DN 157-203 BDA:1kr P. <u>1</u>

Re: Man With Same Name as JAMES EARL RAY
Wheatland, Wyoming

On April 25, 1968, information was received from Mr. (FIRST NAME UNKNOWN) MOORE, Associated Press, Denver, Colorado, that one JAMES EARL RAY was currently in jail in Wheatland, Wyoming. Through Sheriff EINAR MICKELSEN, of the Platte County Sheriff's Office, Wheatland, Wyoming, SA JESSE C. HORNBACK, on April 25, 1968, determined that this JAMES EARL RAY was arrested on April 22, 1968, on a bad check charge and is presently in jail in lieu of bail. The sheriff stated this individual does not resemble JAMES EARL RAY, subject in this matter, in any way whatsoever. He described the JAMES EARL RAY in custody as follows:

Race White
Sex Male
Age 48
Height 5' 11"
Weight 170
Hair Brown (receding very much in the center)
Eyes Brown.

The JAMES EARL RAY in custody did not have a scar on his forehead and his left ear did not protrude. The sheriff stated that this man's fingerprints had been sent to the Identification Division of the FBI.

On April 25, 1968, the Identification Division of the FBI advised Assistant Special Agent In Charge JOHN F. MORLEY that the fingerprints of the real JAMES EARL RAY were not identical with the fingerprints of JAMES EARL RAY incarcerated in Wheatland, Wyoming.

32

Re: Look-Alike Driving Car with Oklahoma
License 7H9370

On April 23, 1968, Security Patrol Clerk EDWARD N. HAWKINS was telephonically contacted by one TERRY VANBERMOLEN, 2441 Quitman Street, Denver, Colorado, who advised that he noticed a male individual at the VIP Lounge on West Colfax, Denver, on April 23, 1968, who fits the description of JAMES EARL RAY. He stated that the individual had a very noticeable southern accent.

VANBERMOLEN observed that this individual was driving a 1967 Ford Mustang, bearing Oklahoma License 7H9370.

H-1984-Jub B-1134

Re: Look-Alike Attending Minutemen
Training Camp - 1961

On April 23, 1968, Mr. CARL IWASAKI, 1465 Monroe Street, Denver, Colorado, a photographer who took photographs of certain Minutemen attending Minutemen Training Camps in October, 1961, advised SA BOYD D. ADSIT that he cannot recall the name of the individual in the photograph furnished by the New York Office of the FBI. He stated he felt that the photographs were most likely taken at a meeting hall of Minutemen in Collinsville, Illinois. He thought that the writer of the article, WILL JARVIS, might know the identity of the unidentified man who appeared in an article done by Life Magazine in about October, 1961.

Mr. IWASAKI stated he took numerous photographs, all of which are in the possession of Time, Inc., New York City, and a thorough review of all photographs might contain the identity of the unidentified man.

44-1987-lul-B-1135

Re: Laundry Marks "20R-3"

All laundry plants in Boulder, Colorado Springs, Denver, Englewood, Grand Junction, and Pueblo, Colorado, as well as in Casper, Wyoming, which utilize Thermo-Seal marking machines in their operations, were contacted on April 22, 1968, and April 23, 1968, concerning a yellow tape containing the code "20R-3", without effecting an identification.

HY-1987-Jul-B-1136

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DN 157-203 BDA:1kr P. <u>1</u>

Re: Look-Alike (FIRST NAME UNKNOWN) RAY

City Missions, Denver, Colorado

By communication dated April 25, 1968, the Sacramento Office of the FBI advised that Mr. ROBERT E. DINKINS, 429 Santa Ana Avenue, Sacramento, California, advised that on April 24, 1968, he observed a man in Sacramento, who resembled JAMES EARL RAY. He stated he had known this individual in 1954 or 1955 and met him in a hobo jungle in Oroville, California. He said that they left Oroville via a freight car and went to Denver, Colorado, where they stated in a city mission and worked at odd jobs for approximately five days. From Denver they traveled to other parts of the country.

On April 26, 1968, SA G. HOWARD CARTER determined that there was no such mission as the City Mission, but contacted the Baptist Mission, 1616 Larimer, the Denver Rescue Mission, 1818 Larimer, and the Citizens Mission, 1617 Larimer Street. None of these missions had any records indicating that JAMES EARL RAY had ever stayed at the establishment.

DN 157-203 BDA:1kr P. <u>1</u>

Re: Look-Alike JIMMY LOUIS JONES
Rock Springs, Wyoming

On April 20, 1968, Mr. WENDELL WILSON, 5631 Campbell, Tucson, Arizona, advised the Phoenix Division of the FBI that he owns a ranch known as the Currant Creek Ranch, located 40 miles from Rock Springs, Wyoming, which ranch is being managed by his son, PHILIP N. WILSON. He stated that he advertised in the newspaper for ranch hands and on or about April 10, 1968, a person by the name of JIMMY JONES applied for this position and WILSON said JONES bears a close resemblance to JAMES EARL RAY.

On April 22, 1968, SA ROBERT H. LITTLE interviewed JIMMY LOUIS JONES and, through interview, observation, finger-prints, and a check of personal effects, it was determined that JONES was not identical with JAMES EARL RAY. JONES was born on at Hartsel, Alabama, and has U.S. Army Serial No. RAZ4579930.

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Re: Look-Alike SAM MASEY or MAJEY Omaha, Nebraska

On April 20, 1968, Mr. CHARLES RUTHER, Manager, Rockland Hotel, 1435 Tremont, Denver, Colorado, advised SA JERRY A. KING that he had a tenant in his hotel that looked like the photograph of ERIC STARVO GALT. He stated this person registered on April 10, 1968, under the name of SAM MASEY and gave his home address as 28 Harney, Omaha, Nebraska. RUTHER described MASEY as follows:

Race White
Sex Male
Height 5'9"
Weight 160-165
Hair Dark

RUTHER said MASEY mentioned he had done some bartending and that he had just come from Tennessee. Mr. RUTHER stated MASEY checked out of the hotel on April 11, 1968.

By communication dated April 25, 1968, the Omaha Division of the FBI advised there is no address of 28 Harney Street in Omaha.

On April 29, 1968, the hotel registration card was obtained from Mr. RUTHER by SA JERRY A. KING. The writing on the card indicated that registrant's name could be SAM MAJEY and his address could be 2809 Harney, Omaha, Nebraska.

On April 20, 1968, RUTHER further described MAJEY as follows:

14-1987-Sul-B-1139

> Age Height Weight Hair

Build Complexion

Scars & Marks

Clothing

31-32 5' 9" - 5' 10" 170-180

Dark, worn back from front of face - wavy

Stocky Ruddy

Appeared to have vertical scar about one inch long close to right corner of

mouth

Dressed in dark blue sport coat and dark blue-gray dress trousers

RUTHER stated MAJEY had no luggage and indicated he was merely stopping over in Denver. According to RUTHER, MAJEY appeared to have been drinking and RUTHER was the only person at the hotel to see MAJEY. The registration card was forwarded to the FBI Laboratory on April 29, 1968.

By communication dated May 3, 1968, the FBI Laboratory advised that differences noted indicated that the registration card was not executed by subject JAMES EARL RAY; however, limited and distorted nature of the handwriting precluded definite opinion.

By communication dated May 7, 1968, the Identification Division of the FBI advised that no latent impressions of value were found on the registration card.

Re: Look-Alike, RUSSELL GALT Sedalia, Missouri

On April 19, 1968, Mrs. LEO WILLIAMS, 1257 Xandu Street, Aurora, Colorado, telephonically advised Complaint Clerk WILLIAM J. SPRING, that in 1962, she was acquainted with one RUSSELL GALT, who then worked with her at the American Bridge and Steel Company, Sedalia, Missouri. GALT allegedly lived on 2nd Street above a tavern in Sedalia, and his work was in connection with installing Minute Men Missile sites.

Mrs. WILLIAMS described GALT as follows:

Age 34-35
Height 5'9"
Hair Brown
Weight 175

Characteristics Well mannered, well dressed and from State of Louisiana

Mrs. WILLIAMS stated GALT's family was also from the State of Louisiana, but could provide no specific location. During the time Mrs. WILLIAMS knew GALT he married one HELEN GRANDFIELD, and Mrs. WILLIAMS last saw GALT in December, 1962, when she terminated her employment at the American Bridge and Steel Company. She stated GALT and his wife are now divorced and she believes HELEN GRANDFIELD lives with her parents in Sedalia.

Mrs. WILLIAMS stated the photograph of ERIC STARVO GALT was observed by her in the newspapers and resembles RUSSELL GALT.

44-1987-Jul-B-1140

Re: TED GREEN, Alleged Contact of ERIC STARVO GALT Dennis Port, Massachusetts

On April 19, 1968, SA VINCENT R. JONES determined, at Aspen, Colorado, that E. W. "TED" GREEN left forwarding address, dated April 9, 1968, at Aspen, Colorado, requesting his mail be delivered to Box No. 113, Dennis Port, Massachusetts. No arrest or other record for GREEN was located at Aspen.

H-1984-leb-B-1141

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Re: Look-Alike, JOSEPH A. MURPHY
Boston, Massachusetts

On April 19, 1968, Mr. WILLIAM ELLIS, Manager, Antlers Plaza Hotel, Colorado Springs, Colorado, advised SA ALVIN W. BERRY that a maid in his hotel, OPAL KANCHEL, had advised his executive housekeeper, BILLY KRAFT, that an individual who occupied Room No. 1420 at the hotel from April 15, 1968, to April 18, 1968, bore a strong resemblance to the photograph of ERIC STARVO GALT, which she had seen in the local newspaper on the morning of April 19, 1968. Mr. ELLIS said that this individual, using the name of JOSEPH A. MURPHY, 47 Samoset Street, Boston, Massachusetts, checked into the hotel on April 15, 1968, and checked out on April 18, 1968, paying the bill of \$44.88 in cash.

On April 19, 1968, OPAL KANCHEL, maid, advised SA ALVIN W. BERRY that she had just seen a photograph of ERIC STARVO GALT in the morning newspaper, and thought it looked a great deal like Mr. MURPHY. She stated Mr. MURPHY had been quite secretive in that he appeared to purposely try to keep her from seeing his face when she entered to clean his room. She stated, however, that she was able to see him clearly on about two occasions.

She described Mr. MURPHY as follows:

Race White
Sex Male
Height 5' 10"
Weight 145-160
Hair Light brown
Eyes Brown
Age 35-40
Clothing Wore yellow

Wore yellow short sleeve shirt and dark pants

44-1987-Sub-B-1142 July gtt

> Re: Look-Alike, GARY LEE SMITH Lincoln, Nebraska

On April 17, 1968, Mr. JOE ONTIVEROS, Department of Motor Vehicles, 2340 Dayton Street, Aurora, Colorado, advised Complaint Clerk WILLIAM J. SPRING that an individual with the name of GARY LEE SMITH applied for a Colorado Driver's License on April 17, 1968, and took the driver's test with what SMITH said was a borrowed car. Mr. ONTIVEROS stated that SMITH resembles the description and artist's conception of the assassin of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

On April 17, 1968, PETER DARMOPRAY, Examiner, Adams County Department of Motor Vehicles, 2340 Dayton Street, Aurora, Colorado, advised SA KELLY V. ENGLAND that GARY LEE SMITH had applied for and received a Colorado Driver's License, No. A254672. Mr. DARMOPRAY made available the driver's license application and the Request for Search of National Driver Register.

Mr. DARMOPRAY stated he had talked with SMITH when he applied for the license and, during this conversation, SMITH had stated that in late December, 1967, he had completed three years with the U. S. Marine Corps, and had been discharged from Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. SMITH also stated that he was from Lincoln, Nebraska, and had had a Nebraska driver's license in the past. Mr. DARMOPRAY advised that SMITH had a self-made identification card and a brand new wallet. SMITH claimed he had recently lost his old wallet and all of his identification.

MARGARET PREMER, Clerk, Adams County Department of Motor Vehicles, advised SA KELLY V. ENGLAND, on April 17, 1968, that she had observed that when SMITH paid for a driver's

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license, his wallet was filled with a considerable amount of cash. She stated she would estimate there was about \$500.00, mostly in twenty dollar bills, in the wallet.

The driver's license application described SMITH as follows:

Race White
Sex Male
Weight 175
Height 5' 11"
Hair Brown
Eyes Blue
Date of Birth

Miss PREMER and Mr. DARMOPRAY added that SMITH was a quiet, soft-spoken person with no noticeable accent; that he walked with a military bearing, and had his hair cut quite short. They stated SMITH was wearing dark slack-type trousers, a white shirt and tie, gray coat, beige overcoat and casual loafer-type shoes.

On April 20, 1968, the FBI Identification Division was requested to compare the fingerprint on the driver's license application with fingerprints available in this case. By communication dated April 24, 1968, the FBI Identification Division advised that SMITH's fingerprint is not identical with the fingerprints of JAMES EARL RAY.

Re: Denver Bartender's School

On April 17, 1968, Mr. BRENT HEINES, Instructor, Denver Bartending School, advised SA BOYD D. ADSIT that records of that school, located at 706 17th Avenue, Denver, Colorado, contained no information regarding JOHN WILLARD, HARVEY LOWMYER, ERIC STARVO GALT, or any logical variances of the above.

44-1987-Sub-B-1144

Lean 1987-Sub-B-1144

Lean 1987-Sub-B-1144

Re: Magazine Subscription Records Maintained at Neodata Service, Inc., Boulder, Colorado

Mr. T. W. MINES, Vice-President, Neodata Service, Inc., Portland Place, Boulder, Colorado, advised SA J. HALE MC MENAMIN on April 17, 1968, that a physical check of "Argosy" magazine subscribers would involve 2,000,000 subscribers broken down by city and state. He stated that Neodata can program its computer in such a manner as to determine whether or not ERIC STARVO GALT is an "Argosy" subscriber and, if so, where his subscription is sent. The computer program would cost a minimum of \$75.00 and a maximum of \$400.00. This program could also be utilized if the FBI desired a check of 25 other magazine subscription lists processed by Neodata.

44-1987-Sub-8-1145

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Re: Check of Driver's License Bureaus by Birth Date

A check of the Colorado Driver's License Bureau, Denver, Colorado, by IC ROLLO J. TRUMBULL, JR., on April 15, 1968, and a similar check of the Wyoming Driver's License Bureau on the same date, by SA ROBERT E. GUSTAFSON, revealed that driver's licenses in the two states are filed alphabetically and cannot be broken down to specific birth dates except by individual review of every license on file.

Re: Look-Alike at Fort Brown Hotel, Brownsville, Texas

On April 15, 1968, WILLIAM CONWAY, 2219 Monroe Place, Colorado Springs, Colorado, advised SA ALVIN W. BERRY that he had been in Brownsville, Texas, from April 6, 1968, to April 11, 1968, and had stayed at the Fort Brown Hotel. At the hotel he met an unknown male, described as white, age 35, 215 pounds, five feet eleven to six feet, light complexion, blond hair, who advised CONWAY that he was a Merchant Marine, who resided in Florida. Reportedly, this individual was in Brownsville on vacation and his wife was currently in Frankfort, Germany.

Mr. CONWAY stated that the individual aroused his suspicions because he indicated he was formerly in the hotel business and his comments concerning the business had many discrepancies. Mr. CONWAY stated that he, himself, is a hotel owner.

Mr. CONWAY said that when he read stories concerning the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, he decided to call the FBI. He stated that this individual was still at the Fort Brown Hotel when CONWAY departed on April 11, 1968.

44-1987-Sub-B-1147

Re: Check of Dance Studios for ERIC STARVO GALT

Inquiries of dancing schools throughout the Denver Division were conducted on April 15, 1968, with negative results, concerning any record of prior attendance by anyone using the last name of GALT, GAULT, WILLARD, LOWMEYER, or any variations of above, and concerning anyone fitting GALT's description.

HH-1984-Sub-B-1148

HH-1984-Sub-B-1148

Re: Look-Alike, ROY JAMES

On the evening of April 15, 1968, Reverend M. C. WILLIAMS, pastor of the New Hope Baptist Church, 2555

Monaco Parkway, Denver, Colorado, advised Security Patrol
Clerk EDWARD N. HAWKINS that he had just been reading an
issue, date not specified, of "Jet" magazine and an
article contained therein concerning the life of Dr. MARTIN
LUTHER KING. According to Reverend WILLIAMS, the article
indicated in 1962, that KING had been assaulted by one ROY
JAMES in Birmingham, Alabama, and on another occasion in
1965 KING was again assaulted by one JAMES GEORGE ROBERTSON
in Selma, Alabama.

Reverend WILLIAMS indicated he was furnishing this data for our information and for whatever assistance it might be.

44-1984-lab-B-1149

Re: Birth Records Check for Births on July 20, 1931

On April 15, 1968, a check of Colorado State Bureau of Vital Statistics by IC ROLLO J. TRUMBULL, JR., and a check of Wyoming State Bureau of Vital Statistics by SA ROBERT C. GUSTAFSON for all male births on July 20, 1931, which could relate to ERIC STARVO GALT, JOHN WILLARD, or HARVEY LOWMEYER, or any variation of these names, met with negative results.

44-1987-Jub B-1150

> Re: Look-Alike, EDWARD GRANTHAM, International Schools, Memphis, Tennessee

On April 12, 1968, Mr. EDWARD MEADOWS, 1016 North Custar, Colorado Springs, Colorado, advised SA ANDREW P. BUGAS that he attended a meeting at the Palmer House Motel conducted by one EDWARD GRANTHAM, who was recruiting students for a speedwriting course. Mr. MEADOWS said GRANTHAM represented the International Schools, Memphis, Tennessee. Mr. MEADOWS stated that in his opinion GRANTHAM had a profile which resembled that of the artist's sketch of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING's assassin. He described GRANTHAM as white, male, six feet one or two inches tall, 175 pounds, dark hair, turning gray, 50 to 55 years old.

Inquiry at the Palmer House by SA ANDREW P. BUGAS disclosed ENIS E. GRANTHAM, 3020 Barron, Memphis, Tennessee, registered at the motel on April 9, 1968, and indicated plans to remain in Colorado Springs, until April 16, 1968. The registration shows his business affiliation as International Schools, Memphis, Tennessee.

44-1987-leb-B-1151

Re: 1966 Mustang, Vehicle Identification Number 6T07C190647, Registered to ERIC STARVO GALT

Inquiries at the Department of Motor Vehicles, Denver, Colorado, by Investigative Clerk DONALD L. RAY and at the Department of Motor Vehicles, Cheyenne, Wyoming, by SA JESSE C. HORNBACK, on April 11, 1968, revealed no information concerning the 1966 Mustang, Vehicle Identification Number 6T07C190647, which was registered to ERIC STARVO GALT.

Stops placed on this vehicle on April 11, 1968, were cancelled on April 15, 1968, in Denver, and on April 19, 1968, in Cheyenne, after receipt of information that the vehicle had been located in Atlanta, Georgia.

44-1987-leab-B-1152

Re: Investigation Concerning ERIC STARVO GALT

Commencing on April 10, 1968, the following sources and agencies in the Denver Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation, were consulted for any information concerning ERIC STARVO GALT:

Indices, city directories, telephone directories, voter registration records, state employment services, credit bureaus, Selective Service Boards, driver's license offices, Bureaus of Vital Statistics, police departments, sheriff's offices, State Patrol Offices, Wyoming State Identification Bureau, Marriage License Bureau, and financial institutions.

No information concerning GALT was uncovered as a result of the above checks.

14-1987-bub-8-1153

Re: Standard Oil Company Credit Card Possibly Utilized by ERIC STARVO GALT

On April 9, 1968, Mr. A. T. GUNNING, Credit Department, Denver Region, Chevron Oil Company, 1700 Broadway, Denver, Colorado, advised SA BOYD D. ADSIT that a check of the three regions covered by his office failed to reveal that ERIC STARVO GALT was issued a credit card. Mr. GUNNING stated that their three regional offices are located in Denver, Colorado; El Paso, Texas, and Salt Lake City, Utah, and they cover the States of Montana, South Dakota, Wyoming, Colorado, Nebraska, New Mexico, Texas, Utah, and a small part of Idaho.

Mr. GUNNING commented that there was another credit card office, Standard Oil Company of Kentucky, Post Office Box 2654, in Birmingham, Alabama, which would be the most likely office to have issued a credit card to GALT.

44-1984-Sub-B-1154

SCHOOL 200 10000

FELL MEMPERS

FELL MEMPERS

Re: Laundrymark, "O2B-6" or "D2B-6"

Laundry plants utilizing Thermo Seal marking machines in Boulder, Denver, Englewood, Grand Junction, Pueblo, and Colorado Springs, Colorado, and in Casper and Cheyenne, Wyoming, were canvassed to determine if "O2B-6" or "D2B-6" were ever used by them. No identification of the questioned laundrymark was effected.

14-1987- Sub-B-1155

Re: Investigation of HARVEY LOWMEYER or LOWMYER

Commencing on April 9, 1968, the following sources and agencies in the Denver Office territory were immediately contacted in an effort to uncover any information concerning individuals bearing the surnames of LOWMEYER or LOWMYER:

Police Departments;
Sheriff's Offices;
State Patrol Offices;
Bureaus of Vital Statistics;
Credit Bureaus;
Selective Service Boards;
Driver's Licenses Offices;
Wyoming State Identification Bureau;
State Employment Services;
Voters Registrations;
City Directories;
Telephone Directories;
Indices of the Denver Office.

No information concerning this individual was uncovered as the result of the above checks.

44-1987-Sub-B-1156

> Re: Look-Alike Driving Car With Tennessee License JT 5839

On April 8, 1968, Mr. JESS SHANNON, 3275 Locust Street, Denver, Colorado, advised SA JOSEPH C. LEARNED that during the evening of April 8, 1968, he saw an unknown male answering the description of the assassin of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING. This man was observed in downtown Denver, driving a 1965 or 1966 Cadillac, bearing 1968 Tennessee license JT 5839. He could furnish no additional information.

114-1987- Jul-B-1157

> Re: Information From VINCENT JAMES DE PALMA Newport, Rhode Island

Investigator KARL E. TERLAU, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Division, Denver, Colorado, advised SA JOSEPH C. LEARNED on April 8, 1968, that he had had no contact nor had he received any information from VINCENT JAMES DE PALMA since the date of his interview of DE PALMA on January 17, 1968.

44-1987- Rul-B-1158

SEMBLINGE JUST 1800

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> Re: Look-Alike, RICHARD KINST Nashville, Tennessee

Mrs. BARBARA GALLEGOS, Olathe, Colorado, telephonically advised SA ROY I. MISCHKE on April 7, 1968, that she observed an artist's sketch of the assassin of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING in the newspaper and believes that the sketch somewhat resembles a man she met on a flight from Denver, Colorado, to Colorado Springs, Colorado, on the evening of April 5, 1968. She recalled that the individual said his name was RICHARD KENTS (phonetic) and that he was en route from Nashville to Colorado Springs, to ski with an unnamed friend. She described the man as a white, male, about 25 years of age, six feet tall, medium build and black hair.

Records of Frontier Airlines, Flight 583, for April 5, 1968, indicate that the only passenger deplaning at Colorado Springs was (first name unknown) KINST, who had made reservations on April 3, 1968, for a Trans World Airlines flight from Nashville to St. Louis, and Denver and a Frontier Airlines flight on to Colorado Springs. At the same time, KINST made reservations for return flights to Nashville on April 7, 1968, leaving Denver at 6:05 p.m.

An official of Trans World Airlines advised SA ROY I. MISCHKE that R. KINST did depart Denver on Trans World Airlines Flight 444 and was due to arrive in Nashville aboard Eastern Airlines Flight 662 at 10:15 p.m., April 7, 1968.

44-1987-lub-B-1159

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FEB FIRE FORM

> Re: Look-Alike in Car with Tennessee License JR 5198

On April 6, 1968, Mr. LOUIS J. HUNT, employee, Phyl Long Ford Dealer, Colorado Springs, Colorado, advised SA ANDREW P. BUGAS, JR., that a 1967 yellow Falcon, Tennessee license JR 5198, occupied by a white, female, not further Identified, and a white, male, age 20 to 25, height five feet eleven inches, 195 pounds, blond hair, received repairs on its water pump at the Long agency on April 6, 1968. The car contained luggage and Mr. HUNT observed a Lugar pistol on the floor of the car.

Mr. HUNT stated that after the car was repaired the two occupants left in it heading west. He stated that the owner of the car was listed as HELEN GETTINGS, 2020 Estes, Memphis, Tennessee. Mr. HUNT stated that the male resembled the published sketch of the assassin of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING.

44-1987- Sub-B-1160

2011-1-77 U.

3

Re: Look-Alike, BEN LYNN HART Canton, Mississippi

On April 6, 1968, DOYLE MAY, Sales Manager, Johnnie Harper Ford Company, Wheat Ridge, Colorado, advised SA LOUIS D. NELAN that he recently moved to the Denver area from Memphis, Tennessee, and he believes that the drawing of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING's assassin closely resembles one BEN LYNN HART, who resides at Canton, Mississippi. He described HART as a white, male, age 32, five feet ten inches, 170 pounds, black hair which is receding, and is worn combed straight back.

Mr. WAY stated that HART is a sharp dresser, owned lots of guns, and formerly had a hardware store, but is now a farmer. He claimed that HART was always rough in his handling of Negroes and is a former Klansman.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Re: Telephone Calls From Virginia Hotel,
Quincy, Illinois
Where Sister of Subject Resides

Reference Springfield teletype to the Bureau and other offices, dated 5/3/68, setting forth telephone calls from relatives of subject residing in Quincy, Illinois.

On 5/3/68, CSDN-350, at Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company, advised SA ELMER A. SAMSON that Denver Telephone No. 333-5486, is listed to the El Patio Motel, 8400 East Colfax Avenue, Denver, Colorado.

On 5/4/68, SA EUGENE J. COBLE checked out the El Patio Motel, and the results of his investigation were furnished to the Springfield and Memphis Divisions by airtel dated 5/6/68, setting forth identities of guests who were there on the pertinent date. In view of Springfield's airtel of 5/16/68, indicating it was doubtful any of the calls were made by MELBA MARIE RYAN, results of checks at the El Patio Motel not being set forth.

CSDN-350 also advised that Telephone No. 632-0000 in Cheyenne, Wyoming, is a vacant terminal and the number is not a working number.

-- D: --COVER PAGE

Re: Look-Alike HOWARD SIDE Hackelburg, Alabama

On 5/13/68, Mrs. MOSELLE DROLLINGER (PROTECT IDENTITY), 12300 East Nevada Avenue, Aurora, Colorado, advised that the following information was furnished to her third-hand. She stated she does not want her identity disclosed to any of her relatives, including her husband.

She stated she attended her mother's funeral at Phil Campbell, Alabama, and recently returned to Denver. She said her sister-in-law, MABEL WHITTEN BROWN, From Akron, Ohio, the exact address she refused to give, and DROLLINGER's brother, DEWEY BROWN, were at the funeral. She said DEWEY received this information from MABEL. MABEL has a first cousin named HOWARD SIDE, who is supposed to have a criminal record. SIDE left many years ago, location unknown, but returned to Alabama shortly after KING's death, and is currently residing with MABEL's uncle, WALTER WHITTEN, and cousin, ODELL WHITTEN, at Hackelburg, Marion County, Alabama WALTER is in the business of cutting pulpwood while ODELL and SIDE go into the woods to cut the timber. ODELL is supposed to have told MABEL that SIDE is very suspicious of anyone who comes to the house and usually hides behind the door with a gun. She said that SIDE is in his late 40's, but is supposed to look like the sketch made of KING's assassin.

-- E* --COVER PAGE OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10 MAY 1962 EDITION GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO 1

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

DATE:

6/14/68

FROM

SAC, DENVER (157-203)

MURKIN

Re letter from Memphis, dated 5/29/68 returning inserts submitted by Denver and requesting report be prepared. Report was in preparation at time RAY was apprehended. All information in report was aimed at locating RAY and was negative in nature. Any leads eminating from the information were set out for interested offices immediately upon receipt.

Since RAY has been located no purpose would now be served in circulating this report among the offices involved. Copies of the inserts will be maintained in the Denver file and one copy of each insert is being provided the office of origin for record purposes.

2 - Memphis (Encls. 37)

1 - Denver

BDA/sip (3)

13

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



OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1982 EDITION
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT



Memorandum

ro : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

DATE: 6/14/68

SAC, TAMPA (157-3231) (RUC)

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

CIVIL RIGHTS

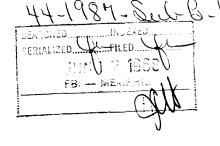
(OO:ME)

This is to advise Memphis as 00 the Tampa Office continually checked out all suspects in captioned matter and all were eliminated, that all general investigative leads set forth by the Bureau to various offices concerning numerous checks concerning JAMES EARL RAY, ET AL, were accomplished, all with negative results. This included checks with all law enforcement agencies, voter registration records, credit bureaus, motor vehicle records, Drivers' License Bureau, city and telephone directories and financial institutions.

All stops placed with INS, U. S. Customs, Pan American Airlines, Air Canada Airlines and Tampa International Airport police were accomplished and they have all been cancelled.

No direct investigation in the Tampa Division connected with JAMES EARL RAY and in view of no leads outstanding, this matter is being considered RUC.

2 - Memphis 1 - Tampa SJL:cj (3)





FBI

Dute: 6/17/68

RCH:mpb (10) SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED SERIALIZED SERIALI			•	Date: 6/17/68)
TO: SAC, CHICAGO (44-1114) FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) - P - SUBJECT: MURKIN Re Bureau telephone call to Springfield 6/14/68. On instruction of the Bureau, receiving offices are instructed to canvass laundry and dry cleaning establishments and display photes of JAMES EARL FMY and esseciates to determine if they are known in contacted establishments and establish laundry and dry cleaning marks assigned to them. Furnish results of contact to the Springfield and Memphis Divisions. 2 - Chicago (44-1114) 2 - St. Louis (44-775) 2 - Indianapolis 3 - Lemphis (44-1987) 2 - Springfield (24-561) RCH mpb (10) SERGUID	fransm.	it the following i	n	plaintext or code)	
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Approved: Sent M Per				ntM Pe	

Special Agent in Charge

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

6/18/68

SAC, DALLAS (44-2649) (P)

MIRKIN

ReBuairtel 5/28/68.

Per instructions in Pellumirtel all banks in Dallas have been checked regarding persons entering safety deposit bexes during April, 1968. All persons making entry to safety deposit bexes during that month were eliminated as being identical with the subject.

2 - Bureau 2 - Homphis (44-1987) 1 - Dalias 1987/sgl (5)

B

SEARCHED INDEXED JUNI 9 1968
FBI - MEMPHIS

JUNI 191968

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date May 21, 1968

Mr. VILLIAM LINCOLN PIRECE. Rocky Waters Motel, Rural Free Delivery, Waynesville, Borth Carolina, was advised of his rights as to making a statement by SA MOMERT S. MOMER and the rights, as set out on the waiver of rights form, were explained to him. He stated he knew nothing concerning the matter under investigation and he declined to sign a waiver of rights form. He stated he was willing to discuss his activities in view of the fact he was not involved in this matter.

He viewed a photograph of JAMES KARL RAY and stated that he knew no one who could be identical with this individual. He stated he knew no one by the name of JAMES KARL RAY or any of his aliases.

He said he was from Miami, Florida, and has lived there since 1963, except during the last ten years, when he has spent approximately five months during the spring and summer operating the Rocky Waters Motel, Waynesville, North Carolina.

Mr. PIERCE stated he does not own an airplane, has no airport, nor does he have a financial interest in an airplane or airport. He stated he did not own a tourist court or any property at Belle Glade, Florida, nor did he own property on or near a lake named Okeechobee, Florida.

Mr. PIERCE stated be known no one by the name of SAMBEL LEWIS or EDDIE WELDGEN or WILBURN or JIM GARRISON, the latter from Louisiana (New Orleans). He stated he has no relatives by the name of WILBURN. He said he does not know a DAN THOMPSON, operator of a fishing boat in Florida, has never been a member of or associated with members of the Eu Klux Elan. He said he has had a private pilot's license for two or three years; however, he does not own an airplane and just flies occasionally for pleasure. He stated he has never been in business in Cuba or had any business connections in Cuba. However, he was formerly in the building contracting business in Mami, Florida, and the surrounding vicinity.

Mr. PIERCE stated that several years ago, a judgment was filed against him in Miami, Florida, on a financial obligation of a WILLIAM PIERCE, who he does not know personally.

					8011-B-lub-1891-144	
On	5/19/68	_qt Waynesvil	le. North	Car	CFASCHED HOEXED TOUTE 44-1365	1
		M. QUIELRY			MAY 20 1968	
by	SA ROBE	RT S. MOORE:	RSM:lrf		5H WE WELLS 15/20/68	
		either recommendations o be distributed outside		the FB	Litt is the property of the Figure is loaned to your ag	jency;

CE 44-1365

He stated the WILLIAM PIERCE who incurred this obligation was identified by his attorney, Mr. THOMAS TEASLEY, Coral Gables Savings and Loan Building, Coral Gables, Florida, as a WILLIAM PIERCE who was in the cattle business at or near Belle Glade and Pahokee, Florida. He stated this WILLIAM PIERCE reportedly owns property on and in the vicinity of Lake Okeechobee, Florida. Mr. PIERCE stated on April 4, 1968, he and his wife were at their cabin on Conch Key, Florida, where they had resided most of the winter. He stated he first heard of MARTIN LUTHER KING's death on the news report the night of April 4, 1968, and he and his wife went to Miami, Florida, on April 5, 1968, where they maintained an apartment, Apartment 5, 500 Northeast 83rd Street, Miami, Florida. He said he stayed in Miami, Florida, until coming to Waynesville, North Carolina, to get his tourist court ready for opening on April 10, 1968.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO:

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

DATE:

5/21/68

Hop

SAC, CHARLOTTE (44-1365)

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

(OO: MEMPHIS)

Re Los Angeles teletypes to Bureau, Memphis, and Auxiliary Offices 5/17 and 18/68; Miami teletype to Bureau, Memphis, and Auxiliary Offices 5/18 and 19/68, concerning one WILLIAM PIERCE of Belle Glade, Florida, being involved in flying JAMES EARLRAY from Kansas City, Missouri, to Florida on April 5, 1968. Also, reference Charlotte teletype to Bureau, Memphis, and concerned Auxiliary Offices 4/18/68.

Transmitted herewith to Memphis are eight copies of FD-302 reflecting interview with WILLIAM LINCOLN PIERCE of Miami, Florida, who operates the Rocky Waters Motel, Rural Free Delivery, Waynesville, North Carolina, during the summer months.

44-1987-Sul B-1169



2 - Memphis (Encl. - 8) 2 - Charlotte RSM:lrf

(4)

6/14/68

AIRTEL

AM

TO:

DIRECTOR, JEI

PROM:

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

MURKIN

Enclosed are clippings from local newspapers re captioned matter.

3 BURRAU (Enc. 22)

BOJ:BN

R

44-1987-Sub-B-1140

SEARCHED____

SERIALIZED_

INDEXED_

FILED.

6/18/68

Director, FBI (44-38861)

SAC, Albany (44-493) (P)

MURKIN

CR

00: MEMPHIS

Re Bureau airtels and teletypes regarding "LAUNDRY MARKS."

Between 4/5 and 4/24/68, DONALD BROTON, Textile
Marking Machine Co., 2204 Erie Boulevard East, Syracuse,
New York, 13224, spent many hours of his ordinary working
day, as well as five hours of his own time on 4/6/68,
affording assistance to this office in the review of records
of that company. On 4/6/68, Mr. BROTON insisted on sacrificing
attendance at a party being given at his home in order that
he might be of the greatest assistance possible to agents
of this office in further review of the records of his
company.

In view of Mr. BROTON's personal effort in affording assistance to the Bureau in this matter, the Albany Office recommends that a letter from the Director be sent to him expressing appreciation for his assistance during the investigation of the captioned matter. It is realized that such expressions of appreciation are generally not made until the investigation in completed powever, it is likely that this case will not be concluded for acceptance, and further delay in sending such a letter is not deemed appropriate.

The indices of the Albany Office have been reviewed and no references are contained therein pertaining to DONALD BROTON.

2 - Bureau

1 - Memphis (44-1987)

I - Albany

LEC:hmm

(4)

K

F.D-36	(Hev. 5-22-64)
*	

FBI

	Date: 6/18/63
ansmit the follow	ing in(Type in plaintext or code)
a AIRT	EI. AIRMAII. (Priority)
_,	
TO:	DIRECTOR, FBI (ATTN: NCIC)
FROM	: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (91-0) -P-
SUBJ	POSSIBLE BR
	Re Springfield girtel to Director dated 5/27/68.
indi	CAROLYN WOOD, clerk, Citizens Savings and Loan, Alton, Illinois, advised on 6/14/68 the captioned vidual made a \$1700 deposit into his account and ished their company with his Social Security number
Fede	The serial numbers are as follows all of which are ral Reserve Notes:
	\$100 dollar bills
D035 H042 G111 H016 H003 H048 H006 L140 H003	54623A Federal Reserve Notes Series 1950D 79305A 1950D 1950D 09423A 1934C 1934C 87865A 1950A 1934G 8365A 1934G 1950D 83576A 1934D 1934D 87490A 1950E 1950E 94236A 1950 1963A
Φ-	Bureau Memphis (44-1937) (INFO) St. Louis (INFO) Springfield (1:91-0) (1:91-3699) (1:91-3992) (1:44-561) ##-1987-&L-B-1172 SERIALIZED HAFRED 1172 SERIALIZED 1988 FBI - MEMPHIS (1:44-561)

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Special Agent in Charge

SI 91-0

H02740223A K01943263A	1950B	
\$50 dollar bills		
Н03370805А	1950D	
100375144A D01096294A	1950 1928 J	
\$20 dollar bills		
H03665370A	1963	
G96342770D	1950B	
I31507280A	1950C	
J09054190A	1963A	
G25056374C	1950C	
G51989693C	1950C	
H03342724A	1963A	
G20032765A	1963A	
E06292681A	1963A	
A00598749A	1963	
Н69571619А	1950C	
J20819072A	1963A	
\$10 dollar bills		
Н59817187В	1950D	

LEAD

NCIC

Compare these serial numbers with bait money entered into NCIC taken in bank robberies and burglaries. Reply should be expedited in view of the fact that money is being held by loan company avaiting your reply.

George A. Hays, O. T.

OPTOMETRIST AND CONTACT LENS SPECIALIST
4515 POPLAR SUITE 237 - MEMPHIS, TENN. 38117

PHONE: 683-9788

June 15, 1968

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover F.B.I. Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir;

I want to put in my five cents worth in regards to sending Ray back to remphis for trial. I think it would be a bad mistake, for the following reasons.

Memphis is a community seething with Klan sympathisers and I feel sure a considerable number of Klansmen. Without being able to prove anything, I thing it highly probable that there are klansmen on the Memphis police force. On the basis of probability alone, I think it is at least possible that the phoney police report, during the getaway, did come from a police car that was aiding in the getaway. If this possibility has not been investigated, I believe it should be. How could we have so many negro-hating white policemen and not one klansman- in Memphis?

When the Klan was organizing here, and their organization efforts publicized by the local papers, I called leading clergymen and officials, including the Chief of Police, and I wish I had their responses on tape. You would have thought the WCTU were seeking a chapter. One leading clergyman, a Doctor of Divinity, told me that some of his most influential constituents were klan sympathisers.

I am a white man, have lived here 35 years, and I am still horrified by the machinations of White Protestant Fascism here, the indifference to murder and all violence, when it is done for white supremacy. It has been suggested that Ray may have been hired by international conspirators. Paybe so. Even so, they could have solicited and gotten the aid of people who practice and preach violence, on the group plan.

Sincerely.

George A. Hays, O.D.

FB: - MEMPHIS

INDEXED

Dr. George A. Hays

OPTOMETRIST

4515 POPLAR AVENUE

4515 POPLAR AVENUE MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE 38117 Mitays

June 19, 1968

25-13393 Marsh

Dr. George A. Hays Suite 237 4515 Poplar Avenue Memphis, Tennessee 38117

Dear Dr. Hays:

Your letter of June 15th has been received and I appreciate the interest which prompted you to write and furnish me your comments on the matters you mentioned.

Sincerely yours,

1. Edgar Hoover

1 Memphis - Enclosure

44-1987- Sub- B-1172B

SEARCHED 2 FILED 5

SERIALIZED 2 1968

FBI — MEMPHIS

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA FFMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

ro : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38361)

DATE: 6/18/63

PROM

SAC, EL PASO (157-183) (RUC)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

CR

ReButel to all offices, 6/8/68.

By letter dated 6/10/68, all stops regarding the subject were cancelled.

No further investigation is being conducted by the El Paso Office.

. ARMED AND DANGEROUS

2-Bureau 2-Memphis (44-1987) 1-El Paso

DJR:s1 (5)

Herle W

B



\$

FBI

Date:

6/19/68

PLAINTEXT

Transmit the following in ___

(Type in plaintext or code)

TELETYPE Via ___

URGENT

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC. SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

MURKIN

RE SI TEL TO BUREAU JUNE EIGHTEEN LAST, BOSTON AIRTEL TO BUREAU JUNE THIRTEEN LAST. AND ST. LOUIS AIRTEL TO SI JUNE THIRTEEN LAST.

BOSTON ADVISES CONTACT WITH SAVAGE ARMS, INC., DISCLOSED THERE IS NO WAY TO TRACE WEAPON SIMILAR TO ONE RECOVERED AFTER BANK OF ALTON ROBBERY.

ST. LOUIS ADVISED JOHN EUGENE GAVRON HAS REPEATEDLY DENIED ANY CONTACT WITH JAMES EARL RAY SUBSEQUENT TO HIS ESCAPE FROM MEP. BUT ST. LOUIS CONTEMPLATES REINTERVIEW OF GAWRON IN VIEW RAY'S APPREHENSION.

SI ONE SIX ONE FOUR DASH C ADVISED TODAY HE DEVELOPED INFORMATION RICHARD COVINGTON VSUSPECT IN BANK OF ALTON ROBBERY, HARBORED UNKNOWN INDIVIDUAL AT HIS RESIDENCE ON FOURTH STREET, ALTON, FOR APPROXIMATELY SEVEN DAYS JULY. SIXTYSEVEN; LATER ALLEGED TO HAVE ATTEMPTED TO BURN CLOTHING

1 -	Spri	ngfield	(44-561)
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RCH/ssj (4)

Approved: ___

Special Agent in Charge

Sent .

SERIALIZED FILED

^{1 -} Chicago (44-1114) (AM)
1 - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)

^{1 -} St. Louis (44-775) (AM)

Approved: ___

Special Agent in Charge

Per _

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

6/19/68

44-1987- Sel-B-1174

SAC, DALLAS (44-2649) (P)

MURKIN

Re WFO airtel dated 5/31/68 setting forth leads to contact obscene pen-pal clubs for any record of the subject having been a member of these clubs.

9

The four clubs listed for the Dallas area Horizons Correspondence Club, Sterling Action Club,
Amis Club, and the F and T Club - have all been investigated
by the Office of the Postal Inspector, Dallas, Texas and
have been found to now be out of existence. No mailing
lists were contained in the Postal Inspector's files and
none are known to exist for these clubs.

In view of the subject's apprehension, no further investigation regarding these pen-pal clubs is being conducted UACB.

2-Bureau 2-Memphis (44-1987) 1-WFO (44-703) 1-Dallas (44-2649) WBH: jw

(6)

13