UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# $\it 1emorandum$

TO

Mr. DeLoach

FROM

SUBJECT

(THE KING MURDER CASE)

PERSONNEL MATTER

DATE: April 25, 1968

l - Mr. DeLoach

- Mr. Rosen

- Mr. Malley

- Mr. McGowan

- Mr. McDonoug - Mr. Callahai

Tele. Room

Mr. Mohr

This is the case involving the murder of Martin

King. Jr.

9 Tulip Drive Peter Paul Rasper, resident of fords, New Jerses at 8:45 p.m., 4/19/68, telephonically contacted the Newark New Jeasey Office to complain relative to actions of SA Peter G. Logtus assigned to the New York Office. Kasper questioned whether SA Loftus was acting within FBI jurisdiction when Kaspe was being checked out as suspect in the King murder case.

New York Office files show that Kasper filed application for Bureau employment on 1/11/68, but failed to appear for interview set for 1/22/68, and no further action was taken on his application. The New York file on Kasper indicates he had two previous arrests, owes approximately \$4,000 to various banks and credit associations and during last four years has been unable to keep a job for a period longer than nine months.

SAC. New York feels actions of SA Loftus in this isstance appear to be proper and no administrative action is recommended.

Details:

4 MAX 3 5 1968

SA Peter G. Loftus, who resides in Fords, New Jersey and who was at home on night of 4/19/68, was added by detectives of the Woodbridge, New Jersey, Police Department that a complaint had been received that a man resembling James Earl Ray was seen drigging a 1968 Chawrolet Impala w New York license plates in the area. The detectives stat they were in the process of checking the registration though their office and asked SA Loftus if he desired to join them, which he did. After about twenty minutes, the officers received a message that the license was registered to a Peter Kasper, Bellmore, New York, and the license had been issued for a 1967 yellow Pontiac.

MAY27 1968 heck of the mail boxes disclosed the apartment assigned to Kasper. SA Loftus and the officers discussed the situation and decided that a pretext interview would be conducted.

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Memo Rosen to DeLoach RE: MURKIN

One of the officers was to identify himself and advise Kasper he had received a complaint that the Impala had been seen speeding on a local street and upon checking the registration it was discovered the plates were not on the automobile to which originally issued. Since the officer was not certain of making an identification on Kasper, SA Loftus stated he would accompany him and be in a position where he could observe the person when he came to the door.

The officer knocked on the door and it was opened by a woman at which time the officer identified himself and asked to see Kasper. When Kasper appeared at the door, it was obvious that he was not the subject James Earl Ray. The officer used the pretext upon which Kasper became indignant stating he had recently purchased the car and it was officially registered. Kasper assumed a very belligerent attitude.

Upon entering the apartment with the officer SA Loftus identified himself showing Kasper his badge at which point Kasper became obnoxious and insulting stating he was not impressed with the "little tin badge." He went on to state that he did not mind the police coming around but didn't see how the FBI had any jurisdiction. SA Loftus attempted to explaint the Bureau's (Interstate Transportation of Stolen Motor Vehicle) responsibility but he was openly hostile and refused to listen stating he had several complaints of his own, including such items as the dogs on the loose, children knocking on the windows and loud hi-fi sets. He appeared irrational and unwilling to listen to further explanations.

Thereafter Kasper called the Woodbridge Police Department and our Newark Office to complaint of the situation. Kasper then calmed down considerably and produced his registration after which he shook hands with SA Loftus and the contact was terminated.

After SA Loftus had heft, Kasper again called the Newark Office inquiring of what action would be taken on the complaint and when informed the matter would be given proper attention he appeared agreeable and hung up. At 1:00 a.m., 4/20/68, Kasper again contacted Newark Office and stated he wished to withdraw any charges against SA Loftus.

- 2 - CONTINUED - OVER

Memo Rosen to DeLoach

RE: MURKIN

### RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the above circumstances requiring immediate action and since there was a discrepancy in the registration records which might reflect that the car was stolen in New York and transported to New Jersey, it is felt that the actions of SA Loftus were proper and no administrative action is recommended.

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HON-3 (12-21-67)

OPTO 11 FORM NO. 10

MAY 1992 BOITION

GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

то	Director, FBI ( ) DATE: 5/6/68	
FROM	EGAT, Hong Kong ( 44-1 ) E Pending RUC	
	MURKIN	
SUBJEC	Character: CR	
	Reference: Bu 0-7 4/17 and 4/19/6	68
	Enclosed herewith are:	
	Copies of a memorandum from Special Branch, Hong Kong Police (SB)	
	Copies of a memorandum from the Security Liaison Office (MI-5), Hong Kong	
	Copies of a memorandum from CIA, Hong Kong	
	Copies of an investigative report from the Research Subunit, Consular Section, American Consulate General, Hong Kong	
	3 Copies of news article from 4/26/68 "South China Morning Post"	
	Remarks:	
	Remarks:  Legat will follow with Hong Kong Police.	
	Legat will follow with Hong Kong Police.  No Foreign Dissemination Should Be Made Without Consent Of Original Source  The following offices would be interested in receiving copies of the enclosures:	
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· Director, FBI (	3 DATE: 5/6/68

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS

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# H.K. POLICE PUT ON ALERT FOR KING MURDER SUSPECT

The Hongkong Police have been asked by the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to be on the alert for an escaped convict who allegedly assassinated Dr Martin Luther King, the civil rights leader.

The convict, James Earl Ray, an escapee from the Missouri State Penitentiary, is alleged to have shot Dr King in Memphis, Tennessee, on April 14.

While there is no reason to suspect that Ray might be in Hongkong or coming here, the following details are given in response to the FBI's request.

During Ray's criminal career since 1949, he has used the names of James McBride, James Walton, W. C. Herron, John Wil-

lard, Hrvey Lowmyer and James O'Connor.

He is five feet ten inches tall and weighs about 163 to 174 pounds. He has blue eyes and brown hair. There is a small scar on the centre of his forehead and a scar on the palm of his right hand.

Meanwhile, an AP report said a 41-year-old man, detained in northwestern Mexico because a hotel operator thought he looked like the accused slayer of Dr. King, was released yesterday without charges.

David Daniel Kennedy, who said he was on a walking tour of the State of Sonora, denied any connection with the assassination of the civil rights leader.

Lieutenant Roberto Fletcher, of the Judicial Police in Caborca, Senora, detained Kennedy in a Caborca hotel because the hotel owner said he thought Kennedy resembled published photographs.

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Lt Fletcher said the man carried a U.S. passport issued to Daniel David Kennedy. He said the man denied any connection with Dr King's assassination and said he was from Baltimore.

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him in Caborca.

Police from Hermosillo, the Sonora State capital, took Kennedy to Hermosillo from Caborca in the early morning hours and asked the FBI to send a man to investigate.

Judicial Police in Hermosillo reported an FBI agent named Smith could see no resemblance in Kennedy to Ray,

"South China Morning Post" Hong Kong, B.C.C. Page 1. April 26, 1968

44-38861-3429

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"South China Morning Post" Hong Kong, B.C.C. Page 1. April 26, 1968

Airtel

To:

SAC's St. Louis (44-775)

Memphis (44-1987)

REC-40

From.

Director, FBI (44-38861) - 34 30

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He St. Louis airtel 5/7/68.

Latent Singerprints previously reported and remaining unidentified in the case entitled "Unsubs.; Perry State Bank, Perry, Missouri, 3/8/68, BB. Bufile #91-29677, Intent case #91189, are not identical with the fingerprints of James Earl Ray, FBI #4059426. The latent impression of the lower joint of a finger previously reported in this case was compared, insolar as possible, with the fingerprints of Idmos mari Ray, but so identification was effected. No palm prints in Reptification Division files for Ray.

MAY 13 1968 MAILED 10

Tolson DeLoach. 1 - St. Louis (91-4243)

1 - Mr. Rosen

- Bufile (91-29677)

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FBI

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	Date: <b>5-7-68</b>
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VIWINI	(Priority)
TO:	DIRECTOR, FBI 44-38861
10.	ATTENTION: LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION
FROM:	SAC, ST. LOUIS (44-775)
	Janc, 10015 (44-775)
RE:	MURKIN
	OO: ME
following	It is requested that the unidentified latents in the case be compared with the available prints of JAMES
EARL RAY	aka, FUGITIVE; FBI # 405 942 G; IO # 4182; WF 442-A.
subject (	of this case:
	UNSUBS;
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TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI

ATTENTION: LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION

FROM:

SAC, ST. LOUIS (44-775)

RE:

MURKIN

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oo:WE

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UNSUES;

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PERRY, MO., 3-8-68

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There

To: SAC's, Atlanta (44-2386) - Enclosures (11) Memphis, (44-1987)

From: Directos (44-38861) 3431

MURKIN

Re Atlanta letter 5/8/68, submitting eleven lifts of latent impressions taken from a 1964 Chevrolet, 1968 Michigan license DC8114, which was found 5/7/68, at the Atlanta Airport.

Six latent fingerprints and three latent palm prints of value were found on the lifts. The latent fingerprints are not identical with the fingerprints of James Earl Ray, FEI #405942C, or Robert Joseph Dunaway, FEI #841310C. No palm prints identification Division files for these two individuals.

Based on the information furnished, no fingerprint record located for Mary Jane Salvadori or Joan Masters listed as owners of the Chevrolet in Atlanta teletype 5/8/68.

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Lifts enclosed to Atlanta.

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GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

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## Memorandum

TO

FROM

DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 5/8/68

ATTN: LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION, IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386)

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

Enclosed herewith are 11 lifts of latent impressions taken from a 1964 Chevrolet, 1968 Michigan license DC8114 which was found on the evening of 5/7/68, at the Atlanta Airport with one deadybody inside the trunk. Fingerprints were taken from the body and submitted to the Identification Division where he was identified as ROBERT JOSEPH DUNAWAY, FBI Number 841 310 C. The enclosed lifts were made on the automobile and on the material inside the automobile by fingerprint technicians of the Atlanta Police Department.

The Latent Fingerprint Section is requested to examine these lifts for latents of value and to retain photographs for possible future comparisons.

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**REC-74** 

44-38861-3431

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Seward K.

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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		FBI		Mr. Cenrad
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## FBI

Date: 5/9/68

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a AIRTEL			IRMAIL			
			(Priority or Method	of Mailing)	<b>*/</b>	
то	: Director, F	BI (44-3880	51)			
FROM	: SAC, New Or	leans (157	-10673)(P)			
SUBJECT	MURKIN (00: Memphi	s)	•			
<b> </b>			LEY MUSGROV	'E		,
to Bure	Re Houston au 5/2/68.	airtel to l	Bureau 5/7/	68 and WF(	) airtel	
	On 5/9/68 M	r. DONALD .	J. HYDEN, S	upervisor,	, Personne	1.
Departm	ent, McDermott	Internation	onal, Inc.,	615 de Mo	ntluzin	
	g, New Orleans					
	n employed with					
welder	since 10/9/67	under a one	year cont	ract to be	served in	1
	. Mr. HYDEN f					
	eria in 1967 a		o return a	t the term	iination oi	
HIS CON	tract in Octob	er, 1900.				• '
	A review of	the person	nel file of	f JOE BAII	LEY MUSGROV	VE
reveale	d the followin					
	Race		White			
Por	Sex		Male			
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	Born			Seminole	County, Ok	cla.
	Height		51 911			
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	(a) (c)			(HW)		
Approved:	1288 \ A)	Ser	nt			· · ·
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REC'B - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

MAY 15 10 14 AM '68

MAY 15 10 09 AH '68

U. S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

### NO 157-10673

Hair

Marital Status

Brown

Married to BETTY LUE RAMSEY

MUSGROVE Box 1002

Farmington, New Mexico

Social Security Number Previous Employment

Fouty D. Bursun

Farmington, New Mexico,

1954-67

Mr. HYDEN advised that Mr. MUSGROVE can be located through the Overseas Office, care of McDermott Overseas, Inc., Post Office Box 2841, Lagos, Nigeria. He further stated that it is very possible Mr. MUSGROVE may have resided at the Bristol Hotel, Lagos, Nigeria, during his days off or for any vacation.

BuAgent viewed a photograph of MUSGROVE which appeared on his application for employment and this picture does not appear to be identical with JAMES EARL RAY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## 1emorandum

Mr. Bishop

DATE: 5-9-68

5

**FROM** 

SUBJECT: MURKD

By teletype of 5-7-68, the Memphis Office suggested that consideration be given to publishing the photograph of James Earl Ray furnished by Patricia Anderson in the next issue of the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin. The June issue of the Bulletin is already being processed; however, we can pull out the present 'Wanted by the FBI" article on the last page and replace it with one of Ray. This may delay the delivery date of the magazine by one or two days; however, it is believed desirable to place the latest picture of Ray, together with a suitable write-up, in the June issue.

Attached is a letter to Memphis advising that this is being done. Also attached is a manuscript of the proposed article on Ray along with the designated photograph.

IT IS RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED THAT THIS MEMO BE HANDLED EXPEDITIOUSLY AND RETURNED TO CRIME RECORDS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the attached article and photograph of Ray be published in the June issue of the Bulletin, and that the letter to Memphis be approve and sent.

Enclosures (3) Article + photo detached

1 - Mr. DeLoach - Er

1 - Mr. Rosen -

1 - Mr. Billion

CBF:bhm

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REC'D-TOLSON'S OFFICE

RECEIVED BURESTOR 1976 F. B. I.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

то fr. DeLoat

FROM

DATE: May 9, 1968

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Mohr 1 - Mr. Bishop

. Roser

1 - Mr. Rosen 1 - Mr. Malley 1 - Mr. Conrad 1 - Mr. Gale

1 - Mr. McGowan 1 - Mr. Long SUBJECT: MURK

1 - Mr. Sullivan

1 - Mr. McDonough

1 - Mr. Trotter

1 - Mr. Martindale

SEE NOTE ON REVERSE SIDE

An Agent on the scene in Guatamala has obtained extensive coverage through the Guatemalan Immigration and Judicial Departments. These agencies have been instrumental in widely publicizing Ray's photograph and description throughout Guatamala and border stations have been alerted. Guatamalan officials have stated that if Ray is found within that country he will be deported to the United States as an undesirable alien on the first available airplane.

State police agencies have completed a search throughout the City of Campeche and all outlying areas of the State with negative results. Extensive distribution has been made of identification orders and wanted flyers and every police unit in the State has been alerted through personal contact. An investigative informant is continuing to check small communities on the Yucatan Peninsula beyond the State of Campeche.

It was previously reported that a man resembling Ray and using the name A. D. Stange, Jr., was in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, from 4/19/68 to 4/30/68. It has been determined Stange is identical with A. H. Stange, Jr., a prominent businessman in Redding, California, RFC-27

Thomas Britton, Haleyville, Alabama, knew Ray in 13 MAY 15 1968 Missouri State Penitentiary. Britton Velated that Ray was the "walk boy" who brought hot water for maying, candy and other items to Britton's call block: Roy noticed Britton was receiving a Birmingham newspaper. Ray mentioned he had lived in Birmingham and asked Britton towage the newspineers for him. Britton did so they became friends.

Trotter

57 MAY 23 1968

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HEO. J. EBT.

WAY 9 9 29 AM BB.

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Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach RE: MURKIN

Britton stated Ray was money crazy and once told Britton, "One of these days, if I ever get out of here, I'm going to make myself a bunch of money." When asked how he intended to do this, Ray replied, "There are more ways of making money than robbing banks."

Ray once told Britton about an organization outside the prison called the "Business Mens Association" which offered \$100,000 "for people like King to be killed" and added that King was five years past due.

It was previously reported Ray had alleged in 1963 that Cooley (phonetic) or Cooley's organization would pay \$10,000 to have King killed. Britton stated Cooley's organization operated within the prison. Membership was gained by paying \$10 and members received help against other prisoners when needed. For additional fees members could obtain special services such as straightening out difficulties with prison authorities, obtaining items of contraband, or even having a prisoner murdered.

Britten said he did not knew who headed this organization or if there was anyone actually named Cooley. He believed the organization might have been operated by a group of five to seven prisoners. Britten stated he had never heard of Cooley's organization offering a reward for King's assassination.

Britton described Ray as a loner, a daydreamer and a heavy drinker, who was definitely slue-footed with his toes noticeably pointed out when walking causing his heels to wear down on the outside edges.

The body found at the Atlanta airport on 5/7/68 has been identified with Robert Joseph Dunaway, a Michigan hoodlum, and has no apparent connection with this case. Dunaway was shot in the back of the head.

Dunaway was a muscleman for Bernard Marchesani, a Detroit shylocker. One Sam Di Maggio, Albion, Michigan, was taken from his home by several hoodlums on 3/28/68 and fatally beaten. In a dying declaration he named "Bob Dunaway" when asked who had beaten him. A reliable informant has advised Di Maggio was "hooked" on a large shylock loan by Marchesani and Dunaway was the juice collector. Police believe Dunaway was murdered because he had been

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach

RE: MURKIN

ordered to only beat Di Maggio, not to kill hi m.

ACTION:

This investigation is continuing to receive top priority

attention.

- 3-

FBI WASH DC

FBI ST LOUIS

916PM URGENT 5-9-68 JHH

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATION SECTION
MAY 9 1968

TELETYPE

TO: DIRECTOR MEMPHIS CHICAGO LOSANGELES OMAHA

FROM: ST. LOUIS (44-775)

OSIANGELES OMAHA

ROYANGELES OMAHA

ROYANGELES OMAHA

ROYANGELES OMAHA

Mr. DeLoach

Mr. Mohr.

Mr. Bishop ...

Mr. Casper\_\_\_ Mr. Callahan Mr. Conrad\_\_

Mr. Felt Mr. Gal

Mr. Rollivan Mr. Tavel

Mr. Trotter Tele. Room.

Miss Holmes. Miss Gandy...

FOR ASSISTANCE OFFICES NOT RECEIVING PREVIOUS INFO, JOHN EUGENE GAVRON, FBI NUMBER ONE THREE FOUR THREE THREE FOUR, LIVED

WITH SUBJECTS MOTHER BETWEEN IMPRISONMENTS NINETEEN FIFTY FOUR
TO HER DEATH NINETEEN SIXTY ONE. APPEARS CLOSEST PERSON TO
FAMILY. CLAIMS TAUGHT SUBJECT BURGLARY AND CASED SEVERAL JOBS
TOGETHER FIFTY EIGHT FIFTY NINE.

UNDER DEVELOPMENT AS PCI SINCE INITIAL INTERVIEW THIS CASE.

IS SEVENTY YEARS OLD, ON VERGE OF SENILITY, EXTREMELY RAMBLING
IN CONVERSATIONS, AND AGENTS EXPERIENCE DIFFICULTY KEEPING
INTERVIEWS ON PERTINENT TRACK, AS WELL AS SEPARATING FACI FROM
CONJECTURE. JERRY RAY HAS DESCRIBED HIM AS KOOK, AND OTHER SOURCES
REGARD HIMS CRAZY OLD MAN WHO TALKS TOO MUCH.

ON INTERVIEW TODAY GAWRON STATED WITHIN DAY OR TWO FOLLOWING REC. 74 44 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64 36 64

54 MAY 21 1968

Thermo - F. Thompson (see p.3)

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TOGETHER FIFTY EIGHT FIFTY MINE.

TO: DIRECTOR MEMPHIS CHICAGO LOSANGELES OMAHA

FROM: SI. LOUIS (44-775)

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FAMILY.

FUGENE CAMRON, FRI NUMBER ONE THREE FOUR THREE THREE FOUR, LIVED WITH SUBJECTS MOTHER BETWEEN IMPRISONMENTS MINETEEN FIFTY FOUR TO MER DEATH MINETEEN SIXTY ONE. APPEARS CLOSEST PERSON TO

CLAIMS, TAUGHT SUBJECT BURGLARY AND CASED SEVERAL JOSS

UNDER DEVELOPMENT AS PCI SINCE INITIAL INTERVIEW THE CASE.

IS SEVENTY YEARS OLD, ON VERGE OF SENILITY, EXTREMELY RESELINGE
IN CONVERSATIONS, AND AGENTS EXPERIENCE DIFFICULTY KEEPING TO
INTERVIEWS ON PERIINENT TRACK, AS WELL AS SEPARATING FACT FROM COMJECTURE, JERRY RAY HAS DESCRIBED HIM AS YOOK, AND OBJER SOFRCES

ASLEASE MONTHEODO, JUNE TWENTY THIRD TWENTY FOURTH SIXTY SEVEN, HE PEAD ENTERLOAGO TRIELINE OF BANK ROBBER32 by LETTY THO LEAND DOLLARS IN BOUTHERN STATE, AND RECALLED BANK HAD SEEN PASTED BY SUBJECT AND SELF ON TWO FRIDAYS, BIECRACHLED BANK HAD SEEN PASTED BY FIFTY SEVEN WAS IN BUT NOT ROBBED DUE TO GAMRON LES INJUHY. WINTERLIGATION DIALECT ONT

REGARD HIPAS CRAZY OLD MAN WHO TALKS TOO MUCH.

54 MAY 21 1968

PAGE TWO

FEW DAYS AFTER ARTICLE WAS VISITED BY MAN HE REFUSED TO NAME,
WHO HE BELIEVED HE HAD INTRODUCED TO RAY IN FIFTY NINE, WHO TOLD
HIM HE AND OTHERS HAD ROBBED BANK, DISPLAYED VALISE FULL OF
MONEY AND GAVE HIM TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS.

GAWRON HAS ADVISED FEW DAYS LATER HE VISITED FAMILY AND CAROL PEPPER, SISTER AND JOHN RAY, BROTHER, TOLD HIM SUBJECT WAS NOT IN MISSOURI. WEEK OR SO LATER THEY SAID SUBJECT IN OMAHA, DOING WELL, HE BELIEVED AS SALESMAN. WEEK OR SO LATER THEY SAID SUBJECT IN LOS ANGELES. CLAIMED NO DIRCUSSION AS TO HOW THEY KNEW, OR INFO AS TO DIRECT OR INDIRECT CONTACT.

SIX WEEKS AGO WAS VISITED BY SAME MAN WHO INDICATED SUBJECT AND ONE OR MORE OTHERS WERE ACCOMPLICES IN BANK ROBBERY.

GAWRON DECLINED TO GIVE LOCATION OF BANK OR IDENTITY OF
MAN AT THIS TIME, SAYING WANTED TO SEE MAN AGAIN AND IDENT ALL
ACCOMPLICES. AND BE SURE HIMSELF IN THE CLEAR. PROMISED ADDITIONAL

DETAILS IN FEW DAYS. INTERESTED IN BANK ROBBERY REWARD. WAS PRESSED FOR DETAILS ON PROBABILITY OF IMMEDIATE REWARD BUT DECLINED.

END PAGE TWO

### PAGE THREE

DURING PRESS FOR DETAILS STATED CITY WHERE BANK LOCATED

WAS NOT SMALL, WAS NEAR RIVER WHICH IS STATE LINE, ROBBERS IN

ANOTHER STATE FIVE MINUTES AFTER ROBBERY. WAS IN DEEP SOUTH,

"LIKE MISSISSIPPI" BUT NOT MISSISSIPPI. LOOT PLUS OR MINUS

TWO THOUSAND WAS FIFTY THOUSAND. SIZEABLE AMOUNT IN VAULT MISSED

BY ROBBERS. SAID UN NAMED MAN NOT ST. LOUISAN, BUT BELIEVED

FROM SOUTH WEST AND HAS SERVED SOME SENTENCE POSSIBLY IN ARKANSAS.

CLAIMED DID NOT MENTION ROBBERY EARLIER AS SUBJECT SOUGHT FOR MURDER AND DID NOT BELIEVE ANYONE INTERESTED IN LESSER CRIME.

JOHN LARRY RAY TODAY EMPHATICALLY DENIED ALL KNOWLEDGE OF SUBJECTS WHEREABOUTS SUBSEQUENT TO ESCAPE, SPECIFICALLY DENIED AND INFO OR STATEMENT THAT SUBJECT IN OMAHA OR LOS ANGELES PRIOR TO NEWSPAPER REPORTS THIS CASE, AND STATED CONVICTION SISTER CAROL AND BROTHER JERRY HAVE SIMILAR LACK OF KNOWLEDGE.

TO ASSIST ST LOUIS IN EVALUATING CREDIBILITY OF GAWRON,

BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO EXAMINE REPORTED BANK ROBBERIES IN

SOUTHERN STATES JUNE JULY SIXTY SEVEN TO SEE IF CITIES INVOLVED

ARE NEAR STATE LINE RIVER AND LOOT IN VICINITY OF FIFTY THOUSAND.

END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

CHICAGO IS REQUESTED TO REVIEW JUNE TWENTY THIRD TO END OF JULY ISSUES OF GHICAGO TRIBUNE FOR ACCOUNT OF SUCH ROBBERY.

OMAHA AND LA THROUGH SUCH SOURCES AS MAY BE DEEMED

APPROPRIATE ATTEMPT DETERMINE PRESENCE OF SUBJECT IN THE

TERRITORIES JUNE AND JULY SIXTY SEVEN.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

SVW

FBI WASH DC

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GMANA AND IN THROUGH SUCH SOUPEDS AS MAY BE CHEVED APPROPRIED ATTEMPT DETERMINE PRESENCE OF SUCUENT IN THACOTERNITES JUNE AND JULY SIXTY SEVEN.

SUBJECT APERD AND DAMERSOUS.

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

D-36 (Rev. 5-22-64)			Mr. Tolson Mr. Beløa Mr. Mohr Mr. Bishop	ch
	- D .		Mr. Caspe	
	F B I		Mr. Conra	1
	Date: 5/10/68		Mr. Rosen	4
ansmit the following i	n(Type in plaintext or code)		Mr. Sulliv Mr. Tavel Mr. Trotte	
a <u>aAIRTEL</u>	(Priority)	·.	Tele, Reon Miss Holm Miss Gand	1
TO:	DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)		Malya	war
FROM:	SAC, WFO (44-703) (P)		Laffy	
MURKIN	Re WFO teletype, 5/9/68.			
Office.	On 5/10/68, MR. KEN H. TOWSEY, REWDC, advised that a check of record	ds of his o	office	1
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located aka, ER  ARMED A	no information identifiable with JIC S. GALT.  ND DANGEROUS  REC-27  Reau mphis (44-1987)	MAY 15 1968	RAY,	43

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WIRTH

DIRECTOR, (44-38861)

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FRGE: SAC, WPO (44-705) (P)

SURKIN

Jo:

Re wFO teletype, 5/9/68.

On 5/10/65, MR. NEE B. TOWSKY, Rhodesian Internation Office, WDC, advised that a cneck of records of his office located no invortation identifiable with JALLS EARL WAY, and LRIC S. CALT.

ARTED AND LANGEROUS

FBI FOR THE FRANCE FBI

3 - Bureau

2,-- Lemphis (44-1937): 3 H 20181

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	Date: 5/10/68	
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AIRTEL	(Priority)  Ref. Treate Tele. Room Mids. 5 and	er. n
TQ:	DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)	
FROM: MURKIN	SAC, WFO (44-703)  Melling	<i>(</i>
ROGER D.	Re let dated 12/28/67 signed ERIC S. GALT, 1535 crano, Los Angeles, California, received by SA ASHLAND from JOHN ACORD, Chairman, American-Southern buncil, 800 Fourth Street, Washington, D. C.,	
SA JAMES	The above was hand carried by SA ASHLAND to MORTIMER, FBI Laboratory on 5/9/68.	
<b>3</b> 5 6 6 6		
	REC-271 44-38861-3438	
③ - Burea 2 - Memph 1 - WFO	au 22 MAY 15 1968. his (44-1987) (RM)	
RDA:cabb (6)	SP CAP	

## 5/10/63

FINITE

TO: DIRECTOR, FRI (44-38861)

F20M: SAU, REO (4A-703)

MIRKIN

Re let dated 12/28/67 staned SAIC S. CALF, 1535 Morth Serrano, Los Angeles, California, received by SA ROGAR 9. ASHLVAS from JOHN ACCAS, Chairman, American-Southern Africa Council, 800 Fourth Street, Washington, D. C., on 5/9/68.

The above was hand carried by SA ASHLAND to SA JAMAS MORITMAR, FBI Laboratory on 5/9/68.

REC'D-ROSEN Fez W 13 9 48 AM 768

3 - Bureau 2 - Momphis (44-1987) (2M)

1 - 200

2DA:cabb

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Laboratory Transmittal Form

1 - Mr. Rosen (Mr. Long 2260)

- Mr. Conrad

1 - Mr. Mortimer

l - Lab File

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

FBI, Memphis (44-1987)

May 10, 1968

Date:

0 MURKIN 00: Memphis

Mobile

Examination requested by:

Airtel 5/6/68

Reference:

Document

Examination requested:

Remarks:

John Edgar Hoover, Director

44-38861 FBI File No. **D-562676 JK** Lab. No.

44-38861-3431

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19 MAY 15 1968

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Tolson DeLoach . Mohr

Bishop

Casper Callahan Conrad Felt \_\_

Tavel Tele. Room (2 Lab report)

1 - Mobile (157-2627) Enclosure (Lab report) 1 - Atlanta (44-2386) Enclosure (Lab report)

1 - Birmingham (44-1740) Enclosure (Lab report)

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### REPORT of the



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

FBI, Memphis (44-1987) To:

Date: May 10, 1968 FBI File No. 44-38861

MURKIN Be:

D-562676 JK

Specimens received

5/8/68

Photocopies of documents obtained from Alabama State Department of Public Safety, Montgomery, Alabama, comprising the known handwriting of eleven individuals, further described as follows:

SPECIMEN	NAME
Kc258	WILLIAM ELMER JOHNSON
Kc259	FRANK GARRETT PERRY
Kc260	JAMES PRESTON RIDDICK
Kc261	ROBERT CLIFTON SMITH
Kc262	FONTAINE STORM
Kc263	R. W. KERR
Kc264	CLYDE JUSTIN HILL
Kc265	WINFORD PRESTON GILMORE
Kc 266	PAUL EDGAR GOODPASTER, JR.
Kc267	LEE EMERSON BELLAMY
Kc268	ROGER DAVID BROUSSARD

#### Result of examination:

Nothing of particular significance was noted from such comparisons as could be made between the writings on Kc258 through Kc268 when compared with the known handwriting of JAMES EARL RAY, whose known handwriting appears on specimens K171, K211 and K257.

The submitted items have been retained.

Tolson		
DeLoach		
Mohr		
Bishop		TYPE ATH (11)
Casper		JHM: AWour (11)
Callahan		
Conrad		
Felt		
Gale		
Rosen		
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FBI BIRMGHAM

115 PM URGENT 5-10-68 JGA

NO DIRECTOR, ATLANTA, MEMPHIS, KANSAS CITY, ST. LOUIS

FROM BIRMINGHAM 5 P M 44-1740

MURKIN.

REMYTEL MAY ONE LAST.

JAMES W. BROWN REINTERVIEWED MAY NINE LAST AND FURNISHED FOLLOWING:
BROWN MET RAY THROUGH RAY'S "PERSONAL FRIEND," JOHNNIE VALENTI,
SHORTLY AFTER ASSASSINATION OF JOHN F. KENNEDY. BROWN WAS DOING
TWENTY YEAR SENGENCE FOR MURDER AFTER CONVICTION IN KANSAS CITY, MO.,
VALENTI WAS DOING IWENTY YEAR SENTENCE FOR ROBBERY AFTER CONVICTION
IN KANSAS CITY. ACCORDING TO BROWN, VALENTI AND BROWN WERE IN KANSAS
CITY JAIL AT SAME TIME (BUT DIFFERENT TANKS), PRIOR TO BEING SENT TO
JEFFERSON CITY: MO. AT TIME OF FIRST MEETING, RAY WAS INVOLVED IN
POKER GAME IN THE PRISON YARD. BROWN CLAIMS HE OBSERVED RAY ON MORE
THAN ONE OCCASION DEAL CARDS LEFT-HANDED. VALENTI INTRODUCED RAY TO
BROWN AS "JAMES RAY" BUT EVERYONE CALLED HIM "RAY". AT LATER TIME
VALENTI TOLD BROWN THAT HE, VALENTE AND RAY HAD COMMITTED A ROBBERY
END PAGE ONE

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6 MAY 15 1968

Mr. Tolson\_\_\_ Mr. DeLoach

Mr. Mohr.

Mr. Bishop.

Mr. Casper Mr. Callahan Mr. Conrad Mr. Felt Mr. Gale

Mr. Sullivan Mr. Tavel

Mr. Trotter Tele. Room

Miss Holmes Miss Gandy\_

Mr

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#### PAGE TWO

OF AN OIL COMPANY IN ATLANTA, GA., PRIOR TO VALENTI'S ARREST IN KANSAS CITY ON ANOTHER ROBBERY CHARGE. VALENTI CLAIMED HE AND RAY HAD WATCHED AN OIL COMPANY FOR A WEEK BEFORE COMMITTING THE ROBBERY ABOUT MIDNIGHT. BROWN BELIEVES VALENTI SAID IT WAS A ROBBERY. BUT THAT IT COULD HAVE BEEN A BURGLARY. BROWN SAID HE WAS SURE VALENTI IDENTIFIED ATLANTA AS THE PLACE OF THE ROBBERY BELAUSE LATER VALENTI TOLD BROWN THAT VALENTI'S WIFE WAS THEN (LATE SIXTYTHREE AND EARLY SIXTYFOUR) LIVING IN ATLANTA, WITH THEIR THREE CHILDREN. THE OLDEST OF WHOM WAS KILLED IN AN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT IN SIXTYFOUR. ABOUT SAME TIME VALENTI'S WIFE QUIT WRITING TO VALENTI AND EFFORTS OF VALENTI THROUGH THE CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN TO HAVE WIFE RESUME WRITING. WERE NEGATIVE. AT TIME OF MEETING RAY. RAY WAS LIVING IN C HALL. WHILE VALENTI AND BROWN WERE LIVING IN G HALL. VALENTI ALSO CLAIMED TO BROWN THAT AT TIME OF ARREST IN KANSAS CITY. VALENTI HAD THE NAME OF A KANSAS CITY GANGSTER (NAME NOT GIVEN BY VALENTI). IN HIS POSSESSION WHICH HAD BEEN GIVEN TO HIM BY AN ASSOCIATE, UNNAMED, IN NEW ORLEANS, AND VALENTI WAS QUESTIONED EXTENSIVELY BY KCPD AS TO HIS CONNECTIONS WITH THIS GANGSTER. VALENTI TOLD BROWN HE HAD RELATIVES IN BATON ROUGE. LA.

IN ALL HIS CONTACTS WITH RAY, BROWN WAS WITH VALENTI, AND END PAGE TWO

#### PAGE THREE

SOMETIMES OTHER PRISONERS WERE PRESENT, NAMES UNRECALLED, OTHER THAN POSSIBLY "NOONEY" EDEN OR EATON (PH). FROM C HALL. RAY AND BROWN NEVER HAD ANY INVOLVED CONVERSATIONS. BUT BROWN WAS PRESENT ON ABOUT FOUR OCCASIONS WHEN RAY AND VALENTI WOULD DISCUSS THINGS. AMONG ITEMS DISCUSSED WAS ESCAPE BY EACH. RAY SAID HE WOULD RUNNEL OUT OF THE PRISON IF NECESSARY AND GO TO LIBERIA WHERE HE HAD A BROTHER-IN-LAW MAKING GOOD MONEY. NO OTHER INFORMATION RECALLED ABOUT ALLEGED BROTHER-IN-LAW. ON ANOTHER OCCASION RAY SAID HE KNEW A CAVE IN VIRGINIA WHERE HE COULD HIDE ONCE HE ESCAPED. CONCERNING THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION. VALENTI ONCE SAID TO RAY THAT VALENTI DID NOT BELIEVE ANYONE SHOULD KILL THE PRESIDENT, BUT RAY SAID HE, RAY, WOULD HAVE DONE IT HIMSELF. IF HE WOULD HAVE HAD THE CHANCE. AND THAT KENNEDY WAS "NOTHING BUT A DAMN CATHOLIC." ACCORDING TO BROWN, RAY WAS VERY ANTI-CATHOLIC AND ANTI-NEGRO. ON ANOTHER OCCASION IN LATE SIXTYTHREE. BROWN CLAIMED HE OVERHEARD RAY SAY TO VALENTI THAT HE. RAY. WAS GOING TO GET OUT OF THE PEN. AND THAT RAY KNEW A GUY NAMED "COLLEY" (PH) WHO WOULD HIDE RAY WHERE NO ONE WOULD FIND HIM. ALSO THIS COOLEY WOULD PAY TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS TO ANYONE WHO WOULD KILL MARTIN LUTHER KING. RAY WAS AWARE THAT BROWN CAME FROM ALABAMA. BUT DID NOT TALKE TO HIM END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

ABOUT ANY TOWNS IN ALABAMA, EXCEPT THAT BIRMINGHAM WAS A GOOD TOWN TO STEAL IN, AND THAT RAY HAD STOLEN A CAR IN BIRMINGHAM, BEFORE GETTING SENT TO THE MISSOURI PEN.

CREDIBILITY OF BROWN HAS NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED TO DATE, AND
IT HAS BEEN NOTED HE HAS FURNISHED CONFLICTING INFORMATION ABOUT
THE PERSONAL HABITS OF RAY, SUCH AS RAY BEING LEFT-HANDED, WALKING
PIGEON-TOED AND SMOKING WINSTON CIGARETTES. IT IS ALSO NOTED THAT IN
FIRST INTERVIEW, BROWN CLAIMED RAY HATED MANNEDY BECAUSE HE WAS A
"NIGGER-LOVING SOB," WHEREAS THIS TIME BROWN CLAIMED RAY HATED
KENNEDY BECAUSE HE WAS A CATHOLIC. BROWN CLAIMED HE DID NOT KNOW RAY'S
RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION. BROWN CLAIMS HE KNEW NOTHING OF ANY LOTTERIES
BEING OPERATED IN THE PRISON, NOR OF ANY ORGANIZATION OF PRISONERS
WHO WOULD COLLECT DEBTS, AND ACT AS A PROTECTIVE AGENCY FOR THE PRISONERS. HE CLAIMED COOLEY WAS AN INDIVIDUAL WHOSE NAME WAS MENTIONED
ONLY BY RAY AND HE NEVER HEARD THIS NAME MENTIONED BY ANY OTHER
PRISONER. BROWN ALSO STATES THAT "A" HALL WAS FOR NEGRO PRISONERS,
WHEREAS THOMAS BRITTON (SEE MYTEL OF MAY NINE LAST) HAD CLAIMED "A"
HALL WAS FOR TRUSTEES.

ALL RECEIVING OFFICES ADVISE BIRMINGHAM IF JOHNNIE VALENTI HAS BEEN LOCATED AND INTERVIEWED. IF SO, SUTEL BIRMINGHAM RESULTS OF THIS INTERVIEW.

KANSAS CITY, AT JEFFERSON CITY, MO., FROM PRISON RECORDS, FURNISH FOLLOWING:

END PAGE FOUR

#### PAGE FIVE

IDENTITY OF PRISONER "NOONEY" EDEN PH OR EATON. WHO. IN LATE SIXTYTHREE, WAS DOING FIVE Y4EAR SENTENCE. IF IDENTIFIED, SET OUT LEAD TO HAVE HIM INTERVIEWED FOR HIS KNOWLEDIGE OF RAY AND VERIFICATION OF INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM THOMAS BRITTON AND/OR JAMES W. BROWN. ASCERTAIN FROM RECORDS RE VALENTI. IF HE. OR HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN. EVER LIVED IN ATLANTA. AND IF HIS OLDEST CHILD WAS KILLED. AS CLAIMED BY BROWN. IF THIS INFORMATION VERIFIED. SET OUT LEADS TO HAVE WIFE LOCATED AND INTERVIEWED FOR ANY INFORMATION SHE HAS RE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN HER HUSBAND, JOHNNIE VALENTI, AND RAY, AND IF THEY WERE INVOLVED IN ROBBERY OF OIL COMPANY IN ATLANTA. PRIOR TO VALENTI'S IMPRISONMENT IN JEFFERSON CITY. IN EFFORT TO VERIFY BROWN'S INFORMATION. ASCERTAIN IF RAY RESIDED IN "C" HALL IN LATE SIXTYTHREE. AND IF AT THAT TIME. RAY WAS WORKING IN THE LICENSE PLATE FACTORY. FROM RECORDS OF KANSAS CITY PD. ASCERTAIN IF BROWN AND VALENTI WERE IN CUSTODY AT SAME TIME, AND IF AT TIME OF VALENTI'S ARREST. THERE WAS SOME INFORMATION HE HAD CONNECTION WITH WELL KNOWN KANSAS CITY "GANGSTER." KANSAS CITY ALSO FURNISH BIRMINGHAM PHOTOS AND DESCRIPTION OF VALENTI.

ATLANTA ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY ROBBERY REFERRED TO BY BROWN.

ABOVE BEING FURNISHED ST. LOUIS, AS BIRMINGHAM'S LAST INFORMATION AS TO WHEREABOUTS OF VALENTI, WAS THAT HE WAS IN ST. LOUIS.

CORRECTION: PG 3 LN 5 WD U IS "TUNNEL" PG 4 LN 8 WD 7 IS "KENNEDY"
PG 5 LN 2 WD 5 IS YEAR"

END

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