

4/15/68

TELETYPE

TO: DIRECTOR (MAIL), AND ATLANTA (44-2386)
FROM: CHARLOTTE (44-1365)

MURKIN

REURTEL APR. TWELVE LAST.

ON APR. THIRTEEN LAST, INVESTIGATION AT GASTONIA, NC,
REVEALED HAROLD H. FLETCHER RESIDES ONE ZERO SEVEN EAST
LEE ST., BESSEMER CITY, NC. GASTONIA, NC, PD RECORDS
REVEALED FLETCHER ARRESTED MARCH TWENTYTWO NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE
IN VIOLATION PROHIBITION LAW. ATTEMPTS TO CONTACT FLETCHER
TODAY AT ONE ZERO SEVEN E. LEE AVE. NEGATIVE.

FLETCHER'S UNCLE, LUTHER T. FLETCHER, ONE ZERO SEVEN
E. LEE AVE., BESSEMER CITY, NC, ADVISED FLETCHER WORKS FOR
ANNON JOHNSON CEILING TILE, ATLANTA, GA., & HAS BEEN
RESIDING & WORKING IN ATLANTA SINCE DEC., SIXTYSEVEN.

FLETCHER WAS IN BESSEMER CITY SAT. WITH HIS WIFE,
MARGARET WALKER FLETCHER.

END PAGE ONE

- 1 - Bureau
- 1 - Memphis (AM)
- 1 - Charlotte

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APR 16 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Kearney

F B I

Date:

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

CE 44-1365

MRS. ZENITH BEAM, WIFE'S AUNT, ADVISED APR. THIRTEEN
LAST FLETCHER & WIFE STOPPED BY EARLIER THAT DAY BUT SHE DID
NOT KNOW CURRENT WHEREABOUTS.

BESSEMER CITY PD ADVISED HAS NO RECORD FOR FLETCHER.

FLETCHER TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED CHARLOTTE OFFICE
APR. FOURTEEN LAST & STATED WAS EN ROUTE TO ATLANTA &
COULD BE CONTACTED EIGHT FOUR SIX SAINT CHARLES PLACE,
ATLANTA, GA. STATED LISTED GREENSBORO ADDRESS FOR HIS WIFE
& HER FRIEND BECAUSE SHE ATTENDS UNIVERSITY OF N.C. AT
GREENSBORO. ADVISED MAY ALSO BE CONTACTED AT EMPLOYMENT
FOR ADDITIONAL INFO.

ATLANTA AT ATLANTA, GA. CONTACT FLETCHER RE ANY
ADDITIONAL INFO REQUIRED.

AM COPY FURNISHED MEMPHIS.

END

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

F B I

Date: 4/12/68

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

TO: SAC, SPRINGFIELD
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
MURKIN; CIVIL RIGHTS. OO: ME

INVESTIGATION AT MEMPHIS REVEALED GORDON SCHLENKER,
SIX SIX FOUR THREE IROQUOIS PARK ROAD, LOUISVILLE,
KENTUCKY, EMPLOYED INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER COMPANY, REGISTERED
HOLIDAY INN, FOUR ZERO TWO TWO THOMAS, MEMPHIS, FROM APRIL
ONE - TWO, LAST, DRIVING MUSTANG WITH ILLINOIS LICENSE P L FIVE
ZERO NINE THREE EIGHT.

DETERMINE IF AUTOMOBILE IS WHITE IN COLOR, AND IF
INFORMATION POSITIVE, ADVISE LOUISVILLE TO DETERMINE POSSIBLE
CONNECTION SCHLENKER MAY HAVE WITH ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN
LUTHER KING.

JDV/bbs
(1)

44-1987-Sub E-274

SEARCHED _____
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FILED h

E

Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

Sent 11:53 M Per [Signature]

F B I

Date: 4/15/68

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

TO SAC ST LOUIS

FROM SAC MEMPHIS (44-1987) (2P)

MURKIN, CR. OO: MEMPHIS.

RE LITTLE ROCK TEL TO MEMPHIS APRIL TWELVE LAST RE
SUSPECT ERIC STARVO GALT. *44-1987-Sub E-874A*HARRY GAULT, NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARK., ADVISED HIS BROTHER,
ERNEST SUMPTER GAULT, DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH , AT DANVILLE, ARK., ARMY VETERAN, IS
ALCOHOLIC AND FLOATS ABOUT THE COUNTRY ENTERING VETERANS
HOSPITALS FOR TREATMENT.ACCORDING TO HARRY GAULT, ERNEST WAS MARRIED IN ONE NINE
THREE EIGHT OR ONE NINE THREE NINE TO ONE NINA STARVO (PH)
AT LITTLE ROCK. MARRIAGE RECORDS, LITTLE ROCK, NEGATIVE RE
THIS MARRIAGE. *44-1987-Sub E-847A*MRS. NINA BREWER NEE WALKER, LITTLE ROCK, ADVISED SHE WAS
MARRIED TO EARNEST GAULT, BUT DENIED KNOWLEDGE OF NAME STARVO.

HARRY GAULT RECONTACTED AND SAID NINE WALKER WAS PROBABLY

Airtel EARNEST'S FIRST WIFE'S NAME RATHER THAN STARVO. *44-1987-Sub E-874A*Teletype RECORDS, VA HOSPITAL, LITTLE ROCK, REFLECT EARNEST SUMPTERA.M. GAULT, C-FILE SIX EIGHT EIGHT SIX NINE NINE FIVE, ASN

A.M.S.D1 - LITTLE ROCK (AM)

REG:tjm (2)

Spec. Del. *h*Reg. Approved: *RV*
Special Agent in ChargeSent *9:42 AM*

Registered

F B I

Date:

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

ME 44-1987

PAGE TWO

NINE FIVE NINE TWO THREE ONE, SSN [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], WAS LAST DISCHARGED FROM HOSPITAL, LITTLE ROCK, SEPTEMBER TWO, ONE NINE SIX FIVE. NO RECORDS LOCATED OF EARNEST SUMPTER GAULT EVER A PATIENT OR RECEIVING TREATMENT AT VA HOSPITAL, MEMPHIS.

RECORDS SALVATION ARMY, MEN'S SOCIAL CENTER, MEMPHIS, INDICATE EARNEST S. GAULT WAS A GUEST FROM NOVEMBER EIGHT TO DECEMBER TEN, ONE NINE SIX FIVE, LEFT WITHOUT NOTICE AND FURNISHED NO FORWARDING ADDRESS. UNCLAIMED POST CARD, POSTMARKED DECEMBER SIXTEEN, ONE NINE SIX FIVE, ADDRESSED TO HIM, INDICATED HIS VA FILE UNDER C NUMBER SIX EIGHT EIGHT SIX NINE NINE FIVE, WAS TRANSFERRED FROM LITTLE ROCK TO REGIONAL OFFICE AT NASHVILLE, TENN. RECORDS VA, NASHVILLE, INDICATE GAULT'S FILE HAS BEEN SENT TO RECORDS PROCESSING CENTER, ST. LOUIS, MO.

ST. LOUIS REVIEW FILE, DETERMINE WHEREABOUTS OF GAULT AND DETERMINE IF HE HAD ANY CHIDDREN WHO MIGHT BE IDENTICAL TO SUSPECT ERIC STARVO GALT.

AM COPY TO LITTLE ROCK.

P. END.

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

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI SPRNGFLD

605PM URGENT 4-13-68 DJK

TO MEMPHIS

FROM SPRINGFIELD (44-561) 1P

MURKIN. RM.

RE MEMPHIS TELS TO SPRINGFIELD DATED APRIL TWELVE LAST AT
ELEVEN FIFTY THREE AND ELEVEN FIFTY FOUR PM.

AUTO LICENSE DIVISION, SPRINGFIELD REPORTED NO SUCH ILLINOIS
LICENSE ON FILE AS P L FIVE ZERO NINE THREE EIGHT. SUGGEST
RECONTACT WITH ORIGINAL SOURCE. *44-1987-Sub-E-274*

AUTO LICENSE DIVISION, REPORTED ILLINOIS LICENSE B ONE NINE
ONE ONE TWO ONE *44-1987-Sub-E-276* ISSUED TO WELBY V. ADKINS, D RR TWO, PAXTON, ILLINOIS,
ON NINETEEN FIFTY EIGHT FORD PICKUP. IN VIEW OF TRUCK DESCRIPTION
NO FURTHER INQUIRY CONDUCTED.

END

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

X

E

44-1987-Sub-E-274B

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Kearney

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FBI MIAMI

1145PM URGENT 4-12-68 PJL

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), BIRMINGHAM (44-1740), NEWARK, ST. LOUIS
(44-775), AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM MIAMI (44-1854)

MURKIN CR. OO MEMPHIS

RE MIAMI TEL TO DIRECTOR, BIRMINGHAM, NEW YORK, ST. LOUIS,
TAMPA, AND MEMPHIS FOUR TWELVE INSTANT.

JOSEPH JAMES GAULT AND SIMMONE MATTE GAULT INTERVIEWED THIS DATE.
GAULTS ACQUAINTED WITH NO ONE NAMED ERIC STARVO GALT OR KARL GALT OR
WITH ANYONE WHO KNEW FAMILY WHO MIGHT HAVE USED
THESE NAMES. GAULT BORN IN SCOTLAND [REDACTED]
AND STATES THAT GAULT AND GALT ARE BOTH ACCEPTED VERSIONS OF SPELLING
THAT NAME AND ARE OFTEN USED INTERCHANGEABLY.

THE GAULT HAS SON BY FORMER MARRIAGE NAMED DONALD CAMERON GAULT,
WHOM HE HAS NOT SEEN SINCE NINETEEN TWENTY EIGHT AND WHO WAS BORN IN
[REDACTED] AND WHO IS CURRENTLY IN U. S. NAVY.
FORMER WIFE OF JOSEPH JAMES GAULT, MRS. GEORGE STEADLEY, ONE FIVE
EIGHT BEACH STREET, JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY IN ZERO SEVEN THREE
ZERO SEVEN, IN ALL PROBABILITY KNOWS WHEREABOUTS OF DONALD
CONERON GAULT.

END PAGE ONE

44-1987-Sub E-275

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Kearney

PAGE TWO

MM 44-1854

NEWARK LOCATE MRS. GEORGE STEADLEY, ONE FIVE EIGHT BEACH STREET,
JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY, ASCERTAIN WHEREABOUTS OF DONALD CAMERON GAULT,
AND SET FORTH LEADS TO HAVE HIM INTERVIEWED.

CORR PAGE ONE, SECOND PARA OF BODY. . . FIRST SENTENCE SHOULD READ
GAULT NOT THE GAULT

END

NK...JON

FBI NEWARK

BH...SSP

FBI BIRMGHAM

SL...

ME...CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

SL... SL PLS ACK...

ALL OTHER OFFICES PLS DISC

FBI MIAMI

9:10PM URGENT 4-12-68 PJL

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), TAMPA, NEW YORK, ST. LOUIS (44-775),
BIRMINGHAM (44-1740), AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM MIAMI (44-1854) 1P

MURKIN. CR. OO MEMPHIS

RE BUREAU AND ST. LOUIS TELS FOUR TEN LAST, MIAMI TEL
TO BUREAU FOUR ELEVEN LAST. AND ST. LOUIS TEL TO BUREAU FOUR
TWELVE INSTANT.

44-1987-Sub E-275
JOSEPH JAMES GAULT AND SIMONE MATTE GAULT LOCATED MIAMI
THIS DATE. INS RECORDS, MIAMI, INDICATE AS OF DECEMBER ONE
LAST, PAULE SIMONE GALT RESIDING FIVE SIX ZERO SEVEN GULF DR.,
HOLMES BEACH, MANATEE, FLA. WARREN MILTON GALT LISTED AS HER
HUSBAND, AS SET FORTH IN RE MIAMI TEL FOUR ELEVEN LAST.

RE ST. LOUIS TEL, FOUR TWELVE INSTANT, TO BUREAU AND
MIAMI, REQUESTS THAT WARREN GALT BE INTERVIEWED RE SUSPECT
ERIC STARVO GALT, OR KARL GALT, OR ANY PERSON WHO KNEW FAMILY
WHO MIGHT HAVE USED THESE NAMES. TAMPA, IF NOT ALREADY DONE,
DETERMINE IF WARREN MILTON GALT RESIDES WITH WIFE AT HOLMES
BEACH, MANATEE, FLA., AND INTERVIEW.

END PAGE ONE

44-1987-Sub E-275A

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Keasney *Perr*

PAGE TWO

MM 44-1854

NEW YORK DISCONTINUE EFFORTS TO LOCATE JOSEPH JAMES GAULT
AND SIMONE MATTE GAULT.

UNKNOWN SUBJECT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.
END.

NY...AWS

FBI NEW YORK

TP ALS

FBI TAMPA

MS SL

ME TSJ

FBI MEMPHIS

SL JHH

FBI ST LOUIS

BH HEP

FBI BIRMGHAM

TU DISPP

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI TAMPA

512PM URGENT 4-13-68 BLW
TO DIRECTOR, BIRMINGHAM, LOS ANGELES, MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS
FROM TAMPA (157-3231) 2P

MURKIN, OO ME.

RE TAMPA TEL TO BUREAU APRIL TWELVE LAST AND MIAMI TEL
TO BUREAU APRIL TWELVE LAST.

44-1987-Sub-A-70
WARREN MILTON GALT, FIVE SIX ZERO SEVEN GULF DRIVE, HOLMES
BEACH, FLA. REINTERVIEWED THIS DATE AND ADVISED FATHER, CLARENCE
GALT DECEASED. FATHER HAD ONLY TWO BROTHERS NAMES UNKNOWN WHO
DIED IN INFANCY. HAD BROTHERS LIVED WOULD BE SIXTY FIVE AND
SEVENTY YEARS OLD, FATHER WOULD BE SIXTY SEVEN. FATHER HAS NO
LIVING BROTHERS AND HAD NO SISTERS. MOTHER HAD ONLY ONE BROTHER,
CLAUDE SNEED, ONE ZERO ZERO ONE THREE CLAIRMONT DRIVE, ST. LOUIS, MO.

WARREN HAS ONLY TWO STEPSONS, JOHN DUPUREUR, THIRTY THREE
YEARS OLD, EMPLOYED BY UNKNOWN BRIDGE PAINTING CONTRACTOR, LINTON,
IOWA AND ALLEN DUPUREUR, TWENTY FOUR YEARS EMPLOYED AMERICAN
INSURANCE CO., ST. LOUIS, MO. RESIDES TWO THREE ONE ONE GARDNER
DRIVE, ST. LOUIS.
END PAGE ONE

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Keasney R...

PAGE TWO

TP 157-3231

WARREN HAS ONLY ONE BROTHER, HOMER GALT, DOB [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], ST. LOUIS, MO. HOMER MARRIED TWICE IN
ST. LOUIS IN NINETEEN FORTY FOUR DIVORCED SAME YEAR. REMARRIED
NINETEEN FORTY SIX OR FORTY SEVEN TO NELLIE, MAIDEN NAME UN-
KNOWN BUT PREVIOUSLY MARRIED. NO CHILDREN TO KNOWLEDGE AND
UNKNOWN IF STILL MARRIED. LAST KNOWN RESIDING LOS ANGELES.
UNCLE, CLAUDE SNEED, ST. LOUIS, MAY KNOW LOCATION OF HOMER.

OTHER RELATIVES OF WARREN ARE CHARLES GALT, RESIDES ON
WASHINGTON AVE., ST. LOUIS, MO., WHO HAS SON, STEWART GALT,
ADDRESS UNKNOWN; AND MARTIN GALT, ADDRESS UNKNOWN, FERGUSON,
MO., WHO HAS SON, MARTIN, JR., ADDRESS UNKNOWN.

WARREN FORMERLY EMPLOYED AMERICAN CAR AND FOUNDRY CO.,
ST. LOUIS, MO., NOV. SIXTY FIVE TO SEPT. SIXTY SEVEN WHEN
MOVED TO FLA.

ABOVE NAMES ONLY GALT KNOWN TO WARREN AND ERIC STARVO
GALT UNKNOWN TO WARREN GALT.

SUGGEST ST. LOUIS CONTACT CLAUDE SNEED FOR LOCATION OF
HOMER GALT.

LEADS TO CONTACT OTHER MEMBERS OF WARREN GALT FAMILY
BEING LEFT TO DISCRETION OF ST. LOUIS.

END

LFB

FBI MEMPHIS

F B I

Date: 4/12/68

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

TO: SAC, SPRINGFIELD
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
MURKIN; CIVIL RIGHTS. OO: ME

INVESTIGATION AT MEMPHIS REVEALED DONALD RACHAL, ROUTE ONE, BOX NINE, NATCHITOCHE, LOUISIANA, EMPLOYED H. C. PRICE COMPANY, REGISTERED HOLIDAY INN, FOUR ZERO TWO TWO THOMAS, MEMPHIS, FROM MARCH THIRTY - APRIL ONE, LAST, DRIVING FOURD WITH ILLINOIS LICENSE B ONE NINE ONE ONE TWO ONE.

DETERMINE IF AUTOMOBILE IS WHITE MUSTANG, AND IF INFORMATION POSITIVE, ADVISE NEW ORLEANS AT NATCHITOCHE TO INTERVIEW RACHAL TO DETERMINE ANY CONNECTION HE MAY HAVE WITH ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING.

JDV/bbs
(1) *hbs*

44-1987-Sub E-276

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Approved: *g6 RGT*
Special Agent in Charge

Sent 1154 M

Per Taj

FBI SPRNGFLD.

FBI MEMPHIS

1154.

PM URGENT 4/12/68 TSJ
TO SPRINGFIELD
FROM MEMPHIS (44-1987)

MURKIN; CIVIL RIGHTS. 00; ME

INVESTIGATION AT MEMPHIS REVEALED DONALD RACHAL, ROUTE
ONE, BOX NINE, NATCHITOCES, LOUISIANA, EMPLOYED H.C.
PRICE COMPANY, REGISTERED HOLIDAY INN, FOUR ZERO TWO TWO
THOMAS, MEMPHIS, FROM MARCH THIRTY-APRIL ONE, LAST,
DRIVING FORD WITH ILLINOISE LICENES B ONE NINE ONE ONE TWO
ONE

DETERMINE IF AUTOMOBILE IS WHITE MUSTANG, AND IF
INFORMATION POSITIVE, ADVISE NEW ORLEANS AT NATCHITOCES
TO INTERVIEW RACHAL TO DETERMINE ANY CONNECTION HE MAY HAVE
WITH ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING.

END

CEK

FBI SPRNGFLD

Kearney

44-1987-Sub E-276
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Date: 4/12/68

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

TO: SAC, SPRINGFIELD

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

MURKIN; CIVIL RIGHTS. OO: ME

INVESTIGATION AT MEMPHIS REVEALED A. J. CONSOLINO,
ONE ZERO ZERO NINE FOUR A, EXECUTIVE DRIVE NORTH, ST. ANN,
MISSOURI, EMPLOYED LURIA BROTHERS, REGISTERED AT HOLIDAY
INN, FOUR ZERO TWO TWO THOMAS, MEMPHIS, FROM APRIL THREE-
FOUR, LAST, DRIVING A FORD, ILLINOIS LICENSE FOUR ONE ONE
EIGHT ZERO NINE.

DETERMINE IF AUTOMOBILE IS WHITE MUSTANG AND IF INFORMA-
TION POSITIVE, ADVISE ST. LOUIS AT ST. ANN, MISSOURI, TO
DETERMINE ANY CONNECTION CONSOLINO MAY HAVE WITH ASSASSINATION
OF MARTIN LUTHER KING.

JDV/bbs
(1) *hhs*

44-1987-Sub E-277

SEARCHED *h*
SERIALIZED *h*
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FILED *h*

Approved: *Job*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

11:56

M

Per

ty

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI SPRNGFLD

532PM URGENT 4-13-68 DJK

TO MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS

FROM SPRINGFIELD (44-561) 2PP

MURKIN. CR.

RE MEMPHIS TELETYPE TO SPRINGFIELD DATED APRIL TWELVE LAST,
TIME ELEVEN FIFTY SIX P.M.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE ST. LOUIS DIVISION, THE FOLLOWING
TELETYPE WAS RECEIVED FROM THE MEMPHIS DIVISION:

INVESTIGATION AT MEMPHIS REVEALED A. J. CONSOLINO, ONE ZERO
ZERO NINE FOUR A, EXECUTIVE DRIVER NORTH, ST. ANN, MISSOURI,
EMPLOYED LURIA BROTHERS, REGISTERED AT HOLIDAY INN, FOUR ZERO TWO
TWO THOMAS, MEMPHIS FROM APRIL THREE - FOUR, LAST, DRIVING A FORD,
ILLINOIS LICENSE FOUR ONE ONE EIGHT ZERO NINE.

DETERMINE IF AUTOMOBILE IS WHITE MUSTANG AND IF INFORMATION
POSITIVE, ADVISE ST. LOUIS AT ST. ANN, MISSOURI, TO DETERMINE ANY
CONNECTION CONSOLINO MAY HAVE WITH ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING.

INVESTIGATION SPRINGFIELD DIVISION DETERMINED THAT VEHICLE
FOUR ONE ONE EIGHT ZERO NINE REGISTERED TO D. L. PETERSON IN CARE
OF LURIA BROTHERS, GRANITE CITY, ILLINOIS. FURTHER INQUIRY DETERMIN-
ED D. L. PETERSON ACTUALLY D. L. PETERSON LEASING COMPANY OF BALTIMORE,
MARYLAND WHICH LEASES AUTOMOBILES TO LISPETT STEEL PRODUCTS COMPANY,
AND IT IS IDENTICAL TO LURIA BROTHERS COMPANY OPERATING OUT OF
END PAGE ONE

44-1987-Sub K 277A

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Keatney

PAGE TWO

TWO FIVE TWO ZERO EAST TWENTYTHIRD STREET GRANITE CITY, ILLINOIS.

A. J. CONSTANTINO IS EMPLOYED BY LIPSETT STEEL PRODUCTS COMPANY AND RESIDES AT EXECUTIVE APARTMENTS ONE ZERO ZERO THREE EIGHT EXECUTIVE DRIVE, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, AND WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW WEEK END OF APRIL THIRTEEN AND FOURTEEN AT THIS ADDRESS.

SOURCE AT SPRINGFIELD UNABLE TO COMPLETELY IDENTIFY VEHICLE BEARING LICENSE FOUR ONE ONE EIGHT ZERO NINE, HOWEVER, AUTO LICENSE RECORDS REVEAL VEHICLE AS NINETEEN SIXTY SEVEN FORD TWO DOOR HARDTOP.

ST. LOUIS WILL CONDUCT INVESTIGATION REQUESTED IN RETEL.

P.

END

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/8/68

GERTRUDE FRITH, 102 Arlington Street, advised that her son, BILLY RAY KING, left the Lake Providence area on April 4, 1968, to return to his job with KGW Towing Co. The exact time of his departure is unknown inasmuch as his girlfriend MARJORIE KENNEDY drove him to Greenville, Mississippi, to catch a bus to Quincy, Illinois, where he was to board a riverboat. Mrs. FRITH has not heard from her son since he left Lake Providence on April 4, 1968.

FRITH stated that her son recently purchased a 1967 Mustang two-door, blue in color, from TRAVIS SHEFFIELD. She stated the 1967 Mustang is presently in the possession of MARJORIE KENNEDY who resides at 501 Davis Street, Lake Providence, Louisiana.

FRITH further advised that to the best of her knowledge her son BILLY RAY KING has never been associated with the Ku Klux Klan or any militant-type group. She stated KING works on a tow boat on the Mississippi River and is, therefore, not home much of the time.

On 4/7/68 at Lake Providence, Louisiana

by SA JOHN P. GILBERT and
SA BRYON B. MAC DONALD:med

Date dictated APR 18 1968

44-1987-Sub E-278

NO. 57-10673
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APR 18 1968
FBI - MEMPHIS

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Kearney

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/8/68

MARJORIE KENNEDY, 501 Davis Street, advised that she drove her boyfriend, BILLY RAY KING, to Greenville, Mississippi, April 4, 1968, where he boarded a Trailways bus for Quincy, Illinois. They used KING's 1967 Mustang. To the best of her knowledge KING left Greenville, Mississippi, by Trailways bus at approximately 7:00 PM, April 4, 1968. KENNEDY stated that she returned to Lake Providence in the 1967 Mustang which she is keeping until KING returns in May. At about 10:00 PM, April 4, 1968, she received a call from KING who stated that he was in Clarksdale, Mississippi, at the Downtowner Motel. He stated that the bus could not go any further than Clarksdale and requested her to pick him up at the Downtowner Motel. She then drove to Clarksdale, Mississippi, where she picked up KING at about 1:00 AM, April 5, 1968, and they returned to Lake Providence. In the late morning hours on April 5, 1968, she drove KING to the KGW Towing Office, Greenville, Mississippi, where he was to obtain transportation to his tow boat. KENNEDY advised that she did not know how KING left Greenville, Mississippi, inasmuch as she returned to Lake Providence immediately after she dropped him off at the KGW Office.

KENNEDY advised that to the best of her knowledge KING is not associated with the Ku Klux Klan or any militant groups. She also stated that to the best of her knowledge KING only had a duffle bag containing his clothes when he left Lake Providence, and she does not know of any weapons in his possession.

KENNEDY pointed out the 1967 Mustang two-door, blue in color, parked in front of her residence as the one recently purchased by KING. The registration for this vehicle reflected that it has vehicle identification number 7T01T17213, bearing 1968-69 Louisiana License 86F948. The registration further reflected the owner as TRAVIS SHEPFIELD.

On 4/7/68 at Lake Providence, Louisiana File #
by SA JOHN P. GILBERT and
SA BRYON B. MAC DONALD:med Date dictated

44-1987-Sub E-275-1
NO 157-10673
SERIALIZED ☒ FILED ☒
APR 18 1968
FBI - MEMPHIS

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F B I

Date: 4/10/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority)

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
 FROM : SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-10673) (P)
 SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Springfield teletype to Director, Memphis, New Orleans, and Jackson, 4/7/68, at 8:24 p.m.; New Orleans teletype to Director, Memphis, and Jackson, 4/8/68, at 2:26 a.m.

SUSPECT: BILLY RAY KING

Enclosed for Memphis are 25 copies each of FD-302's setting forth results of interviews with MARJORIE KENNEDY and GERTRUDE FRITH on 4/7/68 at Lake Providence, Louisiana.

The following is a synopsis of these FD-302's:

GERTRUDE FRITH, Lake Providence, Louisiana, advises son, BILLY RAY KING, left Lake Providence area on 4/4/68 and was driven to Greenville, Mississippi, by girl friend. She has not heard from KING since. MARJORIE KENNEDY, Lake Providence, Louisiana, girl friend of KING, advises she drove KING to Greenville, Mississippi, 4/4/68, to catch a bus for Quincy, Ill. They drove in KING's 1967 Mustang and subsequently on 4/4/68 she received a call from KING, who said he was at Clarksdale, Mississippi, where his bus had broken down. She then drove to Clarksdale, picked up KING, and returned to Lake Providence, Louisiana, at about 1:00 p.m., 4/5/68. She subsequently drove KING to his employer's office at Greenville, Mississippi, where he was to obtain transportation.

② - Memphis (Enc. 50) (RM)
 2 - New Orleans
 SMC:mak
 (4)

44-1987-Sub E-278-2

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APR 12 1968	
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Reaney

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

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 11, 1968

1

BILLY RAY KING was interviewed at the Rock Island, Illinois, Police Department, by ROBERT A. WICKWIRE and CHARLES E. SMITH who identified themselves as Special Agents of the FBI. KING was warned of his rights and he waived them as shown on an executed warning and waiver form.

BILLY RAY KING advised he has resided for ten years at 102 Arlington Street, Lake Providence, Louisiana. He has been employed as a deck hand on different boats in the Mississippi River since he was 18 years of age. He stated for the last three months he has been employed as a deck hand on a towboat for the K.G.W. Towing Company out of Greenville, Mississippi.

He added that he had been injured on his boat approximately twenty days ago and had been treated at the Greenville, Mississippi, General Hospital, but had been recuperating at his home in Lake Providence, Louisiana. He had recovered and arranged to catch his boat, which is the George Weathers, at Quincy, Illinois. His Personnel Director, JERRY WILSON, with the K.G.W. Towing Company in Greenville, Mississippi, had given him an airplane ticket from Greenville, Mississippi, to St. Louis, Missouri, to Quincy, Illinois, for April 5, 1968; however, he determined that all planes were full and was instructed to take a bus to Memphis, Tennessee, to catch a plane to St. Louis. He left his home by Trailway Bus around noon on April 4, 1968 and proceeded to Memphis, Tennessee, which is about 175 miles. He arrived in Memphis sometime in the afternoon probably around 4:00 p.m. While at the Trailway Bus Depot, the riots broke out due to the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING. He advised that the bus depot was closed. There was no busses allowed to leave or enter and the people in the bus depot were forced to remain in the depot all night long. He advised that the depot was only two or three blocks from the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee, where KING was shot. He advised that he knows where this motel is located as he had stayed there on previous occasions. He added that it was general knowledge in all the papers that Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING was in Memphis and staying at the Lorraine Motel.

On 4-7-68 at Rock Island, IllinoisFile # SI 44-561by SA CHARLES E. SMITHSA ROBERT A. WICKWIRE

/ras

Date dictated

44-1987-Sub E-2700

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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FBI - MEMPHIS	

Kearney *WIK*

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SI 44-561

KING stated that he did not shoot MARTIN LUTHER KING but hastily added even if he had done so, he would not tell. He also stated that MARTIN LUTHER KING got just what he deserved and that the people in the North are getting just what they deserved on this racial problem as they caused the whole thing. When asked if he was a member of the KKK, KING stated that he was not a member but also added even if he was, he would not tell.

KING then stated during the early hours before daybreak, the busses started to move and he was able to take a taxi to the airport. He recalled that the fare was somewhere around \$4.65. When he arrived at the airport, he determined that there was only one plane that he could catch to Quincy, Illinois; however, this plane was full and he was placed on stand by. When the plane left and he could not get on, he then made a long distance telephone call to his boss JERRY WILSON who then told him to catch a bus to St. Louis and a bus to Quincy where he could catch the boat. He advised that he took a cab back to the bus depot where he boarded a Trailway Bus for St. Louis, Missouri. He advised this was early in the morning and arrived in St. Louis sometime around noon. He then caught a bus from St. Louis to Quincy; however, this bus made many different stops and he arrived too late in Quincy to catch the boat. He then took another bus to Rock Island, Illinois, where he now awaiting for the boat which is due to arrive at 12:00 midnight.

KING stated that he owns a 1967 bright blue Mustang which is at his home at Lake Providence, Louisiana. He explained that the papers for this car are in the name of his friend TRAVIS SHEFFIELD, who lives approximately three blocks away on Foster Street. He stated he bought this car from SHEFFIELD and is making the payments but he has not had the papers changed over to his name. The car is at his home. KING also admitted that he owned a .38 pistol and a shotgun which are both at his home.

The following description was obtained from observation and interview:

SI 44-561

3

Name
Sex
Race
Date of Birth
Place of Birth
Height
Weight
Hair
Eyes
Complexion
Address

Occupation
Education
Marital Status
Employment

Mother
Arrests

BILLY RAY KING

Male
White

St. Joseph, Louisiana
6'1"
185 pounds
Dark Brown, Curly
Blue
Medium to ruddy
102 Arlington
Lake Providence, Louisiana
Deck Hand, Towboat
Seventh Grade
Single
K.G.W. Towing Company
Greenville, Mississippi
GERTRUDE FRITH
Admits juvenile arrest
before the age of 18 for
assaulting a Negro police
officer in Lake Providence,
Louisiana, explaining he beat
this officer with a pipe, served
nine months in a reform school
at Monroe, Louisiana;
Admits arrest at the age of 18
for carrying a pistol at Lake
Providence, Louisiana, fined
\$200.00 and \$37.00 costs and
two years probation.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS

DATE: 4-11-68

FROM : SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) - P -

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CIVIL RIGHTS

(OO: MEMPHIS)

Re Springfield teletype to the Director, Memphis and other offices dated 4-7-68.

Enclosed for Memphis are 9 copies of an FD-302 reflecting interview of suspect BILLY RAY KING at Rock Island, Illinois.

On 4-7-68, Detective Sergeants JOHN COLEMAN and ROY WEST, Rock Island Police Department, advised an anonymous telephone call was received at the Police Department that a white male wearing gold colored clothing was at the Ft. Armstrong Hotel in Rock Island, Illinois, either had a gun or guns or made statements that he had killed someone or that he had been in Memphis, Tennessee, when MARTIN LUTHER KING was killed. The voice was very muffled and the exact comments could not be distinguished.

Both proceeded to the Hotel where they immediately located BILLY RAY KING whom they checked for a gun. In subsequent conversation, they determined that KING came from Louisiana and spoke very bitterly of MARTIN LUTHER KING. He stated he got what he deserved and when asked if he had killed him, this person responded that even if he had he wouldn't tell them. They decided to take him to the Police Department for further investigation.

Photographs were obtained and major case prints were obtained. The major case prints were mailed directly to the Latent Fingerprint Section and photographs directly to the Memphis Division.

TC
mcr
② - Memphis (Enc. 9)
2 - Springfield (44-561)
RAW:ras
(4)

DATE FILE STRIPPED 6/5/87
INITIALS mmo
RE: BU AIRTEL DTD 11/3/86

44-1987-Sub E-278A-1
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FBI - MEMPHIS
Kearney



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