

PAGE EIGHT

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END

JLB

FBI JKSN MISS

PT

FBI JKSN MISS

932 PM & P URGENT 7/3/68 ELS

TO DIRECTOR AND JACKSON

FROM ATLANTA 44-2326

MURKIN

RE BUREAU TELEPHONE CALL TO ATLANTA JULY TWO LAST.

RAYMOND CURTIS WAS INTERVIEWED AT WHITFIELD CO. JAIL,
ALTON, GA., JULY THREE INSTANT BY SAs THOMAS R. HENRY,
JR., AND ALBERT D. MILLARD. CURTIS IS CURRENTLY CONFINED
WHITFIELD CO. JAIL AWAITING APPEAL ON LIFE SENTENCE FOR
MURDER. CURTIS WAS ADVISED OF THE IDENTITY OF THE INTER-
VIEWING AGENTS THROUGH DISPLAY OF CREDENTIALS. HE WAS
FURNISHED A RIGHTS AND WAIVER OF RIGHTS FORM WHICH HE READ,
INDICATED HE UNDERSTOOD, AND REFUSED TO SIGN. HE ADVISED
HE KNEW HE WAS BEING INTERVIEWED CONCERNING STATEMENTS HE
MADE IN A LETTER HE HAD MAILED TO MR. SANDERS OF EBONY
MAGAZINE. CURTIS STATED HE WAS MERELY TRYING TO SELL A
STORY TO EBONY FOR APPROXIMATELY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS TO
HELP HIS MOTHER PAY OFF A MORTGAGE ON HER HOME, WHICH SHE
MORTGAGED TO OBTAIN ATTORNEY FEES FOR HIS DEFENSE. AT
FIRST HE STATED, WITH REFERENCE TO THESE STATEMENTS, THAT
HE AND JAMES EARL RAY PULLED A CRIME IN FIFTYFOUR, WHICH
WAS A BURGLARY IN JULIET, ILL., IN OCT, OR NOV., FIFTYFOUR.
AT THIS POINT IT WAS POINTED OUT TO CURTIS THAT CERTAIN

END PAGE ONE

44-760-1154

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PAGE TWO

STATEMENTS MADE BY HIM IN HIS LETTER TO EBONY COULD POSSIBLY INVOLVE HIM IN A CONSPIRACY WITH RAY CONCERNING THE KILLING OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CURTIS CATEGORICALLY DENIED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS WHICH WERE IN HIS LETTER TO EBONY MAGAZINE:

1. THAT HE AND JAMES EARL RAY PULLED A CRIME IN FIFTYFOUR.
2. THAT RAY WANTED THE JOB OF KILLING KING.
3. THAT HE AND RAY TALKED ABOUT KILLING KING FOR THREE YEARS.
4. THAT THEY TALKED TO THE MAN FROM MISSISSIPPI THAT KNEW ALL ABOUT THE KK BUSINESSMANS ASSOCIATION THAT WAS TO PUT UP THE MONEY TO KILL KING.
5. THAT HE KNEW THE MEN FROM MISSISSIPPI.
6. FOR THREE YEARS, THAT HE AND RAY MADE MAPS JUST TO FIND THE RIGHT PLACE TO KILL KING AND THAT HE HAD MADE THE MAPS OVER HIMSELF.
7. HE AND RAY KNEW JUST WHERE THEY WOULD GO AFTER THE KILLING OF KING.
8. THAT HE WAS TO BE IN ON THE KILLING OF KING.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

9. THAT THERE ARE MEN IN FIVE STATES THAT ARE BEHIND THE KING KILLING AND THAT DO NOT KNOW WHAT HE KNOWS.

DURING THE INTERVIEW, CURTIS DREW CRUDE MAPS SETTING OUT HOW HE THOUGHT RAY WOULD STALK KING. THIS MAP SHOWED THE FOLLOWING TOWNS WHERE HE SAID KING MADE MOST OF HIS SPEECHES: ATLANTA, LITTLE ROCK, BIRMINGHAM, MOBILE, SELMA, JACKSON, VICKSBURG, MISS., AND MARKS, MISS. HE FURTHER POINTED OUT THERE WAS A MAN LIVING ON A HOUSEBOAT IN VICKSBURG ON THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER (WHOSE FIRST NAME HE KNEW BUT WOULD NOT DIVULGE). THIS MAN WAS TO TAKE RAY DOWN THE RIVER ON HIS BOAT TO NEW ORLEANS AFTER THE KILLING. HE STATED IN THE PAST HE (CURTIS) HAD PULLED SEVERAL BURGLARY AND ARMED ROBBERIES (HE WOULD NOT COMMENT ON PARTICULARS) IN TOWNS ALONG THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND WHILE POLICE WERE LOOKING FOR HIM ON THE HIGHWAY HE WOULD BE ON A BOAT DOWN THE MISSISSIPPI. HE FURTHER STATED HE HAD WRITTEN A STORY CONCERNING THE KING KILLING WHICH WAS CURRENTLY OUT BEING TYPED AND IT WAS THE STORY HE MENTIONED IN THE LETTER TO EBONY AND INTENDED TO SELL TO EBONY.

END PAGE THREE

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SHERIFF G. T. MAULDIN, NA, WHO IS SHERIFF OF WHITFIELD CO., GA., AND OPERATES THE COUNTY JAIL, ADVISED CURTIS HAD SENT NO LETTERS OR COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE JAIL WHICH WENT OVER THE JAILERS DESK. HE SAID CURTIS WOULD PROBABLY SEND ALL MAIL OUT WITH VISITORS AND JAIL TRUSTEES AND WOULD PROBABLY NOT HAVE BEEN OBSERVED BY MEN OF HIS DEPT. IT IS FURTHER POINTED OUT THAT CURTIS' ATTORNEY, ERWIN MITCHELL, FORMER U.S. CONGRESSMAN FOR THE SEVENTH DISTRICT OF GA., IS OF THE OPINION THAT MOST OF CURTIS' COMMENTS CONCERNING HIS KNOWLEDGE OF RAY'S ASSASSINATION OF KING ARE PURE FABRICATIONS ON THE PART OF CURTIS OR AS A RESULT OF SOMETHING CURTIS HAS READ IN LOCAL PAPERS.

APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE INTERVIEW WITH CURTIS, HE SENT A NOTE TO SHERIFF G. T. MAULDIN REQUESTING TO AGAIN SEE AN FBI AGENT, THAT HE NOW WANTED TO TELL THE ENTIRE TRUTH. CURTIS WAS AGAIN INTERVIEWED BY SA THOMAS R. HENRY, JR., AND AGAIN FURNISHED A RIGHTS FORM WHICH HE REFUSED TO SIGN. HE THEN STATED THAT APPARENTLY IN HIS LETTER TO EBONY HE USED THE WORD "WE" INDICATING THAT HE AND JAMES EARL RAY HAD PLANNED THE KING MURDER WHICH WOULD INVOLVE HIM IN A CONSPIRACY AND FOR

END PAGE FOUR

PAGE FIVE

THAT REASON HE DENIED THE STATEMENTS IN LETTER TO EBONY. HE THEN ADVISED HE HAD WRITTEN A STORY WHICH HE INTENDED TO SELL TO SOME MAGAZINE FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING MONEY FOR HIS MOTHER WHICH STORY WAS STILL IN HIS POSSESSION AND WHICH HE HAD NOT YET SENT OUT TO BE TYPED. HE ALLOWED SA HENRY TO READ THIS APPROXIMATELY TWENTY PAGE STORY, HANDWRITTEN, ONE PAGE AT A TIME. HE DECLARED THIS STORY WAS TRUE. THE FIRST FIVE OR SIX PAGES OF THIS STORY MERELY SET OUT HIS EARLY LIFE IN CRIME AND THE PRISON SENTENCES HE HAD SERVED AS A RESULT OF THESE CRIMES FROM THE AGE OF FIFTEEN. THE REMAINDER OF THE STORY IS THE SAME AS WAS SET FORTH IN THE ORIGINAL INTERVIEW WITH CURTIS IN APRIL, SIXTYEIGHT CONCERNING HIS KNOWLEDGE AND ASSOCIATION WITH RAY. THIS STORY DOES REFLECT THAT HE FIRST BECAME ASSOCIATED WITH RAY IN FIFTYFOUR WHEN THEY PULLED A PAYROLL HEIST IN QUINCY, ILL., WITH A THIRD INDIVIDUAL. SHORTLY THEREAFTER, HE LOST CONTACT WITH RAY WHEN HE AND THIS THIRD INDIVIDUAL WERE CAUGHT IN A FIFTY-SIX THOUSAND DOLLAR BANK ROBBERY AT SOUTHWEST CITY, MO. AFTER THAT HE AGAIN BECAME ACQUAINTED WITH RAY IN PRISON AND WHILE IN PRISON THEY BOTH LEARNED OF THE DEATH OF

END PAGE FIVE

PAGE SIX

PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY. RAY THEN STATED IT SCURDED LIKE A BIG JOB AND HE WAS ALWAYS ON THE INSIDE OF A PRISON WHEN BIG JOBS AND BIG MONEY WERE TO BE HAD.

SHORTLY AFTER THE DEATH OF JOHN F. KENNEDY, MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., BECAME PROMINENT AND RAY STATED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS THAT SOMEBODY WAS GOING TO KILL KING. THE STORY WENT ON TO REFLECT THAT DURING THIS PERIOD AN INDIVIDUAL CAME INTO THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY AT JEFFERSON CITY FROM VICKSBURG, MISS., AND WHO, UPON LEARNING OF JAMES EARL RAY'S FEELINGS TOWARD KILLING KING, ADVISED HIM OF THE KK BUSINESSMEN ASSOCIATION OF THE SOUTH AND OF THE FACT THAT PEOPLE IN FIVE STATES WERE PUTTING UP MONEY FOR KING'S ASSASSINATION. THE STORY FURTHER POINTED OUT THAT RAY INFORMED HIM THAT HE INTENDED TO HAVE EVERYTHING SET WHEN HE KILLED KING AND THAT RAY, THROUGH MAPS, LEARNED OF KING'S MOVEMENTS SO HE COULD LATER STALK HIM TO THE POINT OF ASSASSINATION. THE STORY FURTHER POINTED OUT THAT RAY ADVISED HE WOULD LEAVE A FALSE GUN AND FALSE TRAIL IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE MURDER. RAY WAS SUPPOSED TO

END PAGE SIX

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GO TO VICKSBURG FOLLOWING THE MURDER, CONTACT THE MAN FROM VICKSBURG, MISS., WHO HAD THE HOUSEBOAT, AND THIS MAN WAS TO TAKE HIM EITHER TO NEW ORLEANS OR CANADA VIA THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE INTERVIEW, CURTIS STATED HE COULD NOT TESTIFY TO ANY OF THE ABOVE. HE DID ADVISE IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE THAT THE NAME OF THE INDIVIDUAL ON THE HOUSEBOAT IN VICKSBURG, MISS., WAS ~~(FNU) WILETT~~, ALSO KNOWN AS MISSISSIPPI WHO SERVED NINE IN THE MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY.

THE STORY ALSO MENTIONED A MAN FROM NEW ORLEANS WHO COULD OBTAIN ANY KIND OF IDENTIFICATION AND CURTIS LATER IDENTIFIED THIS MAN AS JOE COFF, WHICH INFORMATION HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN SET OUT IN AN INTERVIEW WITH CURTIS. THROUGHOUT THE INTERVIEW WITH CURTIS, AND WHILE READING CURTIS' STORY, HE CONTINUED TO EMPHASIZE THE FACT THAT HE WOULD NOT TESTIFY AGAINST RAY AS HE FEARED FOR HIS LIFE. HE INDICATED THAT ANY STATE PRISON HE WAS SENT TO WOULD PROBABLY HAVE INDIVIDUALS WHO WOULD KILL HIM AS A RESULT OF PREVIOUS INFORMATION HE FURNISHED THE PRESS AND TV MEDIA AND IT IS FELT HE WAS USING THIS AS AN EXCUSE AS TO WHY HE

END PAGE SEVEN

PAGE EIGHT

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JLD

FBI JKSN MISS

PT



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Jackson, Mississippi 39205

July 11, 1968

JAMES EARL RAY;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -
VICTIM

Reference Raymond Curtis interview in County
Jail, at Dalton, Georgia.

On July 5, 1968, the current telephone directory
and the current city directory were examined. No listings
were found in either directory under the name of Willett.

Chief of Police Marion Brown, Vicksburg,
Mississippi, Police Department, advised on July 5, 1968,
that he did not know anyone in the Vicksburg, Mississippi,
vicinity by the name of Willett. He did note that he has
occasionally seen trucks pulling heavy equipment for oil
riggings passing through Vicksburg containing the name of
W. O. (Red) Willett painted on the side of the trucks. The
headquarters of this organization is shown at an unrecalled
location in the State of Louisiana.

Detective Captain Roy Redditt, Vicksburg Police
Department, was unable to furnish any additional information
concerning a (First Name Unknown) Willett in the Vicksburg,
Mississippi, area.

44-760-1155

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[Handwritten signature]

JAMES EARL RAY;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -
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John Edwards, Identification Bureau, Vicksburg Police Department, advised on July 5, 1968, that his records indicate one A. M. Willett, a white male, age 40, of Tallulah, Louisiana, was arrested on November 24, 1952, on a charge of drunk driving. He was fined \$50. The file contains no additional information concerning this arrest.

John Edwards also indicated that his files reveal that one R. D. Willette, a white male, age 35, of the Circle Lake Apartments, Vicksburg, Mississippi, was arrested on November 10, 1952, on a charge of drunk driving and that he was fined \$50. No other information was contained in the record concerning this arrest.

Sheriff Paul Barrett, Warren County Sheriff's Office, advised that his records concerning prior arrests are incomplete, but that he does not recall an individual from this area by the name of Willett.

On July 5, 1968, Mrs. Edna Cole, Manager, Credit Bureau of Vicksburg, Emmich Building, Vicksburg, Mississippi, advised that her records contained the following information:

A. H. Willett, Jr., has been known to the Credit Bureau since March, 1959. This individual resides at 116 South Cedars Street, Tallulah, Louisiana. He previously resided at 700 LaSalle Street, Tallulah, Louisiana. As of March, 1959, he was employed as a Sales Manager by the Tallulah Motor Company. His credit record has been satisfactory.

Mrs. Cole stated the file indicates August H. Willett, III, has been known to the file since February, 1967. He resides at 100 North Lincoln Street, Tallulah, Louisiana, receiving mail at Post Office Box 221. He is

JAMES EARL RAY;
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -
VICTIM

employed as an automobile salesman by the Lamar T. Loe Motor Company, Tallulah, Louisiana. His date of birth is given as [REDACTED]. He is single, and is renting at his residence. He has been in the United States Army Reserve, his military service expiring on March 1, 1967. The file indicates his father is August H. Willett, Jr., also an employee of the Lamar T. Loe Motor Company. An uncle is shown as Adrian Willett, Tallulah, Louisiana. A credit report was prepared for "Phillips," Kansas City, Missouri, on February 11, 1967. His credit has been satisfactory.

An unsatisfactory account, a repossession, was reported by Southern Trailer Distributors, Vicksburg, Mississippi, Highway 61, South, on May 26, 1967, for one Franklin Willett, Beldon, Mississippi.

The files of the Credit Bureau contained, for reference purposes, the name J. O. Willett Pipeline Company, Monroe, Louisiana. The company is shown as being organized in September, 1959, and its President as L. W. Bobbs.

Paul J. Dennis, Vice-President, Vicksburg Mid River Service, Incorporated, advised on July 5, 1968, that (First Name Unknown) Willett owned a houseboat known as the "Nell Willie," a diesel-powered ship capable of travel on the Mississippi. (First Name Unknown) Willett was described as an elderly man who was crippled and used a cane. He and his wife, whose name is believed to be Nell, took vacation trips on his houseboat approximately twice a year, securing the services of a Mississippi River pilot to operate the boat for them. (First Name Unknown) Willett is believed to have been a resident of the State of Arkansas and to have docked his houseboat at the Greenville, Mississippi, Yacht Club.

JAMES EARL RAY;
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Mr. Dennis advised on July 9, 1968, that he does not know any individual in the vicinity of Vicksburg, Mississippi, who is known as "Mississippi." He stated that he had made inquiry among his employees and other individuals who are familiar with the people who frequent the Vicksburg waterfront and those who travel on the Mississippi River, and that he was unable to find anyone having knowledge of an individual known as "Mississippi."

John B. Sanders, Boat Captain of the Sprague, advised that he is familiar with most of the individuals who frequent the Vicksburg waterfront. He stated he does not know of any person in this area who has the nickname "Mississippi."

Willie Smith, a Negro male employee of the Greenville, Mississippi, Yacht Club, advised on July 5, 1968, that the correct name of the houseboat is the "Nell Willis" and that it was owned by a (First Name Unknown) Willis, who died about two or three years ago. Nell Willis, wife of (First Name Unknown) Willis, is still living and residing in or around Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

Following the death of Mr. Willis, the houseboat was sold to Sonny (Last Name Unknown), a member of the Memphis, Tennessee, Yacht Club, who is believed to be a Mississippi River pilot.

Willie Smith advised that Mr. Willis was always considerate of Negroes and gave no indication of anti-Negro sentiments.

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F B I

Date: 7/11/68

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

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

Re Bureau airtel, dated 7/5/68, and Jackson airtel to the Bureau, dated 7/5/68.

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are 11 copies of an LHM.

Enclosed herewith for Kansas City are two copies each of the following:

An LHM
 Atlanta teletype to Bureau and Jackson, 7/3/68
 Jackson airtel to Bureau, 7/5/68
 Bureau airtel to Jackson, 7/5/68.

One copy of this airtel and LHM is being directed to Little Rock and Memphis for information.

3 - Bureau (Enc. 11) (RM)
 2 - Kansas City (Enc. 8) (RM)
 1 - Little Rock (Enc. 1) (Info) (RM)
 1 - Memphis (Enc. 1) (Info) (RM)
 2 - Jackson
 JGW:bal
 (9)

44-764-1156

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FBI - KANSAS CITY	

Lead
Self. City
to

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

JN 157-9586

ADMINISTRATIVE:

UACB, additional inquiry is not being made in regard to information obtained from the Vicksburg, Miss., Credit Bureau, and the Vicksburg Police Department, concerning individuals who have the last name of WILLETT, as no information was contained in the file indicating that these individuals are now or were connected with Mississippi River Transportation, either by profession or for entertainment.

LEADS (UACB):

KANSAS CITY DIVISION

AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

1. Will review the records of the Missouri State Penitentiary to determine if an inmate by the name of (FNU) WILLETT, aka Mississippi, from Vicksburg, Miss., was incarcerated at the Penitentiary sometime following the death of JOHN F. KENNEDY.
2. Should a record of (FNU) WILLETT be located, will obtain complete background information and set out leads to have this individual interviewed concerning the allegations made by RAYMOND CURTIS.

F B I

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760)

DATE: 7/18/68

FROM : SA JAMES B. KELLY

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 7/11/68, CLAUDE MURPHY, rural route, Conway Springs, Kansas, advised that on 9/1/67 an individual closely resembling the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY that appears on I. O. number 4182, had come to his farm seeking employment. He stated that the man had given his name as JAMES McBRIDE. The man had stated that SAM ROWE, Sumner County Agent, Wellington, Kansas had referred him to MURPHY. The man had expressed a desire to earn \$50.00 to use in paying expenses to California to visit his wife and 13 year old daughter that were living somewhere in California.

He had hired McBRIDE as a laborer and had put him to picking and loading apples. McBRIDE had been a good worker and had appeared to know how to go about picking, packing, and loading fruit. He had paid McBRIDE at the end of the day on 9/1/67 and McBRIDE had left his farm to travel to Wichita, Kansas. On 9/2/67, McBRIDE had returned to his home at around 9:30 or 10:00 A. M., bearing cuts, scratches, and bruises. McBRIDE had claimed that the injuries were sustained in an automobile accident at Wichita, Kansas on the previous night, and that the reason for being late in returning had been that he (McBRIDE) had been required to appear in Municipal court as a witness. MURPHY stated that the injuries appeared to be the type that would more likely have been obtained in a fight, but that he had not pursued the matter with McBRIDE.

McBRIDE had worked the remainder of the day on 9/2/68 and had gone to bed in the bunk house occupied by RALPH POTTER, a full-time employee of MURPHY. At approximately 4:00 A. M., 9/3/68, McBRIDE had gotten up and left the premises and has not returned. A short time after McBRIDE had left, POTTER discovered that two twenty dollar bills and one ten dollar bill were missing from his billfold. On Monday, 9/4/68, he had notified the Sumner County Sheriff's Department, Wellington, Kansas, of the theft of the \$50.00.

He described McBRIDE as follows:

NAME	JAMES McBRIDE
RACE	White

2 - Kansas City
JBK



5010-108-01

44-760-1157
SEARCHED _____ INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED _____ FILED _____
Howe PBA

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

AGE	30 to 34
HEIGHT	5'-10"
WEIGHT	175
BUILD	Husky, chubby
CLOTHING	Dirty white T-shirt, dark trousers, cowboy boots
HAIR	Dark

He stated that McBRIDE had no additional clothing and no luggage. McBRIDE was driving a white and black 1957 to 1960 Chrysler product; possibly a 1959 Plymouth; that was apparently in very poor mechanical condition.

Mrs. CLAUDE MURPHY and RALPH POTTER both agreed with the above description with the exception that they were of the opinion that McBRIDE had brown eyes. Mrs. MURPHY was of the opinion that McBRIDE could not be over 32 years of age and was possibly of Jewish or Syrian extraction. POTTER stated that McBRIDE appeared to be familiar with fruit picking and appeared to be of Mexican extraction. He was of the opinion that McBRIDE was in his early 30s.

On 7/12/68, EVELYN COCHRAN, Clerk Records Division, Wichita Police Department, and CATHY LIPSEY, Reporter, Wichita Credit Bureau, 212 S. Market, each advised that a search of their respective records was negative for any record identifiable with the name JAMES McBRIDE. COCHRAN advised that she had made a specific search of records to ascertain the possibility of McBRIDE having been involved in an accident during the month of September, 1967, either as a driver or passenger, and that this search was negative. JAN O'HARA, Deputy, Records Division, Sedgwick County Sheriff's Department, advised that a search of records was negative for any record identifiable with the name JAMES McBRIDE.

On 7/15/68, SAM ROWE, County Agricultural Agent, Sumner County, Sumner County Courthouse, Wellington, Kansas, advised that he does recall referring an individual to the CLAUDE MURPHY farm on 9/1/67, and later being advised that this individual had stolen \$50.00 from MURPHY's hired hand. He stated that he had only seen the individual for a period of possibly five minutes and had understood the man to state that he was familiar with picking fruit. MURPHY had been looking for someone to assist in harvesting apples, so ROWE had mentioned this to the individual. The man had stated that he had been in the Wellington area previously and was familiar with the location of Conway Springs, so had not required extensive directions to reach the MURPHY farm.

He viewed a copy of I. O. number 4182 and stated that he could not recall that the individual had particularly resembled the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY appearing thereon. He stated that he does not recall what name the man was using and could not describe the man other than that he was very dark, having a dark complexion, dark hair, and dark eyes. He had been under the impression that the man was an itinerant farm worker.

44-760

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Based on the descriptions of McBRIDE as being in his early 30s, having dark eyes, and complexion and appearance of a Syrian or Mexican; and the fact that other information available indicates that JAMES EARL RAY was in possession of an automobile completely different in make, model, and appearance of that in possession of McBRIDE, no further investigation is being conducted in an effort to identify JAMES McBRIDE with JAMES EARL RAY.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760)

DATE: 7/18/68

FROM : SA JAMES B. KELLY

SUBJECT: MURKIN

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RACE	White

2 - Kansas City
JBK



5010-108-01

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

44-760-1157

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED

Gar

AGE	30 to 34
HEIGHT	5'-10"
WEIGHT	175
BUILD	Husky, chubby
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FBI KAN CITY

FBI ST LOUIS

1:14 PM URGENT 7-17-68 DCJ

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861)(MAIL)

KANSAS CITY (44-760)

FROM: ST. LOUIS (44-775)

MURKIN, RE: CLIFFORD W. EDMONDSON

RE KANSAS CITY AIRTEL, JULY TWELVE LAST, AND BUAIRTEL,
JULY FIFTEEN LAST.

RECORDS MPRC, SLMO, REVEAL EDMONDSON, AFSN [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] SERVED IN USAF JUNE TWENTYFIVE
FIFTYSIX TO JULY TWENTYSIX FIFTYEIGHT AND DISHONORABLY DIS-
CHARGED AS AIRMAN THIRD CLASS PURSUANT TO SENTENCE OF GENERAL
COURT-MARTIAL.

ON DEC. TWELVE FIFTYSEVEN EDMONDSON WAS CONVICTED BY
GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL AT GOOSE AFB, LABRADOR, FOR ON OR ABOUT
JUNE TWENTYTHREE SIXTYSEVEN, WITH PRE-MEDITATION, MURDERED
ANOTHER AIRMAN, BY MEANS OF SHOOTING HIM WITH A FORTYFIVE
CALIBER PISTOL. SENTENCED DISHONORABLE DISCHARGE, FORFEITURE
END PAGE ONE

~~44-760-1158~~

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

Adme

PAGE TWO

SL 44-775

OF ALL PAY AND ALLOWANCES, AND CONFINEMENT AT HARD LABOR FOR THE TERM OF HIS NATURAL LIFE, HOWEVER, ON OCT. TEN SIXTYSEVEN PURSUANT TO DIRECTION OF SECRETARY OF AIR FORCE, FINDINGS AND SENTENCE WERE SET ASIDE. HE WAS RELEASED FROM CONFINEMENT AT MEDICAL CENTER FOR FEDERAL PRISONERS, SPRINGFIELD, MO.

EDMONDSON RECEIVED DIAGNOSIS "SCHIZOPHRENIC REACTION, PARANOID TYPE, CHRONIC, WITH ACUTE EXACERBATION AS CHARACTERIZED BY AN INDIVIDUAL WITH A LIFE HISTORY WHICH DEMONSTRATES THE ENCIPIENT SEEDS OF A SCHIZOPHRENIC TYPE PERSONALITY WITH THE EVIDENCE OF MOUNTING PARANOID TYPE OF REACTION THROUGHOUT THE YEARS CULMINATING IN A GROSS PSYCHOTIC DISORGANIZATION AT THIS TIME WITH ONLY PARTIAL AMALIORATION SEEN CURRENTLY." RECORDS INDICATED EDMONDSON HAD MADE TO SUICIDE ATTEMPTS AND THAT IN SIXTYTHREE ELECTROSHOCK THERAPY WAS INITIATED FOLLOWING SELF-MUTILATION ATTEMPT.

DETAILED AIRTEL FOLLOWS.

AIRMAIL COPY SENT MEMPHIS.

IN VIEW OF THE CRIME FOR WHICH EDMONDSON CONVICTED AND HIS MENTAL CONDITION HE SHOULD BE APPROACHED WITH CAUTION.

P,

END

PHM

FBI KAN CITY

TUE

FBI KAN CITY

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44-760-1158

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

PAGE TWO

SL 44-775

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P.

END

PHM

FBI KAN CITY

TUE

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

7/19/68

SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760)(P)

MURKIN

CR

OO: MEMPHIS

Re Memphis airtel to Kansas City, 7/8/68, requesting Kansas City to identify occupants at 621 Appleton Drive, Joplin, Missouri.

The following investigation was conducted by SA JOSEPH W. JACKSON:

AT JOPLIN, MISSOURI

On 7/12/68, a review of Polk's City Directory for Joplin, 1967 Edition, revealed there is no Appleton Drive set out in the street guide of that directory for Joplin, Missouri, nor is there any street or drive with a similar name.

On 7/12/68, BEVERLY K. JONES, dispatcher, Police Department, advised the map of the City of Joplin maintained by her office does not indicate an Appleton Drive or any street or drive with a similar name.

On 7/12/68, CLIFFORD ROE, Assistant Superintendent of Mails, Main Post Office, advised there is no Appleton Drive or any street or drive with a similar name at Joplin.

From above inquiries, it is obvious the address 621 Appleton Drive, Joplin, Missouri, is non-existent; therefore, no additional inquiry in that regard is warranted.

2 - Memphis
1 - Kansas City
HRR:gan
(4)

Filed

44-760-1159

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

7/19/68

SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) (P)

MURKIN

CR

OO: MEMPHIS

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3 - Memphis
2 - Kansas City

REK:jam

(4)

FILED

44-760-1159

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, KANSAS CITY

FROM : SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-10673)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 7/17/68

New Orleans has conducted extensive investigation in an attempt to determine if JAMES EARL RAY was in contact with any resident of the New Orleans area, during the time that he was in New Orleans from December 17 - 19, 1967, and also when he passed through New Orleans on or about 3/21/68. To date, this investigation has met with negative results. According to CHARLES STEIN, who accompanied RAY on a trip from Los Angeles, California, to New Orleans in December, 1967, RAY alleged his purpose in coming to New Orleans was on business and to contact an individual.

Up to the time RAY escaped from the Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP), Jefferson City, Missouri, in April, 1967, he had spent the better part of the previous ten to twelve years incarcerated either at the MSP or the U. S. Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas.

Working on the theory that possibly RAY, while in New Orleans, may have contacted a former fellow inmate that he knew at either of the above institutions, New Orleans contacted various state and Federal parole and probation officers as well as officers of the NOPD, in an attempt to determine if these persons knew the identities of any former inmates of the above institutions who might be residing in New Orleans. These inquiries met with negative results.

Kansas City is requested to advise New Orleans if it is known whether there are any persons who were inmates at the above institutions during the time RAY was incarcerated

- 2 - Kansas City (RM)
- 1 - Memphis (Info.) (RM)
- 2 - New Orleans
- SMC - cst
- (5)



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

NO 157-10573

WHO
~~at~~ at the time they were released gave a New Orleans
address for residence.

SAC, KANSAS CITY

7/17/68

SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-10673)

MURKIN

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1 - Memphis (Info.) (RM)
2 - New Orleans
SMC - cst
(5)

44-760-1160

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 17 1968	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	

OK

NO 157-10573

^{WHO}
~~He~~ at the time they were released gave a New Orleans
address for residence.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
BUREAU OF PRISONS
MEDICAL CENTER FOR FEDERAL PRISONS
SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI

SPECIAL PROGRESS REPORT

EDMUNDSON, Clifford W.

13218-H

Committed Name

Reg. No.

Date

REPORT OF NEUROPSYCHIATRIC EXAMINATION

I. REASON FOR COMMITMENT: This 21-year old, single Negro male is serving a life sentence for premeditated murder of a fellow Air Force companion. Sentence began 12-12-57 at Leavenworth Barracks and the patient was transferred to Terre Haute on 8-25-59 because of intransigent inadaptability. Because of continuing aggressive and impulsively uncontrolled activity, the patient was transferred to Leavenworth on 9-17-60 where he displayed evidences of increasing psychic disorganization and was accordingly certified as psychotic and transferred to the Medical Center on 11-23-60 with a diagnosis of Schizophrenic Reaction, Paranoid Type, Acute.

II. SOURCES OF INFORMATION: (a) The patient who is considered only partially reliable because of the confusion inherent in his acute psychotic episode as well as the underlying anxieties the patient has concerning his intrapsychic functioning. (b) Institutional records. (c) Questionnaires from his mother. (d) Transcripts of official military proceedings surrounding the instant offense.

III. FAMILY HISTORY: The patient's mother has led a turbulent life. At age 17 she had the illegitimate elder brother to the patient. At age 19 she bore the patient who was also illegitimate. Six months later she married but was divorced within a year. She subsequently has had four husbands, the first three of which were unsuccessful. The fourth husband, however, turned into a stable marital partner and there has been a stable home both socially and economically for the past ten years. During this time a half-sister has been born to the marriage and the family now lives in acceptably comfortable social economic circumstances. The social history of the mother reveals that she was an unstable, irresponsible, nervous woman who was a chronic alcoholic in her late 'teen years. She acknowledges that she drank heavily and maintained a very unstable home for approximately ten years. During the early years of the patient he was placed in several foster homes in succession and would frequently live with his grandmother for short periods of time. One of his earliest memories is being in an orphanage and the janitor threatening to throw he and his brother in the furnace because they were misbehaving. During this period the children were removed from the mother she being declared an unfit parent. However when the patient was five the mother regained custody of the two boys and they intermittently lived with the mother, the grandmother and relatives. The patient's memory of his life up till age 10 is one of chaos, insecurity, anxiety, helplessness, dependency and frustrated anger and unresponsive love. Records indicate that the patient and his brother would frequently keep the home together by working at odd jobs to provide for their own clothes and food. The patient recalls from a vivid memory of his mother standing naked in the kitchen while she was dead drunk throwing dishes out the window. Seeing such as this, the patient recalls with a good deal of anxiety, hostility and guilty love. Suffice to say that the patient's childhood until age 10 was marked by lack of any father figure whatsoever and a very chaotic ambivalent mother figure whose relationship to the boy is most evidently traumatic. The records indicate that when the patient was 10 the mother quite suddenly reformed and ceased her alcoholic pattern of living, settled down to a stable marital existence with her fourth husband and became deeply and devoutly religious. She has continued this quite respectable adjustment throughout the ensuing ten years. However, it is apparent that the

SPECIAL PROGRESS REPORT

EDMUNDSON, Clifford W.

13218-H

Committed Name

Reg. No.

Date

groundwork for psychic distortion in the boy was already layed.

The patient and his older brother were constant companions throughout infancy and childhood. He states that he and his brother were always getting in fights and that he could usually provoke his brother to become angry at him. However his recollections that he, the patient, would win the fights when he grew older, his brother would win the fights. His earliest childhood memory centers around an Easter egg hunt in which his brother found all the eggs and he found none. That there are deep seated hostile, competitive oedipal strivings with the brother is manifest in much of the material. He mentions that his brother has at the present time twin illegitimate children but has not assumed any responsibilities and continues to live at home with the mother. Records indicate that the brother has a probable congenital hip deformity and hence partially crippled. He has not completed school and has been in minor difficulties. Records indicate also that the patient was often quite impulsively aggressive toward the older brother trying to stab him with a broken bottle at age 5 and later with a dart and when 16, attempted to kill his brother with a broken bottle which the brother prevented by overpowering the patient. Toward the younger half-sister the patient does not express his hostilities consciously but in some of his prior recorded psychotic letters there are many evident hostile allusions to the coveted position the young daughter maintains within the sheltered stable household provided for her which has and was denied to the patient.

The patient furthermore in his psychotic material of his letters reveals marked ambivalent feelings toward his mother. He, at this time, consciously relates that he has both love and hate for his mother and that he cannot decipher which of these feelings is the strongest and most important to him. He does however state that his mother hates him and that he feels this most acutely especially since he hears her voice talking to him and telling him very bad things. As we approach these areas of his mother's attitude toward him and his reciprocal emotions, the patient becomes exceedingly tense, begins to display a good deal of confusion and begins to act much more disorganized in his mental functioning. Hence we may assume that the patient's relationship to his brother is the area of probable gross psychopathology. This will be of importance in considering the crime the patient committed.

IV. PERSONAL HISTORY: Apparently the patient was born after a 32-hour labor and the mother states he was weak and sickly as a baby. He refused to eat anything except milk until six months old and then the mother would withhold milk until he would willingly take any food offered to him. She notes that he was slow to talk because of stuttering, even in infancy, and only began to walk at 14 months. He was, however, easily toilet trained. The mother notes that as he began school he was noted as a shy, retiring, timid child who made friends very slowly and tended to remain withdrawn within himself. Throughout childhood he had frequent attacks of asthma, virus infections and minor maladies which the mother says he bore quite well until he reached the teen age years at which time he began to become very concerned about his physical condition and became preoccupied with his recurrent illnesses being very anxious about the state of his health. It is noted that he disregarded the health of the rest of his family, however. The patient made steady progress in

SPECIAL PROGRESS REPORT

EDMUNTONSON, Clifford W.

13218-H

Committed Name

Reg. No.

Date

school although he was frequently picked on by the larger boys and was often involved in fights and scraps. It is noted that he often seemed to taunt or tantalize people into anger toward him and that he himself was always known to be prone to impulsive outbursts of anger and acting out aggressive behavior. The patient seemed to resent discipline as a child and when punished would always retaliate. It was noted that when he would be slapped he would slap back and if this continued he would always get the last slap in against his mother. She also noted that he would frequently taunt her to see how far he could push her before being severely punished. She notes that if she punished him only lightly he would continue to flaunt her until she gave him a severe thrashing at which time he would then seem to be properly chastened and behave properly for awhile. Although the patient was pushed around by the more aggressive children, as he came to his teen age years he began to become the aggressive dominant person himself and by the time he entered high school was known to the school authorities as a rather aggressive juvenile. He was brought to the attention of juvenile authorities rather frequently over a period of ages 12 to 15 usually because of street juvenile gang activities such as streetwalking, street fights, violating curfew and general insolence. The peace officers report that the boy had a cocky chip on his shoulder attitude and would not form any rapport with authorities and maintained aloof reserve without apparent concern. Finally at age 16 he was expelled from high school along with several other boys because of their intransigent belligerent attitude and constant petty misbehavior in the school. It was felt that their chronic, antisocial attitudes and behavior would soon involve them in serious difficulties. The mother however notes that during this time of his early teens he was always very polite and cooperative at home and always contributed to the welfare and care of the home and seemed to have a very protective concern for her welfare and for the sustenance of the home functioning. He would help with the chores and volunteer for tasks requested of him and worked regularly at several odd jobs to contribute to his own support. It is also noted that the patient was an extremely nervous child who was noted to wet the bed, be insomniac, would often run away from home to his grandmother's but would quickly return on his own accord. Interestingly the patient claims that he had a nervous breakdown shortly after his mother remarried for the fourth time and that he had to be taken to a hospital. We might surmise that this "nervous breakdown" was an acute reaction of the boy to a competitor in the form of the new foster-father. Juvenile authorities report that the mother was always quite concerned about the boy but that the step-father was rather blasé and diffident about the whole matter. The mother reports that there was constant friction in the home during all this time centering around rivalry between the two boys and also friction between them and the step-father.

Upon reaching his 17th birthday the patient enlisted in the Air Force with his parents' consent. He finished basic training without incident and went to Wyoming for clerical training. While there he became involved in the instant offense with a training instructor whom he alleged hit him in the stomach and physically abused him. He was found to be carrying a razor blade in a block of wood with which he alleged he would slit the officer to pieces were he to ever approach him again. This incident apparently was accepted without further comment and the patient was

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transferred to the Goose Air Force Base in Labrador. There, as elaborated in the trial proceedings, the patient very quickly developed animosities and rancor between himself and his fellow workers and superiors. They noted that he often acted rather bizarre and strange. He was noted to frequently forget things, to wander off his job or to perform tasks contrary to explicit instructions just given him. He claims several times that he would pass out when he was about to become involved in some assaultive behavior and was known as a needy, impulsive, withdrawn, depressed individual. On the evening prior to the offense the patient was in a canteen when an argument arose between him and another fellow concerning the patient's dancing and playing his records too loudly in his room. The patient says he called the other man a liar who replied "your mother." The patient says that he felt this was an insult and slur to his mother and his first impulse was to hit the man. However, controlling himself, he decided that he would kill him. That night he obtained a pistol, a rifle and a knife and the following morning proceeded to kill the man. However another soldier happened into the patient's way and he shot him instead. Stating that he had to get this fellow out of the way so he could kill the man he wanted to kill, he shooting the one soldier merely because he was in his way. The patient has given many different accounts of exactly what happened although he has never proffered a reason so far as any records show. However he now states that he had a list of things for which he lived for and on this list was his girl friend and his mother. Shortly before the offense his girl wrote him saying that she was no longer going to continue corresponding with him. He states that when this fellow cast aspersions upon his mother that this removed the only other thing from his list worth living for and that he was ready to die. He states that he has been wondering whether it was worth living for quite a while and that this ended it all. One may infer that the patient reacted so violently to the alleged insult to his mother because it pin-pointed the fact that he had indeed massive hostile aggressive impulses toward his own mother which he could not consciously accept and hence there was a strong need for him to kill the man who had expressed his own unacceptable conscious desires of death toward his own mother. It is noteworthy that the patient had prepared a list of eight fellow officers and soldiers whom he was going to kill because they had been making insults and slighting remarks concerning him. That an innocent bystander was killed rather than the real offender is not particularly surprising in view of the fact that the patient's hostilities were actually an expression of his own self-anger which he needed to express against somebody else since he could not express them against himself and we see indeed that he had been battling with his own suicidal wishes for some time prior to the murder he committed. Hence we can see the actual murder as being an alternative to his own suicide and he was in fact making a suicide gesture since murder would mean that he would be executed.

The patient was brought to the U. S. for trial and after the adjudication of the court and sentencing he was incarcerated at Leavenworth Barracks and has been in the various Federal institutions since.

V. PHYSICAL & NEUROLOGICAL EXAMINATION:

The patient has a negative physical history except for complaints of failing eyesight and the patient has a recorded loss of visual acuity 20/400S and 20/30 OS which he claims has only commenced since incarceration. Because of this being acute it may be on a hysterical basis, must be ruled out and we are having ophthalmological

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consultation. The neurological history and examination and which normal tests are the rest of the physical examination.

VI. PRESENT ILLNESS: As has been noted, the patient had a very traumatic childhood with a very pathological mother figure and no father figure. We see early in life the seeds of personality formation beginning to form. Early in life he is noted to have been aggressive and impulsive with very poor control of his aggressive hostile impulses. Furthermore there is a very ambivalent mother figure who is the only source of support and yet is a repelling, rejecting, despicable figure who is herself dependent on her sons. Nevertheless she is the mother and must be loved despite her unlovableness. To add to this the mother is openly provocative to the boys in a sexual manner such as is seen in the patient's mother standing naked. It is not surprising then that we find very intense rivalry between the patient and his elder brother with attempts to kill the brother repeatedly noted in the patient's history. Nor is it surprising now to note the unconscious hostility toward the younger half-sister who occupies the position that the patient so covets and yet cannot have. We note that the patient is a sickly baby which developed slowly and has many neurotic mannerisms during infancy and early childhood with many psychosomatic complaints and that when the 'teen age years come here is a boy who becomes hypochondriacal in his self-concerns. Furthermore we note a shy, diffident, timid individual who has difficulty making friends and is bullied by other people. Later again as he emerges into adolescence we find the timidity being compensated for by open aggressiveness. Of note is the fact that the mother writes that the patient had many girl friends with whom he would very easily and deeply fall in love. He would give them expensive presents and would often give them every cent that he had in his pocket and would be exuberant in lavishing gifts upon them. The mother states that the girls very often had very little affection for him but that he would seem to almost knock himself out in trying to demonstrate his overwhelming love for the girl friend. A mother's obvious displacement of affection on to the girls as the mother figure would seem to be appropos here. As noted, we see a boy who has never had any satisfactory models from which to learn ego control and as a matter of fact has rather aptly copied the alcoholic uncontrollable ego of the infantile mother which is a hedonistic ego. Therefore we are not surprised to find him demonstrating antisocial behavior during his 'teen age years nor are we surprised to find that he demonstrates very poor ego control of his hostile and aggressive impulses while in the service and the development of feelings of suspicion, persecution and hostility from other people with a projection on to other people of his own hostility toward them. The dynamics of his behavior resulting in the murder have been elucidated.

Following the murder the patient was seen by a psychiatrist in Labrador who made a diagnosis of Schizophrenic Reaction, Paranoid Type, Chronic, Severe and was of the opinion that the patient was psychotic and incompetent. Accordingly the patient was transferred to the States and while enroute was very disturbed, confused and apparently disoriented although full records are not available. However, the patient finally arrived at Sheppard Air Force Base where further psychiatric examination was performed by a second psychiatrist who felt that the patient represented an extremely severe behavior or character disorder who was close to mild psychosis. It was the second psychiatrist's opinion that the patient was severely ill but probably competent. At the time of trial the first psychiatrist who had seen the patient in

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Labrador maintained his original diagnosis of psychotic mental illness but felt that it was not of such a degree as to render the patient incompetent because of the fact that the patient had planned the murder before hand and had also planned to kill the eight officers and soldiers. He maintained the diagnosis of Paranoid Schizophrenia however. The only other opinion was rendered by a physician who saw the patient just after the time of offense for a brief period of time and thought that he represented a paranoid schizophrenia as well as a major character disorder. Following the trial in which it was concluded that the patient was mentally competent and knew right from wrong, he was sentenced to life, the said decisions being reviewed and accepted by the reviewing officials. Upon admission to Leavenworth Barracks the patient presented a picture of immature, childish behavior with an inability to remain on one job for any length of time, requiring close supervision and unable to refrain from juvenile mischief behavior. His attitude varied from poor to very good depending upon the particular supervisors or the job. He received a number of behavior reports for fighting, insolence and disobedience which finally resulted in his transfer to Terre Haute after the psychiatrist at Leavenworth Barracks felt that the patient represented a case of emotionally immature personality disorder which is to say a sociopath who is emotionally immature. Upon arrival at Terre Haute the patient continued his former belligerent chip on the shoulder attitude provoking other people to fights, frequently being involved in impulsive aggressive behavior which was very reminiscent often of his behavior at the time of the murder. The psychiatrist at Terre Haute noted that the patient was seclusive and tended to conceal his thoughts and was not too cooperative with psychiatric examination. Because of his continued adverse behavior the patient was transferred to Leavenworth where shortly after admission he was noted to be moody, depressed, expressing suicidal thoughts and was transferred to the psychiatric unit for closer observation. There he became progressively more disorganized, began to have auditory and visual hallucinations, became grossly disorganized and did not respond to acute tranquilizing therapy. He was accordingly certified as psychotic with a diagnosis of Schizophrenic Reaction, Acute Paranoid Type and was transferred to the Medical Center. Upon arrival at the Medical Center the patient was placed in the acute treatment ward where he rapidly reorganized himself although there were evidences that he had continuing auditory hallucinations. The patient remained withdrawn and seclusive without revealing much of his thought content to the different psychiatrists. He has since that time progressed slowly through three of the maximum security units to the most liberal regime available under maximum supervision. Only now has he begun to demonstrate some of the more juvenile, immature demanding aggressive behavior that has been recorded in the past since up to this time he has been very passive, quiet, withdrawn and obsequious in his behavior.

At the present time the patient voices much material which is obviously psychotic in nature and he continues to have auditory hallucinations which he denies. We would consider this man actively and still acutely psychotic suffering from a paranoid type of schizophrenic reaction. More important than the patient's actual mental status at this time, however, is the longitudinal picture of this man's illness since it became apparent at this time that what has superficially on the surface appeared to be a sociopathic type of personality has in actuality been a longer term chronic paranoid schizophrenic reaction which was perhaps in a more insidious state in earlier

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years and we see now blossoming the more overt and obvious manifestations of his illness. It is a rather moot point as to whether he was competent at the time of his offense or at the time of trial since the patient received several psychiatric examinations. It would seem from this vantage point that the patient has been rather obviously a chronic paranoid schizophrenic for most of his life but to what extent it actually interfered with his competency and responsibility is something that cannot be determined at this time and from what we see of the patient it would appear that any such determination must be made at the moment such as was indeed actually done at the time of trial quite adequately.

VII. MENTAL STATUS: The patient has been seen by this examiner several times as ward doctor and in interview sessions as well as the administration of psychological materials. The patient is a tall, muscular Negro male in excellent physical condition with a slight obesity because of tranquillizing regime. The patient very superficially appears to be in good contact but then obviously demonstrates marked anxiety and very tenuously controlled personality organization upon closer scrutiny. There is marked psychomotor agitation throughout the interviews and when the patient begins to become pressed, rapidly disintegrates into stuttering, stammering and automatic motions. Frequently his thought patterns are broken by autistic preoccupation and frequently the patient displays marked inappropriate mood episodes and erics spontaneously throughout the interview. Rapport is established and maintained only by the use of massive support mechanisms by the examiner to help the patient maintain ego integrity throughout the interviews. Were not this support maintained the patient would frequently lapse into gross psychotically disorganized relationships and only by the external ego support is he able to maintain a coherent relationship.

The patient's perceptual processes demonstrate hyperalertness to the interviewing situation although he is frequently distracted from the interview by his own pre-occupation and autistic thought. He is only tenuously oriented to time and place and certainly is confused and anxious about his own person with evidences of inherent depersonalization very close to the surface. He admits to me on an off moment that he had marked hallucinatory experiences at night which are extremely threatening to his ego integrity and then later he vehemently denies his admission since he fears that he will be given shock treatment if he admits hallucinations. The hallucinations center around (1) his mother's denial of him, (2) the accusatory hostile feelings of the witnesses at his trial and (3) the anguished cries of the man he murdered.

The patient's intellectual functioning demonstrates an excellent memory for recent and remote events although this is frequently contaminated by his own conscious suppression of very psychically conflicting and destructive material such as his memories of the distorted pathological figure of his mother whom he alternately loves and hates. At the present time he is able to bring things into memory only after the examiner gives him support and the patient is able to approach threatening material via circumstantial avenues. His store of knowledge is commensurate with a WAS IQ of 106 and he demonstrates an acceptable store of knowledge compatible with about an eighth grade education. His range and type of ideas are markedly constricted.

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He completely dismisses anything that has happened prior to his incarceration, feeling that he has never lived before this time and there are repeated evidences of conscious impoverishment of his thought material. He is constantly preoccupied with the hallucinatory voices which speak to him and the obsessions he has concerning his own hostility and aggression. The patient does not confabulate at this time nor does he present any delusory material although he certainly feels at times persecuted and maligned by authority.

His functional aspects of intellectual functioning demonstrate some rigidity of thought pattern although chiefly there is noted the psychomotor retardation, the very frequent anxiety provoked blocking and the marked over-symbolization and over-determined responses that he presents. In general the patient's intellectual functioning is well preserved and does not show the gross and obvious distortions of schizophrenic disorganization but are rather the distortions of interpersonal perception and intrapersonal acceptance such as we see in the paranoid type of schizophrenic reaction.

His emotional responses are retarded and inappropriate at times with bursts of laughter and flights of thought with alternating periods of weeping, self-deprecation and at other times hostility, suspiciousness, withdrawal and apprehensiveness.

In his relationship to other people he reveals withdrawal, hostility, suspiciousness, inability to form rapport with projection of his own feelings on to other people leading to feelings of persecution and hostility. The patient feels that he was being made into a homosexual at Leavenworth and voices many strong feelings of persecution in regards to racial prejudice. He denies any prior homosexual experiences or activity which one might expect in the acute psychotic state which he is in. Contrarily we would expect that he would possibly be more homosexual were he to become reconstituted again.

The patient has a good deal of current anxiety in part engendered by his active hallucinatory experiences as well as his limited ability to control aggression or relate successfully to other people. The patient has used flight or flight mechanisms to deal with uncomfortable situations and he sees his current flight into illness as a way of escaping from expressing hostility too openly toward other people. The patient is ambivalently torn in his acceptance toward his illness expressing at times a desire to be helped and at other times fearful of the implications of mental illness.

The patient's reality contact at the present time is very tenuous indeed. He is caught up in his own ambivalence toward his mother, his ambivalence toward authority, his inability to develop an adequate psychosexual identification and he is loaded down with massive guilt feelings which he has centering around his aggression toward his mother. This leaves either one of two situations; either he internalizes the guilt and aggression upon himself which produces more psychotic disorganization or else he organizes himself more efficiently and expresses his hostility externally toward his environment. Either one of these solutions which he uses is self-destructive and hence the patient is caught in a perpetuating triangle of affairs. The patient

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is presently better organized than at the time of his initial acute disorganization at Leavenworth but he continues to maintain personality organization only at the expense of great psychic effort and very limited internal economy.

VIII. FORMULATION: This is a 21-year old, single Negro male doing life for pre-meditated murder. He was the second illegitimate son born to a woman who was irresponsible and alcoholic for approximately ten years of the patient's life producing a very chaotic and hectic home life for the patient. The incipient seeds of a paranoid schizophrenic personality are repeatedly documented from earliest childhood. The chief psychopathology is centered around the patient's own ambivalence toward the mother figure which culminated in the instant offense which was murder of another soldier. Psychically this represents an expression of the hostility which he had toward his mother being expressed for him by another individual. Since this expressed the patient's own hostility he murdered as an expression of his hostility rather than committing suicide. Following the patient's incarceration he has demonstrated juvenile immaturity, belligerent attitude, withdrawal, seclusive ideas and progressive psychic disorganization until he at last became grossly psychotic. The patient at the present time makes only a tenuous contact with reality and is striving hard to maintain a marginal personality integration.

IX. DIAGNOSIS: 600-x2h Schizophrenic Reaction, Paranoid Type, chronic, with acute exacerbation as characterized by an individual with a life history which demonstrates the incipient seeds of a schizophrenic type personality with the evidence of mounting paranoid type of reaction throughout the years culminating in a gross psychotic disorganization at this time with only partial amelioration seen currently.

X. RECOMMENDATIONS: This young Negro is severely mentally ill with gross personality disorganization. As formulated above, our therapeutic aims must be aimed at breaking the perpetuating circle of guilt induced aggression toward either himself or his environment. This would include developing some rapport with the patient so that he can form acceptable relationship with a parental surrogate hence resolving some of the intense ambivalence which he feels at the present time. Further therapeutic efforts might be bent toward developing some acceptance of the mother which the patient continues to have large amounts of hostility toward. Were this to happen we could ameliorate some of the internalized aggression and hence increase personality organization and a larger degree of self-acceptance. Having accomplished this goal it would then be possible to start a program of ego strengthening of his externally directed aggression toward authority and parental symbols. This means that the patient is going to need long term supportive and later interpretive therapy which he seems to have the intellectual equipment to handle. First efforts must be directed toward ameliorating his more psychotic mechanisms of defense and shoring up his meager ego resources. It is anticipated that the patient will require well defined limits for some time until his ego develops more adequately.



E. MARSHALL PATTISON, M. D.
Staff Psychiatrist

EMP:rg
3-2-61

CURRENT DATA FOR RESTORATION, CLEMENCY AND PAROLE REVIEW

IX

LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE INITIAL EDMONDSON, CLIFFORD W.	SERVICE NUMBER AF [REDACTED]	EXPIRATION DATE 18 Apr 81	INSTITUTION Med Center, Springfield, Mo.
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CONFINEMENT DATA (Conduct and adjustment, work assignment, custody)
PRESENT: Edmondson has experienced extreme difficulty in effecting an adequate overall institutional adjustment during the past year. He has been very unpredictable, impulsive, and in all probability has at least been borderline psychotic at times. At the present time he is vocationally unassigned

PSYCHIATRIC DIAGNOSIS (Include IQ, intelligence classification and profile) (over)
PSYCHIATRIC REPORT: DIAGNOSIS: Schizophrenic Reaction. Patient currently on 2-1-E for "Administrative reasons". Symptoms include: Blunting of affect, compulsivity, self-righteousness and grandiosity. Paralogia, Rationalization. Intellectualization.
Impression: Patient remains mentally ill and should be hospitalized. I do not feel parole is indicated at this time.

DISCIPLINARY BARRACKS BOARD VOTES

RESTORATION	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
CLEMENCY	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
PAROLE	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO

COMMANDANT RECOMMENDS

RESTORATION	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
CLEMENCY	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
PAROLE	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO

RESTORATION DESIRE NOT INDICATED

US PROBATION OFFICER RECOMMENDS

RESTORATION	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
CLEMENCY	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO

FEDERAL CLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS
N/C

RESTORATION	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
CLEMENCY	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

DATE PAROLED OR CONDITIONAL RELEASE N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SENTENCED <input type="checkbox"/> ADJUDGED	INITIALS SRS/mew/AIF:	DATE 18 Jul 66 6 Jul 66
SED: 17 APR 81	X	==	MCFP, Springfield, Mo.

CONFINEMENT DATA (Conduct and adjustment, work assignment, custody)
PRESENT: Transferred to lesser, structural unit in order to participate in institution employment and other programs. Attitude cooperative-caused no problems.
EMPLOYMENT: Ward Orderly until 27 Jun 67-interested in self-improvement, taking school courses-assigned as typist on 27 Jun 67. Satisfactory- (OVER)

PSYCHIATRIC DIAGNOSIS (Include IQ, intelligence classification and profile)
DIAGNOSIS: Being seen in individual therapy.

DISCIPLINARY BARRACKS BOARD VOTES

RESTORATION	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
CLEMENCY	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
PAROLE	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO

COMMANDANT RECOMMENDS

RESTORATION	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
CLEMENCY	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
PAROLE	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO

US PROBATION OFFICER RECOMMENDS

RESTORATION	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
CLEMENCY	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO

FEDERAL CLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS

RESTORATION	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
CLEMENCY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO

DATE PAROLED OR CONDITIONAL RELEASE N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SENTENCED <input type="checkbox"/> ADJUDGED	INITIALS CLS/acb AIF:	DATE 21 Aug 67 18 Jul 67
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44-760-1168

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 10 1968	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	
<i>Howe</i>	<i>KBT</i>

CONFINEMENT DATA CONT'D:

housed on our acute treatment unit. During the past year he has received several
rse behavior reports for refusing to move to designated area; fighting another
ent, plus housed in maxium security units for control. He is ingratiating
manipulative in interviews and attempts to play different disciplines against
rs to achieve his needs being gratified. In May, 1966, he was observed sleeping outside
office after allegedly, in company of another patient, to have made a homicidal
at against the patient being interviewed. After he wrote a note to another patient
cating that he had a knife secreted in his shoe and he planned to use it on one of
staff members. A knife was found in his shoes as he indicated. In summary,
ndson has required approximately 45 ward changes, 13 job assignments, and has required ma
um security housing for approximately 20 months since his admission here in 1960.
orically he has shown evidence of depression and has made two suicide attempts. In
electro shock therapy was initiated following self-mutilation attempt.

ODY: Acute treatment unit, or in max. security housing.

OYMENT: Unassigned.

X

CONFINEMENT DATA CONT'D:

complies with authority of necessity not willingness.

~~MEDICAL CENTER FOR FEDERAL PRISONERS~~
~~Springfield, Missouri~~
SPECIAL PROGRESS REPORT

Committed Name EDMONDSON, Clifford T. Reg. No. 13218-U Date July 18, 1968

MILITARY CLEMENCY REVIEW

Edmondson, a 27-year old single-Negro male, continues to serve a 35-year sentence imposed by military court martial for murder. His adjusted release date with lost and extra good time is 4-17-81. Sentence expires full term on 12-11-92. There are no detainers on file.

Edmondson continued in residence in the institution's Maximum Security Unit from 5-3-66 to 8-22-66, at which time he was transferred to a unit of relatively close structure, but one from which he could leave daily in order to participate in institutional employment and other programs. During his residence in Maximum Security, he was reviewed on two occasions by the Psychiatric Treatment Planning Council held on 3-15-67; recommendations-transfer to a unit of relatively less structure, work assignment as unit Orderly, continue residence on that unit until personnel determine his preparedness to transfer to a more open unit, and medication and referral to Maximum Security physician will be the primary responsibility of the physician on his unit of residence. Since his transfer to a moderately structured unit, the patient's unit supervisor states that he is in fact, no problem to the unit. A positive behavioral difference was noted, and he has created no trouble among inmates or officers. His attitude toward those with whom he comes in contact has been one of cooperation. Edmondson functioned as ward Orderly until 6-27-67. His work supervisor stated that he held duties of general sanitation and performed these duties well. He accepts responsibility well although the opinion was presented that his compliance with authority was motivated only by necessity, not by willingness. An interest in self-improvement was indicated by his frequent studying in the unit. The education department states that he is presently enrolled in bookkeeping, Algebra I, and Economics. His intentions are apparently of self-improvement, and designed to improve occupational skills. Edmondson received his high school diploma from the Lake Shore High School in May, 1967. Beta IQ score is 91. On 6-27-67, he was assigned as typist to the Parole Record's Office. He has thus far functioned satisfactorily in that position. This is a job requiring skill as a competent typist and recorder. The volume of work is at times quite heavy, and Edmondson has handled this challenge well, displaying no evidence of stress. He has received approximately four visits from family members since the time of his 1966 review. The Catholic Chaplain states that Edmondson has been attending services every Sunday. He has done considerable reading regarding the Catholic Church.

Since his release from Maximum Security, Edmondson has made definite attempts to involve himself in institution programs which would provide him educational and vocational development, as well as insight into numerous personality problems. There is no doubt, much manipulative behavior in evidence, however this behavior is directed toward positive goals. There has been no report of adverse behavior within the past year, and his known associations are not with a homosexual element. His contention is that he is becoming aware that his life will not be spent entirely in penal institutions, and the longer his behavior is adverse, there exists the possibility that his institution time may be extended. This present approach to institutionalization may well reverse itself in the future through psychotic deterioration, however at this time, it is this writer's impression that Edmondson is making a considerable effort for self-improvement vocationally, educationally, and through the acceptance, reluctant as it may be, that he does have psychiatric problems compounded by a great amount of time yet to be served.