

F B I

Date: 5/29/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (MAIL) AND SAC, LOS ANGELES

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) (PP. 1)

MURKIN

ON MAY TWENTYSEVEN, LAST, FEMALE USING NAME OF FRANCES E. RAY, ADDRESS SIX ONE FOUR NINE RUGBY, HUNTINGTON PARK, CALIFORNIA, TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED QUINCY, ILLINOIS PD REQUESTING INFORMATION AS TO WHEREABOUTS OF JERRY RAY. CLAIMED QUINCY PD SHE WAS RELATIVE OF JAMES EARL RAY BUT DID NOT STATE RELATIONSHIP BUT DISCLAIMED KNOWLEDGE OF JAMES EARL RAY'S WHEREABOUTS OR ACTIVITIES.

LOS ANGELES, AT HUNTINGTON PARK, CALIFORNIA, WILL LOCATE AND INTERVIEW FRANCES E. RAY, SIX ONE FOUR NINE RUGBY, HUNTINGTON PARK, CALIFORNIA..

AM COPY SENT MEMPHIS.

(1) - Springfield (44-561)
1 - Bureau (AM)
1 - Memphis (AM)
EHD:mpb
(3) mpb

SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED _____
INDEXED _____
FILED _____

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent LA 5:47 PMPer MPB

44-561-601

FBI LOS ANG.

FBI SPRNGFLD

548PM URGENT 5/29/68 MAL

TO LOS ANGELES

FROM SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

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END

NJZ

FBI LOS ANG.

SEARCHED.....
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44 - 561 - 601

FBI SPRNGFLD

FBI LOS ANG

715 AM URGENT 5/30/68 DPK/VLR

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), MEMPHIS (44-1987), ATLANTA (44-2386),
SAN DIEGO (44-387), BIRMINGHAM (44-1740), SPRINGFIELD (44-561),
LAS VEGAS, LOUISVILLE, NEW ORLEANS (157-10653), JACKSON
FROM LOS ANGELES (44-1574) (12P)

MURKIN

RE JAMES C. HARDIN

AN AGGRESSIVE, PENETRATING, LENGTHY INTERVIEW WAS CONDUCTED
THIS DATE WITH ALLAN O. THOMPSON, MANAGER, ST. FRANCIS HOTEL.
THOMPSON ADVISED HE KNOWS THE INDIVIDUAL, WHOM HE PREVIOUSLY
REFUSED TO IDENTIFY, BY THE NAME OF "FITZ". HE ADVISED HE WAS
APPROACHED BY THIS INDIVIDUAL AT THE RABBIT'S FOOT BAR A FEW DAYS
AGO BUT COULD NOT RECALL SPECIFIC DATE. HE SAID THIS INDIVIDUAL
SAID, "YOUR MR. THOMPSON, AREN'T YOU?" AND THEN
PROCEEDED TO ASK IF THOMPSON WAS INTERESTED IN SPLITTING THE
REWARD MONEY OFFERED IN THE DR. MARTIN KING, JR. MURDER.
THOMPSON SAID HE TOLD THIS INDIVIDUAL HE WAS NOT INTERESTED. DURING
THE COURSE OF SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION, THOMPSON SAID "FITZ"
TOLD HIM HE HAD OBSERVED JAMES EARL RAY, AKA ERIC GALT, AND
ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL SITTING TOGETHER, ENGAGED IN CONVERSATION AT
A LOCAL BAR, THE NAME OF WHICH WAS NOT MENTIONED. THOMPSON
END PAGE ONE

44-561-602

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MAY 30 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Oliver *mw*

PAGE TWO

LA 44-1574

SAID THAT "FITZ" TOLD HIM RAY CALLED THIS INDIVIDUAL "J. C." THOMPSON SAID THE NAME "J. C." PROMPTED HIS RECOLLECTION OF EVENTS AS SET OUT IN LA TEL OF FIVE TWENTY EIGHT SIXTY EIGHT, THAT IS, RAY BEING CALLED TWICE, POSSIBLE THREE TIMES, BY JAMES C. HARDIN FROM NEW ORLEANS AND ATLANTA.

THOMPSON SAID THAT HE HAS SEEN "FITZ" ON AN INFREQUENT BASIS VICINITY OF THE HOLLYWOOD AND WESTERN AREA, LOS ANGELES, DURING THE PAST SIX MONTHS. HE ADVISED HE HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF ASSOCIATES OF "FITZ", HIS RESIDENCE, PAST OR PRIOR, HIS AUTOMOBILE, OR HIS EMPLOYMENT, IF ANY. THOMPSON SAID AT SOME TIME AFTER THE FIRST OF THE YEAR, HE BELIEVES HE EXPELLED "FITZ" AND ANOTHER CAUCASIAN MALE FROM THE PARKING LOT OF THE ST. FRANCIS WHERE THEY WERE SLEEPING IN AN AUTOMOBILE. THOMPSON SAID IT WAS ON THIS OCCASION THAT HE LEARNED OF THIS INDIVIDUALS NAME IN THAT THE PERSON WITH WHOM HE WAS SLEEPING CALLED HIM "FITZ". THOMPSON ADVISED HE BELIEVED THIS INDIVIDUAL WAS THE SUBJECT OF A WARRANT FOR HIS ARREST BECAUSE WHEN THOMPSON TOLD HIM TO CONTACT THE FBI, "FITZ" TOLD HIM THAT HE COULDN'T. HE DESCRIBED "FITZ" AS CAUCASIAN MALE, THIRTY SEVEN - FORTY TWO, FIVE FEET EIGHT INCHES, ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY FIVE POUNDS, BROWN HAIR WORN SHORT AS IN CREW CUT, HABITUALLY WEARS SPORT SHIRT WITH CHEAP SLACKS.

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LA 44-1574

THOMPSON SAID WHENEVER AND WHEREVER HE OBSERVES "FITZ", HE WILL IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE FBI.

THOMPSON REITERATED THE INFORMATION AS SET OUT IN LA TELETYPE. HE ADDED ONLY THAT HE BELIEVES THE VOICE OF THE PERSON CALLING ON THE TELEPHONE WHO IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS JAMES C. HARDIN, AND THE VOICE OF THE PERSON WHO IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS MR. HARDIN AT THE ST. FRANCIS HOTEL AFTER THE TELEPHONE CALLS, TO BE IDENTICAL. HE SAID THAT ON ONE OCCASION HE HEARD THE OPERATOR AND A PERSON WHOM SHE CALLED "MR. HARDIN" CONVERSE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT HE WOULD LEAVE A MESSAGE FOR GALT.

THOMPSON VIEWED THE FBI FACIAL IDENTIFICATION CATALOG IN AN EFFORT TO OBTAIN AN ARTIST'S CONCEPTION OF HARDIN.

THOMPSON DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS CAUCASIAN MALE, BORN TWELVE TWENTY FIVE THIRTEEN AT ARIZONA, FIVE FOOT ELEVEN INCHES, ONE SIXTY POUNDS, BROWN GREYING HAIR, PARTIALLY BALD, HAZEL EYES, USMC NINETEEN FORTY TWO - NINETEEN FORTY SIX.

THOMPSON CLAIMS HE HAS FURNISHED ALL INFORMATION IN THIS MATTER CONCERNING BOTH "FITZ" AND JAMES C. HARDIN. HE STATES THAT HE BELIEVES THAT HE COULD IDENTIFY A PHOTOGRAPH OF JAMES C. HARDIN. EFFORTS TO LOCATE "FITZ" ARE CONTINUING.

END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

LA 44-1574

RESULTS OF IDENTIFICATION CATALOG REGARDING JAMES C. HARDIN
ARE AS FOLLOWS.

- A. K A FOUR - TWELVE
- B. K B ONE - ONE
- C. K C ONE - FIVE
- D. K D ONE - TWO
- E. K E THREE - FOURTEEN
- F. K F ONE - ONE
- G. K G ONE - SEVEN
- H. K H TWO - ONE
- J. K J FIVE - THREE
- K. K K FOUR - SEVEN
- L. ZERO
- M. ZERO
- N. O N ONE - TEN

GENERAL DESCRIPTION IS SEX- MALE, AGE THIRTY FIVE- FORTY
RACE CAUCASIAN, COMPLEXION- COARSE SKIN, DARK, HEIGHT FIVE FT.
SEVEN INCHES - FIVE FT. EIGHT INCHES, WEIGHT ONE FORTY - ONE FIFTY,
SLENDER BUILD, COLOR OF EYES DARK, COLOR OF HAIR DARK.

FURNISH RESULT TO LOS ANGELS AND INTERESTED OFFICES.

END PAGE FOUR

PAGE FIVE

LA 44-1574

RE MAIL FORWARDING SERVICE (FEBRUARY ONE TO MARCH ONE LAST.)

LETTER ADDRESSED TO ERIC S. GALT RECEIVED MAY TWENTY EIGHT LAST, BY C. M. HEDGPETH AT FOUR ZERO SIX SOUTH SECOND, ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA, OPERATOR OF CONFIDENTIAL MAIL FORWARDING SERVICE CONTRACTED FOR DURING FEBRUARY, SIXTY EIGHT, BY JAMES EARL RAY. LETTER READ QUOTE SHOW ME FIRST YOU MEAN BUSINESS UNQUOTE. LETTER SIGNED TONI, INITIAL C, INITIAL A, RETURN ADDRESS POST OFFICE BOX SIX FOUR THREE, BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA. (APPARENTLY IN RESPONSE TO GALT AD IN FREE PRESS.)

KENT ABRAMS INTERVIEWED MAY TWENTY NINE INSTANT, AND ADVISED HE RENTED POST OFFICE BOX ON OR ABOUT APRIL ONE LAST FOR FRIEND PLANNING TO OPERATE BUSINESS UTILIZING COMPUTER ANALYSIS TO LOCATE COMPATIBLE MARRIAGE PARTNERS. ABRAMS CLAIMS BUSINESS NEVER ACTIVATED AND NO MAIL RECEIVED AT POST OFFICE BOX, OR SENT WITH THAT RETURN ADDRESS. ABRAMS ADVISED HE DOES NOT KNOW RAY AND DOES NOT BELIEVE ANYONE CONNECTED WITH THE COMPUTER BUSINESS HAS ANY KNOWLEDGE CONCERNING HIM. COMPUTER BUSINESS ORGANIZED BY BOU A. GLENN AND THREE OF HIS FELLOW EMPLOYEES, ALL EMPLOYED AT THE ROCKETDYNE DIVISION OF NORTH AMERICAN AVIATION, CANOGA PARK, CALIFORNIA. GLENN AND ASSOCIATES IN COMPUTER BUSINESS BEING INTERVIEWED.

END PAGE FIVE

PAGE SIX

LA 44-1574

RE SPRINGFIELD TEL TO LOS ANGELES, MAY TWENTY NINE,
CAPTIONED FRANCES E. RAY.

ON MAY TWENTY EIGHT LAST, FEMALE, USING NAME FRANCES E.
RAY, ADDRESS SIX ONE FOUR NINE RUGBY, HUNTINGTON PARK, CALIFORNIA,
TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED LOS ANGELES FBI AND QUINCY, ILLINOIS,
PD. CONCERNING WHEREABOUTS OF JERRY RAY.

FRANCES E. RAY WHO CLAIMS SHE IS A SECOND COUSIN TO JAMES
EARL RAY INTERVIEWED THIS DATE. STATED RELATED TO JAMES EARL
RAY BUT DISCLAIMED ANY KNOWLEDGE OF SUBJECT'S WHEREABOUTS OR
ACTIVITIES OR THAT SHE HAS EVER MET HIM.

SHE IS A SELF DASH PROFESSED ALCOHOLIC, AND ADVISED
TELEPHONIC CONTACT MADE WITH FBI, LOS ANGELES, AND POLICE OF
QUINCY, ILLINOIS, BECAUSE SHE FELT VERY DEPRESSED FOR SUBJECT RAY.

FRANCES RAY ADVISED SHE IS DIVORCED AND HAS RESIDED IN LOS
ANGELES SINCE NINETEEN THIRTY THREE AND IS PRESENTLY RECEIVING
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FROM LOS ANGELES COUNTY.

NORMA JEAN DOUGLAS, SIX THREE ONE NINE RUGBY, HUNTINGTON PARK,
DAUGHTER OF FRANCES E. RAY, INTERVIEWED THIS DATE, DISCLAIMED ANY
KNOWLEDGE OF RAY'S WHEREABOUTS OR ACTIVITIES AND ADVISES FRANCES E.
RAY IS A CHRONIC ALCOHOLIC AND PRONE TO FREQUENT CRANK TELEPHONE
CALLS.

END PAGE SIX

PAGE SEVEN

LA 44-1574

RE: WILLIAM A. MARSHALL (CONSIDER AS ARMED AND DANGEROUS)

COVINA PD FURNISHED FIVE CARDS BEARING PARTIAL LATENT PRINTS TAKEN FROM SIXTY SEVEN GOLD COLOR BLACK TOP PLYMOUTH BEARING CALIFORNIA LICENSE U T W ZERO ONE TWO RECOVERED AT COVINA. ALSO FURNISHED CHECK IN AMOUNT OF FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS SIGNED W. L. DE LUCA, WHICH WAS GIVEN TO ALLEN A. KRAUSE. KRAUSE HAD ACCEPTED THIS CHECK TO COMPENSATE HIM FOR COLLISION DAMAGES AFTER ACCIDENT IN COVINA, MAY FIFTEEN LAST. PRINTS AND CHECK BEING FORWARDED FOR LABORATORY EXAMINATION. ALSO FURNISHED GULF OIL COMPANY GASOLINE INVOICE DATES MAY FIFTEEN LAST FOUND IN PLYMOUTH RECOVERED AT COVINA REFLECTING PURCHASE AT HUNTINGTON BEACH, CALIFORNIA, UNDER NAME OF WILLIAM L. DE LUCA, CALIFORNIA LICENSE U T W ONE ZERO TWO ALSO FORWARDED FOR EXAMINATION.

ALLEN KRAUSE DESCRIBED DRIVER OF PLYMOUTH AS WMA, AGE THIRTY FIVE TO FORTY, FIVE FEET ELEVEN INCHES OR SIX FEET, ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY TO SEVENTY FIVE POUNDS, STOCKY BUILD, BLACK STRAIGHT HAIR, WELL SHAVEN, BUT EVIDENCE OF HEAVY BEARD AND AT TIME OF ACCIDENT WAS ACCOMPANIED BY YOUTH DESCRIBED AS WHITE, AGE FOURTEEN TO SIXTEEN YEARS, TALL, BLOND CURLY HAIR, ALLEGEDLY HIS NEPHEW, NO NAME GIVEN. "DE LUCA" CLAIMED ON WAY TO LAS VEGAS. KRAUSE REPORTED ACCIDENT AND FACT THAT CHECK WAS FRAUDULENT AFTER CHECK RETURNED TO HIM BY BANK.

END PAGE SEVEN

PAGE EIGHT

LA 44-1574

MARSHALL WHEN OBTAINING CAR AT CHULA VISTA WAS DESCRIBED AS WMA, AGE FORTY TO FORTY FIVE, FIVE FEET NINE INCHES, ONE HUNDRED SIXTY FIVE TO EIGHTY POUNDS, DARK HAIR, FAIR TO MEDIUM COMPLEXION.

ACCORDING TO COVINA PD, CHULA VISTA PD SUSPECTS THAT WILLIAM H. MARSHALL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR FIVE ARMED ROBBERIES OF REAL ESTATE AGENTS IN CHULA VISTA AREA. PERSON OF MARSHALL'S DESCRIPTION HAD CONTACTED REAL ESTATE AGENTS ABOUT HOME PURCHASE AS PRETEXT BEFORE ROBBING THEM. ALSO FOUND IN CAR WAS KEY OF S. S. WHEELER APTS, BALBOA, CALIFORNIA WITH NUMBER FOUR ON IT.

ON MAY TWENTY NINE LAST, DARLENE E. DE LUCA, MRS. WILLIAM LAWRENCE DE LUCA, EIGHT FOUR TWO TWO ALVARDO DRIVE, HUNTINGTON BEACH, CALIFORNIA, ADVISED THAT AT TWO PM ON MAY FIFTEEN LAST, A MAN SHE DESCRIBED AS WMM, EARLY THIRTIES, FIVE FEET ELEVEN INCHES, ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY POUNDS, BLACK HAIR, DRIVING A GOLD AND BLACK CAR CAME TO HER HOME IN RESPONSE TO A SIGN IN FRONT INDICATING IT WAS FOR SALE BY OWNER. THE MAN INDICATED HE WAS INTERESTED IN BUYING THE HOME AND MRS. DE LUCA LEFT HIM IN HER LIVING ROOM AND WENT TO MAKE TELEPHONE CALL TO ARRANGE FOR A LATER APPOINTMENT.

END PAGE EIGHT

LA 44-1574

PAGE NINE

TO HANDLE DETAILS OF SALE. . WAS GONE FOR APPROXIMATELY TEN MINUTES AND WHEN RETURNED MAN INDICATED HE WOULD OBTAIN FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS IN CASH AND RETURN FOLLOWING DAY TO HANDLE DETAILS. AFTER MAN LEFT, MRS. DE LUCA DISCOVERED HER CHECK BOOK AND NUMEROUS CREDIT AND IDENTIFICATION CARDS AND HER DRIVERS LICENSE HAD BEEN TAKEN FROM HER PURSE WHICH HAD BEEN IN THE LIVING ROOM.

MRS. DE LUCA REPORTED THEFT TO HUNTINGTON BEACH PD. MRS. DE LUCA CONTACTED BY DETECTIVE WOODRUM, VICTORVILLE, CALIFORNIA, PD, ON MAY TWENTY LAST, INDICATING A MAN ATTEMPTED TO PASS A CHECK FOR TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS AT SECURITY FIRST NATIONAL BANK, VICTORVILLE, AND WHILE TELLER VERIFYING ACCOUNT MAN LEFT THE BANK. DETECTIVE WOODRUM HAS CHECK DRAWN ON ACCOUNT OF W. L. DE LUCA AT SECURITY FIRST NATIONAL BANK, LAKEWOOD PLAZA BRANCH, LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA.

ON MAY TWENTY NINE, MRS. DE LUCA RECEIVED LETTER FROM FERRY'S COUNTRY-STORE AND RESTAURANT, P. O. BOX FORTY FIVE BONSALL (SAN DIEGO COUNTY), CALIFORNIA, WHICH LETTER ENCLOSED ALL HER SUPERMARKET IDENTIFICATION CARDS AND PERSONAL PHOTOGRAPHS, WHICH HAD BEEN AMONG ITEMS STOLEN.

END PAGE NINE

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SHE STATED SHE CALLED MR. PERRY THIS DATE WHO ADVISED HER THE IDENTIFICATION CARD AND PHOTOGRAPHS WERE LEFT ON A TABLE IN HIS RESTAURANT BY A LONE WOMAN CUSTOMER.

MRS. DE LUCA ADVISED HER MONTGOMERY WARD, J. C. PENNEY'S, ATLANTIC DASH RICHFIELD, SHELL, MOBIL, AND GULF CREDIT CARDS STILL MISSING.

MRS. DE LUCA EXAMINED PHOTO OF JAMES EARL RAY AND INDICATED PHOTO SOMEWHAT RESEMBLED MAN WHO STOLE HER IDENTIFICATION BUT COULD NOT MAKE ANY IDENTIFICATION.

INQUIRY AT VICTORVILLE PD ASCERTAINED THAT WOODRUM HAS TAKEN LEAVE UNTIL MONDAY NEXT AND IS UNAVAILABLE. EFFORTS TO LOCATE CHECK IN PD RECORDS NEGATIVE. BANK PERSONNEL NOT AVAILABLE AT VICTORVILLE UNTIL FRIDAY NEXT.

WALTER DE PRIEST MAINTENANCE MAN, SS WHEELER APARTMENTS, ONE ONE ONE FIVE EAST BALBOA BOULEVARD, BALBOA, CALIFORNIA, ADVISED MAY TWENTY NINE LAST THAT A REVIEW OF RECORDS OF ABOVE APARTMENTS REVEALS THAT ONE J. A. WARREN ATTEMPTED TO RENT APARTMENT FOUR, WHEELER APARTMENTS APPROXIMATELY FIVE TWENTY LAST AT ABOUT TEN AM TO ELEVEN AM, ACCOMPAINED BY INDIVIDUAL IDENTIFIED AS HIS NEPHEW. WARREN STAYED ONLY APPROXIMATELY TWO HOURS WITHOUT

END PAGE TEN

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PAGE ELEVEN

PAYING RENT AND THEN DEPARTED MAKING EXCUSES HE WAS GOING TO BANK TO SECURE FUNDS FOR RENT. HE TOOK KEY TO APARTMENT FOUR AND DID NOT RETURN IT. AT TIME OF REGISTRATION WARREN INDICATED RESIDENCE OF ONE TWO ONE EAST "G" STREET, CHULA VISTA, CALIFORNIA, AND WAS DRIVING LATE MODEL PLYMOUTH FURY, BEARING CALIFORNIA LICENSE UTW ONE ZERO TWO. DE PRIEST HAS RECOLLECTION VEHICLE WAS TWO TONED GOLD IN COLOR. WARREN ADVISED IN CONVERSATION HE WAS EMPLOYED BY INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER COMPANY AND WAS BEING SENT TO AFRICA BY THAT COMPANY.

WARREN DESCRIBED AS WMA, FORTY FIVE TO FIFTY, ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY FIVE POUNDS, FIVE FEET EIGHT INCHES, TO NINE INCHES, DARK BROWN GRAYING HAIR, RUDDY COMPLEXION, WORE TROUSERS AND SHIRT. HAD NO LUGGAGE IN POSSESSION.

INDIVIDUAL ACCOMPANYING WARREN, NAME NOT GIVEN, DESCRIBED AS WMA, APPROXIMATELY TWENTY, SIX FEET, ONE HUNDRED SIXTY POUNDS, LIGHT COMPLEXION, WORE SPORT CLOTHES.

PHOTO OF RAY EXHIBITED TO DE PRIEST AND STATES NOT IDENTICAL WITH WARREN. PHOTO OF RAY ALSO EXHIBITED MRS. LAVERNE WHEELER, OWNER ABOVE APARTMENTS, WHO STATED THIS INDIVIDUAL NOT RECOGNIZED BY HER AS RESIDING WHEELER APARTMENTS.

LOS ANGELES WILL CONTINUE EFFORTS TO LOCATE INDIVIDUAL
END PAGE ELEVEN

LA 1574

PAGE TWELVE

WHO STOLE ONE NINE SIX SEVEN PLYMOUTH AND WILL SECURE
AND FORWARD CHECK FROM VICTORVILLE TO LABORATORY.

SAN DIEGO AT BONSALL ASCERTAIN FULL FACTS CONCERNING
RETURN OF MRS. DE LUCA'S IDENTIFICATION MATERIAL FROM PERRY'S
COUNTRY STORE ALSO NOTE ADDRESS AT CHULA VISTA AS GIVEN AT
BALBOA WHEN INDIVIDUAL UTILIZED NAME WARREN.

SPRINGFIELD THROUGH JERRY RAY ASCERTAIN HOW WELL KNOWN A
RELATIVE FRANCES RAY OF HUNTINGTON PARK, CALIFORNIA MIGHT BE.
ALSO NOTE SAME USE OF NAME OF INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER COMPANY AT
BALBOA BY THE WM. MARSHALL INDIVIDUAL UTILIZING NAME WARREN
AS WAS USED FIVE FOURTEEN LAST AT CHULA VISTA IN SAN DIEGO
TEL FIVE SIXTEEN SIXTYEIGHT, COPY YOUR OFFICE.

LAS VEGAS CONTACT SO AND LAS VEGAS PD CONCERNING
WILLIAM A. MARSHALL WITH ALIASES TO DETERMINE IF SIMILAR M.O.
AS DESCRIBED BY CHULA VISTA P D IS BEING NOW USED AT LAS VEGAS.
SAN DIEGO TEL FIVE SIXTEEN SIXTY EIGHT FURNISHED LAS VEGAS.

COPIES OF THIS TEL FURNISHED OTHER OFFICES IN VIEW OF INFO
RE JAMES C. HARDIN.

INVESTIGATION ALL PHASES CONTINUING AT LOS ANGELES.

FND

JFM

FBI SPRNGFLD

X

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FBI LOS ANG

315 AM URGENT 5/30/68 DPK/VLB

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Chief Clerk

ASAC &
SA Roberts
advised
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Roberts
Olive

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FURNISH RESULT TO LOS ANGELS AND INTERESTED OFFICES.

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PAGE FIVE

LA 44-1574

RE MAIL FORWARDING SERVICE (FEBRUARY ONE TO MARCH ONE LAST.)

LETTER ADDRESSED TO ERIC S. GALT RECEIVED MAY TWENTY EIGHT LAST, BY C. M. HEDGPETH AT FOUR ZERO SIX SOUTH SECOND, ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA, OPERATOR OF CONFIDENTIAL MAIL FORWARDING SERVICE CONTRACTED FOR DURING FEBRUARY, SIXTY EIGHT, BY JAMES EARL RAY. LETTER READ QUOTE SHOW ME FIRST YOU MEAN BUSINESS UNQUOTE. LETTER SIGNED TONI, INITIAL C, INITIAL A, RETURN ADDRESS POST OFFICE BOX SIX FOUR THREE, BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA. (APPARENTLY IN RESPONSE TO GALT AD IN FREE PRESS.)

KENT ABRAMS INTERVIEWED MAY TWENTY NINE INSTANT, AND ADVISED HE RENTED POST OFFICE BOX ON OR ABOUT APRIL ONE LAST FOR FRIEND PLANNING TO OPERATE BUSINESS UTILIZING COMPUTER ANALYSIS TO LOCATE COMPATIBLE MARRIAGE PARTNERS. ABRAMS CLAIMS BUSINESS NEVER ACTIVATED AND NO MAIL RECEIVED AT POST OFFICE BOX, OR SENT WITH THAT RETURN ADDRESS. ABRAMS ADVISED HE DOES NOT KNOW RAY AND DOES NOT BELIEVE ANYONE CONNECTED WITH THE COMPUTER BUSINESS HAS ANY KNOWLEDGE CONCERNING HIM. COMPUTER BUSINESS ORGANIZED BY BOU A. GLENN AND THREE OF HIS FELLOW EMPLOYEES, ALL EMPLOYED AT THE ROCKETDYNE DIVISION OF NORTH AMERICAN AVIATION, CANOGA PARK, CALIFORNIA. GLENN AND ASSOCIATES IN COMPUTER BUSINESS BEING INTERVIEWED.

END PAGE FIVE

PAGE SIX

LA 44-1574

RE SPRINGFIELD TEL TO LOS ANGELES, MAY TWENTY NINE,
CAPTIONED FRANCES E. RAY.

ON MAY TWENTY EIGHT LAST, FEMALE, USING NAME FRANCES E. RAY, ADDRESS SIX ONE FOUR NINE RUGBY, HUNTINGTON PARK, CALIFORNIA, TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED LOS ANGELES FBI AND QUINCY, ILLINOIS, PD. CONCERNING WHEREABOUTS OF JERRY RAY.

FRANCES E. RAY WHO CLAIMS SHE IS A SECOND COUSIN TO JAMES EARL RAY INTERVIEWED THIS DATE. STATED RELATED TO JAMES EARL RAY BUT DISCLAIMED ANY KNOWLEDGE OF SUBJECT'S WHEREABOUTS OR ACTIVITIES OR THAT SHE HAS EVER MET HIM.

SHE IS A SELF DASH PROFESSED ALCOHOLIC, AND ADVISED TELEPHONIC CONTACT MADE WITH FBI, LOS ANGELES, AND POLICE OF QUINCY, ILLINOIS, BECAUSE SHE FELT VERY DEPRESSED FOR SUBJECT RAY.

FRANCES RAY ADVISED SHE IS DIVORCED AND HAS RESIDED IN LOS ANGELES SINCE NINETEEN THIRTY THREE AND IS PRESENTLY RECEIVING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FROM LOS ANGELES COUNTY.

NORMA JEAN DOUGLAS, SIX THREE ONE NINE RUGBY, HUNTINGTON PARK, DAUGHTER OF FRANCES E. RAY, INTERVIEWED THIS DATE, DISCLAIMED ANY KNOWLEDGE OF RAY'S WHEREABOUTS OR ACTIVITIES AND ADVISES FRANCES E. RAY IS A CHRONIC ALCOHOLIC AND PRONE TO FREQUENT CRANK TELEPHONE CALLS.

END PAGE SIX

PAGE SEVEN

LA 44-1574

RE: WILLIAM A. MARSHALL (CONSIDER AS ARMED AND DANGEROUS)

COVINA PD FURNISHED FIVE CARDS BEARING PARTIAL LATENT PRINTS TAKEN FROM SIXTY SEVEN GOLD COLOR BLACK TOP PLYMOUTH BEARING CALIFORNIA LICENSE U T W ZERO ONE TWO RECOVERED AT COVINA. ALSO FURNISHED CHECK IN AMOUNT OF FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS SIGNED W. L. DE LUCA, WHICH WAS GIVEN TO ALLEN A. KRAUSE. KRAUSE HAD ACCEPTED THIS CHECK TO COMPENSATE HIM FOR COLLISION DAMAGES AFTER ACCIDENT IN COVINA, MAY FIFTEEN LAST. PRINTS AND CHECK BEING FORWARDED FOR LABORATORY EXAMINATION. ALSO FURNISHED GULF OIL COMPANY GASOLINE INVOICE DATES MAY FIFTEEN LAST FOUND IN PLYMOUTH RECOVERED AT COVINA REFLECTING PURCHASE AT HUNTINGTON BEACH, CALIFORNIA, UNDER NAME OF WILLIAM L. DE LUCA, CALIFORNIA LICENSE U T W ONE ZERO TWO ALSO FORWARDED FOR EXAMINATION.

ALLEN KRAUSE DESCRIBED DRIVER OF PLYMOUTH AS WMA, AGE THIRTY FIVE TO FORTY, FIVE FEET ELEVEN INCHES OR SIX FEET, ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY TO SEVENTY FIVE POUNDS, STOCKY BUILD, BLACK STRAIGHT HAIR, WELL SHAVEN, BUT EVIDENCE OF HEAVY BEARD AND AT TIME OF ACCIDENT WAS ACCOMPANIED BY YOUTH DESCRIBED AS WHITE, AGE FOURTEEN TO SIXTEEN YEARS, TALL, BLOND CURLY HAIR, ALLEGEDLY HIS NEPHEW, NO NAME GIVEN. "DE LUCA" CLAIMED ON WAY TO LAS VEGAS. KRAUSE REPORTED ACCIDENT AND FACT THAT CHECK WAS FRAUDULENT AFTER CHECK RETURNED TO HIM BY BANK.

END PAGE SEVEN

PAGE EIGHT

LA 44-1574

MARSHALL WHEN OBTAINING CAR AT CHULA VISTA WAS DESCRIBED AS WMA, AGE FORTY TO FORTY FIVE, FIVE FEET NINE INCHES, ONE HUNDRED SIXTY FIVE TO EIGHTY POUNDS, DARK HAIR, FAIR TO MEDIUM COMPLEXION.

ACCORDING TO COVINA PD, CHULA VISTA PD SUSPECTS THAT WILLIAM H. MARSHALL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR FIVE ARMED ROBBERIES OF REAL ESTATE AGENTS IN CHULA VISTA AREA. PERSON OF MARSHALL'S DESCRIPTION HAD CONTACTED REAL ESTATE AGENTS ABOUT HOME PURCHASE AS PRETEXT BEFORE ROBBING THEM. ALSO FOUND IN CAR WAS KEY OF S. S. WHEELER APTS, BALBOA, CALIFORNIA WITH NUMBER FOUR ON IT.

ON MAY TWENTY NINE LAST, DARLENE E. DE LUCA, MRS. WILLIAM LAWRENCE DE LUCA, EIGHT FOUR TWO TWO ALVARDO DRIVE, HUNTINGTON BEACH, CALIFORNIA, ADVISED THAT AT TWO PM ON MAY FIFTEEN LAST, A MAN SHE DESCRIBED AS WHM, EARLY THIRTIES, FIVE FEET ELEVEN INCHES, ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY POUNDS, BLACK HAIR, DRIVING A GOLD AND BLACK CAR CAME TO HER HOME IN RESPONSE TO A SIGN IN FRONT INDICATING IT WAS FOR SALE BY OWNER. THE MAN INDICATED HE WAS INTERESTED IN BUYING THE HOME AND MRS. DE LUCA LEFT HIM IN HER LIVING ROOM AND WENT TO MAKE TELEPHONE CALL TO ARRANGE FOR A LATER APPOINTMENT.

END PAGE EIGHT

LA 44-1574

PAGE NINE

TO HANDLE DETAILS OF SALE. WAS GONE FOR APPROXIMATELY TEN MINUTES AND WHEN RETURNED MAN INDICATED HE WOULD OBTAIN FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS IN CASH AND RETURN FOLLOWING DAY TO HANDLE DETAILS. AFTER MAN LEFT, MRS. DE LUCA DISCOVERED HER CHECK BOOK AND NUMEROUS CREDIT AND IDENTIFICATION CARDS AND HER DRIVERS LICENSE HAD BEEN TAKEN FROM HER PURSE WHICH HAD BEEN IN THE LIVING ROOM.

MRS. DE LUCA REPORTED THEFT TO HUNTINGTON BEACH PD. MRS. DE LUCA CONTACTED BY DETECTIVE WOODRUM, VICTORVILLE, CALIFORNIA, PD, ON MAY TWENTY LAST, INDICATING A MAN ATTEMPTED TO PASS A CHECK FOR TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS AT SECURITY FIRST NATIONAL BANK, VICTORVILLE, AND WHILE TELLER VERIFYING ACCOUNT MAN LEFT THE BANK. DETECTIVE WOODRUM HAS CHECK DRAWN ON ACCOUNT OF W. L. DE LUCA AT SECURITY FIRST NATIONAL BANK, LAKEWOOD PLAZA BRANCH, LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA.

ON MAY TWENTY NINE, MRS. DE LUCA RECEIVED LETTER FROM PERRY'S COUNTRY STORE AND RESTAURANT, P. O. BOX FORTY FIVE BONSALL (SAN DIEGO COUNTY), CALIFORNIA, WHICH LETTER ENCLOSED ALL HER SUPERMARKET IDENTIFICATION CARDS AND PERSONAL PHOTOGRAPHS, WHICH HAD BEEN AMONG ITEMS STOLEN.

END PAGE NINE

LA 44-1574

PAGE TEN

SHE STATED SHE CALLED MR. PERRY THIS DATE WHO ADVISED HER THE IDENTIFICATION CARD AND PHOTOGRAPHS WERE LEFT ON A TABLE IN HIS RESTAURANT BY A LONE WOMAN CUSTOMER.

MRS. DE LUCA ADVISED HER MONTGOMERY WARD, J. C. PENNEY'S, ATLANTIC DASH RICHFIELD, SHELL, MOBIL, AND GULF CREDIT CARDS STILL MISSING.

MRS. DE LUCA EXAMINED PHOTO OF JAMES EARL RAY AND INDICATED PHOTO SOMEWHAT RESEMBLED MAN WHO STOLE HER IDENTIFICATION BUT COULD NOT MAKE ANY IDENTIFICATION.

INQUIRY AT VICTORVILLE PD ASCERTAINED THAT WOODRUM HAS TAKEN LEAVE UNTIL MONDAY NEXT AND IS UNAVAILABLE. EFFORTS TO LOCATE CHECK IN PD RECORDS NEGATIVE. BANK PERSONNEL NOT AVAILABLE AT VICTORVILLE UNTIL FRIDAY NEXT.

WALTER DE PRIEST MAINTENANCE MAN, SS WHEELER APARTMENTS, ONE ONE ONE FIVE EAST BALBOA BOULEVARD, BALBOA, CALIFORNIA, ADVISED MAY TWENTY NINE LAST THAT A REVIEW OF RECORDS OF ABOVE APARTMENTS REVEALS THAT ONE J. A. WARREN ATTEMPTED TO RENT APARTMENT FOUR, WHEELER APARTMENTS APPROXIMATELY FIVE TWENTY LAST AT ABOUT TEN AM TO ELEVEN AM, ACCOMPAINED BY INDIVIDUAL IDENTIFIED AS HIS NEPHEW. WARREN STAYED ONLY APPROXIMATELY TWO HOURS WITHOUT
END PAGE TEN

LA 44-1574

PAGE ELEVEN

PAYING RENT AND THEN DEPARTED MAKING EXCUSES HE WAS GOING TO BANK TO SECURE FUNDS FOR RENT. HE TOOK KEY TO APARTMENT FOUR AND DID NOT RETURN IT. AT TIME OF REGISTRATION WARREN INDICATED RESIDENCE OF ONE TWO ONE EAST "G" STREET, CHULA VISTA, CALIFORNIA, AND WAS DRIVING LATE MODEL PLYMOUTH FURY, BEARING CALIFORNIA LICENSE UTW ONE ZERO TWO. DE PRIEST HAS RECOLLECTION VEHICLE WAS TWO TONED GOLD IN COLOR. [WARREN ADVISED IN CONVERSATION HE WAS EMPLOYED BY INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER COMPANY AND WAS BEING SENT TO AFRICA BY THAT COMPANY.]

WARREN DESCRIBED AS WMA, FORTY FIVE TO FIFTY, ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY FIVE POUNDS, FIVE FEET EIGHT INCHES, TO NINE INCHES, DARK BROWN GRAYING HAIR, RUDDY COMPLEXION, WORE TROUSERS AND SHIRT. HAD NO LUGGAGE IN POSSESSION.

INDIVIDUAL ACCOMPANYING WARREN, NAME NOT GIVEN, DESCRIBED AS WMA, APPROXIMATELY TWENTY, SIX FEET, ONE HUNDRED SIXTY POUNDS, LIGHT COMPLEXION, WORE SPORT CLOTHES.

PHOTO OF RAY EXHIBITED TO DE PRIEST AND STATES NOT INDENTICAL WITH WARREN. PHOTO OF RAY ALSO EXHIBITED MRS. LAVERNE WHEELER, OWNER ABOVE APARTMENTS, WHO STATED THIS INDIVIDUAL NOT RECOGNIZED BY HER AS RESIDING WHEELER APARTMENTS.

LOS ANGELES WILL CONTINUE EFFORTS TO LOCATE INDIVIDUAL
END PAGE ELEVEN

LA 1574

PAGE TWELVE

WHO STOLE ONE NINE SIX SEVEN PLYMOUTH AND WILL SECURE
AND FORWARD CHECK FROM VICTORVILLE TO LABORATORY.

SAN DIEGO AT BONSALE ASCERTAIN FULL FACTS CONCERNING
RETURN OF MRS. DE LUCA'S IDENTIFICATION MATERIAL FROM PERRY'S
COUNTRY STORE ALSO NOTE ADDRESS AT CHULA VISTA AS GIVEN AT
BALBOA WHEN INDIVIDUAL UTILIZED NAME WARREN.

SPRINGFIELD THROUGH JERRY RAY ASCERTAIN HOW WELL KNOWN A
RELATIVE FRANCES RAY OF HUNTINGTON PARK, CALIFORNIA MIGHT BE.
ALSO NOTE SAME USE OF NAME OF INTERNATIONAL HARVESTOR COMPANY AT
BALBOA BY THE WM. MARSHALL INDIVIDUAL UTILIZING NAME WARREN
AS WAS USED FIVE FOURTEEN LAST AT CHULA VISTA IN SAN DIEGO
TEL FIVE SIXTEEN SIXTYEIGHT, COPY YOUR OFFICE.]

LAS VEGAS CONTACT SO AND LAS VEGAS PD CONCERNING
WILLIAM A. MARSHALL WITH ALIASES TO DETERMINE IF SIMILAR M.O.
AS DESCRIBED BY CHULA VISTA P D IS BEING NOW USED AT LAS VEGAS.
SAN DIEGO TEL FIVE SIXTEEN SIXTY EIGHT FURNISHED LAS VEGAS.

COPIES OF THIS TEL FURNISHED OTHER OFFICES IN VIEW OF INFO
RE JAMES C. HARDIN.

INVESTIGATION ALL PHASES CONTINUING AT LOS ANGELES.

END

JEM

FBI SPRNGFLD

X

FBI

Date: 5-30-68

Transmit the following in Plain Text
(Type in plaintext or code)Via Airtel
(Priority)

TO - DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM ~~LC~~ SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561)
RE: MURKIN

Re: Springfield Teletype to Los Angeles 5/29/68;
Los Angeles Teletype to Bureau 5/30/68;
Springfield Telephone Call to Chicago 5/30/68.

Enclosed for Chicago Division are two copies each of
referenced teletypes.

For the information of Los Angeles, JERRY RAY is
presently residing in Chicago, Illinois and in contact with
Chicago Division, therefore any further leads concerning him
should be directed to the Chicago Division.

WR:EJC
(9)

- 2- Bureau (44-38861) AM
2- Chicago (4-Encls) (44-1114) AMSD
2- Los Angeles (info) (44-1574) AM
1- Memphis (info) (44-1987) AM
1- Springfield (44-561)

44-561-603

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

Approved: [Signature] Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

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② - Springfield (44-561)

44-561-603
SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED mc
INDEXED _____
FILED mc

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

5-29-68

AIRTEL AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, ST. LOUIS (44-775) P
RE: MURKIN

Re SI airtel, 5-25-68.

RE: FORMER NEIGHBOR

Investigation at the Village of LaGrange, Mo., 5-29-68, by SA JAMES A. DUFFY indicated that LAFAYETTE DILTS and his girl-friend, MAHALA LA HARR, have never resided in LaGrange. One commercial fisherman, BURT SMITH, stated he has known DILTS in the past, last knew him he resided at Quincy, Ill., address unknown. He stated DEWEY LOCK, a commercial fisherman, Quincy, Ill., will know DILTS' whereabouts and believes LOCK can be located through YANCEY'S FISH MARKET, Foot of Broadway, Quincy, Ill. States DILTS will also be known there.

THE SPRINGFIELD OFFICE AT QUINCY, ILL.:

Will contact employees of YANCEY'S FISH MARKET in an effort to locate DEWEY LOCK and for info re LAFAYETTE DILTS' whereabouts, in order that he may be interviewed re any information he may have concerning subject or subject's family.

A & D.

3 - Bureau
1 - Memphis (44-1987)
2 - Springfield (44-561)
1 - St. Louis

JAD:wma
(7)

44-511-604
JAD
wma

Quincy Ill. Oliver, mao
Case @ Roberts

5-29-68

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A & D.

3 - Bureau
1 - Memphis (44-1987)
2 - Springfield (44-361)
1 - St. Louis
JAD:wm
(7)

44-561-604
JH M

Robert W

Tracy Ed @ Olive

FBI SPRNGFLD

FBI CHICAGO

1048AM URGENT 5/31/68 FOM

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) LOS ANGELES (44-1574) SPRINGFIELD (44-561)
FROM CHICAGO (44-1114) 1P

MURKIN.

RE LOS ANGELES TELETYPE TO BUREAU MAY THIRTY LAST,
SPRINGFIELD TEL TO LOS ANGELS MAY TWENTY NINE LAST AND
SPRINGFIELD TEL CALL TO CHICAGO MAY THIRTY LAST.
RE FRANCES E. RAY.

JERRY RAY INTERVIEWED THIS DATE STATES NOT ACQUAINTED WITH
FRANCES E. RAY, DOES NOT HAVE ANY RELATIVES IN HUNTINGTON
PARK, CALIFORNIA, TO HIS KNOWLEDGE. HAS NEVER HEARD SUBJECT
MENTION ABOVE INDIVIDUAL. BELIEVES THAT MABEL FULLER,
QUINCY, ILLINOIS, WOULD HAVE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT FAMILY
MEMBERS THAN ANYONE ELSE. AM CC TO MEMPHIS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

VAL

FBI SPRNGFLD

P

*Mark-Ash Mabel Fuller
about Frances E. Ray*

*Tring Ld. Oliver
w/retel
care @ Roberts*

44-561-605

SEARCHED <i>MM</i>	INDEXED <i>MM</i>
SERIALIZED <i>MM</i>	FILED <i>MM</i>
MAY 31 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

MMO

FBI SPRNGFLD

FBI CHICAGO

1048AM URGENT 5/31/68 FOM

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) LOS ANGELES (44-1574) SPRINGFIELD (44-561)
FROM CHICAGO (44-1114) 1P

MURKIN.

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SPRINGFIELD TEL TO LOS ANGELS MAY TWENTY NINE LAST AND
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FRANCES E. RAY, DOES NOT HAVE ANY RELATIVES IN HUNTINGTON
PARK, CALIFORNIA, TO HIS KNOWLEDGE. HAS NEVER HEARD SUBJECT
MENTION ABOVE INDIVIDUAL. BELIEVES THAT MAREL FULLER,
QUINCY, ILLINOIS, WOULD HAVE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT FAMILY
MEMBERS THAN ANYONE ELSE. AM CC TO MEMPHIS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

YAL

FBI SPRNGFLD

P

44-561-605

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 31 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Rohers

Quincy, Ill @ Olive

5/29/68

Airtel

To: SACs, Kansas City (44-760)
St. Louis (44-775)
Springfield (44-561)

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

ReSLtel 5/23/68 to Bureau, Memphis and Springfield re information furnished indicating bank of Alton, Illinois, was the bank which Gawron and Ray had cased.

If not already handled, Springfield should take necessary action to see that following items are covered:

Photographs of Ray should be exhibited to the bank robbery witnesses.

Advise Kansas City of complete description of clothing found and Kansas City will determine whether any items of clothing are possibly prison issued.

Springfield also furnish Kansas City with pertinent identity of laundry marks so that Kansas City can determine if any of these marks were possibly placed on items of clothing at the Missouri State Penitentiary.

Springfield should contact local sporting goods stores with respect to the cap which was found which contains a fishing emblem.

If not already handled, have Louisville attempt to identify the Mens' Style Shop, Gray and Wilson, Mayfield, Kentucky, for any information regarding purchaser of the hat.

1 - Memphis (44-1987) (for info)

*Harries
advised 12:05 pm
5/31/68
TC*

44-561-606

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 31 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Harries

**Airtel SACs, Kansas City, St. Louis, Springfield
RE: MURKIN**

The manufacturer of the sawed-off shotgun should be contacted for any pertinent information that firm may be able to furnish.

The bank robbery file discloses that laundries in Alton, Illinois, have been checked with respect to the laundry marks on the clothing found; however, there is no indication of laundries having been checked in surrounding areas. Be certain this is done.

Springfield request the Laboratory to compare the hair specimens obtained in the bank robbery case to hair specimens obtained in the Murkin case.

Recontact suspects and informants for any information they may have regarding Ray and whether or not he could have been involved in the bank robbery.

Recontact Ray's uncle, William E. Mayher, 118 East Seventh Street, Alton, Illinois, for any information he may have regarding the bank robbery.

All leads are to be given continuous and expeditious attention.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

Setel daily results of investigative activity concerning this bank robbery. Such teletypes are to be submitted under the "MURKIN" caption and are to continue until the issue is fully resolved as to whether Ray was or was not involved in the bank robbery.

5/29/68

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St. Louis (44-775)
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44-561-606

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	
JUL 1 1968	

TC

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5-31-68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, BOSTON
FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) -P-
SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

ReBuairtel to SI, 5-29-68.

JOHN EUGENE GAWRON, St. Louis, Mo., advised Bureau Agents he and JAMES EARL RAY cased the Bank of Alton, in 1959 and planned to "hold up" in apartment on Fourth Street, Alton, for one week following bank robbery. This bank robbed by two Unsubs 7-13-67.

Subsequent to robbery shotgun and clothing found in vacant lot rear of Fourth Street, as follows:

Stevens Model 94, 12-gauge single-shot, single-barrel, sawed-off shotgun with no serial number.

Man's white Van Heusen Van-Guard shirt.

Man's blue nylon jacket (windbreaker type)

Man's tan pleated trousers

One Hickock Pioneer belt, size 32, black in color with No. 5121 on inside of belt

One brown cap with fishing emblem on front

2 - Boston
2 - Kansas City (44-760)
2 - Louisville
1 - Memphis (44-1987)(Info)
3 - Springfield (2: 44-561)(1: 91-3699)
RCH:blw
(10)

44-561-607
SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
FILED

SI 44-561

One gray felt hat, Royal Deluxe Stetson with label on sweatband "Men's Style Shop, Gray & Wilson, Mayfield, Ky."

Shirt bore laundry markings "NU" or "NO", "JOH-U" or "JOH-O" inside collar.

Trousers bore visible laundry markings "44--" and "3107-3," on right front pocket. Also on the right rear pocket "T6276" and "U7703." No other visible or invisible laundry markings were found by FBI Laboratory.

LEADS: BOSTON DIVISION

AT WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Will contact Savage-Stevens Co., to determine if there is known way of tracing the recovered shotgun.

KANSAS CITY DIVISION

AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

Will contact Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP), furnish description of clothing and laundry markings and determine if either clothing or laundry markings could have originated at MSP.

LOUISVILLE DIVISION

AT MAYFIELD, KENTUCKY

Will contact Gray & Wilson Men's Style Shop regarding Royal Deluxe Stetson hat in effort to identify purchaser or possible alternate distribution of hats.

Because of RAY's involvement in MURKIN, Bureau instructs all leads to check GAWRON's allegations be furnished expeditious, continuous attention and results reported promptly in effort to resolve allegations.

5-31-68

AIRTEL

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FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) -P-
SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

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2 - Boston
2 - Kansas City (44-760)
2 - Louisville
1 - Memphis (44-1987)(Info)
3 - Springfield (2: 44-561)(1: 91-3699)
RCH:blw
(10)

44-561-607
JCH MD
SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
FILED

SI 44-561

One gray felt hat, Royal Deluxe Stetson with label on sweatband "Men's Style Shop, Gray & Wilson, Mayfield, Ky."

Shirt bore laundry markings "NU" or "NO", "JOH-U" or "JOH-O" inside collar.

Trousers bore visible laundry markings "44--" and "3107-3," on right front pocket. Also on the right rear pocket "T6276" and "U7703." No other visible or invisible laundry markings were found by FBI Laboratory.

LEADS: BOSTON DIVISION

AT WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Will contact Savage-Stevens Co., to determine if there is known way of tracing the recovered shotgun.

KANSAS CITY DIVISION

AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

Will contact Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP), furnish description of clothing and laundry markings and determine if either clothing or laundry markings could have originated at MSP.

LOUISVILLE DIVISION

AT MAYFIELD, KENTUCKY

Will contact Gray & Wilson Men's Style Shop regarding Royal Deluxe Stetson hat in effort to identify purchaser or possible alternate distribution of hats.

Because of RAY's involvement in MURKIN, Bureau instructs all leads to check GAWRON's allegations be furnished expeditious, continuous attention and results reported promptly in effort to resolve allegations.

F B I

Date: 5-31-68

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

Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

TO DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM SAC SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

MURKIN, CR.

RE BUREAU AIRTEL MAY TWENTY NINE, LAST.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF RAY AND KNOWN ASSOCIATES DISPLAYED TO
WITNESSES AT BANK OF ALTON. NO IDENTIFICATION EFFECTED.

WALTER BLACK, BLACK'S SPORTING GOODS, ALTON, ADVISED
MAN'S CAP WITH FISHING EMBLEM IS COMMON ITEM SOLD IN COUNTLESS
STORES, INCLUDING SPORTING GOODS, VARIETY AND DEPARTMENT
STORES; THAT TRACING ORIGIN OF ONE PARTICULAR CAP WOULD THERE-
FORE BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT WITHOUT SOME DISTINGUISHING MARK
OR LABEL.

WILLIAM MAHER, RAY'S UNCLE, ALTON, ILLINOIS, REITERATED
HE HAS NOT SEEN OR HEARD FROM RAY SINCE NINETEEN FIFTY NINE;
THAT RAY NEVER MENTIONED PLANNING OR CONTEMPLATING ANY BANK
ROBBERY IN HIS PRESENCE.

BY COMMUNICATION TODAY, BOSTON, LOUISVILLE AND KANSAS
CITY INSTRUCTED TO CONDUCT REQUESTED INVESTIGATION OUTLINED
REAIRTEL. AIRMAIL COPIES TO MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS.

1 - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
1 - St. Louis (44-775) (AM)
② - Springfield (1: 44-561) (1: 91-3699)
RCH:bly (4)

44-561-608
SEARCHED.....
SERIALIZED.....
INDEXED.....
FILED.....

Approved: TC
Special Agent in Charge

Sent WA 3:16 P M Per mt

FBI WASH DC

FBI SPRNGFLD

316PM URGENT 5/31/68 MAL

TO DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM SPRINGFIELD (44-561)

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END

JTM

FBI WASH DC

44-561-608
SEARCHED.....
SERIALIZED.....
INDEXED.....
FILED.....

FBI SPRNGFLD

FBI ST LOUIS

945PM URGENT 5-31-68 JLS

TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS AND SPRINGFIELD
FROM ST. LOUIS (44-775)

MURKIN - SUMMARY

RE JOHN EUGENE GAWRON. REINTERVIEWED. PHOTO OF JAMESH. CARPENTER, FBI NUMBER THREE ZERO TWO FOUR THREE EXHIBITED. GAWRON POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED SAME AS BEING OF PERSON WHO VISITED HIM JULY SIXTYSEVEN, TOLD HIM HE AND RAY HAD ROBBED ALTON ILL., BANK, AND GAVE TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS. IDENTIFIED POSITIVELY AS PERSON WHO VISITED HIM RAY THIRTEEN DASH FOURTEEN LAST WITH JOHNNIE (LNU). WAS THEN ADVISED THAT PERSON WAS IN JAIL AT TIMES OF ROBBERY AND ALLEGED VISITS SIXTYSEVEN.

GAWRON HESITATED, THEN SAID HAD REALIZED PAST EIGHT DAYS HE HAD GIVE FBI QUOTE BUMSTEER UNQUOTE AND QUOTE BUM BREF UNQUOTE ON ALTON BANK AND CARPENTER, WHOSE NAME HE THEN RECALLED. STATED HAD BEEN THINKING ABOUT IT AND DECIDED IT WAS ANOTHER JIMMIE (LNU), WHOSE IDENTITY WOULD BE KNOWN ONLY TO RAY, WHO HAD VISITED AND TOLD HIM OF RAY PARTICIPATION IN ALTON ROBBERY. WAS REMINDED THAT IF HE HAD LIED ABOUT CARPENTER, HE MIGHT ALSO BE LYING ABOUT RAY PARTICIPATION. HE INSISTED THE OTHERWISE UNKNOWN JIMMIE(LNU) HAD VISITED HIM IN SIXTY-
END PAGE ONE

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 31 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

Harris
44-561-609

PAGE TWO

SEVEN AS PREVIOUSLY STATED AND TOLD HIM OF RAY PARTICIPATION IN ROBBERY. COULD THINK OF NO ONE OTHER THAN RAY WHO WOULD KNOW THIS INDIVIDUALS IDENTITY.

AS THE BUREAU HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY ADVISED, GAWRON IS SEVENTY YEARS OLD, ON VERGE OF SENILITY, EXTREMELY RAMBLING IN CONVERSATION, WITH SA'S EXPERIENCING DIFFICULTY KEEPING INTERVIEWS ON PRETINENT TRACK, AS WELL AS SEPARTING POSSIBLE FACT FROM CONJECTURE. JERRY RAY HAS DESCRIBED HIM AS KOOK, AND OTHER SOURCES REGARD HIM AS CRAZY OLD MAN WHO TALKS TOO MUCH.

RE EX-CON RUSSELL PERRY BRANNEN.

EX-CON JOHN PAUL VELANTI HAS PREVIOUSLY ADVISED OF EX-CON WHOSE IDENTITY HE HAD BEEN ASKED NOT TO REVEAL FROM WHO HE HAD RECIVED IMPRESSION THAT RAY HAD BEEN SEEN BRIEFLY INSL BY HIM TWO WEEKS FOLLOWING MSP ESCAPE. ON LAST INTERVIEW VELANTI REVEALED IDENTITY OF THISPERSON AS RUSSELL BRANNEN. BRANNEN INTERVIEWED. WAS IN MSP FIFTY TWO TO SEPTEMBER SIXTYFOUR. UNABLE TO RECALL RAY BUT BELIEVED PHOTO VAGUELY FAMILIAR. BELIEVED RAY MUST HAVE SPENT MUCH TIME IN SOLITARY OR WOULD KNOW HIM. POSITIVELY DENIED HAVING SEEN RAY AFTER EXCAPE OR HAVING ANY KNOWLEDGE OF WHEREABOUTS. VOLUNTEERED RECENT CONVERSATION WITH VELANTI CONCERNING RAY IN WHICH THEY BOTH UNSUCCESSFUL IN RECALLING RAY AT MSP. REMEMBERED THEY SPECULATED ON METHODS HE MIGHT

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

USED TO ESCAPE.

RE JERRY RAYNES, CAROL PEPPER, JOHN LARRY RAY.

SOURCES AND SPOT CHECKS DISCLOSED NO SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY.

CORR PAGE ONE TEXT LINE FIVE THE LAST WRD "RAY" SHOULD READ "MAY"

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

CEK

FBI SPRNGFLD

FBI SPRNGFLD

FBI ST LOUIS

945PM URGENT 5-31-68 JLS

TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS AND SPRINGFIELD

FROM ST. LOUIS (44-775)

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END PAGE ONE

Lead to Harris

*Done
C. J. [unclear]
[unclear]*

44-561-609

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 31 1968	
FBI - SPRINGFIELD	

[Signature]

PAGE TWO

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SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

CEK

FBI SPRNGFLD

F B I

Date: 5/31/68

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

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH TWO ZERO THREE WEST PRAIRIE, STREET DECATUR, ILLINOIS, SPONSORS A TEEN CENTER EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT TILL TEN P.M. FOR POOR UNDER-PRIVILEGED YOUTH IN DECATUR WHICH CROWD CONSISTS LARGELY OF NEGRO YOUTH. REVEREND GORDON STEWART, ASSISTANT PASTOR ADVISED MAY TWENTYNINE AND THIRTY ONE LAST THAT SHORTLY AFTER TEN P.M. MAY TWENTYEIGHT SIXTYEIGHT AN INDIVIDUAL APPEARED AT THE CHURCH AND ENTERED INTO CONVERSATION WITH A FEW SUPERVISORS, INDIVIDUAL APPEARED DRUNK OR ON DOPE, HE STATED HE CONVERSED WITH THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE FOLLOWING DAY AFTER DISCUSSING THE INCIDENT WITH ONE OF THE SUPERVISORS AND VIEWING PHOTOS IN LIFE MAGAZINE THEY FELT THIS INDIVIDUAL BORE SOME RESEMBLANCE TO JAMES EARL RAY. REVEREND STEWART LOOKED AT NUMEROUS PHOTOS AND FAILED TO MAKE IDENTIFICATION. HE MAINTAINED HE WAS SKEPTICAL ABOUT THE PERSON BEING RAY AND COULD ONLY SAY THAT THE ARTIST DRAWING OF THE EYES IN THE WANTED FLYER PHOTO WAS THE ONLY RESEMBLANCE BUT COULD IN

1-SPRINGFIELD (44-561)
RFB/ck

1-MEMPHIS (44-1987)

SEARCHED...1-CHICAGO

SERIALIZED...

INDEXED...

FILED...

Approved: *app'ib*

Special Agent in Charge

M

Per *ck*

F B I

Date:

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

PAGE TWO

SI 44-561

NO WAY IDENTIFY RAY FROM TWO RECENT PHOTOS. STEWART FURTHER STATED THE PHOTO OF RAY WITH EYES CLOSED WHICH IS SIMILIAR TO THE PHOTO IN WANTED FLYER WITH EYES DRAWN BY ARTIST IN NO WAY RESEMBLED PERSON HE SAW.

REVEREND STEWART MENTIONED THE SUPERVISOR WAS NORMAN GADDIS WHO PORTRAYS HIMSELF AS AN AMATEUR ARTIST. GADDIS FAILED TO POSITIVELY IDENTIFY RAY IN CONTACT WITH GADDIS ON MAY TWENTYNINE AND THIRTY FIRST SIXTYEIGHT. HE MENTIONED INDIVIDUAL NOT DRUNK HOWEVER HE COULD NOT FURNISH POSTIIVE INFORMATION MAINTAINING HE ONLY NOTED THE EYES WHICH WERE DISTINCTIVE AS IN THE WANTED FLYER OF RAY BUT DIFFERED FROM THE EYES OF THE INDIVIDUAL HE HAD SEEN. GADDIS COULD NOT IDENTIFY THE TWO RECENT PHOTOS OF RAY SHOWN TO HIM ALONG WITH OTHER PHOTOS.

GADDIS DURING INTERVIEW STRESSED THE FACT HE IS AMATEUR ARTIST AND ALWAYS HAS HAD DIFFICULTY WITH REPRODUCING EYES. HE STATED HE PAID MORE ATTENTION TO THE PERSONS EYES AND DID NOT NOTICE OTHER FACIAL FEATURES EXCEPT THE PERSONS HAIRLINE WHICH

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