

FBI BIRMGHAM

FBI WASH DC

8 52PM URGENT 5/22/68 WPK

TO BIRMINGHAM, CHICAGO, KANSAS CITY, LOS ANGELES  
AND NEWARK  
FROM DIRECTOR (44-38861) 2P

MURKIN

BUREAU IS CONTEMPLATING PLACING AN AD IN A PUBLICATION  
IN AN EFFORT TO POSSIBLY SURFACE THE SUBJECT. IT MUST  
BE DETERMINED WHAT PUBLICATIONS, IF ANY, WERE HABITUALLY  
READ BY SUBJECT RAY.

ACCORDINGLY, KANSAS CITY WILL INTERVIEW CECIL CLAYTON  
LILLIBRIDGE AND JAMES L. OWENS, FELLOW INMATES OF SUBJECT,  
TO DETERMINE WHAT PUBLICATIONS SUBJECT HABITUALLY READ.  
BIRMINGHAM WILL INTERVIEW THOMAS BRITTON ALONG SAME LINES  
AS SET FORTH FOR KANSAS CITY. NEWARK OFFICE WILL CONTACT  
LOCKSMITHING INSTITUTE AT LITTLE FALLS, NEW JERSEY, TO  
DETERMINE IN WHICH MAGAZINE THEIR AD WAS PLACED FROM WHICH  
SUBJECT ORDERED CORRESPONDENCE COURSE. CHICAGO WILL CONDUCT  
INVESTIGATION AT SUPERIOR BULK FILM COMPANY TO DETERMINE  
IDENTITY OF PUBLICATION FROM WHICH SUBJECT AS GALT ORDERED  
END PAGE ONE

*Kneesh*

44-1740-1827

|                      |         |
|----------------------|---------|
| SEARCHED <i>10</i>   | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED <i>10</i> | FILED   |
| MAY 22 1968          |         |
| FBI - BIRMINGHAM     |         |

*new*

PAGE TWO

MERCHANDISE. LOS ANGELES WILL CONDUCT INVESTIGATION AT  
TIFFANY ENTERPRISES AND THE E. Z. FORMULA COMPANY TO DETERMINE  
FROM WHICH PUBLICATION SUBJECT ORDERED MERCHANDISE.

EACH OFFICE SUTEL RESULTS OF INQUIRY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

AIR MAIL COPY TO MEMPHIS.

END

HEP

FBI BIRMGHAM

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

5/6/68

SAC, MOBILE (157-2627) (P)

MURKIN

RE: MOTOR VEHICLES AND LICENSE  
PLATES STOLEN IN ALABAMA

Reference is made to Bureau airtel to Atlanta, Birmingham, Mobile, and Savannah, 4/26/68.

Transmitted to Mobile and Birmingham was a list of motor vehicles and license plates stolen in Alabama, as compiled from information retained in NCIC.

SA MYRON G. TURNER, on 4/30/68, 5/1, 2, and 3/68, reviewed the files concerning these stolen licenses and automobiles which were listed on the enclosure from the Bureau. The information reviewed by him was made available by MICHAEL SULLIVEN, Investigator, Investigation and Identification Division, Alabama Dept. of Public Safety, Montgomery, Alabama.

Information concerning each offense was recorded in handwriting on a separate sheet. Enclosed herewith for Birmingham are 96 sheets reflecting information concerning licenses and automobiles stolen in that portion of Alabama recovered by the Birmingham Division.

Mobile is instituting investigation concerning the licenses and automobiles stolen within that portion of Alabama, covered by Mobile to develop any information indicating whether or not subject RAY may have been involved in any of these thefts.

32  
Details of these investigations are being handled in Subfile one of Mobile File 157-2627, and any pertinent information developed will be reported to the Bureau, Memphis, and Atlanta.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- Included in rpt.*  
*H*
- 2 - Bureau
  - 1 - Atlanta (44-2386)(Info)
  - ② - Birmingham (44-1740)(Enc.96)
  - 2 - Memphis (44-1987)
  - 2 - Mobile (1 - 157-2627)(1 - 157-2627 SF1)
- JTB:crb

44-1740-1828

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| SERIALIZED       | FILED   |
| MAY - 7 1968     |         |
| FBI - BIRMINGHAM |         |

(9)

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)      DATE: 5/16/68

FROM : SA RICHARD D. SCHWEIN

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR  
OO: ME

This memorandum is to record that identification orders of subject, JAMES EARL RAY, were personally delivered to all hotels and motels in the Birmingham area. Contact with the motels was made by SA'S RICHARD D. SCHWEIN, NEIL G. MARTIN, ROBERT M. BARRETT, and WILLIAM A. SAUCIER. Appropriate personnel in the hotels were advised of the existence of a reward in this case offered by local newspapers in Memphis, Tennessee. Motel and hotel personnel, without exception, advised that they would place the identification orders in a strategic spot, and would immediately notify the FBI in the event subject tried to obtain lodging at their respective institutions.

*Included generally  
in report  
HWS*

44-1740-1829

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| MAY 16 1968      |              |
| FBI — BIRMINGHAM |              |

RDS:cap  
(2) *cap*



5010-106

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1740) (P)

FROM : SA NEIL G. MARTIN

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR  
OO:ME

DATE: May 16, 1968

The following investigation was conducted on  
5/3 - 7/68 by SAS RICHARD D. SCHWEIN and NEIL G. MARTIN:

Contact was established with the following  
rooming houses and identification orders were left  
with the managers and/or owners of respective houses.

LONG'S ROOMING HOUSE  
1600 Fifteenth Ave. South

ROBERT LONG, proprietor,

MADDOX Rooming House

1120 Twenty-third St. South  
Mrs. MAUDE MADDOX, proprietor

CHESTNUT ROOMING HOUSE  
1434 Milner,  
MRS. A. C. CHESTNUT, proprietor

REED's ROOMING HOUSE  
1430 15th St. South  
Mrs. CLARA H. REED, proprietor

JACK's Rooming House  
2116 10th Ave. South  
Mrs. V. T. JACKSON, proprietor

HICK's Rooming House  
118 - 77th St., North  
Mrs. GERTIE HICKS, proprietor

STARRUP ROOMING HOUSE  
6804 Division Ave.  
CHARLES STARRUP, proprietor

3-44-1740  
NGM:rte (1-SF for Rooming Houses)  
(3)

44-1740-1830

|                  |              |
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| SEARCHED.....    | INDEXED..... |
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| FBI - BIRMINGHAM |              |



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

BH 44-1740

JOHNSON ROOMING HOUSE,  
7801 6th Ave. South,  
MRS. MATTIE C. JOHNSON, owner

MOORE's Rooming House  
6301 1st Ave. N.  
Mrs. CLAUDIA FRANKLIN, Resident Manager

MOORE's Rooming House  
6222 First Ave. N.  
Mrs. ANNA E. MOORE, owner

LEATHERWOOD'S ROOMING HOUSE  
  
5812 Fifth Court, South,  
Mrs. MARY LEATHERWOOD, proprietor

COLLIER's Rooming House  
  
964 Linwood  
Mrs. E. S. COLLIER, proprietor

GROOM's Rooming House  
  
1516 North 36th Street,  
Mrs. LUCILLE GROOM, owner

SHEPPARD's Rooming House  
  
2410 -13th Ave. N.  
Mrs. AVA SHEPPARD, owner.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1740) (P)

FROM : SA NEIL G. MARTIN

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR  
OO:ME

DATE: 5/16/68

The following investigation was conducted on 4/26/68 and 4/27/68 by SAS RICHARD D. SCHWEIN and NEIL G. MARTIN at Birmingham, Alabama:

Contact was established with the following individuals and organizations regarding JAMES EARL RAY and identification orders of him were left at the following agencies:

BUDGET RENT-A-CAR  
1813 First Avenue, North -  
SHELIA MILLER

AIRWAYS RENT-A-CAR  
1916 Fifth Avenue,  
W. DOUGHTON

YMCA  
309 North 23rd Street  
Mrs. A. HORALSON

Brother BRYAN,  
RESCUE MISSION  
2117 5th Ave. North

EUGENE WALDRIP  
ROBERT L. KIRKPATRICK

SALVATION ARMY

24th & 11th Avenue, North  
W. C. MEEHAND

3-44-1740  
NGM:rte  
(3)

*noted in rpt*  
*me*

44-1740-1831

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| MAY 16 1968      |         |
| FBI - BIRMINGHAM |         |



5010-108

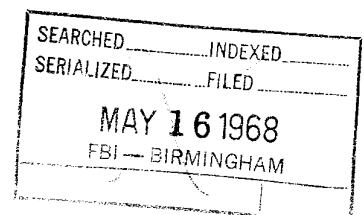
Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

SALVATION ARMY

12th Avenue and 23rd Street  
J. P. BLOCKER

HERTZ RENT-A-CAR  
2020 Fifth Avenue, North,  
BEVERLY BRUXTON

AVIS RENT-A-CAR  
2023 Fifth Avenue, North  
H. B. SPRAGUE



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, 44-1740 (P)

FROM : SA NEIL G. MARTIN

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR  
OO:ME

DATE: 5/16/68

The following investigation was conducted on 5/1/68 by SAS RICHARD D. SCHWEIN and NEIL G. MARTIN:

The following agencies were contacted regarding the possibility that JAMES EARL RAY might have left some personal luggage in Birmingham with the intention of returning to pick it up at a later date. All luggage lockers at the following locations were inspected and met with negative results.

BIRMINGHAM RAILWAY TERMINAL

JAMES BRADFORD, Manager

TRAILWAYS BUS TERMINAL

R. A. DOTSON, Manager

GREYHOUND BUS TERMINAL

J. T. DUNCAN, Dispatcher

L & N RAILROAD TERMINAL

BILLIE EDWARDS, Concession Manager,

EASTWOOD SHOPPING MALL

HUNT DOWLING, Manager.

3-44-1740  
NGM:rte  
(3)

*Noted in report*  
*has*

44-1740-1832

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| MAY 16 1968      |         |
| FBI — BIRMINGHAM |         |



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, (44-1740) (P)

FROM : SA JOHN H. KRESEK

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR

DATE: 5/10/68

On 4/26/68, the Divorce and Marriage Records since April, 1967, of Walker County, Alabama, contained in the Probate Judge's Office, Jasper, Alabama, were searched for the following names with negative results:

JAMES EARL RAY

ERIC STARVO GALT

EARL JAMES RAY

W. C. HERRON

EARL JAMES

JAMES McBRIDE

JAMES O'CONNOR

JAMES WALTON

JAMES WALYON.

JHK:bgs  
(3)

*Included generally  
in report  
JHK*

44-1740-1833

|              |         |
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| MAY 16 1968  |         |
| FBI - JASPER |         |



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P) DATE: 5/16/68

FROM : SA RICHARD D. SCHWEIN

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR  
OO: ME

JAMES L. SPARKS, 200 11th Street, Robinwood, Alabama, has been interviewed on numerous occasions concerning his allegation that JAMES EARL RAY is employed by the Royal American Show of Tampa, Florida, under the name CHARLES RAY JOHNSON. SPARKS claims he worked for the Royal American Show and named several people on the Royal American Show who could verify his employment, and that of JOHNSON. The Tampa Division has advised by teletype that SPARKS was never employed by the Royal American Show, and that the show employed no one under the name of CHARLES RAY JOHNSON.

SPARKS was re-interviewed after receipt of this information from Tampa, and prior to interview was advised of the provisions of Title 18, Section 1001, United States Code, dealing with furnishing false information. SPARKS steadfastly maintained the information he had furnished was true.

It is apparent that any future interview with SPARKS could have no productive value, and it is quite possible that he has some type of mental problem.

*init*  
*hsc*

RDS:cap

(2) *cap*

44-1740-1837

|                  |         |
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| FBI — BIRMINGHAM |         |



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)(P) DATE: 5/16/68

FROM : SA RICHARD D. SCHWEIN

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR  
OO: ME

Re memorandum of SA PATRICK J. MOYNIHAN,  
dated 4/29/68.

On 5/1/68, Mrs. A. R. SAUNDERS, 1013 21st Place South, Birmingham, was interviewed by SA'S RICHARD D. SCHWEIN and NEIL G. MARTIN. Mrs. SAUNDERS stated that she could not furnish any more information as set forth in referenced memorandum. She viewed all of the photographs of the subject and stated very definitely that the person known to her as JAMES WOOD is not identical in appearance to JAMES EARL RAY. Mrs. SAUNDERS stated that she had no forwarding address for WOOD, that he only stayed with her a few days, and she had very little occasion to talk to him. She reiterated that after viewing the photographs, she was positive that WOOD and RAY are not identical.

*noted  
for*

RDS:cap  
(2) *cap*

44-1740-1830

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| MAY 16 1968      |                      |
| FBI — BIRMINGHAM |                      |



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1740) (P)

FROM : SA DAVID T. DALY

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR  
OO:ME

DATE: 5/16/68

## DIVORCE AND MARRIAGE RECORDS:

On 4/24/68, Divorce & Marriage records for JAMES EARL RAY and his aliases were checked through the Shelby County, Alabama, area for Columbiana, records with negative results.

On 4/25/68, Marriage & Divorce records were checked for Blount County at Oneonta, Alabama, with negative results.

3-44-1740  
DTD:rte  
(3)

*Included  
for index in rpt.*

44-1740-1836

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| MAY 16 1968      |               |
| FBI — BIRMINGHAM |               |



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1740 ) (P)

DATE: 5/16/68

FROM : SA NEIL G. MARTIN

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR  
OO:ME

Rememo of Stephen Pierce, Clerk, FBI  
office, BH, 4/18/68.

The following investigation was conducted on  
4/24/68 by SAS RICHARD D. SCHWEIN and NEIL G. MARTIN:

Mrs. C. B. JONES, SOKOLS Dept. Store, Book-  
keeper, Bessemer, Alabama, was contacted and displayed  
several photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and advised that  
no one meeting or resembling his description was employed  
at the Sokols Dept. Store. She advised that her records  
show that no one by the name of JAMES EARL RAY or any  
of his known aliases has been employed at that store.

On 4/24/68, Mrs. DOROTHY LOWERY, Manager,  
SOKOLS Furniture Store, Bessemer Super Highway,  
advised that no one was employed at the store, (after  
she had viewed photographs of RAY) who resembled his  
photographs. She advised that the only individual  
who works exclusively on the weekends at the store is  
L. A. SMITH, whom she described as follows:

|         |          |
|---------|----------|
| Race:   | White    |
| Sex:    | Male     |
| Age:    | 47       |
| Height: | 5' 9"    |
| Weight: | 145 lbs. |

Mrs. LOWERY stated that she has been the  
manager of SOKOLS Furniture Store since it has been  
opened and that no one resembling RAY's photograph has  
been employed there and her records reveal that no one  
using his name or any of his aliases has ever worked at  
that store.

3-44-1740  
NGM:rte  
(3)

*noted -  
has*

44-1740-1200

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| MAY 16 1968      |         |
| FBI — BIRMINGHAM |         |

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



5010-108

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)(P) DATE: 5/16/68

FROM : SA RICHARD D. SCHWEIN

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR  
OO: ME

Re memorandum of SA ERIC L. WILSON, dated  
4/26/68.

On 5/2/68, HOMER AARON, Taxicab driver, Bluebird Cab Company, Bessemer, Alabama, was interviewed by SA'S RICHARD D. SCHWEIN and NEIL G. MARTIN. AARON advised substantially the same information as furnished in referenced memorandum. He viewed identification order and other photographs of the subject and stated definitely that neither of the men he drove from Bessemer to Tuscaloosa, Alabama, were identical with JAMES EARL RAY. He stated the only possible connection these men might have with RAY was the fact that they were going to Memphis, Tennessee. AARON was furnished a copy of the identification order and advised he would make this available to all of the cab drivers, noting that the cab company is owned by his father.

No further investigation is being conducted in this matter.

*noted*  
*was*

RDS:cap  
(2) *cap*

44-1740-1838

|                  |         |
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| SEARCHED         | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED       | FILED   |
| MAY 16 1968      |         |
| FBI — BIRMINGHAM |         |



5010-106

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)(P)      DATE: 5/16/68

FROM : SA RICHARD D. SCHWEIN

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR  
OO: ME

Want ads dealing with the sale of used cars by individuals were checked by SA'S RICHARD D. SCHWEIN and NEIL G. MARTIN, in the Birmingham Post-Herald and Birmingham News for the period 3/21/68 through 4/2/68. Telephone numbers obtained through these ads were checked through the crisscross, and dealers and duplications were eliminated. 486 car sale ads were obtained to be checked. Any positive information developed from contact of the people selling cars will be set forth in a separate memorandum.

RDS:cap  
(2) *cap*

*Noted & included with  
results in report  
bar*

44-1740-1539

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| SEARCHED _____   | INDEXED _____ |
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| MAY 16 1968      |               |
| FBI — BIRMINGHAM |               |



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1740) (P)

FROM : SA DAVID T. DALY

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR  
OO:ME

DATE: May 16, 1968

## Laundry Mark 20-R-3

The following investigation was conducted  
by Special Agent DAVID T. DALY on 4/30/68:

CLARENCE N. SHERER, Manager, Alladin  
Cleaners, 108 - 55th Place, North, advised that although  
they utilize the Thermo-Seal Machine, they do not  
identify linens with a mark and have never used the  
mark 20-R-3.

VIRGIL ESCO, Plant Manager, Mayfield  
Cleaners, 219 South 20th Street, advised that they  
have in the past used the mark 20-R-; however, he found  
this to be a white and pink stripe and a cloth mark,  
therefore, not identical with the mark 20-R-3, which was found  
on the linens in instant investigation.

3-44-1740  
DTD:rte  
(3)

*noted & included in rpt -  
HSS*

44-1740-1840

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| SEARCHED.....    | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED.....  | FILED.....   |
| MAY 16 1968      |              |
| FBI — BIRMINGHAM |              |



5010-108

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

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

5/21/68

SAC, CHARLOTTE (44-1365)

MURKIN

(OO: MEMPHIS)

Re Bureau letter 5/17/68.

On 5/20/68, THOMAS H. BROUGHTON, Editor, "Master Barber and Beautician" magazine, 219 Greenwich Road, Charlotte, North Carolina, was furnished a glossy photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and a copy of the newspaper mat and proof as furnished all offices by the Bureau. Mr. BROUGHTON advised he would make every effort to include the article and photograph of RAY in the June issue of his magazine which will be printed around June 1, 1968. He advised in the event he is unable to include the article in this month's issue, he will include it in the following month's issue. He advised that the normal deadline is the Fifteenth of the month preceding date of issue.

2 - Bureau  
2 - Memphis (44-1987)  
① - Birmingham (44-1740) (Info)  
1 - New York  
2 - Charlotte (44-1365)  
CFW:lrf  
(8)

44-1740-1841

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| SEARCHED         | INDEXED |
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| MAY 22 1968      |         |
| FBI - BIRMINGHAM |         |

*[Signature]*

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                          |                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Date received<br><u>5/10/68</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Received from (name or symbol number)<br><u>SH 367-R</u> | Received by<br><u>SA Monte E. Hinkley</u>                                |
| Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks)<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in person <input type="checkbox"/> by telephone <input type="checkbox"/> by mail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> orally <input type="checkbox"/> recording device <input type="checkbox"/> written by Informant |                                                          |                                                                          |
| If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent:<br>Date _____<br>Dictated _____ to _____<br>Transcribed _____<br>Authenticated by Informant _____                                                                                                                                                   |                                                          | Date of Report<br><u>5/10/68</u><br>Date(s) of activity<br><u>5/7/68</u> |
| Brief description of activity or material<br><u>Meeting of Lullman, Ala. Klavern, U.K.A. Inc.,</u><br><u>KKKK. New member.</u>                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                          | File where original is located if not attached<br><u>170-113-SF1-77</u>  |

Remarks: Informant has furnished reliable information in past.  
All necessary action taken on information furnished.  
Copies - 1 ea:

|                                     |                                           |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <u>170-113 (306 Only)</u>           | <u>157-3298 (Richard Anthony Barrett)</u> |
| <u>170-113-SF</u>                   | <u>157-3318 (Leon Armos)</u>              |
| <u>170-1-SF</u>                     | <del>157-3318</del>                       |
| <u>105-722 (U.K.A.)</u>             | <u>4-16 (Thomas Albert Tarrent III)</u>   |
| <u>105-1034 (Lullman Klavern)</u>   | <u>44-1740 (Munhin)</u>                   |
| <u>157-178 (Otto Harnes)</u>        |                                           |
| <u>157-1721 (Joe Wallingham)</u>    |                                           |
| <u>157-1661 (Red " )</u>            |                                           |
| <u>157-2431 (Willard De Priest)</u> |                                           |
| <u>157-3308 (Calvin Cantrell)</u>   |                                           |
| <u>157-1532 (Gordon Alberhold)</u>  |                                           |
| <u>157-2229 (T. L. Blair)</u>       |                                           |
| <u>157-3333 (George Brannon)</u>    |                                           |
| <u>157- (Dwight Shelton)</u>        |                                           |

Block Stamp

|                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| <u>44-1740-1842</u> |           |
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| FILED               |           |
| <u>APR</u>          |           |

5-7-68

5-10-68

The Cullman Klavern met at the same old meeting place.

Present.

Otto James

Joe Willingham

Paul Willingham

Willard Deprees

Calvin Cantrell

addabee

J L Blair

George the new member learn name later

and another new member joined

from Mott. 5-7-68 his name

Dwight Shulten height 5'4" weight

175 or 180 pounds, brown hair

eyes dark blue. they are going

to try to get a unit in

moton. Put out a sign

at meeting house north of

Cullman sign red fly flag

Haft mast for Turner

Wallace. they flew flag

full mast the day the

died. every thing is going

real nice and pleasant so far.

Lonesome

On 5/10/68, Informant also advised that he has seen a lot of posters around with JAMES EARL RAY'S photograph on them and he doesn't remember seeing anyone around that looked like RAY. The only talk by Cullman Klavern members about RAY is about what is printed in the newspapers.

Informant advised that he hasn't heard anything about RICHARD ANTHONY BARRETT coming to Ala. to give talks, about THOMAS ALBERT TARRANTS, III, or LEON AMOS, nor has he seen any literature about "Black Power is Here."

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1740) (2)

DATE: 5/22/68

FROM : SA RICHARD D. SCHEPIN

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR  
OO: JPS

Re Memo of SA COLLEMAN D. GEARY 5/11/68.

The following investigation was conducted 5/11/68 at Leeds, Alabama by SA RICHARD D. SCHEPIN.

JAMES O'BARR was interviewed at his request at his place of incarceration the Leeds City jail. Prior to interview O'BARR was advised of certain of his rights as shown on an executed warning and waiver form. O'BARR advised that he had killed MARTIN LUTHER KING. He stated that he had "kept the FBI fooled for two months" and now desired to be tried and executed for the crime. O'BARR stated that he would not furnish details of how he had murdered KING as that would only serve to implicate other people. O'BARR refused to answer any questions and requested to be returned to his cell. He was returned to his cell by Officer IRA DEMPSY of the Leeds PD.

Prior to interview O'BARR was fingerprinted by the Leeds PD comparison with the fingerprints of JAMES EARL RAY proved that they were not identical.

Officer DEMPSY advised that O'BARRS parents Mr. & Mrs. RAYMOND O'BARR desired to speak to the Agent. O'BARRS parents advised that O'BARR is a mental case and ~~is~~ a chronic alcoholic. They advised that on the day KING was killed JAMES O'BARR was at their home watching television.

At this time WILLIAM O'BARR, JAMES O'BARRS' brother, appeared at the Leeds Jail and requested to speak to the interviewing Agent. WILLIAM advised that JAMES is an ex-con who spent time for Forgery at Kilby. He further advised that JAMES is a mental case who has been incarcerated in the VA hospital on two occasions for mental disorders. He advised that on other occasions JAMES has appeared at police departments and confessed to homicides he had no connection with.

44-1740-1847

Contact was made with Mr. LEWIS WILL, Duty Administrative Officer, VA hospital P'ham. WILL caused his records to be checked and advised JAMES O'BARR has been treated at the P'ham VA hospital and the VA Hospital at Tuscaloosa for mental disorders.



5010-108

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

(2)

Officer WATKINS after checking the records of his department ascertained that the record of O'BARR indicated he was a "town character" who had numerous arrests for intoxication as well as a felony arrest on a charge of Forgery.

O'BARR again requested to speak to the interviewing Agent. He demanded to be arrested for the murder of KING but stated he would never say anything but "I killed him".

Based on the above it is apparent that O'BARR has some type of mental problem. There is no indication that he had any connection with JAMES EARL RAY or any knowledge of facts in this case. No further action is indicated.

JAMES O'BARR is described as follows:

|            |                                                                                                        |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Name:      | JAMES ROUSTON O'BARR                                                                                   |
| Sex:       | Male                                                                                                   |
| Race:      | White                                                                                                  |
| Age:       | 40                                                                                                     |
| Dob:       |                                                                                                        |
| Pob:       | Leeds, Alabama                                                                                         |
| Hgt:       | 5'7"                                                                                                   |
| Wgt:       | 145                                                                                                    |
| Hair:      | Black                                                                                                  |
| Eyes:      | Brown                                                                                                  |
| Scars:     | On Stomach Right side "6"                                                                              |
| Residence: | Rt.1, Odenville, Alabama                                                                               |
| Marital:   | Wife: BETTY JOE O'BARR                                                                                 |
|            | Children: 7                                                                                            |
| Arrests:   | 1948 Leeds, Alabama Forgery, served one year<br>Riley. Numerous arrests on Drunk & Traffic<br>charges. |

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

DATE: 5/22/68

FROM : SA WILLIAM H. LEE

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR  
(OO: MEMPHIS)

Re Mobile teletype to Birmingham dated 5/20/68 and SAC, Birmingham memorandum to each Senior RA and Road Trip Agent dated 5/15/68.

In regard to referenced teletype from Mobile concerning 1968 Alabama license [REDACTED] having been observed by a secretary from New York on the expressway on Long Island, New York, on a blue convertible.

On 5/21/68, DOT NEAL, Clerk, Cullman County Probate Office, Cullman, Alabama, advised 1968 Alabama license [REDACTED] was issued to WAYNE QUICK, Route 3, Hanceville, Alabama, for a 1961 Chevrolet, VIN 11767G135471, which is a convertible. Miss NEAL stated that there are no records of a transfer on this license plate.

On 5/21/68, Mrs. ROLAND QUICK, Route 3, Hanceville, advised that WAYNE QUICK is a close relative of her's and is presently residing in care of BILLY RAY QUICK at Box 209, Montauk, Long Island, New York.

Since the owner, WAYNE QUICK, is in possession of this vehicle and currently residing in Long Island, New York, it is not felt that the individual observed in this vehicle by the New York secretary is identical with subject RAY.

In accordance with above-referenced memorandum from the SAC, on 5/20/68, LEDON HILL, Captain, Decatur, Alabama, Police Department, advised that the unsolved burglaries and robberies which occurred during the past few months have been of a minor type with considerably small losses. HILL stated that RAY's photograph will be displayed to victims of these unsolved burglaries and robberies as a possible suspect.

WHL:gas  
(3)



5010-108

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

5/22/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

*JH* FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

MURKIN  
CR  
OO: ME

In recent check of the Dale Carnegie Institute at Birmingham, Birmingham was advised that records of all people enrolled in the Dale Carnegie self-improvement courses are maintained at New York City. It is noted that subject, JAMES EARL RAY, is described as an introverted individual who prefers to be by himself. Yet the investigation shows that he has enrolled in at least two dancing courses and a bartenders school, in which he was compelled to mix with other people. It was further noted that RAY sought professional help in Los Angeles to overcome his "shyness" and his tendency to be an introvert.

It is suggested that the Bureau consider having the records of the Dale Carnegie Institute and similar type institutions checked to ascertain if the subject was formerly enrolled or is currently enrolled in a self-improvement or confidence gaining type course.

3 - Bureau  
1 - Memphis (44-1987)  
1 - New York  
2 - Birmingham

RDS:epg

(7) *epg*

44-1740-1845  
SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED

5/22/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, MOBILE (157-3627) (P)  
RE: MURKIN

RECORD OF UNIDENTIFIED DECEASED

Re Bureau airtel to all SACs, 5/9/68.

Enclosed herewith for Memphis are fifteen (15) copies of insert reflecting check of Bureau of Vital Statistics records for Alabama, 5/16/68.

It is noted that only one unidentified death has been recorded since 4/5/68, that being a Negro male.

The Mobile Office will be advised by NVE, Montgomery, of future unidentified deceased who will be checked in line with Bureau instructions.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

3 - Bureau  
2 - Memphis (44-1987) (Encls. 15)  
① - Birmingham  
2 - Mobile  
JTB:ivd  
(8)

44-1740-1846

|                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| SEARCHED         | INDEXED         |
| SERIALIZED       | FILED <i>MB</i> |
| MAY 23 1968      |                 |
| FBI — BIRMINGHAM |                 |

*[Signature]*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, Albany

DATE: May 20, 1968

*for*  
FROM : Director, FBI

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
PUBLICITY ON REWARDS OFFERED

Each Special Agent in Charge and Legal Attache is instructed to promptly remind their established cooperative news sources, in a discreet and tactful manner, of the existence of substantial reward money for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the killer of Dr. Martin Luther King. This money now totals at least \$100,000. The FBI should not, however, be publicized as the source of this reminder.

While the Bureau's continuing policy is to encourage the public to furnish information to law enforcement authorities as a matter of good citizenship, without expectation of financial reward, it is fully recognized that monetary rewards are often necessary to motivate some individuals. The knowledge of the existence of the substantial rewards available in the Murkin case could possibly prove of value in the solution of this major investigation.

1 - Copies to all Special Agents in Charge and Legats

*5/22/68  
Barnett & Brown  
handling BH -  
CC made for  
each SRA.  
Hss*



5010-108

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

*44-1240-1847*

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| SEARCHED         | INDEXED          |
| SERIALIZED       | FILED <i>CHD</i> |
| MAY 22 1968      |                  |
| FBI - BIRMINGHAM |                  |

*[Signature]*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)

DATE: 5/23/68

FROM : SA HENRY A. SNOW

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Attached please find self-explanatory Bulet dated 5/20/68.

It is requested that each SRA personally contact their sources in the local SRA newspaper and discuss this matter with them. As you will see, the Bureau does not desire to be identified as the source of the statement that rewards now total \$100,000. Any news article written, however, should end with the request that any citizen having information contact the nearest FBI Office.

For possible use in such article by the newspapers, attached is a recent photo of subject RAY taken about the latter part of January 1968 showing him dressed in a business suit with tie and buttoned-down collar. This might be used with the article as "a recent photo of RAY," and it is noted that this photo has not yet been used on I.O. Wanted Flier or publicity in this area.

Any publicity items used should be forwarded to the office.

SA SNOW is contacting the Birmingham News and Birmingham Post-Herald, and SA BARRETT the TV stations in Birmingham.

- 2 - 44-1740
- 1 - SA HUMMEL
- 1 - SA LEE
- 1 - SA WRIGHT
- 1 - SA PERRY
- 1 - SA BRUNINGA
- 1 - SA LANDERS
- 1 - SA BARRETT

HAS:mas  
(9)



5010-108

*Snow*  
*cc -*

44-1740-1845

|             |         |
|-------------|---------|
| SEARCHED    | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED  |         |
| MAY 23 1968 |         |

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1740) (P)

FROM : SA NEIL G. MARTIN

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR  
OO:ME

DATE: May 16, 1968

Attached is one copy of an article in  
"The Birmingham News," page A-14, Sunday, April 21, 1968.

On April 22, 1968, J. M. NALLY, Greyhound Bus Dispatcher, Greyhound Bus Terminal, Birmingham, Alabama, telephonically advised the Birmingham office of the FBI that he observed an individual whom he believed to resemble JAMES EARL RAY. He stated that this individual left on a Greyhound Bus at 3:45 a.m. for Atlanta, Georgia, on the day of MARTIN LUTHER KING's funeral with a man whose picture was in the "Birmingham News," page 14-A on April 21, 1968.

On April 24, 1968, Mr. NALLY advised after observing several photographs of subject in this matter, displayed to him by SAS RICHARD D. SCHWEIN and NEIL G. MARTIN, that this resembled the man whom he had previously contacted FBI regarding. Mr. NALLY stated these two men were observed by him on the passenger platform of the Greyhound Bus Terminal on the morning before KING's funeral talking and joking with each other. He advised that he believed they boarded the 3:45 a.m. bus to Atlanta together.

Mr. NALLY described these individuals as follows:

(1) *Noted - on report*

|                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Race:            | White              |
| Sex:             | Male               |
| Height:          | 5' 10" - 11"       |
| Age:             | Approximately 30   |
| Hair:            | Dark               |
| Build:           | Medium             |
| Weight:          | 150 - 170 lbs.     |
| Wearing Apparel: | Dark business suit |

3-44-1740  
NGM:rte  
(3)



5010-108

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

44-1740-1849

|                  |         |
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| SEARCHED         | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED       | FILED   |
| MAY 16 1968      |         |
| FBI - BIRMINGHAM |         |

BH 44-1740

|     |                  |                                                                |
|-----|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| (2) | Race:            | Negro                                                          |
|     | Sex:             | Male                                                           |
|     | Height:          | 6' 6" 2"                                                       |
|     | Age:             | 30                                                             |
|     | Weight:          | 185 - 200 lbs.                                                 |
|     | Build:           | Large                                                          |
|     | Hair:            | Dark                                                           |
|     | Characteristics: | mustache                                                       |
|     | Clothes:         | Short-sleeved<br>light-colored shirt,<br>with dark dress pants |

Mr. NALLY advised that he had no additional information regarding this matter but could be contacted through the Greyhound Bus Station.

On April 26, 1968, Mr. J. OWENS, Greyhound Bus Terminal Manager, advised that JAMES HEADLEY was the Ticket Agent at the Terminal on 4/9/68 during the time from 11:00 p.m., 4/8/68 to 7:00 a.m., 4/9/68.

On 4/28/68, JAMES HEADLEY, Route 2, Box 187, Centreville, Alabama, advised after viewing photographs of subject and photograph of individual in "Birmingham News", stated that neither of these photographs resemble anyone that he knew or had ever seen in the Greyhound Terminal to the best of his knowledge. He advised that he was on duty at 3:45 a.m., 4/9/68, but that he does not remember either of these individuals purchasing a ticket at his ticket window.

On 5/2/68, E. C. CLARK, 1919 Princeton Court, Southwest, advised that he drove the Greyhound Bus from Birmingham, Alabama, to Atlanta, Georgia, at 3:45 a.m. on the date of 4/9/68. He stated that after viewing photographs of subject and of the individual in "The Birmingham News," that he does not remember either of these people being on any of his bus trips. He advised that he would generally remember someone with "Hippie"

BH 44-1740

clothing and beard traveling on his bus but that he does not remember any such individual being on that particular bus trip.

# RFK vows to keep close to the people

NORFOLK, Neb. (AP)

Sen. Robert F. Kennedy pledged Saturday to travel widely and often among the American people if he is elected president.

Kennedy drew heavy crowds in Republican stretches of Nebraska as he campaigned in advance of the state's May 14 primary.

And he told Nebraskans "no leadership can separate itself in thought or in fact from the people of a Democracy. If I am chosen as your next president, I pledge to you and my fellow citizens to go out among you; to meet with you; to open the channel of communication between a president and a citizenry which we so desperately need in the critical years ahead."

The New York Democrat, winding up a grueling week of stumping in the western part of the country, was warmly received by several thousand Nebraskans at Scottsbluff, and again in front of the old Union Pacific Railroad station in Norfolk.

At Scottsbluff and again in Norfolk, Kennedy introduced his new picture of future President Kennedy as a far-traveling leader responding to the will of the people.



**BEARDED HECKLER ESCORTED OUT**  
... He came to give Kennedy a bad time

"It is time," he said, "that the government begin to accommodate itself to the requirements of citizens—instead of the other way around...the first task of any leader is to know what those he represents want and need, and for him to rally the diverse forces within America to that common effort and participation we need."

"So if I become your president, I intend to travel regularly across America, talking with the people of our country, with labor and business, with leaders of rural and urban communities, with our youth and those who still live in poverty."

"I intend not only to make government more responsive to the people, but to reach out beyond the apparatus of government, talking directly with the people themselves and giving them the opportunity to talk with me."

Thus Kennedy implicitly drew a contrast between his presidency and President Johnson's. Johnson has in recent months traveled little in the United States, and has confined most of his visits to military bases.

After a one-day rest in Washington Sunday, Kennedy will begin a heavy campaign schedule in Indiana—where there is a primary May 7—and Nebraska. In each state he will shift briefly to the old whistle stop technique — and next Saturday plans a 500-mile train ride from Cheyenne, Wyo., to Omaha.

FBI WASH DC

FBI BIRMGHAM

1054PM URGENT 5-23-68 HEP  
TO DIRECTOR, KANSAS CITY  
FROM BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) 1P

MURKIN

REBUTEL TO CHICAGO, MAY TWENTYTWO, SIXTYEIGHT.

THOMAS BRITTON (PROTECT IDENTITY) HALEYVILLE, ALABAMA,  
ADVISED THIS DATE HE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE RE PUBLICATIONS SUBJECT  
READ, BUT SUGGESTED MAJOR POIRY, SECURITY OFFICER, MSP, MIGHT  
HAVE SINCE HE USE TO CHECK CELLS FOR CONTRABAND GOODS AND MIGHT  
THEREFORE BE FAMILIAR WITH TYPE OF PUBLICATIONS FAVORED BY SUBJECT.

KANSAS CITY AT JEFFERSON CITY, MO., CONTACT MAJOR POIRY, MSP,  
RE HIS KNOWLEDGE OF PUBLICATIONS READ BY SUBJECT.

AIR MAIL COPY MEMPHIS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

MXS

FBI WASH DC

*ALSO SENT  
ENT  
FBI-KAN CITY*

*JP*

*44-1740-1850*

F B I

Date: **5-23-68**Transmit the following in **PLAIN TEXT**  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via **TELETYPE** **URGENT**  
(Priority)

**TO DIRECTOR, KANSAS CITY**  
**FROM BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)**

**MURKIN****REBUTEL TO CHICAGO, MAY TWENTYTWO, SIXTYEIGHT.**

**THOMAS BRITTON (PROTECT IDENTITY) HALEYVILLE, ALABAMA,**  
**ADVISED THIS DATE HE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE RE PUBLICATIONS SUBJECT**  
**READ, BUT SUGGESTED MAJOR POIRY, SECURITY OFFICER, MSP, MIGHT**  
**HAVE SINCE HE USE TO CHECK CELLS FOR CONTRABAND GOODS AND MIGHT**  
**THEREFORE BE FAMILIAR WITH TYPE OF PUBLICATIONS FAVORED BY SUBJECT.**

**KANSAS CITY AT JEFFERSON CITY, MO., CONTACT MAJOR POIRY, MSP,**  
**RE HIS KNOWLEDGE OF PUBLICATIONS READ BY SUBJECT. AM COPY MEMPHIS.**

**ARMED AND DANGEROUS.****END.****1 - Memphis (44-1987)****① - Birmingham****JHK:hep****(2)**

**44-1740-1850**  
SEARCHED \_\_\_\_\_ INDEXED \_\_\_\_\_  
SERIALIZED **B** FILE **B**

*SAC approved phone* *1054 & WA*  
*1652 & KE*  
Approved: *JHK* Special Agent in Charge

Sent *1652* M Per *NE*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, BIRMINGHAM (26-252<sup>2</sup>88) C

DATE: 4/26/68

FROM : SA ARTHUR JON COOK

SUBJECT: UNSUB; 1962 Oldsmobile Cutless F-85  
Convertible, white with blue top  
VIN 621M35516

Re: Birmingham teletype to NCIC, dated 4/6/68.

On April 5, 1968, Sheriff Harold Richards, DeKalb County, Ft. Payne, Alabama, advised captioned vehicle was found by his deputies apparently abandoned off Highway 75 north, Ft. Payne, Alabama. Sheriff Richards advised he had no stolen report on captioned vehicle.

On April 5, 1968, H.E. Collins, Investigator, Alabama State Troopers, Ft. Payne, Alabama, advised his headquarters at Montgomery, Alabama, had no theft report for captioned vehicle. He stated that the area in which the vehicle was located was, he believed, owned by Kenneth Shankles, who buys and sells used cars. Collins noted Shankles is a reputable dealer.

On April 6, 1968, NCIC advised it had no record for captioned vehicle.

On April 8, 1968, Sheriff Richards advised he had talked to Kenneth Shankles, who produced a bill of sale for the captioned vehicle. Richards stated Shankles advised him he had left the car on the vacant lot as it would not make it up the hill to his garage.

In view of the above, it is recommended this case be closed.

*File 44-1740*  
*KAC*

*44-1740-1851*  
*SEARCHED*  
*INDEXED*  
*FILED*  
*APR 27 1968*  
*FBI - BIRMINGHAM*  
*Law* *HAC*

2-Birmingham (26-252<sup>2</sup>88)  
1-Birmingham (44-1740) ✓

5/22/68

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR  
FROM: MEMPHIS (44-1987)  
MURKIN.

ONLY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY IN CLARKSVILLE RA TERRITORY  
IN MEMPHIS THAT MAINTAINS FINGERPRINT CARDS ON FILE IS CLARKSVILLE  
PD. ALL UNIDENTIFIED LATENTS OF CLARKSVILLE PD HAVE BEEN CHECKED  
AGAINST PRINTS OF JAMES EARL RAY WITH NO IDENTIFICATION.

LITTLE ROCK DIVISION ADVISED LOOK ALIKE SEEN DRIVING LATE  
MODEL MERCURY TWO TONE IN COLOR WITH BLACK TOP, BEARING SIXTYEIGHT  
ARK. LICENSE A V W SEVEN THREE TWO, WITH FT. CAMPBELL, KY. STICKER  
ON WINDSHIELD NEAR ARKADELPHIA, ARK., MAY ELEVEN LAST. MEMPHIS  
INVESTIGATION DISCLOSED OWNER OF AUTOMOBILE CAPTAIN GEORGE C.  
INGRAM, NOT IN RESIDENCE MEMPHIS AND CURRENTLY ASSIGNED OPTOMETRY  
CLINIC, U. S. ARMY HOSPITAL, FT. CAMPBELL, KY. LOUISVILLE DIVISION  
INTERVIEWED CAPT. GEORGE CONWAY INGRAM, JR., SN [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] OPTOMETRIST ASSIGNED U. S. ARMY HOSPITAL,  
FT. CAMPBELL. INGRAM, WHO ADVISED HE IS OWNER SIXTYSEVEN MERCURY

CC 1 - BIRMINGHAM(AM)

RGJ:BN  
(2)

44-1740-1852

|                  |         |
|------------------|---------|
| SEARCHED         | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED       | FILED   |
| MAY 23 1968      |         |
| FBI - BIRMINGHAM |         |

PAGE TWO

BLACK VINYL TOP, WITH SIXTYEIGHT ARKANSAS LICENSE A V W SEVEN THREE TWO, ADVISED ON MAY ELEVEN LAST HE WAS EN ROUTE FROM FT. CAMPBELL, KY. TO HOT SPRINGS, ARK. TO ATTEND OPTOMETRY CONVENTION. DOES NOT RECALL HAVING TRAVELED THROUGH ARKADELPHIA, BUT INDICATED HE MAY HAVE. STATED HE TRAVELED ALONE. CAPTAIN INGRAM DESCRIBED AS WM, SIX FEET, TWO THIRTYSEVEN LBS., REDDISH BROWN HAIR, BROWN EYES, WEARS HORN RIM GLASSES. CAPTAIN INGRAM SAID WHEN DRIVING HE DOES WEAR MILITARY PRESCRIPTION SUNGLASSES. LOUISVILLE STATES INGRAM NOT IDENTICAL WITH SUBJECT.

ME 44-1987

PAGE 2

LFT:mjh

1

LUTHER EDWARD WILBURN, FOUR FOUR FIVE EAST MADISON STREET, PULASKI, TENN., OWNS AND OPERATES THE BUS STATION RESTAURANT IN PULASKI AND ALSO DAILY DRIVES A GILES COUNTY SCHOOL BUS. WILBURN HAS LIVED IN PULASKI, TENN., SINCE JUNE OF NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN, HAVING COME TO PULASKI FROM HUNTSVILLE, IN ALA./ HUNTSVILLE HE WAS MANAGER OF THE SHOCKLEY PANCAKE HOUSE, A RESTAURANT LOCATED AT ONE THREE ZERO FOUR NORTH MEMORIAL PARKWAY, HUNTSVILLE, ALA. HE CURRENTLY OWNS TWO AUTOMOBILES, A VOLKSWAGEN AND A SIXTYFIVE OLDSMOBILE JET STAR EIGHTYEIGHT, WHICH IS RED IN COLOR. HE HAS OWNED BOTH VEHICLES FOR MORE THAN TWO YEARS AND BOTH HAVE BEEN LICENSED IN THE STATE OF TENNESSEE IN NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN AND NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT. HE HAS OWNED NO OTHER VEHICLES DURING THIS TIME.

HE RECALLS THE DAY THAT MARTIN LUTHER KING WAS KILLED AND REMEMBERS THAT ON THIS DAY HE WORKED AS USUAL AT HIS RESTAURANT AND DROVE THE SCHOOL BUS.

WILBURN KNOWS NO ONE BY THE NAME OF WILLIAM PIERCE OR FRANK WILLIAM BRICKLEY. THE ONLY PERSON BY THE NAME OF LEWIS THAT HE KNOWS IS SAM LEWIS, AN ATTORNEY, PULASKI, TENN., WHO

ME 44-1987

PAGE

LFT:mjh

2

IS KNOWN TO ENJOY AN EXCELLENT REPUTATION IN THE COMMUNITY. WILBURN SAID HE HAS NOT BEEN IN MEMPHIS, TENN., FOR TWELVE OR FOURTEEN YEARS.

MR. MARLIN GOODMAN, SUPERINTENDENT, GILES COUNTY SCHOOLS, PULASKI, TENN., CONFIRMED THE FACT THAT WILBURN IS EMPLOYED BY THE GILES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION AS A BUS DRIVER. CONTRACTS ARE ON AN ANNUAL BASIS AND NO DAILY RECORDS ARE KEPT, IT IS THE BUS DRIVER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO OBTAIN A SUBSTITUTE AND PAY HIM IF THE DRIVER IS UNABLE TO MAKE THE ROUNDS.

ROLAND HARRIS, POLICE OFFICER, PULASKI, TENN., PD, SERVES AS A SUBSTITUTE DRIVER.

RECORDS OF GAS RECEIPTS MAINTAINED BY THE GILES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION GARAGE REFLECT THAT WILBURN OBTAINED GASOLINE FOR THE VEHICLES ON APRIL THREE AND ON APRIL FIVE, SIXTYEIGHT, IT BEING HIS USUAL PRACTICE TO OBTAIN GASOLINE ABOUT EVERY OTHER DAY THAT THE BUS IS USED.

ROLAND HARRIS, PULASKI, TENN., PD, STATED HE HAS SERVED AS A SUBSTITUTE DRIVER FOR THREE COUNTY SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS

ME 44-1987

PAGE

LFT:mjh

3

BUT HE HAS NEVER SUBSTITUTED FOR WILBURN.

AIR MAIL COPY TO BIRMINGHAM.

A & D. P.

END

5/23/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

MURKIN

The Bureau may wish to give consideration to the following potential investigative leads and suggestions:

In view of subject RAY's statements to associates that he had previously been employed as a river man and cook on board a water vessel and his knowledge of various "beer joints" located in close proximity to the terminus of the navigable Warrior River, on which large barges operate, it is suggested that subject's photograph and description be published in "The Waterways Journal," Room 701 Chemical Building, 721 Olive Street, St. Louis, Mo., which is considered the "bible" for all employers and employees who work on the major rivers.

It is noted RAY was working in the Missouri Penitentiary bake shop at the time of his escape. In view of the possibility RAY may seek employment as a baker, it is suggested that RAY's photograph and description be circularized in all publications designed for or directed to the baking industries. It is also suggested that similar circularization be given to all baking unions.

In view of the fact that RAY may have been employed aboard a barge on the Inland Waterways System, the Bureau is requested to consider circularization and/or contact with Coast Guard stations and cutters patrolling the navigable river system. It is noted Coast Guard personnel board and inspect craft on the rivers and might be in a position to

3 - Bureau  
1 - Memphis (44-1987)  
1 - Newark  
1 - St. Louis  
② - Birmingham  
NGM:sob/mfl  
(8)

*mfl*

44-1740-1853  
SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED

BH 44-1740

locate RAY or former associates of RAY.

Inasmuch as RAY was known to have been interested in locksmithing and tinkering with locks in his spare time and was once enrolled in a correspondence course from the Locksmith Institute, Little Falls, New Jersey, it is suggested that the Bureau consider having Newark recontact the Locksmithing Institute regarding all correspondence course applications from 4/5/68 to the present time to ascertain if RAY may have reapplied for enrollment in a locksmithing course under an assumed name, and identify other locksmithing schools and publications.

It is noted that RAY expressed a great interest to fellow convicts while confined in Missouri State Penitentiary in baseball and baseball news and was considered an avid baseball fan. Therefore, it is suggested that the Bureau may wish to contact the J. J. Taylor Spink Publishing Company of St. Louis, Mo., publishers of "The Sporting News," the recognized "bible" of baseball fans, to ascertain if "The Sporting News" would consider publishing an article and photograph of RAY.

In line with the above suggestion, it is suggested that the Bureau instruct all divisions having major and minor league baseball teams contact appropriate officials of these clubs to insure circularization of concession stand operators and security personnel and other appropriate individuals in view of the fact that RAY may attend professional ball games.

It is suggested that the Bureau may wish, in light of the successful results achieved in previous Bureau cases of major proportion, to consider contacting the Saturday Evening Post and Reader's Digest magazines, which have international circulation, to ascertain if these magazines would publish an article concerning RAY's fugitive status.

The Bureau may wish to explore the feasibility of taking fingerprint pictures of all thumb impressions of all persons who applied for permanent visas to Canada and Mexico from March until the present time and submit these to the Identification Division for comparison with subject's thumb prints.

BH 44-1740

It is noted that the Bureau previously directed that Birmingham, Atlanta, Memphis and several other southern divisions personally contact all laundries and cleaning establishments within their respective territories regarding RAY's fugitive status, as well as the reward being offered for his apprehension. It is, therefore, suggested that the Bureau may desire to have all divisions contact all cleaning and laundry facilities within their respective areas, noting, however, that in the divisions with extremely dense population centers, the use of mailing lists may be more feasible than personal contact.

Armed and Dangerous

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, Birmingham (44-1740) (P)

DATE: 5/23/68

FROM : SA LARRY K. SYLVESTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR  
OO: ME

Re Mobile teletype to Birmingham dated 5/10/68,  
and Birmingham teletype to Norfolk dated 5/13/68.

## SUSPECT ELIMINATION

The following investigation was conducted by  
SA LARRY K. SYLVESTER at St. Clair County, Alabama:

On 5/10/68 SARA BELL, Probate Clerk, St. Clair County, Pell City, Alabama, advised that 1968 Alabama license 59-4065 was issued to DON PITTS, Ashville, Alabama, for a 1960 four-door Oldsmobile Eighty-eight, moter number 607M42511 purchased on 3/9/68 at Ashville, Alabama.

On 5/10/68 FOSTER JONES, Post Master, (Protect Identity) Ashville, Alabama, advised that DON PITTS was unknown to him and currently not receiving mail at Ashville, Alabama.

On 5/10/68 Mrs. FREDDA TUCKER, Probate Clerk, St. Clair County, Ashville, Alabama, advised that a review of her records revealed that PITTS had purchased his 1968 Alabama license 59-4065 on 3/9/68 from SHIRLEY SATTERFIELD, Tax Assesor, St. Clair County. She stated the application reflected that PITTS had purchased the 1960 Oldsmobile from ROBERT L. MOORE, Virginia Beach, Virginia. TUCKER stated she was familiar with PITTS and thought that he did live around Springville, Alabama but had since moved out of St. Clair County. She stated that SATTERFIELD was on vacation fishing and she did not know his whereabouts. SATTERFIELD was to return to work 5/13/68 and would be able to provide additional information regarding PITTS.

LKS:bal  
(3) *bal*



5010-108

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

BH 44-1740

On 5/10/68 Chief of Police FRANK THOMPSON, Springville, Alabama, and MARTHA LANKFORD, City Clerk, Springville, Alabama, advised that DON PITTS was unknown to them.

A review of the telephone directories for Ashville, Springville, Odenville, and Ragland, Alabama, failed to show any listing for DON PITTS or a variation thereof.

On 5/13/68 SHIRLEY SATTERFIELD, Tax Assessor, St. Clair County, Ashville, Alabama, advised that he was personally acquainted with DONALD E. PITTS and that PITTS had telephonically contacted him from Virginia Beach, Virginia on 3/9/68 and requested that he be issued a 1968 Alabama license for 1960 Oldsmobile Eighty-eight which he had purchased from an individual by the name of ROBERT L. MOORE. SATTERFIELD advised that he mailed the tag to PITTS at an unrecalled street address in Virginia Beach, Virginia. PITTS stated in this telephone call that he was currently residing in Virginia Beach.

SATTERFIELD stated that ROBERT L. MOORE was unknown to him and that he has not seen PITTS for approximately one year. SATTERFIELD described PITTS as a white male, approximately 5'9", blond curly hair, blue eyes, 30-35 years of age. PITTS was involved in some type of construction work when he resided in St. Clair County. PITTS had separated from his wife and also had financial problems prior to leaving. SATTERFIELD advised that Mrs. GARLAND FORTSON, a friend of the family when they resided at Odenville could provide additional information.

On 5/10/68 Mrs. GARLAND FORTSON, Odenville, Alabama, advised that Mrs. HELEN PITTS had divorced her husband, DON PITTS in Virginia Beach, Virginia. She stated that she did not recall PITTS' new married name but that she resided at 1901 Atlantic Avenue, Virginia Beach and that DON did reside at 2905 Shore Avenue, Virginia Beach, Virginia. She stated that she did not know PITTS' current address but that he was in the aluminum siding business with KIM KONKLIN (phonetic) in the Virginia Beach area. She stated that his former wife would be able to provide his current address.

F B I

Date: MAY 22, 1968

Transmit the following in Plaintext  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via Teletype URGENT  
(Priority)TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) AND SACs *Memphis*:

FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

RE: MURKIN

RE LA PHONE CALL TO BUREAU AND LA TELSMAY SEVENTEEN  
LAST CONCERNING LA TIMES INFORMANT - "BOB" LNU.

INFORMATION DEVELOPED WHICH INDICATES INDIVIDUAL  
KNOWN TO LEAMONT ANDERSON WHITE, EMPLOYEE OF WESTERN UNION,  
LOS ANGELES, AS BOB BRICKLEY (ALLEGED TO BE BROTHER OF  
FRANK BRICKLEY) IS IN REALITY LESTER EDWARD PACKETT FBI  
NUMBER EIGHT TWO SEVEN ONE SEVEN ZERO A, SUBJECT OF BUFILE  
EIGHTY SEVEN DASH FOUR SIX TWO EIGHT TWO, IN WHICH KC WAS  
OO; KC FILE EIGHTY SEVEN DASH EIGHT TWO ZERO NINE: KX FILE  
EIGHTY SEVEN DASH TWO EIGHT SEVEN EIGHT; ME FILE EIGHTY  
SEVEN DASH FOUR NINE ZERO ZERO; MM FILE EIGHTY SEVEN DASH  
ONE ZERO FOUR NINE NINE. ALSO SUBJECT OF KX FILE TWENTY SIX  
DASH ONE THREE FOUR FOUR EIGHT, LA FILES EIGHT SEVEN DASH

## AIR MAIL COPIES TO FOLLOWING OFFICES:

|                            |               |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| 2 - ALBANY (Encl. 1 photo) | 1 - DETROIT   |
| 1 - ATLANTA                | 1 - MOBILE    |
| 1 - BIRMINGHAM             | 1 - KNOXVILLE |
| 1 - KANSAS CITY            | 1 - CHARLOTTE |
| 1 - MIAMI                  |               |
| 1 - LAS VEGAS              |               |

GGB

Approved: WV

(12) GGB

Special Agent in Charge

Sent                      M

44-1740-1855

|                                           |                           |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| SEARCHED <u>          </u>                | INDEXED <u>          </u> |
| SERIALIZED <u>          </u>              | FILED <u>          </u>   |
| MAY 24 1968                               |                           |
| Per <u>          </u><br>FBI - BIRMINGHAM |                           |

2  
LA 44-1574

NINE FOUR ZERO ZERO, AND TWENTY SIX DASH THREE THREE NINE SIX ZERO.

PHOTO OF LESTER PACKETT EXHIBITED TO LEAMONT ANDERSON WHITE WHO IDENTIFIED IT AS INDIVIDUAL HE KNEW AS BOB BRICKLEY. NANCY BURGDORF, APT. MANAGER, EIGHT ONE TWO SOUTH WESTLAKE, L.A., IDENTIFIED SAME PHOTO AS FORMER RESIDENT THAT APT. WITH ODELA A. PACKETT WHO IS IDENT WITH FBI NUMBER THREE NINE ZERO EIGHT SEVEN SEVEN A; AND SHE IS CURRENTLY SERVING THIRTY DAYS FOR PROSTITUTION IN L.A. PHOTO OF LESTER PACKETT WAS TAKEN BY KNOXVILLE PD DECEMBER SEVENTEEN, NINETEEN FIFTY EIGHT.

POLAROID COPY OF PHOTO OF LESTER PACKETT BEING FORWARDED AMSD TO AL FOR EXHIBITION TO RAY ANDREW YOUNG, MASSENA, N.Y., TO DETERMINE IF THIS WAS INDIVIDUAL WHO APPROACHED HIM WHILE HE WAS STAYING AT CLARK HOTEL APRIL SEVENTEEN LAST.

JERRY COHEN, LA TIMES NEWSPAPER, ADVISES PAPER PROMISED THEIR INFORMANT "BOB" LNU, THEY WOULD NOT REVEAL HIS IDENTITY OR HOW TO LOCATE. COHEN DID HOWEVER TELL THIS OFFICE HE WOULD ADVISE IF ANY PHOTOS EXHIBITED WERE NOT IDENTICAL WITH INFORMANT. COHEN STATED PHOTO OF FRANK BRICKLEY NOT IDENT, BUT QUOTE DECLINED TO COMMENT END QUOTE, WHEN PHOTO LESTER PACKETT EXHIBITED TO HIM.

3  
LA 44-1574

WIFE, ODELA PACKETT, INTERVIEWED AT LENGTH IN LA COUNTY JAIL. STATES FILED FOR DIVORCE FROM PACKETT TWO MONTHS AGO THROUGH ATTORNEY PHIL CLOUGH ON GROUNDS OF DESERTION, CRUELTY, AND NONSUPPORT. LEGAL FEES PAYED BY HER RELATIVES. SAID SHE WAS SO MAD AT PACKETT AT TIME OF FILING FOR DIVORCE THAT SHE TORE UP ALL PHOTOS SHE HAD OF HIM. DESCRIBED HIM AS SHIFTLESS DRIFTER, WHO NEVER HELD JOB DURING THEIR FIVE YEAR MARRIAGE. SHE DOES NOT KNOW HIS PRESENT WHEREABOUTS.

REVIEW OF LA FILES RE LESTER PACKETT AND INTERVIEW WITH ODELA PACKETT INDICATES HE HAS SPENT TIME IN BELLE GLADE, FLORIDA; RENO, NEVADA; VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN TENNESSEE; CHICAGO AND KANSAS CITY. LEAMONT WHITE BELIEVES HE IS INDIVIDUAL WHO TOOK HIS TWO GUNS, AND IS ONLY INDIVIDUAL OUTSIDE OF FRANK BRICKLEY AND PERSON HE KNEW AS BRICKLEY'S COUSIN (WHOSE NAME HE CAN NOT RECALL) THAT WOULD HAVE KNOWN HE EVEN OWNED THE GUNS.

IT WOULD APPEAR PACKETT BILKED LA TIMES OUT OF AT LEAST ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS. OTHER THAN SHOWING HIS PHOTO TO RAY

ANDREW YOUNG, MASSENA, N.Y., TO WRAP UP THIS ASPECT OF CASE, IT IS

NO FURTHER INVESTIGATIVE EFFORT BEING CONDUCTED IN LA RE "BOB"

LNU.

4  
LA 44-1574

AIRMAIL COPIES BEING SENT FOLLOWING OFFICES; WITH PHOTO  
ENCLOSED FOR ALBANY TO DISPLAY AS INDICATED ABOVE:

ALBANY, ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM, KANSAS CITY, MIAMI, LAS VEGAS,  
DETROIT, MOBILE, KNOXVILLE, CHARLOTTE.

INVESTIGATION CONTINUING LA.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- 4 \* -

5/23/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (44-1114)

MURKIN.

REBUTEL TO BIRMINGHAM ET AL MAY TWENTY TWO LAST.

RE PUBLICATIONS HABITUALLY READ BY SUBJECT.

PREVIOUS CONTACT WITH SUPERIOR BULK FILM COMPANY HAS DETERMINED THAT DUE TO THE MANNER IN WHICH THE COMPANY HANDLES REQUESTS FOR A CATALOG THERE IS NO WAY TO DETERMINE THE SPECIFIC MAGAZINE FROM WHICH ANY CUSTOMER REQUESTED THE CATALOG, IF IN FACT REQUEST WAS RECEIVED FROM MAGAZINE SLIP. NORMALLY THE CUSTOMER WILL SUBMIT A SLIP FROM ONE OF THE VARIOUS MAGAZINES REQUESTING A CATALOG BUT ON NUMEROUS OTHER OCCASIONS LETTER REQUESTS FOR A CATALOG HAVE BEEN RECEIVED. THE COMPANY DOES NOT MAINTAIN ANY LIST OF THE PERSONS REQUESTING THE CATALOG NOR THE MANNER IN WHICH THE REQUEST WAS MADE. THE FIRST TIME CUSTOMER'S NAME IS RECORDED IS WHEN AN ORDER FORM IS SUBMITTED WHICH FORM IS MAILED AS AN INSERT IN THE CATALOG.

THE FILM COMPANY ADVERTISES IN THE FOLLOWING MAGAZINES:

- ① - Birmingham (44-1740) (AM)
  - 1 - Kansas City (44-760) (AM)
  - 1 - Los Angeles (44-1574) (AM)
- RJD:jap (6)

- 44-1740-1856
- 1 - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
  - 1 - Newark (44-854) (AM)

|                  |         |
|------------------|---------|
| SEARCHED         | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED       | FILED   |
| MAY 24 1968      |         |
| FBI — BIRMINGHAM |         |