

CLASSIFICATION STUDY

(Continued)

Committed Name EDMONSON, Clifford W. Register Number 17013-711

Committee Action: 9-24-59

Remarks

Custody

Close. Serving life sentence for murder. A rather odd individual who speaks of killing without emotion. Record at Disciplinary Barracks was not good; started fire there to burn bags; once threatened officer with a knife, and he says he planned to kill him but changed his mind.

Transfer

Not indicated.

Housing

Single Cell

Work

Vocational Training, Clerical.

School

Optional Academic School.

Medical and
Psychiatric

Work Class I.
Routine contacts.

Social Work
& Religious

Routine contacts.

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13218-H

Mar. 8, 1961

FIRST PRESENTATION AT THE U. S. MEDICAL CENTER

Edmundson, 21 years of age, Negro, is serving a military sentence of life for Murder. There are no detainers on file and his present parole eligibility date occurs in November, 1972.

Edmundson's sentence began at Leavenworth's Disciplinary Barracks in December, 1957, and he was transferred to Terre Haute on August 25, 1959. While at Terre Haute, he was considered to be a serious disciplinary problem since May, 1960 in that he was cited for creating a disturbance by trying to entice another inmate to fight, refusing a direct order and threatening an inmate, being out of bounds, having contraband and again fighting. Also, the patient was highly suspected of applying pressure against other inmates for homosexual purposes and at one time, while at Terre Haute, he was observed kissing another inmate. The Chief Medical Officer at Terre Haute described the patient as an intelligent individual who attempts to do everything possible towards failing to reveal his own thinking or anything about himself; that the patient has a tendency to take offense easily and in order to achieve any degree of comfort with himself, he finds it necessary to act out against the other person in an "explosive manner." The patient was in segregation, at Terre Haute, since August 11, 1960, and on September 10 of that year, he was transferred to Leavenworth where he began to demonstrate behavior indicative of mental illness. According to the Leavenworth report, date October 27, 1960, Edmundson was found to have a blunted and flat general mood and was considered to be restless and tense. He seem to have an occasional inappropriate smiling but was generally coherent except for an discussion concerning the instant offense of murder. It was felt that he was illogical in giving the details of the offense as he described in a very confused manner. While it was not medically felt at Leavenworth that the patient presented any real self-destructive or homicidal ideas at that time, he was preoccupied with the possibility of under going situational difficulties there due to homosexual pressures. Further more, it was medically felt that Edmundson presented overt psychiatric symptoms and was suffering from a schizophrenic reaction of probably of the acute undifferentiated type. His tranquilization regime was pushed to the upper limits and he developed marked parkinsonian-like symptoms. He was presented before a board of examiners, certified as psychotic with the professional thinking that he was suffering a schizophrenic reaction, paranoid type acutely disturbed potentially dangerous, assaultive. He was received at this Medical Center on November 23, 1960, and admitted directly to our psychiatric acute treatment ward where he remained for approximately one month. He was then transferred to the maximum security unit and, as of this writing, continues to reside for administrative and treatment purposes, in the maximum security unit.

A review of the social-collateral and Classification material indicates that the instant offense, is the first official delinquent or criminal difficulty the patient has experienced. The patient has never known his father and was considered to be an illegitimate child. The mother neglected the children and at the age of five the mother was declared an unfit mother. Apparently, there was considerable friction in the home and the mother had tendencies towards alcoholism; however, for the past five years, the mother has refrained from heavy drinking, is a church member and records indicate that the home situation has improved. At this time, the mother has been remarried for the past 10 years and seems to be enjoying a compatible relationship with her 52-year-old husband.

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however, the economic family situation is described as only being fair and the mother finds it necessary to work as a waitress and in the laundry as a press operator in order to gain sufficient funds to maintain the family. The step-father is employed in a packing house. The welfare department is unknown to this family which resides in Independence, Missouri. Edmundson was described as having a "high temper" and resented punishment during his adolescent years and there is indication that his tendency towards explosive, violent behavior goes back to when he was five years old. At that time, he stabbed his brother with an ice pick and at another time he stabbed his brother with a dart. The patient enlisted in the Air Force for a four-year period in June, 1956 and while he was not involved in any disciplinary action while in the Air Force, it was felt that he "acted queer and would do unorthodox things." For example, he would occasionally do something that he could not recall and at other times was unpredictably aggressive.

It would appear that the patient has been undergoing personality disturbance and strong hostile aggression since early childhood; therefore numerous years, he has been under constant psychosocial stress which he feels can only be relieved through aggression toward other individuals. As described previously, and at present, he presents a bland affect and tries to present himself as an individual who is relatively unperturbed about his situation; however, when under emotional tension, he has a tendency to stutter and of course, his prior behavioral adjustment would indicate that considerable inter turmoil remains just below the surface. There is some indication that the patient is interested in learning a trade and in view of the lengthy sentence he has, a program with that in mind may be beneficial to him, when he has gained sufficient control to warrant such programming.

GUSTODY: Close
TRANSFER: Not indicated at this time
PROGRAM: As psychiatrically prescribed and focus of V. 5.
SOCIAL SERVICE: In accordance with psychiatric program
RESIDENCE: Independence, Missouri
U.S.P.O: 419 U. S. Court House, Kansas City 6, Missouri
DICTATED BY: RSN/vh February 6, 1961

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EIMUNDSON

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12/13/60

ADMISSION MEDICAL CLASSIFICATION REPORT

HISTORY: This is a 21 year old colored male who was sent to the MDP from Leavenworth, Kansas, for N.P. observation and treatment. Past medical history reveals; trouble seeing to read; no serious illnesses or injuries; tonsillectomy. Patient denies venereal and narcotics history. Admits minimal use of alcohol and moderate use of tobacco. Family medical history reveals; father age 57 living and well; mother age 44 living and well; 1 brother and 1 sister living and well. No known familial diseases.

PHYSICAL FINDINGS: Examination reveals a cooperative well nourished colored male of approximately 21 years, whose height is 73 inches, and whose admission weight was 176 lbs. Vision is O.D. 2100x; O.S. 2200x. Hearing is 15/15 bilaterally. Mouth and teeth are normal. Tonsils are absent. Thyroid is not palpable. Chest and heart are normal; blood pressure 120/70; pulse rate 87. Liver, spleen and kidneys are not palpable. Inguinal, rectal, genitalia, extremities and skin condition are normal.

LABORATORY FINDINGS: Kolmer and VDRL non-reactive 9/6/60; hematocrit 45%; urinalysis essentially negative. X-Ray of chest reveals no pathology.

ADMISSION DIAGNOSIS: XII-Xoo Defective vision

Follow-up: Eye check
Treatment: Routine
Housing : Any
Work : Any
Medical Prognosis: Good

EXAM: 11/25/60
JDH/rp

Jesse D. Harris
JESSE D. HARRIS, M. D.
Medical Director, USPHS

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(Continued)

SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI

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REPORT OF NEUROPSYCHIATRIC EXAMINATION

I. REASON FOR COMMITMENT: This 31-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 older 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 unreceptive 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

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groundwork for psychic distortion in the boy was already laid.

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 he recalls 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 assuredly 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

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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 moody, 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 20/1000S and 20/70 OD 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 are within normal limits as 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 older 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-concern. 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 exorbitant 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 overweening love for the girl friend. A rather 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 Shephard 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 schizophrenic 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 nuisance 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 becomes 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 tranquilizing 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 clashes and cries 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. Contrariwise 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 we see 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 mien 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: 000-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 ambivalency 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. MANSELL PATTISON, M. D.
Staff Psychiatrist

EMP:rg
3-6-61

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
BUREAU OF PRISONS
CLASSIFICATION STUDY
(Continued)

Committed Name

Register Number

EDMONDSON, Clifford W.

13218-H

1-27-61

VOCATIONAL TRAINING REPORT

WORK EXPERIENCE: Unable to interview this man due to his condition; quartered in 2-1-East; 10-B; and presently in 10-C.

Information available indicates that he was a student prior to entering the Air Force during which service he got into his present difficulty.

Presently *Medically Unassigned*. Recommend his work program tentatively include assignment to General Maintenance until further study can be completed.

Study completed to: 1-27-61

Dictated BY: B.M.

U. S. MEDICAL CENTER
Springfield, Missouri
SPECIAL PROGRESS REPORT

Committed Name EDMUNDSON, Clifford W. Reg. No. 13218-H Date _____

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Custody *plu* Close (mental condition)
2. Transfer Not indicated
3. Social Service In accordance with psychiatric program
4. Treatment
 - a. Medical As indicated
 - b. Neuropsychiatric As recommended
5. Program
 - a. Work G. M. Unassigned because of psychiatric condition
 - b. Education continue educational program
 - c. Religion As indicated
 - d. Recreation As indicated
6. Status Psychotic (certified)

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-760)

DATE: 7/30/68

FROM : SA JAMES A. MITCHELL

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Reference: Kansas City airtel to the Bureau dated 7/12/68.

RE: CLIFFORD EDMONDSON

Attached hereto Classification Material and Psychiatric Report obtained from the Medical Center for Federal Prisoners, Springfield, Missouri pertaining to CLIFFORD EDMONDSON, a former inmate. These are self-explanatory and it is to be noted he is a definite mental case and in the opinion of SA MITCHELL it would be a waste of time to try and interview him.



5010-108-01

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

44-760-1126
[Handwritten initials and signature]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-760)

FROM : SA JAMES A. MITCHELL

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 7/30/68

Reference: Kansas City airtel to the Bureau dated 7/12/68.

RE: CLIFFORD EDMONDSON

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5010-108-01

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

44-760-1176
M M
Howe JR

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
 WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

Date 8-2-68

Name and F.P.C.	FBI No.	A.O.	I.O.	W.F.	CC	Cancellation
George William Tyree, Jr. 20 L 1 U OIO 16 S 1 U OOO	4, 714, 268	3337	3780			Federal process dismissed. (8-2-68)
Don Ferris McCall, Jr. 21 M 1 U 15 L 3 Wr	327, 089 B	3338	4092			Located Northridge, Calif., 7-17-68. (8-2-68)
James Earl Ray 16 M 9 U OOO 12 M 4 W IOI	405, 942 G	3339	4182	442 442A		Extradited London, England to Memphis, Tenn., 7-19-68.
John Michael Walton 17 I 30 W OMI I 32 W IOI	356, 640 E	3340	4200			Located Lowndes Co., Alabama, 8-2-68. (8-2-68)
Robert Vance Walton 14 M 13 U OOM 12 Ref: 13 I 25 U OOO 26	361, 075 E	3341	4201			Located Lowndes Co., Alabama, 8-2-68. (8-2-68)
James Joseph Scully 2 M 21 W 19 Ref: 21 I 17 Ra 19	1, 170, 115	3342	4202			Located Arcadia, Calif., 7-23-68. (8-2-68)
Jimmie Johnson 20 L 1 Ut 6 Ref: U M 1 U T	11, 215 F	3343	4203			Located St. Louis, Missouri, 7-15-68. (8-2-68)

- 33-1177

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
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FBI - KANSAS CITY	

W

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

(4-17-68)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico 87101	4303 Federal Office Bldg.	505 CH 7-1555
ANCHORAGE, Alaska 99501	Room 204, Federal Building	272-6414
ATLANTA, Georgia 30303	275 Peachtree St., N. E.	404 JA 1-3900
BALTIMORE, Maryland 21202	408 U. S. Post Office Bldg.	301 LE 9-6700
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EL PASO, Texas 79901	202 U. S. Court House Bldg.	915 533-7451
HONOLULU, Hawaii 96813	206 Dillingham Building	59546
HOUSTON, Texas 77002	6015 Federal Building & U. S. Court House	713 CA 8-1414
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JACKSONVILLE, Florida 32202	414 U. S. Court House & Post Office Building	904 355-1401
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LOUISVILLE, Kentucky 40202	Room 701, Bank of Louisville	502 583-3941
MEMPHIS, Tennessee 38103	841 Federal Office Bldg.	901 525-7373
MIAMI, Florida 33137	3801 Biscayne Boulevard	305 379-2421
MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin 53202	735 U. S. Post Office, Customs & Court House Building	414 276-4684
MINNEAPOLIS, Minnesota 55401	392 Federal Building	612 FE 9-7861
MOBILE, Alabama 36602	520 Federal Building	205 438-3674
NEWARK, New Jersey 07101	U. S. Post Office & Court House Building	201 622-5613
NEW HAVEN, Connecticut 06510	510 The Trust Company Bldg.	203 787-1217
NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana 70113	701 Loyola Avenue	504 522-4671
NEW YORK, New York 10021	201 East 69th Street	212 LE 5-7700
NORFOLK, Virginia 23510	420 U. S. Post Office & Court House Building	703 625-1631
OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma 73118	5104 N. Francis Street	405 VI 2-7471
OMAHA, Nebraska 68102	1010 Federal Office Bldg.	402 348-1210
PHILADELPHIA, Pennsylvania 19107	500 Widener Building	215 LO 3-5300
PHOENIX, Arizona 85013	244 West Osborn Road	602 CR 9-5511
PITTSBURGH, Pennsylvania 15222	1300 Federal Office Bldg.	412 471-2000
PORTLAND, Oregon 97205	423 U. S. Court House Bldg.	503 224-4181
RICHMOND, Virginia 23220	200 West Grace Street	703 644-2631
SACRAMENTO, California 95814	2020 J Street	916 441-1275
ST. LOUIS, Missouri 63103	2704 Federal Building	314 CH 1-5357
SALT LAKE CITY, Utah 84111	3203 Federal Building	801 EL 5-7521
SAN ANTONIO, Texas 78206	433 Federal Building	512 CA 5-6741
SAN DIEGO, California 92103	3211 Fifth Avenue	714 297-3361
SAN FRANCISCO, California 94102	450 Golden Gate Avenue, Box 36015	415 552-2155
SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico 00917	Pan Am Building 255 Ponce de Leon Avenue	765-6000
SAVANNAH, Georgia 31405	5401 Paulsen Street	912 354-9911
SEATTLE, Washington 98104	1015 Second Avenue	206 MA 2-0460
SPRINGFIELD, Illinois 62701	421 South Sixth Street	217 522-9675
TAMPA, Florida 33602	Room 610, Federal Off. Bldg.	813 228-7661
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535	506 Old Post Office Building	202 393-7100

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FIRST CLASS MAIL

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

8/14/68

SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) P

MURKIN

Reference Airtel from Director 7/15/68 requesting an interview with CLIFFORD EDMONDSON unless other circumstances would preclude this interview.

Records of the Medical Center for Federal Prisoners (MCFP), Springfield, Missouri, reveal that EDMONDSON has been diagnosed as "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 amelioration seen currently." Records indicated EDMONDSON had made two suicide attempts and that in 1963 electroshock therapy was initiated following self-mutilation attempt. Records reveal he was released on 10/10/57.

On 8/12/68 CLIFFORD EDMONDSON was interviewed at the residence of his grandfather, S. L. SHORE, 2800 E. 40th Street, Kansas City, Missouri. EDMONDSON said this is his current residence and he is not employed at the present time. He advised he could furnish no additional information regarding the group who would pay to have MARTIN LUTHER KING killed other than that which is included in his letter to Senator SYMINGTON on 6/8/68. EDMONDSON stated that he believed that the other prisoner named KENNETH LONG is currently in the Federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas. He described KENNETH LONG as white male, age 35, 5'8", 140 pounds, and stated he worked as a surgical nurse at the MCFP, Springfield, Missouri. EDMONDSON again stated he could not elaborate on anything regarding the group that would pay to assassinate MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. EDMONDSON advised he had never heard of the Cooley organization.

2 Bureau
1 Memphis (44-1982)(Info)
2 Kansas City

REH:jrt

(5)

jrt

Searched _____
Serialized _____
Indexed _____
Filed _____

44-760-1178

KC 44-760

On 8/13/68 records of the U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, were reviewed. They failed to reveal any prisoner named KENNETH LONG; however, they did reveal a prisoner by the name of KENNETH LONE, who was at the MCFP, Springfield, Missouri, during 1966 and met the description given by EDMONDSON.

On 8/13/68 KENNETH LONE was interviewed at the U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, where he is under sentence for bank robbery, release date scheduled for 1980. LONE appeared cooperative and advised that he spent most of 1965 and the first half of 1966 at the MCFP, Springfield, Missouri. He advised he never heard a guard at the prison say he was a member of a group wanting MARTIN LUTHER KING killed and he certainly never told anyone this. While he was down there, another prisoner by the name of (FNU) EVANS a Negro male of the Muslim Cult of Islam, filed a writ against the institution and a guard by the name of (FNU) CALAHAN, stating they were prejudice towards the members of the Muslim Cult of Islam at the institution. LONE stated as a result of this writ there was a hearing and he testified in behalf of EVANS. He further advised that a lawyer for EVANS, name unknown, interviewed him before the hearing and asked him the same question, did he ever hear a guard say he was a member of a group that would pay to have MARTIN LUTHER KING killed. LONE stated his answer to this was no and it is still no. He advised that the most prejudicial statement he ever heard any of the guards at the prison make was made by the one named CALAHAN who stated, "I know how to take care of colored people." LONE stated that JAMES EARL RAY was unknown to him and he knew of no organization plotting against MARTIN LUTHER KING. He further stated he had never heard of the Cooley organization.

LEAD:

KANSAS CITY

AT SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI

Review records Medical Center for Federal Prisoners re the hearing given (FNU) EVANS because of the writ he filed. Attempt to determine name of lawyer for EVANS, interview him and the guard named CALAHAN for any information regarding a group that would pay to assassinate MARTIN LUTHER KING.

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

8/14/68

SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) P

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2 Bureau
1 Memphis (44-1982)(Info)
2 Kansas City

EM: jst
(5)

RBA

jit

sent to Mitchell

For info
Kenneth Long born
Springfield -
FBI # 315-361B

Sheridan, Mont

(W) also Edmondson called 8/14 & said Evans first name is Stephen

Filed

EC 44-760

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KANSAS CITY

AT SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI

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KC 44-760

RBH:jrt

1

On April 5, 1968, Officer J. STALL, Kansas City, Kansas, Police Department, LEE CHAPMAN, Kansas City, Missouri, Police Department, MAX ROBINSON, North Kansas City, Missouri, Police Department and HELEN DONLEY, Credit Bureau of Greater Kansas City, all advised that a review of their files of their respective offices failed to reveal any record in the name of LAWRENCE RAND or LAWRENCE REND.

A review of the Southwestern Bell Telephone greater Kansas City directories, Cole's greater Kansas City cross-reference directory and Hearne's official map of Greater Kansas City failed to reveal any such address as 2532 Polk or a LAWRENCE RAND or LAWRENCE REND in the Kansas City, Kansas, area.

On April 5, 1968, DENNIS E. COLLINS, 4707 E. 27th, Kansas City, Missouri, telephonically contacted the Kansas City Office advising that he felt he could furnish some information concerning the shooting of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. He was contacted at his place of employment, Halmark Cards, Kansas City, Missouri, the same date where he is employed as a warehouseman on Dock 5-D.

He requested any information he furnished should be kept confidential and advised that he expected to be married shortly and requested his girlfriend's name be left out of this. He stated that while at his girlfriend's house last evening her mother told him that a waitress at the place where she works, Winnie's Truck Stop, 1019 N. Monroe, Kansas City, Missouri, told her the following:

About ten days ago two truck drivers came into the restaurant early in the morning and had made the statement that "they thought MARTIN LUTHER KING would get his the next time he came to Memphis." COLLINS stated that according to this waitress' story the truck drivers were from Tennessee and that he only knew the waitress by the name of ROSE and stated he could furnish no additional information regarding this. He advised that the reason he was furnishing this information was because he is afraid as to what might happen as far as race riots in this country.

44-760-1179

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(1)

KC 44-760

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On April 5, 1968, Mrs. ROSE TATE, 4900 N. Manchester, Kansas City, Missouri, advised she is a waitress at the Winnie's Truck Stop and works from 5:00 am until 2:00 pm as a waitress Monday through Friday at that location. She advised that she did remember two truck drivers coming in approximately ten days ago and that they were discussing the situation in Memphis. She remembers them saying that they did not think the people of Memphis would stand for the things KING was doing. She advised that they made no outright threats. She stated they were not steady customers. She remembered one of them saying he was from Nashville. She advised that so many truck drivers come in and out of there that she could not remember anything about them or even who they drove for and could furnish no description other than they were white men. She felt certain in her own mind that these men were not personally involved in the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING.

On April 5, 1968, Mr. ART BUNKER, Bunker Volkswagen Dealer, 7880 Wornall Road, Kansas City, Missouri, advised that he had a mechanic working for him during the latter part of 1967 by the name of JOHN M. WILLARD. He advised that his records revealed WILLARD worked for him from August 30, 1967, until October 13, 1967. He listed his residence at that time as 9001 Hardy Drive, Overland Park, Kansas. He advised that he sent the W-2 Form to WILLARD at the Hardy address during January, 1968 and it was not returned. He stated the records reveal WILLARD'S Social Security Number is [redacted] and he remembered him to be a white male American, approximately 35 years old, about 5'7", and 160 pounds. He stated that at the time WILLARD worked for him he worked under a Service Manager by the name of J. W. SHEPHERD, who worked approximately the same dates during 1967 and quit the first of October to go take a job in Orlando, Florida. He advised he has not seen SHEPHERD since. He stated SHEPHERD'S last address was 8740 Marty Drive, Overland Park, Kansas. His Social Security Number was [redacted]. He was a white male American, approximately 40 years of age, 5'7", 160 pounds, had a heavily scarred left eye which appeared closed most of the time. BUNKER stated he could furnish no additional information regarding these two individuals other than he was certain that WILLARD had worked in two other Volkswagen agencies in the Kansas City area before coming to him, these being Merriam Motors and McIntosh Volkswagen.

2

KC 44-760

3

On April 5, 1968, Mr. JAMES HUNDLEY, Manager, Import Inn, foreign car dealer, 46th and Rainbow, Kansas City, Kansas, advised that JOHN WILLARD is currently employed by him as a mechanic and has been so employed since October, 1967. He advised he was a very reliable mechanic and currently resides at 9001 Hardy Drive, Overland Park, Kansas. He stated that on April 4, 1968, JOHN M. WILLARD worked at that location from 8:00 am until 5:30 pm. He advised that he could give the names of six or seven other employees who could verify this information. He further advised that JOHN M. WILLARD was working there at that time.

JOHN M. WILLARD advised that he currently resides at 9001 Hardy Drive, Overland Park, Kansas, and is employed as a mechanic at the Import Inn and had formerly worked for Art Bunker Volkswagen, Merriam Motors and McIntosh Volkswagen, all in the Kansas City area. He advised he has been in the Kansas City area since 1964. Prior to this time he resided in Tupelo, Mississippi. He stated that on April 4, 1968, he worked at Import Inn from 8:00 am until 5:30 pm. He advised that his wife JOANN currently works in the office at Merriam Motors. He advised he has not been to Memphis, Tennessee since 1964 and knows nothing about the death of MARTIN LUTHER KING. He stated he knows of no one who would use his name to register in a hotel in Memphis.

3

KC 44-760

RBH:jrt

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SAS RAYMOND B. HOWE and GEORGE A. ARNETT:

On April 8, 1968, Lt. H. BROWN, Kansas City, Kansas, Police Department, advised that an individual by the name of LEON ASHBY was in his office and advised he felt he could furnish information regarding the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING.

On April 8, 1968, LEON C. ASHBY, SR. was interviewed and advised he resided at 826 N. 49th Street, Kansas City, Kansas, and is employed as Shipping Clerk by the Manhattan Sponging Works, 423 W. 8th, Kansas City, Missouri, and has been so employed for the past 10 years. He stated after reading an article in the Kansas City Times newspaper dated April 6, 1968, titled "Calm in Memphis" which stated a possible suspect had been registered across the street from the motel where KING was staying. This suspect used the name JOHN WILLARD and had a silly grin on his face. ASHBY stated there was an employee where he worked named JOHN WILLARD and this man also continually had a silly grin on his face. He described JOHN WILLARD as 5'10", 170 pounds, white male, approximately 28 years of age, wears thick glasses and smokes cigarettes. He further advised that this man had been fired for drinking from the Manhattan Sponging Works during February, 1968.

ASHBY stated that he did not know where JOHN WILLARD resided but he knew that he had a brother by the name of TOM who continues to work at the sponging works. He further stated that this JOHN WILLARD was very prejudice towards the Negro and was always making unkind remarks. He stated that he does not know if this information will be of any help to the FBI but wanted to furnish it for what it may be worth.

On April 8, 1968, TOM WILLARD was interviewed at his place of employment, Manhattan Sponging Works, Kansas City, Missouri, at which time he advised that his brother, JOHN PAUL WILLARD, had recently lost his job at the sponging

44-760-1180

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2

works for drinking. He advised that his brother currently resides at the Surrey Courts Apartments, 520 W. 12th, Kansas City, Missouri. He advised that his brother is currently unemployed but does not believe his brother left the Kansas City area. He stated he saw him on April 6, 1968, at the home of their mother, 2811 E. 58th, Kansas City, Missouri. He described his brother JOHN as a white male American, 5'10", 25 years of age, 149 pounds, brown hair, wears glasses, stated he can not hardly see without these glasses, smokes cigarettes and drinks too much on occasion. He advised that a friend of his brother's is a MARION JOHNSON, 832 E. 21st Street, North Kansas City, Missouri, who is also unemployed at this time. TOM WILLARD stated that his brother JOHN had been employed continually at the sponging works for two years and had saved all his money and therefore could afford to be unemployed at this time. He stated he is certain that his brother is not connected with the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING in any manner.

On April 8, 1968, Mrs. M. COUBA, Manager, Surrey Court Apartments, 520 W. 12th, Kansas City, Missouri, advised that JOHN WILLARD currently resides there in Apartment 229. She advised that she was working the front desk from April 3 through April 6, 1968, and she is certain she saw JOHN WILLARD go in and out of the lobby during this period. She stated he paid his rent on Saturday, April 6, 1968, and she remembers him kidding her about a person by the name of JOHN WILLARD being a suspect in the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING. She stated she is certain he is not identical with this person inasmuch as she knows he was in the apartment April 3 through April 6, 1968. She described him as a white male American, 25 years of age, 5'9", thin build, brown hair, wears thick glasses, drinks too much but does not get belligerent or rowdy and smokes cigarettes. She stated that any information within the Bureau's jurisdiction comes to her attention she will immediately contact the Kansas City Office.

(5)

KC 44-760

RBH:jrt

1

On April 8, 1968, JOHN WILLARD, Apartment 229, Surrey Court Apartments, 520 W. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri, contacted SA RAYMOND B. HOWE and advised that he learned from the landlady at his apartment house that the FBI wanted to talk to him. He stated he is willing to cooperate with the FBI in any manner. It was his understanding from reading in the newspaper Saturday, April 6, 1968, that an individual registered under the name JOHN WILLARD was being sought by the FBI in connection with the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING.

He advised he could furnish no information regarding this shooting. He has not left the Kansas City area for several months and during the evening of April 4, 1968, he was watching television at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. PAUL WILLARD, 2811 E. 58th, Kansas City, Missouri, when the announcement first came over that MARTIN LUTHER KING had been shot. He advised he has remained in Kansas City continually since that time. He stated he knows of no one who might have registered under his name in connection with this shooting. He advised he is now employed with Manpower, Inc., Kansas City, Missouri, and works from approximately 7:00 am until 6:00 pm. He again stated he is willing to cooperate with the FBI in any way he can and if any pertinent information comes to his attention regarding the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING he will immediately contact the Agents of the FBI Office, in Kansas City.

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HHU:LAC

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On April 11, 1968, the following investigation was conducted by IC HAROLD H. UMSTEAD:

AT TOPEKA, KANSAS:

The following individuals advised that files of their respective agencies failed to indicate any information identifiable with ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER, HARVEY LOWMYER or with any person having a surname of LOWMEYER or LOWMYER:

Mrs. JEANETTE FLAX, clerk, Topeka Credit Bureau.

Miss MARY MARTIN, clerk, Records and Identification Bureau, Topeka Police Department.

Mr. JOHN SAUVE, Identification Officer, Shawnee County Sheriff's Office.

Mrs. PAT DIX, clerk, Identification Division, Kansas Bureau of Investigation.

Mrs. MARGARET HOWELL, Information Clerk, Kansas Department of Motor Vehicles, advised their files failed to show a Kansas driver's license or vehicle identifiable with ERIC STARVO GALT or with the surnames of LOWMEYER or LOWMYER.

Miss ETHEL JACQUES, clerk, Shawnee County Election Commissioner's Office, advised their voter registration records are maintained by address and no check can be made without a specific address for an individual.

44-760-462

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KC 44-760

HHU:LAC

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ADMINISTRATIVE:

On April 11, 1968, the following investigation was conducted by IC HAROLD H. UMSTEAD:

AT TOPEKA, KANSAS:

Mrs. RITA L. BARNETT (PROTECT IDENTITY), secretary, Kansas Selective Service Headquarters, advised their files failed to indicate that ERIC STARVO GALT is registered with the Selective Service System in Kansas.

44-760-1183

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(Handwritten initials)

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WCM:rmb

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The following investigation was conducted by
Investigative Clerk WILLIAM C. MC DONALD:

AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI:

On April 15, 1968, Mrs. MAYM WEAVER, Receptionist,
Division of Workmen's Compensation, Department of Labor and
Industrial Relations, advised that her department keeps no
records by accident. She stated her files are kept for ten
years by the employee and employer's name. Mrs. WEAVER caused
these files on employees for the past ten years to be made
available, and a search failed to reflect any reference to
ERIC STARVO GALT.

44-760-1184

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[Signature]	

KC 44-760
THW:bjc
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The following investigation was conducted by
Special Agent THOMAS H. WEAVER:

AT SEDALIA, MISSOURI:

On April 11, 1968, a review of the City
Directory and Telephone Directory for Sedalia and area
revealed no listing in the names GALT, LOWMEYER or
LOWMYER. Checks under these names were negative with
the following agencies:

ELVA LEWIS	Sedalia Credit Exchange, Clerk
CLARENCE HARRELL	Officer, Sedalia Police Department
EMMETT FAIRFAX	Pettis County Sheriff's Office, Sheriff
J. H. GREEN	County Clerk, Pettis County Clerk, Voters' Registration

AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI:

On April 12, 1968, the following agencies were
checked for GALT, LOWMEYER and LOWMYER, without success:

MONROE EPSTEIN	Manager, Credit Bureau of Jefferson City
LEROY SMITH	Deputy Sheriff, Cole County Sheriff's Office
JAMES LALE	Sergeant, Jefferson City Police Department
R. B. JENKINS	Captain, Identification and Records Bureau, Missouri State Highway Patrol

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2

DAVE HANNAH

Clerk, Motor Vehicle
Section, Missouri State
Highway Patrol for motor
vehicle registrations
and driver's license
issuance in Missouri

DON CONNOR

Assistant Cashier,
Mutual Savings and
Loan Association

In addition, on April 12, 1968, Lieutenant
Colonel DON WILSON, State Selective Service Headquarters,
advised he has no record for GALT as having registered with
Selective Service System in Missouri.

On April 12, 1968, a review of the Jefferson
City and Columbia, Missouri, City Directories and telephone
directories revealed no listing in the names GALT, LOWMEYER
or LOWMYER.

KC 44-760

RBA:bjc

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The following investigation was conducted by
Special Agent ROWEN B. AYERS:

AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI:

On April 15, 1968, Mr. HARRY NAIL, Deputy County Clerk, for Cole County said no one is registered to vote in Jefferson City, Missouri by the name of LOWMEYER, LOWMYER or ERIC STARVO GALT. He said further that an examination of poll books for the most recent elections in Cole County did not reflect that anyone using the above three names voted in Cole County.

AT COLUMBIA, MISSOURI:

The following said their files reflect no information concerning the above three names:

PAUL CHEAVENS

NA, Columbia, Missouri
Police Department

ROY GALLEMORE, II

Deputy Sheriff of Boone
County

MARY LEA SEAMAN

Manager, Credit Bureau
of Columbia, Missouri

44-760-1186

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KC 44-760
JAB:rd

The following investigation was conducted jointly
by SAs JAMES ALLEN BENBROOK (A) and THOMAS J. CONNOLLY (A):

AT KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

On April 12, 1968, Mr. JAMES LEE SERVICE,
Personnel Manager, Sonken-Galamba Corporation, Second and
Riverview, related that their files show that J. D. WILLARD,
2710 North Early, Kansas City, Kansas, who has Social
Security Number [redacted] was employed as a laborer by
instant firm from July 18, 1955, to August 18, 1955, when
he was laid off, and again from August 30, 1955, to September
16, 1955, when he was fired because of absenteeism. Mr. SERVICE
said their file does not contain any application form of WILLARD's
and the only descriptive information is that WILLARD is a
male, Caucasian, married, with birth date of [redacted]

AT CORDER, MISSOURI

On April 12, 1968, Mr. JOHNNIE MOYER, Postmaster,
U. S. Post Office, related that J. D. WILLARD left the Corder
area on November 20, 1964, and went to Warsaw, Missouri.
He later moved to Carrollton, Missouri, and subsequently
to the southern part of Missouri, exact location unknown.

Mr. MOYER said that PAUL WILLARD, former city marshal
of Corder, is the father of J. D. WILLARD, and that PAUL
WILLARD currently resides at Corder.

On April 12, 1968, Mr. PAUL WILLARD, former city
marshal of Corder, related that his son, J. D. WILLARD,
currently resides in the Kansas City, Missouri, area, exact
address unknown; however, his oldest son, PAUL JUNIOR WILLARD,
who is employed at Alexander's Magnovox, 4014 West 83rd
Street, Prairie Village, Kansas, should be aware of J. D.'s
address.

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AT KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

The following investigation was conducted by
IC JAMES W. WRIGHT:

On April 12, 1968, Miss CARMELA ABOTO, Clerk, Credit Bureau of Greater Kansas City, Incorporated, 1110 Grand Avenue, made available file pertaining to J. D. WILLARD and wife, GERALDINE. The file reflects last known address of 4140 Elizabeth Street, Corder, Missouri, and previous addresses of 2928 Holmes and 2828 Cherry. Employment was listed as Sonken-Galamba. No credit report contained in file. File reflects WILLARD filed bankruptcy in Western District of Missouri, Kansas City, Missouri, July 15, 1963; Bankruptcy file #28084, which was discharged August 30, 1963. WILLARD's attorney in bankruptcy case was listed as ALBERT J. BOSCHERT, Higginsville, Missouri. File contained delinquent account notice dated December 2, 1960, reported by Allied Building Credits, Incorporated, 911 Temple Building, Kansas City, Missouri, account #11-33095 62 1, in the name of J. D. and GERALDINE L. WILLARD, 2828 Cherry. Notice reflects original note was in amount of \$2,295.00 with seven payments of \$38.25 a month pastdue, balance of \$2,180.25, charged to loss.

A bulletin report dated February 27, 1956, reported by General Electric Credit Corporation, 3527 Broadway, Kansas City, Missouri, in the name of J. D. WILLARD, 2928 Holmes, reflects account opened June 21, 1955, in amount of \$398.40. Balance not shown and installment repossessed.

File reflects the following inquiries:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Company Inquiring</u>
August 1, 1960	Pacific Finance Company
August 2, 1960	"
August 3, 1960	CIT
August 5, 1960	REliable Discount Company
August 18, 1960	City National Bank

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Company Inquiring</u>
February 27, 1961	Allied Concord Financial Company
June 16, 1962	"
December 7, 1962	"
September 28, 1964	Town and Country Improvement

On April 12, 1968, Mr. LLOYD R. HILBURN, Superintendent of Records, Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Kansas City, Missouri, advised he was unable to locate any record pertaining to J. D. WILLARD or wife, GERALDINE.

On April 12, 1968, Mr. LEE CHAPMAN, Clerk, Records and Identification Bureau, Kansas City, Missouri, Police Department, advised he was unable to locate any record pertaining to GERALDINE L. WILLARD.

Mr. CHAPMAN advised that records reflect a J. D. WILLARD, white male, date of birth [redacted] 5'11", 165 pounds, residence 6600 East 14th Street, was arrested August 22, 1967, on city warrant charging failure to support and on August 29, 1967, was sentenced to 30 days and fined \$25.00. On January 26, 1968, a city warrant charging disturbing the peace was issued for WILLARD and is presently outstanding.

The following investigation was conducted jointly by SAs JAMES ALLEN BENBROOK (A) and THOMAS J. CONNOLLY (A):

Efforts to locate J. D. WILLARD at 6600 East 14th Street on April 12, 1968, were without results.

Inquiry with the Superintendent of the Centropolis Station, U. S. Post Office, 6628 Truman Road, revealed that on February 8, 1968, J. D. WILLARD of 6600 East 14th Street, furnished forwarding address of 806 Woodland, Independence, Missouri.

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AT INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI

It was physically ascertained on April 12, 1968, that there is no such address as 806 in the 800 Block of North Woodland; however, there is an 806 South Woodland, but efforts to contact residents at this address and neighbors to each side of 806 South Woodland, were without results.

AT KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

Telephonic inquiry with Alexander's Stereo-TV-Records, 4014 West 83rd Street, Prairie Village, Kansas, revealed that PAUL WILLARD was a repairman and worked out of their Plaza store; however, inquiry at the Plaza store resulted in determining that WILLARD was out and his expected return was unknown. In addition, it was ascertained that PAUL WILLARD had moved recently and his new address and telephone number were unknown.

On April 12, 1968, Mr. OLEN JUSTICE, Manager, Pioneer Finance Company, 1205 Grand, related that his office had an open account for J. D. and BESSIE WILLARD since May, 1967, that the WILLARDS are currently separated, and the account was for the purchase of furniture which had subsequently been repossessed and sold. Mr. JUSTICE said his records show latest address for J. D. WILLARD as 1401 Bennington, previous address as 6600 East 14th Street, and employment of WILLARD as Owens Plastics. Mr. JUSTICE related that the employment was current as of last month, as they had made a garnishment of WILLARD's wages at that time.

The following investigation was conducted by SA JAMES ALLEN BENBROOK on April 15, 1968:

Mrs. ROSALIE M. HEISMAN, Personnel Manager, Owens Plastics, 1524 Crystal, related that J. D. WILLARD was released from employment by instant concern on February 13, 1968, after having been employed by instant firm as a machine operator from April, 1967, and their records showed his address as 6600 East 14th Street, Kansas City, Missouri. Mrs. HEISMAN stated that J. D. WILLARD is presently employed

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by American Plastics, 3720 Weatherford Road, Independence, Missouri, having been so employed since March 11, 1968.

At Independence, Missouri

Mrs. LA VON TIMME, Corporation Secretary, American Plastics Corporation, 3120 Weatherford Road, related their files show J. D. WILLARD had been employed by instant firm since March 11, 1968, to the present time, however, he is off work instant date. Mrs. TIMME stated her files show that J. D. WILLARD is employed on the 7 A.M. to 3 P.M. shift and was so employed on April 4, 1968, further stating that instant date is the only date he has been off work.

KC 44-760

WCM:bjc

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The following investigation was conducted by
Investigative Clerk WILLIAM C. MC DONALD:

AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI:

On April 16, 1968, Mrs. JERI AWE, Co-owner and
Manager, DON AWE Dance Studio, advised that she only gives
Ballroom and Ballet type dancing lessons. She further
advised that the only adult instruction in these type
dances are to individuals of a club or people well known
to her and her husband. Mrs. AWE advised that she has
had no students with the name of ERIC STARVO GALT.

Mrs. AWE stated that there is no other dancing
studios in Jefferson City, Missouri.

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WCM:bjc

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The following investigation was conducted by
Investigative Clerk WILLIAM C. MC DONALD:

AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI:

On April 17, 1968, Mrs. LORENE H. COPER, Vital
Records Supervisor, Division of Health, advised that she
has no birth record recorded in the name of ERIC STARVO
GALT.

44-760-1189

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RTW:cm

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The following investigation was conducted by SA
RICHARD T. WINTERMAN:

On April 19, 1968, DOROTHY SHANDORF, United States Marshal's Office, Kansas City, Missouri, advised that records of that office reflect on Marcy 28, 1955, JAMES EARL RAY, Marshal's #12018, FBI #306443-A; and WALTER T. RIFE, Marshal's #12109, FBI #4558766, were fingerprinted on a charge of forgery. Miss SHANDORF stated there was no further information concerning this matter in records of the U. S. Marshal's Office.

On April 19, 1968, ELMER E. ROGERS, Assistant Business Representative; and KATHRYN CARLSTON, Secretary, American Bakery and Confectionery Workers Union Local 218, AFL-CIO, 19 West Linwood Boulevard, Kansas City, Missouri, advised that most of the bakers and apprentice bakers employed in the greater Kansas City area are employed through that office. They reviewed records of all persons who were employed through that local or who applied for work through that local during 1967 and 1968, and were unable to find any such person who might be identical with JAMES EARL RAY or WALTER TERRY RIFE on the basis of names and known aliases and physical descriptions. Both were shown a photograph of RAY and stated they could not identify this individual as anyone with whom they had had contact. They stated they would be alert to the appearance at that office of anyone who might be identical with RAY or RIFE and would immediately contact the Kansas City FBI Office.

They further stated that there is also a union known as the Bakery and Confectionery Workers Union Local 218, not affiliated with the AFL-CIO, located in the VFW Building, 34th and Broadway, seventh floor, Kansas City, Missouri. The latter union handles mostly miscellaneous bakery workers other than bakers and apprentice bakers.

44-760-1190

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RW	

KC 44-760

JWW:tlw

1

The following investigation was conducted by
Investigative Clerk JAMES W. WRIGHT:

On April 19, 1968, Miss HELEN DONLEY, Clerk,
Credit Bureau of Greater Kansas City, Inc., 1110 Grand
Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri, advised she was unable to
locate any record identifiable with JAMES EARL RAY, or
the following known aliases of RAY:

EARL JAMES RAY
W. C. HERRON
EARL JAMES
JAMES MC BRIDE
JAMES O'CONNOR
JAMES WALYON
JAMES WALTON

Miss DONLEY also advised she was unable to locate
any record identifiable with WALTER TERRY RIPE, known former
associate of RAY.

44-760-1191

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JWW	

KC 44-760

LBL:ssc

1

The following investigation was conducted by SA
LEON B. LAKE, JR.:

AT KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

On April 19, 1968, Mrs. MONICA S. VEGA, Clerk,
Identification Bureau, Kansas City, Kansas Police
Department, checked the records against the name JAMES
EARL RAY also known as Earl James Ray, W. C. Herron, Earl
James, James McBride, James O'Conner, James Walyon and
James Walton with negative results as to an arrest record.
Mrs. VEGA did state that the Identification Division does
possess a stop notice from the FBI on JAMES EARL RAY,
white male, date of birth FBI Number
306443A.

Mrs. VEGA also checked her records against the
name WALTER TERRY RIFE, white male, date of birth
 FBI Number 4558766, with negative results.

44-760-1192

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KC 44-760

LBL:ssc

1

The following investigation was conducted by SA
LEON B. LAKE, JR.:

AT KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

On April 19, 1968, Mrs. MONICA S. VEGA, Clerk,
Identification Bureau, Kansas City, Kansas Police
Department, checked the records against the name JAMES
EARL RAY also known as Earl James Ray, W. C. Herron, Earl
James, James McBride, James O'Conner, James Walyon and
James Walton with negative results as to an arrest record.
Mrs. VEGA did state that the Identification Division does
possess a stop notice from the FBI on JAMES EARL RAY,
white male, date of birth [redacted] FBI Number
306443A.

Mrs. VEGA also checked her records against the
name WALTER TERRY RIFE, white male, date of birth [redacted]
[redacted] FBI Number 4558766, with negative results.

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JF:WSA

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On April 19, 1968, SA JOHN FENNIMAN caused MARILYN MATTHEWS, clerk, Kansas City, Missouri, Police Department, to search the files of that department in the names JAMES EARL RAY, white male, born [redacted] and WALTER TERRY RIFE, born [redacted] with negative results.

MATTHEWS advised that her office maintains a wanted notice for JAMES EARL RAY indicating that he is wanted by the FBI for Unlawful Flight to Avoid Confinement.

44-760-1194

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[initials]	

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JF:WSA

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA JOHN FENNIMAN:

On April 19, 1968, MARILYN MATTHEWS, Clerk, Kansas City, Missouri Police Department, searched the files of that department in the names JAMES EARL RAY, white male, born [redacted], and WALTER TERRY RIFE, born [redacted] with negative results.

MATTHEWS advised that her office maintains a wanted notice for JAMES EARL RAY, indicating he is wanted by the FBI for Unlawful Flight to Avoid Confinement.

44-760-1195

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KC 44-760

HHU:MD

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The following investigation was conducted by IC
HAROLD H. UMSTEAD:

AT TOPEKA, KANSAS

On April 15, 1968, Mr. ROLAND OTTO, Manager, Murphy Finance Company, 218 West 6th, advised his company and 24 other Topeka finance companies are members of the Topeka Consumer Loan Association and this association maintains a central records system on all borrowers from the member companies. He said that a search of the Topeka Consumer Loan Association records failed to reflect any record for ERIC STARVO GALT. This check covers the following finance companies:

Aetna Finance Company, 728½ Kansas Avenue;

GAC Finance Corporation, 933 Kansas Avenue;

Interstate Financial House, 201 West 6th (Interstate Securities Company);

Personal Thrift Plan of Topeka, Inc., 630 Kansas Avenue;

Liberty Loan Corporation of Topeka, 208 West 6th;

Public Finance Corporation, 123 East 7th;

Seaboard Finance Company, 1005 Kansas Avenue;

Union Finance Company, 934 Kansas Avenue;

Dial Finance Company of Topeka, Inc., 204 West 6th;

Beneficial Finance Company of Topeka, Inc., 820 Kansas Avenue;

American Finance Corporation, 116 East 8th;

Murphy Finance Company, 218 West 6th;

Century Finance Company, 923 Kansas Avenue;

Community Finance and Thrift Corporation of Topeka, Inc., 607 Kansas Avenue;

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Bankers Investment Company (BIC), 116 West 6th;
Shawnee Crown Finance Inc., 924 Kansas Avenue;
Universal CIT Credit Company, 216 West 7th;
Household Finance Corporation of Topeka (HFC), 732½
Kansas Avenue;

Termplan, Inc., New Capitol-Federal Building;

Circle Finance Company, 430 West 33rd;

Community Finance Corporation of North Topeka, Inc.,
907 North Kansas Avenue;

Household Finance Corporation of Topeka, Inc., 3646
Topeka (White Lakes Shopping Center);

G. F. C. Loan Company, 420 East 29th;

Associates Finance Company of Kansas, Inc., 514 West 6th;

Bankers Investment Company (BIC) #2, 5218 West 17th.

On April 15, 1968, the following individuals advised that
a search of records of their respective banks failed to reflect
any record identifiable with ERIC STARVO GALT:

Mr. ED HENDERSON, Vice President, Fidelity State Bank,
600 Kansas Avenue;

Mr. CHARLES LONG, Vice President, First National
Bank of Topeka, 535 Kansas Avenue;

Mr. WILBUR E. LEVERING, Vice President, Merchat's
National Bank, 501 Kansas Avenue.

On April 16, 1968, the following individuals advised
that a search of records of their respective banks, savings and
loan institutions, and finance companies failed to reflect any
record identifiable with ERIC STARVO GALT: