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FBI WASH DC

FBI MAN CITY

1210AM URGENT 5-18-68 DJB

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) MEMPHIS, BIRMINGHAM, MIAMI, LAS VEGAS,

DETROIT & KNOXVILLE

FROM KANSAS CITY (44-760) 1P

CMURKIN

RE LOS ANGELES TEL MAY SEVENTEEN LAST.

INVESTIGATION KANSAS CITY SUBURBAN AIRPORTS NEGATIVE AS TO PLANE OF WILLIAM PIERCE.

AGENTS ELIMINATED ALL MOVING COMPANIES IN AREA DESCRIBED BY LOS ANGELES TIMES REPORTER BY PHYSICAL OBSERVATION.

WARDEN HAROLD SWENSON ADVISED NO PREVIOUS INMATE MISSOURI
STATE PENITENTIARY NAMED FRANK BICKLEY OR GOOD LAR NAME AND
MISSOURI STATE HIGHWAY PATROL NEGATIVE RE FRANK BICKLEY. VARIATION
BRICKLEY REFERDRED TO RE LOS ANGELES TEL WILL BE CHECKED AM
MAY EIGHTEEN INSTANT.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

15 MAY 20 1968

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FBI WASH DC

57 MAY 23 1968

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FBI KNOXVLE

Miss Holmes Miss Gandy

1230AM URGENT 5-18-68

WTB

TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS, KANSAS CITY

FROM KNOXVILLE 44-696

CMURKIN

RE LOS ANGELES TELETYPE MAY SEVENTEEN INSTANT.

ATTENTION DIRECTED TO PAGE THREE OF NOTES OF WILLIAM THOMAS WHEREIN HE REFERS TO "FRANK BRICKLEY OF CHATTANOOGA, TENN. WHO WAS IN PRISON WITH RAY."

KANSAS CITY AT JEFFERSON CITY DETERMINE FROM PRISON RECORDS WHETHER A FRANK BRICKLEY WAS IN PRISON AT TIME RAY INCARCERATED AND . IF SO. SUTEL FULL BACKGROUND.

INVESTIGATION CONTINUING.

END

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FRI WASH DC

159 AM URGENT 5-18-68 HWW

TO DIRECTOR. MEMPHIS. AND LOS ANGELES

FROM LAS VEGAS 157-133

Mr. Tolson Mr. DeLoach Mr. Mohr. Mr. Bishop. Mr. Casper. Mr. Callahan Mr. Conrad Mr. Felt. Mr. Tavel Miss Hende

MURKIN

RE LA T/T. MAY 17. RE LA TIMES INFORMANT "BOR" LNU.

CAL NEVA LODGE. CRYSTAL BAY. NEVADA HAS BEEN CLOSED SINCE LABOR DAY 1967. IT HAS RECENTLY BEEN PURCHASED BY CEASARS PALACE HOTEL AND CASING. LAS VEGAS AND ACCORDING TO INFORMATION AVAILABLE IS NOT SCHEDULED TO REOPEN THIS YEAR.

CAL NEVA CLUB. RENO NEVADA HAS ONE CHARLES THOMAS CATE RENO PD #69350 EMPLOYED FOR LAST 12 YEARS NOW WORKING AS PIT BOSS ON SWING SHIFT. LAS VEGAS INDICES NEGATIVE ON EDDIE WILBURN, BEN OR JACK STURGIS.

WARREN MELSON OWNER ADVISED CAL NEVA CLUB HAD NO KENO HITS OVER \$400 ON APRIL 3 LAST. CLUB HAS NOT HAD A \$25,000 KENO HIT IN ALMOST THREE YEARS.

WASHOE COUNTY SO RENO HAS NO IDENTIFIABLE RECORD OF WILBUTN OR STURGIS, PER DEPUTY JAMES HAHN.

CATHY NEWBERRY ID BUREAU ADVISED RENC PD HAS NO IDENTIFIABLE RECORD OF WILBURN, ONE BEN STURGIS, JR. FBI #1226167 APPLIED THERE IN 1963 FOR WORK PERMIT AS BARTENDER AT BAR LOCATED ON SCUTH

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57 MAY 23 1968

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PAGE TWO

LV 157-133

VIRGINIA ST. ABOUT 3/4 MILE FROM SECOND ST. HE IS NOT LISTED IN CURRENT RENO CITY OR TELEPHONE DIRECTORY AND DOES NOT HOLD CUPRENT WORK PERMIT.

RENO PD REGERD OF CATE'S WORK PERMIT AS CAL NEVA CLUB PIT BOSS SHOWS HIS ADDRESS AS 6880 PEPBLE BEACH DRIVE, RENO, NEVADA.

CATE INTERVIEWED, UNABLE TO FURNISH ANY CLEARIFYING INFO AND STATED WILBURN AND STURGIS UNKNOWN TO HIM.

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TELETYPE

Miss Holmes... Miss Gandy...

FBT LOS ANG.

FBI WASH DC

11:49PM URGENT 5-17-68 REF

TO DIRECTOR, ATLANTA, MEMPHIS, BIRMINGHAM, KANSAS CITY, MIAMI, LAS VEGAS, DETROIT, MOBILE, KNOXVILLE, ALBANY AND CHARLOTTE FROM LOS ANGELES (44-1574) (P) 6P

MURKIN

RE LA PHONE CALL TO BUREAU AND LA TEL MAY SEVENTEEN INSTANT, RE LOS ANGELES TIMES INFORMANT - "BOB" LNU.

FOR INFO ATLANTA, MOBILE AND ALBANY, LA TIMES HAS HAD CONTACT WITH ONE BOB LNU WHO SAID HE HAD INFO CONCERNING WHAT ACTUALLY HAD TAKEN PLACE IN CONNECTION WITH DEATH OF DR. KING. IN ADDITION TO OTHER INFO FURNISHED BY BOB LNU, HE STATED FOLLOWING REGARDING ASPECTS OF CASE INVOLVING LOS ANGELES AREA:

CNE. RAY SOMEBODY STAYED IN CLARK HOTEL, ROOM SEVEN HUNDRED, ON APRIL SEVENTEEN DASH EIGHTEEN AST. 44-3%

TWO. LAMONT WHITE WHO WORKS FOR WESTERN UNION IN LA

HAS SENT MONEY TO LOUISIANA. BOUGHT TWO PISTOLS UNDER 15 MAY 20 1968

HIS NAME. THEY REALLY WENT TO FRANK BRICKLEY OF CHATANOGEA,

TENN. WHO WAS IN PRISON WITH RAY. BRICKLEY SUPOSED TO BE HERE.

END PAGE ONE

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A. S. Ding, J. C. Land, M. C. Harrison, N. C. Harrison, N. C. Harrison, N. C. Harrison, N. C. Land, M. C.

PAGE TWO

LA 44-1574

THREE. HAROLD'S CAFE, FIVE FIVE FIVE SOUTH MAIN. RAY
BARTENDER THERE FOR WEEK OR SO. QUEER BAR. GUY NAMED CONNIE
KNOWS HIM THERE.

ALSO WILLI SHEA. ONCE WORKED TOP RAIL BAR, SEVENTH AND ALVARADO. RAY SUPPOSEDLY MARRIED TO HER ONCE. SHE FROM MISSOURI, NOW LIVES IN NORTH HOLLYWOOD. HAS MONEY. MOTHER MMARRIED, LIVES IN COMPTON, DRIVES A PURPLE PONTIC CONVERTIBLE NOW LIVES AT EIGHT ONE TWO SOUTH WESTLAKE, L.A., WITH MAN WHO OWNS A BAR. SHE'S BLOND, ABOUT AGE THIRTY EIGHT.

FOLLOWING INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED LA AREA THIS DATE.

JACK HERD, DAY MANAGER TOP RAIL BAR ADVISES WILLI SHEA ENTIRELY UNKNOWN. NO COCKTAIL WAITRESSES EMPLOYED BY THIS BAR, EXCEPT ON RARE OCCASIONS LIKE NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY. ON THOSE OCCASIONS, HIS OWN GIRL FRIEND OR GIRL NAMED BERNICE DOUGLAS WHO DOES NOT FIT DESCRIPTION OF WILLI SHEA HAS HELPED OUT AT BAR. MRS. NANCY BURGDORF, MANAGER FOR LAST SEVENTEEN YEARS AT EIGHT ONE TWO SOUTH WESTLAKE, REPORTS NO WILLI SHEA HAS OR IS RESIDING AT THAT ADDRESS.

LEAMONT ANDERSON WHITE, EFFEMINATE THIRTY SIX YEAR OLD NEGRO MALE, EMPLOYED BY WESTERN UNION, WHO RESIDES AT THREE EIGHT ONE SEVEN GIBRALTAR AVENUF, APT. FIVE, LOS ANGELES END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE LA 44-1574

END PAGE THREE

THEEPHONE TWO ONE THREE DASH TWO NINE FOUR DASH NINE FIVE

THREE NINE, REPORTS HAS KNOWN FRANK BRICKLEY AND HIS BROTHER

BOB BRICKLEY FIVE OR SIX YEARS. DURING THAT TIME FRANK HAS

BEEN IN AND OUT OF ONE JAIL AFTER ANOTHER. BOTH FRANK AND

BOB ARE HEAVY DRINKERS AND WHEN IN LA AREA HAVE FREQUENTED

SKIDROW BARS NEAR FIFTH AND MAIN IN DOWNTOWN LA AND SEVENTH AND

ALVARADO NEAR WESTLAKE PARK. THEIR PARENTS RESIDE IN ROSSVILLE,

GEORGIA AND WHEN IN LA DURING JUNE SIXTY SEVEN THEY MADE

CALLS FROM WHITE'S HOME TO FOLLOWING NUMBERS, ONE OF WHICH IS

THEIR PARENTS NUMBER:

ROSSVILLE AREA CODE FOUR ZERO FOUR

TWO TWO NINE DASH TWO ONE FIVE FIVE

FIGHT SIX SIX DASH SEVEN THREE ONE ZERO

KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE CODE SIX ONE FIVE

FIVE TWO FOUR DASH ONE THREE ONE FIVE

SWEETWATER, TENNESSEE CODE SIX ONE FIVE

THREE THREE SEVEN DASH SEVEN SEVEN FIVE

CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE CODE SIX ONE FIVE

SIX TWO TWO DASH NINE ZERO SIX SEVEN

WHITE ALSO FURNISHED TWO RECIPTS FOR PURCHASE OF GUNS BY HIM

FROM WEATHERBY SPORTING GOODS, TWO SEVEN EIGHT ONE EAST FIRESTONE

PAGE FOUR
LA 44-1574

END PAGE FOUR

BLVD., SOUTH GATE, CALIFORNIA FOR ONE BAYARD THIRTY TWO CALIBER, SERIAL NUMBER TWO FIVE TWO TWO ONE; AND BERETTA TWENTY-FIVE AUTOMATIC PISTOL, SERIAL NUMBER EIGHT FIGHT SEVEN TWO EIGHT ZERO, PLUS AMMUNITION FOR EACH WEAPON.

CLAIMS WHEN FRANK BRICKLEY WAS LAST IN LA AREA ABOUT SUMMER SIXTY SEVEN BOTH OF THESE WEAPONS DISAPPEARED FROM HIS RESIDENCE. AND HE SUSPECTED EITHER FRANK OR BOB BRICKLEY OR THEIR COUSIN, WHOSE NAME HE CAN NOT NOW RECALL, STOLE THEM. SAID HE HAS NEVER FILED A STOLEN REPORT. SAID ABOUT TWO MONTHS AGO HE GOT COLLECT CALL FROM FRANK SEEKING MONEY, AT WHICH TIME FRANK INDICATED HE HAD JUST GOTTEN OUT OF HOSPITAL WHERE WAS RECOVERING FROM UNDESCRIBED WOUND. WAS UNABLE AT THIS TIME TO FIND TELEPHONE COMPANY CHARGES FOR THIS CALL. BUT BELIEVES IT WAS FROM KNOXVILLE OR NASHVILLE. TENNESSEE. SAID HE IS SURE THAT NO ONE OTHER THAN FRANK OR BOB BRICKLEY OR POSSIBLY THEIR COUSIN. COULD HAVE BEEN IN POSSESSION OF INFO THAT HE HAD PURCHASED ABOVE DESCRIBED WEAPONS OR THAT HE HAD RESPONDED TO CALL FOR MONEY BY SENDING TWENTY OR THIRTY DOLLARS TO FRANK. CLAIMS LAST SAW BOB BRICKLEY LESS THAN TWO MONTHS AGO, AT WHICH TIME BOB SAID FRANK WAS IN PRISON, BUT DID NOT INDICATE SPECIFIC CHARGE OR LOCATION.

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PAGE FIVE

FRANK BRICKLEY APPEARS IDENT TO FRANK WILLIAM BRICKLEY,

AKA, SUBJECT OF BUFILE SEVEN SIX DASH TWO THREE SEVEN THREE FOUR;

ATLANTA FILE SEVEN SIX DASH TWO FOUR ONE TWO: MOBILE FILE

SEVEN SIX DASH ONE ZERO EIGHT ONE, WHO ACCORDING TO MOBILE

AIRTEL JANUARY TWO FOUR SIXTY SIX APPREHENDED AUSTIN TEXAS ONE

TWO FOUR SIXTY SIX.

LAPD RECORDS INDICATE LEAMONT A. WHITE APRESTED JULY SIXTY FIVE LEWD CONDUCT IN VICINITY OF FOURTH AND MAIN, L.A.

PERSONNEL CLARK HOTEL ADVISE ONE RAY YOUNG, WHO GAVE HOME ADDRESS OF ONE FIVE ONE BEACH ST., MASSENA, NEW YORK, WAS REGISTERED ROOM SEVEN HUNDRED APRIL SEVENTEEN DASH LAST. PHOTOS OF SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY EXHIBITED TO PERTINENT HOTEL PERSONNEL WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

CONRAD TORROMEO, NIGHT MANAGER, HAROLD'S BAR, FIVE FIVE FIVE FIVE SOUTH MAIN, WHO IS KNOWN AS CONNIE, OPSERVED ALL PHOTOS OF JAMES EARL RAY AND ADVISES NEVER EMPLOYEE OR CUSTOMER. PHOTO DISPLAYED TO OTHER PERSONNEL, INCLUDING DAY SHIFT, WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

END PAGE FIVE

PAGE SIX

LA 44-1574

FOR INFO ALL OFFICES, BUREAU HAS INSTRUCTED ALL LEADS IN THIS MATTER RECEIVE IMMEDIATE AND CONTINUOUS ATTENTIOM.

ALBANY WILL CHECK OUT RAY YOUNG, MASSENA, N.Y. TO ELIMINATE AS SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY, AND TO DETERMINE IF KNOWS BRICKLEY BROTHERS OR LEAMONT ANDERSON WHITE, BEARING IN MIND POSSIPLE HOMOSEXUAL INVOLVEMENT.

ATLANTA REQUESTED TO CONTACT BRICKLEY'S PARENTS AT
ROSSVILLE, GEORGIA TO SECURE CURRENT PHOTOS OF BOB BRICKLEY WHO
MAY BE AKA ROY BRICKLEY, JR. FORWARD PHOTO TO LA TO SHOW TO LA
TIMES REPORTERS WHO CONTACTED BOB LNU, TO DETERMINE IF HE IS
INFORMANT IN THIS MATTER.

IDENT DIVISION REQUESTED TO ADVISE LA AND INTERESTED OFFICES OF ANY CURRENT INCARCERATION OF FRANK BRICKLEY FROM RECORDS OF FBI NUMBER ONE NINE SEVEN SEVEN NINE SIX C.

INVESTIGATION LA CONTINUING. AIR MAIL INFO COPIES
FURNISHED CINCINNATI, INDIANAPOLIS, NEW ORLEANS AND ST. LOUIS.
CHARLOTTE RECEIVING COPY FOR INFO PER INSTRUCTION MIAMI.

END

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OC- MR. TROTTER

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATION SECTION

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Mr. Tolson Mr. DeLoach Mr. Mohn

Mr. Mr.

Mr. Co. Mr. Feli

Mr. Felt \_\_\_ Mr. Gale Mr. Rose

Mr. Tavel Mr. Trotter

Tele. Room\_\_ Miss Holmes Miss Gandy

TELETYPE

FRI DETROIT

203AM UPGENT 5/18/68 BCS

TO DIRECTOR. LOS ANGELES. MEMPHIS.

FROM DETROIT 44-989

CMURKIN

RE LOS ANGELES TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR MAY SEVENTEEN LAST.

RE LOS ANGELES TIMES INFORMANT - "BOB" LNU.

MICHIGAN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY PRESENTLY ON STRIKE

AND ALL SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL IN CREDIT CARD DIVISION WORKING THE VEHOUR SHIFTS ON SWITCHBOARDS. INFORMATION REGARDING ANY BELL

CREDIT CARD IN NAME OF RIDELL (NO FIRST NAME) OR ROBERT BRINKLEY

WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL AT LEAST FIVE TWENTY NEXT.

SGT. ERJEVAC, HARPER WOODS, MICHIGAN PD, ADVISED NO FNU RIDELL OR ROBERT BRINKLEY RESIDES IN HARPER WOODS.

DETROIT INDICES AND ALL REFERENCE BOOKS NEGATI VE REGARDING EX-115 FNU RIDELL. ROBERT BRINKLEY. OR RIDELL CATERING  $\sqrt{1-2}$ 

NO PERSONS FAMILIAR WITH CATERING FGR 20s. RUBBER AVAILABLE
TONGIGHT: DETROIT WILL ATTEMPT TO ASCERTAIN IF U.S. RUBBER HAS A
CATERER TOMORROW.

15 MAY 20 1969

RECORDS, MILAN CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION, REVIEWED REGARDING SAMUEL LEWIS, AND ONLY PERSON WITH SIMILAR NAME LOCATED WAS END PAGE ONE

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PAGE TWO: DE 44-989

SAM LEWIS. WHO WAS RELEASED FROM MILAN IN NINETEEN THIRTY EIGHT. AS THIS DATE DIFFERS GREATLY FROM INFO FURNISHED BY "BOB", NO FURTHER ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE TO OTHERWISE IDENTIFY THE ABOVE LEWIS.

SH jensell Mark # oralath CONTINUING EFFORTS BEING MADE TO RESOLVE INFORMATION

RECEIVED FROM "BOB", AND BUREAU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED.

AM COPIES BIRMINGHAM AND KANSAS CITY.

A & D.

END

BJM

FBI WASH DCP

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TEST POTTO AND

FBI ST LOUIS

618PM URGENT 5-18-69 JLS

TO DIRECTOR AND MEMPHIS

FROM ST. LOUIS (44-775)

CMURKIN - SUMMARY

END PAGE ONE

RE JOHN LARRY RAY

Mr. Edward
Mr. Courer
Mr. Mr. Courer
Mr. Gold
Mr. Gold
Mr. Gold
Mr. Suttivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tels. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

IDENTIFIED PHOTO OF JAMES DAVID DAILEY AS PERSON KNOWN TO HIM ONLY AS J.D., WHO HAD TAVERN ON MORRISON ST., SLMO, AND WHO HE BEAT UP IN SIXTY. DAILEY DOES NOT KNOW HIM. DOES NOT KNOW WHETHER SUBJECT AND DAILEY EVER KNEW EACH OTHER. STATES TWO OR THREE MONTHS AGO HE SPENT NIGHT AT MACARTHUR HOTEL, SL, WITH NIGHT BARMAID, NAOMI REGAZZI, REGISTERED AS MR. AND MRS. JOHN RAY, OF FICTITIOUS ADDRESS. ADDRESS ONE EIGHT EIGHT SIX WYOMING HAS NO SIGNIFICANCE TO HIM.

PROPERTY AND GAVE HIM ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS TO HOLD FOR HIM. JOHN
HAD SAVED VICINITY OF THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM VARIOUS EMPLOYMENTS.

CLAIMED ALL OBTAINED IN COMPLETELY LAWFUL MANNER. USUALLY CARRIES
FIVE OR SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS ON PERSON. PAYS HELP WITH CASH. IN

EARLY AUGUST DECIDED TO DRIVE TO SAN FRANCISCO TO SEE IF DESIRABLE

TO INVEST IN BAR OR OTHER BUSINESS THERE. STAYED SEVERAL DAYS AT

VARIOUS CHEAP HOTELS, NAMES NOT TO MEBERE REC. 20 LED TO FIND BUSINESS

OPPORTUNITY. ENROUTE SL, HE DECIDED TO DRIVE TO TIAJUAN MAY MEXISS

KNEW THEY ROBBED PROPLE THERE, SO BOUGHT SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS

WARNELERS CHECKS AT SMALL WYOMING TOWN, NAME NOT REMEMBERED

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PAGE TWO

SL 44-775

DROVE TO TIAJUANA, WAS UNABLE TO UNDERSTAND LANGUAGE, DIDN'T LIKE
PLACE, BECAME DISGUSTED, AND WITHIN TWO HOURS OF ARRIVAL LEFT
ENROUTE SL. ON ARRIVAL SL, ESTIMATED LAST OF AUGUST SIXTY SEVEN,
OPENED BANK ACCOUNTS AT MANUFACTURERS BANK AND JEFFERSON GRAVOIS BANK,
AS COMBINED BUSINESS HOURS BOTH BANKS COMPATIBLE WITH HIS OWN. DEPOSITED TRAVELERS CHECKS AND CASH. ENTIRE TRIP REQUIRED APPROXIMATELY
TWO WEEKS. IMPHATICALLY DENIED ANY KNOWLEDGE OF OR CONTACT WITH
SUBJECT DURING TRIP OR ANY TIME FOLLOWING MSP ESCAPE. NEVER KNEW
SUBJECT IN CALIFORNIA UNTIL CURRENT PUBLICITY.

REITERATED PREVIOUS RECOLLECTION OF STOTEMENTS MADE BY SUBJECT DUPING MSP VISITS THAT IF HE GOT OUT VOULD LEAVE COUNTRY. ASSUMED SUBJECT HAD SUFFICIENT MONEY TO DO SO. DENIED KNOWLEDGE OF ANY SOURCES OF INCOME FOR SUBJECT. ASSUMES IF SUBJECT ENGAGED IN SALE OF AMPHETAMINE AND LOAND BUSINESS WHILE AT MSP AS ALLEGED HE WOULD THEREBY PRESUMEABLY HAVE MADE SOME MONEY. DENIED ANY KNOWLEDGE OR INFO THAT ANYONE OWED SUBJECT MONEY OR WAS HOLDING MONEY FOR HM OUTSIDE.

RE CAROL PEPPER AND JERRY RAYNES:

SOURCES AND SPOT CHECK FAIL TO INDICATED SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY.

MISC: INVESTIGATION INDICATES FELLOW PRISONER ROBERT LYNN

POWELL MAY HAVE LEFT AREA. PERSONNEL RECORDS, CITY HOSPITAL RE

MARY SWYER, FRIEND OF ASSOCIATE ANDREW WILSON DECORE, NOT AVAILABLE

UNTIL MONDAY.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

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FBI WASH DC

FBI MIAMI

COMMUNICATION SECT.

FEDERAL BUSEAU OF INVESTIG U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTIS

Mr. Bishap Mr. Casper ... Mr. Callahan. Mr. Cenrad

Mr. Tolson. Mr. Delouch

Mr. Mohr....

Mr. Felt Mr. Gale

Mr. Ros Mr. Sull

Mr. Tavel Mr. Trotter...

Tele. Room\_\_\_

Miss Holmes\_\_\_ Miss Gandy...

1042 PM URGENT 5/18/68 PML

TO DIRECTOR, TAMPA LOS ANGELES, AND MEMPHIS

MIAMI (44-1854)

MURKIN. CR.

RE LOS ANGELES TEL TO DIRECTOR, MAY SEVENTEEN LAST: MIAMI TEL TO DIRECTOR. MAY EIGHTEEN INSTANT; AND LOS ANGELES TEL TO DIRECTOR MAY EIGHTEEN INSTANT.

BENJAMIN LARNARD THOMPSON. JR., MIAMI. ADVISED THAT HIS FATHER. BENJAMIN LARNARD THOMPSON, SR., DIED NOVEMBER, SIXTYSEVEN, AND THAT HIS FATHER HAD BEEN SEMI-RETIRED SINCE NINETEEN FIFTYFOUR FROM COMMER-CIAL FISHING AFTER SUSTAINING HEART CONDITION.

THOMPSON ADVISED HE HAS BEEN EMPLOYED WITH AERODEX, MIAMI, SINCE MARCH, SIXTYSEVEN, AND HAS BEEN ON THE THREE PM - MIDNIGHT SHIFT SINCE JANUARY. NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT.

THOMPSON ADVISED HE WAS NOT OUT OF MIAMI AREA DURING THE PERIOD APRIL THREE THROUGH TWELVE LAST AND WAS WORKING AT AERODEX DURING THIS EX-115 REC-20 44-38861 PERIOD.

THOMPSON ADVISED HE FORMERLY WORKED AS COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN 1568 EAST COAST FISHERIES, MIAMI, FLA., AND PRIOR TO AUGUST, NINETEEN SIXLY-SIX. HE HAD OWNED THREE SEPARATE BOATS DURING VARIOUS INTERVALS IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS IN WHICH HE FISHED OFF FLORIDA KEYS, MOSTLY FOR LOBSTERS.

END PAGE ONE 7 1968

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MM 44-1854

PAGE TWO

THOMPSON STATED APPROXIMATELY FOUR YEARS AGO HE WAS ARRESTED

BY BRITISH GOVT. FOR FISHING IN BAHAMIAN WATERS. HIS ARREST RECEIVED

A GREAT DEAL OF PUBLICITY IN MIAMI NEWSPAPERS.

THOMPSON ADVISED HE WAS OUT OF STATE OF FLA. ONCE DURING HIS ENTIRE LIFETIME, THAT BEING DURING HIGH SCHOOL WHEN HE VISITED NEW YORK CITY.

HE EMPHATICALLY DENIED ANY KNOWLEDGE REGARDING THIS MATTER
AND NEVER HEARD OF THE NAMES WILBURN, PIERCE OR KNEW ANYONE WHO OWNED
MOTEL OR AIRPLANE.

THOMPSON ADVISED IT WAS COMPLETE MYSTERY TO HIM AS TO HOW HIS NAME WAS BEING UTILIZED IN THIS MATTER.

HE STATED THAT HE HAD A RELATIVE WHO IS A COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN IN MARATHON. FLA. BY THE NAME OF RONNY PIERCE. AGE THIRTY FIVE.

ROBERT OPP, SECURITY OFFICER, AERODEX, MIAMI, ADVISED THAT ALL PERSONNEL RECORDS AND TIME CARDS AT AERODEX WILL BE UNAVAILABLE UNTIL MORNING OF MAY TWENTY NEXT.

CITY DIRECTORIES, MARATHON, AND KEY WEST, FLA., NEGATIVE RE
BENJAMIN THOMPSON. KEY WEST CITY DIRECTORY NEGATIVE RE RONALD PIERCE.
MARATHON CITY DIRECTORY LISTS A RONALD K. PIERCE, FISHERMAN.

END PAGE TWO

MM 44-1854
PAGE THREE

INVESTIGATION MARATHON, FLA., DETERMINED RONALD K. PIERCE, AGE
FORTYFIVE, IS AN INDIGENT LOBSTER FISHERMAN WHO IS MARRIED, HAS FIVE
CHILDREN AND WHO SUPPLEMENTS HIS FISHING INCOME BY WORKING PARTTIME
AS A MECHANIC. PIERCE IS A LIFELONG RESIDENT OF MARATHON, FLA., WHO
SELDOM LEAVES THE FLORIDA KEYS. PIERCE DOES NOT HOLD A PILOT'S LICENSE
HAS NO INTEREST IN ANY AIRPORT AND DOES NOT OWN A PLANE. PIERCE
HAS NEVER BEEN A BUILDER AND HAS HAD NO AFFILIATIONS IN CUBA, DOES NOT
KNOW EDDIE WILBURN AND HAS NEVER BEEN A MEMBER OF ANY KKK GROUP.

INVESTIGATION AT PAHOKEE AND BELLE GLADE, FLA., INDICATES THAT

A WILLIAM L. PIERCE, WHITE MALE, AGE FIFTYEIGHT, EMPLOYED AT BELLE

GLADE AS A WELDER AT TRUE FLOW, INC., FORMERLY OWNED SOME CATTLE AND A CLASS MIGRANT LABORER BOARDING HOUSE WHICH HE WAS FORCED TO GIVE UP IN

DOES NOT FLY. PIERCE IS NOT RELATED TO OR ACQUAINTED WITH EDDIE WILBURN AND IS NOT AFFILIATED WITH ANY KKK ORGANIZATION. PIERCE HAD BEEN WEALTHY FOR A SHORT TIME OVER TWENTY YEARS AGO WHEN HE INVENTED A HEMP ROPE MANUFACTURING MACHINE WHICH WAS LATER BOUGHT BY BATISTA SUPPORTERS IN CUBA. NO OTHER WILLIAM L. PIERCE'S LOCATED IN THE PAHOKEE OR BELLE GLADE AREA.

END PAGE THREE

MM 44-1854
PAGE FOUR

INVESTIGATION AT OKEECHOBEE, FLA., INDICATES THAT LELAND
CLIFFORD PEARCE, W/M, AGE FIFTY, OWNS PROPERTY AND SEVERAL COTTAGES
AND IS A LAND DEVELOPER IN THE BUCKHEAD RIDGE SECTION OF OKEECHOPEE.
PEARCE WAS A FORMER CATTLE OWNER IN THE OKEECHOBEE AREA AND SOLD
CATTLE TO CUBA AND SOUTH AMERICA IN MINETEEN FIFTYSIX. PEARCE
DOFS NOT OWN A PRIVATE PLANE AND DOES NOT FLY. HE IS NOT ACQUAINTED
WITH JIM GARRISON AND IS NOT RELATED TO EDDIE WILBURN. PEARCE
DOES NOT KNOW ANYONE NAMED BEN THOMPSON AND IS NOT A MEMBER OF THE
KKK. PEARCE WAS IN THE OKEECHOBEE AREA ON APRIL THREE - TEN, MINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT. PEARCE VIEWED PHOTOS OF JAMES EARL RAY AND WAS
UNABLE TO IDENTIFY.

END PAGE FOUR

MM 44-1854

PAGE FIVE

LABORATORY, ARMENIA AVE., TAMPA, FLA., TEL NO. MINE THREE TWO THREE ZERO EIGHT FIVE, ON APRIL THIRD, FOURTH, AND SIXTH, LAST,
HAVING DENTURE WORK DONE. THIS STORY NOT VERIFIED BY INTERVIEWS
WITH HIS WIFE AND BROTHER-IN-LAW. BOWLES STATES HE IS IN SYMPATHY
WITH THE ASSASSIN OF KING AND WOULD LIKE TO SHAKE THE HAND OF THOSE
RESPONSIBLE. BOWLES HAS PRIVATE PLANE AND FLIES REGULARLY. HE
MANAGES THE RIDGE APARTMENTS, BUCKHEAD RIDGE, OKEECHOBEE, FLA., AND
IS ALSO A FISHING PARTY GUIDE. BOWLES DOES NOT KNOW EDDIE WILBURN,
JIM GARRISON, OR A BEN THOMPSON WHO OWNS BOATS. HE STATED HE DID
NOT FLY KING'S ASSASSIN ANYWHERE AND WAS IN NO WAY INVOLVED WITH
ASSASSINATION PLOT. BOWLES NOT WEALTHY. INVESTIGATION CONTINUING
MIAMI.

TAMPA, INTERVIEW APPROPRIATE INDIVIDUALS AT CALLAHAN DENTAL LABORATORY TO DETERMINE SPECIFIC DATES AND TIMES JOHN BOWLES THERE FROM MARCH TWENTYEIGHT TO APRIL TWELVE, MINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

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CE 44-1365 PAGE TWO

MR. PIERCE VOLUNTEERED INFORMATION THAT SEVERAL YEARS AGO, A SMALL JUDGMENT WAS FILED AGAINST HIM IN MIAMI, FLA., ON A DEBT OF ANOTHER WILLIAM PIERCE, WHO WAS IN THE CATTLE BUSINESS IN BELLE GLADE, FLA., AND PAHOKEE, FLA., AREA, BOTH LOCATED NEAR LAKE OKEECHOBEE. HIS ATTORNEY, THOMAS TEASLEY, CORAL GABLES SAVINGS AND LOAN BUILDING, CORAL GABLES, FLA., MAY HAVE THE ADDRESS OF THAT WILLIAM PIERCE.

LOS ANGELES FURNISHED INFORMATION THAT WILLIAM PIERCE,
BELLE GLADE, FLA., WAS PERSON REFERRED TO BY CONFIDENTIAL
INFORMANT "BOB."

MIAMI ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY WILLIAM PIERCE OWNING PROPERTY IN BELLE GLADE, FLA., OR VICINITY OF LAKE OKEECHOBEE, FLA., AND CONDUCT REQUESTED INVESTIGATION.

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FBI SANDIEGO

4-01PM URGENT 5-18:68 LSB

TO DIRECTOR (44-38961) AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM SAN DIEGO (44-387)

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Mer Runt

MURKIN

RE: WILLIAM A. MARSHALL.

RE SAN DIEGO TEL TO BUREAU AND MEMPHIS, MAY SEVENTEEN LAST.

CHECK OF TAXICAB RECORDS, SAN DIEGO DIVISION, TO DATE HAS FAILED TO INDICATE ANY INFORMATION RE MARSHALL.

INVESTIGATION CONTINUING TO IDENTIFY HIM.

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OTHER OFFICE ADVISED SEPARATELY

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COMMUNICATION &

Mr. Tolson. Mr. DeLoach.

Mr. Mohr. Mr. Bishop

Mr. Carad

Mr. Felt Mr. Gale

Mr. Rosen Mr. Suiliva Mr. Tavel

Mr. Trotter Tele. Room. Miss Holmes.\_\_\_

Miss Gandy..

FBI WASH DC

FBI PHOENIX

X 8:X8 PM URGENT 5/18/68 GRC

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)

PHOENIX (44-371) FP OM:

MURKIN. CIR. OC: ME.

RE TEL CALL TO PHOENIX FROM BUREAU FIVE/EIGHTEEN/IMSTANT.

JOE AND GLADYS MINITT, ONE NINE THREE THREE IRENE VISTA. TUCSON, INTERVIEWED AT THREE AM INSTANT DATE BY SA KERMIT F. JOHNSON AT TUCSON, ARIZONA, RE INTOMATION FURNISHED BUREAU BY MRS. MINITT. MRS. MINITI STATED PHOTOGRAPH OF RAY. TAKEN IN JAMUARY OF SIXTYEIGHT, LOCKS SIMILAR TO MAN SHE SAW IN REVIVAL MEETINGS AT CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, FIFTH STREET AND TENTH AVE., TUCSON, PASSED COUPLE OF NIGHTS. SHE DESCRIBED LOOK ALIKE HOWEVER AS ABOUT SIX FEET TALL AND SAID HE HAD TALKED WITH MINISTER CONDUCTING THE MEETINGS. INDICATING THAT HE IS AN ESCAPEE FROM MENTAL INSTITUTION IN UNKNOWN FASTERN STATE.

MINITT'S HAVE NO INFORMATION AS TO THIS PERSONS IDENTITY OR WHERE HE IS STAYING IN TUCSON. THEY ALSO SAID THIS LOOK-ALIKE ?.. HAS BEEN THROUGH TUCSON PREVIOUSLY AND HAD BEEN THE CONTACT WITH ELDER E. H. MARTIN, PASTOR OF MIRICLE CHURCH OF PENTECOSTAL FAITH, NINE TWO SEVEN MORTH PERRY. TUCSON.

EXCEPT FOR THE LOOK-ALIKE FEATHERS OF UNKNOWN PERSON THE END PAGE ONE

57 MAY 23 1959

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PX 44-371

MINITI'S HAD NO OTHER INFORMATION WHICH WOULD INDICATE UNSUB IS IDENTICAL WITH RAY.

ELDER EDWARD H. MARTIN, FIVE SIX FIVE SEVEN SOUTH BRYANT
STRAVENUE, TUCSON, PASTOR OF MIRICLE CHURCH, INTERVIEWED
INSTANT DATE BY SA KERMIT F. JOHNSON. MARTIN AND WIFE ELANOR
HAVE SEEN THE PERSON REFERREED TO BY THE MINITT'S, HAVING
FIRST CONTACTED THE MARTINS IN NOVEMBER OF SIXTYSEVEN AT WHICH
TIME HE INTRODUCED HIMSELF AS ELDER (FNU) TILLMAN AND CLAIMED TO
BE A PENTECOSTAL PREACHER. AT TILLMAN'S REQUIST, MARTIN
PERMITTED HIM TO PREACH ON SUNDAY MORNING IN HIS CHURCH LAST NOVEMBER,
AND GAVE TILLMAN PART OF THE COLLECTION. TILLMAN AT THIS TIME
WAS HITCHHICKING THROUGH COUNTRY AND HAD NO MONEY AND WAS SUBSISTING
ON WHAT HE COULD GET PREACHING IN NEGRO CHURCHES.

MARTIN STATED HE DID NOT SEE TILLMAN AGAIN UNTIL SOON AFTER
FIRST OF JANUARY, SIXTYEIGHT, WHEN TILLMAN AGAIN CONTACTED MARTIN
IN TUCSON SAYING HE WAS ON WAY TO MEXICO TO DO MISSONARY PREACHING.

BOTH MARTIN AND WIFE STATE TILLMAN OBVIOUSLY MENTALLY OFF
BALANCE, HOWEVER MARTIN FELT SORRY FOR HIM. MARTIN STATED
THAT TILLMAN IS NOT TYPICAL PENTECOSTAL MINISTER AND MARTIN
INTERTAINS DOUBTS AS TO HIS SINCEPITY. BOTH MR. AND MRS. MARTIN
END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

PX 44-371

DESCRIBED TILLMAN AS WHITE MALE, IN FORTIES, BLACK HAIR, FIVE FEET TEN INCHES TO FIVE FEET ELEVEN INCHES, ONE NINE ZERO LBS., HEAVY BUILD. AND SWARTHY COMPLEXTION.

MARTIN STATED TILLMAN HAS CALLED HIM TWICE IN PAST FEW DAYS
WANTING TO PREACH AT MARTINS CHURCH. WHEN TILLMAN CALLS AGAIN
MARTIN WILL OBTAIN ADDRESS WHERE TILLMAN CAN BE CONTACTED, SO MORE
BACK GROUND INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED FOR USE OF THIS BUREAU IN
EVENT OF FUTURE REPORTS ON TILLMAN AS BEING IDENTICAL WITH RAY.

BOTH MR. AND MRS. MARTIN STATE TILLMAN APPEARS SIMILAR TO LATEST PHOTOGRAPH OF RAY, HOWEVER, THEY CANNOT SAY TILLMAN IDENTICAL WITH RAY.

MARTIN WHO IS A NEGRO, STATED THAT TILLMAN'S SPEECH SOUNDS EXACTLY LIKE A NEGRO. MARTIN STATED HE THINKS TILLMAN IS FROM ONE OF SOUTHEASTERN STATES BECAUSE OF MANNER OF SPEECH.

EFFORT WILL BE MADE FIVE/NINETEEN/NEXT TO INTERVIEW PHROPHET HERMAN, WHO IS CONDUCTING ABOVE MENTIONED REVIVAL AND WHO HAS TALKED WITH TILLMAN THE PAST WEEK.

BUREAU AND MEMPHIS WILL BE ADVISED OF RESULTS OF FURTHER INVESTIGATION BEING CONDUCTED TO IDENIFY TILLMAN.

END.

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939AM URGENT 5/18/68 JLS

TO DIRECTOR, SAN DIEGO (44-387) AND SPRINGFIELD (44-561)
FROM CHICAGO (44-1114) 1P

MURKIN, CIVIL RIGHTS.

RE SPRINGFIELD TEL MAY SEVENTEEN LAST.

RE WILLIAM A. MARSHALL.

CONTACT ATTEMPTED WITH INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER (IH) HOME OFFICE, MAY SEVENTEEN LAST, NEGATIVE. CONTACT, INSTANT DATE, REVEALS ALL OFFICIALS WHO HAVE ACCESS TO PERSONNEL FILES OUT OF CITY. CHECK RE MARSHALL WILL BE MADE MAY TWENTY NEXT.

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TO SACS SAN DIEGO (44-387) MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM DIRECTOR FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

RESDAIRTEL MAY SIXTEEN SUBMITTING CHECK AND DEPOSIT RECEIPT BOTH BEARING SIGNATURE "WILLIAM A. MARSHALL."

SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES INDICATE "MARSHALL" SIGNATURES PROBABLY NOT PREPARED BY SUBJECT JAMES HARL RAY. SOME VARIATIONS IN LIMITED QUESTIONED SIGNATURES PRECLUDED DEFINITE OPINION.

NO LATENTS ON CHECK. TWO LATENT FINGERPRINTS DEVELOPED ON DEPOSIT RECEIPT NOT IDENTICAL FINGERPRINTS OF JAMES BARL RAY, FBI NUMBER FOUR NAUGHT FIVE NINE FOUR TWO G.

CONFIRMING.

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Mr. Tolson
Mr. Del ach
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Mr. M. Mr.
Mr. Bishep
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callaban
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gal
Mr. Ross
Mr. Ross
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

FBI WASH DC

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439PM 5/18/68 URGENT JEW

TO DIRECTOR, (44-38861); MEMPHIS (44-1987); KANSAS CITY; AND OKLAHOMA CITY

FROM LITTLE ROCK (157-1215) 2P

MURKIN. DO: MEMPHIS

RE: LOOKALIKE TO JAMES EARL RAY

ON MAY SEVENTEEN, SIXTYEIGHT, MRS. PHYLLIS REED, SUMMERS, ARK., ADVISED AN INDIVIDUAL WHO LOOKED LIKE RAY DROVE INTO HER STATION IN NINETEEN FIFTYSIX RED AND WHITE CHEVROLET STATION WAGON BEARING UNKNOWN NEW MEXICO LICENSE. SHE DESCRIBED THE INDIVIDUAL AS A WHITE MALE, ABOUT THIRTY YEARS OLD, FIVE FT. TEN INCHES TALL, STOCKY BUILD, SHORT LIGHT BROWN HAIR, DRESSED IN CASUAL SPORT CLOTHES, POSSIBLY A KNIT SHIRT, LIGHT COLORED PANTS, AND TENNIS SHOES

IMMEDIATELY RADIO INFO WAS DISPATCHED TO LOCAL SO'S IN OKLAHOMA AND SOUTHWEST MISSOURI THROUGH BENTON COUNTY, ARK., SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND ARKANSAS STATE POLICE, HUNTSVILLE, ARK. ROADBLOCKS WERE SET UP AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES ALERTED FOR THIS INDIVIDUAL AND CAR. ANY FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS WILL BE IMMEDIATELY REPORTED. LIGISAN IS BEING MAINTAINED WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES THROUGH STATE POLICE RADIO,

END PAGE ONE

14 MAY 20 1968

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PAGE TWO

HUNTSVILLE, ARK., AND FAYETTEVILLE, ARK. SO. CAR AND UNSUP NOT LOCATED AT THIS TIME.

ABOVE FURNISHED OKLAHOMA CITY AND KANSAS CITY INASMUCH AS THEY MAY RECEIVE INQUIRIES OR LEADS IN THIS MATTER. PENDING.

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FRI WASH DC

Mr. Tolson

Mr. Mohr.

Mr. Bishop. Mr. Casper.

Mr. Callahan

Mr. DeLoach

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AM URGENT 5-18-68 HEJ 127

-38861) , LOS ANGELES , MEMPHIS (44-1987), AND

CHARLOTTE

FROM: MIAMI (44-1854)

MURKIN

RE LA TEL TO DIRECTOR DATED MAY SEVENTEEN SIXTYFIGHT.

ON FIVE DASH SEVENTEEN LAST DAVID LARSEN AND JOHN D. KENDALL LOS ANGELES TIMES REPORTERS APPEARED AT THE MIAMI FBI OFFICE. STATING THEY HAD VITAL INFORMATION TO FURNISH REGARDING THEY THEN RELATED INFORMATION SET FORTH IN CAPTIONED MATTER. REFERENCED TELETYPE. AT CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW. DAVID LARSEN STATED HE DESIRED UP TO THE MINUTE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION WITH WHEN INFORMED THAT NO PROMISES COULD BE MADE HE QUOTE" SHOULD WE BE FROZEN OUT OF ANY UP TO THE MINUTE INFORMATION WE WILL CRUCIFY YOU END QUOTE. TO LARSEN THAT NO PROMISES WOULD BE MADE.

MIAMI INDICES REGARDING WILLIAM LINCOLN PIERCE CONTAIN NO IDENTIFIABLE REFERENCE REGARDING BEN THOMPSON MAY 20 1968

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#### PAGE TWO

ON MAY SEVENTEEN LAST, GWENDOLYN PIERCE, WIFE OF WILLIAM LINCOLN PIERCE, FIVE ZERO ZERO NORTH EAST EIGHTYTHIRD STREET, APARTMENT FIVE, MIAMI, FLA., ADVISED SHE AND HUSBAND TOGETHER AT CONCH KEY, FLA., ON NIGHT OF APRIL FOUR, NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT. LATE THAT NIGHT RETURNED TO MIAMI WHERE THEY REMAINED FOUR OR FIVE DAYS AT WHICH TIME HUSBAND LEFT MIAMI WITH HIS MOTHER DOLLY PIERCE IN OLD MODEL GREEN MERCURY COMET FOR WAYNESVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA.

PIERCE OWNS ROCKY WATERS MOTEL, WAYNESVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA,
TELEPHONE NUMBER NINE TWO SIX DASH ONE FIVE EIGHT FIVE, WHERE HE
HAS BEEN SINCE LEAVING MIAMI. PIERCE HAS PRIVATE PILOTS LICENSE
WHICH HE OBTAINED ABOUT ONE YEAR AGO AT ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA
AIRPORT. LAST FLEW A PRIVATE PLANE ABOUT OCTOBER NINETEEN
SIXTYSEVEN IN NORTH CAROLINA. FLIES ONLY FOR PLEASURE, DOES NOT CWN
A PLANE, AND WIFE KNOWS OF NO CLOSE ASSOCIATE IN A POSITION TO
LOAN PLANE TO HUSBAND.

HUSBAND HAS NOT BEEN IN KANSAS CITY OR NEW ORLEANS AND TO HER KNOWLEDGE HUSBAND NOT ACQUAINTED WITH JIM GARRISON OR EDDIE WILBURN. HUSBAND NEVER BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH ANY KKK ORGANIZATION AND OWNS NO PROPERTY SUCH AS AIRPORTS OR LAND. HUSBAND BORN IN END PAGE TWO