

4/16/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, DALLAS (44-2649) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
CIVIL RIGHTS

Re Bureau airtel to Dallas and Houston dated 4/12/68.

RE: CLAUDE CHESTER MC LAREN, JR.

The following investigation was conducted by SA
ARNOLD J. BROWN:

AT FORT WORTH, TEXAS

On 4/15/68, Operator 10, Retail Merchant's Credit Association, advised they had no record of MC LAREN in their files.

On 4/15/68, DAVID MALONE, Identification Officer, Fort Worth Police Department, advised he could locate no record of MC LAREN in his files.

On 4/15/68, Miss FAYE RAY, Deputy U. S. District Clerk, advised she had no record of MC LAREN's passport.

On 4/15/68, Mrs. N. E. PRESTON, 5405 Wichita Street, advised that CLAUDE CHESTER MC LAREN, JR., is her brother, and he had returned to Houston, Texas, on 4/10/68. She said that CLAUDE is with his brother, CARL MC LAREN, who operates a construction business out of Houston, Texas, and she believed he is presently working on a job in Freeport, Texas. She

3 - Bureau
② - Houston
2 - Memphis (44-1987)
2 - Dallas
AJB:zeb
(9)

Approved
Ed sent 4/20

44-1509-92

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 18 1968	
FBI-HOUSTON	

Warr *Jan*
Pls come!

DL 44-2849

stated that CARL can be reached through telephone number 23-3-6579, ~~Houston, Texas.~~
FREEPORT, TEX.

PRESTON said that CLAUDE had been to Honduras on a business trip for CARL, but she did not know what dates CLAUDE was in Honduras.

PRESTON advised that CLAUDE has been residing in Houston, Texas, for the past two months, and has only been in Fort Worth on visits.

PRESTON further stated that there has been a death in the family, and she has been in the hospital, and because of the strain, she was unable to say what period or dates that CLAUDE was in Honduras; Houston, Texas; or Fort Worth, Texas.

LEADS

Adv. HOUSTON

Kurk 4/19/11 Will conduct investigation to establish the whereabouts of MC LAREN during pertinent period, 3/29/68 - 4/4/68, as requested in referenced airtel. *//*

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HOUSTON

*Wiley
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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)

FROM : IC KEN PAUL

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

DATE: 4/18/68

Mrs. ITASKA WEINSTEIN called at 1:30 p.m. today and advised that she had been previously contacted by this office concerning captioned matter. She stated that the agent gave her a list of names and wanted to know if any of the individuals had been to her dancing school. She stated she told the agent at that time that she did not have anyone at her school under the names he furnished. She stated she has since checked her records and found that one of the names, a JOHN WILLARD, was given four lessons in ballroom dancing in April, 1967. She stated she personally gave these lessons and recalls that the man resembles the photograph of GALT with his eyes closed. She stated on at least two occasions the man brought a lady with him when he came for his lessons. She stated WILLARD was very quiet and very hard to teach. She believes he was residing in Webster, Texas at the time. Mrs. WEINSTEIN's dancing school is known as the Itaska Dancing School and is located on Highway 3 in League City. The telephone number at the dancing school is 932-9960. Mrs. WEINSTEIN resides at 5503 Yacht Club Drive, Dickinson, Texas and her telephone number is 534-4747.

SA Perkowski handling!

KP:lb

(1)

44-1509-93

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Wen



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)

DATE: 4/18/68

FROM : IC KENNETH L. PAUL

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CIVIL RIGHTS

Mrs. HARRIET M. STEELE, 5610 Royal Palm Apartment 71, Houston, telephone 643-6044, advised this afternoon that her car has been missing since 4/1/66 and she believes the person who has her car is identical with an individual she met one day last January at the First Unitarian Church located at Fannin and Southmore in Houston. She said this individual she met appears to be identical with ERIC STARVO GALT. She stated this individual whose name she does not know approached her at the church and attempted to be more than just friendly. She stated, in fact, he tried to lure her out into the church parking lot by stating he had her car. She stated she broke away from this individual and has not seen or heard of him since. She stated she suspects this individual is the one that has her car because when she was talking to him at the church she could tell from his conversation that he was connected in some way with her ex-psychiatrist, HOWARD G. CROW. Mrs. STEELE went on to say that her ex-husband, EUGENE R. STEELE who is a chemist for Diamond Alkali Company, Deerpark, Texas, had her committed to the Austin State Hospital for the mentally ill in August, 1967 and she was released from this hospital in October, 1967. With respect to her automobile that is missing, she said that on April 1, 1968 she had gone into the Methodist Hospital after parking her car in the vicinity of the hospital, and when she came out, it was not there. She stated she has not reported her car missing to the PD for fear that if she did she would be harmed by the individual she met at the church in January. Mrs. STEELE was unable to state why she thought this individual would want to harm her other than the fact that he was working for the psychiatrist who in turn was working for her ex-husband who was out to "get her" for some unknown reason.

Mrs. STEELE was advised to report her missing car to the Houston Police Department.

Office indices negative on Mrs. STEELE.

KLP/bgd

(4)

No action!

44-1509-94

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FBI-HOUSTON	

WLL



5010-108

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

FBI WASH DC

902PM URGENT 4/18/68 GJM

TO ALL SACS

FROM DIRECTOR 1P

MURKIN.

CONTACTS SHOULD BE MAINTAINED WITH ALL MASS COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA IN YOUR TERRITORIES TO INSURE THAT THERE IS FREQUENT REFERENCE TO PHOTOGRAPH OF GALT AND HIS CONNECTION WITH THIS CASE. IF NOT ALREADY DONE, PHOTOGRAPHS SHOULD BE SHOWN OR DISTRIBUTED TO LAW ENFORCEMENT AND OTHER APPROPRIATE AGENCIES IN YOUR AREAS TO INSURE THE BROADEST POSSIBLE PUBLICATION OF SUBJECT'S PHOTOGRAPH AND BACKGROUND.

OFFICES COVERING POINTS OF ENTRY OR EXIT FROM COUNTRY INSURE THAT SUBJECT'S PHOTOGRAPH AND BACKGROUND HAVE BEEN WIDELY DISTRIBUTED AND/OR APPROPRIATELY DISPLAYED AND THAT STOPS ARE BEING MAINTAINED.

W. J. handle
OFFICES COVERING DEPARTURE OR ARRIVAL OF OVERSEAS FLIGHTS SHOULD ALSO RENEW STOPS AND DISPLAY PHOTOGRAPHS OF SUBJECT APPROPRIATELY. SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

LMT

FBI EL PASO

TMO

FBI ALBUQUEE

FMZ

FBI OKLA CITY

OET

FBI-HOUSTON

*Keep copies
made for R/W
4/19/68*

44-1509-95

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W. J. handle

FBI WASH DC

902PM URGENT-4/18/68 GJM

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END

LMT

FBI EL PASO

TMO

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FBI OKLA CITY

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FBI-HOUSTON

44-1509-95

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : FILE 44-1509

FROM : SUPV. FRANK E. ROOKS, JR.

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4/18/68

On 4/18/68, an anonymous caller advised Complaint Clerk KEN PAUL he was at the Hobby Airport and had just observed a man who he felt might possibly be identical with subject GALT. He said this person went to the Continental Airlines desk and he was overheard to mention Flight 153 which was to depart in the next 15 minutes for San Antonio. The person mentioned above called Mr. PAUL at about 10:15. The caller said only that the suspect was wearing a mustache and appeared to have some Latin American characteristics and was possibly accompanied by another individual who definitely was a Latin American. Before any further information could be obtained, the caller hung up.

I immediately called SAC COLE at San Antonio and apprised him of the above and he said he would have appropriate inquiry made at the airport in San Antonio. He was informed Flight 153 departed Houston at 10:30 AM and was to arrive at San Antonio at 11:16 AM.

On 4/18/68, SAC COLE advised he had Agents meet the flight and they observed two Latin males leave the plane, both of whom were wearing mustaches, but neither of whom even resembled the description or photograph of subject GALT. He said no approach was made to these two persons since there appeared to be no basis for pursuing this inquiry further.

The above is being submitted for record.

① - Houston
FER:sm

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44-1509-96

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[Handwritten signature]



5010-108

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

4/17/68

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO SAN ANTONIO

FROM NEW ORLEANS (157-10673)

MURKIN. RE SUSPECT DONALD D. TANNER.

RE SAN ANTONIO TELETYPE TO MEMPHIS AND NEW ORLEANS, APRIL SIXTEEN LAST.

FOR INFO OF SAN ANTONIO, LOS ANGELES BY TELETYPE APRIL SIXTEEN LAST, ADVISED AS FOLLOWS:

CHECK OF TELEPHONE DIRECTORY FOR BELLFLOWER FOR ALL PERSONS NAMED TANNER, FOR STREET NUMBER THIRTY NINE TWENTY FIVE, OR CANOR STREET NEGATIVE. CURRENT MAPS OF LOS ANGELES AREA INCLUDING BELLFLOWER NEGATIVE ON ANY SUCH STREET NAME. U. S. POST OFFICE, BELLFLOWER, ADVISES NO SUCH STREET OR NUMBER, BELLFLOWER AREA. INDICES LOS ANGELES OFFICE NEGATIVE.

SAN ANTONIO, RECHECK DATA NUMBER AND STREET. SUTEL INTERESTED OFFICES. LA, ME, IP AND HO FURNISHED AIRMAIL COPY.

UNSUB ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END.

1 - Los Angeles (AM)
1 - Memphis (AM)
1 - Indianapolis (AM)
1 - Houston (AM)

JTS:sam
(5)

*discontinue
LA TEL 4-19*

44-1509-97

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APR 19 1968	
FBI-HOUSTON	

Wier

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)

FROM : IC KENNETH L. PAUL

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4/19/68

PAT MC LAUGHLIN, 1535 Chantilly, Houston, called this afternoon and advised that the Sunday after MARTIN LUTHER KING was shot, he noticed an individual walking east on 43rd. Street in front of the Oak Forest State Bank at about 7:30 AM, who closely resembled ERIC STARVO GALT. He stated his attention was drawn to this man because he was wearing two-tone alligator shoes which appeared to him to be completely out of place for that time of year. He stated the man was neatly dressed in blue trousers and a gray sport shirt. He stated the man had an athletic build and was suntanned. His hair was described as golden.

MC LAUGHLIN is a teacher at Fonville Elementary School.

KLP/bf

(1)



5010-108

44-1509-98

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FBI-HOUSTON	

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

F B I

Date: 4/19/68

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

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1978), ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM,
CHICAGO, MIAMI, NEW ORLEANS, LOS ANGELES
FROM: SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)

RELATEL, APRIL SEVENTEEN, LAST.

HOUSTON STREET, TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES, CREDIT & CRIMINAL
CHECKS NEGATIVE RE HOWARD O. OWENS.

JSW:SJM

(1)
SJM

Searched
Serialized
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44-1509-99

Approved: *WPL*
Special Agent in Charge

Sent

9:15 9:25
9:17
9:19
9:20
9:22
9:24

A M

Per

beb

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI-HOUSTON

9:15 AM CST 4-19-68 URGENT KEK

TO: MEMPHIS (44-1978), ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM, CHICAGO,
MIAMI, NEW ORLEANS, LOS ANGELES

FROM: HOUSTON (44-1509) 1 PAGE

MURKIN

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CHECKS NEGATIVE RE HOWARD O. OWENS.

END

SAB

FBI MEMPHIS

VSC

FBI ATLANTA

JGA

FBI BIRMINGHAM

JLS

FBI CHICAGO

ECE

7BI

MIAMI

MMW

FBI NEW ORLS

RJM

FBI LOS ANG.

Searched gt
Serialized gt
Indexed gt
Filed gt

44-1509-99

FBI-HOUSTON

FBI WASH DC

329PM URGENT 4-19-68 SAA

TO ALL SACS

FROM DIRECTOR 4P

MURKIN

THE FOLLOWING PRESS RELEASE HAS JUST BEEN ISSUED AT WASHINGTON THIS AFTERNOON AND YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO MAKE IT IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE TO THE LEADING NEWSPAPERS AND RADIO AND TV STATIONS IN YOUR DIVISION. EVERY EFFORT MUST BE MADE TO INSURE REPEATED AND WIDESPREAD DISTRIBUTION OF THIS INFORMATION. COPIES OF THE 1968 PHOTOGRAPH OF SUBJECT ALREADY IN YOUR POSSESSION AND WANTED FLYERS SHOULD ALSO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO MEDIA CONTACTS. NO ELABORATION WHATSOEVER MAY BE MADE REGARDING THIS RELEASE. ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING INVESTIGATIVE LEADS WILL FOLLOW SHORTLY.

44-1509-100

Ps3

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APR 19 1968	
FBI-HOUSTON	

Wesley

*Xerox copies
made for R/W
4/19/68
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APRIL 19, 1968

APRIL 19, 1968

ATTORNEY GENERAL RAMSEY CLARK ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE FBI HAS IDENTIFIED JAMES EARL RAY, AN ESCAPEE FROM THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY, AS ERIC STARVO GALT, AGAINST WHOM A FEDERAL COMPLAINT WAS FILED LAST WEDNESDAY IN CONNECTION WITH THE FATAL SHOOTING OF THE REVEREND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

DIRECTOR J. EDGAR HOOVER SAID THAT A SYSTEMATIC AND EXHAUSTIVE SEARCH OF LATENT FINGERPRINTS UNCOVERED IN THE DR. KING CASE AGAINST THE FINGERPRINTS OF THE OVER 53,000 PERSONS FROM WHOM "WANTED NOTICES" HAVE BEEN POSTED IN THE FILES OF THE FBI'S IDENTIFICATION DIVISION LED TO THE DETERMINATION THAT GALT AND RAY ARE IDENTICAL.

MR. HOOVER SAID THAT RAY, WHO IS 40 YEARS OF AGE, WAS ~~REPORTED MISSING FROM THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY AT JEFFERSON~~ CITY, MISSOURI, SINCE APRIL 23, 1967. HE HAD BEEN RECEIVED AT THAT INSTITUTION ON MARCH 17, 1960, TO SERVE A 20-YEAR SENTENCE FOLLOWING CONVICTION IN ST. LOUIS FOR ARMED ROBBERY AND FOR OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE OWNER.

PAGE THREE

IN SEPTEMBER, 1966, WHILE SERVING THIS SENTENCE, HE WAS CONFINED FOR A TIME IN THE MAXIMUM SECURITY WARD AT THE STATE HOSPITAL AT FULTON, MISSOURI.

ACCORDING TO MR. HOOVER, RAY HAS A KNOWN ARREST RECORD DATING BACK TO 1949. PRIOR TO THE 1960 CONVICTION FOR WHICH HE RECEIVED THE 20-YEAR TERM, RAY HAD BEEN CONVICTED OF BURGLARY IN LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, IN 1949; ARMED ROBBERY IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, IN 1952; AND FORGING UNITED STATES POSTAL MONEY ORDERS IN MISSOURI IN 1955.

HE HAS SERVED TERMS IN THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY JAIL IN 1949; IN STATE PRISONS AT JOLIET AND PONTIAC, ILLINOIS, IN 1952-54; AND IN THE FEDERAL PENITENTIARY AT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS, IN 1955-58.

RAY WAS AN ENLISTED MAN IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY FROM FEBRUARY, 1946, TO DECEMBER, 1948, AT WHICH TIME HE WAS GIVEN A GENERAL DISCHARGE DUE TO INEPTNESS AND LACK OF ADAPTABILITY FOR MILITARY SERVICE. WHILE IN THE ARMY, HE RECEIVED A THREE-MONTH SENTENCE AT HARD LABOR FOR BEING DRUNK AND BREAKING ARREST.

Num. refs. of middle names
4504
100-0-4503; 26-3435; 161-207-10; 31-1846-2; 87-4715 91-37
MR. HOOVER SAID THAT DURING HIS CRIMINAL CAREER, RAY HAS ALSO USED THE NAMES OF JAMES MCBRIDE, JAMES WALTON, W. C. HERRON AND JAMES O'CONNER. HE IS A WHITE MALE; CLAIMS TO HAVE

Wesley
Calvin
Idem J.
77-1652

62-0-4636
James Melvin
116-6700

PAGE FOUR

BEEN BORN MARCH 10, 1928, IN ILLINOIS; IS APPROXIMATELY 5 FEET 10 INCHES TALL AND WEIGHS ABOUT 163 TO 174 POUNDS. HE HAS BLUE EYES AND BROWN HAIR. THERE IS A SMALL SCAR ON THE CENTER OF HIS FOREHEAD AND A SCAR ON THE PALM OF HIS RIGHT HAND.

RAY HAS CLAIMED THAT HE ATTENDED SCHOOL THROUGH THE 10TH GRADE IN ALTON, ILLINOIS. HE HAS HAD THE REPUTATION OF BEING A "DRIFTER" SINCE LEAVING SCHOOL. HIS VOCATIONAL EXPERIENCE INCLUDES WORKING AS A BAKER, LABORER AND COLOR MATCHER.

IN CONNECTION WITH HIS ESCAPE FROM THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY, AN FBI COMPLAINT WAS FILED IN JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI, ON JULY 20, 1967, CHARGING RAY WITH UNLAWFULLY FLEEING FROM THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO AVOID CONFINEMENT. HE HAS BEEN A FEDERAL FUGITIVE SINCE THEN.

RAY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND EXTREMELY DANGEROUS. ANYONE HAVING INFORMATION CONCERNING HIM SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CONTACT FBI HEADQUARTERS IN WASHINGTON, D.C., OR THE NEAREST FBI OFFICE.

END

JLN

FBI-HOUSTON

FBI-HOUSTON

FBI WASH DC

329PM URGENT 4-19-68 SAA

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END

JLN

FBI-HOUSTON

FBI-HOUSTON

FBI SANANTON

332 PM CST URGENT 4-19-68 IJP

TO HOUSTON AND MEMPHIS

FROM SAN ANTONIO (44-1242) 4PP

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FBI-HOUSTON	

WJA

MURKIN.

RE PHILADELPHIA TEL TO BUREAU APRIL EIGHTEEN, LAST.

RETEL REFLECTS EUGENE HINSON, STAR ROUTE ONE, SHALOTTE, N.C.,
OWNER AND OPERATOR OF SOUTH SEVENTEEN TRUCK STOP AND RESTAURANT,
ADVISED APRIL FIFTEEN, LAST, THAT AT APPROXIMATELY EIGHT PM ON
APRIL THIRTEEN, LAST, A WHITE MALE INDIVIDUAL ABOUT THIRTY YRS. OLD,
FIVE FEET EIGHT, ONE SEVEN FIVE LBS., BLACK HAIR, DARK YELLOWISH
COMPLEXION, STOCKY BUILD, APPEARED AT TRUCK STOP AND ORDERED FOOD
TO TAKE OUT. THIS INDIVIDUAL WAS ALONE AND DRIVING OLD MODEL
PONTIAC, BEARING SIXTYEIGHT FLORIDA LICENSE TWO W ONE FOUR ZERO SEVEN
ONE.

UNKNOWN SUBJECT WHILE AT RESTAURANT MADE LONG DISTANCE PHONE
CALL TO PHILA., PA., COLLECT, NUMBER NOT KNOWN, AND TALKED FOR
APPROXIMATELY FORTYFIVE MINUTES. DURING CONVERSATION, THIS INDIVID-
UAL WAS OVERHEARD TO RELATE HE HAD PLENTY OF AMMUNITION AS WELL AS
A SAWED OFF SHOTGUN, AND REMARKED, "I'LL BE CAREFUL."

THIS INDIVIDUAL ON PARKING CAR TRIED TO PARK IN POSITION WHERE
LICENSE COULD NOT BE OBSERVED. WILL BE NOTED DOCTOR MARTIN LUTHER
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APRIL FOUR LAST, BUT PLANS CHANGED DUE TO CONDITIONS IN MEMPHIS.
END PAGE ONE

44-1509-101

PAGE TWO

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NORTH CAROLINA HWY. PATROL RADIO DETERMINED SIXTYEIGHT FLORIDA LICENSE TWO W ONE FOUR ZERO SEVEN ONE IS ISSUED FOR NINETEEN FIFTY-SIX PONTIAC COUPE, WILLIAM D. WILLIS, NINE ZERO TWO NINTH STREET, JACKSONVILLE BEACH, FLORIDA.

INVESTIGATION JACKSONVILLE BEACH REFLECTS WILLIAM D. WILLIS RESIDED NINE ZERO TWO FOURTEENTH AVE., SOUTH, JACKSONVILLE BEACH, FLA., PAST SEVENTEEN MONTHS. LANDLADY STATES WILLIS IN US NAVY ASSIGNED USS SARATOGA, DOCKED PHILA., PA. WILLIS LEFT APRIL TWO, LAST, WITH WIFE AND TWO CHILDREN, DRIVING FIFTYSIX PONTIAC, WHITE TOP, BLUE BOTTOM, EN ROUTE PHILA. WITH THIRTY DAYS LEAVE.

WILLIS DESCRIBED WM, FORTY YRS. OF AGE, FIVE FT. EIGHT IN., ONE FOUR ZERO LBS., MEDIUM BUILD, DARK BROWN HAIR. FORWARDING ADDRESS M M ONE, A DASH FOUR DIVISION, USS SARATOGA, CVA SIXTY, FPO NEW YORK, N. Y.

NISO, PHILA., ADVISED WILLIAM DAVID WILLIS, MACHINIST MATE FIRST CLASS, USN SN FIVE TWO EIGHT SIX SIX FIVE EIGHT, ASSIGNED USS SARATOGA (CVA-SIXTY), WHITE MALE, DOB JULY TWENTYFOUR, FORTY LLANO, TEXAS, HEIGHT FIVE FT. SIX INCHES, ONE EIGHT FOUR LBS.,
END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

BROWN HAIR AND EYES, RUDDY COMPLEXION, TATTOOS RIGHT SHOULDER
"VAYA CON DIOS", LEFT SHOULDER EAGLE WITH "USN", PERMANENT
ADDRESS NINE ZERO TWO SOUTH FOURTEENTH AVE., JACKSONVILLE BEACH,
FLORIDA, WIFE JOYCE MURLEEN BALES WILLIS, FATHER WILL PLEZ WILLIS,
GENERAL DELIVERY, LLANO, TEXAS, MOTHER VIVIAN BERTHA FINLEY HEDGES,
THREE THREE TWO GUADOLUPE ST., KERRVILLE, TEXAS., SISTER OPAL POY
WILLIS LACKEY, ADDRESS CUTE, TEXAS, SISTER NELDA RAY WILLIS, LLANO,
TEXAS, CHILDREN - TWO, HOBBY - GUNSMITHING.

WILLIS HAS BEEN ON LEAVE SINCE MARCH TWENTYSIX, LAST. LEAVE
DUE TO TERMINATE APRIL TWENTYSIX, NEXT. LEAVE ADDRESS NINE ZERO
TWO SOUTH FOURTEENTH AVE., JACKSONVILLE BEACH, FLA. HOWEVER WILLIS'
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BELIEVES WILLIS MAY BE IN PHILA. AREA LOOKING FOR HOUSING.
UNDERWOOD RECALLED WHILE SARATOGA WAS STATIONED JACKSONVILLE,
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INFO.

END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

EXACT LOCATION OF WILLIS AT PRESENT TIME UNKNOWN.

INTERVIEW WITH WILLIS' FATHER NEAR LLANO, TEXAS, NEGATIVE.

WILLIAM DAVID WILLIS HAS SISTER MRS. GERALD (OPAL) LACKEY LIVING
IN CLUTE, TEXAS.

See SA TT
4 22 PM
cancel HOUSTON CONTACT MRS. GERALD LACKEY AT CLUTE, TEXAS, FOR
POSSIBLE KNOWLEDGE OF WILLIS' PRESENT LOCATION SO HE CAN BE
INTERVIEWED CONCERNING HIS WHEREABOUTS DURING PERTINENT PERIOD
AND INFORMATION IN RETEL.

AIRMAIL COPY PHILADELPHIA.

END

LME

FBI-HOUSTON

FBI-HOUSTON

FBI SANANTON

332 PM CST URGENT 4-19-68 IJP
TO HOUSTON AND MEMPHIS
FROM SAN ANTONIO (44-1242) 4PP

MURKIN.

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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RE PHILADELPHIA TEL TO BUREAU APRIL EIGHTEEN, LAST.

RETEL REFLECTS EUGENE HINSON, STAR ROUTE ONE, SHALOTTE, N.C.,
OWNER AND OPERATOR OF SOUTH SEVENTEEN TRUCK STOP AND RESTAURANT,
ADVISED APRIL FIFTEEN, LAST, THAT AT APPROXIMATELY EIGHT PM ON
APRIL THIRDS, LAST, A WHITE MALE INDIVIDUAL ABOUT THIRTY YRS. OLD,
FIVE FEET EIGHT, ONE SEVEN FIVE LBS., BLACK HAIR, DARK YELLOWISH
COMPLEXION, STOCKY BUILD, APPEARED AT TRUCK STOP AND ORDERED FOOD
TO TAKE OUT. THIS INDIVIDUAL WAS ALONE AND DRIVING OLD MODEL
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44-1509-101

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AIRMAIL COPY PHILADELPHIA.

END

LME

FBI-HOUSTON

FBI-HOUSTON

FBI SANANTON

422 PM CST URGENT 4-19-68 IJP
TO HOUSTON AND MEMPHIS
FROM SAN ANTONIO (44-1242) 1P

MURKIN.

REMYTELS TO HOUSTON AND MEMPHIS TODAY.

PHILADELPHIA HAS ADVISED WILLIS WAS LOCATED AND INTERVIEWED
AT PHILADELPHIA TODAY. HOUSTON DISCONTINUE WITH ATTEMPTS TO LOCATE
WILLIS' SISTER MRS. GERALD LACKEY AT CLUTE, TEXAS.

END

LME

FBI-HOUSTON

44-1509-102

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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FBI-HOUSTON	

FBI-HOUSTON

FBI SANANTON

422 PM CST URGENT 4-19-68 IJP

TO HOUSTON AND MEMPHIS

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END

LME

FBI-HOUSTON

44-1509-102

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APR 19 1968	
FBI-HOUSTON	

[Handwritten signature]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)

DATE: 4/19/68

FROM : IC KENNETH L. PAUL

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CIVIL RIGHTS

CHARLES F. YOUNG, 1108 Bomar, Houston, JA 8-0128, appeared at the office this morning at 10:15 a.m. He advised he is a baker and cook by trade and is presently "between jobs." Mr. YOUNG stated in November, 1966, he attended a ten-day class in bakery decorating at the Wilton School of Decorating, Chicago, Illinois. He stated at the conclusion of this course a group photograph which is enclosed with this memo was taken of the people attending this class. Mr. YOUNG stated that he has not looked at this photograph in over a year; however, last night it suddenly came to him that one of the members of this class closely resembles ERIC STARVO GALT. He stated the man resembling GALT is located in the photograph on the back row, the sixth man from the left. He stated this man whose name he does not recall and the man on the far right on the back row were from Memphis, Tennessee and both of them worked for the city of Memphis in either the Health Department or Sanitation Department. They were driving a station wagon possibly a Rambler, year unknown. Mr. YOUNG stated they were "smart-aleck" in class and were called down by the instructor several times for their joking in class. He stated the man who looks like GALT had a "hicky voice", by that YOUNG meant he had a Southern drawl. Also, the man who looks like GALT was supposedly separated from his wife at the time and she was living in Fort Smith, Arkansas. YOUNG stated Chicago had experienced a race riot shortly before he went to Chicago and one day they were discussing this when the man who looked like GALT made the comment "We don't let it happen in Memphis" or words to that effect.

Mr. YOUNG is unable to identify by name most of the people in the photograph; however, the man standing next to him in the photograph is WESLEY WILTON, who was an instructor

KLP/bgd

(4)

44-1509-103

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

HO 44-1509

at the school, and his brother, name unknown, is operating the school. The man to WILTON'S right was working at a country club in Chicago. The man to his right worked in a hospital on the East Coast. The man on the left of the man who resembles GALT is believed to be an operator of a donut and bakery shop in New Jersey. The young man without the coat, second from the right, was the WILTON'S School delivery boy. The woman on the far left side of the photograph was the instructor of this particular class, and her name is believed to be ELLISON or ELLISOR; and she is believed to have a bakery in Phoenix, Arizona. The woman next to Mrs. ELLISOR is from San Diego, California. The woman next to her is believed to be from Minnesota or Wisconsin and attended the class on a scholarship which she had won in a contest. The Spanish-looking woman third from the right is from Houston and was working for a bakery in Pasadena, which is located on Southmore Street. It is a big bakery and the only one of its kind in Pasadena.

Mr. YOUNG stated he did not get acquainted to well with the other members of the class because the class was actually too large for what they were teaching. He stated he does not know where the two Memphis men were living while they were attending the class, nor how they spent their time after class. He stated one thing that does stick out in his mind concerning these men is the fact that they were the only two who did not clean up their work area after class. Mr. YOUNG requested that this photograph be returned to him when it is no longer needed by this office.

P. O. Box 61369
Houston, Texas 77061
April 19, 1968

Mr. Charles F. Young
1108 Bomar
Houston, Texas

Dear Mr. Young:

Enclosed herewith is the photograph you
furnished to us this morning.

Your interest in furnishing us the photograph
and information about same is certainly appreciated,
however, as you have learned by now, we have identified
Eric Gault as James Earl Ray, who escaped from the
Missouri State Penitentiary on April 23, 1967. He was
incarcerated when the enclosed photograph was taken.

Very truly yours,



WESLEY T. WHALEY
Special Agent in Charge

Enclosure
Registered Mail
Return Receipt Requested

1 - Addressee
1 - Houston (44-1509)

WTW:mec
(2)

44-1509-104

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)

FROM : IC KENNETH L. PAUL

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4/19/68

TYRONE BUTTARS called at 3:33 PM today and advised that he operates the Circulation Sales of Houston located in room 1001 Milam Building, Houston, Texas, telephone CA 7-8054. He stated this is a telephone solicitation type of business and that they due quite a bit of work for the Houston Chronicle. BUTTARS stated he has been listening to the newscasts concerning the identification of ERIC S. GALT as being one JAMES/EARL RAY. BUTTARS stated that in last October, 1967, he employed WILLIAM RAY and RAY worked for him as a telephone solicitor until approximately the latter part of March, 1968, when he left and went to Birmingham, Alabama. On the Friday before KING was killed, he received a Western Union wire from RAY requesting that he send him some money in care of Western Union, Birmingham, so that he could return to Houston. BUTTARS sent him \$28.00, however, RAY did not return to Houston. He stated RAY is from Kansas City, Missouri. He stated further that he was bringing this to the attention of the FBI inasmuch as there has been reported that a brother of GALT was involved in this matter and that BUTTARS thought WILLIAM RAY may be the brother of JAMES EARL RAY. He stated RAY is in his early 50's, has white hair, 5'10", average build. He stated while RAY worked for him, he also worked part-time as a movie projectionist in Houston and may possibly have been a member of the Movie Projectionists Union. He stated he has an employment card on RAY and will make it available if necessary.

BUTTARS resides at 3601 Allen Parkway, apartment 395. His telephone number at home is 528-3006.

KLP/bf

(1)



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44-1509-105

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ADDENDUM FROM SAC:

I called SAC DISSLY, asked about RAY's brothers and he has one brother presently being interviewed in Chicago at this time.

No further action.

4/19/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, DALLAS (44-2649)
FROM: SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
CIVIL RIGHTS

Reurairtel to BU, 4/16/68.

JAMES ALLEN SMITH, FBI No. 731 553 D, was arrested in Dallas, Texas with WALTER MACK FLANAGAN on 4/29/68. A large amount of the jewelry taken in burglary of home of R.T. HERRIN, Houston, on 2/23/68 was recovered from these two. Both were transported to Houston where they were charged with Burglary and Theft. SMITH was released on bond on 3/4/68.

SMITH's listed address was 1000 Arch, Ft. Worth, Texas. No other addresses or relatives listed. Captain TOM CLARK, Burglary and Theft, Houston PD, states he assumes SMITH returned to Ft. Worth as trial date not set.

2 - Dallas
2 - Memphis (44-1987)
2 - Houston
FPC/sjm
(6)

WJW

Searched *EB*
Serialized *EB*
Indexed *EB*
Filed *EB*

44-1509-106

4/19/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, DALLAS (44-2649)
FROM: SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
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2 - Houston
FPC/sjm
(6)

spin

WPL

Searched *EB*
Serialized *EB*
Indexed *EB*
Filed *EB*

44-1509-106

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : (44-1509)

DATE: 4/19/68

FROM : SA T.A. STEPHEN_HASSARD

SUBJECT: MURKIN

cc Birmingham TEL 4-17-Last (Serial 88)

On 4/18/68, Lt. Charles Stewart, Security Officer, Humble Oil and Refining Co., Baytown, ^{was contacted} and arrangements were made to board the "Trans Hudson" oil tanker tied up at the Humble dock.

Captain A.B. Tewksbury, "Trans Hudson," owned by Hudson Waterways Corporation, 1 Chase-Manhattan Plaza, New York City, New York, advised the ship was due to sail for London, England but a definite time had not been seeduled since one of the oil tanks on board had sprung a leak. The sailing time was tentatively set for 8:00 am, 4/19/68. Tewksbury advised he had an able-bodied seaman on board by the name of Thomas Joseph Cox and would arrange to have him interviewed in the Captains CABIN. Tewksbury was shown a photo of ERIC STARVO GALT but could not identify him.

Thomas Joseph Cox was shown a phot o of GALT but was unable to identify him. Cox said that the last time he was in Birmingham , Ala, was March of 1966 and at that time stayed in a run-down motel on the road to M^obile. He remained at the motel only about seven hours. He has no friends in Birmingham, nor did he make any friendships during that time. The name SHAW GALT was completely unfamiliar to him.

The only person he could recall knowing that could be considered as having come from Birmingham was a girl by the name CONNIE (LNU). He met Connie in Houston and had dated her when he was in port. Connie had family in Birmingham. At the time Cox was dating her, she was living at the Downtowner Apartment, on La Branch, Houston. He described her as WFA, 5' 6", 165 lbs, btown over blue, stocky blg.

tel sent 4/20

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APR 19 1968	
FBI - HOUSTON	

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5010-108

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

HO 44-1509

Cox advised the fact that he was not in Birmingham on Sept. 15, 1967 could be verified through the records of the Coast Guard, Washington, D.C. Cox furnished his Coast Guard number as Z-976491-D-3.

F B I

Date: 4/18/68

PLAIN TEXT

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (44-1609)

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CIVIL RIGHTS
(OO: MEMPHIS)

ReBirmingham teletype to the Director dated 4/17/68 with copies for Atlanta, Houston, Jackson, Memphis, Mobile, New York and which pertains to THOMAS JOSEPH COX.

Enclosed for Newark are two copies of referenced teletype.

On 4/18/68, Mr. RUDY J. MAYER, Accountant, American Bulk Carriers, 711 Third Avenue, New York, New York, stated to SA FRANCIS L. CASHIN that THOMAS JOSEPH COX sailed on the SS "Kent" which left Houston, Texas, on 4/28/67, went to Bombay, India and was there from 6/7/67 to 6/22/67, and returned to Destrehan, Louisiana on 8/1/67. He has no record of COX since then.

- 3- Bureau
- 2- Memphis (44-1987)
- 2- Newark (Encls. 2)
- 1- Atlanta (INFO)
- ②- Houston
- 1- Jackson (INFO)
- 1- Mobile (INFO)
- 1- Birmingham (44-1740) (INFO)
- 1- New York (44-1609)

FLC:jmr
(15)

44-1509-108

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 20 1968	
FBI-HOUSTON	

[Signature]

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

NY 44-1609

On 4/27/67, COX gave his address as Hotel De George, Houston, Texas.

COX was described as follows in MAYER's records:

Name:	THOMAS JOSEPH COX
Book or Cert:	#Z-976491-d3
Rating:	Able Seaman
Date Began:	April 27, 1967
Place Began:	Houston, Texas
Social Security #:	[REDACTED]
Citizenship:	USA
Birthplace:	New Jersey
Birthdate:	3/9/26
Age:	41
Height	6'2"
Weight	205 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Complexion	Fair
Next of Kin:	Mother - Mrs. ANNA COX 206 Mill Road, Somerdale, New Jersey

NY 44-1609

LEADS:

HOUSTON

AT HOUSTON, TEXAS: Check at Hotel De George for COX as set out in referenced teletype.

NEWARK

AT SOMMERDALE, NEW JERSEY: Interview COX's mother for information requested in referenced teletype.

F B I

Date: 4/18/68

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(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

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- ② Atlanta (INFO)
- ② Houston
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- 1- Mobile (INFO)
- 1- Birmingham (44-1740) (INFO)
- 1- New York (44-1609)

FLC:jmr
(15)

44-1509-108

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Place Began:	Houston, Texas
Social Security #:	[REDACTED]
Citizenship:	USA
Birthplace:	New Jersey
Birthdate:	3/9/26
Age:	41
Height	6'2"
Weight	205 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Complexion	Fair
Next of Kin:	Mother - Mrs. ANNA COX 206 Mill Road, Somerddale, New Jersey

NY 44-1609

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NEWARK

AT SOMMERDALE, NEW JERSEY: Interview COX's mother for information requested in referenced teletype.

FBI-HOUSTON

FBI LOS ANG

4:17PM URGENT 4-19-68 LLR

TO DIRECTOR, ATLANTA, MEMPHIS, BIRMINGHAM, NEW ORLEANS,
SAN ANTONIO, HOUSTON, AND INDIANAPOLIS
FROM LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

MURKIN, CR - POSSIBLE SUSPECT DONALD D. TANNER.

RE INDIANAPOLIS TEL TO MEMPHIS, LOS ANGELES AND
NEW ORLEANS APRIL SEVENTEEN LAST, TWELVE ZERO THREE P.M.
CST.

SHIRLEY KAHN ADVISED DONALD TANNER FRIEND OF HER SON.
TANNER IS NOT IDENT WITH PHOTO OF GALT.
NO FURTHER INVESTIGATION AT LA.

END

EVB

FBI-HOUSTON

44-1509-109

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 19 1968	
FBI-HOUSTON	

FBI-HOUSTON

FBI LOS ANG

4:17PM URGENT 4-19-68 LLR

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FBI-HOUSTON

FBI DALLAS

1020PM 4/19/68 THIS IS RELAY MSG FROM DIRECTOR TO ALL SAC VIA
DALLAS

PM IMMEDIATE 4-19-68 LLD

TO ALL SACSEXCEPT KANSAS CITY, ANCHORAGE, HONOLULU AND SAN JUAN

MESSAGE RELAY PLAN

FROM DIRECTOR 5P

MURKIN. 00: MEMPHIS.

JAMES EARL RAY, AKA. EARL JAMES RAY, W. C. HERRON, EARL JAMES,
JAMES MC BRIDE, JAMES O'CONNER, JAMES WALTON, JAMES WALYON, JIM
- FUGITIVE; UFAC - ROBBERY FIRST, BUFILE 88-41730. 00: KANSAS
CITY, KC FILE 88-9449; DETERMINED TODAY BY BUREAU TO BE IDENTICAL
WITH ERIC STARVO GALT, AGAINST WHOM FEDERAL COMPLAINT FILED APRIL
SEVENTEEN LAST IN CONNECTION WITH FATAL SHOOTING OF DR. MARTIN
LUTHER KING, JR.

JAMES EARL RAY, INMATE, MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY, JEFFERSON
CITY, MO., ESCAPED PEN APRIL TWO THREE, SIXTY-SEVEN. INVESTIGATION
INDICATED RAY CONCEALED HIMSELF IN A BREAD BOX AND ESCAPED FROM
TRUCK MAKING DELIVERY TO AN AUXILIARY FARM. RAY WAS SERVING TWENTY
YEARS ON CHARGE OF ARMED ROBBERY - FIRST DEGREE AND FOR OPERATING A
VEHICLE WITHOUT OWNER'S CONSENT. ON JULY TWENTY, SIXTY-SEVEN,
END PAGE ONE

44-1509-110

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 19 1968	
FBI-HOUSTON	

[Handwritten signatures and initials over the stamp]

PAGE TWO

FEDERAL COMPLAINT AUTHORIZED BY AUSA WILLIAM A. KITCHEN, WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY, MO., FILED BEFORE USC, JEFFERSON CITY, MO., CHARGING RAY WITH VIOLATION TITLE EIGHTEEN, SECTION ONE ZERO SEVEN THREE, USC. WARRANT ISSUED.

INVESTIGATION HAS BEEN CONDUCTED BY CHICAGO, SPRINGFIELD, ST. LOUIS, AND KANSAS CITY OFFICES IN UNPRODUCTIVE EFFORT TO LOCATE THIS FUGITIVE. KANSAS CITY IS INSTITUTING A FULL AND COMPLETE REINVESTIGATION IN AN EFFORT TO DEVELOP BACKGROUND DATA, RELATIVES, AND ASSOCIATES OF SUBJECT, WHO MIGHT BE IN A POSITION TO ASSIST IN HIS LOCATION.

IN THIS CONNECTION, JAMES EARL RAY AND WALTER TERRY RIFE ON MARCH SEVEN, FIFTY-FIVE, BURGLARIZED THE U. S. POST OFFICE AT KELLERVILLE, ILL., AND STOLE SIXTY-SIX BLANK U. S. POSTAL MONEY ORDERS WHICH THEY PASSED DURING MARCH, FIFTY-FIVE, IN NUMEROUS STATES, WITH THE RESULT THAT BOTH WERE SENTENCED IN U.S.D.C., KANSAS CITY, MO., ON JULY ONE, FIFTY-FIVE, TO USP, LEAVENWORTH, END PAGE TWO