

PAGE TWO

AT 44-2386

ILLINOIS. THIS MAN KEPT RAY IN SPENDING MONEY WHILE RAY IN PRISON AND WOULD HARBOR RAY. RAY HAD ANOTHER CLOSE FRIEND (NAME UNRECALLED) OF ITALIAN DESCENT, APPARENTLY "A BIG MAN" IN SYNDICATE. THIS ITALIAN HAD APPARENTLY OPERATED WITH RAY IN PAST AND ENGAGED WITH RAY IN HANDLING STOLEN POST OFFICE MONEY ORDERS AND TRAVELERS CHECKS. AFTER SIX TO SEVEN MONTHS AS CELL MATES, JACKSON COUNTY JAIL, RAY SENTENCED TO THREE YEARS ON POST OFFICE BURGLARY CHARGES, TRANSFERRED TO LEAVENWORTH FEDERAL PENITENTIARY. TWO WEEKS LATER, CURTIS RECEIVED SIXTEEN YEARS SENTENCE FOR BANK ROBBERY AND SENT TO LEAVENWORTH. WHILE CONFINED LEAVENWORTH DURING THIS PERIOD, RAY SPOKE OF NO GIRL FRIEND AND CORRESPONDED WITH NONE. RAY MENTIONED HE "OPERATED" FREQUENTLY OUT OF QUINCY, ILLINOIS, WHICH MEANT "ENGAGED IN BURGLARY AND PAYROLL JOBS." WHILE HE AND RAY WERE INCARCERATED, THEY ENGAGED IN CROOKED POKER GAMES AND TOOK FELLOW PRISONERS FOR MONEY. RAY GOOD POKER PLAYER AND EXCELLENT CARD HANDLER. RAY MENTIONED UNDER WORLD AND HOODLUM CONNECTIONS (NAMES UNRECALLED) IN CHICAGO, DETROIT, TAMPA, AND TIJUANA, MEXICO AREAS. SERVING SEVEN TO EIGHT MONTHS WITH RAY AT LEAVENWORTH, CURTIS TRANSFERRED U.S. PENITENTIARY, ATLANTA, GA. CURTIS SERVED U.S. PENITENTIARY, ATLANTA, AND IN JUNE, SIXTYTWO, SENT BACK MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY, JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI, TO SERVE

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

AT 44-2386

ON ARMED ROBBERY CHARGES. WHILE IN STATE PENITENTIARY JEFFERSON, MISSOURI, AGAIN INCARCERATED WITH RAY. ON OCCASIONS IN SAME CELL TOGETHER IN "B" HALL AND "C" HALL. SERVED TOGETHER FROM SIXTYTWO TO SIXTYSIX. WHILE IN "B" AND "C" HALLS, THEY WERE TOGETHER IN THREE-MAN CELL, WITH THIRD INDIVIDUAL (WHOM CURTIS STATED COULD VERIFY FOLLOWING FACTS, BUT WHOM CURTIS REFUSED TO IDENTIFY). DURING THIS INCARCERATION PERIOD, PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY ASSASSINATED AND WORD CAME FROM OUTSIDE THIS PROBABLY CONSPIRACY, AND KENNEDY HAD "BOUNTY" ON HIS HEAD. CURTIS, UNABLE TO GIVE FURTHER DETAILS ON "BOUNTY". HE STATED IN SIXTYTHREE TO SIXTYFOUR, DR. KING'S MOVEMENTS BECAME TOPIC OF CONVERSATIONS AT STATE PENITENTIARY AND WORD GOT AROUND TO PRISONERS THAT "KK OF THE SOUTH" WHO APPARENTLY WENT TO BUSINESSMEN HAD RAISED ABOUT MILLION DOLLARS FOR "BOUNTY" ON KING'S HEAD. CURTIS, UNABLE TO GIVE FURTHER IDENTIFICATION OR INFORMATION OF KK OF SOUTH. FROM 'SIXTYTWO TO 'SIXTYSIX BEFORE CURTIS RELEASE, RAY MENTIONED A DOZEN TIMES "HAD HE KNOWN ABOUT A BOUNTY ON JOHN F. KENNEDY'S HEAD AND HAD HE BEEN OUT, HE WOULD HAVE COLLECTED IT". RAY STATED A DOZEN TIMES THAT "IF HE GOT OUT IN TIME AND IF KING WAS STILL ALIVE, HE WOULD LIKE TO GET THE BOUNTY ON KING". RAY NEVER MENTIONED WHOM HE WOULD CONTACT TO GET BOUNTY BUT ADVISED

END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

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CRIMINAL ELEMENTS KNEW HOW TO CONTACT SUCH PEOPLE.. ABOVE STATEMENTS BY RAY OVERHEARD BY THIRD CELL MATE MENTIONED ABOVE. RAY HAD FRIEND IN NEW ORLEANS (FIRST NAME UNKNOWN), COIN (PHONETIC) SPELLED LIKE "QUARTER OR DIME", WHO APPARENTLY A FENCE, WELL CONNECTED WITH HOODLUM ELEMENTS AND WHO IN 'FIFTYFIVE WAS FIFTYFIVE OR SIXTYFIVE YEARS OLD, WHOM WOULD HARBOR RAY. CURTIS KNEW NO CLOSE FRIENDS OF ASSOCIATES OF RAY. RAY ALLEGEDLY THRU PRISON GRAPE VINE HAD WIFE, BUT NEVER MENTIONED BY RAY; HOWEVER, FEW PRISONERS MENTION FAMILY CONNECTIONS. RAY ALSO MENTIONED GAMBLING IN LOS ANGELES. RAY WAS "HIGH LIVER" WHEN OUTSIDE AND WOULD ASSOCIATE WITH PROSTITUTES, TAKING ONE FROM TOWN TO TOWN. RAY WITH REGARD TO KING'S KILLING INDICATED HE WOULD MAKE ALL RULES AND WOULD IN ALL PROBABILITY DEMAND BOUNTY MONEY BE PUT IN BANK. RAY MENTIONED THREE FOREIGN COUNTRIES WHICH HE HAD READ ABOUT, WHICH CURTIS ASSUMED RAY WOULD GO TO IF OUT OF UNITED STATES. THESE ARE NEW ZEALAND, BRAZIL, AND SWITZERLAND. CURTIS OF OPINION, NOT OVER THREE PEOPLE WOULD BE INVOLVED IN ACTUAL ASSASSINATION. IT WOULD HAVE BEEN WELL PLANNED WITH DIVERSIONARY MEASURES AND SECOND INDIVIDUAL, NOT RAY, WOULD HAVE DRIVEN GETAWAY CAR TO ATLANTA AS DIVERSIONARY MEASURE. CURTIS WILL NOT TESTIFY , AS HE FEARS FOR HIS LIFE, IF INFO GETS OUT. HE DEMANDED IDENTITY BE PROTECTED. IN SPITE OF ABOVE, SHERIFF MAULDIN ADVISED CURTIS HAS ALSO GIVE ABOVE INFO PRIOR TO INTERVIEW BY FBI TO LLOYD GULLEDGE, REPORTER, DALTON NEWS

END PAGE FOUR

PAGE FIVE

AT 44-2386

CITIZEN NEWSPAPER, DALTON, GEORGIA. MAULDIN NOT PRESENT DURING THIS INTERVIEW AND DOES NOT KNOW WHAT INFO CURTIS GAVE GULLEDGE. MAULDIN STATED CURTIS THREE TO FOUR DAYS AGO RECEIVED LETTER WITH RETURN ADDRESS, MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY. CURTIS KNOWS NO SPECIFIC RACIAL HATREDS BY RAY, WHO IS MEAN IF CROSSED, BUT NOT AGGRESSIVE INDIVIDUAL. HE SAID IF RAY RETURNED TO ATLANTA AFTER ASSASSINATION, IT WOULD PROBABLY HAVE BEEN TO COLLECT BOUNTY.

KANSAS CITY AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI. (1) DETERMINE THIRD CELL MATE WITH RAY AND CURTIS IN "B" AND "C" HALLS, BETWEEN 'SIXTYTWO TO 'SIXTYSIX (INDIVIDUAL ALLEGED TO BE AT MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY), VERIFY CURTIS' STORY. (2) THRU POLICE AND INFORMANT CONTACTS IDENTIFY ITALIAN WHO WAS "A BIG MAN" IN SYNDICATE BETWEEN KANSAS CITY AND CHICAGO, AND WHO STOLE POST OFFICE MONEY ORDERS AND TRAVELERS CHECKS FOR SUBJECT RAY. (3) DEVELOP INFO FROM INMATES AND OTHER SOURCES RE RAY'S ALLEGED WIFE. (4) DEVELOP INFO RE PRISON GOSSIP RE "MILLION DOLLAR BOUNTY ON KING'S HEAD".

NEW ORLEANS AT NEW ORLEANS, LA.,) DEVELOP INFO RE COIN (PHONETIC).

SPRINGFIELD AT MENARD PRISON, MENARD, ILL. IDENTIFY RAY'S FORMER CELL MATE IN MENARD STATE PRISON.

END PAGE FIVE

PAGE SIX

AT 44-2386

SPRINGFIELD AT QUINCY, ILL. CONTACT INFORMANTS AND SOURCES TO DEVELOP BACKGROUND INFO RE SUBJECT.

DETROIT, LOS ANGELES, SAN DIEGO, AND TAMPA CONTACT LOGICAL INFORMANTS TO DETERMINE IF SUBJECT KNOWN TO HOODLUM ELEMENTS.

SAN DIEGO NOTE SUBJECT ALLEGEDLY VISITED TIJUANA IN PAST.

AM COPIES SENT TO CHICAGO, DETROIT, LOS ANGELES, SAN DIEGO AND TAMPA.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P

END

AEF

FBI SPRNGFLD

TU

% 5:42 PM EST - PHM, FBI KAN CITY

5:25 PM EST - FGC, FBI NEW ORLS

5:12 PM EST - AMB, FBI BIRMGHAM

4:57 PM EST - DGB, FBI MEMPHIS

4:38 PM EST - GFH, FBI WASH DC

FBI ATLANTA

FBI BIRMGHAM

612 PM URGENT 4-22-68 GDM

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), ATLANTA, MEMPHIS (44-1987) AND KNOXVILLE  
FROM BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

MURKIN; CR; OO: MEMPHIS.

CONTACT TODAY WITH POSTAL INSPECTOR'S OFFICE, BIRMINGHAM,  
RESULTED IN TELEPHONIC CONTACT BY THAT OFFICE WITH T. P. DALY,  
POSTAL INSPECTOR IN CHARGE, AND K. G. CAWOOD, DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT,  
BOTH CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE, WHO IN TURN CAUSED CHECK OF ALL CASES  
INVOLVING THE CASHING OF STOLEN POSTAL MONEY ORDERS IN ALABAMA, SINCE  
APRIL, ONE NINE SIX SEVEN, WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. CHECK WAS MADE  
BY USING TRUE NAME AND KNOWN ALIASES OF SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY.

KNOXVILLE REQUESTED TO CONTACT INSPECTOR IN CHARGE DALY AND  
SUPERINTENDENT CAWOOD, AND ASCERTAIN IDENTITIES OF ALL POSTAL  
INSPECTOR REGIONAL OFFICES AND STATES COVERED BY THESE RESPECTIVE  
OFFICES. ALSO ASCERTAIN FEASIBILITY OF HAVING SIGNATURES ON ALL  
STOLEN POSTAL MONEY ORDERS STOLEN AND CASHED SINCE RAY'S ESCAPE  
FROM CONFINEMENT (APRIL TWO THREE, SIXTYSEVEN), COMPARED BY POSTAL  
INSPECTORS WITH KNOWN HANDWRITING OF RAY. RAY'S HANDWRITING IN  
END PAGE ONE

44-2336-972

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PAGE TWO

POSSESSION OF POSTAL INSPECTORS FOLLOWING HIS CONVICTION FOR FORGING POSTAL MONEY ORDERS FOR WHICH HE SERVED PRISON SENTENCE AT LEAVENWORTH FEDERAL PRISON. THIS IS BEING REQUESTED SO THAT BUREAU CAN GIVE CONSIDERATION TO HAVING ALL REGIONAL POSTAL INSPECTORS IN CHARGE CONTACTED TO DETERMINE IF RAY IS IDENTICAL WITH ANY UNKNOWN SUBJECT CASES WHEREIN STOLEN MONEY ORDERS HAVE BEEN CASHED DURING PERTINENT PERIOD, AND WITH VIEW TOWARDS IDENTIFYING RAY'S SOURCE OF INCOME AND WHEREABOUTS SINCE HIS ESCAPE.

END

JWE

FBI ATLANTA

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FBI ATLANTA

FBI CHICAGO

637PM URGENT 4-22-68 RMF

TO DIRECTOR /44-38861/ MEMPHIS /44-1987/ SPRINGFIELD /44-561/  
ATLANTA /44-2386/ BIRMINGHAM /44-1740/  
FROM CHICAGO /44-1114/

MURKIN

SUMMARY

G. E. POTTS, MC CORMICK THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, ADVISED INSTANT NO RECORD OF JAMES EARL RAY BEING CONNECTED WITH THE SEMINARY IN ANY CAPACITY. BUILDING AT EIGHT FIVE THREE WEST FULLERTON, OWNED BY SEMINARY, LISTED TO MRS. BEATRICE FOULKS FROM MARCH, FIFTY ONE TO MARCH, FIFTY THREE. NO RECORD AS TO HER PRESENT WHEREABOUTS. INQUIRY OF VARIOUS PUBLIC SOURCES, CHICAGO, DID NOT DEVELOP ANY CURRENT ADDRESS FOR MRS. FOULKS. INTERVIEW WITH SUBJECTS RELATIVES CHICAGO DID NOT DEVELOP ANY INFO RE HER NAME.

SUSAN DOMIAN REINTERVIEWED THIS DATE, AGAIN EXPRESSED COOPERATION, ADVISED ORPHANAGE IN ALTON, ILLINOIS, WAS THE CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S HOME, ONE FOUR ZERO ZERO STATE STREET. SHE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER OR NOT [REDACTED] BUT THAT HAZEL HAMILTON, CATHOLIC CHARITIES, QUINCY, ILLINOIS, WOULD BE PERSON WITH RECORDS. JERRY RAYNES  
END PAGE ONE

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PAGE TWO

UNKNOWN TO HER BUT DID REMEMBER THAT BROTHER KILLED IN ACCIDENT USED NAME RAYNES. IT WOULD BE IMPOSIBLE FOR JERRY RAYNES TO BE FATHER OF SUBJECT. SHE MADE AVAILABLE THREE POST CARDS FROM JOHN RAY WHICH HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE FBI LAB FOR APPROPRIATE EXAMINATION. LAST KNEW OF UNCLE, WILLIAM MAHER, AS BEING IN PAINTING BUSINESS, ALTON, ILLINOIS.

PERSONNEL MANAGER, SHELLER, GLOBE CORPORATION, CHICAGO, ADVISED THAT PERSONNEL RECORDS OF DRYDEN RUBBER COMPANY WHERE SUBJECT ALLEGEDLY EMPLOYED NINETEEN FORTY EIGHT, HAVE BEEN DESTROYED.

RE JERRY WILLIAM RAY

JERRY WILLIAM RAY REINTERVIEWED THIS DATE. ADVISED HE ALSO USES NAME JERRY WILLIAM RYAN AND ALL HIS LEGAL PAPERS ARE IN THE RYAN NAME.

JERRY ADVISED IF BROTHER JAMES RAY CONTACTED ANYBODY IN FAMILY BELIEVE IT WOULD BE UNCLE, WILLIAM MAHER, ONE ONE EIGHT EAST SEVENTH STREET, ALTON, ILLINOIS. MAHER'S OCCUPATION, PAINTING CONTRACTOR. SUBJECT AND JERRY RAY HAVE RESIDED WITH THIS UNCLE IN PAST BUT SUBJECT IS NOT PARTICULARLY FOND OF THIS UNCLE AND SUBJECT WOULD MORE LIKELY CONTACT UNCLE THAN EXPOSE ANY OTHER RELATIVE.

JERRY RAY STATED AN AUNT MABEL FULLER, QUINCY, ILLINOIS, WOULD BE ABLE TO GIVE NAMES OF ALL RELATIVES OF HIS FATHER'S SIDE OF FAMILY.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

JERRY RAY UNABLE TO PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION RE WHEREABOUTS OF HIS BROTHER, DID STATE HIS BROTHER AT ONE TIME TALKED OF THE GOOD LIVING IN TIJUANA, MEXICO.

CHICAGO STILL RECEIVING NUMEROUS LEADS ARISING FROM MAXIMUM COVERAGE OF INSTANT CASE IN VARIOUS NEWS MEDIA. THESE LEADS BEING HANDLED ON A CONTINUING EXPEDITE BASIS.

LEAD: SPRINGFIELD DIVISION AT QUINCY, ILLINOIS, CONTACT HAZEL HAMILTON FOR INFORMATION TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW [REDACTED].

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

LB

FBI ATLANTA

@

FBI ATLANTA

FBI MIAMI

700U, MEMPHIS AND MIAMI,  
APRIL TWENTYTWO INSTANT.

CHARLOTTE STATES PETER S. GILCHRIST, CHARLOTTE, N.C.,  
ADVISED APRIL TWELVE LAST HE TRAVELED ATLANTA TO HOUSTON BY  
EAL FLIGHT ONE THREE THREE, LEAVING ATLANTA ELEVEN ZERO FIVE <sup>11:05 AM</sup>  
AM. UPON VIEWING PHOTOGRAPH JAMES EARL RAY, ADVISED HE WAS SURE  
RAY WAS PASSENGER ON THIS FLIGHT AND TRAVELED WITHOUT LUGGAGE.  
ONLY DIFFERENCE WITH RAY AND PASSENGER WAS COLOR OF HAIR  
WHICH WAS BLOND. HE ADVISED THERE WERE FORTYFIVE - FIFTY  
PASSENGERS ON FLIGHT AND INSOFAR AS HE KNOWS INDIVIDUAL  
BELIEVED TO BE RAY WAS THE ONLY PERSON TO LEAVE PLANE AT  
HOUSTON. GILCHRIST DID NOT KNOWN NAME OF INDIVIDUAL.

EAL RECORDS FOR FLIGHT ONE THREE THREE, ATLANTA TO  
HOUSTON, APRIL TWELVE LAST, INDICATED TWENTYEIGHT PASSENGERS  
DEPARTED HOUSTON INCLUDING GILCHRIST.

EAL Determine  
Flight Crew EAL #133 4/12/68

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*Dyer*

MM (44-1854)

PAGE TWO

ATLANTA AT EAL, DETERMINE FLIGHT PERSONNEL OF FLIGHT ONE THREE THREE, ATLANTA TO HOUSTON, APRIL TWELVE LAST, AND EXHIBIT PHOTO OF SUBJECT IN ORDER TO DETERMINE IF SUBJECT ON THIS FLIGHT.

MIAMI HAS LIST OF PASSENGERS USING EAL TICKETS AND TICKET NUMBERS FOR EXCHANGE PASSENGERS IF NECESSARY THESE PERSONS BE IDENTIFIED AND INTERVIEWED.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

JWE

FBI ATLANTA

TU@

FBI ATLANTA

FBI MEMPHIS

708 PM URGENT 4-22-68 DND  
TO DIRECTOR, ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM  
FROM MEMPHIS (44-1987)

MURKIN.

MR. EARL SMITH, APPLANCE DEPT., WESTERN AUTO STORE,  
NASHVILLE, TENN., TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED NASHVILLE RA ON  
APRIL ELEVEN, SIXTYEIGHT, AND REQUESTED HE BE INTERVIEWED RE  
INFORMATION HE HAD CONCERNING MURDER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

SMITH INTERVIEWED ON SAME DATE AND FURNISHED FOLLOWING  
INFORMATION: SMITH CLAIMED HE WAS FORMERLY AIRMAN FIRST CLASS,  
AFSN TWO FOUR FIVE SEVEN THREE SIX FOUR ZERO. STATED WAS IN  
AIR FORCE SIX YEARS AND HAD DUTY AT SEYMORE JOHNSON SAC AIR FORCE  
BASE AND HIS JOB WAS EXPLOSIVES ORDNANCE DISPOSAL TECHNICIAN.  
SAID IN AUGUST, SIXTYSIX, HE WAS EMPLOYED AT WESTERN AUTO STORE  
ON SUMMER AVENUE IN MEMPHIS, TENN. AT THAT TIME HE LIVED IN  
ROOMING HOUSE AT ONE TWO FIVE SEVEN PEABODY. SMITH SAID HE  
FREQUENTED TAVERN ON BELLEVUE ST., DOES NOT RECALL LOCATION OR  
NAME OF TAVERN. REPORTEDLY OWNER OF THIS TAVERN IS WHITE FEMALE,  
FIRST NAME POSSIBLY ANN. SMITH CLAIMS WHILE IN THIS TAVERN HE  
ENGAGED IN CONVERSATION WITH ANOTHER PATRON AND TOLD THIS PATRON  
END PAGE ONE

44-2386-975

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W

PAGE TWO

HE HAD BEEN IN AIR FORCE AND WHAT HIS MILITARY SPECIALTY HAD BEEN. THIS OTHER PATRON SAID HE HAD A NEPHEW WHO HAD BEEN IN THE AIR FORCE AND HAD THE SAME ASSIGNMENT. SUPPOSEDLY THIS NEPHEW HAD BEEN AT SAME BASE WITH SMITH IN NINETEEN SIXTYTWO.

SMITH CLAIMED HE RECOGNIZED THIS SO CALLED NEPHEW BY NAME. TWO DAYS AFTER INITIAL CONVERSATION AND IN SAME TAVERN AGAIN, SMITH RECONTACTED BY SAME INDIVIDUAL HE MET IN TAVERN BEFORE. SMITH CLAIMS CUSTOMER TOLD HIM THAT SINCE SMITH FORMERLY IN AIR FORCE SMITH WOULD HAVE CONTACTS GIVING HIM ACCESS TO MUNITIONS AND EXPLOSIVES. HE THEN REQUESTED SMITH GET FOR HIM FIFTY HAND GRENADES AND PULLED OUT FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS IN CASH WHICH HE LAID ON TABLE AND SAID, "THIS IS YOURS IF YOU GET ME THE GRENADES." THIS UNIDENTIFIED PATRON THEN EXPLAINED TO SMITH THAT HE AND FOUR OTHER MEN IN MEMPHIS HAD VOWED THAT ONE OF THEM WOULD KILL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER AND THIS WAS REASON FOR WANTING THE HAND GRENADES. SMITH CLAIMED HE ASKEDN THIS PERSON IF HE WERE MEMBER OF THE KKK AND THE INDIVIDUAL TOLD HE WAS NOT. SMITH CLAIMED HE DECLINED TO ACCEPT OFFER AND WAS THEN TOLD, "IF YOU CAN'T GET THEM FOR ME YOU HAD BETTER FORGET IT." SMITH SAID

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

HE CONSIDERED THIS TO BE A THREAT AND THIS WAS LAST CONTACT HE EVER HAD WITH THIS INDIVIDUAL AND DOES NOT NOW REMEMBER HIS NAME OR THE NAME OF HIS NEPHEW, THE AIRMAN WHO SUPPOSEDLY WAS STATIONED WITH HIM AT SEYMORE JOHNSON AFB. SMITH SAID THE INDIVIDUAL IN THE BAR WAS WM, FORTYFIVE YEARS OF AGE, FIVE SEVEN, GRAY HAIR, HEAVY BUILD, TWO HUNDRED TWENTY LBS., AND DROVE A NEW CORVETTE. SMITH SAID HE HAD NO OBJECTION TO HAVING HIS IDENTITY REVEALED IN CONNECTION WITH THIS INVESTIGATION.

FOLLOWING ABOVE INTERVIEW, SMITH AGAIN RECONTACTED NASHVILLE RA AND SAID HE HAD BEEN FIRED FROM HIS JOB. AFTER RECEIPT THIS INFORMATION, C.E. WEAVER, GENERAL MANAGER, WESTERN AUTO STORE, WAS CONTACTED. WEAVER SAID HE HAD NOT FIRED EARL SMITH BUT HAD TOLD SMITH TO GO HOME AS SMITH WAS DRINKING ON THE JOB. WEAVER FURTHER STATED SMITH WAS SUPPOSED TO BE AT MEETING OF EMPLOYEES AT SIX THIRTY A.M., APRIL ELEVEN, SIXTYEIGHT, BUT FAILED TO ARRIVE. WEAVER SENT MAN TO LOCATE SMITH AT SMITH'S RESIDENCE. THIS MAN REPORTED TO WEAVER THAT SMITH WAS DRUNK PREVIOUS EVENING AND OVERSLEPT, MISSING MEETING. WEAVER SAID HE CONSIDERS SMITH DECEITFUL, UNRELIABLE, AND PROBABLY A HEAVY DRINKER, AND HAD BEEN CONSIDERING TERMINATING SMITH'S EMPLOYMENT.

END PAGE THREE

AS RESULT OF RUMORS AND STATEMENTS OF THIS TYPE, WHICH PRESS SEEMS TO HAVE PARTICULAR AFFINITY FOR FINDING, INQUIRY WAS MADE OF NASHVILLE OFFICE FOR DATA RE EARL SMITH. ALL PRESS INQUIRIES HAVE BEEN ANSWERED WITH GENERAL STATEMENT THAT FBI HAD NO COMMENT TO MAKE RE INVESTIGATION INSTANT CASE. REPRESENTATIVE OF NASHVILLE TENNESSEAN, WAYNE WHITT (PHONETIC), REPORTEDLY A LIFE CORRESPONDENT OR STRINGER IN NASHVILLE, TENN., ADVISED HE HAD TALKED TO MAN IN A BAR WHO TOLD HIM STORY ABOUT FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR FIFTY HAND GRENADES AND A SO CALLED PLOT TO KILL DR. KING. THE REPORTED REPORTEDLY TOLD THE MAN IN THE BAR THAT THE FBI HAD REFUSED TO MAKE COMMENT REGARDING ANY SO CALLED INTERVIEW OR ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING HIM, WHEREUPON THE MAN IN BAR TOLD REPORTED, "THAT SHOWS HOW IMPORTANT MY INFORMATION IS. I'M HOLDING OUT FOR MORE MONEY." IN VIEW OF APPAISAL OF MR. SMITH BY HIS EMPLOYER, ALLEGING HIS DRINKING, DECEITFULNESS, AND UNRELIABILITY, IT IS APPARENT SMITH HAS SOLD BILL OF GOODS TO A NEWSPAPER REPORTER WHILE IN A TAVERN.

END PAGE FOUR



PAGE FIVE

VARIOUS LOOK-ALIKES REPORTED AND ELIMINATED THIS DATE  
MEMPHIS DIVISION. INVESTIGATION CONTINUING.

NO OTHER PERTINENT DATA DEVELOPED MEMPHIS DIVISION THIS  
DATE.

A & D. P.

END

JWE

FBI ATLANTA

TKS@

FBI ATLANTA

FBI MIAMI

725PM EST 4-22-68 URGENT RGT

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) ATLANTA (44-2386) CHARLOTTE (44-1365)

AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM MIAMI (44-18549 (P).

MURKIN

RE CHARLOTTE TEL TO BUREAU, MEMPHIS AND MIAMI,  
APRIL TWENTYTWO INSTANT.

CHARLOTTE STATES PETER S. GILCHRIST, CHARLOTTE, N.C.,  
ADVISED APRIL TWELVE LAST HE TRAVELED ATLANTA TO HOUSTON BY  
EALFLIGHT ONE THREE THREE, LEAVING ATLANTA ELEVEN ZERO FIVE  
AM. UPON VIEWING PHOTOGRAPH JAMES EARL RAY, ADVISED HE WAS SURE  
RAY WAS PASSENGER ON THIS FLIGHT AND TRAVELED WITHOUT LUGGAGE.  
ONLY DIFFERENCE WITH RAY AND PASSENGER WAS COLOR OF HAIR  
WHICH WAS BLOND. HE ADVISED THERE WERE FORTYFIVE - FIFTY  
PASSENGERS ON FLIGHT AND INSOFAR AS HE KNOWS INDIVIDUAL  
BELIEVED TO BE RAY WAS THE ONLY PERSON TO LEAVE PLANE AT  
HOUSTON. GILCHRIST DID NOT KNOWN NAME OF INDIVIDUAL.

EAL RECORDS FOR FLIGHT ONE THREE THREE, ATLANTA TO  
HOUSTON, APRIL TWELVE LAST, INDICATED TWENTYEIGHT PASSENGERS  
DEPARTED HOUSTON INCLUDING GILCHRIST.

44-2386-976

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*[Signature]*

MM (44-1854)

PAGE TWO

ATLANTA AT EAL, DETERMINE FLIGHT PERSONNEL OF FLIGHT ONE THREE THREE, ATLANTA TO HOUSTON, APRIL TWELVE LAST, AND EXHIBIT PHOTO OF SUBJECT IN ORDER TO DETERMINE IF SUBJECT ON THIS FLIGHT.

MIAMI HAS LIST OF PASSENGERS USING EAL TICKETS AND TICKET NUMBERS FOR EXCHANGE PASSENGERS IF NECESSARY THESE PERSONS BE IDENTIFIED AND INTERVIEWED.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

JWE

FBI ATLANTA

TU@

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI ATLANTA

9:07 PM 4-22-68 URGENT JWE

TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS AND RICHMOND  
FROM ATLANTA 44-2386

MURKIN

CHECK OF PASSENGER MANIFEST DATE FOR DELTA AIRLINES,  
ATLANTA, REFLECTS ONE NORM PERRY TRAVELING AS PARTY OF ONE,  
GIVING PHONE NUMBER AS FOUR SIX TWO DASH TWO THREE EIGHT TWO,  
BOARDED DELTA FLIGHT ONE ZERO SIX AT ATLANTA, GEORGIA, APRIL  
SIX, LAST, FLYING UNDER TOURIST CLASS, WITH DESTINATION LISTED  
AS LONDON, ENGLAND. FLIGHT FLEW DIRECT FROM ATLANTA, GEORGIA,  
TO DULLES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, VIRGINIA, AND FROM THERE DIRECT  
TO LONDON, AND SUBSEQUENTLY TERMINATING IN FRANKFURT, GERMANY.  
CHECK WITH SOUTHERN BELL TELEPHONE REFLECTS NUMBER FOUR SIX TWO  
DASH TWO THREE EIGHT TWO UNDER AREA CODE FOUR ZERO FOUR WOULD BE  
A RISING FAWN, GEORGIA, NUMBER AND UNDER AREA CODE NINE ONE TWO  
WOULD BE A NAHUNTA, GEORGIA, NUMBER. ATTEMPTS TO CONTACT  
INDIVIDUALS AT THIS NUMBER IN RISING FAWN AND NAHUNTA NEGATIVE;  
HOWEVER, CONTACT WITH INFORMATION OPERATORS THOSE LOCATIONS  
REFLECT NO PERRY LISTED IN THEIR PHONE DIRECTORIES. EFFORTS  
CONTINUING ATLANTA TO MAKE CONTACT AT THESE PHONE NUMBERS.  
END PAGE ONE

*Orig To  
Henry*

44-2386-977

PAGE TWO

RICHMOND AT DULLES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, IMMEDIATELY  
CONTACT CUSTOMS AGENTS AND EMPLOYEES, DELTA AIRLINES, TO  
DETERMINE IF PERRY FLEW TO LONDON FROM DULLES ON APRIL SIX  
LAST AND ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP ALL BACKGROUND INFORMATION CON-  
CERNING THIS INDIVIDUAL.

END.

TSJX

FBI MEMPHIS

CAB

FBI WASH DC

LLC

FBI RICHMOND

FBI ATLANTA

FBI LOS ANG

9:41PM URGENT 4-22-68 DPK

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), MEMPHIS, BIRMINGHAM, WASHINGTON FIELD,  
NEW YORK, ATLANTA, AND KANSAS CITY  
FROM LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

MURKIN

RE WILSHIRE BOOK COMPANY.

MELVIN POWERS, OWNER-MANAGER, WILSHIRE BOOK COMPANY,  
EIGHT SEVEN TWO ONE, SUNSET BOULEVARD, LOS ANGELES: HIS OFFICE  
SECRETARY, FRIEDA FREEDMAN, AND FIVE OTHER EMPLOYEES (ENTIRE  
STAFF) WERE INTERVIEWED AND PHOTOS OF RAY WERE EXHIBITED TO THEM.  
NONE HAS ANY RECOLLECTION OF RAY AS EVER HAVING BEEN PATRON OF WILSHIRE  
BOOK COMPANY. POWERS SAID BECAUSE MANY OF BOOK TITLES THEY  
PUBLISH DEAL WITH SELF-HYPNOTISM, WILSHIRE BOOK COMPANY RECEIVES  
TELEPHONE INQUIRIES SEEKING HELP IN THAT FIELD. THESE CALLERS ARE  
REFERRED TO DR. MARK O. FREEMAN, WHICH POWERS FEELS WAS PROBABLY  
PROCEDURE FOLLOWED WITH REGARD TO JAMES E. RAY.

RECHECK OF ALL AVAILABLE BOOK ORDERS COVERING PERIOD OF  
DECEMBER SIXTY SEVEN TO PRESENT FAILED TO REFLECT ANY ORDERS UNDER  
NAMES OF RAY OR GALT.

END PAGE ONE

44-2386-978

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
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FBI-ATLANTA	

*W*

PAGE TWO

LA 44-1574

POWERS SAID HIS PREVIOUS LISTS, COVERING ALL MAIL ORDER PURCHASES, PRIOR TO DECEMBER LAST, ARE CURRENTLY MAINTAINED BY KEN OLSEN, OF WILLA MADDERN, INC., TWO ONE FIVE PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK CITY, TELEPHONE SPRING SEVEN SEVEN FOUR SIX ZERO. HE SAID NY OFFICE SHOULD BE SURE AND MENTION IN CONTACTING OLSEN THEY WISH TO CHECK MAILING LISTS BOTH FOR MELVIN POWERS AND WILSHIRE BOOK COMPANY, AS HE IS NOT SURE WHETHER OLSEN MAINTAINS ONE OR TWO SEPARATE LISTS.

NEW YORK REQUESTED TO ASCERTAIN IF SUBJECT AS RAY OR GALT IS ON MAIL ORDER LIST.

RE MONEY ORDER PHASE, BANK OF AMERICA, LOS ANGELES

HELOISA KELLER, INDIVIDUAL WHO SOLD SUBJECT MONEY ORDERS AT BANK OF AMERICA, HOLLYWOOD AND WESTERN BRANCH, ON FEBRUARY TWO SIX LAST, WAS SHOWN PHOTOGRAPHS OF RAY. SHE STATED SHE COULD NOT RECALL THE TRANSACTION OR WAS THE INDIVIDUAL IN THE PHOTOGRAPH FAMILIAR TO HER.

RE RABBITS FOOT CLUB PHASE

BO DELMONTE AND JAMES E. MORRISON, BARTENDERS, RABBITS FOOT CLUB, HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA ADVISED INDIVIDUAL RESEMBLING SUBJECT FREQUENT CUSTOMER AT BAR. THEY STATED THIS INDIVIDUAL BELIEVED TO HAVE USED NAME QUOTE DOUG COLLINS END QUOTE WHEN PURCHASING KEY TO  
END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

LA 44-1574

KEY CLUB OPERATION AT BAR. NO KNOWLEDGE AS TO ASSOCIATES OR PRESENT LOCATION.

RE LARSON BOOK STORE PHASE

LOUISE LARSON, LARSON BOOK STORE, HOLLYWOOD, ADVISED AFTER VIEWING PHOTOGRAPHS OF SUBJECT THAT HE WAS FORMER CUSTOMER AT STORE. SHE COULD NOT RECALL ANY SPECIFIC TRANSACTIONS REGARDING SUBJECT NOR ANY DESCRIPTIVE DATA OTHER THAN THAT ALREADY KNOWN.

ST. FRANCIS HOTEL PHASE

MANAGER, ST. FRANCIS HOTEL, ADVISED THAT NO INDIVIDUAL IDENTIFIABLE WITH SUBJECT HAS BEEN IN HOTEL SINCE HIS DEPARTURE ON OR ABOUT MARCH SEVENTEEN LAST. ANONYMOUS COMPLAINANT HAD ADVISED THAT SUBJECT WAS AT ROOM FIVE ZERO SEVEN. MANAGER STATES TENANT AT ROOM FIVE ZERO SEVEN IS FEMALE NURSE HAS BEEN TENNANT FOR APPROXIMATELY TEN YEARS.

U.S. POSTAL MONEY ORDER PHASE

JAMES EARL RAY, AKA ERIC S. GALT, UTILIZED U.S. POSTAL MONEY ORDER NUMBER ONE NINE ONE SIX TWO ONE ONE ZERO SEVEN EIGHT OF THE AMOUNT FIFTEEN DOLLARS IN PAYMENT TO THE LOCKSMITHING INSTITUTE, BLOOMFIELD, NEW JERSEY. THIS MONEY ORDER DATED MARCH EIGHT LAST. THIS MONEY ORDER WAS ONE OF SERIES SOLD AT U.S. POST OFFICE,  
END PAGE THREE



PAGE FOUR

LA 44-1574

SANTA MONICA - WESTERN STATION. DURING PERIOD FEBRUARY ONE LAST THROUGH APRIL FOUR LAST U.S. POSTAL MONEY ORDER SERIES ONE NINE ZERO EIGHT ONE EIGHT THREE EIGHT FIVE SIX THROUGH ONE NINE ZERO EIGHT ONE EIGHT THREE NINE NINE NINE WERE SOLD AS WELL AS U.S. POSTAL MONEY ORDER SERIES ONE NINE ONE SIX TWO ONE ZERO ZERO ZERO ZERO THROUGH ONE NINE ONE SIX TWO ONE ONE NINE NINE NINE. FURTHER INVESTIGATION DETERMINED THAT INFORMATION CONCERNING THE PURCHASER OF U.S. POSTAL MONEY ORDER AND TO WHOM THE FUNDS WERE TO BE RECEIVED AS WRITTEN ON THE MONEY ORDER, COULD BE OBTAINED ONLY BY REVIEW OF THE CANCELLED MONEY ORDERS AT MONEY ORDER DIVISION, U.S. POST OFFICE, G.A.O. BUILDING, FOUR FOUR ONE G STREET, WASHINGTON, D.C.

WFO REQUEST TO REVIEW BOTH SERIES OF MONEY ORDERS FOR ANY THAT MAY HAVE BEEN UTILIZED BY SUBJECT.

INVESTIGATION CONTINUING.

END

LWG

FBI ATLANTA

TU

FBI SAVANNAH

FBI ATLANTA

10:24 PM URGENT 4-22-68 JWE

TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS, BIRMINGHAM, LOS ANGELES, KANSAS CITY,  
SPRINGFIELD, SAVANNAH, WFO  
FROM ATLANTA 44-2386

MURKIN

SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION, APRIL TWENTYTWO, SIXTYEIGHT:  
USED AND NEW CAR DEALERS IN ATLANTA AND SUBURBAN AREAS  
BEING CANVASSED, SHOWN PHOTOGRAPHS OF SUBJECT RAY, NEGATIVE TO  
DATE.

REPORTS OF CARS STOLEN IN ATLANTA, MARCH TWENTYFOUR DASH  
APRIL EIGHT LAST OBTAINED AND BEING CHECKED OUT. COMMUNICATION  
SUBMITTED THIS DATE TO APPROPRIATE OFFICES TO CONSIDER ANY  
STOLEN CAR FROM GEORGIA SUBSEQUENT TO APRIL FOUR LAST AS SUSPECT  
THIS CASE.

CHARTERED FLIGHTS OF AIRPLANES AT THREE LOCATIONS  
COVERING ATLANTA AREA BEING CHECKED. NOTHING PERTINENT OBTAINED.  
POLICE DEPARTMENTS, CREDIT BUREAUS, NEW AND USED CAR DEALERS,  
AIRLINES, BUSES, TAXICABS, AND CAB RENTALS IN ALL RESIDENT  
AGENCIES OF ATLANTA DIVISION BEING CHECKED AND SUBJECT'S  
PHOTOGRAPH DISPLAYED.

END PAGE ONE

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PAGE TWO

SUBJECT RAY'S NAME AND ALIASES CHECKED FOR AUTO REGISTRATION AND DRIVERS LICENSE FOR STATE OF GEORGIA WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED NEIGHBORHOOD WEST OF FOURTEENTH STREET AND PEACHTREE, INCLUDING COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS. NOTHING OF PERTINENCE OBTAINED.

DOCTORS OF PSYCHIATRY AND PSYCHOLOGY IN BROAD AREA SURROUNDING FOURTEENTH AND PEACHTREE STREET INTERVIEWED BUT NO INDICATION SUBJECT RAY WAS PATIENT.

JIMMIE DELTON GARNER, OWNER ROOMINGHOUSE WHERE RAY LIVED IN ATLANTA, REINTERVIEWED THIS DATE, WAS INTOXICATED. SHOWN ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS OF RAY WHICH HE COULD NOT IDENTIFY. DID STATE PICTURE ERIC STARVO GALT AS FURNISHED BY LOS ANGELES FROM BARTENDER'S SCHOOL WAS PERSON WHO STAYED AT HIS ROOMINGHOUSE.

CHECK AT POST OFFICE COVERING ROOMINGHOUSE AT ONE ONE THREE FOURTEENTH STREET, N.E., DID NOT REVEAL ANY MAIL FOR GALT.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

WFO, IF NOT ALREADY DONE, REQUESTED TO CHECK PASSPORT  
RECORDS AGAINST SUBJECT'S NAME AND ALL ALIASES.

CASE CONTINUES RECEIVE TOP PRIORITY ACTION.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END.

PNR

FBI SAVANNAH

DJB

FBI KAN CITY

DJK

FBI SPRNGFLD

DPK

FBI LOS ANG.

TSJ

FBI MEMPHIS

CAB

FBI WASH DC\*

GDM

FBI BIRMGHAM

@

BI NEW ORLS

FBI ATLANTA

10:31 PM URGENT 4-22-68 JWE

TO NEW ORLEANS

FROM ATLANTA 44-2386

MURKIN

RE NEW ORLEANS TELETYPE SETTING FORTH INFO RECEIVED  
FROM LEONARD GUZZINO, PATTERSON, LOUISIANA. TAG NUMBER SET  
FORTH ERRONEOUS AS GEORGIA TAGS HAVE ONLY ONE LETTER IN  
NUMBERED SEQUENCE. RECHECK WITH SOURCE AND ADVISE IF HE  
CAN BE MORE SPECIFIC.

END.

OLP

FBI NEW ORLS

TUCLR

44-2386-980

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI ATLANTA

11:46 PM URGENT 4-22-68 JWE

TO DIRECTOR, CHICAGO, SPRINGFIELD, KANSAS CITY AND MEMPHIS  
FROM ATLANTA 44-2386

MURKIN

RE ATLANTA AND SPRINGFIELD TELETYPES APRIL TWENTYTWO.

RAYMOND LOUIS CURTIS REINTERVIEWED CONCERNING PORTION OF  
INFORMATION PREVIOUSLY FURNISHED, CONCERNING RAY'S REPORTED  
INCARCERATION AT MENARD PRISON.

CURTIS ADVISED HE DID NOT SERVE TIME WITH SUBJECT RAY AT  
MENARD PRISON BUT RELATED ONLY WHAT RAY TOLD HIM CURTIS, WHILE  
BOTH WERE IN KANSAS CITY COUNTY JAIL FOR SIX OR SEVEN MONTH  
PERIOD. CURTIS ADVISED HE NEVER HEARD RAY MENTION SERVING TIME  
AT JOLIET OR PONTIAC PRISONS, BUT IF HE DID, HE WAS SURE RAY  
WOULD HAVE BEEN SHIPPED TO MENARD FOR DISCHARGE PURPOSES.

CURTIS FURTHER DESCRIBED UNKNOWN CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF RAY  
IN JACKSON COUNTY MISSOURI JAIL AS THE CELL MATE OF RAY AND  
PERSON CONVICTED ON SAME CHECK CHARGE WITH RAY.

CURTIS WHILE CONFINED WITH RAY AND UNKNOWN SECOND MAN  
IN JACKSON COUNTY RECALLS A THIRD UNKNOWN MALE VISITING RAY  
AND HIS CODEFENDANT. APPEARED THIRD MAN WAS REAL CLOSE TO BOTH  
END PAGE ONE

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PAGE TWO

RAY AND CELLMATE. CURTIS ADVISED JAIL VISITORS LOG MORE THAN  
LIKELY WILL NOT REFLECT IDENTITY OF THIRD MAN. CURTIS COULD NOT  
RECALL NAME OF THIRD MAN OR DESCRIPTION.

CURTIS ADVISED HE WAS CONFINED JEFFERSON COUNTY JAIL WITH  
RAY AND CO-DEFENDANT FROM MARCH NINETEEN FIFTYFIVE TO JULY  
NINETEEN FIFTYFIVE. CURTIS, RAY AND SECOND MAN ALL ENDED UP AT  
LEAVENWORTH WHERE WAS RELEASED PROBABLY IN NINETEEN FIFTYEIGHT.  
SECOND MAN WHO IS ASSOCIATED WITH RAY DESCRIBED AS WHITE MALE,  
THIRTYSIX, FIVE FEET TEN INCHES DASH SIX FEET, ONE EIGHT ZERO  
POUNDS WHO WAS STRONGLY BUILT AND SPENT HIS THREE YEARS AT  
LEAVENWORTH ON BODY CONDITIONING AND LIFTING WEIGHTS.

CURTIS ADVISED HE LAST SAW RAY IN JEFFERSON COUNTY JAIL IN  
MAY OR JUNE SIXTYSIX. CURTIS RELUCTANT TO TALK FURTHER THIS MATTER.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END.

TSJ

FBI MEMPHIS

ELN

FBI KAN CITY

DJK

FBI SPRNGLD

RSM

RBI CHICAGO

LCC

FBI WASH DC

@

PAGE FOUR

AT 26-NEW

KANSAS CITY THRU MVB, JEFFERSON CITY, DETERMINE  
TO WHOM SIXTYEIGHT MISSOURI J C TWO DASH FOUR SIX EIGHT REGISTERED  
AND DETERMINE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THEFT.

MEMPHIS DETERMINE FACTS SURROUNDING THEFT SIXTYEIGHT  
TORINO. THRU WATER WAYS MARINE LOCATE R. L. BATEMAND AND INTERVIEW  
CONCERNING SUBJECT'S ACTIVITIES DURING PERTINENT PERIOD. P



4/23/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

DEFERRED

TO DIRECTOR, KANSAS CITY AND MEMPHIS  
FROM ATLANTA 26-NEW

ROBERT LEE NEWGENT, AKA LARRY KEITH. ITSMV. OO: ATLANTA

RE MEMPHIS TELETYPE TO ATLANTA, APR. ELEVEN, LAST,  
ENTITLED MURKIN.

MEMPHIS ADVISED LARRY KEITH, BOSTON, GEORGIA,  
EMPLOYEE OF MISSISSIPPI VALLEY BARGE LINES, REGISTERED LINDEN  
LODGE, MEMPHIS, APR. THREE AND DEPARTED APR. SEVEN WITHOUT PAYING  
BILL. SUBJECT INTERVIEWED APR. EIGHTEEN BY AGENTS RELATIVE TO  
MURKIN. SUBJECT GAVE NAME AS LARRY KEITH AND STATED HE ARRIVED  
MEMPHIS ABOARD M/V RAY-A MAR. TWO NINE AND STAYED AT WATER WAY  
MARINE UNTIL EVENING MAR. THIRTYFIRST. HE MOVED TO LINDEN LODGE  
MOTEL. SUBJECT STATED HE FIRST LEARNED OF KING'S BEING SHOT  
FROM MEMPHIS POLICEMAN WORKING AUTO AUTO ACCIDENT INVOLVING  
SIXTYEIGHT THUNDERBIRD, BEARING ARKANSAS LICENSE, SIXTYFOUR  
MERCURY COMET, BEARING TENNESSEE LICENSE AND SIXTYSEVEN CADILLAC,  
BEARING TENNESSEE LICENSE.

2 - ATLANTA  
(1 - 26-NEW)  
(1 - 44-2386)  
RAM:vsc  
(2)

44-2386-982

PAGE TWO

AT 26-NEW

ACCIDENT OCCURRED NEAR OVERPASS IN VICINITY OF HEFF FORD AGENCY. SUBJECT CLAIMED HE DIRECTED WOMAN DRIVER OF THUNDERBIRD TO HEFF FORD FOR WRECKER. PERSONS BELIEVED TO BE MEDICAL STUDENTS ALSO INVOLVED IN ACCIDENT. SUBJECT CLAIMED AFTER HEARING RUMOR THAT SUBJECT IN MURKIN WORE MUSTACH, HE VISITED MEMPHIS PD AND FURNISHED NAME AND ADDRESS OF LINDEN LODGE.

SUBJECT OBSERVED IN BOSTON, GEORGIA, DRIVING SIXTYEIGHT DARK BLUE FORD TORINO GT, BEARING SIXTYEIGHT MISSOURI J C TWO DASH FOUR SIX EIGHT.

NCIC CHECK BY GSP, THOMASVILLE, REVEELED ABOVE LICENSE REPORTED STOLEN NOV. TWO THREE, SIXTYSEVEN, AUTHORITY POST THIRTYSEVEN, MISSOURI STATE PATROL.

SUBJECT WHEN REINTERVIEWED, APR. TWO ONE, ADMITTED THEFT OF TORINO FROM ~~HEFF~~ HEFF FORD AGENCY, APR. FIFTH, LAST. HE KEPT TORINO AT LINDEN LODGE UNTIL APR. SIX, AND THEN LEFT EN ROUTE CAIRO, ILLINOIS. AT UNIDENTIFIED TRUCK STOP NEAR ARKANSAS-MISSOURI LINE HE STOLE ABOVE LICENSE FROM OLD MODEL PONTIAC. ON EVENING APR. SIX, HE STAYED AT UNIDENTIFIED MOTEL AT INTERSECTION OF I-FIFTYFIVE, HWY FORTY AND HWY TWO ZERO THREE, EAST ST. LOUIS, ILLINOIS.

ON APR. SEVEN, HE DROVE TO CAIRO, ILLINOIS, WHERE HE PICKED UP R. L. BATEMAN, WHO LEFT M/V WILLIAM H. CRAIG AT CAIRO.

PAGE THREE

AT 26-NEW

HE AND BATEMAN DEPARTED CAIRO SAME DATE AND DROVE TORINO TO BOSTON, GA., ARRIVING MORNING APR. EIGHT.

AUSA MANLEY F. BROWN, MDGA, MACON, GA., AUTHORIZED PROSECUTION. COMPLAINT FILED APR. TWO ONE BEFORE USC, THOMASVILLE, GA., CHARGING VIOLATION TITLE EIGHTEEN, USC, SECT. TWO THREE TWELVE; SUBJECT ARRAIGNED SAME DATE BEFORE USC TROWELL, WAIVED PRELIMINARY HEARING AND WAS REMANDED TO CUSTODY USM, MDGA, MACON, IN LIEU OF FIFTEEN HUNDRED BOND. SUBJECT HAS TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS CASH AND PLANS TO POST BOND.

EXAMINATION OF TORINO SHOWED SERIAL NUMBER PLATES HAD BEEN REMOVED. TORINO HAS CVIN EIGHT A FOUR TWO Y ONE NINE EIGHT ONE THREE FOUR. CAR STORED RUNNING CONDITION, THOMAS COUNTY JAIL, THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA.

R. L. BATEMAN PRESENTLY ABOARD M/V GEORGE T. HORTON AND WHEREABOUTS CAN BE ESTABLISHED THRU WATER WAYS MARINE, MEMPHIS.

SUBJECT LIVES FIVE ZERO ONE NORTH SIXTYFIRST ST., EAST ST. LOUIS, ILLINOIS, BORN [REDACTED] AT EAST ST. LOUIS, W/M, SEVENTY FOUR INCHES TALL, TWO TEN LBS., CURLY REDDISH HAIR, BLUE EYES, RUDDY COMPLEXION, HEAVY BUILD, OPERATION SCARS BOTH ANKELS AND WAS WEARING RED MUSTACH WHILE IN MEMPHIS.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386)

FROM : SA RICHARD H. DAVIS

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4/22/68

On 4/16/68, SA DAVIS was assigned the following cab companies to contact in order to see if they had made any pickups in the vicinity of 14th Street and Peachtree, Northeast, on 4/5/68:

Star Cab Service  
265 Auburn Avenue, Northeast

The owner of Star Cab Service is CLIFFORD MURRAY and he stated he had only one taxi cab and he had not had this cab in operation since last year, as he has not been able to get a driver.

United Cabs, Inc.  
255 Forsyth, Southwest

The dispatcher of this company, JAMES M. BULLOCK, who is also the son of the owner, was contacted and BULLOCK stated that they have 36 drivers and many of these drivers do not show origin and destination on their trip sheet, and that he would have to ask each individual driver whether they made the kind of pickup in question. April 16 was a Tuesday, but Mr. BULLOCK stated that it would take him to the following Saturday before he could contact every one of his drivers, because many of them did not have telephones and in quite a few cases, he did not even have a current address, for the cab drivers.

As of the time of the dictation of this memo on 4/22/68, efforts to contact Mr. BULLOCK have been unsuccessful, but a message has been left at the cab company for BULLOCK to call SA DAVIS as soon as he returns to the office.

2-Atlanta  
RHD:bjc  
(2)



44-2386-983

SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED  
APR 23 1968  
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Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

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Courtesy Cab Company  
654 Lee Street, Southwest

It was determined that this cab company has moved to 303 Walker Street and it was actually a combination of five taxi cab companies (Associated Cabs, Blue and Gray Cabs, Peachtree Cabs, Courtesy Cabs, and Carriage Cabs) of which the parent company was Blue and Gray Cab Company. The group operates 186 taxis and at the conclusion of their examination of trip sheets for 4/5/68, it was determined that there were 11 trip drivers from the area in question. Each one of the cab drivers was personally questioned by SA DAVIS, the last one being located on 4/22/68. Most of the trips were eliminated when interview indicated that the passenger was a female, elderly man, etc. These have not been included in this memo and the following are the only ones that seemed to have any possibility of having any connection with this case:

Driver ROY GATES  
352 Augusta Avenue, Southeast  
Telephone Number 622-3947

GATES made a pickup at 9:40 a.m. at the Howell House, 710 Peachtree, on 4/5/68. At first GATES stated that the photograph displayed to him did not look familiar at all and he could not remember any description concerning the man he had picked up at the Howell House and taken to the Airport. GATES stated that he believed he would remember the man if he looked anything like the photograph and all he could remember was that the man was alone and carried no luggage. About a half hour or so later, GATES telephoned the taxi office and again spoke to SA DAVIS. GATES stated that he had given the matter further thought and he recalled that his passenger on this trip had been a white male, about 5'9", 180 lbs., with dark hair. GATES stated that this man spoke with

AT 44-2386

a Spanish accent and GATES had to ask the destination twice. GATES stated he could not be sure, but he believed he dropped the individual off at the Delta Airlines end of the Atlanta Airport. GATES could not recall anything about this individual's hair, except that it was dark in color and GATES stated that the man did not have a really dark complexion if he were Spanish. GATES did recall that the man did carry what appeared to be an attache case. GATES still said, however, that as far as the photograph which had been displayed to him, he could not say whether it resembled the man he had picked up or not. GATES stated that he would try to give more thought to this pickup and if he recalled anything else, he would contact SA DAVIS.

Driver RUBEN CASTLEBERRY  
354 Clifton Road

CASTLEBERRY stated that at 2:35 a.m., which would have been actually on 4/6/68, he had received a dispatch call to pick up a man at 1410 Peachtree Street and take him to the airport. CASTLEBERRY stated that he had been told by the dispatcher that this man had 15 minutes to get to the airport. CASTLEBERRY stated that when he arrived at the address, a white male emerged from the hallway of the building and got into the cab. CASTLEBERRY stated that this address is four long blocks from 14th and Peachtree and the man was carrying a suitcase. CASTLEBERRY stated that he believed this passenger to be a young man in his late 20s, about 5'7" to 5'8", and heavy set. CASTLEBERRY stated the man was dressed in a suit with shirt and tie. He stated that he could not tell whether the man resembled the photograph shown to him, but he believed that had the passenger had the kind of short haircut shown in the

AT 44-2386

photograph, he would have remembered him. However, CASTLEBERRY was vague as to whether the man had a hat or whether he was confusing him with some other passenger he had picked up that night.

CASTLEBERRY could not recall what part of the airport he had taken this passenger but he seemed to have the vague idea that it might have been to one of the local lines, such as Piedmont or Southern. CASTLEBERRY stated he would try to give this matter some further thought, and if he could remember anything else about this passenger, he would contact SA DAVIS.

Driver EUGENE DUNNE  
Scoville Motel  
Mitchell Street

DUNNE was located on 4/22/68, and he stated that the man he had picked up at 11:45 p.m. at 14th and Peachtree Street on 4/5/68, was a white male, about 36 to 40 years old, 5'11", 145 lbs., to 150 lbs., and he further described this passenger as having a pointed face with a thin nose and what he would describe as "hawk-like" features. DUNNE stated that this passenger appeared to be more slender and to have a thinner face than the photograph he had seen of the man wanted in this case. He said that this passenger had worn a white shirt and tie and trousers and definitely had not worn a coat, nor was he carrying one. He stated that this passenger had hailed him from the Sinclair Service Station located at 14th St. and Peachtree and he stated that this passenger had been drinking. DUNNE stated that the passenger had just told him the destination of Monroe and Westminister Drive, and as they approached this corner going East on Westminister, they were stopped by a red light and the passenger stated he would get out

AT 44-2386

at that point rather than wait until they had reached the corner he had designated. DUNNE stated that he did not know where the passenger had gone when he got out of the cab. DUNNE stated that he would give this matter further thought and if he recalled any other details concerning this passenger, he would contact SA DAVIS.



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-2386)

FROM : SA ALDEN F. MILLER

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR  
(OO: MEMPHIS)

DATE: 4/22/68

On 4/22/68, Mr. JACKIE KNOX, 151 Holiday Street, Marietta, Georgia, telephonically advised that on Sunday, 4/21/68, at approximately 10:30 - 11:00 a.m., he observed an individual in a roominghouse near the Railroad Depot, Marietta, Georgia, who appeared similar to the person being publicized as the killer of Dr. KING. He advised this individual apparently resides in a roominghouse directly above a beauty shop which is located on the same side of the railroad tracks as the Railroad Depot.

LEAD:

AT MARIETTA, GEORGIA

Will check identity of roomers in above-described roominghouse and determine whether any are similar in appearance to Subject RAY.

2 - Atlanta  
AFM:rjb  
(2)  
*afm*

44-2386

984

SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED  
APR 23 1968  
FBI-ATLANTA  
*Check*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386)

DATE: 4/12/68

FROM : SA BERNARD R. BERRY

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR

On 4/10/68 the following laundries were contacted  
by SA BERNARD R. BERRY with negative results:

AT CHATSWORTH, MURRAY COUNTY, GA.

Dixie Jones, dba Fort View Cleaners, Box 271

AT ELLIJAY, GILMER COUNTY, GA.

Delmar Land, dba Colonial Cleaners

AT BLUE RIDGE, FANNIN COUNTY, GA.

J. W. Hackney, dba Royal Cleaners, West First Street

AT MCCAYSVILLE, FANNIN COUNTY, GA.

H. J. Swanky, dba Swanky's Cleaners

2 - Atlanta  
BRB:jhs  
(2)

44-2386-985



5010-108-02

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386)

DATE: 4/12/68

FROM : SA NED A. MYERS

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR

ReBuael to all continental offices 4/8/68.

The following investigation was conducted by  
SA NED A. MYERS on 4/11/68:

Following are the voting registrars and  
counties contacted for anyone listed with the surname  
of LOWMEYER or LOWMYER. All were negative:

ELAINE MAYO, Blakely County

ANN SMITH, Houston County

MRS. CHARLIE WOODS, Pulaski County

On this same date, the telephone directories  
of the following cities were checked with negative  
results re this same name:

Milledgeville, County Seat, Baldwin County

Sparta, County Seat, Hancock County

Irwinton, County Seat, Wilkinson County

Sandersville, County Seat, Washington County

Eatonton, County Seat, Putnam County

Hawkinsville, County Seat, Pulaski County

Cochran, County Seat, Bleckley County

Jeffersonville, County Seat, Twiggs County

44-2386-986



5010-108-02

2 - Atlanta  
NAM:jhs  
(2)

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

F B I

Date: 4/22/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR  
(OO: MEMPHIS)

For the information of receiving offices, Subject JAMES EARL RAY, Aka. was last known to be in the Atlanta, Georgia, area on 4/5/68. Intensive investigation by the Atlanta Office to date has not established mode of transportation utilized by RAY after 4/5/68 through checks with transportation companies, car rental agencies, etc.

3 - Bureau	2 - Miami
2 - Baltimore	2 - Mobile
2 - Birmingham	2 - Newark
2 - Charlotte	2 - New Orleans
2 - Chicago	2 - New York City
2 - Cincinnati	2 - Norfolk
2 - Cleveland	2 - Philadelphia
2 - Columbia	2 - Pittsburgh
2 - Houston	2 - Richmond
2 - El Paso	2 - St. Louis
2 - Indianapolis	2 - San Antonio
2 - Jackson	2 - Savannah
2 - Jacksonville	2 - Springfield
2 - Kansas City	2 - Tampa
2 - Little Rock	2 - WFO
2 - Louisville	2 - Atlanta
2 - Memphis	
2 - Miami	

JJL:rjb  
(69)

44-2386-987

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

F B I

Date:

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

AT 44-2386

All receiving offices are requested to check car recoveries within their respective divisions of cars stolen from the State of Georgia subsequent to 4/4/68, and consider same to have been possible mode of transportation for Subject RAY. The same consideration should be given to any cars recovered in the near future that were stolen from the State of Georgia after 4/4/68. In those instances where cars were stolen from Georgia and where the transporter of same cannot otherwise be accounted for, investigation should be conducted to determine if RAY was person who may have stolen and transported same.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- 2 -

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386)

FROM : SA MARION E. CHEEK

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4/23/68

Rememo of Supv. CHARLES S. HARDING and Miami  
tels dated 4/19/68.

BILL MILLER, Personnel Officer, Regional  
Director's Office, Eastern Airlines, advised reservation  
data and ticket information concerning passengers on  
Flights 320 and 955, 4/5/68, and Flight 915, 4/6/68,  
had been forwarded to Miami in care of Mrs. RICHTER,  
12585 Northeast 7th Avenue, Miami. He telephoned her  
and asked her to pull the reservation data for Captain  
and Mrs. S. JAYMES and Rev. C. C. BOVER (Flight 320  
to Toronto, 4/5/68); ORLANDO GONZALES, MALDONADO, and  
Mr. T. WHISBY (Flight 955, 4/5/68); E. CARNEY, E. J.  
CARNEY, P. RAGSDALE, D. ANDRICH, H. SMITH, and P. GOSS  
(Flight 915, 4/6/68).

There is insufficient data in re Miami tel  
to check out above individuals and Miami requested by  
tel, 4/22/68, to review reservations containing telephone  
numbers and addresses of contacts. Upon receipt of this  
information from Miami, these leads will be covered.

MILLER furnished the following information  
concerning crew members of these flights and investigation  
determined the following:

## Captains and Pilots

(A) W. H. PATE, Flight 320, 4/5/68, residence  
3545 Springside Drive, Decatur, Ga., Telephone Number  
BU4-1962, currently out on flight, will return late  
evening 4/23/68, and will be available for interview  
4/24/68.

2-Atlanta  
MEC:bjc  
(2) *[Signature]*



44-2386-988

SEARCHED *[Signature]*  
SERIALIZED *[Signature]*  
APR 23 1968  
*[Signature]* *[Signature]*

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

AT 44-2386

R. G. DISTEL, Flight 320, Co-Pilot, 4/5/68, residence 1840 Sullivan Road, Apartment J2, College Park, Georgia, on vacation until 4/30/68, and did not leave contact address while on vacation and neighborhood inquiry reflects no one at home and no one knows whereabouts. Will be contacted 4/30/68.

T. H. WALTERS, Flight 328, Captain, residence 2637 Headland Drive, East Point, Ga., Telephone Number 344-2446, interviewed 4/22/68.

*5074 Dixie Hwy Rt 1 Forest Pk. apt 73*  
*Covered Check*  
F. H. ALLEY, Flight 328, 4/5/68, residence 4135 Welcomeall Terrace, College Park, Ga., Telephone Number 762-5330, appointment made 4/23/68.

Attendants

*766 8295*  
*Sullivan Rd fm 1048 Riverside Rd E+W.*  
- JOCELYN LOUISE BREAKWELL, Flight 328, 4/5/68, residence 1840 Sullivan Place, Apartment 9, College Park, Ga., Telephone Number 776-8295. BREAKWELL out of town on flight and will return evening of 4/23/68. Will be available for interview 4/24/68. *not at address*

*neg*  
✓ - MARY BONITA COULTER, Flight 320, 4/5/68, residence 3244 North Fulton Avenue, Apartment D-3, Hapeville, Ga., Telephone Number 761-6011, out of town on flight, returning evening of 4/23/68, available for interview 4/24/68.

*Covered Check*  
*(B)*  
RENDER EUTIS HARRIS, 1239 Herndon Street, Griffin, Ga. (name furnished by Miami), investigation reflects his flight line cancelled and Miami confused since this should be RUTH E. HARRIS, 635 Fair Street, University Plaza, who was stewardess on Flight 328, 4/5/68. Appointment made for interview 4/23/68.

AT 44-2386

*neg*  
(A) JILL HENSLEY, Flight 320, 4/5/68, 1195 Woodland Avenue, Apartment C-3, Telephone Number 634-6400, out of town on flight returning evening 4/23/68, available 4/24/68.

(B) CORINTHIA LENORA HICKS, Flight 328, 4/5/68,, 635 Fair Street, University Plaza, Apartment 310, Telephone Number 523-3381, Extension 310, appointment made 4/23/68. *Covered Check.*

(A) DIANNE ELIZABETH ROSSITER, Flight 320, 4/5/68, 2788 Defoore Ferry Road, Apartment 21, Telephone Number 432-1456, currently on vacation returning to Atlanta 4/24/68. *Europe on Vacation*  
*not at address*

LEADS

ATLANTA

AT ATLANTA, GA.

Upon receipt of requested information from Miami re passengers, check out individuals for elimination purposes.

On 4/24/68, (leads set out since writer will not be in Atlanta on that date), interview JILL HENSLEY, DIANNE ELIZABETH ROSSITER, JOCELYN LOUISE BREAKWELL, MARY BONITA COULTER, and W. H. PATE.

On 4/30/68, interview R. G. DISTEL and display photographs of subject to above.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 13, 1968

On April 13, 1968, Special Agents ROBERT L. MC FALL and ROGER L. KAAS of the Federal Bureau of Investigation contacted Mrs. BETTY TWEED, 846 Saint Charles Avenue, Northeast, Atlanta, Georgia and were advised by her that HAROLD H. FLETCHER was one of her tenants.

She further advised upon viewing the composite picture of ERIC STARVO GALT that this appeared to be FLETCHER. She pointed out that FLETCHER is secretly married and that his wife and one of her girl friends came to Atlanta, Georgia the morning of April 9, 1968 and returned to Greensboro, North Carolina College on the evening of April 11, 1968.

Mrs. TWEED furnished a photograph of HAROLD H. FLETCHER and advised that he was approximately thirty years of age with an address of 107 East Lee Avenue, Gastonia, North Carolina, telephone number 629-2020.

On 4/13/68 at Atlanta, Georgia File # Atlanta 44-2386 - 989  
by SAs ROBERT L. MC FALL and ROGER L. KAAS RLM:hjm Date dictated 4/13/68

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

4-20-68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)  
FROM: SAC, NEW HAVEN (157-818)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN  
OO:MEMPHIS

RE: New York telephone call, 4-20-68

Re telephone call requested the NHO interview E.L. FOSS, JR., co-pilot for Eastern Airlines on Flight 106, from Atlanta, Ga., to Kennedy Airport, New York City, on 4-5-68.

E.L. FOSS, Bridgewater, Conn., advised on 4-20-68, that he was co-pilot on Flight 106 from Atlanta, Ga., to Kennedy Airport, New York City on 4-5-68. He advised that he had had opportunity to view the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and stated that he was unable to recall anyone fitting this description being on Flight 106 from Atlanta, Ga., on 4-5-68.

2 - Memphis  
① - Atlanta (44-1286)  
1 - New York  
2 - New Haven  
RAC:jml  
(6)  
REGISTERED MAIL

44-2386-990

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 23 1968	
FBI-ATLANTA	

W