

PAGE TWO

BEARS LETTERS AND NUMBERS ZERO TWO B DASH SIX.

EXPERTS AT TEXTILE MARKING MACHINE COMPANY ADVISE TYPE ON THIS MACHINE IS UNUSUAL IN THAT THE FIRST TWO CHARACTERS ARE FIFTEEN POINT TYPE AND THE LAST THREE CHARACTERS ARE EIGHTEEN POINT TYPE, WITH THE MIDDLE CHARACTER, THE LETTER B, PROBABLY BEING NARROW RATHER THAN REGULAR TYPE. THE USUAL MACHINE CARRIES FIFTEEN POINT TYPE FOR THE FIRST THREE CHARACTERS AND EIGHTEEN POINT TYPE FOR THE LAST TWO CHARACTERS.

TEXTILE MARKING MACHINE EXPERTS ALSO STATED THIS MACHINE IS DEFECTIVE IN THAT IT IS PRODUCING A TAPE ONE AND ONE SIXTEENTH INCH LONG INSTEAD OF ONE AND ONE EIGHTH INCH LONG AND IS NOT PROJECTING THE TAPE FAR ENOUGH RESULTING IN CUTTING OFF A PORTION

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

OF THE FIRST LETTER. THE CODE USED IN THE NORTH
EASTERN PART OF THE UNITED STATES IS AS FOLLOWS:

THE FIRST LETTER O STANDS FOR LOT NUMBER; THE
FIRST NUMBER TWO INDICATES THE DAY OF THE WEEK, TWO
BEING TUESDAY; THE SECOND LETTER INDICATES THE FIRST
LETTER OF THE STORE NAME, THIS IS THE LETTER B; THE
LAST NUMBER IS THE BUNDLE NUMBER, THIS IS SIX. COLOR
CODING OF THE TAG MAY DESIGNATE VARIOUS THINGS SUCH
AS A DIFFERENT MONTH OR THE IDENTITY OF A STORE IN
A CHAIN. EXPERTS ALSO STATE THE USE OF THIS SYSTEM
ON LAUNDRY ITEMS IS UNUSUAL IN THAT THE SYSTEM IS
NORMALLY USED ON GARMENTS BEING DRY CLEANED.

THE BUREAU HAS INSTRUCTED THAT ALL TEXTILE
MACHINES USING THIS TYPE TAPE BE LOCATED AND MACHINES
USING THIS CODE BE IDENTIFIED.

END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

THE CODE USED HAS BEEN TRACED TO THE NORTHEASTERN PART OF THE UNITED STATES, HOWEVER A SIMILAR CODING IS USED IN THE WESTERN PART OF THE UNITED STATES ALSO AND A SIMILAR CODE IS ALSO USED BY COMPANIES WITHOUT THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE COMPANY'S REPRESENTATIVES, THEREFORE ALL THESE MACHINES MUST BE CHECKED.

FOLLOWING ARE MACHINES HAVING FIVE CHARACTERS OR SIX CHARACTERS CAPABLE OF PRODUCING THE INSTANT LAUNDRY TAPE:

ATLANTA:

BLUM'S, MACON, GEORGIA, MODEL NUMBER H FIVE L ONE, SERIAL NUMBER THREE ONE NINE SEVEN THREE.

BALTIMORE:

STAR LAUNDRY, NINE ZERO EIGHT NORTH SALISBURY BOULEVARD, SALISBURY, MARYLAND, MODEL NUMBER H FIVE L FOUR, SERIAL NUMBER THREE TWO FIVE ZERO ZERO.

END PAGE FOUR

PAGE FIVE

BOSTON:

LEWIS NATIONAL CORP., ONE MT. VERNON
AVE, DORCHESTER, MASS., MODEL NUMBER H
FIVE L FOUR, SERIAL NUMBER THREE TWO TWO NINE ZERO
(A DISTRIBUTOR FOR TEXTILE MARKING MACHINE CO.,
THIS MACHINE SHIPPED APRIL SIXTYTWO); SUPERIOR LAUNDRY
SIX TWENTYFIVE CONCORD AVE, CAMBRIDGE, MASS.,
MODEL NUMBER H FIVE K ONE, SERIAL NUMBER R THREE ONE
SEVEN SIX TWO.

CINCINNATI:

SWAN CLEANERS, EIGHT ZERO FOUR MOUNT VERNON
AVENUE, COLUMBUS, OHIO, MODEL NUMBER H FIVE K ONE
SERIAL NUMBER R THREE ONE FIVE FOUR SEVEN.

FLAS VEGAS:

MONARCH CLEANERS, ONE FOUR THREE ZERO SOUTH MAIN
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA, MODEL NUMBER H FIVE L FOUR, SERIAL
END PAGE FIVE

PAGE SIX

NUMBER THREE TWO FOUR NINE EIGHT.

LOS ANGELES:

BEACH CITIES LAUNDRY, SIX TWO ZERO MAIN STREET,
HUNTINGTON BEACH, CALIFORNIA, MODEL NUMBER R H FIVE
K ONE, SERIAL NUMBER THREE ONE THREE NINE FOUR;
CALIFORNIA OVERALL COMPANY, ONE SIX TWO ZERO COMPTON
AVENUE, LOS ANGELES, CALIF.; MODEL NUMBER H FIVE
K ONE, SERIAL NUMBER THREE ONE THREE FIVE TWO;
DELITE LAUNDRY, ONE SIX ZERO SEVEN, BROOKLYN AVENUE,
LOS ANGELES, CALIF., MODEL NUMBER R H FIVE K ONE,
SERIAL NUMBERS THREE ONE FOUR FOUR NINE, THREE ONE
FOUR FIVE FOUR, THREE ONE THREE NINE TWO, THREE ONE
FOUR FOUR SEVEN; GOLD COAST LAUNDRY, ONE EIGHT THREE
EIGHT EAST FORTY FIRST PLACE, LOS ANGELES; MODEL
NUMBER H FIVE K FOUR, SERIAL NUMBER R THREE TWO THREE
TWO ONE; NICOLAY KETZBECK INC., GAMMATU LAUNDRY,
END PAGE SIX

PAGE SEVEN

EIGHT SIX ONE ONE WEST THIRD STREET, LOS ANGELES,
MODEL NUMBER H FIVE K ONE, CONVERTED FROM H FIVE J
ONE, SERIAL NUMBER THREE ZERO NINE ZERO TWO.

NEWARK:

CUSTOM SHIRT LAUNDRY, TWO ZERO SEVEN HADDON
AVENUE, WESTMONT, N.J., MODEL NUMBER H FIVE
M FOUR, SERIAL NUMBER THREE TWO SIX FOUR FOUR.

RICHMOND:

FARLINGTON OR FANLINGTON LAUNDRY, THREE EIGHT
ZERO ZERO SOUTH FOUR MILE RUN DRIVE, ARLINGTON,
VIRGINIA, MODEL NUMBER H FIVE L FOUR, SERIAL NUMBER
THREE TWO FIVE ZERO FOUR.

SAN DIEGO

KELLY ORIGINAL FRENCH LAUNDRY, ONE ZERO FOUR
TWO UNIVERSITY AVE., SAN DIEGO, CALIF., MODEL
NUMBER R H FIVE K ONE, SERIAL NUMBERS, THREE ONE
END PAGE SEVEN

PAGE EIGHT

THREE NINE ONE, THREE ONE THREE NINE FIVE, MODEL
NUMBER H FIVE K ONE, SERIAL NUMBERS THREE ONE FOUR
SIX ONE AND THREE ONE FOUR NINE ONE.

SAN FRANCISCO:

GOLDEN STATE DRIVE IN CLEANERS, TWO ONE SEVEN
FIVE WINCHESTER BLVD., CAMPBELL, CALIF.,
MODEL NUMBER H FIVE L FOUR, SERIAL NUMBER THREE TWO
FIVE ZERO THREE; HIGHLAND DRIVE IN CLEANERS, ONE TWO ZERO
ONE LA SALLE AVENUE, SEASIDE, CALIF., MODEL NUMBER
H FIVE L ONE, SERIAL NUMBER THREE ONE SIX THREE TWO
MARSHALL STEEL COMPANY, FIVE FOUR TWO SEVEN TELEGRAPH,
OAKLAND, CALIF., MODEL NUMBER H FIVE K ONE, SERIAL
NUMBER THREE ONE TWO TWO SIX; SANFORD CLEANERS, TWO
EIGHT SEVEN FIVE EL CAMINO, PALO ALTO, CALIF.,
MODEL NUMBER H FIVE L FOUR, SERIAL NUMBER THREE TWO
FIVE ZERO SIX; STERLING CLEANERS AND LAUNDRY, ONE
END PAGE EIGHT

PAGE NINE

ONE FOUR ZERO HOWARD AVE., BURLINGAME, CALIF.,
MODEL NUMBER H FIVE L FOUR, SERIAL NUMBER THREE
ONE SIX FOUR SEVEN; SUPERIOR FRENCH LAUNDRY, ONE TWO
EIGHT FOUR WEST MAIN AVENUE, OAKLAND, CALIF.,
WHICH HAS NUMEROUS MACHINES OF THIS TYPE SOME OF
WHICH HAVE BEEN RETURNED TO REPRESENTATIVE. MACHINE
H FIVE K ONE SERIAL NUMBER THREE ONE THREE FIVE EIGHT
RETURNED TO TEXTILE MARKING MACHINE HAS BEEN
CHECKED BY ALBANY.

REGARDING THE ABOVE MACHINES ALL OF THOSE
HAVING FIVE CHARACTERS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AND
THE NUMBERS FURNISHED BY TELEPHONE TO BALTIMORE,
BOSTON AND SAN FRANCISCO. OTHER MACHINES SET FORTH
ABOVE FOR THE DESIGNATION IN THE MODEL NUMBER
INDICATING THAT THEY ARE FIVE CHARACTER MACHINES.
HOWEVER THE RECORDS OF TEXTILE MARKING MACHINE
END PAGE NINE

PAGE TEN

COMPANY SHOW SIX DIGITS. ALL OF THESE MACHINES SHOULD BE CHECKED TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY USE THE CODE ON INSTANT TAPE.

THE BUREAU HAS BEEN REQUESTED TO FURNISH ALL OFFICES SET FORTH ABOVE WITH PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE GARMENTS BEARING THE TAPE IN SUFFICIENT QUANTITY TO COVER THESE LEADS.

ALL OFFICES ARE DIRECTED BY THE BUREAU TO IMMEDIATELY CONTACT THE ABOVE CONCERNS AS DESIGNATED, DETERMINE IF THEY USE THE CODE SYSTEM AS SHOWN ON INSTANT TAPE AND IF THEY DO USE THAT SYSTEM, OBTAIN ALL INFORMATION AVAILABLE IN AN EFFORT TO IDENTIFY UNSUB. THE BUREAU HAS FURTHER DIRECTED THAT EVEN IF THEY DO NOT USE THIS SYSTEM, TAPES SHOULD BE OBTAINED USING THE CHARACTERS IN INSTANT TAPE WHICH SHOULD BE FORWARDED IMMEDIATELY TO THE FBI LAB FOR

ENDPAGE TEN

PAGE ELEVEN

COMPARISON WITH INSTANT TAPE.

COPY OF THIS TELETYPE IS FURNISHED TO BIRMINGHAM
IN VIEW OF CHECKS BEING MADE WITH AIRLINE COMPANIES. P.

END

MP ME DND

FBI MEMPHIS

AT JWE

FBI ATLANTA

BH GDM

FBI BIRMGHAM

CI WRH

FBI CINCINTI

#&@ @ P!@@

FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI DALLAS

11 PM URGENT 4-8-68 CBB

TO DIRECTOR, BIRMINGHAM, JACKSON AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM DALLAS (44-2649) 2P

MURKIN. CR. 00 MEMPHIS.

RE JACKSON TEL CALL TO TYLER RA AND TELS TO DALLAS, APRIL
EIGHT, SIXTYEIGHT.

J. C. SPIEKERMAN, JR., PLANT MANAGER, AND J. D. FAULKENBERRY,
OFFICE MANAGER, JOS. SCHLITZ BREWING COMPANY, LONGVIEW, TEXAS,
PERSONALLY CONTACTED TODAY AND FOLLOWING INFO OBTAINED:

CANNED BEER PRODUCED THIS PLANT STAMPED ON BOTTOM OF CAN WITH
CODE FOR DATE IT WAS CANNED. STAMP ZERO THREE OVER ONE FIVE EIGHT
REFERS TO DATE MARCH FIFTEEN, SIXTYEIGHT. NO OTHER STAMP OR
MARKING PLACED ON BEER CAN BY FIRM AT TIME OF MANUFACTURE. ALL
CANS UTILIZED BY LONGVIEW PLANT SHOW REGULAR SCHLITZ BEER IDENTI-
FICATION ON OUTSIDE OF CAN AND IDENTIFY PLACE OF MANUFACTURE AS
LONGVIEW, TEXAS. BOTTOM OF CAN FOR ALL BEER PACKAGED AND MANUFAC-
TURED FOR SALE IN MISSISSIPPI HAS BLACK LETTERING SHOWING MISSISSIPPI
TAX PAID, SEAL FOR STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, AND AMOUNT OF TAX PAID WHICH
END PAGE ONE

44-1748-82

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[Signature]

PAGE TWO

WOULD BE FOUR CENTS FOR TWELVE FLUID OUNCE CAN OR FIVE AND ONE THIRD CENTS FOR SIXTEEN FLUID OUNCE CAN.

BEER BREWED AND CANNED ON MARCH FIFTEEN, SIXTYEIGHT WAS IN ALL PROBABILITY SHIPPED TO MISSISSIPPI DISTRIBUTORS AT HATTIESBURG, MARCH FIFTEEN AND TWENTY; CLARKSDALE, MARCH FIFTEEN AND TWENTY; MERIDIAN, MARCH FIFTEEN AND TWENTY; YAZOO CITY, MARCH EIGHTEEN; BILOXI, MARCH EIGHTEEN AND TWENTY; TUPELO, MARCH TWENTY; AND JACKSON, MARCH TWENTY LAST.

TOTAL BEER PACKAGED FOR SALE IN MISSISSIPPI BEARING STAMP ZERO THREE OVER ONE FIVE EIGHT CONSISTED OF TWENTYONE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED FIFTYTWO CASES IN POP TOP CANS AND TWO HUNDRED FIFTYTWO CASES OF SOFT TOP CANS, TWENTYFOUR CANS PER CASE.

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF FIFTEEN SCHLITZ DISTRIBUTORS LOCATED IN MISSISSIPPI PREVIOUSLY FURNISHED JACKSON OFFICE IN RETEL CALL.

DETAILS OF ABOVE INTERVIEWS BEING FORWARDED JACKSON IN APPROPRIATE FD THREE ZERO TWO'S. P

END

GDM

FBI BIRMGHAM

@

FBI WASH DC

FBI BIRMGHAM

630 PM URGENT 4-8-68 GDM
TO DIRECTOR AND MEMPHIS
FROM BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

MURKIN

INVESTIGATION BEING CONDUCTED AT GREYHOUND BUS TERMINAL, BIRMINGHAM, TO IDENTIFY UNSUB THIS CASE, THROUGH CONTACT WITH PORTERS, EXPRESS AGENTS, TICKET AGENTS, CONCESSIONERS, AND DRIVERS, HAS REVEALED THE FOLLOWING BUS DRIVERS ARE BASED IN MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, AND COMMUTED BETWEEN MEMPHIS AND BIRMINGHAM ON ONE OR MORE DAYS, MARCH TWENTYSIX, THROUGH AND INCLUDING MARCH THIRTY, NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT:

PAIRAMORE, GRAY, MURPHY, HICKS, WILSON, NICHOLS, HANNAH, PECK, WICKER, ROBERTSON, EARHART, DARNELL, GRAMMER, HARRIS, MC NEER, JUDD AND CASH.

MEMPHIS EXPEDITIOUSLY ASCERTAIN FULL NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF MEMPHIS BASED DRIVERS, AND INTERVIEW TO IDENTIFY UNSUB, PARTICULARLY BY DISPLAYING ARTIST' LIKENESSES.

END

LCC

FBI WASH DC

Also Sent

TSS

FBI Memphis

44-1740-83

F B I

Date: 4/8/68

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

TO: BUREAU AND MEMPHIS

FROM: BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

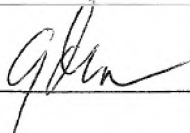
MURKIN

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PAIRAMORE; GRAY, MURPHY, HICKS, WILSON, NICHOLS, HANNAH, PECK, WICKER, ROBERTSON, EARHART, DARNELL, GRAMMER, HARRIS, MC NEER, JUDD, AND CASH.

MEMPHIS EXPEDITIOUSLY ASCERTAIN FULL NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF MEMPHIS BASED DRIVERS, AND INTERVIEW TO IDENTIFY UNSUB, PARTICULARLY BY DISPLAYING ARTISTS' LIKENESSES.

END AND ACK.

JDS:cap
(1)SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILEDApproved: 
Special Agent in ChargeSent 6:30 PM to WA
7:31 PM to ME MPer 

FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI NEWARK

6:30PM URGENT 04/08/68 JPK

TO DIRECTOR, BIRMINGHAM, DETROIT, AND MEMPHIS
FROM NEWARK (44-854)

MURKIN

AL THATCHER, RAINBOW LAKES, N.J., AN ACQUAINTANCE OF
SA ANDREW R. BABYAK, ADVISED SA BABYAK THAT ON WEDNESDAY EVENING,
APRIL THREE LAST, AT APPROXIMATELY EIGHT PM, HE WAS IN THE
AIRPORT BAR, DETROIT MUNICIPAL AIRPORT, WITH AN ACQUAINTANCE
OF HIS, FRANCIS ERDMAN, VICE PRESIDENT, RCA LABS., ROUTE ONE,
PRINCETON, NJ, THATCHER NOTICED A "GI" AT THE FAR END OF THE
BAR HAVING A DISCUSSION WITH THE BARTENDER, THE "GI" WAS
TALKING FAIRLY LOUD AND WAS WAVING HIS HANDS DURING THE
CONVERSATION. THIS CONVERSATION COULD NOT BE OVERHEARD BY
THATCHER OR ERDMAN. WHEN LEAVING THE AIRPORT BAR, THE TIME
AGAIN BEING PLACED AT APPROXIMATELY EIGHT PM, THE GI PASSED
BY THATCHER'S TABLE AND STATED "I'M ON MY WAY TO MEMPHIS.
I'M GOING TO GET EVEN WITH DR. KING. THREE NEGROES RAPED MY
RED HEADED GIRLFRIEND IN MEMPHIS."

THATCHER DESCRIBED THIS INDIVIDUAL AS A WHITE MALE,
MID TWENTIES, SANDY HAIR, CREW CUT, FIVE FEET TEN INCHES, TO
SIX FEET TALL, ONE EIGHTY LBS., AND PERHAPS HAD A SCAR UNDER
END PAGE ONE.....

44-1740-84

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PAGE TWO

NK 44-854

RIGHT EYE. THIS UNSUB HAD ON A KHAKI UNIFORM, WITH POSSIBLY CORPORAL OR SERGEANT'S STRIPES, BUT WHETHER HE WAS A SOLDIER OR A MARINE, THATCHER COULD NOT SAY.

FRANCIS ERDMAN WAS INTERVIEWED INDEPENDENTLY OF THATCHER AT WHICH TIME HE FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

HE HAD ARRIVED AT THE DETROIT MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AT APPROXIMATELY SEVEN TEN P.M., VIA DELTA AIR LINES FROM INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA. ON ENTERING THE MAIN TERMINAL AT APPROXIMATELY SEVEN THIRTY PM, HE MET AN ACQUAINTANCE, IDENTIFIED AS AL THATCHER, MORRISTOWN, N.J., THEY SAT AT A SMALL TABLE IN THE LOUNGE BAT NEAR THE EXIT DOOR. WHILE CONVERSING, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED INDIVIDUAL CAME TO THEIR TABLE, UNINVITED AND COMMENCED A RAMBLING TYPE CONVERSATION. THIS INDIVIDUAL WAS WEARING A MILITARY UNIFORM, NEATLY PRESSED, BUT HE IS NOT EXACTLY CERTAIN AS TO WHETHER THE UNIFORM WAS AN ARMY OR MARINE UNIFORM. DESCRIPTION: WHITE MALE, LATE TWENTIES, POSSIBLY ABOUT TWENTY EIGHT; FIVE FEET ELEVEN INCHES, ONE SIXTY LBS., EYES UNKNOWN, BUT VERY PENETRATING; SLIGHT, BUT MUSCULAR BUILD; WELL SUN-BURNED COMPLEXION, NO HAT OBSERVED; DID NOT OBSERVE SHOES; THREE ROWS OF MILITARY DECORATIONS, TYPE UNKNOWN; BROWN HAIR; VERY TENSE AND CONTINUOUSLY WRUNG HANDS DURING CONVERSATION; NO LUGGAGE NOTED; CLEAN SHAVEN, NO GLASSES.

ERDMAN ADVISED THIS PERSON, WHO WAS ABOUT TO LEAVE THE LOUNGE, STOPPED AT THEE TABLE AND ATTEMPTED TO INTERRUPT
END PAGE TWO.....

PAGE THREE

NK 44-854

THREI CONVERSATION. HE SAID THEY ATTEMPTED TO IGNORE THIS PERSON WHO, HOWEVER, FORCED HIME PAREN ERDMAN, PAREN, TO SHAKE HANDS WITH HIM. DURING A SHORT, RAMBLING CONVERSATION, THIS PERSON MADE THE REMARK "I'M GOING TO MEMPHIS TO KILL MARTIN LUTHER KING".

THIS UNKNOWN PERSON FURTHER INDICATED "HIS GIRLFRIEND HAD BEEN ATTAVKED BY THREE NEGROES">

ERDMAN SAID THE UNKNOWN INDIVIDUAL MADE REFERENCE TO HIS GIRLFRIEND, BUT COULD HAVE ALSO REFERRED TO HIS WIFE.

ACCORDING TO ERDMAN, THIS PERSON, AFTER MAKING THE ABOVE STATEMENT, LEFT THE TERMINAL LOUNGE AROUND SEVEN FORTY FIVE PM, APRIL THREE LAST, AND IT APPEARED TO HIM THAT THIS PERSON WAS ABOUT TO LEAVE BY PLANE.

WHEN CLOSELY QUESTIONED AS TO WHETHER HE COULD TAKE AN EDUCATED GUESS AS TO WHETHER THE UNIFORM WAS AN RMY OR MARINE TYPE UNIFORM, ERDMAN SAID THE UNIFORM WAS KHAKI AND SOMEWHAT GREENISH IN COLOR. HE SAID HE WOULD "GUESS" THE UNIFORM WAS MORE SO A MARINE UNIFORM RATHER THAN AN ARMY UNIFORM. HE ALSO INDICATED THIS PERSON SEEMED TO HAVE A MARINE TYPE BEARING.

ERDMAN ALSO INDICATED THIS INDIVIDUAL WAS ALONE DURING THE SHORT APPROXIMATE FIVE MINUTE PERIOD HE WAS AT THEIR TABLE. HE ALSO INDICATED THIS PERSON HAD BEEN DRINKING AND IN HIS OPINION WAS "POTTED" BUT ABLE TO CONDUCT AN INTELLIGENT CONVERSATION. HE ALSO ADVISED HE DID NOT NOTE THIS INDIVIDUAL AS STAGGERING WHEN HE LEFT THE LOUNGE BAR.

END PAGE THREE....

NK 44-854 PAGE FOUR

ERDMAN ADVISED HE BELIEVES HE WOULD BE ABLE TO IDENTIFY THIS PERSON IF SHOWN A PHOTO OF THIS PARTICULAR INDIVIDUAL.

LEADS: DETROIT, AT DETROIT, WILL CONTACT LOUNGE BAR, DETROIT MUNICIPAL AIRPORT, AND ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY BARTENDER WHO WAS ON DUTY APRIL THREE LAST, AND INTERVIEW HIM FOR ANY OBSERVATIONS OR INFORMATION HE MAY HAVE CONCERNING THIS INCIDENT.

MEMPHIS, AT MEMPHIS, WILL MAKE INQUIRIES OF THE LOCAL POLICE DEPT. CONCERNING THE ATTACK, ASSAULT OR RAPE OF A FEMALE, POSSIBLY RED HEADED, IN AN EFFORT TO IDENTIFY THIS UNKNOWN INDIVIDUAL.

E N D

GDM

FBI BIRMGHAM

6

FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI WASH DC

655PM LCCURGENT 4/8/68 LCC

TO MEMPHIS 44-1987 BIRMINGHAM 44-1740
FROM DIRECTOR 2P

MURKIN. RE MEMPHIS AIRTEL APRIL SEVEN AND DELIVERY
OF THREE RIFLES FOR LATENT EXAMINATION.

TWO LATENT FINGERPRINTS AND ONE LATENT PALM
PRINT DEVELOPED ON BROWNING SAFARI GRADE RIFLE, SERIAL
NUMBER THREE SEVEN ZERO ZERO Z FIVE. NO LATENTS OTHER
TWO RIFLES.

LATENTS NOT IDENTICAL MAJOR CASE PRINTS TWO
BIRMINGHAM STORE CLERKS WOOD AND BAKER, LATENTS PREVIOUSLY
REPORTED THIS CASE, OR WITH FINGERPRINTS AND PALM PRINTS
WHERE AVAILABLE OF SUSPECTS NAMED TO DATE.

LATENT PRINT PREVIOUSLY REPORTED ON BOARD PAREN
WINDOW SILL IN BATHROOM PAREN IDENTICAL FINGERPRINT SA
FRANKLIN L. JOHNSON.

END PAGE ONE

44-1740-85

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[Handwritten signature]

E TWO
G

THIRTEEN LATENT FINGERPRINTS AND ONE LATENT
PALM PRINT REMAIN UNIDENTIFIED. THESE LATENTS NOT IDENTICAL
FINGERPRINTS OF ROD KELLUM WINDHAM, FBI NUMBER TWO TWO FOUR
SEVEN ONE NINE B. OR TOM NELSON DAVIS, FBI NUMBER SIX FOUR FOUR
SIX SEVEN SIX A.

CONFIRMING.

END

GDM

FBI BIRMGHAM

TUE

FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI SAN FRAN

7:01PM URGENT 4-8-68 MS
TO DIRECTOR, BIRMINGHAM & MEMPHIS
FROM SAN FRANCISCO (173-65) 1P

MURKIN; CR; OO: MEMPHIS

REBUTEL APRIL EIGHT INSTANT.

RE LAUNDRY MARKS:

PROPRIETORS CHERRY CHASE CLEANERS, FORMERLY KNOWN AS GOLDEN
STATE DRY CLEANERS, CAMPBELL, CALIF.; HIGHLAND CLEANERS, INC.,
SEASIDE, CALIF.; AND STANFORD DRIVE-IN CLEANERS, PALO ALTO, CALIF.,
ADVISED THE SYMBOL "ZERO TWO B - SIX" IS NOT THEIR CODE AND IS NOT
USED BY THEM. THEY STATED THEY COULD NOT EXPLAIN WHAT THE SYMBOL
"ZERO TWO B - SIX" MEANS AS EACH INDIVIDUAL SHOP CAN UTILIZE THEIR
OWN CODE. SPECIMENS OF THE PERTINENT SYMBOL NUMBER BEING OBTAINED
FROM THE SIX FIRMS IN THE SAN FRANCISCO AREA AS SET OUT IN RETEL
AND WILL BE FORWARDED TO BUREAU WHEN RECEIVED.

END

OTHER OFCS ADVSD

SSP

FBI BIRMGHAM

@

44-1740-86

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FBI MEMPHIS

FBI BIRMGHAM

727PM IMMEDIATE 4-8-68 GDM

TO DIRECTOR AND MEMPHIS

FROM BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)

MURKIN.

SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION.

INTERVIEWS OF KNOWN CUSTOMERS, AEROMARINE, ON MARCH TWENTYNINE AND THIRTY, SIXTYEIGHT, CONTINUING. ONE CUSTOMER LOCATED WHO HAD CONVERSATION WITH UNSUB ON MARCH TWENTYNINE, LAST. HE OBSERVED UNSUB HANDLE THREE RIFLES WHICH HE TOOK FROM CARTONS. ADVISED HE KNEW EXACT LOCATION OF RIFLES. OWNER AEROMARINE, TOGETHER WITH CUSTOMER, TAKEN TO STORE TEN THIRTY P.M., APRIL SEVENTH, LAST, AND RIFLES OBTAINED AND HAND CARRIED TO IDENTIFICATION DIVISION FOR LATENT FINGERPRINT EXAMINATION.

TAXICAB DRIVER LOCATED WHO RECALLED PICKING UP INDIVIDUAL RESEMBLING UNSUB ABOUT ONE-HALF MILE FROM AEROMARINE ON MARCH TWENTYEIGHT, LAST, CARRYING BLUE OVERNIGHT BAG SIMILAR TO THAT ABANDONED BY UNSUB IN MEMPHIS. DROVE HIM TO GENERAL VICINITY OF ADDRESS GIVEN BY UNSUB ON PURCHASE INVOICE. INTENSIVE NEIGHBORHOOD

END PAGE ONE

44-1740-87

PAGE TWO

INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED IN THIS AREA.

EXTENSIVE CANVASS OF TAXI-DRIVERS NEGATIVE THUS FAR.
INQUIRIES CONTINUING. INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED OF BUS STATIONS,
AND CHARTER PLANE SERVICES COMPLETED. LIST OF LOGICAL CAR RENTERS
OBTAINED FOR PERTINENT PERIOD AND ARE BEING CHECKED.

LIQUOR STORES RE PURCHASE OF SCHLITZ BEER, BARS, MOTELS AND
ROOMINGHOUSES VICINITY OR AIRPORT AND MAIN HIGHWAYS IN AREA OF
AIRPORT BEING CANVASSED AND WILL BE EXTENDED. INVESTIGATION AT ALL
HOTELS AND MOTELS IN BIRMINGHAM PROPER COMPLETED.

BANKS AND LOAN AGENCIES BEING CONTACTED. INVESTIGATION AT
ALL GUN SHOPS IN BIRMINGHAM COMPLETED. ORIGINAL NEIGHBORHOOD IN
VICINITY OF NINETEEN ZERO SEVEN SOUTH ELEVENTH STREET EXPANDED.

BUREAU ARTIST REPORTED BIRMINGHAM THIS DATE TO REVISE
ORIGINAL SKETCH OF UNSUB WITH ASSISTANCE OF ONE CUSTOMER AND
SALESMAN OF AEROMAXINE. OTHER CUSTOMER TO ASSIST ARTIST EVENING
OF APRIL NINE, NEXT.

ALL LEADS BEING GIVEN MOST EXPEDITIOUS HANDLING.

END

HOLD

TSJ

FBI MEMPHIS

Also sent

SAA

FBI WASH D.C.

F B I

Date: 4-8-68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE IMMEDIATE
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR AND SAC, MEMPHIS

FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)

MURKIN.

SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION.

INTERVIEWS OF KNOWN CUSTOMERS, AEROMARINE, ON MARCH TWENTYNINE AND THIRTY, SIXTYEIGHT, CONTINUING. ONE CUSTOMER LOCATED WHO HAD CONVERSATION WITH UNSUB ON MARCH TWENTYNINE, LAST. HE OBSERVED UNSUB HANDLE THREE RIFLES WHICH HE TOOK FROM CARTONS. ADVISED HE KNEW EXACT LOCATION OF RIFLES. OWNER AEROMARINE, TOGETHER WITH CUSTOMER, TAKEN TO STORE TEN THIRTY P.M., APRIL SEVENTH, LAST, AND RIFLES OBTAINED AND HAND CARRIED TO IDENTIFICATION DIVISION FOR LATENT FINGERPRINT EXAMINATION.

TAXICAB DRIVER LOCATED WHO RECALLED PICKING UP INDIVIDUAL RESEMBLING UNSUB ABOUT ONE-HALF MILE FROM AEROMARINE ON MARCH TWENTYEIGHT, LAST, CARRYING BLUE OVERNIGHT BAG SIMILAR TO THAT ABANDONED BY UNSUB IN MEMPHIS. DROVE HIM TO GENERAL VICINITY OF ADDRESS GIVEN BY UNSUB ON PURCHASE INVOICE. INTENSIVE NEIGHBORHOOD

JHG:rlg
(1) *ref*44-1740-87
SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILEDApproved: *[Signature]*
Special Agent in ChargeSent *7:27 PM to ME*
7:54 PM to WA M Per *[Signature]*

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via _____
(Priority)PAGE TWO
BH 44-1740

INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED IN THIS AREA.

EXTENSIVE CANVASS OF TAXI-DRIVERS NEGATIVE THUS FAR.
INQUIRIES CONTINUING. INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED OF BUS STATIONS,
AND CHARTER PLANE SERVICES COMPLETED. LIST OF LOGICAL CAR RENTERS
OBTAINED FOR PERTINENT PERIOD AND ARE BEING CHECKED.

LIQUOR STORES RE PURCHASE OF SCHLITZ BEER, BARS, MOTELS AND
ROOMINGHOUSES VICINITY OF AIRPORT AND MAIN HIGHWAYS IN AREA OF
AIRPORT BEING CANVASSED, *and will be extended.* INVESTIGATION AT ALL HOTELS AND MOTELS
IN BIRMINGHAM PROPER COMPLETED.

BANKS AND LOAN AGENCIES BEING CONTACTED. INVESTIGATION AT
ALL GUN SHOPS IN BIRMINGHAM COMPLETED. ORIGINAL NEIGHBORHOOD IN
VICINITY OF NINETEEN ZERO SEVEN SOUTH ELEVENTH STREET EXPANDED.

BUREAU ARTIST REPORTED BIRMINGHAM THIS DATE TO REVISE
ORIGINAL SKETCH OF UNSUB WITH ASSISTANCE OF ONE CUSTOMER AND
SALESMAN OF AEROMARINE. OTHER CUSTOMER TO ASSIST ARTIST EVENING
OF APRIL NINE, NEXT.

ALL LEADS *BEING* GIVEN MOST EXPEDITIOUS HANDLING.

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

FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI ALBANY

7 32PM IMMEDIATE 4-8-68 DER
TO DIRECTOR BIRMINGHAM MEMPHIS ATLANTA
BALTIMORE BOSTON CINCINNATI LAS VEGAS
LOS ANGELES NEWARK RICHMOND SAN DIEGO AND SAN FRANCISCO
FROM ALBANY 157-273

MURKIN CR OO MEMPHIS

RE ALBANY TEL APRIL EIGHT INSTANT

THE FOLLOWING ARE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF DISTRICT
MANAGERS FOR TEXTILE MARKING MACHINE COMPANY WHO MAY BE ABLE
TO FURNISH ASSISTANCE IN EVENT ANY PROBLEMS DEVELOP:
ATLANTA:

DICK BRISTOW, THREE FOUR SIX TWO, N.W. THIRTEENTH
AVENUE, GAINESVILLE, FLA., TELEPHONE NUMBER F R TWO ONE TWO NINE
ZERO.

BALTIMORE AND RICHMOND

END PAGE ONE

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[Signature]

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JOE COMBS, FIFTY TWO THIRTY DEVONSHIRE, OXON HILL,
MARYLAND, TELEPHONE TWO FOUR EIGHT SIX ONE TWO SEVEN.

CINCINNATI

JACK CODY, TWENTYNINE TWENTYNINE CHAUCER DRIVE, SHERWOOD
VILLAGE, NORTH CANTON, OHIO, TELEPHONE FOUR NINE TWO SIX FOUR
NINE SEVEN.

BOSTON:

FRED WEBER, THIRTYTHREE SKYLARK LANE, STONYBROOK,
LONG ISLAND, TELEPHONE SEVEN FIVE ONE TWO ONE THREE FIVE.
LOS ANGELES, SAN FRANCISCO, LAS VEGAS AND SAN DIEGO

FRED RAUPACK, ONE EIGHT FOUR ZERO NINE HIAWATHA,
NORTHRIDGE, CALIFORNIA, TELEPHONE EM THREE EIGHT NINE SIX
THREE. P.

END

GDM

FBI BIRMGHAM

P

FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI LOS ANG.

7 42PM URGENT 4/8/68 BCD

TO DIRECTOR, BIRMINGHAM, MEMPHIS, AND NEW YORK
FROM LOS ANGELES (44-1574) 2P

MURKIN

ON APRIL SIX LAST PETTY OFFICER, USS MACKENZIE, NAVAL
STATION, LONG BEACH, CALIF., ADVISED THAT ON EVENING OF APRIL
FOUR LAST SHIPMATE ALAN ROY PETERSON, NSN B [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] STATED QUOTE MY COUSIN WROTE ME AND SAID HE WAS GOING
TO SHOOT MARTIN LUTHER KING END QUOTE AND SOMETHING TO THE EFFECT
THAT WHEN HIS COUSIN SETS HIS MIND TO SOMETHING HE DOES IT.
NOTHING FURTHER STATED. NAME OF COUSIN NOT CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD,
POSSIBLY JOHN OR JACK. PETERSON LEFT SHIP ON APRIL FIVE LAST
FOR WEEK-END LIBERTY TO RETURN TO SHIP APRIL EIGHT INSTANT.
PETERSON INTERVIEWED APRIL EIGHT INSTANT AND ADMITTED MAKING
STATEMENT, HOWEVER MAINTAINED NO TRUTH TO STATEMENT AND COULD
NOT EXPLAIN WHY HE MADE SAME. STATES THAT HE HAS NOT RECEIVED
ANY CORRESPONDENCE OF THIS NATURE AND ONLY HEARS FROM HIS MOTHER.
HAS NEVER RECEIVED ANY MAIL FROM ANY COUSINS. SENDS ALL MAIL
END PAGE ONE

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[Signature]

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HE RECEIVES TO HIS MOTHER TO KEEP. CLAIMS THAT UPON LEARNING THAT FBI ATTEMPTING TO CONTACT HIM HE CALLED HIS MOTHER, RUTH GUSTAF PETERSON, NINE FIVE TWO ONE SEVENTY SECOND AVENUE, FORREST HILLS, NEW YORK, TELEPHONE BO EIGHT ONE TWO NINE FOUR. THIS AM. TO FIND OUT WHY FBI WAS TRYING TO LOCATE HIM.

NEW YORK SHOULD INTERVIEW RUTH PETERSON FOR IDENTITY OF A COUSIN WHO MIGHT BE COMMUNICATING WITH ALAN ROY PETERSON AND ASCERTAIN THE NATURE OF TELEPHONE CALL BY HER SON.

END

SSP

FBI BIRMGHAM

@

FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI LOS ANG.

827PM URGENT 4/8/68 BCD

TO DIRECTOR, AND BIRMINGHAM AND MEMPHIS
FROM LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

MURKIN

RE ALBANY TELETYPE APRIL EIGHT INSTANT, AND MEMPHIS
TELETYPE APRIL SIX LAST.

INVESTIGATION AT CALIFORNIA OVERALL COMPANY AND GOLD
COAST LAUNDRY REFLECTED TAPE NOT IDENTICAL WITH LAUNDRY
MARK IN QUESTION. NEITHER COMPANY USE THE CODE SYSTEM SHOWN ON
INSTANT TAPE. SAMPLES OF TAPES USED BY THESE COMPANIES OBTAINED
AND BEING FORWARDED TO FBI LAB. BEACH CITIES LAUNDRY FILED
BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDINGS THREE YEARS AGO AND BUILDING AND PART
OF EQUIPMENT PURCHASED BY STANDARD INDUSTRIAL LAUNDRY AT SAME
ADDRESS. DID NOT PURCHASE MARKING MACHINES. INVESTIGATION
CONTINUING TO DETERMINE DISPOSITION OF MARKING MACHING BY BEACH
CITIES LAUNDRY. NICOLAY KETZBECK, INC., GAMMATU LAUNDRY BURNED
APPROXIMATELY SIX YEARS AGO. EFFORTS BEING MADE TO CONTACT
OWNER AND ASCERTAIN DISPOSITION OF MARKING MACHINE. NO RECORD
OF DELITE LAUNDRY AT ONE SIX ZERO SEVEN, BROOKLYN AVENUE, LOS
ANGELES, CALIF. CONTINUOUS EFFORTS BEING MADE TO LOCATE THIS
COMPANY.

END PAGE ONE

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PLIERS ASPECT

INVESTIGATION THIS DATE AT ROMPAGE HARDWARE COMPANY, FIVE FIVE FOUR TWO HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, DISCLOSES COMPANY EMPLOYEES POSITIVE DUCK-BILLED PLIERS IN COLOR PHOTOGRAPH IS PART OF A ONE TIME SHIPMENT THEY RECEIVED OCTOBER SIXTY SIX. PRESENT MANAGER BELIEVES TWELVE SUCH PLIERS IN SHIPMENT. BUREAU AGENT OBTAINED THE LAST ONE FROM "BARGAIN BIN" NEAR FRONT DOOR OF STORE. IT APPEARS IDENTICAL WITH PHOTO AND BEARS SAME LABEL EXCEPT THAT STORE CODE IS FAINTLY VISIBLE IN UPPER LEFT AND UPPER RIGHT CORNER SHOWING INVENTORY DATE TEN - SIX.

ALL PRESENT SALES FORCE HAVE NO RECOLLECTION OF ANY SALE OF THIS ITEM. MANAGEMENT ADVISED APPROXIMATELY EIGHTY FIVE - NINETY PERCENT OF BUSINESS IS CASH SALE. CREDIT INVOICES FOR ALL SALES SINCE OCTOBER SIXTY SIX TO PRESENT BEING CHECKED TO DETERMINE IF SUBJECT PLIERS POSSIBLY PURCHASED ON CREDIT.

ONE CREDIT ITEM REFLECTING SALE OF ONE DOLLAR NINETY EIGHT CENTS PLIERS, TYPE UNKNOWN, LOCATED. PURCHASER WILL BE INTERVIEWED. REVIEW OF VOLUMINOUS CREDIT SALES CONTINUES.
END PAGE TWO

LA 44-1574

PAGE THREE

IDENTITIES AND ADDRESSES OF FORMER EMPLOYEES WHO CEASED
EMPLOYMENT SUBSEQUENT TO OCTOBER SIXTY SIX OBTAINED. INTERVIEWS
BEING CONDUCTED. MANAGER OFFERED POSSIBILITY OF THEFT BY SHOP
LIFTER AS HE HAS SUFFERED SUCH LOSSES IN PAST.

INVESTIGATION CONTINUES.

END

SSP

FBI BIRMGHAM

•

FBI WASH DC

8 40PM LCC URGENT 4/8/68 GJM

TO ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES
FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861 2P

MURKIN

THIS IS THE CASE INVOLVING THE MURDER OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., ON APRIL FOUR, LAST, IN MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD ANYONE BE TOLD THIS INVESTIGATION IS IN CONNECTION WITH CAPTIONED MATTER.

IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT A RIFLE ABANDONED NEAR SCENE OF CRIME WAS PURCHASED BY INDIVIDUAL USING THE NAME HARVEY LOWMEYER OR LOWMYER.

LOWMEYER OR LOWMYER IS GENERALLY DESCRIBED AS WHITE MALE, THIRTYSIX YEARS OLD, FIVE FEET EIGHT INCHES TALL, ONE HUNDRED FIFTY - ONE HUNDRED SIXTY POUNDS, BLACK OR DARK BROWN HAIR.

IN VIEW OF THE UNUSUAL NATURE OF THE NAMES LOWMEYER AND LOWMYER, ALL OFFICES SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CHECK YOUR INDICES, ALL CITY DIRECTORIES, ALL TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES COVERING YOUR TERRITORIES, ALL DRIVERS LICENSE RECORDS, ALL AUTOMOBILE
END PAGE ONE

Custer *WAC*

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REGISTRATION RECORDS, VOTER REGISTRATION RECORDS, AND CREDIT AND CRIMINAL RECORDS ON THE SURNAMES LOWMEYER AND LOWMYER, IN VIEW OF THE UNUSUAL NATURE OF THE NAMES, DO NOT CONFINE YOUR CHECK TO HARVEY LOWMEYER AND LOWMYER ONLY. ANY INDIVIDUALS IDENTIFIED AS BEARING THESE SURNAMES SHOULD BE IMMEDIATELY CHECKED OUT COVERING THE PERTINENT PERIOD. YOU SHOULD ALSO APPROPRIATELY CHECKOUT ALL BOMBING SUSPECTS IN YOUR TERRITORIES.

HANDLE IMMEDIATELY AND GIVE TOP PRIORITY ATTENTION.

BUFILES CONTAIN NO INFORMATION IDENTIFIABLE ON HARVEY LOWMEYER OR LOWMYER.

END

HOLD FOR SECOND MESSAGE AFTER ACK

ME...TSJ

FBI MEMPHIS

NO...OLP

FBI NEW ORLS

BH...GDM

FBI BIRMGHAM

MQ...AAH

FBI MOBILE

TU

FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI MIAMI

8:48PM EST 4-8-68 URGENT RGT

TO DIRECTOR, BIRMINGHAM, AND MEMPHIS

FROM MIAMI (44-1854)

MURKIN; CIVIL RIGHTS.

MARY ELLIOTT, TILFORD FLYING SERVICE, WEST PALM BEACH, FLA., ADVISED DURING AFTERNOON APRIL FIVE SIXTYEIGHT JOHN C. PRICE, JR. AND WIFE, MARY PRICE, ARRIVED WEST PALM BEACH IN PRIVATE BEECHCRAFT DOBONAIR NUMBER SIX FIVE THREE VICTOR FROM MEMPHIS EN ROUTE BAHAMAS. THEY ARRIVED BACK FROM BAHAMAS AFTERNOON APRIL EIGHT DESIRING RETURN MEMPHIS BUT AIRPORT IN MEMPHIS CLOSED. THEY DEPARTED WEST PALM BEACH TO GO TOWARD MEMPHIS, EXACT DESTINATION UNKNOWN. PRICE, USING CREDIT CARD, NAME J. CARY PRICE, JR., P.O. BOX ONE ONE TWO FOUR THREE, MEMPHIS, WHICH IS ADDRESS ARGONAUTS, INC. PRICE DESCRIBED AGE FORTY, FIVE FEET TEN INCHES, ONE HUNDRED EIGHTYFIVE POUNDS, HIPS WIDER THAN SHOULDERS, SLIGHT PAUNCH, SLIGHTLY KNOCK-KNEED.

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MM (44-1854)

PAGE TWO

HAIR RECEDING, COMBED STRAIGHT BACK, BROWN OR SANDY IN COLOR. MRS. PRICE, AGE TWENTYSEVEN, FIVE FEET EIGHT INCHES, ONE HUNDRED FORTYFIVE POUNDS, BROWN HAIR. NEITHER WEAR WEDDING RINGS. ELLIOTT SAID ON LEARNING APRIL FIVE, PRICE FROM MEMPHIS, SHE COMMENTED ON DEATH OF KING AND PRICE INDICATED KING GOT WHAT HE DESERVED AND ALSO INDICATED THAT WAS WHY THEY LEFT MEMPHIS. ON LEARNING APRIL EIGHT MEMPHIS AIRPORT CLOSED, PRICE SPOKE VERY UNKINDLY OF KING, BLAMING HIM FOR CLOSING OF AIRPORT. ELLIOTT OBSERVED IN NEWSPAPER RECENTLY A COMPOSITE DRAWING OF KING'S KILLER BELIEVED ATTRIBUTED TO A MEMPHIS NEWSPAPER. SHE BELIEVES PRICE BEARS VERY STRIKING RESEMBLANCE.

MEMPHIS CHECK BACKGROUND ON PRICE, WHO WILL PROBABLY RETURN TO MEMPHIS WHEN AIRPORT OPEN.

P.

END

GDM

FBI BIRMGHAM

TUE

FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI DETROIT

9:05PM URGENT 4/8/68 LPS

TO: DIRECTOR AND SAC ST. LOUIS, MEMPHIS, AND BIRMINGHAM.

FROM: SAC, DETROIT (44-989)

MURKIN- CR

RE DETROIT TELEPHONE CALL TO FBI IDENT. DIVISION.

SOURCE FURNISHED FOLLOWING INFO RE WILLARD BENFIELD JR., AS
A POSSIBLE SUSPECT IN SLAYING OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING:

BENFIELD DURING THE RACIAL RIOT BENTON HARBOR, NINETEEN SIXTY-
SIX, WAS ARRESTED ON EIGHT THIRTY ONE, SIXTY SIX, FOR THE MURDER
OF CECIL HUNT, SEVENTEEN YEAR OLD NEGRO MALE, BUT CHARGE WAS DISMISSED
BECAUSE OF LACK OF EVIDENCE.

BENFIELD WAS AGAIN ARRESTED THREE-FIVE-SIXTY SEVEN, FOR FELONIOUS
ASSAULT AFTER HE HAD BEATEN MALE NEGRO WITH A PIECE OF CHAIN. HE WAS
CONVICTED OF ASSAULT WITH DEADLY WEAPON BY A JURY ON SIX-TWENTY NINE-
SIXTY SEVEN, AND WAS SENTENCED TO SERVE FROM THREE TO FOUR YEARS ON
SEVEN-THIRTY ONE- SIXTY SEVEN. PRESENTLY FREE ON FIVE THOUSAND DOLLAR
APPEAL BOND ON THIS CHARGE AND ALSO ON TWO THREE HUNDRED DOLLAR
APPEAL BONDS FROM BENTON HARBOR MUNICIPAL COURT. ONE CHARGE GROWING
OUT OF AN ASSAULT.

BENFIELD HAS FBI NUMBER FOUR NINE FIVE TWO ONE C.

DESCRIBED AS MALE, WHITE, BORN DUNKLIN COUNTY, MO., [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] FIVE FEET TEN INCHES TO SIX FEET TALL, ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY FIVE
POUNDS, MEDIUM BUILD, BROWN HAIR, BROWN EYES, TATOOS: THE LETTERS
LOVE ON KNUCKLES OF LEFT HAND; HEART AND "BUD" LEFT UPPER ARM. 44-1740-93

END PAGE ONE.

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SCARS: THREE INCH SCAR RIGHT CHEEK. PARENTS WILLARD BENFIELD, SR., AND GLADYS, BENTON HARBOR, MARITAL STATUS- MARRIED; WIFE GEORGIA, NOT KNOWN IF STILL MARRIED. PRESENT ADDRESS ONE FOUR FOUR SEVEN ST. THOMAS STREET, BENTON HARBOR.

BENFIELD IS WELL KNOWN TO LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICES AS BEING AN EXTREME RACIST WHO HAS A DEEP HATRED FOR NEGROES.

ON THURSDAY, FOUR-FOUR-SIXTY EIGHT, BENFIELD WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE OF HIS BONDSMAN LEFT BENTON HARBOR ABOUT TWO OR THREE AM IN A NINETEEN SIXTY FOUR WHITE CADILLAC CONVERTIBLE WITH BLUE TOP, WHICH HE OWNS, BEARING MICHIGAN LICENSE, NUMBER UNKNOWN. ACCOMPANIED BY HIS FATHER WILLARD BENFIELD, SR., WHO AT ONE TIME WAS ALSO SUSPECTED OF IMPLICATION IN THE CECIL HUNT MURDER. BENFIELD AND HIS FATHER RETURNED TO BENTON HARBOR LATE IN THE NIGHT OR EARLY MORNING OF FOUR-SEVEN- SIXTY EIGHT, SUNDAY.

WHEN CONTACTED BY HIS BONDSMAN BENFIELD'S WIFE STATED BENFIELD HAD GONE TO HAYTI, MO., TO ATTEND THE FUNERAL OF A BROTHER, NAME UNKNOWN. WHEN HE LEFT HE TOOK WITH HIM ALL OF HIS TOOLS INCLUDING A DRILL AND A BUFFER BELONGING TO ANOTHER PERSON. REASON FOR HIS TAKING THESE TOOLS IS UNKNOWN.

BENFIELD, JR., IS AN AUTOMOBILE MECHANIC AND PRESENTLY OPERATES A GARAGE AT RIVERSIDE ROAD AND HIGHWAY M-ONE THIRTY NINE NORTH, WHICH IS JUST OUTSIDE THE CITY OF BENTON HARBOR.

END PAGE TWO.

DE 44-989

PAGE THREE

PHOTO OF BENFIELD TAKEN BY SO, ST. JOSEPH, ON NINE-TWENTY SEVEN-SIXTY SIX, IS LATEST PHOTO AVAILABLE BUT IS A GOOD LIKENESS OF HIM.

BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO COMPARE ANY LATENTS WITH THOSE OF BENFIELD. ST. LOUIS CONDUCT INVESTIGATION AT HAYTI TO DETERMINE WHETHER ONE OF BENFIELD'S BROTHERS WAS BURIED AND WHETHER BENFIELD AND HIS FATHER WERE IN ATTENDANCE.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

SOURCE REFERRED TO IS DE FILE ONE THIRTY SEVEN DASH THREE EIGHT SIX TWO.

END.

GDM

FBI BIRMGHAM

@