

JN 157-9586

RPW/bdb

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA ROBERT P. WOMACK:

On April 11, 1968, the names of JOHN WILLARD,
HARVEY LOWMEYER, HARVEY LOWMYER and ERIC STARVO GALT
were checked with the individuals listed, and no pertinent
information was developed:

POLLY GATEWOOD
State Bank and Trust Company
Collins, Mississippi
(GATEWOOD searched records of this
bank branch in Seminary, Mississippi also.)

~~J. VIRGIL SELLERS~~
~~Circuit Clerk and Voter Registrar~~
~~Covington County, Mississippi~~

DIANNE HALL
Motor Vehicle License Records
Sheriff's Office
Covington County, Mississippi

Deputy CHARLES DRENNAN
Covington County, Mississippi Sheriff's Office

Real Estate Tax Rolls
Covington County, Mississippi

SONIA HERRIN
Credit Bureau
Covington County and Jeff Davis County

Mrs. CHRISTINE DICKSON
Mount Olive Bank
Mount Olive, Mississippi

CARROLL WILLIAMS
Bank of Blountville
Prentiss, Mississippi

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JOHNNIE BASS
Sheriff's Office
Jeff Davis County, Mississippi

Motor Vehicle License Records
and Real Estate Tax Rolls
Jeff Davis County, Mississippi

JAMES DANIEL
Circuit Clerk and Voter Registrar
Jeff Davis County, Mississippi

Available directories for Covington and Jeff
Davis Counties were checked with negative results for
the names listed above.

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LLA:ccs

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA LESTER L. AMANN:

AT SMITH COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

On April 11, 1968, a review of the telephone directories for the towns in Smith County, Mississippi, failed to reveal any of the below listed names:

JOHN WILLARD,
HARVEY LOWMEYER,
HARVEY LOWMYER,
ERIC STARVO GALT.

On April 11, 1968, Mr. OBIE BRYANT, Circuit Clerk, Smith County, Mississippi, advised that none of the above listed names were familiar to him and that none of these names were contained in the voter registration records for Smith County, Mississippi.

On April 11, 1968, Deputy Sheriff KEITH BOUNDS, Smith County Sheriff's Office, advised that there are no individuals residing in Smith County, Mississippi, by any of the above names.

AT JASPER COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

On April 11, 1968, Circuit Clerk VICTOR HOSEY after reviewing his voter registration records advised that he could find no names identical with the above listed names or with any similar spelling. On April 11, 1968, Sheriff TOM GREENE and Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol Investigator BILLY HARPER advised that they were unfamiliar with these names.

JN 157-9586

LLA:ccs

2

On April 11, 1968, a review of the telephone directories for Jasper County, Mississippi, failed to reveal any of the above names.

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JN 157-9586

TF:ccs

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA THOMAS FITZPATRICK on April 11, 1968:

Mississippi Workman's Compensation Commission

ROBERT D. EVERITT, Chairman, Mississippi Workman's Compensation Commission, Fifth Floor, 208 South President Street, Jackson, was contacted and he advised his agency maintains records on injuries to any employee employed with any firm in the state that has eight or more employees. He said transportation and maritime employments per Federal law are not covered by his commission as a Federal agency handles this matter. He said his records reflect all records in the State of Mississippi for the past ten years. Mr. EVERITT caused a review of his records to be made and advised no record could be located on the following:

ERIC STARVO GALT,
JOHN WILLARD,
HARVEY LOWMEYER,
HARVEY LOWMYER.

Mr. EVERITT said he has only a general index and this index is not broken down by occupation.

Mississippi Employment Security Commission

WALTER R. BIVENS, Director of Employment Compensation, Mississippi Employment Security Commission, 1520 West Capitol Street, Jackson, advised his records are only maintained by Social Security Numbers and no name index of any nature can be searched.

Teamsters Local Number 891

JN 157-9586

TF:ccs

2

~~MARGARET BUTLER~~, Bookkeeper, Chauffeurs, Teamsters, Warehousemen, and Helpers, Local Union Number 891, 130 West Woodrow Wilson Boulevard, Jackson, was contacted and she advised Local Number 891 is the only local of this union located in Mississippi. She said, however, Local Number 991 in Mobile, Alabama, covers the Mississippi Gulf Coast area; Locals Number 667 and 984 in Memphis, Tennessee, cover Columbus and northern Mississippi.

Mrs. BUTLER searched her records both present and past and these records failed to reflect any information regarding the following names:

ERIC STARVO GALT,
JOHN WILLARD,
HARVEY LOWMEYER,
HARVEY LOWMYER.

JN 157-9586

TEB:ccs

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA THOMAS E. BURG at Hattiesburg, Mississippi, on April 12,
1968:

EARLINE SHOEMAKER, Clerk, Local Draft Board Number
19, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, advised that her files contain
no registration for ERIC STARVO GALT, JOHN WILLARD, or HARVEY
LOWMEYER or HARVEY LOWMYER.

JN 157-9586

ECF/jdh

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA EDGAR C. FORTENBERRY:

AT COLUMBIA, MISSISSIPPI

On April 12, 1968, the following persons searched the files of their offices without locating any record of ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER, HARVEY LOWMYER, or JOHN WILLARD;

DORIS R. BROOM, Clark, Marion County Sheriff's Office, checked automobile registration and land rolls.

Mrs. SAM POTERO, Clerk, Marion County Circuit Clerk's Office, checked marriage and voter registration records.

Mrs. DAVIS WILSON, Clerk, Marion County Chancery Clerk's Office, checked divorce records.

Mrs. HELEN ROCHINISKI, Clerk, Selective Service Board, Marion County, checked Selective Service Registration Records.

Mr. JOHN WOOTEN, Manager, Mississippi Power Company, checked electrical service records.

Mr. TOM SHOWS, Clerk, Pearl River Valley Electric Power Association, (RA), electrical records.

Mr. DONALD E. CRAWLEY, Clerk, Water Department, City of Columbia, Miss., checked water records.

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TEB/bkh

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA THOMAS E. BURG on April 12, 1968:

Greene County, Mississippi

MARJORIE HAVISON, Assistant Cashier, Bank of Leaksville, Mississippi, advised that her bank has no accounts for JOHN WILLARD, HARVEY LOWMEYER, OR ERIC STARVO GALT.

ROBERT RAWSON, Mississippi Power Company, Leaksville, Mississippi, stated his company has no subscribers by the names of JOHN WILLARD, HARVEY LOWMEYER, or ERIC STARVO GALT.

DORIS CHURCHWELL, Clerk, U. S. Post Office, Leaksville, Mississippi, advised that WILLARD, LOWMEYER, and GALT are not recipients of mail in the Leaksville area.

Greene County Sheriff HAROLD NEELY, Leaksville, Mississippi, advised that his office has no criminal or vehicle registration records for WILLARD, LOWMEYER, or GALT.

WAYNE PULLIAM, Chancery Clerk, Greene County, Leaksville, Mississippi, advised that no divorce records are on file for WILLARD, LOWMEYER, or GALT, from 1934 to the present time.

RAYBURN HILLMAN, Greene County Circuit Clerk, Leaksville, Mississippi, advised that WILLARD, LOWMEYER, and GALT are not registered to vote in Greene County. He also stated that no one by these names has been married in Greene County since 1936.

Attempts to contact Mrs. RACHAEL D. MC LEOD, Clerk, Local Draft Board 22, Leaksville, Mississippi, were unsuccessful on this date, as the Local Board is closed on Friday and Mrs. MC LEOD was out of town.

Perry County, Mississippi

BETTY BRELAND, Deputy Clerk, Perry County Sheriff's Office, advised that she had no criminal records for WILLARD, LOWMEYER, or GALT. Mrs. BRELAND stated that at present the Perry County Sheriff's Office did not maintain vehicle registration records filed by last name, as the outgoing sheriff had destroyed these records. She advised that she would attempt to check her numerical vehicle registration records and would advise if any of these names were located.

Mrs. LOLA JAMES, Deputy Chancery and Circuit Clerk, Perry County, New Augusta, Mississippi, advised that WILLARD, LOWMEYER, and GALT were not registered voters in Perry County. She further stated that no marriage or divorce records for these names exist on file since 1940.

JUANITA TOLAR, Assistant Cashier, Perry County Bank, New Augusta, Mississippi, advised that there were no accounts at her bank in the names of WILLARD, LOWMEYER, or GALT.

KATHALEEN MARTIN, Franklin Telephone Company, New Augusta, Mississippi, stated that her company has no telephone subscribers by the names of WILLARD, LOWMEYER, or GALT.

Attempts to contact Mrs. WINNIE GRIFFIS, Clerk, Local Board, New Augusta, Mississippi, were negative on this date.

Forrest County, Mississippi

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~~GENIE HAMILTON~~, Deputy Clerk, Forrest County, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, advised that there were no records of anyone by the names of WILLARD, LOWMEYER or GALT having been married in Forrest County since 1938. Mrs. HAMILTON also stated that no criminal records for any of these names were on file. She advised that without knowledge of what precinct a person lived, the checking for voter registration records for a name would be virtually impossible.

~~HERBERT HART~~, Deputy Chancery Clerk, Forrest County, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, advised that no divorce proceedings in the names of WILLARD, LOWMEYER or GALT were on file during the period 1948 through 1963.-

He stated that similar records from 1963 to date are not presently available.

ADELAIDE SMITH, Deputy Sheriff in Charge of Tax Collection, Forrest County, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, advised that automobile registrations in Forrest County are not listed alphabetically by names but only numerically by license numbers. She stated that without reviewing the entire list of registrations issued, it would be impossible to find them for any particular name.

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ROC/blw

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The following investigation was conducted by
SA ROBIN O. COTTEN at Water Valley, Mississippi:

Mr. ~~FRANK EVANS~~, Clerk, Circuit Court, Water Valley, Mississippi, advised on April 10 and 12, 1968, after searching his records that he could find no record concerning an arrest or a registration for voting, divorce or marriage concerning either of the following individuals:

ERIC STARVO GALT
HARVEY LOWMEYER or LOWMYER
JOHN WILLARD

Mr. ~~LAWRENCE COX~~, City Clerk, Water Valley, Mississippi, advised on April 12, 1968, his records contain no reference to the above three individuals as having an arrest at Water Valley or having utilities in their names.

Chief of Police W. G. MITCHELL, Water Valley, Mississippi, advised on April 12, 1968, that his records contain no reference to the above named three persons.

Mrs. LAURENCE HALE, Deputy Clerk, Sheriff's Office, Water Valley, Mississippi, advised on April 10 and 12, 1968, that her records contain no arrest record or automobile registration for either of the above three persons.

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PJR/pac

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The following investigation was conducted by
SA PETER J. RYAN at Jackson, Mississippi, on April 10,
1968:

The following individuals advised they could
locate no record in the files of their respective agencies
for the names JOHN WILLARD, HARVEY LOWMEYER, HARVEY LOWMYER,
or the surnames LOWMEYER or LOWMYER:

EVELYN KING, Clerk,
Identification Division,
Jackson Police Department;

MAE GRANGER, Clerk,
Credit Bureau of Jackson

Mrs. CARRA HUGHEY, Bureau of Vital Statistics,
State Board of Health, advised her Bureau contains marriage
and divorce records for the entire State of Mississippi for
the years 1926 to the present. Mrs. HUGHEY advised each
year is indexed but there is no central index of the entire
period. Mrs. HUGHEY advised she checked the name ERIC
STARVO GALT through the marriage and divorced records for the
years 1949 to 1966 without finding a record of this name. She
advised that the years 1967 and 1968 are not yet indexed.

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ROC/blw

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA ROBIN O. COTTEN at Union County, Mississippi:

Miss LELA GARRISON, Clerk, Circuit Court, New Albany, Mississippi, advised on April 10, 1968, after searching her records, that her voter registration book contains no reference to HARVEY LOWMEYER or HARVEY LOWMYER. She advised that the only JOHNNY WILLARD registered in that county is JOHNNY E. WILLARD, a white male, date of birth 1904. She advised that WILLARD is a retired farmer and lives in the Pinedale Community of Union County, Mississippi.

She advised that her records contain no arrest for a HARVEY LOWMEYER or JOHN WILLARD.

Mrs. GARRISON was re-contacted on April 12, 1968, at which time she advised she has no arrest record for ERIC STARVO GALT and advised he is not a registered voter in that county.

In addition, after searching her records and causing the records to be searched at the Chancery Court, Mrs. GARRISON advised she had no record of a marriage or divorce for ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER, or a JOHN WILLARD.

Mrs. BETTY BAILEY, Deputy Clerk, Sheriff's Office, New Albany, Mississippi, advised on April 10 and 12, 1968, that her records contain no arrest and no automobile registration for either GALT, LOWMEYER or WILLARD. In addition, she advised a search of her tax records failed to indicate that either of these people under these names is paying taxes in Union County, Mississippi.

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Sheriff WAYNE GAINES and Chief of Police MERLE DRUMMOND, New Albany, Mississippi, advised on April 12, 1968, they had no record concerning the foregoing three individuals.

Mrs. FRANCES DODD, Clerk, City Hall, Utility Section, advised on April 12, 1968, that her records contain no reference to the foregoing three individuals.

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JN 157-9586

ROC/blw

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA ROBIN O. COTTEN:

Mrs. BARBARA WILLARD, Oxford Credit Bureau, Oxford, Mississippi, advised on April 10, 1968, after searching the records of that agency, that she has no record for a HARVEY LOWMEYER or HARVEY LOWMYER. She advised the only record she has concerning a JOHN WILLARD is one JOHNNY E. WILLARD, wife MAYBELLE, who resides in Pinedale (Union County), Mississippi. She further advised that her records reflect he is a retired farmer and is approximately 65 years of age.

Mrs. BARBARA WILLARD, Oxford Credit Bureau, advised on April 12, 1968, that her records contain no reference to ERIC STARVO GALT.

Deputy Sheriff HUGH PHILLIPS, Oxford, Mississippi, advised on April 10, 1968, that his records reflect no arrest for JOHN WILLARD or HARVEY LOWMEYER.

Mr. PHILLIPS advised on April 12, 1968, that his records contain no arrest for ERIC STARVO GALT. In addition, he advised, after searching his records, that he has no automobile registrations on file for GALT, LOWMEYER, or WILLARD.

Mrs. J. B. KING, Oxford Police Department, advised on April 10, 1968, that she had no arrest record for JOHN WILLARD or a HARVEY LOWMEYER or HARVEY LOWMYER.

Mrs. KING advised on April 12, 1968, her records contain no arrest for ERIC STARVO GALT.

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Mr. SAM CLARK, Clerk, Circuit Court, Oxford, Mississippi, advised on April 10, 1968, he has no arrest record for HARVEY LOWMEYER or JOHN WILLARD. In addition, after searching his records, Mr. CLARK advised he has no record of either of these individuals being a registered voter in Lafayette County, Mississippi.

On April 12, 1968, Mr. SAM CLARK advised his records contain no arrest for ERIC STARVO GALT and advised that he was not a registered voter in Lafayette County, Mississippi.

On April 12, 1968, Mr. SAM CLARK advised that he could not locate any record concerning marriage or divorce for either ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER, or JOHN WILLARD.

Mrs. EVELYN RUSSELL, Clerk, Oxford City Electric Department, Oxford, Mississippi, advised on April 15, 1968, that her records contain no information concerning ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER, or JOHN WILLARD.

On April 10 and 12, 1968, a review of the following sources failed to disclose a listing for either of the above three persons:

Oxford City Directory for 1963 and 1967;

Oxford Telephone Directory,

Water Valley, Mississippi, Telephone Directory;

Coffeeville, Mississippi, Telephone Directory;

Myrtle, Mississippi, Directory;

New Albany, Blue Mountain, Mississippi, Directories;

University of Mississippi Student and Faculty Directory;

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Retail Credit Bureau, Oxford, Mississippi.

Miss SANDRA HUBBARD, Assistant to the Registrar, University of Mississippi, Oxford, Mississippi, advised on April 15, 1968, after searching her records, that she could locate no record of any person ever attending the University of Mississippi using the name ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER, or JOHN WILLARD.

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JN 157-9586

ECF/blw

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA EDGAR C. FORTENBERRY:

AT LEAKESVILLE (GREENE COUNTY), MISSISSIPPI

On April 15, 1968, the following persons checked the files of their offices without locating any record of ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER, HARVEY LOWMYER, or JOHN WILLARD:

S. R. MC KAY, City Clerk and Town Marshal, checked the water records for the town of Leakesville;

Mrs. RACHAEL MC LEOD, Clerk, Local Board No. 22, Greene County Selective Service System, checked Selective Service records,

Mr. A. J. HUFF, President, Bank of Leakesville, advised that Leakesville, Mississippi, is serviced with natural gas by the United Gas Company, with the office covering Leakesville located at Laurel, Mississippi.

AT NEW AUGUSTA (PERRY COUNTY), MISSISSIPPI

Mrs. ALFRED GRIFFIS, Clerk, Local Board No. 61, checked Selective Service Registration Records for Perry County.

Mr. DEWEY MORRIS checked the records of the Water Department for New Augusta, Mississippi.

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JN 157-9586

RLT/bdb

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA REESIE L. TIMMONS on the dates indicated:

On April 9, 1968, Motor Vehicle Registration records in Walthall County, Mississippi, and Tylertown were reviewed for the names ERIC STARVO GALT, JOHN WILLARD, HARVEY LOWMEYER or HARVEY LOMEYER. All records of the Tax Assessor's Office were also reviewed, indicating there is no property owned in Walthall County by an individual under any of the above names.

On April 10, 1968, records of the Motor Vehicle Bureau, Pike County, Mississippi, for the years 1967 and 1968, Tax Assessor's Office, records of all property currently owned in Pike County, Mississippi, all records maintained by the Circuit Clerk, and all records maintained by the Chancery Clerk, including marriages and divorces, were reviewed from the years 1945 to date. The records of the Circuit Clerk and the Chancery Clerk contain no indication of any court appearance by an individual under the above names in Pike County, Mississippi, since 1945.

The Circuit Clerk records included voter registration records since 1960.

On April 10, 1968, the Motor Vehicle Registration records of Amite County for the years 1967 and 1968, the records of the Tax Assessor's Office for all property currently owned in Amite County, the Chancery Clerk records for court action, including divorces, from 1945 to date, and all other legal action in the Chancery Clerk's Office from 1944 to date, as well as all records of the Circuit Clerk, including marriages, court action, and voter registration (from 1961 to date) for the years 1944 to date were negative under the above four names.

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LILLIAN LANKIN, Credit Bureau of McComb, McComb, Mississippi, who maintains records for individuals in Pike County, Amite County, and parts of Lincoln and Walthall Counties in Mississippi, as well as part of Tangipahoa Parish in Louisiana, advised that her records contain no information regarding anyone identifiable to the above four names.

Chief of Police RICHARD RAWLEY, McComb, Mississippi, on April 9, 1968, advised that a review of all available records of his department indicates there is no record under any of the above-mentioned four names.

Sheriff ROBERT E. LAWSON, Pike County, Magnolia, Mississippi, and Sheriff NORMAN TRAVIS, Amite County, Liberty, Mississippi, on April 9, 1968, advised their respective offices contained no record identifiable to the above-mentioned four names.

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JN 157-9586

ROC/blw

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA ROBIN O. COTTEN at Yalobusha County, Mississippi:

Mrs. LORRAINE MC CULLAR, Clerk, Circuit Court, Coffeeville, Mississippi, advised on April 10, 1968, and April 12, 1968, after searching her records, that she has no record of a registered voter, no arrest record, and no record of marriage or divorce for ERIC STARVOGALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER, or JOHN WILLARD.

Mrs. LOIS WILLIAMS, Deputy Clerk, Sheriff's Office, Coffeeville, Mississippi, advised on April 10 and 12, 1968, that her records contain no arrest and no automobile registration for the above three named persons.

Deputy Sheriff LLOYD HUGHES and Town Marshal DEAN ARRINGTON, Coffeeville, Mississippi, advised on April 12, 1968, they have no arrest record for either of the above three named persons. In addition, Mr. ARRINGTON advised that he could locate no record indicating that either of the above named three persons have utilities in Coffeeville, Mississippi.

F B I

Date: 4/18/68

PLAIN TEXT

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (44-1609)

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CIVIL RIGHTS
(OO: MEMPHIS)

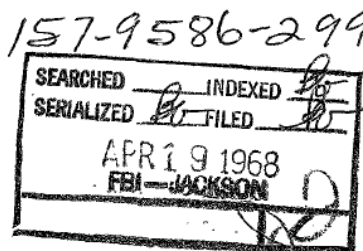
ReBirmingham teletype to the Director dated 4/17/68 with copies for Atlanta, Houston, Jackson, Memphis, Mobile, New York and which pertains to THOMAS JOSEPH COX.

Enclosed for Newark are two copies of referenced teletype.

On 4/18/68, Mr. RUDY J. MAYER, Accountant, American Bulk Carriers, 711 Third Avenue, New York, New York, stated to SA FRANCIS L. CASHIN that THOMAS JOSEPH COX sailed on the SS "Kent" which left Houston, Texas, on 4/28/67, went to Bombay, India and was there from 6/7/67 to 6/22/67, and returned to Destrehan, Louisiana on 8/1/67. He has no record of COX since then.

- 3- Bureau
- 2- Memphis (44-1987)
- 2- Newark (Encls. 2)
- 1- Atlanta (INFO)
- ② 1- Houston
- 1- Jackson (INFO)
- 1- Mobile (INFO)
- 1- Birmingham (44-1740) (INFO)
- 1- New York (44-1609)

FLC:jmr
(15)



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

NY 44-1609

On 4/27/67, COX gave his address as Hotel De George, Houston, Texas.

COX was described as follows in MAYER's records:

Name:	THOMAS JOSEPH COX
Book or Cert:	#Z-976491-d3
Rating:	Able Seaman
Date Began:	April 27, 1967
Place Began:	Houston, Texas
Social Security #:	
Citizenship:	USA
Birthplace:	New Jersey
Birthdate:	
Age:	41
Height	6'2"
Weight	205 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Complexion	Fair
Next of Kin:	Mother - Mrs. ANNA COX 206 Mill Road, Somnerdale, New Jersey

- 2 -

NY 44-1609

LEADS:

HOUSTON

AT HOUSTON, TEXAS: Check at Hotel De George for COX as set out in referenced teletype.

NEWARK

AT SOMMERDALE, NEW JERSEY: Interview COX's mother for information requested in referenced teletype.

Post Office Box 1450
Jackson, Mississippi 39205
April 19, 1968

Mr. Giles William Crisler
Commissioner of Public Safety
Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol
Jackson, Mississippi

Dear Mr. Crisler:

In connection with an official investigation, a request was made by this office for the identities of all individuals with a particular birth date who might hold Mississippi Driver's Licenses. This request was made on April 17, 1968, and through the splendid cooperation of Administrative Assistant John Holloway and John Pitts, Manager, Data Processing Bureau, the results were available the same afternoon.

I want to express my appreciation to you and through you to Mr. Holloway and Mr. Pitts for the outstanding cooperation received from the Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol and these gentlemen in particular.

Sincerely,

Roy K. Moore
Special Agent in Charge

2- Addressee
①-Jackson (157-9586)
PRA/bdb
(3) *ebb*

Searched _____
Serialized _____
Indexed _____
Filed _____

157-9586-300

(3)
BWA\pdp
J-Jackson (121-3280)
S- Address

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

FROM : SUPERVISOR JAMES O. INGRAM

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4/18/68

RE: MISSISSIPPI DRIVER'S LICENSE CHECKS

Records were previously reviewed under names GALT, LOWMEYER, LOWMYER and WILLARD and variations, without success, to identify subject in State of Mississippi. Upon instructions of Bureau, Bureau requested that where driver's license files are computerized, they should be searched under birthdate 7/20/31 and any records located, appropriate investigation conducted to check out the individuals for any pertinent information connected with this case.

1,200,000 licenses were checked through IBM Computer at Jackson and thirty names were located with birthdate [redacted]. The name, address, description, is attached for each RA listed below. Each SRA will make assignments accordingly of leads in your territory, reviewing the description, city directories, credit and arrest and appropriate records to resolve these persons are not in any way connected with GALT or subject of this case. This must be handled and results submitted by insert no later than 4/23/68.

3-Gulfport (Att. 1)
3-Columbus (Att. 1)
2-Meridian (Att. 1)
2-Oxford (Att. 1)
2-Laurel (Att. 1)
2-Greenville (Att. 1)
2-McComb (Att. 1)
2-Greenwood (Att. 1)
2-Hattiesburg (Att. 1)
2-Tupelo (Att. 1)
2-Copiah Road Trip Agent (Att. 1)
2-Jackson

JOI:mah

(26)



5010-108-01

SAC *Drum*

SAC *EJ*

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 22 1968	
FBI JACKSON	

157-9586-301

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

DL NO	NAME	STREET	CITY	DATE OF BIRTH	RACE	SEX	EYES	HAIR	HGHT	WEIGH
	GREEN, ROBERT D	112 BANKHEAD AVE	AMORY <i>Columbus</i> MISS		W	M	BL	BR	5-08	146
	JOBE, JAMES H	NORTH WEST JR CLG	SENATOBIA <i>Oxford</i> MISS		W	M	BL	BL	5-11	200
	ODUM, H D	1001 FAIRVIEW	WAYNESBORO <i>Little Rock</i> MISS		W	M	BL	BR	5-07	180
	STANFORD, JAMES M		CARROLLTON <i>Shreveport</i> MISS		W	M	BR	BR	6-00	145
	BARNES, ROBERT H JR	P O BOX 185	BENOIT MISS <i>Shreveport</i>		W	M	BL	BL	5-09	178
	CHEEKS, BURNISE R	RT 3	ELLISVILLE <i>Laurel</i> MISS		W	M	BR	BR	5-08	185
	HALL, JOSEPH H	RT 1 BOX 164	CRYSTAL SPRGS <i>Shreveport</i> MISS		W	M	BR	BR	6-02	165
	GERMANY, THOMAS J		CONEHATTA <i>Michigan</i> MISS		W	M	BR	BR	5-05	120
	MOOREHEAD, WELLS	RT 1 BX 23	HICKORY FLAT <i>Shreveport</i> MISS		W	M	BL	BR	5-09	130
	GRANTHAM, WILLIAM	RT 3	SUMRALL <i>Wintersburg</i> MISS		W	M	BR	BR	5-09	159
	NANCE, HAROLD JAMES	2717 11TH ST	MERIDIAN MISS		W	M	GN	BR	5-03	114
	HIGHTOWER, CLARENCE	1800 ELDER	MOSS POINT <i>Shreveport</i> MISS		W	M	BL	BR	5-10	171
	EDWARDS, PERRY H	2607 JOAN AVE	GULFPORT MISS		W	M	BR	BR	6-04	230
	GOFF, LAWRENCE D	RT 2 BOX 92 A	GULFPORT MISS		W	M	BR	BR	6-01	150
	CAMPBELL, JAMES P	936 FAYARD ST	BILOXI <i>Shreveport</i> MISS		W	M	BR	BR	5-08	150
	HORNER, BOBBY JOE	1816 PROPER ST	CORINTH <i>Tupelo</i> MISS		W	M	BL	BR	5-11	170
	UPSHAW, ARTHUR B	RT 2	LAUREL MISS		W	M	GR	BR	6-02	210
	CARRIVEAU, ROBERT J	COAPEHART 686 TAFF	MERIDIAN MISS		W	M	BL	BR	5-06	155
	CARRIVEAU, ROBERT	COAPEHART 686 TAFF	MERIDIAN MISS		W	M	BL	BR	5-06	155
	MUCKLOW, RICHARD T	436 WEST DR	BILOXI <i>Shreveport</i> MISS		W	M	BL	BL	5-10	150
	STEVENS, ROBERT L	P O BOX 25	BILOXI MISS		W	M	BR	BR	6-00	170
	BERNHARDT, MELVIN L	542 W CHICKASAW	BROOKHAVEN <i>McComb</i> MISS		W	M	BL	BR	5-08	170
	OKHUYSEN, PABLO L	102 CEDAR LANE	STARKVILLE <i>Columbus</i> MISS		W	M	BR	BR	5-08	150
	CAMPBELL, JAMES PAUL	7103 A CAPITOL	COLUMBUS AFB MISS		W	M	BR	BR	5-08	160
	GREEN, ROBERT D	2400 RUTH ST	TUPELO MISS		W	M	BL	BR	5-08	146
	HALL, JOSEPH H	RT 3 BX 150	MONTICELLO <i>McComb</i> MISS		W	M	BR	BR	6-02	152
	GRAVES, IRA G	RT 1	ELLISVILLE <i>Little Rock</i> MISS		W	M	BR	BR	6-00	270
	CHRESTMAN, BILLIE	RT 1	BRUCE <i>Columbus</i> MISS		W	M	BL	BR	5-11	160
	LAMBERT, QUEAL R	158 HIGH ST	GREENVILLE MISS		W	M	BL	BR	5-06	144
	NICELY, HAROLD P	910 W W RD	COLUMBUS MISS		W	M	BL	BR	6-02	175

F B I

Date: 4/19/68

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

TO: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-673)
FROM: SAC, JACKSON (157-9586) (P)

MURKIN.

Re New Orleans airtel to Jackson, 4/15/68.

New Orleans Division, at Grand Isle, Louisiana, is requested to interview PERCY CROSBY, whose daughter, MERLYN CROSBY; is reportedly living with EUGENE SMITH MANSFIELD for information concerning MANSFIELD's present whereabouts and thereafter set out leads to have MANSFIELD interviewed regarding captioned matter.

2 - New Orleans
② - Jackson (157-9586)
(1 - 157-9589)
BOK/bkh
(5) *Wsh*

Searched _____ *ph*
Serialized _____
Indexed _____ *ph*
Filed _____

157-9586-302

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

F B I

Date: 4/19/68

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

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2 - New Orleans
③ - Jackson (157-9586)
(1 - 157-9589)
BOK/bkh
(5)

usy

Searched _____
Serialized _____
Indexed _____
Filed _____

PC

157-9586-302

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

4/17/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703) (P)

MURKIN-CR

Enclosed for Memphis and Birmingham two copies each of photographs of JOHN ALAN FEDUCCIA.

On 4/15/68, ALONSO GUARDIA MORA, PSI (protect identity, reliable in the past) advised SA JAMES F. PRICE that one JOHN ALAN FEDUCCIA applied for a Costa Rican visa on 4/11/68. Upon reviewing FEDUCCIA's visa application and U.S. Passport photo GUARDIA felt there was a strong resemblance between FEDUCCIA's photo and the composite drawing of the unknown male wanted for the murder of Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. GUARDIA advised that FEDUCCIA had not applied at the Costa Rican Embassy with his visa application, but had sent his application by messenger. GUARDIA indicated FEDUCCIA held U.S. Passport [REDACTED] Costa Rican visa number 070 was issued to FEDUCCIA on 4/11/68. His application reflected that he had been issued Guatemalan visa number 603, on 4/9/68.

- 3 - Bureau
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987) (Enc. 2)
- 2 - Birmingham (44-1740) (Enc. 2)
- 1 - Detroit (44-989) (INFO)
- ① - Jackson (INFO)
- 1 - WFO (44-703)

RWD:ska

(10)

AIRTEL

9586-303
57-859

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 19 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

WFO 44-703

GUARDIA further advised that FEDUCCIA's application was accompanied by a visa application for CHARLES FREDERIC WALKER, U.S. Passport Number [REDACTED]. Both FEDUCCIA and WALKER were connected with the University of Michigan.

On 4/16/68, SE ROBERT P. LYNCH reviewed records of the Passport Office, United States Department of State (USDS), which revealed that JOHN ALAN FEDUCCIA, born [REDACTED] at Mobile, Alabama, was issued Passport Number [REDACTED] at WDC on 3/22/68. This passport was valid for three years travel to all countries except Cuba, mainland China, North Korea and North Vietnam. In application dated 3/14/68, FEDUCCIA furnished his permanent residence as Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104. His parents were listed as JOSEPH CHARLES FEDUCCIA, born Baltimore, Maryland, [REDACTED] and MARY EMILY GARRAWAY, born Laurel, Mississippi, [REDACTED]. Person to be notified in event of death or accident was listed as his father at Pearman Avenue, Cleveland, Mississippi. It was indicated that FEDUCCIA planned to travel to Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Costa Rica and Nicaragua for scientific research, departing New Orleans in April, 1968, for four months stay.

FEDUCCIA was described as five feet eleven inches tall, brown hair, brown eyes, student and never married.

FEDUCCIA had previously been issued Passport Number [REDACTED] on 7/26/62, at WDC for proposed travel to Honduras for purpose of "scientific expedition for L.S.U." His permanent address at that time was Memorial Drive, Cleveland, Mississippi.

On 4/16/68, SE LYNCH reviewed the files of the Passport Office, USDS concerning CHARLES FREDERIC WALKER, born [REDACTED] at Columbus, Ohio, was issued passport number [REDACTED] on 4/10/65, at WDC. Passport application dated 4/6/65, at Ann Arbor, Michigan, indicates his permanent address as 1261 Island Drive, Ann Arbor, Michigan and his mailing address as Museums Building, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan. His parents were listed as FREDERICK

WFO 44-703

CHARLES WALKER, born [redacted], at Dresden, Ohio, and MARY LYMAN HARRINGTON, born [redacted] at Columbus, Ohio. He was described as five feet ten inches tall, gray/brown hair, gray eyes, never married and a professor.

The above passport was renewed on 3/21/68, making it valid until 4/9/69.

LEADS

MEMPHIS

AT MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE. Will exhibit photos of JOHN ALAN FEDUCCIA to appropriate witnesses and if he is identified as the unknown subject of this case, conduct appropriate investigation.

BIRMINGHAM

AT BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA. Will exhibit photos of JOHN ALAN FEDUCCIA to appropriate witnesses and if he is identified as the unknown subject of this case, conduct appropriate investigation.

Information copies of this communication being forwarded to Detroit and Jackson in the event those offices are requested to conduct investigations in the future.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : FILE (157-9586)

DATE: 4/19/68

FROM : SAC ROY K. MOORE

SUBJECT: MURKIN

SAC BOB RIGHTMEYER, New Orleans, called Friday afternoon, 4/19/68, to relay a lead received from Inspector JOSEPH A. SULLIVAN in Atlanta that all racial informants who can report on the activities of "Minutemen" be contacted concerning the whereabouts of fugitive JAMES EARL RAY.

It appears there is a cell of Minutemen in the penitentiary from which RAY escaped (Missouri State Penitentiary). RAY may have been a member of this cell or at least acquainted with those who are members. Possibility exists some cell of the Minutemen group could be hiding him. So far as I recall, we have only one racial informant, JN 306-R, who reports on Minutemen activities. I instructed SRA GAMBLIN to contact him immediately.

LEAD

Survey of racial informants capable of furnishing information concerning Minutemen activities should be made and agents handling them instructed to contact them concerning possibility they are assisting in the secretion of RAY.

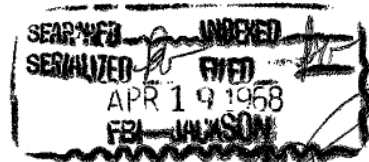
2 - Jackson

RKM:elw
(2)



5010-108-01

*SA Proemer
handled.
GPG*



Gamblin GPG

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

FILE (157-9586)

4/19/68

SAC ROY K. MOORE

MURKIN

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② - Jackson

RKM:elw
(2)

Gambelin to handle

157-9586-304

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 19 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : FILE (157-9586)

DATE: 4/19/68

FROM : SAC ROY K. MOORE

SUBJECT: MURKIN

SA JAMES J. FILES called from Pascagoula to report that Captain WILLIAM POPE, JR., Pascagoula PD, had stopped a white Corvair convertible bearing Illinois 1968 license DG 3109 with two passengers because one of the passengers looked like a picture of JAMES EARL RAY. The person who closely resembled RAY was one JOSEPH CLAYTON MONTAGNE, a hitchhiker who exhibited Seaman's papers for identification. He was dressed in a white shirt and brown trousers. No further identification requested and his description is generally similar to that of RAY.

The owner was not asked to identify himself and consequently no name is available, however, the owner of the aforementioned license plate will reveal this individual's name. He claimed he was an unemployed musician and headed for New Orleans to obtain work.

Captain POPE thought no more about the matter until the announcement of the identification of RAY and the fact that he had a scar between his eyes. So did the hitchhiker. Captain POPE now feels he should have checked MONTAGNE more closely.

This information supplied Supervisor CARPENTER, New Orleans, this afternoon who indicated they would attempt to locate both these persons through the musician's and Longshoremen's unions, New Orleans.

LEAD

Follow.



② - Jackson

RKM:elw

(2)

5010-108-01

*CCO-
marked for indexing*

157-9586-305

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 19 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

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

FILE (157-9586)

4/19/68

SAC ROY K. MOORE

MURKIN

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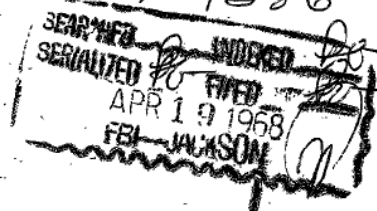
LEAD

Follow.

② - Jackson

RKM:elw

(2)



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)(P)

DATE: 4/16/68

FROM : SA DAVID P. HURLEY

SUBJECT: MURKIN
RM

**DO NOT DESTROY -
PENDING LITIGATION**

The following persons were contacted by the writer on 4/15/68 in an effort to determine if anyone by the name of ERIC STARVO GALT had ever attended a dancing school in Gulfport, Miss. All persons advised that their respective schools do not teach ballroom dancing and only teach tap and ballet. All advised they had never heard of anyone by the name of ERIC STARVO GALT.

Mrs. ~~ALBERT C. TOLLMAN~~,
Studio of the Arts,
422 Pass Road, Gulfport, Miss.

Mr. ~~DENNIE STEWART~~,
~~Delia Stewart~~ School of Dance,
1778 Courthouse Rd, Gulfport, Miss.
and
Mississippi Coast Ballet Inc.,
1778 Courthouse Rd, Gulfport, Miss.

Mrs. ~~MARY KILBOURNE~~,
Kilbourne Dance and Baton School,
800 East Beach,
Gulfport, Miss.

All of the above mentioned persons stated they have never heard of a school in Gulfport which teaches adults ballroom dancing and the closest one is the Arthur Murry Dance Studio located at Biloxi, Mississippi.

On 4/15/68 Capt. O. R. MOCK, Port Police, Gulfport State Port Authority, West Pier, Gulfport, Miss., advised they maintain no records of the seaman arriving aboard ships at the port at Gulfport. These seaman can come and go as they please while the ship is in port and there are no restrictions place upon them. If one should jump ship while his ship is in port his office would be notified

1-Jackson
DPH/dph
(1)

*CCO
marked for indexing*

157-9586-306

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 17 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	



5010-108-01

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

immediately and he would then notify the Border Patrol, FBI and local authorities. This has not happened for many years and he said the name ERIC STARVO GALT did not sound familiar to him.

Capt. MOCK added that should a stowaway or alien arrive aboard one of the ship his office is also notified and a guard is immediately placed aboard the ship while it is in port. He did not think it possible that an unauthorized person could enter this country through the port at Gulfport as most of the ships which use this port at this time are ships which make repeat visits and the personnel aboard the ships become well known in most cases.

The following investigation was conducted on 4/11/68 in an effort to determine if anyone by the name of ERIC STARVO GALT was or had worked on any of the tugs servicing the port at Gulfport, Mississippi.

Mr. EDWIN ANSO STEBBINS, Port Director, Gulfport State Port Authority, West Pier, advised the few tugs which service the port at Gulfport are operated by the Gulfport Towing Co. and that he has no information concerning the personnel serving aboard any of the tugs.

Mr. BILL SWAN, Gulfport Towing Co., West Pier, stated he is personally acquainted with the personnel aboard their tugs and that no one by the name of ERIC STARVO GALT has ever worked for them and no one answering his description is currently or has ever worked for them. He explained they seldom have a change in personnel aboard their tugs and for that reason he is well acquainted with the personnel aboard them. He said that should any information come to his attention concerning a person by the name of ERIC STARVO GALT he would immediately notify the FBI.

Mr. PETE SIMMONS, Venus Brothers Seafood, West Pier, stated they operate several shrimp boats which they own and no one by the name of ERIC STARVO GALT has ever been employed by them. He added that during the shrimp season they also purchase shrimp from skippers of other shrimp boats some of which are local and others are from Texas and the east coast. He said he has no way of knowing who is working aboard these ships as he only deals with the captain of these ships.

Mr. C. W. CRAFT, owner of Dixie Seafood, West Pier, advised he operates the "Seawind" which is a shrimp boat. In addition he purchases shrimp and other seafood from other ships which come to his pier. He said that no one by the name of ERIC STARVO GALT has ever worked for him but he has no way of knowing who is aboard the other ships which come to his pier.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

DATE:

FROM : SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On April 11, 1968, Inspector JOSEPH A. SULLIVAN telephonically advised that he did not desire that any negative type investigation, which eliminates local Jackson suspects, be sent to Memphis. He advised that negative type information should be indexed and filed at Jackson rather than be furnished to Memphis.

In view of the above, the attached inserts and 302 have been marked for indexing and should be filed at Jackson only.

1 - Jackson
JLP/brh
(1)



5010-108-01

*CCO-attached has been
marked for indexing*

157-9586-307

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 22 1968	
FBI-JACKSON	

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

JN 157-9586

JWN/brh

1

The records of the following Selective Service Boards were reviewed on April 18, 1968 for information relating to registrants registered during July, 1948, and in particular, to ERIC STARVO GALT, JOHN WILLARD, HARVEY LOWMEYER or LOWMYER, and variations of these names with no information being located identifiable with these individuals:

Local Board 82, Greenville, Mississippi

Local Board 72, Indianolo, Mississippi

Local Board 89, Ruleville, Mississippi

Local Board 30, Belzoni, Mississippi.

JN 157-9586

GPG/brh

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA GEORGE P. GAMBLIN at Natchez, Mississippi:

A review of the current City and Telephone Directories for Natchez, Mississippi on April 9, 1968, failed to disclose the names of ERIC STARVO GALT, JOHN WILLARD, HARVEY LOWMEYER or LOWMYER.

On April 9, 1968, the following individuals were contacted, reviewed their records and advised they have no record nor are they acquainted with ERIC STARVO GALT, JOHN WILLARD, HARVEY LOWMEYER or LOWMYER:

Lieutenant GLENN S. ARNOLD, Identification
Officer, Natchez, Mississippi Police
Department,

ROBERT E. BURNS, Chancery Clerk, Adams
County, Mississippi,

C. V. GLENNIS, Deputy Sheriff, Adams
County,

ELLA F. ATKINS, Manager, Credit Bureau of
Natchez.

On April 10, 1968, other individuals checked their records and were unable to locate a record of the aforementioned individuals on file in their offices and were unable to furnish any information pertaining to the identity of the slayer of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.:

~~MARK LAW~~, Manager, Canal Barge Lines, Natchez,
Mississippi,

JN 157-9586

2

WILLIAM T. FERRELL, Sheriff, who checked the
Motor License Bureau of Adams County,
Natchez, Mississippi,

Mrs. ELIZA PARHAM, Public Health Department,
Adams County,

GEORGE A. EYRICH, JR., Clerk, Local Board
Number 20, Natchez, Mississippi,

4

JN 157-9586

GPG/brh

1

AT ADAMS-NATCHEZ AIRPORT, NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI

On April 16, 1968, inquiry was made at the airport regarding the whereabouts of CHRIS CUMBAS, the pilot for the Natchez Flying Service Incorporated. It was ascertained that Mr. CUMBAS is in Marksville, Louisiana and would not return until 1:00 p.m. on April 17, 1968.

On April 17, 1968, Mr. LEO LANDRY, instructor, Natchez Flying Service Incorporated, advised that his records show that JOHN RAY WILLARD known to him as RAY WILLARD was not at the airport on March 29 or 30, 1968. He stated his records show that after 12:00 noon on March 31, 1968 RAY WILLARD rented a Cessna 150 from his company and flew one hour and twenty-four minutes, which would have given him time to fly to Vicksburg, Mississippi and return to Natchez.

He added his records also show on April 1, 1968 around 10:00, WILLARD appeared at the airport in his Piper J-3, but the weather was bad and he did not fly. He stated WILLARD reappeared at the airport on April 5, 1968 and flew with Mr. LEO LANDRY for one hour during the afternoon of April 5, 1968, between 2:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. Mr. LANDRY pointed out that RAY WILLARD is taking flying lessons at the Natchez Flying Service Incorporated.

On April 17, 1968, Miss CHARLOTTE JENKINS, Secretary, Natchez Flying Service Incorporated, Adams-Natchez Airport, Natchez, Mississippi, advised that JOHN RAY WILLARD, known to her as RAY WILLARD, was not at the airport on March 29 or 30, 1968. She recalled that WILLARD was at the airport during the afternoon

5

JN 157-9586

2

of March 31, 1968, at which time he rented a Cessna 150 and flew an hour and twenty-four minutes.

She added on April 1, 1968, he appeared at the airport sometime prior to noon in his Piper J-3 Cub, but due to inclement weather, he did not fly that day.

She also recalled that on April 5, 1968, he appeared during the afternoon April 5, 1968 and flew with his instructor, LEO LANDRY.

On April 17, 1968, Mr. CHRISTOPHER CUMBAS, pilot for the Natchez Flying Service Incorporated, advised that he signed RAY WILLARD out when he rented the Cessna 150 on March 31, 1968 and his log indicates that WILLARD flew one hour and twenty-four minutes.

Mr. CUMBAS recalled it was sometime during the afternoon of March 31, 1968.

6

JN 157-9586

GPG/brh

±

The following investigation was conducted by
SA GEORGE P. GAMBLIN on April 15, 1968, at Route 1,
Roxie, Mississippi:

Mr. CLETUS SEALE, Route 1, Roxie, Mississippi,
was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent
and the nature of the inquiry.

Mr. SEALE stated that he had known JOHN RAY
WILLARD for a number of years as his neighbor and he
appears to be an emotionally stable, good American
Citizen. He stated he saw him most every day between
the periods of March 29, through April 8, 1968, and
was certain that on April 4, 1968, the date that
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR, was murdered, JOHN RAY WILLARD
and his wife EVA WILLARD were fishing in their pond
on the WILLARD farm.

Mr. SEALE added that he also saw WILLARD
during the late afternoon of March 29 and 30, 1968
at the WILLARD home. He stated WILLARD did not appear
to be on a vacation, but was working at the time.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

Mrs. ~~JOHN RAY (EVA) WILLARD~~, Route 1, Roxie, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the nature of the inquiry at the outset of the interview:

Mrs. WILLARD advised that her husband was on vacation from March 29 through April 8, 1968. She stated on March 29 and 30, 1968, her husband hunted turkey alone in the Homochitta National Forest which is located directly behind their home.

She continued that on Sunday morning, March 31, 1968, he hunted turkey in the forest with their son, KENNETH WILLARD, age 17. They returned home at noon and her husband flew his Piper J-3 airplane from the strip in front of his home to the Natchez-Adams Airport. She said that her husband rented a Cessna 150 and flew solo for about an hour and twenty-four minutes, traveling to Vicksburg, Mississippi and returning. She pointed out her husband is taking flying lessons and the log should reflect the time that he flew. She added her husband returned home from the airport during the afternoon of March 31, 1968.

She said on April 1, 1968, he went to the airport to fly, but due to inclement weather, he returned to his home in the Piper J-3 airplane.

She said on April 2 and 3, 1968, Mr. WILLARD assisted her in the preparation of flower beds, sodding her lawn with St. Augustine grass and did some painting in the home. She recalled that he remained at home during the entire period of April 2 and 3, 1968.

On 4/15/68 at Route 1, Roxie, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA GEORGE P. GAMBLIN/brh Date dictated 4/15/68

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

JN 157-9586

Mrs. WILLARD stated on April 4, 1968, her husband again went turkey hunting in the Homochitta National Forest and returned home at noon. They ate, rested and she and her husband fished in their pond on the farm. She said Mr. CLETUSSEALE, a neighbor, came by the farm pond and saw she and her husband fishing. She added that Mr. SEALE also saw her husband on several occasions between the period March 29, through April 4, 1968.

The WILLARDS, according to Mrs. WILLARD, returned to their home some time between 4:30 and 5:00 p.m. on April 4, 1968, and Mr. WILLARD cleaned fish. She cooked steak for herself and her son and fried the fish for her husband. During the evening meal, they heard a special announcement over the television stating that MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR, had been shot and later the announcement came over the television indicating that MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR, was dead.

She pointed out that neither she nor her husband have been in Memphis in over ten years and was not aware of the slayer of MARTIN LUTHER KING. The artist's conception of the unknown subject in this case was shown to Mrs. WILLARD and she stated she did not know this individual. She pointed out that her husband for the past several years has been too busy working as Superintendent of the Natchez Gravel Company supervising Negroes at the gravel pit that he has little or no time to plan anything. She pointed out her husband is not that type of individual and is a very tolerant, easy-going individual. She was not aware of anyone who might have used her husband's name in connection with the slaying.

She stated that to her knowledge, her husband had never been arrested in his entire life.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/19/68

Mr. JOHN RAY WILLARD, Route 1, Roxie, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the interviewing agent and the nature of the inquiry at the outset of the interview.

He was shown a Waiver of Rights form by SA GEORGE P. GAMBLIN which he read, stated he understood and executed prior to conducting the interview.

Mr. WILLARD advised that he is the Field Superintendent and a Co-owner of the Natchez Gravel Company, Liberty Road, Natchez, Mississippi, and works at the gravel pit for the company near his home.

He stated he worked Thursday, March 28, 1968, and from March 29 through April 8, 1968, he was on vacation. WILLARD said on March 29 and 30, 1968, he hunted turkeys alone in the Homochitta National Forest which is directly behind his home.

On Sunday morning, March 31, 1968, he hunted turkeys in the forest with his son, KENNETH WILLARD, age 17. At noon he returned to his home and flew his Piper J-3 plane from the strip in front of his home to the Natchez Adams Airport. There he rented a Cessna 150 and flew solo for about an hour and twenty-four minutes, traveling from Natchez and Vicksburg, Mississippi, and returning. He stated after the flight he returned from the Natchez-Adams Airport to his home on Route 1, Roxie, in his Piper J-3 airplane.

Mr. WILLARD stated that he is taking flying lessons and pilot CHRIS CUMBAS of Natchez Flying Service, Inc., signed WILLARD out on his logbook.

On 4/15/68 at Roxie, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA GEORGE P. GAMBLIN:pdh Date dictated 4/16/68

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