

FBI JACKSVLE

FBI MOBILE

835 PM URGENT 4/24/68 AAH

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), JACKSONVILLE AND KNOXVILLE
FROM MOBILE (157-2627)

MURKIN.

INSPECTOR J. C. ENGEL, POST OFFICE DEPT., ADVISED APRIL TWENTY FOUR INSTANT, HE HAD RECEIVED FROM POSTMASTER, ELBERTA, ALA., AN ORDER FORM FOR INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE FORM SEVENTEEN OR FORM THREE THREE FOUR. THIS FORM WHICH IS DESIGNED TO BE FILLED OUT AND MAILED IN SEPARATE ENVELOPE TO GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, WASHINGTON, HAS PERFORATED LOWER PORTION ON WHICH SENDER WRITES NAME AND ADDRESS. UPON RECEIPT, GPO, TEARS OFF LOWER PORTION AND USES FOR PURPOSE OF ADDRESSING FORMS TO PERSON ORDERING SAME.

RETURN ADDRESS ON FORM WAS HANDPRINTED "ERIC STARVO GALT, E STREET, ELBERTA, ALA." FORM WAS ACTUALLY MAILED TO ELBERTA. POSTMARK SHOWS MAILED PENSACOLA, FLA., APRIL TWENTYTWO, EIGHT P.M. (ILLEGIBLE) OR A.M.

INSPECTOR ENGEL ADVISES HIS REGULATIONS PREVENT HIS MAKING ABOVE FORM AVAILABLE FBI FOR FP EXAMINATION AND HANDWRITING EXAM.
END PAGE ONE

*Supv. Burd
advised
for*

Lead

44-769-230

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CALLED HIS HEADQUARTERS IN CHATTANOOGA AND RECEIVED PERMISSION TO CONFIDENTIALLY FURNISH AUTOSTAT COPY OF PRINTING ONLY TO MOBILE OFFICE. SAME OBTAINED AND WILL BE FORWARDED FBI LAB. ORIGINAL FORM SENT BY ENGEL TO CHATTANOOGA HDQTRS.

PENSACOLA RA REQUESTED TO CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION IN EFFORT TO IDENTIFY SENDER THROUGH POST OFFICE EMPLOYEES.

KNOXVILLE REQUESTED TO CONTACT POSTAL INSPECTOR'S OFFICE AT CHATTANOOGA IN EFFORT TO OBTAIN ORIGINAL FORM FOR APPROPRIATE LAB EXAMINATION.

BUREAU MAY DESIRE TO CONTACT USPO HDQTRS, WASHINGTON, IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE MATTER.

INVESTIGATION BEING CONDUCTED ELBERTA, ALA.

AM COPIES FURNISHED ME.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

JLC

FBI JACKSVLE

CLR X

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSONVILLE (44-769) (P)

FROM : SA JOSEPH J. RUCCI, JR.

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4/24/68

The following agencies were contacted on 4/10/68 regarding ERIC STARVO GALT:

JEANNE HENLY, Records Clerk,
Jacksonville Beach Police Department;

Mrs. ROSE MANOS,
City of Jacksonville Beach
Electric Company;

Mrs. ALICE ARNOTT
Atlantic Beach Electric Company;

CARL STUKEY, Chief of Police,
Atlantic Beach, Florida PD;

J.R. JARBOE, Marshal,
Neptune Beach, Florida;

MARY CORNWALL, Deputy Clerk
City of Neptune Beach, Florida;

Mrs. BETTY McMAHN
First National Beach Bank,
Jacksonville Beach, Florida;

D.P. McKINNEY,
Ocean State Bank,
Neptune Beach, Florida;

NORMAN VEAL
Beach Loan Company
Atlantic Beach, Florida;

ROY PROPPEY
General Finance Loan Company,
Atlantic Beach, Florida.



5010-108-01

Jacksonville

JJR:pas

2/2/68

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[Handwritten signature]

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

JK 44-769

A review of the 1967 Beaches City Directory covering Jacksonville Beach, Florida, Neptune Beach, Florida, Atlantic Beach, Florida, Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida and Mayport, Florida was negative regarding ERIC STARVO GALT.

The Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Directory, July, 1967, for Jacksonville Beaches was negative regarding ERIC STARVO GALT, but reflected a THOMAS GALT, 161 Ocean Front, Atlantic Beach, Florida.

Mrs. THOMAS GALT, 161 Ocean Front, Atlantic Beach, Florida, advised on 4/10/68 that ERIC STARVO GALT is unknown to her and she is positive that no person by that name is a relative of hers or her husband nor has she ever heard the name before.

FBI JACKSVLE

FBI ATLANTA

11:00 PM URGENT 4/24/68 LBN

TO DIRECTOR MEMPHIS, BIRMINGHAM, LOS ANGELES, KANSAS

CITY, SPRINGFIELD AND MIAMI AND JACKSONVILLE..

FROM ATLANTA (44-2386)

MURKIN.

SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION, APRIL TWENTYFOUR, SIXTYEIGHT:

NEW AND USED CAR DEALERS IN ATLANTA AND SUBURBAN AREAS
HAVE BEEN CONTACTED AND SHOWN PHOTOGRAPHS OF RAY. SUCH CHECKS
CONCLUDED TODAY AND ALL NEGATIVE. PROJECT OF CONTACTING
INDIVIDUALS ADVERTISING AUTOMOBILES FOR SALE THROUGHT NEWSPAPER
ADS BETWEEN MARCH TWENTYFOUR AND APRIL FIVE LAST UNDERWAY,
NEGATIVE TO DATE, CONTINUING.

CAR RENTAL AGENCIES IN ATLANTA AND SUBURBAN AREAS
CONCLUDED TODAY WITH PHOTOGRAPHS OF RAY EXHIBITED WITH NEGATIVE
RESULTS.

CONTACTS WITH CREW MEMBERS ON EASTERN AIRLINES FOREIGN-
FLIGHTS THREE TWO ZERO AND THREE TWO EIGHT ON APRIL FIVE LAST
CONCLUDED EXCEPT FOR ONE STEWARDESS WHO WILL BE INTERVIEWED APRIL
TWENTYFIVE NEXT. SUCH CHECKS ARE NEGATIVE.

END PAGE ONE.

*Supv. Bush
advised
for*

*SA J. Gordon
advised
for*

Handled 4/2

44-769-232

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[Signature]

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STORAGE GARAGES, CITY OF ATLANTA, CONTACTED AND RAY'S PHOTOGRAPH EXHIBITED WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. ALL OPEN PARKING LOTS VICINITY OF ONE ONE THREE FOURTEENTH STREET HAVE BEEN CONTACTED WITH PHOTOGRAPHS OF RAY SHOWN TO OWNERS AND ATTENDANTS WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

REMAINING CREW MEMBERS OF EASTERN AIRLINES FLIGHT ONE THREE THREE, APRIL TWELVE LAST INTERVIEWED REGARDING A PASSENGER RESEMBLING RAY WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. THEY CONFIRMED INFORMATION FURNISHED APRIL TWENTYTHREE, SIXTYEIGHT, BY OTHER CREW MEMBERS WHO STATED GILCHRIST WAS IN ERROR BY STATING ONLY ONE PASSENGER DEBARKED AT HOUSTON, TEXAS. THEY STATED NO ONE ON PLANE RESEBLING RAY.

JIMMIE DELTON GARNER, GARNER'S SISTER AND WOMAN LINEN CHANGER AT ONE ONE THREE FOURTEENTH STREET, REINTERVIEWED THIS DATE AND FURNISHED NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

LEWIE RAYMOND DOWDA CONFINED COUNTY JAIL, MARIETTA, GEORGIA, ON ARMED ROBBERY CONVICTION INTERVIEWED. DOWDA WAS ACQUAINTED WITH RAY AT MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY FOR THREE
END PAGE TWO..

PAGE THREE...

YEARS, ENDING SEPTEMBER TWENTYTHREE, SIXTYSIX, WHEN DOWDA
RELEASED. DOWDA STATED RAY WAS DOPE ADDICT, USING INJECTIONS
AND WAS ADDICTED PRIOR TO INCARCERATION. RAY USED AMPHETIMINE.
DOWDA STATED HAROLD SCHAEFER, GUARD ON GATE AT
PRISON, WAS FRIENDLY WITH RAY AND BELIEVED BY SOME TO BE SELLING
THE AMPHETIMINE. DOWDA CLAIMED RAY HAD UNKNOWN OUTSIDE SOURCE OF
INCOME TO SUPPORT A THIRTYFIVE TO FORTY DOLLAR PER WEEK DOPE HABIT
AS WELL AS FIFTEEN TO TWENTY DOLLARS PER WEEK OTHER EXPENDITURES.
DOWDA CLAIMS THREE NEGRO PRISONERS KILLED IN PRISON AFTER
PROTESTING DENIAL OF BLACK MUSLIMS TO WORSHIP. CLAIMED RAY
KILLED THE NEGROES OR KNOW WHO DID. DESCRIBED RAY AS RACIST WHO
FELT ALL NEGROES IN THAT PRISON SHOULD BE KILLED AND SAID RAY
MADE SEVERAL STATEMENTS TO EFFECT IF PRICE WAS RIGHT WOULD KILL
MARTIN LUTHER KING. DOWDA STATED RAY'S CLOSEST FRIEND IN PRISON
WAS NEIL ABBEY (PHONETIC) WHO HANDLED DOPE AND GOT RAY A JOB IN
THE KITCHEN. DOWDA DOES NOT KNOW NEIL ABBEY'S PRESENT WHEREABOUTS
BUT ABBEY WAS AT ONE TIME CHIEF COOK AT THE PRISON. ANOTHER
END PAGE THREE...

PAGE FOUR....

CLOSE FRIEND WAS DONALD DEAN RIGGER FROM CALIFORNIA WHOSE WIFE WAS A PSYCHIATRIST AT NAPA STATE HOSPITAL LOCATED ABOVE SAN SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. DOWDA STATED RAY WOULD ONLY HAVE AN ADDRESS FOR HIM IN CARE OF DOWDA'S FATHER, CHARLES ALFRED DOWDA, FORMELY ROUTE ONE, SANFORD, FLORIDA, BUT PRESENTLY ONE ONE ZERO SOUTH CHANDLER STREET, DELAND, FLORIDA. DOWDA DENIES CONTACT IN ANY MANNER WITH RAY SINCE DOWD'S RELEASE. STATED ANOTHER FORMER INMATE, PAUL ALVIN LAIL, JR., AKA PAUL ALVIN CARTER, THIRTYFOUR BARBODOS DRIVE, PALM SPRINGS, WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA, WAS FRIENDLY WITH RAY AND DOWDA SAW LAIL EARLY MARCH, SIXTYEIGHT, BUT NO MENTION MADE OF RAY. DOWDA HAS NO IDEA WHY RAY WOULD GO TO ATLANTA.

MIAMI, CONTACT PAUL ALVIN LAIL, JR., WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA, TO DETERMINE IF RAY HAS CONTACTED HIM..

JACKSONVILLE, CONTACT CHARLES ALFRED DOWDA, ONE ONE ZERO SOUTH CHANDLER STREET, DELAND, FLA. TO DETERMINE IF RAY HAS CONTACTED HIM.

L. d. Dalal

KANSAS CITY AT JEFFERSON CITY, MO., INTERVIEW GUARD, HAROLD SCHAEFER, CONCERNING RAY. ALSO DETERMINE PRESENT WHEREABOUTS OF INMATE NEIL ABBEY (PHONETIC) AND DONALD DEAN RIGGER AND
END PAGE FOUR....

PAGE FIVE

SET OUT LEADS FOR THEIR INTERVIEW CONCERNING POSSIBLE CONTACT
BY RAY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

END.

JLC

FBI JACKSVLE

TU

FBI TAMPA

911 PM URGENT 4/23/68 ALS

TO MOBILE

FROM TAMPA (157-3231)

MURKIN; CR. 00:ME.

RE MOBILE TELETYPE TO JACKSONVILLE FOUR TWENTY TWO LAST AND
JACKSONVILLE TELETYPE TO TAMPA FOUR TWENTY THREE LAST.

JACKSONVILLE ADVISED NINETEEN SIXTY-EIGHT FLA. LICENSE THREE
W - SIX TWO THREE THREE ZERO REGISTERED TO ROBERT D. WEIR, FIVE
ONE ZERO FIVE AND ONE-HALF SUWANEE, TAMPA ON A NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT
CHEVROLET.

ROBERT D. WEIR IDENTICAL TO ROBERT DONALD WEIR, TPD NUMBER
ONE THREE FOUR ONE ONE TWO, FBI NUMBER SEVEN NINE ONE EIGHT SIX TWO
F. WEIR DESCRIBED W/M, DOB [REDACTED], NEWNAN,
GA., FIVE FT. SIX IN., ONE FIVE FOUR LBS., BROWN EYES, BLACK HAIR.
PHOTO OF WEIR REFLECTS SOME SIMILARITIES TO RAY, BUT NOT IDENTICAL.

NEIGHBOR ADVISED WEIR NOT IDENTICAL TO PHOTO JAMES EARL RAY.

WEIR'S WIFE ADVISED WEIR DRIVING NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT TAN
CHRVROLET CONVERTIBLE AND VISITING NEICE, NAME UNKNOWN, NEAR
MONTGOMERY, ALA. WEIR RESIDENT OF TAMPA SINCE TEN SIXTY-FIVE AND
END PAGE ONE

1 Jacksonville, (AM)

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TJA

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TP 157-3231

BRACE LEFT LEG FROM ACCIDENT ELEVEN SIXTY-FIVE. WIFE WILL BE IN CONTACT WITH WEIR EVENING FOUR TWENTY-THREE AND WILL REQUEST HE CONTACT MONTGOMERY RA FOUR TWENTY-FOUR.

MOBILE ADVISE TAMPA IF WEIR NOT IN CONTACT IN ORDER THAT WEIR MAY BE INTERVIEWED UPON RETURN TO TAMPA TO VERIFY OCCUPANT OF VEHICLE MONTGOMERY FOUR TWENTY-TWO LAST.

JACKSONVILLE AND MEMPHIS ADVISED AIRMAIL.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

Kansas City, Missouri
April 26, 1955

Booklet No. 19118
Judge Charles J. Wittaker

WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

PRESENTENCE REPORT

NAME	James Earl Ray	CITIZENSHIP	United States
ADDRESS	Transient	MARITAL STATUS	Single
AGE	27 years (Born March 1, 1928)	NUMBER OF DEPENDENTS	None
SEX	Male	OFFENSE	Forgery of U. S. Postal Money Order
RACE	White		

172498-2

I. OFFENSE:

This defendant on April 1, 1955 entered a plea of guilty to an information in one count which charges that he on or about March 21, 1955 at Kansas City, Missouri knowingly, wilfully, unlawfully, and feloniously forged a material endorsement on a U. S. Post Office Department Money Order No. 7-12,239,597. On this same date a companion, Walter Terry Rife, entered a plea of guilty in Docket No. 19119 to an information in one count charging him with the forgery on March 21, 1955 of postal money order No. 7-12,239,597. Imposition of sentence as to defendant and his companion was deferred and this presentence investigation was ordered.

The facts of the case are as follows: On March 7, 1955 the U. S. Post Office at Belleville, Illinois was burglarized and sixty-six blank U. S. Postal Money Orders, Serial Nos. 7-12,239,535 to 7-12,239,600 inclusive, and the office validating stamp were stolen. On March 8, 1955 at Alton, Illinois an unsuccessful attempt was made to cash one of these stolen money orders. On March 21, 1955 one of the stolen money orders, order No. 7-12,239,597, was presented to Askin's Clothing Company, 1206 Grand Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri, by an unknown person in payment for a suit of clothes which was never picked up after alterations had been made. This money order, which was in the amount of \$75.00, was made payable to Willard J. McBride with the purchaser being shown as Vernon McBride. On this same date an unknown person presented stolen money order No. 7-12,239,568 to the Chaffee Office Machine Company, 1410 Grand Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri, in payment for a used portable Remington typewriter. This money order, too, was in the amount of \$75.00 payable to Willard J. McBride with the purchaser being shown as Vernon McBride. The manager of this firm, being suspicious of this transaction, directed an employee to follow the customer. The employee noted the model and make of the automobile entered by the customer and the license number of the car. Later when this money order was ascertained

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Pitney	

to have been stolen a description of the customer and his automobile was given to post office inspectors who alerted the Missouri State Highway Patrol. A highway patrolman on March 23, 1955 at Hannibal, Missouri arrested in this automobile Walter Terry Rife, James Earl Ray, and a woman companion who has been released. Thirty-four of the money orders stolen from the Sallersville, Missouri Post Office were found hidden under the dash above the glove compartment in this automobile. All of them had been stamped with the validating stamp. Some were made out ready for cashing while others were not.

On March 21, 1955 Rife executed a statement for postal inspectors in which he admitted he had prepared, forged and uttered the postal money order presented to the Office Office Supply Company in Kansas City. He admitted preparing the money order which was uttered on forged endorsement at Askin's Clothing Company, Kansas City, Missouri. He admitted that he had prepared the face of the money orders made ready for cashing and which were found in the automobile in which he was arrested. He admitted cashing numerous other money orders on forged endorsements in the states of Florida, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Missouri. He recalled unsuccessfully attempting to cash the money order at Alton, Illinois on March 6, 1955. In his statement he admits that he purchased in Quincy, Illinois the stolen money orders. They were sold to him by an unidentified man for \$20. On March 21, 1955 Ray, declining to execute statement for postal inspectors, did verbally state that he had participated with Rife in the cashing of the stolen money orders in the various states. He denied actually knowing that the money orders were stolen. However, he admittedly presumed that they were for he had been told by Rife that they had been purchased for \$20. He admitted that it was he who forged and uttered the money order presented at Askin's Clothing Company in Kansas City, Missouri. He stated that he purchased for \$1 in St. Louis, Missouri from a "wino" named Willard J. McBride the identification he and Rife used in uttering the money orders.

The two money orders uttered by Rife and Ray in Kansas City, Missouri and as well the money order Rife attempted to utter in Alton, Illinois have been recovered. As noted previously thirty-four of the money orders were recovered in the automobile. On April 18, 1955 when reinterviewed by postal inspectors Rife and Ray gave particulars relating to the cashing of twenty-seven additional stolen money orders located by the Regional Accounting Office. The particulars are as set out in the following table:

Last three digits	Cashed by	Cashed at	Second Indorser	Date of earliest discernible bank stamp	Am.
538	Rife	St. Louis, Mo.	(Illegible)	Mar. 19	\$50
543	Ray	do	Dowds Men's Shop	Mar. 19	\$55
547	Ray	Hot Springs, Ark.	Esckay Art Galleries	Mar. 21	\$75
548	Rife	do	Brown's Dept. Store	Mar. 21	\$75
550	Rife	St. Petersburg, Fla.	Topp's	Mar. 15	\$75

552	Rife	Memphis, Tenn.	Borg & McCargo	Mar. 11	\$75
557	Ray	New Orleans, La.	Wright Tailors	?	\$75
558	Rife	do	Schneiders	Mar. 21	\$75
559	Rife	do	Todd's Sportswear Shop	Mar. 18	\$50
560	Rife	Hot Springs, Ark.	None apparent	Mar. 21	\$50
561	Ray	do	Dinos (?) J. C. Ross	Mar. 21	\$75
562	Rife	do	Lockwood's Men's Store	Mar. 23	\$50
577	Rife	do	Pfelfers of Arkansas	Mar. 21	\$75
578	Ray	do	Biles Music Co.	Mar. 21	\$75
582	Rife	<u>Daytona Beach, Fla.</u>	Squires, Inc.	Mar. 15	\$50
583	Ray	do	C. K. Slaughter	Mar. 15	\$50
585	Rife	St. Petersburg, Fla.	(Ivan G. Whipple I. Zucker)	Mar. 15	\$50
586	Ray	do	Arnold's Mens Wear	Mar. 14	\$75
587	Ray	do	Dunoffo Footwear	Mar. 14	\$50
589	Rife	do	Isabelle Abrams	?	\$75
591	Ray	Tampa, Fla.	Rio Liquors Inc.	Mar. 16	\$50
592	Rife	do	Knex (?) Bar & Luncheonette	Mar. 18	\$75
593	Rife	do	The Hub	Mar. 14	\$50
595	Ray	<u>Tallahassee, Fla.</u>	Alford Bros. Inc.	Mar. 12	\$50
596	Ray	St. Petersburg, Fla.	Kings Credit Clothing	Mar. 14	\$50
598	Ray	<u>Daytona Beach, Fla.</u>	(Illegible)	Mar. 15	\$75
599	Rife	Hot Springs, Ark.	Chas. Hearn (?)	Mar. 21	\$75

*Both Rife and Ray say no money orders cashed by them in banks.

Two of the stolen money orders have not yet been recovered. They, however, are accounted for as Ray has admitted cashing one of them at a luggage store in Kansas City, Kansas and Rife admits cashing one of them at Miami Beach, Florida.

It is pertinent to note that following the apprehension of Rife and Ray postal inspectors obtained from the room which they occupied a quantity of merchandise they had acquired by passing the stolen money orders. Found in their room were a typewriter, several pieces of luggage, a radio, a camera, a wristwatch, a considerable quantity of new wearing apparel for men, and other items. They have authorized the postal inspectors to return this merchandise to the stores or individuals from whom it was obtained.

II. PRIOR RECORD:

Defendant's F. B. I. Fingerprint Return No. 306 hu3 A reveals the following arrests and dispositions:

10-11-49 : Sheriff's office, Los Angeles, California - suspicion of burglary. 12-30-49 sentenced to 8 months in county jail for burglary. Served 90 days and released on probation for period of 2 years. Defendant states that he was drink-

ing in the rear of a cafe when he was seen by the cafe manager. He ran from the scene and was later apprehended. He says that after being placed on probation he went to Chicago, Illinois to reside and that he reported to a probation officer in Los Angeles, California by mail.

- 1-18-50 : Sheriff's office, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. - vagrancy. Disposition not shown, but defendant states he was released and instructed to leave town.
- 7-23-51 : Alton, Illinois Police Department - no operator's license, no state license, no city license. Released to pay later. Defendant states he was fined \$55 and required to purchase the necessary licenses.
- 5-6-52 : Chicago, Illinois police - robbery. 6-13-52 sentenced to term of 1 to 2 years in Illinois State Penitentiary, Joliet, Illinois. Defendant reluctantly admitted to the writer that while intoxicated he held up a taxicab driver. On 7-7-52 he was received at the Illinois State Prison, Pontiac, Illinois in transfer from Joliet, Illinois institution. He was released by minimum expiration on 3-12-54.
- 8-30-54 : Sheriff, Edwardsville, Illinois - burglary and larceny. Defendant states that he burglarized a cleaning shop in East Alton, Illinois but denies stealing anything. Although no disposition has been made on this charge of burglary he apparently is not wanted.
- 3-23-55 : Hannibal, Missouri police for instant offense. Released to federal authorities following day.

III. FAMILY HISTORY:

Defendant

This defendant, age 27, was born [redacted] in Alton, Illinois.

He is an only child. He resided in the parental home in Alton until age 18. During that time, however, he frequently visited with his paternal grandparents in Quincy, Illinois. When about age 18 he entered the army. Following discharge from military service in 1948 he resided for a short time in Quincy, Illinois. He then moved to Chicago, Illinois where he resided for a period of about six months before moving to Los Angeles, California. As noted in the section, Criminal Record, he was convicted of burglary and sentenced to jail in Los Angeles. When released on probation from that sentence he returned to residence in Chicago where he lived alone until he was committed in June of 1952 to the Illinois State Penitentiary. Since his release from the Illinois State Penitentiary in March of 1954 he has been rather transient living principally in Quincy, Illinois.

Father

George Ray reportedly died of a heart condition in 1947 at age about 49. He was an employee of the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy Railroad and reportedly had no arrest record.

George Ray reportedly died of a heart condition in 1947 at age about

Mother

Lucille (nee Maher) Ray died of a liver condition in 1949 at age 51.

Other relatives

in Quincy, Illinois.

Defendant refuses to identify his several aunts and uncles who reside

IV. HOME AND NEIGHBORHOOD:

When not incarcerated defendant has lived principally in Alton and Quincy, Illinois. Since his release from the Illinois State Penitentiary in March 1954, he has been rather transient. His last known residence for any period of time was at the Virginia Hotel in Quincy, Illinois.

V. EDUCATION:

Defendant states that he completed the lot through the 8th grades at St. Mary's School in Alton, Illinois. He states that in 1952 while residing in Chicago, Illinois he attended the Academy of Adults and obtained the equivalent of a two-year high school education.

VI. RELIGION:

Defendant denies any affiliation. His mother was Catholic, and his father was Protestant. While in military service he infrequently attended Catholic services.

VII. INTERESTS AND ACTIVITIES:

None.

VIII. HEALTH:

Defendant is 5' 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ " tall, weighs 170 lbs., has a ruddy complexion, blue eyes, and brown hair. There are no apparent marks or scars of identification. He apparently is in good health. He states that before becoming involved in the instant offense he was in the process of petitioning for admittance to a Veterans Hospital in Illinois for a general physical checkup. He denies a history of surgery other than a tonsillectomy in Chicago in 1952. He denies a history of venereal disease or the use of narcotics. He states that he is a "moderate drinker."

IX. EMPLOYMENT AND MILITARY HISTORY:

Defendant states that at Alton, Illinois on February 19, 1946 he enlisted in the U. S. Army. He received his basic training at Camp Crowder, Missouri. He was then transferred to Camp Kilmer, New Jersey to await transportation to the European Theater of Operations. He states that he left the continental limits of the United States for Germany in July of 1946. Overseas he was attached to the 382nd Military Police Battalion. He admits that he was once AWOL for a period of two days which resulted in a suspended sentence to confinement for a period of sixty days. He returned to the United States from Germany in December of 1948 and was, he states, on December 23, 1948 given a general discharge under honorable conditions.

Defendant states that his last employment was with an uncle whom he refuses to identify but who resides in Quincy, Illinois. He worked for this uncle as a painter for a period of time in the summer of 1954.

He claims that from August 1951 to May 1952 he was employed by the Borg Erickson Corporation, Chicago, Illinois. This employment was terminated when he was arrested for robbery, which eventually resulted in a penitentiary sentence.

He states that from July of 1950 to June 1951 he was employed by the Arboy Corporation, Chicago, Illinois. He was discharged from this employment for absenteeism caused by his arrest in Alton, Illinois for vagrancy when visiting in that city.

He claims that from April 1950 to July of 1950 he was employed as a laborer at a wage of 90¢ per hour by the Neo Produce Company, Chicago, Illinois. He claims to have left this employment to accept more lucrative employment.

From July 1949 to September 1949 defendant states he was employed as a laborer at a wage of \$1.10 per hour by the Dryden Rubber Company, Chicago, Illinois. He quit this job to move to California.

He purports that from May 1944 to December of 1945 he was employed at a wage of 65¢ per hour by the International Shoe Company, Hartford, Illinois. He indicates he was laid off by this employer in a general reduction of forces and that he then entered the army.

X. RESOURCES AND LIABILITIES:

None.

XI. SUMMARY:

This defendant, white male, age 27, no dependents, has entered a plea of guilty to an Information in one count which charges that he at Kansas City, Missouri -

on or about March 21, 1955 forged a stolen U. S. Postal Money Order. This money order was one of sixty-six such orders stolen in a burglary of the U. S. Post Office, Kellerville, Illinois on March 7, 1955. Defendant emphatically denies the burglary of the post office. He states that his companion, in the instant offense, Walter T. Rife, whom he met at a bar in Quincy, Illinois, suggested that he accompany Rife and cash the money orders which Rife reportedly had purchased from an unknown person. Defendant states that he purchased for \$1 the identification he and Rife used in uttering these stolen orders in various states. When arrested for the instant offense defendant was in possession of thirty-four money orders which had been stolen from the Kellerville, Illinois Post Office. He admits the forgery and uttering of fourteen money orders. His companion, Rife, has admitted the forgery and uttering or attempting to utter eighteen of the stolen money orders.

Approximately one year before becoming involved in the instant offense defendant was released from service of a sentence of one to two years for armed robbery in the Illinois State Penitentiary. In August of 1954 he burglarized a cleaning establishment in East Alton, Illinois. Although he admittedly was charged with burglary he apparently has never been before the appropriate court and apparently is not presently wanted on this charge. In 1949 in Los Angeles, California he was convicted of burglary and sentenced to eight months in the county jail. After serving ninety days of this sentence he was released on probation for a period of two years.

Defendant shows absolutely no remorse at this time. He anticipates receiving a substantial sentence for the instant offense. In writer's opinion he is a confirmed criminal and a menace to society when in the free world.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward B. Murray
U. S. Probation Officer

EBM:lo

F B I

Date: 4/23/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS
FROM: SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) P
MURKIN

Enclosed for each Office is one copy of a pre-sentence report prepared regarding JAMES EARL RAY for the U. S. District Court, Western District of Missouri, Kansas City, Missouri, dated April 26, 1955. This report contains background information regarding JAMES EARL RAY, including his travel through numerous states in connection with the theft and passing of stolen money orders in March, 1955. RIFE located and interviewed Quincy, Illinois.
LEADS

All Offices are requested to review the enclosure thoroughly for the purpose of covering all pertinent leads suggested in the enclosure. This coverage should include, if not already done, a check of all places where the subject is listed as having been incarcerated, all places at which he is believed to have visited in the passing of stolen money orders, and any other investigation, including contact of law enforcement agencies, credit bureaus, public sources, informants and any other logical investigation suggested by the enclosed material which might assist in developing information helpful in locating JAMES EARL RAY at this time.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- 3 - Memphis (Enc. 1)
- 2 - Chicago (Enc. 1)
- 2 - Jacksonville (Enc. 1)
- 2 - Little Rock (Enc. 1)
- 2 - Los Angeles (Enc. 1)
- JLK:ak
(25)
- 2 - Miami (Enc. 1)
- 2 - New Orleans (Enc. 1)
- 2 - Omaha (Enc. 1)
- 2 - St. Louis (Enc. 1)
- 2 - Springfield (Enc. 1)
- 2 - Tampa (Enc. 1)
- 2 - Kansas City

Handwritten signature: Dawson

44-769-235

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSONVILLE (44-769)

DATE: 4/24/68

FROM : SA GEORGE H. VAN BALEN

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

On 4/9/68 a review of the Nassau telephone directories, and Fernandina Beach, Florida City Directory failed to reflect any listing for HARVEY LOWMEYER or HARVEY LOWMYER.

On same date, a review of the records at the Nassau County Florida Voter Registration Office, Nassau County Sheriff's Office, Fernandina Beach Police Department, and Fernandina Beach Credit Bureau failed to reflect any records identifiable with the name HARVEY LOWMEYER or HARVEY LOWMYER.

1 - (44-769)
GHV/



5010-100-01

44-769-236

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FBI - JACKSONVILLE	

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSONVILLE (44-769)

DATE: 4/24/68

FROM : SA GEORGE H. VAN EALEN

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

On 4/11/68 a review of the Nassau telephone directories and Fernandina Beach, Florida City Directory failed to reflect any listing for the name ERIC STARVO GALT.

On same date, a review of the records at the Nassau County Florida Voter Registration Office, Nassau County Sheriff's Office, Fernandina Beach Police Department, and Fernandina Beach Credit Bureau failed to reflect any records identifiable with the name ERIC STARVO GALT.

On same date, all drycleaning and laundry establishments in Nassau County, Florida, were contacted in an effort to determine if any of these establishments used a five digit thermo seal marking machine with specific numbering system. Investigation was negative re location of specific marking machine.

1 - (44-769)

GHV/



5010-108-01

44-769-237

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Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

4/23/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, DALLAS (44-2649) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Dallas teletype to Memphis and Charlotte dated 4/8/68; Charlotte teletype to Dallas, Memphis and Jacksonville dated 4/10/68 and Jacksonville teletype to Bureau, Memphis, Dallas and Charlotte dated 4/12/68.

Investigation has failed to locate CHARLES NELSON GIBSON. GIBSON has numerous drunk and disorderly arrests by the Dallas PD from 11/67 to the last arrest on 3/22/68. GIBSON was last released from Dallas City Jail 3/27/68. Dallas PD arrests for drunk are not fingerprinted or photographed. Elimination by this means was impossible. Photographs of JAMES EARL RAYE were exhibited to witnesses of the GIBSON arrests and the hotel manager where GIBSON stayed during March, 1968, and GIBSON was eliminated as being identical to RAYE.

2 - Memphis
1 - Charlotte (44-1365)(Info)
1 - Jacksonville (44-769)(Info)
2 - Dallas
JJS/sgl
(6)

44-769-238

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4/23/68

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861)
SAC, MIAMI (44-1854)

FROM: MEMPHIS (44-1987) (1P)

MURKIN; CR. ME OO.

RE MIAMI TELETYPE TO BUREAU, MAY TWENTYEIGHT, PM, APRIL TWENTYTWO LAST, REGARDING INDIVIDUAL OBSERVED BY NORTH CAROLINA HIGHWAY PATROL TROOPER HARRY L. WILLIAMS RIDING IN AUTOMOBILE BEARING FLORIDA LICENSE WITH PREFIX TEN W.

MEMPHIS IS NOT SO IMPRESSED WITH TROOPER WILLIAMS' RECOLLECTION FOR FACES THAT IT BELIEVES IT WORTHWHILE TO PHYSICALLY REVIEW OVER ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND FLORIDA REGISTRATION CARDS IN HOPES OF POSSIBLY IDENTIFYING THE INDIVIDUAL OBSERVED BY TROOPER WILLIAMS.

UACB, MEMPHIS SUGGESTS THAT YOU TAKE NO FURTHER ACTION TO IDENTIFY INSTANT FLORIDA LICENSE. JACKSONVILLE AND CHARLOTTE ADVISED ~~MEMBER~~ ~~ARRANGE~~ ~~RECORD~~ AND DANGEROUS. P. END.

1 - Jacksonville (44-769) (AM)
Airtel 1 - Charlotte (AM)

Teletype JCH:mjh
(3)
A.M. _____
A.M.S.D. _____
Spec. Del. _____
Reg. Mail _____
Registered _____

44-769-239

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FBI - JACKSONVILLE	

F B I

Date: 4/22/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
 FROM: SAC, JACKSON (157-9586) (P)

MURKIN -
 (OO: Memphis)

Re Jacksonville tel to the Bureau, dated 4/18/68.

The following investigation was conducted by SA JOHN H. PROCTOR, JR., at Meridian, Mississippi:

On April 18, 1968, REX ROGERS, Claims Agent, GM & O Railroad, Meridian, Mississippi, advised that EVERETT GAULT is an engineer for that railroad. He stated that GAULT has been so employed for the past twenty years. He advised that GAULT has eleven children and is presently separated from his wife. ROGERS stated that GAULT left Meridian, Mississippi, that date, as engineer on a freight train, and did not expect him to return until early morning, 4/22/68. ROGERS stated that he was not able to furnish the address of where GAULT would remain overnight on April 19-21, 1968.

On April 22, 1968, EVERETT GAULT, Route 1, Meridian, Mississippi, advised that he and his wife are presently separated and that he has a family consisting of eleven children. He stated none of these children have

- 3 - Bureau
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987)
- 1 - New Orleans (Info.)
- ② - Jacksonville (Info.) (44-769)
- 2 - Jackson

44-769-240

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JHP/bjk
 (10) *RKM*
 Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
 Special Agent in Charge

JN 157-9586

the name ERIC STARVO GALT, and pointed out that his last name is spelled GAULT and not GALT. EVERETT GAULT observed photographs of ERIC STARVO GALT and advised that he had never seen this individual, and that this person is definitely not a member of his family or a relation thereof. He stated that he has a brother by the name of CURTIS HOPE GAULT, and his last known address was Pioneer, Louisiana. EVERETT GAULT stated that his brother, CURTIS GAULT, was employed by the Ford Bacon and Davis Construction Company, Monroe, Louisiana. He stated he has not been in contact with his brother for some period of time, and is not sure of his present whereabouts.

He also commented that MALCOLM A. GAULT and EZRA GAULT are both brothers of his. EVERETT GAULT stated he could furnish no information concerning anyone who resembles the person in the photograph identified as ERIC STARVO GALT. EVERETT GAULT advised his brother, CURTIS HOPE GAULT, is not identical with ERIC STARVO GALT.

No lead to locate and interview CURTIS HOPE GAULT, Pioneer, Louisiana, is being set out, and this matter is being left to the discretion of the office of origin.

A & D

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-769)

DATE: 4/23/68

FROM : ROBERT W. CLARK

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

(OO: ME)

Reference the SAC's telephone call to the Tallahassee Resident Agency at 7:45AM on 4/23/68 regarding a UPI NEWS RELEASE that had a Tallahassee caption.

Mr. Howard Mathis, Dispatcher, Florida Highway Patrol, Jacksonville Highway, Tallahassee, Fla. was contacted immediately and he advised that their records show that at 8:22 PM on 4/22/68 dispatch was sent out to all their stations that set out the details on wanted flyer 442. Mr. Mathis advised that this was a routine procedure to send out such flyers to all their patrols. It was learned that Dispatcher Browning reported that he received the flyer in their 4PM mail on 4/22/68 and sent out same at 8:22PM. Mr. Browning had no answer as to all the information that has been in the newspapers that Galt was actually RAY. Browning asked if he should cancel the message and he was advised NO, but to sent out the info on the new flyer on RAY.

BARBARA FRYE, UPI, STATE CAPITOL, Tallahassee, Florida was contacted on 4/23/68 and she advised that she had seen the UPI release, but it had not come from his office, but UPI in Miami.

At 12:45PM Bill Gibson, AP Correspondent, Tallahassee telephonically contacted RA and asked for SA Clark. He inquired of SA Peter R Durland after learning that SA Clark was out as to whether there were any new developments in the "Galt case". When SA Durland inquired as to whether he meant the James Earl Ray case in which Galt an alias he advised this was the case. He did not mention the FHP or wanted flyers etc. SA Durland informed him that he had not personally heard of any major new developments in the case but that he might desire to call the Jacksonville Office in the event of same.

44-769-241

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FBI - JACKSONVILLE	

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5010-108-01

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

F B I

Date: 4/25/68

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

Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

TO: WFO (44-703)
FROM: JACKSONVILLE (44-769)

MURKIN

RE WFO TELETYPE APRIL TWENTYFOUR LAST RE SUSPECT
DRIVING VEHICLE WITH FLORIDA LICENSE TWO ONE SIX SIX NINE
THREE.

RECORDS, MVB, TALLAHASSEE, REFLECT TWO ONE - SIX SIX
NINE THREE IS NOT A CORRECT NUMBER. TWO - ONE SIX SIX NINE
THREE IS REGISTERED TO STEVE LOVE, ONE ZERO FOUR TWO WEST
TWENTYSEVENTH STREET, ^{JACKSONVILLE,} FOR NINETEEN SIXTYTWO FORD. LOVES
ARE NEGROES AND CAR HAS NOT LEFT FLORIDA RECENTLY.

A&D

44-769-242

Searched.....
Serialized...*me*.....
Indexed.....
Filed.....*me*.....

TJW:dem
(1)

Approved: *REF* Sent 11¹³-a M Per *m*
Special Agent in Charge

FBI JACKSVLE

FBI DALLAS
130AM URGENT 4-25-68 LMB
TO ATLANTA (44-2386), MOBILE AND JACKSONVILLE
FROM DALLAS (44-2649) 6P

88-4895

MURKIN; OO MEMPHIS

RE ROOMING HOUSE ONE ZERO SEVEN - FOURTEENTH STREET NORTHEAST,
ATLANTA, GEORGIA.

RE MOBILE TEL APRIL TWENTYFOUR LAST.
BILLY JOE FAULKNER, APARTMENT H. TWO ZERO ZERO TWO KIRBY STREET,
DALLAS, FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON APRIL TWENTYFOUR LAST.

THE ONLY TIME HE HAS BEEN IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA DURING RECENT
YEARS WAS FROM NOV. NINETEN SIXTYSIX THROUGH FEB. NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN
WHEN HE RESIDED AT AN UNRECALLED ADDRESS ON PIEDMONT STREET.

*11/66
7/67*

THEN HE RESIDED FOR ABOUT TWO WEEKS AT WHAT HE BELIEVES WAS ONE
ZERO SEVEN FOURTEENTH STREET NORTHEAST. IT WAS THE FIRST BUILDING
ON FOURTEENTH STREET OFF PEACHTREE. HE LIVED IN A FIRST FLOOR
APARTMENT IN THE REAR NEAR THE KITCHEN DOOR. HE WAS INJURED ON
MARCH TWENTYONE NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN AND LEFT TLANTA ON MARCH TWENTY-

*Case assigned
Wald*

FOUR NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN AND WENT TO LIVE WITH HIS FATHER WILLIAM
G. FAULKNER, IN MIDLAND CITY, ALABAMA.. HE STAYED THERE UNTIL
END PAGE ONE

*Lead - Jacksonville
Bureau
City Area*

44-769-243

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Carroll

PAGE TWO

SOMETIME IN AUGUST NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN WHEN DE WENT TO NEW ORLEANS AND BEGAN WORKING FOR EDWARDS TRANSPORTATION COMPANY ON A TUGBOAT. HE WORKED ON THE TUGBOAT FOR ABOUT SIX WEEKS. THEN HE WENT TO LOCAL FIVE ONE THREE, INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, GALVESTON, TEXAS, AND THEY GOT HIM A JOB WITH LUMMUS COMPANY AS WIREMAN AND JOURNEYMAN ELECTIICIAN ON A CONSTRUCTION JOB IN TEXAS CITY , TEXAS. WHILE IN TEXAS CITY HE RESIDED AT CONLONIAL COURTS WHICH IS BEHIND THE MAIN POST OFFICE. HE WAS LAID OFF THIS JOB BECAUSE OF A REDUCTION IN FORCE.

IN NOV. AND DEC. NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN AND JAN. AND FEB. NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT, HE WAS IN MIDLAND CITY, ALABAMA WITH HIS FATHER. IN FEB. NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT, HE WENT TO WORK FOR OLYMPIA GOLF COURSE, DOTHAN, ALBAMA AND WAS FIRED IN MID MARCH NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT.

FROM THE MIDDLE OF MARCH NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT UNTIL HE CAME TO DALLAS ON APRIL THREE LAST HE LIVED WITH SUE KELLY AT MY PLACE, A BEER BAR ON ROUTE FOUR, GRACEVILLE, FLORIDA. THIS BAR IS LOCATED THREE AND ONE HALF MILES NORTH OF GRACEVILLE ON SLOCOM (PH) HIGHWAY. END PAGE TWO

*March 68
apr 2*

Jackson Co.

PAGE 3

DL-44-2649

SLOCOM (PH) HIGHWAY. HE SPENT FOUR OR FIVE DAYS A WEEK AT THIS BAR AND THE REST OF THE TIME HE SPENT IN MIDLAND CITY WHERE HE STAYED WITH HIS AATHER OR IN A TRAILER HE RENTED FROM MR. AND MRS. CHARLES WOODHAM. THE ONLY TRAVEL HE DID DURING THIS TIME EXCEPT BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN MIDLAND CITY AND GRACEVILLE WAS ONE TRIP HE MADE TO PENSACOLA, FLORIDA TO PICK UP A GIRL TO WORK AT THE BAR. HE WENT TO PENSACOLA AND RETURNED THE SAME DAY.

DURING THE TIME HE WAS AT MY PLACE BAR TWO GIRLS WORKED THERE, JACKIE MOLINE AND JACKIE (LNU) WHO IS NOW EMPLOYED AT THE BUSY BEA CAFE IN DOTHAN, ALABAMA.

LARRY BURCH, AN INSURANCE SALESMAN FOR INDEPENDENT LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, WAS IN THE BAR ALMOST DAILY AND CAN VOUCH FOR HIS BEING THERE.

HE ARRIVED IN DALLAS ON APRIL THREE LAST AND RENTED THE APARTMENT AT TWO ZERO ZERO TWO KIRBY ON THAT DATE. ON APRIL FOUR LAST HE RECALLS GOING TO SEE WALTER (LNU) WHO OPERATES GALAXIE ONE, ON LIVE OAK STREET AND PAYING HIM THREE DOLLARS

END PAGE 3

PAGE 4

DL-44-2649

FOR A TELEPHONE CALL HE HAD MADE TO WALTER IN JANUARY. ON APRIL FIVE LAST HE HAD LUNCH WITH DALE KNOTTS, GENERAL DIRECTOR OF THE TB ASSOCIATION IN DALLAS.

JERRY NED MILLER, WHO FORMERLY RESIDED NEAR MY PLACE BAR ON ROUTE FOUR, GRACEVILLE, HAS BEEN HIS CONSTANT COMPANION FOR THE LAST TWO MONTHS AND IS NOW RESIDING WITH HIM AT APARTMENT H, TWO ZERO ZERO TWO KIRBY STREET, DALLAS.

MILLER INTERVIEWED AND VERIFIED FAULKNER HAS BEEN HIS CONSTANT COMPANION SINCE MID MARCH NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT AND THEY HAVE NOT BEEN TO ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM, OR MEMPHIS DURING THAT TIME.

SUE KELLY CAME TO DALLAS WITH HIM IN HIS CAR AND IS ALSO LIVING WITH HIM AT THIS ADDRESS. SHE IS CURRENTLY WORKING AS A WAITRESS AT THE MANDARIN RESTAURANT ON GASTON AVE.

HE STATED HE DID NOT KNOW ANYONE IN ANY OF THE ADJOINING APARTMENT BUILDING IN ATLANTA. HE RECALLS TALKING TO A MAN ABOUT FIFTYSEVEN YEARS OLD WHO RESIDED AT THAT ADDRESS WHO WAS

END PAGE 4

PAGE 5

DL-44-2649

A CARPENTER AND HE BELIEVES HE RETURNED TO HIS HOME IN CARROLTON, GEORGIA ON WEEKENDS.

HE WAS SHOWN A PHOTOGRAPH OF JAMES EARL RAY AND HE STATED HE HAS NEVER SEEN THIS PERSON AT ANY TIME. HE SAID THE NAME IS NOT FAMILIAR TO HIM, NOR IS THE NAME ERIC STARVO GALT.

HE KNOWS NOTHING WHATEVER ABOUT THE MURDER OF MARTIN LUTHER KING AND HAD NO HATRED OF KING. HE WOULD NEVER HAVE CONSIDERED PARTICIPATING IN ANY WAY IN A PLOT TO KILL KING. HE ADMITTED HAVING BEEN A MEMBER OF THE KU KLUX KLAN IN NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE BUT SAID HE CEASED BEING A MEMBER IN ABOUT MARCH NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE AFTER HE WAS STOPPED BY POLICE IN SOME SMALL TOWN IN NORTH CAROLINA AT WHICH TIME HE HAD HIS KLAN ROBE ON. HE CLAIMED HE WAS ONLY IN THE KLAN FOR ABOUT FOUR MONTHS AND HELD NO POSITION OF RESPONSIBILITY.

HE DISPLAYED A CURRENT FLORIDA DRIVERS LICENSE NUMBER H ONE EIGHT ONE SEVEN THREE NINE D WHICH SHOWS IT WAS ISSUED MARCH TWENTYFIVE NINETEEN FIFTYEIGHT, SHOULD BE SIXTYEIGHT, AND EXPIRES ON HIS BIRTH DATE IN NINETEEN SEVENTY.

END PAGE 5

PAGE 6

DL-44-2649

IT IS ISSUED TO BILLY JOE FAULKNER, ROUTE FOUR, GRACEVILLE,
JACKSON, FLORIDA, BORN [REDACTED],

WHITE,,BLUE EYES, FIVE FEET TEN INCHES, ONE HUNDRED SIXTYFIVE
POUNDS, AN ELECTRICIAN.

MRS. MARGARET MC GULPIN, MANAGER OF APARTMENTS AT TWO
ZERO ZERO TWO KIRBY, VERIFIED THAT FAULKNER, A WOMAN HE SAID
WAS HIS WIFE, AND A BOY SAID TO BE THEIR SON, MOVED INTO
APARTMENT H ON APRIL THREE LAST.

DALLAS CONDUCTING INVESTIGATION TO VERIFY ABOVE.

MOBILE AND JACKSONVILLE CONDUCT INVESTIGATION AT PLACES
NAMED BY FAULKNER TO VERIFY HIS STORY.
AM COPIES TO MEMPHIS.P.

END

MHM

FBI JACKSVLE

4/26/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
(ATTENTION: FBI LABORATORY)
FROM: SAC, JACKSONVILLE (44-769) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
CIVIL RIGHTS

(OO: ME)
BUFILE: 44-38861)

Re ME airtel to all offices, dated 4/19/68;
Bureau teletype to ME, 4/12/68.

There is enclosed for the FBI Laboratory a piece of cloth containing specimens of Thermo-Seal Laundry marking machines, Serial Numbers R31998 and R31999, made available by Mr. J.F. HICKS, Manager, Tillman Laundry and Cleaners, 310 Park Street, Jacksonville, Florida, on 4/26/68 to SA CHARLES J. HONETOR.

For information of the Laboratory, Mr. TILLMAN has advised that these Thermo-Seal Marking Machines are not presently in use but were in use during the period from August, 1967 until approximately two weeks ago. He advised that his laundry in the past has used the code "20R-3" on a yellow tape. He said the only record maintained of customers would be the book containing record of this code number; the customer's name and the laundry branch from which it was received. He stated the listings were not enclosed in numerical order within the books and all books in which laundry receipt was recorded by the branches during the period from August, 1967 to date would have to be reviewed.

3 - Bureau (Enc. 1)
2 - Memphis (44-1987)
2 - Jacksonville
CJH:pas
(7)

[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten initials]

44-769-244

Searched	_____
Serialized	<i>me</i>
Indexed	_____
Filed	<i>me</i>

JK 44-769

The FBI Laboratory is requested to compare the enclosed specimens with the questioned specimens found on the pillow case and bed sheet removed from the trunk of the 1966 white Mustang located at Atlanta on 4/11/68.

The purpose of the above is to determine if possible whether the questioned laundry mark was made by the two Thermo-Seal Marking Machines in the possession of Tillman's Laundry and Cleaners.

The enclosed specimens need not be returned upon completion of this investigation and may be destroyed if of no value.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

FBI JACKSVLE

FBI MIAMI

242 PM-PM URGENT 4/26/68 SHR

TO DIRECTOR, ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM, JACKSONVILLE, KANSAS CITY AND
MEMPHIS

FROM MIAMI 44-1854 /P/ 3 P

MURKIN

RE ATLANTA TEL TO BUREAU, MEMPHIS, BIRMINGHAM, LOS ANGELES, KANSAS
CITY, SPRINGFIELD, MIAMI, APR. TWO FOUR LAST.

PAUL ALVIN LAIL, THREE FOUR BARBADOS, PALM SPRINGS, FLA., SAID
HE KNEW RAY FOR THREE YEARS IN MO. STATE PEN BUT HAS NOT SEEN OR HEARD
FROM RAY SINCE HE GOT OUT A LITTLE OVER TWO YEARS AGO.

LAIL SAID LEWIE "WHITEY" DOWDA WORKED WITH RAY IN KITCHEN MO.
STATE PEN AND WOULD KNOW MUCH MORE ABOUT HIM. ALSO NEAL ABBEY WAS
RAY'S REAL BUDDY AND WOULD REALLY KNOW MUCH MORE ABOUT RAY THAN ANYBODY
ELSE. LAIL SAID HE DID NOT KNOW IF ABBEY WAS IN OR OUT OF MO. STATE
PEN.

LAIL ADVISED RAY ASSOCIATED WITH GROUP WHO KILLED NEGROES IN
MO. STATE PEN BUT DOES NOT KNOW IF RAY WAS IN ON IT OR NOT. HE SAID
RAY NOT RACIST BUT KNOWS HE DID NOT LIKE NEGROES AS MOST OF THE INMATES
FELT THE SAME WAY ABOUT NEGROES.

LAIL ADVISED RAY WOULD BE HARD TO FIND AND FEELS THAT HE WILL
HAVE A FORTYFIVE AUTOMATIC "STASHED" ON HIM AND WOULD NOT GIVE UP.
END PAGE ONE

*Covered
4/26/68
Tallahassee
Dick,
In Rayford
Fl. #
A 017784*

44-769-245

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44-1854

PAGE TWO

ALSO RAY WOULD NOT HIDE OUT IN COUNTRY BECAUSE HE IS A "CITY BOY"; HOWEVER, DOES NOT FEEL RAY WOULD GO FOR REALLY BIG CITIES BUT A PLACE ABOUT THE SIZE OF HOUSTON, TEXAS.

LAIL ADVISED LEO BARNETT, AN EX-CON FROM MO. STATE PEN AND BELIEVED IN JAIL SOMEWHERE IN FLA., HANDLED DOPE AND KNEW WHERE IT WAS COMING FROM AND WOULD KNOW IF RAY USED DOPE AND WHERE AND HOW HE GOT IT. J

LAIL SAID FRED MILLER, A "CUT AND DRY CON" WHO WORKED IN THE TAG PLANT, WAS ONE OF THE LEADERS AND KNEW RAY WELL AND IF HE WOULD TALK HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO FURNISH INFO ABOUT RAY. LAIL SAID RAY ASSOCIATED WITH OTHERS AND NOT LONER IN HIS OPINION.

LAIL RECALLED RAY ALWAYS WORE HIS HAIR CUT SHORT "BUTCH CUT" IN SUMMER AND LONG IN WINTER.

LAIL ADVISED HE WILL THINK ABOUT RAY SOME MORE AND IF HE RECALLS ANYTHING WILL NOTIFY THIS OFFICE. LAIL SEEMED COOPERATIVE AND VERY INTERESTED IN REWARD MONEY.

KANSAS CITY AT JEFFERSON CITY, MO., ASCERTAIN AT MO. STATE PEN WHEREABOUTS OF FRED MILLER AND INTERVIEW ABOUT RAY OR SET OUT LEADS
END PAGE TWO

44-1854

PAGE THREE

TO HAVE INTERVIEWED. ALSO DETERMINE WHEREABOUTS FORMER INMATE LEO BARNETT
JACKSONVILLE AT TALLAHASSEE, FLA., CONTACT BUREAU OF CORRECTIONS
AND ASCERTAIN IF A LEO BARNETT, FORMER INMATE MO. STATE PEN, CONFINED
ANYWHERE IN FLA.

FD THREE ZERO TWO'S BEING FURNISHED KANSAS CITY AND MEMPHIS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

MHM

FBI JACKSVLE

HOLS PLS

4/24/68

TELETYPE

URGENT
IMMEDIATE

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861) (AIRMAIL)
LOS ANGELES

FROM: PHOENIX (44-371) (4 P)

MURKIN

FOR INFO LOS ANGELES, DEPUTY SHERIFF RAY STOCK, COCONINO COUNTY SO, FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA, RECEIVED PHONE CALL TWO TWENTY AM, APRIL TWENTY, LAST, FROM ANONYMOUS MALE WHO STATED HE HAD DONE STATE TIME WITH RAY, AKA GALT. CALLER ALSO SAID HE HAD DONE FEDERAL TIME AT TEXARKANA, TEXAS, WITH ONE DAVID WILSON, WHO LATER MARRIED FLAGSTAFF GIRL WHOSE BROTHER OR SISTER WAS NAMED HERNANDEZ. CALLER STATED RAY AND WILSON HAD DONE TIME TOGETHER AND THAT DAY OR TWO PRIOR TO ASSASSINATION OF KING, CALLER MET WILSON ABOARD PLANE FROM

- 1 - Bureau (AM)
- 1 - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
- 1 - Little Rock (157-1215) (AM)
- 1 - Dallas (44-2649) (AM)
- 1 - Kansas City (AM)
- ① - Jacksonville (44-769) (AM)
- 1 - Phoenix

RJVL:rs
(7)

44-769-246

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FBI - JACKSONVILLE	

PAGE TWO
PX 44-371
EJVL:rs

PHOENIX TO DETROIT, MICHIGAN, AT WHICH TIME WILSON HAD TICKET TO NASHVILLE, TENN., AND WAS ENROUTE MEMPHIS. CALLER STATED HE HEARD LATER THAT RAY WAS IN MEMPHIS AT THAT TIME BUT CALLER DID NOT KNOW FOR SURE. CALLER STATED WILSON WANTED TO GET EVEN WITH RAY FOR SOMETHING THAT HAPPENED IN PENITENTIARY, THAT WILSON HATES "NIGGERS" AND THAT WILSON WAS IN FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA "NOW." CALLER AGREED TO PHONE BACK IN THIRTY MINUTES TO TALK TO FBI AGENT BUT NO CALL RECEIVED.

INVESTIGATION AT FLAGSTAFF IDENTIFIED DAVID L. WILSON, BORN [REDACTED], AT WESTBURN, TENN., SIX FEET THREE, ONE NINETY POUNDS, BLUE EYES, BROWN HAIR, FBI NO. SEVEN TWO NINE TWO FOUR TWO C. ONE XEROX COPY EACH OF PHOENIX TELS TO BUREAU, ET AL, DATED APRIL TWENTYONE AND TWENTYTWO, LAST, CONTAINING RESULTS OF INTERVIEW WITH WILSON AND HIS WIFE, EDNA WILSON, BEING FURNISHED LOS ANGELES AIRMAIL.

EDNA WILSON, WIFE OF DAVID L. WILSON, LISTENED TO TAPE OF ANONYMOUS PHONE CALL AND STATED SHE HAS HEARD VOICE BEFORE AND BELIEVES SAME POSSIBLY THAT OF HER FORMER HUSBAND,

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EJU:rs

RICHARD HARRELL. HARRELL IDENTIFIED AS RICHARD B. HARRELL, FBI NUMBER SEVEN FIVE ONE ONE NINE FIVE A AND HIS IDENTIFICATION RECORD REFLECTS LAST ARREST SEPTEMBER TEN, LAST, BY SO, SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA, NO. TWO THREE FOUR SIX NINE, ON CHARGE HIT AND RUN (PROPERTY) WITH DISPOSITION "SIXTY DAYS SUSPENDED, TWO YEARS RLV." SECOND LAST ARREST WAS BY SO, RIVERSIDE, CAL., THEIR NO. A DASH NINE SIX SEVEN SIX NINE, JUNE FOURTEEN, SIXTYSEVEN, FOR BATTERY AND FAILURE TO APPEAR,, DISPOSITION BEING TEN DAYS SUSPENDED AND FINES OF FIFTYSIX DOLLARS AND TWENTYNINE DOLLARS. HE WAS ALSO ARRESTED BY SO, RIVERSIDE, UNDER NO. A EIGHT THREE FIVE EIGHT FIVE ON JANUARY TWENTY, SIXTYSEVEN, FOR DRUNK, FINED SEVENTEEN DOLLARS.

LOS ANGELES AT SAN LUIS OBISPO AND RIVERSIDE, CAL., INSTITUTE INVESTIGATION TO LOCATE HARRELL FOR INTERVIEW RE ANONYMOUS PHONE CALL.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFO LOS ANGELES, DAVID WILSON WAS IN FLORIDA STATE PRISON, RAIFORD, FLA., NOVEMBER TWENTYONE, FIFTYEIGHT, TO APRIL SIX, SIXTY, AND EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY ONE

PAGE FOUR
PX 44-371
EJVL:rs

CLARENCE CLARK AT THAT PRISON DURING THAT PERIOD NEGATIVE.

MEMPHIS, LITTLE ROCK, DALLAS, KANSAS CITY, AND
JACKSONVILLE ADVISED AIRMAIL. ~~Armed~~ and Dangerous

PENDING.

F B I

Date: 4/23/68

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

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO: SAC, JACKSONVILLE
FROM: SAC, BUFFALO (44-374) (P)
MURKIN

On 4/22/68, EUGENE R. ROSZYK, 90 Cleveland Avenue, Salamanca, New York, advised that about 10:30 A. M., that date, he was in Langworthy's Restaurant, on Killbuck, when a man entered the restaurant and sat a stool away from him. He was wearing a white shirt, no tie; blue sports coat, checked; light gray pants, and sunglasses. He was driving a 1964 or 1965 two-door, either white or light tan, Ford, with Florida License 4W 69100.

ROSZYK had seen photographs of RAY on television the preceding night and felt that this individual bore a close resemblance.

The driver proceeded west on Route 17, towards Jamestown, New York.

Lookouts placed with State Police and Sheriff's Office failed to locate the car.

Jacksonville, at Tallahassee, Florida, will determine to whom Florida Registration 4W 69100 is issued.

RAY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- 2 - Jacksonville (AM)
 - 1 - Birmingham (44-1740) (Info) (AM)
 - 1 - Kansas City (Info) (AM)
 - 2 - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
 - 1 - Buffalo
- RGE:mfm
(7)

Cody sent Tampa 11/24/68
Reg. James Peterson 463 8th Avenue St. Pete 6410.
Chas. [unclear] ref.

44-769-247

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 26 1968	
FBI - JACKSONVILLE	

Wahl

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

CONFIDENTIAL PLEASE ←

Att. of the Attorney General
U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

4/12/68

Dear Sir:

As yet you have not located the killer of Martin Luther King, jr. The following may have no relationship to it whatsoever; on the other hand, it may be a one in a million clue.

I have a neighbor who formerly was a tile salesman, headquarters, Alabama. While a salesman he travelled the U. S.. He is, in my opinion, an intense racist, has written frequently in the newspaper expressing his views, and his son in turn brought to another neighbor racist newspapers from Mississippi. When his son returned from service in Germany, he had praise for Hitler.

OPEN RETIREMENT

The neighbor evidently began a floor-tile laying business two or three years ago, for a volks-type truck has frequently been at his house, cans debris indicate this, and very frequently, he receives packages via truck delivery. He leaves his home frequently and returns, frequently carrying packages into the house. I have heard the rumor that he obtained a rifle of special quality for his next door neighbor.

The man's son owns a white mustang Ford, and the last I knew, the son was working in Miami with an airline company.

As I said, typically a volks-type delivery truck comes to the house, and it has not been there for some time. In the two weeks beginning the Sundays of the 17th and the 24, there was an unusual flurry of activity around the house--across the street. A passenger car volkswagon appeared with young man, wife, and child and the rear apparently loaded with clothes. The young lady showed her face, and she may be a relative. The young man however during the several days he was here did not "show himself." Too, as I recall he had been at the house before, he or someone his age,-- and again had not shown himself. As I recall, the Volks passenger car reappeared for a second time with the family and again loaded with clothing around the 19-23 of March. During this latter period a delivery truck--not the Volks, but an open one, appeared apparently loaded with square gallon or square five gallon cans. Nightly both the delivery truck and the volks backed into the neighbor's drive, the volks last.

Sometime around the 24, the neighbor's two cars, the Volks passenger, the delivery truck, all disappeared. The enclosed Volks floor-tile truck did not show up during this period. My wife and I went to Atlanta to a conference this same week.

44-72-662

APR 15 1968

RAC. [Signature]

[Signature]

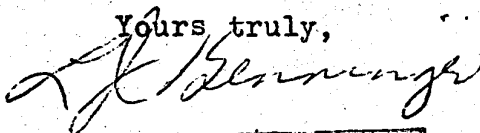
44-769-248

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 26 1968	
FBI - JACKSONVILLE	
<i>Haley</i>	

and were away Mar 27, 28, 29. When we returned all cars were still gone. ~~xxxxxxx~~ On the 5th of April ~~xxx~~ the man neighbor returned by himself with his personal cars. The wife no, and no other cars or trucks. It may be they all have gone to their home in Mass.

Anyway, this may have a bearing on the case or it may not. I know no more than this. If you feel it worthwhile I can give a name but I would rather not. The neighbor is my accross the street neighbor. Because we differ so strongly on our racial and political views we do not talk.

Yours truly,



DR. LAWRENCE J. BENNINGER
1022 N.E. 20TH AVENUE
GAINESVILLE, FLA. 32601

REC'D
DEPT OF JUSTICE
APR 15 10 14 AM '68
CIVIL RIGHTS
DIVISION

F B I

Date: 4/24/68

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

Via Airtel _____
(Priority)

To: SAC, Jacksonville

✓ From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

Re Dr. Lawrence J. Benninger - Complainant.

Enclosed for Jacksonville are two copies and for Memphis one copy of a letter from Dr. Benninger dated 4/12/68 which was forwarded to the Bureau by the Civil Rights Division.

Jacksonville interview Dr. Benninger for any additional, pertinent information he may have in his possession, and identify the neighbor he refers to so that that individual, or individuals, may be eliminated or included as suspects in this case.

Enclosures (2)

1 - Memphis (Enclosure) (Info)

*Case assigned
Hale*

44-769-247

*Garrett
lead
to*

SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED <i>mg</i>	FILED <i>mg</i>
APR 26 1968	
FBI - JACKSONVILLE	
<i>Hale</i>	<i>JA</i>

Sent Via _____ M Per _____

F B I

Date: 4/26/68

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

Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

TO: ATLANTA (44-2386)
MEMPHIS
FROM: JACKSONVILLE (44-769)

MURKIN.

RE ATLANTA TELETYPE APRIL TWENTYFOUR LAST.

RE ~~CONTACT HAD AT DE LAND, FLA., WITH FATHER OF~~ LEWIE
RAYMOND DOWDA.

Father of Dowda

~~HE~~ SAID DID NOT KNOW SUBJECT RAY BY NAME OR KNOWN ALIASES
AND FURTHER HAD NOT SEEN ANYONE WHO EVEN VAGUELY RESEMBLED
RAY'S PHOTOGRAPH. HE EMPHASIZED IN EVENT WERE TO HAVE CONTACT
IN ANY MANNER WITH SUBJECT RAY, HE WOULD IMMEDIATELY CONTACT
FBI.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

44-769-250

Searched.....
Serialized.....*me*
Indexed.....
Filed.....*me*

FEG:ser
(1) *ser*

Approved: *REG* Special Agent in Charge
Sent *AT 4:30* *ME 4:31* *p* M Per *m*
mcp

F B I

Date: 4/26/68

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

Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

TO: ATLANTA (44-2386)
DALLAS
FROM: JACKSONVILLE (44-769)

MURKIN

RE ATLANTA APARTMENT.

RE DALLAS TELETYPE TO ATLANTA, MOBILE AND JACKSONVILLE
APRIL TWENTYFIVE LAST.

BILLY JOE FAULKNER, OPERATION OF MY CLUB, RFD FOUR,
GRACEVILLE, FLORIDA, VERIFIED AND LEFT GRACEVILLE AREA
ABOUT WEEK OF APRIL TWO; VERIFIED BY LARRY BIRCH AND
OPERATORS OF TWO OTHER BEER PLACES IN AREA.

OPAL SHIRLEY TOOK OVER OPERATION OF MY CLUB NIGHT
OF APRIL FOUR AND CLOSED BY BEVERAGE AGENTS NEXT DAY.
OPAL SHIRLEY ADVISED FAULKNER SUPPOSED TO HAVE LEFT AREA
NIGHT OF APRIL TWO OR THREE. FAULKNER AND JERRY NED MILLER
CONSIDERED PROBABLE HOMOSEXUALS.

JACKIE HALL, AKA JACKIE MOLINE, LEFT GRACEVILLE AREA
YESTERDAY WITH BEN HUGH SHAW AND HUBERT HOLEMAN FOR COLUMBUS,

1 - Memphis (AM)
CLC:dem
(2)

Searched.....
Serialized...*me*.....
Indexed.....
Filed.....*me*.....

Approved: *REG*
Special Agent in Charge

Sent AT 445 DL 449 PM Per *m*

(LMB) 44-769-251

F B I

Date:

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

Via _____
(Priority)

JK 44-769
PAGE TWO

GEORGIA. SHAW AND HOLEMAN PREVIOUSLY LIVED COLUMBUS AND
HOLEMAN HAS UNKNOWN NAMED SISTER THERE.

ATLANTA ATTEMPT TO LOCATE JACKIE HALL, AKA MOLINE,
FOR ANY POSSIBLE TRADITIONAL INFORMATION RE FAULKNER.

MEMPHIS ADVISED AIRMAIL.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

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