

F B I

Date:

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

PAGE TWO.

CG 44-1114

REQUESTED UNTIL VERIFICATION OF ESCAPE *And Identity.*AM CCS TO DALLAS ~~XXX~~ MEMPHIS, AND MOBILE

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

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

FBI

Date: 6-12-68

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL

AM

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: SAC, ALBANY

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P

MURKIN

In view of subject's apprehension, any office having outstanding leads or requests for circularization in any publication of any kind should cancel outstanding request now.

A & D.

2 Albany
1 All Continental Offices
1 Memphis

RGJ:BN
(56)

44-2649-1616

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>W</i>	FILED <i>W</i>
JUN 13 1968	
FBI - DALLAS	

Holloman *Hunt*

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

6/11/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (44-1114)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
Re Chicago tel 6/11/68.

On 6/11/68, 12:02 a.m., an anonymous male telephonically contacted SA EARNIE L. WALDRUP and claimed to be an escapee from Washington State Prison, Walla Walla, Washington. He advised that he is aware that JAMES EARL RAY is under arrest and there has been some publicity about a "fat" man who supposedly met RAY on several occasions. The caller advised that he is the "fat" man referred to in the papers and stated that he is en route to Washington State by car to turn himself in to authorities. He advised that he escaped in February, 1967.

Caller further advised that, following his escape, he went to Dallas, Texas, where he met an individual by the name of GENE BASS, owner of a meat packing company in Dallas. Caller claimed that BASS gave him \$1600 to do the job that was done by JAMES EARL RAY; he accepted the money, then contacted RAY on several occasions to give him money which he had obtained from BASS. He delivered money to RAY at Mobile, Montgomery, Birmingham, Alabama, and Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

Caller advised that BASS is not the sole supplier of money for assassination, but there are numerous people involved, primarily at Montgomery, Alabama. He claimed that

2 - Memphis
2 - Dallas (44-2649) *1cc sent SA 6/18/68*
2 - Seattle (44-371) *by jg*
2 - Mobile (157-2627) *gim*
1 - Chicago *(see Ser. 632)*

RJD: pas
(9)

44-2649-617

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CG 44-1114

he can furnish names of individuals involved, but preferred not to give them over the phone. He stated that he feels certain that RAY will talk and he wants to avoid having to run from authorities. He stated that he will be available for interview, upon his return to Washington State. He indicated that he preferred to serve Federal time in prison, was invited to come to the office and stated that he would arrive shortly.

Caller has not appeared at Chicago Office as of 9:00 a.m., 6/11/68. During the call, he indicated that he was in the Chicago area and apparently was calling from a pay phone since the operator cut in advising that his initial time had been used up. He then stated that the \$1600 paid to him by BASS was in postal money orders. He would furnish no further information other than set forth above, but again stated that he would come to the Chicago Office this date.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

F B I

Date: 6/13/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND SAC, MEMPHIS
FROM: SAC, DALLAS (44-2649)

MURKIN

RE MEMPHIS SUMMARY TELETYPE, JUNE TWELVE, LAST; SEATTLE TELETYPE TO DALLAS, JUNE TWELVE, LAST, AND CHICAGO AIRTEL, JUNE ELEVEN, LAST.

GENE BASS, REFERRED TO BY ANONYMOUS CALLER TO CHICAGO OFFICE AS BEING OWNER OF A MEAT PACKING COMPANY IN DALLAS AND ALLEGED TO HAVE GIVEN CALLER SIXTEEN HUNDRED DOLLARS TO DO JOB DONE BY RAY, IS PROBABLY IDENTICAL TO GENE LLOYD BASS, EMPLOYED AS A DELIVERY MAN FOR ARNOLD MEAT COMPANY, DALLAS. HE IS WHITE MALE, BORN DECEMBER ONE, TWENTY-SIX, AT BIG HILL, TEXAS. HE HAS FBI NUMBER EIGHT ONE FOUR SEVEN TWO TWO C. HE IS ONE SUBJECT IN PENDING ITSP CASE AT DALLAS (BUFILE EIGHTY-SEVEN - NINE THREE ONE SIX EIGHT) IN WHICH HE ALLEGEDLY HAD POSSESSION OF STOLEN TRAVELERS EXPRESS MONEY ORDERS. WHEN INTERVIEWED ON FEBRUARY TWENTY-NINE, LAST, HE DENIED THIS ALLEGATION. BASS WAS ALSO A SUBJECT IN BANK ROBBERY CONSPIRACY CASE IN NINETEEN FIFTY-EIGHT (BUFILE NINETY-ONE - ONE ONE ZERO ONE EIGHT) BUT NO CHARGES FILED.

Serialize 1-Dallas
Index 1-Chicago (AM)
File Approved: [Signature]
Search [Signature] (Special Agent in Charge)

WBH:nc
(2) 1/34 WB
Sent 6:40 AM M Per [Signature]

6:50 1cc sent SA 6/18/68 by [Signature] (See Ser. 632)

44-2649-618

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via _____
(Priority)PAGE TWO
DL 44-2649

DALLAS PD IDENTIFICATION RECORDS SHOW BASS ARRESTED BY DALLAS PD JANUARY THIRTY, LAST, ON CHARGE OF INVESTIGATION OF BURGLARY. ON FEBRUARY SEVENTEEN, LAST, HE WAS ARRESTED BY DALLAS PD AND CHARGED WITH SHOPLIFTING ITEMS HAVING VALUE OF ONE DOLLAR FIFTY-NINE CENTS. DALLAS COUNTY SO RECORDS SHOW BASS' LAST ARREST BY THAT DEPARTMENT WAS ON OCTOBER THIRTEEN, LAST, FOR PASSING WORTHLESS CHECKS. RECORDS DO NOT SHOW ANY PRISON TIME EVER SERVED BY BASS. INVESTIGATION REVEALS BASS IS A POLICE CHARACTER WHO IS FREQUENTLY WITHOUT FUNDS, IS NOT THE OWNER OF A MEAT PACKING COMPANY. HE IS LISTED IN TELEPHONE BOOK AS GENE BASS MEAT COMPANY, FOUR ZERO ZERO EIGHT COMMERCE STREET, WHICH IS ACTUALLY ADDRESS OF HIS EMPLOYER, ARNOLD MEAT COMPANY.

ANONYMOUS CALLER STATED HE WAS "FAT MAN" REFERRED TO IN NEWS-PAPERS, HOWEVER "FAT MAN" HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED. HE ALSO STATED HE ESCAPED FROM WASHINGTON STATE PRISON IN FEBRUARY, SIXTY-SEVEN; HOWEVER, SEATTLE HAS ADVISED THERE WERE NO ESCAPEES FROM THAT PRISON IN FEBRUARY SIXTY-SEVEN OR SIXTY-EIGHT.

FROM THE ABOVE, IT WOULD APPEAR THE INFORMATION GIVEN BY THE ANONYMOUS CALLER HAS NO BASIS IN FACT AND NO FURTHER INVESTIGATION IS BEING CONDUCTED BY DALLAS, UACB.

AIR MAIL COPY TO CHICAGO. - P -

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

FBI DALLAS

FBI WASH DC

445PM DEFERRED 6/14/68 JTM

TO DALLAS 44-2649

FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861 1P

MURKIN.

UNLESS CIRCUMSTANCES DICTATE TO THE CONTRARY, DALLAS WILL
LOCATE AND INTERVIEW GENE BASS CONCERNING INFORMATION FURNISHED
BY ANONYMOUS CALLER. AIRMAIL COPIES SENT TO MEMPHIS, SEATTLE
AND CHICAGO.

END

LMB

FBI DALLAS

0

*1 cc sent SA 6/18/68 by jc
jw
(see ser 632)*

44-2649-619

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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FBI-DALLAS	

[Signature]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SaC, Dallas (44-2649)

DATE: 5/30/68

FROM : Clerk Howard W. Pecot

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On this date Rev. Homer F. Adair, Director, Union Gospel Mission, 922 Park Ave., Dallas, telephonically advised as follows;

Adair stated that he was contacted by an agent from this office earlier this week. Since then he has searched his old records for any information that could be identifiable with subject RAY.

He and his assistant Rev. T.J. Sullivan, remember, in particular, an individual that registered at the mission in early Dec. 1966. The individual registered under the name of James Ray, and strongly resembled the wanted flyer photograph of JAMES EARL RAY.

Information on Ray's registration card is as follows:

Social Security No. [REDACTED]

Address: General Delivery, Minneapolis, Minn.

Reference: Mrs. Ted Isenburg
Rt. 1, Box 1116
Sandy, Ore.

*Holloman
advised
5-30-68*

44-2649-620

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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MAY 30 1968	
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Holloman

*Ray was in prison
in Dec 1966, therefore
no further investigation
warranted*



5010-108

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

6/6/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

ReBuairtel, 5/28/68.

As directed in reairtel, Houston has checked all banks in Houston, total of 66, regarding records of access to safety deposit boxes for the month of 4/68 and all renters were eliminated as possibly being subject.

3 - Bureau
1 - Dallas (44-2649) (Info)
1 - Memphis (44-1987) (Info)
1 - New Orleans (157-10673) (Info)
1 - Houston
JSW/sjm
(7)

44-2649-621

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lwl

6/6/68

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
SAC KANSAS CITY

FROM: SAC, MINNEAPOLIS (157-450)

MURKIN

RE KANSAS CITY TEL JUNE FIVE, LAST.

MRS. ALICE CAIN, JACKSON, MINNESOTA, ADVISED JOHN E. SHEPARD IS HER BROTHER WHOM SHE LAST SAW ABOUT FOUR YEARS AGO AT WHICH TIME HE WAS EMPLOYED AS COOK AT MSP, AND RESIDED JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI. ABOUT CHRISTMAS, NINETEEN SIXTY-SEVEN, SHE HEARD FROM ANOTHER BROTHER, STEWART SHEPARD, FOUR TWO ONE HICKORY LANE, VALLEY CITY, KANSAS, AND AT THAT TIME JOHN E. SHEPARD WAS WORKING IN WICHITA, KANSAS, AND WAS LIVING WITH STEWART SHEPARD. STEWART SHEPARD EMPLOYED KING VAN LINES, WICHITA.

KANSAS CITY, THROUGH STEWART SHEPARD LOCATE AND INTERVIEW JOHN E. SHEPARD AS SET OUT IN REFERENCED TEL.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

MEMPHIS AND DALLAS ADVISED AM.

1 - MINNEAPOLIS
① - DALLAS (AM)
1 - MEMPHIS (AM)
CSL:jlj

(3)

44-2649-622

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[Signature]

OF-10
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
M E M O R A N D U M

TO: SA _____
FROM: *S/SA* SAC J. GORDON SHANKLIN (44-2649)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 5/29/68

By airtel 5/28/68 the Bureau instructed that in view of the possibility that the subject, JAMES EARL RAY, may have rented a safe-deposit box and then while fleeing may have made entry for the purpose of withdrawing valuables, a check of the records of access to safe-deposit boxes at banks in the city of Dallas for the month of April 1968 be made. Any individual who made entry into such safe-deposit box in April 1968 should be eliminated as to possibly being the subject.

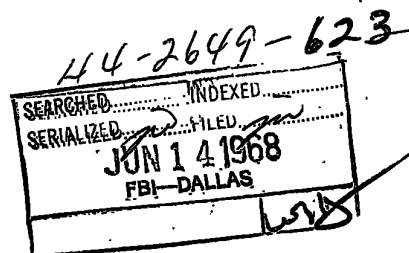
RAY escaped from prison on 4/23/67, therefore, any box can be eliminated which was rented prior to that date. Some can also be eliminated on basis of renter being known to bank employees. Any questionable eliminations must be run out.

You are requested to immediately contact the _____ at Dallas, Texas, and conduct investigation as instructed by Bureau.

Please rough draft results in insert form and return to SA HOLLOMAN no later than 6/4/68.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

1 66-215
1 44-2649



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC Dallas (442649)

DATE:

6-3-68

FROM : SA Earle Haley.

SUBJECT: Murkin:
CR

DD Memphis

RE: List of Obscene Pen Pal Clubs:

AT Ft Worth Texas:

Mr Richard Babb, U S Postal Inspectors Office furnished following information on June 3, 1968:

364-39986-E Sterling Action Club. Corpus Christi Texas.
Case in closed status and no list of names in file.

#364-40081-E F & T - (Travis O Foreman Jr) Closed, Nothing in file.

#364-40330 Roy Marshal Clounch aka Marshels Amis Ft Worth.
Case in closed status and nothing of value in file.

364-40389-E Horizons Correspondence Club Dallas.
P O Box 697. This case in pending status and being investigated by Inspector A H Marsh Jr of Dallas.

Babb advised all of the above cases are assigned to Inspector A H Marsh Jr of Dallas. He also supervises these cases in Ft Worth District. Marsh will know all about the above four cases and can furnish complete up to date information. Babb advised the name of James Earl Ray does not appear in anything that is in the Ft Worth office. Babb suggested that Marsh be interviewed concerning these four cases.
Dallas

At Dallas

Will interview PO Inspector A H Marsh Jr, 5th floor Terminal Annex Bldg. to determine if name of James Earl Ray is on list of any of these clubs or has correspondence with any of these clubs.

E Haley.
44-2649

719-3681
murkin

44-2649-624

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ms



5010-108-01

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, DALLAS (44-2649)

DATE: 6/11/68

FROM : SA WILLIAM B. HOLLOMAN

SUBJECT: MURKIN

RE: OBSCENE PEN PAL CLUBS

Re memo of SA EARLE HALEY 6/3/68.

On 6/7/68 efforts were made to contact Postal Inspector A.H. Marsh, Jr. to review his files concerning the four pen pal clubs located in this division. It was determined that Mr. MARSH is on extended annual leave. The files on the clubs were made available for review by Mr. ALLEN MADDOX, clerk, Postal Inspectors Office. All of the files are in a closed status and the clubs are apparently inactive.

File # 364-40389 E re Horizons Correspondence Club

This club rented P.O. Box 697 on 8/31/64 and was rented by JOHN LOCHABY who gave the address of 509 Summit, #113, Arlington, Texas. The file shows that the box rent is paid by the year and from three to five letters are received daily. LOCHABY has moved from the address he gave and his present address is unknown. No mailing lists are contained in the file and there is no indication that this is an obscene letter club.

File # 364-39986 E re Sterling Action Club

This club is located in Corpus Cristi, Texas where it rents P.O. Box 389. The box was rented by Mr. JESSIE ROBERT VAUGHT, 416 Buccaneer Dr.. He is a teacher in the public schools. Investigation by the postal inspectors revealed this to be strictly a lonely hearts and matrimonial club. No mailing lists are in the file.

File # 364-40330 re Amis Club

This club is operated out of PO Box 13153, Fort Worth, which box was rented by ROY MARSHEL CLOUNCH, 7440 Evelyn St., St. Worth. On about 2/20/68 Mr. and Mrs. CLOUNCH had a serious automobile accident and were confined to a hospital. As of 5/13/68 the club was no longer in operation. A cosmetics and notions business was also operated from this same PO Box. No mailing lists are in the file.



5010-108

see 5-578,579

44-2649-625

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

File # 364-40081 E re F and T Club

This club was operated out of PO Box 9577, Ft. Worth, which was rented to TRAVIS O. FOREMAN, Jr., 4836 El Campo, Ft. Worth. This man also operated an import-export business through this box and as of May 1968 he was no longer in the pen pal business. No mailing list was in the file.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : ALL AGENTS

DATE: 5/28/68

FROM : *JGS* SAC J. GORDON SHANKLIN (44-2649)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

The Bureau has advised that subject, JAMES EARL RAY, has been known to consort with prostitutes and "street bums". 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.

1-Each Agent

②-Dallas (44-2649)

WBH:nc

44-2649-626

JUN 14 1968
FBI-DALLAS

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, DALLAS (44-2649)

DATE: 6/14/68

FROM : SA WILLIAM B. HOLLOMAN

SUBJECT: MURKIN

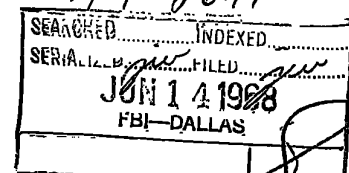
ReBuairtel 5/28/68 which instructed that records of entries into safety deposit boxes in all Dallas banks during the month of April 1968 be checked and any person entering a box should be eliminated as being identical with the subject.

A check of all Dallas banks has been made and the results of those checks are attached hereto. The Bureau is being advised by letter that this check had been made and all persons entering boxes were eliminated as being identical with the subject.

WBH



5010-108



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, DALLAS (44-2649)

DATE: June 10, 1968

FROM : *[Signature]* SA GASTON C. THOMPSON

SUBJECT: MURKIN

During the period 6/4-7/68, a review was made of the entry cards pertaining to safe deposit box rentals at Republic National Bank, Dallas. It was determined that 753 safe deposit boxes had been rented since 4/23/67 and that 255 of these boxes had been entered during April 1968. All but 43 of these 255 lessees were known to employees and/or officers of the bank. The remaining 43 lessees were eliminated as being possibly identical with subject JAMES EARL RAY through review of information contained in the rental contracts covering the boxes, supplemented by information contained in the bank's records as to checking and savings accounts, loans, etc., and listings in current telephone and city directories.

Further, photographs of subject RAY were exhibited to R. CARL ATKINS, Assistant V. P., in charge of the Safe Deposit Vault at Republic National Bank for the past three years, and Mrs. ADRIA CORLEY, employee in that department for the past fourteen years, and both advised such photographs did not appear familiar to them.

1 - 44-2649
GCT/



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

On 5/31/68 Mr. M.T. MAUSEY, Cashier, Merchants State Bank, 5217 Ross, Dallas, made available the safety deposit box records of that bank to SA WILLIAM B. HOLLOMAN. These records were reviewed for all entries during the month of April 1968. Through a review of those records, the rental records and the knowledge of bank employees of the safety deposit box customers it was possible to eliminate all those persons entering boxes in April 1968 as being identical with JAMES EARL RAY.

Rough Draft

TO: SA HOLLOMAN

FROM: SA GOW

SUBJ: MURKIN

Re SAC, Memo dated 5/29/68.

On 5/31 and 6/3/68, the below listed employees of the Hampton State Bank, 2225 Vatican Lane, were shown an IO of JAMES EARL RAY and advised they do not recognize him as being identical to any customer of the bank.

G. L. KIRKLAND, President
WINNIE BARTON, New Loan Secretary
JACKIE COPELAND, New Accounts
JO LLFFOON, Secretary to President.

On 6/3/68, a review of the banks safe deposit entry records was made and all individuals entering their safe deposit boxes in April, 1968, who had obtained their boxes since RAY'S escape were eliminated as being identical to RAY as they were known to the above individuals. Those not known to bank employees were eliminated through neighborhood investigations. However, it is to be noted one R. S. LAMAR, address 2324 W. Illinois, obtained a box on 3/20/68 and entered it on 4/12/68. No listing in current city directories or credit record could be located for LAMAR. In addition, visual inspection determined that the address of 2324 W. Illinois does not exist.

No further action was taken to identify LAMAR in view of RAY'S apprehension.

DL 44-2649.

ROUGH DRAFT INSERT

AT DALLAS, TEXAS

The following investigation was conducted by SA GERALD LEWIS
GEARY on 6/4/68:

Records of the Safe Deposit Vault ^{Department}~~Department~~ of the Greenville
Avenue State Bank, 1827 Greenville, were reviewed with the assistance of
Mrs. SUE GENSLER, Safe Deposit Vault Department, and names of all en-
trants into the bank's safe-deposit boxes of that bank during the month
of April, 1968 were eliminated as being that of JAMES EARL RAY.

44-2649

Rough Draft Insert

Heitman

Mr. David George, President, Liberty National Bank, 701 Elm Street, Dallas, Texas, was contacted on June 3, 1968 with reference to any holder of a safe deposit box at this bank who might be identical with James Earl Ray. Mr. George was furnished with a photograph and description of Ray. Mr. George advised he would confer with appropriate employees of the bank to determine if any of the box holders could not be identified.

Mr. George advised on June 7, 1968 that on the basis of inquiry with bank employees he had been able to determine that none of the box holders ~~could~~ could be Ray.

... the following investigation was conducted by
SA CHARLES R. KING:

AT DALLAS, TEXAS.

On 5/31/68, Mr. BEN O. DILWORTH,
Vice President of the Buckner State Bank
advised there is no information in their
records concerning the subject and
all the renters of the boxes in the bank
are well known accounts with reputable
backgrounds.

The following investigation was conducted by
SAC CHARLES R. KING:

AT DALLAS, TEXAS:

On 5/31/68, HANNAH GREENSPAN,
Saftey Deposit Clerk, North Park National Bank,
1526 Northpark Center, advised a
search of her records reveals no information
concerning the subject and they have had
no saftey deposit vacancies since the first
of the year.

DL file 44-2649

INSERT

The following investigation was conducted by SA W.
Dodson Hanes on 6-4-68.

AT DALLAS, TEXAS.

ADMINISTRATIVE

The Safety Box Deposit records of the Inwood National Bank failed to disclose any information as to any customer being identical to subject. All the safety box deposit accounts were checked and the customers eliminated as being identical to subject by Betty O'hagen who has charge of the accounts or by bank officer G. Gene Smith.

ROUGH DRAFT INSERT

DL 44-2649

The following investigation was conducted by SA FORREST
F. JOHN.

AT DALLAS, TEXAS

On May 31, 1968, H. C. FLEMING, Assistant Vice President, Mercantile National Bank of Dallas, was advised it was desired to review the bank's safe deposit box records for those boxes rented since April 23, 1967, and into which entry was made during April, 1968, for the purpose of determining whether any such customer is identical with JAMES EARL RAY. Copies of I. O. No. 4182 for RAY were furnished to FLEMING. FLEMING and Safe Deposit Clerk MRS. ANNE DUVAL were contacted again on June 3 and on June 6, 1968. On the latter date MRS. DUVAL and FLEMING advised that the records for each safe deposit box rented since January 1, 1967, had been reviewed and that none of such boxes had been rented by an individual identical with RAY.

ROUGH DRAFT INSERT

The following investigation was conducted by SA JAMES E. ROGERS at Dallas, Texas on 6/5/68.

GERRY L. BOWMAN, Vice President & Cashier, Trinity Nat. Bank of
2505 Fort Worth Ave.,
Dallas, advised that the records of his bank showed that more than 300 safe deposit boxes were currently being rented. The files of the renters were reviewed by BOWMAN, SA ROGERS, and Trinity employee JANE CHRISTIAN. On the basis of rental date, entry date into the box, and ~~his~~ knowledge of the renter by BOWMAN or CHRISTIAN, all renters were eliminated as to the possibility of being JAMES EARL RAY.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC

FROM : SA EDWIN D. KUYKENDALL

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 6/6/68

INSERT

Mrs. WILLIE MAUD FITE, Safe Deposit Department, National Bank of Commerce, Dallas, on 6/4 and 6/68 was contacted by SA EDWIN D. KUYKENDALL. She and Mrs. RUTH SPIVEY, the only other employee in that department, on 6/4/68 viewed subject's photographs and advised they do not know anyone resembling subject. Mrs. FITE advised her records fail to reflect that any safe deposit box is currently rented, or has been rented subsequent to March, 1967, under the names, JAMES EARL RAY, ERIC STARVO GALT, W.C. HERRON, HARVEY LOWMYER, JAMES McBRIDE, JAMES O'CONNER, JAMES WALTON, JAMES WALYON, or HOHN WILLARD.

Mrs. FITE, assisted by Mrs. SPIVEY, reviewed all their records reflecting access granted during April, 1968, to safe deposit boxes. From their knowledge and from safe deposit box rental records, they eliminated all but 19 persons who gained access in April, 1968, from possibly being identical with subject. SA KUYKENDALL through directory checks and other investigative activity eliminated the remaining 19. None therefore were found who could possibly be identical with subject.

The above includes records of the National Bank of Commerce and the former Empire State Bank, Dallas. The records of those two banks were consolidated on 12/4/67, following their merger. Mrs. SPIVEY prior to the merger worked in the Safe Deposit Dept. at Empire State Bank.



44-2649

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

INSERT

AT DALLAS, TEXAS

The following investigation was conducted by SA ROBERT C. LISH.

On June 4, 1968, ROY MITCHELL, President, Northwest National Bank of Dallas allowed a review of the safe deposit box records of that institution to be made. This review of the records encompassed those safe deposit boxes rented since April 23, 1967 and into which entry has been made during the month of April 1968. All such persons have been eliminated as being identical with JAMES EARL RAY.

44-2649

The following investigation was conducted by SA JAMES T. SMERZ:
AT DALLAS, TEXAS:

On 6/3/68, Mrs. JONI ARNOLD, Assistant Vice President, White Rock National Bank of Dallas made available a list of persons who entered their safety deposit box during the month of April 1968. All such persons were eliminated as being the subject by being known to bank officials, by having rented their safety deposit box before 4/23/67 or by further investigation by SA SMERZ.

44- 2649

The following investigation was conducted by SA RICHARD L. GIBSON at Dallas, Texas:

Mr. JOE LOWE, Senior Vice President, Grove State Bank, 1520 South Buckner Blvd. advised on 6/4/68 that a check of his records of safe-deposit boxes rented by his bank since April of 1968 until the present showed that all of these individuals who rented these boxes were either known by the bank employees or have had some type of bank dealings prior to renting these boxes.

Mr. LOWE stated that he has no record of a JAMES EARL RAY or any of his aliases, as having any transaction what so every with his bank.

MRS. RUTH CALVERT, Assistant ~~Cashier~~ ^{the} Cashier, and Mrs. EVA HARRED, Employee in charge of ^{the} vault, both of the above bank, advised that they ^{Did} ~~do~~ not recognize I.O. 4182 of subject RAY.

Mr. LOWE advised that MRS. CALVERT and MRS. HARRED were the only two employees who would have contact with any person renting a safe-deposit box with his bank.

DL 44-2649

The following investigation was conducted by
SA VINCENT E. DRAIN:

AT DALLAS, TEXAS

Mr. BROOKS BELL, Vice President, Commonwealth National Bank, 3535 Forest Avenue, advised on 6/3-4/68 that this bank was a small suburban bank and catered to neighborhood banking. He stated that he could account for all of the customers that had safe deposit boxes in that bank and none fit the description of JAMES EARL RAY or any of his aliases.

44-2649

The following investigation was conducted by SA ALFRED D. NEELEY;

~~AT~~ DALLAS, TEXAS

On 6/4/68 MR HARRY K. YEAGER, V.P. and Cashier, Preston State Bank, 8111 Preston Rd., advised that Bank's ~~Safety~~ ^{Safe} Deposit Box records showed no box rented in the name of the subject. After examination of the ~~Safety~~ ^{Safe} Deposit Box entry records and after interview with persons responsible for this area in the bank, advised that there had been no suspicious or questional entry made in any of their boxes during April 1968.

On 6/3/68 the following investigation was conducted by SA

CARL L. CURTIS JR. at Dallas, Texas:

DAVY R. MORRIS, Vice President-Cashier, Commercial National Bank
stated that he had reviewed the banks records for ^{SAFETY DEPOSIT} new accounts being
opened from April of 1967 and for entries made during April 1968.

He stated that this bank is still fairly small and he knew the people
opening new accounts and entering the deposit boxes, the majority
being old customers to the bank, and they would not fit the subject's
description by physical description or by name of known alais.

INSERT

The following investigation was conducted by SA HAROLD J. EDGERTON;

On June 4, 1968, Mr. JAMES WEST, Assistant Vice-President, First Citizens Bank, 926 Lockwood Village, Dallas, Texas, made available all of the Safe Deposit Box entry slips for the month of April, 1968.

There were approximately two-hundred and fifty of the entry slips, and these were reviewed with Mr. WEST and the Safe Deposit Box Vault Clerk, and all but fifteen were eliminated as not being identical with JAMES EARL RAY. The remaining number were checked against the original application for Safe Deposit Box and in each instance the applicant was found to have had the box for at least two years or more, and therefore, not identical to RAY. In addition, the Vault Clerk checked all recent applications since April 1, 1968, for subject JAMES EARL RAY and his known aliases, and no applications were found indicating any possible identification with RAY.

Insert

44-2649

AT DALLAS, TEXAS

The following investigation was conducted by SA JAMES T. MONAHAN:

Miss BARBARA WIESER, Safety Deposit Vault Department, Park Cities Bank and Trust Company, 5315 Preston Road, Dallas, reviewed the records of her office on 6/3/68 and advised that no persons made entry into any safety deposit box in this bank during the month of April, 1968 who were unknown to the bank as customers or were unknown to bank employees.

To: SAC Dallas (44-2649)
From: SA. Hunter R. Perryman
Re: MURKIN

Reference Dallas memo, 5/29/68

Records of the Texas National Bank of Dallas were checked on 6/3/68 in accordance with instructions set forth in referenced memo.

All persons who made entry into safe-deposit boxes have been eliminated as possibly being the subject.

DALLAS DIVISION

AT DALLAS, TEXAS

The following investigation was conducted by SA RICHARD L. SLOAN.

On 6/3/68, HENRY A. HICKMAN, President, WYNNEWOOD STATE BANK, Dallas, Texas advised that he would make available the records regarding visitation of the safe deposit boxes of his bank, and would provide any assistance possible.

MRS. MODINE THOMPSON, Clerk in charge of safe deposit boxes, Wynnewood State Bank, Dallas, Texas assisted in checking the records of the safe deposit boxes opened since April 23, 1967 to June 3, 1968. The closed files were also checked for the same period of time. All ~~boxes~~ safe deposit boxes were checked and all boxes entered from April 1, 1968 to present were checked out. MRS. THOMPSON was able to verify and identify as good customers of the Bank all ~~except~~ the following named individuals checked:

RLS

ROBERT O. HERNDON

2016 Didsbury Circle Apartment C

Dallas, Texas 75224

Employed by Yellow Cab Company.

5'8"

185 pounds

Brown hair

Hazel eyes

Rented box number 1378 on 2/16/68 and last entered the box on 5/31/68. ROBERT O. HERNDON did not have a checking or savings account with the Bank at present time.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, DALLAS (44-2649) (P)

FROM : SA WILLIAM E. KELL

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 6/4/68

The following investigation was conducted by
SA WILLIAM E. KELL:

AT DALLAS, TEXAS

On 5/31/68, MR. MARLIN MYERS, Vice President and Cashier, North Dallas Bank and Trust Company, 11811 Preston Road, advised that their bank had some 1500 safe-deposit customers and that his employee in charge of same is MISS BEVERLY WHITTEN. MR. MYERS stated that also working in this department are employees BEVERLY MELTON, ANN WRIGHT, JEAN GILLESPIE, and DOROTHY BLAND.

MR. MYERS checked their safe deposit name records under the name of JAMES EARL RAY and all his known aliases, with negative results. Photographs of RAY were displayed to MYERS, WHITTEN, MELTON, WRIGHT, GILLESPIE, and BLAND and they all advised that the photographs did not resemble any of their known safe deposit customers or anyone they had known or seen.

MR. MYERS advised that they would check their customers and ascertain how many had made entry into their safe deposit boxes during the month of April, 1968, and would notify this Agent of the results of this check on Monday, 6/3/68.

On 6/3/68, MR. MARLIN MYERS advised that they had checked all their safe deposit customers who had made entry during the month of April, 1968, and that he and all the employees who worked in this department were able to identify and recognize those customers who had transacted any business during this period.

(2) Dallas
WEK:jcb
(2)



5010-108-02

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

44-2049

The following investigation was
conducted by SA Raymond S. Gelsbach
on 6/3/68:

At Dallas, Texas

Mr. James S. Thompson, V. P. &
Cashier, Oak Cliff Bank & Trust Co., 400 S.
Jango, advised Mrs. Marge Minshew is
their Safe Deposit Attendant, & is familiar
with all their renters.

Mrs. Minshew advised they have no
record for the subject under his true name or
known aliases. Upon viewing subject's photo,
she stated he is definitely not one of their
renters. She further advised she is familiar
with all of their customers that had
access to their boxes during April, 1968, &
the subject is not identical with any of
these persons.

Rough draft insert Drever

44-2649

The following investigation was conducted on 5-31-68 by
SA DONALD C. DREVER at Dallas, Texas:

MRS JERRY PASCHALL, Fair Park National Bank, 3300
Commerce furnished the record cards for the safe deposit boxes
at the bank. A review of these cards failed to reveal a box
which had been entered during April, 1968 that could be
attributed to the subject as ^{the customers} ~~they~~ either had accounts prior
to April, 1967 or were known to MRS PASCHALL.

On 6/4/68 W.C. Winning, Cashier, Bank of Services & Trusts, Dallas, made available a list of persons who had access to their safe deposit boxes during month of April, 1968.

Winning and his secretary were able to identify each individual as not being identical with James Earl Ray.

No record could be located for Ray or any names he is known to have used.

44-2649

The following investigation was conducted by SA CHARLES E. BLOSSFIELD:

AT DALLAS, TEXAS

On 6/3-4/68 a review was made of the files ~~XXXXXX~~ on holders of safe deposit boxes at the East Dallas Bank and Trust Company, 2325 Gus Thomasson Road. MRS. DELLA POTT, secretary, who accepts all applications for safe deposit boxes and handles most of the customers who wish to gain access to their boxes, made the necessary files re this matter available to SA BLOSSFIELD. Through the process of eliminating by dates, personal knowledge of the person by bank officers, employment checks and credit checks, it was determined that JAMES EARL RAY ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ has not made a personal contact at this bank, ~~KRM~~ does not hold a safe deposit box under his name or existing aliases, and has definitely not established or rented a safe deposit box between 4/23/67 and the present time.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, DALLAS (44-2649)

FROM : SA JOSEPH J. HANLEY

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 6-3-68

Re SAC Memo, 5-29-68.

On 5-31-68, MARTHA CORNELIUS, who has charge of safe-deposit boxes at the Lakewood Bank & Trust, 6323 LaVista Drive, checked through her records of access to the vault for the month of April, 1968, and advised that she is acquainted with every person who signed in and had access for that month. They were all regular customers.

A photograph of JAMES EARL RAY was exhibited to Mrs. CORNELIUS and she had no recollection of ever having seen the subject.



5010-108-02

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

44-2649

Memo to all Agent's dated 5/29/68.

On 5/31/68 the following investigation was conducted by SA
DONALD A. ADAMS

AT DALLAS, TEXAS

SALLY DUNN, Clerk in charge of new accounts and safe deposit
boxes, ~~for~~ 234 Casa Linda Plaza National Bank of Dallas, reviewed all records
for bank customers who made entry into their respective safe-deposit
boxes for the Month of April 1968 and none were found to have made
entry who were not known to the bank employees.

A large number were eliminated due to their ~~having~~ having either
checking or savings accounts/and ~~those~~ those who did not fit into
the above were eliminated due to their being known personally by the
bank employees.

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DL 44-2649
WHG:t1e

AT DALLAS, TEXAS

The following investigation was conducted by SA WILL
HAYDEN GRIFFIN:

On May 31, 1968, JACK BARNES, Cashier, and PEGGY
LeFORE, Clerk, Hillside National Bank of Dallas, 400 Hillside
Village, reviewed their records for safety deposit boxes at the
bank that were entered during April 1968. BARNES and LeFORE
knew personally every person that opened the safety deposit
boxes for April and stated they were all long time residents
of Dallas.

ROUGH DRAFT (INSERT)

AT DALLAS, TEXAS

The following investigation was conducted by SA JAMES W. ANDERTON on 5/31/68.

MR. JOE E. HUBBARD, Cashier, Bank of Dallas, 3635 ~~KHMS~~ Lemon Avenue, furnished the registration cards for customers of that bank's safety deposit boxes for the month of April, 1968. These cards were reviewed by SA JAMES W. ANDERTON, and with the assistance of MR. HUBBARD, all cards were eliminated as not being identical with JAMES EARL RAY.

In addition to the above, a wanted flyer pertaining to JAMES EARL RAY was furnished to MR. HUBBARD, who stated he would exhibit it to all personnel in his department of the bank as a matter of cooperation;

R/DRAFT INSERT

44-2649

J. Williams

The following investigation
was conducted by SA J. Doyle
Williams.

At Dallas, Texas

On 5-31-68^{all} Safe deposit
account files^{of the Hillcrest State Bank} were reviewed,
including daily entry cards for April 1968,
and all names were eliminated as
to possibly being identical with
James Earl Ray. -

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC Dallas 44-2649

DATE: June 3, 1968

FROM : SA Cullum

SUBJECT: MURKIN

BOB A. REEVES, Community National Bank of Oak Cliff, 1128 West Camp Wisdom Road, Dallas, on 5/31/68 reviewed all safe-deposit records of his bank in the presence of SA EARL O. CULLUM, who entered boxes in April 1968. Mr. REEVES stated all renters/are personally known to him, and are not identical with Subject.

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

The following investigation was conducted by SA Alfred D. Ewington:

On 6/3/68, with the assistance of Mrs. KATE BURCH, Safe Deposit Section, First National Bank in Dallas, Texas, safe deposit box ~~XXXXXX~~ entries during April, 1968 were reviewed. On the basis of these records, and her acquaintance of the bank's customers, she advised no record was found which was considered pertinent to this investigation.

Photographs of subject were viewed by Mrs. BURCH and other employees of this section, and a name search of the name and known aliases of subject were also unproductive.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, Dallas

DATE: 6/3/68

FROM : SA Charles T. Brown, Jr.

SUBJECT: MURKIN

The following investigation was conducted at Dallas, Texas by SA Charles T. Brown, Jr.:

MR. GENE GLAZIER, Vice President, Citizens National Bank, 2000 Live Oak St., Dallas, Texas, on 6/3/68 checked bank records on safe-deposit boxes in the presence of SA BROWN. GLAZIER checked these records for access made to boxes at the bank during April 1968. GLAZIER was able to eliminate as suspects all persons with the exception of one box holder by the name of JAMES A. STAGGS, 203 N. Colson St., Dallas, Texas.

MRS. W. E. ROBERTS, Manager, 203 N. Colson St., Dallas, advised JAMES STAGGS and his wife have been tenants at this address since August, 1967. STAGGS is a maintenance man for one of the downtown hotels. MRS. ROBERTS stated STAGGS does not resemble the photo of JAMES EARL RAY which was exhibited to her. She stated STAGGS is in his 40's, tall and very thin. She has observed STAGGS car at the residence on a daily basis and she said she is certain STAGGS has not been away from home for any period of time since he has resided at this address.



5010-108

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