

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

JK 44-769 TJW:cag 3

with negative results.

Leading newspapers, radio and television stations were contacted April 17, 1968, and furnished a press release regarding the Federal complaint filed against ERIC STARVO GALT, and available photographs furnished to them. Contact has been maintained with all mass communications' media in the Jacksonville Division, to insure frequent communications with this case and photographs of subject have been made available to them.

Criminal informants and appropriate racial and security informants have been contacted.

As previously reported, Thermo-Seal Tapes were found on a pillow case and bed sheets in the trunk of the 1966 white mustang registered to ERIC STARVO GALT. All laundries in the Jacksonville Division, determined to be operating Thermo-Seal Marking Machines, were contacted in an effort to locate a laundry using a similar code, with no positive information being obtained.

On April 29, 1968, LEO BARNETT, Age 37, from Flat River, Missouri, and presently incarcerated at the Florida State Prison, Raiford, Florida, advised SA THOMAS J. WALSH he knew JAMES EARL RAY in the Missouri State Prison, from about 1962, until August 1, 1966, however, not well. He said RAY was in a different cell block than he, and RAT worked in the kitchen while BARNETT worked in the Soap Factory. BARNETT ordinarily only saw RAY approximately once a week. He met him through a mutual friend, BILLY MILES, and only associated with RAY because of MILES, who is presently at New Pennitentiary, Moberly, Missouri. BARNETT recalled RAY as quiet, not saying much, and bothering nobody. He described him as a loner with no close friends and as having a bad mervous condition and a definite mental problem. RAY, in his opinion, was taking powdered

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amphetamine while in prison and although he had no knowledge of the amount RAY was using, he suspected it was a great quantity during the times when the supply was available and on other occasions, none, due to weight loss and gains of RAY from 10 to 15 pounds over short periods of time. BARNETT noted that amphetamine taken in quantities would produce a substantial rapid weight loss. According to BARNETT the supply of amphetamine prior to 1964 was readily available at \$5 a shor or less. After 1964, amphetamine was very scarce, however, was available and the price remained at \$5 a shot. BARNETT recalled that in 1964, three Megroes were killed in the Missouri State Pennitentiary, however, he was certain RAY was not involved in this killing since BARNETT was aware of those actually involved. The only place BARNETT heard RAY speak of was Raytown near Kansas City, Missouri. BARNETT said he found it hard to believe RAY could be completely responsible for the killing of KING since he was of the impression RAY was foo stupid and would not have enough initiative.

Other than MILES, the only other individual that BARNETT knew that would know RAY well would be LOUIE "WEITET" DALTA.

A review of the files of the Jacksonville Office was made in an effort to locate a vehicle recovered in the Jacksonville Division that had been stolen from the State of Georgia, subsequent to March 23, 1968, and recovered subsequent to April 4, 1968, that may have been utilized by subject RAY. Agents further doublechecked law enforcement agencies in the Jacksonville Division to be certain all Georgia cars found abandoned had been reported.

On April 30, 1968, photographs and information regarding JAMES EARL RAY were furnished to the State

JK 44-769 TJW:cag 5

Beverage Department, who volunteered to make a copy available to each of its district offices so their agents would be familiar with the photograph of RAY when they made their daily contacts in bars throughout the State.

Subscribers to telephone numbers receiving calls from coin telephones along the route taken by RAY for December 15, 1967, through December 17, 1967, were contacted. There was no indication RAY had called any of these subscribers.

On April 30, 1968, law enforcement officers maintaining unidentified latent fingerprints in connection with matters under their jurisdiction were requested to compare these latents with fingerprints of JAMES EARL RAY.

	outing Slip 7 (Rev. 3-31-67)	(Copies to Offices Checked)		
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R	lemark si			
Enclosed are copies of another photograph taken of James Earl Ray, aka Eric S. Galt in Fall of 1967.				
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

Jacksonville, Florida May 14, 1968

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is a mat and proof and two additional photographs of James Earl Ray, a Missouri prison escapee, sought under the alias Eric Starvo Galt, in connection with the gunshot slaying of Civil Rights leader Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr. Ray is one of the FBI's "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives."

Photograph #1, taken in 1968, should bear the caption, "James Earl Ray," and is the photograph of Ray in dark glasses.

Photograph #2 should bear the caption, "James Earl Ray," and was taken in 1968. This is the head shot of Ray in a business suit.

The FBI is requesting the assistance of the nation's press in bringing about the prompt apprehension of this badly sought fugitive.

Your cooperation in this matter and other matters of mutual interest are deeply appreciated by me.

Very truly yours,

Robert E. Gebhardt

Special Agent in Charge

Enclosures: 4

5 ant all News 5/14/68 SERIALIZED FILED

MAY 15 1968

FBI — JACKSONVILLE

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1982 EDITION
GSA FFMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO

SAC, Albany

DATE: May 20, 1968

FROM

Director, FBI

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

PUBLICITY ON REWARDS OFFERED

Each Special Agent in Charge and Legal Attache is instructed to promptly remind their established cooperative news sources, in a discreet and tactful manner, of the existence of substantial reward money for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the killer of Dr. Martin Luther King. This money now totals at least \$100,000. The FBI should not, however, be publicized as the source of this reminder.

While the Bureau's continuing policy is to encourage the public to furnish information to law enforcement authorities as a matter of good citizenship, without expectation of financial reward, it is fully recognized that monetary rewards are often necessary to motivate some individuals. The knowledge of the existence of the substantial rewards available in the Murkin case could possibly prove of value in the solution of this major investigation.

1 - Copies to all Special Agents in Charge and Legats



5AC M Hall pl

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

DECODED COPY

XXX Radio

"URBENT"

MAY 21, 1968 **Teletype**

TO:

ALL FIELD DIVISIONS

FROM:

DIRECTOR. F.B.I.

MURKIN.

INASMUCH AS RAY IS KNOWN TO STAY AT "FLOPHOUSES" AND LOWER CLASS ROOMING HOUSES, ALL OFFICES WILL FURNISH COPY OF IDENTIFICATION ORDER REGARDING RAY TO SALVATION ARMY AND OTHER CHARITABLE TYPE MISSION

ALL OFFICES COVERING STATE CAPITALS, IF NOT ALREADY DONE, WILL AT DRIVERS LICENSE BUREAUS CHECK ALL DRIVERS LICENS APPLICATIONS FOR MONTHS OF APRIL AND MAY, 1968, CONCERNING ALL MALE CAUCASIANS.

OVER 30 YEARS OF AGE AND UNDER 55 YEARS, IN VIEW OF FACT IT IS

POSSIBLE SUBJECT SECURED DRIVERS LICENSE USING ANOTHER NAME OTHER

THAN ALIASES KNOWN. AS RESULT OF REVIEWING THESE APPLICATIONS.

YOU SHOULD CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE IF ANY

SUCH INDIVIDUAL IDENTICAL WITH SUBJECT.

XM ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

TOR:

5:59 PM 5

5-22-68 JK

CODE:

JC.

MAY 2.2 1968
EBI - HACKSONVILLE

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If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1982 EDITION
GSA FFMR (21 CFR) 101-11.6
UNITED STATES G ERNMENT

Memorandum

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SAC, JACKSONVILLE (44-769)

DATE: 5/22/68

16-1108x

FROM

SPC JASPER L. CARTER, JR.

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

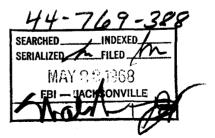
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MR. LONG, Division 6, Bureau, telephonically contacted the office this date in reference to DONALD JAMES NISSEN. He advised that a name check at the Bureau on NISSEN reveals that NISSEN is subject of a Parole violation case with Phoenix origin. He advised that NISSEN is possibly bureau fugitive in this case. He stated that IEE Jacksonville's file number on NISSEN is 76-1108. He advised that he was calling to advise this office of this in view of possibility NISSEN in Panama City. Mr. LONG was advised that an airtel was sent this date concerning this matter and that NISSEN is not presently in Panama City but possibly in Reno, Nevada. He was advised that a lead was set out for Las Vegas to ascertain if NISSEN could be located and interviewed at Reno. He was further advised that according to Jacksonville file 76-1108m NISSEN not fugitive at this time in it.

Mr. LONG suggested that Jacksonvilee send copy of airtel to Phoenix for their information.

JDC/jlc

Don't



JK 44-769

He stated the name of the unit is the Auto Safety Control and the company office is located in Reno Nevada.

Panama City, Plorida, has determined that as of \$/16/88, the files of the Bay County SO and the Panama City PD failed to reflect any information concerning DONALD JAMES MISSEN.

On 5/16/68, Mrs. MARY HUCKABEE, Credit Bureau of Panama City, advised the only information in her files concerning DCMALD JAMES NISSEN is a notation indicating that as of January, 1966, he was residing at 5612 East Highway 36, which is the address for the Paradise Trailer Park.

On 5/20/68, ERNEST L. THRONE, Operator, Paradise Trailer Park, 5612 East Highway 98, advised that his records are not available prior to 1/67, and that he has no record of DOMALD JAMES HISSEN having ever residing at the Paradise Trailer Park.

On 5/20/68, D. R. HINTON, JR., Manager, Sulf Power Company, Panama City, Florida, advised that his files of contained no record of DONALD JAMES NISSES.

LEADS

LAS VIGAS

AT RENO. HEVADA

Will locate DONALD JAMES MISSEM through the company offices of Auto Safety Control and interview him for any information he may have obtained regarding the alleged offer to kill KING since MISSEM's release from fail on 6/19/87.

For the information of the Las Vegas Office, the Jackson Office, in 7/67, advised the WKKKK were in bad financial strait, having a difficult time raising enough soney to defend members of this organization after their arrest.

Information copy being furnished to Jackson instauch as present investigation being conducted by that Division.

PLAINTEXT

AIRTEL

ATRMAIL

10:

DIRECTOR, PRI (44-38861)

PROM

SAC JACKSONVILLE (44-769) (P)

SUBJECT

MURKIN

(00 Hemphie)

Re Dallas airtel to Bureau 5/1/68 regarding alleged offer of \$150,800 by White Knights of the Ku Klux Klam (WEXEK) Jackson, Mississippi. to abjoint who kills MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., and Atlanta airtel to Bureau deted 5/8/68.

Enclosed for Las Vegas is one copy each of Dallas airtel to Sureau dated 6/6/67: Kansas City airtel to Bureau 7/21/67 and Dallas airtel to Bureau 5/1/68, which are background information.

on 5/8/88. Mr. J. E. McWHORTER, Spencer International Press.
Atlanta, Georgia, advised DONALD JAMES ATLANTE is no longer employed by that company. Saving left approximately 12/87, to go to Corpus Christi, Texas, where he was employed by the Americana Encyclopedia Company. McWHORTER stated be recently learned that MISSER is working in Panama City. Florids, selling a safety device which operates as a gyroscope.

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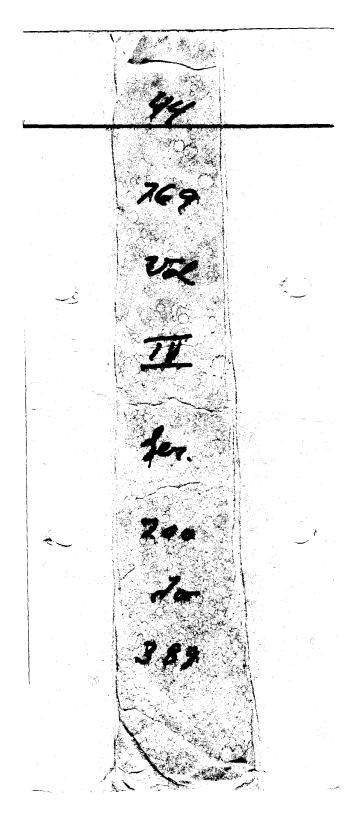
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