

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC

FROM : SA Manning C. Clements

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4/11/68

At 9:25 P. M., 4/10/68, an anonymous male who sounded as if perhaps 25-30 years of age, sober, no background noise, telephoned Dallas Office and advised Clek C. B. Brown as follows: "The killer of Dr. Martin Luther King is at 3307 Crestview, number 114." Caller hung up.

Mildred Mc Murray, 3225 Crestview, telephone LA 8-5614, manager of Crestview Apartments, advised apt. 114, address 3307, is occupied ~~by Bob Sikors~~, employed by ~~Clairol~~ (cosmetics), and ~~Jimmie Moore~~ whose family are understood to own Zenith Cleaners. The latter is supposed to work for an uncle. Mrs. McMurray stated the two are very undesirable tenants, noisy, rowdy, have many visitors in the same general age group. Doris Cargle, apt. 115, had told Mrs. McMurray within the past couple of days that it was friends of Moore and ~~Sikors~~ who thre patio furnitue into the swimming pool. One of the boys drives what is believed to be a white 1962 Falcon, the other a blue Plymouth.

Mrs. Mc Murray said the boys were there last night, at least Sikors was, as she saw the latter in apt. 117, occupied by Jim Pettyjohn who is considered a ~~spiteful~~ quiet, more responsible person. Pettyjohn works for Nichols Machinery Co. (Amarillo address shown on business card, although this company is known to have a Dallas branch.) Mrs. McMurray knew of no recent out-of-town trips of Sikors or Moore.

Doris Cargle, 115, said Sikors is 22-23 years of age, about 5'9", short dark hair, lean, thin face, nice looking. Moore is about the same age, perhaps a little younger, shorter, heavier, round face, very black eyes. Cargle said if Sikors and Moore have been out of town, she had not been aware of it as she sees or hears them practically every day. They do considerable partying and have loud, apparently irresponsible visitors.

Circumstances suggest the probability the call was a prank, and since descriptions do not fit subject, and there is no indication of out-of-town travel, no further action is being taken.

Investigation by SAs Clements and Richard L. Sloan.

* CLAIROL SAYS NOT EMPLOYED

44-2649-75

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 11 1968	
FBI-DALLAS	

WJ



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : FILE (44-2649) (P)

DATE: 4/11/68

FROM : SAC, SHANKLIN

SUBJECT: MURKIN
OO: Memphis

RE: ~~JAY WALLACE VERNON, aka~~
~~Jerome Wallace Vernon~~

On 4/11/68, Inspector JOE SULLIVAN, who is now running this case from Memphis, advised that the Los Angeles Office had apparently located the laundry where the laundry marks were from on the shorts found apparently abandoned by the individual who shot MARTIN LUTHER KING. He stated that this laundry had previously been operated for a time by one JAY WALLACE VERNON, who apparently sold out in March and current whereabouts not known. VERNON was described as a white male, born 12/14/35 at Pampa, Texas, 5'11", 195 lbs., brown hair, brown eyes, FBI No. 7 432 268, Army Serial No. [REDACTED]. He stated also that a pair of pliers that had been found abandoned by the assassin had been determined to have been purchased in Los Angeles in 1966 about five blocks from where this laundry was located. VERNON's prints are not identical with the latent prints that have been developed by the Bureau, but he apparently disappeared from Los Angeles around 3/27/68. He has, while serving in the Army, been stationed at Camp Campbell, Clarksville, Tennessee and at one time deserted and turned himself in at Birmingham, Ala. and also on another occasion believed to have turned himself in at Laredo, Texas. His father is shown as JAMES MACK VERNON, who has apparently been living in the Los Angeles area since about 1955. He stated they were definitely trying to determine VERNON's whereabouts and his background because he would possibly have some connection with the actual assassin or possibly know him. It was suggested that I might try to find out anything I could at Pampa, Texas and that he would furnish further information to me when same received.

Dallas indices negative.

44-2649-76

I talked to SAC COLE, San Antonio, and he checked their indices and called me back and stated that they had received a lead from San Francisco (office of origin) in Oct., 1963 on a Deserter case, titled JEROME WALLACE VERNON, Air Force serial number [REDACTED] San Francisco was origin, and

2 - Dallas
JGS:mfr
(2)



5010-108-02

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

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Hallam

DL #44-2649

San Antonio was ordered to discontinue as subject apprehended.
This was 11/13/63.

I called Inspector SULLIVAN back and furnished him this information as it appeared that VERNON had probably gotten out of the Army and was in the Air Force as late as 1963. He stated he would obtain detailed information from San Francisco, origin.

ACTION: SA JENKINS is proceeding to Pampa to try and check and determine any connection, but JENKINS advised that in 1935 he was actually living in Pampa and knew that a large segment of the population was itinerant oil workers.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : FILE (44-2649) (P)

DATE: 4/11/68

FROM : SAC SHANKLIN

SUBJECT: MURKIN
OO: Memphis

RE: JEROME WALLACE VERNON, aka - Suspect

SA JENKINS advised that he had checked with Sheriff RUFUS JORDAN at Pampa, Texas and that Sheriff JORDAN did not know either the above named individual or remember his father being a resident of Pampa. A check was made of the City Directories from 1933 to 1937 and no record was located. A check of the Credit Bureau reflected no record. Birth records reflect the following: One JEROME WALLIS VERNON was born at Worley Hospital on 12/14/37. His father's name was reflected as JAMES MACK VERNON, residence Pampa, Texas; birthplace Cleburne, Texas; occupation, manager of laundry. Mother, BONNIE LASSIE SMITH, residence Pampa, Texas, age 31, birthplace, Denison, Texas; occupation housewife. The attending physician was Dr. A. B. GOLDSTON, who JENKINS states is currently a surgeon in Amarillo, Texas.

2 - Dallas
JGS:mfr
(2)



5010-108-02

*see memo to
SA Jenkins
4/15/68*

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

44-2649-77

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Hallen

FBI WASH DC

415PM URGENT 4/11/68 CAB

TO ALL SACS

FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861 2P.

MURKIN

INVESTIGATION HAS ESTABLISHED THAT AN INDIVIDUAL USING THE NAME ERIC STARVO GALT WAS IN MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, ON APRIL FOUR, SIXTYEIGHT, REPORTEDLY DRIVING A NINETEEN SIXTYSIX WHITE MUSTANG WITH ALABAMA LICENSE ONE DASH THREE EIGHT NINE NINE THREE. THE BUREAU IS ANXIOUS TO LOCATE THIS INDIVIDUAL FOR QUESTIONING IN CONNECTION WITH THIS MATTER.

ALL OFFICES COVERING POINTS OF EXIT FROM THE COUNTRY SHOULD INITIATE A CHECK TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT ERIC GALT HAS DEPARTED THE COUNTRY.

ALL OFFICES ARE TO CONTACT THE APPROPRIATE POLICE DEPARTMENTS IN YOUR TERRITORY TO INSURE THAT ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES ARE COVERED BY AN ALL POINTS BULLETIN TO THE EFFECT THAT ERIC STARVO GALT IS WANTED FOR QUESTIONING

END PAGE ONE

*Sullivan advised
by phone morning
found in Atlanta
JRM*

44-2649-78

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FBI - DALLAS	

Hallman

PAGE TWO

BY THE FBI.

GALT IS DESCRIBED AS WHITE MALE, HEIGHT FIVE FEET ELEVEN INCHES, WEIGHT ONE HUNDRED SEVENTYFIVE POUNDS, EYES BLUE, HAIR BROWN, DATE OF BIRTH JULY TWENTY, NINETEEN THIRTYONE, ACCORDING TO HIS DRIVERS LICENSE.

GALT'S CAR IS DESCRIBED AS A NINETEEN SIXTYSIX WHITE HARD-TOP MUSTANG, SIXTYEIGHT ALABAMA LICENSE TAG ONE-THREE EIGHT NINE NINE THREE, VIN SIX T ZERO SEVEN C ONE NINE ZERO SIX FOUR SEVEN. CAR HAD FOUR INDIVIDUAL RED PLASTIC FLOOR MATS, MUFFLER PAINTED SILVER WHEN PURCHASED BY GALT IN AUGUST SIXTYSEVEN.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD IT BE INDICATED TO ANYONE AT ANY PLACE THE NATURE OF THE CASE IN WHICH GALT IS WANTED FOR QUESTIONING BY THE FBI.

END

E

623PM URGENT 4/11/68 GJM
TO ALL SACS
FROM DIRECTOR 1P

MURKIN

REBUTEL THIS DATE TO PLACESTOPS ON ERIC STARVO GALT
AND A NINETEEN SIXTYSIX WHITE MUSTANG. DISREGARD
REFERENCED TELETYPE AND CANCEL ANY ALL POINTS BULLETINS
THAT MAY HAVE BEEN ISSUED.

END

LV...LMB

FBI LASVEAS

SF...MS

FBI SAN FRAN

DL...JDP

FBI DALLAS

SA...WHS

FBI SANANTON

SC...CLV

FBI SACTO

TU CLRT!

44-2649-79

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Hallman *WHS*

DL...SCW

FBI DALLAS

SA...

FBI SANANTON

SF...MS

FBI SAN FRAN

LV...KXS

FBI LASVEAS

SC...MLP

FBI SACTO

TU CLRP

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

Mr. J. C. SPIEKERMAN, JR., Plant Manager, Joseph Schlitz Brewing Company, Longview, Texas Plant, advised canned beer produced by this plant is stamped on the bottom of each can at the time of packaging with a code number which designates the date, month, and year it was produced. He gave the following code number as an example:

Code No. 03
158

The number 03 refers to the month and the 15 refers to the day of the month while the 8 refers to the year.

Therefore, this particular stamp on a can of beer produced by this firm means it was produced on March 15, 1968.

Mr. SPIEKERMAN stated that no other stamps or markings are placed on the beer can by this firm when produced and packaged. He stated that the lids which are placed on the bottom of each can of beer produced for the sale in the State of Mississippi bear markings showing the Mississippi State Tax as being paid. These markings are in the form of black lettering showing "Mississippi Tax Paid", the Great Seal of Mississippi, and the amount of the tax, "4 Cents" or "5 1/3", this latter amount depending on the size of the beer can, 12 or 16 fluid ounces as the case may be. This lettering is within a black circle. The other marking on the can which is different from other cans used by Joseph Schlitz Brewing Company is that the can shows the beer was produced at a particular plant. The beer produced by the Longview plant shows Longview, Texas.

Mr. SPIEKERMAN advised that Schlitz beer sold in the State of Mississippi is sold through the following distributors, all located in the State of Mississippi:

- (1) F & F Distributing Company, Magnolia and West Rail Road Street, Biloxi
- (2) Service Beverage Company, P. O. Box 474, Clarksdale
- (3) Wells Distributing Company, P. O. Box 647, Cleveland
- (4) Hunter Distributing Company, 2106 Highway 82 East, Columbus

On 4/8/68 at Longview, Texas File # DL 44-2649 - 80
ME 44-1987
by SA CHARLES L. BROWN, JR. / jcb Date dictated 4/9/68

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.

DL 44-2649

- (5) Port City Beverage Company, 533 North Edison, Greenville
- (6) Carnaggio Distributing Company, 506 Carrollton Avenue, Greenwood
- (7) Bill Hannan Distributing Company, 981 Commerce Street, Grenada
- (8) Hattiesburg Beverage Company, 603 East Front, Hattiesburg
- (9) Capitol City Beverage Company, 407 Guidici, Jackson
- (10) Austin Distributing Company, 111 East Michigan Avenue, McComb
- (11) Mississippi Beverage Company, 615--22nd Avenue, South, Meridian
- (12) Bluff City Distributing Company, 305 Fisk Avenue, Natchez
- (13) Foster Beverage Company, 318 East Main Street, Tupelo
- (14) Canal Beverage Company, 1318 Levee Street, Vicksburg
- (15) Yazoo Distributing Company,, Yazoo City

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

Mr. J. D. FAULKENBERRY, Office Manager, Joseph Schlitz Brewing Company, Longview, Texas Plant, advised that beer produced by this plant for sale in the State of Mississippi on March 15, 1968, was in all probability shipped to the following distributors:

Hattiesburg Beverage Company, 603 East Front Street, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, shipments on March 15 and 20, 1968;
Service Beverage Company, P. O. Box 474, Clarksdale, Mississippi, shipments on March 15 and 20, 1968;
Mississippi Beverage Company, 615 - 22nd Avenue South, Meridian, Mississippi, shipments on March 15 and 20, 1968;
Yazoo Distributing Company Company, Yazoo City, Mississippi, shipments on March 18, 1968;
F & F Distributing Company, Magnolia and West Rail Road Street, Biloxi, Mississippi, shipments on March 18 and 20, 1968;
Foster Beverage Company, 318 East Main Street, Tupelo, Mississippi, shipment on March 20, 1968;
Capitol City Beverage, 407 Guidici, Jackson, Mississippi, shipment on March 20, 1968.

Mr. FAULKENBERRY advised that 21,352 cases of beer packaged in pop-top cans and 252 cases of beer packaged in soft-top cans were produced by the Longview, Texas plant on March 15, 1968, for sale in the State of Mississippi. There are 24 cans per case and the beer is packaged in both 12 fluid and 16 fluid ounce cans. All of this beer bears black letters on the bottom of each can which shows the Mississippi State Tax. Other than the use of the bottom lids bearing this lettering there is no other markings designating a particular distributor or other information placed on the can at the time of production other than the date stamp which is coded on the bottom lid at the time.

On 4/8/68 at Longview, Texas File # Dallas 44-2649 - 811
by SA CHARLES L. BROWN, JR. /pd Date dictated 4/9/68

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.

4/10/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1897)
FROM: *WJ* SAC, DALLAS (44-2649) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

OO: MEMPHIS

Re Dallas teletype to Bureau dated 4/8/68.

Enclosed for Memphis are seven copies each of an FD-302 for J. C. SPIEKERMAN, JR., and J. D. FAULKENBERRY, Longview, Texas.

Enclosed for Jackson are 2 copies of the described FD-302s. These two copies each are forwarded to Jackson in accordance with Jackson's request in this matter.

The above 302s refer to investigation concerning Schlitz beer sold in State of Mississippi.

2-Memphis (Enc.7)
2-Jackson (Enc.2)
2-Dallas
CLB:jcb
(6)

Hallman *475*
Serialized ②

Index

File

Search

44-2649-82

DL 44-2649

ME 44-1987

MCC/sgl

1

RE: REPORT OF GRANT AHRENS, 2736 DELORES STREET,
ANTIOCH, CALIFORNIA, CONCERNING CONVERSATION
ON AMERICAN AIRLINES FLIGHT 296 BETWEEN MEMPHIS
AND LOUISVILLE, MARCH 28, 1968

The following investigation was conducted by SA
MANNING C. CLEMENTS on April 11, 1968:

AT DALLAS, TEXAS:

JESSE ORR, Security Representative, American Airlines, (former Special Agent), determined that American Airlines flight 296 was in fact a 727 jet, departed Dallas at 1:20 PM, March 28, 1968, with stops at Memphis and Louisville in route to LaGuardia, New York City. Mr. ORR stated the question of making seating charts is discretionary with the stewardesses on a flight, since it is primarily for their benefit. If made, the seating chart is normally thrown away by the stewardesses on arriving at the terminal point of the flight. In connection with this particular flight, the stewardesses who took the plane from Memphis to New York City are based in New York City, names not known to Mr. ORR. Mr. ORR furnished a list of passengers who boarded flight 296 in Dallas on March 28, 1968. Fifteen persons were first class passengers, the remainder beginning with the name A. AHRENS were coach passengers. In addition, two military personnel on "stand-by" were shown to have boarded in Dallas. No information is available except slips of paper. One slip shows the name "SGT" (illegible, possibly REYNOLDS or REVNOERS) who first checked with the airline at 12:30 PM and was destined for Louisville. The other was one FARRIS, rank and service not shown, who first contacted the airline at 11:45 AM, March 28, 1968, and was also destined for Louisville. Mr. ORR noted that this would have been a poor choice of flights for a person traveling from Dallas to Richmond, however, there are undoubtedly flights from Louisville to Richmond.

Mr. ORR determined that the numbers which follow the passengers' names on the list furnished are numbers which identify information in the Brier Cliff Computer System, New York City. Such information will normally indicate full details, including address and/or telephone number given to the airline as a contact point for the prospective passenger when making reservations.

44-2649-83

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DESTINATION	FIRST	COACH
THRU <u>3</u>	<u>9</u>	
<u>MEM</u> ON <u>14</u>	<u>23</u>	
THRU <u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	
<u>SDF</u> ON <u>1</u>	<u>27</u>	
THRU <u>6</u>		
<u>UGA</u> ON <u>6</u>		

ID296F28MAR/LSMDAL

SM SENT 20/27MAR

ID296Y28MAR/LSMDAL

LEG OPEN

PNL296F28MAR//

1305

PHL 296F28 MAR DAL

1. ~~1~~ BOBO/JE-----0812JD

2. ~~1~~ BILLINGS/MR -0237PG

3. ~~1~~ LUPE/W/MRS---8487EH

4. ~~1~~ CARDINA/E/MR-

5. ~~1~~ BREAKELL/W---2983WD

6. ~~1~~ BREAKELL/W M-9210CJ

7. ~~1~~ KILGORE/B/MR-2733CJ

8. ~~1~~ KING/IVIN MR-1851BK 232

9. ~~1~~ HARKEY/-----4984FP

10. ~~1~~ WEIR

11. ~~1~~ PITTS/WH-----3568BM

12. ~~1~~ ROBERTSON/JL-3511HHDALDL

13. ~~1~~ POWER-----0582AD BN364

14. ~~1~~ NELSON/LO-----1170DH

15. ~~1~~ NELSON/MRS/L-1147BK

16. ~~1~~ PEASLEE/SC/M-7642GE

17. ~~1~~ SEGURA/PANCH-3067JB 232

END

1305

PHL 296T28 MAR DAL

1. ~~1~~ AHRENS/MR/G--0915KE

2. ~~1~~ BUCKMAN/DR S-2099WD 58

3. ~~1~~ BUCKMAN/MRS -2065BD 58

4. ~~1~~ CHESTER/JE---5065KM

5. ~~1~~ BROWN/J/MRS/-8438GP BN390

6. ~~1~~ SCHAFSTALL/P-

7. ~~1~~ BROJIN/STEVE--4221WDSATBN

7. ~~GLASS/W D~~-----3798JM
 8. ~~I-DOCK~~-----011EB BN390
 9. ~~1-EBERHART/C~~-----2978LH BN377
 10. ~~AS~~ FARRIS-----3591HB AA34
 11. ~~AS~~ GRIMM/ED-----3541MMDALDLO
 12. ~~FRENCH/ROBER~~-3619AF 774
 13. ~~FONDREN/GEO~~ -2096DF 58
 14. ~~DUSTIN/J~~-----4864HJ TT936
 15. ~~FALKINER/E M~~-6127KG CO104
~~GOFF/T~~
 16. ~~HILL~~-----2953LM CO174
~~ROBERTS~~
 17. ~~1-HOFFMAN/L/MI~~-3010CM 58
 18. ~~1-HOLBROOK~~-----0870DD BN390
 19. ~~AS~~ HAMMONS-----7793HPBN163X
 20. ~~LANE/JIM~~-----8347AE
 21. ~~1-JENKE/R~~-----0378WF
~~1-MASSEY/E~~
 22. ~~JARRELL/BUDD~~-4494PF
 23. ~~1-MCCOURTNEY~~---2497LP CO186
 24. ~~1-MEWHINNEY~~---3164GE CO188
 25. ~~MORGAN/C J~~---1142BD
~~PACCAGTTI/T~~
 26. ~~PIAZZA/MARGU~~-2087GJ
 27. ~~1-MEVIS/MR/F~~---2192KBDALBN
 28. ~~NOONAN/C MRS~~-8919DM
 29. ~~1-MCAULIFFE/DA~~-1847JJ 58
 30. ~~MORRIS/HENRY~~-4297BD
 31. ~~2-NICOULIN/J~~---7527WD
 32. ~~2-MAYFIELD~~-----5367CE
 33. ~~2-SIKES~~-----2923EE TT936
 34. ~~ZABIHULLAH/D~~-9894KP 58
 35. ~~2-WHITNER/MISS~~-2117PG-SA
 36. ~~SALIBA/N FRE~~-7686HM 58
 37. ~~SMITH/M MR~~---4379WH 138
 END

1 22m men

46
 - 4 NS

 42
 + 3 SB

 45
 + 3 M

 48
 + 2 2

 50

4/11/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, DALLAS (44-2649) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re San Francisco teletype 4/10/68.

Enclosed to Memphis are nine copies of investigative insert reflecting investigation conducted in Dallas, Texas. Also enclosed for Memphis is a Xerox copy concerning passengers who boarded American Airlines flight 296 at 1:20 PM, 3/28/68, in Dallas. It is noted Mr. G. AHRENS, apparently identical with GRANT AHRENS, was a coach passenger and accordingly it appears passengers who sat in the immediate vicinity of him were also coach passengers. Coach passengers are listed on the enclosed beginning with the name of Mr. AHRENS, those above being first class passengers.

Investigation disclosed no names of military persons appear on the enclosed list, however, two persons were on "stand-by" and did board the flight in Dallas. Both were destined for Louisville. One was Sgt. (illegible possibly REYNOLDS or REVNOERS), the other one FARRIS, rank and service not indicated. It is further observed that the female Captain in the Afghanistan Army is not identifiable from the list enclosed. Agent was informed that the numbers to the immediate rights of the names of the individuals on the list are identifying information in a computer at the Briar Cliff Computer System, New York City. Such information will show in most cases the full data concerning reservations made by the respective persons, including contact telephone numbers and/or addresses.

It is being left to the discretion of Memphis whether this investigative lead is worthy of being pursued further in this regard.

2 - Memphis (Enc. 10)

1 - Louisville

1 - Richmond

2 - Dallas

MCC/egl

(6)

Serialize

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File

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Hallman

44-2649-84

DL 44-2649

It is suggested with respect to military personnel, that Louisville Office might check records of airlines out of Louisville to Richmond, Virginia, following the arrival of American Airlines flight 296 on 3/28/68, in an effort to identify the Airman who reportedly sat next to AHRENS. It is further suggested that Louisville at Fort Knox, Kentucky, might successfully identify the female Afghanistan Army Captain, perhaps more easily than through information from the airlines.

Memphis note 71 persons reportedly boarded the plane at Memphis.

Dallas Office will not pursue this matter further unless advised by Memphis.

F B I

Date: 4/11/68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT DEFERRED
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) AND SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, DALLAS (44-2649)

MURKIN. OO: MEMPHIS.

LAST,
RE CLEVELAND TELETYPE APRIL TEN/SUGGESTING CHECK
OF REGIONAL NAME INDEX BUREAUS OF ARSON AND FRAUD DIVISION,
AMERICAN INSURANCE ASSOCIATION (AIS). CHARLIE EATON, AIS,
DALLAS, ON APRIL TEN LAST CHECKED NAME ERIC STARVO GALT THROUGH
INDICES THAT ASSOCIATION, WHICH COVERS OKLAHOMA, LOUISIANA,
NEW MEXICO, COLORADO AND TEXAS, WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

REGBIRMINGHAM TELETYPE APRIL TEN LAST REQUESTING CHECK
OF VIN SIX T ZERO SEVEN C ZERO NINE ZERO SIX FOUR SEVEN FOR
RE-REGISTRATION. TEXAS AUTO REGISTRATIONS ARE FILED BY VIN
AT AUSTIN, TEXAS, ONLY. RECORDS ARE KEPT IN COUNTIES ONLY
BY LICENSE NUMBER. SAN ANTONIO AT AUSTIN IS HANDLING.

RE SAN FRANCISCO TELETYPE APRIL TEN LAST RELATIVE TO
STATEMENT RE KILLING OF KING ALLEGEDLY OVERHEARD BY GRANT
AHRENS ON AMERICAN AIRLINES FLIGHT TWO NINE SIX, MARCH.
TWENTY EIGHT LAST. INVESTIGATION AT DALLAS NEGATIVE WITH
RESPECT TO IDENTIFYING PERSONS WHO SAT IN THE IMMEDIATE
VICINITY OF AHRENS.

① - Dallas

Serialize @

WBH/sgl

Index @Approved: WBHFile @

Sent

Per JPBSpecial Agent in Charge WBH

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via _____
(Priority)

DL 44-2649

SEATING CHART, IF MADE, IS NOT RETAINED AFTER FLIGHT REACHES ITS DESTINATION. ACCORDINGLY THERE IS NO WAY TO DETERMINE WHAT DALLAS PASSENGERS, IF ANY, SAT IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO AHRENS OR MAY HAVE ALSO HEARD STATEMENT BY THE PASSENGER WHO APPARENTLY BOARDED AT MEMPHIS. (P)

Approved: _____ Sent: _____ M Per: _____
Special Agent in Charge

FBI DALLAS

44-2649

FBI DETROIT

6:50PM URGENT 4-11-68 JRM

TO DIRECTOR, DALLAS AND MEMPHIS
FROM DETROIT (44-989) 3P

MURKIN

RE DETROIT TEL TO BUREAU, ET AL TWELVE FIFTY EIGHT PM,
APRIL TEN LAST.

INVESTIGATION DETROIT INDICATES AN UNKNOWN UNIFORMED
MARINE SGT. (E FIVE) WAS DRINKING AT CONTINENTAL BAR NUMBER TWO,
SOUTH TERMINAL, METROPOLITAN AIRPORT, DETROIT, APRIL THREE
LAST FROM APPROXIMATELY FOUR PM TO ELEVEN PM. WITNESSES STATE
MARINE ATTEMPTING TO FLY TO MEMPHIS, MILITARY STANDBY STATUS.
STATED HE HAD BEEN IN LONG BIEN, VIETNAM AND IMPLIED HOME IS
MEMPHIS. UNSUB OVERHEARD TO STATE "WHEN I GET THERE, YOU
WON'T HAVE ANY TROUBLE WITH NIGGERS". UNSUB ALLEGEDLY ATTEMPTED
PHONE CALL TO "LET THEM KNOW I'M COMING". UNSUB MENTIONED SOME
COLORED MEN HAD RAPED A WOMAN BUT NOTHING REMEMBERED BY BARTENDER
WITNESS. UNSUB LAST OBSERVED BY TICKET AGENT, DELTA AIRLINES,
APPROXIMATELY ELEVEN PM ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN TRANSPORTATION TO
MEMPHIS. DIRECT DELTA FLIGHTS MEMPHIS CANCELLED UNTIL EIGHT
ZERO FIVE AM APRIL FOUR LAST. MANIFEST PRESENTED BY B.G.
END PAGE ONE

44-2649-86

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FBI-DALLAS	

GRIFFIN

Handled
TT sent
4/12/68-

DALLAS
lead

DE 44-989

PAGE TWO

PEARSALE, SUPERVISOR, DELTA AIRLINES, INDICATED FLIGHT FIVE EIGHT FIVE SLASH ZERO FOUR DEPARTED DETROIT EIGHT ZERO FIVE APRIL FOUR LAST AS SCHEDULED WITH FOLLOWING MEMPHIS BOUND PASSENGERS: CULP, GRUDEN, PETERSON, RUBIDEAU, WOJNO, CUMMINGS, MICHAEL, COLLINS, STAFFER.

PEARSALE ADVISED NOTATIONS ON MANIFEST INDICATE STAFFER SOLELY FLEW MILITARY STANDBY.

UNSUB IN COMPOSITE IS DESCRIBED AS: WHITE, MALE, LATE TWENTIES TO LATE THIRTIES, FIVE FEET NINE INCHES TO SIX FEET, ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY LBS., MEDIUM MUSCULAR BUILD, SHORT MEDIUM BROWN HAIR, WEATHERED COMPLEXION, POSSIBLE SLIGHT SOUTHERN ACCENT, NEAT UNIFORM WITH SEVERAL ROWS OF RIBBONS, INCLUDING VIETNAM CAMPAIGN, MILITARY DEMEANOR, NOT NOTICED TO SMOKE, NO LUGGAGE, THIS FACE, NOSE AND CHIN, BEER DRINKER.

UNSUB BELIEVED SLIGHTLY INTOXICATED EVENING APRIL THREE LAST BUT IN CONTROL OF FACULTIES.

HOTEL REGISTRATION RECORD, DETROIT, INDICATE STEWARDESSES ON FLIGHT FIVE EIGHT FIVE, ANNE BATEMAN AND JULIE CRENSHAW, BOTH STATIONED DALLAS, TEXAS.

END PAGE TWO

Notes on 5/1/68

Bateman

Atlanta 12

Det 13
Shapiro Corbin

crenshaw

DE 44-989

PAGE THREE

DALLAS WILL CONTACT DELTA AIRLINES, DALLAS, AND INTERVIEW
BATEMAN AND CRENSHAW ATTEMPTING TO DETERMINE IF ANYONE ABOARD
FLIGHT FIVE EIGHT FIVE MEETING UNSUB'S DESCRIPTION.

AM COPY FURNISHED BIRMINGHAM.

END.

JDP

FBI DALLAS

FBI DALLAS

FBI JACKSVLE

129 PM URGENT 4/12/68 MHM

TO DIRECTOR /MAIL/, MEMPHIS /44-1987/, DALLAS /44-2649/, AND
CHARLOTTE /44-1365/
FROM JACKSONVILLE /44-769/ 1P

MURKIN

RE CHARLOTTE TELETYPE TO DALLAS, APRIL TEN LAST.

EARL J. GIBSON, JACKSONVILLE, FLA. HAS NOT SEEN OR HEARD FROM
BROTHER, CHARLES NELSON GIBSON, IN OVER TEN YEARS. FURNISHED
ADDITIONAL RELATIVE, MRS. W. L. MILLS, SISTER, JACKSONVILLE. MRS.
MILLS ADVISED HAS NOT HEARD ANYTHING FROM OR SEEN FROM BROTHER,
CHARLES, IN APPROXIMATELY SEVEN YEARS. BOTH MILLS AND GIBSON
INFORMED ONLY PERSON KNOW BROTHER, CHARLES, MAINTAINING CONTACT
IS MOTHER, MRS. MAUDE GIBSON, RED SPRINGS, N. C.

END

SCW

FBI DALLAS

P

*sup Serial
69 - being
handled by
Sherman*

44-2649-87

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 12 1968	
FBI-DALLAS	

Sherman

F B I

Date: 4/12/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

TO: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)

FROM: SAC, DALLAS (44-2649)

MURKIN. OO-MEMPHIS.

RUSSELL ELLISON, ABILENE, TEXAS, ADVISED APRIL ELEVEN, LAST, HE IS FORMERLY FROM SELMA, ALABAMA, AND GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL THERE, IN NINETEEN FIFTY-FIVE. WHILE IN SELMA, HE WAS ACQUAINTED WITH LEONARD WILSON WHO GRADUATED HIGH SCHOOL, SELMA, FIFTY-FOUR. ELLISON HAS NOT SEEN WILSON FOR ABOUT TWELVE YEARS BUT HAS SEEN HIS PHOTOGRAPHS IN LIFE MAGAZINE AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS AS VIOLENT OPPOSER TO INTERGRATION, PARTICULARLY AT UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA WHERE WILSON WAS FORMER STUDENT. ELLISON AND HIS MOTHER SAW COMPOSITE DRAWING OF SUSPECT IN NEWSPAPER AND BELIEVE IT CLOSELY RESEMBLES WILSON. WILSON WAS SEEN BY ELLISON'S MOTHER ABOUT YEAR AGO AT WHICH TIME HE WAS RESIDING IN JASPER, ALABAMA, AND WAS EMPLOYED BY CITY OF JASPER. WILSON DESCRIBED AS ABOUT THIRTY-ONE YEARS, SIX FEET, ONE SIXTY TO ONE SEVENTY POUNDS, SLENDER BUILD.

BIRMINGHAM, AT JASPER, ALABAMA, CONDUCT INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE WHEREABOUTS WILSON DURING PERTINENT PERIOD. -

AIR MAIL COPY TO MEMPHIS. - P -

Serialize
Index
File
Search

1-Dallas
1-Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

WBH:ng
(2)

Sent 9:54 A M

Per _____

44-2649-88

4/10/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703) (P)

MURKIN
(OO:ME)

Re Dallas teletype, 4/9/68.

Enclosed for ME is 1 photo of WALTER NATHANIEL ISSEL, to be displayed to witnesses as possible suspect.

On 4/10/68 SA HARVEY E. WILKINSON reviewed file at Protective Intelligence Research, U. S. Secret Service, Washington, D. C., re ISSEL and following info noted:

ISSELL first came to attention of USSS when CV Office, FBI, notified USSS 10/28/64 info received that one WALTER N. ISSEL had reportedly made statement that JOHNSON and KENNEDY should have been shot, and he had purchased a 50mm automatic tank gun.

On 12/1/66 USSS developed info ISSEL practices sometimes 5 hours a day with a high power rifle in his back yard.

- 3 - Bureau
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987) (Enc. 1)
- ① - Dallas (44-2649) (Info)
- 1 - WFO

HEW:bjr
(7)

44-2649-89

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Holloman

(see serial)
35

2

WFO 44-703

On 3/21/68 USSS developed info at CV that ISSEL currently using name of JAMES MEINER (a close friend of ISSEL who lives at Jacks Trailers Ct., Chardon, Ohio) and is living in Texas with wife or girl friend JULIA ANN HOOD, white, age 19.

On 4/5/68 ISSEL called a USSS Agent stationed in Cleveland, Ohio, at 2:15 p.m. Said he was calling from Dallas, Texas, but didn't say why.

No handwriting specimen for ISSEL available USSS file.

Following description of ISSEL obtained from USSS file:

Name and aliases:	WALTER NATHANIEL ISSEL, aka Walter Nathaniel Yessel James Louis Meiner
Sex:	Male
Race:	White
Birth data:	3/1/39; Cleveland, Ohio
Residence:	4814 Frio Street Dallas, Texas
	7247 Middle Ridge Road, Madison, Ohio
	35811 Matoma Drive Eastlake, Ohio
Height:	5'11"
Weight:	150 lbs.
Build:	Slender
Hair:	Brown
Eyes:	Brown
Peculiarities:	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] while confined in base stockade, Kessler Air Force Base, Miss., on larceny charge; [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

WFO 44-703

Occupation:

Marital status:

Close relatives:

FBI Number:

Social Security Number:

Other identifying numbers:

[REDACTED] expert rifle
shot; [REDACTED]

likes dogs

Salesman - bread, encyclopedias,
and Fuller Brushes

separated or divorced

Father deceased

Mother deceased

Step mother: GLENNA MAE ISSEL,
Lyndhurst, Ohio (1956)

Brothers and sisters (in 1964):

LOUIS, age 31, Ohio

CARL, age 21, USAF

GAIL, age 18, Cleveland, Ohio

397 545 C

Cleveland, Ohio PD# 93528

USAF SN AF 155 1629

discharged "other than honorable"

4/11/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
ATTENTION: LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

FROM: SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) P

SUBJECT: MURKIN
OO MEMPHIS

Reference Kansas City teletypes 4/9, 10/68.

Enclosed are six (6) cards bearing major case prints of LYNN RAY CLEVELAND, obtained 4/10/68 at Joplin, Missouri.

On the morning of 4/10/68, CLEVELAND entered a plea of guilty in Joplin Municipal Court, Joplin, Missouri, to charge of vagrancy and on same date sentenced to three days in city jail. Normal release time 5:00 pm, 4/12/68.

Bureau is requested to compare major case prints of CLEVELAND with latents obtained in captioned matter.

3 Bureau (Enc. 6) (RM)

2 Memphis

① Dallas (Info)

2 Kansas City

REH:jrt

(8)

(see serial 60)

44-2649-90

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FBI-DALLAS	

Holloman

F B I

Date: 4-10-68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE IMMEDIATE
(Priority)

TO: MEMPHIS, HOUSTON AND MOBILE

FROM: ST. LOUIS (44-775)

MURKIN, CR. OO: MEMPHIS.

REBUTEL TO INDIANAPOLIS AND ST. LOUIS, APRIL NINE, LAST.

RE: SUSPECT DONNIE LEON HARDENFOR INFO HOUSTON AND MOBILE, ANONYMOUS CALL RECEIVED DALLAS
FROM FEMALE ALLEGING SUBJECT THIS CASE HAD ARMY SN RA [REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

MPRC RECORDS THIS DATE ST. LOUIS SHOW SN ASSIGNED DONNIE LEON
HARDEN, WM, BORN APRIL TWENTYONE, THIRTYEIGHT, CONECUH CO., ALA.,
SEVENTYTHREE INCHES TALL, TWO HUNDRED THIRTYFIVE LBS., BROWN HAIR,
BLUE EYES. ACTIVE ARMY SERVICE FIFTYEIGHT TO SIXTYONE, AND
SIXTYTHREE TO HARDSHIP DISCHARGE, JUNE FOUR, SIXTYFIVE, AT
FORT HOUSTON, TEXAS. ADDRESS ON DISCHARGE: SEVEN ZERO ONE,
ROXEILLA, HOUSTON, RESIDENCE OF PARENTS IN LAW, SAM AND SYBIL

HRD/wma

(1)

44-2649-91

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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APR 10 1968	
FBI-DALLAS	

Holloman

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via _____
(Priority)

PAGE TWO:

SL: 44-775

COLBURN, BUT HOME ADDRESS LISTED AS: ROUTE C, EVERGREEN, ALA.,
WITH PARENTS LEON AND ALICE HARDEN. SOCIAL SECURITY NO. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] KNOWN TO J. C.
JOHNSON, DELMA BOWERS, ROBERT KENDALL, WILEY SALTER AND MABRY
COOK, ALL EVERGREEN, ALA.

LETTER FROM WIFE, VADA, APRIL TWO, SIXTYFIVE, ALLEGES MIS-
REPRESENTATION IN APPLICATION FOR HARDSHIP DISCHARGE; HE INTENDED
EMPLOYMENT BY BROWN AND ROOT CONST. CO., HOUSTON; HE HAD
BEATEN HER; HAD THREATENED TO KILL HER IF SHE LEFT HIM; AND
HAD PURCHASED RIFLE AND CARTRIDGES.

FILE INDICATES SHE HAD PREVIOUSLY SUFFERED NERVOUS BREAKDOWN.
POSSIBILITY EXISTS SHE MAY BE ANONYMOUS CALLER THIS INSTANCE.

HOUSTON AND MOBILE CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION TO
LOCATE HARDEN AND DETERMINE IF HE MAY BE LOGICAL SUSPECT.

DETAILED THREE ZERO TWO FOLLOWS. P
COPY BY MAIL TO DALLAS

END.

(1) DALLAS (AM)

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI - DALLAS	

Approved: _____ Sent: _____ M Per: _____
Special Agent in Charge

44-2649-92

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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JUN 18 1963	
FBI-DALLAS	

Holloway, W. S.

(1)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 10, 1968

A review of the Army service record for DONNIE LEON HARDEN, Army Serial Number [REDACTED] on file at the Military Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri, disclosed that HARDEN served in the U. S. Army on active duty from May 1, 1958 at Montgomery, Alabama, to honorable discharge from active duty and transferred to the Reserve at Oakland, California, March 31, 1961. He thereafter entered on active duty in the Army at Montgomery, Alabama on May 22, 1963, and served until honorable discharge due to hardship at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, June 4, 1965. Rank at time of discharge was Specialist Fourth Grade. He also had inactive service in the Alabama National Guard, April 21, 1955 to April 30, 1958, and May 15, 1962 to December 17, 1962. He served in the inactive U. S. Army Reserve from April 1, 1961 to April 30, 1962. His military occupation was listed as Communications Center Specialist. His civilian occupation was listed as Welder, Farmer and Musician (singing and guitar). The file failed to show any courts-martial or absences without official leave but did indicate a reduction in rank in December, 1962, while in the National Guard due to inefficiency. No details appear.

Top secret clearance was granted him on September 30, 1958, based on a background investigation completed September 24, 1958 by the Army Security Agency, Third Army Area, Dossier Number H3008562.

The following description appeared in the file:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	6' 2"
Weight	235 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Born	April 21, 1938, Conecuh County, Alabama
Relatives	VADA HARDEN, nee Colburn, wife; born 1934, Texas; date and place of marriage - not shown.

On 4/10/68 at St. Louis, Missouri File # SL 44-775

by IC R. DOUGLAS KING/jtc Date dictated 4/10/68

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Parents	LEON and ALICE HARDEN, Route C, Evergreen, Alabama
Brother	PAUL M. HARDEN, Route C, Evergreen, Alabama
Brother	LARRY H. HARDEN, Route C, Evergreen, Alabama
Parents-in-law	SAM and SYBIL COLBURN, 701 Roxella, Houston, Texas
Social Security Number	[REDACTED]
Selective Service	Registrant of Local Board 18, Evergreen, Alabama, #1-18-38-69
Character References	(All Evergreen, Alabama) J. C. JOHNSON, Sheriff's Department; DELMA BOWERS, Southern Coach and Body Company; ROBERT KENDALL, State Senator; WILEY SALTER, State Representative; MABRY COOK, Cook's Service Station.

Employments were listed as follows:

June, 1956 to August, 1956: A. W. Williams Drilling Company, West Virginia Street, Mobile, Alabama, supervisor, SAM HAGERMAN;

September, 1956 to November, 1956: Fletcher and King, Andalusia, Alabama; LEELAND FLETCHER, supervisor;

November, 1956 to April, 1958: Southern Coach and Body Company, Evergreen, Alabama; supervisor, DELMA BOWERS;

April, 1961 to December, 1961: Southern Coach and Body Company, Evergreen, Alabama;

May, 1962 to August, 1962: Conecuh County Survey Department, Evergreen, Alabama; supervisor, MARLON WILKINS;

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September, 1962 to November, 1962: Brown and Root Construction Company, Houston, Texas; PAUL JAMES, supervisor;

November, 1962 to March, 1963: Peden Iron and Steel Company, Houston, Texas; ARCHIE VERHAGEN, supervisor;

April, 1963 to May, 1963: Southern Coach and Body Company, Evergreen, Alabama; supervisor, CLEVE GARNLY.

Throughout his service his home address is listed as Route C, Evergreen, Alabama. In 1963, an address of 6125 Ridgemont Avenue, Houston, Texas appeared and his address at the time of final discharge was listed as 701 Roxella, Houston, Texas.

He has blood group "O". He received an expert's badge in the M1 carbine. He had foreign service of one year, eight months, and 15 days in the Pacific Theater.

A letter from his wife appeared in the file dated April 2, 1965, addressed to Lieutenant General J. L. RICHARDSON, Fort Houston, Texas, which alleged that HARDEN had made false statements in applying for a hardship discharge. She stated HARDEN had indicated he was going to run his father's firm in Evergreen, Alabama, and that she was a nervous wreck worrying about him going overseas, all of which was untrue. She stated that he had a job waiting for him at Brown and Root Construction Company as a heavy equipment operator. She further stated that he had been a different man since his service in Okinawa as he had beaten her several times and had spent one night in jail on arrest by the Alamo Heights Police Department in San Antonio, Texas for having beaten her. She stated his temper and filthy language were terrible. She stated she had tried to leave him but had been told by him he would kill her and all three of their children if she did. She stated he purchased a rifle and cartridges the following day. She stated he had torn up several pieces of their furniture, half of her clothing, broken her watch, and had choked her on several occasions. She further alleged mistreatment of their 15 month old son.

The file further reflected a statement by HARDEN that his wife had previously suffered a complete nervous

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breakdown and that she apparently was approaching a similar breakdown at the time of his discharge.

A 1963 photograph of HARDEN appears in the file.

SAC, MEMPHIS

4/10/68

SAC, ST. LOUIS (44-775)

MURKIN
CR
(OO: Memphis)

Re Bureau teletype to Indianapolis and St. Louis, 4/9/68, and St. Louis teletype to Memphis, Houston, and Mobile, 4/10/68.

Re: Suspect DONNIE LEON HARDEN

Enclosures: For Memphis, 9 copies of FD-302 concerning review of military record for HARDEN; for Mobile, Houston and Dallas, one copy each of FD-302 concerning HARDEN's military record.

LEADS:

MOBILE and HOUSTON DIVISIONS

Conduct appropriate investigation to locate HARDEN and determine if he may be logical suspect.

2 - Memphis (Encs. 9)
2 - Houston (Enc. 1)
2 - Mobile (Enc. 1)
2 - Dallas (Enc. 1) *w*
1 - St. Louis
HRD/jtc
(9)

(see serials 35 & 42)

44-2649-93
SEARCHED.....INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....FILED.....
APR 12 1968
FBI-DALLAS
Holloway

DL 44-2649

ME 44-1987

FFJ:jmh

1

The following investigation was conducted
by SA FORREST F. JOHN on April 10, 1968:

AT DALLAS, TEXAS

A check of the voters registration list for each of the 293 precincts in Dallas County failed to locate any entry under the last names LOWMEYER or LOWMYER. These lists were made available by E. C. MC CORMACK, Supervisor of Voters Registration Section, Dallas County.

A check of the Dallas County Clerk's Office determined 1967 Texas license LKF 414 is listed to a 1964 Chevrolet registered to DOUG ROY, 1548 Mapleton, Dallas, Texas.

Mrs. JOHN WORLEY, 13503 Shahan, advised that CLAUDE ROUX, who resides next door, moved to that address, which was observed to be 13509 Shahan, from Alabama prior to the time school started in September, 1967. ROUX has three cars, one of which is a company car just recently acquired by him. These cars have had Alabama licenses on them. All of them are full sized cars and she has never observed ROUX to have a Mustang. It was observed that there is no 13505 Shahan.

Later on April 10, 1968, during a telephone call from ROUX, he stated Alabama license 47-7514 was on a 1967 Ford four-door, that this car is a company car and that it was picked up by one of his employees in Memphis, Tennessee, on the day MARTIN LUTHER KING was shot.

44-2649-94

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WMS

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/68

WAYNE SMITH, 2420 Wicker, telephone CH 7-3037, after being advised of the interviewing Agent's identity, furnished the following information:

SMITH is a close friend of HERBERT A. (BUCK) FERRELL, 4406 Holland, Dallas, LA 8-0716, who formerly resided in Memphis, Tennessee. FERRELL has advised SMITH that if MARTIN LUTHER KING went to Memphis "they" would kill him. FERRELL did not further identify "they."

SMITH was watching television on the date that KING was shot and when the news appeared on television he telephoned FERRELL's home to advise FERRELL, but he was not at home. FERRELL's wife, MARY ELIZABETH, answered the telephone and she was crying, appeared to be terribly upset and said, "Oh my God, I hope it isn't someone we know. You'll have to call back later if you want to talk to BUCK. I'm too torn up now."

SMITH telephoned FERRELL at home about an hour later and FERRELL stated he had been told by an "informant" (not otherwise identified by FERRELL) that "they" had tried to get KING two weeks ago and would try again.

FERRELL and his wife have been in Memphis frequently lately as her mother died in January, 1968, and they have been back and forth settling her estate.

FERRELL has a son JIMMIE, age 16 or 17, at home, and a son BILLY in the U. S. Marines. He has another son LAWRENCE A. FERRELL (wife BOBBIE), age 23 to 26, 7135 Fenton, Dallas, telephone DI 8-7916. LAWRENCE has a red Mustang with black top and a Volkswagen and is a motorcycle enthusiast. LAWRENCE

On 4/9/68 at Dallas, Texas File # Dallas 44-2649 - 95
Memphis 44-1987

by SA FORREST F. JOHN/jmh Date dictated 4/10/68

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DL 44-2649
ME 44-1987

has been unemployed for a period of time and about two or three weeks ago when asked by SMITH what he was going to do, he stated that he was going to work for Blue Cross in their Dallas office. LAWRENCE was in the U. S. Air Force and after discharge he spent a year bumming around in Mexico. He rides with motorcycle clubs and would apparently like to be a "hippie."

MARY ELIZABETH FERRELL, wife of HERBERT A. FERRELL, has reportedly done a lot of work for GARRISON of New Orleans, and she has had GARRISON's people in her home, going to Love Field Airport at times to get them. This work done by her has apparently all been in Dallas. She has had Mrs. OSWALD, ex-wife of LEE HARVEY OSWALD, in her home.

FERRELL's daughter CAROL ANN is married, has two children and resides in the 4000 or 4100 Block of Holland, Dallas.

FERRELL has a 1964 or 1965 Lincoln financed through the Ford Motor Company, Dallas; recently purchased a 1968 Dodge Monaco from Dodge City, Dallas, financed at a local bank; and has a 1967 Dodge Dart for CAROL ANN financed at the First National Bank, Dallas.

FERRELL's home is financed at Oak Cliff Bank and Trust Company, Dallas, and he has gas credit cards with Mobil, Gulf and Shell Oil Company. FERRELL has bank accounts at the Texas Bank and Republic Bank and Mrs. FERRELL has her own bank account and her own credit (Femme Sole). FERRELL is employed by United Savings Life Insurance Company, Dallas, as a Division Manager. He is gone most of the time during the week in connection with his employment and during the past year he has stayed in the Holiday Inn Motel, Mt. Pleasant; at motels in Dangerfield and at hotels in Tyler, returning home on the weekends.

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ME 44-1987

JAMES FERRELL, brother of HERBERT A. FERRELL, is a conductor on a railroad out of Memphis and has a violent dislike for Negroes and has his family thinking the same way. He has rifles and ammunition and has taught his three or four sons to use these.

Last fall or early this year, FERRELL, went to Arkansas and purchased some land for himself and also some land for JAMES FERRELL deep in the hills and has advised SMITH that this land was purchased so they would have some place to go in the event the Negro problem got too bad in Memphis. FERRELL has stated that he made the down payment on this land and some of the payments for JAMES FERRELL.

On Saturday evening, April 6, 1968, SMITH telephoned FERRELL's home and asked JIMMIE, FERRELL's 16 or 17 year old son, where FERRELL was and JIMMIE stated that his father had gone to Arkansas immediately following a business meeting which usually ends at about 5:00 PM on Saturdays.

MARY ELIZABETH FERRELL at one time worked for the Greenhill school and while there the FERRELL family became very close to a boy named SCOTTY BARONSON (Phonetic) from Mexico, whose father controls all the adhesive surfaced paper products in the Mexico City area and has property in Mexico, Europe and Dallas and has ships. SCOTTY went to School in Plano, but quit, married a local girl and now is employed by her father who owns a dry cleaning business in Dallas.

In addition to JAMES, FERRELL has a younger brother HERBIE who is in a management position in an insurance company in Memphis and another brother who is an officer in the U. S. Air Force, but his name and location is not known.

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ME 44-1987

SMITH stated that the FERRELL brothers are very close, but that their wives do not get along too well.

He described HERBERT A. FERRELL as a white male, 50 years of age, and he stated that all of the FERRELL men he has seen have dark sandy hair, fair complexions, weigh from about 160 to 200 pounds and are from 5'8" to 5'11" in height.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/68

HUBERT A. FERRELL, 4406 Holland Avenue, telephone 523-0716, after being advised of the identities of interviewing Agents and that information was received indicating he had information of possible interest relating to the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING, advised as follows:

FERRELL is employed as a District Manager by United Savings Life Insurance Company and works out of his home. FERRELL has lived most of his life in Memphis, Tennessee, but moved to Dallas about 14 years ago.

Recently during a "bull session" with a large group of men, someone made a statement to the effect that during the first march in Memphis, which march was led by KING, the riot was probably started by the militant Negroes as a diversion to give them an opportunity to shoot KING, but that KING had been gotten away before they had an opportunity. This individual, identity not recalled, further remarked that if this were true they would probably try again. He stated he has repeated these remarks to many people.

FERRELL stated his wife has been very upset and emotional about the situation in Memphis as her only close relative, a sister, resides in Memphis. She is very concerned over her sister's safety.

FERRELL has three brothers and a sister who reside in or near Memphis, as well as friends. He stated he knows no one in Memphis who he would suspect of killing KING. He stated that none of his relatives or friends appear to have any unusual animosity toward members of the Negro race.

On 4/9/68 at Dallas, Texas File # Dallas 44-2649 - 96
SA MANNING C. CLEMENTS and
by A FORREST E. JOHN/jmh Date dictated 4/10/68
Memphis 44-1987

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DL 44-2649
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FERRELL stated his relatives in or near Memphis are as follows:

Brother - HERBIE W. FERRELL, 3795 Macon Road, Memphis, employed by an insurance company formerly known as National Burial Insurance Company;

Brother - HARVEY PARNELL FERRELL, employed by A&P Supermarket, home address not known, but listed in Memphis telephone directory;

Brother - JAMES FERRELL, formerly residing on Raines Road, Memphis, and now residing at Searcy, Arkansas. He is a brakeman or conductor with Illinois Central Railroad out of Memphis;

Sister - Mrs. ROY MC LAIN, Argonne Street, Frazier Station Section, Memphis.

FERRELL is described as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Birth Data	Morrilton, Arkansas, November 7, 1919
Height	5'10½"
Weight	190 pounds
Hair	Blond
Eyes	Blue
Military	U. S. Army, June, 1943 - February, 1946, Serial Number [REDACTED]
Wife	MARY ELIZABETH nee MC HUGHES FERRELL, same address

4/12/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, DALLAS (44-2649) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
OO: MEMPHIS

Re Memphis teletype to Dallas dated 4/9/68, and Dallas teletype to Memphis dated 4/9/68.

Enclosed herewith are nine (9) copies of an insert setting forth investigation including that requested by referenced Memphis teletype.

Also enclosed are nine (9) copies each of two FD-302s setting forth interviews of WAYNE SMITH and HUBERT A. FERRELL.

2 - Memphis (Enc. 27)
① - Dallas
FFJ:jmh
(3)

gms

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Hullman

44-2649-97

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/68

JULIE CRENSHAW advised she is employed as a stewardess for Delta Airlines and is stationed in Dallas, Texas.

CRENSHAW advised that she was aboard the Delta flight which left Detroit on April 4, 1968, for Memphis, but could not recall anything unusual on this flight and could not recall anyone being aboard the flight who would fit the composite description or the sergeant who was in uniform.

On 4/12/68 at Dallas, Texas File # Dallas 44-2649 -98
Memphis 44-1987
by SA WILL HAYDEN GRIFFIN/nc Date dictated 4/12/68

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.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, DALLAS (44-2649)

FROM : STEVE D. ALBRIGHT

SUBJECT: MURKIN

OO: MEMPHIS

DATE: 4/12/68

Today, an anonymous caller advised he saw an individual eating in a restaurant on Central Expressway, Dallas, that he felt might be individual responsible for murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. He stated this individual is described as WM, 30, 5'11", 145-150 lbs., sandy hair, accompanied by woman and small baby, wearing brown jacket, khaki pants and black boots.

This individual left restaurant and proceeded South on Central Expressway driving 1965 Buick Skylark, with out of state lic. plates, black background with yellow letters and number JC 10???

The caller would not identify himself and refused to furnish name of restaurant in which he saw above individual on 4/12/68, AM.

The above was immediately furnished to SA Holloman to whom this case is assigned.

2 - Dallas
SDA



*Does not
warrant
further action -
WSD*

44-2649-99

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 12 1968	
FBI-DALLAS	
<i>Holloman</i>	

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

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

FBI Searching For Alabaman In King Case

By MARTIN WALDRON

© 1968, New York Times News Service

MEMPHIS—The Federal Bureau of Investigation Thursday night was seeking a 37-year-old Alabama man for questioning in the slaying of The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

An FBI bulletin which was released by mistake in Miami Thursday night identified the man as Eric Starvo Galt. He was described as being 5 feet 11 inches tall and weighing 175 pounds.

The FBI in Washington refused to comment but sources said that Galt was sought in connection with the assassination of the civil rights leader in Memphis.

It was the first indication that the FBI may be nearing a solution to the killing.

The FBI bulletin, which was withdrawn at 10:30 p.m. said that Galt, who has blue eyes and brown hair, was last seen driving a white Mustang car with Alabama license plates. Number 1-38993. This is the license plate issued for a car in Birmingham.

The FBI bulletin gave Galt's address at 2608 Highland Avenue in Birmingham. A Birmingham reporter who went to that address said that it was a rooming house and that other residents said they had not seen Galt in about three months.

In Atlanta Thursday night, the police were reported to have impounded a white Mustang that had been parked near a housing project since last Friday.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

1 "The Dallas
Morning News"
Dallas, Texas

Date: 4/12/68
Edition:
Author:
Editor: Jack B. Kruger
Title:

Character:
or
Classification: 44
Submitting Office: Dallas

☐ Being Investigated

44-2649-100

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED..@..	FILED.....@..
APR 12 1968	
FBI-DALLAS	

KOLLOMAN

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, DALLAS

DATE: 4/10/68

FROM : SA STEPHEN G. BARNES

SUBJECT: ~~MURKIN~~
RICHARD LYNN COOKSON, aka
SUSPECT: Dick "Montana"

see doc on Pg 2

On 4/10/68 Lt. L.K. BALDWIN, Detective, Amarillo Police Department advised that his department had received a call from the Manager of King Hotel 207 E 4th St. stating that an individual was staying at the Hotel who fits the description of assassin of MARTIN LUTHER KING. Lt. BALDWIN advised that this individual was presently at the Police Department.

Subject interviewed, Amarillo Police Department and advised he left Amarillo, Texas on 3/25/68 for Siloam Springs, Ark., stayed there approximately 6-8 hours during which time he contacted his former boss D. EARL DAY, Rt. 3, Siloam Springs. He advised that DAY drove him to Tulsa, Okla., He was picked up by a trucker in Tulsa, Okla., and given a ride to Oklahoma City, where he stayed from 3/27-29/68 returning to Amarillo on 3/30/68 by Greyhound Bus, staying at the Faith City Mission on 3/31/4/2/68 and on 4/3-4-5/68 he slept in a car parked behind a garage on Amarillo, Blvd. because he had no money.

Subject advised he filled out an application for job at the Texas Employment Commission on 4/3/68 and worked at the Pullman Cafe as a dishwasher 4/3-4-5/68.

Subject volunteered to go with the writer to establish his whereabouts on the above dates.

On 4/10/68, PAUL H. WILLIAMS, Texas Employment Commission, 1020 West 6th St. advised subject registered for work on 4/3/68. WILLIAMS advised a referral card indicates COOKSON received a job at the Pullman Cafe as dishwasher on 4/3/68.

On 4/10/68, EVA COLE, Owner Pullman Cafe, 404-B S. Polk St. identified COOKSON as working for her from 4/3-4-5/68 and that he came into her cafe on the following Monday 4/8/68 but did not work.



5010-108-01

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

44-2649-101

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 12 1968	
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Holloman

Subject furnished the following descriptive and background information:

Name	RICHARD LYNN COOKSON
Alias	Dick "Montana"
DOB	10/16/39
POB	Williston, North Dakota
Height	5'10"
Weight	185lbs
Eyes	Hazel
Hair	Brown receding hair line
Complexion	Light
Marital Status	Single
Social Security #	[REDACTED]
Education	Froid Public High School, Froid, Montana graduated 5/22/57
Relatives Father	Thomas Loring Cookson (deceased)
Mother	Francis Rossella COOKSON, Popular, Montana
Military	Navy 1/58-2/58 received General Discharge because of rheumatic fever
Occupation	Combine worker Dishwasher Physical therapy
Scars	1" scar left side of nose 2" scar alongside left shoulder
Arrest record	10/12/63 Oneida, S. Dakota, assault with a deadly weapon received 18 months 1960 Houston, Texas Drunk 1962 Bossier City, La. Drunk 1962 Dallas, Texas Drunk 1965 Seattle, Washington Traffic violation 1966 Los Angeles, Calif. Drunk 1968 Lubbock, Texas Joyriding

F B I

Date: 4-11-68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT
(Type in plaintext or code)Via Airtel
TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)TO: SAC's DALLAS (44-2649)
MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

RE DALLAS TEL APRIL TEN.

*De Identified
Murdin Suspects*

LATENT FINGERPRINTS THIS CASE NOT IDENTICAL FINGER-
PRINTS WILLIAM HENRY GATES, FBI NUMBER SEVEN SEVEN TWELVE
FOUR NINE D, OR JAMES TIMOTHY CARROLL, FBI NUMBER EIGHT
ZERO THREE SIX THREE E. LATENT PALM PRINTS THIS CASE NOT
IDENTICAL PALM PRINTS GATES. NO PALM PRINTS HERE FOR
CARROLL.

44-2649-1024

SEA	SE
APR 12 1968	
Holloman WSA	

Sent Via _____ M Per _____