

BH 44-1740

DATES AND LOCATIONS GALT KNOWN WHILE AT BIRMINGHAM

August 26, 1967: Rented room at 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, in boarding house operated by PETER CHERPES.

August 28, 1967: Rented safe deposit box #5517 at Main Office of Birmingham Trust National Bank in downtown Birmingham.

August 29, 1967: Replied to newspaper classified ad for purchase of 1966 white Mustang from local resident, WILLIAM D. PAISLEY, at his residence and sale consummated in downtown Birmingham the following day, 8/30/67.

September 8-22, 1967: Period during which S & H Green Stamps, which were found in GALT's abandoned Mustang in Atlanta, were distributed to customers at Standard Oil Service Station, 2188 Highland Avenue, Birmingham.

September 12, 1967: GALT enrolled for 5 weekly classes in dance instruction at Continental Dance Club Studios, aka Friendship Club, Birmingham, giving residence address as 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham.

October 3, 1967: Dry-cleaning ticket, which had been recovered from GALT's effects at Atlanta, identified as having been issued on this date for the pressing of a coat at Mayfield Cleaners, 2222 Highland Avenue, under name GAULT.

October 3, 1967: Records of Superior Bulk Film Company, Chicago, reflected shipment of photographic equipment and camera to GALT at the Highland Avenue rooming house address.

BH 44-1740

October 4, 1967:

PETER CHERPES, operator of rooming house, 2608 Highland Avenue, signed for package addressed to GALT.

October 5, 1967:

GALT wrote typewritten letter from his rooming house at Birmingham to the Superior Bulk Film Company, Chicago, returning one camera which had been delivered along with other photographic equipment.

October 7, 1967:

Approximate date of GALT's departure from his Birmingham rooming house, and no further correspondence received from him by PETER CHERPES.

October 18, 1967:

Letter from Superior Bulk Film Company, Chicago, returned from the rooming house address at Birmingham.

October 22, 1967:

Records of Superior Bulk Film Company, Chicago, reflect typewritten letter from GALT requesting a refund on the returned camera be sent to him at Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico, Hotel Rio.

November 20, 1967:

Records of the film company at Chicago reflect letter from GALT advising he had not received his refund and requesting same be sent then to 1535 North Serrano, Los Angeles, California.

December 13, 1967:

GALT's safe deposit box, Birmingham Trust National Bank, Birmingham, cancelled and found empty upon receipt of letter enclosing keys, believed mailed in Louisiana.

March 29, 1968:

GALT purchased one rifle from AEROMARINE Supply Company, Birmingham, and had scope mounted.

March 30, 1968:

GALT returned above gun to AEROMARINE and traded same for the murder weapon.

BH 44-1740

PURCHASE OF MURDER WEAPON FROM
AEROMARINE SUPPLY COMPANY,
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

See Next Section





2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

VIEW OF AEROMARINE SUPPLY COMPANY

VIEW OF AEROMARINE SUPPLY COMPANY

REF

13

1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/11/68

JOE F. BIDDLE, Manager, Sporting Goods Department, Wimberley-Thomas Hardware Company, 1809 First Avenue, South, Birmingham, was contacted at approximately 8:30 a.m. and advised that he had already been contacted by the man from Remington-Arms Company in Bridgeport, Connecticut, and had been advised by him that Remington 30.06 rifle, serial number 461476, had been shipped to Wimberley on March 30, 1966, under Remington invoice number 55868.

Mr. BIDDLE stated that this order was received and was, in fact, a shipment of 418 guns of various types.

He consulted his record book, captioned Daily Report of Sale of Guns and Pistols, and determined that Remington rifle, caliber 30.06, marketed under Remington symbol number 9684, serial number 461476, had been sold on August 31, 1966, to Aeromarine Supply Company, 5701 Airport Highway, Birmingham.

On 4/5/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

by SA NEIL P. SHANAHAN:jml Date dictated 4/11/68

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.

14

1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/11/68

At approximately 10:30 a.m. DONALD F. WOOD was contacted at Aeromarine Supply Company, 5701 Airport Highway, Birmingham, and advised that he is the son of ROBERT E. WOOD, SR., who is the owner of the Aeromarine Supply Company. WOOD was discreetly questioned concerning the sale of a Remington caliber 30.06 rifle, serial number 461476, which Aeromarine had purchased from Wimberley-Thomas in August, 1966. DONALD F. WOOD immediately stated that he had heard the accounts of the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING the previous day on the radio and had immediately recalled selling a rifle, as was described in the newspaper as the murder weapon, to an individual about a week before the murder. WOOD immediately searched for and found a sales invoice in his records and indicated that on Saturday, March 30, 1968, he had sold this gun to an individual using the name HARVEY LOWMEYER.

After obtaining both copies of this sales invoice, Mr. WOOD was requested to accompany the interviewing Agent to the Birmingham Office of the FBI, which he agreed to do. Mr. WOOD was transported to the Birmingham Office of the FBI, where he furnished the following signed statement:

"Birmingham, Alabama
April 5, 1968

"I, DONALD F. WOOD, hereby make this statement to Special Agent NEIL P. SHANAHAN who has identified himself to me as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I reside at 405 Lance Lane, Birmingham, Alabama and subscribe to telephone number 836-4918. I am employed by my father, ROBERT E. WOOD, SR. at the Aeromarine Supply Company, 5701 Airport Highway, Birmingham, Ala., as a salesman.

On 4/5/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

by SA NEIL P. SHANAHAN:jml Date dictated 4/11/68

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.

"On Friday, March 29, 1968, sometime in the early afternoon I had just returned from lunch when I observed Mr. U. L. BAKER, also a salesman, completing the sale of a rifle to an individual unknown to me. Mr. BAKER had just sold this man a Remington, Model 700, Caliber .243 Winchester with a 2x-7x Redfield Scope mounted thereon. Mr. BAKER had made this sale and had also mounted and bore sighted the scope on our machine. This individual also bought one box of 20 rounds of .243 Norma ammunition. He payed cash for this sale. When I first observed this man he was dressed in a dark business suit with a white shirt and tie, as well as I remember. He was approximately 5'8" tall, 150 to 160 pounds and had dark hair. He had a medium complexion and appeared to be a meek individual. This individual had given his name as HARVEY LOWMEYER and stated that he resided at 1907 South 11th Street, Birmingham, Alabama. He also advised that he was 36 years of age.

"This information was not given to me personally by this individual, but I determined it from the bill of sale that was prepared by Mr. BAKER.

"Following the sale this individual left the store carrying the gun in a cardboard box utilized by the Browning Manufacturing Company. This box was used because with the scope mounted the rifle would not fit in the normal Remington box. He also took the empty Remington manufacturer's carton with him when he left.

"It was, as best I recall, either later that afternoon or early the following Saturday morning when this individual called on the telephone and stated that he had had a conversation with his brother and decided that the gun he had purchased was not the gun he wanted and he requested whether he could exchange it for a Remington, Model 760, 30.06 caliber. I advised him that we could make this exchange but that it would cost him an additional \$5.00.

"At approximately 9:00 AM on Saturday, March 30, this same individual returned to the store with the gun he had previously purchased. When he returned the gun he had the gun still in the Browning box. I told him that I would change the scope from the caliber .243 rifle to the Model 760, but that it would take me until approximately 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon and I instructed him to return at 3:00 o'clock and to bring the original Remington box for the caliber .243 weapon with him when he came as I would need a box to store the gun in. I gave him the Model 760 gun and I believe that I left it in the Browning carton. I did not receive the \$5.00 because in exchanging the scope I had to use a Weaver base and rings instead of the Redfield base and rings and this made up the cost difference. I also exchanged the box of .243 caliber ammunition for a box of 30.06 ammunition which I believe was Peters Core Lokt, 150 grain, 20 rounds per box. He left the store carrying the gun in the cardboard box.

"During the course of our dealings on Saturday I asked this individual why he didn't want the caliber .243 gun and I told him that it was a big enough gun to bring down any deer in Alabama. He stated in an offhand manner that he wanted the 30.06 caliber gun because he was going to use it to hunt in Wisconsin.

"At the present time this is all that I can remember concerning the transaction with this individual.

"4/5/68

"I have read this signed statement and accept where I have initiated one correction. I find it to consist of this and two other pages and it is true and correct.

"/s/ DONALD F. WOOD

"/s/ NEIL P. SHANAHAN, Special Agent,
FBI, 4/5/68.

"/s/ MARVIN M. EUBANKS, Special Agent,
FBI, Birmingham, 4/5/68."

Phone 595-2142
AIRCRAFT-AUTOMOTIVE
MARINE-SPORTING GOODS
PARTS & SUPPLIES

AEROMARINE SUPPLY CO.

5701 BIRMINGHAM AIRPORT HIGHWAY
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35212

INVOICE
NUMBER

BUN
2251A

TO

ADDRESS

DATE

1968

ORDER NUMBER

PHONE ☐

WIRE ☐

LETTER ☐

PICK UP ☒

NAME:

SALESMAN

Acc 36

SHIP VIA:

TERMS: ☐ CASH ☐ CHECK

B

QUANTITY	PART NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	LIST	NET	TOTAL
1	17511#	504A REM. MOD. 759	760		760
		PUMP ACTION RIFLE, CAL.			
		.243 WIN. S.N. 2857 461476		134.95	
1	2X-7X	REDFIELD SCOPE.	94.50	74.60	
1	JR 700	BASE & D.L. RINGS.	23.90	20.32	
1	Box	243 C.T.G.		4.65	
				234.52	
		<i>Harry James</i>			

IF CHECK IS GIVEN IN FULL OR PART PAYMENT FOR THIS INVOICE, TITLE SHALL REMAIN WITH SELLER UNTIL CHECK HAS
CLEARED BANK IN WHICH DRAWN, AT THE OPTION OF THE SELLER.

RECEIVED BY

MERCHANDISE CANNOT BE RETURNED FOR CREDIT, REFUND OR EXCHANGE AFTER 10 DAYS FROM SALE DATE
PURCHASE INVOICE MUST ACCOMPANY ALL RETURNS.

TAX

TOTAL

14.07

24.59

RECORD INVOICE

0-227348-7
BOMAR PRINTING COMPANY - BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date April 8, 1968

DONALD F. WOOD, residence 405 Lance Lane, Birmingham, the son of the owner of Aeromarine Supply Company, Airport Highway, was asked if he could identify a customer who purchased a gun case for a Varmint model rifle on March 29, 1968. WOOD, after checking his invoices, noted that there was such a sale made on March 29, 1968, but the invoice was made out to "Cash." WOOD recalled, however, that this customer is a regular customer who is a white male, about 25 years old, five feet, ten inches, 170 pounds, long, black hair, whose first name is JOHN. WOOD further recalled that he had sold a Browning pistol to this man about two and one-half years ago. WOOD then checked his records and identified this man as JOHN WEBSTER DeSHAZO, 17 Montevallo Lane, Mountain Brook, Alabama, who purchased a Browning Standard Weight Pistol on December 11, 1965.

Later on April 7, 1968, DON WOOD made available the following weapons which had been identified by JOHN WEBSTER DeSHAZO as having been handled by the person who purchased a rifle and scope sight at the Aeromarine Supply Company on March 29, 1968:

One Browning Safari grade, caliber .243,
bolt-action rifle, Serial No. 3700Z5,
Stock No. 946A.

One Remington Model 700, heavy barrel,
Varmint .243 Winchester, Serial No. 266009,
Stock No. 753A.

One Remington Model 788, caliber .30-30, bolt-
action rifle, Serial No. 020726, Stock No. 756A.

Mr. WOOD was furnished a receipt for the above
weapons.

On 4/7/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740
ME 44-1987
by SAs ROBERT M. BARRETT
and WILLIAM A. SAUCIER RMB:mas Date dictated 4/8/68

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.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date April 14, 1968

Immediately following the receipt of a package at approximately 12:30 a.m., April 8, 1968, containing three weapons from Special Agent ROBERT M. BARRETT, Special Agent RALPH N. BUTLER hand-carried them aboard a Delta Airlines flight, changing to an Eastern Airlines flight in Atlanta, Georgia, and ultimately accompanied them to Mr. GEORGE BONEBRAKE of the FBI Identification Division at approximately 8:00 a.m. on April 8, 1968.

These items, from the time they were delivered to SA BUTLER, did not leave his possession until delivered to Mr. BONEBRAKE.

On 4/8/68 at Birmingham, Alabama - Washington, D. C. File # BH 44-1740
by SA RALPH N. BUTLER:mas **20** Date dictated 4/11/68

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.

1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/11/68

At approximately 1:00 p.m. on April 5, 1968, Mr. ROBERT E. WOOD, SR., and DONALD F. WOOD accompanied the interviewing Agents to the Aeromarine Supply Company, 5701 Airport Highway, Birmingham, where DONALD F. WOOD made available a Remington Model 700, caliber .243, rifle, which was believed by them to have been handled by the unknown individual who had purchased the Remington Model 760 rifle on March 30, 1968. DONALD F. WOOD also furnished nine boxes of caliber .243 ammunition from their inventory stating that one box of this ammunition was believed to have been handled by the individual who purchased the gun. DONALD F. WOOD also furnished a set of Redfield bases and rings which had been the original bases and rings furnished by the manufacturer of the Redfield scope.

Mr. WOOD was furnished a signed receipt for the above items.

Immediately following the receipt of these items, SA NEIL P. SHANAHAN hand carried them aboard a United Airlines flight, changing to a Delta flight in Atlanta, Georgia, and ultimately accompanied them to Mr. GEORGE BONEBRAKE of the FBI Identification Division at approximately 8:00 p.m. same date. These items, from the time they were delivered to SA SHANAHAN, did not leave his possession until delivered to Mr. BONEBRAKE.

On 4/5/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

by SAs NEIL P. SHANAHAN and
NEIL G. MARTIN: NPS/jml Date dictated 4/11/68

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.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/8/68

JOHN WEBSTER DE SHAZO, 17 Montevallo Lane, Mountain Brook, furnished the following:

DE SHAZO is a regular and frequent customer at Aero-marine Supply Company, Airport Highway, Birmingham. DE SHAZO is also a member of the National Rifle Association (NRA) and therefore has an extensive and avid interest in weapons.

On March 29, 1968, DE SHAZO went to the Aeromarine Supply Company, arriving sometime around 3:00 P.M. He was there for about one to one and one-half hours. At the time he arrived, the son of the owner, DON WOODS, was out to lunch, and DE SHAZO wanted to conduct his business with WOODS. About twenty minutes after DE SHAZO arrived, a man in a dark shade of brown business suit which was wrinkled as if he had been working or traveling, came into the store. DE SHAZO said his first impression of this man was that he did not look like a hunter or an outdoorsman, and that he appeared to be out of place in the store. It was apparent to DE SHAZO in watching this man that he did not know anything about rifles. He looked at and handled several different weapons and finally decided to buy a Remington Model 700 .243 Winchester. He also ordered a Redfield Variable scope. The total cost of this purchase would have been about \$270. DE SHAZO recalled saying to this man, "You've really got quite a gun there - you'll have to learn how to use it." The man replied that he was going deer hunting with his brother, or brother-in-law, in Wisconsin, who had invited him to hunt. This man also said that he was now able to buy a rifle so he was going to get a good one. Sometime while DE SHAZO was observing this man, he noticed that he could detect the odor of alcohol on his breath. He said the man was not drunk, bleary-eyed, nor was his speech slurred, but he had definitely been drinking. DE SHAZO said when he left the store this purchaser was still in the store waiting for a salesman named BAKER to get the scope sight mounted on the rifle that this man had purchased.

On 4/7/68 at Mountain Brook, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

by SAs ROBERT M. BARRETT and
WILLIAM A. SAUCIER:RMB:jbt **22** Date dictated 4/8/68

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.

2
BH 44-1740

DE SHAZO said he could recall only two laborers coming into the store while this man was there and that there were two persons behind the counter, BAKER and a man named STEPHENS.

DE SHAZO said the man gave DE SHAZO the impression that he was not from Alabama. This man was quiet, soft-spoken, and was not observed smoking at any time. DE SHAZO said several times that his attention was drawn to this man because of his lack of knowledge of weapons and, in DE SHAZO's opinion, this man had no business getting a rifle. He said he had thought at the time that this is the type of person who buys a rifle to kill his wife, and who gives the use of weapons a bad name.

DE SHAZO said he could positively identify the man who purchased the rifle and scope sight should he ever observe him again.

DE SHAZO furnished the following description of the man who purchased the Remington rifle and scope sight:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	30 - 32 years
Height	5'10"
Weight	170 - 175 lbs.
Hair	Brown, combed straight back, wavy
Manner	Quiet, soft-spoken, non-smoker
Clothing	Wearing wingtip shoes, a medium-priced, wrinkled, dark brown business suit, white shirt, and tie.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/8/68

On April 6, 1968, JOHN DENNIS HANNERS, 809 Meg Drive, furnished the following:

HANNERS went to the Aeromarine Supply Company on Airport Highway twice on March 29, 1968. The first time was about 10:00 A.M., and he was there for about an hour, during which time he made a purchase. He returned sometime between 2:00 and 2:30 P.M., and stayed until sometime after 4:00 P.M. About fifteen minutes after he arrived, a man wearing a business suit, dark brown in color, came in and looked at some rifles. From this man's actions it was obvious to HANNERS that this man knew little or nothing about rifles. He was waited on by an employee named BAKER. He finally purchased a Remington, model unknown, rifle and ordered a scope sight to be installed at that time. HANNERS left sometime after 4:00 P.M. and at that time this purchaser was still in the store. At the time HANNERS left, the purchaser was watching BAKER equip the rifle with the scope sight. HANNERS said he is quite positive he could identify this purchaser if he ever saw him again.

HANNERS recalled that this purchaser talked to a customer who was in the store at the same time on March 29, 1968, which customer was buying a gun case for a Varmint model rifle. This customer apparently was well known to BAKER and HANNERS recalls seeing this customer have some conversation with the purchaser of the rifle.

HANNERS advised he had no conversation with this purchaser nor did he hear him mention any name, locality, occupation, residence, and/or automobile. When HANNERS left the store he noticed there were several cars parked in the store parking lot, but could not recall any one specific car, except a small red midget-type compact. HANNERS further said he had never seen the purchaser of the rifle before nor has he seen him since this occasion.

On 4/6,7/68 at Center Point, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

by SAs ROBERT M. BARRETT and
WILLIAM A. SAUCIER:RMB:jbt

Date dictated 4/8/68

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.

2
BH 44-1740

HANNERS furnished the following description of the purchaser of the rifle:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	About 38 years
Height	5'10"
Weight	180 lbs., with slight "pot"
Hair	Dark brown and wavy on top, thick on the sides
Eyes	Open as if looking intently at something
Clothing	Dark brown business suit, white shirt and tie
Speech	Possibly Southern
Manner	Acted shy, quiet spoken, not forward in manner or speech, not observed smoking.

On April 7, 1968, JOHN DENNIS HANNERS said he did not recall hearing the purchaser of the rifle speak enough to definitely identify his voice or his accent, if any. He only recalls the purchaser specifically saying to BAKER, in connection with the purchase of the rifle, "I'll take this one."

In going over his actions in the store on a minute-to-minute basis, HANNERS said he believes he arrived between 2:00 and 2:30 P.M., that the purchaser of the rifle arrived fifteen minutes later, that the son of the owner of the store, DON WOODS, came into the store about thirty minutes after the purchaser of the rifle had arrived, and that HANNERS left the store about one and one-half hours after he had first arrived, which would have been sometime between 3:30 and 4:00 P.M., at which time the purchaser of the rifle was still in the store.

HANNERS recalled that the young man who was buying the gun case for the Varmint model rifle was a white male, about 25 years, 5'10", 170 lbs., black, thick, long hair combed straight back. This individual was still in the store with the purchaser when HANNERS left.

HANNERS said that the purchaser drew HANNERS' attention because of his obvious lack of knowledge concerning rifles.

3
BH 44-1740

HANNERS also recalled that there was another salesman behind the counter other than BAKER who was gray-haired. HANNERS further recalled seeing that there was more than one rifle on the counter during the time the purchaser of the rifle was discussing the purchase with BAKER.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/8/68

U. L. BAKER, 1408 Clermont Drive, advised he is an employee of the Aeromarine Supply Company, Airport Highway, Birmingham. In connection with the sale of a gun case for a Varmint model rifle, BAKER said he recalled making such a sale, but could not recall the date nor the name of the customer. He said he could not state that this gun case was sold on the same date that he had sold a rifle and scope sight, which was March 29, 1968. He said the man who bought the gun case was a frequent customer, and described him as a white male, 27 - 28 years old, 5'9", 180 lbs., heavyset, with blond, thinning hair. BAKER identified the other salesman, who would have been behind the counter on March 29, 1968, as the manager of the store, J. HOYT STEPHENS.

In connection with the accent or speech of the person who purchased the rifle and scope sight, BAKER said he believed it was from "this" (Alabama) general area. BAKER said that the man who purchased the rifle had left the store on March 29, 1968, and came back later in the afternoon and picked up the rifle. He was asked if it was possible that the man stayed in the store during this time, and BAKER said he was not sure.

On 4/7/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

by SAs ROBERT M. BARRETT and
WILLIAM A. SAUCIER:RMB:jbt 27 Date dictated 4/8/68

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.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/8/68

J. HOYT STEPHENS, residence 1108 South 55th Street, Birmingham, said he is the manager of the Aeromarine Supply Company, Airport Highway, Birmingham. STEPHENS said he occasionally works behind the counter and would be the person identified by a customer as a gray-haired salesman other than Mr. U. L. BAKER.

STEPHENS said he could not recall anything concerning the sale of a gun case for a Varmint-type rifle nor the sale of a Remington rifle and scope sight on March 29, 1968.

On 4/7/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

by SAs ROBERT M. BARRETT and
WILLIAM A. SAUCIER;RMB:jbt 28 Date dictated 4/8/68

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.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/8/68

A. L. IRWIN, 7822 Sixth Avenue South, a patrolman employed by the Birmingham Police Department, advised he is presently attending the police department academy for rookie policemen.

IRWIN recalled being at the Aero Marine Supply Company, near the airport, Birmingham, on March 29, 1968, for about an hour between 4:30 and 5:30 P.M. IRWIN recalled seeing a customer in the store wearing a dark business suit. He could only recall that this man was a white male, age about 36, about 5'8" tall, about 160 pounds, with dark hair. IRWIN said he could recall nothing else about this man or if he was still in the store when IRWIN left. He did recall there were several cars parked outside the Aero Marine Supply when he left, but could recall none specifically.

On 4/6/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

by SAs ROBERT M. BARRETT and
WILLIAM A. SAUCIER:RMB:jbt **29** Date dictated 4/8/68

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.

1

BH 44-1740
JTA:cap

On April 6, 1968, CHARLES F. CAUDLE, employed at Aeromarine Supply Company, 5701 Airport Highway, Birmingham, Alabama, advised that he did not recall observing the individual at Aeromarine Supply Company on March 29, 1968, and March 30, 1968, who purchased a rifle and a scope.

On April 6, 1968, J. HOYT STEPHENS, employee of Aeromarine Supply Company, 5701 Airport Highway, Birmingham, advised he did not recall observing the individual at Aeromarine Supply Company on March 29 and 30, 1968, who purchased a rifle and scope.

1

BH 44-1740
ME 44-1987
HAS:mas

The following classified advertisement appeared in the morning newspaper, The Birmingham Post-Herald, under the "Articles for Sale" column in its issue of March 30, 1968, and had appeared in the evening Birmingham News during the pertinent period:

"GUNS--GUNS--GUNS

Rifles--Shotguns--Pistols

BROWNING--REMINGTON--COLT

--Hi-standard--Ruger--Winchester--
Weatherby--Savage--Smith & Wesson.
Over 1,000 arms in stock for your
selection. Surplus Rifles, Pistols
and Shotguns at bargain prices.
Leather Bolts and Holsters. Gun
Scopes, Polychokes & Recall pads
installed. Shotgun Shells, Reloading
Supplies & Equipment at discount
prices. Colt Anniversary Presentation
Revolvers.

REMINGTON PRIMERS:
RIFLE AND PISTOL
\$6 per M. Shotgun, \$10 per M.

BUY---SELL---TRADE

AEROMARINE SUPPLY CO.
5701 Airport Hiway 595-2142"

1

BH 44-1740
JTA:rte

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents J. T. ARNETT and PETER JOHN BODKIN at Birmingham, Alabama, on April 6, 1968:

Photographs of the following individuals were exhibited separately to U. L. BAKER, salesman, and DON WOOD, salesman, Aeromarine Supply, 5701 Birmingham Airport Highway, Birmingham. After viewing these photographs, BAKER and WOOD each advised none of the individuals in these photographs were identical to the person who purchased a rifle in the name of HARVEY LOWMEYER, from the Aeromarine Supply on March 29 - 30, 1968. Photographs exhibited were as follows:

EUGENE SMITH MANSFIELD,
Tuscaloosa Sheriff's Office No.1077

HARRY L. WILLIAMS,
Birmingham Police Department No.128548

LESLIE WILLIAMS,
Birmingham Police Department No.87077

CLARENCE E. DANIELS, JR.,
Jefferson County Sheriff's Office
Photograph, June 3, 1960

JAMES ALTON DANIELS,
Sheriff's Office, Birmingham,
Alabama, No.96122

THOMAS ALBERT TARRANTS,
FBI No.157-758

SALAVADORE FARINO,
Birmingham Police Department
No.130581.

BH 44-1740

CUSTOMERS AT AEROMARINE SUPPLY COMPANY,
BIRMINGHAM, DURING PERTINENT PERIOD, 3/29-30/68.

Although there were numerous "cash" sales to customers by this firm during the above pertinent period, there were also numerous tickets made out to the name of the individual customer even though cash was involved. All invoices were obtained and each customer was contacted for any information concerning the individual who had purchased the rifles during the two days involved. With the exception of those witnesses whose interviews are set forth under that portion of this report dealing with the purchase of the murder weapon, the other contacts proved negative and the names of those individuals are recorded in the Birmingham file.

BH 44-1740

ADDRESS, 1907 South 11th STREET, BIRMINGHAM,
GIVEN BY UNSUB, USING ALIAS HARVEY LOWMEYER,
AND DETERMINED TO BE FICTITIOUS. RESULTS OF
EFFORTS TO LOCATE LOWMEYER and/or LEHMEYER.

1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/13/68

Attorney WILLIAM ARTHUR JENKINS was interviewed at his office, Room 302, Frank Nelson Building, with reference to possible occupants of the address listed as 1907 South 11th Street, Birmingham. Attorney JENKINS has been an acquaintance of many years, is considered reliable and is a former Judge of the Jefferson County Court, Civil Division.

Judge JENKINS stated that his widowed mother, Mrs. WILLIAM ARTHUR (VIRGINIA B.) JENKINS, SR., has resided at the above address for over 30 years and has never had any roomers or boarders in her residence since the death of her husband some years ago. He stated that he personally resides with his family at 3128 Warrington Road, Mountain Brook, a suburb of Birmingham.

Judge JENKINS related that the name HARVEY LOWMEYER or any phonetic variation thereof means positively nothing to him and to his knowledge he has never had any dealings with such an individual either in connection with his legal practice, services on the Bench in the County Court or personally.

He advised that his mother was as of that date a patient at St. Vincent Hospital undergoing medical tests and in the presence of the Agent, he telephonically contacted her at the hospital and was informed that the name HARVEY LOWMEYER was unknown to her and that she had never heard of any individual by that name either at her residence or in the neighborhood. Arrangements were made for a personal interview with Mrs. JENKINS, SR., at that time.

On April 7, 1968, Judge JENKINS arranged for an interview with his mother at St. Vincent Hospital and on that date stated that he still was unable to recall anyone by the name LOWMEYER.

On 4/5/68
4/7/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740
by SA HENRY A. SNOW:gas **35** Date dictated 4/11/68

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.

1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/13/68

Mrs. WILLIAM ARTHUR JENKINS, wife of Judge JENKINS, residence 3128 Warrington Road, Mountain Brook, stated positively that she has never heard the name HARVEY LOWMEYER being connected in any way with the residence of her mother-in-law at 1907 11th Street, South. She frequently visits at that residence and is certain she would have heard something of that individual had he in fact ever had any connection with the residence. She was also positive that he is not known nor has resided in the neighborhood of her mother's-in-law home.

On 4/7/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740
by SA HENRY A. SNOW:gas **36** Date dictated 4/12/68

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.

1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/13/68

Mrs. NEWTON (VIRGINIA) SKELTON, residence 2600 Stoney Branch Road, Mountain Brook, who is the sister of Judge WILLIAM ARTHUR JENKINS, was interviewed in his presence and stated emphatically that she has never heard the name HARVEY LOWMEYER in any manner. She is certain that he has never had any connection at the residence of her mother, 1907 - 11th Street, South, since she frequently visits her mother at that address and the name is totally unfamiliar.

On 4/7/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740
by SA HENRY A. SNOW:gas/mfl **37** Date dictated 4/12/68

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.

1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/13/68

Mrs. WILLIAM ARTHUR (VIRGINIA B.) JENKINS, SR., was interviewed at her assigned room, Room 327, St. Vincent Hospital, in the presence of her son, Judge WILLIAM ARTHUR JENKINS. She stated that the name HARVEY LOWMEYER is totally unknown to her; that she has never had any roomers or boarders in her residence at 1907 11th Street, South, and to her knowledge, none of the neighbors have ever had any person by that name either residing in their homes or employed in any manner.

On 4/7/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740
by SA HENRY A. SNOW:gas **38** Date dictated 4/11/68

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.

BH 44-1740

NPS:jml

1

AT BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

The following investigation was conducted by
SA NEIL P. SHANAHAN, unless otherwise stated.

On April 7, 1968, Mrs. CHRIS SALTZMANN,
Lackey Aero Service, advised that a review of her
records contained no chartered flights identifiable
with anyone by the name of LOWMEYER.

On April 7, 1968, Mr. WILLIAM PATTERSON,
manager, Airport Motel, made available the records of
the motel from March 26, 1968, through April 1, 1968.
These records were reviewed without developing any
pertinent information.

On April 8, 1968, Mr. BILL WOODS of Bill Woods
Beachcraft, made available his records of charter flights,
which were reviewed without developing any pertinent infor-
mation.

On April 8, 1968, Mr. RALPH KEEF, ENCO Station,
5224 Airport Highway, was contacted concerning an indivi-
dual in a business suit who hailed a cab from his station
on March 28, 1968. KEEF stated he was unable to recall
such an individual

1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/11/68

Mr. JACK POPINKO, clerk, Sunny-K Flying Service, Birmingham Airport, advised that the Sunny-K company is no longer engaged in the business of chartering private flights. POPINKO advised that the only two private charter services are Bill Woods Beachcraft and Lackey Aero Service, both located at the Birmingham Airport. POPINKO stated that an individual utilizing a charter flight can either rent and fly an airplane himself or also pay for the pilot. He said that under normal conditions it is not necessary to file a flight plan, giving proposed destinations, but that one may be filed if the pilot desires for safety reasons. He advised that the Birmingham Airport is a controlled airport and that, normally, all private flights must request both take off and landing permission from the tower by radio and that a record of these radio transmissions is maintained by the airport officials.

On 4/7/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

by SA NEIL P. SHANAHAN:jml **40** Date dictated 4/11/68

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.

1
BH 44-1740
WAS:jbt

The following investigation was conducted by
SA WILLIAM A. SAUCIER on April 5, 1968:

Mr. J. L. SMITH, Assistant Manager, Parliament House
Motor Hotel, 420 South 20th Street, advised that he had made
a search of his hotel guest records from January 1, 1968, to the
present date, and was unable to locate any record of a guest
by the name of W. J. LEHMEYER or HARVEY LOWMEYER.

A review of registration records for the month of
March and April, 1968, at the Airport Motel, Municipal Airport,
Birmingham, failed to reflect any registration at this motel
for an individual registering by the name of W. J. LEHMEYER
or HARVEY LOWMEYER.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/8/68

ROBERT D. MORRISON, Ticket Agent, Southern Airlines, Municipal Airport, advised that a search of his records for the past month for passengers on all flights departing from Birmingham, Alabama, to Memphis, Tennessee, failed to disclose any passenger listed by the name of HARVEY LOWMEYER. Mr. MORRISON said that he did have a listing for one W. J. LEHMEYER, who made a telephonic reservation at Birmingham, for travel on March 27, 1968, from Birmingham, Alabama, to Minneapolis, Minnesota. He said that LEHMEYER was scheduled to depart from Birmingham, at 5:11 P.M., March 27, 1968, on Southern Flight 268A, to Memphis, Tennessee. He said that this passenger was to change planes at Memphis, Tennessee, and board Delta Airlines Flight 932, leaving Memphis, at 8:45 P.M., March 27, 1968, en route Chicago, Illinois. This passenger was then to change planes at Chicago, Illinois, and depart on Northwest Airlines Flight 398, leaving Chicago, Illinois, at 11:40 P.M., en route to Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Mr. MORRISON said that he personally prepared this ticket and that Mr. LEHMEYER never appeared for this flight and his ticket was marked "Void." He said that Mr. LEHMEYER gave as his places of contact while in Birmingham, Alabama, the Airport Motel and Parliament House Motel, Birmingham.

On 4/5/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

by SA WILLIAM A. SAUCIER:jbt **42** Date dictated 4/8/68

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.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date April 9, 1968

RICHARD EVANS, 1827 Short 12th Street, Bessemer, Alabama, advised as follows:

He is acquainted with W. J. LEHMEYER and last saw him on March 27, 1968, at Birmingham. About a week prior to March 27, 1968, he received a call from a union official asking him to make arrangements for LEHMEYER to talk with one LOUIS ELKOURIE in Birmingham on union business.

On the night of March 26, 1968, J. L. BAILEY, general chairman of the union, called EVANS from Louisville and told him that LEHMEYER would be in Birmingham the next day.

On March 27, 1968, EVANS met LEHMEYER at the Municipal Airport in Birmingham when LEHMEYER arrived at 10:46 a.m. on a flight from Atlanta. EVANS took LEHMEYER in his car to West End Baptist Hospital where they talked with Mrs. ELKOURIE. They went back to the airport to reschedule a flight. LEHMEYER checked in his luggage. They then went to Plantation Barbecue on First Avenue North, Birmingham, for lunch. Then they either went to a movie and to the airport, or vice versa, EVANS cannot recall which. He does not recall the movie or the theater in downtown Birmingham. They were "killing time" until they could talk with ELKOURIE at 5:00 p.m. EVANS thinks they left the movie about 4:45 p.m. and then went to ELKOURIE's home at 7444 48th Avenue, Birmingham, where they talked with him. EVANS then took LEHMEYER back to the airport shortly after 6:00 p.m. EVANS left before LEHMEYER's flight departed at 6:30 the same day. He was going to Chicago via Atlanta.

On 4/7/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

43

by SA ANDREW M. SMITH:mas Date dictated 4/7/68

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.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/10/68

Mrs. SALLY ANN WASHBURN, Manager, Avon Motel, 1512 South 20th Street, made available all of her registrations for March and April, 1968, which were reviewed.

No registration was observed in the name of LOWMEYER or LEHMEYER, and the only registration from Memphis, Tennessee, was the following:

WILLIAM BUDING, 3656 Dunn, Memphis, Tennessee, registered on April 1, 1968, for one day, driving a Chevrolet, bearing Tennessee License TP 8387.

BUDING registered for one person and stayed in Unit 5; however, Mrs. WASHBURN stated that she observed BUDING leave the motel shortly after he checked in and return with an unknown girl.

She stated that she would describe BUDING as a white male, in his late thirties, 6'1", 160 - 170 lbs., medium build, dark hair, wearing a business suit.

Mrs. WASHBURN observed the FBI sketch which has been prepared in this case, and stated that BUDING somewhat resembled this individual, especially his hair and eyes.

She stated that there are no telephones in the rooms and that she did not observe BUDING or anyone else carrying a large cardboard box which could contain a rifle.

On 4/8/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

by SAs CHARLES DONALD BYRON and
COLEMAN D. GEARY, III:CDB:jbt **44** Date dictated 4/10/68

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.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date April 8, 1968

JOE B. GILLILAND, 5013-B Georgia Road, Birmingham, telephone 592-0429, advised as follows:

He advised he has worked in the electrical shop at Hayes International Corporation for 15 years, and in September of 1967 was laid off. Beginning then, he went to work for Yellow Cab Company as a dayshift driver. He advised that he drives Taxi Cab #52 and begins work at 6:00 a.m.

At approximately 9:00 a.m. on March 28, 1968, he drove a fare from the Tutwiler Hotel to the airport. The taxi cab starter at the airport advised that they had too many taxis at the airport and he need not wait at that cab stand.

GILLILAND advised that he returned toward town along the airport highway, and at 15th Avenue in front of the Enco Station he picked up a fare that flagged him down. He stated this individual was standing on the grass in front of the service station between the two entrance ramps.

He described this individual as a white male, six feet to six feet, one inch, 180 pounds, 35 to 40 years old, wearing a blue suit with a black tie. This individual was carrying a small overnight, blue suitcase about 24 inches long. The man opened the back door and placed the suitcase on the back seat beside him. This individual stated "You go where I tell you. Go down 5th Avenue to 20th Street and turn left."

GILLILAND advised this individual made no further comments during the trip until they reached the vicinity of Five Points South, when the passenger stated "This is good enough. I'll get out right here."

GILLILAND advised that he let his passenger off on the northwest corner of 20th Street and 9th Avenue South, referred to as Five Points South. The total fare was \$2.16, and this individual gave him three one-dollar bills and told

On 4/8/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

45

by SA JOHN F. JANSEN:mas Date dictated 4/8/68

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.

2

BH 44-1740

him to "keep the change - buy a cup of coffee."

GILLILAND stated that on Thursday, March 28, 1968, he had 18 total fares, and this particular run was his fifth of the day; therefore, the time would be placed at approximately 9:00 a.m. He was unable to recall whether the suitcase this individual was carrying was leather, nylon, or of some other composition. He stated the last he saw of this individual was when he stepped from the cab up onto the curb on the northwest corner of 20th Street and 9th Avenue South.

When displayed the artist's conception of the individual using the name HARVEY LOWMEYER, GILLILAND advised the face was familiar and he was quite certain that it was the individual he took to Five Points South.

On March 29, 1968, he made two trips from the airport, the first being two boxes which were transported from the Railway Express to Office Park Circle, and the second a fare from the terminal to 4740 1st Avenue South. GILLILAND stated he could not recall this particular fare but was relying on his trip sheet.

GILLILAND advised he could not recall the fare from the Tutwiler Hotel to the airport on March 30, 1968, or the return trip from the airport to 4604 South Long. These last two trips were the last two of the day, so that the time would be placed around 4:00 p.m. He has no recollection of the number of passengers, their sex or race.

1
BH 44-1740
HTP:gas

The following investigation was conducted at Birmingham, Alabama, by Special Agents C. B. STANBERRY and HARRY T. POSEY:

The records of the following companies pertaining to automobiles rented by those companies during the period of March 1, 1968, through April 8, 1968, were reviewed for the names of HARVEY LOWMEYER, W. H. LEHMEYER and JOHN WILLARD. The distance traveled and the destination was also observed.

An artist conception was also displayed to employees of the companies contacted as indicated.

No record was located indicating that LOWMEYER, LEHMEYER or WILLARD had rented an automobile from those companies and no employee was located who could identify the artist conception.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>COMPANY</u>
April 8, 1968	Airways Rent-A-Car 2315 5th Avenue, North Birmingham, Alabama

Records made available by WALTER DOUGHTON, Manager, who advised that automobiles rented from this company were to be returned to this office at Birmingham. The automobiles are not allowed to be taken to other offices in other cities or states to be left.

April 8, 1968	National Car Rental 2328 5th Avenue, North Birmingham, Alabama
---------------	--

Records made available by DON SHUBERT, Manager, who made available records covering rentals for the period of April 1, 1968, through April 8, 1968, and advised that the records for the month of March, 1968, are maintained at the National Car Rental office, 3317 South Memorial Parkway, Huntsville, Alabama.

BH 44-1740

PURCHASE OF 1966 WHITE MUSTANG TWO-DOOR
BY ERIC S. GALT, 2608 HIGHLAND AVENUE,
FROM OWNER, WILLIAM D. PAISLEY, ON
AUGUST 29 and 30, 1967.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/13/68

At 8:30 A.M., the records of the Jefferson County Department of Revenue were examined to determine the registered owner of an automobile bearing 1968 Alabama tag no. 1-38993. These records indicated that this tag was issued on October 2, 1967, to Mr. ERIC S. GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, for a 1966 Mustang, two-door, eight cylinder, Vehicle Identification No. 6T07C190647. This record also indicated that this car bore a previous 1967 Alabama tag no. 1A-88354. A check of the records concerning this number revealed that this number was issued for the same automobile to a Mr. WILLIAM D. PAISLEY, 701 48th Street South, Birmingham, Alabama, who bought this car from Maring Crawford Ford Company, Birmingham, on December 15, 1966. This car had originally been registered by Maring Crawford Ford Company, on March 11, 1966, as having been sold to MELVIN E. HARVEY, 3311 Highland Drive, Birmingham. The record shows the car was transferred from HARVEY's name to PAISLEY on December 15, 1966, and was then transferred from PAISLEY to ERIC S. GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, on August 30, 1967.

On 4/9/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740
by SAs NEIL P. SHANAHAN and
ROBERT M. BARRETT:NPS:jml:jbt Date dictated 4/11/68

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.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date April 9, 1968

WILLIAM D. PAISLEY, 701 48th Street South,
Birmingham, furnished the following.

On August 29, 1967, a man later identified as ERIC GALT came to the PAISLEY residence in a taxi cab. This man apparently was the same man who had called earlier in the day and talked to PAISLEY's wife about an ad the PAISLEYS had placed in a local newspaper in an effort to sell their 1966 white Mustang. PAISLEY showed the automobile which has a red interior to GALT and offered to let him test-drive the car. GALT refused to drive the car, saying he did not have an Alabama drivers license, but he did have one in Louisiana. PAISLEY then drove GALT around the area, and during this drive picked up PAISLEY's son DAVID. When they returned to the PAISLEY residence, GALT said "I'll take it off your hands." GALT said he did not like the off-white color of the car, but apparently was otherwise satisfied. GALT then suggested that he give PAISLEY some earnest money, and asked if PAISLEY would drive GALT to the downtown area of Birmingham. It was then agreed that they would meet the next day at about 10:00 a.m. at the First National Bank to settle the deal. GALT told PAISLEY that he, GALT, had his bank account at the Birmingham Trust National Bank. GALT asked PAISLEY how he wanted payment for the car, and PAISLEY suggested a cashier's check. GALT said he did not know how to get a cashier's check, and PAISLEY said he would show him how the next day. PAISLEY, accompanied by his son DAVID, then took GALT to First Avenue and North 20th Street, where GALT got out of the car.

The next day PAISLEY received a telephone call from GALT, who said he would meet him at the First National Bank to settle the deal. At about 10:15 a.m., they met in front of the bank, and GALT took \$2,000 cash out of his shirt pocket and gave it to PAISLEY. PAISLEY suggested they go inside the bank and count the money, which they did. PAISLEY deposited the money in the bank, and GALT went with PAISLEY's son to a parking lot where he took possession of the car.

On 4/9/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740
by SAs NEIL P. SHANAHAN
and ROBERT M. BARRETT RMB:mas Date dictated 4/9/68

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.

50

BH 44-1740

PAISLEY recalls GALT mentioned that he worked on a barge line between New Orleans and St. Louis, and that he would work 20 days and then be off 10 days. He recalled GALT saying that he was married, and that his wife was now living "over in Rocky Ridge," referring to an area south of Homewood, Alabama.

PAISLEY described GALT as a white male, age about 32, five feet, ten and one-half inches tall, 160 to 165 pounds, dark brown hair, neat-looking, neat dresser, quiet, accent was not from the Alabama area.

Mr. PAISLEY said he did not believe he could identify GALT if he ever saw him again.

PAISLEY produced a bill of sale for this transaction which shows the car was sold to ERIC GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, telephone 323-9487, for \$1,995 on August 30, 1967.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/12/68

WILLIAM DAVID PAISLEY, JR., 701 South 48th Street, Birmingham, on April 9, 1968, furnished the following:

Sometime in late August, 1967, PAISLEY's father had run an ad in the Sunday newspaper in an effort to sell their 1966 white two-door hardtop Mustang with red interior and whitewall tires. They advertised the car as being for sale for \$1,995. A couple of days later, a man later identified as ERIC GALT and PAISLEY's father picked up PAISLEY at the home of one of his friends. PAISLEY's father was driving the car and GALT was riding in the front seat. They drove around the area for awhile and then returned to the PAISLEY residence. GALT did not ask any questions, look at the motor or in the trunk of the car. He said, "I'll be glad to take this car off your hands." He then agreed to give PAISLEY's father a down payment if Mr. PAISLEY would take GALT back to downtown Birmingham. They then agreed to meet the next morning at the First National Bank to settle the deal, because PAISLEY's father has his office in that building and PAISLEY at the time was employed in the First National Bank.

Mr. PAISLEY suggested that GALT obtain a cashier's check. PAISLEY and his father then took GALT to First Avenue North and 20th Street, where he got out of the car. That evening, August 29, 1968, PAISLEY tried to call GALT at the telephone number GALT had left with PAISLEY's father. PAISLEY was unable to talk to GALT as he was not at the number called and PAISLEY learned this number was at a rooming house on Highland Avenue. The next day PAISLEY's father received a telephone call from GALT who said he was six blocks away from the First National Bank building and would meet the PAISLEYS in front of the First National Bank at about 10:15 A.M. They met in front of the bank at 10:15 A.M. and GALT produced \$2,000 in cash, mostly twenties, with some 100-dollar bills. They stepped inside the bank where the money was counted and GALT was given a bill of sale.

On 4/9, 10/68 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 44-1740

SAs NEIL P. SHANAHAN and
by ROBERT M. BARRETT:RMB:mas:jbt Date dictated 4/9, 11/68

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.

52

2
BH 44-1740

PAISLEY then took GALT to the parking lot where the car was parked and showed him how to drive the car. He then gave GALT the keys and GALT drove off.

DAVID PAISLEY recalled that he observed this same car for about six weeks after the sale, parked in front of the rooming house in the 2600 block of Highland Avenue, but that he had not seen this automobile since about the first of October, 1967. He also recalled that on one of these occasions he observed a front bumper tag with a drawing of a Confederate flag thereon.

PAISLEY recalled GALT saying that he worked on a barge on the Mississippi River "out of St. Louis" to New Orleans. He would work a month and then be off for two weeks, and that this was a lonely life. He also said he had saved all his money from his job and would pay cash for the car.

PAISLEY also recalled that GALT was emphatic about not test driving the automobile, and said that his Louisiana license had expired and he had not obtained an Alabama driver's license yet. He also recalled GALT making a statement that he did his banking at the Birmingham Trust National Bank, and "I have my money there."

PAISLEY described GALT as a white male, 5'8"-8½", age 32, tall, 145 pounds, dark brown or black hair with a widow's peak and cut short. This person was not a smoker, was very clean-cut, very shy and quiet. He claimed he was divorced and that his wife was presently living on Rocky Ridge or Dolly Ridge Road "over the mountain," referring to an area south of Homewood, Alabama. PAISLEY recalled this person had an accent which was possibly Western, but was definitely not from the Alabama area. PAISLEY also recalled this person saying he was unemployed at that time.

PAISLEY said he could definitely identify this person if he ever saw him again.

3

BH 44-1740

On April 10, 1968, DAVID PAISLEY observed an artist's conception of a person who had purchased a rifle at Aeromarine Supply, Birmingham, on March 29, 1968. PAISLEY said this artist's conception did not resemble ERIC GALT.

PAISLEY said his father had told GALT during the transaction that GALT would have to get insurance for the Mustang as the PAISLEYS would cancel their car insurance by calling State Farm Insurance Company that day (August 30, 1968). PAISLEY recalled that GALT did not ask any questions or say anything further about car insurance.

During his contacts with GALT, PAISLEY said he never detected the odor of alcohol on GALT nor did he observe GALT smoke cigarettes. PAISLEY said the ad for the automobile had been run in the "Birmingham News" on Sunday, August 27, 1967, only.

PAISLEY recalled GALT, after inspecting PAISLEY's Mustang, saying that this was the cleanest one that GALT had seen. He also recalled GALT saying, "I've get my money in the Birmingham Trust," and did not refer to the bank as the "BTNB," which is commonly done by natives of Birmingham. In connection with GALT's divorced wife whom GALT claimed was living on Rocky Ridge Road or Dolly Ridge Road, "over the mountain," PAISLEY recalls GALT saying, "Yeah, that's the way it goes."

PAISLEY said the price of \$1,995 for the Mustang was \$300 too much, but this price was never questioned by GALT and this price did not seem to bother GALT in any way. GALT said he had been saving his money and because he worked on a barge he had no place to spend it.

PAISLEY said he could not recall how GALT was dressed on August 29, 1967, but did believe that on August 30, 1967, GALT was wearing a sport coat, a dress shirt, with no tie, open at the neck.

Prior to GALT's taking possession of the car on August 30, 1967, PAISLEY's father asked GALT how GALT was going to get his driver's license. GALT replied that he had a friend "over at the rooming house," who would take him to the place where he could obtain a driver's license and change the registration on the car.

4
BH 44-1740

DAVID PAISLEY recalled that during the month to six weeks after the sale he had observed this car parked on numerous occasions in front of the rooming house in the 2600 block of Highland Avenue. He had noted that this car seemed to be dirty from non-use, rather than from being driven, and that on the last occasion of observing this car which would have been about the first of October, 1967, the car still had the slick bald tires that had been on it when it was sold.

PAISLEY furnished the following detailed description of the automobile:

1966 white Mustang, two-door hardtop, eight cylinder, 289, four individual red plastic floor mats, push button radio, heater, remote control outside mirror, day-night inside mirror, very clean engine, mileage 20,000 miles, equipped with Autolite battery, four whitewall, bald tires. The spare was in good shape but had a wider whitewall than the tires on the wheels. The seats were medium red in color and the carpeting was maroon or dark red. The body condition of the car was excellent and the muffler was painted shiny silver.

PAISLEY said that he had forgotten to advise on April 9, 1968, that on April 5, 1968, sometime between 1:00 P.M. and 1:30 P.M., while driving east on Fifth Avenue North, in front of the U. S. Post Office, PAISLEY observed a 1966 clean, white Mustang hardtop, which he thought could possibly be the same car he had sold to GALT. He also, at the same time, observed the back of a man getting into this car whose build resembled that of GALT. PAISLEY said he could not be definite that this was the same car and that the individual was GALT, as he only had a fleeting glimpse.