ATTEL

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TO:

DIESCTOR, PRI (64-30801)

TROM:

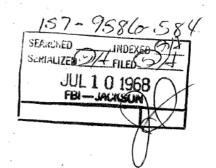
SAC, ATLANTA (44-2356)

SUBJECT: MUKKIN

No Atlanta tol 7/3/68.

Anchored for the Bureau are 10 copies of LMM suitable for dissemination. Two copies each are being submitted to Ecuphis and Jackson.

3 - Eurean (Enes. 10)
2 - Sackson (Enes. 2)
3 - Ecophis (Enes. 2)
3 - Atlanta
CSE:jlh
(9)



Airtel

SACs, Memphis Little Rock

From: Director, FBI

MURKIN

ReJNairtel dated 7-5-68.

If not already done, handle leads and sureps or LHMs immediately.

Jackson (info)

7/11/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM:

SAC, LITTLE HOCK (157-1215) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Atlanta teletype, 7/3/68; Jackson airtol to Buresu, 7/5/68,

RE: RAYMOND CURTIS

INTERVIEW IN COUNTY JAIL AT DALTON, GRORGIA

Enclosed herewith for New Orleans Office is a copy of ro Atlanta teletype, 7/3/68, and Jackson mirtel to Bureau, 7/5/68.

On 7/9/68, Mr. T. C. BARRETT, Postmaster, Altheimer, Arkanese, furnished SA GEORGE A. BARRON, JE., the following information:

Mr. CHARLES VILLE was a well-respected, wellwe, wealthy plantation owner who formerly owned and operated a plantation in the area of Wabbaseks and Altheimer, Arkansas. Mr. WILLIE'e home and main plantation is located near Wathameka and had a mailing address of Wabbaseks, Arksmass. Mr. CHARLES VILLIE was formerly President of the Altheimer First Hational Bank. Mr. WILLIE died approximately three years age. Mrs. CHARLES VILLIE was named NELL and they owned a houseboat which Mr. BARNETT believes was known as "Well Willie" and which houseboat

3 - Bureau

2 - New Orleans (Enc. 2)

1 - Memphis (Info.)

1 - Jackson (Info.)

2 - Little Book

GAB/jhb

(9)

LR 187-1915

was kept emembers on the Mississippi River. Mr. MANUET believed the best possibly was docked in the area of Greenville, Mississippi.

MELL FILLE, widow of Mr. CRANIAS VILLE, merriod J. MURRET? of Monroe, Louisians, and is now known as Mrs. J. MURRET? Mrs. NRLL DWEST? and Mr. J. MURRET? spend the majority of their time in the area of Monroe, Louisians, but also reside mane on the hayon farm at Vabbaseha, Arkanans, when they are in this area. Mr. J. MURRET? is believed to have been in the real outsie business in Monroe, Louisians. Mg. NELL MURRET? and Mr. MURRET? are not in the area of Althonour and Vabbaseka, Arkanans, at this time.

First Mational Bank of Althouser, savined SA GROBER A.
RARBOW, JE., on V/S/68 that Mr. CMARLER VILLIE was a
well-suspected plantation owner and was formerly President
of the Althouser First Estional Bank, Althouser, Askanage,
and has now been decembed about three years. He varified
the Antoniation that Mr. CMARLES VILLIE's vidow, MELL,
had serviced Mr. J. BURNETT of Megroe, Louisians, and that
they speat a large amount of their time in Menroe. He
mavised that the BURNETS are not in the Althouser-Vabbascke
area and he did not know when they upuld return to this mea.

for John Marky Jourson, Wahhaneka, Arkaness, furnished the following information to SA BARROW on 7/9/68:

No observe on and takes care of the bouse and grounds at the beyon form, Vallestake, Arkenses, for Mrs. J. HUNKETT. Mrs. J. HUNKETT.

Mrs. J. HUNKETT and ler humberd are presently on a trip in Georgia and the Carolinas, and Mr. JOHNSON has no idea as to when they may return. He advised they may return to Mouroe, Louisiana, before returning to Valbaneska, Arkenses. Mr. and Mrs. J. HUNKET reside as such in Hunroe, Louisiana, as they do in Valbaneska, Arkenses, Mr. JOHNSON furnished the telephone

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In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION Jackson, Mississippi 39205 July 11, 1968

JAMES EARL RAY; DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -VICTIM

Reference Raymond Curtis interview in County Jail, at Dalton, Georgia.

On July 5, 1968, the current telephone directory and the current city directory were examined. No listings were found in either directory under the name of Willett.

Chief of Police Marion Brown, Vicksburg, Mississippi, Police Department, advised on July 5, 1968, that he did not know anyone in the Vicksburg, Mississippi, vicinity by the name of Willett. He did note that he has occasionally seen trucks pulling heavy equipment for oil riggings passing through Vicksburg containing the name of W. O. (Red) Willett painted on the side of the trucks. The headquarters of this organization is shown at an unrecalled location in the State of Louisiana.

Detective Captain Roy Redditt, Vicksburg Police Department, was unable to furnish any additional information concerning a (First Name Unknown) Willett in the Vicksburg, Mississippi, area.

11 - Bureau (44-38861) (RM) 2 - Kansas City (RM) 1 - Little Rock (RM) 1 - Memphis (RM) 2 - Jackson (157-9586)	157-9586-587 arched
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JAMES EARL RAY; DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. VICTIM

John Edwards, Identification Bureau, Vicksburg Police Department, advised on July 5, 1968, that his records indicate one A. M. Willett, a white male, age 40, of Tallulah, Louisiana, was arrested on November 24, 1952, on a charge of drunk driving. He was fined \$50. The file contains no additional information concerning this arrest.

John Edwards also indicated that his files reveal that one R. D. Willette, a white male, age 35, of the Circle Lake Apartments, Vicksburg, Mississippi, was arrested on November 10, 1952, on a charge of drunk driving and that he was fined \$50. No other information was contained in the record concerning this arrest.

Sheriff Paul Barrett, Warren County Sheriff's Office, advised that his records concerning prior arrests are incomplete, but that he does not recall an individual from this area by the name of Willett.

On July 5, 1968, Mrs. Edna Cole, Manager, Credit Bureau of Vicksburg, Emmich Building, Vicksburg, Mississippi, advised that her records contained the following information:

A. H. Willett, Jr., has been known to the Credit Bureau since March, 1959. This individual resides at 116 South Cedars Street, Tallulah, Louisiana. He previously resided at 700 LaSalle Street, Tallulah, Louisiana. As of March, 1959, he was employed as a Sales Manager by the Tallulah Motor Company. His credit record has been satisfactory.

Mrs. Cole stated the file indicates August H. Willett, III, has been known to the file since February, 1967. He resides at 100 North Lincoln Street, Tallulah, Louisiana, receiving mail at Post Office Box 221. He is

JAMES EARL RAY; DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -VICTIM

employed as an automobile salesman by the Lamar T. Loe
Motor Company, Tallulah, Louisiana. His date of birth
is given as He is single, and is renting
at his residence. He has been in the United States Army
Reserve, his military service expiring on March 1, 1967.
The file indicates his father is August H. Willett, Jr.,
also an employee of the Lamar T. Loe Motor Company. An
uncle is shown as Adrian Willett, Tallulah, Louisiana.
A credit report was prepared for "Phillips," Kansas City,
Missouri, on February 11, 1967. His credit has been
satisfactory.

An unsatisfactory account, a repossession, was reported by Southern Trailer Distributors, Vicksburg, Mississippi, Highway 61, South, on May 26, 1967, for one Franklin Willett, Beldon, Mississippi.

The files of the Credit Bureau contained, for reference purposes, the name J. O. Willett Pipeline Company, Monroe, Louisiana. The company is shown as being organized in September, 1959, and its President as L. W. Bobbs.

Paul J. Dennis, Vice-President, Vicksburg Mid River Service, Incorporated, advised on July 5, 1968, that (First Name Unknown) Willett owned a houseboat known as the "Nell Willie," a diesel-powered ship capable of travel on the Mississippi. (First Name Unknown) Willett was described as an elderly man who was crippled and used a cane. He and his wife, whose name is believed to be Nell, took vacation trips on his houseboard approximately twice a year, securing the services of a Mississippi River pilot to operate the boat for them. (First Name Unknown) Willett is believed to have been a resident of the State of Arkansas and to have docked his houseboat at the Greenville, Mississippi, Yacht Club.

JAMES EARL RAY; DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -VICTIM

Mr. Dennis advised on July 9, 1968, that he does not know any individual in the vicinity of Vicksburg, Mississippi, who is known as "Mississippi." He stated that he had made inquiry among his employees and other individuals who are familiar with the people who frequent the Vicksburg waterfront and those who travel on the Mississippi River, and that he was unable to find anyone having knowledge of an individual known as "Mississippi."

John B. Sanders, Boat Captain of the Sprague, advised that he is familiar with most of the individuals who frequent the Vicksburg waterfront. He stated he does not know of any person in this area who has the nickname "Mississippi."

Willie Smith, a Negro male employee of the Greenville, Mississippi, Yacht Club, advised on July 5, 1968, that the correct name of the houseboat is the "Nell Willis" and that it was owned by a (First Name Unknown) Willis, who died about two or three years ago. Nell Willis, wife of (First Name Unknown) Willis, is still living and residing in or around Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

Following the death of Mr. Willis, the houseboat was sold to Sonny (Last Name Unknown), a member of the Memphis, Tennessee, Yacht Club, who is believed to be a Mississippi River pilot.

Willie Smith advised that Mr. Willis was always considerate of Negroes and gave no indication of anti-Negro sentiments.

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In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HISTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION Jackson, Mississippi July 11, 1968

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FBI

Date: 7/11/68

Transmi	it the following in _	```
Via	AIRTEL	(Type in plaintext or code) ATRMATL. (Priority)
		DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) SAC, JACKSON (157-9586) MURKIN Re Bureau airtel, dated 7/5/68, and Jackson airtel reau, dated 7/5/68. Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are 11 copies
	N.	Enclosed herewith for Kansas City are two copies he following: An LHM Atlanta teletype to Bureau and Jackson, 7/3/68 Jackson airtel to Bureau, 7/5/68 Bureau airtel to Jackson, 7/5/68. One copy of this airtel and LHM is being directed Rock and Memphis for information.
	2 - Kansa 1 - Littl	u (Enc. 11) (RM) s City (Enc. 8) (RM) e Rock (Enc. 1) (Info) (RM) is (Enc. 1) (Info) (RM) on rched lalized exed exed
A	pproved: Specia	Sent M Per M Agent in Charge

JN 157-9586

ADMINISTRATIVE:

UACB, additional inquiry is not being made in regard to information obtained from the Vicksburg, Miss., Credit Bureau, and the Vicksburg Police Department, concerning individuals who have the last name of WILLETT, as no information was contained in the file indicating that these individuals are now or were connected with Mississippi River Transportation, either by profession or for entertainment.

LEADS . (UACB):

KANSAS CITY DIVISION

AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

- 1. Will review the records of the Missour State Penitentiary to determine if an inmate by the name of (FNU) WILLETT, aka Mississippi, from Vicksburg, Miss., was incarcerated at the Penitentiary sometime following the death of JOHN F. KENNEDY.
- 2. Should a record of (FNU) WILLETT be located, will obtain complete background information and set out leads to have this individual interviewed concerning the allegations made by RAYMOND CURTIS.

FBI

Date: 7/11/68

Transmit the	e following in	(Type in plaintext or code)
Via	AIRTEL	AIRMAIL (Priority)
,	TO: FROM:	DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)
	SUBJECT:	MURKIN
	to the Bu	Re Bureau airtel, dated 7/5/68, and Jackson airtel areau, dated 7/5/68.
	of an LHM	Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are 11 copies
	each of t	Enclosed herewith for Kansas City are two copies the following:
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Lemorandum

TO

: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

DATE: 7/12/68

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

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Milwaukee airtel to Bureau dated 6/19/68.

AT GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI

The following investigation was conducted by SA DAVID P. HURLEY on 6/10/68.

DUDLEY RAMON, Identification Clerk, GuDfport Police Department, advised they have the following identification record for DELBERT RAYMOND HEEDERIK was described as a white male, born

Date	Charge	Disposition
7/29/64	Drunk and Vagrancy	\$15.70 fine on drunk charge and Vagrancy Nol Processed
2/14/66	Operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, test showed 18% alcohol	Charge reduced to reckless driving and fined \$110.00
6/21/67	Improper license	Charge dismisséd

Mr. MIKE OBERLIE, son of the owner of Oberlie's Radio and TV Company, Pass Road, advised he is personally acquainted with DELBERT HEEDERIK who, according to their records, was employed by them from November, 1966, until September, 1967. He was a good repair technician; however, he was an alcoholic and when they were rushed and working fast, he could not stand the pressure and would become shaky and start drinking. He said the reason they tol

Indexed

2 - Bureau (44-38861)

2 - Memphis (44-1987)

1 - Milwaukee (44-388)(Info)

2) - Jąckson (157-9586)

DPH/bls

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

HEEDERIK as long as they did was the fact that his father felt sorry for him. He said that one day he did not show up for work and that was the last they ever saw him. They received information from some source that he was deceased.

Mr. OBERLIE advised that he would be skeptical of any information furnished by HEEDERIK and would not consider him to be a reliable individual because of his use of alcoholic beverages.

Mrs. EVIE HOLDER, owner and manager of Holder's Hotel, 1801 22nd Avenue, advised she is personally acquainted with DELBERT HEEDERIK and he rented the front room on the second floor on the southeast corner, which would be Room 201, from them for a number of months. Since he was there for a number of months, she was unable to verify the exact dates of arrival or departure but did locate records showing that he was a guest in the hotel as of 4/26/67. She recalled that he came to them from Pass Christian. Mississippi, and he was later evicted by them. His eviction was the result of his drinking, which they do not tolerate in the hotel and the fact that he claimed he could not sleep and would play his radio and records all hours of the night. He was not the type guest they like to have in the hotel. She added that she could not state if any information furnished by him would be reliable or not but she would be inclined not to believe him and it would depend on his condition at the time he furnished the information. , and whether he had been drinking.

Mrs. HOLDER further advised that she had located records showing that RICHARD KARR occupied Room 205 in the hotel as of 5/9/67. This room would have been two rooms down the hall from HEEDERIK's room.

She recalled that KARR was living at the hotel the same time as HEEDERIK and that they were also friendly with one another and would visit in each other's room.

Complaints were received from other guests as to their misconduct. She further recalled that RICHARD KARR played a guitar during the time that he lived at the hotel. She had no information as to KARR's residence or employment at this time but did recall that he was originally from Beaumont, Mississippi, as that is her home town also. She said she did not know him or his parents during the time she lived in Beaumont, but during conversation with her he mentioned that he was from Beaumont and this fact stuck in her mind.

Inasmuch as RICHARD KARR's current whereabouts is not known at this time and since HEEDERIK's identification of JAMES EARL RAY was based upon a brief meeting with an unknown individual who did not identify himself approximately one year before the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY appeared in the paper, no further efforts are being made by the Jackson Division to locate KARR and attempt to identify the person with KARR in HEEDERIK's room, UACB. The fact that HEEDERIK was at the time an alcoholic and acquaintances of his at that time did not consider him reliable is of significance in evaluating his information.

One copy of this communication is being furnished the Milwaukee Division for their information since it is possible they may have further contacts with DELBERT HEEDERIK.

Memorandum

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2 - Memphis (44-1987)

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Serialized_9 Indexed.

DPH/bls (7)

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

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In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Memphis, Tennessee July 13, 1968

BE: JANES BARL RAY;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM;
CIVIL BIGGTS - COMSPIRACY;
UNLAWFUL PLICET TO AVOID COMPINEMENT ROBBERY

On July 8, 1958, Mr. J. W. Crosler, Manager, Memphis Yacht Club, Memphis, Tennessee, advised that the Nell Villey is a 55-foot, steel-hull, diesel-powered house boat that is owned by Mr. A. D. Cartwright, Jr., the owner of Cartwright Nurseries, Collierville, Tennessee. Mr. Crosler stated the Nell Willey was purchased by Mr. Cartwright several years ago, and that prior to being owned by Mr. Cartwright, this beat was docked at Greenville, Mississippi.

On July 12, 1968, Mr. Marion Looney, Secretary, Cartwright Nurseries, Collierville, Tennessee, advised that Mr. A. D. Cartwright, Jr., is out of the city and unavailable for interview. Mr. Looney said that Mr. Cartwright purchased the Nell Wilkey from Mrs. C. G. Willey, Altimer, Arkansas, about three years ago, and at the time of purchase this boat was docked at Mepree, Louisiana. Mr. Looney said that for the past three years this beat has been docked at the Momphis Yacht Club and is used only to entertain customers. Me said there is no regular crow and that the boat is operated by Mr. Cartwright and his sons. He also stated that this boat seldom goes more than 10 miles in either direction from the Memphis Yacht Club and has not been used for lengthy trips on the Mississippi River.

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100

JULI 1 5 1968

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, PRI (44-33861)

PROM: SAC, MEMPRIES (44-1987) (P)

SUBJECT: MURRIN 1750- 9526

Enclosed for the Bureau and listed offices are copies of an LHM concerning investigation occasioned by information furnished by RAYMOND CURTIS, prisoner in the Whitfield County Jail, Dalton, Georgia.

Little Book and New Orleans should continue efforts to locate and interview Mrs. NELL WILLIE, the widow of Mr. CHARLES WILLIE, now married to Mr. J. BURNETT, of Monroe, Louisians. The results of your investigation in this regard should be furnished to the Bureau by LEM.

2-Bureau (Encs. 1)
2-Little Rock (Enc. 1)
3-New Orleans (Enc. 1)
2-Memphis
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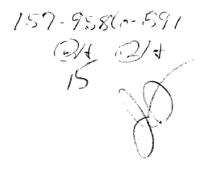
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FBI

	Date: 7/16/68
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iα	A IRTEL
	(Priority or Method of Mailing)
	TO: ALL SACS
	FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)
	SUBJECT: MURKIN
	Re Bureau airtel to Memphis, 7/9/68.
	The Bureau has requested that all divisions continue
	to submit monthly cost data until further notice.
	In view of the above, all divisions are requested
	to comply with the Bureau's instructions, including offices who have negative cost data to report.
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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FBI

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Special Agent in Charge

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-39961)

FROM:

SAC, LITTLE ROCK (157-1215) (P)

REs

HURKIN

Re Atlanta teletype, 7/3/68; Jackson airtel, 7/5/68; and, Little Rock airtel, 7/11/68.

Re: RAYMOND CURTIS,
INTERVIEW IN COUNTY JAIL
AT DALPON, GEORGIA

On July 21, 1968, Mr. DUKE C. ALLISON, JR., Assistant Trust Officer, National Bank of Commerce, Pine Bluff, Arkansas, telephonically contacted SA GEORGE A. BARRON, JR. at Pine Bluff, advising he had received a telephone call from Mrs. J. BURNETT from New Iberia, Louisiana. Mrs. BURNETT told Mr. ALLISON she understood the FBI desired to talk with her and she could be reached at that time at New Iberia, Louisiana, telephone 387-0214. Mr. ALLISON told Mrs. BURNETT that as he was personally acquainted with SA GEORGE A. BARRON, JR. and the fact that Mrs. BURNETT was also acquainted with SA BARRON, he would attempt to reach SA BARRON and have SA BARRON telephone Mrs. BURNETT.

On July 21, 1968, SA GEORGE A. BARRON, JR., from Pine Bluff, Arkansas, Resident Agency, telephonically contacted Mrs. J. BURNETT at telephone number 337-0214, New Iberia, Louisiana. Mrs. BURNETT stated she had heard through her cousin, JIM RHODES, that the FBI wanted to talk with her and that was why she was trying to contact Agent BARRON. She furnished the following information:

- 3 Bureau
- 2 Memphis (44-1987)
- 2 Jackson (157-9586)
- I New Orleans (Info.)
- 2 Little Rock

GAB/ds

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LR 157-1215

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on July 15, 1966, pr. print C. Militares, Ja., Ameliatani Erust Officer, Malianes, Such of Commerce, furnished In anomal A. Minnes, Ja. the following information:

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LR 157-1215

She and her former husband, CMARLES WILLIE, owned a houseboat known as the "Bell Willie." After her former husband's death, she sold this houseboat to a Mr. CARTWRIGHT, owner and operator of Cartwright Hursery Company near Momphis, Tennessee, and delivered the boat to him about Pebruary 1966. She was not acquainted with anyone named RAYMOND CURTIS or JAMES HARL RAY. She stated Mr. ALLISON could furnish the name and address of the party to whom she sold the boat.

Om July 22, 1968, Mr. DUKE C. ALLISON, JR., Assistant Trust Officer, National Bank of Commerce, furnished SA GEORGE A. BARROW, JR. the following information:

Mrs. BURERT sold the househoat "Hell Willie" to A. D. CARTHRIGHT, JR., owner of Cartwright Hursery Company, Collierville, Tennessee, and delivered the boat approximately February 3, 1966. Mr. CARTWRIGHT re-named the boat "The Pondersea." The boat is believed to be presently docked out of Nemphis, Tennessee.

LEADS:

AT COLLIERVILLE, TENNESSER:

Will locate Mr. A. D. CARTWRIGHT, JR. in order to substantiate information or to disprove information set out in Atlanta teletype of July 3, 1968.

MEN ORLEANS discontinue efforts to locate Mrs. J. BURNETT.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date	5	/	1	6	/	68	
Date	 _	1	•	v	f	~	

ERNEST J. ETHERIDGE, Owner, Etheridge Used Cars, Highway 51 South, McComb, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent, who also advised him that he did not have to furnish any information, that any information he did furnish could be used in a court of law and that he could contact an attorney or anyone else at any time.

Mr. ETHERIDGE advised that he does not know anyone in the vicinity of Orange, Texas. He advised that according to his records, on December 7, 1967, he took in as a trade one 1957 Plymouth from one HOWARD THOMAS HALLOWY of Jackson, Mississippi. HALLOWY did not give a local address in Jackson, Mississippi, but advised that he was a driver working out of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and was having difficulty with his car and wanted to trade for a 1959 Rambler station wagon owned by ETHERIDGE.

Some two or three weeks later, Mr. ETHERIDGE received a long distance telephone call from HALLOWY asking him to get a license plate feceipt for the 1959 Rambler so that he could sell it in Louisiana. Mr. ETHERIDGE advised he got the receipt in the County Court House and a day or two later HALLOWY came by his used car lot and he gave it to him.

Mr. ETHERIDGE described this individual as being about twenty-eight years of age, about five feet eight inches, and weighing one hundred sixty pounds. He advised he had black hair and a fair to medium complexion. He could recall nothing further about him. He was alone on both occasions.

Mr. ETHERIDGE advised that this is the only

On	5/15/68 at _	McComb, Mississippi	_File #	157 - 9586 - <i>594</i>
by	SA REESIE L.	TIMMONS/wgj	_Date dictated	5/15/68
This doc	ument contains neither	recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI	. It is the property of th	e FBI and is loaned to

JN 157-9586

occasion he has received any long distance telephone call from any place in the past few months at his used car lot, telephone 684-6794.

JN 157-9586 PHC:bal 1

The following investigation was conducted by SA PETER H. CROOKS at Pascagoula, Mississippi, on May 28, 1968:

Mrs. BLANCH GIBBONS, 242 Carver Village, Pascagoula, Mississippi, was interviewed at her place of employment, Head Start Program, Baptist Church, Convent Street, Pascagoula, Mississippi, and advised the interviewing Agent that her telephone number is 762-3813. She advised that she occasionally receives telephone calls from the San Antonio, Texas, area from MARVIN MORRISSETTE. She stated that she cannot recall precisely, but believed that she did hear from MARVIN MORRISSETTE sometime in December, 1967, prior to Christmas.

It is noted that Mrs. BLANCH GIBBONS is a Negro female.

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The following investigation was conducted by SA PETER H. CROOKS at Moss Point, Mississippi, on May 28, 1968:

HATTIE MORRISSETTE, 1360 Winona Drive, Moss Point, Mississippi, advised the interviewing Agent that her telephone number is 475-7722. She advised that on the Sunday before Christmas weekend, December, 1967, she had received a telephone call from San Antonio, Texas, from her brotherin-law, MARVIN MORRISSETTE.

It is noted that HATTIE MORRISSETTE is a Negro female.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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JUL 2 4 1968 FBI — JACKSON DIRECTOR, FRI (44-38861)

7/24/68

SAC, KAHSAS CITY (44-760)

MURKIN

Re Jackson aintel to Director, 7/11/68.

On 7/22/60, U. S. Commissioner W. C. SHELLY, Jefferson City, Missouri, advised SA ROVEN B. AYERS he had dismissed the complaint on JAMES EARL RAY on that date.

The following investigation was conducted by IC WILLIAM C. MC DONALD:

At Jefferson City, Nissouri:

On 7/18/68, Mr. HARRY LAUF, Records Officer, Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP), furnished the following information on inmates with the last name of WILLETT received at the MSP subsequent to 1960:

from St. Louis City to serve a 3 1/2 year sentence on charge of Burglary 2nd/Degree and one prior. He was assigned MSP # 06915. This simate was released to a detainer in favor of Sheriff, St. Charles County, Mo. on 3/1/65. Relatives listed Dru:

Brother

Sister

Sister

Sister

Sister

Sister

Mr. ALVIN VILLETT, 4212 Iowa St. Louis, Missouri; CATHERINE MILTON, 2845 W. 28rd, Chicago, Illinois; VIRGIEIA O'MEAL, 1708 Doris. Cahokia, Illinois; BETTY KALK, 2111 Huntington, St. Louis, Missouri: HILEEN OFILENDORF, 3859A Wyoming, St. Louis, Missouri; MARY ELLEN WILLETT, 4621 Orugon,

St. Louis, Missoul:

- Sureau (RM)

∕- Jackson (157-9586)(RM)

2 - Mamphis (RM)

2 - Kansas City WCM: nks

(8)

Father

Mother

H. WILLETT, 4621 Oregon, St. Louis, Missouri; LORRAINE WILLETT, same address

He is described as a WM, born when, at St. Louis, Missouri, height 5'8", weight 142, hair brown, eyes gray, build slender, complexion medium, Social Security No. FBI #852 311 C, tattoo of a needle inner right forearm.

JAMES WILLETT (TN JAMES ROBERT WILLETT), aka BILL WILLETT, was held at the MSP 11/14/63, to serve a two year sentence on charge of escape, in Cole County, Mo. He had previously been received at the MSP, 12/1/60, from Dunklin County to serve a four year sentence on charge of Forgery. He was assigned MSP #01787. Records reflect WILLETT escaped from the Church Farm, MSP 1/13/62. He was apprehended and returned to the MSP, 1/15/62, to complete the original sentence.

This file reflects BILL WILLETT served a two year sentence in the Mississippi State Penitentiary in 1956.

The following information was obtained from an interoffice communication dated 9/10/62, to Director of Classification, MSP, from LEROY H. ROOK, M.S. Clinical Psychologist:

"In response to your IOC of September 6, 1962, the above named inmate was called to the psychiatric service on September 10, 1962 for interview and evaluation. The subject has just completed a three months tour on E-3 for becoming insolent and abusive to Lt. Williams. The subject has a history on the psychiatric service of being hospitalized from June 26, 1962 to July 5, 1962 on account of self-inflicted wounds and being in an emotionally disturbed state. He was again admitted on August 13, 1962 until August 15, 1962 for self-inflicted wounds and a highly nervous state. At that time he was demanding help but the nature of the help he expected was never made clear.

"The subject is an emotionally unstable individual. He is of average intellectual endowment, it seems, but he is ignorant, untutored, and uneducated. He is the sort of restless kind of individual who cannot bring himself to concentrate long enough to study in school. He was assigned to school when he first came here, but he got out of that because he was unable to concentrate on his work. Since that time he says he's never had a job. At the present time he says he's never had a job, but that he would like especially to work in the chair shop because he has had some experience on the outside working for his carpenter father-in-law as a carpenter's helper on inside cabinet work.

"When interviewed on this date the subject was in about as good a condition as we expect to ever see him in. It is recommended that he be assigned to work commensurate with his abilities and according to what is available."

The following was taken from Pre-Parole Progress Report dated November 8, 1961 by CLYDE CARRIOTT:

"Conduct:

One conduct violation reported for creating a disturbance, refusing orders, and writing obscenities on a test paper. For this he had his Yard and Show privilages denied for one month. He was reprimanded and released for Tatooing.

"Work:

12-29-60, Assigned to School. Work and training reports rate subject variously as good, poor, and fair. One report shows him to be considerate. The third report shows him as chirking his work, not doing what he was expected to do. His last report rates him good and states that he did average work. Subject states that he was not interested in school and therefore did not complete requirements for grade school.
8-4-61, Assigned to state at his request.

"Helath:

Normal.

"Military:

Hone .

KC 44=760

Manthat

Subject states that he was married in July, 1958, and has been separated from his wife but no divorce he been obtained. His wife is now eighteen, and was only fourteen years of age at the time of their marriage. One boy was born to this union. the baby is now with the wife's mother. The wife is working and the mother is caring for the child. The wife is also staying with the mother.

"FAMILY AND PERSONAL RELATIONS

"Subject states that he corresponds every week with his mother, Bertha Willet, and occasionally with his sister, Lois Boyd. He writes frequently to his wife. Elizabeth, and claims to have received no visits. Subject was reared in poor financial circumstances in Mississippi and Missouri. His father died in 1939 and had worked as a farmer.

"Subject was one of six children. He states that he lived alternately with his family in Mississippi and his half-brother, Frank, in Kennett, Missouri. His brother Paul is a farmer in Mississippi. His brother Charles, who had been a farmer in Kennett, Missouri, died in 1957. His half-brother, Frank Smithy, is a farmer in Kennett, Missouri, and his half-brother, David, is said to be Chief-of-police of a town in Ohio. None of the subject's family is said to have been in difficulty with the authorities. Subject claims he got elong well with all members of his family, however, he apparently lived a rather unsupervised life, living at times with vandous members of his family.

"POST-RELEASE PLANS

Subject has no desire to return to Kennett, Missouri, because of his trouble with the authorities. He is interested in obtaining work through the Dismas Clark Foundation. He would live with his wife if she would return to him, but he does not expect her to leave her mother in Kennett.

"SUMMARY

"James Willett, a twenty-six year old inmate, will have served one year of a four year sentence for Uttering Subject admits having served a sentence in Mississippi State Prison. However, no verified information has been received concerning this, and FBI record does not show any previous record.

"Subject states that he was released from Mississippi State Prison in May, 1958. He married a fourteen year old girl and lived in Kennett, Missouri. He states that he had considerable difficulty with his in-laws and that custody of his son had been given to his wife's mother. He stated that he had been arrested for disturbing the peace because his mother-in-law did not let him see his son and he had forced his way into the home. Because of his difficulty he forged a check in order to have money-to leave town.

"Subject apparently has lived a rather unstable and unsettled life and has been rather careless and irresponsible. It is not evident that he has had any change of attitude in this regard. He sees little value in education and has little ambition. Institutionally his record has been marginal, however, it would not prohibit further parole consideration."

Records reflect WILLETT was discharged from the MSP 3/14/65.

A letter in WILLETT's file indicated that he was incarcerated in the Illinois State Penitentiary on 5/2/67.

WILLETT is described as a WM, born the state of chest; numerous other tattoos on both arms.

Relatives listed are:

Mother

Sister

Sister

Brother

BERTHA WILLETT, Route 1, Box 64, Marks, Mississippi or 436 Singapore, Carpentersville,

Illinois;

Wife ELIZABETH WILLETT, 912 Anthony

St., Kennett, Missouri;

MARGARET RATCLIFF, Elygen, Ill.;

LOIS BOYD, Route 1, Box 64,

Marks, Mississippi

FRANK WILLETT, General Delivery,

Dearing, Missouri.

MILTON LAWRENCE WILLETT, MSP # 09993, was received from Jackson County, Mo., to serve a two year sentence on charge of Forgery. He was paroled to Kansas on 2/23/65, and given a final discharge on 11/28/65.

He is described as a WM, born at Osborne, Kansas, height 5'6", weight 114, hair brown, eyes hazel, build small, complexion medium, occupation clerical, FBI # 146 931 B.

His wife is listed as MARY K. WILLETT, 607 West 34th Street, Kansas City, Missouri.

There is no indication that this individual was ever in Mississippi.

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

7/24/68

SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) -P-

MURKIN

Re Jackson airtel to Director, 7/11/68.

On 7/22/68, U. S. Commissioner W. C. SHELEY, Jefferson City, Missouri, advised SA ROWEN B. AYERS he had dismissed the complaint on JAMES EARL RAY on that date.

The following investigation was conducted by IC WILLIAM C. MC DONALD:

At Jefferson City, Missouri:

On 7/18/68, Mr. HARRY LAUF, Records Officer, Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP), furnished the following information on inmates with the last name of WILLETT received at the MSP subsequent to 1960:

DONALD ROY WILLETT was received at the MSP 6/11/63, from St. Louis City to serve a 3 1/2 year sentence on charge of Burglary 2nd Degree and one prior. He was assigned MSP # 06915. This inmate was released to a detainer in favor of Sheriff, St. Charles County, Mo. on 3/1/65. Relatives listed are:

Brother

Sister

Sister

Sister

Sister

Sister

Mr. ALVIN WILLETT, 4212 Iowa
St. Louis, Missouri;
CATHERINE MILTON, 2345 W. 23rd,
Chicago, Illinois;
VIRGINIA O'NEAL, 1708 Doris,
Cahokia, Illinois;
BETTY KALK, 2111 Huntington,
St. Louis, Missouri;
EILEEN OHLENDORF, 3859A Wyoming,
St. Louis, Missouri;
MARY ELLEN WILLETT, 4621 Oregon,
St. Louis, Missouri;

2 - Bureau (RM)

2 Jackson (157-9586) (RM)

2 - Memphis (RM)

2 - Kansas City WCM:nks

(8)

3

157 5

157-9586-597

"The subject is an emotionally unstable individual. He is of average intellectual endowment, it seems, but he is ignorant, untutored, and uneducated. He is the sort of restless kind of individual who cannot bring himself to concentrate long enough to study in school. He was assigned to school when he first came here, but he got out of that because he was unable to concentrate on his work. Since that time he says he's never had a job. At the present time he states that he would take any job, but that he would like especially to work in the chair shop because he has had some experience on the outside working for his carpenter father-in-law as a carpenter's helper on inside cabinet work.

"When interviewed on this date the subject was in about as good a condition as we expect to ever see him in. It is recommended that he is assigned to work commensurate with his abilities and according to what is available."

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One conduct violation reported for creating a disturbance, refusing orders, and writing obscenities on a test paper. For this he had his Yard and Show privileges denied for one month. He was reprimanded and released for Tatooing.

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8-4-61, Assigned to state at his request.

"Helath:

Normal.

"Military:

None.

KC 44=760

"Marital

Subject states that he was married in July, 1958, and has been separated from his wife but no divorce has been obtained. His wife is now eighteen, and was only fourteen years of age at the time of their marriage. One boy was bern to this union. the baby is now with the wife's mother. The wife is working and the mother is caring for the child. The wife is also staying with the mother.

"FAMILY AND PERSONAL RELATIONS

"Subject states that he correspinds every week with his mother, Bertha Willet, and occasionally with his sister, bois Boyd. He writes frequently to his wife, Elizabeth, and claims to have received no visits. Subject was reared in poer financial circumstances in Mississippi and Missouri. His father died in 1939 and had worked as a farmer.

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"POST-RELEASE PLANS

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"SUMMARY

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"Subject states that he was released from Mississippi State Prison in May, 1958. He married a fourteen year old girl and lived in Kennett, Missouri. He states that he had considerable difficulty with his in-laws and that custody of his son had been given to his wife's mother. He stated that he had been arrested for disturbing the peace because his mother-in-law did not let him see his son and he had forced his way into the home. Because of his difficulty he forged a check in order to have money-to leave town.

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Records reflect WILLETT was discharged from the MSP 3/14/65.

A letter in WILLETT's file indicated that he was incarcerated in the Illinois State Penitentiary on 5/2/67.

WILLETT is described as a WM, born at Huntsville, Alabama, height 5'9", weight 135, hair brown, eyes brown, build slender, complexion medium, occupation farmer, Social Security No. FBI # 692 571 E, tattoos - snake outer right forearm; eagle center of chest; numerous other tattoos on both arms.

Relatives listed are:

Mother

BERTHA WILLETT, Route 1, Box 64, Marks, Mississippi or 436 Singapore, Carpentersville, Illinois;

Wife

ELIZABETH WILLETT, 912 Anthony

Sister Sister St., Kennett, Missouri; MARGARET RATCLIFF, Elygen, Ill.;

LOIS BOYD, Route 1, Box 64, Marks, Mississippi

Brother

Marks, Mississippi FRANK WILLETT, General Delivery, Dearing Missouri

Dearing, Missouri.

MILTON LAWRENCE WILLETT, MSP # 09993, was received from Jackson County, Mo., to serve a two year sentence on charge of Forgery. He was paroled to Kansas on 2/23/65, and given a final discharge on 11/28/65.

He is described as a WM, born at Osborne, Kansas, height 5'6", weight 114, hair brown, eyes hazel, build small, complexion medium, occupation clerical, FBI # 146 931 B.

His wife is listed as MARY K. WILLETT, 607 West 34th Street, Kansas City, Missouri.

There is no indication that this individual was ever in Mississippi.

FBI

Date: 7/25/68

Tean	smit the following in _		
run	sint the tollowing in _	(Type in plain tent of code)	
¥2	AIRTEL	ATRMAIL	
VIQ.	AIRIBL	(Priority or Method of Mailing)	
-1	то:	DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)	
acente anno Colpa	FROM:	SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-10673) (P)	0
THE REAL PROPERTY AND ADDRESS OF THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN 1	SUBJ ÈC T:	MURKIN	
	***	(OO: Memphis)	•
The state of the s	Atlanta , t	Re Memphis airtel to Bureau, 7/13/68, and teletype, 7/3/68.	
Marie Commission of the state o		Enclosed to the Bureau are four copies of a lemphis two copies of the LHM, an interview with L BURNETT, Monroe, La.	alia ,
	Altheimer residence Grand St. that she Whitfield best of I such a pewith her she felt RAYMOND Chusband, and in Janurseries heard of	Mrs. NELL BURNETT, formerly Mrs. CHARLES C. nd wife of the late CHARLES C. WILLEY of r, Ark., was interviewed at her temporary e, Apartment 3, Layton Castle, 1133 South., Monroe, La., on 7/22/68, and she stated did not know RAYMOND CURTIS, now an inmate of d County Jail, Dalton, Ga., and that to the her knowledge, her date husband did not know erson. She stated that she was nearly always late husband when he was on their boat, and sure that he did not know such a person as CURTIS. Mrs. BURNETT stated that her late CHARLES C. WILLEY, died three years ago, anuary, 1966, she sold the boat to Cartwright s, Collierville, Tenn. Mrs. BURNETT had never JAMES EARL RAY prior to the recent publicity ng him with the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUI	THER
	1-Atlanta 2-Jacksor 2-Little 2-Memphis 2-New Orl		598
L	(11)	2000 to	1 0
	Approved:	Sent M Per	11 90
		al Agent in Charge	

F B I

Date: \\8/1/68

(Priority)

Transmit the following in	
The state of the s	(Type in plaintext or code)
AIRTEL	

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM:

SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

MURKIN

Re Kansas City letter to the Bureau 7/24/68 and Atlanta teletype to the Bureau, Interview in County Jail, Dalton, Georgia, 7/3/68.

Enclosed herewith for Chicago is one copy of each referenced communication.

For the additional information of Chicago, it has been determined the houseboat capable of travel on the Mississippi River was at one time owned by one CHARLES WILLIE, now deceased, a well-respected and wealthy plantation owner of Wabbaseka, Arkansas. Ope A. D. CARTWRIGHT. JR., owner of the Cartwright Nursery Company, Collierville, Tennessee, obtained possession of the houseboat in February. 1966. The results of interview with CARTWRIGHT are not known to Jackson.

3 - Bureau (RM)

2 - Chicago (Enc. 2) (RM)

1 - Memphis (44-1987) (Info)

Jackson

JGW:mif

157-9586- 599

Serialized.

Approved:

Special Agent in Charge

Sent