

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

9/24/68

SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

MURKIN
OO:ME

ReMemairtel to Memphis, 9/4/68, regarding information furnished by one JIM LOCKHART concerning ROBERT PRATT, Birmingham attorney, who was reported in 1963 to have agreed to represent anyone who might be apprehended in executing a "contract" to assassinate Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING.

Birmingham file styled "ROBERT N. PRATT, ET AL; INFORMATION CONCERNING", Bufile 66-6353, BH file 92-272, contains considerable derogatory information concerning the character of PRATT, a disbarred attorney of Birmingham. Two copies each of BH airtels to the Bureau dated 9/3 and 9/5/68 containing background information on PRATT are being furnished the Memphis office, and for ready reference of the Bureau, one copy of each airtel is attached. Mobile is also being furnished one copy each.

Contact with warden's office, Jefferson County Jail, Birmingham, revealed it would be practically impossible to determine the identity of an inmate by nickname only during the year 1963 since there are confined daily an average of 250 inmates.

UACB, Birmingham considers that any contact with PRATT would be inadvisable at this time and no action regarding him will be taken.

2 - Bureau (Enc. 2)
2 - Memphis (Enc. 4) *th*
1 - Mobile (Info) (Enc. 2) (157-2627)
2 - Birmingham
HAS:scb
(7)

44-1987-Sub-E-1684
ll
ll
Hester *opt*

F B I

Date: 9/13/68

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

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861)
FROM ATLANTA (44-2386)P

MURKIN.

ONE STANLEY SPANGLER, ATLANTA, ADVISED WHILE
WITHDRAWING MONEY FROM ATLANTA FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN
BANK, ATLANTA, THIS DATE, HE SAW NAME JAMES RAY AND
MARIETTA, GA., ADDRESS WRITTEN ON ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR
BILL. HE LEFT THAT BILL WITH THE BANK AFTER CALLING
IT TO ATTENTION OF TELLER.

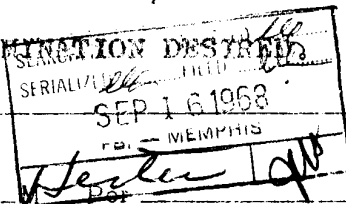
JOHN S. HALL, ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT, ATLANTA
FEDERAL, EXHIBITED THE BILL WHICH CONTAINED FOLLOWING
PRINTED WITH BLUE INK "JOHN W. MC MILLAN, APT G-THREE,
JAMES RAY, MARIETTA, GEORGIA." ALSO WRITTEN ON SAME
BILL IN RED INK IS "OR BELN OR "BILL". THIS APPEARS ON
ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR FEDERAL RESERVE NOTE, SERIES NINETEEN
FIFTY, SERIAL NUMBER EZERO TWO TWO SEVEN ONE ZERO ONE ONE
A. THE BILL WAS LEFT IN POSSESSION OF MR. HALL, WHO STATED
HE WOULD RETAIN IT IN THE EVENT FBI EXAMINATION DESTROYED

ORN:bjc
(1)

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____



F B I

Date:

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

PAGE TWO

TELEPHONE AND CITY DIRECTORIES FOR MARIETTA, GA.,
CONTAIN LISTING FOR J. W. MC MILLAN, THREE ZERO TWO ONE,
SOUTH ATLANTA, SOUTHEAST, SMYRNA, GA. CITY DIRECTORY
REFLECTS THIS IS PRIVATE RESIDENCE WITH OCCUPANTS LISTED
AS FRANK MC MILLAN AND J. W. MC MILLAN. J. W. MC MILLAN
LISTED AS CLERK, ATLANTA AIRPORT, AND MARRIED.

NCIC AND ATLANTA INDICES NEGATIVE RE ONE HUNDRED
DOLLAR BILL.

BUREAU REQUESTED TO ADVISE IF ABOVE-DESCRIBED
ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR BILL MAY BE BAIT MONEY FROM BANK ROBBERY
OR OTHERWISE RECORDED WITH BUREAU. INVESTIGATION BEING
CONDUCTED TO DETERMINE IDENTITY AND BACKGROUND OF J. W.
MC MILLAN.

AM COPY SENT MEMPHIS.

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

DEPARTMENTAL COMMUNICATION

ASD 94

TO: Inspector G. P. Tines,
Intelligence Bureau

FROM: Lt. O. B. Holcomb,
Intelligence Bureau

SUBJECT: William Ray, brother of James
Earl Ray, committed to
psychiatric unit at JGH.

DATE: September 24, 1968

Lt. Steve Ford called and reported that WILLIAM RAY, @Jerold I. CALLONGUES, brother of JAMES EARL RAY, was committed to the psychiatric ward at JGH. The arrest report shows that he was arrested in the U.P. Bank Building at Front and Madison on the 12th floor at 7:40 PM, 9-23-68, by Car 1, after the bank guard called them on a drunk. He was brought to City Jail and then transferred to JGH. The doctors at JGH have ascertained that he was previously committed to a mental hospital at Jackson, Louisiana, and was released in 1951.

*not a brother
in*

44-1987-Sub-E-1086

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 26 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

Hester

E

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : FILE (44-1987)

DATE: 9-26-68

FROM : SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 9-25-68, Dr. DAVID MOORE telephonically contacted me. He stated he is a psychiatrist attached to John Gaston Hospital. He said at present he had a patient who had advised his name was WILLIAM NUN RAY, claiming to be a brother of JAMES EARL RAY. True name and identity of WILLIAM NUN RAY not known to Dr. DAVID MOORE, but he advised that the last name which he had for the man was CALLONGUES or COLLINGS.

Dr. MOORE said that when patients were received who were hallucinatory it was most difficult to establish their true identity. Dr. MOORE was told there was no information available to indicate that JAMES EARL RAY had a brother by the name WILLIAM NUN RAY. It was suggested to Dr. MOORE that in situations such as he had there was always a possibility that fingerprints might be available with the local Police Department, which in turn would help him to establish the true identity of the patient. Dr. MOORE said he would be in touch with a friend he had at the Memphis PD.

Attached hereto is a memorandum from Lt. O. B. HOLCOMB, Intelligence Bureau, which sets forth information regarding WILLIAM RAY, reportedly brother of JAMES EARL RAY.

RGJ:BN
(1)



5010-108

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New Haven, Connecticut 06510

October 7, 1968

JAMES EARL RAY

On October 7, 1968, NH T-1, an English professor in the academic field, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that on October 4, 1968, he was in a small social gathering of four individuals, one of whom was an employee of Mc Call's Publications, whom he refused to identify.

During the course of the conversation, the Mc Call's employee mentioned in a matter-of-fact manner that Look Magazine beginning with the issue of October 29, 1968, will run a serial on JAMES EARL RAY. In this series of articles, RAY reportedly will state that the Ku Klux Klan hired him to assassinate Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

A characterization of the Ku Klux Klan appears in the Appendix.

NH T-1 stated that the Mc Call's employee impressed him as a down-to-earth, level-headed, business man who appeared at the time to be making a factual statement. The Mc Call's employee also stated that the rights to this article have been sold world wide.

PROPERTY OF THE FBI

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

44-1987-Sub-E-1687

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 11 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester JH

APPENDIX

NATIONAL KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN, INC. (NKKKK)

A source advised that on May 22, 1960, the National Grand Council of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan met at Atlanta, Georgia, to discuss consolidation of the Klan's unity of effort and activities to establish a National Fund, and a National Secretary, and to design a new flag. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Federation of Ku Klux Klan, Alabama; Association of Arkansas Klans, Arkansas; Florida Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Florida; Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Florida; Association of Georgia Klans, Georgia; Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, North Carolina; Association of South Carolina Klans, South Carolina; Dixie Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Tennessee; and Kyksos Klan, Texas.

This source advised that at a consolidation meeting at Atlanta, Georgia, September 2-5, 1960, at which the North Carolina and Texas Klans were not represented, it was resolved and passed that their name be changed to National Ku Klux Klan.

A second source advised in March, 1964, that several meetings of Klan groups were held during the period 1960 to 1963 in an effort to unite the Klan groups under a single leadership.

The organization was granted a charter in DeKalb County, Georgia, November 1, 1963, under the name National Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc., as a "patriotic, secret, social, and benevolent order."

A third source advised in December, 1963, that the organization had issued a statement of its program which indicated the organization to be anti-Negro, anti-Jewish, anti-Catholic, and anti-foreign born.

A fourth source advised in July, 1968, that the organization has its headquarters in Tucker, Georgia, and the day-to-day operations are under the direction of James R. Venable, Imperial Wizard.

10-7-68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, NEW HAVEN (157-818)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
OO:MEMPHIS

Enclosed for the Bureau are 5 copies; for Memphis two copies and for New York one copy of an LHM captioned JAMES EARL RAY, which is self-explanatory. A copy of this communication and the LHM is being designated for the New York Office for information since Mc Call's and Look Magazines both have their headquarters in New York City.

NH T-1 is Dr. BERTRAM D. SARASON, professor of English, Southern Connecticut State College, New Haven, Conn., whose identity is protected at his request. He declined to furnish the name of the Mc Call's employee since he feared if it became known the employee might lose his job.

Professor SARASON was concerned that the U.S. District Attorney prosecuting the case might be caught by surprise by the revelation that the Ku Klux Klan hired RAY to assassinate Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. and that the resulting publicity might cause difficulty in selecting an unbiased jury.

3 - Bureau (Encs. 5) (RM)
② - Memphis (44-1987) (Encs. 2) (RM)
1 - New York (INFO) (Enc. 1) (RM)
2 - New Haven
JAH:jml
(8)

44-1987-Sub-E-1087A

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 9 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

[Handwritten signatures and initials over the stamp]

NH 157-818

Professor SARASON was under the impression that both Mc Call's and Look Magazines were jointly owned by one corporation.

The above is being submitted for the information of the Bureau and the Memphis Office.

2*

DeWitt County Sheriff's Department
SUPPLEMENTARY INVESTIGATION REPORT

Date October 9, 1968

Case Stolen Check & Forgery cashed at Coral Lounge - Clinton, Illinois
(Name of Company or Individual and Address)

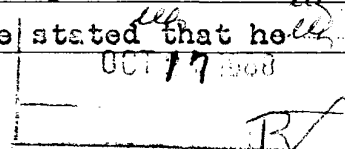
Date of Crime 9-13-68

Report in Detail Carl Raymond Osborne, Alias Walter Alexander, was interrogated at the Ogle County Jail, Oregon, Illinois, by Sheriff Claude Barrett with Deputy Wikle and George Gardner being present. He (Osborne) was advised of his Constitutional Rights before the interrogation began. Subject stated that he had an Arkansas Driver's License under the name of Walter Alexander when arrested in Ogle County. He had Iowa '68 plates number 509 234, which were on a '61 black Plymouth at the time of his arrest. Subject purchased the car at Marshalltown, Iowa, from the Braga Motors, which are Dodge and Plymouth dealers, for \$160.00. He was allowed \$60.00 down payment on a Nash that he traded in. Subject was requested to write the names of Carl R. Osborne, Walter Alexander, and Frank Elliott, the same being attached to this complaint. Subject stated that he had been associating with Bob Cline, whose correct name is Robert Dale Porter. Bob Cline, Alias Robert Dale Porter, is an escapee from Jefferson City, Missouri Penitentiary. He is also associated with George Worthington, who is an escapee from the county jail of Dumas, Texas. Subject stated that he and Worthington had escaped at the same time. Worthington was serving two years for forgery, and Osborne was being held on a burglary charge. Carl Raymond Osborne, Alias Walter Alexander, stated that he had stayed in a hotel across from the bus station at Marshalltown, Iowa. He had gotten a slip to the hotel from a woman at the Salvation Army in Marshalltown. He stated that Robert Dale Porter, Alias Bob Cline, and George Worthington had left him at the hotel and returned the next day with checks, a typewriter, and a check protector. Three of these checks were made out and given to Carl Raymond Osborne. He stated that he passed one of the checks at Newton, Iowa, in a clothing store. He stated that he

Con't. on Page 2

Officers _____

Report Made by _____ Report Approved by _____



44-1987-Sub-E-1058

DeWalt County Sheriff's Department
SUPPLEMENTARY INVESTIGATION REPORT

PAGE 2

Date _____, 19____

Case _____
(Name of Company or Individual and Address)

Date of Crime _____

Report in Detail _____

recognized George Gardner, but couldn't remember being in Clinton, Illinois. Osborne left Porter and Worthington the second day after they arrived at the hotel. Porter has a '57 Plymouth 4 dr. sedan (color-white) bearing Iowa license. He purchased this car from the Braga Motors, Marshalltown. As the license in Iowa are sold with the car, this car may still be bearing that license. Worthington is driving a white/tan '57 Ford bearing Texas license, numerals unknown. Osborne stated that Porter told him that James Earl Ray and Porter were permitted to escape from the Jefferson City Penitentiary at the same time so that they could kill Martin Luther King. Subject told Osborne that he and Ray were both later arrested in Memphis, Tennessee, at the same time and later released. After the release, Porter left James Earl Ray and has not seen him since.

Osborne was shown the check that was given to George Gardner. He admitted that the signature was his handwriting of Walter Alexander on the back of the check. Photostatic copy of subject was obtained from the Sheriff's Office of Ogle County, Oregon, Illinois, and filed with this report.

Officers _____

Report Made by _____ Report Approved by _____

Office Phone
935-6718
County Jail
935-3196
Area Code 217

DeWITT COUNTY
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

CLAUDE "Runt" BARRETT, SHERIFF
CLINTON, ILLINOIS 61727



October 10, 1968

Mr. Phil M. Canale, Jr.
District Attorney General
Fifteenth Circuit
Memphis, Tennessee

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find a copy of our investigation, which is self explanatory. During this interrogation subject also intimated that the release from South Memphis Jail could also have been for the purpose of killing Martin Luther King. I thought you might consider this worth attempting to locate Porter to see if he could verify what Osborne has stated. Osborne will soon be released to be returned to Dumas, Texas.

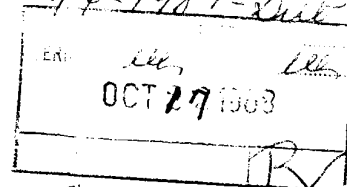
Yours truly,

Claude "Runt" Barrett

Claude "Runt" Barrett
Sheriff, DeWitt County

CB:pl

Enc.



October 14, 1968

The Honorable Claude Barrett
Sheriff of De Witt County
Clinton, Illinois 61727

Dear Sheriff Barrett:

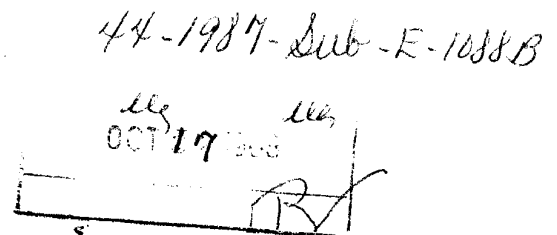
Thank you very much for the information
contained in your letter of October 10.

We will do all we can to verify the ac-
curacy of the information given you.

Sincerely,

PHIL M. CANALE, JR.
District Attorney General

PMcJr:MEF



10-17-68

AIRTEL

AM

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P

MURKIN

Submitted herewith for the information of the Bureau and Kansas City is a supplementary investigation report prepared by Dewitt County Sheriffs Department, Clinton, Illinois. It is noted that report sets forth information received from a prisoner by the name of CARL RAYMOND OSBORNE, alias WALTER ALEXANDER. During the course of interview, OSBORNE states he has been associated with a ROBERT DALE PORTER, alias BOB CLINE. OSBORNE during course of investigation states that ROBERT DALE PORTER, alias BOB CLINE, told him that JAMES EARL RAY and PORTER were permitted to escape from the Jefferson City Penitentiary at the same time so that they could kill MARTIN LUTHER KING. PORTER also reportedly told OSBORNE that he and RAY were both later arrested in Memphis, Tennessee, at the same time and subsequently released.

The Memphis Division has no information available indicating that OSBORNE and RAY were arrested at the same time in Memphis and subsequently released.

It is suggested that the Bureau review the identification record of ROBERT DALE PORTER to determine whether or not there is any information disclosing a common arrest or a common incarceration with subject JAMES EARL RAY.

The Kansas City Office, at Jefferson City Penitentiary, should review records to ascertain whether or not ROBERT DALE PORTER, alias BOB CLINE, has ever been incarcerated at Jefferson City Penitentiary and whether or not any information available to indicate he is an escapee, and whether time of escape corresponds with that of JAMES EARL RAY.

3 BUREAU (Enc. 3)(AM)
2 KANSAS CITY (Enc. 3)(AM)
① MEMPHIS
RGJ:BN
(6)

44-1987-Sub-E-1088C

ME 44-1987

Kansas City should also determine whether or not there is any information available indicating that ROBERT DALE PORTER may have been incarcerated at the same time as JAMES EARL RAY or may possibly have been a cellmate of JAMES EARL RAY.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, Memphis (44-1987)

DATE: October 28, 1968

FROM : Director, FBI

SUBJECT: MURKIN

ReMEairtel to the Bureau dated 10/17/68.

Enclosed for Memphis and Kansas City is one copy of the identification record concerning Robert Dale Porter, for assistance in evaluating the information as furnished by Carl Raymond Osborne.

Memphis and Kansas City should expedite the evaluation in this matter.

Enclosure

2 - Kansas City (Enclosure)



5010-106

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE 10-25-68 719 HVE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

J. Edgar Hoover
Director.

The following FBI record, NUMBER 4 590 482, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
USM Des Moines Iowa	Robert Dale Porter #---	applicant 7-31-43		
War Dept Wash DC	Robert Dale Porter #17177475	enlisted 12-18-45		
Allegheny Co Det Bu Pgh Pa	Robert Dale Porter #J-48830	4-24-46	transporting stolen auto interstate	
USM Pgh Pa	Robert Dale Porter #33491	4-24-46	transport stolen auto interstate	4-29-46 TOY Military Police of this area case noile crossed
Provost Marshal Sheppard Field Wichita Falls Texas	Robert D. Porter #17177475	5-28-46	conf 1930	5 mos and forf \$33 per.
St Highway Patrol Kirkwood Mo	Robert Dale Porter #G-7219	9-11-46	auto larc	9-12-46 TOY St Louis MO
St Louis Mo	Robert Dale Porter #56229	9-11-56	larc of auto	
30 Eldora Iowa	Robert Dale Porter #728	6-9-47	dist the peace	30 das
War Dept Wash DC	Robert Dale Porter #RA-16247246	enlisted 7-16-47 Ft Sheridan Ill		
<p>44-1987-Sub-10 100D lll lll</p> <p>Since neither fingerprints nor an identifying number which is indexed in our files were stated your request, FBI cannot guarantee in any manner that this material concerns the individual in whom you are interested.</p>				

Notations indicated by * ARE NOT BASED ON FINGERPRINTS IN FBI files. The notations are based on data formerly furnished this Bureau concerning individuals of the same or similar names or aliases and ARE LISTED ONLY AS INVESTIGATIVE LEADS.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

10-25-68 609 SJ

J. Edgar Hoover
Director.

2 The following FBI record, NUMBER 4 590 482, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
PD Waterloo Iowa	Robert Dale Porter #2312	9-1-47	inv re: aslt & AWOL	
SO Waterloo Iowa	Robert D. Porter #2622	9-2-47	rape	9-12-47 no bill by Grand Jury
St Hwy Pat Springfield Mo	Robert Dale Porter #D-931	11-19-47	B&L	
PD Tucson Ariz	Robert D. Porter #896-M	5-7-48	burg	
St Bd of Pardons & Paroles Phoenix Ariz #14871	Robert Porter #-- SP Florence Ariz	6-2-48	burg 1st deg	1-2 yrs 5-4-49 parole out of state
SO Charles City Iowa	Robert Dale Porter #558	7-12-49	statutory rape	pending
SP Ft Madison Iowa	Robt Dale Porter #21944	12-15-49	rape	5 yrs 12-30-52 exp final recomm for escape
SPen Ft Madison Iowa	Robert Dale Porter #23124	12-30-52	escape	5 yrs 12-8-54 exp of sent
PD Waterloo Iowa	Robert Dale Porter #2312	5-9-55	intox	\$10 & \$2 or 3 das
SO Waverly Iowa	Robert Dale Porter #463	6-24-55	reck dr	30 das Co Jail
SO Waverly Iowa	Robert Dale Porter #463	8-16-55	disturbance of the peace	8-16-55 F \$100 & C served 30 das Co Jail
<p>Since neither the FBI nor the identifying number is listed in our files accompanied your request. FBI cannot guarantee in any manner that this material concerns the individual in whom you are interested.</p>				

Notations indicated by * ARE NOT BASED ON FINGERPRINTS IN FBI files. The notations are based on data formerly furnished this Bureau concerning individuals of the same or similar names or aliases and ARE LISTED ONLY AS INVESTIGATIVE LEADS.

16-70592-4 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

Since neither fingerprint ~~FILED~~ STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
 identifying number which is ~~INDEXED~~ FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 in our files accompanied your request, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
 FBI cannot guarantee in any manner
 that this material concerns the
 individual in whom you are interested.

10-25-68 609 SJ

J. Edgar Hoover
 Director.

3 The following FBI record, NUMBER 4 590 402, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
PD St Louis Mo	Robert Dale Porter #56229	10-30-56	inv sus L	rel
PD St Louis Mo	Robert Dale Porter #56229	1-8-57	susp fug Calif	delivered on chg of fug from East St Louis Ill
PD St Louis Mo	Robert Dale Porter #56229	9-7-57	susp burg	
PD Albuquerque NMex	Robert Dale Porter #30-144	12-8-57	inv of bogus chks	1-14-58 3 yrs in custody of AG Sec 2314 TIS USC (ITIS)
PD Santa Fe NMex	Robert D. Porter #9-174	12-10-57	trans fictitious chks	
PD Albuquerque NMex	Robert D. Porter #30-144	1-14-58	trans of forg security	TOT USM 1-14-58
Fed Corr Inst LaTuna Texas	Robert Dale Porter #34256-T	1-15-58	interest transp forg security	3 yrs 5-4-59 Transferred to Terminal Isl Calif
Federal Corr Institution Terminal Isl San Pedro Calif	Robert Dale Porter #6149-CAL	5-4-59 received transfer from LaTuna Texas	I/S transp forg security	
PD Los Angeles Calif	Robert Dale Porter #LA 520 002-P	3-31-60	3 traffic misdemeanors BKG 082108-10	
SO HI Centro Calif	Robert Dale Porter #79597 R-22381	7-20-60	T-8-Sec 1823 Dyer Act	rel to USM on chg of Dyer Act

Notations indicated by * ARE NOT BASED ON FINGERPRINTS IN FBI files. The notations are based on data formerly furnished this Bureau concerning individuals of the same or similar names or aliases and ARE LISTED ONLY AS INVESTIGATIVE LEADS.

16-TU552-4 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

10-25-66 609 SJ

J. Edgar Hoover
Director.

The following FBI record, NUMBER **4 590 482**, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
SO San Diego Calif	Robert Dale Porter #187968	9-12-60	cond rel viol (Fed)	
Fed Corr Inst San Pedro Calif	Robert Dale Porter #6149-Cal	9-14-60	Interstate Transportation Forged Security MR-V	300 das
FCI Sandstone Minn	Robert Dale Porter #4216	1-6-61 trans fr Terminal Island	6149-CAL	exp GT-V 4-30-61 on chg of MRV- I/S trans forged securities
SO Palmyra Mo	Robert Dale Porter #7267	6-2-61	forg	2 yrs Mo SPen
Dept of Corr Jefferson City Mo	Robert Dale Porter #03139	7-19-61	PG passing a bogus check	2 yrs disch under commutation of sent by Gov
SO Carroll Iowa	Robert Dale Porter #1230	10-5-62	uttering of false check	10 das Co Jail see supplement
SPen Ft Madison Iowa	Robert D. Porter #27936	10-22-62	fls chk	1 yr rel by expiration of sent 8-6-63
PD Kansas City Mo	Robert Dale Porter #102954	9-8-63	invest armed rob	rel to Clinton Co Sheriff
Dept of Corr Jefferson City Mo	Robert Dale Porter #03123	3-2-64	PG rob 1st	7 yrs commutation of sentence 12-8-67
Since neither fingerprints nor an identifying number which is indexed in our files accompanied your request, FBI cannot guarantee in any manner that this material concerns the individual whom you are interested.				

Notations indicated by * ARE NOT BASED ON FINGERPRINTS IN FBI files. The notations are based on data formerly furnished this Bureau concerning individuals of the same or similar names or aliases and ARE LISTED ONLY AS INVESTIGATIVE LEADS.

16-70592-5 U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537

10-25-68 719 MFP

5

The following FBI record, NUMBER **4 590 482**, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.
 Information shown on this Identification Record represents data furnished FBI by fingerprint contributors. WHERE
 FINAL DISPOSITION IS NOT SHOWN OR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF CHARGE IS DESIRED, COMMUNICATE
 WITH AGENCY CONTRIBUTING THOSE FINGERPRINTS.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
SO Sheridan Wyo	Robert Dale Porter #448	5-27-68	1-GL 2-larc by bailee	reduced to PL 2 sent 90 das Co Jail
PD Butte Mont	Robert Dale Porter #A13237	8-13-68	st vag	90 das in Co Jail with 8 mo stay
Since neither fingerprints nor an identifying number which is indexed in our files accompanied your request, FBI cannot guarantee in any manner that this material concerns the individual in whom you are interested.				

Notations indicated by * are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

John Edgar Hoover
 Director

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537

10-25-68 719 MFP

6

The following FBI record, NUMBER 4 590 482, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY. Information shown on this Identification Record represents data furnished FBI by fingerprint contributors. WHERE FINAL DISPOSITION IS NOT SHOWN OR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF CHARGE IS DESIRED, COMMUNICATE WITH AGENCY CONTRIBUTING THOSE FINGERPRINTS.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
	#1230 1 yr SPen Fort Madison Iowa (sent by Dist Judge charge of false drawing & uttering of a check - 4th offense)			
	<p>Since neither fingerprints nor an identifying number which is indexed in our files accompanied your request, FBI cannot guarantee in any manner that this material concerns the individual in whom you are interested.</p>			
		SUPPLEMENT		

Notations indicated by * are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

John Edgar Hoover
Director

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D.C., 20537

10-25-68 719 MFP

7

J. Edgar Hoover
Director.

The following FBI record, NUMBER 4 590 482 , is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

All descriptive factors (if any) furnished by you match those in our identification file unless herein quoted.

DESCRIPTION AND RELATED DATA:

Race: white

Sex: male

Height: 72"

Weight: 175 lbs

Hair: gray

Eyes: blue

Date and Place of Birth:

Clarinda Iowa

Scars & Marks: scar upper right arm, right forearm

Address: 103¹/₂ E. Bremer Ave Waverly Iowa in 1968

Occupation: General Laborer

This material is furnished to you on the basis of a search of the files maintained in our files according to your request. FBI cannot guarantee in any manner that this material concerns the individual in whom you are interested.

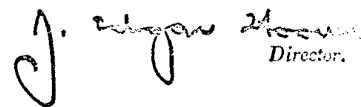
Information shown on this Identification Record represents data furnished FBI by fingerprint contributors. Where final disposition is not shown or further explanation of charge is desired, communicate with agency contributing those fingerprints.

Notations indicated by * are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

1--EU

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

10-25-68 719 MPT

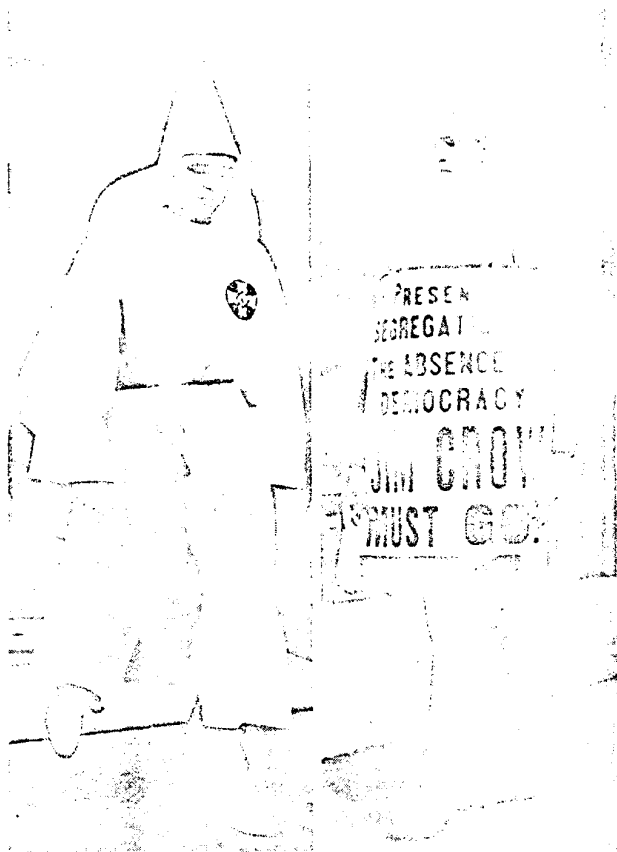

Director.

The following FBI record, NUMBER 4 590 482, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
	WANTED BY BUREAU Robert Dale Porter aka Joe Cefus Wilkerson Fug Index #65977 O.O. Albuquerque inf rec 8-3-60. NO LONGER WANTED inf rec 8-10-60			
Since neither fingerprints nor an identifying number which is indexed in our files accompanied your request, FBI cannot guarantee in any manner that this material concerns the individual in whom you are interested.				
THIS PAGE SHOULD NOT BE DISSEMINATED OUTSIDE FBI				

Notations indicated by * ARE NOT BASED ON FINGERPRINTS IN FBI files. The notations are based on data formerly furnished this Bureau concerning individuals of the same or similar names or aliases and ARE LISTED ONLY AS INVESTIGATIVE LEADS.

16-70582-5 U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE



THE SECOND BATTLE OF ATLANTA

44-1987-Sub-E-1089

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 31 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

[Handwritten signature]

Both Ku Klux Klansmen and Negro students have marched in downtown Atlanta in recent months.

Students picketed stores with segregated lunch counters; Klansmen picketed the students. During the pre-Christmas rush, the two groups met face to face, with no incidents. Said Mayor William B. Hartsfield, "Atlanta is the only city in the country where Negroes and the Klan can picket on the same street—to music by the Salvation Army."

10/29/68

AIRTEL

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM : SAC, CINCINNATI (157-1883)
SUBJECT: JAMES EARL RAY;
MURKIN
RM

On 10/26/68, CE CI 500-S made available to SA JACK G. ELLIS at Athens, Ohio, Page 31 of "Look" magazine, dated 4/26/61, Volume 23, No. 9. The page is enclosed for Atlanta, and a xerox copy of the page enclosed for Memphis and the Bureau.

CE CI 500-S advised that this page is the beginning of the article, "The Second Battle of Atlanta," by GEORGE B. LEWIS, JR., Look Staff Writer, and included on page 31 are two photographs. One photograph shows a marching Ku Klux Klanman, and the other a Negro student demonstrator. Source advised he noted this article while thumbing through the old issue of the magazine. Being an artist himself, he noted the great similarity between the Ku Klux Klanman and the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY, photograph of RAY taken in 1960. Source states there is enough similarity between the Ku Klux Klanman in 1961 and RAY to be the one and the same person.

Source advised that the photo credit for the Klanman is the "Atlanta Journal" photographer.

3 - Bureau (Enc. - 1) (RM)
2 - Atlanta (Enc. - 1) (RM)
2 - Memphis (Enc. - 1) (RM)
2 - Cincinnati (1 - 157-1883)
(1 - 134-622)

MCN:jms
(8)

Picture doesn't look like Ray

E

44-1987-Sub-E-1089A

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 31 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

[Signature]

CI 157-1883

The photo mentioned above appears in the 4/25/61 issue of "LOOK," however, the date the photo was taken is not known. However, the article mentions that "Both Ku Klux Klansmen and Negro students have marched in downtown Atlanta in recent months."

It is further noted that Bureau teletype to all SAC's, dated 4/19/68, captioned MURKIN, reveals RAY had been received at the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City, Missouri, on 3/17/68.

If Atlanta does not know the identity of the Klansman shown in the photo, it may be desirable to contact the "Atlanta Journal" to determine the date the photo was made.

Atlanta is requested to advise Cincinnati only should the Klansman in the photo be identified as RAY.

Mr. Pollak

September 17, 1968
JHF:swb

J. Harold Flannery

James Earl Ray, Subject;
Martin Luther King, Jr., Victim.
Conspiracy Against Rights
CIVIL RIGHTS

I

I interviewed Bill Sartor in connection with the captioned matter for about four hours on August 22, 1968. He had been identified to me in June by Jesse Epps as a reporter who had been inquiring into the possible existence of a conspiracy to assassinate Dr. King. At Mr. Epps' request I met Sartor then briefly, and he gave me bits and pieces of information and rumors about the killing that he had accumulated to that point. His interest had been aroused, he said, by the firm conviction among many Negroes in Memphis that there was a conspiracy possibly involving some members of the Memphis Police Department. My conversation with him in June is set out in part II, below.

Sartor lives at 1242 Kirk Circle in Greenville, Mississippi (phone 335-3272), with his wife and one or two children. He is a contract writer for Time, Inc., and he has covered Memphis, particularly racial matters, since before the Sanitation Workers strike. He appears to be known and trusted by those Negro leaders in Memphis with whom I have talked (Epps, Trotter, Rev. Jackson, Rev. Bell, etc.), and he says that he is close to the (former) Mayor Ingram faction of the white community. I attach a copy of his latest piece on Memphis which appeared in the August 16, 1968, issue of Time.

I can not evaluate Sartor's reliability or that of his sources, but he is a "low key" fellow who is not apparently irrational or fanciful. He says he

44-1987-Sub-E-1090

lll

lll

R

approached the allegations of a conspiracy with skepticism (which I doubt), but that he is now largely persuaded there was one. He declines (for the moment) to identify his sources, with three unimportant exceptions, beyond saying that they include four or five petty racketeers in Memphis, New Orleans, and elsewhere and one well placed protege of Carlos Marcellos in New Orleans.

He comes to us, he says, primarily to assist in ascertaining the truth, but also with the expectation or hope that we will feed investigative results back to him. If that is not possible, he would like to be given the story first or, failing that, no later than anyone else. He has been spending most of his time on this since the assassination, but can not go much farther because some of his sources have begun to ask for the kind of money or protection that he is unable to provide.

Charlie Stein, a petty racketeer connected with organized crime, contacted James Earl Ray in Los Angeles and told him that there were people in New Orleans whom he ought to talk to. Whether Stein happened upon Ray or sought him out knowing that he needed money and was an escaped prisoner is not known, but Ray was told that the people he ought to talk to would help him with money and his fugitive status.

Ray's contacts in New Orleans were with Mafia-Cosa Nostra representatives who referred him to Frank Lebarto (or Liberto), a Memphis racketeer and lieutenant of Carlos Marcellos, the Southern Mafia chieftan in New Orleans. Lebarto owns or works at the Scott Street Produce Market where John McFerren of Somerville allegedly overheard a man speaking on the telephone say, on or about the day of the assassination: "Shoot him on the balcony, shoot him anywhere; and go to New Orleans for your money, don't come back here."

According to Sartor's informants, the Cosa Nostra agreed to "broker" or to arrange the assassination, for an amount somewhat in excess of three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000), after they were contacted in the Northeast (New Jersey or Pennsylvania), by representatives of "Forever White", an elite organization of wealthy

segregationists with officers or subgroups in seven Southern states. The Mafia's (which Sartor used interchangeably with Cosa Nostra throughout the interview) interest was less the money than the investment-type opportunity presented, i.e., to get in a position to extract (or extort) governmental or other favors from some well placed Southern white persons, including the KKK and White Citizens Councils. Quitman, Mississippi, was said by Sartor to be a possible base of "Forever White's" operations.

Claude Cockrell, allegedly a Memphis segregationist, extortionist, narcotics pusher, and petty racketeer, may have been a contact between the Mafia and "Forever White." In any event, he is thought to have gone to Miami, Florida, between April 14 and 24, 1968, where he may have picked up money to be delivered to Philadelphia or New Jersey. Cockrell also may have been instrumental in getting Ray out of Memphis after the assassination either by truck (according to Sartor's New Orleans informants) or in Cockrell's private plane, which is said to use a private landing strip at Millington and which is piloted by one Joe Shafer.

According to Sartor, Joe Cacameci (ph.) and Larry Mann (aka. Larry Manning and Larry Max), two professional killers, are also involved. Joe Cacameci allegedly met James Earl Ray at a Lion Service Station in Memphis the day of or the night before the shooting. Larry Mann has been saying that he works for Frank Lebarto and is responsible for "getting" James Earl Ray. According to one of Sartor's New Orleans informants, James Earl Ray was seen at, or stayed at, the Pontotoc Hotel in Memphis approximately three days before the shooting.

The original plan was that Ray would be arrested immediately after the shooting, tried, and acquitted. There was a change, however, perhaps as late as an hour before the shooting, due to a mix-up involving the money. Either the Mafia wanted him at large until the balance of the price was paid or, more likely, says Sartor, the money was still in the North and the shares of those in

Memphis (Leberto and others) had not been paid, and it was they who wanted Ray at large as a lever on higher-ups in the rackets.

In any event, Sartor's informants claim that Ray's escape from Memphis was engineered with the connivance of several Memphis police officers who knew of the plot. After the money problem was resolved, Ray deliberately permitted himself to be arrested in London with the understanding that he will be acquitted in Memphis. However, another story has it that he will be killed in a holocaust which will endanger a large number of lives.

Two aspects of the foregoing information persuaded Sartor of its accuracy. First, he has received identical fragments of information independently from different sources. Secondly, several of his sources in Memphis and New Orleans have told him that agents of Bureau and non-Bureau Justice Department representatives, including a man named (FNU) Voight, have interviewed them about the assassination.

Sartor took me to meet Pat Lyons who, according to Sartor, is a petty gambler with sources of information close to Frank Leberto. In my presence, Lyons repeated to Sartor that, according to "Ernie" (Lyons did not give a last name), Ray met Joe Cacameci at a Lion Service Station on the night before or the day of the shooting. Lyons expressed concern for the safety of his wife and children; I did not comment or ask him any questions. He also said that the "talk" was that Ray would be acquitted.

Sartor says that his informants will probably be willing to talk to us, but that they will ask for money, immunity, or protection or all three. Because Sartor wants us to contact his principal informants through him, he declined to identify any contacts except Lyons, Rev. Carl Basinger and Memphis policeman E. E. Redditt, below.

An additional, apparently unrelated, piece of information furnished by Sartor was that a little Negro

boy allegedly heard a shot and saw a man jump up from the bushes behind the rooming house (below the window area from which the shot is thought to have been fired) and run off. According to Sartor, the little boy has been identified and interviewed by Bureau agents and the Memphis Police Department.

II

During our first conversation, on June 12, 1968, Sartor gave me the following fragments of allegations and information:

1. Shortly after the killing, a bartender overheard some Memphis policemen say that there had been a "slip-up," and that the assassination was originally scheduled to take place after the march for which Dr. King had returned to Memphis. When I asked Sartor about this in August, he said that one of his New Orleans informants had also referred to a similar change in plans.

2. A minister, identified by Sartor in August as Rev. Carl Basinger, 1617 E. Moreland, Memphis, was advised by a ranking officer in the Memphis Police Department (captain or above) not to go near Dr. King because something was going to happen to him.

3. According to former Mayor Ingram (although my notes are not clear as to whether Sartor got this directly from him), a civilian was seen lying in the back of a police car immediately after the shooting, and near Mulberry or Huling he got out of the police car, into another car, and was driven away. Sartor had nothing further on this in August.

4. John McFerren, the Negro civil rights activist from Somerville, Tennessee, overheard part of a telephone conversation at the Scott Street Produce Market in which the speaker allegedly made the comments noted above. Shortly thereafter, McFerren was visited,

for no apparent reason, by a man named Powers from New Orleans. Sartor had nothing further on this in August.

5. An unidentified Negro policeman was moved from his assignment at the Fire Station (and Police Tactical Unit Station) at about 5:00 p.m. on the day of the assassination. According to Sartor, the Dispatcher told the policeman to move two or three times during the afternoon, but he did not do so until explicitly advised to that effect by a superior. In August, Sartor identified the policeman as E. E. Redditt and said that Redditt had broken off an interview with Sartor after starting to discuss his move from the station.

6. Two Negro firemen were moved from the station a day or two before the shooting. One of them has reportedly told friends that, two or three days before Dr. King was shot, a telescope or binoculars were set up on a tripod in the fire station and focused on the Lorraine Motel balcony. In August, Sartor said that one fireman left the Department or was suspended shortly after the shooting, and that he has been unable to locate either of them. He did not have their names.

7. Memphis Chief of Detectives, W. P. Houston, called the Lorraine Motel in the early afternoon of April 4 and spoke to a maid named Dolores (LNU). He inquired about stationing detectives there, and the maid said that the manager would call back. He did not; nor did Houston. Sartor says that former Mayor Ingram provided this information.

Sartor was unable during either interview to relate the foregoing allegations to his conspiracy theory, but he says that some of it, and other information possessed by former Mayor Ingram concerning corruption in the Police Department, suggest that a number of officers may have known of or participated in the conspiracy--because they were bribed or feared exposure.

I told Sartor that I would report his information to my superiors.

Mr. Pollak

September 17, 1968
JHP:svh

J. Harold Flannery

James Earl Ray, Subject;
Martin Luther King, Jr., Victim.
Conspiracy Against Rights
CIVIL RIGHTS

I

I interviewed Bill Sartor in connection with the captioned matter for about four hours on August 22, 1968. He had been identified to me in June by Jesse Epps as a reporter who had been inquiring into the possible existence of a conspiracy to assassinate Dr. King. At Mr. Epps' request I met Sartor then briefly, and he gave me bits and pieces of information and rumors about the killing that he had accumulated to that point. His interest had been aroused, he said, by the firm conviction among many Negroes in Memphis that there was a conspiracy possibly involving some members of the Memphis Police Department. My conversation with him in June is set out in part II, below.

Sartor lives at 1242 Kirk Circle in Greenville, Mississippi (phone 335-3272), with his wife and one or two children. He is a contract writer for Time, Inc., and he has covered Memphis, particularly racial matters, since before the Sanitation Workers strike. He appears to be known and trusted by those Negro leaders in Memphis with whom I have talked (Epps, Trotter, Rev. Jackson, Rev. Bell, etc.), and he says that he is close to the (former) Mayor Ingram faction of the white community. I attach a copy of his latest piece on Memphis which appeared in the August 16, 1968, issue of Time.

I can not evaluate Sartor's reliability or that of his sources, but he is a "low key" fellow who is not apparently irrational or fanciful. He says he

44-1987-Sub-E-1090

llh

llh

Hilder

Bayle RB

0

approached the allegations of a conspiracy with skepticism (which I doubt), but that he is now largely persuaded there was one. He declines (for the moment) to identify his sources, with three unimportant exceptions, beyond saying that they include four or five petty racketeers in Memphis, New Orleans, and elsewhere and one well placed protege of Carlos Marcello in New Orleans.

He comes to us, he says, primarily to assist in ascertaining the truth, but also with the expectation or hope that we will feed investigative results back to him. If that is not possible, he would like to be given the story first or, failing that, no later than anyone else. He has been spending most of his time on this since the assassination, but can not go much farther because some of his sources have begun to ask for the kind of money or protection that he is unable to provide.

OK Charlie Stein, a petty racketeer connected with organized crime, contacted James Earl Ray in Los Angeles and told him that there were people in New Orleans whom he ought to talk to. Whether Stein happened upon Ray or sought him out knowing that he needed money and was an escaped prisoner is not known, but Ray was told that the people he ought to talk to would help him with money and his fugitive status. Sub-498-581 p60, 163, 67

OK Ray's contacts in New Orleans were with Mafia-Cosa Nostra representatives who referred him to Frank Lebarto (or Liberto), a Memphis racketeer and lieutenant of Carlos Marcello, the Southern Mafia chieftan in New Orleans. Lebarto owns or works at the Scott Street Produce Market where John McFarren of Somerville allegedly overheard a man speaking on the telephone say, on or about the day of the assassination: "Shoot him on the balcony, shoot him anywhere; and go to New Orleans for your money, don't come back here." 44-1987-Sub-1101

According to Sartor's informants, the Cosa Nostra agreed to "broker" or to arrange the assassination for an amount somewhat in excess of three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000), after they were contacted in the Northeast (New Jersey or Pennsylvania), by representatives of "Forever White", an elite organization of wealthy

92-553-182 p44	62-323-164 p40
162-119-66	-415 p6
62-6-9484	137-771-30
92-584-14 p26	46-786-1
92-553-8 p47, 55	62-6-3164
162-257-7	62-994-7 p 8
92-316	92-36-113 p108
146-6-143	
137-1661-96 p2	
-95	
137-268-4 p1	
26-9939-1	

segregationists with officers or subgroups in seven Southern states. The Mafia's (which Sartor used interchangeably with Cosa Nostra throughout the interview) interest was less the money than the investment-type opportunity presented, i.e., to get in a position to extract (or extort) governmental or other favors from some well placed Southern white persons, including the KKK and White Citizens Councils. Quitman, Mississippi, was said by Sartor to be a possible base of "Forever White's" operations.

66-234
Claude Cockrell, allegedly a Memphis segregationist, extortionist, narcotics pusher, and petty racketeer, may have been a contact between the Mafia and "Forever White." In any event, he is thought to have gone to Miami, Florida, between April 14 and 24, 1968, where he may have picked up money to be delivered to Philadelphia or New Jersey. Cockrell also may have been instrumental in getting Ray out of Memphis after the assassination either by truck (according to Sartor's New Orleans informants) or in Cockrell's private plane, which is said to use a private landing strip at Millington and which is piloted by one Joe Shafer.

66-27997
69 Pontotoc
Sub A. 868
According to Sartor, Joe Cacameci (ph.) and Larry Mann (aka. Larry Manning and Larry Max), two professional killers, are also involved. Joe Cacameci allegedly met James Earl Ray at a Lion Service Station in Memphis the day of or the night before the shooting. Larry Mann has been saying that he works for Frank Lebarto and is responsible for "getting" James Earl Ray. According to one of Sartor's New Orleans informants, James Earl Ray was seen at, or stayed at, the Pontotoc Hotel in Memphis approximately three days before the shooting.

The original plan was that Ray would be arrested immediately after the shooting, tried, and acquitted. There was a change, however, perhaps as late as an hour before the shooting, due to a mix-up involving the money. Either the Mafia wanted him at large until the balance of the price was paid or, more likely, says Sartor, the money was still in the North and the shares of those in

Memphis (Leberto and others) had not been paid, and it was they who wanted Ray at large as a lever on higher-ups in the rackets.

In any event, Sartor's informants claim that Ray's escape from Memphis was engineered with the connivance of several Memphis police officers who knew of the plot. After the money problem was resolved, Ray deliberately permitted himself to be arrested in London with the understanding that he will be acquitted in Memphis. However, another story has it that he will be killed in a holocaust which will endanger a large number of lives.

Two aspects of the foregoing information persuaded Sartor of its accuracy. First, he has received identical fragments of information independently from different sources. Secondly, several of his sources in Memphis and New Orleans have told him that agents of Bureau and non-Bureau Justice Department representatives, including a man named (FNU) Voight, have interviewed them about the assassination.

Sartor took me to meet Pat Lyons, who, according to Sartor, is a petty gambler with sources of information close to Frank Leberto. In my presence, Lyons repeated to Sartor that, according to "Ernie" O (Lyons did not give a last name), Ray met Joe Cacameci at a Lion Service Station on the night before or the day of the shooting. Lyons expressed concern for the safety of his wife and children; I did not comment or ask him any questions. He also said that the "talk" was that Ray would be acquitted.

Sartor says that his informants will probably be willing to talk to us, but that they will ask for money, immunity, or protection or all three. Because Sartor wants us to contact his principal informants through him, he declined to identify any contacts except Lyons, Rev. Carl Basinger and Memphis policeman E. E. Redditt, below.

An additional, apparently unrelated, piece of information furnished by Sartor was that a little Negro

boy allegedly heard a shot and saw a man jump up from the bushes behind the rooming house (below the window area from which the shot is thought to have been fired) and run off. According to Sartor, the little boy has been identified and interviewed by Bureau agents and the Memphis Police Department.

July 11, 1968

II

During our first conversation, on June 12, 1968, Sartor gave me the following fragments of allegations and information:

1. Shortly after the killing, a bartender overheard some Memphis policemen say that there had been a "slip-up," and that the assassination was originally scheduled to take place after the march for which Dr. King had returned to Memphis. When I asked Sartor about this in August, he said that one of his New Orleans informants had also referred to a similar change in plans.

CK

2. A minister, identified by Sartor in August as Rev. Carl Basinger, 1617 E. Moreland, Memphis, was advised by a ranking officer in the Memphis Police Department (captain or above) not to go near Dr. King because something was going to happen to him.

CK

3. According to former Mayor Ingram (although my notes are not clear as to whether Sartor got this directly from him), a civilian was seen lying in the back of a police car immediately after the shooting, and near Mulberry or Huling he got out of the police car, into another car, and was driven away. Sartor had nothing further on this in August.

CK

July 11, 1968

4. John McFerren, the Negro civil rights activist from Somerville, Tennessee, overheard part of a telephone conversation at the Scott Street Produce Market in which the speaker allegedly made the comments noted above. Shortly thereafter, McFerren was visited,

CK

for no apparent reason, by a man named Powers from New Orleans. Sartor had nothing further on this in August.

OK 5. An unidentified Negro policeman was moved from his assignment at the Fire Station (and Police Tactical Unit Station) at about 5:00 p.m. on the day of the assassination. According to Sartor, the Dispatcher told the policeman to move two or three times during the afternoon, but he did not do so until explicitly advised to that effect by a superior. In August, Sartor identified the policeman as E. E. Redditt and said that Redditt had broken off an interview with Sartor after starting to discuss his move from the station.

OK 6. Two Negro firemen were moved from the station a day or two before the shooting. One of them has reportedly told friends that, two or three days before Dr. King was shot, a telescope or binoculars were set up on a tripod in the fire station and focused on the Lorraine Motel balcony. In August, Sartor said that one fireman left the Department or was suspended shortly after the shooting, and that he has been unable to locate either of them. He did not have their names.

OK 7. Memphis Chief of Detectives, W. P. Houston, called the Lorraine Motel in the early afternoon of April 4 and spoke to a maid named Dolores O(LNU). He inquired about stationing detectives there, and the maid said that the manager would call back. He did not; nor did Houston. Sartor says that former Mayor Ingram provided this information. Sub-B-817

Sartor was unable during either interview to relate the foregoing allegations to his conspiracy theory, but he says that some of it, and other information possessed by former Mayor Ingram concerning corruption in the Police Department, suggest that a number of officers may have known of or participated in the conspiracy-- because they were bribed or feared exposure.

I told Sartor that I would report his information to my superiors.

F B I

Date: **September 26, 1968**Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via **AIRTEL**

(Priority)

TO: SACs, Memphis (Enclosures 2) *W*
 Jackson (Enclosures 2)

✓ FROM: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

Enclosed are two copies of a memorandum received from the Department relative to the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. The attached sets forth interview of Mr. Bill Sarter by Department attorney on June 12, 1968, and August 23, 1968, however the memorandum was not furnished to us until September 25, 1968.

Memphis should completely evaluate the contents of the Departmental memorandum and submit comments and recommendations to the Bureau including what investigative aspects of the Departmental memorandum completed and indices check of Sarter. This should be handled immediately.

Jackson should immediately furnish Bureau and Memphis results of indices check concerning Sarter. Two copies of the Departmental memorandum furnished to Jackson in the event it becomes necessary for investigation to be conducted in the future.

Based upon available data, no information recorded in Bureau files concerning Bill Sarter. No interview of Sarter should be conducted until Bureau advises.

E

44-1987-Sub-E-1090A

SEARCHED <i>W</i>	INDEXED <i>W</i>
SERIALIZED <i>W</i>	FILED <i>W</i>
SEP 27 1968	
<i>Hester</i>	
<i>Bayle</i>	
<i>Crane</i>	

Sent Via _____

M

Memphis, Tennessee
November 5, 1968

RE: JAMES EARL RAY, Aka.;
Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY

Mr. J. Harold Flannery of the United States Department of Justice, has prepared a memorandum dated September 17, 1968, reflecting interviews on June 12, 1968, and August 22, 1968, with Mr. Bill Sartor of Greenville, Mississippi, a contract writer for "Time" magazine.

Sartor states that "Charlie Stein, a petty racketeer connected with organized crime, contacted James Earl Ray in Los Angeles and told him that there were people in New Orleans whom he ought to talk to." Sartor admits not knowing whether Stein's initial contact with Ray was accidental or on purpose, but he states that "Ray was told that the people he ought to talk to would help him with money and his fugitive status." This is, of course, at variance with the recent story appearing in "Look" magazine which was prepared by William Bradford Huie with the cooperation of subject Ray.

Since Stein appears, in Sartor's account, to be the very first of the conspirators to be in touch with Ray, and since Stein is in a position of having selected Ray for the latter's part in the conspiracy, a certain importance must be attributed to Stein. Regarding Stein, it is noted that Stein's cousin, Marie Martin, advised Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on May 14, 1968, that Charles Stein has what she described as being a "weird" philosophy which includes some type "sensory contact with nature" and that on occasions he spends long periods of time staring at the sky. She related that on one occasion when she was in ill health Charles Stein placed his hand on her knee for about fifteen minutes, during which time he appeared to be in a trance. He then asked her to remove her "pants". She complied with his request and he buried this garment in the back yard, later digging it up and

4 Bureau
① Memphis (44-1987)
JCH:BN
(5)

44-1987-Sub-E-1090B

James Earl Ray, Aka.;
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Victim
CR - Conspiracy

returning it to her. Sartor offers no evidence of Stein's being connected with organized crime and we are aware of no such connection.

Sartor tells us that Ray was in touch in New Orleans with "Mafia" representatives who referred Ray to Frank Liberto, described by Sartor as being a Memphis racketeer and a lieutenant of Carlos Marcello, the southern Mafia chieftain in New Orleans. Sartor then related to Mr. Flannery the now discredited story that one John McFerren of Somerville, Tennessee, in or about the day of King's murder, heard a man say on the telephone "shoot him on the balcony, shoot him anywhere; and go to New Orleans for your money, don't come back here."

The FBI first heard the McFerren story at 2:30 a.m. on April 8, 1968, at which time McFerren related his story to an FBI Agent and a Memphis Police Inspector in the presence of Baxton Bryant, Tennessee Council on Human Relations and David Caywood, an attorney. McFerren stated that on the afternoon of April 4, 1968, while at the L. L. & L. Produce Co., 814 Scott Street, Memphis, he overheard the owner of that company say to someone on the telephone, "Kill the s.o.b. on the balcony and get the job done. You will get your \$5000." This was the only portion of the telephone call that McFerren overheard. A few minutes later he heard this same telephone ring and the owner again spoke to an unknown individual, saying "Don't come out here. Go to New Orleans and get your money. You know my brother."

McFerren further stated that after the murder of King he saw a sketch in a local newspaper that was supposed to be an artist's conception of the murderer. After seeing this sketch, he was reminded of a man who had been employed the previous summer by L. L. & L. Produce Co. He described this person as being a cross between an Indian, a Cuban, or a Mexican.

The information furnished by McFerren has been exhaustively investigated and has been found to be completely without basis in fact. Also, it should be noted that nothing has been discovered to connect Frank Liberto with Carlos Marcello or organized crime.

James Earl Ray, Aka.;
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Victim
CR - Conspiracy

Our investigation to date has disclosed no connection between this crime and La Cosa Nostra (LCN) and the organization "Forever White," described by Sartor as being an elite organization of wealthy segregationists, is unknown to us.

Claude Cockrell, described by Sartor as a segregationist, extortionist, narcotics pusher, and petty racketeer, was an unsuccessful candidate for election to the U. S. House of Representatives in the election of November 5, 1968. Inquiries concerning Cockrell made among knowledgeable members of the Memphis Police Department reflect that he has been suspected of complicity in a moonshine whiskey operation and has a questionable reputation among police officers; however, he definitely could not be described as Sartor has described him. Also, there is no evidence of any connection with LCN.

Joe Cacameci and Larry Mann, identified by Sartor as professional killers, are unknown to this office. No information to date has connected these individuals with the murder of Dr. King.

Sartor has indicated that Ray's escape from Memphis was engineered with the connivance of several Memphis police officers who knew of the murder plot. He has also stated that Ray permitted himself to be arrested in London. Our investigation of events immediately following the murder of King does not indicate that Ray would have needed any assistance in escaping from the scene of the murder or in escaping from Memphis, Tennessee. There is no reason to believe that Ray did not drive his own white Mustang from Memphis to Atlanta, Georgia, immediately following the murder, and it definitely is not the case that Ray allowed himself to be arrested in London or that he was doing anything other than attempting to avoid apprehension.

According to Sartor, a young Negro boy allegedly heard a shot and saw a man jump up from the bushes behind the rooming house and below the window area from which the fatal shot is thought to have been fired. A thorough investigation was conducted in the neighborhood of this rooming house immediately after the murder and during the days immediately following the murder and no

James Earl Ray, Aka.;
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Victim
CR - Conspiracy

information was developed to indicate that any unidentified person was seen beneath the window from which Ray fired the fatal shot.

All of the individuals, both firemen and policemen, who were stationed in the fire house near the Lorraine Motel have been interviewed regarding the events before and after the murder and nothing of an unusual nature has been noted regarding the activities of any of these individuals or of other individuals in the area at the time of the murder. It is true that one or more of these persons were actually observing Dr. King at the time he was shot; however, this is not unusual as these men were stationed there for the purpose of offering protection to Dr. King and the close proximity of the fire station makes visual observation easy.

Due to the tense racial situation that existed in Memphis on April 4, 1968, and because of the prominence of Dr. King, the Memphis Police Department had every reason to be in touch with persons at the Lorraine Motel in connection with the protection of Dr. King. There were police officers in and around the Lorraine Motel throughout the period that Dr. King was residing there. No significance could be attached to any conversation had by any police officer with employees of the Lorraine Motel prior to the murder.

Sartor states that information possessed by former Mayor William Ingram concerning corruption in the Memphis Police Department suggests that a number of officers may have known of or participated in the murder conspiracy. It should be noted that William Ingram was Mayor of Memphis for the term ending January, 1968, and prior to being Mayor was a City Judge. If Ingram were aware of any widespread corruption among members of the Police Department, there can be no question that he was in a position to root it out.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.