

AT 44-2386

4

and dry cleaning as all of these items are handled by the laundry personnel only.

Mrs. PETERS recalled that GALT made no other remarks or any conversation giving her any other impression. She had no recollection of any prior transactions with GALT.

43

File No. 44-2386-1A28Date Received 4-16-68From Mrs Estelle Peters
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)1168 Peachtree N.E.
(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)Atlanta, Ga
(CITY AND STATE)By Charles P. Rose - Robert M. Kove
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)

To Be Returned

Yes ☐
No ☒

Description:

1 Laundry ticket
1 Dry Cleaning ticket
Piedmont Laundry

PIEDMONT LAUNDRY

Jackson 5-8393

Atlanta, Georgia

Date

19

Name

Address

Source

Mark

DESCRIPTION		PRICE
	3-PC. SUIT	
	2-PC. SUIT	
1	COATS <i>Beck ck</i>	65
1	TROUSERS <i>gray</i>	65
	OVERCOATS	
	SHIRTS	
1	TIES <i>Beck w/ Law & Brew st</i>	25
	JACKETS	
	DRESSES	155
	BELTS	
	SKIRTS	
	BLOUSES	
	SUITS	
	COATS	
	SWEATERS	
	BLANKETS	
		155

RETURN T.

CATION.
DATED
CHICAGO 11
PRINTED IN U.S.A.

8
755

4-1-68

4-5-68

A.

16
911
9-91

RMK/4/16/68
@ 4/16/68

28
36

PIEDMONT LAUNDRY

Jackson 5-8393

Atlanta, Ga.

April 1, 1968

Name

Eric Galt

SOURCE	MARK	MARKER	LOT	PIN NO.
C83	<i>E. Galt</i>	<i>10</i>		

1/2 HR. ☐ REG ☐ M T W T F S

NO STARCH ☒

LT. STARCH ☐

ON HANGERS ☐

HVY. STARCH ☐

FLUFF DRY ☐

19-30

folded

<i>3</i> Shirts (2-B)	Dresses
<i>4</i> Drawers	Blouses
Undershirts	Slacks
Pajamas	Slips
Union Suits	Gowns
<i>1</i> Sox Pr.	Slacks
Handkerchiefs	House Coats
Polo Shirts	Uniforms
Shorts	Belts
Pants	
Coat	
Jackets	
Overall Comb.	
Bath Robes	
Bath Towels	
Wash Cloths	Service Cr.
Laundry Bag	Towel 1
Hand Towels	Towel Col. 2
Sheets	
Pillow Cases	
	TOTAL

APR 2 1968

no starch folded

89-13

STARCH

4-1-68

~~45-68~~

EBBS

RMK/4/16/68
P 4/16/68

9/14/78

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
(ATTN: HAND CARRY TO SA RICHARD
BUSCHING, CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY
UNIT, ROOM 8985)

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

MURKIN

Re FBIHQ telephone call to Atlanta, 9/14/78.

As requested by FBIHQ in referenced telephone call, there is enclosed for the Bureau, the following items:

- (1) A plastic envelope containing two original laundry tickets from the Piedmont Laundry, Atlanta, Georgia, dated 4/16/68, in the name of ERIC GALT.
- (2) Two Xerox copies of an Atlanta FD-302, dated 4/16/68, which sets forth the results of an interview with Mrs. ESTELLE PETERS, Manager, Piedmont Laundry, Atlanta, Ga., on 4/16/78, as she was the person who made available the laundry tickets in item #1.
- (3) Two Xerox copies each of the 1-A envelope and the two laundry tickets mentioned in item #1.

2 - Bureau (Enc. 5)
(1 - 62-117290) (House Select Committee on Assassinations)

② - Atlanta
(1 - 44-2386) (Enc. 1)
(1 - 66-2242) (Enc. 1)

EAS:pjg
(4)

44-2386-2510

CUT - GOING

SEARCHED

SERIALIZED

INDEXED

FILED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 9/8/78

JERRY WAYNE STEWART, inmate registration number 02492-135, was interviewed at the U.S. Penitentiary, Atlanta, Georgia (USP-A), where he is presently incarcerated. STEWART was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and of the nature of the investigation being conducted. He was advised any information furnished may be used in a court of law. He was also advised that any information furnished will be furnished to the U.S. Department of Justice and the House Select Committee on Assassinations.

STEWART at the outset, advised he did not wish to provide the Government with any information if the Government could not help him be relocated at the Federal Correctional Institute in Memphis, Tennessee. STEWART advised that he had recently been turned down by the Bureau of Prisons in his request for transfer to Memphis. After it was explained to him that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) was not in a position to authorize and promise such transfer, he hesitatingly agreed to answer some questions.

STEWART advised that he and JAMES EARL RAY, convicted assassin of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., were cell-mates together at the Missouri State Prison, Jefferson City, Missouri. STEWART said he and RAY were at the Missouri Prison together from 1964 until October, 1967 when RAY escaped. He said he and RAY became pretty close friends, the two working in the kitchen together at the Penitentiary in addition to sharing the same cell. STEWART said he and RAY used to talk quite a bit about escaping. RAY was interested in obtaining false identification and documents to facilitate his getaway once he escaped from prison. STEWART said he gave RAY advice on how to obtain these documents. RAY never indicated to STEWART that he had any outside help in his escape, but STEWART surmised that he did. STEWART did not know who this help might come from but was certain it was not RAY's brothers.

STEWART said that both he and RAY expressed a strong dislike for blacks. RAY never said he disliked Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., and never talked about killing

Investigation on 9/7/78 at Atlanta, Georgia File # Atlanta 44-2386-2511
by SA JAMES T. PROCOPIO:ckj Date dictated 9/8/78

AT 44-2386

Dr. KING. RAY also never indicated he had anyone on the outside for whom he was going to kill Dr. KING, and his sole reason for escaping from Missouri Prison was to "get out and get free".

STEWART said he is certain that RAY did not kill Dr. KING. He said RAY is a publicity hound and is probably being used by someone but he did not know who he is being used by. Although STEWART is convinced RAY is innocent, he could provide no concrete information to substantiate his belief. He said he had not seen or heard from RAY since he escaped from the Missouri Prison in October, 1967. STEWART said he himself was in the Tennessee State Prison at Nashville when Dr. KING was killed.

STEWART said he would be willing to talk to the House Select Committee on Assassinations about his association with JAMES EARL RAY.

STEWART was observed to be a white male.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Atlanta, Georgia

September 18, 1978

ASSASSINATION OF
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.,
APRIL 4, 1968
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

The Atlanta Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is in receipt of the following information:

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.

6- Bureau
1- Atlanta (44-2386)
JTP:baw *baw*
(7)

B6



44-2386-2513
CUT - GOING

SEARCHED

SERIALIZED *MP*

INDEXED

FILED *MP*

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

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Investigation on 9/7/78 at Atlanta, Georgia File # Atlanta 44-2386
by SA JAMES T. PROCOPIO:ckj Date dictated 9/8/78

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X

9/18/78

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
(ATTN: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY UNIT, RECORDS MANAGEMENT
DIVISION)

FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386) (C) *[Signature]*

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
APRIL 4, 1968
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

Re Bureau airtel to Atlanta dated 8/30/78.

Enclosed for the Bureau are the original and five copies of an LHM dated and captioned as above and suitable for dissemination.

It was obvious, in the interview with STEWART, that once he learned the FBI could not get him transferred to the Federal Correctional Institute at Memphis, Tennessee, he lost interest in cooperating with the FBI. STEWART wants to trade what, if any, information he has for a transfer. He is a hardened criminal who has spent most of the last 15 years in prison. He is not about to give away anything he has for nothing. He did answer some questions but his answers were vague and when asked for specific information to substantiate his beliefs, he could provide none.

STEWART appears eager to help prove the innocence of JAMES EARL RAY. He said the two were friends and he does not believe that RAY killed KING. Some of STEWART'S information must be treated with some degree of cynicism. It is hard to

44-2386-2513
CUI - GOING

2- Bureau (Enc. 6)
2- Atlanta
JTP:baw
(4)

DESTROY FILE IN ☐ 6 MOS;

☐ 1 YRS;
☐ 2 YRS;

JUSTIFY FD-479

SEARCHED

SERIALIZED *[Signature]*

INDEXED

FILED *[Signature]*

AT 44-2386

believe that the two shared a cell together for over two years and RAY never expressed a dislike for Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., even though STEWART said RAY disliked blacks and Dr. KING was the leading Civil Rights Activist at that time.

In view of STEWART'S belief that RAY is innocent, it is highly unlikely, he would tend to incriminate RAY in further interview, say with the House Select Committee on Assassinations, and he did not indicate that he knew who might be responsible, if in fact anyone, in aiding RAY in his escape or who might actually have assassinated Dr. KING.

STEWART indicated a willingness to talk to the House Select Committee on Assassinations, however, he probably wants to work some sort of deal with them and they should be so advised before initiating any talks with him. At best, STEWART may be able to provide insights into RAY'S thinking and logic, since the two spent two years together, but it is doubtful that he can provide any concrete information of value to the Bureau.

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APRIL 4, 1968
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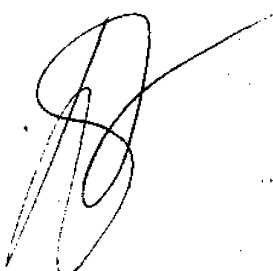
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2- Bureau (Enc. 6)
②- Atlanta
JTP:baw
(4)



44-2386-2513

CUT - GOING

SEARCHED

SERIALIZED

INDEXED

FILED

AT 44-2386

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FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☒ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☐ _____

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☒ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ UNCLAS E F T O
☒ UNCLAS

Date 2/6/79

006

FM ATLANTA (44-2386) (C) (SQUAD 3)

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) (ROUTINE)

BT

UNCLAS

ATTENTION CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY UNIT, RECORDS MANAGEMENT
DIVISION.

MURKIN

ON 2/5/79 GEORGE M. GOLDMAN, VICE PRESIDENT, HAAS AND
DODD REALTY COMPANY, 65 POPLAR STREET, NORTHWEST, ATLANTA,
GEORGIA, ADVISED THAT IN RECENTLY CLEARING SOME ITEMS FROM
HIS DESK, HE CAME ACROSS AN ARTICLE FROM THE AUGUST 3, 1978
EDITION OF THE ATLANTA JOURNAL WHICH CONTAINED AN ARTISTS
CONCEPTION OF A "RALPH" THAT THE HOUSE ASSASSINATIONS
COMMITTEE HAD BEEN TRYING TO IDENTIFY. GOLDMAN STATED HE
HAD NOT GIVEN THE MATTER MUCH CONSIDERATION BUT UPON SEEING
THE ARTICLE AGAIN BROUGHT TO MIND " A MAN I HAVE BEEN
WALKING UP THE STREET WITH FOR 10 YEARS " WHOM HE BELIEVES
BEARS A STRIKING RESEMBLANCE TO "RALPH." HE STATED THIS

1-Atlanta
REF/lkw

Approved: 

Transmitted

(Number)

(Time)

Per 

PAGE TWO (44-2386) (UNCLAS)

WAS THE ONLY INFORMATION HE HAD TO FURNISH "FOR WHAT IT WAS WORTH," AND IDENTIFIED THE MAN AS RALPH W. DONALD, A PARTNER IN THE REAL ESTATE FIRM OF AVANT AND DONALD, 57 FORSYTH STREET, NORTHWEST, ATLANTA, GEORGIA, RESIDENCE 1073 TERRELL MILL ROAD, SOUTHEAST, MARIETTA, GEORGIA.

ATLANTA INDICES CONTAIN NO INFORMATION AS TO GOLDMAN OR DONALD AND ATLANTA IS TAKING NO FURTHER ACTION UACB.

BT

AT0006 0372141

RR HQ

DE AT

R 062141Z FEB 79

FM ATLANTA (44-2386) (C) (SQUAD 3)

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) (ROUTINE)

BT

UNCLAS

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44-2386-2514

PAGE TWO 44-2386

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BT

Memorandum



To : DIRECTOR, FBI

Date July 23, 1982

From : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)

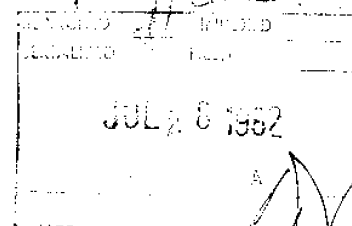
Subject : JAMES EARL RAY;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING-VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS-CONSPIRACY
OO: MEMPHIS

Enclosed for the Bureau are the original and three copies of a letterhead memorandum containing investigation by the Birmingham Office. Enclosed for the information of the Atlanta, Memphis, Mobile and WFO Offices are two copies of an LHM containing results of investigation by the Birmingham Office.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

The Birmingham Office is not interviewing PAUL BERNARD MARLER in connection with this matter due to his mental incompetency and he is an alcoholic.

2-Bureau (44-38861) (Enc. 4)
2-Atlanta (44-2386) (Enc. 2)
2-Memphis (44-1987) (Enc. 2)
2-Mobile (157-2627) (Enc. 2)
2-WFO (Enc. 2)
1-Birmingham
PJB/acm
(11)





U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Birmingham, Alabama 35203
July 23, 1982

JAMES EARL RAY;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING-VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS-CONSPIRACY

Captain E. Robins, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, Fairfield, Alabama, advised Paul Bernard Marler had telephonically contacted the Sheriff's Office in Bessemer, Alabama, and stated James Earl Ray did not kill Martin Luther King. Captain Robins advised this conversation was taped and he will make a copy of the tape available to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

P
3, d

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.

44-2386

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 28 1982	
FBI - BIRMINGHAM	

A [Signature]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription July 23, 1982

CAPT. E. ROBINS, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, made available a tape of a telephone conversation on July 11, 1982, by PAUL BERNARD MARLER, the transcripts of which is attached.

Investigation on 7/15/82 at Fairfield, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

by SA PETER JOHN BODKIN:mjl Date dictated 7/19/82

2

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.

FBI/DOJ

Testing 1, 2, 3. Testing 1, 2, 3

Unknown Female Sheriff's Office
(UF)

MARLER Sheriff's Office in Jefferson County?

UF Yes sir.

MARLER (unintelligible)

UF Okay.

MARLER My name is PAUL, P A U L BERNARD MARLER.

UF What is it? Is it PAUL or POL?

MARLER PAUL, P A U L.

UF Okay.

MARLER BERNARD MARLER, M A R L E R.

UF M A R L E R?

MARLER Yes ma'am.

UF Okay.

MARLER U'm up in Calhoun County.

UF Calhoun?

MARLER Calhoun County.

UF Okay.

MARLER I'm a white male. I's born [REDACTED]. I'm sorry

[REDACTED] I'm calling in reference to JAMES EARL
RAY.

UF JAMES EARL RAY?

MARLER Right.

UF Okay. What, what about JAMES EARL RAY?

MARLER He didn't kill MARTIN LUTHER KING.

UF He didn't kill MARTIN LUTHER KING?

MARLER No ma'am we did it.

UF You did. Who, who was you besides....

MARLER LEO DENHAM.

UF LEO DUNHAM?

MARLER L E O...DNH...D E N H A M.

UF D U N H...

MARLER DN....DUN....

UF D U N...

MARLERH A M. D E N H A M

UF ...HAM. D E N H A M.

MARLER Right. LEO fired the shot. JAMES RAY was a punk.
He never shot anybody. He ain't never been that brave.

UF Okay...have you, have you called the police department
to investigate?

MARLER I've called the "Washington Post." I had called, I have
talked with the warden in Tennessee...Warden DAVIS and
you can call that okay and verify it.

UF Did they tell you to call us or....

MARLER No, no.
I just don't think I'm gon be here that long. I just
want, I just don't want JAMES RAY to die for something
that he didn't do. Now he might be, they might lock
him up forever I don't know. That's up to JAMES you
know. JAMES was, he was, uh, he was, he was a nitty,
he was a punk anyway. But JAMES didn't kill that
nigger. I didn't mean to say that. JAMES RAY didn't
kill MARTIN LUTHER KING. We did.

UF You, you and this LEO D E N H A M.

MARLER LEO killed him. I didn't kill him, but I was there;
and that makes me a part of it. Right?

UF Yes sir. What, what, you live in Calhoun County?

MARLER I just gave you that.

UF What's your, uh, what's your address?

MARLER 716 East 10th Street and I'm at 238...seventeen, seventy-seven.

UF 238....seventeen, seventy-seven?

MARLER Yes ma'am.

UF And your address was seven sixteen?

MARLER I whatn't involved in it. I saw it.

UF Do you know where he is now?

MARLER Yes I do.

UF Where is he?

MARLER I'll talk to you about that later.

UF Okay.

MARLER I had nothing to do with it, uh, well maybe I did. Maybe I had something to do with it because I didn't come forth earlier you know....

UF Yeah.

MARLERto say what I had to say. But I saw the man, I wasn't involved in it. I didn't shoot at anybody, but I saw the man that shot MARTIN LUTHER KING.

UF And you've already....

MARLER Yes I did.

UF You've already called the police department and investigated him.

MARLER I've already called "Washington Post."

UF And what did they tell you?

MARLER I don't know what they told me.

MARLER I've called you. I've called Mobile. I've called Atlanta. I've called Memphis. I've called and talked to this judge, uh....I've talked to, uh, Warden DAVIS at the penitentiary in Tennessee. I've done already talked to him.

UF Well okay. Well I....

MARLER Lady, I'm blind and I don't know how long I'm gon live. But I'm gon tell you...that man did not kill MARTIN LUTHER KING. They've got the wrong man. Well okay. I got the situation and I'll, (unintelligible). I'll pass it on.

MARLER I appreciate it.

UF Okay.

MARLER Wait...are you in Bessemer?

UF Yes sir.

MARLER Well that's where it came from. Now let me tell you something else.

UF Where what came from?

MARLER Where information came from.

UF Are you in Bessemer?

MARLER That's where it all came from in Bessemer, Homewood right? Now and do you know the man...are you still on?

UF Yes I'm (unintelligible)

MARLER Okay you know they said the man, the gun that killed KING came from Homewood whatever right. That Woods boy. I hope you're getting all this down. There was WOODS boy that sold him my gun. You see lady....

UF Uh huh.

MARLER I'm the man that brought the gun.

UF You bought the gun?

MARLER Now then...

UF What kind of gun was it?

MARLER That wasn't the only...now wait a minute. That's, that's where everybody got screwed up. How many guns were there was bought? You don't know that do you?

UF No sir, (unintelligible)

MARLER The law don't even know it.

UF I'm not up on, on, uh, the killing.

MARLER Okay, yeah...well but it was, uh, it was, uh, it was a tragic thing right. But you got the wrong man. There was more guns bought that day than what the law knows about. Okay.... Will you have him to call me if you don't mind.

UF Who do you want to call you?

MARLER The police.

UF You want a sergeant to talk to you?

MARLER Yeah.

UF Okay. Hold on just a second.

MARLER Now wait....

? Hello.

UF Sir....

? Hello.

UF Sir didn't you want to talk to a sergeant?

Sir...Mr. MARLER....Hello....I guess he's hung up.

Birmingham, Alabama
December 5, 1979

Re: RICK TOWNSLEY;
TERRY WALTERS;
RALPH TURNER;
JERRY CARROLL
OFFICERS, ANNISTON POLICE DEPARTMENT;
CECIL BLOSTER, FIREMAN,
ANNISTON FIRE DEPARTMENT,
ANNISTON, ALABAMA;
PAUL BERNARD MARLER - VICTIM
"DUKE" MARLER - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS

On November 19, 1979, Paul Bernard Marler, 716 East 10th Street, Anniston, Alabama, telephonically contacted the Washington, D.C. office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation at which time he related the following:

In September or October 1970, he and his brother were arrested at the VFW Hall in Anniston, Alabama, following a fight resulting from drinks. His brother, when put in jail, was beaten by the officers. This is not a racial matter as the police officers and his brother were white.

On June 15, 1979, Paul Bernard Marler appeared at the Anniston, Alabama, Resident Agency, obviously under the influence of either alcohol or narcotics. Throughout the interview, Marler would doze off or begin crying unexplainably. Marler complained that in 1970 he and his brother, "Duke", had gone to the VFW Club in Anniston to pay their dues. While there, they began to drink and trouble broke out between them and some of the patrons or bartenders at the club. Marler stated that seeing his brother in a fight with several other individuals, he then broke a bottle and came to his brother's assistance. Marler stated

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RICK TOWNSLEY
ET AL

that unquestionably, he had "assaulted them", but stated that he felt this was the only reasonable action to protect his brother. Following the fight, Marler and his brother went to the parking lot of the VFW where they encountered Anniston Police Officers Rick Townsley, Terry Walters, Ralph Turner and Jerry Carroll. Marler stated that he was then handcuffed without cause and taken to the Anniston Police Department. During the drive to the Police Department, Marler stated that he had addressed Officer Carroll as "son" and Carroll had advised him that he was not his son and did not appreciate being called son by Marler. Marler further advised he then told Carroll that his family would not forget Carroll's family and that also, he, Marler, would not forget Carroll's family. Throughout the interview, Marler rambled incoherently, stating that he had spent \$37,000 to find out what he is now telling the FBI and that he wanted a warrant sworn out for the officers immediately and that he was also suing the Police Department for one million dollars. It was pointed out to Marler that this would be impossible, but if he had a complaint, it could be brought to the attention of the FBI.

After a great deal of difficulty keeping Marler on matters relevant to his complaint, Marler continued that he was then put in a cell and after being locked up in a "drunk tank" he was then visited by unknown officers who kicked him, splitting his forehead open and then "hammered" his teeth out.

Marler continued to cry and doze off as he related the above facts and when asked why he had not come to the FBI earlier, he explained that he did not wish to make a complaint at that time because it would disgrace his family.

Marler, in conversation, admitted being an alcoholic and under the influence of drugs for which he has a doctor's prescription. In addition, he currently is an outpatient in the Veteran's Administration Hospital for mental incompetency.

RICK TOWNSLEY;
ET AL.

It was pointed out to Marler that because of his condition, at this time, it would be impossible for any statement to be taken by the FBI, but if he desired, he could return when he was obviously not under the influence of alcohol and narcotics and a statement would be taken. Marler gave no indication as to whether he planned to return.

No investigative action is being taken by the FBI.



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Birmingham, Alabama 35203
July 23, 1982

JAMES EARL RAY;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING-VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS-CONSPIRACY

Captain E. Robins, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, Fairfield, Alabama, advised Paul Bernard Marler had telephonically contacted the Sheriff's Office in Bessemer, Alabama, and stated James Earl Ray did not kill Martin Luther King. Captain Robins advised this conversation was taped and he will make a copy of the tape available to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

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44-2386

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SERIALIZED	FILED

[Handwritten signature]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription July 23, 1982

CAPT. E. ROBINS, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, made available a tape of a telephone conversation on July 11, 1982, by PAUL BERNARD MARLER, the transcripts of which is attached.

Investigation on 7/15/82 at Fairfield, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

by SA PETER JOHN BODKIN:mjl Date dictated 7/19/82

2

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FBI/DOJ

Testin 1, 2, 3. Testing 1, 2, 3

Unknown Female Sheriff's Office
(UF)

MARLER Sheriff's Office in Jefferson County?

UF Yes sir.

MARLER (unintelligible)

UF Okay.

MARLER My name is PAUL, P A U L BERNARD MARLER.

UF What is it? Is it PAUL or POL?

MARLER PAUL, P A U L.

UF Okay.

MARLER BERNARD MARLER, M A R L E R.

UF M A R L E R?

MARLER Yes ma'am.

UF Okay.

MARLER U'm up in Calhoun County.

UF Calhoun?

MARLER Calhoun County.

UF Okay.

MARLER I'm a white male. I's born I'm sorry

I'm calling in reference to JAMES EARL
RAY.

UF JAMES EARL RAY?

MARLER Right.

UF Okay. What, what about JAMES EARL RAY?

MARLER He didn't kill MARTIN LUTHER KING.

UF He didn't kill MARTIN LUTHER KING?

MARLER No ma'am we did it.

UF You did. Who, who was you besides....

MARLER LEO DENHAM.

UF LEO DUNHAM?

MARLER L E O...DNH...D E N H A M.

UF D U N H...

MARLER DN....DUN....

UF D U N...

MARLERH A M. D E N H A M

UF ...HAM. D E N H A M.

MARLER Right. LEO fired the shot. JAMES RAY was a punk.
He never shot anybody. He ain't never been that brave.

UF Okay...have you, have you called the police department
to investigate?

MARLER I've called the "Washington Post." I had called, I have
talked with the warden in Tennessee...Warden DAVIS and
you can call that okay and verify it.

UF Did they tell you to call us or....

MARLER No, no.
I just don't think I'm gon be here that long. I just
want, I just don't want JAMES RAY to die for something
that he didn't do. Now he might be, they might lock
him up forever I don't know. That's up to JAMES you
know. JAMES was, he was, uh, he was, he was a nitty,
he was a punk anyway. But JAMES didn't kill that
nigger. I didn't mean to say that. JAMES RAY didn't
kill MARTIN LUTHER KING. We did.

UF You, you and this LEO D E N H A M.

MARLER LEO killed him. I didn't kill him, but I was there;
and that makes me a part of it. Right?

UF Yes sir. What, what, you live in Calhoun County?

MARLER I just gave you that.

UF What's your, uh, what's your address?

MARLER 716 East 10th Street and I'm at 238...seventeen, seventy-seven.

UF 238....seventeen, seventy-seven?

MARLER Yes ma'am.

UF And your address was seven sixteen?

MARLER I whatn't involved in it. I saw it.

UF Do you know where he is now?

MARLER Yes I do.

UF Where is he?

MARLER I'll talk to you about that later.

UF Okay.

MARLER I had nothing to do with it, uh, well maybe I did. Maybe I had something to do with it because I didn't come forth earlier you know....

UF Yeah.

MARLERto say what I had to say. But I saw the man, I wasn't involved in it. I didn't shoot at anybody, but I saw the man that shot MARTIN LUTHER KING.

UF And you've already....

MARLER Yes I did.

UF You've already called the police department and investigated him.

MARLER I've already called "Washington Post."

UF And what did they tell you?

MARLER I don't know what they told me.

MARLER I've called you. I've called Mobile. I've called Atlanta. I've called Memphis. I've called and talked to this judge, uh....I've talked to, uh, Warden DAVIS at the penitentiary in Tennessee. I've done already talked to him.

UF Well okay. Well I....

MARLER Lady, I'm blind and I don't know how long I'm gon live. But I'm gon tell you...that man did not kill MARTIN LUTHER KING. They've got the wrong man. Well okay. I got the situation and I'll, (unintelligible). I'll pass it on.

MARLER I appreciate it.

UF Okay.

MARLER Wait...are you in Bessemer?

UF Yes sir.

MARLER Well that's where it came from. Now let me tell you something else.

UF Where what came from?

MARLER Where information came from.

UF Are you in Bessemer?

MARLER That's where it all came from in Bessemer, Homewood right? Now and do you know the man...are you still on?

UF Yes I'm (unintelligible)

MARLER Okay you know they said the man, the gun that killed KING came from Homewood whatever right. That Woods boy. I hope you're getting all this down. There was WOODS boy that sold him my gun. You see lady....

UF Uh huh.

MARLER I'm the man that brought the gun.

UF You bought the gun?

MARLER Now then...

UF What kind of gun was it?

MARLER That wasn't the only...now wait a minute. That's, that's where everybody got screwed up. How many guns were there was bought? You don't know that do you?

UF No sir, (unintelligible)

MARLER The law don't even know it.

UF I'm not up on, on, uh, the killing.

MARLER Okay, yeah...well but it was, uh, it was, uh, it was a tragic thing right. But you got the wrong man. There was more guns bought that day than what the law knows about. Okay.... Will you have him to call me if you don't mind.

UF Who do you want to call you?

MARLER The police.

UF You want a sergeant to talk to you?

MARLER Yeah.

UF Okay. Hold on just a second.

MARLER Now wait....

? Hello.

UF Sir....

? Hello.

UF Sir didn't you want to talk to a sergeant?

Sir...Mr. MARLER....Hello....I guess he's hung up.

Birmingham, Alabama
December 5, 1979

Re: RICK TOWNSLEY;
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RALPH TURNER;
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No investigative action is being taken by the
FBI.

Memorandum



To : DIRECTOR, FBI

Date July 23, 1982

From : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)

Subject : JAMES EARL RAY;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING-VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS-CONSPIRACY
OO: MEMPHIS

Enclosed for the Bureau are the original and three copies of a letterhead memorandum containing investigation by the Birmingham Office. Enclosed for the information of the Atlanta, Memphis, Mobile and WFO Offices are two copies of an LHM containing results of investigation by the Birmingham Office.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

The Birmingham Office is not interviewing PAUL BERNARD MARLER in connection with this matter due to his mental incompetency and he is an alcoholic.

2-Bureau (44-38861) (Enc. 4)
2-Atlanta (44-2386) (Enc. 2)
2-Memphis (44-1987) (Enc. 2)
2-Mobile (157-2627) (Enc. 2)
2-WFO (Enc. 2)
1-Birmingham
PJB/acm
(11)

44-2386

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SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 28 1982	

[Signature]

TRANSMIT VIA: AIRTEL

CLASSIFICATION: _____

DATE: SEP 13 1983

FROM: Director, FBI

TO: SAC, Atlanta (190-9)

HAROLD WEISBERG
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION-PRIVACY ACTS REQUEST

Re your airtel dated 12/15/78, and your routing slip dated 3/27/80.

Enclosed herewith are the following original Atlanta materials sent to FBIHQ for duplication and processing under FOIPA:

From AT 44-2386-1B-4

1. One 10" x 14" B & W photograph of a map of a of section Atlanta, "Rockdale Park."
2. Two 10" x 14" B & W photographs of a map of a section of Atlanta, "Decatur" and "Avondale Estates."
3. Two 10" x 14" B & W photographs of a cover of Arrow "Map of Greater Atlanta."

From AT 44-2386-1A95

Two polaroid photographs of an inmate of Missouri Department of Corrections.

The enclosed files have been reviewed under current classification procedures. You are requested to make the classification changes on all other file copies in your division. Local agencies previously receiving copies of these records must be apprised of changes.

Before returning form 4-37 to Headquarters, insure Registry Number is recorded in the space provided.

Enclosure

cc 190-9

44-2386-2516

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