

F B I

Date: 4/27/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861) and MIAMI
FROM: ST. LOUIS (44-775)

MURKIN

RE SPRINGFIELD TELETYPE DATED APRIL TWENTYSIX, SIXTYEIGHT.
PAUL ARTHUR LAIL, JR. SENTENCED STODDARD COUNTY, MISSOURI,
JUNE TWENTY, SIXTYTHREE, ON FRAUDULENT CHECK CHARGE. ESCAPED
JUNE TWENTYTWO - TWENTYTHREE, SIXTYTHREE BY SAWING BARS.
UFAC PROCESS ISSUED AND LAIL APPREHENDED GALESBURG, ILLINOIS,
OCTOBER TWELVE, SIXTYTHREE. RETURNED TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES.
CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS BECAUSE HE HAD A TWENTYTWO
CALIBER GUN.

RELATIVES IDENTIFIED AND WILL BE FURNISHED TO MIAMI IF
DESIRED.

AIRMAIL COPY FORWARDED TO MEMPHIS.

P.

OK *Lail interviewed*
44-1987-772
1 - St. Louis
1 - Memphis (AM)
HCJ:jfb
(2)

44-1987-Sub E-725

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| SEARCHED..... | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED..... | FILED..... |
| MAY 1 1968 | |
| FBI - MEMPHIS | |

Boyle

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

4/29/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
OR

Re: SUSPECT GRAHAM ROBERT SMITH

ReLegat, Mexico phone call, 4/27/68.

SMITH was a passenger on bus departing Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, April 6, 1968 enroute Monterrey, Mexico.

On 4/29/68, Mrs. ATKINSON, Secretary, Dean of Men, Rice University, advised GRAHAM ROBERT SMITH is an Abraham Scholar and a British exchange student studying Men, Rice University, terminating study June, 1968. University records reflect SMITH at Rice University through 4/4/68 departing Houston 4/5/68 on mountain climbing trip to Mexico over the Easter holiday and has returned to Rice University.

Re phone call described SMITH as single, 22, student, British passport from Houston.

SMITH, Rice University student, identical with SMITH, Legat call and eliminated as suspect.

4 - Bureau
(1 - Legat, Mexico)
2 - San Antonio
2 - Houston
ESB/sjm
(7)

① MEMPHIS

44-1987-SUB E-262

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| SEARCHED | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED | FILED |
| MAY - 1 1968 | |
| FBI - MEMPHIS | |

104

5/2/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

Remyairtel, 4/29/68 and Bucall, 5/2/68.

GRAHAM ROBERT SMITH, British National, attending Rice University on a scholarship grant was photographed today by Buagents. SMITH, 22 years old, was shown photos of JAMES EARL RAY, aka Galt. He stated that they are not familiar or similar to anyone on the bus which he rode from Nuevo Laredo into Mexico on 4/6/68 nor could he associate them with anyone he had seen while mountain climbing in Mexico. SMITH does not smoke and to best of his recollection he has not read Readers Digest in more than a year. He did sit mid-way back on the left side of the bus.

On 5/3/68 photos of SMITH will be forwarded to San Antonio for display to Deputy Sheriff ANGEL GAULT.

4 - Bureau
 (1 - Legat, Mexico)
2 - San Antonio
2 - Memphis
1 - Houston
JSW/sjm
(9)

44-1987-Sub E-786A

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| SEARCHED..... | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED..... | FILED..... |
| MAY 4 1968 | |
| FBI - MEMPHIS | |

Boyer B.D.

5/4/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

WFW
B47
TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)

MURKIN
CR

Re: SUSPECT GRAHAM ROBERT SMITH

ReMiami airtel 4/29/68.

Enclosed for San Antonio are four photographs of suspect SMITH for display to Sheriff GAULT for elimination purposes.

4 - Bureau
 (1 - Legat, Mexico)
2 - San Antonio (ENC 4)
① - Memphis (Info)
1 - Houston

JSW:cjl
(8)

44-1987-Sub E-786B

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| SEARCHED..... | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED 5 | FILED 8 |
| MAY - 6 1968 | |
| FBI - MEMPHIS | |

Bayle BB

5/10/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, SAN ANTONIO (44-1242)(P)
RE: MURKIN

RE: Suspect GRAHAM ROBERT SMITH

Re Houston airtel to the Bureau 5/4/68.

On 5/9/68, the photographs of SMITH were displayed to ANGEL STICKELBAULT, his wife, and his mother. Each indicated that the photo was not that of the man whom they identified on the bus to Mexico on 4/6/68 as JAMES EARL RAY. They advised that the photo of SMITH was that of a man much younger whose hair was too long and face was too elongated, rather than roundish as is that of RAY.

STICKELBAULT and his family reiterated that the Unsub on the bus looked enough like RAY to be either him or a twin.

One extra copy of this airtel is designated for the Bureau for transmittal to Legat, Mexico.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

4 - Bureau
 (1 - Legat, Mexico)
1 - Houston (44-1509)
1 - Memphis (44-1987)
2 - SA
JRP:fes
(8)

44-1987-Sub E-7863

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| INDEXED | h |
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| MAY 15 1968 | |
| Boyle RB | |

4/29/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386)

FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703)

MURKIN

DANIEL SCHWARTZ, THREE FIVE FOUR THIRTY-NINTH STREET,
NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON, D. C., APARTMENT FIVE ZERO NINE E,
ADVISED THAT AT ABOUT TEN THIRTY P. M., APRIL TWENTY-SEVEN,
LAST, HE OBSERVED INDIVIDUAL RESEMBLING JAMES EARL RAY DRIVING
AN OFF WHITE MUSTANG, GEORGIA LICENSE B Y EIGHT SIX SEVEN THREE,
IN WASHINGTON, D. C.

ATLANTA IDENTIFY REGISTERED OWNER AND HAVE OPERATOR
OF INSTANT CAR INTERVIEWED.

MEMPHIS SENT AIR MAIL COPY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P.

- 1 - Teletype Unit
- 1 - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
- 2 - WFO

RWD:slb
(4)

44-1987-Sub E-787

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| SEARCHED..... | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED..... | FILED..... |
| MAY 1 1968 | |
| FBI - MEMPHIS | |

Boyle 160

4/29/68

AIRTEL

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM : SAC, CINCINNATI (157-1893)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Cincinnati call to Bureau this date.

On 4/29/68, we received a telephone call from the Cincinnati Police Department - Crime Bureau, advising as follows:

At 10:45 P.M., 4/28/68, the Cincinnati Police Department received a call through a long-distance operator in Mexico City from an individual identifying himself as Colonel JIM GIBSON, residing in Mexico City. He refused to furnish any other identifying data.

GIBSON advised that he was attempting to contact one HARLAN LESLIE of Cincinnati, Ohio, and had met with no success. He stated the assassin of Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING could be found in Guatemala. GIBSON did not state what connection HARLAN LESLIE had with this matter, and immediately terminated the conversation.

3 - Bureau
2 - Memphis (44-1987)
2 - Cincinnati

HJM:ked
(7)

44-1987-Sub E-788

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| SEARCHED | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED | FILED |
| MAY - 1 1968 | |
| FBI - MEMPHIS | |

Boyle BJB

CI 157-1893

The Police Department determined that HARLAN LESLIE resides at 1533 Northview Avenue, telephone 541-0128 and telephone 541-4771, and was employed by the Rosenthal Printing Company, 4890 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio, telephone 541-2640.

On 4/29/68, we located and interviewed HARLAN LESLIE, who resides at 1533 Northview Avenue, telephone 541-0128, and who is employed by the Rosenthal Company, Inc., a printing concern at 22 East 12th Street, telephone 241-0710. LESLIE advised that he knows of no information concerning MARTIN LUTHER KING or JAMES EARL RAY, other than what he read in the newspapers.

According to LESLIE, he was acquainted with the name JIM GIBSON and knew him from previous vacations that LESLIE had taken in Acapulco, Mexico.

LESLIE stated that GIBSON's correct name and address are MELVILLE EUGENE GIBSON, Prado Norte, #314, Mexico City 10, Mexico, D.F., Lomas, Chapultepec. LESLIE stated that he did not know the residence telephone number for GIBSON, whose nickname is JIMMY. He stated that he knew only that GIBSON was employed as a used-car dealer in Mexico City, name and address of firm unknown.

LESLIE described GIBSON as about 45 years of age, white, male, mentally sound, but has stomach trouble, and was only a social drinker. He stated GIBSON was married, but divorced, with two children - [REDACTED] - age 16, and [REDACTED] - age 11.

LESLIE stated that he, LESLIE, was departing for a three-weeks' vacation on Friday, 5/3/68, and would be residing at the Acapulco Motel, P. O. Box 268, telephone 40-200, Acapulco, Mexico. According to LESLIE, he, himself, was born [REDACTED] at Cincinnati, Ohio.

LESLIE stated that he had no idea why GIBSON would be attempting to contact him, LESLIE, telephonically -- how GIBSON could have obtained any information concerning JAMES EARL RAY -- or why GIBSON would furnish such information concerning the assassin to the Cincinnati Police Department.

This will confirm SAC's telephone call to the Bureau on 4/29/68.

4/29/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, DENVER (157-203)(P)
RE: MURKIN
CR
(OO: MEMPHIS)

Re Atlanta airtel dated 4/25/68.

Re Georgia cars recovered in Denver territory.

A review of all pending and closed ITSMV cases in the Denver Division, since 3/23/68, revealed that no cars from Georgia have been recovered in Denver Office territory.

3 - Bureau
1 - Atlanta (44-2386)(Info)
2 - Memphis (44-1987)
2 - Denver

BDA: lkr
(8)

44-1987 Sub E-789

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| SEARCHED..... | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED..... | FILED..... |
| MAY 1 1968 | |
| FBI - MEMPHIS | |

Boyle AB

FBI WASH DC*

FBI ATLANTA

3:45P EDT URGENT 4/29/68 VSC

TO WFO 44-703

FROM ATLANTA 44-2336

MURKIN

REURTEL, APR. TWENTYNINE, INSTANT.

INSTANT LICENSE B Y EIGHT SIX SEVEN THREE IS NOT A
GEORGIA LICENSE. GEORGIA 'SIXTYEIGHT TAGS ARE WHITE ON
GREEN BACKGROUND.

AM COPY SENT MEMPHIS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P

END

CAB

FBI WASH DC*

44-1987-Sub E-112

| | |
|---------------|---------|
| SEARCHED | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED | FILED |
| MAY - 1 1968 | |
| FBI - MEMPHIS | |

Bm 1013

4/29/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)
RE: MURKIN

Re New Orleans tel 4/26/68; mytel 4/26/68 and
telephone call to New Orleans today.

Telephone company records, Houston, list exact
time of phone call 12/17/67 to phone number 318 477-0616,
Lake Charles, Louisiana, 7:49 PM.

- 2 - Bureau
- ① - Memphis (info)
- 1 - New Orleans (info)
- 1 - Los Angeles (info)
- 1 - Atlanta (info)
- 1 - Birmingham (info)
- 1 - Houston

WTW:mec
(9)

44-1987-Sub E-791

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| SEARCHED | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED | FILED |
| MAY - 1 1968 | |
| FBI - MEMPHIS | |

Boyer 130

4/29/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL - REGISTERED MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
(ATTN: FBI LABORATORY)

FROM: SAC, BUFFALO (44-374) (P)

MURKIN

Re Buffalo airtel to the Bureau, 4/23/68.

Transmitted herewith via registered mail is the original envelope and letter received by Mrs. MARY GROOMS, Rochester, New York, on 4/19/68.

The letter reads as follows:

"Mrs. Grooms -

"I read your column regularly they are good and factual, with lots of common sense. The King plot was hatched recently in Detroit by Black Nationalists, Muslims, and Commies (I was there). The job was done by a hired professional killer. The Commies paid for the job. The authorities will eventually find out.

"An anonymous black man"

The FBI Laboratory is requested to have this letter processed and latent prints and latents compared with any latents in captioned matter.

The FBI Laboratory is also requested to examine typing to determine what type of typewriter prepared this specimen and to examine paper and envelope in an effort to determine source of each.

- 3 - Bureau (AM-FM)
- 1 - Birmingham (44-1740) (Info) (AM)
- 1 - Kansas City (Info) (AM) 1-Detroit (AM)
- ② - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
- 1 - Buffalo

ROE:sak
(3)

44-1987-Sub E-792

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|-----------------|--------------|
| SEARCHED..... | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED..... | FILED..... |
| MAY 1 1968 | |
| FBI - MEMPHIS | |

Boyle BB

BU 44-374

Documents should be returned to Buffalo.

RAY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

BU 44-374

-1-

RE: ANONYMOUS LETTER TO MRS. MARY
GROOMS, ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

On April 22, 1968, Mrs. MARY GROOMS, 159 Burkedale Crescent, Rochester, New York, furnished a letter which she received on April 19, 1968. The letter was contained in an envelope postmarked "Rochester, NY, PM, 17 April 1968." The letter reads as follows:

"Mrs. Grooms -

"I read your column regularly they are good and factual, with lots of common sense. The King plot was hatched recently in Detroit by Black Nationalists, Muslims, and Commies (I was there). The job was done by a hired professional killer. The Commies paid for the job. The authorities will eventually find out.

"An anonymous black man"

Mrs. GROOMS, who writes a weekly column for the Rochester "Times Union," a daily Rochester newspaper, was unable to furnish any additional information.

The original envelope and letter were obtained and transmitted to the FBI Laboratory for latent fingerprint examination and document examination. By letter dated May 6, 1968, the Laboratory furnished the following report:

;cgp

44-1987-Sub-E-792A

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

Hester



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535**

To: **FBI, Buffalo (44-374)**

Date: **May 6, 1968**

FBI File No. **44-38861**

Re: **MURKIN
CR**

Lab. No. **D-562101 JK**

Specimens received **5/2/68**

Q304 White envelope postmarked "ROCHESTER, N.Y. 1A PM 17
APR 1968" bearing typewritten address "MRS. GROOMS
ROCHESTER TIMES-UNION ROCHESTER, N. Y."

Q305 Accompanying piece of paper bearing typewritten message
beginning "MRS. GROOMS - I READ...."

Result of examination:

It was concluded that the typewriting on Q304 and
Q305 is not identical to typewriting appearing on material
attributable to Eric S. Galt, previously submitted in this case.

Q304 and Q305 were searched in the Anonymous Letter
File without effecting an identification. Copies have been
added to this file for future reference.

Except for the printing "FREE PARKING" on the reverse
side of Q305, no watermarks, indented writing or other
identifying characteristics were noted on the submitted material
by which the source of these specimens could be definitely deter-
mined.

BU 44-374

-2-

By communication dated May 9, 1968, the Identification Division of the FBI furnished the following report:

One latent fingerprint of value was developed on the envelope. No latent prints of value on Q305. The latent fingerprint on the envelope is not identical with the fingerprints of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #4059420, or with the latent fingerprints previously reported in this case.

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 of
 an investigative insert, and to Detroit one copy of an in-
 vestigative insert, captioned "ANONYMOUS LETTER TO MRS. MARY
 GROOMS, ROCHESTER, NEW YORK."

2 - Memphis (Encs. 15) (AM)
 2 - Detroit (Enc. 1) (AM)
 1 - Buffalo
 RGE:mfm
 (5)

44-1987-Sub-E-792B

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

Hester

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