

BH 44-1740

to the FBI. Also, Birmingham feels that additional information may be furnished by BRITTON, noting that JAMES EARL RAY presently has his home address and telephone number and could possibly contact him in the future. Disclosure of his identity could possibly alienate this potential source of information.

THOMAS BRITTON was interviewed on 5/6/68 by SA JOHN H. KRESEK and was again interviewed on 5/7/68 by SA's JOHN H. KRESEK, ROBERT M. BARRETT and WILLIAM A. SAUCIER.

Information copies of this investigative insert are being furnished to the New Orleans, Mobile, St. Louis and Springfield Divisions in view of their investigative interest in this matter, coupled with the fact the results of this interview may be valuable when and if JOHNNY VALENTI is located, noting that he has been alleged to be in the New Orleans or St. Louis, Missouri, area. Also, Springfield has several relatives of RAY residing within their division.

5/9/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)(P)
RE: MURKIN

It is requested that the three rifles which were hand carried to the Identification Division at SOG on 4/8/68, by SA RALPH N. BUTLER be returned to Birmingham, for delivery to the Aeromarine Supply Company, from whom they were borrowed for fingerprint examination. For the same purpose, it is requested that the Remington Model 700 .243 caliber rifle, nine boxes of ammunition, and a set of rings and bases for a Redfield scope be returned to Birmingham.

3 - Bureau
1 - Memphis (44-1987)
1 - Birmingham

HAS:jbt
(5)

44-1740-1671
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1
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WAS:gas

Confidential source, whose reliability has not been established, advised that he was received in the Missouri State Penitentiary during September, 1965, and was immediately placed in quarantine for a thirty-day observation period which is required of all new prisoners and thereafter he was assigned to Cell 188, Tier #8, J Hall, and scheduled to work in the carpenter shop. In this connection, the source stated that there is only one inmate to a cell and that the Missouri State Penitentiary has five halls within the prison wall which house prisoners.

The source said that while in J. Hall, during November, 1965, he first became acquainted with JAMES EARL RAY, who was already assigned to J Hall and who worked daily in J Hall as a "Walk Boy." The source explained that the duties of JAMES EARL RAY as a "Walk Boy" were to take orders for cigarettes, gum, candy, etc., which could be purchased within the prison and to bring hot water for shaving and instant coffee to the inmates. The source added that JAMES EARL RAY was the only "Walk Boy" in J Hall and further that he was free to contact any inmate and could move throughout the hall freely. He pointed out that this was RAY's only duty in the hall and that he could remain inside during working hours, having no other assignments.

The source said that his first conversation with RAY took place when RAY observed him reading a Birmingham, Alabama "Post-Herald" newspaper which he had a subscription to while in prison. The source advised that RAY asked him on this occasion if he was from the State of Alabama to which he replied he was from Walker County, Alabama. RAY said to the source that he knew where Walker County, Alabama, was located and further that this was a dry county, serving no alcoholic beverages, which gave the source the impression that RAY knew what he was talking about, especially since he mentioned beer joints like the All State Tavern, another beer joint which source believed was Rose's Place and Riverview Cafe.

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RAY said that he had visited or stayed in the Birmingham, Alabama, area in the past; however, RAY never mentioned any associates, acquaintances, friends, relatives or employments in the State of Alabama. The source advised that this conversation ended with RAY asking him if he could have his Birmingham, Alabama, "Post-Herald" newspaper when he finished reading them each day, which was agreeable to source. The source advised thereafter RAY would come by his cell each evening and pick up his newspaper which he would place between the cell bars.

The source said that RAY never discussed his family nor did he ever indicate from which part of the United States he came from, but the source believed that RAY was from the southern part of the United States only because RAY never indicated where he was from, coupled with his interest in a southern newspaper.

The source stated that he personally gave RAY his present home address and telephone number on one occasion, telling RAY to stop by his home sometime if and when he ever got released from prison and they would have a drink or two together. The source pointed out that RAY did not ask him for his address or telephone number and that he merely furnished this to RAY knowing that he was doing a 20 year prison sentence and more than likely he would never again see RAY after he left prison. He stated that when he gave RAY his address and telephone number, RAY replied "Don't be surprised if I call you up sometime" and thereafter placed this piece of paper in his pocket.

The source said that RAY was a very quiet individual, soft spoken, calm, clean, never laughed or enjoyed a good story, solemn face, and remained to himself most of the time. The source advised that he would often see RAY in the prison yard and on occasion attempted to strike up a conversation with RAY, but he never appeared interested so the source gave up trying to make conversation with RAY.

The source said that the only topic which would arouse RAY's interest was the subject of money. The source

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stated that on one occasion during a conversation with RAY, RAY said "One of these days if I ever get out of here I am going to make myself a bunch of money." When source asked how he intended doing this, RAY replied he had contacts and there are more ways of making money than robbing banks. Source then asked RAY what his plan was, to which RAY replied "The Businessmen's Association has offered \$100,000.00 for killing MARTIN LUTHER KING and he's five years past due." The source stated he then asked RAY what the Businessmen's Association was, to which RAY replied "I don't know but I will find out." The source added that this was the first and last time RAY ever mentioned MARTIN LUTHER KING nor did he ever again mention the Businessmen's Association in his presence.

The source said that RAY told him that he always worked alone and therefore limited the possibility of being caught and said "I have got a place picked out where I can hide," never mentioning where the place was located.

The source stated there was a prison cigarette lottery going on almost daily in J Hall and that RAY was involved in this lottery, delivering wagering tickets as well as picking these up and would deliver the winnings to inmates each night. He said there were two separate lotteries in J Hall. One lottery was run by two inmates named JOHNNY VALENTI and another individual from St. Louis, Missouri, name unknown. The source described this individual as a white male, Italian, age 43 to 46, dark complexion with gunshot wound in face and nicknamed "Dago." The source said the other lottery in J Hall was run by an individual nicknamed "Boston," who was doing a 20 year sentence and described him as a white male, 45 years of age, very short and occupied either cell 23, 24 or 25 on the flag in J Hall, meaning the first floor.

The source said that he did not like VALENTI's wagering odds so he always placed his wagers with the individual nicknamed "Boston." The source stated that

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RAY would always handle the wagers since he could talk to any inmates in the cellblock and was reimbursed by JOHNNY VALENTI and "Boston" for this service. Source estimated that there were approximately two dozen lotteries being operated in the Missouri State Penitentiary, which consisted of five separate halls housing the prisoners.

The source advised that he never saw RAY run narcotics or handle contraband at any time and on one occasion RAY showed him his arms to prove that he had never been addicted to narcotics. The source added that he never observed RAY with any large sums of money.

The source advised that there was an organization being operated at the Missouri State Penitentiary by the inmates and this organization was called "Cooley's Organization." The source said that this was a protection and enforcer organization and that while en route to the Missouri State Penitentiary he first became aware that such an organization existed. The source advised that he was at one time lodged at the County Jail in Springfield, Missouri, for several months and became acquainted with a prisoner, (FNU) CRAIG, whom he described as a "four time loser." The source said that CRAIG has a brother who is a detective on the Springfield Police Department and that CRAIG had previously served time at Missouri State Penitentiary and was being returned to this penitentiary. The source said that when CRAIG learned that he also was en route to the Missouri State Penitentiary, CRAIG advised him to join the Cooley's Organization at the Missouri State Penitentiary since he would need to get along with other prisoners and be being a member of this organization, he would obtain "special favors." The source said that CRAIG informed him that the Cooley's Organization would settle any grievances he may have while at Missouri State Penitentiary against other prisoners and that this was a very powerful organization, having influence with guards and could even, for a price, arrange "a murder."

The source advised that after his release from quarantine, he again observed CRAIG, who was then working in the mess hall at the Missouri State Penitentiary. The source advised that he then approached CRAIG and told CRAIG that he desired to join the Cooley's Organization and at this time gave him a \$10.00 canteen book, pointing out that the membership fee to join the Cooley's Organization was \$10.00 and that this membership fee would make an inmate a paid up member as long as he was in prison. The source advised that CRAIG told him that he would obtain his membership for him and the same night JAMES EARL RAY came to his cell and gave him a card saying "Here is your card," and nothing else, and therefore he always felt that RAY was a member of the Cooley's Organization since he was so trusted. However, RAY never said to him that he was a member nor did he ever ask him.

The source said that his membership card was type written with his name on it and had the heading "Membership Cooley's Club." The source said that this membership card was like a credit card and it could get an inmate credit on purchases of candy and other sundries but could not be used for credit purposes on lotteries.

The source advised that he had two or three differences with prisoners over wagers while in J Hall and upon getting no satisfaction, he personally contacted CRAIG in the mess hall at which time he displayed to CRAIG his membership card and filed his grievance with CRAIG. The source stated that CRAIG informed him that he would handle this complaint; however, the fee for handling his grievance was 50% of what was due a prisoner. The source added that subsequently RAY appeared at his cell in J Hall with his share of the cigarettes collected from his grievance.

The source stated that CRAIG was later transferred from the mess hall to the Church Farm, which is located outside the prison wall at Missouri State Penitentiary. The source said that prior to CRAIG's departure, CRAIG

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contacted him and instructed him who to see in the future to take complaints should he have any additional grievances. At this point, the source pointed out that most grievances would be placed either at the mess hall or the prison yard, noting that only during these periods of time all the inmates from different halls could talk with each other. The source added that he was unable to furnish any description of name of the individual he was instructed to contact in the mess hall after the departure of CRAIG since he had no further complaints and was subsequently transferred to the Renz Farm, which is also located outside the prison.

The source stated that the Cooley's Organization was operating when he arrived at the Missouri State Penitentiary and was still doing business when he departed and he felt that this operation had been started and maintained by old cons who are now trustees and who reside in A Hall, which is the trustees' barracks. He added that he personally feared the power of the Cooley's Organization as did other inmates and in his opinion, he personally felt they could render retaliation regarding him if they became aware that he gave information concerning their organization.

The source said that during the time RAY was assigned to J Hall, he had attempted an escape which was unsuccessful and thereafter he never saw RAY again since RAY was not returned to J Hall and he later went to Renz Farm. He said that while at Renz Farm he did hear that RAY successfully escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary by hiding himself in a bred truck.

The source was asked if there ever circulated at Missouri State Penitentiary a rumor concerning the killing of three Negro inmates and if RAY's name was ever mentioned as a suspect or being involved in these killings. The source said that he did learn that when prison authorities first tried to integrate the prisoners, four white men with pillowcases over their heads waited

for five Negro prisoners to enter the shower room on one occasion and stabbed three of the Negroes to death, wounded a fourth and the fifth escaped. He said that at no time did he hear any rumor that RAY was involved in these killings.

The source said that the inmates located in J Hall at the time he was also lodged there and who could possibly furnish additional information concerning RAY were (FNU) SPRATT, cell 187, and GENE (LNU), cell 190, who escaped by overpowering a guard and taking his uniform; however, this individual was successfully apprehended and returned to Missouri State Penitentiary. Source advised that another inmate, name unknown, who occupied cell 190, was a lottery player. Another inmate, name unknown, nicknamed "Cowboy," was a hall tender in charge of convicts in J Hall.

This source was displayed numerous photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and advised that all photographs bear a close resemblance to RAY; however, he specifically identified the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY taken at the Missouri State Penitentiary during the time he was incarcerated. The source said that he would have no difficulty in identifying RAY should he ever see him again, even if he attempted to disguise his identity; giving as his reasons that RAY was definitely "slough-footed" and his toes pointed out noticeably when he walked causing his heels and soles to wear down on the outside edges. He has a prominent cleft on his chin, which is noticeable and remarked that RAY liked his booze and that he had the impression from talking with him that he was a heavy drinker. The source also added that in his opinion from his knowledge of RAY in prison that he thought RAY had a normal sex life.

The source advised that the only other person that he knew that RAY might have been closely associated when in prison was a full-blooded Indian prisoner who was the barber in J Hall but whose name he could not recall. The source stated that he definitely had not been contacted by RAY since he has been released from prison, which was May 3, 1967, and stated that he would notify the Birmingham FBI Office if RAY ever attempted to contact him in any way or manner in the future.

FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI MOBILE

12-07PM URGENT 5-10-68 JEB

TO BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)

FROM MOBILE (157-2627)

MURKIN, CR. OO ME.

THE FOLLOWING RECEIVED FROM NORFOLK BY TELETYPE THIS
DATE.

RE SUSPECT UNSUB, AKA ROBERT L. MOORE.

ON MAY NINE LAST, DAVID HAYES, STRICKLAND'S ESSO SERVICE
STATION, LASKIN RD., VIRGINIA BEACH, VA., ADVISED THAT AN
INDIVIDUAL RESEMBLING JAMES EARL RAY CAME INTO HIS SERVICE
STATION DRIVING A NINETEEN SIXTY GREEN FOUR-DOOR OLDSMOBILE
BEARING SIXTYEIGHT ALABAMA LICENSE FIVE NINE DASH FOUR ZERO
SIX FIVE. UNSUB DESCRIBED BY THREE ATTENDANTS AS GENERALLY
FITTING DESCRIPTION OF RAY AS PER MOST RECENT PHOTOGRAPH OF
RAY WITH SUNGLASSES TAKEN IN MEXICO.

UNSUB SUSPECT USED HUMBLE OIL AND REFINING CREDIT CARD
NO. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] IN THE NAME OF ROBERT L. MOORE TO MAKE HIS PURCHASE.

END PAGE ONE

44-1740-1672

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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MAY 10 1968	
FBI — BIRMINGHAM	

Sylvester
Handling

PAGE TWO

HAYES ADVISED THAT IMMEDIATELY AFTER UNKNOWN SUSPECT LEFT STATION HAYES RECALLED A REWARD FLYER HAD BEEN ISSUED ON SAID CREDIT CARD.

MOBILE AT MONTGOMERY, ALA. DETERMINE REGISTRANT OF SIXTYEIGHT ALABAMA LICENSE FIVE NINE DASH FOUR ZERO SIX FIVE AND DEVELOP ANY INFO.

PHILADELPHIA AT BALA CYNWYD, PA., CONTACT HUMBLE OIL AND REFINING CO RE DETAILS SURROUNDING REWARD FLYER ON INSTANT CREDIT CARD.

NORFOLK WILL CONTINUE INVESTIGATION TO LOCATE INSTANT UNKNOWN SUSPECT. AIR MAIL COPY MEMPHIS.

THIS LICENSE IS FOR ST. CLAIR COUNTY COVERED BY BIRMINGHAM. BIRMINGHAM HANDLE LEAD SET FORTH FOR MOBILE.

AM COPIES NORFOLK, MEMPHIS AND PHILADELPHIA.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

LJD

FBI BIRMGHAM

@

FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI MOBILE

12-16PM URGENT 5-10-68 JEB

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), BIRMINGHAM (44-1740), AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM MOBILE (157-2627)

MURKIN. OO ME.

RE BIRMINGHAM TEL TO THE BUREAU, TWELVE TWENTY PM,
MAY NINE INSTANT.

MONROEVILLE, ALA. TELEPHONE NUMBER SEVEN FOUR THREE
SEVEN TWO THREE SIX, SUBSCRIBED TO BY BOYD RAY HILLEY, TWO
ZERO EIGHT DENNIS ST., MONROEVILLE, ALA. PD AND SO, MONROEVILLE,
NEGATIVE RE HILLEY BUT BELIEVES HAS GOOD REPUTATION. OFFICE
INDICES NEGATIVE. HILLEY EMPLOYED AS SUPERVISOR AT ARVIN
INDUSTRIES, MONROEVILLE, ALA. P.

END

LJD

FBI BIRMGHAM

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44-1740-1673

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MAY 10 1968	
FBI — BIRMINGHAM	

Sansei | *WJ*

FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI CHICAGO

104PM URGENT LMA

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), LOS ANGELES (44-1574), MEMPHIS (44-1987
BIRMINGHAM(44-1740), AND ATLANTA (44-2386).
FROM CHICAGO (44-1114) 1P

MURKIN.

RE LOS ANGELES TEL TO DIRECTOR MAY NINE LAST.

RE GINGER NANCE.

GINGER NANCE ADVISED THIS DATE SHE DID NOT GIVE HER
NAME TO ANY BARTENDER OR LEAVE HER NAME AT ANY BARS WHILE
IN THE LOS ANGELES AREA. NANCE ADVISED SHE FREQUENTED THE
FOLLOWING BARS IN LOS ANGELES:

VEGAS ON HOLLYWOOD BLVD.; RABBIT'S FOOT ON HOLLYWOOD BLVD.;
BLACK HORSE ON WESTERN, AND RED VEST ON WESTERN.

LOS ANGELES AT LOS ANGELES, CONDUCT INVESTIGATION AT ABOVE
NAMED BARS TO DETERMINE IF KATZWINKEL OR NANCE LEFT THEIR
NAME AND ADDRESS AT ANY BAR OR WITH ANY BARTENDER NAMED
ESTABLISHMENTS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

J GA

FBI BIRMGHAM

44-1740-1674

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MAY 10 1968	
FBI-BIRMINGHAM	

F B I

Date: 5/10/68

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

TO DIRECTOR, ATLANTA, MEMPHIS, KANSAS CITY, ST LOUIS
FROM BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

MURKIN.

REMYTEL, MAY ONE LAST.

JAMES W. BROWN REINTERVIEWED MAY NINE, LAST, AND FURNISHED
FOLLOWING:

BROWN MET RAY THROUGH RAY'S "PERSONAL FRIEND," JOHNNIE VALENTI, SHORTLY AFTER ASSASSINATION OF JOHN F. KENNEDY. BROWN WAS DOING TWENTY YEAR SENTENCE FOR MURDER AFTER CONVICTION IN KANSAS CITY, MO., ~~ALTHOUGH BROWN WAS "NOT-GUILTY."~~ VALENTI WAS DOING TWENTY YEAR SENTENCE FOR ROBBERY AFTER CONVICTION IN KANSAS CITY. ACCORDING TO BROWN, VALENTI AND BROWN WERE IN KANSAS CITY JAIL AT SAME TIME (BUT DIFFERENT TANKS), PRIOR TO BEING SENT TO JEFFERSON CITY, MO. AT TIME OF FIRST MEETING, RAY WAS INVOLVED IN POKER GAME IN THE PRISON YARD. BROWN CLAIMS HE OBSERVED RAY ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION DEAL CARDS LEFT-HANDED. VALENTI INTRODUCED RAY TO BROWN AS "JAMES RAY"

RMB:jbt

(1) *jbt*

Approved: *[Signature]*
Special Agent in Charge

Sent *WA 115 PM*
at 129 PM
me 145
KE 239 P MPer *[Signature]*44-1740-1675
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Date:

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PAGE TWO

BUT EVERYONE CALLED HIM "RAY." AT LATER TIME VALENTI TOLD BROWN THAT HE, VALENTI, AND RAY HAD COMMITTED A ROBBERY OF AN OIL COMPANY IN ATLANTA, GA., PRIOR TO VALENTI'S ARREST IN KANSAS CITY ON ANOTHER ROBBERY CHARGE. VALENTI CLAIMED HE AND RAY HAD WATCHED AN OIL COMPANY FOR A WEEK BEFORE COMMITTING THE ROBBERY ABOUT MIDNIGHT. BROWN BELIEVES VALENTI SAID IT WAS A ROBBERY, BUT THAT IT COULD HAVE BEEN A BURGLARY. BROWN SAID HE WAS SURE VALENTI IDENTIFIED ATLANTA AS THE PLACE OF THE ROBBERY BECAUSE LATER VALENTI TOLD BROWN THAT VALENTI'S WIFE WAS THEN (LATE SIXTY THREE AND EARLY SIXTY FOUR) LIVING IN ATLANTA, WITH THEIR THREE CHILDREN, THE OLDEST OF WHOM WAS KILLED IN AN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT IN SIXTY FOUR. ABOUT SAME TIME VALENTI'S WIFE QUIT WRITING TO VALENTI AND EFFORTS OF VALENTI THROUGH THE CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN TO HAVE WIFE RESUME WRITING, WERE NEGATIVE. AT TIME OF MEETING RAY, RAY WAS LIVING IN C HALL, WHILE VALENTI AND BROWN WERE LIVING IN G HALL. VALENTI ALSO CLAIMED TO BROWN THAT AT TIME OF ARREST IN KANSAS CITY, VALENTI HAD THE NAME OF A KANSAS CITY GANGSTER (NAME NOT GIVEN BY VALENTI), IN HIS POSSESSION WHICH HAD BEEN GIVEN TO HIM BY AN ASSOCIATE, UNNAMED, IN NEW ORLEANS, AND VALENTI WAS QUESTIONED EXTENSIVELY BY KCPD

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

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AS TO HIS CONNECTIONS WITH THIS GANGSTER. VALENTI TOLD BROWN HE HAD RELATIVES IN BATON ROUGE, LA.

IN ALL HIS CONTACTS WITH RAY, BROWN WAS WITH VALENTI, AND SOMETIMES OTHER PRISONERS WERE PRESENT, NAMES UNRECALLED, " " OTHER THAN POSSIBLY NOONEY EDEN OR EATON (PH), FROM C HALL. RAY AND BROWN NEVER HAD ANY INVOLVED CONVERSATIONS, BUT BROWN WAS PRESENT ON ABOUT FOUR OCCASIONS WHEN RAY AND VALENTI WOULD DISCUSS THINGS. AMONG ITEMS DISCUSSED WAS ESCAPE BY EACH. RAY SAID HE WOULD TUNNEL OUT OF THE PRISON IF NECESSARY AND GO TO LIBERIA WHERE HE HAD A BROTHER-IN-LAW, MAKING GOOD MONEY. NO OTHER INFORMATION RECALLED ABOUT ALLEGED BROTHER-IN-LAW. ON ANOTHER OCCASION RAY SAID HE KNEW A CAVE IN VIRGINIA WHERE HE COULD HIDE ONCE HE ESCAPED. CONCERNING THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION, VALENTI ONCE SAID TO RAY THAT VALENTI DID NOT BELIEVE ANYONE SHOULD KILL THE PRESIDENT, BUT RAY SAID HE, RAY, WOULD HAVE DONE IT HIMSELF, IF HE WOULD HAVE HAD THE CHANCE, AND THAT KENNEDY WAS "NOTHING BUT A DAMN CATHOLIC." ACCORDING TO BROWN, RAY WAS VERY ANTI-CATHOLIC AND ANTI-NEGRO. ON ANOTHER OCCASION IN LATE SIXTY THREE, BROWN CLAIMED HE OVERHEARD RAY SAY TO VALENTI THAT HE, RAY, WAS GOING TO GET OUT OF THE PEN, AND THAT

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Special Agent in Charge

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Date:

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PAGE FOUR

RAY KNEW A GUY NAMED "COLLEY" (PH) WHO COULD HIDE RAY WHERE NO ONE WOULD FIND HIM. ALSO THIS COOLEY WOULD PAY TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS TO ANYONE WHO WOULD KILL MARTIN LUTHER KING. RAY WAS AWARE THAT BROWN CAME FROM ALABAMA, BUT DID NOT TALK TO HIM ABOUT ANY TOWNS IN ALABAMA, EXCEPT THAT BIRMINGHAM WAS A GOOD TOWN TO STEAL IN, AND THAT RAY HAD STOLEN A CAR IN BIRMINGHAM, BEFORE GETTING SENT TO THE MISSOURI PEN.

CREDIBILITY OF BROWN HAS NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED TO DATE, AND IT HAS BEEN NOTED HE HAS FURNISHED CONFLICTING INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERSONAL HABITS OF RAY, SUCH AS RAY BEING LEFT-HANDED, WALKING PIGEON-TOED, ^{and} SMOKING WINSTON CIGARETTES, AND ~~HAVING A ZIPPO CIGARETTE LIGHTER, WITH HIS INITIALS "J. R." SCRATCHED ON IT.~~ IT IS ALSO NOTED THAT IN FIRST INTERVIEW, BROWN CLAIMED RAY HATED KENNEDY BECAUSE HE WAS A "NIGGER-LOVING SOB," WHEREAS THIS TIME BROWN CLAIMED RAY HATED KENNEDY BECAUSE HE WAS A CATHOLIC. BROWN CLAIMED HE DID NOT KNOW RAY'S RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION, ~~IF ANY.~~ BROWN CLAIMS HE KNEW NOTHING OF ANY LOTTERIES BEING OPERATED IN THE PRISON, NOR OF ANY ORGANIZATION OF PRISONERS ^{who} ~~THAT~~ WOULD COLLECT DEBTS, AND ACT AS A PROTECTIVE AGENCY FOR THE PRISONERS. HE CLAIMED COOLEY WAS AN INDIVIDUAL WHOSE

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Special Agent in Charge

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NAME WAS MENTIONED ONLY BY RAY AND HE NEVER HEARD THIS NAME MENTIONED BY ANY OTHER PRISONER. BROWN ALSO STATES THAT "A" HALL WAS FOR NEGRO PRISONERS, WHEREAS THOMAS BRITTON (SEE MYTEL OF MAY NINE LAST) HAD CLAIMED "A" HALL WAS FOR TRUSTEES.

ALL RECEIVING OFFICES ADVISE BIRMINGHAM IF JOHNNIE VALENTI HAS BEEN LOCATED AND INTERVIEWED, ~~BY~~. IF SO, SUTEL BIRMINGHAM RESULTS OF THIS INTERVIEW.

KANSAS CITY, AT JEFFERSON CITY, MO., FROM PRISON RECORDS, FURNISH FOLLOWING:

IDENTITY OF PRISONER ^{" "}NOONEY EDEN^(ph) OR EATON, WHO, IN LATE SIXTY THREE, WAS DOING FIVE-YEAR SENTENCE. IF IDENTIFIED, SET OUT LEAD TO HAVE HIM INTERVIEWED FOR HIS KNOWLEDGE OF RAY AND VERIFICATION OF INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM THOMAS BRITTON AND/OR JAMES W. BROWN. ASCERTAIN FROM RECORDS RE VALENTI, IF HE, OR HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN, EVER LIVED IN ATLANTA, AND IF HIS OLDEST CHILD WAS KILLED, AS CLAIMED BY BROWN. IF THIS INFORMATION VERIFIED, SET OUT LEADS TO HAVE WIFE LOCATED AND INTERVIEWED FOR ANY INFORMATION SHE HAS RE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN HER HUSBAND, JOHNNIE VALENTI, AND RAY, AND IF THEY WERE INVOLVED IN ROBBERY OF OIL COMPANY IN ATLANTA, PRIOR TO VALENTI'S IMPRISONMENT IN

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

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JEFFERSON CITY. IN EFFORT TO VERIFY BROWN'S INFORMATION, ASCERTAIN IF RAY RESIDED IN "C" HALL IN LATE SIXTY THREE, AND IF AT THAT TIME, RAY WAS WORKING IN THE LICENSE PLATE FACTORY. FROM RECORDS OF KANSAS CITY PD, ASCERTAIN IF BROWN AND VALENTI WERE IN CUSTODY AT SAME TIME, AND IF AT TIME OF VALENTI'S ARREST, THERE WAS SOME INFORMATION HE HAD CONNECTION WITH WELL KNOWN KANSAS CITY "GANGSTER." KANSAS CITY ALSO FURNISH BIRMINGHAM PHOTOS AND DESCRIPTION OF VALENTI.

ATLANTA ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY ROBBERY REFERRED TO BY BROWN.

ABOVE BEING FURNISHED ST. LOUIS, AS BIRMINGHAM'S LAST INFORMATION AS TO WHEREABOUTS OF VALENTI, WAS THAT HE WAS IN ST. LOUIS.

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

@

FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI RICHMOND

629PM URGENT 5/10/68 DWS

TO DIRECTOR, BIRMINGHAM, MEMPHIS, MOBILE
FROM RICHMOND (44-657) 3P

MURKIN.

RE BIRMINGHAM TEL MAY NINE LAST.

C AND P TELCO, HOPEWELL, VA., RECORDS INDICATE NUMBER FOUR FIVE EIGHT DASH FOUR SIX ONE FIVE SUBSCRIBED TO BY CHARLES W. CLARK, ESPOSITO PLACE, HOPEWELL, VA. RICHMOND INDICES INDICATE ON JANUARY NINETEEN SIXTY-SEVEN, C. W. CLARK, THREE ZERO FIVE BROWN AVENUE, HOPEWELL, SIGNED LEASE WITH ONE J.J. UNGER, THEN A MEMBER OF UNITED KLANS OF AMERICA (UKA), KKK, HOPEWELL, LEASE FOR UKA UNIT THIRTY-SIX, KLAVERN. INDICES FURTHER REFLECT ON JANUARY NINE, NINETEEN SIXTY-SEVEN CLARK AND WIFE APPEARED HOPEWELL SCHOOLBOARD TOGETHER WITH OTHER NON-SCHOOLBOARD MEMBERS, NUMEROUS KNOWN KLANSMEN.

RH THREE THREE EIGHT DASH R ADVISED CLARK NOT A MEMBER OF UKA THIRTY-SIX PRESENTLY.

RH THREE FOUR ZERO DASH R ADVISED CONVERSATION HEARD IN UNIT TWELVE OF UKA HOPEWELL ABOUT FOUR MONTHS AGO RELATING ONE DOT CLARK, FOMERLY A MEMBER OF INSTANT UNIT, HOWEVER, SHE QUIT AT LEAST A YEAR AGO.
END PAGE ONE

44-17710-1676

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PAGE TWO

CREDIT CONDUCTED PETERSBURG AND HOPEWELL REFLECT CLARK RESIDING GREATER PETERSBURG DASH HOPEWELL AREA SINCE APRIL, NINETEEN THIRTY-NINE. UNTIL NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN, CLARK RESIDED BROWN AVENUE, HOPEWELL, VA.

ARREST CHECKS CONDUCTED GREATER HOPEWELL DASH PETERSBURG AREA REFLECT FOUR TRAFFIC CITATIONS. CREDIT CHECK INDICATES CHARLES WASHINGTON CLARK, AND WIFE DOROTHY GILLIAM HAVE SATISFACTORY CREDIT RATING. CLARK EMPLOYED AS A CARPENTER FOR PERRIN DASH ESPOSITO BROTHERS, HOPEWELL, VA. AS FOREMAN. PD RECORDS HOPEWELL INDICATE CLARK PAGE FORTYFIVE IN NINETEEN FIFTYEIGHT. PLACE OF BIRTH ESSEY, KING AND QUEEN COUNTY, VA. DISCREET NEIGHBORHOOD INQUIRY REFLECTS CLARK, WIFE, AND TWO TEENAGE DAUGHTERS MOVED TO ESPOSITO PLACE ADDRESS OCTOBER, NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN. CLARK'S STEPSON SONNY (LNU) AND STEPSON'S WIFE, UNKNOWN. NEIGHBOR INDICATES WIFE OF SONNY (LNU) FROM ALABAMA CITY PRIOR TO MOVING TO HOPEWELL THREE TO FOUR MONTHS AGO. NEIGHBOR INDICATES WIFE OF SONNY RECENTLY QUIT EMPLOYMENT

END PAGE TWO

RH 44-657

PAGE THREE

DRUG FAIR, HOPEWELL. MANAGER DRUG FAIR HOPEWELL INDICATES ONLY ALABAMA NATIVE WHO RECENTLY QUIT EMPLOYMENT IS ONE D. E. CATLETT, ADDRESS UNKNOWN, PRINCE GEORGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA. CREDIT RE CATLETT NEGATIVE AT HOPEWELL AND PETERSBURG.

UAC NO FURTHER INQUIRIES BEING MADE.

INSERTS TO FOLLOW TO MEMPHIS AND BIRMINGHAM.

AIR MAIL COPIES SENT KNOXVILLE AND KANSAS CITY.

END

HEP

FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI ST LOUIS

801PM URGENT 5-10-68 JLS

TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS BIRMINGHAM

FROM ST. LOUIS (44-775)

MURKIN

RE BH TEL THIS DATE RE JAMES W. BROWN

JOHN PAUL VELANTI, ONE SIX THREE TWO SOUTH EIGHTEENTH SLMO, EMPLOYED AS RADIO ANNOUNCER, WMRV DASH FM, BELLEVILLE, ILL., INTERVIEWED MAY FOURTH. NAME AS GIVEN, NOT VALENTI. BELIEVED SLPD FIFTY NINE PHOTO OF RAY BETTER LIKENESS THAN WF FOUR FOUR TWO A. RECOGNIZED NEWSPAPER PHOTO AS BEING FORMER FELLOW PRISONER. RAY QUIET TYPE SELDOM NOTICED. NO PARTICIPATION IN SPORTS OR ANYTHING WHICH WOULD ATTRACT ATTENTION. UNABLE TO RECALL EVER HAVING SPOKEN TO RAY OR EVER LIVING IN SAME DORM. RAY ESCAPE ATTEMPTS ATTRACTED NO ATTENTION AS NUMEROUS INMATES ATTEMPTED FREQUENTLY VELANTI IN MSP FEB THIRTEEN FIFTY TO DECMBER NINETTEEN SIXTYFOUR TRANSFER TO MOBERLY PRISON. PAROLED MARCH SIXTY SEVEN. WAS SERVING TWENTY YEAR SENTENCE FOLLOWING FIFTY NINE ARMED ROBBERY. NEVER HEARD OF OFFER TO KILL KING, BUT SAID WAS COMMON KNOWLEDGE ANYONE COULD PICK UP A QUOTE FEW BUCKS BY KILLING GUYS LIKE THAT. END QUOTE. SUGGESTED KLAN OR SIMILAR ORGANIZATIONS MIGHT PAY. NAME COOLEY OR COOLEY ORGANIZATION UNKNOWN TO HIM BUT MIGHT BE NAME OF NEGRO PRISONER. VELANTI IS CATHOLIC.

END PAGE ONE

44-1740-1677

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SL 44-775

REMEMBERED ORVILLE GANN, JOHNNY JOHNSON, FRANK MAYBERRY, KENNY HURT
AND JAMES EDEN, AKA NONEY AS FELLOW PRISONERS.

SL WILL REINTERVIEW VELANTI CONCERNING MATTERS MENTIONED BY
BROWN WITHOUT DISCLOSING BROWN.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS

END

SSP

FBI BIRMGHAM

@

FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI LOS ANG.

9:00PM URGENT 5-10-68 DPK

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), MEMPHIS, PHOENIX, AND BIRMINGHAM
FROM LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

MURKIN

RE FUTURA BOOKS INC, AND CANADIAN MONEY ORDER:

LORRAINE MARTIN, FUTURA BOOKS, INC., TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA
LOCATED COPY OF ORDER BLANK RECEIVED BY THIS CONCERN FROM ERIC
S. GALT, TWO FIVE EIGHT FOUR NOTRE DAME EST, MONTREAL, CANADA
ON JULY TWENTY SIX, SIXTY SEVEN. ORDER WAS FOR THREE BOOKS
ENTITLED QUOTE SEXUAL ANATOMY END QUOTE, QUOTE UNUSUAL FEMALE SEX
PRACTICES END QUOTE AND QUOTE SEX FEELING IN MEN AND WOMEN END
QUOTE. EACH BOOK PRICED AT THREE DOLLARS. GALT ALSO REQUESTED
FREE ILLUSTRATED CATALOG. APPLICATION SYMBOL REVEALED ORDER BLANK
TAKEN FROM AD PLACED IN QUOTE MEN'S REAL ADVENTURE END QUOTE
MAGAZINE. ORDER FILLED AND SENT GALT AT CANADIAN ADDRESS ON JULY TWENTY
SIX SIXTY SEVEN.

RE AD TAKEN BY GALT IN FREE PRESS AND THE LOCAL SWINGER

U.S. POSTAL INSPECTOR, LOS ANGELES FURNISHED POSTAL FORM ONE
FIVE EIGHT THREE EXECUTED BY ERIC S. GALT, ON FEBRUARY ONE SIXTY
EIGHT DESIGNATING C.M. HEDGPETH, ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA AS
END PAGE ONE

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LA 44-1574

RECEIVING AGENT FOR MAIL ADDRESSED TO ERIC S. GALT, ERIC S. OR E.S.G., FOUR ZERO SIX SOUTH SECOND STREET, ALHAMBRA. FORM SUBMITTED TO FBI LAB FOR EXAMINATION TODAY.

RE EATING PLACES

DON M. MURPHY, OWNER QUOTE PAMPERED PUP END QUOTE WALK-UP EATING STANDS LOCATED AT ONE SIX ZERO SEVEN VINE STREET AND ONE SEVEN ONE FIVE NORTH WESTERN AVENUE AND QUOTE THE FOLIC ROOM END QUOTE SIX TWO FOUR FIVE HOLLYWOOD BLVD, ALL LOS ANGELES WAS SHOWN PHOTOGRAPHS OF JAMES EARL RAY. STATED HE RECALLS RAY AS CUSTOMER OF THE RABBIT'S FOOT, SULTAN ROOM AND PAMPERED PUP. MURPHY SAID HE HIMSELF FREQUENTS THESE SAME BARS ON OCCASION. HE RELATED HE HAD SPOKEN WITH RAY IN MANNER OF IDLE BAR CHATTER. SAID HE CANNOT REMEMBER SPECIFIC NATURE OF CONVERSATION. MURPHY HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF RAY'S ASSOCIATES AND DID NOT KNOW RAY BY NAME.

RE ST. FRANCIS HOTEL

ALAN THOMPSON, MANAGER, ST. FRANCIS HOTEL ADVISED HE RECEIVED PERSON TO PERSON PREPAID TELEPHONE CALL AT ST. FRANCIS HOTEL, NUMBER FOUR SIX FOUR DASH ONE ONE THREE ONE, FROM UNKNOWN PERSON ALLEGEDLY CALLING FROM PHOENIX, ARIZONA DURING EVENING OF MAY NINE LAST OR EARLY MORNING MAY TEN INSTANT. CALLER ASKED QUOTE HOW'S THE MURDER COMING AT THE ST. FRANCIS END QUOTE AND THEN HUNG UP.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

LA 44-1574

PHOENIX DETERMINE FEASIBILITY OF DETERMINING IDENTITY OF
CALLER. CONSIDER POSSIBILITY OF WOODY LUNSFORD MAKING CALL.

NEIGHBORHOOD OF ST. FRANCIS HOTEL

CONTACT WITH NUMEROUS BARTENDERS VICINITY OF ST. FRANCIS
HOTEL ESTABLISH RAY, ALTHOUGH NOT NOTICEABLY IN POSSESSION OF
LARGE AMOUNTS OF MONEY, ALWAYS SEEMED TO HAVE SUFFICIENT
FUNDS. CONTACTS WITH INDIVIDUALS AND INFORMANTS HAVING KNOWLEDGE OF
NARCOTICS, PROSTITUTION, BOOKMAKING, GAMBLING IN AND ABOUT THE
VICINITY OF HOLLYWOOD AND WESTERN AVE. AREA HAVE NOT ESTABLISHED
RAY TO HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN ANY OF THESE ACTIVITIES AS A SOURCE
OF FUNDS.

RE PHONE CALLS BETWEEN LOS ANGELES AND NEW ORLEANS.

ARNOLD P. THOMAS, JR., ONE FIVE ZERO EAST ONE ONE SIX PLACE,
LOS ANGELES, LOCATED AND INTERVIEWED THIS DATE. THOMAS ADVISED
WHILE EN ROUTE TO NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, FOR BURIAL OF BROTHER,
LESTER THOMAS, HE ENCOUNTERED SNOW STORMS ON MOST OF ROUTE FROM
LOS ANGELES TO NEW ORLEANS. THOMAS ADVISED HIS WIFE MADE TELEPHONE
CALLS TO THE RESIDENCE OF HIS PARENTS WHO RESIDE IN NEW ORLEANS,
TELEPHONE NUMBER TWO EIGHT TWO SEVEN FIVE NINE ONE, FROM TUCSON,
END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

LA 44-1574

ARIZONA AND EL PASO, TEXAS. THE CALL FROM EL PASO, TEXAS TO THE BEST OF MR. THOMAS' RECOLLECTION, WAS MADE ON TWELVE SIXTEEN LAST FROM A PAY TELEPHONE BOOTH LOCATED NEAR MC DONALD HAMBURGER STAND.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF JAMES EARL RAY EXHIBITED TO ARNOLD P. THOMAS, JR., WHO ADVISED HE WAS NOT ACQUAINTED WITH THE INDIVIDUAL DEPICTED IN THE PHOTOGRAPHS AND TO THE BEST OF HIS KNOWLEDGE HAS NEVER SEEN THIS INDIVIDUAL ON ANY PREVIOUS OCCASIONS.

INVESTIGATION CONTINUES AT LOS ANGELES.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

AIR MAIL COPIES TO NEW ORLEANS AND EL PASO.

END

HEP

FBI BIRMGHAM

TU

F B I

Date: 5/8/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
SAC, SAN FRANCISCO

FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

MURKIN.

RE "THE LOCAL SWINGER", POST OFFICE BOX THREE EIGHT
ZERO TWO, DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA.

JAMES E. O'DOWD, WHO OPERATES "THE LOCAL SWINGER", A
CORRESPONDENCE CLUB, ADVISED THAT IN REVIEWING THEIR
MAILINGS THEY OBSERVED A LETTER FROM ONE J. RAY, THREE
ZERO FIVE GATE FIVE ROAD, SAUSALITO, CALIFORNIA. THIS
LETTER RECEIVED BY "THE LOCAL SWINGER" ON APRIL THREE LAST
REQUESTED A LIST OF WOMEN AND COUPLES IN CALIFORNIA AS
ADVERTIZED IN THE "BERKELEY BARB", ESPECIALLY INTERESTED
IN ANY LIST COVERING THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA.

SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE REQUESTED TO DETERMINE IF
J. RAY IS IDENTICAL WITH JAMES EARL RAY.

1 - Memphis (AM)
1 - Birmingham (AM)
JCO/met
(3)

44-1740-1679

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

F B I

Date:

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

LA 44-1574

PAGE TWO

LETTER RECEIVED BY C'DOWD BEING FURNISHED THE BUREAU
BY AIRTEL TODAY FOR LATENT FINGERPRINTS AND HANDWRITING
EXAMINATION. ADVISE BUREAU, MEMPHIS, BIRMINGHAM AND
LOS ANGELES.

AIR MAIL COPIES TO MEMPHIS AND BIRMINGHAM.

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

F B I

Date: 5/8/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) ATTN: FBI Laboratory
FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)
RE: MURKIN

Enclosed for the Bureau is handwritten letter received at "The Local Swinger" on 4/3/68, from J. RAY, 305 Gate "5" Road, Sausalito, California, 94965.

The Laboratory is requested to examine enclosure for any latent fingerprints which may be identifiable with subject and handwriting examination with other material previously submitted in this matter.

The enclosed was furnished SA JOHN C. O'NEILL on 5/8/68, by JAMES E. O'DOWD of "The Local Swinger." O'DOWD advised that enclosed has been handled by himself and an employee, ANN L. MEYERS. SA JOHN C. O'NEILL also handled enclosure.

It is requested that enclosure be returned to the Los Angeles Office for return to O'DOWD per his request for completion of his files.

- 4 - Bureau (Encl. 1) (RM)
- ① - Birmingham (RM)
- 1 - Memphis (RM)
- 1 - San Francisco (RM)
- 2 - Los Angeles

jco/pjc
(9)

44-1740-1680

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FBI — BIRMINGHAM	

[Signature]

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

F B I

Date: 5/8/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
SAC, INDIANAPOLIS
SAC, DALLAS

FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

MURKIN

REBUTEL TO LOS ANGELES APRIL TWENTY SIX LAST, LOS
ANGELES TEL TO BUREAU MAY ONE LAST.

REBUTEL ADVISED HAROLD J. THOME, MENTAL CASE, HAD BEEN
ATTEMPTING TO HAVE AUDIENCE WITH MARTIN LUTHER KING IN
ATLANTA IN NOVEMBER LAST. THOME REPORTEDLY THREATENED
NEIGHBORS IN PAST WITH SHOTGUN. BUREAU INSTRUCTED ALTHOUGH
RAY HAD BEEN IDENTIFIED AS ASSAILANT, INVESTIGATION SHOULD BE
CONDUCTED TO DETERMINE IF THOME IMPLICATED AS CONSPIRATOR.

LOS ANGELES FILES REFLECT IN SEPTEMBER LAST, SON
STEPHEN THOME STATED FATHER HAD WRITTEN PRESIDENT JOHNSON
AND POPE NUMEROUS OCCASIONS OPPOSING WAR IN VIETNAM AND HAD
BEEN ARRESTED FOR PULLING GUN ON POLICE OFFICERS. FORMER

1 - Birmingham (44-1740) (AM)
1 - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
LDJ/met
(3)

44-1740-1681

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

F B I

Date:

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

LA 44-1574

PAGE TWO

WIFE CONSIDERS THOME ALCOHOLIC IN ADDITION TO MENTAL PROBLEMS.

SECRET SERVICE, LOS ANGELES, ADVISED SEPTEMBER LAST THOME INVESTIGATED FOR WRITING LETTER TO PRESIDENT JOHNSON STATING HE WAS "IN GRAVE DANGER", AND OPPOSING WAR IN VIETNAM. THOME INCARCERATED TWICE CAMARILLO STATE HOSPITAL AS SCHIZOPHRENIC PARANOID. THOME ARRESTED MARCH, NINETEEN SIXTY SIX FOR THREATENING NEIGHBOR WITH GUN AND IN JUNE SIXTY SEVEN FOR DRUNK DRIVING, WHEN HE HAD UNLOADED SHOTGUN IN CAR.

SON, STEPHEN J. THOME, GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA, STATED APRIL TWENTY NINE LAST FATHER HAD BEEN TRAVELING THROUGHOUT UNITED STATES SINCE LATE SIXTY SEVEN. PRESENT WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN, BUT FATHER HAD CALLED HIM COLLECT IN MARCH OR APRIL FROM UNKNOWN LOCATION.

THOME ADVISED MAY EIGHT INSTANT THAT FATHER WOULD HAVE HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH ASSASSINATION AS VERY SYMPATHETIC TO NEGRO CAUSE.

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

F B I

Date:

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

LA 44-1574

PAGE THREE

INVESTIGATION ESTABLISHED THOME WAS IN ATLANTA JANUARY FIFTEEN LAST. CREDIT INVESTIGATOR ADVISED THOME BOUGHT GASOLINE ON UNION OIL CREDIT CARD MARCH EIGHT OR NINE LAST FOR NINETEEN SIXTY FOUR PONTIAC, CALIFORNIA LICENSE KDT SIX FIVE FOUR, REGISTERED TO JAMES E. SIMS, TWO FIVE FOUR AND ONE EIGHTH CORONADO STREET, LOS ANGELES.

MISS KAREN VANDERFORD, AT CORONADO STREET ADDRESS, ADVISED MAY SEVEN LAST SIMS HER STEPFATHER, WHO HAD BEEN IN TEXAS, AND HAD SOLD PONTIAC POSSIBLY IN HOUSTON. SIMS AND WIFE RESIDING FOR TWO WEEKS AT TWO TWO THREE FOUR EAST MICHIGAN, NUMBER THREE, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

RECORDS, PACIFIC TELEPHONE COMPANY, REFLECTED MAY SEVEN LAST PUBLIC TELEPHONE COLLECT CALL TO STEPHEN THOME ON APRIL TWELVE LAST FROM ARLINGTON, TEXAS.

INDIANAPOLIS INTERVIEW MR. AND MRS. SIMS, DETERMINE WHEREABOUTS PONTIAC SOLD IN TEXAS AND IF THEY KNOW THOME.

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

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via _____
(Priority)

LA 44-1574

PAGE FOUR

FURNISH RESULTS LOS ANGELES AND APPROPRIATE TEXAS OFFICE
TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW THOME.

DALLAS CHECK CREDIT, CRIMINAL AND GENERAL DELIVERY
AT ARLINGTON TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW THOME.

THOME ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

BIRMINGHAM AND MEMPHIS ADVISED AIR MAIL.

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

5/8/68

TELETYPE

DEFERRED

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND SACRAMENTO (100-427)

FROM: MEMPHIS (44-1987) 2P

MURKIN.

RE ATLANTA AIRTEL TO BUREAU APRIL EIGHTEEN LAST AND
SACRAMENTO AIRTEL TO BUREAU MAY SIX LAST.

RE: POSSIBLE MENTAL CONDITION OF SUBJECT.

ALTHOUGH THE SUGGESTION MADE IN RE ATLANTA AIRTEL HAD
MERIT, THIS SUGGESTION WAS MADE PRIOR TO THE IDENTIFICATION
OF JAMES EARL RAY AS SUBJECT OF THIS INVESTIGATION.

ALTHOUGH RAY CONSULTED A PSYCHIATRIST IN LOS ANGELES,
CALIF., SUBSEQUENT TO HIS ESCAPE FROM PRISON AND WHILE IN
PRISON SOUGHT PSYCHIATRIC HELP ON ONE OCCASION, INVESTIGATION
TO DATE INTO RAY'S BACKGROUND HAS FAILED TO REVEAL ANY INFOR-
MATION TO INDICATE HE HAS EVER BEEN CONFINED TO A MENTAL INSTI-
TUTION.

1 - Atlanta (44-2386) (AM)
① - Birmingham (AM)
1 - Kansas City (AM)
1 - Los Angeles (AM)
1 - San Diego (AM)
1 - San Francisco (AM)
1 - Memphis
RFB:LF
(7)

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RAY

ME 44-1987
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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.

DIVISION OF CLASSIFICATION AND ASSIGNMENT
MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
RECEPTION-DIAGNOSTIC CENTER REPORT

TRANSCRIPT OF SERIAL RECORD

REGISTER NO. W-10980 NAME Tom Britton RACE White
ALIAS TRUE NAME Thomas Britton
BIRTH DATE [REDACTED] BIRTH PLACE Daus, Tenn. AGE 47
HEIGHT 5 FT. 11 IN. WEIGHT 225 LENGTH OF FOOT 11 IN.
BUILD Obese HAIR Brown EYES Brown COMPLEXION Medium
MARKS, SCARS, OR TATTOOS T.B. PANAMA, 1938-40 outer left forearm.

SOC. SEC. NO. Unknown SELECT. SERVICE NO. CLASS
MILITARY: BRANCH Army FROM 1938 TO 1944 TYPE OF DISCHARGE Dishonorable
EMERGENCY ADDRESS WIFE: Beatrice Britton TELE. NO. 387 7988
1710 Alabama, Ave., Jasper, Ala.
INTELLIGENCE CLASSIFICATION GRADE ACHIEVEMENT
MARITAL STATUS Married OCCUPATION OR TRADE Carpenter
EDUCATION 12 RELIGION Methodist
FORMER IMPRISONMENT: NO. OTHER 1 NONE
PAROLES OR PROBATION: NO. OTHER 1 NONE

Mothers: Minnie Felkins, 209 Winchester, Chattanooga, Tenn.
PRESENT CONVICTION

OFFENSES PC: Uttering a Forged Check; Forgery

COUNTY Greene; Lawrence RECEIVED 10-4-1965 TERM OF COURT Sept 1965

SENTENCE 3 1/2 Years 9-27-1965

JAIL TIME 180 days

2 yrs. Conc.

EXPIRATION DATE: FULL TIME 10-5-1968

44-1740-1683
% TIME 11-19-1967

FBI NO. 500 803 7

LAST RE

RELEASED

INSTITUTION

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K. K. K.

DIVISION OF CLASSIFICATION AND ASSIGNMENT
MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
Diagnostic Center Report

Date: 3 Nov 1965

Name: Thomas Britton

Number: W-10980

Sentence: 3½ Yr.

Present Offense: PG: Uttering a Forged Check

County: Greene

Date Received: 4 Oct 1965

Age: 47

FELONY INCARCERATIONS: 22 Aug 1957, SP Nashville, Tenn., Forg., 3 yr., par. 14 Feb 1959

CRIMINAL HISTORY: Prior to entering the service, the subject was charged with grand larceny in June of 1949 at Jasper, Alabama, with the charge showing no disposition, but evidently was connected with the offense for which he received a dishonorable discharge from the U. S. Army. After he and his wife broke up, he went AWOL, kept going, and finally was charged with desertion, for which he received a 7 year USDB sentence. In 1955, the subject was charged with non support, with no disposition shown. After serving his Tennessee sentence, he was charged with forged check at Springfield, forgery and grand larceny early in 1963 in Alabama and another federal charge later, with none of these charges showing a disposition. After his involvement in the present offense, he went to Alabama and was later extradited to Missouri on the charge of uttering a forged check.

PRESENT OFFENSE: The subject was arrested in September of 1963 at Republic, Missouri after uttering a forged check. After being bound over to the Circuit Court in July of 1964 and while awaiting the next term, the subject jumped bond and was extradited from the state of Alabama to Missouri on the present charge. In September of 1965 he entered a plea of guilty on the charge and received a 3 year 6 months sentence to the Department of Corrections.

Accomplices: None.

Detainers: None presently.

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SOCIAL: This 47-year-old inmate was born at Daus, Tennessee on [redacted]. He says he has some brothers and sisters but does not know who or where they are. When he was about 7, was placed in the Tennessee Industrial School for Boys, where he finished high school. He was later placed in a foster home, which was unsatisfactory to him, and he ran off and returned to the industrial school. At age 17 he left and when he was 20 he entered the military service. He states that although he doesn't know much about his parents, he learned that his father was killed in an auto accident in 1956 and indicated that he believed that his mother was still living in Tennessee. Since he was about 31 he has been living in Alabama where he was married to his [redacted] wife.

MARRIAGE: He was married the first time while in the military service and after domestic problems he went AWOL at which time he was given discharge and served the disciplinary barracks sentence. He was married the 2nd time in 1947 at Jasper, Alabama where his wife continues to reside and works as a waitress. One son was added to this union and the wife is presently supporting him. His wife reports that the subject supported the family well, although the FBI report shows that he was arrested for non support on 1 occasion.

MILITARY: When the subject was 20 years old in 1938 he entered the U. S. Army and in 1949 received a dishonorable discharge on the basis of desertion. He states that he was rehabilitated later.

- - continued

W-10980 - Thomas Britton

EDUCATIONAL: The subject states that he completed the 12th grade at the Boys' Training School in Tennessee, and indicated that he made fair grades in school for the most part. His performance on tests would suggest an above average level of intellectual endowment with an average general mental ability shown. A 7.9 SAT battery median with an erratic profile suggests some educational limitations as compared with his 12th grade achievement. He was lower in arithmetic and higher in the reading area.

VOCATIONAL-EMPLOYMENT: The subject states that he has been a finish carpenter most of his life and while in military service was assigned to the carpenter shop. He states that he was doing construction work in the Springfield area at the time of the instant offense, and had lived in that area for about 1 year. His mechanical aptitude is superior which suggests some qualification for vocational employment in this area.

RELIGION: The subject is a baptized member of the Methodist Church, in which he was reared, but states he has not been involved in religious activities more recently.

HEALTH AND HABITS: The subject denies being an alcoholic, but admits that periodically he goes on drinking binges which generally takes him away from home. This evidently was the reason for being in southwestern Missouri at the time of the instant offense. He does not indicate that he was separated from his wife, but he had been away from her for as long as a year. Subject makes no physical complaints and is cleared for a regular duty status. He denies the use of narcotics or ever contracting venereal disease or being hospitalized for a major illness. His wife reports that they enjoy fishing and bowling as a family, but that his drinking disrupted the domestic environment.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION: Commitment report, FBI report, transcript of serial record, Tennessee State Penitentiary report, wife's questionnaire, medical report, test battery, interview.

EVALUATION OF ISSUES: This is a 47-year-old white man from southwestern Missouri serving his 2nd felony incarceration, although he served a disciplinary barracks sentence for desertion while in the military service. He was reared in a boys industrial school in Tennessee where he is said to have received adequate training and developed close relationships with the superintendent of the school, but has evidently had a difficult time in internalizing acceptable social values. He goes on periodic drinking binges, and leaves his home and family, and doesn't work and then gets in trouble with local authority. He adjusted satisfactorily enough to receive a parole from his last incarceration which he was able to successfully complete. He presently has a detainer from Lawrence County on checks, but is expected to adjust to confinement without event. He is interested in working as a carpenter during his present incarceration and is not expected to benefit from a program of training during his incarceration.

REMARKS: J

RECOMMENDATIONS: Routine supervision with a job assignment in the area of maintenance, woodworking, or carpentry.

CH: fcc

F B I

Date: 5/8/68

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

TO: SAC, BIRMINGHAM
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P
MURKIN

Re Kansas City Airtel to Director 5/7/68, re TOM
BRITTON.

One copy of each enclosure to Memphis with
reference Airtel enclosed for assistance of Birmingham in locating
BRITTON in Birmingham area.

2 BIRMINGHAM (Enc. 3) *See'd*
1 KANSAS CITY (Info) *gmc*
1 MEMPHIS

RGJ:BN
(4)

44-1740-1684

SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED <i>CB</i>	FILED _____
MAY 10 1968	
FBI — BIRMINGHAM	

H. G. G. H.

Approved: *R. Jensen* Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI WASH DC

1245 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 [REDACTED] 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

CDG

FBI BIRMGHAM

⑥

44-1740-1685

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FBI - BIRMINGHAM	

[Handwritten signature]

FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI RICHMOND

325P 5-11-68 URGENT WSK

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM RICHMOND (44-657)

MURKIN, OO MEMPHIS.

REMYTEL MAY TEN LAST.

ON MAY ELEVEN INSTANT, CHARLES W. CLARK, FORTYTWO HUNDRED
ESPOSITO PLACE, PRINCE GEORGE COUNTY, VA., APPEARED PETERSBURG RA.
CLARK ADVISED HIS DAUGHTER WAS TOLD BY A NEIGHBOR'S CHILD THAT SHE HAD
OVERHEARD HER PARENTS MENTION THAT FBI INQUIRY WAS MADE RE OCCUPANTS
OF FORTYTWO HUNDRED ESPOSITO PLACE. CLARK ACCOMPANIED AT RA BY
ROBERT BRITTON, HIS STEPSON. CLARK REQUESTED INFO WHETHER FBI INQUIRY
MADE AND PURPOSE OF SAME. BRITTON STATED FATHER, THOMAS BRITTON,
IS A PAROLEE AND HE SPECULATED AUTHORITIES POSSIBLY LOOKING FOR HIS
FATHER. DUTY AGENT AT PETERSBURG RA ADVISEG CLARK AND BRITTON
THAT HE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF REPORTED FBI INQUIRY. CLARK REQUESTED HE
BE ADVISED IF INQUIRY MADE AND PURPOSE.

KANSAS CITY, KNOXVILLE AND MOBILE ADVISED BY AM.

END

D EN

FBI BIRMGHAM

0

44-1740-1656

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[Signature]

FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI ST LOUIS

3 48 PM URGENT 5-11-68 GMC

TO: DIRECTOR, ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM, MEMPHIS, KANSAS CITY AND
NEW ORLEANS

FROM: ST. LOUIS (44-775)

MURKIN

RE BIRMINGHAM TEL TO BUREAU, MAY TEN, LAST.

JOHN PAUL VELANTI, ONE SIX THREE TWO SOUTH EIGHTEENTH
STREET, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, INTERVIEWED MAY FOUR, LAST. DENIED
KNOWING OR ASSOCIATING WITH SUBJECT RAY AT MISSOURI STATE
PENITENTIARY OR ANY OTHER TIME. DID NOT RECALL EVER HAVING
SPOKEN TO RAY.

VELANTI EMPLOYED AS NEWSCASTER AND STATES HE BROADCAST
INFORMATION CONCERNING RAY FOR SOMETIME. DID NOT RECOGNIZE
NAME OR PHOTOGRAPH AS FELLOW INMATE, MSP, UNTIL RECENTLY.
ASSOCIATES FACE WITH INMATE AT MSP, BUT NO PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE
OF RAY.

END PAGE ONE

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[Signature]

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SL 44-775

VELANTI RE-INTERVIEWED TODAY IN REGARD TO INFORMATION FURNISHED BY JAMES W. BROWN, BIRMINGHAM. DESCRIBES BROWN AS GOOD FRIEND WITH WHOM HE "CELLED" AND "TOOK CARE OF". ALTHOUGH VELANTI UNAWARE OF BROWN INTERVIEW OR SUBSTANCE THEREOF, HE STATES BROWN IS A FRIEND AND WOULD HAVE NO REASON TO LIE ABOUT HIMSELF.

WAS WITH BROWN KANSAS CITY JAIL, BUT DIFFERENT TANKS AND DID NOT KNOW BROWN THERE. ALSO WITH BROWN MSP, JEFFERSON CITY AND MOBERLY.

VELANTI DENIES ANY AND ALL CONVERSATION WITH RAY AS ATTRIBUTED TO HIM BY BROWN. STILL INSISTS HE DID NOT KNOW RAY.

ADMITS HE RAN POKER GAME AND LOTTERY AT MSP. HAD NUMEROUS INMATES WORKING FOR HIM IN VARIOUS HALLS IN CONNECTION WITH THIS OPERATION, BUT KNEW ALL OF THEM PERSONALLY AND RECALLS THEIR NAMES. SUBJECT RAY NEVER WORKED FOR HIM. RECALLS NO INMATE MSP, FIRST OR LAST NAME RAY, WITH WHOM HE ASSOCIATED OR CONVERSED AT LENGTH.

DENIES EXECUTING OR PLANNING ROBBERY OR BURGLARY OF OIL
END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

SL 44-775

COMPANY OR ANYTHING ELSE IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA. ADVISED IF HE DID PLAN SUCH A JOB, HE WOULD DO IT ALONE.

WIFE, BETTYE, NEE PRITCHARD, MARRIED NINETEEN FIFTYFIVE, JUAREZ, MEXICO, LAST KNOWN TO BE RESIDING ONE TWO SEVEN ZERO CHANEY DRIVE, BOSIER CITY, LOUISIANA. NO IDEA OF PRESENT WHEREABOUTS. VELANTI DENIES EVER HAVING RESIDED IN ATLANTA. HIS SON, [REDACTED], BY PREVIOUS MARRIAGE TO SHIRLEY HOLSTIEN, WAS KILLED IN AUTO ACCIDENT, ATLANTA, NINETEEN SIXTYTWO, AT AGE FIFTEEN. SON [REDACTED] DID NOT LIVE WITH BETTYE, NEE PRITCHARD. ADVISES HE, VELANTI, HAS ONLY PASSED THROUGH ATLANTA STAYING OVER NIGHT.

DENIED BEING QUESTIONED RE KANSAS CITY GANGSTER WHEN ARRESTED KANSAS CITY. ADVISED HE WAS QUESTIONED BY DETECTIVE HATFIELD, KANSAS CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT, ONLY IN REGARD TO OFFENSE FOR WHICH HE WAS CONVICTED WHICH WAS ARMED ROBBERY OF JOHN RINGO, OPERATOR OF DRAKE HOTEL, KANSAS CITY.

HOWEVER, VELANTI ADVISED HE TOOK "BUM RAP" OF ROBBERY OF RINGO IN ORDER TO AVOID DIVULGING HIS WHEREABOUTS AND PERSON
END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

SL 44-775

ACCOMPANYING HIM AT TIME OF RINGO ROBBERY. STATED EITHER WAY HE HAD TO GO TO PRISON IN EITHER MISSOURI OR KANSAS. WOULD HAVE GOTTEN MORE TIME IN KANSAS.

REFUSED TO DISCUSS WHEREABOUTS, OFFENSE, OR ASSOCIATES ACCOMPANYING HIM ON THAT DATE BECAUSE OF NATURE OF OFFENSE AND PERSON OR PERSONS INVOLVED. ADVISED THAT ANY INVESTIGATION INTO THIS MATTER MATTER COULD JEOPARDIZE HIS PRESENT PAROLE STATUS EVEN THOUGH STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS HAS RUN ON THAT CRIME.

DENIES HAVING RELATIVES BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA. DENIES KNOWLEDGE OF ANY CONNECTION BETWEEN NEW ORLEANS GANGSTERS AD GANGSTERS IN KANSAS CITY.

IN PREVIOUS INTERVIEW, VELANTI ADVISED "NOONEY" EDEN IS JAMES EDEN. EDEN IS TONGUE-TIED AND NICKNAMED NOONEY BECAUSE OF HIS INABILITY TO PRONOUNCE BOLONEY.

ADMITS HAVING PLANNED ESCAPES FROM MSP, BUT NEVER WITH ACCOMPLICE. NEVER HEARD OF PRISONERS PLAN TO ESCAPE TO LIBERIA OR HIDE OUT IN A VIRGINIA CAVE.

SUBSEQUENT TO ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY, VELANTI ADMITS FIGHTING WITH FELLOW PRISONER OUTSIDE CATHOLIC CHAPEL
END PAGE FOUR

PAGE FIVE

SL 44-775

MSP BECAUSE OF DEROGATORY STATEMENT MADE BY PRISONER CONCERNING PRESIDENT KENNEDY AS A CATHOLIC. DOES NOT RECALL NAME OF PRISONER, AND NO CHARGES FILED.

RECALLS MANY PRISONERS DEGRADING NEGROES, BUT STATES THAT DEROGATORY STATEMENT CONCERNING CATHOLICS NOT MADE IN HIS PRESENCE, INASMUCH AS HE IS CATHOLIC.

IN BOTH INTERVIEWS VELANTI DENIED KNOWLEDGE OF "COOLEY" (PHONETIC), BUT ASSOCIATES NAME AND NEGRO INMATE MSP. NEVER HEARD OF MONEY OFFERED FOR DEATH OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING.

NEW ORLEANS, AT BOSIER CITY, LOUISIANA, ATTEMPT TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW BETTYE VELANTI, NEE PRITCHARD, LAST KNOWN ADDRESS ONE TWO SEVEN ZERO CHANEY DRIVE, REGARDING ASSOCIATION BETWEEN VELANTI AND SUBJECT RAY; AND IF THEY WERE INVOLVED IN OIL COMPANY ROBBERY IN ATLANT PRIOR TO VELANTI'S IMPRISONMENT MSP. ADVISE BIRMINGHAM RESULTS, AS NEEDED TO EVALUATE CREDIBILITY OF BROWN, WHO HAS BEEN INTERVIEWED AND MADE ALLEGATIONS OF RAY, VELANTI ASSOCIATION AND OIL ROBBERY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P

E END

D EN

FBI BIRMGHAM

•

FI BIRMGHAM

FBI NEW ORLS

1119PM URGENT 5/11/68 OLP

TO DIRECTOR, ST. LOUIS AND BIRMINGHAM
FROM NEW ORLEANS (157-10673)

MURKIN

RE ST. LOUIS TEL FOUR EIGHTEEN PM, FIVE ELEVEN INSTANT.

RE: JOHN PAUL VELANTI

INVESTIGATION BOSSIER CITY, LOUISIANA REVEALS CHANEY DRIVE HAS BEEN NON-EXISTENT FOR THREE YEARS. CHANEY DRIVE CONSISTED OF A FEW APARTMENTS WHICH WERE TORN DOWN THREE YEARS AGO AND REPLACED BY A HOLIDAY INN MOTEL.

GEORGE DEMANT, MANAGER, HOLIDAY INN, BOSSIER CITY, ADVISED FIVE ELEVEN INSTANT THAT MOTEL HAS ADDRESS OF HAMILTON ROAD AND NEVER USED CHANEY DRIVE AS AN ADDRESS. DEMANT SAID HE HAS NEVER HEARD OF BETTYE VELANTI NEE PRITCHARD.

VIRGIL HUFF, POST OFFICE EMPLOYEE, BOSSIER CITY, ADVISED FIVE ELEVEN INSTANT HE HAS NO ADDRESS OR FORWARDING ADDRESS FOR BETTYE VELANTI NEE PRITCHARD.

WILLIAM THORTON, BOSSIER CITY PD, AND DEPUTY SHERIFF
END PAGE ONE

44-1740-1686

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[Signature]

57C NOTIFIED 11:28 P.M.

PAGE TWO

VOL DOOLEY, ADVISED FIVE ELEVEN INSTANT THEIR RECORDS
ARE NEGATIVE ON BETTYE VELANTI NEE PRITCHARD.

CREDIT BUREAU AT SHERVEPORT, LA., WHICH COVERS
BOSSIER CITY IS CLOSED AND WILL NOT BE OPENED UNTIL
MONDAY A.M. A REVIEW OF CURRENT AND PAST CITY, TELEPHONE,
AND CRISS-CROSS DIRECTORIES NEGATIVE ON BETTYE VELANTI
NEE PRITCHARD.

ST. LOUIS AT ST. LOUIS WILL REINTERVIEW JOHN PAUL
VELANTI FOR IDENTITY AND WHEREABOUTS OF PARENTS OR OTHER
RELATIVES OF HIS EX-WIFE BETTYE VELANTI NEE PRITCHARD AND
HAVE THESE RELATIVES INTERVIEWED AS TO HER PRESENT WHEREABOUTS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

AM COPIES TO MEMPHIS, KANSAS CITY AND ATLANTA
END
C EN
FBI BIRMGHAM

@