

PAGE FOUR

THOMPSON SAID THE INDIVIDUAL WHOM HE REFUSED TO IDENTIFY SAID HE SAT NEXT TO JAMES EARL RAY, AKA ERIC STARVO GALT, AND HARDIN. THOMPSON SAID THIS INDIVIDUAL MAINTAINED HE OVERHEARD GALT CALL THE OTHER "J.C."

NEW ORLEANS INDICES CONTAINED NO RECORD OF ANYONE BY THE NAME OF JAMES C. HARDIN.

INDICES REVEALED REFERENCE FOR ONE JAMES HARDIN, NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED, NO FILE ONE FIVE SEVEN - TWO TWO ONE, BUFILE ONE FIVE SEVEN - FOUR ZERO ONE, JACKSON FILE ONE FIVE SEVEN - TWO ZERO. THIS CASE CAPTIONED DESSEGREGATION OF UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI; RM, OOJ, AFG, CONSPIRACY. THIS REFERENCE COULD NOT BE REVIEWED AS ENTIRE FILE SENT JACKSON IN AUGUST, SIXTYFOUR, AT TIME JACKSON OFFICE OPENED.

NEW ORLEANS INDICES ALSO CONTAIN REFERENCE ON ONE J. C. HARDIN, NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED, IN THE CASE INVOLVING THE SOUTHERN CONFERENCE EDUCATIONAL FUND; IS - C, BUFILE ONE ZERO ZERO - ONE ZERO THREE FIVE FIVE, NEW ORLEANS FILE

PAGE FIVE

ONE ZERO ZERO - SEVEN FIVE NINE. THIS NAME APPEARED ON EIGHT TWENTYFIVE FOOT ROOLS OF PHOTO RECORD FILM CONTAINING PHOTOGRAPHS OF CARDS BEARING NAMES OF PERSONS ON FINANCIAL RECORDS, MAILING LISTS OF SCEF, AS WELL AS LISTS OF SUBSCRIBERS TO SOUTHERN PATRIOT. THIS FILM NOT AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW, BUT SENT LOUISVILLE ON AUGUST EIGHT, SIXTYSIX, WHEN LOUISVILLE MADE ORIGIN IN INVESTIGATION OF SCEF.

JACKSON SHOULD REVIEW INDICES FOR ANY INFORMATION IDENTIFIABLE WITH JAMES C. HARDIN, JAMES HARDIN OR J. C. HARDIN. IN PARTICULAR, REVIEW REFERENCE CONTAINED IN YOUR FIVE ONE FIVE SEVEN - TWO ZERO, RE JAMES HARDIN . FOR POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE, THE NEW ORLEANS REFERENCE FOR JAMES HARDIN IS ONE FIVE SEVEN - TWO TWO ONE - TWO ZERO THREE SIX, PAGE EIGHTYFOUR.

LOUISVILLE SHOULD REVIEW INDICES FOR ANY INFORMATION IDENTIFIABLE WITH JAMES C. HARDIN, J. C. HARDIN AND JAMES HARDIN AND, IN PARTICULAR, REVIEW THE REFERENCE ON J. C. HARDIN

PAGE SIX

MENTIONED ABOVE, WHICH IS CONTAINED IN THE SCEF FILE. FOR
POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE OF LOUISVILLE, THE NEW ORLEANS REFERENCE
IS ONE ZERO ZERO - SEVEN FIVE NINE - ONE B NINE.

JACKSON AND LOUISVILLE SHOULD ADVISE BUREAU AND APPROPRIATE
OFFICES OF RESULTS OF THIS INVESTIGATION.

ATLANTA, LOS ANGELES AND MEMPHIS ADVISED AIRMAIL.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

LDG

FBI JKSN MISS

P

F B I

Date: 5-23-68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

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

REBUAIRTEL, 5-16-68, concerning allegation by JOHN EUGENE GAWRON that subject and an unnamed man robbed bank June - July, 1967.

On re-interview late 5-22-68, GAWRON revealed location of bank as Alton, Ill., and identity of unnamed man who robbed same with subject as JIMMIE (LNU). Stated he was visited by JIMMIE nights of 5-13 and 5-14-68.

One JAMES H. CARPENTER, FBI # 230 243 is known to have visited GAWRON on those dates with another individual.

3 - Bureau
1 - Chicago (Info)
1 - Detroit (Info)
1 - Indianapolis (Info)
1 - Jackson (Info)
1 - Kansas City (Info)
1 - Knoxville (Info)
1 - Memphis (Info)
1 - Milwaukee (Info)
1 - Minneapolis (Info)
1 - New Orleans (Info)
1 - Omaha (Info)
1 - Little Rock (Info)
1 - Springfield (Info)

HRD:wma
(16)

157-9586-547

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 28 1968	
FBI-JACKSON	

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

SL: 42-775

SL files disclose BANK OF ALTON, Alton, Ill., was robbed by two unknown subjects on 7-13-67 (Bufile 91-27494) (Sfile 91-3699) (SLfile 91-3877). Description of number two man could fit RAY. Number ~~two~~^{one} man description does not fit CARPENTER, who is 5'8", 140 #, slender build.

St. Louis City Jail records establish ed CARPENTER was in City Jail from 6-5-67 to 3-1-68, and therefore could not have participated in the Alton BR, or met GAWRON during 1967 as alleged.

In view of foregoing, GAWRON is being considered as being of known unreliability.

Subject should STILL be considered as a possible suspect in all unsolved bank and other robberies subsequent to 4-23-67.

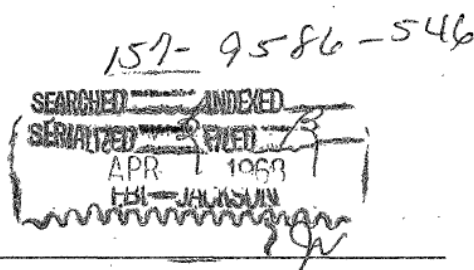
Subject A & D.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/8/68

BENNIE FLOYD, JR., 1447 South Theobard Street, Greenville, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the interviewing agents by SA JOHN WILLIAM NEELLEY.

FLOYD advised that he had no objection to having his photograph taken in order that it might be shown to witnesses in the Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING murder.



On 4/6/68 at Greenville, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-3974
157-9586
by SA JOHN WILLIAM NEELLEY
SA DOMINICK DI DOMENICO/JWN:bls Date dictated 4/6/68

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.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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

DATE: 5/24/68

FROM : *RKM* SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

The Bureau has furnished the following information concerning JAMES EARL RAY:

RAY has been known to stay at "flophouses" and lower-class rooming houses. He has been known to consort with prostitutes and "street bums."

The Bureau also has suggested that offices covering State capitals, if not already done, at driver's license bureaus check all driver's license applications for the months of April and May, 1968, concerning all male Caucasians over thirty years of age and under 55 years of age, in view of the fact it is possible subject secured driver's license using a name other than aliases known. As a result of reviewing such applications, appropriate investigation should be conducted to determine if any such individual is identical with the subject.

All SA's should bear in mind that in daily contact with informants, officers of vice squads, and prostitutes, that subject RAY has consorted with characters of this type in the past.

The Jackson Headquarters has furnished a copy of Identification Order concerning RAY to the Salvation Army mission at Jackson. Each SRA is requested to ascertain if Salvation Army or other such charitable mission centers for men exists in their territory and, if so, furnish copy of IO where appropriate.

84 - Jackson
(1 - 157-9586)
(1 - Each Agent)
JLP:mif
(84) *[initials]*



5010-108-01

157-9586-545

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>by</i>	FILED <i>by</i>
MAY 27 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

[initials]

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

JN 157-9586

In the Driver's License Bureau, Jackson, Mississippi, the computer department has programmed the requested category, white males from 30 years of age to 55 years of age, who have applied for driver's license during the months of April and May. Upon receipt of results of this data, leads will be forwarded appropriately to eliminate the applicants as being identical with subject RAY.

SUBJECT IS ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

F B I

Date: 5/24/68

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

TO: CHICAGO

FROM: JACKSON (157-9586)

MURKIN.

RE KANSAS CITY TEL TO JACKSON MAY TWENTY TWO LAST.

RE ATTORNEY PHILLIP BAKER, INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.

LILLIAN MYERS, NINE ONE ZERO FOUR - EIGHTEENTH AVENUE,
GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI, LOCATED TODAY. SHE ADVISED HER SON,
JOHN MYERS, RESIDING AT FIVE TWO NINE WEST PALATINE ROAD,
PALATINE, ILLINOIS. SHE LAST HEARD FROM HIM ON MOTHER'S
DAY WHEN HE TELEPHONED HER FROM CHICAGO. MRS. MYERS
REQUESTED HER IDENTITY BE CONCEALED AND SHE WANTS NOTHING
TO DO WITH HER WAYWARD SON.

CHICAGO AT PALATINE, ILLINOIS LOCATE AND INTERVIEW
JOHN MYERS. *Armed & Dangerous*
AIR MAIL COPY TO KANSAS CITY.

1 - Kansas City (AM) (44-760)

① - Jackson

JLP:lp

(2) *CP*

Searched _____

Serialized _____

Indexed _____

Filed _____

Approved: *RKM*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent *5:48 p*

M

Per *Rem*

[Faint, mostly illegible text, possibly a letter or report, with some words like "Dear Sir" and "Very truly yours" visible.]

157-9586-544

47
Indexed
Filed 47

5/22/68

PLAINTEXT

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, JACKSONVILLE (44-769) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN
(OO: Memphis)

Re Dallas airtel to Bureau 5/1/68 regarding alleged offer of \$100,000 by white knights of the Ku Klux Klan (WKKKK), Jackson, Mississippi, to anyone who kills MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. and Atlanta airtel to Bureau dated 5/8/68.

Enclosed for Las Vegas is one copy each of Dallas airtel to Bureau dated 6/6/67, Kansas City airtel to Bureau 7/21/67, and Dallas airtel to Bureau 5/1/68, which are background information.

By communication dated 5/8/68, Atlanta advised that on 5/8/68, Mr. J. B. McWHORTER, Spencer International Press, Atlanta, Georgia, advised DONALD JAMES NISSEN is no longer employed by that company, having left approximately 12/67, to go to Corpus Christi, Texas, where he was employed by the Americana Encyclopedia Company. McWHORTER stated he recently learned that NISSEN is working in Panama City, Florida selling a safety device which operates as a gyroscope.

3 - Bureau
2 - Las Vegas (Enc. 3)
① - Jackson (Info)
2 - Memphis (44-1987)
2 - Jacksonville
WLB/esl
(10)

[Handwritten signature]

157-9586-543

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 24 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

JK 44-789

He stated the name of the unit is the Auto Safety Control and the company office is located in Reno, Nevada.

Investigation by the Jacksonville Division at Panama City, Florida, has determined that as of 5/16/68, the files of the Bay County SO and the Panama City PD failed to reflect any information concerning DONALD JAMES NISSEN.

On 5/26/68, Mrs. MARY HUCKABEE, Credit Bureau of Panama City, advised the only information in her files concerning DONALD JAMES NISSEN is a notation indicating that as of January, 1966, he was residing at 5612 East Highway 98, which is the address for the Paradise Trailer Park.

On 5/20/68, ERNEST L. THORNE, Operator, Paradise Trailer Park, 5612 East Highway 98, advised that his records are not available prior to 1/67, and that he has no record of DONALD JAMES NISSEN having ever residing at the Paradise Trailer Park.

On 5/20/68, D. R. HINTON, JR., Manager, Gulf Power Company, Panama City, Florida, advised that his ~~files~~ contained no record of DONALD JAMES NISSEN.

LEADS

LAS VEGAS

AT RENO, NEVADA

Will locate DONALD JAMES NISSEN through the company offices of Auto Safety Control and interview him for any information he may have obtained regarding the alleged offer to kill KING since NISSEN's release from jail on 6/19/67.

For the information of the Las Vegas Office, the Jackson Office, in 7/67, advised the WKKKK were in bad financial strait, having a difficult time raising enough money to defend members of this organization after their arrest.

Information copy being furnished to Jackson inasmuch as present investigation being conducted by that Division.

5/22/68

A I R T E L

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (44-1114) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Little Rock teletype to Bureau 5/10/68 and
Memphis airtel to Chicago 5/13/68.

Enclosed for each office is a Xerox copy of a
State of Mississippi Certificate of Death concerning JOHNNY
SMITH.

Enclosed made available on 5/21/68 by Mrs. CONNIE
ZUGAJ, Clerk, Old Republic Life Insurance Company, 307 North
Michigan, Chicago. The file concerning SMITH reflected no
other pertinent information.

A+D

- 2 - Memphis (Enc. 1)
② - Jackson (157-9586) (Enc. 1)
1 - Little Rock (Enc. 1) (157-1215) (Info) 157-9586-542
2 - Chicago

LFK:jap
(7)

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 24 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

5/22/68

A I R T E L

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ALD

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- ② - Jackson (157-9586) (Enc. 1)
- 1 - Little Rock (Enc. 1) (157-1215) (Info)
- 2 - Chicago

LFK:jap
(7)

157-9586-542

SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED <i>W</i>	FILED <i>W</i>
MAY 24 1968	
FBI-JACKSON	

FORM NO. 511

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,
EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICECERTIFICATE OF DEATH
STATE OF MISSISSIPPISTATE
FILE NO.

BIRTH NO.

REGISTRAR'S NO.

1. PLACE OF DEATH a. COUNTY DeSoto		2. USUAL RESIDENCE (Where deceased lived. If institutions: Residence before admission) a. STATE Tenn. b. COUNTY Shelby	
b. CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION Hernando		c. CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION Memphis	
d. NAME OF HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION (If not in hospital, give street address)		d. STREET ADDRESS 3587 Lamar	
e. IS PLACE OF DEATH INSIDE CITY LIMITS? YES ☐ NO ☐		e. IS RESIDENCE INSIDE CITY LIMITS? YES ☒ NO ☐	
f. IS RESIDENCE ON A FARM? YES ☐ NO ☒			
3. NAME OF DECEASED (Type or print) First Johnny Middle Smith Last Smith		4. DATE OF DEATH Month 11 Day 27 Year 66	
5. SEX Male	6. COLOR OR RACE White	7. MARRIED ☐ NEVER MARRIED ☒ WIDOWED ☐ DIVORCED ☐	8. DATE OF BIRTH 52
9. AGE (In years last birthday) 52		10. USUAL OCCUPATION (Give kind of work done during most of working life, even if retired) Salesman	
100. KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY Self employed		11. BIRTHPLACE (State or foreign country) Alabama	
12. CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY? USA		13. FATHER'S NAME Josh Smith	
14. MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME Bridgett McAlley		15. WAS DECEASED EVER IN U.S. ARMED FORCES? (Yes, no, or unknown) (If yes, give war or dates of service)	
16. SOCIAL SECURITY NO.		17. INFORMANT Miss Nellie Smith - Same	
18. CAUSE OF DEATH [Enter only one cause per line for (a), (b), and (c).] PART I. DEATH WAS CAUSED BY: IMMEDIATE CAUSE (a) D.O.A. - (Found dead) DUE TO (b) Natural causes DUE TO (c) Coronary thrombosis PART II. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO DEATH BUT NOT RELATED TO THE TERMINAL DISEASE CONDITION GIVEN IN PART I (a)			INTERVAL BETWEEN ONSET AND DEATH
19. WAS AUTOPSY PERFORMED? YES ☐ NO ☒			
20a. ACCIDENT ☐ SUICIDE ☐ HOMICIDE ☐		20b. DESCRIBE HOW INJURY OCCURRED. (Enter nature of injury in Part I or Part II of item 18.)	
20c. TIME OF INJURY Hour a. m. Month, Day, Year			
20d. INJURY OCCURRED WHILE AT WORK ☐ NOT WHILE AT WORK ☐		20e. PLACE OF INJURY (e. g., in or about home, farm, factory, street, office bldg., etc.) DOA	
20f. CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION DOA		COUNTY DOA STATE DOA	
21. I attended the deceased from DOA to DOA and last saw her alive on DOA Death occurred at DOA on the date stated above; and to the best of my knowledge, from the causes stated.			
22a. SIGNATURE H.M. Wadsworth, M.D.		22b. ADDRESS Hernando	
22c. DATE SIGNED 5 Dec 66			
23a. BURIAL, CREMATION, REMOVAL (Specify) Burial	23b. DATE 12/17/66	23c. NAME OF CEMETERY OR CREMATORY Calvary	23d. LOCATION (City, town, or county) (State) Nashville, Tenn.
24. FUNERAL DIRECTOR Memphis Funeral Home - Memphis, Tenn.		25. DATE RECD. BY LOCAL REG. 12/17/66	
25. REGISTRAR'S SIGNATURE			

Revised 1-1-56

MEDICAL CERTIFICATION

157-9586-541

SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED in FILED in
MAY 24 1968
FBI-JACKSON

This is to certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the original death certificate.

Memphis Funeral Home

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 17 day of Dec 19 66

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES JULY 14, 1969

May J. Jensen
Notary Public

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/8/68

BENNIE FLOYD, JR., 1447 South Theobard Street, Greenville, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the interviewing agents by SA JOHN WILLIAM NEELLEY and of his rights as appear on a warning and waiver form. FLOYD advised that he preferred not to sign any statement unless he had to but would answer any questions concerning his activities.

FLOYD advised that he joined the United Klans of America, Greenville Unit, about two years ago. He became tired of the same old stories and lies and quit the organization in the Fall of 1967. He attended a few meetings of the Community Defense Force (CDF) or the Original Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi, as it is presently called. He stated he filled out certain forms with CDF but is not presently a member. He advised that he belongs to the Americans for the Preservation of the White Race (APWR) but no other organizations. He stated he feels that the white race in this country is in danger and agrees with the APWR literature and plans to support the organization. FLOYD declined to furnish any information about the activities of the APWR or its leaders. He refused to furnish any information about any of the other Klan groups to which he admitted to have been a member.

FLOYD advised that he does, in fact, own a 1965 Ford Mustang, two-door, white in color, VIN 5F07C756349. He advised that he was in Greenville, Mississippi, with his family at 1447 South Theobard Street and at the family farm, located near the Greenville City Dump during the day and evening of Thursday, April 4, 1968. He stated he expected a visit from the FBI in regard to the shooting of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING in Memphis because of his white Mustang and his past participation in a Klan organization. He stated that he was not involved in Dr. KING's death in any way.

On 4/5/68 at Greenville, Mississippi

by SA JOHN WILLIAM NEELLEY

SA DOMINICK DI DOMENICO/JWN:bls

File #

Date dictated

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JN 157-3974
157-9586

2

He stated his car has not been loaned to anyone and has been parked in his yard for the past week. It was in his yard the day Dr. KING was shot.

FLOYD stated he does not agree with the violent activities which resulted in Dr. KING's death. This will serve only to make a martyr of Dr. KING. He stated he knows all the local Klansmen well and does not feel that any would participate in such an action. They criticize the activities of civil rights leaders and make harsh statements but are not capable of carrying out any threats such as was carried out against Dr. KING. FLOYD stated that he is the only Klansman, to his knowledge in this area, who has a white Mustang. He stated he knows of no other Klansman having a white Mustang.

The following description of BENNIE FLOYD, JR., was obtained through interview and observations:

Name:	BENNIE FLOYD, JR.
Alias:	"Sonny Floyd"
Date of Birth:	[REDACTED]
Place of Birth:	Greenville, Mississippi
Height:	6 feet 2 inches
Weight:	180
Hair:	Brown
Eyes:	Brown
Marital Status:	Married
Occupation:	Produce farmer
Physical Build:	Slim
Complexion:	Red, ruddy
Dress:	Work clothes, dark brown, quilted nylon jacket

F B I

Date: **May 21, 1968**Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via **Airtel** _____
(Priority)

To: All SACs
LEGATS, Mexico City
Ottawa

[Signature]
From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

For your information and investigative assistance, subject James Earl Ray has been known to consort with prostitutes and "street bums." A photograph of subject was obtained from a prostitute in Mexico. This photograph showing subject wearing sunglasses was previously forwarded to your office.

This should be borne in mind in your daily contact with informants, officers of vice squads and prostitutes in covering leads in connection with this and other cases.

Armed and dangerous.

Memo to all SAs

157-9586-539

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>[initials]</i>	FILED <i>[initials]</i>
MAY 24 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

[Signature]

Sent Via _____ M Per _____

F B I

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Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

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157-9586-539

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MAY 24 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

Sent Via _____ M Per _____

F B I

Date: 5/23/68

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

TO: SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)
FROM: SAC, JACKSON (157-9586) (P)

MURKIN
CR

Re Houston airtel to Bureau, 5/3/68, concerning long distance telephone calls from public telephone on Interstate 10.

Enclosed for each office designated are two copies of a report insert concerning information furnished by WILLIAM CARL HENDERSON (Protect), telephone number 372-3537, who resides at Forest Hill Road, Jackson, Miss.

It is noted that HENDERSON states JIMMY (LNU) does not resemble photos of subject RAY, however, he alleges that this individual along with SYLVIA SNOWDEN and her sister GLENDA WILKINSON stayed at his residence in Jackson, Miss., either the day of or immediately after the slaying of KING and that they had just arrived in Jackson from Memphis, Tennessee. He described JIMMY (LNU) as a white male, 5'9" to 5'10", 160 to 170 pounds, approximately 24 years of age, brown hair, medium build, with eyes close together - oddness about the eyes, and a very neat dresser.

LEADSHOUSTON

- 2 - Houston (Encs. 2) (RM)
2 - New Orleans (157-10673) (Encs. 2) (RM)
2 - Memphis (44-1987) (Encs. 2) (RM)
2 - Jackson

ILP/pac

(8)

157-9586-538

207
Searched _____
Indexed _____
Filed _____

King
(Info)
M Per

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

JN 157-9586

AT HOUSTON, TEXAS

Will locate and interview SYLVIA SNOWDEN, telephone 453-2874. SNOWDEN should be questioned concerning her arrival and departure in Memphis in April, 1968, her daily activities while in Memphis, and complete background information developed particularly her association and travel with JIMMY (LNU). It should be noted that SNOWDEN allegedly resides with this individual.

NEW ORLEANS

AT LAROSE, LOUISIANA

Will attempt to locate GLENDA WILKINSON or GELENDIA WILKINSON, sister of SYLVIA SNOWDEN. She allegedly works as a barmaid in Larose. The same information as set forth in Houston lead should be obtained from WILKINSON.

JACKSON

AT JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

Will maintain contact with WILLIAM CARL HENDERSON and attempt to further develop this individual in matters of interest to the Bureau.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

JN 157-9586

SBK/jsk

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA STEPHEN B. KING at Forest Hill, Mississippi, on
May 22, 1968:

WILLIAM CARL HENDERSON, Route 5, Box 311,
Forest Hill Road, Forest Hill, Mississippi, provided the
following information:

HENDERSON advised that he currently works out of
Iron Workers, Local Number 469, Jackson, Mississippi. He
advised he is currently employed in Vicksburg, Mississippi.
HENDERSON further advised that he has lived at his current
address for the past 18 years.

HENDERSON stated that on or about December 16,
1967, he received a telephone call from SYLVIA SNOWDEN,
white female, who resides in Houston, Texas. HENDERSON
stated that SNOWDEN mentioned the fact that she was calling
from a pay phone. HENDERSON went on to say that SNOWDEN
lived with him for sometime up until October, 1967, at
which time she left for Houston. HENDERSON said he was
not married to SNOWDEN.

HENDERSON advised that SNOWDEN told him she was
pregnant by him. He added that he knows SNOWDEN to be a
compulsive liar. He further advised that he knows SNOWDEN
to be living in Houston with a JIMMY (Last Name Unknown)
(LNU), white male. HENDERSON stated that he knows JIMMY LNU
to be a pipe welder working out of a local union in Houston,
Texas.

HENDERSON said that he knows JIMMY LNU, SYLVIA
SNOWDEN, and GLENDA WILKINSON, sister to SYLVIA SNOWDEN, to
have been in Memphis, Tennessee, immediately prior to the
slaying of Reverend Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr. HENDERSON

JN 157-9586

SBK/jsk

2
advised that he knows both SNOWDEN and WILKINSON to be originally from Meridian, Mississippi, and to be prostitutes who work as barmaids. HENDERSON went on to say that JIMMY LNU, SYLVIA SNOWDEN, and GLENDA WILKINSON stayed at his residence either the day of or immediately after the slaying of KING and he knew them to have arrived from Memphis, Tennessee. He described JIMMY LNU as a white male, 5'9" to 5'10", 160 pounds to 170 pounds, approximately 24 years of age, brown hair, medium build, with eyes close together - oddness about the eyes, and a very neat dresser.

He added that JIMMY LNU was somewhat quiet and seemed to observe a lot. He stated that after staying with him for a couple of days, the trio left for Larose, Louisiana, where WILKINSON is employed as a barmaid. HENDERSON said he thought both SNOWDEN and JIMMY LNU went on to Houston. HENDERSON advised that it was his impression that JIMMY LNU was originally from Louisiana, but had been in Houston for some time. He further advised that he thought JIMMY LNU to be in some sort of trouble and perhaps out on bond for "shooting up a place" in Louisiana.

HENDERSON advised that he knew SYLVIA SNOWDEN could be reached at telephone number 453-2874 in Houston. He also said that he knew her to have worked at one time at both the ElRanch Lounge on Raymond Road, Jackson, Mississippi, and the Capri Lounge, Cooper Road, Jackson, Mississippi.

HENDERSON stated that he had seen pictures of JAMES EARL RAY in the newspaper, and that JIMMY LNU did not resemble the pictures he had seen in the paper. HENDERSON could provide no further information at this time.

F B I

Date: 5/23/68

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

TO: SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)
FROM: SAC, JACKSON (157-9586) (P)
MURKIN
CR

Re Houston airtel to Bureau, 5/3/68, concerning long distance telephone calls from public telephone on Interstate 10.

Enclosed for each office designated are two copies of a report insert concerning information furnished by WILLIAM CARL HENDERSON (Protect), telephone number 372-3537, who resides at Forest Hill Road, Jackson, Miss.

It is noted that HENDERSON states JIMMY (LNU) does not resemble photos of subject RAY, however, he alleges that this individual along with SYLVIA SNOWDEN and her sister GLENDA WILKINSON stayed at his residence in Jackson, Miss., either the day of or immediately after the slaying of KING and that they had just arrived in Jackson from Memphis, Tennessee. He described JIMMY (LNU) as a white male, 5'9" to 5'10", 160 to 170 pounds, approximately 24 years of age, brown hair, medium build, with eyes close together, oddness about the eyes, and a very neat dresser.

LEADSHOUSTON

- 2 - Houston (Encs. 2) (RM)
2 - New Orleans (157-10673) (Encs. 2) (RM)
2 - Memphis (44-1987) (Encs. 2) (RM)
2 - Jackson

JLP/pac

(8)

157-9586-538
Searched _____
Indexed _____
Filed _____

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

JN 157-9586

AT HOUSTON, TEXAS

Will locate and interview SYLVIA SNOWDEN, telephone 453-2874. SNOWDEN should be questioned concerning her arrival and departure in Memphis in April, 1968, her daily activities while in Memphis, and complete background information developed particularly her association and travel with JIMMY (LNU). It should be noted that SNOWDEN allegedly resides with this individual.

NEW ORLEANS

AT LAROSE, LOUISIANA

Will attempt to locate GLENDA WILKINSON or GELENDIA WILKINSON, sister of SYLVIA SNOWDEN. She allegedly works as a barmaid in Larose. The same information as set forth in Houston lead should be obtained from WILKINSON.

JACKSON

AT JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

Will maintain contact with WILLIAM CARL HENDERSON and attempt to further develop this individual in matters of interest to the Bureau.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

F B I

Date: 5/23/68

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

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, JACKSON (157-9586) (P)
MURKIN
CR

Enclosed for Memphis and Knoxville are two Avis Rent-A-Car contracts, two enclosures for Memphis, two enclosures for Knoxville, concerning JAMES E. RAY, home address 4124 East Ridge Drive, Chattanooga, Tenn., P. O. Box 1081.

The following investigation was conducted by SA LEON ROSS GRABEN on 5/20/68, at Gulfport, Miss.:

Mr. D. F. LIONBERGER, Manager, Avis Rent-A-Car, Biloxi-Gulfport Airport, advised that his office is presently under an audit and during the course of examination of rental agreements executed during the year 1967, two agreements were located in the name of JAMES E. RAY. Mr. LIONBERGER said he desired to bring this to the attention of the FBI due to the similarity of names. He advised that he has photos of the wanted man known as JAMES EARL RAY and is familiar with the background in the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING. He said he has no reason to believe the person represented on the rental agreements is identical to the RAY who killed Dr. KING.

Mr. LIONBERGER pointed out that on the rental agreement number 7161294, the time out is listed as

- 2 - Memphis (Encs. 2) (RM)
- 2 - Knoxville (Encs. 2) (RM)
- 2 - Jackson

JLP/pac

(6)

Searched _____

Serialized _____

Indexed _____

Filed _____

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____

Special Agent in Charge

JN 157-9586

3/31/67, at 5:15 p.m., and that the indicated time of return is 3/1/67. He advised this latter date, 3/1/67, should have been 4/1/67.

It is noted that these two rental agreements were executed in March, 1967, at a time when subject JAMES EARL RAY was allegedly in the Mississippi State Penitentiary.

In the event JAMES E. RAY of Chattanooga, Tenn., has not been located and eliminated, the Knoxville Division should locate and interview RAY.

LEAD

KNOXVILLE

AT CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE

If not already done, JAMES E. RAY of 4124 East Ridge Drive, Chattanooga, should be located and thoroughly interviewed.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

7161294

Broadwater Beach
23-12L
MUNICIPAL AIRPORT
GULFPORT, MISS.
601-864-7152

(1) STATION

MILEAGE DETERMINED BY READING
FACTORY INSTALLED ODOMETER(16)
TIME
USED

39 miles only

(47)

(2) CAR NUMBER

340

(3) CAR LICENSE NO.

C-23030

(4) STATE

Miss

(2A) CAR MAKE

Cruiser

(5) OWNING CITY

Gulfport

RENTAL WILL BE PAID BY

500

☒

041 113 637 7

☐

James E. Ray
Some change on rent
246 because of car
trouble)

(7) IDENTIFICATION

CENTRAL
BILLING

AVIS

AMEX

DIN

CB

ATC

OTHER

(9) CAR WILL BE RETURNED ON

3-1-67

(8) CAR WILL BE RETURNED TO

KLEB

(10) UNEXPIRED
DRIVER'S LICENSE
PRESENTED☒(11) LOCAL CONTACT/
ADDITIONAL INFO.

Theresa Winters
Trade Winds 150
750

(12) I HAVE READ THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS ON BOTH SIDES OF THIS RENTAL AGREEMENT AND AGREE THERE TO

☒

(13)

James E. Ray

CORRECTED BILLING NAME AND ADDRESS

4124 E. Ridge Dr.
Chattanooga, Tenn.

PO Box 1081
(1081)



LICENSEE

COLLISION
DAMAGE WAIVER(CDW) ☒RENTAL ACCEPTS
OR DECLINES PUR-
CHASE OF THE
CDW AT A FEE OF
\$1.00 PER DAY OR
\$10.00 PER WEEK

(15) DEPOSIT

CASH

CHK.

\$

(43) METHOD
OF
PAYMENT

CASH

CHARGE

(31) ACCEPTS

DECLINES

☒☒

(32) PRE-TAX TOTAL

\$ 07

(33) TAX

4 1/2 %

(34) OTHER

23

(35) TOTAL CHARGE

\$ 30

(36) LESS: GAS, ETC.

(37) NET CHARGE

\$ 30

(38) AMOUNT DUE (U.S.\$)

\$ 30

(39) REFUND REC'D

☒

(40) OUT BY (NO.)

2m

(41) IN BY (NO.)

5:00

(42) CHECK-IN STATION (NO.)

5100

RENTAL AGREEMENT NO.

7161294

THIS NUMBER MUST APPEAR ON ALL
CORRESPONDENCE AND REMITTANCES.

7161295

Bradwater Ranch
23-12L
MUNICIPAL AIRPORT
GULFPORT, MISS.
601-864-7182

(1) STATION

(47)

(2) CAR NUMBER

246

(3) CAR LICENSE NO.

(4) STATE

Miss

(2A) CAR MAKE

Dart

(5) OWNING CITY

Gulfport

RENTAL WILL BE PAID BY

☒

041 113 637 7

☐

James E Ray

MILEAGE DETERMINED BY READING
FACTORY INSTALLED ODOMETER

(19) MILES IN

709

(20) MILES OUT

519

(21) MILES DRIVEN

190

(16) TIME USED

(17) TIME IN

4-2-67 1130

(18) TIME OUT

3-31 515 PM

@

11 20 90

HOURS

@

1 75

DAYS

@

11 00

WEEKS

@

25 00

@

@

(26) SUB TOTAL

42 90

(27) TRAVEL AGENT COMMISSION

(27a)

YES

(28) TIME AND MILEAGE CHARGE

42 90

(29) INTERCITY FEE QUOTED

\$

NONE

(30) MISC.

(31) ACCEPTS

DECLINES

X

(32) PRE-TAX TOTAL

42 90

(33) TAX

4 1/2%

1 93

(34) OTHER

(35) TOTAL CHARGE

44 83

(36) LESS: GAS, ETC.

(37) NET CHARGE

44 83

AVIS
RENT A CAR

LICENSEE

(7) IDENTIFICATION

CENTRAL BILLING

AVIS

AMEX

DIN

CB

ATC

OTHER

(9) CAR WILL BE RETURNED ON

3-1-67

(8) CAR WILL BE RETURNED TO

Gulfport

(10) UNEXPIRED DRIVER'S LICENSE PRESENTED

YES

(11) LOCAL CONTACT/ ADDITIONAL INFO

Trade Winds 416 150 750

(12) I HAVE READ THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS ON BOTH SIDES OF THIS RENTAL AGREEMENT AND AGREE THERETO

X

(13)

James E. Ray

(14) CORRECTED BILLING NAME AND ADDRESS

4124 E Ridge Dr.
Chattanooga, Tenn.

PO Box 1081

COLLISION DAMAGE WAIVER

(CDW) ☒

RENTER ACCEPTS OR DECLINES PURCHASE OF THE CDW AT A FEE OF \$10.00 PER DAY OR \$5.00 PER WEEK

(15) DEPOSIT

CASH

CHK.

(43) METHOD OF PAYMENT

CASH

CHARGE

(38) AMOUNT DUE (U.S.\$)

44 83

(39) REFUND REC'D

X

(40) OUT BY (NO.)

(41) IN BY (NO.)

(42) CHECK-IN STATION (NO.)

GULFPORT
MISS.RENTAL AGREEMENT NO.
THIS NUMBER MUST APPEAR ON ALL
CORRESPONDENCE AND REMITTANCES

7161295

F B I

Date: 5/23/68

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

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, JACKSON (157-9586) (P)
MURKIN
CR

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2 - Jackson

JLP/pac

(6)

157-9586-537

Searched	
Serialized	cy
Indexed	
Filed	cy

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

JN 157-9586

3/31/67, at 5:15 p.m., and that the indicated time of return is 3/1/67. He advised this latter date, 3/1/67, should have been 4/1/67.

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LEAD

KNOXVILLE

AT CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE

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ARMED AND DANGEROUS.