

FBI MIAMI

FBI JACKSVLE

951 AM EDT 5/16/68 URGENT GWC

TO: MIAMI

FROM: JACKSONVILLE (44-769)

MURKIN.

RE WFO TEL TO JACKSONVILLE DATED MAY FIFTEEN, LAST,
WHICH ADVISED AS FOLLOWS:

WFO RECEIVED COMPLAINT TODAY THAT A LATE MODEL BLACK
BUICK WAS TRAVELING NORTHEAST ON NEW YORK AVE., WDC. THE DRIVER
WAS REPORTED AS RESEMBLING THE PICTURE OF JAMES EARL RAY. THE
VEHICLE BORE FLA. LICENSE ONE W ONE NINE FOUR ONE ZERO THREE.
JACKSONVILLE DETERMINE TO WHOM VEHICLE REGISTERED AND SET OUT
LEADS TO DETERMINE WHEREABOUTS FOR ELIMINATION PERPOSES. NCIC
NEGATIVE.

RECORDS, DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLE, TALLAHASSEE, FLA.,
REFLECTS SIXTY SEVEN - SIXTY EIGHT, FLA. LICENSE ONE W DASH ONE
NINE FOUR ONE ZERO THREE, ISSUED TO ALBERTO VADIA, TWENTY THREE
HUNDRED CORAL WAY, MIAMI, FOR USE ON SIXTY EIGHT PONTIAC, VIN TWO
FOUR TWO THREE SEVEN EIGHT P ONE SIX FOUR FOUR SIX ONE.

END PAGE ONE

44-1854-577

SEARCHED.....	FILE
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MAY 16 1968	
FBI - MIAMI	

Jellison

JK 44-769

PAGE TWO

MIAMI AT MIAMI: WILL DETERMINE WHEREABOUTS OF
REGISTRANT OF INSTANT VEHICLE FOR ELIMINATION PURPOSES.

WFO AND MEMPHIS ADVISED AM.

END

HTF

FBI MIAMI

T

F B I

Date: 5/17/68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

TO: WFO

FROM: MIAMI (44-1854)

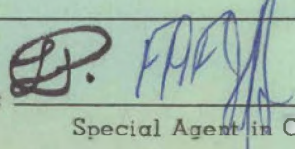
MURKIN

RE JACKSONVILLE TEL TO MIAMI, MAY SIXTEEN, LAST.
~~RETEL~~RETEL ADVISED LATE MODEL BUICK BEARING FLA. LICENSE
ONE W ONE NINE FOUR ONE ZERO THREE OBSERVED WASHINGTON, D.C.
TRAVELING ON NEW YORK AVE. ON MAY SIXTEEN, LAST, BY INDIVIDUAL
RESEMBLING SUBJECT.

ON MAY SEVENTEEN, INSTANT, ALBERTO VADIA, EXECUTIVE,
PAN AMERICAN LAND DEVELOPMENT CORP., TWO THREE ZERO ZERO
CORAL WAY, MIAMI, ADVISED ABOVE LICENSE IS ISSUED FOR
SIXTYEIGHT PONTIAC GTO OWNED BY HIM. CAR BEING USED BY HIS
SON, ALBERT VADIA, JR., ONE EIGHT THREE ONE BELMONT RD. NW,
APT. THREE ZERO ONE, WASHINGTON, D.C., WHO IS A FRESHMAN AT
CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY, WASHINGTON, D. C.

① - 44-1854
1 - MEMPHIS (AM)
JJM: jgm
(2)

Searched _____
Serialized _____
Indexed _____
Filed _____

Approved: 

Special Agent in Charge

Sent 4:50p

M

Per 

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via _____
(Priority)

PAGE TWO

**WFO CONTACT ALBERT VADIA AT RESIDENCE OR UNIVERSITY AND
DETERMINE DRIVER OF CAR ON MAY SIXTEEN, LAST, AND ELIMINATE
DRIVER AS SUSPECT.**

MEMPHIS ADVISED AIRMAIL.

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

FBI MIAMI

FBI LOS ANG.

6:56PM URGENT 5-17-68 SMS

TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS, BIRMINGHAM, KANSAS CITY, MIAMI, LAS VEGAS,
DETROIT AND KNOXVILLE
FROM LOS ANGELES (44-1574) 9P

MURKIN.

RE LOS ANGELES PHONE CALL TO BUREAU MAY SEVENTEEN INSTANT.

RE LOS ANGELES TIMES INFORMANT - "BOB" LNU.

WILLIAM THOMAS, CITY EDITOR, LOS ANGELES TIMES,
TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED SAC LOS ANGELES TODAY AND
ADVISED PAPER HAD INFORMATION WHICH THEY FELT MIGHT BE OF
ASSISTANCE TO FBI IN THIS MATTER. SAC WESLEY G. GRAPP
AND SUPERVISOR WILLIAM JOHN NOLAN CONTACTED MR. THOMAS
AND REPORTER JERRY COHEN AT LOS ANGELES TIMES OFFICE. THEY
ADVISED EARLY IN THE WEEK, MONDAY OR TUESDAY, THE PAPER
HAD BEEN TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED BY AN INDIVIDUAL WHO SAID HE
HAD INFORMATION CONCERNING WHAT ACTUALLY HAD TAKEN PLACE IN
CONNECTION WITH THE DEATH OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. THOMAS
ADVISED THERE WERE THREE OR FOUR TELEPHONE CALLS, AND HE
MADE NOTES DURING THE CALLS. AND ON THE EVENING OF MAY SIXTEEN,

END PAGE ONE

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PAGE TWO

SIXTY EIGHT, HE AND JERRY COHEN MET THIS INDIVIDUAL AT A BAR. HE ADVISED THE INDIVIDUAL GAVE THE NAME QUOTE BOB UNQUOTE, NO LAST NAME, DESCRIBED AS IN MIDDLE THIRTIES, DECENT LOOKING FELLOW, AND APPARENTLY HAD BEEN IN SEVERAL PENITENTIARIES, AS HE KNEW THE LANGUAGE VERY WELL. THOMAS ADVISED THE PAPER HAD TAKEN NO OVERT STEPS IN ATTEMPTING TO VERIFY THE STORY BUT DID HAVE REPORTERS IN KANSAS CITY, MEMPHIS, HUNTSVILLE, MIAMI AND BIRMINGHAM, AND HE HAD INSTRUCTED THE REPORTERS TO CONTACT THE LOCAL FBI OFFICE AND MAKE THIS INFORMATION, AS SET FORTH IN HIS NOTES, AVAILABLE. HE ADVISED FURTHER HE CONTEMPLATED MAKING THIS INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO ATTORNEY GENERAL RAMSEY CLARK. HE ADVISED HIS SOLE PURPOSE WAS TO GET A STORY OUT OF THE MATERIAL, BUT DID NOT WISH TO INTERFERE IN ANY FBI INVESTIGATION.

HE ADVISED DURING HIS MEETING WITH QUOTE BOB UNQUOTE HE GOT FROM BOB A BUS TICKET DATED APRIL SEVEN, SIXTY EIGHT, ON A GREYHOUND BUS FROM KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE, TO LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, WHICH TICKET WAS ISSUED BY SOUTHERN GREYHOUND AT KNOXVILLE ON APRIL SEVEN SIXTY EIGHT AND HAD THE NUMBERS THREE SPACE ZERO ZERO ZERO EIGHT TWO TWO TWO NINE SPACE FOUR
END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

TWO. TRANSPORTATION WAS FROM KNOXVILLE TO MEMPHIS, MEMPHIS TO EL PASO, THEN TO LOS ANGELES. HE ADVISED HE HAD GIVEN QUOTE BOB UNQUOTE ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS FOR THE TICKET AND THIS INFORMATION AND DID NOT EXPECT TO HEAR FROM HIM AGAIN, AS QUOTE BOB UNQUOTE SAID HE NEEDED THE MONEY TO LEAVE TOWN.

SET FORTH FOR THE INFORMATION OF RECEIVING OFFICES ARE THE NOTES AS TYPED UP BY THOMAS CONCERNING HIS INTERVIEW OF "BOB".

PAGE ONE

ONE. THE DAY BEFORE THE SHOOTING, RAY WAS PICKED UP IN ATHENS, ALABAMA, AND WAS TAKEN TO MEMPHIS.

TWO. HE REGISTERED IN ROOMING HOUSE. ANOTHER MAN REGISTERED AS SAMUEL LEWIS. PAREN LEWIS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE BACKUP MAN, KILL KING AT RALLY THAT NIGHT IF RAY MISSED HIS CHANCE ON THE BALCONY. PAREN

THREE. AFTER SHOOTING KING, RAY WALKED TWO OR THREE BLOCKS TO THE GETAWAY CAR, ACCOMPANIED BY A GIRL AND A GUY. THE CAR IS A NEW BLUE BUICK, WITH ALABAMA PLATES. FIRST DIGITS ARE BELIEVED TO BE ONE FOUR. CAR IS OWNED AND WAS DRIVEN BY EDDIE WILBURN OF HUNTSVILLE, ALA. IT IS EQUIPPED WITH A POLICE
END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

RADIO. PAREN SECOND MAN STAYED OVERNIGHT, TOOK EARLY BUS TO KNOXVILLE. PAREN

FOUR. RAY, TWO GIRLS AND A CHILD WERE DRIVEN OUT OF MEMPHIS BY WILBURN IN THE BLUE BUICK. WENT TO KANSAS CITY. TRIP TOOK SIX AND ONE HALF HOURS. GIRLS, CHILD, WILBURN ALL FROM HUNTSVILLE.

FIVE. IN KANSAS CITY, RAY STAYED OVERNIGHT AT A HOME. IT IS A SMALL, GRAY, SHINGLED, ONE-BEDROOM HOUSE ABOUT THREE MILES FROM CENTRAL KANSAS CITY. PAREN WE HAVE ROUGH LOCATION. PAREN

SIX. AT DUSK THE NEXT DAY PAREN APRIL FIVE PAREN RAY WAS FLOWN TO BELLE GLADE, FLORIDA, IN A PRIVATE PLANE. TOOK OFF FROM PRIVATE FIELD, ALSO USED AS TRAINING FIELD FOR MILITARY. RAY ARRIVED EARLY APRIL SIX.

SEVEN. PLANE IN WHICH RAY WAS FLOWN IS OWNED BY A WILLIAM PIERCE, A WEALTHY MAN WHO OWNS OR OPERATES AN AIRPORT IN BELLE GLADE, AND ONCE OWNED A CONTRACTING COMPANY IN CUBA. NOT KNOWN WHETHER PIERCE FLEW THE PLANE. PIERCE ALSO OWNS MOTEL IN BELLE GLADE AND COTTAGES ON THE LAKE IN NEARBY OKEECHOBEE PAREN OR MAYBE ON NEARBY LAKE OKEECHOBEE PAREN. PIERCE SAID
END PAGE FOUR

PAGE FIVE

TO BE KKK MEMBER.

EIGHT. THEORY: RAY STAYED IN MOTEL OR IN COTTAGE. MAY BE STILL THERE. OR IN CUBA.

NINE. ON APRIL ELEVEN, RAY GOT ON YACHT PAREN PROBABLY CHARTER BOAT PAREN IN KEY WEST. BOAT OWNED BY BEN THOMPSON. PAREN A BEN THOMPSON OF MIAMI OWNS THREE FISHING BOATS. PAREN.
PAGE TWO

ONE. PIERCE OFTEN FLIES OWN PRIVATE PLANE TO NEW ORLEANS. SAID TO KNOW DA JIM GARRISON. ALSO MIGHT CHECK POSSIBLE FLIGHTS IN DIRECTION OF CUBA.

TWO. PIERCE AND WILBURN SAID TO BE RELATED.

THREE. LEAD TO WILBURN MIGHT BE VFW CLUB IN HUNTSVILLE, WHERE HE IS SUPPOSED TO BE A MEMBER.

FOUR. RIFLE IS SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN LEFT IN FURNACE OF MEMPHIS ROOMING HOUSE, AND IS BELIEVED STILL THERE. MUST REFER TO BACKUP MAN'S WEAPON.

FIVE. RAY NOW WEARING BIFOCALS.

SIX. WHITE MUSTANG BELONGING TO RAY WAS NOT IN MEMPHIS ON THE DAY OF KING SLAYING, AND HE DID NOT ESCAPE IN IT. PRESUMABLY IT NEVER LEFT GEORGIA IN APRIL.
END PAGE FIVE

PAGE SIX

SEVEN. ON THE DAY OF THE KILLING PAREN APRIL FOUR PAREN RAY MADE PHONE CALLS FROM MEMPHIS TO BELLE GLADE. CALLS BELIEVED TO BE MADE FROM A BUS STATION.

EIGHT. IN THE WEEKS BEFORE THE KILLING, RAY STAYED SOMEWHERE IN BELLE GLADE.

NINE. STORY OF PAYOFFS VERY COMPLICATED. WILBURN SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN PAID OFF IN RENO. NIGHT BEFORE KILLING, SOMEBODY HIT A KENO TICKET FOR TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS IN CAL-NEVA LODGE. RIGGED, TO PASS THE MONEY. DONE WITH KNOWLEDGE OF CHARLIE CATE, SIX EIGHT EIGHT ZERO PEBBLE BEACH DRIVE, RENO, WHO RUNS A SHIFT AT CAL-NEVA. THEN THERE IS BEN PAREN OR JACK PAREN STURGIS OF ST. LOUIS, WHO USED TO WORK BAR ON SECOND STREET, RENO. CAME INTO MONEY. ANOTHER QUOTE CONTACT. UNQUOTE.

PAGE THREE - LOS ANGELES.

ONE. RAY SOMEBODY STAYED IN CLARK HOTEL, ROOM SEVEN ZERO ZERO, ON APRIL SEVENTEEN DASH EIGHTEEN.

TWO. LAMONT WHITE, WHO WORKS FOR WESTERN UNION IN LOS ANGELES. HAS SENT MONEY TO LOUISIANA. BOUGHT TWO PISTOLS UNDER HIS NAME. THEY REALLY WENT TO FRANK BRICKLEY OF CHATANOOGA,
END PAGE SIX

PAGE SEVEN

TENN., WHO WAS IN PRISON WITH RAY. BRICKLEY SUPPOSED TO BE HERE.

THREE. HAROLD'S CAFE PAREN FIVE FIVE FIVE SOUTH MAIN PAREN. RAY BARTENDER THERE FOR WEEK OR SO. QUEER BAR. GUY NAMED CONNIE KNOWS HIM THERE.

WILLI SHEA. ONCE WORKED TOP RAIL BAR. SEVENTH AND ALVARADO. RAY SUPPOSEDLY MARRIED TO HER ONCE. SHE FROM MISSOURI, NOW LIVES IN NORTH HOLLYWOOD. HAS MONEY. MOTHER MARRIED, LIVES IN COMPTON, DRIVES A PURPLE PONTIAC CONVERTIBLE. NOW LIVES AT EIGHT ONE TWO SOUTH WESTLAKE, LOS ANGELES, WITH MAN WHO OWNS A BAR. SHE IS BLOND, ABOUT THIRTY EIGHT.

PAGE FOUR - MORE SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:

ONE. TELEPHONE CREDIT CARD SUPPOSEDLY USED BY RAY WAS ISSUED TO RIDELL CATERING, U. S. RUBBER, DETROIT. EITHER IN NAME OF RIDELL PAREN NO FIRST NAME PAREN OR A ROBERT BRINKLEY. RIDELL REPORTER LIVES IN HARPER WOODS, MICH. CALLS ON CARD REPORTED MADE FROM MEMPHIS TO BELLE GLADE, FLA., AMONG OTHERS.

TWO. SAMUEL LEWIS, SECOND MAN IN ROOMING HOUSE, DISCHARGED NINETEEN SIXTY THREE FROM MILAN, MICH. ALSO SERVED TIME IN CHILLICOTHE AND TERRE HAUTE. PAREN WARDEN AT MILAN SAYS NO
END PAGE SEVEN

PAGE EIGHT

RECORD OF LEWIS. PAREN

THREE. LEWIS TOOK BUS TO LOS ANGELES FROM KNOXVILLE ON APRIL SEVEN. CAME THROUGH MEMPHIS AND EL PASO.

THOMAS ADVISED THAT IN RELATION TO ITEM FIVE, PAGE ONE, OF HIS NOTES, THIS HOUSE IS LOCATED OFF A MAIN STREET STARTING FROM DOWNTOWN KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, DIRECTION UNKNOWN, AND FROM THE MAIN STREET A SMALLER STREET GOES TO THE LEFT, WHICH STREET HAS A WESTERN UNION BUILDING LOCATED ON IT AND GOES OFF FROM THE MAIN STREET IN THE FORM OF A STEEP HILL. TWO TO THREE MILES UP THE HILL ON THE LEFT ARE LOCATED NICE LOOKING APARTMENTS, BROWNISH IN COLOR, WHERE STUDENTS FROM SOME SCHOOL LIVE, AND JUST PRIOR TO THIS ON THE RIGHT IS THE LOCATION OF A MOVING COMPANY, NO NAME KNOWN, AND A GROCERY STORE IS LOCATED IN THE VICINITY OF THE MOVING COMPANY ON THE SAME SIDE. ABOUT TWO BLOCKS BEYOND THE GROCERY STORE THERE IS A NARROW STREET WITH RAMSHACKLE HOUSES ON ONE SIDE AND VACANT LOTS ON THE OTHER. TURNING RIGHT ON THIS STREET, THE THIRD HOUSE ON THE LEFT WOULD BE THE CORRECT HOUSE INVOLVED, WHICH IS OCCUPIED BY AN INDIVIDUAL QUOTE WHO SELLS BEER AND BOOZE AFTER HOURS AND HIDES GUYS OUT. UNQUOTE. THE HOUSE IS DESCRIBED AS ONE BEDROOM, END PAGE EIGHT

PAGE NINE

NO GARAGE, DIRT DRIVEWAY, SINGLE STORY AND HAS A LARGE FREEZER
IN THE LIVING ROOM.

THOMAS ADVISED FROM THE STORY RECEIVED, IT IS A
POSSIBILITY QUOTE BOB UNQUOTE IS THE SAME AS THE SAMUEL LEWIS
MENTIONED IN HIS NOTES.

EACH RECEIVING OFFICE SHOULD CAREFULLY REVIEW THE NOTES
AND IMMEDIATELY ATTEMPT TO VERIFY ANY OF THE INFORMATION SET
FORTH AND ADVISE BUREAU, MEMPHIS AND LOS ANGELES.

LOS ANGELES WILL IMMEDIATELY PURSUE EFFORTS TO PROVE OR
DISPROVE THE ALLEGATIONS SET FORTH FOR LOS ANGELES AREA.

AIR MAIL COPIES BEING FURNISHED CINCINNATI, NEW ORLEANS,
ST. LOUIS AND INDIANAPOLIS IN VIEW OF INFORMATION FURNISHED
IN THE NOTES.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

END

LAS

FBI MIAMI

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE MIAMI	OFFICE OF ORIGIN MEMPHIS	DATE 5/17/68	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 5/13 - 16/68
TITLE OF CASE JAMES EARL RAY - FUGITIVE; DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. (DECEASED) - VICTIM		REPORT MADE BY DAVID N. JELLISON	TYPED BY VC
		CHARACTER OF CASE CIVIL RIGHTS	

REFERENCES

New Orleans airtel to Memphis dated 5/7/68.
Miami teletype to New Orleans dated 5/13/68.
New Orleans teletype to Miami dated 5/15/68.

- P -

LEADSMIAMIAt Miami, Florida:

Will conduct any additional information upon
request of the Bureau or the Memphis Office.

- A* -

- COVER PAGE -

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED: NONECase has been: Pending over one year ☐ Yes ☒ No; Pending prosecution over six months ☐ Yes ☒ No

APPROVED

SPECIAL AGENT
IN CHARGE

COPIES MADE:

2 - Bureau (44-38861) (RM)
2 - Memphis (44-1987) (RM)
2 - Miami (44-1854)

VC

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

44 | 1854 | 580
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Serialized

Indexed

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Notations
Jellison

Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Agency				
Request Recd.				
Date Fwd.				
How Fwd.				
By				

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: **DAVID N. JELLISON**
Date: **May 17, 1968**Office: **Miami, Florida**Field Office File #: **44-1854**Bureau File #: **44-38861**Title: **JAMES EARL RAY;**
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. (DECEASED) - VICTIMCharacter: **CIVIL RIGHTS**

Synopsis:

Credit and criminal, telephone and city directory checks regarding W. H. RUNGLER, Miami, Fla., negative. No Columns Avenue exists in Miami. Current Fla. license tag 1WW11380 issued to E. G. HOLMAN for use on a 1966 Lincoln Continental coupe. HOLMAN interviewed and states car and tag in his possession on 12/17-19/67, in Miami, Fla. HOLMAN not acquainted with a W. H. RUNGLER and was not in New Orleans 12/17-19/67. Current Fla. license tag 1WW11386 is subscribed to by W. H. RUNZLER, 725 N.E. 24th St., Miami. RUNZLER interviewed and states he was in New Orleans during pertinent period staying at Provincial Motel but was unable to identify photographs of JAMES EARL RAY or recall anything about any of the other guests at the motel.

- P -

DETAILS:

Information was received from the New Orleans Office of the FBI that a W. H. RUNGLER, 2899 Columns Avenue, Miami, Florida, had registered on December 18, 1967, at the Provincial Motel, 1024 Chartres Street, New Orleans, Louisiana.

On May 13, 1968, the records of the Credit Bureau of Greater Miami, the Miami Police Department, the Miami Beach Police Department, the Dade County Department of Public Safety and the Miami Municipal Court were reviewed by IC CLIFFORD M. WERNER with regards to a W. H. RUNGLER. These records contain no information identifiable with W. H. RUNGLER.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

MM 44-1854

Miami telephone directories and Polk city directories checked for W. H. RUNGLER from 1958 to 1968 with negative results.

There is no Columns Avenue in the Greater Miami area.

The Miami Auto Tag Agency advised that 1967-1968 Florida license tag 1WW11380 is issued to E. G. HOLMAN, 1410 West 21st Street, Miami Beach, Florida, for use on a 1966 Lincoln Continental coupe.

EUGENE G. HOLMAN interviewed and advised that tag number 1WW11380 has been in his possession since April, 1967, and has been displayed on his Lincoln Continental coupe since that time. HOLMAN was not in New Orleans from December 17-19, 1967, nor was his automobile or the license tag 1WW11380. HOLMAN knows of no one named RUNGLER.

W. H. RUNZLER was located at the Walston Company, 199 S. E. 1st Street, Miami, Florida, and was interviewed at this location on May 16, 1968. RUNZLER advised that he was in New Orleans from December 17 - 19, 1967, and recalled that he was a guest at the Provincial Motel while staying in New Orleans. RUNZLER was unable to recall anything about any of the other guests staying at the motel at that time.

Upon viewing photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, RUNZLER stated that he recalled seeing no one at the Provincial Motel who resembled these photographs. RUNZLER could recall nothing of the vehicles being driven by other occupants of the motel.

PM EDT DEFERRED 5/17/68 LAS
TO DIRECTOR AND MEMPHIS
FROM MIAMI (44-1854)

MURKIN

RETELCALL FROM BUREAU TO MIAMI, MAY SIXTEEN, CONCERNING
SUSPECT KNOWN TO DR. RUTH TURRELL, NORTH PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

TURRELL ADVISED FIVE SEVENTEEN, SHE DID NOT MEAN TO INDICATE
HER PATIENT RESEMBLES RAY PHYSICALLY AS HE DOES NOT. HER PATIENT
IS VERY HEAVY SET, BUSHY HAired MAN WITH NOTICEABLE BAD RIGHT EYE,
NOSE NOT POINTED AND NO NOTICEABLE IRREGULARITY IN EARS.

SHE MEANT ONLY THAT HE WAS PSYCHOLOGICALLY CAPABLE OF SUCH
A THING.

END

TT APPROVED HN

SENT AT

10¹³ PM - WA, 10¹⁵ PM

BY HS

Dmg
Searched _____

Serialized _____

Indexed _____

Filed _____

44-1854-581

FBI MIAMI

FBI MEMPHIS

606PM URGENT 5-17-68 MEN

TO DIRECTOR, 44-38861, BIRMINGHAM, KANSAS CITY, MIAMI,
NEW ORLEANS, ATLANTA, DETROIT, AND LAS VEGAS
FROM MEMPHIS 44-1987 3P

✓
MURKIN.

IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THROUGH SECRET SERVICE, MEMPHIS, THAT
THE THREE TWENTY DOLLAR FEDERAL RESERVE NOTES PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED
TO THE LABORATORY ARE BONAFIDE AND NOT COUNTERFEIT.

EFFORTS ARE CONTINUING TO LOCATE THE ORIGINAL U. S. POSTAL
MONEY ORDERS THAT SUBJECT USED FOR PAYMENT TO LOCKSMITHING
INSTITUTE IN NEW JERSEY. THE ORIGINALS OF THESE MONEY ORDERS
WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE FBI LABORATORY REQUESTING APPROPRIATE
EXAMINATION.

RALPH CARPENTER, EMPLOYEE OF YORK ARMS, MEMPHIS, WAS ADMITTED
MAY TEN LAST TO PSYCHIATRIC UNIT JOHN GASTON HOSPITAL, MEMPHIS,
ON COMPLAINT OF WIFE. SANITY HEARING TO BE HELD MONDAY NEXT,
AND CARPENTER TO BE COMMITTED TENNESSEE PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL AND
INSTITUTE, MEMPHIS. CONDITION DIAGNOSED AS PARANOIA WITH
GRANDIOSE FEELINGS.

IN CONNECTION WITH INFORMATION FURNISHED THE LOS ANGELES
OFFICE BY REPRESENTATIVES OF LOS ANGELES TIMES NEWSPAPER.

44-1987-582

SEARCHED <i>JS</i>	INDEXED <i>JS</i>
SERIALIZED <i>JS</i>	FILED <i>JS</i>
MAY 17 1968	
FBI — MIAMI	

Jellison *JS*

PAGE TWO

WHICH INFORMATION IS REPORTEDLY ALSO BEING FURNISHED JUSTICE DEPARTMENT, THE FOLLOWING IS NOTED:

MRS. BESSIE BREWER, OPERATOR OF ROOMING HOUSE, FOUR TWO TWO AND ONE HALF S. MAIN ST., MEMPHIS, ADVISED THIS DATE THAT SAMUEL LEWIS UNKNOWN TO HER EITHER BY NAME OR AS AN ADDITIONAL REGISTRANT ON APRIL FOUR LAST.

MRS. BREWER STATES THAT NO ONE LIVING THERE HELPS MAINTAIN THE ROOMING HOUSE BY MAKING BEDS, ETC. EACH TENANT MAINTAINS HIS OWN ROOM AND MRS. BREWER CLEANS THE ROOM AFTER THE TENANT CHECKS OUT.

AN EXAMINATION OF THE ROOMING HOUSE AND THE CELLARE OF THE ROOMING HOUSE DISCLOSES THERE IS NO FURNACE. HEAT SUPPLIED IN EACH ROOM BY GAS HEATERS.

PREVIOUS INVESTIGATION, OF WHICH LOS ANGELES TIMES NOT AWARE, WOULD TEND TO PROVE BEYOND REASONABLE DOUBT THAT MURDER WEAPON WAS RECOVERED AND NOW IN POSSESSION OF MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT. PREVIOUS INVESTIGATION WOULD ALSO INDICATE THAT SUBJECT'S WHITE MUSTANG WAS IN SUBJECT'S POSSESSION AT REBEL MOTEL, MEMPHIS, ON NIGHT OF APRIL THREE LAST.

PAGE THREE

MEMPHIS FEELS INFORMATION IS SO OBVIOUSLY INCORRECT
THAT ANY ADDITIONAL INQUIRY WOULD BE A WASTE OF INVESTIGATIVE
EFFORT; HOWEVER, OFFICES CONDUCTING INVESTIGATION SHOULD
NOT DISCONTINUE UNLESS ADVISED BY THE BUREAU.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P.

END LAS

FBI MIAMI

FBI MIAMI

FBI CHICAGO

510PM URGENT 5-17-68 RMF

TO DIRECTOR /44-38861/ ATLANTA /44-2386/ MEMPHIS /44-1987/ MIAMI

/44-1854/

FROM CHICAGO /44-1114/

✓
MURKIN

RECGTEL MAY FOURTEEN AND MIAMI MAY FIFTEEN LAST.

RE EASTERN FLIGHTS OUT OF ATLANTA APRIL FIVE THROUGH APRIL TEN
LAST.

INQUIRY BURGESS VIBROCRAFTERS, INC. GRAYSLAKE, ILLINOIS, REVEALED
UAL IN ERROR AS UAL TICKET ENDING EIGHT TWO NINE NOT ISSUED TO THAT
COMPANY. RECONTACT WITH UAL DEVELOPED TICKET ACTUALLY ISSUED TO
ELRICK AND LAVIDGE, INC. CHICAGO IN SIXTYSIX.

CONTACT ABOVE COMPANY DEVELOPED TICKET USED BY CHARLES PLOCAR
WHO, AMONG OTHER CITIES, FLEW OUT OF ATLANTA APRIL NINE LAST ON EAL
FLIGHT TWO FOUR EIGHT. PLOCAR EMPLOYED ABOVE FIRM SINCE EARLY SIXTY-
FIVE. ELIMINATED. UAL CHECK RE EAL FLIGHTS CONCLUDED.

AMCC NEW YORK AND MINNEAPOLIS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

LAS

FBI MIAMI

44-1854-583

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MAY 17 1968	
FBI — MIAMI	

Jellison *eng*

F B I

Date: 5/18/68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

TO DIRECTOR, LOS ANGELES AND MEMPHIS + TAMPA
FROM MIAMI (44-1854)

MURKIN. CR.

RE LOS ANGELES TEL TO DIRECTOR, MAY SEVENTEEN LAST;
MIAMI TEL TO DIRECTOR, MAY EIGHTEEN INSTANT; AND LOS
ANGELES TEL TO DIRECTOR MAY EIGHTEEN INSTANT.

BENJAMIN LARNARD THOMPSON, JR., MIAMI, ADVISED THAT
HIS FATHER, BENJAMIN LARNARD THOMPSON, SR., DIED NOVEMBER,
SIXTYSEVEN, AND THAT HIS FATHER HAD BEEN SEMI-RETIRED SINCE
NINETEEN FIFTYFOUR FROM COMMERCIAL FISHING AFTER
SUSTAINING HEART CONDITION.

THOMPSON ADVISED HE HAS BEEN EMPLOYED WITH AERODEX,
MIAMI, SINCE MARCH, SIXTYSEVEN, AND HAS BEEN ON THE
THREE PM - MIDNIGHT SHIFT SINCE JANUARY, NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT.

THOMPSON ADVISED HE WAS NOT OUT OF MIAMI AREA
DURING THE PERIOD APRIL THREE THROUGH TWELVE LAST AND
WAS WORKING AT AERODEX DURING THIS PERIOD.

DNJ:kc
(1)Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent

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Per

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Date:

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THOMPSON ADVISED HE FORMERLY WORKED AS COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN FOR EAST COAST FISHERIES, MIAMI, FLA., AND PRIOR TO AUGUST, NINETEEN SIXTYSIX, HE HAD OWNED THREE SEPARATE BOATS DURING VARIOUS INTERVALS IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS IN WHICH HE FISHED OFF FLORIDA KEYS, MOSTLY FOR LOBSTERS.

THOMPSON STATED APPROXIMATELY FOUR YEARS AGO HE WAS ARRESTED BY BRITISH GOVT. FOR FISHING IN BAHAMIAN WATERS. HIS ARREST RECEIVED A GREAT DEAL OF PUBLICITY IN MIAMI NEWSPAPERS.

THOMPSON ADVISED HE WAS OUT OF STATE OF FLA. ONCE DURING HIS ENTIRE LIFETIME, THAT BEING DURING HIGH SCHOOL WHEN HE VISITED NEW YORK CITY.

HE EMPHATICALLY DENIED ANY KNOWLEDGE REGARDING THIS MATTER AND NEVER HEARD OF THE NAMES WILBURN, PIERCE OR KNEW ANYONE WHO OWNED MOTEL OR AIRPLANE.

THOMPSON ADVISED IT WAS COMPLETE MYSTERY TO HIM AS TO HOW HIS NAME WAS BEING UTILIZED IN THIS MATTER.

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Special Agent in Charge

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HE STATED THAT HE HAD A RELATIVE WHO IS A COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN IN MARATHON, FLA., BY THE NAME OF RONNY PIERCE, AGE THIRTY FIVE.

ROBERT OPP, SECURITY OFFICER, AERODEX, MIAMI, ADVISED THAT ALL PERSONNEL RECORDS AND TIME CARDS AT AERODEX WILL BE UNAVAILABLE UNTIL MORNING OF MAY TWENTY NEXT.

CITY DIRECTORIES, MARATHON, AND KEY WEST, FLA., NEGATIVE RE BENJAMIN THOMPSON. KEY WEST CITY DIRECTORY NEGATIVE RE RONALD PIERCE. MARATHON CITY DIRECTORY LISTS A RONALD K. PIERCE, FISHERMAN.

INVESTIGATION MARATHON, FLA., DETERMINED RONALD K. PIERCE, AGE FORTYFIVE, IS AN INDIGENT LOBSTER FISHERMAN WHO IS MARRIED, HAS FIVE CHILDREN AND WHO SUPPLEMENTS HIS FISHING INCOME BY WORKING PARTTIME AS A MECHANIC. PIERCE IS A LIFELONG RESIDENT OF MARATHON, FLA., WHO

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SELDOM LEAVES THE FLA. KEYS. PIERCE DOES NOT HOLD A PILOT'S LICENSE, HAS NO INTEREST IN ANY AIRPORT AND DOES NOT OWN A PLANE. PIERCE HAS NEVER BEEN A BUILDER AND HAS HAD NO AFFILIATIONS IN CUBA, DOES NOT KNOW EDDIE WILBURN AND HAS NEVER BEEN A MEMBER OF ANY KKK GROUP.

INVESTIGATION AT PAHOKEE AND BELLE GLADE, FLA., INDICATES THAT A WILLIAM L. PIERCE, WHITE MALE, AGE FIFTYEIGHT, EMPLOYED AT BELLE GLADE AS A WELDER AT TRUE FLOW, INC., FORMERLY OWNED ^{SOME CATTLE AND} A LOW CLASS MIGRANT LABORER BOARDING HOUSE WHICH HE WAS FORCED TO GIVE UP IN NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN FOR NONPAYMENT OF TAXES. DOES NOT HAVE ANY INTEREST IN AN AIRPORT, DOES NOT OWN A PLANE AND DOES NOT FLY. PIERCE IS NOT RELATED TO OR ACQUAINTED WITH EDDIE WILBURN AND IS NOT AFFILIATED WITH ANY KKK ORGANIZATION.

Pierce had been wealthy ^{for a short time} over 20 years ago when he invented a hemp rope manufacturing machine which was later bought by Batista supporters in Cuba. No other William L. Pierce's located in the Pahokee or Belle Glade area.

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PAGE FOUR

INVESTIGATION AT OKEECHOBEE, FLA., INDICATES THAT LELAND CLIFFORD PEARCE, W/M, AGE FIFTY, OWNS PROPERTY AND SEVERAL COTTAGES AND IS A LAND DEVELOPER IN THE BUCKHEAD RIDGE SECTION OF OKEECHOBEE. PEARCE WAS A FORMER CATTLE OWNER IN THE OKEECHOBEE AREA AND SOLD CATTLE TO CUBA AND SOUTH AMERICA IN NINETEEN FIFTYSIX. PEARCE DOES NOT OWN A PRIVATE PLANE AND DOES NOT FLY. HE IS NOT ACQUAINTED WITH JIM GARRISON AND IS NOT RELATED TO EDDIE WILBURN. PEARCE DOES NOT KNOW ANYONE NAMED BEN THOMPSON AND IS NOT A MEMBER OF THE KKK. PEARCE WAS IN THE OKEECHOBEE AREA ON APRIL THREE - TEN, NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT. PEARCE VIEWED PHOTOS OF JAMES EARL RAY AND WAS UNABLE TO IDENTIFY.

PEARCE OF OPINION THAT JOHN THOMAS BOWLES AN ACTIVE KKK MEMBER IN THE UNITED KLANS OF AMERICA (UKA), OKEECHOBEE, FLA., SUBJECT OF MIAMI FILES ONE FIVE SEVEN - ONE NINE ONE ZERO AND ONE SEVEN THREE - ONE SEVEN TWO AND BUREAU FILES ONE FIVE SEVEN - SEVEN FOUR ONE SEVEN AND ONE SEVEN THREE - FOUR FIVE EIGHT NINE, COULD POSSIBLY HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN CAPTIONED MATTER. BOWLES DESCRIBED AS W/M, DOB NINE TWENTYTWO, TWENTYTWO, AT KINERVILLE, FLA., HEIGHT FIVE FT. TEN IN., WEIGHT ONE THREE EIGHT LBS., FBI NO. THREE TWO ONE - NINE TWO EIGHT - C. PEARCE BELIEVES BOWLES MAY BE INVOLVED BECAUSE BOWLES'S PRIVATE PLANE GONE FROM OKEECHOBEE AREA AT INTERVALS FROM APRIL FOUR TO APRIL EIGHT, LAST.

END PAGE FOUR

MM 44-1854

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BOWLES INTERVIEWED AND STATED HE WAS AT CALLAHAN DENTAL LABORATORY, ARMENIA AVE., TAMPA, FLA., TEL NO. NINE THREE TWO - THREE ZERO EIGHT FIVE, ONE APRIL THIRD, FORTH, AND SIXTH, LAST, HAVING DENTURE WORK DONE. THIS STORY NOT VERIFIED BY INTERVIEWS WITH HIS WIFE AND BROTHER-IN-LAW. BOWLES STATES HE IS IN SYMPATHY WITH THE ASSASSIN OF KING AND WOULD LIKE TO SHAKE THE HAND OF THOSE RESPONSIBLE. BOWLES HAS PRIVATE PLANE AND FLIES REGULARLY. HE MANAGES THE RIDGE APARTMENTS, BUCKHEAD RIDGE, OKEECHOBEE, FLA., AND IS ALSO A FISHING PARTY GUIDE. BOWLES DOES NOT KNOW EDDIE WILBURN, JIM GARRISON, OR A BEN THOMPSON WHO OWNS BOATS. HE STATED HE DID NOT FLY KING'S ASSASSIN ANYWHERE AND WAS IN NO WAY INVOLVED WITH ASSASSINATION PLOT. BOWLES NOT WEALTHY. INVESTIGATION CONTINUING MIAMI.

TAMPA, INTERVIEW APPROPRIATE INDIVIDUALS AT CALLAHAN DENTAL LABORATORY TO DETERMINE SPECIFIC DATES AND TIMES JOHN BOWLES THERE FROM MARCH TWENTYEIGHT TO APRIL TWELVE, NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

FBI MIAMI

FBI CHARLT

517URGENT 5-18-68 DCC

TO DIRECTOR, FBI, LOS ANGELES, MEMPHIS AND MIAMI
FROM CHARLOTTE (44-1365)

✓
MURKIN

RE MM AND LA TELETYPES EIGHTEENTH INSTANT.

WILLIAM LINCOLN PIERCE, ROCKY WATERS MOTEL, MAGGIE VALLEY,
RFD WAYNESVILLE, N. C. INTERVIEWED MAY EIGHTEEN, INSTANT.
PIERCE DENIES ANY KNOWLEDGE OF KILLING. HE DENIES KNOWING
JAMES EARL RAY AND AFTER VIEWING RAY'S PHOTO, STATED ACQUAINTED
WITH NO ONE WHO COULD BE IDENTICAL WITH RAY. PIERCE CLAIMED
HE WAS ON CONCH KEY, FLA., ALL WINTER, LEAVING APRIL FIFTH, LAST,
GOING TO RESIDENCE IN MIAMI, FLA., WHERE HE STAYED UNTIL
COMING TO WAYNESVILLE, N. C., APRIL TEN, LAST, TO PREPARE
HIS TOURIST COURT FOR OPENING. HE DOES NOT OWN AN AIRPLANE
OR AIRPORT AND HAS NO FINANCIAL INTEREST IN EITHER, NOR DOES HE
OWN PROPERTY AT BELLE GLADE, FLA., OR VICINITY OF LAKE
OKEECHOBEE, FLA. HE DENIED KNOWING SAMUEL LEWIS, EDDIE WILBURN,
DAN THOMPSON OR JIM GARRISON, AND HAS NO RELATIVES NAMED WILBURN.
HE HAS NEVER BEEN A MEMBER OF OR ASSOCIATED WITH MEMBERS OF THE
KKK.

END PAGE ONE

assigned Jellison
#5

44-1854-385

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CE 44-1365

PAGE TWO

MR. PIERCE VOLUNTEERED INFORMATION THAT SEVERAL YEARS AGO, A SMALL JUDGMENT WAS FILED AGAINST HIM IN MIAMI, FLA., ON A DEBT OF ANOTHER WILLIAM PIERCE, WHO WAS IN THE CATTLE BUSINESS IN BELLE GLADE, FLA., AND PAHOKEE, FLA., AREA, BOTH LOCATED NEAR LAKE OKEECHOBEE. HIS ATTORNEY, THOMAS TEASLEY, CORAL GABLES SAVINGS AND LOAN BUILDING, CORAL GABLES, FLA., MAY HAVE THE ADDRESS OF THAT WILLIAM PIERCE.

LOS ANGELES FURNISHED INFORMATION THAT WILLIAM PIERCE, BELLE GLADE, FLA., WAS PERSON REFERRED TO BY CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT "BOB."

MIAMI ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY WILLIAM PIERCE OWNING PROPERTY IN BELLE GLADE, FLA., OR VICINITY OF LAKE OKEECHOBEE, FLA., AND CONDUCT REQUESTED INVESTIGATION.

EN

RML

FBI MIAMI

FBI MIAMI

FBI LOS ANG.

12:29AM URGENT 5-18-68 REF

TO DIRECTOR, ATLANTA, MEMPHIS, BIRMINGHAM, KANSAS CITY, MIAMI,
LAS VEGAS, DETROIT, MOBILE, KNOXVILLE, ALBANY AND CHARLOTTE
FROM LOS ANGELES (44-1574) (P) 6P

MURKIN

RE LA PHONE CALL TO BUREAU AND LA TEL MAY SEVENTEEN
INSTANT, RE LOS ANGELES TIMES INFORMANT - "BOB" LNU.

FOR INFO ATLANTA, MOBILE AND ALBANY, LA TIMES HAS HAD
CONTACT WITH ONE BOB LNU WHO SAID HE HAD INFO CONCERNING WHAT
ACTUALLY HAD TAKEN PLACE IN CONNECTION WITH DEATH OF DR. KING.
IN ADDITION TO OTHER INFO FURNISHED BY BOB LNU, HE STATED
FOLLOWING REGARDING ASPECTS OF CASE INVOLVING LOS ANGELES AREA:

ONE. RAY SOMEBODY STAYED IN CLARK HOTEL, ROOM SEVEN
HUNDRED, ON APRIL SEVENTEEN DASH EIGHTEEN LAST.

TWO. LAMONT WHITE WHO WORKS FOR WESTERN UNION IN LA
HAS SENT MONEY TO LOUISIANA. BOUGHT TWO PISTOLS UNDER
HIS NAME. THEY REALLY WENT TO FRANK BRICKLEY OF CHATANOOGA,
TENN. WHO WAS IN PRISON WITH RAY. BRICKLEY SUPPOSED TO BE HERE.
END PAGE ONE

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LA 44-1574

THREE. HAROLD'S CAFE, FIVE FIVE FIVE SOUTH MAIN. RAY BARTENDER THERE FOR WEEK OR SO. QUEER BAR. GUY NAMED CONNIE KNOWS HIM THERE.

ALSO WILLI SHEA. ONCE WORKED TOP RAIL BAR, SEVENTH AND ALVARADO. RAY SUPPOSEDLY MARRIED TO HER ONCE. SHE FROM MISSOURI, NOW LIVES IN NORTH HOLLYWOOD. HAS MONEY. MOTHER MMARRIED, LIVES IN COMPTON, DRIVES A PURPLE PONTIC CONVERTIBLE NOW LIVES AT EIGHT ONE TWO SOUTH WESTLAKE, L.A., WITH MAN WHO OWNS A BAR. SHE'S BLOND, ABOUT AGE THIRTY EIGHT.

FOLLOWING INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED LA AREA THIS DATE.

JACK HERD, DAY MANAGER TOP RAIL BAR ADVISES WILLI SHEA ENTIRELY UNKNOWN. NO COCKTAIL WAITRESSES EMPLOYED BY THIS BAR, EXCEPT ON RARE OCCASIONS LIKE NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY. ON THOSE OCCASIONS, HIS OWN GIRL FRIEND OR GIRL NAMED BERNICE DOUGLAS WHO DOES NOT FIT DESCRIPTION OF WILLI SHEA HAS HELPED OUT AT BAR. MRS. NANCY BURGDORF, MANAGER FOR LAST SEVENTEEN YEARS AT EIGHT ONE TWO SOUTH WESTLAKE, REPORTS NO WILLI SHEA HAS OR IS RESIDING AT THAT ADDRESS.

LEAMONT ANDERSON WHITE, EFFEMINATE THIRTY SIX YEAR OLD NEGRO MALE, EMPLOYED BY WESTERN UNION, WHO RESIDES AT THREE EIGHT ONE SEVEN GIBRALTAR AVENUE, APT. FIVE, LOS ANGELES
END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

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TELEPHONE TWO ONE THREE DASH TWO NINE FOUR DASH NINE FIVE THREE NINE, REPORTS HAS KNOWN FRANK BRICKLEY AND HIS BROTHER BOB BRICKLEY FIVE OR SIX YEARS. DURING THAT TIME FRANK HAS BEEN IN AND OUT OF ONE JAIL AFTER ANOTHER. BOTH FRANK AND BOB ARE HEAVY DRINKERS AND WHEN IN LA AREA HAVE FREQUENTED SKIDROW BARS NEAR FIFTH AND MAIN IN DOWNTOWN LA AND SEVENTH AND ALVARADO NEAR WESTLAKE PARK. THEIR PARENTS RESIDE IN ROSSVILLE, GEORGIA AND WHEN IN LA DURING JUNE SIXTY SEVEN THEY MADE CALLS FROM WHITE'S HOME TO FOLLOWING NUMBERS, ONE OF WHICH IS THEIR PARENTS NUMBER:

ROSSVILLE AREA CODE FOUR ZERO FOUR

TWO TWO NINE DASH TWO ONE FIVE FIVE

EIGHT SIX SIX DASH SEVEN THREE ONE ZERO

KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE CODE SIX ONE FIVE

FIVE TWO FOUR DASH ONE THREE ONE FIVE

SWEETWATER, TENNESSEE CODE SIX ONE FIVE

THREE THREE SEVEN DASH SEVEN SEVEN SEVEN FIVE

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE CODE SIX ONE FIVE

SIX TWO TWO DASH NINE ZERO SIX SEVEN

WHITE ALSO FURNISHED TWO RECIPITS FOR PURCHASE OF GUNS BY HIM FROM WEATHERBY SPORTING GOODS, TWO SEVEN EIGHT ONE EAST FIRESTONE
END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

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BLVD., SOUTH GATE, CALIFORNIA FOR ONE BAYARD THIRTY TWO CALIBER, SERIAL NUMBER TWO FIVE TWO TWO ONE; AND BERETTA TWENTY-FIVE AUTOMATIC PISTOL, SERIAL NUMBER EIGHT EIGHT SEVEN TWO EIGHT ZERO, PLUS AMMUNITION FOR EACH WEAPON.

CLAIMS WHEN FRANK BRICKLEY WAS LAST IN LA AREA ABOUT SUMMER SIXTY SEVEN BOTH OF THESE WEAPONS DISAPPEARED FROM HIS RESIDENCE, AND HE SUSPECTED EITHER FRANK OR BOB BRICKLEY OR THEIR COUSIN, WHOSE NAME HE CAN NOT NOW RECALL, STOLE THEM. SAID HE HAS NEVER FILED A STOLEN REPORT. SAID ABOUT TWO MONTHS AGO HE GOT COLLECT CALL FROM FRANK SEEKING MONEY, AT WHICH TIME FRANK INDICATED HE HAD JUST GOTTEN OUT OF HOSPITAL WHERE WAS RECOVERING FROM UNDESCRIBED WOUND. WAS UNABLE AT THIS TIME TO FIND TELEPHONE COMPANY CHARGES FOR THIS CALL, BUT BELIEVES IT WAS FROM KNOXVILLE OR NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE. SAID HE IS SURE THAT NO ONE OTHER THAN FRANK OR BOB BRICKLEY OF POSSIBLY THEIR COUSIN, COULD HAVE BEEN IN POSSESSION OF INFO THAT HE HAD PURCHASED ABOVE DESCRIBED WEAPONS OR THAT HE HAD RESPONDED TO CALL FOR MONEY BY SENDING TWENTY OR THIRTY DOLLARS TO FRANK. CLAIMS LAST SAW BOB BRICKLEY LESS THAN TWO MONTHS AGO, AT WHICH TIME BOB SAID FRANK WAS IN PRISON, BUT DID NOT INDICATE SPECIFIC CHARGE OR LOCATION.

END PAGE FOUR

PAGE FIVE
LA 44-1574

FRANK BRICKLEY APPEARS IDENT TO FRANK WILLIAM BRICKLEY,
AKA, SUBJECT OF BUFILE SEVEN SIX DASH TWO THREE SEVEN THREE FOUR;
ATLANTA FILE SEVEN SIX DASH TWO FOUR ONE TWO; MOBILE FILE
SEVEN SIX DASH ONE ZERO EIGHT ONE, WHO ACCORDING TO MOBILE
AIRTEL JANUARY TWO FOUR SIXTY SIX APPREHENDED AUSTIN TEXAS ONE
TWO FOUR SIXTY SIX.

LAPD RECORDS INDICATE LEAMONT A. WHITE ARRESTED JULY SIXTY
FIVE LEWD CONDUCT IN VICINITY OF FOURTH AND MAIN, L.A.

PERSONNEL CLARK HOTEL ADVISE ONE RAY YOUNG, WHO GAVE HOME
ADDRESS OF ONE FIVE ONE BEACH ST., MASSENA, NEW YORK, WAS
REGISTERED ROOM SEVEN HUNDRED APRIL SEVENTEEN DASH LAST. PHOTOS
OF SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY EXHIBITED TO PERTINENT HOTEL PERSONNEL
WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

CONRAD TORROMED, NIGHT MANAGER, HAROLD'S BAR, FIVE FIVE
FIVE SOUTH MAIN, WHO IS KNOWN AS CONNIE, OBSERVED ALL PHOTOS
OF JAMES EARL RAY AND ADVISES NEVER EMPLOYEE OR CUSTOMER. PHOTO
DISPLAYED TO OTHER PERSONNEL, INCLUDING DAY SHIFT, WITH NEGATIVE
RESULTS.

END PAGE FIVE

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LA 44-1574

FOR INFO ALL OFFICES. BUREAU HAS INSTRUCTED ALL LEADS IN THIS MATTER RECEIVE IMMEDIATE AND CONTINUOUS ATTENTION.

ALBANY WILL CHECK OUT RAY YOUNG, MASSENA, N.Y. TO ELIMINATE AS SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY, AND TO DETERMINE IF KNOWS BRICKLEY BROTHERS OR LEAMONT ANDERSON WHITE, BEARING IN MIND POSSIBLE HOMOSEXUAL INVOLVEMENT.

ATLANTA REQUESTED TO CONTACT BRICKLEY'S PARENTS AT ROSSVILLE, GEORGIA TO SECURE CURRENT PHOTOS OF BOB BRICKLEY WHO MAY BE AKA ROY BRICKLEY, JR. FORWARD PHOTO TO LA TO SHOW TO LA TIMES REPORTERS WHO CONTACTED BOB LNU, TO DETERMINE IF HE IS INFORMANT IN THIS MATTER.

IDENT DIVISION REQUESTED TO ADVISE LA AND INTERESTED OFFICES OF ANY CURRENT INCARCERATION OF FRANK BRICKLEY FROM RECORDS OF FBI NUMBER ONE NINE SEVEN SEVEN NINE SIX C.

INVESTIGATION LA CONTINUING. AIR MAIL INFO COPIES FURNISHED CINCINNATI, INDIANAPOLIS, NEW ORLEANS AND ST. LOUIS.

CHARLOTTE RECEIVING COPY FOR INFO PER INSTRUCTION MIAMI.

END

LVA

FBI MIAMI

TU

FBI CHARLT

FBI MIAMI

143 AM URGENT 5-18-68 HEJ

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861) , LOS ANGELES , MEMPHIS (44-1987), AND
CHARLOTTE

FROM: MIAMI (44-1854) 3P

MURKIN - CR

RE LA TEL TO DIRECTOR DATED MAY SEVENTEEN SIXTYEIGHT.

ON FIVE DASH SEVENTEEN LAST DAVID LARSEN AND JOHN D. KENDALL,
LOS ANGELES TIMES REPORTERS APPEARED AT THE MIAMI FBI OFFICE,
STATING THEY HAD VITAL INFORMATION TO FURNISH REGARDING
CAPTIONED MATTER. THEY THEN RELATED INFORMATION SET FORTH IN
REFERENCED TELETYPE. AT CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW, DAVID LARSEN
STATED HE DESIRED UP TO THE MINUTE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION WITH
FBI MIAMI. WHEN INFORMED THAT NO PROMISES COULD BE MADE HE
RELATED THAT QUOTE SHOULD WE BE FROZEN OUT OF ANY UP TO THE
MINUTE INFORMATION WE WILL CRUCIFY YOU END QUOTE. IT WAS RELATED
TO LARSEN THAT NO PROMISES WOULD BE MADE.

MIAMI INDICES REGARDING WILLIAM LINCOLN PIERCE NEGATIVE AND
CONTAIN NO IDENTIFIABLE REFERENCE REGARDING BEN THOMPSON.
END PAGE ONE

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PAGE TWO

ON MAY SEVENTEEN LAST, GWENDOLYN PIERCE, WIFE OF WILLIAM LINCOLN PIERCE, FIVE ZERO ZERO NORTH EAST EIGHTYTHIRD STREET, APARTMENT FIVE, MIAMI, FLA., ADVISED SHE AND HUSBAND TOGETHER AT CONCH KEY, FLA., ON NIGHT OF APRIL FOUR, NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT. LATE THAT NIGHT RETURNED TO MIAMI WHERE THEY REMAINED FOUR OR FIVE DAYS AT WHICH TIME HUSBAND LEFT MIAMI WITH HIS MOTHER DOLLY PIERCE IN OLD MODEL GREEN MERCURY COMET FOR WAYNESVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA.

PIERCE OWNS ROCKY WATERS MOTEL, WAYNESVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA, TELEPHONE NUMBER NINE TWO SIX DASH ONE FIVE EIGHT FIVE, WHERE HE HAS BEEN SINCE LEAVING MIAMI. PIERCE HAS PRIVATE PILOTS LICENSE WHICH HE OBTAINED ABOUT ONE YEAR AGO AT ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA AIRPORT. LAST FLEW A PRIVATE PLANE ABOUT OCTOBER NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN IN NORTH CAROLINA. FLIES ONLY FOR PLEASURE, DOES NOT OWN A PLANE, AND WIFE KNOWS OF NO CLOSE ASSOCIATE IN A POSITION TO LOAN PLANE TO HUSBAND.

HUSBAND HAS NOT BEEN IN KANSAS CITY OR NEW ORLEANS AND TO HER KNOWLEDGE HUSBAND NOT ACQUAINTED WITH JIM GARRISON OR EDDIE WILBURN. HUSBAND NEVER BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH ANY KKK ORGANIZATION AND OWNS NO PROPERTY SUCH AS AIRPORTS OR LAND. HUSBAND BORN IN
END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

ARIZONA, SEPT. SEVEN, NINETEEN THIRTEEN.

INVESTIGATION AT FOUR TWO TWO ZERO N. W. TWENTYTHIRD AVE., MIAMI, RE BEN THOMPSON DISCLOSED THROUGH A NEIGHBOR THAT BEN LARNARD THOMPSON WHO LIVED AT THIS ADDRESS FOR TWENTY YEARS DIED ABOUT NOVEMBER, NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN. THOMPSON WAS SPONGE FISHERMAN IN FLORIDA KEYS AND HAD SMALL BOAT. THOMPSON HAS A SON, BENJAMIN L. THOMPSON JR. REPORTEDLY RESIDING MIAMI AREA AND ALSO BELIEVED TO BE TO HAVE BEEN FORMERLY EMPLOYED BY COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN IN FLORIDA KEYS.

EFFORTS CONTINUING TO LOCATE BEN THOMPSON JR. INVESTIGATION INDICATED IN RETEL IN MIAMI DIVISION BEING PERSUED.

CHARLOTTE WILL HANDLE INTERVIEW OF WILLIAM LINCOLN PIERCE, WAYNESVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA.

END

((DRL

FBI CHARLT

FBI KNOXVLE

415AM URGENT 5-18-68 WTB

TO BUREAU..ATTENTION IDENTIFICATION DIVISION AND CIVIL RIGHTS SECTION.
ATLANTA, LOS ANGELES, LOUISVILLE, MEMPHIS, EL PASO, BIRMINGHAM,
KANSAS CITY, MIAMI, LAS VEGAS, DETROIT, INDIANAPOLIS.
FROM KNOXVILLE 44-696

MURKIN

RE LOS ANGELES TEL MAY SEVENTEEN LAST COPIES OF WHICH BEING
SENT SEPARATELY BY TELETYPE TO ATLANTA, INDIANAPOLIS AND LOUISVILLE
FOR INFO.

THE FRANK BRICKLEY OF CHATTANOOGA REFERRED TO BY INFORMANT
MAY BE FRANK WILLIAM BRICKLEY AKA WILLIAM ROY BRICKLEY, WILLIAM
FRANKLIN BRICKLEY, WILLIAM FRANK BRICKLEY, WILLIAM ROY BUCKLEY,
BILL ROBERT SHAW, BILL SHAW, BILLY SHAW, BILL R. SHAW, FBI NO.
ONE NINE SEVEN SEVEN NINE SIX C ORIGINALLY FROM CHATTANOOGA, TENN.
AND WHO HAS AN EXTENSIVE CRIMINAL RECORD. HE WAS LAST KNOWN TO HAVE
BEEN IMPRISONED AT TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA AND WAS RELEASED JAN.
SIXTEEN, SIXTYSEVEN UPON COMPLETION OF SENTENCE. TERRE HAUTE PRISON
NO. TWO THREE SIX FOUR TWO DASH TH.
END PAGE ONE

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PGE TWO

KX 44-696

BRICKLEY DESCRIBED AS WMA, BORN [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] OR [REDACTED]

AT CHATTANOOGA,

TENN. OR VICINITY. HEIGHT FIVE FT. EIGHT INCHES, ONE FORTY TO ONE FORTYFIVE LBS., (IN NINETEEN SIXTYTHREE), EYES BROWN, HAIR BROWN, DIM TATTOO LEFT UPPER ARM.

IT IS NOTED THAT BRICKLEY HAS SERVED TIME IN CHILLICOTHE AND TERRE HAUTE AND ATTENTION IS CALLED TO ALLEGATION THAT "SAMUEL LEWIS" SERVED TIME IN CHILLICOTHE AND TERRE HAUTE. POSSIBILITY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED THAT BRICKLEY IS TRUE IDENTITY OF SAMUEL LEWIS AND BOB. LNU, WHO FURNISHED INFORMATION TO LOS ANGELES TIMES. IDENT DIVISION REQUESTED TO AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY COPIES OF MOST RECENT PHOTOGRAPH OF BRICKLEY TO LOS ANGELES, EL PASO, MEMPHIS, AND KNOXVILLE FOR DISPLAY BY THOSE OFFICES TO WILLIAM THOMAS, CITY EDITOR, LOS ANGELES TIMES, JERRY COHEN, LOS ANGELES TIMES, AT THE EL PASO BUS STATION, MEMPHIS BUS STATION AND KNOXVILLE BUS STATION.

INDIANAPOLIS AT TERRE HAUTE REVIEW PRISON RECORDS FOR LEADS AS TO CURRENT WHEREABOUTS OF BRICKLEY AND SET OUT LEADS TO HAVE HIM INTERVIEWED. ALSO DETERMINE IF THEY HAVE A MORE RECENT PICTURE THAN THE ONE TAKEN MAY THIRTY, NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE AND IF SO, OBTAIN AND FORWARD COPIES TO INTERESTED OFFICES.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

KX 44-696

LOS ANGELES AT LOS ANGELES...BRICKLEY WAS ARRESTED PD
LOS ANGELES, CALIF. APRIL EIGHT, SIXTYTHREE UNDER NAME BILL SHAW
NO. SIX FIVE THREE SEVEN ZERO SIX S FOR GT-AUTO AND BY SO LOS
ANGELES AS BILL ROBERT SHAW APRIL NINE SIXTYTHREE, GT-AUTO, UNDER
NO. B-NINE SIX ZERO FOUR TWO SEVEN. OBTAIN PHOTOGRAPHS IF AVAILABLE
AND IF GOOD PHOTOGRAPH CONSIDER DISPLAYING TO THOMAS IMMEDIATELY.
ALSO REVIEW RECORDS FOR LOCAL LEADS ...IT BEING NOTED THAT HE
ALLEGEDLY IS IN LOS ANGELES AREA AT THIS TIME ACCORDING TO INFO
FURNISHED BY "BOB" TO THOMAS.

ATLANTA REVIEW YOUR FILE SEVEN SIX DASH TWO FOUR ONE TWO FOR
LEADS TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW BRICKLEY.

KNOXVILLE WILL INTERVIEW RELATIVES AND KNOWN ASSOCIATES OF
BRICKLEY IN CHATTANOOGA AREA.

LOUISVILLE AT LEXINGTON AT GREYHOUND OFFICE, EIGHT ZERO ONE
LIMESTONE, REVIEW COPIES OF AUDITORS STUBS OF TICKETS ISSUED AT
KNOXVILLE, TENN. TO DETERMINE IDENTITY OF TICKET AGENT
SELLING TICKET NO. THREE SPACE ZERO ZERO ZERO EIGHT TWO TWO TWO
ZERO SPACE FOUR TWO ON APRIL SEVEN, NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT AT
KNOXVILLE FOR TRANSPORTATION KNOXVILLE TO LOS ANGELES VIA
MEMPHIS AND EL PASO AND FOR ANY OTHER DATA AVAILABLE.

INVESTIGATION CONTINUING.

SUBJECT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

LVA

FBI MIAMI

FBI MIAMI

FBI WASH DC

157PM URGENT 5/18/68 CAB

TO LOS ANGELES 44-1574 ATLANTA MEMPHIS BIRMINGHAM KANSAS CITY MIAMI
LAS VEGAS DETROIT MOBILE KNOXVILLE ALBANY CHARLOTTE
FROM DIRECTOR 1P.

MURKIN

RE LA TEL MAY SEVENTEEN LAST.

LATEST ARREST RECORD IDENTIFICATION DIVISION FILES FOR FRANK
WILLIAM BRICKLEY, FBI NUMBER ONE NINE SEVEN SEVEN NINE SIX C.
JUNE TWENTYFOUR SIXTYSIX, UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY, TERRE HAUTE,
INDIANA, PV, YCA, NMVA AND ESCAPE FROM FEDERAL CUSTODY, TRANSFERRED
FROM FEDERAL CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION, TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA,
EXPIRATION OF GOOD TIME JANUARY SIXTEEN SIXTYSEVEN.

END

HTF

FBI MIAMI

TO

44-1834-589

Rel	Rel
MAY 18 1968	
FBI - MIAMI	
Jellison	Ding

FBI MIAMI

FBI KAN CITY

1217AM URGENT 5-18-68 DJB

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) MEMPHIS, BIRMINGHAM, MIAMI, LAS VEGAS,

DETROIT & KNOXVILLE

FROM KANSAS CITY (44-760) 1P

MURKIN

RE LOS ANGELES TEL MAY SEVENTEEN LAST.

INVESTIGATION KANSAS CITY SUBURBAN AIRPORTS NEGATIVE AS TO
PLANE OF WILLIAM PIERCE.

AGENTS ELIMINATED ALL MOVING COMPANIES IN AREA DESCRIBED BY
LOS ANGELES TIMES REPORTER BY PHYSICAL OBSERVATION.

WARDEN HAROLD SWENSON ADVISED NO PREVIOUS INMATE MISSOURI
STATE PENITENTIARY NAMED FRANK BICKLEY OR SIMILAR NAME AND
MISSOURI STATE HIGHWAY PATROL NEGATIVE RE FRANK BICKLEY. VARIATION
BRICKLEY REFERRED TO RE LOS ANGELES TEL WILL BE CHECKED AM
MAY EIGHTEEN INSTANT.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

END

HEJ

FBI MIAMI

44-1854-590

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FBI - MIAMI	

Jellison *lmj*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MIAMI

DATE: 4/29/68

FROM : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (62-0)

SUBJECT: HAZEL V. PEACOCK
MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

On 4/29/68, SA LAWRENCE G. GETTINGS, Birmingham Division, received the following letter from HAZEL V. PEACOCK, Route 2, Box 250, Okeechobee, Florida:

"Dear Mr. Gettings:

"I have information regarding a matter of national concern which I would like to discuss with you. The magnitude and importance of what I wish to tell you has me very frightened and utmost confidentiality must be maintained.

"Mr. RALPH C. BROWN, Milwaukee Police Department, Vice Squad, recommended that I go to you with this information when I asked him for the name of someone I could trust. My name must never be made public, as I would surely be killed.

"Please do not contact me at my home. I can be reached at my place of employment by telephone ... RODEO 36307 ... from 8 A.M. to 12 noon, and 1 P.M. to 5 P.M., Monday through Friday. I will be happy to make an appointment to meet you in some town in this approximate area.

"Please understand that I am very frightened and will talk with no one but you, personally. Kindly contact me as hastily as possible, as this matter is becoming more urgent, daily."

HAZEL V. PEACOCK is unknown to Agent GETTINGS; however, Detective BROWN is an experienced, capable member of the Narcotics Squad, Milwaukee Police Department.

2 - Miami
1 - Birmingham
LGG:epg
(3)



5010-108

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

62-5876-1

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BH 62-0

LEADS:

MIAMI:

AT OKEECHOBEE, FLORIDA:

Will contact HAZEL V. PEACOCK at her place of employment and receive any information which she desires to furnish.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 5/8/68

HAZEL V. PEACOCK, 808 Hancock, Okeechobee, Florida, appeared at the office of the Fort Pierce Resident Agency of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and furnished the following information:

She is employed as a secretary at the Guidance Center of the Okeechobee School for Boys, Okeechobee, Florida.

At midnight, April 4, 1968, she received a collect telephone call from her ex-fiancee, **DONALD JACKSON CARPENTER**, from Birmingham, Alabama, advising that he and **TERRANCE ALVIN SMITH** were on the run and involved in the death of **MARTIN LUTHER KING**. Because of the nature of the call she made notes shortly thereafter of the conversation which are as follows:

She explained that the initials "D. C." stood for **DONALD CARPENTER**, "T.A.S." stood for **TERRANCE ALVIN SMITH**, and "M. L. K" stood for **MARTIN LUTHER KING**. She also explained that the statements in quotes were made by **CARPENTER**.

"Phone call at 12 midnight 4 April from Birmingham (collect) from D. C. (T. A. S. w/him, could hear him in background. I think one other man).

"Stated, 'We're on the run'. Why? - 'Haven't you been watching TV?' No- 'You mean you haven't heard the news?' No - 'Well - M.L.K. is dead'. Oh, No! What do you mean? --

"We did it. They're hot on our ass. You don't mean this. Don't kid me about this!

"Can you hide us out for a couple of weeks?

On 5/3/68 at Fort Pierce, Florida File # Miami 44-1854

SAs **RONALD TODD** and
by **HAROLD K. PARSON/RT:bab**

Date dictated 5/6/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

"I don't know - No - Oh, I guess so.

"Do you know what you'd be charged with if we were found there? Yes, nothing. I don't believe you. Where are you?

"Birmingham - the cops went off to the north, but we're here, okay.

"When are you coming? Tomorrow night late. We get our money in Dothan, no, outside of Dothan (He was corrected as to location by TAS) tomorrow (5 April) and then we'll come to Okeechobee.

"You are serious, aren't you? How much is a job like this worth on the market today? \$100,000, split two ways.

"How could you do this?

"We need the money.

"It isn't worth it. How will you, an old Ga. boy, explain all that sudden wealth? You're crazy.

"Don't worry about it. Why is your voice shaking? I'm scared for you - I'm shaking all over.

"Us too. TERRY thought he missed. He (MLK) leaned over just as he fired, but he got him. He's dead.

"I still can't believe all this.

"Well, go to sleep. I'll be there tomorrow night. Let us do the worrying. I can't believe we could be so slick."

She stated that they did not come to see her nor have they contacted her since this telephone call.

She said she first met CARPENTER on January 23, 1968, through a mutual friend, SUSAN MORELAND, who works for the United Telephone Company in Okeechobee, Florida. At the time he was working for the Power Engineering Company in Okeechobee. He was closely associated with JIM O'NEAL who also worked for Power Engineering. CARPENTER suddenly left town on February 25, 1968, with a Mr. BARNES. They were allegedly going to Tampa, Florida, to see the head man of Union IBEW 102. CARPENTER never returned to Okeechobee although she subsequently talked to him several times by telephone. On or about February 11, 1968, she called him at the home of his ex-wife, Mrs. VIRGIL SALTER, in Americus, Georgia, telephone number 924-5133, and he advised that he was working for the Continental Telephone Company, Gray, Georgia. In the latter part of February he called from Terre Haute, Indiana, around two or three A.M., and advised that he had flown there with a friend and was snowed in. On either March 8 or 11, 1968, he called and advised that a friend of his by the name of TERRY SMITH was coming to Okeechobee, Florida, and would look her up. SMITH was also supposed to be working for Continental Telephone in Gray, Georgia. That was the first she had ever heard of TERRY SMITH.

TERRANCE ALVIN SMITH arrived at her apartment on March 20, 1968, accompanied by a hippie he had picked up in Tallahassee, Florida, by the name of BOB THIBODEAU, a French - Canadian. THIBODEAU left Okeechobee the following day. SMITH stayed in her three bedroom apartment until mid-afternoon March 25, 1968. He rarely left the apartment and was only gone for short periods. On Saturday night, March 23, 1968, he left the apartment carrying a black Samsonite attache case. He left at about 8 PM and did not return until almost 1:00 AM. She stated that he was almost hysterical and he mentioned something about almost being caught or that a witness had almost seen him. He had been drinking; however, he was not drunk. She said she recalled the initial "R" being on each side of the

MM 44-1854

handle of the briefcase. SMITH left Okeechobee sometime between 2 PM and 5 PM while she was at work. She said when she returned home shortly after 5 PM she found a note he had left her which is as follows:

'HAZEL,

"I had to split the scene. I knew I would as soon as my assignment was finished, but once you're in you're in and no way out until they are finished with you. I never know how long I'll be in one place but I knew this would be a short trip but I couldn't say anything. I wish I could be here to see your face when (don juan) DON arrives but it was impossible. I'm sure you will be very happy (but for how long). Never base your happiness on the future, only excitement comes from thinking of the future; happiness is the present, but ----- who knows the future? A person can talk himself into believing anything or thinking it possible unless he asks why? or how? I have my own thoughts about you and DON, there are many things I could say and tell you because I've seen it happen time and time again but maybe it will be different this time, only time will tell as always. I'm not trying to discourage you but stop wishing and start doing, keep your self-confidence it will always pull you through.

"I'll contact you within a week to see what happen. Well, good-bye, wish I could take you with me to see the many wonders of the world, in actions, -----people.

/s/ "A friend,

"TS

"A thought.....

"Life can be very short, live it for yourself, don't sacrifice your feeling for something unless you have the ace.

"Atlas Shrugged"
JOHN GALT speaking --

"Happiness is not to be achieved at the command of emotional whims. Happiness is not the satisfaction of whatever irrational wishes you might blindly attempt to indulge. Happiness is a state of non-contradictory joy - a joy without penalty or guilt, a joy that does not clash with any of your values and does not work for your own destruction, not the joy of escaping from your mind, but of using your mind's fullest power, not the joy of falsing reality, but of achieving values that are real, not the joy of a drunkard, but of a producer. Happiness is possible only to a rational man, the man who desires nothing but rational goals, seeks nothing but rational values, and finds his joy in nothing but rational actions."

She said he was an avid reader and enjoyed James Bond type novels. She recalled that one of the main characters in one of the novels was called ERIC. She said his favorite novel was "Atlas Shrugged" and he often quoted the main character, JOHN GALT.

She received a call from CARPENTER on March 29th and he described how he was going to help SMITH do a little job outside of Atlanta. Apparently they were going to kill a former member of their group whom they thought might talk. CARPENTER described how he could be electrocuted without causing any suspicions. It was at this time CARPENTER mentioned that he had a briefcase like SMITH's with the initial "R" on each side of the handle. She said she believed he was calling from Gray, Georgia.