

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

Evans and his wife are extremely upset over the interviews by the press. Pearson's man and "Newsweek" are allegedly still "nosing around in Los Angeles."

Galt was registered at Hotel Rio, Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico, 10/19/67 to 11/6/67. It has now been determined he registered at the Tropicana Hotel, Puerto Vallarta, 11/7/67 and checked out 11/13/67. Luis Garcia, bartender at Hotel Ocena, Puerto Vallarta, states he was acquainted with Galt for a few days in Puerto Vallarta. Galt told Garcia he had been in the Army for nine years serving as a driver or chauffeur but had not previously been out of the United States. Garcia said he terminated his brief association with Galt when Galt indicated an interest in obtaining marijuana.

An office of the Piedmont Laundry is just around the corner from the Atlanta rooming house used by Galt. Laundry records show Eric Galt, no address given, brought in nine laundry items and three dry cleaning items between 9 a. m. and 10 a. m. on 4/1/68. All items were picked up by the customer on 4/5/68 shortly after 9 a. m. The dry cleaning items included a black check sport coat, gray trousers and a black tie with tan and brown stripes. The laundry was marked EGC 83 with an indelible pencil. The dry cleaning was marked with a removable tag showing a figure 8 over the number 755. It is noted Galt also had a necktie dry cleaned while in Los Angeles.

Richard Gonzalez, fellow bartending student from 1/19/68 to 3/2/68, says Galt told him he had been in Mexico for about three years, exact time not stated. He said he liked Mexico and planned to return. Gonzalez stated he understood from Galt that he planned to go to Birmingham after graduating from bartending school to visit a brother for two weeks. Galt indicated to Gonzalez he had been a chef in the Merchant Marines on a seagoing vessel. He never mentioned any other type of employment or members of his family. Gonzalez said Galt was right-handed when mixing drinks.

Thomas Lau, director of the bartending school, said that Galt can speak only a few words of Spanish. He now recalls Galt mentioned he had lived in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, for about three years.

Sharon Rhoads, part time dancing instructor at the dancing school at Long Beach, California, which has previously been mentioned,

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recalled giving instructions to Galt between December, 1967, and the middle of February, 1968. She describes him as an introvert, very shy with crowds and with women, and said he would not talk about his past or background. She believed Galt had visited a brother in Louisiana in January, 1968, and he said he had formerly owned a bar in Mexico but sold it shortly before coming to Los Angeles. She states that Galt signed his name left-handed and had "pretty" blue eyes.

When enrolling in bartending school at Los Angeles, 1/19/68, Galt showed employment as "Mr. Willard," 751 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles. No record of either Willard or Galt can be located at this address.

ACTION:

All phases of this investigation are continuing to receive top priority attention.

Mr. DeLoach

April 17, 1968

A. Rosen

MURKIN

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. McGowan
1 - Mr. McDonough
1 - Mr. Long
1 - Mr. Martindale
1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Gale
1 - Mr. Conrad
1 - Mr. Sullivan

This case concerns the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

On 4/16/68 the Attorney General authorized the filing of a complaint charging Galt with violation of Title 18, Section 241, U. S. Code, for conspiring to interfere with the constitutional rights of Martin Luther King, Jr. It was understood that no publicity would be given to the complaint unless some change in the situation indicated the complaint should be made public. A proposed complaint is set out below:

On or about March 30, 1968, at Birmingham, Alabama, in the Northern District of Alabama, Eric Starvo Galt and an individual whom he alleged to be his brother, entered into a conspiracy, which continued until on or about April 5, 1968, to injure, oppress, threaten, or intimidate Martin Luther King, Jr., a citizen of the United States, residing in Atlanta, Georgia, in the free exercise or enjoyment of a right secured to him by the Constitution or laws of the United States; namely, the right to freely travel from state to state. In furtherance of this conspiracy, Eric Starvo Galt did, on or about March 30, 1968, purchase a rifle at Birmingham, Alabama, all in violation of Section 241, Title 18, U. S. Code.

The above proposed complaint is considered to disclose the absolute minimum information that would be acceptable to a U. S. Commissioner or Federal Judge. To satisfy the judicial officer, it may be necessary to add some additional details such as the description of the gun and the fact it was abandoned at the crime scene. If necessary, such detail will be added but only to the extent necessary to obtain a warrant.

W. L. Starvo

(19)

CONTINUED - OVER

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

Under the statute being used the complaint can be filed in any District in which the conspiracy took place or an overt act occurred. On the basis of facts presently available, we are limited to filing the complaint at Memphis or Birmingham.

We understand that we cannot rely on the U. S. Attorney at Memphis. If we tried to file there, we would immediately lose control of the situation and the complaint would become public knowledge.

We have checked with Birmingham and we have no assurance we could keep a complaint filed there a secret. We would have to go through the U. S. Attorney's Office and Macon Weaver, the U. S. Attorney, is presently in Houston. The U. S. Commissioner is a woman who does not have too firm a grasp on her operations.

Investigation at the Canadian address given by Galt, 7/31/67, has not been productive and a Kansas City address as of 3/1/67, that we obtained in Canada is nonexistent. Galt is last known to have been in Atlanta, 4/5/68, and his present whereabouts are unknown. We are faced with the danger that he may leave the country before he is located.

In view of the above circumstances, it now appears charges should be immediately filed and Galt's fugitive status should be given the widest possible publicity.

ACTION:

1. We should openly file the proposed complaint at Birmingham.
2. We should issue a wanted flyer and a fugitive press release.
3. We should issue an Identification Order even though no fingerprints are available.
4. At the appropriate time, the Attorney General should be advised that circumstances have required the action being taken.

4-16

Mr. DeLoach

A. Rosen

MURKIN

April 16, 1968

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. McGowan
1 - Mr. McDonough
1 - Mr. Long
1 - Mr. Martindale
1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Conrad
1 - Mr. Sullivan

This case concerns the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

It has previously been reported that Galt met Charles Stein, Stein's sister, Rita Stein, and Marie Martin in a Los Angeles bar, 12/14/67, and drove Stein to New Orleans, 12/15/67, to get Rita Stein's children and return them to Los Angeles.

Marie Martin says she first met Galt in the middle of December, 1967, in the Sultan Room at the St. Francis Hotel, Los Angeles, where she works as a cocktail waitress. She asked Galt if he would take her home and when he agreed she told him she lived in New Orleans. She explained that Rita Stein had to pick up her children in New Orleans and Galt was given the impression that either Marie or Rita was going to New Orleans with him. When he learned that Charles Stein was going to New Orleans with him instead of one of the women, Galt told her, "If it's a set up, I'll kill him. I have a gun."

After Galt returned to Los Angeles from New Orleans, 12/21/67, Marie Martin says she saw him about 30 times in the Sultan Room. He usually drank straight vodka but sometimes drank beer. He never smoked. His hands were clean and were not calloused. His eyes were blue but sometimes appeared hazel. He was always solemn, showed no emotion and was pale as if he were indoors a great deal. Galt said he had just finished a six-week bartender course but could only make a screwdriver.

Marie Martin said Galt told her on one occasion he was driving through a Negro community and tomatoes were thrown at his car because it had Alabama license plates.

**WLM:rmr
(12)**

CONTINUED - OVER

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

Charles Stein now recalls further details of his trip to New Orleans with Galt, 12/15-21/67. Galt had one small bag, similar to the one recovered at Memphis, and probably a shaving kit. He wore a wrist watch, believed to have been purchased in Mexico, and a dark brown suit with faint vertical lines. Galt used an excessive amount of hair dressing and drank beer throughout the trip. He was soft spoken, believed to be right handed, and continuously played country and Western music on the car radio. Stein thinks Galt had Mexican insurance on his car. This is being checked.

Galt seemed familiar with New Orleans and mentioned contacting two men associated with either an engineering or contracting firm, probably in Chalmet (phonetic). Galt mentioned these men lived near the Jackson Barracks. Galt told Stein he had seen him, probably 12/18/67, while Galt was in a bar. Stein says the bar would have to have been in the 400 or 500 block of Canal Street, New Orleans.

Galt attended the International School of Bartending, Los Angeles, 1/19/68 to 3/2/68 when he graduated. The school has a photograph of Galt which is being forwarded to the Bureau. On his application he showed a prior employment as "Mr. Willard", 751 South Figueroa, Los Angeles, and stated his Selective Service Classification is 3A. On 3/2/68 the school offered him a bartending job and he declined saying he was leaving town in two weeks to visit his brother.

Galt told a fellow bartending student he had been a cook on a Mississippi River boat or barge.

Los Angeles witnesses say the above photo of Galt is an excellent likeness.

Jimmie Garner, manager of the hippie rooming house in Atlanta, admits that he lied when first interviewed and now says Galt had no connection with William Lee and Harold G. Anderson.

Garner now maintains Galt checked in 3/24/68 paying \$10 for rent through 3/31/68. On 3/31/68 Galt paid another weeks rent. Garner saw Galt only on the two occasions he paid rent. On 4/5/68, when the linens were changed in Galt's room, a note was found saying

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in effect, "I have to go to Birmingham. Can't take TV now. Will try to get back in a week to pick it up." The note was destroyed. Garner states he originally lied to conceal the existence of Galt's television set since he would have appropriated it if Galt did not return.

Garner could produce no record of Galt except for his name on the back of an envelope which he says was hand printed by Galt.

All items associated with Galt in the rooming house are being examined in the Laboratory.

Wesley G. Hughes, "Redding Record Searchlight," Redding, California, advised he is preparing an article based upon the following theory relating to the name Eric Starvo Galt. Eric, a simple noun, means a payment imposed for homicide. Starvo is the middle name of Eric Starvo Blofield, a villainous character in James Bond novels. Galt, as a simple noun, is a gelded swine; gault has other means including "rabbit track" which has a significant connotation to Hughes due to the apparent fictitious cover used by Galt.

ACTION:

Vigorous investigation is continuing.

Mr. Rosen

April 16, 1968

C. L. McGowan

MURKIN

1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. Martindale
1 - Mr. Long
1 - Mr. McDonough
1 - Mr. McGowan

Moss L. Innes, Legat Ottawa, telephonically advised that inquiry had been made concerning subject Galt at 2589 Rue Notre Dame, Est, Montreal, Canada. The manager reportedly was unable to locate any record concerning Galt. He did observe a notation on the back of one page indicated that Galt had contacted someone at that address on 3/1/67.

At the time of the contact on 3/1/67 Galt listed his name and address as Eric S. Galt, 507 Chestnut Street, Kansas City, Missouri. The manager stated he did not know the nature of the contact but presumed that Galt made the contact in an effort to reserve a room. The individual who made the notation on the back of the page is no longer connected with the apartment but is now in Windsor, Ontario. This individual is being interviewed for full details regarding the contact by Galt.

ACTION:

ABAC Working of the Kansas City Office was telephonically advised of the above information and instructed to initiate a discreet inquiry at 507 Chestnut Street in an effort to identify the subject and develop background information concerning him.

CLM:ven

(7)

Mr. Rosen

April 16, 1968

C. L. McGowan

MURKIN

1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. Martindale
1 - Mr. Long
1 - Mr. McDonough
1 - Mr. McGowan

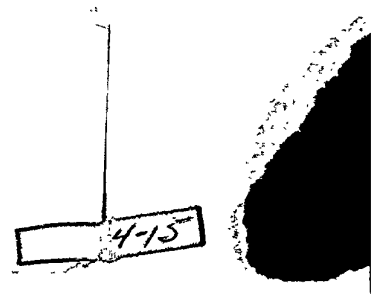
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CLM:ven
(7)



Mr. DeLoach

A. Rosen

MURKIN

April 18, 1968

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. McGowan
1 - Mr. McDonough
1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Martindale
1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Conrad
1 - Mr. Sullivan

This case concerns the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Galt's correspondence locksmithing school received a change of address for Galt on 3/30/68 showing he would be at 113 14th Street, N.E., Atlanta. Jimmie Delton Garner, manager of this "hippie" rooming house has now been interviewed.

Garner was approached on a general line of inquiry concerning recent tenants without mentioning the name Galt. Garner named Galt as a tenant who had recently left without completing a week he had paid for in advance. A complete review of Garner's records revealed no mention of Galt and Garner alleged this was an oversight as he collected the rent away from the location of his records.

Garner stated Galt arrived about 6:00 p.m., 4/6/68, driving a black car, probably a Ford, 1962 or 1963 model, possibly bearing a Tennessee license. Galt first contacted Fred C. Jones, a tenant, who directed him to Garner, and Galt told Garner he was a welder from the Carolinas and had been working in another state. Galt was placed temporarily in Room 8 at 107 14th Street, and on 4/7/68 moved to Room 6 at 113 14th Street. Garner saw him move a paper bag or box of possession but did not note any luggage.

On 4/7/68, Harold G. Anderson, an employee of the Albert Hotel, was brought to Garner by Fred C. Jones and was given Room 2, 113 14th Street. Garner noted Galt and Anderson became friendly but nothing indicated a prior acquaintance.

WLB:war
(11)

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At about 9:33 p. m., 4/8/68, Garner says Galt and Anderson came to his room stating they were checking out. Galt said he had received a call from a friend in Michigan telling him that welders are better paid there. They were leaving for Michigan that night and Anderson hoped to get a job as a welder's helper. Anderson received a partial refund from two weeks rent previously paid. Galt was paid through 4/11/68 but did not ask for a refund. He did receive a refund of a key deposit. Garner noted beer bottles in Anderson's room and presumed they had been drinking there.

Garner said he could not remember Galt's first name but volunteered he had seen mail for Galt and accompanied Agents to the table where mail is left for tenants. Three pieces of mail for Galt from the locksmithing school were on the table postmarked 4/1/68, 4/9/68 and 4/10/68. He remarked that his sister, Bobbie Lee Garner, visited him last Friday or Saturday at which time she noticed the mail for Galt and commented this was the same name as the King murder suspect. Garner said he did not feel it was likely his tenant was identical with the suspect and thus did not feel compelled to tell anyone.

Garner maintained throughout he had never seen or heard of Galt before 4/8/68. He could offer no explanation as to why Galt would receive mail postmarked 4/1/68. Garner denied Galt left anything with him for storage. He said Rooms 4 and 5 are reserved for storage but contain nothing but linen and possibly a few items of no value left behind by roomers. Garner's description of Galt resembles that of the subject.

The rooming house records on Anderson show his next of kin as G. F. Anderson, Atlanta, telephone 448-4372. Garner described Anderson as 40 years of age, 5' 9", 155 - 160 pounds, light brown hair, medium to fair complexion.

After the interview Garner telephoned the Agents to say he had re-examined his records and feels Galt is identical with William Lee, Route 1, Canton, North Carolina, who registered 4/5/68 and gave person to be notified in emergencies as Billy Retireman, 1982 Wells Street, Warren, Michigan. Investigation is being conducted at Canton, North Carolina, Warren, Michigan, and Atlanta is locating Garner's sister and Anderson's father.

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Two Agents have rooms in Garner's rooming house in an un-recover capacity. One is in Room 2 and noted that Room 4 has a new padlock. In casual conversation with Garner, Garner told the Agent about one week ago a clean cut young man said he would be gone over a week and rented room 4 for storage of personal effects. By taking the hinges off the connecting door from Room 2, the Agent examined Room 4. There is no bed in this room. There is a brown Zenith portable television set. Marie Martin, Los Angeles, has stated she traded a white General Electric portable television set to Galt; however, she is color blind and her description of the controls matches the Zenith set in Room 4. Also in Room 4 is a brand of sugar sold in California but not in Georgia, a map of Atlanta with four circled areas, one of which is the general area of King's home and one of which is the general area of SCLC headquarters. There was also a John Birch Society pamphlet. Except for a desk and an easy chair, there is nothing else of monetary value but there are a few minor items of food, a bread knife, a coffee warmer and a clip-on tie.

To avoid compromising the Agent in Room 2, Garner was not questioned about the items found in Room 4. The rooms alleged by Garner to have been occupied by Galt have been treated for fingerprints, some paper and other items of unknown value were recovered from one of the rooms that has not been re-rented, and sheets allegedly used by Galt in the second room have been obtained. They are being forwarded the Laboratory.

Galt advised the Locksmith Institute, Little Falls, (New Jersey), that he was taking a course from American Business Consultants, Long Beach, California. Xavier Von Ross, owner of American Business Consultants, stated he has been in business since May, 1968, teaching self-hypnotism and "powers of the mind." He teaches by consultation only, keeps no records and does not recall Galt either by name or by the artist's concept of the subject.

In correspondence with the locksmithing company, Galt listed as references Mrs. Fina Stone and Mrs. Marie Dentore, Los Angeles. Charles J. Stein has advised that on 12/14/67 he was in the Sultan Bar, St. Francis Hotel, Los Angeles, accompanied by

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

his sister, Rita Stein, and his cousin, Marie Martin, also known as Marie Dennino, who had a room in the St. Francis. They became acquainted with Galt in the bar and he offered to drive Stein to New Orleans to pick up Rita Stein's two children and return them to Los Angeles. Galt stipulated that he would only do this if the two women registered to vote and gave their party affiliation as George Wallace's American Independent Party.

Stein states that on 12/15/67 Galt drove Stein and the women in his white Mustang to a voting registration office and let them out at the door. Galt entered the office later as they were completing their registrations and Stein gained the impression Galt was known to the people in the office.

Upon leaving the registration office the women were dropped off at Stein's residence and after stopping at Galt's Serrano Street address the two men drove to New Orleans without stopping to sleep, arriving there 12/17/67. While en route Galt made a number of calls to unknown persons from pay telephones, mostly in Texas.

In New Orleans Galt declined an invitation to stay at the home of Stein's mother and Stein directed him to a motel.

Galt had said he wanted to contact an engineering or contracting firm in New Orleans. On 12/19/67 Stein accidentally met Galt on the street and Galt said he had contacted the people he was interested in and was ready to return to Los Angeles but Galt telephoned later that day to say a storm was blocking their route. Galt, Stein, and the two children left New Orleans 12/19/67 and returned to Los Angeles without stopping except for food and gasoline, arriving in Los Angeles 12/21/67. Stein has not seen him since.

Galt paid for all purchases in cash and Stein says Galt mentioned he was from Alabama and planned to return there. Stein gained the impression Galt was involved in the California Campaign of George Wallace. On one occasion Galt told Stein that if Negroes want to be free men they should go North or West; if they want to be slaves they should stay in the South.

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RE: MURKIN

Galt further told Stein he recently returned from Mexico where he formerly owned a bar in partnership with a Mexican to whom he recently sold his interest. This is being checked out.

Stein made available undeveloped film taken during the trip to New Orleans. He said Galt might be in one of the pictures. The film has been developed by the Bureau and no photograph of Galt was found. Stein subsequently stated he had found another roll of color film and a roll of black and white film that might have a picture of Galt. The black and white film has been developed by the Los Angeles Office. There was no picture of Galt. The color film is presently being processed at the Bureau.

The records of the Providence Motel, New Orleans, show that Eric S. Galt, using Galt's old Birmingham address, registered 12/17/67 and checked out 12/19/67. He made no long distance calls and records of local telephone calls have been destroyed. Two sheets of paper that may have indented writing were found in the telephone book in the room occupied by Galt. This paper and the registration card are being examined in the Laboratory.

The telephone company check Eric Galt used for payment of rent at the St. Francis Hotel, Los Angeles, has been traced. It represents a refund from a deposit Galt posted for telephone service at 1535 North Serrano, Los Angeles, which was discontinued 1/22/68. Only one long distance call had been charged to Galt. This was made 12/18/67 to telephone number 203-753-2308, which is listed for Bear Valley Lodge, 40 miles east of Lake Alpine, California. Sacramento is checking this out. Los Angeles is checking for records of local calls made by Galt. One local call from Galt's telephone has been traced to the Los Angeles campaign headquarters of George Wallace.

It has been established by hotel records that Galt stayed at Hotel Pto. Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico, from 10/19/67 to 11/6/67. Additional details are being obtained.

It has previously been reported Galt took dancing lessons in Birmingham in September, 1967, and in New Orleans in 1966-65.

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Murlin and Jane Meyers, who gave dance lessons to Galt in Birmingham and New Orleans, say he is "crazy" about dancing but a poor dancer and difficult to teach because he cannot remember instructions. He gave no information about himself and answered questions with yes or no answers. He was a loner who did not mingle and made no effort to make friends.

Catherine Norton, National Dance Studio, Long Beach, California, states she frequently gave lessons to an Eric Galt from December, 1967, to February, 1968. Galt told her he was a merchant seaman not presently working and was attending bartending school. He did not appear friendly with dance students or instructors. Galt did attend one party of approximately 20 dance students but arrived and left alone, stayed to himself during the party and was uncommunicative. He drank an alcoholic punch at the party. Norton said in general Galt was withdrawn and often evasive. She described him as about 27 years old, having brown, crew cut hair, slightly protruding ears, straight, narrow nose, blue eyes, slight Southern accent, rural language and diction suggesting he does not have a high degree of education, 5' 11"; 165-170 pounds, teeth straight and clean, fingernails clean and trimmed, wore gold ring with dark stone, always neatly dressed with coat, tie and shiny black alligator shoes, and wore a tie tac and cuff links. He had a nervous habit of occasionally pulling at an ear lobe. She described him as a good dancer.

Rodney Arvidson, owner of Above studio, stated Eric Galt, 1585 North Serrano, Los Angeles, took a \$400.00 dance course from December, 1967, until February, 1968, when he said he quit abruptly to go to a bartending school. He believed Galt had recently been in Mexico and thinks he is a Southerner from his references to Alabama. Galt said he was a merchant seaman. Arvidson, who speaks Spanish, says Galt does not speak Spanish and speaks English poorly, is socially inept, an introvert, and a poor dancer because he wouldn't loosen up. He rarely smiled and when he did it was a "nervous, crooked smile." Arvidson also said Galt was a loner, unemployed, and paid cash for his lessons by taking a wad of bills from his pocket.

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All offices are checking dancing schools and Los Angeles
is checking bartending schools for any record of Galt.

ACTION:

Vigorous investigation is continuing.

Mr. DeLoach

A. Rosen

MURKIN

Memo

April 15, 1968

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. McGowan
1 - Mr. McDonough
① - Mr. Long
1 - Mr. Martindale
1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Conrad
1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan

This case concerns the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Personnel of the Exhibits Section were dispatched to the Memphis and Birmingham Divisions in order to produce an artist's sketch of the unknown subject based upon witnesses' observations and descriptions. Witnesses in Birmingham furnished oral descriptions which are at variance with the descriptions of Memphis witnesses. Consequently the artists' conceptions show differences which cannot be reconciled.

It was not felt that we should provide the press an artist's conception which was not a good likeness and which would possibly further confuse witnesses and other citizens who may have been the unknown subject. To have done so would have not been in the best interest of the Bureau and could lead to further unwarranted criticism.

ACTION:

The Exhibits Section personnel now in Memphis are being dispatched to Atlanta in order to prepare sketches from descriptions obtained from witnesses at the rooming house where Galt was last seen.

Enclosures

EJH:wjc
(12)

CONTINUED - OVER

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
Re: MURKIN

Attached are photographs of the two artists' conceptions mentioned above showing dissimilarities in these sketches based on the descriptions furnished by the witnesses in Memphis and Birmingham respectively.

Memo
Mr. Rosen

April 15, 1968

C. L. McGowan

1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. McGowan
① - Mr. Long

MURKIN

An individual identifying himself as Dr. Blitz, a Sociologist at the American University, telephonically contacted the Bureau concerning this matter. Dr. Blitz stated that he was offering the information for whatever value it may be to the Bureau.

He pointed out that the three names of the suspect killer, Eric Starvo Galt, were the names of individual enemies with whom James Bond had locked horns in the novels by Ian Fleming.

Dr. Blitz pointed out that this would indicate an individual with a paranoid character and one who might engage in espionage-type fantasy.

ACTION:

Dr. Blitz was thanked for his kindness in bringing this information to the attention of the Bureau.

CLM:wjc
(5)

4-14

Mr. Rosen

April 14, 1968

C. L. McGowan

1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. McGowan
1 - Mr. Martindale
1 - Mr. McDonough
① - Mr. Long

MURKIN

General Investigative Division Extra-Duty Supervisor O. L. Dobbs was advised at 11:30 p. m. , 4-13-68, by the Jacksonville Office that the Jacksonville Police Department arrested Clyde (NMN) Courtney at 7:40 p. m. , 4-13-68, for vagrancy and called the FBI as Courtney resembles artist's sketch of King's killer published in crime magazines. Courtney was interviewed by Special Agent Honeter of the Jacksonville Office.

Courtney is described as a white male, age 33, born Louisville, Kentucky, on 3-7-35, five feet nine inches, 131 pounds, brown eyes, dark brown or black hair, receding hairline at temples, slender build, sharp features, social security number [REDACTED] previous arrests: about eight years ago, Louisville, Kentucky, charged for accessory before and after armed robbery, received three years, served 17 months and paroled, presently off parole. Courtney doesn't own a car. His California driver's license was taken away three years ago due to accident in Loma Linda, California. In August, 1967, he was residing with his sister, Mrs. G. E. Smith, 3198 Cannes Street, Riverside, California, and employed by his brother-in-law, G. E. Smith as a Plumber's Helper. Smith is Plumber employed by a sub-contractor, name unknown, but has service agreement with Sears for plumbing work.

Courtney left Riverside, California, in November, 1967, with Smith in Smith's car. They arrived at Courtney's mother's home, 1012 Winkler Avenue, Louisville, Kentucky, (Mother - Mrs. Lula Sensabough) prior to Thanksgiving, 1967. Courtney lived with his mother and was employed as a janitor at St. Anthony's Hospital and Jefferson Community College, Louisville, Kentucky, under the supervision of a Mr. Kramer at both places. Kramer left St. Anthony's Hospital and went to college to work and Courtney went with him. Courtney left Louisville, Kentucky,

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CONTINUED - OVER

Memorandum to Mr. Rosen
RE: MURKIN

at 6:00 a. m. , 4-3-68, with a neighbor, (FNU) James, 1010 Winkler Avenue, Louisville, Kentucky. They drove to Cordelle, Georgia, and arrived 6:00 p. m. , 4-3-68. Courtney registered at Peaceful Motel, Cordelle, Georgia, and he had some pay slips showing he was working for above firms but complete period not covered. He had a letter from District Attorney, Domestic Relations Court, San Bernardino, California, addressed to Courtney at mother's address postmarked February, 1968. He is separated from his wife and agreed to pay \$70 a month support.

Courtney stated that on the evening of 4-4-68, (no exact time recalled) he was at Mr. Pullman's Bar five miles outside of Cordelle, Georgia, with Mr. C.H. Massey, a carpenter who resides on 10th Street, Vienna, Georgia, when they heard about King's death. He was with Massey nearly every day. At 6:00 p. m. , 4-8-68, he left by bus from Vienna, Georgia, and arrived Jacksonville, Florida, 4-9-68, at 6:00 a. m. He stayed at city mission a couple of nights and at 41 West Beaver Street with a friend on the night of 4-12-68. Courtney stated he was arrested by Jacksonville Police Department when he was found hitchhiking on highway to New Orleans. He has a job to work on an oil rig in the Gulf of Mexico. The oil company furnishes room and board and he only had a nickel in his pocket. He had a paper bag with some clothing, including a shirt used when he was a janitor, pants or trousers, etc.

Press inquiries at Jacksonville answered "No apparent connection with King murder."

ACTION:

The above information is being furnished to Bureau, Memphis and appropriate offices:

1. Will have Atlanta verify Alibi through Mr. Massey, Vienna, Georgia.
2. Will check clothing for laundry marks.
3. Will have Jacksonville Police Department take master prints and submit to Identification Division for comparison to prints in this case.
4. Will have Louisville verify employment and travel to Georgia.

4-13

Memo

Mr. DeLoach

April 13, 1968

A. Rosen

MURKIN

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. McGowan
① - Mr. McDonough
1 - Mr. Long
1 - Mr. Martindale
1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Conrad
1 - Mr. Sullivan

Set forth below are current developments concerning the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr..

The Laboratory has determined that various fibers found on a bedspread recovered with the rifle believed to be the murder weapon and fibers found on a sheet recovered from Galt's automobile indicate that the two items have been in physical contact. This indicates that Galt's automobile is involved in the murder.

The most intensive investigation is being pushed by all offices to locate Galt and to develop his background. Highlights of current developments are set out below.

Birmingham determined from an exhaustive search of post office records that an insured package from Chicago had been delivered to Galt's rooming house 10/4/67. This has been traced to Superior Bulk Film Company, Chicago. Company records show that in September, 1967, Galt ordered a Kodak Dual Projector, a Kodak Super 8 Camera and accessories at a total cost of \$337.27. Airmail shipment was made to Galt's Birmingham rooming house 10/2/67. By letter of 10/5/67, Galt returned the camera, said he was going to Mexico on Saturday and would advise later as to where his refund should be sent. By letter dated 10/22/67, he requested the refund be sent to Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico, Hotel Rio, Apartado No. 23. A refund check in the amount of \$142.89 was mailed to the Mexican address 11/10/67. By letter of 11/20/67, with a return address of

~~Enclosure~~

WLM:EJM:wjc (11)

CONTINUED - OVER

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
Re: MURKIN

1535 North Serrano, Los Angeles, Galt requested his refund be sent to that address and was advised the check had previously been mailed to the Mexican address. Company and bank records are being checked for method of payment to the company by Galt and for the refund check.

Galt's automobile has a Mexican tourist sticker showing he entered Mexico at Nuevo Laredo 10/7/67. Investigation is being conducted in Mexico to determine his activities.

Galt has previously been placed at 1535 North Serrano in November and December, 1967, and the early part of January, 1968.

Galt has now been placed at the St. Francis Hotel, Los Angeles, where he rented a room for \$43 a month from 1/21/68 to 3/17/68 when he checked out requesting his mail be forwarded to General Delivery, Atlanta, until 4/25/68. He gave no instructions as to where his mail should be sent after that date. On 2/1/68, Galt gave the St. Francis Hotel, in partial payment of rent, local telephone company check for \$28.65 payable to Eric Galt. This is being traced.

The Atlanta Post Office is holding two letters for Galt forwarded from Los Angeles. One is a gas bill originally sent to 1535 North Serrano; the other is a flat back from Locksmith Lodger, Little Falls, New Jersey, also originally sent to the Serrano address.

Records of the Locksmithing Institute, Little Falls, New Jersey, show that Eric S. Galt, 2568 Rue Notre Dame Est, Montreal, Canada, enrolled in a correspondence locksmithing course, 7/31/67. In an undated statement, probably submitted in January, 1968, Galt showed the Serrano address in Los Angeles, stated he had received ordnance training in military service, was 34 years of age, single, and had a high school education. Under "name of employer" was entered "Am taking course at American Business Consultants, 16010 Crenshaw, Long Beach, California." References were shown on the form as Mrs. Rita Steen, Housewife, 5686 Franklin, Los Angeles, and Mrs. Marie Donino, Waitress, 5633 Hollywood, Los Angeles. The form contains a printed certification that the student has never been

CONTINUED - OVER

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
Re: MURKIN

convicted of burglary, breaking and entering, robbery or larceny and that information received from Locksmithing Institute will not be used to aid or abet the commission of a crime.

On 3/30/68, the locksmith school changed Galt's address to 113 14th. Street, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia. The cost of the course was \$229.50. \$17.50 was paid 7/31/67, \$7.50 was paid 9/7/67, \$15.00 was paid 1/10/68 and 3/11/68 and additional payments of \$7.50 were made 2/2/68, 3/6/68 and 4/8/68. The balance due is \$152.00.

The Atlanta address given to the locksmithing school by Galt is a "hippie" rooming house having thirty or forty rooms. It is next door to a "hippie" night club known as the Catacomb and the area has a large number of "hippies." A discreet surveillance is being maintained on the rooming house and background information is being developed on the owner.

Laundry tags on clothing believed to have been abandoned by Galt in Memphis apparently came from a Los Angeles laundry. Jay Vernon, former manager of the laundry has now been interviewed. He operated this laundry from 1/16/68 until 3/24/68. Vernon states Galt was a regular customer coming to the laundry each Saturday afternoon. He first appeared at the laundry 1/20/68 and Vernon last remembers seeing him at the laundry 3/16/68. According to Vernon, the shorts found in Memphis are similar to ones ordinarily worn by Galt and the size of the T-shirt matches Galt's build. He could not definitely state that these garments belong to Galt, but did identify the markings as being similar to the ones used in his laundry. Vernon only knew Galt as a customer of the laundry and has no knowledge of his background or activities. Galt paid for his laundry in cash using ten and twenty dollar bills.

(ME
Jm)

Extensive investigation concerning Vernon, Ginger Day, Anita Katzwinkel and other persons considered as possible associates of Galt in Los Angeles has failed to develop that they are acquainted

CONTINUED - OVER

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
Re: MURKIN

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With regard to the resemblance between Galt and the artist's conception of the subject, Vernon stated that the eyes, nose and chin of the Memphis artist's conception based on the interview of Memphis witnesses should be placed on the artist's conception based on the interview of Birmingham witnesses and that if this were done it would be a better likeness of Galt.

Marlin Myers, owner of Continental Dance Studios, Birmingham, has advised that Eric S. Galt took dance lessons beginning 9/12/67 when he paid \$10.00 and reported for consecutive weekly lessons from 9/12/67 to 10/3/67. He did not appear for a lesson on 10/10/67 and between 10/10/67 and 10/14/67 Myers received a letter from Galt saying he had to leave town and could not continue the lessons. Myers destroyed the letter and does not recall where it was mailed.

(64 mm-5)

Myers also said that he recalled that Galt had taken dance lessons in 1964 and 1965 when Myers operated the Continental Dance Studios in New Orleans. Records of the New Orleans operation are in possession of Louella Lutz, a former partner now in Los Angeles. Joan Myers, wife of Marlin Myers, recalls Galt and believes he took dancing lessons in New Orleans on a full-year budget plan contract possibly starting in April, 1964. She described Galt as a loner who likes to dance.

Louella Lutz has been located in Los Angeles. She has burned most of the records of the New Orleans studio and no record of Galt could be located in the records that remained. She did not recall Galt.

CONTINUED - OVER

Memo

Mr. DeLoach

April 13, 1968

A. Rosen

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Enclosure

WLM:EJM:we (11)

CONTINUED - OVER

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
Re: MURKIN

ACTION:

Attached for approval is a memorandum for the White House, the Attorney General, the Deputy Attorney General and the Civil Rights Division.

Intensive investigation is continuing.

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
Re: MURKIN

1535 North Serrano, Los Angeles, Galt requested his refund be sent to that address and was advised the check had previously been mailed to the Mexican address. Company and bank records are being checked for method of payment to the company by Galt and for the refund check.

Galt's automobile has a Mexican tourist sticker showing he entered Mexico at Nuevo Laredo 10/7/67. Investigation is being conducted in Mexico to determine his activities.

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The Atlanta address given to the locksmithing school by Galt is a "hippie" rooming house having thirty or forty rooms. It is next door to a "hippie" night club known as the Catacomb and the area has a large number of "hippies." A discreet surveillance is being maintained on the rooming house and background information is being developed on the owner.

Laundry tags on clothing believed to have been abandoned by Galt in Memphis apparently came from a Los Angeles laundry. Jay Vernon, former manager of the laundry has now been interviewed. He operated this laundry from 1/16/68 until 3/24/68. Vernon states Galt was a regular customer coming to the laundry each Saturday afternoon. He first appeared at the laundry 1/20/68 and Vernon last remembers seeing him at the laundry 3/16/68. According to Vernon, the shorts found in Memphis are similar to ones ordinarily worn by Galt and the size of the T-shirt matches Galt's build. He could not definitely state that these garments belong to Galt, but did identify the markings as being similar to the ones used in his laundry. Vernon only knew Galt as a customer of the laundry and has no knowledge of his background or activities. Galt paid for his laundry in cash using ten and twenty dollar bills.

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April 13, 1968

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Lonella Lutz has been located in Los Angeles. She has burned most of the records of the New Orleans studio and no record of Galt could be located in the records that remained. She did not recall Galt.

CONTINUED - OVER

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
Re: MURKIN

ACTION:

Intensive investigation is continuing.

- 5 -

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Gen

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE:

FROM : C. L. McGowan

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Supervisor John Hall, Newark Office, telephonically furnished following information which was obtained during the evening of 4-12-68, from investigation conducted at the Locksmithing Institute, 1500 Cardinal Drive, Little Falls, New Jersey.

7-31-67
Enrollment
form

⁽¹⁾
Eric S. Galt, student number 30-15189, submitted an enrollment form dated 7-31-67, at which time his address was furnished as 2589 Rue Notre Dame, EST, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

also
Conf. form

⁽²⁾
Also submitted by Galt was a 'confidential information form' for Locksmithing Institute which contained eight questions that Galt responded to, all answers being typewritten. This form showed Eric S. Galt, student number 30-15189, telephone left blank, age 36, single, no dependents, under employer it was indicated that he was taking a course with American Business Consultants, 16000 Crenshaw, Long Beach, California. Galt indicated he had specialized training in the military in ordnance type work and he felt that a combination of the ordnance work and the locksmithing would combine in one business. He indicated he had a high school education and on the question on how he planned to capitalize on training, he checked "other plans." This form indicated he did not have any physical defects and he furnished the following two character references: Mrs. Rita Steen, 5664 Franklin, Los Angeles and Mrs. Marie Deninno, 5533 Hollywood, Los Angeles, whose occupations were shown as housewife and waitress respectively.

He responded to the question if there was any other information which would help in connection with his enrollment, that he had never been convicted of a crime or grand or petty larceny. This form was signed Eric S. Galt, 1535 -N- Serrano, Los Angeles, California, 90027, in handwriting.

⁽³⁾
The records of the institute revealed a third form which contained the "School Record" of Eric S. Galt, Student Number 30-1-15189, 1535 N. Serrano, Los Angeles, California, and furnished a change of address (no date) to 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, 35205. A photograph copy of the enrollment ledger, and accounting document showed a change of address as of 3-30-68, to 113 14th Street, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia.

Memorandum to Mr. Rosen
RE: MURKIN

The payment record for the correspondence course is shown as follows:

7-31-67	\$10.00 and \$7.50
1-10-68	\$15.00
2-2-68	\$7.50
3-6-68	\$7.50
3-11-68	\$15.00
4-8-68	\$7.00

Dates lessons received from Galt are as follows: 2-5-68, 2-23-68, 2-19-68, 2-23-68 (?), 3-7-68, 3-27-68, 4-1-68, 4-8-68, 4-10-68. All lessons are destroyed after they are received and reviewed by school.

Of significance is a handwritten note made by an employee of the school on Galt's record 10-5-67, "Going on vacation, will advise."

SA Hall advised that the Locksmithing Institute records are in a state of flux with respect to the ledgers and that efforts are continuing to locate any additional information. The only additional thing that the manager thinks may be in the ledger records is a subscription card.

A stop has been placed on the next lesson and the FBI will be immediately notified upon receipt by the school.

Frid 10³⁰ 15 Bally
McGowan

Lochomith - Eric S. Galt
Course

~~App~~ - 3/30/68

Change of address to address

Payment was received as of
April 8, 1968 in the course

114 - 14th St. N.E.

Lochomith Lodge
Pomona Little N.J.

Call Atlanta

= Go out in area and check

Orig app postmarked in
Canada

①

10²⁷ John Hall called
B.

10⁵⁰ From George Dargy
Director
Locksmiths Inc
1500 Cardinal Dr
Little Falls N.J.

R.A. fm
correspondence
Eric S. Galt file
#30-15189

4 items
D. Lock Smith Inc
7/31/67 - E.S.G.
Hdd 7589 Rue

Notre Dame Est
Montreal Canada Quebec
Request enrollment
Signed Eric S. Galt (2)
H. P.

2nd

Let. In Dr. L. J. J.
Conf. inf for Dr
affidavit ~~case~~.

also, ques. In

Credentials,
Typewriter

Name Eric S. Galt

30-15 189

Age - 36

M. - single

Dep - none

Employer - I am taking

a course @ Am

Bers. Counsel

Cresshaw L. Beach

Calif.

any ~~specific~~ specific speculations

Warning

En. H. S

(3)

— How to Cap. on Training?

Bus

New B

Other Plans - ✓

Physical - no

— 2 Character Ref. Mrs Rita

Steen

5666 Franklin

L.A. -

Honolulu

Morie Hennings

5533 Hobart

L.A.

Waters

Any other Inf

Affirmation

no Burglary &

other Offens

strict confidence

use in discharge

aid in crime

Eric S. Galt

1535 N. Lerrano

LA. 90027

sig & address

Voluntary

Dr. House

Training in Mil in

ordnance

2 Photo Copy

Eric S. Galt

30-1-15P89

7535 N. Serrano

L.A.,

Change of address

Eric S. G

2608 Highland Ave

B. Jam

35205

Photo Copy
of Enrollment

Charge

3-30-68

Eric S. Galt

113-14th St. N.E.
Atlanta

payment recs

some
by check

7/31/67 - 10⁰⁰

7/31/67 - 7⁵⁰

1-10-68 - 15⁰⁰

2-2-68 - 7⁵⁰

3-6-68 - 7⁵⁰

3-11-68 - 15⁰⁰

4-8-68 - 7⁰⁰

Rec'd lessons

2-5-68

4-1-68

2-22-68

4-8-68

2-19-68

4-10-68

2-23-68

3-7-68

3-27-68

Handwritten note by employee
says

10-5-67

going on vacation

will address

on Ledyard with ledger

Re - Publication

He was found a letter