

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-760)

DATE: 4/20/68

FROM : SA JOHN M. GATTIS

P

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 4/20/68, WILLIAM NOLAN, Los Angeles Office, telephonically contacted the SAC and advised that one CHARLES CALVIN BOOKMAN, FBI #892355, presently residing in Los Angeles, California and a former CI of the Los Angeles Office contacted the Los Angeles Office and advised subject RAY had contacted him 8/2/67 wanting to borrow some money. He indicated that RAY reportedly contacted him by telephone a day or so ago. According to BOOKMAN, RAY at the present time is supposed to be in the San Pedro, California area.

BOOKMAN stated that he and RAY were in the Federal Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas together during 1956. Both worked on the prison farm and during this time RAY got into a fight with a Negro overseer and as a result was transferred back inside the prison walls. BOOKMAN indicated he knew RAY by the name of RALPH RAY.

SA NOLAN advised that the Los Angeles Division attempted to locate the subject in the San Pedro area with negative results and requested that investigation be conducted at Leavenworth to see if BOOKMAN was telling them the truth.

SA MAX RICHARDSON, Leavenworth, Kansas Resident Agent, on 4/20/68, advised he had contacted Mr. CARL ZARTAR, Federal Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas on 4/20/68 and reviewed prison records and could find no record of an inmate in prison during the same time as BOOKMAN by the name of RALPH RAY. Mr. ZARTAR also advised that BOOKMAN had prison #73715 and was in prison from 8/28/56 - 5/24/57. He further stated that he had contacted officers at the penitentiary and they could not recall an incident between subject RAY and a colored officer. According to Mr. ZARTAR, and disciplinary action taken against RAY while in the Federal Penitentiary, would definitely be reflected in his prison file.

JMG:ak

(4)



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44-760-243  
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FBI - KANSAS CITY

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

KC 44-760

On 4/20/68, a review of subject RAY's prison file reflected that he was assigned to the prison bakery from 3/8/56 - 9/3/57 and at this time he reapplied for a job on the prison farm. There was no indication in the record that he was ever employed on the prison farm. It is to be noted that the records indicate that subject RAY was working in the prison bakery during the time that BOOKMAN was incarcerated at Leavenworth.

On 4/30/68, SAC DISSLY telephonically advised the Los Angeles Division of the above information.

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JERRY RAY STATES JOHN RAY HAS BEEN EMPLOYED AS PAINTER, BARTENDER, AND LABORER WITH NO SPECIFIC FIRM KNOWN. JOHN DID ATTEND BARTENDING SCHOOL , CHICAGO, DATES UNKNOWN. RECORDS TO BE CHECKED APRIL TWENTYTWO NEXT. JERRY STATES THAT THE LAST CONTACT OF WHICH HE IS AWARE BETWEEN WALTER RIFE AND SUBJECT WAS IN NINETEEN FIFTYFOUR AT LEAVENWORTH. CONCERNING SUBJECT'S GIRL FRIENDS JERRY ADVISED THAT HE KNEW OF NO PARTICULAR WOMAN FRIEND BUT THAT JAMES WOULD CONTACT HOTELS OR KNOWN HOUSES. JAMES HAS NEVER MARRIED TO HIS KNOWLEDGE.

JERRY STATES ONLY CONTACT HE IS AWARE WITH PSYCHIATRIST IS WHEN JAMES WAS IN PRISON IN MISSOURI AND HE TOLD HIM THAT HE WAS GOING TO TRY TO BE ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL AT FULTON, MISSOURI, BECAUSE OF NERVOUS CONDITION. STAYED THERE APPROXIMATELY ONE MONTH TO JERRY'S KNOWLEDGE.

RE SPRINGFIELD TELCALL THIS DATE CONCERNING SISTER SUSAN JANE DONIAN. SHE WAS CONTACTED THIS DATE. ADVISED LAST SAW SUBJECT APPROXIMATELY FIFTEEN YEARS AGO, HAD NO KNOWLEDGE RE WHEREABOUTS OF JOHN RAY, AND IN EXHAUSTIVE INTERVIEW HAD NO OTHER ADDITIONAL INFO OF PERTINENCE THIS CASE.

CHICAGO RECEIVING NUMEROUS TELEPHONE CALLS BECAUSE OF OUTSTANDING DISPLAY OF SUBJECT'S PHOTO IN NEWS MEDIA, WHICH ARE BEING HANDLED ON AN IMMEDIATE CONTINUING BASIS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

ENT

FBI KAN CITY

PAGE TWO

DEVELOPED IDENTITY OF COMPANY THAT MERGED WITH DRYDEN. INQUIRY THERE REVEALED THAT RECORDS RE PERSONNEL NOT AVAILABLE UNTIL APRIL TWENTYTWO NEXT. RECORDS WILL BE CHECKED THAT DATE.

REINTERVIEW BROTHER JERRY RAY CONCERNING INQUIRIES IN ST. LOUIS TEL TO CHICAGO APRIL TWENTY DEVELOPED THAT JOHN AND JERRY RAY WERE IN ST. LOUIS FEBRUARY TWO LAST AND WERE AT SISTER' CAROL'S RESIDENCE TO VISIT WITH HER. JERRY OF OPINION THAT JOHN WAS REGISTERED AT THE MC ARTHUR HOTEL BUT HAS NO INFO RE MRS. JOHN RAY AND IN FACT STATES THAT TO HIS KNOWLEDGE JOHN HAS NEVER MARRIED. ONLY INDIVIDUALS AT SISTER'S RESIDENCE WERE JOHN, JERRY, CAROL, HER HUSBAND AND CHILDREN. SUBJECT DEFINITELY NOT PRESENT. JERRY HAS NO INFO AS TO THE PRESENT WHEREABOUTS OF EITHER JOHN OR SUBJECT.

RE ST. LOUIS TEL TO BUREAU, ET AL, INSTANT, JERRY RAY STATES THAT JERRY RAYNES, IS STEPFATHER OF SUBJECT AND DEFINITELY NOT SUBJECT'S FATHER. REITERATED THAT SUBJECT'S FATHER DIED NINETEEN FIFTYONE.

END PAGE TWO

FBI KAN CITY

FBI CHICAGO

821PM URGENT 4-20-68 TAB

TO: DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS, ATLANTA, ST. LOUIS, SPRINGFIELD, KANSAS CITY,  
BIRMINGHAM  
FROM: CHICAGO (44-1114)

MURKIN. SUMMARY

INQUIRY AT EIGHT FIVE THREE WEST FULLERTON AVENUE, ADDRESS  
GIVEN BY RAY AT TIME OF ARREST IN NINETEEN FIFTY TWO REVEALS AREA  
TRANSIENT IN NATURE AT THAT TIME, NO INDIVIDUALS CONTACTED HAD ANY  
INFO CONCERNING RAY. AT TIME OF RESIDENCE, BUILDING OWNED BY  
MC CORMICK THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY. INQUIRY THERE THIS DATE  
DEVELOPED THAT IN NINETEEN FIFTY TWO BUILDING RENTED TO PRIVATE  
INDIVIDUAL. ANY ROOM RENTED WOULD BE ON SUB ROSA BASIS. RECORDS  
SEMINARY PRESENTLY BEING CHECKED TO DETERMINE IDENTITY OF OWNER  
OF ABOVE BUILDING AND ANY POSSIBILITY OF ATTENDANCE OR EMPLOYMENT  
OF RAY AT SEMINARY.

CHECK OF APPROPRIATE PUBLIC SOURCES DID NOT REVEAL ANY  
LISTING FOR DRYDEN RUBBER COMPANY , WHERE SUBJECT PURPORTEDLY  
WORKED NINETEEN FORTYEIGHT. HOWEVER, FURTHER EXTENSIVE INQUIRY  
END PAGE ONE

44-760-244

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*[Handwritten signatures and initials over the stamp]*

PAGE TWO

BIRMINGHAM CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION REGARDING  
JEAN RAY.

NEW YORK WILL INTERVIEW ROBERT CRAWFORD IN DETAIL.

SUBJECT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

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FBI KAN CITY

FBI KAN CITY

FBI NEW YORK

U 629PPM URGENT 4-20-68 RPD

TO DIRECTOR, BIRMINGHAM, MEMPHIS AND KANSAS CITY.  
FROM NEW YORK 44-1609 2P

MURKIN.

RE NEW YORK TELEPHONE CALL TO BIRMINGHAM, THREE:THIRTY  
NINE PM, THIS DATE.

RE INFORMATION FURNISHED BY ROBERT CRAWFORD CONCERNING  
JEAN RAY, ALLEGED EX-WIFE OF SUBJECT.

ROBERT CRAWFORD TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED THE NEW YORK  
OFFICE AND ADVISED HE BELIEVED JAMES EARL RAY WAS A FORMER  
BROTHER-IN-LAW OF HIS. CRAWFORD'S EX-WIFE, DORIS CRAWFORD,  
RESIDES AT ONE FIVE FOUR FIVE MARTIN AVENUE, BIRMINGHAM,  
ALABAMA, WITH THEIR SON, KENNETH CRAWFORD. JEAN RAY IS THE  
SISTER OF DORIS CRAWFORD AND LIVES DIRECTLY BEHIND DORIS CRAWFORD.  
CRAWFORD BELIEVES THAT JEAN RAY IS THE EX-WIFE OF JAMES EARL RAY.  
CRAWFORD HAS BEEN DIVORCED FROM HIS WIFE FOR FIVE YEARS AND HAS  
SEEN NEITHER HER NOR JEAN RAY FOR FIVE YEARS.  
END PAGE ONE

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*[Handwritten signature/initials over stamp]*

PAGE TWO

HONORABLY DISCHARGED IN SIXTYSIX.

SHE DESCRIBED GRANDSON W/M, TWENTYTHREE, SIX FEET,  
ONE FORTYFIVE POUNDS, THIN, DARK BLOND HAIR, BALDING ON  
TOP, COMPLEXION - ACNE.

SHE ADVISED GRANDSON AT HER RESIDENCE AT TIME OF  
SHOOTING OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING.

SHE STATED NO RESEMBLANCE BETWEEN GRANDSON AND  
PHOTOS OF SUBJECT.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

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FBI KAN CITY



FBI KAN CITY

FBI LOUISVLE

7:00 PM DEFERRED 4-20-68 JBR

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) KANSAS CITY LOS ANGELES (44-1574) AND  
MEMPHIS (88-1987)  
FROM LOUISVILLE (44-947)

MURKIN. CR. 00: MEMPHIS.

RE LOS ANGELES TELETYPE APRIL NINETEEN, LAST.

RECORDS BMV, LOUISVILLE, REVEAL KENTUCKY LICENSE  
L FOUR FIVE SIX FORTY REGISTERED TO FRANK W. WHITE, FOUR  
NINETEEN MONTANA, LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY, FOR PONTIAC AUTOMOBILE.

INSTANT DATE, BEULA DRYE, FOUR NINETEEN MONTANA,  
LOUISVILLE, ADVISED HER GRANDSON, FRANK WILLIAM WHITE,  
OWNS A LIGHT GREEN SIXTYSEVEN PONTIAC, TWO-DOOR HARDTOP,  
VIN TWO SIX TWO EIGHT SEVEN SEVEN P ONE ZERO ONE NINE  
FOUR NINE. SHE ADVISED WHITE RESIDES WITH HER FROM TIME  
TO TIME; IS ON THE ROAD A GREAT DEAL OF TIME AS CHAUFFEUR  
FOR BUSINESSMEN, FIRMS UNKNOWN. SHE ADVISED NO KNOWLEDGE  
RE WHEREABOUTS STATING IN ADDITION TO CHAUFFEUR, HE  
GAMBLES HEAVILY AND OFTEN CARRIES LARGE AMOUNTS OF CASH.  
SHE ADVISED HE ENLISTED AT AGE SEVENTEEN WITH USAF;  
END PAGE ONE

44-260-246

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*[Handwritten signatures and initials over the stamp]*

PAGE TWO

KANSAS CITY CHECK AT ALL STATE INSURANCE CO., COLUMBIA, MO.,

FOR IDENTITY OF JAMES RAY, WHO REGISTERED AT ABOVE MOTEL,

APR. EIGHTEEN, SIXTY EIGHT. P

END

KAM

FBI KAN CITY

FBI KAN CITY

FBI ST LOUIS

426 PM IMMEDIATE 4-20-68 DCJ

TO: KANSAS CITY

FROM ST. LOUIS (44-775)

MURKIN; 00:ME

RE MY TELEPHONE CALL TO KANSAS CITY, THIS DATE.

ON APR. EIGHTEEN, LAST, ONE JAMES RAY, ALL STATE INSURANCE CO., COLUMBIA, MO., REGISTERED AT CONGRESS AIRPORT INN, ST. LOUIS MO., PAYING CASH IN ADVANCE. RAY GAVE LICENSE NUMBER SE OR GE FOUR ZERO EIGHT SIX ONE FOR SIXTY SEVEN PLYMOUTH WHEN REGISTERING. WITNESSES STATED CAR WAS DARK GREEN, FOUR DOOR, SIXTY SEVEN PLYMOUTH WITH MO. LICENSE. ABOVE NUMBERS ARE NOT MO. ISSUE. RAY NOT SEEN AT MOTEL AFTER NOON, APR. NINETEEN, SIXTY EIGHT. WITNESSES AT MOTEL BELIEVE THIS PERSON IDENTICAL WITH SUBJECT RAY. INQUIRY AT ALL STATE INSURANCE CO, ST. LOUIS, MO., NEGATIVE AND REFLECTS ALL STATE INSURANCE CO., COLUMBIA, MO., OPERATED BY INDEPENDENT AGENT AT SEARS ROEBUCK STORE.

OND PAGE ONE

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*Done & memo  
dictated 4/20/68  
JW.*

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*[Signature]*

CV 44-565

PAGE THREE

WHO SENT CHECKS TO COVER SUBJECTS PURCHASE OF AMPHETAMINES.  
GIVE NO INDICATION OF BOND'S COOPERATION IN THIS MATTER SINCE A  
RETAINER BY MISSOURI IS OUTSTANDING AND HE FEARS RETALIATION  
SHOULD IT BE KNOWN INFORMATION FURNISHED BY HIM.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END.

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FBI KAN CITY

FBI CLEVELAND

9:45 PM URGENT 4-20-68 SLO

TO DIRECTOR 44-38861, KANSAS CITY 88-9449 AND MEMPHIS 44-1987.  
FROM CLEVELAND 44-565

MURKIN. OO: MEMPHIS.

JAMES T. BOND, AKA JAMES SNYDER - W/M, DOB

PRESENTLY IN CUYAHOGA COUNTY JAIL CLEVELAND, OHIO, ON CHARGE  
CARRYING A CONCEALED WEAPON. ADVISED THIS DATE THAT HE KNEW SUBJECT AT  
MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI FROM OCT.  
NINETEEN SIXTYTWO UNTIL DECEMBER NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE.

BOND STATED THAT HE WAS INCARCERATED, K HALL, CELL ONE EIGHT  
SEVEN AND RAY'S CELL WAS ONLY FOUR AWAY. HE STATED RAY WAS A "BREAD  
MAN" WHOSE DUTIES CONSISTED OF SLICING BREAD FOR MEALS.

BOND STATED THAT HE WAS CONSIDERED A FRIEND OF RAY'S BUT ONLY  
BECAUSE WHEN BOTH HAD FREE TIME THEY WOULD TALK ABOUT VARIOUS MATTERS.

BOND STATED THAT RAY HAD NO CLOSE FRIENDS BUT DESCRIBED HIM AS  
A "FRIEND" ON AMPHETAMINE POWDERS. HE STATED THAT RAY ALWAYS HAD AN  
"OUTFIT" IN HIS CELL STATING THAT AN OUTFIT WAS A "NOSE DROPPER  
WITHNEEDLE" TO SHOOT A SOLUTION MADE UP OF AMPHETAMINE POWDER.

BOND STATED THAT RAY WOULD PURCHASE A SPOONFUL FOR FROM FIFTY  
DOLLARS TO ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS AND THEN WOULD BREAK IT UP AND SELL  
IN SMALLER PACKAGES. BOND FURTHER STATED THAT RAY WAS A MAIN LINE  
SHOOTER FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS AND BECAUSE OF THIS WAS HIGHLY NERVOUS  
END PAGE ONE.

*Have advised 8:50 AM*  
*Ayers - No Answer*  
*12:35 12:50 1:10 1:20*  
*1:40 P advised*  
*1:49 P*  
*1:49 P em*

44-760-748

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*Horne* *RAH*

*Ayers* *RA*

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AND DID NOT EAT MUCH. HE STATED THAT RAY IF AT ALL SMOKED AND DRANK VERY LITTLE.

BOND STATED THAT RAY IF AMPHETAMINE POWDER WAS NOT AVAILABLE WOULD BREAK UP "BENNIES".

BOND ADVISED THAT RAY WAS STRICTLY A LONE WOLF AND NEVER DISCUSSED HIS OWN PERSONAL BACK GROUND. HE STATED THAT HE WAS AN AVID READER OF SEX BOOKS AND GIRLIE MAGAZINES AND THAT HE HAD NEVER KNOWN HIM TO ENGAGE IN ANY HOMOSEXUAL ACTS.

BOND STATED THAT AT TIMES PERHAPS ONCE OR TWICE A MONTH WOULD GET MONEY FROM THE OUTSIDE TO BUY THE AMPHETAMINE. BOND STATED THAT RAY WOULD GET A LETTER SMUGGLED OUT AND THE PERSON WOULD SEND A CHECK DIRECTLY TO THE INMATE RAY WAS PURCHASING THE DRUG FROM AND AS SOON AS THE CHECK CLEARED BOND WOULD GET THE AMPHETAMINE.

BOND CONFIDED AFTER BEING ASSURED HIS NAME WOULD NOT BE MENTIONED RAY MADE HIS DRUG PURCHASES WAS JIM BRADLEY WHO HE DESCRIBED AS THE TOP CON.

BOND STATED RAY ON MANY OCCASIONS MADE ANTI NEGRO STATEMENTS AND WOULD CONSIDER HIM A RACIST.

KANSAS CITY AT JEFFERSON CITY WILL REVIEW MISSOURI SP MAILING RECORDS OF JIM BRADLEY AND CONSIDER INTERVIEW OF BRADLEY TO DETERMINE  
END PAGE TWO.

F B I

Date: 4/20/68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND MEMPHIS

FROM: KANSAS CITY (44-760)

MURKIN; OO MEMPHIS

## DAILY TELETYPE SUMMARY

REPORT OF PSYCHIATRIC EXAMINATION OF JAMES EARL RAY DATED OCT. TWENTYFOUR, SIXTYSIX, OBTAINED FROM MO. STATE HOSPITAL NO. ONE, FULTON, MO., AND FORWARDED TO BUREAU AND MEMPHIS. ALSO, HANDWRITTEN LETTER FROM JAMES E. RAY TO DR. EARL C. KEPLER, DATED OCT. TWENTYFOUR, SIXTYSIX, FORWARDED TO FBI LAB FOR <sup>HANDWRITING</sup> COMPARISON PURPOSES.

LOCAL LIQUOR CONTROL RECORDS AND BARTENDER UNIONS NEGATIVE RE SUBJECT.

FORMER ATTORNEY APPOINTED BY COURT, NINETEEN FIFTYFIVE, TO REPRESENT RAY, ADVISED HE DID NOT REMEMBER SUBJECT.

AS RESULT OF EXTENSIVE PUBLICITY GIVEN THIS MATTER, NUMEROUS LEADS COMING IN FROM LOCAL CITIZENS, THESE BEING HANDLED IMMEDIATELY. ALSO, REINVESTIGATION OF ALL LOGICAL PRIOR LEADS CONTINUING.

EXTENSIVE INVESTIGATION CONTINUING AT MO. STATE PENITENTIARY WHERE RAY ESCAPED IN APRIL, SIXTYSEVEN.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS AND ESCAPE PROPENSITIES.

REH:rmb  
(1)  
Approved: *[Signature]*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent *Bureau 4:52* *ME 4:55* MPer *[Signature]*

(Title) \_\_\_\_\_

(File No.) 44-760

ALL 1As REMOVED TO SUB SECTION 4/22/68

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*Jm*



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