

Wheeler, to Mr. John Callon, President of Hanover Corporation, the first having been approved by Louis J. Roussel, representing Bankers Union Life Insurance Company and Gulf Natural Gas Corporation. Affiant called the Court's attention to that portion of the letter of November 27, 1966 which outlined the specific terms and conditions upon which Louis J. Roussel and his companies would be willing to settle their several claims, which were specifically described but which did not include the note for the \$225,000.00 that was due Gulf Natural Gas Corporation on the purchase of the shares of Louisiana Citrus Company, Inc. As one condition for settlement, it was required that affiant agree irrevocably, in writing, that

"(1) Mr. Louis J. Roussel may foreclose upon the stock of Louisiana Citrus Lands, Inc., which is the subject of the law suit referred to in this paragraph, without any opposition whatsoever from Sam J. Recile, his heirs or assigns, or

(2) He will convey the title to the stock of Louisiana Citrus Lands, Inc., which is the subject of this law suit by a dation en paiement, at Mr. Roussel's option. The conditions set forth in this paragraph must be satisfied in writing as a condition precedent to our agreeing to the proposals set forth above in this letter."

These same proposals were reiterated in the abovementioned letter of November 29, 1967 in the same language that has just been quoted. In connection with affiant's production of the said letters, affiant testified that, in his opinion, these conditions alone made it impossible for the Hughes plan to succeed because the stock of the Louisiana Citrus Lands, Inc. was considered a valuable, if not an indispensable, asset as part of the Hughes proposals.

In addition to the above, affiant testified, under oath, at the hearing on April 19th, 1968, that he had become associated with one Robert Hill of the Lincoln Liberty Life Insurance Company, and that affiant and Hill were interested in purchasing about 75 per cent of the stock of the Bankers Union Life Insurance Company with headquarters in Denver, Colorado. At that time, affiant stated that Louis J. Roussel was his principal banker, and that he had consulted with Mr. Roussel about how he might borrow the necessary funds to acquire the stock of that insurance company. Affiant also stated, under oath, that he and Hill had reached an agreement with Mr. Roussel through which Mr.

Roussel was to obtain the necessary financing from institutions that he controlled or influenced; and that as a result of the agreement, the shares that were to be acquired (actually 77 shares) were to be owned on the basis of 26 shares jointly by affiant and Hill, and 51 shares by Mr. Roussel, and Hill was to become President of Bankers Union. Affiant then related a controversy that had arisen through which Hill and affiant had been eliminated and how affiant, who then owed Mr. Roussel many millions of dollars on various transactions, was warned by Mr. Roussel that if affiant continued to associate with Hill or to take any part in any law suit, drastic action would be taken against affiant with regard to affiant's said loans. Affiant stated that he accepted the warning and was, therefore, unable to assert his claim against the stock and also unable to assist Hill. The report of affiant's testimony concerning the Bankers Union Life Insurance Company appeared in the Times Picayune on Saturday morning, April 20th, 1968.

At the same hearing, and in response to a previous request from J. B. Kiefer, Attorney for the Trustee, approved by Judge Talbot, affiant provided a list of the names of various corporations and individuals with whom he had completed transactions in connection with loans that had been obtained from or through Louis J. Roussel. In each one of said transactions, Louis J. Roussel had personally benefited, directly or indirectly; and in order to shorten the Court hearing and at the request of J. B. Kiefer, Attorney, again with the approval of Judge Talbot, affiant agreed to furnish one or more affidavits covering each and every transaction that involved Louis J. Roussel, and each and every one of the corporations or persons whose names had been given by affiant, under oath, at the said hearing.

At the same hearing, affiant produced documentary evidence to further corroborate his previous testimony concerning his having paid a loan that was due Louis J. Roussel, but in connection with which Mr. Roussel had failed and refused to return the collateral on the basis that he, Mr. Roussel, had turned over affiant's collateral to Dr. F. E. LeJeune to secure a note that the doctor held. Affiant testified, under oath, that he had not authorized the giving of said collateral to Dr. LeJeune and pointed to Dr. LeJeune's suit on the said note, filed in the Civil District Court, in which no mention whatever was made of the collateral which Mr. Roussel claimed he had given to Dr. LeJeune to further secure the said loan.

On Monday morning, April 22, 1968, affiant received a message from one of his employees, John Hogan, that Manfred Sternberg had telephoned affiant at his office. Affiant did not answer the call. Sternberg called affiant's office one or more additional times during this period, but affiant did not take or answer the call, acting under advice of James J. Morrison. On Tuesday evening, April 23, 1968, a telephone call came to affiant at his home at 288-7678. When affiant picked up the receiver, a man's voice said, "If you continue taking after Roussel and your friends, I will fix you up. If you love your family, keep your big mouth shut." Affiant did not respond. At that time, affiant was suffering from an infection on his right hand and, particularly, remembers the call because when it came affiant was soaking his hand in a salt solution.

On Wednesday, April 24, 1968, affiant entered Touro Infirmary under the advice and care of Dr. George Burch, because affiant was told that he had developed blood poisoning, and affiant remained in the hospital until Friday night, April 26th, 1968, when he returned to his home.

While in the hospital, affiant received two telephone calls, one was first answered by Gene Leslie in Room M 618 at Touro Infirmary. When no one responded to his answer, Gene put the receiver to affiant's ear and upon finding no one there, respondent asked the switch board operator at Touro if she knew who had made the call, a man or woman. She explained that she was very busy when the call came, and all she remembered was that the caller had asked for affiant. This call was repeated in the same manner shortly thereafter.

On the night of April 30th, 1968, affiant left his office (being his first full day back in the office after being discharged from the hospital following the infection in his right hand), and returned to his home at about 7:00 P.M. Affiant received a telephone call on 288-7678. The calling party asked if affiant was Sam J. Recile and affiant stated that it was. The caller then stated "you no good bastard - you have been warned time and time again to keep your big mouth shut. You proceed to testify against Roussel and LeJeune and we will teach you a lesson. We know you love your wife and your five children. If you want a sample, we will give you one. We know every move that your family makes. Your little boy was in Lake Vista this evening. How would you have liked for him not to come home? You go ahead and continue to testify with your big mouth and we will give you a sample", and hung up. Affiant was very

concerned about the matter but did not discuss it with his wife due to the fact that she was scheduled for an operation the following day but affiant did check to see if all of his children, particularly his older boys, were at home.

Without alarming anyone, affiant asked his boys to be sure to come straight home from school each day and asked the boys who were then going to St. Aloysius High School and Jesuit High School to take their names off their uniforms after leaving the school grounds. This, they advised affiant, they had already done because their mother had so cautioned them previously about it.

Affiant retired early on the evening of April 30th, and at approximately a few minutes past 8:30 P.M., affiant received a call from one Bill Gurvich. Mr. Gurvich stated that he would like very much to discuss a matter with affiant which he considered very important to affiant. Unfortunately, Mr. Gurvich was unable to leave his home at that time and asked if affiant could possibly meet him. Affiant agreed to meet Mr. Gurvich at his home but explained that his hand was still bandaged and that Gene Leslie had left and requested the right to have Mr. Spalitta drive affiant to the Gurvich home which was at 4501 Cleveland Place, Metairie, Jefferson Parish, Louisiana. Gurvich stated that this would be fine and he would be expecting us. Affiant asked if he could give him some idea on the telephone as to the nature of the matter, particularly whether it was good or bad. Affiant's previous telephone calls had gotten him in a spirit of deep concern. Mr. Gurvich stated that in his opinion it was neither good nor bad but was something he felt, as a friend, affiant should be apprised of so that affiant might take whatever precautions were necessary. Affiant dressed, was picked up by Mr. Spalitta, who lives several blocks away, and was driven to Mr. Gurvich's home. (For the record, I might mention that Mr. Gurvich and his wife are personal friends of affiant's wife and affiant and that Mr. Gurvich's father-in-law, Mr. A. J. Bankhead of Baton Rouge, has been a long time personal friend of affiant and Mr. Spalitta). Upon arriving at Mr. Gurvich's home, he stated that he did not know exactly how to apprise affiant of the events leading up to his asking affiant to meet with him; that he had given it serious consideration over the past several hours and had concluded that as a friend he felt that affiant should be apprised of the information that had come to his attention early in the afternoon of that day when he had received a telephone call from a gentleman who was a very dear friend of his who was employed by one of the leading national magazines. Said party had stated to Mr. Gurvich that

Mr. Louis Lomax, the reporter for a West Coast news publisher who has been writing a number of articles that had appeared in or were referred to in the New Orleans States-Item on the assassination of Martin Luther King, and elsewhere throughout the United States. Mr. Gurvich's information had stated that Mr. Lomax had identified affiant as the industrialist involved in the assassination of Martin Luther King in Memphis, Tennessee, to fellow newsmen in and outside of New Orleans, more particularly to 3 members of the New Orleans Press, (Charles Wylds, Howard Jacobs and Clarence Doucet) of the Houston Chronicle and of the Los Angeles Times. Mr. Gurvich also stated that not only, in his opinion, was this absurd but he later said, after affiant reported the various threats that he had previously received, that this appeared to be part of viciously designed propaganda to ruin affiant personally and because of that and not because he felt that same had any truth or that any of the news media would consider that this had any merit, that he (Gurvich) should apprise affiant of same. Gurvich did not, at that time, disclose the name of the party he spoke to but, after further discussing the matter with affiant and Mr. Spalitta, Gurvich agreed that he had no objection to calling this party and explaining to the party that he was affiant's friend and that he would like to have permission to divulge the name of the party, as well as the facts, and possibly have the party speak to affiant or one of affiant's representatives. With that, we agreed and Gurvich called one Mr. Hugh Aynesworth in Houston, Texas, in the presence of affiant and Spalitta. Mr. Aynesworth spoke to Mr. Gurvich and again reiterated the statements which he had earlier told Mr. Gurvich. Mr. Gurvich, in the presence of affiant and Mr. Spalitta, explained to Mr. Aynesworth that he was affiant's friend and that he, of his own knowledge, knew that affiant was not this type of person and that he was interested in knowing more about the details of the nature of this accusation. Mr. Aynesworth repeated to Mr. Gurvich what he had told him earlier in the day and attributed the information as coming directly to him from Mr. Lomax. Affiant was informed by Gurvich that Mr. Aynesworth had been covering the assassination of King for his employer and had been working in close harmony with Mr. Lomax and is, therefore, in a position to know what Mr. Lomax is doing and saying. According to Mr. Gurvich, Mr. Aynesworth stated that he did not want to get involved in any court matters but did state that he would talk to affiant at any time and told Mr. Gurvich he could have affiant contact him direct. Mr. Gurvich then gave affiant Aynesworth's office and residence

telephone numbers in Houston, Texas. Mr. Gurvich told Mr. Aynesworth that he would definitely tell affiant everything he knew. Affiant has not, as yet, otherwise contacted Aynesworth; but Mr. Gurvich is able and willing to corroborate the facts that are stated above.

Affiant couldn't believe this nightmare. The first thing affiant could think of was how this might be related to his earlier telephone calls and threats and more particularly the one on that particular afternoon against affiant's family. Affiant then related to Mr. Gurvich how strange it was that all of this was happening since the testimony that affiant had given in the bankruptcy proceedings that began on April 15th, and particularly after the news articles had appeared relative to the dealings with Louis J. Roussel and one or more of his entities. Affiant advised Mr. Gurvich that on Thursday, April 25th, while affiant was in Touro, he had received two anonymous telephone calls, but was unable to speak to the parties and the operator had stated that she could not give affiant any information except as stated above; and that on Thursday evening, affiant's office had received a telephone call between 6:00 and 8:00 P.M. from Channel 12 and the calling party wanted to speak to affiant. The porter who answered the office telephone called affiant's residence and affiant's wife apprised Mr. Spalitta of the said call. Mr. Spalitta reported to affiant that he called Channel 12 and attempted to determine the nature of the call to affiant's office; but was informed that the information could not be discussed with anyone other than affiant. With that, Mr. Spalitta advises that he advised Channel 12 that he would try to locate affiant and have the call answered; and that he then called Mr. Robert W. Smith, Jr. of Kalman, Rogers & Smith (who has in the past handled public relations for affiant and various other entities) and apprised him of the telephone call, and mentioned to Mr. Smith that possibly Channel 12 was trying to determine whether or not affiant was in the hospital and for Mr. Smith to handle the matter discreetly. Mr. Smith advised that he would immediately call the station and call Mr. Spalitta back. At about 8:30 P.M., Smith called Spalitta and advised that the young man in the newsroom at Channel 12 still would not divulge any information to him; so Smith had insisted that the young man contact Mr. Alex Gifford, News Director for Channel 12, so as to get clearance with regard to the original call to affiant. Smith advised Spalitta that as soon as he heard from Mr. Gifford, he would call him back. At about 9:00 P.M., Smith again called Spalitta after having received Alex Gifford's call. Mr. Gifford apologized for the original telephone call and stated that the young man in the newsroom was following up a news lead but he did feel rather embarrassed about

pursuing it. Mr. Smith, however, insisted that he be told the nature of the news item. At this point, Mr. Gifford related to Mr. Smith that the news item was to the effect that affiant was the "mysterious industrialist" instrumental in the Martin Luther King assassination and they wished to get a statement from him with regard to the reported news item which had been made available to their station. Gifford had stated, however, to Mr. Smith that the station would not pursue this matter at this time since they really had no basis for further interest with regard to such a news item and assured Mr. Smith, repeatedly, that it was just a young newsman's way of attempting to get a news article further elaborated on. Mr. Smith advised Mr. Spalitta that he felt that Channel 12 would not pursue this ridiculous line any further and that he should completely disregard the call as more or less a practical joke. To this end, Spalitta did not discuss this matter with affiant until the next day but merely, in a passing conversation, related to affiant's mentioning to him the fact that he had received the telephone calls on Thursday evening in the hospital. (The facts stated above that were reported to affiant by Spalitta or Smith can be confirmed by them, if necessary.)

After bringing to Mr. Gurvich's attention these matters, affiant likewise apprised Mr. Gurvich of the telephone calls to his residence, including the Sternberg calls. Mr. Gurvich stated, at this point, not having known of all of these facts, that he was more than happy now that he had apprised affiant of what had occurred and that he felt that without a doubt someone was most likely trying to ruin affiant and that, possibly, the threatening telephone calls were all a part of the same method of intimidation in an effort to scare affiant into refusing to give any further testimony in Court or to discredit affiant, if he was forced to continue with his testimony. Mr. Gurvich had no suggestions, other than the fact that affiant could, at least, in confidence, speak to Mr. Aynesworth and get firsthand information from him as to that portion of the matter which he had been apprised of. Affiant also explained to Mr. Gurvich that the matter was most serious, particularly the threatening calls against affiant's family and that he felt that he should call Mr. C. Ellis Henican, to whom he had given information when one or more of the prior threats had been received, since Mr. Henican was working with the informal committee and was deeply interested in having the Franchard proposals favorably regarded. Further, affiant informed Mr. Gurvich that he felt that he should

call Mr. Sehrt because Mr. Sehrt had indicated to affiant and affiant's special counsel, William J. Friedman and Lee Freeman, that he would always do his best to solve all of the problems which involved Louis J. Roussel, National American Bank and one or more of Roussel's entities. Affiant also stated that he wanted to call Mr. Smith because this was in line with information Mr. Smith was familiar with, more particularly the incident aforementioned. With that, from Mr. Gurvich's home, affiant called Mr. Smith but he was not at home. However, Mr. Spalitta was able to reach Mr. Smith just before affiant and Spalitta left Mr. Gurvich's home. Affiant then called Mr. J. J. Morrison and they agreed to meet near Mr. Sehrt's home (which is located at 5870 Canal Boulevard) with the understanding that they would all discuss the matter (J. J. Morrison, Bob Smith, Frank Spalitta and affiant) - then call Mr. Sehrt with the idea of meeting him at his home. Mr. Henican had previously stated to affiant over the telephone that if Mr. Sehrt wished him to participate in a conference he would do so upon hearing from Mr. Sehrt or affiant. The above parties met at approximately midnight. Mr. Smith called Mr. Doucet at the Times-Picayune, after trying to reach one or more of the parties above named. Mr. Doucet explained that he had received the information from a telephone call from Mr. Lomax of Los Angeles; that he had not given very much credence to the conversation but that Lomax had definitely stated that affiant was the party he was referring to in his previous articles as the "industrialist". Mr. Smith related this information to affiant, in detail, in the presence of Morrison and Spalitta. Affiant then called Mr. Sehrt's home and the party (male) answering the telephone stated that Mr. Sehrt was at the Statler Hilton Hotel in Dallas, Texas. From a public telephone booth, affiant called the Dallas Texas Information Exchange and charged the call to 529-4633, his office telephone, and spoke to Mr. Sehrt on Long Distance telephone and told him that he needed his advice; that affiant's family had been threatened and affiant was at his rope's end and would he please listen to affiant. Affiant explained that he had called Mr. Henican and prevailed upon Mr. Henican in a humane manner (he no longer being affiant's attorney) to give affiant some advice on what to do and that affiant was in the street near his home in the hope that a meeting might be held at Mr. Sehrt's home and thereby put an end to all "of this ridiculous stuff"; that affiant had fought, in every court in the land and would continue to fight for the benefit of that which he thought was right in asserting every

claim that he might have for the benefit of the various corporations that affiant was a stockholder of or was interested in, and the creditors, until the end. However, affiant stated that he could not understand how anyone could stoop to the level of threatening the lives of his wife and children, or of any children, or of any family as a means to achieve a victory in any court proceeding or business transaction. Affiant specifically told Mr. Sehrt that he had never had any animosity against Mr. Roussel, despite the fact that he did not approve of his business tactics. Nevertheless, it was obvious that since the date of affiant's first testimony, in the federal bankruptcy proceedings, the continuous threats by Manfred Sternberg (Mr. Roussel's close friend and business associate) and other anonymous calls have gotten to be of such a serious nature that affiant did not know what next to expect; and that affiant was calling Mr. Sehrt in hopes that a meeting might be held with him and Mr. Henican so as to assure both of them that all affiant was doing was testifying to the truth based upon facts and the records which are now public information in and through the bankruptcy court and that there should be no need for the further intimidation of affiant and his family; that affiant must tell the truth and that if Mr. Roussel wanted to eliminate affiant, please to do it on any street, at any time, but without endangering the lives, or threatening the lives, of his family. Mr. Sehrt stated that he was with Mr. Roussel in Dallas and that Mr. Roussel could not have made the threats that had been made earlier in the afternoon against his children on that same day. Affiant also explained to Mr. Sehrt that he was not pointing a finger to Roussel, or anyone else, but that he knew that Mr. Roussel was capable of these tactics and merely wanted to meet with Mr. Sehrt, Mr. Henican, and Mr. Morrison so affiant could apprise all of them of even more unreal matters that had occurred since the testimony that had begun on April 15th. Mr. Sehrt agreed that he would return on the following afternoon, May 1st, and would meet with Mr. Morrison, Mr. Henican and affiant to discuss the matter and assured affiant that he did not condone such tactics and would do what he could about the matter. Affiant was obviously so upset while talking to Mr. Sehrt that Mr. Morrison, who has a very calm disposition, advised Mr. Sehrt the seriousness of the matter and with that the conversation was ended.

Affiant then returned to his residence with the advice of all parties that he should not call Mr. Aynesworth or Mr. Lomax because any denial of

such a proposed accusation would merely be putting coal on the fire, i.e., allowing such information to be printed by the news media as a denial by affiant of a fact that was just a rumor; and that this would accomplish what the intimidating party was seeking to do, and the damage would be done by having affiant's name linked with a very destructive and inhumane action such as the assassination of Martin Luther King and the parties who were instrumental in planting the seed in the mind of Mr. Lomax of the "mysterious industrialist" would achieve their goal. Affiant accepted this as good advice. The other advice that affiant received was from Mr. Henican which was merely a repetition of his previous advice when affiant first told him of the intimidating and threatening telephone calls, namely; that affiant should relate the entire matter to Judge Edmund E. Talbot, since this matter stemmed from affiant's testimony in his Court and more particularly since the threatening telephone calls from Mr. Sternberg and the anonymous parties had followed affiant's testimony relating to the events and transactions dealing with Louis J. Roussel and some 20 companies and/or individuals which he controls. J. J. Morrison had given affiant similar advice. Incidentally, before leaving the public telephone near Mr. Sehrt's home, affiant called Mr. J. B. Kiefer, one of the attorneys for Mr. Johannesen, Trustee, and requested a meeting with Mr. Kiefer at that late hour, approximately 1:30 A.M., for the purpose of telling him of the threats that had been made and requesting him to arrange for this information to be given to Judge Talbot. Mr. Kiefer stated that he would like to meet with affiant, Morrison, Spalitta and others the following day and would arrange a meeting, immediately with Judge Talbot, but since Judge Talbot would not be in on Wednesday, May 1st, he would arrange for a meeting on the following day, Thursday, May 2nd. It was at that time I remember Mr. Spalitta reported to me that it was just at about the time that affiant had received the Sternberg and other threatening calls that Mr. Kiefer had likewise received numerous calls from Sternberg or Mr. Sternberg's attorney, Mr. Morey Sear, that related to the matters pertaining to affiant's testimony. Affiant does not know all of the details of Mr. Sear's contact with Mr. Kiefer, nonetheless, Mr. Kiefer expressed considerable concern about affiant's safety, not only because of what affiant had already testified to but also because of the future testimony which he expected affiant to give in connection with affiant's bankruptcy proceedings, and more particularly the other transactions that affiant had with Mr. Roussel, National American Bank and/or one or more of Louis J. Roussel's companies. Affiant, therefore, felt that Mr. Kiefer would assist

him in meeting with Judge Talbot. Mr. Kiefer promptly arranged for a meeting with Judge Talbot, which was held at 11:30 A.M. on Thursday, May 2nd. Present at the meeting were Messrs. Ingard O. Johannesen, Heller, Kiefer, Morrison, Spalitta, Judge Talbot, and affiant. Affiant related the entire matter to Judge Talbot and asked him for his advice. Judge Talbot stated that the matter was most serious and that his advice was that the matter should be brought to the attention of Hon. Frederick J. R. Heebe, U. S. Attorney Louis LaCour and the FBI. To that end, Judge Talbot stated that he would meet with Judge Heebe and would arrange for an appointment with him as soon as possible and with the U. S. Attorney and the FBI so that the facts could be presented. Judge Talbot later advised that he had met with Judge Heebe and that an appointment was scheduled for Wednesday, May 8th, at 2:30 P.M., with Mr. LaCour, members of the FBI and all parties of interest to be present at that time.

In accordance with Mr. Sehrt's assurances to affiant, he met with affiant and Mr. C. Ellis Henican, Sr. in Mr. Henican's private office on Thursday, May 2nd, 1968, at 2:30 P.M. Mr. Spalitta and Mr. J. J. Morrison participated in the meeting. Affiant related to all present at the meeting the whole series of events following affiant's testimony on April 15th, 1968.

Mr. Sehrt and Mr. C. Ellis Henican, both made notes as affiant spoke. This was apparently the first time that either Mr. Sehrt or Mr. Henican have been given a detailed account of all the happenings. They both appeared to be flabbergasted.

Mr. Sehrt assured those present that he would not participate in, nor would he condone what had happened. He did say, however, that he would get in touch with Mr. Moise Steeg, Attorney, and advise Mr. Steeg to straighten out Manfred Sternberg and that he had other things in mind, but stated that he would not reveal them.

Mr. Sehrt also stated that affiant had received sound advice from Mr. Henican and Mr. J. J. Morrison, and that is what he would do if he were faced with the same problem.

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED

BEEFORE ME THIS 5th DAY

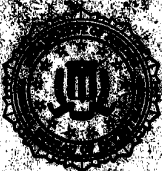
OF MAY, 1968.

James J. Morrison

James J. Morrison

PLAZA TOWERS, INC.;
SOUTHERN LAND TITLE CORPORATION;
SAM J. RECILE

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
New Orleans, Louisiana

May 9, 1968

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

PLAZA TOWERS, INC.;
SOUTHERN LAND TITLE CORPORATION;
SAM J. RECILE

On May 8, 1968, Sam J. Recile appeared with his attorneys at the office of the FBI in New Orleans. He stated that in connection with current hearings in United States District Court involving reorganization hearings for the captioned corporations, as well as involving his personal bankruptcy, he has become concerned for his own welfare and that of his family if he continues to appear as a witness and testifies as to all facts known to him in these bankruptcy matters. His next appearance is scheduled for May 13, 1968.

Mr. Recile furnished a copy of his prepared affidavit which is attached hereto.

11-Bureau (44-1570) U.S. ATTORNEY
1-Civil Rights Section, New Orleans, La.
①-New Orleans (144-550)
①-157-10673

157-10673-884
Searched _____
Serialized _____
Indexed _____
Filed _____

DIRECTOR, FBI (49-18359)

5/9/68

SAC, NEW ORLEANS (49-829) (P)

PLAZA TOWERS, INC.;
SOUTHERN LAND TITLE CORPORATION;
SAM J. RECILE
NBA; OOJ

Re New Orleans teletype dated 5/9/68.

Enclosed are eleven copies of a letterhead memorandum concerning complaint received on 5/8/68, from subject RECILE. Additional copies are being furnished for the Civil Rights Section because of the reference in RECILE's affidavit to the MURKIN matter.

2-Bureau (Enc. 11)
3-New Orleans (2-49-829)
(1-157-10673)

DLH-kbz
(5) *ky*

157-10673-885
Searched _____
Serialized *L*
Indexed _____
Filed */*

Indices Search Slip
FD-160 (Rev. 5-22-64)

TO: CHIEF CLERK

Date 5/6/68

Subject CECIL M. SHILSTONE

Aliases

Address New Orleans

Birth Date

Birthplace

Race

Sex

Male

Female

- ☐ Exact Spelling ☐ Main Criminal Case Files Only ☐ Restrict to Locality of
- ☒ All References ☐ Criminal References Only
- ☐ Main Subversive Case Files Only ☐ Main Subversive (If no Main, list all Subversive References)
- ☐ Subversive References Only ☐ Main Criminal (If no Main, list all Criminal References)

File & Serial Number	Remarks	File & Serial Number	Remarks
89-69-3114	✓ T	Testing Lab.	
-3363	✓ T		
-3489 p 6	✓ I	172-20-149	✓ I
-1689 p 8	OUT	172-16-61	✓ I
-3480	✓ T	62-2904	✓ I
-3151 p 2	✓ I		
89-69A-125 p 1, 2	✓ I		
-123 p 2	✓ T		
-227	OUT		
-228	OUT I		
65-289-A-21	✓ I		
-66 p 33	✓ I		
-89 p 9	✓ I		
76-2424-1	✓ I		
89-69-1491	✓ I		

Requested by Callender

Squad

6

Extension

42

File No.

157-10673

Searched by

VS

(date)

Consolidated by

(date)

Reviewed by

(date)

File Review Symbols

I - Identical

? - Not identifiable

NI - Not identical

U - Unavailable reference

157-10673

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY - 6 1968	
FBI - NEW ORLEANS	

Callender

157- 10673 Serial 886

Original sent to HQ

Re: JFK Assassination

4/26/92

Attn: William Shockelford

Room 4336

FOIPA
DO NOT DESTROY

CECIL M. SHILSTONE, P. E.
PRESIDENT

SHILSTONE TESTING LABORATORY, INC.
CECIL M. SHILSTONE AND ASSOCIATES, INC.
814 CONTI STREET NEW ORLEANS

(3)

DATE: 5/7/68

SUBJECT: MURKIN

At approximately 3:15 PM on 5/6/68, Mr. CHARLES I. DENECHAUD, JR., an attorney located at 1412 Pere Marquette Building, appeared at the Office along with Mr. CECIL M. SHILSTONE. Mr. DENECHAUD stated that he has represented Mr. SHILSTONE for many years and that Mr. SHILSTONE was insistent upon coming to this office to provide information.

Mr. SHILSTONE stated he is President of the Shilstone Testing Laboratory, Inc., as well as President of Shilstone and Associates located at 814 Conti Street. He started out the conversation by stating that in the past he had had an association with District Attorney JIM GARRISON in regards to GARRISON's probe of the assassination of President KENNEDY. He said that this association with GARRISON was strictly to give financial support to GARRISON's investigation. He said that at the inception of GARRISON's investigation into the assassination of KENNEDY and prior to the time that CLAY SHAW was arrested, GARRISON needed money to conduct his inquiry. As a result, GARRISON contacted SHILSTONE as well as WILLARD ROBERTSON and CHARLES RAUCH (phonetic) requesting contributions. He said that these three individuals, as well as others, whom he did not name, contributed money to GARRISON and had formed a group known as "Truth and Consequences".

Mr. SHILSTONE stated his purpose in coming to this office was that in the past day or so, individuals have told him that there is a rumor going around New Orleans that SHILSTONE is the New Orleans industrialist and "political killer" referred to in the New Orleans papers a week or so ago in connection with the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING. SHILSTONE stated he had read these articles in the New Orleans papers and that he had no idea as to how these rumors got started. He said that the following individuals were personal friends of his and had contacted him and had told him about these rumors:

HARRY BATT, owner and operator of Pontchartrain Beach Amusement Park;



② - 157-10673
2 - 89-87

SMC:jmp
(4) jmp

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

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157-10673-886

NO 157-10673

LOUIS RONSELL, a New Orleans financier;

CLEM SEIRT, who is President of the National American Bank;

As well as a New Orleans physician whom he did not want to identify.

Mr. SHILSTONE stated that in the past he has been a political ally of Governor MC KEITHEN and had contributed to the Governor's campaign and had, in fact, "master-minded" the Governor's re-election for a second term.

Mr. DENECHAND stated that about a week ago, he was informed by CARLOS CHIMERA, who is the operator of the Pere Marquette Garage, that CHIMERA had been informed by JOSEPH DIROSA that rumors were circulating that the person referred to in the papers as the New Orleans industrialist was CECIL SHILSTONE.

Mr. SHILSTONE inquired as to whether he was under investigation in captioned case and was informed that the writer could make no comment. However, this was not to imply one way or the other, that all investigations and information developed in any case conducted by the FBI was strictly confidential.

Mr. SHILSTONE inquired as to whether the FBI could make a statement that he was not involved in this case and was again informed the FBI had no comment. He stated that when people had told him about these rumors, he informed them there was nothing to these rumors.

He said he had not attempted to ascertain the source of these rumors.

Mr. SHILSTONE inquired as to whether his appearance would be made a matter of record and he was informed that it would be. He stated that he had no information in regards to captioned matter. He said that one of the things he was concerned about was that if this rumor about him became generally known, it might cause some Negro militant to shoot him the same as JACK RUBY had shot LEE OSWALD.

NO 157-10673

At the conclusion of the interview, Mr. DENECHAUD stated that he had told Mr. SHILSTONE that it would do them no good to come to the FBI but that Mr. SHILSTONE still wanted to come to this office.

Mr. SHILSTONE was courteously thanked for his appearance at this office at the conclusion of this interview.

In addition to the above, Mr. SHILSTONE stated that he is also employed by the State of Louisiana in conducting saliva and urine tests on horses which run at Louisiana race tracks.

A review of the files of the New Orleans Office contain several references in regards to SHILSTONE in the file 89-69. This is the case involving the investigation of the Assassination of President KENNEDY and the references reveal that SHILSTONE was one of the original founders of a group known as Truth and Consequences in 1967. This group was made up of New Orleans businessmen who donated money to District Attorney JIM GARRISON to help him defray the cost of his investigation in the KENNEDY matter.

File 65-289 is an investigation of German activities in the New Orleans area in 1939 and 1940. Serial 66, page 33, lists one CECIL M. SHILSTONE, 8419 Sycamore Street, New Orleans. This individual is not further identified.

Serial 89, page nine of this file is the results of a credit check on CECIL M. SHILSTONE, 1662 Valmont, not further identified.

New Orleans file 76-2424 is captioned KENNETH NELSON BISHOP, Possible Parole Violator. This file reveals that information had been received that captioned subject had been arrested by the Lawton, Oklahoma PD and had in his possession credit cards of CECIL M. SHILSTONE of the Shilstone Testing Laboratory, 814 Conti Street, New Orleans, La. Investigation determined that previously Mr. SHILSTONE's wallet had been stolen.

New Orleans file 172-20-149 is a memorandum of SA REED W. JENSEN dated 8/24/67 in the case captioned DOUGLAS

NO 157-10673

FONTENOT, Et Al, SPORTS BRIBERY. SA JENSEN interviewed the Chief Biochemist at the Shilstone Testing Laboratory, 814 Conti Street, in regards to various drugs used on horses inasmuch as this laboratory conducted various tests on the winning horses at the Louisiana tracks.

New Orleans file 172-16-61 is a newspaper article of the New Orleans States-Item, 10/5/67 in regards New Orleans domed stadium. This article indicated that the Shilstone Testing Laboratories was to conduct soil boring tests in regards to building the dome stadium. This article further related SHILSTONE is a political associate of the Mayor of New Orleans.

New Orleans file 62-2904 is a memorandum dated 3/4/58 from the ASAC to the SAC in which it was indicated that the Shilstone Testing Laboratory is an old and well-established business concern.

Memo: SAC 157-10673

From: SA WILLIAM F. KUSCH

Re: MURKIN

Re Houston airtel to Bureau 5/6/68.

Telephone number 899-4323 called from Beaumont, Tex.
on 12/16/67 is listed to:

MRS. DELLA JARVIS

5373 Magazine St., (upstairs)

New Orleans, La.

(Note: she is on old age pension)

157-10673-887
N.O.
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MAY 10 1968

FBI - NEW ORLEANS

F B I

Date: 5/10/68

Transmit the following in CODE
(Type in plaintext or code)Via RADIO DEFERRED
(Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR
FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS

MURKIN

NEW ORLEANS DIVISION HAS BEEN ATTEMPTING TO IDENTIFY AN ALLEGED FENCE BY THE NAME OF COIN (PHONETIC). INVESTIGATION HAS DETERMINED THAT JAMES EARL RAY AND CHARLES STEIN LEFT LOS ANGELES, CALIF. ON DECEMBER FIFTEEN SIXTYSEVEN AND ARRIVED IN NEW ORLEANS ON DECEMBER SEVENTEEN SIXTYSEVEN. STEIN HAS INDICATED THAT EN ROUTE FROM SOMEWHERE IN TEXAS RAY MADE ONE OR TWO LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE CALLS FROM COIN PHONES AND ALSO INDICATED HE WAS GOING TO CONTACT EITHER ARCHITECTURAL OR CONTRACTING FIRM.

A REVIEW OF THE NEW ORLEANS CITY DIRECTORIES REVEALS THERE IS A COYNE CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING COMPANY, TWO ZERO ONE RICHARD, GRETN, LOUISIANA, TELEPHONE THREE SIX SEVEN DASH FOUR SIX TWO FOUR.

(157-10673)

JED/can

(1) can

157-10673-888
Searched _____
Serialized _____
Indexed _____
Filed _____

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

11:48 AM

Per _____

F B I

Date:

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

PAGE TWO

THE NEW ORLEANS TELEPHONE DIRECTORY LISTS DAVID M. COYNE, THREE TWO SIX SIX ATHIS, TELEPHONE TWO EIGHT TWO DASH ZERO TWO SIX SEVEN; JOHN E. COYNE, SEVEN THREE FIVE RUPP, GRETN, TELEPHONE THREE SIX SIX DASH THREE EIGHT NINE FIVE; LYNN EDWARD COYNE, ROBERT, GRETN, TELEPHONE THREE SIX TWO DASH FOUR FOUR ONE THREE AND PHILIP G. COYNE, NINE ZERO ZERO RICHARD, GRETN, TELEPHONE THREE SIX SIX DASH SIX FIVE SIX THREE.

IT IS REQUESTED THAT BUREAU PERMISSION BE GRANTED [REDACTED] THE TOLL RECORDS OF THE ABOVE CAPTIONED TELEPHONE NUMBERS. IF BUREAU PERMISSION IS GRANTED FOR THIS REVIEW IT WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED WITH FULL SECURITY AND THE BUREAU'S INTEREST WILL BE PROTECTED.

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-10673) (P)

FROM : SA STEPHEN M. CALLENDER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 5/10/68

A review of this file reveals that while making an inquiry at the Music Box Bar in New Orleans regarding another individual, information was developed that CHUCK METHVIN, the owner, may have information relative to JAMES EARL RAY, or at least to another individual who worked at the bar in July, 1967, a musician, who resembles RAY.

The Music Box Bar is no longer in operation and METHVIN is last known to be working as a welder offshore for the Davis Construction Company at Venice, La.

LEAD:

AT VENICE, LA.

Will, through the Davis Construction Company, locate CHARLES B. METHVIN and exhibit photographs of RAY in an attempt to develop information.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

SMC:epk
(2) *epk*



5010-108-01

Venice lead to

157-10673-889	
SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
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Shearer

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC **NEW ORLEANS (137-698)**

DATE: **5/8/68**

FROM : SA **ROGER A. BOMBARDIER**

☐ CI ☐ SI ☐ R (Prob)

☒ PCI ☐ PSI ☐ R

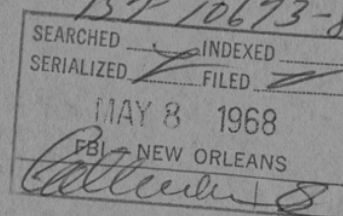
SUBJECT: **BOBBY JONES**
PCI

Dates of Contact 4/18/68 4/23/68		
Titles and File #s on which contacted MURKIN		NO 157-10673
DAVID CLARK-FUDE		NO 42-10024
Purpose and results of contact ☒ NEGATIVE ☐ POSITIVE ☐ STATISTIC On 4/18/68, PCI was shown a photograph of subject CLARK and advised he did not recognize him as being in the Houma area. On 4/23/68, PCI was contacted regarding JAMES EARL RAY with negative results.		
☒ Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating GOOD	Coverage FUDE CR

1-137-698
1-157-10673 (SA CALLENDER)
1-42-10024 (SA BOMBARDIER)

RAB:mah

(3) *mah*



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC **NEW ORLEANS (137-2190)**

DATE: **5/8/68**

FROM : SA **ROGER A. BOMBARDIER**

☐ CI ☐ SI ☐ R (Prob)

SUBJECT: **PATRICIA BOUDREAUX
PCI**

☒ PCI ☐ PSI ☐ R

☐

Dates of Contact
4/23/68

Titles and File #s on which contacted

MURKIN

NO 157-10673

Purpose and results of contact

☒ **NEGATIVE**
☐ **POSITIVE**
☐ **STATISTIC**

**PCI was contacted re subject JAMES EARL RAY with
negative results.**

☒ Informant certified that he has
furnished all information obtained
by him since last contact.

Rating
GOOD

Coverage
CR

**1-137-2190
1-157-10673 (SA CALLENDER
RAB:mah
(2)**
mah

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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Callender

157 10673-891

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC **NEW ORLEANS (137-551)**

DATE: **5/8/68**

FROM : SA **SA ROGER A. BOMBARDIER**

☒ CI ☐ SI ☐ R (Prob)

☐ PCI ☐ PSI ☐ R

SUBJECT: **NO 1285-C**

Dates of Contact

4/23/68 and 4/25/68

Titles and File #s on which contacted

MURKIN

NO 157-10673

RICHARD ROY RAYMOND, aka -FUGITIVE PV

NO 76-3193

Purpose and results of contact

- ☐ NEGATIVE
☒ POSITIVE
☐ STATISTIC

On 4/23/68, CI was contacted regarding subject **JAMES EARL RAY** with negative results.

On 4/25/68, CI was shown a photograph of subject **RAYMOND** and advised that he had observed this individual working the "Bucket" ride with Sugar State Shows in DesAllemands, La., approximately one month ago. He advised that the subject was with a very pretty young blonde and was working for an individual named **SAM**.

☒ Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.

Rating **EXCELLENT**

Coverage **PV and CR**

1-137-551
1-157-10673 (SA CALLENDER)
1-76-3193 (SA BOMBARDIER)
RAB:mah
(3) *mah*

157-10673-892

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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FBI - NEW ORLEANS	

Calleander

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC
NEW ORLEANS (137-3148)

FROM : SA
ROGER A. BOMBARDIER

SUBJECT: **WYMAN MC FELLENS**
PCI

DATE: **5/8/68**

☐ CI ☐ SI ☐ R (Prob)

☒ PCI ☐ PSI ☐ R

☐

Dates of Contact 4/23/68		
Titles and File #s on which contacted MURKIN NO 157-10673		
Purpose and results of contact ☒ NEGATIVE ☐ POSITIVE ☐ STATISTIC PCI was contacted regarding subject JAMES EARL RAY with negative results.		
☐ Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating GOOD	Coverage CR
		SEARCHED _____ INDEXED _____ SERIALIZED _____ FILED _____ MAY 8 1968 FBI - NEW ORLEANS <i>Callender</i>

1-1373148
1-157-10673 9SA CALLENDER)
RAB:mah
(2)

157-10673-893

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-10673)

DATE: 5/8/68

FROM : SA TROY H. GIST

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Buairtel 4/29/68 and memo of SA CALLENDER dated 5/3/68.
On 5/7/68 it was determined from MERVIN FALCON, Chief Office
Deputy, Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's Office, Amite, Louisiana, GEORGE
BROOM, Sheriff, St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office, Covington, La.,
and ARLEY PASSMAN, Chief Deputy, Washington Parish SO, Franklinton,
Louisiana, that they do not maintain unidentified latent fingerprint
files and do not meet criteria mentioned in rememo.



5010-108-01

157-10673-894

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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FBI - NEW ORLEANS	

Calleander

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

5/10/68

Memo: SAC (157-10673)

From: SA WILLIAM F. KUSCH

Re: MURKIN

The background of this particular phase of this investigation is that CHARLES STEIN, of Los Angeles, Calif., has advised he was driven to New Orleans, La., from Los Angeles, Calif., by JAMES EARL RAY. They left Los Angeles on 12/15/67 and arrived New Orleans 12/17/67. They left New Orleans and returned to Los Angeles on 12/19/67.

STEIN advises that while en route to New Orleans and while in the State of Texas, RAY made one or two long distance telephone calls from a pay telephone.

As a result, the Bureau has instructed El Paso, Houston and San Antonio to obtain the long distance telephone calls placed from each public telephone on the route that STEIN and RAY traveled in their Divisions.

As a result, the Houston Division has provided a list of approximately 300 telephone calls made for the period 12/15-17/67 from coin telephones located on Interstate Highway 10 and Route 90 within the Houston Division to Louisiana.

There is attached for each Resident Agent a list of calls from these coin telephones to the area covered by the Agent. The following investigation should be conducted:

1. Check Office indices in regards to the subscriber.
2. Ascertain locally through normal sources if the subscriber is known to be a member of a klan or hate-type group or may be a sympathizer.

157-10673-895

20. *Lead*

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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Muzich

Dente

NO 157-10673

3. Interview the subscriber about the calls received and determine, if possible, the identity of the caller.
4. Exhibit various photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and ascertain from the subscriber if RAY is known.

On 5/10/68, the following information was obtained from the Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph Co., by means of a subpoena. A subpoena was necessary since the below number and identity of the subscriber is non-published:

282-6540

MA RION LARKINS

5818 Lafaye New Orleans

employed Touro Infirmary as Orderly

service connected 7/16/58

In view of the fact that the above is a non-published number interviewing agent should be most discreet to protect the telephone company.

Put results on mat FD 302 and route to CALLENDER

5/10/68

Memo: SAC (157-10673)

From: SA WILLIAM F. KUSCH

Re: MURKIN

The background of this particular phase of this investigation is that CHARLES STEIN, of Los Angeles, Calif., has advised he was driven to New Orleans, La., from Los Angeles, Calif., by JAMES EARL RAY. They left Los Angeles on 12/15/67 and arrived New Orleans 12/17/67. They left New Orleans and returned to Los Angeles on 12/19/67.

STEIN advises that while en route to New Orleans and while in the State of Texas, RAY made one or two long distance telephone calls from a pay telephone.

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As a result, the Houston Division has provided a list of approximately 300 telephone calls made for the period 12/15-17/67 from coin telephones located on Interstate Highway 10 and Route 90 within the Houston Division to Louisiana.

There is attached for each Resident Agent a list of calls from these coin telephones to the area covered by the Agent. The following investigation should be conducted:

1. Check Office indices in regards to the subscriber.
2. Ascertain locally through normal sources if the subscriber is known to be a member of a klan or hate-type group or may be a sympathizer.

157-10673-896

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NO 157-10673

3. Interview the subscriber about the calls received and determine, if possible, the identity of the caller.
4. Exhibit various photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and ascertain from the subscriber if RAY is known.

On 5/10/68, the following information was obtained from the Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph Co., by means of a subpoena. A subpoena was necessary since the below number and identity of the subscriber is non-published: 895-3872

Ethell R. Jackson
2989 LaSalle New Orleans

Her husband is George Jackson and his employment is Gulf Cleaners -- service connected 7/24/67.

In view of the fact that the above is a non-published number interviewing agent should be most discreet to protect the telephone company.

Put results on mat FD 302 and route to CALLENDER

5/10/68

Memo: SAC (157-10673)

From: SA WILLIAM F. KUSCH

Re: MURKIN

The background of this particular phase of this investigation is that CHARLES STEIN, of Los Angeles, Calif., has advised he was driven to New Orleans, La., from Los Angeles, Calif., by JAMES EARL RAY. They left Los Angeles on 12/15/67 and arrived New Orleans 12/17/67. They left New Orleans and returned to Los Angeles on 12/19/67.

STEIN advises that while en route to New Orleans and while in the State of Texas, RAY made one or two long distance telephone calls from a pay telephone.

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1. Check Office indices in regards to the subscriber.
2. Ascertain locally through normal sources if the subscriber is known to be a member of a klan or hate-type group or may be a sympathizer.

157-10673-897

u.d.
lead

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May 10 1968
FBI - NEW ORLEANS

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State

NO 157-10673

3. Interview the subscriber about the calls received and determine, if possible, the identity of the caller.
4. Exhibit various photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and ascertain from the subscriber if RAY is known.

On 5/10/68, the following information was obtained from the Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph Co., by means of a subpoena. A subpoena was necessary since the below number and identity of the subscriber is non-published:

~~834-0486~~

~~Mrs. Irma Blanchard~~

~~3838 Airline Highway Apt #2 Metairie~~

~~Connected 11/21/64 --- she is employed as a secretary at the St. Lawrence School (no address)~~

In view of the fact that the above is a non-published number interviewing agent should be most discreet to protect the telephone company.

Put results on mat FD 302 and route to CALLENDER

OF

FBI NEW ORLS

FBI CHICAGO

220 PM URGENT 5/10/68 PAK

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), ATLANTA (44-2386), BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)
JACKSON (157-9586), MEMPHIS (44-1987), MOBILE (157-2627), NEW
ORLEANS (157-10673) AND ST. LOUIS (44-773)
FROM CHICAGO (44-1114) P 6P

MURKIN.

PERSON IDENTIFYING HIMSELF AS ROBERT WAYNE PHILLIPS, WHITE,
MALE, BORN [REDACTED] AT BELDEN, MISS., SIX FOOT ONE,
ONE EIGHTYFIVE LBS., DIRTY BLOND HAIR, BLUE EYES, CONTACTED CHICAGO,
PD, WAS TURNED OVER TO CHICAGO FBI AND EXTENSIVELY INTERVIEWED
EARLY MAY TEN, INSTANT.

PHILLIPS APPEARS EMOTIONALLY BALANCED. HE FREELY
IDENTIFIED AND DISCUSSED IN DETAIL MANY OF THE PERSONS MENTIONED
IN REPORT OF SA SAM H. ALLEN, JR., MEMPHIS, APRIL TWO FOUR,
SIXTYTWO, IN CASE "HALL COOPER BODRLAND; ETAL; OOJ," BUFILE
SEVEN TWO DASH ONE THREE NINE ZERO, MEMPHIS SEVEN TWO DASH THREE
THREE, FROM WHICH CHICAGO CONCLUDES HE OBVIOUSLY IS WELL
ACQUAINTED WITH PERSONS HE DISCUSSED.

PHILLIPS SAYS HE RAN RESTAURANT SHANNON, MISSISSIPPI,
UNTIL ABOUT TWO YEARS AGO, WHICH WAS REALLY FRONT FOR ILLEGAL
END PAGE ONE

157-10673-898

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PAGE TWO

WHISKEY SALE. HE PAID FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS MONTHLY TO SHERIFF, ONE HUNDRED TO JUSTICE OF PEACE AND ONE HUNDRED TO CONSTABLE, BUT BUSINESS GOT SO BAD HE HAD TO QUIT BECAUSE COULD NOT PAY PROTECTION.

THE BIGGEST ILLEGAL "BOOZE" OPERATOR IS CARL MURPHY, JR., (SEE REREP SA ALLEN), WHITE, MALE, BORN [REDACTED] LEE COUNTY, MISS., FIVE FOOT TEN, ONE NINETY LBS., DARK BROWN HAIR, HAZEL EYES, RESIDENCE ROUTE ONE, TUPELO, MISS. PHILLIPS HAS KNOWN MURPHY ALL HIS LIFE AND ENGAGED IN "BOOZE" DEALS WITH HIM. AFTER MISSISSIPPI WENT "WET", PHILLIPS WANTED TO SELL ONLY TAXED LIQUOR WHILE MURPHY DEMANDED SALE OF BOTH TAXED LIQUOR AND "MOONSHINE."

PHILLIPS STATES THAT ABOUT TWO YEARS AGO, CANNOT BETTER FIX DATE, MURPHY TALKED TO HIM AT A SERVICE STATION SOMETIME AFTER "SELMA MARCH" BOOK PUBLISHED, AND OFFERED HIM TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS TO "HIT KING," WHICH OFFER DECLINED. PHILLIPS KNOWS NO SPECIFIC REASON WHY MURPHY WOULD WANT TO KILL KING, UNLESS FOR MONEY, AS MURPHY WILL DO ANYTHING FOR MONEY. IN ADDITION PHILLIPS BELIEVES MURPHY HIGH IN WHITE HATE GROUP, PROBABLY KU KLUX KLAN, AND FRIENDLY WITH IMPERIAL WIZARD SHELTON IN TUSCALUSA, ALABAMA.

ABOUT SIX YEARS AGO GROUP OF LAWYERS IN TUPELO, MISS.,
END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

INCLUDING PETE MITCHELL, JOHN SHANDS (WHOSE BROTHER IS CITY JUDGE), AND (FNU) ROGERS, GOT UP A BIG MEETING, HANDED OUT LITERATURE, AND IT WAS WELL KNOWN IN THE AREA THIS WAS ACTUALLY KKK GROUP ALTHOUGH CALLED SOME OTHER UNRECALLED NAME.

PHILLIPS SAID THAT IN ABOUT SIXTYTWO, MURPHY HIRED J.W. RILEY TO KILL JAMES "GRUBBY" GRUBBS, WHO HAD "BOOZE" TERRITORY BUT WOULD NOT BUY FROM MURPHY. RILEY SHOT GRUBBS WITH SHOTGUN, MURPHY WAS PRESENT, AND DAVID SCOTT DROVE CAR. RILEY AND MURPHY WERE INDICTED, RILEY WAS CONVICTED AND SENTENCED TO TWELVE YEARS FOR MANSLAUGHTER. RILEY SERVED FOUR YEARS, GOT OUT, AND WAS KILLED BY FBI AGENTS IN SHOOT OUT AFTER HICKORY FLATS, MISS., BR. PHILLIPS SAYS WORD IS THAT MURPHY SET UP RILEY ON BR AND FOR COUNTERFEIT MONEY.

PHILLIPS DOES NOT BELIEVE SCOTT WAS TRIED FOR MURDER AND IN PAST FEW YEARS SCOTT, WHO REMAINS CLOSE TO MURPHY, SUDDENLY OBTAINED FARM, CATTLE AND HOME ABOUT ONE AND ONE - HALF MILES SOUTHWEST OF BELDEN, MISS. PHILLIPS SAYS PERSON JUST DOES NOT BECOME SO AFFLUENT THESE DAYS IN MISSISSIPPI WITHOUT "REAL CROOKED CONTACTS."

PHILLIPS CLAIMS USED TO WORK FOR GRUBBS AND WAS TOLD BY SCOTT BEFORE KILLING TO TAKE OFF FOR ST. LOUIS, AS THEY WERE GOING TO
END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

KILL GRUBBS. PHILLIPS CLAIMS THEY "CHASED GRUBBS ALL OVER THE COUNTY" BEFORE KILLING HIM.

MURPHY REPORTEDLY KILLED JOHN OLIVER YOUNGER AND BOBBY PITTMAN EAST OF BELDEN, MISS., AT MURPHY RESIDENCE, ABOUT NINETEEN SIXTYTHREE. THEY BROUGHT TRAILER LOAD OF "BOOZE" TO MURPHY AND WHEN ASKED FOR PAY HE KILLED THEM, SHOT HIMSELF IN STOMACH WITH TWENTY TWO CALIBER, CLAIMED SELF DEFENSE AND SHERIFF FRANK CARTER, WHO WAS CROOKED WITH MURPHY, NEVER EVEN INVESTIGATED CRIME.

PHILLIPS CLAIMS MURPHY CAN "GETAWAY WITH NEARLY ANYTHING," ALTHOUGH HAS BEEN TO BOTH FEDERAL AND STATE PRISON, BUT MAKES MORE MONEY IN PRISON THAN OUT. WHENEVER CHARGED ALWAYS TRY TO BRIBE JURY AND GENERALLY DOES, OR NEVER GETS TO JURY THROUGH BRIBES TO POLICE, SHERIFF OR JUDGES.

PHILLIPS VISITED HIS MOTHER, MRS. JETTIE L. KEY, FIVE SEVEN FIVE EAST MAIN ST., BALDWIN, MISS., FROM ABOUT APRIL EIGHTEEN TO TWENTYNINE, LAST, AND TALK AROUND TOWN ABOUT KING SLAYING WAS THAT MURPHY "GOT AWAY WITH ANOTHER ONE." PHILLIPS HAS NO SPECIFIC INFORMATION BUT BELIEVES MURPHY EITHER WAS INVOLVED IN OR KNOWS WHO KILLED KING AND GOT SOME MONEY OUT OF IT. PHILLIPS PERSONALLY FEELS MURPHY AND KKK INVOLVED IN MURKIN.

END PAGE FOUR

PAGE FIVE

MURPHY HAS MANY CONTACTS IN SURROUNDING STATES. DEALS WITH SHELTON IN TUSCALUSA, MAKES FREQUENT LIQUOR BUYING TRIPS TO NEW ORLEANS, AND DEALS IN "BOOZE" WITH EDDIE (LNU) AT CASA NOVA, NIGHT CLUB, CARUTHERSVILLE, MISSOURI. MURPHY HAS MANY TRUCKS ON ROAD AND KEEPS THEM HID IN BARNS. HAS UNTOLD NUMBER PLACES WHERE COULD HIDE FUGITIVE, PARTICULARLY IN UNION COUNTY AND AS SCOTT FARM.

PHILLIPS VOLUNTEERED FOREGOING AS "GOOD CITIZEN." HE HAS NOT ASKED FOR ANYTHING, BUT WHEN SPECIFICALLY QUESTIONED, SAID WOULD RETURN TUPELO AREA TO HELP BUREAU IF HAD JOB AS FRONT. HAS SIXTH GRADE EDUCATION AND APPEARS FAIRLY SHREWD FROM "SCHOOL OF HARD KNOCKS." SAYS HE IS KNOWN BOOTLEGGER IN MISSISSIPPI, DOES NOT WANT TO CARRY ON THIS TRADE, BUT COULD EASILY "GET INTO THE STREAM OF THINGS AGAIN." BELIEVES WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO DISCOVER ANYTHING IMPORTANT TO MURKIN AS ANYONE INVOLVED WOULD BE COMPLETELY CLOSED MOUTHED.

CHICAGO IS UNABLE TO REASONABLY ASSESS FOREGOING DATA FOR AUTHENTICITY OR AS TO PROSPECTS IN MURKIN. PHILLIPS DOES NOT KNOW SUBJECT RAY.

UACB, EACH RECEIVING OFFICE WILL CAREFULLY REVIEW FILES FOR ALL INFORMATION CONCERNING CARL MURPHY, JR., WITH VIEW IN MIND
END PAGE FIVE

PAGE SIX

OF DETERMINING HIS PRECISE KKK RELATIONSHIP AND ACTIVITIES,
AS WELL AS SEEKING ANY POSSIBLE CONNECTION WITH SUBJECT RAY,
EITHER THROUGH CONTACTS IN HIS TRAVELS, IMPRISONMENTS OR COMMON
ACQUAINTANCES. ESTABLISH PRECISE TRAVELS AND WHEREABOUTS PAST
SEVERAL MONTHS.

BUREAU REQUESTED TO LOCATE CARL MURPHY, JR. IDENTIFICATION
RECORD AND SUTEL DETAILS OF INCARCERATIONS TO PERMIT LOGICAL
INVESTIGATION IN EFFORT TO DISCOVER CONNECTION WITH RAY.

PHILLIPS HAS PROMISED TO MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH CHICAGO.
HE WAS FINGERPRINTED AND PHOTOGRAPHED AT CHICAGO. DENIES ANY
PRISON SENTENCE.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

LWH

FBI NEW ORLS

P

TO: CHIEF CLERK

Date 5/10/68

Subject CARL MURPHY, JR.

Aliases

Address

Birthplace

Race W

Sex ☒ Male ☐ Female

☐ Exact Spelling ☐ Main Criminal Case Files Only ☐ Restrict to Locality of _____
☒ All References ☐ Criminal References Only
☐ Main Subversive Case Files Only ☐ Main Subversive (If no Main, list all Subversive References)
☐ Subversive References Only ☐ Main Criminal (If no Main, list all Criminal References)

File & Serial Number	Remarks	File & Serial Number	Remarks
26-17448	SCER		
100-759-385	✓	SCER	
-413 p 26		NI (mug)	
100-8789-42 N.			
157-1163-79	p 2 ✓	(Carl L. Murphy Jr)	
-141			
Byron de la Bechwith -			
Madison Avenue - Victim			
serials sent Jackson			
44-37			

Requested by Callender Squad 6 Extension 42 File No. 157-10673
Searched by M (date) _____
Consolidated by _____ (date) _____
Reviewed by _____ (date) _____

File Review Symbols

I - Identical ? - Not identifiable
NI - Not identical U - Unavailable reference

FBI

Date: MAY 10, 1968

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

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861) JACKSON (157-9586)

FROM: NEW ORLEANS (157-10673)

MURKIN

RE CHICAGO TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR MAY TEN ~~XXX~~ SIXTY EIGHTRE CARL MURPHY, JR.

NEW ORLEANS INDICIES CONTAIN REFERENCE TO ONE CARL L. MURPHY, JR. IN CONNECTION WITH THE CASE ENTITLED BYRON DE LA BECKWITH; MEDGAR EVERS - VICTIM. THE ENTIRE FILE IN THIS CASE WAS SENT TO JACKSON AT THE TIME JACKSON OFFICE OPENED IN NINETEEN SIXTY FOUR. FOR POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE OF JACKSON THE INDICIES REFERENCE IS NO ONE FIVE SEVEN DASH ONE ONE SIX THREE DASH SEVENTY NINE PAGE TWO AND ONE FIVE SEVEN DASH ONE ONE SIX THREE DASH ONE FOUR ONE.

RE TELEPHONE CHECKS

TO DATE SUBSCRIBERS OF TELEPHONES IN NEW ORLEANS AND OTHER AREAS OF LOUISIANA CONTACTED REGARDING LONG DISTANT TELEPHONE CALLS BASED ON NUMBERS PREVIOUSLY SUPPLIED BY HOUSTON. NO PERTINENT INFO DEVELOPED TO DATE. IDENTITIES OF THREE SUBSCRIBERS WITH NON PUBLISHED TELEPHONES DETERMINED AFTER SUBPOENA OBTAINED AND FURNISHED TO TELEPHONE COMPANY

INVESTIGATION CONTINUING ~~XX~~ ARMED AND DANGEROUS. AM COPY
TO MEMPHIS .

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

841 PM - SN
846 PM - WA
Searched _____
Serialized _____
Indexed _____
Filed _____

157-10673-899

5/10/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-10673) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Springfield airtel to Bureau, 5/1/68.

INVESTIGATION CONCERNING ROBERT HOOD STRADER WHO ALLEGED KING
ASSASSINATION PLOT IN BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA, AREA SUMMER OF 1967.

Investigation was conducted at Baton Rouge and New Orleans, La., during the period of 5/7 - 9/68, to locate RAYMOND HENRY STARNES. STARNES was located and interviewed on 5/9/68, in New Orleans, La., at which time he furnished the following information:

STARNES is a native of Denham Springs, La., and is currently associated in a business partnership with EARNEST C. DONNELL, Owner of the Earnest C. Donnell Construction Co., at Denham Springs, La. Denham Springs is located nine miles distant from Baton Rouge, La.

STARNES is well acquainted in Denham Springs and knows nearly all of the businessmen in that community including those who are reportedly members of the Ku Klux Klan and who are considered to be strong segregationists.

STARNES was in Denham Springs in the Summer of 1967, at which time there was considerable racial strife taking place, including marches by Negro groups and opposition.

3 - Bureau
2 - Memphis
2 - Springfield
2 - New Orleans
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being presented to these marches by those individuals with strong segregation beliefs. STARNES stated that he himself is a liberal in his view towards Negroes and that he did not participate in any of the activities that took place in Denham Springs in the Summer of 1967. He stated, however, that he did frequently converse with individuals whom he considered to be members of the Ku Klux Klan, these persons having been individuals that he grew up with in Denham Springs.

STARNES stated that at no time during this period did any information come to his attention that there were businessmen in Denham Springs, La., or in Baton Rouge, La., who were taking up a collection to obtain money to have MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., assassinated. STARNES does not recall of having heard the name of KING even mentioned during the Summer of 1967, nor does he recall any information which would indicate there was a plot to kill any particular Negro or any individual of any race for that matter.

STARNES is against violence and if any information such as a plot to kill anyone had come to his attention, he would promptly notify an appropriate law enforcement agency.

During the Fall of 1967, STARNES recalls that an individual subsequently known to him as ROBERT STRADER appeared at the Earnest C. Donnell Construction Company in Denham Springs making claims to EARNEST DONNELL that he could obtain considerable financing from a SHAPIRO family in Miami, Fla. DONNELL became interested in STRADER's proposition and ordered STARNES to accompany STRADER to Miami, Fla., which he did and at which time he and STRADER met with a Mr. and Mrs. SHAPIRO. It developed, however, that STRADER did not previously know the SHAPIRO family and further that STRADER actually had no contacts or was not in a position to obtain financing for the Donnell Construction Company.

It was during the trip to Miami, Fla., that STARNES realized that STRADER had an apparent mental problem.

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STARNS recalled that while staying in motels in Fla., STRADER at times became most irrational and envisioned that he was being followed by Federal Agents.

After the Florida trip, STRADER continued to hang around the Donnell Company in Denham Springs, La., at which time STRADER's wife was also present. In STARNS' opinion, STRADER's wife is also an irrational person.

On one occasion, STRADER who was doing some work for the Donnell Company, took STARNS' personally owned vehicle with the permission of STARNS on a business trip. STRADER's wife accompanied STRADER on this trip and they did not return as scheduled. The vehicle was subsequently located in Mississippi in an abandoned position. Also at this same time, STARNS and EARNEST DONNELL discovered that STRADER had stolen some property from the company, such as a portable electric typewriter, a brief case full of valuable engineering fittings, a telephone credit card and other miscellaneous items. Also taken from the STARNS vehicle was a .38 Police Special Revolver which was a sentimental keepsake which had been given to STARNS by his father.

The theft of these items was reported to law enforcement agencies but DONNELL subsequently decided not to press charges. The revolver has never been recovered by STARNS and he does not presently know its whereabouts.

STARNS heard from some unrecalled source several months ago that STRADER either was or is presently confined to a mental institution. He has not seen STRADER since late Fall of 1967.

STRADER was a braggart by nature, frequently announced his animosity towards Negroes but was never known to STARNS to have specifically mentioned MARTIN LUTHER KING or any other particular Negro. STRADER frequently bragged that he had contacts with the underworld but never specifically mentioned anyone by name.

STARNS concluded that he is at a loss to explain why it is alleged that he possessed information concerning

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a plot to raise money to kill MARTIN KING. He stated that he wanted to cooperate fully with the FBI, which agency he admires considerably and that if any further recollection concerning the Summer of 1967 in Denham Springs came to him, he would promptly advise the New Orleans Office.

STARNES described STRADER as a white male, 6'2" tall, 36 years of age and possessing blond wavy hair. During the Summer of 1967, STARNES personally owned a 1967 Oldsmobile, white over black, bearing Texas license KLX or KLV 491.

New Orleans indices contained no identifiable information in the name of RAYMOND HENRY STARNES or ROBERT HOOD STRADER.

A. V. D.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-10673)

FROM : SA JOHN W. SMITH

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 5/10/68

On April 20, 1968, Mr. ELLIS VIDRINE, 2225 Congressman Hebert, Chalmette, La., advised that he was a member of the Continental Dance Club in 1963-64. He was originally introduced to the Club by a Miss AURORIS (phonetic). He stated the Club had dance lessons twice a week and parties at irregular intervals. He said he attended the lessons but did not attend the parties.

Mr. VIDRINE stated that Mr. MYER, owner of the Club, reportedly went to Fla. from New Orleans following break-up of the Club and Miss LEVINE, instructor, reportedly went to New York. Mr. VIDRINE stated that he paid \$1700 to join the Club and he considers that he has a \$1200 refund due for unused dance lessons. He said attending the Club was a Mr. GREEN, local attorney, and a Mr. MORRELL, local businessman, but he could furnish no additional names.

Mr. VIDRINE was shown a photograph of ERIC STARVO GALT whom he was unable to identify as any past member of the dance club, or anyone he had ever seen in the past.

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(2)

est



5010-108

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

A. Smith
where does Congressman Hebert live in this

157-10673-901

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SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 10 1968	
FBI - NEW ORLEANS	

[Signature]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-10673)(P)

FROM : SA ROGER A. BOMBARDIER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 5/10/68

Re memo of SA STEPHEN M. CALLENDER dated 5/7/68,
at New Orleans.

The following investigation was conducted by SA
ROGER A. BOMBARDIER at Houma, La.:

Records of the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph
Company reflect that telephone number 873-7200 was listed to
BILL T. VEIBELL, who departed Houma on 1/30/68, for Corinne,
Utah.

The Houma City Directory reflects BILL T. VEIBELL, wife
MARY C., and his employment as Magnolia Beauty Supply.

On 5/8/68 Mrs. JEAN PITRE, Houma Credit Bureau,
advised that her records reflect that BILL T. VEIBELL formerly
resided at 213 Paulette Street, Houma, La., and the last
inquiry was from a finance company in New Orleans on 4/24/68.
She advised VEIBELL's wife, MARY, had been employed for Sears and
Roebuck, Houma, La., and is the former MARY CRAMER, of Utah.

On 5/9/68 Chief of Police JAMES FRANK advised he
determined MARY C. VEIBELL was formerly employed for Sears and
Roebuck, but terminated her employment to move to Utah,
specific address unknown. Chief FRANK stated that BILL VEIBELL
was still employed at Magnolia Beauty Supply, whose headquarters
are in Baton Rouge, La., and that his move to Utah was in con-
junction with a transfer for this company.

LEAD:

AT BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA.

Will contact Magnolia Beauty Supply to obtain address



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Lead set out previously

157-10673-901a

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Callender

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

NO 157-10673

for BILL T. VEIBELL in Utah; thereafter, set forth lead to interview him per referenced memo.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

