

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

DATE: 6/6/68

FROM : SAC, WFO (44-703) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re JAMES EARL RAY
Veterans Administration Records

Re WFO teletypes to Bureau (2) dated 4/24/68.

Enclosed for ME are 15 copies each of two IRFs reflecting results of VA checks concerning RAY.

② - Memphis (Enc. 30)
1 - WFO
RWD
(3)

44-1987-Sub-A-752D

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUN 10 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	



5010-108

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

WFO 44-703

SHR:bdc

1

On April 23, 1968, Special Agent SIDNEY H. ROCHE contacted Mr. JAMES M. BONES, Inspector, United States Post Office Department, and inquiry was made concerning the possibility of the Federal Bureau of Investigation reviewing postal money orders purchased at the western station, United States Post Office, Santa Monica, California, during the period of February 1, 1968, through March 4, 1968.

The money orders sold through that station during the pertinent period were in series 1,908,183,856 through 1,908,183,999 and 1,916,210,000 through 1,916,211,999.

Mr. BONES explained that because of the filing procedure utilized by the United States Post Office, money orders, after being cashed, are not kept in numerical sequence, but forwarded to the Treasury Department and placed according to date received into cardboard boxes of 2,000 money orders each. He said that for this reason it would take several days to locate these money orders, as it would be necessary to find the location number before the money orders could be located.

On April 25, 1968, the following Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington Field Office, reported to the Government Accounting Office Building (GAO), 441 G Street, Northwest, to review money orders: HARVEY W. JAMES, JAMES W. NORMENT, JR., JOHN L. PATTERSON, KENNETH L. PLESS, SIDNEY H. ROCHE, and HARVEY E. WILKINSON.

44-1987-Sub-G-757E

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED: 5	FILED: 5
JUN 10 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

pt

WFO 44-703

SHR:bdc

2

A total of 376 money orders falling in the pertinent period described above were searched against the following names with negative results:

JAMES EARL RAY
ERIC STARVO GALT
HARVEY LOWMEYER
JOHN WILLARD
W. C. HERRON
JAMES O'CONNER
JAMES WALTON
JAMES WALYON
JAMES MC BRIDE

On April 26, 1968, the afore mentioned agents searched 1561 additional money orders which were located at the Federal Records Center building in Suitland, Maryland, against the afore mentioned names that the subject has utilized, and the search was made with negative results.

A total of 1,937 postal money orders were searched.

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

6/6/68

SAC, WFO (44-703) (P)

MURKIN

Re U. S. Postal Money Orders
used by ERIC STARVO GALT

Re LA teletype 4/22/68; WFO teletype 4/23/68;
and WFO airtel 4/26/68.

Enclosed for Memphis are 15 copies of report
insert reflecting search for U. S. postal money orders.

② - Memphis (Enc. 15)
1 - WFO
RWD
(3)

44-1987-Sub-G-754F

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUN 10 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

RT

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE PITTSBURGH	OFFICE OF ORIGIN MEMPHIS	DATE 6/6/68	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 4/7 - 5/20/68
TITLE OF CASE MURKIN		REPORT MADE BY WILLIAM LOGAN CURTIS	TYPED BY AOB
		CHARACTER OF CASE CIVIL RIGHTS	

REFERENCES:

Bureau teletype to All Continental Offices dated 4/7/68.
 Bureau airtel to All SAC's and Legats dated 5/7/68.
 Memphis telephone call to Pittsburgh, 5/24/68.

- P -

LEADSATLANTA - INFORMATION

Information copy being furnished to Atlanta in view of vast amount of investigation being conducted by that office.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED None						ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:	
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		PENDING OVER ONE YEAR	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
							PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
APPROVED						SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		
COPIES MADE:						DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW		
2 - Bureau (44-38861) 1 - Atlanta (Info.) 2 - Birmingham (Info.) ③ - Memphis (44-1987) 2 - Pittsburgh (44-578)						44-1987-Sub-A-7576 SEARCHED.....INDEXED..... SERIALIZED.....FILED..... JUN 17 1968 FBI - MEMPHIS		
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations		
Agency								
Request Recd.								
Date Fwd.								
How Fwd.								
By								

PG 44-578

BIRMINGHAM

Two information copies being furnished Birmingham inasmuch as process outstanding there, one copy for future dissemination to U. S. Attorney upon Bureau instructions.

- B -
COVER PAGE

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(1)

ADMINISTRATIVE

On April 17, 1968, press release given to radio, television, and press media in the Pittsburgh Division. On April 19, 1968, press release and copies of photograph and wanted flyers given to news media, Pittsburgh Division.

On April 22, 1968, Identification Order and Wanted Flyers furnished to JERRY MOORE, U. S. Narcotics Bureau, and he was requested to contact his sources regarding JAMES EARL RAY. Contacts have been negative to date. It should be noted that the Pittsburgh Office of U.S. Narcotics Bureau covers Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

On April 26, 1968, publicity outlets were furnished material in connection with RAY being added to the Top Ten list.

On May 9, 1968, a newspaper mat and two photographs of RAY were mailed to 294 newspapers in the Pittsburgh Division for appropriate publication.

On May 15, 1968, it was determined that the Bureau of Vital Statistics, Charleston, W. Va., receives the original death certificate on all deaths in that state. Search of records in progress. The Bureau of Vital Statistics for Pennsylvania, located at Harrisburg, Pa., is unable to check their records with regard to local deaths for the year 1968 until May, 1969. Local checks are being made within the Western District of Pennsylvania, covered by the Pittsburgh Division.

A review of unsolved bank robbery and bank burglary cases in the Pittsburgh Division from April 23 to May 4, 1968, fails to indicate JAMES EARL RAY as a suspect.

- 6 -
COVER PAGE

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(1)

ADMINISTRATIVE

SUSPECTS

DANNY CARLTON MARKINS

The following investigation was conducted by SA RAY V. SHOEMAKER:

K. D. YEATER (PROTECT IDENTITY), Assistant Transportation Superintendent, Cabell County Board of Education, Huntington, W. Va., voluntarily advised Bureau agents on April 9, 1968, that he is concerned about DANNY CARLTON MARKINS, a former school bus driver in Cabell County, W. Va. On March 30, 1968, MARKINS telephonically advised YEATER he had to resign effective Monday, April 1, 1968, saying it was imperative that he be in Memphis on Tuesday, April 2, 1968. MARKINS' reason was that he was seeking employment with Roadway Transfer Company, Memphis, Tenn. YEATER then telephonically contacted Roadway in Memphis on March 30, 1968, and learned that they had no record of MARKINS seeking employment there. MARKINS requested all retirement be withdrawn and insisted he must be in Memphis by Tuesday A.M. YEATER confronted MARKINS with the information that he had learned MARKINS had no commitment to Roadway on Tuesday. MARKINS then said he was committed to a friend who expected him to go to Memphis with him. MARKINS then worked on April 1, 1968, and left that night for Memphis. He recontacted YEATER on Friday, April 5, 1968, and insisted that he had left Memphis prior to the "trouble." YEATER said he believed, however, that MARKINS left Memphis late Thursday night, April 4, 1968, and arrived Huntington, W. Va., approximately 10:00 AM, April 5, 1968. YEATER said he did not know identity of person accompanying MARKINS to Memphis.

YEATER said MARKINS has been trusted employee for more than ten years and he cannot understand his leaving with no notice. He said MARKINS is reliable individual who was outstanding employee, but has acted strangely for approximately two or three months.

- D -
COVER PAGE

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(2)

MARKINS told YEATER on return from Memphis that person who accompanied him was offered job at Roadway, but MARKINS was not offered job so they both returned to Huntington.

The following is description of MARKINS as obtained from school board records and interview of YEATER:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Born	<input type="text"/>
Height	6'1"
Weight	161 lbs.
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Dark brown, slightly receding hairline, combed straight back with part on right side
Characteristics	Ears slightly larger than average; speaks with soft Southern accent; usually courteous and polite.
Appearance	Clean-cut, well-groomed; does not wear glasses; walks with very slight limp in right foot; wears watch with silver band on left wrist; smokes non-filter Pall Mall cigarettes
Social Security No.	<input type="text"/>
Military Service	Served U.S. Army and presently assigned Reserve Unit, Huntington, W. Va.
Automobile	Owns 1964 Chevrolet believed to be two tone blue in color.

- E -
COVER PAGE

PG 44-578

WLC:mtl

(3)

A group picture of school bus drivers including MARKINS located 1966 high school yearbook. Picture being developed and enlarged for copies to be forwarded to Memphis.

On April 10, 1968, two photographs of DANNY CARLTON MARKINS were obtained and forwarded to Memphis and Birmingham for elimination purposes.

On April 16, 1968, K. D. YEATER, Assistant Superintendent, Call County Board of Education, Huntington, W. Va., advised SA RAY V. SHOEMAKER that the person who went to Memphis, Tenn., with DANNY CARLTON MARKINS was JOHN JUSTICE, residence address 5695 Altizer Avenue, Huntington, W. Va. He said JUSTICE was formerly employed by the Owens-Illinois Glass Company, Huntington, as a truck driver, but the employment was terminated several months ago. YEATER said JUSTICE is now believed to be a truck driver for Grey-Bell, Holland, Michigan.

On April 16, 1968, LEONA DOWLING, Personnel Department, Owens-Illinois Glass Company, Huntington, W. Va., advised SA SHOEMAKER from records that JOHN JUSTICE was employed by that company as a truck driver from November 20, 1963 to March 31, 1967, when his services were terminated by reason of the trucking operation being closed by Owens-Illinois. She stated the file contains no derogatory information on JUSTICE. She advised from records that JOHN JUSTICE is described as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of Birth	
Height	5'11"
Weight	180 lbs., in 1963
Eyes	Unknown
Hair	Brown
Marital status	Married
Wife	FRANCES D. JUSTICE
Occupation	Truck driver
Military service	None

- F -
COVER PAGE

PG 44-578

It should be noted that instructions contained in referenced airtel dated 5/7/68 are not being followed per instructions from SAC, Memphis, per referenced telephone call. Reports being submitted accordingly.

- G -

PG 44-578

WLC:mtl

(1)

INFORMANTS

Contacts with CIs, PCIs, PSIs, SIs, and racial informants of the Pittsburgh Division regarding RAY have been negative.

- H* -

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: WILLIAM LOGAN CURTIS
Date: 6/6/68

Office: PITTSBURGH, PA.

Field Office File #: 44-578

Bureau File #: 44-38861

Title: MURKIN

Character: CIVIL RIGHTS

Synopsis: Investigation in the Pittsburgh Division to identify, locate, and apprehend JAMES EARL RAY has been negative to date. Investigation continuing.
ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- P -

PG 44-578

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
DETAILS.....	2
SUSPECTS.....	3
BOMBING SUSPECT.....	7
ALIASES.....	8
LOOK ALIKES.....	21
FINGERPRINTS.....	50
LAUNDRIES.....	52
DANCE SCHOOLS.....	76
VEHICLE CHECKS.....	88

PG 44-578

DETAILS

- 2 -

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(1)

SUSPECTS

MORRIS CLAYTON SKAGGS

The following investigation was conducted by SA
EUGENE F. CABLE:

MORRIS C. SKAGGS was arrested for motor violation April 15, 1968, and confined to Beaver County Jail. He was born [redacted] at Jonesboro, Ark., is 6'2", and then weighed 215 lbs. He has a tattoo on his left forearm and has FBI Number 264 664 F.

A photograph of SKAGGS has been obtained and will follow.

Mrs. BETTY NIFFENEGGER, Van Buren Homes, Beaver, Pa., SKAGGS' mother-in-law, advised neither she, her husband, or her daughter, SKAGGS' wife, have had any contact from SKAGGS and are unaware of his whereabouts or activities. She pointed out that her telephone number and her daughter's telephone number and address are unpublished primarily for the reason of avoiding contact with SKAGGS. She stated her mother-in-law, Mrs. RUTH HARRIS, recently had an early morning telephone call believed to be from SKAGGS, but his whereabouts at the time of the call were unknown.

The composite drawings of subject were exhibited to Mrs. NIFFENEGGER, and she stated that they did not, in her opinion, look like SKAGGS. She stated SKAGGS' parents reside in Jonesboro, Ark., but that family members here have no contact with them primarily to avoid disclosing SKAGGS' wife's address.

Mrs. RUTH HARRIS, Beaver, Pa., advised that sometime during the week prior to April 13, 1968, at exactly 4:50 AM, she received a telephone call from an individual whom she did not initially recognize by his voice, but he mentioned CAROL, and she then determined it to be MORRIS SKAGGS. She stated she talked to another

PG 44-578

WLC:mtl

(2)

individual who was with SKAGGS, but told them she did not want to talk to them and hung up. She then contacted the operator in an effort to determine where the call had been placed from and the operator told her she could not determine this since it was an out of the district call. Mrs. HARRIS stated the last contact she had was a similarly foolish call in the early hours from SKAGGS prior to Thanksgiving of 1967. She stated her number is the only published telephone number of family members in Beaver County, and the only contact point SKAGGS has.

CAROL SKAGGS resides at 1284 Chapel Road, Monaca, Pa., unlisted telephone 775-6957, and is a high school teacher at Rochester High School. Efforts to locate her, both at her residence and telephonically, the afternoon and evening of April 16, 1968, were unsuccessful, however, since a photograph of SKAGGS has been obtained, and based on the contact with CAROL SKAGGS' mother, no further effort will be made to locate her.

DONALD LAWRENCE STOUT

The following investigation was conducted by SA WILLIAM LOGAN CURTIS:

HARRY P. STEWART, U. S. Secret Service, reported his nephew, STEWARD LINDH, 2206, San Francisco, Calif., claimed he and two others through newspaper ad obtained ride with STOUT. At Kansas City, Mo., STOUT disappeared with their effects. Before STOUT disappeared he told them he was going to shoot KING.

On April 26, 1968, RAYMOND ZACKOVICH, Secret Service Agent, Pittsburgh, advised HARRY P. STEWART, former Secret Service Agent, retired one year ago. STEWART now residing at Route 1, Box 388, Sebastian, Fla.

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(3)

RICHARD RUSSELL BALL

The following investigation was conducted by SA
CALVIN D. KNOTT:

Investigation Parkersburg, W. Va., April 27,
1968, disclosed residence located at 4801 First Avenue,
vacant at this time.

No current record city and telephone directories
located identifiable with RICHARD RUSSELL BALL.

Investigation at Post Office, Parkersburg,
April 29, 1968, disclosed change of address for BALL dated
August 14, 1964, giving new address of 3460 Dorreen
Drive, Lakeland, Fla.

RED (LNU)

The following investigation was conducted by SA
JAMES E. MIRE:

CLARENCE BASHAM, Star Route 1, Tornado, W. Va.,
appeared at the Charleston, W. Va., Resident Agency and
advised that he was certain that the person responsible
for murdering Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., was one "RED"
(LNU). "RED" (LNU) and (FNU) FOLKS, who might be a
conspirator, are both past employees of L & M Cylinders,
Jacksonville, Fla. BASHAM claimed that he had met these
two individuals while employed by L & M Cylinders in
1966.

He stated that "RED" is a ranking influential
lieutenant in the KKK in Florida, and that at one time
"RED" had pledged to murder KING. He stated that the
photograph of JAMES EARL RAY closely resembles "RED."
"RED" is allegedly a con-artist and frequently uses
disguises.

PG 44-578

WLC:mtl

(4)

BASHAM stated that information as to the whereabouts of "RED" and FOLKS could be obtained from the owners at L & M Cylinders. He also suggested contacting one PAUL BAILEY, allegedly a high-ranking KKK member in Jacksonville, for pertinent information in this matter.

PG 44-578

WLC:mtl

(1)

BOMBING SUSPECT

CHARLES CECIL CHAPMAN

The following investigation was conducted by SA
WILLIAM LOGAN CURTIS:

A review of Pittsburgh file 174-12, Bombing
Suspects in the Pittsburgh Division, reflected only suspect
to be CHARLES CECIL CHAPMAN, presently serving time in
the West Virginia Penitentiary, Moundsville, W. Va.

On April 10, 1968, Captain PAUL E. BARLOW,
Captain of the Guards, West Virginia Penitentiary,
Moundsville, W. Va., advised from records that CHARLES
CECIL CHAPMAN, West Virginia Penitentiary No. 45622, was
convicted July 22, 1965; that he was sentenced August 19,
1965, effective May 25, 1965, on charge of malicious
wounding to term of two to ten years from Monongalia
County; that he was received at the penitentiary on August
20, 1965; and that he was presently an inmate at the
penitentiary.

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(1)

ALIASES

The following investigation was conducted by SA
WILLIAM LOGAN CURTIS:

Investigation at Pittsburgh re surname LOWMEYER revealed that former Pittsburgh residents P. F. LOHMEYER, 2344 Ardleigh Drive, Cleveland Heights, and SUSAN M. LOHMEYER, 1168 Manor Drive, Columbus, Ohio, now residing out of division.

The following investigation was conducted by SA
JOHN L. PORTER:

In connection with captioned matter, the following individuals were checked out with regards to their whereabouts on March 29, 30, and April 4, 1968, so as to either develop or eliminate them as suspects in the murder of Rev. Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING at Memphis, Tenn., on April 4, 1968:

W. J. LOHMEYER
720 S. Negley Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa.

HENRICK F. LOHMEYER
1381 Craigview Drive
Pittsburgh 43, Pa.

Both of the above individuals are eliminated as possible suspects per the following investigation which has accounted for their whereabouts on pertinent dates:

W. J. (WILLIAM JOSEPH) LOHMEYER is deceased, having died at Pittsburgh on May 30, 1950. This was ascertained in interview of his widow, Mrs. W. J. (SARA) LOHMEYER who resides in apartment B3 at 720 S. Negley Avenue, which is the President Apartments. She resides there with her daughter, JEANNE M. LOHMEYER who is single. She is not acquainted with anyone known as HARVY LOHMEYER.

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(2)

HENRICK R. LOHMEYER is listed by the Pittsburgh Credit Bureau as employed by the Dravo Corp. WILLIAM C. STRATTON, Assistant Manager, Personnel Department, Dravo Corp., 1000 Fifth Avenue, advised that HENRICK F. LOHMEYER of 1381 Craigview Drive, has been employed by his company since February 1, 1962, and holds the position of Senior Mechanical Engineer and is assigned to the Design Engineering Office at 526 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa. LOHMEYER is a white male, born [redacted] A check with LOHMEYER's supervisor, JACK BINNING and the department's time records reflected conclusively that LOHMEYER was at his job (in the office) from 8:00 AM to 4:45 PM on March 29 and April 4, 1968.

The following investigation was conducted by SAA RONALD WETHERINGTON:

JOHN RODERICK WILLARD, 1029 Parkview Avenue, New Kensington, Pa., interviewed and determined to be 64 years of age. WILLARD has two sons, GEORGE RODERICK, and JACK P. WILLARD. JACK eliminated at New Kensington. GEORGE resides 42 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, N.J., telephone 272-4995, employed as professor of Spanish at Union College. GEORGE described as white male, born [redacted] 6'3", 175 lbs., blond hair, single, fair complexion, wears glasses. GEORGE allegedly in possession of 1964 or 1965 white Mustang registered to his mother, IRENE WILLARD. Parents state GEORGE flew to New Kensington, via Allegheny Airlines from New Jersey and arrived in New Kensington at 5:30 or 6:00 PM on March 29, 1968, and returned to New Jersey in afternoon of March 31, 1968, whereabouts of GEORGE on April 4, 1968, unknown to parents.

The following investigation was conducted by SA NILE A. DUKE and SA JAMES H. REEVES, JR.:

On April 10, 1968, KAREN ADAMS, 6706 McPherson Boulevard, Pittsburgh, Second Floor, stated that she has

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(3)

lived at this address for one year. She stated that the name P. D. LOHMEYER is completely unfamiliar to her.

On April 10, 1968, VICTOR OLMSTEAD, 6706 McPherson Boulevard, First Floor, stated he has lived at this address since October, 1966. He stated the name P. D. LOHMEYER is completely unfamiliar to him. Mr. OLMSTEAD said the house he is renting is owned by BLANCHE GRIFFIN and that he does not know her address and only pays his rent to her when she knocks on the door.

It is to be noted that both KAREN ADAMS and VICTOR OLMSTEAD are Negroes, and that the area surrounding 6706 McPherson Boulevard is inhabited by primarily Negro individuals.

Mr. G. L. MONET, Postal Inspector, Pittsburgh, Pa., caused a search of his records to be made for a change of address for P. D. LOHMEYER, 6706 McPherson Boulevard. Mr. MONET stated he talked with his carrier for this particular area and that the carrier could not recall such an individual. He further advised that a search of his records for the past three years failed to reflect a change of address for P. D. LOHMEYER. He stated that any changes of address over three years old is destroyed.

On April 10, 1968, Mrs. ANTHONY DEIULUS, 815 Fulton Place, Mt. Oliver, Pittsburgh, Pa., stated that the name VERA LOHMEYER is unfamiliar to her. She stated she had lived at this address for four years and had purchased her house from one DOROTHY REUESCHE.

On April 10, 1968, DOROTHY REUESCHE, Pittsburgh National Bank, Carrick Office, Carrick, Pa., advised that VERA LOHMEYER had committed suicide on December 12, 1961. REUESCHE said she knew the LOHMEYER family and that VERA did not have any brothers or sisters. She did recall her having an uncle, ED LOHMEYER, Penn Hills, Pa., who is in his fifties and who had been seriously ill for some time.

PG 44-578

WLC:mtl

(4)

On April 10, 1968, THOMAS A. MC QUAIDE, Chief, Identification Section, Pittsburgh Police Department, CLARENCE J. KLEIN, Chief Identification Officer, Allegheny County Detective Bureau, and Mrs. JEAN RODRIGUEZ, Receptionist, Credit Bureau, Inc., all of Pittsburgh, Pa., advised that their respective files were all negative concerning VERA LOHMEYER and P. D. LOHMEYER.

The following investigation was conducted by SA CYRIL J. LAFHEY:

On April 10, 1968, Mr. and Mrs. JOSEPH CONSTRALE, 627 Reed Avenue, Monessen, Pa., advised that they have resided here for nine years, having purchased this property from ELMER W. LOWMEYER, who formerly resided here up until the death of his wife, about nine years ago. Mr. and Mrs. CONSTRALE said they had no idea if LOWMEYER was still living, and the last they heard he had moved outwest and left no forwarding address.

On April 10, 1968, Chief of Police MICHAEL KUVINKA, Monessen Police Department, Monessen, Pa., advised that a review of the Police Department records disclosed no information identifiable with ELMER W. LOWMEYER.

On April 10, 1968, Mr. JACK T. BECK, JR., Postmaster, U. S. Post Office, Monessen, Pa., advised that he is a life-long resident of the community and was personally acquainted with Mr. ELMER W. LOWMEYER, inasmuch as LOWMEYER was formerly employed in the personnel office at the Pittsburgh Steel Corporation, Monessen, and gave him, BECK, his first job with the Pittsburgh Steel Corporation many years ago.

Mr. BECK said that Mr. and Mrs. ELMER W. LOWMEYER are both deceased, and the LOWMEYER's only had one child, a daughter, JANE LOWMEYER, who married the Reverend ROBERT MOFFETT, both of whom are presently residing somewhere in the state of Ohio, exact place unrecalled.

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(5)

Mr. BECK said that there are no other LOWMEYERS in the Monessen, Pa., area, to the best of his knowledge, and from records at hand.

The following investigation was conducted by SA RUSSELL M. GWYNNE:

Pursuant to investigation requested of the Pittsburgh Office in instant matter, ESTHER LOMIRE, 720 Wood Street, Pittsburgh, Pa., 15221, advised that she was approximately 68 years of age and that she has never been married. Miss LOMIRE stated that she has one brother, HOWARD, who resides in Altoona, Pa., and is 71 years of age. Miss LOMIRE stated that her brother, HOWARD, although married, has had no children.

ESTHER LOMIRE stated she knew no one by the name of HARVEY LOMIRE, nor did she know of any HARVEY LOHMEYER.

The following investigation was conducted by SA THOMAS J. DOODY:

On April 10, 1968, KATHERINE M. LOHMEYER, 245 Melwood, advised that she is single and lives by herself. She stated that she does not know any HARVEY LOHMEYER. She states that she has lived at this address in the Oakland area for the last 15 or 20 years and she was previously employed as an office secretary for Hagen Corporation, Pittsburgh. From personal observation it appeared she was at least 65 years of age.

On April 10, 1968, SUSAN LOHMEYER, 5176 Margaret Morrison Street, Pittsburgh, advised she is a student at Carnegie-Mellon Institute and that she has no relatives living in the Pittsburgh area nor does she know any LOHMEYERS living in the Pittsburgh area. She stated her father's name is PAUL LOHMEYER and that the family lives in Brookview, N.Y., and that her family is in the advertising business for the American Can Company.

She stated she does not know any HARVEY LOHMEYER.

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(6)

The following investigation was conducted by SA NILE
A. DUKE:

On April 11, 1968, Mrs. PATRICIA SHERIFF, 1610 Williamsburg Place, Churchill, Pa., stated that she has resided at this address for the past five years and during this time the occupants of 1606 Williamsburg Place have been the ROBERT RUFFINGS. She added that the name PAUL LOHMEYER is unfamiliar to her.

On April 11, 1968, A. L. SHANE, 1617 Williamsburg Place, Churchill, Pa., stated that he knew PAUL LOHMEYER, but that LOHMEYER had moved to Cleveland, Ohio, approximately 6 to 7 years ago to work at the Carling Brewing Company. SHANE described PAUL LOHMEYER as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	6'4"
Weight	200 lbs.
Age	Approximately 40-50

The following investigation was conducted by SA
KENT C. DIXON:

On April 10, 1968, a review of Pittsburgh file 91-2200, Serial 2350, page 182, determined that CARLTON ROBERT LOHMEYER of the Phoenix Mutual Insurance Company, Law and Finance Building, Executive Suite 1503, Pittsburgh, does not comply with the description of suspect in above captioned case. LOHMEYER described in above file as white male, age 56, 5'5" tall, 135 pounds, small build, completely bald except for rim of hair around lower portion of head.

On April 10, 1968, Mr. CHARLES EDWARD LOHMEYER of 105 Washington, Forest Hills, Pittsburgh 21, Pa., was contacted and it was determined that his date of birth was [redacted] place of birth - Pittsburgh. By observation, Mr. LOHMEYER could not be identical with suspect in above captioned case. Mr. LOHMEYER advised that he was employed at the Fruit Growers Express Co., Pittsburgh, and advised that he has no children.

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(7)

The following investigation was conducted by SA
CALVIN D. KNOTT:

The following information was obtained from Bureau
of Public Debt, Parkersburg, W. Va.:

Alphabetical search on computer for E. S. GALT
negative; for E. S. GAULT approximately 100. Check for H.
LOYMEYER and H. LOWMYER negative. Check for J. WILLARD
revealed approximately 1000. Computer gives only bond number,
date of purchase and four letters pertaining to city where
bonds purchased. No bonds purchased by E. S. GAULT in
Atlanta or Birmingham. In order to get more detailed infor-
mation film index must be searched from which copies of
bonds can be obtained.

Agency presently searching name E. S. GAULT and
search will be completed AM of April 19, 1968.

In order to search film index on J. WILLARD,
agency will have to obtain clearance from their Washington
headquarters since it would take 20 employees all day,
and if done on piece-meal basis one week.

The following investigation was conducted by SA
GEORGE A. PATTERSON:

Investigation regarding the possible identity
of HARVEY LOWMEYER was negative.

On April 10, 1968, Mr. NEIL HUTCHISON, Special
Agent, Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad, Ronceverte, W. Va.,
advised that ROBERT E. LOMER, 424 Pocahontas Avenue,
Ronceverte, W. Va., is a Ticket Agent for the C & O
Railroad and he works out of the Railroad Office in White
Sulphur Springs, W. Va., but he has been in ill health for
the past two years, and for the past two months, he has
been suffering with emphysema so badly that he has been
unable to work. He said that Mr. LOMER is approximately
55 years of age; is short and very slender, and is very
"sickly-looking." Mr. HUTCHISON added he is confident
that Mr. LOMER has not been away from Ronceverte within

14

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(8)

the past three weeks.

In view of this information, no further investigation was conducted regarding ROBERT LOMER.

The following investigation was conducted by SA RONALD WETHERINGTON and SA KENT C. DIXON on April 10, 1968:

Mrs. WILLIAM J. LOHMEYER, 720 South Negley Avenue, Pittsburgh, advised that she is the mother of WILLIAM JOSEPH LOHMEYER, JR., who resides at 4761 Doyle Road, Pittsburgh, telephone 882-4866. Mrs. LOHMEYER stated her son is a white male, age 48, 6'4", 250 pounds, and has dark hair. She said his wife's name is MARY ALICE LOHMEYER and they have three teenage children.

Mrs. IRENE WILLARD, 1029 Parkview Avenue, New Kensington, Pa., telephone ED 5-6792, advised she is the wife of JOHN RODERICK WILLARD and said her husband is 64 years of age. He resides with her at this address and is a retired employee of the Alcoa Aluminum Company.

Mrs. WILLARD stated that she has two sons, namely, JACK P. WILLARD who resides at 1028 Woodberry Road, New Kensington, Pa., and GEORGE RODERICK WILLARD who resides at 42 Springfield Avenue, Crandford, N.J. Mrs. WILLARD furnished the following information concerning her sons:

Name	JACK P. WILLARD
Date of Birth	
Height	6'1" to 6'2"
Hair	Blond
Complexion	Ruddy
Skin	Fair
Weight	200 lbs.
Characteristics	Wears glasses
Marital status	Married
Wife	MARIOLIN (DAVIS)

11. 15

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(9)

Employment	Alcoa Aluminum Company New Kensington, Pa. Building 442
Name	GEORGE RODERICK WILLARD
Date of Birth	[REDACTED]
Height	6'3" - 6'4"
Weight	175 lbs.
Hair	Blond
Complexion	Fair
Characteristics	Wears glasses
Employment	Union College, N.J., as college professor in Spanish
Miscellaneous	Owns older model white Mustang, registered to IRENE WILLARD

Mrs. WILLARD stated that her son, GEORGE, flew to New Kensington via Allegheny Airlines arriving on March 29, 1968, at approximately 5:30 to 6:00 PM, and left around 5:00 PM, March 21, 1968. She stated he came for a visit and was with the family the entire time. Mrs. WILLARD stated she could not personally account for her son's time on April 4, 1968, but would assume he was teaching school as this would be a working day. She stated she talked to her son, GEORGE, on the phone Sunday, April 7, 1968, and he was in New Jersey at that time. She stated that he taught classes on March 29, 1968, prior to flying to New Kensington.

Mrs. WILLARD stated that her son, JACK WILLARD, worked March 29, 1968, but was off on March 30, 1968. She continued he was either working on April 4, 1968, at his job with Alcoa Aluminum in New Kensington or was in Detroit, Mich., on business.

Mr. DAVID H. WILLIAMS, JR., Employment Manager, Alcoa Aluminum Company, New Kensington, Pa., advised that

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(10)

JACK P. WILLARD is employed there as an engineer trainee. He stated a review of his records reflect that WILLARD reported for work on March 29, 1968, and was there the entire day. He continued that WILLARD was home on March 30, 1968, and on April 4, 1968; he stated that WILLARD was at a meeting for the U. S. Army Association in Warren, Mich., for a briefing.

The following investigation was conducted by SA WILLIAM LOGAN CURTIS:

Records from the Bureau of Public Debt, Parkersburg, W. Va., reviewed and reveal that a computer check of the names E. S. GALT and H. LOWMEYER or LOWMYER were negative with regard to individuals of that name purchasing U. S. Savings Bonds. The name E. S. GAULT appears 97 times, which indicates that 97 bonds bearing the name are on record as having been purchased.

The purchasers of these 97 bonds were determined to be the following six individuals:

1. Mrs. ELOISE S. GAULT
6478 Tourraine Avenue
Newark, Calif., former
address 24806 Broadmore
Ave., Hayward, Calif.
2. EDWARD S. GAULT
9141 Grant Park Drive
Affton, Missouri
3. EDWARD S. GAULT
4 West Maryland Avenue
Rockville, Maryland
4. Dr. EDWIN SARTAIN GAULT
11 North Kirklyn Avenue
Upper Darby, Pa.

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(11)

5. EDGAR S. GAULT
932 Beach Avenue
LaGrange Park, Ill.
6. Miss ELIZABETH SARA GAULT
972 East Square Lake Road
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

The name J. WILLARD was also searched and approximately 1000 savings bonds had been purchased by individuals with that name.

The following investigation was conducted by SA JOHN S. HUGHES; on May 3, 1968:

Investigation at Cresson, Pa., disclosed that CLIFFORD A. LOMIRE, 100 Beach Street, and WILLIAM D. LOMIRE, 201 Summers Street, are both employed by the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Investigation at Gallitzin, Pa., disclosed that ROBERT LOMIRE of 504 Foster Street, is also employed by the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Sergeant RICHARD ENGLISH, Pennsylvania Railroad Police, Cresson, Pa., advised that a search to be made of the records of the railroad disclosed that all of the LOMIREs were working during the pertinent period. ENGLISH further stated that he is acquainted with them and that they are all related; that they are people of excellent character and reputation.

The following investigation was conducted by SA EARL E. GALLOWAY:

On May 2, 1968, Mrs. HERMAN ESTRIGHT, Coalport, Pa., advised that she was acquainted with PATRICK S. LOHMEYER, who is a long-time resident of Coalport, Pa., and a retired teacher at the Coalport Junior High School. She stated that LOHMEYER and her husband were very close friends and met socially nearly every day at either their

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(12)

house or LOHMEYER's. She stated that she could not recall not seeing LOHMEYER every day for the past several months. She concluded that she did not believe LOHMEYER left the county in the past several years, if ever.

On May 2, 1968, PATRICK S. LOHMEYER, Main Street, Box 343, Coalport, Pa., advised SA EARL W. GALLOWAY that he has lived in Coalport, nearly all his life and had not been out of Clearfield County for over a year.

Visual observation disclosed LOHMEYER to be a grey-haired, balding gentleman in his late 60's or early 70's.

The following investigation was conducted by SA WILLIAM LOGAN CURTIS:

Investigation at Sewickley, Pa., on May 10 to May 12, 1968, develops one LOUIS WILLARD, JR., residing on Witherow Road. Attempts to contact negative. Credit check reflects JOHN O. WILLARD, Witherow Road, employed by W. W. NORTON and U. Company, Inc., 55 Fifth Avenue, New York, as a college traveler.

The following investigation was conducted by SA GEORGE KETCHEL ADAMS:

On April 8, 1968, a review of the Charleston, W. Va., City Directory and the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Directory for Charleston, W. Va., and the surrounding area was negative for any information concerning any individual named HARVEY LOWMEYER or HARVEY LOWMYER.

On April 9, 1968, the following individuals were contacted with negative results for information concerning an individual named HARVEY LOWMEYER or HARVEY LOWMYER:

Mrs. PATRICIA BURNEY
West Virginia State Department
of Motor Vehicles
Drivers License Division
Charleston, W. Va.

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(13)

WILLIAM COLLINS,
West Virginia State Department
of Motor Vehicles, Titles and
Registration Division
Charleston, W. Va.

Mrs. INEZ CHINN
Kanawha County Voter Registration
Charleston, W. Va.

LORETTA COOK
Charleston Retail Credit Bureau
Charleston, W. Va.

Captain GEORGE NUNLEY
Police Department
Charleston, W. Va.

SANDRA TAPLEY
Criminal Identification Bureau
West Virginia State Police
Charleston, W. Va.

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(1)

LOOK ALIKES

ROBERT GRECO, 412 Countyview Court, Pittsburgh, advised April 7, 1968, that an unknown individual who resembles composite photograph of subject formerly patronized Moby Dick Lounge, Dearborn, Mich., when owned by his brother, NICK GRECO, 17048 Cambridge Allen Park, Mich., telephone 274-1676.

Suspect voiced strong dislike for KING and was once overheard to say KING would not live a year if he had to take care of him himself and that it would be quick as he would use a rifle.

Suspect associated with employees of a sign company near Moby Dick Lounge and is believed by GRECO to have some type of job connected with interstate trucking.

GRECO believes his brother can fully identify suspect.

Following information received by SAC IAN D. MacLENNAN:

At 5:00 PM, April 10, 1968, Captain NELSON PADEN, Huntington, W. Va., Police Department, telephonically advised that a reliable Negro male informant of his, a taxi driver, had just taken a man to the Huntington Airport, where he boarded flight 702 of Eastern Airlines leaving Huntington 4:30 PM, with stops at Charleston, Washington, D. C., and Allentown-Scranton.

Captain PADEN stated his informant had that day read in the Huntington newspapers a description of the man known as JOHN WILLARD and he believed that his passenger fit this description.

The following is a description furnished to Captain PADEN by his informant, of the man he picked up near the Job-Corps Center in Huntington and took to the airport:

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(2)

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	36 years
Height	5'7" to 8" (Captain PADEN realized that the news item described him as much taller, but pointed out that his informant is quite short and for this reason still felt he should report this)
Weight	180 pounds
Build	Stocky
Hair	Sandy, brownish - combed back receding forehead
Attire	Blue suit, tan trench coat with checkered lining
Peculiarities	Large, prominent nose

The following investigation was conducted by SA
CYRIL J. LAFFEY:

On April 6, 1968, Mr. ANGELO PIETROPAOLI, owner and operator, Motel Americanna, Route 30 East, Greensburg, Pa., telephonically contacted SA LAFFEY about 11:00 PM and advised that he has previously observed a sketch in the Saturday issue of the Pittsburgh Press on that date of the suspect killer of Rev. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., and a person similar to the sketch and of similar physical descriptive data, contained in the newspaper article was presently at the motel bar. Mr. PIETROPAOLI said that this individual telephoned from the bar for a motel room reservation, however, the motel was filled at that time, and there were no rooms available.

Mr. PIETROPAOLI said the individual was driving a light green Cadillac convertible with a white top, bearing Florida license plate 7WW6469.

On April 6, 1968, SA LAFFEY went to the Americanna Motel, and found a 1962 Cadillac convertible, light green body with white top, bearing Florida license 7WW6460, parked just outside the cocktail lounge.

PG 44-578

WLC:mtl

(3)

SA LAFHEY contacted Mr. DONALD WOODROW YOUNG, owner of the aforementioned Cadillac, who exhibited Florida registration certificate and Certificate of Title to the aforementioned 1962 Cadillac convertible, VIN 62F020055, Florida license 7WW6460. Mr. YOUNG further identified himself as the owner and operator of Don Young's Used Cars, 6135 East Colonial Drive, Orlando, Fla., and said that he was currently on a buying trip to Baltimore, Md., and had taken a side trip, "to visit a lady friend." Mr. YOUNG volunteered that he was not supposed to be in the Pittsburgh area, inasmuch as he is a married man, and he hoped his visit here would not cause him any embarrassment with his wife, who is presently in Florida.

SA LAFHEY determined from personal observations and identifying data that YOUNG was born [redacted] Baltimore, Md., had Florida Operator's License [redacted] and was described as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	52
Height	5'11 1/2"
Eyes	Hazel
Weight	180 lbs.
Hair	Brown (bald with only fringe benefits)
Occupation	Salesman
Residence	1703 Marcia Drive Orlando, Fla.

YOUNG was dressed very neatly, and had a very fine neat well groomed mustache. It was further observed that YOUNG was well tanned, and looked much older than his age. YOUNG did not appear to be anything similar to the sketch in the October 6, 1968, issue of the Pittsburgh Press, which sketch was on the front page.

The following persons, employed at the Holiday Inn, Pittsburgh, Pa., were contacted on April 17, 1968:

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(4)

The following investigation was conducted by SA
ROBERT D. WARDEN:

The following persons, employed at the Holiday Inn, Princeton, W. Va., were contacted on April 17, 1968, and shown the photograph of the suspect. All advised that he looked familiar, but could not definitely state whether he had been at the Inn or not.

Records of the Inn were checked from April 1 to 17, 1968, under the name GALT, with negative results:

Mrs. BETTY PETTREY, Cashier
Mr. JOHN DESSINGER, Desk Clerk
Mrs. GEORGIA WATSON, Desk Clerk
Mrs. VIRGINIA KEESEE, Cashier
Mr. M. W. BAXLEY, Innkeeper

MICHAEL ALLON, a partner in Treasure Island store, advised that on Monday, May 13, 1968, he stopped at a bar, name unknown, on Craig Street, near Forbes (a bowling alley nearby) and observed an individual who strongly resembles photo of ERIC STARVO GALT as displayed on TV. Suspect was with an older man, wore a black ski-type jacket, had a nervous twitch in eye and a pronounced ski slanted nose. ALLON stated the bartender knows identity of suspect.

The following investigation was conducted by SA
WILLIAM LOGAN CURTIS:

On April 22, 1968, at approximately 12:30 PM, HERB SMITH, part-owner, Auto City Sales, 4825 Baum Boulevard, telephonically advised that an individual resembling the photographs of JAMES EARL RAY had been in his used-car lot attempting to trade a 1968 Ford coupe bearing Pennsylvania license OM6596. It was determined that the above license was issued to LLOYD W. WRIGHT, 2353 Ingomar Road, Pittsburgh. WRIGHT was supposed to return to the auto agency and, in fact, did return at approximately 3:00 PM. It was determined that he was not identical to JAMES EARL RAY at that time.

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(5)

On April 22, 1968, GEORGE BARNES, Owner, Craig Street Inn, 413 South Craig Street, JACK MALONE and AL VENTO, bartenders at the Craig Street Inn, were exhibited photographs of RAY. They all advised that they had never seen anyone resembling RAY in the bar. A copy of the wanted flier was left with BARNES, who stated he would immediately contact the FBI should anyone fitting that description enter.

The following investigation was conducted by
SA EUGENE C. JONES:

Inquiry at Lake Central Airlines, Clarksburg, W. Va., reflects no available records to verify arrival of CHARLES MOATS on Flight 534, April 18, 1968.

By description only, person appearing to be identical with MOATS, took taxi from airport to Clarksburg Bus Terminal on April 18, 1968, after arrival of Flight 534. This person made inquiry concerning Avis car rental but refused to rent car when \$200.00 deposit requested. This person indicated it would be cheaper to buy a car and was given directions to local Ford dealer. Contacts at bus terminal, hotels and motels, local police, train depot, Lake Central Airlines, and local Ford agency failed to locate MOATS. One CHARLES MOATS of Rowlesburg, W. Va., checked out this date and could not be identical with this person, based on description.

CHARLES WILLIAM MOATS, JR., located April 22, 1968, at Dixie Hotel, Weston, W. Va. He supplied sufficient information to identify him as person previously mentioned. MOATS employed on an ore boat "Middleton" out of Toledo, Ohio, March 11 through April 18, 1968. From description and identification in his possession, MOATS determined as not identical with subject in this case.

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(6)

The following investigation was conducted by SA
LINNEY L. CONNOLLY, JR.:

The following persons were contacted on April 21,
1968, and unsuccessful efforts to identify or locate
CHARLIE MOATS:

At Phillipi, W. Va.

1. Sergeant D. L. TALBOTT
West Virginia State Police
2. Trooper T. W. RECTOR
West Virginia State Police
3. Patrolman EARL PITZER
Phillipi Police Department
4. JOHN STEMPLE, Manager
Stemple-Foreman Funeral Home
5. JAMES LYNN MOATS
317 Columbia Avenue
6. HUBERT MOATS
Mansfield Addition
7. DENNIS POOLE
Mansfield Addition

At Moatsville, W. Va.

1. Mrs. D. C. KINES
Assistant Postmaster
2. DONALD SEMMELMAN
Barbour County Deputy Sheriff

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(7)

3. Mrs. WILLIS (ELLEN) MOATS
4. Mrs. CARL (PAULINE SHEETS) MOATS

The following investigation was conducted by SAs EUGENE C. JONES and R. STEPHEN THOMPSON in order to locate and identify CHARLES MOATS. The following is to reflect only the persons who were contacted on April 20, 1968:

EDWARD GRAY, Lake Central Airlines
Bridgeport, W. Va.

CARROLL RAY, Lake Central Airlines
Bridgeport, W. Va.

COLIN LEASE, Lake Central Airlines
Bridgeport, W. Va.

RICHARD WEAVER, Lake Central Airlines
Bridgeport, W. Va.

KENNETH HENLINE, White Top Taxi
Driver and Hertz Rental Car Agent
Clarksburg, W. Va.

WILLIAM WILSON, President, Wilson
Motor Company, Clarksburg, W. Va.

Mrs. FRANK ZELLER, Vice President
Odelson Motor Company
Bridgeport, W. Va.

VIRGINIA HODGES, Secretary
Odelson Motor Company
Clarksburg, W. Va.

ROBERT CROSS, Manager
Avis Rent-A-Car Agency
Clarksburg, W. Va.

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(8)

SAs JONES and THOMPSON located one CHARLES MOATS, Rollesburg, W. Va., who was identified as being 22 years of age and did not in any way fit the description. An interview of MOATS and his parents indicated that he had never been outside of the State of West Virginia.

The following investigation in this case was conducted by SA JONES on April 21, 1968. These are the persons contacted with negative results in connection with locating the correct CHARLES MOATS:

Detective Sergeant GAYLORD LANHAM
Police Department
Clarksburg, W. Va.

Corporal BILL OSBORN
West Virginia State Police
Shinnston, W. Va.

Deputy Sheriff MATT MINARD
Harrison County Sheriff's Office
Clarksburg, W. Va.

SAM SELARIO, Owner
Terrace Motel
Clarksburg, W. Va.

Mrs. PAUL HALL, Owner,
Colonial Motel
Clarksburg, W. Va.

JAMES CUTRIGHT, Desk Clerk
Evans Hotel
Clarksburg, W. Va.

O. G. HARRIS, Manager
Goff Hotel
Clarksburg, W. Va.

Miss LOU WIMER, Desk Clerk
Stonewall Jackson Hotel
Clarksburg, W. Va.

PG 44-578

WLC:mtl

(9)

D. BRUCE HANKEY, Ticket Agent
Clarksburg Bus Terminal

GLENN A. KIMBLE, Ticket Agent
Clarksburg Bus Terminal

JAMES COMER, Ticket Agent
B & O Railroad, Clarksburg, W. Va.

On April 22, 1968, SA JONES conducted the following investigation in Clarksburg, W. Va., and was assisted in investigation in Buckhannon, W. Va., and Weston, W. Va., by SA LINNEY L. CONNOLLY, JR.:

The following persons were contacted:

DON KITTLE, Used Car Manager
Wilson Motor Company
Clarksburg, W. Va.

CHARLES GREEN, Ford Rental Service
Wilson Motor Company
Clarksburg, W. Va.

RICHARD MC DONALD, Driver
United Taxi Company
Clarksburg, W. Va.

Sergeant ROBERT GOOTS,
Police Department
Clarksburg, W. Va.

WANDA RICHARDSON, Dispatcher
White Top Taxi Company
Clarksburg, W. Va.

Mrs. BETTY FITTRO, Credit Bureau
Clarksburg, W. Va.

DAVID WRIGHT, Manager
Commercial Credit Corporation
Clarksburg, W. Va.

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(10)

JEERY ALLEN COCHRAN, Owner
Cochran Motor Company
Buckhannon, W. Va.

Mrs. MABEL WILLIAMS
Weston, W. Va.

CHARLES MOATS was located at the Dixie Hotel Weston, W. Va., and through interview and observation, it was determined that he was not identical with the subject in this case. He did provide information, however, establishing that he is the person who was referred to previously and that he did depart from Cleveland, Ohio, on April 18, 1968, via Northwest Airlines, to Washington, D. C., and then to Clarksburg, W. Va., by Lake Central Airlines, arriving at 3:12 PM on April 18, 1968. He took a White Top Taxicab from the airport to the Clarksburg Bus Terminal, and thereafter, boarded a Greyhound Bus on the same evening arriving in Weston, W. Va. He advised that he had been staying at the Dixie Hotel, however, on this date, April 22, 1968, he had been in Buckhannon, W. Va., visiting a friend and attempting to buy an automobile. He had just returned to Weston, and was visiting with his girlfriend who is the daughter of MABEL WILLIAMS. MOATS made available identification indicating that he was born on [redacted] at Braxton County, W. Va., and that from March 11, 1968, to April 18, 1968, he had been employed as an oiler on the ore boat "Middletown" owned by the Columbia Transportation Company, Cleveland, and he stated that during this period of time he was on board this boat making runs in the Great Lakes vicinity. He also furnished a U. S. Coast Guard pass reflecting that his name is CHARLES WILLIAM MOATS, JR., which also carried his photograph. MOATS advised that he had served a hitch in the U. S. Navy and had received an honorable discharge in June, 1966. The following descriptive information was obtained from MOATS or from observation:

PG 44-578
WLC:mt1
(11)

Name	CHARLES WILLIAM MOATS, JR.
Sex	Male
Race	Caucasian
Born	[redacted] Braxton County, W. Va.
Height	6'1"
Weight	180 pounds
Hair	Dark brown
Eyes	Gray
Build	Slender
Scars and marks	Two parallel 3" scars slanting across forehead to the right; one inch above the eye; tattoos - a rose with "Mom and Dad" on left upper arm; Eagle on right upper arm.
Marital Status	Single
Military Service	U.S. Navy (honorable discharge, June, 1966), Navy Serial No. [redacted]
Social Security No.	[redacted]
Merchant Marine No.	Z1230528
Relatives	Parents - Father - CHARLES WILLIAM MOATS, SR., Box 28, Heaters, W. Va.; Mother - MAUD ELIZABETH GIBSON MOATS, same address

MOATS carried a current Ohio Driver's license
[redacted], issued February, 1968, showing his address as
19654 Drake Road, Strongsville, Ohio, which he states
is the address of a friend, CHARLES ROBINSON.

The following investigation was conducted by
SA WILLIAM LOGAN CURTIS and SA NILE A. DUKE, JR.:

On April 22, 1968, CONRAD WITALIS, Vice President
in charge of Electro Air Corp., McKees Rocks, Pa., advised
that JOE S. RAGAN, JR., hired by that company March 27,
1967. RAGAN is employed as Sales Representative for States
of Florida, Alabama, and Georgia. He resides at 6048

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(12)

Driftwood Trail, Mapleton, Ga.

RAGAN described as white male, 5'7", 150 lbs., brown hair.

Photographs viewed by WITALIS who stated not similar to RAGAN.

Mr. VERLE HARPER, Grandview Avenue, Elkins, W. Va., telephonically contacted SA LINNEY L. CONNOLLY, JR., on the evening of April 22, 1968, and advised that an individual had very recently contacted HUGH CURRENCE, real estate dealer, at Elkins, relative to purchasing property and that the individual bore a strong resemblance to the photograph of ERIC STARVO GAULT that has been prominently displayed in leading newspapers.

Mr. HUGH CURRENCE, Manager, Randolph Real Estate Agency, 216 Randolph Avenue, provided the following information on April 23, 1968:

He was contacted at his office by a man named JOHN JOSEPH O'HANLON on or about April 18, 1968, relative to property located at 100 Central Street, that has been put up for sale. Mr. CURRENCE advised that O'HANLON bears a facial resemblance to newspaper photographs of ERIC STARVO GAULT, but that he appears to be considerably older than GAULT. He said that O'HANLON was seeking a temporary place to stay as well as permanent real estate, and he, CURRENCE, made arrangements for O'HANLON to stay at the residence of his father on Grandview Avenue at Elkins.

It later developed that O'HANLON's speech and talk would sometimes be irrational and disconnected, and his father became uneasy in O'HANLON's presence. HUGH CURRENCE informed O'HANLON that he would have to find another place to live and O'HANLON departed his father's residence on the evening of April 22, 1968.

PG 44-578

WLC:mtl

(13)

Mr. CURRENCE described O'HANLON as a white male, approximately 40-50 years of age, 5'7", 165-170 lbs., stocky build.

JOHN E. BUSCH, JR., Attorney, Hippedrome Building, Elkins, W. Va., advised on April 23, 1968, that he is an attorney for HUGH CURRENCE and he telephonically contacted the Veterans Administration Hospital at Huntington, W. Va., in behalf of CURRENCE relative to JOHN JOSEPH O'HANLON. He spoke to a Mr. HAMBLIN and was informed that O'HANLON was refused a loan in August or September, 1967, on grounds that he was "medically incompetent." Mr. BUSCH said he was referred to the Regional Veterans Administration Hospital in New York City for further information. BUSCH said he observed O'HANLON in CURRENCE's office and that O'HANLON does bear a facial resemblance to GAULT. He said, however, that O'HANLON appears to be considerably older than GAULT.

Mrs. BONNIE MARSTILLER, Secretary, Cromwell Insurance Agency, Fifth Avenue, Elkins, provided the following information on April 23, 1968:

JOHN JOSEPH O'HANLON has been in contact with DORSEY FREY, real estate agent, concerning the purchase of property in Elkins, W. Va. Mr. FREY is presently out of town. Mrs. MARSTILLER is completely familiar with the O'HANLON case and has talked to him on several occasions.

She advised that O'HANLON does bear a facial resemblance to newspaper photographs of ERIC GAULT, but that she does not believe them to be one and the same individual. O'HANLON left with her office some personal papers showing a relationship with the Veterans Administration and she displayed a letter from the Regional Office, VA Hospital, 252 Seventh Avenue, New York, N.Y., dated March 4, 1967, addressed to JOHN J. O'HANLON, 939 Onderdonk Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y., VAC # [REDACTED], which letter stated that O'HANLON was being awarded \$240 monthly beginning October 1, 1966. The letter also referred to previous payments to his account which had been discontinued.

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(14)

Mrs. MARSTILLER stated that O'HANLON had been in her office the last year in an effort to buy real estate and her office subsequently received a post card from him postmarked Miami, Fla., October 25, 1967, showing his return address as C/O R. MC GRAW, JR., M. D., 1803 Granada Boulevard, Coral Gables, Fla.

As SA CONNOLLY was preparing to leave Mrs. MARSTILLER's office, Mrs. MARSTILLER identified a man who was walking past the office as JOHN JOSEPH O'HANLON. O'HANLON was observed to go to the General Delivery window in the Elkins Post Office, where he apparently inquired as to mail. Close observation of O'HANLON at this time reflected him to be a white male, age approximately 50-55 years, height about 5'7", weight approximately 190 lbs., gray eyes, black hair, streaked with gray, paunchy build.

This observation of O'HANLON, as well as information provided by BONNIE MARSTILLER, reflects that he is not identical with ERIC STARVO GAULT.

The following investigation was conducted by SA WILLIAM LOGAN CURTIS:

On April 26, 1968, HENRY BREWER, JR., 627 College Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa., came to the Pittsburgh FBI Office, and advised that at approximately 9:35 AM, he observed an individual who resembled JAMES EARL RAY leaving Emil's Restaurant on Liberty Avenue. He advised that he had known RAY when RAY was in Leavenworth Penitentiary and was fairly certain the individual he saw was RAY. He admitted that he was presently taking psychiatric treatments in Pittsburgh.

BREWER, SA CURTIS, Assistant Special Agent in Charge THOMAS H. FARROW, and SAs RUSSELL M. GWYNNE and NILE A. DUKE, JR., went to Emil's Restaurant; however, the bartender, JOSEPH HOLLYCK, was unable to identify a photograph of RAY as having been in the restaurant approximately 30 minutes prior. The Greyhound Bus Station, Pennsylvania Railroad Station, Jerry's Bar, and the Roma Hotel, all located near Emil's Restaurant, were checked with negative results.

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(15)

The following investigation was conducted by Supervisor FRANK E. ALLISON:

At 7:05 PM, one FNU PELFREY telephonically contacted the writer from Huntington, W. Va., and advised that he had seen the individual being sought by the FBI in connection with the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING. He stated he had seen this person's picture on TV for the past two weeks and that he observed him in Easy Bill's Tavern, 14th Street West, Huntington, W. Va., approximately 20 minutes prior to calling. PELFREY was reluctant to furnish information as to where he could be located, but agreed to meet with an agent. He stated he would recontact the FBI Office in 30 minutes in order to learn where he could meet an FBI Agent. PELFREY advised that he had never seen this particular individual before and that he looked the same as the pictures shown on TV except that he now had a black beard.

It was determined that all agents assigned to the Huntington Resident Agency were in Williamson, W. Va. Officer DON BOLLING of the Huntington Police Department was contacted and advised that there is a "BOOTS" PELFREY in Huntington, who is a trouble maker and loudmouth and he stated that since there may be some basis for PELFREY's call, he would send a car to the area of Easy Bill's Tavern in an effort to observe anyone resembling the fugitive RAY.

At 7:25 PM, SA CARROLL telephonically contacted the writer from the Huntington Resident Agency and advised that he had just received a call from PELFREY at the Huntington Resident Agency. CARROLL was requested to contact Officer BOLLING of the Police Department and attempt to resolve the matter.

The following investigation was conducted by SA ROBERT J. CARROLL:

On April 30, 1968, at approximately 7:00 PM, an individual who identified himself as JAMES PELFREY,

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(16)

517 Evans Street, Huntington, W. Va., telephonically advised he had just seen a man resembling JAMES EARL RAY at the Old Town Tavern on 14th Street West, Huntington, W. Va. PELFREY stated the man was at least 6'4" in height and had a heavy beard. He could furnish no other descriptive data. He sated he would wait at Lewis' Grocery, 14th Street West, Huntington, W. Va., to be interviewed. It is noted PELFREY was difficult to understand and sounded inebriated. He also stated he had already alerted other FBI agents to the man's location. He was unable to advise who the other agents were or their location.

Telephonic contact with the Pittsburgh Office revealed that a man identifying himself as PELFREY had called a short time previously with essentially the same information except that he claimed the man resembling RAY was at Easy Bill's Tavern.

Desk Sergeant DON BOLLING, Huntington Police Department, was immediately contacted regarding the above. He stated JAMES PELFREY is a habitual drunkard and trouble-maker in the community. He also stated PELFREY has never furnished reliable information to the police, but is more inclined to deliberately mislead officers in investigations. He also advised the locations described by PELFREY are the worst areas of town. He stated he would immediately dispatch two detectives to the location and attempt to locate the individual described by PELFREY and also interview PELFREY if he could be located. He stated his department had an ample supply of wanted posters concerning JAMES EARL RAY and he would instruct the detectives to distribute these during their investigation.

Later in the same evening, Desk Sergeant BOLLING advised the detectives had finished their inquiries on 14th Street West concerning RAY and had determined no one matching RAY's description had been in the area. He also stated the detectives were unable to locate PELFREY for interview. He advised there was some indication the incident was a deliberate hoax.

PG 44-578
WLC:mtl
(17)

The following investigation was conducted at McMurray, Pa., by SA J. EDWARD MADVAY, on April 26, 1968:

Mrs. WILLIAM E. GIBSON, 139 Lakeview Drive, McMurray, advised that her daughter, JACQUELINE GIBSON, is employed as an elementary school teacher at the Elm Grove School in McMurray, Peters Township, Pa.

JACQUELINE GIBSON, located at the Elm Grove School, advised that she had read accounts of the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING in the local press and had observed the artist conception sketch which appeared in the press. After looking at this sketch she concluded that it resembled very strongly a former school teacher of hers named JOHN MERRYMAN. She advised that teacher MERRYMAN taught her Problems in Democracy when she was a high school student and she recalled that he, when he left the Peters Township area, maybe now teaching in the Pittsburgh area in either Pitt or Carnegie Institute of Technology. Miss GIBSON was shown the photographs of ERIC STARVO GALT with his eyes closed and with his eyes drawn in by an FBI artist, and she advised that this photograph did not in any way resemble the JOHN MERRYMAN she mentioned. She described JOHN MERRYMAN as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	About 29
Height and weight	Unknown
Build	Thin
Employment	As a teacher at either Pitt or Carnegie Institute of Technology, Pittsburgh.

She stated definitely that the actual photograph of GALT did not in any way resemble MERRYMAN and had originally contacted the FBI because of her original thought of the similarity between the artist's sketch and MERRYMAN.

At about 10:15 PM, May 2, 1968, Mr. CALVIN PLYER, Barton, W. Va., telephonically advised SA GEORGE A. PATTERSON that on April 22, 1968, two white males in a