

F B I

Date: 5/6/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

(Type in plaintext or code)

URGENT

Via \_\_\_\_\_

(Priority)

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) MIAMI, MEMPHIS (44-1987) &  
BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)

FROM TAMPA (157-3231)

MURKIN

ON MAY SIX INSTANT, CAROL YVONNE CROWLEY, NEE RANKIN, ADVISED SHE AND HER HUSBAND, ALTON RAY CROWLEY, HAD A DIS-AGREEMENT AND HE HAD ABANDONED HER IN PINELLAS PARK, FLA., ON MAY FIVE LAST. SHE ADVISED SHE AND HER HUSBAND STAYED AT BUENA VISTA HOTEL, FOUR ZERO NINE NORTH DIXIE, WEST PALM BEACH, FLA., FROM APPROXIMATELY APRIL ONE EIGHT TO APRIL TWENTY-FIVE LAST. SHE DESCRIBED THIS HOTEL AS A RUN DOWN ROOMING HOUSE WITH APARTMENTS IN THE REAR. ON THE DAY SHE AND HER HUSBAND DEPARTED WEST PALM BEACH, SEVERAL OCCUPANTS OF THE ROOMING HOUSE HAD A DISCUSSION IN THE HALL OF THE ROOMING HOUSE AT WHICH TIME SHE PAID PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO ONE OF THE INDIVIDUALS INASMUCH AS HE WAS DRESSED IN A NICE BUSINESS SUIT, BOW TIE AND SOME TYPE OF BOOTS, IT BEING

SEARCHED

INDEXED

SERIALIZED

FILED

JDL:cj  
(1)

1. Send  
157-3231-407

2. File

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

Mm 308  
WA 3:40  
me 3:30

M Per

BA 3:30

F B I

Date:

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

TP 157-3231

PAGE TWO

UNUSUAL FOR ANYONE IN THIS ROOMING HOUSE TO BE WEARING A SUIT. DURING CONVERSATION, THIS INDIVIDUAL SAID HIS NAME WAS JESSE (LNU) AND THAT HE WAS FROM TENNESSEE. DURING THIS CONVERSATION TWO BOYS, AGES TWELVE AND SEVENTEEN WHO LIVE WITH MOTHER ON THIRD FLOOR OF HOTEL, WERE ALSO PRESENT. CROWLEY WAS OF THE OPINION THAT THIS INDIVIDUAL ONLY HAD A ROOM AT THE HOTEL. SHE DESCRIBED HIM AS A WHITE MALE, TWENTY-EIGHT, FIVE FEET NINE INCHES TO FIVE FEET ELEVEN INCHES, ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-FIVE LBS. WITH DARK BROWN HAIR.

SHE AND HUSBAND TRAVELED TO COCOA, FLA., APPROXIMATELY APRIL TWENTY-FIVE LAST AND SAW PICTURE OF JAMES EARL RAY ON TV AND BOTH SHE AND HUSBAND FELT CERTAIN RAY AND PREVIOUSLY-DESCRIBED INDIVIDUAL IDENTICAL. STATED NEITHER SHE NOR HUSBAND KNEW TO WHOM THEY SHOULD REPORT THIS MATTER. WHILE IN PINELLAS PARK POLICE STATION, TOLD LOCAL PD AND CROWLEY INTERVIEWED THIS DATE, BY BUAGENT, AND WAS DISPLAYED IO AND WANTED FLYER OF SUBJECT. CROWLEY SAID SHE FELT

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

F B I

Date:

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

TP 157-3231

PAGE THREE

ALMOST CERTAIN THAT SUBJECT IDENTICAL TO INDIVIDUAL MENTIONED ABOVE. IT WAS POINTED OUT TO CROWLEY THE DISCREPANCY IN AGES, HOWEVER, SHE MAINTAINED HER OPINION THAT SUBJECT AND INDIVIDUAL IDENTICAL. IT IS NOTED CAROL CROWLEY APPEARED TO BE AN EMOTIONALLY STABLE AND HONEST INDIVIDUAL.

MIAMI, AT WEST PALM BEACH, WILL CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION AT BUENA VISTA HOTEL ~~██████████~~ TO ~~ADDRESS~~  
**LOCATE JESSE ABOVE AND DETERMINE**  
~~SUBJECT~~ IF IDENTICAL.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

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

FBI WASH DC

FBI TAMPA

314PM URGENT 5-6-68 BLW

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), MIAMI, MEMPHIS (44-1987) AND  
BIRMINGHAM

FROM TAMPA (157-3231) 3P

MURKIN

ON MAY SIX INSTANT, CAROL YVONNE CROWLEY, NEE RANKIN,  
ADVISED SHE AND HER HUSBAND, ALTON RAY CROWLEY, HAD A DIS-  
AGREEMENT AND HE HAD ABANDONED HER IN PINELLAS PARK, FLA.,  
ON MAY FIVE LAST. SHE ADVISED SHE AND HER HUSBAND STAYED  
AT BUENA VISTA HOTEL, FOUR ZERO NINE NORTH DIXIE, WEST PALM  
BEACH, FLA., FROM APPROXIMATELY APRIL ONE EIGHT TO APRIL  
TWENTY-FIVE LAST. SHE DESCRIBED THIS HOTEL AS A RUN DOWN  
ROOMING HOUSE WITH APARTMENTS IN THE REAR. ON THE DAY SHE  
AND HER HUSBAND DEPARTED WEST PALM BEACH, SEVERAL OCCUPANTS  
OF THE ROOMING HOUSE HAD A DISCUSSION IN THE HALL OF THE  
ROOMING HOUSE AT WHICH TIME SHE PAID PARTICULAR ATTENTION  
TO ONE OF THE INDIVIDUALS INASMUCH AS HE WAS DRESSED IN A  
NICE BUSINESS SUIT, BOW TIE AND SOME TYPE OF BOOTS, IT BEING

END PAGE ONE

5/7/68  
ccs FB9 Birmingham (JAH)  
FB9 Memphis (MEN)  
FB9 Miami (ECE)  
Det. [signature]  
SEARCHED \_\_\_\_\_  
INDEXED \_\_\_\_\_  
SERIALIZED \_\_\_\_\_  
FILED \_\_\_\_\_

157-3231-407



PAGE TWO

TP 157-3231

UNUSUAL FOR ANYONE IN THIS ROOMING HOUSE TO BE WEARING A SUIT. DURING CONVERSATION, THIS INDIVIDUAL SAID HIS NAME WAS JESS (LNU) AND THAT HE WAS FROM TENNESSEE. DURING THIS CONVERSATION TWO BOYS, AGES TWELVE AND SEVENTEEN WHO LIVE WITH MOTHER ON THIRD FLOOR OF HOTEL, WERE ALSO PRESENT. CROWLEY WAS OF THE OPINION THAT THIS INDIVIDUAL ONLY HAD A ROOM AT THE HOTEL. SHE DESCRIBED HIM AS A WHITE MALE, TWENTY-EIGHT, FIVE FEET NINE INCHES TO FIVE FEET ELEVEN INCHES, ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-FIVE LBS. WITH DARK BROWN HAIR.

SHE AND HUSBAND TRAVELED TO COCOA, FLA., APPROXIMATELY APRIL TWENTY-FIVE LAST AND SAW PICTURE OF JAMES EARL RAY ON TV AND BOTH SHE AND HUSBAND FELT CERTAIN RAY AND PREVIOUSLY-DESCRIBED INDIVIDUAL IDENTICAL. STATED NEITHER SHE NOR HUSBAND KNEW TO WHOM THEY SHOULD REPORT THIS MATTER. WHILE IN PINELLAS PARK POLICE STATION, TOLD LOCAL PD AND CROWLEY INTERVIEWED THIS DATE, BY BUAGENT AND WAS DISPLAYED IO AND WANTED FLYER OF SUBJECT. CROWLEY SAID SHE FELT

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

TP 157-3231

ALMOST CERTAIN THAT SUBJECT IDENTICAL TO INDIVIDUAL MENTIONED ABOVE. IT WAS POINTED OUT TO CROWLEY THE DISCREPANCY IN AGES, HOWEVER, SHE MAINTAINED HER OPINION THAT SUBJECT AND INDIVIDUAL IDENTICAL. IT IS NOTED CAROL CROWLEY APPEARED TO BE AN EMOTIONALLY STABLE AND HONEST INDIVIDUAL.

MIAMI, AT WEST PALM BEACH, WILL CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION AT BUENA VISTA HOTEL TO LOCATE JESSE ABOVE AND DETERMINE IF IDENTICAL.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

WPK

FBI WASH DC

F B I

Date: 5/7/68

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

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861 ) & BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)  
FROM TAMPA (157-3231)  
MURKIN

RE BIRMINGHAM TEL TO BUREAU AND TAMPA MAY SIX LAST.  
TP TWENTY-FOUR - C AND GUY GARDNER, SECRETARY -  
TREASURER AND BUSINESS MANAGER, ROYAL AMERICAN SHOWS,  
INC., TAMPA, FLA., ADVISED THAT THE SHOW HAS NOT ISSUED  
"PERSONNEL IDENTIFICATION" CARDS DURING PAST TWENTY-ONE  
YEARS DURING TIME THEY HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE SHOW.  
DRAW RECEIPTS MADE AVAILABLE BY SPARKS WERE NOT ISSUED  
BY ROYAL AMERICAN SHOWS. WITHDRAWAL FORMS USED BY ROYAL  
AMERICAN SHOWS BEAR THE COMPLETE NAME OF THE SHOW. GARDNER  
RECALLED THAT DURING SHOWING IN JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI,  
OCTOBER EIGHT THROUGH FIFTEEN LAST, IDENTIFICATION CARDS  
SIMILAR TO ONE PRESENTED BY SPARKS, WERE OFFERED FOR SALE

1 - Memphis (AM) (44-1987)

1 - Tampa

HLB:cj

(2)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent

8 25  
8 33 AM

Per

157-3231-408

F B I

Date:

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

TP 157-3231

PAGE TWO

BY UNKNOWN COMPANY AT SITE OF SHOW, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.

RUSSELL C. BREWER OPERATED RIDE B~~UT~~CAVE DURING  
NINETEEN SIXTY-SEVEN. PRESENT ADDRESS NINE SIX THREE  
ZERO BURNSIDE, PORTLAND, OREGON. TAMPA FAIR HELD FEBRUARY  
SIX THROUGH SEVENTEEN LAST.

TED AND JOE WILLIAMS, OPERATORS OF COOKHOUSE, ROYAL  
AMERICAN SHOWS, NOT AVAILABLE. WILL REJOIN ROYAL AMERICAN  
SHOWS AT DAVENPORT, IOWA, JUNE ONE NEXT.

LEADS TO INTERVIEW BREWER AND WILLIAMS BEING LEFT TO  
DISCRETION OF BIRMINGHAM.

WITHDRAWAL FORMS AND MANIFEST CARD USED BY ROYAL  
AMERICAN SHOWS BEING SUBMITTED AMSD, BIRMINGHAM.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

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

FBI WASH DC

FBI TAMPA

825 PM URGENT 5/7/68 ALS

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)

FROM TAMPA (157-3231)

MURKIN

RE BIRMINGHAM TEL TO BUREAU AND TAMPA MAY SIX LAST.

TP TWENTY-FOUR - C AND GUY GARDNER, SECRETARY-TREASURER AND BUSINESS MANAGER, ROYAL AMERICAN SHOWS, INC., TAMPA, FLA., ADVISED THAT THE SHOW HAS NOT ISSUED "PERSONNEL IDENTIFICATION" CARDS DURING PAST TWENTY-ONE YEARS DURING TIME THEY HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE SHOW. DRAW RECEIPTS MADE AVAILABLE BY SPARKS WERE NOT ISSUED BY ROYAL AMERICAN SHOWS. WITHDRAWAL FORMS USED BY ROYAL AMERICAN SHOWS BEAR THE COMPLETE NAME OF THE SHOW. GARDNER RECALLED THAT DURING SHOWING IN JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, OCTOBER EIGHT THROUGH FIFTEEN LAST, IDENTIFICATION CARDS SIMILAR TO ONE PRESENTED BY SPARKS, WERE OFFERED FOR SALE BY UNKNOWN COMPANY AT SITE OF SHOW, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.

RUSSELL C. BREWER OPERATED OPERATED RIDE BATCAVE DURING NINETEEN SIXTY-SEVEN. PRESENT ADDRESS NINE SIX THREE ZERO BURNSIDE PORTLAND, OREGON. TAMPA FAIR HELD FEBRUARY SIX THROUGH SEVENTEEN LAST.

END PAGE ONE

As  
As

157-3231-408

PAGE TWO

TP 157-3231

TED AND JOE WILLIAMS, OPERATORS OF COOKHOUSE, ROYAL AMERICAN SHOWS, NOT AVAILABLE. WILL REJOIN ROYAL AMERICAN SHOWS AT DAVENPORT, IOWA, JUNE ONE NEXT.

LEADS TO INTERVIEW BREWER AND WILLIAMS BEING LEFT TO DISCRETION OF BIRMINGHAM.

WITHDRAWAL FORMS AND MANIFEST CARD USED BY ROYAL AMERICAN SHOWS BEING SUBMITTED AMSD, BIRMINGHAM.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

CAB

FBI WASH DC

*GDM, FBI Birmingham, machine  
CC destroyed 5/7/68*

*A3*

FBI TAMPA

FBI BIRMGHAM

854 PM URGENT 5-6-68 GDM

TO DIRECTOR AND TAMPA (157-3231)

FROM BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

MURKIN. CR. OO: MEMPHIS.

RE TAMPA TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR AND BIRMINGHAM INSTANT DATE.

JAMES L. SPARKS AND WIFE, LINDA, REINTERVIEWED THIS DATE.

BOTH REITERATED INFORMATION PREVIOUSLY FURNISHED BIRMINGHAM.

JAMES SPARKS TURNED OVER TO BUAGENTS ROYAL AMERICAN

IDENTIFICATION CARD AND RECEIPTS HE CLAIMS ARE DRAW RECEIPTS

ON HIS SALARY ISSUED HIM BY ROYAL AMERICAN SHOWS. SPARKS

CLAIMED ID CARD ISSUED HIM DURING NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN FAIR

SEASON AT JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.

SPARKS STATED HE KNOWS J. C. SILOMEYER (PHONETIC)

WHO HE CALIMS OWNS ROYAL AMERICAN SHOWS. SPARKS CLAIMED

WORKED ON RIDE CALLED BATCAVE WITH EMPLOYEE KNOWN TO HIM AS

MOOSE. STATED LAST EMPLOYED BY ROYAL AMERICAN DURING TAMPA

FAIR, MARCH AND APRIL, SIXTYEIGHT, WHEN HE AND WIFE WORKED

END PAGE ONE

157-3231-409

*Sp Lead*

SEARCHED <i>h</i>	INDEXED <i>h</i>
SERIALIZED <i>h</i>	FILED <i>h</i>
MAY 6 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

*Burgette*

PAGE TWO

COOK SHACK FOR TED AND JOE WILLIAMS. WIFE CLAIMS JOE WILL  
REMEMBER HER BECAUSE THEY HAD AN ARGUMENT AFTER SHE, LINDA,  
BURNED HAND ON COFFEE URN.

TAMPA WILL ASCERTAIN IF ID CARD AND PAY RECEIPTS  
ARE THOSE ISSUED BY ROYAL AMERICAN SHOWS (AMSD).

SPARKS STATES HE IS LEAVING BIRMINGHAM MAY SEVEN NEXT  
BUT WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW UNTIL THAT DATE IF  
NECESSARY.

AM FURNISHED MEMPHIS

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

ALS

FBI TAMPA



5/7/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231) (P)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN  
RM  
OO: TAMPA

Re Bureau airtel to Jacksonville and Tampa dated May 2, 1968. Tampa airtel to Bureau dated May 2, 1968. Jacksonville airtel to Bureau and Tampa dated May 3, 1968.

Check of auto registration and drivers license at Orlando, Florida, identified owner of Florida license 7V 15 as DR. JOHN HOWARD CREWS, a physician and surgeon, being a white male, born [redacted]. His office is located at 1230 Hillcrest Avenue and his residence 640 Manor Road, Maitland, Florida. Attempts to interview him on instant vehicle negative.

On May 7, 1968 DUDLEY F. TRASK, VSPD,

3- Bureau (44-38861) (RM)  
1- Birmingham (44-1740) (info) (RM)  
1- Memphis (44-1987) (info) (RM)  
1- Jacksonville (44-759) (info) (RM)  
2- Tampa (157-3231)  
GWT/lb  
(8) LB

SEARCHED \_\_\_\_\_  
INDEXED \_\_\_\_\_  
SERIALIZED 4  
FILED 4

157-3231-410

TP 157-3231

Maitland, Florida, stated he is personally acquainted with DOCTOR CREWS and advised that he looks even older than his 54 years of age. TRASK viewed wanted flier 442A and stated DOCTOR CREWS is definitely not identifiable with JAMES EARL RAY.

No further action being taken concerning DOCTOR CREWS.

SUBJECT IS ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

May 7, 1968

Airtel

To: SAC, Memphis

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN  
OO: MEMPHIS

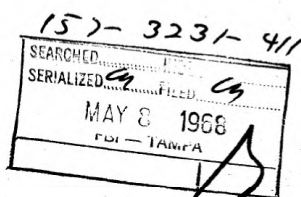
ReTPairtel to the Bureau dated 5/2/68.

Bureau is in receipt of referenced communication which attaches a Xerox copy of the Company "B" roster which included subject Ray's name.

You should hold the interviewing of the names on the roster in abeyance to a future date. It will be incumbent upon the office of origin to institute any interviews of the names on the roster in the event Memphis feels this would be necessary.

Armed and Dangerous.

- 1 - Tampa (157-3231)
- 1 - Kansas City (Info)



FBI MIAMI

857PM EST 5-8-68 URGENT RGT

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) ATLANTA (44-2386) MEMPHIS (44-1987)

DETROIT MOBILE JACKSON TAMPA SAVANNAH AND CHARLOTTE  
FROM MIAMI (44-1854) 4P

MURKIN

RE EASTERN AIRLINES (EAL) FLIGHTS OUT OF ATLANTA,  
APRIL FIVE THROUGH TWELVE, LAST.

RE ATLANTA TEL TO BUREAU, MAY SEVEN, LAST.

REVIEW OF ALL EAL TICKETS AND RESERVATIONS ON FLIGHTS OUT  
OF ATLANTA ON ABOVE DATES COMPLETED. FOLLOWING LEADS SET TO  
DEVELOP FURTHER INFORMATION ON PASSENGERS WITH NAMES SIMILAR  
TO ALIASES OF SUBJECT RAY, AND WHO COULD NOT BE ELIMINATED  
ON BASIS OF AVAILABLE INFORMATION:

RESERVATION RECEIVED APRIL TWO BY EAL, ATLANTA, FROM  
DELTA, DETROIT, FOR ONE RAYE FOR EAL FLIGHT ONE TWO FOUR Y  
ON APRIL FIVE FROM ATLANTA TO PHILADELPHIA. PASSENGER TO  
TRAVEL DETROIT TO ATLANTA ON DELTA FLIGHT SEVEN SIX ONE Y  
ON APRIL TWO. DETROIT CONTACT POINT SHOWN TELEPHONE EIGHT  
SEVEN THREE THREE ZERO ZERO ZERO, EXTENSION SEVEN, ROOM  
THREE TWO FOUR. NO EAL TICKET FOUND, INDICATING DELTA TICKET

5/9/68  
Mr. Charles E. Foster  
Reservations Dept., Delta #12  
3825 Henderson Blvd.  
all records maintained in computer in  
Atlanta Delta office. He called Atlanta 5/8  
+ they have program it & will  
do all possible get data  
5/10-11/68. SCL

SAC advised @ 9:25 P  
# if advised @ 9:20 P  
Labadie advised @ 10:00 P

See p. 3

157-3231-412

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SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 10 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

*Labadie* *SM*



MM (44-1854)

PAGE TWO

USED. DETROIT CONDUCT NECESSARY INVESTIGATION TO  
ELIMINATE.

RESERVATION MADE EAL, ATLANTA, APRIL FIVE, AND TICKET  
PURCHASED ATLANTA, APRIL SIX, FOR TRAVEL BY W. J. WALTON,  
MOBILE TO ATLANTA ON EAL FLIGHT SIX ZERO FOUR F ON APRIL TWELVE,  
ATLANTA TO AUGUSTA ON DELTA FLIGHT FOUR ONE ZERO A ON APRIL TWELVE,  
AUGUSTA TO ATLANTA ON DELTA ONE SIX ZERO NINE T ON APRIL  
FIFTEEN, AND ATLANTA TO MOBILE ON EAL SIX ZERO ONE F ON APRIL  
FIFTEEN. MOBILE CONTACT WAS HOME TELEPHONE THREE FOUR TWO  
FIVE FIVE FOUR TWO, BUSINESS THREE FOUR FOUR ZERO TWO EIGHT  
TWO. MOBILE CONDUCT NECESSARY INVESTIGATION TO ELIMINATE.

RESERVATION MADE EAL, ATLANTA, APRIL FIVE, AND TICKET  
NUMBER THREE NINE SIX DASH SEVEN ONE EIGHT DASH NINE FIVE  
SEVEN PURCHASED APRIL FIVE AT TRAVEL AFFILIATES, TWO TWO ZERO  
WEST LIVE OAK, PASCAGOULA, MISSISSIPPI, FOR TRAVEL BY JACK  
WALTON FROM MOBILE TO ATLANTA ON EAL FLIGHT SIX SIX FOUR Y  
ON APRIL FIVE, AND ATLANTA TO CHICAGO ON EAL FOUR THREE FOUR  
YN ON APRIL SIX, AND CHICAGO TO SEATTLE ON UNITED ONE FOUR  
THREE Y ON APRIL SIX. JACKSON AT PASCAGOULA CONDUCT NECESSARY  
INVESTIGATION TO ELIMINATE.

MM (44-1854)

PAGE THREE

RESERVATION RECEIVED FEB. SEVENTEEN SIXTYEIGHT, BY EAL, ATLANTA, FROM DELTA, TAMPA, FOR TRAVEL OF J. WALTON FROM ATLANTA TO TAMPA ON EAL FLIGHT TWO SEVEN THREE Y ON APR. TWELVE SIXTYEIGHT. RESERVATION CANCELED. NO TICKET LOCATED. TAMPA CONDUCT NECESSARY INVESTIGATION AT DELTA TO ELIMINATE.

DELTA MESSAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER WAS ZERO EIGHT SEVEN ONE SIX SEVEN ZERO ONE.

RESERVATION RECEIVED EAL ATLANTA FROM TWA ST. LOUIS, DATE NOT SHOWN, FOR TRAVEL BY ONE HEERAN FROM ATLANTA TO ST. LOUIS ON EAL FLIGHT FIVE ONE ZERO, APR. TEN SIXTYEIGHT. PASSENGER GAVE ATLANTA CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER FIVE TWO FIVE - TWO SEVEN SEVEN ONE. NO TICKET LOCATED, INDICATING TWA TICKET USED. ATLANTA CONDUCT NECESSARY INVESTIGATION TO ELIMINATE.

RESERVATION RECEIVED EAL ATLANTA, MAR. TWENTYNINE SIXTYEIGHT, FROM DELTA, SAVANNAH FOR TRAVEL BY JOHN WILLARD, FROM ATLANTA TO MIAMI ON EAL FLIGHT TWO SEVEN SEVEN Y ON

MM (44-1854)

PAGE FOUR

APR. ELEVEN SIXTYEIGHT. DELTA, SAVANNAH MESSAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER ONE EIGHT SEVEN NINE FOUR ZERO ZERO SIX. RESERVATION CONFIRMED BY DELTA, SAVANNAH MESSAGE NUMBER ONE EIGHT SEVEN NINE FOUR ZERO ZERO SIX ON APR. ONE SIXTYEIGHT. PASSENGER CONTACTED EAL ATLANTA ON UNSPECIFIED DATE AND GAVE CONTACT POINT DOWNTOWNER, ATLANTA. ATLANTA AT DOWNTOWNER AND SAVANNAH AT DELTA AIRLINES, CONDUCT INVESTIGATION TO ELIMINATE.

RESERVATION MADE AT EAL ATLANTA VIA EAL CHARLOTTE ON APR. FIVE SIXTYEIGHT FOR TRAVEL OF J. C. (OR T.C.) GALT FROM ATLANTA TO RICHMOND ON EITHER EAL FLIGHT SIX ONE SIX T OR UNITED FLIGHT SIX FOUR ZERO A ON APR. TEN SIXTYEIGHT. NO TICKET LOCATED. CHARLOTTE CONTACT TELEPHONE GIVEN AS TWO SIX FIVE - EIGHT TWO ONE ONE. RESERVATION ORIGINALLY MADE THROUGH TRAVEL AGENCY SIX ONE FIVE BY EMPLOYEE PAT. CHARLOTTE CONDUCT NECESSARY INVESTIGATION AT ABOVE TELEPHONE TO ELIMINATE.

MIAMI OBTAINING OFF - LINE TICKET INFORMATION RE ONE ADDITIONAL PASSENGER. SUPPLEMENTAL TELETYPE FOLLOWS RE THIS ON MAY NINE NEXT. SUBJECT RAY ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

MJR

FBI TAMPA

TOX

F B I

Date: 5-8-68

PLAINTEXT

Transmit the following in (Type in plaintext or code)

Via TELETYPE URGENT (Priority)

TO DIRECTOR 44-38861 PITTSBURGH  
FROM TAMPA 157-3231

MURKIN

ONE C.C. BENNETT, TAMPA FLA TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED TAMPA OFFICE TODAY TO STATE A BAR ACQUAINTANCE OF PAST COUPLE DAYS GREATLY RESEMBLES PHOTOGRAPH OF JAMES EARL RAY. THIS UNKNOWN WHITE MALE TOLD BENNETT HE WAS STAYING AT INTERNATIONAL INN, TAMPA AND BENNETT FURNISHED TAMPA OFFICE LICENSE NUMBER OF RENTAL CAR DRIVEN BY UNKNOWN MALE, SAID TO BE TRAVELING WITH TWO OTHER MALES.

INVESTIGATION REVEALS RENTAL CAR TURNED IN FIVE:ZERO THREE PM TODAY AT AVIS RENT-A-CAR AGENCY TAMPA INTERNATIONAL AIRPOORT BY MAN UNDER N NAME DONALD JAMES MACDONALD, THREE FIVE THREE ONE FLEMING AVE, PITTSBURGH, PA., WHO EXHIBITED PA. DRIVERS LIC # [REDACTED] TEXACO CREDIT CARD # [REDACTED] AND ESSO CREDIT CARD # [REDACTED]

LORETTA BREHM, AVIS EMPLOYEE AT AIRPORT, HANDLED CAR CHECK IN STATES MACDONALD W/M FIVE FT. TEN INCHES, IN MID THIRTIES, WITH  
END PAGE ONE

GRM/ROB

Approved: *Belanger*  
Special Agent in Charge

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157-3231-413



PAGE TWO

VERY THICK DARK HAIR, MEDIUM LENGTH, GOOD SUN TAN, PAID CASH FOR CAR RENTAL, WAS WITH TWO OTHER MEN AT TIME OF CHECKOUT, ASSUMED TO BE PREPARING TO TAKE FLIGHT OUT OF TAMPA. CAR RENTED AT ELEVEN

THIRTYFOUR AM FIVE-FIVE-SIXTYEIGHT AT AIRPORT ACCORDING TO RECORDS.

IN VIEWING PHOTOGRAPHS OF RAY., BREHM SAID MACDONALD RESEMBLES PHOTOGRAPH ON EXTREME RIGHT OF THE THREE SHOWN ON INQ NUMBER FOUR ONE EIGHT TWO, BUT DOES NOT RESEMBLE PHOTOGRAPH RAY TAKEN TWO-SIXTYEIGHT IN CALIFORNIA, STATES MACDONALD LOOKED YOUNGER THAN THIS PHOTOGRAPH TO BEST OF HER RECOLLECTION.

INVESTIGATION INTERNATIONAL INN REVEALS NO CHECKOUT OF ANYONE BY NAME MACDONALD ON FIVE-EIGHT-SIXTYEIGHT.

PITTSBURGH DETERMINE IF ONE DONALD JAMES MACDONALD RESIDES THREE FIVE THREE ONE FLEMING AVE, PITTSBURGH AND WHETHER OR NOT IDENTICAL RAY.

AIRMAIL COPIES TO BH- 44-1740 AND ME 44-1987

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

FBI WASH DC

FBI TAMPA

834 PM 5-8-68 URGENT ROB  
TO DIRECTOR 44-38861 PITTSBURGH  
FROM TAMPA 157-3231

MURKIN

ONE C.C. BENNETT, TAMPA FLA TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED TAMPA  
OFFICE TODAY TO STATE A BAR ACQUAINTANCE OF PAST COUPLE DAYS  
GREATLY RESEMBLES PHOTOGRAPH OF JAMES EARL RAY. THIS UNKNOWN WHITE  
MALE TOLD BENNETT HE WAS STAYING AT INTERNATIONAL INN, TAMPA AND  
BENNETT FURNISHED TAMPA OFFICE LICENSE NUMBER OF RENTAL CAR DRIVEN  
BY UNKNOWN MALE, SAID TO BE TRAVELING WITH TWO OTHER MALES.

INVESTIGATION REVEALS RENTAL CAR TURNED IN FIVE:ZERO THREE  
PM TODAY AT AVIS RENT-A-CAR AGENCY TAMPA INTERNATIONAL AIRPOORT  
BY MAN UNDER N NAME DONALD JAMES MACDONALD, THREE FIVE THREE  
ONE FLEMING AVE, PITTSBURGH, PA., WHO EXHIBITED PA. DRIVERS LIC  
# [REDACTED] TEXACO CREDIT CARD  
# [REDACTED] AND ESSO CREDIT  
CARD # [REDACTED].

LORETTA BREHM, AVIS EMPLOYEE AT AIRPORT, HANDLED CAR CHECK IN  
STATES MACDONALD W/M FIVE FT. TEN INCHES, IN MID THIRTIES, WITH  
END PAGE ONE

SEARCHED \_\_\_\_\_  
INDEXED \_\_\_\_\_  
SERIALIZED \_\_\_\_\_  
FILED \_\_\_\_\_

157- 3231- 413

PAGE TWO

VERY THICK DARK HAIR, MEDIUM LENGTH, GOOD SUN TAN, PAID CASH FOR CAR RENTAL, WAS WITH TWO OTHER MEN AT TIME OF CHECKOUT, ASSUMED TO BE PREPARING TO TAKE FLIGHT OUT OF TAMPA. CAR RENTED AT ELEVEN THIRTYFOUR AM FIVE-FIVE-SIXTYEIGHT AT AIRPORT ACCORDING TO RECORDS.

INVIEWING PHOTOGRPHS OF RAY, BREHM SAID MACDONALD RESEMBLES PHOTOGRAPH ON EXTREME RIGHT OF THE THREE SHOWN ON IO NUMBER FOUR ONE EIGHT TWO, BUT DOES NOT RESEMBLE PHOTOGRAPH RAY TAKEN TWO-SIXTYEIGHT IN CALIFORNIA, STATES MACDONALD LOOKED YOUNGER THAN THIS PHOTOGRAPH TO BEST OF HER RECOLLECTION.

INVESTIGATION INTERNATIONAL INN REVEALS NO CHECKOUT OF ANYONE BY NAME MACDONALD ON FIVE-EIGHT-SIXTYEIGHT.

PITTSBURGH DETERMINE IF ONE DONALD JAMES MACDONALD RESIDES THREE FIVE THREE ONE FLEMING AVE, PITTSBURGH AND WHETER OR NOT IDENTICAL RAY.

AIRMAIL COPIES TO BH- 44-1740 AND ME 44-1987

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

LLD

FBI WASH DC

PG- WRT

FBI WASH DC

FBI TAMPA

645 PM URGENT 5/21/68 ALS

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), ATLANTA AND MEMPHIS  
FROM TAMPA (157-3231)

MURKIN

RE: EASTERN AIRLINES (EAL) FLIGHTS OUT OF ATLANTA APRIL  
FIVE THROUGH TWELVE LAST.

MR. CHARLES E. FOSTER, RESERVATIONS SUPERVISOR, DELTA AIRLINES  
TAMPA, ADVISED ALL TAMPA DELTA AIRLINES RECORDS MAINTAINED IN COM-  
PUTER, ATLANTA DELTA OFFICE, AND SEARCH FROM MAY NINE THROUGH  
TWENTY-ONE LAST FAILED TO LOCATE ANY J. WALTON OR RECORDS FOR  
TRAVEL FROM ATLANTA TO TAMPA ON EAL FLIGHT TWO SEVEN THREE Y ON  
APRIL TWELVE LAST. NO RECORD LOCATED AND HE SAID NOTHING FURTHER  
CAN BE DON IN TAMPA.

ATLANTA AT DELTA AIRLINES. CONTACT COMPUTER LIBRARIAN AND  
CONDUCT INQUIRY AS TO WHAT FURTHER EFFORTS CAN BE MADE TO  
ELIMINATE J. WALTON.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

WPK

FBI WASH DC

*ICS, FBI Atlanta*

*DBB, FBI Memphis*

*Machine copies dist  
5/21/68 - ts*

*157-3231-413 A*

F B I

Date: 5/21/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861) &  
SACS ATLANTA (44-2386)  
MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM TAMPA (157-3231)

MURKIN.

RE MIAMI TEL TO DIRECTOR, MAY EIGHT LAST.

RE: EASTERN AIRLINES (EAL) FLIGHTS OUT OF ATLANTA  
APRIL FIVE THROUGH TWELVE LAST.

MR. CHARLES E. FOSTER, RESERVATIONS SUPERVISOR, DELTA  
AIRLINES, TAMPA, ADVISED ALL TAMPA DELTA AIRLINES RECORDS  
MAINTAINED IN COMPUTER, ATLANTA DELTA OFFICE, AND SEARCH  
FROM MAY NINE THROUGH TWENTY-ONE LAST FAILED TO LOCATE ANY  
J. WALTON OR RECORDS FOR TRAVEL FROM ATLANTA TO TAMPA ON  
EAL FLIGHT TWO SEVEN THREE Y ON APRIL TWELVE LAST. NO  
RECORD LOCATED AND HE SAID NOTHING FURTHER CAN BE DONE IN  
TAMPA.

ATLANTA AT DELTA AIRLINES. CONTACT COMPUTER LIBRARIAN  
AND CONDUCT INQUIRY AS TO WHAT FURTHER EFFORTS CAN BE MADE  
TO ELIMINATE J. WALTON. SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

SJL:cj  
(1)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent 2:15 M Per AB  
7/8 7/5

157-3231-413 A

FBI TAMPA

FBI NEW YORK

157PM URGENT 528268 JAM

TO TAMPA

FROM NEW YORK 44-1609 1P

MURKIN

**DO NOT DESTROY - PENDING LITIGATION**

RE: JAMES O'CONNOR

ANNA MARIA MOLA (PROTECT IDENTITY) AUDITING-PAYROLL  
CLERK, WILLMARK SERVICE SYSTEM, INC., SEVEN TWO WEST TWO THREE  
ST., NYC, ADVISED TODAY THAT SHE BELIEVED FROM PHOTOGRAPHS  
IN HER FILES THAT AN EMPLOYEE OF HER COMPANY IS IDENTICAL  
WITH SUBJECT RAY.

EMPLOYEE IS DESCRIBED AS JAMES O'CONNOR, WHITE, MALE,  
DOB [REDACTED], SOCIAL SECURITY NO. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], WIFE, ELLEN, NEE

~~WALKOW~~. O'CONNOR RECEIVES MAIL AT NINE FIVE LAKE SMART DR.,  
LUCERNE PARK, WINTERHAVEN, FLORIDA. MOLA DESCRIBES O'CONNOR  
AS SUPERVISORY TYPE EMPLOYEE WITH INVESTIGATIVE PERSONNEL UNDER  
HIS SUPERVISION.

TAMPA ELIMINATE OR IDENTIFY O'CONNOR AS SUBJECT RAY.

MEMPHIS ADVISED BY AIR MAIL.

SUBJECT RAY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

WHM

FBI TAMPA

*Garner*  
*adv 5:20 pm*  
*5/8/68*

*Winters*  
*Hansen*  
*Lead*

157-3231-414

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FBI - TAMPA	

*Garner*

**DO NOT DESTROY - PENDING LITIGATION**

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

DATE: 5/9/68

FROM SA WILLIAM K. GARNER, JR.

**SUBJECT: MURKIN**

DO NOT DESTROY - PENDING LITIGATION

ReNYteletype to Tampa, 5/8/68.

The following investigation was conducted concerning an alleged "look-alike" of JAMES EARL RAY.

JAMES O'CONNOR

The residence, 95 Lake Smart Drive, was located in the Lucerne Park Trailer Park, Lucerne Park, a suburb of Winter Haven, Fla. Inquiry at 100 Lake Smart Dr., resided in by Mr. BERT WARD, determined that the trailer at 95 Lake Smart Dr. was occupied by JAMES O'CONNOR approximately 1 year before, but that he had sold it and left the area. Mr. WARD was unable to furnish a forwarding address.

Mrs. MARION WILMATH, Mgr., Lucerne Park Trailer Court, was contacted, on 5/8/68, and confirmed that O'CONNOR had left the trailer park about a year ago, after selling his trailer. She said she had not seen him since he left, but understood that they had moved to Orlando. She said that the woman who cleans house for her used to work for the O'CONNORS, and that this woman told her once that Mr. O'CONNOR was working for a private detective agency in Orlando, and that his wife, ELLEN, was a nurse for the Orange Memorial Hospital there. Mrs. WILMATH stated that the O'CONNORS had lived at her trailer park for about two years prior to their leaving, and that she believed they had come there from Lakeland. She said she understood that Mr. O'CONNOR owned a piece of property in Lakeland and kept his trailer on it for a time. WILMATH said that O'CONNOR was a good friend of Mr. PHILLIPS, who worked at the Lake Region Bank in Winter Haven, and she was sure he would know where Mr. O'CONNOR was living now.

On 5/8/68, Mrs. CARROLL S. PHILLIPS, 1021 Ave. "0" NE, Winter Haven, Fla. advised that her husband had gone out for the night and would not return until late. She acknowledged his friendship with JAMES O'CONNOR, and advised that she knew they ~~xxxxxx~~ lived in Orlando and that his wife was a nurse, but knew nothing else about him.



(2)

( 43 )  
destru

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

On 5/9/68, Mr. CARROLL S. PHILLIPS, JR., Assistant Vice President, Lake Region Bank of Commerce, Winter Haven, Fla., advised that he had known JAMES O'CONNOR since 1957. He said the man moved to Florida that year, but he did not know where he was from. He stated that O'CONNOR has worked for WILMARK SERVICE SYSTEM, and still does, on a part time basis. He stated that he believed he had been associated with that company, on and off, for the past twenty years.

Mr. PHILLIPS stated that O'CONNOR is currently working for Southern Adjusters Inc., 367 N. Orange Ave., Suite C, Orlando, Fla., telephone #241-4619, and does a little work for Wilmark, on the side. He said that he was working for Wilmark when he was in Winter Haven, for a time, but left them because they wanted him to travel all over the country. He stated that he was working for Associated Adjusters, Inc., Lakeland, Fla., owned by Mr. PAUL DOWNING, prior to moving to Winter Haven.

Mr. PHILLIPS was shown a Wanted Flyer on JAMES EARL RAY and he stated that he would see no resemblance between the photograph of the man identified as RAY and JAMES O'CONNOR. He said O'CONNOR's nose was not long and pointed as RAY'S was, and further, that RAY was too tall. He said that O'CONNOR is only about 5'8" and a little on the pudgy side, weighing about 185 pounds.

PHILLIPS said that O'CONNOR last resided at 314 N. Park Ave., Apt. 5, Winter Park, Fla.; however, he understood that he was planning to move to an apartment right across the street from the Orange Memorial Hospital where his wife worked.



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

DATE: 5/8/68

FROM : ASAC SULLIVAN

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR  
(OO:ME)

Mrs. EDWARD WEST, 974 Fay Blvd., Cocoa, Fla., telephone #636-1263, telephonically advised that she had seen an individual yesterday whom she believed to be identical with JAMES EARL RAY. This individual was driving a dark maroon 1968 Pontiac sports coupe, license number unknown, and was stopped at a traffic light at which time Mrs. WEST observed him. Her attention was attracted to the car because of its newness and all of the chrome that appears on this particular model.

Mrs. WEST claimed that she had seen the pictures of RAY appearing in today's paper which reportedly are the latest and she claims that the individual seen yesterday very closely resembled the photographs appearing in today's Cocoa paper.

As Mrs. WEST was on a long distance call, she was informed that a Special Agent would contact her today for a more detailed interview.

## ACTION:

Cocoa RA should be contacted promptly and Mrs. WEST interviewed in detail.

WAS:cj  
(2)



5010-108

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

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# FBI Distributes Two More Photos of King Death Suspect

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The FBI distributed yesterday two more photographs of the accused killer of Dr. Martin Luther King, one of them

"an extremely good likeness."

Both were snapshots of James Earl Ray, alias Eric Starvo Galt, an escaped convict accused of shooting King to death in Memphis April 4.

The "extremely good likeness" is a candid photograph of Ray in a business suit and tie and shows almost his full face, taken in late January or early February somewhere in California.

The other, which the FBI said was taken last November somewhere in Mexico, shows him wearing sun glasses and what appears to be a white sports shirt. The FBI said Ray

is known to wear sun glasses frequently.

The two new photographs — the FBI refused to say where or how they were obtained — will be displayed throughout the country along with three other pictures of Ray which will appear on FBI's wanted poster.

One of the earlier photographs was taken when Ray was graduated from attending school in Los Angeles early this year. His eyes were closed when the shutter snapped, but they were sketched in by an FBI artist. The picture shows Ray

wearing a white shirt and black bow tie.

The other two photographs were made when Ray entered the Missouri State prison in 1964 to serve a 20-year sentence for armed robbery.

Ray, who escaped from prison April 23, 1967, by hiding in a truck, is wanted for the illegal flight to avoid prosecution in Tennessee for armed robbery.

The civil rights leader was shot on a motel balcony April 4 by a rifleman. Ray is believed to be in a bathroom.



**New Photos of Ray**  
... in Mexico



... in California

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

PAGE 9-A  
TAMPA TRIBUNE  
TAMPA, FLORIDA

Date: 5/8/68  
Edition: LOCAL  
Author:  
Editor: JAMES A. CIENDINEN  
Title:

Character:  
or  
Classification: 157-3231  
Submitting Office: TAMPA

☐ Being Investigated

157-3231-416

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*Kabacik* *CS*



5/9/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231) (P)  
MURKIN  
CR

Re Houston airtel to Director, 5/3/68.

Re: Public Telephones on Interstate 10 -  
Houston Division

Calling No. 769-9103, Vidor, Texas, to Tampa,  
Fla., 813-229-1414, on 12/17/67.

At Tampa, Florida

H. K. RUTHERFORD, Security Division, General  
Telephone Company (Protect), advised records showed tele-  
phone number 229-1414 in home of DEBRA RODGERS, 1237 Burden  
Court, Tampa, installed November 2, 1967.

Mrs. MINNIE JUDGE, 1237 Burden Court, advised  
May 8, 1968, Miss DEBRA RODGERS is her daughter and  
phones at their residence in her name. Advised no telephone  
call ever received at her residence from Texas; that she  
was home all day Sunday, December 17, 1967, and could posi-  
tively state no one received a call. Photos JAMES EARL RAY

3 - Bureau (RM)  
1 - Birmingham (44-1740) (RM)  
2 - Houston (44-1509) (RM)  
2 - Memphis (44-1987)  
2 - Tampa  
EJL:lp  
(10) *LP*

*Labadie* *SN*

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157-3231-417



TP 157-3231

exhibited and subject RAY unknown to her.

Miss DEBRA RODGERS, 1237 Burden Court, advised May 8, 1968, she was at her residence with her mother on Sunday, December 17, 1967, and could positively state no one received a call from Texas. Photos RAY exhibited to her and RAY unknown.

H. K. RUTHERFORD, as above, advised May 8, 1968, old Criss-Cross Directory checked negatively for prior subscriber and telephone company cannot tell who previous subscriber was.

It is noted JUDGE and RODGERS are Negroes and reside in entirely Negro project.

No further investigation being conducted by Tampa and Houston may desire to recheck numbers.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

DATE: 5/7/68

FROM : SA DENNIS R. DICKSON

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR

On 4/18/68, Mrs. MARGARET WEISKOPF, Owner, Chasco Inn, New Port Richey, Fla., advised that although she did not contact the FBI Office on 3/18/68, however, after viewing a photograph of ERIC STARVO GALT, she advised that this photograph appeared similar to one of her roomers whom she identified as ~~CHET~~ W. DORMAN. She described DORMAN as being a WM, 30-35, 5 feet 4 inches, 150 to 160 pounds, very dark black hair, combed down, dark brown eyes and stocky build.

She stated that DORMAN registered at the hotel reflecting a previous address of 460 Remillard Dr., Hillsborough, Calif., and was registered in room 7 at the Chasco Inn. She stated that he listed Mrs. L. NOAH, 507 Sunshine Lane, Tarpon Springs as a reference. She advised that DORMAN registered at the hotel approximately April 11, 1968, and has had insufficient money to pay his bill and has tried to settle his bill by giving her some gems which he described as emeralds. She stated that he was very well dressed and reportedly a cook by trade and although she did not believe that DORMAN was identical to the photograph of GALT, she advised that there were similarities between the two individuals.

On 4/18/68, WILLIAM J. WEISKOPF, owner, Chasco Inn, New Port Richey, Fla., advised that DORMAN was not identical to the photograph of GALT, however, there were some similarities. He described DORMAN as being a WM, 35 years old and 5 feet 7 inches to 5 feet 8 inches, 170 to 175, stocky build, dark black straight hair and round face.

2 - Tampa  
DRD:jt  
(2)

157-3231-418

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*[Handwritten signature/initials over stamp]*



5010-108

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

TP 157-3231

On 4/19/68, Mrs. SAMUEL NOAH, 507 Sunshine Lane, Tarpon Springs, Fla., was contacted by SA DENNIS R. DICKSON. She stated that CHET DORMAN arrived at her house approximately 3:30 AM, 4/6/68, with her brothers and had been previously employed for three weeks with her brothers at Hollywood Beach Hotel, Hollywood, Fla. She stated that DORMAN appeared similar to the photograph of GALT, however, they were not identical. She advised that she observed a Selective Service Card of DORMAN which reflected his name as CHET DORMAN. She further stated that DORMAN advised that prior to his employment at the Hollywood Beach Hotel, he had served 45 days in the Hollywood Beach Jail on a narcotics charge. She described DORMAN as a habitual liar and con man and attempted to give her some stones which he described as emeralds for his expenses while he resided with her. She stated that upon observing these "gems" she noticed the word Swank on the reverse side of one of these "gems". She stated that DORMAN was evicted from her house on approximately April 11, 1968.

In view of the fact that DORMAN's whereabouts have been established during the pertinent periods, no further investigation being conducted re this individual.

Blossington BB  
Grunger H  
Hippant ~~TH~~  
Kland JDE  
Prejele

F B I

Date: May 7, 1968

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

To: All SACs and LEGATs

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

OO: MEMPHIS (44-1987)

The Bureau has designated Memphis as office of origin in this case.

You were previously advised that leads in this Top Ten Fugitive case must be handled within 24 hours. The Atlanta, Birmingham, Chicago, Houston, Jackson, Kansas City, Los Angeles, New Orleans, St. Louis, and Springfield Offices are to prepare the results of their investigation to date in report form, not as an insert. At such time as the amount of investigation in these field offices does not appear to warrant individual reports, advise the Bureau and office of origin that inserts being prepared in future in lieu of reports, UACB.

All other offices will record the results in appropriate form and transmit 15 copies of each to the office of origin for inclusion in reports submitted by the Memphis Office. Should investigation increase in any such area warranting submission of individual report, do so and advise the Bureau and Memphis.

LEGATs are to submit results of investigation which can be disseminated in letterhead memorandum form suitable for dissemination. Any administrative data which cannot be disseminated is to be set forth in the administrative section of your transmittal communication. Look-alikes and other leads resolved and reported by cablegram or other communication need not be rereported as copies of these communications are being forwarded office of origin by the Bureau for administrative handling of the case.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

*Advise your agents to + route him to*

1. Litchey *dek*
2. *WHL*
3. *WHL*
4. Brumfield
5. R. Smith *B*
6. Barnett *AB*
7. Vance *CL*

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*157-3231-419*

Sent Via \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_



FBI TAMPA

FBI MIAMI

719

FBI WASH DC

710PM URGENT 5/7/68 LCC

TO ALL SACS RELAY MESSAGE PLAN

FROM DIRECTOR 1P

MURKIN

TWO ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS OF RAY WERE RELEASED TODAY TO NEWS MEDIA IN WASHINGTON. PHOTOGRAPH NUMBER ONE SHOULD

BEAR CAPTION "JAMES EARL RAY (PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN NINETEEN

SIXTY-SEVEN IN MEXICO)." THIS IS THE PHOTOGRAPH OF RAY IN DARK

GLASSES AND SPORT SHIRT. PHOTOGRAPH NUMBER TWO SHOULD BEAR

CAPTION "JAMES EARL RAY (PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN LATE JANUARY OR

EARLY FEBRUARY NINETEEN SIXTY-EIGHT IN CALIFORNIA)." THIS IS

HEAD SHOT OF RAY IN BUSINESS SUIT WHICH SHOWS MARKED GLEET IN

CHIN. YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO REPRODUCE COPIES OF THESE TWO

PHOTOGRAPHS LOCALLY AND YOU SHOULD INSURE THEY RECEIVE WIDE-

SPREAD DISTRIBUTION THROUGH ALL MEDIA CONTACTS. FIVE COPIES OF

EACH OF THESE PHOTOGRAPHS PREVIOUSLY FURNISHED ALL OFFICES.

LEGATS OTTAWA AND MEXICO ADVISED.

END

ROB

FBI TAMPA

*Beltingu advised  
725 5/7/68  
13*

*#4  
me  
me*

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*See me re draft*

*we have 200 make up / we have 100 - cover let to all*

*Supp. # of said to suit 54  
on who + either to  
are with  
of photos  
5/8*

*Radio  
TV  
Magazines  
Daily + weekly newspapers  
Addressograph - Photo  
5/8/68  
Mrs. Mike  
200*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC

DATE: 5/9/68

FROM : SA DONA E. CARO

MURKIN

SUBJECT: JAMES EARL RAY aka - Fug

UFAP - RIBBON

CR - CONSPIR

4 PM THIS DATE MISS MIRIAM BOST

1537, BRADLTON, FLORIDA PHONE 755-3042

ADVISED THAT INDIVIDUAL DRIVING WHITE VEHICLE  
BEARING 67-64 FLA LIC 1B W 1F800 AND RESIDING  
AT APT 25-K, BEARS STRONG RESEMBLANCE  
TO SUBJECT

APT. LOCATED IN COMPLEX VICINITY OF  
CINEMA THEATRE - RT 41.

ATD

Monteagan adv. 4:45 PM  
5/9/68  
3

Bradenton lead  
to

157-3231-421

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Monteagan



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

5/9/68

SAC, (157-3231)

SA Donald G. Montegar

MURKIN

Re telephone call from Super. Ballanger 5/8/68

On 5/8/68 Mrs. Miriam Best, 1637 Easy St. Bradenton, Fla. advised that on 5/2/68 she noticed a man enter her apartment building ~~and~~ who had been driving a new car bearing 1967-68 Florida license 16W-18800. She stopped this man and asked him if he was the one that kept waking her up at 4am each morning. He refused to talk to her and left the building. She thought he might be identical to James Earl Ray.

It appeared that Mrs. Best might be slightly unstable.

Records of the Sarasota Co. SO reflect 16W-18800 is issued to ~~xxx~~ an individual identical with TP 366-C, 137-1483 assigned to SA R. C. Smith. TP 366-C is 58 years of age, 200#, 6'2".

No further investigation believed warranted.

DGM/

*File with*

157-3231-421A

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Tampa, Florida  
May 9, 1968

Gentlemen:

Enclosed you will find photographs of James Earl Ray, one of the FBI's Ten Most Wanted Fugitives.

A Federal warrant was issued April 17, 1968, at Birmingham, Alabama, charging Ray as Eric Starvo Galt with conspiracy to interfere with the Constitutional rights of a citizen. A Federal warrant was also issued July 20, 1967, at Jefferson City, Missouri, charging Ray with interstate flight to avoid confinement for the crime of robbery. Ray is described as follows:

Age - 40, born [redacted], 5'10" 163-174 lbs., medium build, brown hair (possibly cut short) blue eyes, medium complexion, nationality - American, scars and marks - small scar on center of forehead and small scar on palm of right hand. Miscellaneous - noticeably protruding left ear, reportedly is a lone wolf, allegedly attended dancing school, has reportedly completed course in bartending.

Ray is sought in connection with a murder wherein the victim was shot and he should be considered armed and extremely dangerous.

We would appreciate any publicity you can give this matter and in so doing, request that anyone having any information concerning this person contact the nearest FBI office.

Very truly yours,

*J. F. Santoliana, Jr.*  
J. F. Santoliana, Jr.  
Special Agent in Charge

Encl.

157-3231-422

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*[Handwritten signature/initials]*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

DATE: 5/9/68

FROM : RONALD P. MERRITT

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR  
(OO:TP)

On 5/8/68, Mr. CLANTON C. BENNETT, 701 So. Willow, telephone 253-3043, Tampa, Fla., telephonically advised writer that he spoke with an Agent whose last name began with an "H" on 5/7/68 concerning JAMES EARL RAY. BENNETT advised that this agent was to contact him on 5/8/68 at 8:00 a.m. inside the Blue Penguin.

Writer advised BENNETT that he would attempt to determine to whom BENNETT had spoken and have this Agent recontact him either by phone or in person.

BENNETT requested that if this agent contacts him in person, that the Agent ask for "SOUP". BENNETT advised that he could not be reached at home at the number he furnished above until after 5:00 p.m.

*I called this man  
A.M. of 5/9/68 and told  
him we did not understand  
we were to contact him and we  
proceeded on basis of this tag. See our tel. 5/9/68.  
SJM*

RPM:cj  
(1)

157-3231-423

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<i>Rabadi</i>	<i>SJM</i>



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-3231)

DATE: May 10, 1968

FROM : W.F. Doyle

SUBJECT: Murkin

R M

Arnold Walker, 4409 Heila Ave, was contacted at his residence on 5/9/68 pursuant to his telephonic request earlier the same date. Walker stated that around 5:30 p.m. on 5/6/68 he went to an area which is located on Gandy Blvd immediately to the east of Gandy Bridge and which is known as the boat ramp in search of his son who was overdue from a fishing trip.

While waiting an individual approached him and engaged him in conversation. This individual whom Walker described as offensively effeminate was critical of the recreation facilities of the City of Tampa and stated that his home state of California had much better facilities.

Walker stated that not wishing to become involved with this person whom he considered to be "some kind of a nut" he broke off the conversation and walked away. He next observed this person enter a late model Ford

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FBI - TAMPA	

157-3231-424



sedan and drive off toward downtown Tampa. Walker did not observe the license tag on this vehicle. The following day Walker read a news article and photograph which appeared in the Tampa Tribune edition of that date. This article dealt with the assassination of Martin Luther King and showed a photo of James Earl Ray.

Walker was shown the following items by the writer and he advised that he was unable to identify any of the photo's as being identical to the person he had met near the Gandy Bridge the preceding day:

Wanted Flyer # 442-A

I.O. 4182

Photo of James Earl Ray taken in Jan or Feb in Calif.

Walker stated that the latter photograph bore a resemblance to the man he had met but that he could not positively identify it.

Walker furnished the following description of the person he had met on 5/6/68

Race White  
Sex Male

Height 5' 9"  
Weight 160-165  
Hair Black-parted on left-long  
Eyes Unknown  
Build Muscular  
Complexion Fair  
Speech No regional accent  
Characteristics Effeminate - very nervous  
Residence Unknown

In view of the vague and non-specific nature of the foregoing it is recommended no further action be taken.



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : ALL AGENTS (157-3231)

DATE: 5/9/68

FROM : SAC SANTOIANA

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR  
(OO:ME)

Re IO #4182 and WF #442-A concerning JAMES EARL RAY who is being sought in connection with captioned matter.

SA ROBERT C. BALL, who is a fingerprint expert, has furnished the following information which is being passed on to Agents for their confidential use should they have occasion to check out any individuals suspected to be RAY:

"Writer has examined the above I.O. and determined the following is an interpretation of the fingerprint patterns and the ridge counts and or whorl tracings, (the ridge counts are close to the probable actual counts in Bureau files).

FINGER	PATTERN TYPE	RIDGE COUNT OR WHORL TRACING
#1 Right Thumb	Ulnar Loop	Ridge Count 16
#2 Right Index	Ulnar Loop	Ridge Count 13
#3 Right Middle	Ulnar Loop	Ridge Count 11
#4 Right Ring	Central Pocket Loop Whorl	Outer Tracing
#5 Right Little	Ulnar Loop	Ridge Count 12
#6 Left Thumb	Ulnar Loop	Ridge Count 12
#7 Left Index	Double Loop Whorl	Inner Tracing
#8 Left Middle	Ulnar Loop	Ridge Count 13
#9 Left Ring	Central Pocket Loop Whorl	Inner Tracing
#10 Left Little	Ulnar Loop	Ridge Count 16

It should be noted the Primary of 9/4 indicates the location of the Whorl patterns which can only be in fingers #4, #7 and #9. Further note should be made that the best appearing fingerprint, for quick identification purposes, is that of finger #7. However, it should be further noted any examination of the fingers of a suspect will result in a reverse visual image of the impression."

1 - Each Agent  
1 - 157-3231  
1 - 66-43  
OFFICE MEMO #68-79  
JFS:cj  
(85)

157-3231-425

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 9 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

Labadie 586

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-3231)

DATE: 5/9/68

FROM : SA Gordon W. Jindle

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re My Let to TP 5/8/68.

Re Suspect, James O' Connor

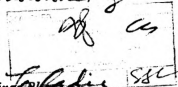
On 5/8/68 attempts were made to obtain residence of suspect's wife Ellen or Hellen O' Connor a nurse at Orange Memorial Hospital Orlando, Fla. through Mrs. Minnich the Ward Clerk and Mrs. Lwinishay, Ward Supervisor but they could not furnish the address.

The telephone operator for Orlando, Fla. and Winter Park, Fla. could only locate one listing for a James O' Connor in Winter Park, Fla. and it was an unpublished number.

Attempts to observe suspect at 367 N. Orange Ave. Orlando, Fla. Southern Adjusters Inc. revealed O' Connor was out & he could not be located at 314 N. Park Ave. Winter Park, Fla. on 5/8/68.

On 5/9/68 MARY MANSSON, Secretary, Southern Adjusters 367 N. Orange Ave. Orlando, Fla. advised she sees James J. O' Connor, W, M, short, fat, pot belly daily and he is definitely not ident with WF 442-A. Showalter of Ray.

157-3231-426



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

5/9/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

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

ReTPairtel to Bureau, dated 4/30/68.

Regarding JAMES RAY of Jacksonville, Florida,  
formerly with Oakwood Villa Volunteer Fire Department.

Investigation Jacksonville, Florida, reflected  
JAMES JACKSON RAY was individual referred to by ALFRED  
T. LANG, Clerk, Charlotte County Court House, Punta Gorda,  
Florida. It was determined JAMES JACKSON RAY is not iden-  
tical with subject.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

3 - Bureau  
① - Tampa (Info)  
2 - Jacksonville  
TJV:pat  
(6)

157-3231-427

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI - TAMPA	

Tabadie 1584

5/9/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, PITTSBURGH (44-578) -P-  
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Tampa teletype to Bureau dated 5/8/68.

LOOK ALIKE - DONALD JAMES MAC DONALD

On 5/8/68, DONALD JAMES MAC DONALD, 2531 Fleming Street, was interviewed and advised he left Pittsburgh on 5/5/68, via United Airlines enroute to Tampa, Fla., to attend the American Hospital Association meeting at the International Inn. While there, he stayed at the Sokol Motel. He was accompanied by THOMAS JENNINGS and THOMAS GENTILE from Pittsburgh. He departed Tampa on 5/8/68, via Delta Airlines enroute to Atlanta, where he made connections with United Airlines for Pittsburgh.

MAC DONALD is the Director of the Health Center, Hospital Service Corporation, 304 Junesville Street, Pittsburgh. MAC DONALD was eliminated as being identical with RAY through personal observation.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

3-Bureau  
1-Memphis (44-1987)  
1-Tampa (157-3231)  
2-Pittsburgh

WLC/djk  
(7)

157-3231-428

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
FBI - TAMPA	

*Labadie* 584

FBI TAMPA

FBI MIAMI

10 38AM URGENT 5/14/68 SHH  
TO DIRECTOR (MAIL) AND TAMPA  
FROM MIAMI 44-1854

MURKIN

R. A. FLEMING, OWNER, FLEMING SUPERMARKET, EAST GENEVA AVE.,  
TELEPHONE THREE TWO TWO DASH ONE SIX ZERO NINE OR THREE TWO TWO DASH  
FOUR THREE ZERO SEVEN, SANFORD, FLA., TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED THE MIAMI  
OFFICE AS FOLLOWS:

WHILE IN GARFIELD'S BARBERSHOP, SANFORD, FLA., UNKNOWN MALE,  
POSSIBLY IDENTICAL WITH JAMES EARL RAY, WAS ALSO THERE. THIS INDIVIDUAL  
CLAIMED TO BE TAXI DRIVER FOR YELLOW CAB COMPANY, SANFORD, FLA.  
FLEMING OF THE OPINION INDIVIDUAL CLOSELY RESEMBLES PHOTO AND DESCRIPTION  
OF RAY AS CARRIED IN LOCAL PRESS.

TAMPA AT SANFORD, FLA., IDENTIFY AND ELIMINATE AS BEING IDENTICAL  
WITH SUBJECT.

MEMPHIS ADVISED AIRMAIL.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

BLW

FBI TAMPA

X

*5/14  
O'Hara advised to  
have Thistle handle  
O'Hara called and  
advised he will handle*

157-3231-429

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI - TAMPA	

1. #4  
2. Lohndie

5/9/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)  
MURKIN  
CR  
(OO:ME)

Re IO #4182 and WF #442-A concerning JAMES EARL RAY who is being sought in connection with captioned matter.

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#4 Right Ring	Central Pocket Loop Whorl	Outer Tracing
#5 Right Little	Ulnar Loop	Ridge Count 12
#6 Left Thumb	Ulnar Loop	Ridge Count 12

3 - Bureau

① - Tampa

JFS:cj

(4)

SEARCHED

INDEXED

SERIALIZED

FILED

#4 JS  
Lohadie 584

157-3231-429