

ME 44-1987
PAGE TWO

THEREFORE, IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE, UNLESS ADVISED TO THE CONTRARY BY THE BUREAU, OFFICES RECEIVING THIS COMMUNICATION ARE TO HOLD IN ABEYANCE ANY INVESTIGATION RE CHECK OF RECORDS OF MENTAL INSTITUTIONS IN AN EFFORT TO LOCATE A COMMITMENT RECORD RE SUBJECT RAY.

ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM, KANSAS CITY, LOS ANGELES, SAN DIEGO, AND SAN FRANCISCO ADVISED BY AIRMAIL.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P.

END.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-2386) (P)

FROM : SA ROBERT K. LEWIS

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

DATE: 5/9/68

Re memorandum of SA ROBERT L. McFALL, 4/19/68, which is serial 778.

On 4/25/68, Chief of Police GEORGE PEARSON, Hapeville PD, and Dets. JIM CLAY and JACK GRANT advised that Old Hwy. 41 is now known as Central Ave. All of these individuals said they had never heard of a JOHNSON Grocery Store. They further advised there is no Robinson St. in Hapeville. Physical observation of Central Ave. throughout Hapeville failed to disclose any Johnson Grocery. A Robinson St. was finally located in the Mountain View area, and it is noted that this is a dirt street in the Negro section. The homes along this street are not numbered and repeated inquiries failed to locate anyone on the street named JOHN DORE.

On 5/7/68, a general merchandise store and Citco Gas Station were located on Old Hwy. 41 but well south of Forest Park, Ga. The owner was interviewed and he advised he had never heard of any other JOHNSON Grocery Store on Old Hwy. 41. He said he is not acquainted with a JOHN DORE nor with anyone named JOHN WILLARD. He said he has no recollection of anyone ever attempting to cash a \$400 or \$500-dollar check in his store. He said he is not acquainted with anyone driving a new Mustang with Alabama license plates and is positive that no one had ever asked him about an alleged individual using a driver's license with the name JOHN WILLARD on it.

2 - Atlanta
RKL:vsc
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44-2386-1773
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FILED _____
MAY 10 1968
FBI - ATLANTA
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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, ATLANTA 44-2386

FROM : Complaint Clerk Jerry D. Roseberry

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 5-10-68

DR. GROVER HALL, 209 14th Street, N.E., 892-3510, called at 10:43 am today and advised that he had just had a patient in his office that caused him to be suspicious that he might be subject RAY, however he is unable to decide. This patient resembled RAY except that he weighs 200 lbs., and has a heavy growth of beard.

The patient gave him name as DAVID PORTER and his address as 226 14th Street, N.E. He told HALL that he had been in Atlanta only two days. PORTER stated his father had epilepsy and he feels he has inherited it from his father.

HALL stated PORTER appeared to be confused and not to know where he was or what was taking place about him. When PORTER left HALL's office HALL observed him enter 226 14th Street address.

HALL will be in his office all day except for period from noon until 2:00 pm.

2-Atlanta
JDR/jdr

44-2386-1774

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

Kerry

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 5/7/68

JIMMIE DELTON GARNER, 107 - 14th Street, N.E., Atlanta, was interviewed at his place of business, 1052 Northside Drive, N.W.

GARNER specifically was asked regarding any discussions he may recall with the man whom he knew as ERIC S. GALT concerning drugs and/or narcotics. GARNER replied that he could recall no conversation with "GALT" concerning these matters and can recall nothing to indicate GALT was using drugs or narcotics.

GARNER also was asked specifically whether he recalled any conversation with "GALT" concerning racial matters. GARNER said he cannot recall any such conversation.

GARNER reiterated information previously furnished that the only conversation with GALT was the one on March 31, 1968, at which time he was paid for an additional week's rent. He again stated he is positive he did not encounter "GALT" at 113 - 14th Street, N.E., on Friday, April 5, 1968, when he GARNER, went to that address to remove the dirty linens to be given to the laundry man.

GARNER said PERRY LEE ZACKERY, the cook at Garner's Cafeteria, and another employee at the cafeteria, went to the rooming houses on 14th Street on the afternoon of April 5, 1968, to make up the beds. He cannot recall the identity of the woman who accompanied ZACKERY, but knows only it was a Negro female whom he had picked up to work in the restaurant as a dishwasher. He noted that during the past several weeks, he has had numerous different women working at the restaurant, and cannot specifically recall which one was working on April 5, 1968. He suggested that EDNA JACKSON, who resides at 646 Whitaker Street, might have been the woman who accompanied PERRY ZACKERY to clean the rooming houses on April 5, 1968.

On 5/1/68 at Atlanta, Georgia File # Atlanta 44-2386-1775
by SA JOHN R. CORDEN:lcc Date dictated 5/3

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386) (P) DATE: 5/9/68

FROM : SA ROBERT R. NICHOLS

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re memo of Supervisor CHARLES S. HARDING dated 4/22/68; memo of SAC, ATLANTA to All Resident Agents and Road Trip Agents dated 4/30/68; and Memphis teletype to the Bureau, Atlanta, and other offices dated 4/22/68.

The following contacts were made in the Valdosta RA territory and no information was obtained regarding JAMES EARL RAY with alias ERIC GALT.

On 4/24/68, the following new car dealers were contacted at Valdosta, Ga.

OLIN F. WARE, partner in the Ware and Reddick Motors, 505 North Ashley Street.

CHARLES E. SHEFFIELD, Smith Motors, 108 North Toombs Street.

JOHN C. OLIVER, Secretary-Treasurer of Oliver Motors, Inc., 1103 North Ashley Street.

CHARLES W. STEWART, assistant vice president, Langdale Ford Co., 215 W. Magnolia Street.

W.G. SOUTHWELL, President, Southwell Motors, 1115 North Patterson Street.

JIM SLOAN, owner of Superior Lincoln Mercury, Inc., 400 North Toombs Street.

JOHN E. THORNE, President of John Thorne Motors, Inc., Wilkerson Ave., Valdosta.

2-Atlanta
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44-2386-1776

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AT 44-2386

The following cab companies were contacted on 4/25/68:

BENJAMIN A. FRAZIER, Big Ben Cab Co., 819 W. Magnolia Street.

HOWARD L. GOODMAN, Goodman Cab Co., 405 S. Ashley Street.

PEARL CALHOUN, Yellow Cab Co., 119 McKay Street.

JIM SMITH, Safety Cab Co., 119 McKay Street.

LAMAR PARKER, Owl Cab Co., 102 East Branch Street.

The following used car dealers were contacted in Valdosta on 5/2/68:

WILLIE E. CUNNINGHAM, Cunningham Motors, 529 S. Ashley Street.

JAMES A. LLOYD, Lloyd Motors, 702 N. Ashley Street.

ERNEST E. PAINE of Ernie Paine's Used Cars, 300 E. Hill Ave.

JAMES C. SNOW, Snow Motors, 506 N. Ashley Street.

FELTON GRIMER, South Patterson Used Car Co., 601 S. Patterson Street.

RAYMOND M. TILLMAN, Tillman Motors, 607 N. Ashley Street.

In addition, the following contacts were made in Valdosta, Ga. on 5/3/68:

FRANK S. STEELE, Vice President, Traffic Department, Southern Railway System, 308 South Patterson Street.

On 5/3/68, EDWARD L. CHATMAN, Ticket Agent, Atlantic Coastline Railroad, 119 South Patterson Street.

AT 44-2386

On 5/3/68, MORRIS STEWART, Manager of Southern Airways, Inc., and manager of Hertz Rent-A-Car, 2617 Madison Highway; 4/23/68 and 5/2/68 COP WILBUR PERKERSON, Valdosta, Ga. PD.

4/23/68 and 5/2/68 Sheriff J.L. FUTCH, Lowndes Co., Valdosta, Ga.

5/2/68, RED PORTWOOD, Georgia State Patrol Barracks, Valdosta, Ga.

4/23/68, Credit Bureau of Valdosta, Miss PAT GUEST 121 W. Central Ave., Valdosta.

The following were contacted on 4/23/68 at Valdosta, Ga.;

BOLAND MILLER, manager of Trailways Bus Terminal and JOHN KELLER, manager of Greyhound Bus Terminal, Valdosta, Ga.

The following agencies were contacted on 5/3/68

Sheriff LEON CROSBY, Lanier Co. SO, Lakeland, Ga.

COP BILL COUNTS, Lakeland PD, Lakeland, Ga.

Sheriff CHARLES SMITH, Clinch County, Homerville, Ga.

COP JOE B. LANCASTER, Homerville PD, Homerville, Ga.

Mrs. JEAN BENNETT, Credit Bureau of Homerville, Homerville, Ga.

COP JESSIE YOUNG, Mahira PD, Mahira, Ga.

Sheriff LEON BAULERSON, Echols Co. SO, Statenville, Ga.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386) (P) DATE: 5/9/68

FROM : SA SCOTT T. FENSTERMAKER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re insert dictated, 5/7/68.

LEAD

ATLANTA

AT ATLANTA, GA.

Interview CORA MERRITT, 1627 Orlando, S. W.,
employed at Davison's Dept. Store, re info supplied by
Mrs. GEORGE PHILLIPS.

2 Atlanta
STF:vsc
(2)

44-2386-177

Lead

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FILED
MAY 10 1968
FBI - ATLANTA
Fenstermaker

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

James Earl Ray, (Eric Starvo Galt), Depicted As Mean Kid In Mean Times

The accused killer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., James Earl Ray, alias Eric Starvo Galt, grew up a mean kid in mean times.

Five Life Magazine reporters depicted him as such in a recent article dealing with the wanted man.

The reporters, all former newspapermen, spent a grueling week on the trail of Ray and his family.

They traced the Rays across Illinois and Missouri and heard many times of the family that lived "out there on the side of that hill without enough to eat."

His troubled life began early. Ray was not a conforming child, according to the reporters. He missed from 25 to 30 per cent of each school year that he attended. He quit school when he was 18. In school he was described as a rebel.

Ray was the oldest of nine children. He was born in Alton, Ill., Mar. 10, 1928.

His second grade school record seemed to begin a long list of rebel ways.

In Ewing, Mo., where Ray spent most of his childhood, the school principal reflected his attitude on Ray's

school record.

"Attitude toward regulations—violates all of them; honesty—needs watching; appearance—repulsive; courtesy—seldom if ever polite."

His post-school life was described by Life writers as "one head-on encounter with cops after another."

They describe two incidents where fate just seemed to be working against him.

Ray had robbed a Chicago cab. He was shot in the back of the head in 1952. Trying to escape, he had run into a dead-end alley; he was shot in the arms and fell through a basement window.

After his release in 1954, Ray tried to rob a dry cleaner's in East Alton, Ill. This time he lost his shoes breaking out through the front window.

Police had disabled his getaway car so Ray ran five miles home in badly cut stocking feet.

He was arrested anyway.

From a grocery store and dry cleaner's bandit to the most hunted man in the country, Ray spent a spell of time living high with "a roll of 20s and an assumed name."

James Earl Ray, say the Life

writers, never made the big time. He was described as "innocuous" and "penny ante."

Life depicts him as slight and round-shouldered, a man who flinched, smiled a crooked, private grin and sometimes even seemed to walk on a slant. The story concludes:

"But, says the FBI, on April 4 in Memphis, at the moment Martin Luther King died, all the bills for the Mustang automobile, shoes, dancing lessons and a \$15,030.06 Remington—and maybe the bitter childhood—came due."

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

Page 1
The LaGrange Daily
News
LaGrange, Ga.

Date: 5-7-68

Edition:

Author:

Editor:

Title: MURKIN

Character: CR

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: ATLANTA

☒ Being Investigated

44-2386-1778

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FBI - ATLANTA	

WV



WANTED by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is James Earl Ray, alias Eric Starvo Galt. Prison photos of Ray, above left, are shown in comparison with artist sketches made from witnesses' descriptions of a man seen fleeing the house from which the fatal bullet was fired.



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

To: FBI, Memphis (44-1987)

Date: May 8, 1968

Re: MURKIN
CR
OO: Memphis

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

FBI File No. 44-38861
Lab. No. D-562360 JK

Examination requested by: Los Angeles
Reference: Airtel 5/2/68
Examination requested: Document - Fingerprint
Remarks:

You will be advised separately regarding the results of the fingerprint examination and disposition of the evidence.

DO NOT INCLUDE ADMINISTRATIVE
PAGE(S) INFORMATION IN
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)

2 - Los Angeles (44-1574) Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)

1 - Atlanta (44-2386) Enclosure (Lab report)

1 - Birmingham (44-1740) Enclosure (Lab report)

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386)

DATE: 5/9/68

FROM : SA HARRY L. LEE

SUBJECT: MURKIN

With regard to the investigation described in Serial 1538 in this case, taxi cab trip sheets containing data indicating taxi fares made to or from the 14th Street and Peachtree Street area or to or from the Capitol Homes area were noted.

Taxi cab trip sheets of the Blue and Gray Cab Company (Courtesy Cab Company), 319 Walker Street, Southwest, were examined. The following individuals contacted on 5/2/68, advised that they could recall absolutely nothing concerning fares taken by them from these areas on 4/12/68.

Mr. FRED PINKARD
Cab Number 25

Mr. TOM BROWN
Cab Number 71

Mr. KENNETH RAY BRAWNER
Cab Number 30

Mr. FLOYD O. NEWBORN
Cab Number 41

Mr. CHARLES MOWELL
Cab Number 71

Mr. REUBEN CASTLEBERRY
Cab Number 36

2-Atlanta
HLL:bjc
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[Handwritten signature]

44-2386-170

[Handwritten signature]

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SERIALIZED <i>[initials]</i>	FILED <i>[initials]</i>
MAY 9 1968	
FBI - ATLANTA	

[Handwritten signature]

AT 44-2386

4/12/68	GUSTUS HACK	88 Jackson Street.
4/12/68	Mrs. ELLIE GIBBS	638 Coledge Street.
4/12/68	Mrs. MARY WHEELER	12 Johnson Ferry Road.
4/12/68	MARY FORCE or W. H. FORCE	625 North Highland Avenue.
4/11/68	HENRY S. STRAUSS (Mr. STRAUSS described by Mrs. MC LEOD as a long time safe deposit box holder).	
4/12/68	JOHNNIE E. JOHNSON (described by Mrs. MC LEOD as a Negro female).	
4/5/68	ROBERT H. HARRISON (described by Mrs. MC LEOD as a Negro male).	673 Boulevard

Mrs. MC LEOD advised that the only two individuals visiting safe deposit boxes on 4/5/68, were ROBERT H. HARRISON, a Negro male and Mrs. LINDA NETTLES.

An examination of Atlanta City Directories discloses that Mrs. LINDA E. NETTLES, widow of ROBERT NETTLES, a resident of 794B Peachtree Lake Place, N.E., is listed as a resident at that address, and further data indicates her husband to have been a former employee of the UHF& Company, Atlanta, Ga.

Investigation is continuing in this matter to identify these individuals.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

5-8-68 142 MLF

J. Edgar Hoover
Director.

The following FBI record, NUMBER 841 310 C, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
PD Detroit Mich	Robert Joseph Dunaway #98063	7-1-50	inv viol US Code	7-3-50 sent susp on chg of loit hse of prost
SO Mount Clemens Mich	Robert Joseph Dunaway #9679	3-17-58	attach	\$200 or 30 das Paid
SPol Detroit Mich	Robert Joseph Dunaway #7-270-66	6-30-67	conspiracy to commit extortion	
PD Atlanta Ga	Unknown Residence: 548 N. Brys Grosse Pointe Woods, Mich. (as on print #7-270-66)	DECEASED FP 5-8-68		

44-2386-1781

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Notations indicated by * ARE NOT BASED ON FINGERPRINTS IN FBI files. The notations are based on data furnished this Bureau concerning individuals of the same or similar names or aliases and are FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY AS INVESTIGATIVE LEADS.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537

5-8-68 142 MLF

1-BU

The following FBI record, NUMBER 841 310 C, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY. Information shown on this Identification Record represents data furnished FBI by fingerprint contributors. WHERE FINAL DISPOSITION IS NOT SHOWN OR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF CHARGE IS DESIRED, COMMUNICATE WITH AGENCY CONTRIBUTING THOSE FINGERPRINTS.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
	Civil print from PD Detroit, Michigan #98063 was identified with this record and returned to contributor 3-14-67.			

Notations indicated by * are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

John Edgar Hoover
Director

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

5-8-68 142 MLF

J. Edgar Hoover
Director.

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CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
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SO Mount Clemens Mich	Robert Joseph Dunaway #9579	3-17-58	attach	\$200 or 30 das Paid
SPol Detroit Mich	Robert Joseph Dunaway #7-270-66	6-30-67	conspiracy to commit extortion	
PD Atlanta Ga	Unknown	DECEASED FP 5-8-68		
	Residence: 549 N. Brys Grosse Pointe Woods (as on print #7-270-66)			Mich.

Notations indicated by * ARE NOT BASED ON FINGERPRINTS IN FBI files. The notations are based on data furnished this Bureau concerning individuals of the same or similar names or aliases and ARE LISTED ONLY AS INVESTIGATIVE LEADS.

16-70392-2 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537

5-8-68 142 MLF

1-BU

The following FBI record, NUMBER 841 310 C, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY. Information shown on this Identification Record represents data furnished FBI by fingerprint contributors. WHERE FINAL DISPOSITION IS NOT SHOWN OR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF CHARGE IS DESIRED, COMMUNICATE WITH AGENCY CONTRIBUTING THOSE FINGERPRINTS.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
	Civil print from PD Detroit, Michigan #98063 was identified with this record and returned to contributor 3-14-67.			

Notations indicated by * are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

John Edgar Hoover
Director

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20537

TO:

Date 5-8-68

Your inquiry 5-8-68

SAC, Atlanta

RE: MURKIN

- ☐ Attached furnished in reply to your inquiry.
- ☐ Attached furnished in compliance with request from
- ☐ Only record available attached.
- ☐ This matter is receiving attention and you will be advised at an early date.
- ☐ Supplementing FBI Laboratory report dated
- ☐ Records FBI #
are furnished since there is a possibility that one may pertain to the subject in whom you are interested.
- ☐ Fingerprint files fail to disclose
- ☐ Confirming FBI wire of
- ☐ A wanted notice has not been placed as subject appears to be in custody.
- ☐ When you no longer desire your notice maintained, please advise.
- ☐ If you determine subject to be in custody, please advise so that your notice may be canceled.
- ☐ Subject of your inquiry searched in name indices only. Enclosed record(s) possibly identical. If identical, resubmit request and wanted (or flash) notice will be placed.
- ☐ If it is determined that the subject of this record is not the individual in whom you are interested, please advise.
- ☐ Your communication is returned.
- ☒ Confirming Bureau telephonic conversation of 5-8-68.

☒ Enc. (2)

☐ Copy to:

44-2386-1782

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FBI - ATLANTA	

John Edgar Hoover
Director

5/10/68

AIRTEL

REGISTERED MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
ATTN: FBI LABORATORY

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

SUBJECT: MURKIN

(OO: MEMPHIS)

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau is Gordon Hotel Registration Card No. 6960, in name of ERNEST S. GAULT.

On 5/7/68, Mr. JOHN R. NIZE, owner, - manager, Gordon Hotel, 211 Mitchell Street, S.W., Atlanta, telephonically advised that he, while going through his records, located a card in the name ERNEST S. GAULT.

On same date NIZE was contacted, at which time he turned over a registration card in the name ERNEST S. GAULT, 1911 W. 18th Street, Little Rock, Ark., indicating GAULT registered into Room 214 of the Gordon Hotel on 3/29/68, and checked out at 6:00 A.M., on 4/4/68. Mr. NIZE advised GAULT would have written out his name, address, city and state on the face of this card and the remainder of the writing would have been written by hotel employees.

3 - Bureau (Enc. 1) (RM)
2 - Memphis
2 - Little Rock
2 - Atlanta

JRH:lsc

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W

44-2386-1783

AT 44-2386

DOUGLAS WATSON, Night Clerk, Gordon Hotel, advised he would have been the individual who checked GAULT out at 6:00 A.M., 4/4/68, as the initials "D.W." on the reverse side of this card were written by him. Mr. WATSON advised that the clerk checking GAULT into the hotel would have been ROGER SCHWALBE, who is formerly from Parkersburg, W. Va., and who has since been fired by the hotel. Mr. WATSON advised he could not recall the description or any other details concerning ERNEST S. GAULT. He did advise GAULT stayed on the third floor of this hotel, which is a very transient type hotel and no other individuals who are presently guests of the hotel would recall GAULT.

It is to be noted this hotel is one of the lower class hotels in the Atlanta area and is frequented mainly by transients, winos and bums.

The FBI Lab is requested to compare handwriting on enclosed card with known handwriting of JAMES EARL RAY. Upon completion of examination, card should be returned to Atlanta and results of examination furnished all interested offices.

LEADS

LITTLE ROCK

At Little Rock, Arkansas:

Will attempt to locate ERNEST S. GAULT at 1911 W. 18th Street and interview for any connection regarding captioned matter or subject.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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

DATE: 5/10/68

FROM : SA HARRY L. LEE

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 5/6/68, The National Bank of Georgia, Ponce de Leon Branch, was contacted with reference to the identification of subscribers to safe deposit boxes since March, 1967, and for the purpose specifically of identifying individuals who visited safe deposit boxes in this branch bank on the pertinent dates of April 5 and 6, 1968, and of April 11 and 12, 1968.

Mrs. LINDA N. MC LEOD, an employee of this bank, furnished the bank records with the following data:

A total of 114 safe deposit box rentals have been made by this bank since March, 1967. Mrs. MC LEOD advised that she is acquainted with almost all of these individuals and as these safe deposit box renters were identified, Mrs. MC LEOD advised that she could eliminate almost all of these individuals as being in any way possibly identical with JAMES EARL RAY.

Mrs. MC LEOD furnished the following list of individuals whom she cannot identify:

<u>DATE OF BOX RENTAL</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
4/20/67	Mr. or Mrs. A. J. HARROD, JR.	783 Woodland Avenue, S.E., Atlanta, Ga.
5/2/67	Mr. or Mrs. GORDON E. GARTHE	848 Clifton Court Circle
5/30/67	J. M. PHELPS or Mrs. OBAL PHELPS	837 Amsterdam Place, N.E.
6/2/67	COSTAS P. PANOS	1592 Delia Drive.

2 - Atlanta

HLL:ygg

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FBI - ATLANTA	

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

AT 44-2386

6/8/67	W.T. or BONNIE M. GREEN	301 Clifton Road
6/15/67	EVEREST G. BARNETT	394 Spring Street (business)
6/23/67	DONALD G. HAMILTON	Residence address 812 Virginia Avenue
7/31/67	WILLIAM D. GIBBS or EXIE C. GIBBS	638 Cooleage Avenue
8/4/67	MARY FORCE (W. H. FORCE)	625 North Highland Avenue
8/22/67	CLYDE P. WARREN or LOIS H. WARREN	925 Highland View, N.E.
9/15/67	H. B. SIMS or ANNE SIMS	1551 Sagewood Circle
10/18/67	RALPH ALLEN, Duluth, Georgia	Business address 425 Spring Street, Atlanta, Georgia
11/20/67	BUNA ELLEN WADDELL	No address noted
11/22/67	CATHERINE B. HAGGARD	No address noted
12/18/67	LOUIS H. BETTS	120 Westwood Circle, Smyrna, Georgia
1/12/68	J. HARRISON CARTER	2492 River Oak Drive, Decatur, Georgia
1/24/68	JEAN E. JOHNSON or LUTHER C. JOHNSON	1892 East Lakeside Drive, Decatur, Georgia
2/5/68	WILLIAM E. MURPHY	1820 Holly Hock Terrace, Decatur, Ga.

AT 44-2386

2/20/68	JAMES M. or JANICE BRADY	1662 LaVista Road, Apartment C, Atlanta, Ga.
2/20/68	Mr. or Mrs. JOHN C. LOCKWOOD	No residence address noted
2/27/68	HAZEL O. SLOAN	No address noted
3/1/68	VERNON GRANT	419 Uclid Avenue
3/19/68	Mrs. CRECIA KENNELLY	No residence address noted
3/20/68	C. A. ALLEN or Mrs. ELLEN WILSON	No residence address noted
4/1/68	Mrs. DON R. NIXON	No address noted
4/1/68	Mrs. L. W. JONES	No address noted
4/4/68	Mr. or Mrs. DAVID LOBEL	2829 Ridge Valley Road, N.W.
5/1/68	J. C. HARTLEY	No address noted

Mrs. MC LEOD pointed out that there are a number of the individuals having safe deposit boxes rented who rented the box on one occasion and have never returned according to their records. She believes this is the case in several instances involving some of the woman listed above. Mrs. MC LEOD furnished the following list of individuals who visited safe deposit boxes on the dates in question:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>INDIVIDUAL</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
4/5/68	LINDA M. NETTLES or LINDA B. NETTLES	794B Ponce de Leon Place, N.E., Atlanta, Ga.
4/11/68	HOKE J. THOMAS	2359 Timber Ridge Court, Decatur, Georgia. (a box holder since 12/58).

FBI ATLANTA

FBI JACKSVLE

1140AM DST URGENT 5/11/68 GWC

TO: DIRECTOR AND ATLANTA (44-2387)

FROM: JACKSONVILLE (44-769) 1P

MURKIN

RE ATLANTA TEL TO BUREAU DATED MAY TEN LAST.

BILLY MACK WISDOM, FBI NO. SEVEN ZERO SEVEN
FIVE ZERO SIX D, TRANSFERRED TO THE U.S. PENITENTIARY,
ATLANTA, APRIL ELEVEN LAST.

END

MJJ

FBI ATLANTA

@

44-2387-1785

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MAY 11 1968	
FBI-ATLANTA	

Kerry

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386)

FROM : SA ALDEN F. MILLER (44-2386)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 5/11/68

AIRLINES INVESTIGATION

Piedmont Airlines

On 4/30/68 MR. DAVID ANDERSON, Piedmont Airlines Reservations, Atlanta Municipal Airport, made available manifests for all their flights on 4/5, 6, 11, and 12/68. These manifests consist of cards 3 x 5, reflecting name of all passengers and connections as well as contact points if any. These records also reflect identities of "No show" passengers and late borders at the gate.

No record was located reflecting flight or reservation and "no show" by any passenger using subject's name or any of his known aliases.

On 5/7/68 SAs KENNETH R. HEINEMAN and HARRY L. LEE checked manifests for Piedmont Flights for 4/7, 8, 9, and 10/68 and no record of person was noted using subject's name or alias.

Southern Airlines

On 5/1/68 MR. RAY W. FAGAN, Southern Airlines Accounting Office, 1003 Virginia Avenue, Hapeville, Ga., made available tickets utilized on all their flights for 4/5, 6, 11 and 12/68.

The records fail to reflect that anyone using the name of RAY or any of his known aliases had travelled these dates via Southern Airlines.

It was noted that one MILLS J. RAY had travelled via Souther Airlines on 4/12/68 flight #297 to Moultrie, Ga. Further check reveals that ticket was half fare ticket reflecting traveler was an airline employee.

On 5/7/68 SAs HARRY L. LEE and KENNETH R. HEINEMAN checked records relating to all Southern flights on 4/7, 8, 9, and 10/68 with negative results.



2- Atlanta
AFM:jbs
(2)

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

44-2386-1786

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AT 44-2386

Cherokee Airlines, Crest Airlines and Nationwide
Airlines

On 4/30/68 and on 5/8/68 records of the above airlines were made available by MISS CAROLYN MITCHELL. These records were checked from 4/5-12/68 for any record of subject under his true name or known aliases with negative results. It is noted these three airlines are basically charter flights to Dalton, Ga., LaGrange, Ga., Jefferson, Ga., Auburn, Ala., and Tifton, Ga.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
Memorandum

TO : SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386)

FROM : SA ALDEN F. MILLER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 5/11/68

Investigation of limousine drivers to airport:

On May 6 and 8, 1968, the following persons were identified as drivers for the Airport Limousine Service, 1464 Willineham Drive, East Point, Ga. All were shown photographs of RAY and could furnish no pertinent data:

GLENN L. BARRON, Vice President and General Manager, former Assistant Chief of Police, Miami, Fla., and NA (77th Session)

Lieutenant NICHOLAS BORIS, Hapeville PD and Dispatcher at airport during off-duty hours

WILLIAM R. FLYNN, Terminal Manager

F. D. BROWN, driver

ZACK D. AVERY, driver

JAMES HOWE, driver

H. L. THOMAS, driver

C. L. FLOURNOY, driver

MARVIN BAXTER, driver

RONALD HUDSON, driver

TED OVERMAN, driver

J. T. BARKER, driver

FRED H. GARNER, driver

HARRY PEARSON, driver

J. C. MOBLEY, driver

2-Atlanta
AFM:jhs
(2)
[Signature]

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

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AT 44-2386

W. M. JACKSON, driver
AUSTIN MARTIN, driver
HUGH MOSS, driver
CLYDE MOSS, driver
JOE COMPTON, driver
LUKE WALDEN, driver
J. W. BUSBEE, driver
T. W. HARDEE, driver
SHELTON MC CLURE, driver
F. W. SWANEY, driver
GEORGE MCGHEE, driver
EDWARD BOLDEN, driver
TOM POWELL, driver
A. G. HINSON, driver
CRAWFORD RICE, driver

Drivers not contacted are as follows and were
unavailable on 5/5 and 8/68.

S. BETHEL, works 1:30 a.m. - 11:05 a.m.

J. W. DANIEL, works 2:30 a.m. - 12:05 p.m., off Tuesday
and Wednesday

M. FREEMAN, works 4:20 a.m. - 1:55 p.m., off Monday and
Tuesday

W. L. JOHNSON, works 9:15 a.m. - 6:50 p.m. off Tuesday
and Wednesday

GRADY COCHRAN, works 2:30 p.m. - 12:05 a.m. off Wednesday
and Thursday

FBI ATLANTA

FBI WASH DC

12-43 PM URGENT 5-11-68 JMS

TO ATLANTA BIRMINGHAM JACKSON MEMPHIS ST LOUIS CHICAGO
FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861 1P

MURKIN

RECGTEL MAY TEN LAST RE CARL MURPHY, JR.

RECORD LOCATED FOR A PERSON BY NAME OF CARL MURPHY JR.
UNDER FBI NUMBER FIVE FOUR THREE ONE SIX SEVEN B WHO
IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: WHITE MALE, FIVE FEET TEN
INCHES, TWO HUNDRED POUNDS, BLACK HAIR, GREEN EYES,
BORN [REDACTED] TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI. REVIEW OF
IDENTIFICATION RECORD CONTAINS NO PLACES OF INCARCERATION
IDENTICAL TO THAT OF SUBJECT RAY. IDENTIFICATION RECORD
ON MURPHY BEING FORWARDED UNDER SEPARATE COVER.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

MJJ

FBI ATLANTA

@

44-38861-1P

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W

FBI ATLANTA

FBI MIAMI

641PM EDT URGENT 5/10/68 LAS

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), ATLANTA (44-2386), MEMPHIS (44-1987),
MINNEAPOLIS, NEW YORK AND CHICAGO (44-1114)
FROM MIAMI (44-1854)

MURKIN

RE CHICAGO TEL TO BUREAU MAY TEN INSTANT AND MIAMI TEL TO
BUREAU MAY NINE LAST.

IN RE MIAMI TEL NAME OF AIRLINE INSERTED IN PLACE OF
IDENTIFYING NUMBERS. EASTERN AIRLINES (EAL) IBM SET UP FOR
TEN NUMBER TICKETS. WHEN AN AIRLINE USES NINE NUMBERS FOR
TICKETS FOLLOWING IDENTIFYING NUMBERS, EAL INSERTS A ZERO
FOR THE FOURTH NUMBER. ALL OFFICES, IN CHECKING TICKETS LISTED
IN RE MIAMI TEL, DROP FOURTH NUMBER AS SHOWN, WHICH IN EACH
INSTANCE IS A ZERO.

END

CS LCS

FBI ATLANTA

@

44-2386-1

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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FBI-ATLANTA	

Lee

FBI SAVANNAH

FBI ATLANTA

747PM URGENT 5-10-68 LCS

TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS, CHICAGO, JACKSONVILLE, MIAMI, AND
SAVANNAH

FROM ATLANTA 44-2386

MURKIN

SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED MAY TEN INSTANT.

EXPANDED SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX CHECK CONTINUING.

ELIMINATION OF LOOK-ALIKE REPORTS CONTINUING.

BILLY MACK WISDOM, FBI NO. SEVEN ZERO SEVEN FIVE ZERO SIX
D, RECEIVED THREE YEARS SENTENCE USDC, NDGA, ATLANTA, JAN.
TWENTYNINE LAST AND TRANSPORTED TO FCI, TALLAHASSEE, FLA.

EXPANDED AIRLINE CHECK REFLECTS DELTA AIRLINES RECORDS
INDICATE SIX TICKETS REFERRED TO IN MIAMI TEL TO DIRECTOR
MAY NINE LAST HANDLED THROUGH TRAVEL AGENCY. TEN OTHER
TICKETS IDENTIFIED AND NONE PURCHASED BY HERRON. TICKETS
HANDLED THROUGH TRAVEL AGENCIES SHOULD BE LOCATED WEEK OF
MAY TWELVE NEXT.

END PAGE ONE

[Handwritten signature]

44-2386-170

PAGE TWO

DAL RECORDS FURTHER REFLECT JOHN WILLARD MADE RESERVATION ON EAL ON APR. ELEVEN LAST, CHANGED FLIGHT, AND FLEW APR. TEN LAST ON EAL AND RETURNED TO ATLANTA APR. FIFTEEN LAST ON DAL FLIGHT NO. TWENTY. HE LEFT CONTACT NUMBERS MIAMI FOUR FOUR EIGHT DASH ZERO TWO SEVEN SIX AND SAVANNAH TWO THREE THREE DASH THREE FIVE THREE ONE, ROOM FIVE TWO ONE. MIAMI NUMBER APPARENTLY IS RESIDENCE.

JIMMY GARNER, ATLANTA, REINTERVIEWED AND AGAIN STATED IF HE OBTAINS ANY INFORMATION OR IS CONTACTED IN ANY WAY BY SUBJECT, HE WILL NOTIFY ATLANTA FBI OFFICE.

ATLANTA INDICES NEGATIVE RE CARL MURPHY, JR.

JACKSONVILLE, AT TALLAHASSEE. INTERVIEW BILLY MACK WISDOM. FOR INFORMATION JACKSONVILLE, DOUGLAS MERRELL, MANAGER, CATACOMBS, A HIPPIE CLUB IN ATLANTA, INDICATED WISDOM POSSIBLY INVOLVED IN ASSASSINATION. JACKSONVILLE OBTAIN ANY INFORMATION HE MAY HAVE CONCERNING ASSASSINATION.

MIAMI ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY JOHN WILLARD THROUGH PHONE NO. FOUR FOUR EIGHT DASH ZERO TWO SEVEN SIX. FOR INFORMATION MIAMI, WILLARD REPORTEDLY BOARDED EAL FLIGHT AT ATLANTA AND ALSO TRAVELED TO MIAMI ON EAL FLIGHT TWO SEVEN SEVEN AND THEN RETURNED
END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

TO ATLANTA ON DAL FLIGHT TWENTY ON APR. FIFTEEN. APPARENT
CONFUSION REGARDING WILLARD'S FLIGHTS WAS RESULT OF HIS MAKING
EAL RESERVATIONS THROUGH DELTA AIRLINES AT SAVANNAH.

SAVANNAH ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY WILLARD THROUGH CONTACT PHONE
TWO THREE THREE DASH THREE FIVE THREE ONE, ROOM FIVE TWO ONE.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

SPT

FBI SAVANNAH

TU

RML FBI MIAMI

TXN FBI JACKSONVILLE

RMF FBI CG

DND FBI ME

SAA FBI WASH DC

URGENT 5-9-68 LCS

TO DIRECTOR 44-38861, MEMPHIS 44-1987, KANSAS CITY, AND PITTSBURGH
FROM ATLANTA 44-2386

MURKIN

RE MIAMI TEL TO BUREAU MY EIGHT LAST; AND BUFFALO TEL TO
BUREAU MAY EIGHT LAST.

SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED MAY NINE INSTANT.

EXPANDED SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX CHECK CONTINUING.

ELIMINATION OF INDIVIDUALS WITH NAMES SIMILAR TO ALIASES
OF SUBJECT RAY CONTINUING.

ELIMINATION OF LOOK-ALIKE REPORTS CONTINUING.

CHARLES DUNHAM INTERVIEWED. HAS NO SPECIFIC KNOWLEDGE RE
ASSASSINATION. HOWEVER, SAYS HE RECEIVED INFORMATION FROM
DOUGLAS MERRELL, MANAGER, CATACOMBS, ATLANTA, GA., (HIPPIE CLUB),
THAT ONE BILLY MACK WISDOM, FBI NO. SEVEN EIGHT SEVEN FIVE ZERO
SIX D WAS POSSIBLY INVOLVED IN ASSASSINATION. WISDOM REPORTEDLY
SERVING TIME IN GA. STATE PENITENTIARY ON RECENT BURGLARY
CONVICTION. WISDOM'S INCARCERATION IS BEING VERIFIED THROUGH
GA. STATE BOARD OF CORRECTIONS. WISDOM IDENTICAL WITH WESLEY,
WELSTON, OR WESTON MENTIONED IN RE BUFFALO TEL.

END PAGE ONE

TREAT AS ORIGINAL

Approved: *[Signature]*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent *930/p 933/p 940/p 945/p*

Per *[Signature]*

PAGE TWO

MIAMI ADVISED IN RE TEL THAT ONE HERRAN FURNISHED EAL, ATLANTA, CONTACT TELEPHONE NO. FIVE TWO FIVE DASH TWO SEVEN SEVEN ONE AND THAT JOHN WILLARD FURNISHED EAL, ATLANTA, WITH CONTACT POINT DOWNTOWNER, ATLANTA.

RECORDS OF DOWNTOWNER MOTOR INN, ATLANTA, REFLECT JOHN O., WILLARD, WITHEROW RD., SEWICKLEY, PA., REPRESENTING W. W. NORTON AND CO., INC., WAS REGISTERED IN THE MOTEL IN ROOM FOUR ONE ONE ON APR. ELEVEN LAST. WILLARD, WHO IS ONLY PERSON BY THAT NAME REGISTERED IN MOTEL FROM MAR. SIXTYEIGHT UNTIL APR. SIXTYEIGHT, WAS DRIVING CHEVROLET BEARING NEW YORK LIC. THREE EIGHT THREE TWO DASH W X. PITTSBURGH CONDUCT NECESSARY INVESTIGATION TO ELIMINATE.

ATLANTA TELEPHONE NO. FIVE TWO FIVE DASH TWO SEVEN SEVEN ONE IS LISTED TO DOWNTOWN MOTEL, THREE THREE ZERO W. PEACHTREE ST., ATLANTA. RECORDS OF DOWNTOWN MOTEL REFLECT THAT MARVIN W. HERREN, ONE ZERO SIX ZERO SIX, WESTBROOKE DR., SHAWNEE MISSION, KANSAS, REPRESENTING GORDON JOHNSON CO., KANSAS CITY, WAS REGISTERED IN ROOM THREE TWO SIX OF THE MOTEL ON APR. NINE LAST.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE .

KANSAS CITY, AT SHAWNEE MISSION, KANSAS, AND AT KANSAS CITY.
CONDUCT NECESSARY INVESTIGATION TO ELIMINATE.

SUBJECT RAY ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P.

END

KRH/LCS

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, ATLANTA-(44-2386)

DATE: 5/9/68

FROM : SA JOHN F. CUNLIAN

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re: Memo, dated 5/6/68. (Serial 1,690)

At Forest Park, Ga.

On 5/8/68, ROBERT SPRADLEY, 1084 Lakeview Drive, advised he is employed by the City of Atlanta, Board of Education. He advised he observed a person generally fitting the description of subject, and motivated by a desire to cooperate called the FBI Office.

He advised the person to whom he has reference was leaving the Artic Bear, on Backhead, at about 12:35 p.m., as he was entering this drive-in. He has not seen him prior to this occasion, and was then not sufficiently convinced to determine the mode or method of transportation of this person, or attempt to determine his identity or the frequency of his appearance at this firm.

At Atlanta, Ga.

On 5/9/68, Mrs. JOAN KING, and Miss SYLVAN JOHLY, only employees during day time of the Artic Bear Drive In., advised that after viewing the photo of the subject, they have no recollection of ever observing him in this firm. Each advised they are acquainted with the photo of the subject from the news media, and are sure they have not observed him in this drive in. Each was unable to provide the identity of the person observed by Mr. SPRADLEY.

JFC/
(1)

44-2386-1792

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FBI-ATLANTA	

AT 44-2386

RSK:bjc

1

The following investigation was conducted by SA
ROBERT S. KENNEMUR:

On May 7, 1968, RANDOLPH D. JONES, Pure Oil Station, Americus, Georgia, reviewed the credit card purchase slips which were obtained from the Chicago Office regarding purchases at his station on April 15, 16, 17, and 18, 1968. Mr. JONES advised that all of the purchases which were recorded in his name could be eliminated by him as persons who are known to him with the exception of a purchase made by GEORGE B. FRANKS, Pure Oil Credit Card Number [REDACTED]. Mr. JONES observed that this credit card was to expire in July of 1968, and he believed that this was possibly the person to whom he had sold the gas who resembled the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY.

The Pure Oil Company, Retail Department, Palatine, Illinois, had furnished the address of Mr. FRANKS as 707 Virginia Avenue, Glennville, Georgia.

44-2386-1793

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See

F B I

Date: 5/9/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386) (P)
MURKIN

Re Chicago airtel dated 5/1/68, regarding information obtained from Pure Oil Company regarding purchases of gasoline at R. D. Jones Pure Oil Station, Americus, Georgia, on 4/16/68.

Enclosed for the Bureau and Memphis is one copy each of an insert reflecting investigation conducted at Americus, Georgia. Also enclosed for Savannah are two copies of insert.

For the information of the Savannah Office, RANDOLPH JONES, Pure Oil Company Dealer, Americus, Georgia, advised on 4/25/68, that he sold gasoline to an individual on 4/16/68, who closely resembled the 1968 photograph of JAMES EARL RAY.

The Chicago Division obtained credit slips for purchases from JONES on 4/16/68, and, as stated on enclosed insert, Mr. JONES has eliminated all the purchases of that date with the exception of one GEORGE B. FRANKS, Pure Oil Credit Card Number [REDACTED], who resides at 707 Virginia Avenue, Glennville, Georgia.

3-Bureau (Enc. 1)
1-Memphis (44-193) (Enc. 1) (Info)
2-Savannah (Enc. 2)
②-Atlanta
RSK:bjc
(8)

44-2386-1774

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

AT 44-2386

LEADS

SAVANNAH

AT GLENNVILLE, GA.

Will ascertain if GEORGE B. FRANKS, 707 Virginia Avenue, Glennville, Georgia, is identical with JAMES EARL RAY.

FBI WASH DC

FBI ATLANTA

443AM DEFERRED 5/8/68 LWG
TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS, DETROIT
FROM ATLANTA (44-2386) 3P

MURKIN

BADLY DECOMPOSED BODY OF UNIDENTIFIED WHITE MALE FOUND
AT ATLANTA AIRPORT BY ATLANTA PD NIGHT MAY SEVEN LAST IN TRUNK
OF NINETEEN SIXTY FOUR CHEVROLET BEARING NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT
MICHIGAN LICENSE D C EIGHT ONE ONE FOUR. LICENSE AND AUTO
REGISTERED TO MARY JANE SALVADORI AND JOAN MASTERS, NINE THREE
FOUR ONE NICHOLS, DETROIT, MICH. NINETEEN SIXTY SEVEN MICHIGAN
LICENSE B W EIGHT TWO THREE TWO FOUND IN TRUNK. ONE RADIO NEWS-
CASTER SPECULATED BODY COULD BE JAMES EARL RAY.

FINGERPRINTS OF THIS UNKNOWN DEAD NOT IDENTICAL TO RAY,
ACCORDING TO ATLANTA POLICE DEPT. FINGERPRINT MAN. SA CARL E.
CLAIBORNE OF ATLANTA OFFICE, FORMER IDENT EMPLOYEE AND CURRENT
FINGERPRINT INSTRUCTOR, ALSO COMPARED PRINTS AND STATED DECEASED
NOT IDENTICAL WITH RAY.

FINGERPRINTS ABOARD EASTERN AIRLINES FLIGHT FOUR TWO
FOUR, ARRIVING DULLES AIRPORT FROM ATLANTA FIVE NINETEEN AM,
MAY EIGHT INSTANT. PER ATLANTA PHONE CALL, IDENT DIVISION
END PAGE ONE

RF

44-2386-1725

PAGE TWO

REQUESTED TO (ONE) COMPARE PRINTS WITH RAY'S PRINTS FOR POSITIVE ELIMINATION AND (TWO) ENDEAVOR IDENTIFY UNKNOWN DECEASED. FOR ASSISTANCE, DETROIT PHONE BOOK LISTS AN ALBERT A SALVADORI AT NINE THREE FOUR ONE NICHOLS. A JOINT ACCOUNT BOOK FOR PARDA CREDIT UNION (PARKE DAVIS AND CO., GENERAL PO BOX ONE ONE EIGHT, DETROIT MICH.) ACCOUNT NUMBER [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] IN NAMES OF DOROTHY SALVADORI, DOB [REDACTED], SSN [REDACTED], AND THOMAS A. SALVADORI, DOB [REDACTED], SSN [REDACTED], FOUND IN TRUNK OF CAR.

NO STOLEN REPORT LISTED ON AUTO OR LICENSE.

DETROIT TELEPHONICALLY REQUESTED TO CONTACT OWNER RE CAR, IDENTITY OF UNKNOWN DECEASED AND TO CONDUCT ANY INVESTIGATION NECESSARY TO ELIMINATE ANY CONNECTION WITH MURKIN CASE OR TO PROVE ANY VIOLATION WITHIN FBI JURISDICTION. SIMILAR INVESTIGATION BEING CONDUCTED BY ATLANTA OFFICE.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

IN ANSWERING PRESS INQUIRIES, ATLANTA POLICE DEPT. IS
ANNOUNCING DECEASED NOT IDENT WITH RAY BASED ON FINGERPRINT
EXAMINATION..

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

BJP

FBI WASH DC

VMC

FBI DETROIT Sent DE 4:50AM

CNF

FBI MEMPHIS Sent ME 4:55AM

AT 44-2386

MEC:jhs

1

AUTOMOBILE DEALERS

The following automobile dealers were contacted at Cordele, Georgia, by SA MARION E. CHEEK on May 2, 1968, and a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY was displayed to them. All were questioned as to whether they had seen this individual or whether he had attempted to buy an automobile from them since March 24, 1968. None of them had any information of value nor had they seen subject:

BILL WOOD, Wood's Used Car Lot

HENRY CARLTON, Carlton's Used Cars

GEORGE AVERY, Avery's Used Cars

TOM WELLS, Wells' Motors

H. C. BRANNAN, Brannan Chevrolet

EDDIE LEE MORGAN, Treadaway Motors

ROBERT HURT, Hurt Motors

GEORGE BENSON, Benson Buick

ALVIN WOODWARD, Haley Used Cars

JOHN CROMER, Cromer's Service Station

FRED BRANNEN, Brannen Motor Company, Unadilla, Georgia, was likewise contacted negatively on April 30, 1968.

CREDIT AND CRIMINAL

The following investigation was conducted by SA MARION E. CHEEK:

The following individuals searched their respective files against the names of JAMES EARL RAY with all known aliases, and could locate no record identifiable with him:

44-2386-1796
f f
Cheek C

AT 44-2386

MEC:jhs

2

ETHEL HATHCOCK, Manager, Credit Bureau of Cordele

JAMES DORO, Clerk, Crisp County Superior Court

LOUIS JOBE, Cordele, Georgia, Police Department

Sheriff EARL POSEY, Crisp County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff H. C. JOHNSON, Dooly County Sheriff's Office

MRS. WYNELL SMITH, Dooly County Superior Court Clerk's
Office

AT 44-2386

MEC:jhs

1

LATENT FINGERPRINTS

The following investigation was conducted by SA
MARION E. CHEEK:

Chief of Police ED FRIEND, Albany Police Department, and Assistant Chief LESLIE SUMMERFORD, In Charge of the Detective Bureau at Albany, Georgia, as well as Deputy Sheriff J. A. MC DONALD, Dougherty County Sheriff's Office, were contacted May 1, 1968, and requested to search any unidentified latent prints they might have in unsolved cases since April of 1967 against the fingerprints of JAMES EARL RAY as they appear on Identification Order 4182. All advised they would do so.

On May 2, 1968, Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) Agent JAMES T. CAWTHON, assigned at Perry, Georgia, and covering Dooly County, Georgia; Sheriff H. C. JOHNSON, Dooly County Sheriff's Office; Chief of Police LOUIS JOBE, Cordele, Georgia, Police Department; and Sheriff EARL E. POSEY, Crisp County Sheriff's Office, were likewise requested to search any unidentified latents they might have in unsolved cases since April of 1967 against the fingerprints of JAMES EARL RAY. They agreed to do so.

44-2386-1797
J. F.
Cheek C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 5/3/68

AARON BENNER HOLCOMB was contacted in front of the White Front Market, 415 Memorial Drive, S.E., and was made aware of the identity of the interviewing Agent. HOLCOMB was presented a standard warning and waiver of rights form which he read, stated he understood, but refused to sign. HOLCOMB was advised he was being contacted with regard to his knowledge of the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., in Memphis Tennessee, on April 4, 1968. He then furnished the following information:

On April 4, 1968, he was released from the Fulton County Jail at approximately 9:30 A.M. He said he then left for Memphis shortly thereafter in a car with his friend. HOLCOMB declined to give his friend's name or address, but stated his friend is living with him and the car was owned by this friend. HOLCOMB advised he was in the vicinity of the hotel where KING was shot.

At this point, HOLCOMB was asked for particular details. He declined to furnish any and asked if the FBI had proved that JAMES EARL RAY actually did it. Without waiting for an answer, he stated he knew where RAY was. When asked where, he replied Mexico, and stated he knew exactly where in Mexico, but that RAY was then planning to go to Cuba. HOLCOMB would not elaborate any further on this subject and would not disclose any information pertinent to RAY's exact whereabouts, nor his source or sources of information. He simply stated he wanted the FBI to "sweat it out" looking for RAY and that when the FBI found RAY, HOLCOMB would give in and furnish all the information he has. He explained that he did not want to disclose any of the information at this time because it would get him involved in it. He stated that the only way he could be made to furnish this information was to be arrested, and in order for the FBI to do this, it would need some evidence linking him to the crime. HOLCOMB advised that until the time RAY is caught, dead or alive, or until the time the FBI links him to the crime, he would say nothing else about it.

On 5/2/68 at Atlanta, GeorgiaFile # Atlanta 44-2386-1798by SA JOHN M. PALMI:ccDate dictated 5/3/68

AT 44-2386

2

HOLCOMB stated that on the day the FBI recovered the white Mustang at a Capitol Homes parking lot, he was in the area and admitted telling some residents he had some knowledge of the KING slaying. He denied ever telling them that he had received \$100,000 to help the assassin get away, explaining that these residents of Capitol Homes always twist a story around to make it more interesting. He then advised there were actually two Mustangs in Memphis involved in the assassination; one was the white Mustang recovered and the other was a black Mustang. When advised that previous interviews revealed that he had told several residents that the Mustang the FBI was looking for was a white one with a red racing stripe on the rear deck, he denied ever saying it and refused to talk about it anymore.

HOLCOMB then stated he was currently on 12 months State probation and had to report to his probation officer every Friday. He stated under the conditions of his probation, he was not to leave the State of Georgia. When advised that he had just told the interviewing Agent he was in Memphis on the first day of his probation, he stated "Sure, I told you, and I was there, but you don't think I'd tell the probation officer, do you?"

HOLCOMB further advised he really had no concern for any law enforcement officials, and stated he felt that way because the Atlanta Police Department once tried to get him to join the force. He said he could not be a law enforcement officer of any sort, because he breaks the law every day "by drinking and other things."

When asked if he were directly involved in the slaying of KING, HOLCOMB refused to answer the question and said to get the evidence first. He stated he himself would have killed KING if someone else hadn't because "they were making too much of a fuss over King and they didn't do it over President Kennedy." He explained the "they" included the press and everyone in the nation, except a few.

HOLCOMB stated he had been in Texas since the assassination of President KENNEDY and he had heard of information relative to the assassination that the FBI does not know. He declined to elaborate on this topic any further.

AT 44-2386

3

When advised that his stories have many conflicts, and that they were hard to believe, HOLCOMB replied that he was furnishing contradictions for the purpose of confusion and that he did not want to tell the entire incident as he saw it at this time.

HOLCOMB stated he goes by the name "CURLY" and that all a person has to do is come to the area of Cherokee Avenue and ask for "CURLY" and they would know him. He further advised he is currently working for a contractor who sub-contracts for the Gas Company. He then produced a check stub showing date of April 24, 1968, which indicated that the check for approximately \$14.10 was for the period ending April 23, 1968, and for 8½ hours work. The check stub bore the name of R. J. Reid Contracting Company and had the name A. B. HOLCOMB written in ink on the stub. HOLCOMB further advised that he was presently thinking of leaving that company, but had no idea where he was going to work. He refused to give his exact address, except that it was on Cherokee Avenue. When asked how he could possibly be contacted if his help were needed, he stated he would only talk to the FBI in front of the White Front Market and that he could be reached at telephone number 523-3750, which is the number at his rooming house, which is unlisted. HOLCOMB instructed that if he were not home, the Agent could leave a message with his friend who would get it to him.

HOLCOMB added that his mother, Mrs. WELCHEL and his father, JOHN HOLCOMB, are separated, but they both know his residence. When advised that contact with them failed to reveal his address, he said he had instructed them never to give it to anyone.

HOLCOMB then refused to give any further information concerning himself.

When again reminded that he should not withhold any information, he repeated he wanted the FBI to "know it out."

5/8/68

Airtel

**To: SAC's, Miami (44-1854) - Enclosures (5)
Memphis (44-1987)**

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

Re Miami airtel 5/2/68, submitting two boat rental agreements, Q317 and Q318, and three credit card invoices, Q319 through Q321, for examination.

Four latent fingerprints of value were developed on the boat rental agreement dated 9/2/67, Q317. No latent impressions of value developed on remaining items.

The four latent fingerprints on Q317 are not identical with the fingerprints of James Earl Ray, FBI #408942G, or with latent fingerprints previously reported in this case.

Q317 through Q321 enclosed to Miami.

Laboratory reporting separately.

- ① - Atlanta (44-2386)
- 1 - Kansas City (44-760)

44-2386-1800

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 10 1968	
FBI - ATLANTA	

Filed