M

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI SANDIEGO

150 AM POST DEFERRED BRS

8-4-68

TO:

MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FR OM:

SAN DIEGO (44-387)

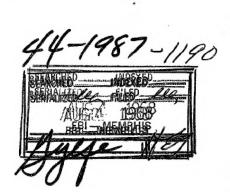
MURKIN. COST DATA.

SAN DIEGO HAS NO COST DATA TO REPORT FOR MONTH OF JULY.

END

RJT

FBI MEMPHIS



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	TO:	DIRECT	OR, FBI (44-	38861)		
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Approved: _____ Sent ___ M Per _____ Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date: 8-20-68

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Via TELETYPE

URGENT

(Priority)

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861)
FROM MEMPHIS (44-1987)

MURKIN.

SEARCHED US

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SHORTLY BEFORE NOON THIS DATE, SAC, MEMPHIS RECEIVED
SUBPOENA DUCES TECUM. SUBPOENA ADDRESSED TO AGENT JENSEN OF THE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, FEDERAL BUILDING, MEMPHIS,
TENNESSEE, REQUESTING HIS APPEARANCE ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST
TWENTYONE, SIXTYEIGHT, AT TEN A.M., BEFORE JUDGE OF CIRCUIT COURT,
SHELBY COUNTY DIVISION EIGHT, COURT SITTING IN CRIMINAL COURT
BUILDING, DIVISION THREE, CITY OF MEMPHIS. SAC REQUESTED IN
SUBPOENA TO BRING WITH HIM ANY AND ALL WRITTEN STATEMENTS, ORAL
STATEMENTS REDUCED TO WRITING, TAPED STATEMENTS REDUCED TO
WRITING, OR ANY PAPER WRITINGS OF OR PERTAINING TO CHARLES
QUITMAN STEPHENS.

STEPHENS, AS BUREAU IS AWARE, IS WITNESS IN MURKIN CASE WHO LIVED IN ROOMING HOUSE AT WHICH SUBJECT STAYED ON APRIL FOUR, SIXTYEIGHT. STEPHENS HAS BEEN HELD IN CUSTODY AS MATERIAL WITNESS. WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS HAS BEEN PREPARED IN ORDER THAT STEPHENS WILL APPEAR IN COURT AND MIGHT POSSIBLY BE RELEASED AS MATERIAL WITNESS. ISSUANCE OF SUBPOENA TO SAC WAS DISCUSSED WITH DISTRICT ATTORNEY GENERAL PHIL M. CANALE AND ASSISTANT ATTORNEY

RGJ:BN

Special Agent in Charge

1143 PM Per megy

44-1987-1192

FD-36 (Rev. 5-22-64)

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Date:

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PAGE TWO

GENERAL JAMES BEASLEY. DISTRICT AG CANALE ADVISED SAC NOT TO RESPOND TO SUBPOENA. CANALE STATED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED COMPARABLE SUBPOENA AND THAT HE DID NOT INTEND TO APPEAR IN COURT HIMSELF NOR DID HE INTEND TO PERMIT ANY DOCUMENTS OF ANY SORT TO BE INTRODUCED. CANALE SAID IN EVENT ANY INFORMATION NEEDED HE WAS OF OPINION THAT STEPHENS COULD SO TESTIFY HIMSELF. CANALE ALSO SAID IN EVENT COURT INTERESTED IN ANY STATEMENT OF STEPHENS COURT WOULD BE ADVISED THAT AFFIDAVIT HAD BEEN FURNISHED BY STEPHENS PERTAINING TO HIS KNOWLEDGE IN THIS CASE AND THAT SUCH AN AFFIDAVIT HAD BEEN INTRODUCED IN CONNECTION WITH THE EXTRADITION HEARINGS HELD IN LONDON. CANALE SAID HE WAS OF OPINION THIS WAS PUBLIC RECORD AND THEREFORE NO NEED FOR SAC TO RESPOND TO SUBPOENA.

AAG BEASLEY STATED WITH CANALE'S PERMISSION HE WOULD REQUEST COURT QUASH ALL SUBPOENAS IN INSTANT CASE, SINCE REQUEST FOR WRITTEN STATEMENTS AND OTHER DOCUMENTARY MATERIAL NOT MATERIAL TO ISSUE. HE STATED ISSUE IN INSTANT CASE IS WHETHER OR NOT STATE COULD HOLD STEPHENS AS MATERIAL WITNESS AND ANY OTHER INFORMATION IRRELEVANT. BEASLEY ALSO STATED

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	Special Agent in Charge		

Approved: .

Special Agent in Charge

FR

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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PLAIN TEXT

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URGENT

(Priority)

Whe P. Mar

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861)
FROM MEMPHIS (44-1987)
MURKIN

RE MEMPHIS TEL AUGUST TWENTY LAST.

SAC MEMPHIS IN RESPONSE TO SUBPOENA DUCES TECUM DID APPEAR BEFORE CIRCUIT JUDGE WILLIAM W. O'HEARN THIS DATE. SAC IDENTIFIED SELF BY NAME AND POSITION HELD. PRIOR TO ANY BEGAN TO APVISE QUESTIONS BEING ASKED. SAC INTERMED JUDGE OF DEPARTMENTAL RESTRICTIONS. BEFORE JUDGE O'HEARN WAS ATTENDED TO THE PARTY OF THE PA ABLE TO RESPOND. ATTORNEY FOR CHARLES Q. STEPHENS ADDRESSED BENCH AND ADVISED HE WAS FAMILIAR WITH DEPARTMENTAL RESTRICTIONS AND HAD NO INTENTION OF A SKING QUESTIONS REGARDING JAMES EARL RAY CASE OR POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT THEREIN OF HIS CLIENT AND INTENDED ONLY TO ASK QUESTIONS RE CHARLES QUITMAN STEPHENS SAC RESPONDED TO QUESTIONS RAISED BY STEPHENS' ATTORNEY WHICH WERE IN NATURE OF. DID YOU KNOW STEPHENS. HAD YOU TALKED WITH STEPHENS, HAD STEPHENS BEEN COOPERATIVE, HAD STEPHENS INDICATED TO YOU THAT HE WOULD BE WILLING TO COOPERATE AND HAD STEPHENS INDICATED HE INTENDED TO FLEE. 44-1917-1193

RGJ:gmh
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RGJ:gmh
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Special Agent in Charge

Per

FBI

Date:

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Via	(Priority)	

PAGE TWO

ME 44-1987

SAC RESPONDED THAT IN CONTACTS WITH STEPHENS, STEPHENS
HAD BEEN COOPERATIVE, HAD INDICATED NO RELUCTANCE ON HIS
PART AT ANY TIME TO COOPERATE WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT, HAD
GIVEN EVERY INDICATION HE WOULD CONTINUE TO COOPERATE AND
THAT SAC HAD NO KNOWLEDGE RE POSSIBLE FLIGHT ON THE PART OF
STEPHENS. SAC ON WITNESS STAND APPROXIMATELY SIX TO BIGHT
MINUTES. STEPHENS ATTORNEY IS HARVEY L. GIPSON.

ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY GENERAL JIM BEASLEY ADVISED SAC MEMPHIS THAT JUDGE O'HEARN AFTER HEARING VARIOUS WITNESSES AND TESTIMONY OFFERED IN INSTANT CASE DID RELEASE CHARLES Q. STEPHENS. RELEASE OF STEPHENS MADE SUBJECT TO AGREEMENT ON HIS PART THAT HE WOULD NOT DEAVE JURISDICTION OF COURT AND THAT IF POLICE PROTECTION BECAME NECESSARY AT LATER TIME HE WOULD WILLINGLY SUBMIT TO SAME. STEPHENS RELEASED FROM CUSTODY THIS DATE. P. END.

Approved:		SentM	Per
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Special Agent in Charge

SAC, MEMPHIS (62-0)

SA KENNETH F. HAYS, JR.

JAMES (NMN) CAMPBELL, aka Rev. Jimmy Campbell MISSOLLANEOUS INFORMATION CONCERNING

Subject voluntarily appeared at the Memphis Office of the FBI on 7/30/71, and furnished writer the following information:

He advised that he does not feel that JAMES EARL RAY is guilty of the charges leveled against him in connection with the death of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING. He stated that he and a Rev. JOHN, (he was unable to provide any further identifying information concerning Rev. JOHN) are attempting to prove that JAMES EARL RAY is innocent of the charges against him.

CAMPBELL reported that he feels that someone of the Negro race killed Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, but he was unable to provide any information as to who this person might be.

He stated that he is certain that many Negroes across the country hated Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING and had motives for killing him.

He volunteered that he and Rev. JOHN would report the facts as obtained by them concerning the death of Dr. KING to the FBI.

CAMPBELL further reported that a Rev. CLARENCE MAXWELL had been defrauded out of \$125 by a CURTIS TAYLOR in Memphis. He reported that the fraud took place in Memphis several weeks ago, and it is his understanding that CURTIS TAYLOR's present whereabouts are unknown. CAMPBELL advised that he plans to report this to the Memphis PD.

CAMPBELL provided the following information about

himself:

1 = 62-0 1 - 44-1987 KFH/cly (2) Herter 411

ME 62-0

Name Alias Address

Employment Occupation

Height Weight Eyes Hair Military service Service Serial No. Race SSAN Marital status Education Relatives

JAMES (NMN) CAMPBELL Rev. JIMMY CAMPBELL 637 S. Mississippi Blvd., Memphis None Guard or special police and Baptist minister 5191 182 Br own Black U. S. Army, World War II Negro

Single Two years college None

During the entire course of the conversation, CAMPBELL rambled continuously and appeared to the writer to be mentally unstable.



In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Bee James Hall, 201

On Suptomber 15, 1975, Green Maller, Chief Deputy Clark, United States Court of Appeals, Simila Chronic, Chief States Court of Appeals, Simila Chronic, Clarifornia, Chie, advisoria, employee of the Federal Resourt of Inventigation, (FMI), that the Sullandog additional antries were superfied in Restationary 75-1788s

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Motion: Appullant's Briof to Suptember 27, 1975 (Pinel untermien to Suptember 27, 1975, Granted)

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SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED OF 1 8 1975
FEI - MEMPHIS

9/15/75

AIRTEL

TO : DIRECTOR, PBI (44-38861)

PROM : BAC, CINCINNATI (157-1893) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re CI airtel and LHM to the Bureau, 9/15/75.

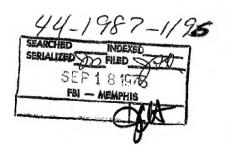
Enclosed for the Bureau are six copies of an LHM captioned "JAMES BARL RAY". Enclosed for Memphis are two copies of the same LHM.

Information furnished in enclosed LHM was obtained from records at the U. S. Court of Appeals. Sixth Circuit, Cincimnati, Ohio, by SC DWIGHT H. VOGEL.

Cincinnati will maintain contact with the U. S. Court of Appeals in this matter.

2 - Bureau (Enc. 6) 2) - Memphis (44-1987) - Enc. 2) CH 2 - Cincipmati

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In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

· UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Post Office Box 1277, Cinsimuti, Chie 45201 September 11, 1976

BOG JAMES BARL RAY

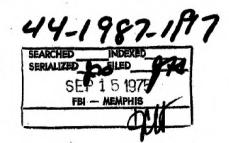
On Supersteer 10, 1975, Green Relier, Chief Baputy Clark, United States Court of Appeals, Sinth Circuit, Cingingal, Onto, advised an employee of the Suberal Resear of Instabilities, (FRI), that the Sellewing additional entry was recorded in Docket Number 75-1795:

Sankaraber 4. 1975

Metion of Appellant for an order directing opert reported to empedite case transprints

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9/11/75

AIRTEL

TO DIRECTOR, FRI (44-38861)

PROM : SAC, CINCINNATI (157-1893) (P)

SUBJECT: MIRKIN

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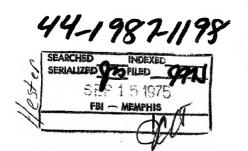
Information furnished in enclosed LHM was obtained from records at the U. S. Court of Appeals. Sixth Circuit, Cincinnati, Ohio, by SC DWIGHT H. VOGEL.

Cincinnati will maintain contact with the U. S. Court of Appeals in this matter.

2 - Bureau (Enc. 6) (Enc. 2) At

2 - Cincinnati

DHV: xbh



FD-263 (Rev. 7-15-75)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN MEMPHIS	3/23/76	2/6/76 - 3/8/76	
TITLE OF CASE		REPORT MADE BY		TYPED BY
MURKIN			J. WILSON	wy
		CHARACTER OF	CASE	
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		CIVIL RIC	HTS	
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REFERENCE: Bureau nitel to Atlanta, 2/3/76.

RUC

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THE FOLLOWING MATERIAL WILL MAINTAINED IN THE FOLLOWING FILES:

44-1987-SUB ---- OFFICE MEMORANDEM & INSERTS

44-1987-SUB-A --- REPORTS - M &

44-1987-SUB-B --- LETTERS & AIRTELS

44-1987-SUB-C --- NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS

44-1987-SUB-D--- 302's - Me

44-1987-SUB-E --- MISCELLANEOUS SUSPECTS

44-1987-SUB-F --- JAY WALLIS VERNON

\$4-1987-SUB-G --- ERIC STARVO GALT

44-1987-SUB-H --- LAB REPORTS

44-1987-SUB-I--- REGARDING VARIOUS GAULT OR GALT FAMILIES

44-1987-SUB-J--- Telephone Calls - Charles Stein

44-1987-SUB-K---- Prisoner's

44-1987-SUB-L----LEGAT'S

44-1984- Bub-M ... Invest. After Arrest

44.1987-Sub-N ... Security - Ja:1

44-1987-Sub- O. Legal But Dock ments -1987-Sut-P-Trial

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

1 - USA, Atlanta, Georgia

1- USA, memphis

Report of:

SA THOMAS J. WILSON

Date: Fi

FEBRUARY 23, 1976

Field Office File #: 44-2386

Office: ATLANTA

Bureau File #: 44-38861

Title.

MURKIN

Character:

CIVIL RIGHTS

Synopsis:

CLAUDE POWELL, JR., reinterviewed 2/6/76 and advised that any discrepancies between his statement of the facts and his brother , LEON's, statement of the facts was a result of a long period of time since the incident. CLAUDE POWELL advised he would stand by his original statement. CLAUDE POWELL was unable to identify the artist's conception of RALPH (last name unknown) dated 1/23/76. LEON POWELL JR., reinterviewed 2/11/76 and advised his original statement was essentially correct, however, does not recall seeing RAY GODFREY in Pete's Bar the day he was approached by RALPH (last name unknown). LEON POWELL also advised the name of the bar where the incident occurred was probably not Pete's Place since PETE had sold it and another owner taken over. He and his brother have talked about the incident at various times since 1968. LEON advised the artist's conception of RALPH (last name unknown) dated 1/23/76 is a good likeness of an individual who approached he and his brother to assassinate MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. Wife of CLAUDE POWELL, advised she has been married to CLAUDE for 20 years and in her opinion the whole story is a fabrication made up by her husband and his brother, LEON. Relatives of ARNOLD RAY GODFREY advised they did not know any relationship or interest between RAY GODFREY, MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., or JAMES EARL RAY. Relatives were unable to name an individual named RALPH who associated with RAY GODFREY. Employees

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AT 44-2386

of the bar located at 1455 Moreland Avenue who were employed in 1967-1968 were interviewed and advised they were familiar with both CLAUDE POWELL and RAY GODFREY. Employees characterized CLAUDE POWELL as a quiet individual, however, quite a heavy drinker. Employees characterized RAY GODFREY as a very likeable individual whom they thought would never be in trouble. None of the employees could recognize the artist's conception of RALPH (last name unknown) as any individual who had been in the bar.

RUC

DETAILS:

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of franscription 2/10/76

1

CLAUDF POWELL: JR. Room 211 Scottish Inn, was interviewed in his motel room during the late evening of February 5, 1976.

Discrepancies in his version of an alleged meeting with an unknown white male at Pete's Bar Atlanta, Georgia, as compared with LEON POWELL's were discussed. Chaude stated that any discrepancies are a result of a long passage of time since the incident and his statement is accurate in his recollection. He clarified his relationship with RAY CODFREY stating that CODFREY was a friend whom he has known for many years but CODFREY was more closely associated and a better friend of LEON's. CLAUDE also commented that he later learned GODFREY made an initial contact with LEON approximately one week prior to the unknown white male's proposition to murder MARTIN LUTHER KING but he did not know anything about the meeting at Pete's Bar until the unknown white male seated himself and made the offer. nor did he have prior knowledge of what transpired between CODEREY and LEON.

Other than these changes. CLAUDE stands by his original statement. emphasizing that his statement may differ in some aspects with LEON's statement but the fact, is, both he and LEON witnessed the offer of a substantial amount of money by an unknown white male to murder MARTIN LUTHER KING.

In addition, CLAUDE stated he and LEON talked about the alleged meeting with the unknown white male frequently after is occurrence but as time passed, they talked about it less and less. He said that he and LEON worked together on the same job at the time of the alleged meeting and continued to do so until approximately three months ago. He knows of no one who could verify that they were in Atlanta, Georgia, at the time of the alleged meeting but stated that both, he and LEON, were residing in Decatur, Georgia, during this time. CLAUDE described

Interviewed on 2/6/76

Midland, Texas

EP 44-920 ME 44-1987

SA PRANZ W. NENZEL

/om

distated 2/9

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our agency

EP 44-920

the interior of Pete's Bar, including the booth where each participant of the allged meeting was seated and a sketch was made by Special Agent FRANZ W. MENZEL. CLAUDE was questioned specifically concerning his polygraph examination in response to the question "Do you know who asked you and LEON to kill MARTIN LUTHER KING?", and he denied having any prior knowledge of the unidentified person who offered he and LEON \$25,000 to murder MARTIN LUTHER KING.

CLAUDE stated that he telephonically contacted his brother, LEON POWELL, at telephone number 404-289-1545, Decatur, Georgia (telephone number is for DAVID POWELL, CLAUDE's nephew) after initial interview by PBI Agents at Midland, Texas. CLAUDE stated that he and LEON discussed the interview.

In addition, CLAUDE stated he had discussed the alleged meeting with the unknown person at Pete's Bar with WILLIAM DEAN WOODCOCK, his partner in business and roommate at the Scottish Inn. WOODCOCK is the only fellow employee whom he told of the alleged meeting.

CLAUDE stated that the unknown person who offered them the money to murder MARTIN LUTHER KING did not have any type of an accent. He repeated that all aspects of his statement including description, time reference and conversation between the unknown person who made the offer to kill MARTIN LUTHER KING were true and accurate to the best of his recollection.

- 1	

		3/3/76
Date	ωÍ	transcription

The following photographs were displayed to CLAUDE POWELL, JR., who was located at his place of employment where he was working as a carpenter:

- 1. TRAVIS MERLE PHILLIPS, Odessa Police Department (OPD), Number 7174.
 - 2. BILLY GENE SHAFFER, OPD Number 16969
 - 3. OPD Number 19806
 - 4. ROBBY JOE SMETH
- 5. Composite photograph bearing Bureau File Number 44-38861, Atlanta File 44-2386.

After visular the wind photographs, POWELL stated he would be unable to lieuvily any one of these as being the individual who appearabled him and his brother. LEON POWELL, at Pate's her in hiterace, Georgia, with the proposition of mardening MARRIN MITTHE MING. JR., POWELL again stated that he would be unable to recognize the individual should be ever most him again.

Interviewed on	2/26/76	Fidiend, Texts		44-920 44-1987	
by	ia gradera de n	EFEFE COT	Date dictated	3/1/76	

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Date of transcription 3/22/76

CLAUDE POWELL, Jr., was contacted at his residence 4163 Camby Lane, Decatur, Georgia, and advised that he was not sure whether or not PETE DAVIS was present during the initial meeting at the bar. The incident happened so long ago, some of the details are quite mixed up in his mind. He thinks that his brother, LEON, was the only one present during the initial contact with RAY GODFREY. He does not remember being present during the conversation between RAY GODFREY and his brother, LEON.

SA THOMAS J. WILSON: wy Date dictoted 3/15/76

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Tale of transcription	2/25/76	

LEON OWEN POWELL was contacted at his residence and advised of the identity of the interviewing agent. POWELL was advised of his rights by Special Agent THOMAS J. WILSON, however, declined to sign anything. POWELL declined to furnish a signed statement, however, voluntarily furnished the following information:

He has thought about the incident when he was approached by RALPH (last name unknown) in the bar which he knew as Pete's Place on Moreland Avenue and requested to assassinate MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. He is quite sure the original contact with RAY GODFREY was approximately one week before RALPH (last name unknown) came into the He is sure the meeting took place in November, 1967. He does not remember seeing RAY GODFREY in Pete's Bar the day RALPH (last name unknown) came into the bar and offered the money. He does not remember any specific denominations of the money in the brief case, however, the brief case was full of money. RALPH (last name unknown) upon offering the brief case told him "here's 25". RALPH (last name unknown) told him and his brother, CLAUDE, they would get "25 now and 50 when he's in the grave" or something to that effect. To the best of his memory, he never mentioned MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.'s name.

During the original conversation with RAY GODFREY, he (RAY GODFREY) never made mention of the exact amount of money he and his brother would be paid to assassinate MARTIN LUTHER KING. GODFREY merely stated "big money". GODFREY is a friend of both he and his brother, however, GODFREY is probably friendlier with CLAUDE then he is with himself. LEON POWELL has not had any contact with RAY GODFREY when the assassination of KING was discussed when CLAUDE was not present.

He could not specifically recall seeing PETE DAVIS in the bar when RALPH (last name unknown) approached

Interviewed on	2/11/76		Atlanta,	Georgia	_File # AT 44-2386	j
by	SA THOMAS	J. WILSO	N :wy	Date dictated_	2/18/76	

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AT 44-2386

him and his brother. In fact, upon recollection, the name of the bar was not even Pete's Place.atAt the time of the incident the name of the bar was Bill Bailey's.

To the best of his memory, both he and his brother were working for RAY COOLEY, an individual dry wall contractor at the time of the incident. COOLEY is now employed by Fisher Dry Wall in Atlanta, Georgia.

LEON advised that the corrected artist's conception dated January 23, 1976, is a good likeness of the individual he knows as RALPH (last name unknown).

 $$\operatorname{\textsc{He}}$$ has talked with his brother CLAUDE various times since the original offer.

LEON is familiar with W. VENABLE, also known as "Yank" and BILL McGARITY. These two individuals owned the property and the building in which Pete's bar was located. Neither VENABLE or McGARITY are RALPH (last name unknown).

LEON advised the only male close associate of RAY GODFREY was a relative named LEE GODFREY.

LEON advised he would be willing to testify to everything that he has told the FBI.

LEON advised upon reflection and having to draw a diagram of the bar he is quite sure that he, his brother, and RALPH (last name unknown) went to one of the tables located in the back part of the bar rather than one of the booths as he originally stated.

FD-302 [REV. 11-27-70]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

,	2/25/76
Date of transcription	

Attached hereto is a sketch of Pete's Place, the bar where RALPH (last name unknown) approached LEON POWELL and CLAUDE POWELL to assassinate MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr., as described by LEON POWELL.

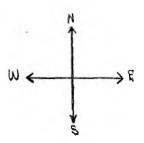
Interviewed on 2/11/76 at Atlanta, Georgia File # AT 44-2386

by SA THOMAS J. WILSON: wy Dote dictated 2/18/76

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☆ U.S. GPO: 1974-555-29

SKETCH OF PRITE'S PLACE AL DESCRIBED by



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FD-302 (REV. 11-27-70)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription	2/25/76
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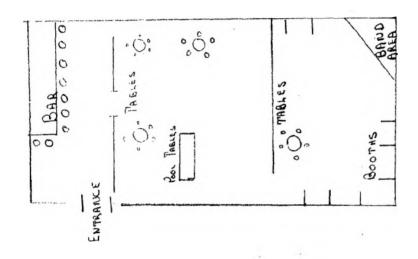
Attached hereto is a sketch of Bill Bailey's Lounge as described by L. W. CLARK.

2/17/76 Atlanta, Georgia AT 44-2386

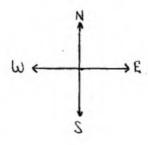
SA THOMAS J. WILSON :wy Date dictoted

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à U.S. GPO: 1974—555-29₁



SKETCH of BILL BAILEY'S LOUNGE AS DESCRIBE by L.W. CLARK. (NOTE - THIND AREA OF BAR CONSTRUCTED by L.W. CLARK IN 1969 - AREA WITH BAND STAND)





Date of transcription_3/2/76

JACKIE POWELL, 4163 Camby Lane, Decatur, Georgia, was contacted and supplied the following information:

The only time that she heard about the incident involving the offer of money to assassinate MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. was when her husband mentioned it to her after KING had been assassinated. She was positive her husband had never mentioned it to her before the assassination. Her husband told her he had been offered a large sum of money to assassinate KING but had refused the contract.

She advised she had been married to CLAUDE POWELL for twenty years and knows him quite well. It is her opinion that the whole story is a fabrication made up by her husband and his brother, LEON. She considers LEON to be an alcoholic. She would not believe any of the stories that LEON and CLAUDE told her. She stated that she felt the Government was wasting its time on this allegation.

SA JAMES Y. BLANKNER, Jr.
SA THOMAS J. WILSON: wy

Date dictated

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AT 44-2386 TJW:cw 1

The following investigation was conducted by SA THOMAS J. WILSON, at Atlanta, Georgia:

On February 6, 1976, CLINTON STANFORD, Administrative Assistant, Environment and Street Services, City of Atlanta, advised all records concerning the exact days worked by any city employees are currently stored in a vallt at City Hall. He stated he would attempt to locate any records to see if ARNOLD RAY GODFREY was working for the city during the months of October, November, and December, 1967, and March and April, 1968.

Date of transcription 2/6/76

Mrs. L. N. PENNINGTON, Director, of Personnel, City of Atlanta, Atlanta, Georgia, advised a review of her records for ARNOLD RAY GODFREY reflect that GODFREY applied for employment in the City in 1949, listing his address as 569 Gresham Road, Atlanta. GODFREY also listed that he was married to a woman named MILLIE. There were no other relatives listed. GODFREY listed the following references:

FRANK WALDON, Route One, Copperhill, Tennessee;
WALTER STYNUS, Route One, Copperhill, Tennessee;
CLAUDE CRANFORD, Route One, Copperhill, Tennessee.

Employment record also showed that GODFREY went through the fifth grade at the Copperhill Elementary School.

Interviewed on	2/6/76	al	Atlanta, Georgia	File	#_Atlanta 44-2386	
SA T	HOMAS J. WILSON		:CW	ale dictoled	2/6/76	

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FD-302 (ki v. 11-27-70)





FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date of transcription 3/2/76

CLINTON STANFORD, assistant to the Commissioner Environment and Street Service, City of Atlanta, advised that a review of his records shows that ARMOLD RAY CODFREY did not take leave during October and November, 1967. This would show that CODFREY was on duty every day during those two months. However, for the two-week pay period beginning April 3, 1968, through April 17, 1968, GODFREY was charged with three vacation days. For the twoweek pay period beginning April 17, 1968 through May 1, 1968, GODFREY was charged with two vacation days. records do not show the exact date of these vacation days, The records STANFORD - checked are the combination of departmental records and merely shows totals. The departmental records which would show the background are purged every three years thus the records have been destroyed for 1967 and 1968.

Interviewed on	2/18/76	at	Atlanta,	Georgia	File # AT 44-2386
by SA	THOMAS J.	WILSON	:wy	Date dictoled	2/24/76

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Date of transcription_	3-5-76
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BETTY H. NEELY, Personnel Records, Georgia National Guard, Atlanta, Georgia, was contacted and furnished the following information:

All of the records concerning individuals who had been in the National Guard during the 1950's have been reduced to microfilm. This microfilm data would only show background information such as date of birth, place of birth, employment, enlistment date, discharge date, military occupations and day of tour duty. The information contained on the microfilm would be very sketchy and would not contain any medical history.

After review of the records, the following information was obtained from the National Gassie

Records showed that ARNOLD RAY GODFREY, born on at Copperhill, Termessee, enlisted on January 9, 1951, in a medical company attached with the 122nd Infantry. This unit was then located in Atlanta, Georgia. GODFREY was discharged on January 8, 1954 after he completed his reserve obligation for three years. The reason for discharge was expiration of term of service. GODFREY was discharged honorably as a corporal. GODFREY served three tours of 15 days encampment. The days of these tours of duty are July 8-28, 1951, July 27 to August 10, 1952, and July 5-19, 1953. Hist occupation during service was a light truck operator. The addresses GODFREY listed as his residence were 73 Cleveland Street, and 74 Atlanta Avenue.

Interviewed on 2-24-75 Atlanta, Georgia File # Atlanta 44-2386

SA THOMAS J. WILSONIGG

Date dictated

3-3-76

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AT COPPERHILL, TENNESSEE:

LOIS WALDON GODFREY and ROBERT K. GODFREY, Route One, Grassy Creek Road, Copperhill, Tennessee, were contacted on February 7, 1976, and advised most of the GODFREY family moved to the Atlanta, Georgia area in the late 1940s. She and her husband are the only members of the family currently residing in Tennessee.

MARY GODFREY, ARNOLD RAY GODFREY's mother, resides with her daughter, SHIRLEY BULLOCH, address unknown, however, BULLOCH is employed directing traffic at school crossings in the Marietta, Georgia area. ARNOLD's sister, Mrs. R. L. (EDNA) ENSLEY and Mrs. IRA (DENA) SMITH, reside on Route One, Blue Ridge, Georgia. A brother, JAMES T. GODFREY, also resides at Route One, Blue Ritge, Georgia. Another brother, LEE CARROLL GODFREY, has in the past been involved in criminal activities and has used the name ARNOLD RAY GODFREY in the past.

During Christmas, 1974, LEE CARROLL GODFREY was incarcerated at the Blue Ridge County Jail, Blue Ridge, Georgia. LEE CARROLL GODFREY's whereabouts are not known, however, it is rumored that he is residing in Ellijay, Georgia.

Another brother, RAY S. GODFREY, died in November, 1975. Neither LOIS nor ROBERT GODFREY are acquainted with a RALPH (LNU) and stated ARNOLD RAY GODFREY has not resided in the Copperhill, Tennessee area in 27 years and has no associates in the area.

ARNOLD RAY GODFREY married a girl named MILLIE CAMERON after moving to Atlanta. References FRANK WALTON, WALTER STYMUS and CLAUDE CRANFORD were neighbors of the GODFREY family in Copperhill, prior to the family moving to Atlanta. LOIS GODFREY advised ARNOLD RAY GODFREY has not been in any contact with these individuals since moving to Atlanta.

AT 44-2386 TJW:cw

The following investigation was conducted by SA THOMAS J. WILSON at Fannin County, Georgia, on February 11, 1976.

PAUL HIGDON, Sheriff, Fannin County, Georgia
Sheriff's Office, advised LEE CARROLL GODFREY is a white male,
date of birth GODFREY has served time in the
Georgia State Prison for armed robbery and murder. LEE GODFREY
was arrested on December 23, 1973, for theft by receiving by
Fannin County. LEE GODFREY made bond, however, failed to show
for trial and his whereabouts now are unknown.

AT 44-2386 HJP:pjg 1

The following investigation was conducted by SA HAROLD J. POE at Blue Ridge, Georgia:

On February 12, 1976, files of the Fannin County Sheriff's Department revealed LEE CARROLL GODFREY, also known as LEE RAY GODFREY, had been arrested on December 23, 1974, on the charge of theft by receiving stolen property. He was released on bond on December 27, 1974, and failed to appear for arraignment after which a bench warrant was issued for his arrest. The warrant is still outstanding. He gave his date of birth as Social Security Number A photograph of GODFREY was obtained from the file.

On February 18, 1976, Mrs. R.L. (EDNA) EASLEY, Highway Number 5, sister of LEE CARROLL GODFREY, and MARIE GODFREY, mother of EDNA and LEE, advised they had no knowledge of LEE's whereabouts. They had no knowledge of LEON or CLAUDE POWELL, anyone named DUKE or any relationship or interest either LEE or RAY GODFREY in MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., or JAMES EARL RAY. They knew no one named RALPH who associated with either LEE or RAY.

On February 18, 1976, Mrs. IRA (DENA) SMITH, Epworth Community, advised she is a sister to LEE CARROLL GODFREY and reiterated the information as furnished by her mother and sister.

On February 18, 1976, JAMES T. GODFREY, brother of LEE and RAY GODFREY, residing Sugar Creek Road, advised he had no idea of where LEE was residing at the present time. He did not know anyone named LEON or CLAUDE POWELL, anyone named DUKE or any interest LEE or RAY GODFREY had with MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., or JAMES EARL RAY. JAMES said a man named RALPH (SETZER) (Phonetic) used to play a guitar with LEE and RAY at a bar in Atlanta. RALPH was not further described.

AT 44-2386 2

On February 18, 1976, LEE CARROLL GODFREY was located on Boardtown Road in Northern Gilmer County. He advised he did not know anyone named LEON or CLAUDE POWELL or anyone named DUKE. He further said he had never heard his brother RAY mention anything about MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., or JAMES EARL RAY. Concerning an individual named RALPH, LEE said a man named RALPH SMITH used to make music with RAY and LEE at the office, a bar on Flat Shoals Avenue in Atlanta. LEE was not positive about RALPH's last name and described him as 45 years old, 5'10", 105 pounds, short hair. LEE had not seen RALPH for over two years. LEE also said he uses his brothers RAY's, name on occasion. He concluded by stating it was ludicrous to connect his brother or him with MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., and, in fact, LEE said he was in prison in Reidsville, Georgia, when KING was killed.

Ar 44-2366

composite photograph of an individual known as RALPH (Last Hame Unknown) was shown to TOMMY GODFREY residing on Sugar Creek Read. Farmin County, Georgia. TOMMY is a brother to both LER CARROLL and ARNOLD RAY GODFREY. TOMMY advised that he did not know the individual depicted in the composite and furthermore did not know anyone named RALFH SHTHER during the prior interview only because LEE CARROLL GODFREY related to him about his contact with the FBI and their interest in a RALFH. TOMMY stated LEE told him the man's name was RALFH SETZER.

On February 23, 1976, LEE CARROLL GODFREY, Boardtown Road, Gilmer County, Georgia, was shown a composite photograph of RALPH (Last Name Unknown) and advised it was quite dissimilar to the man he recognized as RALPH SMITH, a former associate of his and his brother ARNOLD. When he last saw RALPH SMITH three and a half years ago, RALPH had a duck haircut full on the sides and flat on the top. He was also approximately 45 years old at that time. The only individual LEE CARROLL could remember who knew RALPH was a divorcee named LAVENE COOK (phonetic), who resided in Marietta, Georgia. COOK used to date RALPH and both of them frequented the lounge known as The Office.

A review of the Greater Atlanta Southern Bell Telephone Directory failed to reflect any listings for a LAVENE or a LAVENE COOK. A review of the Cobb County and City of Marietta Directory also failed to reflect any listing for a LAVENE or a LAVENE COOK.

AT 44-2386 T.W.dd

At Cilmer County, Coorgia, on March 2, 1976, LEE CARROLL GODEREY was recontacted and advised he did not know a RALPH SETZER or SELTZER and did not mention either name to his brother TOM.

LEE GODFREY traveled to Atlanta on the weekend of February 28, 1976, and talked to his bother ARNOLD RAY GODFREY. ARNOLD related that the did know a RALPR SMITH, however, when LEE described the individual he knew as EALPH SMITH, ARNOLD said he thought the man's name was JIH SMITH. Neither knew of SMITH's current whereabouts. ARNOLD stated he knew LEON and CLAUDE POWELL by sight but did not associate with either. ARNOLD described the FOWELLs as drunks. LEE advised ARNOLD is and always had been afraid of the law which is the reason he is not cooperating with the FBL. LEE stated that ARNOLD denied any knowledge of the wileyed contract to assassinate Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. or anything related to the Bursau investigation.

LEE CARROLL GODFREY advised that while incarcerated in the Reidsville. Georgia. State Penitentiary, date unrecalled, Dr. WARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. was arrested for participating in a demonstration and placed in a cell adjacent to LEE CARROLL GODFREY. LEE CARROLL GODFREY stated that he talked to KING for two days prior to his release.

AT 44-2386 TJW:cw 1

The following investigation was conducted at Atlanta, Georgia, by SA THOMAS J. WILSON, on February 12, 1976:

Captain LONG, Cobb County Police Department, Marietta, Georgia, advised a review of his records of the school division, showed that Cobb County does have employed a school crossing guard named SHIRLEY BULLOCH. BULLOCH, however, has recently moved and does not show a new address. BULLOCH can be located at Wheeler High School, Marietta, Georgia, any morning between 8:00 and 9:00 AM.

FD-302 (REV. 11-27-70)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription	2/23/76

MARY GODFREY, Bell Meade Apartments, Kennesaw, Georgia, advised she is the mother of ARNOLD RAY GODFREY. She does not know any of her son RAY's friends. RAY has never been in any trouble and she considers him to be a very outstanding individual.

She was unable to pick out from a spread of photographs the pictures of CLAUDE or LEON POWELL, or RALPH (LNU). She stated she did not know any of the individuals.

Interviewed on 2/13/76	al	Kennesaw, G	eorgia	File #Atlanta 44-2	386
SA THOMAS J. WILSO SA ALAN_J. BROWN	N, and	TJW::cw	Date dictated	2/17/76	

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± U.S. GPO: 1974-558-294

Date of transcription 2/23/76

SHIRLEY BULLOCH, Belle Meade Apartments, Kennesaw, Georgia, advised she is the sister of ARNOLD RAY GODFREY. She stated she does not know any of RAY's friends. RAY does not contact his mother very often and thus, neither she nor her mother knows any of RAY's friends.

She has no knowledge of any lounge called "Pete's Place" or "Bill Bailey's". She does not know of any time when her brother was in any sort of trouble. She and her brother do not get along, however, she stated she thinks that her brother is a law abiding citizen.

Interviewed on 2/13/76	_at	Kennesaw. Geo	orgiaFi	* # <u>Atlanta 44-2386</u>
SA THOMAS J. WILSON,	and			
by SA ALAN L. BROWN		TJW: cw	Date dictated	2/17/76

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AT 44-2386 TJW:cw 1

The following investigation was conducted at Atlanta, Georgia, by SA THOMAS J. WILSON on the dates indicated:

Captain WORTHY, Permit Section, Atlanta Police Department (PD), advised a review of Atlanta PD Records for a beer and wine license for the business located at 1455 Moreland Avenue, Atlanta, showed the following information:

HOWARD MALCOLM CABE, SR., 363 El Mira Place, held the liquor license from December, 1962, through September, 1964:

WILLIAM POPE DAVIS held the license from October, 1964, though November, 1965;

C. H. HARRISON held the license from November, 1965, through September, 1966;

ROY T. BAILEY held the license from September, 1966, through January, 1968;

LEWIS W. CLARK held the license from January, 1968, through December, 1974;

BARBARA and DEWEY GILBERT held the license from December, 1974, through September, 1975;

WILLIAM JORDAN MESIMER held the license from September, 1975, through the present time.

The records show in February and October, 1967, the business located at 1455 Moreland Avenue, was named "Bill Bailey's". In February and October, 1967, the Permit Section sent notices of violations to the lounge known as Bill Bailey's, at 1455 Moreland Avenue. Captain WORTHY advised PETE DAVIS, also known as WILLIAM POPE DAVIS, could have run and managed the bar in 1967 and 1968. The records of the Permit Section only reflect the official holder of the beer and wine license. Sometimes, some of the licenses are held by one person and another person is the actual manager of the lounge.

On February 10, 1976, the FBI Identification Division, Washington, D. C., provided the attached Identification Record for LEE CARROLL GODFREY, date of birth Polk County, Georgia.

MASTER! 1-40 (Bev. 7-2-74)

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BRITER STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEBERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION BESTIFICATION DIVISION WASHINGTON, D. C. 2007

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What te Sex:

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Weight: 160

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Eyes: BIRE

Date and Place of Birth:

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Scars and Marks: Mone Listed

Address: Rt. #2 SETTER, GA.

Occupation: Painter

Social Security Number: Rome Listed

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE PEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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FD-302 [REV: 11-27-70]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

at traderintion	2/6/76

DOROTHY DAVIS, Locust Grove, Georgia, was telephonically contacted and advised she has no knowledge or possession of any records in reference to her husband's former place of business known as "Pete's Bar", on Moreland Avenue. She is sure all of these records have been destroyed.

She stated she does not know the name of any accounting firm or law firm which handled the tax or account matters of her husband's place of business. There is no one in the family who would have this information.

SA THOMAS J. WILSON :CW Date dictated 2/5/76

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☆ U.S. GPO: 1974-555-294

Date of transcription

DOROTHY DAVIS, Locust Grove, Georgia, was contacted at her residence and advised that she has searched and has been unable to locate any records regarding her husband's former place of business "Pete's Bar" in Atlanta, Georgia.

She advised her husband never told her about the operation of the bar or any incidents which happened at the bar. She has never heard her husband discuss anything about the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. She was not sure of the exact dates her husband owned the bar, but thought he sold it in 1966, however, that could have been 1965 or 1967. Her husband sold the bar and went to work for an oil company in Saudi Arabia. He worked there for about nine months and returned to the United States. She does not recall any of the names of any of the employees.

SA THOMAS J. WILSON and by SA JAMES Y. BLANKNER, JR. TJW:cw Date dictated 2/13/76

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Date of buscription 3/2/76

DIAME BRADY, 1140 Moreland Drive, SE, Atlanta, Georgia, was contacted and furnished the following information:

She is the owner and operator of The Office Bar located at Moreland and Flat Shoals Road, Atlanta, Georgia. She has never employed any band at her place of business. Every once in a while RAY GODFREY does come into the bar and does play his guitar, however, she could not recall any other individuals ever playing with him. At that she telephonically contacted her day bartender and asked him if GODFREY had ever played at the bar during the day with anyone else. The day bartender advised he had never seen RAY CODFREY play at the bar with any other individuals. BRADY was unable to pack out the artist's conception of RALPH (last name unknown). When specifically shown this photograph, she advised she had never seen this individual. She is positive that the person whose likeness is represented by the artist's conception is not the person whom she knows as"DUKE".

After PETE DAVIS sold the bar to "BUCK" BAILEY. she went to work for the Driftwood Lounge which is located one block south of Pete's Bar on Moreland Avenue. She never worked at Bill Bailey's and was never employed by LEWIS CLARK.

It was her understanding that after PETE DAVIS sold the bar he went to work in Saudi Arabia for one year. She is unable to supply any of the names or addresses of any of the old-time customers of Pete's Bar. Every once in a while some of them drop in at her bar, but not on a regular basis.

She again stated that she does not know any friends of RAY GODFREY named RALPH. She does not know anyong named RALPH SMITH or RALPH SETZER. She also does not know anyone named LEE GODFREY.

Interviewed on 27076 ol Atlanta Chorgia File # AT 44-2386

SA THOMAS J MILSON WY

____ Date dictoled___

2/24/76

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She stated that she thought she knew RAY GODFREY fairly well and that she finds it hard to believe that RAY GODFREY could be in any sort of trouble. She also knows the PCW-ELL brothers and considers them to be harmless hard drinkers. She stated all of these individuals are very friendly and could not do anything wrong. RAY GODFREY is a very friendly, amiable individual and has no violent tendencies. Even though there has been periodic fights at both Pete's Bar and The Office Bar, she has never seen RAY GODFREY enter into any of these problems.

Date of Iranscription 2/23/76

LEWIS W. CLARK, 2950 Catherine Valley Drive, Decatur, Georgia, was contacted and advised that he managed Bill Bailey's Lounge located at 1455 Moreland Avenue, from September, 1966, through 1973. He personally acted as the bartender there numerous times. He advised that JUNE HALL was the day bartender at Bill Bailey's and that she might be able to furnish information regarding individuals who frequented Bailey's. He could not recall any other employees who worked at the lounge on a fulltime or regular basis. DIANE BRADY was never employed at Bill Bailey's.

CLARK picked out from a spread of photographs the pictures of RAY GODFREY and CLAUDE POWELL, as being individuals who frequented the bar. He did not recognize the picture of LEON POWELL. He advised that CLAUDE POWELL was a very quiet individual and never knew him to be in any sort of trouble. GODFREY was an extremely extroverted individual and always wanted to play the guitar in the bar. GODFREY was a country and western singer who had had some records recorded by Columbia Records. GODFREY was always playing these records on the juke box.

Back in 1966 and 1967 and 1968, the mood in the bar was probably anti-Negro, however, as far has he knows, there was never any discussion about the harming of any blacks.

He was unable to pick from a spread of photographs the artist's conception of RALPH (LNU). He advised that none of the individuals in the spread had ever been in the bar when he was there.

SA THOMAS J. WILSON, and
by SA JAMES Y. BLANKNER, JR. TJW:cw Date dictated 2/17/76

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