

MM 44-1854

DNJ/dmc

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On April 24, 1968, the Savannah, Georgia Office of the FBI advised as follows:

Investigation on April 24, 1968, at Darien, Georgia, had determined that on April 9, 1968, an individual identifying himself as JOSEPH LUNCEFORD who closely resembled artist's conception of the assassin of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING was seen in Darien, Georgia. LUNCEFORD had made inquiries at Darien, Georgia concerning a money order which was to be forwarded to him at New Smyrna, Florida.

The following investigation was conducted at Boca Raton, Florida by SA ROBERT SCHACHNER on April 25, 1968:

Mrs. MONNIE PETERSON LEONE, Apartment 26A, Garden Apartments, advised she has been living at this address about two weeks and comes from Clinton, North Carolina. She advised she met JOSEPH LUNCEFORD in Clinton, North Carolina, about the last week in March, 1968. She stated since that time she has been with LUNCEFORD every day both in Clinton, North Carolina and in Boca Raton, Florida. She advised they came to Florida together and plan on getting married when she is divorced from her separated husband. She advised LUNCEFORD was definitely in Clinton, North Carolina, with her on April 3, 4, 5, 1968.

She advised LUNCEFORD is working at the Palms Gulf Station.

JOSEPH LUNCEFORD was located at the Palms Gulf Station and eliminated as being subject by fingerprint comparison.

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On April 24, 1968, the Tampa Office of the FBI advised that DAVID O. CONGER, III, of North Largo, Florida, had furnished information to the effect that on April 8, 1968, he had flown from Miami, Florida, to St. Croix, Virgin Islands. He flew on Pan American Airways (PAA) Flight 429 and believes he saw a person identical to JAMES EARL RAY sitting in Seat 7F or Seat 9F.

The following investigation was conducted at Miami, Florida, by SA DAVID N. JELLISON at PAA, Miami International Airport, Miami, Florida, from April 25 to April 29, 1968:

FRANK WARFIELD, Assistant Passenger Manager, PAA, advised his records indicate that Seat 7F on Flight 429 from Miami to St. Croix, Virgin Islands, was occupied by CARL NULL on April 8, 1968. WARFIELD further advised that it would take approximately two or three days to determine where NULL was residing at the time he made his reservation. Seat 9F on this flight was not occupied.

On April 29, 1968, FRANK WARFIELD advised that CARL NULL left as a contact point telephone number 933-5561 at Pompano Beach, Florida, which number is listed to Adapt-O-Core Precast Co.

The following investigation was conducted by SA ROGER B. COLTON at Pompano Beach, Florida, on April 29, 1968:

Mr. LAWRENCE FITZSIMONS, Personnel Manager, Adapt-O-Core Company, Pompano Beach, Florida, advised that CARL T. NULL was employed on a job in Pompano Beach, Florida, on April 4 and April 5, 1968, from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

FITZSIMONS described NULL as a white male, 6' tall, slender build, who has two fingers missing on one hand and one finger missing on the other as a result of a 1963 accident. He stated that there was a possibility that NULL resembled JAMES EARL RAY, however, he positively stated that NULL is not identical to JAMES EARL RAY.

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On April 25, 1968, the Atlanta Office of the FBI advised that a WILLARD F. RAY previously resided at 225 Kinsey Court, NE, Atlanta.

Investigation indicated that RAY had since moved to 1251 Dickenson, Apartment 332, Coral Gables, Florida.

The following investigation was conducted by SA DAVID N. JELLISON and SA LEONARD C. PETERSON at Miami, Florida, on April 26, 1968:

Attempts to locate WILLARD F. RAY at 1251 Dickenson Drive, University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida, met with negative results. It was determined that WILLARD F. RAY resides at Apartment 33L, 1252 Dickenson Drive. RAY was contacted and was eliminated as a suspect through a check of his fingerprints.

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On May 6, 1968, CAROL YVONNE CROWLEY advised the Tampa Office of the FBI that she and her husband had stayed at the Buena Vista Hotel, 409 North Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach, from approximately April 18, 1968, to April 25, 1968. She further stated that while residing at the Buena Vista Hotel, an individual known to her only as JESSE, was also staying at the Buena Vista Hotel and resembled pictures of JAMES EARL RAY.

The following investigation was conducted at West Palm Beach, Florida by SA RICHARD B. KELLOGG on May 6, 1968:

WILLIAM COCKRIN, Manager, Buena Vista Hotel, West Palm Beach, Florida, stated that a RUDY JESSE SMITH registered there on April 19, 1968, and departed the following day. COCKRIN stated that SMITH was definitely not identical with JAMES EARL RAY. He further stated that SMITH was at least six feet tall, was less than 30 years old, had a very crooked "Dick Tracy" type nose, and a large prominent chin.

COCKRIN advised that SMITH was quite obviously of a very low mentality.

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On April 24, 1968, the San Francisco Office of the FBI advised that they had received information to the effect that witnesses at Douglas, Georgia believed JAMES EARL RAY hitchhiked through Douglas, Georgia on April 20, 1968.

He allegedly stayed overnight at the Ivy Manor Hotel using the name WILLIAM R. STEKLY and gave his address as Lupin Lane, Carmel Valley, California.

His parents were contacted by the San Francisco Office and they advised their son WILLIAM RAYMOND STEKLY was currently employed at the Boca Raton Hotel Club, Boca Raton, Florida and furnished a photograph of their son.

The following investigation was conducted at Boca Raton, Florida by SA ROBERT SCHACHNER on April 24, 1968:

Mrs. NAOMI CAMPBELL, Personnel Director, Boca Raton Club and Hotel, advised her records reflect WILLIAM RAYMOND STEKLY went to work for the hotel April 3, 1968, as a houseman. He worked until April 19, 1968, when he left, leaving a forwarding address of, in care of WANDA JEAN STEKLY, Lupin Lane, Carmel Valley, California, a sister. She advised his supervisor was Mrs. HILDA FENNEY. She stated he is described as a white male, born [REDACTED], 5'11" tall, 182 pounds, brown hair and brown eyes. His Social Security Number is [REDACTED].

Mrs. HILDA FEENEY, Supervisor, Boca Raton Club, advised after viewing a photograph of RAY, that STEKLY was not similar in appearance to RAY. She stated STEKLY was definitely at the Boca Raton Club and working for her on April 3, 4, 5, 1968, and through April 19, 1968, when he left to return to California.

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The Baltimore Office of the FBI advised on May 5, 1968, that NATALIE MAZZOLLA, while traveling through the State of Georgia on February 12, 1968, met three men in a restaurant, name and location not recalled.

MAZZOLLA saw these men at intervals while traveling along the highway. When they stopped at a gasoline station somewhere in Florida, MAZZOLLA advised that one of these men identified himself as JAMES CRAIG and stated that he was traveling to Naples, Florida. MAZZOLLA furnished a description and address for CRAIG at Naples, Florida.

The following investigation was conducted by SA ERNEST HARRISON, JR. at Naples, Florida:

On May 8, 1968, Mrs. MACK RICHARDS, 2364 Bayside Street, advised she has known JIM CRAIG for over eight years. She stated he recently visited her and her husband and left about a month ago. He was alone and was traveling by bus back to his home in Alliance, Ohio.

She described JIM CRAIG as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	About 35 years
Height	5'8" tall
Weight	160 pounds
Hair	Light blond, straight
Teeth	Two front teeth missing
Marital Status	Married
Brothers	None

Mrs. RICHARDS stated CRAIG in no way resembles JAMES EARL RAY. She produced two snapshots she stated were taken of CRAIG and the person on the snapshots did not resemble RAY.

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On April 30, 1968, the Minneapolis Office of the FBI received information from JAMES L. THOMAS that an unidentified individual delivered a variety of seafood to Michael's Restaurant, Minneapolis, on April 30, 1968. THOMAS advised that this individual appeared to be identical with JAMES EARL RAY and that the seafood was delivered from an Alterman Transport Lines, Inc. truck with home offices in Miami, Florida.

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents DAVID N. JELLISON and LEONARD C. PETERSON at Miami, Florida, on May 1, 1968:

DAVID ALTERMAN, proprietor, Alterman Transport Lines, Inc., 2424 N. W. 46th Street, Miami, Florida, advised that the truck bearing 1967 Florida license 1-0-614 left Miami for Minneapolis dated April 27, 1968, and was driven by DONALD EUGENE ABPLANALP. GLENN HECTOR BOWCOTT accompanied ABPLANALP on this trip as a helper.

It was determined from company records that both these individuals were working for Alterman Transport Lines in the greater Miami, Florida area on April 4, 1968.

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On April 25, 1968, the Buffalo Office of the FBI advised that Mrs. GLADYS D. MEEHAM has advised their office that she and her family had recently visited Eleuthera, Bahamas. While there, she observed a man in the Rock Sound Club who bore a remarkable resemblance to JAMES EARL RAY.

On April 26, 1968, this information was furnished by SA FRANK J. SMITH by telephone to STANLEY R. MOIR, Assistant Commissioner, Bahamas Police Force, Nassau, Bahamas. MOIR had previously been furnished with several copies of wanted flyers and identification orders pertaining to JAMES EARL RAY.

MOIR contacted the officials at the Rock Sound Club, Eleuthera, and none were able to identify photographs of JAMES EARL RAY as being those of any guest at the club.

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On April 23, 1968, the Chicago Office of the FBI advised that they had received an anonymous telephone call in which the caller stated that JAMES EARL RAY was staying at Perrine, Florida, using an assumed name and wearing a disguise. The caller advised he would call back at a later time and furnish the alias RAY was using. However, the caller never called back.

On the same date, the following investigation was conducted by SA CHARLES W. KELLY:

Dade County authorities, Perrine Sub-Station #4, were contacted and advised there were no hotels, motels or flop houses in the Perrine area wherein individuals of RAY's description would stay. There is no agency in Perrine, Florida, that maintains records of new arrivals in the Perrine area.

All detectives and police officers at the sub-station of the Dade County Department of Public Safety, Perrine, Florida, were furnished with copies of wanted flyers and identification orders and 64 identification orders were furnished to businesses and restaurants in the Perrine, Florida area. No positive information was developed regarding RAY as a result of this investigation.

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On April 19, 1968, BILL MARTIN, 922 14th Avenue, North Nashville, Tennessee, advised the Nashville Office of the FBI that he observed a 1965 or 1967 blue Mustang bearing Florida license 6-75466. A passenger in this vehicle looked very much like JAMES EARL RAY.

Investigation by the Jacksonville Office at Tallahassee, Florida, on April 24, 1968, indicated that 1967 Florida license 6-47566 was issued to RAY MORRIS, 2052 Lake Osborne Drive, Lake Worth, Florida, for use on a 1965 Ford Mustang.

1967 Florida license 6-75466 is a non-existent number.

MARTIN advised the possibility existed that the 754 in the Florida license could be mixed up.

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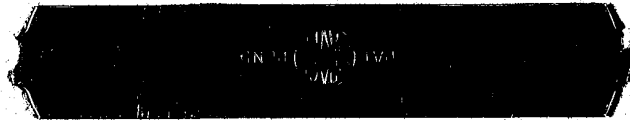
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The following investigation was conducted by SA ROBERT SCHACHNER at Lake Worth, Florida, May 7, 1968:

Mrs. RAY MORRIS, 2052 Lake Osborne Drive, Lake Worth, Florida, advised that her husband owns a 1965 Ford Mustang, navy blue in color, bearing a Florida license, number not recalled.

Mrs. MORRIS advised her husband is a former teacher at Lake Worth High School, Lake Worth, Florida, but recently changed position. She advised her husband is now employed at a Career Academy, Nashville, Tennessee, and stated that they were now in the process of moving the family to Nashville. She advised her husband moved to Nashville on about April 2, 1968, and believes he is residing in a room at 115 Blue Hills Court, Nashville, Tennessee.

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