

FIELD OFFICE FILE
FOIPA PROCESSED
FEDERAL BUREAU

ENTIRE FILE REVIEWED
OF FOR HISTORICAL
DECLASSIFICATION

INVESTIGATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/16/01 BY 60322

File Number

44-38861

DO NOT DESTROY
HISTORICAL VALUE
NATIONAL ARCHIVES

See also Nos.

SEE INSIDE
FOR LITIGATION

See Next Page

Litigation	DATE	Cancellation	Litigation	DATE	Cancellation
2778	3/85	Cancel 8/85			
3223	7/86				
2370		Cancel 1-87			
3433	4/87	cancel 5/88			

2778

$$3/85$$

Cancel 8/85

3223

7/86

2370

Cancel 1-87

3433

 $\frac{4}{8}7$

cancel 5/88

Litigation

DATE

Cancellation

Litigation

DATE

CANCELLATION

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

-SUB-B-389
-413
-414
-417
-418

SEE NEXT CAR

27783/85

*Do not Destroy
Pending litigation
p. 2212*

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

44-1987-453
44-1987-Sub G-452B
-848E-352A

405 942 G (FBI)

-Sub-G-448

44-1987-739 A

-746F
-775
-791

-SUB-E-639

SEE NEXT CARD

27783/85

*Do not Destroy
Pending litigation
p. 2212*

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

IO 4182

WF #442-A

WM

age 40 DOB

5'10" 163 to 174

hair brown, possibly cut short

eyes blue

Scars & Marks: small scar on center of forehead

and small scar on palm of right hand

FBI 405 942 G

44-1987

44-1987-SUB-G-356

-344p2

Quincy or Alton, Ill.

44-1987-SUB-G-315

-384

-385

44-1987-SUB-B-245

44-1987-SUB-G

-115

-663

-SUB-G-431

-432

-436

RAY, JAMES EARL

4-68 44-1987-SUB-B-397

FBI 405 942 G

-353

-364A

-368

-379

-326

-327

-333

-345

-347

-277

-278A

-705

-707

-710

-755

-746B

SEE NEXT CARD

27783/85

*Do not Destroy
Pending litigation
p. 2212*

SEE NEXT CARD

27783/85

SEE NEXT CARD

27783/85

SEE NEXT CARD

27783/85

SEE NEXT CARD

27783/85

SEE NEXT CARD

27783/85

SEE NEXT CARD

27783/85

SEE NEXT CARD

27783/85

SEE NEXT CARD

27783/85

SEE NEXT CARD

27783/85

SEE NEXT CARD

27783/85

SEE NEXT CARD

27783/85

SEE NEXT CARD

27783/85

SEE NEXT CARD

27783/85

SEE NEXT CARD

27783/85

SEE NEXT CARD

27783/85

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

-331

B-247

G-376

-390

B-394

E-782

-782B

-782C

B-584A

DOB [] Zion Ill.

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 Ridge 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

no desc

-SUB-E-765

-804

-522A

G-524

-527

E-746

-739

-556E

G-533

-535

-500

-502

-505

SEE NEXT CARD

27783/85

*Do not Destroy
Pending litigation
p. 2212*

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

-449A

-457

-470

-471

-474

-493

-499

B-449

B-427

-439

B-622A

-631A

-414F

-414

B-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*

RAY, JAMES EARL

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

-600
E-861
B-539
-539
E-616
-655A
G-348A
-587A
-537B
B-596
-602A
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-550
E-843
E-551D

2778 3/85
-409
-911
-SUB-B-368A
E-565
Pending litigation 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----- p81
44-1987-SUB-G-757D

-761
-764
K-183
M-21
G-693p18,
p30
E-1059p2
B-1114
-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
E-1042A
-M-5
G666Ap114
G-706A
-745
-749
B-1046
M-4A
G-666Ap109
G-665Ap105,
p106,107
-665Ap99
-665Ap96

615 N. Water St., South Elgin, Ill.

Prior Employment-----
INMATE FILE-----

National Service Life Insurance

Arrest - 1959-----
Employment-----

US Probation Office records-----

Associates-----

SEE NEXT CARD

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

RAY, JAMES EARL

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
-426

DOB [] Alton, Ill.

SEE NEXT CARD

RAY, JAMES EARL

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

E-823
-859

Major Case Prinst

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-682

pp3,6,7,8,9,15,12,
19,21,36,40,44,54,
64,68,68,72,73,74,
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
p30,33,34,12,13,14,
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

-815A
-815A
-870
K-137
E-911B
-1615D

-1096

-Sub-G-696

-719

-1136

-E-1040

-671p102,11

E-1044

G-511p60,62,63

65,61

2778 3/85
DO NOT DESTROY
Pending litigation P. 2212

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

-805 A
G-625A
E-903
B-620
E-638
B-636
K-3p2
E-655
-654
-662
B-682
G-654
E-747D
K-107
-1242

2778 3/85
Pending litigation P. 2212

RAY, JAMES EARL 2-74 75-3748-40pL

DO NOT DESTROY

See Next Section

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/5/68

Mr. LARRY HUTCHINSON, Criminal Investigator, Attorney General's Office, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee, was interviewed at the Homicide Bureau of the Memphis Police Department, at which time he furnished the following information:

Mr. HUTCHINSON advised that he went to Apartment B, 422½ South Main Street, at approximately 7:30 or 8:00 p.m., April 4, 1968, at which time he and other officers conducted a search of this apartment. He identified the other officers conducting this search and working with him as Captain R. L. WILLIAMS and Captain R. A. COCHRAN, of the Memphis Police Department, and JOHN CARLISLE, Chief Investigator, Shelby County Attorney General's Office, Memphis. Mr. HUTCHINSON stated that during this time a complete and minute search was made of this apartment, at which time the following items of possible evidentiary value were located and retained as evidence in this case:

- A. One pillow and one pillowcase.
- B. Two white sheets.
- C. One small green pillow, which appears to be a couch pillow.
- D. One black strap with buckle, approximately one-half inch in width.
- E. One small black strap approximately one-fourth inch in width.
- F. One towel, white in color with blue and green stripes.
- G. Several strands of grassy-like material which were located approximately four feet and one inch north of the south wall and four feet and three inches west of the east wall in this apartment.

On 4/4/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # 44-1987-Sub D-1
by SAS ANDREW SLOAN
ORVILLE V. JOHNSON / OVJ:jms Date dictated 4/5/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

ME 44-1987

2

Mr. HUTCHINSON advised that after the above items of evidence were located, they were then taken to the Homicide Bureau at the Memphis Police Department where he identified them by placing his initials on a small brown tag and putting each item in a separate cellophane bag. Mr. HUTCHINSON turned this evidence over to SAs SLOAN and JOHNSON in order that they may be forwarded to the FBI Laboratory.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/5/68

PEGGY JANE HURLEY, customer services, Seabrook Wallpaper Company, 421 South Main Street, Memphis, advised that at about 4:45 p.m., April 4, 1968, one of the girls in the front showroom called to her and told her that her husband was waiting on the street from her. Upon hearing this she went to the showroom and told the girl that was not her husband's white Falcon but it was a white Mustang. A few minutes later Mrs. HURLEY stated that her husband did pull up in their white Falcon and parked behind the white Mustang which was parked in front of Canipe's Amusements directly across the street. She left work, crossed the street and proceeded home with her husband. She said that when they arrived home they heard on the news that MARTIN LUTHER KING had been shot at the Lorraine Hotel, and that the suspect had gotten away in a white Mustang. She said that she and her husband began to talk about the white Mustang which was parked right in front of her husband's car when he picked her up on Main Street. She said her husband told her that he noticed that this Mustang had Arkansas license plates on it. He also said that he noticed a white man sitting in the Mustang. He said he was wearing what appeared to be a dark suit. Mrs. HURLEY stated she did remember a man sitting in the car when she left work, but she could not determine what kind of clothes he was wearing or what color hair he had.

On 4/5/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987-^{Sub D-2}

SA JOHN W. BAUER *WB*
by SA STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON *SM* JWB:raj Date dictated 4/5/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/6/68

Mr. CHARLES HARDY HURLEY, Advertising Layout Department, National Food Company, 1797 South Florida Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee, furnished the following information:

Mr. HURLEY said that he parked his car a little south of the Canipe Amusement Company, 424 South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee, at 4:45 p.m., on April 4, 1968. He said that his car was facing in a northerly direction and was immediately behind a white Mustang vehicle of an unknown year, which was immediately in front of the Canipe Amusement Company. HURLEY said he saw one white male in the Mustang car but could furnish no physical description of the man as it was too dark in the man's car to enable him to get a good look at the man. Mr. HURLEY stated that he looked at the license plate of the Mustang and believed it to be an Arkansas license with the first two letters being "AL." Mr. HURLEY said he could not be positive of the two letters "AL" on the license, but he believed these letters did appear on the license.

Mr. HURLEY said that he could furnish no further information regarding the white Mustang and its lone occupant as he, Mr. HURLEY, drove away at 4:48 p.m. on April 4, 1968, and the man was still in the car when he left.

On 4/5/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987-^{Sub D-3}
by SAs STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON
and JOHN W. BAUER SMD:gmh Date dictated 4/5/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/6/68

Mrs. GRACE HAYES STEPHENS, Apartment 6-B, 422½ Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee, furnished the following information:

Mrs. STEPHENS said that she was in bed all day on April 4, 1968, as she has been ill for several months. She advised that she heard a noise, which sounded like a firecracker at 6 p.m., April 4, 1968. She said the noise sounded to her as if it came from the yard on the east side of her apartment. She said she did not think anything about the noise as it was common for trains to set off firecrackers on the tracks on the east side of her apartment. Mrs. STEPHENS said she heard soft footsteps coming from out of the bathroom, which is located adjacent to her apartment, and proceeding rapidly down the hallway toward the entrance to the apartment building.

Mrs. STEPHENS said she then heard screaming and yelling from the east side of her apartment near the Lorraine Hotel at 406 Mulberry Street. Mrs. STEPHENS said she did not get out of bed at any time on April 4, 1968, and did not see anyone leave the apartment bathroom and knows nothing else relating to the abovementioned noise.

On 4/5/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987-^{Sub D-4}
by SAs STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON ^{SMD}
and JOHN W. BAUER ^{JB} SMD:gmh Date dictated 4/5/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/6/68

Mr. HOWARD BONNIE VANCE, 422 $\frac{1}{2}$ South Main Street, Apartment 4, South Wing, Memphis, Tennessee, furnished the following information:

Mr. VANCE said he was "intoxicated" for the two days of April 3 and 4, 1968. He said he went to the bathroom twice on April 4, 1968, at 9 a.m. and at 3 p.m., and did not see anyone or hear anyone on those two occasions. VANCE said he lives alone in his room. He said he was completely unaware of any activity outside of his room for the two above-mentioned dates.

On 4/5/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987-^{Sub-D-5}
by SAs STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON^{SMD}
and JOHN W. BAUER^{WJ} SMD:gmh/wp Date dictated 4/5/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/7/68

Mrs. PEGGY BURNS, 4802 Rickard, telephone number 397-0033, advised she is employed as a saleslady at the Oliver Rexall Drugstore in Whitehaven. Mrs. BURNS stated that she recalls selling a Gillette shaving kit, which was in a clear plastic container, to a white man a little before noon on April 3, 1968. She stated that this shaving kit contained a safety razor, shaving lotion, shaving cream, hair tonic, and deodorant, which is all manufactured by the Gillette Company, and was in a clear plastic container, approximately four inches by six inches.

Mrs. BURNS recalled that a white man came into the Oliver Rexall Drugstore shortly before noon, April 3, 1968, and asked her for a razor. She said she pointed out where the razors were located in her store, and directed him to that area of the store. She advised the white man walked down to this area, and picked out the Gillette shaving kit, and brought it back to the cash register, where she was located. Mrs. BURNS said she could not recall any other items which the white man purchased in her store. She could not recall how he paid for this purchase, and did not recall anything he said while he was paying for the item.

Mrs. BURNS stated that she got the impression from the white man's activities that he was a stranger in the area, and she said she does not believe he has ever been in her store before. She said she is sure that she has never seen him prior to the time he approached her, and she furnished the following description for him:

Race:	White
Age:	45
Height:	5'7"
Weight:	165 pounds
Hair:	Black - could not recall how he combed it or anything further about his hair
Eyes:	Color unknown

On 4/4/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # 44-1987-*Sut D-6*
by SA ORVILLE V. JOHNSON / jms Date dictated 4/6/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

ME 44-1987

2

Remarks:

Had a friendly smile

Dress:

Blue suit

No further descriptive information recalled; recalled seeing no scars and marks.

Mrs. BURNS said she got the impression that this man was alone, and she believed he left the store by himself. She advised she could recall no further information regarding this man's description or his activities while he was in her store.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/7/68

FRANK BREWER, 422½ South Main Street, Apartment 2, Memphis, advised that his wife, BESSIE BREWER, is the landlord of the roominghouse at 422½ South Main, Memphis, Tennessee.

BREWER works at Velsicol Chemical Corporation, 1199 Warford, Memphis, Tennessee. He arrived home from work about 5:30 p.m. on April 4, 1968. He immediately sat down to eat supper. His wife told him that she had rented apartment 5B that afternoon, but she did not mention anything about the person to whom she rented the room.

BREWER finished his supper and sat down to watch television. He figured the time to be just about 6:00 p.m. He heard a loud noise that sounded like a gun, but he thought it must be a firecracker. He got up and went to the door to see what had made the noise. He opened the door that leads into the hall. He heard people behind the roominghouse yelling, "Oh God, help me!" He also heard some firemen from the nearby fire station running toward the Lorraine Hotel, and one of them said, "Someone has been shot."

BREWER ran to the back door and went out on the back porch. It took him two or three seconds to unlock the door and get it open. BREWER figures that the time elapsed from when he heard the noise until he stepped onto the back porch was about 15 - 20 seconds.

As he stepped out on the porch, a uniformed officer, possibly from the Sheriff's Office, ran into the backyard of the roominghouse and yelled to BREWER, "Get back in the house and lock the door." BREWER thought he was from the Sheriff's Office because he was wearing dark green pants and a tan shirt. As BREWER started back inside, another officer yelled, "The shot came from there," and pointed toward the northeast corner of the roominghouse. BREWER thought the officer was pointing toward either the windows on the northeast corner or the roof.

On 4/5/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # 44-1987-*Sub 10-7*
by SAs JACK D. VAHRENWALD
EUGENE A. MEDORI JDV:jms Date dictated 4/6/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

ME 44-1987

2

BREWER came back into the apartment house and locked the door. He looked out the window and saw two policemen on the roof of the building that faces Mulberry Street, and is just northeast of the building at 422 South Main.

BREWER went back to his apartment and sat down. He did not hear anything until WILLIAM ANSCHUTZ, who lives in apartment 4B, came to BREWER's door and yelled, "The guy that rented the room ran down the steps, and had something wrapped up that looked like a gun." BREWER did not go out to look for the man.

The police came to the door within a minute or two, and officers were there the whole night.

BREWER and his wife have lived at 422 $\frac{1}{2}$ South Main, Apartment 2, since March 12, 1968. BREWER never did see the man registered as JOHN WILLARD, and, thus, could offer nothing concerning WILLARD's appearance. BREWER examined the rent receipts dating back to January 27, 1968, and could find no record of a JOHN WILLARD living here before April 4, 1968.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/7/681

ALFRED W. EATON, 422 $\frac{1}{2}$ South Main Street, Apartment 10, advised that he had been in and out of the apartment most of the day on April 4, 1968. He had been drinking that afternoon, and was taking a nap when he was awakened by a loud noise and some commotion outside the boardinghouse. He got out of bed, and looked out the back window of the house. He saw someone covering up a body across the street.

EATON did not see the person who rented Apartment 5B in the roominghouse. He also heard nothing in the other wing of the building (where Apartment 5B is located) after the shot was fired.

EATON said he went back to bed shortly thereafter, and did not know what actually happened until the morning of April 5, 1968.

On 4/5/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # 44-1987 - 6 *Sub D-8*
by SAs JACK D. VAHRENWALD
EUGENE E. MEDORI JDV:jms Date dictated 4/6/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/7/681

FRANK M. MARLEY, 422 $\frac{1}{2}$ South Main Street, Apartment 7, advised that he was home all day on April 4, 1968. He heard a loud noise about 6:00 p.m. on April 4, 1968, but he had been drinking heavily all afternoon, and he did not get out of bed to see what was happening.

He did not see the man who rented Room 5B, and he did not hear anything unusual after he heard the loud noise.

On 4/5/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # 44-1987-^{Sect D-9}~~6~~
by SAs JACK D. VAHRENWALD
EUGENE A. MEDORI JDV:jms Date dictated 4/6/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/7/68

HAROLD CARTER, 422½ South Main, Apartment 9, advised that he arrived at home about 4:30 p.m., on April 4, 1968. He went to his room and he was still there when he heard a shot about 6:00 p.m. He stayed in his room until the police came inside about 10-15 minutes later.

CARTER did not see the man who rented Apartment 5B, and he did not notice anything unusual before or after he heard the shot. He does not feel he has anything that would help in the investigation of this case.

On 4/5/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987-10 *Sub D-10*
by SA JACK D. VAHRENWALD
SA EUGENE A. MEDORI JDV:raj Date dictated 4/6/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/7/68

WILLIAM CHARLES ANSCHUTZ, 422½ South Main, Apartment 4B, Memphis, advised that he is employed by the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, 1054 Firestone Avenue, Memphis.

He returned home from work about 2:30 p.m., April 4, 1968. Miss JESSE LEDBETTER, a neighbor in Apartment 1B, came to his room to watch television. They watched television throughout the afternoon.

On two occasions during the afternoon, ANSCHUTZ tried to get into the bathroom at the end of the hall to pour out some water he had used to wash dishes. Each time someone was in the bathroom. The second time ANSCHUTZ went to the bathroom, another neighbor, CHARLIE STEVENS of Apartment 6B, told ANSCHUTZ that a new tenant who rented Apartment 5B was in the bathroom. ANSCHUTZ did not know the exact time of his attempts to get into the bathroom, but he indicated these attempts were only a few minutes apart. He does not know how long the new tenant was in the bathroom, but it seemed like a long time to him.

Later ANSCHUTZ heard a shot. He had been watching television for some time, but he did not have any idea what time it was. He got up and went to the door. As he opened it a man came down the hall. ANSCHUTZ thought the man came out of Apartment 5B, but he could not tell for sure.

The man was running and as he passed ANSCHUTZ's door, he held his hand and arm over his face so ANSCHUTZ could not get a good look at him. As the man passed ANSCHUTZ, ANSCHUTZ said, "I thought I heard a shot!" The man answered, "Yeh, it was a shot."

The man was carrying something under his arm. It appeared to be something long and was wrapped in what looked like a blanket. ANSCHUTZ thought it might be a gun.

On 4/5/68 at Memphis, Tennessee

File # ME 44-1987 - 4 *Sub D-11*

by SA JACK D. VAHRENWALD, SA EUGENE A. MEDORI,
SA STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON, SA JOHN W. BAUER

Date dictated 4/6/68

JDV:raj,jms
This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

ANSCHUTZ knew that the shot had been fired nearby, but he could not tell if it came from the bathroom or from apartment 5B. He had never seen the man or talked to him until he saw the man running down the hall. He thinks the man went down the stairs to Main Street, but he did not follow him.

After the man had run down the hall, CHARLIE STEVENS came out of his apartment, and said he had also heard a shot. ANSCHUTZ went into the bathroom, and looked out the window. A police officer in the backyard yelled for him to get away from the window. ANSCHUTZ heard a girl say that the shot had come from the window.

After leaving the bathroom, ANSCHUTZ went to the other side of the roominghouse, and told the landlady, Mrs. BREWER, that he had heard a shot. Then he went back to his room to watch television. To the best of his knowledge, ANSCHUTZ cannot remember the man having any other luggage, etc., except the object that was wrapped up in the blanket.

ANSCHUTZ describes the man as follows:

Height:	6'
Build:	Slim
Age:	30's
Clothes:	Did not seem to be wearing a coat.

ANSCHUTZ did not see the man's face because the man covered it with his arm and hand. ANSCHUTZ does not think he could identify the man if he saw him again. ANSCHUTZ said he had not been drinking at all during the afternoon. He had to stop drinking for health reasons.

ANSCHUTZ advised that JESSE LEDBETTER is a deaf mute. She can read and write and can speak sign language. ANSCHUTZ does not know if she saw the man when he ran past the door.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/7/68

1

ROSIE LEE DABNEY, waitress, Jim's Grill, 418 South Main Street, Memphis, advised that on April 4, 1968, she came on duty at about 3:00 p.m. She stated that everything seemed normal up until about 6:00 p.m. when she heard that a shooting had occurred. She added that she saw nothing out of the ordinary and could provide no further information.

Interviewed at Memphis, Tennessee

44-1987 - *Sut D-12*

ms *JMD*

Interviewed by *ms*

Dictated 4/5/68

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/7/68

DAVID HARRISON OWENS, Credit Manager, Seabrook Wallpaper Company, 421 South Main Street, Memphis, advised that on April 4, 1968, in the afternoon, he was working in the warehouse at the rear of the store. He stated that at 6:00 p.m., he went to leave the building in order to go home and he noticed that there were policemen everywhere and there was a great deal of noise in the street.

He said he saw a lot of policemen in front of the doorway at Canipe's Amusement Company and he assumed that there had been a robbery at Canipe's Amusement Company. He stated that he saw several policemen looking down at an object which was lying on the sidewalk in front of the doorway at Canipe's Amusement Company and it appeared to be a large canvas object about twelve inches high and five feet long. Mr. OWENS said that the object reminded him of a large mailbag. He said that when he went to leave the store with Mr. COOKSY and Mr. HOLT, they were questioned by policemen, and were given permission to leave the area, which they did.

04/5/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987 - 13
SA JOHN W. BAUER *WJ*
SA STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON *SM* JWB:raj
by _____ Date dictated 4/5/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/7/68

ELIZABETH COPELAND, customer services, Seabrook Wallpaper Company, 421 South Main Street, Memphis, advised that at about 4:45 p.m., April 4, 1968, she saw a white car pull up and park across the street. She said that she called to PEGGY HURLEY to tell her that her husband had arrived as he usually did at this time daily. When PEGGY came to the front showroom she looked out the window and told her, ELIZABETH COPELAND, that the car across the street was not her husband's Falcon but was a Mustang. She stated she looked again at the car and saw there was a white man with dark hair sitting in the driver's seat. She added that she believed the man was wearing a dark colored coat. Mrs. COPELAND stated Mrs. HURLEY's husband pulled up in a few minutes and then proceeded to leave with his wife. At 5:20 Mrs. COPELAND stated that her husband who normally picked her up daily attempted to park across the street, but the curb was completely filled with vehicles and he had to double park next to the white car which she thought was a Mustang. She said when her husband arrived she left work, crossed the street and got in her husband's car and left for home. She advised when she went to get in her husband's car she noticed that there was no one sitting in the white Mustang.

On 4/5/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987 - 14
by SA JOHN W. BAUER *WJ*
SA STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON *SM* JWB:raj Date dictated 4/5/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/7/68

Mrs. FRANCES B. THOMPSON, Bookkeeper, Seabrook Wall Paper Company, 421 South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee, advised that she finished work on April 4, 1968, at approximately 4:30 p.m., and was in the company showroom at the front of the store waiting for her daughter. She said that at about 4:30 or 4:45 p.m., she saw a white automobile drive up and park across the street from her in front of Canipe's Amusement Company, 424 South Main Street. Mrs. THOMPSON said she thought the car belonged to PEGGY HURLEY's husband and that he had come to get PEGGY; however, PEGGY looked and said that this car was a Mustang and that Mr. HURLEY would be driving a Falcon.

Mrs. THOMPSON said that her daughter picked her up at approximately 4:45 p.m., and the two of them left the area. She said that when she left at 4:45 p.m., there was a white male sitting in the front seat of the white Mustang. Mrs. THOMPSON was unable to furnish any other information concerning this individual.

On 4/5/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987-^{Sub D-15}~~10~~
by SA JOHN W. BAUER *WB* *SM*
SA STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON JWB:raj Date dictated 4/5/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/7/68

CHARLES STEPHENS, Apartment 6B, 422½ South Main Street, Memphis, advised that on the afternoon of April 4, 1968, he was with his wife at the above address. He stated that at about 3:30 p.m., on the above date, he began working on a table model radio of his which was in need of repair. He said he took a radio to the kitchen and placed it on the table which was against the wall that was adjacent to the bathroom which was used by all tenants on his floor. As he was working on his radio he could hear the man in the next apartment to him, Apartment 5B, leave his room several times and go into the bathroom. Mr. STEPHENS stated that he knew it was the man who had just checked in to Apartment 5B that afternoon because he could hear the door of Apartment 5B open and then footsteps would go down the hall to the bathroom, the bathroom door would open and then close.

Mr. STEPHENS said that during these various trips that the individual in Apartment 5B made to the bathroom he failed to flush the toilet or to run any water with the exception of the last time he was in the bathroom. At this time he flushed the toilet. He stated that this individual seemed to be spending an undue length of time in this bathroom. At about 6:00 p.m., on April 4, 1968, Mr. STEPHENS heard a loud noise which he described as sounding like a gunshot come from the bathroom. Upon hearing this noise, Mr. STEPHENS ran from the kitchen where he was repairing his radio to his door that led to the hallway. He stated this is only a distance of about 10 to 12 feet. Upon opening the door he saw a man leave the bathroom carrying a package of about three feet long and wrapped in what appeared to be newspaper. He saw the man run down the hall and then turn left as if he were trying to leave the apartment building. As this was happening WILLIE ANSCHUTZ, who lived in Apartment 4B, came out of his apartment and went to the bathroom. ANSCHUTZ then told STEPHENS to look out of his window. STEPHENS said that he then looked out of his kitchen window which faced the Lorraine Hotel and saw a lot of policemen scurrying about and people running screaming in the vicinity of the hotel.

On 4/5/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987- *Sub D-16*
 by SA JOHN W. BAUER *WJB*
SA STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON *SM* JWB:raj Date dictated 4/5/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

1. Copy of this report to be made by 4/13/68.

Mr. STEPHENS stated that the man who was in Apartment 5B had checked in about 3:00 or 3:30 p.m. on April 4, 1968. He stated he was sure of this because he had heard the landlady showing him the apartment at that time. He stated he glanced out of his door and got a fairly good look at the man who he described as being a white male; 5' 10-11"; weighing 165 pounds; slender build; ruddy complexion; sandy hair; had a long, sharp pointed nose; wearing what appeared to be a dark blue or black suit, white shirt and dark tie.

Mr. STEPHENS stated that the man who he saw running out of the bathroom closely resembled the man who had checked into Apartment 5B. He said he could only see the man who ran from the bathroom from behind, but his general build, hair coloring and clothes were the same as the individual in Apartment 5B.

Mr. STEPHENS described the individual he saw running out of the bathroom as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5'10-11"
Weight	165
Build	Slender
Complexion	Ruddy
Hair	Sandy, slightly on dark side
Clothing	Wearing dark suit

Mr. STEPHENS added that he had never met the man who checked into Apartment 5B, talked to him, or knew his name.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date April 8, 1968

Mrs. BESSIE RUTH BREWER, Resident Manager, rooming house located at 422½ South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee, was interviewed at Central Police Headquarters, Memphis, Tennessee, Police Department, at which time she furnished the following information:

Between 3:00 P.M. and 3:30 P.M. on April 4, 1968, a white male knocked on the door of the second floor of the rooming house and asked Mrs. BREWER if she had a room. She replied yes, and this individual then asked if he could see it. Mrs. BREWER showed him Room No. 8, which is located in the southwest part of the building, and the individual put his head into the doorway and after looking, stated that this would not be satisfactory as he did not need a stove and refrigerator but only wanted a sleeping room. Mrs. BREWER then showed this individual Room 5-B, and he put his head in the doorway of this room and said it would be fine. At this point the individual asked where the bathroom facilities were located, and she pointed to the bathroom located in the northeast portion of the hallway which is located in the same hallway as Room 5-B. She and this individual then returned to her office. The individual stated that his name was JOHN WILLARD and that he wanted a sleeping room for one week.

WILLARD then asked her how much the room rent would be for one week, and Mrs. BREWER replied \$8.50. WILLARD then put his hand into his right trouser pocket and withdrew a twenty dollar bill and two quarters and handed the money to her. She gave him change in denominations of one ten dollar bill and two one dollar bills. When WILLARD arrived at the rooming house, Mrs. BREWER did not notice any luggage in his possession, nor during the brief conversation with WILLARD did he volunteer any information concerning his home residence, line of business, or mode of transportation. WILLARD was not required to sign any type of register, and the only written record maintained of the transaction was a receipt for the \$8.50, which was made out in the handwriting of Mrs. BREWER.

Mrs. BREWER was unable to state if WILLARD returned

On 4/5/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987-17
by SA ROBERT F. BOYLE:jap Date dictated 4/8/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

to Room 5-B or if he left the building at any time after renting Room 5-B. Mrs. BREWER did not again observe WILLARD after he rented the room.

Mrs. BREWER's husband returned home from work at 5:25 P.M. on April 4, 1968, and at that time Mr. and Mrs. BREWER commenced their dinner. After dinner Mr. BREWER then turned on the television set and was watching the "Rawhide" television program, and Mrs. BREWER did the dinner dishes. Shortly after completing the dinner dishes, Mrs. BREWER also sat down to watch the "Rawhide" television program. Within a matter of a couple of minutes, Mrs. BREWER heard what she thought to be a gun shot coming from the back of her rooming house. Mrs. BREWER believed that this must have been around 6:00 P.M. on April 4, 1968. She advised her husband that she thought it was a gun shot. Her husband took time to put on his slippers and both of them then proceeded to the southeast exit of the building. Upon arriving at this point, Mr. BREWER attempted to go out the back door; however, a law enforcement officer was in the back of the building and instructed both Mr. and Mrs. BREWER to close the door and return to their apartment. Mrs. BREWER did not hear any noise such as someone running through her building after hearing the gun shot, and the only noise she could recall hearing was a lot of hollering and screaming near the back of her building toward the Lorraine Motel.

Mrs. BREWER examined cash that she had on hand and determined that she had three \$20.00 bills in her possession. She was unable to specifically pinpoint which \$20.00 bill was furnished to her by WILLARD for payment of his room rent. Mrs. BREWER made available the following described twenty dollar Federal Reserve Notes:

- (1) Series 1963-A, Serial No. F14002844A
- (2) Series 1963-A, Serial No. H16164663A
- (3) Series 1963, Serial No. F06445143A

Mrs. BREWER furnished the following description of WILLARD:

Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Age:	Approximately 35 years

Height:	5'11" to 6'
Weight:	180 pounds
Build:	Medium (carried weight well)
Appearance:	Real neat looking, clean shaven.

Mrs. BREWER stated that WILLARD appeared to have a smile or a sneer on his face during their entire conversation; did not appear as though he was the outdoors type; was wearing a dark sport jacket or short jacket, as he did not have to pull the jacket back when he reached his right hand into his pocket for his money; did not notice any rings or watches; paid no attention to his shoes, pants, shirt, or whether he had on a tie, but was quite positive that he did not have a hat; did not give the appearance of needing a haircut, nor was he wearing a mustache or any long sideburns; paid no particular attention to his teeth while he was talking and did not particularly notice about any part of his face, including nose, mouth, ears, chin, or eyebrows.

Mrs. BREWER claims that she did not particularly look at this individual as she did not like the smile or sneer that he had on his face.

Mrs. BREWER did recall that when she pointed out the bathroom facilities to WILLARD, she told him that everyone in the area of his room was usually quiet but that the guy next to him usually drinks a little bit. Mrs. BREWER claimed that WILLARD then stated, "I take a beer once in awhile myself." Mrs. BREWER claimed that she told him that was all right as long as he stayed in his room and kept quiet.

Mrs. BREWER was unable to state whether any of the other roomers at her rooming house had an opportunity to either observe or have any contact with WILLARD, nor was she able to furnish any additional information concerning WILLARD's activities during the brief period that he resided at her rooming house. She claims that she does not believe that she would recognize this individual again from a photograph or if she had an opportunity to see him in person, but qualified this by stating that she probably would be able to recognize him from the smile or sneer that he had on his face if she were able to observe that in the future.

ME 44-1987

4

She claimed that WILLARD did not volunteer any information concerning his personal background or volunteer any information concerning his reason for being in Memphis. She claimed that WILLARD's speech was "just like the rest of us around here," and that his vocabulary and accent were not out of place in her rooming house. Mrs. BREWER recalled that when WILLARD first looked in Room 8, he remarked that he only wanted a sleeping room as he would not be in the room in the daytime, just at night.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/8/681

Miss ANNA CHRISTINE KELLEY, owner, The Rebel Motel, 3466 Lamar Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee, furnished the following information:

Miss KELLEY stated that a check of her records reflected no loss of any bedspreads similar to or identical with the one left by the suspect on S. Main Street, Memphis. Miss KELLEY further advised that her records failed to reflect the names HARVEY LOWMEYER and JOHN WILLARD for the dates March 15, 1968, to April 8, 1968. Miss KELLEY said that her records reflected the fact that ERIC S. GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, registered April 3, 1968, and checked out April 4, 1968. She advised that GALT was driving a Mustang of unknown year and unknown color and had the license number 138993.

Miss KELLEY said that a JERRY GOALSBY, Route 4, Ripley, Mississippi, registered at her motel April 3, 1968, and checked out April 4, 1968. She stated that GOALSBY was driving a Ford vehicle but did not know the year nor the color.

KELLEY advised she was unable to recall GALT or GOALSBY and could not furnish a physical description.

On 4/8/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987 - *Sub D-18*
by SA JOHN W. BAUER and *WJ*
SA STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON *SMD* SMD/bbs Date dictated 4/8/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/10/68

Contents of Room 34, Rebel Motor Hotel, 3466 Lamar Avenue, Memphis, were processed for anything of an evidentiary value. As a result, the following lifts of latent fingerprints were obtained:

- (1) Removed from the left side of inside of front door
- (2) Removed from left side of television set
- (3) Removed from left side of television set
- (4) Removed from right side of outside portion of bathroom door
- (5) Removed from right side of outside portion of bathroom door
- (6) Removed from right side of outside portion of bathroom door
- (7) Removed from right side of outside portion of bathroom door
- (8) Removed from left side of right of bathroom door
- (9) Removed from left side of right of bathroom door
- (10) Removed from left side of right of bathroom door
- (11) Removed from center of inside of bathroom door
- (12) Removed from center of inside of bathroom door
- (13) Removed from center of inside of bathroom door
- (14) Removed from center of inside of bathroom door
- (15) Removed from left side of inside of bathroom

On 4/9/68 at Memphis, TennesseeFile # ME 44-1987 - 19by SA ROBERT F. BOYLE
SA HOWARD D. TETEN RFB:raj

4/9/68

Date dictated

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

ME 44-1987

2

- (16) Removed from left side of inside of bathroom
- (17) Removed from left side of inside of bathroom
- (18) Removed from left side of inside of bathroom
- (19) Removed from shower head in bathroom
- (20) Removed from inner bathroom door jamb
- (21) Removed from outer bathroom door jamb
- (22) Removed from outer bathroom door jamb
- (23) Removed from inside closet door
- (24) Removed from inside closet door
- (25) Removed from inside closet door.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/11/68

1

Rev. BERNARD SCOTT LEE, 334 Auburn Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia, was interviewed at the Police Department, Memphis, Tennessee, in the presence of Lt. TOM MARSHALL, Homicide Bureau, Memphis Police Department. Rev. LEE voluntarily furnished the following information:

Rev. LEE stated that he came to Memphis on April 3, 1968, with Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., and had been staying at the Lorraine Motel since his arrival. He was registered in Room 205 and was alone in that room. He advised that Dr. KING was registered in Room 306 with Rev. ABERNATHY, and their room was immediately above his and one door south of his unit.

Rev. LEE stated that he and Dr. KING and all members of their party had been around the Lorraine Motel most of the day. He advised that he dressed for dinner and left his motel room at approximately 5:45 to 5:50 P.M. and went to the court yard of the Lorraine Motel where he joined other members of the staff of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and local community people. LEE stated at that time he was standing about three feet from the steps on the north end of the court yard which led to the second floor of the motel. He said he saw Dr. KING come out of his room at approximately 6:00 P.M. and Dr. KING walked out on the balcony in front of that room. Rev. LEE stated about that time his attention was directed to two female workers, names unknown, who were following one of the staff cars of SCLC as they drove into the Lorraine Motel. He said as he was looking at these individuals, he heard a shot and knows that the shot came from across the street in front of Dr. KING's room and which would be coming from the west. Rev. LEE said he immediately realized that this was not a fire-cracker and that it was a shot from a high caliber rifle. He said he based this on his experience in the U. S. Air Force and pointed out that he has fired the M-2 carbine as well as the .22 caliber rifle. He said he immediately knew that this was not a blast from a shotgun but from a high caliber rifle. Rev. LEE stated he immediately looked toward the

On 4/4/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987 - *Sub-D-20*
by SA ORVILLE V. JOHNSON:mnr Date dictated 4/10/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

buildings which were to the west of him but said he did not see anyone in any of the windows of these buildings who could have fired that shot. He said he only recalls seeing some white police officers who had shotguns but knew at the time that this shot was not from a shotgun but from a high caliber rifle. Rev. LEE said he turned and looked at Dr. KING and saw that he had fallen back and was lying on the floor of the balcony. He said he believed that he saw Dr. KING's hands leave the railing of the balcony and that this indicated to him that Dr. KING was leaning over the balcony rail at the time of the shooting. Rev. LEE said he saw Rev. YOUNG running up the steps which were on the north end of the motel leading up to the second floor, and he immediately started to where Dr. KING was, following behind Rev. YOUNG. He said when he reached Dr. KING, Dr. KING was lying on the balcony floor in a large pool of blood. He advised that he could tell that a bullet had torn out a section of the right side of Dr. KING's face between the high cheek bone and the lower bone of the jaw. Rev. LEE said he immediately asked one of the police officers who had rushed to Dr. KING to call an ambulance and he said an ambulance appeared on the scene shortly thereafter.

Rev. LEE pointed out that he only heard one shot and is of the positive opinion that this shot came from a high powered rifle and definitely not any type of a shotgun. He advised he did not see anyone fleeing the area around the motel who might have any connection with the person who shot Dr. KING and stated that at the time of the shooting he did not see anyone on the balcony of the motel with Dr. KING.

Rev. LEE continued by advising that the only individuals he can identify by name who were in the court yard of the Lorraine Motel at the time of the shooting were Rev. ANDREW YOUNG, Attorney CHAUNCEY ESKRIDGE, and Mr. SOLOMON JONES. Rev. LEE stated that there were other individuals at the motel at the time of the shooting but he cannot identify them by name. Rev. LEE stated that Rev. ABERNATHY was in Room 306 at the time of the shooting and was probably the first person to arrive at Dr. KING's side after the shooting. Rev. LEE stated that when he arrived at the place where Dr. KING was lying, Dr. KING was unconscious but did attempt to make some sounds which he could not understand.

ME 44-1987

3

Rev. LEE advised that Dr. KING was put in an ambulance, and Rev. ABERNATHY accompanied him to the hospital.

Rev. LEE advised that he has no idea who is responsible for shooting Dr. KING and said he noticed nothing at the time of the shooting which might be of value to identify this individual. He reiterated that he was not looking at Dr. KING at the time he was shot but was looking in the area of the court yard around the Lorraine Motel. He stated these are all of the facts that he can recall at the present time regarding the shooting of Dr. KING and the events which happened immediately after the shooting.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/11/681

Mr. J. L. MESSER, 422½ South Main Street, Apartment 5, Memphis, Tennessee, furnished the following information:

Mr. MESSER, speaking in a very loud tone, stated that he was extremely hard of hearing and was almost deaf. He stated that he did not know anything had happened that was out of the ordinary on April 4, 1968, and that he was in his room the entire day. He stated he did not know anything had occurred until that morning, April 5, 1968, when Mrs. BREWER told him that someone had been killed. Mr. MESSER stated that he has been having trouble with his back and that he spends most of his time either in bed or sitting down in his room.

He stated he could furnish no information in this matter.

35

On 4/5/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987-^{Sub D-21}
by SA JACK D. VAHRENWALD and
SA EUGENE A. MEDORI, JR. EAM/mnr Date dictated 4/10/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/11/681

Mrs. JESSIE LEO LEDBETTER, 422 $\frac{1}{2}$ South Main Street, Apartment 1-B, Memphis, Tennessee, was interviewed with the following results:

Mrs. LEDBETTER is a deaf mute and an attempt was made by Agents to communicate with her by writing questions on paper and using various hand and head motions. Mrs. LEDBETTER was unable to furnish any information of value in this matter.

On 4/5/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987-~~82~~ Sub D-22
by SA JACK D. VAHRENWALD and SA EUGENE A. MEDORI, JR. *EAM/mnr* Date dictated 4/10/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/11/68

The following items were received by SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK from SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN at the FBI Office, 841 Federal Building, Memphis, Tennessee:

- 1) One pair of men's shorts (waist band in unstretched condition, one side measures approximately 11-3/4 inches, which would be waist band of approximately 23-1/2 inches)
- 2) T-shirt, size 42-44, designated "Jockey Power Knit," T-shirt large size. It appears on visual examination that the lower portion of the T-shirt has been cut.
- 3) One board which is part of a window sill in the window of a bathroom at 422 1/2 South Main Street, Memphis.

These items were personally taken by SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK to the FBI Laboratory, Washington, D. C.

SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK left the Memphis FBI Office at 6:15 p.m., April 6, 1968, en route Metropolitan Airport, Memphis, Tennessee. SA FITZPATRICK arrived at the Airport at 6:40 p.m., boarded American Airlines Flight #132 en route Washington, D. C., at Washington National Airport.

SA FITZPATRICK arrived at Washington National Airport, Washington, D. C., at 9:45 p.m., and personally delivered the aforementioned evidence to SA JAMES CADIGAN of the Document Section, FBI, Washington, D. C., at 9:55 p.m.

SA FITZPATRICK had these items of evidence in his possession at all times until they were personally delivered by SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK to Washington, D. C., and ultimately released to SA JAMES CADIGAN of the FBI Laboratory, Washington, D.C.

On 4/6/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987-^{Sub D-23} 63
by SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK:gmh Date dictated 4/10/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/11/68

1

Mr. JOHN MC FERREN, Somerville, Tennessee, was interviewed at the Peabody Hotel, Memphis, Tennessee, in the presence of Inspector N. E. ZACHARY, Mr. BAXTON BRYANT of the Tennessee Council on Human Relations, and Attorney DAVID E. CAYWOOD. Mr. MC FERREN stated that he had some information he wished to furnish concerning the shooting of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Mr. MC FERREN advised that on the afternoon of April 4, 1968, he traveled from Somerville, Tennessee, to Memphis, Tennessee, to pick up his supplies for his grocery store. He advised that he departed from the Fineburg Meat Company, 2875 Starling Road, Memphis, at approximately 4:20 P.M. He said he traveled directly to the Farmers Market located on Scott Street and after arriving purchased a sack of potatoes from a Negro man, name unknown, at the market. He then went to the place where he normally buys his produce and stated he does not know the name of this particular firm but said it was possibly the LL&L Produce, 814 Scott Street. He said this business is operated by a large, heavy set white man, who weighs approximately 300 pounds and is of possible Puerto Rican extraction and who can be identified because his teeth are set apart from each other. MC FERREN stated after arriving at this company he walked up to the door to the office and noticed that the heavy set man was sitting at his desk with his back to the door and talking on the telephone.

MC FERREN stated that the heavy set man did not see him at that time. He stated he heard the heavy set man say, "Kill the S.O.B. on the balcony and get the job done. You will get your \$5,000." According to MC FERREN, a white man who is thin in build and who has a scar on his right cheek, saw him about that time and asked him what he wanted. MC FERREN replied that he was there to pick up some produce and this man told him to go on to the back and help himself.

MC FERREN said he went back to the rear portion of this office and shortly thereafter heard the telephone ring. The phone was answered by the man with the scar, and MC FERREN

On 4/8/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987-Sub D-24
by SA ORVILLE V. JOHNSON:mnr Date dictated 4/9/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

said he could not hear what this man said. The man then handed the phone to the heavy set man, and MC FERREN said he heard this man say, "Don't come out here. Go to New Orleans and get your money. You know my brother." MC FERREN continued by advising that he bought his produce and wanted to purchase two bushels of apples. He said he saw apples at the LL&L Produce Company, but they referred him to another store and told him that he could get his apples there. MC FERREN believes that he was only at the LL&L Produce Company for approximately ten minutes and this was sometime between 4:45 P.M. and 5:15 P.M.

JOHN MC FERREN continued by advising that approximately a week prior to April 4, 1968, he was at the LL&L Produce Company at which time the heavy set man, the man with the scar, and approximately three other white men were in a group talking. He said he heard the heavy set man say at this time, "They ought to shoot the S.O.B." MC FERREN advised that immediately after this the heavy set man walked over to him and said, "What do you think about King and his mess?" MC FERREN told the heavy set man that he tended to his own business.

MC FERREN advised that he arrived at his store in Somerville at approximately 6:15 P.M. He said immediately thereafter WILLIAM C. ANDERSON telephonically advised him that KING had been shot. He said on the following day his wife told him about the description of the person who possibly shot KING, and he said according to this description the individual was approximately 5'6" tall. He said he saw the sketch which appeared in the Commercial Appeal and which was supposed to be a likeness of the unknown individual who shot KING and when he compared the descriptions furnished by his wife from the paper and the sketch which appeared in the paper he thought of a person who was employed at the LL&L Produce Company sometime last summer. He thinks this man might be identical to the person who actually shot KING and stated that this individual is a cross between an Indian, a Cuban, or a Mexican. According to MC FERREN, this person has a very yellow complexion, has "jungle rot" on his neck, and definitely gives the impression of being a Puerto Rican or a Cuban and definitely not an American. MC FERREN also said, "This person is not 5 feet 6 like they said in the paper, but he is real tall. He is at least 5 feet 9."

MC FERREN also advised that the person who he thinks might be identical to the person who shot KING weighs 140 pounds, has a slender build, and is approximately 25 years old. He could furnish no further description regarding this person or any further information of value to identify him.

JOHN MC FERREN stated that he discussed what he had heard on the afternoon of April 4, 1968, with his wife and also discussed with his wife the possibility that he knows the identity of the person who shot KING. He said he was afraid to tell any person other than his wife and did not mention it to anyone except Mr. BASTON BRYANT, whom he advised at approximately 7:00 P.M. on April 7, 1968.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/11/68

1

Mr. JOHN MC FERREN, Somerville, Tennessee, was interviewed at the Peabody Hotel, Memphis, Tennessee, in the presence of Inspector N. E. ZACHARY, Mr. BAXTON BRYANT of the Tennessee Council on Human Relations, and Attorney DAVID E. CAYWOOD. Mr. MC FERREN stated that he had some information he wished to furnish concerning the shooting of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Mr. MC FERREN advised that on the afternoon of April 4, 1968, he traveled from Somerville, Tennessee, to Memphis, Tennessee, to pick up his supplies for his grocery store. He advised that he departed from the Fineburg Meat Company, 2875 Starling Road, Memphis, at approximately 4:20 P.M. He said he traveled directly to the Farmers Market located on Scott Street and after arriving purchased a sack of potatoes from a Negro man, name unknown, at the market. He then went to the place where he normally buys his produce and stated he does not know the name of this particular firm but said it was possibly the LL&L Produce, 814 Scott Street. He said this business is operated by a large, heavy set white man, who weighs approximately 300 pounds and is of possible Puerto Rican extraction and who can be identified because his teeth are set apart from each other. MC FERREN stated after arriving at this company he walked up to the door to the office and noticed that the heavy set man was sitting at his desk with his back to the door and talking on the telephone.

MC FERREN stated that the heavy set man did not see him at that time. He stated he heard the heavy set man say, "Kill the S.O.B. on the balcony and get the job done. You will get your \$5,000." According to MC FERREN, a white man who is thin in build and who has a scar on his right cheek, saw him about that time and asked him what he wanted. MC FERREN replied that he was there to pick up some produce and this man told him to go on to the back and help himself.

MC FERREN said he went back to the rear portion of this office and shortly thereafter heard the telephone ring. The phone was answered by the man with the scar, and MC FERREN

On 4/8/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987-24 *sub D-24*

by SA ORVILLE V. JOHNSON:mnr Date dictated 4/9/68 *h*

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 18 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Kearney *QHK*

said he could not hear what this man said. The man then handed the phone to the heavy set man, and MC FERREN said he heard this man say, "Don't come out here. Go to New Orleans and get your money. You know my brother." MC FERREN continued by advising that he bought his produce and wanted to purchase two bushels of apples. He said he saw apples at the LL&L Produce Company, but they referred him to another store and told him that he could get his apples there. MC FERREN believes that he was only at the LL&L Produce Company for approximately ten minutes and this was sometime between 4:45 P.M. and 5:15 P.M.

JOHN MC FERREN continued by advising that approximately a week prior to April 4, 1968, he was at the LL&L Produce Company at which time the heavy set man, the man with the scar, and approximately three other white men were in a group talking. He said he heard the heavy set man say at this time, "They ought to shoot the S.O.B.!!" MC FERREN advised that immediately after this the heavy set man walked over to him and said, "What do you think about King and his mess?" MC FERREN told the heavy set man that he tended to his own business.

MC FERREN advised that he arrived at his store in Somerville at approximately 6:15 P.M. He said immediately thereafter WILLIAM C. ANDERSON telephonically advised him that KING had been shot. He said on the following day his wife told him about the description of the person who possibly shot KING, and he said according to this description the individual was approximately 5'6" tall. He said he saw the sketch which appeared in the Commercial Appeal and which was supposed to be a likeness of the unknown individual who shot KING and when he compared the descriptions furnished by his wife from the paper and the sketch which appeared in the paper he thought of a person who was employed at the LL&L Produce Company sometime last summer. He thinks this man might be identical to the person who actually shot KING and stated that this individual is a cross between an Indian, a Cuban, or a Mexican. According to MC FERREN, this person has a very yellow complexion, has "jungle rot" on his neck, and definitely gives the impression of being a Puerto Rican or a Cuban and definitely not an American. MC FERREN also said, "This person is not 5 feet 6 like they said in the paper, but he is real tall. He is at least 5 feet 9."

MC FERREN also advised that the person who he thinks might be identical to the person who shot KING weighs 140 pounds, has a slender build, and is approximately 25 years old. He could furnish no further description regarding this person or any further information of value to identify him.

JOHN MC FERREN stated that he discussed what he had heard on the afternoon of April 4, 1968, with his wife and also discussed with his wife the possibility that he knows the identity of the person who shot KING. He said he was afraid to tell any person other than his wife and did not mention it to anyone except Mr. BASTON BRYANT, whom he advised at approximately 7:00 P.M. on April 7, 1968.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/11/68

The following items were received by SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK from SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN at the FBI Office, 841 Federal Building, Memphis, Tennessee:

- 1) Original registration card with the name ERIC S. GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, who according to the card had Room 34 and gave car license No. 138993, State of Alabama. Arrival date is shown as April 3, 1968, and make of car is listed as Mustang. This card is the property of VIC DUPRATT's New Rebel Motor Hotel, 3466 Lamar, Memphis, Tennessee. The reverse side of this card has the following information thereon:
Name: "Golt, E. S."
Room: 34
Rate: 6.24
Arrival date: "4/3"
Departure date: "4/4"
- 2) One bar of Cameo toilet soap.

SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK personally delivered these items to the Memphis Metropolitan Airport and personally handed these items to Captain C. M. VICKERS, American Airlines Flight No. 132 which was scheduled to leave Memphis at 6:45 p.m., CST, April 9, 1968, and arrive Washington National Airport, Washington, D. C., at 9:29 p.m., EST.

On 4/9/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987 *Sub D-25*

by SAs ROBERT FITZPATRICK and EUGENE A. MEDORI, JR. *RF:gmh* Date dictated 4/10/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 11, 19681

Mrs. SADIE MOORE, Maid, New Rebel Motor Hotel, 3466 Lamar Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee, advised that she is responsible for the service to the rooms on the east side of the hotel. She stated that she very seldom notices people who check into the east half of the hotel. She cannot remember anything concerning the individual who checked into Room Number 34 on the evening of April 3, 1968, and checked out the following day. She further stated that she cannot remember seeing any Mustangs on April 3 or 4, 1968, and, in fact, she is not familiar with the various makes of cars, and pays no attention whatsoever to them or their license plates.

On 4/10/68 at Memphis, TennesseeFile # 44-1987Sub-N-26by SAs JOHN W. BAUER
STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON / JWB:jmsDate dictated 4/10/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/12/68

OLIVIA HAYES, maid, Lorraine Hotel and Motel, 406 Mulberry Street, Memphis, Tennessee, advised that she was on duty at that motel from 12:00 noon until 8:00 p.m., April 3 and 4, 1968.

She advised that she was "cleaning up" the rooms on April 3, 1968, and worked as a desk clerk on April 4, 1968.

She advised that she was not in a position to observe anyone on Mulberry Street on April 3, 1968, since she was cleaning up on the inside. She further advised that she could not observe Mulberry Street from her location behind the desk on April 4, 1968, and did not see anyone on Mulberry when she took her work breaks.

HAYES said that no one made inquiries concerning Dr. KING to her and no one acted suspiciously on either date, that she could recall.

She stated she could recall nothing relating to the assassination of Dr. KING and could furnish no information at all.

On 4/4/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987 - 27
by SA STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON & SA JOHN W. BAUER:SMD:cjs Date dictated 4/10/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/12/68

WALTER LANE BAILEY, owner, Lorraine Motel and Hotel, 406 Mulberry Street, Memphis, Tennessee, furnished the following information:

He has owned the Lorraine Motel and Hotel since 1945 and Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING had stayed there on approximately twelve occasions since 1958. To the best of his knowledge, Dr. KING had never received any threats on his life while staying at the hotel. To his knowledge, no one had been acting in a suspicious manner, such as asking questions about Dr. KING's whereabouts, nor had he heard of anyone walking or driving up Mulberry looking as if he were "casing" or "sizing up" the location during any of Dr. KING's visits.

He stated he did not know Dr. KING very well but believed he was acting very strangely on April 4, 1968. He said that Dr. KING normally was very businesslike in manner and never "joked around" but on that date at the motel he was very jovial and was "teasing and cutting up". He believed this type of behavior was out of character with Dr. KING's past activities and thought it strange but could attach no meaning or significance to it.

Mr. BAILEY said he heard what he thought was a shot at approximately 6:00 p.m., on April 4, 1968, while he was in the northern lower section of his hotel. He could feel the entire hotel shake when the shot went off. He ran outside and looked up and saw Dr. KING lying on the balcony in front of his room, which was #306. He said confusion was all around the hotel and he could not recall any details after looking up at Dr. KING.

He said he had absolutely no information or thoughts on the assassination of Dr. KING but would notify the FBI should he acquire any information of value.

On 4/4/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987 - *Sub D-28*
by SA STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON & SA JOHN W. BAUER:SMD:cjs *hlf* Date dictated 4/10/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.