

PAGE SEVEN JN 62-544 LCLAS E F T O

"SHERIFF OF MEMPHIS (TENN.), WHO HE USED TO FLY WITH. WILSON FELT THAT THE GOVERNMENT WANTED IT TO HAPPEN TO KING. "I KNEW IT NEEDED TO BE DONE." WILSON DID NOT BELIEVE HE WOULD HAVE TO SERVE MUCH TIME FOR HIS INVOLVEMENT, STATING "I'M NOT SORRY I DID IT. THE NIGGERS ARE BETTER OFF." LATER IN THE CONVERSATION WITH THE GLADDENS, WILSON SAID HE WAS SORRY HE HAD DONE IT.

WILSON STATED HE HAD TALKED WITH THE MEMPHIS SHERIFF BY PHONE AND WAS TO MEET HIM AT THE GULFPORT, MS., HOLIDAY INN DURING THE MORNING OF 8/18/78. WILSON SPECULATED AS TO WHETHER OR NOT HE WOULD BE PROVIDED WITH A TV IN HIS CELL AND INDICATED HE PROBABLY WOULD BE GIVEN WORK AS AN INSTRUCTOR OR REPAIRMAN OF WATCHES WHILE IN JAIL.

REVERTING TO THE KING ASSASSINATION, WILSON TOLD THE GLADDENS THAT HE SHOT KING "NOT FROM 50 YARDS AWAY, BUT 50 FEET AWAY." HE WAS CLOSE ENOUGH TO SEE THE BULLET HIT AND STATED SPECIFICALLY THAT "I SHOT THE SHIT OUT OF HIM AND SAW IT FLY." WILSON NEVER MENTIONED TO GLADDEN THE TYPE OF GUN HE ALLEGEDLY USED OR THE LOCATION FROM WHICH HE ALLEGEDLY SHOT KING.

PAGE EIGHT JN 62-544 CLAS E F T O

AT ONE POINT IN THE CONVERSATION WITH THE GLADDENS, WILSON APPARENTLY FEELING A DISAPPROVING GLANCE FROM GLADDEN'S 18 YEAR OLD SON, WARNED THE SON HE HAD BETTER NOT INTERFERE.

CONCERNING THE UNIDENTIFIED MEMPHIS SHERIFF, WILSON OFFERED TO FURNISH THIS INDIVIDUAL'S NAME AND TELEPHONE NO. TO GLADDEN FOR VERIFICATION OF HIS REMARKS; HOWEVER, GLADDEN REFUSED. WILSON SAID HE HAS "GONE THROUGH TEN YEARS OF HELL, AND BECAUSE HE KILLED KING, IT RUINED 26 YEARS OF MARRIAGE; HOWEVER, HIS CONSCIENCE ONLY STARTED BOTHERING HIM IN THE LAST FEW YEARS.

APPARENTLY REFERRING TO A SKETCH OF KING'S KILLER, WILSON TOLD THE GLADDENS THAT IT WAS ALMOST AN EXACT LIKENESS OF HIM AND BECAUSE IT WAS RECENTLY SHOWN ON TV, HE DECIDED TO TURN HIMSELF IN. HE SAID HE HAS A SISTER IN FULTON, MS. (NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED), WHO TELEPHONED HIM IN OCEAN SPRINGS TO SAY THAT THE SKETCH LOOKED JUST LIKE HIM. WILSON TOLD THE GLADDENS THAT HE HAD TELEPHONED VARIOUS FAMILY MEMBERS TO LET THEM KNOW HE WAS TURNING HIMSELF IN.

WILSON ALSO STATED THAT HE, AT ONE TIME, INTENDED TO OPEN A WATCH REPAIR BUSINESS IN TUPELO, MS., BUT DECIDED

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AGAINST IT BECAUSE OF THE TENSE RACIAL SITUATION.

WILSON ALSO ONCE TOLD MRS. GLADDEN THAT HE GETS "FLIGHT PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS" AT KEESLER AIR FORCE, BILOXI, MS.

GLADDEN ADVISED THAT WILSON REPEATED HIMSELF MANY TIMES DURING THE ONE HOUR AND FIFTEEN MINUTE CONVERSATION ON 8/18/78, BUT HE PROVIDED NO FURTHER DETAILS CONCERNING THE KING ASSASSINATION, OTHER THAN THAT STATED HEREIN.

AT THE END OF THEIR CONVERSATION, GLADDEN ADVISED WILSON DEPARTED THE STORE IN HIS AUTOMOBILE AND HEADED IN AN EASTERLY DIRECTION. THE GLADDENS WERE AFRAID AND DISTURBED AT THE CONVERSATION AND PROMPTLY TELEPHONED THE JACKSON FBI OFFICE. ✓

GLADDEN ADVISED THAT TO THE BEST OF HIS RECOLLECTION DURING THE SHORT TIME HE AND HIS WIFE KNEW WILSON, HE NEVER TALKED ABOUT HIS PAST, OTHER THAN TO MENTION THAT HE HAD BEEN IN THE U. S. AIR FORCE; HAD BEEN MARRIED FIVE TIMES, TWICE TO THE SAME WOMAN; HE GREW UP IN MISS.; AND HAD BEEN ON THE GULF COAST LESS THAN THREE MONTHS. THE GLADDENS DO NOT KNOW WHERE HE CAME FROM OR WHAT HE HAS DONE PRIOR TO HIS ARRIVING AT THEIR PLACE OF BUSINESS 7/26/78.

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GLADDEN ADVISED THAT IN HIS REGULAR BUSINESS AS SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE MANAGER HE HAS PERSONAL DEALINGS ON A FREQUENT BASIS WITH PEOPLE HAVING MENTAL PROBLEMS AND WHILE HE IS NOT A QUALIFIED PERSON IN THIS FIELD, HE IS NOT OF THE OPINION WILSON HAS MENTAL IMPAIRMENT. HE DESCRIBED WILSON AS A WHITE MALE; 5 FT. 8 INCHES; 155 LBS; MEDIUM BUILD; RUDDY COMPLEXION; GRAYING HAIR; AGE 46, WHO LIKES TO DRINK VODKA AND COKE.

ON 8/18/78, SHORTLY BEFORE NOON, WILSON TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED GLADDEN ADVISING THAT HE HAD BEEN BETRAYED, THAT HE HAD BEEN TO GULFPORT, MS., HOLIDAY INN, ALONG WITH "THE FATHER" (NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED BY WILSON), WHERE HE HAD SEEN PERSONS BELIEVED TO BE WITH THE FBI. HE WAS NOW BACK AT HIS RESIDENCE WATCHING THE WINDOWS AND WOULD BLOW THE HEAD OFF OF ANYONE WHO CAME, EXCEPT "THE FATHER."

ABOUT THREE HOURS LATER, MR. AND MRS. GLADDEN WERE SURPRISED TO SEE WILSON WALK INTO THEIR GIFT SHOP, HE WAS CLEAN SHAVEN AND NEAT. HE APPARENTLY HAD NOT BEEN DRINKING. HE IMPLIED HE HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE FBI, BUT THEY WERE NOT GOING TO DO ANYTHING TO HIM. HE HAD MADE SOME KIND OF

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BARGAIN. HE NOW WANTED TO LIVE A NORMAL LIFE AND ASKED IF HE COULD KEEP HIS WATCH REPAIR BUSINESS IN THE BACK OF GLADDEN'S STORE AS USUAL.

THE GLADDENS ADVISED WILSON THEY WERE SERIOUSLY CONTEMPLATING SELLING THE BUSINESS AND HAD ALREADY CONTACTED A REALTOR.

AT 6:28 PM, 8/18/78, FIVE FBI AGENTS ESTABLISHED PHYSICAL OBSERVATION AT THE HOLIDAY INN, U. S. HIGHWAY 90, GLENNPORT, MS.

AT APPROXIMATELY 6:45 PM, A 1970 PLYMOUTH BEARING JACKSON COUNTY, MS., LICENSE JAH-637 STOPPED IN FRONT OF THE HOLIDAY INN AND A WHITE MALE, WHO LATER ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE WAS BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR., EXITED THE VEHICLE AND ENTERED THE HOLIDAY INN. THE WHITE MALE DRIVER OF THE VEHICLE THEREAFTER PARKED THE VEHICLE AND CAME TO THE ENTRANCE OF THE HOLIDAY INN, WHERE HE WAS APPROACHED BY SA BENJAMIN F. GRAVES AND WAS ASKED IF HE WAS FATHER NOEL FANNON AND HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE WAS.

FATHER FANNON WAS ADVISED THAT GENE BARKSDALE, SHERIFF OF SHELBY COUNTY, MEMPHIS, TENN., WAS NOT GOING TO MEET

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WILSON. HE WAS ADVISED THAT AGENTS OF THE FBI WERE IN THE MOTEL AND HE WAS REQUESTED TO TELL WILSON THAT THE SHERIFF WAS NOT GOING TO MEET HIM; HOWEVER, THE FBI AGENTS WERE AT THE MOTEL AND DESIRED TO TALK WITH HIM IF HE, WILSON, WOULD AGREE TO TALK WITH THE AGENTS. FATHER FANNON STATED HE WOULD LIKE TO TALK TO WILSON BECAUSE SHERIFF BARKSDALE HAD LIED ABOUT HIS APPEARANCE IN GULFPORT.

FATHER FANNON THEREAFTER ENTERED THE MOTEL AND TALKED WITH WILSON IN THE LOBBY. SHORTLY THEREAFTER, THEY BOTH RETURNED TO THE SIDEWALK IN FRONT OF THE MOTEL AND SA GRAVES IDENTIFIED HIMSELF TO WILSON AND ASKED HIM IF HE WERE BURGESS AUDIE WILSON. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE WAS AND LATER STATED HE WAS A JUNIOR.

WILSON WAS ADVISED THAT SHERIFF BARKSDALE WAS NOT THERE TO MEET HIM, HOWEVER, FBI AGENTS WERE THERE AND DESIRED TO TALK WITH HIM, PARTICULARLY ABOUT HIS DAUGHTER SUPPOSEDLY HAVING DRIVEN A WHITE MUSTANG FROM KANSAS CITY, MO., TO MEMPHIS, TENN. HE STATED HE HAD NO INFORMATION TO FURNISH THE FBI. WILSON INQUIRED AS TO WHETHER OR NOT HE WAS UNDER ARREST AND HE WAS ADVISED HE WAS NOT UNDER ARREST. WILSON

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COMMENTED HE WAS NOT GOING TO GIVE ANYONE ANY TROUBLE. HE WAS ASKED IF HE HAD ANY WEAPONS ON HIM AND HE STATED HE DID NOT AND THAT SA GRAVES COULD SEARCH HIM IF HE SO DESIRED. WILSON WAS THEN "PATTED DOWN" AND NO WEAPONS WERE FELT ON HIS BODY.

WILSON COMMENTED THAT HE AND FATHER FANNON HAD BEEN TO THE MOTEL AT 9:30 AM, 8/18/78, AND AGAIN AT 6:30 PM, 8/18/78, TO SEE SHERIFF BARKSDALE AND THE SHERIFF HAD LIED TO THEM.

WILSON THEN ASKED FATHER FANNON IF HE WOULD DRIVE HIM BACK TO THE PLACE HE HAD BEEN PICKED UP AND FATHER FANNON AGREED TO DO SO.

WILSON WAS AGAIN ADVISED THAT FBI AGENTS WERE AT THE MOTEL AND WERE STILL WILLING TO TALK TO HIM AND HE REITERATED HE HAD NOTHING TO SAY TO THE FBI AND, AS HE DEPARTED, COMMENTED THAT THE FBI IN THE PAST HAD HARASSED HIS FATHER WITHOUT ANY EXPLANATION.

FATHER FANNON AND WILSON THEREAFTER LEFT THE AREA OF THE HOLIDAY INN IN FATHER FANNON'S VEHICLE PROCEEDING EAST ON HIGHWAY 90. A SURVEILLANCE WAS MAINTAINED ON THE VEHICLE.

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SHORTLY AFTER WILSON AND FATHER FANNON LEFT THE MOTEL, JACKSON ASAC TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED THE GULFPORT RA THAT INFORMATION HAD BEEN RECEIVED THAT NCIC REVEALED WILSON WAS WANTED BY THE NEW BRAUNSFELS, TX., PD FOR PROBATION VIOLATION ON A WARRANT ISSUED APRIL 18, 1978.

THE OCEAN SPRINGS PD WAS NOTIFIED OF THIS OUTSTANDING WARRANT AND THE SURVEILLANCE OF FATHER FANNON'S VEHICLE WAS MAINTAINED UNTIL THE VEHICLE ENTERED OCEAN SPRINGS, MS. (APPROXIMATELY 15 MILES), AT WHICH TIME THE VEHICLE WAS STOPPED BY OFFICERS OF THE OCEAN SPRINGS PD AND WILSON WAS ARRESTED AT 7:35 PM, AND INCARCERATED IN THE OCEAN SPRINGS JAIL.

WILSON WAS RIDING AS A PASSENGER IN A PLYMOUTH SEDAN OWNED AND DRIVEN BY FATHER NOEL FANNON, PRIEST AT ST. ELIZABETH SETON CATHOLIC CHURCH, OCEAN SPRINGS. WILSON ADMITTED HIS FULL IDENTITY AS BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR., AND WAS TAKEN TO THE OCEAN SPRINGS PD. HE DECLINED TO TALK TO THE FBI.

ON AUGUST 18, 1978, AT 9:17 PM, REV. NOEL FANNON, PASTOR, ST. ELIZABETH SETON CATHOLIC CHURCH, OCEAN SPRINGS,



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MS., APPEARED AT THE C OLAN SPRINGS PD TO VISIT WILSON.

FATHER FANNON WAS INTERVIEWED, AT WHICH TIME HE ADVISED HE FIRST MET WILSON THE MORNING OF AUGUST 18, 1978, WHILE EATING BREAKFAST AT THE MASTER GRILL RESTAURANT, HIGHWAY 90, OCEAN SPRINGS. HE HAD NEVER SEEN WILSON BEFORE THIS TIME.

WILSON INDICATED HE WANTED TO CONFIDE IN FATHER FANNON AND FOLLOWING THEIR CONVERSATION, THE NATURE OF WHICH FATHER FANNON REFUSED TO DIVULGE, FANNON AGREED TO FOLLOW WILSON IN THEIR AUTOMOBILES TO THE HOLIDAY INN, GULFPORT, MS., WHERE WILSON HAD TOLD FATHER FANNON HE WOULD MEET SHELBY COUNTY, TENN., SHERIFF GENE BARKSDALE. AFTER THE MORNING MEETING IN GULFPORT DID NOT COME OFF, AGJ AT THE URGING OF WILSON, FATHER FANNON PERSONALLY TELEPHONED SHERIFF GENE BARKSDALE IN MEMPHIS. DURING THEIR CONVERSATION, SHERIFF BARKSDALE ASSURED FATHER FANNON HE WOULD PERSONALLY FLY TO GULFPORT, MS., IN ORDER TO MEET WITH FATHER FANNON AND WILSON AT 6:30 PM AT THE HOLIDAY INN.

FATHER FANNON ADVISED HE CANNOT COMMENT ON WILSON PERSONALLY DUE TO THE SHORT LENGTH OF TIME HE HAD CONTACT WITH THIS INDIVIDUAL. HE CONTINUED TO POLITELY REFUSE TO

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REVEAL THE NATURE OF WILSON'S CONFIDENCE IN HIM.

FATHER FANNON WAS ADVISED BY JACKSON SA IN BRIEF CONCERNING WILSON'S REMARKS TO THE GLADDENS ABOUT HIS INVOLVEMENT IN THE KING ASSASSINATION; HOWEVER, FATHER FANNON REFUSED TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THIS ALSO HAD BEEN THE SUBJECT OF WILSON'S CONFIDENCE IN HIM.

SAN ANTONIO DIVISION AT NEW BRAUNSFELS, TEXAS. CONTACT NEW BRAUNSFELS PD AND ADVISED THEM OF WILSON'S INCARCERATION AT OCEAN SPRINGS, MISS., PD, TELEPHONE 875-2211.

INVESTIGATION CONTINUING JACKSON DIVISION.

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✓ FM JACKSON (62-544) (P)

TO DIRECTOR (44-33861) IMMEDIATE

BIRMINGHAM IMMEDIATE

DALLAS IMMEDIATE

HOUSTON IMMEDIATE

MEMPHIS (44-1987 SUB M) IMMEDIATE

SAN ANTONIO (44-1242) IMMEDIATE

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UNCLAS E F T O

ATTENTION CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRIES UNIT, ROOM 8988, JEH.

① MURKIN; OO: MEMPHIS.

FOR INFORMATION OF HOUSTON, ON AUGUST 18, 1978, GENE BARKSDALE, SHERIFF, SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE, ADVISED THAT ON THE NIGHT OF AUGUST 17, 1978, HE RECEIVED TWO TELEPHONE CALLS FROM BURGESS AUDIE WILSON. WILSON, WHO WAS FORMERLY IN THE TENNESSEE AIR NATIONAL GUARD UNIT AT MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, WITH BARKSDALE, INFORMED THE SHERIFF THAT HE HAD KILLED DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING IN 1968 AT

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U.S. DEPARTMENT  
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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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MEMPHIS; THAT HIS DAUGHTER DROVE A WHITE MUSTANG FROM KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, TO MEMPHIS THREE DAYS PRIOR TO KING'S DEATH, AND WISHED TO SURRENDER TO BARKSDALE AT THE HOLIDAY INN, GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI. ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE FOR WILSON AND COMPANION REVEREND NOEL FANNON, PASTOR, ST. ELIZABETH SETON CATHOLIC CHURCH, OCEAN SPRINGS, MISSISSIPPI, TO APPEAR AT THE HOLIDAY INN, GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI, AT 6:30 PM ON AUGUST 18, 1978, AT WHICH TIME THEY WERE TO BE CONTACTED BY SPECIAL AGENTS OF THE JACKSON OFFICE. WILSON WAS CONTACTED BY SPECIAL AGENTS OF THE JACKSON OFFICE; HOWEVER, HE DECLINED TO DISCUSS INFORMATION REGARDING THE ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING WITH THEM.

BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR., AKA BILL WILSON, WAS ARRESTED BY OCEAN SPRINGS, MISSISSIPPI, POLICE DEPARTMENT, 7:35 PM, AUGUST 18, 1978, BASED ON PROBATION VIOLATOR WARRANT DATED APRIL 18, 1978, ISSUED BY NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS, POLICE DEPARTMENT. WILSON PRESENTLY INCARCERATED OCEAN SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT. OCEAN SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS, POLICE DEPARTMENT, AND THE LATTER DESIRES HIS RETURN TO TEXAS.

WILSON CONTACTED AM, AUGUST 19, 1978, BY FBI AND FURNISHED FOLLOWING BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

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HE WAS BORN ON [REDACTED] 93L, AT FULTON, MISSISSIPPI, AND RESIDED WITH HIS FAMILY AT GOLDEN, MISSISSIPPI, UNTIL 1936, WHEN THEY MOVED TO ELDRIDGE, ALABAMA, WHERE HE WENT TO SCHOOL UNTIL THE EIGHTH GRADE AND THEN WENT TO CARBON HILL, ALABAMA, HIGH SCHOOL, UNTIL 1947.

ON MAY 2, 1947, HE ENTERED U. S. AIR FORCE AND WAS DISCHARGED 1950. AFTER BEING OUT OF THE AIR FORCE FOR APPROXIMATELY EIGHT MONTHS, HE WAS RECALLED INTO THE KOREAN WAR UNTIL HE WAS GIVEN AN HONORABLE DISCHARGE FEBRUARY, 1960.

HE AND HIS WIFE, BETTY LOU WILSON, MOVED TO MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, FOLLOWING HIS DISCHARGE AND WORKED FOR PRUDENTIAL INSURANCE COMPANY FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE YEAR. AFTER LEAVING PRUDENTIAL, HE OPERATED A LAUNDRY AND CLEANING BUSINESS IN MEMPHIS. DURING THIS TIME HE WAS ALSO IN THE TENNESSEE AIR NATIONAL GUARD.

HE LEFT MEMPHIS, WENT TO GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI, WHERE HE BECAME A CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEE IN THE AIR FORCE RESERVE AND REMAINED WITH THE RESERVE UNTIL 1970. ALSO, FROM 1966 UNTIL 1970, HE OPERATED A JEWELRY STORE BUSINESS.

IN 1970, HE AND WIFE BETTY WILSON MOVED TO MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, AND OPENED A JEWELRY BUSINESS IN BARTLETT, TENNESSEE. IN ADDITION

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TO JEWELRY BUSINESS, HE BUILT ALUMINUM STORAGE BUILDINGS, BUT IN JUNE, 1970, HIS BUSINESS WAS DESTROYED BY A TORNADO.

HE THEN WENT TO SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, AND BECAME EMPLOYED BY AIR FORCE RESERVE AS A FLIGHT ENGINEER. HE ALSO OPERATED A JEWELRY STORE IN SAN ANTONIO UNTIL 1974, AND AT THIS TIME HE AND HIS WIFE, BETTY, WERE DIVORCED. HE THEN MOVED TO MOUNTAIN HOME, ARKANSAS, OPENED A JEWELRY STORE, AND MARRIED AVIS LEA HUNTER. HE WAS MARRIED FOR APPROXIMATELY SIX MONTHS AND THEY WERE DIVORCED. SHE NOW RESIDES AT 1010 HICKORY HILL LANE, HERMITAGE, TENNESSEE. HE THEN WENT TO COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI, WHERE HE WORKED IN THE GUBERNATORIAL CAMPAIGN FOR GOVERNOR CLIFF FINCH. WHILE IN COLUMBUS, HE MARRIED PATRICIA SHINDALA OF STARKVILLE, MISSISSIPPI. DURING THE GUBERNATORIAL CAMPAIGN IT WAS SUGGESTED HE TELL PEOPLE HE WAS A RETIRED COLONEL AND AN EX-PRISONER OF WAR. HE LEFT COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI, JANUARY, 1976, WENT TO TYLER, TEXAS, AND STAYED WITH LARRY HUGHES, A FRIEND. HE WENT TO TEXAS FOR PURPOSE OF CLEARING UP SOME CHARGES AGAINST HIM AT NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS. HE WENT TO DALLAS, TEXAS, TO SEE A FRIEND, AND WHILE THERE CALLED HIS SON, AND SHORTLY THEREAFTER POLICE ARRIVED AND ARRESTED HIM ON CHARGE OF NON CHILD SUPPORT ON A WARRANT ISSUED FOR HIM AT CLEVELAND, TEXAS. HE WAS RELEASED

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TO AUTHORITIES FROM NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS, WHERE HE PLED GUILTY TO A CHARGE OF THEFT BY CHECK AND RECEIVED A SENTENCE OF EIGHT YEARS PROBATION. HE THEN STAYED IN VICINITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS WHERE HE WAS INVOLVED IN CONSTRUCTION WORK. HE HAD AN ALTERCATION WITH AN EMPLOYEE AND WAS ARRESTED FOR VIOLATION OF HIS PROBATION BUT WAS RELEASED A COUPLE OF WEEKS LATER. HE CONTINUED WORKING AROUND NEW BRAUNFELS AND WAS AGAIN ARRESTED FOR POSSESSION OF STOLEN MERCHANDISE, BUT THE CHARGES WERE LATER DROPPED. HE CONTINUED IN CONSTRUCTION BUSINESS AND MARRIED JO ANN CHILDRESS AND WAS DIVORCED AFTER THREE MONTHS. IN JANUARY, 1978, HE DEPARTED FOR HOUMA, LOUISIANA, AND WORKED FOR LOUISIANA OFF-SHORE CATERERS UNTIL APRIL, 1978, WHEN HE WENT TO WORK FOR GULF COAST CATERERS OF NEW IBERIA, LOUISIANA, WHERE HE REMAINED UNTIL THE END OF JUNE, 1978. HE CAME TO OCEAN SPRINGS, MISSISSIPPI, AND OPENED A JEWELRY SHOP AND RESIDED AT TWIN PINES APARTMENTS IN OCEAN SPRINGS FOR THE FIRST THREE WEEKS THEN MOVED TO ROUTE 6, BOX 387.

WILSON IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR., AKA BILL; DOB [REDACTED] 93L; POB FULTON, MISSISSIPPI; 5 FEET 11 INCHES; 170 POUNDS; BROWN EYES; GRAY HAIR; SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER [REDACTED] HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE;



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MILITARY SERVICE, U. S. AIR FORCE, 1947 - 1960; FATHER BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, SR. (DECEASED), GRENADA, MISSISSIPPI; MOTHER MITTIE DALE (DECEASED); STEPMOTHER LILLIE MAE WILSON (DECEASED), GRENADA, MISSISSIPPI; BROTHER ALLISON TOWERS WILSON, REFORM, ALABAMA; SISTER LYDA MC GAHEY, 2002 EAST EIGHTH AVENUE NORTH, COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI; SISTER CHRISTINE GUNTHORPE, FULTON, MISSISSIPPI; EX-WIFE BETTY LOU WILSON WADE, BURLESON, TEXAS; EX-WIFE AVIS LEA HUNTER, 1010 HICKORY HILL LANE, HERMITAGE, TENNESSEE; EX-WIFE PATRICIA SHINDALA, STARKVILLE, MISSISSIPPI (BELIEVED KILLED IN CAR ACCIDENT); EX-WIFE JO ANN CHILDRESS, 113 MILL STREET, SAN MARCOS, TEXAS; DAUGHTER DEBORAH ANN JONES, HUSBAND CHARLES, BELVEDERE, ILLINOIS; SON STEVEN WAYNE WILSON, BURLESON, TEXAS; SON MARK ANTHONY WILSON, BURLESON, TEXAS.

BIRMINGHAM REQUESTED TO INTERVIEW ALLISON TOWERS WILSON, BROTHER, REFORM, ALABAMA.

DALLAS INTERVIEW BETTY LOU WILSON WADE, EX-WIFE, BURLESON, TEXAS, AND SONS STEVEN WAYNE WILSON AND MARK ANTHONY WILSON. IF NOT ALREADY DONE, ASCERTAIN WHEREABOUTS OF DEBORAH ANN JONES, DAUGHTER, FOR IMMEDIATE INTERVIEW, WHO IS REPORTEDLY RESIDING IN EITHER BELVEDERE OR BELLVIEW, ILLINOIS.

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HOUSTON REVIEW POLICE RECORDS AT CLEVELAND, TEXAS, FOR FULL DETAILS OF NON CHILD SUPPORT WARRANT ISSUED BY THAT DEPARTMENT AGAINST WILSON.

MEMPHIS INTERVIEW AVIS LEA HUNTER, EX- WIFE.

SAN ANTONIO INTERVIEW JO ANN CHILDRESS, EX-WIFE, AND ALSO REVIEW RECORDS AT THE AIR FORCE RESERVE CENTER.

ALL OFFICES INTERVIEW RELATIVES OF WILSON FOR FULL BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND VERACITY OF HIS ALLEGATION THAT HE KILLED DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING. DETERMINE HIS WHEREABOUTS DURING THE CRITICAL PERIOD OF APRIL 4, 1968, AND IF WILSON MAY HAVE HAD A HISTORY OF PSYCHIATRIC PROBLEMS. ALL LEADS SHOULD BE HANDLED IMMEDIATELY AND KEEP FBIHQ, MEMPHIS, AND JACKSON APPRISED.

INTERVIEW OF BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR., CONTINUING AT OCEAN SPRINGS, MISSISSIPPI, CONCERNING ASSASSINATION.

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////////FOR ANY QUESTIONS AND/OR CORRE CTIONS CONTACT JACKSON////////

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TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) IMMEDIATE

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JACKSON IMMEDIATE

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UNCLAS E F T O

ATTN: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRIES UNIT, ROOM 8988, JEH.

MURKIN.

RE MEMPHIS TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR 8-20-78.

BETTY LOU WADE RECONCATED 8-20-78, AND STATES VISIT TO MEMPHIS TO SEE VERNON HOOTEN, BAPTIST HOSPITAL, WAS SEVERAL WEEKS AFTER KING MURDER.

WADE CONFIRMS WILSON BOUGHT DAUGHTER A CREAM COLORED MUSTANG IN FEBURARY 1968, BUT SAYS HE NEVER DROVE VEHICLE ON ANY TRIPS TO HER KNOWLEDGE. SHE ALSO RECONFIRMS THAT WILSON WAS AT HOME IN GRANDVIEW, MO. AT TIME KING MURDERED. SHE STATED THAT SHE HAS NEVER HEARD WILSON MAKE ANY STATEMENT THAT HE KILLED MARTIN LUTHER KING.

STEPHEN WAYNE WILSON SAYS HE WAS 15 ON 4-4-68, AND RECALLS SEEING OF KINGS DEATH ON TV AT HOME IN GRANDVIEW, MO. HE CONFIRMS FATHER BURGESS AUDIE WILSON WAS ALSO HOME AT THAT TIME. STATES THAT THERE WAS NO WAY HIS FATHER COULD HAVE KILLED KING.

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PAGE TWO DALLAS 44-2649 UNCLAS E F T O

STEPHEN WILSON CONFIRMED SISTER OWNED 1965 MUSTANG AND FATHER DROVE IT ON OCCASION BUT DOES NOT RECALL HE EVER DROVE IT TO MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE.

DESCRIBES FATHER AS ALCOHOLIC WITH SERIOUS MENTAL PROBLEMS. SAID HE PLACED FATHER IN ALCOHOLIC REHABILITATION CLINIC AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS FOR 3 - 4 DAYS IN JANUARY 1976 TO DRY HIM OUT. FATHER LIVED WITH HIM FOR BRIEF TIME AFTERWARDS AND WOULD DRINK CONSTANTLY AND DO AND SAY CRAZY THINGS. SAYS NEVER HEARD FATHER EVER MAKE STATEMENT THAT HE KILLED MARTIN LUTHER KING.

MARK ANTHONY WILSON INTERVIEWED 8/20/78 AND STATED FATHER BURGESS AUDIE WILSON IS A VERY SICK MAN AND POSSIBLY INSANE. SAYS HIS FATHER COULD NOT HAVE KILLED DR. KING SINCE TO THE BEST OF HIS RECOLLECTION BURGESS WILSON WAS AT HOME IN GRAND VIEW, MO. ON THAT DATE. THINKS MOTHER AND SISTER VISITING GRANDMOTHER AT MEMPHIS, TENN. AND FATHER WAS HOME WITH HIM AND BROTHER STEPHEN.

PAGE THREE DL 44-2649 UNCLAS E F T O

WILSON DESCRIBES FATHER AS HABITUAL LIAR AND ALCOHOLIC WHO "WOULD WALK AROUND THE TRUTH TO TELL A LIE." SAYS FATHER HAS ALWAYS WANTED TO BE SOMEONE IMPORTANT AND HAS EXPRESSED THE OPINION NUMEROUS TIMES THAT THE WHOLE WORLD IS CRAZY AND HE IS THE ONLY SANE PERSON IN IT. STATES FATHER WAS PRIVATE PILOT AT ONE TIME AND DID HAVE BONANZA AIRCRAFT WHILE THEY LIVED AT GRANDVIEW, MO. CONFIRMS SISTER HAS CREAM MUSTANG AND FATHER DROVE IT ON OCCASION BUT NEVER TOOK IT OUT OF TOWN.

HE SAYS HE LAST SAW HIS FATHER IN SAN MARCUS, TEXAS IN JANUARY 1978 WHEN STEPHEN AND HE HAD DINNER WITH THEIR FATHER. SAID HE SEEMED TO BE DOING OK AND NO INDICATION OF ANY PROBLEMS AT THAT TIME. SAYS HE NEVER HEARD HIS FATHER MAKE ALLEGATION THAT HE KILLED MARTIN L UTER KING.

BT

#

FBI

## TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype  
☐ Facsimile  
☒ Airtel

## PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate  
☐ Priority  
☐ Routine

## CLASSIFICATION:

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

Date 9/20/78

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
 FROM: SAC, BUTTE (173-2)(RUC)  
 SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Kansas City airtel to Bureau, 8/9/78, and  
 Memphis airtel to Bureau, 8/28/78.

Enclosed for the Bureau are the original and three  
 copies of LHM captioned "ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER  
 KING, JR., APRIL 4, 1968, MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, CIVIL RIGHTS."

Enclosed for Memphis is one copy of same.

No further investigation is being conducted by  
 the Butte Division.

2 - Bureau (Enc. 4) (AM)  
 1 - Memphis (Enc. 1) (Info) (AM)  
 1 - Butte  
 JVV/imw  
 (4)

REC-78

44-38861-6316

22 SEP 25 1978

040(G)  
 2-Criminal Div (enc)  
 1-Civil Rights Div (enc)  
 1-Civ-(enc)  
 TWE:pfm  
 10-2-78

EX-124

JWR  
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Approved: [Signature]  
 62 OCT 24 1978

Transmitted

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(Time)

Per

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SEP 22 1971

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-354200)

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-157100) (P)

SUBJECT: [Illegible]

RE: [Illegible]

[Illegible text follows]





*In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Butte, Montana, 59701  
September 13, 1978

**ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
APRIL 4, 1968, MEMPHIS TENNESSEE  
CIVIL RIGHTS**

On September 11, 1978, ROY G. KULP, General Delivery, Lewiston, Idaho, appeared at the Federal Bureau of Investigation Office in Lewiston at the request of Special Agent JOSEPH V. VENKUS furnishing 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.



44-2061-1316  
ENCLOSURE

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 9/13/78

ROY G. KULP, General Delivery, Lewiston, Idaho, voluntarily appeared at the Lewiston Federal Bureau of Investigation Office furnishing the following information:

KULP acknowledged that he wrote a letter to "Warden, Federal Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas," on August 1, 1978, in which he indicated that JAMES EARL RAY escaped from Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City in 1967, receiving this information from J. T. HULL, Sheriff's Office (Morgan County, Missouri), also indicating that HULL could have been involved in Stringbean-Hee-Haw (1974) regarding Nashville, Tennessee, Police Department.

When asked the significance of this information, KULP could not furnish any logical statement to indicate the relevance of this hypothesis.

At various points during the interview, KULP indicated that he could prove that he was the originator of "Stringbean" and "Hee-Haw" and, in fact, brought a suit of \$100,000.00 concerning this matter at Nashville, Tennessee.

He further advised that he is presently in the U. S. Army and has been waiting for orders since 1969. KULP advised that he is receiving his salary through Veterans Administration (VA) compensation; however, did not wish to dwell on this topic. He advised his last report from the Army indicated that he was a "full bird" Colonel.

KULP also acknowledged that he wrote two letters to the Police Department at Memphis, Tennessee, both dated August 17, 1978, and which reported the death of "Raoul" in Miami, Florida. KULP advised the death of "Raoul" may be a coincidence; however, he did not like coincidences in his life.

The inference the interviewing Agent received from KULP concerning this topic is that during the investigation of the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr., JAMES EARL RAY

---

Interviewed on 9/11/78 at Lewiston, Idaho File # BT #173-2

by SA JOSEPH V. VENKUS/imw - 2 - Date dictated 9/13/78

BT #173-2  
Page 2

from newspaper accounts, indicated if "Raoul" could be located it would prove his innocence. KULP advised that it is possible that "Raoul," who died in Miami, Florida, could have been identical to the "Raoul" mentioned by RAY.

KULP advised that although "Raoul" lived and died in the same apartment house, 320 Northwest 7th Avenue, Miami, Florida, he never had an occasion to actually speak to "Raoul."

KULP indicated the death of "Raoul" was too much of a coincidence and moved away from Miami.

He cited several other coincidences, indicating that the last day he celebrated his 30th anniversary in the U. S. Army, DONALD DAVID DeFREEZE, leader of the "SLA" was killed in Los Angeles, California. He also advised in 1965 he was accused of killing a seventeen-year-old girl in Versailles, Missouri; however, it was proven he could not have been responsible for the girl's death, in view of the fact that at the time of her death he was in Blackfoot, Idaho, at the State Hospital South, a mental institution.

KULP could furnish no other logical explanation concerning the relevance of the information contained in the three letters mentioned above.

KULP advised he was departing Lewiston, Idaho, permanently on September 12, 1978, displaying a bus ticket destined for Phoenix, Arizona.

The following description was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	ROY G. KULP	
Sex	Male	
Race	White	
Date of Birth		P11
Place of Birth	Burlington, Iowa	
Height	5'11 1/2"	
Weight	190#	

BT #173-2  
Page 3

Parents

GERTRUDE E. KULP, Mother  
GEORGE KULP, Father  
Residing West Burlington,  
Iowa

- 4\* -

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FM ST. LOUIS (44-775) (RUC)

24 AUG 78 15 27z  
RECEIVED  
FEDERAL BUREAU  
OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

~~TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) IMMEDIATE~~

KANSAS CITY (44-760) PRIORITY

MEMPHIS (44-1987 - SUB M) IMMEDIATE

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

ATTENTION: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY UNIT, ROOM 8988, JEH BLDG.

MURKIN. OO: MEMPHIS.

RE KANSAS CITY TELETYPE TO BUREAU, AUGUST 21, 1978.

PERSONNEL RECORDS ON FILE AT NATIONAL PERSONNEL RECORDS CENTER, CIVILIAN PERSONNEL RECORDS (NPRC-C), ST. LOUIS, MO., DISCLOSED BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR., SSAN [REDACTED] EMPLOYED AUGUST 3, 1966, BY DEPARTMENT OF AIR FORCE, 442ND MILITARY AIRLIFT WING, RICHARDS-GEBAUR AFB, MO., AS FLIGHT ENGINEER (WITH DUAL STATUS AS AIR RESERVE TECHNICIAN). RESIGNED MARCH 10, 1968, TO GO INTO BUSINESS FOR SELF. RECORDS FAILED TO SHOW WILSON EMPLOYED BY U.S. GOVERNMENT ON APRIL 4, 1968.

REC-79

EX-124

44-38861-6317

5 SEP 25 1978

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Assoc. Dir.	
Dep. AD Adm.	
Dep. AD Inv.	
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Serv.	
Crim. Inv.	
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Legal Coun.	
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Public Aff. Off.	
Telephone Rm.	
Director's Sec'y	

Congressional Inquiry  
Rm 8988  
MR HANCOCK

AUG 24 11 52 AM '78  
F.B.I.  
U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

AUG 23 11 29 AM 1978

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (100-442100) FROM SAC, NEW YORK (100-100000) (P)  
SUBJECT: [Illegible] (NY 100-100000) (P)  
[Illegible text follows]

- 1 (NY-100-100000) (P)
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PAGE TWO SL 44-775 UNCLAS E F T O

FOLLOWING BACKGROUND INFORMATION CONTAINED IN RECORDS:

NAME: BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR., AKA. BILL.

DESCRIPTION: DATE OF BIRTH [REDACTED] FULTON, MISS.

HEIGHT: 5 FT. 11 IN., WEIGHT: 165 LBS., HAIR: BROWN, EYES: BROWN.

EDUCATION: FULTON HIGH SCHOOL, FULTON, MISS., 1942-46;  
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, 1952; UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, 1959.

ADDRESSES: 1605 BOXWOOD ST., MEMPHIS, TENN. (1947-60); 4086  
REENIG AVE., MEMPHIS, TENN. (1960-62); 2612 ELMORE PARK RD., MEMPHIS,  
TENN. (1962-64); 3612 COVINGTON PIKE, MEMPHIS, TENN. (1964-66); 3173  
COURT ST., BARTLETT, TENN. (APRIL, 1966); 13707 12TH ST., GRANDVIEW,  
MO. (MAY, 1966 - MARCH, 1967).

EMPLOYMENTS: APRIL, 1960, TO SEPTEMBER, 1962, PRUDENTIAL  
INSURANCE CO., MEMPHIS, TENN.; SEPTEMBER, 1962, TO DECEMBER, 1963,  
SELF EMPLOYED (WILSON CLEANERS), RALEIGH, TENN.; JANUARY, 1964, TO  
MAY, 1964, ROCKETDYNE, CONOGA PARK, CALIF.; JUNE, 1964, TO MAY, 1966,  
WILBUR ADVERTISING ENTERPRISES, INC., BARTLETT, TENN.

RELATIVES: BETTY LOU HOOTEN WILSON, WIFE, BORN [REDACTED]  
WALNUT LOG, TENN., MARRIED FEBRUARY 28, 1955, GRENADA, MISS. CHILDREN:  
DEBORAH A. WILSON, BORN [REDACTED] STEPHEN W. WILSON, BORN JUNE  
22, 1953; MARK A. WILSON, BORN [REDACTED]

PAGE THREE SL 44-775 UNCLAS E F T O

MILITARY SERVICE: U.S. AIR FORCE, MAY, 1947, TO MARCH, 1948;  
NOVEMBER, 1948, TO JUNE, 1950; FEBRUARY, 1951, TO NOVEMBER, 1954;  
FEBRUARY, 1955, TO FEBRUARY, 1960, SERIAL NO. 14 225 795.

PASSPORT NO. [REDACTED]

BLOOD GROUP: O POSITIVE.

SOCIAL SECURITY NO.: [REDACTED]

REFERENCES: DR. IRA C. COLE, BROADMOOR BAPTIST CHURCH, RALEIGH,  
TENN. (1966); WALTER K. WADE, 4126 FORBES AVE., FT. WORTH, TEXAS  
(1966); BEN J. MANGINA, 442 MILITARY AIRLIFT WING, RICHARDS-GEBAUR  
AFB, MO. (1966).

PHOTOGRAPH: NONE AVAILABLE.

BT

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FM HOUSTON (44-1509)

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) IMMEDIATE

JACKSON (62-544) IMMEDIATE

MEMPHIS (44-1987 SUB M) IMMEDIATE

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

ATTENTION CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRIES UNIT, ROOM 8988, JEH.

MURKIN. OO: MEMPHIS.

44-38861-6318X2 -  
REFERENCE JN TEL TO DIRECTOR 8/19/78.

ON 8/19/78, LARRY ALLEN, PATROLMAN, CLEVELAND, TEXAS POLICE DEPARTMENT (CPD), REVIEWED CPD FILES AND COULD LOCATE NO RECORD IDENTIFIABLE WITH BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR., DOB [REDACTED] ALLEN. ADVISED NON-CHILD SUPPORT WARRANT, IF FILED IN CLEVELAND, TEXAS, PROBABLY FILED THROUGH CLEVELAND CITY COURT AND WARRANT ISSUED BY CITY JUDGE GLEN JONES. RECORDS CITY COURT AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW UNTIL 9 AM, 8/21/78 AND JUDGE GLEN JONES CURRENTLY UNAVAILABLE.

LEAD: HOUSTON AT CLEVELAND, TEXAS:

ASAP, MONDAY, AM, WILL REVIEW CLEVELAND CITY COURT RECORDS PER LEAD SET OUT IN REFERENCED TELETYPE.

BT#

66 NOV 21 1978

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RECEIVED  
FEDERAL BUREAU  
OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Assoc. Dir.  
Dep. AD Adm.  
Dep. AD Inv.  
Asst. Dir.:  
Adm. Serv.  
Crim. Inv.

Intell.  
Laboratory  
Legal Coun.  
Plan. & Insp.  
Rec. Mgmt.  
Tech. Servs.  
Training  
Public Affs. Off.  
Telephone Rm.  
Director's Sec'y

Peterson  
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EX-130

REC-80

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U.S. DEPARTMENT  
OF JUSTICE

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✓ FM HOUSTON (44-1909) (RUC)

TO DIRECTOR (44-33861) IMMEDIATE

DALLAS IMMEDIATE

MEMPHIS (44-1987) (SUB M) IMMEDIATE

JACKSON (62-544) IMMEDIATE

BT

UNCLAS

ATTENTION: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRIES UNIT, ROOM 8988, EJH.

MURKIN; OO: MEMPHIS.

RE JACKSON TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR, AUGUST 19, 1978;  
HOUSTON TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR, AUGUST 20, 1978.

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.:

66 OCT 25 1978

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RECEIVED  
FEDERAL BUREAU  
OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Assoc. Dir.	
Dep. AD Adm.	
Dep. AD Inv.	
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Telephone Rm.	
Director's Sec'y	

5 SEP 25 1978

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REC'D-CIV RIGHTS

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WILLIAM WILSON, JR.

TYPE OF CIVIL OR CRIMINAL PROCESS CONCERNING A PERSON  
CONCERNING THE ISSUANCE OF A NON-CITIZEN SUBPOENA WARRANT OR WPA  
RESPECTIVE AGENCIES WERE CONTACTED WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS

ON AUGUST 21, 1970, THE FOLLOWING PERSONS AT THEIR  
ADDRESS TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR, AUGUST 22, 1970.

RE JACKSON TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR, AUGUST 19, 1970:  
WORKING: OO: MEMPHIS.

ATTENTION: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRIES WILL, FROM 2000, FOR  
BUREAU

RE

JACKSON (83-244) IMMEDIATE

MEMPHIS (44-1981) (200 TO IMMEDIATE

URGENT IMMEDIATE

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) IMMEDIATE

BY JACKSON (44-1983) (200)

WILLIAM WILSON, JR.

RE: WPA

OO: MEMPHIS

WILLIAM WILSON, JR.

RECEIVED AUG 22 1970

31 AUG 21 1970

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	
Mr. Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

PAGE TWO HO 44-1509 UNCLAS

1. GLENN JONES, CITY JUDGE, CLEVELAND, TEXAS;
2. LOUIS HOUGH, SECRETARY FOR JACK HARTELL,  
COUNTY ATTORNEY, LIBERTY COUNTY, TEXAS;
3. LOUISE MORRIS, CLERK, LIBERTY COUNTY DISTRICT  
COURT, LIBERTY COUNTY, TEXAS;
4. NELL WHITTINGTON, IDENTIFICATION DIVISION,  
LIBERTY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, LIBERTY, TEXAS.

FOR INFORMATION, THE SUBJECT MAY HAVE BEEN REFERRING TO CLEBURNE, TEXAS, RATHER THAN CLEVELAND, TEXAS, INASMUCH AS CLEBURNE IS RELATIVELY CLOSE TO DALLAS WHERE SUBJECT WAS ARRESTED ON THE NON-CHILD SUPPORT WARRANT.

LEADS. DALLAS AT CLEBURNE, TEXAS. WILL COVER LEAD AS SET OUT FOR HOUSTON AT CLEVELAND, TEXAS, IN ABOVE REFERENCED JACKSON TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR, AUGUST 19, 1978.

BT

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FM MEMPHIS (44-1987 SUB M )

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) IMMEDIATE

DALLAS IMMEDIATE

JACKSON IMMEDIATE

BT

INCLAS E F T O

ATTN CONGRESSIONAL INQUIREIES UNIT, ROOM 8988 JEH.

MURKIN.

RE DALLAS TEL TO

CHICAGO TEL TO  NO COPY TO DALLAS.

FOR INFORMATION DALLAS, ON 8-19-78 DEBRA ANN JONES, BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS, DAUGHTER OF BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, ADVISED WILSON FAMILY RESIDED KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI FROM 1964 TO SEPTEMBER, 1968. IN 1968 HER FATHER GAVE HER 1965 WHITE MUSTANG AS GRADUATION PRESENT. SHE NEVER DRIVOVE THIS VEHICLE TO MEMPHIS, TENN. SHE AND HER MOTHER, BETTY LOU WADE VISITED HER MATERNAL GRANDFATHER, VERNON HOOTEN, WHO WAS IN HOSPITAL AT MEMPHIS, AT TIME OF THE KING MURDER. THEY USED COMMERCIAL AIRLINE FOR ROUNDTRIP TRANSPORTATION, DURING TIME THEY WERE IN MEMPHIS AREA BETTY WADE TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED HER HUSBAND, BURGESS WILSON TWO TIMES IN KANSAS CITY WHERE HE REMAINED

20 AUG 78 15 48 Z

RECEIVED  
FEDERAL BUREAU  
OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Assoc. Dir.	
Dep. AD Adm.	
Dep. AD Inv.	
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Serv.	
Crim. Inv.	
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Laboratory	
Legal Coun.	
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Rec. Mgmt.	
Tech. Servs.	
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Public Affs. Off.	
Telephone Rm.	
Director's Sec'y	

P. H. H. H.

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EX-120 REC-20 44-38861-6318X6

SEP 25 1978

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Sub A

RECEIVED  
INVESTIGATIVE  
DIVISION  
JUN 12 1964

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RECEIVED  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
JAN 12 1978

*(continued)*

PAGE TWO MEMPHIS 44-

WITH HER TWO BROTHERS, STEVEN AND MARK WILSON.

BURGESS WILSON WHO WAS INTOXICATED, TELEPHONED DEBRA JONES ON EVENING OF 8-17-78 AND TOLD HER FBI WAS GOING TO PUT HIM IN JAIL FOR THE MURDER OF KING AND THAT FBI HAD GIVEN HIM A POLYGRAPH TEST. HE TOLD HER SHE WOULD BE CONTACTED BY THE FBI AND TOLD HER TO SAY NOTHING.

MRS. OPAL HOOTEN, MOTHER OF BETTY LOU WADE, CONTACTED 8-20-78 AND UNABLE TO RECALL VISIT OF BOTH BETTY LOU WADE AND DEBRA JONES ON OCCASIONS HER HUSBAND VERNON HOOTEN SUFFERED HEART ATTACKS, BUT RECALLS BETTY LOU WADE VISITING ON OCCASIONS WHEN BOTH SHE AND MR. HOOTEN WERE ILL. SHE WAS UNABLE TO FURNISH SPECIFIC DATES BUT WILL CHECK FAMILY MEDICAL RECORDS AND ATTEMPT TO ESTABLISH SPECIFIC DATES OF MR. HOOTEN'S ILLNESSES.

DALLAS WILL RECONTACT BETTY LOU WADE REGARDING VISIT TO MEMPHIS NOTED ABOVE AND ATTEMPT TO CLARIFY INFORMATION SHE PREVIOUSLY FURNISHED REGARDING LACK OF OWNERSHIP OR ACCESS TO WHITE MUSTANG VEHICLE BY WILSON. INTERVIEW STEVEN AND MARK ANTHONY WILSON FOR FULL BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND VERACITY OF BURGESS WILSON'S ALLEGATIONS THAT HE KILLED DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING. DETERMINE HIS WHEREABOUTS DURING CRITICAL PERIOD OF 4-4-68 AND WHETHER WILSON HAS HISTORY OF PSYCHIATRIC PROBLEMS. ATTEMPT TO VERIFY INFORMATION FURNISHED BY DEBRA JONES.

HANDLE IMMEDIATELY AND ADVISE FBIHQ, MEMPHIS AND JACKSON.  
BT.



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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

FM SAN ANTONIO (44-1242)

TO DIRECTOR (44-33861) IMMEDIATE

JACKSON (62-544) IMMEDIATE

MEMPHIS (44-1987 SUB M) IMMEDIATE

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

ATTENTION CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY UNIT

MURKIN; OO: MEMPHIS.

RE JACKSON TELS TO SAN ANTONIO AUGUST 18, 1978.

INSTANT DATE JO ANN CHILDRESS, 113 MILL, SAN MARCOS, TX,  
ADVISED SHE MET BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, JR., AKA BILL WILSON, AT  
SATLER, TX, IN SEPTEMBER OF 1977, AND THEY WERE MARRIED IN  
NOVEMBER OF 1977. THEY SEPARATED FEBRUARY 15, 1978 AND  
DIVORCE FINALIZED APRIL 26, 1978. ON AUGUST 12, 1978 SHE RECEIVED  
TELEPHONIC MESSAGE FROM WILSON INDICATING THAT HE WAS IN THE  
STATE OF TENNESSEE AND WAS INVOLVED IN A CAR ACCIDENT. WILSON  
STATED THAT AS A RESULT OF THIS ACCIDENT BOTH OF HIS LEGS WERE  
AMPUTATED. CHILDRESS ADVISED THAT WILSON IS A "VERY CONVINCING  
LIAR AND A CON MAN". HE HAS NEVER MENTIONED THE DEATH OF

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PAGE TWO SA 44-1242 UNCLAS E F T O

MARTIN LUTHER KING AND HAS NEVER DISPLAYED ANY HATRED OR DISLIKE FOR MEMBERS OF THE BLACK RACE. ACCORDING TO CHILDRESS, SHE BELIEVES THAT WILSON WAS IN THE U. S. ARMY DURING 1968, AND WILSON HAS STATED THAT HE WAS A P.O.W. DURING VIETNAM CONFLICT. SHE IS AWARE THAT WILSON VISITED THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, BUT SHE POSSESSES NO KNOWLEDGE OF HIM SUFFERING FROM ANY PSYCHIATRIC PROBLEMS. BY A PREVIOUS MARRIAGE WILSON HAS 3 CHILDREN, 2 SONS, AND 1 DAUGHTER, LOCATIONS NOT KNOWN BY CHILDRESS.

CHILDRESS ADVISED THAT IT IS HER PERSONAL OPINION THAT WILSON IS SICK AND SHE IS NOT IN THE POSITION TO PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION REGARDING HIS WHEREABOUTS IN 1968 OTHER THAN THE FACT THAT HE DID MENTION THAT HE ONCE RESIDED IN MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE.

LEAD: SAN ANTONIO AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, WILL ATTEMPT TO VERIFY VISITS TO VETERANS ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL.

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

TO BUREAU (44-38861) IMMEDIATE

CHICAGO IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS E F T O

BT

ATTENTION CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY UNIT, ROOM 8988, JEH..

MURKIN.

RE MEMPHIS TELEPHONE CALL CHICAGO 8/19/78.

FOR INFORMATION OF CHICAGO, ON AUGUST 18, 1978 GENE BARKSDALE, SHERIFF, SHELBY COUNTY, TENN., ADVISED THAT ON THE NIGHT OF AUGUST 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 THAT HE KILLED DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING IN 1968 AT MEMPHIS AND HIS DAUGHTER DROVE A WHITE MUSTANG FROM KANSAS CITY MISSOURI, TO MEMPHIS 3 DAYS PRIOR TO KINGS DEATH. HE WANTED TO MEET BARKSDALE AT THE HOLIDAY INN, GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI ON 8/13/78 AND SURRENDER. ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE FOR

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TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) BUREAU

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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WILSON TO MAKE AN APPEARANCE AT THE HOLIDAY INN, GULFPORT WHERE HE WAS CONTACTED BY SPECIAL AGENTS OF THE JACKSON OFFICE; HOWEVER HE DECLINED TO DISCUSS INFORMATION REGARDING THE ASSASSINATION OF DR. KING WITH THE AGENTS. ON 8/19/78 HE AGREED TO SEE AGENTS OF THE FBI. DETAILS REGARDING THIS CONTACT NOT AVAILABLE TO MEMPHIS AT THIS TIME.

ON 8/19/78 BETTY LOU WADE, BURLESON, TEXAS, WILSON'S FORMER WIFE, ADVISED SHE AND BURGESS WILSON ALONG WITH THEIR CHILDREN WHICH INCLUDED ONE DAUGHTER, DEBORA, RESIDED IN GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI IN APRIL 1968, AND BURGESS WAS NOT IN MEMPHIS AT TIME DR. KING WAS KILLED. SHE ALSO REPORTED THAT WILSON DID NOT OWN OR HAVE ACCESS TO A WHITE MUSTANG VEHICLE AND DEBRA ANN JONES, NEE WILSON NEVER DROVE ANY VEHICLE FROM KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI TO MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE ON OR ABOUT 4/4/68. SHE REPORTED THAT WILSON HAS EXPERIENCED MENTAL PROBLEMS FOR YEARS AND DESCRIBED HIM AS A "LIAR AND CON ARTIST WHO CAN'T DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN TRUTH AND FANTASY." SHE REPORTED THAT DEBRA JONES RESIDES AT 2628 NEWBURG ROAD, LOT 106, BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS,

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

TELEPHONE #543-9734 WITH HER HUSBAND, CHARLES.

CHICAGO WILL LOCATE AND INTERVIEW DEBRA ANN JONES REGARD-  
ING HER WHEREABOUT IN LATE MARCH AND EARLY APRIL, 1968 AND  
DETERMINE WHETHER SHE DROVE A WHITE MUSTANG VEHICLE FROM KANSAS  
CITY TO MEMPHIS DURING THIS PERIOD OF TIME. ATTEMPT TO ES-  
TABLISH THROUGH HER THE WHEREABOUTS OF HER FATHER DURING THE  
PERIOD INCLUDING 4/4/68 AND OBTAIN ANY INFORMATION SHE MAY  
POSSES REGARDING HIS MENTAL CONDITION.

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FM BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) (PRIORITY)

MEMPHIS (44-1987 SUB M) (PRIORITY)

JACKSON (62-544) (PRIORITY)

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

ATTN CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRIES UNIT, ROOM 8988 JEH.

MURKIN

RE MEMPHIS TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR AND OTHER OFFICES,  
AUG. 19, 1978.

ON AUG. 19, 1978, MR. ALLISON T. WILSON, P. O. BOX 23,  
(HIGHWAY 17 SOUTH), REFORM, ALA., ADVISED THAT BURGESS AUDIE  
WILSON IS HIS BROTHER AND HAS FOR MANY YEARS BEEN AN ALCOHOLIC  
AND IS A CONFIRMED LIAR AND THINKS OF HIMSELF AS A RETIRED  
COLONEL AND POSES AS A VIET NAM VETERAN WHEN HE IS DRUNK. SEP 25 1978  
STATED THAT HIS BROTHER HAS OFTEN CONFESSED TO VARIOUS CRIMES  
IN ORDER TO BE LOCKED UP SO HE WILL BE ABLE TO GET SOBER. MR.  
WILSON STATED HE CAN THINK OF ONLY ONE SPECIFIC TIME THAT HIS

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U.S. DEPARTMENT  
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TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-442100) (P)  
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-123456) (P)  
SUBJECT: [Illegible]

RE: [Illegible]

100-123456 (100-123456) (P)  
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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	

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BROTHER CONFESSED TO A CRIME AND WAS LOCKED UP IN NEW BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS. HE COULD NOT RECALL THE DATE OR THE SPECIFIC CRIME.

MR. WILSON STATED THAT THE FAMILY HAD RECENTLY SOLD HIS FATHER'S HOME AND HIS BROTHER WAS SENT HIS SHARE WHICH WAS \$2,075. HE FEELS THAT HIS BROTHER AT THE PRESENT TIME IS ON A "TOOT". MR. WILSON STATED THAT HIS BROTHER HAD RECENTLY CALLED THEIR SISTER, MRS. LYDA MC GAHA, COLUMBUS, MISS., AND TOLD HER THAT HE, ALLISON T. WILSON, HAD HAD A HEART ATTACK AND WAS ALMOST DEAD. MR. WILSON STATED THAT HE RECALLS ON ONE OCCASION, HIS BROTHER CALLED HIM AND TOLD HIM THAT HE HAD BEEN ELECTED MAYOR OF GRANDVIEW, MO., AND HE KNOWS THAT HIS BROTHER WAS LIVING AT GRANDVIEW, MO. AND OPERATING A JEWELRY STORE ON APRIL 4, 1968. HE STATED AT THIS TIME HIS BROTHER WAS MARRIED TO BETTY WADE, WHO PRESENTLY RESIDES 233 SMITH STREET, BURLESON, TEXAS. HE STATED THAT HIS BROTHER'S SON, STEVE WILSON, 117 LIVINGSTON, FT. WORTH, TEXAS, AND HIS DAUGHTER, MRS. CHARLES (DEBBIE) JONES, 2628 NEWBURG ROAD, TRAILER 106, BELVIDERE, ILL., WAS LIVING AT HOME AT THIS TIME, AND THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO CONFIRM THIS ALSO. MR. WILSON CONCLUDED BY STATING HIS BROTHER WOULD NOT BE ABLE