

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

DATE: 4/8/68

FROM : SA JOHN J. RUTLAND

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re: Suspect CHARLES E. MALEY, III

On 4/8/68, Lt. MORRIS MEEK, Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, Clearwater, Florida, advised that the manager of the New Yorker Motel, Clearwater Beach, Florida, had notified the department that a guest of the motel, CHARLES E. MALEY, III, due to his strange actions was considered by her to be a suspect in the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

On 4/8/68, Mrs. TERESSA LEON, Manager, New Yorker Motel, 332 Hamden Drive, Clearwater, Florida, was interviewed by SAs JOHN J. RUTLAND and CHARLES D. VANCE.

Mrs. LEON said that she is the individual who contacted the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office after having seen a sketch of the KING assassin in the local paper who to her resembled a guest of the motel.

She said that an individual using the name CHARLES E. MALEY, III, 1125 Poplar Boulevard, Jackson, Mississippi, registered at the motel alone on 4/1/68, and paid through 4/9/68. MALEY gave occupation as "tourist", for license shoed Hinds County, Mississippi H 46321, for a Chevrolet auto, model not specified.

Mrs. LEON said that MALEY left the motel on Thursday A.M., 4/4/68, at approximately 10:30 - 11:00 A.M. and did not return until about 3:20 A.M., 4/6/68. Mrs. LEON said that she wondered about the strange hour of arrival and considered that he may have returned from an airline flight. He then departed on the morning of 4/7/68, with two days rental paid in advance. She said that MALEY apparently on occasions left his automobile elsewhere as he would arrive at the motel walking. She said that whereas she is confident that MALEY did not arrive at the motel until approximately 3:20 A.M., 4/6/68, he was insistant that he arrived at 1:00 A.M. but could not gain entrance though he rang the motel bell. She said that he repeated this on at least five occasions for no cause.



5010-108

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teletype sent 4/8 320

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Mrs. LEON said that prior to MALEY's departure on 4/5/68, he appeared highly nervous and would pick up a paper, glance at it, then throw the paper down and walk away. She said that his overall actions at the motel were very strange.

She said that when he returned to the motel he commented that he had been in Daytona Beach, Florida, at the time of the KING assassination. He once commented that he had never had to attend school with Negroes but that his children would likely have to do so. He made no further comment concerning racial matters.

She described MALEY as white, male, age 26, 5'9", 175 lbs., light brown hair, medium complexion. She said that the sketch of the assassin resembles MALEY other than the sketch appears older and to not have as much hair as MALEY.

She said that she also noted that when MALEY left the motel on 4/4/68, that he left all identification behind in his room.

She said that she can furnish no further information but feels that from description and strange behavior MALEY could be identical with the KING assassin.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

DATE: 4/8/68

FROM : SA JOHN J. RUTLAND

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Suspect - JAMES L. KIDDER

On 4/8/68 ROBERT BLANTON, Top Value Motors, 1007 So. Ft. Harrison, Clearwater, Fla., advised that on 2/8/68 one JAMES L. KIDDER purchased 1958 Dodge two-door hardtop, color green, VIN LD246510. Last payment was made on 2/28/68, and efforts to locate KIDDER since that time unsuccessful.

On application at time of purchase KIDDER showed wife's name VIRGINIA KIDDER, address Omaha St., Palm Harbor, Fla. with previous address shown as 1012 Fla. Avenue, Palm Harbor, Fla. Nearest relative shown as NORRIS K. SHUSTER, 117 Edburg, Winter Park, Fla., telephone 645-3405.

KIDDER stated working for H. P. Hood & Son, Dunedin, Fla.

Further shown as personal reference JESSE SHORT, General Delivery, Palm Harbor, Fla.

Former employer shown as Florida Sip, 1000 Grant St., Plant City, Fla.

KIDDER described as white male, age 33, 5'10", 150#, slight to medium build, no peculiarities.

Mr. BLANTON stated that the vehicle was sold by JAMES JOHNSTONE. He said that approximately two weeks ago Officer SHIELDS, PD, Dunedin, Fla., made inquiry concerning KIDDER, reason and circumstances unknown.

BLANTON after viewing sketch of assassin stated that does bear some similarity to KIDDER but KIDDER appears younger.

1 - Tampa
JJR:ad
(1)

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TP 157-3231

JAMES JOHNSTONE, Top Value Motors, 1007 So. Ft. Harrison, Clearwater, Fla., advised that in February 1968 he sold 1958 Dodge to JAMES L. KIDDER. JOHNSTONE after viewing sketch of assassin stated that some similarity appears between the sketch and KIDDER but that KIDDER appears younger and to have more hair.

On 4/8/68 MILDRED DAVIS, H. P. HOOD and Son, 427 San Christopher Drive, Dunedin, Fla., advised that JAMES L. KIDDER was employed from 1/5/68 - 3/6/68 when he left at the time of mid-season layoff. A postcard was forwarded to him for employment for the remainder of the season in approximately April 1, 1968 but no response was received.

Employment record describes KIDDER as white male, age 33, married, Social Security [redacted], schooling - Taft Lincoln Elementary, Taft, Calif., 1947; Taft Union High, Taft, Calif. 1951. Military Service USAF 12/2/52 - 12/1/56 inactive reserve.

No local address shown and former address shown as P. O. Box 32, Keysville, Fla.

Former employment shown as Florida Sip, 1101 West Haines St., Plant City, Fla., 12/15/67--1/5/68; Skilcraft, Inc., Route 72, and 92, Longwood, Fla. 6/1/67 - 11/30/67; Race Track Concession, Sarasota Kennel Club Building Maintenance, 1/67 - 6/67.

Efforts made to contact Officer SHIELDS, PD, Dunedin, Fla., but it was determined he was off duty and efforts to locate him at home unsuccessful. Efforts continuing.

F B I

Date: 4/8/68

Transmit the following in PLAIN
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)TO: DIRECTOR, FBI, AND SACS, CLEVELAND, JACKSONVILLE,
AND BIRMINGHAM

FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

MURKIN, CR~~ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.~~ RM.

*B. Mean
Spec. an. 2000
CV 45-100-100
Re. 45-100-100
frees
since C in
Jax Ter, Jay
handle.*

EDGAR HENRY HUBER, PROTECT, AGE FORTY-NINE, FOUR NINE
EIGHT NORTH ORANGE BLOSSOM TRAIL, LOT SIXTY-THREE, ORLANDO,
FLA., STATED NIGHT APR. FIVE LAST ON NATIONAL TV NEWSCAST
HE SAW ARTIST'S CONCEPTION OF KING'S SLAYER. HUBER FEELS
LEFT PROFILE OF ARTIST'S CONCEPTION SHOWS RESEMBLANCE TO
ONE THOMAS THOROMAN. HUBER DESCRIBED THOROMAN AS WMA, LATE
FORTIES (LOOKS YOUNGER), SIX FEET ONE, ONE EIGHTY-FIVE TO
ONE NINETY LBS., LIGHT BROWN HAIR. DRIVES FIFTY-EIGHT OR
FIFTY-NINE RAMBLER STATION WAGON, LIGHT IN COLOR. HUBER
LATER SAW ARTIST'S CONCEPTION OF RIGHT PROFILE OF SLAYER
WHICH HE STATED BEARS NO RESEMBLANCE TO THOROMAN. THOROMAN,
A PAINTER BY OCCUPATION, HAS FOR SEVERAL YEARS RENTED HOME
AT EUSTIS, FLA. THOROMAN MAY BE IN TAVARES, FLA., THIS YEAR.
THOROMAN, DURING SUMMER, RESIDES RT. TWO, SPENCERVILLE

① - Tampa
TCA:bb
(1)

bb

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1. J. J. J.
2. McLaughlin

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent 1105 PM Per 13

945
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112

157-3231-29

F B I

Date:

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

TP 157-3231

PAGE TWO

OHIO FOUR FIVE EIGHT EIGHT SEVEN. THOROMAN IS A SEVENTH DAY
ADVENTIST AND IS CONSIDERED AS "RELIGIOUS FANATIC."

THOROMAN IS NOT BELIEVED TO BE A RACIST AND IS NOT KNOWN TO
HAVE EXPRESSED DISLIKE FOR KING.

CLEVELAND. AT SPENCERVILLE. CONDUCT IMMEDIATE INVES-
TIGATION TO LOCATE THOROMAN AND SET OUT TEL LEADS TO CHECK
ON HIS WHEREABOUTS AND ACTIVITIES.

JACKSONVILLE. AT EUSTIS AND TAVARES. CONDUCT APPRO-
PRIATE INVESTIGATION TO CHECK OUT THOROMAN AS POSSIBLE
SUSPECT. /P/

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

FBI WASH DC

FBI TAMPA

945 PM URGENT 4/8/68 ALS

TO DIRECTOR, CLEVELAND, JACKSONVILLE AND BIRMINGHAM
FROM TAMPA (157-3231)

MURKIN, CR. OO: ATLANTA.

See p 24

EDGAR HENRY HUBER, PROTECT, AGE FORTY-NINE, FOUR NINE
EIGHT NORTH ORANGE BLOSSOM TRAIL, LOT SIXTY-THREE, ORLANDO, FLA.,
STATED NIGHT APRIL FIVE LAST ON NATIONAL TV NEWSCAST HE SAY
ARTIST'S CONCEPTION OF KING'S SLAYER. HUBER FEELS LEFT PROFILE OF
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ONE, ONE EIGHTY-FIVE TO ONE NINETY LBS., LIGHT BROWN HAIR. DRIVES
FIFTY-EIGHT OR FIFTY-NINE RAMBLER STATION WAGON, LIGHT IN COLOR.
HUBER LATER SAW ARTIST'S CONCEPTION OF RIGHT PROFILE OF SLAYER
WHICH HE STATES BEARS NO RESEMBLANCE TO THOROMAN. THOROMAN, A
PAINTER BY OCCUPATION, HAS FOR SEVERAL YEARS RENTED HOME AT EUSTIS,
FLA. THOROMAN MAY BE IN TAVARES, FLA., THIS YEAR. THOROMAN,
DURING SUMMER, RESIDES RT. TWO, SPENCERVILLE, OHIO FOUR FIVE EIGHT
EIGHT SEVEN. THOROMAN IS A SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST AND IS CONSIDERED
END PAGE ONE

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FILED *CS*

157-3231-29

PAGE TWO

TP 157-3231

AS "RELIGIOUS FANATIC". THOROMAN IS NOT BELIEVED TO BE A RACIST
AND IS NOT KNOWN TO HAVE EXPRESSED DISLIKE FOR KING.

CLEVELAND AT SPENCERVILLE CONDUCT IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION TO
LOCATE THOROMAN AND SET OUT LEADS TO CHECK ON HIS WHEREABOUTS AND
ACTIVITIES.

JACKSONVILLE AT EUSTIS AND TAVARES, CONDUCT APPROPRIATE
INVESTIGATION TO CHECK OUT THOROMAN AS POSSIBLE SUSPECT.

END

LCC

FBI WASH DC

FBI TAMPA

FBI WASH=DC 710-822-944T CLG ON CONF HOLD LINE PLS

GDS - FBI, CLEVELAND
GDM - FBI, BIRMINGHAM
CJA - FBI, JACKSONVILLE

Machine copies
destroyed 4/8/68

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F B I

Date:

4-8-68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

DIRECTOR JACKSON

FROM TAMPA 157-3231

MURKIN

MRS. TERESSA LEON, MGR. NEW YORKER MOTEL CLEARWATER FLA
ADVISED APRIL EIGHT RE ONE CHARLES E. MALEY III, ONE ONE
TWO FIVE POPLAR BLVD. JACKSON MISS., RECENT QUEST AT MOTEL
WHOM SHE SAYS RESEMBLES SKETCH OF ASSASSIN. MALEY DESCRIBED
BY MRS. LEON AS WHITE MALE, TWENTYSIX YEARS, FIVE FOOT
NINE INCHES, ONE SEVEN FIVE LBS, LIGHT BROWN HAIR, MEDIUM
COMPLEXION REGISTERED ALONE ONE ON FOUR TWO LAST, PAID
THROUGH FOUR-NINE-SIXTYEIGHT, GAVE OCCUPATION AS QUOTE TOURIST
UNQUOTE EXHIBITED LICENSE FOR A CHEVROLET MODEL NOT INDICATED
HINDS CO. MISS LICENSE H FOUR SIX THREE TWO ONE.

MRS. LEON STATES MALEY LEFT MOTEL ABOUT TEN THIRTY TO
ELEVEN THURSDAY FOUR-FOUR -SIXTYEIGHT AND DID NOT RETURN UNTIL
ABOUT THREE TWENTY AM FOUR-SIX-SIXTYEIGHT. SHE WONDERED ABOUT
STRANGE HOUR OF ARRIVAL, AND CONSIDERED HE MAY HAVE RETURNED
FROM AIRLINE FLIGHT. ALTHOUGH LEON I CONFIDENT RE
THE TOA OF MALEY, HE WAS INSISTANT THAT HE ARRIVED AT ONE AM
BUT COULD NOT GAIN ENTRANCE THOUGH HE RANG THE MOTEL BE
END APGE ONE

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Approved: LEB/nw

Belanger
Special Agent in Charge

Sent

10:40 PM
10:45 PM
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Per JN

157-3231-30

PAGE TWO

REPEATING THIS STATEMENT ON AT LEAST FIVE OCCASIONS FOR NO
CAUSE.

LEON SAYS MALEY HIGHLY NERVOUS BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE ON
FOUR-SEVEN-SIXTYEIGHT (ALTHOUGH PAID THROUGH FOUR NINE)
ADVISES HE SAID HE HAD BEEN IN DAYTONA BEACH FL AT TIME OF
KING ASSASSINATION, ONCE COMMENTED THAT HE NEVER HAD TO ATTEND
SCHOOL WITH NEGROES BUT THAT HIS CHILDREN WOULD LIKELY HAVE TO
DO SO. MADE NO FURTHER COMMENT RE RACIAL MATTERS.

LEON STATES MALEY LEFT ALL IDENTIFICATION BEHIND IN HIS
MOTEL ROOM WHEN HE LEFT ON FOUR - FOUR SIXTYEIGHT.

JACKSON AT ONE ONE TWO FIVE POPLAR BLVD JACKSON AND ON
THROUGH RECORD RE HINDS CO. MISS AUTO LICENSE H FOUR SIX THREE
TWO ONE. ATTEMPT LOCATE AND INTERVIEW CHARLES E. MALEY III
AS SUSPECT THIS INVESTIGATION.

CORR PAGE ONE THIRD LINE FROM BOTTOM /LEON IS CONFIDENT

END

JWD

FBI WASH DC

FBI TAMPA

1040 PM 4-8-68 URGENT ROB

TO DIRECTOR JACKSON

FROM TAMPA 157-3231

MURKIN

MRS. TERESSA LEON, MGR. NEW YORKER MOTEL CLEARWATER FLA ADVISED APRIL EIGHT RE ONE CHARLES E. MALEY III, ONE ONE TWO FIVE POPLAR BLVD. JACKSON MISS., RECENT QUEST AT MOTEL WHOM SHE SAYS RESEMBLES SKETCH OF ASSASSIN. MALEY DESCRIBED BY MRS. LEON AS WHITE MALE, TWENTYSIX YEARS, FIVE FOOT NINE INCHES, ONE SEVEN FIVE LBS, LIGHT BROWN HAIR, MEDIUM COMPLEXION REGISTERED ALONE ONE ON FOUR TWO LAST, PAID THROUGH FOUR-NINE-SIXTYEIGHT, GAVE OCCUPATION AS QUOTE TOURIST UNQUOTE EXHIBITED LICENSE FOR A CHEVROLET MODEL NOT INDICATED HINDS CO. MISS LICENSE H FOUR SIX THREE TWO ONE.

MRS. LEON STATES MALEY LEFT MOTEL ABOUT TEN THIRTY TO ELEVEN THURSDAY FOUR-FOUR -SIXTYEIGHT AND DID NOT RETURN UNTIL ABOUT THREE TWENTY AM FOUR-SIX-SIXTYEIGHT. SHE WONDERED ABOUT STRANGE HOUR OF ARRIVAL, AND CONSIDERED HE MAY HAVE RETURNED FROM AIRLINE FLIGHT. ALTHOUGH LEON I CONFIDENT RE THE TOA OF MALEY, HE WAS INSISTANT THAT HE ARRIVED AT ONE AM BUT COULD NOT GAIN ENTRANCE THOUGH HE RANG THE MOTEL BELL

END APGE ONE

*cc F B I Jackson (JWD)
dist.
mlr*

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157-3231-30

PAGE TWO

REPEATING THIS STATEMENT ON AT LEAST FIVE OCCASIONS FOR NO CAUSE.

LEON SAYS MALEY HIGHLY NERVOUR BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE ON FOUR-SEVEN-SIXTYEIGHT (ALTHOUGH PAID THROUGH FOUR NINE) ADVISES HE SAID HE HAD BEEN IN DAYTONA BEACH FL AT TIME OF KING ASSASSINATION, ONCE COMMENTED THAT HE NEVER HAD TO ATTEND SCHOOL WITH NEGROES BUT THAT HIS CHILDREN WOULD LIKELY HAVE TO DO SO, MADE NO FURTHER COMMENT RE RACIAL MATTERS.

LEON STATES MALEY LEFT ALL IDENTIFICATION BEHIND IN HIS MOTEL ROOM WHEN HE LEFT ON FOUR - FOUR SIXTYEIGHT.

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CORR PAGE ONE THIRD LINE FROM BOTTOM LEON IS CONFIDENT
END

SAA

FBI WASH DC

X

F B I

Date: 4/9/68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)
TO O DIRECTOR, AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM TAMPA (157-3231)

MURKIN; CR. OO:MEMPHIS

Re: James Kidder
RE DETROIT TEL AND TAMPA TEL APRIL SEVEN LAST.

JAMES SHUSTER, ROUTE ONE SEVEN NINE TWO, CASILEBERRY, FLA., ADVISED HIS WIFE CHRISTINA PRESENTLY WITH HER FATHER, C.V. MCDANIEL, AKA BUNNY, SIX THREE TWO NORTH DUNLAP, MEMPHIS, TENN. HER MOTHER VIRGINIA KIDDER PRESENTLY RESIDING AROUND CORNER FROM SIX THREE TWO NORTH DUNLAP IN CARE OF DAVY BREWER, TELEPHONE NUMBER FIVE TWO SIX DASH SEVEN THREE FOUR NINE. WIFE OF SHUSTER ADVISED HIM JAMES KIDDER PRESENTLY RESIDING AND WORKING IN MEMPHIS AND WAS IN MEMPHIS ON APRIL FIVE AND PROBABLY THERE APRIL FOUR. SHUSTER STATED WILL CALL WIFE NINE AM, INSTANT, TO ASCERTAIN RESIDENCE AND EMPLOYMENT OF KIDDER. SHUSTER FEELS KIDDER AND WIFE WOULD TAKE OFF IF LEARNED FBI LOOKING FOR THEM. KIDDER SUFFERS FROM HEADACHES AND EASILY DEPRESSED.

TAMPA WILL ADVISE BUREAU AND MEMPHIS OF RESULTS OF CALL FROM SHUSTER TO WIFE TO DETERMINE WHEREABOUTS OF JAMES KIDDER.

AIRMAIL COPY TO DETROIT.

BEH/MJR

① TAMPA

1-DETROIT

Approved: *SAC telephonically @ 6:00 PM*
Special Agent in Charge

Sent *WA @ 6:30 A* M Per *Z*
ME @

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157-3231-31

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

DATE: 4/8/68

FROM : SA WILLIS R. SMITH

SUBJECT: MURKIN

see p. 15

On 4/7/68, Mr. JACK COLLINS, 2707 Webber Street, Sarasota, Florida, advised SA WILLIS R. SMITH that the name JAMES RIDDER is unknown to him. He stated that his wife, BARBARA, is from Georgia, and her mother's name is not VIRGINIA. Mr. COLLINS noted that he, his father JERRY COLLINS, and his brother-in-law JACK LE DOLA own and operate the Orlando-Seminole Dog Track at Orlando, Florida, and the Sarasota Kennel Club, Sarasota, Florida.

Mr. COLLINS stated that he has only a few employees at the track who work both the Orlando and Sarasota dog tracks, and he can only recall only three employees who have sons in their late teens or early 20's who are married. These men are:

1. JOE GIRARD, Dog Man, Orlando Dog Track
2. DICK HANKING, Assistant Mutual Manager, Orlando Dog Track
3. EUGENE (LNU), Money Room Manager, Orlando Dog Track

Mr. COLLINS also noted that G. A. "SONNY" ALDERSON, who is a dog owner and lives in St. Petersburg, Florida, now has some dogs at the Orlando Dog Track. Mr. ALDERSON has a boy who is married, and ALDERSON has always had his dogs at the three tracks; Orlando, Sarasota, and St. Petersburg, Florida.

COLLINS stated he is going to Orlando, Fla. on 4/8/68, and he will give this matter additional thought, and if he recalls anyone else who might have a married son of description set forth, he will immediately advise SA WILLIS R. SMITH or the Orlando, Fla. Resident Agency of the FBI.

WRS/wrs
(2)

157-3231-32

cm cm

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5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

DATE: 4/8/68

FROM : SA JOHN R. M. WHELAN

SUBJECT: MURKIN
RM

Re Memo SA JOHN R. BRETT, 4/8/68.

At approximately 1:15 A.M., on 4/8/68, Mr. TOM JACKSON, Night Manager, Holiday Inn, Fowler Ave., Temple Terrace, Fla., produced a Holiday Inn Registration and account card reflecting that one W. R. THOMPSON was presently residing in Room 104 at the Holiday Inn Motel. THOMPSON had checked into the motel at 11:51 A.M., Sunday, 4/7/68, and his registration card reflected that the room was occupied by two adults and two children and THOMPSON's automobile bore 1968 Tennessee License AB 1722.

THOMPSON's residence and other data appearing on the registration and account card are as follows:

Residence:	1097 Lynwood Blvd. Nashville, Tenn.
Firm:	GENESCO, Inc.

THOMPSON produced American Express Credit Card # [REDACTED] upon registering and indicated that his motel bill was to be charged to that account. Reservations were made for THOMPSON on 4/2/68 at the West End Holiday Inn, Nashville, Tenn., and check out time was indicated as April 9, 1968. THOMPSON was checked in by Room Clerk SARA ELMORE.

On 4/8/68, W. R. THOMPSON was interviewed at his motel room at the Holiday Inn by SAs JOHN R. M. WHELAN and DENNIS R. DICKSON. THOMPSON advised that he is presently employed with GENESCO, Inc., a shoe concern and that he is visiting Tampa on a business and vacation trip. He is contemplating assuming the vice presidency of Leed's Shoe Co., in Tampa, and has an appointment to interview FRANK GARCIA of the latter firm, regarding this job. THOMPSON has been with GENESCO, Inc., for 19 years and previously resided and worked for this company in Chicago, Ill, Cleveland, Ohio, and Virginia. He indicated that he is accompanied by his wife and two children and that he has been on vacation since April 1, 1968. He spent the first



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week of his vacation from April 1, until Sat., April 6, at his residence in Nashville, Tenn., and specifically on Thursday, April 4, 1968, he was at his residence and during some portion of that day was working in his yard. He states that if it is necessary to establish his whereabouts on that day, he is quite sure that his neighbors could verify his presence at that time.

THOMPSON stated that he was pleased to see the FBI checking out possible suspects in this assassination and expressed his desire for the successful termination of this investigation by the FBI.

Physical description of THOMPSON is as follows:

Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Height:	5'10½"
Weight:	140 lbs.
Hair:	Sandy
Eyes:	Greenish
Build:	Slender

THOMPSON's wife, who was with him on this trip, verified the fact that he was home on Thursday, April 4, 1968.

THOMPSON smoked cigarettes, constantly, throughout interview.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-3231)

FROM : SA JOHN R. BRETT

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

DATE: 4/8/68

At 12:38AM, Det. DON NEUBERGER, Tampa PD Intelligence Unit, called to advise that the friend of a Tampa Policeman, not further identified, had seen a man driving east on Fowler Ave. the afternoon of 4/7/68 and the man looked exactly like the man described as the killer of MARTIN LUTHER KING. After thinking about the incident, the man went back to look for the car and found it at the Holiday Inn, on Fowler Ave. The car is a white Thunderbird with Tenn. license AB 1722. The man then called his friend on the PD and Det. NEUBERGER relayed the information.

SUPV. #4 called immediately and SAC called immediately and on their orders SA JOHN ^{Whelan}~~WHELAN~~ called and told to check the motel for all available information on the man but not to interview him until morning.

^{Whelan}
At 2:01 AM, SA ~~WHELAN~~ called in to advise he had checked out the above and advised SUPV. #4. The man is W.R. THOMPSON, 1097 Lynwood Blvd., Nashville, Tenn. He is employed by GENESCO, INC., paying his bills on an American Express credit card and the reservation was made through the West End Holiday Inn, Nashville on 4/2/68. He is scheduled to stay until 4/9/68. He is in room 104 and is checked in with one other adult and two children. No further action to be taken tonight.

Det. NEUBERGER advised of results of check.



5010-108

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

DATE: 4/8/68

FROM : SA GORDON W. TINDLE

SUBJECT: MURKIN
OO:ME

Re Detroit teletype 4/7/68 to Bureau,
Tampa and Memphis.

Investigation at Sanford-Orlando Kennel
Club, Box 651, Longwood, Fla., by SA GORDON W. TINDLE
on 4/8/68 revealed the following concerning individuals
suggested by Mr. JERRY COLLINS, owner of the above dog
track:

Mr. EUGENE PARHAM, Money Room Manager, advised
his wife's name is BARBARA and his wife's mother is de-
ceased. She was not from Tennessee and her name was not
VIRGINIA. Mr. RICHARD MANNING, Assistant Mutuels Manager,
advised his wife's name is MARGARET and wife's mother is
not named VIRGINIA and she is not from Tenn. Mr. JOE
GIRARD, Dog Man, advised his wife's name is LORENE and
his wife's mother is CARRIE JOHNSON and she is not from
Tenn.

Mr. DAVID WARD, Supt., above Dog Track, advised
that "SONNY" G. A. ALDERSON is not at the Sanford-Orlando
Track but can be reached at the St. Petersburg Dog Track.

LEAD:
TAMPA DIV.

AT ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.

Will interview SONNY G. A. ALDERSON at St. Peters-
burg Dog Track to ascertain his wife's name, and whether his
wife's mother's name is VIRGINIA and is from Tenn.

2 - Tampa
GWT:ad
(2)

*from SA Blessingame,
8:53 PM, 4/8/68
G.A. Alderson, 1075-31st Terrace NE,
St. Pete, contacted 4/8, operates Alderson
& Lenz Greyhound Kennels, Deerby Lane. His
wife is Barbara Malott, born Eator, Ohio,
both parents deceased, does not know
of anyone by name James Kidder or Virginia
Kidder.*

157-3231-35

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APR 9 1968	
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Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

Date: 4/9/68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT
(Type in plaintext or code)

TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR ~~AND~~ SAC, SAN DIEGO, *BIRMINGHAM and MEMPHIS*
FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

MURKIN

JERRY HEDGEMAN, ONE ZERO THREE NINE - SIXTH AVENUE SOUTH, ST. PETERSBURG, FLA. HAS ADVISED ONE BURNS LYMAN, AN EXPERT TREE TRIMMER FOR WHOM HE WORKED AT ST. PETERSBURG ABOUT NINETEEN SIXTY THREE, HAD EXPRESSED A GREAT DISLIKE FOR DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING. HEDGEMAN SAID LYMAN HAD FOUR OR FIVE RIFLES, MOST OF WHICH WERE EQUIPPED WITH SCOPES, WHICH GUNS HE HAD ALLEGEDLY USED FOR HUNTING BEAR IN UTAH. HE ALLEGEDLY MADE STATEMENTS TO HEDGEMAN SEVERAL TIMES THAT HIS AMBITION WAS TO KILL MARTIN LUTHER KING AMONG OTHERS.

HEDGEMAN FURNISHED BACKGROUND INFORMATION RE LYMAN WHICH IDENTIFIED HIM WITH ONE ~~THERAL BURNS LYMAN~~ WHITE MALE, BORN [REDACTED], AT MOAB, UTAH, FIVE FEET NINE INCHES, ONE HUNDRED THIRTY POUNDS, BROWN HAIR

158 Tampa
GRM:bg
(1) *Bg*

SEARCHED
INDEXED
SERIALIZED
FILED

1. *End*
2. *McGough*
Call Walker re draft
complaint to Hedges
1045 4/10

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

F B I

Date:

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

TP 157-3231

PAGE TWO

AND EYES, ONE OF THE SUBJECTS OF CASE ENTITLED "THERAL BURNS
LYMAN, AKA - FUGITIVE; DAVID JOSEPH JIRON, UFAP - FORGERY;
ITSMV; ITSP; SSA, NINETEEN FORTY EIGHT", SAN DIEGO ORIGIN.

REPORT OF SA THEODORE S. KRAMER DATED JULY TWENTY
EIGHT, SIXTY FOUR AT DETROIT, RE THIS MATTER, INDICATED
LYMAN THEN IN CUSTODY IN MICHIGAN, HAD INDICATED A DESIRE
TO WAIVE EXTRADITION AND WAS TO BE RETURNED TO SAN DIEGO,
CALIF., TO FACE CHARGES ON A FORGERY WARRANT.

SAN DIEGO ASCERTAIN DISPOSITION RE LYMAN AND CONDUCT
APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION IN EFFORT TO DETERMINE IF HE
SHOULD BE CONSIDERED A SUSPECT IN INSTANT CASE.

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

FBI WASH DC

FBI TAMPA

1042AM URGENT 4-9-68 BLW

TO DIRECTOR, SAN DIEGO, BIRMINGHAM AND MEMPHIS
FROM TAMPA (157-3231) 2P

MURKIN

JERRY HEDGEMAN, ONE ZERO THREE NINE - SIXTH AVENUE
SOUTH, ST. PETERSBURG, FLA. HAS ADVISED ONE BURNS LYMAN,
AN EXPERT TREE TRIMMER FOR WHOM HE WORKED AT ST. PETERSBURG
ABOUT NINETEEN SIXTY THREE, HAD EXPRESSED A GREAT DISLIKE
FOR DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING. HEDGEMAN SAID LYMAN HAD FOUR
OR FIVE RIFLES, MOST OF WHICH WERE EQUIPPED WITH SCOPES,
WHICH GUNS HE HAD ALLEGEDLY USED FOR HUNTING BEAR IN UTAH.
HE ALLEGEDLY MADE STATEMENTS TO HEDGEMAN SEVERAL TIMES
THAT HIS AMBITION WAS TO KILL MARTIN LUTHER KING AMONG
OTHERS.

HEDGEMAN FURNISHED BACKGROUND INFORMATION RE LYMAN
WHICH IDENTIFIED HIM WITH ONE THERAL BURNS LYMAN, WHITE
MALE, BORN [REDACTED], AT MOAB, UTAH, FIVE
FIVE NINE INCHES, ONE HUNDRED THIRTY POUNDS, BROWN HAIR
END PAGE ONE

SEARCHED _____
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SERIALIZED _____
FILED _____

157-3231-36

PAGE TWO

TP 157-3231

AND EYES, ONE OF THE SUBJECTS OF CASE ENTITLED "THERAL BURNS
LYMAN, AKA - FUGITIVE; DAVID JOSEPH JIRON, UFAP - FORGERY;
ITSMV; ITSP; SSA, NINETEEN FORTY EIGHT," SAN DIEGO ORIGIN.

REPORT OF SA THEODORE S. KRAMER DATED JULY TWENTY
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LYMAN THEN IN CUSTODY IN MICHIGAN, HAD INDICATED A DESIRE
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CALIF., TO FACE CHARGES ON A FORGERY WARRANT.

SAN DIEGO ASCERTAIN DISPOSITION RE LYMAN AND CONDUCT
APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION IN EFFORT TO DETERMINE IF HE
SHOULD BE CONSIDERED A SUSPECT IN INSTANT CASE.

END

BJP

FBI WASH DC

~~SEARCHED~~
~~INDEXED~~
~~SERIALIZED~~
~~FILED~~

F B I

Date: 4/9/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI AND SACS BIRMINGHAM AND MEMPHIS

FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

MURKIN; CR; OO: MEMPHIS

RE TAMPA TELETYPE APRIL NINE ~~1968~~ INSTANT.

SOURCE, JAMES SHUSTER, CASSELBERRY, FLORIDA ATTEMPTED TO TELEPHONE HIS WIFE, CHRISTINA SHUSTER NEE MCDANIEL IN MEMPHIS A.M. OF INSTANT DATE TO DISCREETLY ASCERTAIN EXACT WHEREABOUTS AND EMPLOYMENT OF JAMES KIDDER BUT WAS UNSUCCESSFUL. HE EXPECTS^f HIS WIFE TO CALL BACK AT TWO P.M. SHUSTER FEELS KIDDER WILL AUTOMATICALLY RUN IF BECOMES AWARE ANY INQUIRY IS MADE CONCERNING HIM. SHUSTER FEELS VIRGINIA MCDANIEL IF CONTACTED WILL ADVISE KIDDER.

FOLLOWING DEVELOPED CONCERNING JAMES KIDDER. NO KNOWN ALIASES. JAMES SHUSTER IS MARRIED TO CHRISTINA DAUGHTER OF VIRGINIA MCDANIEL WHO IS DIVORCED FROM C. V. MCDANIEL, AKA "BUNNY" AND VIRGINIA EITHER MARRIED OR COMMON LAW WIFE OF JAMES KIDDER. CHRISTINA AND VIRGINIA LEFT ORLANDO, FLORIDA ~~AREA~~ THREE WEEKS AGO

MEMPHIS.

1-Tampa
GWT:sas

FOR
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Approved: (1)
Special Agent in Charge

Sent WA 440 M Per me
Bh 448
M 456p 157-3231-37

F B I

Date:

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

PAGE TWO

~~CHRISTINA STAYING WITH NATURAL FATHER AT SIX~~
~~THREE TWO NORTH DUNLAP, MEMPHIS, NO TELEPHONE.~~
~~VIRGINIA STAYING AROUND THE CORNER AT RESIDENCE~~
~~OF DAISY BREWER TELEPHONE FIVE TWO SIX DASH SEVEN~~
~~THREE FOUR NINE, ADDRESS UNKNOWN.~~ SHUSTER FEELS
KIDDER WITH VIRGINIA. ON EITHER APRIL FOUR, BUT
BELIEVED TO BE APRIL FIVE, SHUSTER RECEIVED A TELEPHONE
CALL FROM CHRISTINA IN MEMPHIS. SHE REMARKED KIDDER WAS
BACK AND WORKING BUT FURNISHED NO DETAILS. SHUSTER
SAID KIDDER HANGS OUT AT OASIS BAR ACROSS FROM A
GREYHOUND BUS STATION IN MEMPHIS. KIDDER ACTS AS
THOUGH HE IS RUNNING FROM THE LAW AND HAS MENTIONED
IN PAST BEING INVOLVED IN TROUBLE BUT FURNISHED
NO DETAILS. VIRGINIA HAS MENTIONED FBI HAD BEEN AROUND
IN THE PAST. ~~AND~~ KIDDER HAD BEEN IN THE USAE IN EITHER
KOREA OR JAPAN AND ~~THAT~~ HE HAD GOTTEN A DISHONORABLE
DISCHARGE FOR BEING AWOL.

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

F B I

Date:

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

PAGE THREE

KIDDER HAS STATED HE RECEIVES A PENSION, HE HAD A PLATE IN HIS HEAD AND A BAD BACK. KIDDER DOES NOT TALK UNLESS DRINKING AT WHICH TIME HE ATTEMPTS TO SOUND TOUGH. HE IS SENSITIVE, MOODY, GETS DEPRESSED AND SULKS IN A CORNER FOR HOURS WITH LITTLE OR NO PROVOCATION. HE IS NOT KNOWN TO BE ARMED OR DANGEROUS. DRINKS HEAVILY. HE MENTIONED BEING FROM CALIFORNIA, NORTH PART OF STATE, PLACE UNKNOWN. MENTIONED BEING MARRIED IN THE PAST HAVING A THIRTEEN YEAR OLD DAUGHTER BUT IDENTITIES AND LOCATIONS UNKNOWN. KIDDER DESCRIBED AS WHITE MALE, AMERICAN, BELIEVED BORN CALIFORNIA, AGE THIRTY TWO DASH THIRTY THREE YEARS, ABOUT FIVE FOOT NINE INCHES, ABOUT ONE HUNDRED FORTY FIVE DASH FIFTY POUNDS, MEDIUM BUILD BUT ON THE SLENDER SIDE NOT SKINNY; FULL HEAD OF HAIR, DARK BELIEVED TO BE BLACK, COMBS STRAIGHT BACK, SMALL WAVE IN FRONT AND DUCK TAILS ON REAR SIDES. COMPLEXION DARK APPEARS NET AND CLEAN BUT SOMEWHAT SWARTHY OR GREASY LIKE A MEXICAN WHEN VIEWED CLOSELY.

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

F B I

Date:

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(Priority)

PAGE FOUR

FREQUENTLY WEARS LEVI TYPE PANTS, SPORT SHIRTS AND FAVORITE BLACK MOCCASIN TOED SHOES HAVING BLACK RUBBER CLEATED SOLES, AVOIDS BEING FINGERPRINTED AND PHOTOGRAPHED, NO PHOTOGRAPHS AVAILABLE. LAST KNOWN TO HAVE NINETEEN FIFTY-SIX OR FIFTY-SEVEN DODGE, ELECTRIC PUSH BUTTON SHIFT POSSIBLY GREEN OVER WHITE BODY WITH WHITE TOP. SHUSTER NOT ADVISED OF NATURE OF INQUIRY BUT HAS ALWAYS BEEN SUSPICIOUS HE IS A WANTED PERSON. SHUSTER IS NOT ADVISING CHRISTINA OF FBI CONTACT. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FURNISHED BY SHUSTER WILL BE IMMEDIATELY FORWARDED.

MEMPHIS ATTEMPT LOCATE AND INTERVIEW KIDDER AS POTENTIAL SUSPECT THIS CASE. OTHER LEADS TAMPA DIVISION RE KIDDER BEING HELD IN ABEYANCE PENDING RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION ~~RE INFO FROM SHUSTER~~. REQUESTED ABOVE.

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

FBI WASH DC

FBI TAMPA

440PM URGENT 4-9-68 BLW

TO DIRECTOR, BIRMINGHAM AND MEMPHIS

FROM TAMPA (157-3231) 4P

MURKIN; CR; OO MEMPHIS.

RE TAMPA TELETYPE APRIL NINE INSTANT.

SOURCE, JAMES SHUSTER, CASSELBERRY, FLORIDA
ATTEMPTED TO TELEPHONE HIS WIFE, CHRISTINA SHUSTER
NEE MC DANIEL, IN MEMPHIS A.M. OF INSTANT DATE TO
DISCREETLY ASCERTAIN EXACT WHEREABOUTS AND EMPLOYMENT
OF JAMES KIDDER BUT WAS UNSUCCESSFUL. HE EXPECTED HIS
WIFE TO CALL BACK AT TWO P.M. SHUSTER FEELS KIDDER
WILL AUTOMATICALLY RUN IF BECOMES AWARE ANY INQUIRY
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MC DANIEL IF CONTACTED WILL ADVISE KIDDER.

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C. V. MC DANIEL, AKA "BUNNY" AND VIRGINIA EITHER MARRIED
OR COMMON LAW WIFE OF JAMES KIDDER. CHRISTINA AND
VIRGINIA LEFT ORLANDO, FLORIDA AREA THREE WEEKS AGO FOR

END PAGE ONE

*FBI Birmingham (JGA)
& FBI Memphis (TSG)
dist inh*

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157-3231-37

PAGE TWO

TP 157-3231

MEMPHIS.

SHUSTER FEELS KIDDER WITH VIRGINIA. ON EITHER APRIL FOUR, BUT BELIEVED TO BE APRIL FIVE, SHUSTER RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL FROM CHRISTINA IN MEMPHIS. SHE REMARKED KIDDER WAS BACK AND WORKING BUT FURNISHED NO DETAILS. SHUSTER SAID KIDDER HANGS OUT AT OASIS BAR ACROSS FROM A GREYHOUND BUS STATION IN MEMPHIS. KIDDER ACTS AS THOUGH HE IS RUNNING FROM THE LAW AND HAS MENTIONED IN PAST BEING INVOLVED IN TROUBLE BUT FURNISHED NO DETAILS. VIRGINIA HAS MENTIONED FBI HAD BEEN AROUND IN THE PAST. KIDDER HAD BEEN IN THE USAF IN EITHER KOREA OR JAPAN AND HE HAD GOTTEN A DISHONORABLE DISCHARGE FOR BEING AWOL.

KIDDER HAS STATED HE RECEIVES A PENSION, HE HAD A PLATE IN HIS HEAD AND A BAD BACK. KIDDER DOES NOT TALK UNLESS DRINKING AT WHICH TIME HE ATTEMPTS TO SOUND TOUGH. HE IS SENSITIVE, MOODY, GETS DEPRESSED AND SULKS IN A CORNER FOR HOURS WITH LITTLE OR NO PROVOCATION. HE IS NOT KNOWN TO BE ARMED OR DANGEROUS. DRINKS HEAVILY. HE MENTIONED BEING FROM CALIFORNIA, NORTH PART OF STATE, PLACE UNKNOWN. MENTIONED BEING MARRIED IN THE PAST HAVING A THIRTEEN YEAR OLD DAUGHTER BUT IDENTITIES AND LOCATIONS UNKNOWN. KIDDER DESCRIBED AS WHITE MALE, AMERICAN, BELIEVED BORN CALIFORNIA, AGE THIRTY TWO - THIRTY THREE YEARS, ABOUT FIVE FOOT NINE INCHES, ABOUT ONE HUNDRED FORTY FIVE - FIFTY POUNDS, MEDIUM BUILD BUT ON THE

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

TP 157-3231

SLENDER SIDE NOT SKINNY; FULL HEAD OF HAIR, DARK BELIEVED TO BE BLACK, COMBS STRAIGHT BACK, SMALL WAVE IN FRONT AND DUCK TAILS ON REAR SIDES. COMPLEXION DARK APPEARS NEAT AND CLEAN BUT SOMEWHAT SWARTHY OR GREASY LIKE A MEXICAN WHEN VIEWED CLOSELY.

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END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

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MEMPHIS ATTEMPT LOCATE AND INTERVIEW KIDDER AS
POTENTIAL SUSPECT THIS CASE. OTHER LEADS TAMPA DIVISION
RE KIDDER BEING HELD IN ABEYANCE PENDING RESULTS OF
INVESTIGATION REQUESTED ABOVE.

END

CAB

FBI WASH DC

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

DATE: 4/9/68

FROM : SA DENNIS R. DICKSON

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re report of SA HUGN N. SMITH at
Tampa dated 4/5/68, regarding JAMES A. POUNCEY.

JAMES ALBERT POUNCEY, aka
JAMES ALBERT POUNCEY

The following investigation was
conducted by SAs DICKSON and WHELAN:

On 4/5/68 attempts to locate JAMES ALBERT POUNCEY at 216 S. Albany Avenue, Apartment 7, Tampa, Florida were negative on several occasions. On 4/5/68, EDITH MCPHEE, manager, apartment 2, 216 S. Albany Avenue, Tampa, Florida, advised that JAMES A. POUNCEY resided at apartment 7 however, he was evicted from his apartment approximately 2 months ago for failure to pay his rent, and his present whereabouts are unknown. She advised that several individuals, one of whom was believed from the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office had contacted her in reference to several worthless checks which allegedly had been written by subject. She stated that Pouncey was believed to be previously employed at Tampa Bay Hotel during spring of 1967 and possibly at the Causeway Inn and International Inn in Tampa. She described POUNCEY as white male, approximately 56 years old, wearing a mustache, and having black hair. She noted that among some trash that was left by POUNCEY in his room was a letter with a return address of MRS. ESTELLE POUNCEY, 608 W. Buffalo Avenue, Tampa, Florida, and another envelope marked WILLIAM POUNCEY, 713 April Street, Montgomery, Alabama. She stated that POUNCEY left no forwarding address after he was evicted.

(2) Tampa
DRD/lb
(2)

*No further action
Pouncey is a "nut"
& his info does not
check out. Further
investigation would be
wasteful. JB*

157-3231-38

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FBI - TAMPA	

McBryde

TP 157-3231

On 4/5/68, EUGENE PITTS, 216 S. Albany Avenue, Tampa, Florida, advised that he has seen POUNCEY on several occasions in the immediate past catch the Port Tampa Bus at approximately 5:15 in front of a loan company on the Northwest corner of Tampa and Twiggs Street. He advised that he could furnish no additional information regarding present whereabouts or employment of subject.

On 4/5/68, VA GOMEZ, Services Division, Tampa PD; 4/8/68, E. GOELITZ, Identification Division, Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, advised that they could locate no record identifiable with JAMES ALBERT POUNCEY or POUNCY.

On 4/8/68, BETTY CLOSE, Tampa Credit Bureau, advised that JAMES ALBERT POUNCEY and wife ESTELLE had been known to the file since August, 1965. She advised that credit report reflected numerous collections and the following were employments as listed for subject:

Martin Advertising Agency
(as of February, 1967)

Beacon Press Company, Kennedy Boulevard, Tampa
(as of October, 1966)

Standard Coffee Company
As a salesman for 3 and $\frac{1}{2}$ years
(as of August, 1965)

United Artist Studio
Linoir City, Tennessee
As sales manager since 1961

The following were residences of
subject as reflected in credit file:

216 S. Albany Avenue
Tampa, Florida
(as of February, 1967)

TP 157-3231

405 De Leon Street
Tampa, Florida
(as of October, 1966)

205½ W. Platt Street
Tampa, Florida
(prior to October, 1966)

608 W. Buffalo Avenue
Tampa, Florida

4003 Ola Avenue
Tampa, Florida

300 Gray Street
Knoxville, Tennessee

MRS. CLOSE advised that POUNCEY is a native of Crenshaw County, Alabama and his wife is a native of Knoxville, Tennessee.

On 4/9/68, J.W. MARTIN, Martin Advertising Agency, 1720 Watrous Avenue, Tampa, Florida, advised that subject was discharged from his employment at company over one year ago due to unsatisfactory performance. MR. MARTIN advised that he last saw subject approximately 6 months ago and was believed working at Pinellas County, Florida with an individual named SCOTT KING or SCOTT MCDONALD sending a male handlers publication. MR. MARTIN described POUNCEY as a "mental case" and was "playing with a half deck of cards". MR. MARTIN could furnish no information as to present whereabouts of subject.

The following investigation was conducted by SAs DICKSON and SA KELLER:

On 4/9/68, GEORGE MOUNT, 608 W. Buffalo Avenue, Tampa, Florida, who advised that he owns and rents the premises at 608 W. Buffalo, advised that he could not ever recall renting to a party named POUNCEY.

On 4/9/68, MRS. FIELDING, 610 W.

TP 157-3231

Buffalo Avenue, Tampa, Florida, advised that she recalls a magazine salesman from Tennessee who resided at 608 W. Buffalo Avenue, in approximately March or April of 1966. She stated that this family, departed this address and believed to have moved to an apartment on Tampa Street near Buffalo Avenue. She stated that this family had a daughter named CONNIE PRUETTE or TRUETTE who resides in the Wellswood section of Tampa and she believed that the subject was known at the bar located on the corner of Buffalo and Tampa Street.

On 4/9/68, MATHEW RISCILE, manager, and RICHARD VILCHEZ, bartender, Pheonix Bar, 3915 Tampa Street, Tampa, advised that they were not acquainted with an individual named JAMES POUNCEY.

On 4/9/68, MRS. GEORGE A. MERET, 205½ W. Platt Street, Tampa, advised that JAMES POUNCEY resided at this address approximately 3 years ago however, he was evicted from the premises inasmuch as he did not pay his rent. She stated that he had had marital problems and separated from his wife and she could furnish no information as to present whereabouts of POUNCEY, or his wife, nor could she furnish information as to where subject is presently employed.

On 4/9/68, CHARLES WHEMSIT, "protect identity", Postal Inspectors Office, Tampa, Florida, advised a review of the records failed to reflect a forwarding address for JAMES A. POUNCEY, 216 S. Albany Avenue, Tampa, Florida, Apartment 7.

On 4/9/68, MR. DERBY, bookkeeper, Causeway Inn, Tampa, and J.F. SEELINGER, bookkeeper, Bayview Hotel, Tampa, Florida, advised that review of records failed to reflect employment for a JAMES A. POUNCEY during the last several years.

TP 157-3231

Addendum

SA WALTER GRANGER advised at 5:25 P.M., 4/9/68, that CHARLES RUMFORD had exhibited to him papers which specify that he, RUMFORD, has been declared legally incompetent by the court in Pinellas County (as of 4/17/67). His condition is described on the papers as schizophrenic reaction, mixed type manifested by inappropriate actions, paranoid ideation, impairment of judgment due to psychotic thinking.

GRANGER indicated that RUMFORD was discharged from the USN because of a nervous condition, and that he is presently under the care of a psychiatrist. When GRANGER asked him about a description of POUNCY, he indicated that he had been under a heavy mental strain, therefore any description furnished by him might be far wrong.

On 4/9/68 SA's Nickson and Whelan attempted to locate subject at the N.W. corner of Twiggs and Tompa street from 4:45 - 5:30 PM with negative results. It is noted that Eugene Pitts was contacted at this location and advised that he had not seen Pounsey since 4/5/68 nor did he see him waiting for the bus. Agents and Pitts waited at corner until 5:30 PM and since Pounsey did not show, no further efforts were made to contact him.

In view of questionable mental condition of complainant together with his "impairment of judgment due to psychotic thinking" it is suggested that no further action be taken on this matter at this time.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (157-3231-5)

DATE: 5/27/68

FROM : SPC AL LYNDEN SMITH

SUBJECT: MURKIN

At 9:43 PM this date an individual identifying himself as CHARLES RUMFORD telephonically contacted this office and advised he wished to be contacted by an agent of this office re captioned matter. Rumford furnished St. Petersburg address % YMCA, 5th St. and Second Ave., Rm. 211, Telephone 862-5141.

Supervisor Belanger advised and indicated that previous contacts with Rumford reflected Rumford to be mentally incompetent and therefore contacting him would be a futile effort if any hopes were held toward obtaining useful information.

Tampa file 157-3231-5 and 157-3231-38 reflects information re contacts previously by agents of this office with Rumford.

Submitted for information of file only.

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-2-

#27

157-3231-38A

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MAY 29 1968	



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

DATE: 4/9/68

FROM : SA John E. HEGARTY

SUBJECT: MURKIN

SA GORDON TINDLE advised 1³⁰ AM, 4/9/68 that he had spoken to JAMES SHUSTER, Route 1792, CASTLEBERRY, Fla. on 4/8/68. Shuster advised that his wife Christina is presently residing with her father C.V. Mc DANIEL aka BUNNY at 632 N. DUNLAP, Memphis, Tenn. Her mother VIRGINIA KIDDER presently residing around corner from N. Dunlap address c/o Davy Brewer, telephone number 526-7349.

Shuster advised that his wife had advised him that JAMES Kidder is in Memphis. Shuster stated that Kidder definitely in Memphis on 4/5/68 and believes there on 4/4/68. Shuster not aware if Kidder residing with his wife VIRGINIA or where employed.

Shuster stated would call his wife in Memphis at 9⁰⁰ AM on 4/9/68 and obtain present whereabouts of Kidder.

Shuster stated that if Kidder or wife VIRGINIA knows FBI or PD looking for him, Kidder will take off. Kidder suffers from headaches and easily depressed.

157-3231-39

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FBI - TAMPA	



5010-108

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

Kidder possibly deserter.

Shuster stated Kidder did buy car in Clearwater.

SA Tindle suggested that wait until 9⁰⁰ AM when Shuster will obtain whereabouts of Kidder in view of information that Kidder would take off if he or wife Virginia knew or learned FBI looking for them.

Supv. Belangee contacted and requested teletype be sent.

PM 321 URGENT 4-9-68 EMT

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND TAMPA
FROM CLEVELAND (44-565) 1PG

MURKIN

RE TAMPA TEL TO BUREAU, APRIL EIGHT, SIXTYEIGHT.

0

THOMAS THOROMAN, ROUTE TWO, SPENCERVILLE, OHIO, IS PAINTER
AND PAPERHANGER WHO LEFT NOV., NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN, TO WORK IN
FLORIDA. ADDRESS IN FLA. IS ROUTE ONE, BOX THIRTYTWO A,
CLERMONT. INQUIRY, POST OFFICE AND WITH NEIGHBORS, REFLECTS
THOROMAN EXPECTED TO RETURN ANY DAY FROM FLA., EXACT DATE NOT
KNOWN. NEIGHBORS DESCRIBE THOROMAN AS WM, FORTYFIVE TO FIFTYFIVE
YEARS, FIVE FT. TEN INS. TO SIX FT., ONE FIFTY TO ONE SIXTY LBS.,
BROWN HAIR GETTING GRAY. HE IS A SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST OR
MENNONITE. HE TRAVELS WITH WIFE VIOLET AND CHILDREN IN HIS
STATIONWAGON. THEY KNOW OF NOTHING DEROGATORY.

TAMPA, AT CLERMONT, FLA. IMMEDIATELY CHECK ROUTE ONE,
BOX THIRTYTWO A, RE THOROMAN AND CONTINUE INVESTIGATION TO
DETERMINE HIS WHEREABOUTS DURING PERTINENT PERIOD.

AIR MAIL COPY TO MEMPHIS. INFO IN REFERENCED TAMPA TEL
BEING FURNISHED TO MEMPHIS.

END

BLW

FBI TAMPA

157-3231-40
SEARCHED
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FILED
APR 9 1968
FBI - TAMPA
McDougal

F B I

Date: 4-9-68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

TO DIRECTOR BIRMINGHAM MEMPHIS

FROM TAMPA 157-3231

MURKIN, CR 00:ME

RE TP TELS FOUR-NINE-SIXTYEIGHT.

SOURCE JAMES SHUSTER, REQUESTED IDENTITY BE CONCEALED, TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED HIS WIFE IN MEMPHIS AT SIX PM INSTANT DATE, DID NOT REVEAL FBI CONTACT. SHE REVEALED JAMES KIDDER AND VIRGINIA MOVED ON SUNDAY TO UNKNOWN NUMBER ON PEABODY ST. OR AVE MEMPHIS. TEMPORARY QUARTERS ABOUT ONE WEEK. CHRIS INDICATED KIDDER WORKING WAY OUT ON LA MAR AT A FACTORY MAKING PAPER CUPS, OBTAINED THE JOB THROUGH UNKNOWN EMPLOYMENT AGENCY. VIRGINIA NOT WORKING. KIDDERS' LAST KNOWN CAR WHITE WITH LIGHT GREEN STRIPE DOWN BODY, WHITE TOP.

END

GWT/rob



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FILED 9

Approved: Belonger
Special Agent in Charge

Sent

644 Wash
649 Birmingham
667 Memphis

FBI WASH DC

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FBI TAMPA

644 PM 4-9-68 URGENT ROB

TO DIRECTOR BIRMINGHAM MEMPHIS

FROM TAMPA 157-3231

MURKIN, CR OO:ME

RE TP TELS FOUR-NINE-SIXTYEIGHT.

re: James Kidder

SOURCE JAMES SHUSTER, REQUESTED IDENTITY BE CONCEALED, TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED HIS WIFE IN MEMPHIS AT SIX PM INSTANT DATE, DID NOT REVEAL FBI CONTACT. SHE REVEALED JAMES KIDDER AND VIRGINIA MOVED ON SUNDAY TO UNKNOWN NUMBER ON PEABODY ST. OR AVE MEMPHIS. TEMPORARY QUARTERS FOR ABOUT ONE WEEK. CHRIS INDICATED KIDDER WORKING WAY OUT ON LA MAR AVE IN A FACTORY MAKING PAPER CUPS, OBTAINED THE JOB THROUGH UNKNOWN EMPLOYMENT AGENCY. VIRGINIA NOT WORKING. KIDDER'S LAST KNOWN CAR WHITE WITH LIGHT GREEN STRIPE DOWN BODY, WHITE TOP.

END

JR

FBI WASH DC

*FB 9 Memphis (DGB)
FB 9 Birmingham (HR)
dist inl*

SEARCHED _____
INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED *[initials]*
FILED *[initials]*

157-3231-41

F B I

Date: 4/9/68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR AND SACS, JACKSONVILLE AND MEMPHIS

FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

MURKIN. BUFILE FOUR FOUR - THREE EIGHT EIGHT SIX ONE.

RE TAMPA TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR APRIL EIGHT, LAST AND
CLEVELAND TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR, APRIL NINE, INSTANT.

REFERENCED CLEVELAND TELETYPE ADVISES AS FOLLOWS:

THOMAS THOROMAN, ROUTE TWO, SPENCERVILLE, OHIO, IS PAINTER
AND PAPERHANGER WHO LEFT NOV., NINETEEN SIXTY SEVEN, TO
WORK IN FLORIDA. ADDRESS IN FLA. IS ROUTE ONE, BOX THIRTY
TWO A, CLERMONT. INQUIRY, POST OFFICE AND WITH NEIGHBORS,
REFLECTS THOROMAN EXPECTED TO RETURN ANY DAY FROM FLA.,
EXACT DATE NOT KNOWN. NEIGHBORS DESCRIBE THOROMAN AS WM,
FORTYFIVE TO FIFTYFIVE YEARS, FIVE FEET TEN INCHES, TO SIX
FEET, ONE FIFTY TO ONE SIXTY LBS., BROWN HAIR GETTING GRAY.
HE IS A SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST OR MENNONITE. HE TRAVELS
WITH WIFE VIOLET AND CHILDREN IN HIS STATION WAGON. THEY
KNOW OF NOTHING DEROGATORY.

① - Tampa
1 - Cleveland (Airmail) (44-565)
GRM:bg
(2)

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INDEXED
SERIALIZED
FILED

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

632
635
638
157- 3231- 42

F B I

Date:

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

Via _____
(Priority)

TP 157-3231

PAGE TWO

SINCE CLERMONT, FLA IS IN JACKSONVILLE TERRITORY,
JACKSONVILLE HANDLE LEAD SET OUT IN REFERENCED CLEVELAND
TELETYPE TO IMMEDIATELY CHECK ROUTE ONE, BOX THIRTY TWO A,
CLERMONT, RE THOROMAN, AND CONTINUE INVESTIGATION TO
DETERMINE HIS WHEREABOUTS DURING PERTINENT PERIOD. CLEVELAND
ADVISED BY AIRMAIL.

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

FBI WASH DC

FBI TAMPA

632 PM URGENT 4/9/68 ALS
TO DIRECTOR, JACKSONVILLE AND MEMPHIS
FROM TAMPA (157-3231)

MURKIN. BUFILE FOUR FOUR - THREE EIGHT EIGHT SIX ONE.

RE TAMPA TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR APRIL EIGHT, LAST AND
CLEVELAND TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR, APRIL NINE, INSTANT.

REFERENCED CLEVELAND TELETYPE ADVISES AS FOLLOWS:

THOMAS THOROMAN, ROUTE TWO, SPENCERVILLE, OHIO, IS PAINTER AND
PAPERHANGER WHO LEFT NOV., NINETEEN SIXTY SEVEN, TO WORK IN
FLORIDA. ADDRESS IN FLA. IS ROUTE ONE, BOX THIRTY TWO A,
CLERMONT. INQUIRY, POST OFFICE AND NEIGHBORS, REFLECTS THOROMAN
EXPECTED TO RETURN ANY DAY FROM FLA., EXACT DATE NOT KNOWN.
NEIGHBORS DESCRIBE THOROMAN AS WM, FORTYFIVE TO FIFTYFIVE YEARS,
FIVE FT. TEN IN., TO SIX FT., ONE FIFTY TO ONE SIXTY LBS., BROWN
HAIR GETTING GRAY. HE IS A SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST OR MENNONITE.
HE TRAVELS WITH WIFE VIOLET AND CHILDREN IN HIS STATION WAGON.
THEY KNOW OF NOTHING DEROGATORY.
END PAGE ONE

SEARCHED _____
INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED CP
FILED CP

157-3231-42

PAGE TWO

TP 157-3231

SINCE CLERMONT, FLA. IS IN JACKSONVILLE TERRITORY,
JACKSONVILLE HANDLE LEAD SET OUT IN REFERENCED CLEVELAND
TELETYPE TO IMMEDIATELY CHECK ROUTE ONE, BOX THIRTY TWO A,
CLERMONT, RE THOROMAN, AND CONTINUE INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE
HIS WHEREABOUTS DURING PERTINENT PERIOD. CLEVELAND
ADVISED BY AIRMAIL.

END

JMS

FBI WASH DC

TSJ - FBI, MEMPHIS

CJA - FBI, JACKSONVILLE }

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-3231)

DATE: 4/9/68

FROM : SA ROBERT W. KNIGHT

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Bureau telephone call 8:29 PM, 4/9/68.

Night Duty Supr. WILLIAM BAILEY, Division 6, advised as follows:

Justice Dept. received a telephone call this date from Mr. E.L.BING, Plant City, Florida, telephone number 752-6896, operator of a night club at Eatonville, Florida known as Rainbow Club. A patron at the club last Sunday night, 4/7/68, wanted to cash a check on a Chattanooga, Tenn. bank and claimed he lived in Memphis and worked at the Holiday Inn as a painter. Patron had a bus ticket from Orlando to Miami. BING saw sketch of killer in newspaper and thought it resembled the patron in the bar.

Bureau instructions were to interview BING.

TP file 157-2209 is on E. LUTRELL BING, a liaison source assigned to SA DOYLE. SA DOYLE was advised of above and made contact with BING and sent teletype to Bureau.

SAC and SUPR. BELANGER advised.

RWK:rwk
(2)

ICC
to 157-2209

See A-50
See Serial 477

157-3231-43

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APR 9 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

Doyle *WFO*

FBI WASH DC

611PM PM URGENT 4-9-68 BJP

TO ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES

FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861 2P

MURKIN

AMONG ARTICLES RECOVERED AT SCENE OF SHOOTING,
APPARENTLY ABANDONED BY UNSUB, WERE A PAIR OF BROWNISH
CHECKERED PRINT UNDERSHORTS AND WHITE JOCKEY TEE SHIRT
BEARING CLOTH LAUNDRY TAGS. THESE TAGS WERE MADE BY A
THERMO SEAL MARKING MACHINE MANUFACTURED BY THE TEXTILE
MARKING MACHINE COMPANY, SYRACUSE, NEW YORK. THESE TAGS
ARE ONE QUARTER INCH WIDE AND ONE AND ONE SIXTEENTH
INCH LONG, RED IN COLOR AND BEAR MARKING WHICH APPEARS
TO BE "O TWO B DASH SIX" OR "D TWO B DASH SIX." ONLY A
PORTION OF THE FIRST CHARACTER IS PRESENT ON EACH TAG,
AND THIS CHARACTER IS CUT ON A SLIGHT BIAS. NO OTHER
VISIBLE LAUNDRY MARKS WERE FOUND ON EITHER GARMENT.

IMMEDIATE CHECKS OF LOGICAL LAUNDRIES SUGGESTED BY
TEXTILE MARKING COMPANY HAVE TO DATE BEEN UNPRODUCTIVE.

END PAGE ONE

*Call SFA at
Cocoa
Orlando
St Pete
Clearwater
Gainesville
St Marys
Ritchey adv.
Hwy adv.
Bumles adv.
Vance adv.
R.C. Smith adv.
Holliston adv.*

4/9/68

*2 prot
Jm
4/10/68*

1. #4 -

*WAD
6:35 pm
Hansen adv.
ju*

*2 Xerox cc's
made
ml
To be handled
at once*

157-3231-44

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
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*2. Mc Gough
Brief Klynash
Keller & Dickson
Hedgcock
Dade C.
Hedgcock*

PAGE TWO

UPON RECEIPT, ALL OFFICES SHOULD IMMEDIATELY TELEPHONICALLY
CONTACT ALL LAUNDRIES IN YOUR DIVISIONS TO IDENTIFY
LAUNDRY USING THIS CODE AND THESE TAGS AND PURSUE LOGICAL
LEADS DEVELOPED.

IF PERTINENT LAUNDRY IDENTIFIED, IMMEDIATELY ADVISE
BUREAU TELEPHONICALLY.

THIS MUST BE GIVEN TOP PRIORITY HANDLING TO INSURE
THAT THESE CHECKS ARE IMMEDIATELY RUN OUT.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD ANYONE BE TOLD THIS
INVESTIGATION IS IN CONNECTION WITH CAPTIONED MATTER.

END

PJL

FBI MIAMI

ALS

FBI TAMPA

JLC

FBI JACKSVLE

JJP

FBI-COLUMBIA

THIS IS FBI SACTO WE RECEVED YOUR MESG. TWICE AND YOU NEVER ASKED
FOR A RESPONSE.

AACTO W THAT IS A FRECK THING CANUSE BY THE WIRE I RECEIVE
A DISCONNECT N AND THE OPR JUST CONNECT YOU UP WITH ME THIS TIME
PLEASE ACK AND I ILL TALK TO YOU LATER

S

JXP

FBI SACTO

SV..PNR

FBI SAVANNAH

AT..MRB

FBI ATLANTA

TH ALL D

FBI ALBANY

10:33PM

I M M E D I A T E 4/9/68 RWP

TO: DIRECTOR AND SACS MEMPHIS, ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM, COLUMBIA,
JACKSON, JACKSONVILLE, MIAMI, RICHMOND,
TAMPA

FROM: SAC, ALBANY (44-493)

MURKIN, CR. OO: MEMPHIS.

RE ALBANY TELCALLS TO BIRMINGHAM, MOBILE AND JACKSON
APRIL NINE INSTANT.

FOR THE INFO OF OFFICES NOT PREVIOUSLY RECEIVING THIS
INFO, SEARCH OF PREMISES BELIEVED OCCUPIED BY UNSUB WHO
ASSASSINATED DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING ON FOUR FOUR SIXTYEIGHT,
DISCLOSED SUITCASE IN WHICH WAS LOCATED TEE SHIRT AND UNDER-
SHORTS BEARING LAUNDRY MARK ON RED TAPE WITH BLACK LETTERING
BELIEVED TO BE THERMO-SEAL TYPE, MANUFACTURED BY TEXTILE
MARKING MACHINE CO., INC., SYRACUSE, N.Y. THE TAPE IS ONE
QUARTER INCH WIDE AND ONE AND ONE SIXTEENTH INCH LONG AND
BEARS LETTERS AND NUMBERS ZERO TWO B DASH SIX.

EXPERTS AT TEXTILE MARKING MACHINE COMPANY ADVISE
TYPE ON THIS MACHINE IS UNUSUAL IN THAT THE FIRST TWO
END PAGE ONE

2 perot
17
Don M
4/10/68

1. #4

SAC advised 11 PM 4-9-68
R. Smith advised 7:30 4/10/68
15-3231-45
2 perot made 2 sub 10:00 AM 4/10/68
of advised 11 4-8-68
2. McGough Rm

AL 44-493

PAGE TWO

CHARACTERS ARE FIFTEEN POINT TYPE AND THE LAST THREE CHARACTERS ARE EIGHTEEN POINT TYPE, WITH THE MIDDLE CHARACTER, THE LETTER B, PROBABLY BEING NARROW RATHER THAN REGULAR TYPE. THE USUAL MACHINE CARRIES FIFTEEN POINT TYPE FOR THE FIRST THREE CHARACTERS AND EIGHTEEN POINT TYPE FOR THE LAST TWO CHARACTERS.

TEXTILE MARKING MACHINE EXPERTS ALSO STATED THIS MACHINE IS DEFECTIVE IN THAT IT IS PRODUCING A TAPE ONE AND ONE SIXTEENTH INCH LONG INSTEAD OF ONE AND ONE EIGHTH INCH LONG AND IS NOT PROJECTING THE TAPE FAR ENOUGH RESULTING IN CUTTING OFF A PORTION OF THE FIRST LETTER. THE CODE USED IN THE NORTH-EASTERN PART OF THE UNITED STATES IS AS FOLLOWS:

THE FIRST LETTER O STANDS FOR LOT NUMBER; THE FIRST NUMBER TWO INDICATES THE DAY OF THE WEEK, TWO BEING TUESDAY; THE SECOND LETTER INDICATES THE FIRST LETTER OF THE STORE NAME,
END PAGE TWO