

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

(1/12/68)

Located at:	Building	Telephone
ALBANY, New York 12207	502 U. S. Post Office & Ct. House	465-7551
ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico 87101	4303 Federal Office Bldg.	CHapel 7-1555
ANCHORAGE, Alaska 99501	Room 204, Federal Building	272-6414
ATLANTA, Georgia 30303	275 Peachtree St., N. E.	Jackson 1-3900
BALTIMORE, Maryland 21202	408 U. S. Post Office Bldg.	Lexington 9-6700
BIRMINGHAM, Alabama 35203	Room 1400 - 2121 Bldg.	322-7711
BOSTON, Massachusetts 02203	John F. Kennedy Federal Office Building	Richmond 2-5533
BUFFALO, New York 14202	400 U. S. Court House Bldg.	856-7800
BUTTE, Montana 59701	400 Thornton Building	792-2304
CHARLOTTE, North Carolina 28202	1120 Jefferson Standard Life Bldg.	333-4126
CHICAGO, Illinois 60604	Room 905, U. S. Court House & Federal Office Building	431-1333
CINCINNATI, Ohio 45202	415 U. S. Post Office & Court House Building	421-4310
CLEVELAND, Ohio 44199	3005 Federal Office Building	522-1400
COLUMBIA, South Carolina 29201	1529 Hampton Street	252-1911
DALLAS, Texas 75201	Room 200 - 1810 Commerce Street	Riverside 1-1851
DENVER, Colorado 80202	Room 18218, Federal Office Bldg.	222-5981
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	506 Old Post Office Building	393-7100

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

I. O. 4182
4-20-68

**CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY
INTERSTATE FLIGHT - ROBBERY**

WANTED BY FBI

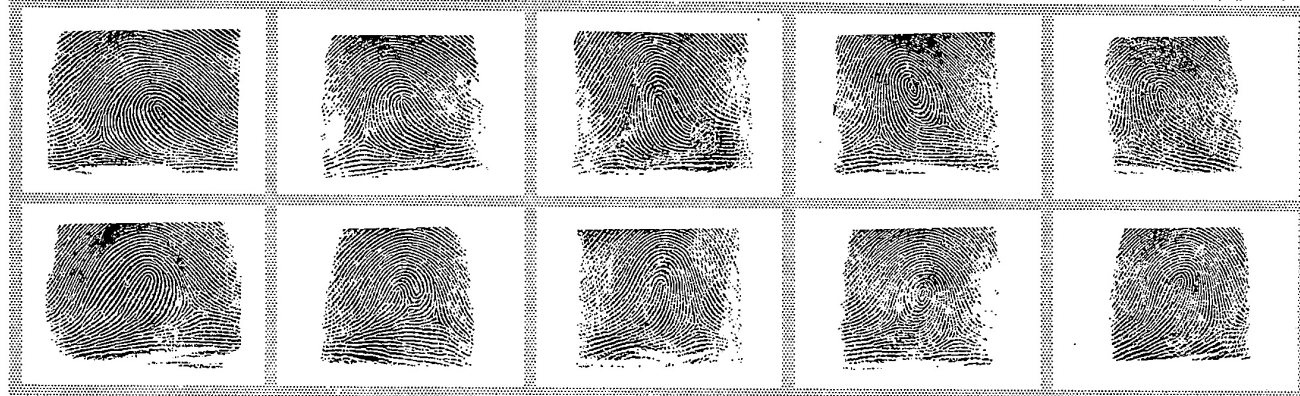
JAMES EARL RAY

FBI No. 405,942 G

16 M 9 U 000 12

M 4 W 101

ALIASES: Eric Starvo Galt, W. C. Herron, Harvey Lowmyer, James McBride, James O'Conner, James Walton, James Walyon, John Willard, "Jim"



Photographs taken 1960

Photograph taken 1968
(eyes drawn by artist)



James Ray

DESCRIPTION

AGE: 40, born March 10, 1928, Alton, Illinois
HEIGHT: 5' 10"
WEIGHT: 163 to 174 pounds
BUILD: medium
HAIR: brown, possibly cut short
OCCUPATIONS: baker, color matcher, laborer
SCARS AND MARKS: small scar on center of forehead and small scar on palm of right hand
EYES: blue
COMPLEXION: medium
RACE: white
NATIONALITY: American
REMARKS: noticeably protruding left ear; reportedly is a lone wolf; allegedly attended dance instruction school; has reportedly completed course in bartending

CRIMINAL RECORD

Ray has been convicted of burglary, robbery, forging U. S. Postal Money Orders, armed robbery, and operating motor vehicle without owner's consent.

CAUTION

RAY IS SOUGHT IN CONNECTION WITH A MURDER WHEREIN THE VICTIM WAS SHOT. CONSIDER ARMED AND EXTREMELY DANGEROUS.

A Federal warrant was issued on April 17, 1968, at Birmingham, Alabama, charging Ray as Eric Starvo Galt with conspiring to interfere with a Constitutional Right of a citizen (Title 18, U. S. Code, Section 241). A Federal warrant was also issued on July 20, 1967, at Jefferson City, Missouri, charging Ray with Interstate Flight to Avoid Confinement for the crime of Robbery (Title 18, U. S. Code, Section 1073).

**IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS PERSON, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL FBI OFFICE.
TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND ADDRESSES OF ALL FBI OFFICES LISTED ON BACK.**

Identification Order 4182
April 20, 1968

J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C. 20535

157-380-76

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
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I. O. 4182
4-20-68

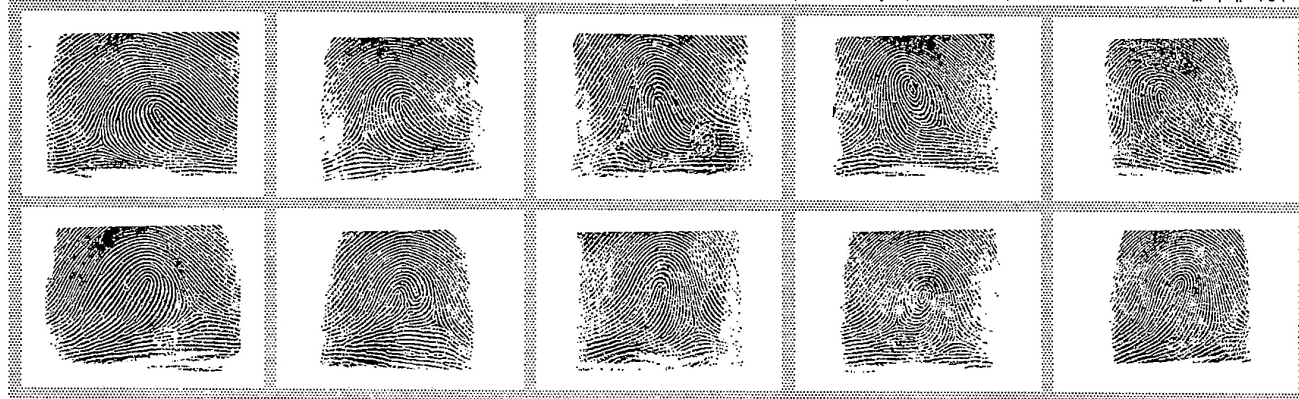
**CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY
INTERSTATE FLIGHT - ROBBERY**

WANTED BY FBI

JAMES EARL RAY ✓ 157-380

FBI No. 405,942 G
16 M 9 U 000 12
M 4 W 101

ALIASES: Eric Starvo Galt, ✓ W. C. Herron, ✓ Harvey Lowmyer, ✓ James McBride, ✓ James O'Conner, ✓ James Walton, ✓ James Walyon, ✓ John Willard, ✓ "Jim" ✓



Photographs taken 1960

Photograph taken 1968
(eyes drawn by artist)



James Ray

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Identification Order 4182
April 20, 1968

SERIALIZED FILED
APR 20 1968
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C. 20535
FBI - PORTLAND

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POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : ~~XXXXXX~~ SA FRANK DAVIS

FROM : SA RONALD E. SHERK (per SAC)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4/22/68

Transmitted herewith are a quantity of wanted flyers re RAY in the SPANISH LANGUAGE. Inasmuch as yours is the only RA with a significant number of spanish speaking persons, I am sending you a quantity of the flyers. See that they are posted where they will do the most good and submit memo as to action you have taken.

ALL LEADS IN MURKIN MUST BE HANDLED WITHIN 24 HOURS.

R ES
(2)



5010-108-01

157-380-77

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 22 1968	
FBI - PORTLAND	

[Handwritten signature]

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (44-38861)

DATE: 4/19/68

FROM : SAC, Kansas City (44-760)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Enclosed to the Bureau are six copies and to each office one copy of the following photographs:

~~JAMES EARL RAY, Missouri Department of
Correction #00416, dated 3/17/60 and
9/8/66~~

~~WALTER TERRY RIFE, Kansas City SO #29636
FBI #4558766~~

Stand up photographs of RAY on the left, Kansas City SO
#29637 and RIFE, Kansas City SO 29236, taken 3/28/55.

- 2 - Bureau (Encs. 24) (AM)
- 2 - Each Field Office (Encs. 4) (AM)
- 2 - Kansas City
(120)

Fuller

157-380-78

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Fuller



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157-380-78

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FBI - PORTLAND	



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

F B I

Date: 4/19/68

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

TO: SAC, ALBANY

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P

MURKIN

At about 6 p.m. on 4/4/68, while standing on the second floor balcony outside Room 306 of the Lorraine Motel, 406 Mulberry Street, Memphis, Tennessee, Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. was struck in the right side of the face by a single bullet fired from a 30-06 rifle. The bullet severed KING's spinal cord and death was almost instantaneous.

This investigation, predicated upon a specific request from the Attorney General of the United States, disclosed that the fatal shot had been fired from the bathroom of a cheap rooming house located at 422½ South Main Street, Memphis, which bathroom was located at the rear of the rooming house, and had a window overlooking the Lorraine Motel.

At about 3 p.m. on 4/4/68, an individual using the name JOHN WILLARD had rented Room 5-B in the rooming house at 422½ South Main Street and had paid one week's rent. After hearing the rifle shot at about 6 p.m. on that same day, other tenants in the rooming house observed a man presumably identical with WILLARD, fleeing from the rooming house carrying a large package which was subsequently abandoned by him on the sidewalk in front of the Canipe Amusement Co., 424 South Main Street, Memphis. A neighborhood investigation in the vicinity of 424 South Main Street disclosed that the subject had fled from the scene in a white Mustang.

Found abandoned in front of 424 South Main Street was a 30-06 Remington model 760 rifle which was determined to have been

2 ALBANY

2 ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES

1 MEMPHIS

RGJ:BN
(111)

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M Per _____

157-380-79

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 22 1968	
FBI - PORTLAND	

[Handwritten signature]

ME 44-1987

sold to one HARVEY LOWMEYER on 3/30/68 by Aeromarine Supply Co., Birmingham, Alabama.

Investigation at Memphis disclosed that an individual had purchased a set of binoculars at the York Arms Company in Memphis on 4/4/68. These binoculars were among the material abandoned with the rifle and recovered in Memphis. Also recovered was a brown and green herringbone bedspread. The items abandoned in Memphis were all wrapped in this bedspread. The blue bag which was inside the bedspread contained numerous items, among which were the binoculars and a set of underwear consisting of a T-shirt and shorts. The T-shirt and shorts are those on which appears the laundry mark which has been a matter of interest in this case.

A search of motel records in the Memphis area disclosed that an individual using the name ERIC S. GALT had spent the night of 4/3/68 at the Rebel Motel, Memphis, Tennessee, and was driving a 1966 white Mustang bearing Alabama License 1-38993. Investigation at Birmingham disclosed that this automobile had been purchased by ERIC S. GALT on August 30, 1968, from a private person in response to a newspaper ad. He paid a total of \$1995 cash. While in Birmingham he furnished the address of 2608 South Highland Avenue, Birmingham. This is also the address which appeared on a driver's license issued to him by the State of Alabama. The driver's license identifying data listed his birth date as [redacted] his height as 5'11", his weight as 170 and his eyes blue and hair brown.

The automobile in question, the white Mustang bearing the Alabama tags mentioned above, was recovered in Atlanta on 4/11/68 and determined to have been abandoned there prior to 9 a.m. on 4/5/68.

In connection with the evidence submitted by Atlanta, Birmingham, and Memphis, identifiable latent prints were recovered. It was on the basis of these latents that identification was made of JAMES EARL RAY. In handling future leads, all offices should be particularly interested in securing an identifying number, military, police, or FBI, in connection with suspects so that the necessary check can be made through the Identification Division.

On 4/17/68, AUSA R. MACEY TAYLOR, Birmingham, authorized the filing of a complaint charging ERIC STARVO GALT with a conspiracy to violate Section 241, Title 18, U. S. Code, and

ME 44-1987

recommended bond in the amount \$50,000. On that same date, SAC JOSEPH E. GAMBLE filed a complaint before USC MILDRED F. SPRAGUE, Birmingham, and warrant was issued that same date.

For further information re JAMES EARL RAY, all offices are directed to press release furnished them by the Bureau on 4/19/68.

ARMED & DANGEROUS.

FBI PORTLAND

FBI SAN FRAN

1 22PM

409PM URGENT 4/22/68 GJM

TO ALL SACS RELAY MESSAGE PLAN

FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861 1P

MURKIN

YOU ARE REMINDED THAT ALL LEADS IN THIS CASE MUST BE COVERED WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS, AND ALL LEADS MUST BE SET FORTH BY TELEPHONE OR TELETYPE. ALL BORDER OFFICES COVERING ENTRY INTO MEXICO AND CANADA AND EXIT THEREFROM SHOULD INSURE THAT APPROPRIATE STOPS ARE MAINTAINED RE SUBJECT AND ALL NAMES KNOWN TO BE USED BY HIM AT RESPECTIVE OFFICES OF U. S. IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PATROL. YOU SHOULD ALSO INSURE THAT PREVIOUS STOPS PLACED WITH ANY FACILITY SHOULD INCLUDE ALL NAMES USED BY THE SUBJECT.

DISTRIBUTE SUFFICIENT QUANTITIES OF WANTED FLYERS AND IO'S TO NARCOTIC INVESTIGATIVE AGENCIES IN ORDER THAT THEIR INFORMANTS MAY BE CONTACTED. YOU SHOULD CONTACT ALL CRIMINAL INFORMANTS AND APPROPRIATE RACIAL AND SECURITY INFORMANTS. LEGATS OTTAWA AND MEXICO CITY BEING ADVISED SEPARATELY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

LMT

FBI PORTLAND

P.

157-386-2
S. L. B.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : ~~XXXX~~ SAC, PORTLAND (157-380

DATE: 3/19/68

FROM : SA RONALD E. SHERK

SUBJECT: MURKIN

RE: "ERICK GAULT"

Suspect suggested by GEORGE F. WICK.

On 3/19/68 at about 6:00 pm ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ GEORGE F. WICK, new car salesman for Fred Bauer Chevrolet Co., 8150 N. Lombard St., Portland, Ore. telephoned SAC SOYARS and stated that he had been contacted by an "ERICK GAULT" on 3/11/68, potential used car buyer. SA SHERK was immediately dispatched to Fred Bauer Chevrolet Co. and interviewed WICK in depth.

WICK, who is age 62, apparently a sober and solid citizen who has been selling cars in the Portland area for many years, furnished the following information:

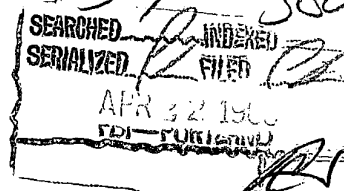
At about 7:30 p.m. 3/11/68 WICK received a telephone call from a man to asked to talk to a "Salesman". The caller stated his name was ERICK GAULT" (Ph), that he was passing through town, was calling from a bar and was stopping at a motel on Union Ave. He said he did not know the name or address of the motel. He said he was looking for a 64 Chev. Station Wagon with air conditioning and had \$1600. cash. He said he has a mustang, but did not desire to trade it in as he was going to give it to his brother.

WICK told the caller that he thought he knew where he could get such a car and invited him out to the showroom. WICK then called BOB INMAN, 5406 N. E. Jessup, Tel. 282-0409 but found that the station wagon INMAN had for sale was a 63 Ford Country squire and had no air conditioning.

"ERICK GAULT" arrived at the showroom alone about 8:00 pm and said he was not interested in the Ford. He stayed only a short time and said he would contact WICK on the following day. Nothing further was ever seen of him. WICK saw the car "GAULT" was driving and thinks it was a light colored Mustang with California plates, but cannot be sure about either, since he was not planning to take the car in trade.



5010-108-01



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

WICK was shown photos of Subject RAY and stated that they are definitely not identical with the above suspect, whom he described as follows:

Name: ERICK GAULT
Sex: Male
Color: White
Age: 28 to 35 years.
Ht: 5'7" or perhaps an inch shorter.
Wt: 185
Build: Obese with the large paunch.
Eyes: Not noted.
Hair: Light brown, receding noticeably at temples.
Complex: Medium. Sunburned or tanned.
Dress: Light sport shirt, open collar, color not noted.
Plaid sport jacket, varicolored, colors not noted.
Perhaps dark trousers, shoes not noted, sloppy appearance.
Accent: None noted. (Informant is an Oregonian by birth)
Remarks: Looks like DON NIPPLE, who used to tend bar at Elks Club, Oregon City, Oregon and now works for Kirby Ford, Portland, Oregon.

Although description does not fit and WICK made positive non-ident on photos of RAY, a squad of agents checked all motels on Union Ave, Portland, Oregon on 3/20/68 looking for "ERICK GAULT" resigration or out of state Mustang registration on pertinent dates which might fit. They have submitted memos showing results negative.

No further action indicated.

RES

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, PORTLAND 1157-380)

DATE: 4/22/68

FROM : SA RONALD E. SHERK

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Bureau TT 4/18/68:

DISTRIBUTION OF PHOTOS TO ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT
AGENCIES IN OREGON.

Done immediately upon receipt if flyers and
I. O.s.

CONTACT WITH INS: Done by SAC 4/19/68. He
is submitting memo.

CONTACT WITH PASSPORT OFFICE, USDC CLERK,
Portland, Ore., DONAL D. SULLIVEN, Clerk of Court.

Handled by SA RONALD E. SHERK 4/22/68

RE-CONTACT WITH ALL AIRLINES, DOMESTIC AND
OVERSEAS AT PORTLAND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT,
INCLUDING CONTACTS WITH AIRPORT POLICE, CAR
RENTAL AGENCIES AND THE TWO BARS AT THE AIRPORT.

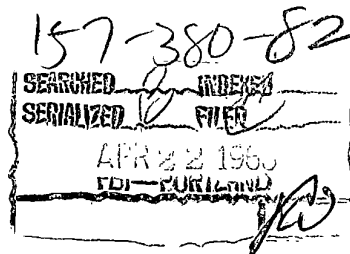
Handled by SA RONALD E. SHERK, 4/22/68, who left
current wanted fliers with each of above contacts.

RES
(1)



5010-108-01

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



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, PORTLAND

FROM : SA RONALD E. SHERK

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4/22/68

Re Bureau ~~XXXXXX~~ TT 4,22/68

RE: LIAISON WITH NARCOTICS AGENCIES.

On 4/22/68 Most recent wanted flyers furnished to following, who promised to contact their informants re RAY:

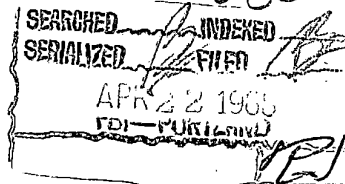
BILL W. FREEMAN, SAC, Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, U. S. Court House, Portland, Ore.

Lt. JACK STRUDGEON, Narcotics Bureau, Portland, Ore. Police Department.

RE: CONTACTS WITH CRIMINAL INFORMANTS
AND APPROPRIATE RACIAL AND SECURITY INFO.

All agent memo instructing immediate contact with informants as above sent out 4/22/68

RES
(1)



5010-108-01

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

F B I

Date: 4/19/68

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

TO : ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES
FROM : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
CIVIL RIGHTS
(OO: ME)

Re Albany airtels 4/10/68 and 4/11/68, setting forth concerns who purchased Thermo-Seal marking machines, and Bureau teletype to Memphis, 4/12/68.

The FBI Laboratory advised that pillowcase and bed sheet were found in trunk of 1966 white Mustang registered to ERIC STARVO GALT, which was located at Atlanta 4/11/68. These items contain Thermo-Seal laundry tapes of approximately same size as tapes on items previously recovered, but are yellow in color and contain code, "20R-3." In opinion of Textile Marking Machine Company, Syracuse, New York, the tapes were produced by a different machine than previous tapes since the first three characters are 15 point type and the last two characters are 18 point type.

The Textile Marking Machine Company suggests the twenty in above code would be the lot number, the R may mean that this was a return of a batch of laundry, and the three is the bundle number.

LEADSALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES

Will recontact laundries determined to be operating Thermo-Seal Marking Machines in an effort to locate laundry using the code, "20R-3."

2 - All Continental Offices P D
2 - Memphis
GMR:jms (118)

Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

157-380-84

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 22 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	
M	Per [Signature]

F B I

Date: 4/19/68

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

TO : ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES
FROM : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
CIVIL RIGHTS
(OO: ME)

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2 - All Continental Offices PD
2 - Memphis
GMR:jms (118)

157-380-84

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 22 1968	
FBI - PORTLAND	

Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

FBI PORTLAND

FBI KAN CITY

543

PM URGENT 4/23/68 LIB
TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS AND PORTLAND
FROM SAC, KANSAS CITY 44-760 1P

MURKIN.

NO INFORMATION IN KANSAS CITY FILES REFLECTING SUBJECT HAS
RELATIVES IN OREGON. NO INDICATION THAT JIMMY CARPENTER MAY HAVE
ORIGINALLY BEEN FROM OREGON OR HAD CONNECTIONS IN OREGON.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

P

END

RCH

FBI PORTLAND

157-380-85
SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
FEB 23 1968
FBI - C
RS

FBI PORTLAND

FBI KAN CITY

1124

AM URGENT 4/23/68 PHM

TO DIRECTOR 44-38861, MEMPHIS AND PORTLAND
FROM KANSAS CITY 44-760 2P

MURKIN

[REDACTED] WARSAW, MO., FURNISHED FOLLOWING INFO,
HOWEVER, REQUESTED IDENTITY BE CONCEALED.

STATED HE STARTED SERVING SENTENCE AT MISSOURI STATE PEN
AT SAME TIME AS SUBJECT. WAS IN CELL EIGHTYNINE AND RAY IN CELL
SEVENTYONE. HE ADVISED RAY BECAME INDEBTED TO INMATE NAMED
JIMMY CARPENTER, WHO STOOD GOOD FOR RAY'S DEBTS "IN THE YARD."
CARPENTER ALSO WORKED IN KITCHEN AT PRISON WITH RAY. HE IS AN
OLD-TIME CON-MAN ABOUT SEVENTY YEARS, AND IS BELIEVED TO BE STILL
IN PRISON. [REDACTED] ADVISED ALTHOUGH RAY WAS NOT HOMOSEXUAL, HE
COULD BE INTIMIDATED INTO DOING ALMOST ANYTHING. [REDACTED] ADVISED
HE DOES NOT KNOW WHO HELDPED RAY ESCAPE FROM PEN IN APRIL,
SIXTYSEVEN, AND DID NOT KNOW THAT RAY WAS PLANNING TO GO OUT.
NEVER HEARD RAY SAY THAT HE WOULD GO ANY SPECIFIC PLACE WHEN
RELEASED FROM PEN OR DISCUSS A HIDEOUT OR ESCAPE PLANS. [REDACTED]
REMEMBERS IN CONVERSATIONS WITH RAY THAT RAY WOULD ALWAYS MENTION
END PAGE ONE

*Given to S.A. Mullaney by phone
by SAC upon receipt.*

Shurt

1-
RECORDED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
FEB 24 1968
FBI - PORTLAND
RA

KC 44-760

PAGE TWO

HIS LIKING FOR ROGUE RIVER AREA OF OREGON. GOT IMPRESSION THAT RAY HAD LIVED IN THAT AREA AND POSSIBLY HAD RELATIVES THERE. NEVER HEARD RAY MENTION ANY RELATIVES. RAY GAVE IMPRESSION ALTHOUGH NO SPECIFIC NAMES OR COMMENTS RECALLED HW AS FAMILIAR WITH SAW MILL WORK IN OREGON, AND "RIDING ON A CHAIR WHILE SAWING LOGS." [REDACTED] GOT IMPRESSION THAT ROGUE RIVER, AS REFERRED TO BY RAY, WAS A TOWN IN OREGON. RAY WOULD TALK FISHING IN HIS CONVERSATIONS. MENTIONED FISHING IN STREAMS.

[REDACTED] BELIEVED THIS TO BE TROUT FISHING. RAY SPOKE OF LOGS IN A POND IN ROGUE RIVE AREA. SPOKE OF SAW MILL TYPE WORK BEING AVAILABLE IN THAT AREA OF ORGEON, OF WHICH HE WAS FOND.

PORTLAND, AT ROUGE RIVE, ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE ANY NFORMATION REGARDING SUBJECT EVER BEING IN THAT AREA.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS; ESCAPE PROPENSITITES.

P

END

DMP .

FBI PORTLAND

@

F B I

Date: 4/23/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR 44-38861, MEMPHIS 44-1987, KANSAS CITY 44-760
FROM: PORTLAND 157-380

MURKIN

RE KANSAS CITY TEL APRIL TWENTYTHREE INSTANT.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFO AND CONSIDERATION OF THE BUREAU,
FOLLOWING INFO IS SET FORTH. THERE IS A ROGUE RIVER CITY IN
OREGON. IT HAS A POPULATION OF ABOUT SEVEN HUNDRED INDIVIDUALS.
IT IS IN THE CENTER OF THE LOGGING INDUSTRY OF SOUTHERN OREGON.
A FAMOUS FISHING RIVER, NAMELY THE ROGUE RIVER, RUNS THROUGH
THE CITY. THERE ARE NUMEROUS SAW MILLS IN SOUTHERN OREGON, AS
WELL AS IN OTHER PARTS OF THE STATE, INASMUCH AS LOGGING IS
THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRY IN THE STATE OF OREGON. THE REFERENCE
"RIDING ON A CHAIR WHILE SAWING LOGS" IS PROBABLY THE JOB
DESCRIPTION OF THE POSITION OF SAWYER. THIS ~~INDIVIDUAL~~ INDIVIDUAL,
THROUGH THE USE OF MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT SITS ATOP IN A CAB ON
THE LOG BEING SAWED AND OPERATES THE SAW WHICH CUTS THE LARGE
LOGS INTO PLANKING. EACH SAW MILL OPERATOR MUST MAINTAIN A

WBS:lam
(1)

Approved: \$
Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M

Per

KC-11-11
WA-11-11
MP-11-11

Shenk RB

157-380-87

PD 157-380

PAGE TWO

POND OR HAVING A SPRINKLING SYSTEM TO KEEP THE LOGS DAMP UNTIL THEY CAN BE SAWED. CONSEQUENTLY, WE HAVE IN OREGON HUNDREDS OF SUCH LOGGING PONDS.

WE HAVE COMMENCED INTENSIVE INVESTIGATION IN THE AREA IMMEDIATELY AROUND THE TOWN OF ROGUE RIVER TO INDIVIDUALLY CONTACT ALL LOGGING OPERATORS IN THAT VICINITY. HOWEVER, THE ROGUE RIVER, ITSELF, TRAVERSES A DISTANCE OF SEVERAL HUNDRED MILES IN SOUTHERN OREGON BEFORE IT EMPTIES INTO THE PACIFIC OCEAN AND IN THIS AREA ALONE, WHICH IS HIGHLY MOUNTAINOUS AND DENSELY FOREST^{ed}, THERE ARE A LARGE NUMBER OF OTHER LOGGING OPERATORS. THIS WOULD BE TRUE OF A LARGE PORTION OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA, AS WELL AS THE STATE OF WASHINGTON. CONSEQUENTLY, DIRECT INVESTIGATIVE EFFORT CONCERNING RAY AT THIS TIME WILL BE LOCALIZED IN THE AREA IMMEDIATELY AROUND THE TOWN OF ROGUE RIVER. IN ADDITION, WE HAVE DETERMINED THAT THERE IS A UNION COMPOSED OF SAWYERS AND WE ARE CHECKING TO SEE IF RAY HAS EVER BELONGED TO SUCH A UNION.

AS A SUGGESTION, INASMUCH AS RAY HAS INDICATED AN INTEREST IN THE LOGGING TRADE, THE BUREAU MAY DESIRE TO HAVE THE PORTLAND, ^{San Francisco, Butte} SACRAMENTO AND SEATTLE DIVISIONS CIRCULARIZE THE LOGGING INDUSTRY, INCLUDING INDEPENDENT LOGGING OPERATORS WITH THE WANTED FLYER AND

Don't's handle
f

PD 157-380

PAGE THREE

IDENTIFICATION ORDER OF RAY. IN THE EVENT CIRCULARIZATION IS DESIRED, PORTLAND WOULD NEED APPROXIMATELY THREE HUNDRED FIFTY ADDITIONAL COPIES OF WF FOUR FOUR TWO A AND IO FOUR ONE EIGHT TWO.

KANSAS CITY IS REQUESTED TO ADVISE WHETHER THERE IS ANY INFORMATION IN FILE INDICATING THE NAMES OF RELATIVES RAY MAY HAVE HAD IN OREGON. ADDITIONALLY, PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER THERE IS ANY INDICATION JIMMY CARPENTER MAY HAVE ORIGINALLY BEEN FROM OREGON OR HAS CONNECTIONS IN OREGON.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. ESCAPE PROPENSITIES.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537

4-23-68 307 HJC

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CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
Army	James Earl Ray [REDACTED]	February 19, 1946		
Sheriff's Office Los Angeles, California	James Earl Ray [REDACTED]	October 11, 1949	suspicion of burglary	
Police Department Los Angeles, California	James Earl Ray [REDACTED]	October 11, 1949	suspicion 459 Penal Code (burglary)	8 months County Jail suspended; 2 years probation served; first 90 days County Jail; 146 December 30, 1949 Cs129438
Sheriff's Office Cedar Rapids, Iowa	James E. Ray [REDACTED]	April 18, 1950	vagrancy	
Police Department Alton, Illinois	James Earl Ray [REDACTED]	July 23, 1951	no operator's license - no State License - no City License	released to pay later
Police Department Chicago, Illinois	James Ray [REDACTED]	May 6, 1952	robbery (Gun)	Grand Jury \$3000
Cook County Jail Chicago, Illinois	James Ray [REDACTED]	May 9, 1952	robbery	June 13, 1952 sentenced to penitentiary 1 to 2 years
State Penitentiary Joliet, Illinois	James E. Ray [REDACTED]	June 13, 1952	robbery	1 to 2 years
State Penitentiary Pontiac, Illinois	James E. Ray [REDACTED]	July 7, 1952 in transfer from Joliet	robbery	1 to 2 years March 12, 1954 discharged

157-380-58

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 24 1968	
FBI - PORTLAND	

125

Notations indicated by * are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

John Edgar Hoover
Director

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537

4-23-68 307 HJC

2

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CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
Sheriff's Office Edwardsville, Illinois	James Earl Ray [REDACTED]	August 30, 1954	burglary and larceny	
Police Department Hannibal, Missouri	James E. Ray [REDACTED]	March 23, 1955	investigation of breaking and entering Post Office	
State Highway Patrol Macon, Missouri	James Earl Ray [REDACTED]	March 23, 1955	cashing stolen postal money orders	released to Postal Inspector Kansas City, Missouri March 24, 1955.
United States Marshal Kansas City, Missouri	James Earl Ray [REDACTED]	March 28, 1955	forgery United States Postal Money Order	sentenced to 15 months custody of Attorney General
Sheriff's Office Kansas City, Missouri	James Earl Ray [REDACTED]	March 28, 1955	Forgery - Government	July 7, 1955 3 years and 9 months
United States Penitentiary Leavenworth, Kansas	James Earl Ray [REDACTED]	July 7, 1955	Post Office Laws Forge Money Orders	3 years and 9 months May 20, 1958 conditional release March 31 1959 maximum April 5, 1958 conditional release on charge of Post Office forgery Post Office Money Orders
Police Department Saint Louis, Missouri	James Earl Ray [REDACTED]	October 10, 1959	suspicion of robbery	

Notations indicated by * are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

John Edgar Hoover
Director

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537

4-23-68 307 HJC

3

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CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
Police Department Saint Louis, Missouri	James Earl Ray [REDACTED]	October 16, 1959	suspicion of robbery stealing and fugitive other authorities	
State Penitentiary Jefferson City, Missouri	Janes Earl Ray [REDACTED]	March 17, 1960	"TC" operating motor vehicle without permission of owner robbery first "b/m DDW" (2 charges)	20 years (20, 7, 5, concurrent)
State Hospital Number 1 Fulton, Missouri	James Earl Ray [REDACTED]	September 8, 1966	Patient	

Notations indicated by * are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

John Edgar Hoover
Director

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537

4-23-68 307 HJC

4

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CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
	WANTED: James Earl Ray for escape April 23, 1967 (operating motor vehicle without permission of owner; robbery first degree "b/m of a D & DW") (will extradite) Notify Warden State Penitentiary Jefferson City, Missouri information received May 10, 1967.			

Notations indicated by * are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

John Edgar Hoover
Director

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537

4-23-68 307 HJC

1-Bureau

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FINAL DISPOSITION IS NOT SHOWN OR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF CHARGE IS DESIRED, COMMUNICATE
WITH AGENCY CONTRIBUTING THOSE FINGERPRINTS.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
	WANTED BY BUREAU: James Earl Ray, also known as, James McBride, James Walyon, W.C. Herron, James O'Conner, Jim, for unlawful flight to avoid custody-robbery first Fugitive Index #121426 Bureau file #88-41730 Office of Origin Kansas City information received July 27, 1967. CAUTION: ARMED AND DANGEROUS Alias: James Walton WANTED BY BUREAU: Eric Starvo Galt, also known as Harvey Lowmyer, John Willard, Civil Rights-Conspiracy Fugitive Index #127540 Bureau File #44-38861 Office of Origin Memphis. Information received April 19, 1968. CAUTION: ARMED AND DANGEROUS			
THIS PAGE SHOULD NOT BE DISSEMINATED OUTSIDE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION.				

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John Edgar Hoover
Director

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, PORTLAND

DATE: 4/23/68

FROM : SA RONALD E. SHERK (157-380)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

RE: LEAD FROM KANSAS CITY THAT RAY
MAY HAVE WORKED IN SAWMILL IN ROGUE RIVER, ORE.

Contact with union representatives disclosed the following:

1. Only small sawmills in this area have a man riding on the saw carriage, back and forth, as the log is sawed.
2. For at least that past 20 years the "sawyer" has not ridden on the saw carriage. The man who rides the saw carriage is known as a setter, and his job is to set the dogs in the logs. He is given instructions by the sawyer ~~by~~, by finger signals, to set the log for cut (1", 2", 3", 3", etc. by number of fingers shown. The sawyer remains in a stationary position, operating the controls, is a highly skilled and highly paid workman, and usually an older, experienced man. Even the job of "setter" is a key job and it is unlikely that RAY, who was only 31 years of age before his most recent incarceration, and who could have had only limited mill experience because of his frequent incarcerations, would have been given any such job in a mill.
3. All the larger mills have had automated saws for the past 25 or more years, and no one rides back and forth on the saw carriages of such installations.
4. The majority of the small mills, which would have been using the older type equipment prior to 1960 are so-called "gyppo" mills, ~~the~~ operate non-union, and frequently go out of business, change ownership, or change location. The chances of finding a small mill in the same location and with the same ownership as in 1960 are slim. This also applies to the chances of finding employmt. recds.
5. For the above reasons, circularization through union sources will likely prove non-productive. However should circularization through union sources be desired, it can be accomplished at Portland, Oregon through the only two unions to which saw-mill workers belong, and can be accomplished for the 11 Western states.



157-380-89

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 24 1968	
FBI - PORTLAND	

[Signature]

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

International Woodworkers of America (IWA) (AFL-CIO) maintains addressograph plates and equipment for all their locals in the 11 Western States, c/o WILLIAM BOTKIN, IWA headquarters, 1622 N. Lombard St., Portland, Ore. Tel. 285-5281.

Western Council, Lumber and Sawmill Workers Union, Portland, Oregon, Tel. CA 8-0235, maintains addressograph plates and equipment for all their locals in the 11 Western States, according to TED PRUSIA, Assistant to Executive Secy. HUGH ALLEN.

6. Since many workers do not come to the attention of the Unions, even in union plants, and since the majority of the smaller mills are non-union, TED PRUSIA suggested that probably a more effective method of circularization would be through the following employer groups, who include many non-union mills:

TIMBER OPERATORS COUNCIL, Portland, Oregon

PINE INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE, Klamath Falls, Ore.

TIMBER PRODUCTS MANUFACTURERS, Spokane, Wash.

He also suggested that the larger companies, which have many plants throughout the area, be asked to circularize all their own plants. These large operators are:

WEYERHAEUSER TIMBER CO., Tacoma, Wash.

INTERNATIONAL PAPER CO., Longview, Wash.

BOISE CASCADE CO., Boise, Idaho.

U. S. PLYWOOD CORP., Eugene, Ore. or Redding, Calif.

RES

Portland, Oregon
4/18/68

TO: SAC, PORTLAND (157-380)

FROM: SA RONALD E. SHERK

RE: MURKIN

RE: CONTACTS WITH DANCING SCHOOLS,
Portland, Ore.

All dancing schools in Portland and Multnomah County which offer ballroom dancing have been contacted, photos of GALT have been shown and results negative to date. Schools which teach only children, teach only specialized dancing such as ballet or tap dancing, have been excluded from below list. Schools and persons contacted are as follows:

Academy of Dance Arts, 11931 NE Halsey, Mrs. THELMA HELMICK.
Arthur Murray's, 721 SW 11th Ave., Mrs. ALMA SWAIN.
Richard Billings Dance Studios, 3705 NE Sandy, RICHARD BILLINGS.
Broadwell School of Dance, 4113 NE Bdwy., Mrs. SLIMAN BROADWELL.
Webber Studio, 5452 SW 54th, CARLA JEANNE WEBBER.
~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Fred Astaire, 716 SW Morrison, ERNIE THESMEN.
Chets Studio, 4113 NE Bdwy, Mrs. SLIMAN BROADWELL
Hastings School of Dance, 3331 NE 57th, LAURA HASTINGS.
Sheahan Dancing School, 3909 SW Troy, LORRAINE SHEAHAN.
STOLL School of Dance, 3830 NE Hancock, HELEN STOLL.
Renoux School of Dance, 316 SW 11th Ave, MARCELLE RENOUX.
Stites Studio of Dance, 10249 N. E. Clackamas, MERLEEN STITES.

RES
(1)

157-380-90

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 22 1968	
FBI - PORTLAND	

125



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Post Office Box 709
Portland, Oregon 97207

April 24, 1968

*Sent to all listed in Serial 20
pages 1 & 2*

Dear Sir:

In connection with the case concerning the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King, please advise by return mail whether you have ever used the marking on your Thermo-Seal marking machine "20R-3."

Thank you very much for your prompt reply to this letter. You may use this letter for your reply and I am enclosing a self-addressed franked envelope which requires no postage.

ANSWER: We have never used such a mark _____X.

We have used such a mark. (details)

Very truly yours,

W. B. Soyars, Jr.

W. B. SOYARS, JR.
Special Agent in Charge

SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 24 1968	
FBI - PORTLAND	

file answered

Enclosure

RS
1-157-380
RES:hls

[Handwritten signature]

157-380-91

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : ALL SPECIAL AGENTS

FROM : SAC SOYARS, PORTLAND

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4/24/68

For assistance in checking out suspects possibly identical with JAMES EARL RAY, Subject and principal suspect in this case, a review of his FBI Identification record under FBI No. 405-942-G shows that he was in the following locations on the dates listed. If you can account for presence of a suspect elsewhere on pertinent dates and periods, consider eliminated.

Pls. send in all results of any investigation on OF-10 rather than routing slip, as we are filing everything in either the main file or Sub C, so that we will have a record of everything done. If you have already submitted something by ~~XXX~~ routing slip it is OK as they have been mounted and filed as serials in Sub ~~XX~~ C.

Dates as above are as follows:

	Date.
In U. S. Army	<i>2-19-46 to 12-23-48</i>
In Custody, Los Angeles, Cal.	10/11/49 to at least 12/30/49
In Custody, Cedar Rapids, Iowa	4/18/50 for one day.
In Custody Alton, Ill.	7/23/51 for part of one day.
In Custody Chicago, Ill. and Illinois State Pen.	5/6/52 to 3/12/54
In Custody Edwardsville, Ill.	8/30/54 for at least 1 day.
In Custody in Missouri and Leavenworth Penitentiary	3/23/55 to 4/5/58
In Custody Missouri and Missouri State Pen.	10/10/59 until 4/23/67 when he escaped.



5010-108-01

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 24 1968	
FBI - PORTLAND	

157-380-92

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

157-380 Memo, page 2.

In Addition RAY, as ERIC STARVO GALT is known to have been in the following places at the following times:

Birmingham, Ala.

8/30/67 and probably
during Sept. and Oct. 1967

Long Beach, Cal.

~~XXXXX~~ Probably in dancing
school Dec. 1967 to Feb. 1968

New Orleans, La.

Approx. 12/19-21/67

Los Angeles area, bartenders
school.

Graduated 3/2/68.

KEEP THIS MEMO FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.

(Stencil cut of above and furnished to all agents) RES

F B I

Date: 4/24/68

Transmit the following in PLAIN
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)TO: SEATTLE
FROM: PORTLAND (157-380)(P)

MURKIN.

RE SUSPECT ALVIN A. JOHNSON.

ON APRIL TWENTYTHREE LAST GLENDORA SMITH, POSTMISTRESS, GRASS VALLEY, OREGON, STATED SUSPECT JOHNSON CAME BY POST OFFICE SEEKING TO OBTAIN LETTER WHICH HE HAD WRITTEN FROM WINTERHAVEN, CALIFORNIA, CARE OF GENERAL DELIVERY, TO A FRIEND OF HIS. SHE BELIEVED JOHNSON RESEMBLED SUBJECT RAY. HE APPEARED TO HER TO BE SUSPICIOUS; CONSEQUENTLY, SHE CALLED SHERIFF OF SHERMAN COUNTY.

SHERIFF LEO ROBERTS, SHERMAN COUNTY, OREGON, STATED HE STOPPED OLD CHEVROLET PICKUP TRUCK AND CHECKED JOHNSON OUT ON APRIL TWENTYTHREE LAST. ACCORDING TO SHERIFF, JOHNSON HAD PROPER IDENTIFICATION FOR THE VEHICLE WHICH BEARS WASHINGTON LICENSE G O O DASH ZERO SEVEN TWO. THE SHERIFF, WHO HAS IDENTIFYING DATA CONCERNING SUSPECT RAY, STATED THAT JOHNSON DID NOT RESEMBLE RAY BEING ONE HUNDRED FIFTY LBS., BLACK GRAYING

1 - Memphis (44-1987)(AM)
1 - PortlandWBS:lam
(2)Approved: _____ Sent 1102 M Per nmp
Special Agent in Charge

PD 157-380

PAGE TWO

HAIR, ABOUT FORTY YEARS OLD, HAZEL EYES. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF IMPORTANCE OF THIS MATTER, SEATTLE IS REQUESTED TO DETERMINE REGISTERED OWNER OF WASHINGTON LICENSE G O O DASH ZERO SEVEN TWO. IN THE EVENT JOHNSON IS REGISTERED OWNER, DETERMINE IF VEHICLE WAS REGISTERED TO JOHNSON PRIOR TO APRIL NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN, THE MONTH WHICH RAY ESCAPED FROM CONFINEMENT.

MAIL COPY TO MEMPHIS

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. ESCAPE PROPENSITIES.

FBI PORTLAND

FBI SAN FRAN

6:25PM

754PM URGENT 4-24-68 BJP

TO ALL SACS - RELAY MESSAGE PLAN

FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861 2P

MURKIN

CONTACTS SHOULD BE MAINTAINED WITH ALL MASS COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA IN YOUR TERRITORY TO INSURE THAT THERE IS FREQUENT REFERENCE TO RAY AND HIS CONNECTION WITH THIS CASE.

SINCE YOU HAVE PREVIOUSLY BEEN ADVISED THAT JAMES EARL RAY IS IDENTICAL WITH ERIC STARVO GALT AND YOU HAVE BEEN FURNISHED IO'S AND WANTED FLYERS ON RAY, YOU ARE TO BE CERTAIN THAT ALL APPROPRIATE STOPS HAVE BEEN RENEWED ON JAMES EARL RAY AND UNDER ALL OF HIS KNOWN ALIASES AS SET FORTH ON THE IO'S AND WANTED FLYERS. THIS IS TO INSURE THAT THE BUREAU WILL BE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFIED IF THE SUBJECT IS ARRESTED OR COMES TO THE ATTENTION OF AUTHORITIES WITH WHOM STOPS PLACED.

OFFICES COVERING DEPARTURE OR ARRIVAL OF OVERSEAS FLIGHTS SHOULD HAVE RENEWED STOPS AND SUBJECT'S PHOTOGRAPH SHOULD BE DISPLAYED APPROPRIATELY.

END PAGE ONE

157-380-96

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 24 1968	
FBI - PORTLAND	

AC

PAGE TWO

ALL OFFICES SHOULD CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION
AT ALL "HIPPIE" ROOMING HOUSES AND SIMILAR ESTABLISHMENTS TO
OBTAIN ANY INFORMATION WHATSOEVER CONCERNING RAY.

APPROPRIATE LEGATS BEING ADVISED SEPARATELY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

EFT

FBI PORTLAND

F B I

Date: 4/24/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861)
AND ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES

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

MURKIN

OO: Memphis

Enclosed for the Bureau are four copies of photograph of subject JAMES EARL RAY, which was taken 1/4/66 at Missouri State Penitentiary.

Two copies of above-mentioned photograph are enclosed for each of the Continental Offices.

This additional photograph is being furnished, inasmuch as resemblance is quite different from previous photographs furnished, and it may be helpful in aiding sources to identify subject.

Also, it is to be noted that WALTER TERRY RIFE has been located and interviewed in this matter.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

3-Bureau (Enc. 4)
2-Each Continental Office (Enc. 2 each) *Portland*
2-Kansas City

RBH:lib

(12)

(113)

157-380-95

SEARCHED.....	
SERIALIZED.....	
INDEXED.....	
FILED.....	
APR 25 1968	
FBI - PORTLAND	

AS

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



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

April 20, 1968

JAMES EARL RAY

James Earl Ray, a Missouri prison escapee who has been sought under the alias Eric Starvo Galt in connection with the gunshot slaying of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., is one of the FBI's "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives."

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover ordered the special addition of Ray to the "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives" list, which already contains ten fugitives, to insure the widest possible dissemination of Ray's photograph and description to help effect his prompt location. Ray has been the subject of a massive search since the gunshot slaying of Dr. King on April 4, 1968, as he stood on the balcony of a Memphis, Tennessee, motel.

An exhaustive FBI fingerprint search, comparing latent fingerprints uncovered in the Dr. King case against fingerprints of over 53,000 persons on whom FBI wanted notices have been posted determined that Galt and Ray are identical.

A Federal warrant, issued at Birmingham, Alabama, on April 17, 1968, charges Ray, under the alias Eric Starvo Galt, with conspiring to interfere with a Constitutional Right of a United States citizen. Ray, who escaped on April 23, 1967, from the Missouri State Penitentiary, is also sought for unlawful interstate flight to avoid confinement after conviction for armed robbery.

Possessing an arrest record dating back to 1949, Ray has been convicted of burglary, armed robbery and forging United States Postal Money Orders.

A 40-year-old white male, reportedly born in Illinois on [redacted] Ray is approximately 5'10" tall, weighs from 163 to 174 pounds, has blue eyes and short brown hair. He has a nervous habit of tugging at an ear lobe and his left ear protrudes noticeably.

Described as a "loner and "drifter," with a "rural" quality in his speech, Ray has worked as a baker, laborer and color matcher. He has taken dancing lessons and completed a course at a school of bartending.

Consider Ray armed and extremely dangerous. Report any information concerning him to the nearest FBI office.

157-380-96

Shack

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 25 1968	
FBI - PORTLAND	



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 20, 1968

JAMES EARL RAY, also known as
Eric Starvo Galt, Harvey Lowmyer,
John Willard, James McBride, James
Walton, W. C. Herron and James
O'Conner

FUGITIVE

CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY;
INTERSTATE FLIGHT - ARMED ROBBERY

"TEN MOST WANTED FUGITIVES" PROGRAM

James Earl Ray, a Missouri prison escapee who has been sought under the alias Eric Starvo Galt in connection with the gunshot slaying of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., has been added to the FBI's list of "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives."

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover ordered the special addition of Ray to the "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives" list, which already contains ten fugitives, to insure the widest possible dissemination of Ray's photograph and description to help effect his earliest possible location.

Ray has been the subject of a massive and intensive search since the brutal gunshot slaying of Dr. King on April 4, 1968, as he stood on the balcony of a Memphis, Tennessee, motel. One rifle bullet, believed fired from the window of a nearby rooming house, felled the victim.

157-380-97

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 25 1968	
FBI - PORTLAND	

Shaw

An exhaustive FBI fingerprint search, comparing latent fingerprints uncovered in the Dr. King case against fingerprints of over 53,000 persons on whom wanted notices have been posted in the FBI's Identification Division, succeeded in determining that Galt and Ray are identical.

A Federal warrant, issued at Birmingham, Alabama, on April 17, 1968, charges Ray, under the alias Eric Starvo Galt, with conspiring to interfere with a Constitutional Right of a United States citizen. Ray is also sought for unlawful interstate flight to avoid confinement after conviction for armed robbery, based on a Federal warrant issued on July 20, 1967, at Jefferson City, Missouri. He had been confined at the Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri, in March, 1960, with a 20-year sentence following conviction for armed robbery and operating a motor vehicle without permission of the owner. In September, 1966, while serving the sentence, he was confined for a time in the maximum security ward at the State Hospital, Fulton, Missouri. He was reported missing from the Missouri State Penitentiary since April 23, 1967.

Ray, who has an arrest record dating back to 1949 and has been convicted of burglary, armed robbery and forging United States Postal Money Orders, has also been confined in the Los Angeles County Jail, the Joliet and Pontiac, Illinois, State Prisons and the United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas.

He served in the Army between February, 1946, and December, 1948, received a three-month sentence at hard labor for being drunk and breaking arrest and was given a General Discharge due to ineptness and lack of adaptability for military service.

Ray is a 40-year-old white male, reportedly born in Illinois on . He is approximately 5'10" inches tall, weighs from 163 to 174 pounds, has blue eyes and brown hair which he has worn cut short. He has a small scar on the center of his forehead and a scar on the palm of his right hand. He has been described as having a straight, narrow nose and straight and even teeth and to have a nervous habit of occasionally tugging at an ear lobe. His left ear protrudes noticeably.

Acquaintances describe him as a "loner" and "drifter" whose language and diction reflect a "rural" quality and indicate he has had limited education.

He is reportedly a fan of western and country music, drinks vodka and beer, dresses neatly and claims past employment as a merchant seaman and cook on Mississippi River vessels. He is known to have worked as a baker, laborer and color matcher.

He is known as an avid dancer who has taken dancing lessons. He also completed a course at a school of bartending in the Los Angeles area early in 1968.

Ray should be considered armed and extremely dangerous. Anyone with information concerning this fugitive is requested to immediately contact the nearest office of the FBI, the telephone number of which may be found on the first page of local telephone directories.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : All Investigative Employees

DATE: April 22, 1968

FROM : Director, FBI

SUBJECT: JAMES EARL RAY, aka - FUGITIVE
I.O. #4182; W. F. #442-A
CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY
INTERSTATE FLIGHT - ROBBERY
"TEN MOST WANTED FUGITIVES" PROGRAM
RELEASE DATE: SATURDAY P.M., APRIL 20, 1968

THE CRIMES: Ray escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri, on April 23, 1967, while serving a 20-year sentence for armed robbery and operating a motor vehicle without the owner's permission. He subsequently allegedly conspired, under the alias Eric Starvo Galt, to violate the civil rights of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., shot to death on the balcony of a Memphis, Tennessee, motel on April 4, 1968.

THE CRIMINAL: A 40-year-old white native of Illinois, who is known as a "loner" and "drifter" and has taken elaborate steps to establish a false identity, Ray has an extensive criminal record, including convictions for burglary, robbery and forging U. S. Postal Money Orders. Outstanding characteristics include a straight narrow nose, straight and even teeth, a noticeably protruding left ear and a nervous habit of tugging at an ear lobe. He has taken dancing lessons, attended bartending school, enrolled in a correspondence course in lock-smithing and traveled widely in a 1966 Mustang recovered in Atlanta, Georgia, a week after Dr. King's murder. Ray likes western and country music, drinks vodka and beer and has worked as a baker, laborer and color matcher.

PROCESS: A Federal warrant issued at Jefferson City, Missouri, on July 20, 1967, charges Ray with unlawful interstate flight to avoid confinement for robbery. Another Federal warrant, issued at Birmingham, Alabama, on April 17, 1968, charges Ray, as Eric Starvo Galt, with conspiring to interfere with a Constitutional Right of a citizen.

"TEN MOST WANTED FUGITIVES": Ray is a special addition to the list of "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives." The list as of Saturday p.m., April 20, 1968, was:

John William Clouser	I.O. #3837	Charles Lee Herron	I.O. #4163
Howard Callens Johnson	I.O. #4039	George Edward Wells	I.O. #4175
George Benjamin Williams	I.O. #4072	David Evans	I.O. #4177
Gordon Dale Ervin	I.O. #4087	Franklin Allen Paris	I.O. #4178
Carmen Raymond Gagliardi	I.O. #4101	David Stuart Neff	I.O. #4179
	James Earl Ray	I.O. #4182	

THEY ARE ALL ARMED AND DANGEROUS. If you receive any information, give it at once to your SAC or appropriate supervisor.
PHOTOGRAPHS, FINGERPRINTS AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA OF ALL FUGITIVES ON THE LIST ARE ON THE REVERSE SIDE.

157-380-98

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 25 1968	
FBI - PORTLAND	



DAVID EVANS, also known as:
"Pee Wee"
N; born [redacted] 5'7"-5'8"; 140-150 lbs;
med bld; blk hair; brn eyes; lt comp;
occ - lab, upholsterer. Wanted by FBI
for BANK ROBBERY and UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO
AVOID PROSECUTION (Burglary, Larceny,
and Receiving Stolen Goods).
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-4177
FBI#-388 901 B
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1966

16 0 29 W IMO 15
I 26 U OOI 13



lt thumb



CHARLES LEE HERRON, also known as:
Lee Jones
N; born [redacted] 5'7"-5'8"; 145-
150 lbs; sldr bld; blk hair; brn eyes;
dk comp; ooc - clerk. Wanted by FBI
for UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID PROSECU-
TION (Murder; Assault with Intent to
Commit Murder).
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-4163
FBI#-313 926 G
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: UNKNOWN

M
MM
13 0 29 W OOO 10
I 18 U OOI 14



lt thumb

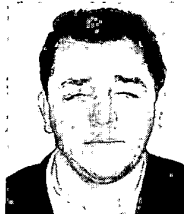


GEORGE EDWARD WELLS, also known as:
George W. Cox Lloyd Kuozmarski.
W; born [redacted] 5'8"; 165-175 lbs;
med bld; brn hair; gr; brn eyes; med
comp; ooc - maintenance worker, painter.
Wanted by FBI for UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO
AVOID PROSECUTION (Armed Robbery);
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN
PROPERTY.
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-4175
FBI#-1 467 173
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1967

LL
LMM
14 0 13 U OOO 21
I 17 U OOO 12



rt ring



CARMEN RAYMOND GAGLIARDI, also known as: 17 M 29 W IOM
Carmelo Reimondo Gagliardi (true name), I 32 W OOI 20
Carmen R. Gagliardi.
W; born [redacted] 5'10 1/2"; 185-200 lbs;
hvy bld; blk hair; brn eyes; med comp;
occ - lab. Wanted by FBI for UNLAWFUL
FLIGHT TO AVOID PROSECUTION (Murder).
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-4101
FBI#-566 944 D
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1965



lt ring



GEORGE BENJAMIN WILLIAMS, 23 M 21 W IMO AMP Ref: 22
also known as: Allen I 31 W OOO 19 31
Benjamin Colby, Ben Jackson,
George Benjamin William.
W; born [redacted] 5'6"; 155 lbs;
med bld; brn hair; gr, balding;
bl eyes; rdy comp; rt ring fnger
amp; ooc - const worker, dairy
worker, mech, miner, pipe fitter.
Wanted by FBI for BANK ROBBERY.
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-4072
FBI#-497 062
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1965



rt middle

JAMES EARL RAY, also known as:
Eric Starvo Galt, W. G. Herron,
Harvey Lowmyer, James McBride,
John Willard, "Jim."
W; born [redacted] 5'10"; 163-174 lbs;
med bld; brn hair; poss cut short; bl
eyes; med comp; ooc - baker, color matcher;
lab. Wanted by FBI for CONSPIRING TO
INTERFERE WITH A CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT OF
A CITIZEN AND UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID
CONFINEMENT (Robbery).
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-4182
FBI#-405 942 G
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1968



16 M 9 U OOO 12
M 4 W IOI 17



lt index



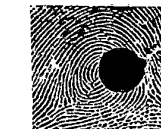
FRANKLIN ALLEN PARIS, also known as: MLM
Franklin Allen Morrison, Al Paris, MLM
Allie Paris, Frank Allen Paris, 11 S 1 U OOO 14 Ref: 9
Franklin Allen Paris. M 1 U OOI 12 1
W; born [redacted] 6'2"; 190-210 lbs;
med bld; brn hair; brn eyes; med comp;
occ - horse trader, horse trainer,
rancher. Wanted by FBI for UNLAWFUL
FLIGHT TO AVOID PROSECUTION (Burglary).
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-4178
FBI#-595 084 A
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1966



rt ring



HOWARD CALLENS JOHNSON, also known as:
"Dirty Red."
N; born [redacted] 5'9"; 160-170
lbs; med bld; blk hair; brn eyes;
med comp, freckled; ooc - brickmason,
carpenter, lab. Wanted by FBI for
UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID PROSECUTION
(Murder).
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-4039
FBI#-1 501 726
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1959



lt little



JOHN WILLIAM CLOUSER, also known as:
Jack Clouser, John William Clouser,
Chuck A. Williams.
W; born [redacted] 5'9"; 175-200 lbs;
stky bld; brn hair, may be dyed blk;
bl eyes; rdy comp; ooc - clerical
worker, stock clerk. Wanted by FBI
for INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF
STOLEN MOTOR VEHICLE.
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-3837
FBI#-229 125 C
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1963



rt index



GORDON DALE ERVIN, also known as:
Dale Ervin
W; born [redacted] 5'11"-6'0"; 170 lbs;
med bld; brn hair; bl eyes; med comp;
occ - carpenter, lifeguard, mach shop
worker, locomotive fireman, salesman,
shipyard worker, typist. Wanted by
FBI for UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID
CONFINEMENT (Armed Robbery).
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-4087
FBI#-290 533 A
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1965



lt index



DAVID STUART NEFF, also known as: LL
Steven Andrews, Solomon Baker, Steven LM
Greene, George Medina, David J. Neff, 19 0 17 W IOO 18
David Stuart Neff, Donald O'Brien. L 19 W OOO 16
W; born [redacted] 5'8"-5'9"; 190-200 lbs;
hvy bld; brn hair; brn eyes; med comp;
occ - horse trainer, lab, painter,
plumber, surveyor. Wanted by FBI for
BANK ROBBERY.
IDENTIFICATION ORDER #-4179
FBI#-524 874 D
DATE PHOTO TAKEN: 1965



rt ring

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, PORTLAND (157-380)(P) DATE: 4-25-68

FROM : SA FRANK DAVIS

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Rememo SA RONALD E. SHERK dated 4-22-68.

Upon receipt of the Wanted Flyers of JAMES EARL RAY printed in Spanish at the Ontario RA on 4-23-68 they were distributed to the following:

PD 409C at Nyssa, Oregon was contacted and furnished a supply of the Wanted Flyers plus posting one on the Nysss Labor Camp Bulletin board.

Chief ALVIN ALLEN, Nyssa City Police, Nyssa, Oregon, posted on one the city Hall bulletin board and at the Police Station.

One of the bulletins was posted on the bulletin board at the Nyssa Post Office.

One of the bulletins was posted on the bulletin board at the Ontario Post Office in addition to the Ontario City Hall.

On 4-25-68 WILLIAM "BILL" SMILEY, Malheur County Labor Camp Manager, Nyssa, Oregon, advised he was given a supply of the wanted flyers by PD 409C on 4-23-68 which he posted on the bulletin boards at the Adrian, Vale and Ontario Labor Camps. He explained that the labor camps have only been open one week and are not as yet fully occupied.

FD/fd
(1)



5010-108-01

157-380-99

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 26 1968	
FBI — PORTLAND	

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-380)

DATE: 4/26/68

FROM : SA RONALD E. SHERK

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re: Hippie contacts

Designated Agents who have been personally contacted and who have either contacts or informants in the hippie community will give this matter wide coverage in hippie community and submit a memo or FD-209 concerning their contacts designating it to 157-380-Sub C.

1 - 157-380
1 - TENWICK
1 - STEELE
1 - ZEIGLER
1 - FRANK
1 - MC LEOD
1 - HAZEN
1 - HIMMELSBACH

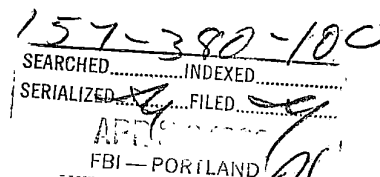
RES:lan

(8)



5010-108-01

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



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-380)

DATE: 4/26/68

FROM : SA RONALD E. SHERK

SUBJECT: MURKIN

ReButel to all SACs 4/24/68.

Re: Contacts with mass communications media:

This is being handled on a daily basis and monitoring of press, radio and TV stations indicates that we are getting concentrated coverage on the case on a daily basis.

Re: Stops on RAY under his known aliases:

This has been handled with all law enforcement agencies and other agencies with which stops have been placed.

Re: Departure and arrival of overseas flights:

This has been handled and detailed memo placed in file by SA SHERK.

Re: "Hippie" contacts:

Specific assignments have been made to Agents TENWICK, STEELE, ZEIGLER, FRANK, MC LEOD, HAZEN and HBACH, who have informants or contacts in the hippie community.

RES:lam
(1)

157-380-104

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 27 1968	
FBI - PORTLAND	



5010-108-01

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

F B I

Date: 4/25/68

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

TO: ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) -P-
RE: MURKIN
CR

Re ME airtel to All Continental Offices, 4/19/68, requesting that all laundries determined to be using Thermo-Seal laundry marking machines be contacted in effort to locate laundry marking "20R-3", and LA teletype to Bureau, 4/18/68.

All offices discontinue efforts to locate inasmuch as laundry mark identified as coming from laundry in Culver City, California, per Los Angeles teletype to Bureau, 4/18/68.

NOTE: In view of above, replies received from laundries and dry cleaners in response to our letter 4/24/68, all of which were negative, have been destroyed rather than filed in Sub C of this file.

RS

- 1 - Each Continental Office
2 - Memphis

GMR/vtp

PD

Shook 157-380-102
SEARCHED *mg*
SERIALIZED
FBI - PORTLAND
Shook *RL*

Approved: *RG Jensen*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____