

CG 44-1114

RJD/laj

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Re: Alleged Chauffeur of KING

CHARLES BARR, Executive, Standard Oil of Indiana, Room 359, 910 South Michigan, telephone 431-6314, advised April 26, 1968, he had no recollection of any conversation regarding KING's chauffeur at a dinner party in honor of Senator BENNETT on April 3, 1968, in Chicago, at which party Mr. BARR was the host. Mr. BARR advised the following persons attended this party at the La Tour Restaurant, 400 East Randolph:

Senator WALLACE BENNETT of Utah.

CHARLES HOOD, Executive, Standard Oil of Indiana, Room 359, 910 South Michigan, 431-6314.

ALLEN and Mrs. VIRGINIA MC DONALD, home telephone CL 3-7480. Mrs. MC DONALD is Assistant Chairman, Cook County Republican Party, 235 East Wacker Drive, Chicago.

Mrs. PATRICIA HUTAR, President, Public Affairs Service Associates, Inc., Pure Oil Building, 35 East Wacker, 782-4122.

Miss MARA LATSON, Assistant to Mrs. HUTAR.

Miss BETH GUYER, Assistant to MARA LATSON.

Doctor FRANK WOOLLEY, Research Associate, American Medical Association, 535 North Dearborn, 527-1500, (long-time friend of Senator BENNETT).

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BRIAN DUFF, 618 Maple, Wilmette, home phone AL 1-3815; business 1701 Central Street, Evanston, Illinois, telephone 864-3322, or 869-5421. (DUFF ran for Illinois State Auditor on Republican ticket - not nominated.)

The following wd attended Mr. BARR's party were contacted on April 26, 1968:

BRIAN DUFF stated he had no recollection of any conversation concerning a chauffeur of KING. DUFF gave the following seating arrangements for the persons at this party and this listing goes from left to right:

Senator BENNETT, Mrs. VIRGINIA MC DONALD, Mr. ALLEN MC DONALD, BETH GUYER, BRIAN DUFF, MARA LATSON, CHARLES HOOD, FRANK WOOLLEY, CHARLES BARR and PATRICIA HUTAR.

FRANK WOOLLEY stated he attended the dinner party April 3, 1968, for Senator BENNETT, sat with HOOD on his left and BARR on his right; however, he recalled no conversation concerning Doctor KING's chauffeur.

Mrs. VIRGINIA MC DONALD advised no person ever worked for her or her husband who subsequently worked for KING and she recalled no conversation at the dinner party for Senator BENNETT concerning KING's chauffeur.

Mrs. PATRICIA HUTAR stated she heard no conversation concerning KING's chauffeur at the dinner party for Senator BENNETT; however, at the reception preceding this dinner party she recalls hearing such a conversation as related by HAROLD RAINVILLE, Administrative Assistant to Senator EVERETT DIRKSEN. It was her recollection that this story was related by RAINVILLE concerning KING's driver and money maintained by the driver in a bag.

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HAROLD E. RAINVILLE, Administrative Assistant to Senator EVERETT DIRKSEN, 219 South Dearborn, Chicago, Illinois, advised as follows:

RALPH KUNSTADTER, Pediatrician, home 900 North Michigan, office 664 North Michigan, office telephone DE 7-4545, Chicago, Illinois, sometime in the past had advised that he at one time employed a man as a chauffeur who subsequently worked for KING as a chauffeur. This man had been required to carry large sums of money in a bag for KING and this man was scared that someone would rob him of this money. This man had been advised by Doctor KUNSTADTER to contact RAINVILLE but this man failed to so contact RAINVILLE.

Doctor RALPH KUNSTADTER, 664 North Michigan, Chicago, Illinois, advised that for several years his family had employed an elderly colored male, KELLY WILLIAMS, as a chauffeur. Approximately 18 months ago this man had been released from his service by KUNSTADTER because of his physical condition which Doctor KUNSTADTER recalled as being syphilis of the brain. Doctor KUNSTADTER stated this person was probably deceased by now as he was over 65 and on Social Security.

Doctor KUNSTADTER stated he later heard this man went to work for KING but he had no recollection of hearing anything to the effect that this man was required to carry over \$200,000 in cash in a black bag at all times for KING.

KUNSTADTER stated that approximately one year or so ago this man had contacted his family and allegedly had some knowledge of threats which had been made against Senator DIRKSEN. Doctor KUNSTADTER accordingly attempted to have WILLIAMS contact Senator DIRKSEN's office concerning this matter.

It is to be noted that in September, 1966, the Chicago Office conducted extensive investigation concerning a similar story concerning a person who allegedly worked for Doctor KING as a chauffeur and who formerly worked for Doctor RALPH KUNSTADTER. This investigation developed the identity of this individual as KELLY WILLIAMS, full details of which were furnished to the Bureau. No further investigation was conducted at that time due to the readily apparent mental problems of WILLIAMS, coupled with the serious doubts which were cast on his veracity.

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OTHER INVESTIGATION

Re: WILLIAM FERBER or  
WILLIAM FARBERS (Look Alike)

On April 18, 1968, at 3:15 PM, CLARENCE PETERSON, Assistant Vice President, Amalgamated Bank, 111 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, telephonically advised that an unknown white male, strongly resembling the likeness of ERIC GALT, appearing in the April 18 issue of the "Chicago Tribune" appeared at this bank shortly before 12:30 PM and requested to purchase a \$10,000 certificate of deposit (savings) for cash. Mr. PETERSON inquired as to whether the unknown male had an account with Amalgamated and was informed that he did not. Mr. PETERSON then proceeded to make inquiry concerning this unknown male's background whereupon he became reluctant to furnish background information and inquired why it was necessary for him to identify himself. Mr. PETERSON informed the unknown male that it was the bank's policy to have some identifying information and background concerning its new customers whereupon the unknown male produced a driver's license issued by the State of Wisconsin containing the name WILLIAM FERBER or WILLIAM FARBERS. The unknown male explained that he presently resided in another state and that this license was the license issued to him when he resided in Wisconsin.

Mr. PETERSON advised he turned the driver's license over on its reverse side to observe the signature which he found was obscured from view by a card containing the words, "National Association of Ballroom Dancers." Mr. PETERSON advised that before he could examine the driver's license any further, the unknown male grabbed it out of his hands stating he could not see why he had to furnish any information about himself. Mr. PETERSON then stated that before he could obtain a certificate of deposit, he would be required to fill out the necessary savings account forms and furnish specimens of his signature which he, PETERSON furnished to the unknown male. The unknown male informed PETERSON that he would fill out the signature cards at the counter and left PETERSON's desk and proceeded to a counter in the lobby of the bank. PETERSON stated that he left his desk temporarily for only a few seconds to report this incident to his superiors and turned around to see if the

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unknown male had finished executing the cards and returned to his desk whereupon he found that the unknown male had disappeared from the bank. Mr. PETERSON said that he immediately examined all the waste receptacles in the vicinity of the lobby counter where the unknown male was last observed and failed to find the blank savings account signature cards indicating that these blank cards were apparently not left in the bank by the unknown male.

PETERSON said during his lunch hour from 12:30 PM to about 1:30 PM, he was reading the "Chicago Tribune" and observed the photograph of subject GALT appearing therein and immediately felt that it was a strong likeness of the individual who had just attempted to obtain a certificate of deposit at Amalgamated.

PETERSON described this unknown male as follows:

Name	WILLIAM FERBER or WILLIAM FARBERS
Sex	Male
Race	White
Age	About 35-40
Height	5'8" or 5'9"
Weight	160-170
Complexion	Ruddy
Characteristics	Square jaw, clean shaven
Eyes	Dark
Hair	Brown
Wearing apparel	White shirt, three quarter length tan light weight coat.

Review of Chicago classified and telephone directories failed to locate any listing identifiable with National Association of Ballroom Dancers, however, a copy of the March, 1968, issue of "Ballroom Dance Magazine", published monthly by Dance Magazines, Inc., 268 West 47th Street, New York, New York, discloses numerous advertisements for ballroom dancing throughout the United States, only one of which is possibly identical with National Association of Ballroom Dancers which is "Ballroom Dancers Association, Inc., " 756 7th Avenue, New York, New York.

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On April 23, 1968, the Milwaukee Division advised that the Motor Vehicle Division, Madison, Wisconsin, has three listings under the name of FERBER. WILLIAM A. FERBER and WILLIAM G. FERBER were eliminated on the basis of their dates of birth, which were, respectively, [REDACTED]

WILLIAM H. FERBER, date of birth [REDACTED] was eliminated on the basis that Chief of Police HAROLD PHELAN, Hales Corners, Wisconsin, advised that FERBER was arrested February 27, 1965, for operating with an expired drivers license. FERBER has been self-employed in the above town since 1948.

On April 25, 1968, the New York Division advised that the National Association of Ballroom Dancers is unknown to the officials of Dance Magazine, Inc., and Ballroom Dancers Association. Also there is no organization known to these officials that issues orange membership cards. A review of the subscription list did not indicate any subscriber by the name of FERBER or subject.

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1.

RE: LOOK-ALIKE DRIVING BLUE CHEVELLE  
BEARING ALABAMA LICENSE 42-7866

On April 18, 1968, Sergeant SAUTZUS, 9th District, Chicago Police Department, telephonically advised the Chicago Office of the FBI that Mr. SOL LEVIN, 7337 South Shore Drive, Chicago, reported seeing an individual resembling the assassin of Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING driving a late model Chevelle bearing Alabama license 42-7866 in the vicinity of 31st Street and South Halsted Street, Chicago, Illinois. Upon interview by SA JOSEPH S. REICHART, Mr. LEVIN stated that a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY somewhat resembled the individual he had seen in the Chevelle; however, Mr. LEVIN was not able to describe that individual in any detail. He did say, however, that the individual was accompanied by a blonde woman.

On April 24, 1968, the Birmingham Division advised that 1968 Alabama license 42-7866 was issued to EDGAR F. BORDEN, Moulton, Alabama. Mrs. WALCIE JOHNSON, BORDEN's mother, advised that her son was last known to be residing at 2344 Sacramento, Chicago, but is in the process of moving to an unknown address at San Angelo, Texas.

On same date, the Dallas Division advised that EDGAR FLOYD BORDEN, San Angelo, Texas, was interviewed on same date and he advised that although instant vehicle is still registered in his name, he sold the vehicle to RUSSELL RALPH, 2344 South Sacramento, Chicago, Illinois. Interview with BORDEN determined him not to be identical with JAMES EARL RAY.

On April 25, 1968, an individual identifying himself as RUSSELL MILLER, 1811 South Ashland, Chicago, Illinois, telephonically contacted the Chicago Office of the FBI and said that he had heard from his friend, EDGAR FLOYD BORDEN, that the FBI was looking for the car that he was driving. He advised that he could be contacted at

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the above address on the following date.

On April 26, 1968, investigation to locate RUSSELL MILLER at the above address proved negative; however, individuals residing at that address stated that the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY did not resemble anyone residing at that address.

On April 29, 1968, RUSSELL RALPH, also known as RUSSELL MILLER, was interviewed at his residence, 2344 South Sacramento, first floor, Chicago, Illinois. He advised that he no longer had the car in question but that he was driving it on April 18, 1968, in the vicinity of 31st Street and South Halsted Street in the company of a blonde woman. Further inquiry revealed that RALPH, born [redacted] at Ypsilanti, Michigan, is 6'1" tall, and weighs 210 pounds. A comparison of the scars and marks and fingerprints of JAMES EARL RAY with those of RUSSELL RALPH determined that RALPH was not identical to RAY.



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Re: JOSEPH CLAYTON MONTAGNE

On April 19, 1968, the Springfield Division advised that information had been received from the Jackson Division that the Pascagoula, Mississippi, Police Department stopped an individual driving a white Corvair bearing 1968 Illinois license DG 3109. He identified himself as above. He was accompanied by another white male whose identity was not determined and MONTAGNE indicated he was a musician and the other person indicated he was a seaman, with both heading for New Orleans.

The officer who stopped the above individuals said that MONTAGNE resembled the photograph of the subject.

Indianapolis Division developed from auto registration records that the above license plate registers to RAYMOND HILLBURN, 6039 North Ridge, Chicago, for a 1956 Dodge. No other registration or drivers license information regarding MONTAGNE.

On April 20, 1968, MARIA HILLBURN, former wife of RAYMOND HILLBURN, 4700 Magnolia Street, Chicago, advised SA JAMES W. SWINFORD that HILLBURN purchased a white Corvair convertible, model unknown, approximately two weeks ago and departed the Chicago area for Alabama on April 5, 1968. She further advised that she had been contacted telephonically by her husband on April 19, 1968, at which time he advised her that he is now residing with LUCILLE HASSEY, 130 Patton Street, Montgomery, Alabama, telephone 265-4836. Mrs. HILLBURN advised that her husband in no way resembles the photograph of the subject, nor is she acquainted with any associate of his who could be identical with the subject. She said that the name of JOSEPH CLAYTON MONTAGNE is completely unknown to her.

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1.

RE: DALE BAXTER  
ET AL  
GARY, INDIANA

On April 19, 1968, an anonymous male telephonically contacted SA ROBERT J. DOLAN and advised that he wished to furnish information concerning captioned matter. He declined to identify himself but stated the following individuals, all current residents of Gary, Indiana, are reportedly in possession of information concerning this matter:

DALE BAXTER  
Resides 40th and Tyler

SHIRLEE MACKOWIAK  
Resides 40th and Tennessee

JACK WEISSBUCH  
Resides 4160 Broadway

Caller stated above had been bragging they have information concerning the killing of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING and know the whereabouts of the suspect presently being sought by the FBI. They also said the FBI does not in fact have the actual weapon utilized by the killer but the whereabouts of such weapon is known to the above trio. Caller declined to furnish additional information and terminated the call.

On April 23, 1968, the Indianapolis Division advised that all of the foregoing individuals had been contacted and denied having any knowledge concerning captioned case nor any knowledge concerning the weapon used in this murder.

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AFD:jap

1.

RE: TENNESSEE LICENSE BK 1897

On April 19, 1968, Mr. JOHN POWELL, 8655 South Elizabeth, Chicago, Illinois, employment Adolph Levin Company, Incorporated, 5 North Wabash, Chicago, Illinois, was interviewed at the FBI Office, Chicago, Illinois, at which time he had furnished the following information:

At approximately 8:40 a.m. on April 18, 1968, Mr. POWELL was proceeding to the Chicago Loop area via the northbound lane of the Stevenson Expressway. Mr. POWELL stated that he exited on the Stevenson Expressway and immediately stopped for a red light at which time he noticed a 1962 or 1963 yellow Pontiac Catalina convertible bearing 1963 Shelby County, Tennessee, license BK 1897. He stated that this vehicle was occupied by a white male, believed to be identical with subject JAMES EARL RAY, and a white female. Mr. POWELL stated that the white female was driving the vehicle and when stopped at the red light, the white female got out from the passenger's side of the car and went around the front of the car to assume the driver's seat. POWELL advised that at this time, he was approximately ten feet away from this individual and he described him as follows: white male, height 6'3" (Mr. POWELL stated that subject could have been much taller than this as he was sitting in a car which is low to the ground and subject was on a pavement incline), early 40's, dark complexion, 190 pounds, brown hair, medium build, no outstanding characteristics or scars, wearing brown long-sleeved sweater with gray "V" down the front. Mr. POWELL was furnished two photographs of subject, one taken in 1952 by the Chicago Police Department and one taken in 1962. Mr. POWELL advised that he was positive that the individual in the photograph taken in 1962 was the person whom he saw in the 1962 or 1963 Catalina convertible.

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1.

RE: LOOK-ALIKE IN CAR BEARING  
1967 TENNESSEE LICENSE BW 2739

On April 20, 1968, BERNICE THOMAS, 6140 South Dorchester, telephonically advised SA DANIEL M. CRAWFORD that she had observed a man resembling the subject sitting in the back seat of a car bearing 1967 Tennessee license plates BW 2739. She advised that the car was going north on Milwaukee Avenue at Division Street and that she had a good look at this individual. A man and a woman were sitting in the front seat. She said she had observed this car on the afternoon of April 19, 1968, and did not call until this date because she thought that her friend had called yesterday; however, she found out on this date that no one had called.

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Re: E. M. RAY  
Pascagoula, Mississippi

Mrs. LENORE STEWART, 3538 West Hirsch, Chicago, telephonically advised at 4:20 PM, April 20, 1968, that her son GERALD HULTGREN is living in Pascagoula, Mississippi, Box 195, with an individual named E. M. RAY. RAY is unknown to STEWART as to description or background.

GERALD HULTGREN is described as a white male, born [redacted] 6'3", 170 pounds in 1960, Social Security Number [redacted]. He has a background of juvenile trouble and Interstate Transportation of Stolen Motor Vehicle matters. He was turned over to juvenile authorities at Cook County, for prosecution in 1960.

STEWART last heard from her son and RAY telephonically about three weeks ago. These two men were to take a trip to an unknown location. The employment of RAY and HULTGREN was not known to STEWART.

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1 Investigation Pure Oil Company, Palatine, Illinois

The Atlanta Division advised on April 25, 1968, that Mr. RANDOLPH B. JONES, Pure Oil Company Dealer, Americus, Georgia, advised he sold gas to an individual on April 16, 1968, who closely resembled 1968 photo of JAMES EARL RAY. Mr. JONES described the car he believed the person to be driving as well as furnishing a physical description of this individual. He also stated that he believed the individual purchased gas on a temporary Pure Oil Credit Card, which he believes expires in August or September, 1968. He also advised that the credit card slips were purchases on April 16, 1968, and had already been forwarded to the Pure Oil Company Retail Department, Palatine, Illinois.

On April 26, 1968, Mr. CLYDE E. PHODES, Accounting Department, Pure Oil Company, Palatine, Illinois, was telephonically contacted by SA RENE J. DUMAINE, at which time he advised that the package of credit card slips mailed in by Mr. JONES on April 17, 1968, would already be in the Balance process, Accounting Department, and would take until at least April 30, 1968, to locate. He said it is possible that he would be able to locate the credit card slips mailed in on April 22, 1968. He requested that he be furnished with the Transmittal Slip number used by JONES in submitting the credit card transactions.

On the same date, Mr. RHODES was furnished with the following transmittal numbers:

4/18/68 - 7-0217999  
7-0218000

4/22/68 - 7-0217997  
7-0217998

The foregoing were obtained from the Atlanta Division in contact with Mr. R. B. JONES. Mr. RHODES advised that he had located all of the credit card slips submitted on April 22, 1968. A review of these slips did not reveal any

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credit card slips for any transaction on April 16, 1968.

In a continuing review of Pure Oil Company records, in conjunction with Mr. RHODES and THOMAS DAVINI by SA ROBERT F. PEVAHOUSE on April 29 and 30, 1968, located the list of credit card invoices submitted by Mr. JONES on April 18, 1968. Credit card purchase number 0882579109 was made by Lt. Col. WILKERSON, however, the invoice itself could not be located and the address was not yet in file. The charge for credit card number [REDACTED] is another company credit card and the ticket has already been separated elsewhere. No further effort will be made to locate this card in view of the comments made by Mr. JONES. It should be noted that this review did not reveal any purchase made on a temporary Pure Oil Credit Card.

There were purchases made by the following companies:

Americus Utility  
Aladdin Insulators  
Georgia Highway Department  
V. R. Bush Company  
Southern Bell of Georgia  
Simplex Nail  
W. C. Page

The charge for H. O. JONES, JR. was not further checked out since it was in the amount of \$101.43, which could not have been a mere gas purchase.

A review of the credit card slips submitted reveals the following purchases for gasoline on April 16, 1968:

A.U. ARNOLD  
RFD Americus, Georgia

JAMES F. TRAINOR  
P.O. Box 265  
Damasaus, Georgia

J. ROY STUDSTILL  
212 Daniel Street  
Americus, Georgia

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1.

Re: R. TAYLOR  
OAK LAWN, ILLINOIS

Investigation regarding the above-named individual was initiated upon receipt of a typewritten postcard by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Headquarters in Washington, D.C. The card was postmarked April 22, 1968, and the Bureau instructed the Chicago Division of the FBI to attempt to locate R. TAYLOR and interview him regarding any information he might have pertinent to this case.

The contents of the postcard are quoted below:

"Dear Sirs,

A lot of us knew J. E. Ray from Fullerton Ave in Chicago. Maybe he did steal cars or armed robbery but he never killed anyone like the Niggers do in riots. We thank him for killing M. King. He was nothing but a trouble maker. If we do see him in Chicago--we will reward him with a couple of thousand dollars--not turn him in. He did us Chicagoans a good turn.

We have an ad in the paper which he will recognize, but you wouldn't the way it is typed out.

We all in Chicago are so happy King is dead (except the Nigger The Liquor business is at an all time high We hope he never gets caught so that if R. Abenathy (King's Succesor starts something he will do the same to him. We love J. E. Ray.

R. Taylor"

The following named individuals in the Oak Lawn, Illinois, area were located through credit and police department checks and through a review of appropriate telephone directories. The first four individuals were interviewed on April 26, 1968, and the fifth individual on April 29, 1968 by SA ROBERT F. SWIERCZ.



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- 1) ROBERT C. TAYLOR  
8725 Stevens Drive  
Oak Lawn, Illinois
- 2) ROBERT R. TAYLOR  
6540 82nd Place  
Oak Lawn, Illinois
- 3) RONALD P. TAYLOR  
7721 Laramie  
Oak Lawn, Illinois
- 4) RUSSELL C. TAYLOR  
6810 Saratoga Drive  
Oak Lawn, Illinois
- 5) ROY G. TAYLOR  
5332 State Road  
Oak Lawn, Illinois

All advised they had not written or mailed the postcard quoted above, nor could they think of anyone who might have done so.

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RE: TROY EARLS

Following investigation conducted by SA JEROME F. NOLAN on April 26, 1968, at Rockford, Illinois.

CATHY SHARP, Clerk, Rockford Police Department, advised records reflected TROY HERMAN EARLS was charged with speeding September 20, 1962, age 22, white, male, with residence 1063 West State, Rockford - nothing further reflected.

Mrs. VIOLET NORD, Rockford Credit Bureau, advised records reflected TROY EARLS, 4240 11th Street, Rockford, was placed in file July, 1959, at age 19. Employed Elco Tool Company since November of 1958 which was verified March, 1963. Wife, MARY, employed Barber-Colman Company, and as of March, 1963, had two children. Credit excellent.

The foregoing investigation was based on information furnished by the Omaha Division who advised that on April 23, 1968, GREG J. KIBBLE, Chief of Police, Valley, Nebraska, advised he works part time at the Two Rivers State Recreation Area, south of Venice, Nebraska, and that on April 22, 1968, the Superintendent, RICHARD WOLKOW, had advised as follows:

On April 17, 1968, TROY EARLS, 4240 11th Street, Rockford, Illinois, was registered as an overnight camper; he was driving a camper, make not recorded or recalled, Illinois license B 282390.

After viewing TV and newspaper photographs of him, WOLKOW concluded there was some resemblance between EARLS and JAMES EARL RAY, aka, Fugitive, and recalled that EARLS had inquired of him regarding gun laws in the State of Nebraska.

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1.

RE: JOHN H. CARNAHAN (LOOK-ALIKE)

On April 28, 1968, the Milwaukee Division advised that TED WROBLEWSKI, Assistant Park Manager, Interstate State Park, St. Croix, Wisconsin, telephonically advised that he had read an article which set forth that the operator of the Modern Frontier Motel between Mandan and Bismarck, North Dakota, reported a man resembling RAY accompanied by a blonde female and driving a pickup truck registered that motel on April 25, 1968.

In view of this, WROBLEWSKI advised that on April 23, 1968, a white male who gave the name J. CARNAHAN, Skokie, Illinois, accompanied by a blonde female, driving a Ford pickup with camper, Illinois license B 291617, registered at his park.

On the same date, the Springfield Division advised that records, Motor Vehicle Bureau, reveal above license number registered to JAMES MC GOVERN, 10023 West Devon, Rosemont, Illinois, for a 1966 Chevrolet panel truck.

On the same date, Mr. JAMES J. MC GOVERN, above, advised SA ROBERT L. BAKER that he is the owner of a 1966 Chevrolet panel truck bearing 1968 Illinois license B 291617. This vehicle was observed and both license plates were attached. Mr. MC GOVERN could furnish no further information in this matter and was not identical with the subject.

JOHN H. CARNAHAN, 9138 Kilpatrick, Skokie, Illinois, was located and interviewed by SA BAKER. He advised that he and his wife were camping in Wisconsin this weekend and were driving a Ford pickup bearing 1968 Illinois license B 271617 and were hauling a rented camper. CARNAHAN is the owner of Skokie Auto Air Company and is not identical to subject RAY.

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Re: JAMES E. BODKER  
14341 South Avalon  
Dolton, Illinois

On May 1, 1968, the Atlanta Office advised that CHARLES V. TYSON, Manager, Hertz Rental, Albany, Georgia, stated that at 12:15 PM, April 19, 1968, a white male identifying himself as JAMES E. BODKER, rented a 1967 Ford Galaxie, 4-door, hard top, white over blue, Vehicle Identification Number 7A56C207625, bearing 1968 Georgia license 8J5039. This car was to be used in the vicinity of Albany and returned to Albany, Georgia, on April 22, 1968. BODKER gave home address as above and claimed to be manager of Suburban Motors, address not given. He furnished Illinois drivers license number. Vehicle not returned as of May 1, 1968. Description of BODKER fits general description of JAMES EARL RAY. One Hertz employee states BODKER bears close resemblance to 1968 photograph and believes BODKER could be identical to subject.

The following investigation was conducted by SA THOMAS W. PARRISH on May 1, 1968:

The records of the Dolton, Illinois Police Department were reviewed and contained no information identifiable with BODKER.

LARRY MILLAR, 14341 Avalon, Dolton, Illinois, advised that he is the brother-in-law of BODKER who uses the above address as a mailing address but does not reside at the location. He could furnish no information regarding BODKER's present whereabouts. DONNA MILLAR appeared at the above residence and furnished the same information as her husband. She further advised that on the day KING was shot, BODKER and the rest of the family were attending a birthday party for their mother, Mrs. ZELDA BALDUC, 12357 Ashland, Calumet Park, Illinois. Both stated they would have BODKER contact the FBI if they located him. Both were also advised that the auto rented by BODKER was overdue and that he should immediately advise Hertz.

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Mrs. BALDUC was contacted and verified information given by the MILLARS. She exhibited a photo of BODKER. Comparison of this photo with that of the subject did not appear to indicate any similarity.

On May 2, 1968, BODKER was contacted at the North Side Inn, 125th and Western, Blue Island, Illinois. He bears very little physical resemblance to subject RAY. BODKER exhibited numerous identification to establish his background. Handwriting samples were obtained and appear identical to other signatures going back ten years. He advised that on the evening of the KING murder he was at his mother's home with numerous other guests.

BODKER is presently on parole and has served 5 years, 10 months of a 14-year sentence for voluntary manslaughter; he has also served time for burglary and auto theft. His parole records are maintained with the Illinois State Probation Office. He advised that he returned the Hertz car to their Chicago Office.

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DRH:bjo

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Re Look Alike, O'Hare Airport, Chicago, Delta Airlines, 4/9/68.

The following investigation was conducted by SA DANIEL R. HUNTINGTON on May 1, 1968:

LOU MYERS, Field Ticket Office Manager, Delta Airlines, O'Hare International Airport, advised that from his records the two ticket agents working the express baggage check in counter where seat selection formerly was located were JOHN WINNICK and PAUL VANA. MYERS said that Delta handles from four to five thousand passengers a day from O'Hare and advised that the seat selection is now handled, and was at that time handled, at each gate. However, if H. ALVIN SHARPE is a frequent Delta Traveler, he would have recalled that this is where seat selection had been for a number of years.

WINNICK interviewed at length, however, he recalled nothing of incident described. He has seen many photographs of subject, and states he cannot recall any person resembling subject.

PAUL VANA recently married, on honeymoon at the Island of Aruba, off the coast of South America, and unavailable until May 9, 1968.

The foregoing investigation was based on information furnished by the New Orleans Division on April 29, 1968, indicating that H. ALVIN SHARP, Educoin Company, New Orleans, Louisiana, advised that about 2:00 p.m. he went to the Delta Airlines Ticket Office, O'Hare Airport, and while there, observed a man talking with one of the seat reservation agents. SHARP thought he knew this man and then his attention was further drawn to him by the fact that the passenger said he wanted to go to New Orleans but did not want the flight via Atlanta. SHARP spoke to this man, thinking he was his friend, apologized and then noted that this person remained at the counter and seemed to have a "hassle" with one of the two men at the counter. This conversation apparently continued for thirty minutes. SHARP did not see this person again, states he believes this man was the subject after observing a new picture of RAY. SHARP stated the 1968 photo of RAY does not resemble man at airport.

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SPECIAL PROJECTS

Immediately upon identification of the murderer of KING as JAMES EARL RAY, contact was established with the various airlines at O'Hare International Airport, with United States Customs and with airlines having international operations. On April 25, 1968, all airlines at O'Hare Airport as well as the O'Hare Detachment of the Chicago Police Department, Immigration and Naturalization Service, and United States Public Health were contacted by SA JOHN W. MORAN and SA DANIEL R. HUNTINGTON at which time supervisory personnel were furnished with Identification Orders and wanted flyers of the subject which they agreed to place in a prominent spot and discuss instant matter with their employees. They also advised that they would insure that the FBI was immediately contacted in the event any employee observed a person that resembled the subject.

On April 24, 1968, Mr. CHARLES G. WARD, District Supervisor, Federal Narcotics Bureau, United States Department of Justice, Room 1836, Federal Building, was contacted by SA CLARK A. HULL at which time he was furnished 25 copies of the wanted flyer for JAMES EARL RAY. Mr. WARD advised that all sources of the Narcotics Bureau would be contacted concerning the subject and should any positive information be received about him or his whereabouts, he would immediately notify the FBI.

All ITSMV cases in the Chicago Division have been reviewed from March 23, 1968, to date where the car was stolen in or near Atlanta, Georgia. To date there has been no indication from this review that the subject was responsible for any theft that area based on Chicago information.

Lieutenant EMIL GIESE, Commanding Officer, Identification Division, Chicago Police Department, was contacted by SA RAMON W. STRATTON on April 22, 1968, with the request that the latent fingerprints presently outstanding in the Chicago Police Department unsolved criminal cases be checked against the known prints of JAMES EARL RAY. On April 26, 1968, Lieutenant GIESE advised that he is continuing the program consistent with the available personnel. He said that he had several thousand latents in file and to this time, he has

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eliminated an estimated 200 to 300. He advised that he is aware of the importance of this matter and is personally spending a considerable amount of time when possible eliminating these latents assisted by three latent examiners when available. On May 3, 1968, Lieutenant GIESE advised that he has eliminated about another 300 prints without developing any that could be identical with the subject.

On April 30, 1968, the Chicago Division instituted personal contacts with all of the country clubs within the territory. The contacting Agents reviewed the employment records of the various country clubs for any possibility that the subject could have been employed at the club at any time and if he had been employed since April 23, 1967. These contacts met with negative results; however, a copy of the Identification Order for the subject was left with appropriate personnel who advised that they would check all individuals who applied for employment in the future and would immediately notify the Chicago Division if there appeared to be any individual answering the physical description and photograph of the subject.

The records of the American Bartending School, 334 South Wabash, were reviewed by SA RICHARD G. STILLING and contact has been maintained with Mr. GERALD R. SANTORO, Director, on a continuing basis in the event that the subject might contact the school.

The records of the American Bartending School were reviewed in an effort to find the attendance of JOHN RAY, subject's brother; however, a search of these records going back to 1962 did not develop any information that JOHN RAY had attended.



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