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Section 22

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Section

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44-HQ-38861

SECTION 22

SECTION 22
SERIAL 2325 ONLY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE LOS ANGELES	OFFICE OF ORIGIN MEMPHIS	DATE 4/18/68	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 4/5 - 18/68
TITLE OF CASE UNSUB, aka Eric Starvo Galt, John Willard, Harvey Lowmyer - FUGITIVE; Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM		REPORT MADE BY LEROY W. SHEETS	TYPED BY jae
		CHARACTER OF CASE CR	

REFERENCES: Memphis teletype to Los Angeles dated 4/5/68.
 Memphis teletype to the Bureau, et al, dated 4/6/68.
 Albany teletype to the Bureau, et al, dated 4/8/68.
 Butel to all continental offices dated 4/9/68.
 Atlanta teletype to Bureau, et al, dated 4/12/68.
 Bureau telephone call to Los Angeles dated 4/13/68.
 Memphis teletype to the Bureau, et al, dated 4/11/68.

- P -

ADMINISTRATIVE

This report contains only information relating to the activities of ERIC STARVO GALT between November, 1967, and March 16, 1968, the period of time which GALT is known to have resided in the Los Angeles, California, area.

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

APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

LA44-1574

One copy of this report is being furnished the St. Louis Office pursuant to instructions of the Memphis Office. Additional copies are being furnished Birmingham Office for dissemination to the U. S. Attorney as process has been obtained by that office. Los Angeles is not aware whether previous dissemination has been authorized.

All criminal informants, security informants and racial informants in the Los Angeles Division are being contacted on a continuing basis for possible knowledge concerning the assassination.

No specific leads are being set out in this report as all leads are being set out by telephone or teletype.

LEADS

LOS ANGELES

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA: Will continue all out effort to obtain background concerning GALT and information leading to his apprehension.

- B* -
COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: LEROY W. SHEETS
Date: 4/18/68

Office: Los Angeles, California

Field Office File #: 44-1574

Bureau File #: 44-38861

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECT,
also known as
Eric Starvo Galt,
John Willard,
Harvey Lowmyer;
~~Character:~~ Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -
VICTIM

Character: CIVIL RIGHTS

~~Synopsis~~

Synopsis: Bushnell and Company, Pasadena, California, unable to trace Bushnell binoculars found at scene of shooting of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., 4/4/68, as no record maintained on serial numbers. Duck-bill pliers found in vicinity of shooting traced to Rompage Hardware Company, 5542 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, California. Employees of Rompage unable to identify purchaser of pliers. Laundry markings No. 02B-6 on red Thermo-Seal tape on T-shirt and under shorts found in vicinity of shooting similar to laundry markings utilized by Home Service Laundry and Dry Cleaning, 5280 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles. Laundry mark No. 02B-6 at this laundry assigned to customer with name E. GALT. 1966 white Mustang bearing license 1-38993, no state given, speedometer reading 34,185, was serviced at H. Beckman Chevron Service Station, 1506 North Normandie Avenue, Los Angeles, on 2/13/68. 1966 white Mustang bearing Alabama license 1-38993, speedometer reading 34,289 serviced at Cort Fox Ford, 4531 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, on 2/22/68, which service was ordered by E. GALT, 1535 North Serrano, Los Angeles, and signed by ERIC S. GALT. Investigation at 1535 North Serrano Avenue, Los Angeles, revealed ERIC S. GALT resided in Apartment 6 from 11/19/67 to

LA 44-1574

approximately 1/18/68. Records, U. S. Post Office, Los Angeles, reflected ERIC S. GALT furnished change of address on 1/22/68 from 1535 North Serrano Avenue, Los Angeles, to St. Francis Hotel, 5533 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles. GALT unknown to ANITA KATZWINKEL, whose name along with name of GINGER DAY appeared on piece of cardboard found in trunk of 1966 white Mustang located in Atlanta, Georgia, following the shooting of Dr. KING. Investigation at St. Francis Hotel where GALT resided from 1/21/68 to 3/17/68 reveals GALT left forwarding address of General Delivery, Main Post Office, Atlanta, until 4/25/68. No further information developed as to GALT's present whereabouts. Records, Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company, reveal GALT made no out of state calls from telephone registered to him at 1535 North Serrano Avenue, Los Angeles, during period 11/27/67 to 1/22/68. GALT took recreational type lessons at National Dance Studios, Long Beach, California, from first week of December, 1967, to 2/12/68. Personnel at this studio unable to furnish information regarding GALT's present location or any background information regarding him. GALT attended International School of Bartending, Los Angeles, from 1/19/68 to 3/2/68. Associates of GALT, CHARLES J. STEIN, RITA STEIN, and MARIE MARTIN interviewed extensively and could furnish no information as to his present whereabouts. CHARLES J. STEIN accompanied GALT on trip from Los Angeles to New Orleans, Louisiana, for purpose of returning two of RITA STEIN's children to Los Angeles during December, 1967. GALT purchased Bank of America money orders payable to Locksmithing Institute, Bloomfield, New Jersey, and various firms in Los Angeles area. FBI Laboratory reports sample of Thermo-Seal laundry markings obtained from Home Service Laundry and Dry Cleaning, Los Angeles, have no significant differences from laundry markings on T-shirt and under shorts found in vicinity of shooting. GALT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- P -

DETAILS:

1A

LA 44-1574

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II

LA 44-1574

INVESTIGATION CONCERNING
ORIGIN OF BINOCULARS RECOVERED
NEAR THE SCENE OF THE SHOOTING OF
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.,
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

The Memphis Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) advised on April 5, 1968, that a pair of Bushnell 7 X 35 banner binoculars bearing serial No. SNDQ408664 were found near the scene of the shooting of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. on April 4, 1968, in Memphis, Tennessee.

Investigation at Bushnell and Company, 2128 East Foothill Boulevard, Pasadena, California, was requested to ascertain if these binoculars were a part of a purchase of six pairs of binoculars by the York Arms Company, 162 South Main Street, Memphis.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/5/68

DOROTHY STARVES, Sales Service Manager, D.P. Bushnell and Company, Inc., 2828 East Foothill Boulevard, displayed the file copy of an invoice made out to the York Arms Company, 162 South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee. The invoice number is D33065. The invoice is dated October 31, 1967. It reflects that an order was placed on October 20, 1967, and shipped October 30, 1967, for the following described items:

1. One 7 X 35 Ultra vision binoculars.
2. One Pocket scope (Monocular) with two interchangeable objectives.
3. Six 7 X 35 Banner binoculars.
4. Two table top tripods.

STARVES examined the shipping copy of the above described invoice and ascertained the shipment was made and dated October 31, 1967.

STARVES stated that Code 127350 is the code number for the six Banner binoculars.

STARVES advised that serial numbers for binoculars are not recorded by this firm.

3

On 4/5/68 at Pasadena, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574
by SA J. ROBERT SULLIVAN:jmk Date dictated 4/5/68

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LA 44-1574

INVESTIGATION CONCERNING
ORIGIN OF THE DUCK-BILLED
PLIERS FOUND IN THE VICINITY
OF THE SHOOTING OF DR. KING

The Memphis Office of the FBI advised on April 6, 1968, that information from the National Retail Hardware Association, Indianapolis, Indiana, indicated that the pliers abandoned in the vicinity of the shooting of Dr. KING were purchased from Rompage Hardware Company, 5542 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, California.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/10/68

THOMAS M. WARE, 3344 Glenhurst Avenue, Los Angeles, was interviewed at his residence at which time he furnished the following information:

A photograph depicting a pair of duck-bill pliers containing the name of Rompage Hardware on the handle was exhibited to Mr. WARE. He was asked if he had ever seen such a pair of pliers. Mr. WARE related that he had ordered pliers such as were shown in the photograph from an unrecalled firm while he was manager of Rompage Hardware Store, 5542 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, California. He stated the pliers were seconds and were received by Rompage Hardware in an assortment of tools which were sold from a bargain bin.

Mr. WARE stated he was employed by Rompage Hardware from 1955 through February, 1967. He was manager of Rompage Hardware for approximately five years. He began ordering the assortment of tools for use in the bargain bin in approximately February, 1966, and continued reordering every three or four months until he terminated his employment with Rompage Hardware in February, 1967. Mr. WARE did not know exactly how many pairs of pliers were received in the assortment of tools but estimated probably no more than a dozen pliers were received in the assortment. He stated when receiving the assortment of tools, he only counted the number of tools received in the assortment and did not note the number of each type of tool received.

Mr. WARE related that he could not specifically recall having sold a pair of the pliers to anyone. He further stated that he did not possess a pair of these pliers himself.

5

On 4/9/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574-87
by SAS THEODORE J. A'HEARN and
BILLY DALE HUBBARD BDH/pjc Date dictated 4/10/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/12/68

On April 8, 1968, DAVID WEAR, 10656 Lev Avenue, Mission Hills, California, advised that he is the manager of Rompage Hardware Company, 5542 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, and furnished the following information:

The colored photograph exhibited him of a duck-billed pliers bearing a Rompage Hardware label was identical to merchandise sold from their store and placed in the inventory of the store in October 1966.

6

On 4/8/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574
by SAs G. J. MOOREHEAD & GILBERT G. BENJAMIN/GJM/vjh Date dictated 4/12/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/12/68

On April 8, 1968, ESTHER METCALFE, 12076¹/₂ Hoffman Street, Studio City, California, was interviewed and advised that she is the cashier at Rompage Hardware Store, 5542 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, California. She furnished the following information:

The colored photograph exhibited to her of a duck-billed pliers bearing a Rompage Hardware label was identical to merchandise sold from their store and placed in the inventory of the store in October 1966.

7

On 4/8/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574
by SAs G. J. MOOREHEAD & GILBERT G. BENJAMIN/GJM/vjh Date dictated 4/12/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/12/68

On April 8, 1968, JOHN RICHARD SCANTLAND, 11752 Magnolia, Los Angeles, California, advised that he is the owner of Rompage Hardware Store, 5542 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, and furnished the following information:

The colored photograph exhibited to him of a duck-billed pliers bearing a Rompage Hardware label was identical to merchandise sold from their store and placed in the inventory of the store in October 1966.

3

On 4/8/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574
by SAs G. J. MORREHEAD & GILBERT G. BENJAMIN/GJM/vjh Date dictated 4/12/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/12/68

On April 8, 1968, JOHN W. SCANTLAND, 3331 Rowena Avenue, Los Angeles, California, advised that he is the father of JOHN RICHARD SCANTLAND, the owner of Rompage Hardware Store, 5542 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, and he works as a salesman at this store. He furnished the following information:

The colored photograph exhibited to him of a duck-billed pliers bearing a Rompage Hardware label was identical to merchandise sold from their store and placed in the inventory of the store in October 1966.

S

On 4/8/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574

by SAs G. J. MOOREHEAD & GILBERT G. BENJAMIN/GJM/vjh Date dictated 4/12/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/12/68

On April 8, 1968, ETHEL J. SCANTLAND, 3331 Rowena Avenue, Los Angeles, California, advised that she is the mother of the owner of Rompage Hardware Store, 5542 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, and works as the bookkeeper and at times sells on the floor. She provided the following information:

The colored photograph exhibited to her of a duck-billed pliers bearing a Rompage Hardware label was identical to merchandise sold from their store and placed in the inventory of the store in October 1966.

10

On 4/8/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574

SAs G. J. MOOREHEAD &
by GILBERT G. BENJAMIN/GJM/vjh Date dictated 4/12/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/12/68

On April 8, 1968, KENNETH LEWIS, 1827 Garfield Place, Los Angeles, California, advised that he is a salesman at Rompage Hardware, 5542 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, and furnished the following information:

The colored photograph exhibited to him of a duck-billed pliers bearing a Rompage Hardware label was identical to merchandise sold from their store and placed in the inventory of the store in October 1966.

11

On 4/8/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574

by SAs G. J. MOOREHEAD & GILBERT G. BENJAMIN/GJM/vjh Date dictated 4/12/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/11/68

CHARLES BOSWORTH, 5637 Bowcroft Street, Los Angeles, California, was interviewed at his place of employment, Aerospace General Corporation, 2350 El Segundo Boulevard, El Segundo, California and furnished the following information:

A photograph depicting a pair of eight inch duck-billed pliers, bearing the label of Rompage Hardware, was shown to Mr. BOSWORTH. He stated he recognized the label as being from Rompage Hardware and that the pliers to have been possibly the type of merchandise placed in a bargain bin at the store. Mr. BOSWORTH stated he was employed at Rompage Hardware, 5442 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, from December, 1959 to mid 1966 working part time while attending college.

BOSWORTH stated that although he may have, he has no personal recollection of selling a pair of duck-billed pliers to any individual. He stated that while employed at Rompage Hardware he did on occasion purchase hardware items for his personal use. He stated he did not purchase a pair of eight inch duck-billed pliers.

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On 4/10/68 at El Segundo, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574

by SA THEODORE J. A'HEARN/nmb Date dictated 4/11/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/15/68

JOHN BURTON, 1849 North Berendo Avenue, Los Angeles, California, was interviewed and furnished the following information:

Mr. BURTON stated he was employed by Rompage Hardware, 5442 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, for a period of three weeks during October, 1967. He stated he worked in the receiving department and did not work on the floor selling merchandise.

A photograph depicting a pair of eight inch duck-billed pliers bearing the label of Rompage Hardware was shown to Mr. BURTON. He stated he did not recognize the pliers although he did recognize the Rompage Hardware label.

Mr. BURTON stated that he did not purchase any hardware items from Rompage Hardware while employed there and does not own a pair of eight inch duck-billed pliers, purchased from Rompage Hardware.

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On 4/12/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574

by SA THEODORE J. A'HEARN/nmb Date dictated 4/15/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/11/68

JACK EDWIN JONES, 6933 Rosemead Boulevard, Apartment 10, Temple City, was interviewed at his place of employment, Palms Avenue Lumber Company, 829 South Palms Avenue, Alhambra, at which time he furnished the following information:

Photographs depicting a pair of duck-bill pliers containing the name of Rompage Hardware was exhibited to JONES. He was asked if he had ever seen such a pair of pliers. JONES stated that to the best of his knowledge, he had not. He related that he was an employee of Rompage Hardware, 5542 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, in July and August, 1967, but could not recall having seen a pair of pliers such as depicted in the photographs exhibited to him. He recalled Rompage Hardware having a bargain bin in which ninety-eight cent hardware items were sold, but could not recall a bargain bin in which \$1.98 items were sold.

JONES could not recall having sold a pair of pliers, such as depicted in the photographs exhibited to him, while an employee of Rompage Hardware. He further related that he does not nor has he ever owned such a pair of pliers.

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On 4/10/68 at Alhambra, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574
by SA THEODORE J. A'HEARN and
SA BILLY DALE HUBBARD/BDH/dmr Date dictated 4/11/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/11/68

DENNIS SHELDRIK, 1537 Octavia, San Francisco, California, was interviewed at 1317 Lucile Avenue, Los Angeles, California and furnished the following information:

He stated he was employed at Rompage Hardware, 5542 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, during the period of October, 1966 and the first two weeks of November, 1966. He stated this employment was part time and he worked approximately twenty hours per week. He stated he was employed as a stock clerk and made deliveries but did very little selling.

SHELDRIK observed a photograph depicting a pair of eight inch duck-billed pliers bearing a Rompage Hardware label on one handle. He stated he recognized the label but he could not specifically recall as having seen the pliers while employed at Rompage Hardware. He stated that the label bore the legend of the month by number and the last digit of the year in which it was placed in stock for sale, the name Rompage Hardware and the price. SHELDRIK then stated while employed at Rompage Hardware he affixed such labels to merchandise. SHELDRIK stated he has no recollection of ever having sold a pair of eight inch duck-billed pliers and he did not purchase any tools for his personal use while employed there.

15

On 4/11/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574
by SA BILLY DALE HUBBARD and
SA THEODORE J. A'HEARN TJA/nmb Date dictated 4/11/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/15/68

DONALD M. CALDWELL, 191 South Commonwealth Street,
Los Angeles, California, furnished the following information:

CALDWELL was an employee of Rompage Hardware, 5542
Hollywood Boulevard, Hollywood, California, from December,
1966, until January, 1967. During that time, CALDWELL did not
sell a pair of duck-billed pliers to anyone.

16

On 4/9/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574
by SA's WILLIAM J. SLICKS and
WILLIAM S. BURTON/cag Date dictated 4/15/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/15/68

HOWARD JOHN KELLEHER, 5505 Greenbush Street, Van Nuys, California, was interviewed at 255 $\frac{1}{2}$ South Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills, California, and furnished the following information:

KELLEHER worked as a floor salesman at Rompage Hardware, 5542 Hollywood Boulevard, Hollywood, California, from January, 1967, through June, 1967. KELLEHER does not recall having sold a set of duck-billed pliers to anyone during that period.

17

On 4/9/68 at Beverly Hills, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574
by SA's WILLIAM J. SLICKS and WILLIAM S. BURTON/cag Date dictated 4/15/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/15/68

STEVEN HENDRIKS, 10901 Markleim Avenue, Granada Hills, California, stock boy, Rompage Hardware Company, 5542 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, was interviewed and furnished the following information:

He is employed in the stock room of Rompage and is unfamiliar with a pair of duck-billed pliers that were exhibited to him in a colored photograph and had no recollection of any individual who may have purchased such an item.

18

On 4/8/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574
by SA G. J. MOOREHEAD
SA GILBERT G. BENJAMIN/GJM/myw Date dictated 4/12/68

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1Date 4/15/68

ALLAN OSBORNE, 2938 $\frac{1}{2}$ Rowena, Los Angeles, California, sales clerk, Rompage Hardware Company, 5542 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, was interviewed and furnished the following information:

He has been employed at Rompage for one week and is not familiar with a pair of duck-billed pliers that was exhibited to him in a colored photograph and had no recollection of any individual who may have purchased such an item.

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On 4/8/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574

by SA G. J. MOOREHEAD
SA GILBERT G. BENJAMIN/GJM/myw Date dictated 4/12/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/11/68

DEAN WHITMORE, 2411 Whitman Place, Los Angeles, California, was interviewed at his place of employment, National Broadcasting Company (NBC) Television, Burbank, California, and furnished the following information:

A photograph depicting a pair of eight inch duck-billed pliers bearing the label Rompage Hardware on one handle was shown to Mr. WHITMORE. After reviewing the photograph he stated he recognized the pliers as similar to a pair he purchased from Rompage Hardware on Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, California. He continued he has a charge account at Rompage Hardware and generally purchases hardware items from this store. He stated he could not specifically say when he purchased the pliers but believed it was sometime after he returned to Los Angeles from Europe and New York City in April, 1967 where he had directed several television shows.

Mr. WHITMORE went to his automobile in the company of interviewing agents and examined a tool box he had in the trunk of his vehicle. He displayed to agents a pair of pliers he stated he had purchased at Rompage Hardware.

The pliers owned by Mr. WHITMORE appeared to be identical to the pliers in the photograph but the Rompage Hardware label had been removed. On one handle of the pliers there appeared to be residue of cellophane tape at a similar location as the Rompage Hardware label on the pliers in the photograph.

Mr. WHITMORE stated that as a matter of practice he removes the labels from items he purchases prior to using them.

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On 4/9/68 at Burbank, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574

by SA BILLY DALE HUBBARD and
SA THEODORE J. A'HEARN TJA/nmb Date dictated 4/11/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/15/68

Dr. MAURICE SEIDERMAN, 3306 Derondo Drive,
Los Angeles, California, was interviewed and advised as
follows:

He purchased a pair of duck-billed pliers some-
time in 1967 such as exhibited to him in a colored photograph.
He showed the interviewing agents the pair that he had
purchased and it still bore the Rompage label and was
similar to the one in the photograph.

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On 4/10/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574

by SA G. J. MOOREHEAD
SA GILBERT G. BENJAMIN/GJM/myw Date dictated 4/15/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/15/68

F. B. JACQUART, 11830 Palms Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, Stage Manager, John Urie and Associates, 5831 Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, was interviewed and furnished the following information:

He has made plier purchases at Rompage Hardware Company, 5542 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, but has never purchased a pair of duck-billed pliers such as exhibited to him in a colored photograph.

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On 4/11/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574

SA G. J. MOOREHEAD
by SA GILBERT G. BENJAMIN/GJM/myw Date dictated 4/15/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/15/68

EVERETT RUTLEDGE, 1855 North Kingsley Drive, Los Angeles, California, manager of the Casa Laguna Apartments located at this address, was interviewed and furnished the following information:

He has made several purchases at Rompage Hardware Company, 5542 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, including a pair of pliers. He stated that he never purchased duck-billed pliers such as exhibited to him in a colored photograph.

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On 4/10/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574
by SA G. J. MOOREHEAD
SA GILBERT G. BENJAMIN/GJM/myw Date dictated 4/12/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/15/68

ERNEST ZAZZARO, maintenance man, Boys' Club of Hollywood, Incorporated, 5619 De Longpre Avenue, Los Angeles, California, was interviewed and advised as follows:

He has made purchases at Rompage Hardware Company, 5542 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, including pliers; however, he has never purchased duck-billed pliers such as exhibited to him in a colored photograph.

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On 4/9/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574

SA G. J. MOOREHEAD
by SA GILBERT G. BENJAMIN/GJM/myw Date dictated 4/12/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/15/68

DAVID STALEY, 440 Devonshire, was interviewed in connection with his prior employment at Rompage Hardware, 5542 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, California. He related the following information:

He is presently a senior at San Fernando Valley State College in the Northridge area of Los Angeles, where he is majoring in Business Administration. At the time of his employment at Rompage Hardware, he was also a student at the above school. He began working for Rompage Hardware in the stockroom, because of his lack of knowledge regarding the hardware business. The employment was on an as needed basis and began about two weeks before Christmas 1967. He explained that he worked possibly five to eight hours a week after school during the first week of employment and during the week immediately preceding Christmas, when school was out for Christmas holiday, he worked only as he was needed. This amounted to thirty hours of work for that particular week. Since Christmas 1967, he has worked very little, since apparently the needs of the company do not require his services. He has not worked at all at Rompage Hardware for the last one and one-half to two months.

During all of his employment at Rompage Hardware, almost all of his time has been spent in the stockroom. Only at times, when walking through the store, has he been asked by customers the location of various items. He does not recall ever being asked by any customer or anyone else, the location of any pliers of any description. He did not purchase any pliers while employed at Rompage Hardware, and knows of no one who did purchase a pair of duckbill pliers, 8" (eight inches) in length.

STALEY advised that he is 22 years of age, and was born in Hollywood, California.

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On 4/11/68 at Glendale, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574

SA's JAMES R. PACE and
by RICHARD J. RAYSA/JRP/sjg Date dictated 4/11/68

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LA 44-1574

INVESTIGATION TO TRACE THE
LAUNDRY MARKS FOUND ON UNDERWEAR
ABANDONED NEAR THE SCENE OF
THE SHOOTING OF DR. KING

The Albany Office of the FBI advised on April 8, 1968, that a suitcase abandoned in the vicinity of the shooting of Dr. KING on April 4, 1968, contained a white T-shirt and multi-colored pair of under shorts, both of which bore laundry marks on red tape with black letters believed to be the Thermo Seal type manufactured by the Textile Marking Machine Company, Inc., Syracuse, New York. The tape was $\frac{1}{4}$ inch wide and $1 \frac{1}{16}$ inches long, and it bears letters and numbers 02B-6.

Officials of the Textile Marking Machine Company, Syracuse, advised that the type of machine making this tape was unusual in that the first two characters were 15 point type and the last three characters were 18 point type, with the middle character being narrow rather than regular type.

Among those machines sold by the Textile Marking Machine Company which could have produced instant tape was model RH5K1, serial No. 3145, sold to Delite Laundry, 1607 Brooklyn Avenue, Los Angeles, California.

DAVID L. SIMON advised on April 10, 1968, that he was the former owner of the Delite Laundry Company, 1607 Brooklyn Avenue, Los Angeles. SIMON is presently associated with the Supreme Laundry, 623 Towne Avenue, Los Angeles. He stated that the Delite Laundry Company went out of business in July of 1963 and that he could not recall what happened to the Thermo Seal machines when the company went out of business.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/681

Mrs. LUCY PINELA, Manager, Home Service Laundry and Dry Cleaning, 5280 Hollywood Boulevard, advised the laundry uses a Thermo Seal marking machine manufactured by the Textile Marking Machine Company, Syracuse, New York. The serial number on this machine is 31454 and the model number is RH-5K 1. She said the machine was not new when purchased and she believes it was purchased some time in February, 1968, through MAURY M. DATER and Associates, 844 South La Brea, and the salesman was OSCAR BURKE. PINELA checked available laundry mark records and advised that she could not locate a record of O 2 B-6. She stated this number would have been used sometime after mid-February, 1968. She said she recently took over management of the laundry from JEROME W. VERNON, who went bankrupt and has disappeared. She said she took over operation of the business on about March 24, 1968, and VERNON was last seen about that time at the laundry. PINELA furnished samples from the thermo seal marking machine using the numbers and letters, O 2 B-6, on red colored tape. She noted that the machine was defective and parts of the first letter O were cut off from the left side of the tape. PINELA advised there were letters unopened, which were delivered to VERNON at this address from the Allstate Insurance Company and Crocker Citizens National Bank. PINELA advised she was sure that the records which contained the laundry mark O 2 B-6 were in the possession of VERNON. She described VERNON as follows:

Sex	Male
Race	White
Height	About 5'9"
Weight	Unknown, husky build, wears about a size 42-44 undershirt
Age	37
Hair	Full head of hair, prematurely greying, sometimes silvered for uniformity
Peculiarities	Handsome man.

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On 4/10/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574

by SA LLOYD D. JOHNSON
SA FRANCIS G. KAHL FGK/dey Date dictated 4/12/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/68

1

Mrs. LUCY PINELA, Manager, Home Service Laundry, 5280 Hollywood Boulevard, advised that the laundry marking machine located in the laundry is a Thermo Seal model made by the Textile Marking Machine Company, Inc., Syracuse, New York, and its serial number is No. 31454.

PINELA stated that the tapes used in the above machine were purchased by JAY VERNON after he took over the operation of the laundry in January of 1968. She said that the tapes currently at the store were the same ones that VERNON had originally purchased. She said that VERNON probably purchased the tapes at the Hollywood Supply Company, 7362 Santa Monica Boulevard in Los Angeles, but might have purchased it at the John P. Lynch Company, 7317 Paramount Boulevard, or the Calusa Chemical Company, 801 East Macy, Los Angeles, California, because he has dealt with all three places in the past.

The above-mentioned tapes were examined and the following numbers were observed on the inside of the roll:

Red tape, No. 4379.5L7; Red tape, No. 4379.____ (last three figures indistinct);

White tape, 4379.5H3; Yellow tape, 4379.5__ (last two figures indistinct);

White tape, 4379.5H7; Blue tape, 4379.5H7.

PINELA advised that the ink on the above machine was very heavy and blurred on the tapes for the first week of operation and then it cleared up and was normal.

She advised that JAY VERNON took over operation of the Home Service Laundry and Dry Cleaning Store, on January 15, 1968. VERNON had entered into an escrow agreement to purchase the business from MAURICE HOWARD, the owner. HOWARD owned the business from approximately, September, 1966, to

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On 4/12/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574
by SA FRANCIS G. KAHL &
SA JOHN W. WHALEY/dey Date dictated 4/12/68

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January 15, 1968. For some unknown reason the sale was not completed. VERNON brought Thermo Seal marking machine, serial number 31454 into the store in early February, 1968. During the first week of operation there was too much ink being printed on the laundry mark tabs and most were quite blurred. PINELA advised her salary is currently being paid by LOUIS LPUTERMAN, 340 North Martell, Los Angeles.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/13/68

LUCY PINELA, Manager of the Home Service Laundry and Dry Cleaning, 5280 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, advised SAs FRANCIS G. KAHL and DENNIS C. LE MASTER, after observing a color photo of the shorts and T shirt found in connection with this case, that she believed the shorts might belong, or were the same type, to a former employee known only to her as JIM (last name unknown) or "Uncle". She said JIM worked at the laundry for a period of about one month during February and March 1968. She said JIM was a personal friend of J. W. VERNON, and was formerly employed by a garbage disposal firm, name unknown. She believed JIM was a former member of the U. S. Armed Forces, branch unknown. She described JIM as follows:

Sex	Male
Race	Caucasian
Age	About 35
Height	About 6'2"
Weight	About 200 pounds
Hair	Dark brown
Eyes	Grey, frequently wore sunglasses with heavy dark frames

She commented the photo on his drivers license showed him with a large, full beard, which he did not have while working at the laundry. JIM had a girlfriend named DONNA (last name unknown), who was also a former employee at the laundry. JIM had no car.

She advised there were no employment records left at the laundry with which to further identify the former employees, since VERNON paid employees in cash and kept no payroll records of which she knew.

PINELA stated she last saw VERNON on March 27, 1968 at about 9:00 A.M. at the laundry. He gave no indication concerning his future plans. She advised VERNON had a girlfriend, DIANE WALL, who lives in Pasadena, exact address unknown.

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On 4/10/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574
by SAs FRANCIS G. KAHL
DENNIS C. LE MASTER/FGK/vjh Date dictated 4/13/68

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PINELA advised she never saw VERNON or JIM in the possession of any type of gun. She said a large box of tools belonging to VERNON are now missing from the laundry. She advised she had the home address of DIANE WALL at her residence, and would make this information available later in the day. PINELA's home telephone number is 748-4260, and she would be home between 6:30 and 8:30 P.M.

Concerning the placement of the laundry marks on the garments in the photo, she advised this is where their laundry would place thermo-seals to indicate that the clothing was not to be starched.

While Miss PINELA was cooperative, she said it would be difficult at this time to fully answer questions because of the continuous traffic of customers in and out of the store, requiring her attention.

PINELA furnished additional thermo-seal samples on cloth during this interview.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/681

ESTHER NIETO, 801 West 23rd Street, Apartment 104, Los Angeles, California, was interviewed at 5280 Hollywood Boulevard, Hollywood, California, advised she was employed by Home Service Laundry and Dry Cleaning, 5280 Hollywood Boulevard.

Mrs. NIETO observed an eight inch by eleven inch color photo of one Jockey Power Knit tee shirt, size 42-44 with attached laundry mark "O 2 B-6" and one pair of white brown and gray patterned under-shorts with laundry mark "O2B-6". Mrs. NIETO advised that she could positively say that the laundry in the photograph had been marked at Home Laundry by the Thermo Seal marking machine at the laundry because of the manner in which the first digit zero is partially cut off and also because that most cleaners put the laundry mark on the inside of the underwear and that at Home Laundry the mark is put on the outside of the underwear shorts, as is shown in the photograph.

Mrs. NIETO stated that she was the only person in the shop who ran the marking machine and that she believed she had marked the laundry in question. Mrs. NIETO could not remember marking the specific piece of underwear shown in the photograph or to whom the laundry belonged. Mrs. NIETO stated that she had begun work at the Home Laundry about the last week of February and started running the marking machine on March 4, 1968. Mrs. NIETO stated that the laundry in question would have had to be marked between March 4, 1968 and March 18, 1968, because after March 18, she no longer put the laundry mark on underwear or items of that nature but only on shirts.

Mrs. NIETO also advised that while JERRY VERNON operated the laundry she believed that he had rented an apartment above the laundry establishment.

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On 4/11/68 at Hollywood, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574
by SA RICHARD H. ROSS, SA FRANCIS G. KAHL and
SA JOHN W. WHALEY/RHR/dey Date dictated 4/12/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/68

Mrs. LUCY PINELA, Manager, Home Service Laundry and Dry Cleaning, 5280 Hollywood Boulevard, advised that E. GALT has been a customer for at least four or five months. She advised that she does not know the first name or address of GALT or where he might be employed. She stated she last observed GALT in the laundry sometime during February, 1968. She advised that GALT usually brought in dress-type shirts with wide button down collars and never brought in work-type clothes. She advised that sometime during February, 1968, some of GALT's dress shirts were lost and she does not recall if they were ever recovered. She described GALT as follows:

Sex	Male
Race	White
Height	About 6 feet
Weight	About 160 pounds
Hair	Light brown, crew cut
Complexion	Fair
Peculiarities	Nose, well formed, on the narrow side
Age	35 to 40 years

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On 4/12/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574
by SA FRANCIS G. KAHL and
SA RICHARD H. ROSS/dlp Date dictated 4/12/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/14/68

~~JEROME WALLIS~~ VERNON, also known as Jay Wallis Vernon, 1246 Woodbury Court, Apartment B, was interviewed and furnished the following information:

UPLAND, CALIF

~~JEROME W.~~ VERNON advised that he has been employed by Lockheed Air Craft Company, Ontario, California since April 3, 1968 and exhibited to the interviewing Agents his identification card from Lockheed, which showed the date April 3, 1968.

D. APPROX 1931

~~JAY~~ VERNON advised that he operated the Home Service Laundry and Dry Cleaning Company, 5280 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, from January 16, 1968 to March 23, 1968. He stated that a man by the name of GALT was a regular customer at the laundry and he believed that he came in each Saturday afternoon. He first saw GALT on Saturday, January 20, 1968, and the last he recalled seeing him was on March 16, 1968. VERNON stated that it was his opinion that GALT always came into the store on Saturday afternoon, left a bundle of laundry which usually consisted of underwear, T-shirts, and dress shirts, and then would pick up the finished laundry the following Saturday. That is, he would leave a bundle and pick up what previously had been washed from the previous Saturday.

~~J. W.~~ VERNON was shown a photograph of the T-shirt and shorts, which were recovered in Memphis, and he believed that they were similar to the ones that were brought in by GALT. He felt that the size of the T-shirt would be that which would have been worn by GALT. VERNON stated that he could not state for sure whether or not the two pieces of underwear belonged to GALT.

~~JEROME~~ VERNON identified the laundry marking on the underwear in the photograph as being similar to the mark used at his laundry.

VERNON does not know GALT by his first name; however, entries in the laundry book, which were obtained from VERNON indicate that GALT's first name was given to the laundry as

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On 4/12/68 at Upland, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574

by SA LEROY W. SHEETS and
SA VINCENT J. HORN, JR. /LWS/ecv Date dictated 4/14/68

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ERIC.

VERNON stated that GALT usually wore bermuda shorts, a sport shirt with a T-shirt underneath when he came into the store. He said that GALT never wore glasses nor did he ever observe him to have sunglasses in his possession. VERNON could not determine what kind of foot wear GALT wore. He never observed GALT driving a vehicle nor did he ever see GALT in any other location other than the laundry. GALT never furnished an address to VERNON or any of the other employees at the laundry.

VERNON described GALT as follows:

Sex	Male
Race	White
Age	40 - 45 years of age
Height	5'9"
Weight	180 - 190 pounds
Hair	Graying dark brown which was cut neat, somewhat like a bushy flattop with a wide forehead.

VERNON never noticed anything unusual about GALT's speech and stated that he would assume that GALT would come from the California area, as he had no noticeable regional accent.

VERNON was exhibited the two composites furnished by the Bureau, and he stated that the eyes, nose, and chin on the composite from Memphis should be placed on the composite of Birmingham and that this would be a good likeness of GALT.

VERNON stated that GALT always paid for his laundry in cash, using bills in the \$10 and \$20 denominations. GALT never mentioned to VERNON where he worked or any other information concerning his background.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/14/68

JEROME WALLIS VERNON was reinterviewed at the Los Angeles Office of the FBI, and he furnished the following information:

VERNON amended his previous description of GALT as being between 25 - 30 years of age, and approximately 160 pounds. He never wore bermuda shorts as he had indicated in the previous interview stating he was confused with another customer. He now recalls that GALT's dress was unusual in that it was not the California style. He could not place the clothing in any particular part of the country or from any foreign country, but did think it looked more like that of the English style. VERNON stated that after thinking over his knowledge of GALT, he now feels that GALT had a slight educated Southern accent.

VERNON advised that he could not elaborate on the wearing apparel of GALT. He had never noticed any type of jewelry which he might have worn nor did he ever engage in a conversation with GALT in which he could have learned anything of his background.

At this interview VERNON was shown a composite which was made up of the two composites from the description which he had previously furnished, and he stated this was not a true likeness. He thereupon took the forehead of the Birmingham composite and placed it on the one from Memphis and indicated that this now looked like GALT as he recalled him.

VERNON advised that he could furnish no additional information concerning GALT.

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On 4/13/68 at Los Angeles FBI Headquarters File # Los Angeles 44-1574

by SA LEROY W. SHEETS and
SA G. J. MOOREHEAD/LWS/ecv Date dictated 4/14/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/12/68

Mrs. LUCY PINELA, manager, Home Service Laundry and Dry Cleaning, 5280 Hollywood Boulevard, Hollywood, California, furnished the following list of employees.

Persons currently employed:

ESTHER NIETO
ESTHER FERNANDEZ
OLIVER HOLLOWAY
LUCY PINELA

Mrs. PINELA advised that no records were kept of past employees but since February 1, 1968, she could remember the following persons employed at the laundry.

GLORIA SOTO
ROSE SAMANIEGO
AUDREY BENTLEY or BENTLY
LUZ CHACON
SAMERA (LNU)
HENRY BUSTOS
DOROTHY KNIGHT
KATHLINE WESTBROOK
DOROTHY HARRIS
BERTHA (LNU)

Mrs. PINELA advised that from about January 16, 1968, the following persons were also employed:

J. VERNON
DIANNE WALL
DONNA (LNU)
JIM (LNU) aka, Uncle, "Unk"

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On 4/11/68 at Hollywood, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574
by SA RICHARD H. ROSS, SA FRANCIS G. KAHL &
SA JOHN W. WHALEY/RHR/dey Date dictated 4/12/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/12/68

Records of the Home Service Laundry and Dry Cleaning, 5280 Hollywood Boulevard, were inspected in the presence of LOUIS PUTERMAN. The following records were located:

- Item No. 1 Cleaning Invoice No. 7418, white copy, dated March 11, 1968, customer E. GALT; articles to be cleaned two pants, blue and brown.
- Item No. 2 Yellow copy of Cleaning Invoice No. 7418 with same information as Item No. 1.
- Item No. 3 Pink copies of Cleaning Invoices Numbers 7417, 7418, 7419.
- Item No. 4 Cash register tape, dated March 14, 1968 - Thursday, in total amount of \$83.26.
- Item No. 5 University Notebook, with customers names.
- Item No. 6 Laundry list, upper portion only, number 2646, with the name, E. GALT.
- Item No. 7 Cleaning Invoice No. 5949, white copy, dated February 23, 1968, customer GALT; article to be cleaned one pant.
- Item No. 8 Pink copies of Cleaning Invoices numbers 5948, 5949, 5950.
- Item No. 9 Laundry list, upper portion only, number 1939, with the name, E. GALT, and mark GALT.
- Item No. 10 Laundry list number 2311, with the name GALT, and mark GALT.
- Item No. 11 Laundry list number 2246, with the name E. GALT
- Item No. 12 Cleaning Invoice No. 5697, white copy, dated January 23, 1968, customer E. GALT; articles to be cleaned one sport coat, one slack
- Item No. 13 Cleaning Invoice number 8455, yellow copy, dated February 8, 1968, customer GAULT; articles to be cleaned one pair pants, two ties.
- Item No. 14 Cleaning Invoice No. 5589, white copy, dated January 16, 1968, customer E. GALT; articles to be cleaned one tie, one pair blue slacks.

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On 4/12/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574

by SAS FRANCIS G. KAHL and
RICHARD H. ROSS /pjc Date dictated 4/12/68

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- Item No. 15 Pink copies of Cleaning Invoices 5588, 5589, 5590.
- Item No. 16 Laundry list number 2851, with the name GAULT, and mark: GALT
- Item No. 17 Laundry list number 3065, with Thermo Seal sticker 02B-6 with the name E. GALT.
- Item No. 18 Textile Marking Machine Company, Thermo Seal instruction book with warranty for Thermo Seal Machine, Serial No. 31454, dated March 21, 1960.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/12/68

Thermo Seal marking machine, serial number 31454, was inspected at Home Service Laundry and Dry Cleaning, 5280 Hollywood Boulevard. The machine was painted light green. It had a identification plate affixed to the left side bearing the above serial number and model number RH5K1. The manufacturer was listed as Textile Marking Machine Company, Incorporated, Syracuse, New York. A catalog for the machine was also found next to the machine. The catalog contained a warranty form S-645 of the Textile Marking Machine Company, bearing the above serial and model numbers. The warranty was issued by LEM MILLER, Washing Machines, 716 South Kern Avenue, Los Angeles. The machine was marked for identification.

On 4/11/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574
by SA FRANCIS G. KAHL
SA JOHN W. WHALEY FGK/dey Date dictated 4/12/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/681

ESTHER FERNANDEZ, employee, Home Service Laundry and Dry Cleaning, 5280 Hollywood Boulevard, Hollywood, California, advised through ESTHER NIETO acting as interpreter that she did not recognize the photograph of the Jockey Tee shirt or undershorts as belonging to any particular customer of the laundry.

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On 4/11/68 at Hollywood, California File # Los Angeles 44-1574
by SA RICHARD H. ROSS/dey Date dictated 4/12/68

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