OPTIONAL FERM NO. 10 5 MAY 1962 EDITION GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

то

Mr. DeLoach

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: December 2, 1968

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Rosen 1 - Mr. Malley

1 - Mr. McGowan 1 - Mr. Bishop

1 - Mr. Long

1 - Mr. Sullivan

Del.oach

Callahan Conrad =

Sullivan — Tavel —— Trotter —— Tele. Room

Holmes .

Gandy

SYNOPSIS:

This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

William Bradford Huie, author, has written two articles which appeared in "Look" magazine concerning James Earl Ray. These articles are based upon notes furnished to Huie by Ray.

Huie, in these articles, infers that a conspiracy exists; however, he did not set forth details to substantiate this. Huie states in these articles that an individual by the name of "Rāoul" and Ray entered into a "joint activity" (not further described) and "Raoul" provided Ray with funds. The possibility exists that "Raoul" and Ray engaged in transporting contraband such as narcotics between Canada and the United States and the United States and Mexico as it is noted that Ray attempted to purchase marijuana in Mexico. Investigation by us, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and Mexican authorities has failed thus far to identify "Raoul" or to verify his existence. We have no information to date to indicate that Ray was involved in a conspiracy.

Huie, in these articles, sets forth motels that Ray was registered in as a guest that we were not previously aware of. We have checked this out, found it to be true; however, nothing of significance developed. Huie also, in his articles, furnished an account of Ray's employment at Winnetka, Illinois, which we previously were aware of; however, nothing of significance developed.

ACTION:

This is for information. At our request the Royal Canadian Mounted Police is continuing to run out Huie's statement regarding "Raoul" and we are continuing to remain alert to and will run out any allegations of a possible conspiracy or any other information of pertinence.

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SEE DETAILS - PAGE TWO...

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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JEC

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach

RE: MURKIN

DETAILS: This is the case involving the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

William Bradford Huie, author, previously advised us that he entered into a contract with James Earl Ray to write the true account of Ray's activities and background concerning the assassination of King. Huie has been provided with notes from Ray by Arthur B. Hanes, Ray's former attorney, and based upon these notes, Huie has written two articles which appeared in "Look" Magazine.

Huie, in these articles, inferred that a conspiracy took place as early as August, 1967, and continued up to the day King was assassinated; however, no specific detail was provided to bear this out. Huie also inferred that Ray was involved unknowingly, but again he provided nothing to substantiate this. Huie, in these articles, furnished an account of an individual by the name of "Raoul" and Ray entering into a "joint activity" for which "Raoul" would pay Ray \$12,000. The specific nature of the "joint activity" was not fully described or identified, but Ray was to transport packages (not further described) between the United States and Canada.

Huie further stated that "Raoul" met Ray at various motels in the United States, provided Ray with funds and Ray and "Raoul" met at the Mexican Border and an exchange of tires took place.

Extensive investigation by us, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and Mexican authorities has failed thus far to identify "Raoul" or to verify his existence. We have no information to date to indicate that Ray was involved in a conspiracy. It is quite possible that "Raoul" and Ray were engaged in some type of smuggling activity as the packages they were allegedly transporting and the tires they were allegedly exchanging could have contained contraband such as narcotics. It is noted that during October and November, 1967, when Ray was in Mexico, he made inquiry as to where he could purchase marijuana.

Huie, in these articles, sets forth motels that Ray was registered in as a guest that we were not previously aware of. We have checked this out, found it to be true; however, nothing of significance developed. Huie also, in his articles, furnished an account of Ray's employment at Winnetka, Illinois, which we previously were aware of; however, nothing of significance developed.

-2-

Jun 1



BUREAU INVESTIGATION OF

Washington, D. C. 20537

REPORT

of the

IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION

YOUR FILE NO. FBI FILE NO.

44-1987

LATENT CASE NO.

44-38861 91075

SAC. Memphis

REFERENCE: Letter 11-23-66 from Birmingham Division EXAMINATION REQUESTED BY:

Birmingham

SPECIMENS:

Q411, registration card bearing the name and address "John L. Rayms, 1825 Lafayette Street, St. Louis, Missouri'

No latest impressions of value were developed on the specimen.

MAILED 21 Olvinian. DE02 1960

The specimen is being returned to Birmingham

Laboratory report separate.

2 - Eirmingham (44-1740) - Enc.

- Mobile

- New Orleans

19 DEC 3 1968

December 2, 1968

Bishop Casper Callahan -Conrad ... Gale Rosen Sullivan -Tavel Trotter

DeLoach -Mohr -

Holmes -

Gandy

COMMERSI

THIS REPORT IS FURNISHED FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

MAIL ROOM VINTELETYPE UNIT

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE

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

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE LAB FILEZ

Recorded 11-29-68 1:10 p.m.

Received 11-29-68 dar

Laboratory Work Sheet

Re: MURKIN

CR

00: Memphis (44-1987)

File # LL-38861

Lab. # D-681126110 JK

LC#

91075

Examination requested by:

SAC. Birmingham (44-1740)

Letter 11/22/68

Examination requested:

Document, Fingerprint

Date received: 11/26/68

Result of Examination:

Examination by: Mortimer

Bailey

He late of maline form

Specimens submitted for examination

Qull Registration card bearing the name and address "John L. Rayms 1825 Lafayette St. St. Louis Mo. "

2-BH 44-1740

Examination completed 3;30

11/29/18 Dictated 11/29

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) ATTN: FRI LABORATORY

11/22/68

ZAC. BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)(P)

MINITE

Re Bureau airtel 11/14/68, and Birmingham teletype 11/30/66.

Enclosed please find the original of a registration card believed for subject MAY under alias JOHN L. RAYNS. This reflects his registration at 9:05 a.m. on Saturday, 8/26/67, at the Grenada Hotel, Birmingham, a third rate institution, giving residence address of 1825 Lafayette St., St. Louis, Missouri.

It is requested that the handwriting appearing on the three lines of the registration card be compared with known handwriting of subject RAY. A Xerox copy of the registration card is also enclosed for the Bureau and each office receiving this communication. Mr. ADRIAN MOONCE, Clerk, has no independent recollection of RAYES.

A review of all registration cards during the period 8/22-28/67 has been completed without noting any significant card which might be indicative of the presence of "RAOUL" during the period. A list of the names will be furnished Memphis.

2 /- Bureau (Enc. 2) (AM - RM)

E - Homphis (44-1987) (Enc. 1) (AM)

2 - Mobile (Rac. 1)(AM)

2 - New Orleans (Enc. 1) (AM)

2 - St. Louis (Enc. 1)(AM)

2 - Birmingham

EAS:sjm

ede Make DX 942 44-38861

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DATE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD	
NEW ORLEANS	MEMPHIS	11/17/27/1368	11/20-21/68	
JAMES EARL I	CAY. aka:	SA ALBERT	B. MILLER	bab
	LUTHER KING, JR	CHARACTER OF C	ASE	
		CR - CONS UFAC - RO		
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REFERENCE:

Bureau airtel, 11/14/68.

- RUC -

ENCLOSURES:

TO MEMPHIS

Provincial Motel, New Orleans, Louisiana, original data as follows:

1. Complete telephone bills, 3 pages of which have been xeroxed in this report, dated 12/19/67 (7 pages)

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FBI

DEC 2 9 40 AM '68

and 1/19/68 (11 pages).

- 2. Nine (9) work sheets. (Xeroxed in this report.)
- 3. 142 registration cards. (Xeroxed in this report.)

As indicated in instant report this material is to be returned to Mr. BRYAN DUPEPE, owner manager of the Provincial Motel, 1024 Chartres Street, New Orleans, La., when it has served its purpose. On 11/30/68 SA ALBERT B. MILLER, FBI, New Orleans, La., gave Mr. DUPEPE a receipt to that effect, a copy of which is NO 157-10673-1A68

TO OMAHA

One copy of Buairtel dated 11/14/68 .(NO 157-10673-1198) One copy of New Orleans airtel, 5/7/68. (NO 157-10673-851)

TO SAN DIEGO

One copy of Buairtel 11/14/68.(NO 157-10673-1198)

LEADS:

MOBILE

AT MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA. Will locate and interview H. R. QUINN and JOE LACEY, JR., 1211 Westmoreland, Montgomery, Ala., make of car S.W. (probably station wagon), Alabama license 3-2146, 2 in party.

OMAHA

AT SIOUX CITY, IOWA. Will locate and interview Mr. and Mrs. DONALD C. (illegible) SMITH, 3319 Dodge Ave., Sioux City, Iowa, no car or license indicated, 2 in party.

SAN DIEGO

AT LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA. Will locate and interview Mr. and Mrs. VIRGIL L. LARSON, 5646 Taft Avenue, LaJolla, California, arrived by taxi, 2 in party.

- B - (COVER PAGE)

Will locate and interview Mrs. LOUISE LARSON. 5231 LaJolla Boulevard, LaJolla, California, arrived by taxi, 1 in party.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

The Bureau and Memphis will recall that New Orleans report of SA STEPHEN M. CALLENDER, 4/29/68, (NO 157-10673-802) sets forth investigation at the Provincial Motel and information regarding motel records as furnished by owner manager, DUPEPE at that time.

New Orleans airtel 5/7/68 (NO 157-10673-851) to Memphis and other offices, including Mobile and San Diego, set forth leads to have the motel registrants interviewed.

As indicated in instant report Mr. DUPEPE has located additional motel registrants.

In view of the instructions set forth in re Buairtel 11/14/68 (NO 157-10673-1198) New Orleans is not setting forth leads to interview all the registrants not previously interviewed. However, because of the proximity of certain registrants, i.e., the LARSONs, the SMITHs and QUINN and LACEY, New Orleans has set forth leads to interview them. These interviews should be conducted along the lines set forth in New Orleans airtel 5/7/68. To possibly identify some of the long distance calls shown in this report they should be asked whether they made calls or know anyone who did. Also during the interviews they should be questioned for possible identification of "RAOUL".

Mobile, Omaha and San Diego will submit results of investigation by report rather than insert.

- C* -(COVER PAGE)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of:

SA ALBERT B. MILLER

Office: NEW ORLEANS

Date:

Field Office File #:

NO 157-10673

1 1 1 1

Bureau File #: 44-38861

Title:

JAMES EARL RAY:

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM

Character:

CIVIL RIGHTS

Synopsis:

Records of Provincial Motel, New Orleans, La., indicate RAY using alias of GALT, stayed at the motel December 17-19, 1967. Data concerning occupants of motel December 14-22, 1967, obtained. It shows RAY as GALT was in Room 126, Prior to RAY occupying Room 126 it was occupied by H. R. QUINN and JOE LACEY, JR., 1211 Westmoreland, Montgomery, Ala., make of car S.W. (probably station wagon), Alabama license 3-2146, 2 in party. While RAY was in Room 126 Mr. and Mrs. DONALD C. (illegible) SMITH, 3319 Dodge Avenue, Sioux City, Iowa, 2 in party, occupied Room 125 which is next to Room 126. Mrs. LOUISE LARSON, 5231 LaJolla Blvd., LaJolla, Calif., 1 in party, registered in Room 126, 12/19/67, after RAY checked out of Room 126. Probably with Mrs. LARSON, occupying a nearby room, were Mr. and Mrs. VIRGIL L. LARSON, 5646 Taft Ave., LaJolla, Calif., 2 in party. It would appear the three LARSONs arrived by taxi rather than personal car. Toll cards December 14-22, 1967, from public phone at Provincial Motel not available. Clerk who registered RAY and owner-operator of laundry and dry cleaning which does work for Provincial Motel interviewed and no additional info obtained.

Lil.

- RUC -

DETAILS: AT NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date	1	1	/2]	L/6	8

Mr. BRYAN DUPEPE, Owner Manager, Provincial Motel, 1024 Chartres Street, French Quarter, New Orleans, Louisiana, was contacted concerning guests residing at the motel during the period December 17-19, 1967, which was when JAMES EARL RAY was reportedly registered at the Provincial Motel as ERIC S. GALT, and for guests residing at the motel three days before, i.e., December 14-16, and three days after, i.e., December 20-22, 1967.

After an exhaustive search of motel records, Mr. DUPEPE made available the following work sheets and motel registration cards and long distance phone bills which have been xeroxed and are attached. The originals are being retained in the files of the Memphis Office of the FBI and are to be returned to Mr. DUPEPE after they have served their purpose.

In explanation of the records Mr. DUPEPE furnished the following information:

Each workday has a work sheet. The date is shown at the top, e.g., Thursday, December 14, 1967. The entries on the sheet are made by the morning desk clerk and the afternoon desk clerk. The numbers on top of the sheet, e.g., 36967-36975, are ledger numbers and are used for internal bookkeeping purposes. The other numbers, e.g., X 12, S/O 17, R 8, T 25, mean 12 rooms are ready because the occupants have paid and checked out, 17 persons are staying over, 8 rooms were rented the day in question, and a total of 25 rooms were occupied the day in question.

In further explanation, using the Thursday, December 14, 1967, work sheet as an example, Mr. DUPEPE explained, Room 101 was not rented although as indicated by the circle it was ready for renting. S/O, staying over in Room 102 was TAGLAVORE. Further down in the rooms, room 109 was rented for the first time on December 14, 1967 to JOHNSON. The number 36968, under JOHNSON, means that was his ledger card number. Each guest is assigned a

-2-

On _	11/20/68 at	New Orleans,	Louisiana File # NO	157-10673
by _	SA ALBERT B.	MILLER /bab	Date dictated	11/20/68

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ledger card whereon are recorded charges for room, food, beverage, valet and phone calls. All the ledger cards for December, 1967, have been destroyed and whatever charges each guest had are unavailable at the motel. All these services are rendered by the motel except valet which is handled by Lee Laundry and Cleaners, 830 Chartres Street. Every two weeks or so this company sends the motel individual slips showing valet work done for the applicable room. These slips are checked against valet slips in the motel and are then destroyed at the motel. Mr. DUPEPE advised he does not know what records Lee Laundry and Cleaners maintain.

As far as telephone calls are concerned local calls are dialed through the switchboard at the motel and the phone company has no record of them. Collect long distance calls going out are not recorded at the motel. Other long distance calls going out and collect calls coming in are paid by the motel and recorded. These are recorded by the switchboard operator at the motel and then checked against the monthly bill submitted by the phone company. The calls for December, 1967, recorded by the motel switchboard operator have been destroyed. Mr. DUPEPE made available the phone bill dated December 19, 1967 which shows long distance calls from November 9, 1967 to December 18, 1967. Page 7 a copy of which is attached shows calls from December 11, 1967 to December 18, 1967 and one for December 3, 1967. Pages 1 and 2 of the following month's bill, dated January 19, 1968, shows calls from December 19, 1967 to part of December 25, 1967 and one for December 8, 1967. Mr. DUPEPE explained occasionally, such as December 8, 1967 in this instance, a call is not recorded in the period of the The check marks against the amounts shows these have been checked against the individual ledgers. Mr. DUPEPE stated from the phone bill he has no way to determine from which rooms the calls were made. The ledger cards, which have been destroyed, would have shown that information.

Further in regard to phone calls, Mr. DUPEPE advised the motel has only one public pay phone. This is located in the motel's outdoor alcove between the office and the swimming pool. The phone number is 523-8802.

The procedure for registering at the motel is as follows, Mr. DUPEPE explained: If a guest has a reservation

notice of the reservation is kent at the registration desk. At the time the guest comes in the work sheet is consulted and the guest assigned the appropriate The guest then normally fills out a registration card. In a rare instance the card is filled out by the clerk. After the card is filled out the reservation notification is generally stapled to the registration card. After it has served its purpose and prior to filing, the reservation notification is taken from the registration card and destroyed. The registration card, copies of which have been xeroxed and are attached, are filed. registration card bears the imprint of a staple in all probability that person had a reservation. Generally speaking if the card bears no such imprint chances are the person had no reservation. Mr. DUPEPE explained this is no hard and fast rule because the reservation notification could have been fastened to the registration card by paper clip. Generally written on the bottom of the card is the time or, at least tentative time the registrant will check out.

Concerning the work sheet, taking December 14 again as an example, Mr. DUPEPE stated Rooms 116 and 220 are not rented and the "H" means hold and as indicated they required plumbing work.

Xeroxed and attached are work sheets for December 14, 1967, through December 22, 1967. Motel registration cards which are xeroxed and attached were located for everyone on the work sheets except Room 115 HIGGINS on December 14, 1967, Room 112 FISHER and Room 234 MADDEN on December 21, 1967, and no registration card was found for CRISSEY, Room 212, on December 22, 1967. Information regarding BRANCH and PRUET is set forth herein. Mr. DUPEPE advised in all probability data are misfiled among the various records of the motel.

It is observed there is a registration card for Mr. and Mrs. BARNEY BRANCH, 4334 Stern Avenue, Sherman Oaks, California, 1968 Chevrolet, license US 6320, California; (not too legible), on December 14, 1967, Room 108, but the work sheet shows that room vacant. Written in but erased appears to be BRANT (not too legible) and in all probability they registered and then decided they did not want the room.

Further in connection with registrations, the work sheet for December 15, 1967 shows one PRUET in Room 217. There is no registration card for him however, which indicates the room was reserved for him but he did not show. Mr. DUPEPE advised there are two PRUETS who occasionally stay at the Provincial Motel. One of them is JIM PRUET, 3130 SW Freeway, Houston, Texas, believed to be in the electronics business. The other PRUET is from Dallas, Texas, and is known as JAMES PRUET. Off hand the address and business connection of JAMES PRUET of Dallas are not available to Mr. DUPEPE.

Specifically in regard to $\operatorname{GALT}_{,}$ Mr. DUPEPE advised as follows:

The work sheet for Sunday, December 17, 1967, is where GALT first appears. This is indicated by Room 126. The R, as previously explained, means December 17 is the first day he rented the room. The 2 by his name means either he said he wanted the room for 2 days or that a reservation had come in and that because of the reservation the room would be available only for 2 days. The number under GALT, i.e., 37263, means GALT had a ledger card with that number on it. The ledger card which has been previously explained has been destroyed. Mr. DUPEPE stated from the writing GALT on the work sheet it appears to him that Mr. B. C. DUKE, a clerk at the motel, registered GALT.

In connection with the 2 days as above, the registration card of Mr. and Mrs. VIRGIL L. LARSON, 5646 Taft Avenue, LaJolla, California, 92037, bears the imprint of a staple indicating, according to DUPEPE, they had a reservation for December 19, 1967 as shown on the card. With them was probably Mrs. LOUISE LARSON, 5231 LaJolla Boulevard, LaJolla, California, 92037, who registered in Room 126, December 19, 1967, after GALT checked out of Room 126. The cards indicate the LARSONs arrived by taxi rather than personal car. Mr. and Mrs. LARSON as indicated by the card and work sheets were moved from Room 124 to Room 125 on December 20, 1967, apparently to be next to Mrs. LOUISE LARSON who was in Room 126. Rooms 124 and 125 have a connecting door. Rather than the 3 LARSONs occupying Rooms 124 and 125 it would be \$6 cheaper for Mr. and Mrs. VIRGIL L. LARSON to move into Room 125 instead of Mrs. LOUISE LARSON moving from 126 into 125.

In connection with the physical layout of the rooms it was observed Room 126 is in the back of the motel and on the first floor. It fronts on the parking area. Room 126 is a two level room 10 feet by 10 feet and has a spiral stairway to an upper bedroom. In other words, it has two beds, one on the first floor and one up the spiral stairway. Next to Room 126 on the first floor is Room 125. Room 125 has one level only and is the only room next to the lower level of Room 126. Next to the upper level of Room 126 is Room 234.

The work sheet for Sunday, December 17, 1967, which indicates GALT checked in that day, shows SMITH was in Room 125 as a stay over. The work sheet for Friday, December 15, 1967 shows SMITH first checked in Room 125 on December 15, 1967. SMITH is last shown on the work sheets on December 19, 1967 which according to DUPEPE means in all probability SMITH checked out on December 20, 1967. It would therefore appear SMITH was next to GALT all the time GALT was in the Provincial Motel, i.e., December 17 - 19, 1967. The registration cards shown SMITH to be Mr. and Mrs. DONALD C. (illegible) SMITH, 3319 Dodge Avenue, Sioux City, Iowa, no car or license indicated.

It is observed that none of the registration cards have anything written on the back of them such as check out time. In connection with times, Mr. DUPEPE explained, the time of registration is not recorded nor is the time of check out. Check out time is 1:00 PM, but occasionally people stay over the check out time so he cannot say exactly when anyone checked out. Mr. DUPEPE advised he previously furnished the FBI the registration card of GALT. From the work sheets, however, particularly since GALT is shown on two days, i.e., December 17 and 18, 1968, and not on December 19, 1968, it would appear he checked out of the motel on December 19 prior to 1:00 PM. The next occupant of this room, Room 126, was Mrs. LOUISE LARSON on December 19, 1967.

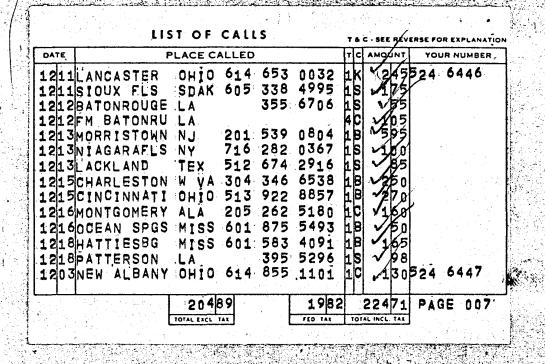
As to who was in Room 126 immediately prior to GALT, it is noted this would be nobody as indicated by the work sheet for Saturday, December 16, 1967. QUINN and LACEY and stay over were written on the work sheet for that day for Room 126 but erased. It is observed from the work sheet of Thursday, December 14, 1967, that QUINN and LACEY first

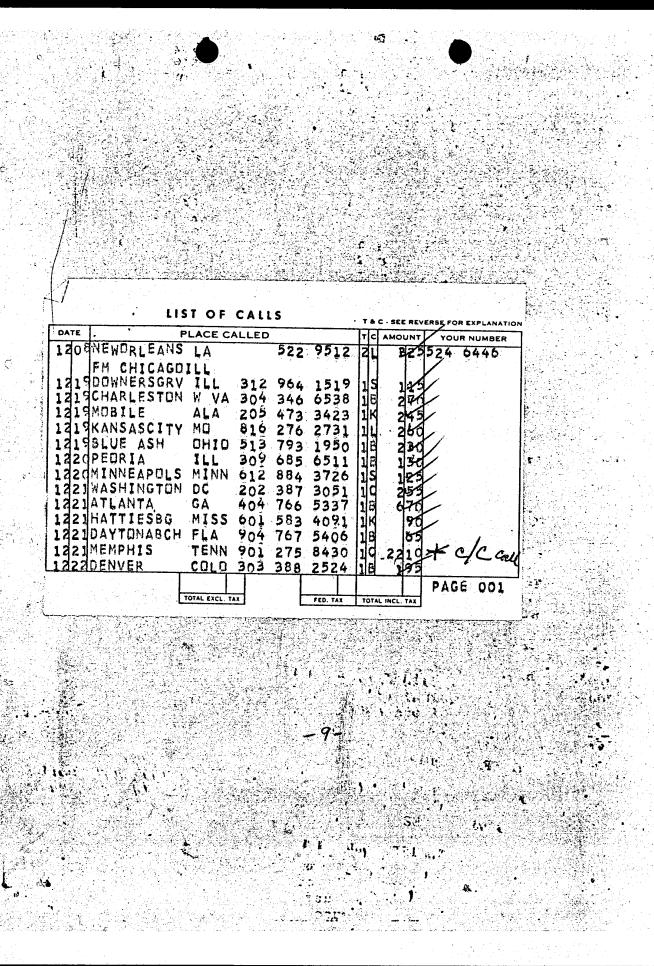
rented Room 126 that day. The registration card indicates they, however, checked out Saturday, December 16, the day before GALT was assigned Room 126. The registration card shows QUINN and LACEY to be H. R. QUINN and JOE LACEY, JR., 1211 Westmoreland, Montgomery, Alabama, make of car S. W. (probably stationwagon), Alabama license 3-2146.

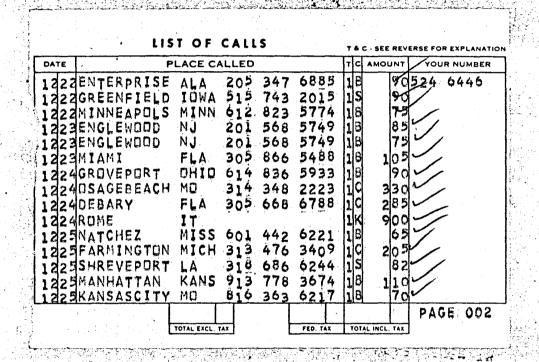
In regard to Room 234, immediately above GALT's room 126, it is observed from the work sheets that this room was unoccupied Sunday, December 17, 1967, the day GALT checked into Room 126. Work sheets from December 14, 1967 which are attached indicate it was unoccupied from that day on until December 21, 1967 when it was occupied by MADDEN for the first time. No registration card could be located for MADDEN, it apparently having been misfiled according to DUPEPE. Work sheets prior to December 14, 1967, available in Provincial Motel records, i.e., December 13, 1967 back to December 8, 1967 show Room 234 to be unoccupied. Mr. DUPEPE explained from Thanksgiving roughly to the Christmas weekend business is generally slack and for that reason Room 234 was unoccupied.

In regard to acto parking, the motel has a parking area, which is all open, and which Room 126 fronts. This parking area is tree to all guests and guests use it particularly because it is available and parking in the French Quarter, where the Provincial Motel is located, is very limited. Other motels in the immediate area have parking that entails attendants handling the cars.

Mr. DUPEPE advised the name "RAOUL" meant nothing to him.

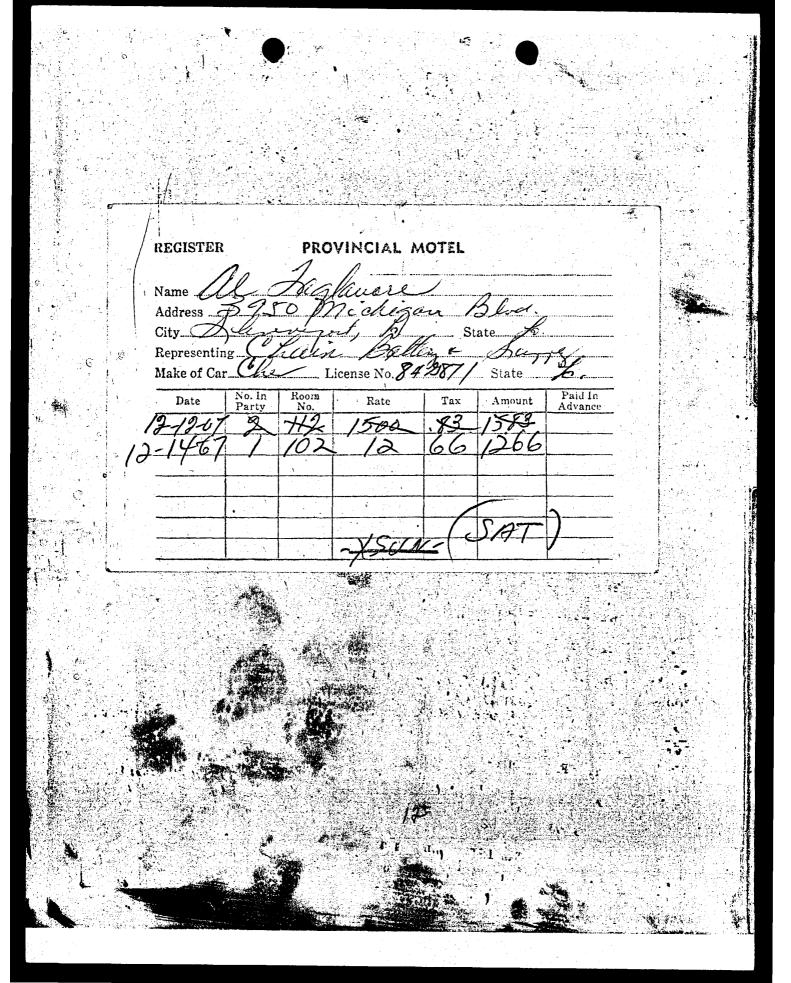






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