

FBI SPRNGFLD

FBI CHICAGO

909PM URGENT 4/30/68 RSM

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), MEMPHIS (44-1987), SPRINGFIELD (44-561),
ST. LOUIS (44-775), BIRMINGHAM (44-1740), ATLANTA 44-2386)
AND LOS ANGELES (44-1574)
FROM CHICAGO (44-1114)

MURKIN

SUMMARY CHICAGO DIVISION

RE [REDACTED]

RECONTACT WITH SISTER SUSAN DONIAN THIS DATE REVEALED
SHE DID NOT KNOW HER [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] IN VIEW OF FOREGOING, CHICAGO DIVISION CONCURS
WITH RECOMMENDATION OF THE SPRINGFIELD DIVISION THAT ANY
INTERVIEW OF [REDACTED] BE HELD IN ABEYANCE.

RE PHOTO EQUIPMENT ORDERED FROM SUPERIOR BULK FILM COMPANY,
CHICAGO, UNDER GALT ALIAS. INQUIRY, FILM COMPANY, REVEALS,
NO SERIAL NUMBERS MAINTAINED NOR ARE THEY MAINTAINED AT
END PAGE ONE

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 30 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Roberts *WRC*

44-561-367

PAGE TWO

FILM COMPANIES SUPPLIER. LEADS SET OUT BY SEPARATE TEL TO SEARCH WARRANTY SLIPS EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY, ROCHESTER, NEW YORK, FOR ABOVE PROJECTOR AND SUPER EIGHT KODAK CAMERA ORDERED AND REFERRED BY SUBJECT. LEADS ALSO SET TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT FEASIBLE SEARCH CAN BE MADE FOR SUPER EIGHT CAMERAS PURCHASED FROM NOVEMBER TEN, SIXTY SEVEN TO MARCH, SEVENTEEN LAST IN LOS ANGELES AREA AND, IF POSSIBLE, SEARCH THESE PURCHASES AGAINST SUBJECT'S TRUE NAME AND ALIASES.

RE LOOK ALIKE AMERICUS GEORGIA. PURE OIL COMPANY RECORDS SEARCHED EXTENSIVELY THIS DATE LOCATING CREDIT SLIPS FOR JONES GAS STATION CUSTOMERS APRIL SIXTEEN LAST. REVIEW DID NOT INDICATE ANY PURCHASES MADE ON TEMPORARY CARD. IDENTITY OF CUSTOMERS FOR APRIL SIXTEEN LAST BING FURNISHED AMSD.

RE POST OFFICE RECORDS FOR FIFTYFIVE ARREST OF SUBJECT. REVIEW POSTAL INSPECTOR'S OFFICE LOCATED DETAILS OF BURGLARY KELLERVILLE, ILLINOIS, P.O., MARCH SEVEN, FIFTYFIVE AND ARREST OF WALTER TERRY RIFE AND SUBJECT MARCH TWENTYTHREE, FIFTYFIVE. NO BACKGROUND INFO, ETC., NOT PREVIOUSLY KNOWN.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE CG 44-1114

RE LOUIS LOMAX. LOUIS O'SHEA, ISP, JOLIET, ILLINOIS, ADVISED FROM REVIEW OF RECORDS THERE WOULD BE NO POSSIBILITY THAT SUBJECT AND LOMAX MET IN JOLIET PEN SINCE RAY WAS IN DIAGNOSTIC CENTER DURING TWENTYFOUR DAY STAY THERE AND LOMAX WAS IN VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DURING NINETEEN FIFTYTWO UNTIL PAROLE ON SEPTEMBER TWENTYEIGHTH NINETEEN FIFTYFOUR. ALSO. LOMAX SPENT ALL TIME AT JOLIET AND WAS NEVER IN ISP, PONTIAC, ILLINOIS. LOMAX, ISP NUMBER TWO NINE THREE ZERO FIVE, WAS RELEASED FROM PAROLE MAY NINE, FIFTYSIX. TIME SERVED WAS FOR TWO CONCURRENT SENTENCES OF LARCENY. LOMAX DESCRIBED AS NEGRO MALE, DOB AUGUST SIXTEEN, TWENTYTWO, GEORGIA, FIVE FEET NINE INCHES, ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY POUNDS, SLENDER BUILD, KINKY HAIR, DARK MAROON EYES, WIFE DOLORES, CHICAGO PD NUMBER D SEVEN TWO SIX THREE ZERO. ABOVE INFO OBTAINED FROM RECORD CARD IN CCO TSP JOLIET, COMPLETE JACKET IN STORAGE. IF LOS ANGELES DESIRES FURTHER INFO, ADVISE.

RE MAILING LIST WILSHIRE BOOK COMPANY. R.L. RAY AND ROBERT G. RAY, BOTH CHICAGO, ELIMINATES AS SUBJECT.

CHICAGO CONTINUING EXPEDITE INVESTIGATION RE INDIVIDUALS KNOWN TO HAVE MADE THREATS AGAINST KING AS POSSIBLE CO-CONSPIRATORS. BUREAU BEING ADVISED BY SEPARATE TELS.

END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR CG 44-1114

CHICAGO WILL CONDUCT INTERVIEW OF BROTHER JERRY RAY
UPON RETURN FROM ST. LOUIS TO CROSS CHECK ANY INFORMATION FURNISHED
WITH SOURCE UNDER DEVELOPMENT BY ST. LOUIS.

ALL OTHER LEADS RECEIVING CONTINUOUS ATTENTION.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

DJK

FBI SPRNGFLD

TUX

PAGE TWO

FILM COMPANIES SUPPLIER. LEADS SET OUT BY SEPARATE TEL TO SEARCH WARRANTY SLIPS EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY, ROCHESTER, NEW YORK, FOR ABOVE PROJECTOR AND SUPER EIGHT KODAK CAMERA ORDERED AND REFERRED BY SUBJECT. LEADS ALSO SET TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT FEASIBLE SEARCH CAN BE MADE FOR SUPER EIGHT CAMERAS PURCHASED FROM NOVEMBER TEN, SIXTY SEVEN TO MARCH, SEVENTEEN LAST IN LOS ANGELES AREA AND, IF POSSIBLE, SEARCH THESE PURCHASES AGAINST SUBJECT'S TRUE NAME AND ALIASES.

RE LOOK ALIKE AMERICUS GEORGIA. PURE OIL COMPANY RECORDS SEARCHED EXTENSIVELY THIS DATE LOCATING CREDIT SLIPS FOR JONES GAS STATION CUSTOMERS APRIL SIXTEEN LAST. REVIEW DID NOT INDICATE ANY PURCHASES MADE ON TEMPORARY CARD. IDENTITY OF CUSTOMERS FOR APRIL SIXTEEN LAST BEING FURNISHED AMSD.

RE POST OFFICE RECORDS FOR FIFTYFIVE ARREST OF SUBJECT. REVIEW POSTAL INSPECTOR'S OFFICE LOCATED DETAILS OF BURGLARY KELLERVILLE, ILLINOIS, P.O., MARCH SEVEN, FIFTYFIVE AND ARREST OF WALTER TERRY RIFE AND SUBJECT MARCH TWENTYTHREE, FIFTYFIVE. NO BACKGROUND INFO, ETC., NOT PREVIOUSLY KNOWN.

END PAGE TWO

END PAGE THREE

BUREAU BEING ADVISED BY SEPARATE TEL.

TO HAVE MADE THREATS AGAINST KING AS POSSIBLE CO-CONSPIRATORS.

CHICAGO CONTINUING EXPEDITE INVESTIGATION RE INDIVIDUALS KNOWN

RAY, BOTH CHICAGO, ELIMINATES AS SUBJECT.

RE MAILING LIST WILSHIRE BOOK COMPANY. R.L. RAY AND ROBERT G.

JACKET IN STORAGE. IF LOS ANGELES DESIRES FURTHER INFO, ADVISE.

ZERO. ABOVE INFO OBTAINED FROM RECORD CARD IN CCO TSP JOLIET, COMPLETE

MAROON EYES, WIFE DOLORES, CHICAGO PD NUMBER B SEVEN TWO SIX THREE

INCHES, ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY POUNDS, SLENDER BUILD, KINKY HAIR, DARK

NEGRO MALE, BORN AUGUST SIXTEEN, TWENTYTWO, GEORGIA, FIVE FEET NINE

WAS FOR TWO CONCURRENT SENTENCES OF LACENY. LOMAX DESCRIBED AS

ZERO FIVE, WAS RELEASED FROM PAROLE MAY NINE, FIFTYDIX. TIME SERVED

NEVER IN ISP, PONTIAC, ILLINOIS. LOMAX, ISP NUMBER TWO NINE THREE

NINETEEN FIFTYFOUR. ALSO, LOMAX SPENT ALL TIME AT JOLIET AND WAS

DURING NINETEEN FIFTYTWO UNTIL PAROLE ON SEPTEMBER TWOTYEIGHTH

DURING TWENTYFOUR DAY STAY THERE AND LOMAX WAS IN VOCATIONAL SCHOOL

AND LOMAX MET IN JOLIET PEN SINCE RAY WAS IN DIAGNOSTIC CENTER

FROM REVIEW OF RECORDS THERE WOULD BE NO POSSIBILITY THAT SUBJECT

RE LOUIS LOMAX. LOUIS D. SHEA, ISP, JOLIET, ILLINOIS, ADVISED

PAGE THREE CG 44-1114

PAGE FOUR CG 44-1114

CHICAGO WILL CONDUCT INTERVIEW OF BROTHER JERRY RAY
UPON RETURN FROM ST. LOUIS TO CROSS CHECK ANY INFORMATION FURNISHED
WITH SOURCE UNDER DEVELOPMENT BY ST. LOUIS.

ALL OTHER LEADS RECEIVING CONTINUOUS ATTENTION.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

FND

DLK

FBI SPRNGFLD

TUX

F B I

Date: 5-2-68

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

TO DIRECTOR (MAIL), MEMPHIS (44-1987) AND BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)
FROM SPRINGFIELD (44-561)
MURKIN

RE BIRMINGHAM TEL INSTANT.

RE HILLIARD ALLEN SANDERS.

SANDERS, RESIDING ONE THREE SEVEN E. ACTON, WOOD RIVER, ILLINOIS, INTERVIEWED BY BUAGENTS TODAY. SANDERS ADVISED INCARCERATED AT MISSOURI STATE PEN, JEFFERSON CITY, MO., FROM JANUARY TWENTY, NINETEEN FIFTY TWO TO SEPTEMBER ONE, NINETEEN SIXTYFOUR ON ARMED ROBBERY CHARGE, OUT OF ST. JOSEPH, MO. NEVER MET OR KNEW OF JAMES EARL RAY DURING TIME HE WAS IN MISSOURI STATE PEN. SANDERS INDICATED ON RELEASE ON PAROLE IN NINETEEN SIXTYFOUR HE WENT TO GADSDEN, ALABAMA WHERE WORKED EIGHTEEN MONTHS, THEN TO CAMDEN, SOUTH CAROLINA WHERE WORKED NINE MONTHS FOR E. I. DUPONT. CAME TO WOOD RIVER, ILLINOIS AND HAS BEEN WORKING AS PIPEFITTER, SHELL OIL COMPANY, SINCE JULY SIXTYSEVEN. LAST TWO JOBS IN PEN WERE SEWING MACHINE MECHANIC AND HALL TENDER.

AIRMAIL COPY KANSAS CITY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

RCH:djk
(3)SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED _____

1 - Bureau (44-38861-AM)
1 - Kansas City (AM)
1 - Springfield (44-561)

Approved: IC
Special Agent in Charge

Sent ME-1029 BH-1031 M Per [Signature]

44-561-36P

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI SPRNGFLD

1029PM URGENT 5-1-68 DJK

TO DIRECTOR (MAIL), MEMPHIS (44-1987) AND BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)
FROM SPRINGFIELD (44-561) 1P

MURKIN

RE BIRMINGHAM TEL INSTANT.

RE HILLIARD ALLEN SANDERS.

SANDERS, RESIDING ONE THREE SEVEN E. ACTON, WOOD RIVER,
ILLINOIS, INTERVIEWED (BY BUAGENTS) ⁵⁻¹ TODAY. SANDERS ADVISED INCARCERATED
AT MISSOURI STATE PEN, JEFFERSON CITY, MO., FROM JANUARY TWENTY,
NINETEEN FIFTY TWO TO SEPTEMBER ONE, NINETEEN SIXTYFOUR ON ARMED
ROBBERY CHARGE, OUT OF ST. JOSEPH, MO. NEVER MET OR KNEW OF JAMES
EARL RAY DURING TIME HE WAS IN MISSOURI STATE PEN. SANDERS INDICATED
ON RELEASE ON PAROLE IN NINETEEN SIXTYFOUR HE WENT TO GADSDEN,
ALABAMA WHERE WORKED EIGHTEEN MONTHS, THEN TO CAMDEN, SOUTH
CAROLINA WHERE WORKED NINE MONTHS FOR E. I. DUPONT. CAME TO
WOOD RIVER, ILLINOIS AND HAS BEEN WORKING AS PIPEFITTER, SHELL
OIL COMPANY, SINCE JULY SIXTYSEVEN. LAST TWO JOBS IN PEN
WERE SEWING MACHINE MECHANIC AND HALL TENDER.

AIRMAIL COPY KANSAS CITY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

X

SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED _____
INDEXED _____
FILED _____

44-561-368

FBI SPRNGFLD

FBI BIRMGHAM

541PM URGENT 5-1-68 JGA

TO DIRECTOR 44-38861, KANSAS CITY, MEMPHIS 44-1987 AND SPRINGFIELD
FROM BIRMINGHAM 44-1740 5P

MURKIN.

RE MOBILE TEL TO BIRMINGHAM APRIL TWENTYNINE, NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT,
SETTING FORTH NAMES OF INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE FORMER INMATES MISSOURI
STATE PRISON (MSP) AND CURRENTLY UNDER SUPERVISION STATE OF ALABAMA
UNDER INTERSTATE AGREEMENT. TWO OF THESE INDIVIDUALS ARE HILLARD
SANDERS, UNDER SUPERVISION SINCE NINETEEN SIXTYFOUR, AND JAMES W.
BROWN, REFORM, ALABAMA, UNDER SUPERVISION SINCE NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE.
BROWN INTERVIEWED AND STATES INMATE MSP FROM APRIL, NINETEEN SIXTY
THROUGH JUNE, NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE AND ACQUAINTED WITH JAMES EARL RAY
WHILE IN PRISON. BROWN FIRST MADE ACQUAINTANCE OF RAY DURING YEAR
NINETEEN SIXTYTHREE AND CLAIMS HE HAD TALKED WITH RAY PERSONALLY
AND HAD BEEN IN GROUPS WHERE RAY WAS TALKING ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS.
BROWN RECALLS THAT RAY MADE STATEMENT THAT HE WAS GLAD WHEN JOHN F.
KENNEDY WAS KILLED AND MADE SIMILAR STATEMENT AT THIS TIME TO THE
EFFECT "THAT IS ONE NIGGER-LOVING S.O.B. THAT GOT SHOT." BROWN
END PAGE ONE

44-561-369

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 1 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Word *Ward* *Hains* *Robert*

PAGE TWO

STATED THAT RAY DISLIKED NEGROES AND THAT DURING TIME MARTIN LUTHER KING WAS LEADING DEMONSTRATIONS AND MARCHES HE WOULD BECOME AGGRAVATED AND UPSET WHEN READING THIS INFORMATION IN NEWSPAPERS TO THE POINT THAT HE WOULD CURSE KING AND THE NEGROES. BROWN STATED THAT RAY MADE STATEMENT THAT KENNEDY WAS RUNNING THE COUNTRY AND ESPECIALLY IN THE RACIAL FIELD AND THAT KING COULD GET THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO DO ANYTHING HE WANTED THEM TO. BROWN SAID HE HAD HEARD PRISON RUMORS THAT RAY WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE KILLED THREE NEGROES WHILE IN THE MSP.

BROWN ADVISED THAT SOMETIME DURING THE FALL, NINETEEN SIXTY-THREE, RAY MADE STATEMENT THAT HE WAS GOING TO GET MARTIN LUTHER KING WHEN HE GOT OUT. BROWN SAID HE HEARD RAY SAY SOMETHING ABOUT COOLEY (PHONETIC) OR COOLEY'S ORGANIZATION WOULD PAY TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS TO HAVE KING DEAD. BROWN SAID HE COULD FURNISH NO INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS ORGANIZATION AND RAY DID NOT MENTION IT AGAIN IN HIS PRESENCE. BROWN SAID THAT RAY SEEMED TO HAVE A SUFFICIENT SUPPLY OF MONEY AND THAT HE ALLEGEDLY GOT A CHECK OR MONEY REGULARLY FROM SOURCE OUTSIDE PRISON. HE STATED THAT RAY DID DRINK AND HE HAD DETECTED ALCOHOL ON HIS BREATH ON DIFFERENT OCCASIONS, POINTING OUT THAT CONVICTS MADE WHISKEY IN PRISON AND SOME OF THE GUARDS WOULD

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

SELL WHISKEY TO CONVICTS. BROWN SAID THERE WERE NARCOTICS PASSED AROUND IN PRISON AND GUARDS WOULD BRING NARCOTICS AND SOME OF IT WAS BROUGHT IN BY VISITORS. HE SAID HE HAD NO PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE THAT RAY USED NARCOTICS. HE ALSO WAS UNABLE TO NAME ANY SPECIFIC GUARD WHO SOLD CONTRABAND.

BROWN SAID THAT RAY WAS NOT OVERLY FRIENDLY, HOWEVER, IN GROUPS HE WOULD TALK. HE NEVER DISCUSSED HIS PAST LIFE IN BROWN'S PRESENCE AND BROWN HAS NO IDEA WHERE RAY IS FROM. BROWN SAID HE HAS NOT SEEN RAY SINCE HE LEFT PRISON AND NOTED THAT RAY HAD TALKED ABOUT TUNNELING OUT OF PRISON AND GOING TO VIRGINIA AND HIDING IN A CAVE. BROWN SAID THAT RAY MADE STATEMENT THAT HE HAD A LARGE SUPPLY OF GUNS BEFORE HE WAS IN PRISON AND THE ONLY FOREIGN COUNTRY HE EVER HEARD RAY MENTION WAS LIBERIA, AFRICA AND RAY STATED HE HAD A BROTHER-IN-LAW WORKING THERE AND THAT HE WAS MAKING LARGE SUMS OF MONEY.

BROWN SAID THAT A CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF RAY WHILE IN PRISON WAS JOHNNY VALENTI (PHONETIC). VALENTI IS BELIEVED TO BE FROM BATON ROUTE, LOUISIANA AND BROWN BELIEVES HE IS STILL IN MSP. VALENTI OFTEN SPOKE ABOUT MEXICO AND COULD SPEAK SPANISH. RAY STATED ONE TIME

END PAGE THREE.

PAGE FOUR.

HE WAS GOING TO VISIT A FRIEND OF HIS AND VALENTI'S, THIS FRIEND'S NAME UNKNOWN, WHO WAS RELEASED FROM PRISON AND GOT MARRIED AND IS BELIEVED TO BE RUNNING A CAFE NEAR MOBERLY, MISSOURI. ANOTHER FRIEND WAS JOHNNY JOHNSON WHO IS FROM THE KANSAS CITY AREA AND IS BELIEVED TO BE STILL IN PRISON AS HE WAS SERVING A TWENTY YEAR SENTENCE. ANOTHER FRIEND "NONEY" EDEN SERVING FIVE YEARS MSP. ANOTHER FRIEND, RICHARD BEEMAN, AND (FNU) MAYBERRY FROM WEST PLAINS, MISSOURI.

BROWN WAS SHOWN I. O. FOUR ONE EIGHT TWO AND STATED THAT THE CENTER PICTURE LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE HE REMEMBERED RAY IN PRISON AND OTHER PICTURES RESEMBLED HIM ALSO.

INVESTIGATION AT GADSDEN, ALABAMA REFLECTS HILLARD ALLEN SANDERS LAST EMPLOYED ALABAMA TOOL COMPANY, GADSDEN, MARCH TWENTYONE, NINETEEN SIXTYSIX. MARIE CRESS, SISTER OF SANDERS, ADVISED LAST TIME SHE HEARD FROM SANDERS WAS OVER ONE YEAR AGO AND HE WAS RESIDING WOOD RIVER, ILLINOIS. PAUL MINTON, STATE PROBATION OFFICER, ADVISED SANDERS PRESENTLY RESIDING ONE THREE SEVEN EAST ACTON STREET, WOOD RIVER, ILLINOIS.

TWO OTHER INMATES MSP INTERVIEWED AND ADVISED NOT ACQUAINTED
END PAGE FOUR.

PAGE FIVE.

NOR COULD THEY RECALL JAMES EARL RAY AT TIME INCARCERATED MSP.
THESE INMATES ARE COLUMBUS JONES, BOLIGEE, ALABAMA, AND CHARLES R.
MASHBURN, OWENS CROSS ROADS, ALA.

KANSAS CITY DETERMINE IF ABOVE INDIVIDUALS LISTED AS FRIENDS
OF RAY STILL INCARCERATED MSP AND INTERVIEW. IF RELEASED, OBTAIN
THEIR FORWARDING ADDRESS OF RECORD AND SET FORTH LEADS TO HAVE THEM
INTERVIEWED RE RAY.

SPRINGFIELD, AT WOOD RIVER, ILLINOIS, INTERVIEW SANDERS
REGARDING RAY.

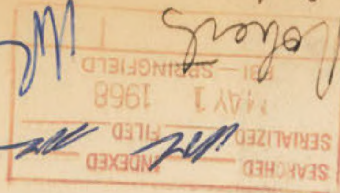
ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

DJK

FBI SPRNGFLD

W. J. Davis



44-561-569

END PAGE ONE

EFFECT "THAT IS ONE NIGGER-LOVING S.O.B. THAT GOT SHOT." BROWN
 KENNEDY WAS KILLED AND MADE SIMILAR STATEMENT AT THIS TIME TO THE
 BROWN RECALLS THAT RAY MADE STATEMENT THAT HE WAS GLAD WHEN JOHN F.
 AND HAD BEEN IN GROUPS WHERE RAY WAS TALKING ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS.
 NINETEEN SIXTYTHREE AND CLAIMS HE HAD TALKED WITH RAY PERSONALLY
 WHILE IN PRISON. BROWN FIRST MADE ACQUAINTANCE OF RAY DURING YEAR
 THROUGH JUNE, NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE AND ACQUAINTED WITH JAMES EARL RAY
 BROWN INTERVIEWED AND STATES INMATE MSP FROM APRIL, NINETEEN SIXTY
 BROWN, REFORM, ALABAMA, UNDER SUPERVISION SINCE NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE.
 SANDERS, UNDER SUPERVISION SINCE NINETEEN SIXTYFOUR, AND JAMES W.
 UNDER INTERSTATE AGREEMENT. TWO OF THESE INDIVIDUALS ARE WILLARD
 STATE PRISON (MSP) AND CURRENTLY UNDER SUPERVISION STATE OF ALABAMA
 SETTING FORTH NAMES OF INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE FORMER INMATES MISSOURI
 RE MOBILE TEL TO BIRMINGHAM APRIL TWENTYNINE, NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT.

MURKIN.

FROM BIRMINGHAM 44-1740 5P

TO DIRECTOR 44-38861, KANSAS CITY, MEMPHIS 44-1987 AND SPRINGFIELD

541PM URGENT 5-1-68 JGA

FBI BIRMINGHAM

FBI SPRINGFIELD

END PAGE TWO

THAT CONVICTS MADE WHISKEY IN PRISON AND SOME OF THE GUARDS WOULD
HAD DETECTED ALCOHOL ON HIS BREATH ON DIFFERENT OCCASIONS, POINTING OUT
SOURCE OUTSIDE PRISON. HE STATED THAT RAY DID DRINK AND HE

MONEY AND THAT HE ALLEGEDLY GOT A CHECK OR MONEY REGULARLY FROM
PRESENCE. BROWN SAID THAT RAY SEEMED TO HAVE A SUFFICIENT SUPPLY OF
CONCERNING THIS ORGANIZATION AND RAY DID NOT MENTION IT AGAIN IN HIS
DOLLARS TO HAVE KING DEAD. BROWN SAID HE COULD FURNISH NO INFORMATION
COOLEY (PHONETIC) OR COOLEY'S ORGANIZATION WOULD PAY TEN THOUSAND
KING WHEN HE GOT OUT. BROWN SAID HE HEARD RAY SAY SOMETHING ABOUT
THREE, RAY MADE STATEMENT THAT HE WAS GOING TO GET MARTIN LUTHER
BROWN ADVISED THAT SOMETIME DURING THE FALL, NINETEEN SIXTY-

THE MSP.

RUMORS THAT RAY WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE KILLED THREE NEGROES WHILE IN
TO DO ANYTHING HE WANTED THEM TO. BROWN SAID HE HAD HEARD PRISON
IN THE RACIAL FIELD AND THAT KING COULD GET THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
MADE STATEMENT THAT KENNEDY WAS RUNNING THE COUNTRY AND ESPECIALLY
THAT HE WOULD CURSE KING AND THE NEGROES. BROWN STATED THAT RAY
AND UPSET WHEN HEADING THIS INFORMATION IN NEWSPAPERS TO THE POINT
KING WAS LEADING DEMONSTRATIONS AND MARCHES HE WOULD BECOME AGGRAVATED
STATED THAT RAY DISLIKED NEGROES AND THAT DURING TIME MARTIN LUTHER

PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

SELL WHISKEY TO CONVICTS. BROWN SAID THERE WERE NARCOTICS PASSED AROUND IN PRISON AND GUARDS WOULD BRING NARCOTICS AND SOME OF IT WAS BROUGHT IN BY VISITORS. HE SAID HE HAD NO PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE THAT RAY USED NARCOTICS. HE ALSO WAS UNABLE TO NAME ANY SPECIFIC GUARD WHO SOLD CONTRABAND.

BROWN SAID THAT RAY WAS NOT OVERLY FRIENDLY, HOWEVER, IN GROUPS HE WOULD TALK. HE NEVER DISCUSSED HIS PAST LIFE IN BROWN'S PRESENCE AND BROWN HAS NO IDEA WHERE RAY IS FROM. BROWN SAID HE HAS NOT SEEN RAY SINCE HE LEFT PRISON AND NOTED THAT RAY HAD TALKED ABOUT TUNNELING OUT OF PRISON AND GOING TO VIRGINIA AND HIDING IN A CAVE. BROWN SAID THAT RAY MADE STATEMENT THAT HE HAD A LARGE SUPPLY OF GUNS BEFORE HE WAS IN PRISON AND THE ONLY FOREIGN COUNTRY HE EVER HEARD RAY MENTION WAS LIBERIA, AFRICA AND RAY STATED HE HAD A BROTHER-IN-LAW WORKING THERE AND THAT HE WAS MAKING LARGE SUMS OF MONEY.

BROWN SAID THAT A CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF RAY WHILE IN PRISON WAS JOHNNY VALENTI (PHONETIC). VALENTI IS BELIEVED TO BE FROM BATON ROUTE, LOUISIANA AND BROWN BELIEVES HE IS STILL IN MSP. VALENTI OFTEN SPOKE ABOUT MEXICO AND COULD SPEAK SPANISH. RAY STATED ONE TIME

END PAGE THREE.

PAGE FOUR.

HE WAS GOING TO VISIT A FRIEND OF HIS AND VALENTI'S. THIS FRIEND'S NAME UNKNOWN, WHO WAS RELEASED FROM PRISON AND GOT MARRIED AND IS BELIEVED TO BE RUNNING A CAFE NEAR MOBERLY, MISSOURI. ANOTHER FRIEND WAS JOHNNY JOHNSON WHO IS FROM THE KANSAS CITY AREA AND IS BELIEVED TO BE STILL IN PRISON AS HE WAS SERVING A TWENTY YEAR SENTENCE. ANOTHER FRIEND "NONEY" EDEN SERVING FIVE YEARS MSP. ANOTHER FRIEND, RICHARD BEEMAN, AND (FNU) MAYBERRY FROM WEST PLAINS, MISSOURI.

BROWN WAS SHOWN I. O. FOUR ONE EIGHT TWO AND STATED THAT THE CENTER PICTURE LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE HE REMEMBERED RAY IN PRISON AND OTHER PICTURES RESEMBLED HIM ALSO.

INVESTIGATION AT GADSDEN, ALABAMA REFLECTS HILLARD ALLEN SANDERS LAST EMPLOYED ALABAMA TOOL COMPANY, GADSDEN, MARCH TWENTYONE, NINETEEN SIXTYSIX. MARIE GRESS, SISTER OF SANDERS, ADVISED LAST TIME SHE HEARD FROM SANDERS WAS OVER ONE YEAR AGO AND HE WAS RESIDING WOOD RIVER, ILLINOIS. PAUL MINTON, STATE PROBATION OFFICER, ADVISED SANDERS PRESENTLY RESIDING ONE THREE SEVEN EAST ACTON STREET, WOOD RIVER, ILLINOIS.

TWO OTHER INMATES MSP INTERVIEWED AND ADVISED NOT ACQUAINTED
END PAGE FOUR.

PAGE FIVE.

NOR COULD THEY RECALL JAMES EARL RAY AT TIME INCARCERATED MSP.

THESE INMATES ARE COLUMBUS JONES, BOLIGEE, ALABAMA, AND CHARLES R. MASHBURN, OWENS CROSS ROADS, ALA.

KANSAS CITY DETERMINE IF ABOVE INDIVIDUALS LISTED AS FRIENDS OF RAY STILL INCARCERATED MSP AND INTERVIEW. IF RELEASED, OBTAIN THEIR FORWARDING ADDRESS OF RECORD AND SET FORTH LEADS TO HAVE THEM INTERVIEWED RE RAY.

SPRINGFIELD, AT WOOD RIVER, ILLINOIS, INTERVIEW SANDERS REGARDING RAY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

DJK

FBI SPRINGFIELD

FBI SPRNGFLD

FBI WASH DC

400PM URGENT 5/2/68 WPK

TO BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) MEMPHIS (44-1987) KANSAS CITY SPRINGFIELD
AND ST. LOUIS
FROM DIRECTOR (44-38861) 2P

MURKIN

44-561-370

RE BIRMINGHAM TELETYPE MAY ONE LAST, NO COPIES
ST. LOUIS, CONCERNING INTERVIEW OF JAMES W. BROWN AND
INFORMATION HE FURNISHED REGARDING RAY'S COMMENT THAT
COOLEY (PHONETIC) OR COOLEY'S ORGANIZATION WOULD PAY TEN
THOUSAND DOLLARS TO HAVE KING DEAD. FOR INFORMATION OF
ST. LOUIS, BROWN WAS INMATE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY FROM
APRIL NINETEEN SIXTY THROUGH JUNE NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE AND
ACQUAINTED WITH JAMES EARL RAY WHILE IN PRISON.

BIRMINGHAM REINTERVIEW BROWN THOROUGHLY REGARDING
RAY'S STATEMENT TO OBTAIN ALL INFORMATION PERTAINING TO
COOLEY. DETERMINE ANYONE ELSE FAMILIAR WITH THAT STATEMENT
AND IF COOLEY WAS IN OR OUT OF PRISON AT THE TIME. ATTEMPT TO
ESTABLISH WHERE RAY KNEW COOLEY.

END PAGE ONE

3 XEROX
COPIES MADE

5/2/68

DEPT

SPRINGFIELD

6

SEARCHED <i>mk</i>	INDEXED <i>mk</i>
SERIALIZED <i>mk</i>	FILED <i>mk</i>
MAY 2 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Roberts

44-561-370

PAGE TWO

ALL OTHER OFFICES WHEN INTERVIEWING RAY'S PRISON ASSOCIATES, ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP INFORMATION TO IDENTIFY COOLEY OR INFORMATION WHICH WOULD SUBSTANTIATE OR ELIMINATE THE STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO RAY.

END

AAL

FBI SPRNGFLD

X

FBI SPRINGFIELD

FBI WASH DC

400PM URGENT 5/2/68 WPK

TO BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) MEMPHIS (44-1987) KANSAS CITY SPRINGFIELD
AND ST. LOUIS

FROM DIRECTOR (44-38861) 2P

MURKIN

44-561

RE BIRMINGHAM TELETYPE MAY ONE LAST, NO COPIES
ST. LOUIS, CONCERNING INTERVIEW OF JAMES W. BROWN AND
INFORMATION HE FURNISHED REGARDING RAY'S COMMENT THAT
COOLEY (PHONETIC) OR COOLEY'S ORGANIZATION WOULD PAY TEN
THOUSAND DOLLARS TO HAVE KING DEAD. FOR INFORMATION OF
ST. LOUIS, BROWN WAS INMATE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY FROM
APRIL NINETEEN SIXTY THROUGH JUNE NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE AND
ACQUAINTED WITH JAMES EARL RAY WHILE IN PRISON.

BIRMINGHAM REINTERVIEW BROWN THOROUGHLY REGARDING
RAY'S STATEMENT TO OBTAIN ALL INFORMATION PERTAINING TO
COOLEY. DETERMINE ANYONE ELSE FAMILIAR WITH THAT STATEMENT
AND IF COOLEY WAS IN OR OUT OF PRISON AT THE TIME, ATTEMPT TO
ESTABLISH WHERE RAY KNEW COOLEY.

END PAGE ONE

*CCO - make
Xerox for
Davis
McKinstry
Haines
TO*

Haines

SEARCHED <i>AV</i>	INDEXED <i>AV</i>
SERIALIZED <i>AV</i>	FILED <i>AV</i>
MAY 2 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Rosen

44-561 -370

PAGE TWO

ALL OTHER OFFICES WHEN INTERVIEWING RAY'S PRISON ASSOCIATES, ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP INFORMATION TO IDENTIFY COOLEY OR INFORMATION WHICH WOULD SUBSTANTIATE OR ELIMINATE THE STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO RAY.

END

AAL

FBI SPENGELB

X

FBI SPRINGFIELD

FBI WASH DC

400PM URGENT 5/2/68 WPK

TO BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) MEMPHIS (44-1987) KANSAS CITY SPRINGFIELD
AND ST. LOUIS

FROM DIRECTOR (44-38861) 2P

MURKIN

44-561A

RE BIRMINGHAM TELETYPE MAY ONE LAST, NO COPIES
ST. LOUIS, CONCERNING INTERVIEW OF JAMES W. BROWN AND
INFORMATION HE FURNISHED REGARDING RAY'S COMMENT THAT
COOLEY (PHONETIC) OR COOLEY'S ORGANIZATION WOULD PAY TEN
THOUSAND DOLLARS TO HAVE KING DEAD. FOR INFORMATION OF
ST. LOUIS, BROWN WAS INMATE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY FROM
APRIL NINETEEN SIXTY THROUGH JUNE NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE AND
ACQUAINTED WITH JAMES EARL RAY WHILE IN PRISON.

BIRMINGHAM REINTERVIEW BROWN THOROUGHLY REGARDING
RAY'S STATEMENT TO OBTAIN ALL INFORMATION PERTAINING TO
COOLEY. DETERMINE ANYONE ELSE FAMILIAR WITH THAT STATEMENT
AND IF COOLEY WAS IN OR OUT OF PRISON AT THE TIME. ATTEMPT TO
ESTABLISH WHERE RAY KNEW COOLEY.

END PAGE ONE

*CCO - make
Xerox for
Davis
McKistray
Haines
TO*

Quar...

SEARCHED <i>TH</i>	INDEXED <i>TH</i>
SERIALIZED <i>TH</i>	FILED <i>TH</i>
MAY 2 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Rosen

44-561-370

PAGE TWO

ALL OTHER OFFICES WHEN INTERVIEWING BOY'S PRISON
ASSOCIATES, ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP INFORMATION TO IDENTIFY
COOLEY OR INFORMATION WHICH WOULD SUBSTANTIATE OR ELIMINATE
THE STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO RAY.

END

44L

FBI SPENGELB

X

FBI SPRNGFLD

FBI WASH DC

400PM URGENT 5/2/68 WPK

TO BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) MEMPHIS (44-1987) KANSAS CITY SPRINGFIELD
AND ST. LOUIS
FROM DIRECTOR (44-38861) 2P

MURKIN

44-5618

RE BIRMINGHAM TELETYPE MAY ONE LAST, NO COPIES
ST. LOUIS, CONCERNING INTERVIEW OF JAMES W. BROWN AND
INFORMATION HE FURNISHED REGARDING RAY'S COMMENT THAT
COOLEY (PHONETIC) OR COOLEY'S ORGANIZATION WOULD PAY TEN
THOUSAND DOLLARS TO HAVE KING DEAD. FOR INFORMATION OF
ST. LOUIS, BROWN WAS INMATE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY FROM
APRIL NINETEEN SIXTY THROUGH JUNE NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE AND
ACQUAINTED WITH JAMES EARL RAY WHILE IN PRISON.

BIRMINGHAM REINTERVIEW BROWN THOROUGHLY REGARDING
RAY'S STATEMENT TO OBTAIN ALL INFORMATION PERTAINING TO
COOLEY. DETERMINE ANYONE ELSE FAMILIAR WITH THAT STATEMENT
AND IF COOLEY WAS IN OR OUT OF PRISON AT THE TIME. ATTEMPT TO
ESTABLISH WHERE RAY KNEW COOLEY.
END PAGE ONE

*@CO - make
Xerox for
Davis
McKinstrey
Haines
TO*

44-561-370

SEARCHED <i>AN</i>	INDEXED <i>AN</i>
SERIALIZED <i>AN</i>	FILED <i>AN</i>
MAY 2 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Rocher

McKinstrey

PAGE TWO

ALL OTHER OFFICES WHEN INTERVIEWING RAY'S PERSON
ASSOCIATES, ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP INFORMATION TO IDENTIFY
DODLEY OR INFORMATION WHICH WOULD SUBSTANTIATE OR ELIMINATE
THE STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO RAY.

END

AAL

FBI SPENGLER

X

FBI SPRINGFLD

FBI WASH DC

400PM URGENT 5/2/68 WPK

TO BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) MEMPHIS (44-1987) KANSAS CITY SPRINGFIELD
AND ST. LOUIS
FROM DIRECTOR (44-38861) 2P

MURKIN

RE BIRMINGHAM TELETYPE MAY ONE LAST, NO COPIES
ST. LOUIS, CONCERNING INTERVIEW OF JAMES W. BROWN AND
INFORMATION HE FURNISHED REGARDING RAY'S COMMENT THAT
COOLEY (PHONETIC) OR COOLEY'S ORGANIZATION WOULD PAY TEN
THOUSAND DOLLARS TO HAVE KING DEAD. FOR INFORMATION OF
ST. LOUIS, BROWN WAS INMATE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY FROM
APRIL NINETEEN SIXTY THROUGH JUNE NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE AND
ACQUAINTED WITH JAMES EARL RAY WHILE IN PRISON.

BIRMINGHAM REINTERVIEW BROWN THOROUGHLY REGARDING
RAY'S STATEMENT TO OBTAIN ALL INFORMATION PERTAINING TO
COOLEY. DETERMINE ANYONE ELSE FAMILIAR WITH THAT STATEMENT
AND IF COOLEY WAS IN OR OUT OF PRISON AT THE TIME. ATTEMPT TO
ESTABLISH WHERE RAY KNEW COOLEY.

END PAGE ONE

44-561-370

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 2 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

[Handwritten signature]

PAGE TWO

ALL OTHER OFFICES WHEN INTERVIEWING RAY'S PRISON
ASSOCIATES, ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP INFORMATION TO IDENTIFY
COOLEY OR INFORMATION WHICH WOULD SUBSTANTIATE OR ELIMINATE
THE STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO RAY.

END

AL

FBI SPRNGFLD

X

FBISPRNGFLD

FBI ATLANTA

927A EDT URGENT 5/2/68 VSC

TO BUREAU, MEMPHIS, BIRMINGHAM, LOS ANGELES, CHICAGO, KANSAS CITY
AND SPRINGFIELD
FROM ATLANTA 44-2386

MURKIN

SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION, MAY ONE, SIXTYEIGHT.

INDIVIDUAL KNOWN TO SOURCES IN HIPPIE AREA OF ATLANTA AND
BELIEVED BY SOME TO BE IDENTICAL WITH SUBJECT RAY, IDENTIFIED
AND INTERVIEWED MAY ONE INSTANT. NAME PAUL SAXON, W/M, AGE
FORTYSEVEN, FROM MISS. HE IS PROGRAMMER FOR OXFORD IN-
DUSTRIES, ATLANTA. OTHER SOURCES IN HIPPIE AREA BEING CON-
TACTED ON REGULAR BASIS AND INVESTIGATION OF NARCOTICS PHASE
CONTINUING.

EXPANDED AIRLINES CHECK CONTINUING. NEGATIVE TO DATE.

INVESTIGATION CONCERNING ABANDONED HERTZ RED REBEL AUTO
AT BIRMINGHAM AIRPORT INDICATES CAR HAD BEEN RENTED AND NOT
BELIEVED CONNECTED WITH THIS CASE. HOWEVER, LEAD SET FORTH TO
INTERVIEW PERSON WHO RENTED CAR DURING PERTINENT PERIOD.

JIMMIE DELTON GARNER REINTERVIEWED THIS DATE AT LENGTH.
HE COULD FURNISH NO ADDITIONAL PERTINENT INFO
END PAGE ONE

44-561-371

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 2 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Robert T. [signature]
info

PAGE TWO

AT 44-2386

ABANDONED FARM OWNED BY ALLEGED LEADER OF MINUTEMEN IN RURAL AREA CHECKED MAY ONE. NO EVIDENCE OF HUMAN HABITATION OR BEING USED AS HIDE-OUT.

TAXICAB TRIP SHEETS OF PERTINENT PERIODS BEING SCRUTINIZED AND LOGICAL LEADS BEING CHECKED OUT.

CONTACT WITH INDIVIDUALS ADVERTISING CARS FOR SALE IN CLASSIFIED ADS OF ATLANTA NEWSPAPERS CONTINUING, NEGATIVE TO DATE.

INVESTIGATIONS OF ALL STOLEN CARS IN ATLANTA DURING PERTINENT PERIOD, INCLUDING THOSE FURNISHED BY NCIC CONTINUING. NO PERTINENT INFO OBTAINED TO DATE.

COMPLAINTS OF LOOK-A-LIKES BEING RECEIVED ON CONTINUING BASIS AND BEING CHECKED OUT.

PLACES FEATURING COUNTRY MUSIC CHECKED OUT WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

A & D. P

END

DMJ

FBI SPRNGFLD

X

FBI SPRINGFIELD

FBI ATLANTA

927A EDT URGENT 5/2/68 VSC

TO BUREAU, MEMPHIS, BIRMINGHAM, LOS ANGELES, CHICAGO, KANSAS CITY
AND SPRINGFIELD

FROM ATLANTA 44-2386

MURKIN

SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION, MAY ONE, SIXTYEIGHT.

INDIVIDUAL KNOWN TO SOURCES IN HIPPIE AREA OF ATLANTA AND
BELIEVED BY SOME TO BE IDENTICAL WITH SUBJECT RAY, IDENTIFIED
AND INTERVIEWED MAY ONE INSTANT. NAME PAUL SAXON, W/M, AGE
FORTYSEVEN, FROM MISS. HE IS PROGRAMMER FOR OXFORD IN-
DUSTRIES, ATLANTA. OTHER SOURCES IN HIPPIE AREA BEING CON-
TACTED ON REGULAR BASIS AND INVESTIGATION OF NARCOTICS PHASE
CONTINUING.

EXPANDED AIRLINES CHECK CONTINUING. NEGATIVE TO DATE.

INVESTIGATION CONCERNING ABANDONED HERTZ RED REBEL AUTO
AT BIRMINGHAM AIRPORT INDICATES CAR HAD BEEN RENTED AND NOT
BELIEVED CONNECTED WITH THIS CASE. HOWEVER, LEAD SET FORTH TO
INTERVIEW PERSON WHO RENTED CAR DURING PERTINENT PERIOD.

JIMMIE DELTON GARNER REINTERVIEWED THIS DATE. HE
COULD FURNISH NO ADDITIONAL PERTINENT INFO.
END PAGE ONE

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 2 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

[Handwritten signature/initials over stamp]

44-561-1371

PAGE

AT 44-2386

ABANDONED FARM OWNED BY ALLEGED LEADER OF MINUTEMEN IN RURAL AREA CHECKED MAY ONE. NO EVIDENCE OF HUMAN HABITATION OR BEING USED AS HIDE-OUT.

TAXICAB TRIP SHEETS OF PERTINENT PERIODS BEING SCRUTINIZED AND LOGICAL LEADS BEING CHECKED OUT.

CONTACT WITH INDIVIDUALS ADVERTISING CARS FOR SALE IN CLASSIFIED ADS OF ATLANTA NEWSPAPERS CONTINUING, NEGATIVE TO DATE.

INVESTIGATIONS OF ALL STOLEN CARS IN ATLANTA DURING PERTINENT PERIOD, INCLUDING THOSE FURNISHED BY NCIC CONTINUING. NO PERTINENT INFO OBTAINED TO DATE.

COMPLAINTS OF LOOK-A-LIKES BEING RECEIVED ON CONTINUING BASIS AND BEING CHECKED OUT.

PLACES FEATURING COUNTRY MUSIC CHECKED OUT WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

A & D. P

END

DMJ

FBI SPRNGFLD

X

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

DATE: 4/29/68

FROM : SA JAMES M. BACHMAN (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR.

The following investigation was conducted by SA JAMES M. BACHMAN on 4/24/68:

Mr. HUBERT GENTRY, Manager, Norman Laundry, 145 East Decatur, Decatur, Illinois, advised that Norman Laundry does employ the code similar to that described in the airtel from Memphis Division dated 4/19/68. He advised, however, that the R which would be designated as a week has not come up so far this year and would be coming up next week. Therefore, the laundry tags found on the pillow case and bed sheet could not have come from Norman Laundry because of the time element.

Mr. CARL GREVE, Manager, Schudels Model Paris Laundry, 150 South Church, Decatur, Illinois, advised that although his laundry employs the thermo - seal laundry tapes, he does not use the code described in the airtel from Memphis Division dated 4/19/68.

② - Springfield (44-561)

JMB:skt

(2) *skt*



5010-108

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

44-561-372

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>skt</i>	FILED <i>skt</i>
APR 29 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Robert

SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

4/29/68

SA JAMES M. BACHMAN (P)

MURKIN
CR.

The following investigation was conducted by SA JAMES M. BACHMAN on 4/24/68:

Mr. HUBERT GENTRY, Manager, Norman Laundry, 145 East Decatur, Decatur, Illinois, advised that Norman Laundry does employ the codes similar to that described in the airtel from Memphis Division dated 4/19/68. He advised, however, that the R which would be designated as a week has not come up so far this year and would be coming up next week. Therefore, the laundry tags found on the pillow case and bed sheet could not have come from Norman Laundry because of the time element.

Mr. CARL GREVE, Manager, Schudels Model Paris Laundry, 150 South Church, Decatur, Illinois, advised that although his laundry employs the thermo - seal laundry tapes, he does not use the code described in the airtel from Memphis Division dated 4/19/68.

② - Springfield (44-561)

JMB:skt

(2) *skt*

44-561-372

F B I

Date: 5/1/68

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

TO DIRECTOR, CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ATLANTA
FROM SPRINGFIELD (44-561)
MURKIN.

RE ATLANTA TELETYPE INSTANT DATE.

ILLINOIS DRIVERS LICENSE B THREE TWO SIX-FOUR FOUR FIVE
THREE-THREE ZERO THREE ZERO, ISSUED JUNE TWO SIXTYSEVEN TO
JAMES E. BODKER, ONE FOUR THREE FOUR ONE SOUTH AVALON, DALTON,
ILLINOIS. THIS LICENSE WILL EXPIRE JANUARY THIRTY NINETEEN
SEVENTYONE AND DESCRIBES BODKER AS MALE, BORN JANUARY THIRTY
THIRTYTHREE, FIVE FEET TEN INCHES, ONE SEVEN FIVE POUNDS, BROWN
HAIR, GREEN EYES. OCCUPATION CONSTRUCTION LABORER. RECORDS
REFLECT LICENSE SUSPENDED DECEMBER TWELVE SIXTYSEVEN FOR ACCIDENT.
AGAIN SUSPENDED FEBRUARY SIXTEEN SIXTYEIGHT FOR THREE MOVING
VIOLATIONS. LICENSE PRESENTLY CLEAR AND VALID. P.

44-561
JRP:vr

(1)

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

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent

4:31 P M Di Per

4:33 P CC

4:35 P MG

4:37 P DT

44-561-373

FBI WASH DC

FBI SPRNGFLD

431PM URGENT 5-1-68 DMJ

TO DIRECTOR, CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND ATLANTA
FROM SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

MURKIN.

RE ATLANTA TELETYPE INSTANT DATE.

ILLINOIS DRIVERS LICENSE B THREE TWO SIX-FOUR FOUR FIVE
THREE THREE ZERO THREE ZERO, ISSUED JUNE TWO SIXTYSEVEN TO
JAMES E. BODKER, ONE FOUR THREE FOUR ONE SOUTH AVALON, DALTON,
ILLINOIS. THIS LICENSE WILL EXPIRE JANUARY THIRTY NINETEEN
SEVENTYONE AND DESCRIBES BODKER AS MALE, BORN JANUARY THIRTY
THIRTYTHREE, FIVE FEET TEN INCHES, ONE SEVEN FIVE POUNDS, BROWN
HAIR, GREEN EYES. OCCUPATION CONSTRUCTION LBAORER. RECORDS
REFLECT LICENSE SUSPENDED DECEMBER TWELVE SIXTYSEVEN FOR ACCIDENT.
AGAIN SUSPENDED FEBRUARY SIXTEEN SIXTYEIGHT FOR THREE MOVING
VIOLATIONS. LICENSE PRESENTLY CLEAR AND VALID. P.

END

CAB

FBI WASH DC

JWS

FBI Chicago

KSC

FBI Atlanta

SRB

FBI Memphis

SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED _____
INDEXED _____
FILED _____

44-561-373

FBI SPRNGFLD

FBI ATLANTA

437P EDT EDT URGENT 5/1/68 VSC

TO DIRECTOR, CHICAGO, SPRINGFIELD AND MEMPHIS
FROM ATLANTA 44-2386 4P

MURKIN

CHARLES V. TYSON, MGR., HERTZ RENTALS, ALBANY, GA.,
FURNISHED FOLLOWING INFO MAY FIRST, INSTANT:

ON APR. NINETEEN, 'SIXTYEIGHT, HE RECEIVED PHONE
CALL FROM UNIDENTIFIED MALE WHO CLAIMED TO BE CALLING
FROM CORDELE, GA., ASKING IF HE COULD HAVE A CAR AT ALBANY,
GA. AIRPORT FOR JAMES E. BODKER. THIS INDIVIDUAL STATED
BODKER HAD CREDIT CARDS.

AT TWELVE FIFTEEN PM, APR. NINETEEN, LAST, W/M
IDENTIFYING HIMSELF AS JAMES E. BODKER RENTED 'SIXTYSEVEN
FORD GALAXIE, FOUR-DOOR HARDTOP, WHITE OVER BLUE, VIN SEVEN A
FIVE SIX C TWO ZERO SEVEN SIX TWO FIVE, BEARING 'SIXTYEIGHT
GEORGIA LICENSE EIGHT J FIVE ZERO THREE NINE. CAR TO BE USED
IN VICINITY OF ALBANY AND RETURNED TO ALBANY, GA., ON

APR. TWENTYTWO, LAST. BODKER USED SHELL OIL CO. C
CARD NO. EIGHT SIX SIX DASH EIGHT ONE EIGHT DASH TWO THREE
ZERO, GIVING HOME ADDRESS AS ONE FOUR THREE FOUR ONE

END PAGE ONE

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 1 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

License check handled
5-1-68 JRP
44 561-374

PAGE TWO

AT 44-2386

DOLTON, ILL., AND CLAIMED TO BE MGR OF SUBURBAN MOTORS, ADDRESS NOT GIVEN. GAVE ILL. DRIVER'S LICENSE NO. B THREE TWO SIX FOUR FOUR FIVE THREE THREE ZERO THREE ZERO.

TYSON NOT PRESENT WHEN CAR RENTED. CAR RENTED BY DOTTIE OLIVER, A HERTZ EMPLOYEE. ANOTHER EMPLOYEE OF HERTZ, WILLIAM YOMAN WAS PRESENT WHEN CAR RENTED.

VEHICLE NOT RETURNED AND TYSON MADE NUMEROUS CALLS TO LOCATE CAR AND BODKER. NO WARRANT TAKEN AS YET. HE CHECKED WITH SHELL OIL CO. IN TULSA, OKLA., AND WAS TOLD THE CARD ISSUED TO BODKER HAD NEVER BEEN USED BEFORE AND WAS ONE OF A PROMOTIONAL GROUP MAILED TO COLLEGE SENIORS. DESCRIPTION GIVEN BY EMPLOYEES PLACES BODKER BEYOND COLLEGE AGE.

SINCE DOLTON, ILL. IS SUBURB OF CHICAGO, TYSON OBTAINED TELEPHONE NUMBER OF SUBURBAN MTRS, THREE ONE TWO DASH THREE EIGHT EIGHT DASH FIVE TWO EIGHT ZERO AND CALLED THEM APR. TWENTYNINE AND THIRTY, LAST, BUT RECEIVED NO SATISFACTION. HE TALKED TO MR. HANNA, WHO CLAIMED TO BE MGR OF SUBURBAN MTRS. HANNA FURNISHED VIRTUALLY NO INFO EXCEPT TO SAY BODKER WAS PART-TIME EMPLOYEE AND NOT THERE.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

AT 44-2386

DESCRIPTION FURNISHED BY TYSON AS OBTAINED BY HIS EMPLOYEES FIT GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF JAMES EARL RAY EXCEPT FOR AGE AND ACCORDINGLY YOMAN AND OLIVER INTERVIEWED AND PHOTO OF JAMES EARL RAY EXHIBITED.

RENTAL CONTRACT OBTAINED AND BEING FORWARDED TO FBI LAB FOR HANDWRITING AND LATENT PRINT EXAMINATION.

YOMAN DESCRIBED BODKER AS W/M, AGE ABOUT THIRTY, FIVE, FT. ELEVEN, ONE SIX FIVE LBS., DARK BROWN WAVY HAIR COMBED BACK SLIGHTLY REDDISH TINT, DARK COMPLEXION, OPEN NECK SPORT SHIRT, DARK PANTS, BEARS CLOSE RESEMBLANCE TO 'SIXTYEIGHT PHOTO AND HEAD ON 'SIXTY PHOTO OF RAY AND BELIEVES COULD BE IDENTICAL.

YOMAN IS FIFTYFOUR YRS OLD, W/M, LONG-TIME EMPLOYEE OF HERTZ AND WELL-KNOWN TO THIS OFFICE AND CONSIDERED COMPLETELY RELIABLE.

OLIVER VIEWED PHOTOS OF JAMES EARL RAY AND STATES BODKER NOT IDENTICAL. BELIEVES FACE IS THINNER THAN 'SIXTYEIGHT PHOTO OF RAY AND COULD NOT PICK OUT ANY FACIAL CHARACTERISTICS IN PHOTO OF RAY RESEMBLING BODKER.

SHE DESCRIBED BODKER AS W/M, AGE THIRTYEIGHT TO FORTY, FIVE FT. TEN TO ELEVEN, ONE FIVE ZERO TO ONE SIX ZERO LBS.,
END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

AT 44-2386

THICK BLACK WAVY HAIR, COMBED BACK, DARK COMPLEXION, THIN FACE
LONG NECK, WEARING MUSTARD COLORED SPORT SHIRT WITH DICKIE AT
NECK AND DARK BROWN PANTS, NO NOTICEABLE ACCENT AND NOT NERVOUS.
OLIVER IS NINETEEN YEAR-OLD W/F ABOUT TO BE MARRIED, IS STILL IN
TRAINING, NERVOUS AND NOT BELIEVED TO BE GOOD WITNESS.

CHICAGO IMMEDIATELY CONDUCT INVESTIGATION AT DOLTON, ILL.,
AND SUBURBAN MTRS. IF 'SIXTYSEVEN FORD LOCATED, ADVISE ATLANTA.

SPRINGFIELD REVIEW DRIVER'S LICENSE FILE UNDER NUMBER
B THREE TWO SIX FOUR FOUR FIVE THREE THREE ZERO THREE ZERO.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P

END

GDR

FBI SPRNGFLD

GTUX

FBI SPRNGFLD

FBI ATLANTA

407P EDT EDT URGENT 5/1/68 VSC

TO DIRECTOR, CHICAGO, SPRINGFIELD AND MEMPHIS
FROM ATLANTA 44-2286 4P

MURKIN

CHARLES V. TYSON, MGR., HERTZ RENTALS, ALBANY, GA.,
FURNISHED FOLLOWING INFO MAY FIRST, INSTANT:

ON APR. NINETEEN, 'SIXTYEIGHT, HE RECEIVED PHONE
CALL FROM UNIDENTIFIED MALE WHO CLAIMED TO BE CALLING
FROM CORDELE, GA., ASKING IF HE COULD HAVE A CAR AT ALBANY,
GA. AIRPORT FOR JAMES E. BODKER. THIS INDIVIDUAL STATED
BODKER HAD CREDIT CARDS.

AT TWELVE FIFTEEN PM, APR. NINETEEN, LAST, W/M
IDENTIFYING HIMSELF AS JAMES E. BODKER RENTED 'SIXTYSEVEN
FORD GALAXIE, FOUR-DOOR HARDTOP, WHITE OVER BLUE, VIN SEVEN A
FIVE SIX C TWO ZERO SEVEN SIX TWO FIVE, BEARING 'SIXTYEIGHT
GEORGIA LICENSE EIGHT J FIVE ZERO THREE NINE. CAR TO BE USED
IN VICINITY OF ALBANY AND RETURNED TO ALBANY, GA., ON
APR. TWENTYTWO, LAST. BODKER USED SHELL OIL CO.
CARD NO. EIGHT SIX SIX DASH EIGHT ONE EIGHT DASH TWO
ZERO, GIVING HOME ADDRESS AS ONE FOUR THREE FOUR ONE S. AVENUE

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

END PAGE ONE

PAGE TWO

AT 44-2386

DOLTON, ILL., AND CLAIMED TO BE MGR OF SUBURBAN MOTORS, ADDRESS NOT GIVEN. GAVE ILL. DRIVER'S LICENSE NO. B THREE TWO SIX FOUR FOUR FIVE THREE THREE ZERO THREE ZERO.

TYSON NOT PRESENT WHEN CAR RENTED. CAR RENTED BY DOTTIE OLIVER, A HERTZ EMPLOYEE. ANOTHER EMPLOYEE OF HERTZ, WILLIAM YOMAN WAS PRESENT WHEN CAR RENTED.

VEHICLE NOT RETURNED AND TYSON MADE NUMEROUS CALLS TO LOCATE CAR AND BODKER. NO WARRANT TAKEN AS YET. HE CHECKED WITH SHELL OIL CO. IN TULSA, OKLA., AND WAS TOLD THE CARD ISSUED TO BODKER HAD NEVER BEEN USED BEFORE AND WAS ONE OF A PROMOTIONAL GROUP MAILED TO COLLEGE SENIORS. DESCRIPTION GIVEN BY EMPLOYEES PLACES BODKER BEYOND COLLEGE AGE.

SINCE DOLTON, ILL. IS SUBURB OF CHICAGO, TYSON OBTAINED TELEPHONE NUMBER OF SUBURBAN MTRS. THREE ONE TWO DASH THREE EIGHT EIGHT DASH FIVE TWO EIGHT ZERO AND CALLED THEM APR. TWENTYNINE AND THIRTY, LAST, BUT RECEIVED NO SATISFACTION. HE TALKED TO MR. HANNA, WHO CLAIMED TO BE MGR OF SUBURBAN MTRS. HANNA FURNISHED VIRTUALLY NO INFO EXCEPT TO SAY BODKER WAS PART-TIME EMPLOYEE AND NOT THERE.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

AT 44-2386

DESCRIPTION FURNISHED BY TYSON AS OBTAINED BY HIS EMPLOYEES FIT GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF JAMES EARL RAY EXCEPT FOR AGE AND ACCORDINGLY YOMAN AND OLIVER INTERVIEWED AND PHOTO OF JAMES EARL RAY EXHIBITED.

RENTAL CONTRACT OBTAINED AND BEING FORWARDED TO FBI LAB FOR HANDWRITING AND LATENT PRINT EXAMINATION.

YOMAN DESCRIBED BODKER AS W/M, AGE ABOUT THIRTY, FIVE FT. ELEVEN, ONE SIX FIVE LBS., DARK BROWN WAVY HAIR COMBED BACK SLIGHTLY REDDISH TINT, DARK COMPLEXION, OPEN NECK SPORT SHIRT, DARK PANTS, BEARS CLOSE RESEMBLANCE TO 'SIXTYEIGHT PHOTO AND HEAD ON 'SIXTY PHOTO OF RAY AND BELIEVES COULD BE IDENTICAL.

YOMAN IS FIFTYFOUR YRS OLD, W/M, LONG-TIME EMPLOYEE OF HERTZ AND WELL-KNOWN TO THIS OFFICE AND CONSIDERED COMPLETELY RELIABLE.

OLIVER VIEWED PHOTOS OF JAMES EARL RAY AND STATES BODKER NOT IDENTICAL. BELIEVES FACE IS THINNER THAN 'SIXTYEIGHT PHOTO OF RAY AND COULD NOT PICK OUT ANY FACIAL CHARACTERISTICS IN PHOTO OF RAY RESEMBLING BODKER.

SHE DESCRIBED BODKER AS W/M, AGE THIRTYEIGHT TO FORTY, FIVE FT. TEN TO ELEVEN, ONE FIVE ZERO TO ONE SIX ZERO LBS..
END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

AT 44-2386

THICK BLACK WAVY HAIR, COMBED BACK, DARK COMPLEXION, THIN FACE
LONG NECK, WEARING MUSTARD COLORED SPORT SHIRT WITH DICKIE AT
NECK AND DARK BROWN PANTS, NO NOTICEABLE ACCENT AND NOT NERVOUS.
OLIVER IS NINETEEN YEAR-OLD W/F ABOUT TO BE MARRIED, IS STILL IN
TRAINING, NERVOUS AND NOT BELIEVED TO BE GOOD WITNESS.

CHICAGO IMMEDIATELY CONDUCT INVESTIGATION AT DOLTON, ILL.,
AND SUBURBAN MTRS. IF 'SIXTYSEVEN FORD LOCATED, ADVISE ATLANTA.

SPRINGFIELD REVIEW DRIVER'S LICENSE FILE UNDER NUMBER
R THREE TWO SIX FOUR FOUR FIVE THREE THREE ZERO THREE ZERO.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P

END

GOR

FBI SPRNGFLD

GTUX

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

DATE: 4-29-68

FROM : S.A. ROBERT W. BORTNER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

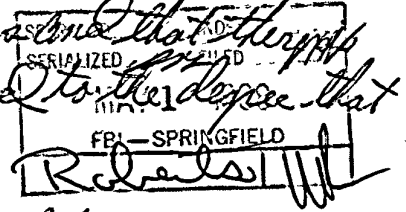
C R

(OO: MEMPHIS)

REF. MEMPHIS LETTER TO SPRINGFIELD DATED 4/23/68

Jerry Kinkade, Principal, Eldorado H.S. Eldorado, Ill. on 4/29/68 made a search of past academic records available at the school. It was determined that in 1943 James Dee Ray also known as Jimmy Ray graduated from the school. He is the son of J. A. Ray of Eldorado, Ill. and was born 9/10/25 in Saline Co. and entered the school 9/1/39 and graduated 5/30/43 with a rank of 105 out of 119. Ray's year book photograph was examined as to identification with subject in captioned case. The photo did not appear to be identical.

Emilia Jean Fox (nee Choisser), Eldorado, Ill. who is presently secretary to the principal at Eldorado H.S. stated that James Dee Ray was a school mate of hers. She examined a photo of James Earl Ray and stated that she is certain that the two are not identical. She further advised that she has seen James Dee Ray within the past four years and that there is no question that his looks have not changed to the degree that he might resemble James Earl Ray.



44-561-375



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

DATE: 4-29-68

FROM : S.A. ROBERT W. BORTNER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

C R

(OO Memphis)

REF. MEMPHIS LETTER TO SPRINGFIELD DATED 4/23/68

Jerry Kinkade, Principal, Eldorado H.S. Eldorado, Ill. on 4/29/68 made a search of past academic records available at the school. It was determined that in 1943 James Dee Ray also known as Jimmy Ray graduated from the school. He is the son of J.A. Ray of Union, Ill. and was born 9/10/25 in Saline Co. and entered the school 9/1/39, and graduated 7/30/43 with a rank of 105 out of 119. Ray's year book photograph was examined as to identification with subject in Costumed case. The photo did not appear to be identical.

Emilia Jean Fox (nee Choisser), Eldorado, Ill. who is presently secretary to the principal at Eldorado H.S. stated that James Dee Ray was a school mate of hers. She examined a photo of James Earl Ray and stated that she is certain that the two are not identical. She further advised that she has seen James Dee Ray within the past four years and that there is no question that his looks have not changed to the degree that he might resemble James Earl Ray.

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 1 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	



5010-108

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

44-561-375