



Referenced Miami airtel set forth results of initial contacts at the Sun Castle Motel wherein it was noted that EARL B. SHIELDS was employed there through 4-1-68. SHIELDS furnished Social Security No. [redacted] and a permanent address of 15 Almond Drive, Randolph, Mass. Boston was requested to conduct investigation at this address to eliminate SHIELDS as the subject in this matter.

On 4-30-68, HERB BLONSTROM, Assistant Manager, Sun Castle Motel, 1380 South Ocean Boulevard, advised he had located an application for EARL B. SHIELDS of Randolph, Mass., Social Security No. [redacted]. The application showed SHIELDS' previous employment as Plaza East, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and previous residence at 1325 N. E. 5th Terrace, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

On 5-1-68, MARY BACHMAN, 1333 N. E. 5th Terrace, Fort Lauderdale, advised her records show that EARL SHIELDS resided in an apartment building managed by her for approximately a two-week period. She recalled SHIELDS and his roommate, DAVID WATTIER. WATTIER rented the room 3-16-68, and rent was paid through 4-6-68. After WATTIER moved in, BACHMAN met SHIELDS who informed her that he was staying with WATTIER. WATTIER is believed to have left on 3-30-68, and Mrs. BACHMAN cannot recall specifically which dates after WATTIER departed that SHIELDS remained. She believes SHIELDS stayed another day or two but the exact length of time is unknown.

When WATTIER left he was driving a dark blue automobile, make unknown, and believed to have Florida license plates. WATTIER indicated he was from Minneapolis and was en route Indiana. While at her residence, both WATTIER and SHIELDS drove in WATTIER's auto and were believed to be employed in the same motel.

Mrs. BACHMAN and her husband, ALBERT J. BACHMAN, viewed photograph of ERIC STARVO GALT and expressed the opinion that SHIELDS and GALT are not identical. Mrs.

MM 44-1854

BACHMAN described SHIELDS as 5' 10" and heavy set.

On 5-2-68, Mrs. IRA M. WOLFE, Personnel Office, Plaza East Condominium, 4300 North Ocean, Fort Lauderdale, made available her records which contained the following:

EARL B. SHIELDS, Social Security No. [redacted] of 1313 N. W. 14th Court, Fort Lauderdale, was employed at instant condominium as an outside guard from 3/5-15/68. He listed his date of birth as [redacted] height, 5' 10½"; weight, 170; brown hair, blue eyes, and marital status as divorced. SHIELDS listed previous employment at Dunworth Electric, Fort Lauderdale; Hotel Kenmore, Boston, Mass., as doorman; Yankee Fisherman, Boston, Mass., as bartender; and 1280 Beacon Street, Brooklyn, New York, as bartender. He indicated in case of emergency JOSEPHINE BUTLER, 15 Almond Drive, Randolph, Mass., should be contacted.

DAVID H. WATTIER, Social Security [redacted] who furnished his address as 1325 N. E. 5th Terrace, Fort Lauderdale, was employed at Plaza East Condominium at approximately the same time as SHIELDS, having apparently begun employment 2-13-68. WATTIER listed his DOB as [redacted] 6', 170 pounds, brown hair, blue eyes. He indicated he was from Randolph, Nebraska. He listed previous employment as December, 1967, Dunworth Electric.

On 5-2-68, JOE BLEIER, Head Doorman, Plaza East, advised both SHIELDS and WATTIER worked under his supervision. Both individuals reportedly resided together and definitely came to and departed work in WATTIER's 1966 Chevelle Super Sport, light blue in color.

Both BLEIER and Mrs. WOLFE viewed photographs of ERIC STARVO GALT and both stated in their opinion SHIELDS is not identical with GALT. SHIELDS was a trouble-maker and caused employee discontent over low wages and left after an argument with the management.

MM 44-1854

LEAD

BOSTON

AT RANDOLPH, MASSACHUSETTS

If not previously done, contact JOSEPHINE BUTLER, 15 Almond Drive, and develop information to eliminate SHIELDS as a suspect in this case. Advise Miami if SHIELDS located or sufficient identifying data obtained to eliminate SHIELDS so that additional inquiries Miami need not be made.

FBI WASH DC

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

MAY 6 1968

TELETYPE

FBI KAN CITY

433 PM URGENT 5/6/68 PHM

TO DIRECTOR 44-38861, MEMPHIS

FROM KANSAS CITY 44-760 2P

MURKIN

DAILY SUMMARY.

SUSPECT LARRY C. SIMPSON, ONE FOUR FIVE ZERO FIVE E.  
THIRTYSEVENTH ST., INDEPENDENCE, MO., HAS BEEN CONTINUOUSLY  
EMPLOYED BY BENDIX CORP., KANSAS CITY, MO., SINCE MARCH SIXTYTHREE.  
HE WORKED THE FULL WEEK DURING THE PERTINENT PERIOD IN THIS CASE.  
PHYSICAL OBSERVATION OF THE SUSPECT REVEALS HE DOES NOT IN ANY  
WAY RESEMBLE SUBJECT IN THIS MATTER.

GLEN JEFFERSON <sup>B</sup>UCKLER, CURRENTLY INCARCERATED JACKSON COUNTY  
JAIL FOR BAD CHECKS BEING RELEASED THIS DATE. HE INDICATED HE  
SERVED TIME WITH SUBJECT AND HIS "BROTHER FROM TOPEKA" IN THE  
MSP FROM JAN. SIXTYFIVE UNTIL OCT. SIXTYSEVEN. HE ADVISED THAT  
HE FELT SURE HE WOULD BE ABLE TO LOCATE SUBJECT SHORTLY AFTER HIS  
RELEASE AND WOULD KEEP FBI ADVISED. FACTS FURNISHED BY BUCKLER NOT  
SUBSTANTIATED.

COMPLETE BACKGROUND INFORMATION HAS BEEN OBTAINED FROM MSP  
WERE FORWARDED TO ST. LOUIS OFFICE RE JOHNNY VALANTI,  
END PAGE ONE

66 MAY 15 1968

MAY 7 12 34 PM '68  
FBI  
REC'D BISH

RECEIVED  
MAY 6 2 17 PM '68  
FBI

RECEIVED CONRAD  
MAY 7 2 22 PM '68  
FBI  
LABORATORY DIVISION

KC 44-750

PAGE TWO

WALTER E. NOLAN AND EARL HARRIS, ALL FORMER INMATES SAME TIME  
AS SUBJECT.

TWENTYTWO PAGES OF HANDWRITING AND HANDPRINTING SPECIMENS  
OF SUBJECT'S WRITINGS OBTAINED FROM USP, LEAVENWORTH, AND ONE  
PAGE BEARING SIGNATURE OF JAMES EARL RAY OBTAINED FROM US  
PROBATION OFFICER, KANSAS CITY, MO., ALL HAVE BEEN FORWARDED TO  
FBI LABORATORY FOR COMPARISON.

MATS CONCERNING SUBJECT HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM BUREAU AND  
ARE BEING FORWARDED TO ALL NEWS MEDIA THIS AREA.

LOCAL LEADS BEING HANDLED IMMEDIATELY

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

P

~~CORR PAGE ONE LINE EIGHT, WD THREE..BUCKLER~~

P

END

WPK

FBI WASH DC

cc - CONRAD

RECEIVED

MAY 1 2 22 PM '68

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
LABORATORY DIVISION

MAY 7 10 59 AM '68



F B I

Date: 5/7/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
 FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231) (P)  
 SUBJECT: MURKIN  
 CR  
 OO: TAMPA

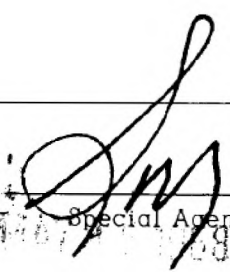
The Bureau airtel to Jacksonville and Tampa dated May 2, 1968. Tampa airtel to Bureau dated May 2, 1968. Jacksonville airtel to Bureau and Tampa dated May 3, 1968.

Check of auto registration and drivers license at Orlando, Florida, identified owner of Florida license 7W 15 as DR. JOHN EDWARD CHMEL, a physician and surgeon, being a white male, born [redacted]. His office is located at 1250 Wilcrest Avenue and his residence 642 Lanor Road, Maitland, Florida. Attempts to interview him on instant vehicle negative.

On May 7, 1968 DUDLEY F. TRASEK, VSPC.

6- Bureau (44-38861) (RM)  
 1- Birmingham (44-1740) (info) (RM)  
 1- Memphis (44-1987) (info) (RM)  
 1- Jacksonville (44-769) (info) (RM)  
 2- Tampa (157-3231)  
 GWT/lb  
 (8)

REC-31

Approved:   
 Special Agent in Charge

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

REC-1  
JAN 10 10 23 AM '68

RECEIVED  
FBI INVESTIGATIVE  
JAN 10 10 23 AM '68

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

[Faint, mostly illegible text body consisting of several paragraphs]

TP 157-3231

Maitland, Florida, stated he is personally acquainted with DOCTOR CREWS and advised that he looks even older than his 54 years of age. TRASEK viewed wanted flier 442A and stated DOCTOR CREWS is definitely not identifiable with JAMES EARL RAY.

No further action being taken concerning DOCTOR CREWS.

SUBJECT IS ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

1 - Mr. McGowan, 272  
1 - Mr. Conrad  
1 - Mr. Griffith  
1 - Mr. Mortimer

5/7/68

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO SACS DENVER (157-203)  
~~LOS ANGELES~~ (44-1574)  
~~MEMPHIS~~ (44-1987)

FROM DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN.

VIA TELETYPE

MAY 7 1968

ENCIPHERED

REBUTEL TO LOS ANGELES TODAY SETTING FORTH RESULTS  
EXAMINATION OF AIR TRAVEL CREDIT CARD IN NAME OF CARL RAY AND  
DENVER AIRTEL MAY FOUR LAST.

FOR INFORMATION MEMPHIS AND DENVER RETEL ADVISED  
DIFFERENCES NOTED BETWEEN HAND PRINTING AND CARL RAY  
SIGNATURE ON CREDIT CARD WHEN COMPARED WITH KNOWN WRITING  
OF SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY BUT LIMITED NATURE OF QUESTIONED  
MATERIAL PRECLUDED DEFINITE OPINION.

REDNAIRTEL SUBMITTING FRONTIER AIRLINES  
TRANSPORTATION RECEIPT BEARING SIGNATURE "CARL RAY"  
PURCHASED BY UTILIZING TEMPORARY CREDIT CARD [REDACTED]

REC- 69

[REDACTED] REFERRED TO ABOVE. NO CONCLUSION WHEN MAY 10 1968

CARL RAY SIGNATURES ON CREDIT CARD AND FRONTIER AIRLINES

WDG:mb (6)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

66 MAY 10 1968

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

**ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION**

AM 101120

TELETYPE TO DENVER, LOS ANGELES, MEMPHIS  
RE: MURKIN  
44-38861

TRANSPORTATION RECEIPT BY SAME PERSON BUT DIFFERENCES  
NOTED SUGGESTING POSSIBILITY OF DIFFERENT WRITERS.

NO CONCLUSION WHETHER SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY  
WROTE "CARL RAY" SIGNATURE ON FRONTIER AIRLINES  
TRANSPORTATION RECEIPT, HOWEVER, SOME HANDWRITING  
CHARACTERISTICS IN COMMON NOTED BETWEEN THIS "CARL RAY"  
SIGNATURE AND KNOWN WRITING OF SUBJECT RAY. LIMITED  
NATURE OF QUESTIONED SIGNATURE AND LACK OF SIGNIFICANT  
HANDWRITING CHARACTERISTICS PRECLUDED DEFINITE OPINION.

RESULTS OF LATENT EXAMINATION OF FRONTIER  
AIRLINES TRANSPORTATION RECEIPT WILL BE FURNISHED  
SEPARATELY,

5/4/68

AIRTEL

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

FROM: SAC, DENVER (157-203) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re LA tel to Director, 5/4/68.

Re investigation concerning possible look-a-like  
of JAMES EARL RAY by name of CARL RAY.

When individual using name CARL RAY obtained the  
two round-trip tickets from Las Vegas to St. Louis, at  
Frontier Airlines Ticket Counter, Stapleton Airport, Denver,  
Colorado, on 5/1/68, he did so by using temporary Frontier  
Airlines credit card [REDACTED] and therefore, had to sign a  
Frontier Airlines Transportation Receipt. The original of  
this Transportation Receipt, bearing the signature of  
CARL RAY, in the upper left-hand corner is enclosed.

The FBI Laboratory is requested to compare this  
handwriting with any known handwriting of JAMES EARL RAY.  
It is noted that according to referenced teletype, the  
temporary credit card [REDACTED] which may bear additional  
handwriting of CARL RAY is also being forwarded to the Bureau  
by Los Angeles.

The Laboratory is requested to return the  
Transportation Receipt to Denver after completion of the  
examination.

(3) - Bureau (Enc.1)  
1 - Los Angeles (44-1574)  
2 - Denver  
BDA/can  
(6)

*16-3001  
5-1-68*

Date: 5/3/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) ATTN: FBI LABORATORY  
 FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574) (P)  
 SUBJECT: MURKIN

Enclosed for the Bureau for latent fingerprint examinations with those of JAMES EARL RAY and for handwriting comparison with samples previously furnished in this matter are the following items:

(1) Frontier Airlines, 30 Day Temporary Air Travel Credit Card No. [REDACTED] dated 4/26/68 and issued to Mr. CARL RAY, Ray Land and Cattle Company, Route 4, Box 868, Pecos, Texas.

(2) One Frontier Airlines, Incorporated passenger ticket dated 5/1/68 issued to Mr. C. RAY, ticket number 1 028 201829753 6.

(3) Frontier Airlines, Incorporated ticket dated 5/1/68 issued to Mrs. C. RAY, ticket number 1 028 201829753 9.

These enclosures were furnished by JOAN NEPP, United Airlines Ticket Agent, Los Angeles International Airport, to SA HOWARD A. THURSTON. She was the only airline personnel who handled the enclosures. Enclosures are to be returned to Los Angeles for return to United Airlines, Los Angeles.

4 - Bureau (Encl. 3) (AM) (RM)  
 1 - Denver (Info)  
 1 - El Paso (Info)  
 1 - Memphis (Info)  
 1 - Los Angeles  
 WSP/clp  
 (8)

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



LA 44-1574

This date, KEPP furnished the following information to SA HOWARD A. PAUSEY:

Individual attempted to exchange enclosed tickets for a trip to Honolulu, Hawaii and used enclosed Frontier Airlines Credit Card. KEPP took the tickets and the credit card and told the individual she would have to check the credit card. Individual had previously asked KEPP if he could use two Frontier Airlines tickets, enclosed, as credit toward ticket to Honolulu.

Individual identified himself as Mr. RAY. KEPP and two United Airlines employees who viewed Mr. RAY furnished the following description:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	6 feet
Weight	185 pounds
Age	35 - 40 years
Hair	Dark or golden blond
Eyes	Greenish-blue

Other investigation, Los Angeles International Airport, this date, negative to locate person using enclosed credit card. Photos JAMES EARL RAY exhibited to United Airlines employees and they advised photos somewhat similar to RAY but could make no positive identification.

Inquiry at El Paso, Texas reflects credit card is apparently fictitious.

Denver, Las Vegas and Albuquerque Divisions all attempting to identify holder of credit card and purchaser of Frontier Airlines tickets.

D-562481

1 - Mr. McGowan, 2712  
1 - Mr. Conrad  
1 - Mr. Griffith  
1 - Mr. Mortimer

5/7/68

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO SAC LOS ANGELES (44-1574)  
FROM DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN.

RELAIRTEL MAY THREE LAST SUBMITTING AIR TRAVEL  
CREDIT CARD AND TWO AIRLINE TICKETS. DIFFERENCES WERE NOTED  
BETWEEN THE HAND PRINTING AND CARL RAY SIGNATURES ON CREDIT  
CARD WHEN COMPARED WITH KNOWN HANDWRITING OF SUBJECT  
JAMES EARL RAY. LIMITED NATURE OF QUESTIONED MATERIAL  
PRECLUDED DEFINITE OPINION.

RESULTS OF LATENT EXAMINATION OF CREDIT CARD AND  
OTHER ITEMS SUBMITTED WILL BE FURNISHED SEPARATELY. AIRMAIL  
COPIES SENT TO MEMPHIS, DENVER AND EL PASO.

1 - Memphis (44-1987) - Airmail  
1 - Denver (157-203) - Airmail  
1 - El Paso - Airmail

NOTE FOR MEMPHIS: No Laboratory report will be submitted  
regarding the results of the examination  
set out above.

JHM:mb (9)

F B I

Date: 5/7/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-33861)  
FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN  
OO: Memphis

Re San Diego airtel to Bureau 4/30/68 and Los Angeles airtel to Bureau 5/2/68.

RE: LEWIE RAYMOND DOWDA

For the information of Bureau, Office of Origin, and Atlanta, Mr. ROBERT E. GRAHAM, uncle of DOWDA's wife, advised on reinterview 5/3/68 that he had consulted his wife concerning the particulars of the DOWDA's visit to the GRAHAM residence during the Thanksgiving Season, 1967.

GRAHAM stated that LEWIE DOWDA and Mrs. DOWDA arrived at the GRAHAM residence, 5419 Diversity Drive, Palos Verdes, California, driving a Volkswagen automobile bearing Georgia license plates the date prior to Thanksgiving, 11/28/67, as he recalled. After having Thanksgiving dinner with the GRAHAMS, the DOWDA's left in their Volkswagen at approximately 4:00 p.m. to see a friend of DOWDA's who allegedly worked in a hospital, believed in Santa Barbara, California. DOWDA also expressed his consideration of seeking employment at this hospital.

3 - Bureau  
2 - Atlanta  
1 - Memphis  
2 - Los Angeles

GEA/dmr  
(8)

C. C. Bishop

REC 36

44-38861-3219  
2 MAY 10 1968

SIX

Approved: 66 MAY 15 1968  
Special Agent in Charge

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

RECEIVED  
FBI

232

Mar 14 1 05 PM '68

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 03-19-2008 BY 60322  
AUTHORITY 28 CFR 1.552

LA 44-1574

The DOWDA's returned to the GRAHAM residence on Friday, 12/1/67. and immediately upon arrival, Mrs. GRAHAM telephoned GRAHAM at his office telling of the DOWDA's arrival from Northern California.

DOWDA advised that he had lost his wallet in Santa Barbara, California, while swimming and GRAHAM had to ban or give DOWDA sufficient funds to drive back to Atlanta. The DOWDA's left the GRAHAM'S residence on Saturday, 12/2/68, enroute to Atlanta via San Diego, California.

GRAHAM stated that he knew DOWDA by first name "WHITEY". DOWDA stated he was a dietician and had attended three years college in the State of Missouri, perhaps the University of Missouri.

GRAHAM stated that he was of the opinion that DOWDA was prone to stretch the truth and he, GRAHAM, personally doubted his veracity for the short period of time he was acquainted with him.

The above information is furnished to Atlanta in slight variation of re Los Angeles airtel to Bureau.

GRAHAM stated that the information furnished in this communication was more nearly correct as to exact dates inasmuch as he had contacted his wife and the two of them had more accurately pinpointed the times and dates in question.

F B I

Date: 5/7/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC, HOUSTON

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

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Houston teletype to Kansas City, 5/1/68,  
regarding WILLIAM THOMAS JACOBS.

Credit, criminal teamsters union locals and all  
other logical investigation in Kansas City Division  
negative. Identification record obtained and shows last  
entry as 5/11/66 and discharge from Department of Corrections,  
Huntsville, Texas.

It is noted that JACOBS on 3/25/65, was sentenced  
to 2 years and released after just over 1 year on 5/11/66.

Houston is requested, if not already done, to  
check possibility JACOBS paroled and later whereabouts  
could be ascertained. If this investigation negative,  
suggest lead be set out to locate and interview J.W.  
JACOBS, brother, regarding the present whereabouts of  
WILLIAM THOMAS JACOBS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

③ - Bureau (44-38861)  
2 - Houston  
1 - Memphis (44-1987)  
2 - Kansas City  
TJC:WSA  
(8)

REC-69

EX-116

25 MAY 10 1968

Approved

66 MAY 15 1968

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M

Per

10. 1947

1948

1949