FHI LOUISVLE

FBI ST LOUIS 1142PM URGENT 5-15-68 JJE

TO: DIRECTOR MEMPHIS AND LOUISVILLE

FROM: ' ST. LOUIS (44-775) 1P

MURKIN.

HOMER TOWNSLEY, St. HONDSMAN, THINKS J.D. DAILEY TOLD HIM RAY
CONTACTED DAILEY AFTER RAY ESCAPED FROM MSP. DAILEY SAID HAD KNOWN
PART FOR LONG TWO TO USE PAY PHONE AT LA
FONTS SINCLAIR STATION, HIGHWAY SIX ONE, PORTAGEVILLE, MO., PHONE
DR NINE DASH THREE FIVE ZERO TWO.

SW BELL TELE. CO. (PROTECT) ADVISED CALLS MADE FROM THAT PHONE NOV. SIX TO BARDWELL, KY., PHONE SIX TWO EIGHT DASH FIVE FOUR NINE FOUR, AND MARCH THENTYNINE TO BANDANA, KY., PHONE TWO TWO FOUR DASH FOUR THREE ONE ONE.

LOUISVILLE IMMEDIATELY IDENTIFY SUBSCRIBER. UNLESS THEY APPEAR TO BE NORMAL BUSINESS CALLS, INTERVIEW, COMPLETELY PROTECTING PHONE CO., AND DETERMINE IF CALLS BEAR ON WHEREABOUTS OR ACTIVITIES OF SUBJECT.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P

END.

SKT

FBI LOUISVLE

TU P



FBI LOUISVLE

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ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P END,

SKT

FBI LOUISVLE

TU P

SEARCHED SERVALIZED SERVALIZED FILED MAY 1 6 1958

FBI - LOUISY LE

4c

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM SAC, INDIANAPOLIS (44-563)

MURKIN

00: Memphis

Re Louisville airtel 4/24/68, concerning information furnished by ALVIN D. MASON.

On 4/23/68, Sgt. JOSEPH HOCHADEL, Jeffersonville, Indiana PD, advised SA SEAMANS J. JONES that Indiana License 10A 1120 is issued to JAMES W. PARISH, 1224 Mosswood Court, Jeffersonville, for a 1960 Oldsmobile 4-door sedan, VIN 608M7923. HOCHADEL stated he does not know PARISH and there is no arrest record for him in the PD files.

On 4/24/68, ALBERT DANNER, President of Danco, Inc., 1317 Skyline Drive, Jeffersonville, advised he is well acquainted with JAMES W. PARISH, 1224 Mosswood Court. He stated PARISH purchased his house two years ago from Danco and is employed as a chemical operator at Girdler Catalyst, Louisville, Kentucky. DANNER observed a photo of RAY and stated PARISH is definitely not identical with this photo.

On 4/26/68, JAMES W. PARISH, 1224 Mosswood Court, was interviewed by SA SEAMANS J. JONES. It was observed he is not identical with the photo of RAY. A 1960 black Oldsmobile 4-door bearing Indiana License 10A 1120 was observed parked in front of the PARISH home. Mr. PARISH stated he is the only person who drives this car except his wife and daughter. He has not loaned this car to any other man and it has not been driven by any other man. Mr. PARISH stated he was born and reared in Jeffersonville, Indiana.

2 - Memphis 1 - Louisville (44-947) (Info.) 2 - Indianapolis

(5)



IP 44-563

It should be noted that PARISH resides in Northaven Subdivision constructed and sold by Danco, Inc. This subdivision is located on State Boad 62 north of Jeffersonville, Indiana, and it would be normal procedure for PARISH to enter State Road 62 from the side road along which are numerous apartment buildings and proceed toward Jeffersonville to the stop light located at 10th and Main Streets at Youngstown Shopping Center. It was noted that PARISH does bear some slight resemblance to the photo of RAY about the nose. However, he is much smaller and his hair rather than being short cropped, is very thin and appears short cropped. He has been listed in the Jeffersonville city directory since 1960, as an employee at Girdler Catalyst.

Memorandum

TO:

SAC, LOUISVILLE (44-947) (P)

DATE:

5/16/68

FROM

SA THOMAS F. KELLERMAN

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

Re SAC memo to all Agents, dated 4/30/68.

On 5/8/68 FRANK ANASTASIO, Identification Division, KSP, Frankfort, Ky., was contacted and was requested to make a comparison of any unidentified latent fingerprints with those for JAMES EARL RAY as set forth on I.O.#4182.

Sergeant ANASTASIO stated that he and assistants in his office would make this comparison and would advise of any positive identification in this regard.

The above info should be made available to the Agent to whom this case is assigned.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

D - Louisville
TFK/vp
(2)

449

44-947-275

SERIALIZED FILED BY

MAY 1 C 1968

FBI LOUISVILLE

A



SAC, LOUISVILLE (44-947) (P)

5/16/68

SA THOMAS F. KELLERMAN

MURKIN

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ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

② - Louisville TFK/vp (2)

M

SERIALIZED FILED

MAY 1 (1968

TOT-LUDISVILLE

THE MEMPHIS

417 PM URGENT 5/21/68 TSJ

TO LOUISVILLE

FROM MEMPHIS (44-1987)

MURRIN.

RE LITTLE FOCK TELETYPE TO SUREAU AND MEMPHIS MAY ELEVEN

INDIVIDUAL RESEMBLING JAMES EARL HAY SEEN DRIVING LATE WODEL MERCURY TWO TONE IN COLOR WITH BLACK TOP AN D BEARING SIXTYRIGHT ARKANSAS LICENSE AVW SEVEN THREE TWO AND HAVING FT. CAMPBELL, KENTUCKY, STICKER ON WINDSHIELD ON MAY FLEVEN LAST NEAR ARKADELPHISA, ARKANSAS. INVESTAGATION REVEALED AUTOMOBILE REGISTERED TO GEORGE INGRAM, JR., NINE NINE FIVE NORTH WATKINS, MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE. INVESTIGATION AT MEMPHIS REVEALED INGRAM CURRENTLY IN THE ARMED FORCES. HIS ADDRESS IS CAPTIAN GEORGE C. INGRAM, JR., SN KERO TWO-THREE THREE ZEED- EIGHT FOUR TWO, OPTOMETRY CLINIC, U.S. ARMY HOSPITAL, TT. CAMPBELL, KENTUCKY,

AND VERIFY NOT IDENTICAL WITH RAY AND ASCERTAN IF HE WAS
INDICIOUAL DRIVING AUTOMOBILE SEEN IN ARRANSAS.

CORR. LINE FIVE "ARKADELPHIA"

END

MMR

FRI LOUISULE

Shorpe admind by phone today

SEARCH JAMES 5 1968
FEI - LOUISVILLE

KANGER SERVINGER STATE OF THE SERVINGER SERVINGE

5/20/68

AIRTEL

ATRMATL

TO

: Birector, FBI (44-38861)

1 SAC, New Orleans (157-10673)(P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

(001 Memphis)

Re Los Angeles airtel to the Bureau 5/14/68.

Letter Written by Mrs. ALMERA LOMAX to Attorney General RAMSEY CLARK dated 4/13/68

Referenced airtel set forth suggested lead that New Orleans interview appropriate officials of the Southern Conference Educational Fund (SCEF) for any information these officials might have concerning assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING. JR.

The April, 1968, edition of "Southern Patriot," official publication of SCEF, lists the officials of SCEF. Set forth below are the names of those individuals listed who currently reside in New Orleans.

Executive Committee

JACK PEEBLES ROSALYN LAVANTHAL - Assistant Secretary

Field Staff

ROBERT ANALAVAGE - Assistant Editor

3 - Burcau (RM)

Q - Louisville (RM) (Info)

1 - Memphis (44-1987) (Info) (RM)

2 - New Orleans EJC: opk

(7)

1 copy to 100-191 (Kineard 1 to

NO 157-10673

JAMES A. DOMBROWSKI, DOROTHY ZELLNER ROBERT ZELLNER

New Orleans files contain the following pertinent information concerning the above individuals:

JACK CORNELIUS PEEBLES is subject of a pending SM-C case, Nofile 100-17300. PEEBLES is a practicing attorney in New Orleans and is known to give legal advice to members of the Sparticists League and the New Orleans Movement for A Democratic Society (NOMDS).

ROSALYN LAVANTHAL is subject of a closed SM-H case, Bufile 105-171667, NO file 100-17425.

ROBERT THOMAS ANALAYAGE is subject of a pending SM-M case, New Orleans file 100-17586. He is known to have attempted suicide on four different occasions while in the military, is described as a violent and destructive person and has an arrest history from 1955 through 1967, including burglary and drunkenness.

JAMES A. DOMBROWSKI is subject of a closed SM-C case, Bufile 100-122819, NO 100-13722. DOMBROWSKI is a retired executive director of SCEF and is presently on Section A of the Reserve Index.

JOHN ROBERT ZELLNER is subject of a pending SM-C case, Bufile 100-442400, NO 100-17552.

DOROTHY RACHELLE ZELLNER aka Mrs. JOHN ROBERT ZELLNER is subject of pending SM-C case, Bufile 100-427403, NO 100-17551. She is currently on the Security Index, New Orleans Division.

UACB New Orleans does not contemplate conducting interviews of the above persons in connection with instant matter in view of the past or present security type investigation conducted on these individuals.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

5-21-68

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-3386)

SAC, LOUISVILLE (44-947) (P)

MURKIN CR 00: Nemphis

Re Los Angeles airtel to Director, 5-14-68, transmitting a copy of a letter from ALMENA LONAX, editor-publisher of the Lonax Poll and Tribune, in which she suggested as "professional Leftists who use the Negro cause"... "the BRADENS, the Southern Patriot, 3210 W. Broadway, Louisville, Ky." and "Southern Conference Educational Fund, Inc. (SCEF), 822 Perdido St., New Orleans, Louisiana."

Referenced airtel suggested that interview of CARL and ANNE BRADEN for any information they might have concerning the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING be considered.

CARL and AMME BRADEN, Louisville Security Index subjects, are former CP leaders in Louisville, Ky. and currently head the Louisville based Southern Conference Educational Fund, Inc. (SCEF), formerly of New Orleans, La., which organization publishes the "Southern Patriot", as its official organ.

SCEF is successor to the HCUA-cited Southern Conference for Human Welfare (SCHW) and has long been active in the integration and civil rights fields. Currently, SCEF is active in the so-called "peace movement."

The BHADENS have twice been indicted under Kentucky Sedition Statutes (1954 and 1967). In 1954, CARL BRADEN was convicted and served 8 months of a 15-year sentence before being released on \$40,000 appeal bond. A Bureau informant was largely responsible for the 1934 conviction of BRADEN.

2 - Bureau (EM)

1 - Los Angeles (44-1574) (Info) (RM)

2 - Memphis (44-1987) (RM)

5 - Louisville (2 - 44-947)

(1 - 100-197)

(1 - 100 - 3346)(1 - 100 - 3533)

GWH/da

Searched Senatized Indiaxed Filed Sun and Sun

LB 44-947 On both occasions the Kentucky Sedition Statutes under which the BRADENS were prosecuted were held to be unconstitutional. CARL BRADEN also served approximately 9 months on a year and a day seatence for contempt of Congress. The contempt conviction grew out of his refusal to answer questions before a Congressional investigating committee in 1958. The BRADENS have been interviewed on one occasion in connection with a civil rights matter in which they had an interest. They were pleasant but CARL BRADEN was obviously untruthful. Any interview with the BRADENS should have sound investigative basis, and it is felt that they should not be interviewed unless they can be questioned re specific, pertinent matters concerning which they might logically be expected to have information. If an interview with them gave the impression that they were suspected of being implicated in the assassination of Dr. KING, or that the FBI was engaged in a fishing expedition, they would quickly seize upon the situation to ridicule and otherwise criticize the FBI for floundering in the investigation. If there are specific, pertinent matters concerning which the BRADENS should be interviewed in connection with this case, Louisville will conduct such interview. Inasmuch as the BRADENS are Security Index subjects, it is felt that Bureau authorization should be obtained prior to conducting such interview. 2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-3886)

5-21-68

SAC, LOUISVILLE (44-947) (P)

MURKIN

00: Memphis

Re Los Angeles sirtel to Director, 5-14-68, transmitting a copy of a letter from ALMENA LOMAX, editor-publisher of the Lomax Poll and Tribune, in which she suggested as "professional Leftists who use the Regro cause"... "the BRADENS, the Southern Patriot, 3210 W. Broadway, Louisville, Ky." and "Southern Conference Educational Fund, Inc. (SCEF), 822 Perdido St., New Orleans, Louisiana."

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2 - Burcau (RM)

1 - Los Angeles (44-1574) (Info) (RM)

2 - Memphis (44-1867) (RM)
(3 - Louisville (2 - 44-947)

(1 - 100-197)(1 - 100-3346)

(1 - 100 - 3533)

GVH/de

Hearth WA

49-747-278

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FBI

Date:	5/22/68
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Transmit the following in	PLAINTEXT	
	(Type in plaintext or code)	
Via TELETYPE	URGENT	
	(Deineita)	

TO: MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM: LOUISVILLE (44-947) (P)

MURKIN

RE MEMPHIS TEL TO LS LAST DATE.

SA HILLARD D. THORPE THIS DATE INTERVIEWED CAPT. GEORGE CONWAY INGRAM, JR., ZERO TWO THREE THREE ZERO EIGHT FOUR TWO. AN OPTOMETRIST. US. ARMY HOSPITAL, FORT CAMPBELL, KY. INGRAM ADVISED HE IS OWNER OF SIXTYSEVEN MERCURY, BLACK VINYL TOP WITH TURQUOISE BOTTOM CARRYING SIXTYEIGHT ARKANSAS LICENSE AVW SEVEN THREE TWO EN ROUTE FROM FORT CAMPBELL, KY., TO HOT SPRINGS, ARK., ON MAY ELEVEN, LAST, TO ATTEND OPTOMETRY CONVENTION. TRAVELED INTERSTATE 40 FROM DIXON, TENN., TO MEMPHIS AND INTERSTATE THIRTY FROM LITTLE ROCK TO HOT SPRINGS. SAID DID NOT RECALL HAVING TRAVELED THROUGH ARKADELPHIA, STATED HE TRAVELED ALONE. CAPT. INGRAM ARK. BUT MAY HAVE. IN NO WAY RESEMBLES SUBJECT AS A W/M, SIX FEET, TWO THREE SEVEN LBS., REDDISH BROWN HAIR, BROWN EYES, WEARS HORN RIMMED GLASSES AND STATES WHEN DRIVING WEARS MILITARY ISSUE PRESCRIP-TION SUNGLASSES. INGRAM DID HAVE SMALL SCAR IN MIDDLE OF FOREHEAD BUT HAS NO SCAR IN PALM OF RIGHT HAND. INGRAM IS NOT IDENTICAL WITH SUBJECT. ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

Approved:

Sent 3:57 P

FBI LOUISVLE

3:57 PM 5-22-68 URGENT BAW

TO MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM LOUISVILLE (44-942) (P) 1P

MURKIN

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NOT IDENTICAL WITH SUBJECT. ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

CORRECTION LINE FOUR SIXTH WORD SH BE OF

LINE EIGHT FIFTH WORD SH BE FROM

LINE NINE LAST WORD SH BE SPRINGS

END

SAB

FBI MEMPHIS

44-947-277

Reported Renalized Indexed Filed

END PAGE ONE CUPLAN COPING CONTROLLED PAGE ON 14176

CHECK RETURNED MAY TWENTY TWO, LAST, AS INSUFFICIENT FUND CHECK.

SHE FURNISHED SAME GENERAL PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION AS THAT OF SUBJECT

SORTHOOD

CHECK RETURNED MAY TWENTY TWO, LAST, AS INSUFFICIENT FUND CHECK.

AND SIGNED LAWRENCE D. CHELKOR.

pormo)

MRS. EVELYN WILLIGAN, PROPRIETOR, VANITY BERUTY SHOP, PADUCAH, KENTUCKY, ADVISED INSTANT DATE, SHE HAD MALE CUSTOMER APPROXIMATELY AND TEMPHIS AND TO LOOK GRAY. CUSTOMER SAID HE WAS FRO MEMPHIS AND EN ROUTE TO HOPKINSVILLE, KENTUCKY TO PICK UP AUTO AND IS GOING TO SPAIN. CUSTOMER SAID HE HAD SPENT PREVIOUS EVENING AT EITHER HOLIDAY INN OR DIPLOMAT MOTEL IN PADUCAH. HE PAID BARACTY AND SILL WITH AN EIGHT DOLLAR AND SEVENTY FIVE CENT CHECK DATED AND SHAPPHIS ACC. NO.

MINHIM

EBON: FORTRAITE \dd-871\

V*R* PWSK S3/1898 OBGENI BUB

RECORDS OF HOLIDAY INN AND DIPLOMAT MOTEL NEGATIVE RE CHELKOR.

MEMPHIS CONTACT FIRST NATIONAL BANK CONCERNING ACC. NO.

AND CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTI-

GATION. TO DETERMINE IF CHELKOR IS IDENTICAL TO SUBJECT.

ARMED AND LANGEROUS. P

E.ND

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI LOUISVLE
10:41A.M. MAY 23/1968 URGENT PAR

TO: MEMPHIS /44-L987/ FROM: LOUISVILLE /44-947/

MURK IN

RE SUSPECT LAWRENCE D. CHELKOR.

MRS. EVELYN MILLIGAN, PROPRIETOR, VANITY BEAUTY SHOP, PADUCAH, KENTUCKY, ADVISED INSTANT DATE, SHE HAD MALE CUSTOMER APPROXIMATELY SEVEN THIRTY P.M. ON MAY TWO, LAST, WHO HAD HER TINT HAIR DARK AUBURN AND TEMPLES BLEACHED TO LOOK GRAY. CUSTOMER SAID HE WAS FROM MEMPHIS AND EN ROUTE TO HOPKINSVILLE, KENTUCKY TO PICK UP AUTO AND IS GOING TO SPAIN. CUSTOMER SAID HE HAD SPENT PREVIOUS EVENING AT EITHER HOLIDAY INN OR DIPLOMAT MOTEL IN PADUCAH. HE PAID BEAUTY SHOP BILL WITH AN EIGHT DOLLAR AND SEVENTY FIVE CENT CHECK DATED MAY TWO, LAST, ON FIRST NATIONAL BANK, MEMPHIS ACC. NO.

AND SIGNED LAWRENCE D. CHELKOR.

CHECK RETURNED MAY TWENTY TWO, LAST, AS INSUFFICIENT FUND CHECK'.

MRS. MILLIGAN STATED CHELKOR RESEMBLES SUBJECT'S PHOTO AND SHE FURNISHED SAME GENERAL PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION AS THAT OF SUBJECT ALTHOUGH SHE DOES NOT RECALL A SCAR ON CHELKOR'S FOREHEAD.

END PAGE ONE

PAGE TWO

RECORDS OF HOLIDAY INN AND DIPLOMAT MOTEL NEGATIVE RE CHELKOR.

MEMPHIS CONTACT FIRST NATIONAL BANK CONCERNING ACC. NO.

AND CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTI-

GATION TO DETERMINE IF CHELKOR IS IDENTICAL TO SUBJECT.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P

END

MEN

FBI MEMPHIS

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1902 EDITION
GSAFPMR (45 CPR) 101-11.8

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, Albany

DATE: May 20, 1968

FROM

Director, FBI

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

PUBLICITY ON REWARDS OFFERED

Each Special Agent in Charge and Legal Attache is instructed to promptly remind their established cooperative news sources, in a discreet and tactful manner, of the existence of substantial reward money for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the killer of Dr. Martin Luther King. This money now totals at least \$100,000. The FBI should not, however, be publicized as the source of this reminder.

While the Bureau's continuing policy is to encourage the public to furnish information to law enforcement authorities as a matter of good citizenship, without expectation of financial reward, it is fully recognized that monetary rewards are often necessary to motivate some individuals. The knowledge of the existence of the substantial rewards available in the Murkin case could possibly prove of value in the solution of this major investigation.

1 - Copies to all Special Agents in Charge and Legats

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED SILED MAY 2, 2, 1968

FRI - LOUISYILLE



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

WANTED BY THE FBI



JAMES EARL RAY, also known as Eric Starvo Galt, Harvey Lowmyer, John Willard, James McBride, James Walton, W. C. Herron and James O'Conner,

James Earl Ray, a Missouri prison escapee, sought under the alias Eric Starvo Galt in connection with the gunshot slaying of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., is one of the FBI's "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives." FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover ordered the special addition of Ray to the "Top Ten" list to insure widespread dissemination of Ray's photograph and description to speed his location.

Ray has been intensively sought since the murder of Dr. King on April 4, 1968, as he stood on the balcony of a Memphis, Tennessee, motel. An exhaustive FBI fingerprint search, comparing latent fingerprints uncovered in the Dr. King case against fingerprints of over 53,000 persons on whom wanted notices were posted,

determined that Galt and Ray are identical.

A Federal warrant, issued at Birmingham, Alabama, on April 17, 1968, charges Ray, under the alias of Galt, with conspiring to interfere with a Constitutional Right of a citizen. Ray, who escaped on April 23, 1967, from the Missouri State Penitentiary, is also sought for unlawful flight to avoid confinement for robbery. His long criminal record also includes convictions for burglary and

His long criminal record also includes convictions for origing U.S. Postal Money Orders.

A white American, born in Alton, Illinois, on March 10, 1928, Ray is 5'10'' tail, weighs 163 to 174 pounds, has blue eyes and short brown hair. He has a nervous habit of tugging at an ear lobe and his left ear protrudes noticeably. Known as a "loner" and "drifter," Ray has worked as a baker, laborer and color matcher. He has taken dancing lessons and completed a course at a school of bartending.

Consider Ray armed and extremely dangerous. Report any information concerning him to the nearest FBI office.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 7,
Section 1,
The Elizabethtown
News
Elizabethtown, Ky.

Date: 5/21/68

Edition: Author:

Editor: W. H. MARRIOTT

Character:

Classification:

Submitting Office:

Being Investigated

SEARCHED INDEXED.
SERIALIZED FILED

MAY 2 8 1968
FBI — LOUISVILLE

FBI LOS ANG.

1259PM URGENT 5-24-68 LLR TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND LOUISVILLE (44-947) FROM LOS ANGELES (44-1574) INDEX

MURKIN.

RE LOUISVILLE AIRTEL MAY ONE LAST AND TEL MAY EIGHT LAST. ALONZO FRANKLIA COOK. JR., LOCATED AND INTERVIEWED MAY TWENTY THREE, LAST, COOK IDENTICALL WITH HUDD COOK, JR., INTERVIEWED APRIL ELEVEN EAST BE SERVICING OF MINETEEN SIXTY SIX MUSTANG USED BY JAMES EARL RAY AT CORT FOX FORD, LOS ANGELES. COOK SHOWN PHOTOS OF RAY. ADVISED RAY NOT FAMILIAR TO HIM. COOK ADVISED NEVER RESIDED ST. FRANCIS HOTEL BUT FREQUENTS SULTAN ROOM OF ST. FRANCIS. NEVER KNEW PERSON BY NAME OF ERIC GALT WHO FREQUENTED SULTAN ROOM.

COOK ADVISED HE TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED HIS MOTHER, VERA D. COOK, MAY TWENTY TWO LAST. SHE ADVISED OF BEING CONTACTED BY BUREAU AGENTS RE COOK AND WAS GREATLY CONCERNED FOR HIM. COOK REQUESTED, BECAUSE OF MOTHER'S ADVANCED AGE, SHE BE ASSURED BY BUREAU AGENTS HE IS NOT CRIMINALLY INVOLVED IN ASSASSINATION OF

IN

KING. SUGGEST LOUISVILLE SO ADVISE COOK'S MOTHER.

END

V S.J

FBI LOUISVLE

SEARCHED MAY 2 4 1968 FRI LOS ANG.

1259FM DRGENT 5-24-68 LLR

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND LOUISVILLE (44-947)

FROM LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

MURKIN.

ALONZO FRANKLIN COOK, JR., LOCATED AND INTERVIEWED MAY
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FREQUENTS SULTAN ROOM OF ST. FRANCIS. NEVER KNEW PERSON BY
NAME OF ERIC GALT WHO FREQUENTED SULTAN ROOM.

COOK ADVISED HE TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED HIS MOTHER, VERA

D. COOK, MAY TWENTY TWO LAST. SHE ADVISED OF BEING CONTACTED BY

BUREAU AGENTS RE COOK AND WAS GREATLY CONCERNED FOR HIM. COOK

REQUESTED, BECAUSE OF MOTHER'S ADVANCED AGE, SHE BE ASSURED BY

BUREAU AGENTS HE IS NOT CRIMINALLY INVOLVED IN ASSASSINATION OF

KAMMXXXXELEGEXXXXELEGEXXXXXXXXX

1.10

KING. SUGGEST LOUISVILLE SO ADVISE COOK'S EOTHER.

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FBI LOUISVLE

SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED FI

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

5/23/68

SAC, LOUISVILLE (44-947) Au

MURKIN

00: MEMPHIS

Re Bureau airtel to all SACs, 5/9/68.

Recheck of Unidentified Dead

LEWIS BUSH, Director, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Department of Health, Frankfort, Kentucky, stated on May 16, 1968, there are no central records maintained on unidentified deceased in the State. He stated that death certificates are eventually filed for unidentified dead in the Frankfort Office, but the information contained thereon will reflect only the Sex, Race, and approximate age of the deceased along with the cause of death and the County where the death is believed to have occurred. However, he stated that as unidentified bodies are held by any of the 400 or more funeral homes in the State or at a morgue in cities such as Louisville, the death certificate does not end up in file at Frankfort for some three or four months.

LEWIS stated that a great many of the unidentified bodies found in the State end up at the Medical Schools of the University of Louisville or Kentucky.

LEWIS stated he would be glad to furnish the list of the 400 or more funeral directors in the State if it is desired that they be circularized in connection with instant matter.

Recheck of Unidentified Latent Fingerprints.

On 5/8/68, SA THOMAS F. KELLERMAN contacted FRANK ANASTASIO, Identification Division, Kentucky State Police, Frankfort, Kentucky, who was requested to make a comparison of any unidentified latent fingerprints on file at his division of those of JAMES EARL RAY as set forth under I.O.

2-Memphis 1)-Louisville CAK/gn (3) Scrialized Indexed Filed

Number 4182. Sergeant ANASTASIO stated that he and his assistants would make the comparison and advise on any positive identification in this regard.

On 5/13/68, Detective Sergeant SHARON MILLER, Fingerprint Laboratory, Louisville Division of Police, Louisville, Kentucky, was also requested to conduct a comparison of any unidentified latent fingerprints on file in his Department with those of JAMES HARL RAY. Sergeant MILLER stated that he would conduct such comparison and advise SA CHARLES A. KINCAID of any positive results.

By memo dated 4/30/68, all SAs of the Louisville Office were similarly instructed to contact Police Departments in their territories relative to any unidentified latent fingerprints on file in unsolved robberies or related offenses and have same compared with the known fingerprints of subject RAY.

LEAD

MEMPHIS

AT MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE. Request to advise if it is desired that the above funeral directors throughout the State of Kentucky be circularized for any information concerning the possible handling of subject RAY as an unidentified male corpse.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

FBI

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	Date: May 21, 1968	
Transmit the following in	(Type in plaintext or code)	
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VIG	(Priority)	
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To: All SACs LEGATS, Mex	rico City	1
	tawa	
(MP)	/// 20061)	1
From: Director, FBI	(33-3000I)	
MURKIN		
	nformation and investigative	
	ames Earl Ray has been known to	ļ
	tes and "street bums." A photograph ed from a prostitute in Mexico.	
This photograph showing	ng subject wearing sunglasses was	
previously forwarded	to your office.	
This' should	d be borne in mind in your daily	
contact with informan	ts, officers of vice squads and	
and other cases.	ng leads in connection with this	
Armed and	dangerous.	İ
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FBI

the following in
(Type in plaintext or code)
Airtel
(Priority)
To: All SACs LEGATS, Mexico City Ottawa From: Director, FBI (44-38861) MURKIN For your information and investigative assistance, subject James Earl Ray has been known to consort with prostitutes and "street bums." A photograph of subject was obtained from a prostitute in Mexico. This photograph showing subject wearing sunglasses was previously forwarded to your office. This should be borne in mind in your daily contact with informants, officers of vice squads and prostitutes in covering leads in connection with this and other cases.
Armed and dangerous.
94-947 -24
SEDIALIZED FILED MAY 2 3 1988

Sent Vi	Œ		_ M	Per	
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Routing Slip 0-7 (Rev. 3-31-67)	(Copies to	Offices Checked)	
TO: SAC,			
Albany Albuquerque Anchorage Atlanta Baltimore	Houston Indianapolis Jackson Jacksonville Kansas City	New York City Norfolk Oklahoma City Omaha Philadelphia	Tampa Washington Field Ovantico TO LEGAT:
Birmingham Boston Buttalo Charlotte Chicago	Knoxville Las Vegas Little Rock Los Angeles X Louisville Memphis	Phoenix Pittsburgh Portland Richmond St. Louis Salt Lake City	Bern Bonn Buenos Aires Hong Kong London Manila
Cincinnati Cleveland Columbia Dalias Denver Detroit	Milwaukee Milwaukee Minneapolis Mobile Newark New Haven	San Antonio San Diego San Francisco San Juan Savannah Seattle	Mexico, D.F. Ottawa Paris Rome Santo Domingo Tokyo
El Paso Honolulu	New Orleans	Springfield Date 5-22-	68
RE: MURKI PUBLIC	- •	ARDS OFFERI	ED 947-28
	4	SEARCHED . SERIALIZED	FILED Som
	Retention	For appropriate FBI	AY 2 U 1968 - LOUISVILLE
For information	optional	action	THE THE PARTY OF T
The enclosed I	is for your information Decaphrase content	s. If used in a future i	report, Conceal
Enclosed are c	corrected pages from r	eport of SA	44-947
Remarks: ReB	ulet 5-20-68.		// // /
the sources o you may conf	f the reward nidentially advis	noney offered i se established	ng the identity of in the Murkin cas sources that ac-

In the event of inquiries regarding the identity of the sources of the reward money offered in the Murkin case you may confidentially advise established sources that according to a compilation set forth in the April 27th edition of the "Commercial Appeal," Memphis, Tennessee, \$25,000 each has been offered by the "Commercial Appeal" and Scripps-Howard newspapers and that in addition, businessmen and citizens in Memphis have offered several thousands more and the Memphis City Council has underwritten the reward up to a total of \$100,000.

Bulile Urlile

		F B I	i
		Date: 5/24/68	t t
Transmit	the following	in(Type in plaintext or code)	
Via	AIRTEL		<u> </u>
		(Priority)	
	TO: Ļ	DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)	
	FROM: S	SAC, LOUISVILLE (44-947) (P)	1
	RE: N	IURKIN	
	telephor	Re Louisville teletype to Director dated teletype to Louisville dated 4/30/68; Atlan e call to Louisville, 5/22/68; and Louisvill to Atlanta, 5/23/68.	ta
		Re: Sears Roebuck Battery located in 196	6 Mustang
	at Atlar to teler Atlanta	With further reference to the tracing of All-State Battery located in 1966 Mustang rata, Ga., on 4/5/68, and with particular reference conversation between Supervisor CHARL Office, and SA C. ADDISON KINCAID of the Lothe following additional facts are being fu	ecovered erence ES HARDING, uisville
	Batterie stated t stock nu Mustang	On 5/22/68, Mr. JOHN DARNELL, Globe Union lie, Ky., manufacturers of All-State Automobes of the type recovered in instant 1966 Musthat this battery is a Model 52 which carriember of 22-F. Mr. DARNELL informed that in the battery normally installed would be a Mor 36 or Stock No. 24-F. He stated that this	ile tang, s a a 1966 odel
	2-Atlant 1-St. Lo	a (Enc. 1) ta (44-2386) (Enc. 1) touis (Enc. 1) (Info) gfield (Enc. 1) (Info) wille Searche, Serializer Indexed Filed A	287 A

LS 44-947

could be purchased in any of the Sears Roebuck retail automobile store outlets located in Eastern Missouri, Southern Illinois, all of the State of Indiana, all of the State of Ohio, all of the State of West Virginia, or all of the State of Kentucky. He stated that as of the present time, there are 133 retail Sears Roebuck automobile stores which stock and sell this battery.

With reference to the possibility of obtaining this battery through mail order, Mr. DARNELL stated that this could be possible but only upon referral of the mail order to the Louisville plant of Globe by Sears Roebuck in Chicago, Illinois, for delivery direct from the Louisville plant. It is to be noted that the central distributing point and warehouse of Sears Roebuck in Chicago would not stock a 22-F battery manufactured at the Louisville plant inasmuch as Chicago is served by the Milwaukee plant of Globe Union.

With reference to the possibility of purchase of the battery by mail order, Mr. DARNELL checked all mail orders filled by the Louisville plant upon such referral by Sears Roebuck in Chicago and stated that no mail order received was for a Model 22-F battery, thus eliminating the possibility of purchase of instant battery through mail order.

Pursuant to conversation held with Supervisor CHARLES HARDING of the Atlanta Office, Mr. DARNELL was requested to furnish and did furnish copies of the Sears Roebuck retail automobile store outlets in the area surrounding Memphis, consisting of stores in the Greater St. Louis, Missouri, area and Southeastern Missouri, as well as Southern Illinois as far North as Alton, Illinois, as well as stores in Western Kentucky. Next to the name and address of the Sears Roebuck stores so listed in parenthesis are listed the total number of the type 22-F battery furnished these various stores during the pertinent period from 2/22/68, to April 5, 1968. It is to be noted that while instant battery carries a date code of 3/68, Mr. DARNELL explained that the code date is effective on the 21st of each month indicating that this battery was distributed possibly as early as 2/22/68, as a March product.

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For the information of offices not previously receiving correspondence regarding tracing of instant

LS 44-947

battery, this battery is described as an All-State high voltage, internal connector battery with the identifying Model 52 contained in white letters in a small circular plastic case on three sides of the battery. It also bears the marking "F-41 B E 8, square 48" located on the top of the lead shield washer on the negative post. The date code "C-8" indicating the battery was manufactured in March, 1968, is contained in a small white decal on the side of the battery.

Enclosed for the Bureau and each receiving office is a copy of the list of Sears Roebuck retail stores carrying this battery and through which retail outlet same may have been purchased during the above period from 2/22 to 4/4/68.

No leads are being set forth herewith by the Louisville Office relative to further tracing of this battery but same is being left to the descretion of the OO as indicated in referenced teletype of the Louisville Office dated 4/26/68.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

1

FBI

		Date: 5/24/68	
Transmi	t the following in .	(Type in plaintext or code)	-
Via	AIRTEL	AIR MAIL	
		(Priority)	
	TO. DIR	RECTOR, FBI (44-38861)	
	FROM: SAC	C, LOUISVILLE (44-947) (P)	
	RE: MUF	RKIN	
	telephone	Re Louisville teletype to Director dated 4/eletype to Louisville dated 4/30/68: Atlanta call to Louisville, 5/22/68; and Louisville to Atlanta, 5/23/68.	
		Re: Sears Roebuck Battery located in 1966	Mustang
	at Atlanta to telepho Atlanta Of	With further reference to the tracing of Se Il-State Battery located in 1966 Mustang rec a, Ga , on 4/5/68, and with particular refer onic conversation between Supervisor CHARLES ffice, and SA C. ADDISON KINCAID of the Loui me following additional facts are being furn	covered cence HARDING, sville
	Batteries stated tha stock numb Mustang th	On 5/22/68, Mr. JOHN DARNELL, Globe Union Co., Ky., manufacturers of All-State Automobil of the type recovered in instant 1966 Musta at this battery is a Model 52 which carries ber of 22-F. Mr. DARNELL informed that in a nee battery normally installed would be a Model 36 or Stock No. 24-F. He stated that this	ang, a 1966
	i-St. Loui	(44-2386) (Enc. 1) is (Enc. 1) (Info) ield (Enc. 1) (Info)	(Enc. 1)
	CAK/ssb (14)	Searched Serialized Serialized Indexed Filad	1-287

Special Agent in Charge

Approved: __

LS 44-947

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For the information of offices not previously receiving correspondence regarding tracing of instant

LS 44-947

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ARMED AND DANGEROUS

1

Transmit the following in _

FBI

Date: 5/24/68

		(Type in plaintext or code)
Via	AIRTEL	AIR MAIL
		(Priority)
77-7		
	TO: DI	RECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
	FROM: SAC	C, LOUISVILLE (44-947) (P)
	RE: MUI	RKIN
	telephone	Re Louisville teletype to Director dated 4/26/68; eletype to Louisville dated 4/30/68: Atlanta call to Louisville, 5/22/68; and Louisville tele-1 to Atlanta, 5/23/68.
		Re: Sears Roebuck Battery located in 1966 Mustang
	at Atlanta to telepho Atlanta O	With further reference to the tracing of Sears Il-State Battery located in 1966 Mustang recovered a, Ga, on 4/5/68, and with particular reference onic conversation between Supervisor CHARLES HARDING, ffice, and SA C. ADDISON KINCAID of the Louisville he following additional facts are being furnished:
	Batteries stated the stock num	On 5/22/68, Mr. JOHN DARNELL, Globs Union Company, e. Ky., manufacturers of All-State Automobile of the type recovered in instant 1966 Mustang, at this battery is a Model 52 which carries a ber of 22-F. Mr. DARNELL informed that in a 1966 he battery normally installed would be a Model

3-Bureau (Enc. 1) 2-Atlanta (44-2386) (Enc. 1) 1-St. Louis (Enc. 1) (Info) 3-Springfield (Enc. 1) (Info) 4-Louisville

CAX/ssb

(14) pb

44-947-287

3-Memphis (44-1987) (Enc. 1)

Searched Serialized Indexed Serialized Seria

Approved: _____M Per ______ Special Agent in Charge

25, 35 or 36 or Stock No. 24-F. He stated that this battery

LS 44-947

could be purchased in any of the Sears Roebuck retail automobile store outlets located in Eastern Missouri, Southern Illinois, all of the State of Indiana, all of the State of Ohio, all of the State of West Virginia, or all of the State of Kentucky. He stated that as of the present time, there are 133 retail Sears Roebuck automobile stores which stock and sell this battery.

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ARMED AND DANGEROUS

1

Date:	5/24/68			
Transmit the following in				
AIRTEL AIR MAIL (Priori	(zy)			
TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)				
FROM: SAC, LOUISVILLE (44-947) (P)				
RE: MURKIN				
Re Louisville teletype to Atlanta teletype to Louisville dated telephone call to Louisville, 5/22/6 phone call to Atlanta, 5/23/68.	d 4/30/68; Atlanta			
Re: Sears Roebuck Batter	y located in 1966 Mustang			
With further reference to Roebuck All-State Battery located is at Atlanta, Ga., on 4/5/68, and with to telephonic conversation between Atlanta Office, and SA C. ADDISON K Office, the following additional factories, the following additional factories of the type recovered in stated that this battery is a Model	n 1966 Mustang recovered h particular reference Supervisor CHARLES HARDING, INCAID of the Louisville cts are being furnished; ELL. Globe Union Company, 11-State Automobile instant 1966 Mustang, 52 which carries a			
Mustang the battery normally instal 25, 35 or 36 or Stock No. 24-F. He	led would be a Model			
2-Atlanta (44-2386) (Enc. 1) 1-St. Louis (Enc. 1) (Info) 1-Springfield (Enc. 1) (Info)	Memphis (44-1987) (Enc. 1)			
CAK/ssb (14) psb	Searched Serialized Indixed Thed			
	TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) FROM: SAC, LOUISVILLE (44-947) (PIRE: MURKIN Re Louisville teletype to Atlanta teletype to Louisville date telephone call to Louisville, 5/22/phone call to Atlanta, 5/23/68. Re: Sears Roebuck Batter: With further reference to Roebuck All-State Battery located is at Atlanta, Ga., on 4/5/68, and with to telephonic conversation between Atlanta Office, and SAC. ADDISON K Office, the following additional factures of A Batteries of the type recovered in stated that this battery is a Model stock number of 22-F. Mr. DARNELL Mustang the battery normally instal 25, 35 or 36 or Stock No. 24-F. He 3-Bureau (Enc. 1) 2-Atlanta (44-2386) (Enc. 1) 1-St. Louis (Enc. 1) (Info) 1-Springfield (Enc. 1) (Info) 1-Springfield (Enc. 1) (Info)			

Approved: Special Agent in Charge Sent M Per _____

LS 44-947

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LS 44-947

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ARMED AND DANGEROUS

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File—Serial Charge Out			☆ U.S. GPO: 1974-560-582		
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Memorandum

TO : SAC, LOUISVILLE (44-947)

DATE: May 26, 1968

FROM

: SPC, JAMES MICHAEL RAY

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Los Angeles teletype to Director and Louisville 5/24/68.

At approximately 3:40PM, this date, Mr. Long of Division # 6, at the Bureau telephonically contacted this office and advised the writer of the following.

Mr. Long stated that according to the referenced LA teletype, it was requested by LA to recontact ALONZO FRANKLIN COOK, JR.'s mother, VERA D. COOK and to advise her' that he was not criminally involved in the assassination of KING.

Mr. Long advised that Mrs. VERA D. COOK should be advised that her' son ALONZO FRANKLIN was just being questioned by the FBI and was not involved in the assassination of KING. Mr. Long stated that thes last statement in the teletype should be appropriately paraphrased so that the words "NOT CRIMINALLY" are not utilized. Mr. Long advised that the Bureau can only honest and tell Mrs. VERA D. COOK that at the present time headtson ALONZO FRANKLIN was only interviewed and the Bureau can stated either way if her' son was or was not criminally involved in the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Supervisor Peters and SA Risley was telephonically advised of the above facts.

This memo is being submitted for information purposes only.

JMR/jmr

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Juliand advised 168

MAY 26 1968

info



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

614 BBMA (+: UNITED STATES GOVE $\it 1emorandum$

TO SAC. LOUISVILLE (44-947) DATE: May 26: 1968

: SPC. JAMES MICHAEL RAY

SUBJECT: MURKIN

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This memo is being submitted for information purposes only.

JMR/jmr

(2)

adjust 168

44-947-20

SERIALIZED. MAY 26 1968

FBI - LOUISVILLE

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

FBI

		Date: 5/24/68
Transm	nit the following in	(Type in plaintext or code)
	Airtel	Air Mail
Via		(Priority)
	n Jenes Selling Jamil Sellan Lanto Andre Sellan Jamil Mond a	
	TO:	SAC, LOUISVILLE
	FROM:	SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) -P-
	RE:	MURKIN
<u>.</u> I		Reference St. Louis teletype to Bureau, 5/20/68.
	Division the St.	For information of Louisville and Omaha as, which did not receive referenced teletype, Louis Division advised as follows on 5/20/68:
	advised UNDERWOO On basis is ident RENFRO f Joplin, heating business free ins to case or if th new heat at an in Street i Main Str	IVAN DALE UNDERWOOD, former inmate, Missouri enitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri, on 5/20/68 he was not acquainted with JAMES EARL RAY while D was incarcerated at the Missouri State Penitentiary. To finame and photograph, UNDERWOOD believes RAY dical with an individual who worked with RALPH or a short period during the late 1950's at Missouri. RENFRO carried on a furnace and business and would "finger" residence and sestablishments in Joplin area. On pretext of spection of premises, RENFRO would gain entrance establishment for possible robbery or burglary, see owner was gullible, he would attempt to sell a sing unit. As of 18 months ago, RENFRO was working dependent oil company service station on 20th in Joplin, Missouri, and hung out at Elmer's Bar, seet, also at Joplin.
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<u> </u>	Approved: Spe	Sent M Per

UNDERWOOD claims he knew RAY only through their mutual association with RENFRO.

UNDERWOOD described RENFRO as a white male, age 42.

UNDERWOOD wishes his identity be concealed as the source of the above information.

In an effort to locate and interview RALPH RENFRO to determine if he had in the past employed JAMES EARL RAY or had any knowledge as to his whereabouts, the following investigation was conducted by SAs JOSEPH W. JACKSON and LAWRENCE R. NOLAN:

AT JOPLIN, MISSOURI

On 5/21/68 a review of Polk's City Directory for Joplin, Missouri, 1956-1967 editions, failed to reveal any information regarding RALPH RENFRO.

On 5/21/68 a review of the current combined telephone directory for Joplin, Carl Junction, Carterville, and Webb City, Missouri, area failed to reveal a telephone listed to RALPH RENFRO.

On 5/21/68 IRENE CLARK, Clerk, Records and Identification Bureau, Police Department; CLENNIS EUGENE COPELAND, Chief Deputy Sheriff, and RACHEL BRAXTON, Credit Bureau, all advised records of their respective offices contained no reference to RALPH RENFRO and that they had never known anyone by that name as a resident of Joplin, Missouri.

On 5/21/68 the following individuals all stated they did not know RALPH RENFRO as either a present or former resident of Joplin, Missouri:

EARL FORTNER, Records and Identification Officer, Police Department;

WALTER H. FLENNER, Captain of Detectives, Police Department;

whose

HAROLD ABBEN, Detective, Police Department;
W. T. NAYLOR, Dispatcher, Police Department;
OLEN J. DANIELS, Detective, Police Department;
JOHN EUBANKS, Lieutenant, Police Department.

On 5/21/68 JAMES H. RENTFRO, Branch Manager, Lairmore's Armored Car Service, advised while he did not know RALPH RENFRO it seemed to him RALPH RENFRO about two years ago had briefly been employed at the Consumers Service Station, Inc., 2002 Main Street, Joplin. RENTFRO stated while he had never met RALPH RENFRO, that he, JAMES H. RENTFRO, recalled having been asked by his brother-in-law, HAL N. STEPHENS, Manager, Consumers Service Station, Inc., if he was any kin to RALPH RENFRO, an attendent at the station, and that he, JAMES H. RENTFRO, had replied that he had never heard of and was no kin to anyone named RALPH RENFRO. In this regard, RENTFRO said he had never met RALPH RENFRO and had no idea as to his present location.

On 5/21/68 Patrolman WILLIAM R. STEPHENS, Police Department, advised an individual named RENFRO had briefly worked for HAL N. STEPHENS, his father, at the Consumers Service Station, Inc., 2002 Main; however, Patrolman STEPHENS related he had never met RENFRO and had no information as to the latter named individuals whereabouts. He also advised he was of the opinion HAL N. STEPHENS had discharged RENFRO nearly two years ago, possibly for drinking on the job.

On 5/22/68 HAL N. STEPHENS, Manager, Consumers Service Station, Inc., advised he had hired a drifter named RALPH RENFRO to work as an attendant on 4/2/66, and had fired RENFRO for drinking on the job on 6/22/66. RENFRO was not reliable, drank heavily, always drew against his earnings, and has not been seen by STEPHENS since he was

fired. STEPHENS did recall that at Christmas, 1966, RENFRO had mailed a Christmas card to the service station employees from some western state, possibly Washington; however, STEPHENS said he had thrown the Christmas card away and actually had not paid any attention to the postmark, but had only noted it was some western state.

STEPHENS said he did not know whether RENFRO was married or single, that he had never seen RENFRO in company with any person away from his place of employment, and did not have the slightest idea in what city RENFRO might be living at this time. He could only state that RENFRO had left Joplin nearly two years ago and that RENFRO's present whereabouts are unknown to him.

STEPHENS said RENFRO, Social Security # had lived at 2124 Adele, telephone MAyfair 4-9279, Joplin, Missouri, and STEPHENS did not know whether RENFRO had been a roomer at that address or had rented the entire house. Also as an employment reference, which had not been verified, RENFRO had listed that he had previously worked as a part-time service station attendant for CURTIS RENFRO, Standard Oil Company Service Station, Lexington, Kentucky.

On 5/22/68 it was determined telephone number MA 4-9279, furnished by RENFRO to HAL N. STEPHENS, was listed to EMMA JEAN WHIPPLE, aka Mrs. Floyd Whipple, 2124 Adele. Joplin. Missouri.

On 5/22/68 the house at 2124 Adele was found to be vacant.

On 5/22/68 JOHN HOSWELL, 2126 Adele, advised EMMA JEAN WHIPPLE, aka Mrs. Floyd Whipple, had moved from her home at 2124 Adele to Ames, Iowa, about a year ago, and that he was unable to furnish her residence or employment address at that city. He stated he did not know RALPH RENFRO as a former resident at 2124 Adele, but presumed he had been a roomer at that address prior to the departure of Mrs. WHIPPLE from Joplin.



On 5/22/68 ELMER COY, owner, Elmer's Place, 903 Main, a tavern catering to "Skid Row" types, advised he recalled RALPH RENFRO as a drifter who had worked briefly at a service station in Joplin and as a former patron. COY said he had not seen RENFRO in Joplin in over a year and did not have the slightest idea where RENFRO might be located at this time.

On 5/22/68 HELEN GLOVER, Cook, Helen's Cafe, 903½ Main, mother-in-law of GEORGE WAWNE DOTY, who was arrested by SA JOSEPH W. JACKSON on 12/28/67 for the armed robbery on 9/29/67 of the Scott Valley Bank, Fort Jones, California, advised she recalled RALPH RENFRO as a customer at the cafe when he had been employed as an attendant in an area service station. Mrs. GLOVER said RENFRO had disappeared from Joplin a year or so ago and that she did not have the slightest idea as to his present location.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

On 5/22/68 ROBERT BENTLEY, Superintendent of Mails, advised no change of address cards had been filed by either RALPH RENFRO or EMMA JEAN WHIPPLE, aka Mrs. Floyd Whipple, when they moved from 2124 Adele Street, Joplin, Missouri, and that the present location of these individuals is unknown to him.

LEADS:

LOUISVILLE DIVISION

At Lexington, Kentucky:

1) Will, through CURTIS RENFRO, Standard Oil Company Service Station, endeavor to establish the whereabouts of RALPH RENFRO, whose interview is desired in order to

determine if RALPH RENFRO did in fact in the past employ JAMES EARL RAY in the furnace and heating business at Joplin, Missouri, and for any information RALPH RENFRO may be able to supply regarding RAY's background and possible whereabouts.

2) Will, in the event investigation establishes CURTIS RENFRO to be unknown at Lexington, submit request to Bureau for approval for a search to be made through records of Baltimore Confidential Source (FD-266) as to RALPH RENFRO, Social Security Number in an effort to establish RENFRO's current or recent whereabouts.

OMAHA DIVISION

At Ames, Iowa:

- 1) Will, through established sources of information, locate and interview EMMA JEAN WHIPPLE, aka Mrs. Floyd Whipple, for the whereabouts of RALPH RENFRO as a possibility exists RENFRO may have corresponded with Mrs. WHIPPLE after RENFRO left Joplin, Missouri.
- 2) Will, in the event Mrs. WHIPPLE is able to furnish the whereabouts of RALPH RENFRO, set out lead to have RENFRO interviewed to determine if RENFRO did in fact in the past employ JAMES EARL RAY at Joplin, Missouri, and for any information RENFRO may be able to supply regarding RAY's background and possible whereabouts.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

5/24/68

Airtel

Air Mail

TO:

SAC, LOUISVILLE

FROM:

SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) -P-

RE:

MURKIN

Reference St. Louis teletype to Bureau, 5/20/68.

For information of Louisville and Omaha Divisions, which did not receive referenced teletype, the St. Louis Division advised as follows on 5/20/68:

IVAN DALE UNDERWOOD, former inmate, Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri, on 5/20/68 advised he was not acquainted with JAMES EARL RAY while UNDERWOOD was incarcerated at the Missouri State Penitentiary. On basis of name and photograph, UNDERWOOD believes RAY is identical with an individual who worked with RALPH RENFRO for a short period during the late 1950's at Joplin, Missouri. RENFRO carried on a furnace and heating business and would "finger" residence and business establishments in Joplin area. On pretext of free inspection of premises, RENFRO would gain entrance to case establishment for possible robbery or burglary, or if the owner was gullible, he would attempt to sell a new heating unit. As of 18 months ago, RENFRO was working at an independent oil company service station on 20th Street in Joplin, Missouri, and hung out at Elmer's Bar, Main Street, also at Joplin.

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