

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

DO NOT DESTROY
PENDING LITIGATION
FIELD OFFICE FILE
FOIPA PROCESSED

FEDERAL BUREAU

of

DO NOT DESTROY
HISTORICAL VALUE
NATIONAL ARCHIVES

INVESTIGATION

Bureau File Number 44-38861

"DO NOT DESTROY:
HISTORICAL VALUE,
NATIONAL ARCHIVES"

ENTIRE FILE REVIEWED
FOR HISTORICAL
DECLASSIFICATION

See also Nos. 100 destroyed
per SAC Startzell
6-7-71 llw

SEE INSIDE
FOR LITIGATIONS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED 654
10/24/01

COPIED FOR
FOIPA
JUL 20 1977 BY 112

See Next Section

Litigation	DATE	Cancellation	Litigation	Date	Cancellation
2778	3/85	Cancel 8/85			
3223	7/86	Cancel 1/87			
2370					
3433	4/87	cancel 2/88			

Litigation	Date	Cancellation	Litigation	Date	Cancellation

RAY, JAMES EARL

5-68 44-1987-SUB-G-594

-608
E-861
B-539
B-536
E-616
-655A
C-348A
-537A
-537B
B-596
-608A
g-627p2
E-784
-787
-780

2778 3/85 Pending litigation
SEE NEXT CARD P 2212

RAY, JAMES EARL

4-68 44-1987-SUB-E-688

-692
-693
-660
-699C
-699
-818
-813
A-2
E-843
E-55D

2778 3/85
Pending litigation
SUB-B-368A
P 2212

RAY, JAMES EARL

6-68 44-1987-SUB-G-665A

p91
44-1987-SUB-G-665A
Background----- p84
(1955 Post Office Money Order Arrest)
44-1987-SUB-G-665A
Veterans Adm. records----- 44-1987-SUB-G-757D

-761
-764
K-163
M-21
G-693p18
sp30
E-1058p2
B-1114
B-1113

2778 3/85
SEE NEXT CARD
Pending litigation P 2212

RAY, JAMES EARL 6-68 44-1987-SUB-G-666Ap130
p133,131,58,
p123,137
615 N. Water St., South Elgin, Ill. E-1042A
-M-5
Prior Employment----- G666Ap144
INMATE FILE----- G-706A
-745
-749
National Service Life Insurance B-1046
M-4A
Arrest - 1959 - G-666Ap109
Employment----- G-665Ap105;
2778 3/85 DO NOT DESTROY
US Probation Office Records - p106,107
Associates----- -665Ap99
-665Ap96
SEE NEXT CARD
Pending litigation P 2212

RAY, JAMES EARLE 5/468 44-1987-Sub-E-738

RAY, JAMES EARL 3/8/85 197-74-2

RAY, JAMES EARL, JR. 5/68 44-1987-866

IRN 89 451 43
RAY, JAMES EARL

DO NOT DESTROY
7/77 44-0-913

ALLEGED PLOT AGAINST AND TENNESSEE STATE SENATOR
AVON N. WILLIAMS.

DO NOT DESTROY

RAY, JAMES EARL 4/68 44-1987-Sub G-328

-332
-335
E-553
G-336
-390
E-593
-599
-597
-568
G-330
-405
-412
-415
-416
-425
SEE NEXT SEE CARD
2778 3/85
Pending litigation P 2212

RAY, JAMES EARL

7-68 44-1987-SUB-H-318A

C-823
-759
44-1987-1A 241
Major Case Prinst Sub-87-247
Ray's Interview 3-13-69 & 3-14-69 44-1987-SUB-M440
445
11/68 44-1987-Sub-H-411
6/68 65-589-6
5/68 175-16-1

2778 3/85
Pending litigation P 2212

RAY, JAMES EARL

6-68 44-1987-SUB-G-6882

pp3,6,7,8,9,15,17,
19,21,36,40,44,54,
64,65,68,72,73,74,
82,83,84,85,88,90
91,93,95,97,100,101,
102,103,104,106
44-1987-SUB-G-766
-788
-801A
44-1987-SUB-J-104p6,7,
p8,9,10,11
p20,33,34, 12,13,14,
36,37,38, 15,16,17,
39,40,42, 18,19,20,
21,23a,25
27,28,29,

2778 3/85
Pending litigation P 2212

RAY, JAMES EARL 5-68 44-1987-SUB-E-815A

-870
-870
K-137
E-911B
-1096
-1096
Sub G-696
-719
-1136
-E-1040
-671p102,K
-E-1044
-51p60,62,63
65,67
2778 3/85
DO NOT DESTROY
Pending litigation P 2212

RAY, JAMES EARL 5/68 44-1987-Sub E-809a, p2

-805 A
E-625A
E-903
B-620
E-638
B-636
K-3p2
E-655
-654
-662
B-686
G-654
E-744A
K-107
K-107

RAY, JAMES EARL 2-74 76-3749-40p1

RAY, JAMES EARL 4/68 44-1987-Sub-G-509
-E-709A
B-405C
E-684

Australian Visa

-806
-SUB-G-520
-517

-773A
-793B
-814
-828
-829

SEE NEXT CAR
27783/85

*Do not Destroy
Pending litigation
p. 2212*

RAY, JAMES EARL 4-68 44-1987-SUB-E-500B

44-1987-553
44-1987-Sub G-452B
-SUB-E-352A
-SUB-G-448

405 942 G (FBI)

44-1987-739 A

-746F
-775
-791

SEE NEXT CARD

*Do not Destroy
Pending litigation
27783/85 p. 2212*

-SUB-E-639

-637
-627
-608p2
-352A
G-435
-449

RAY, JAMES EARL 4-68 44-1987-SUB-B-228

IQ 4182
WF #442-A

44-1987
44-1987-SUB-G-356
-344p2

WM

age 40 DOB 3-10-28, Quincy or Alton, Ill.
5'10" 163 to 174 44-1987-SUB-G-315

hair brown, possibly cut short -384
eyes blue -385

Scars & Marks: small scar on center of forehead
and small scar on palm of right hand

FBI 405 942 G 44-1987-SUB-B-245

44-1987-SUB-G
-115

*Do not Destroy Pending litigation
27783/85 p. 2212*

-663
-SUB-G-431
-432
-12436

RAY, JAMES EARL 4-68 44-1987-SUB-B-397

FBI 405 942 G

FBI 205 942 G

-353
-364A
-368
-379
-326
-327
-333
-345
-347
-277
-278A
-864

*27783/85 Do not Destroy
Pending litigation
SEE NEXT CARD
Do not Destroy Pending litigation
p. 2212*

-705
-707
-710
-755
-746B

RAY, JAMES EARL 4/68 44-1987-Sub-G-347

-669
-690
-696
-SUB-121

-G-399
-363
E-594A
G-366

SEE NEXT CAR

-322
-321
-320
-326

*27783/85
Pending litigation p. 2212*

-324
-327p2
-374
-376p3

RAY, JAMES E. 4/68 44-1987-Sub-G-348

-331
B-247
G-376
-390
B-394

DOB 3-2-28 Zion Ill.

*E-782
-782B
-782C
B-584R*

DO NOT DESTROY

RAY, JAMES E. 5-68 44-1987-SUB-E-1022
-1022A

RAY, JAMES E. 6-68 44-1987-SUB-E-1046

RAY, JAMES E. 6-68 44-1987-SUB-G-666Ap130

RAY, JAMES E. 6-68 44-1987-SUB-G-682
p40

RAY, JAMES E. 7/82 190-0-124

RAY, JAMES E. 2/12/85 197-74 *

RAY, JAMES E., MRS. 6/68 44-1987-Sub B-933

4124 East Bridge Drive

RAY, JAMES E. 6/3/86 197-74

RAY, JAMES EARL 11/71 44-1987

RAY, JAMES EARL 4-68 44-1987-651A

-866
-791
-794p7
-SUB-E-765

no desc

-804
-85522A
G-524
-527
E-746
-739

SEE NEXT CARD

*27783/85 Do not Destroy
Pending litigation
p. 2212*

-556E
G-533
-535
-500
-502
-505

RAY, JAMES EARL 4-68 44-1987-SUB-G-454

-440A
-457
-470
-471
-474
-493
-499
B-449
B-427

*27783/85 Do not Destroy
Pending litigation
p. 2212*

-439
E-622A
-631A
-414F
-747A

RAY, JAMES EARL 6/77 88-10052*

RAY, JAMES EARL 7/79 190-40*

Brushy Mountain Prison,
Petros, Tennessee 37845

*Do not Destroy
Pending litigation*

See West Section

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : FILE ~~(100-4105)~~

DATE: 4/4/68

FROM : SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN

SUBJECT: REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING

Lt. ARKIN, Intelligence Division, Memphis PD, telephonically advised SA LOWE at approximately 6:05 p.m. this date that information had been received that Rev. MARTIN LUTHER KING had been shot. ARKIN had no details other than the fact that KING had reportedly been shot at the Lorraine Motel by a well dressed white male who ran south on Main Street.

On receipt of this news, I telephonically contacted Night Duty Supervisor McGUIRE, Division #5, at Seat of Government. I furnished him with the above information and told him I had no details as to the seriousness of the shooting and had only the Memphis PD information on which to inform him.

On receipt of this information, I dispatched SA TETEN to the Homicide Bureau to maintain liaison with Homicide. On receipt of subsequent information from Lt. ARKIN that Dr. KING had been transported to St. Joseph Hospital, I dispatched SA BOYLE and SA HESTER to determine the seriousness of the shooting of Dr. KING.

RGJ:BN
(1)

44-1987-Sub-1

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>llb</i>	FILED <i>llb</i>
APR 4 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

PL



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : FILE ~~(100-4105)~~

DATE: 4/4/68

FROM : SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN

SUBJECT: Rev. MARTIN LUTHER KING

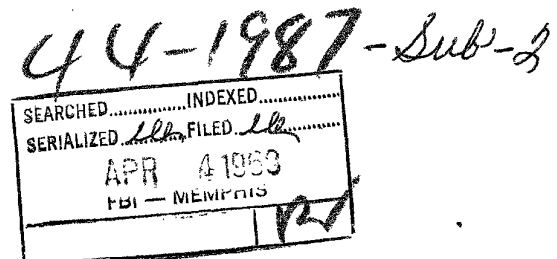
At approximately 6:35 p.m., Assistant to the Director DeLOACH called and advised as follows:

He said he had already notified the Director and the Attorney General of the reported shooting of Dr. KING. Mr. DeLOACH said we are to enter the investigation immediately and in the event any request for information is received from newspapers or other sources we are to advise that we are investigating at the specific request of the Attorney General.

In addition, Mr. DeLOACH said that the Memphis Office should have a teletype in no later than 6 a.m. tomorrow advising results of our investigation. In the event additional personnel are needed I should make my request specifically to him, regardless of whether it is Agent or clerical personnel.

I told him I felt I would need additional personnel but I would further evaluate the situation and inform him later.

RGJ:BN
(1)



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : FILE (100-4105)

DATE: 4/4/68


FROM : SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN

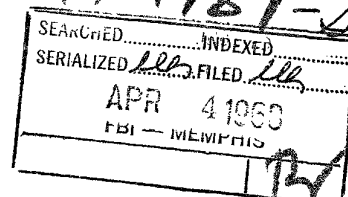
SUBJECT: REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SM - C

At 6:48 PM, SA JOE C. HESTER telephonically advised that he had been in contact with Dr. FREDERICK JOAIA at St. Joseph Hospital. Dr. JOAIA advised SA HESTER that the shot was fatal and that Dr. KING was dead at the moment. Dr. JOAIA did not explain any further.

He advised that the wound appeared to be in the right side of the neck and went through the major vessels and into the spinal cord.

The above information was telephonically furnished to Supervisor GEORGE C. MOORE, Seat of Government, at approximately 6:51 p.m. I told him these were all the details we had and requested he advise Assistant to the Director DeLOACH and Assistant Director SULLIVAN.

RGJ:BN
(1) 



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/4/68

FROM : SA HOWARD D. TETEN

SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka
John Willard;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -
VICTIM
CR

(OO Memphis)

Immediately upon receipt of information that MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., had been shot at the Lorraine Motel, this Agent set up liaison contact with Homicide Bureau. Contact was maintained at the Homicide Bureau until relieved by another Agent at which time this Agent accompanied police photographer to scene of shooting. Upon arrival it was determined that Identification Division, MPD, had already taken photographs both at the point where Dr. KING had fallen and at the point where it was believed the perpetrator had fired the shot which struck KING. This Agent noted at the time Identification Division of the MPD had dusted the second floor rear bathroom at 422½ South Main St., the location from which the fatal shot is believed to have been fired and also apartment 5B, the apartment which the perpetrator is believed to have rented earlier in the afternoon. Agent accompanied Inspector MC ADEN to an area between buildings at the rear of 422½ South Main where plaster casts were taken of 2 footprints which may or may not be significant in this case. After making plaster casts of the footprints, this Agent accompanied police photographer to St. Joseph Hospital and then to the morgue at John Gaston Hospital where photographs were taken of Dr. KING to show the area and extent of the wound.

On leaving it was noted that Dr. FRANCISCO was taking color photographs of the body. At the time this Agent was at the morgue, no post-mortem examination had been authorized and it is not known if authorization will be given by Dr. KING's family at this time. Any such authorization will probably be sought from Dr. KING's brother who is in town in Memphis and was apparently in town at the time of the shooting.



5010-108

HDT:mnr
(2)

F. Johnson is checking blue Pontiac
Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

44-1987-Sub-4

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>llh</i>	FILED <i>llh</i>
APR 5 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

bwt

ME 44-1987

This Agent was also advised that it was 205 feet and 3 inches from the second floor rear bathroom window to the point where Dr. KING was struck by the bullet. This information was received from Inspector MC ADEN of the Identification Division.

While monitoring the radio immediately after arriving at the Homicide Bureau, this Agent overheard conversation concerning a white Mustang which was being followed by a blue Pontiac, the blue Pontiac maintaining contact with an unknown individual by a citizen's band radio. The white Mustang in question was traveling at a high rate of speed on Danny Thomas, north on Danny Thomas where it was lost. A similar car, possibly identical, was again picked up traveling east on Summer to Graham, Graham to Jackson, north on Jackson and at approximately Jackson and Austin Peay the occupant or occupants of the white Mustang allegedly fired a shotgun at the blue Pontiac that was following. At this point the Mustang was lost. The individual driving the Pontiac lost contact with the Mustang at Jackson and Austin Peay.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/4/68

FROM : SA JOSEPH M. BREWI

SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka
John Willard;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -
VICTIM
CR

(OO Memphis)

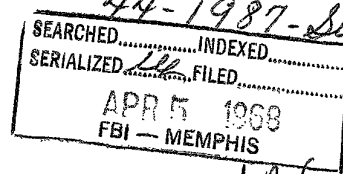
At 10:55 P.M., 4/4/68, Inspector GRADY TINES, Inspectional Bureau, Memphis PD, advised the writer that Lt. ELI H. ARKIN was on the phone and had information he wanted to furnish both to him, TINES, and the FBI. Lt. ARKIN telephonically advised that at 10:45 P.M. he and Captain JAY RAY of the Inspectional Bureau contacted a white female informant who advised them that possibly the man they were looking for was a Klansman from Covington, Tenn. She further advised that this individual was back in Covington at 9:45 P.M. She added that he may be staying at the house of another Klansman in Covington which is located either on Maple St. or Sherrod. The only other information she furnished was that this individual was a young member, approximately 25 to 26 years of age, and not very active in the Klan.

This information was furnished to SA MAHLON J. PRICE, who advised that the address on Maple St. in Covington might possibly refer to CHARLIE HAMIL, a Klan officer and the operator of Charlie's Pit Bar-B-Q on Highway 51 in Covington. It was also suggested that SCOTTIE LARRY SARTAIN, MEfile 157-916, fits the brief description given by the informant. SARTAIN when interviewed by PRICE was belligerent, made remarks to the effect that MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., should be shot, and that he would "kill a nigger" if the "nigger" messed with him.

JMB:mnr
(2)
mnr



5010-108



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/4/68

FROM : SA HARELY E. GYLFE

SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka
John Willard;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -
VICTIM
CR

(OO Memphis)

Re lead at Veterans Cab Co. concerning JAMES E.
CANTRELL.

Police records indicated that a Yellow cab dispatcher named MORGAN advised he received a call from an individual identifying himself as JAMES E. CANTRELL. This individual said, "I shot King." MORGAN gave his telephone number as 525-3535.

It was determined 525-3535 is the telephone number of the Veterans Cab Co., located at 704 Vance Ave.

Inasmuch as there were reports of numerous fires and other disturbances in that area, it was not recommended by the Memphis PD to venture into this area after dark, especially on 4/4/68.

LEAD:

MEMPHIS DIVISION

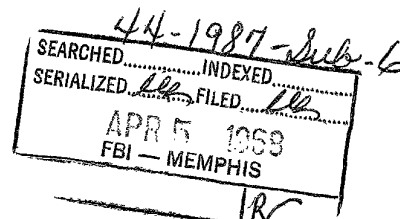
AT MEMPHIS, TENN.

At Veterans Cab Co. interview MORGAN.

HEG:mnr
(2)
mnr



5010-108



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/4/68

FROM : SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK

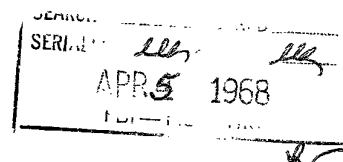
SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
RM

(OO Memphis)

KYLE G. CLARK, ASAC, Chicago Division, telephonically contacted Memphis FBI re RI 7116-R. CLARK advised that efforts to locate this informant negative but continued efforts would be made to contact this informant in an effort to bring him to Memphis re racial matters at Memphis.

CLARK advised he would supply all the necessary information at his earliest opportunity.

RF:mnr
(2)
mnr



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/4/68

FROM : SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
RM

(OO Memphis)

WILLIAM HAYES, 1006 Esplanade, Memphis, Tenn., telephone #947-1838, employed at Kellogg, Memphis, Tenn., furnished the following information telephonically to SA FITZPATRICK:

HAYES advised that at approximately 7:00 P.M. this date he heard a broadcast reporting the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HAYES advised that at this time a Medic ambulance with a siren was behind him apparently on its way to an emergency at a very high rate of speed on Lamar Avenue near Airways. HAYES advised that the Medic ambulance went through a red light and appeared to be traveling at a very high rate of speed.

HAYES advised that when he approached Parkway and Willett streets, he noticed this Medic ambulance parked by the railroad track at this location. He noticed two white males, neatly dressed, sitting in the ambulance on the south side of Parkway next to the railroad.

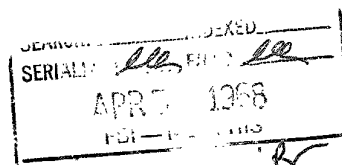
HAYES advised that he thought this very suspicious in view of the fact that this Medic ambulance had gone through a red light and had seemed to be traveling at a very high rate of speed and yet just a few blocks away appeared to be sitting on the south side of Parkway with the light on.

HAYES advised he did not get any license plate number and described this vehicle as a white Cadillac with "Medic" on it and a red dome light on top.

RF:mnr
(2)



5010-108



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/5/68

FROM : SA WALTER R. HAPPELL
SUPERVISOR

SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka
John Willard;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -
VICTIM
CR

(OO Memphis)

At approximately 8:15 P.M., 4/4/68, an individual identifying herself as Mrs. QUEENIE GRIFFIN, 1980 Quinn, Memphis, Tenn., phone #274-4292, telephonically contacted the Memphis Division and advised she desired to furnish the following information as possibly having some bearing on the shooting of Dr. KING:

She advised that during Dr. KING's first visit to the Clayborn Temple, Memphis, Tenn., she overheard a conversation and observed the actions of 3 men which aroused her suspicions. She advised part of the conversation which aroused her suspicions was as follows:

"Just as easy to get him as for them to get KENNEDY."

"Where is LARRY? Did he get it?"

"He got one and it's working pretty good."

"He is out front."

"Better get out of it."

She advised that one of these individuals claimed to be a reporter and had a note pad pretending to be writing on it; however, she was able to observe the pad and observed there was no writing on it. She advised these individuals took 2 pictures of KING and then 2 of them left immediately, the third one remaining sometime thereafter. She advised she followed the individuals leaving and observed them enter a white car believed to be a 1963-64 Pontiac bearing license (Tennessee) AP-9623.

WRH:mnr
(2)



5010-108

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

44-1987-Sub-9

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>llh</i>	FILED <i>llh</i>
APR 5 1968	
FBI — MEMPHIS	

R

ME 44-1987

She described the individuals in question as follows:

1) The individual who took the pictures

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	20 - 30
Height	6'
Build	Slender
Hair	Light hair, possibly blond, full and fairly long
Remarks	He looked like ROBERT CULP, the TV actor appearing on "I Spy"

2) Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	20 - 30
Height	Short, approximately 5'5" (She stated she is 5'6½" and suspect was shorter than she.)
Characteristic	Wore glasses
Hair	Brown, dark, long (looked like a hippie)
Dress	Neatly dressed

3) Race	White
Age	30, little older than other 2
Height	Over 6' tall
Build	Heavy - fat
Hair	Dark
Remarks	This individual was the one claiming to be a reporter and the one who stayed after the other 2 had left, staying until after 10:00 P.M.

The caller advised she had previously given this information, including the license number, to T. O. BURNS of the Memphis PD.

ME 44-1987

Officer MARSHALL, Homicide Squad, Memphis PD, checked on the license and determined that it was assigned to a rental car operated by Thrifty Rent-A-Car, Memphis, Tenn. He was, however, on the evening of 4/4/68 unable to obtain detailed information concerning the use of this car during the period described above.

It is suggested that reference be made to Chicago teletype dated 4/4/68 captioned "Possible Racial Violence, Memphis, Tenn.," in which information is set forth that a JOHN KENNETH MADDEN, described as a WM, born [redacted] at Knoxville, Tenn., 5'6" tall, 150 lbs., light brown thinning hair, was in Memphis on 3/26/68 and admitted posing as a CBS reporter. It is further noted information set forth in the teletype that MADDEN associated with a RAY KEISLING of Keisco Photos, 3990 Park Ave., Memphis, and reportedly used a 1960 white Rambler while in Memphis.

LEAD:

MEMPHIS DIVISION

AT MEMPHIS, TENN.

Will contact Officer MARSHALL, Homicide Division, Memphis PD, to determine whether he was successful in determining the identity of the individual or individuals renting the car described above and relating to the information furnished by the caller.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, Memphis (44-1987)

DATE: 4/5/68

FROM : ASAC C. O. HALTER

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS

OO: Memphis

At 9:59 PM, April 4, 1968, an individual communicated with me, who refused to give his name and talked as though he was intoxicated. He began the conversation by stating that I was recording the telephone call and talked in an incoherent manner. I informed the caller that if he had any information to furnish, I would be glad to receive it. He again began to talk in an incoherent manner and indicated he had the information I wanted. I repeated that I would be glad to accept any information he had to furnish. He then started to talk irrationally, at which time I interrupted him and told him that if he didn't have anything to furnish, I didn't have further time to talk to him. The caller then stated the person we wanted has a 1956 Oldsmobile, blue and white, and commented, "You find it and you have it." I asked for names and why we should be interested in the Olds. His comment was, "He is the guy with the rifle at the Memphis Lounge."

I asked for the caller's name. His reply was, "You know where I am, I'm in the Tennessee Hotel. He commented, "Room 235" but someone in the room corrected him, stating they were in Room 325 of the Tennessee Hotel. I asked another question, however, the caller stated, "I'll be gone before you get here." He then caused the telephone connection to be disconnected.

COH:ME
(2)

ME

44-1987-Sub-10

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>llh</i>	FILED <i>llh</i>
APR 5 1968	
FBI — MEMPHIS	

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5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/4/68

FROM : SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
RM

(OO Memphis)

Inspector N. E. ZACHARY, Homicide Division, Memphis PD, furnished the following information regarding two individuals apprehended by the Memphis PD immediately following the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.:

ZACHARY advised that at approximately 6:50 P.M., 4/4/68, police had a call on Second and Pontotoc and upon arriving at this scene observed two white males changing clothes in a garage. The police report further states that there is no reason for these individuals to be in the area and upon questioning they maintained that they were law students and civil rights workers. These individuals were arrested by Officers B. E. LIGHTFOOT and R. O. ARMSTEAD.

ZACHARY described the individuals from the police reports as follows:

Name	MANUEL MARCUS LEVIN
DOB	[REDACTED]
Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	22
Address	750 Kincannon Hall, Oxford, Miss.
Remarks	Claimed he is a student at the University of Maryland

Name	ALEX JAY HURDER
DOB	[REDACTED]
Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	22
Address	926 W. Markam, Durham, N. C.
Remarks	Claimed he is a student at Duke University

Mississippi

RF:mnr
(2)



5010-108

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

44-1987-Sub-11

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI - MEMPHIS	

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ME 44-1987

ZACHARY also furnished information concerning JAMES E. CANTRELL, who, according to police reports, allegedly called Yellow Cab and stated to the dispatcher, (FNU) MORGAN, telephone #525-3535, that he was the man who shot KING.

Subsequent check of the current Memphis City Directory disclosed that telephone #525-3535 indicates that this number belongs to Veteran Taxi located at 704 Vance Ave., Memphis, Tenn.

On 4/4/68 Mr. NEEDEM MORGAN, Dispatcher, Veteran Taxi Co., 704 Vance Ave., home address 12 W. Biscayne, furnished the following information telephonically to SA FITZPATRICK:

MORGAN advised that an individual identifying himself as JAMES E. CANTRELL and spelling his last name as CANTRELL first called CHARLIE HANSON, an employee of Veteran who turned over this call to Mr. MORGAN at approximately 7:30 P.M., 4/4/68.

MORGAN advised that this individual again stated his name was JAMES E. CANTRELL and that he wanted to talk about giving himself up as he stated he was the man who shot KING. MORGAN advised that this individual said he was sorry that he did it and also stated that he was drinking. This individual told MORGAN that he was calling from a phone booth on Bellevue and McLemore and would call MORGAN back in approximately 5 minutes from his home address at 1117 E. McLemore.

This information was furnished Memphis PD, Homicide Division.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, Memphis (44-1987)

DATE: 4/5/68

FROM : ASAC C. O. HALTER

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS

OO: Memphis

While talking to Asst. Director C. D. DELOACH, 4/4/68, he requested that Memphis teletype refer to suspects MANUEL MARCUS LEVIN and ALEX JAY HURDER, these being the two white males who were picked up in a garage at Second and Pontotoc Sts. by the Memphis PD.

The teletype is to reflect results of search of Memphis indices, as well as any information connecting them with the shooting.

Search of Memphis indices regarding these individuals was negative.

COH:ME
(2)

ME

44-1987-Sub-12

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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APR 5 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

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5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/4/68

FROM : SA HARLEY E. GYLFE

SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka
JohnWWillard;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -
VICTIM
CR

(OO Memphis)

Mr. JESSE LUTON, Assistant Administrator, St. Joseph Hospital, Memphis, Tenn., advised at approximately 8:00 P.M. on 4/4/68 that the death certificate on MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., had not been signed as of that time. He said the time of death will be officially listed as 7:05 P.M.

Mr. LUTON introduced Drs. J. N. BARRASSO and FREDERICK GIOIA, who he said worked on MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. Drs. BARRASSO and GIOIA advised that the cause of death was due to a bullet that tore the major neck vessels and severed the spinal cord at the root of the neck of KING.

HEG:mnr
(2)
mnr

44-1987-Sub-13

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>ll</i>	FILED <i>ll</i>
APR 5 1968	
FBI — MEMPHIS	

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5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/4/68

FROM : SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE

SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka
John Willard;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -
VICTIM
CR

(OO Memphis)

At 7:15 PM STEVE MC CALL, 111th INTC Group, Army Intelligence, Memphis, advised SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE that 3500 members of the Tennessee National Guard have been ordered on immediate duty in Memphis. These men are from west Tennessee towns, plus the Memphis unit. Two units from middle Tennessee are being flown in and a chemical unit is being placed on duty. The Guard will be stationed at Armour Center, Fairgrounds, and at Tennessee Air National Guard space north end of Municipal Airport.

WHL:mnr
(2)

mnr

44-1987-Sub-14

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>llh</i>	FILED <i>llh</i>
APR 5 1968	
FBI — MEMPHIS	

LR



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/4/68

FROM : SA ROBERT F. BOYLE

SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka
John Willard;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -
VICTIM
CR

(OO Memphis)

At approximately 6:15 P.M. SA's JOE C. HESTER and ROBERT F. BOYLE were directed to the Emergency Room of St. Joseph Hospital by SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN for the purpose of determining the extent of injuries received by Rev. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., as a result of the shooting occurring at the Lorraine Motel.

At approximately 6:45 P.M. it was determined from 2 physicians, names of whom will be supplied later, that Dr. KING was dead. One of the physicians indicated that the bullet entered KING's body through the right side of the neck and severed the spinal cord in addition to other vast damage in the same area.

Upon furnishing this information to the SAC, I then proceeded to 422½ South Main St. where it was determined from Mrs. BESSIE RUTH BREWER, resident manager of the apartments located at that address, that the individual believed to be responsible for the shooting of Rev. KING registered at the rooming house in Room 5B between 3:00 and 3:30 P.M. on 4/4/68. This individual furnished the name of JOHN WILLARD and was not observed to have any luggage with him at the time he rented the room. Mrs. BREWER gave a vague description of this individual and does not believe she would be able to recognize him if she saw him in the future.

Mrs. BREWER stated that WILLARD paid for a week-s room rent with a \$20 bill and 2 quarters and that she gave him change in the denominations of one \$10 bill and two \$1 bills.

RFB:mnr
(2)
mnr



5010-108

44-1987-Sub-15

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>llh</i>	FILED <i>llh</i>
APR 5 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

IR

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

ME 44-1987

Mrs. BREWER had in her possession three \$20 bills and she was unable to identify the specific bill that WILLARD gave her for payment. Mrs. BREWER turned these three \$20 bills over to SA BOYLE and in turn Mrs. BREWER was furnished cash in the amount of one \$20 bill and four \$10 bills that SA MERRILL E. MC CLOUGHAN had furnished from Memphis FBI Office.

The three \$20 bills furnished by Mrs. BREWER have been maintained as evidence.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, Memphis (44-1987)

DATE: 4/4/68

FROM : SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS

OO: Memphis

At approximately 10:15 PM the night of April 4, 1968, ME 338-R called the writer, SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE, and stated he hesitated to furnish the name of the following suspect but due to the nature of the crime felt constrained to do so. He explained that for several years he, Informant, has had a working relationship on various accident investigations with RENFRO TURNER HAYS. He explained that on April 3, 1968, HAYS came to Informant's office and knowing that informant was closely connected with the current racial strife in Memphis insisted on being informed as to the Memphis residence of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., which at the time was the Lorraine Motel, 406 Mulberry. Informant was busy and had no time to talk with HAYS, although HAYS talked at length with informant's wife.

HAYS has recently been driving a late model white automobile, make and model unknown, and was last known to be living in a little white clapboard house just east of North Watkins, one or two blocks south of Jackson Avenue (this would probably be Faxon or Tutwiler). He lives with an older woman who is his landlady and has a private room in the front of the house.

Informant recalled that HAYS is a schizophrenic and has been in and out of mental institutions in West Tennessee for

2 - ME 44-1987

1 - ME 170-70-Sub (ME 338-R) (Ghetto)

1 - ME 157-1092 (Sanitation Workers Strike, Memphis, Tenn.)

1 - ME 170-831 (RENFRO TURNER HAYS)

WHL:ME

(5)



5010-108

44-1987-Sub-16

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>llh</i>	FILED <i>llh</i>
APR 4 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

BR

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

ME# 44-1897

several years. While HAYS is not known to be anti-Negro, due to his mental quirks and due to the fact he has been a private detective for years, engaging in all types of nefarious and questionable schemes, informant feels that HAYS would be capable of an assassination either through personal compulsion or for hire. He stated that of particular significance is the fact that HAYS is an avid student of all facets surrounding the assassination of the late President JOHN F. KENNEDY, having read numerous books and writings relative thereto, and can espound for hours on all possible ramifications of that assassination.

A review of Memphis file 170-831 reveals that HAYS as recently as 1966 attempted to join the Haywood, Tennessee Klavern, United Klans of America, for pay, and it was ascertained in 1966, confidentially, from Attorney RUSSELL X. THOMPSON, currently law partner of former Memphis Mayor WILLIAM B. INGRAM, who had hired HAYS on behalf of the West Tennessee Voters Project to join the KKK, which at that time was aiming much of its harrassment activities against the Project people.

HAYS in 1966 did volunteer information to this office concerning this activity but due to his previous mental history, efforts were not made to develop him as an informant. At that time HAYS seemed to have a considerable knowledge of firearms and furnished some information to this office to this effect concerning possible guns owned allegedly by some of the Klan members in Haywood County.

Memphis file 170-831 discloses that HAYS was arrested on a peace warrant by the Shelby County Sheriff's Office, June 28, 1960, Shelby Co. SO #20198, FBI #805 239 B. At that time he was described as 6 ft. tall, weighed 185 lbs., born [redacted] Crawfordsville, Arkansas, brown eyes, black hair, medium complexion.

He was arrested by the Memphis PD, September 5, 1950, Memphis PD# 48556, on a charge of threatened breach of peace. At that time he was described as 6 ft. $\frac{1}{2}$ ", 191 lbs. His father is R. W. RENFRO (deceased); mother, CORA HAYS, Norman St., Memphis, Tenn. He has fingerprint classification:

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ME# 44-1897

Photographs of HAYS are in the 1-A section of 170-831, taken by the PD and SO, respectively.

In furnishing any of this information to the Memphis PD, all due caution is to be taken to protect the identity of informant.

The writer immediately furnished this information to SA CYRIL F. BUSCH, who was at the Homicide Bureau of the Memphis PD. SA BUSCH stated he would converse with Inspector N. E. ZACHARY or one of his men and check to determine whether or not HAYS has a private detective license which would give any up-to-date address or photograph.

BUSCH was also reminded, based on information from Informant, that HAYS has also done considerable investigative work for Memphis Attorney JEROME HUFFMAN, in the 100 North Main Building.

- L E A D -

THE MEMPHIS DIVISION:

AT MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

Will follow up on all logical investigation regarding RENFRO TURNER HAYS as a suspect.

Recommend this lead be assigned SA BUSCH.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC

DATE: 4/5/68

FROM : SPC Curtis Fitzgerald

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., RM.

REX BATCHELOR, BRANIFF AIRLINES, Memphis, Tenn., called the office at 1:30 A.M. this date and advised that a young Negro male, approximately 21 yrs. old, had boarded Braniff Flight 610 at 12:25 A.M. this date. BATCHELOR stated that his records reflected the name of the individual as J. LOUW. LOUW made the remark to DEWAYNE HARTSOE, Braniff employee, that he had some films concerning the death of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BATCHELOR said that LOUW made this remark immediately before entering plane. BATCHELOR stated LOUW was traveling with another young Negro male, name unknown, who was traveling with camera equipment.

BATCHELOR stated that Flight 610 travels to Nashville, Tenn., Washington, D.C., and Newark, arriving Newark 5:22 A.M. EST. BATCHELOR could not describe LOUW or his companion other than being young Negro males.

BATCHELOR can be contacted at 398-1312.

44-1987-Sub-17

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>llh</i>	FILED <i>llh</i>
APR 4 1968	
FBI — MEMPHIS	

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5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/5/68

FROM : ASAC C. O. HALTER

SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka
John Willard;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -
VICTIM
CR

(OO Memphis)

Assistant to the Director C. D. DE LOACH telephonically communicated with me at 1:50 A.M., 4/5/68, at which time he informed as follows:

The Attorney General, Mr. DE LOACH, MARK WILKINS, Civil Rights Division, CLIFF SESSIONS, Press Representative of the Department, and CLIFF ALEXANDER, President's Legal Counsel, are flying by jet from Washington, D. C., to the Naval Air Station (NAS), Millington, Tenn., 4/5/68. Departure time from Andrews AFB is at 6:30 A.M. Arrival time at Millington NAS should be 7:45 A.M. to 8:00 A.M.

Mr. DELOACH desires two Bureau cars at the NAS before their arrival.

Messrs. WILKINS and ALEXANDER are Negroes.

COH:mnr
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5010-108

44-1987-Sub-18

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>llh</i>	FILED <i>llh</i>
APR 5 1968	
FBI — MEMPHIS	

RV

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/5/68

FROM : SA EUGENE G. DOUGLASS

SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka
John Willard;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -
VICTIM
CR

(OO Memphis)

On 4/5/68 at approximately 2:15 A.M. ASAC C. O. HALTER advised that SA ORVILLE V. JOHNSON had developed information from the Memphis PD concerning the following:

JOHN WILLARD, aka JOHN HUBEART WILLARD, had been arrested by the Memphis PD on 4/18/58 on a charge of arson for the SO, Pontotoc, Miss. WILLARD had been returned to the SO, Pontotoc, for prosecution.

WILLARD was described as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	20 (1958)
Height	5'11"
Weight	152
Parents	ENNIS and MAMIE WILLARD, Nesbit, Miss.

A check of the Memphis Office indices failed to reveal any information identifiable with JOHN HUBEART WILLARD or JOHN WILLARD.

On 4/5/68 at 2:22 A.M. SA JOHN PUDDISTER, Jackson Division, was telephonically contacted by SA DOUGLASS and furnished the above information concerning JOHN HUBEART WILLARD. He was to contact the SO, Pontotoc, Miss., and the State Penitentiary, Parchman, Miss., for any information concerning WILLARD. He was also requested to determine if WILLARD's whereabouts could be learned as of 4/4/68.

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5010-108

44-1987-Sub-19

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 5 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

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

ME 44-1987

He was advised that officers of the Memphis PD and an Agent of the Memphis FBI Division would conduct investigation at Nesbit, Miss., in an effort to locate ENNIS and MAMIE WILLARD.

He advised that upon completion of this investigation, the Memphis Office will be advised.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987) (P)

DATE: 4/5/68

FROM : SA ANDREW SLOAN

SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka
John Willard;
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. -
VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS

OO: MEMPHIS

On 4/4/68 the writer proceeded to the Memphis Police Department, at which time he helped to catalog the evidence seized as a result of the slaying of MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. The writer had occasion to interview Det. E. S. BERKLEY regarding BERKLEY's obtaining clothing from the body of Dr. KING at St Joseph's Hospital. The writer also interviewed local law enforcement officials at the Homicide Bureau regarding blades of grass and a Disabled Veterans stick pin obtained from Apartment 5B at 422 $\frac{1}{2}$ South Main St., where an individual using the name JOHN WILLARD stayed at the time of the slaying.

The writer also obtained fingerprints from BESSIE RUTH BREWER, who rented room 5B to the above individual. The prints were sent to Washington with Agent carrying evidence.

JESSIE ORR, Investigator, American Airlines, was contacted at the Memphis Airport on the evening of 4/4/68, and he advised American Airlines received a call from an individual using the name STOKELY CARMICHAEL at Dallas, Texas, and wanted to make reservations for flight from Dallas to Memphis that evening scheduled to arrive Memphis 10:50 p.m. He was to be accompanied by E. HOLBERT, W. JOHNSON and T. SMITH. ORR advised the airlines would not make these reservations, and he personally took this flight and CARMICHAEL was not on it.

AS:LF
(1)

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5010-108

44-1987-Sub-20

SEARCHED
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APR - 5 1968
FBI - MEMPHIS

TR

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/5/68

FROM : SA EUGENE G. DOUGLASS

SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka
John Willard;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -
VICTIM
CR

(OO Memphis)

On 4/5/68 Supervisor WALTER H. HAPPELL contacted SA EUGENE G. DOUGLASS and advised that JOHN HUBEART WILLARD, MPD #69257, had been arrested 4/18/58 by the Memphis PD on charge of fugitive - arson, SO, Pontotoc, Miss. WILLARD was described as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
DOB	
POB	Pontotoc, Miss.
Height	5'11"
Weight	152
Eyes	Dark green
Hair	Brown
Build	Medium
Complexion	Medium
Fingerprint	17 L 1 T II 12
classification	M 1 R III Ref U 2 R 1

Supervisor HAPPELL stated that SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN had suggested that the FBI Identification Division, Washington, D. C., be contacted to determine if a more recent photograph of subject could be obtained or if he had any recent arrests.

At 2:40 A.M., 4/5/68, CHESTER G. CRIBBEN, Night Supervisor, Identification Division, Washington, D. C., was furnished the above information and was requested to determine if a more recent photograph was available of

EGD:mnr
(2)



5010-108

44-1987-Sub-21

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 5 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

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

ME 44-1987

JOHN HUBEART WILLARD and if he had any recent arrests.

CRIBBEN advised he would determine if WILLARD had been arrested in the recent past and would inform the Memphis Office.

At 3:35 A.M., 4/5/68 Mr. CRIBBEN contacted the Memphis Office and advised that JOHN HUBEART WILLARD, MPD #69257, had FBI #934 454 C. He stated his records reflect that WILLARD was fingerprinted by the Memphis PD on 4/18/58, charged with investigation fugitive warrant, Pontotoc, Miss., released 4/18/58 to the SO, Pontotoc, Miss., as a fugitive.

He stated that his records reflect that WILLARD, under the name JOHN HUBBARD WILLARD, was fingerprinted on 6/25/58 by the SO, Pontotoc, Miss., no number, charged with arson, 3 years probation.

He stated that the only photograph available in the files of the Identification Division was the Memphis PD photograph.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, Memphis

DATE: 4/5/68

FROM : SA Cyril F. Busch

SUBJECT: UNSUB; Rev. MARTIN LUTHER
KING--Victim. CR

At Memphis PD on evening of 4/4/68 I talked with two persons who lived at 422 $\frac{1}{2}$ So. Main (from which fatal shot believed to have been fired) - WILLIAM CHARLES ANSCHUTZ, and GRACE HAYS STEPHENS - neither of whom could furnish descriptive data or identify Subject. Will submit FD*302's.

Inspector N. E. ZACHARY, Memphis PD, advised that laundry marks had been obtained from clothing in the room occupied by the Unsub. These will be checked out with laundry on 4/5/68.

LEAD

Contact Inspector N. E. ZACHARY, Memphis PD, and follow invwstigation regarding laundry marks.



5010-108

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

44-1987-Sub-B2

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 5 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

RV

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, Memphis (44-1987)

DATE: 4/5/68

FROM : ASAC C. O. HALTER

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT, Aka John Willard;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS

OO: Memphis

JACK DUMPHY, Exhibits Section, Bureau headquarters, telephonically informed at approximately 3:55 PM, April 5, 1968 that GEORGE MUMFORD, JR. and HORACE J. HEFFNER are departing Washington, D. C. at 12:40 AM, April 6, 1968, via Delta Airlines enroute to Memphis. They will make an artist's conception of the UNSUB and also will make diagrams of the area in the vicinity of the Lorraine Motel.

To assist the above men, an Agent should obtain from the city of Memphis city plans of the area or a good scaled map of the area at the motel.

It was agreed that a room with twin beds would be reserved for MUMFORD and HEFFNER at the Sheraton-Peabody Hotel. It was further agreed that there might be difficulty in obtaining public transportation to the hotel and that these men would be met by an Agent.

NOTE: Subsequent to above call, Memphis received another call to cancel the reservation for above agents inasmuch as plans were changed. SA's MUMFORD and HEFFNER are to proceed to Birmingham.

COH:ME
(2)

ME

44-1987-Sub-23

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>llh</i>	FILED <i>llh</i>
APR 5 1968	
FBI — MEMPHIS	

OK



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/5/68

FROM : SA JOSEPH M. BREWI, JR.

SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka
John Willard
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR - VICTIM
CR
(OO: MEMPHIS)

At 10:15 a.m., 4/5/68 Mr. JERRY D. STRINGER, who identified himself as an attorney for the Veterans Administration, and who also advised he works out of his home which is located at 4594 Marigold Lane, Memphis, Tennessee, telephone 392-1356, appeared at the Memphis FBI Office. Mr. STRINGER advised that as soon as he heard of the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING on 4/4/68 one ROBERT McCAMPBELL, aka PHOOCIE, came to his mind as the possible assassin. He added that he felt this way as he believes McCAMPBELL is capable of such an act and further because McCAMPBELL has been active with the KKK in the past. *dep 2*

STRINGER advised that McCAMPBELL has asked him to represent him on approximately three occasions in the past when he, STRINGER, was practicing law, in connection with McCAMPBELL's arrest concerning KKK activities.

He continued by saying that one of these occasions was when McCAMPBELL was arrested by the Shelby County Sheriff's Office for distributing KKK literature.

He further advised that he grew up with McCAMPBELL in south Memphis, but has not actually seen him in person in two or three years. He added that he also felt that McCAMPBELL might be somewhat mentally deranged which added to his belief that McCAMPBELL possibly could be involved in the shooting of Rev. KING. STRINGER added that the description of McCAMPBELL closely resembles that of the assassin as furnished to the public via various news media.

JMB/acp
(2) *ajg*

*Determine if this could
be ident with subject
of 157-796 - if so, where
was he at time of shooting?
McCAMPBELL does not fit
description I was at
time of shooting!*

44-1987-Sub-B4

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR - 5 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

McCloughan



5010-108

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

ME 44-1987

He added that the last he heard, McCAMPBELL was supposedly in the State of Mississippi working with the KKK.

He described McCAMPBELL as follows:

Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Age:	Approximately 30
Height:	Approximately 5' 11"
Weight:	Approximately 170 lbs.
Hair:	Medium brown (usually worn in crewcut style)
Complexion:	One usually associated with someone who spends a lot of time in the sun out of doors
Peculiarities:	Usually wears a suit, and smiles a lot.

STRINGER added that, of course, he does not know if McCAMPBELL is involved in the KING shooting or not, but he was passing on this information due to McCAMPBELL's past activities and the fact he knew McCAMPBELL to be an excellent rifle shot.

*called G. Campbell 4/8/67.
make later appointment
for another day*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS

DATE: 4/5/68

FROM : SA E. A. Medori, Jr.

SUBJECT: John Hubert Willard
Possible Suspect-Assassination

Inspector Zachary, MPD, telephonically contacted FBI Office, Memphis to advise that his Dept. has been unable to eliminate John Hubert Willard in the killing of Dr. King.

He advised that Willard had registered at the boarding house across street from motel where King killed and that he has attempted to contact the Sheriff of DeSoto County, Miss., re Willard with negative results. Zachary advised that he and Agent O. V. Johnson had attempted to eliminate Willard last night without success. The MPD has only one record on a John Willard who was arrested here about 10 years ago and turned over to Sheriff of Pontotoc County, Miss., on an arson charge. Willard stated at that time he had family in Nesbitt, Miss., father--Enos, mother--Mamie, wife--Barbara. He had no response from Sheriff DeSoto County re this family and could possibly have moved. Agent Johnson called a cousin of his in DeSoto County but unable to determine if Willard family still residing there.

Insp. Zachary asked if the FBI could attempt to check out Willard and possibly eliminate him. He also expressed the desire that cooperation with FBI and MPD in this matter.

44-1987-Sub-25

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>llb</i>	FILED <i>llb</i>
APR 5 1968	
FBI — MEMPHIS	

[Signature]



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/5/68

FROM : IC ROBERT M. CALK

SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka
John Willard;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM;
CR

(OO: MEMPHIS)

On 4/5/68, Miss VERA McDONALD, Chief Clerk, Drivers License Division, Tennessee Department of Safety, Nashville, advised IC ROBERT M. CALK that on 1/15/58, Drivers License [REDACTED] was issued to JOHN WARNER WILLARD, 54 West Brooks, Memphis, Tenn. WILLARD is described as a white male, born [REDACTED] 6', 165 pounds, gray hair, gray eyes, wife's name BESSIE, employed as checker by Ford Motor Company, (Description as of 1/15/58). WILLARD had the following violations listed against his driving record: 1/12/48, DWI; 8/10/58, Speeding; 12/31/56, DWI. WILLARD's drivers license expired on 7/1/59.

Miss McDONALD stated that on 4/27/57 Tennessee Drivers License [REDACTED] was issued to JOHN HUBERT WILLARD. This is the same WILLARD, DOB [REDACTED] whose physical description and address are already known to the Memphis Office.

*has been eliminated
as suspect*

RMC:jap
(2) *jap*

44-1987-Sub-26

SEARCHED.....
SERIALIZED <i>llh</i>
APR - 5 1968
FBI - MEMPHIS

[Signature]



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM : JC ROBERT M. CALK

SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka,
John Willard;
MARTIN LUTHER KING - VICTIM
CR

(00: Memphis)

DATE: 4/5/68

On 4/5/68, at 8:20 a.m., Mr. JAMES W. HARRIS, who requested his name be kept in confidence, 5436 San Marcos Drive, Nashville, Tennessee, telephone 833-3866, the manager of group insurance for the Connecticut General Life Insurance Co., 1808 West End Building, Nashville, telephone 244-5334, telephonically contacted the Nashville RA and furnished the following information:

HARRIS advised he worked and traveled with WILL E. STAFFORD, with the Connecticut General Life Insurance Co., for approximately two years during 1944 and 1945. HARRIS stated that STAFFORD at that time was residing with his wife and daughter (approximately 4 years of age) on Milbranch Road, Whitehaven, Tennessee. STAFFORD was outspoken re his hatred of Negroes and Dr. KING and STAFFORD felt the Negroes were destroying our country. STAFFORD became extremely emotional and upset when discussing integration and American patriotism.

STAFFORD was supposed to have been a member of the White Citizens Council and the John Birch Society in Memphis and had a great admiration for HITLER. STAFFORD believed that "someone should do something" to resolve the problems encountered with the Negroes.

STAFFORD was encountering marital difficulties with his wife due to his personality and HARRIS advised he does not know whether or not STAFFORD had consulted a psychiatrist or had been in a mental institution. He stated he does not believe STAFFORD has a police record.

RMC:cjs
(2)



44-1987-Sub-27

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR - 5 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

[Handwritten signature]



5010-108

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

ME 44-1987

STAFFORD's wife, unknown to HARRIS, was a school teacher in Memphis. STAFFORD graduated from Memphis State University during the latter part of the 1950's and was originally from Milan, Tennessee.

During the early 1960's, STAFFORD taught school in Arizona and due to his radical ideas he was kicked out of the school.

HARRIS stated that he saw STAFFORD in Memphis approximately three months ago; however, the last time he engaged in conversation with STAFFORD was approximately a year ago in Memphis.

HARRIS described STAFFORD as follows:

Name	WILL E. STAFFORD ✓
Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	30-31
Height	5'11" - 6'
Weight	170-175
Hair	Sandy
Dress	Business suits
Employment	Salesman, Bankers Life Insurance Company.

HARRIS does not know what kind of a vehicle STAFFORD owns. He stated he felt STAFFORD should be considered a suspect in the murder of Dr. KING due to the reasons set out herein.

HARRIS advised that his name should be kept strictly confidential and the FBI should contact him very discreetly to avoid anyone knowing he had furnished any information to the FBI as he would fear his safety should STAFFORD learn he had furnished this information to the FBI.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/5/68

FROM : SA JOSEPH M. BREWI, JR.

SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka
John Willard
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
CR
(OO: MEMPHIS)

At 9:27 a.m., 4/5/68 Mr. CHARLES EPPS, JR., 1517 East McLeMore, Memphis, Tennessee, telephone 276-6128, telephonically advised that he is a Postal Clerk at the Main Office, Memphis, Tennessee, and works the 6:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. shift.

On Wednesday, 4/3/68 at approximately 11:00 p.m. while he was putting up mail he overheard a conversation among three white clerks who were discussing the situation in Memphis regarding the sanitation strike. The three clerks are J. M. GRIFFIN, JOHN DEAL, and J. R. SCOTT.

Mr. EPPS stated that during this discussion among the above three individuals, he overheard J. M. GRIFFIN and JOHN DEAL both say that they would like to kill MARTIN LUTHER KING.

Mr. EPPS further advised he believes GRIFFIN is from Mississippi and is possibly a Klansman, as sometime ago he heard GRIFFIN ask another Postal Clerk if he was going to the KKK rally which was scheduled to be held at the Rainbow Terrace on Lamar in Memphis, Tennessee. He added that this was approximately a year or two ago.

JMB/acp
(2) *[Signature]*



5010-108

44-1987-Sub-28

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR - 5 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

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

SAC, MEMPHIS (100-4098)

4/5/68

SUPERVISOR WALTER R. HAPPELL

FRANK FLANIGAN
SM - C

At approximately 10:00 p.m., 4/4/68, an individual identifying himself as BARNEY DuBOIS, Commercial Appeal, telephonically contacted the Memphis Office and advised that JAMES CHERRY, Advertising Director for Memphis Publishing Company, had furnished him the following information:

For the past 3-4 days, FRANK FLANIGAN, 1331 National, Memphis, Tenn., described as a WMA, age 50, 5'8", 180 pounds, stocky build, slightly bald, had persistently attempted to place an ad in the Commercial Appeal decrying KING's visit to Memphis. In the ad he intended to call KING a Communist.

When the ad was refused, FLANIGAN became bitter and stated he would picket the newspaper. FLANIGAN reportedly stated: "You are mistaken to take up for the Negroes".

A check of the Memphis City Directory disclosed a listing for FRANK FLANIGAN, 1331 National Street, wife ANNA, employed Memphis Paving Company.

A review of the Memphis indices disclosed previous identical references including Memphis file 100-4098 and 62-0-11075.

In view of the fact that FLANIGAN's description does not meet the description of UNSUB in the shooting of Dr. KING and further in view of the information set forth from previous contacts concerning FLANIGAN's "obsession", it is not felt this information warrants investigation or further action.

2 - 100-4098
1 - 62-0-11075
① - 44-1987

WRH:cjs
(4)

44-1987-Sub-28A

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 5 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/5/68

FROM : SA F. L. Johnson

SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka JOHN WILLARD; MARTIN LUTHER KING - Vic.; CR

At 8:05 PM 4/5/68 Mr. RICHARD F. BATES of Bureau telephonically advised that Ident. Div. has developed a latent print on the weapon and a latent print on the binoculars sent in from Memphis; that the latent on the weapon and the one on the binoculars are identical; and other material being processed. These latents developed are not identical with any of the elimination prints sent in, including suspect WILLARD or a man named DANIELS (arrested with WILLARD by MPD in past); not identical SAM BOWERS or with prints of Mr. CANIPE or Agents and Officers sent in.

SA NEIL SHANAHAN, of BH, has just arrived ^{at Bureau} with the first weapon purchased by unsub in BH, and Ident. will now process this weapon for latents.

Mr. BATES stated that Mr. CLEM MCGOWAN particularly stressed that all investigation possible be conducted to identify man who purchased binoculars. Mr. BATES was advised that it has been determined that binoculars purchased 4/4/68 at York Arms Co., Memphis, and salesman there has furnished descriptive data concerning purchaser, but real identification that person not known.

*Given
SAC
8:45 PM*

44-1987-Sub-28B

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>lll</i>	FILED <i>lll</i>
APR 5 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester *gcm*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/6/68

FROM : SA HARLEY E. GYLFE

SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka
John Willard
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
CR
(OO: MEMPHIS)

At 3:28 p.m., 4/6/68 Rev. L. A. HAMBLIN, 219 Ashland, Memphis, Tenn., telephone 526-4560, advised that he is Pastor of the Golden Leaf Baptist Church, 1439 North Hollywood, Memphis. Rev. HAMBLIN advised that THELMA GALTIN (phonetic), who resides in the rear of 47 Avon Road, Memphis, Tenn., told him that a Mr. GIMSON who lives at 47 Avon Road, Memphis, has a private plane and flew to Texas today. She said that Mr. GIMSON is reported to be employed by the CIA and that he is also reported to have some knowledge of the shooting of KING. Rev. HAMBLIN advised he does not have any additional information but feels that this information should be brought to the attention of the persons who are investigating the KING murder.

HEG/acp
(2) *[Signature]*



5010-108

lead to murder

44-1987-Sub-29

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>ll</i>	FILED <i>ll</i>
APR 6 1968	
FBI — MEMPHIS	

[Signature]

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS

DATE: 4/6/68

FROM : SA JACK D. VAHRENWALD

SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka
John Willard
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
CR
(OO: MEMPHIS)

INDEX

At 9:04 am, 4/6/68, MRS. FRANK LOHMEYER, 3023 Laurence Road, Memphis, Tennessee, called and furnished the following information to SA VAHRENWALD:

MRS. LOHMEYER was at the Vogue Laundry-Cleaners, 2615 Overton Crossing Road, Memphis, Tennessee during the afternoon and early evening of 4/4/68. About 6:25pm on that date, a suspicious looking man came into the laundry to use the telephone. He was in the laundry for approximately 15 minutes during which time he seemed to be using the telephone but also seemed to be listening to the comments of the people in the laundry concerning the assassination of DR. KING, which had just occurred. While he was in the laundry, the man came over to MRS. LOHMEYER and asked her how he could get the information operator. She instructed him to dial 113, but she considered his actions to be of a suspicious nature. She walked over by the telephone in an attempt to hear what the man was saying, but he spoke in low tones so she could not hear anything that was said. After he made the call, the man left the laundry and MRS. LOHMEYER has not seen him since.

MRS. LOHMEYER described the man as follows:

Age:	About sixty
Sex:	Male
Race:	Appeared to be Mulatto
Height:	5'11"
Weight:	165
Hair:	Sandy
Complexion:	Bad, appeared pinkish in color with faded spots
Distinguishing Features:	Small, cauliflower ears
Clothes:	Dark gray overcoat, Lighter gray hat pulled down on the man's head.

*No action required
TCV*

MRS. LOHMEYER has no specific reason for thinking this man is linked with the assassination of DR. KING other than the fact the man seemed to be acting strangely just after KING had been shot.

44-1987-Sub 25

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 8 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

glt

EUGENE SMITH MANSFIELD

Birmingham indices as of March 20, 1968, reflect two references to EUGENE MANSFIELD, as follows:

BH 105-722-221

BH 105-722-1197.

Birmingham indices reflect two references to EUGENE S. MANSFIELD, as follows:

44-1513* and 62-0-1204; however, the 62 reference has been destroyed.

One reference to EUGENE SMITH MANSFIELD was located and is 42-2401*.

BH 105-722-221 was an airtel from Houston to Birmingham, dated November 11, 1961, which set forth information to the effect that an individual known as "GENE", who had a very massive and distinctive tattoo on his right forearm, was then in Houston area attempting to organize a group of the United Klans of America, Inc. This airtel stated that it appeared that the individual was using the name "GENE" MANSFIELD.

BH 105-722-1197 reflects that a Birmingham Informant on July 11, 1963, advised that one EUGENE MANSFIELD, not further described, attended a meeting of the Tuscaloosa

44-1987-Sub-31

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 6 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

44-1987