

4/20/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: SAC HOUSTON
FROM: SAC DALLAS (44-2649)

MURKIN

JAMES M. SHEPARD, TWO SEVEN ONE ONE WELBORN ST, DALLAS, TODAY ADVISED HE WAS IN "OFFICE BAR", BEAUMONT, TEXAS, MONDAY EVENING APRIL FIFTEEN LAST, ABOUT TEN THIRTY PM WHEN OBSERVED INDIVIDUAL SITTING FRONT OF BAR COUNTER WHO CLOSELY RESEMBLED COMPOSITE DRAWING OF ERIC STARVO GALT HE HAD SEEN IN BEAUMONT NEWSPAPER. DESCRIBED INDIVIDUAL AS WM, THIRTYFIVE-FORTY, FIVE FT. TEN-ELEVEN, HUNDRED SIXTY-SEVENTYFIVE LBS, BROWN HAIR, POINTED NOSE; HAVING EYES THAT SEEMED "VERY FIXED" AND CLOSE TO NOSE, WHO APPEARED NERVOUS AND "DEEP IN THOUGHT." SHEPARD STATED HE INQUIRED OF ANOTHER CUSTOMER SITTING NEXT TO HIM ABOUT THIS INDIVIDUAL AND WAS TOLD THIS MAN HAD FREQUENTED BAR FOR APPROX SIX MONTH PERIOD. SHEPARD STATED THAT HE WENT TO REST ROOM AND UPON RETURNING THE QUESTIONED INDIVIDUAL HAD LEFT BAR AND CUSTOMER WITH WHOM HE HAD HAD PREVIOUS CONVERSATION COMMENTED TO HIM THAT HE HAD BETTER LEAVE AS HIS LIFE WAS IN DANGER. SHEPARD SAID THAT HE THEN DEPARTED, SHEPARD FURTHER

1 - Memphis (44-1987)(AM) 1 - Kansas City (AM)
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STATED UPON SEEING PHOTO OF JAMES EARL RAY TODAY IN DALLAS
NEWSPAPER HE FURTHER FELT THAT THIS INDIVIDUAL HE OBSERVED IN
BAR CLOSELY RESEMBLED RAY.

SHEPARD ADVISED BAR LOCATED ON EAST ELEVENTH ST, OR ON
NORTH ELEVENTH ST, BEAUMONT, AND IT HAS PROMINENT PHOTO OF
GEORGE WALLACE ON WALL.

HOUSTON AT BEAUMONT. HANDLE.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

AIRMAIL COPIES FURNISHED MEMPHIS AND KANSAS CITY.

FBI ATLANTA

1217 AM URGENT 4-22-68 ARK

TO DIRECTOR, SPRINGFIELD, MEMPHIS, BIRMINGHAM, KANSAS CITY,
NEW ORLEANS AND LOS ANGELES
FROM ATLANTA (44-2386) 4P

MURKIN

INTERVIEW OF RAYMOND LOUIS CURTIS.

ON FOUR TWENTYONE SIXTYEIGHT RAYMOND LOUIS CURTIS CURRENTLY
INCARCERATED WHITFIELD COUNTY JAIL, DALTON, GA., PENDING APPEAL
ON A LIFE SENTENCE FOR MURDER AND WHOM SHERIFF MAULDIN STATED
IN HIS OPINION WOULD FURNISH INFORMATION THAT WOULD PROBABLY BE
RELIABLE TO THE BEST OF CURTIS' KNOWLEDGE, FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING
INVESTIGATIVE LEADS:

CURTIS WHO SERVED THREE DIFFERENT SENTENCES WITH SUBJECT
IN MISSOURI, STATED SUBJECT HAD FORMER CLOSE FRIEND WHILE IN
JACKSON COUNTY JAIL, KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, WHO HAD JUST
PREVIOUSLY SERVED TIME WITH HIM AT MENARD PRISON ILLINOIS WHO
VISTED SUBJECT FREQUENTLY AND KEPT HIM IN SPENDING MONEY.

SUBJECT ALSO HAD, NAME UNKNOWN, ITALIAN CONTACT WHO WAS BIG MAN
IN SYNDICATE BETWEEN KANSAS CITY AND CHICAGO WHO HANDLED STOLEN
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POSTAL MONEY ORDERS AND TRAVELERS CHECKS WHO IS KNOWN TO KCPD.

SUBJECT ALSO HAD CLOSE FRIEND (FNU) COIN (PHONETIC) WHO IN NINETEEN FIFTYFIVE WAS FIFTYFIVE TO SIXTY YEARS OF AGE WHO IS A FENCE AND LIVED IN NEW ORLEANS. SUBJECT ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN NUMEROUS BURGLARIES AND PAYROLL JOBS, QUINCY, ILL. IN PAST. SUBJECT WHILE IN PRISON AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI BETWEEN NINETEEN SIXTYTWO AND SIXTYSIX, HEARD SUBJECT MENTION ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS THAT THERE WAS A BOUNTY ALLEGEDLY A MILLION DOLLARS ON KINGS HEAD AND IF HE GOT OUT OF PRISON BEFORE KING WAS KILLED, HE WOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO CONTACT APPROPRIATE INDIVIDUALS, NAMES UNKNOWN TO CURTIS, AND COLLECT BOUNTY BY KILLING KING.

CURTIS, ALTHOUGH REQUESTED IDENTITY BE PROTECTED, FURNISHED UNKNOWN AMOUNT OF INFORMATION CONCERNING HIS ASSOCIATION WITH RAY TO REPORTER, DALTON DAILY CITIZEN NEWS, DALTON, GA., EARLIER THIS DATE.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

AT 44-2386

KANSAS CITY AT KANSAS CITY WILL THRU INFORMANTS AND POLICE CONTACT ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY ITALIAN SYNDICATE MAN WHO INVOLVED IN HANDLING STOLEN POSTAL MONEY ORDERS AND TRAVELERS CHECKS. KANSAS CITY WILL ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP INFORMATION THRU INVATES RE MILLION DOLLAR BOUNTY ON "KING'S HEAD."

NEW ORLEANS AT NEW ORLEANS ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY (FNU) COIN ALLEGED FENCE AND ASSOCIATE OF SUBJECT.

SPRINGFIELD AT MENARD ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY SUBJECT'S FORMER CELL MATE PRIOR TO NINETEEN FIFTYFIVE. AT QUINCY, ILL. THRU INFORMANTS AND OTHER LOGICAL SOURCES ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP BACKGROUND RE SUBJECT.

ALL OFFICES PROTECT IDENTITY OF CURTIS.

COMPREHENSIVE TELETYPE RE ALL DETAILS OF INTERVIEW WITH CURTIS TO FOLLOW.

NUMEROUS ALLEGATIONS RECEIVED INDICATING INDIVIDUALS WHO LOOKS LIKE SUBJECT SEEN IN ATLANTA AREA. LEADS CHECKED OUT WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

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ATLANTA PURSUING FURTHER INVESTIGATION AT AIRLINES AND
CHECK OF STOLEN CARS AND SALE OF USED CARS DURING PERTINENT PERIOD.

INVESTIGATION RECEIVING TOP PRIORITY ATTENTION.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END.

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FBI MEMPHIS

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FBI MEMPHIS

FBI LITTLE R

11:10AM CST URGENT 4/22/68

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), MEMPHIS (44-1987), HOUSTON,
PHOENIX (44-371), DALLAS, JACKSONVILLE AND KANSAS CITY
FROM NITTLE ROCK (157-1215) 3P

MURKIN; CR. MEMPHIS ORIGIN.

RE PHOENIX TELETYPE TO BUREAU, ET AL, APRIL TWENTY-ONE
LAST, CONCERNING INTERVIEW OF DAVID L. WILSON AND POSSIBLE
PLOT OF EX-CONS TO MURDER DR. KING.

FOR INFORMATION OF HOUSTON, WHICH DID NOT RECEIVE
LENGTHY REFERENCED TELETYPE, DAVID L. WILSON WAS INTERVIEWED
AT PHOENIX ON APRIL TWENTY-ONE LAST.

"WILSON STATED HE LAST SAW RAY LAST SUMMER AT LUPTON
OR LUFTON, MISSOURI, WHERE WILSON WAS ARRESTED FOR DWI AND
WAS IN COUNTY JAIL FOR THREE OR FOUR WEEKS UNTIL HE COULD
PAY FINE. AT TIME OF ARREST WILSON STATED HE WAS WITH
GENE BRISINDIKE (PHONETIC), TRUCK DRIVER FOR WILLIS SHAW,
ELM SPRINGS, ARKANSAS. ON RELEASE HE WENT TO BAR ABOUT
FOUR BLOCKS FROM COUNTY JAIL TO USE PHONE AND RAN INTO RAY
WHO RECOGNIZED WILSON AND WHOM WILSON SAID HE HAD SEEN

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BEFORE ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT REMEMBER WHERE."

LEAD WAS SET FORTH FOR LITTLE ROCK AT ELM SPRINGS, ARKANSAS, "WILL THROUGH WILLIS SHAW LOCATE GENE BRISINDINE AND INTERVIEW BRISINDINE CONCERNING ALLEGED ARREST AND INCARCERATION OF WILSON DURING SUMMER OF SIXTY SEVEN WITH PARTICULAR PURPOSE OF ASCERTAINING LOCATION OF THE OCCURENCE SINCE THERE IS NO LUFTON, MISSOURI IN POSTAL GUIDE."

MR. WILLIS SHAW, WILLIS SHAW FROZEN EXPRESS, ELM SPRINGS, ARKANSAS, TRAILER NUMBER SEVEN FORTY, TRACTOR NUMBER THREE FIFTY-SIX. HE IS DUE TO ARRIVE IN HOUSTON, TEXAS, FOR UNLOADING ON THE MORNING OF APRIL TWENTY-THREE NEXT. HE WILL UNLOAD SOME FROZEN FOOD FROM MORTON'S OF RUSSELLVILLE, ARKANSAS, AT MIKKE PILLOT WHOLESALE GROCERY ESTABLISHMENT, HOUSTON, TEXAS, STREET ADDRESS UNKNOWN. BRIZENDINE IS SCHEDULED TO CALL WILLIS SHAW ON AFTERNOON OF APRIL TWENTY-TWO. IF HE DOES SO, HE WILL BE TOLD TO CONTACT THE FBI, HOUSTON, REGARDING THIS MATTER.

END PAGE TWO

LR-157-1215

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HOUSTON OFFICE AT HOUSTON WILL INTERVIEW GENE BRIZENDINE
AT THE WINKLE PILLOT WHOLESALE GROCERY ESTABLISHMENT TO
DETERMINE INFORMATION AS SET FORTH IN LEAD ABOVE FOR LITTLE
ROCK.

ENDGVOP

FBI MEMPHIS

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FBI MEMPHIS

1246PM URGENT 4-22-68 KPS

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861), MEMPHIS (44-1987), BIRMINGHAM,
LOS ANGELES (44-1574), AND KANSAS CITY
FROM: PHOENIX

MURKIN.

RE LOS ANGELS TEL TO BUREAU, APRIL TWENTY LAST.

ASSOCIATE OF SUBJECT: WILLIAM HENRY HOLLAND, FBI NO.
SIX SIX THREE THREE FOUR FIVE. REVIEW OF PHOENIX FILE
TWENTYSIX-TWO FOUR ONE ONE TWO IN WHICH HOLLAND WAS SUBJECT
INDICATES HE WAS IN TRANSIT DURING JUNE, NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE
FROM OKLAHOMA CITY WHEN HE APPEARED AT FBI OFFICE, PHOENIX,
AND TURNED HIMSELF IN FOR THEFT OF A MOTOR VEHICLE. AT THAT
TIME HOLLAND REQUESTED TO RETURN TO LEAVENWORTH PRISON WHERE
"THE FOOD IS GOOD AND I HAD GOOD JOB". HOLLAND WAS SUBSE-
QUENTLY TRANSFERRED TO THE US PRISON AT LEAVENWORTH AND
RECEIVED THERE NOVEMBER TWENTYONE, SIXTYFIVE.

AS REVIEW OF THIS FILE INDICATES NO POSSIBLE LEADS IN
PHOENIX DIVISION, KANSAS CITY IS REQUESTED TO CONTACT PRISON
OFFICIALS AT LEAVENWORTH AND DETERMINE ADDRESS TO WHICH
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DATE FILE STRIPPED 6/4/87
INITIALS MO
RE: BU AIRTEL DTD 11/3/86

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HOLLAND WAS RELEASED UPON COMPLETION OF SENTENCE AND SET OUT
LEADS TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW HIM RE ANY INFO OF SUBJECT
JAMES EARL RAY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END.

MCP

FBI MEMPHIS

See Next Section