

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC

DATE: April 25, 1968

FROM : John D. Simmons

SUBJECT: JAMES EARL RAY

MR. VINCE PATERSON of Millikin University Residence of Capi Signal Fraternity. Phone, #23-0186.

Mr. Paterson picked up subject on North 22nd near the Statley Viduct, and took him to the corner of 48 and 121 st.

Subject Stated he was going to Peoria, and that he had just come from Kentucky. Subject was wearing an old brown suit and carrying a small red suit case.

Mr. Paterson said that subject had a letter that subject showed him, looked like it had been typed written. Subject said he was going to Peoria to pick up some money.

SEARCHED *YH* INDEXED *YH*
SERIALIZED *YH* FILED *YH*
APR 25 1968
FBI - SPRINGFIELD
Baden

JDS/jds

con @ Robert



5010-108

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan 44-561-285

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC

DATE: April 25, 1968

FROM : Clerk John D. Simmons

SUBJECT: JAMES EARL RAY

Mr. Gregory Turner 1615 Veroncia East St. Louis, advised that he thinks he saw Subject JAMES EARL RAY.

Mr. Turner on his way to work Tuesday 24, about 2:15 PM, saw subject board the bus. He said he got on the bus near Mc Kinley bridge going from St. Louis to Illinois. The bus was in route to Granite City from St. Louis. Mr. Turner said subject was with Small lady, the lady was wearing glasses and a white fur coat. On the arm of the coat was some lipstick. He stated that the ladies knees were rough up some.

Subject was wearing a pink sweet shirt, and was bare headed. Subject got off the bus at 3rd and Madison at the first stop signal. He said subject walked north down Madison Avenue, in Madison, Illinois. The lady stayed on the bus. The lady hair was Blonde. Mr. Turner phone nr. is 1-5798.

*Called 7/29
Could furnish no
additional info
all*

(Large handwritten circle with a vertical line through it)

SEARCHED <i>7/29</i>	INDEXED <i>7/29</i>
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APR 25 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Lewis *etc*

*ESL
ld.*

JDS/JDS

Case @ Robert



5010-108

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

44-561-286

FBI SPRNGFLD

FBI INDAPOLS

808PM URGENT 4-24-68 WJA

TO DIRECTOR (44-3861), CHICAGO, KANSAS CITY, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

SPRINGFIELD

FROM INDIANAPOLIS (44-563)

MURKIN.

RE SAN FRANCISCO TEL TO BUREAU, CHICAGO, INDIANAPOLIS, KANSAS CITY, MEMPHIS, NEW YORK AND ST. LOUIS, APRIL TWENTYTWO LAST.

RE: JOHN LARRY RAY.

RECORDS, INDIANA STATE REFORMATORY, PENDLETON, IND., DISCLOSES "JOHN LARRY RAYNS", AKA. JACK, PRISON REGISTRY NO. THREE FIVE TWO NINE SEVEN, SENTENCED TO TWO-FIVE YRS. FOR SECOND DEGREE BURGLARY IN KOSCIUSKO CO., IND., ON JAN. TWENTYTHREE FIFTY AND RECEIVED AT IND. REFORMATORY JAN. TWENTYFOUR FIFTY. RAYNS DESCRIBED AS WM, BORN FEB. FOURTEEN THIRTYTWO, ALTON, ILL., FIVE FT. SEVEN ONE HALF IN., ONE TWENTYEIGHT LBS, DARK CHESTNUT HAIR, HAZEL EYES, SALLOW COMPLEXION, SLENDER BUILD, BURN SCAR LEFT JAW, CUT SCAR TOP MIDDLE FINGER, LEFT HAND, THIRD JOINT, PECULARITY - STUTTERS. ATTENDED PUBLIC SCHOOL QUINCY, ILL., THIRTYEIGHT TO FORTYEIGHT. HAD WORKED FOR WEMMS LAUNDRY, QUINCY FOR FIVE MONTHS AND WAS FIRED. STATED MADE HOME WITH PARENTS, JERRY AND LUCILLE (MAHER) RAYNS, TWO ONE FOUR SPRING ST., QUINCY.

END PAGE ONE

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INITIALS

44-561-287

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 24 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Robert

PAGE TWO

IP 44-563

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FOR INFO SPRINGFIELD RETEL SET LEAD FOR INDIANAPOLIS TO ATTEMPT
TO LOCATE JAMES EARL RAY'S BROTHER IN INDIANAPOLIS DIVISION.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P.

END

DJK

FBI SPRNGFLD

X

FBI SPRINGFIELD

FBI INDIANAPOLIS

902PM URGENT 4-24-68 WJA

TO DIRECTOR (44-3861), CHICAGO, KANSAS CITY, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
SPRINGFIELD

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END PAGE ONE

44-561-287

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APR 24 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Tal - Review 25 case thoroughly, set forth leads to contact Ray, coordinate

4/25-6958

PAGE TWO

IP 44-562

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TO LOCATE JAMES EARL RAY'S BROTHER IN INDIANAPOLIS DIVISION.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. IP.

END

CUK

FBI SPRINGFIELD

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FBI SPRINGFIELD

FBI INDAPOLS

808PM URGENT 4-24-68 WJA

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SPRINGFIELD
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44-561-287

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ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P.

END

DJK

FBI SPRNGFLD

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FBI ATLANTA

10:35 PM URGENT 4/24/68 LBN

TO DIRECTOR MEMPHIS, BIRMINGHAM, LOS ANGELES, KANSAS

CITY, SPRINGFIELD AND MIAMI.

FROM ATLANTA (44-2386)

MURKIN.

SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION, APRIL TWENTYFOUR, SIXTYEIGHT:

NEW AND USED CAR DEALERS IN ATLANTA AND SUBURBAN AREAS HAVE BEEN CONTACTED AND SHOWN PHOTOGRAPHS OF RAY. SUCH CHECKS CONCLUDED TODAY AND ALL NEGATIVE. PROJECT OF CONTACTING INDIVIDUALS ADVERTISING AUTOMOBILES FOR SALE THROUGH NEWSPAPER ADS BETWEEN MARCH TWENTYFOUR AND APRIL FIVE LAST UNDERWAY, NEGATIVE TO DATE, CONTINUING.

CAR RENTAL AGENCIES IN ATLANTA AND SUBURBAN AREAS CONCLUDED TODAY WITH PHOTOGRAPHS OF RAY EXHIBITED WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

CONTACTS WITH CREW MEMBERS ON EASTERN AIRLINES FOREIGN FLIGHTS THREE TWO ZERO AND THREE TWO EIGHT ON APRIL FIVE LAST CONCLUDED EXCEPT FOR ONE STEWARDESS WHO WILL BE INTERVIEWED APRIL TWENTYFIVE NEXT. SUCH CHECKS ARE NEGATIVE.

END PAGE ONE.

*as marked
JTB*

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APR 24 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Robert

*Review 88-3496 if advise OOR
FBI #, set out leads*

44-561-288

PAGE TWO ..

STORAGE GARAGES, CITY OF ATLANTA, CONTACTED AND RAY'S PHOTOGRAPH EXHIBITED WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. ALL OPEN PARKING LOTS VICINITY OF ONE ONE THREE FOURTEENTH STREET HAVE BEEN CONTACTED WITH PHOTOGRAPHS OF RAY SHOWN TO OWNERS AND ATTENDANTS WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

REMAINING CREW MEMBERS OF EASTERN AIRLINES FLIGHT ONE THREE THREE, APRIL TWELVE LAST INTERVIEWED REGARDING A PASSENGER RESEMBLING RAY WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. THEY CONFIRMED INFORMATION FURNISHED APRIL TWENTYTHREE, SIXTYEIGHT, BY OTHER CREW MEMBERS WHO STATED GILCHRIST WAS IN ERROR BY STATING ONLY ONE PASSENGER DEBARKED AT HOUSTON, TEXAS. THEY STATED NO ONE ON PLANE RESEBLING RAY.

JIMMIE DELTON GARNER, GARNER'S SISTER AND WOMAN LINEN CHANGER AT ONE ONE THREE FOURTEENTH STREET, REINTERVIEWED THIS DATE AND FURNISHED NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

LEWIE RAYMOND DOWDA CONFINED COUNTY JAIL, MARIETTA, GEORGIA, ON ARMED ROBBERY CONVICTION INTERVIEWED. DOWDA WAS ACQUAINTED WITH RAY AT MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY FOR THREE
END PAGE TWO..

1-2
PAGE THREE...

YEARS, ENDING SEPTEMBER TWENTYTHREE, SIXTYSIX, WHEN DOWDA
RELEASED. DOWDA STATED RAY WAS DOPE ADDICT, USING INJECTIONS
AND WAS ADDICTED PRIOR TO INCARCERATION. RAY USED AMPHETIMINE.
DOWDA STATED HAROLD SCHAEFER, GUARD ON GATE AT AT
PRISON, WAS FRIENDLY WITH RAY AND BELIEVED BY SOME TO BE SELLING
THE AMPHETIMINE. DOWDA CLAIMED RAY HAD UNKNOWN OUTSIDE SOURCE OF
INCOME TO SUPPORT A THIRTYFIVE TO FORTY DOLLAR PER WEEK DOPE HABIT
AS WELL AS FIFTEEN TO TWENTY DOLLARS PER WEEK OTHER EXPENDITURES.
DOWDA CLAIMS THREE NEGRO PRISONERS KILLED IN PRISON AFTER
PROTESTING DEMIAL OF BLACK MUSLIMS TO WORSHIP. CLAIMED RAY
KILLED THE NEGROES OR KNOW WHO DID. DESCRIBED RAY AS RACIST WHO
FELT ALL NEGROES IN THAT PRISON SHOULD BE KILLED AND SAID RAY
MADE SEVERAL STATEMENTS TO EFFECT IF PRICE WAS RIGHT WOULD KILL
MARTIN LUTHER KING. DOWDA STATED RAY'S CLOSEST FRIEND IN PRISON
WAS NEIL ABBEY (PHONETIC) WHO HANDLED DOPE AND GOT RAY A JOB IN
THE KITCHEN. DOWDA DOES NOT KNOW NEIL ABBEY'S PRESENT WHEREABOUTS
BUT ABBEY WAS AT ONE TIME CHIEF COOK AT THE PRISON. ANOTHER
ENDPAGE THREE...

PAGE FOUR....

CLOSE FRIEND WAS DONALD DEAN RIGGER FROM CALIFORNIA WHOSE WIFE WAS A PSYCHIATRIST AT NAPA STATE HOSPITAL LOCATED ABOVE SAN SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. DOWDA STATED RAY WOULD ONLY HAVE AN ADDRESS FOR HIM IN CARE OF DOWDA'S FATHER, CHARLES ALFRED DOWDA, FORMELY ROUTE ONE, SANFORD, FLORIDA, BUT PRESENTLY ONE ONE ZERO SOUTH CHANDLER STREET, DELAND, FLORIDA. DOWDA DENIES CONTACT IN ANY MANNER WITH RAY SINCE DOWD'S RELEASE. STATED ANOTHER FORMER INMATE, PAUL ALVIN LAIL, JR., AKA PAUL ALVIN CARTER, ^{88-3496*} THIRTYFOUR BARBODOS DRIVE, PALM SPRINGS, WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA, WAS FRIENDLY WITH RAY AND DOWDA SAW LAIL EARLY MARCH, SIXTYEIGHT, BUT NO MENTION MADE OF RAY. DOWDA HAS NO IDEA WHY RAY WOULD GO TO ATLANTA.

MIAMI, CONTACT CHARLES ALFRED DOWDA. ONE ONE ZERO SOUTH CHANDLER STREET, DELAND, FLORIDA, AND PAUL ALVIN LAIL, JR., WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA, TO DETERMINE IF RAY HAS CONTACTED THEM.

KANSAS CITY AT JEFFERSON CITY, MO., INTERVIEW GUARD, HAROLD SCHAEFER, CONCERNING RAY. ALSO DETERMINE PRESENT WHEREABOUTS OF INMATE NEIL ABBEY, AKA. NEAL ABBEY (PHONETIC) AND DONALD DEAN RIGGER AND
END PAGE FOUR....

PAGE FIVE.....

SET OUT LEADS FOR THEIR INTERVIEW CONCERNING POSSIBLE CONTACT BY
RAY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

DJK

FBI SPRNGFLD

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FBI ATLANTA

10:15 PM URGENT 4/24/68 LBN

TO DIRECTOR MEMPHIS, BIRMINGHAM, LOS ANGELES, KANSAS

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END PAGE TWO..

PAGE THREE...

YEARS, ENDING SEPTEMBER TWENTYTHREE, SIXTYSIX, WHEN DOWDA RELEASED. DOWDA STATED RAY WAS DOPE ADDICT, USING INJECTIONS AND WAS ADDICTED PRIOR TO INCARCERATION. RAY USED AMPHETIMINE. DOWDA STATED HAROLD SCHAEFER, GUARD ON GATE AT 24TH PRISON, WAS FRIENDLY WITH RAY AND BELIEVED BY SOME TO BE SELLING THE AMPHETIMINE. DOWDA CLAIMED RAY HAD UNKNOWN OUTSIDE SOURCE OF INCOME TO SUPPORT A THIRTYFIVE TO FORTY DOLLAR PER WEEK DOPE HABIT AS WELL AS FIFTEEN TO TWENTY DOLLARS PER WEEK OTHER EXPENDITURES. DOWDA CLAIMS THREE NEGRO PRISONERS KILLED IN PRISON AFTER PROTESTING DENIAL OF BLACK MUSLIMS TO WORSHIP. CLAIMED RAY KILLED THE NEGROES OR KNOW WHO DID. DESCRIBED RAY AS RACIST WHO FELT ALL NEGROES IN THAT PRISON SHOULD BE KILLED AND SAID RAY MADE SEVERAL STATEMENTS TO EFFECT IF PRICE WAS RIGHT WOULD KILL MARTIN LUTHER KING. DOWDA STATED RAY'S CLOSEST FRIEND IN PRISON WAS NEIL ABBEY (PHONETIC) WHO HANDLED DOPE AND GOT RAY A JOB IN THE KITCHEN. DOWDA DOES NOT KNOW NEIL ABBEY'S PRESENT WHEREABOUTS BUT ABBEY WAS AT ONE TIME CHIEF COOK AT THE PRISON. ANOTHER
ENDPAGE THREE...

PAGE FOUR....

CLOSE FRIEND WAS DONALD DEAN RIGGER FROM CALIFORNIA WHOSE WIFE WAS A PSYCHIATRIST AT NAPA STATE HOSPITAL LOCATED ABOVE SAN SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. DOWDA STATED RAY WOULD ONLY HAVE AN ADDRESS FOR HIM IN CARE OF DOWDA'S FATHER, CHARLES ALFRED DOWDA, FORMELY ROUTE ONE, SANFORD, FLORIDA, BUT PRESENTLY ONE ONE ZERO SOUTH CHANDLER STREET, DELAND, FLORIDA. DOWDA DENIES CONTACT IN ANY MANNER WITH RAY SINCE DOWD'S RELEASE. STATED ANOTHER FORMER INMATE, PAUL ALVIN LAIL, JR., AKA PAUL ALVIN CARTER, THIRTYFOUR BARBODOS DRIVE, PALM SPRINGS, WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA, WAS FRIENDLY WITH RAY AND DOWDA SAW LAIL EARLY MARCH, SIXTYEIGHT, BUT NO MENTION MADE OF RAY. DOWDA HAS NO IDEA WHY RAY WOULD GO TO ATLANTA.

MIAMI, CONTACT CHARLES ALFRED DOWDA, ONE ONE ZERO SOUTH CHANDLER STREET, DELAND, FLORIDA, AND PAUL ALVIN LAIL, JR., WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA, TO DETERMINE IF RAY HAS CONTACTED THEM.

KANSAS CITY AT JEFFERSON CITY, MO., INTERVIEW GUARD, HAROLD SCHAFER, CONCERNING RAY. ALSO DETERMINE PRESENT WHEREABOUTS OF INMATE METAL ARREY (PHONETIC) AND DONALD DEAN RIGGER AND
END PAGE FOUR....

PAGE FIVE.....

SET OUT LEADS FOR THEIR INTERVIEW CONCERNING POSSIBLE CONTACT BY
RAY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

DJK.

FBI SPRNGFLD

TU

F B I

Date: 4/25/68

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

TO: SAC, CLEVELAND
 FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)
 MURKIN. CR.

ON APRIL TWENTY FOUR, NINETEEN SIXTY EIGHT, SI
 ONE SIX TWO THREE DASH C ADVISED HE FORMERLY KNEW JAMES EARL
 RAY, BUT HAS NOT SEEN HIM IN APPROXIMATELY SEVEN OR EIGHT
 YEARS. INFORMANT RECALLED THAT RAY WAS CONFINED TO THE JEFFERSON
 CITY, MISSOURI PENITENTIARY WITH ONE WILLIAM JOSEPH KRAMZER,
 HE BELIEVED IN NINETEEN SIXTY THREE AND NINETEEN SIXTY FOUR.
 INFORMANT SAID KRAMZER IS SUPPOSEDLY IN PRISON, WHEREABOUTS
 UNKNOWN, AFTER BEING CONVICTED IN CLEVELAND FOR WHITE SLAVE.

CLEVELAND WILL CONTACT UNITED STATES MARSHAL TO
 DETERMINE WHERE KRAMZER INCARCERATED AND SET OUT LEADS TO HAVE
 HIM INTERVIEWED CONCERNING RAY.

P.

END.

- ① - Springfield (44-561)
 1 - Bureau (AM)

JTG:skt

(4)

SEARCHED _____ (AM)
 1 - Kansas City (AM)
 1 - Memphis (AM)
 INDEXED _____
 FILED _____

Approved: C/DTS

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

9:30

M

Per

ML

FBI CLEVELAND

FBI SPRNGFLD

930AM URGENT 4/25/68 MAL

TO CLEVELAND

FROM SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

MURKIN. CR.

ON APRIL TWENTY FOUR, NINETEEN SIXTY EIGHT, SI ONE SIX TWO THREE DASH C ADVISED HE FORMERLY KNEW JAMES EARL RAY, BUT HAS NOT SEEN HIM IN APPROXIMATELY SEVEN OR EIGHT YEARS. INFORMANT RECALLED THAT RAY WAS CONFINED TO THE JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI PENITENTIARY WITH ONE WILLIAM JOSEPH KRAMZER, HE BELIEVED IN NINETEEN SIXTY THREE AND NINETEEN SIXTY FOUR. INFORMANT SAID KRAMZER IS SUPPOSEDLY IN PRISON, WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN, AFTER BEING CONVICTED IN CLEVELAND FOR WHITE SLAVE.

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END

LJL

FBI CLEVELAND

SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED MA
INDEXED _____
FILED MA

44-561-289

FBI SPRNGFLD

FBI ALBANY

11:48 AM URGENT 4/25/68 PXB

TO DIRECTOR (44-3886), BUFFALO, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

CHICAGO (44-1114), KANSAS CITY, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

FROM ALBANY (44-493) 1P

MURKIN.

RE ALBANY TT, APRIL TWENTYTHREE LAST.

ERNEST THRIFT, WHO HAS BEEN MANAGER ALBANY COUNTRY CLUB, GUILDERLAND, NY, FOR THREE YEARS, STATES NO RECORDS KEPT OF OLD EMPLOYEES. ROBERT LA FAVE, MAINTENANCE ENGINEER, ALBANY COUNTRY CLUB; DUANE SKINNER, FORMER MANAGER, ALBANY COUNTRY CLUB; CHARLES G. CAMPBELL, ASSISTANT PRO, ALBANY COUNTRY CLUB, ALL ADVISED RECALLED EARL EVERET RAY, WHO WAS EMPLOYED AT OLD ALBANY COUNTRY CLUB THEN LOCATED ALBANY, NY, AS HOUSEMAN FOR PERIOD OF APPROXIMATELY TWO YEARS WITH RESIDENCE AT COUNTRY CLUB. COULD FURNISH NO ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON HIM. KNEW OF NO VISITORS HE HAD AND WERE UNABLE TO IDENTIFY PHOTOGRAPH OF SUBJECT, JAMES EARL RAY. ALL ADVISED NO OTHER EMPLOYEES PRESENTLY AVAILABLE WHO WOULD HAVE KNOWN EARL EVERET RAY. P.

END

MAL

FBI SPRNGFLD

SEARCHED <i>mk</i>	INDEXED <i>mk</i>
SERIALIZED <i>mk</i>	FILED <i>mk</i>
APR 25 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Reels

44-561-290

FBI SPRNGFLD

FBI ALBANY

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END

MAL

FBI SPRNGFLD

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44-561-290

FBI SPRNGFLD

FBI MEMPHIS

1156 AM URGENT 4-25-68 MCP

TO KANSAS CITY, SPRINGFIELD, AND CHICAGO
FROM MEMPHIS 44-1987 1 P

MURKIN.

THE BUREAU BY TEL APRIL TWENTYFOUR PAST TO MEMPHIS AND KANSAS CITY DESIGNATED OO AS MEMPHIS IN ENTIRE MATTER. REQUEST MADE OF KANSAS CITY THAT IT SHOULD FORWARD APPROPRIATE COPIES ALL COMMUNICATIONS IN ITS FILE TO MEMPHIS. MEMPHIS THEREAFTER WILL SUBMIT SUMMARY TO ALL OFFICES SO THAT SUBSEQUENT LOGICAL INVESTIGATION MAY BE CONDUCTED.

KANSAS CITY, SPRINGFIELD, AND CHICAGO REQUESTED SUBMIT APPROPRIATE DATA CONCERNING RELATIVES INTERVIEWED AND LOCATION RELATIVES IN RESPECTIVE DIVISIONS SO THAT MEMPHIS HAS ALL PERTINENT INFO FOR ITS SUMMARY.

SUBMIT PROMPTLY.

A & D.

P. END.

WHAT IS THE WORD IN THE FIRST PARA. 5 LINE AND THE 6 WORD.
OFFICES. TU

GDR

FBI SPRNGFLD

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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Reuts

44-561-291

FBI SPRNGFLD

FBI MEMPHIS

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OFFICES. TO

GDR

FBI SPRNGFLD

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 25 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

44-561-291

F B I

Date: 4-24-68

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

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM : SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

On the night of 4-24-68, WALTER TERRY RIFE, Quincy, Illinois was interviewed on a Quincy TV Station re JAMES EARL RAY, at 6 P.M. Two telephone calls were later received by wife, MARY RIFE, at the Virginia Hotel, in which the caller a male negro voice asked for WALTER RIFE. MARY stated that RIFE was asleep. Both times the caller stated "Tell him that we will be seeing him." The caller then hung up.

The Quincy, Illinois Police Department was contacted, and the Virginia Hotel and the Quincy PD have requested a trap be placed by the Telephone Company to locate the caller.

RIFE continues to display a cooperative attitude with the Bureau concerning MURKIN.

- 3 - Bureau (44-38861)
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987)
- ② - Springfield (44-561)

EHD:djk

(7)

SEARCHED.....
SERIALIZED.....
INDEXED.....
FILED.....

Davis *END*

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

44-561-292

F B I

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EHD:djk

(7)

Ejk/pw

SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED *mk*
INDEXED _____
FILED *mk*

Roberts WR

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

44-561-292

FBI SPRNGFLD

FBI MINNAPLS

1146 AM 4-25-68 URGENT TJJ

TO DIRECTOR, KANSAS CITY, MEMPHIS, ST. LOUIS, AND SPRINGFIELD
FROM MINNEAPOLIS (157-450)

MURKIN. CR.

RE ST. LOUIS TEL APRIL TWENTY-FOUR, LAST.

ROY WILLIS, SIX FIVE ZERO EIGHT FIFTEENTH AVENUE SOUTH,
RICHFIELD, MINNESOTA, ADVISED HE WAS FORMER POLICE OFFICER
WITH HANNIBAL, MISSOURI PD. WILLIS ADVISED HE VAGUELY RECALLED
JAMES EARL RAY BEING HELD IN HANNIBAL FOR FEDERAL AUTHORITIES.
WILLIS ADVISED HE DID NOT BUY A CAR FROM RAY BUT RAY ASKED
HIM TO SELL IT FOR HIM. WILLIS STATED HE BELIEVES INSTANT
VEHICLE TO HAVE BEEN AN OLD MODEL LINCOLN WHICH HE FINALLY
SOLD SOMETIME AFTER RAY HAD BEEN TRANSFERRED TO U. S.
PENITENTIARY, LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS. WILLIS STATED HE BELIEVES
HE WAS TO SELL THE CAR AND FORWARD PROCEEDS FROM SALE TO
SOMEONE, NAME NOT RECALLED, IN QUINCY, ILLINOIS. WILLIS
STATED HE BELIEVES RAY WROTE AT LEAST ONE LETTER TO HIM

Davis Advised
UK

END PAGE ONE

44-56-293

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MP 157-450

PAGE TWO

CONCERNING THE SALE OF THE CAR FROM THE U. S. PENITENTIARY, LEAVENWORTH. WILLIS DOES NOT RECALL TO WHOM INSTANT VEHICLE WAS SOLD OR HOW THE VEHICLE WAS PAID FOR. WILLIS ADVISED TO BEST OF HIS RECOLLECTION, RAY, IN NINETEEN FIFTY-FIVE, WAS FRIENDLY WITH A POLICE CHARACTER BY NAME OF BUDDY BATCHELDER OR BATCHELOR, WHO HAD HAD NUMEROUS ARRESTS BOTH IN HANNIBAL, MISSOURI, AND QUINCY, ILLINOIS, FOR BURGLARY, PROSTITUTION, ETC.

WILLIS STATED HE RECALLS BATCHELDER AS BEING WHITE MALE, ABOUT SAME AGE AS RAY AND BEING SHORT AND STOCKY. WILLIS STATED HE IS CERTAIN THAT SOME OF THE OLD-TIME OFFICERS WOULD BE ABLE TO IDENTIFY BATCHELDER.

WILLIS STATED THAT HE SEEMS TO RECALL THAT RAY WAS FRIENDLY WITH THE OWNER OF ALABAMA TAVERN, WHOSE NAME WILLIS RECALLED AS SOMETHING LIKE CHARLIE GUNN. WILLIS STATED HE SEEMS TO RECALL SOME INVESTIGATION BEING CONDUCTED CONCERNING RAY N. BOXELDER AND A COUPLE OF GIRLS FROM QUINCY.

ST. LOUIS, ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY BATCHELDER WHO REPORTEDLY WAS IN CUSTODY THE SAME TIME AS RAY AND INTERVIEW HIM FOR ANY INFORMATION HE MAY HAVE CONCERNING RAY.

END PAGE TWO

MP 157-450

PAGE THREE

KANSAS CITY, ASCERTAIN WHETHER OR NOT IT IS POSSIBLE
THROUGH MOTOR VEHICLE DEPARTMENT TO IDENTIFY INSTANT VEHICLE
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OF THE PROCEEDS OF THIS SALE.

SPRINGFIELD, AT QUINCY, ILLINOIS, ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY
BATCHELDER AND ANY OTHER ASSOCIATES OF RAY.

END

MAL

FBI SPRNGFLD

X

FBI SPRNGFLD

FBI MINNAPLS

1146 AM 4-25-68 URGENT TJJ

TO DIRECTOR, KANSAS CITY, MEMPHIS, ST. LOUIS, AND SPRINGFIELD
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END PAGE ONE

ONE XEROX
COPY MADE
4/25
LATE INITIALS

Quincy
ld

44-561-293

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Davis
case @ Roberts

MP 157-450

PAGE TWO

CONCERNING THE SALE OF THE CAR FROM THE U. S. PENITENTIARY, LEAVENWORTH. WILLIS DOES NOT RECALL TO WHOM INSTANT VEHICLE WAS SOLD OR HOW THE VEHICLE WAS PAID FOR. WILLIS ADVISED TO BEST OF HIS RECOLLECTION, RAY, IN NINETEEN FIFTY-FIVE, WAS FRIENDLY WITH A POLICE CHARACTER BY NAME OF BUDDY BATCHELDER OR BATCHELOR, WHO HAD HAD NUMEROUS ARRESTS BOTH IN HANNIBAL, MISSOURI, AND QUINCY, ILLINOIS, FOR BURGLARY, PROSTITUTION, ETC.

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END PAGE TWO

MP 157-450

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MAL

FBI SPRNGFLD

X

FBI SPRINGFLD

FBI MINNAPLS

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CARPENTER *Em*

Quincy
ld

44-561-293

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Davis

case @ Roberts

ME 157-450

PAGE TWO

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END PAGE TWO

MP 157-450

PAGE THREE

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SPRINGFIELD, AT QUINCY, ILLINOIS, ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY PATCHELDER AND ANY OTHER ASSOCIATES OF RAY.

END

MAL

FBI SPRINGFLD

X

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, SPRINGFIELD

DATE: 4/23/68

FROM : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

(OO Memphis)

Inspector N. E. ZACHARY, Memphis PD, has been contacted by an individual at Memphis who possesses yearbooks for the years 1940-1943 of the Eldorado Township High School, Eldorado, Ill. These yearbooks contain photographs of one JAMES RAY, who may or may not be identical with the subject.

LEAD:

SPRINGFIELD DIVISION

AT ELDORADO, ILL.

Determine if the subject RAY attended the Eldorado Township High School and obtain all pertinent background information.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- ② - Springfield
1 - Kansas City (Info)
1 - Memphis
JCH:mnr
(4)

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FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Roberts

44-561-294



5010-108

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

SAC, SPRINGFIELD

4/23/68

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

MURKIN
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(4)

44-1987-294

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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Bortner

Eldorado High
Lead assigned to
BORTNER SUB

CITC agent Bortner

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

DATE: 4/25/68

FROM : SA WILLIAM ROBERTS, III - P -

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CIVIL RIGHTS

Re Minneapolis teletype to Springfield 4/25/68.

Upon receipt of re teletype, writer advised SA ELYON H. DAVIS, Quincy RA, and he advised that the individual referred to from the Quincy area who allegedly was an associate of subject JAMES EARL RAY is BUCKY BATCHELDER. SA DAVIS advised that BATCHELDER was well known in the Springfield Division, and is currently serving sentence for murder in Menard State Penitentiary. A review of Springfield indices by writer reflected the following concerning MILTON DEAN BATCHELDER, aka Bucky:

Race	White
Sex	Male
DOB	4/25/32
POB	Quincy, Illinois.

There are numerous references to BATCHELDER in the Springfield indices.

Pursuant to re teletype, it is requested that BATCHELDER be interviewed at Menard State Prison, Ill., concerning knowledge of subject RAY and associates.

Springfield (44-561)

WR:mpb

WR:mpb

*Transferred
to Joliet Branch
Joliet State Pen
9/7/66
per Warden
4/25/68*

*Mar Inye
Ear*

*Menard
Id.*

w/attached

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FBI - SPRINGFIELD	
CARPENTER	

44-561 - 295



5010-108

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

SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

4/25/68

SA WILLIAM ROBERTS, III - P -

MURKIN
CIVIL RIGHTS

Re Minneapolis teletype to Springfield 2/25/68.

Upon receipt of re teletype, writer advised SA ELYON H. DAVIS, Quincy RA, and he advised that the individual referred to from the Quincy area who allegedly was an associate of subject JAMES EARL RAY is BUCKY BATCHELDER. SA DAVIS advised that BATCHELDER was well known in the Springfield Division, and is currently serving sentence for murder in Menard State Penitentiary. A review of Springfield indices by writer reflected the following concerning MILTON DEAN BATCHELDER, aka Bucky:

Race	White
Sex	Male
DOB	4/25/32
POB	Quincy, Illinois.

There are numerous references to BATCHELDER in the Springfield indices.

Pursuant to re teletype, it is requested that BATCHELDER be interviewed at Menard State Prison, Ill., concerning knowledge of subject RAY and associates.

2 - Springfield (44-561)

WR:mpb

(2)

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44-561-295

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : FILE (44-561)

FROM : ASAC SULLIVAN

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Bob Strader 26-23403
Robert Strader 91-2642-961
Robert H. 26-29006
Robert H. 26-23403

DATE: 3 4-25-68

Reference is made to memo of VINCENT T. HARTNETT, 4-24-68, concerning a telephone call from Inspector THOMAS E. BISHOP, SOG.

On (this date) *4/25* Mrs. ROBERT STRADER of Lexington, Illinois, telephone 309 365-3148, telephonically contacted the office concerning this matter. Mrs. STRADER, who sounded considerably upset emotionally, advised she expected her husband to return home from Detroit sometime late this afternoon and wanted to know whether or not we would assure that his identity would be protected in regard to any information provided to us concerning the MURKIN case. Mrs. STRADER also asked what kind of protection we could give to her husband who felt his life was in danger.

- NCIC negative 4/30/68, per BSO/DTJ

Mrs. STRADER was advised that any information furnished to this Bureau in confidence would certainly be protected but that we were in no position to physically guard her husband and if he felt his life was in danger this was a matter he should take up with local authorities, however, we were desirous of interviewing him concerning any valuable information he might have in regard to this case and would do so at his convenience upon his arrival. Mrs. STRADER advised she would have her husband contact the office upon his arrival at Lexington, Illinois. She was also furnished the name of the SRA at Bloomington and of the whereabouts of our office there.

Mrs. STRADER stated she and her husband were passing through Memphis at the time MARTIN LUTHER KING was slain. Her husband allegedly overheard a conversation among five individuals one of whom he claims resembles the published photograph of RAY, the subject, in this case, in which they talked about the killing. Subsequently, last Sunday night their car was broken into and on Monday he claims he was followed from Lexington to Detroit by a tan Chevrolet, the registration number of which he was unable to obtain. This car contained two individuals whom

DTS:VLS
2

*SA Blount #1 man
Crimo Record, advised
4/24/68*

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Sullivan



5010-108

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44-561-296

SI 44-561

he did not recognize and at a rest stop these men took a shot at him but did not hit him because he "hit the ground". He now fears he is in grave danger for his personal safety because he has information about the killing of MARTIN LUTHER KING.

Mrs. STRADER was advised immediately upon her husband's return she should contact this office and we would set up a mutually agreeable time and place during which we could interview her husband concerning this matter.

SA ARTHUR LEE WOODS was alerted to this situation telephonically. WOODS, through a quick check of the telephone directory, identified Mrs. STRADER as possibly VIRGINIA STRADER who resides with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. P. CARMICHAEL at Route 2, Lexington, Illinois. He believes ROBERT STRADER may have been the subject of some old ITSMV cases and these references are being reviewed prior to the interview.

ADDENDUM: On 4/30/68 SA WOODS contacted Mrs. STRADER to ascertain DTS:vr whether or not ROBERT STRADER has returned to Lexington, 4/30/68 Illinois. Mrs. STRADER advised STRADER returned Friday night but they did not contact the office inasmuch as he was allegedly followed from about a mile north of home and was fearful that someone would do harm to him. On Friday night he got into a controversy with his mother-in-law, was run off the property, and his current whereabouts are unknown. STRADER continues to contact his wife but will not furnish his whereabouts since the family is on a party line and he is fearful for his personal safety. This is for information in the event Bureau calls; however, it is to be noted ASAC contacted JAMES BLAND, #1 Man, Crime Records on 4/29/68 concerning this matter and Mr. BLAND advised the Bureau was not running a tickler on the information provided by STERN of NBC, Washington, but had merely passed it on for our investigative assistance.

FILE (44-561)

4-25-68

ASAC SULLIVAN

MURKIN

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X

FBI SPRNGFLD

FBI ATLANTA

231P URGENT 4/25/68 VSC

TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS, BIRMINGHAM, SPRINGFIELD AND SAN DIEGO
FROM ATLANTA 44-2386 1P

MURKIN - 44-561*

RE SAN DIEGO TEL TO ATLANTA, APR. TWO FOUR, LAST.

RE: SUBJECT HARVEY EDWARD LOHMEYER

FBI NO. SEVEN THREE ZERO NINE SEVEN NINE A

SPRINGFIELD FURNISH ATLANTA LOHMEYER'S PHOTO AND NAMES
OF INMATES, MATCHING LOHMEYER'S GENERAL DESCRIPTION, CONFINED
WITH RAY, MENARD PRISON.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P

END

KXE

FBI SPRNGFLD

X

Telephone call to Atlanta,
Supv. Chas. S. HARDING;
His attention called to SI
tel to At 4-22-68 (SER. 214)
- He said Disregard this
teletype -

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Roberts	

44-561-299