

AT 44-2386

JRF:sja

3

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount of Check</u>
April 5, 1968	\$60
April 21, 1968	\$80.64

HEMBREE stated during this five or six week period, he had made two loans to DOWDA in two checks, one for \$30 and one for \$10. HEMBREE advised that if DOWDA were to have been employed five days per week, his checks would run approximately \$90 to \$115. HEMBREE advised that all of the checks indicate that DOWDA may not have possibly worked all five days of the week, but again stated that this was due to the weather, stating that in rainy-type weather it was impossible for them to work.

HEMBREE stated that DOWDA had been a satisfactory employee while working for him.

AT 44-2386

JTB:lcc

1

On April 29, 1968, LEWIE RAYMOND DOWDA was interviewed at the Marietta City Jail, Marietta, Georgia, by Special Agents ROBERT B. PERRY, JAMES RICHARD FLICK and JACK T. BEVERSTEIN. DOWDA had been transferred to this jail due to an escape attempt by other prisoners at the Cobb County, Georgia, Jail.

DOWDA advised JAMES EARL RAY had been very close to (First Name Unknown) "PUNCHY" MILLER, an ex-boxer who had worked in the kitchen at the Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP). MILLER had been one of the leaders at the MSP and was removed from the kitchen after the accidental killing by him of another prisoner during a fight. DOWDA stated he had no knowledge that MILLER was engaged in the distribution of amphetamines at the prison. He stated MILLER was released from prison and went to a town located close to the MSP, where he started passing bad checks. BENJAMIN O. GOODIN, Supervisor in the MSP kitchen, tried to retrieve these bad checks, but was unable to do so before MILLER was returned to prison for passing bad checks. DOWDA could not explain why GOODIN should make MILLER's checks good. DOWDA stated GOODIN had been in the U. S. Navy and had served aboard several ships which were sunk. He stated GOODIN reports to the Veterans Administration weekly and is on some kind of drugs, which he believes MILLER obtains by prescription. He advised RAY was not particularly close to LEO BARNETT. He stated LEO BARNETT's mother lives in Flat River, Missouri and has a brother, DARRELL BARNETT, who is in the MSP.

DOWDA advised that in April, 1967, he had taken a trip to Missouri and had gone to Flat River in an effort to locate LEO BARNETT. He stated BARNETT's mother told him LEO was serving time in the penitentiary in Florida. He stated he then returned to Georgia without seeing any of the guards or anyone else in Missouri. He advised on his return trip he had met "DINK" CHUMLEY in a bar in Alabama. He stated CHUMLEY was having trouble with his wife, who had burned all CHUMLEY's clothes and he was enroute to Georgia in an effort to get away from her. He stated CHUMLEY decided to come to Marietta, Georgia, with him, which he did. DOWDA stated the trip to Missouri only took him three days and again denied having contacted anyone else.

AT 44-2386

2

DOWDA stated CHUMLEY stayed in the Atlanta area for several months and then left to go to South Carolina to see a girl friend. He advised CHUMLEY returned from South Carolina and told DOWDA that he had a job and was working somewhere in Atlanta, Georgia. DOWDA stated he has no idea concerning the present whereabouts of CHUMLEY.

DOWDA advised that RAY, while in prison, worked as a bread slicer and only earned between \$5 and \$6 per month, but never seemed to want for money. He stated RAY, while in prison, always wore his hair short. He stated RAY only mentioned two girls while in prison and from conversation, DOWDA felt RAY thought more of the girl he had met at Columbia, Missouri, than the girl he had met at the Gaslight.

DOWDA advised NEIL ABBY (phonetic) was ~~one~~ supplier of amphetamines in the MSP. He stated he believed ABBY's source was HAROLD SCHAEFER, a guard at the kitchen gate of the prison. He stated ABBY nearly ran the K Hall and after his transfer to C Hall, ABBY nearly ran it also. He stated ABBY could get his cell door open by guards anytime he wanted.

DOWDA advised the main supplier of amphetamines in MSP was a prisoner whose name he does not now recall. This person was known by two initials and he was serving a long sentence for the fatal shooting of a St. Louis police officer. He advised this person attempted to escape several times and was almost in complete charge of C Hall. He stated he had the run of the prison and had a pass to eat in the officers dining room, which he did most of the time. He was very close to Warden NASH and after NASH's suicide, tried unsuccessfully to get close to Warden SWINSON. He stated after Warden SWINSON took over, one-half pound of amphetamines were found in the trash can of this prisoner's cell. This prisoner had six to eight prisoners pushing the amphetamines for him. He stated he believed this prisoner obtained his drugs through a guard. He described this prisoner as a white male, approximately 32 - 33 years of age; 6' - 6' 1"; 180 pounds; black hair. He stated this prisoner was close to JAMES EARLY RAY, as well as prisoners LEO BARNETT and NEIL ABBY.

DOWDA advised the only prisoners at the MSP whose addresses he had were for PAUL LAIL and LEO BARNETT. He

AT 44-2386

3

stated he had not obtained RAY's address, however, he feels RAY has his address in Florida, but would not know if he were in Marietta, Georgia.

DOWDA stated he had taken a trip to California during the Summer of 1965 and on this trip he had spent two or three days with a distant cousin, JACK HOLCOMBE, who resides at San Jose, California. He stated he had also visited a friend of his sister, one BEVERLY WHEELER, who is a nurse in a Los Angeles hospital. He stated it was on this trip that he got in trouble in Missouri and was sentenced to the MSP. DOWDA denied having returned to California the ~~Spring~~ of 1967. He stated that on his trip to California in the Fall of 1967, he had planned to call JEWEL RIGGER, psychiatrist at the Napa State Hospital located outside Santa Rosa, but had not made the call. He advised JEWEL RIGGER is the wife of an inmate at the MSP. He stated LLOYD A. BELT, Supervisor in the kitchen at the MSP resides at Henley, Missouri and on the trip to California, in the Fall of 1967, he had visited BELT.

DOWDA advised that within the MSP there are two gangs, one being from St. Louis and the other from Kansas City, Missouri. He stated there was a good deal of friction between these gangs and that RAY associated with the leaders of the St. Louis gang.

DOWDA advised he had talked to his wife concerning the reported visitor to his home at 2:00 A.M. on a morning in the Fall of 1967. He stated his wife claims she has no knowledge of anyone visiting their apartment at this time of the morning. DOWDA stated he has no idea who this person could be. DOWDA stated the resident manager of these apartments must have been mistaken. He stated the manager had not approached his wife concerning any person visiting their apartment at 2:00 A.M. in the morning.

DOWDA advised that during the period he worked at the Lane Liggett Drug Store, located on the corner of Peachtree and 10th Streets, he met many persons he felt were ex-cons, but denied ever being approached concerning source of drugs in this area. DOWDA stated he has no knowledge as to the persons who might be supplying drugs in that area.

AT 44-2386

4

He stated he is certain the druggist at the Lane Liggett Drug Store was not supplying these individuals. He recalled having talked to a man in his late 40s, approximately 5' 10", 150 - 155 pounds, having dark curly hair, with gray streaks, who had visited the restaurant in the drug store and had mentioned owning several rooming houses in the area. He advised he does not recall this person's name and had only the one contact with this individual. DOWDA advised the name JAMES GARNER sounded familiar to him and feels he has heard this name mentioned sometime in the past, possibly when he was employed at the restaurant in the Lane Liggett Drug Store. He advised he does not personally know JAMES GARNER and could furnish no information concerning him.

AT 44-2386

JTB:lcc

1

The following investigation was conducted by SAs
JACK T. BEVERSTEIN and JOSEPH G. SHEA.

On April 24, 1968, CARL GENE TAYLOR, also known as "Junior" TAYLOR, 185 W. Dixie Street, Marietta, Georgia, advised that the photo of JAMES EARL RAY did not resemble person known to him as "Red", who had stayed with LEWIE DOWDA a couple of weeks in approximately March, 1968. He stated person known to him as "Red" was a white male, approximately 6', 35 years of age, 185 pounds, and had bright red hair. He advised this person had come to Marietta, Georgia, with his wife and small baby and had resided with the DOWDAs at the Olive Spring Apartments.

TAYLOR advised he had been employed with DOWDA at the Bonanza Steak House in Marietta, Georgia. He advised he had never seen anyone resembling JAMES EARL RAY in the company of DOWDA. He stated during the Fall of 1967, DOWDA and his wife had traveled to California to visit her relatives and at no time did DOWDA ever mention contacting anyone he was acquainted with who could logically have been JAMES EARL RAY.

AT 44-2386

JTB:rjb

1

The following investigation was conducted by SA JACK T. BEVERSTEIN:

On April 25, 1968, EDITH BUSBY, Manager, Soda Fountain, Lane-Liggett Drugstore, 10th and Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Georgia, advised LEWIE DOWDA had been employed as Manager of the Soda Fountain from December 23, 1967, to January 23, 1968, at which time DOWDA left, claiming he was going to move to Florida. She stated it is her understanding DOWDA is now employed at the Bonanza Steak House, Marietta, Georgia. BUSBY viewed photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and stated she had never seen this individual. She advised no one has contacted her concerning the whereabouts of DOWDA.

On April 25, 1968, Dr. TOM CHOTOS, Manager, Lane-Liggett Drugstore, 10th and Peachtree Street, N. E., Atlanta, Georgia, advised photograph of JAMES EARL RAY is unfamiliar to him. He stated no one has ever contacted him for instructions how to contact LEWIE DOWDA.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date May 2, 1968

1

RAYMOND LOUIS CURTIS, who is confined in the Whitfield County Jail, Dalton, Georgia, advised he did not personally serve time with JAMES EARL RAY in the Menard Prison, Illinois, and the only information he has regarding this is what RAY told him. This information was related to him by RAY while he and RAY were serving time together in the Jackson County Jail, Kansas City, Missouri, for a six or seven month period.

He stated he never heard RAY say that he had served time in Joliet or Pontiac Prisons, but he felt that if RAY had served time in either one of those places, he would probably have been shipped to Menard Prison for discharge.

CURTIS advised there was a close associate of RAY's serving time in Jackson County with them. He cannot recall the name of this individual, but stated he was convicted as a co-defendant with RAY on the same check charge and from conversation with RAY, this individual was presumably the same person with whom RAY served time in Menard Prison.

CURTIS advised he recalls a third unidentified individual visiting RAY and his co-defendant in Jackson County Jail who seemed very close to both of them, but stated he strongly doubted that the visitor's log maintained at the Jail would reflect the name of this visitor due to irregularities in keeping such logs.

He advised he could not furnish a description of the third man.

CURTIS advised he was confined in the Jefferson County Jail with RAY and his co-defendant from approximately March of 1955 until July of 1955, and that they all subsequently ended up together in Leavenworth Prison.

44

On 4/22/68 at Dalton, Georgia File # Atlanta-44-2386
 by SA BERNARD R. BERRY :bjc Date dictated 4/26/68

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AT 44-2386

BRB:bjc

2

He stated while at Leavenworth Prison, RAY's associate and co-defendant did nothing but lift weights and attempt to improve his physique.

He described this co-defendant as being a white male, age 36, at that time, 5'10" to 6', 180 pounds, and well built.

45 v 46

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date May 3, 1968

RAYMOND LOUIS CURTIS, currently incarcerated Whitfield County Jail, Dalton, Georgia, advised that he has spent time in prison on two or three occasions with JAMES EARL RAY. CURTIS advised he first became acquainted with JAMES EARL RAY in March 1955 at the Jackson County Jail, Kansas City, Missouri. He stated RAY was incarcerated at the Jackson County Jail on Post Office burglary charges and had just recently been released from prison in Menard, Illinois, prior to his incarceration at Jackson County. CURTIS at the same time was under arrest for armed robbery and bank robbery in the Missouri area. During this period, CURTIS stated he and RAY were cellmates for approximately six to seven months. While cellmates, CURTIS recalled that RAY had a close friend, name unrecalled, who visited him while RAY was at the Jackson County Prison. This friend had been a former cellmate of RAY when RAY was incarcerated at Menard, Illinois. CURTIS never actually saw this man but knew that RAY had several visits from one particular individual. This man kept RAY in spending money while RAY was in Jackson County Jail and in CURTIS' opinion this individual would harbor RAY if RAY were on escape.

CURTIS went on to say that RAY had another close friend, name unrecalled, of Italian descent, apparently a "big man" in the syndicate. This Italian had apparently operated with RAY in the past and both he and RAY had engaged in handling stolen Postal money orders and travelers checks.

After six or seven months as cellmates at Jackson County Jail, RAY was sentenced to three years on the Post Office burglary charges and transferred to Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary. Two weeks later CURTIS received a 16-year sentence for bank robbery and also was sent to Leavenworth. While confined at Leavenworth together, RAY spoke of no girlfriends and corresponded with none to the best of CURTIS' knowledge. While in Leavenworth, RAY mentioned that he "operated" frequently out of Quincy, Illinois. By "operated", RAY meant "engaged" in burglary and payroll jobs."

CURTIS said that while he and RAY were incarcerated they

- 47 -

On 4/21/68 at Dalton, Georgia File# Atlanta 44-2386
 by SA THOMAS R. HENRY, JR. :jhs Date dictated 4/25/68

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AT 44-2386

TRH:jhs

2

engaged in crooked poker games and took fellow prisoners for money. In the opinion of CURTIS, RAY was a good poker player and an excellent card handler. During this incarceration RAY mentioned underworld and hoodlum connections, names unrecalled, in Chicago, Detroit, Tampa, and the Tijuana, Mexico area. CURTIS went on to say that after serving seven to eight months with RAY at Leavenworth he was transferred to the United States Penitentiary, Atlanta, Georgia. CURTIS served six to seven years in the United States Penitentiary, Atlanta, and in June 1962 was released but sent back to the Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri, to serve time on armed robbery charges. While in the state penitentiary at Jefferson City, Missouri, CURTIS again was incarcerated with JAMES EARL RAY. On occasions they were in the same cell together in "B" Hall and "C" Hall. They served together from 1962 to 1966. While in "B" and "C" Halls they were together in a three-man cell with a third individual whom CURTIS said could verify the following facts but whom CURTIS refused to identify but whom CURTIS refused to identify:

CURTIS stated that during this incarceration President JOHN F. KENNEDY was assassinated and word from the outside filtered into the prison that this was probably a conspiracy. Word came in that KENNEDY had a "bounty" on his head. CURTIS was unable to give further details on the "bounty". He said in 1963-1964 Dr. King's movements became one of the topics of conversation at the state penitentiary. Word got around to the inmates that the "KK of the South" who apparently went to businessmen and had raised approximately a million dollars, had a "bounty" with this money on KING's head. CURTIS was unable to give further details or information regarding "KK of the South".

CURTIS said that from 1962 to 1966 before CURTIS' release RAY mentioned at least a dozen times that had he known about a "bounty" on President KENNEDY's head and had he been out he would have made every effort to collect it. RAY also said approximately a dozen times in the presence of CURTIS "if he got out in time and if KING was still alive he would like to get the 'bounty' on KING". RAY never mentioned whom he would contact to get this "bounty" but CURTIS advised the criminal element knew how to contact such people.

CURTIS went on to say that the above statements concerning KING made by RAY were heard by the third cellmate mentioned above.

AT 44-2386

TRH:jhs

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In addition CURTIS stated that RAY had a friend in New Orleans, Louisiana (FIRST NAME UNKNOWN) COIN (phonetic) who was apparently a "fence". This man was well connected with the hoodlum element, however, was quite old and in the opinion of RAY was in 1955 at least 55 to 60 years of age. In the opinion of CURTIS this individual would definitely harbor RAY. CURTIS knew no close friends or associates of RAY. RAY, allegedly through prison grapevine, had a wife but this was never mentioned by RAY. CURTIS said, however, a few prisoners mentioned family connections. While in prison RAY also mentioned gambling in Los Angeles, California. No specific place in Los Angeles as to the gambling was mentioned. RAY in CURTIS' opinion was a "high liver" when outside and would associate with prostitutes taking one from town to town.

RAY with regard to KING's killing indicated he would make all rules and would in all probability demand the "bounty" money be put in a bank. RAY mentioned three foreign countries, which he had learned about and which CURTIS assumed RAY would go to if out of the United States. These foreign countries were New Zealand, Brazil, and Switzerland. CURTIS was of the opinion that not over three people would be involved in the actual assassination. It would have been well planned with diversionary measures and in the opinion of CURTIS a second individual, not RAY, would have driven the getaway car to Atlanta as a diversionary measure.

CURTIS said he would not testify to the above facts because if he did testify to this information he would fear for his life.

F B I

Date: 5/18/68

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

Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

TO DIRECTOR, LOS ANGELES, MEMPHIS

FROM DETROIT (44-989)

MURKIN

RE LOS ANGELES TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR MAY SEVENTEEN INSTANT
RE LOS ANGELES TIMES INFORMANT - "BOB" LNU
MICHIGAN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY PRESENTLY ON STRIKE AND
ALL SUPERVISORY PERSONELL IN CREDIT CARD DIVISION WORKING TWELVE
HOUR SHIFTS ON SWITCH BOARDS. INFORMATION REGARDING ANY BELL
CREDIT CARD IN NAME RIDELL PAREN NO FIRST NAME PAREN OR ROBERT
BRINKLEY WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL AT LEAST FIVE TWENTY NEXT.

~~AND LOS ANGELES TELETYPE STRIKE.~~

SGT. ERJEVAC, HARPER WOODS MICHIGAN PD ADVISED NO FNU
RIDELL OR ROBERT BRINKLEY RESIDES IN HARPER WOODS.

DETROIT INDICES AND ALL REFERENCE BOOKS NEGATIVE REGARDING
FNU RIDELL, ROBERT BRINKLEY OR RIDELL CATERING.

NO PERSONS FAMILIAR WITH CATERING FOR US RUBBER AVAILABLE
TONIGHT, DETROIT WILL ATTEMPT TO ASCERTAIN IF US RUBBER HAS A
CATERER TOMORROW.

RECORDS MILAN CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION REVIEWED REGARDING
SAMUEL LEWIS, AND ONLY PERSON WITH SIMILAR NAME LOCATED WAS SAM

- 1- Birmingham (info)
- 1- Kansas City (Info)

44-700-915

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 20 1968	
FBI - DETROIT	

Howe

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via _____
(Priority)PAGE TWO
DE 44-989

LEWIS, WHO WAS RELEASED FROM MILAN IN NINETEEN THIRTY EIGHT. AS THIS DATE DIFFERS GREATLY FROM INFO FURNISHED BY "BOB", NO FURTHER ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE TO OTHERWISE IDENTIFY THE ABOVE LEWIS.

CONTINUING EFFORTS BEING MADE TO RESOLVE INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM "BOB", AND BUREAU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED.

AM&COPIES BH AND KC.

A & D.

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

5/18/68

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR, LOS ANGELES,
AND MEMPHIS

FROM: DETROIT (44-989)

MURKIN

RE DETROIT PHONE CALL TO BUREAU, INSTANT, DETROIT TEL
TO DIRECTOR, MAY EIGHTEEN INSTANT, LA TEL TO DIRECTOR MAY
SEVENTEEN, LAST, LA TIMES INFORMANT - "BOB" LNU.

LT. FERGUSON, RECORDS OFFICER, FCI, MILAN, MICH., RE-
CONTACTED THIS DATE RE SAM LEWIS, AND ADVISED LEWIS RELEASED
IN NINETEEN THIRTY EIGHT, AND WAS ASSIGNED INSTITUTION NUMBER
FIVE FOUR FIVE ONE. FERGUSON ALSO STATED A THOROUGH CHECK
OF AVAILABLE RECORDS INDICATE ONE SAMUEL LEWIS RELEASED IN
NINETEEN FORTY SIX WAS ASSIGNED INSTITUTION NUMBER ONE ONE
FOUR SEVEN FOUR M. RECORDS ALSO NOTED A CHARLES SAMUEL LEWIS
RELEASED IN NINETEEN SIXTY TWO, AT WHICH TIME HE WAS AGE
TWENTY THREE. CHARLES SAMUEL LEWIS WAS ASSIGNED INSTITUTION
NUMBER Y TWO TWO SIX NINE TWO MM. HE WAS INCARCERATED ON

1 - BIRMINGHAM (INFO)
1 - KANSAS CITY (INFO)
JFC/JMD
(3)

JMD

44-760 - 916

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 20 1968	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	
<i>Howe</i>	<i>ABA</i>

DE 44-989

PAGE TWO

DYER ACT CHARGE. LEWIS' HOME WAS LISTED AS TOLEDO, OHIO.
FOREGOING BEING FURNISHED FOR ADDITIONAL INFO RE LEWIS.

CONTINUING AFTER BEING MADE TO RESOLVE INFO RECEIVED
FROM "BOB".

AM COPIES FURNISHED BIRMINGHAM AND KANSAS CITY.

FBI KAN CITY

FBI SAN FRAN

435PM URGENT 5-17-68 KLJ

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), KANSAS CITY (44-760), ST. LOUIS (44-775)
AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM SAN FRANCISCO (173-65) (P) 3P

MURKIN

RE SAN FRANCISCO AIRTEL, FIVE EIGHT SIXTYEIGHT, AND MEMPHIS
TELETYPES, FIVE SIXTEEN AND FIVE SEVENTEEN, SIXTYEIGHT.

RE: ~~KENNETH LEE WADE~~

KENNETH LEE WADE ON FIVE SEVENTEEN SIXTYEIGHT, ADVISED MONEY EARNED
IN MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY (MSP) COULD BE EITHER IN CURRENCY AND/OR
SCRIPT OR SERVICES SUCH AS COMMISSARY CHITS OR LEATHER GOODS, ETC.
MONEY COULD BE SENT OUT OF THE MSP BY GUARDS WHO WERE BRIBED BY PRI-
SONERS TO ACT AS COURIERS INVOLVING ITEMS LEAVING OR ENTERING THE PRISON.
WADE STATED HE DID NOT DESIRE TO IDENTIFY ANY GUARD AS THAT GUARD MIGHT
STILL BE AVAILABLE AND USEABLE BY PRESENT MSP INMATES.

WADE STATED RAY WOULD EARN ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS PER MONTH
FROM HIS BAKERY WORK, AND IT WAS HIS RECOLLECTION THAT FIFTEEN OR
TWENTY DOLLARS PER MONTH COULD BE FURNISHED TO RAY BY FRIENDS OR
FAMILY OUTSIDE OF THE PRISON FOR HIS PERSONAL USE IN PURCHASING COMMIS-
SARY ITEMS.

END PAGE ONE

Some advised 5/18

Jeff City
ayers

44-760-917

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 17 1968	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	

Howe *RBH*

WADE ADVISED THAT RAY WOULD NOT PLACE ANY "PRISON EARNINGS" IN HIS ACCOUNT AT THE PRISON AND CLAIMED THAT HE DID NOT KNOW HOW RAY HANDLED HIS PRISON EARNINGS. HE STATED THIS WAS A STRICT PERSONAL MATTER WITH RAY. WADE ALSO ADVISED THAT HE GAMBLED A LOT OF HIS MONEY, BUT RAY WAS CONSERVATIVE IN THE HANDLING OF MONEY AND IF HE, WADE, WAS BROKE, HE COULD USUALLY GET A LOAN FROM RAY.

WADE STATED HE HAD NO REASON TO LIE TO THE FBI. HE STATED THAT HE NEEDS HELP TO GET A REDUCTION OF SENTENCE OR TRANSFER TO ANOTHER LESS STRICT INSTITUTION IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AND THAT HE WOULD BE COOPERATIVE, HOPING HIS COOPERATION COULD BE OF VALUE TO BOTH THE FBI AND HIMSELF.

WADE STATED HE HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF RAY'S WHEREABOUTS. HE ADVISED HE HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF HIS SOURCE OF FUNDS. HE STATED HE HAS NO DEFINITE KNOWLEDGE AS TO HOW RAY GOT HIS MONEY OUT OF MSP.

WADE STATED IT WAS HIS SPECULATION THAT RAY COULD HAVE HAD FIVE
END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

THOUSAND DOLLARS AT THE TIME HE ESCAPED. RAY WAS CONSERVATIVE IN MONEY MATTERS AND PROBABLY HAD SOME MONEY ON HIS PERSON AT THE TIME HE EXCAPED AND SOME MONEY SOME PLACE AFTER HE GOT OUT. HE STATED IT WAS HIS SPECULATION THAT RAY, BECAUSE OF HIS CONSERVATIVE HANDLING OF MONEY, WOULD NOT HAVE TAKEN MUCH OF A CHANCE ON WHERE HE PLACED THIS MONEY IF THAT IS WHAT HE DID.

WADE ADVISED A LIEUTENANT DICKSON OR DIXON (PH) WAS DISCHARGED BY THE MSP IN NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE AND HE HAD BEEN USED BY WADE - RAY AND ASSOCIATES TO BRING IN AND TAKE OUT ITEMS OF VALUE. WADE STATED RAY WAS A CLOSE FRIEND OF WILLIE SHOW OR SCHOAF (PH), A NINETEEN SIXTYFOUR OR SIXTYFIVE PAROLEE WHO ORIGINALLY CAME FROM CHICAGO, ILLINOIS AREA. WADE STATED WILLIE SHOW OR SCHOAF (PH) SENT SOME "STUFF" BACK INTO THE PRISON FOR US AFTER HE GOT OUT.

KANSAS CITY AT JEFFERSON CITY, MO., THROUGH MSP RECORDS, IDENTIFY WILLIE SHOW OR SCHOAF (PH) AND LIEUTENT DICKSON OR DIXON (PH) AND THEREAFTER SET OUT LEADS TO INTERVIEW THESE MEN FOR INFORMATION RE RAY AND/OR HIS SOURCE OF FUNDS.

INSERTS FOLLOW.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END.

DJB

FBI KAN CITY

F B I

Date: **May 9, 1968**

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

Via **Airtel** _____
(Priority)

To: **All SACS
LEGATS, Mexico City
Ottawa**

From: **Director, FBI (44-38861)**

**MURKIN
OO: MEMPHIS (44-1987)**

In order to cover the possibility that subject may have died since commission of the crime, the U. S. Census Bureau and Department of Health, Education and Welfare were contacted and they advised that no central records of unidentified deceased are maintained by those agencies. It was suggested that each state may maintain such a record in their Bureau of Vital Statistics or similar agency.

There is no known Federal law requiring the maintenance of such information; and it is possible that if any record of unidentified dead is maintained, it would only be maintained at local police departments, morgues, medical facilities, or the like.

Each office covering state capitals should check to ascertain if such records are maintained, and if so, should check records for the period from 4-5-68, to date, for any information which might possibly identify subject Ray with unidentified deceased person over that period.

If there is no central record repository maintained in the various states or nationally in the case of Mexico and Canada, you should, in connection with your contacts with law enforcement agencies on this case or other Bureau matters, make appropriate inquiries relative to

44-760-918

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 15 1968	
FBI — KANSAS CITY	

[Signature]

Sent Via _____ M Per _____

Airtel to All SACS and LEGATS, Mexico City and Ottawa
RE: MURKIN

unidentified dead for the period beginning 4-5-68; and if fingerprints on such dead are maintained, they should be compared with those on the Identification Order on Ray in order to effect identification or nonidentification. This should be handled in the normal course of business and only reasonable investigation should be pursued along these lines.

The Identification Division has placed an appropriate stop on unidentified deceased inquiries it may receive. If feasible, appropriate offices and Legats, Mexico City and Ottawa should place similar stops with appropriate state, local or national agencies in your territories.

Armed and Dangerous.

KC 44-760

WCM:LAC

1

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

On May 8, 1968, Missouri State Penitentiary records
were checked for EDWARD MC CLELLAN. This individual could not
be identified from a record check.

44-760-910

SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
MAY 10 1968
FBI - KANSAS CITY
McDonald WCM

Handwritten notes:
4/11/68
100-100000-100000

be identified from a record check
were checked for EDWARD MC SPERTAN. This individual could not
be found in 1968 Missouri State Penitentiary records

IC WILLIAM O MC DONALD of Jefferson City, Missouri:
The following investigation was conducted by

MGM:RVC
KC 44-100

KC 44-760

THW:mlb

1

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

At Jefferson City, Missouri

On May 13, 1968, GENE BARNES, Missouri Department of Corrections #72271, advised that during about 1965 and 1966, he celled in the same hall in the Missouri State Penitentiary, where BARNES is currently confined, with JAMES EARL RAY. He said that he spoke with RAY, but did not consider himself to be a close friend of RAY, and he could suggest no inmates who were close to RAY. BARNES stated he escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP) in 1959 in a guard's uniform, but this was before RAY came to the MSP, and he does not believe RAY knew about his escape. He said that RAY never mentioned to him any "bounty" on Dr. KING, and he heard no rumors about the existence of such a "bounty" discussed in the MSP. He stated that none of his conversation with RAY gave him any indication as to RAY's feelings about persons of other races, and he recalls that RAY also talked with Negro inmates while in the MSP. He advised that he knew RAY tried to escape previously, and he heard about his escape in April 1967. He assumed that RAY went out of the prison in a bread box from the prison bakery, but he never heard who helped him and has no information from anyone who knew specifically that RAY did escape in a bread box. He said RAY never attempted an escape in a prison guard's uniform to his knowledge. He stated that RAY did not tell him of any plan to escape and never discussed with him any plans of what he would do if he did get out of the prison. He said that RAY possibly was a user of amphetamine, but he has no information that he sold amphetamine. He stated that in his conversation with RAY, no mention was made of contacts or plans RAY had on the outside, and they merely discussed prison gossip and matters going on in the penitentiary. He said he never heard of "Cooley's Organization" and never heard RAY mention such an organization, which he doubts exists. He stated RAY stayed to himself and minded his own business while in the MSP. He advised that any "walk man" who would move freely about the cell block, such as RAY was for a time, briefly, would be the logical inmate to handle "numbers" for lottery on cigarettes, but he does not know that RAY acted for anyone in a "numbers lottery," and if

44-760-920
INDEXED
FILED
MAY 13 1968
FBI - KANSAS CITY

Weaver

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

At Jefferson City, Missouri

On May 13, 1968, GENE BARNES, Missouri Department of Corrections #72271, advised that during about 1965 and 1966, he called in the same hall in the Missouri State Penitentiary, where BARNES is currently confined, with EARL RAY. He said that he spoke with RAY, but did not consider himself to be a close friend of RAY, and he could suggest no inmates who were close to RAY. BARNES stated he escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP) in 1958 in a guard's uniform, but this was before RAY came to the MSP, and he does not believe RAY knew about his escape. He said that RAY never mentioned to him any "bounty" on Dr. KING, and he heard no rumors about the existence of such a "bounty" discussed in the MSP. He stated that none of his conversation with RAY gave him any indication as to RAY's feelings about persons of other races, and he recalls that RAY also talked with Negro inmates while in the MSP. He advised that he knew RAY tried to escape previously, and he heard about his escape in April 1967. He assumed that RAY went out of the prison in a bread box from the prison bakery, but he never heard who helped him and has no information from anyone who knew specifically that RAY did escape in a bread box. He said RAY never attempted an escape in a prison guard's uniform to his knowledge. He stated that RAY did not tell him of any plan to escape and never discussed with him any plans of what he would do if he did get out of the prison. He said that RAY possibly was a user of amphetamines, but he has no information that he sold amphetamines. He stated that in his conversation with RAY, no mention was made of contacts or plans RAY had on the outside, and they merely discussed prison gossip and matters going on in the penitentiary. He said he never heard of "Goolley's Organization" and never heard RAY mention such an organization which he doubts exists. He stated RAY stayed to himself and minded his own business while in the MSP. He advised that any "walk man" who would move freely about the cell block, such as RAY was for a time, briefly, would be the logical inmate to handle "numbers" for lottery on cigarettes, but he does not know that RAY acted for anyone in a "numbers lottery," and he

KC 44-760

2

he did he would not necessarily be close to anyone running the lottery, but merely available. He said that "Dago" is not known to him, and he never knew an inmate named EDWARD McCLELLAN. He advised that he never heard any talk among inmates about a "Business Man's Organization" which offered money for killing certain individuals. He said RAY never mentioned family or outside friends to him, and he has no information as to where RAY may have gone on escaping from the MSP. He stated RAY never mentioned escape routes out of the country to him and never mentioned Canada, Mexico, or Australia to him.

he did he would not necessarily be close to anyone running
the lottery, but merely available. He said that "Dago" is
not known to him, and he never knew an inmate named EDWARD
McGILLIAN. He advised that he never heard any talk among
inmates about a "Business Man's Organization" which offered
money for killing certain individuals. He said RAY never
mentioned family or outside friends to him, and he has no
information as to where RAY may have gone or escaping from
the MSP. He stated RAY never mentioned escape routes out of
the country to him and never mentioned Canada, Mexico, or
Australia to him.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-760)

FROM : SA GEORGE T. CRONIN

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 5/20/68

Re memo to SAC dated 4/15/68.

Mrs. HATLEY, Owner and Operator of the Hatley Dance Studio, 306 East 32nd Street, Joplin, Missouri, was contacted on 5/15/68. She advised there is a total of three dance studios operating in Joplin, Missouri, but that neither herself nor the other two offer ballroom dancing to adults. Mrs. HATLEY further advised she is well acquainted with area dancing schools and instructors, and advised that no dance studios catering to adult ballroom type dance instruction exist in McDonald or Newton Counties.

On 5/15/68, Mrs. ERMINA CLINTON, 1238 Grand, Carthage, Missouri, was contacted, and she advised she operates the Clinton Dancing School in Carthage, and that she occasionally teaches ballroom dancing to adults, however, her instruction is granted only to individuals in the Carthage, Missouri area with whom she is acquainted. She advised she has not had an adult ballroom class for approximately two years.

lw
GTC:lw
(1)

44-760-921

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 21 1968	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	

Howell TRM



5010-108-01

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

F B I

Date: 5/17/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
 FROM: SAC, DETROIT (44-989)
 SUBJECT: MURKIN /
 RM

Re St. Louis airtel to Bureau, dated 4/30/68, and Jackson teletype to Bureau, dated 4/24/68.

Re ROBERT BOSHERS, (Phonetic BOSSIER).

On 5/13/68 Mrs. MERCENE GAUT, Clerk, Office Services, State Prison of Southern Michigan, advised SA CHARLES G. FEHR that an extensive search of her files failed to indicate any record identifiable with ROBERT BOSHERS or BOSSIER as ever being incarcerated in the State Prison System. She was also unable to find any indication that BOSHERS was wanted by the Michigan Corrections Commission.

3 - Bureau (RM)
 1 - Jackson (157-9586) (Info) (RM)
 ① - Kansas City (RM) (Info)
 1 - Memphis (44-1987) (RM) (Info)
 1 - Oklahoma City (Info) (RM)
 1 - St. Louis (44-775) (Info) (RM)
 2 - Detroit
 WJH/cmt
 (10)

44-760-922

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 20 1968	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	

Howe

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO SAC, (44-760)

DATE: 5/20/68

FROM SA GEORGE C. SCRUGGS, Jr.

SUBJECT MURKIN

Re St. Louis teletype, 5/16/68.

MAMIE HOOKER was located at the residence of her son, JAMES HOOKER, in a remote area of Laclede County, Missouri, on 5/16/68. She advised that JAMES DAVID DAILEY was the son of her half-brother and something over 20 years ago he had been sentenced to the Missouri State Penitentiary. Mrs. HOOKER advised since his release from the penitentiary, he has lived in the St. Louis area and she has lived at Pascola, Missouri; therefore, she has had no contact or association with DAILEY and does not know any of his friends or associates or have any information concerning his activities. She stated it has been approximately 9 years since she has seen DAILEY.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

GCS:rdnd
(3)



5010-108-01

44-760-983

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 20 1968	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	
SCRUGGS	

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

FBI KAN CITY

FBI ST LOUIS

336 PM URGENT 5-20-68 MPB

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), KANSAS CITY (44-760) AND MEMPHIS
FROM ST. LOUIS (44-775) 2-P

MURKIN.

REKCTEL, MAY SIXTEEN, LAST.

IVAN DALE UNDERWOOD, FORMER INMATE, MSP, ADVISED WAS NOT
ACQUAINTED WITH JAMES EARL RAY WHILE INCARCERATED MSP. ON BASIS
OF NAME AND PHOTO HE BELIEVES RAY IS IDENTICAL TO AN INDIVIDUAL
WHO WORKED WITH RALPH RENFRO FOR SHORT PERIOD IN LATE FIFTIES AT
JOPLIN, MO. RENFRO CARRIED ON FURNACE AND HEATING BUSINESS AND
WOULD ALSO QUOTE FINGER UNQUOTE RESIDENCES AND BUSINESS
ESTABLISHMENTS IN JOPLIN AREA. ON PRETEXT OF FREE INSPECTION OF
PREMISES, RAY WOULD GAIN ENTRANCE TO CASE ESTABLISHMENT FOR
POSSIBLE ROBBERY OR BURGLARY OR IF OWNER WAS GULLIBLE WOULD
ATTEMPT TO SELL A NEW HEATING OUTFIT. AS OF EIGHTEEN MONTHS AGO
RENFRO WORKING AT INDEPENDENT OIL COMPANY SERVICE STATION ON
END PAGE ONE

*Joplin advised
KPA*

44-760-924

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 20 1968	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	

Howe

*Jackson
Joplin*

PAGE TWO

SL 44-775

TWENTIETH ST., JOPLIN, MO. AND HANGS OUT AT ELMER'S BAR, MAIN
ST. UNDERWOOD KNEW RAY ONLY THROUGH THEIR MUTUAL ASSOCIATION
WITH RENFRO, WHO IS W/M, AGE FORTYTWO. UNDERWOOD WISHES HIS
IDENTITY BE CONCEALED AS THE SOURCE OF ABOVE INFO.

KANSAS CITY AT JOPLIN: ATTEMPT TO LOCATE RALPH RENFRO
AND DETERMINE IF HE EMPLOYED RAY AND HIS KNOWLEDGE OF HIS
BACKGROUND.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P.

END

PHM

FBI KAN CITY

T

FBI ST LOUIS

945PM URGENT 5-20-68 JLS

TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS AND KANSAS CITY
FROM ST. LOUIS (44-775) 4P)

MURKIN SUMMARY

RE CAROL PEPPER;

REINTERVIEWED. FATHER, JERRY BAYNES SOLD TWO STORY RESIDENTIAL BLDG, SLMO. SUMMERY SIXTY SEVEN, FOR TWENTY EIGHT HUNDRED TO THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS. SHE HAS, FROM TIME TO TIME DEPOSITED HIS MONEY IN HER ACCOUNT. HE PURCHASED PRESENT FARM NEAR CENTER MO., TWENTY SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS. IF SHE GAVE CHECK FOR NINETEEN HUNDRED SHE IS SURE IT WOULD HAVE BEEN RETURN OF HIS MONEY OR LOAN, AS SHE IS CERTAIN SHE BOUGHT NO PART OF FARM. SHE VISITS HIM EVERY WEEKEND IF POSSIBLE. TAKES GROCERIES. IS ONLY MEMBER OF FAMILY WHO LOOKS AFTER HIM IN ANY WAY. WHEN FATHER LIVED IN SL WAS EMPLOYED AT FILLING STATIONS AND AT ONE TIME HAD JUNK SHOP.

BEFORE MARRIAGE IN SIXTYONE, SHE WAS KNOWN AS CAROL RYAN AND LIVED WITH FATHER AT ONE SEVEN TWO SEVEN SOUTH ELEVENTH, SL. CLAIMS POOR MEMORY FOR DATES AND ADDRESSES. BROTHER BUZZ LIVED WITH PART - TIME. SUBJECT NEVER LIVED WITH THEM. HAS HAZY MEMORY OF SUBJECTS RETURN FROM ARMY WHEN SHE WAS SMALL GIRL. UNABLE TO RECALL HAVING SSEN MORE THAN FEW TIMES IN SL OR ELSEWHERE.

DENIES ANY FINANCIAL DEALINGS ANY TIME WITH SUBJECT. NOT AWARE OF ANY BANK ACCOUNTS OF HIS. UNABLE TO RECALL EVERY RECEIVING CHECKS FROM HIM UNDER TRUE NAME OR ALIASES. UNABLE TO RECALL RECEIVING CHECK TO ALBERT PEPPER STATIONERY CO. IS POSITIVE THERE NEVER WAS SUCH CO. Y OR V. P. WEBBE UNKNOWN - * TO HER.

END PAGE ONE

44-760-25

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 20 1968	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	

Howe RBH

PAGE TWO

SL 44-775

HER MATERIAL POSSESSIONS INCLUDING HOME RESULT OF FRUGAL LIVING.
WORKED FROM MARRIAGE UNTIL MOVED TO PRESENT HOME.

NEVER HEARD OF JOHN RAYS TRIP TO SAN FRANCISCO. NO KNOWLEDGE
FATHER EVER GAVE JOHN MONEY TO HOLD.

RE JERRY RAYNES:

REINTERVIEWED. SOLD HOUSE IN SL SUMMER SIXTYSEVEN FOR THIRTY TWO
HUNDRED. TURNED MONEY OVER TO CAROL PEPPER. NEVER LOANED SON JOHN RAY
ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS, BUT LOANED HIM SEVEN HUNDRED THRU CAROL. WAS
VAGUE RE DATES AND SPECIFICS GENERALLY.

RE FELLOW PRISONER WALTER E. NOLAN.

REINTERVIEWED. DENIED ANY CONTACT WITH OR KNOWLEDGE OF SUBJECTS
WHEREABOUTS AFTER MSP ESCAPE. POINTED OUT RAY WOULD HAVE NO WAY OF
KNOWING OF HIS RELEASE. KNEW RAY HAD FOUR FOR THREE LOAN BUSINESS,
-MSP, AS RAY ASKED IF HE NEEDED ANY MONEY SEVERAL TIMES. RAY ONCE
TOLD HIM HE HAD PAID OFF DEBT OF UN-NAMED INMATE AND ASKED HOW TO GET
REPAYMENT INMATE HAD ARRANGED WITH SOMEONE OUTSIDE PAST WARDEN, AS
WARDEN HAD QUESTIONED HIM SEVERAL TIMES RE MONEY HELD FOR HIM IN BELIEF
IT WAS PAYMENT FOR NARCOTICS. IT WAS SUGGESTED OUTSIDE PERSON SEND
REPAYMENT IN RAY BROTHERS NAME. RAY MAY HAVE SUED AMPHETAMINE BUT
NOLAN NEVER KNEW HIM TO SELL OR DEAL IN THAT OR ANY NARCOTIC. IN
HISESTIMATION RAYPROBABLY HAD NO MORE THAN THREE OR FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS
ON ESCAPE..

RAY WORKED WITH HUNDRED FIFTY INAMTES IN BAKERY. NOLAN DOUBTS
OVER SIX OF THEM EVER HELD CONVERSATIONS WITH HIM TOTALING OVER HALF
OVER. CLOSE MOUTHED. NO FOREIGN LANGUAGE ABILITY DISPLAYED. NO TALK
OF TRAVEL OUTSIDE U. S. MENTIONED WEST COAST TRIP ONCE. PLACE SPOKEN
OF MOSTLY WAS ILLINOIS. NO CLOSE TIES TO FAMILY INDICATED.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

NINETY FIVE PERCENT OF TALK WAS ABOUT GETTING OUT LEGALLY OR ILLEGALLY. RECALLED ONE FRIDAY OR SATURDAY RAY STATED HE HAD BEEN GRANTED PERMISSION TO ACCOMPANY ATTORNEY TO MO. SUPREME COURT HEARING. ASKED TRUTH AS TO ANY RELAXATION OF SECURITY. NOLAN ASSURED HIM NO OPPORTUNITY FOR ESCAPE. RAY REPLIED QUOTE THAT'S OK. I'VE GOT SOMETHING ELSE UNQUOTE. FOLLOWING SUNDAY NOLAN HEARD INMATE NAME NOT KNOWN, COMPLAIN SOMEONE HAD STOLEN SET OF HIDDEN CIVILIAN CLOTHING. FEW HOURS LATER PRISON SCUTTLEBUT WAS SOMEONE HAD WALKED OUT. NOLAN CONJECTURED IF SUBJECT HAD CHANGED TO CIVILIAN CLOTHES, MINGLED WITH WEEKEND VISITORS, AND IF GUARD ON DOUBLE GATE WAS NEW, RAY PROBABLY COULD HAVE ESCAPED IN THIS MANNER.

NOLAN POSITIVE RAY WOULD NEVER HAVE COME TO SL AS PD AND FBI NOTORIOUS FOR DEVELOPING NETWORK OF INFORMATIONS FROM EXCONS. BELIEVES RAY NOT GUILTY OF KING KILLING AS CRIME COMPLETELY FOREIGN TO PERSONALITY. DOES NOT BELIEVE RAY WOULD KILL EXCEPT TO AVOID RETURN TO PRISON. RE FELLOW PRISONER ROBERT LYNN POWELL. INTENSIVE INVESTIGATION CONTINUING TO LOCATE POWELL AS PRINCIPAL SUSPECT IN BR, BANK OF LEADVILLE, MO., MAY EIGHTEEN LAST.

RE JOHN LARRY RAY, SOURCES AND SPOT CHECKS DISCLOSE NO SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY.

MISC; NURSE MARY SAWYER KNEW RAY ASSOCIATE ANDREW WILSON DECORE ONLY AS HOSPITAL PATIENT. NOT AWARE OF WHEREABOUT. SUBJECT UNKNOWN. V. P. WEBBE, WHO RECEIVED CHECKS FROM ACCOUNT BELIEVED TO BE SUBJECTS IN FIFTY NINE, DETERMINED TO BE SL BONDSMAN, DECEASED JUNE SIXTY-SEVEN. NO RECORDS.

END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

RESOLUTION LOCAL LOOK ALIKES, EXCON INTERVIEWS AND TOLL RE-
SOLUTIONS CONTINUING.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

CORR PLS PAGE 2 LINES 24 & 25 READS "OVER HALF
OVER." IS THAT RIGHT??

NO IT SHOULD READ "OVER HALF HOUR."

ENT

FBI KAN CITY

F B I

Date: 5/20/68

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

Via TELETYPE - URGENT
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861)
MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM: KANSAS CITY (44-760)

MURKIN.

DAILY SUMMARY.

TWO LARGE X-RAYS OF SUBJECT'S SINUSES SHOWING PROFILE OF TEETH SENT TO BUREAU AND RECORDS BUREAU VITAL STATISTICS REVEAL NO UNIDENTIFIED WM ^{DEATHS} IN THE STATE OF KS. SINCE APRIL FIFTH, LAST.

EXPLANATION OF SUBJECT'S FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS AT MO. ST. PEN. SUBMITTED. ONE FORMER INMATE ADVISED GUARDS WOULD TAKE MONEY OUT FOR PRISONERS FOR A PRICE.

CARL DRAKE, ST. LOUIS, REPORTED TO BE ONE OF SUBJECT'S CLOSEST FRIENDS.

INMATE JAMES WALLACE RE-INTERVIEWED, ADVISED HE GREW UP ON SOUTH SIDE OF ST. LOUIS WITH OWENS AND FURNISHED HIS WIFE'S ADDRESS. ST. LOUIS ADVISED.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

44-760-986

RBH:rd
(1)

Mc 455
M

Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

Sent 456p M Per [Signature]

5/20/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

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

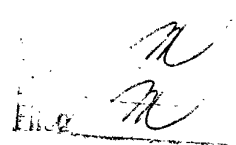
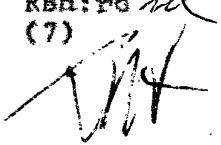
Enclosed for the Bureau are two X-rays and X-ray reports obtained from the X-ray Department, Missouri State Penitentiary.

Upon a review of subject's file, it was felt that dental X-rays were taken of subject's teeth in 1965; however, these are X-rays of subject's sinus cavities, but the profile has a good picture of subject's teeth. Also, it appears subject's right elbow was X-rayed; however, neither this nor dental X-rays are available. A complete search of the X-ray Department and dental laboratory at the hospital failed to reveal new additional X-rays regarding RAY. Those enclosed were furnished by Warden HAROLD SWENSON to SA ROWEN B. AYERS on 5/17/68, and are being forwarded for whatever use these may be in this case.

It is requested that when they are of no further value to the FBI, they should be returned to the Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Missouri.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

3 - Bureau (Encs. 3)(RM)
2 - Memphis (44-1987)
2 - Kansas City
RBH:rd sel
(7)



44-760-987

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-760) P

DATE: 5/21/68

FROM : SA RAYMOND B. HOWE

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Bureau has advised that photographs of JAMES EARL RAY be displayed to any witnesses in unsolved bank robberies during the past year. It has been determined that the Columbia National Bank was robbed during August, 1967 (file number 91-5233) and the Miners State Bank was robbed in September, 1967 (file number 91-5290). Both of these robberies remain unsolved and there are witnesses who may be helpful in this matter.

Therefore, SAS VICTOR D. CANTERBURY and LAWRENCE R. NOLAN to whom the cases are assigned should display current photographs of JAMES EARL RAY to witnesses in these matters.

2-44-760
91-5233
91-5290
RBH:jrt
(4)
yjt
RMB

44-760-928
SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
MAY 21 1968
FBI - KANSAS CITY
lead to Canterbury



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

FBI KAN CITY

FBI MEMPHIS

345PM URGENT 5-17-68 SAB

TO HOUSTON, KANSAS CITY AND SAN FRANCISCO

FROM MEMPHIS 44-1987 1P

MURKIN.

*Paul F Colley interviewed 5/29/68 RH
6301 Polk
Sh 13382*

RE MEMPHIS TEL TO BUREAU ENTITLED "UNSUB, AKA JOHN WILLARD; MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. - VICTIM; CR," DATED APRIL FIVE LAST CONCERNING VINCENT WALKER AND LAWRENCE RAND OR REND.

ALTHOUGH IT IS BELIEVED THAT NEITHER WALKER NOR RAND IS IDENTICAL WITH SUBJECT RAY, THE POSSIBILITY STILL EXISTS THAT WALKER AND RAND MAY HAVE BEEN ACQUAINTED WITH SUBJECT; THEREFORE, THE BUREAU DESIRES THAT THESE INDIVIDUALS BE PROPERLY IDENTIFIED AND INTERVIEWED RE ANY CONNECTION THEY MAY HAVE WITH THIS MATTER.

RECEIVING OFFICES ARE REQUESTED TO CONDUCT ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATION IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH BUREAU'S REQUEST.

IN ADDITION, HOUSTON SHOULD CHECK CAR RENTAL AGENCIES IN ANEFFORT TO DETERMINE IF WALKER OR RAND RENTED AUTOMOBILE IN HOUSTON ON THEIR ARRIVAL ON APRIL FIVE LAST.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P

END.

MRH

FBI KAN CITY

*Tel. sent 5/29/68
RH*

44-760-929

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 17 1968	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	

Howe

5/16/68

Airtel

To: SACs, Chicago
Detroit
Indianapolis
Jackson
Kansas City
Knoxville
Memphis
Milwaukee
Minneapolis
New Orleans
Omaha
Little Rock
St. Louis
Springfield

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

John Eugene Gawron was interviewed by St. Louis Office and advised he taught Ray to be a burglar. He stated that on or about 5/23-24/67, he read in the Chicago "Tribune" of a \$50,000 bank burglary in a southern state and recalled that he and Ray cased the same bank in 1958 or 1959, but did not rob the bank at that time because he injured his leg. A few days after reading this article Gawron claims he was visited by a man whom he refuses to identify and whom he believes he introduced to Ray in 1959. This man told Gawron he and others had robbed the bank, displayed a valise full of money and gave Gawron \$250. About six weeks ago this man again visited Gawron and allegedly indicated to him that Ray and one or more other persons had been involved with him in the bank robbery.

*Manor written
RWA*

44-760-930

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 17 1968	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	

Howe

Airtel SACs, Chicago, Detroit, Indianapolis, Jackson,
Kansas City, Knoxville, Memphis, Milwaukee, Minneapolis,
New Orleans, Omaha, Little Rock, St. Louis, Springfield

RE: MURKIN

During this interview Gawron refused to identify the bank or the man who visited him. He did say that the bank was in the deep South in a State like Mississippi, but not in Mississippi, in a city that is not small and is near a river. The robbers were out of state in five minutes and the loot amounted to \$50,000, plus or minus two thousand.

Based upon available information, the Chicago "Tribune" and the Bureau's bank robbery files have been reviewed without finding any reference to a robbery such as Gawron described.

Gawron has now been reinterviewed and he denies having any contact with Ray since Ray's escape. Regarding the southern bank robbery Gawron previously alleged Ray was involved in, Gawron now states that this could have occurred in July, 1967, instead of June, and was in a city on the east bank of the Mississippi River.

Each office receiving this communication should make a review of their records to determine if such bank robbery or any other robbery coming within the jurisdiction of the Bureau occurred. You should make inquiry at appropriate police departments to determine if a robbery of this magnitude exists in their files.

Armed and dangerous.

FBI KAN CITY

FBI ST LOUIS

1009PM URGENT 5-21-68 JLS

TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS, AND KANSAS CITY

FROM ST. LOUIS (44-775) 3P

MURKIN - SUMMARY

RE INMATE JAMES WALLACE ALLEGATION OF SEEING RAY AND JAMES LOAMA OWENS AT JEFFERSON-GRAVOIS BANK SL SUMMER SIXTYSEVEN. WALLACE'S WIFE BETTY ADVISED OF LETTER FROM HIM DATED APRIL TWENTY FIFTH LAST STATING IN PART @QUOTE I GUESS YOU SHOULD REMEMBER 'THE ONE GUY THAT WE MET THAT TIME AT THE BANK. HE'S THE ONE THAT THEY ARE TRYING TO RAP THAT KING DEATH ON UNQUOTE. SHE UNABLE RECALL INCIDENT TO WHICH HE REFERRED.

WALLACE ON PAROLE SPRING SIXTY FIVE TO MARCH SIXTY EIGHT. LIVED VICINITY OF JEFFERSON GRAVOIS BANK APRIL TO DECEMBER SIXTY SEVEN. NO REASON TO GO TO BANK BEFORE OPENING ACCOUNT LATE JULY SIXTY SEVEN. NEVER WENT IN CAR AS LIVED NEARBY. RECALLS ONCE THEREAFTER, ON LEAVING BANK, HUSBAND WAVED TO UNKNOWN WHITE MALE OUTSIDE. SAID HE WAS FROM MSP. SHE MERELY GLANCED AT AND IS UNABLE TO DESCRIBE. UNABLE TO RECALL ANY CONVERSATION WITH.

UNABLE TO IDENT PHOTOS OF OWENS OR RAY. BUT BELIEVES RAY VAGUELY FAMILIAR. DOES NOT RELATE TO MAN SEEN ABOVE. NO IDEA WHERE SHE MAY
END PAGE ONE

44 760-931

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 23 1968	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	

Howe *RAA*

PAGE TWO

SL 44-775

HAVE SEEN, BUT ATTENDED SALVATION ARMY SERVICES FOR PERIOD OF YEARS' INCLUDING FIFTY NINE, VICINITY OF HICKORY STREET WHERE PUBLICITY INDICATED RAY LIVED, MAY HAVE SEEN THERE.

WALLACES HAVE FIVE CHILDREN. HAVE PATRONIZED HILL BROTHERS SHOE STORE NEXT DOOR TO BANK FOR YEARS. HAVE GONE THERE IN CAR NUMEROUS TIMES, PARKING NEAR BANK ENTRANCE. BELIEVES IF WALLACE IN ERROR, MIGHT BE BASED ON SHOE SHOPPING TRIP INSTEAD OF BANK VISIT. UNABLE TO RECALL ANYONE RESEMBLING RAY IN THAT VICINITY.

RE ~~JERRY RAYNES~~. SALE OF RAYNES SL PROPERTY EIGHTEEN NINETEEN PARK, SL, VERIFIED BY PURCHASER ARCHIE ROBINSON. DEED DATED MARCH TWENTY EIGHT SIXTY SEVEN. TRANSACTION WAS INVOLVED. CONSIDERATION PAID WAS TWENTYFIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS. RAYNES LIVED THERE FOR YEAR PRIOR. VISITED FREQUENTLY BY DAUGHTER CAROL, INFREQUENTLY BY SON JACK, WHO LIVED THERE BRIEFLY FROM TIME TO TIME. NO ONE OF SUBJECTS APPEARANCE SEEN OR KNOWN THERE. SOURCES AND SPOT CHECKS INDICATE NO SIGNIFICANT RAYNES ACTIVITY TODAY.

RE ~~JOHN LARRY RAY~~.

SEVERAL FORMER SL RESIDENCE ADDRESSES VERIFIED. FORMER GRAPEVINE NIGHT BARMAID AND MACARTHUR HOTEL PARTNER ~~NAOMI REGAZZI~~ INTERVIEWED. EMPLOYED JANUARY TO MAY SIXTEENTH LAST TERMINATION DUE TO HER FEAR OF
END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

SL 44-775

NEGRO REPRISALS SHOULD JOHNS' RELATIONSHIP TO SUBJECT BECOME GENERALLY KNOWN. CAROL PEPPER OWNS GRAPEVINE, VISITS INFREQUENTLY, NEVER STAYS. JOHN IS MANAGER. PRIOR TO KILLING HE MENTIONED HE HAD BROTHERS JIM AND JERRY, BUT MADE NO OTHER COMMENT. NEVER MENTIONED SUBJECT WAS ESCAPEE, OR INDICATED IN ANY WAY HE WAS EVER IN CONTACT WITH HIM, OR HAD ANY IDEA OF WHEREABOUTS. SHE HAS MET JERRY DURING RECENT VISITS. REGARDS BOTH JERRY AND JOHN AS BEING OF LOW INTELLECT. DESCRIBES GRAPEVINE CLIENTELE AS HOOSIERS. SOURCES AND SPOT CHECKS INDICATE NO SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY ON PART OF JOHN RAY OR CAROL PEPPER TODAY. ATTEMPTS TO LOCATE FELLOW PRISONER ROBERT LYNN POWELL, RESOLUTION TOLL CALLS AND LOOK ALIKES, EXCON INTERVIEWS CONTINUING.

SUBJECT ARMED AND DANGEROUS

END

ELN

FBI KAN CITY

@

F B I

Date: 5-21-68

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

Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

TO: NEW ORLEANS (157-10673)

FROM: KANSAS CITY (44-760)

MURKIN.

RE NEW ORLEANS TEL TO KANSAS CITY, MAY SEVENTEEN LAST.

RE CARLOS LEE BILLINGS

BILLINGS INTERVIEWED MAY TWENTY LAST, MEDICAL CENTER, SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI. STATES DOES NOT KNOW HEAD. TWO MEN OCCUPIED APARTMENT BEFORE HE AND BLACKWELL. THESE MEN WORKED OFFSHORE AND THEY OCCUPIED APARTMENT WHILE THESE MEN WERE AWAY. HE BELIEVES BLACKWELL PAID CARMERDELLE RENT FOR MONTH OF JUNE SIXTYFIVE. BILLINGS LEFT SHORTLY AFTER THIS, BUT BLACKWELL REMAINED BEHIND.

DETAILED AIRTEL FOLLOWS. MEMPHIS ADVISED AM.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

JAM:mlb
(2)
1 - Memphis (AM)

44-760-932
Searched _____
Serialized _____
Indexed _____
Filed _____

Approved: ISW Sent 6 34 PM M Per clm
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date: 5/21/68

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

Via TELETYPE - URGENT
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861)
MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM: KANSAS CITY (44-760)

MURKIN.

DAILY SUMMARY.

ATTORNEY DAVID BRYDON, JEFFERSON CITY, MO., ADVISED J. D. DAILY, ST. LOUIS, MO., CONTACTS HIM OFTEN TRYING TO GET A PAROLE FOR AN INMATE SERVING LIFE IN THE MSP WHO IS INFLECTED WITH TUBERCULOSIS.

MAMIE HOOKER, LACLEDE CO., MO., ADVISED J. D. DAILEY IS SON OF HER HALF BROTHER. SHE HAS NOT SEEN HIM FOR NINE YEARS AND COULD FURNISH NO PERTINENT INFO.

MSP RECORDS REVEAL WILLIAM F. SCHOLL, FBI NO. TWO SIX EIGHT FIVE ZERO EIGHT A, WAS PAROLED IN SIXTYTHREE TO BELLWOOD, ILL. HE REPORTEDLY AN ASSOCIATE OF SUBJECT. CHICAGO ADVISED.

ATTORNEY PHILLIP BAKER, INDEPENDENCE, MO., ADVISED HE REPRESENTED SUBJECT IN HIS APPLICATION FOR A WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS IN SIXTYTHREE. THE HEARING WAS UNSUCCESSFUL AND RAY PAID HIM FIFTY DOLLARS ATTORNEY'S FEES. HE ALSO

1 - Chicago (AM)
1 - St. Louis (AM)

RBH:rd

(3)

Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

Sent WA 6 37
ME 7 00 PM

Per [Signature]

44-760-933

F B I

Date:

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

KC 44-760

PAGE TWO

ADVISED HE RECEIVED A LETTER JULY, NINETEEN SIXTYTHREE FROM JERRY RAY, ST. LOUIS, STATING JAMES RAY WAS GOING TO SEND HIM MONEY AND LATER ON SEND MORE WHICH BAKER WAS TO SEND TO JERRY RAY. MSP RECORDS FAILED TO REFLECT ANY PAYMENT FROM SUBJECT TO BAKER AND IN FACT, RECORDS REVEALED JUNE NINETEEN, SIXTYTHREE, BAKER SENT FIFTY DOLLARS TO RAY. BAKER, UPON RE-INTERVIEW, ADVISED IN A LETTER FROM RAY DATED MAY NINETEEN, SIXTYTHREE, HE INDICATED A MONEY ORDER WOULD BE SENT TO HIM AND HE SHOULD TAKE FIFTY DOLLARS OF IT. ANOTHER LETTER FROM RAY POSTMARKED JUNE ELEVEN, SIXTYTHREE, INDICATED RELATIVE WAS SENDING A MONEY ORDER FOR ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS. LETTER POSTMARKED JUNE TWELVE, SIXTYTHREE, UNSIGNED, ADVISED ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR CHECK WAS ENCLOSED FOR LEGAL FEES. THIS LETTER BORE RETURN ADDRESS NATHAN J. MURPHY, INMATE NO. ZERO FOUR SEVEN TWO FIVE, MSP. BAKER, ON JUNE SEVENTEEN, SIXTYTHREE, SAID HE SENT RAY A CHECK FOR THE FIFTY DOLLARS WHICH WAS IN EXCESS OF HIS FEE. BAKER CONTINUING TO CHECK HIS RECORDS FOR ANY INFO. WHICH MAY BE OF HELP. HE ADVISED RAY RECOMMENDED

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

F B I

Date:

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(Type in plaintext or code)

Via _____
(Priority)

KC 44-760

PAGE THREE

HIM TO A PRISONER BY THE NAME OF JOHN WILLIAM MYERS, MSP, WHO
CONTACTED HIM IN JULY, SIXTYTHREE. BAKER REFUSED TO HANDLE
THIS CASE.

KANSAS CITY WILL LOCATE AND INTERVIEW MYERS AND MURPHY.
AM COPIES FURNISHED CHICAGO AND ST. LOUIS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

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

F B I

Date: 5-21-68

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

Via TELETYPE URGENT _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) - 422 p
CHICAGO - 430 p
MEMPHIS - 424 p
FROM: KANSAS CITY (44-760)

MURKIN

RE SAN FRANCISCO TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR DATED MAY SEVENTEEN
LAST.

REFERENCED COMMUNICATION REVEALED FORMER MISSOURI STATE
PENITENTIARY (MSP) INMATE KENNETH WADE ADVISED THAT SUBJECT
WAS A CLOSE FRIEND OF WILLIE SHOW OR SCHOAF (PHONETIC) A
NINETEEN SIXTY FOUR PAROLEE WHO ORIGINALLY CAME FROM CHICAGO,
ILLINOIS AREA. WADE STATED WILLIE SHOW (PHONETIC) SENT SOME
"STUFF" BACK INTO THE PRISON FOR US AFTER HE GOT OUT.

RECORDS MSP FAIL TO LIST A WILLIE SHOW OR SCHOAF, BUT
DO REVEAL A WILLIAM F. SCHOLL, MSP NUMBER SIX SEVEN NINE NINE
EIGHT, FBI NUMBER TWO SIX EIGHT FIVE ZERO EIGHT A. HE WAS
PAROLED ON AUGUST SIX NINETEEN SIXTY THREE TO AN ADDRESS
ONE ZERO THREE BOHLAND AVENUE, BELLWOOD, ILLINOIS. HE

RBH:pen
(1)

Searched _____
Serialized _____
Indexed _____
Filed _____

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent see above M Per _____

44-760-934