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If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

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Date: 6/22/68

Transr	nit the following in	PLAIN	
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		(Priority)	

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI

SAC, MEMPHIS

FROM:

SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

MURKIN.

RE MEMPMIS RADIOGRAM TO BUREAU AND LOS ANGELES JUNE TWENTYONE LAST. JOSEPH M. MARKS HAS CONTACTED THE LOS ANGELES OFFICE THE NUMEROUS OCCASIONS SINCE MARCH TWENTY, FIFTYFOUR, LOS ANGELES INDICES CONTAIN NUMEROUS REFERENCES TO HIM.

HE CLAIMS TO BE ≰ LICENSED PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR AND HAS ALSO BEEN EMPLOYED AS TREALTOR IN THE APPLE VALLEY, CALIFORNIA AREA.

IN GENERAL, MARKS HAS ENGAGED IN LEGAL BATTLE FOR 3 PERIOD OF YEARS WITH THOMAS P. AND ANNA MARIE ROSE AND THEIR ASSOCIATES OVER PROPERTIES AND OTHER CIVIL MATTERS. HAS CLAIMED THAT HE HAS NOT RECEIVED SATISFACTION IN STATE COURTS IN THESE MATTERS AND MANY OF HIS CONTACTS WITH THIS OFFICE HAVE RELATED TO THESE THINGS. AS THEY HAVE BEEN MATTERS OVER WHICH THIS BUREAU HAS NO JURISDICTION, NO ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN IN THESE AFFAIRS BY THE LOS ANGELÈS

OFFICE. JC/dmr

(1)

Approved: $\underline{\mathcal{U}}$

127 ME-Sent Sepund Per BU

LA 44-1574
PAGE TWO

ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, MARKS HAS BEEN INTERVIEWED
PERSONALLY BY BUREAU AGENTS. IN GENERAL, HE RELATES THESE
MATTERS IN A RAMBLING AND INCOHERENT MANNER. HE HAS BECOME
ABUSIVE, DEMANDING, AND HAS GIVEN EVIDENCE OF BEING UNSTABLE.
OTHER INDIVIDUALS INTERVIEWED ABOUT HIM HAVE DESCRIBED HIM
VARIOUSLY AS A "NUT" AND A MENTAL CASE.

HE HAS ON AT LEAST ONE OCCASION TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IN WASHINGTON, D.C. AND HAS, AT VARIOUS TIMES, CONTACTED THE U. S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA ABOUT THESE SAME MATTERS.

ON OCTOBER SEVEN, SIXTYFOUR, HE WAS ARRESTED BY THE SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA POLICE DEPARTMENT AS A RESULT OF FELONY COMPLAINTS FILED AGAINST HIM BY MR. AND MRS. ROSE (SUPRA). ON NOVEMBER THIRTEEN, SIXTYFOUR, HE WAS INTERVIEWED AT THE LOS ANGELES OFFICE AT WHICH TIME HE CLAIMED HIS CIVIL RIGHTS HAD BEEN VIOLATED REPEATEDLY AS A RESULT OF THIS ARREST BY THE SANTA MONICA POLICE DEPARTMENT AND LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE.

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

LA 44-1574

PAGE THREE

IN THE ABOVE MATTER, AS WELL AS IN OTHER STATE AND LOCAL PROCEEDINGS IN PAST YEARS, MARKS HAS CAUSED SUBPOENAS TO BE ISSUED FOR VARIOUS SPECIAL AGENTS OF THIS OFFICE AND ALSO OF TWO SPECIAL AGENTS IN CHARGE OF THE LOS ANGELES OFFICE.

CONSIDERABLE BACKGROUND INFORMATION HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN FURNISHED TO THE BUREAU RELATIVE TO JOSEPH M. MARKS. CERTAIN OF THIS INFORMATION IS CONTAINED IN LOS ANGELES AIRTEL TO BUREAU DATED OCTOBER FIFTEEN, SIXTYFOUR, CAPTIONED, "UNSUB; UNKNOWN OFFICERS, SANTA MONICA POLICE DEPARTMENT AND LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE; JOSEPH MORRIS MARKS DASH VICTIM DASH CIVIL RIGHTS" (LOS ANGELES FOUR FOUR DASH ONE ZERO THRE ZERO DASH FOUR). IN ADDITION, THIS COMMUNICATION IDENTIFIES FOR THE BUREAU SEVERAL OTHER LOS ANGELES COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BUREAU, ALL CONTAINING ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION RELATING TO MARKS.

ATTEMPTS WERE MADE ON JUNE TWENTYTWO INSTANT TO INTERVIEW MARKS AT HIS BUSINESS ADDRESS, ONE EIGH TWO ONE ZERO SHERMAN WAY, RESEDA, CALIFORNIA, AND ALSO AT RESIDENCE ONE EIGHT FOUR TWO FOUR COLLINS STREET, TARZANA, CALIFORNIA. THESE EFFORTS WERE NEGATIVE.

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Special Agent in Charge		

LA 44-1574

PAGE FOUR

MARKS' LANDLADY STATED THAT MARKS CLAIMS TO BE AN INVESTIGATOR FOR VARIOUS LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES. SHE STATED THAT SHE CONSIDERS MARKS TO BE MENTALLY DISTURBED.

CONTINUING ATTEMPTS WILL BE MADE TO LOCATE AND INTER-VIEW MARKS. BUREAU AND MEMPHIS WILL BE ADVISED.

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Appro	oved: M Per

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Special Agent in Charge

Memorandum

TO

SAC, LOS ANGELES

DATE: 6/18/68

FROM

SA J. CLARE WILLIAMS

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

Writer received call on above date from DAVID LANG, 2178 Roscomare Rd., Bel Aire, California, phone GR 6-5253, who advised as follows:

Stated has acquaintance named ROBERT (BOB)
SMEED, last known living at somewhere near Haworth and
Fountain, Hollywood, tel# OL 6-1392, who, prior to
the assassination of KING, often talked of his hatred
for negroes. SMEED also alleged to be president of Los
Angeles association known as the "Rhodesian Council"
or something to this effect. SMEED also used to state #x
that his mother was associated with the John Birch
Society and that they used to live in Toronto, Canada.
SMEED also advised that he often made trips to England
but that something had happened causing him to lose his
passport or visa privileges.

SMEED used to state to the LANGS that he someday intended to live permanently in Rhodesia.

Info being furnished appropriate desk for appropriate action.

2 - LA JCW/me

Memorandum

ТО

SAC, LOS ANGELES

DATE: 6/18/68

FROM:

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2 - LA JCW/me

Date: 6/21/68

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√FROM:	SAC, LOS A	NGELES (44-1574)		
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4/26/6 undate	8; and Baltimo		more and Memphis d Angeles which was	ate
STELLA Inn, P Office number gardin KATHER from t	ning interview OLSON), resid ocomoke City, Box 245, Poco (area 301) 95 g her daughter INE WILLIAR pl	with Mrs. STANLE ling in a trailer Maryland, with ma moke City, and ha 7-2337, who furnity, KATHERINE PATRI aced a call to the	set forth informaty WHITNEY OLSON (Medium to the sent of the sent	ARG Lte ost e e- CN
made a STEIN' 5656 F was re	INE WILLIAR li special trip s children and ranklin Avenus	ved for a time wi to New Orleans, I I returned them to	es determined that the RITA STEIN. RA Louisiana to pick up STEIN's address, which location OI to RAY's trip to	p
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LA 44-1574

LEAD

BALTIMORE

AT POCOMOKE CITY, MARYLAND: Will recontact Mrs. STANLEY WHITNEY OLSON for any additional information which she might be able to furnish which would assist Los Angeles in locating her daughter.

NATIONAL POLICE AGENCY INTERPOL NATIONAL CENTRAL BUREAU ²/₁, 2-Chome, Kasumigaseki Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo Telegraphic Address: Japan "INTERPOLJAPAN TOKYO" "J-NCB/278 /68" TOKYO, June 10, 1968. Mr. Roderick V. Prechtl, Jr. Legal Attache COPY American Embassy Tokyo Re: Information about a pistol "Liberty-Chief" No. 715 Dear Sir; In reply to your telephone request made this morning concerning the captioned matter, we wish to inform you as follows: 1. Destination of this weapon's shipment: This pistol in question was shipped from the manufacturing company given below on August 3, 1966, and was cleared by our Customs' inspection on August 19, 1966 and was loaded on the "HAVANA-MARU" at "SUMA-PORT" in Hyogo Prefecture for shipment to: Name of a company: LIBERTY ARES CORPORATION. Address: P.O. BOX. 306, MONTROSE, CALIFORNIA, U.S.A. 2. Items for your reference: The name of this weapon's manufacturing company is "KABUSLIKI KAISHA, MIROKU SEISAKUSHO" (translated in English : MIROKU MANUFACTURING COM ANY LTD.). Address: 180, INARI-CHO, KOCHI-CITY, KOCHI PREFECTURE, JAPAN. Name of the President: IDO Chiyoki. Trusting the above information is of some assistance to you. Yours sincerely, for HEAD, NCB, JAPAN: (YOSEITO SODE) Chief Criminal Research & Statistics Section Criminal Investigation Bureau National Police Agency YS/mo/s 2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

ENCLOSURE

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED

JUN 2 4 1968
FBI — LOS ANGELES

Director, FBI (44-38861)

6/13/68

Legat, Tokyo (173-1) (P)

MURKIN

(00: Memphis)

Remycab 6/9/68.

Enclosed are five copies of National Police Agency of Japan Letter dated 6/10/68, containing results of National Police Agency's investigation concerning the revolver in question.

7 - Bureau (Encs. 5)
(2 - Los Angeles)
(2 - Memphis)(44-1987)
(1 - Liaison Section)
1 - Tokyo
RVP:lw
(8)

Memorandum

то

SAC, LOS ANGELES

DATE: 6/24/68

FROM

: SA PATRICK J. MULLANY

SUBJECT: MURKING (44-1574)

On 6/22/68, Don Imhoff, 1044 Appleton Ave, Long Beach, California, telephonically advised that sometime in late March a man fitting the same general description as the accused assasin of Martin Luther King made a withdrawal of \$50,000 from the Bank of Long Beach, 4201 Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach, California.

Imhoff advised that he works in the Life Circulation in the building of the Bank of Long Beach. He stated that he recalled this because the individual requested the withdrawal in small denominations, \$10 and \$20.

Imhoff stated that he could not positively identify this individual but that because of the large withdrawal he thought that this information might be of some value to the FBI.

Recommended verifying any such large withdrawal from the Long Beach Bank and subsequently identifying the individual mentioned in the transaction.

2 - 44-1574 PJM Lead to gray

SEARCHED INDEXED FILED JUN 2 4 1968
FBI) LOS ANGELES

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Routing Slip			• • • • •
0-7 (Rev. 9-25-67)	(Copies to	es 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 Date JUNE 19	Tampa Washington Field Quantico TO LEGAT: Bern Bonn Buenos Aires Hong Kong London Manila Mexico, D.F. Ottawa Paris Rome Santo Domingo Tokyo
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6/20/68

AIRTEL

AM

TO:

DIRECTOR, FB1 (44-38861)

FROM:

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P

MURKIN

ReBuairtei 6-4-68.

SAC, in accordance with Bureau instructions, did make contact with GENE BROWN, Intelligence Unit, Internal Revenue Service at Memphis. BROWN advised that Federal Reserve Bank Form TCR-1 is used on a very limited basis by banks in the Memphis area. He advised that use of this form was rather common during the war years but there is nothing compulsory about the form and as a result banks are very reluctant to use same. No form had been filed by any bank in the Memphis area for the period from March 15 through April 30 which contained any information of pertinence to this case.

ARMED & DANGEROUS.

- 3 BUREAU
- 1 NEW ORLEANS (AM) (157-10673)
- 1 ATLANTA (44-2386)(AM)
- 1 BIRMINGHAM (AM) (44-1740)
- I LOS ANGELES (44-1574)(AM)
 - 1 HEMPHIS

RGJ:BN

44-1574-1700 Treiner //2/

Date: 6/25/68

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TO:

DIRECTOR (44-38861)

FROM:

LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

MURKIN.

RE BUAIRTEL DATED JUNE SEVENTEEN, LAST.

ALLAN O. THOMPSON IS NO LONGER MANAGER OF ST. FRANCIS HOTEL, HOTEL. JAMES FOREMAN, PRESENT MANAGER, ST. FRANCIS HOTEL, ADVISED THOMPSON WAS DISCHARGED DUE TO EXCESSIVE DRINKING. EFFORTS BEING MADE TO LOCATE THOMPSON AND SHOW ARTIST'S CONCEPTION AS ENCLOSED IN REFERENCED AIRTEL. AS SOON AS THOMPSON IS LOCATED AND OBSERVES ARTIST'S CONCEPTION, BUREAU WILL BE ADVISED.

DCL:gcw

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SENT BY CODED TELETYPE

CALD

44-1574-1701

Approved:

Special Agent in Charge

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A Per ___

	FBI
	Date: 6/25/68
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	(Priority)
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	TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
	FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)
. 	SUBJECT: MURKIN
	For information of Chicago and Springfield, on 5/17/68, the Los Angeles Times had contact with one BOB (LNU), who said he had information concerning what actually had taken place in connection with the death of Dr. KING. The following is a summary of the allegations made by BOB:
-	l. The day before the shooting, RAY was picked up in Athens, Alabama, and was taken to Memphis.
	2. He registered in a rooming house. Another man registered as SAMUEL LEWIS. LEWIS was supposed to be the backup man and kill KING at the rally that night if RAY missed his chance on the balcony.
	3. After shooting KING, RAY walked two or three blocks to the getaway car, accompanied by a girl and a guy. The car was a new blue Buick, with Alabama license plates. The first digits of the license are believed to be one four. The car was owned and driven by EDDIE WILBURN of Huntsbille, Alabama. It is equipped with a police radio. The second man stayed overnight and then took an early bus to Knoxville.
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	2 - Chicago - Beg acharach
1	2 - Springfield Regulational (NEELED)
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LA 44-1574

4. RAY, two girls and a child were driven from Memphis by WILBURN in the blue Buick. They went to Kansas City and the trip took six and one half hours. The girls, the child, and WILBURN are all from Huntsville, Alabama.

L. J. Learn

- 5. In Kansas City, RAY stayed overnight at a home, described as a small gray, shingled, one bedroom house about three miles from central Kansas City.
- 6. At dusk the next day, 4/5/68, RAY was flown to Belle Glade, Florida in a private plane. The plane took off from a private field, also used as a training field for the military. RAY arrived early 4/6/68.
- 7. The plane in which RAY was flown is owned by a WILLIAM PIERCE, a wealthy man who owns or operates an airport in BelleGlade, and once owned a contracting company in Guba. It is not known if PIERCE flew the plane. PIERCE also owns a motel in Belle Glade and cottages in nearby Okeechobee, or maybe on nearby Lake Okeechobee. PIERCE is said to be a Klu Klux Klan member.
- 8. RAY is believed to have stayed in the motel or in a cottage. He may still be there or in Cuba.
- 9. On 4/11/68 RAY boarded a yacht, probably a charter boat in Key West; Florida. The boat was owned by BEN THOMPSON. A BEN THOMPSON of Miami owns three fishing boats.
- 10. PIERCE often flies his own private plane to New Orleans and is supposed to know District Attorney JIM GARRISON.
 - 11. PIERCE and WILBURN are said to be related.
- 12. WILBURN is possibly a Veterans of Foreign Wars club member in Huntsville, Alabama.

- 13. The rifle was supposedly left in the furnace of a Memphis rooming house, and is believed still there. This is believed to refer the rifle of the backup man.
 - 14. RAY is now wearing bifocals.
- 15. The white Mustang belonging to RAY was not in Memphis on the day of the KING slaying, and he did not escape in it. Presumably it never left Georgia in April.
- 16. On the day of the killing, 4/4/68, RAY made a telephone call from Memphis to Belle Glade and it is believed to have been made from a bus station.
- 17. In the weeks before the killing, RAY stayed somewhere in Belle Glade, Florida.
- 18. WILBURN is supposed to have been paid off in Reno. The night before the killing when somebody hit a keno ticket for \$25,000 in Cal-Neva Lodge, which was rigged to pass the money. The rigging was done with the knowledge of CHARLIE CATE, 6080 Pebble Beach Drive, Reno, California, who runs a shift at the Cal-Neva. JACK STRUGIS of St. Louis, who formerly worked in a bar on Second Street, Reno, Nevada, came into a lot of money and allegedly was a contact in this operation also.
- 19. RAY stayed in the Clark Hotel, Room 700, on 4/17-18/68.
- 20. LAMONT WHITE, who works for Western Union, Los Angeles, sent money to Louisiana and bought two pistols. The pistols really went to FRANK BRICKLEY of Chatanooga, Tennessee, who was formerly in prison with RAY. BRICKLEY is allegedly in Los Angeles.
- 21. HAROLD's Cafe, 555 South Main Street, Los Angeles is a "queer" bar where RAY formerly worked and a guy named CONNIE, who works there, allegedly knows RAY.

- 22. WILLIE SHEA, who once worked the Top Rail Bar, Seventh and Alvarado Streets, Los Angeles, was allegedly formerly married to RAY. SHEA is from St. Louis and now lives in North Hollywood, California. SHEA's mother lives in Compton, California. SHEA is married and now lives at 812 South Westlake Avenue, Los Angeles, with a man who owns a bar. SHEA is blond, about 38 years of age.
- 23. A telephone credit card supposedly used by RAY was issued to Ridell Catering, U. S. Rubber Company, Detroit, either in the name of FNU RIDELL or ROBERT BRICKELY. RIDELL reportedly lives in Harper Woods, Michigan, Calls on credit card reportedly made from Memphis to Belle Glade.
- 24. SAMUEL LEWIS, the second man in the rooming house, was discharged in 1963 from the penitentiary at Milan, Michigan, and previously served time in Chillicothe and Terre Haute. The Los Angeles Times reported the Warden at Milan had no record of LEWIS.
- 25. LEWIS took a bus from Knoxville to Los Angeles on 4/7/68, and travelled en route through Memphis and El Paso.
- 26. The house in Kansas City is described as follows: It is located off a main street starting from downtown Kansas City, Missouri, direction unknown, and from the main street a smaller street goes to the left, which street has a Western Union building located on it and goes off from the main street in the form of a steep hill. Two or three miles up the hill on the left are located nice looking apartments, brownish. in color, where students from some school live, and just prior to this on the right is the location of a moving company, name unknown, and a grocery store is located in the vicinity of the moving company on the same side. About two blocks beyond the grocery store there is a narrow street with ramshackle houses on one side and vacant lots on the other. Turning right on this street, the third house on the left would be the correct house involved, which is occupied by an individual who sells beer and booze after hours and

LA 44-1574

hides guys out. The house is described as one bedroom, no garage, dirt driveway, single story, and has a large freezer in the living room.

The information contained above has been checked out and investigation to date has failed to substantiate any of the above allegations. The Los Angeles Times has declined to further identify the source of their information; however, investigation indicates it is probably LESTER EDWARD PACKETT, FBI No. 827-170A. ODELA A. PACKETT, his estranged wife, advised that she believes LESTER has probably returned to Chicago, where he was living earlier this year.

The Bureau has instructed that reasonable effort be expended to locate LESTER EDWARD PACKETT and resolve the above allegations.

LEAD

CHICAGO

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS: Will conduct credit and arrest checks, and other reasonable investigation to attempt to locate and interview PACKETT concerning the above allegations.

SPRINGFIELD

AT SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS: Will examine records of Illinois State Department of Motor Vehicles for any record of automobile drivers license issued to LESTER EDWARD PACKETT; or any current automobile which may be registered to him which would aid in locating him.

- 5 -

and required to present a



Date: 6/28/68

Transmit the following in	lowing in	
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Via AIRTEL	ATR MATL	
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TO:

SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

FROM:

SAC, BALTIMORE (44-669) -P-

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Los Angeles airtel to Baltimore, dated 6/21/68.

On 6/26/68 Mrs. STANLEY WHITNEY OLSON was contacted at her residence in Pocomoke City, Maryland, and advised that her daughter, KATHERINE PATRICIA OLSON WILLIAR, came home to Pocomoke from Los Angeles area about six'or sevennweeks ago. She appeared to be on drugs. Mrs. OLSON questioned her about her possible associations with the STEIN's or JAMES EARL RAY and she denied all knowledge of both.

WILLIAR, who usually goes by the name <u>PAT OLSON</u> or PAT WILLIAR, worked for a short time as cocktail waitress at French Quarter, Ocean City, Maryland, and then moved to Baltimore, Maryland, where she resided on Park Avenue for a short period and is currently residing on Lake Drive with an unknown woman. She is not known to be employed.

Her father, STANLEY OLSON, will probably know her whereabouts and can be reached at Baltimore telephone number 636-3758, his place of employment.

Los Angeles (AIR MAIL) 1- Memphia (Info) (AIR MAIL) 2- Baltimore

(4)
WDM:nrj

(John Jan 1696

SENALIZED SE

JEM LOS ANGEL

Approved: _

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

BA 44-669

LEAD

BALTIMORE

Will contact STANLEY OLSON and obtain address for PAT OLSON and thereafter interview her re her knowledge of and/or association with JAMES EARL RAY and the STEIN's.

LOS ANGELES

Discontinue efforts to locate PAT OLSON.

	FBI
	Date: 6/29/68
nsmit	the following in
	(Type in plaintext or code)
	AIRTEL AIRMAIL (Priority)
	TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
	FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) -P-
	SUBJECT: MURKIN
	Re Los Angeles airtel to Director dated 6/25/68.
	The following investigation was conducted by IC JOSEPH D. HAMMITT:
	Mr. JAMES TABOR, Supervisor, Auto Registration Section, Secretary of State, Springfield, Illinois, advised on 6/28/68 that a check of records for 1967 and 1968 failed to reflect any vehicles registered or titled to a LESTER EDWARD PACKETT.
	Mrs. MARIE DICKENSON, Supervisor, Driver's License Section, Secretary of State, Springfield, Illinois, advised on 6/28/68 that a check of records failed to reflect any driver's or chauffeur's license issued to a LESTER EDWARD PACKETT.
	3 - Bureau (44-38861) (RM) 2 - Chicago (44-1114) (RM) (2) - Los Angeles (44-1574) (AM) 2 - Memphis (44-1987) (RM)
	2 - Springfield (44-561) JDH/ssj (11) SENSUED INDEXED JUL 2 1968
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Ap	Sent M Per
	Special Agent in Charge

Memorandum

TO

: SAC (44-1574)

DATE: 5/24/68

FROM : SA J. CHARLES MERRIMAN

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

CR

Re SA J. CLARE WILLIAMS' memo to SAC, 5/21/68, regarding information furnished by MARION JOHNSON, 4004 Pacheco, Sherman Oaks.

On 5/23/68 SAs J. CHARLES MERRIMAN and GILBERT G. BENJAMIN interviewed MARION JOHNSON at her residence, 4004 Pacheco, Sherman Oaks, at which she was shown several photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, which phtographs she stated did not appear to be identical to the individual she described in referenced memo.

No further action appears warranted in this matter.

(1)

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

6/8/68

FROM : SA RICHARD B. GEORGE

SUBJECT: MURKIN

The writer covered the following leads in this case with negative results, eliminating all suspects:

Memo dated 4/19/68, serial # 391: On 4/25/68, CHARLES Mc CASLIN, mgr. of apts at 1814 Lime Ave. advised that tenant DONALD E. HUSTON, who drives a red Buick, is a thin alcoholic who in no way resembles the subject. Writer contacted HUSTON same date and determined he was driving the Buick; confirmed his identity.

Memo dated 4/19/68, serial # 395: ON 4/25/68, Mrs. GENEVA BRYANT, 21601 Norwalk Blvd., Hawaiian Gardens advised that ner customer was WMA, age 26-28, long black hair, who somewhat resembled a sketch she had seen of GALT but did not resemble the current photos of RAY (exhibited to her). She had writen down the description of the suspect sho is positive of the age.

Memo dated 4/19/68, serial # 442: On 4/22/68, JOHN WELLS, Marine Inspection, U.S. Coast Guard, Terminal Island advised that his office had already received world of the phone call from GALT on 12/4/67 to the U.S.CG, and had throughly checked their records and the records of the Merchant seamen unions, including the Marine Cooks and Stawards, with negative results.

Memo dated 4/19/68, serial # 714: On 5/1/68, Mrs. BETTY STRONG, Mgr. apts at 1930 Cherry Ave., Signal Hill, advised that EDWARD J. ELAVSKY resided here with his 14 yrs. old son, from 1/6/68-3/6/68; owns a old Chevrolet with Calif. license FJF 235, white top over black. He moved without leaving a forwarding. He has seen subject in the area within the past week or two in his Chev. ELAVSKY is WM 57 yrs who does not even slightly resemble instant subject.

RBG/

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TO:	SAC, ALBANY		•	,	· -	-
FROM:	SAC, MEMPHIS	(44-1987	') P			
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6/11/68

Les Angeles

ROUTING LIP TO ALL FIELD OFFICES

RE:

JAMES EARL RAY, aka -

CR - CONSPIRACY; UFAC - ROBBERY

00: MEMPHIS

Re report of SA JOE C. HESTER 6/5/68 at Memphis.

Page 17, paragraph 4, line 6 - 12/17/67, should

be 12/7/67.

Please correct your copies.

SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN

TOR: tjm

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA GEN. REA NO. 27
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

ТО

SAC Los Angeles (44-1574)

DATE: 6/13/68

FROM:

SA Philip P.Honlon

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

CR

Rememo SA BILLY DALE HUBBERD to SAC 6/7/68.

At Santa Ana, Calif.

Mrs.CLORELENE M.CARPENTER. 1221 S.Main St., advised 6/12/68 that in Bec.1967 she and her family resided at 518% W.Edinger St., Santa Ana, and had telephone # 714-540-7240. She stated they moved to this address about 3/68 and have telephone # 835-5127.

Mrs.CARPENTER recalled that in Dec.1967 her close friend, Mrs.KATIE DANIELS, telephone # 544-9209, Santa Ana went to Texas to visit her parents for Christmans. Shek stated that the only call she received from Texas in Dec.1967 was a call from Mrs.DANIELS from Sequin, Tex. and undoubtedly this is the call to which the agent refers.

PPH.

SEARCHED JINDEXED SERIALIZED FILED

FBI - LOS ANGELES

	Date: 6-13-68	
cansmit the following in	(Type in plaintext or code)	
a AIRTEL AIRMA	AIL	
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TO:	SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)	
FROM:	SAC, ST. LOUIS (44-775) P	
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AIRTEL AIRMAIL

TO:

SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

FROM:

SAC, ST. LOUIS (44-775) P

RE:

MURKIN

Relatel to Director, 5-17-68, AM copy to SL, re LA Times informant "BOB" (LNU).

SL indices, City and County directories, telephone book, SL City and County PD records, SL Credit Bureau, and canvases of sources have failed to identify or disclose identifiable references to BEN or JACK STURGIS "of St. Louis, who used to work bar on Second Street, Reno," mentioned on page 6 of retel.

2-Los Angeles 1-St. Louis HRD:kls (3)

SECULIZED TILED

JUN 1 7 1968

FBI — LOS ANGELES



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

San Diego, California June 17, 1968

GEORGE ROBERT LETSINGER

On June 11, 1968, Mr. JOSEPH FORROR, Assistant Postmaster, Main Post Office, San Diego, California, advised as follows:

Found on the incoming mail belt was a piece of paper not in an envelope written in green ink which was addressed to "Post Office Post Master". This note reads as follows:

"If the F.B.I. wonts Ray,s buddy go to 124 Broadway Metropole Hotel Room 117. He may be under the name Geore Letsinger or George Anderson. He knows about Kennedy and also King,s death,s. He may have part in Kings death. I know he was in Tenn. before and after King was killed. I know Letsinger is wonted in Seattle. Also in Big Stone Gap, Virginia, by the F.B.I."

On June 12, 1968, information was received from the Seattle Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation, that one GEORGE ROBERT LETSINGER, FBI Number 584 742 F, born at Macomb, Missouri, was arrested at Jacksonville, Florida, on April 11, 1968, charged with grand larceny having stolen \$550 to \$60 from a restaurant in Seattle, Washington, for which he was employed.

LETSINGER was returned to Seattle, Washington, and on the basis of the charge against him, received a three-year deferred sentence, six months in the county jail and ordered to make restitution.

LETSINGER appealed this sentence and was placed on bond, however, departed the State of Washington and a bench warrant was subsequently issued by the Superior Court, Seattle, Washington.

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GEORGE ROBERT LETSINGER

Information was also furnished that authorities at Seattle, Washington, desired his apprehension and would extradite LETSINGER to Seattle, Washington. Based on this information, the San Diego Police Department arrested GEORGE ROBERT LETSINGER at Room 117, Metropole Hotel, 124 Broadway, San Diego, California, on June 12, 1968. At time of arrest, LETSINGER admitted his identity and the fact that he knew he was wanted by the State of Washington.

GEORGE ROBERT LETSINGER was interviewed by Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation at San Diego, California, on June 13, 1968, at which time he advised as follows:

LETSINGER advised that in 1963 he went to England and visited the Russian Embassy, Grovesner Square, London, England, for the purpose of renouncing his United States citizenship.

He was arrested while in England by New Scotland Yard, based upon a check which he had deposited in a bank prior to his departure to England and later determined it was a fraudulent check.

LETSINGER was asked why he desired to renounce his citizenship, to which he replied the country is no longer a country for the white people and is eventually being taken over by the "niggers."

LETSINGER exhibited a strong anti-Negro sentiment and stated that at one time he had been a member of a clantype organization at Big Stone Gap, Virginia.

LETSINGER was questioned as to his association with JAMES EARL RAY and whether he had any knowledge concerning the assassinations of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY and President JOHN F. KENNEDY. LETSINGER merely replied "I do not wish to talk about these subjects."

LETSINGER did say, however, that if Senator TED KENNEDY and Vice President HUBERT H. HUMPHREY continue to seek the Presidency of the United States, they will be assassinated. LETSINGER did not desire to elaborate regarding this information.

GEORGE ROBERT LETSINGER

Education

LETSINGER admitted previous mental history, having been confined during 1961 for a short period of time at St. John's Hospital, Springfield, Missouri.

Handprinting was obtained from LETSINGER and was compared with the note received by the U. S. Post Office, San Diego, California, and because of a close resemblance of these, LETSINGER was asked if he, in fact, had written the note himself.

He categorically denied having written this note.

The following is a description and background concerning LETSINGER as obtained during interview:

Name GEORGE ROBERT LETSINGER Alias George Anderson Race White Sex Male Born Macomb, Missouri Height Weight 165 lbs. Hair Brown Eyes Brown Complexion Fair Tattoo · "Gladys" "1900", both on right shoulder. Mother ETTA LEE LETSINGER nee Collet Ava, Missouri Father GEORGE WILBUR LETSINGER, deceased Sister Mrs. TROY STAMPER Route 1 Ava, Missouri Marital Status Single

High school, third year

On June 14, 1968, Sergeant JOHN KENNEDY, Fugitive Detail, San Diego Police Department, San Diego, California, advised that he had just received word from the Seattle,

GEORGE ROBERT LETSINGER

Washington, authorities that they decided they did not want to extradite the subject to Seattle, Washington, however, the warrant for his arrest is still outstanding and should he return to the State of Washington, would be arrested on this warrant.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the BI. 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.

FB!

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· — —	AIRTEL	(Priority)	<u> </u>	
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	TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (4	4-38861)	·	٠.
٠,٠	FROM: SAC, SAN DIEGO (44-387) 44-394)		
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,	KENSALT OO: Los Angeles			•
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AIRTEL.

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) ATTENTION: FBI LABORATORY

PROM:

SAC, SAN DIEGO (44-387) (44-394)

MURKIN

00: Memphis

KENSALT

00: Los Angeles

Re San Diego teletype dated 6/14/68.

Enclosed for the Bureau is a handprinted note written in green ink and a known handprinting sample of GEORGE ROBERT LETSINGER, FBI No. 584 742 F.

For the information of the Laboratory, enclosed note was received in the mail at the U.S. Post Office, San Diego, California, 6/11/68.

by the San Diego Police Department 6/12/68 on an outstanding warrant issued at Seattle, Washington, for grand larceny.

On 6/13/68 GEORGE ROBERT LETSINGER was interviewed, at which time handprinting was taken from him since circumstances seemed to indicate he had written the note himself, although he denied having written this note.

4 - Bureau (Enc.2)(REGISTERED)

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D - Los Angeles

4 - San Diego (2 - 44-387) (2 - 44-394)

AWO: Jkw (10) SELECTED FOLIANT STATES OF THE
SD 44-387 SD 44-394

The Laboratory is requested to conduct handwriting examination on enclosures and advise the San Diego Office of the results.

The Bureau is requested to return enclosed items to the SanDiego Division.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1992 EDITION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

то

:SAC (44-1574)

DATE: 6/17/68

FROM :SA LEON J. MEYER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Rememo SA J.R. SULLIVAN dated 6/7/68.

Re: MARY JANE GARDINER

On 6/14/68 MARY JANE GARDINER was located for interview by SA JAMES J. CONWAY and the writer at Room 336, Royal Suites Motel, 901 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, California. Mrs. GARDINER identified herself but was reluctant to discuss her April, 1968 cash withdrawals. She firstated she invested in stock with the momey and then concluded by stating that she used the money for "investments" and would norcontinue the dicussion.

LJM

Jee Sur 162°

SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED 1968
FBI — LOS ANGELES

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

DATE:

6/26/68

FROM:

SA ROBERT F. JACOBS

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Rememo of SA THEODORE J. A'HEARN dated 6/12/68.

On 6/24/68, the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company, Los Angeles, made available copies of toll tickets for all long distance calls placed from telephone No. 213 - 769-9935, during the period 12/14/67 through 12/19/67. The following four toll calls were made:

Date	Time	Number Called	City Called
12/14/67	10:49 PM	702-384-6846	Las Vegas, Nev.
12/16/67	3:50 PM	805-922-1511	Santa Maria, Calif.
12/19/67	6:10 PM	903-386-1504	Tijuana, Mexico
12/19/67	3:46 PM	707-224-9277	Napa, California

This information has been recorded on FD-302 and the toll ticket copies made a 1-A exhibit.

Since no call was placed from 213 - 769-9935 on the day or at the approximate time reported by the informant, no further action in this regard is recommended.

RFJ/sro
(1)

 F B I

Date: 6/27/68

Transm	it the following in	PLAINTEXT	,
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TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) ATTN: EXHIBIT SECTION

FROME

SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

MURKIN

RE LOS ANGELES TELETYPE TO BUREAU BATER JUNE TWENTY FIVE LAST.

ALLAN O. THOMPSON LOCATED THIS DATE AND SHOWN
ARTIST'S CONCEPTION. THOMPSON ADVISED THE CONCEPTION
IS OF EXCELLENT LIKENESS AS HE REMEMBERED JAMES C. HARDIN.
HE SAID THE ONLY EXCEPTION WOULD BE THAT THE ARTIST'S
CONCEPTION DOES NOT ADEQUATELY PORTRAY THE DARKNESS OF
HAIR AS WORN BY JAMES C. HARDIN. HE SAID THAT HE RECALLED
HARDIN HAVING VERY DARK BROWN HAIR, ALMOST BLACK.

44-1574 DCL/asi (1) *Gev*

STATICHED
INTO TO D
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FILED

SENT BY CODED TELETIME

Approved:

Special Agent in Charge

Sent 10 16 M Per 11 17/6

TO

SAC L. A. (44-1574)

DATE: 6-28-68

FROM

SA Leslie F. Warren

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Grant Holcomb, Director, CBS KNXT Channel 2 News Bureau, 6121 Sunset Bl., L.A., 6-27-68 during contact on another matter asked the following question.

He wanted to know if there was any truth to the hot rumor that the FBI was very interested in the husband of woman in L. A. as a Murkin suspect. King reportedly playing around with this woman whose' husband was a dentist. Said Drew Pearson hinted in his column with out naming names. Holcomb learned of this info from the CBS NYC who learned of it through the CBS Washingotn D.C. news bureau.

Holcomb who is an established source was again reminded of the confidential nature of the FBI records and Agent was unable to comment of the question asked.

For Info.

ro : SAC L. A. (44-1574)

DATE:

6-28-68

FROM

SA Leslie F. Warren

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re memo SA Alfred C. Greiner 5-24-68 re inquiry of persons withdrawing \$10,000 or more in cash during April 1968.

In this regard the following concerns <u>Verna Mae Cornelius, 2640 Grand Av.</u>
Huntington Park, Cal. who on 4-30-68 with drew pur, 000; from her savings account at the Bank of America, Hollywood-Ivar Br., 6333 Hollywood Bl, L. A.

Mr. C. L. Trumbly, Manger, and J. E. Johnson, Assistant Cashier of above bank, 6-4-68 identified Cornelius as a former office manager and reported former paramour of J. L. Holtzendorff owner of a detective agency and plant security service at 5343 Sunset Bl., L. A. # 467-9105, recently deceased. He died and his son and daughter took over the business and ousted Cornelius. She has been a customer of the bank for many years and has been known to Trumbly as a customer in excess of ten years. She banked for the above company and had her own savings account. It was a surprise to the bank that she came in and withdrew the large amount on 4-30-68. Trumbly tried to talk her out this action, particularly taking the money in \$100 bills. He stalled her a day or two and had to make special arrangements to get the \$100 bills. She claimed she wanted to get the money out working.

Trumbly is of the opinion the real reason for the withdrawal was that thet Internal Revenue Service had been investigating Cornelius. An agent from the IRS intelligence division had been to the bank a several of intelligence division had been to the bank a several of intelligence division had been to the bank a several of intelligence division had been to the bank a several of intelligence divising an inquiry re Cornelius. Trumbly was also surprised that she had a savings account that large. He thought she might be the victim of some confidence game at first but after takking to her and knowing of the interest of IRS, he discounted this possibility. He had no reason to question the activities of Cornelius other than stated above.

L.A. FBI indices negative beyond lead in instant case on Cornelius.Further no record located in the identification records of the LASO, 6-6-68, per,IC Merton R.Anderson Jr., or LABD, 6-6-68, per,IC Millard T. Anderson or the files of the Retail Merchants Credit Assoc. of L. A., 6-6-68, per, IC Bernard P.Blais.

Action recommended: None Further.

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	~			(Priority)	

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM:

SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

MURKIN SUBJECT:

Re Los Angeles airtel to Bureau 6/20/68 and - San Antonio airtel to Bureau 5/20/68 concerning long distance telephone calls placed at public telephones on Highway 90 and Interstate 10 over which subject, JAMES EARL RAY, and CHARLES STEIN allegedly travelled 12/15-17/67 from Los Angeles, California to New Orleans, Louisiana:

Referenced San Antonio airtel advised that on 12/15/67, a telephone call was placed from telephone number 223-8266 in the San Antonio Division to telephone number 213-231-5482 in the Los Angeles Division. Telephone Company records at Los Angeles revealed that the Los Angeles telephone number is listed to PRINCE DIXON, 4303 Morgan Avenue, Los Angeles.

On 6/28/68, PRINCE DIXON at the above address, advised that this telephone call from the San Antonio area to his home in Los Angeles was placed by his brother, LEO DIXON, who lives at 215 South Olive, San Antonio. DIXON, a Negro, advised that his brother called him on that date to advise him that he, LEO DIXON, was forwarding some money to his brother in Los Angeles.

In view of the above, it does not appear that further investigation is warranted in connection with this particular telephone call.

3 🐱 Bureau

l - Memphis (Info)

- San Antonio (Ínfo)

Special Agent in Charge

2) - Los Angeles

RP/gar

Approved:

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

SEARCHE

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SAC

(44-1574)

DATE: 6-27-68

FROM

SA JOSE H R. CONLON

SUBJECT:

MUPKIN

Re merio of SA PATRICK T. MUL ANY dated 6-24-68

On 6-27-88 the writer contacted Mr. FRED TENSEN. Cashier, Bank of Long Beach, 4201 Long Beach Blvd, Long Beach, Cal who advised there has been no withdrawal of \$50,000 in cash from this bank this year and that a withdrawal in such an amount would not be possible without making prior arrangements with the bank as it would denlete cash available. If such a withdrawal were to be made it would come to his personal attention, he advised, and also stated RAY's photo was not familiar to him.

JRC

for Service 9

SEARCHED NULL SERIALIZED FILES

JUL 1 1968

FBI — COS ANGELES