

U. S. Department of Justice

FEDERAL BUREAU
of
INVESTIGATION

Bureau File Number

44-38861

CLASSIFICATION NO.

44-565

Serials

Volume Number

386

4

See also Nos.

Walter SPI center

*Recd 5-20-69
Halterhoff 5-13-69*

*Re: Information of
Department of Justice (44-38861)*

*44-565 Vol. 4
Ser. 386-*

F B I

Date: May 10, 1968

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

To: All SACS
LEGATS, Mexico City
Ottawa

From: Director, FBI

MURKIN

For your information and investigative assistance, subject James Earl Ray took a bartending course in Los Angeles, California, during the early part of 1968, and prior to his departing Los Angeles, in March of 1968, he made several telephone calls to country clubs in an effort to obtain employment.

This should be borne in mind in covering leads in connection with this and other cases.

Armed and Dangerous.

44-565-386

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 15 1968	
FBI - CLEVELAND	

McCarroll

Sent Via _____

Per _____

F B I

Date: May 9, 1968

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

To: All SACS
LEGATS, Mexico City
Ottawa

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

OO: MEMPHIS (44-1987)

In order to cover the possibility that subject may have died since commission of the crime, the U. S. Census Bureau and Department of Health, Education and Welfare were contacted and they advised that no central records of unidentified deceased are maintained by those agencies. It was suggested that each state may maintain such a record in their Bureau of Vital Statistics or similar agency.

There is no known Federal law requiring the maintenance of such information; and it is possible that if any record of unidentified dead is maintained, it would only be maintained at local police departments, morgues, medical facilities, or the like.

Each office covering state capitals should check to ascertain if such records are maintained, and if so, should check records for the period from 4-5-68, to date, for any information which might possibly identify subject Ray with unidentified deceased person over that period.

If there is no central record repository maintained in the various states or nationally in the case of Mexico and Canada, you should, in connection with your contacts with law enforcement agencies on this case or other Bureau matters, make appropriate inquiries relative to

44-565-387

*Person letter to
Carm re
records of
Ray 5/11/68*

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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MAY 15 1968	
FBI - CLEVELAND	

Mc Carm

Sent Via _____

M Per _____

Airtel to All SACS and LEGATS, Mexico City and Ottawa
RE: MURKIN

unidentified dead for the period beginning 4-5-68; and if fingerprints on such dead are maintained, they should be compared with those on the Identification Order on Ray in order to effect identification or nonidentification. This should be handled in the normal course of business and only reasonable investigation should be pursued along these lines.

The Identification Division has placed an appropriate stop on unidentified deceased inquiries it may receive. If feasible, appropriate offices and Legats, Mexico City and Ottawa should place similar stops with appropriate state, local or national agencies in your territories.

Armed and Dangerous.

Routing Slip
0-7 (Rev. 9-25-67)

(Copies to Offices Checked)

TO: SAC,

☐ Albany
☐ Albuquerque
☐ Anchorage
☐ Atlanta
☐ Baltimore
☐ Birmingham
☐ Boston
☐ Buffalo
☐ Butte
☐ Charlotte
☐ Chicago
☐ Cincinnati
☒ Cleveland
☐ Columbia
☐ Dallas
☐ Denver
☐ Detroit
☐ El Paso
☐ Honolulu

☐ Houston
☐ Indianapolis
☐ Jackson
☐ Jacksonville
☐ Kansas City
☐ Knoxville
☐ Las Vegas
☐ Little Rock
☐ Los Angeles
☐ Louisville
☐ Memphis
☐ Miami
☐ Milwaukee
☐ Minneapolis
☐ Mobile
☐ Newark
☐ New Haven
☐ New Orleans
☐ New York City

☐ Norfolk
☐ Oklahoma City
☐ Omaha
☐ Philadelphia
☐ Phoenix
☐ Pittsburgh
☐ Portland
☐ Richmond
☐ Sacramento
☐ St. Louis
☐ Salt Lake City
☐ San Antonio
☐ San Diego
☐ San Francisco
☐ San Juan
☐ Savannah
☐ Seattle
☐ Springfield

☐ Tampa
☐ Washington Field
☐ Quantico

TO LEGAT:

☐ Bern
☐ Bonn
☐ Buenos Aires
☐ Hong Kong
☐ London
☐ Manila
☐ Mexico, D.F.
☐ Ottawa
☐ Paris
☐ Rome
☐ Santo Domingo
☐ Tokyo

Date May 13, 1968

RE:

MURKIN

☒ For information ☐ Retention optional ☐ For appropriate action ☐ Surep, by _____

☐ The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, ☐ conceal all sources, ☐ paraphrase contents.

☐ Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA _____ dated _____

Remarks:

Enclosed for assistance of each office in connection with any laundry checks being made are photographs of laundry marks placed on shirt and bed linen for James Earl Ray while using the name of Eric Starvo Galt in the Los Angeles area.

Enc. (4)
Bufile (44-38861)
Urfile

44-565-389

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 15 1968	
FBI - CLEVELAND	

McGowan
W/evld

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, Cleveland (137-2859)

DATE: 4/30/68

FROM : SA CHESTER L. SMITH JR.

☐ CI ☐ SI ☐ R (Prob)

☒ PCI ☐ PSI ☐ R

SUBJECT: LOUISE SIMONDS

☐

Dates of Contact 4/29/68		
Titles and File #s on which contacted 44-565 Murkin Numerous IO's General Criminal		
Purpose and results of contact <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE <input type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE <input type="checkbox"/> STATISTIC		
<input type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating Good	Coverage 42, 88, 92, 162, 165, 166, 168
1-137-2859		

44-565-389

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 30 1968	
FBI - CLEVELAND	

McCann

FBI

Date: 5/14/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, CLEVELAND (44-565) (P)
RE: MURKIN
OO: MEMPHIS

Re Mobile airtel to Bureau 5/9/68.

Alabama License 27-17864
Seen Alliance, Ohio 5/7/68

On 5/9/68, Mr. ROBERT T. CONROY, 815 Parkway Avenue, Alliance, Ohio, was contacted. CONROY indicated he had telephoned the FBI in Washington, after he had seen a man who resembled RAY, coming out of Turner's Drugstore, Alliance, Ohio. CONROY stated that he was downtown, driving in his own car when he observed this individual, who appeared to be, or at least resembled RAY. He stated he went around the block, came back and copied a license number after he observed this man enter an old green vehicle which he believed to be a Chrysler product. This license was copied down by himself and he then telephoned the FBI in Washington giving them the details as he recalled same. In regards to distance, CONROY said that he was on the opposite side of the street when this man left the drugstore and he again observed him after driving around the block from a distance of 30 or so feet, but did not get a good view, since the man was in the car. CONROY was not absolutely sure that this individual was RAY, however, indicated he wished to aide the FBI in any conceivable way possible, therefore, had immediately or soon thereafter telephoned Washington. CONROY had no additional information to add to the above facts or elaborate on the information furnished Washington.

3 - Bureau
2 - Memphis (44-1987)
1 - Mobile (157-2627)
2 - Savannah
2 - Cleveland

JEG:sls

(10)

Approved _____

Special Agent in Charge

Searched _____
Serialized _____

Sent _____ M Per _____

44-565-390

CV 44-565

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

LEADS

SAVANNAH

AT SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

In above referenced communication, Mobile advised that if investigation at Cleveland and Savannah does not result in the location of WALLACE GREATHOUSE it is suggested that attempts to trace him through the James H. Drews Shows by contact with the Billboard Magazine, Cincinnati, Ohio be set out.

Inasmuch as Cleveland was unable to obtain any additional information in this matter, in its interview with BOB CONROY, Savannah if unable to locate GREATHOUSE, will set out the lead to contact Billboard Magazine, Cincinnati, Ohio.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC CLEVELAND (157-3612) (P)

DATE: 5/14/68

FROM : SA DONALD E. MILLER

☐ CI ☐ SI ☐ R (Prob)

☒ PCI ☐ PSI ☐ R

SUBJECT: CLARA A. RYAN

Dates of Contact 4/25/68, 5/3/68		
Titles and File #s on which contacted		
UNSUB; SHERRY ANN PICETTI	31-5397	SA SCHWARTZ
WILLIAM JUNE MITCHELL	166-391	SA ANDERSON
ROBIN	NA-568	SA MC GINN
RICHARD CASTELLO	31-5394	SA MILLER
CRIMINAL CONDITIONS, CLEVELAND DIVISION 12-718		
RACIAL MATTERS, LIMA, OHIO NA 157-258		
Purpose and results of contact		
<input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE		
<input type="checkbox"/> STATISTIC		
UNSUB; SHERRY ANN PICETTI		
PCI was shown a photograph of the victim SHERRY ANN PICETTI and also of the subject LAURENCE and she stated she could not recall ever having seen these individuals in the Lima, Ohio area. She added she had never heard of any prostitute by the name of SHERRY PICETTI and had never heard of any pimp by the name of LAURENCE operating in this community.		
WILLIAM JUNE MITCHELL, ET AL		
PCI was shown a photograph of HELEN JACOBS and stated she could not recognize such a person. She stated she did not know of any prostitute by the name of HELEN JACOBS working in the Lima, Ohio area.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating SAME	Coverage SAME

1 - 65-3314

new lead

(8)

44-565-391
SEARCHED.....INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....FILED.....

MAY 14 1968

FBI - CLEVELAND

McGinn

CV 137-2812

MURKIN

On April 25, 1968, PCI was shown a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY, IO #4182 and advised she could not recognize this person and she stated she knew noone by this name and had never heard of anybody in the Lima area using the name ERIC STARVO GALT.

RICHARD COSTELLO

PCI advised that she had not seen RICHARD COSTELLO in the Lima, Ohio area and assumed that he was living and probably working at Key Largo, Florida. She advised that approximately three weeks ago LEONARD FAUROT described him as a wealthy man in the Lima, Ohio area had been in her bar, but that he had merely visited in Lima, Ohio and she believed he had returned to Key Largo, Florida. She stated that she knew that LEONARD FAUROT owned a bar or restaurant across from a spot operated by MICK GRISBY at Key Largo. PCI advised she had no information relative to the reported wife of COSTELLO, name "PEG" and she had no information that COSTELLO had transported PEG for immoral purposes or for the purposes of prostitution.

CRIMINAL CONDITIONS, CLEVELAND DIVISION

PCI advised that a young red-headed woman had patronized the bar about a week ago but had been put out by the police. She stated she did not know this person and that apparantly this girl had tried to pick up dates at the bar. She stated that she had no idea who this red head was and no idea where she was from.

PCI stated that as far as she knew, the regular local prostitutes hung around WILLIE WRIGHT's cafe or night club and also the Waldo Hotel. PCI stated that a reported boyfriend or son of EDDIE DODGE also known as EDDIE SEATON was supposed to have been involved in an armed robbery with EDDIE SEATON and this young person had lived at the Waldo Hotel. She advised that EDDIE SEATON had been arrested for armed robbery by the local police and was presently awaiting trial on a local armed robbery charge.

RACIAL MATTERS, LIMA, OHIO RA

PCI advised that she had not heard of any im-

CV 137-2812

pending violence from a racial standpoint. She advised that she did not have very much Negro trade and had had no trouble at her particular bar which is known as "The office bar". PCI advised she understood there had been a young group of Negroes involved in an organization called the Lima Youth Committee, but that she heard very little about it during the past weeks.

SAC, CINCINNATI

5/20/68

SAC, CLEVELAND (44-565)(P)

MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel, 5-9-68 to all SACs, legats,
etc.

Cincinnati is requested to advise the Cleveland
Office if their check of Columbus, Ohio records have
established information that death records on a state-
wide basis are maintained.

Cleveland holding in abeyance any local
checks in this matter until so advised.

2 - Cincinnati
2 - Cleveland

MPM:cmv

(4) *cmv*

See

Searched
Serialized
Indexed

44-565-392

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, CLEVELAND (44-565)

FROM : SA MARTIN P. MC CANN, JR.

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 5/20/68

Re memo of GARY D. SHINN, 5-7-68.

The Cleveland Auto Bureau was checked concerning a license #AE 2551 registered to EDMUND M. TRISNAR, 16244 Edgewood, Maple Heights, Ohio, a 1965 Pontiac convertible coupe, and 1968 Ohio license #AE 5221, registered to NANCY HUGHES, 927 Archer, Bedford, Ohio, a 1961 Buick, four-door sedan.

After numerous attempts to contact any individuals at 16244 Edgewood on May 13, 1968, EDMUND M. TRISNAR was contacted at the above address. He advised and pointed out a 1965 Pontiac convertible coupe, blue in color, bearing license #AE 2551. Mr. TRISNAR advised that he works for Fuller Division of Dracco at 116th and Harvard, for the past 14 years. He advised that he is in the Shipping and Receiving Department. He stated he was born on [redacted] Cleveland, Ohio. He is married, wife's name is ANNA MAE, and he has three children. Mr. TRISNAR is a white male, 5' 8", brown wavy hair, 150 pounds, medium build, fair complexion.

P11

Inasmuch as Mr. TRISNAR owned a blue automobile bearing one of the Ohio licenses mentioned in the above referenced memo, and due to the fact that he lives in Maple Heights, it is presumed that this is the car and the individual referred to in the above referenced memo. It was established that this individual is not identical to JAMES EARL RAY after comparing with the photograph.

MPM:cmv
(2) *cmv*

44-565-393

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
1968	
FBI - CLEVELAND	

cmv



5010-108-01

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

SAC (44-565)

5-20-68

GARY D. SHINN

MURKIN

This date at approx. 7:35 PM, Sherman Sellars, 302 Mantle rd., Painesville, Ohio phone 354-3148, telephonically contacted the CV office and advised on 5-15-68 he believes he saw Ray at Laird Home Restaurant 13 south State st., Painesville, Ohio. At best he could recall he saw Ray between 10:30 PM and 11:00 PM eating at this restaurant accompanied by a W/M.

Sellars described man believed to be Ray as; W/M, dark brown hair, 5'9"-10", 170-175 lbs, mid to late 20's, and an odd nose (could not explain why his nose odd.).

Sellars described other W/M as about same age 160 lbs, about same height, brown hair,

Sellars further stated when these two men left the restaurant they drove away in a 1966 or 1967 dark blue Plymouth Barracuda bearing 1968 Ohio license R Q being the only part of the license Sellars could give. Sellars stated he wanted credit and reward if Ray apprehended from the above info he furnished. Stated he had spoken to SA Corbett some years ago concerning another matter.

When Sellars was asked why he had waited so long to give this info. he stuttered ~~xxx~~ and said he forgot.

CV indices reflect 91-2177- 106,125 on Sherman Sellars.

GDS/ga
(2)

44-565-394

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 21 1968	
FBI - CLEVELAND	

cu

SAC, CLEVELAND (26-28161)

May 14, 1968

SAC, ATLANTA (26-43381) (RUC)

UNSUB; 1968 DODGE MONACO
VIN DH43GSR157028
ITSMV
(OO: Cleveland)

Re my airtel 5/9/68.

Enclosed are nine copies each of FD 302's reflecting interviews with James Lambert and Mary Crick on May 1 and May 2, 1968.

3 - Cleveland (Encs. 18)
(2-26-28161)
(1-44-565)
1 - Atlanta
RKL/jah
(4)

44-565-395

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 17 1968	
FBI - CLEVELAND	

W. C. ...

ATTN: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FBI LABORATORY - DOCUMENT SECTION

5/20/68

SAC, CLEVELAND (44-565) (P)

MURKIN

Re Cleveland airtel to Bureau, 5/1/68.

On May 8, 1968, SA ROBERT A. QUAINANCE displayed to Mr. ARTHUR LARIMER, Postmaster, U. S. Post Office, Sandusky, Ohio, the unsigned printed note and envelopes addressed to "Chief of Police, Memphis, Tenn.", and "Postmaster, Pelee Island, Ontario".

Mr. LARIMER advised that although the identity of the author was unknown to him he noted the apparent shaky printing, and suggested that it might be the effort of an elderly person. He suggested an inquiry at the old Soldiers and Sailors Home, Sandusky, might be productive.

On May 9, 1968, SA ROBERT A. QUAINANCE contacted Mr. MICHAEL KRESTEL, Assistant Reeve, Pelee Island, Ontario, Canada, in the absence of the Reeve, Mr. CHARLES WALLACE, and the Constable, Mr. ZANE HOOKER. Mr. KRESTEL questioned the Postmaster, Mr. DONALD GOW, who advised that instant note, .35 change, and cover envelopes, were received at the post office on approximately April 24, 1968. He said that he opened the envelope addressed to him. He discovered the inner envelope already opened, which he believes may have been done accidentally by him in opening the outer envelope. He recalled the change and note, however, were lying loose in the outer envelope. He said he did not know what disposition to make of the contents and finally asked Mr. WALLACE, the Reeve, for advice. He stated it was the suggestion of Mr. WALLACE that these items be mailed to the FBI, Federal Building, Sandusky. He was unable to suggest any suspect as the author of instant note.

On May 9, 1968, Mr. ROBERT BORDERS, Registrar, Old Soldiers and Sailors Home, Columbus Avenue, Sandusky, examined instant note and envelopes and advised SA ROBERT A. QUAINANCE he suspected them to be the work of a resident,

4 - Bureau
2 - Memphis (44-1987)
1 - Cleveland
RAQ/jb
(7) *jb*

Murkin
44-565-396

CV 44-565

CHARLES MANN WITZLER. He said WITZLER is a prolific letter writer and a chronic complainer who frequently writes to the Governor and various agencies complaining about conditions at the home.

He advised that records indicate WITZLER was born on [redacted] at Perrysburg, Ohio, served in the U. S. Army, Quartermaster Corps., from July 29, 1942, until November 6, 1944, when he received an honorable discharge at Fort Hayes, Columbus, Ohio, as a private, ASN [redacted]. He furnished WITZLER's V A Claim Number as 17-306-751, and his Social Security Number as [redacted]. He said WITZLER arrived at the Home on July 19, 1962. He added that WITZLER would not be available for interview until May 10, 1968.

P11

P11

On May 10, 1968, SA ROBERT A. QUAINANCE confronted CHARLES MANN WITZLER with instant note and envelopes. He admitted being the author. He said he could offer no logical reason for his writing the note and said he could only suggest that he must have been drinking at the time. He stated it was not his intention to burden or harass the Memphis, Tennessee Police Department, FBI, or any other law enforcement agency by his action.

He said his reason for enclosing \$.35 with the note was to include \$.10 for air mail postage from Pelee Island to Memphis, Tennessee; he said he visits Pelee Island a few times each summer and has bought postage at the post office there. He said he sent his note via Pelee Island simply to give the postmaster a little business.

He was admonished by SA QUAINANCE for the consequences of his action, the wasted time and money that could have been spent on other matters. He was also admonished by Mr. BORDERS, and threatened with possible expulsion if he should repeat this misconduct.

Mr. WITZLER apologized for his action and promised to refrain from any such conduct in the future.

He admitted his note intended reference to the slaying of MARTIN LUTHER KING, however, he denied sympathy for the assassination. He said he has no knowledge of JAMES EARL RAY or his whereabouts.

CV 44-565

The following description was obtained from observation and interrogation:

Name: CHARLES MANN WITZLER
Residence: Old Soldiers and Sailors Home,
Columbus Avenue,
Sandusky, Ohio.
68

Age: [redacted] PII
Date of Birth: [redacted]
Place of Birth: Perrysburg, Ohio
Sex: Male
Race: White
Height: 5'8"
Weight: 150 pounds
Hair: Gray
Eyes: Brown
Tattoos: "CMW" above an eagle with
Social Security # [redacted] PII
below on inner right forearm,
seal of the United States on
right shoulder, Indian head
on left shoulder.

Family:
Son:

WILLIAM WITZLER,
7th Street,
Maumee, Ohio.

Son:

RICHARD WITZLER,
West Harrison Street,
Maumee, Ohio.

Daughter:

Mrs. JEAN OATLEY,
Centerfield Drive,
Maumee, Ohio.

Copies are provided for the Document Section since the writer of the letter, forwarded to the Document Section in above referenced airtel, has been identified as CHARLES MANN WITZLER by his own admission.

It is to be noted that the FBI Laboratory in its examination in report dated May 8, 1968, was successful in discovering the name WITZLER through examination for indented writing.

CV 44-565

Inasmuch as the note in question contained no threat, no further action is contemplated by the Cleveland Office with respect to CHARLES MANN WITZLER.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

DECODED COPY

5-22-68

☒ Radio☐ Teletype

U R G E N T

TO: ALL FIELD DIVISIONS

FROM: DIRECTOR

MURKIN

INASMUCH AS RAY IS KNOWN TO STAY AT "FLOPHOUSES" AND LOWER CLASS ROOMING HOUSES, ALL OFFICES WILL FURNISH COPY OF IDENTIFICATION ORDER REGARDING RAY TO SALVATION ARMY AND OTHER CHARITABLE TYPE MISSIONS.

ALL OFFICES COVERING STATE CAPITALS, IF NOT ALREADY DONE, WILL AT DRIVERS LICENSE BUREAUS CHECK ALL DRIVERS LICENSE APPLICATIONS FOR MONTHS OF APRIL AND MAY, SIXTYEIGHT, CONCERNING ALL MALE CAUCASIANS OVER THIRTY YEARS OF AGE AND UNDER FIFTYFIVE YEARS, IN VIEW OF FACT IT IS POSSIBLE SUBJECT SECURED DRIVERS LICENSE USING ANOTHER NAME OTHER THAN ALIASES KNOWN. AS RESULT OF REVIEWING THESE APPLICATIONS, YOU SHOULD CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE IF ANY SUCH INDIVIDUAL IDENTICAL WITH SUBJECT.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

CODE WORK: MR

TOR: 1818

44-565-397

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

FBI CLEVELAND
McCann [Signature]

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
Attention: FBI Laboratory

FROM: SAC, Philadelphia (44-1368)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Mr. SHERMAN A. HARMON, who resides 134 West Upsal Street, Philadelphia, Pa., and who is employed with the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority, 54th and Haverford Avenue, Philadelphia, made available the above letter and envelope about which he advised as follows:

HARMON was reviewing some of these letters for LLOYD and noticed that one of the letters was signed ERIC S. GALT.

- JLO/mvb
(6)

Bureau (44-38861)(RM) (Encl. 2)
 Cleveland (Info)
 Memphis (44-1987)(Info)
 Philadelphia (44-1368)
 vb

Sent AT To Ser. 291
Re C. A. suggest. Dis. C. Wray in possible writer.
as with Grant

44-565-398
 He x
 McCann Mag
 pls. see me.
 thx R

PH 44-1368

The FBI Lab is requested to compare the signature on the enclosed envelope and letter with the known handwriting and signature of JAMES EARL RAY.

The Latent Fingerprint Section of the Identification Division is requested to process the enclosed letter and envelope for any identifiable latents. If any identifiable latents are developed, the Latent Fingerprint Section is requested to compare the latents with RAY's known fingerprints and also to search the latent prints through appropriate sections of the Single Fingerprint Files.

The Identification Division is requested to return the enclosed letter and envelope to the Philadelphia Office.

Information copies of this letter being furnished to Cleveland and Memphis Offices.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, CLEVELAND (44-565) (-P-)

DATE: 5/21/68

FROM : SA BRUCE L. KREIGHBAUM

SUBJECT: MURKIN

ReFD-71 by IC HAROLD A. LATUKA dated 5/10/68, recieved at Akron R/A 5/20/68.

ARDEN HUGHES, POB #28, Leroy, Ohio, advised on 5/20/68 as follows:

He was in Baltimore, Md., on 4/5/68 on business, having flown there on that date from the Cleveland - Hopkins Airport, CV, O. He was returning to CV on the evening of that date, and arrived back at the Baltimore ~~XXXXXX~~ Friendship Airport around 5:30pm from downtown Baltimore, had a beer in the airport bar, and purchased a newspaper. He seated himself accross from the newstand at the airport, in a lounge chair.

While reading the account of the murder of Dr. M.L. KING in Memphis, Tenn., on the previous day, he observed a white, male, wearing a "white suit" pass him enroute to the terminal's main entrance-exit, along the passageway which contains shops, and the bar. Upon closer examination of this man, HUGHES determined the man's "white suit" was actually light brown in color, with dark brown stripes. He wore a white shirt, open at the collar, but did not have on a necktie. He had a day's growth of beard, his suit was wrinkled, and his hair needed combing. He did not fit in with the regular airport patron, and had no luggage of any type.

HUGHES described him as being 5'10" to 6', in his early /30s, slender build, dark brown hair, and medium complexion. This man was in no hurry, and left the terminal by the main entrance-exit. He was alone, and carried no packages. HUGHES said that since that time, he has given the above matter considerable thought, and decided that possibly the man he saw at the airport might have been connected with the slaying of Dr. KING in some way.

44-565-399
u
h

McAnn



5010-108-01

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

(2)

HUGHES was shown photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, and decided that the sideview photograph of RAY, taken in 1960, resembled to some degree the man he observed in Baltimore on 4/5/68, but was not definite in his identification. He claimed the man he observed had an abundance of very dark brown hair, while the photo selected showed RAY with short hair. HUGHES mentioned he only had a side view of the man as he walked from the terminal.

employee of

HUGHES is an ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ the Ohio Farmers Insurance Company, Leroy, Ohio.

FBI CLEVELAND

FBI MIAMI

404 PM URGENT 5/22/68 SHR

TO DIRECTOR 44-38861, CLEVELAND AND CINCINNATI
FROM MIAMI 44-1854 7 P

MURKIN, CIVIL RIGHTS.

RE LOS ANGELES TEL TO BUREAU MAY EIGHTEEN AND NINETEEN, SIXTYEIGHT,
KNOXVILLE TEL TO BUREAU MAY NINETEEN, AND DETROIT TEL TO BUREAU MAY
TWENTY, SIXTYEIGHT.

FOR INFORMATION OF CINCINNATI AND CLEVELAND, THE "LOS ANGELES
TIMES" NEWSPAPER EDITOR RECEIVED INFORMATION CONCERNING CAPTIONED MATTER
FROM A SOURCE KNOWN AS BOB (LNU). A SUMMARY OF A PORTION OF THIS INFO
AND INFO DEVELOPED SUBSEQUENTLY IS SET FORTH BELOW.

(ONE) ON THE DAY OF KILLING (APRIL FOUR), RAY SUPPOSEDLY MADE
TELEPHONE CALLS FROM MEMPHIS TO BELLE GLADE, FLA. CALLS BELIEVED
TO BE MADE FROM BUS STATION. RAY SUPPOSEDLY USED A TELEPHONE CREDIT
CARD ISSUED TO U. S. RUBBER, DETROIT, IN NAME OF (FNU) RIDELL OR ROBERT
BRINKLEY. RIDELL SUPPOSEDLY RESIDES HARBOR WOODS, MICH. SOME CALLS
ON CARD REPORTEDLY MADE FROM MEMPHIS TO BELLE GLADE, FLA.

END PAGE ONE

Index 1, 2, 3, 5
*Lead to
Dowds
R.*

44-565-400

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
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FBI - CLEVELAND	
<i>McCann</i>	<i>Wm</i>

MM 44-1854

PAGE TWO

(TWO) ON NIGHT OF APRIL FOUR, RAY SUPPOSEDLY DRIVEN TO KANSAS CITY BY ONE EDDIE WILBURN OF HUNTSVILLE, ALA. THE FOLLOWING DAY AT DUSK, RAY ALLEGEDLY WAS FLOWN TO BELLE GLADE, FLA. IN A PRIVATE PLANE OWNED BY A WILLIAM PIERCE, A WEALTHY MAN WHO SUPPOSEDLY OWNS OR OPERATES AN AIRPORT IN BELLE GLADE AND WHO ONCE OWNED A CONTRACTING FIRM IN CUBA. PIERCE ALSO ALLEGEDLY OWNS A MOTEL AND COTTAGES IN BELLE GLADE OR THE OKEECHOBEE, FLA. AREA. PIERCE ALSO SUPPOSEDLY FLIES OFTEN TO NEW ORLEANS AND KNOWS JIM GARRISON. (SUBSEQUENT INVESTIGATION MIAMI DIVISION HAS FAILED TO DEVELOP ANY WILLIAM PIERCE, AS DESCRIBED ABOVE.)

RAY SUPPOSEDLY STAYED IN A MOTEL OR COTTAGE, LOCATION NOT INDICATED AND ON APRIL ELEVEN, WAS TAKEN OUT TO SEA FROM KEY WEST, FLA. BY ONE BEN THOMPSON AND SUPPOSEDLY MAY NOW BE IN CUBA. (SUBSEQUENT INVESTIGATION MIAMI DIVISION FAILED TO VERIFY ABOVE.)

LOS ANGELES DEVELOPED INFORMATION THAT A FRANK BRICKLEY AND ROBERT BRICKLEY, BROTHERS, AND POSSIBLY A SAM LEWIS, WHO ARE EX-CONVICTS AND HEAVY DRINKERS, MAY POSSIBLY BE INVOLVED IN FURNISHING THIS INFORMATION TO "LOS ANGELES TIMES," OR BE THE SUBJECTS OF INFORMATION FURNISHED TO THE "TIMES".

END PAGE TWO

MM 44-1854

PAGE THREE

THE KNOXVILLE OFFICE DEVELOPED INFORMATION THAT FRANK BRICKLEY MAY BE FRANK WILLIAM BRICKLEY AKA WILLIAM ROY BRICKLEY, WILLIAM FRANKLIN BRICKLEY, WILLIAM FRANK BRICKLEY, WILLIAM ROY BUCKLEY, BILL ROBERT SHAW, BILL SHAW, BILLY SHAW, BILL R. SHAW, FBI NO. ONE NINE SEVEN SEVEN NINE SIX C, ORIGINALLY FROM CHATTANOOGA, TENN. AND WHO HAS AN EXTENSIVE CRIMINAL RECORD. HE WAS LAST KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN IMPRISONED AT TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA AND WAS RELEASED JAN. SIXTEEN, SIXTYSEVEN, UPON COMPLETION OF SENTENCE. TERRE HAUTE PRISON NO. TWO THREE SIX FOUR-TWO DASH TH.

BRICKLEY DESCRIBED AS WMA, BORN [REDACTED]

P11

[REDACTED] AT CHATTANOOGA, TENN. OR

P11

VICINITY. HEIGHT FIVE FT. EIGHT INCHES, ONE FORTY TO ONE FORTYFIVE LBS, (IN NINETEEN SIXTYTHREE), EYES BROWN, HAIR BROWN, DIM TATTOO LEFT UPPER ARM.

INVESTIGATION AT DETROIT, MICH. INDICATES THAT R. H. MC KAY, INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS MANAGER, US RUBBER, DETROIT, ADVISED THAT DATE THAT INTERNAL CATERING FOR THAT COMPANY IS DONE BY RIDDELL INDUSTRIAL CATERERS. THAT COMPANY IS OWNED BY H. ROBERTSON "ROBERT" BRINKER AND HIS FATHER H. V. BRINKER.

END PAGE THREE

MM 44-1854

PAGE FOUR

ROBERTSON BRINKER, SIX ONE ROSLYN, GROSSE POINTE SHORES, MICH. ADVISED HE HOLDS A T&T CREDIT CARD NUMBER [REDACTED] WHICH IS MADE OUT TO ROBERTSON BRINKER. THE RIDDELL CATERING COMPANY DOES NOT HAVE A PHONE AND THERE IS NO CREDIT CARD IN THE NAME OF THAT COMPANY OR IN THE NAME OF RIDDELL.

ROBERTSON BRINKER SAID NEITHER HE NOR ANYONE ELSE HAS USED HIS TELEPHONE CREDIT CARD FOR ANY PHONE CALLS FROM MEMPHIS. HE IS NOT ACQUAINTED WITH FRANK OR ROBERT BRICKLEY AND HE COULD NOT EXPLAIN HOW THE INFORMANT COULD BE FAMILIAR WITH HIS POSSESSING A TELEPHONE CREDIT CARD OR WITH HIS CONNECTION TO THE RIDDELL CATERING COMPANY.

H.V. BRINKER, ROBERTSON'S FATHER, ADVISED THAT WHILE HE WAS IN BOCA RATON, FLORIDA FROM MARCH ONE THROUGH APRIL ONE LAST, HE TRADED AT A SUNOCO SERVICE STATION AT THE CORNER OF U.S. ONE AND PALM AIRE, BOCA RATON, FLORIDA. HE WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE EFFICIENCY OF A YOUNG WHITE MALE AT THE STATION. THE YOUNG MAN TOLD HIM HE HAD A BROTHER IN CLEVELAND IN THE TAILORING BUSINESS AND THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO MOVE BACK TO THE MIDWEST TO BE NEAR HIS BROTHER. MR. BRINKER TOLD THE

END PAGE FOUR

MM 44-1854

YOUNG MAN HE RAN A CATERING SERVICE FOR U.S. RUBBER IN DETROIT AND SHOULD HE EVER WANT A JOB TO CALL HIM OR HIS SON ROBERT. HE GAVE THE YOUNG MAN ONE OF HIS BUSINESS CARDS WHICH READS, "RIDDELL FACTORY CATERING COMPANY, INDUSTRIAL CATERERS." HE COULD NOT REMEMBER IF HE WROTE ROBERT'S NAME ON THE CARD FOR THE BOY BUT WAS SURE HE TOLD HIM ROBERT'S NAME AND THAT THEY CATERED FOR U.S. RUBBER.

THE PRECEEDING WAS THE ONLY EXPLANATION EITHER BRINKER COULD OFFER FOR THE THE INFORMANT KNOWING ABOUT A TELEPHONE CREDIT CARD IN THE NAME "ROBERT BRINKLEY" AND BRINKLEY'S CONNECTION WITH RIDDELL CATERING. BOTH EMPHATICALLY DENIED HAVING EVER LOST THEIR CREDIT CARDS OR LETTING ANOTHER PERSON USE THEM.

INVESTIGATION AT BOCA RATON, FLA. INDICATES THERE IS A SUNOCO SERVICE STATION AT THE INTERSECTION OF U.S. ONE AND ROYAL PALM ROAD OPERATED BY BERNARD IRELAND, JR. NO PALM AIRE ROAD EXISTS IN BOCA RATON. IRELAND ADVISED THAT HE EMPLOYED AN INDIVIDUAL NAMED DALE WHITMAN FOR A FEW WEEKS IN MARCH AND POSSIBLY EARLY APRIL, SIXTYEIGHT. WHITMAN'S MOTHER, MRS. GORDON YOST, LOCATED TROPIC GARDEN TRAILER PARK,
END PAGE FIVE

MM 44-1854

PAGE SIX

SOUTH FEDERAL HIGHWAY, BOCA RATON, AND ADVISED HER SON DEPARTED SOUTH FLORIDA AREA FOR THE MIDDLE WEST ON MAY SEVEN, LAST. HE TOLD YOST AT THAT TIME HE WAS GOING TO SEEK EMPLOYMENT ELSEWHERE AS THE JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN SOUTH FLORIDA WERE FEW. WHITMAN HAS NO BROTHERS. WHITMAN TOOK MOST OF HIS PERSONAL EFFECTS WITH HIM AND THOSE HE LEFT BEHIND YOST HAS SINCE THROWN AWAY.

WHITMAN HAS THREE UNCLES RESIDING IN OHIO WHO MAY KNOW HIS CURRENT WHEREABOUTS, ACCORDING TO HIS MOTHER: BYRD JAY LANE, FIVE ZERO NINE FOUR KUSZMAUL AVE., WARREN, OHIO, EMPLOYED BY GENERAL MOTORS, ROBERT LANE, ADDRESS UNKNOWN, WARREN, OHIO, EMPLOYED BY GENERAL MOTORS, AND NOAH LANE, COLUMBUS, OHIO, ADDRESS AND EMPLOYMENT UNKNOWN. BYRD JAY LANE SHOULD KNOW ADDRESSES OF ROBERT LANE AND NOAH LANE.

CLEVELAND, AT WARREN, OHIO, ATTEMPT TO LOCATE DALE WHITMAN THROUGH UNCLES BYRD JAY LANE AND ROBERT LANE AND THEREAFTER INTERVIEW WHITMAN OR SET FORTH LEADS TO HAVE WHITMAN INTERVIEWED FOR ANY INFORMATION HE HAS REGARDING FRANK OR BOB BRICKLEY, EDDIE WILBURN, WILLIAM PIERCE, BEN THOMPSON OR SAM LEWIS, AND ALL INFORMATION SET FORTH

END PAGE SIX

MM 44-1854

PAGE SEVEN

ABOVE. DETERMINE IF HE COULD BE BOB (LNU) AND IF HE RECALLS CONVERSATION WITH H.V. BRINKER AT SUNOCO STATION IN BOCA RATON, FLA. AND IF HE HAS BUSINESS CARD OF BRINKER IN HIS POSSESSION OR IF HE COULD HAVE PASSED BUSINESS CARD OF BRINKER ON TO ANYONE WHO COULD BE BOB (LNU).

CINCINNATI, AT COLUMBUS, OHIO, LOCATE NOAH LANE AND CONDUCT SAME INVESTIGATION AS SET FORTH FOR THE CLEVELAND DIVISION.

MEMPHIS AND LOS ANGELES ADVISED BY AM.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

BVS

FBI CLEVELAND

P

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, CLEVELAND (44-565)

FROM : SPC BRICE A. WESTHOVEN

SUBJECT: MURKIN;

DATE: 5-23-68

This is to record that at approximately 1:45 am above date a JOHN HEIN 2450 East Wallings Road, Broadview Heights, Ohio telephone number 526-3310 telephonically contacted this office and furnished the following information.

He advised that a couple of minutes ago he stopped in the Chippewa Inn which is located on the corner of routes 176 and 82 the telephone there being 526-7404 for the purpose of purchasing a six pack of beer.

HEIN stated that the barmaid MARY (LNU) and the owner VINCE (LNU) requested upon his departure that he immediately call the FBI because one of the customers sitting at the bar bore a very strong resemblance to JAMES EARL RAY. HEIN gave the following description of the individual that resembles RAY as being 5ft 9inches, grey hair 150 - 160 lbs., and he was wearing a grey suit. He further stated that as of the time of his call to this office subject was still in the bar.

Writer immediately notified SA MARTIN MC CANN of above.

Writer later was furnished the license number of the vehicle by SA MC CANN and upon his request checked it out with the BMV in Columbus. The license number being DD 5475 and was determined to be registered to a JAMES EDWARD MAHER 8527 South Akins Road North Royalton, Ohio for a 1964 Pontiac four door station wagon.

Indices is negative re JAMES EDWARD MAHER.

BAW/bw
(2)



5010-108-01

44-565-401

SEARCHED <i>Re</i>	INDEXED <i>Re</i>
SERIALIZED <i>Re</i>	FILED <i>Re</i>
MAY 23 1968	
FBI - CLEVELAND	

McCANN

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-565)

DATE: 5-22-68

FROM : GARY D. SHINN

SUBJECT: MURKIN

This date at aprox. 5:33 PM, Mr. Bender, Bender Reality Co., 23826 Lorain rd., North Olmsted, Ohio phone 477-4200 telephonically contacted the CV office and stated at about 5:15 PM this date when entering Saxon's restaurant, located on Lorain rd. across from the Great Northern Shopping Center, he saw a man who looked just like the picture of Ray he saw in the newspaper a week or so ago. This man was leaving Saxon's as Bender entered and Bender noticed this man drive away in a red Buick bearing Indiana license plates. Bender did not get the number of license.

Bender described this man as about 180 lbs., 40 - 45 years old, 5'10"-11".

This info was given to SA Roberson.

GDS/gs
(2)



5010-108-01

[Handwritten signature]

*assign
led to*

44-565-402

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 23 1968	
FBI - CLEVELAND	

[Handwritten signature]

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : ALL AGENTS

DATE: 5/21/68

FROM : SAC CHARLES G. CUSICK

SUBJECT: MURKIN

It is to be noted that in Bureau airtel dated May 10, 1968 the Bureau advised that for information and investigative assistance, subject JAMES EARL RAY took a bartending course in Los Angeles, California during the early part of 1968, and prior to his departing Los Angeles in March of 1968, he made several telephone calls to country clubs in an effort to obtain employment.

The Bureau desires that the above should be born in mind in covering leads in connection with this and other cases.

The Bureau has also instructed that subject JAMES EARL RAY's name should constantly be brought to the attention in your contacts with police departments concerning possible robbery or burglary suspects, and their cooperation obtained in having victims of recent robberies or burglaries review photographs of RAY in an effort to obtain a possible identification. Photographs of RAY will be available to you upon request from the case Agent.

It is requested that each Agent bear the above in mind in all contacts with police and continued efforts should be maintained in an effort to develop any possible information concerning JAMES EARL RAY.

SUBJECT IS CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

1 - 44-565-403

MPM:s

(104) *cnw*

No.

1 -

44-565-403
SEARCHED.....INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....FILED.....

MAY 22 1968
FBI - CLEVELAND

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, Albany

DATE: May 20, 1968

js
FROM : Director, FBI

SUBJECT: MURKIN
PUBLICITY ON REWARDS OFFERED

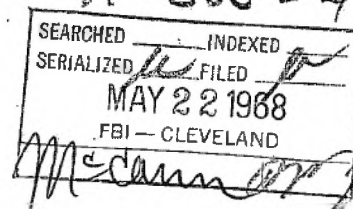
Each Special Agent in Charge and Legal Attache is instructed to promptly remind their established cooperative news sources, in a discreet and tactful manner, of the existence of substantial reward money for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the killer of Dr. Martin Luther King. This money now totals at least \$100,000. The FBI should not, however, be publicized as the source of this reminder.

While the Bureau's continuing policy is to encourage the public to furnish information to law enforcement authorities as a matter of good citizenship, without expectation of financial reward, it is fully recognized that monetary rewards are often necessary to motivate some individuals. The knowledge of the existence of the substantial rewards available in the Murkin case could possibly prove of value in the solution of this major investigation.

1 - Copies to all Special Agents in Charge and Legats



5010-108



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

5/23/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

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

FROM: SAC, CLEVELAND (44-565)

RE: MURKIN
(OO: ME)

Re Philadelphia airtel to Bureau and interested offices, 5/20/68; CV airtel to Bureau, 4/29/68, and MM airtel to Bureau, 4/11/68.

LETTER BEARING RETURN ADDRESS,
CLOUD 13, PUEBLO, NORTH KOREA,
SIGNED ERIC S. GALT, POSTMARKED
MANSFIELD, OHIO, 4/23/68

In Philadelphia airtel to Bureau, 5/20/68, a letter and envelope were enclosed that had been addressed to Rev. HAL LLOYD, United Presbyterian Church, Germantown, Pa., dated 4/17/68, bearing the return address of Cloud 13, Pueblo, North Korea, signed ERIC S. GALT, bearing the postmark of Mansfield, Ohio, 4/23/68.

In CV airtel to Bureau, 4/29/68, CV advised that the individual who wrote the note "Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING will be dead by 4/14/68", which had first been brought to the attention of the Bureau by MM airtel dated 4/11/68, was identified as GEORGE CHARLES GRAY, DOB [REDACTED] 514 Ohio St., Ashland, Ohio.

P11

4-Bureau
2-Memphis (44-1987)
1-Philadelphia (info)
2-Cleveland

MPM/slk
(9)

AIR

TEL

44-365-405

CV 44-565

It is suggested that since Ashland, Ohio, is in rather close proximity to Mansfield, Ohio, the location where the above described letter was mailed, that a comparison of the contents of the letter and the note enclosed with MM airtel to Bureau, 4/11/68, be made to determine if GEORGE CHARLES GRAY might possibly be the writer of the letter and envelope enclosed in Philadelphia airtel to Bureau, 5/20/68.

F B I

Date: 5/23/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861), MEMPHIS (44-1987) AND MIAMI
 FROM CLEVELAND (44-565)
 MURKIN

ON MAY TWENTYTHREE, INSTANT, CV THREE FOUR SIX - C
 WHOSE IDENTITY IS KNOWN TO THE BUREAU, ADVISED HIS WIFE HAS
 JUST RETURNED FROM MIAMI, FLA. WHERE SHE SPENT THE PAST FOUR
 MONTHS HELPING HER SISTER OPERATE THE DIAMOND INN, ONE TWO FOUR
 TWO NINE WEST DIXIE HIGHWAY, NORTH MIAMI.

ACCORDING TO THE CI, DURING THE COURSE OF HIS WIFE'S
 WORKING AT DIAMOND INN, SHE MET A MAN KNOWN ONLY AS ROLAND, WHO
 FREQUENTED THE DIAMOND INN AND ALWAYS DRANK RUM AND COKE AND
 ATTEMPTED TO DATE THE CI'S WIFE UNSUCCESSFULLY. ROLAND CLAIMED
 TO BE A GRAND DRAGON IN THE KU KLUX KLAN (KKK) AND DISPLAYED A
 KKK MEMBERSHIP CARD. ON ONE OCCASION, HE STATED HE HAD BEEN
 QUESTIONED BY THE FBI AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES REGARDING "KILLING
 NIGGERS" AND HAD SPECIFICALLY BEEN QUESTIONED ABOUT KILLING ONE
 IN VIRGINIA BUT AUTHORITIES COULD NOT PROVE HE DID IT.

ACCORDING TO THE CI, TWO DAYS BEFORE THE MURDER OF
 MARTIN LUTHER KING, ROLAND ASKED THE CI'S WIFE TO GO WITH

END PAGE ONE.

1 - 137-52

RHW/mkr

(2)

Approved: *[Signature]*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent *3:16 P*Per *[Signature]*

Searched *[initials]*
 Serialized *[initials]*
 Indexed *[initials]*
 Filed *[initials]*
 44-565-406

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via _____
CV 44-565 (Priority)

PAGE TWO.

HIM TO MEMPHIS, TENN. AND HE WOULD SHOW HER HOW HE KILLED "NIGGERS". ROLAND LEFT AND WAS NOT SEEN AGAIN UNTIL ABOUT SEVEN THIRTY PM ON THE DAY OF KING'S DEATH WHEN HE WALKED INTO DIAMOND INN AND SAID, "SEE, WHAT DID I TELL YOU". HE THEN PROCEEDED TO STATE THAT ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, STOKELY CARMICHAEL AND RAP BROWN WERE ALSO SCHEDULED FOR ASSASSINATION. HE FURTHER STATED, "WE WILL TAKE CARE OF BOBBY KENNEDY SO HE WILL NEVER BECOME PRESIDENT."

ROLAND DRIVES A WHITE MUSTANG AND CLAIMS HE ALWAYS CARRIES A SHOTGUN AND MACHINE GUN IN THE CAR AND IS ALWAYS ACCOMPANIED BY A LARGE DOBERMAN PINCHER DOG WHO IS EXTREMELY VICIOUS. IN ADDITION, HE CLAIMS HIS WIFE, WHO WORKS IN A RESTAURANT AS A WAITRESS NEAR THE DIAMOND INN, IS ALSO ACTIVE IN THE KKK.

ROLAND REPORTEDLY GETS VIOLENT AFTER A FEW DRINKS AND LOUDLY EXPOUNDS HIS HATE FOR NEGROES, JEWS AND CATHOLICS AND ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS, DISPLAYS A LARGE CONFEDERATE FLAG ON HIS CAR.

END PAGE TWO.

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

F B I

Date:

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

CV 44-565

PAGE THREE.

THE CI'S WIFE WAS INTERVIEWED AND SHE VERIFIED THE ABOVE INFORMATION. SHE WAS SHOWN PHOTOGRAPHS OF JAMES EARL RAY BUT STATED ROLAND IN NORWAY RESEMBLED RAY. WHEN QUESTIONED WHY SHE HAD NOT REPORTED THIS INFORMATION EARLIER, SHE ADVISED SHE WAS FRIGHTENED AND WANTED TO WAIT AND DISCUSS IT WITH HER HUSBAND PRIVATELY AFTER LEAVING MIAMI.

ROLAND DESCRIBED AS A WHITE MALE, FORTY YEARS, FIVE FOOT NINE INCHES, BROWN HAIR, HAZEL EYES, HIGH CHEEKBONES, HIGH FOREHEAD, POINTED NOSE, SWARTHY COMPLEXION, EMPLOYED AS AN AUTO MECHANIC AT THE CHRYSLER-PLYMOUTH GARAGE IN NORTH MIAMI.

EXTREME CAUTION SHOULD BE USED IN PROTECTING THE IDENTITY OF THE SOURCE OF THIS INFORMATION AS WELL AS THE FACT THE INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED FROM THE DIAMOND INN INASMUCH AS THE CI FEELS THAT HARM COULD COME TO EITHER HIS WIFE OR HIS SISTER-IN-LAW IN MIAMI.

MIAMI. CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION TO IDENTIFY ROLAND AND TO DETERMINE IF THERE IS ANY POSSIBILITY HE COULD HAVE ANY CONNECTION WITH CAPTIONED MATTER.

P.

Arnold Dargatzis

END.

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

F B I

Date: **May 21, 1968**Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via **Airtel** _____
(Priority)

To: All SACs
LEGATS, Mexico City
Ottawa

[Signature]
From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

For your information and investigative assistance, subject James Earl Ray has been known to consort with prostitutes and "street bums." A photograph of subject was obtained from a prostitute in Mexico. This photograph showing subject wearing sunglasses was previously forwarded to your office.

This should be borne in mind in your daily contact with informants, officers of vice squads and prostitutes in covering leads in connection with this and other cases.

Armed and dangerous.

44-565-407

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
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FBI - CLEVELAND	

[Signature]

Sent Via _____ M Per _____

TO: SAC,

☐ Albany
☐ Albuquerque
☐ Anchorage
☐ Atlanta
☐ Baltimore
☐ Birmingham
☐ Boston
☐ Buffalo
☐ Butte
☐ Charlotte
☐ Chicago
☐ Cincinnati
☒ Cleveland
☐ Columbia
☐ Dallas
☐ Denver
☐ Detroit
☐ El Paso
☐ Honolulu

☐ Houston
☐ Indianapolis
☐ Jackson
☐ Jacksonville
☐ Kansas City
☐ Knoxville
☐ Las Vegas
☐ Little Rock
☐ Los Angeles
☐ Louisville
☐ Memphis
☐ Miami
☐ Milwaukee
☐ Minneapolis
☐ Mobile
☐ Newark
☐ New Haven
☐ New Orleans

☐ New York City
☐ Norfolk
☐ Oklahoma City
☐ Omaha
☐ Philadelphia
☐ Phoenix
☐ Pittsburgh
☐ Portland
☐ Richmond
☐ St. Louis
☐ Salt Lake City
☐ San Antonio
☐ San Diego
☐ San Francisco
☐ San Juan
☐ Savannah
☐ Seattle
☐ Springfield

☐ Tampa
☐ Washington Field
☐ Quantico

TO LEGAT:

☐ Bern
☐ Bonn
☐ Buenos Aires
☐ Hong Kong
☐ London
☐ Manila
☐ Mexico, D.F.
☐ Ottawa
☐ Paris
☐ Rome
☐ Santo Domingo
☐ Tokyo

Date 5-22-68

RE: MURKIN
PUBLICITY ON REWARDS OFFERED

☐ For information ☐ Retention optional ☐ For appropriate action ☐ Surep, by _____

☐ The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, ☐ conceal all sources, ☐ paraphrase contents.

☐ Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA _____ dated _____

Remarks: ReBulet 5-20-68.

In the event of inquiries regarding the identity of the sources of the reward money offered in the Murkin case, you may confidentially advise established sources that according to a compilation set forth in the April 27th edition of the "Commercial Appeal," Memphis, Tennessee, \$25,000 each has been offered by the "Commercial Appeal" and Scripps-Howard newspapers and that in addition, businessmen and citizens in Memphis have offered several thousands more and the Memphis City Council has under-written the reward up to a total of \$100,000.

Bufile
Urfile

44-565-408

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 23 1968	
FBI — CLEVELAND	

Mc Cann

F B I

Date: 5/23/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861), MEMPHIS (44-1987) AND
MIAMI

FROM CLEVELAND (44-565)
MURKIN

RE CLEVELAND TELETYPE INSTANT DATE.

IT IS REQUESTED THAT THE MIAMI OFFICE DISSEMINATE
TO APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES THE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY CV
THREE FOUR SIX - C IN ABOVE REFERENCED TELETYPE.

THIS IS BEING REQUESTED SINCE THE CLEVELAND SOURCE
PROVIDED ALL AVAILABLE INFORMATION IN THIS MATTER AND IT IS
FELT THAT THE MIAMI OFFICE UPON IDENTIFYING ROLAND MAY BE IN A
POSITION TO PROVIDE MORE COMPLETE BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR THIS
REQUESTED DISSEMINATION.

P.

END.

MPM/mkr
(1) *mk*

Searched *pr*
Serialized *pr*
Indexed *pr*
Filed *pr*

DIR 7:45p

MF 7:53p

MA 7:49 PM

Approved: *QBR*
Special Agent in Charge

Sent *QBR* Per *QBR*

44-565-409

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC

FROM : SA JOHN DAVIS ROBERSON

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 5-23-68

Rememo Clerk GARY D. SHINN, 5/22/68.

Mr. JAMES BENDER, Bender Realty Company, 23826 Lorain Road, North Olmsted, Ohio, was personally interviewed at approximately 6:45 P.M. at his place of employment by SA's JOHN J. JUREY and ROBERSON.

BENDER related that at approximately 5:20 P.M. that evening he was having a sandwich at Saxon's Sandwich Shop on Lorain Road when he observed a white male enter the shop. He stated that he had first thought this person was a former customer of his and that upon further observation determined that it was not, and upon still further reflection after returning to his office, concluded that it was possibly subject RAY, whose picture he had seen in the paper a week or two previous. He stated that he had only a brief glimpse of this individual full face, and a slightly longer observation of his profile. He stated that he did not pay too much attention to this individual at the time because it did not occur to him until later that there was a resemblance to subject RAY. He described this individual as follows:

Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Age:	40-45
Weight:	180 lbs.
Height:	5'10-11"
Hair:	Light brown, crew cut
Characteristics:	Walked with a slouch and was wearing a checkered sport shirt and sun glasses which he took off at one time.

This individual was accompanied by a young white female, but BENDER could furnish absolutely no description of this person.

JDR:DG
44-565
(1)



5010-108-01

44-565-410

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M. J. Cannon

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

CV 44-565

He advised this individual was driving a bright red late model Buick, bearing an Indiana plate, but he did not obtain the plate number.

BENDER was closely questioned concerning facial characteristics and other peculiarities, but he could furnish no additional information. He was then shown the IO and latest photographs of subject RAY, and he stated that upon viewing of the photographs he felt that there was some slight similarity, but he would definitely have to say they were not the same person.

5/21/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM : SAC, SAVANNAH (44-1708) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Albans License 27-17064
Seen Alliance, Ohio 5/7/68

Enclosed to Pittsburgh for background information
are the following:

Bureau teletype to Mobile dated 5/7/68
Mobile teletype to Bureau dated 5/8/68
Mobile airtel to Bureau dated 5/9/68
Cleveland airtel to Bureau dated 5/14/68

The following investigation was conducted at
Augusta, Ga., by SA EDWARD D. COLLINS:

On 5/17/68 JOHN EYDAS, Manager, and JOHN HANSON,
Assistant Manager, U. S. Post Office, Peach Orchard Branch,
south of Augusta, advised that their records were negative
concerning WALLACE GILATHOME, who listed his address as
General Delivery at that station. Both stated he was unfamiliar
to them.

Both explained that it was possible this individual
was a carnival worker for JAMES H. DREW who lives about five miles
south of that station on Peach Orchard Road near Oracovood, Ga.,

- 2- Bureau
- 2- Pittsburgh (Encl. 4)
- 2- Memphis (44-1987)
- ①- Cleveland (44-655) (Info)
- 2- Savannah

EDC:elh
(10)

44-565-411

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McCann

SV 44-1708

and receives his mail from that station, namely, Greenwood.

On 5/17/68 efforts to contact JAMES H. DREW were negative, the neighbors explaining that he was on the road with a show up north and his whereabouts was unknown.

On 5/17/68 MARVIN BAKSTET, operator of the Club 13 and a giraffe show, who is familiar carnival workers who winter quarter in Augusta, Ga., advised that WALLACE ORATHOUSE was unfamiliar to him. He did not know the itinerary for the Drew Show or the show's present whereabouts.

On 5/18/68 Mrs. FRANCES KINCH, Credit Bureau of Augusta, Ga., and Sgt. WILLIAM H. SIZEMORE, Record Bureau, Augusta, Ga., PD, both advised a search of their records failed to locate any names identifiable with ORATHOUSE.

On 5/20/68 WILLIAM ROWLAND, Richmond County License Inspector, Augusta, Ga., advised he received a call from JAMES H. DREW concerning a license for the Exchange Club Fair in Augusta and learned that DREW was staying at the Holiday Inn #1 at Charleston, W. Va., for this week. He was playing shopping centers around Charleston, W. Va., for the next week or ten days following 5/20/68 and could be contacted at Area Code 804 548-4821.

LEADS:

PITTSBURGH DIVISION

AT CHARLESTON, W. VA.:

Will contact JAMES H. DREW, Drew Shows, a native of Augusta and who has been most cooperative in the past, to determine if WALLACE ORATHOUSE is known to him and/or whether he might be considered to be identical with JAMES EARL RAY.

Will interview ORATHOUSE to verify that he is driving an old Chrysler product, bearing captioned Alabama tag.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

FBI CLEVELAND

FBI MIAMI

305 PM URGENT 5/24/68 SHR

TO DIRECTOR 44-38861, CLEVELAND 44-565 AND WASHINGTON FIELD
FROM MIAMI 44-1854

MURKIN, CIVIL RIGHTS.

THREATS AGAINST SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY, MIAMI, FLA. FOLLOWING ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BY ROLAND CHESLEY TALBOTT, JR.,
INFORMATION CONCERNING

RE CLEVELAND TELETYPES (TWO) TO BUREAU, MAY TWENTYTHREE, SIXTY-EIGHT.

INDIVIDUAL NAMED ROLAND REFERRED TO IN REFERENCED TELETYPES IDENTIFIED AS ROLAND CHESLEY TALBOTT, JR., FORMER KLANSMAN, KLAVERN SIX, UKA, FT. LAUDERDALE, FLA., AND RICHMOND, VA., AREA. MIAMI FILE ONE FIVE SEVEN DASH ONE NINE NINE THREE, BUREAU FILE ONE FIVE SEVEN DASH SEVEN TWO EIGHT SIX.

TALBOTT INTERVIEWED, MIAMI, THIS DATE AND ADVISED HE HAS BEEN "SHOOTING HIS MOUTH OFF" SYMPATHIZING WITH INDIVIDUALS RESPONSIBLE FOR KING'S DEATH EVER SINCE APRIL FOUR. STATES HE IS OF OPINION ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, H. RAP BROWN AND STOKELY CARMICHAEL SHOULD ALSO BE SHOT.
END PAGE ONE

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McGinnis

PAGE TWO

STATES THAT HE BELIEVES BOBBY KENNEDY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL THE RACIAL UNREST IN THIS COUNTRY AND THAT HE SHOULD ALSO BE STOPPED, BUT NOT THROUGH VIOLENT MEANS. STATES HE IS A FORMER KLANSMAN AND BELIEVES IN THE SUPREMACY OF WHITE RACE. STATES EVEN THOUGH HE MAKES THESE STATEMENTS, HE HAS NO INTENTION OF PERPETRATING ANY SUCH ACTION AND IS NOT ACQUAINTED WITH ANYONE WHO WOULD DO SO.

RECORDS, MC GAHEY CHRYSLER, PLYMOUTH, INC., MIAMI, FLA., INDICATE TALBOTT AT WORK ON PERTINENT DATE.

WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE NOTIFY OFFICE OF SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY, U.S. SECRET SERVICE, AND OTHER APPROPRIATE AGENCIES IN WASHINGTON, D.C. OF ABOVE THREAT.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES ADVISED.

LHM FOLLOWS.

AIRMAIL COPIES TO MEMPHIS AND RICHMOND.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

ALG

FBI CLEVELAND

P