

U. S. Department of Justice

MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

FIELD OFFICE FILE
FOIPA PROCESSED

FEDERAL BUREAU

ENTIRE FILE REVIEWED
FOR HISTORICAL
DECLASSIFICATION
INVESTIGATION

Bureau File Number

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/31/01 BY SP1CLK/gtnDO NOT DESTROY
HISTORICAL VALUE
NATIONAL ARCHIVES

See also Nos.

SEE VOL 1
FOR LITIGATIONSX DO NOT DESTROY
HISTORICAL VALUE
NATIONAL ARCHIVES

See Next Section

SHAW-WALKER 18-92850

CLASSIFICATION NO.

Serials
Volume Number

44-1987-Sub E

5/2-

5
666Miscellaneous
SuspectsDO NOT DESTROY
PENDING LITIGATION

8778 3/85

8778 3/85 - Concl 8/85

SEE NEXT SECTION

F B I

Date: 6/18/68

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

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
 FROM: SAC, BUFFALO (44-374) (P)
 MURKIN
 (OO: Memphis)

ReBuairtel to all SACs and Legats, dated 5/7/68,
 instructing that 15 copies of all inserts be prepared for
 Memphis in this case.

Transmitted herewith for Memphis are 15 copies
 each of inserts bearing the following captions:

"TELEPHONE CALLS BY SUBJECT
 JAMES EARL RAY ENROUTE FROM
 LOS ANGELES TO NEW ORLEANS"

"GUESTS OF THE PROVINCIAL MOTEL,
 NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA,
 DECEMBER 17-19, 1967"

"CHARLES DUNHAM
 INFORMATION CONCERNING"

"PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT
 ORDERED BY JAMES EARL RAY
 FROM SUPERIOR BULK FILM
 COMPANY, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS,
 UNDER NAME ERIC S. GALT"

DATE FILE STRIPPED 6/15/87
 INITIALS msd
 RE: BU AIRTEL DTD 11/1/65

"DARK BLUE MUSTANG
 GEORGIA LICENSE
 2D 112-56"

② - Memphis (Encs. 165) (AM)
 1 - Buffalo
 RGE:mfm
 (3)

44-1987-Sub-E-666B

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUN 20 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

[Handwritten signatures and initials over the stamp]

Approved: _____ Sent _____ Per _____
 Special Agent in Charge

BU 44-374

E "DRIVER OF 1964 OR 1965 FORD,
FLORIDA LICENSE 4W 69100"

E "INVESTIGATION CONCERNING EARL EVERETT RAY,
DECEASED UNCLE OF JAMES EARL RAY"

"EASTERN AIRLINES
CHECK AT BUFFALO"

E "INFORMATION FROM
MRS. GLADYS MEEHAN"

✓
E "THREATS TO MARTIN LUTHER
KING, JR.; INFORMATION
FROM MRS. JESSIE KILGRAS,
PENFIELD, NEW YORK
NOVEMBER 13, 1967"

"MRS. VIOLA V. BORYS"

BU 44-374

-1-

RE: THREATS TO MARTIN LUTHER
KING, JR.; INFORMATION
FROM MRS. JESSIE KILGRAS,
PENFIELD, NEW YORK
NOVEMBER 13, 1967

Chicago advised on November 13, 1967, Mrs. JESSIE KILGRAS, 752 Liberty Street, Apartment 7, Penfield, New York, sent a telegram to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Chicago, Illinois, stating "Please find Dr. Martin Luther King and warn him his life is in danger. Go easy on speeches for awhile."

On April 26, 1968, Mrs. JESSIE KILGRAS, white female, age 59, Apartment 7, 752 Liberty Street, Penfield, New York, was interviewed by SA EUGENE A. HEVERON. Mrs. KILGRAS said that she sent the telegram as a result of a dream. She had read of a speech Dr. KING made in Buffalo, New York, and the next night had dreamed Dr. KING's life was in danger. Mrs. KILGRAS attempted to contact a member of NAACP at Rochester, New York. She then called the Chicago, Illinois, Police Department, who suggested she send a telegram.

Mrs. KILGRAS volunteered that she had been under psychiatric care for four years, part of which time was spent in a local hospital for mental treatment. She said she had no information concerning the assassination of Dr. KING.

:cgp

44-1987-Sub-E-666B

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUN 10 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

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FBI MEMPHIS

FBI-BUFFALO

4:41PMURGENT 4-26-68 MIC

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), CHICAGO (44-1114). MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM BUFFALO (44-374) 2P

MURKIN. OO MEMPHIS.

RE CHICAGO TEL APRIL TWENTY FIVE LAST CONCERNING TELEGRAM
SENT TO NAACP CHICAGO BY MRS. JESSIE KILGRAS.

MRS. JESSIE KILGRAS, W/F, AGE FIFTY NINE, APT. SEVEN,
SEVEN FIVE TWO LIBERTY ST., PENFIEELD, NY, ADVISED TODAY
INSTANT TELEGRAM SENT TO NAACP, CHICAGO, ILL., NOV. FOURTEEN LAST,
WAS SENT AS RESULT OF A DREAM.

MRS. KILGRAS ADVISED SHE READ OF A SPEECH DR. KING MADE IN
BUFFALO, NY, AND NEXT NIGHT DREAMED DR. KING'S LIFE WAS IN
DANGER.

MRS. KILGRAS SAID SHE ATTEMPTED TO CONTACT A MEMBER OF THE
NAACP , ROCHESTER, NY, AND THEN CALLED THE CHICAGO PD, WHO
SUGGESTED SHE SEND A TELEGRAM.

MRS. KILGRAS VOLUNTEERED SHE HAS BEEN UNDER PSYCHIATRIC
CARE FOR FOUR YEARS, PART OF WHICH TIME WAS SPENT IN A LOCAL
HOSPITAL FOR MENTAL TREATMENT.

END PAGE ONE

44-1987-Sub E-666A

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 26 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle RB

PAGE TWO

MRS. KILGRAS ADVISED SHE HAS NO INFORMATION CONCERNING
THE ASSASSINATION.

RAY ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

P.

END.

MCP

FBI MEMPHIS

P

FBI MEMPHIS

65PM URGENT 4-25

FBI MEMPHIS

65PM URG

FBI MEMPHIS

654

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI CHICAGO

655PM URGENT 4-25-68 RFJ

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), MEMPHIS (44-1987), AND BUFFALO
FROM CHICAGO (44-1114) P

MURKIN. OO: MEMPHIS.

RE: THREATS TO MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

RECOTEL, AIRTEL AND LHM, NOVEMBER FOURTEEN, LAST UNDER
CAPTION " MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., SM-C."

MRS. JESSIE KILGRAF, SEVEN FIVE TWO LIBERTY STREET,
APARTMENT SEVEN, PENFIELD, NEW YORK ON NOVEMBER THIRTEEN, LAST,
SENT TELEGRAM TO NAACP, CHICAGO STATING " PLEASE FIND DR. MARTIN
LUTHER KING AND WARN HIM HIS LIFE IS IN DANGER. OO EASY ON
SPEECHES FOR AWHILE."

BUFFALO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW KILGRAF FOR BASIS REA
TELEGRAM. SUTEL BUREAU, MEMPHIS AND CHICAGO RESULTS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

ACK AND HOLD

DND

FBI MEMPHIS

44-1987-Sub E-666

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 25 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

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FBI MEMPHIS

FBI PHOENIX

510PM 4/25/68 URGENT JDD

TO DIRECTOR(44-38861) AND MEMPHIS(44-1987)
FROM PHOENIX(44-371)

MURKIN

RE CI TEL TO DIRECTOR AND PHOENIX, APRIL TWENTYFIVE, INSTANT.

RE ADVERTISING - SUPERIOR BULK FILM COMPANY.

JAMES RAY, ONE SIX TWO SOUTH LAZONA DRIVE, MESA, ARIZONA
MENTIONED IN RETEL ELIMINATED. IS DESCRIBED WMA, AGE FIFTY-
FIVE, SIX FEET, TWO HUNDRED TWENTYFIVE POUNDS, BALD, BLUE
EYES. IS REPUTABLE LIFE-TIME RESIDENT OF MESA, CURRENTLY
OPERATES LARGE DAIRY. HAS RESIDED PRESENT ADDRESS OVER
TWENTYFIVE YEARS.

CHICAGO AND CINCINNATI ADVISED AIRMAIL.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

DND

FBI MEMPHIS

44-1987-Sub E-665
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Boyle BB

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FBI MEMPHIS

FBI KAN CITY

447 URGENT 4/25/68 PHM
TO DIRECTOR AND MEMPHIS
FROM KANSAS CITY 44-760 2P

MURKIN

DAILY SUMMARY.

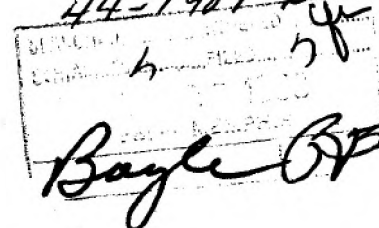
TELEPHONE CALL MADE BY LUCILLE PEPPER, ST. LOUIS, MO.,
ON APRIL TEN LAST WAS MADE TO STATE OF MO. DEPT. OF REVENUE,
JEFFERSON CITY, MO.

MO. STATE PRISONER BILLY MILLS ADVISED HE OPERATED BOOKSHOP
IN PRISON WITH SUBJECT AND THEY MADE SMALL AMOUNT OF MONEY
FROM THIS PROJECT.

PRISON RECORDS ALSO REVEALED RAY RECEIVED NUMEROUS MONEY
ORDERS AT PRISON FROM SIXTYTHREE THROUGH FEB. SIXTYSEVEN. LIST
OF THESE MONEY ORDERS BEING FURNISHED PERTINENT OFFICES BY
AIRTEL.

ADDITIONAL INFO RE EX-PRISONER WALTER NOLAN, FURNISHED
ST. LOUIS OFFICE.

INFO ALSO RECEIVED FROM FELLOW PRISONER, MSP, THAT
SUBJECT USES AMPHETAMINE AND BARBITUATES, WHICH HE "MAINSTREAMS."
END PAGE ONE



KC 44-760

PAGE TWO

KANSAS CITY ATTEMPTING OBTAIN INFO RE SALE OF FORTYNINE
LINCOLN AUTO BY SUBJECT WHILE IN LEAVENWORTH PEN IN FIFTYFIVE.

RECORDS, USP, LEAVENWORTH, AND MSP, JEFFERSON CITY, MO.,
IN NAME OF SUBJECT, FAILED TO LIST SOCIAL SECURITY NO.
OFFICIALS AT PRISON ADVISE THAT THEY DO NOT HOLD SOCIAL
SECURITY IN CONNECTION WITH PAYMENTS FOR WORK DONE AT
INSTITUTIONS.

INTERVIEWS WITH PRISONERS CONTINUE. LOCAL LEADS
HANDLED IMMEDIATELY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

P

END

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

F

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI-COLUMBIA

429PM URGENT 4/25/68 KAB

TO MEMPHIS

FROM COLUMBIA (44-299)

MURKIN, CR

ON APRIL TWENTYFIVE INSTANT, BENJAMIN NAUSS⁶ LT. COL.,
NATIONAL GUARD, WITH RESIDENCE AT FLORENCE, S. C., ADVISED
THAT HE WAS RETURNING FROM COLUMBIA NATIONAL GUARD DUTY ON
APRIL SEVEN LAST, WHEN HE OBSERVED A BLACK FOUR-DOOR SEDAN,
FOREIGN MAKE, POSSIBLY A MERCEDES BENZ, PROCEEDING TOWARD
SUMTER, S. C., ON HIGHWAY THREE SEVEN EIGHT AND SEVENTYSIX.
VEHICLE HAD TENNESSEE LICENSE PLATE NUMBER S L THREE ONE TWO
ONE,^D WHITE BACKGROUND WITH WHITE LETTERS. NAUSS PASSED
THIS VEHICLE AND OBSERVED A LONE MALE IN VEHICLE. LONE
MALE APPEARED TO BE UNDER FORTY WITH SHARPE NOSE, DARK UNKEPT
HAIR AND WHAT APPEARED TO BE THREE TO FOUR DAYS GROWTH OF WHISKERS.
MAN WEARING SPORTS SHIRT, LIGHT COLORED WITH POSSIBLY YELLOW
END PAGE ON

*Memphis
Lead Hillman*

44-1987-Sub E-663
5
Boyle RB

PAGE TWO

AND BLACK PMAID BACKGROUND. NAUSS STATED THAT MAN DRIVING
VEHICLE APPEARED SIMILAR TO PHOTOS HE OBSERVED OF JAMES RAY.

MEMPHIS DIVISION DETERMINE OWNER OF VEHICLE LICENSE
NUMBER S L THREE ONE TWO ONE AND INTERVIEW.

END

MCP
FBI MEMPHIS

P

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI ATLANTA

233PM URGENT 4/24/68 VSC

TO DIRECTOR 44-38861, MEMPHIS 44-1987, AND WFO
FROM ATLANTA 44-2386

MURKIN

RE: JAMES EARL RAY

MRS. VIRGINIA SWANN AUSTRIAN CONSULATE, ATLANTA, ADVISED
APR. TWENTYFOUR INSTANT, THAT THIS YEAR, EXACT DATE UNRECALLED,
SHE RECEIVED CALL FROM MAN WHO WANTED TO GO TO AUSTRALIA AND
ASKED WHAT INVOLVED IN GETTING PERMISSION. CALLER WAS
ADVISED HE HAD AUSTRIAN CONSULATE INSTEAD OF AUSTRALIAN, A
COMMON ERROR, AND GIVEN ADDRESS OF AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY, WASH.,
DC. CALLER ASKED IF HIS PRISON RECORD SHOULD BE BROUGHT UP
WHEN APPLYING. STATED WANTED OUT U.S. AS HE HAD BEEN IN PRISON.
WAS TOLD RECORD WOULD LIKELY BE DISCOVERED IN PROCESSING APPLI-
CATION.

WFO ENDEAVOR TO DETERMINE IF RAY EVER APPLIED FOR VISA TO
AUSTRALIA.

END

SAS

FBI MEMPHIS

TUX

44-1987-Sub E-662

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 25 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle GB

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI ST LOUIS

405 PM URGENT 4-25-68 EJD

TO DIRECTOR SPRINGFIELD, AND MEMPHIS
FROM ST. LOUIS (44-775) 1-P

MURKIN.

RE MINNEAPOLIS TEL THIS DATE RE ROY WILLIS.

CHIEF, HANNIBAL, MISSOURI, POLICE DEPARTMENT, ADVISED
LAST HEARD OF BUDDY BATCHELDER BEING SENTENCED ALTON, ILLINOIS,
NINETEEN SIXTYONE OR TWO, FOR MURDER. BELIEVES HIM NOW INCAR-
CERATED ILLINOIS STATE PRISON.

END

DND

FBI MEMPHIS

44-1987-Sub E-661

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 26 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle RB

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI ST LOUIS

221 PM URGENT 4-25- 68 MJD

TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS, AND KANSAS CITY
FROM ST. LOUIS (44-775) 2-P

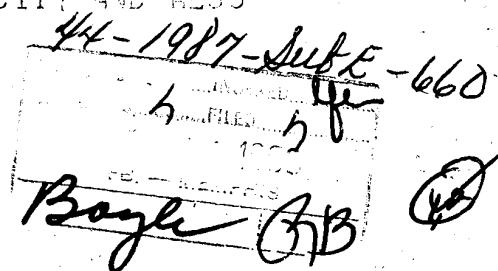
MURKIN; FORMER INMATES OF JAMES EARL RAY, MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY. CR.

44-1987-690A
RE KANSAS CITY TEL TO BUREAU, APRIL TWENTYFOUR, LAST.

JAMES R. RUSSELL, INMATE, MISSOURI TRAINING SCHOOL FOR MEN, MOBERLY, MISSOURI, THIS DATE, ADVISED HE WAS COMMITTED MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY, JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI, NOVEMBER SIXTYFIVE, CONFINED THERE TO JANUARY SIXTYSIX WHEN HE WAS TRANSFERRED TO MOBERLY, MISSOURI, AND RELEASED FROM THERE FEBRUARY, SIXTYSEVEN. HE WENT BACK TO JEFFERSON CITY AS A PAROLE VIOLATOR JUNE SIXTYSEVEN AND WAS IN THE SAME CELL WITH ROBERT (NO MIDDLE NAME) POWELL, AKA, BOB POWELL, FROM AUGUST, SIXTYSEVEN THROUGH JANUARY SIXTYEIGHT. RUSSELL KNOWS JAMES EARL RAY BY REPUTATION ONLY AND NOT PERSONALLY.

RUSSELL WAS IN PRISON KITCHEN AT JEFFERSON CITY AND ALSO

END PAGE ONE



PAGE TWO

WORKED WITH POWELL. POWELL MENTIONED THAT RAY, BECAUSE OF HIS ESCAPE, WAS THE CAUSE OF PRISON OFFICIALS CUTTING DOWN THE SIZE OF THE BOXES USED TO HOLD BREAD FROM THE MAIN KITCHEN.

POWELL RELEASED FEBRUARY SIXTYEIGHT AND WAS EMPLOYED AMERICAN CAR COMPANY, ST. LOUIS. HE IS REPORTEDLY NOW IN THE LOS ANGELES TELEPHONE AREA. HIS SISTER, FRANKIE POWELL, IS STUDENT AT FARMINGTON, MISSOURI, HIGH SCHOOL, WOULD KNOW HIS LOCATION.

RUSSELL KNOWS NEGRO PENITENTIARY GUARD, BILLY BOB TURNER.
HE HAS NEVER HEARD ANY STATEMENT THAT HE SHOULD BE DEAD.
ST. LOUIS WILL INTERVIEW FRANKIE POWELL.

P

END

FOR

FBI MEMPHIS

CEFBI MEMPHIS

FBI ALBANY

11:40 AM URGENT 4/25/68 PXB

TO DIRECTOR (44-3886), BUFFALO, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

CHICAGO (44-1114), KANSAS CITY, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

FROM ALBANY (44-493) 1P

MURKIN.

RE ALBANY TT, APRIL TWENTYTHREE LAST.

ERNEST THRIFT, ^DWHO HAS BEEN MANAGER ALBANY COUNTRY CLUB, GUILDERLAND, NY, FOR THREE YEARS, STATES NO RECORDS KEPT OF OLD EMPLOYEES. ROBERT LA FAVE, ^PMAINTENANCE ENGINEER, ALBANY COUNTRY CLUB; DUANE SKINNER, ^PFORMER MANAGER, ALBANY COUNTRY CLUB; CHARLES G. CAMPBELL, ^PASSISTANT PRO, ALBANY COUNTRY CLUB, ALL ADVISED RECALLED EARL EVERET RAY, ^{Sub-G 416}WHO WAS EMPLOYED AT OLD ALBANY COUNTRY CLUB THEN LOCATED ALBANY, NY, AS HOUSEMAN FOR PERIOD OF APPROXIMATELY TWO YEARS WITH RESIDENCE AT COUNTRY CLUB. COULD FURNISH NO ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON HIM. KNEW OF NO VISITORS HE HAD AND WERE UNABLE TO IDENTIFY PHOTOGRAPH OF SUBJECT, JAMES EARL RAY. ALL ADVISED NO OTHER EMPLOYEES PRESENTLY AVAILABLE WHO WOULD HAVE KNOWN EARL EVERET RAY. P

END

MCP

FBI MEMPHIS

P

44-1987-Sub E-659

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 25 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle BB

4/24/68

Airtel

To: SAC, St. Louis

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

Re Mrs. Nola J. Osburn^D Complainant.

Enclosed for St. Louis are two copies of a letter dated 4/20/68 from Mrs. Nola J. Osburn. One copy is enclosed for Memphis.

St. Louis should interview the complainant for any additional information or details which she can furnish regarding the incident referred to in her letter. Set out appropriate leads.

Enclosures (2)

1 - Memphis (Enclosure) (Info)

44-1987-Sub E-651A

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 25 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

[Handwritten signature/initials]

President
HUGH HILLMAN

Coordinator
CARL JONES

Secretary-Treasurer
NOLA J. OSBURN

E. Stewy
Mayor

South Dunklin Community Action Agency, Inc.

BOX 359 — RE 8-2087

SENATH, MO.

April 20, 1968

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

RE-Eric Starvo Galt

Request-My name be used in no way or information I send made public, please.

I do not know if the following is of any value. But my conscious is bethering me. I ask only my name not be used. I want no reward, if the information helps in any way. To bring up the frightening incident in Illinois the night of April 11, I will write a detailed background.

A man I saw that night-in a white CADILLAC -looked like this picture, except he had on dark colored glasses. The hair line looked the same, and the facial contours.

Background detailed:

My son-in-law, Dorsie Fox, was killed in a car accident Dec. 23 at Pontiac, Michigan. My daughter, Doris, was injured. I had returned from the Fresnell Hospital (Kennett, Missouri) but was still sick in bed (Asian Flu). And was unable to go to Michigan.

As my health and strength improved, I was selected the delegate to attend the Missouri East Seventh Annula Conference of the Woman's Society of Christian Service in Jefferson City, Missouri on March 22-23. I went there in a car with friends.

From there, Saturday late afternoon, I took the Tna Alway bus, changing in St. Louis, to Hammond, Ind. arriving there about 2:35 a.m. (Our Jeff City bus was late as it had to wait on the bus from Memphis, Tenn. to Kansas City, Mo. because of the snow in the south.) My son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Gentry, met me in Hammond.

(On Monday we went to the World Flower and Garden Show at the International Amphitheatre in Chicago. I saw the barred store windows and wondered why they had the folding iron bars across them. I also saw the sooty buildings etc.)

44-1987-Sub E-658

SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
APR 25 1968
FBI - MEMPHIS

R. E. Storey

South Dunklin Community Action Agency, Inc.

R. 2, Box 175

Senath, Mo. 63876

BOX 359 — RE 8-2087

SENATH, MO.

On Tuesday we went by car to Pontiac, Michigan. Later I visited friends and relatives in Flint (Sat. Mar. 27). I left Pontiac, Mich. after visiting my daughter Doris April 4, by bus, via Detroit, arriving in Hammond, Indiana 6:30 p.m. (their time). My other daughter, Mollie, met me. When we arrived at their house, Gerald said: "Martin Luther King has been critically wounded in Memphis, Tenn." At 7 p.m. the TV announced he was dead from assassination. (Memphis is about 100 miles se of my home in Dunklin County (Bootheel) Southeast Missouri and about ten miles sw of Kennett, the county seat.)

I watched the Memphis march on Tv. And from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. the funeral as narrated by Walter Cronkite and others and felt deep regret. Also the Chicago rioting and looting.....

(I am white, but not responsible for the color of my skin. As King said, it is the character that counts, not the color of the skin.

.....
* Thursday April 11 Hammond School was dismissed at noon as Scott, a school board member, had died. At fifteen minutes to one o'clock in the afternoon we left by car for my home.

I then knew nothing of the white Mustang--- as we did not have the car radio on, and had been too busy in the morning to listen to news. So I do not know if it had then been broadcast.

Our trip was uneventful until dark, on a highway in Illinois before reaching Cairo where we crossed the Mississippi River..... We had left the four lane highways-54-57? I recall a 37.

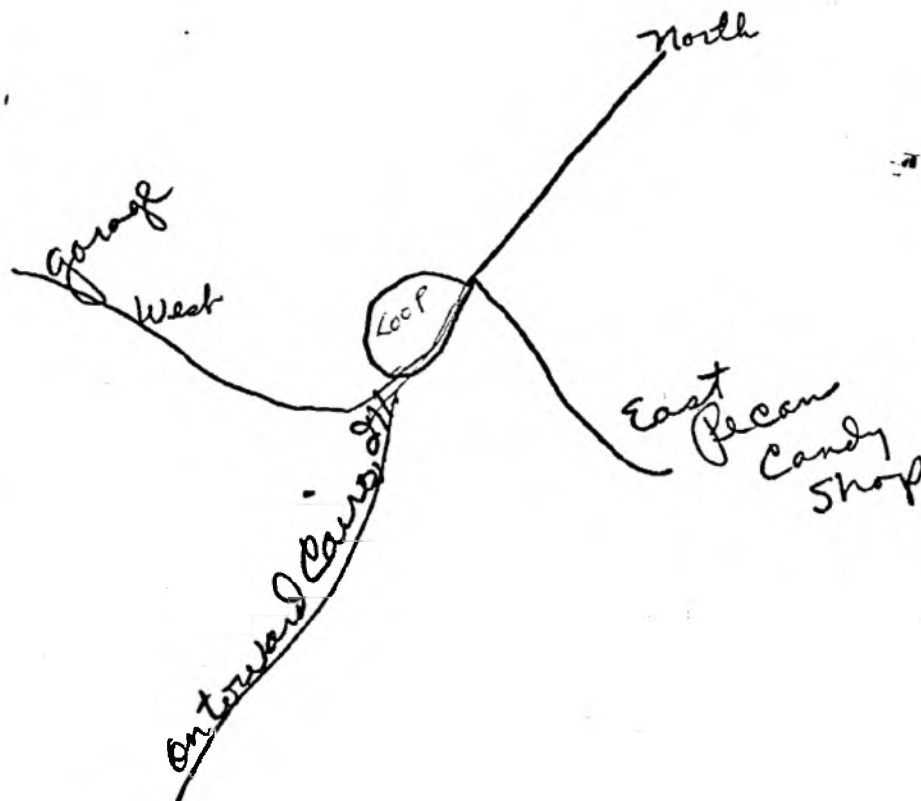
We were on a two lane lonely stretch, I think going southwest I lose directions when away from home. I was sitting on the right side of the rear seat. To the right of me I could see tree tops below me, looked like a drop from the roadbed. To the left were trees. No cars were in sight for a long distance.

THEN A CAR BEHIND showed brightly glaring lights, blinding our driver, who slowed almost to a stop as he could not see. The car pulled slowly around us, looking at us. The one man occupant wore dark glasses, shading his face, his hairline countour noticable. He then pulled in front of us and slowed down. We followed for some distance, then our driver pulled around him, as he watched us. He was 'on my side now' and I had a clear view of him. The clipping photo-add dark glasses-is how he looked. He was driving a white CADILLAC. After we

passed, were ahead, again he pulled up fast behind us, the blinding lights. Again our driver let the car pass. He drove slowly alongside us, so our driver slowed still slower, almost stopping. We were tense—at least I was. All were quiet. I could see downward, and feared we would be pushed off the road.

In front again, he slowed. We went slower, almost stopping for some miles. By then we were uneasy. I think I saw a road marker, but not sure, read 37. Miles farther on another car in view. The dark glassed driver flashed his bright lights on this car also, slowly passed it, then slowed, repeated as with us.

When we reached a place where we saw a lighted building our driver made a loop drove to a "Pecan Candy Shop" and parked outside. The other car turned right to what looked like a lighted garage. When we could no longer see the Cadillac we went on. We did not get out at the Candy Shop.



We crossed the Mississippi at Cairo, then stopped at a Truck Stop near Charleston, I think it was, to eat supper. It was eight p. m. on ~~this~~ their clock.

With company over the week-end I did not have time to read the paper. Then, I saw this picture. I feel I should write, though doubt there is any connection.

Yours truly,

Mrs. Nola J. Osburn
Route Two, Box 175
Senath, Missouri 63876

4/24/68

Airtel

To: SAC, Jacksonville

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

Re Dr. Lawrence J. Benninger - Complainant.

Enclosed for Jacksonville are two copies and for Memphis one copy of a letter from Dr. Benninger dated 4/12/68 which was forwarded to the Bureau by the Civil Rights Division.

Jacksonville interview Dr. Benninger for any additional, pertinent information he may have in his possession, and identify the neighbor he refers to so that that individual, or individuals, may be eliminated or included as suspects in this case.

Enclosures (2)

① - Memphis (Enclosure) (Info)

44-1987-Sub E-657A

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 25 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

CONFIDENTIAL PLEASE ←

Att. of the Attorney General
U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

4/12/68

Dear Sir:

As yet you have not located the killer of Martin Luther King, jr. The following may have no relationship to it whatsoever; on the other hand, it may be a one in a million clue.

I have a neighbor who formerly was a tile salesman, headquarters, Alabama. While a salesman he travelled the U. S.. He is, in my opinion, an intense racist, has written frequently in the newspaper expressing his views, and his son in turn brought to another neighbor racist newspapers from Mississippi. When his son returned from service in Germany, he had praise for Hitler.

UPON RETIREMENT

The neighbor evidently began a floor-tile laying business two or three years ago, for a volks-type truck has frequently been at his house, cans debris indicate this, and very frequently, he receives packages via truck delivery. He leaves his home frequently and returns frequently carrying packages into the house. I have heard the rumor that he obtained a rifle of special quality for his next door neighbor.

The man's son owns a white mustang Ford, and the last I knew, the son was working in Miami with an airline company.

As I said, typically a volks-type delivery truck comes to the house, and it has not been there for some time. In the two weeks beginning the Sundays of the 17th and the 24, there was an unusual flurry of activity around the house--across the street. A passenger car volkswagon appeared with young man, wife, and child and the rear apparently loaded with clothes. The young lady showed her face, and she may be a relative. The young man however during the several days he was here did not "show himself." Too, as I recall he had been at the house before, he or someone his age,--and again had not shown himself. As I recall, the Volks passenger car reappeared for a second time with the family, and again loaded with clothing, around the 19-23 of March. During this latter period a delivery truck--not the Volks, but an open one, appeared apparently loaded with square gallon or square five gallon cans. Nightly both the delivery truck and the volks backed into the neighbor's drive, the volks last.

Sometime around the 24, the neighbor's two cars, the Volks passenger, the delivery truck, all disappeared. The enclosed Volks floor-tile truck did not show up during this period. My wife and I went to Atlanta to a conference this same week.

DECLASSIFIED BY SPICER/94
ON 10/30/01

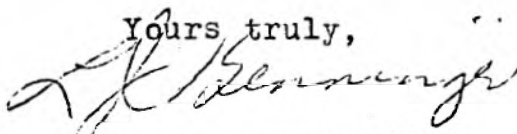
APR 21 1968
SERIALIZED
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44-1987-72-662
R.A.D.
CH. RICHES DE

44-1987-Sub E-657

and were away March 27, 28, 29. When we returned all cars were still gone. ~~xxxxxxx~~ On the 5th of April ~~xxx~~ the man neighbor returned by himself with his personal cars. The wife no, and no other cars or trucks. It may be they all have gone to their home in Mass.

Anyway, this may have a bearing on the case or it may not. I know no more than this. If you feel it worthwhile I can give a name but I would rather not. The neighbor is my accross the street neighbor. Because we differ so strongly on our racial and political views we do not talk.

Yours truly,



DR. LAWRENCE J. BENNINGER
1022 N.E. 20TH AVENUE
GAINESVILLE, FLA. 32601

RECEIVED
DEPT OF POLICE
APR 15 10 14 AM '68
DIVISION

F B I

Date: 5/3/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel to Jackson 4/24/68, concerning
"UNSUB, MISSISSIPPI LICENSE 120-134" *Sub E-656A*

Enclosed for the Bureau are four copies of an LHM disclosing results of investigation in this matter. It should be noted there is no such license number as 120-134, Mississippi. It was determined that license number 12D-134 is in all probability the license number that the complainant observed.

Jackson indices negative re WILLIAM E. SIKES, JR.Investigation at BMV was conducted by SA LAURIER
C. BUTEAU.Investigation at Clarke County, Mississippi,
conducted by SA FRANK B. WATTS.Investigation at Jackson, Miss., conducted by
SA ANTHONY E. DANIELS.

3-Bureau (Enc. 4)
2-Memphis (Enc. 2) *W*
1-Jackson
JLP/wgj
(6)

44-1987-Sub E-656C

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY - 6 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyer *BR*

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



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Jackson, Mississippi 39205
May 3, 1968

UNKNOWN SUBJECT; MISSISSIPPI
LICENSE NUMBER 120-134.
COMPLAINANT - V. R. COLLIER

By communication dated April 24, 1968, FBI Headquarters, Washington, D. C., forwarded a copy of the following letter from V. R. Collier to the Jackson, Mississippi, Office.

44-1974-Sub E-6566

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY - 6 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

[Handwritten signature]

Room 10
1072 Lynch Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39203

Mr. Ramsey Clark,
United States Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
Constitution Avenue & Tenth Street NW.,
Washington, D.C., 20530

Honorable Sir:

About 9:30 PM, on the night of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther, Jr., I saw a white convertible 1967 "Wildcat" with a Clarke County Mississippi tag number 120-134. This car passed me on South Prentiss (in Jackson, Mississippi). We were both traveling South; this car turned West on Central Street, and so did I. The next turn was South on Eastview Street, after our turn on Eastview Street, this wildcat abruptly stopped and parked.

As soon as I passed, this car turned completely around and headed in the opposite direction.

This car may not be in any way connected with the crime that took place in Memphis 2½ to 3 hours earlier, but it was on my mind and it bothered my conscience.

If you think it will help in solving the case of the uncaught killer please check it out.

Sincerely,

V. R. Collier

VRG/111

4/15/68

PS: Honorable Sir: Since sending you the original of the above letter, I have seen and examined the sketch (in the News paper) of the suspected killer. So let me please add this: The driver of the white convertible Wildcat was White male fully matured. In his quick turn of his head to get a look at who was following him, he shook loose the long hair that was covering a bald spot on the back part of his head. So I urge you to please check out this above described automobile.

UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
MISSISSIPPI LICENSE NUMBER 120-134

On April 25, 1968, Miss Sherry Armstrong, Motor Vehicle Comptroller's Office, Jackson, Mississippi, advised that there is no such prefix as 120 for automobile registrations in the State of Mississippi, and further that there is no such tag number issued as 12-0134.

The 1968 Mississippi tag 12-134 is registered to Mrs. J.N. McRee, Quitman, Mississippi (Clarke County) for use on a 1954 Ford.

The 1968 Mississippi tag 12-1034 is registered to W. W. Buckley, Jr., Route 2, Enterprise, Mississippi (Clarke County) for use on a 1961 Ford.

The 1968 Mississippi tag 12D-134 is registered to William E. Sikes, Jr., Stonewall, Mississippi, (Clarke County) for use on a 1965 Buick, Vehicle Identification Number 464675X132855.

A review of the Road and Bridge Privilege Tax receipt for 1968 tag number 12D-134 disclosed it is registered to William E. Sikes, Jr., Stonewall, Mississippi, for use on a 1965 Buick Wildcat, white convertible, eight cylinder, bearing Vehicle Identification Number 464675X132855.

On April 29, 1968, Mrs. Beatrice Sikes, mother of William E. Sikes, Jr., operator of Stonewall Hotel, Stonewall, Mississippi, advised that her son, William E. Sikes, Jr., is employed at the Emporium Department Store, Jackson, Mississippi, and resides at 820 Eastview Street, Jackson, Mississippi.

On May 2, 1968, Mr. William E. Sikes, Jr., was located at the Emporium Department Store, Jackson, Mississippi, where he is employed as a salesman.

Mr. Sikes advised that on April 4, 1968, he worked

UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
MISSISSIPPI LICENSE NUMBER 120-134

at the Emporium Department Store in downtown Jackson from 12:00 noon to 9:00 P.M., closing time. He stated he could not specifically recall whether or not he went anywhere that particular night after working but his usual procedure is to go home to his Eastview Street address immediately after work. Mr. Sikes could not recall any unusual event on the night of April 4, 1968, but assumes he went straight home after work. He advised that South Prentiss Street is less than a block away from his home on Eastview Street. He said he could not recall whether or not anyone followed him home this particular night.

Mr. Sikes advised that he is leaving the Jackson, Mississippi, area around June 1, 1968, and is taking a new position as a salesman with the National Jewelry Company, Ruston, Louisiana, and that his new address will be 1602 Ridge Street, Ruston, Louisiana.

The following descriptive information was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	William E. Sikes, Jr.
Address	820 Eastview Street Jackson, Mississippi Meridian, Mississippi
Place of birth	
Date of birth	
Height	Five feet eight inches
Weight	One hundred sixty pounds
Hair	Gray
Eyes	Blue
Social Security Number	
Military Service	United States Marines, Honorable Discharge
Marine Serial Number	

Mr. Sikes is not identical to James Earl Ray

UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
MISSISSIPPI LICENSE NUMBER 120-134

but does bear a slight resemblance in height, weight, and age only.

Mr. Sikes advised he has no information other than what he has read in the newspapers concerning the assassination of Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr.

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.

5*

4/24/68

Airtel

To: SAC, Jackson

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

Re Unsub., Mississippi License 120-134.

Enclosed for Jackson are two copies and for Memphis one copy of an undated letter from V. E. Collier which was forwarded to the Bureau by the Civil Rights Division.

Jackson attempt to identify owner of above referenced license number and conduct necessary investigation.

Enclosures (2)

Mem
1 - Memphis (Enclosure) (Info)

44-1987-Sub E-656A

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 25 1968	
FBI — MEMPHIS	

Room 10
102 Lynch Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39203

Mr. Ramsey Clark,
United States Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
Constitution Avenue & Tenth Street NW.,
Washington, D.C., 20530

Honorable Sir:

About 9:30 PM, on the night of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther, Jr., I saw a white convertible 1967 "Wildcat" with a Clarke County Mississippi tag number 120-134. This car passed me on South Prentiss (in Jackson, Mississippi). We were both traveling South; this car turned West on Central Street, and so did I. The next turn was South on Eastview Street, after our turn on Eastview Street, this wildcat abruptly stopped and parked.

As soon as I passed, this car turned completely around and headed in the opposite direction.

This car may not be in any way connected with the crime that took place in Memphis 2½ to 3 hours earlier, but it was on my mind and it bothered my conscience.

If you think it will help in solving the case of the uncaught killer please check it out.

Sincerely,

V. R. Collier

VRC/111

4/15/68

PS: Honorable Sir: Since sending you the original of the above letter, I have seen and examined the sketch (in the News paper) of the suspected killer. So let me please add this: The driver of the white convertible Wildcat was White male fully matured. In his quick turn of his head to get a look at who was following him, he shook loose the long hair that was covering a bald spot on the back part of his head. So I urge you to please check out this above described automobile.

44-1987-Sub E-656

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 25 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

RA

5/13/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, MOBILE (157-2627) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Los Angeles airtel to Bureau, 5/27/68.

Referenced airtel suggested that the Mobile Office consider interviewing former Sheriff HARVEY SADLER for any information he might have concerning the assassination of KING. This lead was based upon a letter from Mrs. ALMA LAMM, Los Angeles Daily News and Tribune, Los Angeles, Calif., to SA LLOYD JOHNSON of the Los Angeles Office. In this letter, Mrs. LAMM points out that former Sheriff HARVEY SADLER of Mason County, Ala., is a supporter of former Governor GEORGE WALLACE of Ala. She expressed the opinion that the KING assassination was plotted by the WALLACE forces "to provoke Negroes to riot to further WALLACE's political ambitions."

For the information of the Bureau and Los Angeles, former Sheriff HARVEY SADLER of Mason County, Tuskegee, Ala., during his term of office, was cooperative and forthright with the Mobile Office of the FBI. On more than one occasion, he was instrumental in averting violent confrontations between Negro marchers seeking to integrate white churches and opposing groups of white persons. At no time was he known to display a hostile attitude toward Negro citizens of that community.

1 - Bureau (RM)
2 - Los Angeles (44-1574) (RM)
2 - Mobile (2) - Memphis (44-1987) RM
CDB/mb
(9)

44-1987-Sub E-6559

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 7 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester
Bray G.B.

MO 157-2627

On the other hand, Mrs. AIMEA LONG, while residing in Tuskegee, Ala., acquired a reputation as a fanatic. Her Tuskegee Tribune made many irresponsible charges against leading citizens of the community, both Negro and white, particularly against those seeking to bring about racial harmony through bi-racial groups. Her paper supported the militant actions of Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), which then was gaining a foothold at Tuskegee Institute.

In the letter accompanying the referenced airtel, Mrs. LONG characterizes her expressions as "scuttlebutt." Upon review, her letter does not appear to make any accusation that ex-sheriff HARVEY SADLER was connected with the slaying of Dr. KING; rather it is speculated that the WALLACE forces might be responsible for the slaying because they profitted therefrom. SADLER is associated with this alleged "plot" only in that he has been a WALLACE supporter in the past.

There does not appear to be any more basis for interview of former Sheriff SADLER than for interview of GEORGE WALLACE or other WALLACE supporters. UACB no interview of SADLER will be conducted.

5/20/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO : Director, FBI (44-38861)
FROM : SAC, New Orleans (157-10673)(P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
(OO: Memphis)

*655
Sub E-697*

Re Los Angeles airtel to the Bureau 5/14/68.

Letter Written by Mrs.
ALMENA LOMAX de Attorney
General RAMSEY CLARK
dated 4/13/68

Referenced airtel set forth suggested lead that New Orleans interview appropriate officials of the Southern Conference Educational Fund (SCEF) for any information those officials might have concerning assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

The April, 1968, edition of "Southern Patriot," official publication of SCEF, lists the officials of SCEF. Set forth below are the names of those individuals listed who currently reside in New Orleans.

Executive Committee

JACK PEEBLES
ROSALYN LAVANTHAL - Assistant Secretary

Field Staff

ROBERT ANALAVAGE - Assistant Editor

3 - Bureau (RM)
1 - Louisville (RM) (Info)
① - Memphis (44-1987) (Info) (RM)
2 - New Orleans
EJC:epk
(7)

E

44-1987-Sub E-655 F

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 22 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle RB

NO 157-10673

JAMES A. DOMBROWSKI,
DOROTHY ZELLNER
ROBERT ZELLNER

New Orleans files contain the following pertinent information concerning the above individuals:

JACK CORNELIUS PEEBLES is subject of a pending SM-C case, Bufile 100-17300. PEEBLES is a practicing attorney in New Orleans and is known to give legal advice to members of the Spartacists League and the New Orleans Movement for A Democratic Society (NOMDS).

ROSALYN LAVANTHAL is subject of a closed SM-M case, Bufile 105-171667, NO file 100-17425.

ROBERT THOMAS ANGLAVAGE is subject of a pending SM-M case, New Orleans file 100-17586. He is known to have attempted suicide on four different occasions while in the military, is described as a violent and destructive person and has an arrest history from 1955 through 1967, including burglary and drunkenness.

JAMES A. DOMBROWSKI is subject of a closed SM-C case, Bufile 100-112819, NO 100-13722. DOMBROWSKI is a retired executive director of SCEF and is presently on Section A of the Reserve Index.

JOHN ROBERT ZELLNER is subject of a pending SM-C case, Bufile 100-442400, NO 100-17552.

DOROTHY RACHELLE ZELLNER aka Mrs. JOHN ROBERT ZELLNER is subject of pending SM-C case, Bufile 100-427403, NO 100-17551. She is currently on the Security Index, New Orleans Division.

UACB New Orleans does not contemplate conducting interviews of the above persons in connection with instant matter in view of the past or present security type investigation conducted on these individuals.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

F B I

Date: 5/14/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
 FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)
 RE: MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel to Los Angeles dated 4/24/68;
 Los Angeles airtels to Bureau dated 4/30/68, and 5/9/68;
 (Mrs. ALMENA LOMAX, Complainant).

Referenced Bureau airtel transmitted a copy of a letter written by Mrs. ALMENA LOMAX dated 4/13/68, addressed to Attorney General RAMSEY CLARK, forwarded to the Bureau by the Civil Rights Division. Copies were sent to Atlanta, Birmingham, and Memphis. Mrs. LOMAX's letter advised she had published a "little magazine" entitled the "Tuskegee Tribune" in 1964 and 1965 while residing in Tuskegee. She believed a large number of white people, described by Negroes in the area as being members of the White Citizens Council or "Kluxer types", subscribed to the Tribune, and inferred the possibility existed some of these individuals might be implicated in, or have knowledge of the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

- 3 - Bureau
- 1 - Atlanta (44-2386) (Info) (Encls. 1)
- 3 - Birmingham (44-1740) (Encls. 3)
- 2 - Louisville (Encls. 2)
- ① - Memphis (44-1987) (Info) (Encls. 1)
- 5 - Mobile (Encls. 5)
- 2 - New Orleans (Encls. 2)
- 2 - Phoenix (Encls. 2)
- 2 - Los Angeles

LDJ/met/rem
 (21)

44-1987-Sub E-655E

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 16 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle BT

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

LA 44-1574

On 4/29/68, Mrs. LOMAX was contacted concerning the above individuals and stated she had had "second thoughts" and believed her theory that the above individuals might have had something to do with KING's assassination was a far-fetched idea. Mrs. LOMAX agreed to furnish a list of white subscribers.

On 5/10/68, the Los Angeles Office received a Special Delivery letter from Mrs. LOMAX, copies of which are enclosed for the Bureau and each office, in which she listed the names of people she believed or knew to be white, taken from the subscription list of the "Tuskegee Tribune".

There were no references known identical in the indices of the Los Angeles Office to any of the individuals in Alabama or the individual residing in Tucson, Arizona.

For the information of the Bureau, the following listed individuals residing in Los Angeles are on the Security Index of the Los Angeles Office.

HUGH DE LACY (Bufile 100-47062)

ATTY BEN MARGOLIS (Bufile 100-25130)

JOHN T. MC TERNAN (Bufile 77-29135)

MURRY WAGNER (Bufile 100-367824)

The following individuals listed by Mrs. LOMAX are on the Reserve Index - B of the Los Angeles Office:

MADELYNE GERLACH (Bufile 100-378387)

SYLVIA P. MILLER (Bufile 100-393768)

HENRY BLANKFORT, listed by Mrs. LOMAX, has been the subject of a security investigation by the Los Angeles Office (Bufile 100-262025).

LA 4401574

There were no references in the Los Angeles indices concerning one EWING G. PORTER; however, a check of the Cross Directory, Pacific Telephone Company, reflects one PORTER EWING resides at 7370 Rosewood Avenue, Los Angeles. EWING has not been the subject of an investigation by the Los Angeles Office; however, a review of references concerning him reflects his name was maintained on a card index by JOHN WESLEY HARRIS, JR., a member of the Executive Committee of the Los Angeles Progressive Labor Party, which card reflected EWING was a history professor at Los Angeles City College (LACC), was a sponsor of the Civil Rights Club on that campus, and was "friendly to PL".

The addresses of all the above individuals in the files of the Los Angeles Office were identical to the addresses furnished by Mrs. LOMAX.

Because the above individuals are on the Security Index, Reserve Index - B or have been the subject of a security investigation, and because PORTER EWING is a professor at LACC, no interviews of these individuals will be conducted by the Los Angeles Office, UACB, in the light of the remote nature of the allegation made by Mrs. LOMAX, and the possibility of embarrassment to the Bureau.

No further investigation is contemplated by the Los Angeles Office concerning Mrs. LOMAX' complaint, and any further information received from her will be promptly furnished to the Bureau.

LEADS

BIRMINGHAM

AT JASPER, ALABAMA: Will consider interviewing LEONARD R. WILSON at the address in the enclosed letter for any information he might have concerning the assassination of KING.

LA 44-1574

AT BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA: Will consider interviewing SAMUEL JOHNSON and JOSEPH W. SIMPSON at the addresses in the enclosed letter concerning any knowledge they might have of the assassination of KING.

LOUISVILLE

AT LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY: Will consider interviewing CARL and ANN BRADEN, apparent editors of "The Southern Patriot" as referred to on page three of enclosed letter for any information they might have concerning the assassination of KING.

MOBILE

AT EUPALA, ALABAMA: Will consider interviewing HARRY I. GOGGINS at the address in the enclosed letter for any information he might have concerning the assassination of KING.

AT NOTASULGA, ALABAMA: Will consider interviewing A. H. CLEMENTS and State Senator EDWARD H. REYNOLDS at the addresses in enclosed letter for any information they might possess concerning the assassination of KING.

AT SHORTER, ALABAMA: Will consider interviewing CHARLIE MC MILLON, no address, concerning his possible knowledge of the assassination of KING.

AT TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA: Will consider interviewing C. L. AVERETT, L. E. T. BARNETT, MR. BOLES, BOB DAWSON, W. T. COGGINS, W. G. DYSON, JOHN E. HENDERSON, ROBERT HOWARD, J. W. ROSS, HOWARTH RUTHERFORD, HARVEY SADLER, owner of the Story Equipment Company, and THOMAS C. STORY for information they might have concerning the assassination of KING.

AT UNION SPRINGS, ALABAMA: Will consider interviewing W. L. AVANT for any information he might have concerning KING's assassination.

LA 44-1574

NEW ORLEANS

AT NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA: Will consider interviewing appropriate officials of the Southern Conference Educational Fund, New Orleans, for any information they might have concerning the assassination of KING.

PHOENIX

AT TUCSON, ARIZONA: Will consider interviewing JIM GIDDINGS at the address set out on page three of enclosed letter for any information he might have concerning the assassination of KING.

✓ LOMAX POLL AND TRIBUNE

A Monthly Poll of Negro Opinion
A Quarterly Organ of Negro Thought and Opinion

Almena Lomax, Editor-Publisher

1215 S. Tremaine
Los Angeles 90019, Calif.

938 - 8458, area code, 213

May 8, 1968

Mr. Lloyd Johnson
Federal Bureau of Investigation
1340 W. 6th Street
Los Angeles 90017

44-1987-Sub
SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
MAY 16 1968
FBI - MEMPHIS
Boyle RB

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Following this note are the names and addresses of whites, subscribers to my publication whom I thought might bear checking out in the case of the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King.

If you don't mind a theory, you might consider the slaying in the same light as the bombing of the church in Birmingham in 1962, or '63. That was done for a purpose, to intimidate the Negroes bent on integrating the schools of Alabama that year, as a prelude to Gov. Wallace's standing in the schoolhouse door. Neither the church nor the children was the primary target, but the resolve of the Negroes.

There must have been many times when Dr. King could have been more, or as, conveniently killed. I have no doubt that the purpose was achieved when the Negroes rioted after the assassination. The only question in my mind is who wanted the riots this time, the Wallace-ites, the leftwing, or even ambitious people in between.

In the event you think it was a "racist", or rightwing political killing, Montgomery, Mobile, and the small towns of Alabama might be a good place to look for Gault or Ray. Gault, by the way, rings a bell in my memory as a fairly common Alabama name. I have traveled and lived in Alabama the best part of the past 10 years. I know Mobile, Montgomery, Barbour County, Macon County and all the surrounding counties very well. Alabama probably has the highest per capita White Citizens Council membership in the country, people who would bomb a church, burn a school, kill one or several people to make their point.

The Tuskegee names I am giving you I know to be white and in the main Council members, people who intended to get me, I have been told, had I continued publishing in Tuskegee, people who were almost equally guilty with that Segrest man who shot and killed Sammy Younge, Jr. in Tuskegee the year after I left and after he had taken up the cudgel -- with a lot less finesse, unfortunately after I left. The others I just think are white.

I also have a number of white liberal southerners, including the usual run of white leftwing southerners and a number of those on the Coast. I don't know whether I should list them or not. The left pretended to great devotion

44-1987-Sub-E-455.11

Mr. Lloyd Johnson, 2

to Dr. King and raised money for him and gave to him liberally; but when it comes to whatever it is they want, a shift of power to themselves, to change the system, etc., I wouldn't trust them behind the shadow of a broomstick. I think they have made it very clear that they have a vested interest in the Negro riots.

Following are the names: (Date refers to when subscription entered)

Johnson, Samuel
Realty Mortgage Co.
Bank for Savings Bldg.
Birmingham, Ala.
1/4/65 mailed in

Simpson, Mr. Joseph W.
1924 Calch Road
Birmingham 23, Ala. changed later to Box 7346
Paid by Mrs. Va. Simpson
2632 M t. Brook Parkway
Birmingham, Ala. 35223 (I seem to have left off the date of entry, but it was between Oct. and January of 1965)

Goggans, Harry I.
800 Barbour St.
Eufaula, Ala.
10/24/64

Paid by Robert Howard, Howard Cleaners, Highway 80, Tuskegee
Goggans left Tuskegee and closed out his business, real estate, when the first Negro councilmen were elected. Howard is supposed to be very friendly to Negroes and pretended to great admiration of my efforts and often tried to get me to come to see him. But the Negroes do not trust him and advised me not to

Following all supposedly WCC members:

*all
in
1/6/65
men*

C. L. Averett, 309 Southside, Tuskegee, Ala.
Leon L. Bennett, Box 327, Tuskegee, Ala.
Mr. Boles, Box 417, Tuskegee, Ala.
Bob Dawson, 98 N. Maple, Tuskegee, Ala. (supposed friend of Negroes, but might know something and might talk.)
W. T. Coggins, Box 608, Tuskegee, Ala.
W. G. Dyson, 301 E. Southside, Tuskegee, Ala.
J. W. Ross, 308 S. Elm Street, Tuskegee, Ala.
Howard Rutherford, Tuskegee, Ala.
Harvey Sadler, Box 297, Tuskegee, Ala.
Story Equipment Co., Tuskegee, Ala.
Thomas C. Story, Rt. 2, Tuskegee, Ala.
John E. Henderson, Rt. 1, Box 182, Tuskegee, Ala.
State Senator Edward H. Reynolds, Box 126, Notasulga, Ala.

W. L. Avant, Rt. 2, Union Springs, Ala.
A. H. Clements, General Delivery, Notasulga, Ala.
Charlie McMillon, Shorters, Ala.
Leonard R. Wilson, Box 947, Jasper, Ala.

Mr. Lloyd Johnson, 3

F. C. Thompson, Box 44, Shorter, Ala.

~~Jim Giddings, 19E~~ (or 7) North Meyer, Tucson, Ariz. 12/24/51 (Signed Mrs. "Pace")
(I don't know whether the foregoing, after State Sen. Reynolds
are white or Negro, or how or why they came to subscribe to
the Tribune. Usually whites who are friendly identify themselves
as such.)

Professional leftists who use the Negro cause, but who may or may not deserve
my evil suspicions:

The Bradens, the Southern Patriot, 3210 W. Broadway (res. 4403 Virginia ave.)
Louisville, Ky.

Southern Conference Education Fund, 822 Perdido st., New Orleans, La. 70112

Mr. and Mrs. Murry Wagner, 2401 Moreno Dr., Los Angeles 90039

Ewing G. Porter, 7370 Rosewood, Los Angeles 36

Atty. Ben Margolis, 3175 W. 6th street, Los Angeles

John T. McTernan, same as above

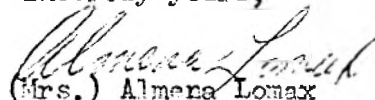
Mrs. Sylvia P. Miller, 165 S. Orange Drive, Los Angeles 36

Mrs. Madelyne Gerlach, 348 Norwich drive, Los Angeles 90048

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh DeLacy, 6624 Fulton ave., Van Nuys, Calif.

Henry Blankfort, 12659 Milbank, Studio City, Calif.

Sincerely yours,


(Mrs.) Almira Lomax

P. S.: If you should wish any additional information, I will be in Berkeley
at The Post until Saturday or Sunday, at home for sure Monday.

F B I

Date: 5/9/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

*Sub E - 655A
- 655B*

Re Bureau airtel to Los Angeles dated 4/24/68;
and Los Angeles airtel to Bureau dated 4/30/68 (ALMENA
LOMAX - complainant).

On 5/9/68, after several unsuccessful attempts,
Mrs. LOMAX was telephonically contacted and stated she had
been so busy she had not found time to list the subscribers
to the "Tuskegee Tribune" whom she believed to be white.
She stated she would copy them on this date if she found
time, prior to leaving for Berkeley, California, and would
mail them to this office. Mrs. LOMAX declined the offer
of an agent to come to her residence or copy the list for
her.

- 2 - Bureau
- 1 - Atlanta (44-2386) (Info)
- 1 - Birmingham (44-1740) (Info)
- ① - Memphis (44-1987) (Info)
- 2 - Los Angeles

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44-1987-Sub E-655C

SEARCHED	INDEXED <i>5</i>
SERIALIZED <i>2</i>	FILED <i>5</i>
MAY 11 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

[Signature]

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

4/30/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL - REGISTERED

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)
RE: MURKIN

Sub E-655#

Re Bureau airtel to Los Angeles, 4/24/68, re ALMENA LOMAX - COMPLAINANT.

On 4/29/68, Mrs. ALMENA LOMAX was telephonically contacted per her request to arrange an appointment for interview. She stated she was too busy to see an agent during the week of 4/29 - 5/3/68 since she went to Berkeley every Thursday and Friday to write for a publication called "The Post". She stated she had to take care of her family and house and had no spare time. She said that after she wrote her letter to Attorney General RAMSEY CLERK concerning the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., she had second thoughts and believed her theory that individuals who subscribe to the "Tuskegee Tribune" might have something to do with KING's assassination, was a far-fetched idea.

Mrs. LOMAX sounded nervous and harassed when talking to agent but stated she would try to find time to mail in a list of subscribers to the "Tuskegee Tribune", marking the names of those she believed to be white people, in the event the Bureau desired to check them out as possible suspects.

Mrs. LOMAX suggested an agent contact her again on 5/6/68 to determine if she had the list prepared.

Los Angeles will contact Mrs. LOMAX on 5/6/68.

3 - Bureau (AM-REGISTERED)
1 - Atlanta (44-2986) (AM-REGISTERED)
1 - Birmingham (44-1740) (AM-REGISTERED)
1 - Memphis (44-1987)
1 - Los Angeles
LHJ:gov

44-1987-Sub E-655B

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SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 4 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

[Signature]

(7)

4/24/68

Airtel

To: SAC, Los Angeles

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

Re Almena Lamm - Complainant.

Enclosed are two copies for Los Angeles and one copy each for Atlanta, Birmingham and Memphis of a letter from Almena Lamm dated 4/13/68 which was forwarded to the Bureau by the Civil Rights Division.

Los Angeles contact Almena Lamm and review the subscription list she refers to for any pertinent names associated with this case.

Enclosures (3)

1 - Atlanta (Enclosure)

1 - Birmingham (Enclosure)

① - Memphis (Enclosure) *mm*

44-1987-Sub E-655A

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 25 1968	
FBI — MEMPHIS	

RI

LOMAX POLL AND TRIBUNE

A Monthly Poll of Negro Opinion
A Quarterly Organ of Negro Thought and Opinion

Almaena Lomax, Editor-Publisher

1215 S. Tremaine
Los Angeles 90019, Calif.

938 - 8458, area code, 213

April 13, 1968

Attorney General Ramsey Clark
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I hate to be thought a quack, but I cannot get a very disturbing similarity of events which might relate to the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. out of my mind, and so, at whatever risk, I am impelled to write you.

I publish the above-named Poll monthly and the Tribune, a 'little' magazine when I can; but I covered the funeral of Dr. King for a newspaper, The Post, published at 2973 Sacramento st., Berkeley, Calif. 94705, a Negro weekly. I also serve The Post at present as a consultant, or contributing editor, in its efforts to build up its editorial content.

I just returned last night from Berkeley and after being away almost all week, what with the funeral, have just caught up on the daily papers; and I was struck by the similarity of reported activities of the suspected killer and a fictional killer I created in an unpublished book, "The Ten Most Wanted White Men". As the title would suggest, this man, who is sort of deranged by frustration over the continued humiliation of Negroes by the nonviolent movement and the continued violation of them by Deep South racists, picks out the ten racists from whose deaths he thinks the Negro would most benefit and goes out and kills them.

I published the first five chapters in the Tribune. I am a former weekly newspaper publisher for 19 years of the Los Angeles Tribune, and I began the Tribune out of frustration while living in Tuskegee, Ala. in 1964-65. I started the Tribune, as a 'little magazine', as the Tuskegee Tribune, a mimeographed newspaper, and a large number of whites of the town, who were described by knowledgeable Negroes of the town as "members of the White Citizens Council" and Kluxer-types, subscribed.

I have as many subscribers among Alabamians whom I know or suppose to be white, as I do among Negroes — not that there are many of either.

Covering the Tuskegee City Council couldn't hold my interest, as I had suspended publication of the Tribune as a newspaper in order to write creatively,

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 25 1968	
FBI — MEMPHIS	

44-1987-Sub L-655

APR 16 1968

R.A.O.

Attorney General Ramsey Clark, 2

and I left Tuskegee in February of 1965 and returned to Los Angeles.

I have continued to send the Tribune to my southern subscribers, including the whites, whenever I have brought it out.

Beginning with the 14th number in March of 1965, I serialized "The Ten Most Wanted White Men", and continued into the fifth chapter before I got a contract for the book from Houghton-Mifflin Co. Other than in the first chapter where my hero, or anti-hero, conceived his plan as a way out of his frustration and lists his intended victims, I didn't in the serialization give away his plans or modus operandi. However, the idea was there.

Also, the entire book of 36 ^{chapters} ~~pages~~ has been read by Houghton Mifflin, which eventually decided not to publish it, on the grounds that the anti-hero was not believable, and by Globe Press, which rejected it, too. The first ten chapters were read, and rejected, last Summer by Harper & Row and have since been at Random House, along with the book's summary.

I hope you will not feel that I am suggesting that any of the ^{publishers'} readers of this book would be so insane as to assassinate Dr. King. However, the coincidence of your suspect apparently having abandoned a car in Atlanta, just walked away from it; belonging to the seaman's union in Mobile; renting the room in the rundown rooming house, and the actions of my anti-hero, or killer, is so striking that I hope it excuses this long and detailed letter. Perhaps it is my imagination, but the personality, the stride, etc., suggested by the newspaper stories, suggest my Josiah Herron, who likes to think of himself as "the Bronze Bomber", a sort of avenger of Negroes.

There is further the fact that while I was in Atlanta, I heard many people in the crowd outside the church and along the march say they feared, or had heard, that Rev. Abernathy, Stokely Carmichael, Congressman Adam Powell, and other Negro leaders were going to be "gotten". Some few people said they thought the killer might be standing on the sidewalk along the line of march.

I also heard that Negro extremists in Atlanta were planning to burn and blow up businesses, specifically Sears and others along Gordon Road, which is just above the Capitol Homes Housing Project where the car was parked in Atlanta. I lived from September 1 to Oct. 29, of 1965 in Atlanta and have a son in college there, though he is not an extremist or racist, and so have many leads there. I thought it notable that there was no mention of harming the housing project, even though many of the whites living there are openly hostile to Negroes passing there en route to shop on Gordon Road.

None of this may be of any value. However, I felt I had to relay it. Now that Mrs. King and Rev. Abernathy have resolved to continue the march to Washington, the same person or persons who were sufficiently exercised by distress as to kill Dr. King may attempt to harm them; and I felt that if I know anything which might remotely help solve the murder, I should relay it.