



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Tampa, Florida
June 11, 1968

PERNELL EZZELL

On June 6, 1968, Mr. FRANK WETZEL, Manager, Perdue Radio, Television and Appliances, Incorporated, 2425 Colonial Drive, Orlando, Florida, furnished the following information:

PERNELL EZZELL is a former employee who has been missing about three weeks on this last occasion. He has previously left his job on past occasions and has been taken back. He called WETZEL on the morning of June 6, 1968 from 4:15 a.m. to 5:15 a.m. saying he was in Denver, Colorado. Mr. WETZEL said EZZELL seemed as though he were nervous, crazy or drunk.

EZZELL alleged to WETZEL that he had a great amount of money. He said he had a pile of \$20.00 bills which he had obtained as a result of his part in the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING and the shooting of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY. EZZELL remarked that he had proof he was in Orlando, Florida when KING was shot and he was in Las Vegas when KENNEDY was shot if he were to need it. He alleged he was on the payroll of "CIA" and "OSI". He remarked that he had a "38", a "357", a "30-30" and a "306" type of guns in the trunk of his car. He said he was using a U-Drive-It car in Las Vegas the previous day with the "357" gun on the seat when he was stopped by a deputy. He said the deputy released him when he produced his Associated Detective Agency card and his gun permit which he read the number from as being #92B.

11 - Bureau	1 - Las Vegas	1 - 111th MI, Orlando
1 - Birmingham	1 - Memphis	1 - NISO, Charleston
1 - Denver	3 - Tampa	1 - OSI, Robins AFB, Ga.
1 - Los Angeles	(2 - 62-NEW) (1 - 157-3231) (MURKIN)	
1 - SS, Jacksonville	GWT:sas	
	(23)	

105-3231-502

PERNELL EZZELL

Mr. WETZEL said that EZZELL did not threaten any one during his call or indicate that he intended to do any harm to anyone else.

WETZEL said that EZZELL indicated that he was his only friend in Orlando, Florida and he just wanted to talk to him to find out if he could come back to Orlando.

On June 6, 1968, Mrs. FAY EZZELL, 636 22nd Street, Orlando, Florida furnished the following information.

She advised that she married PERNELL EZZELL on February 25, 1967, this being her third marriage. She said they have one infant by this marriage and she has children by previous marriages. She said that EZZELL has caused her extreme anxiety and debt during their short period of marriage. She said he has deserted her at least three times and he was last seen by her over three weeks ago. She said that he had been treated for extreme alcoholism during their short marriage on at least two occasions by Doctor HERBERT COLLINS in Orlando, Florida and she had taken him to the Florida Sanitarium Hospital, Orlando, Florida for the same type treatment. She advised that he has been also treated at the Cherry Hospital for extreme alcoholism but she could not recall the name of the town in which the hospital is located. She said that she hoped that her husband does not return.

PERNELL EZZELL

Mrs. EZZELL said that PERNELL had called her on June 6, 1968 about 2:00 a.m. and the call lasted until about 3:00 or possibly a little later. She said he stated he was in Denver, Colorado. She said that on one occasion the call was interrupted by an operator who requested that he make a new call for credit charges which he did but the operator did not specifically identify herself as being in Denver, Colorado. Mrs. EZZELL said that PERNELL had called her on the morning of June 5, 1968 during the early hours saying that he was in Las Vegas, Nevada but she had no way of knowing his actual whereabouts at that time. She said that on both occasions he did not divulge his address or location. She said that in April, 1968, he was drinking heavily and she refused to allow him to come to the house with her children. She said he went to several motels around the Orlando, Florida area and ran up very large bills on credit cards which caused her financial difficulties. She said that on this occasions his drinking was only terminated when she took him to Dr. COLLINS for treatment of extreme alcoholism. She said that the doctor gave him tranquilizers to bring his shaking under control. She said he is a hopeless alcoholic and that when he is drinking he becomes affected mentally. Mrs. EZZELL advised that in the past PERNELL EZZELL when drinking had delusions of grandeur. She said that he would refer to big news stories in the newspapers and try to cause her to believe that he was in some way connected with military service intelligence and he would have to check on these news worthy events.

PERNELL EZZELL

She said that on several occasions when he was drinking and he had disappeared he would finally call her telling her that he had a large sum of money and that he would buy her all sorts of new presents. She said that on these occasions she found him penniless and drunk in North Florida.

Mrs. EZZELL said that when PERNELL called her on the past two mornings he had not made any allegations involving himself in any assassination plots on Dr. KING or Senator KENNEDY. She said he had not threatened anyone on these occasions except her when she told him she was seeking employment. He said that if she obtained a job he would come by and pick up the baby.

Mrs. EZZELL said that PERNELL did have some sort of a gun which he kept in his car because she would not allow him to bring it into the house. She said he had a permit to carry this gun because he worked as a guard during the night time at Associated Detective Agency, Orlando, Florida. She said he worked in the day time as a television technician for the Perdue Radio, Television and Appliances, Incorporated.

Mrs. EZZELL said that she has been receiving numerous bills from oil companies and American Express credit card which she did not open but forwarded to his mother in North Carolina because she could not pay them. She advised that she feels that her financial situation is so destitute that she will lose her home and furniture because of previous bills made by EZZELL.

PERNELL EZZELL

On June 6, 1968, Dr. HERBERT COLLINS, 3558 South Orange Avenue, Orlando, Florida, advised that he treated PERNELL EZZELL for about the past couple of years due to extreme alcoholism the last period of treatment being in April, 1968. He said this man is unstable but he did not further describe him.

On June 6, 1968, the files of the Orlando, Florida Police Department furnished by MARIAN HARRISON revealed PERNELL EZZELL was arrested on June 2, 1961 being charged as a public drunk; on November 19, 1961 being charged with driving while intoxicated; and he was picked up on suspicion of auto theft March 9, 1962 at which time he was turned over to the Orange County Sheriff's Office. No photograph or fingerprint records for EZZELL were available.

On June 6, 1968, BERNICE FOGARTY, Orange County Sheriff's Office, Orlando, Florida, Identification Division and Deputy PHILIP MURPHY, Plain Clothes Division, both advised that they could locate no information pertaining to EZZELL in their files.

The following physical description was obtained from Mr. WETZEL and Mrs. EZZELL:

Name:	PERNELL EZZELL
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Date of Birth:	
Place of Birth:	Fayetteville, North Carolina

PERNELL EZZELL

Height:	5'10"
Weight:	185
Hair:	Sandy and wavy
Eyes:	Blue
Marital Status:	Married
Wife:	FAY EZZELL 636 22nd Street Orlando, Florida
Children:	1 infant child from that marriage
Relatives:	
Mother:	ACRIE EZZELL Route 4 Box 236 Clinton, N. C.
Brother:	THOMAS OZELL EZZELL Age 33 Fayetteville, N.C.

It is noted that on July 5, 1967, Officer JAMES WATFORD, Kissimmee, Florida, Police Department, advised the Tampa Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) that PERNELL EZZELL had made statements to EZZELL's wife that he was an agent of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and in this capacity had to make secret trips, leaving his wife alone for periods of time. WATFORD indicated he knew of no one else who had been told by EZZELL that he was a CIA agent, and that there was no evidence EZZELL had obtained anything of value from anyone other than his wife.

On August 4, 1967, a representative of the CIA, Washington, D. C., advised that a check of CIA personnel files failed to disclose any individual named PERNELL EZZELL as being employed by that agency.

On August 28, 1967, Assistant United States Attorney KENDELL WHERRY, Middle District of Florida, was informed of above facts by a Special Agent of the FBI. Mr. WHERRY stated that the facts were insufficient to constitute a violation of the Impersonation Statute, and that he would therefore decline prosecution of EZZELL.

PERNELL EZZELL

EZZELL SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS
IN VIEW OF HIS REPORTED POSSESSION OF A FIREARM, AND SINCE
HE HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS AN ALCOHOLIC WHO BECOMES UNSTABLE
WHEN INTOXICATED.

This document contains neither recommendations
nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI
and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not
to be distributed outside your agency.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ray Bought Plane Ticket April 16

(U) New York Times News Service

NEW YORK — On April 16, twelve days after the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis, Tenn., a neatly dressed man in dark clothing appeared at the branch office of the Kennedy Travel Bureau Ltd., in Toronto, Canada.

In an accent that did not at the time sound particularly American, he ordered from the office manager, Miss Lilian Spencer, a 21-day round trip excursion ticket to London on a British Overseas Airways Corporation jetliner.

Although no one knew it at the time, officials of the FBI and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police now say that appearance in Toronto marked the beginning of James Earl Ray's flight overseas following Dr. King's death. The flight ended yesterday with Ray's capture in London.

"Nothing seemed out of place then," said Miss Spencer yesterday of the April 16 meeting. "I asked him, as I always ask, if he had a Canadian passport. He said no, so I said we'd get it for him."

He told her, she recalled, that his name was Ramon George Sneyd, that he had been born in Toronto, had moved away and was back for three weeks and living at 962 Dundas Street — in a rooming house, she supposed.

Miss Spencer said the man told her that he did not have a birth certificate, and that, as a recent returnee, he could not find a guarantor who would vouch for having known him two years.

As is routine in such cases, she said, a notary public witnessed the man's statement that he was Sneyd. The notary

was Henry Moos, president of the 42-year-old travel agency.

The man appeared May 2, four days before his departure date for London. He paid Miss Spencer \$345 in cash for the ticket, picked up his passport and left.

Ramon George Sneyd is a Toronto police constable. Why the arrested man chose to adopt the policeman's identity is something the Canadian authorities were unable or unwilling to explain yesterday.

Spokesmen for the external affairs ministry said the Royal Canadian Mounted Police had interviewed Sneyd, the policeman, and were satisfied he was innocent of any connection with Ray.

A ministry official reported the discovery in Ray's possession a copy of Sneyd's birth certificate. The official said that Ray had convinced the municipal records office in Toronto that he was Sneyd and needed a copy of the certificate.

The Canadian government now says Ray appeared in Lisbon May 16. He said he had lost his passport and was issued another, also in the name of Sneyd.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 4-A
TAMPA TRIBUNE
TAMPA, FLORIDA

Date: 6/9/68
Edition: LOCAL
Author:
Editor: JAMES A. GLENDINEN
Title:

Character:
or
Classification: 157-3231
Submitting Office: TAMPA
☐ Being Investigated

157-3231-504

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUN 10 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

Also still under seal is a CIA memorandum from Helms to the Commission which carries the following notation: "Discussions between Soviet Premier Khrushchev and Drew Pearson re Lee Harvey Oswald." Neither Helms nor Pearson ever commented publicly on this memorandum or its content.

THE FBI REPORTS — Still unpublished among the many FBI reports in the Archives is the agency's interview with Yuri Nosenko, a high-ranking member of the KGB, the Soviet Secret police, who defected to the U.S. 10 weeks after the assassination of President Kennedy.

The 36-year-old defector had been questioned at length about the KGB's handling of Oswald during the time the ex-marine lived in Russia.

Before his defection to the West, Nosenko worked in a sector of the KGB which handled U.S. defectors, including Oswald's case.

ANOTHER OF THE FBI investigative reports still sealed in the Archives, is titled:

"The investigation concerning telephone numbers found on the 47th page of Oswald's address book."

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
MEMORANDUM

TO: *J* ALL AGENTS
FROM: *J* SAC SANTOIANA

June 10, 1968

RE: JAMES EARL RAY, aka - FUGITIVE
WF 442A, IO 4182 - TENFUG
CR, UFAP-MURDER (157-3231)

Subject located and apprehended in London, England, 6/8/68. Discontinue any leads looking toward his location. All agents return all serials charged out to them. ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

RE: EXTORTIONATE CREDIT TRANSACTIONS (179-00)

For your information, Public Law 90-321, the "Truth in Lending Bill," became law on 5/29/68, effective immediately. It is new Chapter 42, Title 18, U.S. Code, captioned as above.

The act prohibits "extortionate extension of credit," which is any loan involving use, or threat of use, of violence or other criminal means to harm the person, property or reputation of anyone, including members of the borrower's family.

The offense may be proved by direct evidence of violence or other criminal means used in making, collecting, or financing the loan. Proof of interstate or foreign travel, or use of interstate or foreign commerce facilities, is unnecessary. Congress found that purely intrastate extortionate credit transactions directly affect interstate and foreign commerce.

If direct evidence is unavailable, extortion is presumed on proof of the following: (1) the loan exceeded \$100; (2) the interest rate exceeded 45 per cent per annum; (3) the loan violates state law in that lender is unable to obtain complete collection judgment against borrower; and (4) lender has reputation for extortion in community of which borrower is member.

The act is a new weapon against organized crime. It can be used against both the loan shark and anyone who provides him funds necessary to finance his operations. Financing the loan shark is a violation.

JFS:KH
OFFICE MEMORANDUM No. 68-97

1 - each Agent	1 - 31-00
1 - 157-3231	1 - 66-44
1 - 179-00	1 - 66-171
1 - 66-43	1 - 66-322
1 - 91-1671	1 - 66-3

157-3231-505

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FBI - TAMPA	

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Major FBI Effort Regained Trail Of Ray-Sneyd Abroad

Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation went through one very tense period and spent more than \$5 million during their brilliantly conducted two-continent man hunt for James Earl Ray, the accused killer of Dr. Martin Luther King.

After successfully tracking and locating Ray in London early in May, the G-men temporarily lost his trail when he slipped through their surveillance network and flew to Portugal.

While Ray's disappearance almost caused a near panic among top Justice Department officials here, cooler-headed FBI agents directing the search kept the search from collapsing by immediately setting up a new dragnet.

WITH ONLY THE lead that Ray, alias Raymon George Sneyd, had apparently fled to Europe, the FBI agents reasoned that because of his temperament and the foreign language barrier he would soon return to an English-speaking country.

Special watches for Ray were then carefully organized at all ports of entry in Great Britain, Canada, and the U.S., on the belief that the suspect would try to return to one of those nations.

Before any heads within the agency could roll, the swift chain of events that followed proved the effectiveness of the FBI strategy.

Eleven days after his second disappearance, Ray, alias Sneyd, flew back to London from Lisbon. With the help of British authorities, the FBI again picked up his trail.

RAY WAS THEN kept under close surveillance until he suddenly prepared again to depart Great Britain for Europe — this time for Brussels. He was arrested at London Airport before he could board his plane.

Despite Ray's capture, the FBI investigation of King's assassination is far from being closed.

One agent involved in the inquiry says privately that "the arrest of Ray is only the beginning of this inquiry." He points out that "Ray is the key to determining the others involved in the assassination plot."

FOR INSTANCE, FBI and Canadian authorities are still investigating how Ray was able to exploit legal loopholes like a pro in obtaining his Canadian passport.

Several dozen agents are probing Ray's alleged contacts with U.S.-based American South African Council which he wrote on Dec. 30, 1967, to ask about emigrating to Rhodesia. Also, being carefully checked is Ray's contact with a person whom the FBI photographed with King at a major U.S. airport.

One of the ironies of the successful FBI investigation is that just two months before the King assassination, the Bureau was obliged to cut in half the number of agents in Europe, including those in London as a result of President Johnson's order slashing overseas personnel of all government security and intelligence agencies.

WHEN RAY'S TRAIL led to London, however, many of these agents were sent back overseas

with instructions to forget about the economy move until the suspected assassin was picked up.

In their intensive search for King's killer, the FBI spent more than \$5 million in the first nine weeks of its investigation. At times, upward to 3,000 agents were assigned to the case.

Half that number of agents are still involved in the continuing investigation.

★ ★ ★
LIFTING THE LID — One of the most important decisions that President Johnson will make before leaving office next January concerns possible publication of sealed documents from the Warren Commission

inquiry of the assassination of President Kennedy.

At least 20 per cent of the commission's files remain locked in the National Archives, where the full record of the Kennedy assassination probe is filed.

A list of more than 250 of the sealed documents was prepared recently by attorneys of the Justice Department for further reexamination to determine if their publication should be recommended to the President.

MOST INTRIGUING are reports of the Central Intelligence Agency dealing with the private reaction of high Cuban officials to the assassination.

Another deals with a top secret CIA memorandum from Richard Helms (now CIA director) to J. Lee Rankin, chief counsel of the Warren Commission. It is listed under the heading: "Report of conversations between Cuban President and Cuban Ambassador."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 6
ARASOTA HERALD TRIBUNE
ARASOTA, FLORIDA

Date: 6/21/68
Edition: LOCAL
Author:
Editor: DAVID BREED
Title: LINDSAY, JR.

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: TAMPA
☐ Being Investigated

157-3231

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUN 24 1968	
FBI — TAMPA	

157-3231-506

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

DATE: 6/25/68

FROM : SA STEPHEN J. LABADIE

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
(OO:ME)

Set forth hereinafter are the identities of CIs, PCIs, etc. contacted negatively in this matter, it being noted they were furnished SA LABADIE by routing slip from said agents:

<u>IDENTITY</u>	<u>AGENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>
TP 177-C	SA ROBERT C. BALL	4/26/68
TP 366-C	SA ROBERT C. SMITH	5/14, 27/68
PCI JESSE MOORE	SA ROBERT C. BALL	5/28/68
TP 255-C	SA ROBERT KNIGHT	4/22/68
PCI LAY N. MASTRY	SA DAVID A. BRUMBLE	4/29/68
PCI JAMES YOUNGER	" "	4/19, 29/68
TP 272-C	SA FRANK B. SPENCER	4/26/68
TP 336-C	" "	"
PCI ROBERT BRYAN	" "	"
PCI DONALD WHITE	" "	"
TP 317-C	SA PATRICK LAFFEY	4/23/68
TP 402-C	" "	4/26/68
TP 349-C-TE	" "	5/13/68
PCI LONNIE WALLACE	" "	4/26/68
TP 328-C	" "	3/14/68
PCI RONALD PERRONE	SA ROBERT KNIGHT	4/19/68
TP 9-C	SA WILLIS R. SMITH	5/2/68
TP 319-C	" "	5/7/68
PCI J. B. SUTTON	" "	5/2/68
TP 186-C	SA THOMAS J. WILKES	4/25/68
TP 314-C	" "	"
TP 396-C	" "	"
TP 269-C	SA ONNIE K. WALKER	5/8/68
TP 281-C	" "	5/5/68
PCI LOUIS SHAMV	" "	5/8/68

SJL:cj
(1)



5010-108

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 25 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

157-3231-507

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

TP 157-3231

<u>IDENTITY</u>	<u>AGENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>
PCI VIRGINIA VANDE BERG	ROBERT C. BALL	5/24/68
PCI LUCY MERRITT BARRON	SA DAVID A. BRUMBLE	5/28/68
PCI SAM MACKTA	" "	5/28/68
PCI LAYBB. MASTRY	" "	5/28/68

7/1/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231) (HUC)
MURKIN - COST DATA

Re TP airtel, 6/4/68.

The TP Office cost figures for the month of June, 1968, estimated as follows:

1. Number of Man Hours

A. Special Agents

Regular hours - 50 hours 4

Overtime hours - 0 0

Total Man Hours - 50 hours 4

B. Clerical Employees

Regular Hours - 8 hours 15"

Overtime hours - 0 0

Total Clerical Hours - 8 hours 15"

Overall total - 58 hours 4 15"

2. Total Estimated Mileage

A. Bureau cars - 100 miles 30

B. Personal cars - 0 0

3. Any Unusual or Out of Ordinary Costs - 0 0

2 - Memphis
1 - Tampa SJL:jt (3)

je

157-3231-508

TP 157-3231

4. Peak Number of SA's Working on Case
During June - 6

UAC By Memphis, Tampa will not submit any further
cost data and this matter is RUC.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

FROM : SPC AL L. SMITH

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 7/1/68

At 11:50 PM today an individual identifying himself as W. A. MC CORD, 217 Apollo Dr., Apopka, Fla., telephonically contacted this office and advised as follows:

The murder of Rev. M. L. King was a conspiracy of which he was a party to. Advised that there were nine other member, involved other than himself. Named James Hoffa, ~~and~~ Senator Percy of Illinois, and other members he did divulge names but are all co-conspirators. Stated that he is a Marxist-Communist and is opposed to the administration and its policies, opposed to war, and in general opposed to the way the country is now being run.

Complainant advised that he is owner-operator of the Apopka FLEA Market and Produce Co., Hwy 436 one-tenth mile east of U.S. Hwy. 441 in Apopka.

Called was placed from a public telephone in an unidentified bar in Apopka and in response to the inquiry if he had been partaking of intoxicants, complainant replied negatively. Advised that he was fully sober and aware of all statements being made.

Writer advised that this matter would be taken into considerations and would request that he be contacted in order that he may fully express his knowledge of the Alleged conspiracy.

Tampa indices negative ~~re~~ 7/1/68 re W. A. MC CORD.

als

#4
Have been
interviewed
7



5010-108

157-3231-509

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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JUL 1 - 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-3231)

DATE: 7-12-68

FROM : SA THOMAS C. ALLEN

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re: WILLIAM H. McCORD
217 Apollo Dr.,
Apopka, Fla.

Re Memo of SPC AL L. SMITH, 7-1-68, in MURKIN file.

On 7-2-68, SA's TINDLE and ALLEN first tried to contact McCORD (who is in the Orlando "Nut Box") at the Flea Market on hwy 436 near Apopka. McCORD had, according to his son, WILLIAM H. McCORD, Jr., age 18, just left for home. The son said that McCORD was drinking the night before; that when he drinks "he is another person" and that he and the father are not on the best of terms when the father does drink.

WILLIAM H. McCORD, 217 Apollo Drive, Apopka, was located at his home. He was asleep with a bottle of beer nearby on the table when agents arrived. He refused to allow agents to enter his home and, as a consequence, the conversation with him was from the front door. He denied phoning the FBI at Tampa the night of 7-1-68, claiming he was home all that night. He said he did not wish to talk to the FBI.

1963 Ford, 1968-69 Florida license 7W 39013, was parked in the carport at the above residence.

The Tampa indices should show the nature of information rec'd from this man in the past and what we can expect in the future.

(1)
TCA:

157-3231-510

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 13 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

F B I

Date: 7/16/68

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

TO: ALL SACs

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel to Memphis, 7/9/68.

The Bureau has requested that all divisions continue to submit monthly cost data until further notice.

In view of the above, all divisions are requested to comply with the Bureau's instructions, including offices who have negative cost data to report.

2 - ALL OFFICES

2 - Memphis

RFB:jap

(4)

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

157-3281-511

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUL 1 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Kobadine 58

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Patriot To Defend James Earl Ray

Perhaps the most interesting case of the century will soon be capturing the headlines of every daily newspaper in America. The federal government is bringing James Earl Ray back to this nation to stand trial for the alleged execution of a very dangerous Communist agent who called himself Martin Luther King.

There are many discrepancies in this case. We will not attempt to defend Ray's past when he got into a lot of trouble as a young man. The family he came from was a victim of extreme poverty and he should be granted the same forgiveness and leniency liberal social workers now demand for young negroes who get into trouble. But we will not deal here with the past.

THE PERFECT PATSEY

During the past year of Mr. Ray's freedom, there is no knowledge that he was anything but a model citizen. He is not charged with any robberies or other mis-conduct, outside the King incident. The FBI charges that Ray was open in his views against race-mixing and that he had worked in the Wallace For President movement. He now has asked one of the South's outstanding right-wing lawyers to defend him.

Being a fugitive on the Missouri charges and a known White Supremist, Ray was the logical 'fall guy' or 'patsey'. Being a fugitive, he could not publically reply to charges that he was Gault. Some of the glaring discrepancies in the FBI's case against Ray are:

1) Witnesses who helped in the creation of the composite drawing of Ernest S. Gault, say present pictures of Ray, are not those of Gault. These include Gault's landlord in Birmingham, landlady in Memphis, and a taxi



ARTHUR HANES

cab-driver in Atlanta. All agreed upon the artist's conception of what Gault looked like, but said, that was not Ray. Another hole in the government's case is the fact that finger prints of Ray given to Atlanta police were not those of the man called Gault.

These are but just a few initial holes in the FBI's case against Ray. We have yet to hear from Ray himself. Judgment should never be passed until both sides of the story are heard, contrary to the anti-Ray, hate filled daily press, an American is still "PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY".

Therefore, since we uphold American tradition, we presume James Earl Ray to be INNOCENT.

RAY'S LAWYER

A NOTED PATRIOT

More proof that James Earl Ray has to be a right-wing con-

servative is the fact that he requested the legal services of Attorney Arthur J. Hanes of Birmingham, Ala. Attorney Art Hanes is a former mayor of Birmingham and an outstanding, and well known speaker at patriotic White Christian rallies sponsored by many groups.

Mr. Hanes has also defended a number of Klansmen, including those charged with shooting Mrs. Viola Liuzzo. (A Martin Luther King aid who slept with Black Bucks.) The Klansmen were freed of the murder charges but convicted on the usual FBI frame up charge of "conspiring to violate someone's civil rights.")

EX F.B.I. AGENT

Attorney Art Hanes is a former FBI agent. To his credit, he publicly disavows the FBI's campaign to frighten and harass active White patriots today. In fact, Art Hanes resigned from the FBI in protest against the left-wing political direction they were taking. On June 17, 1968 he explained why he quite the FBI some 13 years ago, "because I felt I couldn't express myself about the growing Communist influence in our country as an FBI agent."

Mr. Hanes' acceptance of this case guarantees James Earl Ray a fearless and dynamic defense. We hope and pray he is acquitted and wish Mr. Hanes the best of luck in this case.

It should be noted that former Mayor Arthur J. Hanes is highly respected in Alabama and often has been urged to run for state wide office where he would be an easy winner for almost any

page, name of
per, city and state.)

3
THUNDERBOLT
NTA, GEORGIA

JULY, 1968
LOCAL

E. R. FIELDS

Location: 157-3231

ing Office: TAMPA

ng Investigated

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUL 15 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

157-3231-512



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Tampa, Florida
July 19, 1968

PERNELL EZZELL

Reference is made to memorandum dated June 11, 1968, captioned as above.

On July 18, 1968, Mr. Emory Dowling, Sr., Owner, Perdue Radio, Television and Appliances, Incorporated, 2425 East Colonial Drive, Orlando, Florida, advised that the captioned individual had returned to Orlando, Florida. He had taken him back on his job as a technician.

On June 13, 1968, Mrs. Fay Ezzell, 636 22nd Street, Orlando, Florida, advised that her husband had returned to Orlando, Florida, and she had seen him at the Holiday Inn located on South Orange Blossom Trail, Orlando, Florida. She said he had a gun and he had frightened a bell boy with it when he came to the room with ice. Allegedly her husband was drinking.

Mrs. Fay Ezzell said that her husband had not mentioned being connected with any conspiracy or plot to shoot Dr. Martin Luther King and Senator Robert Kennedy, but she was fearful of him in his condition.

Mrs. Ezzell said she understood she would have to consult either the Orlando, Florida Police Department or the Orange County Sheriff's Office for any personal protection.

On June 13, 1968, Sergeant George Pegues, Orlando Police Department, Orlando, Florida, was advised of the above information furnished on that date by Mrs. Ezzell. It was also furnished to Deputy Sheriff Otis Mosley, Orange County Sheriff's Office, Orlando, Florida, on the same date who said he had Ezzell's presence verified at the motel but the management said they could not locate any bell boy who had encountered Ezzell with a gun. They did locate one who had served him ice but he denied Ezzell had confronted him with a gun.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

- 11 - Bureau (RM)
- 1 - Birmingham (RM)
- 1 - Denver (RM)
- 1 - Las Vegas (RM)
- 1 - Los Angeles (RM)
- 1 - Memphis (RM)

- 1 - Secret Service, Jacksonville (RM)
- 1 - OSI, Robins AFB (RM)
- 1 - MI, Orlando (RM)
- 1 - NISO, Charleston (RM)
- ② - Tampa (1-62-963) (EZZELL)
- ① - 157-3231 (MURKIN)
- GWT:kzh (22)

157-3231-513
SEARCHED _____
INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED sl
FILED sl

DIRECTOR, FBI

7/19/68

SAC, TAMPA (62-963)(C)

PERNELL EZZELL
INFORMATION CONCERNING

OO: TAMPA

Re Tampa airtel to Bureau dated 6/11/68.

Attached are 11 copies of an LHM dated and captioned as above. Information copies are furnished to recipient offices.

Investigation in the attached LHM was conducted by SA GORDON W. TINDLE.

Copies of the LHM have been disseminated locally to Secret Service, Jacksonville, Florida, OSI, Robins AFB, Georgia, MI, Orlando, Florida, and NISO, Charleston, South Carolina for completion of information to their files.

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. 11)(RM)
- 1 - Birmingham (Enc. 1)(INFO)(RM)
- 1 - Denver (Enc. 1)(INFO)(RM)
- 1 - Las Vegas (Enc. 1)(INFO)(RM)
- 1 - Los Angeles (Enc. 1)(INFO)(RM)
- 1 - Memphis (Enc. 1)(INFO)(RM)
- ③ - Tampa
 - (1 - 62-963)(EZZELL)
 - ① - 157-3231(MURKIN)
 - (1 - 80-139)

GWT:kzh
(11)

157-3231-514

SEARCHED	_____
INDEXED	_____
SERIALIZED	_____
FILED	_____

(170-345)

7-23-68

Allen

P

BRINSON HOWARD
PRI (GHETTO)

7-22-68

x Minority population at Orlando seems encouraged
 that JAMES EARL RAY has been apprehended and
returned to this country to stand trial. At one time there
was a feeling that this country was dragging its feet in the
matter of looking for the slayer of Martin Luther King.

(3)

1: 170-345A

1: 157-3231 (Markin)

TCA:

x

7G

RAC

157-3231-515

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 24 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

8/1/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS

FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

MURKIN - COST DATA

Re Memphis airtel to all SACs 7/16/68 and Tampa airtel to Memphis, 7/1/68.

The Tampa Office cost figures for the month of July 1968 are estimated as follows:

1. Number of Man Hours

A. Special Agents

Regular Hours - 4 hours

Overtime hours - 0

Total Man Hours - 4 hours

B. Clerical Employees

Regular Hours - 15 Minutes

Overtime hours - 0

Total Clerical Hours - 15 Minutes

Overall total - 4 hours 15 minutes

2. Total Estimated Mileage

A. Bureau cars - 30 miles

2 - Memphis

① - Tampa

JRH:ad

(3)

SEARCHED _____
INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED _____
FILED _____

157-3231-516

TP 157-3231

- B. Personal cars - 0
- 3. Any Unusual or Out of Ordinary Costs - 0
- 4. Peak Number of SAs working on Case during June - 2

August 7, 1968

Airtel

To: SAC, Tampa (62-963)
From: Director, FBI (62-587)

KERSALT
OO: LOS ANGELES

MURKIN
OO: MEMPHIS

Re Tampa airtel 6/11/68 and Tampa letter 7/19/68 with
letterhead memoranda attached thereto captioned Pernell Ezell.

In view of the allegations concerning Pernell Ezell,
he should be interviewed immediately in order to determine whether
he does, in fact, have any information pertinent to either of
captioned inquiries.

Furnish results of your interview to Los Angeles and
Memphis under appropriate caption on FD-302.

1 - Los Angeles
1 - Memphis

Rec'd 8/12/68
-P- airtel + LHM 8/12/68
dictaphone (X-8/14)
Leads LA + TP
GWS

Done *[Signature]*
Reopen +
Assign
OO: Me

157-3231-517

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 8 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

Tindle *[Signature]*

original in 62-963
and copy in 44-729

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

Date 8-2-68

Name and F.P.C.	FBI No.	A.O.	I.O.	W.F.	CC	Cancellation
George William Tyree, Jr. 20 L 1 U OIO 16 S 1 U OOO	4, 714, 268	3337	3780			Federal process dismissed. (8-2-68)
Don Ferris McCall, Jr. 21 M 1 U 15 L 3 Wr	327, 089 B	3338	4092			Located Northridge, Calif., 7-17-68. (8-2-68)
James Earl Ray 16 M 9 U OOO 12 M 4 W IOI	405, 942 G	3339	4182	442 442A		Extradited London, England to Memphis, Tenn., 7-19-68.
John Michael Walton 17 I 30 W OMI I 32 W IOI	356, 640 E	3340	4200			Located Lowndes Co., Alabama, 8-2-68. (8-2-68)
Robert Vance Walton 14 M 13 U OOM 12 Ref: 13 I 25 U OOO 26	361, 075 E	3341	4201			Located Lowndes Co., Alabama, 8-2-68. (8-2-68)
James Joseph Scully 2 M 21 W 19 Ref: 21 I 17 Ra 19	1, 170, 115	3342	4202			Located Arcadia, Calif., 7-23-68. (8-2-68)
Jimmie Johnson 20 L 1 Ut 6 Ref: U M 1 U T	11, 215 F	3343	4203			Located St. Louis, Missouri, 7-15-68. (8-2-68)

157-3231-518

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 2 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

13

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FIRST CLASS MAIL

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

(4-17-68)

Located at:	Building	Telephone
ALBANY, New York 12207	502 U. S. P. O. & Ct. House	518 465-7551
ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico 87101	4303 Federal Office Bldg.	505 CH 7-1555
ANCHORAGE, Alaska 99501	Room 204, Federal Building	272-6414
ATLANTA, Georgia 30303	275 Peachtree St., N.E.	404 JA 1-3900
BALTIMORE, Maryland 21202	408 U. S. Post Office Bldg.	301 LE 9-6700
BIRMINGHAM, Alabama 35203	Room 1400 - 2121 Bldg.	205 322-7711
BOSTON, Massachusetts 02203	John F. Kennedy Federal Office Building	617 RI 2-5533
BUFFALO, New York 14202	400 U. S. Court House Bldg.	716 856-7800
BUTTE, Montana 59701	400 Thornton Building	406 782-2304
CHARLOTTE, North Carolina 28202	1120 Jefferson Standard Life	704 333-4126
CHICAGO, Illinois 60604	Room 905, U. S. Court House & Federal Office Building	312 431-1333
CINCINNATI, Ohio 45202	415 U. S. Post Office & Court House Building	513 421-4310
CLEVELAND, Ohio 44199	3005 Federal Office Building	216 522-1400
COLUMBIA, South Carolina 29201	1529 Hampton Street	803 252-1911
DALLAS, Texas 75201	Room 200 - 1810 Commerce Street	214 RI 1-1851
DENVER, Colorado 80202	Room 18218, Federal Off. Bldg	303 222-5981
DETROIT, Michigan 48226	913 Federal Building & U. S. Court House	313 WO 5-2323
EL PASO, Texas 79901	202 U. S. Court House Bldg.	915 533-7451
HONOLULU, Hawaii 96813	206 Dillingham Building	59546
HOUSTON, Texas 77002	6015 Federal Building & U. S. Court House	713 CA 8-1414
INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana 46207	1221 North Pennsylvania St.	317 632-6415
JACKSON, Mississippi 39201	Room 800 - First Federal Savings Building	601 948-5000
JACKSONVILLE, Florida 32202	414 U. S. Court House & Post Office Building	904 355-1401
KANSAS CITY, Missouri 64106	707 U. S. Court House Building	816 BA 1-6100
KNOXVILLE, Tennessee 37902	617 Walnut Street, Southwest	615 524-2721
LAS VEGAS, Nevada 89101	Room 2-011 Federal Off. Bldg	702 385-1281
LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas 72201	215 U. S. Post Office Bldg.	501 FR 2-3157
LOS ANGELES, California 90017	1340 West 6th Street	213 483-3551
LOUISVILLE, Kentucky 40202	Room 701, Bank of Louisville	502 583-3941
MEMPHIS, Tennessee 38103	841 Federal Office Bldg.	901 525-7373
MIAMI, Florida 33137	3801 Biscayne Boulevard	305 379-2421
MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin 53202	735 U. S. Post Office, Customs & Court House Building	414 276-4684
MINNEAPOLIS, Minnesota 55401	392 Federal Building	612 FE 9-7861
MOBILE, Alabama 36602	520 Federal Building	205 438-3674
NEWARK, New Jersey 07101	U. S. Post Office & Court House Building	201 622-5613
NEW HAVEN, Connecticut 06510	510 The Trust Company Bldg.	203 787-1217
NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana 70113	701 Loyola Avenue	504 522-4671
NEW YORK, New York 10021	201 East 69th Street	212 LE 5-7700
NORFOLK, Virginia 23510	420 U. S. Post Office & Court House Building	703 625-1631
OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma 73118	5104 N. Francis Street	405 VI 2-7471
OMAHA, Nebraska 68102	1010 Federal Office Bldg.	402 348-1210
PHILADELPHIA, Pennsylvania 19107	500 Widener Building	215 LO 3-5300
PHOENIX, Arizona 85013	244 West Osborn Road	602 CR 9-5511
PITTSBURGH, Pennsylvania 15222	1300 Federal Office Bldg.	412 471-2000
PORTLAND, Oregon 97205	423 U. S. Court House Bldg.	503 224-4181
RICHMOND, Virginia 23220	200 West Grace Street	703 644-2631
SACRAMENTO, California 95814	2020 J Street	916 441-1275
ST. LOUIS, Missouri 63103	2704 Federal Building	314 CH 1-5357
SALT LAKE CITY, Utah 84111	3203 Federal Building	801 EL 5-7521
SAN ANTONIO, Texas 78206	433 Federal Building	512 CA 5-6741
SAN DIEGO, California 92103	3211 Fifth Avenue	714 297-3361
SAN FRANCISCO, California 94102	450 Golden Gate Avenue, Box 36015	415 552-2155
SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico 00917	Pan Am Building	
SAVANNAH, Georgia 31405	255 Ponce de Leon Avenue	765-6000
SEATTLE, Washington 98104	5401 Paulsen Street	912 354-9911
SPRINGFIELD, Illinois 62701	1015 Second Avenue	206 MA 2-0460
TAMPA, Florida 33602	421 South Sixth Street	217 522-9675
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535	Room 610, Federal Off. Bldg.	813 228-7661
	506 Old Post Office Building	202 393-7100



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Tampa, Florida
August 13, 1968

PERNELL EZZELL

Reference is made to prior communications in the captioned matter, the most recent one being dated June 19, 1968.

Mr. Emory A. Dowling, Jr., son of the owner of Perdue Radio, Television and Appliances, Inc., 2425 East Colonial Drive, Orlando, Florida, furnished the following information on August 12, 1968:

Pernell Ezzell recently had his Florida driver's license revoked because he had been involved in an accident some months ago in North Carolina. Ezzell had to terminate his employment with the company as a color TV technician because he was unable to drive a car and his services were not needed on a full time basis in the shop. Because he was unable to do his job in Florida, he went to California to seek employment. At that time, he was not drinking and he was perfectly normal. He had just returned from a trip to North Carolina, where he had gotten his 1965 Buick automobile back from an automobile repair garage.

On Saturday, August 10, 1968, Mr. Dowling had received a long distance telephone call from a manager of a motel in Long Beach, California. He could not recall the manager's name or the identity of the establishment which he represented. The manager inquired as to whether he should cash a check for Pernell Ezzell in the amount of about \$200.00 and he refused to recommend cashing the check. He could not recall the name of the bank on which the check was drawn and he said he did not speak with Ezzell at the time, but he believed he was standing nearby during the telephone call.

11- Bureau (62-587) (RM)
1 - U.S. Sec. Ser., Jacksonville (RM)
1 - OSI, Robins AFB, Ga. (RM)
1 - MI, Orlando (RM)
1 - NISO, Charleston, S.C. (RM)
2 - Los Angeles (RM)

1 - Memphis (RM)
3 - Tampa (62-963)
(1-44-729 KENSALT)
(1-157-3231 - MURKIN)

GWT:nh

(2)

157-3231-519

PERNELL EZZELL

Mr. Dowling said that he had no further information concerning Ezzell at this time.

On August 12, 1968, Mrs. Fay Ezzell, wife of Pernell Ezzell, 636 22nd Street, Orlando, Florida, furnished the following information:

Pernell Ezzell had his driver's license revoked for five years by the State of Florida because he had hit a bridge with his 1965 Buick in or near Fayetteville, North Carolina, or Clinton, North Carolina, during his last escapade. He had been charged with driving while intoxicated. Ezzell said that he had paid for the damages to the bridge, but his license was still revoked last week. Mrs. Ezzell said that her husband tried to obtain bench work as a TV technician in the Orlando, Florida, area, but he was unsuccessful, since he had no driver's license and he could not travel throughout the city to do his work. She advised that he left Orlando on Monday, August 5, 1968, for California, in order to seek employment.

On Thursday, August 9, 1968, he called in the middle of the night, saying that he was in Los Angeles, California, working for an aircraft plant and making good money. He did not mention the name of his employer or the location of the aircraft plant. He told his wife that he wanted her and the family to fly out in the near future when he would send money.

On Saturday, August 11, 1968, Ezzell called about 8:00 P.M., saying he was in Los Angeles, California. He remarked to the effect that he had been out of the country and he had just gotten back, therefore, he had not gotten a permanent address. He did not state where he could be reached or the name of his employer. He did not say where he had gone while he was out of the country. Mrs. Ezzell said she is bitter because her husband had run up about a \$1,000.00 debt on his American Express Credit Card during his last escapade and he still has this card. She said that she wanted him to show good faith by supporting her and their child before she would decide whether or not to go to California. Mrs. Ezzell said that she was not certain whether or not Ezzell had been drinking, but she was unable to detect that he was under the influence of alcohol from the sound of his voice on the two occasions on which he made calls. She said that if he does

PERNELL EZZELL

not help support their child, she will change her telephone number to an unlisted telephone number in the near future to avoid getting telephone calls from her husband in the middle of the night. She explained that she has to go to work very early each day. She said that she did not believe Ezzell's story about being out of the country and that he had possibly utilized the story to cover up for a period during which he had been drunk. She said that she could not believe but very little of any statements that Ezzell made to her and she, therefore, does not question him when he calls her. She said that she has no information as to her husband's exact whereabouts, the identity of his employer, or any of the details or location of the foreign trip that he allegedly made. She said that she did not believe him because he did not previously have a passport and he had not had time to obtain a passport before allegedly going out of the country. She said that she is waiting to see if he shows good faith by sending money for her and their child's support or whether he will go on another escapade and go deeper into financial trouble.

On August 12, 1968, Mrs. Mary Smith, Orange County Drivers License Office, Orlando, Florida, furnished the following information:

Pernell (no middle name) Ezzell, 636 22nd Street, Orlando, Florida, was issued chauffeur's license number H94422 on April 8, 1968. It was ordered revoked for five years by the Department of Public Safety, State of Florida, Tallahassee, Florida, for driving while intoxicated on the third offense within a ten-year period. It became effective May 27, 1968, but the order was not received and executed in Orlando, Florida, until August 6, 1968. The revocation resulted from Ezzell being convicted of driving while under the influence of intoxicants in the State of North Carolina. One of his other suspensions of his driver's license was from August 18, 1967, until February 29, 1968, because he forfeited bond in the State of South Carolina, on a charge of driving while under the influence of intoxicants.

Mrs. Smith said that she did not have a record of the third offense pertaining to Ezzell.

PERNELL EZZELL

On August 12, 1968, Mrs. LILA HOEQUIST, Orange County Auto Tag Office, Orlando, Florida, furnished the following information:

Pernell Ezzell or Fay Ezzell, 636 22nd Street, Orlando, Florida, obtained Florida automobile license registration number 7W-10531, on May 1, 1968, for a 1965 Buick, two-door sedan, and Florida license 7-1518 on the same date, for a 1966 Chevrolet, two-door sedan. The file contained no additional descriptive information pertaining to these automobiles.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

8/13/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-587)
FROM: SAC, TAMPA (62-963) (P)

PERNELL EZZELL
INFORMATION CONCERNING
(OO: TP)
(TP file 62-963)

KENSALT
(OO: LA)
(TP file 44-729)

MURKIN
(OO: ME)
(TP file 157-3231)

Re Bureau airtel to Tampa, Los Angeles and Memphis dated 8/7/68 and captioned "KENSALT" and "MURKIN"; Tampa airtels to the Bureau, Los Angeles and Memphis captioned "PERNELL EZZELL, INFORMATION CONCERNING", dated 6/11/68 and 7/19/68.

Attached are 11 copies of an LHM captioned "PERNELL EZZELL" and dated as above, for the Bureau.

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. 11) (RM)
- 2 - Los Angeles (Enc. 3) (RM)
- 1 - Memphis (Enc. 1) (Info) (RM)
- 4 - Tampa (1 - 62-963 - EZZELL)
(1 - 157-3231 - MURKIN)
(1 - 44-729 - KENSALT)
(1 - 80-139)

GWT:nh
(10)

SEARCHED
INDEXED
SERIALIZED
FILED

157-3231-520

TP 62-963

Investigation in the attached LHM was conducted by SA GORDON W. TINDLE.

Copies of the LHM were disseminated locally to Secret Service, Jacksonville, Fla.; OSI, Robins AFB, Ga.; MI, Orlando, Fla. and NISO, Charleston, S. C., because they have cognizance.

LEADS

LOS ANGELES DIVISION

AT LONG BEACH, CALIF.

Will conduct credit and arrest checks in an effort to locate and interview the subject in accordance with instructions contained in re Bureau airtel.

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

Will check credit and arrest files in an attempt to locate and interview the subject, as indicated above.

TAMPA DIVISION

AT ORLANDO, FLA.

Will maintain contact with the subject's wife, Mrs. FAY EZZELL, 636 22nd St., Orlando, Fla., in order to ascertain the subject's whereabouts, and set forth appropriate leads for an immediate interview.

Will maintain contact with Mr. EMORY A. DOWLING, JR., 2425 E. Colonial Dr., Orlando, for the above reason.

8/30/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS

FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231) (P)

MURKIN - COST DATA

Re Memphis airtel to all SACs dated 7/16/68
and Tampa airtel to Memphis dated 8/1/68.

The Tampa Office cost figures for the month of
August, 1968, are estimated as follows:

1. Number of Man Hours

A. Special Agents

Regular Hours - 6 hours

Overtime hours - 0

Total Man Hours - 6 hours

B. Clerical Employees

Regular Hours - 1 hour

Overtime hours - 0

Total Clerical Hours - 1 hour

Overall total - 7 hours

2 - Memphis
1 - Tampa
GRM:nh
(3)

157-3231-521

SEARCHED _____
INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED ef
FILED ef

TP 157-3231

2. Total Estimated Mileage

A. Bureau cars - 25 miles 10

B. Personal cars - 0

3. Any Unusual or Out of Ordinary Costs - 0

4. Peak Number of SAs working on Case during
August - 1

10/1/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS
FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)
MURKIN - COST DATA

Remyairtel, 8/30/68.

The Tampa Office cost figures for the month of September, 1968, are estimated as follows:

1. Number of Man Hours

A. Special Agents

Regular Hours - 1 - 7
Overtime Hours - 0
Total Man Hours - 1

B. Clerical Employees

Regular Hours - 15 minutes
Overtime Hours - 0
Total Clerical
Hours - 15 minutes

Overall Total 1 hour 15 minutes

2. Total Estimated Mileage

A. Bureau Cars - 10 miles
B. Personal Cars - 0

3. Any Unusual or Out of the Ordinary Costs - 0

4. Peak Number of SAs Working on Cases During September - 1

2 - Memphis
1 - Tampa
SJL:cj
(3)

157-3231-522

SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED _____
INDEXED _____
FILED _____

DIRECTOR, FBI (62-587)

10/4/68

SAC, NEW ORLEANS (173-994) (P)

PERNELL EZZELL
INFORMATION CONCERNING
(OO: TAMPA)

KENSALT (P)
(OO: LOS ANGELES)

MURKIN (p)
(OO: MEMPHIS)

Re Tampa letter to the Director, 9/30/68.

For information of Tampa, New Orleans Division interviewed PERNELL EZZELL at Shreveport, La., on 8/27/68.

Enclosed for Tampa is one copy of the FD-302 which sets forth results of that interview.

New Orleans airtel to Los Angeles, 8/28/68, under the KENSALT caption furnished Los Angeles with 25 copies of the FD-302 in question.

New Orleans airtel to Memphis dated 8/30/68, under the MURKIN caption, furnished Memphis with 25 copies of the FD-302 interview in question.

Interview with EZZELL by New Orleans was based on Los Angeles teletype to New Orleans dated 8/24/68, under the KENSALT caption.

EZZELL CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS IN VIEW OF HIS POSSESSION OF FIREARMS IN THE PAST AND SINCE HE HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS AN ALCOHOLIC WHO BECOMES UNSTABLE WHEN INTOXICATED.

- 2 - Bureau
 - 1 - Los Angeles (Info)
 - ③ - Tampa (1 - 62-963) (Enc. 1) (EZZELL)
(1 - 44-729) (KENSALT)
(1 - 157-3231) (MURKIN)
 - 2 - New Orleans
- EJC:srl
(8)

*Rec'd 10/9/68 - encl not
received & requested by
R. J. [unclear] 10/16/68 c [unclear] + LHM
dictated by [unclear]*

157-3231-523

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
OCT 7 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

J. [unclear]



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Tampa, Florida
October 4, 1968

WALTER "BUSTER" COOPER;
CHARLES RELEFORD;
ROBERT SMALL;
LEWIS WALLS

On October 2, 1968, Lieutenant Wayne Henderson, Intelligence Unit, Police Department, Orlando, Florida, advised that he had learned from a confidential source, whom he considers reliable, that four racial agitators, Walter "Buster" Cooper, Charles Releford, Robert Small, and Lewis Walls (phonetic for all), who are allegedly from Jacksonville, Florida, came to Orlando, Florida, in connection with racial incidents involving the Orange Liquors, 403 Magruder Avenue, Orlando, Florida. Lieutenant Henderson advised that Cooper and the others apparently arrived too late to take an active role in the Orange Liquors matter and that several of the men were sent to St. Petersburg, Florida, Miami, Florida, and to Sarasota, Florida, for the purpose of stirring up racial discord. Lieutenant Henderson stated that these racial agitators are reportedly able to make molotov cocktails and to instruct others in how to prepare such devices.

Small and Walls are known to have been sent to Sarasota in connection with recent racial problems in that city.

Just recently, Henderson learned that Releford was reportedly dispatched to Sanford, Florida in an effort to stir up discord in connection with the assault on the Negro male, one McNeil Simmons. Simmons was assaulted by two white males, and the matter has caused considerable concern in Seminole County. The immediate whereabouts of Releford is not known, but he and the others are expected to return to Orlando, Florida.

11 - Bureau (RM)

1 - SAC, TAMPA (RM); MI, ORLANDO (RM); OSI, MIAMI (RM); S.B., JACKSONVILLE (RM); NISO, CHARLOTTE, N.C. (RM)

2 - Jacksonville (RM)

2 - Miami (RM)

2 - Tampa (157-3221) (1-157-3221) (1-157-1456) (1-157-1456 Sub B)
(1-157-3221) TCM:ay (RM)

SEARCHED
INDEXED
SERIALIZED

3 157-3231-524

WALTER "BUSTER" COOPER;
CHARLES RELEFORD;
ROBERT SMALL;
LEWIS WALLS

Henderson stated that the foregoing information has not been confirmed.

Representatives of Military Intelligence, Orlando, Florida, Sheriff's Office, Orlando and the Sheriff's Office, Sanford, Florida, have been advised of this matter.

Lieutenant Henderson additionally advised that he had learned from his source that the four racial agitators supposedly have a connection with Moses Davis and the Florida Black Front, although this is not certain. This source also advised Henderson that the racial agitators were allegedly paid by Vaughn D. Mizell of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in Florida.

Representatives U. S. Attorney's Office, Tampa, and Secret Service, Jacksonville, Florida, have been advised of the foregoing.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FBI

Date: 10/4/68

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

ATTENTION: CIVIL RIGHTS SECTION
GENERAL INVEST. DIV.

FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-New) (P)

WALTER "BUSTER" COOPER;
CHARLES RELEFORD;
ROBERT SMALL;
LEWIS WALLS
RM

Summary of Complaint:

Enclosed LHM is self-explanatory.

Information as to Orange Liquors will be found in Tampa airtel to Bureau, 8/28/68, entitled, "Incidents Involving Orange Liquors, 403 Magruder Avenue, Orlando, Fla., RM."

Information regarding McNeil Simmons will be found in Tampa airtel to Bureau, 8/23/68, entitled, "Possible Racial Incident, Sanford, Florida, RM."

This information has been discussed with Ron Jernigan, MI, Orlando, and by Lt. HENDERSON with representatives of the SO, Sanford and SO, Orlando, Florida.

3 - Bureau (Enc. 11) (RM)

2 - Jacksonville (Enc. 2) (RM)

2 - Miami (Enc. 2) (RM)

② - Tampa (1 - 157-3353) (1-157-3456) (1-157-1489Sub3) (1-157-3231)

ACTION: UACB: *av* (1 - 80-139) TCA:av (16)☒ LHM ENCLOSED ☒ COPY FURNISHED TO USA Tampa.☒ Preliminary Investigation Instituted.
 SEARCHED _____
 INDEXED _____
 SERIALIZED _____
 FILED _____

 Approved: _____
 Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

157-3231-525

TP 157-New

Local dissemination made to MI, Orlando, Fla.;
OSI, Robins AFB, Ga.; Secret Service, Jacksonville, Fla.;
NISO, Charleston, S.C.

LEADS:

JACKSONVILLE DIVISION

AT JACKSONVILLE, FLA.

Will, through established sources, endeavor to identify subjects and their organizational connection, if any, from photos being forwarded under separate cover.

MIAMI DIVISION

AT MIAMI, FLORIDA

Will, with the aid of photos to be forwarded, endeavor to identify subjects and ascertain if they played a dominant role in recent race riots in that city.

TAMPA DIVISION

AT ORLANDO, SANFORD, SARASOTA, AND ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.

Will exhibit photos of subjects to established sources in an effort to connect subjects with racial disorders in those particular cities.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Tampa, Florida
October 14, 1968

PERNELL EZZELL

Reference is made to prior communications in captioned matter, the most recent one being dated August 13, 1968.

- 11- Bureau (62-587) (MM)
- 1, Secret Service, Jacksonville (RM)
- 1 - OSI, Robins AFB, Ga. (RM)
- 1 - MI, Orlando (RM)
- 1 - NISO, Charleston, S. C. (RM)
- ③ - Tampa (62-963)
 - (1 - 44-729, KENSALT)
 - (1 - 157-3231, MURKIN)

GWT:lp

SEARCHED _____
INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED CS
FILED CS

157- 3231- 526

Date 8/27/68

PERNELL EZZELL was interviewed at the Shreveport, Louisiana, Resident Agency. At the outset of the interview EZZELL was advised of his rights but declined to sign a waiver of same. EZZELL declined to furnish a signed statement but voluntarily furnished the following information:

EZZELL denied that he had received or was ever in possession of a great amount of money as a result of his participation in the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING and the assassination of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY. He further denied stating to anyone he was on the payroll of the OSI and CIA.

EZZELL said he definately did not participate in any manner, nor did he have any knowledge of or information concerning the murders of MARTIN LUTHER KING and Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

EZZELL admitted that he was glad KING was dead as he felt KING was a troublemaker, but emphasized that he did not have anything to do with killing him.

EZZELL said he could not remember making any statements to anyone regarding any of the above. He admitted that he may have made them when he was in a drunken condition, but could not recall making any such statements. He said he often has black-out periods which occur when he is drinking and he has been known to appear sober even when he is in a drunken state.

EZZELL said FRANK WETZEL is the Shop Foreman for his former employer at Perdue Radio and Television Company, Orlando, Florida. He and Wetzel have been out drinking together on a few occasions, usually after closing shop or on a payday night. WETZEL has been trying to get him into trouble with his wife. EZZELL said WETZEL thinks he is a ladies man and has in the past tried to take his wife out. His wife has told him that WETZEL has called her several times and in addition to trying to make a date would tell her of his running around with other women. EZZELL believed WETZEL tells his (EZZELL's) wife what he tells WETZEL in confidence. He was sure WETZEL told her about

On 8/24/68 at Shreveport, Louisiana File # NO 1
by SA RONALD W. BEINNER /bab Date dictated

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NO 173-994

his being responsible for another girl's pregnancy at the time he married his wife.

EZZELL stated he has never confronted WETZEL with any of the above, but WETZEL has told him that he called him one night when he was drunk and cursed him out. EZZELL said he could not remember this call.

EZZELL advised that he has a serious drinking problem, but he did not consider himself an alcoholic. He said he was treated in the Veterans Administration Hospital, Fayetteville, North Carolina, for drunkenness shortly after his release from the Air Force in 1953. He further advised he had been a patient at Cherry Hospital, Goldsboro, North Carolina, for about 2 months during the past year. While at this hospital he underwent a number of psychiatric tests. He did not know the results of the tests.

EZZELL stated that he has had this serious drinking problem since his marriage in November 1967. He indicated he was forced to marry his wife as a result of her pregnancy prior to their wedding. He said, since his marriage he has been under constant pressure from his wife and in addition has serious financial problems.

EZZELL advised that because of his heavy drinking and the resulting "black-outs" he is not able to fix exactly his whereabouts on specific dates during the past year. However, he remembered the night of MARTIN LUTHER KING's death and said he was drunk at the time. He was registered at the Motel South, Orlando, Florida. With him at the time was a girl friend, whom he identified as VIOLET ALLRED, a nurse, who operates the Clear Lake Manor Nursing Home, Orlando, Florida. He said she is about 38 years of age. He recalled hearing of KING's death on the T.V. on the night it happened.

EZZELL said he did not remember where he was the night Senator KENNEDY was shot.

EZZELL could not account for his whereabouts on the night of June 5, 1968 and said he could not recall where he was at all during the month of June as he again was on a drunk.

EZZELL remembers flying from Orlando, Florida,

NO 173-994

to Los Angeles twice in recent months. The last was about August 4, 1968 when he flew via Delta Airlines. He stayed in Los Angeles four days and left driving a rented car after an unsuccessful effort in finding a job. On his way to Shreveport he stopped briefly at Phoenix, Albuquerque, and Hope, Arkansas. He claimed he pawned his 357 magnum revolver with a police officer in Hope, Arkansas, for \$45 on August 23, 1968. The gun was purchased for his second job as a security guard with Associated Security Company, Orlando, Florida. He claims he has never used the gun in commission of a crime.

EZZELL believed the previous trip to Los Angeles was made in June 1968 when he flew via Delta Airlines from Orlando, Florida. He was looking for a job on the occasion also. He stayed only two days and remembers returning from California via an unrecalled airline and that he stopped at Las Vegas, Denver, New Orleans and Miami. He does not remember if he stayed in any of these cities for any length of time. After reaching Miami he rented a car and drove to Orlando.

EZZELL claims he had no employment other than his jobs in Orlando and that he financed his trips with the money earned from working these two jobs, along with using his credit cards.

EZZELL recalled after driving from Miami he did not go home, but to a motel with Miss ALLRED. The following day he drove back to Miami and then returned to Orlando by bus. He thinks he rented the car at Miami from either Hertz or Avis-Rent-A-Car.

EZZELL stated he has not worked any where since August 4, 1968, and that he presently had in his possession \$36.00 which was left over from the sale of his gun.

EZZELL claimed he pawned a .38 Colt "Cobra" in Los Angeles on the last trip at an unrecalled pawn shop and that he presently has no weapon.

EZZELL could not recall any other details concerning his first trip to Los Angeles, he said he was drinking heavy on these trips and could not remember anything much about them. He could not remember the names of motels where he stayed. He claimed he has no friends in Los Angeles and

NO 173-994

that he made none while there on these trips.

EZZELL stated he is not now and never has been a member of any "hate" type organization such as the Ku Klux Klan.

EZZELL stated he would be leaving Shreveport, Louisiana, this evening by bus and could be reached through his mother Mrs. ACRIE EZZELL, Route 4, Clinton, North Carolina.

The following description was obtained from interview and observation:

Name	PERNELL EZZELL alias "Easy"
Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of Birth	
Place of Birth	Fayetteville, North Carolina
Height	6'1"
Weight	175
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Scars and Marks	None
Marital Status	Married to FAYE MARIE EZZELL 636 22nd Street, Orlando, Florida
Children	CLINTON EARL - 11 months
Parents	Father - deceased Mother - ACRIE EZZELL Route 4, Clinton, North Carolina
Brothers	THOMAS OZELLE EZZELLE, age 33, Simco, Ontario, Canada WENDELL EZZELLE, age 25, High Point, North Carolina
Sister	DIANE McMILLIAN, age 19, Fayetteville, North Carolina employed Ft. Bragg, North Carolina
Residence	636 22nd Street, Orlando, Florida
Military Service	US Air Force 1951-1953, Honorable discharge Serial #

NO 173-994

Arrest Record

Numerous drunk arrests -
no felony arrests

Social Security #
Occupation

[REDACTED]
T.V. repairman and security
guard

Previous employment

Perdue Radio and T.V. - Orlando,
Florida;
Associates Security, Orlando,
Florida;
Electronic Service, Inc., Patco
Division, Newport News, Virginia;
American District Telegraph -
Winston Salem, North Carolina
American District Telegraph -
Indianapolis, Indiana

Previous Residences

Raleigh, North Carolina,
Fayetteville, North Carolina,
Ashville, North Carolina,
Newport News, Virginia,
Indianapolis, Indiana,
Orlando, Florida

Friends

CHRISTINE TENDELL,
Clinton, North Carolina
VIOLET ALLRED,
Orlando, Florida

PERNELL EZZELL

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10/14/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-587)

FROM: SAC, TAMPA (62-963) (C)

PERNELL EZZELL
INFORMATION CONCERNING
(OO:TP)
(TP File 62-963)

KENSALT
(OO:LA)
(TP File 44-729)

MURKIN
(OO:ME)
(TP File 157-3231)

Re Bureau airtel to Tampa, Los Angeles and Memphis, dated August 7, 1968, and captioned "KENSALT" and "MURKIN"; and New Orleans letter to Bureau, captioned as above, dated 10/4/68.

The referenced New Orleans letter to Bureau revealed that the instructions contained in the Bureau's airtel of August 7, 1968, have been complied with. Accordingly, the Tampa Division is placing its files pertaining to KENSALT and MURKIN in a closed status at this time.

Attached are 11 copies of an LHM captioned "PERNELL EZZELL", and dated as above, for the Bureau. The Bureau may wish to disseminate a copy of the LHM to CIA as the attached LHM contains an interview with EZZELL, at which time he denied ever stating that he was on the CIA payroll.

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. 11) (RM)
- 1 - New Orleans (Info) (173-994)
- ① - Tampa (62-963, EZZELL)
 - (1 - 157-3231, MURKIN)
 - (1 - 44-729, KENSALT)
 - (1 - 80-139)

GWT:lp
(8)

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INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED _____
FILED _____

157-3231-527

TP 62-963

Copies of the LHM were disseminated locally to Secret Service, Jacksonville, Fla.; OSI, Robins AFB, Ga.; MI, Orlando, Fla.; and NISO, Charleston, S. C., because they have cognizance.

The Tampa file 62-963, pertaining to PERNNELL EZZELL is in a closed status.

A copy of this airtel is being furnished to the New Orleans Division for its information concerning the final disposition of this matter by the Tampa Division. No LHM is being enclosed for New Orleans, Los Angeles, or Memphis because it only contains the interview of EZZELL by the New Orleans Division, who has previously furnished results to Los Angeles and Memphis.