

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription June 3, 1977

1

JAMES P. DALTON, Field Investigator, Alabama Department of Pensions and Securities, telephone number 832-5953, voluntarily appeared at the Montgomery Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and advised as follows:

He had been employed as an investigatory reporter by Station WAAY-TV, Huntsville, Alabama, from June, 1970 to November, 1971. At that time his name was JAMES DALTON CULPEPPER, but he had his name legally changed during 1975 to the one currently being used. He was also employed as an investigatory reporter by Station WKAB-TV, Montgomery, Alabama, from July, 1974 until July, 1975.

During his employment with WAAY-TV, Huntsville, he developed information which later led him to believe was the possible motive behind the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. at Memphis, Tennessee during 1968. He had no personal knowledge concerning this matter, and it was strictly conjecture on his part, but he wanted to furnish it to the appropriate authorities for consideration and possible investigation if deemed necessary.

During 1971, the sanitation workers of the city of Huntsville became involved in a strike to obtain an hourly wage increase. Approximately two days after the strike started, JOE DAVIS, Mayor of Huntsville, negotiated contract with American Disposal, Inc., a local company headed by GEORGE MC WHIRTER, to handle the garbage pickup and disposal on a temporary basis in Huntsville during the period of the strike. MC WHIRTER was reported to have been formerly connected with McWhirter Materials Handling, Inc., Atlanta, Georgia, and this company had merged with another company located in Dallas or Houston, Texas, which was also in the garbage disposal business.

The strike at Huntsville lasted about three months with numerous acts of violence committed during the period by

Interviewed on 5/31/77 at MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA File # MO 157-2627

by SA DAN O. STEPHENS, dds Date dictated 6/1/77

2

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individuals sympathetic with or opposed to the strike. Information was developed by DALTON indicating the strike was prolonged at the instigation of MC WHIRTER with the knowledge of Mayor DAVIS, in order to maintain the lucrative contract with the city, and that some of the acts of violence and vandalism were actually encouraged by MC WHIRTER as a means of prolonging the strike. Information was also developed indicating that Mayor DAVIS had possibly received a pay-off from MC WHIRTER and his associates for the contract. Due to MC WHIRTER's out-of-State connections, it was believed by DALTON that he possibly had some involvement with organized crime.

DALTON was unable to expose his findings because his employer feared some type of repercussion might result and is reporting all this information was suppressed.

He was unable to develop any positive information concerning MC WHIRTER's possible connection with any known organized crime figures.

Since a similar situation existed in Memphis, Tennessee during 1968, which resulted in the appearance of Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. there on behalf of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference to promote non-violence and effect a peaceful settlement of the strike, thus winning increased support of the black sanitation workers, the possibility existed that he was killed for or by individuals supporting some private concern that was handling the city garbage disposal at the time, or attempting to obtain a private contract for this service, and would therefore benefit from a prolonged violence ridden strike.

DALTON had no information of a specific nature concerning this matter. He did not know if any private garbage removal firm was handling the garbage pickup in Memphis during the strike, nor did he know of any concern which was attempting to negotiate with the city of Memphis for this business. He had developed no information indicating that MC WHIRTER or any of his associates were operating in Memphis during this period, and he could furnish no other information which would support his theory in this regard.

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He displayed an article, however, which he claimed appeared in the "National Inquirer", dated May 31, 1977, which reported that WILLIAM SOMMERSETT, Miami, Florida Union organizer, had claimed that he had overheard a conversation between unidentified members of the Sanitation Workers Union and the Longshoremens Union in Washington, D. C. on April 1, 1968, wherein a statement was made by one of the individuals when discussing the labor situation in Memphis during that time, that if Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING returned to Memphis "we don't have any alternative but to kill him" because his activities in Memphis at the time were harming labor's cause. Article further stated that SOMMERSETT had reported this information to the Miami Police Department authorities and that it had been referred by that agency to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Article further stated that SOMMERSETT claimed he had overheard this conversation while in Washington attending a meeting of the National Labor Relations Board on April 1, 1968.

DALTON could furnish no additional information concerning this matter, nor could he furnish anymore information supporting his belief that Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING was possibly killed for individuals having an interest in prolonging the labor strike of the sanitation workers at Memphis, Tennessee during that period. He stated he had maintained a file on the information developed by him through his investigation concerning MC WHIRTER's involvement with Mayor JOE DAVIS during the strike of the sanitation workers in Huntsville, Alabama during 1971, and would make it available for further review if needed.

F B I

Date: 6/3/77

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Precedence)

To: Director, FBI (44-38861)

ATTENTION:

☒ GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION
☒ CIVIL RIGHTS SECTION
☐ CRIMINAL SECTION
☐ INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

From: SAC, ~~MOBILE (157-2627)~~ (C)

Subject: MURKIN

☒ CR ☐ EL ☐ DIH ☐ CRA-64
☐ PA ☐ PE ☐ PF ☐ E
☐ DAMV ☐ DAMV-FR ☐ CAA
☐ AP ☐ IWFC ☐ CWAA ☐ FI
☐ EID ☐ Bomb Threats ☐ Extremist Matters
☐ White Hate ☐ Black

Summary of Complaint:

JAMES P. DALTON, white male, 30 to 35 years old, voluntarily reported 5/31/77 that information developed by him as an investigatory reporter in Huntsville, Alabama during 1971, suggested MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. may have been killed because of his involvement in the labor dispute of the sanitation workers in Memphis, Tennessee during 1968. He could furnish no specific information concerning this matter, and stated it was based on his personal conjecture.

INDICES: ☒ Negative ☐ See Summary

ACTION: UACB:

☒ No further action being taken and☒ LHM enclosed☐ FD-376 (Enc. to LHM)☐ LHM being submitted☐ Report being submitted☐ Preliminary investigation instituted☐ Limited investigation instituted☐ Investigation continuing☐ Copy to: ☐ USA☐ Secret Service☐ ATF

2 - Bureau (Enc. 4)

② - Memphis
(44-1987)(Enc. 2) *rec. ppd*

1 - Mobile

DOS, ddm

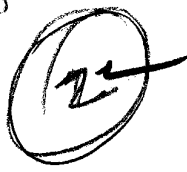
(5)

44-1987 Sub M-1129

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

5/31/77

FM BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (RUC)
TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) PRIORITY
BT
CLEAR
MURKIN

REBUCAL TO BIRMINGHAM MAY 18, 1977, REQUESTING CONTACT
WITH FORMER BH 1079-PCI, TO DETERMINE IF HE CAN BE IDENTIFIED
TO THE HOUSE ASSASSINATION COMMITTEE (HAC) AS THE SOURCE OF
INFORMATION REGARDING LIBERTO, ET AL. 

SOURCE WAS UNAVAILABLE FOR CONTACT MAY 18-30, 1977. ON
MAY 31, 1977, HE ADVISED SA PATRICK J. MOYNIHAN THAT HE CAN
BE IDENTIFIED TO THE HAC AS THE SOURCE OF THE INFORMATION HE
FURNISHED. HE FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION GRATUITOUSLY:

HE IS DISENCHANTED WITH THE HAC AND BELIEVES IT IS TOO
POLITICAL. HE HAS NOT TALKED TO THEM (MR. EDDIE EVANS) IN
ABOUT THREE WEEKS. EVANS DESIRES SOURCE TO BE IN TOUCH TELE-
PHONICALLY AT LEAST TWICE A WEEK BUT IS NEVER AVAILABLE WHEN
SOURCE PUTS HIMSELF OUT TO MAKE THESE CONTACTS.

- ① - ~~Memphis~~ (44-1987) (AM)
1 - New Orleans
1 - Birmingham
PJM:dsc
(3)

44-1987-SUM-1130

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 5 1977	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

PAGE TWO BH 44-1740

SOURCE DISAPPROVES OF ALL THE TV PUBLICITY THE HAC RECEIVED IN BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA, AND MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, A FEW WEEKS AGO, AND AGAIN BELIEVES THEY ARE "TOO POLITICAL."

THROUGH THE HAC, HE HAS MET MARK LANE. SOURCE HAS NO USE FOR LANE AND ARGUED WITH HIM ON THE OCCASION WHEN THEY MET.

SOURCE HAS CONDUCTED INVESTIGATION HIMSELF IN MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, RECENTLY. JAMES EARL RAY LEFT BIRMINGHAM MARCH 30, 1968, AND WENT DIRECTLY TO MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, ON MARCH 30, 1968. HE STAYED AT MRS. DEATON'S ROOMING HOUSE ON PEABODY STREET IN MEMPHIS, AND SOURCE INTERVIEWED HER APPROXIMATELY THREE WEEKS AGO. ✓

SOURCE DEVELOPED A "LIBERTO MAN" WHO SHOWED SOURCE THE ABOVE ROOMING HOUSE. SOURCE HAS NOT FURNISHED THIS INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEATON ROOMING HOUSE TO HAC SINCE THEY HAVE NOT BEEN IN RECENT CONTACT WITH HIM.

INFORMATION FURNISHED BY THIS SOURCE IN THE FUTURE WILL BE RECORDED AT BIRMINGHAM AND FORWARDED IF APPROPRIATE.

AIRMAIL COPIES BEING FURNISHED MEMPHIS AND NEW ORLEANS.
BT.

MEI074 1540342 SE0029 1540342

RR HQ ME MM

DE SE

R 030337Z JUN 77

FM SEATTLE (44-371)

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) ROUTINE

MEMPHIS ROUTINE

MIAMI ROUTINE

BT

CLEAR

MURKIN

REBUTEL JUNE3, 1977.

RE TEL RECEIVED AFTER KEITH ERNES LAMONICA TELEPHONICALLY
CONTACTED SAC SEATTLE EVENING OF JUNE 2, 1977. FROM CHICAGO.
ILLINOIS, WHERE HE WAS BETWEEN PLANES EN ROUTE TO FLORIDA.
LAMONICA WILL BE STAYING AT PALM BEACH HAWAII HOTEL, PALM
BEACH, FLORIDA, FOR NEXT SEVERAL DAYS OR CAN BE REACHED
THROUGH NATIONAL ENQUIRER AT LANTANA, FLORIDA, TELEPHONE
305-586-1111.

ALL BACKGROUND INFORMATION BEING FURNISHED TO MIAMI BY
FACSIMILE WITH REQUEST FOR MIAMI TO CONTACT LAMONICA FRIDAY,
JUNE 3, 1977, ACCORDING TO BUREAU INSTRUCTIONS.

BT

44-1987 Sub M-1131
JMS
P

Hester

CB

K

MEI076 1540352 HEO095 1540352

PP ME

HQ

P 030010Z JUN UU ZDK HEO 079

FM DIRECTOR (44-38861)

TO SEATTLE (44-371) (PRIORITY)

DALLAS (PRIORITY)

KNOXVILLE (PRIORITY)

MEMPHIS (PRIORITY)

NEW ORLEANS (PRIORITY)

BT

CLEAR

MURKIN

RESETEL JUNE 2, 1977.

SEATTLE INSURE THAT KEITH ERNEST LAMONICA IS COGNIZANT OF THE SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ORDER OBD 2110.2 REGARDING WITNESS PROTECTION. THIS ORDER STATES UNDER "CONDITIONS FOR PROTECTION" THAT THE PROTECTION OF A WITNESS AND MEMBERS OF A WITNESS FAMILY IN A FEDERAL CRIMINAL PROCEEDING IS A LOCAL OR STATE POLICE MATTER TO BE HANDLED BY THOSE AUTHORITIES. EXCEPTIONS TO THIS POLICY WILL BE ALLOWED ONLY UPON THE FINDING OF THE ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE CONCERNED DIVISION THAT THE

44-1987-SW/M-1132

Vester

[Signature]

CB

PAGE TWO SE (44-371) CLEAR

PROPOSED WITNESS MEETS ALL OF THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

(1) THE PERSON IS A QUALIFYING WITNESS IN A SPECIFIC CASE IN PROCESS OR DURING OR AFTER A GRAND JURY PROCEEDING;
(2) EVIDENCE IN POSSESSION INDICATES THAT THE LIFE OF THE WITNESS AND/OR THAT OF A MEMBER OF THE WITNESS FAMILY OR HOUSEHOLD IS IN IMMEDIATE JEOPARDY AND (3) EVIDENCE IN POSSESSION INDICATES IT WILL BE ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE FEDERAL INTEREST FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO PROTECT THE WITNESS AND/OR A FAMILY OR HOUSEHOLD MEMBER. THIS ORDER STATES THAT REQUESTS FOR PROTECTION OF A WITNESS SHALL BE MADE THROUGH THE U. S. ATTORNEY OR BY A DIVISION ATTORNEY OF THE DEPARTMENT. ACCORDINGLY, YOU SHOULD MAKE SURE THAT LAMONICA IS ADVISED THAT IF HE DESIRES TO PURSUE THIS MATTER UNDER THE WITNESS PROTECTION PROGRAM, HE SHOULD CONTACT THE APPROPRIATE U. S. ATTORNEY AND/OR THE DEPARTMENT FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION AS TO WHETHER OR NOT HE IS A QUALIFYING WITNESS AS SET FORTH ABOVE. YOU SHOULD ALSO ADVISE LAMONICA TO NOTIFY THE APPROPRIATE LOCAL AUTHORITIES OF THE FEARS HE HAS FOR HIS PERSONAL SAFETY AND THAT OF HIS FAMILY.

PAGE THREE SE (44-371) CLEAR

ALL OFFICES CONDUCT NO INVESTIGATION CONCERNING
THIS LAMONICA ALLEGATION SINCE THIS MATTER HAS BEEN
REFERRED TO THE DEPARTMENT AND NO INVESTIGATION IS BEING
CONDUCTED UNLESS SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED BY THE DEPARTMENT.
BT

memorandum

DATE: 6/16/77

REPLY TO
ATTN OF:

SAC MINNEAPOLIS (157-450) (RUC)

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

TO:

SAC MEMPHIS (44-1987)

On the evening of 6/14/77 a call was received by the Minneapolis night supervisor from an individual who initially indicated a desire to remain anonymous. Subsequently, during the telephone conversation he identified himself as DOUG STORLIE, telephone number 729-2111, 2900 12th Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota. STORLIE provided the following information:

He stated he had been hearing the various news media reports concerning the escape of JAMES EARL RAY and that many of these commentaries concerning RAY referred to the fact that RAY had initially provided an alibi indicating that he had not killed MARTIN LUTHER KING, but believed the murder had been committed by a RAUOL (phonetic). STORLIE said that on hearing this information he desired to provide the FBI with information concerning this matter because of the repeated references to "RAUOL".

STORLIE said that during the fall of 1965 he had been incarcerated in the Kansas City, Missouri, Jail, and while in custody he had become acquainted with an individual he identified as being named HOWARD ROWELL. STORLIE described ROWELL as a Black male, approximately 25 years old, who was in the Kansas City Jail on some narcotics charge. He further described ROWELL as being a religious fanatic of the Black Muslim variety and that on several occasions ROWELL had personally told him, STORLIE, that he intended to "cut MARTIN LUTHER KING's head off".

STORLIE indicated that he would be available for further interview concerning this matter if we desired to hold such an interview in person.

The above is provided for the information of Memphis. No additional investigation being conducted by Minneapolis unless advised to the contrary by Memphis.

2 - Memphis
1 - Minneapolis
DLA:lj
(3)

44-1987 Sub M-1133

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 17 1977	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

CM



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

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
(REV. 7-76)
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6
5010-112

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1*

Date of transcription June 17, 1977

Detective RICHARD HUDELLA, Dakota County Sheriff's Office, Hastings, Minnesota, made available an original letter located in the wallet of DUDLEY WAYNE CULPEPPER.

Interviewed on June 8, 1977 at Hastings, Minnesota File # MP 157-450

by SA DAVID R. KELLER:jw Date dictated June 14, 1977

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription: 11/11/77

*1

Interviewed on 11/11/77 at St. Louis, Missouri
by SA [redacted] and SA [redacted]
Interviewed on 11/11/77 at St. Louis, Missouri
by SA [redacted] and SA [redacted]
Interviewed on 11/11/77 at St. Louis, Missouri
by SA [redacted] and SA [redacted]

File # 100-4428	Interviewed on 11/11/77 at St. Louis, Missouri
by SA [redacted] and SA [redacted]	Interviewed on 11/11/77 at St. Louis, Missouri
by SA [redacted] and SA [redacted]	Interviewed on 11/11/77 at St. Louis, Missouri
by SA [redacted] and SA [redacted]	Interviewed on 11/11/77 at St. Louis, Missouri

44-1987-Sub B-1134

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription June 17, 1977

DUDLEY WAYNE CULPEPPER, 10008 Chezelle, El Paso, Texas, was interviewed while incarcerated at the Dakota County Sheriff's Office Jail, Hastings, Minnesota. CULPEPPER was very difficult to interview in that he could not remain with any certain subject and his mind appeared to ramble and jump from one topic to another. At the outset of the interview, CULPEPPER wanted to know if the interviewing Agent was a Catholic. It was noted throughout the interview that CULPEPPER was hostile to Catholics. CULPEPPER advised as follows:

CULPEPPER advised that when he was a small child he carved his name on a statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary and when he did it killed JOHN PAUL GETTY who was worth four billion dollars in gold.

He advised his ex-wife, SUSAN ELIZABETH NAISMITH, moved 1½ years ago to Hastings, Minnesota. He has two children by her, one a nine-year old boy who CULPEPPER thinks is Jesus Christ.

CULPEPPER repeatedly advised that he was 12 years old when he carved his name on the statue and he "figured it killed JOHN PAUL GETTY, worth four billion dollars in gold, richest man in the world."

CULPEPPER advised Mexicans and "they" are all screwing with him cutting his valve stems and stealing his tools. When asked who "they" were, he replied Catholics.

During his trial in El Paso, Texas, for manslaughter, where he killed a Mexican in self defense, his attorney, JOSEPH CALLMAI, and his brother-in-law who were both Catholics sold him out. He also advised that his father sold him out and he thinks he is a bastard. His wife is a Catholic and he is a bastard; therefore, his wife will be dead by the time she is 28 years of age.

Interviewed on June 8, 1977 at Hastings, Minnesota File # MP 157-450

by SA DAVID R. KELLER:jw Date dictated June 14, 1977

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date: June 11, 1964

ROBERT WAYNE GUNTER, 1908 University, El Paso, Texas, was interviewed while incarcerated at the El Paso County Jail, El Paso, Texas. GUNTER was very difficult to interview in that he could not recall what any certain subject said and appeared to ramble and jump from one topic to another. At the outset of the interview, GUNTER wanted to know if the interviewing Agent was a Catholic. It was noted throughout the interview that GUNTER was hostile to Catholics. GUNTER stated as follows:

GUNTER advised that when he was a small child he arrived at home on a street of San Antonio, Texas, and when he did he killed JOHN PAUL GUTTY who was worth four million dollars in gold.

He advised his ex-wife, SUSAN HUNTER, MILLER, moved to El Paso, Texas, and was a nine-year old boy who was killed by her, one of the children. He said he thought he was Jesus Christ.

GUNTER repeatedly advised that he was 12 years old when he arrived at home on the street and he killed JOHN PAUL GUTTY, worth four million dollars in gold, and that was in the world.

GUNTER advised Mexicans and "niggers" are all working with him cutting the value down and stealing his goods. When asked who "they" were, he replied Catholics.

During his trial in El Paso, Texas, he was accused of killing a Mexican in self defense, his attorney, JOSEPH GARCIA, and his brother-in-law who were both Catholics and his out. He also advised that his father said him and he thought he is a Catholic. His wife is Catholic and he is a bastard; therefore, his wife will be dead by the time she is 25 years of age.

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 11 1964	
FBI - EL PASO	

44-19875-M-1135

MP 157-450

2

CULPEPPER rambled on concerning a race car built by a man in Minnesota and raced by LEE SHEPARD of Dallas, Texas, and he advised when he started asking questions about this car, SHEPARD totaled it.

CULPEPPER repeatedly stated that he constantly hears things over the radio that he has been thinking about and figures that it is some sort of E. S. P.

CULPEPPER repeatedly mentioned four billion dollars in gold in various ways, one of which was when he referred to four billion dollars in gold buried in a church that he saw once in a movie.

CULPEPPER furnished the following background information concerning himself:

Name	DUDLEY WAYNE CULPEPPER
Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of Birth	
Place of Birth	Hattiesburg, Mississippi
Height	6' 1"
Weight	155 pounds
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Auburn
Father	OLIVER ELLIS CULPEPPER (died in 1967)
Mother	HELEN JEWELL CULPEPPER 210 East Third Street Hattiesburg, Mississippi
Brother	RALPH LAMAR CULPEPPER Cranshaw Street El Paso, Texas
Sisters	MARTIE (BOB) MC LAUGHLIN 97 (?) Heather El Paso, Texas; MARIE (RANDY) RANELS Clarksville, Tennessee
Occupation	Owner, D. W. Culpepper Plumbing, Heating, and Cooling, El Paso, Texas

MP 157-450

3*

CULPEPPER repeatedly advised that words he hears in movies and songs are words that he says. He made reference to the movie "Mr. Billion" and he repeatedly made the comment "gonna bust some heads."

At this point in the interview, CULPEPPER was displayed a letter which implicated his father as possibly knowing something about the MARTIN LUTHER KING assassination. CULPEPPER advised his father hated KING and used to show him pictures of KING. He advised President CARTER even talks back to him, four billion goes to charity. He advised that he is certain KING left two billion to each son and he heard this on the radio. He knew of no specific information concerning the KING assassination. He felt his brother, RALPH CULPEPPER, is involved in the assassination in that he has been acting real funny. According to DUDLEY CULPEPPER, his brother started acting funny when Attorney General GRIFFIN BELL talked about the KING assassination being a toss up. He also felt his brother was plotting against him and he felt his father left a will and was worth a lot of money, possibly four billion dollars in gold.

CULPEPPER advised he has received psychiatric treatment and repeatedly asked the interviewing Agent if the Agent thought he was crazy.

CULPEPPER advised that the people at the Dakota County jail were putting speed in his meals; therefore, he has quit eating.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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ME 44-1987 Sub M-1135

Interviewed on June 8, 1977 at Hastings, Minnesota File # MP 157-450

by SA DAVID R. KELLER:jw Date dictated June 14, 1977

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MP 157-450

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Sisters	MARTIE (BOB) MC LAUGHLIN 97 (?) Heather El Paso, Texas; MARIE (RANDY) RANELS Clarksville, Tennessee
Occupation	Owner, D. W. Culpepper Plumbing, Heating, and Cooling, El Paso, Texas

MP 157-450

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- 3* -

I Ralph Lamar Culpepper of sound mind
agree to sign all or any Four Billion
in cash or gold to D.W. Culpepper.

and understand D.E. Culpepper my father
Had to do with or murdered Rev.
Martin Luther King, whether he was
good or bad for this country

and understand there is no notary
seal, but understand it is valid.

and agree I have threatened
D.W. Culpepper over this matter.

I Ralph Lamar Culpepper agree
to drop all law suits which have
anything to do with any said
Four Billion dollars

With sound mind
and agree it is valid

and agree to 150,000.00 per year Hereafter.

RdH
C-8-77
ack
6/1/77

44-1987 Subm-1136

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 11 1977	
FBI - MEMPHIS	
MB	

6- -77

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good or bad for this country.

and understand there is no notary
seal, but understand it is valid.

And agree I have threatened
D.W. Culpepper over this matter.

I Ralph Lamar Culpepper agree
to drop all law suits, which have
anything to do with any said
Four Billion dollars

With sound mind
and agree it is valid

and agree to 150,000.00 per year Hereafter.

R.L.C.
6-8-77
ak
6/8/77

44-1987-UM-1136

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 20 1977	
FBI - MEMPHIS	
	CB

I Ralph Lamar Culpepper of sound mind agree to sign all or any Four Billion in cash or gold to D.W. Culpepper.

and understand O.E. Culpepper my father Had to do with or murdered Rev. Martin Luther King, weather he was good or bad for this country.

and understand there is no notary seal, but understand it is valid.

and agree I have threatened D.W. Culpepper over this matter.

I Ralph Lamar Culpepper agree to drop all law suits which have anything to do with any said Four Billion dollars

With sound mind
and agree it is valid

and agree to 150,000.00 per year Hereafter

R.L.C.
6-8-77
ack
6/1/77

x

June 17, 1977

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, MINNEAPOLIS (157-450) (RUC)
SUBJECT: MURKIN 44-1987, 157-1168-34
OO: MEMPHIS

Enclosed for the Bureau, Memphis, and El Paso are two copies each of a letter located in the possession of DUDLEY WAYNE CULPEPPER, an FD-302 regarding interview of CULPEPPER, and an FD-302 regarding interview of Detective RICHARD HUDELLA.

For information, the Dakota County Sheriff's Office, Hastings, Minnesota, arrested CULPEPPER of El Paso, Texas, at Hastings on June 7, 1977, on a Texas state warrant for parole violation. CULPEPPER was in possession of a .32 caliber automatic pistol, two loaded clips, and a box of ammunition. After CULPEPPER was booked and during search of personal property, the enclosed letter was located in his wallet. The Dakota County Sheriff's Office was in receipt of information that CULPEPPER was potentially dangerous and had mental problems.

On June 8, 1977, CULPEPPER was interviewed by a Bureau Agent and it was determined that CULPEPPER was mentally unstable and had no specific information concerning captioned matter.

Additional information concerning CULPEPPER is as follows:

2 - Bureau (Encs. 6)
② - Memphis (Encs. 6) (INFO) *Rec 6 encl*
2 - El Paso (Encs. 6) (INFO) *Orig 302 dtd 6-8-77 signed for initials*
1 - Minneapolis
DRK:jw
(7)

44-1987 Sub A 1137

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 20 1977	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

MB

MP 157-450

Name	DUDLEY WAYNE CULPEPPER
Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5' 11"
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Brown
Residence	4892 Maxwell El Paso, Texas
Texas driver's license number	3408807
Vehicle	1976 GMC truck Texas license AX 6640
Selective Service Number	41-40-45-622

On June 8, 1977, CULPEPPER waived extradition proceedings and will be returned to El Paso, Texas.

The Minneapolis Division is conducting no further investigation regarding this matter UACB.

- 2* -

C, .':39);73:/KX0004 1751945Z

PP HQ ME

DE KX

P 241945Z JUN 77

FM KNOXVILLE (44-696) (RUC)

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) PRIORITY

MEMPHIS PRIORITY

BT

E F T O

MURKIN.

RE SAN ANTONIO TELETYPE TO BUREAU AND KNOXVILLE,
JUNE 17, 1977.

COPY OF RE TELETYPE BEING FORWARDED MEMPHIS VIA
TELECOPIER.

WELDON PAYNE, PUBLISHER, "MANCHESTER TIMES,"
MANCHESTER, TENNESSEE, ADVISED JUNE 22 LAST, WELDON
GRIMSLY'S SON, GREGORY, RESIDES AT 614-A CLARIDGE
DRIVE, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, TELEPHONE 889-0266,
KUNLISTED), AND DAUGHTER RESIDES WITH EX-WIFE, MRS.
LOU GRIMSLY, 3104 LAUREL FOREST DRIVE, NASHVILLE.

lead Nashville

FACSIMILE COPY

Fwd. NASHVILLE

6/24/77 JSD

44-1987-Sub M-1138

[Handwritten signature/initials]

*CR
Nashville*

PAGE TWO KNOXVILLE 44-696 E F T O

GREGORY CAME TO MANCHESTER AFTER FATHER'S DEATH AND GOT ALL OF HIS PERSONAL POSSESSIONS FROM RESIDENCE. ALSO, POSSIBLY HIS EX-WIFE HAS SOME OF HIS PERSONAL BELONGINGS.

GRIMSLY WAS EMPLOYED, MAY 23, 1977, AS THE EDITOR OR THE "MANCHESTER TIMES." PRIOR TO THIS EMPLOYMENT, HE WORKED AS THE STATE EDITOR FOR THE "NASHVILLE BANNER" AND WAS NEWS BUREAU CHIEF FOR THE "PENSACOLA JOURNAL," FT. WALTON BEACH, FLORIDA. GRIMSLY COVERED THE TRIAL OF JAMES EARL RAY AND HAD INTERVIEWED HIM IN THE PAST AND APPARENTLY HAD AN IN-DEPTH INTERVIEW WITH RAY AND WAS ABLE TO ESTABLISH A GOOD RAPPORT WITH RAY.

PAYNE CONSIDERED HIMSELF A PERSONAL FRIEND OF GRIMSLY AND FELT HAD GRIMSLY HAD POSITIVE INFORMATION

~~CONCERNING THE SUBJECT, AS WELL AS HIS PERSONAL LIFE.~~

~~THEY WERE NOT FAMILIAR WITH RAY PERSONALLY, OR GRIMSLY~~

~~WAS NOT FAMILIAR WITH RAY PERSONALLY, OR GRIMSLY~~

CONCERNING THIS MATTER, HE WOULD HAVE TOLD HIM SO.

PAYNE NOT FAMILIAR WITH MARGARET PARR, NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS.

PAYNE FELT LIKE THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS MAY BE

PAGE THREE KNOXVILLE 44-696 E F T O

ABLE TO FURNISH INFORMATION RE THIS MATTER:

JEANIE SUMRELL, DISPATCHER FOR THE SANTA ROSA, FLORIDA, SO, HOME PHONE 904/623-4539, SO NUMBER 623-3691, WHO WAS DATING GRIMSLY ON A REGULAR BASIS.

GENE BAKER, APARTMENT H-243, 4640 DELON STREET, FT. MEYERS, FLORIDA, WHO IS CONSIDERED TO HAVE BEEN GRIMSLY'S BEST FRIEND.

MEMPHIS AT NASHVILLE. INTERVIEW GREGORY GRIMSLY AND MRS. LOU GRIMSLY IN AN ATTEMPT TO LOCATE PHOTOGRAPH OR DEVELOP POSITIVE INFORMATION RE "RAUL."

LEADS TO HAVE JEANIE SUMRELL AND GENE BAKER INTERVIEWED BEING LEFT TO DISCRETION OF MEMPHIS PENDING RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION AT NASHVILLE.

BT

Transmit attached by Facsimile - CLEAR

Precedence

ROUTED

To: Nashville R 12
From: SAC KX
Subject: MURKIN

Date: 6/24

Time Transmitted -

Initials -

☐ Fingerprint Photo ☐ Fingerprint Record ☐ Map ☐ Newspaper clipping ☐ Photograph

☐ Artists Conception

☐ Other

San Antonio TX To B6/17

Special handling instructions:

Approved: KX/K

This pertains to
teletype Memphis has with
lead for
Nashville

44-1987-Sub M-1138A

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 26 1977	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

100 M/erw

RX1553 1632350 SA0376 1632350

PP 40 KX

DE SA

P 172355Z JUN 77

FM SAN ANTONIO (44-1242) RUC

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) PRIORITY

KNOXVILLE PRIORITY

BT

E F T O

MURKIN

ON JUNE 17, 1977, MARGARET PARR, 162 NORTH LIBERTY, NEW
BRAUNFELS, TEXAS, VOLUNTARILY APPEARED AT SAN ANTONIO OFFICE
OF FBI AND ADVISED THAT SHE HAD BEEN A CLOSE FRIEND OF WELDON
CRISLEY, EDITOR OF THE MANCHESTER TIMES, A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
IN MANCHESTER, TENNESSEE, AND FORMERLY NEWS BUREAU CHIEF AT
FORT WALTON BEACH, FLORIDA, FOR THE PENSACOLA NEWS-JOURNAL.
CRISLEY REPORTEDLY DIED ON JUNE 12, 1977 AT MANCHESTER,
TENNESSEE.

DURING VISIT WITH PARR ON MAY 8, 1977 AT FORT WALTON BEACH,
FLORIDA, CRISLEY STATED THAT HE HAD COVERED IN DETAIL FOR A
NEWSPAPER THE TRIAL OF JAMES EARL RAY AND HAD INTERVIEWED RAY

44-696-481
D D
R

PAGE TWO SA 44-1248 CLEAR

ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS. RAY ALLEGEDLY MADE AVAILABLE TO GRIMLEY NUMEROUS PHOTOGRAPHS INCLUDING PHOTOGRAPHS OF "RAUL" WHO ALLEGEDLY RESIDED IN HOUSTON AND CONTINUED TO RESIDE IN HOUSTON. PARR WAS UNAWARE IF "RAUL" IS CUBAN OR MEXICAN-AMERICAN. GRIMLEY ALLEGEDLY COPIED THESE PHOTOGRAPHS PRIOR TO RETURNING THE ORIGINALS TO RAY AND PARR FEELS THAT THESE PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE LOCATED IN GRIMLEY'S APARTMENT IN MANCHESTER, TENNESSEE. GRIMLEY HAS A 14 YEAR OLD DAUGHTER AND 20 OR 21 YEAR OLD SON WHO MAY BE IN THE PROCESS OF DISPOSING OF GRIMLEY'S PERSONAL PROPERTY.

GRIMLEY INDICATED TO PARR THAT HE WAS RETURNING TO TENNESSEE TO PURSUE HIS REPORTING ON THE JAMES EARL RAY CASE INDICATING THAT HE FELT THAT RAY MAY HAVE BEEN INNOCENT AND THAT RAY WAS IN FEAR FOR HIS LIFE, BOTH IN PRISON AND OUT. GRIMLEY DEPARTED FORT WALTON BEACH, FLORIDA MAY 19, 1977 ENROUTE TO MANCHESTER, TENNESSEE.

PARR INDICATED THAT A LIFE-LONG ACQUAINTANCE OF GRIMLEY IS PAT RICE WHO CURRENTLY RESIDES IN BERNIE, MISSOURI AND SHE FEELS THAT GRIMLEY MAY HAVE FURNISHED SIMILAR INFORMATION TO

PAGE THREE SA 44-1848 CLEAR

ME.

RYOXVILLE AT MANCHESTER, WILL ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY AND
INTERVIEW SURVIVORS OF GRINLEY AND ATTEMPT TO LOCATE
ALLEGED PHOTOGRAPHS OF "RAUL".

BT

X AIRTEL

6/27/77

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, LOUISVILLE (44-947) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN - 44-1987*

Re Knoxville airtels to Louisville dated 6/16/77 and 6/21/77.

For information of Bureau and Memphis, referenced communications reflect that on 6/15/77, SANDY WEBB, Assignment Editor, WATE-TV (NBC), Knoxville, Tennessee, received a letter, contents of which are hereinafter set forth verbatim, addressed to "WATE, DAVID R. ELVINDRIN, Channel 6, NBC TV, Knoxville, Tennessee." Said letter is postmarked "Marshes Siding 42631" on June 13, 1977. DAVID R. ELVINDRIN is unknown at WATE-TV, Knoxville, Tennessee, and Louisville indices regarding ELVINDRIN negative.

Following is verbatim transcript of above described letter which was unsigned:

"Dear Sir:

"Just a few lines to say I am sorry but Mr Ray did not kill Dr. King. I was down at Knoxville and overheard a Kubin (Cuban) say he did kill Dr. King. He was drink and tell a woman the story and said he hope King was kill so he could not tell anyone the truth. He want to go back to Kubie and get away from thir so I don't believe Ray did kill anyone. If you had listen at Ray you would know the truth and take all to heart and see. I am a black man and hope you leason (listen) to the fact. So long think you very much."

2 - Bureau
1 - Knoxville (44-696)
② - Memphis
2 - Louisville
EVA/scs
(7)

44-1987-~~XXXX~~ SUB M-1139
WT WT

DA

LS 44-947

Although above described letter is ambiguous and lacking in specifics, Louisville believes some effort should be made to identify the writer and thereafter interview him concerning any specific information he might possess, UACB.

LEAD:

LOUISVILLE DIVISION:

AT MARSHES SIDING (MC CREARY COUNTY), KENTUCKY:

Attempt to identify author of above anonymous letter, noting author claims to be "black man", thereafter interviewing him to ascertain specifics of allegation.

SUBJECT: FILES 44-1987; 88-10052; 157-1067; 157-1092

A review of captioned files revealed:

FILE 44-1987 has a total of 131 volumes categorized as follows:

- 44-1987-1A - 11 volumes 44-1987 - 7 volumes
- 44-1987-SUB - 2 volumes (Memos and inserts)
- 44-1987-SUB A - 7 volumes (Reports)
- 44-1987-SUB B - 8 volumes (Letters and Airtels)
- 44-1987-SUB C - 5 volumes (Newspaper clippings)
- 44-1987-SUB D - 3 volumes (302's)
- 44-1987-SUB E - 20 volumes (Mis. suspects)
- 44-1987-SUB F - 1 volume (JAY WALLIS VERNON)
- 44-1987-SUB G - 40 volumes (ERIC STARVO GALT and JAMES EARL RAY)
- 44-1987-SUB H - 3 volumes (Lab reports)
- 44-1987-SUB I - 1 volume (GALT)
- 44-1987-SUB J - 2 volumes (Telephone calls - CHARLES STEIN)
- 44-1987-SUB K - 2 volumes (PRISONERS)
- 44-1987-SUB L - 2 volumes (Legat's)
- 44-1987-SUB M - 11 volumes (Investigation after arrest)
- 44-1987-SUB N - 1 volume (Jail Security)
- 44-1987-SUB O - 3 volumes (Legal Documents)
- 44-1987-SUB P - 1 volume (Trial)
- 44-1987-SUB Q - 1 volume (other office 302's)

FILE 157-1067 has a total of 29 volumes; 4 volumes of 1A exhibits,
25 volumes of serials

FILE 157-1092 has a total of 6 volumes; 5 volumes of serials and
1 volume of 157-1092 SUB

FILE 88-10052 has 1 volume

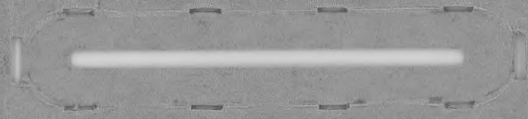
44-1987-2

11/11/67

See

Next

Section



P47019