

SAC

ASAC

CC

ASST CC

STENO SOP

C-#1

C-#2

C-#3

C-#4

C-#5

C-#6

C-#7

S-#1

S-#2

S-#3

S-#4

S-#5

7-16-68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

(P 1)

MURKIN.

RE SPRINGFIELD TELETYPE TO BUREAU JULY FIFTEEN LAST.

SI ONE SIX ONE FOUR - C CURRENTLY AT ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS,  
ENDEAVORING TO DEVELOP INFORMATION RE JOE HEINTZ.

HAZEL DREW, MOTHER OF PAMELA SCHNEIDER, STATES JOHN  
MC CLINTOCK LEFT ALTON JULY FIFTEEN, NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN  
TWO DAYS AFTER BANK ROBBERY AT THE BANK OF ALTON; FURTHER  
THAT MC CLINTOCK HAS ALWAYS BEEN CLOSE TO HAROLD RICHARD  
COVINGTON AND WILLIE LEE.

PHOTOS OF JAMES EARL RAY DISPLAYED TO HAZEL DREW,  
PAMELA SCHNEIDER AND PCI HELEN GRABLE. ALL STATE THEY  
ARE CERTAIN RAY NOT AN ASSOCIATE OF MC CLINTOCK, COVINGTON  
OR LEE AND RAY UNFAMILIAR TO THEM.

MAIL COPIES TO CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS. P.

- 1 - Springfield (44-561)
  - ① - Chicago (44-1114) (Info) (AM)
  - 1 - Memphis (44-1987) (Info) (AM)
  - 1 - St. Louis (44-775) (Info) (AM)
- RCH:ras  
(4)

*Xenon*  
*91-5375*

*ALTON BR*

44-1114-681

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 17 1968	

7/17/68

SAC  
ASAC  
CC  
ASST CC  
STENO SOP  
C-#1  
C-#2  
C-#3  
C-#4  
C-#5  
C-#6  
C-#7  
S-#1  
S-#2  
S-#3  
S-#4  
S-#5

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

MURKIN

RE SPRINGFIELD TELETYPE TO BUREAU DATED JULY SIXTEEN LAST.  
CANVASS OF APARTMENT AND ROOMING HOUSES VICINITY THE  
BANK OF ALTON INITIATED; PHOTOS OF JAMES EARL RAY DISPLAYED  
WITHOUT EFFECTING IDENTIFICATION. CANVASS CONTINUING.

ALLEN L. CALVEY, ALSO KNOWN AS BUTCH, FORMER POLICE OFFICER,  
ALTON PD OF KNOWN UNRELIABILITY, CLAIMS HE HAS INFORMATION  
HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON DEFINITELY INVOLVED IN ROBBERY THE  
BANK OF ALTON, AND USED MOTOR BIKE TO EFFECT ESCAPE. SAME BASIC  
INFORMATION PREVIOUSLY FURNISHED BY CALVEY COULD NOT BE VERIFIED.  
CALVEY REFUSES TO DIVULGE SOURCE OF HIS INFORMATION.

MAIL COPIES TO CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS.

1 - Springfield (44-561)  
1 - Chicago (44-1114) (AM)  
1 - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)  
1 - St. Louis (44-775) (AM)  
RCH/tlp  
(4)

Xerox in  
91-5375

ALTON BE

44-1114-682

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 18 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	

Almon



F B I

Date: 7/18/68

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

SAC  
 ASAC  
 CC  
 ASST CC  
 STENO SOP  
 C-#1  
 C-#2  
 C-#3  
 C-#4  
 C-#5  
 C-#6  
 C-#7  
 S-#1  
 S-#2  
 S-#3  
 S-#4  
 S-#5

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
 FROM SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)  
 SUBJECT: MURKIN

ReBuairtel 7/12/68

Enclosed for the Bureau is one copy of previously prepared Bureau circular letter re JOHN WILLIAM CLOUSER, Aka.

It is requested that the format used for enclosed circular letter be used for circular letter in captioned matter.

Assuming that the circular letter comes to the field folded, franked and sealed, the following is the cost data concerning distribution:

CHICAGO DIVISION - \$20.00 (stenographic manhours needed to address 1400 plus circular letters for distribution to dry cleaners in Illinois).

*LAUNDRY  
CIRCULARIZATION*

Regarding distribution to 325 laundries in Illinois, there will be no charge for the use of the Laundry Institute's Addressograph machine in Chicago.

INDIANAPOLIS DIVISION - 27.00 (for addressing 1800 letters)

ST. LOUIS DIVISION - 10.00 (for addressing 700 letters)

Total \$57.00

3 - Bureau (44-38861) (Enc.1)  
 1 - Memphis (44-1987) (Info)  
 2 - Chicago (44-1114)

1 - Indianapolis (44-)(Info)  
 1 - St. Louis (44-775) (Info)  
 2 - Springfield (44-561)

WCR:vr  
(10)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M

Per

44-1114-683

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 19 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	

*Edumaine*

....SAC  
 ....ASAC  
 ....CC  
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 ....STENO SOP  
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 ....C-#4  
 ....C-#5  
 ....C-#6  
 ....C-#7  
 ....S-#1  
 ....S-#2  
 ....S-#3  
 ....S-#4  
 ....S-#5

7-18-68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

(P 1)

MURKIN.

RE SPRINGFIELD TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR DATED JULY SEVENTEEN  
LAST.

CANVASS OF APARTMENTS IN ROOMING HOUSES VICINITY OF  
THE ALTON BANK CONTAINING APARTMENTS AND ROOMING HOUSES ON  
BROWN AND EDWARDS STREETS CONTACTED WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.  
NO INDICATION JAMES EARL RAY KNOWN OR EVER RESIDED IN  
THOSE NEIGHBORHOODS.

MAIL COPIES TO CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS. P.

1 - Springfield (44-561)  
 ① - Chicago (44-1114) (AM)  
 1 - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)  
 1 - St. Louis (44-775) (AM)  
 RCH:ras  
 (4)

*Xerox in*  
*91-5375*

*alt PR*

44-1114-684

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 18 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	

*Dumaine* (R)



--- SAC  
 --- ASAC  
 --- CC  
 --- ASST CC  
 --- STENO SOP  
 --- C-#1  
 --- C-#2  
 --- C-#3  
 --- C-#4  
 --- C-#5  
 --- C-#6  
 --- C-#7  
 --- S-#1  
 --- S-#2  
 --- S-#3  
 --- S-#4  
 --- S-#5

7/19/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) (1 P)

MURKIN.

RE SPRINGFIELD TELETYPE TO BUREAU JULY EIGHTEEN, LAST.

CANVASS OF APARTMENTS AND ROOMING HOUSES VICINITY THE  
BANK OF ALTON COMPLETED TODAY; DISPLAY OF PHOTOGRAPHS OF  
JAMES EARL RAY UNPRODUCTIVE.

SI SIXTEEN FOURTEEN DASH C CONTINUES AT ROCKFORD,  
ILLINOIS.

MAIL COPIES TO CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS. P.

7/16  
 TT  
 Dev info  
 re Heintz

- 1 - Springfield (44-561)
  - ① - Chicago (44-1114)
  - 1 - Memphis (44-1987)
  - 1 - St. Louis (44-775)
- RCH:skr  
(4)

X sent in  
 91-5370

*alt. Br*

44-1114-685

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 22 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	

*Dumaine*

F B I

Date: 7/23/68

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

✓ ASAC  
 CC  
 ASST CC  
 STENO SOP  
 C-#1  
 C-#2  
 C-#3  
 C-#4  
 C-#5  
 C-#6  
 C-#7  
 S-#1  
 S-#2  
 S-#3  
 S-#4  
 S-#5

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
 FROM: SAC, BALTIMORE (44-669)  
 SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Chicago teletype to Bureau, 6/27/68 and  
Baltimore airtel to Bureau, 7/11/68.

Enclosed under separate cover for Chicago is a list  
of both members and non-members, National Institute of Dry  
Cleaning, 7/68 for the states of Illinois, Indiana and Missouri.

The enclosed list was obtained from Mrs. CECIL BONAS,  
National Institute of Dry Cleaning, 909 Burlington Avenue,  
Silver Spring, Maryland, telephone JU 9 - 2334 on 7/16/68.  
Mrs. BONAS has advised that the Institute does not have any  
addressograph equipment and that the list was prepared from  
IBM Punch Cards. She further advised that the Institute would,  
at no cost to the FBI, be willing to run off the list of  
either members, non-members or both from IMB cards to Cheshire  
labels which could be done in about two days' work. She  
stated that the Institute does not have equipment to apply the  
labels but that there are mailing companies in the WDC area  
which have Cheshire labeling machines to apply the labels to  
envelopes or circulars.

Mrs. BONAS advised that there is no breakdown by  
county but that the list is broken down geographically by  
zip code.

*List maintained in ASAC's work room*

- 3 - Bureau (REGISTERED MAIL)
- ③ - Chicago (Enc. 1) (REGISTERED MAIL)
- (1 - PACKAGE) (REGISTERED MAIL)
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987) (REGISTERED MAIL)
- 1 - Springfield (Info.) (REGISTERED MAIL)
- 1 - St. Louis (REGISTERED MAIL)
- 1 - Indianapolis (Info.) (REGISTERED MAIL)
- 1 - Baltimore

JJG:jtk (12)

*1cc - 91-5375*

44-1114-686

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 24 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	

*W. J. Jones*

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



BA 44-669

No additional requests will be made of Mrs. BONAS pending specific instructions from either the Bureau or Chicago in connection with the enclosed list of dry cleaners.

7/24/68

A I R T E L

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (44-1114)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Baltimore airtel to Director 7/23/68, enclosing for Chicago list of members and non-members National Institute of Dry Cleaning as of July, 1968, for the States of Illinois, Indiana, and Missouri.

Chicago Office is of the opinion that it would be expeditious to send out circulars to members and non-members of the National Institute of Dry Cleaning through use of cheshire labels which Mrs. CECIL BONAS of the National Institute of Dry Cleaning in Silver Spring, Maryland, volunteered to run off. These labels could then be affixed to the circulars which are to be distributed.

UACB, Baltimore is requested to recontact Mrs. BONAS and request that above described labels be prepared.

The Bureau is requested to advise Baltimore whether the prepared circulars will be sent out from the Bureau, Chicago or Springfield.

- 3 - Bureau
- 2 - Baltimore (44-669)
- 1 - Indianapolis (Info)
- 1 - Memphis (Info)
- 1 - Springfield (Info)
- 1 - St. Louis (Info)
- 1 - Chicago

JHW:jap  
(10)

1 cc in  
91-5375  
JAW

SEARCHED	_____
SERIALIZED	1
INDEXED	_____
FILED	1

44-1114-687



F B I

Date: 7/22/68

PLAINTEXT

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

SAC  
 ASAC  
 CC  
 ASST CC  
 STENO SOP  
 C-#1  
 C-#2  
 C-#3  
 C-#4  
 C-#5  
 C-#6  
 C-#7  
 C-#8  
 S-#3  
 S-#4  
 S-#5

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

MURKIN

RE SI TEL TO BUREAU JULY NINETEEN LAST.

HAZEL DREW, PAMELA SCHNEIDER, CAROLYN LEE, CAROL WYATT  
 AND PCI HELEN GRABLE, ALL OF WHOM ARE ACQUAINTED WITH SUSPECTS  
 IN ROBBERY THE BANK OF ALTON, AND HAVE EXPRESSED DESIRE TO  
 COOPERATE WITH BUREAU, ADVISED THEY HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO  
 DEVELOP ANY INFORMATION IN ADDITION TO THAT ALREADY FURNISHED.  
 ALL INDICATE THEY WILL CONTINUE TO SEEK POSITIVE INFORMATION  
 IN THIS REGARD.

DEMOS NICHOLAS, MADISON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE,  
 DEVELOPING WILLIE LEE AS INFORMANT; STATES HE FEELS LEE  
 HAS INFORMATION TO PROVIDE AND WILL ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP  
 SAME AND PROVIDE INTELLIGENCE TO BUREAU.

MAIL COPY TO CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS.

1 - Springfield (44-561)  
 ① - Chicago (44-1114)  
 1 - Memphis (44-1987)  
 1 - St. Louis (44-775)  
 RCH/ssj (4)

ALTON BR

44-1114-688A

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 23 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	

*[Signature]*

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

F B I

Date: 7/23/68

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

SAC  
 ASAC  
 CC  
 ASST CC  
 STENO SOP  
 C-#1  
 C-#2  
 C-#3  
 C-#4  
 C-#5  
 C-#6  
 C-#7  
 S-#1  
 S-#2  
 S-#3  
 S-#4  
 S-#5

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) (PP. )

MURKIN

RE SI TEL TO BUREAU JULY TWENTYTWO, LAST.

AS RESULT OF DREW PEARSON SYNDICATED COLUMN ON JULY TWENTYTWO, LAST, ALTON AREA POLICE AGENCIES AND NEWS MEDIA CONTACTED AND WILL IMMEDIATELY FURNISH CONTENTS OF CITIZEN CALLS RESULTING THEREFROM.

SI SIXTEEN FOURTEEN - C WILL NOT RETURN TO ALTON AREA UNTIL FRIDAY.

ARRANGEMENTS MADE TODAY THROUGH DEPUTY DEMOS NICHOLAS, MADISON COUNTY SO, TO INTERVIEW WILLIE LEE WHOM NICHOLAS IS USING AS INFORMANT. RESULTS WILL BE FURNISHED BUREAU PROMPTLY.

MAIL COPIES TO CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS. P.

1 - Springfield (44-561)  
 ① - Chicago (44-1114)  
 1 - Memphis (44-1987)  
 1 - St. Louis (44-775)  
 RCH:mpb  
 (4)

ALTON BR

44-1114-688

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 24 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	

*Dumaine*

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



REPORT  
of the



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

FBI, Memphis (44-1987)

MURKIN  
CR

Date: July 23, 1968

FBI File No. 44-38861

Lab. No. D-680719053 JK

ns received 7/17/68, from FBI, Chicago

- 1 Photocopy of two-page handwritten letter on prison stationery beginning "Dear John I will just write..." and signed "Lord R. G. Sneyd"

ult of examination:

It was concluded that the questioned writing bearing on Qc391 was prepared by JAMES EARL RAY, #405942G.

Specimen Qc391 has been retained.

*LETTER TO BROTHER*

44-1114-689

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 24 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535**

To: FBI, Memphis (44-1987)

Date: July 23, 1968

Re: MURKIN  
CR  
OO: Memphis

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
John Edgar Hoover, Director

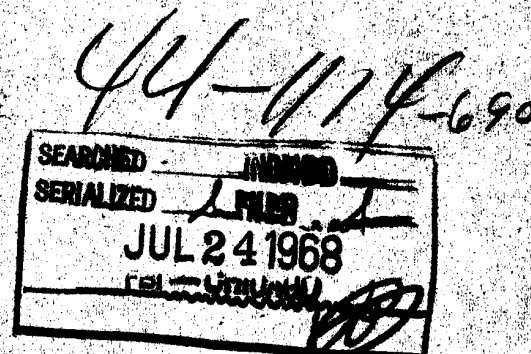
FBI File No. 44-38861  
Lab. No. D-680719053 JK

Examination requested by: Chicago

Reference: Airtel 7/15/68

Examination requested: Document

Remarks:



Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)

② - Chicago (44-1114) Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)

1 - St. Louis (44-775) Enclosure (Lab report)

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE



F B I

Date: 7/24/68

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

✓ SAC  
 ✓ ASAC  
 CC  
 ASST CC  
 STENO SOP  
 C-#1  
 C-#2  
 C-#3  
 C-#4  
 C-#5  
 C-#6  
 C-#7  
 S-#1  
 S-#2  
 S-#3  
 S-#4  
 S-#5

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) (PP. 1)

MURKIN

RE SI TEL TO BUREAU JULY TWENTYTHREE, LAST.

NEWS MEDIA, POLICE AGENCIES AND BANK OFFICIALS AT THE BANK  
 OF ALTON REPORT NO REACTION TO SYNDICATED COLUMN OF DREW PEARSON  
 APPEARING NATIONALLY JULY TWENTYTWO, LAST.

WILLIAM MAHER, UNCLE OF JAMES EARL RAY, ADVISES HE IS  
 CONVINCED RAY HAS NOT BEEN IN ALTON AT ANYTIME SINCE ESCAPE FROM  
 MSP. MAHER BASES OPINION ON CONTACT WITH RELATIVES AND  
 CONTINUED READING OF KNOWN ITINERARY OF RAY.

MAIL COPIES TO CHICAGO, MEMPHIS, ST. LOUIS. P.

1 - Springfield (44-561)  
 ① - Chicago (44-1114) (AM)  
 1 - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)  
 1 - St. Louis (44-775) (AM)  
 RCH:mpb  
 (4)

Xerox copy  
 in 91-5375

ALTON BR

44-1114-691

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 25 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	

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

-----SAC  
-----ASAC  
-----CC  
-----ASST CC  
-----STENO SOP  
-----C-#1  
-----C-#2  
-----C-#3  
-----C-#4  
-----C-#5  
-----C-#6  
-----C-#7  
-----S-#1  
-----S-#2  
-----S-#3  
-----S-#4  
-----S-#5

7/25/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

( P )

MURKIN.

RE SPRINGFIELD TELETYPE TO BUREAU, JULY TWENTYFOUR,  
LAST.

CHIEF WILLIAM H. PETERSEN (NA), ALTON PD, ADVISED THAT  
ALL INFORMANTS OF ALTON PD CONTACTED REGARDING POSSIBLE  
PRESENCE OF JAMES EARL RAY IN ALTON JULY NINETEEN, SIXTY-  
SEVEN. NO INFORMANT ABLE TO PLACE RAY IN ALTON DURING THAT  
PERIOD.

PETERSEN ALSO ADVISED EXPERIENCED OFFICERS ACQUAINTED  
WITH RAY IN PAST HAVE CONTACTED KNOWN BURGLARS AND EX-CONS  
FOR SAME PURPOSE WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

MAIL COPIES TO CHICAGO, MEMPHIS, AND ST. LOUIS. P.

END

1 - Springfield (44-561)  
① - Chicago (44-1114)  
1 - Memphis (44-1987)  
1 - St. Louis (44-775)  
RCH/eab  
(4)

*Xerox  
91-5375*

*ALTON BR*

44-1114-692

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 26 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	

*Dumaine*



F B I

Date: 7/26/68

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

SAC  
 ASAC  
 CC  
 ASST CC  
 STENO SOP  
 C-#1  
 C-#2  
 C-#3  
 C-#4  
 C-#5  
 C-#6  
 C-#7  
 S-#1  
 S-#2  
 S-#3  
 S-#4  
 S-#5

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) (PP. 1)

MURKIN

RE SI TEL JULY TWENTYFIVE, LAST.

CONTACT INITIATED WITH HOTELS AND MOTELS, GREATER ALTON  
 AREA INCLUDING DISPLAY OF PHOTOGRAPH OF JAMES EARL RAY. CONTACTS  
 TO DATE PRODUCED NO IDENTIFICATIONS TO INDICATE RAY IN ALTON  
 AREA SUBSEQUENT TO ESCAPE MSP.

NO OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION DEVELOPED TO DATE.

MAIL COPIES TO CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS. P.

- 1 - Springfield (44-561)
- ① - Chicago (44-1114) (AM)
- 1 - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
- 1 - St. Louis (44-775) (AM)

RCH:mpb  
 (4)

44-1114-693

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 27 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	

ALTON BR

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

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

7/26/68

SAC, DALLAS (44-2649)(P)

MURKIN

OO - MEMPHIS

Re Chicago airtel to Memphis dated 6/11/68; Bureau teletype to Dallas dated 6/14/68, and Dallas airtel to Bureau dated 6/18/68, all relating to possible involvement of GENE BASS in conspiracy to kill MARTIN LUTHER KING.

On 7/3/68, LLOYD GENE BASS was interviewed by SA WILLIAM B. HOLLOWAY at Dallas, Texas. BASS denied knowing any present or former inmate of the Washington State Penitentiary. He stated he certainly did not give anyone any amount of money to have MARTIN LUTHER KING killed. He said he has been almost destitute himself for many months and has had to resort to writing bad checks and petty thefts to sustain himself. He denied that he has any knowledge of any conspiracy to kill KING or has ever made any statement to anyone concerning having KING killed. He stated he does not own any meat packing company but has worked as a meat cutter and delivery man for meat packers in the Dallas area. He is presently employed as a meat cutter for Acers Meat Company, 1737 Levy Street, Dallas, and resides at 3320, Marvin D. Love Freeway, Apt. 109, Dallas.

FD-302, nine copies, setting forth results of interview of BASS are enclosed herewith for Memphis.

UACB, no further investigation re BASS being conducted.

2 - Bureau  
2 - Memphis (44-1987)(Enc. 9)  
1 - Chicago (44-1114)(Info)  
1 - Seattle (44-371)(Info)  
2 - Dallas  
WBH:tk  
(8)

44-1114-694

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUL 30 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	
STRATTON	

INFO



F B I

Date: 7/29/68

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

SAC  
 ASAC  
 CC  
 ASST CC  
 STENO SOP  
 C-#1  
 C-#2  
 C-#3  
 C-#4  
 C-#5  
 C-#6  
 C-#7  
 S-#1  
 S-#2  
 S-#3  
 S-#4  
 S-#5

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) (PP. 1)

MURKIN.

RE SI TEL TO BUREAU JULY TWENTYSIX, LAST.

CONTACT WITH REMAINING HOTELS AND MOTELS, GREATER ALTON  
 AREA AND DISPLAY OF PHOTOGRAPH JAMES EARL RAY UNPRODUCTIVE.

SI SIXTEEN FOURTEEN - C REPORTS NO NEW INFORMATION  
 DEVELOPED.

MAIL COPIES SENT CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS. P.

- 1 - Springfield (44-561)
- ① - Chicago(44-1114) (AM)
- 1 - Memphis (44-1987)(AM)
- 1 - St. Louis (44-775) (AM)

RCH:mpb  
 (4)

44-1114-695

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 31 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	

*alt BR*

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

F B I

Date: 7/16/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

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TO: ALL SACs

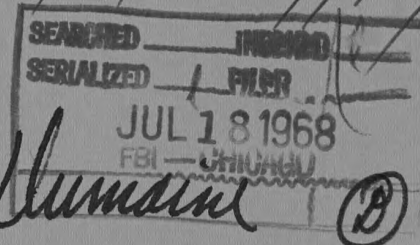
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel to Memphis, 7/9/68.

The Bureau has requested that all divisions continue to submit monthly cost data until further notice.

In view of the above, all divisions are requested to comply with the Bureau's instructions, including offices who have negative cost data to report.



2 - ALL OFFICES

2 - Memphis

RFB:jap

(4)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

M

Per \_\_\_\_\_



F B I

Date: July 29, 1968

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via Airtel \_\_\_\_\_

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TO: SAC, Chicago  
 Indianapolis  
 St. Louis  
 Springfield  
 Memphis

FROM: Director, FBI

MURKIN

Reference Springfield airtel to the Bureau dated 7/18/68.

Eighteen-hundred copies of the circular letter are being mailed to the Chicago and Indianapolis Offices under separate cover and 700 copies of the circular letter are being mailed under separate cover to the St. Louis Division for distribution to laundry and dry cleaning establishments as per instructions contained in referenced communication.

Fifty copies of the circular letter are being mailed to the Springfield and Memphis Divisions under separate cover for action deemed appropriate by these divisions.

ASAC  
 LEAD  
 CIRCULAR LETTER  
 LAUNDRY + DRY CLEANING

44-1114-697

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUL 31 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	
WILMES JHW	

Sent Via \_\_\_\_\_

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Per \_\_\_\_\_

F B I

Date: 7/30/68

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

Via TELETYPE URGENT  
 (Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
 FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

MURKIN

RE SI TEL TO BUREAU JULY TWENTYNINE LAST.

SI ONE SIX ONE FOUR DASH C TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED  
 THAT AS RESULT OF TRIP TO NORTHERN ILLINOIS, HE DEVELOPED  
 INFORMATION CONCERNING ONE BENNIE BUSHYHEAD, AN AMERICAN  
 INDIAN FROM OKLAHOMA CITY, WHO ALLEGEDLY WAS FRIEND OF  
 JAMES EARL RAY AND MAY HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH RAY IN  
 MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY.

INFORMANT WILL BE INTERVIEWED IN DEPTH TO DETERMINE  
 RESULTS OF INQUIRY SINCE LAST CONTACT AND RESULTS REPORTED  
 TO BUREAU.

MAIL COPIES TO CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS.

1 - Springfield (44-561)  
 ① - Chicago (44-1114) (AM)  
 1 - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)  
 1 - St. Louis (44-775) (AM)  
 RCH/ssj  
 (4)

44-1114-698

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
AUG 1 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	

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



F B I

Date: 7/31/68

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

Via TELETYPE URGENT  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) (PP. 1)

MURKIN.

RE SITEL TO BUREAU JULY THIRTY, LAST.

CONTACT WITH MARION VANFOSSEN AND HOWARD SHELTON, STATE PAROLE AND PROBATION OFFICERS, MADE WITH VIEW TO DEVELOPING INFORMATION FROM PAROLEES AND PROBATIONERS WHO COULD FEASIBLY HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF JAMES EARL RAY AND/OR ROBBERY OF THE BANK OF ALTON.

CAPTAIN EBERT GRIMES, EAST ALTON PD, ADVISED HE RECEIVED INFORMATION FROM INFORMANT THAT RAY DEFINITELY NOT INVOLVED IN BR AT ALTON; THAT BR COMMITTED BY ROBERT L. STANTON AND JACKIE LEE CRIDER; THAT STANTON KILLED CRIDER IN DISPUTE OVER SPENDING LOOT. FOR INFORMATION OF BUREAU, STANTON SHOT AND KILLED CRIDER IN JUNE, LAST. LATTER INFORMATION BEING FOLLOWED CLOSELY AND BUREAU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED OF RESULTS.

MAIL COPIES TO CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS, P.

1 - Springfield (44-561)  
1 - Chicago (44-1114) (AM)  
1 - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)  
1 - St. Louis (44-775) (AM)  
RCH:mpb  
(4)

44-1114-699

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 1 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	

ALTON BR

Wilmes

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

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8-1-68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

(P 1 )

MURKIN.

RE SPRINGFIELD TELETYPE TO BUREAU JULY THIRTYONE LAST.

ROBERT L. STANTON INTERVIEWED MADISON COUNTY JAIL,  
EDWARDSVILLE, ILLINOIS; DENIES COMPLICITY IN BANK ROBBERY  
AT THE BANK OF ALTON.

STANTON' MEETS PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION UNSUB NUMBER ONE  
IN ABOVE BANK ROBBERY; HAS HISTORY OF USING AUTOMATIC PISTOL  
SIMILAR TO THAT USED BY UNSUB NUMBER ONE AND EMPLOYED PART  
TIME FOR CAB COMPANY WHICH HAS STAND DIRECTLY ACROSS STREET  
FROM BANK.

STANTON REPORTED INVESTED HEAVILY IN NEW CABS SHORTLY  
AFTER BANK ROBBERY.

ALL OF ABOVE BEING FOLLOWED CLOSELY TO VERIFY AND STANTON  
WILL BE REINTERVIEWED.

MAIL COPIES TO CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS. P.

1 - Springfield (44-561)  
① - Chicago (44-1114) (AM)  
1 - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)  
1 - St. Louis (44-775) (AM)  
RCH:ras  
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44-1114-700

ALTON BR

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 2 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	



8/1/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)  
FROM: <sup>(B)</sup>SAC, CHICAGO (44-1114)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN - COST DATA

Re Chicago airtel to Memphis dated 7/5/68.

The following information, compiled or estimated through 6/30/68, reflects costs incurred by Chicago Office on MURKIN:

1. TOTAL MAN HOURS

A. SPECIAL AGENTS

Regular Hours - 68  
Overtime Hours - 2  
Total Man Hours - 70

B. CLERICAL EMPLOYEES

Regular Hours - 25

2. TOTAL MILEAGE TRAVELED BY BUREAU CARS ON THIS CASE

60

2 - Memphis (AMSD)  
<sup>(3)</sup> - Chicago

RJD:MJD

(5) <sup>MJD</sup>

(1 - ASAC, Tickler)  
(1 - SAC, Tickler)

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
FILED

44-1114-701

CG 44-1114

3. OUT OF ORDINARY COSTS

A. COST OF COMMUNICATIONS \$ 9.00

B. REPRODUCTIONS

50 Xerox copies @ 8¢ each	4.00
450 Itek at 3¢ each	13.50

TOTAL OUT OF ORDINARY EXPENSES \$26.50

4. PEAK NUMBER OF SPECIAL AGENTS  
WORKING ON CASE DURING MONTH

3



F B I

Date: 8/1/68

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

AIRTEL

Via \_\_\_\_\_  
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TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

MURKIN

Re Kansas City letter to the Bureau 7/24/68 and  
 Atlanta teletype to the Bureau, Interview in County Jail,  
 Dalton, Georgia, 7/3/68.

Enclosed herewith for Chicago is one copy of  
 each referenced communication.

For the additional information of Chicago, it has  
 been determined the houseboat capable of travel on the  
 Mississippi River was at one time owned by one CHARLES  
 WILLIE, now deceased, a well-respected and wealthy planta-  
 tion owner of Wabbaseka, Arkansas. One A. D. CARTWRIGHT,  
 JR., owner of the Cartwright Nursery Company, Collierville,  
 Tennessee, obtained possession of the houseboat in February,  
 1966. The results of interview with CARTWRIGHT are not  
 known to Jackson.

3 - Bureau (RM)  
 ② - Chicago (Enc. 2) (RM)  
 1 - Memphis (44-1987) (Info) (RM)  
 2 - Jackson  
 JGW:mif  
 (8)

44-1114-702

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SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 2 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	

BENIGNI

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

JN 157-9586

The following lead will be given expeditious attention, UACB:

LEAD:

*Benign*  
CHICAGO

AT ILLINOIS STATE PENITENTIARY. Will, if JAMES ROBERT WILLETT is still incarcerated at Illinois State Penitentiary, determine if he is the individual referred to by RAYMOND CURTIS as "Mississippi," and will thereafter conduct exhaustive interview concerning the allegations made by RAYMOND CURTIS. P7

Will furnish results of the interview to the Bureau by report or LHM.

If WILLETT is no longer incarcerated at the Illinois State Penitentiary, will set out such leads as are necessary to locate and interview him, as above.

UACB, interview of DONALD ROY WILLETT and MILTON LAWRENCE WILLETT, the other inmates of the Missouri State Penitentiary by the name of WILLETT, who were incarcerated subsequent to 1960, will not be conducted, as no information was contained in the Missouri State Penitentiary Records indicating that these individuals have ever resided in, or had contacts in, the state of Mississippi.



DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

7/24/68

SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) -P-

MURKIN

Re Jackson airtel to Director, 7/11/68.

On 7/22/68, U. S. Commissioner W. C. SHELEY, Jefferson City, Missouri, advised SA ROWEN B. AYERS he had dismissed the complaint on JAMES EARL RAY on that date.

The following investigation was conducted by IC WILLIAM C. MC DONALD:

At Jefferson City, Missouri:

On 7/18/68, Mr. HARRY LAUF, Records Officer, Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP), furnished the following information on inmates with the last name of WILLETT received at the MSP subsequent to 1960:

DONALD ROY WILLETT was received at the MSP 6/11/63, from St. Louis City to serve a 3 1/2 year sentence on charge of Burglary 2nd Degree and one prior. He was assigned MSP # 06915. This inmate was released to a detainer in favor of Sheriff, St. Charles County, Mo. on 3/1/65. Relatives listed are:

Brother

Mr. ALVIN WILLETT, 4212 Iowa St. Louis, Missouri;

Sister

CATHERINE MILTON, 2345 W. 23rd, Chicago, Illinois;

Sister

VIRGINIA O'NEAL, 1708 Doris, Cahokia, Illinois;

Sister

BETTY KALK, 2111 Huntington, St. Louis, Missouri;

Sister

EILEEN OHLENDORF, 3859A Wyoming, St. Louis, Missouri;

Sister

MARY ELLEN WILLETT, 4621 Oregon, St. Louis, Missouri;

2 - Bureau (RM)

② - Jackson (157-9586)(RM)

2 - Memphis (RM)

2 - Kansas City

WCM:nks

(8)

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BENIGNI

KC 44-760

Father

H. WILLETT, 4621 Oregon, St.  
Louis, Missouri;

Mother

LORRAINE WILLETT, same address.

He is described as a WM, born [redacted] at St. Louis, Missouri, height 5'8", weight 142, hair brown, eyes gray, build slender, complexion medium, Social Security No. [redacted], FBI #852 311 C, tattoo of a needle inner right forearm.

~~JAMES WILLETT (aka JAMES ROBERT WILLETT)~~, aka BILL WILLETT, was held at the MSP 11/11/63, to serve a two year sentence on charge of escape, in Cole County, Mo. He had previously been received at the MSP, 12/1/60, from Dunklin County to serve a four year sentence on charge of Forgery. He was assigned MSP #01787. Records reflect WILLETT escaped from the Church Farm, MSP 1/13/62. He was apprehended and returned to the MSP, 1/15/62, to complete the original sentence.

This file reflects BILL WILLETT served a two year sentence in the Mississippi State Penitentiary in 1956.

The following information was obtained from an inter-office communication dated 9/10/62, to Director of Classification, MSP, from LEROY H. ROOK, M.S. Clinical Psychologist:

"In response to your IOC of September 6, 1962, the above named inmate was called to the psychiatric service on September 10, 1962 for interview and evaluation. The subject has just completed a three months tour on E-3 for becoming insolent and abusive to Lt. Williams. The subject has a history on the psychiatric service of being hospitalized from June 26, 1962 to July 5, 1962 on account of self-inflicted wounds and being in an emotionally disturbed state. He was again admitted on August 13, 1962 until August 15, 1962 for self-inflicted wounds and a highly nervous state. At that time he was demanding help but the nature of the help he expected was never made clear.



KC 44-760

"The subject is an emotionally unstable individual. He is of average intellectual endowment, it seems, but he is ignorant, untutored, and uneducated. He is the sort of restless kind of individual who cannot bring himself to concentrate long enough to study in school. He was assigned to school when he first came here, but he got out of that because he was unable to concentrate on his work. Since that time he says he's never had a job. At the present time he states that he would take any job, but that he would like especially to work in the chair shop because he has had some experience on the outside working for his carpenter father-in-law as a carpenter's helper on inside cabinet work.

"When interviewed on this date the subject was in about as good a condition as we expect to ever see him in. It is recommended that he be assigned to work commensurate with his abilities and according to what is available."

The following was taken from Pre-Parole Progress Report dated November 8, 1961 by CLYDE CARRIOTT:

"Conduct: One conduct violation reported for creating a disturbance, refusing orders, and writing obscenities on a test paper. For this he had his Yard and Show privileges denied for one month. He was reprimanded and released for Tatooing.

"Work: 12-29-60, Assigned to School. Work and training reports rate subject variously as good, poor, and fair. One report shows him to be considerate. The third report shows him as shirking his work, not doing what he was expected to do. His last report rates him good and states that he did average work. Subject states that he was not interested in school and therefore did not complete requirements for grade school.  
8-4-61, Assigned to state at his request.

"Helath: Normal.

"Military: None.

KC 44-760

"Marital: Subject states that he was married in July, 1958, and has been separated from his wife but no divorce has been obtained. His wife is now eighteen, and was only fourteen years of age at the time of their marriage. One boy was born to this union. the baby is now with the wife's mother. The wife is working and the mother is caring for the child. The wife is also staying with the mother.

#### "FAMILY AND PERSONAL RELATIONS

"Subject states that he corresponds every week with his mother, Bertha Willet, and occasionally with his sister, Lois Boyd. He writes frequently to his wife, Elizabeth, and claims to have received no visits. Subject was reared in poor financial circumstances in Mississippi and Missouri. His father died in 1939 and had worked as a farmer.

"Subject was one of six children. He states that he lived alternately with his family in Mississippi and his half-brother, Frank, in Kennett, Missouri. His brother Paul is a farmer in Mississippi. His brother Charles, who had been a farmer in Kennett, Missouri, died in 1957. His half-brother, Frank Smithy, is a farmer in Kennett, Missouri, and his half-brother, David, is said to be Chief-of-police of a town in Ohio. None of the subject's family is said to have been in difficulty with the authorities. Subject claims he got along well with all members of his family, however, he apparently lived a rather unsupervised life, living at times with various members of his family.

#### "POST-RELEASE PLANS

Subject has no desire to return to Kennett, Missouri, because of his trouble with the authorities. He is interested in obtaining work through the Dismas Clark Foundation. He would live with his wife if she would return to him, but he does not expect her to leave her mother in Kennett.



KC 44-760

"SUMMARY

"James Willett, a twenty-six year old inmate, will have served one year of a four year sentence for Uttering. Subject admits having served a sentence in Mississippi State Prison. However, no verified information has been received concerning this, and FBI record does not show any previous record.

"Subject states that he was released from Mississippi State Prison in May, 1958. He married a fourteen year old girl and lived in Kennett, Missouri. He states that he had considerable difficulty with his in-laws and that custody of his son had been given to his wife's mother. He stated that he had been arrested for disturbing the peace because his mother-in-law did not let him see his son and he had forced his way into the home. Because of his difficulty he forged a check in order to have money-to leave town.

"Subject apparently has lived a rather unstable and unsettled life and has been rather careless and irresponsible. It is not evident that he has had any change of attitude in this regard. He sees little value in education and has little ambition. Institutionally his record has been marginal, however, it would not prohibit further parole consideration."

Records reflect WILLETT was discharged from the MSP 3/14/65.

A letter in WILLETT's file indicated that he was incarcerated in the Illinois State Penitentiary on 5/2/67.

WILLETT is described as a WM, born [redacted], at Huntsville, Alabama, height 5'9", weight 135, hair brown, eyes brown, build slender, complexion medium, occupation farmer, Social Security No. [redacted] FBI # 692 571 E, tattoos - snake outer right forearm; eagle center of chest; numerous other tattoos on both arms.

KC 44-760

Relatives listed are:

Mother	BERTHA WILLETT, Route 1, Box 64, Marks, Mississippi or 436 Singapore, Carpentersville, Illinois;
Wife	ELIZABETH WILLETT, 912 Anthony St., Kennett, Missouri;
Sister	MARGARET RATCLIFF, Elygen, Ill.;
Sister	LOIS BOYD, Route 1, Box 64, Marks, Mississippi
Brother	FRANK WILLETT, General Delivery, Dearing, Missouri.

MILTON LAWRENCE WILLETT, MSP # 09993, was received from Jackson County, Mo., to serve a two year sentence on charge of Forgery. He was paroled to Kansas on 2/23/65, and given a final discharge on 11/28/65.

He is described as a WM, born [REDACTED], at Osborne, Kansas, height 5'6", weight 114, hair brown, eyes hazel, build small, complexion medium, occupation clerical, FBI # 146 931 B.

His wife is listed as MARY K. WILLETT, 607 West 34th Street, Kansas City, Missouri.

There is no indication that this individual was ever in Mississippi.



FBI JKSN MISS

932 PM 8P URGENT 7/3/68 ELS

TO DIRECTOR AND JACKSON

FROM ATLANTA 44-2386

MURKIN

RE BUREAU TELEPHONE CALL TO ATLANTA JULY TWO LAST.

RAYMOND CURTIS WAS INTERVIEWED AT WHITFIELD CO. JAIL, DALTON, GA., JULY THREE INSTANT BY SAS THOMAS R. HENRY, JR., AND ALBERT D. MILLARD. CURTIS IS CURRENTLY CONFINED WHITFIELD CO. JAIL AWAITING APPEAL ON LIFE SENTENCE FOR MURDER. CURTIS WAS ADVISED OF THE IDENTITY OF THE INTERVIEWING AGENTS THROUGH DISPLAY OF CREDENTIALS. HE WAS FURNISHED A RIGHTS AND WAIVER OF RIGHTS FORM WHICH HE READ, INDICATED HE UNDERSTOOD, AND REFUSED TO SIGN. HE ADVISED HE KNEW HE WAS BEING INTERVIEWED CONCERNING STATEMENTS HE MADE IN A LETTER HE HAD MAILED TO MR. SANDERS OF EBONY MAGAZINE. CURTIS STATED HE WAS MERELY TRYING TO SELL A STORY TO EBONY FOR APPROXIMATELY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS TO HELP HIS MOTHER PAY OFF A MORTGAGE ON HER HOME, WHICH SHE MORTGAGED TO OBTAIN ATTORNEY FEES FOR HIS DEFENSE. AT FIRST HE STATED, WITH REFERENCE TO THESE STATEMENTS, THAT HE AND JAMES EARL RAY PULLED A CRIME IN FIFTYFOUR, WHICH WAS A BURGLARY IN JOLIET, ILL., IN OCT, OR NOV., FIFTYFOUR. AT THIS POINT IT WAS POINTED OUT TO CURTIS THAT CERTAIN

END PAGE ONE

44-1114-702 B

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PAGE TWO

STATEMENTS MADE BY HIM IN HIS LETTER TO EBONY COULD POSSIBLY INVOLVE HIM IN A CONSPIRACY WITH RAY CONCERNING THE KILLING OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CURTIS CATAGORICALLY DENIED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS WHICH WERE IN HIS LETTER TO EBONY MAGAZINE:

1. THAT HE AND JAMES EARL RAY PULLED A CRIME IN FIFTYFOUR.
2. THAT RAY WANTED THE JOB OF KILLING KING.
3. THAT HE AND RAY TALKED ABOUT KILLING KING FOR THREE YEARS.
4. THAT THEY TALKED TO THE MAN FROM MISSISSIPPI THAT KNEW ALL ABOUT THE KK BUSINESSMANS ASSOCIATION THAT WAS TO PUT UP THE MONEY TO KILL KING.
5. THAT HE KNEW THE MEN FROM MISSISSIPPI.
6. FOR THREE YEARS, THAT HE AND RAY MADE MAPS JUST TO FIND THE RIGHT PLACE TO KILL KING AND THAT HE HAD MADE THE MAPS OVER HIMSELF.
7. HE AND RAY KNEW JUST WHERE THEY WOULD GO AFTER THE KILLING OF KING.
8. THAT HE WAS TO BE IN ON THE KILLING OF KING.



PAGE THREE

9. THAT THERE ARE MEN IN FIVE STATES THAT ARE BEHIND THE KING KILLING AND THAT DO NOT KNOW WHAT HE KNOWS.

DURING THE INTERVIEW, CURTIS DREW CRUDE MAPS SETTING OUT HOW HE THOUGHT RAY WOULD STALK KING. THIS MAP SHOWED THE FOLLOWING TOWNS WHERE HE SAID KING MADE MOST OF HIS SPEECHES: ATLANTA, LITTLE ROCK, BIRMINGHAM, MOBILE, SELMA, JACKSON, VICKSBURG, MISS., AND MARKS, MISS. HE FURTHER POINTED OUT THERE WAS A MAN LIVING ON A HOUSEBOAT IN VICKSBURG ON THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER (WHOSE FIRST NAME HE KNEW BUT WOULD NOT DIVULGE). THIS MAN WAS TO TAKE RAY DOWN THE RIVER ON HIS BOAT TO NEW ORLEANS AFTER THE KILLING. HE STATED IN THE PAST HE (CURTIS) HAD PULLED SEVERAL BURGLARY AND ARMED ROBBERIES (HE WOULD NOT COMMENT ON PARTICULARS) IN TOWNS ALONG THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND WHILE POLICE WERE LOOKING FOR HIM ON THE HIGHWAY HE WOULD BE ON A BOAT DOWN THE MISSISSIPPI. HE FURTHER STATED HE HAD WRITTEN A STORY CONCERNING THE KING KILLING WHICH WAS CURRENTLY OUT BEING TYPED AND IT WAS THE STORY HE MENTIONED IN THE LETTER TO EBONY AND INTENDED TO SELL TO EBONY.

END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

SHERIFF G. T. MAULDIN, NA, WHO IS SHERIFF OF WHITFIELD CO., GA., AND OPERATES THE COUNTY JAIL, ADVISED CURTIS HAD SENT NO LETTERS OR COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JAIL WHICH WENT OVER THE JAILERS DESK. HE SAID CURTIS WOULD PROBABLY SEND ALL MAIL OUT WITH VISITORS AND JAIL TRUSTEES AND WOULD PROBABLY NOT HAVE BEEN OBSERVED BY MEN OF HIS DEPT. IT IS FURTHER POINTED OUT THAT CURTIS' ATTORNEY, ERWIN MITCHELL, FORMER U.S. CONGRESSMAN FOR THE SEVENTH DISTRICT OF GA., IS OF THE OPINION THAT MOST OF CURTIS' COMMENTS CONCERNING HIS KNOWLEDGE OF RAY'S ASSASSINATION OF KING ARE PURE FABRICATIONS ON THE PART OF CURTIS OR AS A RESULT OF SOMETHING CURTIS HAS READ IN LOCAL PAPERS.

APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE INTERVIEW WITH CURTIS, HE SENT A NOTE TO SHERIFF G. T. MAULDIN REQUESTING TO AGAIN SEE AN FBI AGENT, THAT HE NOW WANTED TO TELL THE ENTIRE TRUTH. CURTIS WAS AGAIN INTERVIEWED BY SA THOMAS R. HENRY, JR., AND AGAIN FURNISHED A RIGHTS FORM WHICH HE REFUSED TO SIGN. HE THEN STATED THAT APPARENTLY IN HIS LETTER TO EBONY HE USED THE WORK "WE" INDICATING THAT HE AND JAMES EARL RAY HAD PLANNED THE KING MURDER WHICH WOULD INVOLVE HIM IN A CONSYRACY AND FOR



PAGE FIVE

THAT REASON HE DENIED THE STATEMENTS IN LETTER TO EBONY. HE THEN ADVISED HE HAD WRITTEN A STORY WHICH HE INTENDED TO SELL TO SOME MAGAZINE FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING MONEY FOR HIS MOTHER WHICH STORY WAS STILL IN HIS POSSESSION AND WHICH HE HAD NOT YET SENT OUT TO BE TYPED. HE ALLOWED SA HENRY TO READ THIS APPROXIMATELY TWENTY PAGE STORY, HANDWRITTEN, ONE PAGE AT A TIME. HE DECLARED THIS STORY WAS TRUE. THE FIRST FIVE OR SIX PAGES OF THIS STORY MERELY SET OUT HIS EARLY LIFE IN CRIME AND THE PRISON SENTENCES HE HAD SERVED AS A RESULT OF THESE CRIMES FROM THE AGE OF FIFTEEN. THE REMAINDER OF THE STORY IS THE SAME AS WAS SET FORTH IN THE ORIGINAL INTERVIEW WITH CURTIS IN APRIL, SIXTYEIGHT CONCERNING HIS KNOWLEDGE AND ASSOCIATION WITH RAY. THIS STORY DOES REFLECT THAT HE FIRST BECAME ASSOCIATED WITH RAY IN FIFTYFOUR WHEN THEY PULLED A PAYROLL HEIST IN QUINCY, ILL., WITH A THIRD INDIVIDUAL. SHORTLY THEREAFTER, HE LOST CONTACT WITH RAY WHEN HE AND THIS THIRD INDIVIDUAL WERE CAUGHT IN A FIFTY-SIX THOUSAND DOLLAR BANK ROBBERY AT SOUTHWEST CITY, MO. AFTER THAT HE AGAIN BECAME ACQUAINTED WITH RAY IN PRISON AND WHILE IN PRISON THEY BOTH LEARNED OF THE DEATH OF

END PAGE FIVE

PAGE SIX

PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY. RAY THEN STATED IT SOUNDED LIKE A BIG JOB AND HE WAS ALWAYS ON THE INSIDE OR A PRISON WHEN BIG JOBS AND BIG MONEY WERE TO BE HAD.

SHORTLY AFTER THE DEATH OF JOHN F. KENNEDY, MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR ., BECAME PROMINENT AND RAY STATED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS THAT SOMEBODY WAS GOING TO KILL KING. THE STORY WENT ON TO REFLECT THAT DURING THIS PERIOD AN INDIVIDUAL CAME INTO THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY AT JEFFERSON CITY FROM VICKSBURG, MISS., AND WHO, UPON LEARNING OF JAMES EARL RAY'S FEELINGS TOWARD KILLING KING, ADVISED HIM OF THE KK BUSINESSMEN ASSOCIATION OF THE SOUTH AND OF THE FACT THAT PEOPLE IN FIVE STATES WERE PUTTING UP MONEY FOR KING'S ASSASSINATION. THE STORY FURTHER POINTED OUT THAT RAY INFORMED HIM THAT HE INTENDED TO HAVE EVERYTHING SET WHEN HE KILLED KING AND THAT RAY, THROUGH MAPS, LEARNED OF KING'S MOVEMENTS SO HE COULD LATER STALK HIM TO THE POINT OF ASSASSINATION. THE STORY FURTHER POINTED OUT THAT RAY ADVISED HE WOULD LEAVE A FALSE GUN AND FALSE TRAIL IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE MURDER. RAY WAS SUPPOSED TO

END PAGE SIX



PAGE SEVEN

GO TO VICKSBURG FOLLOWING THE MURDER, CONTACT THE MAN FROM VICKSBURG, MISS., WHO HAD THE HOUSEBOAT, AND THIS MAN WAS TO TAKE HIM EITHER TO NEW ORLEANS OR CANADA VIA THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE INTERVIEW, CURTIS STATED HE WOULDNOT TESTIFY TO ANY OF THE ABOVE. HE DID ADVISE IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE THAT THE NAME OF THE INDIVIDUAL ON THE HOUSEBOAT IN VICKSBURG, MISS., WAS (FNU) WILLETT, ALSO KNOWN AS MISSISSIPPI WHO SERVED TIME IN THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY.

THE STORY ALSO MENTIONED A MAN FROM NEW ORLEANS WHO COULD OBTAIN ANY KIND OF IDENTIFICATION AND CURTIS LATER IDENTIFIED THIS MAN AS JOE COIN, WHICH INFORMATION HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN SET OUT IN AN INTERVIEW WITH CURTIS. THROUGHOUT THE INTERVIEW WITH CURTIS, AND WHILE READING CURTIS' STORY, HE CONTINUED TO EMPHASIZE THE FACT THAT HE WOULD NOT TESTIFY AGAINST RAY AS HE FEARED FOR HIS LIFE. HE INDICATED THAT ANY STATE PRISON HE WAS SENT TO WOULD PROBABLY HAVE INDIVIDUALS WHO WOULD KILL HIM AS A RESULT OF PREVIOUS INFORMATION HE FURNISHED THE PRESS AND TV MEDIA AND IT IS FELT HE WAS USING THIS AS AN EXCUSE AS TO WHY HE

END PAGE SEVEN

PAGE EIGHT

DID NOT WANT TO BE SENT TO A STATE PRISON ON HIS CURRENT LIFE SENTENCE. HE STATED HE WOULD NOT ALLOW HIS STORY TO BE XEROXED NOR WOULD HE WRITE IT OVER AGAIN OR ALLOW THE PAGES TO LEAVE HIS CELL. HE DID STATE HE WOULD TRANSCRIBE HIS STORY OVER A DICTATING MACHINE AND WOULD REDRAW CERTAIN MAPS HE PRODUCED FOR HIS STORY.

HE THEN PRESENTED CRUDE SKETCHES OF THE FED. PENITENTIARY AT LEVENWORTH, THE MISSOURI STATE PEN, IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE MENTIONED MAP CONCERNING THE TOWNS WHERE KING MADE NUMEROUS SPEECHES.

UACB, CURTIS WILL BE ALLOWED TO DICTATE HIS STORY ON A DICTATING MACHINE IN THE PRESENCE OF SA THOMAS R. HENRY, JR.

DUE TO THE UNRELIABILITY OF CURTIS, NO LEAD FOR AN EXTENSIVE INVESTIGATION IS BEING SET FORTH FOR JACKSON IN CONNECTION WITH IDENTIFYING (FNU) WILLETT, AKA MISSISSIPPI UACB.

END

JWD

FBI JKSN MISS

PT



F B I

Date: 8/2/68

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

Via TELETYPE URGENT  
 (Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
 FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) (2 PP)

MURKIN.

RE SPRINGFIELD TELETYPE TO BUREAU DATED AUGUST ONE,  
 LAST.

SI SIXTEEN FOURTEEN DASH C ADVISED TODAY HE HAS  
 DEVELOPED INFORMATION THAT ON THE MORNING OF ROBBERY THE  
 BANK OF ALTON HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON, DELMER GRINDSTAFF,  
 AND JOHN MC CLINTOCK WERE IN STOLEN NINETEEN FIFTY-THREE  
 BUICK WHITE OVER BLUE TWO-DOOR; THAT COVINGTON WAS WEARING  
 DARK BLUE WINDBREAKER, JACKET, AND GLOVES, GRINDSTAFF WAS  
 WEARING LIGHT BLUE AIR FORCE TYPE COVERALLS. CLOTHING  
 DESCRIBED BY INFORMANT POSSIBLY IDENTICAL TO THAT UTILIZED  
 TO UNSUBS INSTANT BR. INFORMANT FOLLOWING INFORMATION  
 CLOSELY TO DETERMINE ACTIVITIES OF COVINGTON, GRINDSTAFF,  
 AND MC CLINTOCK DURING DAY OF ROBBERY AND UNTIL COVINGTON  
 AND MC CLINTOCK LEFT ALTON FOR CALIFORNIA SHORTLY AFTER BR.

INFORMANT FURNISHED NAMES OF BILL DIXON AND GEORGE GOFF  
 AS PERSONS WHO POSSIBLY HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING ACTIVITIES

1 - Springfield (44-561) 1 - Memphis (44-1987) RCH:skr  
 ① - Chicago (44-1114) 1 - St. Louis (44-775) (4)

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

~~ALTON~~ BR

44-1114-703

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F B I

Date:

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(Priority)

PAGE TWO

OF ABOVE LISTED SUSPECTS AND WHO MIGHT BE WILLING TO TALK.

INFORMATION FURNISHED BY INFORMANT BEING FOLLOWED  
CLOSELY AND PERSONS NAMED WILL BE LOCATED AND INTERVIEWED.

MAIL COPIES TO CHICAGO, MEMPHIS, AND ST. LOUIS. P.

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

F B I

Date: 8/5/68

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 (Type in plaintext or code)

Via TELETYPE URGENT  
 (Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
 FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) (1 P)

MURKIN.

RE SPRINGFIELD TELETYPE TO BUREAU DATED AUGUST TWO, LAST.  
 BACKGROUND DATA BEING DEVELOPED ON ALL NEW SUSPECTS  
 UNCOVERED DURING INTENSIVE INVESTIGATION OVER PAST SEVERAL  
 WEEKS. ON COMPLETION BACKGROUND DATA, ALL WILL BE INTENSIVELY  
 INTERVIEWED AND ALIBIES CHECKED OUT.

MAIL COPIES TO CHICAGO, MEMPHIS, AND ST. LOUIS. P.

1 - Springfield (44-561)  
 ① - Chicago (44-1114)(AM)  
 1 - Memphis (44-1987)(AM)  
 1 - St. Louis (44-775)(AM)  
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*ALTON BR*

44-1114-704

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8-6-68

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TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

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MURKIN.

RE SPRINGFIELD TELETYPE TO BUREAU AUGUST FIVE LAST.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON NEWLY DEVELOPED SUSPECTS  
CONTINUING.

PHYLLIS GRINDSTAFF, WIFE OF DELMAR GRINDSTAFF, ADVISED  
HER HUSBAND LEFT FOR CIVILIAN EMPLOYMENT IN VIET NAM AUGUST  
ONE LAST. STATES HE IS CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF JOHN MC CLINTOCK  
AND CLOSELY PARALLELS DESCRIPTION OF NUMBER ONE ROBBER AT  
BANK OF ALTON. STATES, HOWEVER, HE NEVER MENTIONED TAKING  
PART IN ANY BR NOR DID HE HAVE LARGE AMOUNTS OF CASE. STATES  
HE FREELY TALKED ABOUT BURGLARY ACTIVITIES.

MARION ANN FOSSEN AND HOWARD SHELTON, ILLINOIS STATE  
PAROLE OFFICERS REPORT NO POSITIVE RESULTS OF CONTACTS WITH  
PAROLEES AND PROBATIONERS. WILL REPORT FURTHER CONTACTS  
WHICH MAY DEVELOP.

MAIL COPIES CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS. P.

1 - Springfield (44-561)  
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FBI - ALTON  
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Date: 8/7/68

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TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
 FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) (2 PP)

MURKIN.

RE SPRINGFIELD TELETYPE TO BUREAU DATED AUGUST SIX,  
LAST.

SI SIXTEEN FOURTEEN DASH C ADVISED TODAY HE DEVELOPED INFORMATION CONCERNING PERPETRATION OF BANK ROBBERY, THE BANK OF ALTON, JULY THIRTEEN, NINETEEN SIXTY-SEVEN, THE RELIABILITY OF WHICH HE HAS BEEN UNABLE TO DETERMINE AT THIS TIME. INFORMATION INDICATES PERSONS ENTERING BANK WERE HAROLD RICHARD COVINGTON AND DELMAR GRINDSTAFF; THAT JOHN MC CLINTOCK WAS WHEEL MAN DRIVING STOLEN NINETEEN FIFTY-THREE BUICK; THAT UNSUBS ESCAPED THROUGH TEN FOOT HEDGE AT REAR OF BANK AND MET MC CLINTOCK ON BROWN STREET AFTER WHICH THEY ESCAPED VIA LITTLE USED ROADS TO VICINITY OF FOURTH AND BROADWAY, SWITCHING TO NINETEEN FIFTY-SEVEN PLYMOUTH. SUBJECTS LATER THAT NIGHT DISPOSED OF BUICK IN

1 - Springfield (44-561)  
 ① - Chicago (44-1114) (AM)  
 1 - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)  
 1 - St. Louis (44-775) (AM)  
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ALTON BR

44-1114-796

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FBI - CHICAGO	

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Special Agent in Charge



F B I

Date:

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(Priority)

PAGE TWO

STONE QUARRY, WEST ALTON, MISSOURI.

INFORMANT INDICATES BANK LOOT SPLIT FIVE WAYS BETWEEN  
ABOVE THREE SUBJECTS AND ROGER ALLEN, TAVERN OWNER, AND  
LEON KOHLER, SUSPECTED FENCE.

INFORMANT CONTINUING EFFORTS TO VERIFY COMPLICITY  
OF ABOVE LISTED SUBJECTS AND DETERMINE PERSONS WHO CAN  
VERIFY.

MAIL COPIES TO CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS. P.

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

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

8/8/68

SAC, CHICAGO (44-1114)

MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel to all offices and legats dated  
5/7/68.

This matter has been reviewed within the Chicago Division, and it appears that all pertinent information developed as a result of investigation has been furnished in report form to Memphis and the other interested offices. At this time, it does not appear that the amount of investigation within the Chicago Division warrants individual reports. Therefore, inserts are being prepared in the future in lieu of reports, UACB.

2 - Bureau  
1 - Memphis  
① - Chicago

RJD:js  
(4)

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8/8/68

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TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) - P -  
MURKIN

RE SPRINGFIELD TELETYPE TO BUREAU DATED AUGUST SEVEN LAST.  
SI ONE SIX ONE FOUR - C ADVISED TODAY HE HAS BEEN UNABLE  
TO FURTHER VERIFY INFORMATION SET FORTH IN REFERENCED TEL.  
HOWEVER, HE IS CONTINUING EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY PERSONS WHO COULD  
ASSIST IN VERIFICATION.

ROBERT L. STANTON REITERATED DENIAL HE WAS INVOLVED IN  
ROBBERY AT BANK OF ALTON, HOWEVER, HE STATED HE HAS SOME INFOR-  
MATION, WHICH HE FEELS MIGHT BE OF ASSISTANCE. HE STATES HE  
HAS TO "THINK IT OVER" BEFORE DIVULGING INFORMATION. STANTON  
WILL BE RECONTACTED AT AN EARLY DATE TO ELICITE FURTHER INFOR-  
MATION FROM HIM.

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ALTON BR

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PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR; FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN

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RE SPRINGFIELD TELETYPE TO BUREAU DATED AUGUST EIGHT,  
LAST.

SI ONE SIX ONE FOUR - C ADVISED HE IS ATTEMPTING TO  
CONTACT THREE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED ABLE TO PLACE HAROLD  
RICHARD COVINGTON, DELMAR GRINDSTAFF, AND JOHN MC CLINTOCK IN  
STOLEN FIFTYTHREE BUICK AND LATER IN FIFTYSEVEN PLYMOUTH ON  
DAY OF BR, THE BANK OF ALTON; FURTHER THEY CAN TESTIFY COVINGTON  
WEARING DARK BLUE WINDBREAKER AND GRINDSTAFF WEARING LIGHT BLUE  
COVERALLS.

PHYLIS GRINDSTAFF, WIFE OF DELMAR, STATES SHE CANNOT  
RECALL COVERALLS, NOR CAN SHE RECALL DELMAR'S ACTIVITIES ON DAY  
OF BR.

COPIES MAILED TO CHICAGO, MEMPHIS, AND ST. LOUIS. P.

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1-Memphis (44-1114)  
1-Chicago (44-1987)  
1-St. Louis (44-775)  
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ALTON BR

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