAICA AND NOT LEAVE PLANE BECAUSE HE WANTED TO CONTINUE

SENT VIA CODED TELETYPE

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date:

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

SJ 157-61

SENT VIA CODED TELETYPE

PAGE THREE

ON TO LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA. UNKNOWN HAD MISCELLANEOUS CHARGE ORDER FROM PAN AM, NEW YORK AND WAS TOLD HE COULD PURCHASE DIRECT FLIGHT TO LOS ANGELES ON DELTA AIRLINES. RUIZ DESCRIBED UNKNOWN AS FORTY TO FORTY FIVE YEARS, FIVE EIGHT, ONE SEVENTY TO ONE SEVENTY FIVE POUNDS, THIN FACE, BROWN HAIR, NO GREY, ACTED CRAZY, KEPT LAUGHING, HAIR LONG CREW CUT. WEARING TAN PANTS, BROWN MAROON SPORT COAT. PHOTO TAKEN LATE JANUARY OR EARLY FEBRUARY ONE NINE SIXTY EIGHT OF RAY EXHIBITED TO RUIZ, WHO STATED THERE IS RESEMBLANCE, HOWEVER, HE IS NOT POSITIVE OF IDENTIFICATION. RUIZ ADVISED HE IS POSITIVE THAT INDEX FINGER AND MIDDLE FINGER LEFT HAND ARE MISSING. STATED SCARS APPEAR TO BE OLD AND NOT NEW SCARS. RUIZ STATED THAT UNKNOWN EXHIBITED DRIVERS LICENSE WITH PHOTO, BUT DOES NOT RECALL NAME. PHOTO

SENT VIA CODED TELETYPE

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date:

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

SJ 157-61

SENT VIA CODED TELETYPE

PAGE FOUR

ON DRIVERS LICENSE HAD EYES CLOSED AND HE RECALLED WANTED FLYER OF PERSON BEING SOUGHT BY FBI WITH EYES CLOSED AND LATER HE LOOKED AT WANTED FLYER AND FEELS PERSON RESEMBLES PHOTO OF RAY.

ABRAHAM BREN, TICKET AGENT, DELTA AIRLINES, SAN JUAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, SAN JUAN, ADVISED MAY FIFTEEN ~~████~~ INSTANT THAT HE RECALLS SELLING TICKET TO PERSON WITH PAN AM MISCELLANEOUS CHARGE ORDER AND LOCATED TICKET IN NAME OF ROGER SODERHOLM. SODERHOLM PURCHASED DELTA TICKET NUMBER ZERO ZERO SIX DASH ONE ZERO ONE DASH ONE FOUR SIX DASH ZERO THREE SIX, WITH PAN AM MISCELLANEOUS CHARGE ORDER NUMBER ZERO TWO SIX DASH ZERO ZERO ONE DASH ONE TWO SIX DASH SIX THREE FIVE DATED MAY THIRTEEN LAST AT NEW YORK IN AMOUNT OF FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY EIGHT DOLLARS AND EIGHTY EIGHT CENTS. DELTA TICKET ISSUED AND ALSO ISSUED WAS DELTA MISCELLANEOUS

SENT VIA CODED TELETYPE

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date:

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

SJ 157-61

PAGE FIVE

SENT VIA CODED TELETYPE

CHARGE ORDER NUMBER ZERO ZERO SIX DASH ZERO NINE ONE DASH
ZERO ZERO ZERO DASH ZERO ZERO ONE IN THE AMOUNT OF TWO
HUNDRED SEVENTY FOUR DOLLARS AND EIGHTY THREE CENTS.

SODERHOLM DEPARTED SAN JUAN ON DELTA FLIGHT EIGHT
FIVE NINE AT EIGHT FIFTY AM, MAY FOURTEEN LAST AND SCHEDULED
TO ARRIVE IN LOS ANGELES AT TWO ZERO FOUR PM (LOS ANGELES
TIME) SAME DATE.

BREN DESCRIBED SODERHOLM AS IN THIRTIES, FIVE SEVEN
TO EIGHT INCHES, ONE HUNDRED FIFTY TO ONE HUNDRED SIXTY
POUNDS, THIN FACE, SOUTHERN ACCENT, MEDIUM BUILD, RESEMBLED
PHOTO OF RAY, BUT NOT POSITIVE SODERHOLM IS IDENTICAL WITH
PHOTO.

BREN ADVISED ORIGINAL TICKET PURCHASED WAS PAN AM
TICKET ZERO TWO SIX DASH FOUR EIGHT ZERO DASH SIX TWO ONE
DASH FIVE SIX FOUR/ FIVE/ SIX/ EIGHT, ISSUED MAY SEVEN LAST
IN CALIFORNIA.

SENT VIA CODED TELETYPE

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via _____
(Priority)

SJ 157-61

SENT VIA CODED TELETYPE

PAGE SIX

LOS ANGELES WILL LOCATE ORIGINAL PAN AM TICKET,
IDENTIFY ROGER SODERHOLM AND RESOLVE IDENTITY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

SENT VIA CODED TELETYPE

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

Carrera Criminal del Supuesto Matador de Martin L. King

Por Jerry Cohen
Del "Los Angeles Times"

LOS ANGELES, James Earl Ray, el hombre de quien se sospecha haber dado muerte al Dr. Martin Luther King, inició su carrera criminal en la parte baja de Los Angeles una noche de octubre hace dieciocho años.

Trató de robarse una maquina de escribir de las oficinas, en el tercer piso, de la cafetería "Forum".

El segundo administrador de la cafetería lo sorprendió en el acto y riñó con él, pero Ray logró escapar, no por mucho tiempo sin embargo. Cuando huía a través de la zona de estacionamiento de vehículos de la cafetería, uno de los cuidadores de automóviles oyó las voces del segundo administrador y logró atraparlo.

Lucharon los dos hombres. Ray logró desasirse pero cayeron al pavimento, desde el bolsillo rasgado de su camisa, una libreta de ahorros y el certificado de licenciamiento de las fuerzas armadas.

Esta ocurrencia y una extraña coincidencia— condujeron al primer arresto en la larga carrera de Ray al margen de la ley, un largo tramo de mala conducta que, aparentemente, llegó a la cúspide en Memphis el día 4 de abril cuando fue asesinado el Dr. King.

Cuatro días después del episodio de la maquina de escribir, el cuidador de automóviles reconoció a Ray cuando salía de un banco.

Llamó la atención de un policía cercano quien arrestó a Ray y lo identificó en virtud de la libreta de ahorros y de los papeles del ejército. Ray fue condenado a 90 días de prisión en la cárcel del condado pero puesto bajo libertad condicional durante dos años por el juez Turney Fox, hoy retirado.

La tenidad del juez Fox se basó en el informe que rindió el vicedelegado de libertad condicional Herbert H. Audit y en la

petición que al efecto hizo el defensor de oficio Richard S. Buckley, quien representó a Ray, en aquellos días sin empleo y sin recursos.

Audit está actualmente a cargo del Departamento de Libertad Condicional de Santa Mónica y Buckley es hoy jefe del Departamento de Defensores de Oficio.

Buckley, al solicitar que se pusiera a Ray en libertad condicional el día 30 de diciembre de 1949 ante el juez Fox que iba a pronunciar sentencia, dijo:

—No sólo creo que este hombre es elegible para disfrutar de libertad condicional sino que estimo que es persona que se lo merece... Este hombre está en condiciones de valerse por sí mismo y, aparentemente así lo estuvo haciendo durante un período de tiempo...

Y agregó:

—Parece ser hombre económico. Hizo algunos ahorros y se comportó relativamente bien en el ejército. En vista de estas circunstancias, creo que no se corren riesgos en conserlele libertad condicional.

—Me parece que su argumentación es aceptable, le respondió el juez Fox.

Luego el juez, volviéndose a Ray, le informó de las condiciones en que se le pondría en libertad.

—Quiero que no frecuente usted lugares donde se venden bebidas alcohólicas y que se abstenga de tomarlas por otros medios o de otras procedencias....

Audit, el encargado de las libertades condicionales, había hecho notar previamente que Ray "emplea gran parte de su tiempo en citas con mujeres" y que había admitido "usar a veces cantidades excesivas de intoxicantes".

Estas observaciones y la del juez— tiene hoy cierta resonancia irónica ya que las mujeres y los licores parecen haber ju-

gado papel determinante en la vida subsiguiente de Ray que en aquella ocasión sólo contaba 21 años de edad.

Audit observó también que Ray parecía persona de inteligencia normal; que era católico romano aunque no concurría a misa; que iba al cine dos o tres veces por semana y que "gusta de leer revistas y libros corrientes".

Ray, quien sólo llevaba dos días en Los Angeles cuando el incidente en la cafetería. "Forum", era el mayor de una familia con tres hijos, informó Audit el juez Fox.

El informe del funcionario de libertad condicional agregaba además: que había sido criado por sus padres en Alton y en Quincy, estado de Illinois, al otro lado del río Missisipi, frente a San Luis.

Que su padre, Gordon, había muerto en 1946, época en que el jovenzuelo Ray tuvo que dejar la escuela secundaria en Ewing, Misuri, también al otro lado del río frente a su residencia. Sólo había llegado hasta el noveno grado.

Que Ray se alistó en el Ejército el día 29 de febrero de 1946 y fue licenciado —como soldado raso— el día 23 de diciembre de 1948.

Que pasó la mayor parte de su vida militar en Alemania, durante parte de este tiempo incorporado a la policía militar.

Después de su licenciamiento, vivió aparentemente en su casa con la paga que recibía como parte del llamado "reajuste del retorno a la vida civil". Cuando se terminaron estos ingresos se trasladó a Chicago donde entró a trabajar, manipulando un molde en una fábrica de artículos de goma. Por las noches concurría a una escuela de mecánicos de televisión, cinco veces por semana.

Ganaba 55 dólares semanales, pero en septiembre de 1949 fue despedido del empleo por razones de economía en la fábrica

Se quedó en Chicago sólo unos cuantos días antes de partir hacia Los Angeles.

Aquí negó que hubiera entrado a la cafetería con intenciones de robar. Dijo que había ido a un cine momentos antes y que había ascendido por una escalera de escape de incendios has-

ta las oficinas del tercer piso del "Forum".

—Creo, dijo entonces, que me había tomado unas cuantas veces de más....

Al ser detenido, negó haber tenido encuentros previos con la ley.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

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

"EL MUNDO"
5/14/68
P. 10

Being Investigated

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC SAN JUAN(137-1000)

FROM : SA HAROLD K. ALLEN, JR.

SUBJECT: SJ 683-C

DATE: 5/10/68

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

Dates of Contact	
4/5 & 4/16 & 5/9/68	
Titles and File #s on which contacted	
JESUS VEGA DELGADO, SSN [REDACTED]	25-24294
MURKIN - CIVIL RIGHTS	157-64

Purpose and results of contact

☒ NEGATIVE On 4/5/68 CI advised that he had no information concerning the Murkin Case.
☐ POSITIVE
☐ STATISTIC

On 4/16/68 CI said he would attempt to locate JESUS VEGA.

On 5/9/68 CI stated that he learned JESUS VEGA lives in the New York City area, but he was unable to learn of the subject's exact location.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating Excellent	Coverage DESERTERS, SSA, FUG., CGR, TGP, IMP., UFAC, UFAP, FAG, GEN. CRIM I, ITSMV, ITSP 157-61-128
1 - 137-1000 1 - 25-24294 ① - 157-64		

(3) HKA:hka

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 10 1968	
FBI - SAN JUAN	

Make *My*

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

*See
San Juan Star
5-17-68
P. 14*

Girls Claim To See Ray In San Juan

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — The Federal Bureau of Investigation is looking into the claim of two girls that they saw a man in San Juan International Airport who they believe to be the man accused of killing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., an FBI spokesman said Thursday.

The story of the girls' encounter with the man whose face and actions closely resembled that of James Earl Ray, alias Eric Starvo Galt, was reported in Thursday's edition of the Hartford Times as told by the girls to a Spanish columnist for the paper.

The two, Lucy Eneida Gomez, 19, and Carmen Ana Maldonado, 16, informed the FBI on arrival here Tuesday of their experience while buying tickets at the San Juan airport Thursday.

A man shoved into the line ahead of them at the Pan American Airways, they said. He had a nervous habit of pulling his right earlobe and constantly bit

(See RAY, Page 14)

RAY

(Continued From Page 1)

his lower lip and was bug-eyed when talking with the ticket agent.

The girls said the man asked for a ticket to Jamaica or "anywhere in South America," Lucy said. When informed of a vacancy on a flight to Miami, she related, "he said, 'No, I don't want to go to the States.'"

Lucy said she and her friend noticed the similarity between the man's appearance and photographs of Ray that had been published in Puerto Rican newspapers.

The FBI spokesman would say only that the report had been received and passed on to "the proper authorities," including those in Puerto Rico.

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

Date:
Edition:
Author:
Editor:
Title:

Character:
or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

☐ Being Investigated

157-61-129

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>me</i>	FILED <i>me</i>
MAY 20 1968	
FBI - SAN JUAN	

Martin

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-61)

FROM : SA JOE C. SPARKS

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CIVIL RIGHTS

DATE: 5/20/68

On 5/14/68, THEODORE GUMBS, Frenchtown, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, furnished SA JOE C. SPARKS the following information:

On 4/30/68, Tuesday, (at 1:30 PM), GUMBS was in the Back Street Magazine Store, when he observed an individual that strongly resembles the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY, taken 1968. GUMBS had been studying a Wanted Flyer for RAY the day before in the post office, and for this reason, he had been alert for RAY. The description of this individual fit that given for RAY. He was deeply tanned, but with a light streak on each temple as though he wore glasses when in the sun. He spoke with a Southern drawl. He was wearing brown levis and a light colored sport shirt. In addition, he wore cowboy boots, the upper part of which had been cut away.

GUMBS left the store and reported the incident to a policewoman, who was on the street in front of the Apothegary Shop. She told him that it was her understanding that JAMES EARL RAY was dead and that the individual he saw could not have been him. Because of this, GUMBS did not pursue the matter. He later, while discussing this with friends, was urged to report it to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), which he was now doing. He has not seen this individual since 4/30/68, although he has been alert for him.

On 5/14/68, LILLIAN GRIFFITH, GLENA PETERSON, and GEORGE RIEHLEY, Manager, all of Back Street Magazine Store, were interviewed and advised they had not seen anyone resembling JAMES EARL RAY. These were the only three employees of the Back Street Magazine Store.

The above information was made available to the Bureau of Investigation of the St. Thomas Police Department, through Detective AL LEERDAM (NA).

② - (157-61)
1 - 137-NEW (THEODORE GUMBS)

JCS:vem
(3)



5010-108-01

157-61-130

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 20 1968	
FBI - SAN JUAN	

Martin

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-61)

FROM : SA ROBERT L. MOORE

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CIVIL RIGHTS

DATE: 5/20/68

On 5/10/68, SA MOORE responded to a telephone contact of JOHN BAZZUTO, owner-operator, Tropical Motors, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, who advised that he had some information to furnish with reference to JAMES EARL RAY. When contacted, Mr. BAZZUTO advised that on the prior evening, his wife had been reading the local newspaper, which was carrying a picture of JAMES EARL RAY and he noticed that she was staring at the picture an unusually long time. He made a humorous comment with reference to the fact that she may have seen the fellow and she replied very seriously that she was almost certain that she had seen the man that day at Lindbergh Bay Beach. He questioned her very closely and he now believes that she is convinced that she has seen the man. He recommended that she be contacted.

Mrs. JOHN BAZZUTO was contacted and she advised that on the previous day, 5/9/68, she had been at Lindbergh Bay Beach, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, between noon and 3:00 PM. She noticed the man on the beach who was alone, about 40 years old, 5'10-5'11" tall, well suntanned. At various times, this man was engaged in conversation with other people on the beach and at one point, she overheard him say that he had been in the real estate business in California with FRED BERGER's sister. He also made comments to the effect that he had recently been in California and Mexico. He was very deeply suntanned. The IO and Wanted Flyer on JAMES EARL RAY was exhibited to Mrs. BAZZUTO and she repeated that she was certain as to the identification.

The IO and Wanted Flyer photographs were exhibited to LOUIS LINDQVIST and LEO MAHONEY, life guards at Lindbergh Bay Beach and who were on duty on 5/9/68, and while they remembered the individual described by Mrs. BAZZUTO, they stated that he in no way resembled the photographs on the IO and Wanted Flyer.

RLM:vem
(2) *RLM*



5010-108-01

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 20 1968	
FBI - SAN JUAN	

Martin

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

SJ 157-61

On 5/10/68, Mr. FRED BERGER, Public Relations Officer for the Government of the Virgin Islands, was contacted at Government House and he advised that the man who was described by Mrs. BAZZUTO as being on Lindbergh Bay Beach on 5/9/68, was JAMES MALLOWAY, who had been in business with Mr. BERGER's sister in Santa Barbara, California, for the past ten years in the sale of real estate. He arrived on St. Thomas on 5/4/68, from California and was met by Mr. BERGER at the insistence of Mr. BERGER's sister, who had written to her brother and furnished a photograph of Mr. MALLOWAY so that he would be able to identify him at the airport. Mr. BERGER stated that Mr. MALLOWAY did not resemble the photographs of JAMES EARL RAY in anyway.

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

5/20/68

[Handwritten signature]
SAC, SAN JUAN (157-61) (RUC)

MURKIN

Enclosed for Memphis are 15 copies of two
investigative inserts reflecting investigation conducted
at San Juan, Puerto Rico.

2 - Memphis (Encl. 30)
1 - San Juan

JRM:lll
(3) *[Handwritten signature]*

Martin *[Handwritten signature]*

157-61-132
SEARCHED *[Handwritten signature]*
SERIALIZED *[Handwritten signature]*
INDEXED *[Handwritten signature]*
FILED *[Handwritten signature]*

SJ 157-61

ADMINISTRATIVE

On April 30, 1968, PCI JOHN TALLMAN, owner - operator, Carousel Bar, waterfront, Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, advised SA JOE C. SPARKS that he had been alert for the presence of JAMES EARL RAY since originally contacted by FBI Agents. PCI TALLMAN stated he was tending bar at the Carousel on Wednesday evening, April 24, 1968, and does not recall seeing anyone resembling RAY or anyone fitting the description given by Dr. RICHARD WIER.

PCI TALLMAN stated that JAMES EARL RAY propaganda in the Virgin Islands, which have eighty-five per cent Negro population, has generated wide interest and has been highlighted in local news media. PCI sights this interest as reason why he doubts RAY could be in the Virgin Islands undisguised and not be detected.

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JRM:lmj

1

The following investigation was conducted at San Juan, Puerto Rico:

On April 5, 1968, all sources, racial, criminal, and security, of the San Juan Office (SJO) were contacted with negative results.

The night of April 12, 1968, Assistant Commissioner CHARLES GRONEVELDT, Department of Public Safety, St. Croix, Virgin Islands (VI), advised SA ROBERT L. MOORE that one DONALD CHURCHILL had left personal belongings at the Club Comanche Hotel, St. Croix, V. I., and mysteriously disappeared. According to GRONEVELDT, CHURCHILL fits the description of ERIC STARVO GALT and those who have seen him say he bears a striking resemblance to a UPI telephoto sketch of a police drawing for the MURKIN suspect that appeared in the April 8, 1968, issue of the "New York Daily News."

On April 13, 1968, the following investigation was conducted by SAs ROBERT L. MOORE and JOE C. SPARKS, at St. Croix, VI:

ROBERT PETERSON, Manager, Club Comanche, St. Croix, VI, advised CHURCHILL entered the Club Comanche on April 6, 1968, without a reservation and asked for a room. They told him Room 5 would be available for four days and he registered for it. He left the hotel and returned shortly thereafter with four or five bags and some boxes. In the registration book, he had given the address of 75 Willow Street, Brooklyn, New York. He printed his name and address. PETERSON saw nothing more of CHURCHILL until the following morning, when he appeared in the lobby saying that he intended to go to St. Thomas for the day. He had a small box with him. PETERSON mentioned the fact that it was customary for a deposit to be made, CHURCHILL left a \$100.00 American Express Check, Number RA34-962-243, which he told PETERSON he would countersign when he returned.

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JRM:lmj

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PETERSON described him as a white American male, in his late 30s or early 40s, six feet tall, medium to thin build, brown hair, with no distinguishing physical features. He did appear to be somewhat "wild-eyed" and nervous. CHURCHILL has not been seen or heard of since and his personal belongings, some of which were strewn about the room, have been collected and are being maintained by the hotel.

CATHERINE GOLDEN, Desk Clerk, Club Comanche Hotel, advised that she was present in the lobby the morning that the subject departed, saying he was going to St. Thomas for the day. She found his conversation somewhat peculiar, although she did not state exactly why, and described him as a "kook." She feels he made too big an issue of the fact that there should be no worry about his ability to pay for his room. She described him as a white American male, about 5' 9" tall, light complexion, but slightly tanned, light brown hair combed straight back, possibly brown eyes, but no glasses, 36 to 37 years of age, wearing a brown knit shirt and slacks, has somewhat thin face with a prominent nose.

CHURCHILL's personal effects were examined and the following was observed:

CHURCHILL was estranged from his wife, FAITH DENNIS, and appears to be in a controversy over the custody of the children. He seems to be a man of some means and may be the recipient of several hundred thousand dollars left by his father, ARTHUR. Among other things, he had in his belongings the April 3, 1968, late City Edition of the "New York Times." He had marked an article about MC CARTHY winning the Wisconsin election and President JOHNSON polling forty per cent of the votes.

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JRM:lmj

3

He marked another article captioned "Soviet Believe Testing Rockets, Able to Guide Bombs From Orbit." He also had the April 5, 1968, issue of the "Washington Post," Section A, the bulk of which was devoted to the assassination of Dr. Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING. He had written on page one in ink the following:

"Dearest Bob. I am addressing you in a way that could be misunderstood but in my opinion, you are a Prince of Peace - I hope we may meet someday. Thank you."

A copy of employment resume was located which shows among other things the fact that he was employed for five years as a Pan American Airways Navigator. He has kept many scribbled notes concerning his marital problem, including dates that his wife has indicated she was going to obtain a divorce. There is no indication among any of these notes that he has any racial preoccupation. He has expired U. S. ordinary Passport number [REDACTED] issued in 1959, at London, England. A photograph of the subject was obtained from his personal belongings.

A review of Antilles Air Boat's manifest established that DONALD CHURCHILL flew at 11:01 AM, on April 8, 1968, from St. Croix, to St. Thomas, VI, aboard Antilles Air Boat using one way ticket number 05601. ELIZABETH WILSON, Antilles Air Boat, advised when he departed he was dressed in Bermuda shorts, a tan shirt and necktie and carrying a heavy winter overcoat.

On April 16, 1968, JOSE CESTERO MAS, who resides at Calle 11, Block 29 #6, Santa Rosa, Bayamon, Puerto Rico, personally advised SA JOSEPH KAY BROOKS that near the end of February, 1968, he had been in the Professional Hospital and shared a room with a man by the name of DAVILA. He said

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JRM:lmj

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that DAVILA had a relative named GILBERTO DIAZ AVILES, who visited in the hospital on occasion. He said that DAVILA was the person who expressed extreme hate for the Negroes and became very boisterous and loud and bordered on violence in discussing the subject.

CESTERO advised that he does not know the address of DIAZ, but he is employed by TIPPETT-ABBETT, Room 612 or 616, Fomento Building, Hato Rey, Puerto Rico. He stated that DIAZ very closely resembles the artist's conception appearing in the "El Mundo" newspaper of the murder suspect. He described DAVILA as a white male, age approximately 25 to 30.

On April 19, 1968, G. VANDO, Accountant, TIPPETT-ABBETT-MC CARTHY-STRATTON, 268 Ponce de Leon Avenue, Hato Rey, Puerto Rico (Fomento Building), advised SA JAMES R. MARTIN that GILBERTO DIAZ MILAN is an employee of this company and was present for work every day during the month of April, 1968, with the exception of one half day on April 16, 1968.

Mr. VANDO advised that he is the Accountant for the company and prepares the attendance and payroll record, and in his position he has observed DIAZ on every day that he was at work.

A photograph of the artist's conception of unknown subject in this case as described by witnesses was exhibited to Mr. VANDO and he advised that DIAZ does not in any way resemble this photograph.

On April 19, 1968, Lieutenant FELIX VEGA, Lares, Puerto Rico, advised SA THOMAS H. GREENE that a complainant, FELIPE HERNANDEZ, who resides on the highway between Lares and Arecibo #129, Puerto Rico, furnished the following information:

A photo of ERIC STARVO GALT appearing in the "El Mundo" newspaper contains the same general characteristics of an individual known as JOE, last name unknown,

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JRM:lmj

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who is married to MERITA CASULL, formerly of Barrio Vayana de Hatillo, Puerto Rico, on April 6, 1968, and left Puerto Rico on April 13, 1968.

Their present address is believed to be #1035 De Kalb Avenue, Brooklyn, New York.

During their stay near Lares, JOE was known to have \$5,000 in cash on his person, acted extremely nervous and was frequently observed covering his face with his hat. JOE is described as 35 to 40 years of age, 5'7" tall, weighs 160 to 170 pounds, smokes Camel and Chesterfield brand cigarettes.

On April 20, 1968, FELIPE HERNANDEZ VELEZ BAYOMEY, Arecibo, Puerto Rico, advised SA GREENE that JOE, last name unknown, and wife, MERITA CASULL VELEZ, arrived at Arecibo, Puerto Rico, on April 11, 1968. JOE reportedly said that he had been in Puerto Rico about a week. VELEZ had no information as to where JOE had been prior to that date or his whereabouts on April 4, 1968. VELEZ described JOE as a white male, age 35 to 40, approximately 5'8", weighs 160 to 180 pounds, build - heavy, large stomach, dark brown hair, brown eyes. MERITA CASULL VELEZ, described as white female, age 42 to 45, height 5'4", weighs 110 pounds, black hair, brown eyes. Both JOE and MERITA reside at #1035 De Kalb Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, the home of MERITA's father, BENITO CASULL. Additional relatives of MERITA are GEORGE CASULL VELEZ and his wife ANASASIA, #888 Myrtle Avenue, Brooklyn, New York; IRMA CASULL, wife of OSCAR GONZALEZ, #814 Myrtle Avenue, Brooklyn, New York.

Mr. JOSEPH CHIRICO and wife MERITA CHIRICO, nee MERITA CASULL VELEZ, interviewed on April 20, 1968, by SA JAMES J. CUMMINGS at #1035 A De Kalb Avenue, Brooklyn, New York.

Mr. CHIRICO born on [redacted] at Brooklyn, New York, speaks with Italian accent, has olive complexion, 175 to 190 pounds, 5'6" tall. CHIRICO

SJ 157-61

JRM:lmj

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is bald from beginning of forehead to point three to four inches back on scalp.

On basis of observation and above data, CHIRICO determined not identical to JAMES EARL RAY.

On April 20, 1968, MIGUEL ANGELO OLIVO telephonically advised that his mother recognized the picture appearing in the "El Mundo" newspaper of ERIC STARVO GALT as that of a man who was riding the bus to the San Juan International Airport on Monday, April 15, 1968.

OLIVO stated the man was described as 5'8" tall, wearing white and blue checkered shorts, tennis shoes, with dirty blond hair, blue eyes, and of approximately 35 years of age.

OLIVO stated he is the owner of the sign shop which is located across the street from the Swiss Chalet, Santurce, Puerto Rico. He advised he could be contacted at his residence telephone 785-4658, and his business telephone 724-0284.

On April 23, 1968, OLIVO was contacted at his place of business and advised that his mother is Mrs. MARIA FERRER, who resides at 1B 32 Royal Palm, Bayamon, Puerto Rico.

On April 23, 1968, SA BUFRED M. MOSLEY attempted to contact Mrs. MARIA FERRER BALCELLS at 1B 32 Royal Palm, Bayamon, Puerto Rico. On April 24, 1968, Mrs. FERRER advised SA MOSLEY of the following information:

On Monday, April 15, 1968, at about 5 PM, she caught an airport bound bus at stop #19 on Fernandez Juncos Avenue. She advised that this bus was crowded and that one of the male passengers who was standing in the bus when she boarded was later seen by her in the airport terminal. FERRER stated that she had gone to the airport

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to recover a piece of luggage and did not notice any person or place contacted by the above mentioned passenger during the period of approximately one hour that she was in the airport terminal.

FERRER stated that she boarded a bus marked "Airport via Condado" upon leaving the airport terminal with her piece of luggage, and took a seat next to a window on the right side in the middle of the bus. She advised that moments later, the above mentioned individual entered the bus; walked to the rear portion and then returned and sat in the seat immediately to her left. She advised that she did not get a good look at this individual's face from the front, inasmuch as he never turned his head while sitting next to her even though he talked to her in English and did not know Spanish. She furnished the following description of the above individual:

Name	Unknown
Sex	Male
Race	White
Age	38 or 39
Height	6 feet
Weight	180 lbs.
Hair	Dark blond or light brown, medium length
Eyes	Light blue
Complexion	Pale, not tanned or sun-burned
Scars and Marks	None noticed
Dress	Plaid Bermuda shorts, tennis shoes, and sport shirt

Mrs. FERRER advised that while returning from the airport, the above described man mentioned that he was from Connecticut and was looking at a folded map (origin unknown) and he asked her if the bus would pass close to Punta Las Marias. She said that she told him that the bus would pass very close to that area and he then told the bus driver to remember to stop in that area. FERRER then stated that the above unknown male wanted to

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know how frequently the buses that ran between Punta Las Marias area and the airport. She advised that they operated frequently and told him so. She stated that he got off the bus at Llorens Torres, near a small triangular park and walked towards the beach. She stated that he turned and waved to her from the sidewalk and she caught a glimpse of his face from the front.

FERRER advised that on April 20, 1968, she saw a photograph of ERIC STARVO GALT in the local paper, "El Mundo", and that the photo displayed bore a very strong resemblance to the man that she described above as having been on the bus with her. When asked as to why she remembered this man, she stated that she thought it very strange that the man of the bus would never turn and face her even though they conversed during their trip together.

Mrs. FERRER viewed several photos and selected the photos on I.O. 4182, JAMES EARL RAY, (the two photos of the left) as being very close to the person she saw on April 15, 1968. She stated that the man she saw had longer (medium length) hair and she was not sure of the straight-on face photo of JAMES EARL RAY, aka, but noted that the profile shot was very close to the man she described above, however, she stated she could not state the individual she saw was identical with JAMES EARL RAY.

On April 25, 1968, an examination was made of the area along Baldorioty Avenue which Mrs. FERRER described as the point of departure from the bus by the above described unknown male. It was determined that this individual had apparently departed the bus on April 15, 1968, at the corner of Jupiter Street and Baldorioty Avenue.

The following guest houses in this area were contacted with negative results:

ELBA ALVAREZ, Calle Loiza #2478 A
MANUEL OTERO, Calle Loiza #2482

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LISA VEGAS, Calle Doncella #107, 2nd Floor
RONNIE LAO, Calle Doncella #107, 1st Floor

On the same date, HENRY MARQUEZ RODRIGUEZ, White Castle Guest House, 106 Doncella Street, advised that several days prior a young man had inquired about a room, but desired something cheaper than \$25.00 per week. This young man was described as follows: white male, age 20's, six feet tall, 185 pounds, sandy hair.

RODRIGUEZ stated that the above person bore a slight resemblance to the 1960 photos of JAMES EARL RAY on I. O. #4182, but that this person was definitely not RAY based on age.

On April 25, 1968, Mr. and Mrs. O.S.E. PERKINS, the owners of the Villa Mar Guest House, #4 Caoba Street, advised that on April 15, 1968, one ROBERT C. WHELAN registered at their guest house and gave his address as #1773 Central Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut. They advised that WHELAN left to return to Connecticut on April 22, 1968, with some money which was cabled to him by his father. They described WHELAN as follows: white male, age 20's, six feet tall, 175 to 180 pounds, brown hair, blue eyes, no scars or marks recalled. the PERKINS observed I.O. #4182 and advised that WHELAN was not identical with JAMES EARL RAY, but noted the the profile photo of RAY bore some resemblance to the profile of WHELAN.

On April 26, 1968, FREDERICK WUERTH, Casa Meyer, Old San Juan, telephonically contacted SA CHARLES A. MOSHER at the SJO and advised he thought he had seen an individual answering the description of JAMES EARL RAY. WUERTH stated he was calling from the Excelsior Theater, Calle Parque, Stop 23, Santurce, and that he would wait at the theater for an FBI Agent to contact him.

SA MOSHER and SA H. LAMAR MEYER went immediately to the theater and contacted WUERTH. Photographs of RAY, and his physical description were furnished to WUERTH. He stated the individual to whom he was referring, who had left

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the theater, definitely did not answer RAY's description, and did not look at all like the photographs of RAY which were exhibited to him. He advised this individual had a receding hairline to the point of being almost bald, what hair he did have was in a crew cut. WUERTH took a close look at this individual and is positive that his eyes were green, not blue as are RAY's, he estimated the man to be approximately 180 to 190 pounds. He is also positive the individual to whom he is referring did not have a protruding left ear.

The manager, and employees of the theater were exhibited photographs of RAY and stated they had definitely not seen anyone answering RAY's description in the theater, and that only two or three "Continental's" had entered the theater for the matinee, and that none looked anything like RAY.

SA MOSHER and SA MEYER personally observed all patrons of the theater and could find no one resembling RAY.

On April 29, 1968, the Baltimore Office advised that RICHARD WIER, D.D.S., 2401 Pennsylvania Avenue, Wilmington, Delaware, advised on April 24, 1968, he spoke for twenty minutes to a fellow customer at the Carousel Bar on the waterfront, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands (VI), who looked exactly like the 1960 photograph of JAMES EARL RAY. He stated the individual does not look like the 1968 photograph. The individual was described as a white male, 40 to 50 years old, 5'10" tall, stocky muscular appearance, blue eyes, short brown hair, freckled complexion, strong southern accent, wearing white sports shirt and drinking beer. Individual stated he was in the Merchant Marine for fourteen years and now doing similar work. He likes cities such as San Francisco, New Orleans, and Cape Town, South Africa, the best. WIER stated that from a distance of one-two feet he could not observe a scar on the forehead of this individual.

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On April 30, 1968, Bartenders BUD EBERHARDT and THOMAS BYRD as well as all waitresses in the Carousel Bar, waterfront, Charlotte Amalie, Virgin Islands, were interviewed by SA JOE C. SPARKS and could furnish no positive information concerning the presence of anyone resembling JAMES EARL RAY being present of the Carousel Bar on April 24, 1968.

On April 30, 1968, the Jacksonville Division advised that the Regional Inspector, Internal Revenue Service, Atlanta, Georgia, discovered a tax return for JAMES EARL RAY, JR., Social Security number [REDACTED]. The return indicates that RAY, JR., is with the U. S. Navy, Jacksonville, Florida.

Personal records at Naval Air Station Cecil Field, Jacksonville, Florida, reflect RAY, JR., departed on April 25, 1968, for temporary active duty at Roosevelt Roads Naval Station, San Juan, Puerto Rico, as Mess Cook for four weeks.

On May 1, 1968, JAMES EARL RAY, JR., advised SA DAVID C. MC MICHAEL that he is the son of Lieutenant Colonel JAMES EARL RAY, who is in the U. S. Army, presently serving in Vietnam. He advised his mother is TERESA LEE RAY and resides at 403 Honeysuckle Court Montgomery, Alabama. RAY, JR., advised he is not acquainted with JAMES EARL RAY, subject of this investigation, and does not believe they are related.

RAY advised his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. RUFUS RAY, 25 East South Street, Montgomery, Alabama, are originally from Washington, D.C., and would know if any relation exists with the subject of this case.

RAY, JR., advised he is assigned to Navy Squadron VA-174, temporarily assigned at Roosevelt Road Naval Station, Puerto Rico, and will return to Cecil Field, Jacksonville, Florida, about May 25, 1968.

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On May 1, 1968, the Mobile Division advised that investigation in Montgomery, Alabama, reflects RUFUS RAY, 25 East South Street, is a retired Internal Revenue Service employee known to Senior Resident Agent SPENCER H. ROBB for approximately twenty-three years. RAY advised that his son, Lt. Col. JAMES EARL RAY is presently serving with the U. S. Army in South Vietnam, and his grandson, JAMES EARL RAY, JR., is currently in the U. S. Navy in Jacksonville, Florida. RAY states subject of this case is not related in any way to this family and he had no knowledge of him.

On April 28, 1968, at 9:30 PM, SA JOE C. SPARKS received an anonymous telephone call at his home. The caller advised that one week ago at approximately 10:30 AM he was at Red Hook, St. Thomas, VI, and overheard a conversation between a forty year old white male and one of the employees of the Dohm Water Taxi Service. The forty year old white male fits the description of the individual sought in the MURKIN case and looked similar to the caller to a picture he saw in the April 20, 1968, issue of the New York Times. He said this unknown individual inquired as to places to stay in Cruz Bay, St. John, and Mead's was recommended to him as a comfortable spot that was not too expensive.

SA SPARKS conducted the following investigation on April 29, 1968:

PER DOHM, Operator of the Dohm Water Taxi, Red Hook, St. Thomas, advised that he recalled having spoken to an individual approximately a week ago who was inquiring about a place to stay in Cruz Bay, St. John, VI. He explained that the incident stood out in his memory since almost without exception anyone going to St. John has reservations there for a place to stay. Since DOHM transports so many people to and from St. John from Red Hook, he was unable to furnish a description of the individual in question. He viewed photographs of RAY, aka GALT, and advised that he could not state that

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the individual in question looked like these photographs. After transporting the individual in question to Cruz Bay, DOHM saw him sometime later, possibly the following day, and inquired if he had found a place to stay. The individual told him that he was staying at Ellington's Guest House.

Mr. and Mrs. RICHARD ELLINGTON, Ellington's Guest House, advised that the only unaccompanied male guest they had had was VICTOR VILLEMAIN who stayed with them two days beginning April 23, 1968. He gave as his home address #31 Union Square, New York City, 10003. He had a bar bill of \$4.55 and paid \$20 a night for the two nights. Both Mr. and Mrs. ELLINGTON advised that VILLEMAIN was over fifty years of age, had long hair and walked with a cane. His manner was effeminate and they suspect that he is a homosexual. After examining photographs of RAY, aka GALT, they advised there was no question in their mind but that this VILLEMAIN could not be identical with RAY.

With the assistance of Patrolman V. SPRAUVE, St. John Police Department, the following individuals were contacted concerning the possibility of RAY having been in the area or been a guest at their establishments. No positive information was developed. Mrs. MEAD, Mead's Guest House, Cruz Bay, St. John, VI; Mr. and Mrs. JOHN R. WOODSIDE, Cinnamon Bay, St. John, VI; DAVID BREWER, Manager, Caneel Bay Plantation, St. John, VI.

Photographs of RAY were left with Captain LEANDER R. JURGEN, St. Thomas Police Department, who was made aware of the circumstances of the anonymous telephone call. He advised that he would re-alert the nine men on his force in St. John, to be doubly alert for any individual who might fit the description of RAY and immediately notify the contacting agent.

On May 2, 1968, ROBERT WILSON, Chief of Detectives, St. Thomas Police Department, advised that

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he had received word from Patrolman THOMAS, St. John, VI, that Miss MALVERN SEWER, operator of Malvern's Guest House in Cruz Bay, St. John, had advised him that the man the FBI had been inquiring about two days earlier was now at her guest house.

On the afternoon of May 2, 1968, Patrolman V. SPRAUVE, St. John Police Department, advised that he had shown Miss SEWER photographs of the MURKIN suspect and she advised that the individual at her guest house was positively not identical with RAY. SPRAUVE advised that Miss MALVERN was not available for interview that afternoon since she had departed for Coral Bay.

Additional wanted flyers were furnished to Captain JURGENS who assured that they would be prominently posted throughout the island of St. John.

On May 9, 1968, Mrs. EMILLIE R. SNIDER, Dependent wife to Air Force Sergeant, Ramey Air Force Base, Puerto Rico, 313 B-7th Street, advised SA THOMAS H. GREENE that on April 25, 1968, she was at the Island of Curacao on a vacation tour. Sometime between 12 noon and 1 PM, April 25, 1968, she was eating lunch in the Lido Restaurant, Curacao, and observed two men in the restaurant, one of whom she says strikingly resembles newspaper photo of JAMES EARL RAY.

She said this individual who resembled subject was seated, with his back to the wall, at the second table on the right from the entrance into the restaurant section of the Lido.

Mrs. SNIDER said that because she is of the Negro race she contemplated in her mind for the past several days that she might have been prejudiced in thinking this individual resembled RAY or that he actually did. She is of the opinion, after making honest memory study, that unknown person in the restaurant could very well have been the subject.

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Unknown person was overheard to order something to eat, the last part of his order consisting of "rice and iced tea." Unknown person has a very definite Southern accent.

This person was wearing slacks, color unknown, and a rumpled white shirt. He appeared to be about thirty-seven years of age, approximately six feet, 180 to 185 pounds, sandy colored hair, very dry, complexion ruddy around the cheeks and nose. The only distinguishing feature of unknown person was a definite cleft in center of chin such as appears in the pictures of subject. Unknown person appeared to have a somewhat fleshier face than that of photo of subject she has observed.

She advised she had not seen this individual prior to this encounter nor since. Mrs. SNIDER stated she could furnish no further detailed information concerning unknown person and as far as she knows, this person did not alert the attention of anyone she knows.

On May 13, 1968, Staff Sergeant EDWARD WIENCLAW, Ramey Air Force Base, Puerto Rico, telephonically advised that during 1962, he dated a girl by the name of BESS RAY. He later learned that she was married and her husband was serving time for armed robbery. He said he dated BESS RAY in Spokane, Washington, where she was living on Maxwell Street (number unknown), with her mother. She was also working in one of the "chain" stores in Spokane.

He said he later heard she had moved and was recently living in Juneau, Alaska.

WIENCLAW said he could furnish no further information regarding the matter, but thought it might be of interest to the FBI. He advised he did not know the name of BESS' husband, where he had served time, the name of BESS' mother, her address, nor where exactly BESS was living or working in Juneau.