

Agents please initial and return

BOLIN *WBS*
BONNER *WBS*
BOYLE *WBS*
BRUNNICK *WBS*
BUNZEL *WBS*
CONDON *WBS*
CUMMINGS *WBS*
EGAN *WBS*
FLANDERS *WBS*
HENDRIAN *WBS*
HUNTER *WBS*
KERR *WBS*
KOBALL *WBS*
LANG *WBS*
MCNABB *WBS*
MCNERNEY *WBS*

MOTT *WBS*
O'HARA *WBS*
RAFFERTY *WBS*
RAPER *WBS*
RAY *WBS*
SANDERLIN *WBS*
SMITH *WBS*
TRUCKNER *WBS*
TUBERSON *WBS*
WALLACE *WBS*
WELKE *WBS*

BRANON *WBS*
BURRELL *WBS*
DAVIS *WBS*
LOWE *WBS*
MARCOLINE *WBS*
TIERNEY *WBS*

File

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, NORFOLK (44-268)

DATE: 5/26/68

FROM : SPC, JAMES C. PARKER

SUBJECT: JAMES EARL RAY

On above date office contacted by unknown male and he advised that he has possibly seen an individual that resembled James Earl Ray. This individual was first seen on Tidewater Drive and was last seen on Willowood Drive in the Lakewood section of Norfolk, Virginia. Individual seen driving a 1962-63 dark blue Chevrolet bearing 1968 Virginia license 32-823, car had a luggage rack on top of it.

Caller says that individual has his hair cut in the same style that he has noticed on the posters that he has seen in the U. S. P. O.

SA Egan advised of above information.
jcp

44-268-145
J. C. Parker
J. C. Parker

A & D

420-3410

12/2
~~12/2~~ - ~~12/2~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, NORFOLK (44-268) (P)

DATE: 5/27/68

FROM : SA WALTER R. KOBALL

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re: Butel to all SACs 5/22/68

On 5/22/68 IOs were left with the following persons:

Major KIMBER COX, Salvation Army Headquarters
Chaplin WRIGHT, Union Mission, Olney Rd.
Mrs. BROOKE CANNARD, Traveler's Aide Society

COX and WRIGHT advised that the only place in Norfolk which has sleeping facilities for transient people is the Union Mission. WRIGHT advised that the Mission has five beds available for transients.

All of the above advised that should anyone resembling RA Y appear at their place they would immediately notify the FBI

A & D

*1B - move
SF - move
Ches - move
NF - as above
NN - Davis
Z*

NF-1
WRK
(1)



5010-108-01

44-268-146

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 27 1968	
FBI - NORFOLK	

Wander

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

NF 44-268
ME 44-1987
DGF/drb
1

The following investigation was conducted by the Norfolk Division:

The following agencies and institutions in the Norfolk Division were contacted with negative results regarding JAMES EARL RAY under his true name and aliases:

1. All laundries
2. All dance studios
3. All credit agencies
4. All police departments
5. All city directories
6. All telephone directories
7. All available "hippy" rooming houses and apartments
8. All voting records
9. All financial institution
10. All charitable type "flop houses" and missions

Re: Suspect JOHN WOLLARD, Also
Known As Rusty

On April 8, 1968, Patrolman LLOYD GOODBREAD, Chesapeake, Virginia Police Department, furnished the name of JOHN WOLLARD, white male American, age mid 20's,

44-268-147

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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JUN 5 1968	
FBI - NORFOLK	

Harmon

NF 44-268
ME 44-1987
DGF/drb
2

residing at Route 4, Box 203, Washington, North Carolina, as being a possible suspect in the instant matter.

Patrolman GOODBRED advised that WOLLARD is an excellent hunter, a former baseball player, and during Christmas, 1967, had in his possession, a Remington 30-06 rifle. Patrolman GOODBRED knew of no extremist sympathies, but stated that WOLLARD generally fit the description of the subject.

It was not known whether WOLLARD was in the military service or not. He is believed to have been arrested on local charges, and that he was currently employed in New Bern, North Carolina.

Re: Suspect ISAAC WELDON KIRK

On April 10, 1968, Lieutenant S.C. WADDELL, Virginia State Police, advised that KIRK and his construction crew departed the Franklin, Virginia area on April 9, 1968 en route to Manassas, Virginia for a similar construction job.

Records at the Airway Motor Lodge, Franklin, Virginia, indicate that KIRK registered at this motel from March 27, 1968 thru April 9, 1968. KIRK was driving a Ford automobile bearing Texas license FLV-815.

CLARENCE PITTMAN, owner, Pittman Wood and Metal Company, Courtland, Virginia, supplied water pumps for KIRK's construction job near Franklin, Virginia.

PITTMAN stated that he personally saw KIRK on the job every day from March 29, 1968 thru April 5, 1968.

NF 44-268
ME 44-1987
DGF/drb
3

Re: Suspect RICHARD JAMES DAYHOFF
Army Serial Number RA 187 478 84

On April 12, 1968, First Sergeant ALPHA NIMS, 564th Transportation Company, Fort Story, Virginia, advised that DAYHOFF commenced leave at 12:00 noon on March 29, 1968, route and destination unknown. Leave address was given as 3509 Mary Ellen Court, N.E., Albuquerque, New Mexico. He was due back at midnight on April 10, 1968.

Leave was granted to DAYHOFF on March 29, 1968 when he requested it because of personal problems at home. DAYHOFF was new to the aforementioned military outfit, and the exact nature of his personal problems were unknown.

DAYHOFF was believed to have been seen in the Fort Story, Virginia vicinity on April 9, 1968, but he did not sign in. He is believed to have a girl friend by the name of KAREN QUINTON, 3205 Britt, N.E., Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Re: Suspect MARVIN RAYMOND DEWEESE

On April 8, 1968, A.D. DINKINS, Manager, Hunton YMCA, Wood and Church Streets, Norfolk, Virginia, which establishment is patronized almost solely by Negroes, advised SA HENRY A. WELKE that a white male registered at this YMCA during the afternoon and the clerk who registered this individual believed he resembled the artist's conception of the one who shot Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. Mr. DINKINS said he was registered in the name of M.R. DEWEESE of Jacksonville, Florida. He was placed in Room 206.

NF 44-268
ME 44-1987
DGF/drb
4

SAs HENRY A. WELKE and LEMUEL W. KERR, after some difficulty in arousing Mr. DEWEESE who was asleep in his room, interviewed him and took photographs of DEWEESE after the interview. DEWEESE furnished the following information concerning himself and his activities during the pertinent period in March and April, 1968:

NAME:	MARVIN RAYMOND DEWEESE
ADDRESS:	13605 Lanier Road Jacksonville, Florida
HEIGHT:	6'1"
WEIGHT:	200 pounds
HAIR:	Brown, crewcut
EYES:	Blue
BORN:	<div data-bbox="924 1159 1294 1201" style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 200px; height: 18px;"></div> Narrows, Virginia
EMPLOYMENT:	Unemployed
MILITARY SERVICE:	Retired from U.S. Navy. Rate AK-1, NSN <div data-bbox="1294 1326 1499 1373" style="background-color: black; width: 110px; height: 20px;"></div> Retired July 9, 1965; U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner's Permit Identification Number Z1250478
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER:	<div data-bbox="930 1601 1181 1648" style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 138px; height: 20px;"></div>
SCARS AND MARKS:	Tattoos - "Evelyn" on upper right arm; "USN" <div data-bbox="1088 1742 1294 1789" style="background-color: black; width: 113px; height: 20px;"></div> on lower right arm; Smeared tattoo outside right wrist; Tattoo on right hand "13" between thumb and index finger

P11

P11

NF 44-268
ME 44-1987
DGF/drb
5

MARITAL

STATUS:

Married

PRESENT WIFE:

MARTHA E. BROWN DEWEESE
15370 Lanier Road
Jacksonville, Florida

FORMER WIVES:

VIOLET ELIZABETH HOWELL,
(deceased)

JOAN NIECE, divorced,
whereabouts unknown;

BETTY SIMMS, divorced 1956,
last known to be residing
in Stratford, Connecticut

PARENTS:

DANIEL FRENCH DEWEESE

113 Hale Street
Narrows, Virginia

CHERRY MAE DEWEESE

same address

BROTHERS:

DANIEL DEWEESE, age 35

Narrows, Virginia;

EVERETT DEWEESE, age 24

employed Newport News
Shipbuilding and Dry Dock
Company, Newport News,
Virginia

CHARLES DEWEESE, age 19-20

employed at Newport News
Shipbuilding and Dry Dock
Company, Newport News,
Virginia

SISTERS:

MARY DEWEESE ADAMS, aka

Mrs. HOWARD ADAMS
Richmond, Virginia;

IDA DEWEESE KESSINGER, aka

Mrs. DONALD KESSINGER
Bassett, Virginia;

CORA DEWEESE CROCKETT, aka

Mrs. WALTER CROCKETT, JR.
Narrows, Virginia;

NF 44-268
ME 44-1987
DGF/drb
6

SISTERS(con't) BARBARA DEWEESE JONES, aka
 Mrs. CHARLES H. JONES
 Newport News, Virginia ;
 MARGARET DEWEESE, who is
 married to an unrecalled
 individual,
 Richmond, Virginia;
 LENA DEWEESE STONE
 Percerville, Virginia

EDUCATION: Seventh grade

ORGANIZATIONAL
AFFILIATION: American Legion Lodge
 Little Rock, Arkansas

DEWEESE said he had last worked as a stockroom man for Samsonite Corporation, 1050 South Broadway, Denver, Colorado. His check number was 15370, and he possessed a payroll slip which showed he was paid for the week ending March 3, 1968. He said that he left Denver en route to Florida; stopped by Houston, Texas; then to New Orleans; then Mobile, Alabama. Then he went to Jacksonville, Florida. He said he left Denver on March 2, 1968. He said he left on a Saturday of the last week he worked. He indicated that the work week at Samsonite ended on Sunday. He said he was married to MARTHA E. BROWN, a widow with two children, and that they were at the Lanier Road address in Jacksonville, Florida. He said he was unemployed at the time and that he had obtained his U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Seaman's papers and was attempting to catch a ship out. He said he was a member of the National Maritime Union (NMU), and he was told in Jacksonville that it would be easier to catch a ship through the Norfolk National Maritime Union than the Jacksonville National Maritime Union. He also advised he took a round trip to Baltimore and remained in Baltimore two days, staying at the Roosevelt Hotel. That was between the time he

NF 44-268
ME 44-1987
DGF/drb
7

arrived in Jacksonville, Florida, and the date he got married, which was March 18, 1968. He indicated further that he traveled to Baltimore in his personally-owned automobile, a 1956 Chrysler New Yorker. He also stated that he stayed in Jacksonville, Florida until Saturday, April 6, 1968 at 4:15 PM, when he caught a bus from Jacksonville to Newport News, Virginia, arriving in Newport News on April 7, 1968. He indicated he came to Richmond and then transferred to Newport News.

He possessed a card which indicated that he registered in the National Maritime Union Hall, Norfolk, Virginia at 9:04 AM, April 8, 1968. He said that when he arrived in Newport News on April 7, 1968, he went to his sister's house and stayed with her and her husband, CHARLES H. JONES, 735 Westward Avenue, Hampton, Virginia.

He was observed smoking incessantly, and he said he had been smoking Winston cigarettes for many years. He was observed to have blue eyes and brown hair with a crewcut, which he said he had been wearing since he was 21 years old.

He was very emphatic and positive he had not been in Memphis, Nashville, Birmingham or vicinity during the latter part of March or the first part of April, 1968. He was specifically asked if he had been in Birmingham on March 28 - 30, 1968, which he indicated he had not. He was also asked about his whereabouts on April 4, 1968. He claimed he was in Jacksonville, Florida, during these pertinent periods. He said he was staying with his wife and their two children (his wife's children by another marriage). He said he had never been in Birmingham to his knowledge, and he went to Memphis one time several years ago.

NF 44-268
ME 44-1987
DGF/drb
8

He had in his possession a Navy identification card which indicated that he, MARVIN RAYMOND DEWEESE, was retired from the U.S. Navy on July 9, 1965. He also had a Merchant Mariner's Permit Identification Card Number [REDACTED] His description was:

HAIR:	Brown
EYES:	Blue
HEIGHT:	6'
WEIGHT:	200
BORN :	[REDACTED]
ADDRESS:	Narrows, Virginia 1730 Merivale Road, Jacksonville, Florida

P11

Mr. DINKINS, Manager, Hunton YMCA, said that Mrs. ANITA ELLIOTT, Day Clerk, was the individual who thought DEWEESE resembled the artist's conception of the assassin.

At the time of the interview, DEWEESE was cooperative and readily consented to having his photograph taken.

Re: Suspect JEFF ADDISON WILLARD

On April 15, 1968, the Norfolk Naval Base Police questioned WILLARD regarding his possession of a Winchester 30-30 rifle, model 843000, serial number 2891143, with Weaver telescopic sight, patent number 263251. The base police also felt that WILLARD resembled the artist's conception of the killer of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. It was determined that WILLARD was employed as a truck driver with the Trans Cold Express, P.O. Box 22, Dallas, Texas, and was hauling meat for the Texas Meat Packers, Dallas, Texas. He made a delivery at the Naval Base on April 15, 1968.

NF 44-268
ME 44-1987
DGF/drb
9

Base Police questioned WILLARD regarding his illegal possession of a rifle on the Naval Base and determined the following descriptive information:

NAME:	JEFF ADDISON WILLARD
RACE:	White
SEX:	Male
BIRTH:	[redacted] at Raleigh, North Carolina
HEIGHT:	5'7"
WEIGHT:	165
HAIR:	BROWN
EYES:	Hazel
TATTOO:	Dagger and pendant on lower left arm
RESIDENCE:	205 Mc Neil Street Rockingham, North Carolina
EMPLOYMENT:	Truck driver Trans Cold Express Dallas, Texas
DRIVER'S LICENSE:	North Carolina Chauffeur's License [redacted]

P11

A review of WILLARD's personal belongings by the Base Police revealed the following cards and papers with names and addresses as follows:

Joe's Truck Stop
U.S. Route 40
Pennsgrove, New Jersey

Wadley Blood Bank
36000 Gaston Avenue
Dallas, Texas

Square Deal Transfer, Inc.
Dallas, Texas

NF 44-268
ME 44-1987
DGF/drb
10

Midwest Emery Freight System
7000 South Pulaskie
Chicago, Illinois

W.G. FRAZIER Refrigeration Trucks
Carrizo Springs, Texas

W.C. "BILL" SMITH
313 West California Street
Rouston, Louisiana

Bank of Fuquay
Varina, North Carolina

C.B. HINCLEY
Route 6
Fishdam Road
Box 81 D
Durham, North Carolina

B.E. HALL, JR.
11221 Caressa
Dallas, Texas

Re: Suspect JOSEPH THOMAS BUCHANAN

On April 18, 1968, PAUL ROBESON, 3412 West Bonner Drive, Esterbrook, Virginia, advised that approximately two to three weeks ago he was making purchases in the sporting goods department of the King's Department Store, Virginia Beach Boulevard, Norfolk, Virginia, at which time he observed two highly nervous men purchasing a 30-06 rifle. He again observed them leaving the store with the rifle, and saw them drive off in a white Mustang.

Mr. ROBESON said that he thought no more of it until seeing the photographs of ERIC STARVO GALT on television, at which time he observed a strong

NF 44-268
ME 44-1987
DGF/drb
11

similarity between GALT and one of the men buying the rifle.

On April 18, 1968, Mrs. TAWANA SMITH, Assistant Manager, Sporting Goods Department, King's Department Store, Virginia Beach Boulevard, Norfolk, Virginia, furnished their log of firearms sales from December 17, 1967 thru April 18, 1968. A review of the log revealed that there had been only one sale of a 30-06 rifle. It occurred on March 21, 1968, to one J.T. BUCHANAN, 3625 East Sewells Point Road, Norfolk, Virginia.

The rifle was a 30-06 caliber Kodiak bolt action rifle with serial number 11156.

Mrs. SMITH advised that her manager, JIM PEARSON, actually made the sale according to the log.

Photographs of ERIC STARVO GALT were shown to the following clerks at the aforementioned King's Department Store with negative results:

TAWANA SMITH

NINA COLLIER

JEANNETTE GREEN

PEGGY HEATH

A review of the aforementioned firearms sale log, failed to reveal any name similar to that of GALT under his true name or aliases.

On April 18, 1968, JAMES W. PEARSON, 274 Sedgefield Avenue, Virginia Beach, Virginia, was interviewed, and he advised that he did not recall the sale of the aforementioned rifle. He was shown

NF 44-268
ME 44-1987
DGF/drb
12

photographs of GALT with negative results. He advised that upon reviewing the matter more thoroughly, he recalled that he had one man in mind regarding the above sale:

A white male, approximately 24 years old, 5'6" tall, 150 pounds, with dark brown hair.

He could not recall whether it was the same man as was recorded as being J.T. BUCHANAN, the buyer of the aforementioned rifle.

On April 18, 1968, a neighborhood investigation was conducted in the area of 3625 Sewells Point Road, Norfolk, Virginia. It was determined that one TOMMY BUCHANAN, age approximately 21, resided at the above address with his parents. He was described as:

SEX:	Male
RACE:	White
HEIGHT:	Approximately 6'2"
WEIGHT:	160
HAIR:	Brown
EMPLOYED:	Main Naval Base, Norfolk, Virginia

The neighbors advised that he has resided in the area continuously for some length of time and several neighbors observed him personally during the pertinent dates involved in this matter. It was the neighbors' belief that he had served some time in the United States Army.

On April 18, 1968, Mrs. MAUDE BUCHANAN, 3625 Sewells Point Road, Norfolk, Virginia, advised that she is the mother of one JOSEPH THOMAS BUCHANAN,

NF 44-268
ME 44-1987
DGE/drb
13

date of birth [redacted] white male, 6'2"
180 pounds, with dark brown hair and hazel eyes.
She advised that he has been in the Norfolk area
at all times during the months of March and April.
She advised that he did purchase a new rifle at the
King's Department Store recently.

P11

She advised that he is employed at the Main
Naval Base, Norfolk. Mrs. BUCHANAN furnished a
photograph of her son, and it was observed that he
was not identifiable with the subject.

"Objectivist Clubs"

On April 16, 1968, HAROLD WILSON telephonically
advised the Norfolk Office of the FBI that he was
a member of the faculty at the Old Dominion College
Norfolk, Virginia. WILSON stated that he had been
discussing the death of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. in
one of his classes and had arrived at a theory that
he thought might be of some assistance to the FBI.

WILSON stated that the aliases used by the
assassin, i.e. WILLARD and GALT, are significant. He
explained that the WILLARD Hotel was prominent in
Lincoln's assassination, and the name GALT was the
name used by the authoress AYN RAND in her novel
"Atlas Shrugged".

WILSON stated that at present there is a
disciple of AYN RAND named BRANNIGAN (phonetic)
who is organizing "objectivist clubs" in the United
States, and that the killer of MARTIN LUTHER KING,
JR. could possibly be associated with one of these
clubs.

WILSON stated that objectivism is the
philosophy of AYN RAND, and followers of it are

NF 44-268
ME 44-1987
DGF/drb
14

disenchanted with the present society, and are
"dropping out" to form their own exclusive society.

Re: Suspect; Unknown Subject
City Repair Crew Worker,
Norfolk, Virginia

On April 18, 1968, ARTHUR STEWART, 1109 Centerville Turnpike, Virginia Beach, Virginia advised that one ALFRED BABCOCK, 2909 Berkley Avenue, Norfolk, Virginia, had informed him that he had observed a man who strongly resembled ERIC STARVO GALT, including the habit of pulling his ear, working on a street repair crew in front of Zed's Store on Liberty Street in Berkley, Norfolk, Virginia.

STEWART stated that Mr. BABCOCK did not call the FBI personally, as he did not think that the FBI would be interested in what he thought would be recorded as a crank call.

On April 18, 1968, the City repair crew, working on Liberty Street, Berkley area, Norfolk, Virginia, was observed by SAs JOHN P. BUNSZEL and JOSEPH E. SMITH as a result of receiving the above information.

It was determined from JAMES SOREY, Foreman, that he had had a crew at that location for the entire day, and that all of his workers are employees of the Department of Public Works, City of Norfolk, Virginia. SOREY advised that only two of the crew were white males, and that neither of these individuals even remotely resembled ERIC STARVO GALT. SOREY confirmed that both of the aforementioned white male employees had worked on his crew for several months, and had not missed any days of work.

NF 44-268
ME 44-1987
DGF/drb
15

Re: Suspect ROBERT FRANKLIN WILLIAMS

Mrs. LLOYD BLACK, 839 Marvin Avenue, Norfolk, Virginia, advised on April 18, 1968 that she is the sister-in-law of the captioned suspect.

She advised that newspaper pictures and the description listed for ERIC STARVO GALT are identical to her brother-in-law who escaped approximately one year ago from confinement at Ashville, North Carolina. She noted that WILLIAMS had repeatedly stated that he would kill Dr. KING. She furnished the suspect's wife's name as CAROLYN RUTH WILLIAMS, 1107 Ray Avenue, Sanford, North Carolina. WILLIAMS' wife supposedly received information that he called another sister, (unknown) from Atlanta, Georgia, and requested money approximately one week prior to April 18, 1968.

Re: Suspect PAUL DARDEN GOLDEN

On April 23, 1968, a review of the Virginia Beach, Virginia, City Director, revealed that PAUL D. GOLDEN, 2244 Lynn Road, Virginia Beach, was a member of the United States Navy and resided with CLIFTON W. GOLDEN, wife ERMA at that address.

On April 24, 1968, Miss SYLVIA RHODES, Retail Merchants Association, Norfolk, Virginia (which covers Virginia Beach), advised that her files were negative on PAUL D. GOLDEN but contained a reference to CLIFTON WADDELL GOLDEN at 2244 Lynn Road, Virginia Beach, who was the former owner of the Golden Furniture Company, Norfolk, Virginia.

On the same date, JOYCE GEORGE, Identification

NF 44-268
ME 44-1987
DGF/drb
16

Division, Virginia Beach Police Department advised that her files contained no record on PAUL D. GOLDEN.

On April 24, 1968, Mrs. L.T. WHITSON, 2237 Lynn Road, Virginia Beach, advised that the GOLDEN family has resided at 2244 Lynn Road for the past six years. WHITSON was shown a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and she advised that no one resembling RAY has resided at the GOLDEN residence during the past six years and furthermore, that no one residing in the neighborhood for the past six years resembles RAY.

Re: Suspect JIMMY RAY BUNDY

On April 26, 1968, SA JAMES A. HENDRIAN obtained the following information:

Mr. JAMES L. BUNDY, owner of Bundy Realty Company, 5000 Portsmouth Boulevard, Portsmouth, Virginia, advised that his son has not worked for him for some time, and that he has not seen him for over a month.

Mr. BUNDY stated that he has very little contact with his son as he (JIMMY RAY) has moved back to Greenville, North Carolina, to live with his mother. He stated that his son formerly worked for Boyce Ready Mix Company of Portsmouth.

BUNDY displayed a photograph of his son which in no way resembles that of the subject JAMES EARL RAY.

Re: Suspect JOHN FRANCIS SMALLWOOD

NF 44-268
ME 44-1987
DGF/drb
17

On April 27, 1968, it was determined at Suffolk, Virginia that the suspect JOHN FRANCIS SMALLWOOD and his family had left the area in 1964, and had returned to his wife's relatives in care of HERBERT MODLIN, Route 1, Tyner, North Carolina.

One former neighbor in Suffolk recalled SMALLWOOD as saying that he might go to Florida.

Re: Suspect HORACE WILLARD MODLIN.

On April 30, 1968, Mrs. MYRA DODD, Personnel Manager, Lipton Tea Company, Hollands Road, Suffolk, Virginia, was contacted by SA JOHN B. MC NABB regarding the captioned suspect. She stated that MODLIN has been employed at their plant since June 2, 1964 in the production department. She further advised that MODLIN, according to the company records, had been present for work on every work day during March and April, 1968.

Re: Suspect D. WHIRTH

On April 20, 1968, Officer BEAL, Norfolk Virginia Police Department, telephonically advised that one ANDY NESKIS, 443 Granby Street, Norfolk, Virginia, had advised him that he has seen an individual that resembled JAMES EARL RAY. The individual used the name of D. WHIRTH, and was staying at 244 Freemason Street, Norfolk. WHIRTH was allegedly operating a 1965 Buick along with a man by the name of DANNY E. LEBER, 1115 West Poplar Street, York, Pennsylvania.

NF 44-268
ME 44-1987
DGF/drb
18

On April 20, 1968, ANDY NESKIS, owner, White House Grill, 443 Granby Street, Norfolk, Virginia, advised that on April 16, 1968, he cashed a check for an individual who identified himself as D. WHIRTH, who was accompanied by another individual known to NESKIS as DANNY E. LEBER, 1115 West Poplar Street, York, Pennsylvania.

NESKIS was hesitant about cashing this check, so WHIRTH gave him the title to a 1955 Buick automobile as security.

WHIRTH and LEBER told NESKIS that they were working in the Norfolk area, as "roofers", and were living at 244 Freemason Street, Norfolk.

On April 20, 1968, NESKIS was looking at a newspaper, and saw the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY, and felt that WHIRTH somewhat resembled RAY.

On April 22, 1968, NESKIS was shown several photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, and WALTER TERRY RIFE. After viewing these photographs, NESKIS advised that neither WHIRTH nor LEBER resembled RAY or RIFE.

On the same date, Mr. and Mrs. FREDERICK C. HAND, 244 Freemason Street, Norfolk, advised that there had been two young men living at their rooming house at that address, until about two days ago when they were evicted. The HANDS advised that these men were about 25 years of age, and were working in the Norfolk area as "roofers". When registering at the rooming house, one individual identified himself as (First Name Unknown) RUBY and the other as (First Name Unknown) DALLAS.

One individual was about 5'7" tall, and the other was about 6'1" tall.

NF 44-268
ME 44-1987
DGF/drb
19

Photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, and WALTER TERRY RIFE were shown to the HANDs and they were absolutely sure that neither of the above described individuals resembled either RAY or RIFE.

Re: Interview of Passengers
Aboard American Airlines Flight
#338 from Dallas, Texas to
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on
April 6, 1968

The following investigation was conducted at
Forth Eustis, Virginia by SA H. CURTISS BURRELL on
May 6, 1968:

Private TIMOTHY JOHN TAYLOR, was contacted at Fort Eustis, Virginia. He advised that he is in Company E of the Second School Battalion, Transportation School Brigade. He advised that he boarded the instant flight 338 at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on April 6, 1968, with his destination being Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He sat in the most rear seat in the tourist section, next to a white female with blond hair. He was shown a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY with negative results. He advised that he could recall no one on said flight who even resembled RAY. He noted, however, that due to his close attention to the white female with whom he was sitting, that he did not really pay too much attention to any of the other passengers. He stated that due to his seat in the most rear section of the airplane also, that his observation of all passengers in the tourist section would have been quite limited.

On May 1, 1968, WILLIE WEBB, JR., and his wife, ERNESTINE WEBB were contacted by SA LARRY J. DAVIS at their residence, #1 Tillerson, Newport News, Virginia.

NF 44-268
ME 44-1987
DGF/drb
20

They advised that they boarded American Airlines Flight 338 at Dallas, Texas, on April 6, 1968 en route to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. They occupied the two tourist seats at the back edge of the right wing next to the window. A Negro male occupied the third seat next to them in the tourist section.

They were shown photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, and they stated that he was totally unfamiliar to them. They advised that in reality they could not describe any of the other passengers as they paid little attention to them.

Re: Long Distance Telephone Calls
Placed at Each Public Telephone On
Interstate 10, Over Which Subject
And CHARLES STEIN Allegedly Travelled
December 15-17, 1967.

The following investigation was conducted by
SA WILLIAM D. BRANON on May 7, 1968 at Hampton,
Virginia:

It was determined that telephone number
703-722-7921 was assigned to the Dixie Hospital,
Hampton, Virginia.

Investigation at the Dixie Hospital revealed that on December 16, 1967 there were over 300 patients and 585 employees in said hospital. It was determined that after a direct dialed telephone call reached the switchboard it was undeterminable as to its final destination in said hospital. A check of the long distance telephone records for December 16, 1967 failed to reveal any charge to the aforementioned number for a call having been sent or received by said number.

NF 44-268
ME 44-1987
DGF/drb
21

Re: Suspect FRANK G. NILES
Also Known As Frank Henry Niles

The following investigation was conducted at
Williamsburg, Virginia by SA H. CURTISS BURRELL:

On May 3, 1968, Mrs. WYOLENE POINTER, Superintendent's Office, Eastern State [REDACTED], Williamsburg, Virginia, furnished their file on FRANK HENRY NILES, [REDACTED]. A review of this file revealed the following information:

NILES was [REDACTED] at Eastern State [REDACTED] on January 17, 1968 under [REDACTED] by Special Justice DANIEL GRINNAN, City of Richmond, Virginia.

He was [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

He was allowed one pass, which was issued for the period of April 24-26, 1968, when he listed his destination as being 6150 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia. He has missed no scheduled roll calls at Eastern State [REDACTED].

Very little background information has been acquired by Eastern State [REDACTED]. On several occasions they have sent personal background questionnaires to Mrs. CECILIA HOPE LEWIS at 5099 Tinelawn Avenue, Chattanooga, Tennessee. They have received no replies from Mrs. LEWIS.

Their files revealed that NILES was [REDACTED]
[REDACTED],
Lorain, Ohio, from June 28, 1967 to August 11, 1967.

NF 44-268
ME 44-1987
DGF/drb
22

NILES is described as a white male, born [REDACTED] weighing 131 pounds, 5'9" tall, blue eyes, gray hair, with a mustache.

P11

The [REDACTED] was W.H. BATTE.

His [REDACTED] is Dr. MARTIN PALMAZ.

Interview of Dr. PALMAZ revealed that NILES is an alcoholic currently assigned to the Alcoholic Vocational Rehabilitation Section of the Eastern State [REDACTED]. It is noted that this area is not secured at all times. Dr. PALMAZ advised that NILES is a definite racist, but has had no violence exhibited toward any of his fellow Negro inmates. Dr. PALMAZ described his feelings as being merely a general prejudice. He is described as being very polite but in definite need of a great deal of activity to keep his mind occupied. Dr. PALMAZ advised that he has a very deep-seated hostility toward life in general and that things need to go his way at all times. Dr. PALMAZ considers him to [REDACTED]. Dr. PALMAZ advised he has never heard NILES make any comments regarding any of the racial or Nazi leaders in the United States.

Dr. PALMAZ noted that NILES wrote a letter to the Social Security Administration recently in regard to his Social Security Account, number [REDACTED], which he felt was delinquent.

P11

It was noted that since March 30, 1968, NILES has been allowed to work at the Howard Johnson's Restaurant, off the Eastern State [REDACTED] grounds, in Williamsburg, Virginia. Since that time and to date, he has worked five and six days a week, 40 hours per week, and is paid \$58.

NF 44-268
ME 44-1987
DGF/drb
23

On May 3, 1968, JAMES HAMILTON, Manager, Howard Johnson's Restaurant, Williamsburg, Virginia was interviewed and advised that NILES was employed at his restaurant from March 30, 1968 to the present time. He noted that he was at all times on duty during the period April 3-6, 1968. His days off during the instant period were April 2, and 9, 1968. HAMILTON advised that NILES is very well liked and gets along well with all the Negro help.

It is noted that NILES returned to the Eastern State [REDACTED] after his work days during the instant period and at all times during his period of employment at the Howard Johnson's Restaurant. He has missed no roll calls at Eastern State [REDACTED].

Re: Suspect ROBERT TERRY

On May 9, 1968, Sergeant HARRIS SEAGER, Virginia Beach, Virginia Police Department, advised that he had received a telephone call from Mrs. MARY ANN BRILEY, 865 Hunting Hill Lane, Virginia Beach, Virginia (telephone 497-2094). Mrs. BRILEY advised him that there had been a man by the name of ROBERT TERRY staying at her residence for about a week that resembled the pictures shown in the newspapers of JAMES EARL RAY.

TERRY was brought to the BRILEY residence by Mr. BRILEY on April 17 or 18, 1968 from Columbus, Ohio. Mrs. BRILEY stated that her husband is a long-distance truck driver, and that he recently left for the West Coast taking ROBERT TERRY with him. She received a call from her husband who advised that he had left TERRY in Chicago.

NF 44-268
ME 44-1987
DGF/drb
24

Mrs. BRILEY stated that TERRY is described
as:

SEX:	Male
RACE:	White
HEIGHT:	Approximately 5'8"
WEIGHT:	160
AGE:	50
HAIR:	Dark (appeared dyed)

On May 10, 1968, Mrs. MARY ANN BRILEY, was contacted at the aforementioned address. She was shown various photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, and she stated that the man who had been staying at her home by the name of ROBERT TERRY, was definitely not JAMES EARL RAY. She stated that she originally had made the telephone call to the Virginia Beach Police Department stating that he did resemble RAY because of the original artist's conception of RAY.

Re: Inquiry of JAMES F. GREGORY to
FBI, Washington, D.C. Regarding Wanted
Flyers on JAMES EARL RAY

The following investigation was conducted
by SA H. CURTISS BURRELL on May 7, 1968 at Newport
News, Virginia:

JAMES F. GREGORY was contacted at his residence at 608 Ellen Road, Newport News, Virginia. He advised that he is employed by the Newport News, Shipbuilding and Drydock Company. He advised that he is preparing a scrapbook in regard to the killing of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. He stated that his postcard to the FBI headquarters in Washington, D.C., whereby he requested wanted flyers #442 and #442a, was for the purpose of their inclusion in his personal scrapbook.

NF 44-268
ME 44-1987
DGF/drb
25

GREGORY advised that he has no personal knowledge of any of the principals in the instant matter.

Re: Suspect ROBERT L. MOORE

On May 9, 1968, DAVID HAYES, Strickland's Esso Service Station, Laskin Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia, advised that an individual resembling JAMES EARL RAY came into this service station driving a 1960 green four door Oldsmobile bearing 1968 Alabama license 59-4065. The suspect was described by three attendants as generally fitting the description of RAY as per the photograph of RAY with sunglasses taken in Mexico.

The suspect used Humble Oil and Refining Credit Card in the name of ROBERT L. MOORE, bearing number [REDACTED]

HAYES advised that immediately after the suspect left the service station, he recalled that a reward flyer had been issued on said credit card.

The suspect ROBERT LEE MOORE, date of birth [REDACTED] located and interviewed at Norfolk on May 10, 1968, as per form FD 302.

P11

6/6/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, NORFOLK (44-268) - P -
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel to all SACs dated 5/7/68.

As per referenced Bureau airtel, enclosed for Memphis are 15 copies of an investigative insert regarding investigation by the Norfolk Division to date.

Also enclosed for Memphis are 15 copies each of FD 302s reflecting interview of ROBERT LEE MOORE and CLARENCE ELLIOTT FITCHETT.

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:

A review of the indices of the Norfolk Division under the names JAMES EARL RAY, and all his aliases was conducted with negative results.

A review of ITSMV cases regarding automobiles stolen 3/22/68 and after, was conducted with negative result regarding any possible connection with the subject.

Stops were placed at all overseas agencies and sources of entry into the United States, and copies of the I.O. regarding JAMES EARL RAY were furnished to these agencies.

2 - Memphis (44-1987)(Enc. 45)

① - Norfolk (44-268)

DGF/drb

(3)

44-268-148
Searched _____
Serialized _____
Indexed _____
Filed _____

NF 44-268

Distribution of pertinent press releases and photographs of JAMES EARL RAY have been made by the Norfolk Division to the news media in this Division.

INFORMANT DATA:

Appropriate PCIs, CIs, RIs and PRIs - Ghetto, have been contacted in the Norfolk Division with negative results regarding JAMES EARL RAY.

It is noted that various parts of said insert has been synopsized, i.e. checks of dance studios, laundries, etc, in view of brevity. Detailed notes are maintained in the case file at Norfolk regarding the particular businesses and agencies contacted.

LEADS:

NORFOLK DIVISION

At Norfolk, Virginia

Will continue investigation and report results of any investigation conducted to Memphis as per Bureau airtel to all SACs dated 5/7/68.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, NORFOLK (44-268)

DATE: 6/5/68

FROM : SA DAVID G. FLANDERS

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re: Suspect CLARENCE ELLIOTT FITCHETT.

Re memo of SPC JAMES C. PARKER, dated 5/26/68.

On 5/27/68, a review of the records of the Virginia State Police revealed that 1968 Virginia license 32-823 was registered to a CLARENCE E. FITCHETT, 2801 Somme Avenue, Norfolk, Va., for a 1964 Oldsmobile with VIN 844L0062580.

Neighborhood investigation in the area of 2801 Somme Ave., revealed that FITCHETT was not identical with JAMES EARL RAY. FITCHETT had resided in the Somme Ave. address approximately two or three years. Neighbors upon observing photographs of JAMES EARL RAY stated that that individual was not identical with JAMES EARL RAY.

During the conducting of the neighborhood investigation, the writer came upon CLARENCE ELLIOTT FITCHETT and he was interviewed as per the attached FD-302.

In view of the fact that FITCHETT was determined not to be identical with JAMES EARL RAY, no further investigation is being conducted re FITCHETT.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

44-268-149
abc
R

Norfolk
DGF:jvh

jvh



10-108-02

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