

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, (44-696) (P)

DATE: 4/30/68

FROM : SA HENRY A. QUINN, JR.

SUBJECT: MURKIN

RE ERIC STARVO GALT

Re memo of SA JOSEPH L. FLEMING dated 4/15/68.

On 4/17/68, Mrs. ETHEL HOWELL, owner, Ethel Howell Dance Studio, who resides at 302 Virginia Road, Oak Ridge, Tenn., stated that she had no record of an ERIC STARVO GALT in her files. She was exhibited the sketches prepared by the Bureau of ERIC STARVO GALT and stated she has never had a student taking dancing from her who resembled the sketches.

On 4/17/68, attempt was made to locate Mrs. SUZANNE SKEEL, 647 Robertsville Road, Oak Ridge, Tenn., who operates the Roberto School of Dancing, Oak Ridge, Tenn., but she could not be located. On 4/19/68, Mrs. SKEEL was contacted and stated that she did not have anyone and had never had anyone by the name of ERIC STARVO GALT in her dancing classes. She observed the photograph of ERIC STARVO GALT and stated that she did not recognize this photograph as anyone who had ever taken dancing at her school.

HAQ/jss
(1)



5010-108

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

Fleming *JP*

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

4/29/68

SAC, MOBILE (157-2627) (P)

MURKIN

Re Mobile teletype to the Bureau, 4/24/68.

Enclosed for Memphis is autostat copy of printed name, ERIC STARVO GALT, E. St., Elberta, Ala.

Inasmuch as enclosure was received from Inspector J. C. ENGEL, Post Office Dept., Mobile (in confidence), same is being transmitted Memphis by letter. It is noted that the Knoxville Office has been requested to attempt to obtain original or photographic copy of this name and address in order that appropriate examination may be made.

For information Memphis, J. C. ENGEL, Post Office Dept., Mobile, advised on 4/24/68, he had received an order form for Internal Revenue Service, Form #17 or #334, from the Post Master in Elberta, Ala. The form actually is supposed to be used in sending to the Superintendent of Documents, GPO, Washington, D. C., for Internal Revenue Service Forms. The lower portion is a "tear-off" portion on which the requesting individual is to write his name and address and mail to GPO, lower portion may be torn off and attached to the requested form and returned to sender.

This form was sent directly to the Post Office in Elberta, and is postmarked "Pensacola, Florida, April 22, 8 (illegible) M."

Mr. ENGEL stated any efforts to obtain original or photographic copy thereof would have to be made through the Chief Postal Inspector in Chattanooga, to whom form had been sent air mail.

SA ALLISON A. CATLIN on 4/25/68, contacted the Post Master at Elberta, who advised there is no such address as E St. in Elberta. In addition, he said he knew of no residence in Elberta, a small town, all citizens of which he is acquainted with. In addition, the Post Master, JOHN GOTTLER, was unable to recognize a photograph of subject.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- 2 - Memphis (Enc.1)(RM)
- ① - Knoxville (Info)(RM)
- 2 - Mobile JRH:crb (5)

44-696-230
INDEXED
FBI
MAY 1 - 1968
FBI - MOBILE

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-696)

DATE: 4/30/68

FROM : SA STANNARD E. WIDENER

SUBJECT: MUPKIN

ReBuairtel 4/22/68

EDWARD D. GRAYBEAL could not be located Route 1, Watauga, Tennessee, on 4/24,25/68.

On 4/25/68, JOHN SEVIER, Johnson City Vocational School, Johnson City, Tennessee, advised that his records do not reflect the name CURTIS NEELY as a former student or instructor.

On 4/25/68, Mrs. EDWARD GRAYBEAL, Instructor, Vocational School, Johnson City, Tennessee, advised that in about 1962 or 1963, while a student at the vocational school, she dated a student and parttime welder instructor, CURTIS NEELY. She stated that NEELY was from Kingsport, Tennessee, and worked at Tennessee Eastman in that city.

She continued that during the time she dated NEELY, he told her that he was working with the Communist Party and reporting to the FBI. She stated that she reported this to PAUL SMITH, an officer of some kind, in Johnson City. She said that she assumed that SMITH reported it to the FBI.

Mrs. GRAYBEAL said that one evening after the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING she saw an artist's composite drawing, profile, of the suspect and remarked to her husband that it looked just like CURTIS NEELY. She said that after the FBI released the photographs of suspect RAY, she was positive that she was mistaken in thinking that the suspect's drawing could have been that of NEELY.

She added that she assumes that NEELY is still employed as a welder by TEC, Kingsport, Tennessee.



5010-108

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

44-696-233
INDEXED
MAY 1 - 1968
[Signature]

FBI KNOXVLE

FBI BOSTON

920AM URGENT 5/17/68 1P PJC

TO DIRECTOR 44-38861, MEMPHIS 44-1987 & KNOXVILLE

FROM BOSTON 157-644

MURKIN

RE SUSPECT FRANK G. NILES.

RE BOSTON TEL APRIL THIRTY LAST.

ON MAY ONE INSTANT, POSTMASTER EVERETT LEAL, ELLSWORTH FALLS, MAINE, ADVISED FRANK G. NILES RECEIVED MAIL AT P.O. BOX ONE ONE SEVEN, ELLSWORTH FALLS, MAINE IN PAST THREE WEEKS, BUT THIS MAIL IMMEDIATELY RECOVERED BY FRANK SMITH, NEPHER OF ANP PRESENTLY RESIDING ELLSWORTH FALLS. FORWARDING ADDRESS PLACED ON MAIL BY SMITH REFLECTS NILES CAN BE REACHED CARE OF ED LEWIS FIVE FIVE ZERO NINE FINELAN, CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE.

KNOXVILLE ENDEAVOR TO ASCERTAIN CURRENT WHEREABOUTS OF NILES AND DETERMINE HIS ACTIVITIES DURING PAST FEW MONTHS. CONSIDER POSSIBILITY HE COULD BE CO-CONSPIRATOR INSTANT CASE.

KNOXVILLE NOTE THAT IN MARCH SIXTY EIGHT, FRANK G. NILES INQUIRED AS TO WHERE HE COULD OBTAIN SNIPER RIFLE AND ALSO COMMENTED HE WOULD KILL KING IF IT WOULD PREVENT INTEGRATION. FRANK G. NILES BELIEVED IDENTICAL FRANK H. NILES, FORMER ANP MEMBER.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

WJC

FBI KNOXVLE

6

*Walton adv.
11:15 AM
5/17/68*

that had

INDEXED
MAY 1 - 1968
*Rec'd
5-16-68*
Walton
44-676-24

F B I

Date: 5/1/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861)
 MEMPHIS (44-1987)
 CHICAGO (44-1114)

FROM: KNOXVILLE (44-696)

MURKIN.

RE SUBJECT'S BROTHER JERRY RAY.

RE CHICAGO TELETYPE FOUR TWENTY-NINE LAST.

JERRY RAY VISITS SON MICHAEL EUGENE RAY ONCE OR TWICE YEARLY AND SENDS GIFTS OCCASIONALLY TO SON, WHO RESIDES WITH MR. AND MRS. WILLARD SARTAIN, ROUTE TWO, WHITESBURG, TENNESSEE. JERRY RAY'S EX-COMMON LAW WIFE, CAROL DEAN WOLFE, AND HER PRESENT HUSBAND, RALPH WOLFE, EMPLOYED MAGNAVOX CORPORATION, JEFFERSON CITY, TENNESSEE. JUDY SARTAIN, ONE FOUR FOUR NINE MADISON STREET, MORRISTOWN, TENNESSEE, TELEPHONE NUMBER FIVE EIGHT ONE DASH EIGHT FOUR FIVE FOUR, SISTER-IN-LAW OF CAROL, RECEIVES PHONE CALLS ABOUT ONCE A MONTH INQUIRING WELFARE OF HIS SON, MICHAEL. IF JERRY RAY UNABLE TO REACH JUDY SARTAIN, HE WILL CALL CAROL'S SISTER, MRS. FRANK GILBERT, LOWE ACRES, TOLBERT COMMUNITY, ROUTE TWO, MORRISTOWN, TENNESSEE, UNLISTED

JDS/clf
 (1) *cf*

SEARCHED *h*
 SERIALIZED *h*
 INDEXED *h*

Approved: *[Signature]*
 Special Agent in Charge

Sent

me-520
cy-835
div-542 (PM)

FILED
 Per *[Signature]*

44-696-235

F B I

Date:

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

KX 44-696

PAGE TWO

TELEPHONE NUMBER FIVE EIGHT SIX DASH EIGHT ONE ZERO FIVE.
BOTH JUDY SARTAIN AND MRS. FRANK GILBERT HAVE BEEN CONTACTED
TELEPHONICALLY BY JERRY RAY WITHIN PAST TWO WEEKS AND ADVISED
THEM THAT HIS BROTHER WAS SUSPECTED OF MURDERING KING. THE
SARTAINS, CAROL WOLFE, AND MRS. FRANK GILBERT STATE NEVER
MET ANY OF JERRY RAY'S FAMILY AND DID NOT KNOW HE HAD
BROTHER, JAMES EARL RAY.

END.

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

Routing Slip
0-7 (Rev. 9-25-67)

(Copies to Offices Checked)

TO: SAC,

☐ Albany
☐ Albuquerque
☐ Anchorage
☐ Atlanta
☐ Baltimore
☐ Birmingham
☐ Boston
☐ Buffalo
☐ Butte
☐ Charlotte
☐ Chicago
☐ Cincinnati
☐ Cleveland
☐ Columbia
☐ Dallas
☐ Denver
☐ Detroit
☐ El Paso
☐ Honolulu

☐ Houston
☐ Indianapolis
☐ Jackson
☐ Jacksonville
☐ Kansas City
☒ Knoxville
☐ Las Vegas
☐ Little Rock
☐ Los Angeles
☐ Louisville
☐ Memphis
☐ Miami
☐ Milwaukee
☐ Minneapolis
☐ Mobile
☐ Newark
☐ New Haven
☐ New Orleans
☐ New York City

☐ Norfolk
☐ Oklahoma City
☐ Omaha
☐ Philadelphia
☐ Phoenix
☐ Pittsburgh
☐ Portland
☐ Richmond
☐ Sacramento
☐ St. Louis
☐ Salt Lake City
☐ San Antonio
☐ San Diego
☐ San Francisco
☐ San Juan
☐ Savannah
☐ Seattle
☐ Springfield

☐ Tampa
☐ Washington Field
☐ Quantico

TO LEGAT:

☐ Bern
☐ Bonn
☐ Buenos Aires
☐ Hong Kong
☐ London
☐ Manila
☐ Mexico, D.F.
☐ Ottawa
☐ Paris
☐ Rome
☐ Santo Domingo
☐ Tokyo

Date April 29, 1968

RE:

MURKIN

☐ For information ☐ Retention optional ☒ For appropriate action ☐ Surep, by _____

☐ The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, ☐ conceal all sources, ☐ paraphrase contents.

☐ Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA _____ dated _____

Remarks:

Enclosed are copies of photographs taken by a woman companion of the subject while he was in Mexico in the Fall of 1967.

These are for your further assistance in connection with efforts to locate the subject.

Enc. (3)
Bufile (44-38861)
Urfile

111, 644
28
Sperry *JA*

5/2/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, KNOXVILLE (44-696) (P)

MURKIN -
COST DATA

Re Memphis airtel to all offices dated 4/19/68.

The following figures are submitted for the
Knoxville Division through 4/30/68:

1)	<u>Man-Hours</u>	<u>Regular</u>	<u>O.T.</u>
	Special Agent - 590 Total	491	99
	Clerical - 539 Total	529	10
2)	Total Mileage - 4,933 miles		
3)	No unusual or out of ordinary costs		
4)	43 Special Agents		

2 - Memphis (AM)
2 - Knoxville

JLF:pjb
(4)

44-696-237

Searched _____
Serialized 2
Indexed _____
Filed 14

7 Lewis

F B I

Date: 5/2/68

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

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861)
SACS, CLEVELAND
MEMPHIS (44-1987)
RICHMOND - *Norfolk*

FROM KNOXVILLE (44-696)

MURKIN; CR. OO: MEMPHIS

RE BOSTON TEL TO BUREAU, KNOXVILLE AND MEMPHIS,
MAY ONE LAST, WHICH REFERENCED RICHMOND TEL TO BOSTON
APRIL THIRTY LAST, RE SUSPECT FRANK G. NILES.

INVESTIGATION AT CHATTANOOGA, TENN. DETERMINED
FRANCIS HENRY NILES, AKA. FRANK H. NILES, WM, BORN
[REDACTED], IS FATHER
OF MRS. FRANKLIN EDWARDS (CECILIA NILES) LEWIS, FIVE
FIVE ZERO NINE PINE LAWN AVE., CHATTANOOGA. LEWIS HIGHLY
RESPECTED FACULTY MEMBER AT PROMINENT PRIVATE PREP SCHOOL,
THE MC CALLIE SCHOOL, CHATTANOOGA, TENN.

LEWIS STATED NILES IS CHRONIC ALCOHOLIC, PSYCHOPATHIC
SCHIZOPHRENIA WHO HAS RECEIVED TREATMENT FOR MENTAL
DISORDER PAST TWENTY YEARS OR MORE. NILES DIVORCED HIS
WIFE TWENTY YEARS AGO AND NOT REPORTED TO HAVE HAD ANY
2 - Dallas (AIR MAIL)

GCW:lmh
(3) *lmh**Wellborn New*
Fleming JH
*821*Approved: *lmh*
Special Agent in Charge

Sent

P M

Per

P

44-696-238

F B I

Date:

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

KX 44-696

PAGE TWO

CONTACT WITH DIVORCED WIFE, MRS. MILDRED (R.J.) AUSTIN, ROUTE SEVEN, PENSACOLA, FLA.; DAUGHTER, MRS. FLORIS (LNU), PHOENIXVILLE, PA., OR SON, ROBERT HARVELLE, ADDRESS UNKNOWN. HE HAS MADE VERY LIMITED IRREGULAR VISITS WITH DAUGHTER, MRS. CECILIA LEWIS, OVER PAST SEVERAL YEARS. THESE VISITS LAST FROM A FEW HOURS TO NO MORE THAN TWO OR THREE DAYS.

NILES BECAME MEMBER OF AMERICAN NAZI PARTY (ANP) ABOUT NINETEEN SIXTY TWO AND ASSOCIATED CLOSELY WITH GEORGE LINCOLN ROCKWELL FROM THAT DATE UNTIL ABOUT TIME OF ROCKWELL'S DEATH. NILES WAS GENERAL FLUNKY OF ANP AND SERVED AS ROCKWELL'S VALET AND COOK. NILES LEFT ANP, ARLINGTON, VA., WHERE HE HAD BEEN LIVING IN SPRING OF NINETEEN SIXTY SEVEN. NILES WAS CONFINED SHIELDS NURSING HOME, OBERLIN AVENUE, LORAIN, OHIO, FOR PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT ENTIRE SUMMER OF SIXTY SEVEN. CHIEF PSYCHIATRIST DURING THIS PERIOD WAS DR. (FNU) FIECKS OF LORAIN, OHIO.

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

F B I

Date:

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

KX 44-696

PAGE THREE

ON RELEASE FROM SHIELDS NURSING HOME, LATE AUGUST, SIXTY SEVEN, NILES VISITED LEWISES IN CHATTANOOGA FOR TWO OR THREE DAY PERIOD. LEWISES DID NOT HEAR FROM NILES FROM AUG., SIXTY SEVEN, UNTIL HE APPEARED UNANNOUNCED CHATTANOOGA ON JAN. TEN LAST. NILES REPORTED HE HAD BEEN LIVING AT ANP HEADQUARTERS, DALLAS, TEXAS. NILES REMAINED IN DRUNKEN STUPOR AT HOTEL PLAZA, CHATTANOOGA, TENN., JAN TEN. TO NIGHT OF JAN. THIRTEEN LAST, WHEN MR. LEWIS PAID HIS HOTEL BILL, PURCHASED BUS TICKET AND PLACED NILES ON BUS ENROUTE ARLINGTON, VA. WITHIN FEW DAYS FOLLOWING HIS DEPARTURE, LEWISES RECEIVED INFORMATION NILES CONFINED TO PSYCHIATRIC WARD, EASTERN STATE HOSPITAL, DRAWER A, BUILDING TEN, WILLIAMSBURG, VA., WHERE HE REPORTEDLY WAS STILL CONFINED AS OF MAY TWO INSTANT.

LEWIS ADVISED HE AND WIFE RESIDED GRAND BAY, ALA., MAY, NINETEEN SIXTY-THREE UNTIL SEPT. SIXTY-SIX, WHERE LEWIS EMPLOYED AS TEACHER. ON FEW OCCASIONS DURING THIS

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

F B I

Date:

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

KX 44-696

PAGE FOUR

PERIOD, ROCKWELL, NILES AND CURRENT LEADER OF ANP, KAYLE (PHONETIC), WOULD STOP BY LEWIS' RESIDENCE FOR NILES TO HAVE BRIEF VISIT WITH HIS DAUGHTER. LEWIS STATES DOES NOT BELIEVE NILES CAPABLE OF RESORTING TO PHYSICAL VIOLENCE BUT HAS INDICATED REPEATEDLY HE WANTS TO BE MARTYR. LEWIS FIRMLY BELIEVES NILES WANTS TO BE KILLED AS MARTYR FOR SOME CAUSE. NILES HAS THREATENED SUICIDE ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS OVER PAST SEVERAL YEARS.

LEWIS AND WIFE HAVE CONTINUALLY BEEN EMBARRASSED BY NILES FOR NUMBER OF YEARS AND ON LAST VISIT, JAN., SIXTY-EIGHT, WOULD NOT PERMIT HIM IN THEIR RESIDENCE. LEWIS COULD ONLY FURNISH GENERAL INFORMATION RE NILES ACTIVITIES. ALTHOUGH LEWIS MARRIED CECILIA NILES IN NINETEEN FIFTY EIGHT, HE DID NOT MEET NILES UNTIL ABOUT SIXTY-TWO OR SIXTY-THREE. LEWIS STATES ANY DISCUSSION WITH HIS WIFE, NILES' DAUGHTER, PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY DISTRESSES HER. LEWIS REQUESTED THAT HIS WIFE NOT BE

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

F B I

Date:

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

KX 44-696

PAGE FIVE

INTERVIEWED RE NILES. LEWIS VERY COOPERATIVE BUT DOES NOT WANT TO CAUSE HIS WIFE ANY MORE GRIEF OVER ACTIVITIES OF HER FATHER AND DEFINITELY DOES NOT WANT INQUIRY AT CHATTANOOGA THAT WOULD BE HARMFUL TO THEIR GOOD REPUTATION AND HIS EMPLOYMENT.

LEWIS STATED NILES HAD PHOTOGRAPHIC SHOP IN UNKNOWN CITY DURING WORLD WAR II, THEN SPENT CONSIDERABLE TIME IN ALASKA FOLLOWING WORLD WAR II. ALSO REPORTED TO BE LEADING SALESMAN IN U. S. FOR AMERICAN CORPORATION, SELLING ENCYCLOPEDIAS IN VICINITY OF CLEVELAND AND CINCINNATI, OHIO, NINETEEN SIXTY-ONE OR SIXTY-TWO. HE THEN SUFFERED ONE OF HIS MORE SEVERE MENTAL DISORDERS, FOLLOWING WHICH HE JOINED ANP ABOUT NINETEEN SIXTY-TWO OR SIXTY-THREE.

REGISTRATION CARD, HOTEL PLAZA, CHATTANOOGA, TENN., REFLECTS NILES REGISTERED AS FRANK H. NILES, THREE FIVE ZERO SIX LINDERWOOD AVE., DALLAS, TEXAS, ARRIVING NINE TWENTY-EIGHT P.M., JAN. TEN LAST AND DEPARTING TEN THIRTY TWO P.M., JAN. THIRTEEN LAST.

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

F B I

Date:

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

KX 44-696

PAGE SIX

CLEVELAND AT LORAIN, OHIO, REVIEW RECORDS AT SHIELDS
NURSING HOME AND INTERVIEW DR. (FNU) FIECKS RE NILES.

NORFOLK
~~RICHMOND~~ AT WILLIAMSBURG, VA., WILL VERIFY FACT
FRANK H. NILES HAS BEEN PATIENT AT EASTERN STATE HOSPITAL,
WILLIAMSBURG, FROM JAN. LAST TO PRESENT. DETERMINE FROM
ATTENDING PHYSICIANS AND REVIEW OF RECORDS ALL AVAILABLE
INFORMATION RE BACKGROUND AND MENTAL CONDITION. NOTE:
REFERENCED BOSTON TELETYPE ADVISED BUREAU INSTRUCTS CURRENT
WHEREABOUTS AND ACTIVITIES OF NILES FOR PAST FEW MONTHS
BE DETERMINED AND CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN RE POSSIBILITY
NILES COULD BE CO-CONSPIRATOR THIS CASE.

NO INVESTIGATION REQUESTED OF DALLAS.

BASED ON FACT NILES HAS BEEN CONFINED MENTAL
HOSPITAL JAN. LAST TO PRESENT, NO ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATION
BEING CONDUCTED KNOXVILLE DIVISION RE THIS MATTER.

UACB, MRS. CECILIA NILES WILL NOT BE INTERVIEWED RE HER
FATHER AS REQUESTED BY MR. LEWIS.

AIR MAIL COPIES TO DALLAS.

NILES HAS SUICIDAL TENDENCIES.*END*

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

F B I

Date:

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

KX 44-696

PAGE SEVEN

FOR INFORMATION DALLAS, IN MARCH, NINETEEN SIXTY-FOUR,
CHARLES ROSS, SHERIFF, KENTON, OHIO, STATED FRANK G.
NILES MADE INQUIRY CONCERNING PURCHASE OF SNIPER'S RIFLE
AND ALSO COMMENTED HE WOULD KILL KING IF IT WOULD PREVENT
INTEGRATION. FRANK G. NILES BELIEVED IDENTICAL WITH
FRANK H. NILES, FORMER ANP MEMBER, WHO WAS EXPELLED
BECAUSE OF EXCESSIVE DRINKING.

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-696)

DATE: 5/2/68

FROM : SA KENNETH G. POLLARD

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Atlanta teletype to the Director with copies to Memphis and Knoxville dated April 26, 1968, and Knoxville airtel to the Director with copies for Memphis and Atlanta dated April 26, 1968.

The referenced Atlanta teletype to the Director reflects the information that an anonymous female telephonically contacted the Atlanta Office on April 25, 1968, advising that on the evening of April 13, 1968, she and her husband were at the Red Coals Restaurant, Holiday Inn, Market Street, Chattanooga, Tennessee. This caller further advised that there was a man at the restaurant with a woman who greatly resembled the photograph of subject JAMES EARL RAY. Although the anonymous caller refused to identify herself, she stated that one LINDA (LNU), a waitress at the Red Coals Restaurant, saw this person and could identify him.

AT CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE

ERNEST J. O'BANION, Innkeeper, Holiday Inn Motel, Market Street, Chattanooga, Tennessee, on April 26, 1968, advised that one LINDA SUTTON is a barmaid at this motel. He further advised that the Holiday Inn has received numerous circulars concerning RAY, and these circulars have been available to all the employees of the motel. None of the employees or guests have ever given any indication that they have seen anyone resembling the photograph of the subject RAY.

Mr. O'BANION as well as Mrs. ROSE POSEY, Secretary, assisted in a review of the records of the motel concerning the guests present on April 13, 1968. The name RAY or any of the aliases does not appear on these records as having been present on April 13, 1968.

KGP/mtb
(2)

44-696-239
a
2
Fleming JH



5010-108

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

KX 44-696

HOWARD FELDER, Assistant Manager, of the motel and Manager of the Restaurant, advised that he is in close contact with all of the personnel employed by the restaurant and that none have ever made any mention to him as recognizing any individual as resembling the subject RAY.

Mrs. MARILYN CLOWERS, a waitress at the Red Coals Restaurant, residence address 520 Houston Street, Chattanooga, Tennessee, on April 26, 1968, advised that she has not seen any individual at the restaurant that is identifiable with subject RAY.

Miss LINDA SUTTON, Residence address 3501 Dayton Boulevard, Red Bank, Tennessee, on April 26, 1968, advised that she has been a barmaid at the Holiday Inn Motel located on South Market Street, Chattanooga, Tennessee, since January 1, 1968. Miss SUTTON advised after viewing a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY that she is positive that this individual has never been in the bar or restaurant at the Holiday Inn Motel during the time that she has been employed there. She further advised that she does not recall any individual making any remarks directly to her indicating that a person in the bar or restaurant was similar in appearance to subject RAY. She further advised that several individuals in the restaurant have, of course, talked of the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING, however, none have indicated that they had any specific first-hand knowledge concerning the matter.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, (44-696) (P)

DATE: 5/3/68

FROM : SA DONALD W. AARON

SUBJECT: MURKIN

The following individuals advised on the dates indicated that they could furnish no information concerning JAMES EARL RAY or any of his known aliases:

Mrs. ROY SMITH, Franklin County SO, 4/9-10/68

Mrs. DORA JANSON, Franklin County Registrar, Winchester, Tenn., 4/9-10/68

Mrs. RUBY SELLS, Franklin County Credit Bureau, Winchester, 4/9-10/68

Chief of Police RAY COMMERS, Winchester PD, 4/9/68

Sgt. HULAN HALL, Winchester PD, 4/10/68

Mrs. JOYCE SMITH, Credit Bureau of Lincoln County Fayetteville, 4/9-10/68

Chief of Police OTTIS DYE, Fayetteville PD, 4/9-10/68

Lincoln County Sheriff R. I. DORNING, Fayetteville, 4/9-10/68

Chief of Police ROY FANN, Shelbyville PD, 4/9/68

Assistant COP CLARENCE WHEELER, Shelbyville PD, 4/10/68

Bedford County Sheriff B. H. SANDERS, Shelbyville, 4/9-10/68

Moore County Sheriff THOMAS WISEMAN, Lynchburg, Tenn., 4/9-10/68.

DWA/jss
(1)



5010-108

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

44-696-240
a
Herring

KX 44-696

Voter Registration Records were checked with negative results on 4/9-10/68, at Fayetteville, Lynchburg, Winchester and Shelbyville.

CHARLES ROBERTSON, Manager and Partner, Franklin County Laundry, Decherd, Tenn., advised on 4/11/68, that there are no laundries in Franklin County which use Thermo Seal Marking Tape.

JAMES HOPKINS, owner, Hopkins Cleaners and Laundry, Fayetteville, advised on 4/11/68, that no laundries in Lincoln County use Thermo Seal Marking Tape. Both Mr. HOPKINS and Mr. ROBERTSON advised that there is no laundry in Moore County.

BEN TRAVIS, Model Laundry, Shelbyville, advised on 4/11/68, that there is no laundry in Shelbyville which uses the Thermo Seal Marking Tape.

COP RAY COMMERS, Winchester, advised on 4/18/68, that there are no dance studios in Franklin County.

Assistant COP CLIFFORD COUNTS, Fayetteville, advised on 4/18/68, that there are no dance studios in Lincoln County.

Bedford County Sheriff B. H. SANDERS, Shelbyville, advised on 4/18/68, that there are no dance studios in Bedford County.

Sheriff THOMAS WISEMAN, Lynchburg, advised on 4/18/68, that there are no dance studios in Moore County.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-696)

DATE: 5-2-68

FROM : SA GEORGE C. WELBORN

SUBJECT: MURKIN

REF. MEMO SA JOSEPH L. FLEMING 4-30-68 re Law enforcement agencies comparing RAY's fingerprints with unidentified latent fingerprints their agencies.

On 5-2-68 TAGNER BAILEY, Director of Identification Division, Chattanooga, Tenn. Police Dept. advised SA George C. Welborn his department does not maintain a single fingerprint file or a latent fingerprint section. He advised the CID answers some 200-250 cases per month and obtain latent fingerprints in 40-50 or more of these cases per month. These unidentified latent prints are filed in the case file. He advised that to check Ray's prints against these unidentified latent is a most impractical task but not impossible; however, it would require at least one or more employee working on nothing else ~~at~~ a month or more to complete this task. Based on above BAILEY was not requested to make these examinations.

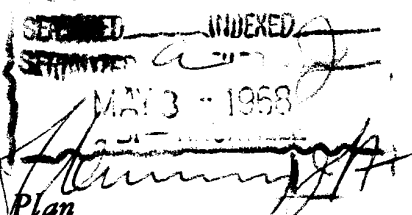
GCW:gcw

2 CC



5010-108

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



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-696)

FROM : SA DAVE J. COOK

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 5-2-68

Records of the Tennessee State Patrol Headquarters, Chattanooga, Tennessee and the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, Chattanooga, Tennessee reflect the following vehicle to be the only Georgia vehicle stolen subsequent to 3-23-68 and recovered in the area of Tennessee covered by their respective territories:

1963 Ford Falcon, 1967 Georgia License 37 D 1850, VIN 3A17F178751 stolen 3-27-68 at Ringgold, Georgia and recovered by the Signal Mountain Police Department.

This vehicle is the vehicle involved in KX 26-19913. It is being investigated and agent will be alert for any information that would indicate RAY is involved in the theft. RAY will be considered a suspect in instant theft and attempts will be made to ascertain if RAY used this vehicle for transportation from the State of Georgia.

1 - 44-696
1 - 26-19913



5010-108

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

44-696-292
INDEXED
MAY 3 - 1968
FBI - CHATTANOOGA
[Signature]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-696)

DATE: 5/2/68

FROM : SA Henry A. Quinn Jr.

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Memphis teletype dated 5/1/68 to Atlanta and Knoxville.

On 5/1/68 Deputy Sheriff BERLIN DUNCAN, Anderson County Sheriff's Office, Clinton, Tennessee, advised that he found a 1964 White Ford Convertible, bearing Georgia license 17J5126 abandoned on a side road in Anderson County and had the car towed to Byrd Brothers Service Station, Clinton, Tennessee, and he had the Tennessee Highway Patrol obtain information concerning the owner. He advised that he received information back that this belonged to a Patterson boy at Dalton, Georgia and later the same day the Patterson boy, whose family lives in Anderson County, Tennessee, came in inquiring about the car as he had left the car parked on the side of the road while visiting his family near Clinton, and left the car as he was having motor trouble. He stated that Patterson, whose full name he does not know, had proper papers for the car and he obtained the car from Byrd Brothers Service station and he did not make a record regarding the car or the owner.

On 5/2/68 Mr. Granville Byrd, Byrd Brothers service station, advised that this car was released to the owner on 4/6/68 and the owner's name was not recorded.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

HAQ-



5010-108

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

44-696-293
INDEXED
FILED
MAY 3 1968
FBI - MEMPHIS
[Signature]

5/1/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO : SAC, Knoxville
FROM : SAC, New Orleans (157-10673)(P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Look Alike Reported to
Memphis Office 4/7/68

Re Memphis airtel to New Orleans 4/12/68.

Referenced communication contained information that an individual traveling through Tennessee on 4/7/68 observed a white 1965 or 1966 Mustang bearing 1968-69 Louisiana license 8L794 parked at service station in Mont Eagle, Tenn., 4/7/68.

Investigation conducted at the Motor Vehicle Division, Louisiana Department of Revenue, reveals that that license plate was issued to CAROL E. FISCHER, 1325 North Street, Apartment 8, Baton Rouge, La.

On 4/30/68 MARY LANDERS, 1325 North Street, Baton Rouge, advised that CAROL FISCHER is her daughter-in-law as of 12/19/67 and that she (CAROL) possesses a white late model Mustang. She further stated her son, DAVIDSON T. LANDERS, CAROL's husband, is attending University of the South and is in his first year in the School of Theology at Sewanee, Tenn. LANDERS is residing in St. Luke's Hall of the university and is described as follows:

Name
Age

DAVIDSON T. LANDERS
24

② - Knoxville
2 - Memphis
2 - New Orleans
LMH:epk
(6)

Lead to Aaron

44-696-244-
SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
MAY 3 - 1968
FBI - KNOXVILLE
Flannery

NO 157-10673

Height
Weight
Hair
Eyes

5' 9"
180 pounds
Brown
Blue

LEAD:

KNOXVILLE

AT SEWANEE, TENNESSEE. Will locate and logically
eliminate LANDERS as suspect in MURKIN.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-696)

FROM : ASAC K. G. CLARK, CHICAGO

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 5/4/68

For information Knoxville, on the evening of 5/2/68 a horde of press photographers and news men converged on the Sportsmen Country Club to interview JERRY RAY, brother of subject and as a result he departed and spent the night of 5/2/68 in a motel. He contacted the Chicago Office on the morning of 5/3/68 and advised that he was going to visit his brother, JOHN, in St. Louis and then stay with his stepfather, RAINES, in Center, Missouri until 5/7/68. He said he would then contact his employer to see if the news media "heat" had abated. JERRY RAY was instructed to contact the St. Louis Office on arrival on 5/3/68.

St. Louis telephonically advised on 5/4/68 that JERRY RAY had not contacted the office and has not contacted his relatives.

JOHN GOWRAN, close associate of RAY family, advised he spent the evening of 5/3/68 at the Grapevine Bar with CAROL PEPPER, sister of JERRY RAY and his brother, JOHN RAY. A discussion was had concerning news articles that JERRY RAY was missing and GOWRAN told JOHN he would probably have a visitor. JOHN then stated JERRY would not come to St. Louis again and in all probability he would go to Tennessee to visit his ex-wife.

It is to be noted that during interviews with JERRY RAY he stated that he did not know the location or last name of his ex-wife although he is familiar with the location of his in-laws and his son.

LEAD

Knoxville make inquiry with in-laws to determine if JERRY RAY has arrived. If so, he should be interviewed and arrangements made to have continuing contact with the Knoxville Office until his return to Chicago. In the event RAY has not arrived in Tennessee area, Chicago should be advised telephonically.

KGC/pjw
(2)

*Clark telephoned back @ 1:55 pm
+ said Ray had been located
@ St. Louis + to disregard above
lead.*

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



5010-108

KX 44-696

RAY is driving his POA a 1960 DeSoto, four-door, light green, bearing 1968 Ill. License KX-5820. This license is white background with red numerals.

FBI KNOXVLE

X

FBI NEW YORK

353 PM URGENT 54/XXX 5/4/68 PAS

TO DIRECTOR, BIRMINGHAM, MEMPHIS AND KNOXVILLE
FROM NEW YORK (45XXX 44-1609) 2P

MURKIN,

RE LETTER FROM ERIC S. GALT, DATED NINE TWENTY SIX SIXTY
SEVEN TO MODERN PHOTO BOOKSTORE.

REKXTEL TO NEW YORK, FIVE THREE LAST.

RETEL ADVISED POSTAL INSPECTOR, BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA, WAS
RETURNING TO POSTAL INSPECTOR, NEW YORK, A LETTER ADDRESSED TO ERIC
S. GALT, TWO SIX ZERO EIGHT HIGHLAND AVENUE, BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA,
BEARING RETURN ADDRESS OF MODERN PHOTO BOOKSTORE, NEW YORK CITY.

INVESTIGATION AT NEW YORK REVEALS ERIC S. GALT ORDERED A BOOK
TITLED, "FOCAL ENCYCLOPEDIA OF PHOTOGRAPHY", FROM MODERN PHOTO
BOOKSTORE, AND SUBSEQUENTLY BY LETTER DATED NINE TWENTY SIX SIXTY
SEVEN REQUESTED THE BOOK NOT BE MAILED. THE LETTER STATES GALT WAS
MOVING AND WOULD LATER SEND CORRECT ADDRESS. MODERN PHOTO BOOKSTORE
HAS NOT HEARD FROM GALT SINCE LETTER DATED NINE SIXTY SEVEN

END PAGE ONE

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
MAY 4 - 1968
FBI - KNOXVILLE

Fleming

44-696-246

PAGE TWO

COUPON AND LETTER OBTAINED FROM BOOKSTORE AND BEING SUBMITTED
TO LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION.

AIRTEL FOLLOWS.

STBJECT RAY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

IHC

FBI KNOXVLE

@

SAC (26-09)

4/30/68

SA JAMES F. POLATTIE

ITSMV MATTERS

MURKIN

On 4/29/68, point to point message cards at the THP, Knoxville were examined for the month of March, 1968, through 4/27/68. All instances of stolen cars are being set out and in addition, any message from the THP, Knoxville, to the Georgia State Patrol concerning any car, whether stolen or not, but where apparently inquiry was made from the THP district, Knoxville, is also set out.

3/7/68 - Message from Sgt. MILLER, THP, Rockwood, to Georgia Highway Patrol, concerning Georgia license 1-29308 on 1967 Chevrolet Chevelle recovered stripped and burned.

4/1/68 - Detective R. S. NORTON, Auto Theft, Atlanta, Georgia, PD, to FBI, Knoxville, re 1968 Georgia license 1-2719 displayed on 1967 Ford, two-door sedan, color blue, VIN 7A52C116797. Stolen 2/6/68 from GARY L. WOODALL.

4/6/68 - THP, Madisonville, Tenn., requested data and stolen on 1967 Georgia dealer's license 12 676, and 1967 Georgia license 69A230 displayed on 1967 Mercury sedan, VIN OZ32P544965. Georgia Highway Patrol reported 1967 Georgia dealer's license 12-676 listed to Denton & Verner Used Car Dealers, McCaysville, Ga. 1967 Georgia license 60A230 registered to J. R. RITCHIE, McCaysville, Georgia. Car with serial number as given has no stolen report and is held at Woods Mercury Dealer in Madisonville, Tennessee.

4/6/68 - Message from Sheriff's Office, Anderson County, Tenn., to Georgia Highway Patrol for data

1 - 26-09
1 - 44-696
JFP/arb
(4)

copy routed to Fleming

44-696-260

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 30 - 1968	
FBI - KNOXVILLE	

KX 26-00

and stolen report on 1968 Georgia license 17J5126. Later message from Atlanta, Ga., PD to THP, Clinton, had wording "Coleman now lives at 561 Poole Creek Road, Apt. 3, Hapeville, Ga, phone 366-5636 - vehicle stolen April 1, according to relatives."

4/15/68 - message from THP, Rockwood, Tenn., to Mississippi Highway Patrol, Hattisburg, Miss., re Tenn. license EV-6188 displayed on 1960 Chevrolet with serial number 01819N132604. Car recovered in possession of JACKIE FINGER, JACK STRINGFIELD, PAUL SMITH, escapees from Loudon County Jail. Tenn. license EV-6188 registered to JACK RICE, 307 Clinton St., Harriman.

4/16/68 - message from Trooper FRED BROWN, THP, Clinton, Tenn., to Georgia State Patrol, for data and stolen report on 1967 Georgia license 1J-72304. Return message 4/18/68, from Georgia State Patrol, Atlanta, shows Georgia license 1J-72304 issued to Brigence Leasing Company and Valet Leasing Company, 622 East Virginia Avenue, College Park, Georgia, for 1968 Chevrolet, four-door sedan, SN 164398D104115. No stolen report at Atlanta on car.

4/16/68 - Message from THP, Knoxville, to Covington, Kentucky, PD advising Tennessee license SF-2988 registered to GEORGE DOUGLAS, Route #1, Duff, Tenn., for a white over blue 1968 Ford pickup truck with VIN F10YLC191173, stolen 4/6/68, in Campbell County, Tenn.

4/17/68 - Message from Toledo, Ohio, PD, to Knoxville, Tenn., PD regarding 1965 Buick, four-door sedan with VIN 452695H111159, bearing Ohio license plate 12555-F. Car stolen 4/4/68 from ERNEST QUETSCHBE (ph), 611 Gevena Street, Toledo, Ohio.

KX 26-00

4/18/68 - message from the THP, Knoxville, to Georgia State Patrol, for data and stolen on 1968 Georgia license 2-41534. Return message 4/18/68, with notation not in file, however, no stolen report on this license plate. Message sent as result of inquiry of THP by Miss ARTHUR, KUB, Knoxville, telephone 524-2911, extension 239. (Note: This car might have been parked on KUB property or was observed abandoned some place by Miss ARTHUR, which accounted for her contacting THP.)

4/20/68 - Message from Sheriff's Office, Madisonville, Tenn., to Georgia State Patrol for data and stolen on Georgia license 7A-4685. Return message advised license registered to BETTY J. and DOYLE MAXWELL, Route #4, Snadlawn Road, Marietta, Ga., for 1963 Buick, SN 8J3102088. No stolen report on car.

4/24/68 - Message from Sheriff's Office, Madisonville, Tenn., to Georgia State Patrol regarding 1968 Georgia license plate 15J4423 displayed on 1960 Ford Thunderbird with VIN H8YA117024. Return message 4/25/68, to Sheriff's Office, Madisonville, Tenn., advised license registered to LEWIS S. SHEPARD, Jr., 808 Indian Avenue, Rossville, Ga., for a 1963 Chrysler, two-door sedan. No stolen report on Chrysler and license displayed improperly on 1960 Ford Thunderbird which also had no stolen report.

4/25/68 - Message from THP, LaFollette, Tenn., to Ohio State Police regarding 1967 Chevrolet bearing 1967 Tennessee license EU-3538 with SN 138177B178008. Papers in car indicate owner JOHN H. TACKETT, Mountain Drive, LaFollette. Message indicated car recovered by Ohio State Police in possession of JAMES E. GREGG, dob [redacted], from LaFollette, Tenn., and RONNIE LEE PARTON, dob [redacted], both in Hardin County Jail, Kenton, Ohio. Message showed that owner will contact Ohio State Police regarding recovery of vehicle.

KX 26-00

It is suggested the above listed VIN's on automobiles and license plates be searched through indices and, if a case has not already been opened on a particular car, a new 26 classification case be opened.

SA JOSEPH L. FLEMING should take proper action regarding all listed cars that have the Georgia angle, particularly Atlanta, Georgia, angle, with the date beginning 3/23/68.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, 137-2914

DATE:

FROM : SA W.B. Hudson

☐ CI ☐ SI ☐ R (Prob)

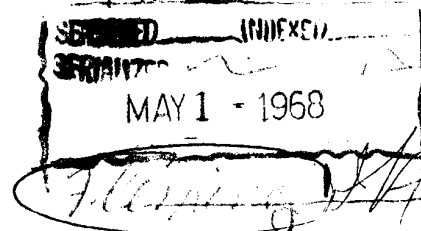
SUBJECT: Donald Lynn Reed

☒ PCI ☐ PSI ☐ R

☐

Dates of Contact 4/5-25/68		
Titles and File #s on which contacted MURKIN		
Purpose and results of contact <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE <input type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE <input type="checkbox"/> STATISTIC		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating Very Good	Coverage ITSP, ITSMV, FUG, RAC, MATT.

① CC 44-696



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC 137-7926

DATE:

FROM : SA W.B. HUDSON

☐ CI ☐ SI ☐ R (Prob)

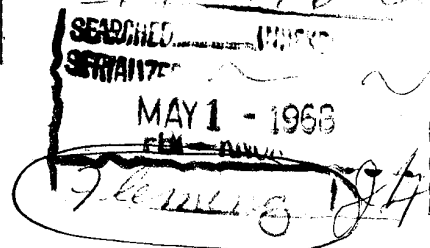
☒ PCI ☐ PSI ☐ R

SUBJECT: HOUSTON GRAHAM

☐

Dates of Contact 4/5-26/68		
Titles and File #s on which contacted MURKIN		
Purpose and results of contact <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE <input type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE <input type="checkbox"/> STATISTIC		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating Very Good	Coverage ITSMV, ITSP, FUG, RAC, MATF, 44-696-249

OCC 44-696



F B I

Date: 5/3/68

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

TO: SAC, NEW YORK;
SAC, MEMPHIS

FROM: SAC, KNOXVILLE (44-696)

MURKIN.

Mr. ROBERT SIMS, ASSISTANT POSTAL INSPECTOR IN CHARGE CHATTANOOGA, TENN. THIS DATE ADVISED SA M. JAY HAWKINS THAT HE HAS BEEN INFORMED BY A POSTAL INSPECTOR IN BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA THAT A LETTER IS IN POSSESSION OF THE POSTAL INSPECTORS THERE ADDRESSED TO ERIC S. GAULT, TWO SIX ZERO EIGHT HIGHLAND AVENUE, BIRMINGHAM, BEARING A RETURN ADDRESS OF MODERN PHOTO BOOK STORE, ONE SIX SIX, FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, NEW YORK - ONE ZERO ZERO ONE ZERO. IT BEARS A METERED POSTMARK OF APRIL THIRTY, SIXTY EIGHT. MR. SIMS TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED MR. ROBERT HICKEY, POSTAL INSPECTOR IN CHARGE, NEW YORK AND INFORMED HIM THAT HE WAS INSTRUCTING THE POSTAL INSPECTOR IN BIRMINGHAM TO FORWARD THIS LETTER REGISTERED AIR MAIL TO THE ATTENTION OF MR. HICKEY AND THAT MR. HICKEY WOULD HOLD THE LETTER IN THE EVENT AGENTS WISH TO EXAMINE IT BEFORE IT WAS RETURNED

MJH:pjb

Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in ChargeSent NY 540
ME 551 MPer [Signature]

44-696-250

F B I

Date:

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

TO THE SENDER. MR. SIMS ADVISED THAT SINCE THE LETTER WAS FIRST CLASS MAIL IT COULD NOT BE OPENED. MR. SIMS ADVISED THAT THE ABOVE INFORMATION WAS BEING FURNISHED ON A HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL BASIS INASMUCH AS HE HAS NO AUTHORITY TO DISCLOSE THIS TYPE OF INFORMATION TO THE FBI, AND THAT ANY INVESTIGATION WHICH MAY BE MADE AS A RESULT OF THIS INFORMATION MUST BE CONDUCTED IN SUCH A MANNER THAT IT CANNOT BE ATTRIBUTED TO ITS SOURCE. THIS INFORMATION IS BEING FURNISHED FOR ANY INVESTIGATION DEEMED ADVISABLE BY NEW YORK.

END. PENDING.

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, 137-2465

FROM : SA W.B. HUDSON

SUBJECT: KX 229-C

DATE:

☒ CI ☐ SI ☐ R (Prob)
☐ PCI ☐ PSI ☐ R
☐

Dates of Contact

4/5-26/68

Titles and File #s on which contacted

MURKIN

Purpose and results of contact

☒ NEGATIVE
☐ POSITIVE
☐ STATISTIC

☒ Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.

Rating

Very Good

Coverage

ITSMV, ITSP, FUR, PAC, MATT.

44-6962-251

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIAL	
MAY 1 - 1968	
Fleming JH	

①cc 44-696

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-696)

FROM : SA RICHARD A. LORAH

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 5/3/68

Re memo of SA JOSEPH L. FLEMING dated 4/23/68.

On 4/26/68 JACK BEAR, Plant Superintendent, Bristol Cleaners and Furriers, Bristol, Va., advised that Thermo-Seal Laundry tape, yellow in color, containing the code number 20R-3 would not be from Bristol Cleaners and Furriers. He again explained that the first number of his code would be a number, the second would be a letter, the third a number and the fourth a number indicating the lot number, the week, the number of shirts and the bundle number respectively. Inasmuch as the third digit of this code is a letter, it could not be his. He further advised that he does not handle pillow cases and bed sheets.

1 - 44-696

RAL:cc



5010-108

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

Fleming *JA*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-696)

DATE: 5/6/68

FROM : SA JOSEPH A. HIGGINS, JR.

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 4/26/68, Mr. MACK THOMPSON, 3031 Prentice, Knoxville, no phone, telephonically contacted this office and supplied the following information.

He had seen an individual he believed to be identical with the subject in this case at the Sanitary Laundry on Church Street, Knoxville, at approximately 5:00 pm that date. He described this individual as white male; height - 5'10"; age - 30 to 35; weight - 170 pounds; hair - brown; eyes - blue. Photographs of the subject were displayed to employees of the Sanitary Laundry at approximately 6:00 pm same date with negative results.

JAH/clf

(1) *uf*



5010-108

44-696-2048
BR
Fleming *JH*
Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

5/3/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861), MEMPHIS (44-1987) AND NORFOLK
FROM: CLEVELAND (44-565)

MURKIN

RE KNOXVILLE TELETYPE, MAY TWO, LAST, TO DIRECTOR,
CLEVELAND, MEMPHIS, RICHMOND AND NORFOLK.

INVESTIGATION, SHIELDS NURSING HOME, THREE NINE ZERO FIVE
OBERLIN AVENUE, LORAIN, OHIO, REVEALS FRANK NILES, BORN
[REDACTED], ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA, FROM AUGUST
SIXTEEN SIXTYSEVEN - OCTOBER SIXTEEN, SIXTYSEVEN, AT WHICH
TIME HE WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE LORAIN CONVALESCENT HOME.

MR. AND MRS. SHIELDS, OWNERS; MRS. SARANN SCHNITZLER, BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATOR, AND MRS. CATHLEEN Klier, NURSING ADMINISTRATOR,
ALL VIEWED PICTURES OF RAY AND ADVISED THAT HE DID NOT CONTACT
NILES WHILE A PATIENT AT THE HOME. ALL REMEMBERED NILES WELL
AND STATED HE WAS AN ALCOHOLIC SUFFERING FROM SEVERAL PHYSICAL
AILMENTS INCLUDING EMPHYSEMA, HEART TROUBLE AND ASTHMA. HE
WAS ALSO SUFFERING SEVERE DEPRESSION AND WAS PRIMARILY TREATED

END PAGE ONE.

JDR/jky
(3)

- 1 - Knoxville (44-696) (AM)
- 1 - Richmond (AM)

44-696-254
X C
m
J. King J. C. C. C. C.
J. King J. C. C. C. C.
J. King J. C. C. C. C.

CV 44-565

PAGE TWO

FOR THIS LATTER AILMENT THROUGH MEDICATION. HE WAS ADMITTED FROM ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL WHERE HE WAS TREATED FOR THE DEPRESSION BY ELECTRIC SHOCK. ALL DESCRIBE NILES AS SLIGHTLY IRRATIONAL, ALWAYS TALKED OF THE AMERICAN NAZI PARTY AND PRIOR TO CHRISTMAS SIXTYSEVEN, SENT THE HOME A CHRISTMAS CARD FROM DALLAS, TEXAS, BEARING A LARGE SWASTIKA. HE OFTEN STATED HE DID NOT LIKE NEGROES AND JEWS AND THE OPERATORS OF THE HOME FELT HE SHOULD BE COMMITTED TO A STATE HOSPITAL. HIS ONLY VISITORS ON TWO OCCASIONS WERE PERSONS FROM ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS WHO TRIED TO HELP HIM. HIS RESIDENCE WAS LISTED AS STOP ONE THREE TWO, WESTLAKE ROAD, VERMILLION, OHIO, AND HIS LAST EMPLOYMENT WAS WITH THE AMERICANA ENCYCLOPEDIA COMPANY PRIOR TO JANUARY, SIXTYSEVEN.

DR. WILLIAM J. FEICKS, PSYCHIATRIST WHO TREATED NILES, ADVISED HE HAS NOT HEARD FROM HIM SINCE OCTOBER SIX, SIXTYSEVEN. HE RECALLED NILES SUFFERED FROM SEVERE DEPRESSION AND ALTHOUGH HE TALKED AS THOUGH HE MIGHT HARM SOMEONE THE DOCTOR DOUBTED THAT HE HAD ANY POTENTIAL FOR VIOLENCE. THE DOCTOR DID NOT

END PAGE TWO.

CV 44-565

PAGE THREE

RECOGNIZE PHOTOS OF SUBJECT RAY AND NEVER HEARD NILES MENTION
KING. NO FURTHER INVESTIGATION BEING CONDUCTED CONCERNING
NILES IN CLEVELAND.

AIRMAIL COPIES TO KNOXVILLE AND RICHMOND.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

P.

END.

5/6/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS
FROM: *W* SAC, KNOXVILLE (44-696) (P)
MURKIN

Re New Orleans airtel to Knoxville dated 5/1/68.

DAVIDSON TEXADA LANDERS, a divinity student at the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee, interviewed 5/3/68 and eliminated as suspect. LANDERS at time of interview in possession of 1965 Mustang, Louisiana license 8L 794 which he stated was given to his wife by her father just prior to her marriage to LANDERS in December, 1966.

LANDERS described as follows:

Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Birth:	
Place of Birth:	New Orleans, Louisiana
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	183 lbs.
Eyes:	Blue
Marital Status:	Married
Wife:	CAROL LANDERS
Residence:	University Quadriplex Sewanee, Tennessee
Drivers License:	1968 Louisiana drivers license 130 52 99

- 2 - Memphis (AM)
- 1 - New Orleans (Info.) (AM)
- ② - Knoxville

DWA:pjb
(5)
pk

Carol *DWA*

Searched _____
Serialized _____
Indexed _____
Filed _____

44-696-200

F B I

Date: 5/3/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (173-65)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re San Francisco teletype to the Director, 5/2/68.

SUSPECT HAROLD EDWARD NICHOLS, aka Hal Nichols.

For information of offices not previously having information concerning NICHOLS, he is considered possible suspect and co-conspirator because of an alleged offer to an informant to furnish airline tickets and untraceable weapon if the informant would travel to unspecified place to kill certain designated Negro leaders including MARTIN LUTHER KING.

The reliability and credibility of the informant is unknown but is considered subject to doubt because of discrepancies of his stories, and because of information received from other sources.

NICHOLS has been extremely active in affairs of the American Independent Party in California, promoting GEORGE WALLACE for president.

AGENTS IN INTERVIEWS SHOULD EXERCISE DISCRETION AND CAUTION TO PREVENT ANY FALSE ALLEGATIONS THAT THE FBI IS CONDUCTING INVESTIGATION CONCERNING ACTIVITIES OF THE AIP.

- 3 - Bureau (RM)
- 1 - Birmingham (Info.) (AM)(RM)
- 2 - Los Angeles (AM)(RM)
- ② - Knoxville (AM)(RM)
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987)(AM)(RM)
- 2 - Mobile (AM)(RM)
- 2 - Sacramento (AM)(RM)
- 4 - San Francisco

WH: cmg
(18)

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent WR

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 6 - 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

cc: index above

HAROLD EDWARD NICHOLS, commonly known as HAL NICHOLS, was interviewed at his apartment, #33 Los Palmas Apartments, 15375 Tropic Court, San Leandro, California. After proper identification, he was advised that investigation was being conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation concerning a violation of Federal Law in connection with the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING. Further, that an allegation had been received that Mr. NICHOLS might have information pertinent to this matter on the basis of remarks NICHOLS is reported to have made concerning such matters in the presence of others.

Mr. NICHOLS advised that he has no information concerning the murder, and except for his personal opinion as to who might be responsible, has no specific information concerning the murder. He said he had absolutely no objection to discussion of the matter.

Mr. NICHOLS advised that he is extremely active in the political field at the present time and in the recent past. He is a member of an eight man board in charge of promoting candidates for the American Independent Party (AIP) in California, and particularly in behalf of the candidacy of former Governor GEORGE WALLACE of Alabama for President. He stated that most persons not familiar with the AIP program and objectives, seem to assume that those favoring AIP are what is sometimes termed "negro-baiters." He denied that this is true, and said that from the view point of promoting the AIP, the murder of Dr. KING under such circumstances was a set back to the AIP who might have favored their principles.

He said that no one knowledgeable in affairs of the AIP would have caused or participated in a situation or action such as this in that it would be certain to make a "Martyr" of Dr. KING, which would hurt the AIP.

However, since persons generally seem to associate AIP members with "negro-baiters," he is frequently "kidded" along such lines by certain persons with whom he regularly comes into contact.

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WH:ay

He said that in recent months he has regularly frequented the Blue Dolphin, a San Leandro restaurant, and in fact assisted in arranging a couple of luncheons there in honor of WALLACE. Therefore, he has become acquainted with the owner of the Blue Dolphin, BILL PELUSO, and with many of the employees, including the bartenders.

When he goes to the cafe, he frequently goes to the bar and the bartenders frequently "kid" him concerning some current event involving Negroes or the AIP. This has been going on for several months, and everything said has been in jest.

However, he speculated that some person hearing such conversation might misinterpret the conversation, and draw a conclusion which would not be warranted.

In connection with Dr. KING's murder, he recalls such a conversation in the bar of the Blue Dolphin either the same night Dr. KING was killed, or possibly the evening after that.

As he recalled he had been driving on the Nimitz Freeway in Oakland, about 5:00 pm the night of the murder, April 4, 1968, when he first heard the announcement on the car radio.

When next visiting the Blue Dolphin, he recalled one of the employees greeting him with the comment "Well, I see you got him," or some similar comment. He believed he replied that "It wasn't me."

The next comment dealt with "How did you get back from Memphis so soon?"

As he recalled, he made some facetious remark such as "There's planes leaving every hour."

He again stated that the above conversation was strictly in the nature of "kidding," and except for the actual specific subject matter, was very similar to other comments made at the same place on numerous occasions.

He believed that these comments could have been misconstrued by someone who heard them, if the listener did not understand the circumstances or attached some literal interpretation to the remarks.

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Mr. NICHOLS said that he had no objection to furnishing his whereabouts on March 29,30, 1968 and April 4, 1968, and to furnishing independent substantiation if he could.

Relative to the date April 4, 1968, Mr. NICHOLS said that he could definitely establish his whereabouts on that date. He stated that he left the Bay Area in his own car sometime between 7:00 and 9:00 am, drove to Berkeley, California, where he picked up a real estate dealer named CYRIL STEVENSON, Jr., telephone 524-2392. They then proceeded to Oroville, California, to look at some real estate which they were considering for investment purposes.

He recalled that they visited a savings and loan association in Oroville, but does not recall the name of it, although Mr. STEVENSON would probably know. To the best of his recollection, they returned to the Bay Area about 5:00 pm. He dropped Mr. STEVENSON off at his car in Berkeley, and proceeded out the Nimitz Freeway toward San Leandro. It was at this time that he first heard of the killing of Dr. KING on his car radio.

In further support of his whereabouts, Mr. NICHOLS said that when in San Leandro he frequently charges his gasoline at a Douglas Service Station on Marina Blvd. When traveling, he pays cash. He does not use a credit card. Whether charged to his account, or when paying cash, he usually obtains a purchase ticket. He throws these tickets in the glove compartment of his Cadillac where they are available if needed for his business records.

He located in his glove compartment the following charge tickets which he said recorded purchases at Douglas Service Station, Marina Blvd., San Leandro, both dated April 4, 1968:

Ticket #B 036026 dated 4/4/68 recording purchase of \$5.00 of gasoline.

Ticket #B 36186 recording purchase of \$4.55 of gasoline.

Mr. NICHOLS said that undoubtedly he had put gas in the car in the morning when leaving for Oroville, and had put in gas upon his return that evening.

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A search of the available tickets failed to record any purchase of gasoline in the Oroville area, although Mr. NICHOLS believed they must have purchased gasoline. He does not recall, but thought that perhaps Mr. STEVENSON had paid for some gasoline in the area.

Relative to his whereabouts on March 29,30, 1968, Mr. NICHOLD said that he does not recall specifically where he was. He stated that he tries to go to his home in Southern California every other weekend to visit his wife and 2 1/2 year old son. By consulting a calendar, he determined that this would have been the weekend when he normally visited his wife.

When he makes this trip, he normally leaves on Saturday morning, which in this instance would have been March 30, 1968. He sometimes drives and sometimes flies via Air California from Oakland, California Airport to Orange County Airport.

He searched his available gasoline tickets and could locate no record of purchases on March 29 or 30, 1968. This indicated to him that if he had visited his home in Southern California that weekend he had probably gone by air.

Mr. NICHOLS was asked if he could establish his whereabouts on March 29 & 30, 1968 through other records. He said that his business records probably would not show such information, with the exception of his appointment book, which might give him a clue as to where he had been. He contacted his secretary and ascertained there were no notations in his appointment book for those dates.

He said that he has discontinued the use of a checking account due to several civil suits having been filed against him, so he could not establish his whereabouts by cancelled checks.

He does not use credit cards, whether for gasoline or airline travel. He examined numerous airline ticket folders which he found in his apartment. He said he makes no particular effort to save these. He found some undated and none for the pertinent dates. There were no copies of tickets.

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Mr. NICHOLS advised that he makes numerous long distance telephone calls, business, personal and political in nature. He makes them from his business phone, 483-3151, and from the phone in his apartment, 483-1270.

He said his telephone bill for the period contains record of numerous long distance telephone calls which could definitely establish that he was in San Leandro on March 29, 1968 and probably on March 30, 1968. He furnished the following concerning these records:

March 29, 1968

- 10:13 am Telephone call to 714 774 2969, Anaheim, California where he talked to an ex-business associate RUSSELL TOWNSEND.
- 4:34 pm Telephone call to 714 871 2950, Fullerton, California, where he talked to JIM TOWNSEND, brother of above RUSSELL TOWNSEND.
- 3:49 pm Telephone call to 805 831 5379, where he talked to Mr. MAYALL, State Chairman of the Committee directing AIP campaign in California. He believes this telephone number is no longer in use, but Mr. MAYALL can be reached through 871 6283 in Bakersfield, which Mr. NICHOLS believes is the home telephone of Mr. MAYALL.

Collect telephone call, person to person, received by him from AL STANLEY, who was calling from telephone 553 4530 in Oroville, California. Mr. STANLEY does not have a telephone, so location of above phone is unknown to him. STANLEY can be located through the M&K Hancock Service Station in Oroville.

March 30, 1968

His telephone records reflect that at 12:11 pm, a call was placed from his office to 916 725 2908, Roseville, California. He noted that this is the telephone number of his employee, CHUCK SULLIVAN, who works in San Leandro but returns to his home in Roseville on Friday evening for the weekend.

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WH:ay

Mr. NICHOLS does not specifically recall making this call, and in reality it could have been made by any company employee. However, he sometimes handles Saturday business at the office so SULLIVAN can go home on Friday, and it is most likely that he is the one who made the call.

Since this is the last recorded call on Saturday, March 30, 1968, and since he is quite certain he visited his wife in Southern California on that weekend, he feels that shortly after this call he went to the Oakland Airport and got a flight to Orange County Airport.

He said he would have flown Air California Air Lines and since they make their reservations by name, this line should have a record of his having made such a trip.

He also volunteered information on a trip he had made back East. He said his mother-in-law, JEANNETTE CRITTENDEN, 502 Lee Circle, Johnson City, Tennessee, died about two to three weeks prior to March 1, 1968. His wife had naturally gone back for the funeral. His wife remained there for two or three weeks after the funeral to clear up details of the death and the estate.

Mr. NICHOLS said that he desired to visit his wife's relatives and to bring his wife back to California. He decided to drive his car back to Johnson City, and because of his interest in activities of the AIP, he decided to stop and confer with leaders of that party in Montgomery, Alabama.

He said that en route to Johnson City, he stopped in Montgomery on the night of February 27, 1968, at which time he stayed at the Holiday Inn, Midtown. Next day he drove to Johnson City, where he stayed a few days at 502 Lee Circle.

On March 3, 1968, accompanied by his wife and small son, he was again in Montgomery en route to California. At this time, he stayed at the Town House Motel.

He next has record of a cash receipt from Cotton's Truck Stop, Las Cruces, New Mexico on March 5, 1968, which he said was for the purchase of gasoline on his return trip to California.