

KC 44-760

late father who was an outstanding attorney, and over the years, BURTON ARNOLD, while claiming to be in the practice of the law, has primarily confined himself to being a drunk.

No further investigation concerning information furnished by BURTON ARNOLD is believed warranted.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

F B I

Date: 4/30/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via \_\_\_\_\_

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

(Priority)

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

Re Omaha tel to Bureau, 4/24/68 and mytel to Bureau, 4/29/68.

Enclosed for each office one copy of photo of ROBERT DALE PORTER, FBI #4590482, taken December, 1964, furnished by girlfriend of PORTER, CARMEN RAMAGE.

The following investigation was conducted in Oklahoma City by SAs DAVID J. LANG and MICHAEL F. HUTTER:

On 4/25/68, CARMEN E. RAMAGE, 1642 N.W. 12th, Apt. 1, advised that she first met ROBERT DALE PORTER five years ago in Kansas City in August. She stated that she had met him at the Belmont Bar, Kansas City, Mo. and they had spent the evening there at the Ship Bar. She advised that she had not seen PORTER since then to April 19, 1968. She stated that while he was serving time in the Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP) at Jefferson City, that numerous pieces of correspondence passed between them.

- 3 - Bureau
- 2 - El Paso (Enc. 1)
- 2 - Kansas City (Enc. 1)
- 2 - Memphis (Enc. 1)
- 2 - Omaha (Enc. 1)
- 2 - St. Louis (Enc. 1)
- 2 - Oklahoma City

DJL:ewg  
 (15)

44-760 - 655

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| SEARCHED <i>pl</i>   | INDEXED <i>pl</i> |
| SERIALIZED <i>pl</i> | FILED <i>pl</i>   |
| MAY 3 1968           |                   |
| FBI - KANSAS CITY    |                   |

*Howe* *10/24/68*

*Ayers* *OK*

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

*Jeff City*

OC 44-686

RAMAGE stated that PORTER had remained in Oklahoma City from 4/19 and she had last seen him approximately 10 AM, 4/23/68. She stated that he must have left town or else he would have been in contact with her.

RAMAGE stated PORTER had told her that he had been in Cedar Rapids, Iowa and had traveled around the State of Iowa and that he had left his home in Waverly, Iowa taking with him his mother's ring which he had pawned and sent her the pawn ticket. PORTER further told her that he had been released from the MSP on 12/8/67 and that he had known JAMES EARL RAY while in the penitentiary. He stated that while in the Penitentiary that RAY had escaped from the penitentiary in a guard's uniform while he was working in the dry cleaning plant and that RAY had obtained this uniform from a guard who has since been fired. He stated that RAY and this guard were very close friends. She further stated that PORTER told her that RAY had not escaped in a bakery truck as the newspapers had reported. RAMAGE stated that she had sent a check, in February, 1968, in the amount of \$23.00 to PORTER in Waverly so that he could obtain a bus ticket to come to Oklahoma City to see her. She stated that PORTER had called her from the bus depot in Oklahoma City approximately 7:30 PM 4/19/68 and told her that he was drinking with a person who had an amputated hand at the knuckles at Winnie's Bar which is located across the street from the bus depot.

RAMAGE stated that PORTER had possibly applied for employment as machinery operator at an automatic car wash in the 4000 block of North Pennsylvania or through the Key Personnel, 110 N. Robinson or at some Mortgage and Loan Company across the street from the city library. RAMAGE further advised that PORTER had told her that he had lost his luggage in Kansas City and was currently traveling without any luggage.

Continuous and intensive investigation was conducted to locate PORTER at Oklahoma City.

On 4/29/68, PORTER was located through an Oklahoma City PCI at the Blood Plasma Donor Center, 505 West Main, Oklahoma City and was subsequently interviewed furnishing the following information:

ROBERT DALE PORTER, temporarily residing at Hudson Hotel, Oklahoma City, stated that he had been in the Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP), Jefferson City, Mo. from June or July, 1961 through 9/1/62 and again from 3/2/64 until his

*68150  
MSP 08/23*

*never escaped*

*10/2/68*

*Henry  
Laff  
Parks*

*clerk*

*7/19/61 - 9/1/62  
3/2/64 - 12/8/67*

OC 44-686

release on 12/8/67. PORTER stated that upon his release from MSP, that he had gone to Waverly, Iowa to live at the residence of his mother, CLARA PORTER, 103-1/2 E. Bremer, Waverly.

PORTER stated that he left Waverly in the latter part of February, 1968 and the following is approximately his itinerary.

Waterloo, Iowa - where he remained approximately 2 days.

Des Moines, Iowa - remaining 3 to 4 days.

Cheyenne, Wy. - remaining 3 days.

Pocahontas, Iowa - over night with uncle HANS NIELSON.

Humble, Iowa - over night with uncle HANS PORTER.

Aplington, Iowa - over night where he contacted his brother-in-law's mother and brother, LOUELLA and MELVIN ACKER.

Iowa City, Iowa - remaining approx. one week. While there he pawned a man's black face ring at the Hock-Eye Pawn Shop for \$7 on 3/11/68. PORTER resided he believes at the Berkley Hotel, where the bus station is located and left town on 3/11/68.

Storm Lake, Iowa - remaining approx. 2 days.

Red Oak, Iowa - over night. Porter resided at the hotel across the street from the Police Dept.

PORTER then hitchhiked to Barstow, Calif. leaving approx. 10 AM, one day and arriving in Barstow early the next evening. This ride was with a mechanic from Marshal Town, Iowa. That same date, PORTER hitched a ride to Visalia, Calif. with a girlfriend employed at Nellis AFB, Las Vegas, Nev., arriving Visalia that evening. PORTER stayed at Visalia approximately one week and visited with his daughter, VICTORIA RAY PORTER. He stated VICTORIA is residing with a JOSIE ACOSTA PORTER who is living with a CHUCK (LNU). JOSIE, PORTER's ex-wife, resides at 124 N.W. 1st, Visalia.

OC 44-686

PORTER then spent two or three days hitchhiking to Nevada where he stayed over night.

Las Vegas, Nev. - where PORTER stayed at the McDonald Hotel, approximately 3 nights.

Salt Lake City - remaining 2 nights.

Laramie, Wy. - remaining one night.

Denver, Colo. - where PORTER visited with a BETTY LOU LUCAS, 3626 Perry Street.

PORTER hitchhiked from Denver to Colorado Springs, Colo. with a PHILLIP E. MEHL, 432 W. Bijou, where he remained for 2 or 3 days.

Albuquerque, N.M. - PORTER resided at Albuquerque for 2 to 3 days and contacted a ROSE SINKEY, who formerly resided in Waverly, Iowa.

Las Cruces, N.M. - PORTER spent approx. 2 days traveling from Las Cruces to Van Horn, Texas where he resided at the only hotel in town over night.

Fort Worth, Texas - PORTER resided for approximately 2 days at a cheap motel located near the bus depot.

Durant, Oklahoma - residing over night.

McAlester, Oklahoma - PORTER resided with a couple that live behind a cab stand for two days.

Canadian, Oklahoma - residing one day, while there PORTER helped an individual paint 55-gallon oil drums for use on his boat dock.

PORTER then went to Miami, Oklahoma where he resided one night at the St. James Hotel.

PORTER traveled by bus from Miami, Oklahoma to Carthage, Missouri stopping for approx. one hour in Joplin, Mo. While in Joplin, PORTER attempted to contact a ROGER ZINN, a former convict but stated he was unable to do so. PORTER stated that he recalls while waiting in the bus depot that he heard of the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING.

OC 44-686

While in Carthage, PORTER contacted a BETTY ELLIOTT, 901 Fulton St., while attempting to contact a girl he had known in 1947.

PORTER traveled to Warsaw, Mo. staying overnight. While in Warsaw, he contacted a JACK LANPHERE by telephone and stated he wanted to see LANPHERE, that he wanted to borrow money from him. LANPHERE advised that he was unable to get into town because of his parole status.

PORTER traveled to Columbia, Mo. where he was a sleeper at the Police Dept. and the next day contacted an uncle, MARION MURRAY, 102 Thistledown Dr., Columbia.

PORTER then traveled to California, Mo. and attempted to locate a LEWIS BARGEON who had been in the MSP Maximum Security with PORTER. He was unable to contact him but stayed overnight at California, Mo.

PORTER then traveled to Maysville, Mo. where he resided at the Lincoln Hotel overnight and contacted Sheriff O. L. Maddox.

St. Joseph, Mo. - PORTER checked in at a small hotel but met a person, name unrecalled, in a bar and they then went to Kansas City, Mo. by car and stayed at the Gladstone Hotel. PORTER met with a MIKE COX at a bar on 9th St. in downtown, Kansas City, Mo. While with MIKE COX, he and COX drove on a Sunday to St. Louis, Mo. attempting to contact a LAWRENCE MOBLEY, a former convict described as a large Negro male. They were unable to contact MOBLEY. They contacted a Mrs. RICHARD PESEK, a sister-in-law of BETTY REITTER, the mother of a illegitimate son of PORTER by the name fo THOMAS DALE REITTER.

COX and PORTER returned to Kansas City that evening which he believes was a Sunday.

PORTER then traveled from Kansas City to Oklahoma City hitching a ride with two young boys from Peculiar, Mo. PORTER stated he believes that this was on 4/19/68. PORTER resided with a CARMEN RAMAGE, 1642 N.W. 12th, Oklahoma City until approx. 4/23/68 when he left hitching a ride with a Naval Lieutenant to Long Beach, Calif.

OC 44-686

PORTER stayed one day in Los Angeles at the bus depot and left Los Angeles on Friday.

PORTER arrived Oklahoma City Saturday night 4/27/68 where he stayed with a LLOYD HISE, 2728 N.W. 39th.

On 4/28/68, PORTER drove HISE and his pickup truck to Ft. Smith, Ark. and hitchhiked back arriving approx. 1 PM.

PORTER stated that while incarcerated in the MSP, that JAMES EARL RAY known to him as JIMMY RAY was involved in selling amphetamines to his fellow inmates. He stated that a JOHN STOUT, an ex-guard in the MSP was his source of these amphetamines. PORTER stated that STOUT and RAY were very good friends.

PORTER stated that RAY was extremely quiet, was a person who did not take much from anyone. He stated that to his knowledge RAY has taken amphetamines but had never taken any hard narcotics.

He further stated that whenever RAY was pushed around that he would retaliate fiercely. PORTER stated that on two previous occasions RAY had attempted to escape from the MSP - once by going over the wall and once when he hid in a ventilator shaft and subsequently broke his elbow. PORTER stated that RAY had never mentioned to him where he was from or where he would go when he got out of prison.

He further stated that RAY had never indicated that he disliked Negroes and to PORTER's knowledge was even associated with several while in the penitentiary. PORTER stated that he was leaving Oklahoma City on 4/29/68 and was hitchhiking to the home of his mother in Waverly where he would obtain work as a construction worker.

PORTER is described as follows:

|                     |                                     |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Name                | ROBERT DALE PORTER                  |
| DPOB                | [REDACTED], Clarinda, Iowa          |
| Height              | 6'                                  |
| Weight              | 175                                 |
| Eyes                | Blue                                |
| Hair                | Gray, in a crew cut                 |
| Social Security No. | [REDACTED]                          |
| Scars and marks     | Tattoos - "BETO" back of right hand |

OC 44-686

"Sufrendo Es Mi Destino" back of right hand; "Mom" and "Dad" left outer forearm; Air Force wings with "AAF" above on left bicep; 6" scar outer, upper right arm; 4 to 5" tattoo removal scar right outer forearm with letter "P" over scar; 1/2" vertical scar left upper lip.

Glasses: Wears prescription dark glasses, tinted green.

Military: U. S. Navy 1943 to 12-29-43; Army Air Force 12-19-45 to 8-21-46; U. S. Air Force, 7-19-47 to 1948

Arrest record: 1948 burglary, Arizona; 1949 Statutory Rape, Iowa; 1952 Escape, Iowa; 1958 Checks, Texas, Terminal Island, California; 1961 Checks, Missouri; 1962 Checks, Iowa; 1964 Armed Robbery, Missouri

Sister: Mrs. THOMAS DeGROOT, 1608 East Street Cedar Falls, Iowa.

LEADS:

EL PASO DIVISION

At Van Horn, Texas

Will attempt to ascertain date or dates PORTER resided at hotel in Van Horn, Texas. It is noted PORTER states he believes he was in Joplin, Missouri at the time of KING's murder, however, his presence 4-12-68 in Warsaw, Missouri has been verified. It would therefore appear from a review of PORTER's itinerary that he was possibly in Van Horn, Texas at the time of KING's murder. In the event it is ascertained by El Paso that PORTER was not in Van Horn, Texas at time of KING's murder, then El Paso should set out appropriate leads, from the itinerary furnished by PORTER, in order to establish his whereabouts on 4-4-68.

KANSAS CITY DIVISION

At Jefferson City, Missouri

Will attempt to locate and interview JOHN STOUT for any information re subject RAY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.



FBI KAN CITY

FBI BIRMGHAM

309 PM URGENT 5-3-68 JGA

TO DIRECTOR, KANSAS CITY, MEMPHIS, AND NEW ORLEANS  
FROM BIRMINGHAM 44-1740

MURKIN.

JAMES W. BROWN WAS REINTERVIEWED AT TALLADEGA, ALA., WHERE HE IS ATTENDING REHABILITATION STATE SCHOOLS FOR THE BLIND. HE IS BLIND IN ONE EYE. BROWN WAS UNABLE TO FURNISH ANY INFORMATION AS TO THE POSSIBLE IDENTITY OF THE COOLEY ORGANIZATION. HE DID SAY THAT THERE WERE FOUR OR FIVE PERSONS PRESENT WHEN RAY MADE THE REMARK THAT THE COOLEY ORGANIZATION WOULD PAY TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS TO GET MARTIN LUTHER KING KILLED AND HE WAS GOING TO KILL KING UPON HIS RELEASE. HE SAID JOHNNY VALENTI, NOONIE EDEN (PH), AND CHESTER EALEY (PH) WERE THE ONLY THREE NAMES HE CAN RECALL OF THESE PERSONS PRESENT. HE SAID TO THE BEST OF HIS KNOWLEDGE ALL THREE ARE STILL CONFIEND TO THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY. HE SAID THIS WAS IN THE LATTER PART OF SIXTYTHREE. HE WILL TESTIFY TO THIS INFORMATION. HE ALSO SAID HE WOULD IMMEDIATELY FURNISH ANY INFORMATION HE DEVELOPS OR CAN RECALL TO THE FBI CONCERNING SUBJECT.

END

PHM

FBI KAN CITY

@

44-760-656

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| FBI - KANSAS CITY |              |

Hope  
Ayers  
Jeff City

FBI KAN CITY

FBI ST LOUIS

454PM URGENT 5-3-68 JJR

*Columbia*

TO: DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS AND KANSAS CITY  
FROM: ST. LOUIS (44:775) 1P

MURKIN.

SUSPECT RICHARD L. BREY.

JOSEPHINE JONES, CLERK, ONE HOUR MARTINIZING CLEANERS,  
FIVE SIX THREE ONE DELMAR, SLMO, TODAY ADVISED AN INDIVIDUAL  
NAMED BREY, WHO LOOKED LIKE SUBJECT, ENTERED SHOP. SHE NOTED  
HE DROVE A SIXTYFOUR CHEVROLET, BEARING CURRENT MO. LIC.  
P S ZERO DASH THREE TWO SIX. CHECK REVEALS LICENSE ISSUED TO:  
RICHARD L. BREY, ONE FIVE ZERO FIVE WEST WORLEY, COLUMBIA, MO.

KANSAS CITY CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION. P.

END.

PH M

FBI KAN CITY

TUE

*McDonald advised 5/3*

*44-760-657*  
SEARCHED.....INDEXED.....  
SERIALIZED.....FILED.....  
MAY 3 1968  
FBI - KANSAS CITY  
*McDonald*  
*John City*

F B I

Date: 5/2/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via TELETYPE URGENT  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) - 8<sup>06</sup> PM  
MEMPHIS - 8<sup>11</sup> PM  
ST. LOUIS - 8<sup>37</sup> PM  
NEW ORLEANS - 8<sup>15</sup> PM

FROM: KANSAS CITY (44-760)

MURKIN.

RE BIRMINGHAM TELETYPE MAY ONE LAST.

BIRMINGHAM ADVISED FORMER MSP INMATE JAMES W. BROWN INTERVIEWED AND ADVISED CLOSE ASSOCIATES OF RAY AT MSP, JEFFERSON CITY, MO., WERE JOHNNY VELLANTI, JOHNNY JOHNSON SERVING TWENTY YEARS FROM KANSAS CITY; NONEY EDEN SERVING FIVE YEARS, RICHARD BEEMAN AND FRANK MAYBERRY FROM WEST PLAINS, MISSOURI.

RICHARD BEEMAN LOCATED AND INTERVIEWED MAY TWO INSTANT BUT COULD FURNISH NO INFORMATION AND DID NOT KNOW RAY WELL. JOHNNY VELLANTI NUMBER ZERO ZERO TWO THREE THREE, PAROLED MARCH TWENTY EIGHT, SIXTY SEVEN, AND LAST ADDRESS IS ONE SIX THREE TWO SOUTH EIGHTEENTH STREET, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, WHERE HE IS EMPLOYED BY WMARY FM RADIO. NONEY EDEN NOT IDENTIFIED. JOHN EDWARD JOHNSON NUMBER ZERO ZERO EIGHT SEVEN SIX SERVING

RBA:jlh  
(1) *jlh*

44-760-658

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per AMB

F B I

Date:

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

KC 44-760

PAGE TWO

TWENTY FIVE YEARS FROM JACKSON COUNTY ASSIGNED MENS TRAINING SCHOOL AT MOBERLY JANUARY TWENTY THIRD, SIXTY SEVEN, AND FORMERLY WAS IN MOBERLY JUNE TWENTY FOUR, SIXTY FOUR, TO AUGUST TWENTY THREE, SIXTY SIX WHEN HE WAS PAROLED. RETURNED ON REVOCATION DECEMBER TWO SIXTY SIX. FRANK MAYBERRY NUMBER ONE THREE SEVEN SIX THREE ALSO ASSIGNED TO MOBERLY.

ST. LOUIS AT ST. LOUIS INTERVIEW JOHNNY VELLANTI CONCERNING BACKGROUND ASSOCIATES FOR WHEREABOUTS OF RAY.

AT MOBERLY, WILL SIMILARLY INTERVIEW JOHN EDWARD JOHNSON AND FRANK MAYBERRY. INQUIRY MSP DOES NOT REFLECT WALTER E. NOLAN DISCIPLINED FOR HAVING AMMUNITION IN HIS POCKET. MAJOR BERNARD POIRY RECALLS INCIDENT THREE OR FOUR YEARS AGO WHEN AMMUNITION FOUND IN WORK SHOP OF PENITENTIARY AND THIS TRACED TO JIMMY Z. BRADLEY WHO HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AS "KING PEN" IN AMPHETAMINE BUSINESS IN MSP AND WHO IS A CLOSE FRIEND OF RAY. ST. LOUIS BEING FURNISHED SEPARATELY WITH BACKGROUND DATA ON NOLAN AND VELLANTI.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-760) P

DATE: 5/3/68

FROM : SA HOMER E. SCHWARZ

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 5/2/68, JAMES REARDON, 111 East 17th St., Hays, Kansas, was recontacted by SA HOMER E. SCHWARZ, at which time the photograph of RAY was exhibited which pictures RAY in sunglasses and white sportshirt believed to have been taken in Mexico. REARDON advised he could make absolutely no identification based on this photograph whatsoever.

HES:rmb  
(2)



5010-108-02

44-760-659  
SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED  
MAY 1968  
FBI - KANSAS CITY  
Homer E. Schwarz  
RBA

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

FBI KAN CITY

FBI ST LOUIS

11:32AM URGENT 5-4-68 RCR

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861)

MEMPHIS (44-1987)

KANSAS CITY (44-760)

FROM ST. LOUIS (44-775)

MURKIN

RE KANSAS CITY TEL TO BUREAU, MAY TWO LAST.

JOHN PAUL VELANTI INTERVIEWED THIS DATE AND ADVISED BARELY RECOGNIZED SUBJECT FROM PHOTOS. DOES NOT RECALL EVER HAVING SPOKEN TO SUBJECT BUT DOES RECALL HIM AS FELLOW INMATE AT MSP. ADVISED THERE WAS NO RECENT CONTACT WITH SUBJECT AND NO INFORMATION WHATEVER AS TO POSSIBLE WHEREABOUTS. HE IS OF OPINION SUBJECT MAY BE DEAD. RECALLS NO SPECIFIC OFFER RE DOLLAR PRICE ON KING'S LIFE WHILE AT MSP. "COOLEY" (PHONETIC) AND "COOLEY'S ORGANIZATION" HAVE NO SIGNIFICANCE TO HIM. ADVISE COOLEY MAY BE NEGRO INMATE MSP. SUGGESTED ORVILLE GANN, FORMER INMATE MSP, PRESENTLY BELIEVED RESIDING DISMAS HOUSE, SLMO, BE INTERVIEWED RE SUBJECT. DISMAS HOUSE CONTACTED AND GANN

44-760-660 ✓

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| MAY 4 1968           |                 |
| FBI - KANSAS CITY    |                 |

*Jane*  
*Ayers* *Ro*

SL 44-775

PAGE TWO

NOT PRESENTLY THERE. OFFICIALS, DISMAS HOUSE, ATTEMPTING TO  
LOCATE GANN AND WILL ADVISE OF RESULTS.

FOR INFORMATION KANSAS CITY, NONEY EDEN BELIEVED BY VELANTI  
TO BE JAMES EDEN NICKNAMED NONEY BECAUSE OF SPEECH IMPEDIMENT.  
VELANTI UNAWARE OF EDEN'S WHEREABOUTS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

KAM

FBI KAN CITY

@

FBI KAN CITY

*che 12*

FBI BIRMGHAM

851PM, URGENT 5-3-68 HEP

TO DIRECTOR, KANSAS CITY, MEMPHIS  
FROM BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) 1P

MURKIN

*MSP # 10980*

RE KANSAS CITY TEL TODAY.

WIFE OF TOM BRITTON ADVISED SHE HAS NOT COMMUNICATED WITH  
HUSBAND FOR THREE WEEKS. HAS NOT SEEN HIM FOR SEVERAL WEEKS.  
STATED THAT HE WAS EMPLOYED BY BRADSHAW CABINET SHOP, BIRMINGHAM,  
WHEN HE PHONED HER THREE WEEKS AGO. NO BRADSHAW CABINET SHOP  
LOCATED BIRMINGHAM.

KANSAS CITY IS REQUESTED TO REVIEW RECORDS OF MSP  
FOR ALL DATA RE BRITTON AND FURNISH TO BIRMINGHAM ALONG WITH PHOTO  
OF BRITTON IF AVAILABLE.

EFFORTS TO LOCATE BRITTON AT BIRMINGHAM CONTINUING.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

DJB

FBI KAN CITY

*44-760-661*

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| MAY 3 1968        |         |
| FBI - KANSAS CITY |         |

*5/19/68*

*Haynes*  
*Cigars*



FBI KAN CITY

FBI MEMPHIS

520 PM URGENT 5/3/68 TSJ  
TO DIRECTOR AND SAC KANSAS CITY  
FROM SAC MEMPHIS (44-1987)

*MSP # 65078*

MURKIN. OO: MEMPHIS

RE KANSAS CITY TEL MAY TWO LAST.

ADDRESS OF EARL KNIGHT AND SISTER, SUE MC SPARIN,  
DETERMINED TO BE FICTITIOUS IN UNDEVELOPED FIELD AREA.

IVAN UNDERWOOD UNKNOWN AT EIGHT FIVE SEVEN N. BINGHAM,  
MEMPHIS TENN.

*MSP # 12927*

CITY DIRECTORY AND TELEPHONE DIRECTORY NEGITIVE RE  
ABOVE AND STATE OF TENN. PATROL OFFICER, MEMPHIS, HAS NO  
RECORD FOR KNIGHT OF UNDERWOOD .

KANSAS CITY DETERMINE IF KNIGHT AAND UNDERWOOD ARE ON  
PAROL AND LOCATION OF OFFICE FURNISHING LAST KNOWN PAROLE  
REPORT.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

P.

END

ESR

FBI KAN CITY

@

*47753-662*

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| MAY 3 1968        |              |
| FBI - KANSAS CITY |              |
| <i>None</i>       | <i>RCM</i>   |

*Ayers RB*

FBI KAN CITY

FBI OKLA CITY

1243PM URGENT 5/4/68 EPC

TO DIRECTOR 44-38861, OMAHA 44-310, AND KANSAS CITY 44-760  
FROM OKLAHOMA CITY 44-686

MURKIN. OO: MEMPHIS

RE OKLAHOMA CITY AIRTEL TO DIRECTOR FOUR THIRTY LAST AND  
TELEPHONE CALL FROM JOE KELLY, BUREAU SUPERVISOR, CIVIL RIGHTS  
DIVISION, TO OKLAHOMA CITY FIVE THREE LAST.

REAIRTEL (PAGE TWO) REFLECTED INTERVIEW WITH CARMEN RAMAGE  
INDICATED ROBERT DALE PORTER TOLD HER THAT EX-GUARD HAD OBTAINED  
UNIFORM USED BY RAY IN ESCAPE; AND INTERVIEW WITH PORTER  
(PAGE SIX) NAMED EX-GUARD JOHN STOUT AS PERSON SUPPLYING  
AMPHETAMINES TO RAY IN MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY. KELLY  
REQUESTED IMMEDIATE DETERMINATION MADE WHETHER ABOVE  
MENTIONED GUARDS IDENTICAL, AND IF NOT, EFFORTS BE MADE TO IDENTIFY  
UNKNOWN GUARD, AND RESULTS FURNISHED BUREAU BY RETURN AIRTEL.

CARMEN RAMAGE ADVISED THIS DATE PORTER DID NOT MENTION  
NAME OF EX-GUARD, AND DID NOT MENTION EX-GUARD SUPPLYING  
AMPHETAMINES TO RAY OR OTHER INMATES. INVESTIGATION TO LOCATE  
END PAGE ONE

44-760-663 ✓

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| MAY 4 1968        |         |
| FBI - KANSAS CITY |         |

Howe PBA  
Ayers Jr  
Jeff City

PAGE TWO

PORTER THROUGH PREVIOUSLY ESTABLISHED SOURCES NEGATIVE TO DATE.  
REAIRTEL REFLECTS PORTER RETURNING TO HOME OF MOTHER, WAVERLY,  
IOWA, TO OBTAIN WORK AS CONSTRUCTION WORKER. INVESTIGATION TO  
LOCATE PORTER CONTINUING OKLAHOMA CITY.

OMAHA AT WAVERLY, IOWA, WILL CONTACT PORTER'S MOTHER AND  
DETERMINE LOCATION OF PORTER. WILL THEREAFTER INTERVIEW TO ASCERTAIN  
WHETHER OR NOT GUARDS ARE IDENTICAL.

KANSAS CITY AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI, WILL WHEN INTERVIEWING  
JOHN STOUT, DETERMINE IF HE ALSO SUPPLIED UNIFORM USED BY RAY  
DURING ESCAPE.

AIRMAIL COPY TO MEMPHIS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

KAM

FBI KAN CITY

F B I

Date: 5/3/68

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via TELETYPE URGENT  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861)  
MEMPHIS  
ST. LOUIS  
  
FROM: KANSAS CITY (44-760)

MURKIN.

DAILY SUMMARY.

COMPLETE PSYCHIATRIC REPORTS REGARDING CARLOS LEE BILLINGS OBTAINED FROM MEDICAL CENTER FOR FEDERAL PRISONERS, SPRINGFIELD, MO., AND FORWARDED BUREAU AND MEMPHIS.

RECORDS MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY (MSP) REVEAL INMATES TOM BRITTON AND JAMES C. WOODS BOTH FROM ALABAMA WERE RELEASED DURING PAST YEAR. BIRMINGHAM ADVISED.

OFFICIALS MSP ADVISED THAT LEDGER BEARING SIGNATURES OF INDIVIDUALS VISITING PRISONERS AT THE PENITENTIARY COMPARED WITH SIGNATURE CARD, THEN DESTROYED AT END OF DAY. FBI LABORATORY ADVISED PERSON SIGNING SIGNATURE HARVEY LOWMYER CANNOT DEFINITELY BE IDENTIFIED AS SUBJECT. HOWEVER, SIGNIFICANT HANDWRITING SIMILARITIES WERE NOTED, THUS KANSAS CITY ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL HANDWRITING SAMPLES FROM RECORDS US PROBATION OFFICE

RBH:LAC  
(1)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

*WA 5:45 P*  
*ME 5:30 P*  
*SL 5:45 P*  
*44-760-664*

F B I

Date:

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

KC 44-760

PAGE TWO

THIS AREA AND US PENITENTIARY, LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS. ADDITIONAL SAMPLES MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE RECORDS US PROBATION OFFICE, ST. LOUIS, MO.

MSP INMATE RICHARD BEEMAN INTERVIEWED, COULD FURNISH NO INFORMATION RE SUBJECT.

ST. LOUIS ADVISED JOHNNY VELLANTI RESIDING THEIR AREA, FRANK MAYBERRY AND JOHN EDWARD JOHNSON CURRENTLY AT MOBERLY, MO. JIMMY Z. BRADLEY IDENTIFIED AS KINGPIN IN AMPHETAMINE BUSINESS IN MSP AND GLOSE ASSOCIATE OF RAY. NONEY EDEN NOT IDENTIFIED YET FROM PRISON RECORDS. EFFORTS CONTINUING. KANSAS CITY OFFICE REQUESTS MEMPHIS FURNISH A COPY OF PHOTOGRAPH OF SUBJECT OBTAINED FROM POSTAL INSPECTORS, LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

INTERVIEWS WITH PRISONERS CONTINUE. LOCAL LEADS GETTING IMMEDIATE COVERAGE.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

P.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

FBI KAN CITY

FBI SANANTON

552 PM URGENT 5/3/68 EGL

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), KANSAS CITY AND HOUSTON (44-1509)  
FROM SAN ANTONIO (44-1242)

MURKIN.

RE HOUSTON TEL TO BUREAU MAY ONE LAST.

RECORDS, TEXAS STATE MENTAL HOSPITAL, AUSTIN, TEXAS, ON  
WILLIAM THOMAS JACOBS, DOB   
ALVARADO, TEXAS, DISCLOSED HE WAS ADMITTED TO THE STATE  
HOSPITAL MAY SEVEN, FIFTYSIX, <sup>5/17/56</sup> RELEASED AUGUST THREE, FIFTYSIX;  
READMITTED JANUARY TEN, SIXTY, AND RELEASED FEBRUARY TWENTYTHREE,  
SIXTY. HAS NOT BEEN READMITTED SINCE THAT DATE. JACOBS  
DIAGNOSED AS SOCIOPATHIC DISTURBANCE ALCOHOLISM; ONLY RELATIVE  
IN SIXTY WAS LISTED AS THELMA POWERS, SISTER, RESIDING EIGHT  
ONE TWO FIVE LAMAR DRIVE, HOUSTON, TEXAS. NO ADDITIONAL  
INFORMATION IN JACOBS' FILE REFLECTING ON POSSIBLE CURRENT  
LOCATION AND NO INFORMATION IN FILE RELATIVE TO JACOBS' BEING  
APPROACHED TO KILL PRESIDENT OR MARTIN LUTHER KING.

AIRMAIL COPY MEMPHIS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

ENT

FBI KAN CITY

@

SH  
14

44-760-665

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FBI KAN CITY

FBI ATLANTA

8:00 PM URGENT 5/3/68 LBN

TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS, BIRMINGHAM, KANSAS CITY,

OKLAHOMA CITY AND LOS ANGELES.

FROM ATLANTA (44-2386) 2P

MURKIN.

SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION MAY THREE SIXTYEIGHT.

BILLY CHUMLEY LOCATED ATLANTA AND INTERVIEWED. COULD FURNISH NO INFORMATION CONCERNING RAY, BUT FURNISHED INFO RE LEWIE DOUBA, FORMER INMATE MISSOURI STATE PEN. OKLAHOMA CITY, DISCONTINUE EFFORTS TO LOCATE CHUMLEY.

STORES HANDLING PORNOGRAPHIC LITERATURE ATLANTA AREA CONTACTED WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

JIMMY DELTON GARNER, OWNER OF ROOMING HOUSE WHERE RAY RESIDED REINTERVIEWED. NOTHING NEW OF PERTINENCE LEARNED. GARNER CONTINUES TO BE COOPERATIVE.

AIRLINES CHECKS CONTINUING. SEVERAL INDIVIDUALS WITH LAST NAME RAY NOTED ON DELTA FLIGHTS ELIMINATED AS FEMALE DELTA EMPLOYEE.

CONTACTS WITH SOURCES IN HIPPIE AREAS AND WITH SOURCES WITH KNOWLEDGE NARCOTICS TRAFFICE CONTINUING. NEGATIVE TO DATE.  
END PAGE ONE.

SH4

*Atlanta advised  
5/4/68  
EBA*

44-760-606

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| <i>Howe</i>   <i>RR</i> |              |

PAGE TWO.

ROOMERS AT ONE ZERO SEVEN AND ONE THIRTEEN FOURTEENTH STREET NE ARE BEING REINTERVIEWED. NO PERTINENT INFORMATION OBTAINED.

SEVERAL LOOK ALIKES BEING THOROUGHLY CHECKED OUT. ATLANTA CONTINUES TO RECEIVE NUMEROUS COMPLAINTS OF LOOK ALIKES.

SAFETY DEPOSIT CUSTOMERS AT TENTH STREET C & S BANK, THE ONLY BANK IN AREA OF RAY'S RESIDENCE HAVING SAFETY DEPOSIT BOXES, CHECKED FOR ALL CUSTOMERS ENTERING SAFETY DEPOSIT VAULT APRIL FIVE AND TWELVE LAST. SEVERAL BEING FURTHER CHECKED OUT. NEGATIVE TO DATE.

EXPANDED CAB CHECK CONTINUING. TRIP SHEETS HAVE BEEN REVIEWED AND PERTINENT DRIVERS BEING INTERVIEWED. NO PERTINENT INFORMATION OBTAINED TO DATE.

CONTACTS OF INDIVIDUALS ADVERTISING CARS FOR SALE IN CLASSIFIED COMPLETED WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

KANSAS CITY REQUESTED TO ADVISE ATLANTA OF IDENTITIES RELEASEES MISSOURI STATE PEN FROM ATLANTA AREA OR DESIGNATED ATLANTA AREA AS PLACE THEY WERE GOING FOLLOWING RELEASE.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END.

ENT

FBI KAN CITY

*Atlanta advised  
5/4 RSH*



5/3/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) P  
MURKIN

Re Baltimore airtel to the Bureau dated 4/25/68.

Enclosed for the Bureau and Memphis is one copy of Classification Material, which includes psychiatric reports, obtained on 5/2/68 at the Medical Center for Federal Prisoners, Springfield, Missouri, re CARLOS LEE BILLINGS. Material made available to SA JAMES A. MITCHELL by MELVIN LEMONS, Secretary to the Director, MCFP.

3 Bureau (Enc. 1) (AMSD)  
2 Memphis (44-1987) (Enc. 1) (AMSD)  
2 Kansas City  
JAN:rab  
(7)

*[Handwritten initials]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

*[Handwritten initials]*  
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44-760-667

EDITORS. PLEASE  
SUBSEQUENT PIECES ON THE BASIS OF A NOMINAL FEE TO COVER THE HIGH COSTS OF THIS INVESTIGATION.

DRAGGING FEET?  
-----

FBI CAN'T KEEP STORIES STRAIGHT  
IN INVESTIGATION OF KING'S MURDER

PRECEDE: IS THE FBI BUNGLING THE INVESTIGATION OF CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.? IT WOULD APPEAR SO FROM THIS, THE FOURTH IN A SERIES BY FAMED NEGRO REPORTER LOUIS LOMAX, NOW RETRACING THE STEPS OF JAMES EARL RAY ON HIS JOURNEYS WITH HOLLYWOOD SONGWRITER CHARLES STEIN FROM LOS ANGELES TO NEW ORLEANS. THE FBI HAS BEEN FORCED TO ADMIT THAT FINGERPRINTS, CIRCULATED AS THOSE OF RAY, WERE IN FACT OF SOMEONE ELSE. THIS IS BUT ONE OF A SERIES OF CONTRADICTIONS AND CONFUSIONS EMANATING FROM THE FEDERAL AGENCY.

BY LOUIS LOMAX

NORTH AMERICAN NEWSPAPER ALLIANCE

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SAN ANTONIO, TEX., APRIL 29 (NANA)--AN FBI SEARCH OF THE 1966 WHITE MUSTANG DRIVEN BY JAMES EARL RAY, ALIAS STARVO GALT, AND THE ALLEGED SLAYER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., UNEARTHED GREEN STAMPS THAT WERE ISSUED AS A RESULT OF A PURCHASE AT A BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA GAS STATION IN MID-FEBRUARY OF 1968. THIS REPORTER LEARNED OF THE GREEN STAMPS WHILE HERE IN SAN ANTONIO AND WAS ABLE TO CONFIRM THE ITEM BY TELEPHONE. THE BIRMINGHAM GAS STATION OWNER SAID THE STAMPS WERE ISSUED AT HIS STATION, AND HE ALSO IDENTIFIED A PICTURE OF RAY AS THAT OF THE MAN INVOLVED IN THE TRANSACTION. THE STATION OWNER RECALLS THE TRANSACTION BECAUSE THE WHITE MUSTANG HAD A CLUTCH PROBLEM.

FBI REPORTS CONSISTENTLY PLACE RAY IN LOS ANGELES AS A STUDENT AT DANCING AND BARTENDING SCHOOLS AT THE TIME OF THE GAS STATION TRANSACTION. HOWEVER, THESE REPORTS ARE BOLDLY CHALLENGED BY THE STATEMENT OF THE BIRMINGHAM GAS STATION OWNER. THIS IS BUT ONE OF A SERIES OF DISTURBING CONTRADICTIONS AND APPARENT "FBI" DISTORTIONS OF FACTS DISCOVERED DURING THIS REPORTER'S FOUR-DAY RETRACING OF RAY'S DECEMBER, 1967 AUTOMOBILE TRIP FROM LOS ANGELES TO NEW ORLEANS. RAY MADE THE TRIP ON DEC. 15 WITH THE HOLLYWOOD SONGWRITER CHARLES STEIN AS A DRIVING COMPANION. STEIN IS MAKING THE DRIVE OVER THE SAME ROUTE WITH THIS REPORTER.

(MORE)

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THE FBI REPORTS INDICATE THAT RAY WAS IN LOS ANGELES UNTIL MARCH 27TH; HE IS REPORTED TO HAVE BOUGHT THE FATAL WEAPON IN BIRMINGHAM, ALA., ON MARCH 30TH. THIS REPORTER DISCLOSED LAST WEEK THAT RAY DELIVERED A PACKAGE TO THE NEW ORLEANS FAMILY OF ONE OF HIS HOLLYWOOD GIRL FRIENDS DURING HIS LAST WEEK THERE. THE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS, THEN, IS CLEARLY IMPOSSIBLE. THE FBI INTERVIEWED THE FAMILY FOLLOWING MY DISCLOSURE OF THE INCIDENT AND CONFIRMED THAT RAY HAD DELIVERED THE PACKAGE. THE TRIP FROM LOS ANGELES TO BIRMINGHAM VIA NEW ORLEANS IS IN EXCESS OF 2,500 MILES. RAY COULD NOT HAVE DRIVEN THAT ROUTE, PARTICULARLY IN A MUSTANG IN THE SHORT PERIOD BETWEEN MARCH 27TH AND MARCH 30TH. THERE IS AN OUTSIDE CHANCE THAT THE TRIP COULD HAVE BEEN ACCOMPLISHED IF RAY HAD A DRIVING COMPANION AS HE DID IN DECEMBER. THERE HAVE BEEN NO INDICATIONS THAT HE DID HAVE A COMPANION.

--CONTRADICTIONS--

THESE CONTRADICTIONS AND CONFUSIONS ARE COMPOUNDED BY OTHERS THAT HAVE OCCURED DURING THE INVESTIGATION INTO THE SLAYING OF DR. KING. THE FBI ISSUED A REPORT THAT RAY HAD TAKEN DANCING LESSONS IN NEW ORLEANS DURING A TIME THE AGENCY'S OTHER REPORTS AND RECORDS SHOWED THAT RAY WAS IN PRISON.

THE FBI HAS BEEN FORCED TO ADMIT THAT THE FINGERPRINTS, CIRCULATED DURING THE EARLY DAYS OF THE MANHUNT WERE NOT THOSE OF RAY. THE BLAME FOR THIS, ACCORDING TO THE FBI, MUST BE ASSUMED BY THE WARDEN OF THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY. THE WARDEN, THE FBI CLAIMED, ISSUED MISTAKEN FINGERPRINTS ON RAY WHEN THE CONVICT ESCAPED FROM PRISON IN APRIL, 1967. THIS MEANS TWO THINGS: (1) HAD RAY BEEN ARRESTED AFTER HIS ESCAPE FROM PRISON; HE WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN HELD BY THE LOCAL ARRESTING OFFICERS AS A FUGITIVE; (2) HAD RAY BEEN ARRESTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE SLAYING OF DR. KING THE MISTAKEN FINGERPRINTS WOULD HAVE CONFUSED THE INVESTIGATION AND POSSIBLY WOULD HAVE LED TO HIS RELEASE.

THE SIGNIFICANT FACT IS THAT THE GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (CAPS G,B,I) HAD MISTAKEN FINGERPRINTS OF RAY UP UNTIL LAST WEDNESDAY. HAD RAY BEEN ARRESTED IN ATLANTA, THEN, ON THE DAY HE PARKED THE WHITE MUSTANG, THE GEORGIA AUTHORITIES WOULD HAVE BEEN ATTEMPTING TO IDENTIFY HIM BY MATCHING HIS FINGERPRINTS AGAINST A SET OF PRINTS THAT BELONGED TO SOMEBODY ELSE.

(MORE)

4/30/68

Date \_\_\_\_\_

To:

Director

FILE

BU 44-374

Att.:

SAC KANSAS CITY  
(44-760)

Title MURKIN

ASAC

Supv.

Agent

SE

IC

CC

Steno

Clerk

RE: \_\_\_\_\_

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ACTION D

Open Case MAY 3 1968

Acknowledge

Assign \_\_\_\_\_ Reassign \_\_\_\_\_

Bring file

Call me

Correct

Deadline \_\_\_\_\_

Deadline passed

Delinquent

Discontinue

Expedite

File

For information

Handle

Initial & return

Leads need attention

Return with explanation or notation as to action taken.

- Prepare lead cards KANSAS CITY
- Prepare tickler Stowe / MSH
- Return assignment card
- Return file
- Search and return
- See me
- Serial # \_\_\_\_\_
- Post  Recharge  Return
- Send to \_\_\_\_\_
- Submit new charge out
- Submit report by \_\_\_\_\_
- Type

Attached for information is one copy of story by reporter LOUIS LOMAX, affiliated with North American Newspaper Alliance, which story is self-explanatory.

Copies furnished Bureau, BI, CG, ME

SAC

NEIL J. WELCH

Office

BUFFALO

See reverse side

WHICH RAY MADE  
ALSO DID NOT OCCUR TO THE FBI TO INVESTIGATE THE POSSIBILITY THAT RAY WAS IN TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH NEW ORLEANS WHILE HE WAS STILL IN LOS ANGELES. THIS REPORTER LOCATED THE PHONE BOOTH USED BY RAY IN THE LOBBY OF THE ST. FRANCIS HOTEL LAST WEDNESDAY. THE WALLS OF THE BOOTH WERE COVERED WITH GRAFFITI. ONE LINE READ "DOWN WITH MEXICANS, NIGGERS, AND MARTIN LUTHER COON."

--FATAL OVERSIGHT--

THE MOST FATAL OVERSIGHT WAS THE FBI'S FAILURE TO UNCOVER THE CONSOLE TELEVISION SET RAY GAVE TO A HOLLYWOOD GIRL FRIEND IN RETURN FOR HER PORTABLE. THE SWAP OCCURED AROUND VALENTINE'S DAY--FEBRUARY 14--AND RAY TOLD THE GIRL HE WAS LEAVING TOWN. THIS REPORTER FOUND BOTH THE GIRL FRIEND AND THE TELEVISION SET. THE BACK OF THE TELEVISION SET CONTAINED HANDWRITING BELIEVED TO BE THAT OF RAY AND CAN BE MATCHED AGAINST THE GRAFFITI ON THE WALLS OF THE TELEPHONE BOOTH.

A CLEAR READING OF THIS MAKES IT ALL BUT CERTAIN THAT RAY TOOK THREE TRIPS TO NEW ORLEANS BETWEEN DEC. 15 AND THE END OF MARCH. THERE WAS THE TRIP OF DEC. 15 WHICH STEIN AND I ARE NOW RETRACING; THERE WAS A SECOND TRIP THAT BEGAN ON VALENTINE'S DAY. FINALLY THERE WAS THE TRIP THAT BEGAN A FEW DAYS BEFORE THE END OF MARCH AND CULMINATED IN THE DEATH OF DR. KING.

THE VALENTINE'S DAY TRIP EXPLAINS THE GREEN STAMP TRANSACTION IN THE MIDDLE OF FEBRUARY. IT ALSO EXPLAINS THE MYSTERIOUS PHONE CALL TO THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES REQUESTING THAT A DUPLICATE OF "GALT'S" DRIVERS LICENSE BE SENT TO A BIRMINGHAM BOARDING HOUSE. THE LICENSE WAS MAILED ON MARCH 1, THE DAY BEFORE RAY IS ALLEGED TO HAVE GRADUATED FROM A LOS ANGELES DANCING SCHOOL. IT IS CLEAR THAT RAY "DROPPED OUT" FROM THE SCHOOL FOR SEVERAL DAYS TO MAKE THE SECOND TRIP.

THE ONE UNASSAILABLE FACT IS THAT RAY DID MAKE THESE TRIPS. AND THAT HE WAS IN TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH SOMEONE IN NEW ORLEANS. RAY TOLD STEIN THAT HIS CONTACT WAS AN IMPORTANT PERSON, A CONTRACTOR AND BUILDER. THE KEY, THEN, LIES IN LOCATING THE PHONE BOOTH ALONG THE HIGHWAY FROM WHICH THESE CALLS WERE MADE. TELEPHONE COMPANY OFFICIALS BELIEVE THEY CAN TRACE THE CALLS IF THE BOOTH CAN BE LOCATED.

CHARLES STEIN REMEMBERS GRAPHICALLY THE GAS STATION FROM WHICH THE CALLS WERE MADE. WE ARE NOW IN THE GENERAL AREA OF THE STATION. OUR HOPE IS TO LOCATE THESE PHONE BOOTHS BEFORE COMPLETING THE JOURNEY.

END-LOMAX-KING NO. 4-NANA-68

JG801PES

44-760 -668

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FBI

Date: 5/1/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: SAC, CLEVELAND (44-565) (P)  
RE: JAMES EARL RAY, AKA -  
FUGITIVE  
MURKIN  
CIVIL RIGHTS; UFAC-ROBBERY  
(OO: MEMPHIS)

Re Cincinnati teletype to Director and auxiliary offices,  
4/20/68; Cleveland teletype to Director and auxiliary offices,  
4/21/68, and Louisville airtel to Director and auxiliary offices,  
4/25/68.

The following investigation was conducted at Monclova,  
Ohio:

Mrs. MARIE PAYNE, aka Millie Marie Huff, 9855  
Maumee-Western Road, Monclova, Ohio, advised on 4/22/68, that  
she was formerly married to MANCEL VERNON PAYNE, who now resides  
in Springfield, Ohio. She and PAYNE lived together in Toledo,  
Ohio, for two years prior to their marriage in Toledo during  
1961. She had one child with someone else prior to this  
marriage and had three children with PAYNE. All of the children  
are being cared for by Welfare authorities in Springfield, Ohio.  
She thinks she is legally divorced from PAYNE but has never seen  
any legal papers in connection with the divorce.

- 3 - Bureau
- 2 - Birmingham
- 2 - Cincinnati
- 2 - Kansas City (88-9449)
- 2 - Louisville (44-947)
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987)
- 2 - Cleveland

NPM/jky  
(15)

44-760-669

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*Howe*

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge



CV 44-565

While she was living with PAYNE on Airport Hiway, Toledo, during 1958-59, one JAMES EARL HARRIS, white, male, about 29 or 30 years of age at the present time, visited Toledo, Ohio, from somewhere in Kentucky. PAYNE and she became friendly with HARRIS and he visited their home on a few occasions. HARRIS had come to Toledo to visit his aunt, MABEL HARRIS, 214 10th Street, 4th Floor.

Subject is unknown to her by name, photo, or descriptive data and is not related to her by blood or marriage. HARRIS does not resemble subject in any manner, however, she feels PAYNE is confused because HARRIS and subject have the same first and middle names.

She also added that she is generally known as MARIE, however, PAYNE refers to her as MILLIE although this is not a given name or a nickname. She can be reached at her mother's address, above, phone number 865-5276.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

5/3/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) SAC, NEWARK (44-854)

FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (44-1114)

MURKIN.

RE NEWARK TEL TO BUREAU INSTANT.

INFO THAT JERRY RAY HAD RESIGNED HIS POSITION IN CHICAGO AND WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN GIVEN TO LOCAL NEWS MEDIA BY JERRY'S EMPLOYER WITH FULL KNOWLEDGE THIS OFFICE, BECAUSE THE VARIOUS NEWS MEDIA HAD CONVERGED ON SPORTSMAN'S COUNTRY CLUB EVENING MAY TWO LAST IN AN EFFORT TO FURTHER INTERVIEW AND EXPLOIT JERRY. HE STAYED IN A LOCAL MOTEL EVENING MAY TWO LAST, IS PRESENTLY EN ROUTE TO ST. LOUIS WHERE HE PLANS TO STAY WITH HIS BROTHER AND FATHER FOR A PERIOD OF THREE OR FOUR DAYS. WILL THEN RETURN TO CHICAGO AREA IF INTENSIVE NEWS MEDIA INTEREST AT HIS EMPLOYMENT HAS ABATED. JERRY HAS MAINTAINED CONTACT WITH CHICAGO OFFICE AND HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO CONTACT ST. LOUIS OFFICE.

AM COPIES TO MEMPHIS AND KANSAS CITY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

① - Kansas City (AM)  
1 - Memphis (AM)  
RJD:jap  
(3)

44-760-670

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| FBI - KANSAS CITY |         |

*Howe*

5/3/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: SAC, NEW YORK

FROM: SAC, INDIANAPOLIS (44-563)

MURKIN

OO: ME

Re New York tel, 5/2/68.

Regarding insurance claims in name of JAMES RAY,  
Indianapolis not covering leads as accident occurred 4/22/67 -  
subject escaped 4/23/67.

SUBJECT CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

1 - New York  
1 - Memphis (44-1982)  
① - Kansas City  
1 - Indianapolis  
PJF/ram  
(4)

SM4

44-760671

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5/2/68

PLAIN

TELETYPE

DEFERRED

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
SAC, WASHINGTON FIELD (44-703)  
SAC, RICHMOND

FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

MURKIN

RE WASHINGTON FIELD TT TO BUREAU MAY ONE LAST.

RE THREE TWO TELEPHONE CALL FROM ST. FRANCIS HOTEL,  
LOS ANGELES TO WDC, THREE THREE SEVEN DASH FIVE THREE ONE  
FIVE.

LA INDICES NEGATIVE RE RICHARD LEE OGO AND PETER  
HOLDEN. SAM LUGASH, MANAGER, AUTO DRIVE AWAY, TWO TWO  
SEVEN SOUTH VERMONT, LA, ADVISED HOLDEN, NOW RESIDING  
FIVE ONE ONE NINE FOUNTAIN, LA, CONTRACTED MARCH EIGHTEEN  
LAST TO HAVE HIS NINETEEN SIXTY SEVEN HALF TON CHEVROLET  
PICKUP TRANSPORTED FROM COLONIA PARK INCORPORATED, WDC,  
TO AUTO DRIVE AWAY, LOS ANGELES. LUGASH'S RECORDS REFLECT

1 - Memphis (AM)  
① - Kansas City (AM)  
1 - 44-1574

RJR/dlp

(3)

44-760-678

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RJR

LA 44-1574

PAGE TWO

TRUCK DRIVER FROM WDC TO LA BETWEEN APRIL EIGHT AND APRIL FIFTEEN LAST BY RICHARD L. OGG, FIVE EIGHT ONE ONE MARLBORO PIKE, DISTRICT HEIGHTS, MARYLAND, AND THAT HOLDEN TOOK POSSESSION LATTER DATE. LUGASH BELIEVES OGG ACCOMPANIED BY BROTHER, FURTHER DESCRIPTION UNKNOWN. HE DESCRIBED HOLDEN AS WMA, FORTY FIVE TO FORTY EIGHT YEARS, FIVE FOOT TEN INCHES, ONE NINETY POUNDS, STOCKY, SHORT BROWN HAIR, REPUTABLE SELF EMPLOYED PAINTER AND NOT RESEMBLING JAMES EARL RAY PHOTOS. LUGASH CERTAIN HOLDEN AND OGG UNKNOWN TO ONE ANOTHER.

MRS. FOWLER, MANAGER, FIVE ONE ONE NINE FOUNTAIN, LA, ADVISED HOLDEN AND FAMILY RESIDED APARTMENT TWO TWO THREE HER LOCATION, AND THAT HOLDEN OF EXCELLENT CHARACTER. HOLDEN PERSONALLY CONTACTED AND ACKNOWLEDGED THREE TWO CALL TO WDC TO ARRANGE RELEASE OF HIS TRUCK. HOLDEN OCCASIONALLY USED TELEPHONES AT ST. FRANCIS HOTEL WHEN RESIDING AT NEARBY RESIDENCE OF ONE SEVEN FOUR THREE GARFIELD. NAME AND PHOTO OF JAMES EARL RAY UNKNOWN TO HOLDEN.

RICHMOND DISCONTINUE RE HOLDEN.

LA 44-1574

PAGE TWO

WASHINGTON FIELD WILL FORWARD PHOTO OF OGG FOR  
DISPLAY IN UNSOLVED LA AREA BRS.

MEMPHIS AND KANSAS CITY ADVISED AIR MAIL.

F B I

Date: 5/4/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)  
Via TELETYPE URGENT  
(Priority)

3:20/p

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)  
FROM: KANSAS CITY (44-760)

MURKIN.

DAILY SUMMARY.

PUNCHY MILLER, AKA WILLIAM EARLESS MILLER, JR., LOCATED AND INTERVIEWED MORGAN COUNTY, MO. SO, ADVISED HE KNEW SUBJECT AS FELLOW INMATE, FURNISHED NO PERTINENT INFORMATION OTHER THAN SUBJECT TOOK PEP PILLS, DISLIKED WESTERN MUSIC AND SPOKE OF A DESIRE TO GO TO NEW ORELANS AS IF HE HAD NEVER BEEN THERE.

ATLANTA ADVISED RE JOHNNY VELANTI'S RELEASE FROM MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY AND CURRENTLY IN ST. LOUIS.

FORMER KC PCI CURRENTLY INCARCERATED FEDERAL PENITENTIARY, LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS, ADVISED HE KNEW SUBJECT AT MSP. RAY HAD FRIEND NAMED ROBERT DOWELL WHO WANTED RAY TO BEAT UP GIRLFRIEND FRANKIE BARBARA (PHONETIC), DOE RUN, MO. WHEN HE GOT OUT, ST. LOUIS ADVISED.

RBH:jrt  
1 Memphis (AM)

*Handwritten signature: Dave RBH*

Approved: *jrt* KT/4  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent 3:20/p M Per [Signature]  
44-760-623

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

PAGE TWO

CONTACTS WITH SOURCES IN THE HIPPIY, BEATNIK AREAS  
AND SOURCES WITH KNOWLEDGE OF NARCOTICS TRAFFIC NEGATIVE  
TO DATE.

NUMEROUS LOOK-ALIKES CONTINUE TO BE CHECKED OUT THOROUGHLY.  
INTERVIEW WITH PRISONERS MSP CONTINUES. KANSAS CITY ATTEMPTING  
TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW EX-GUARD JOHN STOUT. LOCAL LEADS  
BEING HANDLED IMMEDIATELY. AM MEMPHIS. ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

P

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge



KC 44-760

THW:ENV

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The following investigation was conducted by  
SA THOMAS H. WEAVER:

AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI:

On April 29, 1968, BOBBY FRED ASHE, MSP #01562, inmate, Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP), advised that he knew JAMES EARL RAY at the MSP, but was not well acquainted with him. He said he would doubt that anyone was "well acquainted" with RAY, as he was a quiet individual who did not become involved in any of the prison rackets. He stated he never knew of RAY to be involved in the sale of "pills" or amphetamine, or to operate or play in poker games. He advised that he never knew RAY to express strong opinions on any subject, including racial matters, and he never heard of a bounty mentioned regarding Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING. He said he knows nothing of RAY's family, background or associates and has no information regarding his escape or plans following his escape. He advised that RAY was not known, so far as he knows, as a "kid" or a "punk" in the prison, and he doubts that RAY was ever a cellmate of JIMMY CARPENTER.

On April 29, 1968, Mr. BERNARD PESCHANG, Route 2, a cook at the Renz Prison Farm, Missouri State Penitentiary, advised that he had worked at the kitchen at the MSP in about 1963-64 when RAY was working there pushing a food cart, to the hospital. He recalled at the time that RAY was known as the "hide out guy" from a previous occasion when he hid inside the prison for some time before being found. He recalls that on a Sunday morning, during April, 1967, the bread truck arrived at the Renz farm when PESCHANG was there as the cook, and the bread was "messed up". RAY had hidden out again once while PESCHANG was at the Renz farm, and when he saw the bread box with the "messed up" bread, he thought then without knowing why, that "JIMMY RAY must be out again". He did not know at the time, he said, that RAY was working in the bread room at the main prison, and he has no idea who might have helped RAY escape on this occasion. When he heard later that RAY had, indeed, escaped, he recalled

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| Weaver            |              |

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the "messed up" bread and notified his superiors at the Renz farm. The bread box used to transport bread in an open truck from the main prison to the farm had contained sufficient bread to be used on the day it was received, but it was a large enough box that a man in a cramped position could have been hidden under some layers of loaves.

PESCHANG said that he has no idea who RAY's close friends were, and as he recalled, RAY "got along" but was not close to anyone. He knew RAY was unhappy in prison, from working with him at the kitchen at the main prison, and he had heard RAY say that he would "make it to South America" if he ever got out of prison. He said he never heard RAY make any statements to indicate he was unusually prejudiced against Negroes, and he did not seem to be the type to have it "in" for anyone, but was just "for JIMMY RAY". He said that the bread in the bread box on the day RAY reportedly escaped, was turned around and turned over, and not neatly stacked as it usually was on arrival at the farm. He does not believe any incidents at the time occurred which would indicate any guard had anything to do with helping RAY escape, and he could not be certain that RAY got out in the bread box, but it would have been possible.

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WCM:jlh

1

The following investigation was conducted by  
IC WILLIAM C. MC DONALD at Jefferson City, Missouri:

On May 1, 1968, Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP)  
records were checked for RAY EUGENE WARREN. The following  
information was obtained:

RAY EUGENE WARREN was received at the MSP on  
June 9, 1955, to serve a 10 year sentence on charge of  
robbery first degree by means of a dangerous and deadly  
weapon under court case #1941-C. He completed this sentence  
and began an additional 20 years sentence on July 11, 1961,  
on charge of robbery first degree by means of a dangerous  
and deadly weapon, court case number 1945-C. He was assigned  
MSP number 69963. WARREN was discharged by commutation of  
sentence from April 13, 1968. Relatives listed on WARREN's  
correspondence and visiting list are wife DORIS WARREN,  
3330 Sims, St. Anne, Missouri; brother-in-law BILL SCOTT,  
same address; sister, BETTY WARREN, Route 2, Box 187,  
Robertson, Missouri. Records reflect that WARREN was  
visited by his mother and brother, PAUL WARREN, Robertson,  
Missouri, and brother, SCOTT WARREN, Pomona, California.  
While WARREN was in the MSP, he was in the following cells:

From November 6, 1959, until January 4, 1960, G70;

From January 4, 1960, until July 1, 1960, G89;

From July 1, 1960, until August 31, 1960, C20;

From August 31, 1960, until October 31, 1960, E80;

October 31, 1960, until January 6, 1961, E33;

January 6, 1961, until March 17, 1961, F96.

DO NOT DESTROY -  
PENDING LITIGATION

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Warden HAROLD SWENSON advised confidentially that WARREN had assisted his department in an investigation which had been conducted and that from November, 1965, until after JAMES EARL RAY escaped from the MSP, that WARREN was in solitary confinement being given maximum security for fear of his life. Warden SWENSON continued that if at all possible, WARREN should not be contacted as he is extremely nervous and fearful for his life. However, Warden SWENSON advised that WARREN is to be living with his brother, SCOTT L. WARREN at 17902 Edmond Place, Covina, California.

SINCE WARREN WAS SENTENCED TO THE MSP FOR A TOTAL PERIOD OF 30 YEARS ON CHARGE OF ROBBERY WITH A DANGEROUS AND DEADLY WEAPON AND IS EXTREMELY NERVOUS, HE SHOULD BE APPROACHED WITH CAUTION AND POSSIBLY CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

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