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ALSO RAY WOULD NOT HIDE OUT IN COUNTRY BECAUSE HE IS A "CITY BOY"; HOWEVER, DOES NOT FEEL RAY WOULD GO FOR REALLY BIG CITIES BUT A PLACE ABOUT THE SIZE OF HOUSTON, TEXAS.

LAIL ADVISED LEO BARNETT, AN EX-CON FROM MO. STATE PEN AND BELIEVED IN JAIL SOMEWHERE IN FLA., HANDLED DOPE AND KNEW WHERE IT WAS COMING FROM AND WOULD KNOW IF RAY USED DOPE AND WHERE AND HOW HE GOT IT..

LAIL SAID FRED MILLER, A "CUT AND DRY CON" WHO WORKED IN THE TAG PLANT, WAS ONE OF THE LEADERS AND KNEW RAY WELL AND IF HE WOULD TALK HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO FURNISH INFO ABOUT RAY. LAIL SAID RAY ASSOCIATED WITH OTHERS AND NOT LONER IN HIS OPINION.

LAIL RECALLED RAY ALWAYS WORE HIS HAIR CUT SHORT "BUTCH CUT" IN SUMMER AND LONG IN WINTER.

LAIL ADVISED HE WILL THINK ABOUT RAY SOME MORE AND IF HE RECALLS ANYTHING WILL NOTIFY THIS OFFICE. LAIL SEEMED COOPERATIVE AND VERY INTERESTED IN REWARD MONEY.

KANSAS CITY AT JEFFERSON CITY, MO., ASCERTAIN AT MO. STATE PEN WHEREABOUTS OF FRED MILLER AND INTERVIEW ABOUT RAY OR SET OUT LEADS
END PAGE TWO

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TO HAVE INTERVIEWED. ALSO DETERMINE WHEREABOUTS FORMER INMATE LEO BARNETT JACKSONVILLE AT TALLAHASSEE, FLA., CONTACT BUREAU OF CORRECTIONS AND ASCERTAIN IF A LEO BARNETT, FORMER INMATE MO. STATE PEN, CONFINED ANYWHERE IN FLA.

FD THREE ZERO TWO'S BEING FURNISHED KANSAS CITY AND MEMPHIS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

VSC

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386) (P) DATE: 4/26/68

FROM : SA JAMES A. HART

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re memo of Supervisor CHARLES S. HARDING dated 4/22/68.

In accordance with instructions in referenced memo, the following contacts in Columbus, Ga. were made on 4/23/68 unless otherwise indicated and wanted flyer 442A was exhibited with no positive information being developed to date:

HART: The following individuals were contacted by SA JAMES A.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

COP CLYDE ADAIR, Columbus PD;

Deputy COP FRANK MC GUFFY, Columbus PD;

Lt. C. E. MC CLUNG, Identification Bureau,
Columbus PD (contacted by SA RUSSELL R. MEGRUE)

Captain FRANK GUTHRIE, Muscogee Co. PD;

Deputy Sheriff KIM TAYLOR, Muscogee Co. SO.

AIRLINES

WILLIAM JOHNSON, CHARLES H. HORNE, Eastern Airlines,
Muscogee Co. Airport;

D.E. NIX, A. DANIELSON, Delta Airlines, Muscogee Co.
Airport;

(2) Atlanta
JAH/hjm

(2)

hjm

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[Handwritten initials and marks]

AT 44-2386

DEAN KING, Muscogee Flying Service, Municipal
Airport.

CAR RENTALS

JUNE MIDDLEBROOK, National Car Rental, Muscogee
Co, Airport;

JO ANN BROWN, Avis Car Rental, Muscogee Co.
Airport;

MARY ALVERSON, Hertz Rent-A-Car, Muscogee Co.
Airport;

J. B. WARD, and ROBERT GARRETT, Hertz Rent-A-Car,
1403 First Ave. (contacted 4/24/68).

TAXICABS

HILDA JONES, dispatcher, and WALTER LUNSFORD,
manager, Checker, Bluebird and Red Bird Cab Companies,
Sixth Ave. and Eighth St.

JAMES PARKER, United Cab Co., Seventh Ave.
(contacted 4/25/68).

The following contacts were made by SA FRANCIS A.
BURNS, JR:

RAILROADS AND BUSES

WISE GUNNELS , manager, Trailways Bus Terminal;

T. C. ROBERTSON, JR., Manager, Greyhound Bus Terminal;

BRAXTON CLARK, Station Master, Southern Railroad
Depot.

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TAXICABS

St. K.H. BUSSEY, JR., manager, Radio Cab Co., 418 - 15th

THOMSON: The following contacts were made by SA ROBERT W.

TAXICABS

RICHARD EDDINS, Co-op Cab Co.

USED CAR DEALERS

ALVIN L. POWELL, Dixie Motor Co.;

REUBEN MC BRIDE, United Motor Co.;

LEONARD PATE, Ferrell Motor Co.;

CHARLES HUBBARD, Hubbard Used Cars;

J.J. HEARN, Victory Drive Motors.

The following individuals were contacted by
SA LAWRENCE L. LYNCH:

Drive; JOHN D. CLIFT, Clift's Used Car Lot, 3214 Victory

JOHN KIRKLAND, Bishop Motor Co., 3242 Victory Dr.;

RICHARD PIKE, Auto Center, 3240 Victory Dr.

ROYCE WOOD, BILL HEARD Used Cars, 3264 Victory Dr.;

D.L. BROWN, Hardaway Used Cars, 3274 Victory Dr.;

TAYLOR JOWERS, Harmon Motor Co., 3290 Victory Dr.;

WALTER COLQUITT, Colquitt Motors, 1306 S. Lumpkin

WALTER CALHOUN, C&W Motors, 1524 S. Lumpkin.

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The following individuals were contacted by SA
DONALD D. CARLSON:

M. W. BYARS, Williams Motor Co., 927 Fourth Ave.;
BILL MARTIN, Bill Martin Motors, 923 Fourth Ave.;
J.H. BROOKS, Brooks and Thomas Motors, 839 Fourth Ave.;
W.L. TERRY, Import Motors, 811 Fourth Ave.;
BILL FRANCIS, Harley Davidson Sales, 537 Fourth Ave.;
JOHN STALLINGS, Fourth Ave. Motors, 910 Fourth Ave.;
WILLIAM C. WARD, Mc Millan Motor Co., 934 Fourth Ave.
GENE HORNE, Thornton Motor Co., 408 - 12th St.;
JOYCE MALOOF, Maloof's Motor Co., 1112 Fourth Ave.;
CLIFF HALL, Charles Levy Motors, 1125 Fourth Ave.;
E.C. DENNEY, Guthrie Motor Co., 1124 Fourth Ave.;
CLIFFORD HALL, Fountain City Motors, 1022 Fourth Ave.;
BILL HUNT, Miller Pontiac, 1408 Fourth Ave.;
EARL TAYLOR, Taylor Auto Sales, 1245 Fourth Ave.;
TRUETT MC GEE, John A. Pepe Motor Co., 1131 Fourth
Ave.;
RICHARD BARRINGTON, Barrington Motors, 1101 Fourth
Ave.

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The following contacts were made on 4/24/68:

CALVIN NORSWORTHY, Norsworthy Motor Co., 1635 Fort Benning Road.

BILLY R. LYNN, Carco Motors, 1116 Fort Benning Road.

BILL MILLER, Miller's Auto Sale, 1126 Fort Benning Road.

HUGH POLLOCK, Hugh Pollock Motors, 1122 Fort Benning Road.

J.A. EVANS, Evans Motors Co., 1102 Fort Benning Road.

CALVIN GRAY, Cal Gray Motor Co., 918 Fort Benning Road;

BENJAMIN CARTIER, Central Motors, Cusseta and Fort Benning Roads;

FRANK BULLARD and RUSS JUSTICE, Bill Heard Chevrolet Co., 1501 First Ave. (contacted by SA JAMES A. HART)

The following contacts were made by SA RUSSELL R. MEGRUE:

HUNTER EDWARDS, Chuck Hutton Dodge Agency;

AUBREY WARD, HARAWAY Ford Co.;

SPARKY ALLEN, Bill Heard Chevrolet Co.

R. B. KIMBROUGH, Cliff Averett Motors, Inc.;

GENE HORNE, Thornton Plymouth Co.

CREDIT BUREAU

JAMES JORDAN, Manager, Merchants Credit Association,
409 - 12th St.

AT 44-2386

JTB:lcc

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On April 24, 1968, SAs JOSEPH G. SHEA and JACK T. BEVERSTEIN interviewed SAMUEL WEHUNT, 185 W. Dixie Street, Marietta, Georgia, former brother-in-law of LEWIS RAYMOND DOWDA. WEHUNT advised as follows:

DOWDA is presently in Cobb County Jail serving a two-year sentence for robbery of Wilkeson Jewelers, Mableton, Georgia. WEHUNT advised photograph of JAMES EARL RAY did not resemble any person he had ever seen. He stated DOWDA's wife is presently residing with her father, RALPH J. GRAHAM, 65 Woodridge Drive, Marietta. WEHUNT advised during the latter part of November, 1967, DOWDA and his wife had left the Marietta, Georgia, area and traveled to California and returned. He did not know any details concerning this trip other than DOWDA and his wife were traveling in their Volkswagen and knew of no one who accompanied them. He stated he had learned from an individual known to him only as "Junior" that a man from Florida with his wife and child had visited DOWDA, staying for approximately two weeks. He stated this individual had left Marietta, Georgia, the first part of March, 1968. He stated "Junior" resides at 186 W. Dixie Street, also. WEHUNT advised DOWDA's parents had returned to Deland, Florida.

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The following investigation was conducted by SAs
JACK T. BEVERSTEIN and JOSEPH G. SHEA.

On April 24, 1968, CARL GENE TAYLOR, also known as "Junior" TAYLOR, 185 W. Dixie Street, Marietta, Georgia, advised that the photo of JAMES EARL RAY did not resemble person known to him as "Red", who had stayed with LEWIE DOWDA a couple of weeks in approximately March, 1968. He stated person known to him as "Red" was a white male, approximately 6', 35 years of age, 185 pounds, and had bright red hair. He advised this person had come to Marietta, Georgia, with his wife and small baby and had resided with the DOWDAs at the Olive Spring Apartments.

TAYLOR advised he had been employed with DOWDA at the Bonanza Steak House in Marietta, Georgia. He advised he had never seen anyone resembling JAMES EARL RAY in the company of DOWDA. He stated during the Fall of 1967, DOWDA and his wife had traveled to California to visit her relatives and at no time did DOWDA ever mention contacting anyone he was acquainted with who could logically have been JAMES EARL RAY.

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386)

DATE: 4/26/68

FROM : SA JOHN P. GRANFIELD AND SA C. O. KENNERLY, JR.

SUBJECT: MURKIN

RE: LEADS SET OUT IN SERIAL 760

On 4/25/68, Mrs. DORA PATTERSON, 1165 St. Charles Place, Northeast, Atlanta, Georgia, advised that she was cutting grass at about 10:30 a.m. on 4/19/68, when she observed a maroon Ford (negative as to year or model) going East on St. Charles Place. This was the only occasion when she observed this vehicle.

She advised that the car was occupied by one individual who parked the car on St. Charles Place and got out of the car. She described this individual as a white male, 35 years of age, medium build, crewcut hair (negative as to height or weight), but who resembled the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY. She stated that he was wearing khaki work-type clothing with a round insignia on one of his shoulders. She does not know what words were on the insignia. She advised that he was "nervous" and stated that he exhibited this nervousness by the fact that he had some clothing hanging in his car, took the clothing out of the car, and looked around before crossing to the north side of St. Charles Place and he walked east toward Briarcliff. She has no information as to where he went.

She advised that he returned about 20 minutes later and on this occasion was wearing some blue clothing. She stated that as he was about to get into his car two police cars drove up, one stopping in front of his car, and the other pulling to the rear. The officers

② Atlanta
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AT 44-2386

in these two cars talked to him and he exhibited what appeared to be identification to these officers. They completed their interview and he got in the car and drove off. She has not seen him since and has no information as to where he may be.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386)

DATE: 4/26/68

FROM : SA JOHN P. GRANFIELD AND SA C. O. KENNERLY, JR.

SUBJECT: MURKIN

SA C. O. KENNERLY, JR. exhibited photographs of subject to the new and used car dealers on U. S. 23 north and south on 4/22 and 23/68.

On 4/25/68, CLAUDE CONGER (former PCI) telephoned the Atlanta Office and stated that he is employed by Jack Weiss Motors, 1144 Moreland Avenue, Southeast, Atlanta, and that he had employed an individual who gave the name LEE SPRADLIN within the past several days and that one of the salesmen who had viewed the photographs of subject RAY exhibited by SA KENNERLY informed him that SPRADLIN appeared to be identical with the subject.

On 4/25/68, LEE SPRADLIN was located at the Jack Weiss Motors lot at 1254 Glenwood Avenue, Southeast, Telephone Number 627-1347. SPRADLIN exhibited State of Tennessee Motor Vehicle Commission Sales License Number 794 and Tenn. [REDACTED] This document showed that SPRADLIN was 5'8", 185 lbs., blue eyes, brown hair, born [REDACTED], and date of issuance was shown as 9/29/66, with date of expiration in August of 1968.

The fingerprints of SPRADLIN appeared to be identical with that of subject and he agreed to accompany SAs KENNERLY and GRANFIELD to the FBI Office in Atlanta where he was fingerprinted. His fingerprints were examined by SA JOSEPH PATRICK AYERS, who is a fingerprint expert, and he was eliminated as being identical with the subject.

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[Handwritten initials]

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The fingerprint card of SPRADLIN is being maintained in the 1-A section of this file.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386) (P)

DATE: 4/24/68

FROM : SA JOHN F. LEUCK

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re memo of SA CLAIBORNE dated 4-22-68. (Serial #963).

Mr. HOKE FREEMAN, 2775 Glenwood Road, Atlanta was contacted at York's Billiard Parlor, 89 Pryor Street, Atlanta, at which time he advised SA LEUCK that the picture of RAY seems familiar to him, but he cannot recall where he may have ever seen him before. He further advised that he has been trying his best to recall where he may have seen RAY before, but has been unable to do so. He further advised that he does not recall seeing him in the billiards parlor, although he may have been there previously sometime.

Mr. FREEMAN was given a wanted flyer with the picture of RAY on it and he stated that he will continue his efforts to recall any information which may be helpful in locating RAY. He also stated that he will immediately contact our office if he should show up in the billiards parlor.

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, Atlanta (44-2386)(P)

DATE: 4/25/68

FROM : SA JOHN F. LEUCK

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
(OO:MEMPHIS)

Re memo of SA RICHARD H. DAVIS dated 4/22/68-Serial 924.

Attempts to contact JAMES SURRETT at his Atlanta address and phone number to date has met with negative results. 0

On 4-23-68 JO PRESSLEY, APD, Identification Division, advised that they have no records identifiable with either MARIE RAY RUFF or LARRY or LAWRENCE RUFF. Same date JOHN TALLENT, APD, Station Captains office advised that they have no records identifiable with any of the aforementioned persons.

On 4-23-68 FAYE SPIRES, Credit Bureau of Greater Atlanta, Atlanta, Georgia, advised that their records reflect that LARRY S. RUFF, having wife listed as MARIE took bankruptcy in June of 1964. She further advised that the address they have listed for RUFF is Route # 1, Cedartown, Georgia, and previous to that address he listed his address as Route # 1 College Park, Georgia. This address would have been prior to 1964 as in 1964 his address was at Cedartown, Ga. She further advised they had one inquiry from out of town in December of 1966, and nothing since that time. His last employment as listed by them was with Sharp & Weaver Contractors, 1764 Howell Mill Rd., Atlanta, Ga. In conclusion she stated that their file contains no other information which may be helpful in the locating of LARRY S. RUFF.

On 4-25-68 attempts to locate anyone at Sharp & Weaver, 1764 Howell Mill Road, Atlanta, in person or at the phone number of 351-5466 which is listed for them has met with negative results.

On 4-25-68 contact at 114 Linden Avenue reflected that the person residing there is the Mother of JAMES SURRETT. She stated that she does not know where JAMES is at this time as he is out of the city. She further stated that JAMES does not reside with her, but does contact her quite often to get any mail or messages she may have for him. She stated that his former wife, MARIE, known as "POLLY" is presently living at Cedartown, Ga., with her husband

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(2)

*Cedartown
Weaver*

44-2386-1299

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W. H. [signature]

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LARRY RUFF. She further advised that she does not know their exact address, but she knows that JAMES McCURRY who is MARIE's Uncle will know her exact whereabouts as she was always quite close to him. She stated that he resides at Cedartown, Ga., and has a phone number there, but she does not know what it is.

LEADS:

ATLANTA-AT CEDARTOWN, GEORGIA

Will contact JAMES McCURRY and get exact address of LARRY and MARIE RUFF so that lead set out in re communication, being serial No. 924 may be handled.

*P.O. Box 956
Rd II Old Mill Road
House Trailer?*