

I. O. 4182
4-20-68

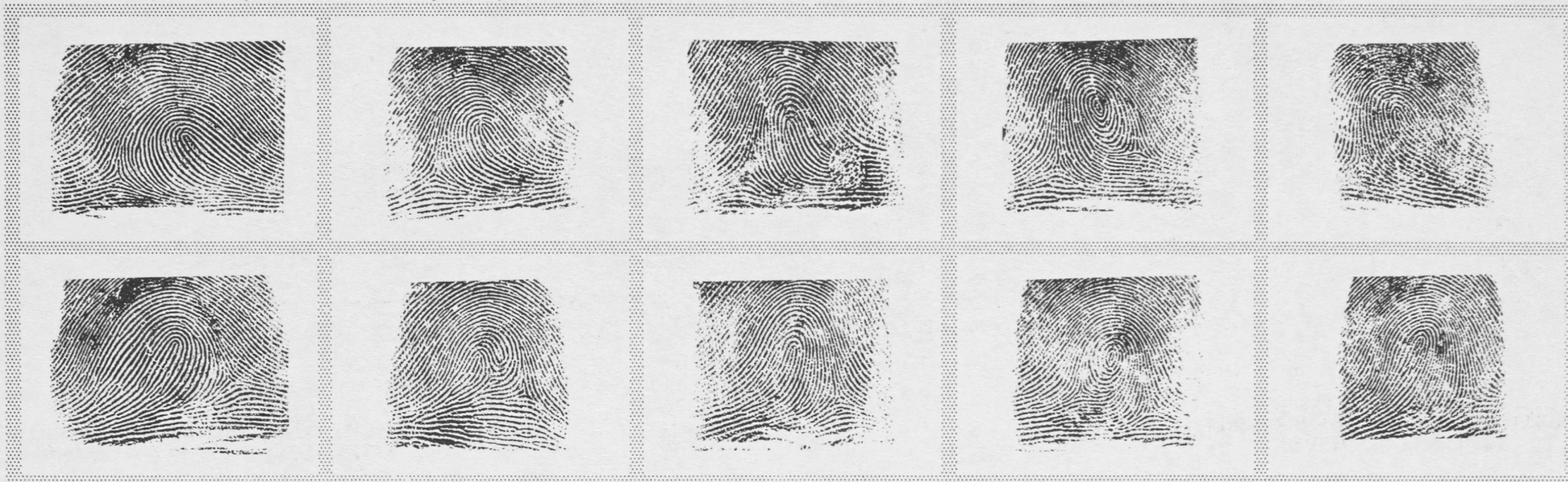
**CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY
INTERSTATE FLIGHT - ROBBERY**

WANTED BY FBI

JAMES EARL RAY

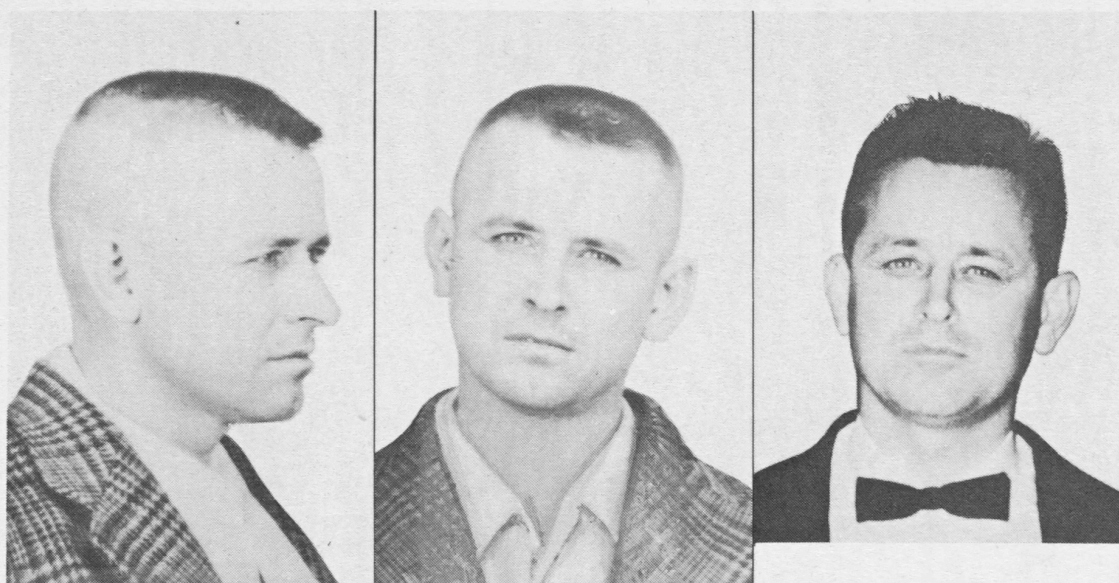
FBI No. 405,942 G
16 M 9 U 000 12
M 4 W 101

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

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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

157-3231-275

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
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POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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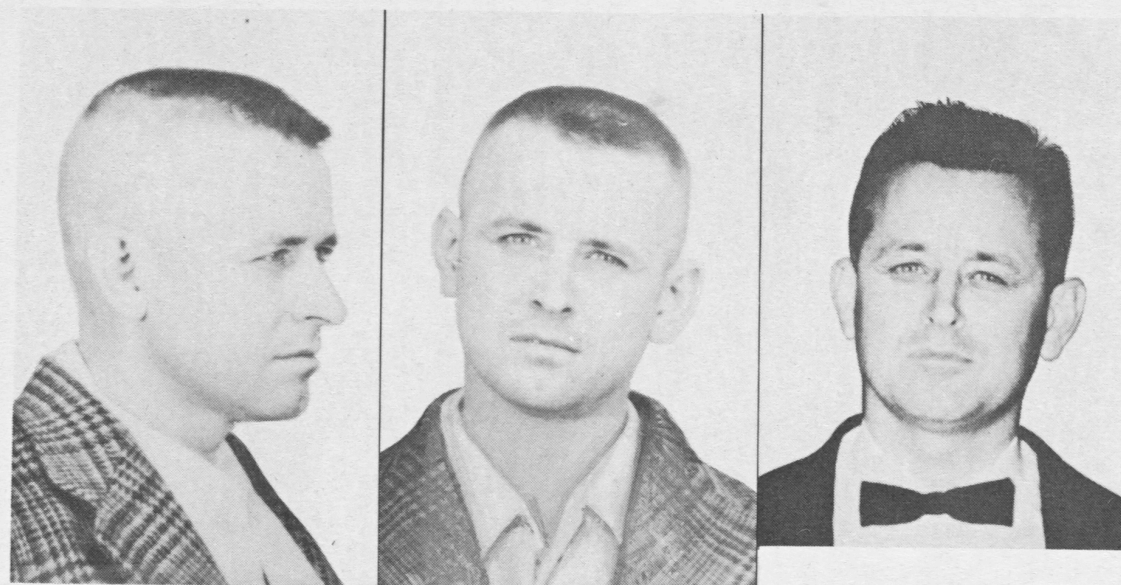
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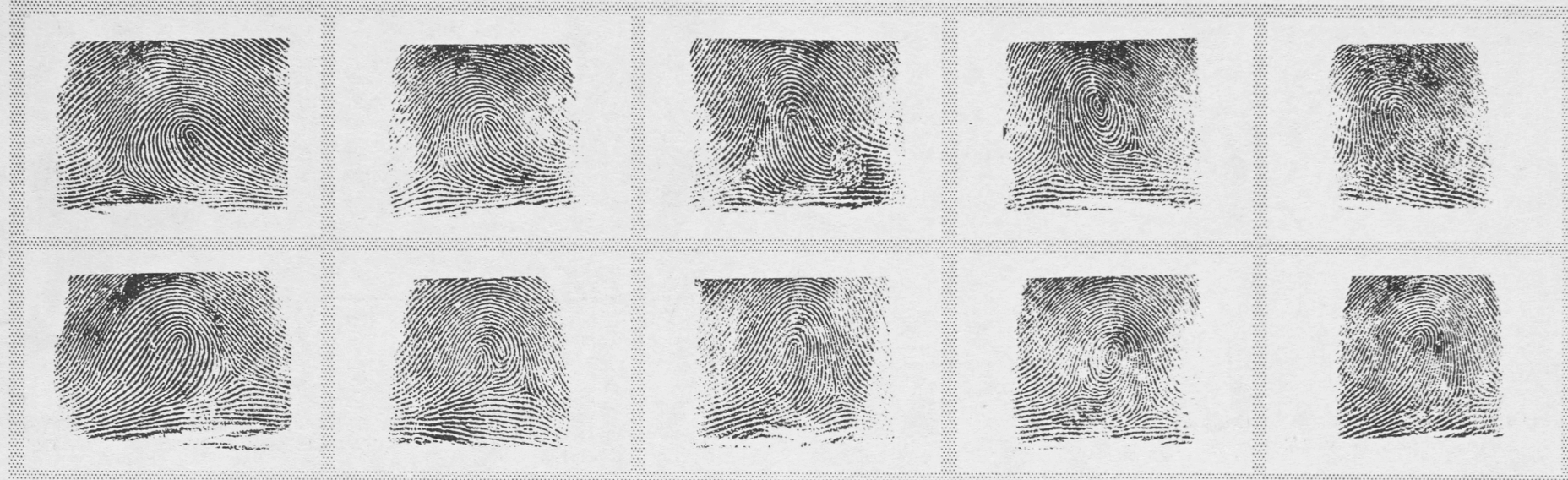
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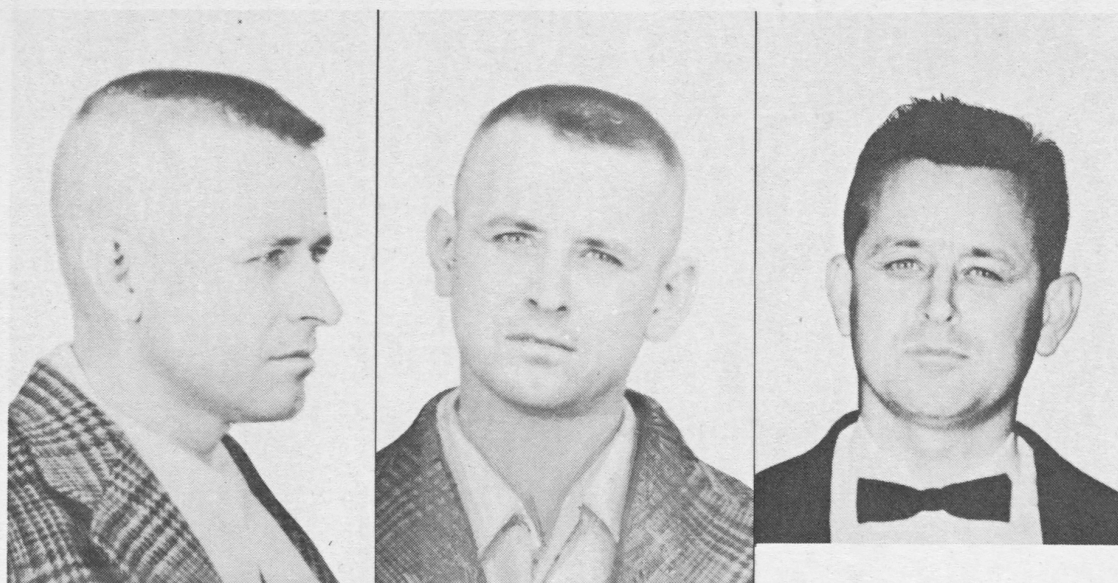
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Washington, D. C. 20535

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POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

DATE: 4/26/68

FROM : SAs Dennis R. Schubert

SUBJECT: murkin
CR
(OO:ME)

On 4/26/68, John Key, Chief Engineer, Oak Park Cleaners, 3410 E. Broadway, Tampa, Fla. advised that he makes all repairs on the Thermo-seal machines located at Oak Park Cleaners and also services many other Thermo-seal machines throughout the Tampa area. He advised that no changes, such as position of letters or numbers and different point size letters or numbers have been to the Thermo-seal machine at Oak Park Cleaners during the last year.

Key further advised that it is a simple matter to change the position of the numbers or letters or to change the point size of the letters and numbers. He stated that any Thermo-seal machine can be changed to use any sequence or combination of letters or numbers or any size of letters or numbers. He further advised that a six character machine could be made to produce a 5 character code, simply by removing a row of characters.

The above is submitted for

(1)
DRD

file up

157-3231-277A

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
FBI - TAMPA	



5010-108

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 TP
 2 - Memphis
 GMR:jms (118)

157-3231-277

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 23 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

Tabada

Approved: *[Signature]*
 Special Agent in Charge

Sent *B*M Per *Set out leads*

SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

4/23/68

SA STEPHEN J. LABADIE

MURKIN
CR
(OO:ME)

ReMEairtel to all continental offices, 4/19/68.

For the assistance of agents of the resident agencies who cover leads in this matter, there is attached hereto a Xerox copy of reairtel.

As requested in reairtel, a review of the file was made on 4/23/68 and it is suggested the following RAs - Cocoa, Ft. Myers, Orlando, Sarasota, St. Petersburg contact the laundries operating Thermo-Seal marking machines in an effort to locate laundry using code "20R-3".

Attached hereto is a list as shown from the file of Thermo-Seal marking machine users in the various RAs.

Two laundries have to be contacted in headquarters:

Oak Park & Towne Laundry

Other copy
6 - Tampa
① - COCOA RA
1 - FT. MYERS RA
1 - ORLANDO RA
1 - SARASOTA RA
1 - ST. PETERSBURG RA
SJJ:cj
(6)

Specimen

157-3231-278

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 23 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

Cocoa Lead Rutchey

Assign RAs to cover lead

Cocoa R/A

Serial 108 - Albany Airtel to Director 8/10/68
Lester Thermo-Seal Marking Machine
to Quality Cleaners, Cocoa, Florida

Cocoa contract and report concerning Quality Cleaners

Ft Myer R/A

Serial 79: Memo SA A Lewis Barnett, 4/10/68

1. Earl Holbrook, Manager, Wilbur's Cleaners
2017 Monroe, Ft. Myer.
Using Thermo-Seal

2. R. H. McIntyre, Genl Manager, Prather, Inc.
1828 Evans, Ft. Myer
Uses Thermo-Seal

3. Robert Croll, Sunshine Cleaners, 2234 Cleveland Ave.
Ft. Myer - Uses Thermo-Seal

Atlanta K/A

Serial 159 (Quint - Atlanta K/A - page 11)

SA Philip D. Smith

Robert W. Sewler, Executive Laundry, 1725 South

Orange Ave. mentioned 4/12/68. They use Thermo -
Seal marking mark.

Serial 117 - page 2 (Philip Smith)

(1) Mr. Charles Farnon, Laundry Supt., Atlanta Cleaners &
Laundry, 49 W. Conner St., Atl.

uses Thermo-Seal marking machine.

(Bob Ball)

Serial 116 - (1) Earl B. Rector, owner, Imperial Laundry, 901 W.
Fairbanks Ave., Winter Park.

Does use tags made by Thermo-Seal.

(2) Mrs. Dennis Oare, Manager, Winter Park Laundry,
161 W. Fairbanks Ave., Winter Park
uses Thermo.

St. Petersburg R/A

Serial 80 - Memo Hugh W. Smith 4/10/68 St. Pete area

1. Soft Water Laundry, Inc., 701 2nd Ave. S., St. Pete
Chuck Hayes, mgr. - Use Thermo Seal

2. Chautauque Laundry & Dry Cleaners
563 10th St., S., St. Pete.
Use Thermo-Seal

Serial 130:

St. Petersburg SA Brumble memo

Mr. S. A. Gill, Vogue Cleaners & Launderers of St. Pete, Inc., Inc.
1644 Street Smith,

Use Thermo Seal Machine - green & pink orange tags

Tampa Handwritten

Serial 95 : memo SA Keller. 4/11/68

Richard Bristow of Textile Marking Machine Co.,
Gainesville who serviced Southeastern States advised:
Thermo-Seal Marking Machine in Tampa

1. Oak Park Laundry
2. Towne Laundry

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.

SA Balange notified 4:30,
4/27/68 - JOK

Cocoa-Ritchey - 4:58 PM - 4/27/68 JOK
Orlando-Haffey - 5:00 PM 4/27/68 JOK
Clearwater-Vance - 5:01 PM 4/27/68 JOK
St. Pete's Bumble - 5:07 PM 4/27/68 JOK
Sarasota-Smith - 5:10 PM " "
Lakeland-Garner - 8:35 AM 4/28/68 JOK
Ft. Myers-Burnett - 9:20 4-28-68 JOK

1 - Each Continental Office
2 - Memphis

GMR/vtp

TP

157-3231-278A

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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FBI - TAMPA	

file w/

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

DATE: 4/26/68

FROM : SA, ROBERT C. SMITH

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
(OO: ME)

ReMemo SA STEPHEN J. LABADIE 4/23/68.

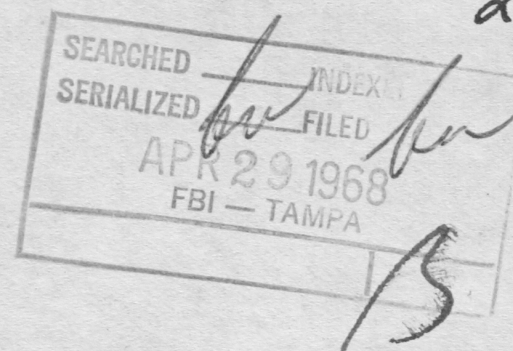
Mr. PAUL HUDGINS, Mgr, Lily White Laundry, 700 S. Osprey Ave, Sarasota, Fla, advised on 4/26/68 that he has two Thermo-Seal Marking Machines, but that marking "20R-3" is not his mark.

He again advised that his mark beings with a letter designation, the second digit being numbers to denote the lot number, and the last digit being the route number. He also advised he does not have a three route.

I believe this is the only laundry in Sarasota area that has Thermo Seal Marking Machines.

It is noted this laundry did not appear in rememo, but I recall having covered this lead previously.

If other laundries ~~are~~ were located previously who have this type machine advise.



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

DATE: 4/26/68

FROM : SAs Dennis R. Minkin

SUBJECT: minkin
CR

Re Laundry marks

On 4/25/68 Dennis Barco, Vice President, Towne's Laundry, 3608 N. 34th Street Tampa advised that Towne's uses two Thermo-Seal machines, serial # 34193 and # 34293, however, both machines are 6 character machines.

A sample was made of the mark made by the above machines and it does not compare to the questioned mark found in Atlanta. This sample has been placed in the 1A.

Barco advised that to his knowledge, no changes, such as size of letters or numbers or position of some have been made to the above machines. These machines were purchased approx. 1 year ago.

(1)
DRO

filed

157-3231-278A

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5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-3231)

DATE: 4/26/68

FROM : SA DONALD E. RITCHEY

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

Re memo of SA LABADIE dated 4/23/68.

On 4/26/68 LEON CRAIG, Owner, Ideal Cleaners, Magnolia St., Cocoa, Fla. advised that Quality Cleaners, Cocoa, Fla. formerly owned by ARLEY SPELL, had been out of business for the past 2 years. He said he did not know the present whereabouts of SPELL. He said that to the best of his knowledge SPELL sold his laundry equipment to Crest 60 Minute Cleaners, Cocoa.

On 4/26/68 a telephone contact with Crest 60 Minute Cleaners determined, that Cleaning establishment does not use a Thermo-Seal Marking machine.

DER/der

157-3231-278C

free w/

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC TAMPA 157-3231

DATE: 4/26/68

FROM : SA ERNEST J. KIRSTEIN, JR.

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

Re memo SA LABADIE 4/23/67.

The following contacts were made re this matter:

On 4/25/67 Mr R.H. Mc INTYRE, Gen Mgr. Prathers Laundry and Dry Cleaners, 1828 Evans Street advised that his Company operates the Sunshine Cleaners also. He advised that his company has never used a dash in any of their codes and therefore he feels certain the laundry marking 20 R - 3 was not made by Prathers or Sunshine.

On 4/25 and 4/26/68 Mr EARL HOLBROOK, Manager, Wiltshire Cleaners 2017 Monroe St. advised that his Company could have made the markings 20 R - 3 but as they are on a sheet and pillowcase he highly doubts it as his company stopped marking flatwear such as the above ~~on~~ in approximately 1965 or at the latest 1966.

EJK

(2)



5010-108

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

157-3231-2783

free w/

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Insert

157-3231

Re: memo of SA S. J. Labadie dated 4/23/68 (Serial 278)

The following investigation was conducted by SA PHILIP D. SMITH on 4/26/68 at Orlando, Fla:

Charles TURNER, Laundry Superintendent, Orlando Cleaners and Laundry, 49 W. Concord St., Orlando, Florida was interviewed regarding the laundry marks attached by his company using a Thermoseal Marking Machine. MR. Turner advised the mark "20R-3" could not have been made by his company since their code is as follows:

19AB6, The code always contains a number, two letters and a number.

The operators of the Thermoseal machine were contacted and they advised they always used the code as explained by by Mr. Turner and "20R-3" was unknown to them.

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ROBERT GEISLER, Executive Laundry, 1725 So. Orange Ave., Orlando advised the code "20R-3" is not used by his laundry. Their code consists of a number

from 1-99, a letter, M for medium, X for none, to denote amount of starch and a number to show bundle number. an example follows:

15 M 4

The operators of the Thermo-Seal machines at Executive Laundry advised "20 R-3" was unknown to them.

Both laundries utilized yellow tapes as well as 10 other colors in marking their clothing.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

DATE: 4/23/68

FROM : SA STEPHEN J. LABADIE

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
(OO:ME)

ReMEairtel to all continental offices, 4/19/68.

For the assistance of agents of the resident agencies who cover leads in this matter, there is attached hereto a Xerox copy of reairtel.

As requested in reairtel, a review of the file was made on 4/23/68 and it is suggested the following RAs - Cocoa, Ft. Myers, Orlando, Sarasota, St. Petersburg contact the laundries operating Thermo-Seal marking machines in an effort to locate laundry using code "20R-3".

Attached hereto is a list as shown from the file of Thermo-Seal marking machine users in the various RAs.

Two laundries have to be contacted in headquarters:

Oak Park & Towne Laundry

6 - Tampa
1 - COCOA RA
1 - FT. MYERS RA
1 - ORLANDO RA
1 - SARASOTA RA
1 - ST. PETERSBURG RA
SJL:cj
(6)

157-3231-278 F

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

Cocoa R / A

Serial 108 - Albany Airtel to Director 8/10/68
lists Thermo-Seal Marking Machine
to Quality Cleaners, Cocoa, Florida

Cocoa contact and report concerning Quality Cleaners

Serial 79: Memo SA A. Lewis Barnett, 4/10/68

1. Earl Holbrook, Manager, Wiltshire Cleaners
2017 Monroe, Ft. Myers.

Using Thermo-Seal

2. R. H. McIntyre, Genl Manager, Prathers, Inc.
1828 Evans, Ft. Myers

Uses Thermo-Seal

3. Robert Croll, Sunshine Cleaners, 2234 Cleveland Ave.
Ft. Myers - Uses Thermo-Seal

Ft Myers R/A

Serial 159 (Quert - Orlando R/4 - page 11

SA Philip D. Smith

Robert W. Seisler, Executive Laundry, 1725 South

Orange Ave. recontacted 4/12/68. They use thermo-

Seal marking Mach.

Serial 117 - page 2 (Philip Smith)

(1) Mr. Charles Garner, Laundry Supt., Orlando Cleaners &

Laundry, 49 W. Conard St, Ork.

uses thermo-seal marking machine.

(Bob Ball)

Serial 116 - (1) Earl B. Rector, owner, Imperial Laundry, 901 W.

Fairbanks Ave., Winter Park

Does use tags made by Thermo-Seal

(2) Mrs. Dennis Ours, Manager, Winter Park Laundry,

161 W. Fairbanks Ave., Winter Park

uses thermo

Orlando K/A

serial 83

SA Robert C. Smith at Sarasota

1. Dan Williamson, Manager, Bay View Cleaners &
Laundry, Inc., 1523 Main St., Sarasota
Has three thermo-seal

2. Paul Hudgens, Manager, Fly White & Heritage
Laundry, 700 S. Osprey, Sarasota -
Has two thermo-seal

3. BRADENTON, FLA.

Team Schlesley, Bradenton Laundry,
2715 9th St., W.
Have thermo-seal

4. R. J. Rutledge, Juch's Dry Cleaning,
2001, 9th St., W Bradenton, Fla.

Sarasota R/A

Serial 95 = memo SA Keller 4/11/68

Richard Barston who serviced thermo seal marking machines
in Southeast U.S. advised there was
Tropical Cleaners at Sarasota

serial 80 - memo Hugh W. Smith 4/10/68 St. Pete men

1. Soft Water Laundry, Inc., 701 2nd Ave. S., St. Pete
Chuck Hager, mgr. - Use Thermo Seal

2. Chautaugus Laundry & Dry Cleaners
563 10th St., S., St. Pete.
Use Thermo-Seal

Serial 130:

St. Petersburg SA Brumble memo

Mr. S. A. Gill, Vogue Cleaners + Launderers of St. Pete., Inc.,
1644 Street Smith,

uses Thermo Seal Machine - green & pink orange tags

St. Petersburg R/A

Tampa Handwritten

Serial 95 : memo SA Keller 4/11/68

Richard Bristow of Teptile Marking Machine Co.,
Gainesville who services Southeastern States advised:
Thermo-Seal Marking Machine in Tampa

1. Oak Park Laundry
2. Towne Laundry

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

FROM : SA ROBERT C. BALL

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
(OO: ME)

DATE: 5/1/68

Re memo of SA STEPHEN J. LABADIE dated 4/23/68, serial 278.

The following investigation was conducted by SA ROBERT C. BALL at Winter Park, Fla.

On 4/25/68, EARL B. RECTOR, owner, Imperial Laundry 901 W. Fairbanks Ave., advised the code numbers "20R-3" are of no significance to him in connection with the operation of his laundry.

Mrs. DENNIS OURS, manager, Winter Park Laundry, 161 W. Fairbanks Ave., advised the laundry mark numbers "20R-3" are of significance to her and are utilized by her in connection with the operation of that laundry.

She advised the "20" signifies the lot number, the letter "R" signifies the week and the number "3" signifies the bundle number.

Mrs. OURS made available three samples of the laundry mark "20R-3" on yellow marking tape of the Textile Marking Machine Co., Syracuse, N.Y.

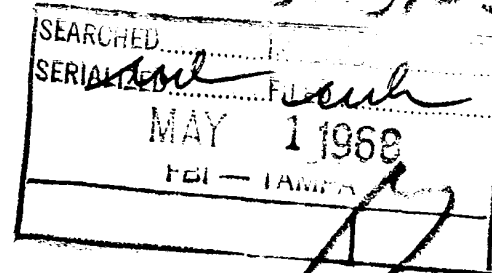
From her records, Mrs. OURS determined "20R-3" was utilized in connection with a customer by the name of K. B. KING, 247 Virginia Dr., Winter Park, Fla., in the connection with the laundering of 12 sheets during the week of 1/7/68.

Mrs. OURS and EVELYN CALDWELL, clerk at the above laundry, were shown the Identification Order for JAMES EARL RAY,

2 - Tampa
RCB:nh
(2)



5010-108



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

TP 157-3231

and both stated the photograph with the head of hair, that is, the full face view, resembles someone they might have seen in the store several months previous, however, they could not be positive of this. CALDWELL stated it was her recollection this individual who did resemble subject, was wearing a thin mustache.

On 4/25/68, an attempt was made to contact Mrs. KING at her residence, which was without success, however, later that evening, telephonic contact was established and arrangements were made to interview her personally on 4/26/68.

On 4/26/68, Mrs. KATHERINE B. KING, 247 Virginia Drive, Winter Park, Fla., advised that she is not missing any sheets and upon being shown the Identification Order for JAMES EARL RAY, stated that she positively did not recognize the photographs of individual appearing on this IO, as anyone known to her.

The exhibits obtained from Mrs. OURS were forwarded to the FBI Laboratory by airtel on 4/26/68.

DECODED COPY

1 ASAC LAB
2 #300
3 #5M.

☒ Radio☐ Teletype

URGENT APRIL 22, 1968

TO ALL FIELD DIVISIONS

FROM DIRECTOR

MURKIN

REMYAIRTEL TO ALL OFFICES APRIL 19 LAST FURNISHING BACKGROUND DATA
CONCERNING JAMES EARY RAY.

SUBJECT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED POSSIBLE SUSPECT IN ANY UNSOLVED
BANK ROBBERIES, BURGLARIES OR ARMED ROBBERIES (POSSIBLE ITSP
VIOLATIONS) CONCERNING AFTER APRIL 23, 1968. RAY SHOULD ALSO BE
CONSIDERED SUSPECT IN ANY FUTURE SUCH VIOLATIONS AND BUREAU
ADVISED TELEPHONICALLY OF ANY TENTATIVE IDENTIFICATION.

ANY PERTINENT LEADS DEVELOPED DURING REVIEW OF PAST VIOLATIONS
SHOULD BE EXPEDITIOUSLY RUN OUT AND BUREAU ADVISED.

SUBJECT'S HANDWRITING AND HANDPRINTING NOT IDENTIFIED IN
BANK ROBBERY NOTE FILE AND HIS FINGERPRINTS ARE BEING SEARCHED
AGAINST LATENTS SUBMITTED IN UNSOLVED BANK ROBBERY AND BURGLARY
VIOLATIONS

SUBJECT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

RECEIVED 2:34 PM/23RD

DECODED RJR

157-3231-279

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4/23/68

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

DATE: 4/18/68

FROM : SA DAVID A. BRUMBLE

SUBJECT: MURKIN

At 2:10 PM, 4/18/68, SA DAVID A. BRUMBLE received an anonymous telephone call. Caller deposited 45¢ in pay phone and sounded to be a medium-age white female. She refused to give her name, stating only she should be referred to as #23 and that if she ever called the office again, she would identify herself only as #23. She wanted the FBI to know that an individual appearing identical to ERIC STARVO GALT's photographs appearing in the newspapers had been in and out of the Chasco Inn, New Port Richey, Fla., in the past couple of days. When asked for location of the Chasco Inn, she hung up the phone and the connection was broken before the operator came back on.

*Stripped
1722/69
one*

*3:31 PM 4/18/68
given to Dickson
4 moved way
B
New Port Richey
2200
active
Dated*

157-3231 - 280

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Dickson

DAB:cj
(2)



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

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SHAW-WALKER 18-44251

See also Nos.