

FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

FBI - CENTRAL RECORDS CENTER

HO - HOUSTON

HO-0044-0001B: HO

Pass / Case #

Sub

Vol.

Serial #

C044 1509

8

456

OPEN

6/06/7800



CLASSIFICATION NO.

Volume Number

Serials

Bureau File Number

44-3861

861
Kalkun 8/22/78
Due 9/9/78

Kaliber 8/22/78

File 8/21178

October 8/21/78

~~WBC 5/9/70~~

10/11/16

Q. We 01/17/97
Q. Acc: 5/13/99

21 May 12

11 Rec. 5-12-69

~~Nothing 3-12-69~~

8. 11. 21. 45

2 110100

See also Nos.

1 a. Separate

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

DO NOT FILE NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS IN THIS
VOLUME OF THE FILE. FILE IN 44-1509 (1).

Notice:

DO NOT DESTROY -
PRESERVE FOR SELECT
COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

FBI-HOUSTON

FBI DALLAS

12140K

101PM URGENT 6/8/68 GJM

TO AL SACS

FRNM DIRECTOR 44-38861

MURKIN

SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY APPREHENDED AT LONDON,
ENGLAND, JUNE EIGHT INSTANT. DISCONTINUE EFFORTS TO LOCATE
AND REMOVE ALL STOPS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

FPC

FBI-HOUSTON

@

44-1509-456

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JUN 10 1968	
FBI-HOUSTON	
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FBI-HOUSTON

FBI DALLAS

12140K

101PM URGENT 6/8/68 GJM

TO AL SACS

FRNM DIRECTOR 44-38861

MURKIN

SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY APPREHENDED AT LONDON,
ENGLAND, JUNE EIGHT INSTANT. DISCONTINUE EFFORTS TO LOCATE
AND REMOVE ALL STOPS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

FPC

FBI-HOUSTON

44-1509-456

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197

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)

DATE: 6/3/68

FROM : SA WILLIAM G. MORRISSEY

SUBJECT: Re Memphis teletype to Houston, dated 5/17/68.

On 5/20/68 and 5/21/68, the following persons advised SA WILLIAM G. MORRISSEY that they had no guests identifiable with VINCENT WALKER or LAWRENCE RAND or REND for the days 4/4-5/68:

GAYLE E. TALLEY, Credit Manager, Sheriton-Lincoln Hotel, 777 Polk Street

WILLIAM HAY, Security Officer, Continental Houston Hotel, 101 Main

MARGARET HOLCOMBE, Clerk, Shamrock Hilton Hotel, 6900 Main Street

MARTHA KRAUSE, Clerk, Hotel America, Cullen Center
ALICE JULIS, Guest History, Lamar Hotel, Main and Lamar Streets

ALFRED NELIN, Manager, McKinney Hotel, 916 McKinney Street

SANTIAGO HERNANDEZ, Desk Clerk, Montague Hotel, 804 Fannin

JOE VINEYARD, Clerk, Savoy Field Hotel, 1616 Main Street

HUGH WOODS, Assistant Manager, Texas State Hotel, 720 Fannin Street

BUNYAN PAINE, Desk Clerk, Travelers Hotel, 112 Main Street

C.L. RODRIGUEZ, Desk Clerk, Milby Hotel, 902 Texas Avenue

J.E. QUINN, Desk Clerk, Auditor Hotel, 701 Texas Avenue

WGM/tjs

(1)

44-1509-457

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Worm

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509) DATE: 6/5/68

FROM : SA G. R. SCHWEICKHARDT

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 5/31/68 and 6/3/68, the following hotels were contacted and all advised that they do not keep their records of registrants by day but alphabetically, and that it would be impossible to check records for people who stayed by day without looking through every registrant.

However, all said they could check by name.

The names VINCENT WALKER, LAURENCE RAND (REND), W. DAVIS B. CHIDLOW, and JOHN WILLARD were furnished to the hotels and all advised they had no registrants by these names on April 5, 1968:

Sheraton-Lincoln
GAYLE E. TALLEY
Credit Manager
Houston, Texas

Hotel America
JAMES P. KELLY
Manager

Montagu Hotel
BILL MARTIN
Manager

Continental Hotel
WILLIAM HAY
Chief Security

(2) Houston
GRS:sm
(2)

44-1509-458

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)

FROM : SA GEORGE P.D. HUDNOR

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 6/7/68

The following investigation was conducted by SA GEORGE P.D. HUDNOR at Silsbee and Kuntze, Texas on 5/31/68:

The following individuals subscribe to the telephone numbers listed with their names and address were contacted for information in their possession regarding the subject in this matter and a photograph of the subject was displayed to them for identification purposes and each advised they did not know the subject nor could they furnish any information of value.

Silsbee, Texas

LEO HUDTON, JR., Fresencius Road, Route 1,
Box 172, telephone 385-4796

A. L. ROBERTS, 860 West Avenue B
telephone 385-4337

JERRY WOODS, Star Route, Box 2190, Kirbyville,
Highway, telephone 385-5106

MAX ZELLER, SR., City Cab Company, 1315 Norvelle
telephone 385-3737

JACK D. MC ANULTY, 1116 North Second Street,
telephone 385-4792

OTIS BARGE, Route 1, Farm Road 1122,
telephone 385-4365

VAUGHN HARRINGTON, 1220 Barfield, telephone
385-5595

Mrs. GENEVA HUNTER, 188 Bonner, telephone
385-3993

H.O. HOBBS, Box 193, Evadale, Texas,
telephone 276-1431

GPDH/sjm
(1)

Sjm

44-1509-459

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Wier

HO 44-1509

Kountze, Texas

E.J. MOSLEY, P.O. Box 307, telephone 246-3760

Mrs. VIOLA BEARD, Box 57, telephone 246-3919

OSCAR GROZE, Route 1, telephone 246-3687

HO 44-1509

HLW:cjl

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA HENRY L. WILLIAMS at Houston, Texas, on May 29, 1968:

1. Telephone call from San Antonio, number 875-9056, made on December 16, 1967, to Houston number 522-3008. Subscriber of that number, Mrs. C. S. ASH, 1116 Bank Street, advised she could not recall who made the telephone call, inasmuch as she had relatives in San Antonio.

2. Telephone call made from San Antonio, number 674-9676, on December 15, 1967, to Houston, number 524-5994. Subscriber to this telephone number, Mr. DENTON B. WISE, 2154 Chilton, advised telephone call was made by GEORGE LOWES, a cousin of his. WISE advised he has no association whatever with JAMES EARL RAY.

Leads from serial 416

44-1509-460

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Wm

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)

FROM : SA F. WILLIAM WHATLEY, JR.

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 6/3/68

The following investigation was conducted on 5/31/68:

J. E. QUIN, Desk Clerk, Auditorium Hotel, 701 Texas Street, Houston, Texas, made available registration cards of guests since 1/1/68. The names JOHN WILLIARD, VINCENT WALKER, LAWRENCE RAND or REND, W. DAVIS and B. CHIDLAW were checked for several days before and after 4/5/68 with negative results. There was no indication of any registrations on 4/5/68 from 2:50 AM to 8:00 AM.

E. A. BILLINGSLEY, Manager, Milby Hotel, 902 Texas Street, Houston, Texas, made available registration cards since 1/1/68. The above names were checked in the same manner as above with negative results.

The following investigation was conducted on 6/3/68:

CC O. MC GHEE, Manager, Traveler Hotel, 112 Main Street, Houston, Texas, made available registration cards since 1/1/68. The above names were checked in the same manner with negative results.

1 - Houston
FWW:fwf
(1)

44-1509-461

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED 9	FILED 9
JUN 10 1968	
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1

HO 76-1845
MKA:yk

The following investigation was conducted at
Corpus Christi, Texas, by SA M. KEITH AIKEN:

On June 3, 1968, Mrs. NOEL GRAVES, 3817 Country Estates, Corpus Christi, Texas, advised that DONALD NISSEN has worked for Americana Encyclopedia Company about four years ago and that she has not seen him since that time. She advised that another person with whom NISSEN has worked in the past is TOMMIE McCLOUD, American Educator (Reference Society), Tampa, Florida. She stated another person who may know something about NISSEN is BILL WHITE (has been known to use other names), 3114 North Braeswood, Houston, Texas, in that he makes many long distance telephone calls in efforts to follow other persons, resulting in a telephone bill which sometimes amounts to \$300 monthly.

44-1500-462

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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F B I

Date: 6/7/68

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

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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TO: BUREAU (44-38861) AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)
 FROM: ATLANTA (44-2386)

MURKIN.

REMETEL TO BUREAU JUNE SIX SIXTYEIGHT, MIAMI TEL TO
 DIRECTOR, JUNE FIVE SIXTYEIGHT.

SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED JUNE SEVEN SIXTYEIGHT:

DELTA AIRLINES, ATLANTA, HAS LOCATED ADDITIONAL TWO
 TICKETS REFERRED TO IN MIAMI TELETYPE. A MRS. S. A. HOROWITZ
 TRAVELED ROUND TRIP ATLANTA TO TORONTO APRIL THIRTEEN RETURNING
 APRIL EIGHTEEN SIXTYEIGHT. TICKET NUMBER ZERO ZERO SIX DASH
 TWO ZERO ONE DASH THREE ONE THREE DASH SIX ONE NINE, ITEM TWO,
 APPARENTLY INCORRECT NUMBER. THIS TICKET SOLD JANUARY FIFTEEN
 SIXTYEIGHT, A ONE WAY TICKET FROM CHICAGO TO PALM BEACH, FLORIDA.

LAWSON ROLLINS, DELTA AIR LINES, ADVISED TICKETS LOCATED
 FOR PASSENGER W. DAVIS AND B. CHIDLAW ON DELTA FLIGHT ONE FIVE
 SEVEN NONSTOP MEMPHIS TO HOUSTON APRIL FIVE SIXTYEIGHT.
 THESE PASSENGERS TRAVELED TOGETHER AS TICKET CONTAINED BOTH
 NAMES. TICKET WAS ONE WAY; NO RETURN RESERVATIONS MADE.
 MANIFEST OF ENTIRE PASSENGER LIST BEING OBTAINED.

UACB, ATLANTA IS DISCONTINUING DAILY TELETYPES IN THIS
 CASE. ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

AIRMAIL COPY TO MIAMI AND HOUSTON.

1- Atlanta 1- Miami (AM) 1- Houston (AM) Per RRP:jhs (3)
 Approved: _____ Sent _____ M
 Special Agent in Charge

44-1509-463

FBI-HOUSTON

FBI NEW YORK

155PM URGENT 6-11-68 PAC

TO DIRECTOR, (44-38861) AND HOUSTON AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM NEW YORK (44-1609) 1P

MURKIN

NEW YORK OFFICE, AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH,
CONFIDENTIALLY ADVISED THAT AT TWELVE ZERO SIX A.M., EDST, JUNE NINE
LAST, AST,
A LONG DISTANCE PERSON-TO-PERSON CALL WAS PLACED FROM
JIM TATUM, HOUSTON, TEXAS, TO SUBJECT, JAMES EARL RAY, LONDON,
ENGLAND. CALL WAS PLACED FROM FOLLOWING NUMBER: (SEVEN ONE
THREE) - SIX SIX SEVEN - SIX TWO EIGHT SEVEN. CALLER EVENTUALLY
CONTACTED CANON ROW POLICE RTERS, PHONE NUMBER
NINE THREE ZERO - ONE ONE ONE THREE, LONDON, ENGLAND, AND AFTER
BEING DENIED ACCESS TO RAY, ASKED TO SPEAK TO SOMEONE WHO
COULD FURNISH INFORMATION REGARDING RAY. HE WAS
REFERRED TO CHIEF OF DETECTIVES SUPERINTENDENT BUTLER BY THE
NIGHT STATION OFFICER, HOWEVER, DECLINED TO CALL BUTLER.

UACB, HOUSTON TACTFULLY IDENTIFY JIM TATUM AND DETERMINE
HIS INTEREST IN SUBJECT RAY.

END

CORR 7 DOWN XXX 8 DOWN FIFTH WD SHOULD BE HEADQUARTERS

KOB

FBI-HOUSTON

@

44-1507-464

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FBI-HOUSTON

FBI NEW YORK

155PM URGENT 6-11-68 PAC

TO DIRECTOR, (44-38861) AND HOUSTON AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM NEW YORK (44-1609) 1P

MURKIN

NEW YORK OFFICE, AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH,
CONFIDENTIALLY ADVISED THAT AT TWELVE ZERO SIX A.M., EDST, JUNE NINE
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THREE) - SIX SIX SEVEN - SIX TWO EIGHT SEVEN. CALLER EVENTUALLY
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BEING DENIED ACCESS TO RAY, ASKED TO SPEAK TO SOMEONE WHO
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HIS INTEREST IN SUBJECT RAY.

END

CORR 7 DOWN XXX 8 DOWN FIFTH WD SHOULD BE HEADQUARTERS

KOB

FBI-HOUSTON

9

44-1509-464

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KH

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : FILE (44-1509)

FROM : ASAC KARL V. HETHERINGTON

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 6/11/68

This afternoon JERRY SLAUGHTER, Security Department, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, called and advised that he had been in contact with his New York office concerning a call which had been made from Houston to subject JAMES EARL RAY in London. He asked if we had received any information in this regard and I told him that we had. He then stated he was furnishing the following information concerning TATUM as contained in the files of the telephone company:

Telephone listing per telephone records is in the name of J. E. TATUM and shows his residence as 117 Pamellia, Bellaire, Texas, telephone 667-6287. He is listed in the records as an attorney with his business telephone as CA 2-7333. The files indicate he is a former school teacher in the Houston Public School District.

He advised that as to the nature of the man the only information he has is that TATUM currently owes the telephone company a bill in excess of \$200. He stated when the telephone company sent TATUM a notice that he was delinquent in his account, TATUM raised a fuss and cursed the telephone employees.

He said he does not know the man personally but the above would indicate he possibly has a rather quick temper.

For information purposes.

*Indice neg-
HHPD - neg (1)
20 - neg.
KVH:mec
(1)*

44-1509-465

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Wen



5010-108

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

F B I

Date: 6/12/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS AND NEW YORK

FROM: SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)

MURKIN.

RE NY TEL, JUNE ELEVEN, LAST.

RE JAMES EDDIE TATUM

JERRY SLAUGHTER (FORMER SA) SECURITY DEPT., SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE CO. (PROTECT), HOUSTON, ADVISED J.E. TATUM LISTED AS SUBSCRIBER FOR TELEPHONE NUMBER SEVEN ONE THREE SIX SIX SEVEN SIX TWO EIGHT SEVEN AT ONE ONE SEVEN PAMELLIA, BELLAIRE (GREATER HOUSTON), TEXAS, OCCUPATION ATTORNEY AND FORMERLY SCHOOL TEACHER, HOUSTON^{INDEPENDENT} SCHOOL DIST. TATUM OWES TELEPHONE CO. BILL IN EXCESS OF TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS. TATUM UPON RECEIVING DELINQUENCY NOTICE FROM TELEPHONE CO. FUSSED AND CURSED TELEPHONE CO. EMPLOYEES.

HOUSTON CREDIT BUREAU ADVISED AS FOLLOWS:

JAMES EDDIE TATUM, ONE ONE SEVEN PAMELLIA, BELLAIRE, TEX. KNOWN TO FILES SINCE MARCH, SIXTY FOUR. FILE LAST CHECKED NOV. SIXTY SEVEN. TATUM BORN NINETEEN THIRTY NINE, WIFE ELIZABETH. OCCUPATION ATTORNEY, AMERICAN BLDG., HOUSTON WITH FIRM OF DAVID A. GIBSON SINCE OCT., SIXTY SIX. NOV. SIXTY FIVE

JSW:SJM

Approved: *(1) [Signature]*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

10³¹ - Di10³⁴ - Mc10³⁸ - Hy M

Per

Searched

Serialized

Indexed

44-1509-466

F B I

Date:

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

HO 44-1509

PAGE TWO

EMPLOYED AS SCHOOL TEACHER, HOUSTON^{INDEPENDENT}SCHOOL DIST. IN SIXTY
FOUR TRUCK DRIVER FOR A HOUSTON CONTRACTOR. ALSO SIXTY FOUR
EMPLOYED AS OFFICE AIDE FOR DAHL AND REED, HOUSTON LEGAL
FIRM.

HOUSTON INDICES, HOUSTON PD AND HARRIS COUNTY SO RECORDS
NEGATIVE.

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

FBI WASH DC

FBI HOUSTON

1031 AM URGENT 6-12-68 MBH

TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS AND NEW YORK
FROM HOUSTON (44-1509)

MURKIN.

RE NY TEL, JUNE ELEVEN, LAST.

RE JAMES EDDIE TATUM.

JERRY SLAUGHTER (FORMER SA) SECURITY DEPT., SOUTHWESTERN
BELL TELEPHONE CO. (PROTECT), HOUSTON, ADVISED J. E. TATUM
LISTED AS SUBSCRIBER FOR TELEPHONE NUMBER SEVEN ONE THREE
SIX SIX SEVEN SIX TWO EIGHT SEVEN AT ONE ONE SEVEN PAMELLIA,
BELLAIRE (GREATER HOUSTON), TEXAS, OCCUPATION ATTORNEY AND
FORMERLY SCHOOL TEACHER, HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DIST. TATUM
OWES TELEPHONE CO. BILL IN EXCESS OF TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS.
TATUM UPON RECEIVING DELINQUENCY NOTICE FROM TELEPHONE CO.
FUSSED AND CURSED TELEPHONE CO. EMPLOYEES.

HOUSTON CREDIT BUREAU ADVISED AS FOLLOWS:

JAMES EDDIE TATUM, ONE ONE SEVEN PAMELLIA, BELLAIRE, TEX.
KNOWN TO FILES SINCE MARCH, SIXTY FOUR. FILE LAST CHECKED NOV.
SIXTY SEVEN. TATUM BORN NINETEEN THIRTY NINE, WIFE ELIZABETH.
END PAGE ONE

PAGE TWO

HO 44-1509

OCCUPATION ATTORNEY, AMERICANA BLDG., HOUSTON WITH FIRM OF
DAVID A. GIBSON SINCE OCT., SIXTY SIX. NOV. SIXTY FIVE
EMPLOYED AS SCHOOL TEACHER, HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL
DIST. IN SIXTY FOUR TRUCK DRIVER FOR A HOUSTON CONTRACTOR.
ALSO SIXTY FOUR EMPLOYED AS OFFICE AIDE FOR DAHL AND REED,
HOUSTON LEGAL FIRM.

HOUSTON INDICES, HOUSTON PD AND HARRIS COUNTY SO RECORDS
NEGATIVE.

END

JTM

FBI WASH DC

10³⁴

MCP

FBI - ME

10³⁸

JAM

FBI - NY

6/11/68

Houston

ROUTING SLIP TO ALL FIELD OFFICES

FROM: *RCW* SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

RE: JAMES EARL RAY, aka -
FUGITIVE
CR - CONSPIRACY; UFAC - ROBBERY

OO: MEMPHIS

Re report of SA JOE C. HESTER 6/5/68 at Memphis.

Page 17, paragraph 4, line 6 - 12/17/67, should
be 12/7/67.

Please correct your copies.

SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN

TOR:tjm

*Correction made
6/13/68 g*

44-1509-467

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[Signature]

FBI WASH DC

FBI HOUSTON

6:05 PM CST URGENT 6-12-68 OET

TO DIRECTOR

FROM HOUSTON 1P 44-1509

MURKIN

REMYTEL TODAY.

FURTHER CONTACTS WITH RELIABLE HOUSTON ATTORNEYS FAILED TO
FURTHER IDENTIFY JAMES EDDIE TATUM. IN VIEW OF INFO SET FORTH
IN RETEL AND SINCE IT APPEARS POSSIBLE THAT TATUM ATTEMPTED TO CONTACT
RAY FOR PUBLICITY PURPOSES NO FURTHER INVESTIGATION BEING CONDUCTED.

END

WPK

FBI WASH DC

no blue copy

OK'D SAC

Searched _____
Serialized _____
Indexed _____
Filed _____

WPK

44-1509-468

FBI

Date: 6-12-68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AM
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: SAC, ALBANY
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P
MURKIN

In view of subject's apprehension, any office having outstanding leads or requests for circularization in any publication of any kind should cancel outstanding request now.

A & D.

- 2 Albany
- 1 All Continental Offices
- 1 Memphis

RGJ:BN
(56)

Stops cancelled 6/17/68

44-1509-469

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SERIALIZED <i>2</i>	FILED <i>2</i>
JUN 14 1968	
FBI-HOUSTON	

Wolfe

Approved: *R. C. Jensen*
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per *Cancel all stops*

(copy in 44-1509)
HO 76-1845
MKA:yk

The following investigation was conducted at
Corpus Christi, Texas, by SA M. KEITH AIKEN:

On June 3, 1968, Mrs. NOEL GRAVES, 3817 Country
Estates, Corpus Christi, Texas, advised that DONALD NISSEN
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She advised that another person with whom NISSEN has worked
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may know something about NISSEN is BILL WHITE (has been
known to use other names), 3114 North Braeswood, Houston,
Texas, in that he makes many long distance telephone calls
in efforts to follow other persons, resulting in a tele-
phone bill which sometimes amounts to \$300 monthly.

Searched _____
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44-1509-470

F B I

Date: 6/14/68

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

TO: SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)

FROM: SAC, ST. LOUIS (44-775)

MURKIN.

Re Houston airtel, 5/3/68.

Mr. T. EDWARD UMPHRES (confidential), Area Security Supervisor, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, St. Louis, Missouri, advised Special Agent SPURGEON J. PETERSON on June 4, 1968, the holder of St. Louis non-published telephone number 664-3747, is LEMUEL B. HESTER, 3029 Henrietta, St. Louis, Missouri. This information was obtained by subpoena.

On June 10, 1968, Mrs. KATHLEEN HESTER, 3029 Henrietta, St. Louis, Missouri, was shown a photograph of subject by Special Agent JOHN O. TRETHEWEY, JR. She stated she is not acquainted with any person of his appearance and that his true name and aliases are not familiar to her except through newspaper, radio and television publicity.

The only person she knows in the Houston area is her daughter, LOIS (Mrs. RICHARD) NESTLEHOFF, 1238 Lamont, who contacts her frequently by telephone. She has no reason to believe her daughter has any information regarding subject.

② - Houston
1 - St. Louis
HRD:klr
(3)

44-1509-471

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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JUN 17 1968	
FBI-HOUSTON	

Wen

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

6/14/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)

FROM: SAC, ST. LOUIS (44-775)

MURKIN.

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2 - Houston
1 - St. Louis
HRD:klr
(3)

44-1509-471

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KW

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Director of the F.B.I.
Washington, D.C.

1811-Rusk
Houston,
Texas
June 11, 1968

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Congratulations to you
in capturing James E. Ray, who is
wanted in connection with the slaying
of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. I had
complete faith that you would ac-
complish this.

The enclosed editorial is from a
paper as you know criticized you
recently for not having apprehended
Ray.

Keep up the tremendous job you are doing
for many, many years.

Sincerely,
Thomas B. Bryant

44-685-77

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JUN 11 1968	
FBI-HOUSTON	

KIT

June 17, 1968

Mr. Thomas C. Bryant
1811 Rusk
Houston, Texas 77003

44-1509-288

Dear Mr. Bryant:

I have received your letter of June 11th, with enclosure, and appreciate your thoughtfulness in furnishing this material. I am grateful for your kind remarks and your expression of support of this Bureau.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

(1) - Houston - Enclosure

g

44-1509-473

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 19 1968	
FBI-HOUSTON	

ATB

7/1/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

7-1-68
REMEairtel, 6/3/68.

JULY
Re: June Time, Mileage and Cost Statistics - Murkin

I. Man Hours

A. Regular

1. Special Agents
2. Clerical

39 14
2 1

B. Overtime

1. Special Agents
2. Clerical

0 0
0 0

II. Mileage

149 296

III. Unusual or Out of Ordinary Costs

None

IV. Peak Number of Special Agents Utilized

63

2 - Memphis
1 - Houston
JSW/sjm
(3)

Sjm

WPH

SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
FILED

44-1509-474

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : FILE (44-1509)

FROM : SAC WESLEY T. WHALEY

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 7/3/68

Today Mr. [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], called and furnished the following:

A source has just advised him that a person by the name of LONELL WILHELM has made application for a post office box at Columbus for the "JAMES EARL RAY Defense Fund". [REDACTED] also understood that persons have been soliciting for this fund in the Wharton area.

SA WEIR advised and is checking.

WTW:mec
(1)

44-1509-475

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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JUL 3 1968	
FBI-HOUSTON	

Weir



5010-108

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

7/5/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, HOUSTON (44-1509)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Enclosed for the Bureau are five copies of an LHM captioned "JAMES EARL RAY DEFENSE FUND, Columbus, Texas", two copies for Memphis for their information.

The first source is [REDACTED], Houston, Texas.

The second source is [REDACTED], Columbus, Texas.

3 - Bureau (Enc-5)
2 - Memphis (Enc-2)
1 - Houston
JSW/sjm
(6)

1574

44-1509-476

Houston, Texas
July 5, 1968

James Earl Ray Defense Fund
Columbus, Texas

On July 3, 1968 a confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that he had received information that person by the name of Lonnal Wilhelm has started a defense fund for James Earl Ray. According to the source funds solicited are to be sent to Columbus, Texas.

On July 3, 1968 another source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised as follows:

On June 26, 1968, Lonnal Wilhelm, P.O. Box 686, Columbus, Texas with residence at 431 Front Street, Columbus, applied and received P.O. Box 602, U.S. Post Office, Columbus, Texas. Wilhelm reportedly listed the purpose for having P.O. Box 602 as being for the receipt of funds for the defense of James Earl Ray suspected murderer of Martin Luther King on April 4, 1968. Lonnal Wilhelm, a white male, is approximately 30 years old, married and is the son of Mrs. Fred M. Bentsen, P.O. Box 686, Columbus, Texas, residence 431 Front Street, Columbus, Texas. Mrs. Fred M. Bentsen, also known as Loyce Bentsen arrived at Columbus, Texas in August, 1967 from Harlingen, Texas.

Lonnal Wilhelm's Texas driver's license number is 0072544 and Mrs. Fred M. Bentsen's Texas driver's license is 0022346.

On July 3, 1968, Frances Davinport, Credit Bureau of Columbus, Texas, advised that on June 26, 1968 she had a local inquiry on a L.E. Wilhelm who was reported to be self-employed as a nurseryman.

On July 3, 1968 a check of records of Colorado County Sheriff's Office, Columbus, Texas, revealed no information identifiable with the name Lonnal Wilhelm.

5 - Bureau
2 - Memphis
① - Houston
JSW/sjm
(8)

KH

SI
I
H
FL
EJ
ZB

44-1509-477

Re: James Earl Ray Defense Fund

Records of the FBI, Houston, Texas contain no information identifiable with the name Lonnal Wilhelm.

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, HOUSTON (44-1509)

DATE: 7/8/68

FROM : SA James S. Weir

SUBJECT: JAMES EARL RAY DEFENSE FUND
COLUMBUS, TEXAS

RE: LONNAL WILHELM

Today a phone call was received from Deputy Sheriff

FLOYD Colorado County SO, Columbus, Texas re-
garding WELHELM. HE advised as follows:

In connection with the ^{FATAL} shooting of the Sheriff at Columbus this morning, Wilhelm became innocently involved. Upon hearing the discharge of the weapon, Wilhelm, who resides within a block of the shooting scene, jumped into his car, a '66 Olds coupe, Texas license HPM 763 and drove to the scene. When he got out of his car to see what happened, the mentally deranged man named Ramsey who shot and killed the sheriff, jumped into Wilhelm's car and drove off. Ramsey was subsequently apprehended this morning at approximately 9AM.

Wilhelm rode in the car with deputy Floyd and during that time he, Wilhelm, mentioned that he had formerly worked on the police departments at Harlingen and Weslaco, communities located in the valley near Columbus. Wilhelm also mentioned that he is presently unemployed but is studying a course in botany (which ties in with info that Wilhelm was employed as a nurserman). Of interest is that Wilhelm mentioned that he always keeps a mag automatic concealed under the floorboard mat in his car.

A few nites ago Wilhelm had a visitor at Wilhelm's home who drove a car with Texas license PPF 379. Wilhelm reportedly at times also drives this car.

Above made a record in the event Bu requests addinal info on Wilhelm or we are requested to conduct further investigation.

44-1509-478

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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FBI-HOUSTON	



5010-108

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

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE NEW ORLEANS	OFFICE OF ORIGIN MEMPHIS	DATE 7/12/68	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 5/2/68 - 7/10/68
TITLE OF CASE JAMES EARL RAY, aka; I. O. NUMBER 4182, WF # 442-A; DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. (Deceased) - VICTIM		REPORT MADE BY SA STEPHEN M. CALLENDER	TYPED BY njc
		CHARACTER OF CASE CR - CONSPIRACY; UFAC - ROBBERY	

REFERENCES: Report of SA STEPHEN M. CALLENDER, 5/19/68, at New Orleans;
Houston airtel to Director, 5/2/68;
Houston airtel to Director, 5/6/68;
San Antonio teletype to Director, 5/7/68.

- P -

LEADS

No leads have been set forth in this report as all have been handled by more expeditious means during the progress of this investigation.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					☐ NONE	ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN: PENDING OVER ONE YEAR ☐ YES ☐ NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS ☐ YES ☐ NO		
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES				
APPROVED					SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE			DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE:									
4 - Bureau (44-38861) (RM)									
2 - Memphis (44-1987) (RM)									
① - Houston (44-1509) (INFO) (RM)									
1 - San Antonio (44-1242) (INFO) (RM)									
2 - New Orleans (157-10673)									
								44-1509-429 SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED JUL 15 1968 FBI-HOUSTON	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report					Notations				
Agency									
Request Recd.									
Date Fwd.									
How Fwd.									
By									

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NO 157-10673

ADMINISTRATIVE:

One copy of this report is being provided to the Houston and San Antonio Offices for information purposes in anticipation of assisting in any subsequent investigation.

The purpose in submitting this report even though it contains the results of negative investigation is because information had been previously reported that allegedly the subject was observed on the evening of 12/16/67, making a telephone call from a coin box while being accompanied on a trip from Los Angeles, California, to New Orleans, Louisiana, by CHARLES STEIN, during the period December 15 - 17, 1967. This call was allegedly placed from a pay telephone in the area near Houston, Texas.

It has also been alleged that the subject may have made several telephone calls while traveling through Texas.

It has been further alleged that the subject had indicated that his purpose in traveling to New Orleans was on business and the subject had mentioned an Italian sounding name as the person he was to contact.

Referenced Houston airtel, dated 5/2/68, contained a list of 281 calls made 12/15 - 17/67, from within the Houston Division to Louisiana.

Referenced Houston airtel, dated 5/6/68, contained an additional 75 phone calls made 12/15 - 17/67, from within the Houston Division to Louisiana.

Referenced San Antonio teletype contained a list of nine calls made from within the San Antonio Division to Louisiana.

In view of the allegations previously set forth, New Orleans is reporting only the results of interviews of persons residing in the New Orleans area.

The subscribers of the rest of the calls to other parts of Louisiana furnished by the Houston and San Antonio Divisions have also been determined. These persons who still reside in Louisiana have been located and interviewed, and no pertinent information relative to this investigation was developed. The results of these

B
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NO 157-10673

interviews are being maintained in the New Orleans file in this matter. Of these individuals where it has been determined they no longer reside in Louisiana, leads have been set out to other offices to have them located and interviewed for any pertinent information.

C*
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: SA STEPHEN M. CALLENDER Office: NEW ORLEANS
Date: 7/12/68

Field Office File #: NO 157-10673 Bureau File #: 44-38861

Title: JAMES EARL RAY;
I. O. # 4182, WF # 442-A;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
(Deceased) - VICTIM

Character: CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY;
UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID CONFINEMENT - ROBBERY

Synopsis: Information received regarding identities of
22 New Orleans telephone numbers, which were
called from Texas during period of 12/15 -17/67.
Subscribers identified and interviewed. Some
recall receiving calls from friends or relatives,
while others could not recall receiving calls.
All state JAMES EARL RAY is unknown to them.

- P -

NO 157-10673

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NO 157-10673

DETAILS:

NO 157-10673

On May 2, 1968, the Houston Office of the FBI provided information that long distance telephone calls were placed to the below listed New Orleans telephone numbers on the dates indicated. These telephone calls were placed during the period December 15 - 17, 1967, from coin telephones located within the Houston Division on Interstate Highway 10 and Route 90:

NO 157-10673

DATE	NEW ORLEANS TELEPHONE NUMBER
December 17, 1967	242-5962
December 16, 1967	242-8580
December 15, 1967	283-1173
December 17, 1967	361-0465
December 15, 1967	361-3374
December 15, 1967	361-4360
December 17, 1967	522-8495
December 15, 1967	524-0001
December 16, 1967	525-7532
December 15, 1967	721-2027
December 15, 1967	861-7067
December 17, 1967	887-8469
December 16, 1967	888-0404
December 17, 1967	888-7744
December 16, 1967	895-3872
December 16, 1967	945-4302
December 17, 1967	947-3471

Date 5/10/681

Sister MARY ERNSTINE, S.C., Principal St. Paul's Catholic School, 6828 Chef Menteur Highway, advised that number 242-5962 is the school's telephone number and she cannot recall who may have telephoned the school from Texas during the month of December, 1967.

Sister ERNSTINE explained that one of many salesmen, with whom the school does business, may have called for an appointment prior to his arrival in New Orleans. This could possibly be an explanation for the Texas call. Sister ERNSTINE advised she could furnish no specific information regarding the matter.

Sister ERNSTINE was shown photographs of the subject, JAMES EARL RAY, whom she could not identify as anyone seen at St. Paul's School.

On 5/9/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673
by SA PATRICK J. DENTE -epk ⁶ Date dictated 5/9/68

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.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5/17/681

JOSEPH J. HILTON, 9318 Haynes Boulevard, self-employed as a paint contractor, was contacted at his residence and advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent.

He advised that he is the subscriber to telephone number 242-8580, and the only telephone call he could remember around December 15 - 17, 1967, from Houston, Texas, would be one his wife received from CECIL LEE.

HILTON was exhibited various photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, and upon viewing these photographs, advised that RAY was unknown to him.

On 5/10/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673

by SA WILLIAM E. BOE / ⁷ njc Date dictated 5/13/68

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Date 5/17/681

Mrs. FLORENCE HILTON, 9318 Haynes Boulevard, was located at her place of employment, Schwegmann Brothers Giant Supermarket, 5300 Gentilly Road, and advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent.

She advised that the only telephone call she received from Texas during the period of December 15 - 17, 1967, was from IRMA LEE, wife of CECIL LEE. LEE had called to see if HILTON's relatives were going to Texas relative to a local charge pending against CECIL LEE. Her relatives did not go to Texas, and she believed the LEEs lives in the Houston, Texas area.

Upon being shown various photographs of JAMES EARL RAY, HILTON advised that RAY was unknown to her.

On 5/10/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673
by SA WILLIAM E. BOE / 8 njc Date dictated 5/13/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 5/10/68

Mrs. ETHEL MADELINE JONES, formerly Mrs. ETHEL MITCHELL, 1448 Milton, New Orleans, Louisiana, furnished the following information:

Mrs. JONES has lived at her present residence for approximately 13 years. She is the subscriber to telephone number 283-1173, in the name of Mrs. ETHEL MITCHELL.

Mrs. JONES received a telephone call from her niece, BERTHA SELLERS, address unknown, Houston, Texas, on December 15, 1967, Mrs. JONES' birthday. She stated BERTHA SELLERS placed the telephone call from a pay telephone booth in Houston, Texas, even though SELLERS has a phone of her own, because Mrs. SELLERS did not want to acquire a large telephone bill which has happened so often in the past when Mrs. SELLERS places long distance telephone calls from her personal phone.

Mrs. JONES stated her nephew, LOUIS SELLERS, 3024 Connecticut, Houston, Texas, would know the address of BERTHA SELLERS.

Mrs. JONES stated she was not a member of any racist or hate-type group and was, in fact, a member of the Eastern Stars. Mrs. JONES stated she had seen photographs of JAMES EARL RAY in the newspapers, but knew nothing about RAY outside of what she had read in the newspapers.

On 5/9/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673

by SA RONALD G. HINKLE - kat 9 Date dictated 5/10/68

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Date 5/10/681

ALMA STEWART, 1207 Belleville, Algiers, phone 361-0465, was questioned concerning a phone call she received on December 17, 1967, from Texas. She stated she could not remember this particular call as she received calls from Houston, Texas, quite regularly as she had a friend there.

She advised that this person was ALBERT CAMOUS. She stated she did not know his address as he was a seaman cook and was out at sea quite a bit of the time and called her when he got in. She stated she thought he sailed on the ship "American Trader." She stated that this is the only person she has received phone calls from in Texas.

STEWART was shown photographs of JAMES EARL RAY but advised she did not know him nor had she ever seen him before.

On 5/9/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673
by SA's PHILIP L. PETLEY and ROBERT POTHIER PLP/jpb 10 Date dictated 5/10/68

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Date 5/10/681

LUCILLE SENATE, 1801 Opelousas Street, Apartment B, advised that in the past she had received several phone calls from H. LOVRIC. SENATE further advised that she met LOVRIC at a party in New Orleans and that he presently lives in Orange, Texas, from where questioned call came.

SENATE stated that she had gone out several times with him but does not know his first name. SENATE further stated that LOVRIC is a seaman and may be reached at this address:

H. LOVRIC, C/O J. PASKROW,
525 East 82nd Street, New
York, New York 10028

SENATE was shown various photographs of JAMES EARL RAY with negative results.

SENATE stated that she believes she received a call from LOVRIC on or about December 15, 1967. She advised that she is the subscriber to telephone number 361-3374.

On 5/9/68 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673

by SA KEITH D. COY/jfb 11 Date dictated 5/10/68

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Date 5/13/68

1

JOYCE LYONS, 601 East Marlin Court, Gretna, Louisiana, phone number 361-4360, advised that the above phone number is registered in the name of J. A. LYONS, who is her husband. LYONS advised that her husband is currently employed by Brown and Root, Incorporated, Post Office Box 3, Houston, Texas. LYONS stated that her husband is employed in the pipeline department and that the company has a local office on Peters Road in Belle Chasse, Louisiana. LYONS advised that the address used by the company in New Orleans is Post Office Box 425, Harvey, Louisiana. LYONS stated that her husband is employed as a pipeline superintendent.

LYONS advised that her husband is currently on a pipeline barge, Brown and Root, Incorporated barge number M211, located on the Gulf of Mexico. LYONS stated that this barge will be in the Gulf of Mexico for approximately two weeks and that this current job was begun on Wednesday, May 8, 1968.

LYONS recalled that from approximately December 15-17, 1967, her husband was out in the Gulf of Mexico on Brown and Root barge "Booth".

LYONS stated that it was possible that some employee could have called her husband at the above number sometime around that period of time. LYONS stated that Brown and Root employs many people who live in Texas.

LYONS stated that she was unable to recall receiving any long distance telephone call from the Houston area from a pay phone.

LYONS advised that her husband's mother, Mrs. ETHA SCHADE, lives in Houston, Texas, at 6318 Ridgeway. LYONS stated that SCHADE very rarely leaves her house and would definitely not be calling from a pay phone. LYONS

On 5/10/68 at Gretna, Louisiana File # NO 157-10673

by SA DONALD P. MAIBERGER - jah 12 Date dictated 5/13/68

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2
NO 157-10673
DPM:jah

advised that both she and her husband have no other relatives in Houston, or the Houston, Texas, area.

LYONS was shown Identification Order Number 4182 of JAMES EARL RAY and advised that she did not recognize this individual.