

FCI NEW HAVEN

FBI ATLANTA

10:11 AM EST URGENT 4/18/68 VSC

TO DIRECTOR AND NEW HAVEN

FROM ATLANTA 44-2386

MURKIN. CR. OO: MEMPHIS

RE ATLANTA TEL TO DIRECTOR, APR. SIXTEEN, SIXTYEIGHT,
AND NEW HAVEN TEL TO DIRECTOR, APR. SIXTEEN, SIXTYEIGHT.

RE INVESTIGATION ROOMING HOUSE, ONE THIRTEEN - FOURTEENTH
ST., NE, ATLANTA:

GEORGE MARSHALL, ATLANTIC STEEL, ADVISED JAMES P. RIORDAN
INTERVIEWED MAR. TWENTY, SIXTYEIGHT AT WHICH TIME GAVE ADDRESS
ONE ZERO SEVEN - FOURTEENTH ST., NE, ATLANTA, WAS GIVEN JOB TO
REPORT MAR. TWENTYFIFTH IN SUPERVISORY CAPACITY. DID NOT SHOW
UP FOR WORK AND HAS NOT RECONTACTED ATLANTIC STEEL.

RIORDAN W/M, 49 YRS; SIX FEET THREE; TWO FIFTEEN LBS.;
RETIRED FROM U. S. ARMY, PREVIOUSLY EMPLOYED U. S. PLASTICS,
WALLINGFORD, CONN.; GAVE PERMANENT ADDRESS NINE SEVEN WARD
WALLINGFORD, CONN., AND WIFE'S NAME, LOUISE.

NEW HAVEN RECONTACT LOUISE RIORDAN FOR CURRENT ADDRESS OR
EMPLOYMENT OF JAMES P. RIORDAN. SUTEL.

AM COPY SENT MEMPHIS. P

END

RPC

FBI NEW HAVEN

TU

WPK (10:07 AM EST)

FBI WASH DC

44-1987-616

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1 - MEMPHIS (AM)

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI ATLANTA

3:52 AM URGENT 4-19-68 ARK

TO DIRECTOR, BIRMINGHAM, MEMPHIS, LOS ANGELES AND NEW ORLEANS
FROM ATLANTA (44-2386)

MURKIN.

SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED ATLANTA APRIL EIGHTEEN
NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT.

RE: CONTACT WITH SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
(SCLC.)

DORA MC DONALD, SECRETARY TO KING, CONTACTED TO DETERMINE
WHETHER SUBJECT GALT KNOWN OR PREVIOUSLY OBSERVED BY SCLC
STAFF MEMBERS. PERTINENT STAFF MEMBERS ARE PRESENTLY IN A
RETREAT AND UNAVAILABLE. GALT UNKNOWN TO MC DONALD. EFFORTS
CONTINUING TO INTERVIEW PERTINENT STAFF UPON THEIR RETURN TO
CITY.

RE: LOCAL POLICE ACTION.

ATLANTA PD DETAINED ONE RICHARD GORDON PRESSLEY AT LOCAL
END PAGE ONE

44-1987-617

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Lester

PAGE TWO

AT 44-2386

BLOOD BANK BECAUSE OF SIMILARITY IN APPEARANCE TO GALT. DETENTION RECEIVED CONSIDERABLE LOCAL PUBLICITY AND INVESTIGATION REFLECTS PRESSLEY NOT IDENTICAL TO GALT BUT IS A CARNIVAL WORKER AND ALCOHOLIC.

RE DRIVER'S LICENSE CHECK

RECORDS OF STATE DRIVER'S LICENSE CHECKS FOR LICENSEES IN NAME OF GALT AND VARIATIONS THEREOF. INVESTIGATION CONTINUING ON EIGHT SUCH PERSONS SO LICENSED.

RE: STATE PATROL TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS.

RECORDS OF THE GEORGIA STATE MVB REFLECT ONLY ONE RECENT ARREST OF INDIVIDUAL WITH NAME GALT WHICH PERSON DETERMINED TO BE FEMALE, BORN [REDACTED] RESIDING IN TENN. INVESTIGATION CONTINUING TO DETERMINE WHETHER ANY IMMEDIATE MEMBER OF HER FAMILY COULD BE SUBJECT.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

AT 44-2386

RE: SAFETY-DEPOSIT BOXES

INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED IN THE FOURTEENTH ST. AREA OF ALL BANKS FOR THE IDENTITY OF PERSONS RENTING SAFETY-DEPOSIT BOXES DURING PERTINENT PERIOD. INVESTIGATION COMPLETED AND NO PERTINENT INFORMATION DEVELOPED.

RE: CITY MAP OF ATLANTA WITH INKED NOTATIONS.

EXTENSIVE INVESTIGATION CONTINUING UTILIZING PHOTOS OF GALT IN AREA ENCOMPASSING HIGHLAND VIEW DR. AND PONCE DE LEON TERRACE VICINITY. THUS FAR, NO PERTINENT INFORMATION DEVELOPED.

RE: TELEVISION OBTAINED FROM ONE ONE THREE FOURTEENTH ST. ROOMING HOUSE.

BUREAU LEAD.

BUREAU REQUESTED TO FORWARD PHOTOS OF ZENITH TELEVISION SET FURNISHED BY ATLANTA OFFICE TO THE FBI LABORATORY FOR EXAMINATION TO THE LOS ANGELES OFFICE WITH APPROPRIATE LEAD FOR IT TO BE SHOWN TO WITNESS, BELIEVED TO BE RITA STEIN, FOR IDENTIFICATION OF INSTANT TELEVISION.

END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

RE: NATIONAL NEWS RELEASE

AS RESULT OF NATIONAL NEWS RELEASE AND ATTENDANT PUBLICITY THERE TO, NUMEROUS PRESS INQUIRIES CONTINUE AND HAS STIMULATED VOLUMINOUS NUMBER OF SUGGESTIONS AND EFFORTS TO BE OF ASSISTANCE ON THE PART OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC. ALL PERTINENT LEADS BEING HANDLED PROMPTLY IN CONNECTION WITH THIS INFORMATION.

RE: CHECK OF AIR FLIGHTS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

INVESTIGATION REFLECTS LIMITED AIR CONNECTION FROM ATLANTA TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES WITH DELTA HAVING CONNECTIONS WITH PAN AMERICAN TO LONDON AND FRANCE AND EASTERN AIRLINES HAVING FLIGHTS TO MEXICO. OTHER EASTERN FOREIGN FLIGHTS ARE TO CANADA. APPROPRIATE LEADS SET FORTH FOR CHECKING MANIFEST FOR PERTINENT FLIGHTS AND DISPLAY OF PHOTO OF GALT TO CREW MEMBERS.

RE TELEPHONE CALLS.

ATTEMPT BEING MADE TO IDENTIFY LONG DISTANCE CALLS PLACED BY TENANTS OF ROOMING HOUSE WHERE GALT RESIDED THRU TENANTS.

RE: SIGNIFICANT IDENTIFICATION.

NIGHT OF APRIL EIGHTEEN SIXTYEIGHT SOURCE TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED AFTER VIEWING TV NEWS BROADCASTS AND NEWS ARTICLES WITHOUT ANY HESITANCY THAT PERSON BEING SOUGHT IN KING MURDER WAS FORMERLY EMPLOYED AS TELEPHONE ADVERTISING SOLICITOR IN APRIL OR MAY NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN, ATLANTA USING NAME OF JOHN WILLARD. SOURCE ADVISED TWENTY DOLLARS WAS FORWARDED TO JOHN WILLARD AT HIS ADDRESS IN UNKNOWN CITY LOCATED IN LOUISIANA.

END PAGE FOUR

PAGE FIVE

THREE CITIES ARE PROMINENT IN SOURCES MIND AS TO WHERE FUNDS WERE SENT WHICH ARE LAKE CHARLES, SHREVEPORT OR MONROE, LOUISIANA. WILLARD DURING SAME PERIOD WAS MOON LIGHTING AS PARTTIME BARTENDER. SOURCE ADVISED WILLARD QUIT SALES JOB AFTER TWO WEEKS AND SUBMITTED APPLICATIONS TO SEVERAL BARS AND RESTAURANTS ATLANTA FOR EMPLOYMENT. SOURCE ADVISED WILLARD WAS RECOMMENDED FOR SUCCESSFUL PAST SALES PERFORMANCE IN SIMILIAR CAPACITY IN LOUISIANA. SOURCE CAN NOT RECALL WHO RECOMMENDED WILLARD BUT WILL ENDEAVOR TO LEARN IDENTITY AND ADVISE.

WILLARD DESCRIBED BY SOURCE AS POSSIBLY OF RURAL BACKGROUND WITH ACCENT OR DIALECT HE DESCRIBES AS POSSIBLY "CAJON". HIS AVOCATION IN LIFE APPEARED TO BE A BARTENDER. A FELLOW EMPLOYEE OF WILLARD IDENTIFIED AS FRAN MURRAY AND BELIEVED RESIDENT PARK HOTEL, ATLANTA, WAS LESBIAN AGE FIFTY DASH SIXTY. ONE THING MURRAY HAD IN COMMON WITH WILLARD WAS THEIR MUTUAL INTEREST IN DANCING. THEY WERE OBSERVED SHOWING EACH OTHER NEW DANCE STEPS.

WILLARD WAS DESCRIBED AS NEAT, PROMPT, NEVER OBSERVED WHEN HE HAD BEEN DRINKING, ALWAYS WORE COAT, WHITE SHIRT AND BOW TIES. WARDROBE WHILE NOT EXTENSIVE DESCRIBED AS CONSERVATIVE, GOOD QUALITY CLOTHES, EXPENSIVE SHOES AND IN GOOD TASTE. USUALLY CARRIED OR WORE LIGHT TAN TRENCH COAT OR RAIN COAT. NEVER KNOWN TO OWN CAR. BOW TIES WORN DURING PERIOD WERE EITHER RED OR BLACK.

END PAGE FIVE

PAGE SIX

WHILE EMPLOYED UNDER NAME OF JOHN WILLARD USED NAME OF "BILL" WILLARD AS TOO MANY OTHERS HAD GIVEN NAME OF JOHN IN OFFICE. WILLARD HAD EXCELLANT TELEPHONE SALES PITCH REFLECTING PREVIOUS LENGTHY EMPLOYMENT IN THIS FIELD.

ON ONE OCCASION WILLARD ARRIVED AT WORK UNSHAVE. WHILE SHAVING WITH ELECTRIC RAZOR COMMENTED OUT LOUD "MAN I'M STARVO". FELLOW EMPLOYEE OVER HEARD AND SAID YOU MEAN YOUR STARVING DON'T YOU. WILLARD SAID I MEAN STARVO IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE AS THAT'S ONE OF MY NAMES.

WILLARD REPORTEDLY STAYED JEFFERSON HOTEL, ATLANTA. CHECK OF RECORDS DURING PERIOD REFLECTS ONLY ONE PERSON REGISTERED FROM LOUISIANA UNDER NAME GLEN WARD, FOUR NINE ONE SIX JEFFERSON AVE., NEW ORLEANS, FOR APRIL SIXTEEN AND SEVENTEEN SIXTYSEVEN.

WILLARD DESCRIBED AS MANNERLY, A GENTLEMAN AND SOMEWHAT VAIN IN APPEARANCE OF HAIR. HAIR DESCRIBED AS MEDIUM BROWN WAVY AND LAYS CLOSE TO SCALP GIVING IMPRESSION OF SHORT OR CREW CUT HAIR. WILLARD CONSTANTLY CRAVING FOR MONEY. NEVER MENTIONED FAMILY, PREVIOUS MILITARY SERVICE OR OTHER PERSONAL HISTORY.

SOURCE ENDEAVORING TO DETERMINE WILLARD'S RESIDENCE IN LOUISIANA PRIOR TO COMING ATLANTA FROM RECORDS. THIS INFO WILL BE AVAILABLE APRIL TWENTY NEXT.

CARE MUST BE UTILIZED IN PROTECTING IDENTITY OF SOURCE WHO IS COOPERATING SOMEWHAT RELUCTANTLY BECAUSE OF POLITICAL CONNECTION'S AND RAMIFICATIONS IN ALABAMA.

END PAGE SIX

PAGE SEVEN

ONE THREE BY FIVE CARD BEARING HANDWRITING OF WILLARD OBTAINED REFLECTING SALE OF ADVERTISING. SHOULD HAVE SEVENTY ONE OTHER CARDS WITH SPECIMENS OF HANDWRITING WHICH SOURCE IS ENDEAVORING TO LOCATE. CARD OBTAINED BEING FORWARDED EXPEDITIOUSLY TO BUREAU LAB.

INVESTIGATION ATLANTA DILIGENTLY BEING PURSUED.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END.

CORR PAGE ONE THIRD PARA LINE TWO FIRST WD SHD BD "WHETHER"

CORR PAGE FOUR LINE THIRTEEN LAST WD SHD BD "MEMBERS"

END

DND

FBI MEMPHIS

TU

DECODED COPY

☐ Radio☒ Teletype

824PM URGENT 4/17/68 EXR/LLD

TO MEMPHIS

FROM DIRECTOR

UNKNOWN SUBJECT; AKA JOHN WILLARD, HARVEY LOWMEYER, ERIC STARVO GALT; MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM, CIVIL RIGHTS - COST DATA.

PLEASE FURNISH FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON ABOVE MATTER COMPILED OR ESTIMATED THROUGH APRIL THREE ZERO, ONE NINE SIX, AND THEREAFTER SUBMIT CUMULATIVE TOTALS THROUGH THE END OF EACH MONTH UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE: (ONE) NUMBER OF MAN HOURS SPENT ON CASE BROKEN DOWN AS TO REGULAR HOURS, OVERTIME HOURS, AND TOTAL MAN HOURS BY FOLLOWING EMPLOYEES (SEPARATE FIGURES FOR EACH CLASS OF EMPLOYEES SHOWN); SPECIAL AGENTS; CLERICAL EMPLOYEES; (TWO) TOTAL MILEAGE (ESTIMATED OR ACTUAL) TRAVELED BY BUCARS USED ON CASE. INCLUDE MILEAGE FOR CARS TRAVELING TO AND FROM OTHER FIELD OFFICES ON SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT AND ANY PERSONALLY OWNED CARS; (THREE) ANY UNUSUAL OR OUT - OF - ORDINARY COSTS, SUCH AS COST OF CHARTERING AIRPLANE, RENTAL OF SPECIAL OFFICE SPACE, LEASED TELEPHONE LINES, ETC. THESE SHOULD BE ITEMIZED AND COST OF EACH ITEM SHOWN: (FOUR) PEAK NUMBER OF SPECIAL AGENTS WORKING ON CASE

END PAGE ONE

Harley Handle this

44-1987-618

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Byler

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.

DECODED COPY

☐ Radio☐ Teletype

PAGE TWO

DURING MONTH FOR WHICH REPORT IS SUBMITTED.

YOU SHOULD PROMPTLY REQUEST ALL BUREAU OFFICES INVOLVED IN THIS CASE TO FURNISH INFORMATION REQUESTED HEREIN TO YOU AND IT SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN YOUR REPORT. COST DATA IS TO BE SUBMITTED FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE CLOSE OF EACH MONTH IN ORDER THAT THE BUREAU MAY MAINTAIN COMPLETE AND UP-TO-DATE COST DATA ON CASE.

END

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.

4/18/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861)

FROM: CLEVELAND (44-565)

ATTENTION: IDENTIFICATION DIVISION, LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION.

MURKIN

RE CINCINNATI TEL TO MEMPHIS AND CLEVELAND, APRIL SEVENTEEN, SIXTYEIGHT (10).

RE: JOHN WARNER WILLARD, JR., POSSIBLE SUSPECT

IN ABOVE REFERENCED TEL, CINCINNATI ADVISED RECORDS OF OHIO BUREAU OF CRIME INFORMATION AND INVESTIGATION, LONDON, OHIO, REVEAL RECORD RE ABOVE SUSPECT, FBI NUMBER EIGHT EIGHT SEVEN THREE FIVE ONE E. FURTHER ADVISED PHOTO OF SUSPECT RESEMBLES THAT OF COMPOSITE OF SUBJECT INSTANT CASE. SUSPECT WILLARD DESCRIBED AS WM, DOB MEMPHIS, TENN.

CLEVELAND WILL HOLD IN ABEYANCE ANY ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATION TO ASCERTAIN THE WHEREABOUTS OF JOHN WARNER WILLARD, JR., PENDING POSSIBLE ELIMINATION BY FINGERPRINT COMPARISON.

CLEVELAND REQUESTS LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION TO COMPARE PRINTS OF JOHN WARNER WILLARD, JR., FBI NUMBER EIGHT EIGHT

END PAGE ONE

MPM/hs

(1) - MEMPHIS (AM)

44-1987-619

Bayle RB

CV 44-565

PAGE TWO

SEVEN THREE FIVE ONE E, WITH LATENTS IN CAPTIONED CASE.

AIR MAIL COPY TO MEMPHIS. ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

CEFBI MEMPHIS

FBI SACTO

906AM 4/19/68 URGENT AZL

TO: ATLANTA (44-2386)

MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM: SACRAMENTO (100-427) (P)

MURKIN CR.

REURTEL, APRIL EIGHTEEN, LAST.

SUTEL WHICH OF THREE TIRES MENTIONED IN RETEL HAS IMPRINT SIX
ZERO ONE.

END.

SAB

FBI MEMPHIS

TU

44-1987-620

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Heiter *WMA*

F B I

Date: 4/19/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: MEMPHIS (44-1987) (1P)

MURKIN.

INSPECTOR N. E. ZACHARY, MEMPHIS PD, HAS INFO INDICATING
FRANK LEON MILLER MAY BE IDENTICAL WITH UNSUB GALT. BUREAU
REQUESTED TO COMPARE LATENTS WITH FINGERPRINTS OF MILLER WHO
HAS FBI NO. SEVEN SEVEN NINE NINE THREE SIX D, MEMPHIS PD
NO. SEVEN SEVEN ZERO FOUR EIGHT. IN VIEW OF INTEREST OF
MEMPHIS PD, AND SIMILARITY OF PHOTOGRAPH, IT IS REQUESTED YOU
SUTEL RESULTS. P. END.

44-1987-621

Airtel _____

Teletype _____

A.M. _____

A.M.S. JCH:jap _____

(1)
Spec. Del. *jap* _____

Reg. Mail _____

Approved: *RC Jensen*
Special Agent in ChargeSent *10:47 PM* Per *rep*

FBI MEMPHIS

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[Handwritten signature]

FBI MIAMI

212 PM URGENT 4/19/68 SHR

TO DIRECTOR 44-33861, ATLANTA 44-2386, BIRMINGHAM 44-4171 AND MEMPHIS
44-1978

FROM MIAMI 44-1854

MURKIN. CR.

RE KNOXVILLE TELETYPE TO BUREAU, ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM, LOS ANGELES,
MEMPHIS, NEW ORLEANS AND MIAMI, APRIL EIGHTEEN, LAST.

RE DANCE STUDIO CHECKS.

ASSOCIATES OF JUANITA WELCH AND OFFICIALS AT CONGRESS VOYAGER
MOTEL, ONE TWO THREE FIVE ZERO BISCAYNE BLVD., MIAMI, ADVISED THAT WELCH
EMPLOYED THERE AS A DANCE INSTRUCTOR UNTIL APPROXIMATELY DEC., SIXTY-
SEVEN, AT WHICH TIME SHE LEFT TO GO NORTH. THEY HAVE NO IDEA WHERE
SHE WENT OR OF HER CURRENT WHEREABOUTS. EMPLOYMENT RECORDS NEGATIVE
REGARDING A MIAMI ADDRESS OR A FORWARDING ADDRESS FOR WELCH.
CREDIT AND ARREST CHECKS GREATER MIAMI AREA NEGATIVE.

ATLANTA CONTINUE EFFORTS TO LOCATE JUANITA WELCH AS SET FORTH IN
REFERENCED KNOXVILLE TELETYPE.

END

SAB

FBI MEMPHIS

X

44-1987-622

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI WASH DC

413PM URGENT 4-19-68 SAA

TO ALL SACS

FROM DIRECTOR 4P

MURKIN

THE FOLLOWING PRESS RELEASE HAS JUST BEEN ISSUED AT WASHINGTON THIS AFTERNOON AND YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO MAKE IT IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE TO THE LEADING NEWSPAPERS AND RADIO AND TV STATIONS IN YOUR DIVISION. EVERY EFFORT MUST BE MADE TO INSURE REPEATED AND WIDESPREAD DISTRIBUTION OF THIS INFORMATION. COPIES OF THE 1963 PHOTOGRAPH OF SUBJECT ALREADY IN YOUR POSSESSION AND WANTED FLYERS SHOULD ALSO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO MEDIA CONTACTS. NO ELABORATION WHATSOEVER MAY BE MADE REGARDING THIS RELEASE. ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING INVESTIGATIVE LEADS WILL FOLLOW SHORTLY.

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Hester

ASAC ^{COB}
Stappell
Price
Brewer

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APRIL 19, 1968

ATTORNEY GENERAL RAMSEY CLARK ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE FBI HAS IDENTIFIED JAMES EARL RAY, AN ESCAPEE FROM THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY, AS ERIC STARVO GALT, AGAINST WHOM A FEDERAL COMPLAINT WAS FILED LAST WEDNESDAY IN CONNECTION WITH THE FATAL SHOOTING OF THE REVEREND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

DIRECTOR J. EDGAR HOOVER SAID THAT A SYSTEMATIC AND EXHAUSTIVE SEARCH OF LATENT FINGERPRINTS UNCOVERED IN THE DR. KING CASE AGAINST THE FINGERPRINTS OF THE OVER 53,000 PERSONS FROM WHOM "WANTED NOTICES" HAVE BEEN POSTED IN THE FILES OF THE FBI'S IDENTIFICATION DIVISION LED TO THE DETERMINATION THAT GALT AND RAY ARE IDENTICAL.

MR. HOOVER SAID THAT RAY, WHO IS 40 YEARS OF AGE, WAS REPORTED MISSING FROM THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI, SINCE APRIL 23, 1967. HE HAD BEEN RECEIVED AT THAT INSTITUTION ON MARCH 17, 1960, TO SERVE A 20-YEAR SENTENCE FOLLOWING CONVICTION IN ST. LOUIS FOR ARMED ROBBERY AND FOR OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE OWNER.

PAGE THREE

IN SEPTEMBER, 1966, WHILE SERVING THIS SENTENCE, HE WAS CONFINED FOR A TIME IN THE MAXIMUM SECURITY WARD AT THE STATE HOSPITAL AT FULTON, MISSOURI.

ACCORDING TO MR. HOOVER, RAY HAS A KNOWN ARREST RECORD DATING BACK TO 1949. PRIOR TO THE 1960 CONVICTION FOR WHICH HE RECEIVED THE 20-YEAR TERM, RAY HAD BEEN CONVICTED OF BURGLARY IN LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, IN 1949; ARMED ROBBERY IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, IN 1952; AND FORGING UNITED STATES POSTAL MONEY ORDERS IN MISSOURI IN 1955.

HE HAS SERVED TERMS IN THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY JAIL IN 1949; IN STATE PRISONS AT JOLIET AND PONTIAC, ILLINOIS, IN 1952-54; AND IN THE FEDERAL PENITENTIARY AT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS, IN 1955-58.

RAY WAS AN ENLISTED MAN IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY FROM FEBRUARY, 1946, TO DECEMBER, 1948, AT WHICH TIME HE WAS GIVEN A GENERAL DISCHARGE DUE TO INEPTNESS AND LACK OF ADAPTABILITY FOR MILITARY SERVICE. WHILE IN THE ARMY, HE RECEIVED A THREE-MONTH SENTENCE AT HARD LABOR FOR BEING DRUNK AND BREAKING ARREST.

MR. HOOVER SAID THAT DURING HIS CRIMINAL CAREER, RAY HAS ALSO USED THE NAMES OF JAMES MCBRIDE, JAMES WALTON, W. C. HERRON AND JAMES O'CONNER. HE IS A WHITE MALE; CLAIMS TO HAVE

PAGE FOUR

BEEN BORN [REDACTED] IN ILLINOIS; IS APPROXIMATELY 5 FEET 10 INCHES TALL AND WEIGHS ABOUT 163 TO 174 POUNDS. HE HAS BLUE EYES AND BROWN HAIR. THERE IS A SMALL SCAR ON THE CENTER OF HIS FOREHEAD AND A SCAR ON THE PALM OF HIS RIGHT HAND.

RAY HAS CLAIMED THAT HE ATTENDED SCHOOL THROUGH THE 10TH GRADE IN ALTON, ILLINOIS. HE HAS HAD THE REPUTATION OF BEING A "DRIFTER" SINCE LEAVING SCHOOL. HIS VOCATIONAL EXPERIENCE INCLUDES WORKING AS A BAKER, LABORER AND COLOR MATCHER.

IN CONNECTION WITH HIS ESCAPE FROM THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY, AN FBI COMPLAINT WAS FILED IN JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI, ON JULY 20, 1967, CHARGING RAY WITH UNLAWFULLY FLEEING FROM THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO AVOID CONFINEMENT. HE HAS BEEN A FEDERAL FUGITIVE SINCE THEN.

RAY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND EXTREMELY DANGEROUS. ANYONE HAVING INFORMATION CONCERNING HIM SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CONTACT FBI HEADQUARTERS IN WASHINGTON, D. C., OR THE NEAREST FBI OFFICE.

CNF

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI MIAMI

4:37PM URGENT 4-19-68 PJL

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), MEMPHIS (44-1987), AND
BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)
FROM MIAMI (44-1854) 1P

MURKIN

RE KNOXVILLE TELETYPE TO BUREAU, APRIL EIGHTEEN, LAST,
AND MIAMI TELETYPE TO BUREAU, APRIL EIGHTEEN, LAST.

RE INVESTIGATION CONTINENTAL DANCE STUDIOS.

BERNARD REIN, IMPERIAL IMPORTS, MIAMI, FLA., EMPLOYER
OF VINCENT CUTOLO, ADVISED THAT CUTOLO AND HIS WIFE,
JACQUELINE CUTOLO, CURRENTLY STAYING AT TWO ZERO ZERO
CRUTCHFIELD AVE., NASHVILLE, TENN., TELEPHONE TWO FIVE SIX DASH
TWO THREE FOUR EIGHT.

MEMPHIS AT NASHVILLE, TENN., WILL CONDUCT INVESTIGATION AS
SET FORTH IN REFERENCED KNOXVILLE AND MIAMI TELETYPES.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

MEMPHIS PLEASE ACK

WMO

FBI MEMPHIS

TU

Nashville
notified
4/20/68
telephonically

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Fitzpatrick

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI EL PASO

554 PM 4/19/68 URGENT RPC

TO DIRECTOR, (44-38861), BIRMINGHAM (44-1740), MEMPHIS (44-1987).
FROM EL PASO (157-186) (P)

MURKIN

RE ALBANY AIRTEL TO DIRECTOR, APRIL, ELEVEN, LAST; AND EL PASO
TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR, APRIL ELEVEN, LAST.

LAUNDRY MARKINGS.

REFERENCED EL PASO TELETYPE SET OUT INFORMATION ELIMINATING
ODESSA LAUNDRY, ODESSA, TEXAS BECAUSE IT'S THERMO SEAL MARKING
MACHINE USED NO LETTERS AND ONLY WHITE TAGS, EXCEPT FOR ORANGE
TAGS ON RUSH ORDERS. ALSO NOT USED ON ROUGH DRY WORK, SUCH AS
SHIRTS, AND T-SHIRTS.

ELITE LAUNDRY AND CLEANERS, EL PASO, TEXAS, WENT OUT OF
EXISTENCE IN NINETEEN SIXTY-THREE AND EXTENSIVE INVESTIGATION TO
LOCATE ITS TWO THERMO SEAL MARKING MACHINES NEGATIVE.
MISS CELIA F. JIMENEZ, LAUNDRY SUPPLY COMPANY, EL PASO, ADVISED
ON APRIL EIGHTEEN, LAST, THAT SHE RECALLED HER COMPANY SOLD ELITE
LAUNDRY AND CLEANERS ITS TWO THERMO SEAL MARKING MACHINES, WHICH
USED OLD STYLE TAPE, FIVE SIXTEENHY INCHES IN WOODS, NOT ONE
QUARTER INCH TAPE. SHE REVIEWED COMPANY RECORDS AND VERIFIED THIS
FACT, THUS ELIMINATING MACHINES OF ELITE LAUNDRY AND CLEANERS.

END PAGE ONE

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Ramsey

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NO INFORMATION DEVELOPED TO INDICATE ANY OTHER LAUNDRIES IN
EL PASO DIVISION HAVE USED THERMO SEAL MARKING MACHINES IN PAST.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END.

TSJ

FBI MEMPHIS

X

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI WASH DC

659PM URGENT 4/19/68 GJM

TO MEMPHIS 44-1937 ATLANTA 44-2386

FROM DIRECTOR 44-33861 1P

MURKIN.

REATLET FOUR NINETEEN LAST SUBMITTING EASTERN
AIRLINES TICKET ENVELOPE AND THREE BY FIVE CARD BEARING
KNOWN HANDWRITING OF JOHN WILLARD. IT WAS DETERMINED THAT
THE WRITINGS ON THE THREE BY FIVE CARD AND WRITING ATTRIBUTED
TO ERIC S. GALT NOT PREPARED BY SAME INDIVIDUAL.

DIFFERENCES WERE NOTED BETWEEN THE "HARVEY LOWMYER"
SIGNATURE ON GUN INVOICE AND WRITING ON THREE BY FIVE CARD BUT
THE LIMITED NATURE OF THE LOWMYER SIGNATURE AND THE LACK OF
COMPARABLE LETTERS AND LETTER COMBINATIONS APPEARING ON THE
THREE BY FIVE CARD PRECLUDED DETERMINATION AS TO WHETHER THE
LOWMYER SIGNATURE AND WRITINGS ON THE THREE BY FIVE CARD BY
ONE INDIVIDUAL. . NOTHING OF SIGNIFICANCE NOTED FROM
EXAMINATION OF TICKET ENVELOPE. LATENT RESULTS WILL BE
FURNISHED SEPARATELY.

END

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

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[Handwritten signatures and initials over the stamp]

F B I

Date: 4/19/68

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(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE _____
(Priority)

TO DIRECTOR, BIRMINGHAM AND ATLANTA

FROM MEMPHIS (44-1987) 2P

MURKIN.

THIS MORNING, ROBERT DWYER, FIRST ASST. ATTORNEY GENERAL COVERING THE STATE DISTRICT IN WHICH MEMPHIS IS LOCATED, CALLED AT OFFICE. DWYER STATED THAT HE CAME NOT TO MAKE ANY REQUEST OF THE FBI BUT ONLY TO MAKE FORMAL NOTICE THAT AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PROSECUTOR IN THIS DISTRICT, THEIR OFFICE WAS MOST INTERESTED IN THE CASE INVOLVING THE MURDER OF DR. KING. HE OFFERED THE COOPERATION OF HIS OFFICE AND SAID IF THERE IS ANYTHING POSSIBLE THAT THEY COULD DO TO OFFER ASSISTANCE IN ANY WAY, THEY WERE READY AT ANY TIME.

MEMPHIS DIVISION INDICES CONTAIN NO INFORMATION REGARDING JAMES EARL RAY. PHOTOGRAPH OF GALT WAS DISPLAYED TO LOGICAL SOURCES THIS DATE WITH NO POSITIVE INFORMATION DEVELOPED. MEMPHIS PD HAS NO RECORD CONCERNING JAMES EARL RAY.

INVESTIGATION AT MEMPHIS THIS DATE FAILED TO SHOW THAT ANYONE USING THE NAME GALT OR ANY OF HIS ALIASES HAS EVER BEEN

MEMBER OF EITHER BAKERS OR BARTENDERS UNIONS IN MEMPHIS. UNION

RGJ:ME
A. M. (1)

A. S. D.

Spec. Del.

Reg. Mail

Registered

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

Per

F B I

Date:

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(Priority)

PAGE TWO

OFFICIALS ADVISE THERE ARE NO SCHOOLS IN MEMPHIS FOR EITHER BAKERS OR BARTENDERS.

CHARLES HARTZELL, WHO WAS MANAGER OF THE CONTINENTAL DANCE CLUB, NEW ORLEANS, FROM ITS INCEPTION UNTIL TWO OR THREE MONTHS BEFORE ITS CLOSING IN NINETEEN SIXTY FIVE, ADVISED HE HAD NO RECOLLECTION OF A STUDENT UNDER THE NAME OF GALT OR ANY OF HIS ALIASES, INCLUDING THE NAME JAMES EARL RAY. HARTZELL STILL HAD IN HIS POSSESSION A LIST OF STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED THE CONTINENTAL DANCE CLUB IN NEW ORLEANS FOR PERIOD JAN. SIXTY FIVE THROUGH AUG., NINETEEN SIXTY FIVE. THESE RECORDS WERE NEGATIVE CONCERNING RAY, GALT OR ANY OF THE ALIASES USED BY GALT.

PRESS RELEASE AS AUTHORIZED BY BUREAU FURNISHED TO NEWSPAPERS AND TV IN AREA. FAVORABLE RESPONSE TO PUBLICITY FURNISHED BY BUREAU.

INVESTIGATION CONTINUING, MEMPHIS DIVISION. P.

END

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

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI-BUFFALO

720PM URGENT 4/19/68 PJF

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) BIRMINGHAM AND MEMPHIS
FROM BUFFALO (44-374)

MURKIN

SGT. ROBERT E. MUIR, RCMP, NIAGARA FALLS ONTARIO ADVISED THIS
DATE SUBJECT ERIC STARVO GALT POSSIBLY SEEN BY ONE OF THEIR INFORMANTS
IN NIAGARA FALLS ONTARIO ON APRIL TWELVE LAST.

VICTOR KRSTIC OWNER VICTOR7S MEN'S SHOP NIAGARA FALLS ONTARIO RCMP
INFORMANT WHO IS DESCRIBED AS OF KNOWN RELIABILITY WAS INTERVIEWED
BY A BUAGENT AND SGT. MUIR THIS DATE.

KRSTIC ADVISED THAT AFTER VIEWING PHOTO AND ACCOMPANYING PRESS
RELEASE OF ERIC STARVO GALT WHICH APPEARED IN NIAGARA FALLS EVENING
REVIEW NIAGARA FALLS ONTARIO DATED APRIL EIGHTEEN LAST HE RECOGNIZED
IT AS THAT OF A CUSTOMER WHO WAS IN HIS STORE ON THE MORNING OF APRIL
TWELVE LAST. DESCRIPTION OF GALT WAS IN THE NEWSPAPER.

KRSTIC FURTHER ADVISED THAT AT APPROXIMATELY TEN AM ON APRIL
TWELVE A WHITE MALE AGE EARLY THIRTIES FIVE FEET SEVEN INCHES ONE
FIFTYFIVE TO SIXTY POUNDS MEDIUM BUILD DARK BROWN HAIR FAIR COMPLEXION
CLEAN SHAVEN APPEARED AT HIS STORE. KRSTIC SAID THE UNKNOWN MALE WAS
WEARING A DARK OLIVE GREEN SUMMER WEIGHT SUIT, WHITE SHIRT AND NO TIE.
END PAGE ONE

44-1987-625

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Hester *qk*

PAGE TWO

HE SAID THAT HE COULD NOT FURNISH ANY ADDITIONAL PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OR OF THE CLOTHING THE UNKNOWN MALE WAS WEARING. KRSTIC ADVISED UNKNOWN MALE PURCHASED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS AND PAID FOR THEM WITH TWO AMERICAN TEN DOLLARS BILLS;

ONE PAIR OF SLACKS ,COMBED COTTON ANTELOPE COLOR WAIST THIRTYFOUR LENGTH TWENTYNINE WITH LABEL ON INSIDE WAISTEBAND "VICTOR'S MEN'S SHOP VICTORIA AVENUE AT CENTER STREET NIAGARA FALLS ONTARIO."

ON SPORT SHIRT DESCRIBED AS HAVING IMITATION SUEDE FRONT. LONG BALCK CLOTH SLEEVES BLACK CLOTH TURTLE NECK WITH ZIPPER UP THE FRONT.. LABEL ON INSIDE IS "FLORIDA QUALITY KNITTING-MADE IN CANADA>" NO CITY NOTED.

KRSTIC SAID THAT UNKNOWN MALE CHANGED INTO SLACKS AND SPORT SHIRT IN THE STORE DRESSING ROOM. KRSTIC OFFERED TO PUT HIS OTHER CLOTHES IN A BAG BUT UNKNOWN MALE REFUSED, ADVISING THAT HE WAS IN A HURRY AND THAT HE WOULD CARRY THEM PRIOR TO UNKNOWN MALE'S DEPARTURE FROM THE STORE HE ASKED FOR THE QUICKEST DIRECTION TO MONTREAL ,CANADA.

KRSTIC TOLD HIM TO TAKE THE QUEEN ELIZABETH WAY ,QEW, TO ROUTE TWENTYSEVEN NORTH TO TORONTO FOUR ZERO ONE E FROM TORONTO TO MONTREAL. KRSTIC ASSUMES UNKNOWN MALE HAD CAR BUT SAW NONE. INVESTIGATION IN SHOPPING AREA ADJACENT TO VICTOR'S MEN'S SHOP FAILS TO REVEAL ADDITIONAL PURCHASES BY UNKNOWN MALE.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

DRESSING ROOM SEARCH FAILS TO REVEAL ANY EVIDENCE LEFT BY
UNKNOWN MALE.

BRIDGES LEADING FROM US TO CANADA AND NIAGARA FALLS AREA UNABLE
TO ESTABLISH CROSSING OF VEHICLES AS NO RECORD KEPT OF VEHICLES
CROSSING INTO CANADA BY CANADIAN AUTHORITIES.

CANADIAN AUTHORITIES IN NIAGARA FALLS AND BUFFALO AREA ALERTED
FOR POSSIBLE RETURN TO AREA BY UNKNOWN MALE.

ALL OFFICES BE ALERT TO POSSIBILITY UNKNOWN MALE IN CANADA
AND POSSIBLE RE-ENTRY.

BUREAU ADVISE MONTREAL THROUGH LEGAT.

AM CC AL, DE, CV, MP,BT,AND SE,

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END TSJ

FBI MEMPHIS

X

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI BIRMGHAM

756 PM URGENT 4-19-68 SSP

TO: DIRECTOR AND SACS MEMPHIS AND ATLANTA

FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)

MURKIN.

SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION TODAY.

JAKE BRISTOW, R-PROB (GHETTO), TODAY ADVISED THAT THE FEELING AMONG NEGROES GENERALLY IN THE NORTH BIRMINGHAM AREA IS THAT THEY ARE WELL SATISFIED WITH THE INVESTIGATION BEING CONDUCTED BY THE FBI TO APPREHEND THE KILLER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HE ADVISED THAT INITIAL REACTION IN THIS AREA WAS SEVERE AND THAT THERE WAS "UGLY TALK" WHICH INDICATED A STRONG POSSIBILITY OF VIOLENCE. INFORMANT STATED THAT THIS TALK HAS CEASED AND THAT HE DOES NOT OBSERVE OR ANTICIPATE ANY INDICATION OF VIOLENCE AMONG NEGROES IN BIRMINGHAM AS A RESULT OF THIS MURDER. HE ATTRIBUTES THIS TO THE FACT THE NEGRO COMMUNITY REALIZES THIS IS NOT A PERFUNCTORY INVESTIGATION BUT AN ALL-OUT EFFORT OF THE FBI TO BRING THE KILLER OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., TO JUSTICE.

INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM THE ACCOUNTANT OF THE ATLANTA SOURCE WHO FURNISHED INFORMATION APRIL EIGHTEEN, LAST, REGARDING JOHN WILLARD INDICATES THAT WILLARD WAS FIRST EMPLOYED ON MARCH
END PAGE ONE

44-1987-686

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TWENTYONE, SIXTYSEVEN, PRIOR TO THE ESCAPE OF JAMES EARL RAY.
COMPLETE RECORD SENT TO ATLANTA.

CHECK OF BANK RECORDS CONTINUING.

ALL SUSPECTS FURNISHED THE BIRMINGHAM OFFICE EXPEDITIOUSLY
CHECKED, OUT NEGATIVELY.

DAILY SUMMARY TELETYPES WILL BE DISCONTINUED THIS DATE;
HOWEVER, ALL PHASES OF THIS INVESTIGATION WILL BE GIVEN EXPEDITIOUS
ATTENTION AND ALL PERTINENT INFORMATION WILL BE IMMEDIATELY
FURNISHED THE BUREAU

END.

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI WASH DC

807 PM URGENT 4/19/68 GFH

TO ATLANTA 44-2386 MEMPHIS 44-1987
FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861 - 2P

MURKIN

RE ATLANTA LETTER AND AIRTEL APRIL SEVENTEEN SUBMITTING
ITEMS FROM GALT'S ROOM.

PIECE OF BROWN THREAD IS LIKE BROWN THREAD USED TO
REPAIR UNDERSHORTS FROM BLUE SUITCASE AND COULD BE FROM
SAME SOURCE.

PIECE OF BLACK THREAD COULD NOT BE ASSOCIATED WITH ANY
PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED ITEMS.

KEY BLANKS AND STRIP OF METAL CONSISTENT WITH TYPE OF
MATERIALS FURNISHED STUDENTS TAKING CORRESPONDENCE
LOCKSMITHING COURSES.

SOME DIFFERENCES NOTED BETWEEN WRITING OF HANEY'S
SHEET METAL BUSINESS CARD AND MATERIAL ATTRIBUTED TO
ERIC S. GALT, BUT LIMITED QUESTIONED WRITING AND LAKXXX LACK OF
COMPARABLE WRITING BY GALT PRECLUDED DEFINITE OPINION
END PAGE ONE

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[Handwritten signatures and initials over the stamp]

PAGE TWO

WHETHER PREPARED BY GALT.

ONE COAT HANGER HAS ADVERTISEMENT OF "HAI PING
LAUNDRY AND CLEANERS, ONE ONE SIX TWO PEACHTREE ST.,
N.E., ATLANTA NINE GA." NO MARKS ON OTHER HANGERS.

NO LABELS, VISIBLE OR INVESIBLE LAUNDRY MARKS ON
HANDKERCHIEF. SEVERAL BROWN LIMB HAIRS OF CAUCASIAN
ORIGIN ON SOCKS.

HANDKERCHIEF USED TO APPLY SHOE POLISH. SHOE POLISH
ON HANDKERCHIEF SIMILAR IN COLOR AND COMPOSITION TO SHOE
POLISH FROM SUITCASE.

REPORT FOLLOWS.

FINGERPRINT REPORT SEPARATE.

END

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI CHICAGO

52PM IMMEDIATE 4-19-68 RFJ

TO MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM CHICAGO (44-1114)

MURKIN.

ON APRIL EIGHTEEN LAST, JOHN POWELL, EIGHT SIX FIVE FIVE SOUTH ELIZABETH, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED HE SAW A NINETEEN SIXTY THREE OR NINETEEN SIXTY FOUR YELLOW PONTIAC CATALINA CONVERTIBLE BEARING NINETEEN SIXTY EIGHT SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE LICENSE BK ONE EIGHT NINE SEVEN OCCUPIED BY INDIVIDUAL BELIEVED TO BE GAULT AND AN UNIDENTIFIED BLONDE FEMALE, ON INSTANT DATE POWELL INTERVIEWED AT LENGTH AND ADVISED VEHICLE POSSIBLY NINETEEN SIXTY TWO CATALINA. POWELL FURNISHED MARCH NINETEEN SIXTY EIGHT PHOTOGRAPH OF GAULT AND NINETEEN FIFTY TWO CHICAGO PD PHOTOGRAPH OF JAMES EARL RAY. POWELL ADVISED AN INDIVIDUAL HE SAW STRONGLY RESEMBLES AND VERY POSITIVELY IDENTICAL IN CHICAGO PD PHOTOGRAPH AND ALSO SIMILAR TO MARCH, NINETEEN SIXTY EIGHT PHOTOGRAPH.

END PAGE ONE

44-1987-627A

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MEMPHIS AT NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, DETERMINE
REGISTRATION OF NINETEEN SIXTY EIGHT TENNESSEE LICENSE
3K ONE EIGHT NINE SEVEN AND SUTEL APPROPRIATE LEADS
TO LOCATE AND ELIMINATE.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

TSJ

FBI MEMPHIS

TU

FBI ATLANTA

955 PM URGENT 4-19-68 ARK

TO DIRECTOR, BIRMINGHAM, KANSAS CITY, LOS ANGELES, NEW ORLEANS,
MEMPHIS, AND SPRINGFIELD
FROM ATLANTA (44-2386)

MURKIN

SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED ATLANTA APRIL NINETEEN
SIXTYEIGHT:

RE REPORTED IDENTIFICATION OF GALT AS JOHN WILLARD:

JOHN WILLARD PREVIOUSLY EMPLOYED ATLANTA APRIL OR MAY SIXTYSEVEN
IN TELEPHONE SALES. SOURCE ALSO MADE AVAILABLE A CARD HANDLED
BY WILLARD AND BEARING RECORD OF SALES IN WILLARD'S HANDWRITING.

LABORATORY REPORTS HANDWRITING COMPARISON AS REFLECTED
ON CARD IS NOT IDENTICAL WITH THAT IN LOWMYER SIGNATURE OR OTHER
KNOWN SPECIMENS AVAILABLE.

BUREAU LABORATORY REPORTED EXAMINATION OF CARD COMPLETED
BY WILLARD, LOCATED THREE LATENT FINGERPRINTS WHICH PRINTS HAVE
BEEN IDENTIFIED AS PRINTS OF WALTER A. WILLARD, FBI # FOUR FOUR
EIGHT ZERO NINE FIVE NINE. WALTER WILLARD EMPLOYED AS JOHN
WILLARD COMPLETELY ELIMINATED BY PRINTS AND HANDWRITING.

RE LAUNDRY MARK INVESTIGATION.

END PAGE ONE

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Hester *gpk*

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ALL LEADS COVERED IN THIS AREA OF INVESTIGATION.
SAMPLE MARKINGS, WHERE PERTINENT, FORWARDED LABORATORY
FOR EXAMINATION.

RE DRIVER LICENSE:

INVESTIGATION OF THOSE PERSONS HAVING GEORGIA OPERATOR'S
LICENSE IN NAME OF GALT HAS BEEN COMPLETED WITHOUT DEVELOPING
PERTINENT DATA.

RE CITY MAP OF ATLANTA WITH INKED NOTATIONS:

EXTENSIVE INVESTIGATION COMPLETED IN AREA ENCOMPASSING
HIGHLAND VIEW DRIVE AND PONCE DE LEON TERRACE VICINITY.
THIS INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED USING PHOTOGRAPH OF RAY, AKA.
GALT, AND NO PERTINENT INFORMATION DEVELOPED.

ADDITIONAL INQUIRY BEING MADE IN THAT AREA ENCOMPASSING
FOURTEENTH STREET DASH PEACHTREE AREA UTILIZING PHOTOGRAPHS.
THUS FAR, NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION DEVELOPED.

RE NATIONAL NEWS RELEASE APRIL NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT:

INFORMATION MADE AVAILABLE NATIONAL NEWS RELEASE WAS
DISTRIBUTED TO ALL WIRE SERVICES, RADIO DASH TELEVISION
STATIONS, NEWSPAPERS, POLICE DEPARTMENTS, AND OTHER MEDIA
END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

AT 44-2386

REACHING THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

AS A RESULT OF SECOND NATIONAL NEWS RELEASE AND PREVIOUS NEWS RELEASE AND ATTENDANT PUBLICITY, PRESS INQUIRIES RECEIVED AND ANSWERED WITH NO ADDITIONAL COMMENTS.

AS A RESULT OF EXTENSIVE PUBLICITY GIVEN TO NEWS RELEASES THE GENERAL PUBLIC HAS MADE AN EXTREMELY LARGE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS AND ALLEGATIONS THAT SUBJECT HAS BEEN SEEN AT VARIOUS POINTS. THE COMPLAINTS HAVE BEEN CHECKED OUT WITH NO PERTINENT INFORMATION DEVELOPED AS TO THE WHEREABOUTS OF SUBJECT.

RE CONTACT WITH SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SCLC):

CONTACTS CONTINUE WITH SCLC OFFICE IN EFFORT TO INTERVIEW PERTINENT STAFF MEMBERS UPON THEIR AVAILABILITY. TO DATE, NONE ARE AVAILABLE FOR SUCH INTERVIEWS AND DISPLAY OF PHOTOGRAPHS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END.

Q&J

FBI MEMPHIS

INITOAL AAIN PLS.

TSJ

FBI MEMPHIS

P

F B I

Date: 4/19/68

PLAINTEXT

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

MURKIN; CR

RE MEMPHIS TELETYPE TO BUREAU APRIL EIGHTEEN, LAST.
INVESTIGATION AT L L AND L PRODUCE COMPANY, EIGHT ONE
FOUR SCOTT STREET, MEMPHIS, TENN., REVEALED IDENTITIES
OF INDIVIDUALS REFERRED TO BY JOHN MC FERREN, SOMERVILLE,
TENN., AS JAMES WILLIAM LATCH, VICE PRESIDENT OF L L AND L
PRODUCE COMPANY, AND FRANK CAMILLA LIBERTO, PRESIDENT OF
L L AND L PRODUCE COMPANY.

LATCH AND LIBERTO INTERVIEWED BY BUAGENTS APRIL NINETEEN,
INSTANT, AND EMPHATICALLY DENY HAVING ANY KNOWLEDGE OF THE
IDENTITY OF SUBJECT RESPONSIBLE FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING'S
DEATH. LATCH AND LIBERTO SHOWN PHOTOS OF SUBJECT JAMES
EARL RAY, AKA, AND FAILED TO IDENTIFY RAY AS ANY INDIVIDUAL
KNOWN TO HIM RECENTLY OR IN THE PAST. THEY ALSO DENY EVER
DISCUSSING WITH ANYONE THE POSSIBILITY OF SHOOTING KING,
HOWEVER, READILY ADMITTED THEY MAY HAVE MADE USUAL
DEROGATORY REMARKS ABOUT KING'S ACTIONS IN MEMPHIS, AND

RF/bbs
(1)

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Special Agent in Charge

Sent 1:35 PM Per _____

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Date:

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(Priority)

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AND THE FACT THAT KING WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR LOSS OF REVENUE BY BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE MEMPHIS AREA. LATCH AND LIBERTO ADVISED SIMILAR DISPARAGING STATEMENTS ARE PART OF GENERAL CONVERSATION AMONG CO-WORKERS IN AND AROUND PRODUCE COMPANY AND OTHER INDIVIDUALS RESIDING AND EMPLOYED IN THE MEMPHIS AREA.

EACH STATED THEY WORKED AT THE PRODUCE COMPANY ON APRIL FOUR, LAST, AND LIBERTO ADVISED HE DEPARTED FROM WORK AT APPROXIMATELY FOUR THIRTY PM AND WAS NOT AWARE OF KING'S DEATH UNTIL AFTER ARRIVING HOME. LATCH ADVISED HE DEPARTED WORK APPROXIMATELY SIX PM AND MAY HAVE HEARD KING'S DEATH REPORTED ON THE RADIO, ALTHOUGH HE IS NOT SURE.

EACH DENIED RECEIVING ANY TELEPHONE CALL WHERE MENTION IS MADE OF SHOOTING OF KING OR OF ANY REFERENCE TO KING. EACH STATED THEY HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE OF THE SHOOTING WHILE AT WORK AT THE PRODUCE COMPANY.

LIBERTO ADVISED HE FREQUENTLY MAKES TRIPS TO NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, FOR STRAWBERRIES AND OTHER PRODUCE, AND ALSO BECAUSE ALL FAMILY MEMBERS RESIDE IN NEW ORLEANS.

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

F B I

Date:

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(Priority)

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LIBERTO STATED THIS IS COMMON KNOWLEDGE AMONG EMPLOYEES AND CUSTOMERS AT HIS PRODUCE COMPANY AS HE FREQUENTLY MENTIONS TRIPS TO NEW ORLEANS.

LIBERTO STATED MOST PRODUCE IS PURCHASED THROUGH TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS AND THIS INEVITABLY INVOLVES TALKING ABOUT LARGE SUMS OF MONEY OVER THE TELEPHONE.

LIBERTO ADVISED HE HAS HAD NO INDIVIDUAL EMPLOYED RE-
CENTLY AT HIS PRODUCE COMPANY FITTING DESCRIPTION OF
UNSUB DESCRIBED BY MC FERREN, ~~AND STATED HE ALWAYS~~ *MC FERREN NOT IDENTIFIED TO LIBERTO*
EMPLOYS NEGRO MALES FOR HELP IN THE PRODUCE DEPARTMENT.

BOTH LIBERTO AND LATCH STATED THEY WOULD REMEMBER ANY CONVERSATION, OVER THE TELEPHONE OR IN PERSON, WHICH ALLEGEDLY TOOK PLACE APRIL FOUR, LAST, AND INVOLVED THE DEATH OF KING, AND STATED THAT THEY WOULD HAVE NO REASON FOR BEING INVOLVED IN ANY ACTION OF THIS SORT.

LEADS BEING SENT TO NEW ORLEANS TO FURTHER CHECK STORY BY INTERVIEWING LIBERTO'S BROTHER. *A + D.*

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

F B I

Date: 4/20/68

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(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

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TO DIRECTOR, FBI
SAC ATLANTA
SAC BIRMINGHAMSAC Cincinnati
SAC Louisville
SAC St. Louis
SAC Springfield.

FROM SAC MEMPHIS (44-1987) (1P)

THIS DATE, FOLLOWING SPECIAL PERSONNEL RELEASED MEMPHIS DIVISION AND EN ROUTE THEIR OWN OFFICES: SA O. JAMES HOLBROOK, LOUISVILLE; SA JAMES J. STANTON, LOUISVILLE; SA CHARLES L. LUTES, LOUISVILLE; STENOGRAPHER BETTYE B. STARK, LOUISVILLE; SA THOMAS L. BUCKLEY, ST. LOUIS; SA SHIELDS W. SMITH, CINCINNATI; SA EDWARD M. QUINN, CINCINNATI; STENOGRAPHER JEAN M. SAHND, CINCINNATI; SA W. J. BILLEAUD, SPRINGFIELD.

REMAINDER OF PERSONNEL IN MEMPHIS ON SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT WILL BE RELEASED AS QUICKLY AS ALL CURRENT WORK ASSIGNED CAN BE CLEARED BY THEM. ANTICIPATED ALL PERSONNEL ON SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT WILL HAVE DEPARTED MEMPHIS DIVISION EARLY NEXT WEEK.

NUMEROUS LEADS RECEIVED DURING DAY RE LOOK ALIKES ALL ELIMINATED ON BASIS OF DATA KNOWN TO MEMPHIS.

Airtel _____
Teletype _____
A.M. _____
A.M.S.P. _____
OF POSSIBLE INTEREST, TO DATE, MEMPHIS DIVISION HAS RECEIVED NO PERTINENT INFORMATION RE MURDER OF DR. KING FROM NEGRO COMMUNITY IN MEMPHIS.

INVESTIGATION CONTINUING MEMPHIS DIVISION. P. END.

Reg. Mail _____
Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Registered _____ Special Agent in Charge

WA 446 23454
AT 446 32500
BT 446
CT 451
P 37503

44-1987-630

FBI ATLANTA

840 PM URGENT 4-20-68 ARK

TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS , , , BIRMINGHAM, LOS ANGELES AND KANSAS CITY
FROM ATLANTA (44-2386) 2P

MURKIN

SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED AT ATLANTA.

RE CITY MAP OF ATLANTA WITH INKED NOTATIONS:

INVESTIGATION COMPLETED IN AREA ENCOMPASSING FOURTEENTH
STREET - PEACHTREE STREET AREA UTILIZING PHOTOGRAPHS OF GALT.
NO INFORMATION OF PERTINENCE OBTAINED.

RE AIRLINE CHECKS:

INVESTIGATION IN PROGRESS TO IDENTIFY INDIVIDUALS WHO
MADE FLIGHTS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES FROM ATLANTA APRIL FIVE
LAST AND TO MEXICO CITY APRIL SIX LAST SINCE ATLANTA HAS ONLY
ONE DIRECT FLIGHT WEEKLY TO MEXICO CITY. IDENTITY OF CREW
MEMBERS ON THESE FLIGHTS OBTAINED AND INVESTIGATION CONTINUING
TO LOCATE, INTERVIEW THESE INDIVIDUALS, AND DISPLAY PHOTOGRAPHS.
THIS INVESTIGATION TO DATE NEGATIVE.

END PAGE ONE

44-1987-631

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Hester *OK*

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AT 44-2386

RE NATIONAL NEWS RELEASE APRIL NINETEEN, SIXTYEIGHT:

AS RESULT NEWS RELEASE FURNISHED WIRE SERVICES, NEWSPAPERS, TV AND RADIO STATIONS AND WHICH HAS BEEN DISSEMINATED WIDELY BY THESE AGENCIES, ATLANTA OFFICE RECEIVING NUMEROUS COMPLAINTS AND ALLEGATIONS SUBJECT SEEN AT VARIOUS POINTS. THESE ARE BEING CHECKED OUT. NO PERTINENT INFORMATION HAS BEEN OBTAINED.

INVESTIGATION IS CONTINUING WITH TOP PRIORITY ATTENTION. UACB, ATLANTA WILL DISCONTINUE DAILY TELETYPE SUMMARIES OF INVESTIGATION; HOWEVER, ALL PERTINENT LEADS WILL BE HANDLED BY TELEPHONE AND CONFIRMED BY TELETYPE.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END.

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI LITTLE R

616 AM CST URGENT 4-21-68 JRP
TO BUREAU (44-38861) AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM LITTLE ROCK (157-1215)

MURKIN. OO: MEMPHIS

MRS. RUTH JUNIA WHICHARD, NEE LONG, ONE FOUR TWO FIVE WEST
KAVANAUGH, LITTLE ROCK, ARK. (PROTECT IDENTITY), AN UNEMPLOYED
MODEL WHO ATTENDS MODELING CLASS ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS EACH WEEK
IN MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, ADVISED FOLLOWING INSTANT DATE: SHE HAS
KNOWN WILLIAM JAY OGLESBY, AKA JAY OGLESBY, WHO RESIDES IN A
TRAILER ON US SEVENTY, ABOUT TWELVE MILES WEST OF MEMPHIS SINCE
IN JANUARY SIXTY EIGHT. OGLESBY IS EMPLOYED AS ENGINEER WREC-TV,
CHANNEL THREE, MEMPHIS. WORKS FOUR DAYS PER WEEK, TEN HOURS A
DAY.

ON DAY DR. KING KILLED SHE MET OGLESBY AT TWO PM AT RESIDENCE
PHYLIS LONG, POWELL AND HOME STREET, MEMPHIS AND OGLESBY WANTED
WHICHARD TO GO WITH HIM. AT THIS TIME HE EXHIBITED A LARGE SUM
OF MONEY, STATING IT WAS FOUR THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS.

END PAGE ONE

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LR 157-1215

WHICHARD UNABLE TO GO IMMEDIATELY AND OGLESBY DEPARTED WITHOUT ADVISING THAT HE WAS LEAVING. HE RETURNED ABOUT ONE HOUR LATER WITHOUT THE MONEY. HE SPENT THE AFTERNOON WITH WHICHARD AND, SHORTLY AFTER SIX PM THEY WERE AT OGLESBY'S TRAILER AND HEARD NEWS OF DR. KING'S DEATH. ON HEARING NEWS HE STATED KING WAS A COMMUNIST AND DESERVED TO BE SHOT. ABOUT FIVE MINUTES AFTER NEWS BROADCAST OGLESBY'S BROTHER, DONALD OGLESBY, OF CABOT, ARK. CALLED AND ASKED OGLESBY IF HE KILLED KING. OGLESBY REMARKED THAT SOMEONE ELSE BEAT HIM TO IT.

LAST WEDNESDAY, APRIL SEVENTEEN, WHICHARD WAS AT OGLESBY'S TRAILER AND REMOVED FROM THE TRAILER A LARGE NUMBER OF EMPTY BEER CANS THAT WERE IN THE TRAILER FROM THE NIGHT BEFORE THE KILLING. OGLESBY CLAIMED TO HAVE BEEN UP ALL NIGHT WITH A FRIEND AND HIS FRIEND'S GIRL FRIEND FROM TEXAS. AT THIS TIME OGLESBY HAD ON A BED, TWO RIFLES, ONE OF WHICH HAD A SCOPE, A SHOTGUN AND A REVOLVER AND LARGE QUANTITY OF AMMUNITION WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS EIGHT THOUSAND ROUNDS.

ON LAST THURSDAY, APRIL EIGHTEEN, ABOUT SEVEN THIRTY PM, WHICHARD WAS WITH OGLESBY AT THE TRAILER WHEN SOMEONE KNOCKED ON THE DOOR. OGLESBY WENT TO THE DOOR WITH A REVOLVER IN HIS HAND.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

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HE RUSHED BACK TO WHICHARD CLAIMING HE SAW TWO FBI AGENTS OUTSIDE AND BECAME EXCITED BECAUSE WHICHARD DIDN'T IMMEDIATELY TURN OUT THE LIGHTS. HE ASKED HER WHAT SHE HAD DONE WITH THE EMPTY BEER CANS, STATING THAT HE DID NOT WANT THE FBI TO GET FINGERPRINTS FROM THE CANS. HE WENT OUTSIDE CARRYING THE REVOLVER AND BURNED THE CANS THAT HAD BEEN PLACED IN CONTAINER OUTSIDE. OGLESBY AND HIS BROTHER BOTH HAVE STRONG HATRED OF NEGROES.

WHICHARD CLAIMS THAT OGLESBY HAD TIME ON DAY OF KILLING TO HAVE RENTED ROOM USED BY KILLER. SHE CLAIMS THAT OGLESBY'S SISTER, BONNIE WALKER, ONE FIVE ONE THREE GREGORY, JACKSONVILLE, ARK. AND PHYLIS LONG AS WELL AS HERSELF, CONSIDER THE FIRST PUBLISHED SKETCH TO APPEAR TO BE EXACT LIKENESS OF OGLESBY. OGLESBY IS A WHITE MALE, AGE TWENTY NINE, FIVE ELEVEN, ONE EIGHT ZERO POUNDS, SLENDER, LIGHT BROWNISH RED HAIR, AND HAS A CONSTANT SILLY GRIN. HE PRESENTLY DRIVES A FIFTYNINE RED CHEVROLET TWO DOOR, BUT HAS ORDERED A SIX THOUSAND DOLLAR "SHELBY" FORD. HE MENTIONS THAT "THEY" ARE LOOKING FOR A WHITE MUSTANG, BUT "THEY" OR "THEM" ARE IN TEXAS. THEY WILL BE SURPRISED TO FIND A WOMAN INVOLVED IN THE KILLING.

END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

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OGLESBY CLAIMED TO HAVE MADE CONTACT IN PERSON WITH HIS FRIENDS FROM TEXAS FRIDAY NIGHT, APRIL NINETEEN, AND EXPECTED TO GO TO TEXAS SOON. HE INDICATED HE MAY NOT BE IN MEMPHIS AFTER NEXT WEDNESDAY. HE IS CONCERNED THAT HIS AND WHICHARD'S TELEPHONE MAY BE TAPPED.

LR INDICES NEGATIVE RE WHICHARD, OGLESBY AND HIS KNOWN RELATIVES. LR FBI HAS HAD NO CONTACT AT OGLESBY'S TRAILER.

RELIABILITY OF WHICHARD UNKNOWN. SHE IS DIVORCED MOTHER OF FIVE YEAR OLD BOY, WHO IS LIVING WITH HER PARENTS AT JACKSONVILLE, ARK. ADMITS BEING KEPT BY UNNAMED MAN IN LITTLE ROCK WHILE ATTENDING MODELING SCHOOL IN MEMPHIS. HAS STATED AT TRAILER WITH OGLESBY OVERNIGHT ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS, BUT STATES THERE HAS BEEN NO AFFAIR WITH HIM. SHE IS VERY CONCERNED THAT SHE NOT BE IDENTIFIED AS BASIS FOR ANY INVESTIGATION OF OGLESBY IN THIS MATTER.

MEMPHIS OFFICE AT MEMPHIS.

1. ADVISE AS TO POSSIBILITY A PARTY OTHER THAN JAMES EARL RAY MAY HAVE RENTED ROOM FOR HIM AT ROOMING HOUSE FROM WHICH SHOT WAS FIRED AT DR. KING. NOTE WHICHARD STATES OGLESBY WAS WITH HER AT ACTUAL TIME OF MURDER.

2. DISCREETLY CHECK BACKGROUND OF OGLESBY AT WREC-TV, MEMPHIS.
END PAGE FOUR

PAGE FIVE

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3. UNDER SUITABLE PRETEXT, CONCEALING IDENTITY OF WHICHARD AS SOURCE, INTERVIEW OGLESBY IN MEMPHIS AT WREC OR ADVISE LR OF APPROPRIATE COVER SO THAT LR AGENTS CAN INTERVIEW HIM AT WEST MEMPHIS.

LITTLE ROCK

AT WEST MEMPHIS, ARK. WILL DO DIXCREET BACKGROUND CHECK RE OGLESBY AND ADVISE MEMPHIS..

CNF

FBI MEMPHIS

HOLD

CORRECTIONS: PAGE THREE, NEXT TO LAST WORD, LAST LINE, SHOULD BE THE. PAGE FOUR, PARAGRAPH THREE, LINE FOUR, FIFTH WORD SHOULD BE STAYED. PAGE FIVE, NEXT TO LAST LINE, SIXTH WORD SHOULD BE DISCREET.

END

CNF

FBI MEMPHIS

TKSX

FBI WASH DC

FBI MEMPHIS

228PM URGENT 4-21-68 DGB

TO DIRECTOR AND LITTLE ROCK
FROM MEMPHIS

MURKIN. OO MEMPHIS.

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 22 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	
BOYLE BB	

RE LR TEL TO BUREAU AND MEMPHIS FOUR TWENTY ONE SIXTYEIGHT.

IN ANSWER TO QUESTION NUMBER ONE, ALTHOUGH IT IS IMPOSSIBLE
TO STATE DEFINITELY AT THIS TIME WHETHER A PARTY OTHER THAN
JAMES EARL RAY RENTED THE ROOM AT THE ROOMING HOUSE FROM WHICH
SHOT WAS FIRED AT DR. KING, RAY'S FINGERPRINT IN ON THE
BINOCULARS PURCHASED A SHORT DISTANCE FROM THE ROOMING HOUSE
AND RAY'S FINGERPRINTS ARE ON THE NEWSPAPER LEFT AT THE ROOMING
HOUSE. ALSO, RAY'S FINGERPRINTS ARE ON THE RIFLE ABANDONED A
SHORT DISTANCE FROM THE ROOMING HOUSE. ROOM WAS RENTED BY
PERSON FITTING RAY'S DESCRIPTION. A DEFINITE ANSWER TO QUESTION
ONE CANNOT BE GIVEN UNTIL RAY HAS BEEN APPREHENDED.

CONTACT BEING MADE TODAY WITH RELIABLE SOURCE AT WREC-TV
RE WILLIAM JAY OGLESBY.

LITTLE ROCK SHOULD RE-INTERVIEW RUTH JUNIA WHICHARD TO
DETERMINE WHY SHE WAITED UNTIL APRIL TWENTY ONE INSTANT TO
REPORT INFORMATION. SHE SHOULD BE QUESTIONED REGARDING WHERE-
ABOUTS OF WILLIAM OGLESBY ON MARCH TWENTY NINE AND MARCH THIRTY,

Sent Bureau 2:28 pm
LR 2:31 pm

PAGE TWO

SIXTYEIGHT, DATES ON WHICH GUNS WERE PURCHASED IN BIRMINGHAM.
STRONG POSSIBILITY WHICHARD MAKING FALSE ALLEGATIONS TO EVEN
PERSONAL SCORE WITH OGLESBY.

END.

SAA

FBI WASH DC