

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

MAY 8 1968

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

NA 11:10 P
FBI WASH DC

PLS HLD FOR TWO

FBI LOS ANG.

7:30PM URGENT 5-8-68 DPK

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), INDIANAPOLIS, AND DALLAS
FROM LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

MURKIN

REBUTEL TO LOS ANGELES APRIL TWENTY SIX LAST, LOS ANGELES
TEL TO BUREAU MAY ONE LAST.

REBUTEL ADVISED HAROLD J. THOME, MENTAL CASE, HAD BEEN
ATTEMPTING TO HAVE AUDIENCE WITH MARTIN LUTHER KING IN ATLANTA IN
NOVEMBER LAST. THOME REPORTEDLY THREATENED NEIGHBORS IN PAST
WITH SHOTGUN. BUREAU INSTRUCTED ALTHOUGH RAY HAD BEEN IDENTIFIED
AS ASSAILANT, INVESTIGATION SHOULD BE CONDUCTED TO DETERMINE IF
THOME IMPLICATED AS CONSPIRATOR.

LOS ANGELES FILES REFLECT IN SEPTEMBER LAST, SON STEPHEN
THOME STATED FATHER HAD WRITTEN PRESIDENT JOHNSON AND POPE
NUMEROUS OCCASIONS OPPOSING WAR IN VIETNAM AND HAD BEEN ARRESTED
FOR PULLING GUN ON POLICE OFFICERS. FORMER WIFE CONSIDERS THOME
ALCOHOLIC IN ADDITION TO MENTAL PROBLEMS.
END PAGE ONE

EX-116
REC-20

4 MAY 22 1968

39 MAY 28 1968

cc - Long

PAGE TWO

LA 44-1574

SECRET SERVICE, LOS ANGELES, ADVISED SEPTEMBER LAST THOME INVESTIGATED FOR WRITING LETTER TO PRESIDENT JOHNSON STATING HE WAS "IN GRAVE DANGER", AND OPPOSING WAR IN VIETNAM. THOME INCARCERATED TWICE CAMARILLO STATE HOSPITAL AS SCHIZOPHRENIC PARANOID. THOME ARRESTED MARCH, NINETEEN SIXTY SIX FOR THREATENING NEIGHBOR WITH GUN AND IN JUNE SIXTY SEVEN FOR DRUNK DRIVING, WHEN HE HAD UNLOADED SHOTGUN IN CAR.

SON, STEPHEN J. THOME, GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA, STATED APRIL TWENTY NINE LAST FATHER HAD BEEN TRAVELING THROUGHOUT UNITED STATES SINCE LATE SIXTY SEVEN. PRESENT WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN, BUT FATHER HAD CALLED HIM COLLECT IN MARCH OR APRIL FROM UNKNOWN LOCATION.

THOME ADVISED MAY EIGHT INSTANT THAT FATHER WOULD HAVE HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH ASSASSINATION AS VERY SYMPATHETIC TO NEGRO CAUSE.

INVESTIGATION ESTABLISHED THOME WAS IN ATLANTA JANUARY FIFTEEN LAST. CREDIT INVESTIGATOR ADVISED THOME BOUGHT GASOLINE ON UNION OIL CREDIT CARD MARCH EIGHT OR NINE LAST FOR NINETEEN SIXTY FOUR PONTIAC, CALIFORNIA LICENSE KDT SIX FIVE FOUR, REGISTERED TO JAMES E. SIMS, TWO FIVE FOUR AND ONE EIGHTH CORONADO STREET, LOS ANGELES.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

LA 44-1574

MISS KAREN VANDERFORD, AT CORONADO STREET ADDRESS, ADVISED MAY SEVEN LAST SIMS HER STEPFATHER, WHO HAD BEEN IN TEXAS, AND HAD SOLD PONTIAC POSSIBLY IN HOUSTON. SIMS AND WIFE RESIDING FOR TWO WEEKS AT TWO TWO THREE FOUR EAST MICHIGAN, NUMBER THREE, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

RECORDS, PACIFIC TELEPHONE COMPANY, REFLECTED MAY SEVEN LAST PUBLIC TELEPHONE COLLECT CALL TO STEPHEN THOME ON APRIL TWELVE LAST FROM PUBLIC TELEPHONE COLLECT CALL TO STEPHEN THOME ON APRIL TWELVE LAST FROM ARLINGTON, TEXAS.

INDIANAPOLIS INTERVIEW MR. AND MRS. SIMS, DETERMINE WHEREABOUTS PONTIAC SOLD IN TEXAS AND IF THEY KNOW THOME. FURNISH RESULTS LOS ANGELES AND APPROPRIATE TEXAS OFFICE TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW THOME.

DALLAS CHECK CREDIT, CRIMINAL AND GENERAL DELIVERY AT ARLINGTON TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW THOME.

THOME ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

BIRMINGHAM AND MEMPHIS ADVISED AIR MAIL.

END

MXS

FBI WASH DC

5/17/68

Airtel

To: SAC's, Birmingham (44-1740)
Memphis (44-1987)

From: ^{EX-116}Director, FBI (44-38861) — 3777

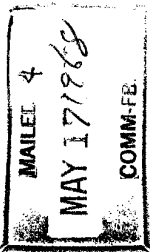
MURKIN

REC-20

Re Birmingham airtel 5/9/68, requesting return of certain evidence.

The three rifles, which were delivered to Identification Division on 4/8/68, together with the Remington Model 700 .243 caliber rifle, the rifle box, nine boxes of ammunition, and a set of rings and bases for a Redfield scope are being returned under separate cover to the Birmingham Division.

It should be noted that two latent fingerprints and one latent palm print were developed on the Browning rifle, serial #370025, and three latent fingerprints were developed on one of the boxes of ammunition. These latent prints remain unidentified. Photographs and negatives of these latent prints were prepared and are available for comparison purposes.



1 - Mr. Rosen

CB:bb
(9)

NOTE: Co-ordinated with SA Robert A. Frazier of Laboratory and SA Richard E. Long and SA Wilbur L. Martindale of General Investigative Division.

Route through General Investigative and Laboratory Divisions for their approval.

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

MAY 28 1968

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

RECEIVED - CONRAD

MAY 18 9 50 AM '68

FBI
LABORATORY DIVISION

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

MAY 21 10 12 AM '68

REC-50

X-118

F.B.I.
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

MAY 17 3 22 PM '68

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

LABORATORY DIVISION

FBI

MAY 17 1 28 PM '68

RECEIVED - CONRAD

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

MAY 17 4 55 PM '68
REC'D DE LOACH
FBI

MAY 17 2 14 PM '68
RECEIVED
FBI

F B I

Date: 5/9/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)
RE: MURKIN

It is requested that the three rifles which were hand carried to the Identification Division at SOG on 4/8/68, by SA RALPH N. BUTLER be returned to Birmingham, for delivery to the Aeromarine Supply Company, from whom they were borrowed for fingerprint examination. For the same purpose, it is requested that the Remington Model 700 .243 caliber rifle, nine boxes of ammunition, and a set of rings and bases for a Redfield scope be returned to Birmingham.

C. C. Bishop

EX-116

REC-20

44-38861-3777

2 MAY 10 1968

3 - Bureau
1 - Memphis (44-1987)
1 - Birmingham

HAS:jbt
(5)

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

F B I

Date: May 10, 1968

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

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, LOUISVILLE (44-947) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

OO: ME

Reference Jackson airtel to Bureau, dated May 3, 1968.

The following investigation was conducted by SA HARMON BACH:

AT PARIS, KENTUCKY:

On 5/9/68, Mrs. EMMETT BARFIELD, 133 Woodmont Drive advised Reverend BARFIELD was not available at that time and was attending a school at Lexington, Kentucky.

On May 10, 1968, Reverend EMMETT BARFIELD, Pastor, Presbyterian Church, Paris, Kentucky, advised he was formerly pastor of the Presbyterian church in Grenada, Mississippi. He recalled that Reverend KING was due to march on about September 19, 1966. Local Grenada, Mississippi, attorney ROBERTSON HORTON, furnished him information at that time concerning

- 3 - Bureau
- 2 - Jackson (157-9586)
- 1 - Memphis (44-1987)
- 2 - Louisville

HB:pab

(8)

C. C. Bishop

EX-116

REC-20

16 MAY 13 1968

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____

59 MAY 26 1968 Special Agent in Charge

LS 44-947

two white men, not further identified, who claimed they planned to assassinate KING on this occasion and wanted to retain attorney HORTON to defend them. Reverend BARFIELD stated that attorney HORTON died 6/9/67 in Grenada, Mississippi (allegedly committed suicide).

He described former attorney HORTON as an alcoholic, having very little law practice but believed the attorney to have actually been approached by the above two unidentified man.

Reverend BARFIELD further advised that he has no additional information concerning the above incident.

AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS

F B I

Date: 5/10/68

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	<u> R </u>
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
 FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-10673) (P)
 SUBJECT: MURKIN

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

INVESTIGATION CONCERNING ROBERT HOOD STRADER WHO ALLEGED KING ASSASSINATION PLOT IN BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA, AREA SUMMER OF 1967.

Investigation was conducted at Baton Rouge and New Orleans, La., during the period of 5/7 - 9/68, to locate **RAYMOND HENRY STARNs**. STARNs was located and interviewed on 5/9/68, in New Orleans, La., at which time he furnished the following information:

STARNs is a native of Denham Springs, La., and is currently associated in a business partnership with **EARNEST C. DONNELL**, Owner of the Earnest C. Donnell Construction Co., at Denham Springs, La. Denham Springs is located nine miles distant from Baton Rouge, La.

STARNs is well acquainted in Denham Springs and knows nearly all of the businessmen in that community including those who are reportedly members of the Ku Klux Klan and who are considered to be strong segregationists.

STARNs was in Denham Springs in the Summer of 1967, at which time there was considerable racial strife taking place, including marches by Negro groups and opposition

- ③ - Bureau
- 2 - Memphis
- 2 - Springfield
- 2 - New Orleans
- EJC - cst

REC 8

44-38861-3779

4 MAY 22 1968

55 MAY 29 1968

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

NO 157-10673

being presented to these marches by those individuals with strong segregation beliefs. STARNs stated that he himself is a liberal in his view towards Negroes and that he did not participate in any of the activities that took place in Denham Springs in the Summer of 1967. He stated, however, that he did frequently converse with individuals whom he considered to be members of the Ku Klux Klan, these persons having been individuals that he grew up with in Denham Springs.

STARNs stated that at no time during this period did any information come to his attention that there were businessmen in Denham Springs, La., or in Baton Rouge, La., who were taking up a collection to obtain money to have MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., assassinated. STARNs does not recall of having heard the name of KING even mentioned during the Summer of 1967, nor does he recall any information which would indicate there was a plot to kill any particular Negro or any individual of any race for that matter.

STARNs is against violence and if any information such as a plot to kill anyone had come to his attention, he would promptly notify an appropriate law enforcement agency.

During the Fall of 1967, STARNs recalls that an individual subsequently known to him as ROBERT STRADER appeared at the Earnest C. Donnell Construction Company in Denham Springs making claims to EARNEST DONNELL that he could obtain considerable financing from a SHAPIRO family in Miami, Fla. DONNELL became interested in STRADER's proposition and ordered STARNs to accompany STRADER to Miami, Fla., which he did and at which time he and STRADER met with a Mr. and Mrs. SHAPIRO. It developed, however, that STRADER did not previously know the SHAPIRO family and further that STRADER actually had no contacts or was not in a position to obtain financing for the Donnell Construction Company.

It was during the trip to Miami, Fla., that STARNs realized that STRADER had an apparent mental problem.

NO 157-10673

STARNS recalled that while staying in motels in Fla., STRADER at times became most irrational and envisioned that he was being followed by Federal Agents.

After the Florida trip, STRADER continued to hang around the Donnell Company in Denham Springs, La., at which time STRADER's wife was also present. In STARNS' opinion, STRADER's wife is also an irrational person.

On one occasion, STRADER who was doing some work for the Donnell Company, took STARNS' personally owned vehicle with the permission of STARNS on a business trip. STRADER's wife accompanied STRADER on this trip and they did not return as scheduled. The vehicle was subsequently located in Mississippi in an abandoned position. Also at this same time, STARNS and EARNEST DONNELL discovered that STRADER had stolen some property from the company, such as a portable electric typewriter, a brief case full of valuable engineering fittings, a telephone credit card and other miscellaneous items. Also taken from the STARNS vehicle was a .38 Police Special Revolver which was a sentimental keepsake which had been given to STARNS by his father.

The theft of these items was reported to law enforcement agencies but DONNELL subsequently decided not to press charges. The revolver has never been recovered by STARNS and he does not presently know its whereabouts.

STARNS heard from some unrecalled source several months ago that STRADER either was or is presently confined to a mental institution. He has not seen STRADER since late Fall of 1967.

STRADER was a braggart by nature, frequently announced his animosity towards Negroes but was never known to STARNS to have specifically mentioned MARTIN LUTHER KING or any other particular Negro. STRADER frequently bragged that he had contacts with the underworld but never specifically mentioned anyone by name.

STARNS concluded that he is at a loss to explain why it is alleged that he possessed information concerning

NO 157-10673

a plot to raise money to kill MARTIN KING. He stated that he wanted to cooperate fully with the FBI, which agency he admires considerably and that if any further recollection concerning the Summer of 1967 in Denham Springs came to him, he would promptly advise the New Orleans Office.

STARNS described STRADER as a white male, 6'2" tall, 36 years of age and possessing blond wavy hair. During the Summer of 1967, STARNS personally owned a 1967 Oldsmobile, white over black, bearing Texas license KLX or K LW 491.

New Orleans indices contained no identifiable information in the name of RAYMOND HENRY STARNS or ROBERT HOOD STRADER.

4*

F B I

Date: 5/11/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, JACKSON (157-9586) (P)

MURKIN

Re Chicago tel May 10, 1968, re CARL MURPHY, JR.

Information furnished to Chicago Office by ROBERT WAYNE PHILLIPS, is set out in Memphis file 92-554, Jackson file 92-11, Bureau file 62-9-33, captioned "CRIME CONDITIONS IN MISSISSIPPI (NORTHERN JUDICIAL DISTRICT)".

The information concerning the alleged offer by CARL MURPHY, JR., to ROBERT WAYNE PHILLIPS, to do KING in, for \$2,500, is being investigated.

CARL MURPHY, JR., was a PCI of the Jackson Division through 1965, at which time he was discontinued as a PCI due to lack of information being furnished, (Jackson file 137-246).

C. C. - Bishop

- ③ - Bureau
 1 - Atlanta (Info)
 1 - Birmingham (Info)
 1 - Chicago (Info)
 1 - Memphis (Info)
 1 - St. Louis (Info)
 2 - Jackson
 JLP/bjk
 (10)

REC 8

44-38861-3780

12 MAY 13 1968

Approved: 28 MAY 1968 Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

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

MAY 11 1968

TELETYPE

FBI WASH DC*

FBI INDAPOLS

3:37

PM URGENT 5-11-68 DCJ

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

DALLAS

FROM INDIANAPOLIS (44-563)

MURKIN

RE LOS ANGELES TEL TO BUREAU AND INDIANAPOLIS AND DALLAS,
MAY EIGHT LAST.

JAMES E. SIMS, TWO ~~TOW~~ THREE FOUR E. MICHIGAN ST., INDIANAPOLIS
INTERVIEWED AND ADVISED HE SOLD SIXTYFOUR PONTIAC IN HOUSTON,
TEXAS ON APRIL NINETEEN LAST TO A MEXICAN WHOSE NAME HE COULD NOT
RECALL.

SIMS ADVISED HAROLD J. THOME WAS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HE PICKED
UP AT BUS STATION IN EL PASO AND AGREED TO TAKE HIM TO WORTHINGTON,
TEXAS IN EXCHANGE FOR GAS. HE SAID THIS WAS ON MARCH NINE
LAST. SIMS SAID THOME USED A UNION SEVENTY SIX CREDIT CARD FOR
GAS PURCHASED. HE CLAIMS THEY STOPPED FOR GAS ABOUT FOUR TIMES.
SIMS SAID THOME MAINLY DISCUSSED POLITICS BUT DID NOT MENTION
END PAGE ONE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

59 MAY 28 1968

PAGE TWO

IP 44-563

ANYTHING CONCERNING NEGROES OR ANY CIVIL RIGHTS LEADERS.

SIMS SAID HE TOOK HIS PASSENGER TO THOME'S SON OR SON-IN-LAW'S HOME WHICH IS LOCATED ON THE NORTH SIDE OF HIGHWAY EIGHTY APPROXIMATELY TEN TO FIFTEEN MILES WEST OF WORTHINGTON, TEXAS. HE DESCRIBES HOUSE AS WHITE OR YELLOW CEMENT BLOCK SITUATED VERY NEAR TO THE BRAZOS RIVER OR A TRIBUTARY OF THIS RIVER. LARGE OVERHEAD BRIDGE ON HIGHWAY EIGHTY CROSSES RIVER AND HOUSE IS NEXT TO BRIDGE.

DALLAS AT FORTH WORTH, WILL DETERMINE IF THOME IS STILL IN WORTHINGTON AREA OR DETERMINE HIS PRESENT WHEREABOUTS. INTERVIEW THOME IF LOCATED.

BIRMINGHAM, LOS ANGELES AND MEMPHIS ADVISED AIRMAIL.

THOME ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

~~CORRECTION LINE THREE WORD FIVE SHLD BE TWO~~

END

~~SHOULD THIS GO TO NCIC OR WFOP~~

~~STAND BY PLS NEITHER~~

GJM

FBI WASH DC*

F B I

Date: 5/13/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

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

SUBJECT: MURKIN

RE: HAROLD J. THOME - SUSPECT

Re Indianapolis teletype dated 5/11/68.

The following investigation was conducted by SAs
ROBERT E. KLAWITER and ROBLEY D. MADLAND:AT WEATHERFORD, TEXAS:

ELMER T. JOHNSON, mailing address Route 1, Milsap, Texas, owner of the River Ranch Cafe, located next to the Brazos River Bridge, 15 miles west of Weatherford, Texas, on U. S. Highway 80, furnished the following information.

JOHNSON advised that HAROLD J. THOME, under Social Security Number [redacted] was first employed by him as a dishwasher during the week of February 16, 1968, and remained for about two weeks, at which time he left stating that "Jesus had called him". THOME left by hitchhiking.

JOHNSON was next contacted by THOME via long-distance telephone call (prepaid) stating that he was in El Paso and this was about three days prior to March 9, 1968, wanting to return to his job on the evening of March 9, 1968. THOME again called stating he was in Abilene, Texas, en route and advised that he would arrive about midnight and asked JOHNSON to leave the door open to a small apartment at the rear of the cafe. JOHNSON stated that he did not see THOME arrive but that THOME did arrive shortly after midnight and told him he had hitchhiked, and had been visiting a daughter in Tucson, Arizona, since he had left in February, 1968.

- 3 - Bureau
2 - Memphis (44-1987)
1 - Los Angeles (44-1574) (Info)

REC-12

2 - Dallas
RDM/sgl

(8)

12 MAY 14 1968

C. C. Bishop

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

59 MAY 29 1968

JOHNSON said that THOME remained at the cafe, working as a dishwasher until March 30, 1968, at which time JOHNSON said he had to let THOME go because he was "bothering" the customers. JOHNSON said he considered THOME to be a religious agitator and fanatic. JOHNSON said THOME stated "Buddhism is the true religion". JOHNSON said THOME spoke on and of many subjects and topics. JOHNSON said further THOME told him he was in complete sympathy with MARTIN LUTHER KING and "felt he was following the right path". JOHNSON said THOME called all Negroes "brother". JOHNSON said further that THOME told him one time that if he could vote that he would vote for GEORGE WALLACE for president. JOHNSON said further that THOME wanted to "overthrow the government" because he felt "the people were being lied to and cheated" and said "we are not getting our fair share". JOHNSON said he considered THOME to be "mentally unbalanced" and a person who drank very heavily while he was employed by him.

JOHNSON advised that to his knowledge THOME had no associates, friends or relatives in this area. JOHNSON said prior to his first employment in February, 1968, that he did not know or had never seen THOME. JOHNSON said further that while THOME was employed this last time that he made three long-distance calls, which two calls were made on 3/25 and 26/68, to Dallas, Texas, and a call on 3/29/68, to an unrecalled place. JOHNSON said THOME had paid for the call but that the calling numbers were not known to him, JOHNSON, at this time as he had not misplaced his telephone bill.

JOHNSON stated that THOME was arrested one time during his stay with him and that was by the Sheriff's Office at Mineral Wells, Texas. JOHNSON said THOME left this Saturday about noon on March 31, 1968, hitchhiking and that he has had no contact or heard from THOME since that time.

JOHNSON said during the period of time THOME was here, that he received no telephone calls nor visitors. JOHNSON said he had no other background information concerning this individual whatsoever, and knows no person who would have information as to his whereabouts.

AT MINERAL WELLS, TEXAS:

On May 12, 1968, GILBERT SOMMERFELD, Sheriff, Palo Pinto County, advised that under Mineral Wells PD #14622 that HAROLD JAMES THOME was arrested by him at 12:25 AM on March 28, 1968, near the river bridge west of Mineral Wells. Sheriff SOMMERFELD said this arrest occurred after a cab driver reported to him a passenger stated he was going to jump in the river after being taken to the ^{wrong} river bridge. Sheriff SOMMERFELD stated that he proceeded to the west river bridge and found THOME lying drunk in the grass near the bridge. He said he took THOME to the Mineral Wells Jail and booked him for investigation. Sheriff SOMMERFELD stated that he released THOME the following morning without charges as he felt this person had a mental disturbance. Sheriff SOMMERFELD said that THOME had no weapons on him at the time of his arrest but that he was carrying a briefcase full of religious literature and verses.

Sheriff SOMMERFELD said that THOME told him that he did not know any person in this area, except his employer at the River Ranch Cafe, and had no relatives in the area. THOME said that he was from California. Sheriff SOMMERFELD described THOME as follows:

Race	white
Sex	male
Year of birth	
Height	5'10"
Weight	150 pounds
Hair	gray
Eyes	Blue
Residence	10520 Hill Haven, Tujunga, California

Dallas Division investigation continuing to determine identity of telephone numbers called by THOME from River Ranch Cafe.

5/21/68

Airtel

To: SAC's, San Diego (44-387) - Enclosures (2)
Memphis (44-1987)

REC- 12

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)- 3783

MURKIN

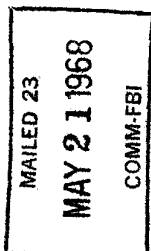
Re San Diego airtel 5/16/68, submitting check #391, Q343, and deposit receipt, Q344, signed by William A. Marshall.

No latent impressions of value developed on the check. Two latent fingerprints developed on the deposit receipt. These latent fingerprints are not identical with the fingerprints of James Earl Ray, FBI #405942G, or with the fingerprints of several individuals using the name William A. Marshall.

The check and receipt are enclosed to San Diego.

Laboratory reporting separately.

This airtel confirms and supplements Butel 5/18/68.



1 - Mr. Rosen

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Rm. _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

54 MAY 28 1968

MAIL ROOM ☒ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

F B I

Date: 5/16/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL -- REGISTERED
(Priority)TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
ATTENTION: IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

FROM: SAC, SAN DIEGO (44-387) (P)

680518000

MURKIN
(OO: ME)Re San Diego teletype to Bureau, Springfield, and
all Western Offices 5/16/68.RE: WILLIAM A. MARSHALLEnclosed for the Bureau are three xerox copies of
referenced communication.Also enclosed for the Bureau are the following
pieces of evidence:

1. Check number 391 dated 5/14/68 payable to
C. C. ALLEY in the amount of \$5,000 signed by WILLIAM A.
MARSHALL on the Security First National Bank, Chula Vista,
California.
2. Escrow contract and deposit receipt signed by
WILLIAM A. MARSHALL, 5/14/68.

The Identification Division is requested to attempt
to determine if there are any latent prints of value on
the above two items and if any are located, compare them
with the known prints of subject JAMES EARL RAY.The Bureau is also requested to make a handwriting
comparison between the handwriting appearing on the above
two items under the name WILLIAM A. MARSHALL with the
known handwriting of subject JAMES EARL RAY. Upon completion
of examination return evidence if not needed.

Information copy for Memphis.

REC-12

- Bureau (Enc. 5) (AM-REGISTERED)
- 1 - Memphis (44-1987) (Info)
 - 2 - San Diego

25 MAY 18 1968

Approved: AWO: cjt
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

Airtel 5-21-68 GTC:bb

(2)

10:00

1 - DIRECTOR

RECEIVED

RECEIVED - CONRAD

1 - MEMPHIS (44-1987) (INFO)

1 - MEMPHIS (44-1987) (INFO)

MAY 18 3 16 PM '68

MAY 18 3 59 PM '68

TELETYPE UNIT

FBI

LABORATORY

FBI

LABORATORY DIVISION

ON MAY 18, 1968, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WAS RECEIVED FROM THE MEMPHIS OFFICE: A PERSON IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS [REDACTED] AND STATED THAT HE HAD INFORMATION CONCERNING THE MURDER OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. [REDACTED] STATED THAT HE HAD BEEN CONTACTED BY AN INDIVIDUAL WHO OFFERED HIM \$10,000 TO ASSIST IN THE ATTEMPT TO KILL PRESIDENT LINCOLN. [REDACTED] STATED THAT HE HAD REFUSED THE OFFER AND WANTED TO REPORT THE MATTER TO THE FBI.

MAY 18 8 11 PM '68

REC'D - LFPS

FBI

THE ABOVE INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED FROM A SOURCE WHO HAS BEEN RELIABLE IN THE PAST. THE SOURCE STATED THAT HE HAD BEEN CONTACTED BY AN INDIVIDUAL WHO OFFERED HIM \$10,000 TO ASSIST IN THE ATTEMPT TO KILL PRESIDENT LINCOLN. THE SOURCE STATED THAT HE HAD REFUSED THE OFFER AND WANTED TO REPORT THE MATTER TO THE FBI.

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI
MAY 22 12 40 PM '68

ATTENTION: MEMPHIS OFFICE

8. MEMPHIS OFFICE AND MEMPHIS OFFICE

ON MAY 18, 1968, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WAS RECEIVED FROM THE MEMPHIS OFFICE: A PERSON IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS [REDACTED] AND STATED THAT HE HAD INFORMATION CONCERNING THE MURDER OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. [REDACTED] STATED THAT HE HAD BEEN CONTACTED BY AN INDIVIDUAL WHO OFFERED HIM \$10,000 TO ASSIST IN THE ATTEMPT TO KILL PRESIDENT LINCOLN. [REDACTED] STATED THAT HE HAD REFUSED THE OFFER AND WANTED TO REPORT THE MATTER TO THE FBI.

DETAILS OF EVIDENCE:

THE EVIDENCE FOR THE ABOVE IS AS FOLLOWS:

REFERENCE TO EVIDENCE:

REFERENCE TO EVIDENCE FOR THE ABOVE IS AS FOLLOWS:

REFERENCE TO EVIDENCE FOR THE ABOVE IS AS FOLLOWS:

IT IS REQUESTED THAT YOU ADVISE THE MEMPHIS OFFICE OF ANY DEVELOPMENTS.

WE WILL BE KEEPING YOU ADVISED OF ANY DEVELOPMENTS.

(cc: MEM)

THANKS

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

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

THANKS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

2-10-68

F B I

Date: 5/16/68

PLAINTEXT

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via TELETYPE

URGENT

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
 SPRINGFIELD
 MEMPHIS (44-1987)
 SEATTLE
 PORTLAND
 SAN FRANCISCO
 SACRAMENTO
 LOS ANGELES
 BUTTE
 SALT LAKE CITY
 LAS VEGAS
 PHOENIX
 ALBUQUERQUE
 EL PASO

FROM: SAN DIEGO (44-387)

MURKIN.

RE WILLIAM A. MARSHALL.

ON MAY FOURTEEN LAST AN INDIVIDUAL GIVING NAME WILLIAM A. MARSHALL DESCRIBED HEREAFTER SIGNED AN ESCROW CONTRACT TO PURCHASE A HOME AT BONITA, CALIFORNIA, FOR FIFTY^{ONE} THOUSAND DOLLARS GIVING A PROMISSORY TYPE CHECK FOR FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND INDICATED HE HAD A SIXTYFIVE THOUSAND DOLLAR CERTIFIED CHECK IN HIS HOTEL ROOM.

MARSHALL CLAIMED TO BE EMPLOYED FOR INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER COMPANY, BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS, AND RECENTLY TRANSFERRED TO SAN DIEGO AREA. DESIRED HOUSE SO FAMILY COULD MOVE FROM ILLINOIS TO SAN DIEGO.

44-387

Approved: AWO:cjs Special Agent in Charge
 (1)

Sent 44-38861-3183 M Per _____

ENCLOSURE

F B I

Date:

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

SD 44-387

PAGE TWO

ON SAME AFTERNOON MARSHALL ATTEMPTED TO PURCHASE AN AUTO AT CHULA VISTA, CALIFORNIA, DISPLAYING ESCROW CONTRACT AND ADVISED HE DESIRED HIS WIFE TO SEE AUTO AND IN VIEW OF ESCROW CONTRACT SHOWING FIVE THOUSAND DOLLAR DEPOSIT SALESMAN GAVE MARSHALL KEYS TO HIS CAR DESCRIBED HEREINAFTER IN APB AND MARSHALL HAS NOT RETURNED CAR.

VARIOUS WITNESSES WHO WERE IN COMPANY OF MARSHALL FOR UP TO THREE HOURS STATE MARSHALL ~~RESEMBLED~~ POSSIBLY IDENTICAL JAMES EARL RAY. ONE PERSON ^{Almost} POSITIVE OF IDENT. TWO OTHERS SAY RESEMBLANCE BETWEEN PHOTOS AND MARSHALL.

FOLLOWING APB COVERING STATE OF CALIFORNIA TRANSMITTED:

"WANTED. UNKNOWN SUBJECT ALSO KNOWN AS WILLIAM A. MARSHALL, WHITE, MALE, AMERICAN, FORTY TO FORTYFIVE, FIVE ^{APPROX} FEET NINE, ONE SIX FIVE TO ONE EIGHT ZERO LBS., DARK HAIR, FAIR TO MEDIUM COMPLEXION, DRIVING SIXTYSEVEN PLYMOUTH FURY III CONVERTIBLE, GOLD COLOR, BLACK TOP, CALIFORNIA LICENSE UFW ONE ZERO TWO, VIN P M TWO SEVEN F SEVEN FOUR TWO THREE EIGHT TWO ZERO EIGHT. AUTO OBTAINED BY UNSUB, CHULA VISTA, CALIFORNIA, MAY FOURTEEN LAST, FOR DEMONSTRATION AND HAS NOT RETURNED. SUBJECT WANTED FOR QUESTIONING, REPEAT QUESTIONING

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

F B I

Date:

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

SD 44-387

PAGE THREE

ONLY, NO WARRANT, BY FBI, SAN DIEGO. CONSIDER ARMED AND DANGEROUS."

ALL WESTERN OFFICES RECEIVING THIS TELETYPE REQUESTED TO SUBMIT SIMILAR APB THEIR TERRITORIES.

FOR INFO NO STOLEN REPORT FILED RE AUTO AS CHUIA VISTA, CALIFORNIA, POLICE DEPARTMENT UNABLE TO ACCEPT DUE TO CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH MARSHALL OBTAINED AUTOMOBILE.

SPRINGFIELD AT BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS, CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION TO IDENTIFY WILLIAM A. MARSHALL.

BUREAU MAY DESIRE TO ENTER AUTO [REDACTED] IN NCIC.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

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

NA
9:22P
HW

VIA TELETYPE
MAY 16 1968
ENCIPHERED

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WASH DC --4--

4-46PM DEFERRED 5-16-68 NJZ

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) PLAINTEXT

FROM LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

MURKIN.

RE SAN JUAN TELETYPE TO BUREAU AND LOS ANGELES
~~MAY FIFTEEN~~
~~KYAWSFIFTEE CLAST.~~

RE LOOK-ALIKE ROGER SODERHOLM SEEN AT SAN JUAN
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT MAY FOURTEEN LAST.

DON SHULTS, MAY COMPANY WORLD TRAVEL BUREAU,
REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA, ADVISED THIS DATE ROGER
SODERHOLM IS REGULAR CUSTOMER AT TRAVEL BUREAU. SHULTS
OBSERVED PHOTOS OF RAY AND STAODS SODERHOLM SLIGHTLY
RESEMBLES PHOTO OF RAY IN WANTED FLYER BUT OTHER PHOTOS
OF RAY BEAR NO RESEMBLANCE TO SODERHOLM.

SHULTS CHECKED RECORDS OF TRAVEL BUREAU AND ADVISED
HE RECALLS, AND RECORDS INDICATE, SODERHOLM PERSONALLY
END PAGE ONE

MAY 29 1968

cc - Long

PAGE TWO

LA 44-1574

APPEARED AT ~~GJVEL~~^{TRAVEL} BUREAU OFFICE ON APRIL THREE, FOUR
AND FIVE NINETEEN SIXTY EIGHT CONCERNING FUTURE AIR TRAVEL
PLANS.

NO FURTHER INVESTIGATION THIS PHASE BEING CONDUCTED
AT LOS ANGELES.

AIR MAIL COPIES MEMPHIS, NEW ~~HON~~^{AV} AND SAN JUAN.
~~CORR PG TWO W LN ONE WD THREE SHD BE TRAVEL~~

END

~~NEED CORR PAGE ONE LINE TWO FIRST WORD GA~~

~~LN TWO FIRST WD MAY FIFTEEN LAST.~~

RNK FBI WASH DC

WASH DC
MAY 15 1968
COMM-FBI

SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

Rev
5/2/68

MURKIN

16 MAY 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Attention: Mr. S.J. Papich

McGowan
Pope

SUBJECT : Investigation in Japan of Report on Suspicious
Actions of Gerald Lee Richards, Originally
Described as Resembling Suspected Assassin of
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

1. Reference is made to the report concerning the above
subject made by telephone to Mr. S.J. Papich at 0930 on 17 April
1968. Following is a full account of the investigation made in
this case:

JAPAN

Coast

A. On 16 April 1968 a United States National
Maritime Union official in Yokohama reported that one
Gerald Lee Richards, who bore a general physical
resemblance to the description given of the suspected
assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. had arrived
in Japan about 15 April 1968 and requested a position
aboard any ship going anywhere. Richards became
agitated when asked for a contact address in Japan
and refused to divulge his Japanese residence. The
National Maritime Union official described Richards
as 5' 10" tall, 155 pounds, with brown hair, a receding
hairline on both sides, and a not very prominent scar
two and one-half inches long traversing the center
forehead, his most outstanding characteristic being a
disconcerting, idiotic grin resembling a constant
grimace. According to Richards' documents and state-
ments, he was born [redacted] applied for seaman's
papers in San Pedro, California, 16 June 1964 and
registered there as a United States National Maritime
Union member on 21 February 1968 but never shipped out.
His Social Security Number is [redacted] his United
States Coast Guard Number [redacted]

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/10/01 BY

cc Delandall, CRG
2258 JLB

REC 11

44-38861-3785

14 MAY 22 1968

66 MAY 20 1968

SECRET

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

SECRET

B. A subsequent check with the Japanese National Police Agency confirmed the biographic data supplied by the National Maritime Union official. A ward check indicated that Richards originally resided in Japan from 1963 to 1964 and married TAKAYAMA Michiko in 1963. Both Richards and his wife left Japan for the United States in 1964. Richards returned alone to Japan about 15 April 1968. His wife's address in the United States is listed as 160 Hosoi (phonetic) Street, Carpinteria, California, 93013.

C. A photograph of Richards obtained from the Japanese police was shown to the National Maritime Union official and identified by him as the individual in subparagraph 1A above who had applied for a seaman's berth. The photograph of Richards bears no apparent resemblance to photographs of suspected assassin James Earl Ray provided by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

2. The above information has been given to the Legal Attache of the United States Embassy in Tokyo.

FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR PLANS:

James A. Angleton
JAMES ANGLETON

CSCI-316/01774-68

SECRET

F B I

Date: 5/16/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

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

SUBJECT: MURKIN

OO - MEMPHIS

RE: HAROLD J. THOME - SUSPECT

Re Indianapolis teletype dated 5/11/68, and Dallas airtel dated 5/13/68.

The following investigation was conducted by SA ROBLEY D. MADLAND:

AT WEATHERFORD, TEXAS

On 5/13/68, Mrs. NORVALL TERRY (protect identity), Secretary, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, advised that records reflect telephone No. LY 4-7816 is subscribed to by the River Ranch Cafe, west of Weatherford. Mrs. TERRY advised that on 3/26/68, a long distance telephone call was made from this number to Dallas, Texas, No. DA 1-5670. On 3/25/68, a long distance telephone call was made from this number to Dallas, Texas, No. TA 1-2303.

The following investigation was conducted by SA JAMES J. SHERMAN:

AT DALLAS, TEXAS

C. C. Bishop

- 3 - Bureau
1 - Los Angeles (44-1574) (Info)
2 - Memphis (44-1987)
2 - Dallas

WBH:pw
(8)

REC-12 1/4-38861-3786

2 MAY 17 1968

Approved: 59 MAY 28 1968
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

DL 44-2649

On 5/14/68, DAN SMOOT, former Special Agent, publisher of the "Dan Smoot Report", 6441 Gaston, advised his records do not reflect a HAROLD J. THOME as a subscriber, and no communication with this individual could be remembered. The only THOME his organization knows of is M. J. THOME, 2439 East Northern Lights Boulevard, Anchorage, Alaska. He advised he gets quite a few "nut" calls, and it is possible this was such a call. SMOOT advised TA 1-2303 is the number for his business.

On 5/14/68, attempts to contact JACK V. STONER, 2224 Lakeland Drive, telephone DA 1-5670 were negative.

On 5/15/68, JACK V. STONER was contacted at the above address and advised he is Dallas County Chairman of the Wallace For President campaign. He does not recall receiving a call from a HAROLD J. THOME and could not identify this individual from his records. He advised he has been receiving hundreds of calls concerning the campaign and in many cases he does not know to whom he is talking, as he requests the persons to contact his campaign headquarters by mail in order for the persons to receive answers to their inquiries.

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

MAY 17 1968

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

FBI WASH DC

FBI DALLAS

332PM URGENT 5-17-68 LMB

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), MEMPHIS (44-1987) AND JACKSON
FROM DALLAS (44-2649) 1P

MURKIN

RE LITTLE ROCK TEL MAY SIXTEEN LAST RE KENNETH RAYE HAYLES.

INVESTIGATION CARTHAGE, TEXAS REVEALED HAYLES LIVED IN CARTHAGE
WITH WIFE AND FAMILY FROM OCT. SIXTYFIVE TO AUGUST, SIXTYSEVEN,
CURRENTLY LIVING NINE ZERO ONE TWO BLOM BOULEVARD, SHREVEPORT,
LOUISIANA. REAL ESTATE AGENT AND BANKER'S DEALING WITH HAYLES STATES
HE BEARS NO RESEMBLANCE PHOTOS JAMES EARL RAY.

RECEIVING OFFICES DISCONTINUE INVESTIATION RE HAYLES.

AM COPIES FURNISHED ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM, LITTLE ROCK, AND
NEW ORLEANS INFO. P

END

GFH

FBI WASH DC

P

REC-12

44-38861-3787

MAY 18 1968

MAY 22 1968

54 MAY 27 1968

F B I

Date: 5/17/68

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

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703) (P)

MURKIN

Re Buairtel, 5/14/68.

Mr. PAUL J. HANLON, employed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, advised SA HARVEY E. WILKINSON on 5/16/68 that he could not furnish anything additional concerning information contained in his letter to the FBI dated 5/10/68. He did not know what license plate the Volkswagen car he saw had on it, and could furnish no additional pertinent info. Receipt of his letter was, of course, orally acknowledged.

REC-12

44-38861-3788

EX-107

4 MAY 22 1968

3- Bureau
1- Memphis (Info)
1- WFO

HEW:js
(5)

C. C. Bishop

AIRTEL

54 MAY 27 1968

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

F B I

Date: 5/17/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

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

SUBJECT: MURKIN

OO - MEMPHIS

ReBuairtel dated 4/24/68 with letter from RICHARD G. SHOTWELL as enclosure.

The following investigation was conducted by
SA ALLYN T. BASKERVILLE:AT SEAGRAVES, TEXAS

On April 30, 1968, Justice of the Peace S. B. CHENAULT advised he resides in the Beauclaire Hotel with RICHARD G. SHOTWELL. He considers SHOTWELL to be quite a "talker" and "bragger" and noted he had been discharged from the Merchant Marines for physical and mental disturbances.

On April 30, 1968, RICHARD G. SHOTWELL, Beauclaire Hotel, advised as he did in the letter to the Bureau. He observed photos of subject RAY and stated he cannot positively state the man he previously met was RAY, but that he believed there was a resemblance. He stated he met the individual in the Seattle Union Hall in January or February, 1968, and that RAY showed him a National Maritime Union Membership Card. SHOTWELL believes that the union would possibly have a copy of the photograph which would appear on the membership card as well as handwriting specimens. He could offer no further information. He exhibited papers reflecting that the U.S. Health Service, Seattle, Washington, had found him unfit for work due to arthritis and mental disorders.

- ③ - Bureau
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987)
- 2 - Seattle
- 2 - Dallas
- WBH/gcs
- (9)

REC-38

25 MAY 18 1968

Approved: 55 MAY 20 1968
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

F B I

Date: 5/17/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)(P)

MURKIN

Re Miami teletype to Tampa, 5/14/68.

Re: SUSPECT, BARBER SHOP, SANFORD, FLORIDA
AT SANFORD, FLORIDA

On 5/14/68, Mr. R. A. FLEMING, owner Fleming's Supermarket, E. Geneva Avenue, Sanford, Florida, advised that while getting a haircut at Garfield's Barber Shop, known as The Gator Barber Shop, he observed an individual who closely resembled the person whose picture he saw in the Sanford paper on 5/13/68. FLEMING said this person drove up to the barber shop in a Yellow Cab, and he overheard the person say he was a former cab driver in New York City. He said the person is not a native of Sanford.

REC-19

44-38861-3790

Fleming said that this person had his hair cut by a barber who is tall and wears dark-rim glasses.

HAROLD SANDVILL, Barber, Gator Barber Shop, advised that he recalls cutting the hair of a Yellow Cab driver around noon on 5/13/68. SANDVILLE was shown photos of JAMES EARL RAY, and stated that this person is definitely not the person whose hair he cut

- 6 - Bureau
2 - Memphis (44-1987)
1 - Birmingham (Info) (44-1740)
1 - Miami (44-1854) (Info)
2 - Tampa

MAY 20 1968

54 MAY 20 1968

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

TP 157-3231

on 5/13/68. He stated he does not believe he has ever seen RAY.

On 5/14/68, JEWELL CARL, dispatcher, Yellow Cab Company, Sanford, Florida, advised that the only driver working for her company who is not a native of Sanford is one DALLAS THOMPSON. She said THOMPSON is from Huntington, W. Va., and has been working here for approximately four months. ~~Se~~ said the photos of JAMES EARL RAY is definitely not identical with THOMPSON.

On 5/14/68, CHARLES COLLIER, owner, Yellow Cab Company, advised that the photos of RAY are not identical with THOMPSON or any other of his employees. He checked his records and advised they indicate THOMPSON worked from 6:00PM 4/4/68 until 6:00 AM 4/5/68.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

DATE: May 17, 1968

FROM : SAC, SEATTLE (44-371) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

CR

OO: MEMPHIS

Re Bureau airtel dated 5/9/68.

Enclosed for the Bureau are original and three copies of a LHM concerning statements allegedly made by WILLIAM B. LEE, the results of investigation into LEE's background and results of interview with LEE.

② - Bureau (Enc. 4) ~~ENCLOSURE~~
2 - Seattle
TBW:bqv
(4)

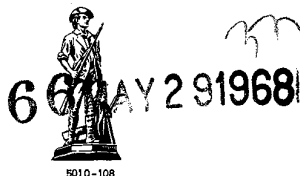
1 cc of letter incl.
to CR Unit

EXP. PROC.

EX-116

REC 11

15 MAY 20 1968



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



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. SE 44-371

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Seattle, Washington

May 17, 1968

RE: MURDER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

On April 30, 1968, WYATT STANLEY, North 6118 Cook, Spokane, Washington, was drinking in Casey's Gay 90's, 457 Northtown Shopping Center, Spokane, and engaged in a conversation and had a few drinks with an individual who identified himself as BILL LEE. During the conversation, the matter of racial problems came up, and LEE indicated he was from the South and subsequently said he would pay STANLEY \$10,000 to kill RAP BROWN or STOKELY CARMICHAEL. He mentioned the Ku Klux Klan and the Minutemen and said "We" will furnish couriers or planes for carrying this out and any kind of gun wanted. LEE then remarked the mark has been put on RAP BROWN, STOKELY CARMICHAEL, and ROBERT KENNEDY. He then gave STANLEY a business card from Follett Music Company, West 1131 First Avenue, Spokane, and on the back wrote the name "BILL LEE" then "yes---," "no---," and "where---." LEE said he could be called at that place and STANLEY was simply to answer yes or no and to indicate where he could be contacted. STANLEY said LEE had been drinking but did not appear to be intoxicated.

ROBERT FOLLETT, Follett Music Company, Spokane, stated LEE was employed by him as a salesman on March 23, 1968, and was employed by him in Spokane, Washington, or the immediate vicinity on April 4, 1968. FOLLETT also stated that LEE is a "blowhard" and that he recalls that when Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., was killed, LEE had remarked he had been offered \$5,000 to do this job four or five years ago.

It was determined that LEE had been employed by radio station KSPO, Spokane, prior to the time he was employed by Follett Music Company.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

44-38861-3791

ENCLOSURE

RE: MURDER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Records of Snelling and Snelling Employment Agency, East 9822 Sprague, Spokane, Washington, through whom LEE was employed by KSPQ, showed LEE's address as West 1117 Garland, Spokane, gave his wife as ELVA, showed employment in October, 1967, at Tubbs Electric, Spokane; in May, 1967, with the Washington Health Service, Seattle, Washington; May, 1965, to February, 1967, with Koret of California, 611 Mission, San Francisco, California; January, 1960, to May, 1965, with Nixon Merchandising Company; 3961 Sepulveda, Los Angeles, and from 1954 to 1960 with ABC Corporation, Los Angeles. LEE claimed two years of college with the University of Alabama, 1957, to 1959, and service in the U. S. Navy from 1948 to 1952.

On May 13, 1968, Mrs. WILLIAM B. (ELVA) LEE, employed as a youth director at the Valley Methodist Church, Spokane, Washington, advised that LEE was an orphan but had been reared by WILLIAM S. and EMA RUTH LEE, and had grown up in Waycross, Georgia. He served in the Navy from 1948 to 1952, received an Honorable Discharge, and they were married in Norfolk, Virginia, in February, 1953. 22
FILE

After marriage, they went to Atlanta, Georgia, where he was employed by the Credit Department at W. T. Graham Company. They went to Albany, Georgia, in 1954 where he worked for a loan company and subsequently transferred to Montgomery, Alabama, stayed in Montgomery until about 1959 where he changed employment to Sears Roebuck and Company. They went to Leesburg, Florida, in 1959, where he was Credit Manager for the Sears and Roebuck Store, then he quit Sears and Roebuck Company and went to Los Angeles, California, in March, 1960.

After several months of unemployment in Los Angeles, he went to work with the Westinghouse Corporation in the Wholesale Credit Department and thereafter started "job jumping." During the time they were in California, he worked painting automobiles for a milk company, at a hotdog stand, and was unemployed much of the time. He then went to work for Koret of California as a trainee and was transferred to the Spokane, Washington, territory in September, 1966.

After coming to Spokane, he stayed with Koret until about February, 1967, and had subsequently worked for Pitney-Bowes, the Washington Health Service, Radio Station KSPQ, and most recently with Follett Music Company. She said he was employed there March 23, 1968, and is still employed.

RE: MURDER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Mrs. LEE said he had not been back to any portion of the South since leaving in 1960 to Los Angeles, California. She described him as a very prejudice person, stated that he drinks considerably, and had made many wild statements.

She said he came home a few weeks ago saying that he had heard that someone would pay \$5,000 to "knock off" CARMICHAEL. She said his talk, apparently the result of alcohol, has no credibility at all, and she believes she is in need of psychiatric care. She said they have five children; and while he apparently loves the children, he is completely irresponsible as far as supporting them is concerned.

Mrs. LEE concluded that she has never had reason to believe that her husband has any knowledge whatever concerning the death of Doctor KING and has no contact whatsoever with anyone back in Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, or Georgia.

On May 14, 1968, WILLIAM B. LEE was interviewed at his residence at West 117 Garland Avenue, Spokane, Washington. When he was honorably discharged from the United States Navy in 1952, he went to work for the W. T. Graham Company, subsequently married his wife, ELVA, in March, 1953, in Norfolk, Virginia, then went to Albany, Georgia, where he was employed by a finance company.

He was transferred by this company to Montgomery, Alabama, in 1954 and then changed to employment with Sears Roebuck and Company in Montgomery. He was transferred as a Credit Manager for Sears Roebuck and Company to their store in Leesburg, Florida, but subsequently left Leesburg in January, 1960, to go to Los Angeles, California. In Los Angeles, he was employed by Nixon Merchandising Company and then by Koret of California as a trainee. He said there were other short time employments in California; but after training with Koret, he was sent to Spokane, Washington, as a District Representative in September, 1966. He said that since this time, he has been with his family in Spokane. He left Koret of California in February, 1967, and since that time has been employed by Pitney-Bowes, Washington Health Service, KSPQ Radio and is presently employed by Follett Music Company and has been since March 23, 1968.

RE: MURDER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

LEE has not been back to visit in the South since he left there in 1960. He said he has a strong feeling of loyalty toward the South and the southern people, that he does not particularly hate the Negro race, but believes in a segregated society. He stated he believes that riots, lootings, and killings are not helping the United States; and should the South ever call on him to take a stand, he would do so immediately.

LEE stated that in about 1953, when he was living in Albany, Georgia, that his uncle, T. A. CLEMENTS, Route 2, Sylvester, Georgia, who died in 1964, had told him he would give him \$100 to shoot MARTIN LUTHER KING. He said that he did not know whether his deceased uncle was serious but that whether he was or not, he could never kill a man in cold blood.

LEE said that about three or four weeks ago, he was drinking in Casey's Restaurant in Spokane and that he was in a conversation with an unknown individual. He said he and this man were discussing racial problems, and this individual said he would pay \$5,000 to see STOKELY CARMICHAEL or RAP BROWN killed. He said ROBERT KENNEDY's name was not mentioned at this time, but he does recall that later something was said regarding ROBERT KENNEDY and his stand on racial issues. LEE denied that he had ever said anything to anyone about killing BROWN or CARMICHAEL and that he could not raise any money under any circumstance.

LEE advised he has not been in contact with any of his old associates in Georgia or Alabama and since coming to the West Coast in 1960, has not been further east than Montana. He says he knows nothing about the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING other than what he has read in the newspapers or seen on television or heard over the radio. He denied belonging to any hate group of any kind.

The following description was obtained by observation and interview:

Name	WILLIAM B. LEE
Address	West 1117 Garland, Spokane, Washington
Date of Birth	
Place of Birth	Waycross, Georgia
Height	5' 7"

aka. RILEY Lee
ELW-Va
C. L. F.

RE: MURDER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Weight	135 pounds
Hair	Brown
Build	Slender
Tattoo	Left arm, U. S. Navy
Scars	None
Navy Serial No.	5583917
Wife	ELVA
Children	Five, reside at home
Occupation	Follett Music Company, Spokane, Washington

5*

RE: MURDER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Records of Snelling and Snelling Employment Agency, East 9822 Sprague, Spokane, Washington, through whom LEE was employed by KSPO, showed LEE's address as West 1117 Garland, Spokane, gave his wife as ELVA, showed employment in October, 1967, at Tubbs Electric, Spokane; in May, 1967, with the Washington Health Service, Seattle, Washington; May, 1965, to February, 1967, with Koret of California, 611 Mission, San Francisco, California; January, 1960, to May, 1965, with Nixon Merchandising Company; 3961 Sepulveda, Los Angeles, and from 1954 to 1960 with ABC Corporation, Los Angeles. LEE claimed two years of college with the University of Alabama, 1957, to 1959, and service in the U. S. Navy from 1948 to 1952.

On May 13, 1968, Mrs. WILLIAM B. (ELVA) LEE, employed as a youth director at the Valley Methodist Church, Spokane, Washington, advised that LEE was an orphan but had been reared by WILLIAM S. and EMA RUTH LEE, and had grown up in Waycross, Georgia. He served in the Navy from 1948 to 1952, received an Honorable Discharge, and they were married in Norfolk, Virginia, in February, 1953.

After marriage, they went to Atlanta, Georgia, where he was employed by the Credit Department at W. T. Graham Company. They went to Albany, Georgia, in 1954 where he worked for a loan company and subsequently transferred to Montgomery, Alabama, stayed in Montgomery until about 1959 where he changed employment to Sears Roebuck and Company. They went to Leesburg, Florida, in 1959, where he was Credit Manager for the Sears and Roebuck Store, then he quit Sears and Roebuck Company and went to Los Angeles, California, in March, 1960.

After several months of unemployment in Los Angeles, he went to work with the Westinghouse Corporation in the Wholesale credit department and thereafter started "job jumping." During the time they were in California, he worked painting automobiles for a milk company, at a hotdog stand, and was unemployed much of the time. He then went to work for Koret of California as a trainee and was transferred to the Spokane, Washington, territory in September, 1966.

After coming to Spokane, he stayed with Koret until about February, 1967, and had subsequently worked for Pitney-Bowes, the Washington Health Service, Radio Station KSPO, and most recently with Follett Music Company. She said he was employed there March 23, 1968, and is still employed.

Seattle, Washington
May 17, 1968

SE 44-371

RE: MURDER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

On April 30, 1968, WYATT STANLEY, North 6118 Cook, Spokane, Washington, was drinking in Casey's Gay 90's, 457 Northtown Shopping Center, Spokane, and engaged in a conversation and had a few drinks with an individual who identified himself as BILL LEE. During the conversation, the matter of racial problems came up, and LEE indicated he was from the South and subsequently said he would pay STANLEY \$10,000 to kill RAP BROWN or STOKELY CARMICHAEL. He mentioned the Ku Klux Klan and the Minutemen and said "We" will furnish couriers or planes for carrying this out and any kind of gun wanted. LEE then remarked the mark has been put on RAP BROWN, STOKELY CARMICHAEL, and ROBERT KENNEDY. He then gave STANLEY a business card from Follett Music Company, West 1131 First Avenue, Spokane, and on the back wrote the name "BILL LEE" then "yes---," "no---," and "where---." LEE said he could be called at that place and STANLEY was simply to answer yes or no and to indicate where he could be contacted. STANLEY said LEE had been drinking but did not appear to be intoxicated.

ROBERT FOLLETT, Follett Music Company, Spokane, stated LEE was employed by him as a salesman on March 23, 1968, and was employed by him in Spokane, Washington, or the immediate vicinity on April 4, 1968. FOLLETT also stated that LEE is a "blowhard" and that he recalls that when Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., was killed, LEE had remarked he had been offered \$5,000 to do this job four or five years ago.

It was determined that LEE had been employed by radio station KSPQ, Spokane, prior to the time he was employed by Follett Music Company.

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RE: MURDER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Mrs. LEE said he had not been back to any portion of the South since leaving in 1960 to Los Angeles, California. She described him as a very prejudice person, stated that he drinks considerably, and had made many wild statements.

She said he came home a few weeks ago saying that he had heard that someone would pay \$5,000 to "knock off" CARMICHAEL. She said his talk, apparently the result of alcohol, has no credibility at all, and she believes she is in need of psychiatric care. She said they have five children; and while he apparently loves the children, he is completely irresponsible as far as supporting them is concerned.

Mrs. LEE concluded that she has never had reason to believe that her husband has any knowledge whatever concerning the death of Doctor KING and has no contact whatsoever with anyone back in Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, or Georgia.

On May 14, 1968, WILLIAM B. LEE was interviewed at his residence at West 117 Garland Avenue, Spokane, Washington. When he was honorably discharged from the United States Navy in 1952, he went to work for the W. T. Graham Company, subsequently married his wife, ELVA, in March, 1953, in Norfolk, Virginia, then went to Albany, Georgia, where he was employed by a finance company.

He was transferred by this company to Montgomery, Alabama, in 1954 and then changed to employment with Sears Roebuck and Company in Montgomery. He was transferred as a Credit Manager for Sears Roebuck and Company to their store in Leesburg, Florida, but subsequently left Leesburg in January, 1960, to go to Los Angeles, California. In Los Angeles, he was employed by Nixon Merchandising Company and then by Koret of California as a trainee. He said there were other short time employments in California; but after training with Koret, he was sent to Spokane, Washington, as a District Representative in September, 1966. He said that since this time, he has been with his family in Spokane. He left Koret of California in February, 1967, and since that time has been employed by Pitney-Bowes, Washington Health Service, KSPO Radio and is presently employed by Follett Music Company and has been since March 23, 1968.

RE: MURDER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

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RE: MURDER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

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Hair	Brown
Build	Slender
Tattoo	Left arm, U. S. Navy
Scars	None
Navy Serial No.	5583917
Wife	ELVA
Children	Five, reside at home
Occupation	Follett Music Company, Spokane, Washington

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