l - Mr. McDonough

May 7, 1968

AIRTEL

To:

All SACs and LEGATS

From:

Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

MAIL ROOM

OO: MEMPHIS (44-1987)

The Bureau has designated Memphis as office of origin in this case.

You were previously advised that leads in this Top Ten Fugitive case must be handled within 24 hours. The Atlanta, Birmingham, Chicago, Houston, Jackson, Kansas City, Los Angeles, New Orleans, St. Louis, and Springfield Offices are to prepare the results of their investigation to date in report form, not as an insert. At such time as the amount of investigation in these field offices does not appear to warrant individual reports, advise the Bureau and office of origin that inserts being prepared in future in lieu of reports, UACB.

All other offices will record the results in appropriate form and transmit 15 copies of each to the office of origin for inclusion in reports submitted by the Memphis Office. Should investigation increase in any such area warranting submission of individual report, do so and advise the Bureau and Memphis.

LEGATs are to submit results of investigation which can be disseminated in letterhead memorandum form suitable for dissemination. Any administrative data which cannot be disseminated is to be set forth in the administrative section of your transmittal communication. Look-alikes and other leads resolved and reported by cablegram or other communication need not be rereported as copies of these communications are being forwarded office of origin by the Bureau for administrative handling of the case.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. 19 MAY 8 1968 Shop isper cildion EJM:hw (3) NOTE: See Rosen to DeLoach memo dated 5 47-68, same caption, EJM:hw Commission Commiss

RECEIVA

MAY 7 | 36 PM '58

MAY 7 10 49 44 48 REC'D DE LOACH FBI

Airtel

1 - Mr. Hudson

To: SAC, Los Angeles

From: Director, FBI 44 - 3 - 8 - 1 -

MURKIN

N

Re Betty Sparks - complainant.

Enclosed for Los Angeles are two copies of a letter from Betty Sparks postmarked 5-2-38, at Fontana, California. One copy is enclosed for Memphis.

Unless information in your files would preclude doing so, Los Angeles should interview Betty Sparks to determine the identity of the individual who furnished the information in her letter. That person should be interviewed for any pertinent details which he might have in his possession regarding this case.

Enc. (2) 1 - Memphis (info) Enc.

FJH: jlh (5)

MAILED 10 Tolson. MAY 7 1968 DeLoach _ Bishop _ COMM-FB1 Casper _ Callahan _ Conrad _

Felt _ Gale _

Rosen _ Sullivan _ Tavel ____ rotter ele. R**b**om 🛶

Chargan MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

May-1-'68.

Mr. Hoover --

ponso

Please forgive me for bothering you-this may be just what you are looking for -- and old man, who has second sight, told me that the man, who killed Dr. King, is still in Memphis, Tenn. and is within three blocks of the place where Dr. King was killed. Also the man's name is Hayes and that he has a slight limp in his right leg. The man is dangerous because he is really a coward and would shoot one in the back.

I would write to Memphis but I do believe they would not be too interested in finding the man. The discription of the man is correct-all but not having a limp.

Wishing you luck-I am --

Betty Sparks 13128 Whittram Ave.

Fontana, Valifornia.

-92335-

EX 106

REC-52

4 Kerox copies

JJH:71h

44-38861-3112

Jarks.

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS FBI

May 6 11 06 AH '68

Airtel

To: SAC's, Los Angeles (44-1574) - Enclosures (2) Memphis (44-1987)

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

Re Los Angeles airtel 4/26/68, submitting an envelope, Q300, addressed to the "Editor, Citizens News," and accompanying clipping, Q301, for examination.

One latent fingerprint of value was developed on the envelope. No latent impressions of value developed on the clipping. Latent fingerprint on the envelope is not identical with the fingerprints of James Earl Ray, FBI \$405942G, SA Theodore J. A'Hearn, or with the latent fingerprints previously reported in this case.

Envelope and clipping enclosed to Los Angeles.

Laboratory reporting separately.

EX 101

REC- 38

44-38861_3113

19 MAY 9 1968

1 - Mr. Rosen

Mohr ____ Bishop _ Callahan Felt _ Rosen Sullivan

Gandy

MAY 8

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

AC 3

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO

MR. TROTTER

DATE: 5/8/68

FROM

S. F. Latona

SUBJECT: MURKIN

LATENT PRINT ON COUPON IDENTICAL JAMES EARL RAY

An undated coupon from the Modern Photo Bookstor's bearing the name and address "Eric S. Galt, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama," and a letter dated 9/26/67 signed "Eric S. Galt" were received from the New York Office for examination.

A latent fingerprint developed on the coupon has been identified as the left thumb print of James Earl Ray, FBI #405942G. The coupon, presumably clipped from the September, 1967 issue of Modern Photography, was sent to the Modern Photo Bookstore, 166 5th Avenue, New York, New York, to order book #633, and was accompanied by a money order in the amount of \$8.95. This coupon was followed later by the letter dated 9/26/67, in which Galt said in part, ''If you have not allready mailed the book (PLEASE DO NOT MAIL IT) I am moving and will shortly send you my correct address.'' No latent impressions were developed on the letter.

General Investigative, New York, Memphis, Birmingham, and Knoxville Divisions have been advised.

Laboratory reporting separate.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Mohr

1 - Mr. Bishop

1 - Mr. Conrad

1 - Mr. Rosen

GJB:mb¹ (12)

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VIA TELETYPE
MAY 8 1908
ENCIPHEDED

SDØI

URGENT 5-8-68
TO DIRECTOR (44-38861)
FROM LEGAT MEXICO CITY NO. 222

MURKIN.

· (UACK)

LORT

REMYCAB MAY SIX LAST.

INVESTIGATION AT CAMPECHE, CAMPECHE, MEXICO:

STATE POLICE, STATE JUDICIAL POLICE AND HIGHWAY POLICE HAVE CONCLUDED SEARCH IN CITY OF CAMPECHE AND ALL OUTLYING AREAS OF STATE.

IDENTIFICATION ORDERS AND WANTED FLYERS AS WELL AS PERSONAL CONTACT UTILIZED TO ALERT EVERY POLICE UNIT IN STATE. EXTENSIVE COVERAGE PRODUCED INFORMATION CONCERNING ONE NORTH AMERICAN LOCATED IN COMMUNITY OF ESCARCEGA, SOME NINE ZERO MILES SOUTH OF CITY OF CAMPECHE. THIS INDIVIDUAL WAS CHECKED OUT PROMPTLY AND FOUND TO BE A YOUNG NEGRO AND NOT IDENTICAL WITH SUBJECT.

SINCE EXTENSIVE COVERAGE ESTABLISHED THROUGH POLICE LIAISON AND CONTACT WITH NUMEROUS OTHER SOURCES, AGENT BEING RETURNED TO HEADQUARTERS CITY, UACB, TO ASSIST IN HANDLING OF OTHER LEADS IN REC 11 CASE. INVESTIGATIVE INFORMANT WILL CONTINUE CHECKING IN OTHER SMALL COMMUNITIES ON PENINSULA OUTSIDE OF STATE OF CAMPECHE, INCLUDING ISLAND OF COZUMEL.

6 6 MAY 1 5 1968

PAGE TWO

RE ALLEGATION THAT SUBJECT IN GUATEMALA:

AGENT ON SCENE ADVISES EXTENSIVE COVERAGE EFFECTED THROUGH GUATEMALAN IMMIGRATION AND JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT. EFFORTS BY THESE AGENCIES HAVE INSPIRED NUMEROUS PRESS ARTICLES INCLUDING SOME ERRONEOUS STORIES.

NET EFFECT, HOWEVER, RESULTED IN PICTURES AND DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT BEING WIDELY PUBLICIZED THROUGHOUT COUNTRY. CHIEF OF JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT ADVISES PAULINO JARQUIN INTERVIEWED BUT DENIED HAVING SEEN SUBJECT OR KNOWING ANYTHING BOUT HIM. JARQUIN IS RESTAURANT OWNER QUOTED BY MICHIGAN STUDENT AS STATING SUBJECT HAD BEEN IN GUATEMALA. POLICE INTEND TO INTERROGATE JARQUIN FURTHER AND HAVE OFFERED COMPLETE COOPERATION IN INVESTIGATION. THEY HAVE ALERTED ALL BORDER STATIONS AND STATE THAT IF SUBJECT CAUGHT IN GUATEMALA THIS OFFICE WILL BE IMMEDIATELY ADVISED AND HE WILL BE EXPELLED TO UNITED STATES ON FIRST AVAILABLE PLANE AS ILLEGAL ALIEN.

RE SUSPECT AT CIUDAD OBREGON. SONORA:

COMPLETE CANVASS AT GUAYMAS, SONORA, COMPLETED BY INVESTIGATIVE INFORMANT AND ALL LOGICAL SOURCES AND POLICE AGENCIES ALERTED.

RE ANONYMOUS CALL TO MEMPHIS POLICE:

NO OTHER INDIVIDUAL FROM BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, EXCEPT FOR DANIEL DAVID KENNEDY, KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN ARRESTED RECENTLY BY MEXICAN POLICE.

3RD CC MR BRENNAN

PAGE THREE

AREA INDICATED BY CALLER IS IN ISOLATED AND SPARSELY INHABITED DESERT AREA AND SHOULD BE GENERALLY IN VICINITY OF SMALL ROAD WHICH RUNS FROM MEXICAN HIGHWAY TWO NEAR CABORCA, SONORA, IN SOUTH AND SOUTHWESTERLY DIRECTION TO PUERTO LIBERTAD ON GULF OF CALIFORNIA. AGENT AND INVESTIGATIVE INFORMANTS ARE FAMILIAR WITH THIS AREA AND ARRANGEMENTS BEING MADE FOR APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION BY INFORMANTS.

RE ANONYMOUS LETTERS FROM HAMILTON, ONTARIO:

RUINS MENTIONED IN LETTER OF MAY TWO LAST ARE PROBABLY COPILCO
RUINS SITUATED NEAR SOUTHERN EDGE OF CITY AND NEAR CUERNAVACA HIGHWAY.
INVESTIGATIVE SOURCES ASSIGNED TO CONDUCT THOROUGH SEARCH OF THIS
AREA.

INVESTIGATION CONTINUES ON PRIORITY BASIS WITH ALL LEADS RECEIVING EXPEDITE ATTENTION.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

RECEIVED: 1:13 AM HFL

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FBI WASH DC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

APR 1 2 1968

TELETYPE.

FBI MEMPHIS

850AM URGENT 4-12-68 SAB

TO DIRECTOR

FROM MEMPHIS 44-1987 2P

MURKIN; CIVIL RIGHTS.

DR. JERRY T. FRANCISCO, MEDICAL EXAMINER, UNIVERSITY OF TENN., AT MEMPHIS, ADVISED THAT AN AUTOPSY WAS PERFORMED ON DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., ON THE NIGHT OF APRIL FOUR. LAST.

AVAILABLE APRIL SIXTEEN, NEXT. DR. FRANCISCO FURNISHED

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CONCERNING HIS FINDINGS AT THE

TIME OF THE AUTOPSY:

THE MISSILE ENTERED THE RIGHT JAW OF DR. KING, SIXTYONE
INCHES SUPERIOR TO THE RIGHT HEEL. THIS IS A POINT FIFTYNINE INCHES SUPERIOR TO THE RIGHT HEEL AWITH THE HEAD
POSITIONED TO CORRESPOND WITH THE PATH OF THE MISSILE.

THE MISSILE SEVERED THE SPINAL CORD AND CAME TO REST BENEATH
REC 11
THE SKIN FIFTYFIVE AND ONE HALF INCHES SUPERIOR TO THE
LEFT HEEL AND THREE INCHES TO THE LEFT OF THE MID-LINE OF 1968
THE BACK. THE THICKNESS FROM THE POINT OF ENTRY, TO THE
FINAL RESTING POINT OF THE MISSILE WAS EIGHT AND ONE HALF INCHES.
END PAGE ONE

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PAGE TWO

DR. FRANCISCO SUMMARIZED THE ABOVE STATEMENT BY

COMMENTING THAT THE BULLET ENTERED THE RIGHT JAW OF DR. KING

AND TRAVELED EIGHT AND ONE HALF INCHES THROUGH THE FLESH

COMING TO REST AT A POINT JUST BENEATH THE SKIN THREE INCHES

TO THE LEFT OF DR. KING'S BACKBONE. DR. FRANCISCO STATED THAT

HE SIGNED THE DEATH CERTIFICATE INDICATING THE OFFICIAL CAUSE

OF DEATH TO BE GUN SHOT WOUND TO THORASIC CORD. THE DEATH

CERTIFICATE WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM DEPT. OF HEALTH ON APRIL

SIXTEEN, NEXT. ON APRIL SIXTEEN, NEXT, A COPY OF THE AUTOPSY AND

DEATH CERTIFICATE WILL BE OBTAINED BY MEMPHIS DIVISION.

MR. PAUL E. HASS, ASST. ADMINISTRATOR, ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL, MEMPHIS, ADVISED THAT MR. J. L. LUTON, ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR OF HOSPITAL, HAS MAINTAINED ALL HOSPITAL RECORDS CONCERNING THE TREATMENT OF REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. UNDER LOCK AND KEY. HE STATED MR. LUTON IS CURRENTLY IN TRAVEL STATUS AND WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE IN MEMPHIS UNTIL APRIL FIFTEEN, NEXT.

ON APRIL FIFTEEN, NEXT, MEMPHIS WILL OBTAIN COPIES OF ALL PERTINENT HOSPITAL RECORDS FROM MR. LUTON. P

WPK

FBI WASH DC

JPR 17 10 07

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1982 EDITION
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 4-29-68

Mr. Deli 🏄

Mr. Mohr ...

Mr. Calleban Mr. Conrad

> Trotter. Room...

Miss Candy...

Mr. Rose

Mr. Bishep Mr. Casper

FROM:

SAC, Birmingham (44-1740)

SUBJECT:

MURKIN (MURCO) OR DR MARCH A LOTHER - 104

Mr. WADE HARMAN, 1613 Cresthill Road, Birmingham, Alabama, telephonically contacted the office this date and stated that he was a Lieutenant Colonel in the Alabama State Militia, a businessman, and a "strict segregationist."

He said he saw the photograph of the man who allegedly murdered MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr., flashed on the TV at the end of the FBI Program last night and felt compelled to express his opinion. He said that he does not condone murder; however, he believed the FBI has become very "political" and he does not believe it is a good thing for the FBI or the country. He said he does not know if Mr. HOOVER is responsible for this; however, he recalls that Mr. HOOVER described Dr. KING as a liar a few years ago and never retracted his statement. He suspects The President, the Attorney General, and Mr. ARTHUR J. GOLDBERG as responsible for this political turn by the FBI.

Mr. HARMAN was advised that the killing of Dr. KING was a violation of the Civil Rights Act and that the FBI has investigative jurisdiction in these matters. It was clearly pointed out to him that this case, like all other cases within our jurisdiction, would be investigated vigorously and without apology to anyone.

The above furnished for Bureau's information.

2-Bureau 2-Birmingham JHG:rlg (4) EX 109

REP 16

12 MAY 1 1968

1 51968

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

IN DELLAR

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MAY 1 11 22 AH '68

HAY E WAY 6 TO US AH 682 9 45 SH 18 REC'D DE LUACH

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

B

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director

Federal Bureau of Investigation

SUBJECT: Dr. Martin Luther KING, Jr.

1. Reference is made to this Agency's out message number 94270 dated 25 April 1968 concerning the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther KING, Jr.

- 2. On 16 April Roderick Claflin BROWN, a Panamanian national born in British Honduras, voluntarily appeared at the Department of National Investigations (DENI) of the Republic of Panama and signed a deposition, the highlights of which are as follows:
- (1) On 26 October 1962 he served as cook/seaman aboard the Texaco S.S. Southhampton which docked at Mobile, Alabama.
- (2) While on a shore visit to the Mobile airport on the morning of 26 October 1962 in the company of two fellow Panamanian seamen, he was approached by Marvin P. LITTRELL, owner of LITTRELL Motor Co., 921-25 South Clinton Street, Athens, Alabama, who after ascertaining BROWN was a Panamanian seaman, asked if he knew of Dr. Martin Luther KING, Jr.
- (3) LITTRELL inquired whether BROWN was interested in employment, the details of which were unspecified. He went on to describe Dr. KING as "Our greatest problem who is causing us much trouble." He gave BROWN a business card to use in the event he was interested in pursuing the employment offer.
- (4) On 28 January 1963 BROWN, wrote LITTRELL from New York City, stating he was interested in a job and

EX 10% SECRET

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MW 3 6 32 VM . 88

requested \$75 for travel from New York City to Mobile. On 2 February 1963 BROWN received a reply from LITTRELL, restating that he had a job waiting for BROWN in Alabama, but questioning why \$75 was needed since the fare was less than \$40 by bus.

- (5) After discussions with a relative and friends in New York City, BROWN suspected that the LITTRELL job offer was related with assassination plans for Dr. KING. Therefore he did not respond to the LITTRELL letter and dismissed the incident until the death of Dr. KING in April 1968. BROWN returned to Panama in 1964.
- 3. Enclosed for your information is a copy of the LITTRELL letter and the Spanish language deposition made by BROWN, as well as an English translation of the deposition as described in paragraph 2 of the referenced out message.

FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR PLANS:

AMES ANGLETON

CSCI-316/01702-68

3 Enclosures

Ollein,

DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION ENCLOSURES TO CSCI 316/01702-68 (S)

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1-311

Report submitted by Roderick Claflin Brown

In Panama City at 2:45 p.m. on 18 April 1968, Roderick Claflin Brown appeared before the undersioned Chief of the Howaicide Section of the National Investigation Department to submit a report dealing with the procent investigation. Unsworn and without any hurry, and in complete liberty to answer or not the question put to him. Asked to identify himself, he said his name is as given, male, Honderan national, Negro, 50 years old, born on _______ in British Honduras; married, barbor by trade, son of Charles T. Brown (deceased) and Drucilla Thizabeth Castro de Brown, with personal Identity Card #18-3-2435, residing at Pueblo Nuevo, Calle 5, house # 1505, room 13, lover floor.

JULBIICM: Declarant, explain the reason why you have come to the Homicide Section today? ANSYER: Because of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, about which I learned from the press, radio, and telsvision in this country; after thinking over the problem that the United States was living through because of the crime assinst Dr. Kins, and having some through an experience there in the United States that may throw some light on that crime. I communicated to a friend of mine here in Panama City, and he advised He to talk to Inspector Cordobs, of the National Investigation Department; the latter suggested that I wree nt and sign a declaration to that effect, and I gove him a letter which I am keeping to have a photo-copy made no that it can be added to my declaration. On 18 Abril 1962 I left Tocumen signort here in Panama City, for Fort of Spain, there I was to go on board the SS SOUTHALFTON MEXACO, on which I was to be the cook. I was employed on this ship for six months: I travelled throughout Africa, Venezuela, Trinidad, Canelt, and Mobile, Alabama. We arrived in Alabama on 26 October 1962 around 10:30 in the Lorning. We left the pier toward the hobile airport at 12:30 P.M. along with two friends who were also sailors on their way to anama, bedro ACUSE, son of Dr. Redro ROUSE, and Victor RODEAH, who lives at #5268 lst St., Juan Diaz, here in Fanama City.

While waiting for the airplane Nr. Marvin LITTAGLE called me to his table in the airport cafeteria. Up to that moment I did not known name nor had I met him. Later on he asked me to have a cup of coffee, and he asked the following question: "Are you students or tourists?" I replied that we were neither, only sailors on our way to Panama or home. He kept asking questions, and asked if I had visited the United States previously, and whether I liked the U.S. I answered that I did not like the United States, I simply adored it, which gave way to more questions.

He asked if I would like to stay. I asked how I could do that, and he replied: "My Party is in power." Besides, he owned one or two automobile dealerships, and owned real state.

dor they reason so could jet duvors Trop the commencet at engitie. That is ener he said: "I'll encloy for, and get an aparenchi for you." but he then belied he e departion: "Do you know earst Inspire King?" I roolied hat a lift mor, but that I was read schothing about him and his ivities. Then tr. bistrell said: "This man is the culp nchi on that we have in our way; he is setting us a speek asol of inconvenience." I said that pur time at the sixpers was very limited, and we were to leak the set our contents. filtoen vinetas, and for their resson we hould not everuses

our communeation carefully.

15 Sent moment he took one of his serie, and estate Tre scon as you hat to Jamama write to me at this enigrose

if for and imperented in morbine for we." Then I lair his tolde I beli varme and I were elout the subtest of conversation, and we will emmend that what this property that and in resolved this conclusion became it he gravenesting with im. Littrell.

in the biological to recommend the scare, is the meadhing Fieri, Florida, around 10:30 P.M., I mad note at the airport that could not leave for enama because l neoded a wise in order to seturn. I immediabely went to immirration at the airport and processed weat was sessenin to so, and with the wid of mediculation I was abilite fine the some of the erip in which I insue of and an jetue a room at the atmost bosel.

loc**au**se this backened on a weakend fill it is rigg at the directt withis win may, whom A weste to the senemanian Awisasy and your strings are ining in Panama on 31 Yevohor 1902.

l was in Fanama durin, the celebration of the hat onal holidays, and or S Moverier T ros a risa for New York. I stayed in Fanana wwill 3 Popular and Tells for an York as 12:05 on 2. Heasther and arrived in the airport in New York at 12:30 the same day.

I stayed in New York until 28 January 1963. Wile in "ew fork I decided to write to wr. Marvin's. Lift Whill to not lers information about the job about which we isd followd. It was then that I received the latter dated 2 Tohmany 1963, cony of which, simed by Mr. Liturell, is in the rectocopy that I am living to this office. I am keeping the original. In the letter that I sent him I asked him to send me 175 (MS), which I was to use on a trip to Tchile, Alabama.

I did not know how much the ticket from New York to Alabama was, but I thought that 075 was sufficient for the trip, because I had previously travelled from New York to New Orleans by train and it had cost me only 046, and thinking that mobile, Alabama, was farther down than New Orleans, it was going to cost more than 045.

be did not understand why I needed 075, since bus fare from New York to nobile was less than 000. Then I took his letter and had a meeting with my relatives in New York, and they advised me not to answer the letter, let alone take the trin to hobile, Alabama, to find out what kind of job it was. Because of the conversation that this man and I had at the airport, and this letter, my relatives understood that the only job that this man might give we was to murder Dr. Hartin Luther king. If I were to go to hobile and refuse the job I was sure that I would not leave hobile, Alabama, alive.

It was then that I decided to follow the advice of my family. Hevertheless, I spoke with some other people in New York City to get their opinion. They had the same idea that my family had. I forgot about the matter after that, but I kept the letter.

Tremained in New York until 30 Pay 1964, when I returned to anama. I am not sure that this is the Man who organized the murder of Dr. Partin Duther Ring, but this may be a clue heading to the person or persons responsible for the act. He was asked the following: Has the declarant anything to add about which he has not been questioned during this inquiry? He answered: This is all that I have to see about this case.

This is all that I have to say about this case.

And that being the case, this inquiry is declared com leted. It was read and found in order and signed by all those concerned.

The informant

The investigator

- (s) Roderick CLAFLIN Brown
- Inspector Domitilo A. CUMDUSA
- (s) Inspector Tomas ROYAL P. Chief of the Homicide Section

LITTRELL MOTOR CO.

Telephone 233-5592-3-4

907-25 So. Clinton St. - U. S. 72 By-P-

ATHENS, ALABAMA

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OLDSMOBILE

February 2, 1963

Roderick C Brown c/o B.L.Brown 318 165 St Apt 2 B Bronx 53, N.Y.

Dear Rod:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of January 28th concerning our conversation at the Mobile Ala Airport last October.

Please be advised that I have a job waiting for you in Alabama as soon as you are able to make your arrangements to come here, however, I do not understand why you need \$ 75.00 when a bus ticket from New York to Alabama costs less than \$ 40.00.

I am willing to help you in any way that I can but I am not clear on this part of your letter and will expect to hear from you again.

ery truly yours,

Marvin P. Littrell

Informative rendide por: RCDERICK CLAFTIN BROWN.

En la ciudad de Panamá, siendo las dos y cuarenta, y cinco minutos de la tarde del día dieciseis de abril de mil novecientos sesenta y ocho, compareció ante el suscrito Jefe de la Sección de Homicidios del Departamento Nacional de Investigaciones, el señor MODERICK CLAFLIN BROWN, a efecto de rendir un Informativo en la presente investigación. Sin juramento mi apremio y en completa libertad para contestar o no a las preguntas que se le formulen. Interrogado para que identificara su persona, dijo llamarse como queda expresado, varós, hondureño, negro, de cincuenta años de edad, nacido el día 1 de Julio de 1917, en Honduras Británicas, casado, barbero, hijo de CHARLES T. BROWN (difunto) y de DRUCILLA ELIZABETH CASTRO de BROWN, portador de la Cédula de Identidad Personal No E -3 - 2435, residente en Paeblo Nuevo, calle 5a, casa No 4505, cuarto No 3 bajos. INTERROGADO: Explique el declarante el motivo por el cual usted se ha acercado a la Sección de Homicidios en esta fecha ?. CONTESTO: A raiz del asesinato del Doctor MARTIN LUTHEL KING y que he tenido conocimiento a travez de da Prensa, Radio y Televisión de este país y después de meditar sobre el problema que estaba viviendo los Estados Unidos por el crimen del Doctor King y habiendo vivido Yo una experiencia alla en los Estados Unidos y que puede dar luz en el esclarecimiento de ese crimen, se lo comuniqué a un amigo mío aquí en la ciudad de Panama y éste me recomendó que hablara con el Inspector Córdoba del Departamento Naciomal de Investigaciones, pará ver que me sugería y después de hablar con el Inspector Córdoba, éste me sugirió que suscribiera una declaración en ese sentido y le suministré una carta que guardo para que sacara una foto-cepia para que fuera agregada a mi declaración. El día 18 de abril de 1962, salí del aeropuerto de Tocumen aquí en la ciudad de Panamá, con destino a Puerto España, donde cogería el barco de la Texaco "S.S. SCUTHAMPTON", donde serviría de cocinero-marinero. En éste barco estuve empléado durante seis meses; recorrí Africa, Venezuela, Trimidad, Canada, Mobile-Alabama en Estados Unidos. Llegamos a Alabama el día 26 de Octubre de 1962, como a las diez y media de la mañana. Saliendo del Muelle hacia el aeropuerto de Mobile-Alabama; como a las doce y media del día; juntamente con los compañeros vaporinos que veníamos hacia Panamá, PEDRO ROUST hijo del Licenciado Pedro Rouse

panameño; VICTOR RODMAN, de la casa No 5268, calle la. Juan Díaz, equi en la ciudad de Panamá. Estando en el aeropuerto en espera del avión, me llamó el señor MARVIN . LITTELL hacia su mesa en la cafetería del aeropuerto, hasta el momento Yo no le sabía su nombre ni lo conocía, luego me brindó un café y me hizo estas preguntas: "Que si nosotros éramos turistas o estudiantes"; To le contesté que no éramos ni estudiantes ni turistas, sino que éramos marinos en camino a Panamá o Macia _la casa. Continuó sus preguntas y me dijo que si Yo había visitado los Estados Unidos anteriormente y que si me gustaba los Estados Unidos y To le contesté que no me gustaba los Estados Unidos, sino que me encantaba, dándole oportunidad para que me hiciera más preguntas; al entonces me preguntó que si no me gustaría quedarme y Yo le contesté que como se podría hacer ésto, el me contestó: "Mi Partido está trabajando ahora mismo en el Gobierno", además que el era dueño de una o dos fábricas de automóvil y que además tenía bienes y raices y que por esa razón él podía obtener cualquier favor de parte del gobierno en cualquier momento. Ahí fué cuando me dijo: "Yo le doy trabajo a usted, también lo acomodo en su apartamento", pero entonces me hiso uma pregunta: "Usted conoce al Doctor Martin Luther King ?", Yo le contesté que no lo conocía, pero que sí había leido algo sobre él y sus actividades; entonces me dijo el senor Littrell: "Este hombre es el único problema que tenemos por el medio, el cual nos está causando muchas molestias"; entonces Yo le dije que nuestro tiempo en el aeropuerto estaba muy corto y que dentro de diez a quince minutos partiríamos y que por esa razón no nos quedaba suficiente tiempo para analizar nuestra conversacion mejor; en ese momento tomó una tarjeta de cita de 61 y me dice, en cuanto llegue a Panamí escribame una carta a esta dirección, si en caso está decidido a trabajar para mí. Al . retirarme de su mesa Yo le relaté a Pedro y a Victor de lo que se trataba la conversación y los tres quedamos de acuerdo, que el trabajo que éste hombre quería darme era para matar al Doctor Luther King y esto lo sacamos en conclusión por la conversación del señor Littrell. En esa ocasión regresamos a Panamá, pero al llegar a Miami-Florida, co-

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Viene ...

mo a las diez y media de la meche, en el aeropuerto se me hizo saber de que To no podía salir para Panamá porque me hacía dalta una Visa parapoder regresar; immédiatamente me reporté en Migración del aeropuerto y informé de lo que me pasaba y nor la ayuda de Mi, ración localicé al Agente del barco donde Yo andaba y éste me consiguió un hospedaje en el hotel en el aeropuerto; como era fin de semana, tuve que permanecer ahí en el aeropuerto hasta el Lunes, cuando localicé a la Embajada Panamena para conseguir la Visa; llegando a Panama el día 31 de Octubre de 1962. Pasé las fiestas patrias aquí en Panamá hasta el día 5 de noviembre, cuando obtuve mi Visa para viajar a Nueva York. Permaneci en Panama hasta el día 23 de diciembre y salí de Panamá para Nueva York a las doce y cinco minutos del día veinticuatro de diciembre; llegando al aeropuerto de Nueva York a las doce y media del día veinticuatro de diciembre de 1962. Estando en Nueva York hasta el día 28 de Enero de 1963; de ahí decidi escribirle una carta al señor Marvin P. Littrell, para así informarme más del trabajo que me había hablado, fue entonces cuando recibí la carta fechada el día 2 de Febrero de 1963 y cuyo texto está en la foto-copia que entrego a este Despacho y firmada por el señor Littrell; el original lo guardo Yo. En la carta que Yo le envié le pedía la suma de SETENTA Y CINCO DOLARES para el pasaje que Yo utilizaría en mi viaje a Mobile-Alabama, Yo no sabía cuánto costaba el pasaje de Nueva York a Alabama, pero pensé que esa suma era suficiente para hacer el viaje, porque Yo anteriormente había viajado en tren de Nueva York a Nueva Orleans y solamente me había costado cuarenta y seis dólares y pensando que Mobile-Alabama queda más abajo de Nueva Orleans, costaría más de los cuarenta y seis dólares. Pero este señor me mandó a decir en su carta respuesta a la mía que él no comprendía por qué razón lo necesitaba setenta y cinco dólares, cuando un tiquete de bus de Nueva York a Mobile costaba menos que cuarenta dólares. Tomé Yo esta carta entonces y conferencié con mi familia en Nueva York y en lo cual ellos me aconsejaron que ni contestara la carta, mucho menos pensara hacer el viaje a Mobile-Alabama para enterarme de qué clase de trabajo se trataba. Por motivo de que la converdación que lo y el señor habíamos tenido en el aero-

puerto y esta carta, por lo que mis familiares tenfan entendido, que el único trabajo que estersemor me daría sería el de ser el asesino del'Doctor Martin Luther King, que Ma Yo me decidierà a ir a Mòbile y no aceptara el trabajo, era seguro que Yo no iba a salir vivo de Mobile-Alabama; fué entonces cuando Yo decidí seguir los consejos de mi familia; sin embargo, hablé con algunas otras personas en la ciudad de Nueva York para obtener · la opinión de ellos y esas personas tenían la misma idea que mi, familia. Desde ese momento olvidé el asunto, pero guardé la carte; quedandome en Nueva York hasta el día 30 de Mayo del año de 1964, cuando regresé para Panamá. Yo no estoy seguro que sea esa la persona que haya organizado el asesinato del . Doctor Luther King, pero ésta puede ser una pista para dar con el responsable o los responsables de este hecho. INTERRO-GADO: Diga el declarante si tiene algo más que decir en la presente diligenzia que no se le haya preguntado ?. CONTESTO: Es todo lo que tengo que decir en el presente caso. En este . estado se dá por terminada la presente diligencia, la que leida y hallada conforme, se firma para constancia por todos `los que en ella han intervenido.

El Informante,

El Investigador,

Roderick Claffin Brown

Insp., Domitilo A. Cordoba

Insp., Tomas Royal P.

Jefe de la Sección de Homicidios.

FBI WASH DC

FBI MEMPHIS

325PM URGENT 5-1-68 SAB

TO DIRECTOR 44-38861

FROM MEMPHIS 44-1987

MURKIN. OO MEMPHIS.

THE IDENTIFICATION DIVISION, LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION

IS REQUESTED TO COMPARE FINGERPRINTS OF JAMES ROBERT VAUGHN,

MEMPHIS PD NUMBER SEVEN FOUR SIX EIGHT ZERO; JAMES WILLIAM

VAUGHN, FBI NUMBER THREE NINE EIGHT ZERO FOUR FOUR D; AND

AMES ELLIS VAUGHN, JR., FBI NUMBER ONE EIGHT FIVE TWO FOUR

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MATTER.

BALTIMORE ADVISED AIRMAIL.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P END.

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FBI WASH DC

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FBI MEMPHIS

1020AM URGENT 5-1-69 SAB

TO DIRECTOR 44-38861

FROM MEMPHIS 44-1987 IP

MURKIN.

RE ST. LOUIS TEL TO BUREAU APRIL TWENTY FIVE LAST.

IDENTIFICATION DIVISION, LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION, IS
REQUESTED TO COMPARE FINGERPRINTS OF DAVID LINDSEY WILSON,

ARMY SERIAL # ONE FOUR THREE FIVE SEVEN THREE ONE SEVEN, BORN

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TENN., WITH LATENTS OF AN EVIDENTIARY NATURE PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED THIS MATTER.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P.

25 MAY 8 1960

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FBI WASH DC

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Heurtels 5/1/68.

Latent fingerprints and latent impressions previously reported and remaining unidentified in this case are not identical with the fingerprints of James Robert Vaughn, memphis holice repartment #74680; James William Vaughn, 150 #3980440; James Wils Vaughn, Jr., Thi #185245A; or with the fingerprints of one Tavid Lindsey Vilson, born in Westbourne, Tennessee, and #7828420, who may or may not be the Vilson named in your totatype. No palm prints here for these four individuals.

MAILED 24
[6.47 2 1968
COMM-FBI

1 - Mr. Rosen

Tolson

DeLoach

Mohr

Bishop

Casper

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Conrad

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Trotter

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WAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

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*****UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO

Mr. DeLoach

DATE: May 2, 1968

FROM : A. Rosen

1 - Mr. DeLoach 1 - Mr. Sullivan

A. Rosen IN

1 - Mr. Rosen 1 - Mr. Bishop 1 - Mr. Malley

SUBJECT: MURKIN

1 - Mr. McGowan

1 - Mr. McDonough

claimes 7) A A A

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, ${\bf Jr.}$

With respect to the Director's inquiry, the Identification Orders (IO) on subject James Earl Ray have been distributed to countries extensively spread throughout the world.

The IO's on Ray have been furnished to our twelve Legal Attache Offices which cover in excess of 50 countries directly. In order to effect even further coverage in countries not within the orbit covered by our Legal Attaches, we have had the IO on Ray distributed to a large number of countries which come under the International Exchange Fingerprint Program.

In addition to the distribution of our IO on Ray in Canada by our Legal Attache in Ottawa, arrangements are being made by the Legal Attache with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) for additional distribution of the IO which has been translated into French as well as English by the RCMP.

The IO's have been distributed to our Legal Attache in Mexico City which office also covers a number of Central American cities. In addition to the IO's distribution handled directly by the Legal Attache in Mexico City, the Bureau has sent IO's directly to 46 other Mexican law enforcement recipients maintained on a mailing list for that as well as other purposes. In addition to this, our border offices arrange for distribution of the IO's in Mexican states located along the border.

Similar distribution has been made of the Wanted Flyers prepared in this case which have also been prepared in the Spanish language.

EJM:cs

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CONTINUED - FE

COPY MADE FOR MR. TOLSON

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REC'D DE LOACH FBI

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Memo Rosen to DeLoach

RE: MURKIN

With reference to unsubstantiated reports that Ray may have fled to New Zealand or Australia, we have been able to refer the appropriate authorities to our Identification Orders on Ray which have been distributed to law enforcement agencies in those countries for their assistance in effecting identification or nonidentification of any suspects they may develop.

Nathan Ferris, Legal Attache, Mexico City, today advised that in addition to the above, it is noted that in addition to the distribution that has taken place in Mexico, the Legat is through his sources distributing separate photographs of the subject and in all places where leads are of current interest in Mexico additional distribution of the subject's photograph and description is being made. This in effect will assure that we are flooding any areas of immediate interest with thorough photographic coverage.

ACTION:

We are continuing to impress on our Legal Attaches, as well as our field offices, the necessity for widespread distribution of the Identification Orders and Wanted Flyers and also the necessity for maintaining contact with mass communications media and other sources of widespread publicity in order to assist in the location and apprehension of the fugitive.

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Memorandum

TO PeLoach

DATE: May 3, 1968

FROM : A Rose

A. Rosen

HECT MURKIN

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Mr. Malley 1 - Mr. McGowan

1 - Mr. Long

1 - Mr. McDonough

1 - Mr. Martindale

1 - Mr. Mohr

1 - Mr. Bishop1 - Mr. Conrad

1 - Mr. Gale 1 - Mr. Sullivan

1 - IVII. BUILLIVAII

1 - Mr. Trotter

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This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

SAC Wesley Grapp of the Los Angeles Office has telephonically furnished the following information.

The Los Angeles Police Department has just furnished to the Los Angeles Office a letter dated 5/1/68 postmarked in Los Angeles and addressed and mailed to the Editor in Chief of the "Los Angeles Times" newspaper in Los Angeles, California. The letter is typed single spaced and purportedly signed by James Ray.

In the letter the writer states that he has been in the Los Angeles area but was departing Los Angeles as of the time he mailed the letter. He alleges that he is sick over having slain King but states he killed him for \$3,000. He additionally states that he is disgusted with articles which have been appearing in the press concerning him, particularly derogatory comments made about him by Warden Harold Swensen of the Missouri State Penitentiary and Cathy Norton, a dance instructor who was quoted as saying that "Ray was clumsy." In the letter he alleges that while he is remorseful over having slain King he will not go back to prison again and will kill himself before doing so. The letter does not indicate where Ray stayed in Los Angeles or what other cities he may have been in since the assassination.

REC 11

SAC Grapp stated that while it is not known whether the letter is legitimate or a crank letter, it is being forwarded to the Bureau immediately by commercial aircraft for appropriate Laboratory examination to determine if, in fact, it was written by Ray.

JGK:vea

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REC'D UF LOACH

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Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
RE: MURKIN

Los Angeles is immediately conducting appropriate investigation including contacts of all train and bus depots, airports and car rental agencies as well as informants.

The Laboratory has been alerted and the letter will be

The Laboratory has been alerted and the letter will be immediately examined upon its arrival.

ACTION:

You will be kept advised of all pertinent developments.

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FEDERAL BURGHI OF INVESTIGATION U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAY 3 1968

TELETYPE

FBI WASH DC

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FBI MEMPHIS

200PM URGENT 5-3-68 SAB

TO DIRECTOR 44-33861 AND ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM, CHICAGO, JACKSON KANSAS CITY, MOBILE, NEW ORLEANS, ST. LOUIS, SAVANNAH AND SPRINGFIELD

FROM MEMPHIS 44-1987 2P

MURKIN.

RE BUTEL MAY TWO LAST.

ONE PAIR SHORTS AND T-SHIRT BELIEVED PROPERTY OF SUBJECT, RECOVERED IMMEDIATELY AFTER SLAYING, BORE BLACK LAUNDRY MARKS O TWO B DASH SIX" ON RED THERMO SEAL TAPE. SHEET AND PILLOW CASE FOUND IN ABANDONED MUSTANG AT ATLANTA BORE BLACK LAUNDRY MARKS "TWO ZERO R DASH THREE" ON WHITE THERMO SEAL TAPE.

IN VIEW OF RAY'S INDICATED TENDENCIES TOWARD PERSONAL

CLEANLINESS, PHOTOS OF RAY SHOULD BE SHOWN AT ALL LAUNDRIES

IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS OF REBUTEL AND CONSIDERATION

GIVEN TO ALERTING LAUNDRIES ABOVE DESCRIBED TAGS MATSTILL

BE AFFIXED TO SOME OF SUBJECT'S LAUNDRY.

MAY 9 1968

THE BUREAU MAY WISH TO FURNISH RECEIVING OFFICES WITH ______ END PAGE ONE

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PAGE TWO

PHOTOGRAPHS IN COLOR OF LAUNDRY MARKS.

A&D. P END

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FBI WASH DC