

F B I

Date: 5/27/68

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

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC OKLAHOMA CITY (44-686) (P)
MURKIN
CR
OO Memphis

Re San Antonio airtel to Director 5/20/68

Re: Telephone Calls of JAMES EARL RAY in
Texas During Period 12/15-17/67

Enclosed for the Bureau are 2 copies and for
Memphis 15 copies of an investigative insert reflecting
investigation conducted at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, relative
to telephone call made from San Antonio area on 12/17/67
to Oklahoma City telephone 405-771-3268, by SAs MICHAEL F.
HUTTER and DAVID J. LANG.

JAMES EARL RAY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS

REC-12

44-1987-4095

C. C. Bishop

2 MAY 29 1968

3 - Bureau (Enc 2) ENCLOSURE
2 - Memphis (Enc. 15) (44-1987)
1 - Oklahoma City
JAG:ow
(6)

SIX

Approved: [Signature] Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

66 JUN 7 1968

Faint, mostly illegible text, possibly a letter or report, with some words like "TO:" and "FROM:" visible.

MAY 29 4 49 PM '68

F. B. I.
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

MAY 29 3 40 AM '68

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

REC'D - CRIMINALS DIVISION
FBI

MAY 31 1968

1
DC 44-686
ME 44-1987
JAG:ow

The following investigation was conducted relating to the telephone call made December 17, 1967, from telephone number 674-9919 in the San Antonio, Texas, area to Oklahoma City telephone number 405-771-3268. This investigation was conducted on May 24, 1968, by SAs MICHAEL F. HUTTER and DAVID J. LANG.

At Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Miss JAN AUBERT, 8716 N.E. 52nd Street, advised that she and her mother, Mrs. IRMA AUBERT, are the only occupants of this address and that Mrs. AUBERT is the subscriber to telephone number 405-771-3268, and was the subscriber to this telephone number in December, 1967. Miss AUBERT advised the telephone call received at this time on December 17, 1967, from San Antonio, Texas, was made to her by her boy friend, BUTCH LOVE. She stated LOVE is in the Air Force and on the date of this call he was stationed at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. LOVE has since been transferred to duty with the Air Force in Viet Nam, having been so transferred on December 27, 1967.

Miss AUBERT furnished the above information in the presence of her mother, Mrs. AUBERT. Mrs. AUBERT was unable to furnish any additional information.

Both Miss AUBERT and Mrs. AUBERT were exhibited photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and were unable to effect an identification. Both also advised that the name JAMES EARL RAY was entirely unfamiliar to them with the exception of news items they had seen and heard concerning RAY.

ENCLOSURE

1
OC 44-686
ME 44-1987
JAG:ow

The following investigation was conducted relating to the telephone call made December 17, 1967, from telephone number 674-9919 in the San Antonio, Texas, area to Oklahoma City telephone number 405-771-3268. This investigation was conducted on May 24, 1968, by SAs MICHAEL F. HUTTER and DAVID J. LANG.

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Miss AUBERT furnished the above information in the presence of her mother, Mrs. AUBERT. Mrs. AUBERT was unable to furnish any additional information.

Both Miss AUBERT and Mrs. AUBERT were exhibited photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and were unable to effect an identification. Both also advised that the name JAMES EARL RAY was entirely unfamiliar to them with the exception of news items they had seen and heard concerning RAY.

F B I

Date: 5/27/68

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

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

[Handwritten signature]

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, DETROIT (44-989)

MURKIN

Re FRANK BUTLER STEVENS - SUSPECT.

Re Bureau airtel to Detroit, dated 5/1/68, and Detroit airtel to the Bureau, dated 5/3/68.

Enclosed for the information of the Bureau are one copy each of three FD-302s re interviews with FRANK BUTLER STEVENS, CARMINE POLISEI, JR., and WALTER HARVARD. Enclosed for Memphis are 15 copies each of these FD-302s.

On 5/23/68 Agent CHARLES QUANDER, Alcohol, Tobacco and Tax Unit, Detroit, Mich., advised that his confidential source, who originally supplied the information regarding the alleged trip to Memphis by FRANK BUTLER STEVENS several days prior to the assassination of Dr. KING, is WALTER HARVARD, owner and manager of the Playmoor Bar, 15829 Livernois, Detroit, Mich. Mr. QUANDER advised that WALTER HARVARD told him he had received this information from PAUL (LNU), close friend and business associate of FRANK BUTLER STEVENS.

Inasmuch as it appears the information indicating STEVENS made a trip to Memphis prior to 4/4/68 emanated from a joke played on WALTER HARVARD by PAUL KOTY, no further investigation is being conducted on this matter, UACB.

- 3 - Bureau (Enc.-3) (RM)
- 1 - Memphis (Enc.-45) (Info.) (RM)
- 2 - Detroit

WJH/mcm
(6)

C. C. - Bishop

ENCLOSURE REC-12

44-38861-4026

MAY 29 1968

[Handwritten signature]

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____

66 JUN 7 1968 Special Agent in Charge

SECRET

ALIA

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-100)

MURKIN

o. RE: MURKIN - MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel to Detroit, dated 5/1/68, and Detroit airtel to Bureau, dated 5/1/68.

Enclosed for the information of the Bureau are one copy each of three NY-100s re interviews with JAMES EARL RAY, ALBERT WATKINS, JR., and WILLIAM MANNING. The copies are being furnished to the Bureau for information.

On 5/1/68, Agent CHARLES E. WYATT, Detroit, and Tax Unit, Detroit, advised that the following persons, who are currently residing in the Detroit area, were interviewed by SA JAMES EARL RAY, JR. on 4/25/68. The interview was conducted at the residence of Mr. WYATT. The persons interviewed were: JAMES EARL RAY, JR., 10000 Woodward, Detroit, Mich.; ALBERT WATKINS, JR., 10000 Woodward, Detroit, Mich.; and WILLIAM MANNING, 10000 Woodward, Detroit, Mich. The interview was conducted by SA JAMES EARL RAY, JR. and SA CHARLES E. WYATT. The results of the interview are being furnished to the Bureau for information.

In view of the fact that the information furnished herein was obtained from a source who has provided reliable information in the past, it is believed that the information is reliable. The information was obtained from a source who has provided reliable information in the past.

1 - Bureau (Enc. 3) (RM)
1 - Memphis (Enc. 2) (Info.) (RM)

MAY 10 1968

MAY 29 9 11 AM '68

FBI
REC'D - CIVIL RIGHTS

MAY 31 1968

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date May 21, 1968

Mr. FRANK BUTLER STEVENS, 28330 Hollywood, Roseville, Michigan, was interviewed and furnished the following information:

On April 4, 1968, the date of the assassination of Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., he and his wife remained at their home until approximately 6:00 p.m., at which time they went to the Centennial Bowling Alley and Bar, Gratiot and Eight Mile Road, Detroit, Michigan. While at the Centennial Bar he and his wife first learned of the assassination of Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. over the radio. They were at the bar by themselves, however, their presence was known to HARVEY, the Bartender.

He was advised that the Detroit Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation had received a telephone call from an anonymous person who indicated that he, FRANK STEVENS, had flown to Memphis the day before the assassination of KING and had been in possession of a large sum of money. He was advised that the caller also indicated that FRANK STEVENS had stated that he "had a job to do" in Memphis. STEVENS advised that he had not been out of the State of Michigan in the past 10 months and he feels that the above information is the result of a joke.

Approximately four or five days following the assassination of Doctor KING his business partner, PAUL KOTY, was in the Playmoor Bar, Livernois Avenue, Detroit, speaking with the owner, WALTER HARVARD. WALTER HARVARD is a Negro and PAUL KOTY thought that he would "have a little fun with him". When WALTER HARVARD asked if PAUL KOTY had seen FRANK STEVENS, PAUL replied that he had not seen FRANK since the day before the assassination of Doctor KING at which time FRANK had received a telephone call and had immediately taken a plane for Memphis. PAUL told FRANK that as soon as he had made that statement to WALTER HARVARD, HARVARD excused himself and made a telephone call.

On 5/9/68 at Detroit, Michigan File # Detroit 44-589
 by SAs DAVID M. LATTIN and
WILLIAM J. HART/WJH/cmt Date dictated 5/15/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

ENCLOSURE 44-3886-4

DE 44-989

He emphasized that he had not left the State of Michigan in about 10 months, definitely was not in Memphis prior to the assassination of Doctor KING, and he has no information relating to the assassination.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date May 27, 1968

CARMINE POLISEI, JR., Owner and Bartender, Centennial Bowling Alley and Bar, Gratiot and Eight Mile Road, Detroit, Michigan, was interviewed and furnished the following information:

On April 4, 1968, the day of the assassination of Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., he was working at the Centennial Bar until approximately 9:00 p.m. in the evening. He cannot remember any particular individual who was in the bar that evening and could not definitely say whether FRANK BUTLER STEVENS was present that evening or not.

On 5/16/68 at Detroit, Michigan File # Detroit 44-989

by SA WILLIAM J. HART/cmt Date dictated 5/22/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

ENCLOSURE 44-38861-211

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date May 27, 1968

WALTER HARVARD, Owner and Manager, Playmoor Bar, 15829 Livernois Avenue, Detroit, Michigan, was interviewed and furnished the following information:

He was acquainted with FRANK BUTLER STEVENS, however, he has not seen STEVENS in approximately one and one-half months. Approximately four days after the assassination of Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. he was tending bar one evening and became engaged in a conversation STEVENS' business partner. He cannot remember the name of this individual, however, he believes his first name is PAUL.

PAUL mentioned that he had recently been double-crossed by FRANK STEVENS in a business deal and said that he would like to get even with STEVENS. PAUL went on to state that he had seen STEVENS the day before the assassination of Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. and at that time STEVENS was in possession of approximately \$4,500.00 and indicated that he and someone else were flying to Memphis and they had a "job to do". PAUL did not furnish any more information regarding this alleged trip by STEVENS.

Immediately upon receipt of this information from PAUL, he passed this information along to a friend of his whom he felt would give it to the proper law enforcement agency. He declined to identify this friend.

On 5/17/68 at Detroit, Michigan File # Detroit 44-989

by SA WILLIAM J. HART/cmt Date dictated 5/22/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

44-38861-5

F B I

Date: 5/27/68

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

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

ST
encl

[Handwritten signature]

Re Los Angeles airtel to the Bureau dated 5/14/68, which referred to Mrs. ALMENA LOMAX, complainant.

Referenced Los Angeles airtel set out leads for Mobile and other offices to consider interviewing Caucasian subscribers to the "Tuskegee Tribune", formerly published by Mrs. LOMAX.

C

Enclosed for the Bureau and Mobile are one copy each of a subsequent letter from Mrs. LOMAX, dated 5/22/68, wherein Mrs. LOMAX named one more individual she believes might possibly have knowledge of the assassination of KING.

The attention of the Bureau and Mobile is directed to the last paragraph of Mrs. LOMAX's letter wherein she expressed an interest in any news releases in the case, since she is in the newspaper business.

There are no references known identical to HARVEY SADLER in the indices of the Los Angeles Office.

No further action is contemplated by the Los Angeles Office in this matter.

B. D. Bishop

LEAD

MOBILE

AT TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA: Will consider interviewing former Sheriff HARVEY SADLER, for any information he might have concerning the assassination of KING.

REC-12 44-38861-4027

- 3 - Bureau (Enc 1) (RM)
- 2 - Mobile (Enc 1) (RM)
- 2 - Los Angeles

11 MAY 29 1968

LDJ/rah

Approved: [Signature] Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

6 JUN 7 1968

MAY 29 3 03 PM '68

MAY 29 2 05 PM '68

FBI
REC'D - CIV RIGHTS

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS

MAY 31 1968

LOMAX POLL AND TRIBUNE

A Monthly Poll of Negro Opinion
A Quarterly Organ of Negro Thought and Opinion

Almena Lomax, Editor-Publisher

1215 S. Tremaine
Los Angeles 90019, Calif.

938 - 8458, area code, 213

May 22, 1968

Mr. Lloyd Johnson
FBI
1340 W. 6th Street
Los Angeles 90017

Dear Mr. Johnson:

In the names I sent you two weeks ago, I overlooked the name of Harvey Sadler, former sheriff of Macon County, Ala.

Mr. Sadler was regarded as the foremost "racist" of Macon County when I was there. Negroes feared him greatly and said he was allied with Governor Wallace in a number of attempts to terrorize them and keep integration out of Macon County, including an aborted attempt to hold a Klan rally in Tuskegee in 1961, the burning of the Chohaw School and the Notaulga School in 1964 and 1963.

Sadler was appointed ^{by Wallace} to fill an interim position as Sheriff in 1965. Before the appointment could be made, people of Macon County were reportedly under instructions from Wallace to "get that nigger out of there", a Negro, James Charity, who had been appointed the first Negro deputy sheriff in Tuskegee, or Macon County, history by former Sheriff Preston Hornsby, who ran for and was elected Probate Judge.

Charity was 'persuaded' to become the first Negro policeman in Tuskegee. Subsequently, Negroes elected a Negro sheriff.

I asked Sadler if he were a member of the Klan and he denied it. That was in 1965. He wouldn't say if he were a member of the White Citizens Council, or not.

I suppose he has gone back to tending his grocery, which depends on Negro trade, on the Auburn Highway in Tuskegee.

44-38861-4
RECORDED

Mr. Lloyd Johnson, 2

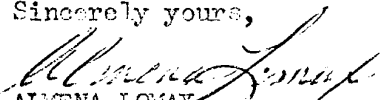
I thought you might like to know that many Alabama Negroes feel that the King assassination was plotted by the Wallace forces to provoke Negroes to riot to further Wallace's political ambitions. Negroes feel that he is insane with political ambition.

They also feel that Rev. Abernathy is in danger, or the Poor March in danger of being burned out or stampeded to provoke bloody nationwide rioting, also to further Wallace's ambitions.

They feel that Galt or Ray made his contact here, rather, picked up his initial money here, that he was recruited through his brother in the prison, that the "bounty" story was circulated in a Missouri prison to draw attention away from the South.

I just thought I would pass this scuttlebutt along. If you ever release anything, I hope you won't forget that I'm in the newspaper business.

Sincerely yours,


AUCENA LOMAX

F B I

Date: 5/27/68

1 ph. letter

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

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC OKLAHOMA CITY (44-686) (P)

MURKIN
CR
OO Memphis

Re Denver teletypes (2), 5/23/68; and Oklahoma City tel to Director 5/24/68.

Re: EDGAR EUGENE BRADLEY

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are 2 copies, for Denver are 2 copies, and for Memphis are 15 copies each of both an investigative insert and an administrative insert reflecting investigation at Tulsa, Oklahoma, conducted by SA DELMER R. EXON on 5/24/68.

Oklahoma City contemplates no further investigation re EDGAR EUGENE BRADLEY unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau, Memphis, or Denver.

JAMES EARL RAY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. 4)
 - 2 - Denver (Enc. 4) (157-203)
 - 2 - Memphis (Enc. 30) (44-1987)
 - 1 - Oklahoma City
- JAG:ow
(8)

ENCLOSURE

REC-12

44 38861 403

MAY 29 1968

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RM
2/260*

C. C. Bishop

Apr 66 JUN 7 1968 Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

[Faint, illegible text from a document or letter, possibly containing names and addresses.]

F. B. I.
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

MAY 29 3 40 AM '68

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

MAY 29 4 49 PM '68

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

MAY 31 1968

1
OC 44-686
ME 44-1987
JAG:ow

ADMINISTRATIVE

The following investigation was conducted by SA
DELMER R. EXON, on May 24, 1968.

At Tulsa, Oklahoma

ROEHM WEST, Attorney, Enterprise Building, identified his client, who has been in contact with EDGAR EUGENE BRADLEY, North Hollywood, California, as being BETTY HELM, 3 Woodward Boulevard, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

BETTY HELM, 3 Woodward Boulevard, who requested her identity be concealed, advised that she has been acquainted with EDGAR EUGENE BRADLEY since 1937. In November, 1962, BRADLEY visited her in Tulsa and left, presumably to go to his residence in California. BRADLEY was with HELM on November 19, and 20, 1962. He left her residence in the early morning hours of the 20th. Since BRADLEY became involved in the GARRISON investigation at New Orleans, he has been trying to get HELM to furnish him with an affidavit concerning his whereabouts during November, 1962. HELM has declined to furnish such an affidavit.

She said she received telephone calls from BRADLEY on May 2, and May 19, 1968. She presumed these telephone calls were long distance from his residence at North Hollywood, California. In one of the calls he mentioned that his telephone bill was high and he would rather not make so many telephone calls pertaining to the affidavit he has been trying to obtain. HELM stated she has simply referred BRADLEY to her attorney. She said she had no information that BRADLEY has been in the Tulsa area during the recent past and she felt that if he had been in the Tulsa area he undoubtedly would have called her.

HELM further stated that she has never had any reason to think that BRADLEY would physically harm anyone. She had never known him to be engaged in any plot of any kind. Although BRADLEY is a radical anti-Communist, she has no information concerning his views on racial matters. HELM stated that when in Tulsa, BRADLEY normally stayed at the Adams Hotel.

WANDA BALLARD, Clerk, Adams Hotel, advised that a search of her records failed to reflect that BRADLEY was a guest at any time during May, 1968.

ENCLOSURE 44-2111-1

1
OC 44-686
ME 44-1987
JAG:ow

ADMINISTRATIVE

The following investigation was conducted by SA
DELMER R. EXON, on May 24, 1968.

At Tulsa, Oklahoma

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BETTY HELM, 3 Woodward Boulevard, who requested her identity be concealed, advised that she has been acquainted with EDGAR EUGENE BRADLEY since 1937. In November, 1962, BRADLEY visited her in Tulsa and left, presumably to go to his residence in California. BRADLEY was with HELM on November 19, and 20, 1962. He left her residence in the early morning hours of the 20th. Since BRADLEY became involved in the GARRISON investigation at New Orleans, he has been trying to get HELM to furnish him with an affidavit concerning his whereabouts during November, 1962. HELM has declined to furnish such an affidavit.

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*ST
esa*

F B I

Date: 5/27/68

[Handwritten signature]

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

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: *[Handwritten initials]* SAC, DALLAS (44-2649) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Sacramento teletype 5/21/68 and New Orleans teletype 5/22/68 concerning information furnished by SYLVESTER JOHNSON that subject may be at C. A. W. CLARK's house in Dallas.

There is no telephone listing for C. A. W. CLARK in the Dallas directory. There is, however, a listing for Rev. CAESAR CLARK, 2423 South Boulevard, telephone HA 1-1471. A pretext contact on 5/22/68, at this address revealed that Rev. CAESAR CLARK is also known as C. A. W. CLARK and is a Negro minister. He was out of town and not expected to return for several days.

Files of the Dallas Office reveal that on 12/30/55, Detective JAMES M. SOUTER, Dallas PD (protect identity) orally advised SA JAMES P. HOSTY, JR. that Rev. C. A. W. CLARK on 12/16/55, was elected Treasurer of the NAACP in Dallas, Texas.

In view of the mental condition of the source of the information that the subject may be at CLARK's residence and the fact that Rev. CLARK is a Negro minister, who has been active in NAACP affairs, no further investigation is believed warranted in this matter.

- 3 - Bureau
 - 1 - New Orleans (157-10673)
 - 1 - Sacramento
 - 2 - Memphis (44-1987)
 - 1 - Dallas
- WBH/sgl
(8)

REC- 12

44-38861-4029

12 MAY 29 1968

C. C. - Bishop

[Handwritten signature]

Approved: 66 JUN 7 1968 Special Agent in Charge Sent _____ M Per _____

5/27/68

AIRTEL

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

Re Sacramento teletype 5/21/68 and New Orleans teletype 5/22/68 concerning information furnished by SYLVIA JOHNSON that subject may be at C. A. W. CLARK's house in Dallas.

There is no telephone listing for C. A. W. CLARK in the Dallas directory. There is, however, a listing for Rev. CAESAR CLARK, 2423 South Boulevard, telephone HA 1-1471. A pretext contact on 5/22/68, at this address revealed that Rev. CAESAR CLARK is also known as C. A. W. CLARK and is a Negro minister. He was out of town and not expected to return for several days.

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- 3 - Bureau
 - 1 - New Orleans (157-10673)
 - 1 - Sacramento
 - 2 - Memphis (44-1987)
 - 1 - Dallas
- WBH:agi
(8)

MAY 29 1968

MAY 29 3 03 PM '68

FBI
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

68-10673

MAY 29 1968

MAY 31 1968

F B I

Date: 5/27/68

STW

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

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

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

[Handwritten signatures]

OO-MEMPHIS

Re El Paso teletype, 5/23/68; Phoenix teletype, 5/23/68;
and Los Angeles teletype to Phoenix, Dallas and El Paso, 5/23/68.

RE: Suspect on Greyhound Bus from Tulsa, Oklahoma,
to Dallas, Texas, 5/22/68

HAROLD ST. CLAIR, home address 7303 East 7th Street,
Tulsa, Oklahoma, telephone TE 5-5168, was interviewed by SA
WILLIAM B. HOLLOMAN at Dallas, Texas, on 5/24/68. He stated he
was the driver of Greyhound Bus No. 1314 which arrived at Dallas,
Texas, from Tulsa, Oklahoma, at about 9:35 PM, 5/22/68. He
stated he believes he had about 20 passengers that night and
he does not recall anyone fitting the description given by
MRS. NORMA KIRKPATRICK. He said there were no incidents that
he can recall during the trip, no one was loud or unruly, and
no one called to his attention anyone making any unusual
statements.

- ③ - Bureau
 - 2 - Memphis (44-1987)
 - 1 - El Paso (157-186) (Info)
 - 1 - Los Angeles (44-1574) (Info)
 - 1 - Phoenix (44-371)
 - 2 - Dallas
- WBH/jc
(10)

REC-12

44-38861-403

MAY 28 1968

[Handwritten signature]

C. C. - Bishop

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____

66 JUN 7 1968 Special Agent in Charge

UNRECORDED

ATTN: MAIL

ATTN: MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, DALLAS (44-2049) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

OO-MEMPHIS

Re MI memo to type, 5/23/68; Phoenix teletype, 5/23/68; and Los Angeles teletype to Phoenix, Dallas and MI memo, 5/23/68.

Re: Report on Greyhound bus from Dallas, Oklahoma, to Dallas, Texas, 5/23/68.

MARION ST. CLAIR, home address 7308 East 7th Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma, telephone TR 8-3187, was interviewed by SA WILLIAM B. HOLMANN at Dallas, Texas, on 5/24/68. He stated he was the driver of Greyhound Bus No. 1114 which arrived at Dallas, Texas, from Tulsa, Oklahoma, at about 9:30 PM, 5/23/68. He stated he believes he had about 30 passengers that night and he does not recall anyone fitting the description given by MRS. NORMA KIRKPATRICK. He said there were no incidents that he can recall during the trip, no one was found or injured, and no one called to his attention anyone making any unusual statements.

- 2 - Bureau
 - 2 - Memphis (44-1987)
 - 1 - El Paso (157-150) (Info)
 - 1 - Los Angeles (44-1574) (Info)
 - 1 - Phoenix (44-271)
 - 2 - Dallas
- WBR/jc
(10)

MAY 29 7 08 AM '68

REC'D CIV RIGHTS
FBI

- 1 - Mr. Rosen
(Mr. Long 2260)
- 1 - Mr. Conrad
- 1 - Mr. Mortimer
- 1 - Lab File



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

To: **FBI, Memphis (44-1987)**

Date: **May 28, 1968**

MURKIN
Re: **CR**
OO: Memphis

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover, Director

FBI File No. **44-38861**
Lab. No. **D-680527062 JK**

Examination requested by: **Baltimore**
Reference: **Airtel 5/24/68**
Examination requested: **Document**
Remarks:

REC-12

44-38861-7

22 MAY 31 1968

MAILED 11
MAY 28 1968
COMM-FBI

- Tolson _____
- DeLoach _____
- Mohr _____
- Bishop _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

Enclosures (2) (2 Lab report)

1 - Baltimore (44-669) Enclosure (Lab report)

JEM:AW (9)

66 JUN 7 1968

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

RECEIVED - CONRAD

MAY 28 11 15 AM '68 REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

F B I
LABORATORY DIVISION
MAY 28 5 00 PM '68

**REPORT
of the**



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

To: **FBI, Memphis (44-1987)**

Date: **May 28, 1968**

FBI File No. **44-38861**

Re: **MURKIN
CR**

Lab. No. **D-680527062 JK**

Specimens received **5/27/68**

K276 Four slips of white paper each bearing a sample laundry tape obtained from L & H Cleaners, Havre de Grace, Maryland

K277 Slip of white paper bearing three sample laundry tapes obtained from Camelot Cleaners, Laurel, Maryland

Result of examination:

It was concluded that neither of the machines, K276 nor K277, was used to prepare the laundry tapes appearing on Q69 and Q70.

Specimens K276 and Q277 are retained.

- Tolson _____
- DeLoach _____
- Mohr _____
- Bishop _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

JHM:AW *aw* (9)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

1964

100

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F B I

Date: 5/28/68

[Handwritten signature]

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

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, CHARLOTTE (44-1365) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

RE: HERBERT H. EATON - COMPLAINANT

Re Bureau airtel dated 5/22/68.

On 5/24/68, HERBERT H. EATON, 1001 Plum St., Durham, N. C., N. C. College Chaplain, was contacted by SA CHARLES S. MILLER re contents of letter to Bureau dated 5/20/68. EATON stated he would make contact with his source on Sunday, 5/26/68, and arrange for a meeting with SA CHARLES S. MILLER.

On 5/27/68, EATON reported arrangements for contact with source that night.

On 5/27/68, CLARENCE ROYSTER, Rt. 1, Box 110B, Clarksville, Va., Oxford, N. C. Telephone Number 919-693-5205, a Negro male, approximately 47 years old, who requested his identity protected, advised on 4/3/68, at approximately 9:00 p.m., he went to the Puckett Grocery and Drug Store at Stovall, N. C., where he awaited the return of a drugist to fill a prescription. He waited for approximately 30 minutes. During part of this time, he heard the grocer, MELVIN PUCKETT, a white male, in his 60's, talking with a white farmer, also in his 60's, approximately 6' and medium size, in overalls. PUCKETT was discussing the recent declaration of ROBERT KENNEDY as a candidate for President.

REC-12 44-38861-4032

ROYSTER said he had not paid close attention to the conversation until he heard PUCKETT say something about a man "carrying on down yonder." He then continued saying in effect "that big mouth down there won't live to carry out what he aims to do the day after tomorrow." He continued to say "they have a man on the way down to take care of him who wouldn't miss because he was a good shooter."

12 MAY 29 1968

3 - Bureau
2 - Charlotte
1 - Memphis (44-1985 (INFO))

CSM:cg
(5)

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

C. C. Bishop
66 JUN 7 1968

[Handwritten initials]

5/28/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, CHARLOTTE (44-1365) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

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On 5/27/68, EATON reported arrangements for contact with source that night.

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ROYSTER said he had not paid close attention to the conversation until he heard PUCKETT say something about a man "carrying on down yonder." He then explained saying in effect "that big mouth down there won't give to carry out what he aims to do the day after tomorrow." He continued to say "they have a man on the way down to take care of him who wouldn't miss because he was a ~~gun~~ shooter."

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION
MAY 29 1968

3 - Bureau
2 - Charlotte
CSM:cg
(5)

MAY 31 1968

MAY 31 1968

F B I

Date:

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

CE 44-1365

ROYSTER stated that from previous acquaintance with PUCKETT, he was aware PUCKETT did not like the late President KENNEDY or his brother. At no time did ROYSTER hear any mention of the name of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., and he did not have any specific information as to the identity of the intended victim nor the name of the person "they" sent to shut him up. ROYSTER emphasized that he had reported the information to his minister, FLOYD EATON, Creedmoor, N. C., on a confidential basis on the possibility that it might have bearing on the assassination of Rev. KING, but he, ROYSTER, had no additional information in the matter whatsoever. ROYSTER added further that he had been the only other individual present in the store at the time of the conversation. At about the time the above comments were made, MELVIN PUCKETT'S brother, ULYSSES C. PUCKETT, came to the store and filled the prescription and ROYSTER left.

ROYSTER expressed the opinion that PUCKETT was a member of the local unit of the KKK. He based this opinion on the fact PUCKETT has a Citizens Band Radio in the store and one of the numbers on his list was that of the KKK.

ROYSTER further reported that three PARHAM brothers operated a garage at Bullock, N. C., known as the Bullock Garage. He understood DAVE PARHAM left Bullock, N. C., about two days prior to 4/4/68, driving a red Mustang. He was gone for approximately one week before returning driving a light blue Mustang. He stated DAVE, a white male, in his 30's or 40's, who, insofar as he knew, had moved to the vicinity of Bullock during the summer of 1967. ROYSTER stated that he thought possibly DAVE PARHAM could have been the person referred to by PUCKETT although he was unaware of any association whatsoever between PUCKETT and PARHAM. Furthermore, he had heard some conversation indicating DAVE PARHAM had been gone during the week of 4/4/68, on duty with the National Guard.

-2-

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

F B I

Date:

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

Via _____
(Priority)

CE 44-1365

LEAD:

CHARLOTTE

AT STOVALL AND BULLOCK, N. C.

**Will conduct appropriate investigation re PUCKETT
and PARHAM and keep the Bureau advised.**

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

NA
12:21 AM
5-29-68
MB

OST

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATION SECTION

MAY 28 1968

TELETYPE

| | |
|--------------|-------|
| Mr. Tolson | _____ |
| Mr. DeLoach | _____ |
| Mr. Mohr | _____ |
| Mr. Bishop | _____ |
| Mr. Casper | _____ |
| Mr. Callahan | _____ |
| Mr. Conrad | _____ |
| Mr. Felt | _____ |
| Mr. Gale | _____ |
| Mr. Rosen | _____ |
| Mr. Sullivan | _____ |
| Mr. Tavel | _____ |
| Mr. Trotter | _____ |
| Tele. Room | _____ |
| Miss Holmes | _____ |
| Miss Gandy | _____ |

Loeff

McDonnell

FBI WASH DC

FBI MEMPHIS

556PM URGENT 5-28-68 DGB

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861)

FROM MEMPHIS (44-1987)

MURKIN.

SUMMARY.

NO PERTINENT INVESTIGATIVE DEVELOPMENTS TO REPORT TODAY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END.

JMS

FBI WASH DC

REC-14

44-38861-4033

10 MAY 29 1968

377
55 JUN 6 1968

cc Long

Lee

STATEMENT

DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

TO DIRECTOR (157-100)

FROM SAC, NEW YORK (100-100000)

RE: MURKIN. MURKIN.

FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION INFORMATION REPORT TODAY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

DEPT. OF JUSTICE

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

MAY 28 8 05 PM '68

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DIVISION 5

MAY 29 7 06 AM '68

MAY 28 7 00 PM '68

FBI REC'D - CIV RIGHTS

FBI REC'D-TELETYPE UNIT

F B I

Date: 5-28-68

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

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, ST. LOUIS (44-775) P
RE: MURKIN
OO:ME

Re KC tel, 5-22-68.

RE: FORMER INMATE, NATHAN J. MURPHY

On 5-24-68, JOHN A. ZITZ, 3177a Oregon St., SLMO, was contacted at his residence whereupon he advised that his name was ZITZ and not ZITZENZANICH and that he did not remember a man by the name of NATHAN J. MURPHY. He said that he had a couple of former prisoners staying at his place for a short period about three or four years ago but he could not remember their names. He advised that since his wife left him and ran off with an ex-convict he wanted to forget the past. He could offer no additional information.

Several unsuccessful attempts were made on 5-24-68, in an effort to contact the residence of 2836 Eads Ave., SLMO.

On 5-27-68, CHARLES MOSS, mail carrier for the SL Post Office, Benton Rt. #427, SLMO, advised that he has been delivering mail for the past 10 years and that he did not recall the name of NATHAN J. MURPHY or Mrs. MURPHY as residing at 2836 Eads Ave.

He stated that the house located at 2836 Eads Ave. was vacant for approximately 6 to 7 months and that it was purchased approximately 8 to 9 months ago by an elderly man and wife by the last name of BOUDOU (phonetic). He stated that he did not know the man's name but indicated that the wife's first name was TRUDY.

DEPT. OF JUSTICE
REC-12 44-38861-4034

- 3 - Bureau
- 1 - Kansas City (Info) (44-760)
- 1 - Memphis
- 1 - St. Louis
- CSD:amb
- (6)

C. C. Bishop

MAY 30 1968

Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per [Signature]

88-28-38

AIRMAIL

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, ST. LOUIS (44-1473) P

RE: MURKIN
OO:ME

Re KC tel, 5-22-68.
 RE: FURNISH INFORMATION NATHAN J. MURPHY
 On 5-24-68, JOHN A. NITN, 2177 1/2 Oregon St., SIMO,
 was contacted at his residence whereupon he advised that his
 name was NITN and not NITENNANICH and that he did not remember
 a man by the name of NATHAN J. MURPHY. He said that he had
 a couple of former prisoners staying at his place for a short
 period about three or four years ago but he could not remember
 their names. He advised that since his wife left him and
 ran off with an ex-convict he wanted to forget the past.
 He could offer no additional information.

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He stated that the house located at 2836 Eads Ave.
 was vacant for approximately 1 to 7 months and that it was
 purchased approximately 8 to 9 months ago by an elderly man
 and wife by the last name of BOUDOU (phonetic). He stated
 that he did not know the man's name but indicated that the
 first name was [unclear].

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

F.B.I.

RECEIVED
 DIVISION
 INVESTIGATIVE
 ST. LOUIS
 MAY 30 8 58 PM '68
 MAY 31 10 37 AM '68

MAY 31 1968

60 JUN 1 1968

F B I

Date: 5/28/68

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

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (44-1114)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

John
McDonald

Re Kansas City teletype to the Director, Et Al, 5/21/68, re WILLIAM F. SCHOLL, and Los Angeles airtel to the Director dated 5/10/68 re GALE FISHER.

RE: FELLOW INMATES

On 5/23/68, WILLIAM FRED SCHOLL was located and interviewed at which time he advised that he was not acquainted with JAMES EARL RAY and could not recall any information of value concerning him.

On the same date, GALE FRANKLIN FISHER was located and interviewed and at first advised that he did not recall anyone by the name of JAMES EARL RAY at the Missouri State Penitentiary. After viewing a photograph of the subject, he immediately recognized it as an individual with whom he had worked for several months in the kitchen at Missouri State Penitentiary. FISHER said that he occasionally spoke to RAY and sometime saw him in the exercise yard but he was never close to him in any way and they never discussed any personal things.

FISHER said that he and the subject traveled in different crowds and RAY did not seem to be exceptionally friendly with anyone although he spent most of his time with

- 3 - Bureau
 - 1 - Kansas City (Info) (44-760)
 - 1 - Memphis (Info) (44-1987)
 - 1 - Los Angeles (Info) (44-1574)
 - 1 - San Francisco (Info) (173-65)
 - 1 - Chicago
- RJD: pas
(8)

REC- 12

44-38861-4635

MAY 30 1968

C. C. Bishop

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

66 JUN 7 1968

MAY 31 1966

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

MAY 31 7 30 AM '66

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

CG 44-1114

inmates doing lengthier sentences. According to FISHER, RAY was quite friendly with a WARREN RAY, who was not a relation, and who was doing approximately 65 years and must still be in the penitentiary. FISHER said that JIM BRADLEY, a lifer, also was friendly with RAY though he does not know to what extent.

No leads are being set forth to interview BRADLEY since he has already been interviewed, nor WARREN RAY since it appears that WARREN RAY is undoubtedly identical with RAY EUGENE WARREN and information concerning both of these inmates was set forth in Kansas City report of 5/15/68.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- 2 -

F B I

Date: 5/28/68

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

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (44-1114)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

LONG

Re Milwaukee airtel to the Bureau dated 5/16/68 and Chicago airtel to the Director dated 5/16/68.

RE: ASSAILANTS OF MARSHALL GOLDMAN

The following efforts were made by SA RENE J. DUMAINE to identify the individual using GOLDMAN's gas credit card who had been picked up by the Chicago Police Department but had been released; as a matter of police cooperation.

On 5/20/68, Sergeant JAMES CASTEN, General Assignment, Review Section, Chicago Police Department, advised that based on the information available, he could not identify the person allegedly using GOLDMAN's gas credit card who had been arrested by the Chicago Police Department and released. Sergeant CASTEN suggested that appropriate personnel at Area #5 General Assignment, Chicago Police Department, be contacted since the Shell Station address, 4233 Armitage Avenue, would fall within that area's jurisdiction.

On the same date, Lt. JAMES O'NEILL, Commanding Officer, Area 5, General Assignment, advised that without

- 3 - Bureau
- 2 - Milwaukee (44-388)
- 1 - Memphis (44-1987)
- 1 - Chicago

REC-12

44-1114-4036

RJD: pas
(7)

D. C. Bishop

MAY 30 1968

SEARCHED

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
6 JUN 7 1968 Agent in Charge

MAY 31 7 37 AM '61
REC'D CIV RIGHTS
FBI

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

MAY 30 3 24 PM '61

MAY 31 1961

CG 44-1114

knowing the name of the complainant, it would be extremely difficult to locate the case number for the original offense that is, the purchases on March 8 and 11, 1968. He said that this case number would have to be obtained since if anyone was arrested by the police department on that charge, it would have been listed within that case number. He said that either Detectives W. HICKEY or J. ZACHARIAS, of his Command, might have handled the matter because they are the officers he usually assigns credit card cases to.

On 5/21/68, Detective WILLIAM HICKEY advised that he thinks he recalls the original report from the Shell Station and would make an effort to locate it. He further advised, however, that he could not recall anyone being arrested for this offense. Subsequently, on 5/22/68, Detective HICKEY advised that he was unable to locate any CB number for a fraudulent credit card purchase on the dates indicated at a Shell Station on Armitage Avenue. He also advised that he had discussed this matter with the various detectives assigned to Area 5 with negative results. He did suggest, however, that Detective ZACHARIAS be contacted.

On 5/27/68, Detective ZACHARIAS advised that he had no record nor recollection of either the original offense or of anyone being arrested and released on a fraudulent credit card use in Area 5.

Due to the manner in which the Chicago Police Department maintains its records, it would be physically impossible, based on the information furnished, in Milwaukee airtel of 5/16/68, to identify the individual supposedly using GOLDMAN's gas credit card who had been picked up and then released by the Chicago Police Department. Accordingly, for that reason and for the reasons set forth in referenced Chicago airtel, no further investigation being conducted into the identity of the assailants of MARSHALL GOLDMAN.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

F B I

Date: 5/28/68

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

AIRTEL

Via _____
(Priority)

*me
xy*

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, SAN ANTONIO (44-1242)(P)
RE: MURKIN
CR

Long

Re San Antonio airtel to Bureau dated 5/20/68.

Telephone office, San Antonio, Texas, advised call made from pay phone 278-9024 to 713-697-7258 on 12/15/67 was located in Houston Division.

co

LEAD

HOUSTON

Conduct appropriate investigation at telephone number 713-697-7258.

REC-12 44-2104-4037

14 MAY 30 1968

- 3 - Bureau
 - 2 - Houston
 - 2 - San Antonio
- JPW:dte
(7)

D. G. T. FISHON

SUN

66 JUN 1 1968

Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

[Faint, illegible text and markings]

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MAY 31 7 32 AM '68

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

MAY 31 1968

F B I

Date: 5/28/68

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

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SACRAMENTO (100-427) (P)

RE: MURKIN
CR
OO: MEMPHIS

Re San Antonio airtel to the Bureau, 5/21/68.

Re Telephone Calls by Subject RAY
En route from Los Angeles to New Orleans

A call was placed from Texas telephone No. 538-9598 to Fresno, California, No. 209-251-1137 on 12/17/67.

On May 25, 1968, CHARLES WILLIAM SPERLING, 463 South Lind, Fresno, advised his telephone number is 209-251-1137. He received no telephone calls from Texas on December 17, 1967, and he was the only person living at this address at that time, SPERLING advised he could not recall getting "wrong number" call during the period December 17, 1967, but it is possible he may have. SPERLING advised he is employed as a park and camp-site maintenance man by the United States Department of Interior. SPERLING advised he knows no one named JAMES EARL RAY.

A call was placed from Texas telephone No. 563-9747 to Fowler, California, No. 209-834-3541 on 12/17/67.

- ③ - Bureau
 - 2 - Memphis (44-1987)
 - 2 - Sacramento
- GMS/sy
(7)

REC-12

44-38861-4038

C. C. Bishop

6 MAY 31 1968

Approved _____ Sent _____ M Per _____

66 JUN 17 1968

Special Agent in Charge

[Faint, mostly illegible text from a document or report]

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GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION
MAY 31 11 43 PM '68

MAY 31 1 08 PM '68

MAY 31 1968
REC'D - CIVIL RIGHTS
FBI

SC 100-427

On May 25, 1967, CARL E. PISOR, 104 North Fourth Street, Fowler, California, advised his telephone number is 209-834-3541. PISOR advised that he retired two years ago as Principal of the John C. Fremont School, 306 East Tuolomne Street, Fowler, California. PISOR advised he could recall no telephone calls from anyone in Texas during December, 1967. He advised he has relatives near Houston, Texas, but he would certainly recall if any of them had called his residence. PISOR advised that he had discussed this matter with his wife, JENNIE, and their 23 years old son, KENNETH, and neither of them could recall such a call.

PISOR advised that no one, other than his wife, his son, and himself had access to his telephone on or near December 17, 1967, and none of them could recall a "wrong number" call during that period. PISOR advised that JAMES EARL RAY is unknown to him.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

2*

F B I

Date: 5/28/68

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

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

JH
TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, SACRAMENTO (100-427) (P)
RE: MURKIN
CR
OO: MEMPHIS

Re Bureau airtel to Buffalo, 5/22/68.

Re Correspondence Locksmithing Courses

On 5/27/68, Miss CATHY GINNI, Secretary, Universal School of Master Locksmithing, 1974 Fulton Avenue, Sacramento, California, advised that the school did offer correspondence courses and that only two people had applied since 4/1/68. One of these was in the U.S. Army and the other was RICHARD L. ADELSPERGER, Orange County SO, 1616 East 6th Street, Santa Ana, California.

Miss GINNI advised that students currently in residence were all there prior to 4/1/68. Upon viewing photographs of subject RAY, she advised he was unknown to her.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

- ③ - Bureau
- 2 - Memphis
- 2 - Sacramento
- GMS/sy
- (7)

C. C. - Bishop

REC-12 44-38861-4039

6 MAY 31 1968

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____

66 JUN 7 1968 Special Agent in Charge

MAY 31 1968

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FBI

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GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION
MAY 31 11 43 PM '68
F. B. I.
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

F B I

Date: 5/29/68

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

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

MURKIN

Ex-convict JAMES W. BROWN reinterviewed at his present residence, Talladega, Ala., and following is synopsis of additional information obtained:

BROWN was shown all available photos of JAMES EARL RAY and picked out photo taken at bartending school as one most resembling RAY. Concerning other photo taken of RAY in California in January or February, 1968, BROWN said this did not resemble RAY, but did strongly resemble a person who came to a gas station where BROWN worked in June, 1967, in Reform, Ala. This person was driving a late-model red Mustang, and was accompanied by two white males, one being an ex-convict from the Missouri State Pen, FNU ALLEN, other unknown to BROWN. BROWN had no conversation with driver of Mustang, but ALLEN, whom BROWN had known in the pen, told BROWN that he and his two friends were going to Tuscaloosa, Ala., from Columbus, Ga. ALLEN had been released from pen few months before BROWN (June, 1965.) BROWN claimed he had seen ALLEN and RAY in conversations in the pen on several occasions and that BROWN was positive that ALLEN and BROWN knew each other.

- 3 - Bureau
 - 2 - Kansas City (44-760)
 - 2 - Memphis (44-1987)
 - 2 - St. Louis (44-775)
 - 2 - Birmingham
- RMB:mfl
(11)

REC-12

44-38861-4040

MAY 31 1968

C. C. Bishop

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____

[Handwritten Signature]

Special Agent in Charge

66 JUN 7 1968

STANDARD

1968

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RECEIVED

The following information was received from the
Department of Justice, Washington, D.C., on
May 31, 1968: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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MAY 31 1 07 PM '68

F.B.I.
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

MAY 31 11 42 PM '68

RECEIVED
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION

MAY 31 1968

BH 44-1740

BROWN claimed that ALLEN was considered to be a "stool pigeon" inside the pen. ALLEN came from Kennett, Mo., and had been convicted of robbery. BROWN claimed that RAY was living in F Hall when BROWN met him through JOHNNY VELANTI, and that ALLEN also lived in F Hall. (Review of Kansas City report dated 5/15/68 fails to indicate that RAY ever lived in F Hall; however, it is noted that in St. Louis report of 5/10/68, VELANTI claimed that RAY did live in F Hall.)

BROWN claimed the information he was furnishing concerned JAMES EARL RAY and he did not have him confused with any prisoners with similar names such as JAMES RAYE (as claimed by VELANTI) or JAMES WRAY.

BROWN claimed that VELANTI once said he, VELANTI, would get along in Mexico if he ever got there, and that he, VELANTI, would go to some small town past Mexico City to hide out, if he ever escaped. VELANTI named the town, but BROWN can not recall name. This claim was made in presence of RAY. VALENTI also claimed he had run off from an orphans' home at the age of 14, and was later "taken in" and raised by a Sheriff. VELANTI then became involved in allowing the escape of several prisoners being held by this Sheriff in Louisiana. Because of their close association in the pen, BROWN said it was most likely that RAY and VELANTI would get together outside.

BROWN continued to claim he had no knowledge of any convict organization in the pen, but it appeared to interviewing agents that he was possibly withholding information when pressed on this point. He said there were several poker games operated by certain convicts and that some others took bets on sporting events. One of these was JOHNNIE JOHNSON, who operated a game with his "half-brother" BOBBY ASHE. BROWN claimed he had seen JOHNSON and RAY in several conversations together and that RAY usually always played in the game operated by JOHNSON and ASHE.

BROWN identified one "SLICK" STEDHAM (ph) as a poker game operator who also was used to collect gambling debts inside the pen.

BROWN identified his closest friends in the pen as DONALD COX from St. Louis, who left in 1963 after serving