

U. S. Department of Justice

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

FIELD OFFICE FILE  
FOIPA PROCESSED

FEDERAL BUREAU

Do not Destroy -  
Pending Litigation  
Serial 1084  
2390 (12/83)

2 778 3/85 (Serial 1084) of - covered 8/85

INVESTIGATION

DO NOT DESTROY  
HISTORICAL VALUE  
NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Bureau File Number 44-38861

DO NOT DESTROY  
HISTORICAL VALUE  
NATIONAL ARCHIVES

See also Nos.

SEE VOL I  
FOR LITIGATION

ENTIRE FILE REVIEWED  
FOR HISTORICAL  
DECLASSIFICATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/29/01 BY SP1-cc/pde

See Next Section

BLAW-WALKER 16-37972

Miscellaneous  
Suspects

44-1987-Sub-E  
CLASSIFICATION NO.

Volume Number  
Serials

1078-1101A

*See Next Section*

JUN 13 1968

June 8, 1968

Senator Stuart Symington  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator:

When I was a prisoner at  
the U.S. Medical Center,  
Springfield, Missouri, in 1965  
another prisoner, a white  
guy name Kenneth (Kenny)  
Long, told me that a guard  
at the prison told him that  
he was a member of a  
group who would pay to  
have Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.  
killed. Mr. Long is now at  
Leavenworth and would

Mr. Clifford Edmundson  
VA Hospital  
Tapeka, Mo. 66622

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Hecker

not reveal the guard's  
name. I myself have no  
reason to doubt this as  
the guards showed special  
preferential treatment to  
the general who led the  
fight at Old Miss during  
the riot.

Yours truly

Clifford Edmundson

July 9, 1968

AIRTEL

To: SAC, Kansas City  
From: Director, FBI (44-38861)  
MURKIN

Enclosed are two copies of a letter from Clifford Edmondson, VA Hospital, Topeka, Kansas, forwarded to the Bureau from the Department as received by them from United States Senator Stuart Symington.

You should interview Edmondson for details and thereafter conduct sufficient investigation to resolve matter. Keep Bureau advised of pertinent developments.

Based upon available data, no information identifiable with Clifford Edmondson and Kenneth Long located in Bureau files.

Handle promptly.

Enclosures (2)

① - Memphis (Enclosure)

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*Hester* *QK*

7-17-68

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861) (MAIL)  
KANSAS CITY (44-760)

FROM: ST. LOUIS (44-775)

MURKIN, RE: CLIFFORD W. EDMONDSON ✓

RE KANSAS CITY AIRTEL, JULY TWELVE LAST, AND BUAIRTEL,  
JULY FIFTEEN LAST.

RECORDS MPRC, SLMO, REVEAL EDMONDSON, AFSN [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] SERVED IN USAF JUNE TWENTYFIVE  
FIFTYSIX TO JULY TWENTYSIX FIFTYEIGHT AND DISHONORABLY DIS-  
CHARGED AS AIRMAN THIRD CLASS PURSUANT TO SENTENCE OF GENERAL  
COURT-MARTIAL.

ON DEC. TWELVE FIFTYSEVEN EDMONDSON WAS CONVICTED BY  
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL AT GOOSE AFB, LABRADOR, FOR ON OR ABOUT  
JUNE TWENTYTHREE SIXTYSEVEN, WITH PRE-MEDITATION, MURDERED  
ANOTHER AIRMAN, BY MEANS OF SHOOTING HIM WITH A FORTYFIVE  
CALIBER PISTOL. SENTENCED DISHONORABLE DISCHARGE, FORFEITURE

1 - St. Louis  
1 - Bureau  
1 - Memphis (44-1987)  
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(3)

E1072

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Boyle RB

**SL 44-775  
PAGE TWO**

**OF ALL PAY AND ALLOWANCES, AND CONFINEMENT AT HARD LABOR FOR THE TERM OF HIS NATURAL LIFE, HOWEVER, ON OCT. TEN SIXTYSEVEN PURSUANT TO DIRECTION OF SECRETARY OF AIR FORCE, FINDINGS AND SENTENCE WERE SET ASIDE. HE WAS RELEASED FROM CONFINEMENT AT MEDICAL CENTER FOR FEDERAL PRISONERS, SPRINGFIELD, MO.**

**EDMONDSON RECEIVED DIAGNOSIS "SCHIZOPHRENIC REACTION, PARANOID TYPE, CHRONIC, WITH ACUTE EXACERBATION AS CHARACTERIZED BY AN INDIVIDUAL WITH A LIFE HISTORY WHICH DEMONSTRATES THE ENCIPIENT SEEDS OF A SCHIZOPHRENIC TYPE PERSONALITY WITH THE EVIDENCE OF MOUNTING PARANOID TYPE OF REACTION THROUGHOUT THE YEARS CULMINATING IN A GROSS PSYCHOTIC DISORGANIZATION AT THIS TIME WITH ONLY PARTIAL AMALIORATION SEEN CURRENTLY." RECORDS INDICATED EDMONDSON HAD MADE TWO SUICIDE ATTEMPTS AND THAT IN SIXTYTHREE ELECTROSHOCK THERAPY WAS INITIATED FOLLOWING SELF-MUTILATION ATTEMPT.**

**DETAILED AIRTEL FOLLOWS.**

**AIRMAIL COPY SENT MEMPHIS.**

**IN VIEW OF THE CRIME FOR WHICH EDMONDSON CONVICTED AND HIS MENTAL CONDITION HE SHOULD BE APPROACHED WITH CAUTION.**

**P**



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
BUREAU OF PRISONS  
MEDICAL CENTER FOR FEDERAL PRISONERS  
SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI

**SPECIAL PROGRESS REPORT**

EDMUNDSON, Clifford W.

13218-H

Committed Name

Reg. No.

Date

REPORT OF NEUROPSYCHIATRIC EXAMINATION

**I. REASON FOR COMMITMENT:** This 21-year old, single Negro male is serving a life sentence for premeditated murder of a fellow Air Force companion. Sentence began 12-12-57 at Leavenworth Barracks and the patient was transferred to Terre Haute on 8-25-59 because of intransigent inadaptability. Because of continuing aggressive and impulsively uncontrolled activity, the patient was transferred to Leavenworth on 9-17-60 where he displayed evidences of increasing psychic disorganization and was accordingly certified as psychotic and transferred to the Medical Center on 11-23-60 with a diagnosis of Schizophrenia Usanction, Paranoid Type, Acute.

**II. SOURCES OF INFORMATION:** (a) The patient who is considered only partially reliable because of the confusion inherent in his acute psychotic episode as well as the underlying anxieties the patient has concerning his intrapsychic functioning. (b) Institutional records. (c) Questionnaires from his mother. (d) Transcripts of official military proceedings surrounding the instant offense.

**III. FAMILY HISTORY:** The patient's mother has led a turbulent life. At age 17 she had the illegitimate older brother to the patient. At age 19 she bore the patient who was also illegitimate. Six months later she married but was divorced within a year. She subsequently has had four husbands, the first three of which were unsuccessful. The fourth husband, however, turned into a stable marital partner and there has been a stable home both socially and economically for the past ten years. During this time a half-sister has been born to the marriage and the family now lives in acceptably comfortable social economic circumstances. The social history of the mother reveals that she was an unstable, irresponsible, nervous woman who was a chronic alcoholic in her late 'teen years. She acknowledges that she drank heavily and maintained a very unstable home for approximately ten years. During the early years of the patient he was placed in several foster homes in succession and would frequently live with his grandmother for short periods of time. One of his earliest memories is being in an orphanage and the janitor threatening to throw he and his brother in the furnace because they were misbehaving. During this period the children were removed from the mother she being declared an unfit parent. However when the patient was five the mother regained custody of the two boys and they intermittently lived with the mother, the grandmother and relatives. The patient's memory of his life up till age 10 is one of chaos, insecurity, anxiety, helplessness, dependency and frustrated anger and unreceptive love. Records indicate that the patient and his brother would frequently keep the home together by working at odd jobs to provide for their own clothes and food. The patient recalls from a vivid memory of his mother standing naked in the kitchen while she was dead drunk throwing dishes out the window. Seeing such as this, the patient recalls with a good deal of anxiety, hostility and guilty love. Suffices to say that the patient's childhood until age 10 was marked by lack of any father figure whatsoever and a very chaotic ambivalent mother figure whose relationship to the boy is most evidently traumatic. The records indicate that when the patient was 10 the mother quite suddenly reformed and ceased her alcoholic pattern of living, settled down to a stable marital existence with her fourth husband, and became deeply and devoutly religious. She has continued this quite respectable adjustment throughout the ensuing ten years. However, it is apparent that the

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groundwork for psychic distortion in the boy was already laid.

The patient and his older brother were constant companions throughout infancy and childhood. He states that he and his brother were always getting in fights and that he could usually provoke his brother to become angry at him. However he recollections that he, the patient, would win the fights when he grew older, his brother would win the fights. His earliest childhood memory centers around an Easter egg hunt in which his brother found all the eggs and he found none. That there are deep seated hostile, competitive oedipal strivings with the brother is manifest in much of the material. He mentions that his brother has at the present time twin illegitimate children but has not assumed any responsibilities and continues to live at home with the mother. Records indicate that the brother has a probable congenital hip deformity and hence partially crippled. He has not completed school and has been in minor difficulties. Records indicate also that the patient was often quite impulsively aggressive toward the older brother trying to stab him with a broken bottle at age 5 and later with a dart and when 16, attempted to kill his brother with a broken bottle which the brother prevented by overpowering the patient. Toward the younger half-sister the patient does not express his hostilities consciously but in some of his prior recorded psychotic letters there are many evident hostile allusions to the coveted position the young daughter maintains within the sheltered stable household provided for her which has not been denied to the patient.

The patient furthermore in his psychotic material of his letters reveals marked ambivalent feelings toward his mother. He, at this time, consciously relates that he has both love and hate for his mother and that he cannot decipher which of these feelings is the strongest and most important to him. He does however state that his mother hates him and that he feels this most acutely especially since he hears her voice talking to him and telling him very bad things. As we approach these areas of his mother's attitude toward him and his reciprocal emotions, the patient becomes exceedingly tense, begins to display a good deal of confusion and begins to act much more disorganized in his mental functioning. Hence we may assume that the patient's relationship to his brother is the area of probable gross psychopathology. This will be of importance in considering the crime the patient committed.

IV. PERSONAL HISTORY: Apparently the patient was born after a 32-hour labor and the mother states he was weak and sickly as a baby. He refused to eat anything except milk until six months old and then the mother would withhold milk until he would willingly take any food offered to him. She notes that he was slow to talk because of stuttering, even in infancy, and only began to walk at 14 months. He was, however, easily toilet trained. The mother notes that as he began school he was noted as a shy, retiring, timid child who made friends very slowly and tended to remain withdrawn within himself. Throughout childhood he had frequent attacks of asthma, virus infections and minor maladies which the mother says he bore quite well until he reached the teen age years at which time he began to become very concerned about his physical condition and became preoccupied with his recurrent illnesses being very anxious about the state of his health. It is noted that he disregarded the health of the rest of his family, however. The patient made steady progress in

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school although he was frequently picked on by the larger boys and was often involved in fights and scrapes. It is noted that he often seemed to taunt or tantalize people into anger toward him and that he himself was always known to be prone to impulsive outbursts of anger and acting out aggressive behavior. The patient seemed to resent discipline as a child and when punished would always retaliate. It was noted that when he would be slapped he would slap back and if this continued he would always get the last slap in against his mother. She also noted that he would frequently taunt her to see how far he could push her before being severely punished. She notes that she punished him only lightly he would continue to flout her until she gave him a severe thrashing at which time he would then seem to be properly chastened and behave properly for awhile. Although the patient was pushed around by the more aggressive children, as he came to his teen age years he began to become the aggressive dominant person himself and by the time he entered high school was known to the school authorities as a rather aggressive juvenile. He was brought to the attention of juvenile authorities rather frequently over a period of ages 12 to 15 usually because of street juvenile gang activities such as streetwalking, street fights, violating curfew and general insolence. The police officers report that the boy had a cocky chip on his shoulder attitude and would not form any rapport with authorities and maintained aloof reserve without apparent concern. Finally at age 16 he was expelled from high school along with several other boys because of their intransigent belligerent attitude and constant petty misbehavior in the school. It was felt that their chronic, antisocial attitudes and behavior would soon involve them in serious difficulties. The mother however noted that during this time of his early teens he was always very polite and cooperative at home and always contributed to the welfare and care of the home and seemed to have a very protective concern for her welfare and for the sustenance of the home functioning. He would help with the chores and volunteer for tasks requested of him and worked regularly at several odd jobs to contribute to his own support. It is also noted that the patient was an extremely nervous child who was noted to wet the bed, be insomniac, would often run away from home to his grandmother's but would quickly return on his own accord. Interestingly the patient claims that he had a nervous breakdown shortly after his mother remarried for the fourth time and that he had to be taken to a hospital. We might surmise that this "nervous breakdown" was an acute reaction of the boy to a competitor in the form of the new foster-father. Juvenile authorities report that the mother was always quite concerned about the boy but that the step-father was rather blasé and diffident about the whole matter. The mother reports that there was constant friction in the home during all this time centering around rivalry between the two boys and also friction between them and the step-father.

Upon reaching his 17th birthday the patient enlisted in the Air Force with his parents' consent. He finished basic training without incident and went to Wyoming for clerical training. While there he became involved in the instant offense with a training instructor whom he alleged hit him in the stomach and physically abused him. He was found to be carrying a razor blade in a block of wood with which he alleged he would slit the officer to pieces were he to ever approach him again. This incident apparently was accepted without further comment and the patient was

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transferred to the Goose Air Force Base in Labrador. There, as elaborated in the trial proceedings, the patient very quickly developed animosities and rancor between himself and his fellow workers and superiors. They noted that he often acted rather bizarre and strange. He was noted to frequently forget things, to wander off his job or to perform tasks contrary to explicit instructions just given him. He claims several times that he would pass out when he was about to become involved in some assaultive behavior and was known as a moody, impulsive, withdrawn, depressed individual. On the evening prior to the offense the patient was in a canteen when an argument arose between him and another fellow concerning the patient's dancing and playing his records too loudly in his room. The patient says he called the other man a liar who replied "your mother." The patient says that he felt this was an insult and slur to his mother and his first impulse was to hit the man. However, controlling himself, he decided that he would kill him. That night he obtained a pistol, a rifle and a knife and the following morning proceeded to kill the man. However another soldier happened into the patient's way and he shot him instead. Stating that he had to get this fellow out of the way so he could kill the man he wanted to kill, he shooting this one soldier merely because he was in his way. The patient has given many different accounts of exactly what happened although he has never proffered a reason so far as any records show. However he now states that he had a list of things for which he lived for and on this list was his girl friend and his mother. Shortly before the offense his girl wrote him saying that she was no longer going to continue corresponding with him. He states that when this fellow cast aspersions upon his mother that this removed the only other thing from his list worth living for and that he was ready to die. He states that he has been wondering whether it was worth living for quite a while and that this ended it all. One may infer that the patient reacted so violently to the alleged insult to his mother because it pin-pointed the fact that he had indeed massive hostile aggressive impulses toward his own mother which he could not consciously accept and hence there was a strong need for him to kill the man who had expressed his own unacceptable conscious desires of death toward his own mother. It is noteworthy that the patient had prepared a list of eight fellow officers and soldiers whom he was going to kill because they had been making insults and slighting remarks concerning him. That an innocent bystander was killed rather than the real offender is not particularly surprising in view of the fact that the patient's hostilities were actually an expression of his own self-anger which he needed to express against somebody else since he could not express them against himself and we see indeed that he had been babbling with his own suicidal wishes for some time prior to the murder he committed. Hence we can see the actual murder as being an alternative to his own suicide and he was in fact making a suicide gesture since murder would mean that he would be executed.

The patient was brought to the U. S. for trial and after the adjudication of the court and sentencing he was incarcerated at Leavenworth Barracks and has been in the various Federal institutions since.

**V. PHYSICAL & NEUROLOGICAL EXAMINATION:**

The patient has a negative physical history except for complaints of failing eyesight and the patient has a recorded loss of visual acuity 20/13003 and 20/700 CD which he claims had only commenced since incarceration. Because of this being acute it may be on a hysterical basis must be ruled out and we are having ophthalmological



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constitution, the neurological history and examination and various normal laboratory tests are the rest of the physical examination.

VI. PRESENT ILLNESS: It has been noted, the patient had a very traumatic childhood with a very pathological mother figure and no father figure. He saw early in life the seeds of personality formation beginning to form. Early in life he is noted to have been aggressive and impulsive with very poor control of his aggressive hostile impulses. Furthermore there is a very ambivalent mother figure who is the only source of support and yet is a repelling, rejecting, despicable figure who is herself dependent on her sons. Nevertheless she is the mother and must be loved despite her unlovableness. To add to this the mother is openly provocative to the boys in a sexual manner such as is seen in the patient's mother standing naked. It is not surprising then that we find very intense rivalry between the patient and his elder brother with attempts to kill the brother repeatedly noted in the patient's history. Nor is it surprising now to note the unconscious hostility toward the younger half-sister who occupies the position that the patient so covets and yet cannot have. We note that the patient is a sickly baby which developed slowly and has many neurotic mannerisms during infancy and early childhood with many psychosomatic complaints and that when the 'teen age years come here is a boy who becomes hypochondriacal in his self-concern. Furthermore we note a shy, diffident, timid individual who has difficulty making friends and is bullied by other people. Later again as he emerges into adolescence we find the timidity being compensated for by open aggressiveness. Of note is the fact that the mother writes that the patient had many girl friends with whom he would very easily and deeply fall in love. He would give them expensive presents and would often give them every cent that he had in his pocket and would be exuberant in lavishing gifts upon them. The notes state that the girls very often had very little affection for him but that he would soon to almost knock himself out in trying to demonstrate his overwhelming love for the girl friend. A rather obvious displacement of affection on to the girls as the mother figure would seem to be appropos here. As noted, we see a boy who has never had any satisfactory models from which to learn ego control and as a matter of fact has rather aptly copied the alcoholic uncontrollable ego of the infantile mother which is a hedonistic ego. Therefore we are not surprised to find him demonstrating antisocial behavior during his 'teen age years nor are we surprised to find that he demonstrates very poor ego control of his hostile and aggressive impulses while in the service and the development of feelings of suspicion, persecution and hostility from other people with a projection on to other people of his own hostility toward them. The dynamics of his behavior resulting in the murder have been elucidated.

Following the murder the patient was seen by a psychiatrist in Labrador who made a diagnosis of Schizophrenic Reaction, Paranoid Type, Chronic, Severe and was of the opinion that the patient was psychotic and incompetent. Accordingly the patient was transferred to the States and while enroute was very disturbed, confused and apparently disoriented although full records are not available. However, the patient finally arrived at Shephard Air Force Base where further psychiatric examination was performed by a second psychiatrist who felt that the patient represented an extremely severe behavior or character disorder who was close to mild psychosis. It was the second psychiatrist's opinion that the patient was severely ill but probably competent. At the time of trial the first psychiatrist who had seen the patient in

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LABRADOR maintained his original diagnosis of psychotic mental illness but felt that it was not of such a degree as to render the patient incompetent because of the fact that the patient had planned the murder before hand and had also planned to kill the eight officers and soldiers. He maintained the diagnosis of Paranoid Schizophrenia however. The only other opinion was rendered by a physician who saw the patient just after the time of offense for a brief period of time and thought that he represented a paranoid schizophrenia as well as a major character disorder. Following the trial in which it was concluded that the patient was mentally competent and knew right from wrong, so was sentenced to life, the said diagnosis being reviewed and accepted by the reviewing committee. Upon admission to Leavenworth Barracks the patient presented a picture of immature, childish behavior with an inability to remain on one job for any length of time, requiring close supervision and unable to refrain from juvenile nuisance behavior. His attitude varied from poor to very good depending upon the particular supervisors or the job. He received a number of behavior reports for fighting, insolence and disobedience which finally resulted in his transfer to Terre Haute after the psychiatrist at Leavenworth Barracks felt that the patient represented a case of emotionally immature personality disorder which is to say a sociopath who is emotionally immature. Upon arrival at Terre Haute the patient continued his former belligerent chip on the shoulder attitude provoking other people to fights, frequently being involved in impulsive aggressive behavior which was very reminiscent of that of his behavior at the time of the murder. The psychiatrist at Terre Haute noted that the patient was seclusive and tended to conceal his thoughts and was not too cooperative with psychiatric examination. Because of his continued adverse behavior the patient was transferred to Leavenworth where shortly after admission he was noted to be moody, depressed, expressing suicidal thoughts and was transferred to the psychiatric unit for closer observation. There he became progressively more disorganized, began to have auditory and visual hallucinations, became grossly disorganized and did not respond to acute tranquilizing therapy. He was accordingly certified as psychotic with a diagnosis of Schizophrenic Reaction, Acute Paranoid Type and was transferred to the Medical Center. Upon arrival at the Medical Center the patient was placed in the acute treatment ward where he rapidly reorganized himself although there were evidences that he had continuing auditory hallucinations. The patient remained withdrawn and seclusive without revealing much of his thought content to the different psychiatrists. He has since that time progressed slowly through three of the maximum security units to the most liberal regime available under maximum supervision. Only now has he begun to demonstrate some of the more juvenile, immature demanding aggressive behavior that has been recorded in the past since up to this time he has been very passive, quiet, withdrawn and obsequious in his behavior.

At the present time the patient voices much material which is obviously psychotic in nature and he continues to have auditory hallucinations which he denies. We would consider this man actively and still acutely psychotic suffering from a paranoid type of schizophrenic reaction. More important than the patient's actual mental status at this time, however, is the longitudinal picture of this man's illness since it becomes apparent at this time that what has superficially on the surface appeared to be a sociopathic type of personality has in actuality been a longer term chronic paranoid schizophrenic reaction which was perhaps in a more insidious state in earlier

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years and we see now blossoming the more overt and obvious manifestations of his illness. It is a rather moot point as to whether he was competent at the time of his offense or at the time of trial since the patient received several psychiatric examinations. It would seem from this vantage point that the patient has been rather obviously a chronic paranoid schizophrenic for most of his life but to what extent it actually interfered with his competency and responsibility is something that cannot be determined at this time and from what we see of the patient it would appear that any such determination must be made at the moment such as was indeed actually done at the time of trial quite adequately.

VII. MENTAL STATUS: The patient has been seen by this examiner several times as ward doctor and in interview sessions as well as the administration of psychological materials. The patient is a tall, muscular Negro male in excellent physical condition with a slight obesity because of tranquilizing regime. The patient very superficially appears to be in good contact but then obviously demonstrates marked anxiety and very tenuously controlled personality organization upon closer scrutiny. There is marked psychomotor agitation throughout the interviews and when the patient begins to become pressed, rapidly disintegrates into stuttering, stammering and automatic motions. Frequently his thought patterns are broken by autistic preoccupation and frequently the patient displays marked inappropriate mood clashes and crises spontaneously throughout the interview. Rapport is established and maintained only by the use of massive support mechanisms by the examiner to help the patient maintain ego integrity throughout the interviews. Were not this support maintained the patient would frequently lapse into gross psychotically disorganized relationships and only by the external ego support is he able to maintain a coherent relationship.

The patient's perceptual processes demonstrate hyperalertness to the interviewing situation although he is frequently distracted from the interview by his own preoccupation and autistic thought. He is only tenuously oriented to time and place and certainly is confused and anxious about his own person with evidences of inherent depersonalization very close to the surface. He admits to me on an off moment that he had marked hallucinatory experiences at night which are extremely threatening to his ego integrity and then later he vehemently denies his admission since he fears that he will be given shock treatment if he admits hallucinations. The hallucinations center around (1) his mother's denial of him, (2) the accusatory hostile feelings of the witnesses at his trial and (3) the anguished cries of the man he murdered.

The patient's intellectual functioning demonstrates an excellent memory for recent and remote events although this is frequently contaminated by his own conscious suppression of very psychically conflicting and destructive material such as his memories of the distorted pathological figure of his mother whom he alternately loves and hates. At the present time he is able to bring things into memory only after the examiner gives him support and the patient is able to approach threatening material via circumstantial avenues. His store of knowledge is commensurate with a WAS IQ of 106 and he demonstrates an acceptable store of knowledge compatible with about an eighth grade education. His range and type of ideas are markedly constricted.



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He completely dismisses anything that has happened prior to his incarceration, feeling that he has never lived before this time and there are repeated evidences of conscious impoverishment of his thought material. He is constantly preoccupied with the hallucinatory voices which speak to him and the obsessions he has concerning his own hostility and aggression. The patient does not confabulate at this time nor does he present any delusory material although he certainly feels at times persecuted and maligned by authority.

His functional aspects of intellectual functioning demonstrate some rigidity of thought pattern although chiefly there is noted the psychomotor retardation, the very frequent anxiety provoked blocking and the marked over-symbolization and over-determined responses that he presents. In general the patient's intellectual functioning is well preserved and does not show the gross and obvious distortions of schizophrenic disorganization but are rather the distortions of interpersonal perception and interpersonal acceptance such as we see in the paranoid type of schizophrenic reaction.

His emotional responses are retarded and inappropriate at times with bursts of laughter and flights of thought with alternating periods of weeping, self-deprecation and at other times hostility, suspiciousness, withdrawal and apprehensiveness.

In his relationship to other people he reveals withdrawal, hostility, suspiciousness, inability to form rapport with projection of his own feelings on to other people leading to feelings of persecution and hostility. The patient feels that he was being made into a homosexual at Leavenworth and voices many strong feelings of persecution in regards to racial prejudice. He denies any prior homosexual experiences or activity which one might expect in the acute psychotic state which he is in. Contrary to what we would expect that he would possibly be more homosexual were he to become reconstituted again.

The patient has a good deal of current anxiety in part engendered by his active hallucinatory experiences as well as his limited ability to control aggression or relate successfully to other people. The patient has used flight or flight mechanisms to deal with uncomfortable situations and we see his current flight into illness as a way of escaping from expressing hostility too openly toward other people. The patient is ambivalently torn in his acceptance toward his illness expressing at times a desire to be helped and at other times fearful of the implications of mental illness.

The patient's reality contact at the present time is very tenuous indeed. He is caught up in his own ambivalence toward his mother, his ambivalence toward authority, his inability to develop an adequate psychosexual identification and he is loaded down with massive guilt feelings which he has centering around his aggression toward his mother. This leaves either one of two situations; either he internalizes the guilt and aggression upon himself which produces more psychotic disorganization or else he organizes himself more efficiently and expresses his hostility externally toward his environment. Either one of these solutions which he uses is self-destructive and hence the patient is caught in a perpetuating triangle of affairs. The patient



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is presently better organized than at the time of his initial acute disorganization at Leavenworth but he continues to maintain personality organization only at the expense of great psychic effort and very limited internal economy.

**VIII. FORMULATION:** This is a 21-year old, single Negro male doing life for pre-meditated murder. He was the second illegitimate son born to a woman who was irresponsible and alcoholic for approximately ten years of the patient's life producing a very chaotic and hectic home life for the patient. The incipient seeds of a paranoid schizophrenic personality are repeatedly documented from earliest childhood. The chief psychopathology is centered around the patient's own ambivalence toward the mother figure which culminated in the instant offense which was murder of another soldier. Psychically this represents an expression of the hostility which he had toward his mother being expressed for him by another individual. Since this expressed the patient's own hostility he murdered as an expression of his hostility rather than committing suicide. Following the patient's incarceration he has demonstrated juvenile immaturity, belligerent attitude, withdrawal, seclusive men and progressive psychic disorganization until he at last became grossly psychotic. The patient at the present time makes only a tenuous contact with reality and is striving hard to maintain a marginal personality integration.

**IX. DIAGNOSIS:** OOC-m2h Schizophrenic Reaction, Paranoid Type, chronic, with acute exacerbation as characterized by an individual with a life history which demonstrates the incipient seeds of a schizophrenic type personality with the evidence of mounting paranoid type of reaction throughout the years culminating in a gross psychotic disorganization at this time with only partial amelioration seen currently.

**X. RECOMMENDATIONS:** This young Negro is severely mentally ill with gross personality disorganization. As formulated above, our therapeutic aims must be aimed at breaking the perpetuating circle of guilt induced aggression toward either himself or his environment. This would include developing some rapport with the patient so that he can form acceptable relationship with a parental surrogate hence resolving some of the intense ambivalence which he feels at the present time. Further therapeutic efforts might be bent toward developing some acceptance of the mother which the patient continues to have large amounts of hostility toward. Were this to happen we could ameliorate some of the internalized aggression and hence increase personality organization and a larger degree of self-acceptance. Having accomplished this goal it would then be possible to start a program of ego strengthening of his externally directed aggression toward authority and parental symbols. This means that the patient is going to need long term supportive and later interpretive therapy which he seems to have the intellectual equipment to handle. First efforts must be directed toward ameliorating his more psychotic mechanisms of defense and shoring up his meager ego resources. It is anticipated that the patient will require well defined limits for some time until his ego develops more adequately.

*E. Marshall Harrison*

E. MARSHALL HARRISON, M. D.  
Staff Psychiatrist

EMP:rg  
3-4-61

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
BUREAU OF PRISONS

MEDICAL CENTER FOR MENTAL ILLNESS

SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI

SPECIAL PROGRESS REPORT

Committed Name EDMONDSON, Clifford W.

Reg. No. 2213-H

Date 8-11-65

ANNUAL MILITARY CLEMENCY REVIEW

Clifford Edmondson is a 26 year old Negro man who is serving a 35 year sentence for murder under GCMO #3 & #125. His life sentence was reduced on 8-17-64. His release date with good time is NOW 8-11-92. His full term expires 12-11-92. He has no detainers on file.

He began serving his sentence at Leavenworth on December 31, 1957. On June 23, 1957, while Edmondson was stationed at Goose Air Base, Labrador, he murdered a fellow airman with a .45 calibre pistol. Shortly after he committed the crime he was seen by a psychiatrist in Labrador, who was of the opinion that he was psychotic and incompetent. His diagnosis was schizophrenic reaction, paranoid type. Later, after transfer, another psychiatrist diagnosed him as suffering from severe behavior or character disorders and close to mild psychosis, and as competent. During the trial the first psychiatrist continued to consider Edmondson psychotic, but changed his thinking that he was then competent to stand trial.

Edmondson was transferred to Terre Haute on August 25, 1957. He was unable to adjust to the life there and was considered a disciplinary problem since May 1960. In August 1960 he was placed in administrative segregation, where he remained until September 10 when he was transferred to Leavenworth. At Leavenworth he was diagnosed as suffering from a schizophrenic reaction, paranoid type, acutely disturbed, potentially dangerous, assaultive.

He was transferred to the Medical Center on November 23, 1960, as a certified psychotic patient. He was placed on the maximum treatment ward, and then one month later to the maximum control ward. From then until February 1962 he remained on either of these two wards most of the time. He was then transferred to an open ward and remained for four months. He was given a behavior report at this time because he was on a ward other than his own.

Nine months later he was transferred to an open ward. Dr. Wilfisky, a psychiatrist, wrote this in a report after Edmondson had to be removed from the ward. "Patient continues as schizophrenic reaction, schisoaffective type, much improved. Presently is mildly depressed following loss of his open ward status after a fight into which he was apparently provoked. Unfortunately his control was poor and he injured the other patient rather badly. His last fight was about three years ago. Nevertheless response to treatment has been very good. Patient has demonstrated a greater capacity for trust, some evidence of conscience, and some capacity to acknowledge depression." 44-222-Sub E-1092D

Nine months later he was again transferred to an open ward (12-26-63). He was assigned to industries on 1-9-64, and was able to maintain

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
BUREAU OF PRISONS

MEDICAL CHARTER FOR PATIENTS WHO ARE  
RECEIVING TREATMENT

2

SPECIAL PROGRESS REPORT

Committed Name EDMONDSON, Clifford W. Reg. No. 13218-H Date \_\_\_\_\_

that job for 8½ months. His progress had been such that he was recommended for reduction of sentence which was granted (to 35 years).

On June 18, 1964, he was removed from certified psychotic status. In May 1964, he received his high school diploma as a result of much concerted effort.

On 3-31-64 he was transferred to the maximum treatment ward because he was becoming emotionally upset and needed closer structure. He had received no behavior report at this time, but it was felt to be to his benefit to place him in a less threatening area. At first this was difficult for Edmondson to understand but during the ensuing months he has seen the advisability of the move.

Edmondson was placed in individual therapy with the writer, a psychiatric social worker, in February 1965. At first the hours were bi-weekly, but in the last four months weekly interviews have been maintained.

On March 12, 1965, Edmondson had again become depressed and it was necessary to place him on the maximum treatment ward. Great precautions are always taken when he begins showing suicidal tendencies, since he has almost successfully taken his life on two different occasions. On one occasion he jumped from the second story pier onto his head. Another time he slit his throat with a razor. He has been in a more open ward in the security unit since May 4, 1965. He was assigned to the industries' brush factory on that ward on July 23, 1965.

The ward personnel, including the doctor, recognize the progress this man has made and believe that this has come about through a change of attitude toward himself and others. His chart indicates that he is getting along well with both patients and staff. He has a sense of humor and a sense of fair play.

Through awareness of himself as a person and insight therapy this man has discontinued homosexual activities during the past 6 months. It is this writer's contention that this man's identity was tied up with a neurotically based conflict. The homosexual acting out was the symptom. The transference relationship with the writer, a woman, has also aided in this reworking of identification. It remains to be seen whether the separation from the writer, who is leaving soon, will affect this.

Edmondson's aggressive behavior of the past has been a defense against depression. This was also tied in with his feeling of maleness and that he was hiding the fact that he was a sensitive person. Through recognition with the therapist that it is alright to be his true self he has been able, at least for the present, to drop

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
BUREAU OF PRISONS

SPECIAL PROGRESS REPORT

Committed Name EDMONDSON, Clifford W. Reg. No. 10000-41 Date \_\_\_\_\_

this defense. One of the best signs of progress is Edmondson's ability to express his guilt and approve over his offense. He had thoughts in the past that if he lost his life it would somehow even the score. He now is able to recognize that being his true creative self is the best solution. This is an individual man who does not have inhibitive thinking and weighing of external values. The best sign of progress is his ability to have a deep meaningful relationship with the writer.

Although there have been some emotional setbacks in the past 2 1/2 years we see a gradual upward trend in this man. Continue therapy 12 months.

RESIDENCE: Independence, Missouri.  
BIRTH: Kansas City, Missouri.  
RECEIVED AT: J.A.S.: 3-2-35

REMARKS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Patient is an excellent worker. He is of good character serving a sentence for 10 years. He is a good worker in the service. His condition is good.

Diagnosis: Schizophrenia. There are no psychotic symptoms. There is a history of emotional disturbance. There is a history of emotional disturbance. There is a history of emotional disturbance. There is a history of emotional disturbance.

A. M. Hildreth, M.D.  
Staff Psychiatrist

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 3-2-35, The Committee recommends reduction of sentence to 25 years instead of the original 35 years.

- 3 -

CURRENT DATA FOR RESTORATION, CLEMENCY AND PAROLE REVIEW			
Ix			
LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE INITIAL <b>EDMONDSON, CLIFFORD W.</b>	SERVICE NUMBER [REDACTED]	EXPIRATION DATE <b>18 Apr 81</b>	INSTITUTION <b>Med Center, Springfield, Mo.</b>
CONFINEMENT DATA (Conduct and adjustment, work assignment, custody) <b>PRESENT:</b> Edmondson has experienced extreme difficulty in effecting an adequate overall institutional adjustment during the past year. He has been very unpredictable, impulsive, and in all probability has at least been borderline psychotic at times. At the present time he is vocationally unassigned			
PSYCHIATRIC DIAGNOSIS (Include IQ, intelligence classification and profile) (over) <b>PSYCHIATRIC REPORT: DIAGNOSIS:</b> Schizophrenic Reaction. Patient currently on 2-1-E for "Administrative reasons". Symptoms include: Blunting of affect, compulsivity, self-righteousness and grandiosity. Paralogia, Rationalization. Intellectualization. <b>Impression:</b> Patient remains mentally ill and should be hospitalized. I do not feel parole is indicated at this time.			
DISCIPLINARY BARRACKS BOARD VOTES RESTORATION <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO CLEMENCY <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PAROLE <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		COMMANDANT RECOMMENDS RESTORATION <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO CLEMENCY <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PAROLE <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
<b>RESTORATION DESIRE NOT INDICATED</b>			
US PROBATION OFFICER RECOMMENDS RESTORATION <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO CLEMENCY <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		FEDERAL CLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS <b>N/C</b> RESTORATION <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO CLEMENCY <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	
DATE PAROLED OR CONDITIONAL RELEASE <b>N/A</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SENTENCED <input type="checkbox"/> ADJUDGED	INITIALS <b>SRS/mew/AIF:</b>	DATE <b>18 Jul 66</b> <b>6 Jul 66</b>
<b>SED: 17 APR 81 X =# MCFP, Springfield, Mo.</b>			
CONFINEMENT DATA (Conduct and adjustment, work assignment, custody) <b>PRESENT:</b> Transferred to lesser, structural unit in order to participate in institution employment and other programs. Attitude cooperative-caused no problems. <b>EMPLOYMENT:</b> Ward Orderly until 27 Jun 67-interested in self-improvement, taking school courses-assigned as typist on 27 Jun 67. Satisfactory- (OVER)			
PSYCHIATRIC DIAGNOSIS (Include IQ, intelligence classification and profile) <b>DIAGNOSIS:</b> Being seen in individual therapy.			
DISCIPLINARY BARRACKS BOARD VOTES RESTORATION <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO CLEMENCY <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PAROLE <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		COMMANDANT RECOMMENDS RESTORATION <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO CLEMENCY <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PAROLE <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
US PROBATION OFFICER RECOMMENDS RESTORATION <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO CLEMENCY <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		FEDERAL CLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS RESTORATION <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO CLEMENCY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
DATE PAROLED OR CONDITIONAL RELEASE <b>N/A</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SENTENCED <input type="checkbox"/> ADJUDGED	INITIALS <b>CLS/ueb AIF:</b>	DATE <b>21 Aug 67</b> <b>18 Jul 67</b>

PMG(K) FORM NR. 95-1  
15 MAY 58

REPLACES EDITION OF 1 APR 58, WHICH MAY BE USED



CONFINEMENT DATA CONT'D:

and housed on our acute treatment unit. During the past year he has received several adverse behavior reports for refusing to move to designated area; fighting another patient, plus housed in maximum security units for control. He is ingratiating and manipulative in interviews and attempts to play different disciplines against others to achieve his needs being gratified. In May, 1966, he was observed sleeping outside the office after allegedly, in company of another patient, to have made a homicidal threat against the patient being interviewed. After he wrote a note to another patient indicating that he had a knife secreted in his shoe and he planned to use it on one of the staff members. A knife was found in his shoes as he indicated. In summary, Edmondson has required approximately 45 ward changes, 13 job assignments, and has required maximum security housing for approximately 20 months since his admission here in 1960. Historically he has shown evidence of depression and has made two suicide attempts. In 1963 electro shock therapy was initiated following self-mutilation attempt.

**CUSTODY:** Acute treatment unit, or in max. security housing.

**EMPLOYMENT:** Unassigned.

X

CONFINEMENT DATA CONT'D:

complies with authority of necessity not willing.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
BUREAU OF PRISONS

MEDICAL CENTER FOR FEDERAL PRISONS  
Springfield, Missouri

**SPECIAL PROGRESS REPORT**

Committed Name EDMONDSON, Clifford E. Reg. No. 13218-H Date July 18, 1967

MILITARY CLEMENCY REVIEW

Edmondson, a 27-year old single-Negro male, continues to serve a 35-year sentence imposed by military court martial for murder. His adjusted release date with lost and extra good time is 4-17-81. Sentence expires full term on 12-11-92. There are no detainers on file.

Edmondson continued in residence in the institution's Maximum Security Unit from 5-3-66 to 8-22-66, at which time he was transferred to a unit of relatively close structure, but one from which he could leave daily in order to participate in institutional employment and other programs. During his residence in Maximum Security, he was reviewed on two occasions by the Psychiatric Treatment Planning Council held on 3-15-67; recommendations-transfer to a unit of relatively less structure, work assignment as unit Orderly, continue residence on that unit until personnel determine his preparedness to transfer to a more open unit, and medication and referral to Maximum Security physician will be the primary responsibility of the physician on his unit of residence. Since his transfer to a moderately structured unit, the patient/unit supervisor states that he is in fact, no problem to the unit. A positive behavioral difference was noted, and he has created no trouble among inmates or officers. His attitude toward those with whom he comes in contact has been one of cooperation. Edmondson functioned as ward Orderly until 6-27-67. His work supervisor stated that he held duties of general sanitation and performed these duties well. He accepts responsibility well although the opinion was presented that his compliance with authority was motivated only by necessity, not by willingness. An interest in self-improvement was indicated by his frequent studying in the unit. The education department states that he is presently enrolled in bookkeeping, Algebra I, and Economics. His intentions are apparently of self-improvement, and designed to improve occupational skills. Edmondson received his high school diploma from the Lake Shore High School in May, 1967. Beta IQ score is 97. On 6-27-67, he was assigned as typist to the Parole Record's Office. He has thus far functioned satisfactorily in that position. This is a job requiring skill as a competent typist and recorder. The volume of work is at times quite heavy, and Edmondson has handled this challenge well, displaying no evidence of stress. He has received approximately four visits from family members since the time of his 1966 review. The Catholic Chaplain states that Edmondson has been attending services every Sunday. He has done considerable reading regarding the Catholic Church.

Since his release from Maximum Security, Edmondson has made definite attempts to involve himself in institution programs which would provide him educational and vocational development, as well as insight into numerous personality problems. There is no doubt, much manipulative behavior in evidence, however this behavior is directed toward positive goals. There has been no report of adverse behavior within the past year, and his known associations are not with a homosexual element. His contention is that he is becoming aware that his life will not be spent entirely in penal institutions, and the longer his behavior is adverse, there exists the possibility that his institution time may be extended. This present approach to institutionalization may well reverse itself in the future through psychotic deterioration, however at this time, it is this writer's impression that Edmondson is making a considerable effort for self-improvement vocationally, educationally, and through the acceptance, reluctant as it may be, that he does have psychiatric problems compounded by a great amount of time yet to be served.

13218-H  
JUL 18 1967  
TRJ

44-1987-Sub E-1092F



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
BUREAU OF PRISONS

**SPECIAL PROGRESS REPORT**

Committed Name

Reg. No.

Date

PRISON - FORT LEONARD

Classification Committee Report

During the period from January 1, 1939, to December 31, 1939, the subject has been under the supervision of the Classification Committee. The subject has been assigned to the classification of "C" and has been placed in the classification of "C" and has been placed in the classification of "C".

Classification Committee

Classification

Classification Committee

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Classification Committee

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Classification Committee

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Classification Committee, upon this report to military authorities with the

recommendation that because of his continued ability to display abject and behavior indicative of developing emotional maturity, personal acceptance of his personality, and sound reality testing in relation to outside expectations, there are no further to be encouraged through the granting of a notation of clemency to be deferred of specifically by military authority.

7/18/68

**AIRTEL**

**AIRMAIL**

**TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)**  
**FROM: SAC, ST. LOUIS (44-775)**  
**RE: MURKIN** / 44-1987  
**CR**  
**OO: Memphis**

Re EC airtel to Bureau, 7/12/68; Buairtel to EC, 7/15/68; and SL tel to EC, 7/17/68.

**RE: CLIFFORD V. HENDERSON, Air Force**  
**SERVICE NUMBER [REDACTED]**

Enclosed for Bureau and receiving offices are one copy each of Special Programs Reports, dated 3/6/61 (consisting of 9 pages); 6/11/66; 7/18/67; and Form SB 95-1 (current data for Restoration, Clemency and Parole Review), dated 6/21/67.

On 7/16/68, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, Confinement File #31483, on file at the Military Personnel Records Center (MPRC), St. Louis, Mo., for CLIFFORD V. HENDERSON, revealed he enlisted in U. S. Air Force (USAF) on 6/26/56 and dishonorably discharged on 7/26/58 as an Airman Third Class pursuant to sentence of a General Court-Martial. However, additional records were located and a review on 7/17/68 of the USAF service record for CLIFFORD WESLEY HENDERSON, AF [REDACTED] indicated that he was honorably discharged and permanently retired on 7/26/58 as an Airman First Class at the U. S. Disciplinary Barracks, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas,

3 - Bureau (Encl-4)  
3 - Kansas City (44-700) (Encl-4)  
2 - Memphis (Encl-4) *llh*  
1 - St. Louis  
GJ:rajh  
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E 1072

44-1987-Sub-E-1072C

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FBI - ST. LOUIS	
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SL

44-775

by reason of physical disability; that the diagnosis in his case was "Schizophrenic reaction paranoid type, chronic, severe, VA Code 9203, rated at 100%"; that the disability was permanent, and that the date he became unfit was about June 1957.

He was tried and convicted by a General Court-Martial on 12/12/57, for on or about 6/23/57, did at Goose Air Force Base, Labrador, with premeditation, murder another Airman by means of shooting him with a .45 caliber pistol. He was sentenced dishonorably discharge, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, and confinement at hard labor for the term of his natural life. However, by General Court-Martial Order Number 38, dated 10/10/57, pursuant to the direction of the Secretary of the Air Force, the findings of guilty and the sentence in the general court-martial case of EDMONDSON, were set aside. Also, all rights, privileges, and property of which EDMONDSON had been deprived by virtue of the findings of guilty and sentence were restored. He was released from confinement at the Medical Center for Federal Prisoners, Springfield, Missouri.

Special Progress Report of the U. S. Medical Center, Springfield, Mo., revealed the following diagnosis for EDMONDSON: "Schizophrenic Reaction, Paranoid Type, Chronic, with acute exacerbation as characterized by an individual with a life history which demonstrates the incipient seeds of a schizophrenic type personality with the evidence of mounting paranoid type of reaction throughout the years culminating in a gross psychotic disorganization at this time with only partial amelioration seen currently." The records further indicated that EDMONDSON had made two suicide attempts and that in 1963 electro shock therapy was initiated following self-mutilation attempt.

His relatives were listed as JOHN ADAMS, father; Mrs. JOHN ADAMS, aka Imogene E. Adams, mother; RICHARD EUGENE EDMONDSON, brother; and sister, ALFREDA ADAMS, all of 1315 North Lynn St., Independence, Mo. Sister, BESSIE MAX ADAMS, Route #1, Box 680, East Prairie, Missouri. EDMONDSON was described as Negro male, born [redacted] Kansas City, Mo., 170-175 pounds, and 72" tall. Scars and marks were shown as 2" scar over left temporal.

**SL**

**44-775**

His Veterans Administration Claim Number was shown as [REDACTED] Friends were listed as Mr. FREEMAN JACKSON, 311 E. Elizabeth, and Miss PAMELA TUCKER, 312 No. Becker, Both Independence, Mo.

No photograph of REMONDSON was contained in the records.

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

8/14/68

SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) P

MURKIN

44-1987

Sub E - 1072 H

Reference Airtel from Director 7/15/68 requesting an interview with CLIFFORD EDMONDSON unless other circumstances would preclude this interview.

Records of the Medical Center for Federal Prisoners (MCFP), Springfield, Missouri, reveal that EDMONDSON has been diagnosed as "Schizophrenic reaction, paranoid type, chronic, with acute exacerbation as characterized by an individual with a life history which demonstrates the incipient seeds of a schizophrenic type personality with the evidence of mounting paranoid type of reaction throughout the years culminating in a gross psychotic disorganization at this time with only partial amelioration seen currently." Records indicated EDMONDSON had made two suicide attempts and that in 1963 electroshock therapy was initiated following self-mutilation attempt. Records reveal he was released on 10/10/67.

On 8/12/68 CLIFFORD EDMONDSON was interviewed at the residence of his grandfather, S. L. SHORE, 2800 E. 40th Street, Kansas City, Missouri. EDMONDSON said this is his current residence and he is not employed at the present time. He advised he could furnish no additional information regarding the group who would pay to have MARTIN LUTHER KING killed other than that which is included in his letter to Senator SYMINGTON on 6/8/68. EDMONDSON stated that he believed that the other prisoner named KENNETH LONG is currently in the Federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas. He described KENNETH LONG as white male, age 35, 5'8", 140 pounds, and stated he worked as a surgical nurse at the MCFP, Springfield, Missouri. EDMONDSON again stated he could not elaborate on anything regarding the group that would pay to assassinate MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. EDMONDSON advised he had never heard of the Cooley organization.

2 Bureau  
1 Memphis (44-1982)-(Info) C  
2 Kansas City  
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(5)

44-1982-53  
MCM  
Boyle RB

44-1987-Sub E-1072 H

KC 44-760

On 8/13/68 records of the U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, were reviewed. They failed to reveal any prisoner named KENNETH LONG; however, they did reveal a prisoner by the name of KENNETH LONE, who was at the MCFP, Springfield, Missouri, during 1966 and met the description given by EDMONDSON.

On 8/13/68 KENNETH LONE was interviewed at the U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, where he is under sentence for bank robbery, release date scheduled for 1980. LONE appeared cooperative and advised that he spent most of 1965 and the first half of 1966 at the MCFP, Springfield, Missouri. He advised he never heard a guard at the prison say he was a member of a group wanting MARTIN LUTHER KING killed and he certainly never told anyone this. While he was down there, another prisoner by the name of (FNU) EVANS a Negro male of the Muslim Cult of Islam, filed a writ against the institution and a guard by the name of (FNU) CALAHAN, stating they were prejudice towards the members of the Muslim Cult of Islam at the institution. LONE stated as a result of this writ there was a hearing and he testified in behalf of EVANS. He further advised that a lawyer for EVANS, name unknown, interviewed him before the hearing and asked him the same question, did he ever hear a guard say he was a member of a group that would pay to have MARTIN LUTHER KING killed. LONE stated his answer to this was no and it is still no. He advised that the most prejudicial statement he ever heard any of the guards at the prison make was made by the one named CALAHAN who stated, "I know how to take care of colored people." LONE stated that JAMES EARL RAY was unknown to him and he knew of no organization plotting against MARTIN LUTHER KING. He further stated he had never heard of the Cooley organization.

LEAD:

KANSAS CITY

AT SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI

Review records Medical Center for Federal Prisoners re the hearing given (FNU) EVANS because of the writ he filed. Attempt to determine name of lawyer for EVANS, interview him and the guard named CALAHAN for any information regarding a group that would pay to assassinate MARTIN LUTHER KING.

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

7/9/68

SAC, SAN ANTONIO (44-1242) (P)

MURKIN  
CR

OO: MEMPHIS

RE: HUGH MERLON HENSON ✓

The San Antonio Police Department advised the San Antonio Division that on 7/4/68, HUGH MERLON HENSON of 1503 Santa Anna, San Antonio, Texas, stated to police officers that he had killed Dr. MARTIN L. KING, JR. The police officer's report reflected that after talking to HENSON he appeared to be drunk. He smelled of intoxicating beverages, his speech was slurred, and eyes were bloodshot. He was warned about making a false report. As the officers were leaving, HENSON came outside the house and wanted to fight. He was arrested for drunk and was taken to jail.

HENSON was interviewed by agents of this office and advised that he had been arrested on 7/4/68. He said he did not make the statement that he had killed Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. He said he could not recall making such a statement. He further advised he did not kill Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., and that he did not know JAMES EARL RAY.

This is being furnished for information purposes and no further action is being taken in this phase of this investigation.

2-Bureau (AM, RM)  
2-Memphis (44-1987) (RM)  
2-SA  
JMK:csH  
(6)

E

44-1987-SUP E-1073

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED 5	FILED 6
JUL 11 1968	
Boye RB	



F B I

Date: 7/18/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE DEFERRED  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861)  
 FROM: MEMPHIS (44-1987) (2P)

MURKIN.

AS A RESULT OF A RIGID SECURITY PROGRAM IN EFFECT IN  
 THE AREA OF THE SHELBY COUNTY, TENN., JAIL, FRANK A. MINNICK  
 WHITE MALE BORN [REDACTED] AT DETROIT,  
 MICH., OWNER OF FRANK A. MINNICK INSURANCE COMPANY, MEMPHIS,  
 WAS ARRESTED THIS A.M. BY OFFICER OF THE MEMPHIS PD AFTER  
 IT WAS REPORTED THAT MINNICK WAS ROAMING AROUND THE VARIOUS  
 FLOORS AND THE BASEMENT OF THE SHELBY COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING  
 AND REMARKED TO A CUSTODIAN OF THE BUILDING THAT HE WAS A "U. S.  
 GOVERNMENT AGENT CHECKING THE BUILDING OUT." MINNICK REFUSED  
 TO DISPLAY IDENTIFICATION WHEN REQUESTED TO DO SO AND WAS  
 THEREAFTER ARRESTED ON A PUBLIC DRUNK CHARGE. THE COUNTY  
 JAIL IS LOCATED ADJACENT TO THE ~~COUNTY JAIL~~ *SHELBY COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING.*

MINNICK DENIED TO BUREAU AGENT THAT HE REPRESENTED  
 HIMSELF AS A U. S. GOVERNMENT AGENT. MINNICK APPEARED IN  
 CITY COURT P.M. THIS DATE AND HIS CASE WAS CONTINUED UNTIL  
 JULY TWENTY FOUR NEXT IN ORDER THAT HE MAY RETAIN AN  
 ATTORNEY.

RFB:LF  
 (2)

SEARCHED *44-1987-Sub E-1074*SERIALIZED *llh*INDEXED *llh*

Approved: *R. Jensen*  
 Special Agent in Charge

FILED *WA 5:17 P M* Per *Duf*

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

ME 44-1987  
PAGE TWO

AUSA, WDT, MEMPHIS, DECLINED PROSECUTION OF MINNICK  
RE POSSIBLE VIOLATION OF IMPERSONATION STATUTE DUE TO  
INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE FOR A SUCCESSFUL PROSECUTION.

MINNICK'S WIFE CLAIMS HUSBAND HAS BEEN ILL FOR PAST  
THREE AND ONE HALF MONTHS WITH A SEVERE ASTHMATIC CONDITION  
AND DUE TO HIS INABILITY TO WORK AND DESPONDENCY HE HAS BEEN  
DRINKING ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES TO EXCESS.

AUSA'S OPINION BEING CONFIRMED BY LETTER AND MEMPHIS  
IMPERSONATION CASE BEING CLOSED. P.  
END.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Dear Sir

I was a teacher  
in the E. St Louis Ill  
public schools from  
Sept 1928 to Dec 31<sup>st</sup>, 1940  
during which time  
Martin Luther King attended  
schools in that city.  
The family also was in  
Chillicothe Mo. when I  
attended St Joseph's Academy  
there. The school in which  
I first taught, the Franklin  
became a negro school  
after I was transferred  
from there. When I taught  
there, I had John Fitzgerald  
Kennedy, and some other  
notables in my room,  
also I taught Betty Oswald  
there.

Some negro escaped

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI - MEMPHIS	
Baylor	

from Jordland ran through  
my bedroom one night  
last winter. They were  
E. St Louis men. One had  
red scars on his head  
and was very black. A  
straight haired, light brown  
skinned negro was with  
them. He left the room,  
came back again and threw  
something or shot them.  
I was fainting.

The day Martin Luther  
King was killed, there  
was a white mountain  
lion in my fields. I was  
alone and frightened. Soon  
I noticed a car or horse  
trailer in the brush. A  
man who looked like Eric  
Salt got out. The lion  
gave a den, had kittens,  
watched the road awhile.  
The man cleared his tracks

and went on. The lion  
had what looked like an  
old door stop doll. It looked  
like a maimed person first  
but after watching a few  
minutes I saw it was  
not.

Eric Salt, James H. Gray  
and Richard Speck were  
names of janitors at the  
Academy. also of people  
at Sacred Heart Church in  
E. St. Louis Ill.

Yours truly

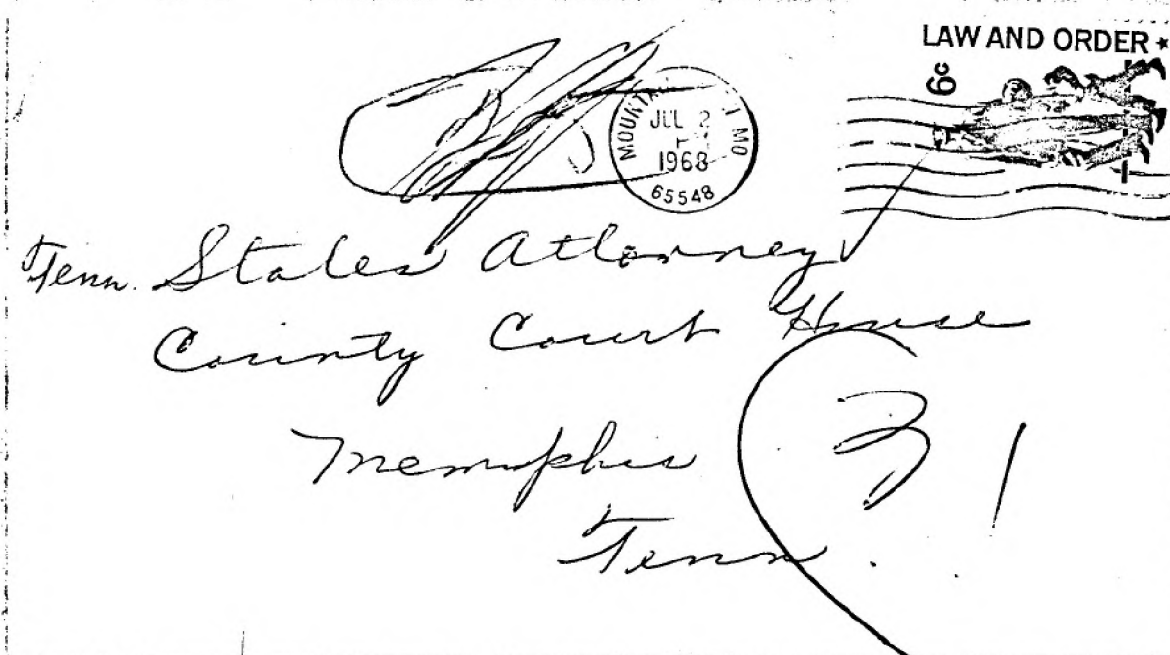
Mrs. Ernest Caldwell ✓

(Rose Conley)

Summersville Mo.

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUL 6 1968	
FBI — MEMPHIS	

*[Handwritten signature/initials over the stamp]*



44-1987-Sub-E-1025

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SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI - MEMPHIS	
JUL 2 1968	
Bayer RB	

(3)

E



5345 E. Ocean Blvd.  
Long Beach, California  
Saturday, June 22, 1968

Dear Raymond,

Enclosed is the full account of the experience I have been calling you about.

Although I am sending you a carbon, I have not shown this to anybody else. I am most hesitant about implicating any poor, unsuspecting, innocent people and I keep telling myself that this whole thing is just a series of coincidences which I have pieced together in such a way as to look significant. The "two men" were probably Finance men trying to repossess an automobile or some such thing.

As I told you, I called the F.B.I. yesterday and told them about these two pictures, but I really think that I should have tried to find other pictures in other poses before I said anything. It is possible that another picture of the same person would look entirely different. I am well aware of that, - but I suppose the F.B.I. is well aware of that, also. It was not my intention to "stir up" anything, nor to seek any publicity - you know that. I gave it a lot of serious thought and I kept coming up with the opinion that it was extremely unlikely that two men looking so much like those pictures would come to Long Beach looking for a man named Ray on that night, and that it would be pure coincidence. (But that is probably just what it was!) I'll probably hear nothing more about it, - in fact, I HOPE I hear nothing more about it. I still think it entirely plausible that, if it was actually them, and they think I might recognize their pictures, it would occur to them that I should be silenced. (Believe me, any men coming to my door in the future are going to get short shrift from me!)

I would be most interested in hearing from you as to your opinion of my story and whether you agree that I should have reacted as I did.

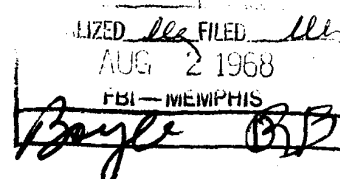
Love,

Me

P.S. I realize that I did not make my account very succinct, but I did not want to leave anything out; AND I also realized that the literary style leaves much to be desired, but I never said I was Fannie Hurst, did I?

P.P.S. When I phoned you the other afternoon and talked with Kathy about the pictures I had seen in the paper, she said that she didn't think that you wanted any part of this matter! When you didn't call me back, I figured that you were not interested, so that is another reason why I called the F.B.I. myself rather than contacting you again.

P.P.S. #2 I am thinking of looking for a job as an expert typist. Wish me luck!



On the night of April 1st, I was sitting alone in my den watching television. I heard heavy footsteps walking back and forth between the building in which I live and the building next door. This is not unusual, but for some reason, the sound attracted my attention. Shortly after that, my front doorbell rang. It was exactly 11:45 P.M. I went to the front window and, peering between the closed drapes, I saw a man standing at the door, facing the window, holding what at first glance appeared to be a camera. He was holding it very high and close to his face, as if he was looking at me through the view-finder. I immediately jumped back and called out, "Who is it?" His reply was, "The Police." Having seen that he was not wearing a uniform, I said, "Come on, you're not a policeman. What is the camera for?" He replied, "That is not a camera. I was holding up my badge." Telling him to wait a minute, I went to put on a robe. When I returned to the window and pulled open the drapes, he was still holding the badge very high and close to his head. He was smiling very broadly. The badge looked "odd" to me, but I cannot explain exactly why. It was large and seemed to have a coppery cast. It was attached to a wallet or folder. In his other hand, he held a small, chrome flashlight. I noticed a small red insignia on the end of it. It was then that I saw the second man standing below on the steps. When I asked what they wanted, the man with the badge said that they were looking for a man who, according to reliable information, was "holed up", (or some similar slang expression), with one of the tenants next door. He held out a picture. I remember thinking that, since we were yelling through the closed window, if the man they sought was next door, he would surely hear them. Since I could not see the picture clearly, I opened the door. (I am positive that the man said that they were "police", because as I opened the door, I remarked that I was hardly in any condition to talk with anybody, much less the police.) The first man, who did almost all of the talking, apologized for the lateness of the call and said that, since mine was the only light on in the vicinity, they had decided to "take a chance and ring the bell". He asked if there was a "caretaker" in the building next door. When I replied that there was not, he again held out the picture, asking if I had seen the person around there recently. I still could not see clearly, so I opened the screen door and told them to come in. (I don't know why, but I distinctly remember that he sort of chuckled and said, "Oh, all right.") They both entered. The first man was dark with black hair and brown eyes, and looked to be of Italian derivation. He was about 5'10", of medium build, wore an almost constant smile and smelled strongly of shaving lotion. He had a decided dimple in his chin. He was wearing a dark suit, white shirt, dark tie, and a black raincoat or trench-coat. I seem to remember that he was wearing one glove and was carrying a hat, which he placed on a nearby chair. The second man had light brown hair, flecked with gray, cut in a "butch" style. His face was more wrinkled and his blue eyes had rather large circles or "bags" under them. I think that he had a round scar on the lower left side of his face and he wore a very serious, almost apprehensive expression. He was slightly taller and wore a gray suit under a black raincoat or trench-coat. He had no hat, but I think he, too, was wearing gloves. I have the impression that they were both wearing scarves, - one was dark red; the other was brown, blue and gray plaid. The first man was between 38 to 45 yrs. of age; the second looked older.

I took the picture across the room to look at it under the light from a table-lamp. The two men remained standing just inside the door. The picture was a combination of full face and profile views of a young man, probably in his early thirties. It was a rather ordinary face which would not make a striking, lasting impression. I have the impression that he, too, had a "butch" haircut. At least, it seemed shorter on the sides than the top. He had a dimple in his chin, and I remember noticing his ears particularly. I think that the photo was in a cellophane case, the multiple kind which holds credit cards, etc., but it was folded in such a way that the one picture was all I saw.

I told the men that I could not be sure that I had, or had not, seen such a person. The first man said, "He is a little older now than he was when that was taken." As I passed the picture back to him, the second man spoke for the first time. He said, "His name is Ray." The first man, who had been facing me, turned his head quickly and threw him a sharp look, as much as to say, "What did you say that for?" This was the definite impression I got, because I had been on the verge of asking what this person was wanted for, but upon seeing that look, I decided to ask no questions. (I am positive that the name was "Ray"; because my brother's first name is Ray and I made that connection in my mind.) The first man turned back to me, resumed his smile, and said, "He is a really bad boy. We're very anxious to get him. Do you know any of the tenants next door? Do you have any idea what "flat" he might be in?" I replied that I had known only one of the tenants, but he had moved away just the previous day. I said that, as far as I knew, all the tenants were young men, with the exception of two girls who shared one of the second floor apartments. The second man then spoke for the second time. "They're who we should be talking to!" The first man readily agreed, indicating that if there were girls over there, Ray would have certainly made himself known to them. He asked me if I had seen a white car parked in front of the building recently. I described an off-white car, with red upholstery, I had seen there recently, but they did not seem to think that it was the one to which they had reference. Apologizing again, and going all through the same explanation of why they had "bothered" me, they left.

As I returned to the den, I heard them walking back between the buildings and up the stairs to the second floor next door. Again, I thought that they certainly weren't being at all quiet. I heard no sounds for between five to ten minutes. Then, I heard a door close, and they ran down the stairs, - not fast, just sort of trotting down, as if they were finished there and were leaving. As they walked back to the street, one of them said something that SOUNDED like, "We'd better stop on the other side of ..... and call Paul.....find him waiting around "barstools".....3 or 4 o'clock....." Then I heard "Pacific Coast Highway" and something about a Freeway. I had the impression that they were going to a bar, and I wondered why, if this person was hiding out, he would be "waiting around" a bar. (It was more idle curiosity. I did not concentrate on what was being said.)

I walked out to the kitchen window and saw them cross Ocean Blvd. and get into a dark-colored, late model car. They left the inside car light on and sat there for several minutes looking at a large map. I knew that it must be a map because of its size. I remember wondering why, if they were local police, as they had given me to understand, they would need a map. Then they turned out the light, but did not start the car right away. Just at that time, my husband came in from work. I told him to go back outside to see if a black car, with two men in it, was parked across the street. He returned to say that there was no car at all in the area I had indicated. It was exactly 12:20 A.M.

This whole episode "bugged" me. There was something "wrong" with it. I considered calling the Long Beach Detective Bureau immediately to check on it, but decided against it. I wondered, "Why the raincoats? It was not raining, nor was it chilly. (Such coats are seldom, if ever, seen in this area) Why were they so noisy, if they were actually trying to "catch" somebody? Who let them in next door? If nobody let them in, what were they doing up there so long? I had seen no lights in the building, but I was certain I had heard a door close. Why did they need a map? Why did I have the definite impression that the first man had not wanted the suspect's name divulged? etc. etc. etc.

It was at this point that I started to remember and piece things together, and my story now enters into the realm of conjecture, interpretation and, probably, my own imagination.

Almost every night, from the time we first moved here last October, I had heard the fellow who lives in the second floor apartment of the building next door, on the side facing me, get out a car at about 3:30 or 4:00 A.M., walk between the two buildings past my window, climb those same stairs and stop. Then I would hear his keys as he unlocked his door. The door would close noisily, his kitchen light would go on, shining down into my window, and I would hear him moving around in his kitchen. This occurrence was so regular and so much the same each night, that it became a sort of habit with me to listen for it before I went to sleep. Shortly after the visit from the two men, I suddenly realized that this fellow's "pattern" had changed some time recently. The same man was still coming here at the same time. I recognized the footsteps going up the stairs and stopping, but he did not unlock the door. It seemed to me that the door was being opened from the inside. Then I remembered that I had heard him speak, one night, saying, "It's me. Let me in." I had idly wondered about it at the time, but had attached no significance to it. It struck me that the lights in that apartment had been turned on during the evening for perhaps the last couple of weeks, where, previously, the windows had been dark. I mentioned this "change in pattern" to my husband, saying, "I'll bet the guy those men were looking for was up there." He laughed at me, telling me I was imagining things.

The fellow who lived in the first floor apartment in the building next door was in the process of moving out on the day President Johnson made his announcement of not running for office again. His first name was "Dick" and, although I did not know him well, I had had several conversations with him. His front door was so close to my kitchen door that I could hear everything that transpired over there almost as well as if I was in the same room. On that afternoon, I heard two fellows come down the stairs and stop at Dick's open door. One of them introduced the other to Dick, telling him that this person had been staying with him for several days. Dick expressed surprise that he had not been aware of the person having been there. I seem to remember that the man was planning to end his visit that evening or the following morning. Although I was not consciously listening to their conversation, I remember some discussion of a trip to Mexico and gathered that the "visitor" had been there recently. Dick was taking his time about getting his belongings packed into a U-Rent truck, so they stayed over there all afternoon, talking and drinking beer. There was a long conversation about renting a boat. (It may not have been on that same afternoon that I heard it, but I think it was.) Dick's was the only familiar voice to me, so I remember best what he said. He was very much impressed with the size of the boat, the sleeping quarters, etc. He asked about the cost of renting such a boat, etc. I know that nothing was said about fishing. I gathered that it was rented for the purpose of taking a rather long voyage or cruise. The two girls, previously mentioned, were also in and out of that apartment all afternoon, talking to the fellows. I distinctly remember that one of the girls said something about one of the men having taken dancing lessons. She seemed to think it was most unusual and rather humorous. From what was said, I realized that she was referring to ballroom dancing. That same evening, after Dick left, there were two or three couples dancing in the livingroom of the aforementioned second floor apartment. (I noticed it particularly, because it had never happened before, since I had lived here, - and it has never happened since.) When I took my dog out that evening, I glanced up at the windows and saw a tallish, slender, dark-haired fellow dancing with one of the girls. I did not recognize him. As I remember it in retrospect, it was just about that period of time that both my husband and I noticed a late model white automobile parked in a space behind that building. Neither of us is certain about the "make", but it was a compact car. It was there only a few days and has not been seen there since.

I did not connect any of them with the assassination of Martin Luther King until the name "Jack Earl Ray" was mentioned in the news. Then it really started to bother me as I compared the things I had seen and heard with what I read in the papers. I tried to clearly remember the photograph which had been shown to me that night. If that was a picture of the same "Ray", it was not the same picture as any of those I have seen published, with the possible exception of one which had been taken of him several years ago. However, because of the coincidences, the subject continued to bother me to such a degree that I finally telephoned the Long Beach Detective Bureau on the afternoon of May 2nd or 3rd. I got no satisfaction from the woman I talked with at that time, so I phoned back that night. The officer who answered told me that no men from his office had been looking for any man named Ray previous to the death of King. He advised me to call the F.B.I., which I did. The gentleman who answered the telephone in the Los Angeles Office of the F.B.I. that night quite obviously did not believe a word I said. He did assure me most definitely, however, that had any two men come to my door as I claimed, had they been F.B.I. Agents, they WOULD CERTAINLY have identified themselves QUITE CLEARLY as being from the FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION and there would be no subsequent doubt in my mind. I asked him, "If they were not Long Beach Detectives, and they were not F.B.I. Agents, who were they?" He did not seem to care. I tried to convince him that I was not a nut and was telling the truth, but he ended the conversation by telling me I had better forget the whole thing.

In the June 17th issue of The National Observer, there were four photographs printed on the front page. One of them was the usual one of James Earl Ray wearing the dark-rimmed glasses, but two of the others struck me immediately as looking vaguely familiar. I read underneath to see who they were. I studied the faces, even using a magnifying glass to see them more clearly. In order to help myself, I drew black coat collars on them. That didn't seem to make them look exactly right, so I made their hairlines recede a bit. That was better, but it seemed that one of them should have a "butch" haircut, so I gave him one. The more I fooled around with the pictures, the more certain I became that they were the two men who had come to my door that night looking for a man named "Ray". The two pictures were of the two men whose names James Earl Ray had been using, Ramon George Sneyd and Eric S. Galt.

F B I

Date: 7/30/68

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

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS  
FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN  
OO: Memphis

Enclosed herewith for Memphis is one copy of a five page letter written to RAYMOND L. MC LEAN by his sister, Mrs. ERNEST (MERRILL) CARMICHAEL.

On 7/26/68, RAYMOND L. MC LEAN, Chief of Police, Montclair, California, made available to SA JAMES E. HOFFER the enclosed letter dated 6/22/68, which he received from his sister, Mrs. ERNEST (MERRILL) CARMICHAEL, 5345 East Ocean Boulevard, Long Beach, California.

Chief MC LEAN advised that his sister had called him on several occasions regarding the matter reflected by the letter, and he finally advised her to sit down and put it all on paper.

Chief MC LEAN stated to his knowledge his sister is of good mental health, and although she does drink, she does not have a drinking problem. He stated she generally waits up until her husband comes home from work, and after he gets home they generally sit and have a few drinks, but he is unaware that she drinks while waiting for her husband.

He further advised that her story is rather "far-fetched" but he felt he should bring it to the attention of the FBI.

The letter is enclosed for the information of the Memphis Office.

② - Memphis (Encls. 1) *y*  
2 - Los Angeles  
jeh/lmt  
(4) *E*

44-1987-Sub-E-1076A

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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*Boyle* *10/12*

Approved: *[Signature]*  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 7/21/68

Following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

**AIRTEL**

**AIR MAIL**

(Priority)

**TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)**

**FROM: SAC, KNOXVILLE (44-696)**

**MURKIN**

ED BAKER, reporter, Chattanooga Post newspaper, advised SA DAVE J. COOK that ~~HARVEY LOWMEYER~~ is incarcerated by the Georgia Prison System. Mr. BAKER had no other details concerning this HARVEY LOWMEYER.

It is being left to the office of origin to determine whether it will be necessary to set out a lead in this instance.

② - Memphis  
2 - Knoxville

JLF/pjw  
(4)

E

44-1987-Sub-E

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Boyle

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI MIAMI

1223PM URGENT 8-2-68 IDB

TO DIRECTOR 44-33861, MEMPHIS 44-1987, JACKSON, AND MOBILE  
FROM MIAMI 44-1854 4P

MURKIN. CR.

RE MIAMI AIRTEL TO BUREAU, JULY FIFTEEN, LAST, AND MIAMI  
AIRTEL TO BUREAU, JULY TWENTYFOUR AND TWENTYFIVE, LAST,  
CAPTIONED KATHLEEN MADLYN AINSWORTH, AKA; ET AL, ATTEMPTED  
BOMBING RESIDENCE OF MEYER DAVIDSON, TWO NINE ZERO FOUR  
THIRTYSIX ST., MERIDIAN, MISS., JUNE THIRTY, SIXTYEIGHT,  
BOMBING MATTERS.

*E-755 A p2*  
WILLIAM SOMERSETT, FORMER SYMBOL INFORMANT WHO IS  
NO LONGER CONTACTED BY THE MIAMI OFFICE, AND CHARACTERIZED  
AS HAVING FURNISHED RELIABLE INFORMATION IN THE PAST, AND  
IN ADDITION HAS FURNISHED INFORMATION WHICH COULD NOT BE  
VERIFIED OR CORROBORATED, ADVISED AS FOLLOWS TODAY:

ON JULY THIRTYONE, LAST, MARGARET CAPOMACCHI, MOTHER  
OF DECEASED, KATHLEEN AINSWORTH, CONTACTED HIM AND RELATED  
THE FOLLOWING.

SHE IS UPSET AND DISTURBED WITH SIDNEY C. BARNES.  
END PAGE ONE

*BARNES* *Sidney* *756A*  
*Sub E 356A*  
*44-1987-Sub E-1078*

SEARCHED	INDEXED <i>ll</i>
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*Boyle* *QB*  
*44-1987-Sub*



PAGE TWO

MI 44-1854

MOBILE, ALA., WHOSE WIFE, PAULINE, IS PRESENTLY AT THE HOME OF HER DECEASED DAUGHTER IN JACKSON, MISS. STATED SHE TOLD BARNES THE GUNS, PREVIOUSLY GIVEN TO SOMERSETT, WERE THROWN IN THE OCEAN. STATED THERE IS A LOT OF DANGER IN THIS CASE, NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED, AND SHE WANTS NOTHING TO DO WITH BARNES AND THE PEOPLE INVOLVED IN HER DAUGHTER'S DEATH. STATED TARRANTS (THOMAS A. TARRANTS, III), HER DAUGHTER AND FOUR OTHER MEN, IDENTIFIED AS HAWKINS, DUNN, HARPER AND WILSON, ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATH OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. STATED AUTOMOBILE IN WHICH HER DAUGHTER WAS KILLED WAS USED WITH ONE OTHER CAR BY THOSE INVOLVED. STATED THEY USED RADIO EQUIPMENT AND KATHY HELPED IN JAMMING POLICE CALLS. STATED THEY HAD UNKNOWN COLORED MALE HELP TO "SET UP KING." SAID SHOOTING WAS FROM TREES AND BUSHES IN VICINITY OF HOTEL AND THAT JAMES EARL RAY MAY HAVE HELPED TO PURCHASE THE GUN, BUT RAY DID NOT DO THE SHOOTING. AFTER THE SHOOTING, THEY REMAINED IN MEMPHIS, TENN., UNTIL THE FOLLOWING DAY, WHEN THEY DEPARTED FOR ATLANTA, GA. KATHY AND TARRANTS THEN PROCEEDED TO SOUTH CAROLINA, WHERE THEY REMAINED ABOUT ONE WEEK PRIOR TO GOING TO MOBILE, ALA., AND THEN TO JACKSON, MISS.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

NY 44-1854

IN FURTHER IDENTIFYING THE MEN INVOLVED, SHE SAID THEY ARE GOING TO TRIAL OR ARE CURRENTLY ON TRIAL THIS WEEK IN CONNECTION WITH THE BOMBING OF A REAL ESTATE OFFICE AND THAT THE POLICE INFORMANT IN THIS CASE REPORTEDLY RAN OFF WITH THE WIFE OF A KLANSMAN.

SOMERSETT ADVISED HE WAS UNABLE TO CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THE INFORMATION FURNISHED BY CAPOMACCHIA, WHO HE FEELS IS MENTALLY DISTURBED, AND HE HAS NO WAY OF EVALUATING THE INFORMATION, BUT IN VIEW OF THE TYPE OF INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED, IT IS REMOTELY POSSIBLE TARRANTS AND HIS ASSOCIATES IN SOME WAY MAY HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH THE ASSASSINATION OF KING.

SOMERSETT ADVISED THAT HE WAS IN CONTACT WITH BARNES ON THE EVENING OF JULY THIRTYONE, LAST. BARNES ADVISED HE WAS LEAVING JACKSON, MISS., ON AUG. TWO, INST., AND REQUESTED SOMARSETT TO JOIN HIM. SOMERSETT DECLINED THE INVITATION AND RELATED THAT BARNES LIKES TO PUSH PEOPLE INTO THINGS WITHOUT BECOMING INVOLVED HIMSELF.

MIAMI IS NOT IN A POSITION TO EVALUATE THE ABOVE INFORMATION, HOWEVER, IT IS NOTED THAT ANTHONY CAPOMACCHIA  
END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

MM 44-1854

AND HIS WIFE, NORMA, WHO HAVE BEEN INTERVIEWED IN MIAMI, INDICATE THAT MARGARET CAPOMACCHIA HAS A MENTAL PROBLEM.

UACB, JACKSON, THROUGH EMPLOYMENT RECORDS AND INTERVIEW WITH RALPH AINSWORTH, HUSBAND OF KATHLEEN, ESTABLISH THE WHEREABOUTS OF KATHLEEN AINSWORTH DURING THE PERTINENT PERIOD DURING AND FOLLOWING THE ASSASSINATION OF KING, IN AN EFFORT TO ESTABLISH ANY VALIDITY IN THE ABOVE INFORMATION.

JACKSON AND MOBILE SHOULD BE ALERT TO THE ACTIVITIES OF BARNES, WHO REPORTEDLY IS LEAVING FOR JACKSON TODAY.

AIRMAIL COPIES FURNISHED ATLANTA AND BIRMINGHAM.

END

MMO

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI JKSN MISS

704 PM URGENT 8-2-68 JWD

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)  
FROM JACKSON (157-9536)

MURKIN. CR.

RE MIAMI TEL THIS DATE.

IMMEDIATELY AFTER MURKIN OCCURRED, THE JACKSON DIVISION  
INITIATED INVESTIGATION CONCERNING WHEREABOUTS  
OF SUSPECTS WITHIN THE JACKSON DIVISION INCLUDING BURRIS  
L. DUNN, JR., JOE DANIEL HAWKINS, AND J. L. HARPER, ALL KNOWN  
KLANSMEN HAVING PROPENSITY FOR VIOLENCE. INVESTIGATION THAT  
DATE INDICATED THESE INDIVIDUALS WERE IN THE CITY OF JACKSON.

ROBERT EARL WILSON, AT THAT PARTICULAR TIME WAS BEING  
SOUGHT BY HAWKINS, DUNN, AND HARPER, AS IT WAS KNOWN TO  
THEM THAT WILSON WOULD TESTIFY AGAINST THEM IN LOCAL BOMBING  
MATTERS AND FURTHER THAT WILSON HAD ELOPED WITH THE WIFE OF  
BURRIS L. DUNN, JR., AND TWO MINOR CHILDREN OF DUNN.

IT IS NOT CONCEIVABLE THAT WILSON COULD HAVE BEEN  
INVOLVED WITH THE THREE INDIVIDUALS IN ANY CITY ACT AT THAT TIME.

END PAGE ONE

*Sub E-1078*

*44-1987-Sub E-1078A*

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<i>Boyle</i>	<i>BP</i>

PAGE TWO

CONTINUOUS ATTEMPTS HAVE BEEN MADE THIS DATE TO LOCATE  
MRS. VERA BOUTWELL, PRINCIPAL OF THE SCHOOL IN WHICH  
KATHLEEN MADLYN AINSWORTH <sup>Sub E-1078</sup> WAS EMPLOYED AT THE TIME OF MURKIN.  
THESE HAVE MET WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS AS BOUTWELL HAS BEEN  
UNAVAILABLE TODAY.

EFFORTS TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW RALPH AINSWORTH, HUSBAND  
OF DECEASED AINSWORTH, HAVE BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL TO DATE DUE TO  
FACT AINSWORTH IS ON VACATION AND IS AT THIS TIME EN ROUTE  
TO THE CITY OF JACKSON FROM SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA.

EFFORTS ARE CONTINUING TO ESTABLISH WHEREABOUTS OF  
DECEASED AINSWORTH AT TIME MURKIN OCCURRED THROUGH BOUTWELL  
AND RALPH AINSWORTH AND BUREAU WILL BE ADVISED.

MAIL COPIES FURNISHED MOBILE AND MIAMI.

END

RJT

FBI MEMPHIS

P

**DECODED COPY**

☒ **Radio**

AUGUST 5, 1968

☐ **Teletype**

TO: BUREAU AND MEMPHIS

FROM: JACKSON

MURKIN. CR.

RE MIAMI TEL AUGUST 2 AND JACKSON TEL AUGUST 2 LAST.

RALPH AINSWORTH, HUSBAND OF THE DECEASED KATHLEEN MADLYN AINSWORTH, AKA, ADVISED LATE P.M. AUGUST 3 LAST THAT HE RECALLED HIS WIFE CALLED HIM LATE AFTERNOON OF APRIL 4 LAST REPORTING THAT THE NEWS HAD REPORTED MARTIN LUTHER KING HAD BEEN SHOT. LATER IN EVENING HE WAS WITH HIS WIFE AND IS POSITIVE IN HIS OWN MIND SHE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF THIS MURDER.

AIRMAIL COPIES FURNISHED MIAMI AND MOBILE.

TOR: 2:11 P.M. JDT

*Sub E*

44-1987-Sub-E-1096

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED <i>tu</i>
SERIALIZED <i>tu</i>	FILED <i>tu</i>
AUG 5 1968	
FBI — MEMPHIS	

*JDT*

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.