

REC'D CIV RIGHTS

SEP 12 4 50 PM 1978

U.S. DEPARTMENT
OF JUSTICE

SEP 11 8 07 PM '78

INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

THAT THE AIRCRAFT'S LOG BOOK WAS IN HIS PLANE AND CALLED THE OHIO COUNTY AIRPORT, ADVISING LEROY HARRIS, DIRECTOR OF AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE, TO OBTAIN ALL LOGS AND MAKE AVAILABLE TO FBI.

ON THIS DATE, LEROY HARRIS, AS ABOVE, MADE AVAILABLE THREE AIRCRAFT LOGS PERTAINING TO THE ABOVE AIRCRAFT, AS WELL AS THE ENGINE LOG. A COMPLETE REVIEW OF THESE LOGS FAILED TO DISCLOSE THE NAMES OF BURGESS AUDI WILSON OR LOU CREWS.

A REVIEW OF ALL LOGS INDICATED THE AIRCRAFT RECEIVED AN ANNUAL INSPECTION, FEBRUARY 28, 1968, WHICH INSPECTION WAS SIGNED BY (FNU) LAST NAME APPEARING TO BE FRANKENFIELD, INSPECTION AUTHORIZATION NUMBER A11136526. NO FURTHER IDENTIFYING DATA AVAILABLE. THE NEXT INSPECTION DATE FOR THE AIRCRAFT WAS JULY 19, 1968, WHICH INSPECTION WAS ALSO SIGNED BY FRANKENFIELD.

ON OCTOBER 12, 1968, THE AIRCRAFT ENGINE RECEIVED MAINTENANCE ATTENTION, AT WHICH TIME THE MAINTENANCE WORK WAS SIGNED BY FLOYD OLSON, AIR FRAME AND POWER PLANT NO. 1724046. NO FURTHER IDENTIFYING DATA AVAILABLE AND NO LOG ENTRIES FOR

PAGE THREE

PG 44-1572

UNCLAS

APRIL 1968.

HARRIS INDICATED THAT FAA RECORDS SHOULD DISCLOSE
LOCATION FOR FRANKENFIELD AND OLSON AT THOSE PARTICULAR
TIMES.

ANY SUBSEQUENT LEADS ARE BEING LEFT TO THE DISCRETION
OF OO.

REPORT FOLLOWS.

END

BT

#

HOLF FOR SECOND TEL

KC0001 2361640

00 HQ ME

DE KC

O 241635Z AUG 78

FM KANSAS CITY (44-760) P

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) (IMMEDIATE)

MEMPHIS (44-1987) (SUB M) (IMMEDIATE)

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

ATTENTION: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRIES UNIT

MURKIN; OO: MEMPHIS

RE MEMPHIS TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR AND KANSAS CITY
AUGUST 21, 1978; MEMPHIS TELCAL TO KANSAS CITY AUGUST 21,
1978; JACKSON TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR, KANSAS CITY, AND
MEMPHIS AUGUST 22, 1978.

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE RESULTS OF AN INVESTIGATION
CONDUCTED TO RESOLVE THE ALLEGATION BY BURGESS AUDIE WILSON
THAT HE ASSASSINATED MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., AND TO
DETERMINE THE WHEREABOUTS OF WILSON ON APRIL 4, 1968.

REC-79

EX-137

44-38861-6203
6 SEP 26 1978

62 OCT 16 1978

Assoc. Dir.	
Dep. AD Adm.	
Dep. AD Inv.	
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Serv.	
Crim. Inv.	
Ident.	
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Training	
Off. Liaison	
Public Affs.	
Tele. Rm.	
Director's Sec'y	

HB

Confidential Inquiry
Rm 80988

H. J. Haly

SECTION 501036

RECEIVED
RECORDS MANAGEMENT
DIVISION

SEP 22 12 11 PM '78

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

U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE
FBI

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

AUG 24 2 12 PM '78
SEP 22 2 36 PM '78

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AND REVIEW
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RECORDS MANAGEMENT
DIVISION

SEP 26 3 09 PM 1978

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS

SEP 28 1978

PAGE TWO KC 44-760 UNCLAS E F T O

VINCE HARRISON, MANAGER OF THE GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, INDICATED THAT WILSON RAN A JEWELRY STORE IN BELTON, MISSOURI, IN 1968, AND THAT IN 1969 WILSON RAN FOR MAYOR OF GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI. HARRISON INDICATED THAT JOHN CAMPBELL, CHIEF OF POLICE, GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI, AND SAM LICKTEIG, REAL ESTATE APPRAISER, GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI, TELEPHONE 765-1991, WILL HAVE MORE INFORMATION.

CAMPBELL DESCRIBED WILSON AS BEING A CON-MAN AND ALSO AS A HEAVY DRINKER.

CAMPBELL SAID HE IS AWARE THAT WILSON HAD A JEWELRY STORE, BUT CANNOT REMEMBER THE NAME OR LOCATION. CAMPBELL SAID THAT BEFORE WILSON LEFT GRANDVIEW, DOES NOT REMEMBER THE DATE, THAT WILSON GOT VERY PARANOID ABOUT SOMETHING. WILSON HIRED OFF DUTY POLICEMAN TO GUARD THE INVENTORY OF WILSON'S JEWELRY STORE. SUBSEQUENTLY WILSON AUCTIONED OFF ALL HIS INVENTORY. THE AUCTIONEER WAS TOMMY COMPTON, TELEPHONE 761-2277.

CAMPBELL HEARD THAT BEFORE WILSON CAME TO GRANDVIEW HE WAS IN SOME TYPE OF BUSINESS WITH LOU CREWS OF CREWS JEWELRY STORE, BUT DOES NOT REMEMBER THE NAME OF THE BUSINESS.

PAGE THREE KC 44-760 UNCLAS E F T O

WHEN WILSON CAME TO GRANDVIEW, HE SPLIT WITH CREWS AND LEASED A COUNTER FROM KATZ DRUG STORE, TRUMAN CORNERS SHOPPING CENTER, GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI. WHEN WILSON SPLIT, CREWS WAS REAL MAD BECAUSE HE, CREWS, GOT CHEATED OUT OF SEVERAL THOUSAND DOLLARS, AND MADE THE COMMENT, "IF I GET A CHANCE I'M GOING TO BUMP THE SON-OF-A-BITCH OFF".

SUBSEQUENTLY WILSON MOVED FROM KATZ AND OPENED A NEW STORE, LOCATION AND NAME UNKNOWN.

CAMPBELL INDICATED THAT ON JANUARY 6, 1969, WILSON FILED FOR CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR OF GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI. HE SAID WILSON WAS DEFEATED BY A LARGE MARGIN IN APRIL OF 1969.

CAMPBELL WAS ASKED IF WILSON WAS CAPABLE OF KILLING SOMEONE, AND HE REPLIED THAT WILSON WAS VERY CAPABLE BECAUSE OF HIS TYPE OF CHARACTER.

CAMPBELL SAID THAT LOU CREWS DIED ON AUGUST 22, 1978 OF CANCER, AND THAT A SAM KAPPERA, OFFICER, GRANDVIEW POLICE DEPARTMENT, A REAL CLOSE FRIEND OF CREWS, MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE MORE INFORMATION ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CREWS AND WILSON.

PAGE FOUR KC 44-760 UNCLAS E F T O

SAM LICKTEIG INDICATED THAT HE WAS ON THE CITY COUNCIL WHEN WILSON WAS A CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR IN 1969. HE SAID THAT ARNOLD HOLTON RAN AGAINST WILSON AND HOLTON WON THE ELECTION.

LICKTEIG FEELS THAT WILSON WAS VERY STRANGE. HE HEARD THAT WILSON KEPT A CONSIGNMENT OF DIAMONDS IN HIS HOUSE, AND THAT HE WAS BURGLARIZED ON WHAT SEEMED TO BE A REGULAR BASIS. LICKTEIG SAID HE DOES NOT KNOW HOW HE STAYED IN BUSINESS WITH ALL THOSE BURGLARIES. HE ALSO SAID THAT WILSON APPEARED TO BE HAVING FAMILY PROBLEMS.

LICKTEIG SAID THAT WILSON LOST THE MAYOR ELECTION BY A LARGE VOLUME AND DOES NOT KNOW IF ANYONE BACKED HIM UP. HE DOES NOT KNOW IF CREWS WAS INVOLVED WITH THE ELECTION.

LICKTEIG SAID THAT ONE OF WILSON'S CAMPAIGN STANDS WAS AS FOLLOWS: "TO OPPOSE SCHOOL DISTRICT CONSOLIDATION, CONSOLIDATION WOULD MEAN OUR CHILDREN COULD AND WOULD BE TRANSPORTED TO OTHER SCHOOLS 10 TO 15 MILES AWAY, AND OTHER CHILDREN FROM KANSAS CITY TRANSPORTED TO OUR SCHOOLS".

LICKTEIG SAID THAT WILSON ATTENDED THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE. HE ALSO SAID THAT WILSON WAS A MEMBER OF THE KANSAS CITY MASONIC LODGE.

PAGE FIVE KC 44-760 UNCLAS E F T O

ED BUSH, LOAN OFFICER, IN CHARGE OF AIRPLANE LOANS AT JOHNSON COUNTY BANK IN KANSAS, INDICATED THAT WILSON APPLIED FOR A LOAN FOR A BONANZA 4434L AIRPLANE IN 1968. BUSH SAID THAT LOU CREWS WAS SHOWN AS A PARTNER IN THE PURCHASE OF THIS AIRPLANE.

THE APPLICATION OF WILSON SHOWS WILSON'S ADDRESS AS 13125 HICKER, GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI, AND HIS PLACE OF BUSINESS AS: WILBURS WHOLESALE JEWELERS, TELEPHONE 331-2500. CREWS APPLICATION SHOWS HIS HOME ADDRESS AS HICKMAN MILLS DRIVE AND OLD 71 HIGHWAY, AND HIS EMPLOYMENT AS: CLIPPER MANUFACTURERS, NO ADDRESS OR PHONE GIVEN.

BUSH SAID THE BANK MADE A CREDIT BUREAU CHECK ON JUNE 5, 1968. HE SAID THE BILL OF SALE FOR THE BONANZA 4434L IS DATED JUNE 6, 1968, WHICH IS AFTER THE DEATH OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.. THE SELLER WAS LISTED AS FISHER SALES AND SERVICES AND THE BUYER AS CREWS AND WILSON.

THE AIRPLANE WAS REGISTERED ON JUNE 6TH UNDER THE NAMES OF CREWS AND WILSON. THE AIRPLANE WAS REGISTERED AT THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS, 553 NORTH SCOTT, BELTON, MISSOURI, WHICH WAS LATER LEARNED THROUGH THE 1969 CRISS-CROSS DIRECTORY THAT WILBUR WHOLESALE JEWELERS WAS LOCATED AT THIS ADDRESS.

PAGE SIX KC 44-760 UNCLAS E F T O

BOTH PARTIES SIGNED A SECURITY AGREEMENT ON JUNE 6, 1968.

IN A LETTER DATED NOVEMBER 22, 1968, CREWS AND WILSON SIGNED ALL THEIR RIGHTS TO THE AIRPLANE BACK TO FISHER.

BUSH INDICATED THAT CREWS PURCHASED A 1968 THUNDERBIRD ON OCTOBER 9, 1968 FROM PAUL'S FORDS SALES, INC., WITH VIN 8Y83N138079. THE DATE OF THE LOAN WAS OCTOBER 8, 1968. BUSH SAID THAT THE BANK SUBSEQUENTLY REPOSSESSED THE CAR AND SOLD IT ON JULY 10, 1970. BUSH SAID THAT WILSON WAS THE ONLY SIGNER ON THE LOAN FOR THE THUNDERBIRD.

KANSAS CITY, AT KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI: (1) IN REFERENCE TO MEMPHIS TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR AND KANSAS CITY, DATED AUGUST 21, 1978, WILL CONTINUE TO ATTEMPT TO LOCATE EXISTENCE OF JEWELRY TRADE SHOP ON WALNUT STREET TO ESTABLISH EXISTENCE OF INDIVIDUAL AS DESCRIBED BY WILSON.

(2) WILL OBTAIN CREDIT CHECK FOR WILSON TO DETERMINE IF ANY TRANSACTIONS OCCURRED ON APRIL 4, 1968.

BT

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE CHICAGO	OFFICE OF ORIGIN MEMPHIS	DATE 8/31/78	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 8/19-24/78
TITLE OF CASE MURKIN		REPORT MADE BY SA JOHN J. SHERIDAN	TYPED BY kjd
		CHARACTER OF CASE CR	

REFERENCE: Memphis teletype to Bureau 8/19/78.
Chicago teletype to Bureau 8/19/78.
Bureau to Birmingham 8/22/78.
Chicago teletype to Bureau 8/23/78.

- RUC -

EXP. PROC. 37
37 SEP 6 1978

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CON VIC.	PRETRIAL DIVERSION	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
								PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

APPROVED *geo/wrd* SPECIAL AGENT
IN CHARGE

COPIES MADE:

- ④ - Bureau (44-38861)
- 3 - Memphis (44-1987 Sub M)
- 1 - USA, Memphis
- 1 - Chicago (44-1114)

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

44-38861-6284	REC-80
16 SEP 22 1978	EX-114

Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Agency	2 - Bureau Div 1 - PERD
Request Recd.	
Date Fwd.	9/17/78
How Fwd.	3-10 (B)
By	6600-1-158m

Notations

W. H. H. H. H.
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Sub
4

- A* -
COVER PAGE

REFERENCE:
Chicago Police Department
Chicago Police Department
Chicago Police Department
Chicago Police Department
Chicago Police Department

37 SEP 6 1948
EXP. PROC.

APPROVED		COPIES MADE		1 - Bureau (44-38861) 2 - Memphis (44-1987 sub W) 1 - USA, Memphis 1 - Chicago (44-1116)	
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		18 SEP 5 1978 18 SEP 5 1978		DISSEMINATION RECORD OF ATTACHED REPORT 18 SEP 5 1978	
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COVER REVER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1 - USA, Memphis

Report of: SA JOHN J. SHERIDAN
Date: August 31, 1978

Office: Chicago

Field Office File #: 44-1114

Bureau File #: 44-38861

Title: MURKIN

Character: CIVIL RIGHTS

Synopsis: DEBRA ANN JONES, Belvidere, Illinois, daughter of BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, advised she and her mother were in Memphis during the KING assassination and her father remained in Kansas City, Missouri. Her mother called her father in Kansas City at least twice from Memphis. WILSON was arrested in Brownsville, Texas, about four and one-half years ago and allegedly had a rifle in his car. She said he definitely has mental problems, is intoxicated most of the time and feels he badly needs psychiatric treatment.

- RUC -

PREDICATION:

This investigation was predicated upon receipt of Memphis teletype to the Bureau dated August 19, 1978, requesting that DEBRA ANN JONES be interviewed.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/23/78

DEBRA ANN JONES, Lot 106, 2628 Newburg Road, Belvidere, Illinois, advised she is the daughter of BURGESS AUDIE WILSON and that they lived in Kansas City, Missouri, from 1964 to September of 1968. She advised she was a senior in high school in 1968 and received a 1965 white Mustang from her father as a graduation present. JONES stated she was in Memphis, Tennessee, with her mother visiting her maternal grandfather, who was in a Baptist hospital after suffering a heart attack, at the time of the KING murder. She and her mother flew from Kansas City to Memphis on an unrecalled airline and stayed three or four days. She recalled there were curfew restrictions while they were in Memphis. She advised that her father, who was a flight engineer on a C-124 and stationed at Richard's Gabour Air Force Base, remained in Kansas City with her two brothers, STEPHEN and MARK WILSON, who were ages 14 and 10.

JONES stated she definitely did not travel to Memphis in the Mustang, and she never made any trips in it with her father. She stated the car was in very poor condition and could not make it to Memphis.

She recalled that while they were in Memphis her mother called Kansas City at least twice and talked to her father.

Further, she stated she has not seen her father in five years but that he calls her frequently. She advised she received a call last Saturday morning at which time he sounded sober. On this occasion they had a general conversation. JONES advised he called her again on Thursday night and was obviously intoxicated. On this occasion her father told her the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) was going to put him in jail for the murder of KING. In addition, he told her the FBI had given him a polygraph test. He told her she would be contacted by the FBI and that she was to tell the FBI nothing.

She stated her father is intoxicated most of the

Interviewed on 8/19/78 at Belvidere, Illinois File # CG 44-1114

by SA JOHN J. SHERIDAN:kjd Date dictated 8/21/78

2
CG 44-1114

times he calls her and she feels he definitely has mental problems. She knew of no psychiatric treatment, but she felt he needed it badly.

She stated her mother, BETTY L. (Mrs. KEITH W.D.) WADE, resides at 233 Smith Street, Barlesen, Texas, and has telephone 817-295-2200. Her two brothers live in the same area. JONES advised that her father has a sister, LEIDA MC GAHEY, 2002 East Eighth Street, Columbus, Mississippi, telephone 601-327-1141, who usually knows his whereabouts.

JONES advised her father never indicates where he is calling from and has moved around a great deal since his divorce four and one-half years ago at Ft. Worth, Texas. She stated he was arrested around that time at Brownsville, Texas, while intoxicated in a bar and after making threats to kill his wife. She advised the police found a rifle in his car.

Further, she stated her father was congenial when sober, but when he drank he was mean and often hit his wife. She advised that although he was bigoted she is sure he did not kill KING and that he was not in Memphis at the time KING was murdered.

- 3 -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/25/78

DEBRA ANN JONES, Belvidere, Illinois, who is the daughter of BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, advised that she does not recall exactly when her father purchased the 1965 Mustang. She recalled driving it to school for a couple of months prior to her graduation and advised they definitely had this vehicle during early April, 1968. She stated her father purchased the car from an unknown dealership near Kansas City.

Interviewed on 8/23/78 at Belvidere, Illinois File # CG 44-1114

by SA JOHN J. SHERIDAN:kjd Date dictated 8/23/78

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FBI/DOJ

KC0009 2402319Z

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RECEIVED
FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

FM KANSAS CITY (44-760) COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) (IMMEDIATE)

MEMPHIS (44-1987) (SUB M) (IMMEDIATE)

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

ATTENTION: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRIES UNIT, MURKIN; OO MEMPHIS.

RE MEMPHIS TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR AND KANSAS CITY, AUGUST 21,
1978; MEMPHIS TELEPHONE CALL TO KANSAS CITY, AUGUST 21, 1978;
JACKSON TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR, KANSAS CITY, AND MEMPHIS,
AUGUST 22, 1978; KANSAS CITY TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR AND MEMPHIS,
AUGUST 24, 1978; KANSAS CITY TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR AND MEMPHIS,
AUGUST 25, 1978.

ROBERT JOSEPH SEREDICH, DESCRIBED AS A WHITE MALE,
BORN [REDACTED] 6'1", 265 POUNDS, BLUE EYES, BROWN
HAIR, SSAN [REDACTED] AND FBI [REDACTED] WAS INTERVIEWED
ON AUGUST 28, 1978. SEREDICH INDICATED THAT HE HAS NEVER
HEARD OF A BURGESS AUDIE WILSON. SEREDICH ALSO INDICATED
THAT HE IS NOT FAMILIAR WITH WILBUR JEWELRY STORE IN BELTON

23 SEP 25 1978

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PAGE TWO KC 44-760 UNCLAS E F T O
MISSOURI, OR OF LOU CREWS.

SERED ICH INDICATED THAT HE HAS KNOWN MOST OF THE JEWELERS IN THE KANSAS CITY AREA FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS, HOWEVER, HE DOES NOT KNOW BURGESS AUDIE WILSON.

SERED ICH IS THE OWNER OF FECHTER JEWELRY, SUITE 413, 25 EAST 12TH, TELEPHONE 471-8457.

MITCHELL ZAMMAR WAS INTERVIEWED ON AUGUST 28, 1978. ZAMMAR IS NOW MARRIED TO DORIS (AUSTIN) ZAMMER, WHO OWNS DORIS BONDING COMPANY, 731 ANN, KANSAS CITY, KANSAS, TELEPHONE 621-5858. ZAMMAR SAID HE IS FAMILIAR WITH WILSON, HOWEVER, ONLY ON A CASUAL BASIS. ZAMMAR INDICATED THAT HE MET WILSON THROUGH THURMAN FECHTER, NOW DECEASED, FORMER OWNER OF FECHTER JEWELERS. ZAMMAR DESCRIBED WILSON AS BEING VERY NERVOUS. ZAMMAR SOLD A RING TO WILSON THAT HE PURCHASED FROM FECHTER. ZAMMER DESCRIBED THIS AS A SMALL RING WORTH APPROXIMATELY \$300 TO \$400. ZAMMAR SAID THAT HE VISITED WILSON AT HIS PLACE OF BUSINESS TWICE, IN ORDER TO OBTAIN THE MONEY FOR THE RING WILSON PURCHASED FROM ZAMMAR.

PAGE THREE

KC 44-760

UNCLAS EFTO

ZAMMAR WAS ASKED IF WILSON MADE ANY MENTION THAT WILSON HATED BLACKS. ZAMMER INDICATED THAT WILSON NEVER MADE MENTION THAT HE WAS PREJUDICE AGAINST BLACKS.

ZAMMAR WAS INFORMED THAT WILSON ALLEGED THAT WILSON ASSASSINATED MARTIN LUTHER KING. HE WAS ALSO INFORMED THAT WILSON RECEIVED A JAPANESE SNIPER RIFLE FROM HIM. ZAMMAR REPLIED THAT HE NEVER GAVE OR SOLD A JAPANESE SNIPER RIFLE OR ANY OTHER WEAPON TO WILSON. ZAMMAR ALSO INDICATED THAT HE NEVER HEARD WILSON TALK ABOUT KILLING MARTIN LUTHER KING.

KANSAS CITY DISCONTINUING FURTHER INVESTIGATION,
UACB.

BT

M

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☒ Airtel

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ E F T O
☐ CLEAR

Date 9/18/78

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
 (ATTN: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY UNIT, RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION)

FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386) (C)

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
 APRIL 4, 1968
 MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

Re Bureau airtel to Atlanta dated 8/30/78.

Enclosed for the Bureau are the original and five copies of an LHM dated and captioned as above and suitable for dissemination.

It was obvious, in the interview with STEWART, that once he learned the FBI could not get him transferred to the Federal Correctional Institute at Memphis, Tennessee, he lost interest in cooperating with the FBI. STEWART wants to trade what, if any, information he has for a transfer. He is a hardened criminal who has spent most of the last 15 years in prison. He is not about to give away anything he has for nothing. He did answer some questions but his answers were vague and when asked for specific information to substantiate his beliefs, he could provide none.

STEWART appears eager to help prove the innocence of JAMES EARL RAY. He said the two were friends and he does not believe that RAY killed KING. Some of STEWART'S information must be treated with some degree of cynicism. It is hard to

2- Bureau (Enc. 6)
 2- Atlanta
 JTP:baw
 (4)

ENCLOSURE

040-15
 2-Criminal Div (enc)
 1-Civil Rights Div (enc)
 1-Civ (enc)
 9-29-78

JTA: pfm
 only copies of
 LHM furnished.

17 SEP 23 1978

Approved: 51Transmitted 44

(Number)

(Time)

Per JTA

GPO : 1977 O - 225-539

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10-2-1978 BY 1043

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PERSON OR ORGANIZATION WITHOUT THE WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION OF
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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DATE 10-2-1978 BY 1043

AT 44-2386

believe that the two shared a cell together for over two years and RAY never expressed a dislike for Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., even though STEWART said RAY disliked blacks and Dr. KING was the leading Civil Rights Activist at that time.

In view of STEWART'S belief that RAY is innocent, it is highly unlikely, he would tend to incriminate RAY in further interview, say with the House Select Committee on Assassinations, and he did not indicate that he knew who might be responsible, if in fact anyone, in aiding RAY in his escape or who might actually have assassinated Dr. KING.

STEWART indicated a willingness to talk to the House Select Committee on Assassinations, however, he probably wants to work some sort of deal with them and they should be so advised before initiating any talks with him. At best, STEWART may be able to provide insights into RAY'S thinking and logic, since the two spent two years together, but it is doubtful that he can provide any concrete information of value to the Bureau.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

*In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.*

Atlanta, Georgia

September 18, 1978

ASSASSINATION OF
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.,
APRIL 4, 1968
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

The Atlanta Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is in receipt of the following information:

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.



44-38861-6286
ENCLOSURE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription 9/8/78white male

~~JERRY WAYNE STEWART~~, inmate registration number 02492-135, was interviewed at the U.S. Penitentiary, Atlanta, Georgia (USP-A), where he is presently incarcerated. STEWART was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and of the nature of the investigation being conducted. He was advised any information furnished may be used in a court of law. He was also advised that any information furnished will be furnished to the U.S. Department of Justice and the House Select Committee on Assassinations.

STEWART at the outset, advised he did not wish to provide the Government with any information if the Government could not help him be relocated at the Federal Correctional Institute in Memphis, Tennessee. STEWART advised that he had recently been turned down by the Bureau of Prisons in his request for transfer to Memphis. After it was explained to him that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) was not in a position to authorize and promise such transfer, he hesitatingly agreed to answer some questions.

STEWART advised that he and JAMES EARL RAY, convicted assassin of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., were cellmates together at the Missouri State Prison, Jefferson City, Missouri. STEWART said he and RAY were at the Missouri Prison together from 1964 until October, 1967 when RAY escaped. He said he and RAY became pretty close friends, the two working in the kitchen together at the Penitentiary in addition to sharing the same cell. STEWART said he and RAY used to talk quite a bit about escaping. RAY was interested in obtaining false identification and documents to facilitate his getaway once he escaped from prison. STEWART said he gave RAY advice on how to obtain these documents. RAY never indicated to STEWART that he had any outside help in his escape, but STEWART surmised that he did. STEWART did not know who this help might come from but was certain it was not RAY's brothers.

STEWART said that both he and RAY expressed a strong dislike for blacks. RAY never said he disliked Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., and never talked about killing

Investigation on 9/7/78 at Atlanta, Georgia File # Atlanta 44-2386

by SA JAMES T. PROCOPIO:ckj Date dictated 9/8/78

Dr. KING. RAY also never indicated he had anyone on the outside for whom he was going to kill Dr. KING, and his sole reason for escaping from Missouri Prison was to "get out and get free".

STEWART said he is certain that RAY did not kill Dr. KING. He said RAY is a publicity hound and is probably being used by someone but he did not know who he is being used by. Although STEWART is convinced RAY is innocent, he could provide no concrete information to substantiate his belief. He said he had not seen or heard from RAY since he escaped from the Missouri Prison in October, 1967. STEWART said he himself was in the Tennessee State Prison at Nashville when Dr. KING was killed.

STEWART said he would be willing to talk to the House Select Committee on Assassinations about his association with JAMES EARL RAY.

STEWART was observed to be a white male.

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FM MEMPHIS (44-1987-SUB M) (P)

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861)

KANSAS CITY

IMMEDIATE

21 AUG 78 20

RECEIVED
FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Assoc. Dir. _____
Dep. AD Adm. _____
Dep. AD Inv. _____
Asst. Dir.: _____
Adm. Serv. _____
Crim. Inv. _____
Ident. _____
Intell. _____
Lab. _____
Legal Coun. _____
Plan. Insp. _____
Rec. Mgmt. _____
Tech. Servs. _____
Training _____
Public Affs. Off. _____
Telephone Rm. _____
Director's Sec'y _____

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

ATTN: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY UNIT, ROOM 8988, JEH.

MURKIN

H. Hester Hope

Rm 121

RE MEMPHIS TELEPHONE CALL TO KANSAS CITY AUG. 21, 1978.

FOR INFO OF KANSAS CITY, ON AUG. 18, 1978, GENE BARKSDALE, SHERIFF, SHELBY COUNTY, TENN., ADVISED THAT ON NIGHT OF AUG. 17, 1978, HE RECEIVED TWO TELEPHONE CALLS FROM BURGESS AUDIE WILSON. WILSON, WHO WAS FORMERLY IN THE TENNESSEE AIR NATIONAL GUARD UNIT AT MEMPHIS, TENN., WITH BARKSDALE, INFORMED THE SHERIFF HE KILLED DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING IN 1968 AT MEMPHIS AND HIS DAUGHTER DROVE A WHITE MUSTANG FROM KANSAS CITY, MO., TO MEMPHIS THREE DAYS PRIOR TO KING'S DEATH. HE WANTED TO MEET BARKSDALE AT THE HOLIDAY INN, GULFPORT, MISS., ON AUG. 18, 1978, AND SURRENDER. ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE FOR WILSON TO MAKE AN APPEARANCE AT THE HOLIDAY INN, GULFPORT, WHERE HE WAS CONTACTED BY SPECIAL AGENTS OF THE JACKSON OFFICE.

EX-120

REC-80

44-38861-6287

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U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
F.B.I.
RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION

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PAGE TWO ME 44-1987-SUB M UNCLAS E F T O

WILSON WAS BORN [REDACTED] FULTON, MISS. HE RESIDED WITH HIS FAMILY AT GOLDEN, MISS., UNTIL 1936 WHEN THEY MOVED TO ELDRIDGE, ALA. HE RESIDED AT ELDRIDGE UNTIL MAY 2, 1947, WHEN HE ENTERED THE U. S. AIR FORCE. HE WAS HONORABLY DISCHARGED FROM THE AIR FORCE IN FEB., 1950. HE AND HIS WIFE BETTY LOU MOVED TO MEMPHIS IN 1950. HE LEFT MEMPHIS, YEAR NOT FURNISHED, AND MOVED TO GRANDVIEW, MO., WHERE HE BECAME A CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEE IN THE AIR FORCE RESERVE AND OPERATED A JEWELRY STORE. HE STAYED IN THE AIR FORCE UNTIL 1970. HE OPERATED A JEWELRY STORE IN THE KANSAS CITY AREA FROM 1966 UNTIL 1970. WHEN INTERVIEWED BY BUAGENTS AUG. 19, 1978, WILSON FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

IN THE COURSE OF HIS JEWELRY STORE BUSINESS, HE MET A WHITE MALE ITALIAN IN LATE 1960'S WHO OPERATED A JEWELRY TRADE SHOP ON WALNUT STREET IN KANSAS CITY. THIS MALE LATER INTRODUCED HIM TO ANOTHER ITALIAN BY THE NAME OF MITCH (LNU) WHO WAS APPROXIMATELY 5'10" TALL, 190 LBS., BLACK WAVY HAIR,

PAGE THREE ME 44-1987-SUB M UNCLAS E F T O

AND HAD SOME BUSINESS CONNECTION WITH A BONDING COMPANY. MITCH DELIVERED JEWELRY TO HIM FOR THE PURPOSE OF HAVING STONES REMOVED FROM THE FITTINGS. DUE TO THE VOLUME OF JEWELRY MITCH WAS BRINGING TO HIM, HE ASKED MITCH ABOUT IT AND MITCH TOLD HIM IT WAS STOLEN JEWELRY. MITCH INFORMED HIM THAT HE, WILSON, WAS AS DEEPLY INVOLVED IN THE HANDLING OF THE STOLEN JEWELRY AS HE, MITCH, WAS AND THIS RELATIONSHIP CONTINUED WITH MITCH UNTIL 1970. MITCH BROUGHT UP THE IDEA OF KILLING MARTIN LUTHER KING, INFORMING WILSON THERE WAS A \$50,000 CONTRACT FOR KING AND THAT HE COULD GET THE MONEY FOR WILSON IF HE KILLED KING. MITCH WAS WELL AWARE OF WILSON'S THOUGHTS REGARDING KING AND THE BLACK CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT. APPROXIMATELY FIVE OR SIX MONTHS BEFORE KING'S DEATH, WILSON COMMENCED GATHERING INFO RE HIS MOVEMENTS UTILIZING A RED AND WHITE BONANZA AIRPLANE, REGISTRY NO. 34L, AND A CESSNA 310, TWIN ENGINE, BLUE AND WHITE AIRCRAFT.

MITCH FURNISHED WILSON A JAPANESE SNIPER RIFLE WHICH WILSON GAVE TO HIS OLDER SON, STEVEN WAYNE WILSON, IN 1975.

DURING THE TIME A GARBAGE STRIKE WAS IN PROGRESS IN MEMPHIS, TENN., MITCH CALLED WILSON AT HIS STORE IN GRANDVIEW, MO., AND INFORMED HIM KING WAS COMING TO MEMPHIS FOR A RALLY AND

PAGE FOUR ME 44-1987-SUB M UNCLAS E F T O

INSTRUCTED WILSON TO GO TO MEMPHIS WHERE HE WAS TO MEET TWO MEN AT THE WONDER BAR AT THE CORNER OF SUMMER AVENUE AND WHITE STATION ROAD. WILSON FLEW TO MEMPHIS IN THE BONANZA AIRCRAFT AND LANDED AT AN AIRPORT JUST NORTH OF RALEIGH, TENN. HIS DAUGHTER, DEBRA, PICKED HIM UP AT THE AIRPORT IN HER 1965 WHITE MUSTANG WHICH WILSON HAD PREVIOUSLY BOUGHT FOR HER AND WHICH WAS REGISTERED IN HIS NAME IN MO. DEBRA WILSON AND HER MOTHER, BETTY LOU, WERE AT THE RESIDENCE OF WILSON'S FATHER-IN-LAW, 3095 RUSKIN ROAD, MEMPHIS, DUE TO A HEART ATTACK SUFFERED BY WILSON'S FATHER-IN-LAW.

WILSON WENT TO THE WONDER BAR WHERE HE WAS APPROACHED BY TWO WHITE MEN, ONE HAVING AN ACCENT SIMILAR TO PUERTO RICAN. THE TWO MEN FURNISHED HIM WITH FBI CREDENTIAL WHICH HAD A BLACK AND WHITE PHOTO OF WILSON ON IT AND TOOK HIM TO WHERE KING WAS TO HOLD A RALLY. THEY TOLD HIM HE WAS TO BE IN THE CROWD AT THE RALLY AND A DECOY SHOT WAS TO BE FIRED AND THEN HE WAS TO SHOOT. THEY TOLD HIM KING HAD A HABIT OF RAISING HIS ARMS OVER HIS HEAD WHEN HE WAS MAKING A SPEECH AND THE SECOND TIME HE DID SO THE SHOTS WERE TO BE FIRED.

PAGE FIVE

ME 44-1987-SUB M

UNCLAS E F T O

ON THE DAY KING WAS KILLED, WILSON WAS IN THE CROWD STANDING NEAR A WOOD FENCE APPROXIMATELY SIXTY FEET FROM WHERE KING WAS STANDING. WHEN KING RAISED HIS ARMS THE SECOND TIME HE SHOT HIM.

WILSON HAD THE RIFLE STRAPPED TO HIS BELT UNDER A SUIT COAT AND ATTACHED TO HIS BELT ON A SWIVEL. THE BARREL PROTRUDED FROM BELOW HIS COAT BUT NO ONE QUESTIONED HIM CONCERNING IT. AFTER THE SHOOTING, HE WAS STOPPED BY THE MEMPHIS POLICE. UPON SHOWING THEM THE CREDENTIAL THEY LET HIM GO. HE WALKED ON DOWN THE STREET APPROXIMATELY TWO BLOCKS WHERE HE HAD LEFT THE MUSTANG AND PROCEEDED TO HIS FATHER-IN-LAW'S RESIDENCE. HIS DAUGHTER, DEBRA, THEN TOOK HIM TO THE AIRPORT AND HE FLEW BACK TO KANSAS CITY, LANDING AT AN AIRPORT ON THE KANSAS SIDE ON THE ROAD TO OLATHE, KANSAS. THIS AIRPORT WAS OPERATED BY (FNU) FISHER, FROM WHOM WILSON HAD PURCHASED THE BONANZA AIRCRAFT.

MITCH GAVE WILSON \$25,000 IN \$20 BILLS ABOUT ONE WEEK BEFORE KING WAS KILLED AND GAVE HIM ANOTHER \$25,000 AFTER THE KILLING AT WHICH TIME WILSON RETURNED THE CREDENTIAL TO MITCH.

PAGE SIX

ME 44-1987-SUB M

UNCLAS E F T O

ITEMS FOUND IN WILSON'S WALLET INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING:

PRIVATE PILOT'S LICENSE NO. [REDACTED] UNDER NAME BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, 13125 HERRICK AVE., GRANDVIEW, MO., GIVING HIM AUTHORIZATION TO FLY SINGLE AND MULTI ENGINE AIRCRAFT ISSUED BY THE FAA, OKLAHOMA CITY.

RELATIVES OF WILSON DESCRIBE HIM AS A COMPULSIVE LIAR WHO IS UNABLE TO DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN THE TRUTH AND FANTASY. HE IS REPORTED TO BE AN EXTREMELY HEAVY DRINKER AND HIS RELATIVES FEEL HE IS IN NEED OF PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT.

KANSAS CITY, WILL ATTEMPT TO ESTABLISH WILSON'S EMPLOYMENT BY AIR FORCE RESERVE AND DUTY STATUS IN 1968, NOTING DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING WAS KILLED IN MEMPHIS ON APRIL 4, 1968. WILL ATTEMPT THROUGH FORMER NEIGHBORS AND BUSINESS ASSOCIATES, NOTING WILSON FORMERLY RESIDING 13125 HERRICK AVE., GRANDVIEW, MO., AND ON BYERS STREET, GRANDVIEW, AND OPERATED A JEWELRY BUSINESS IN KATZ DRUG STORE, KANSAS CITY, SPECIFIC ADDRESS NOT KNOWN, AND AT BELTON, MO., IN SMALL SHOPPING CENTER UNDER NAME WILBUR'S JEWELRY, ATTEMPT TO ESTABLISH HIS WHEREABOUTS DURING CRITICAL PERIOD, APRIL, 1968. WILL IDENTIFY AND LOCATE (FNU) FISHER, WHO REPORTEDLY SOLD WILSON A PLANE AND ALLEGEDLY OPERATED AIRPORT WHERE WILSON LANDED FOLLOWING KILLING OF DR. KING.

PAGE SEVEN ME 44-1987-SUB M UNCLAS E F T O

ATTEMPT TO LOCATE EXISTENCE OF JEWELRY TRADE SHOP ON
WALNUT STREET TO ESTABLISH OR REPUDIATE EXISTENCE OF INDIVIDUAL
AS DESCRIBED BY WILSON.

ALL PERSONS INTERVIEWED WHO HAVE PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE OF
WILSON SHOULD BE QUESTIONED RE VERACITY OF WILSON'S ALLEGATIONS
AND PRESENCE IN MEMPHIS DURING THE CRITICAL PERIOD, APRIL 4, 1968.
BT

2332010 HQ 1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE HOUSTON	OFFICE OF ORIGIN MEMPHIS	DATE 9/9/78	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 8/19-22/78
TITLE OF CASE MURKIN		REPORT MADE BY SA RUSSELL E. KALITHER, JR.	TYPED BY lhh
CHARACTER OF CASE			

REFERENCES:

Jackson teletype to Bureau, 8/19/78.
 Houston teletype to Bureau, 8/19/78.
 Houston teletype to Bureau, 8/21/78.
 Memphis teletype to Bureau, 8/21/78.
 Houston teletype to Bureau, 8/22/78.
 Bureau teletype to Birmingham, 8/22/78.

- RUC -

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Original FD 302 and notes of interview with BOB SORRELL follow by FD 491.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN: PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
CONVIC.	PRETRIAL DIVERSION	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		
APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i>						SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	
COPIES MADE:						DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
4 - Bureau (44-38861) (ATTN: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRIES UNIT, ROOM 8988 JEH) 3 - Memphis (44-1987 Sub M) (1 - USA, Memphis, Tenn) 1 - Houston (44-1509)						44-38861-6288 REC-3 15 SEP 14 1978 EX-124	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations	
Agency	<i>2-Orlando</i>					<i>[Signature]</i> <i>[Signature]</i>	
Request Recd.							
Date Fwd.	<i>9/15/78</i>						
How Fwd.	<i>5-201F</i>						
By	<i>[Signature]</i>						

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44-16-83289-1 GPO

EXP. PROC.
37

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DATE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD
TITLE OF CASE	REPORT MADE BY	CHARACTER OF CASE	TYPED BY

Bureau teletype to Birmingham 8/22/78.
 Houston teletype to Bureau 8/22/78.
 Houston teletype to Bureau 8/22/78.
 Houston teletype to Bureau 8/22/78.
 Houston teletype to Bureau 8/22/78.
 Houston teletype to Bureau 8/22/78.

FBI

ADMINISTRATIVE

Originals FD-302 and notes of interview with [redacted]
 furnished follow by [redacted].

APPROVED	COPIES MADE	IN CHARGE	SPECIAL AGENT	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW
CONVIC.	DIVERSION	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES
ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED	ACQUIT	CASE HAS BEEN:	PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS	PENDING PROSECUTION OVER ONE YEAR
YES	NO	YES	NO	YES
YES	NO	YES	NO	YES

RECEIVED
 INVESTIGATIVE
 DIVISION
 UNIT, ROOM 3088 (77)
 (ATTN: COLLESSIONAL UNIT)
 SEP 14 4 05 PM '78
 U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
 12 SEP 14 1978
 REC-3

Disposition Record of Attached Report
 Notations
 Agency
 Request Recd.
 Date fwd.
 How fwd.
 By

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Copy to: 1 - United States Attorney, Memphis, Tennessee

Report of: SA RUSSELL E. KALIHHER, JR. Office: HOUSTON
Date: September 9, 1978

Field Office File #: 44-1509 Bureau File #: 44-38861

Title: MURKIN

Character:

Synopsis: Investigation at Liberty County, Texas, negative regarding any information concerning a non child support warrant issued at Cleveland, Texas. BOB SORRELL, former employee, Hagler Aero Service, Charles W. Baker Airport, Millington, Tennessee, interviewed and recalled that BILL WILSON flew into the airport on two occasions, perhaps in 1968 or 1969. Full scope of interview included in details.

- RUC -

DETAILS:

Investigation in this case was predicated upon receipt of a communication from the Jackson Office of the FBI requesting investigation at Cleveland, Texas, for full details concerning a non child support warrant issued against BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR., also known as BILL.

On August 19, 1978, LARRY ALLEN, Patrolman, Cleveland Texas Police Department, reviewed the files of the Cleveland Police Department, but could locate no record identifiable with BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR., Date of Birth [REDACTED] ALLEN advised that if a non child support warrant were issued in Cleveland, it was probably filed through the Cleveland City Court and warrant issued by Judge GLEN JONES, City Judge.

HO 44-1509

The records of the City Court are not available for review until 9 A.M. on August 21, 1978, and Judge GLEN JONES is currently unavailable.

On August 21, 1978, the following persons at their respective agencies were contacted with negative results concerning the issuance of a non child support warrant or any type of civil or criminal process concerning a BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR.:

GLEN JONES
City Judge
Cleveland, Texas

LOUISE HOUGH
Secretary
JACK HARTELL
County Attorney
Liberty County
Liberty, Texas

LOUISE MORRIS
Clerk
Liberty County District Court
Liberty County,
Liberty, Texas

NELL WHITTINGTON
Identification Division
Liberty County Sheriff's Office
Liberty County
Liberty, Texas

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 9/9/78

1

BOB SORRELL, Route 1, Box 260, (Beaumont Colony), Kountze, Texas, was contacted at his residence where he was advised of the identity of Special Agent RUSSELL E. KALIHHER, JR. who identified himself as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He was advised that any information he furnished could possibly be used in a court of law. SORRELL was observed to be a white male, age 46, who exhibited no physical or mental impairments which would prevent his testifying in a court of law. SORRELL advised he preferred not to furnish a signed statement but did furnish the following oral information:

SORRELL became personally acquainted with BILL WILSON, through his, SORRELL's attendance at the Hollywood Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee, which was pastored by Brother WILSON, father of BILL WILSON. SORRELL had no other association with BILL WILSON except through contact at church. SORRELL attended that church as a youngster and continued until approximately 1958, when his family moved from the neighborhood and his attendance stopped.

He, SORRELL, had no other contact with BILL WILSON until after 1967 when SORRELL became employed at Hagler Aero Service, Charles W. Baker Airport, Millington, Tennessee, telephone number 872-2261. SORRELL was employed part-time at Hagler until October or November, 1967 when he became a full-time employee functioning as a lineman.

SORRELL recalled that sometime after becoming a full-time employee that BILL WILSON flew into the airport, exact date unrecalled, in a twin Beechcraft (D-18) believed to be red and white in color with possibly a blue stripe. SORRELL recalled that he, SORRELL, refueled this airplane, but he cannot recall the time of day that WILSON arrived at the airport. As best recalled by SORRELL, WILSON was wearing civilian clothing and paid cash for the fuel purchase. SORRELL and WILSON had little conversation other than a routine greeting. As best recalled by SORRELL, WILSON stayed overnight and left the following day, time unknown. SORRELL does not know how WILSON was transported from and to the airport.

Interviewed on 8/22/78 at Kountze, Texas File # HO 44-1509

by SA RUSSELL E. KALIHHER, JR./lhh Date dictated 8/24/78

3

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Within two or three months, WILSON made a second visit to Hagler in the same aircraft where he received gas, paid cash and laid over for two or three days. Again, SORRELL has no idea as to the transportation from and to the airport. SORRELL has no information as to where he came in from or his destination upon departure from the airport. SORRELL could supply no information about a 1965 white Mustang and did not know that WILSON had a daughter, DEBORAH.

SORRELL has not seen nor heard from WILSON since WILSON's last visit to Hagler.

SORRELL terminated his employment at Hagler in October, 1976. SORRELL cannot recall the exact time of arrival or departure of WILSON, but does believe that both visits occurred in either 1968 or 1969. SORRELL advised that fuel receipts are broken down by single engine or multi-engine aircraft and are maintained on a monthly basis. He said that a GLENN MITCHELL, Maintenance Supervisor, Hagler Aero Service, could assist if a review of the gas receipts became necessary to determine the exact date of arrival of WILSON.

SORRELL had no information as to how WILSON came into possession of the aircraft and does not know whether it was leased or owned by him. In recalling the two visits by WILSON, SORRELL has a "gut feeling" that someone may have been with him on each occasion, but this is just a feeling on his part and he can supply no information to confirm this feeling. SORRELL had no information about an airport in Olatha, Kansas, where WILSON allegedly landed after departure from Memphis.

As further background information, SORRELL recalled that during his attendance at the Hollywood Baptist Church he got the impression that WILSON was "in and out of trouble" although he does not know the type. He may have received this information from one of WILSON's sisters, names unrecalled. Through contact with WILSON at church, WILSON impressed SORRELL as the type of guy who always had a "big deal", "kind of a con man personality". Again, and it may have been one of WILSON's sisters who mentioned it, SORRELL got the impression that WILSON had been arrested and received time for an unknown offense. SORRELL advised that contact with WILSON's sisters was always at church. He again stated that he has a "gut feeling" that one

HO 44-1509

3

of them may have been at the airport on one of the two occasions of WILSON's arrival.

SORRELL did not know for certain that WILSON served in the U. S. Air Force, but recalled that WILSON wore a uniform to church on occasions. SORRELL was not aware that WILSON was employed at Prudential Insurance Company, but does recall his marriage to BETTY LOU (Maiden name unknown), because BETTY lived in the same neighborhood. SORRELL had no information about WILSON's cleaning business or time spent in the Tennessee National Guard or that WILSON ever left the Memphis area.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE KANSAS CITY	OFFICE OF ORIGIN MEMPHIS	DATE 9/13/78	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 8/21/78 - 9/7/78
TITLE OF CASE MURKIN		REPORT MADE BY SA DANIEL BELLICH	TYPED BY cjc
		CHARACTER OF CASE CIVIL RIGHTS	

REFERENCES: Memphis teletype to Director and Kansas City, 8/21/78.
 Memphis telephone call to Kansas City, 8/21/78. (IO)
 Jackson teletype to Director, Kansas City, and
 Memphis, 8/22/78.
 Kansas City teletype to Director and Memphis, 8/24/78.
 Kansas City teletype to Director and Memphis, 8/24/78.
 Bureau telephone call to Kansas City, 8/30/78 and 8/31/78.

-RUC-

EXP. PROC.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	PRETRIAL DIVERSION	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
								PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
								PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
APPROVED						SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		
COPIES MADE:						DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW		
4-Bureau (44-38861)						44-38861-6289		
4-Memphis (44-1987) (SUB M)						22		
(1-USA, Memphis, Tennessee)						16 SEP 15 1978		
1-Kansas City (44-760)						ST-130		
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations		
Agency	J- Bureau					W. H. H.		
Request Recd.						JWF		
Date Fwd.	9/18/78							
How Fwd.	5-100CF1							
By	61 OCT 17 1978							

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DIVISION

REC'D - CIVIL RIGHTS
SEP 16 11 21 AM 1978

SEP 25 1978

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1 - USA, Memphis, Tennessee

Report of: SA DANIEL BELLICH
Date: 9/13/78

Office: KANSAS CITY

Field Office File #: KC 44-760

Bureau File #: 44-38861

Title: MURKIN

Character: CIVIL RIGHTS

Synopsis:

On August 18, 1978, BURGESS AUDIE WILSON turned himself over to FBI Agents of the Jackson, Mississippi, Office. WILSON alleged that he murdered MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. At the time of KING's death, WILSON resided at 13125 Herrick Avenue, Grandview, Missouri. During the same period of time, WILSON owned a jewelry store in Belton, Missouri, called Wilburs Jewelry Store. As a result of doing business as a jeweler, he met MITCH ZAMMAR who he alleges gave him a Japanese Sniper Rifle with which he killed KING. ZAMMAR admitted knowing who WILSON was, however, he said he does not know anything about WILSON's involvement with the assassination of KING. ZAMMAR only met WILSON once as a result of selling WILSON a diamond ring. ZAMMAR said that he had five brothers who are now all deceased. He said that his brother, JIM, had a scar on his face as a result of an injury sustained as a infant. WILSON also alleges that a LOU CREWS of Crews Jewelry Store, Grandview, Missouri, engineered the assassination of KING. CREWS died of cancer on August 22, 1978, before he could be interviewed. According to FAA records, WILSON purchased a Bonanza Airplane #4434L from FISHER Sales and Services on June 6, 1968. DON FISHER, of Fisher Sales and Services, purchased this plane on May 27, 1968, from a CORNIE C. MILLER, 9618 Sagamore, Kansas City, Missouri. WILSON alleges he used this plane to fly from Kansas City to Memphis. FISHER said that prior to the time that WILSON purchased the plane from him, WILSON rented the plane from him on numerous occasions. FISHER said that MILLER, the previous owner, never rented the plane to anyone while he was the owner.

KC 44-760

MILLER indicated he never rented or leased the plane to anyone while he was the owner of Bonanza Plane #4434L. WILSON also alleges that he drove to the airport in a Thunderbird owned by him, however, the records of the Johnson County Bank, Kansas, show that the car was not purchased until October 9, 1968. WILSON has been described as a con man and a heavy drinker.

-RUC-

DETAILS:

Investigation was initiated on August 21, 1978, upon receipt of an immediate teletype from Memphis, indicating that BURGESS AUDIE WILSON surrendered to FBI Agents of the Jackson Office. WILSON, at that time, alleged that he assassinated MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 8/24/78

After being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent, DON FISHER, Fisher Sales and Services, State Line Airport, Leawood, Kansas, telephone 681-2496, provided the following information:

FISHER purchased State Line Airport in 1964. He remembered the sale of a Model G #56 Bonanza to WILSON. He said he does not remember the exact date, however. He said he remembers the sale of the plane to WILSON because FISHER originally purchased the plane from C. C. MILLER, a retired executive for Western Auto Supply Co. FISHER indicated that MILLER based the plane at State Line Airport from the time MILLER purchased the plane until FISHER bought it from him. FISHER indicated that all the records pertaining to the sale of the aircraft to WILSON were destroyed in a fire at the airport last year.

FISHER thinks that WILSON financed the plane with the Johnson County Bank in Kansas and thinks that WILSON had a partner named LOU CREWS, who owns Crews Jewelers, Grandview, Missouri.

FISHER indicated that he thinks WILSON was a Shriner and also that WILSON drank a lot. FISHER said he thinks WILSON was a jeweler in Grandview, Missouri. He could not recall whether he owned the jewelry store or if he worked for another company.

FISHER indicated that the airport keeps no records of landings or takeoffs.

FISHER said that if he cannot be contacted at State Line Airport, he will be at the Lake of the Ozarks, telephone 314/873-5166.

Investigation on 8/21/78 at Kansas City, Missouri File # KC 44-760

by SA DANIEL BELLICH - ikc Date dictated 8/23/78

3

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 8/24/78

EDWARD BUSH, person in charge of airplane loans, Johnson County Bank, Kansas, telephone 362-7000, after being advised of the identity of interviewing Agent, provided the following information:

BUSH said he searched his files regarding the financing of a Bonanza plane purchased from a DON FISHER. BUSH indicated that a BURGESS AUDIE WILSON did finance a plane purchased from FISHER in 1968. He indicated that his records show that a Credit Bureau check was made on June 5, 1968. He also indicated that the bill of sale was dated June 6, 1968.

BUSH said that WILSON's applicant for the loan listed his residence as 13125 Herrick, Grandview, Missouri. It listed his employment as owner of Wilbur Wholesale Jewelry, telephone 331-2500. BUSH indicated that there was no date on the application.

BUSH indicated that WILSON signed a security agreement on June 6, 1968, along with LOU CREWS. He said on June 6, 1968, the plane was registered listing both CREWS and WILSON as partners. The address of the registration of the plane was 553 North Scott, Belton, Missouri.

BUSH said that CREWS' application showed his residence as Hickman Mills Drive, Old 71 Highway. His employment was listed as Clipper Manufacturing. BUSH also indicated that there was no date on the application, nor was there an address or telephone number for Clipper Manufacturing.

BUSH indicated that there is a letter in the file dated November 22, 1968, stating that WILSON and CREWS transferred all rights in the Bonanza #4434L back to DON FISHER.

BUSH indicated that WILSON, on October 9, 1968, purchased a 1968 Thunderbird from Paul Ford Sales, Inc., Kansas City, Missouri, VIN 8Y83N138079. BUSH indicated that the date of loan was October 8, 1968. He indicated that the bank repossessed the car and disposed of it on July 10, 1970.

Investigation on 8/21/78 at Kansas City, Missouri File # KC 44-760

by SA DANIEL BELLICH - ikc Date dictated 8/21/78

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 8/24/78

After being advised of the identity of interviewing Agent, ELLA BANKER, clerk, Grandview, Missouri, Police Department, telephone 763-3900, provided the following information:

BANKER said she has no record of any violations under the name of BURGESS AUDIE WILSON. She also indicated that she is not aware of where WILSON was employed.

Investigation on 8/21/78 at Kansas City, Missouri File # KC 44-760

by SA DANIEL BELLICH - ikc Date dictated 8/22/78

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1Date of transcription 8/24/78

After being advised of the identity of interviewing Agent, MURNE ELLIS, Court Clerk, Grandview, Missouri, telephone 763-3900, provided the following information:

ELLIS indicated that on August 9, 1969, WILSON received a ticket for not displaying a city sticker. WILSON paid the fine on August 26, 1969. ELLIS said that WILSON has no other violations, criminal, traffic or miscellaneous. ELLIS also indicated that she does not have any information regarding WILSON's place of employment.

Investigation on 8/21/78 at Kansas City, Missouri File # KC 44-760
by SA DANIEL BELLICH - ikc Date dictated 8/22/78

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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9/7/78

Date of transcription _____

After being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent, VINCE HARRISON, Manager, Chamber of Commerce, Grandview, Missouri, telephone 761-6505, telephonically provided the following information:

HARRISON indicated that they had two people that can be contacted who knew BURGESS AUDIE WILSON. The first being JOHN CAMPBELL, Chief of Police, Grandview Police Department, Grandview, Missouri, telephone 763-3900. The second person is SAM LICKTEIG, telephone 765-1991. HARRISON said that LICKTEIG was on the City Counsel when WILSON ran for Mayor of Grandview in 1969.

8/23/78

Kansas City, Missouri

KC 44-760

Investigation on _____

at _____

File # _____

SA DANIEL BELLICH - dk

8/30/78

by _____

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

9/7/78

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After being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent, SAM LICKTEIG, telephone 765-1991, provided the following information.

LICKTEIG indicated that he was on the City Council when WILSON was a candidate for Mayor in 1969. He said that ARNOLD HOLTON ran against WILSON and HOLTON won the election by a landslide.

LICKTEIG feels that WILSON was very strange. He said that WILSON kept a consignment of diamonds in his house, and that he was burglarized on what seemed to be a regular basis. LICKTEIG stated he does not know how he stayed in business with all his burglaries. He also said that WILSON appeared to be having family problems.

LICKTEIG said that WILSON lost the Mayor election by a large volume and does not know if anyone backed him up. He does not know if LOU CREWS was involved with the election. LICKTEIG said that one of WILSON's campaign stands was as follows:

"To oppose school district consolidation, consolidation would mean our children could and would be transported to other schools 10 to 15 miles away, and other children from Kansas City transported to our schools."

LICKTEIG said that WILSON attended University of Tennessee. He also said that WILSON was a member of the Kansas City Masonic Lodge.

Investigation on 8/23/78 at Kansas City, Missouri File # KC 44-760
by SA DANIEL BELLICH - dk Date dictated 8/30/78

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