

PAGE TWO

HUNTSVILLE, ARK., AND FAYETTEVILLE, ARK. SO. CAR AND UNSUB NOT
LOCATED AT THIS TIME.

ABOVE FURNISHED OKLAHOMA CITY AND KANSAS CITY INASMUCH AS
THEY MAY RECEIVE INQUIRIES OR LEADS IN THIS MATTER. PENDING.

END

DND

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI PHOENIX

8:27 PM URGENT 5/18/68 GRC

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM: PHOENIX (44-371)

MURKIN. CIR. OO: ME.

RE TEL CALL TO PHOENIX FROM BUREAU FIVE/EIGHTEEN/INSTANT.

JOE AND GLADYS MINITT, ONE NINE THREE THREE IRENE VISTA, TUCSON, INTERVIEWED AT THREE AM INSTANT DATE BY SA KERMIT F. JOHNSON AT TUCSON, ARIZONA, RE INFORMATION FURNISHED BUREAU BY MRS. MINITT. MRS. MINITT STATED PHOTOGRAPH OF RAY, TAKEN IN JANUARY OF SIXTYEIGHT, LOOKS SIMILAR TO MAN SHE SAW IN REVIVAL MEETINGS AT CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, FIFTH STREET AND TENTH AVE., TUCSON, PASSED COUPLE OF NIGHTS. SHE DESCRIBED LOOK ALIKE HOWEVER AS ABOUT SIX FEET TALL AND SAID HE HAD TALKED WITH MINISTER CONDUCTING THE MEETINGS, INDICATING THAT HE IS AN ESCAPEE FROM MENTAL INSTITUTION IN UNKNOWN EASTERN STATE.

MINITT'S HAVE NO INFORMATION AS TO THIS PERSONS IDENTITY OR WHERE HE IS STAYING IN TUCSON. THEY ALSO SAID THIS LOOK-ALIKE HAS BEEN THROUGH TUCSON PREVIOUSLY AND HAD BEEN IN CONTACT WITH ELDER E. H. MARTIN, PASTOR OF MIRICLE CHURCH OF PENTECOSTAL FAITH, NINE TWO SEVEN NORTH PERRY, TUCSON.

EXCEPT FOR THE LOOK-ALIKE FEATHERS OF UNKNOWN PERSON THE
END PAGE ONE

E

44-1987-Sub E-993

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Boyle RB

PAGE TWO

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MINITT'S HAD NO OTHER INFORMATION WHICH WOULD INDICATE UNSUB IS IDENTICAL WITH RAY.

ELDER EDWARD H. MARTIN, FIVE SIX FIVE SEVEN SOUTH BRYANT STRAVENUE, TUCSON, PASTOR OF MIRICLE CHURCH, INTERVIEWED INSTANT DATE BY SA KERMIT F. JOHNSON. MARTIN AND WIFE ELEANOR HAVE SEEN THE PERSON REFERREED TO BY THE MINITT'S, HAVING FIRST CONTACTED THE MARTINS IN NOVEMBER OF SIXTYSEVEN AT WHICH TIME HE INTRODUCED HIMSELF AS ELDER (FNU) TILLMAN AND CLAIMED TO BE A PENTECOSTAL PREACHER. AT TILLMAN'S REQUIST, MARTIN PERMITTED HIM TO PREACH ON SUNDAY MORNING IN HIS CHURCH LAST NOVEMBER, AND GAVE TILLMAN PART OF THE COLLECTION. TILLMAN AT THIS TIME WAS HITCHHICKING THROUGH COUNTRY AND HAD NO MONEY AND WAS SUBSISTING ON WHAT HE COULD GET PREACHING IN NEGRO CHURCHES.

MARTIN STATED HE DID NOT SEE TILLMAN AGAIN UNTIL SOON AFTER FIRST OF JANUARY, SIXTYEIGHT, WHEN TILLMAN AGAIN CONTACTED MARTIN IN TUCSON SAYING HE WAS ON WAY TO MEXICO TO DO MISSIONARY PREACHING.

BOTH MARTIN AND WIFE STATE TILLMAN OBVIOUSLY MENTALLY OFF BALANCE, HOWEVER MARTIN FELT SORRY FOR HIM. MARTIN STATED THAT TILLMAN IS NOT TYPICAL PENTECOSTAL MINISTER AND MARTIN INTERTAINS DOUBTS AS TO HIS SINCERITY. BOTH MR. AND MRS. MARTIN

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

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DESCRIBED TILLMAN AS WHITE MALE, IN FORTIES, BLACK HAIR, FIVE FEET TEN INCHES TO FIVE FEET ELEVEN INCHES, ONE NINE ZERO LBS., HEAVY BUILD, AND SWARTHY COMPLEXTION.

MARTIN STATED TILLMAN HAS CALLED HIM TWICE IN PAST FEW DAYS WANTING TO PREACH AT MARTINS CHURCH. WHEN TILLMAN CALLS AGAIN MARTIN WILL OBTAIN ADDRESS WHERE TILLMAN CAN BE CONTACTED, SO MORE BACK GROUND INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED FOR USE OF THIS BUREAU IN EVENT OF FUTURE REPORTS ON TILLMAN AS BEING IDENTICAL WITH RAY.

BOTH MR. AND MRS. MARTIN STATE TILLMAN APPEARS SIMILAR TO LATEST PHOTOGRAPH OF RAY, HOWEVER, THEY CANNOT SAY TILLMAN IDENTICAL WITH RAY.

MARTIN WHO IS A NEGRO, STATED THAT TILLMAN'S SPEECH SOUNDS EXACTLY LIKE A NEGRO. MARTIN STATED HE THINKS TILLMAN IS FROM ONE OF SOUTHEASTERN STATES BECAUSE OF MANNER OF SPEECH.

EFFORT WILL BE MADE FIVE/NINETEEN/NEXT TO INTERVIEW PHROPHET HERMAN, WHO IS CONDUCTING ABOVE MENTIONED REVIVAL AND WHO HAS TALKED WITH TILLMAN THE PAST WEEK.

BUREAU AND MEMPHIS WILL BE ADVISED OF RESULTS OF FURTHER INVESTIGATION BEING CONDUCTED TO IDENIFY TILLMAN.

END.

DND

FBI MEMPHIS

TU

5/17/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) AND SACS, ST. LOUIS (44-775)
SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (44-1114)

*Sub-K-80
-81P
-163*

MURKIN.

RE ST. LOUIS TEL TO BUREAU ET AL MAY SIXTEEN LAST.

RE BLACKIE DE CORE (PH), CHICAGO INDICES SEARCHED
UNDER NUMEROUS VARIATIONS OF SURNAME CAPTIONED INDIVIDUAL,
NEGATIVE. NOT KNOWN TO MEMBERS FBI CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE
PROGRAM SQUAD CHICAGO NOR TO GAMBLING UNIT, INTELLIGENCE UNIT,
CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT ALL CHICAGO PD, PLUS RECORDS
CHECK AT BUREAU OF RECORDS AND COMMUNICATIONS CHICAGO PD
AND ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF PAROLE NEGATIVE.

SGT. JERRY HARMON, MID, CC30, ADVISES BLACKIE DE CORE
UNKNOWN TO HIM BUT THAT ONE BLACKIE DE COOK IS A KNOWN FENCE,
GAMBLER AND CONFIDANT OF THIEVES IN SOUTHERN COOK COUNTY AREA.
DE COOK RESIDES MIDLOTHIAN, ILLINOIS, EMPLOYED AT U.S. STEEL,
SOUTH WORKS, CHICAGO. DESCRIBED AS WMA, AGE FORTY EIGHT TO
FIFTY TWO, SIX FEET ONE INCH, TWO FORTY POUNDS BLACK HAIR AND
HAS NO KNOWN ARREST RECORD.

① Memphis (44-1987) (AM)

RJD:jap
(2)

E

44-1987-Sub E-994

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Boyer BB
Bohon

PAGE TWO

**ST. LOUIS RECONTACT OWENS FOR POSSIBLITY DE CORE
IDENT WITH INDIVIDUAL MENTIONED.**

AMCC MEMPHIS

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

5/17/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
(ATTENTION: IDENTIFICATION DIVISION)

FROM: SAC, COLUMBIA (44-399)

RE: MURKIN
CR

Enclosed for the Identification Division is a fingerprint card in the name of DANIEL EUGENE PARMA.

On 5/16/68 information was received by the FBI, Columbia, S.C., indicating a white male somewhat resembling JAMES EARL RAY was staying at the Carolina Motel, Two Notch Road, Columbia, S.C. He was reportedly driving a two door beige Oldsmobile bearing 1968 Texas license GCW799.

This individual was identified and interviewed by Bureau Agents 5/16/68 when he furnished his name as DANIEL EUGENE PARMA, a commercial artist of 2915 Grim Avenue, Waco, Texas. He advised he was born [redacted] at Waco, Texas, and that his mother, Mrs. MARGARET H. PARMA, presently resides at above address.

When interviewed PARMA advised that he is a commercial artist and he was in Columbia, S.C., setting up an art show for May 18, 1968. He is described as 6'1", 160 pounds, white male, U.S. Navy 6/6/51 through 11/29/54, Navy serial number [redacted].

PARMA somewhat resembled photographs of JAMES EARL RAY therefore he consented to and was fingerprinted

- 3 - Bureau (Encs. 1)
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987)
- 1 - San Antonio (Info)
- 1 - Columbia

MEM:jc (7)

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CO 44-299

**after which he was eliminated as JAMES EARL RAY by
SA ROBERT E. ROBERTSON based on fingerprints.**

**Even though FARMA is not the subject of the
MURKIN case his prints are being forwarded to the
Identification Division to determine if he is wanted.
The Bureau may retain these prints if desired.**

For information of Memphis insert follows.

- 2 -

5/18/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: SAC, BIRMINGHAM

FROM: SAC, JACKSONVILLE (44-769) (P)

SUBJ: MURKIN
CR
(OO: Memphis)

On 5/16/68, TOMMY HIGHNOTE, 232 South Second St., Jacksonville Beach, Fla., telephonically contacted the Jacksonville Office and indicated that he had some information concerning the shooting of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING.

On the same date HIGHNOTE was interviewed and he indicated that his full name was THOMAS HIGHNOTE but that he has traditionally used the name of TOMMY. He stated that he has been dating a young lady named HELEN PHELPS, who works as a waitress in the Quality Court Motel Restaurant at the junction of Highway 27 and I 75 in Ocala, Fla.

He further advised that a week or two after the KING incident he was on a date with PHELPS and after he made some remark about the shooting she noted that her boss, BOB PATTEN, left for Birmingham, Ala., either the day before KING was assassinated or the same date and that PATTEN remarked that he was going to Birmingham to get "that black S.O.B. MARTIN LUTHER KING".

HIGHNOTE stated that this is the only remark that PHELPS made concerning PATTEN in regards to the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING, but that he is aware that PATTEN is a businessman from Bessemer, Ala., who is in the real estate business and also is the owner of the Quality Court Motel in Ocala.

2 - Birmingham
② - Memphis
2 - Jacksonville
WPK:jac
(6)

E

44-1987-Sub E-996

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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Ronan

JK 44-769

HIGHNOTE furnished the place of employment of Mrs. PHELPS in Ocala, Fla., where she could be contacted.

AT OCALA, FLA.

On 5/16/68, HELEN L. PHELPS, 4100 SW 20th St., Ocala, Fla., was located and interviewed at 8:15 PM by SAs TED R. TUCKER and WILLIAM M. BAKER at her place of employment, the Quality Courts, U. S. Highway 27 North, Ocala, Fla.

Mrs. PHELPS advised the owner of the Quality Courts is Mr. BOB PATTEN, a construction company owner, who resides at Bessemer, Ala.

Mrs. PHELPS advised at no time has she ever heard Mr. PATTEN make any remarks that he intended to kill MARTIN LUTHER KING or any other person. She advised if anyone stated that she had related this information then this is purely a figment of that person's imagination.

Mrs. PHELPS advised Mr. PATTEN is a very fine individual and she has never heard him discuss his political views with anyone. She further advised Mr. PATTEN resides in Bessemer, Ala., and only comes to Ocala on rather infrequent occasions.

On 5/17/68, Mr. ROBERT O. REDDING, Investigator for Ocala attorneys WAGNER and PEARL, appeared at the Ocala RA at approximately 3 PM and furnished the following information to SA ROBERT H. ANDERSON, JR.:

On the night of 5/16/68, he, REDDING, was at the Quality Courts, U. S. Highway 27 North, Ocala, having a drink and entered into conversation with HELEN PHELPS whom he knew and who was acting as the bartender on this particular night. PHELPS informed REDDING she had been visited earlier in the evening by the FBI regarding remarks that her boss, BOB PATTEN, allegedly made concerning threats about MARTIN LUTHER KING.

According to REDDING, PHELPS advised she did not want to get involved in this matter and she informed the FBI

JK 44-769

that PATTEN had never made any threatening remarks concerning KING in her presence. REDDING advised, however, that PHELPS told him that PATTEN had made the remark, "We're going to have to kill KING" in her presence and in the presence of Mr. (FNU) VAIL or VALE, the night bookkeeper, prior to KING's assassination.

REDDING further advised PHELPS told him that PATTEN owns a string of Quality Courts and is well known in his home town of Bessemer, Ala., and is reportedly a high official of the Ku Klux Klan in that area.

REDDING advised he has no way to assess the truthfulness of the comments made by PHELPS. He advised he has had business contacts with her in the past and he feels she could be possibly somewhat emotionally disturbed.

Attention is directed to the fact that HELEN PHELPS was formerly HELEN HOOKER, Postmistress at Citra, Fla.

She further informed the Ocala RA several years ago regarding LEROY ANDROSIA FRAZIER (JK 76-543) who was then a Top Ten Fugitive. At that time, PHELPS was convinced FRAZIER was residing in Citra, Fla. Subsequent investigation revealed her information was absolutely worthless.

LEADS:

BIRMINGHAM

AT BESSEMER, ALA.

Immediately determine general reputation and background of BOB PATTEN. Ascertain if he is a member of the KKK unit and conduct any other logical investigation, including interview, to determine if he could be in any way involved in the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING.

JACKSONVILLE

AT OCALA, FLA.

Will identify (FNU) VAIL or VALE and interview him concerning any remarks he has ever overheard made by BOB PATTEN concerning MARTIN LUTHER KING.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI PHILA

125PM URGENT 5-20-68 ECK

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND MEMPHIS (44-1937)

FROM PHILA (44-1368) (P) 2P

MURKIN

E *Ronan* *Boyle* *Hester* *Boyle*

ON MAY EIGHT LAST BODY OF UNKNOWN DECEASED FOUND PARTIALLY BURIED
IN GRAVE NEAR MAHANOEY CITY, PA. BODY CLOTHED ONLY IN SHORTS & UNDER-
SHIRT; POWDER, BELIEVED LIME, IN GRAVE. EXAMINING PATHOLOGIST FOUND
THREE BULLETS IN CHEST CAVITY. BODY IN ADVANCED STATE OF DECAY,
NO POSSIBILITY FINGERPRINTS BEING OBTAINED, PATHOLOGIST STATING OF
OPINION BODY IN GRAVE SIX MONTHS. ON MAY SEVENTEEN LAST, DR. WILTON
M. KROGMAN, ARCHEOLOGIST, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, EXAMINED BODY
AND STATED OF OPINION BODY IN GRAVE ONLY FOUR TO SIX WEEKS. KROGMAN
OF OPINION BODY IS THAT OF MIDDLE AGED WHITE MALE, FIVE FT NINE IN
TO SIX FT ONE IN, MUSCULAR BUILD, ABOUT TWO HUNDRED POUNDS, DESCENDANT
OF NORTHERN ITALY OR CENTRAL EUROPE. TEETH IN UPPER JAW MISSING OR
DISLODGED BUT THOSE IN LOWER JAW INTACT AND CONTAIN SEVERAL FILLINGS.
LOWER JAW IN POSSESSION OF PSP, READING, PA, WHO ARE RETAINING.

END PAGE ONE

44-1987-Sub E-997

PH 44-1368

PAGE TWO

ON THIS DATE PSP, READING, REQUESTED, AT SUGGESTION FBI PHILA, THAT
TEETH BE COMPARED WITH DENTAL RECORD OF JAMES EARL RAY, AKA-FUGITIVE,
IO NO. FOUR ONE EIGHT TWO. IF DENTAL RECORD OF RAY IS AVAILABLE OR
CAN BE OBTAINED FROM PRISON OR OTHER RECRODS, MEMPHIS REQUESTED FURNISH
PHILA WITH RECORDS, INCLUDING AVAILABILITY OF X-RAYS AND NAMES
OF DENTISTS SO ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE TO HAVE DENTIST COMPARE WITH
TEETH IN LOWER JAW OF UNKNOWN DECEASED.

END

MCP

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI WASH DC

555PM URGENT 5/20/68 CAB

TO MEMPHIS

FROM DIRECTOR 1P.

MURKIN

BUREAU IS IN RECEIPT OF ANONYMOUS RELIGIOUS GREETING CARD
ON WHICH WAS WRITTEN IN PEN, "MARTIN L. KING. RAY AT SEVEN
ONE COLUMBUS AVENUE, NORTH OF DUTTON STREET, MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE.
CALL AT SEVEN SEVEN CHARLES STREET, HOLLYWOOD SEVEN NINE EIGHT -
SIX SIX SEVEN."

HANDLE.

END

TSJ

FBI MEMPHIS

TU

44-1987-Sub E-998

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Roman

E

*Memphis
lead
Darlington*

F B I

Date: 5/22/68

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

To: SACs, Memphis (44-1987)
Newark (44-854)

✓ From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

Re anonymous religious greeting card.

Bureau is in receipt of anonymous religious greeting card on which was written in pen, "Martin L. King. Ray at 71 Columbus Avenue, North of Dutton Street, Memphis, Tennessee. Call at 77 Charles Street, Hollywood 798-667."

Memphis has advised Columbus Avenue and Dutton Street are nonexistent in Memphis, Tennessee.

There is a Charles Street in Memphis, however, address of 77 Charles Street is nonexistent. Hollywood 798-667 is a nonexistent telephone number or street number in Memphis area.

Envelope of anonymous communication bears postmark at Hoboken, New Jersey, May 17, 1968, 1 p.m., 07030. Newark conduct investigation in an attempt to identify the sender of the anonymous communication.

Sub E

44-1987-Sub E-99A

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<i>BOYLE GB</i>	

Sent Via _____ M Per _____

5/24/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, NEWARK (44-884) (P)

MURKIN

Sub E-998
Rebuairtel to Memphis & Newark, 5/22/68.
Re anonymous religious greeting card.

Enclosed for Los Angeles are two copies of referenced Bureau airtel.

Inquiry with US Postal Inspector, Newark, has failed to develop any information regarding the sender of the anonymous communication. There is no Columbus Ave., Dutton St., or Charter St. in Hoboken, NJ

LEAD

LOS ANGELES

Determine if there is a 77 Charter St., or telephone 798-007 in Hollywood, Calif.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

3 - Bureau
2 - Los Angeles (Encl. 2)
1 - Memphis
2 - Newark

MM:js
(8)

E

44-1987-Sub E-998 B

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Boyer RB

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI CINCINTI

653PM URGENT 5-20-68 WRH

TO DIRECTOR, PITTSBURGH AND MEMPHIS
FROM CINCINNATI (157-1893)

MURKIN

RE JAMES EARL RAY,
CHARLES MEYER, DIVISIONAL CLAIMS MANAGER, EQUITABLE LIFE
ASSURANCE CO., THIRTY SIX E. FOURTH STREET, CINCINNATI, ADVISED TODAY
HIS WIFE, DOROTHY, RECEIVED LETTER FROM HER MOTHER, MARY GDULA, NO
STREET NUMBER OR TELEPHONE, BEVERDALE, PENNSYLVANIA, IN WHICH MOTHER
STATED ANN JACOBS, FOUR THREE FOUR ROBB AVENUE, JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA,
NO TELEPHONE, WHO IS SISTER OF GDULA, HAD PERFORMED SOME DOMESTIC
WORK FOR "KILLER OF MARTIN LUTHER KING."

MEYER EXHIBITED LETTER WHICH DID NOT MENTION RAY BY NAME, BUT
STATED RAY RECENTLY MOVED TO WITHIN A FEW BLOCKS OF JACOBS A SHORT
TIME AGO, HAS A CRIMINAL RECORD, DRIVES A CADILLAC, LIVES WITH A
WOMAN, NAME UNKNOWN, AND IS WELL SUPPLIED WITH MONEY. JACOBS
APPARENTLY SUGGESTED TO GDULA THAT PERSON BELIEVED TO BE RAY DOES
END PAGE ONE

44-1987-Sub E-999

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Hester

PAGE TWO

CONSIDERABLE DRINKING AND WHILE UNDER INFLUENCE MADE STATEMENTS WHICH CONVINCED JACOBS OF HIS IDENTITY.

MEYER STATED JACOBS IS ON WELFARE ASSISTANCE, AND BOTH JACOBS AND GDULA ARE RELATIVELY UNEDUCATED, BUT NOT GIVEN TO EXAGGERATION AND FOR THAT REASON PLACED SOME CREDENCE IN INFORMATION AND ACCORDINGLY ADVISED FBI.

PITTSBURGH WILL RESOLVE IDENTITY OF ABOVE INDIVIDUAL.

END

RJT

FBI MEMPHIS

5-17-68

Airtel

To: LEGAT, Mexico City - Enc. (4)
SAC, Memphis (44-1987)

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

44-1987-1034
Reference is made to the receipt on 5-11-68,
of fingerprints of an unknown deceased found on the beach in
Acapulco, Mexico.

The submitted fingerprints are of no value for
identification purposes.

On 5-13-68, the fingers of the body were examined
by Fingerprint Examiner George J. Bencharke in Acapulco, and
it was determined that this body could not be that of James Earl
Ray, FBI #400942G.

This airtel confirms the verbal report made on
5-13-68.

The four cards bearing the submitted fingerprints
are enclosed to LEGAT, Mexico City.

Laboratory reporting separate and will advise
disposition of other submitted evidence.

E

44-1987-SUB E-1000

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Hester

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI TAMPA

745 PM URGENT 5/21/68 ALS

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), ATLANTA AND MEMPHIS
FROM TAMPA (157-3231)

MURKIN

RE: EASTERN AIRLINES (EAL) FLIGHTS OUT OF ATLANTA APRIL
FIVE THROUGH TWELVE LAST.

MR. CHARLES E. FOSTER, RESERVATIONS SUPERVISOR, DELTA AIRLINES
TAMPA, ADVISED ALL TAMPA DELTA AIRLINES RECORDS MAINTAINED IN COM-
PUTER, ATLANTA DELTA OFFICE, AND SEARCH FROM MAY NINE THROUGH
TWENTY-ONE LAST FAILED TO LOCATE ANY J. WALTON OR RECORDS FOR
TRAVEL FROM ATLANTA TO TAMPA ON EAL FLIGHT TWO SEVEN THREE Y ON
APRIL TWELVE LAST. NO RECORD LOCATED AND HE SAID NOTHING FURTHER
CAN BE DON IN TAMPA.

ATLANTA AT DELTA AIRLINES. CONTACT COMPUTER LIBRARIAN AND
CONDUCT INQUIRY AS TO WHAT FURTHER EFFORTS CAN BE MADE TO
ELIMINATE J. WALTON.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

DGB

FBI MEMPHIS

TU X

E

44-1987-Sub E-1001

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FBI — MEMPHIS	

[Handwritten signature]

5/20/68
PLAIN

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: SAN ANTONIO (44-1242) AND HOUSTON
FROM: PHOENIX (44-371)

MURKIN

MAN CLOSELY RESEMBLING ~~SIXTYEIGHT~~ PHOTOGRAPHS OF
SUBJECT RAY REGISTERED HOLIDAY INN MOTEL (SOUTH), TUCSON SIX
THIRTY PM MAY NINETEEN AS H. W. MANNING, FIVE ONE ZERO MARQUETTE
SAN ANTONIO. OCCUPATION HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER, CAR CHEVROLET,
TEXAS LICENSE H T C SEVEN FOUR FOUR. DESK CLERK PERSONALLY
OBSERVED LICENSE ON CAR WAS H T C SEVEN THREE FOUR ON LATE MODEL
CHEVROLET TWO-DOOR WITH LEFT FRONT FENDER NOTICEABLY DENTED. COLOR
NOT NOTICED BUT MAY HAVE BEEN BLUE.

MANNING HAD BAD COUGH AND INQUIRED ABOUT NEAREST DRUG
STORE. LEFT FOR SHORT TIME AND ON RETURN ATE DINNER AT MOTEL.
UNKNOWN GUEST FROM MEMPHIS REMARKED TO AN EMPLOYEE STRIKING
RESEMBLANCE OF MANNING WITH NEWSPAPER PHOTOGRAPHS OF RAY. OTHER
EMPLOYEES THEN LOOKED AT WANTED FLYER AT MOTEL AND THEY TOO
DECIDED CLOSE RESEMBLANCE.

1 - Bureau (AM)
② - Memphis (AM)
1 - Phoenix
KJ/jm
(3)

E

44-1987-Sub E-142

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FBI—MEMPHIS	

Boyle RB

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MANNING SAID HAD DRIVEN FROM LOS ANGELES, WAS TIRED AND PLANNED TO RETIRE IN HIS ROOM IMMEDIATELY. PAID DINNER TICKET IN CASH AND WAS OBSERVED DRIVING AWAY IN HIS CAR. HAD NOT YET RETURNED BY ONE FIFTEEN AM MAY TWENTY, INSTANT.

MOTEL EMPLOYEES WHO SAW HIM ADVISED SA KERMIT F. JOHNSON RESEMBLANCE TO RAY PHOTOS SO CLOSE THEY COULD NOT ELIMINATE.

SAN ANTONIO OFFICE TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED SA JOHNSON TEXAS DPS RECORDS SHOW H T C SEVEN THREE FOUR REGISTERED H. W. MANNING ONE TWO FOUR COLLEGE BLVD., KINGSVILLE, TEXAS ON SIXTYEIGHT CHEVROLET. SAN ANTONIO TELEPHONE DIRECTORY LISTS H. W. MANNING AT TWO HUNDRED PLACID BUT NO LISTING FOR SAME NAME ON MARQUETTE.

HOUSTON AND SAN ANTONIO WILL CHECK OUT THE H. W. MANNING AT ABOVE ADDRESSES AND DETERMINE IF PRESENTLY ON TRIP DRIVING CHEVROLET WITH ABOVE LICENSE.

AM COPIES TO BUREAU AND MEMPHIS.

5/20/68

TELETYPE

URGENT

**TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861) (AIRMAIL)
SAN ANTONIO (44-1242) AND HOUSTON**

FROM: PHOENIX (44-371) (1P)

MURKIN

REMYTEL, INSTANT DATE.

**ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATION THIS DATE, PLUS INTERVIEW WITH
H. W. MANNING AT TUCSON, ARIZONA, AND COMPARISON OF HIS
FINGERPRINTS WITH THOSE OF JAMES EARL RAY DISCLOSED MANNING
NOT IDENTICAL TO RAY.**

**SAN ANTONIO AND HOUSTON DISCONTINUE LEADS SET FORTH
IN RETEL.**

PENDING.

1 - Bureau (AM)
① - Memphis (44-1984) (AM)
1 - Phoenix

**DOH:rs
(3)**

44-1984-Sub E-1002A
~~44-1984~~

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PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: SAC, MOBILE

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (44-1609)

MURKIN; CIVIL RIGHTS; OO: MEMPHIS

AT APPROXIMATELY NINE A.M. ON MAY TWENTY INSTANT,
MRS. CARMEN HINES, RONKONKOMA, NEW YORK, A SECRETARY
FOR NEWSDAY NEWSPAPER, WHILE DRIVING ON THE LONG ISLAND
EXPRESSWAY IN THE VICINITY OF HOLBROOK, NEW YORK, OBSERVED
A BLUE CONVERTIBLE AUTOMOBILE WITH A BEIGE TOP, YEAR AND
MAKE OF CAR NOT KNOWN, BEARING ALABAMA LICENSE PLATE
TWO FIVE DASH TWO ZERO ZERO FOUR EIGHT. THIS CAR WAS
DRIVEN BY A WHITE, MALE, WHO LOOKED LIKE JAMES EARL
RAY. THERE WERE NO OTHER OCCUPANTS IN THE CAR. MOBILE,
AT MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA WILL DETERMINE THE OWNER OF
ALABAMA LICENSE PLATE TWO FIVE DASH TWO ZERO ZERO FOUR EIGHT
AND CONDUCT FURTHER INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE IF THIS
CAR COULD HAVE BEEN DRIVEN BY RAY.

1- New York (44-1609)
1- Memphis (44-1987) (AM) (INFO)
1- Supv. #23
1- ADIC JOHN F. MALONE

FLC:jrf
(4)

44-1987-Sub E-1003

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 22 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Ronan

PAGE TWO
NY 44-1609

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

MEMPHIS ADVISED BY AIR MAIL.

F B I

Date: **5/20/68**Transmit the following in **PLAIN**
(Type in plaintext or code)Via **TELETYPE** **URGENT**
(Priority)

TO BIRMINGHAM 44-1740
FROM MOBILE 157-2627

MURKIN. CR. OO ME.

FOLLOWING RECEIVED THIS DATE BY MO FROM NY:

AT APPROX NINE AM ON MAY TWENTY INSTANT, MRS. CARMEN HINES, BONDONKOMA, N.Y., A SECRETARY FOR NEWSDAY NEWSPAPER, WHILE DRIVING ON THE LONG ISLAND EXPRESSWAY IN THE VICINITY OF HOLBROOK, N.Y., OBSERVED A BLUE CONVERTIBLE AUTOMOBILE WITH A BRIGH TOP, YEAR AND MAKE OF CAR NOT KNOWN, BEARING ALA. LICENSE PLATE TWO FIVE DASH TWO ZERO ZERO FOUR EIGHT. THIS CAR WAS DRIVEN BY A WHITE, MALE, WHO LOOKED LIKE JAMES EARL RAY. THERE WERE NO OTHER OCCUPANTS IN THE CAR. MOBILE, AT MONTGOMERY, ALA., WILL DETERMINE THE OWNER OF ALA. LICENSE PLATE TWO FIVE DASH TWO ZERO ZERO FOUR EIGHT AND CONDUCT FURTHER INVESTIGATION

END PAGE ONE

1-New York (44-1602)(AM)

1-Memphis (44-1987)(AM)

JTB:lpw

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent **E**

44-1987-Sub E-10030

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MAY 22 1968	
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Boyle *1072*

F B I

Date:

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

Via _____
(Priority)

NO 157-2627

PAGE TWO

TO DETERMINE IF THIS CAR COULD HAVE BEEN DRIVEN BY RAY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

ME ADVISED BY AM.

**THIS LICENSE IS FOR CULLMAN COUNTY, COVERED BY BIRMINGHAM,
WHICH OFFICE SHOULD HANDLE LEAD SET FORTH FOR MOBILE.**

AM COPY TO NEW YORK AND MEMPHIS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END.

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

FBI MEMPHIS

A

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI CLEVELAND

323AM URGENT 5-23-68 LJJ

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) MEMPHIS (44-1987) AND MIAMI
FROM CLEVELAND (44-565) 3P

MURKIN

ON MAY TWENTYTHREE, INSTANT, CV THREE FOUR SIX - C
WHOSE IDENTITY IS KNOWN TO THE BUREAU, ADVISED HIS WIFE HAS
JUST RETURNED FROM MIAMI, FLA. WHERE SHE SPENT THE PAST FOUR
MONTHS HELPING HER SISTER OPERATE THE DIAMOND INN, ONE TWO FOUR
TWO NINE WEST DIXIE HIGHWAY, NORTH MIAMI.

ACCORDING TO THE CI, DURING THE COURSE OF HIS WIFE'S
WORKING AT DIAMOND INN, SHE MET A MAN KNOWN ONLY AS ROLAND, WHO
FREQUENTED THE DIAMOND INN AND ALWAYS DRANK RUM AND COKE AND
ATTEMPTED TO DATE THE CI'S WIFE UNSUCCESSFULLY. ROLAND CLAIMED
TO BE A GRAND DRAGON IN THE KU KLUX KLAN (KKK) AND DISPLAYED A
KKK MEMBERSHIP CARD. ON ONE OCCASION, HE STATED HE HAD BEEN
QUESTIONED BY THE FBI AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES REGARDING "KILLING
NIGGERS" AND HAD SPECIFICALLY BEEN QUESTIONED ABOUT KILLING ONE
IN VIRGINIA BUT AUTHORITIES COULD NOT PROVE HE DID IT. ~~44-1987-Sub E~~

ACCORDING TO THE CI, TWO DAYS BEFORE THE MURDER OF
MARTIN LUTHER KING, ROLAND ASKED THE CI'S WIFE TO

END PAGE ONE

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FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle RB

44-1987-Sub E-1004

Q 44-565

PAGE TWO

HIM TO MEMPHIS, TENN. AND HE WOULD SHOW HER HOW HE KILLED "NIGGERS". ROLAND LEFT AND WAS NOT SEEN AGAIN UNTIL ABOUT SEVEN THIRTY PM ON THE DAY OF KING'S DEATH WHEN HE WALKED INTO DIAMOND INN AND SAID, "SEE, WHAT DID I TELL YOU". HE THEN PROCEEDED TO STATE THAT ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, STOKELY CARMICHAEL AND RAP BROWN WERE ALSO SCHEDULED FOR ASSASSINATION. HE FURTHER STATED, "WE WILL TAKE CARE OF BOBBY KENNEDY SO HE WILL NEVER BECOME PRESIDENT."

ROLAND DRIVES A WHITE MUSTANG AND CLAIMS HE ALWAYS CARRIES A SHOTGUN AND MACHINE GUN IN THE CAR AND IS ALWAYS ACCOMPANIED BY A LARGE DOBERMAN PINCHER DOG WHO IS EXTREMELY VICIOUS. IN ADDITION, HE CLAIMS HIS WIFE, WHO WORKS IN A RESTAURANT AS A WAITRESS NEAR THE DIAMOND INN, IS ALSO ACTIVE IN THE KKK.

ROLAND REPORTEDLY GETS VIOLENT AFTER A FEW DRINKS AND LOUIDLY EXPOUNDS HIS HATE FOR NEGROES, JEWS AND CATHOLICS AND ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS, DISPLAYS A LARGE CONFEDERATE FLAG ON HIS CAR.

END PAGE TWO

CV 44-565

PAGE THREE

THE CI'S WIFE WAS INTERVIEWED AND SHE VERIFIED THE ABOVE INFORMATION. SHE WAS SHOWN PHOTOGRAPHS OF JAMES EARL RAY BUT STATED ROLAND IN NO WAY RESEMBLED RAY. WHEN QUESTIONED WHY SHE HAD NOT REPORTED THIS INFORMATION EARLIER, SHE ADVISED SHE WAS FRIGHTENED AND WANTED TO WAIT AND DISCUSS IT WITH HER HUSBAND PRIVATELY AFTER LEAVING MIAMI.

ROLAND DESCRIBED AS A WHITE MALE, FORTY YEARS, FIVE FOOT NINE INCHES, BROWN HAIR, HAZEL EYES, HIGH CHEEKBONES, HIGH FOREHEAD, POINTED NOSE, SWARTHY COMPLEXION, EMPLOYED AS AN AUTO MECHANIC AT THE CHRYSLER-PLYMOUTH GARAGE IN NORTH MIAMI.

EXTREME CAUTION SHOULD BE USED IN PROTECTING THE IDENTITY OF THE SOURCE OF THIS INFORMATION AS WELL AS THE FACT THE INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED FROM THE DIAMOND INN INASMUCH AS THE CI FEELS THAT HARM COULD COME TO EITHER HIS WIFE OR HIS SISTER-IN-LAW IN MIAMI.

MIAMI. CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION TO IDENTIFY ROLAND AND TO DETERMINE IF THERE IS ANY POSSIBILITY HE COULD HAVE ANY CONNECTION WITH CAPTIONED MATTER.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

P.

MIN PLS CORR

CORRS TIME SHD READ "PM" AND ON PG TWO LINE FIFTEEN WORD TWO SHD READ "LOUDLY"

END

MEH

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI LOUISVLE

10:41A.M. MAY 23/1968 URGENT PAB

TO; MEMPHIS /44-L987/

FROM; LOUISVILLE /44-947/

MURKIN

RE SUSPECT LAWRENCE D. CHELKOR.

MRS. EVELYN MILLIGAN, PROPRIETOR, VANITY BEAUTY SHOP, PADUCAH, KENTUCKY, ADVISED INSTANT DATE, SHE HAD MALE CUSTOMER APPROXIMATELY SEVEN THIRTY P.M. ON MAY TWO, LAST, WHO HAD HER TINT HAIR DARK AUBURN AND TEMPLES BLEACHED TO LOOK GRAY. CUSTOMER SAID HE WAS FROM MEMPHIS AND EN ROUTE TO HOPKINSVILLE, KENTUCKY TO PICK UP AUTO AND IS GOING TO SPAIN. CUSTOMER SAID HE HAD SPENT PREVIOUS EVENING AT EITHER HOLIDAY INN OR DIPLOMAT MOTEL IN PADUCAH. HE PAID BEAUTY SHOP BILL WITH AN EIGHT DOLLAR AND SEVENTY FIVE CENT CHECK DATED MAY TWO, LAST, ON FIRST NATIONAL BANK, MEMPHIS ACC. NO. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AND SIGNED LAWRENCE D. CHELKOR. CHECK RETURNED MAY TWENTY TWO, LAST, AS INSUFFICIENT FUND CHECK.

MRS. MILLIGAN STATED CHELKOR RESEMBLES SUBJECT'S PHOTO AND SHE FURNISHED SAME GENERAL PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION AS THAT OF SUBJECT ALTHOUGH SHE DOES NOT RECALL A SCAR ON CHELKOR'S

44-1987-Sub E-1005

END PAGE ONE

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Hester
Lead assigned - Sylfe.

PAGE TWO

RECORDS OF HOLIDAY INN AND DIPLOMAT MOTEL NEGATIVE RE CHELKOR.

MEMPHIS CONTACT FIRST NATIONAL BANK CONCERNING ACC. NO. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AND CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE IF CHELKOR IS IDENTICAL TO SUBJECT.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P

END

ME N

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI MEMPHIS

W

FBI CLEVELAND

753 PM URGENT 5-23-68 GDS

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), MEMPHIS (44-1987) AND MIAMI.
FROM CLEVELAND (44-565) 1P

MURKIN

RE CLEVELAND TELETYPE INSTANT DATE.

IT IS REQUESTED THAT THE MIAMI OFFICE DISSEMINATE
TO APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES THE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY CV
THREE FOUR SIX - C IN ABOVE REFERENCED TELETYPE.

THIS IS BEING REQUESTED SINCE THE CLEVELAND SOURCE
PROVIDED ALL AVAILABLE INFORMATION IN THIS MATTER AND IT IS
FELT THAT THE MIAMI OFFICE UPON IDENTIFYING ROLAND MAY BE IN A
POSITION TO PROVIDE MORE COMPLETE BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR
THIS REQUESTED DISSEMINATION.

P

END

TSJ

FBI MEMPHIS

44-1987-Sub E-1004A

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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Bayle BB

E

6/7/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: SAC, LOUISVILLE (44-947)

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) -P-

RE: MURKIN
CR

Re: Suspect LAWRENCE D. CHELKOR

Re LS tel to ME, 5/23/68.

Referenced communication indicated suspect LAWRENCE D. CHELKOR gave an insufficient funds check on 5/2/68, in the amount of \$8.75 drawn on a Memphis bank to a beauty shop operator in Paducah, Kentucky for having his hair tinted and temples bleached. The operator indicated suspect CHELKOR resembles suspect JAMES EARL RAY's photograph.

Mr. FRANCIS HALL, Assistant Auditor, First National Bank, Memphis, advised SA HARLEY E. GYLFE on 5/24/68 that one LAWRENCE D. CHALKER of 1138 Carrollton Avenue, Memphis opened an account at their South Main branch on 4/30/68 with a \$20.00 cash deposit and was given account number [REDACTED]. This account was closed on 5/20/68 to the bank's "Profit and Loss" account in the amount of \$74.40, which amount is for returned check charges. He said only one check in the amount of \$10.40 was paid on this account.

Airtel

Teletype

A.M.

A.M.S.D. 2 - Louisville
2 - Memphis

Spec. Del. HEG/vtp (4)

Reg. Mail

Registered

Mrs. G. W. MILLS, 1138 Carrollton Avenue, Memphis, advised on 5/24/68 mail addressed to LAWRENCE

SEARCHED

SERIALIZED

INDEXED

- Sub E-1005

44-1987-Sub E-1005A

BV

E

Gylfe HES

ME 44-1987

D. CHALKER at this address was received about two weeks ago and she returned it to the sender since this name is completely unknown to her or her husband.

Mr. HALL advised on 6/6/68 that a review of the checks returned on the CHALKER account indicated his address on one of the checks as 1238 Carrolton Avenue, Memphis.

Mr. CLIFFORD L. GAMET, 1238 Carrolton Avenue, Memphis advised on 6/6/68 that LAWRENCE D. CHALKER never lived at this address while in Memphis but approximately two months ago he resided at the Holiday Towers apartments in Memphis and was at that time self-employed selling cemetery lots for Forrest Hills Cemetery in Memphis. Mr. GAMET said CHALKER did not do good at selling, borrowed some money from him, left town and he has no idea where CHALKER is living or working. Mr. GAMET said his step-daughter MARY RUDD, (age 49) of this address (who is currently out of town) has known CHALKER for over 15 years.

Mr. GAMET stated CHALKER does not resemble photographs of JAMES EARL RAY in any respect. He said he has seen numerous photographs of JAMES EARL RAY as published in the paper and none of the photographs resemble CHALKER in any way. Mr. GAMET added he recalls his step-daughter was in the Baptist Hospital in Memphis on 4/4/68, and she mentioned to him the next day (4/5/68) that CHALKER had spent the afternoon, evening and night visiting her in the hospital. Mr. GAMET furnished the following description of CHALKER:

Name	LAWRENCE D. CHALKER
Address	Holiday Towers Apt. Memphis, Tennessee (In April, 1968)
Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	50-51
Height	5'11" - 6'
Weight	180-190
Hair	Curly and reddish in color
Features	Red face

ME 44-1987

Inasmuch as Mr. GAMET stated that he knows CHALKER personally, that CHALKER is definitely not identical with JAMES EARL RAY and that CHALKER does not resemble the photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, no further investigation will be conducted to attempt to locate CHALKER.

Also no further investigation will be conducted by the Memphis Division concerning the checks CHALKER has written since these are true name checks and no known federal violation exists.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

5/22/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: SAC, CHARLOTTE (44-1365)
FROM: SAC, COLUMBIA (44-299) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

On the night of 5/18/68, BILL REID, former officer at Greer, S. C. Police Department, who now resides at Tryon, N. C., telephonically contacted SA JACK C. WARD, Greenville, S. C., and advised that he, REID, had that day observed an individual at Tryon Plaza Motel, Tryon, N. C., who fits description of and bears resemblance to subject. REID stated he did not know name being used by this individual but he was occupying room at Tryon Plaza Motel which is third room east of office.

REID presently residing at 124 Carson Street in Tryon and his telephone number there is 859-6871.

LEAD:

CHARLOTTE DIVISION

AT TRYON, N. C.

Will contact REID and thereafter conduct such investigation as appears logical to determine identity of ~~SUSPECT~~ ^{SUSPECT}.

2 - Charlotte
2 - Memphis (44-1895)
2 - Columbia

JCW:bam
(6)

44-299-Sub A-100

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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JUN 12 1968	
FBI - COLUMBIA	

Royce RB

ME 44-1987
CE 44-1365
CFW:cbw
1

RE: INDIVIDUAL RESEMBLING
JAMES EARL RAY,
TRYON PLAZA MOTEL,
TRYON, NORTH CAROLINA

By communication dated May 22, 1968, the Columbia Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation advised as follows:

On the night of May 18, 1968, BILL REID, a former officer of the Greer, South Carolina, Police Department, who now resides at Tryon, North Carolina, advised that he had observed an individual at the Tryon Plaza Motel at Tryon, North Carolina, on May 18, 1968, who fits the description of and bears a resemblance to JAMES EARL RAY. REID stated he did not know the name of this individual but he was occupying the third room east of the office at the motel.

The following investigation was conducted by SA JOHN C. HENNIGAR at Tryon, North Carolina:

On May 27, 1968, Mrs. RUTH GORDON, Tryon Plaza Motel, Tryon, North Carolina, advised that she recalls May 18, 1968, as her daughter, Mrs. THELMA BURGETT, worked part of the day on Saturday. Mrs. GORDON advised that three doors east of the office would be Room 9 at the Tryon Plaza Motel. Mrs. GORDON advised that her registration cards reflect that Room 9 on May 18, 1968, was occupied by J. FLEETWOOD SIENIER, 148 East Seventh Street, Jacksonville, Florida, representing the Massey Company. Mrs. GORDON advised that the registration card indicates he drove a Plymouth with Florida license 2-66110.

Mrs. GORDON further advised that Room 9 was occupied by R. L. BONE, 2103 South Main Street, Greenwood, South Carolina, on May 19, 1968. This card indicated that Mr. BONE represented the Saco Lowell Shops and was driving a 1965 Chevrolet with South Carolina license E-131608. Mrs. GORDON advised that she has always been an avid detective story reader and has been following the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING very closely. Mrs. GORDON advised that ~~she has not seen anyone~~ at the motel who resembles the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY which appeared in the local paper.

Mrs. GORDON advised that she ~~and her daughter~~ Mrs. THELMA BURGETT, have talked about ~~the assassination~~ and no mention of any individual in the motel resembling RAY has been discussed.

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Hester

ME 44-1987

CE 44-1365

2

On May 27, 1968, Mrs. THELMA BURGETT, Tryon Plaza Motel, advised that she recalls working part-time on Saturday, May 18, 1968. Mrs. BURGETT advised she does not recall anyone resembling the photograph of RAY registering at the motel.

Mrs. BURGETT advised there was an incident at the motel at that time as an individual had come to the motel, registering as a single and later she found out he had a woman in the room. Mrs. BURGETT advised she approached this individual and told him to come to the office, and pay the additional price for a second person in the room. Mrs. BURGETT advised that when he got to the office, she discovered he had not registered and asked him to register at that time. Mrs. BURGETT advised that this individual refused to register, stating that it was too late. Mrs. BURGETT advised that this individual was a nice-looking man; however, he did not fit the description or photograph of JAMES EARL RAY which appeared in the local paper.

F B I

Date: 6/5/68

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

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, CHARLOTTE (44-1365) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

There are being furnished Memphis herewith 15 copies of an insert concerning an individual who reportedly fits the description of subject RAY observed at the Tryon Plaza Motel, Tryon, N. C.

Sub E-1006
BILL REID, mentioned in the enclosed insert, furnished the information telephonically to SA JACK C. WARD at Greenville, S. C., on 5/18/68.

M Sm
② - Memphis (44-1987) (Encl. 15)
1 - Charlotte (44-1365)

CFW:cbw
(3)

1cc rec'd

E

44-1987-Sub E-1006B

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JUN 7 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester

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

5/20/68

PLAIN

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: BIRMINGHAM

FROM: PORTLAND (157-380)

MURKIN.

UNKNOWN SUSPECT OPERATING NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN CADILLAC
FOUR DOOR HARDTOP, ALABAMA LICENSE ONE C FOUR TWO FIVE SEVEN.

A PORTLAND, OREGON, RESIDENT SAW A YOUNG MAN AND AN OLDER
MAN AT A COIN OPERATED LAUNDRY IN PORTLAND LAST NIGHT AND
THINKS THE OLDER MAN MATCHES DESCRIPTION AND APPEARANCE OF
JAMES EARL RAY. THE MEN TRAVELING IN A NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN
CADILLAC FOUR DOOR HARDTOP BEARING ALABAMA LICENSE ONE C
FOUR TWO FIVE SEVEN.

BIRMINGHAM REQUESTED TO DETERMINE WHO MIGHT BE OPERATING
ABOVE CADILLAC AND WHETHER ANY POSSIBILITY IDENTICAL WITH
JAMES EARL RAY. MEMPHIS ADVISED BY AIRMAIL.

CONSIDER ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

1 - Memphis (44-1987)(AM)
1 - Portland

REB3lam

(2)

44-1987-Sub E-1007

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MAY 22 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle BJB

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI LASVEAS

536 PM 5/23/68 URGENT JRD

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), KANSAS CITY & MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM LAS VEGAS (157-133)

MURKIN.

RE KANSAS CITY TELEPHONE CALL TODAY CONCERNING INFORMATION
FURNISHED BY SOURCE OF KANSAS CITY OFFICE.

JOHN AND RUBY WILLIAMS, MAN AND WIFE, OPERATE THE PALMISTRY
SHOP, ONE FIVE FOUR EIGHT B STREET, SPARKS, NEVADA. RUBY GIVES
READINGS UNDER THE NAME THERISA BROWN AND JOHN KEEPS OUT DRUNKS AND
TROUBLE MAKERS.

JOHN AND RUBY WERE INTERVIEWED TODAY BY BUAGENT UNDER PRETEXT
OF ATTEMPTING TO LOCATE BUREAU FWGITIVES. THEY WERE DISPLAYED A
GROUP OF PHOTOS INCLUDING ALL AVAILABLE PHOTOS OF JAMES EARL RAY
AT WHICH THEY BOTH STATED THAT NONE OF THESE INDIVIDUALS HAD BEEN IN
THEIR PLACE OF BUSINESS AND THEY DID NOT RECALL EVER SEEING ANY OF
THEM.

JOHN AND RUBY WERE TOLD THAT SOME OF THE INDIVIDUALS IN THE
PHOTOS WERE BANK ROBBERS AND THEY WGRE ASKED IF ANYONE HAD SPENT
A LARGE SUM OF MONEY WITH THEM. RUBY REPLIED SHE CHARGES THREE

END PAGE

E

44-1987-Sub E-1008

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MAY 23 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle RB

PAGE TWO LV 157-133

DOLLARS FOR PALM READINGS AND FIVE DOLLARS FOR BOTH PALM AND CARD READINGS. WHEN ASKED ABOUT TIPS, RUBY STATED THE MOST SHE EVER GETS IS ONE DOLLAR AND THAT IS VERY RARELY.

UPON CONCLUSION OF THE INTERVIEW, RUBY WHO HAD BEEN CONTINUOUSLY LOOKING AT THE ABOVE PHOTOS HELD OUT THE PHOTO OF JAMES EARL RAY THAT APPEARS ON HIS IDENTIFICATION ORDER AND ASKED IF THAT WAS THE MAN THAT SHOT MARTIN LUTHER KING. JOHN ALSO LOOKED AT THIS PICTURE AGAIN AND BOTH RELATED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION.

ON THE FOLLOWING SATURDAY EVENING AFTER KING WAS SHOT, A YOUNG MAN CAME IN FOR A READING. RUBY AT THE TIME HAD A CUSTOMER IN THE READING ROOM AND THE MAN WAS ASKED TO SIT DOWN. THIS MAN VOLUNTEERED TO JOHN THAT HE HAD SOME GUNS IN HIS CAR AND THAT HE WAS GOING TO SAN FRANCISCO TO SEEK EMPLOYMENT, AND IF UNSUCCESSFUL HE WAA GOING TO A FOREIGN COUNTRY. HE DID NOT SAY WHAT COUNTRY HE WAS GOING TO AND DID NOT INDICATE WHAT TYPE OF WORK HE WAS SEEKING OR FURNISH AND BACKGROUND INFO CONCERNING HIMSELF, EVEN TO THE EXTENT OF WHETHER OR NOT HE LIVGD IN THE RENO-SPARKS AREA.

JOHN SAID AFTER RUBY WAS FINISHED GIVING THE READING TO THE CUSTOMER HE TOLD HER IN THEIR NATIVE LANGUAGE THAT THE MAN WAITING WAS A TROUBLE MAKER. RUBY THEN TOLD THIS MAN SHE HAD AN APPOINTMENT AND COULD NOT GIVE HIM A READING AFTER WHICH HE LEFT.

END PAGE

PAGE THREE LV 157:133

A FEW DAYS LATER, RUBY SAW THE PHOTO OF JAMES EARL RAY ON TELEVISION AND SHE IMMEDIATELY THOUGHT OF THE MAN MENTIONED ABOVE, ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT LOOK LIKE HIM. SHE SAID SHE EASILY BECOMES FRIGHTENED.

BOTH JOHN AND RUBY SAID THIS MAN DEFINITELY WAS NOT IDENTICAL WITH RAY AFTER VIEWING ALL OF RAY'S PHOTOS CAREFULLY. THEY BOTH SAID THERE WAS NO RESEMBLANCE.

JOHN, WHO SAW THE MAN FOR ABOUT TEN MINUTES, DESCRIBED HIM AS A WM, NOT OVER TWENTYEIGHT YEARS OF AGE, FIVE FEET NKNE, STOCKY BUILD, DARK BROWN HAIR, HAD SORT OF OKLAHOMA ACCENT AND DRESSED IN WORK CLOTHES.

JOHN SAW THIS MAN THROUGH A WINDOW GET IN AN OLD STATION WAGON, ABOUT FIFTYSEVEN OR FIFTYEIGHT AND POSSIBLY A PLYMOUTH, AND DRIVE OFF. HE DID NOT KNEW THE LICENSE PLATE NOR THE COLOR OF THIS VEHICLE, NOTING IT WAS DARK OUT AT THE TIME.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

DND

FBI MEMPHIS

5/22/68

airtel

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (44-1609)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re NY license XG 4675.

Re Albany teletype to NY dated 5/21/68.

JOSIAH TRUDGIAN, 49-26 Douglaston Parkway, Flushing, NY, advised today that NY license XG 4675 was issued to his wife, EUGENEE H. TRUDGIAN for a 1965 maroon Chevrolet four-door sedan. The TRUDGIANS visited Phoenix, Arizona, in April, 1967, and have not been there since that date. Their license plates have not been stolen or lost. The license plates remain on the above described vehicle today.

SUBJECT RAY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

2 - Memphis
1 - Albany (INFO)
1 - Phoenix (INFO)
1 - New York

JFS:pab
(6)

44-1987-Sub E-1009

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MAY 24 1968	
FBI — MEMPHIS	

F B I

Date: 5/22/68

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

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (44-1609)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re NY license XG 4675.

Re Albany teletype to NY dated 5/21/68.

JOSIAH TRUDGIAN, 49-26 Douglaston Parkway, Flushing, NY, advised today that NY license XG 4675 was issued to his wife, EUGENEE H. TRUDGIAN for a 1965 maroon Chevrolet four-door sedan. The TRUDGIANS visited Phoenix, Arizona, in April, 1967, and have not been there since that date. Their license plates have not been stolen or lost. The license plates remain on the above described vehicle today.

SUBJECT RAY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- 2 - Memphis
1 - Albany (INFO)
1 - Phoenix (INFO)
1 - New York

JFS:pab
(6)

44-1987-Sub E-1009A

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MAY 24 1968	
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Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

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Per _____

5/21/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: ALBANY
FROM: PHOENIX (44-371) (2 pages)

MURKIN.

RE. LOOK-A-LIKE SUBJECT RAY OBSERVED SAFEWAY STORE,
PHOENIX, MAY ELEVEN, SIXTYEIGHT.

ON MAY TWENTY, LAST, ROBERT VINCENT, ONE THREE THREE
ZERO EAST DUNLAP AVENUE, PHOENIX, TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED
PHOENIX OFFICE ON MAY ELEVEN, LAST THAT HE OBSERVED IN-
DIVIDUAL IN SAFEWAY STORE, SEVENTH STREET AND DUNLAP, PHOENIX,
BEARING CLOSE RESEMBLANCE TO SUBJECT RAY. ADVISED INDIVIDUAL
CASHED FIFTY DOLLAR BILL FOR GROCERIES AND LEFT STORE DRIVING
SIXTYSEVEN OR SIXTYEIGHT DODGE OR PLYMOUTH, BLACK VINYL TOP,
WITH BLUE METALLIC BODY, BEARING NEW YORK LICENSE X G FOUR
SIX SEVEN FIVE OR ^{Sub-E-1009} X G FOUR SIX SEVEN ONE FIVE. STATED IN-
DIVIDUAL ACTED SUSPICIOUS AND WHEN HE LATER OBSERVED PHOTO
OF SUBJECT RAY, HE RECALLED INDIVIDUAL APPEARED SIMILAR
TO RAY.

ALBANY WILL DETERMINE REGISTERED OWNER OF VEHICLE
BEARING NEW YORK LICENSE X G FOUR SIX SEVEN FIVE OR FOUR
SIX SEVEN ONE FIVE.

1 - Phoenix
① - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
HFA/sas
(2)

44-1987-Sub-E-1009A
-1009A

PAGE TWO
PX 44-371
HFA/sas

AND SET FORTH LEADS TO IDENTIFY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

MEMPHIS ADVISED BY AIRMAIL.

F B I

Date: 5/22/68

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

TO DIRECTOR (44-33861) AND ST. LOUIS (44-775)
FROM LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

MURKIN

RE ST. LOUIS TEL TO BUREAU MAY SIXTEEN LAST AND
LOS ANGELES TEL TO BUREAU SAME DATE.

RE PHONE CALL FROM GRAPEVINE TAVERN, ST. LOUIS, TO
LOS ANGELES TELEPHONE NUMBER SEVEN SIX ONE DASH ZERO NINE
ONE EIGHT ON MARCH FOUR LAST.

SUBSCRIBER TO ABOVE NUMBER IS CAROL SARACENO, FOUR
THREE FIVE ZERO FARMDALE AVENUE, NORTH HOLLYWOOD,
CALIFORNIA. SARACENO INTERVIEWED THIS DATE AND ADVISED
SHE RECEIVED TELEPHONE CALL FROM HER MOTHER IN ST. LOUIS
MARCH FOUR LAST. SARACENO STATED HER MOTHER CALLS HER
CONSTANTLY FROM ST. LOUIS AREA. SHE HAD HER TELEPHONE
NUMBER CHANGED BECAUSE OF NUMEROUS COLLECT CALLS FROM HER
MOTHER. SHE DOES NOT KNOW WHEREABOUTS OF MOTHER IN
ST. LOUIS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. AIR MAIL COPY MEMPHIS

1 - Memphis (AM)
1 - Los Angeles

VJH:mak
(2)

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M

44-1987-Sub E-1010

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 24 1968	
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Boyle BB

Per _____

5/22/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND SAC, DALLAS (44-2649)
FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703)

MURKIN.

SUSANNAH RUBENSTEIN, THREE ZERO TWO ZERO CORTLAND PLACE
NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON, D. C., TELEPHONE TWO THREE TWO-TWO
SIX EIGHT ZERO, ADVISED THAT AT ONE FIFTY P.M., MAY TWENTY-
ONE LAST SHE RECEIVED COLLECT CALL FROM DALLAS, TEXAS WITH
PERSON CALLING WANTING TO SPEAK PERSON TO PERSON WITH JAMES
E. ROY. OPERATOR IDENTIFIED PERSON CALLING AS BARBARA RAY.
MRS. RUBENSTEIN INFORMED OPERATOR JAMES E. ROY UNKNOWN THIS
ADDRESS AND CALL WAS TERMINATED. MRS. RUBENSTEIN STATED HER
ADDRESS IS ONE FAMILY DWELLING AND NO PERSON WITH NAME ROY
KNOWN TO RESIDE IN AREA.

Sub E-711D
Barbara Ray

DALLAS THROUGH SOURCES ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY CALLER AND

- 2 - Bureau
- 3 - Teletype Unit
- ① - Memphis (AM)
- 2 - WFO

RWD:cabb
(8)

44-1987-Sub E-1011

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Ronan *(P)*