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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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of

INVESTIGATION

File # [REDACTED]

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Original 3025 + inserts
SUB 1 1967
1967

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/8/68

GERTRUDE FRITH, 102 Arlington Street, advised that her son, BILLY RAY KING, left the Lake Providence area on April 4, 1968, to return to his job with KGW Towing Co. The exact time of his departure is unknown inasmuch as his girlfriend MARJORIE KENNEDY drove him to Greenville, Mississippi, to catch a bus to Quincy, Illinois, where he was to board a riverboat. Mrs. FRITH has not heard from her son since he left Lake Providence on April 4, 1968.

FRITH stated that her son recently purchased a 1967 Mustang two-door, blue in color, from TRAVIS SHEFFIELD. She stated the 1967 Mustang is presently in the possession of MARJORIE KENNEDY who resides at 501 Davis Street, Lake Providence, Louisiana.

FRITH further advised that to the best of her knowledge her son BILLY RAY KING has never been associated with the Ku Klux Klan or any militant-type group. She stated KING works on a tow boat on the Mississippi River and is, therefore, not home much of the time.

On 4/7/68 at Lake Providence, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673 - sub 1-1
 by SA JOHN P. GILBERT and SA BRYON B. MAC DONALD:med Date dictated 4/8/68

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Date 4/8/68

MARJORIE KENNEDY, 501 Davis Street, advised that she drove her boyfriend, BILLY RAY KING, to Greenville, Mississippi, April 4, 1968, where he boarded a Trailways bus for Quincy, Illinois. They used KING's 1967 Mustang. To the best of her knowledge KING left Greenville, Mississippi, by Trailways bus at approximately 7:00 PM, April 4, 1968. KENNEDY stated that she returned to Lake Providence in the 1967 Mustang which she is keeping until KING returns in May. At about 10:00 PM, April 4, 1968, she received a call from KING who stated that he was in Clarksdale, Mississippi, at the Downtowner Motel. He stated that the bus could not go any further than Clarksdale and requested her to pick him up at the Downtowner Motel. She then drove to Clarksdale, Mississippi, where she picked up KING at about 1:00 AM, April 5, 1968, and they returned to Lake Providence. In the late morning hours on April 5, 1968, she drove KING to the KGW Towing Office, Greenville, Mississippi, where he was to obtain transportation to his tow boat. KENNEDY advised that she did not know how KING left Greenville, Mississippi, inasmuch as she returned to Lake Providence immediately after she dropped him off at the KGW Office.

KENNEDY advised that to the best of her knowledge KING is not associated with the Ku Klux Klan or any militant groups. She also stated that to the best of her knowledge KING only had a duffle bag containing his clothes when he left Lake Providence, and she does not know of any weapons in his possession.

KENNEDY pointed out the 1967 Mustang two-door, blue in color, parked in front of her residence as the one recently purchased by KING. The registration for this vehicle reflected that it has vehicle identification number 7T01T177813, bearing 1968-69 Louisiana License 86F948. The registration further reflected the owner as TRAVIS SHEFFIELD.

On 4/7/68 at Lake Providence, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673 - sub 1-2
 by SA JOHN P. GILBERT and SA BRYON B. MAC DONALD Date dictated 4/8/68

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

Examination was made at Fontenot's Motors, of their company truck. It was determined to be a C600 tilt-cab Ford truck, approximately twenty-seven feet long, capable of carrying eighteen thousand pounds, bearing Louisiana truck license 292028.

On 4/10/68 at Welsh, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673-sub-1-3
by SA GEORGE M. CAMPBELL:bjr Date dictated 4/10/68

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Date 4/10/68

LUBERT FONTENOT, Route 1, Box 107, Welsh, Louisiana,
was contacted at his place of business, Fontenot Motors.

He advised he went to Memphis, Tennessee, on April 2, 1968, arriving there about 12:30 PM. He purchased some farm equipment and left Memphis, about 1:00 PM, on Wednesday, April 3, 1968. He stated he arrived in Welsh, Louisiana, on Thursday, at about noon, and he later learned of the shooting of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. He stated he was driving the company's 1964 C600 tilt-cab Ford truck, which is twenty-seven feet long, bearing Louisiana license 292028. He advised he has no information whatsoever, concerning the killing of Dr. KING.

On 4/10/68 at Welsh, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673 sub 1-4
by SA GEORGE H. CAMPBELL:sja Date dictated 4/10/68

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NO 157-10673/pd

1

At 10:10 p.m., Central Standard Time, April 4, 1968, an anonymous telephone call was received by the New Orleans Office from a person believed to be a white male, who advised he was a resident of Memphis, Tennessee, and that he was calling from Alexandria, Louisiana. The caller steadfastly refused to identify himself, but furnished the following information:

About breakfast time Wednesday, April 3, 1968, he was in the restaurant at the Downtowner Motel, Memphis, Tennessee. BERNARD LANSKY, LANSKY's brother and an unknown white male were seated about three feet away at the next table. LANSKY is the owner of Lansky's Clothing Store, Beale Street, Memphis. The caller described the unknown white male as 26 or 27 years old, 160 to 165 pounds, 5 feet 8 inches tall, straight black hair.

BERNARD LANSKY was heard to tell this unknown white male, "Let's get the black mother (obscene). If he comes back we are going to be bankrupt."

The unknown white male said, "I want half now."

BERNARD LANSKY was heard to say that the unknown white male was to get the other half after the job was done.

The anonymous caller stated he saw money change hands, and heard the amount \$1,000 mentioned. The caller also overheard arrangements made for the unknown white male to leave town after the job. The caller furnished no other details concerning this event.

The caller stated that Lansky's Clothing Store is on the verge of bankruptcy, was fire bombed last week, and this "was final blow."

157-10673-sub 1-5

The obscene word in paragraph three, line two, word eight of
New Orleans insert (NO file 157-10673) is "fucker."

O B S C E N E

O B S C E N E

NO 157-10673/pd

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA NATHAN O. BROWN at New Orleans, Louisiana:

On April 5, 1968, Mr. ED TURNLEY, Security Supervisor, Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company (PROTECT IDENTITY), was contacted and advised that attempts would be made to review print-out of DDD tapes recorded at Lafayette, Louisiana, to locate any call to the FBI Office in New Orleans. Mr. TURNLEY stated this is a complicated process and as soon as it is completed, the results would be provided the New Orleans Office.

At 2:20 p.m., April 8, 1968, Mr. TURNLEY advised he had completed a review of the DDD tapes which were recorded at Lafayette, Louisiana, on April 4, 1968, and which would reflect all DDD telephone calls emanating at Alexandria, Louisiana, on that date. Mr. TURNLEY stated the review consisted of a check of every call made between 10:00 p.m. and 10:25 p.m., April 4, 1968, and no record was located of a call from Alexandria to the FBI Office at New Orleans, Louisiana.

Mr. TURNLEY stated, although a check had been made on a previous occasion of the Mark Sense Toll Tickets at Alexandria in an effort to locate this call, he has arranged for a print-out of all calls from Alexandria, Louisiana, to area code 504. This print-out will include station-to-station calls, person-to-person calls, credit card calls, third number billing calls, collect calls, etc.

The following investigation was conducted by
SA STEPHEN M. CALLENDER at New Orleans, Louisiana:

On April 9, 1968, Mr. ED TURNLEY, Security Supervisor, Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company (PROTECT IDENTITY), advised a review of the print-out of all calls from Alexandria, Louisiana, to area code 504 had been conducted and no telephone call to the FBI Office in New Orleans could be located.

COVER PAGE

157-10673-106

NO 157-10673:jmp

The following investigation was conducted by SA JOHN A. PFEIFER on April 4, 1968:

AT ALEXANDRIA, LOUISIANA:

Mr. LAMAR WATERS, Suburban Manager (protect identity) of Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company, was contacted and requested to search toll tickets for a call to New Orleans phone 504-522-4671 at about 10:00 PM this date and to canvas the operators to determine if any recalled discussing with any caller on the evening of April 4, 1968, the location and/or phone number of the FBI in New Orleans or any caller inquiring about a number with which to contact the Alexandria FBI Agents. He advised that he had had the toll tickets for 10:00 PM through 11:00 PM reviewed, and no such call located. He advised he had had the chief operator contact the others, and none could recall such a request. He advised a direct-dial call would only be registered on the computer tape at Lafayette, Louisiana.

COVER PAGE

157-10673 sub 1-7

NO 157-10673/pd

1

The following investigation was conducted by SA JOHN A. PFEIFER at Alexandria, Louisiana, on April 5, 1968:

DON HUDSON, Manager, Bentley Hotel, advised that there were no calls through the hotel switchboard to any New Orleans phones on the night of April 4, 1968, and the following were guests on April 4, 1968, who were registered as being from Tennessee:

R. COOPER, Memphis (no other address),
a driver for Herrin Truck Company,
Room 331

M. T. ROWLAND, Memphis (no other address),
a driver for Herrin Truck Company,
Room 425

J. C. STAFFORD, Memphis (no other address),
a driver for Herrin Truck Company, Room 506

JAMES H. HEUSTESS, 830 Bresslyn, Nashville,
Metro Public Schools employee, Room 757,
checked out April 5, 1968

C. L. HUGHEY, 4014 Lamar Avenue, Memphis,
Room 430, registered since February 18, 1968

Mrs. MARGARET KRALEY, Manager, Imperial 400 Motel, advised there were no guests registered on April 4, 1968, as being from Tennessee and the following are the only calls made by guests to New Orleans through her switchboard on April 4, 1968:

RICHARD FLYNN, 423 Baronne Street, New Orleans, employee of Consumer Credit Corporation, on April 4, 1968, called 504-288-9271 and spoke for five minutes.

Mr. N. O. RUSH, Manager, Colonel Motel, advised there were no calls through his switchboard on April 4, 1968, and no guests registered on April 4, 1968, from anywhere in Tennessee.

NO 157-10673/pd

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Mrs. RONNIE LUNO, Manager, Luno Courts, advised that her motel has no switchboard or phones in the guest rooms and no one at her motel on April 4, 1968, registered as living in Tennessee.

N. N. ALLUMS, Manager, Vista Courts, formerly Kerry's Motel, advised his motel has no switchboard and there are no guest room phones. No one in his motel on April 4, 1968, registered as being from Tennessee.

SALLY LANDRUM, Clerk, Pelican Motel, advised no calls were made through her switchboard on April 4, 1968, to New Orleans and the only guest there on April 4, 1968, registered as living in Tennessee was W. C. STUDDARD (or STADDORD), 1744 Weir (or Wurr) Street, Memphis, who was in Room 221 with a Mrs. COGGINS, not further identified.

MIKE HUSTERD, Manager, Greenbrier Motel, advised no calls were made to New Orleans on April 4, 1968, through his switchboard and the only guests registered from Tennessee are the following, who are all rooming together in Room 8:

LARRY HUGHEY, Box 64, Union City, driving a 1968 red and black Oldsmobile sedan with Tennessee license IZ 5776

GERALD BASS, Union City, driving a 1967 beige Dodge Charger

HUSTERD advised both HUGHEY and BASS work for Hughey Revell Construction Company and have been registered monthly since December 6, 1967.

HARRY DUSCHANG, Manager, Cenla Courts, advised that his motel has no switchboard, and none of his guests on April 4, 1968, registered as living in Tennessee.

CLARA B. FLOWERS, Manager, Paradise Motel, advised there is no switchboard in her Negro motel and no one registered there on April 4, 1968, was from Tennessee.

NO 157-10673/pd

5

CHARLES A. ROSS
5072 Churchill Cove
Memphis, Tennessee

Ramada Inn

WALTER S. DUNCAN
217 Cumberland Street
Memphis, Tennessee

The following investigation was conducted by
SA PAUL R. LANCASTER:

On April 8, 1968, the following establishments were checked and they all advised that during the previous week no one registered in their establishment from Tennessee, especially Memphis, Tennessee:

Mrs. GLADYS E. REITH, Manager
Ring Apartments
535 Lakeview
Pineville, Louisiana

These are regular apartments and rental is usually on a weekly or monthly basis.

Mrs. THERESA JOHNSON, Manager
Town and Country Motel
5215 Mac Arthur Drive
Alexandria, Louisiana

She rents to both whites and colored. There have been no strangers or out-of-town customers during the previous week.

Mrs. LOLA BELL EPPS, Owner
Epps Motel
Tenth Packing House Road
Alexandria, Louisiana

Mrs. EPPS only rents to Negroes.

NO 157-10673/pd

3

The Epps Motel was determined to be a Negro motel and was not contacted.

The following investigation was conducted by SA PATRICK J. DENTE at Alexandria, Louisiana:

The following individuals listed below were contacted on April 5, 1968, concerning a possible telephone call from their premises to New Orleans on April 4, 1968, and concerning any guests registered on April 4, 1968, as being from the state of Tennessee, with negative results:

Mrs. DOUIE NOVGSTRETH
Cavelier Motor Hotel
3057 Masonic Drive

CHARLOTTE HYNSON, Clerk
Alexandria Inn
1212 McCarthy Drive

GEORGE BARKER, Manager
Travel Lodge
116 McCarthy Drive

Mrs. HAZEL HOLLAND
Howard Johnson Motor Lodge
700 McCarthy Drive

Mrs. EVLENA HANCOCK, Manager
Fleur De Lis Motel
1000 McCarthy Drive

ENNIS G. DAVIS
Holiday Inn
2300 McCarthy Drive

Miss LILLIAN HURLOCK, Owner
Hurlock Courts
2700 North Shreveport Highway

Mr. J. C. JOHNSON, Owner
"71" Courts
2809 North Shreveport Highway

NO 157-10673/pd

1

The following investigation was conducted by SA THOMAS J. FAY on April 5, 1968, at Monroe, Louisiana:

Chief of Police J. C. KELLY, Monroe, Louisiana, Police Department, advised that FORNEY MARION HAZEL is currently incarcerated in the jail at Monroe, Louisiana, and has been confined continuously since March 8, 1968.

The following investigation was conducted by SA STEPHEN M. CALLENDER on April 5, 1968, at New Orleans, Louisiana:

Father LOUIS TOOMEY, Loyola University, New Orleans, Louisiana, advised that at no time has any information ever come to his attention from any source of an alleged attempt to assassinate CHARLES EVERS.

157-10673-404-9

NO 157-10673/pd

4

The following investigation was conducted by
SA RICHARD M. ALU at Alexandria, Louisiana:

On April 5, 1968, a records check by the below-
listed individuals at the following indicated motels
regarding a male, not further identified, who called the
New Orleans Office of the FBI at approximately 10:00 p.m.
on April 4, 1968, met with negative results:

ALBERT LOWE
Southern Motel
3405 McCarthy Drive

J. H. STROUD
Leroy's Motor Court
1133 McCarthy Drive

CECIL RANSBOTTOM
Ransville Motel
3923 McCarthy Drive

J. S. JOHNSON
Willowglen Courts
5522 McCarthy Drive

CHARLES GOYER
Ramada Inn
2211 McCarthy Drive

Miss PINKY EWEN
Springhill Court
Shreveport Highway

A check of the above-listed motels by the
individuals indicated regarding guests with a Tennessee
address produced the following:

Southern Motel

JIM JONES
4942 De Panne Drive
Memphis, Tennessee

NO 157-10673

JFW:med

1

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

On April 7, 1968, the two latent fingerprints on lifts submitted by Memphis were checked and were not identical with previously reported latent prints. Latents fingerprints in this case are not identical fingerprints of RONALD BARDIN SIMPSON, U. S. Air Force #14723426.

157-10673-204 1-10

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/8/68

RONALD BARDIN SIMPSON was interviewed at the Jefferson Davis Sheriff's Office in the presence of Deputy Sheriff GEORGE SPEIGHT. He was advised as to his rights and advised that he understood his rights but was very nervous and did not desire to sign any document.

SIMPSON stated that he was born on [redacted] in Halifax County, North Carolina, and that prior to December 24 or 25, 1967, he was at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Durnham, North Carolina, where he was being treated for a nervous disorder. He advised that he was granted Christmas leave and in December hitchhiked to the West Coast where he remained until approximately March 15, 1967. He then traveled to Texas where he worked for Mr. AL WEBB, 4010 West Highway 80, Big Spring, Texas. On April 4, 1968, he recalls that he spent the entire day at the "Honey Hut," a Negro bar located in Houston, Texas, address unknown. He recalls being in this bar from the early morning hours until approximately 6:00 or 6:30 PM, April 4, 1968. On or about April 5, 1968, he then began hitchhiking from Houston via Interstate 10 east with the intentions of returning to Durham and to the Veterans Administration Hospital as his nervous disorder has become worse in the past few months. He denied being in Memphis, Tennessee, April 4, or March 28, 1968 and advises the last time he was in Memphis was approximately two years ago and he was merely passing through the city at that time. He stated he has no relatives or friends in Memphis, Tennessee.

The following description of SIMPSON was obtained by observation and interview:

Name	RONALD BARDIN SIMPSON
Sex	Male
Race	White
Nationality	American
Birth Data	Born [redacted] at Halifax, North Carolina
Height	6'

On 4/6/68 at Jennings, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673
 by SA JAMES FRANCIS WRIGHT:med Date dictated 4/8/68

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Weight	150 pounds
Hair	Black (thin and unruly)
Eyes	Hazel
Complexion	Ruddy
Permanent Address	910 Henry Street, Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina
Parents	VERNEY WALTER SIMPSON, father (deceased); LUCILLE FINCH, mother, 910 Henry Street, Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina HOWARD O'NEAL, step-father, above address
Education	High school
Service Record	U. S. Air Force, 6 years, discharge in 1966, Air Force SN 14723426
Selective Service Number	31-43-41-435
Local Draft Board	#3, Halifax County, North Carolina
Blood Group	O Positive
Occupation	Common laborer
Scars and Marks	None
Remarks	SIMPSON attired in dirty unwashed clothing and has very unkempt appearance
Arrest Record	Tampa, Florida, 1966, Police Department, Disturbing the Peace, served 50 days

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/8/68

Deputy Sheriff GEORGE SPEIGHT, Jefferson Davis Sheriff's Office, advised that on the morning of April 6, 1968, at approximately 8:30 AM, he received a call from officials at the Southern Pacific Railroad, advising that a white male was sleeping near the railroad tracks just east of the main section of Jennings. He advised he arrested this individual who furnished the name and had identification in the name of RONALD BARDIN SIMPSON, white male, born [redacted] Halifax County, North Carolina.

Deputy SPEIGHT advised that he had observed the penciled sketch of the subject wanted for the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING carried in the "Beaumont Enterprise," a Beaumont, Texas, morning newspaper and that this sketch resembled SIMPSON except for the well dressed appearance and hair of the subject as depicted in the sketch.

He stated that SIMPSON told him he had been hitchhiking from California to his home in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina, at the time he was arrested, and on March 28, 1968, and April 4, 1968, he was in the Texas area. He arrested SIMPSON on vagrancy charges, and he advised that it was quite obvious that SIMPSON was extremely nervous and needed mental care.

On 4/6/68 at Jennings, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673 sub 1-12
 by SA JAMES FRANCIS WRIGHT:med Date dictated 4/8/68

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NO 157-10673
PMK:srl

On April 11, 1968, Mrs. E. D. PARRA, wife of Captain PARRA, was telephonically contacted at their residence in Galliano, Louisiana, by SA PHILLIP M. KING. Mrs. PARRA advised Captain PARRA at that time was en route from Mobile to New Orleans and would arrive in the early a.m., April 12, 1968. Mrs. PARRA was furnished the name of ERIC STARVO GALT and requested to advise her husband of the above name so that he could check his records as to whether or not GALT had been or was presently carried as an employee for the Vulcan Asphalt and Refinery Company.

On April 12, 1968, Captain PARRA was contacted by SA KING, at which time he advised he maintained the personnel records and handled the hiring of employees for the Barge Rentals, Inc. which was a part of the Vulcan Asphalt and Refinery Company. Further, that he had no record of the name of GALT as a past or present employee and that the name was not familiar to him.

Captain PARRA further advised that Crockett Barge Company was known to him as the Crockett Towing Company located in Houma, Louisiana.

157-10673 sub 1-3

1
NO 157-10673
PCC:cjm

The following investigation was conducted by SA
PATRICK C. CAHILL at New Orleans, Louisiana on April 11,
1968:

KERMON CROCHETT, Manager, M. L. Crockett Towing
Company, advised that he personally handles all matters
relative to the employees of the company. He did not recall
having ever employed an individual using the name ERIC
STARVO GALT or any variation thereof.

He stated that Crockett Towing has had no run to
Mobile, Alabama, from New Orleans, Louisiana, in more than a
year.

157-10673-114

Date 4/12/681

MAX DIXON, Service Manager, Cutler Chevrolet Company, U. S. Highway 80 East, advised that CLARENCE L. ROBINSON was not absent from work any day during the week of April 1, 1968, through April 5, 1968.

On 4/10/68 at Delhi, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673 sub-1-15
by SA THOMAS J. FAY -epk Date dictated 4/11/67

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Date 4/12/681

Mrs. C. L. ROBINSON, Manager, Hilltop Motel, U. S. Highway 80 East, advised she resides in the office section of the motel with her husband. She advised that the only white male who would be observed coming from her living quarters section of the motel office and who may have been mistaken as an employee, would have been her husband, who is regularly employed as a mechanic at the Cutler Chevrolet Company in Delhi.

On 4/10/68 at Delhi, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673 sub 1-16
by SA THOMAS J. FAY -epk Date dictated 4/11/68

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Date 4/12/681

CLARENCE L. ROBINSON, also known as Bud Robinson, was interviewed at the Cutler Chevrolet Company and advised that although he could not recall making any specific remarks concerning MARTIN LUTHER KING to a motel customer, he may very well have done so as he never has been a big supporter of many of KING's activities. ROBINSON advised that he was at work every day during the week of April 1 through 5, 1968, and particularly on April 4, 1968.

The following descriptive data was obtained through interview and observation:

Sex	Male
Race	White
Age	40
Hair	Light brown
Eyes	Blue
Height	5' 11"
Weight	170 pounds
Build	Medium
Complexion	pock marked

On 4/10/68 at Delhi, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673 sub 1-17
 by SA THOMAS J. *TF* FAY -epk Date dictated 4/11/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/68

1

The information set forth hereinafter was furnished by Mr. RONALD W. REHL, 1007 Greter Court, Alexandria, Louisiana:

Mr. REHL is the zone manager for Top Value Stamps. He has lived in Alexandria for the past two years and maintains an office in the MacArthur Village Shopping Center in Alexandria. He has three salesmen working with him and in connection with his work, he travels extensively in Central Louisiana.

On some occasions it is necessary for him to spend the night out of town but generally is able to return to his home for the night. On March 29, 1968, which was a Friday, he felt sure he was traveling some place in Louisiana but spent Friday night at home. On Saturday, March 30, 1968, he was positive he was in Alexandria all day and night. On Thursday, April 4, 1968, he was probably at Minden, Louisiana, for part of the day but was positive that he was back home in time for supper between 6:00 and 7:00 PM and after supper attended a church meeting at Alexandria at the First Methodist Church between 7:30 and 8:30 PM. He went to these services by himself.

The following description was obtained from observation and interview:

Name	RONALD W. REHL
Sex	Male
Race	White
Date of birth	
Place of birth	Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Height	6'4"
Weight	200
Eyes	Green
Hair	Brown, has receding hairline, high forehead and parts hair on left
Occupation	Has been with Top Value Stamps since 1959

On 4/8/68 at Alexandria, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673 sub 1-18
 by SA PAUL R. LANCASTER/cst Date dictated 4/9/68

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NO 157-10673

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Marital Status	Married - Wife - DEANNE R. REHL
Military Service	None
Selective Service	Classification 4-F with Local Board, Dayton, Ohio
Louisiana drivers license	3189515, issued November 7, 1966, photograph number 1970, office number 40
Characteristics	Appeared to be soft spoken and mild mannered
Remarks	Said he has never been fingerprinted.

NO 157-10673/SMC:sja

1

On April 8, 1968, the following information was received from the Dallas Office of the FBI:

NANCY SAULNIER, 302 Louisiana, Abilene, Texas, advised that she had seen what was an alleged artist conception in an Abilene newspaper, of a suspect in the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

She informed that on the evening of March 28, 1968, she met an individual by the first name of MARK (LAST NAME UNKNOWN), at the Ramanda Inn, located in a town about thirty miles east of Shreveport, Louisiana. This person was supposedly a salesman for the Top Value Trading Stamp Company, from Alexandria, Louisiana. This individual sat near her at dinner and, subsequently, visited with her in her room.

She described MARK (LNU) as about six feet tall, receding hairline, and last saw him leaving the motel on the following morning in a red car, possibly a Porsche. She did not know in what direction he went. She has no basis other than the apparent feeling that MARK's (LNU) physical description is similar to that of the artist conception.

157-10673- sub 1-19

1

NO 157-10673/ac

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent JAMES W. SMITH at Minden, Louisiana, on April 8, 1968:

Mr. CLARENCE FISH, Manager, Ramada Inn, Minden, made available his file which showed a registration for the night of March 20, 1968, as NANCY SAULNIER, 302 Louisiana Avenue, Abilene, Texas. SAULNIER was driving a 1966 Pontiac white, 1968 Virginia license A480697. SAULNIER checked out of the Ramada Inn at 7:53 a. m., March 21, 1968. On rear bumper of SAULNIER's car was a sticker, Dyess Air Force Base, written on it.

On the same night, March 20, 1968, MARK RUELL, registered for one night at Ramada Inn and he checked out at 7:53 a. m., March 21, 1968, the same time as SAULNIER.

RUELL is well known to Mr. FISH as the manager of Top Value Stamps, Inc., Alexandria, Louisiana. His address as listed on registration card was 1000 Grebell Avenue, Alexandria, Louisiana. FISH stated that RUELL is known to drive a late model red MG or Porche automobile. FISH described RUELL as follows:

Age	35
Height	6'
Weight	160-170
Hair	Receding hair line

He also stated that RUELL has some sort of difficulty with his arms, one being slightly shorter than the other.

He advised that RUELL is well known to him and has been a guest at the Ramada Inn on many occasions.

157-10673- sub 1-20

2

NO 157-10673/ac

He recalls seeing RUELL at the Ramada Inn about one week ago either last Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday night. He also advised that RUELL has had with him a number of salesmen that work with him in Top Value Stamps, Alexandria.

Date 4/11/68

1

BILLY D. MC GRIFF, 1342 Plantation Road, Jackson, Mississippi, was interviewed by MICHAEL BARON and WILLIAM E. DOYLE, who identified themselves as Special Agents of the FBI. He was interviewed at the Travel Lodge Motel, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

MC GRIFF was told of his rights as they appeared on an Interrogation; Advice of Rights form, and he stated he understood his rights and that it would not be necessary for him to sign.

Mr. MC GRIFF advised he could furnish no information regarding the slaying of the Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING and that he was not in anyway involved in the slaying.

He stated that on April 5, 1968, he was at the headquarters of the L. E. Myers Company, Sardis, Mississippi, with a group of men, including his superviosr, EARL FORTENBERRY. He advised that the group was talking about the slaying of Reverend KING and at that time he mentioned that he was in the Memphis, Tennessee area at the time of the slaying. He advised that he did not know exactly the comments that were made regarding the slaying of Reverend KING, but that he definitely was not involved nor could he furnish any information regarding the slaying of the Reverend KING.

Mr. MC GRIFF stated that on April 4, 1968, he was employed by the L. E. Myers Company, a contractor for the Mississippi Power and Light Company, Sardis, Mississippi. The job was rained out for that day and he and VAN SULLIVAN, Mize, Mississippi, a co-employee, took a ride to Memphis, Tennessee, as there was nothing else to do. He advised they made one stop in Memphis, at a Walgreens Drug Store to purchase some sunglasses. He advised that he was quite sure that they had returned back to the State of Mississippi at the time of the slaying as they heard news of the slaying on the car radio.

MC GRIFF stated that he definitely was not in Birmingham, Alabama, during March 29-30, 1968. He advised that he had been employed continuously since December 15, 1967.

On 4/10/68 at Baton Rouge, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673 sub 1-21
 by SA MICHAEL BARON ^{MB} and
SA WILLIAM E. DOYLE MB:kbz Date dictated 4/11/68

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NO 157-10673

by L. E. Myers, contractor, and that he quit his job approximately March 28-31, 1968. He advised that after he quit his job he went home and stayed around for several days before accepting the job at Sardis, Mississippi. He advised that his whereabouts could be verified through the L. E. Myer Company, Jackson, Mississippi, or his wife and associates.

The following description was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	BILLY D. MC GRIFF
Address	1342 Plantation Road, Jackson, Mississippi
Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of Birth	[REDACTED]
Place of Birth	Sebastopol, Mississippi
Height	5'11"
Weight	170 pounds
Build	Medium
Hair	Black
Eyes	Brown
Complexion	Ruddy
Scars and Marks	Thumb off left hand
Occupation	Electrician
Armed Forces	United States Army, from September, 1948, to May, 1952
Serial Number	14301619
Discharge	Honorable
Marital Status	Married
Wife	MARTHA WOLVERTON MC GRIFF
Mother	VIRGINIA MC GRIFF, Fredericka Street, Jackson, Mississippi
Social Security Number	[REDACTED]
Arrests	Claims no arrest record
Education	Twelfth grade, Central High School, Jackson, Mississippi

original

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 16, 1968

Mr. VINCENT TUMINELLO, Mechanical Drawing Teacher, Springhill High School, Springhill, Louisiana, furnished the following information:

TUMINELLO is sponsor of the Industrial Arts Club, made up of high school students, which club made a trip from Springhill, Louisiana, to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on March 28, 1968. JAMES CARL PAFFORD accompanied the club and hauled six high school students in his station wagon. The group, including PAFFORD, left Springhill, Louisiana, about 11:30 AM, March 28, 1968, and arrived at Baton Rouge about 6:00 PM the same date. The entire group stayed at the White House Inn in Baton Rouge that night. PAFFORD's wife arrived in Baton Rouge by bus about 11:00 PM, March 28, 1968, and was with the group after that time.

TUMINELLO was in regular contact with PAFFORD in Baton Rouge until the group departed Baton Rouge about 11:30 AM, March 30, 1968, and he saw PAFFORD at Springhill, Louisiana, when the group arrived there about 5:30 PM, March 30, 1968.

On 4/16/68 at Springhill, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673 sub-1-22
by SA JAMES A. WOOTEN - smd Date dictated 4/16/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 16, 1968

Mr. DENNIS P. SIMMONS, Industrial Arts Teacher, Springhill High School, Springhill, Louisiana, furnished the following information:

SIMMONS is the co-sponsor of the Industrial Arts Club. On March 28, 1968, this club made a trip from Springhill, Louisiana, to Baton Rouge, Louisiana. JAMES CARL PAFFORD is well known to SIMMONS and was formerly a resident of nearby Cullen, Louisiana. PAFFORD now operates an ambulance service at nearby Magnolia, Arkansas. PAFFORD drove his own station wagon and hauled six high school students on the trip from Springhill, Louisiana, to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on March 28, 1968. The group left Springhill about 11:30 AM on March 28, 1968, and arrived at Baton Rouge about 6:00 PM the same date. The group, including PAFFORD, stayed at the White House Inn in Baton Rouge until March 30, 1968. On that date they departed Baton Rouge at 11:30 AM and arrived back in Springhill at 5:30 PM.

SIMMONS was in regular contact with PAFFORD during this entire period and knows that PAFFORD did not make any other trips during that period.

On 4/16/68 at Springhill, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673 sub 1-23
 by SA JAMES A. WOOTEN - smd Date dictated 4/16/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/15/68

RICKY TOMASO, 1907 1/2 Royal Street, advised his half-brother CHARLES J. STEIN came to New Orleans shortly before Christmas, 1967, but he was unable to recall the exact date. TOMASO advised that he only talked to STEIN on one occasion and STEIN informed him that he had traveled by car with the un-named male from California. TOMASO stated that he knew nothing more about STEIN's trip to New Orleans and while he did talk to STEIN he could furnish no further information. He advised that he did not see the vehicle in which STEIN and the unknown man were traveling.

On 4/14/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673 sub 1-24
by SA PIERRE D. FOURNIER and
THOMAS E. DU HADWAY/TED/ac Date dictated 4/15/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/15/68

Mr. WILLIE OLONZO, 1907 $\frac{1}{2}$ Royal Street, advised that CHARLES J. STEIN, the son of his wife, Mrs. CLOVINA OLONZO, came to their residence some time shortly before Christmas, 1967. He stated that he was bedridden during the period of time that STEIN was in New Orleans and he did not see STEIN except for one occasion and he did not converse with him about the trip. He stated that he had heard that STEIN was transported from California by an unknown man but he could furnish no details concerning this trip.

Mr. OLONZO advised that on one occasion while STEIN was in New Orleans he heard STEIN conversing with a male in the kitchen but since he was bedridden he did not see or hear any pertinent parts of this conversation.

Mr. OLONZO advised that since he was bedridden he did not see the vehicle in which STEIN had traveled from California.

Mr. OLONZO advised he suffers from extreme high blood pressure which causes fainting spells and to the best of his recollection he spent most of the time while STEIN was in New Orleans in Charity Hospital.

He advised he could furnish no additional information concerning STEIN's visit to New Orleans.

On 4/14/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673 *sub 1-25*
 by SA's PIERRE D. FOURNIER and THOMAS E. DU HADWAY/TED/ac Date dictated 4/15/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/15/68

Mrs. CLOVINA OLONZO, 1907½ Royal Street, advised that her son CHARLES J. STEIN came to New Orleans some time just before Christmas, 1967, and stayed at her residence 1907½ Royal Street but she was unable to recall the exact dates that STEIN was in New Orleans.

Mrs. OLONZO advised that STEIN informed her he had traveled to New Orleans by automobile from California with a man whose name he did not mention. STEIN also advised Mrs. OLONZO that MARIE "MINNIE" MARTIN, a cousin residing in California, had heard a man state that he was coming to New Orleans on business and MARIE approached this man to ask this man if he would take CHARLES STEIN to New Orleans with him. This unknown man agreed to transport STEIN to New Orleans.

STEIN also advised Mrs. OLONZO that he came to New Orleans to pick-up RITA STEIN's two children, who were residing with Mrs. OLONZO.

Mrs. OLONZO advised STEIN remained in New Orleans only one or two days. During his stay in New Orleans STEIN advised Mrs. OLONZO that the man, who brought him to New Orleans, was staying at a hotel, name not stated. STEIN also advised Mrs. OLONZO that he did not work with this man and that he did not know him.

Mrs. OLONZO advised that she did not see the man, who brought STEIN to New Orleans in the automobile in which they were traveling. Mrs. OLONZO advised that no telephone calls were made by or received by STEIN while he was visiting at her residence as she did not have a telephone. She advised that after one or two days STEIN, RITA STEIN's two children, and the unknown man departed New Orleans for California.

On 4/14/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673 sub 1-26
 by SA's PIERRE D. FOURNIER and THOMAS E. DU HADWAY/TED/ac Date dictated 4/15/68

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NO 157-10673

She stated she has not heard from STEIN since that time.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/16/681

Mr. LEON LEVY, Manager, E-Z Finance Plan, 134 Elk Place, New Orleans, advised as follows:

A search of his records reflects no pending or closed account for Continental Dance Studio, LOUELLA LUTZ, or MARLIN MYERS. Further, he has no applications on hand for any of these names.

He stated it is the practice of his firm to destroy any applications which do not become active accounts. His firm has never purchased sales contracts or accounts from dance studios.

His firm is a member of the New Orleans Exchange of Consumer Finance Companies. He determined that this exchange has no record of a current or charged off account for any of the above-mentioned names. He stated that any account properly paid out would not be currently listed by any of the 180 members of the exchange.

On 4/15/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673
by SA DONALD L. HUGHES-kbz Date dictated 4/15/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/16/681

Mr. WILLIAM NIKLAUS, Treasurer, Nunmaker Finance Company, Inc., 1820 Canal Street, New Orleans, advised as follows:

A search of his files reflected no present or paid-out account with Continental Dance Studio, MARLIN MYERS, or LOUELLA LUTZ. Applications on hand were also searched without locating any record of these names.

He stated that declined applications are ordinarily destroyed within a few months after receipt. Further, this firm has never purchased sales contracts or accounts from dance studios.

On 4/15/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673 sub 1-28
by SA DONALD L. HUGHES-kbz Date dictated 4/15/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/16/681

Mr. JOHN SHEA, Vice-President, Whitney National Bank of New Orleans, advised as follows:

A checking account for Continental Dance Club Studios, Inc., 725 Common Street, was opened February 24, 1964, and was closed on January 14, 1966. There are no records on film or otherwise concerning checks which may have been included in the deposits of this customer.

LOUELLA LUTZ, Claiborne Towers, opened a checking account on May 7, 1964. On May 11, 1966, a change of address was received showing 5515 Ash Street, Apartment 7, Los Angeles, California. On July 31, 1967, this account was closed.

No record was found of any other type of account for Continental Dance Club Studios, Inc., LOUELLA LUTZ, or MARLIN MYERS.

On 4/15/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673 sub 1-29
by SA DONALD L. HUGHES-kbz Date dictated 4/15/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/16/681

Mr. HARRY W. CAVELIER, Vice-President, Latter and Blum, Inc., 919 Gravier Street, New Orleans, advised as follows:

Acting as rental agents, this firm prepared a lease on April 1, 1964, with MARLIN MYERS, President of Continental Dance Club Studios, Inc., for occupancy of the premises at 725 Common Street. The period of occupancy was for two years from April 1, 1964, with options to renew. Payment of \$750.00 was received to be held in escrow during the period of the lease; however, due to poor management or lack of interest on the part of MYERS, the monthly rental of \$250.00 became delinquent, and it was necessary to apply the escrow money to clear the account at the time the lease expired in 1966. Rent payments were ordinarily made directly to the landlord, Mr. LEBRETON.

Because of the deposit arrangement, no investigation was made of MYERS, and there is no application or background information available. He reportedly came to New Orleans, from Miami, Florida. There was no current residence address in file for him when the lease terminated.

On 4/15/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673 sub 1-30
by SA DONALD L. HUGHES-kbz Date dictated 4/15/68

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1
NO 157-10673
SMC:kbz

The following investigation was conducted by
SA STEPHEN M. CALLENDER on April 12, 1968, at New Orleans,
Louisiana:

Mr. B. T. KAYLOR, Manager, New Orleans Retailers
Credit Bureau, 333 St. Charles Avenue, advised his records
contained the following information in regards to one
LOUELLA LUTZ:

In 1965, LUTZ resided in Apartment 604, at the
Claiborne Towers, New Orleans, Louisiana, and received
a pension, the type not specifically indicated. LUTZ
was a widow and her deceased husband's name was JOHN J.
In 1965, an inquiry was received from the E-Z Finance
Company, as well as the Nunmake Finance Company, New
Orleans. The records contained no further information.

OLIVER STRICKLAND, Dun and Bradstreet, Inc.,
442 Canal Street, advised that the records of his agency
contained no record identifiable with the Continental
Dance Studio.

A review of the 1965 and 1966 New Orleans
City Directories revealed that LOUELLA M. LUTZ resided
at Apartment 604, at the Claiborne Towers, 119 South
Claiborne Avenue.

MARY TANK, Clerk, Sheraton-Delta Hotel, (formerly
Claiborne Towers), 119 South Claiborne Avenue, advised
that her records revealed that LOUELLA LUTZ moved in
1966, to 5515 Ash Street, Apartment 7, Los Angeles,
California.

157-10673-31

1
NO 157-10673
SMC:kbz

The following investigation was conducted by
SA STEPHEN M. CALLENDER on April 12, 1968, at New Orleans,
Louisiana:

ALBERT L. LEBRETON, Sr., 4432 Spain Street,
provided the following information:

He is the owner of the property at 729 Common
Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. He recalled that in
1964, and 1965, the Continental Dance Studio rented space
on the second floor at 729 Common Street. This dance
studio was operated by MARLIN MYERS and LOUELLA LUTZ.
Mrs. LUTZ lived in Apartment 604, at the Claiborne Towers,
119 South Claiborne Street, New Orleans.

It was his understanding that Mrs. LUTZ lost
about \$30,000.00 in the operation of the dance studio.

LEBRETON said that a three-year lease was signed
but he could not recall the exact dates on this lease.
He rented the second floor at a cost of \$250.00 per month,
and that Latter and Blum Realty Company in New Orleans,
handled the rental of this space.

He said he believed that for the first year
the dance studio did a fairly good business; however, the
last three months the studio was in operation, the monthly
rent checks bounced. On each of these three occasions
he brought this to the attention of MYERS who told him
to re-deposit the checks and they subsequently cleared.
It was his further understanding that Mrs. LUTZ had
personally made these checks good.

He informed that the dance studio had actually
ceased operation about three weeks before LEBRETON was
aware of it. A short time later he contacted MYERS about
this, and MYERS said he was attempting to sell the studio.

157-10673- sub 1-32

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NO 157-10673
SMC:kbz

LEBRETON said it was his understanding the reason the studio failed was because MYERS was too busily engaged in having affairs with his women dance instructors and did not pay enough attention to the business. He said he has had no contacts with either MYERS or LUTZ since this time, but it was his understanding that Mrs. LETZ had moved to California, to leave with a son.

He stated he knew nothing whatsoever regarding the operations of this dance studio and that he was not in possession of any records of the studio and he did not know who would be in possession of such records other than probably MYERS or LUTZ.

Mr. LEBRETON advised that he believed that MARLIN MYERS frequented a bar known as the 21 Club, which is located next door to 729 Common Street.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

Mr. BRIAN DUPEPE, owner and manager, Provincial Motel, 1024 Chartres Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, furnished the interviewing agent the motel records for the date of March 26, 1968:

These records reflect that Mr. FRANCIS HICOK, 8963 Tacklos Street, Pontiac, Michigan, registered at the motel on March 25, 1968 and left the motel on March 27, 1968. These records further reflect that HICOK had occupied room 126 and had made telephone calls to the following New Orleans numbers:

524-1131

288-3904

522-5551

899-3061

482-0894

On 4/16/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673 sub 1-33
by SA JAMES D. HILL /jmc Date dictated 4/17/68

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NO 157-10673

JED:mah

ADMINISTRATIVE:

The following investigation was conducted by SA JOHN E. DECKER at New Orleans, Louisiana:

On April 15, 1968, JOSEPH SCHMIDT (Protect Identity) Security Officer, Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company, New Orleans, Louisiana, furnished the following information:

SCHMIDT advised that a review of toll calls for the pay phone, telephone number 523-8802, located at the Provincial Motel, 1024 Charters Street, for the period December 17, 18, and 19, 1967, revealed one long distance phone call on December 18, 1967, to Los Angeles, California, telephone number 934-2326. This call was for three minutes and there were no names or notations made on the toll ticket.

157-10673-216-1-281

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/15/68

A public pay telephone was located behind the office at the Provincial Motel, 1024 Chartres Street, and this telephone had the number 523-8802, area code 504.

This phone is located in an outdoor alcove between the office and the swimming pool and cannot be observed from the street.

On 4/14/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673 sub 1-35
by SAS PAUL C. HENSEL and
JAMES D. HILL PCH/bnk Date dictated 4/15/68

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NO 157-10673/JDH:sja

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The following investigation was conducted at New Orleans, Louisiana, by Special Agents JAMES D. HILL and PAUL C. HENSEL on April 15, 1968:

On April 15, 1968, Mr. EUGENE FAGGIORE, Owner Manager, French Market Service Station, American Oil Company, 1040 Chartres Street, advised that he could not recall having performed any service upon a white Mustang with Alabama license plates during the month of December, 1967.

FAGGIORE added that he cannot recall if, during the month of December, 1967, he had performed any service on any automobiles belonging to guests of the Provincial Motel.

157-10673-1136