

Case Number:

174-SL-185462

Serial(s):

33

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 04/26/2000

On 04/26/2000, a source who is not in a position to testify, furnished the following information:

Source advised that he/she was at the Parkmoor Diner, Big Bend Blvd., and Clayton Road, St. Louis, Missouri (SLMO) when John Paul Spica was killed by a bomb. Source recalled it was sometime in October or November 1979. He/She was seated in the Parkmoor Diner at approximately 7:30 a.m. waiting for an associate named Gene Hanon to arrive. Source ate breakfast with Hanon almost everyday before work. At approximately 8:00 a.m., Anthony Leisure, Paul Leisure and an unknown individual arrived in a tow truck at the Parkmoor Diner. The tow truck was driven by the unknown individual. Paul and Anthony Leisure were seated in the front seat. The unknown individual parked the tow truck in the parking lot. Anthony Leisure exited the truck and entered the Parkmoor Diner. Paul Leisure and the driver remained inside the truck. Anthony Leisure ordered three cups of coffee to go. After receiving the coffee he exited the Parkmoor Diner and entered the front passenger side door of the tow truck. The tow truck was white and green in color with LN and P towing emblazoned on the door. The tow truck departed the Parkmoor Diner parking lot and traveled westbound on Clayton Road.

Approximately five to ten minutes later, source heard a loud explosion that caused the Parkmoor Diner's windows to shake. Source observed smoke billowing from a side street off Clayton Road. The smoke appeared to be coming from a location south of Clayton Road. Shortly after the blast, source observed the above tow truck occupied by the same individuals traveling south bound on Big Bend and turn east on Clayton Road. The tow truck continued traveling in this direction until it disappeared from sight.

Source advised that he/she later found out that Spica was killed in a bombing. Source heard from various sources that Anthony and Paul Leisure were responsible for Spica's death. Source heard that an individual named Ray Flynn supplied the Leisures with the dynamite used in this bombing. Flynn was employed in the construction business and had easy access to dynamite. Flynn also supplied the Leisure brothers with dynamite that was used in other bombings. A close associate of Flynn, was

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Investigation on 04/26/2000 at St. Louis, Missouri (telephonically)

File # 174A-SL-185462; 137B-SL-180669 Date dictated 04/26/2000

by SA [REDACTED] **UPLOADED TO ACS/ECF:**

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BY SL 5/9/00 on

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an individual named Richard Beck. Beck is responsible for the bombing death of an individual named Phillip Luzere (phonetic). Luzere was the owner of a telephone company that competed with Southwestern Bell Telephone Company. Luzere resided in Clayton, Missouri. Source heard that Beck killed a close associate of his (Beck). Source identified this individual as Red Musgrove of Overland, Missouri. Apparently, Beck and Musgrove had a heated argument. Several days later Musgrove was found dead near his residence. Beck was arrested and questioned relative to this homicide. No charges were ever filed.

According to source, a Russell Byers was originally believed to be responsible for the Spica bombing. Source stated that Byers and Spica were related through marriage and were close associates. In the 1960s, Spica was serving a lengthy prison sentence in the Missouri Department of Corrections (MDOC) for a murder conviction. He was incarcerated at the Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri. While confined, Spica's cellmate and close associate was James Earl Ray. Byers frequently traveled to Jefferson City to visit Spica. At the time, Byers also frequented a tavern in South St. Louis, Missouri which was owned by a doctor and a lawyer. These two individuals were racists and were allegedly connected to various hate groups. Source heard from Byers that the tavern owners were responsible for financing the Martin Luther King assassination. Byers assisted these two individuals in various criminal activities. Source learned from direct conversations with Byers and some of their mutual associates, that he (Byers) may have used Spica to solicit Ray to kill King. Many of Byers' close associates have called Byers "Raul". On occasion, source has heard Byers refer to himself as "Raul". After the King assassination, Byers was subpoenaed to testify before a U.S. Senate or Congressional hearing investigating the King assassination. Sometime after the assassination, either the St. Louis County Police Department (SLCOPD) or the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department executed a search warrant on Byers residence. Byers was under investigation for receiving stolen property. During the search warrant, the police officers seized all of Byers' furniture. Byers pleaded with the officers to let him keep his kitchen table. The officers agreed. The table was returned to Byers. Source advised that Byers told him/her that he had \$10,000 cash secreted in a table leg. Source said he/she asked Byers where he obtained such a large sum of cash, Byers told source that he

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skimmed the money from a payment he was supposed to make to someone for the above tavern owners. Byers told source that the money he skimmed was "part of another big deal". Source stated that Byers kept \$10,000 of the money he was supposed to pay Ray for killing King. Source advised that in the years after the King assassination, Byers would vaguely acknowledge to source that he was the individual known as "Raul" and that the above money was supposed to be paid to Ray.

Source advised that several years ago, King's family claimed that they believed Ray was innocent and were attempting to obtain a re-trial for him. Byers told source that he feared he was going to be served with a subpoena to testify in the re-trial. To prevent being served with a subpoena, Byers traveled to Texas and stayed with one of his daughters.