

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

~~197-4-Sub A P. 524 2/12/87~~

FEDERAL BUREAU

of

197-4-Sub A P. 4007 2/14/87
DCH

INVESTIGATION

Bureau File Number

11/14/01 SP-CEP/ude

See also Nos. 44-1114 A1

Vol 1 - VII

"DO NOT DESTROY"
HISTORICAL VALUE
NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Rec 9-1-78

~~Shurden 5-23-78~~

Rec 5-21-78

~~Shurden 5-21-78~~

#5

44-1114

Volume Number 8
Serial 21 through

AUG 19 4 28 PM '78

ME 1003 23.12.1257

JO NO CG.

DE M.

192125Z AUG 78

FM- M MPHS - (44-1987-JUR 3), (8)

TO: PURVIS (44-38861) IMMEDIATE

CHICAGO (MM) PLATE 44-1114

ENCLOSURE 1 2 3

1

ATTENTION: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY UNIT, ROOM 8933, JEH

BUCKINGHAM

RE MEMPHIS TELEPHONE CALL CHICAGO 8/19/73.

FOR INFORMATION OF CHICAGO, ON AUGUST 13, 1978 GENE BARKSDALE, SHERIFF, SHELBY COUNTY, TENN., ADVISED THAT ON THE NIGHT OF AUGUST 17, 1978, HE RECEIVED TWO TELEPHONE CALLS FROM BURGESS LUTHER NELSON. NELSON, WHO WAS FORMERLY IN THE TENNESSEE AIR NATIONAL GUARD UNIT AT MEMPHIS, TENN., WITH BARKSDALE, INFORMED THE SHERIFF THAT HE KILLED DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING IN 1968. AT MEMPHIS AND HIS DAUGHTER DROVE A WHITE MUSTANG FROM KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, TO MEMPHIS 3 DAYS PRIOR TO KING'S DEATH. HE WENT TO MEET BARKSDALE AT THE HOLLEY INN, GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI ON 8/17/78 AND CURRENTLY. ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE FOR

RECEIVED ON 3/17/76 AND CURRENT R. ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE FOR

Jack Shanderson
 Rockford R 14
 advised 4:15 pm
 8/19/78 973
 Dec
 9:5

400
5pm
Coughlin
Notified 400 pm
8/19/78. N. Hall.
Deaton advised
9:30 AM 8/19/78
JTB
re
8

open + close
8/14/94
(A)
rec. to Sheridan
8-21-94 8/21/98
WLD

W4)

PAGE TWO ME 44-1987-SUB NO ENCLAS 5 F T O
WILSON TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE ALLEY INN, GULFPORT
WHERE HE WAS CONTACTED BY SPECIAL AGENTS OF THE JACKSON OFFICE;
WHEN HE REFUSED TO PROVIDE INFORMATION REGARDING THE ASSAS-
INATION OF DR. KING WITH THE AGENTS. ON 3/19/78 HE AGREED TO
SEE AGENTS OF THE FBI. DETAILS REGARDING THIS CONTACT NOT
AVAILABLE TO MEMPHIS AT THIS TIME.

ON 3/19/78 BETTY LOU WADT, BUPLISON, TEXAS, WILSON'S FOR-
MER WIFE, ADVISED THAT AND BURGESS WILSON ALONG WITH THEIR
CHILDREN WHICH INCLUDED ONE DAUGHTER, DEBRA ANN RESIDED IN GRAND-
VIEW, MISSOURI IN APRIL 1968, AND BURGESS WAS NOT IN MEMPHIS AT
THE TIME DR. KING WAS KILLED. SHE ALSO REPORTED THAT WILSON DID
NOT OWN OR HAVE ACCESS TO A WHITE MUSTANG VEHICLE AND HER DEBRA
ANN JONES, NEE WILSON NEVER DROVE ANY VEHICLE FROM KANSAS CITY,
MISSOURI TO MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE ON OR ABOUT 4/4/68. SHE REPORTED
THAT WILSON WAS EXPERIENCING MENTAL PROBLEMS FOR YEARS AND
DESCRIBED HIM AS A "FLAKE" NO GOOD ARTIST WHO CAN'T DIFFERENTIATE
BETWEEN TRUTH AND LIES. SHE REPORTED THAT DEBRA JONES RE-
SIDES AT 2025 HAWTHORNE ROAD, LOT 136, BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS,

PAGE THREE 44-1087-100 (10) UNCLAS F T O

TELEPHONE 543-6734 WITH HER FATHER, CHARLES.

CHICAGO WILL LOCATE HER FATHER AND JONES REGARD-
ING HER WHEREABOUTS IN LATE MARCH AND EARLY APRIL, 1963 AND
DETERMINE WHETHER SHE DROVE A WHITE MUSTANG VEHICLE FROM KANSAS
CITY TO MEMPHIS DURING THE PERIOD OF TIME. ATTEMPT TO ES-
TABLISH THROUGH HER THE WHEREABOUTS OF HER FATHER DURING THE
PERIOD INCLUDING 4/4/68 AND OBTAIN ANY INFORMATION SHE MAY
POSSESS REGARDING HER MENTAL CONDITION.

BT

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☒ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☐ Airtel

PRECEDENCE:

☒ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☒ E F T O
☐ CLEAR

Date

8-19-78

FM CHICAGO (44-1114) (RUC)

TO BUREAU (44-38861) IMMEDIATE 0510

MEMPHIS (44-1987-SUB M) 0557

UNCLAS EFTO

BT

ATTENTION CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY UNIT, ROOM, JEH

MURKIN

RE: MEMPHIS TEL TO THE BUREAU, 8/19/78.

ON 8/19/78, DEBRA ANN JONES, LOT 106, 2628 NEWBERG ROAD, BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS, ADVISED SHE IS THE DAUGHTER OF BURGESS AUDIE WILSON AND LIVED IN KANSAS CITY, MO., FROM 1964 TO SEPTEMBER, 1968. SHE WAS A SENIOR IN HIGH SCHOOL IN 1968 AND RECEIVED A 1965 WHITE MUSTANG FROM HER FATHER AS A GRADUATION PRESENT. SHE STATED SHE WAS IN MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE WITH HER MOTHER VISITING HER MATERNAL GRANDFATHER WHO WAS IN BAPTIST HOSPITAL AFTER SUFFERING A HEART ATTACK AT THE TIME OF THE KING MURDER. SHE AND HER MOTHER FLEW FROM KANSAS CITY TO MEMPHIS ON UNRECALLED AIRLINE AND STAYED THREE OR FOUR DAYS. SHE RECALLED CURFEW RESTRICTIONS WHILE IN MEMPHIS. HER FATHER,

Searched

Serialized

Indexed

Filed

Per

Approved: JEO/ATB

Transmitted

(Number)

(Time)

WHO WAS A FLIGHT ENGINEER ON A C-124 AND STATIONED AT RICHARDS GABOUR AIR FORCE BASE REMAINED IN KANSAS CITY WITH HER TWO BROTHERS, STEPHEN AND MARK WILSON, AGES FOURTEEN AND TEN.

SHE STATED SHE DEFINITELY DID NOT TRAVEL TO MEMPHIS IN THE MUSTANG AND NEVER MADE ANY TRIPS IN IT WITH HER FATHER. SHE STATED THE CAR WAS IN VERY POOR CONDITION AND COULD NOT MAKE IT TO MEMPHIS.

SHE RECALLED THAT WHILE IN MEMPHIS HER MOTHER CALLED KANSAS CITY AT LEAST TWO TIMES AND TALKED TO HER FATHER.

SHE STATED SHE HAS NOT SEEN HER FATHER IN FIVE YEARS, BUT HE CALLS HER FREQUENTLY. SHE RECEIVED A CALL LAST SATURDAY MORNING AT WHICH TIME HE SOUNDED SOBER. ON THIS OCCASION THEY HAD A GENERAL CONVERSATION. HE CALLED HER AGAIN ON THURSDAY NIGHT AND WAS OBVIOUSLY INTOXICATED. ON THIS OCCASION HER FATHER TOLD HER THE FBI WAS GOING TO PUT HIM IN JAIL FOR THE MURDER OF KING AND ALSO TOLD HER THE FBI HAD GIVEN HIM A POLYGRAPH TEST. HE ALSO TOLD HER SHE WOULD BE CONTACTED BY THE FBI AND TOLD HER TO SAY NOTHING.

SHE ADVISED HER FATHER IS INTOXICATED MOST OF THE TIMES HE CALLS HER AND SHE FEELS HE DEFINITELY HAS MENTAL PROBLEMS. SHE KNOWS OF NO PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT, BUT FEELS HE NEEDS IT BADLY.

HER MOTHER, BETTY L. (MRS. KEITH W.D.) WADE RESIDES AT 233

PAGE THREE

CG 44-1114

UNCLAS EFTO

SMITH ST., BARLESEN, TEXAS AND HAS TELEPHONE 817-295-2200.
HER TWO BROTHERS LIVE IN THE SAME AREA. HER FATHER HAS A SISTER,
LEIDA MC GAHEY, 2002 E. 8TH ST., COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI, TELEPHONE
601-327-1141, WHO USUALLY KNOWS HIS WHEREABOUTS.

SHE STATED HER FATHER NEVER INDICATES WHERE HE IS CALLING
FROM AND HAS MOVED AROUND A GREAT DEAL SINCE HIS DIVORCE FOUR
AND ONE HALF YEARS AGO AT FORT WORTH, TEXAS. HE WAS ARRESTED
AROUND THAT TIME AT BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS WHILE INTOXICATED
IN A BAR AND AFTER HAVING MADE THREATS TO KILL HIS WIFE. POLICE
FOUND A RIFLE IN HIS CAR.

SHE STATED HER FATHER WAS CONGENIAL WHEN SOBER, BUT WHEN DRINKING
HE WAS MEAN AND OFTEN HIT HIS WIFE. ALTHOUGH HE WAS BIGOTED, SHE
IS SURE HE DID NOT KILL KING AND WAS NOT IN MEMPHIS AT THE TIME
OF THE KING MURDER.

BT

VZCZCHQ0083

PP BH CG DL HO JN KC ME OC SL **FBI**
CHICAGO

DE HQ 0083 2342140

Aug 22 4 39 PM '78

ZNR UUUUU

P 222206Z AUG 78

FM DIRECTOR FBI (44-38861)

TO FBI BIRMINGHAM PRIORITY

FBI CHICAGO PRIORITY

FBI DALLAS PRIORITY

FBI HOUSTON PRIORITY

FBI JACKSON PRIORITY

FBI KANSAS CITY PRIORITY

FBI MEMPHIS PRIORITY

FBI OKLAHOMA CITY PRIORITY

FBI SAN ANTONIO PRIORITY

FBI ST. LOUIS PRIORITY

BT

UNCLAS

MURKIN

EXTENSIVE INVESTIGATION HAS ALREADY BEEN CONDUCTED TO
RESOLVE THE ALLEGATION BY BURGESS AUDIE WILSON THAT HE
ASSASSINATED MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., AND TO DETERMINE

*7 a.m. to Rockford
P.M., 8/23/78
w/ser 22421
WLD*

NA

5:30 PM

8/22/78

*Ref RA
8/23/78
WLD*

*Sheridan
(Rockford RA)*

PAGE TWO DE HQ 0083 UNCLAS

WILSON'S WHEREABOUTS ON APRIL 4, 1968, THE DAS KING WAS ASSASSINATED. IN ADDITION, IF NOT ALREADY DONE, THE FOLLOWING OFFICES SHOULD CONDUCT THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATION:

SAN ANTONIO:

WILSON ALLEGED ON AN UNSPECIFIED DATE MITCH CLNU FURNISHED HIM A JAPANESE SNIPER RIFLE WHICH HE ALLEGEDLY USED TO SHOOT KING. DEBRA JONES, DAUGHTER, ADVISED HE WAS ARRESTED ABOUT FOUR AND ONE HALF YEARS AGO AT BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS, WHILE INTOXICATED AFTER HAVING MADE THREATS TO KILL HIS WIFE, AND THE POLICE FOUND A RIFLE IN HIS CAR.

SAN ANTONIO AT BROWNSVILLE, OBTAIN DETAILS OF THIS ARREST, AND OBTAIN ANY DESCRIPTION OF RIFLE REPORTEDLY LOCATED BY POLICE.

JACKSON:

APPARENTLY REFERRING TO A SKETCH OF KING'S KILLER, WILSON TOLD THE GLADDENS (WORKING ASSOCIATES IN OCEAN SPRINGS, MISSISSIPPI) THAT IT WAS ALMOST AN EXACT LIKENESS OF HIM AND BECAUSE IT WAS RECENTLY SHOWN ON TV, HE DECIDED TO TURN HIMSELF IN. WILSON SAID HE HAS A SISTER IN FULTON, MISSISSIPPI,

PAGE THREE DE HQ 0083 UNCLAS

WHO TELEPHONED HIM IN OCEAN SPRINGS TO SAY THAT THE SKETCH LOOKED JUST LIKE HIM.

JACKSON, IN YOUR ATTEMPT TO LOCATE CHRISTINE WILSON, SISTER, AT FULTON, MISSISSIPPI, IF NOT ALREADY DONE, ALSO INTERVIEW HER RE ALLEGED CALL RE SKETCH DESCRIBED ABOVE.

MEMPHIS:

WILSON ADVISED THE TWO WHITE MALES IN MEMPHIS TOOK HIM TO A HOTEL ON SOUTH MAIN STREET NEAR BEALE STREET AND TOOK HIM TO A ROOM ON THE THIRD FLOOR. MEMPHIS ADVISE PROXIMITY OF THIS ADDRESS TO ACTUAL KING ASSASSINATION LOCATION.

OPAL HOOTEN, MOTHER OF BETTY LOU WADE, WAS UNABLE TO FURNISH SPECIFIC DATES OF VISITS OF BETTY AND DEBRA, HOWEVER WOULD CHECK FAMILY MEDICAL RECORDS. DEBRA ALSO STATED WHILE HER MOTHER BETTY AND HER WEE IN MEMPHIS VISITING HOOTENS AT TIME KING WAS ASSASSINATED, BETTY CALLED WILSON IN ANSAS CITY AT LEAST TWO TIMES.

MEMPHIS FOLLOW STATUS OF HOOTEN LOCATING FAMILY MEDICAL RECORDS, AND DETERMINE WHETHER SHE HAS ANY TELEPHONE RECORDS, OR IF SAME ARE AVAILABLE AT TELEPHONE COMPANY, SHOWING ANY CALLS TO KANSAS CITY, OR GRANDVIEW AREA, DURING PERIOD OF

PAGE FOUR DE HQ 0083 UNCLAS

APRIL, 1968.

ALL RECIPIENT OFFICES:

SUTEL SUMMARY RESULTS OF ANY INVESTIGATION STILL
OUTSTANDING, AND PROMPTLY SUBMIT REPORTS REPORTING ALL
INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED RE WILSON'S ALLEGATION, DESIGNATING
4 COPIES TO BUREAU, AND 3 TO MEMPHIS, WITH COPY DESIGNATED
FOR USA MEMPHIS

H

0083

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☐ Airtel

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ E F T O
☐ CLEAR

Date _____

FM CHICAGO (44-1114) (RUC)
TO BUREAU (44-58861) ROUTINE
MEMPHIS (44-1997 SUB M)

0014

0215

BT

UNCLAS

MURKIN ATTENTION: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY UNIT ROOM 8988, JEH.
RE BUREAU TELCAL AUGUST, 23, 1978, AND CHICAGO TELCAL TO BUREAU
AUGUST 23, 1978.

DEBRA ANN JONES, BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS, DAUGHTER OF BURGESS AUDIE
WILSON, ADVISED SHE DOES NOT RECALL EXACTLY WHEN 1965 MUSTANG WAS
PURCHASED BY HER FATHER. SHE RECALLS DRIVING IT TO SCHOOL FOR A
COUPLE OF MONTHS PRIOR TO HER GRADUATION AND DEFINATELY HAD IT DURING
EARLY APRIL 1968. HER FATHER PURCHASED CAR AT UNKNOWN DEALERSHIP
NEAR KANSAS CITY.

BT

44-1114-24

Approved: _____

JEO / D

Transmitted _____

Q8

(Number)

(Time)

Per _____

P (Q)

GPO : 1977 O - 225-539

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

8/31/78

SAC, CHICAGO (44-1114) (RUC)

MURKIN
CR

Re Chicago report of SA JOHN J. SHERIDAN dated
8/31/78.

Enclosed is the original FD-302 of two separate
interviews with DEBRA ANN JONES which were on 8/19/78 and
8/23/78.

2 - Memphis (Encs. 2)
① - Chicago

JJS:kjd
(3)
Kjd

44-1114-25
Searched _____
Serialized *21*
Indexed *21*
Filed *21*
WHD

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE CHICAGO	OFFICE OF ORIGIN MEMPHIS	DATE 8/31/78	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 8/19-24/78
TITLE OF CASE MURKIN		REPORT MADE BY SA JOHN J. SHERIDAN	TYPED BY kjd
		CHARACTER OF CASE CR (A)	

REFERENCE: Memphis teletype to Bureau 8/19/78.
 Chicago teletype to Bureau 8/19/78.
 Butel to Birmingham 8/22/78.
 Chicago teletype to Bureau 8/23/78.

- RUC -

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						☒ NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN: PENDING OVER ONE YEAR ☐ YES ☐ NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS ☐ YES ☐ NO
CONVIC.	PRETRIAL DIVERSION	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			

APPROVED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW
COPIES MADE:		44-1114-26 Searched ☒ Serialized ☒ Indexed ☒ Filed ☒ 8/31/78 WLD (6)

Dissemination Record of Attached Report					Notations Do Not destroy pending congressional investigation WLD
Agency					
Request Recd.					
Date Fwd.					
How Fwd.					

By *[Signature]*
 9-1-78

- A* -
COVER PAGE

c43-16-83489-1 GPO

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1 - USA, Memphis

Report of: SA JOHN J. SHERIDAN
Date: August 31, 1978

Office: Chicago

Field Office File #: 44-1114

Bureau File #: 44-38861

Title: MURKIN

Character: CIVIL RIGHTS

Synopsis: DEBRA ANN JONES, Belvidere, Illinois, daughter of BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, advised she and her mother were in Memphis during the KING assassination and her father remained in Kansas City, Missouri. Her mother called her father in Kansas City at least twice from Memphis. WILSON was arrested in Brownsville, Texas, about four and one-half years ago and allegedly had a rifle in his car. She said he definitely has mental problems, is intoxicated most of the time and feels he badly needs psychiatric treatment.

- RUC -

PREDICATION:

This investigation was predicated upon receipt of Memphis teletype to the Bureau dated August 19, 1978, requesting that DEBRA ANN JONES be interviewed.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/23/78

DEBRA ANN JONES, Lot 106, 2628 Newburg Road, Belvidere, Illinois, advised she is the daughter of BURGESS AUDIE WILSON and that they lived in Kansas City, Missouri, from 1964 to September of 1968. She advised she was a senior in high school in 1968 and received a 1965 white Mustang from her father as a graduation present. JONES stated she was in Memphis, Tennessee, with her mother visiting her maternal grandfather, who was in a Baptist hospital after suffering a heart attack, at the time of the KING murder. She and her mother flew from Kansas City to Memphis on an unrecalled airline and stayed three or four days. She recalled there were curfew restrictions while they were in Memphis. She advised that her father, who was a flight engineer on a C-124 and stationed at Richard's Gabour Air Force Base, remained in Kansas City with her two brothers, STEPHEN and MARK WILSON, who were ages 14 and 10.

JONES stated she definitely did not travel to Memphis in the Mustang, and she never made any trips in it with her father. She stated the car was in very poor condition and could not make it to Memphis.

She recalled that while they were in Memphis her mother called Kansas City at least twice and talked to her father.

Further, she stated she has not seen her father in five years but that he calls her frequently. She advised she received a call last Saturday morning at which time he sounded sober. On this occasion they had a general conversation. JONES advised he called her again on Thursday night and was obviously intoxicated. On this occasion her father told her the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) was going to put him in jail for the murder of KING. In addition, he told her the FBI had given him a polygraph test. He told her she would be contacted by the FBI and that she was to tell the FBI nothing.

She stated her father is intoxicated most of the

Interviewed on 8/19/78 at Belvidere, Illinois File # CG 44-1114
by SA JOHN J. SHERIDAN:kjd Date dictated 8/21/78

2
CG 44-1114

times he calls her and she feels he definitely has mental problems. She knew of no psychiatric treatment, but she felt he needed it badly.

She stated her mother, BETTY L. (Mrs. KEITH W.D.) WADE, resides at 233 Smith Street, Barlesen, Texas, and has telephone 817-295-2200. Her two brothers live in the same area. JONES advised that her father has a sister, LEIDA MC GAHEY, 2002 East Eighth Street, Columbus, Mississippi, telephone 601-327-1141, who usually knows his whereabouts.

JONES advised her father never indicates where he is calling from and has moved around a great deal since his divorce four and one-half years ago at Ft. Worth, Texas. She stated he was arrested around that time at Brownsville, Texas, while intoxicated in a bar and after making threats to kill his wife. She advised the police found a rifle in his car.

Further, she stated her father was congenial when sober, but when he drank he was mean and often hit his wife. She advised that although he was bigoted she is sure he did not kill KING and that he was not in Memphis at the time KING was murdered.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/25/78

DEBRA ANN JONES, Belvidere, Illinois, who is the daughter of BURGESS AUDIE WILSON, advised that she does not recall exactly when her father purchased the 1965 Mustang. She recalled driving it to school for a couple of months prior to her graduation and advised they definitely had this vehicle during early April, 1968. She stated her father purchased the car from an unknown dealership near Kansas City.

Interviewed on 8/23/78 at Belvidere, Illinois File # CG 44-1114

by SA JOHN J. SHERIDAN:kjd Date dictated 8/23/78

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FBI/DOJ

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☒ Airtel

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ UNCLAS E F T O
☐ UNCLAS

Date 7/21/81

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (44A-1114) (RUC) (SOUTH RA) (SQUAD #1)

"MURKIN"

Enclosed for the Bureau is the original and four copies of an LHM dated and captioned as above.

For information, William E. Dauber (deceased), Chicago south side organized crime "enforcer" was murdered in a gangland style slaying on 7/2/80. Prior to that time, Dauber was furnishing information to Chicago ATF Agent, Dennis B. Laughrey. On 6/25/81, Laughrey furnished to SA Herbert M. Butler voluminous "rough notes" regarding information received from Dauber. Included in the notes was information as follows:

Richard "Richie" Beck of St. Louis, Missouri, advised Dauber that he was offered a "contract" to kill Dr. Martin L. King in 1968 by a St. Louis business contractor. Beck turned down the job.

Chicago Division has been investigating the murder of Dauber since 7/2/80, in case file 183A-1179 entitled, "UNSUBS (2); WILLIAM EARL DAUBER, AKA BILLY-VICTIM; CHARLOTTE DAUBER-VICTIM; RICO-MURDER; OO: CHICAGO." Investigation in this matter revealed Beck to be an associate of Dauber.

On 7/20/81, Frank Savetz (phonetic), St. Louis County Police Department, St. Louis, Missouri, telephonically advised that Richard Beck is currently incarcerated in St. Louis on local charges, and that Beck has indicated he will "tell all for a deal".

2 - Bureau (Encl. 5)
 ① - Chicago

REM/alf
 (3) *def*

STATUS RUCCLASSIFICATION 44ATYPE CLOSING 6DESTROY 1/82SURV. INITIALS Ko2

SEARCHED

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Approved: _____

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(Number)

(Time)

44-1114-27

CG 44A-1114

Chicago Division anticipates interview of Beck in Chicago file 183A-1179.

During interview, Beck will be questioned regarding above information, and FBI Headquarters will be appropriately advised of results.

ATF Agent Laughrey advised he has no further information regarding this matter.

UACB, Chicago considers this matter RUC'd.



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. CG 44A-1114

219 South Dearborn Street
Chicago, Illinois
July 21, 1981

MURDER OF DR. MARTIN
LUTHER KING, JR.

On June 25, 1981, Special Agent (SA) Dennis B. Laughrey, Office of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), Chicago, Illinois, furnished the following information:

William E. Dauber (deceased), prior to his death in July, 1980, advised Laughrey that an associate, Richard Beck of St. Louis, Missouri, that in 1968, a St. Louis business contractor had offered Beck a "contract" to kill Dr. Martin L. King, Jr., for \$20,000.00. Beck turned down the contract because he was about to go to prison. Beck told Dauber the "contract" went to James Earl Ray for \$50,000.00.

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

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176