

MM 44-1854

HCB:vc

1.

On April 9, 1968, the following checks were made for persons having the name ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER or HARVEY LOWMYER:

All financial institutions in the Miami Division which include banks, federal savings and loan associations and small loan agencies, voters' registration offices, city directories and telephone directories, credit bureaus, law enforcement agencies, drivers' license bureaus, as well as the Dade County Traffic Violator's Index, and the Homestead Air Force Base Locater Records.

The Miami telephone directory listed an R. A. GALT, 5795 S. W. 73rd Street, South Miami, Florida, and a ROBERT B. GALT, 4720 Bay Point Road, Miami, Florida.

R. A. GALT, 5795 S. W. 73rd Street, was contacted by SA GAY R. SHAHAN, and it was determined that her full name is Mrs. RUTH A. GALT, who is a nurse employed at the South Miami Hospital, South Miami, Florida.

ROBERT B. GALT, who was contacted by SA GAY R. SHAHAN, was determined to be employed by Ousley and Associates International.

Neither RUTH A. GALT or ROBERT B. GALT knows or has ever heard of anyone by the name of ERIC STARVO GALT.

MM 44-1854
HCB/bab
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The following investigation was conducted by
SA ROBERT W. WISEMAN at West Palm Beach, Florida, on
April 11, 1968:

Inquiry at United States Customs and
Immigration and Naturalization Service revealed that
neither agency maintains departure records for shipping
lines or airlines departing from West Palm Beach. The
passenger manifests of the following carriers were
examined for the names ERIC STARVO GALT, also known as
GAULT, HARVEY LOWMEYER, HARVEY LOWMYER, and JOHN WILLARD,
from April 4, 1968 through April 11, 1968:

"SS Grand Bahama Line", made available by
JOHN WHITE

Bahamas Airways, Ltd., made available by
WALTER R. ADAMS

Tilford Flying Service (Charter), made
available by JAMES TILFORD

Palm Beach Aviation (Charter), made available
by A. R. PIEAARSKI

Florida Airmotive, Lantana Airport (Charter),
made available by OWEN GASSAWAY

It was determined that Coastal Aviation, a non-
scheduled airline, has its base in Orlando, Florida, and
American Flyers, a non-scheduled airline, is based in
Ardmore, Oklahoma, and the passenger manifests for those
two lines are maintained at their home bases.

On April 11, 1968, LESLIE SALSURY, United States
Customs, Key West, Florida, advised SA WELDON L. KENNEDY
that a review of his files concerning arriving and departing
vessels on April 4, 1968 to April 11, 1968, failed to disclose
any listing for ERIC STARVO GALT, also known as GAULT,
HARVEY LOWMEYER, HARVEY LOWMYER, or JOHN WILLARD.

The following investigation was conducted by SA KENNETH D. SCHEIWE at Port Everglades, Florida, on April 11, 1968:

The list of crew members and passengers were reviewed for the following vessels, which entered or departed Port Everglades on the dates indicated, for a passenger or crew man using the name ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER, HARVEY LOWMYER, or JOHN WILLARD:

"Hanseatic"	April 4, 1968
"Kungsburg"	April 4, 1968
"Sun Dev"	April 4, 1968
"V Pride"	April 4, 1968
"Bulk Enterprise"	April 6, 1968
"Doric Chariot"	April 6, 1968
"Kungsholm"	April 6, 1968
"Carsten Russ"	April 6, 1968
"Velk Viking"	April 8, 1968
"H. A. Wood"	April 8, 1968
"Helen S"	April 8, 1968
"Hotei"	April 8, 1968
"Mitchell"	April 8, 1968
"Carmania"	April 8, 1968
"Artlenburg"	April 9, 1968
"Leonardo da Vinci"	April 9, 1968
"Santa Rosa"	April 9, 1968
"Bolo"	April 10, 1968
"Cambridge Trader"	April 11, 1968
"Hanseatic"	April 11, 1968
"Lowella"	April 11, 1968

All records of United States Customs at Port Everglades for yachts arriving from foreign ports were examined for the period April 2, 1968 through April 11, 1968, for the above names with no record being found.

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SG:plm

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA STUART GODWIN, JR., April 11, 1968, at Miami, Florida:

C. A. RIGGS, Marine Officer, Marine Division, Bureau of Customs, advised Customs maintains crew and passenger lists for all arriving commercial vessels at ports of entry in South Florida; lists of passengers only for departing foreign flag vessels; crew lists only for departing American flag vessels, and for pleasure vessels only lists of all persons on board for arrivals only. He stated no clearance was necessary on the departure of a pleasure vessel.

He furnished copies of form entitled "Record of Vessels Engaged in Foreign Trade - Cleared or Granted Permit to Proceed." This list covered all departures from the Port of Miami from April 4, 1968 through April 10, 1968. He also made available the appropriate lists concerning each vessel.

He also furnished copies of form entitled, "Record of Vessels Engaged in Foreign Trade - Entered or Arrived Under Permit to Proceed." This list covered all such vessels that entered or arrived during the period April 4, 1968 through April 10, 1968. He made available the appropriate lists concerning each vessel.

In addition, he made available a list of all pleasure craft which arrived and was cleared by Customs during the period April 4, 1968 through April 9, 1968. He also made available for examination the appropriate lists concerning each vessel.

The foregoing lists made available by Mr. RIGGS were examined in detail, and it was found none of them listed anyone with the following lastnames:

GALT

LOWMEYER

LOWMYER

WILLARD

A. E. VOLENSKY, Assistant Chief Inspector, Outside Division of Inspection and Control, U. S. Bureau of Customs,

MM 44-1854

2

Dodge Island, made available the alphabetical listing of passenger baggage declarations for all persons departing the Port of Miami via Chalk Airlines during the period April 1, 1968 through April 10, 1968. These declarations failed to list anyone with any of the last names previously mentioned.

MARIANO FAGET, Marine Clerk, Marine Desk, Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), advised his records would contain only the names of aliens departing on foreign flag clearances and the notification of any change in the crew of a foreign flag vessel. His records were reviewed and were found to duplicate those maintained by the Bureau of Customs and the shipping lines, which are set out below, but which were checked prior to the interview of FAGET.

It was determined further from FAGET that the following are the cruise ships operating on regular schedules out of the Port of Miami:

"SS Ariadne"
(Eastern Steamship Company)

"Bahama Star"
(Eastern Steamship Company)

"Jamaica Queen"
(Canadian Gulf Line)

"Sunward"
(Shaw Brothers Shipping Company)

"Cabo Izarra"
(Eller and Company)

The "Cabo Izarra" neither arrived nor departed during the pertinent period. The "SS Ariadne", "Bahama Star" and "Sunward" all departed on both April 5, 1968 and April 8, 1968, and the "Jamaica Queen" departed on April 8, 1968. The passenger manifests for all of the above trips had been previously made available by Mr. RIGGS, who also had records of all crew changes.

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3

The following investigation was conducted by SAs STUART GODWIN, JR., and WAYNE O. TAYLOR at Miami International Airport (MIA) on April 15, 1968:

A list was procured from the U.S. Bureau of Customs which shows all departing flights from MIA to foreign destinations. The passenger manifests of each flight were made available and were examined. No person with any of the last names previously set forth was noted as a passenger or crew member on any of the flights. The list of such flights and persons contacted at each airline will be maintained in the files of the Miami FBI Office.

The following investigation was conducted at Key West, Florida on April 11, 1968, by SA WELDON L. KENNEDY:

Records of the U.S. Bureau of Customs and INS were reviewed for the names GALT, LOWMEYER, LOWMYER and WILLARD, and it was determined the records were negative regarding those names during the period April 4, 1968 through April 10, 1968.

The following investigation was conducted by SA ROBERT W. WISEMAN at West Palm Beach, Florida on April 11, 1968:

Inquiry at U.S. Bureau of Customs and INS established that neither agency maintains adequate records of departure, which necessitated contacting the following-named carrier agencies regarding the names ERIC STARVO GALT, also known as Gault, HARVEY LOWMEYER, also known as Lowmyer, and JOHN WILLARD. The passenger manifests of the following carriers, examined from April 4, 1968 through April 11, 1968, did not reflect any reference to any of the above-named individuals:

"SS Grand Bahama Line"
Mr. JOHN WHITE

Bahamas Airways, Ltd.
Mr. WALTER R. ADAMS

Tilford Flying Service (Charters)
Mr. JAMES TILFORD

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4

Palm Beach Aviation (Charters)
Mr. A. R. PIEAARSKI

Florida Airmotive, Lantana Airport (Charters)
Mr. OWEN GASSAWAY

Inquiry did develop that Eastern Air Lines flights out of West Palm Beach must be checked at Eastern Air Lines, Miami.

Coastal Aviation, a non-scheduled airline, is based in Orlando, Florida, and American Flyers, a non-scheduled airline, is based out of Ardmore, Oklahoma. Passenger manifests for these two lines must be checked at their home bases.

Check of Eastern Air Lines at Miami covered flights leaving the country from Miami, Fort Lauderdale, Key West and West Palm Beach, Florida.

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HAN:jth

Re: Thermo-Sealed Marking Machine
Manufactured by the Textile Marking
Machine Company, Syracuse, New York

The following investigation was conducted in the area covered by the Miami Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

All laundries and dry cleaning establishments located in the Southern District of Florida covered by the Miami Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation were contacted relative to their use of a thermo-sealed marking machine manufactured by the Textile Marking Machine Company, Syracuse, New York.

In a small number of instances wherein this type of machine was used, it was determined that the laundries and/or dry cleaning establishments did not use any code similar to the questioned laundry marks reported.

In the one or two instances developed wherein a similar code was used, specimens were obtained and forwarded to the FBI Laboratory for comparison.

The FBI Laboratory subsequently reported that these specimens submitted by the Miami Division were not identical with the questioned laundry markings involved in this investigation.

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V. REVIEW OF ARRIVING AND DEPARTING
PASSENGERS FROM AND TO FOREIGN
PORTS, MIAMI DIVISION

MM 44-1854

IV. THERMO-SEAL LAUNDRY MACHINE MARKS

MM 44-1854

THS:vc

1.

The following investigation was conducted with reference to locating subject through dancing schools:

On April 15, 1968, all dancing schools within the Miami Division which encompasses cities and counties as far north as Vero Beach in Indian River County, to Key West in Monroe County, to the south, and Naples, Florida, in Collier County, to the west coast of Florida, were contacted without effecting any information relative to ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMYER and JOHN WILLARD.

On April 18, 1968, the Los Angeles Office furnished the names of the following dance instructors who worked at the Continental Studios, New Orleans, during 1964 who reportedly were presently residing in the Miami area:

WILLIAM LAMPHERE

JACQUELINE COURVILLE CUTOLO
610 S. W. 14th Avenue

HARVEY A. DUNN

On April 18, 1968, no record could be located for WILLIAM LAMPHERE at the following agencies:

Miami Beach Police Department
Miami Police Department
Dade County Department of Public Safety
Miami Municipal Court
Credit Bureau of Greater Miami

On April 18, 1968, no record could be located regarding WILLIAM LAMPHERE through the voters' registration records, tax records, motor vehicle bureau records and the Polk directories and telephone directories for the greater Miami area from 1958-1968.

On April 18, 1968, all major dancing schools in the Miami, Florida area were contacted with negative results with regard to WILLIAM LAMPHERE.

MM 44-1854

THS:vc

2.

On April 18, 1968, no record could be located for HARRY A. DUNN at the Miami Beach Police Department, Dade County Department of Public Safety, Miami Police Department and Miami Municipal Court records.

The records of the Credit Bureau of Greater Miami reflected that HARRY A. DUNN resided at 2030 N. E. 185th Terrace, Miami, Florida.

The following investigation was conducted by SA DAVID N. JELLISON:

On April 18, 1968, HARRY A. DUNN was located and interviewed at his residence, 2030 N. E. 185th Terrace, Miami, Florida. He stated he was employed as a dance instructor at Continental Dance Studios, New Orleans, Louisiana, for four months in the latter part of 1964. Photographs and composites of suspect ERIC STARVO GALT were exhibited to DUNN with negative results.

DUNN advised he is not acquainted with WILLIAM LAMPHERE and believes that CHARLES HARTZELL left the Chicago area for St. Louis approximately one year ago to work at an independent dance studio.

DUNN further advised that LOUISE ANGLIN taught dancing during the afternoon hours at Continental Dance Studios, New Orleans, in late 1964 and might remember GALT if he took afternoon instruction at that time. ANGLIN's address is unknown to DUNN, but he did recall that her mother resides at 127 Hickory, New Orleans, Louisiana.

DUNN does not know the current whereabouts of the following individuals:

MARCUS FELOS
ARTHUR D. WOLFSON
BERNICE "BUDDY" CONSTONTINE
YVONNE BENOIT
JOAN MOORE
CORBETT DUHON
RAY E. FARRIS

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THS:vc

3.

SAMUEL CALON
EVA BOROS
CHARLES MILLER
ROBERT STRICKLAND
JOANNE NICHOLS
JACQUELINE BOND
ANITA BOUCHARD
ROSE KATHLEEN CAVANAUGH
or HOWARD OWENS

DUNN believes that SANDRA LOVIN is currently a hippy in a New Orleans hippy community.

On April 18, 1968, BERNARD REIN, Imperial Imports, Miami, advised VINCENT CUTOLO and his wife, JACQUELINE CUTOLO, were currently staying at 200 Crutchfield Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee, telephone number 256-2348.

On April 18, 1968, Mrs. VINCENT CUTOLO, 610 S. W. 14th Avenue, Miami, the mother-in-law of JACQUELINE CUTOLO, furnished a blue zipper suitcase containing photographs and miscellaneous items to SA DAVID N. JELLISON. This suitcase and its entire contents were mailed to the Nashville FBI Resident Agency Office for review by JACQUELINE CUTOLO at that location.

On April 29, 1968, Mrs. VINCENT CUTOLO was contacted and the blue zipper suitcase belonging to her daughter-in-law, JACQUELINE CUTOLO, was returned to her. She had previously furnished this suitcase to SA JELLISON.

Mrs. CUTOLO examined the suitcase and advised that it and its contents were all in order.

On April 18, 1968, the Knoxville Office advised that JUANITA WELCH, former dance instructor for Continental Studios, New Orleans, was last known to be working in a dance studio at the Congress Inn, Miami, in 1967 according to Mrs. JACQUELINE COURVILLE CUTOLO.

The following investigation was conducted by SA DAVID N. JELLISON:

MM 44-1854

THS:vc

4.

On April 19, 1968, all Congress Inns, Hotels and Motels in the Miami area were contacted regarding JUANITA WELCH. Officials at the Congress Voyager Motel, 12350 Biscayne Boulevard, Miami, advised that WELCH was employed there as a dance instructor until approximately December, 1967, at which time she left to go North. Associates of JUANITA WELCH and officials at Congress Voyager Motel have no idea where she went or of her current whereabouts.

Employment records at Congress Voyager Motel contain no information regarding a Miami address or a forwarding address for WELCH.

On April 19, 1968, Credit records and arrest records in the greater Miami area were reviewed with reference to JUANITA WELCH and were found to contain no positive information. Polk's city directories and telephone directories contain no positive information regarding JUANITA WELCH.

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III. DANCING STUDIOS

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II. INVESTIGATION LOCATING FORMER
OWNER, AMACKER MOTORS, MIAMI,
FLORIDA, WHERE JAMES EARL RAY
PURCHASED A VEHICLE IN 1954

MM 44-1854

DNJ/dmc

1

On April 25, 1968, the Kansas City Office of the FBI advised that a pre-sentence report for JAMES EARL RAY, dated April 26, 1955, contained information which indicated that when RAY was arrested on March 22, 1955, in Hannibal, Missouri, he was driving a 1949 Lincoln which had been purchased at Amacker Motors, 135 NE 36th Street, Miami, Florida on May 14, 1954.

The following investigation was conducted by SA DAVID N. JELLISON at Miami, Florida on April 25, 1968:

LUKE SELLARS, Proprietor, Luke Sellars Motors, 5500 NW 27th Avenue, Miami, advised he was the proprietor of Amacker Motors, 135 NE 36th Street, Miami in 1954. He dissolved this business in 1961 and has since destroyed all records for this business.

SELLARS further advised that the whereabouts of all former employees of Amacker Motors are unknown to him. SELLARS stated that he does not recall the sale of this vehicle to JAMES EARL RAY, however, if there was something unusual about the sale, he would have recalled the circumstances.

SELLARS was unable to identify photographs of JAMES EARL RAY or WALTER RIFE.

MM 44-1854

DNJ:vc

1.

Information was developed through interview of LOUIS RAYMOND DOUDA at Marietta, Georgia, who was acquainted with JAMES EARL RAY in the Missouri State Prison, which indicated that another former inmate of the Missouri State Prison, PAUL ALVIN LAIL, JR., was currently residing at 34 Barbados Drive, Palm Springs, West Palm Beach, Florida.

The following investigation was conducted at West Palm Beach on April 26, 1968, by Special Agents ROBERT W. WISEMAN and PATRICK A. PHILBIN:

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/27/68

PAUL ALVIN LAIL was informed of the identities of the interviewing agents and the nature of this interview.

LAIL advised he is presently living at 34 Barbados Drive, Palm Springs, with his wife BETTY and five month old baby.

LAIL stated he had been an inmate in the Missouri State Penitentiary for three years and while confined there he had met and known JAMES EARL RAY. He stated he was not very close or friendly with RAY but he did eat with him a number of times when he was in the kitchen visiting with his friend, LEWIE "WHITEY" DOWDA. He said he also watched a number of ball games and television programs with RAY.

LAIL described RAY as being a guy who knew his way around but was not one of the wheels or leaders in prison; that RAY was a sharp intelligent guy who hung around with the boys who were always up to something and were in on all of the deals. LAIL advised RAY never seemed to have a lot of money but always seemed to have enough to get whatever he wanted.

LAIL said most of the guys (he cannot recall their names) that he, RAY, was with most of the time were on dope and were peddling it.

LAIL continued by saying that RAY's big buddy was NEAL ABBEY who was a "big wheel" and the guy who ran the prison kitchen with "an iron hand." LAIL stated ABBEY was the guy who got RAY into the kitchen which was a good deal (job).

LAIL advised that LEO BARNETT handled dope and peddled it in the Missouri State Penitentiary and he believes he is now in prison somewhere in Florida. He said that BARNETT would know for certain if RAY had been on dope and where and who he got the dope from.

On 4/26/68 at Palm Springs, Florida File # Miami 44-1854

SAs ROBERT W. WISEMAN and
by *[Signature]* PATRICK A. PHILBIN PAP/kmm Date dictated 4/26/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

//

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LAIL further advised that FRED MILLER, "a cut and dried con," who worked in the tag plant of the prison, was one of the leaders and knew RAY well and he might be able to furnish information about him if he would talk to the FBI.

LAIL related that WHITEY DOWDA also knew RAY pretty well and would know more about him than he did since they both worked in the kitchen together for quite a while. He said WHITEY had been living in Marietta, Georgia, and he recently heard that WHITEY is now in jail in Marietta on a robbery charge.

LAIL stated there had been trouble with some of the Negro prisoners in the Missouri State Penitentiary who were Black Muslims so some of the prisoners decided to teach them a lesson and three or four of the Negro leaders were killed. LAIL stated he did not know if RAY was in on the actual killing, but he was close with the ones that did it and therefore could have been in on the killing or at least he knew who did kill the Negroes.

LAIL would not make any further statements about the killing of the Negroes in the Missouri State Penitentiary and he stated he could not furnish any names or identities but he did say there were ten inmates who were in on the killing of the Negroes.

LAIL said he could not recall RAY saying too much about Negroes and he does not believe from his conversations with RAY that he, RAY, was a racist, however, all of the inmates in the Missouri State Penitentiary did not like the Negroes because of their belligerent attitude and animosity toward the white inmates.

LAIL stated RAY liked to wear his hair short in the summer months and long in the winter. He said RAY used to have a "butch" cut in the summer months.

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LAIL stated from his association with RAY that he felt RAY would have a .45 automatic "stashed" on his person somewhere and he would not give up or be taken without a fight. LAIL said RAY is a "killer" in his opinion and that RAY would not be easy to catch or find. LAIL said RAY is "a city boy" and he does not figure him to be hiding out in the country. However, LAIL stated he would not figure RAY would hide out in a really big city like New York, but would pick one about the size of Houston, Texas.

LAIL said he could not recall RAY telling him or mentioning any place in particular he, RAY, always wanted to go to or visit, but he felt RAY would be in a warm climate rather than a cold one.

LAIL stated he had not been contacted or heard from RAY since he got out of the Missouri State Penitentiary over two years ago and to the best of his knowledge RAY would not know where or how to contact him.

LAIL advised he had visited WHITEY DOWDA in March, 1968, in WHITEY's home in Marietta, Georgia, for a few days. He said that WHITEY is his best friend.

LAIL continued by saying he recognized the name of SCHAFFER and he thinks SCHAFFER was a captain in the prison guard force, but he did not know him and/or if SCHAFFER peddled dope in the pen.

LAIL stated he felt that there was a possibility RAY's escape was engineered by and assisted by outside help but he did not have any knowledge about it. Also he stated just about anything is possible with outside help and money, however, escape from the Missouri State Penitentiary is something else and is just about impossible in his opinion.

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LAIL stated he did not feel badly about MARTIN LUTHER KING getting killed, but he was sorry it happened in Memphis, Tennessee, and he would have rather seen KING killed in some Northern city. LAIL said he is a Southerner and his feelings are Southern.

LAIL stated that he is of course interested in the reward money and he could certainly use it. However, he said he really does not know if he would turn RAY in or not for the reward money if he had the opportunity. LAIL stated he was certain RAY did the killing of KING himself and not involved with anyone else. LAIL stated that he wanted to be honest with the FBI and he would have to think about this a couple of days as to whether or not he would or would not turn RAY in if he knew his possible or current whereabouts.

LAIL stated he really does not know where RAY is and he said that RAY had not contacted him and he had not seen RAY for over two years.

LAIL continued by saying he was a little surprised when he learned from the newspaper and television that RAY had been identified as KING's killer because he always figured RAY as being a guy that would be too smart to leave any clues or evidence around so that the police or the FBI would be able to trace and/or identify him.

LAIL examined the photographs of RAY and said he would never recognize him with the tuxedo and bow tie outfit on and further he said he never saw RAY with his hair long as it is either. However, he said the guy with the bow tie and tuxedo on is RAY.

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LAIL said after thinking it over that he is very interested in the money and if he thinks of anything or comes up with anything concerning RAY, he will contact either Special Agent PATRICK A. PHILBIN or ROBERT W. WISEMAN.

LAIL is a white male, born [redacted] Marion, North Carolina, 175 pounds, blue eyes, red hair, medium slender build, 6' 3", wife BETTY, and resides 34 Barbados Drive, Palm Springs, Florida.

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DNJ:vc

2.

LAIL was recontacted on April 27, 1968,
by SA PATRICK A. PHILBIN and advised that the only
reason he previously said RAY would be apt to be hiding
in a city the size of Houston, Texas, was because of the
size of Houston and for no other reason.

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DETAILS:

8.

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I. INVESTIGATION AT PALM SPRINGS, FLORIDA,
REGARDING PAUL ALVIN LAIL, WHO SERVED
TIME IN THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY
WITH JAMES EARL RAY

- V. ~~DONALD EUGENE ABPLANALP~~ and ~~HECTOR BOWCOTT~~, deliverymen, Alterman Truck Lines, Miami, Florida, delivered fish in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on April 30, 1968, and JAMES L. THOMAS, Minneapolis, believed one of these deliverymen looked like JAMES EARL RAY 129
- W. Investigation at Rock Sound Club, Eleuthera, Bahamas, concerning an individual resembling subject observed by ~~GLADYS MEEHAN~~, Buffalo, New York..... 130
- X. Investigation at Perrine, Florida, in effort to locate JAMES EARL RAY based on an anonymous telephone call received by the Chicago Office on April 23, 1968 that RAY was hiding in Perrine, Florida, wearing a disguise..... 131
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S. RUDY JESSE SMITH , roomer, Buena Vista Hotel, West Palm Beach, Florida, as observed by CAROL YVONNE CROWLEY , Tampa, Florida.....	126
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U. JAMES CRAIG , as observed by NATALIE MAZZOLIA while traveling in Georgia on February 12, 1968, and who furnished an address for CRAIG at Naples, Florida.....	128

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WILLIAM SOMERSETT (former MM 607-R) advised on April 29, 1968, he has not been in contact with LINDER for several months. He said he has had contact with some mutual acquaintances. He said he has heard of nothing to show LINDER has any particular interest in or knowledge of KING's death. He knew nothing of LINDER's present interests or activities.

SOMERSETT could not recall details of information previously furnished concerning one GILBERT. He said he was sure he previously furnished all information available to him concerning this individual and he was unable to furnish further information at this time.

Both individuals mentioned above advised they would remain alert for possible information indicating LINDER's connection with this matter.

C*

- COVER PAGE -

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: DAVID N. JELLISON Office: Miami, Florida
Date: May 23, 1968
Field Office File #: 44-1854 Bureau File #: 44-38861
Title: JAMES EARL RAY;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. (Deceased) - VICTIM

Character: CIVIL RIGHTS

Synopsis:

PAUL ALVIN LAIL located Palm Springs, Fla. Advised he served time in Missouri State Penitentiary with RAY, however, has had no contact with him since release and can offer no significant background information or information regarding whereabouts. Records destroyed Amacker Motors, Miami, Fla., where RAY allegedly purchased vehicle in 1954. Investigation dance studios, laundries using thermo-seal laundry marking machines, hippie hang-outs and other logical locations, Miami Division, developed no information regarding RAY. All records, Eastern Air Lines, reflecting passengers departing Atlanta via Eastern Air Lines between 4/4/68 and 4/12/68 reviewed. Leads set forth to eliminate all passengers having similar names to subject and/or aliases. All persons located Miami Division having similar names to subject and/or aliases used, located and eliminated as being identical. Appropriate stops placed with all logical agencies, including airlines, car rental agencies, Immigration and Naturalization Service, public health service, local authorities, and various other federal, state and local agencies. All look alikes located and eliminated. SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

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MM 44-1854

All potential bombing suspects in the Miami Division were eliminated as being identical with subject, through physical observation and the fact their whereabouts were known at the time of the commission of the crime.

- INFORMANTS -

In accordance with the instructions set out in Bureau teletype to all SACs, dated April 22, 1968, and Memphis airtel to Knoxville, dated April 7, 1968, all criminal informants and appropriate racial and security informants were contacted relative to any information concerning this matter.

By teletype dated April 26, 1968, the Bureau advised that on February 26, 1965, the Los Angeles "Herald Examiner" stated in effect that KEITH D. GILBERT, a Minuteman, had dynamite, was a racist, and was a threat to the life of MARTIN LUTHER KING.

The same communication stated that on March 5, 1965, MM 607-R advised that EARL LINDER, 2521 N. W. 23rd Street, Miami, told him that they would not make the same mistake again and next time a high powered rifle would be used on KING.

By teletype dated April 29, 1968, the Miami Office advised the Bureau and Memphis as follows:

IRA DAVID HAWTHORNE, JR. (former MM 1081-R), who resides directly behind EARL LINDER in Miami, was contacted April 26, 1968, and April 29, 1968. He advised he has almost daily contact with LINDER, who has not expressed any unusual interest in or knowledge of KING's death. He said LINDER has not taken any recent extended trips from the Miami area and there has been no unusual activity around LINDER's home. He said LINDER's main interest presently seems to center around a "conservative church group" from South Carolina. He said LINDER is getting old, not in good health, and appears to have some financial problems and therefore his activities have been limited.

B.

- COVER PAGE -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE MIAMI	OFFICE OF ORIGIN MEMPHIS	DATE 5/23/68	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 4/9 - 5/22/68
TITLE OF CASE JAMES EARL RAY, aka - FUGITIVE; DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. (Deceased) - VICTIM		REPORT MADE BY DAVID N. JELLISON	TYPED BY jth
		CHARACTER OF CASE CIVIL RIGHTS	

REFERENCES: Bureau airtel to all SACs and Legats, dated 5/7/68.
Miami airtel to Memphis, 5/16/68.
Memphis airtel to Miami, 5/20/68.

- P -

- ADMINISTRATIVE -

In accordance with Bureau instructions, all leads in this case are being handled within 24 hours and all leads are being set forth by telephone, teletype and airtel.

An information copy of this report is being furnished the Birmingham Office in view of the fact that the Bureau advised all offices by teletype dated April 7, 1968, to furnish results of investigation to the Bureau, Memphis and Birmingham.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED None						ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:	
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		PENDING OVER ONE YEAR ☐ YES ☐ NO	PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS ☐ YES ☐ NO
APPROVED COPIES MADE:						SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
2 - Bureau (44-38861) (RM) 2 - Memphis (44-1987) (RM) ② - Kansas City (RM) 1 - Birmingham (44-1740) (Info) (RM) 2 - Miami (44-1854)						44 1760-992 SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED MAY 27 1968 FBI - KANSAS CITY <i>Home</i>		
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations		
Agency								
Request Recd.								
Date Fwd.								
How Fwd.								
By								

FBI KAN CITY

FBI DENVER

11-12 AM URGENT 5-29-68 BID
TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND KANSAS CITY
FROM DENVER (157-203) 3P

MURKIN

RE OMAHA TELETYPE TO BUREAU, DENVER AND OKLAHOMA CITY DATED
MAY TWENTY-EIGHT, LAST.

ROBERT DALE PORTER, WHITE MALE, DOB

INTERVIEWED THIS DATE AT SHERIDAN COUNTY JAIL,
SHERIDAN, WYOMING. ADVISES WAS IN MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY
WITH RAY ON TWO OCCASIONS, FROM JULY, NINETEEN SIXTY-ONE TO
SEPTEMBER OF NINETEEN SIXTY-TWO AND FROM MARCH TWO, NINETEEN SIXTY-
FOUR UNTIL RAY-S ESCAPE IN APRIL OF NINETEEN SIXTY-SEVEN.

HE STATED THAT EX-GUARD JOHN STOUT SUPPLIED AMPHETAMINES FOR
MANY OF THE CONVICTS AND THAT HE, PORTER, RAN A DELIVERY SERVICE
FOR STOUT. HE STATED STOUT WAS FIRED IN ABOUT MARCH OR APRIL OF
NINETEEN SIXTY-SEVEN.

PORTER SAID THE RUMOR AT TIME OF RAY-S ESCAPE WAS THAT HE
WALKED OUT THE FRONT GATE. HOWEVER, HE DOES NOT KNOW IF THIS WAS
END PAGE ONE

*5-29-68 Myers advised
via me Harold*

44-760-102

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 29 1968	
FBI — KANSAS CITY	

Myers
Jeff City

AEBY, NEIL

5/68

44-760-1001

nid

PAGE TWO

SUPPOSEDLY IN A GUARD-S UNIFORM OR CIVILIAN CLOTHES. HE DOUBTS VERY SERIOUSLY IF STOUT COULD HAVE PROVIDED A UNIFORM FOR RAY AS STOUT WAS A GUARD AT THE HONOR FARM AND RAY WAS CONFINED IN PRISON PROPER. HE HAS NO IDEA WHO MIGHT HAVE SUPPLIED A UNIFORM FOR RAY BUT POINTED OUT THE PRISON LAUNDRY CONTAINS MANY UNIFORMS AND SUITS AND IS STAFFED ENTIRELY BY CONVICTS. HE SAID IT WOULD, THEREFORE, BE NO PROBLEM FOR A CONVICT TO OBTAIN A UNIFORM OR SUIT OF CLOTHES FROM THIS LAUNDRY. PORTER STATED THAT ALTHOUGH HE DOES NOT FEEL STOUT PROVIDED ANY ASSISTANCE IN RAY-S ACTUAL ESCAPE, THAT HE FELT CERTAIN RAY WOULD HAVE CONTACTED STOUT FOR ASSISTANCE AFTER LEAVING THE PRISON.

PORTER STATED THAT TWO FORMER CIVILIAN KITCHEN WORKERS AT THE MISSOURI STATE PEN ALSO RAN AMPHETAMINES FOR THE CONVICTS AND WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY HAVE BEEN WELL KNOWN BY RAY. THEY ARE FIRST NAME UNKNOWN WHITE, A NEGRO, AND FIRST NAME UNKNOWN SHEPPARD.

PORTER CONTINUED THAT RAY WAS A VERY QUIET MAN, DID NOT ASSOCIATE WITH MANY INDIVIDUALS, AND THAT UNDOUBTEDLY HIS BEST FRIEND AT THE MISSOURI STATE PEN WAS NEIL AEBY. PORTER BELIEVES AEBY HAS BEEN RELEASED FROM THE MISSOURI STATE PEN BUT IS CURRENTLY

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

IN THE COLE COUNTY JAIL AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI, FIGHTING
EXTRADITION TO TEXAS.

KANSAS CITY, AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI, IMMEDIATELY ATTEMPT
TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW JOHN STOUT, FNU WHITE, FNU SHEPPARD, AND
NEIL AEBY.

FD THREE ZERO TWO FOLLOWS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

AIRMAIL COPY SENT MEMPHIS, OKLAHOMA CITY AND OMAHA.

END

MRH

FBI KAN CITY

@

FBI KAN CITY

FBI MEMPHIS

1146 AM URGENT 5-28-68 MCP

TO HOUSTON 44-1509, KANSAS CITY 44-760, AND SAN FRANCISCO 173-65
FROM MEMPHIS 44-1987-SUB E 2 P

MURKIN. OO: ME.

RE: W. DAVIS, B. CHIDLOW, VINCENT WALKER, LAWRENCE RAND
OR REND.

RE MEMPHIS TEL TO BUREAU, HOUSTON, KANSAS CITY AND
SAN FRANCISCO APRIL FIVE LAST, AT SEVEN FORTYFIVE A.M.;
KANSAS CITY TEL TO BUREAU, MEMPHIS, AND HOUSTON, APRIL FIVE
LAST, AT TWO FIFTYONE A.M.; SAN FRANCISCO TEL TO BUREAU,
HOUSTON, KANSAS CITY AND MEMPHIS, APRIL FIVE LAST AT ONE
THIRTYTWO P.M.; HOUSTON TEL TO MEMPHIS, KANSAS CITY AND
SAN FRANCISCO APRIL FIVE LAST AT TWELVE TWENTYONE P.M.

FOR INFO, TWO HOTEL REGISTRATION CARDS FROM THE WILLIAM
LEN HOTEL, MEMPHIS, RE: REGISTRATION FOR VINCENT WALKER,
FOUR FOUR NINE STEINER, SAN FRANCISCO AND LAWRENCE RAND OR
REND, TWO EIGHT THREE TWO POLK, KANSAS CITY, KANSAS, ON
APRIL FOUR LAST, SUBMITTED TO LAB FOR EXAMINATION.

NOTE POSSIBLE VARIATION IN POLK STREET ADDRESS SINCE
PREVIOUSLY FURNISHED AS TWO FIVE THE TWO POLK.

END PAGE ONE

tel. sent 5/29/68
RH

Apr. 29
1 thru 5

44-760-1002

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 28 1968	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	

Homesles RH

PAGE TWO

ALL RECEIVING OFFICES DETERMINE IF STEINER AND/OR POLK
STREETS ARE STREETS IN YOUR RESPECTIVE CITIES AND IF SO
DETERMINE IF THESE ADDRESSES, NOTING VARIATION FROM TWO FIVE
THREE TWO TO TWO EIGHT THREE TWO POLK, ARE POSSIBLE ADDRESSES.
ALSON ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY AND FURNISH BACKGROUND, AS WELL AS
PHOTO IF AVAILABLE RE WALKER AND RAND OR REND, BASED ON
VARIATION IN STREET ADDRESS NUMBERS.

EXPEDITE AND SUTEL. P.

CORR: PG ONE LAST LINE SHOULD READ: "PREVIOUSLY FURNISHED AS
TWO FIVE THREE TWO POLK." PG TWO, LINE FIVE, FIRST WRD IS
"ALSO".

END

MRH

FBI KAN CITY

TU@

FBI KAN CITY

FBI-HOUSTON

10:49 PM CST URGENT 5-29-68 OET
TO MEMPHIS, SAN FRANCISCO, KANSAS CITY
FROM HOUSTON 44-1509 1P
MURKIN ✓

RE MEMPHIS TEL MAY TWENTYEIGHT LAST.

ADDRESSES TWO EIGHT THREE TWO AND TWO FIVE THREE TWO
POLK ST. CHECKED AND FOUND TO BE NON EXISTANT. NO STIENER
ST. AT HOUSTON.

END

DJB

FBI KAN CITY

44-760 1003

SEARCHED <i>AB</i>	INDEXED <i>AP</i>
SERIALIZED <i>M</i>	FILED <i>A</i>
MAY 29 1968	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	
<i>Howe IRB</i>	

FBI KAN CITY

FBI SAN FRAN

217PM URGENT 5-29-68 MS

TO HOUSTON (44-1509) KANSAS CITY (44-760) & MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM SAN FRANCISCO (173-65) 3P (P)

MURKIN

RE MEMPHIS TEL MAY TWO EIGHT LAST.

FILES OF THE SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE CONTAIN NO INFORMATION IDENTIFI-
FIABLE WITH VINCENT WALKER, LAWRENCE REND, OR LAWRENCE RAND. INVES-
TIGATION CONDUCTED IN THE VICINITY OF FOUR FOUR NINE STEINER STREET
AND TWO FIVE THREE TWO POLK ST., SAN FRANCISCO, REFLECTED THAT THESE
ARE FICTITIOUS ADDRESSES.

INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED IN THE VICINITY OF TWO EIGHT THREE TWO
POLK ST., SAN FRANCISCO, REFLECTED THAT THIS IS THE RESIDENCE OF
MICHAEL A. CONROY.

FILES OF THE SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE CONTAIN NO INFORMATION IDENTIFI-
FIABLE WITH MICHAEL A. CONROY.

MICHAEL A. CONROY, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, UNION CARBIDE CO.,
TWO TWO BATTERY ST., SAN FRANCISCO, ON MAY TWO NINE INSTANT, ADVISED
HE HAS RESIDED AT TWO EIGHT THREE TWO POLK ST., SAN FRANCISCO, SINCE
ONE NINE SIX ONE. HE EXAMINED PHOTOS OF JAMES EARL RAY AND ADVISED
END PAGE ONE

44-760-1004

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 30 1968	
FBI — KANSAS CITY	

[Handwritten signatures and initials over the stamp]

PAGE TWO

HE DID NOT KNOW THIS INDIVIDUAL BUT HAD SEEN PHOTOS IN LOCAL PAPERS. HE ADVISED HE DOES NOT KNOW ANYONE BY THE NAME OF VINCENT WALKER, LAWRENCE RAND, OR LAWRENCE REND. HE ADVISED NO ONE BY THESE NAMES HAD RESIDED AT TWO EIGHT THREE TWO POLK STREET TO HIS KNOWLEDGE.

THE RECORDS OF THE METRO CREDIT BUREAU, SAN JOSE, CALIF., COVERING SAN FRANCISCO AND OAKLAND-BERKELEY, WERE RECHECKED AND NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WAS DEVELOPED. THE CREDIT RECORD CHECK OF APRIL FIVE, LAST, REFLECTED THAT LAWRENCE RAND, AKA LON RAND, LAWRENCE WING RAND, WAS EMPLOYED BY THE EMERYVILLE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, EMERYVILLE, CALIFORNIA. INQUIRY AT THE EMERYVILLE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT REFLECTED RAND WAS EMPLOYED BY THE MARIN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT. THE OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION, MARIN COUNTY, ON APRIL FIVE, LAST, ADVISED LAWRENCE RAND, RESIDENCE TWELVE JOSEPHINE, SAUSALITO, CALIF., IS EMPLOYED IN THE FAIRFAX SCHOOL DISTRICT AS A LIBRARIAN AND WAS AT WORK DURING THE ENTIRE WEEK OF APRIL ONE THROUGH FIVE, LAST.

CREDIT CHECKS REFLECTED THAT ONE VINCENT WALKER, AKA U. VINCENT WALKER HAD RESIDED AT SIX SIX CLEARY ST., SAN FRANCISCO, AND SIX FIVE ZERO FOUR E. FOURTEENTH ST., OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

MRS. THELMA DUNCAN, SIX FIVE ZERO FOUR E. FOURTEENTH ST., OAKLAND, ADVISED THAT VINCENT WALKER IS HER EX-HUSBAND. MRS. DUNCAN ADVISED SHE IS ABOUT THIRTY YEARS OF AGE AND STATED THAT HER HUSBAND, ALSO A NEGRO, AGE FIVE FIVE YEARS, WAS A USED CAR SALESMAN SOME PLACE IN THE BAY AREA. SHE STATED HER MARRIAGE TO VINCENT WALKER WAS DISSOLVED BY ANNULMENT WHEN IT WAS DETERMINED THAT HE WAS MARRIED TO TWO OTHER WOMEN AT THE SAME TIME SHE WAS MARRIED TO HIM.

JAMES EARL RAY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

MRH

FBI KAN CITY

@

F B I

Date: 5/29/68

Transmit the following in PLAIN

(Type in plaintext or code)

TELETYPE

URGENT

Via _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861),
MEMPHIS (44-1987),
HOUSTON (44-1509) AND
SAN FRANCISCO (173-65)

FROM: KANSAS CITY (44-760)

MURKIN.

DAILY SUMMARY

RE MEMPHIS TELS MAY SEVENTEEN AND TWENTYEIGHT LAST.

NO SUCH ADDRESSES AS TWO EIGHT THREE TWO OR TWO FIVE
THREE TWO POLK OR FOUR FOUR NINE STEINER LOCATED IN KANSAS
CITY AREA.

MRS. PAUL F. COLLEY, SIX THREE ZERO ONE POLK, KANSAS
CITY NORTH, MO., ADVISED SHE HAS RESIDED AT THIS ADDRESS
FOR ABOUT EIGHTEEN YEARS AND THE ONLY OTHER RESIDENCE ON
THIS STREET IS NEXT DOOR TO HER AND HAS BEEN OCCUPIED FOR
YEARS BY MR. AND MRS. CLARENCE E. JONES. MRS. COLLEY
ADVISED THE NAMES, ALIASES AND DESCRIPTIONS OF LAWRENCE
RAND AND VINCENT WALKER ARE NOT FAMILIAR TO HER.

RH:tlw
(L) *tlw*

Approved: *(Signature)*
Special Agent in Charge

Sent *WASP* M Per *WASP*
ME 5-41
HO 5-46
SF 5-48 44-760-1006

F B I

Date:

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

PAGE TWO

KC 44-760

KANSAS CITY DIRECTORIES SHOW ONE LAWRENCE B. RAND, THREE FIVE ZERO EIGHT ST. JOHN AVE., KANSAS CITY, MO. RAND, UPON INTERVIEW, ADVISED HE IS AGE SIXTYNINE AND RETIRED AND HAS NOT BEEN TO MEMPHIS, TENN. HE STATED HE DOES NOT KNOW ANOTHER LAWRENCE RAND OR REND AND THE NAME VINCENT WALKER IS NOT FAMILIAR TO HIM.

Armed & Dangerous

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

F B I

Date: 5/29/68

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

TO: SACS, OMAHA AND MEMPHIS
FROM: SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760)
MURKIN

RE OMAHA TELETYPE, MAY TWENTYTHREE, LAST; AND MEMPHIS
TELETYPE TODAY.

JOE MONROE BEANS DOES NOT MEET DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT
ACCORDING TO WITNESSES INTERVIEWED AT LITWIN CONSTRUCTION CO.,
AND BLUE HAVEN MOTEL, EL DORADO, KS., TODAY. BEANS NOT IN
EL DORADO AND HIS WHEREABOUTS MAY BE ASCERTAINED THROUGH HIS
WIFE, WHO HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN INTERVIEWED BY OMAHA.

LEADS TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW BEANS THROUGH HIS WIFE BEING
LEFT TO THE DISCRETION OF MEMPHIS. (P)

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

1 - KANSAS CITY

JFM:gah

(1)

Approved: KW
Special Agent in Charge

Sent

OM...6:19 PM
ME...6:12 PM

Per

LMV