

KC 44-760

3

Mr. LARRY HABLUTZEL, Cashier and Auditor, Commerce State Bank, 3021 Topeka;

Mrs. CAROLYN HOLLAND, Assistant Cashier, Highland Park State Bank, 2825 California;

Mrs. MARY WILLIAMS, Secretary, Kaw Valley Citizens State Bank, 1110 North Kansas;

Mr. R. F. JOHN, Executive Vice President, Southwest State Bank, 1701 Gage Boulevard;

Mr. W. SEWALL MAC FERRAN, Cashier, The State Savings Bank, 824 Kansas Avenue;

Mr. JOHN S. FINDER, Vice President and Cashier, Topeka State Bank, 701 Kansas Avenue;

Mrs. VIRGINIA SPRINGER, Office Assistant, Federal Land Bank Association, 1717 Gage Boulevard;

Mr. GEORGE M. HERSH, President, Postal Savings and Loan Association, 108 West 8th;

Mrs. OPAL MAUST, Assistant Secretary, Shawnee Federal Savings and Loan Association, 906 Kansas Avenue;

Mr. STEPHEN J. ETZEL, Assistant Vice President, American Savings Association, 1035 Topeka;

Mrs. KAREN LUNDQUIST, Savings Officer, Capitol-Federal Savings and Loan Association, 700 Kansas Avenue;

Mr. GENE KEEVER, Assistant Vice President, Topeka Savings Association, 634 Kansas Avenue;

Mr. GERALD D. LUKE, Manager, Community Investment Company, Inc., 457 East 29th;

Mr. WILLIAM P. CRAYNE, Loan Manager, Commercial Credit Plan, Inc., 1401 Topeka;

Mr. MAURICE A. ROBERTS, Manager, Fidelity Investment Company, 519 West 29th;

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Mr. HAROLD KOSSOVER, Vice President and Manager,  
Morris Plan, 209 East 8th;

Mrs. JULIA ROBERTSON, President, Savings, Bond,  
and Mortgage Company, 1207 Kansas Avenue;

Mrs. FLORENCE SHIMER, Cashier, Scott Mortgage  
Company, First National Building;

Mr. ROBERT E. TEW, Robert E. Tew Auto Loans,  
1720 East 29th;

Mr. HARRY WILSON, Harry Wilson Agency, New England  
Building (agent for Railroad Building and Loan Association,  
Newton, Kansas);

Mr. RALPH HUGHES, Treasurer, Real Estate Loans  
Division, Victory Life Insurance Company, 300 West 8th;

On April 17, 1968, Mrs. ROBERT MOURON, Manager,  
Commerce Acceptance Company, 1006 Kansas Avenue.

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HHU:MD

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On April 19, 1968, the following investigation was conducted by IC HAROLD H. UMSTEAD:

AT TOPEKA, KANSAS

Mrs. MARGARET HOWELL, Information Clerk, Kansas Department of Motor Vehicles, advised their files failed to reflect a Kansas drivers license identifiable with subject JAMES EARL RAY, also known as EARL JAMES RAY, JAMES MC BRIDE, JAMES O'CONNER, JAMES WALYOND, JAMES WALTON, W. C. HERRON, and EARL JAMES, or subject's associate WALTER TERRY RIFE.

44-760-1197

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JAM:bjc

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The following investigation was conducted by  
Special Agent JAMES A. MITCHELL:

AT SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI:

On April 19, 1968, the following listed persons  
were contacted to determine if JAMES EARL RAY, also known  
as EARL STARVO GALT, took dancing lessons from them:

H. H. STARK

Arthur Murray School of  
Dancing, 315 East Walnut

BARBARA FISCHER

Fischer Studio of Dancing,  
214 West Webster

BERTON WALKER

Walker School of the Dance,  
1400 St. Louis

BETTY VOGEL

Former operator, Vogel  
School of Dance, 2323  
Langston

The above contacts were all negative.

44-760-1198

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*[Handwritten signature]*

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WYW:ssc

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The following investigation was conducted by  
SA W. YATES WEBB on April 19, 1968:

AT KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

Mrs. MARGARET A. HAYES, Night Clerk, Blackstone Hotel, 1817 Cherry, Kansas City, Missouri, advised that she has been employed in this position since May 2, 1967. She was shown photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and stated that this photograph was not familiar to her and she does not recall ever seeing this individual in the hotel. Mrs. HAYES stated she is positive that this person has not been a registered guest in the hotel since she has been there.

Mrs. HAYES made available the registration cards for the period April 24, 1967 to present date. These cards were reviewed and there was no record of anyone being registered there under the name of JAMES EARL RAY or any of his known aliases.

Miss GLADYS HANSON, Day Clerk, advised she has been employed there since 1965 and does not recall JAMES EARL RAY being registered there as a guest during the time of her employment. She looked at the photograph of RAY and said that she does not recall seeing this person in the hotel. She stated that the hotel changed hands on September 10, 1965, and that they have no registration cards for the periods prior to that date. She said that the hotel is now owned by Mr. WILLIAM HEMMELSTEIN and Associates and Mr. HEMMELSTEIN's telephone number is EM 1-1278. She explained Mr. HEMMELSTEIN did not stay at the hotel and knew nothing of the guests in the hotel. He only visits the hotel occasionally to check receipts and the books.

The following persons who have been guests at the hotel for a period of time were contacted and shown photograph of RAY with negative results.

Mrs. ELVA WILSON, Room 400, resident since 1946  
PATRICK HADLEY, Room 212, resident for 10 years  
HARRY HILL, Room 300, resident since 1958  
ATTILIO POLLI, Room 322, resident for 5 years

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THW:jb

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

AT WARSAW, MISSOURI:

On April 16, 1968, the following advised that their files contain no information identifiable with anyone named GALT, LOWMEYER or LOWMYER:

Sheriff LAWRENCE PHIFER, Benton County  
Sheriff's Office;

BOB WHITE, County Clerk, Benton County,  
voters' poll books

AT VERSAILLES, MISSOURI:

Deputy Sheriff BILL ARNOLD, Morgan County  
Sheriff's Office;

Mrs. FLORENCE MEYER, County Clerk, Morgan County,  
voters' poll books

On April 16, 1968, a review of the Warsaw area and the Lake of the Ozarks area telephone directories revealed no listing in the names given above.

AT BOONVILLE, MISSOURI:

On April 17, 1968, the following advised that their files contain no information identifiable with anyone named GALT, LOWMEYER or LOWMYER:

Sheriff LYLURN MANN, Cooper County Sheriff's Office;  
Officer HERB KLUESMEYER, Boonville Police Department;  
Mrs. MARTHA BAKER, Manager, Credit Bureau of  
Boonville;  
Mr. JOSEPH SOPH, County Clerk, Cooper County,  
voters' poll books

On April 17, 1968, a review of the Boonville area telephone directories revealed no listing in above names.

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RH:ss

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The following investigation was conducted by SA RAY HOMESLEY at Kansas City, Missouri:

Mr. LYLE ROBINSON, 1017 Orchard Street, Liberty, Missouri, advised the Kansas City FBI Office by telephone on April 22, 1968, that his wife, ROSE ROBINSON, is a fifth grade teacher at the Forest Hill Elementary School, North Kansas City, Missouri, and taught a boy that made statements to the effect that MARTIN LUTHER KING should be shot. ROBINSON said also the boy's father, GERALD B. GERLT, residing in a trailer at 1910 Armour Road, North Kansas City, Missouri, made trips to Tennessee March 4-5, 1968, and March 14-15, 1968. Also the boy reported that the family was moving to California, but when school authorities contacted the mother, she denied they were moving. However, the family did move to El Cajon, California, on March 29, 1968. GERLT was reported to have a Citizens Band radio in his truck.

Mr. BILL CURNUTT, 1012 East 24th Street, North Kansas City, Missouri, also telephoned the Kansas City FBI Office and advised that his wife AUDRA CURNUTT teaches at the Forest Hill Elementary School and related substantially the same information as did Mr. LYLE ROBINSON. He stated he did not want he or his wife's name used as the person furnishing the information. He also related that the boy making the statements about MARTIN LUTHER KING is apparently emotionally disturbed. CURNUTT stated that the GERLT family operated a cafe on Armour Road in North Kansas City, Missouri, and lived in a trailer behind the cafe.

On April 22, 1968, Miss HELEN DONLEY, Clerk, Credit Bureau of Greater Kansas City, 1110 Grand, Kansas City, Missouri, furnished a report dated September 12, 1967, regarding GERALD B. GERLT, wife LOIS HELEN GERLT. This report shows the GERLTS have been on file at the credit bureau since April, 1955. He is shown as age 38 in 1967. Records show the following residence:

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1910 Armour Road, North Kansas City, Missouri  
North View Trailer Court, Falls City, Nebraska  
6020 Kansas Avenue, Kansas City, Kansas  
1800 South 55, Falls City, Nebraska  
2521 South 49, Falls City, Nebraska  
Box 733, Alpine, California  
1601 Armstrong, Kansas City, Kansas

Former Employment:

Claycomo Restaurant, North Kansas City, Missouri  
Northview Skelly Station, Falls City, Nebraska,  
January, 1967  
Jerry's Nursery, 6540 State, Kansas City, Kansas,  
February, 1967, to September, 1967

Loans:

11/30/67	Rosedale State Bank, Kansas City, Kansas, \$4177.60, secured by 1964 Great Lakes Home
7/28/67	Rosedale State Bank, Kansas City, Kansas, \$2357.79, unsecured note
10/26/67	Metropolitan National Bank, Kansas City, Missouri, \$5687.00, secured by a 1967 Cadillac DeVille, \$250.00 guaranteed by B and G Motors, Kansas City

On April 22, 1968, LEE CHAPMAN, Clerk, Kansas  
City, Missouri, Police Department, advised that no record  
for GERALD B. GERLT, 1910 Armour, North Kansas City,  
Missouri, could be located.



KC 88-9449

WFR:ss

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The following investigation was conducted at Leavenworth, Kansas, by IC LEONARD L. AYRES:

On February 8, 1968, Mr. GEORGE E. SEUFERT, Records Control Supervisor, U.S. Penitentiary (USP), Leavenworth, Kansas, advised that the file concerning WALTER TERRY RIFE, had been sent to the GSA Federal Records Center, Kansas City, Missouri.

The following investigation was conducted at Kansas City, Missouri, by IC WILLIAM F. ROHR:

On February 20, 1968, Mr. WILLIAM CABY, Reference Supervisor, GSA Federal Records Center, Kansas City, Missouri, made available USP, Leavenworth, Kansas, file #72497-L concerning WALTER TERRY RIFE, which contained the following information:

RIFE described white male, date of birth [redacted] 69 1/2", 161 pounds, brown hair, blue-gray eyes, FBI #4558766.

RIFE was sentenced in the Western District of Missouri, Kansas City, Missouri, on July 1, 1955, to a period of three years for violation of the Post Office laws, forging money orders, and was committed to the USP, Leavenworth, Kansas, on July 7, 1955.

RIFE received a conditional release on September 27, 1957, at which time he was taken into custody on a detainer lodged by the State Parole Office, Springfield, Illinois, charging parole violation. RIFE was then sent to the Illinois Penitentiary at Menard, Illinois, #22674, and was scheduled to be released from this institution approximately July 23, 1960.

During period of incarceration, the following individuals were on RIFE's correspondents list:

Mother

ROSIE S. RIFE,  
Age 68, 400 College Avenue,  
Quincy, Illinois

Sister

Mrs. VIOLA MAYFIELD,  
2716 Cherry Street,  
Quincy, Illinois

Sister

Mrs. MONAM LEE CRAWFORD,  
813 North Main Street,  
Harrisburg, Illinois

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Niece	Miss DARLENE CRAWFORD, 332 East Locust Street, Harrisburg, Illinois
Brother	FLOYD RIFE, 279 Indian Hills, Quincy, Illinois
Friend	KATHERINE DORIS BUSKIRK, 321 South 7th, Quincy, Illinois

It was noted that the friend, KATHERINE DORIS BUSKIRK, was the only frequent correspondent of RIFE while confined at the USP, Leavenworth, Kansas, and it was also noted that RIFE planned to marry BUSKIRK upon his release from the penitentiary.

RIFE had no release plans insofar as work or residence upon his release from the USP, Leavenworth, since he knew that a detainer had been filed for Parole Violation from the State of Illinois.

No other pertinent information contained in file.

KC 44-760

JWW:tlw

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The following investigation was conducted by  
IC 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 McBRIDE  
JAMES O'CONNER  
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.

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DAF:ak

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The following investigation was conducted by  
SA DONALD A. FLYNN:

AT KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

On April 19, 1968, Miss FLORENCE BONNER, Recording Secretary to CARL J. LE VAN, Bartenders Local Union #420, 216-A West 12th Street, provided records which failed to reflect any information identical with JAMES EARL RAY or any of his known aliases.

On the same date, Mr. B. M. FITZGERALD, Financial Secretary - Treasurer, and Business Agent of Miscellaneous Hotel Employees Union Local 655, AFL - CIO, 216-A West 12th Street, provided his files, which also failed to reflect any information identical with JAMES EARL RAY or any of his known aliases.

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HHU:ssc

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The following investigation was conducted by  
IC HAROLD H. UMSTEAD on April 18, 1968:

AT TOPEKA, KANSAS

Mr. L. A. (BUD) BILLINGS (NA), Superintendent,  
Kansas Department of Motor Vehicles, advised that due to  
the extremely heavy work load on their IBM equipment,  
April 29, 1968 is the earliest possible date that a list  
of Kansas driver's licenses could be obtained for white  
males, date of birth

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J. Home OH

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The following investigation was conducted by  
IC HAROLD H. UMSTEAD on April 18, 1968:

AT TOPEKA, KANSAS

Mr. L. A. (BUD) BILLINGS (NA), Superintendent,  
Kansas Department of Motor Vehicles, advised that due to  
the extremely heavy work load on their IBM equipment,  
April 29, 1968 is the earliest possible date that a list  
of Kansas driver's licenses could be obtained for white  
males, date of birth

44-760-1207

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WCM:ssc

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

AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

On April 19, 1968, Mr. HARRY LAUF, Records Officer,  
Missouri State Penitentiary, stated that he could locate no  
record of anyone being incarcerated that department with  
the name of ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMYER, HARVEY LOWMEYER,  
or JOHN WILLARD.

44-760-1206

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WCM:jlh

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

On April 22, 1960, Missouri State Penitentiary,  
(MSP) records were checked and the following information  
obtained regarding CARL BENTON DRAKE:

DRAKE was received at the MSP, February 5, 1960,  
and assigned #00189, from St. Louis City to serve an 8 year  
sentence on charge of Robbery First Degree b/m of D & DW  
(three charges). He was discharged June 1, 1965.

He is described as a white male, born [redacted]  
at Greenville, Kentucky, height 5'8½", weight 148, brown hair,  
blue eyes, ruddy complexion, slender build, occupation  
construction, bricklayer and truck driver, FBI #1729B, prior  
MSP #72030.

**Relatives listed:**

Wife, BETTY DRAKE, 1308 Mill Street,  
Poplar Bluff, Missouri;

Mother, OLA DRAKE, 2118 N. 9th, St.  
Louis, Missouri;

Brother, JAMES DRAKE, 2118 N. 9th, St.  
Louis, Missouri;

Mother-in-Law, Mrs. LELA PLACE, 1308 Mill Street,  
Poplar Bluff, Missouri.

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[Signature]



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JAM:LAC

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The following investigation was conducted by  
SA JAMES A. MITCHELL:

AT SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI

On April 24, 1968, CHARLES GREEN, Identification Officer, Police Department, and JACK WILSON, Identification Officer, Sheriff's Office, separately advised they have no armed robberies or burglaries in which JAMES EARL RAY could be considered a suspect. They have no latents in either category of case that belong to RAY.

44-760-1809

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

At Jefferson City, Missouri:

On April 23, 1968, Missouri State Penitentiary (USP), records were checked for information re RUSSELL MARTIN. The following was obtained:

RUSSELL MARTIN, true name RUSSELL LEE MARTIN, was last received at the MSP, February 4, 1964, from Pemiscot County to serve a seven year sentence on charge of Fraudulent Check. He was assigned #08014. He was discharged on March 1, 1968.

MARTIN is described in this file as a white male, born [redacted] at Kennett, Missouri, 5'8", 164 pounds, gray hair, brown eyes, complexion ruddy, medium build, occupation - boiler room, scar on right temple; scar on abdomen, FBI No. 2 378 841, previous MSP numbers 65071 and 07471.

In 1963, when he was released from the MSP he married a woman named MAY ABBOTT and lived at Pascola, Missouri.

MARTIN violated two separate paroles and once escaped the Church Farm.

Conduct violations reflect that since 1961, he was in bed with another inmate, refusing a reasonable order, and other violations which necessitated the subject being placed in punitive segregation because he became involved in serious difficulty with other inmates, at which time he apparently related to the warden incriminating information against fellow inmates.

MARTIN's cell assignments under MSP #08014 are as follows:

February 4, 1964 to March 26, 1964 - State

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March 26, 1964 to August 10, 1965 - Rec. Cell

August 10, 1965 to November 18, 1965 - BB 21

November 18, 1965 to November 22, 1965 - B-Basement

November 22, 1965 to January 7, 1966 - BB 32

January 7, 1966 to April 6, 1966 - CB Dorm.

April 6, 1966 to May 25, 1967 - Fordland.

May 25, 1967 to March 1, 1968 - CU-19

Photographs of RUSSELL LEE MARTIN was obtained for Little Rock and St. Louis and sent by airmail.

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WCM:nks

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

At Jefferson City, Missouri:

On April 22-23, 1968, Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP) records were checked and the following information obtained:

JACK FOX LAMPHERE, MSP #06726, was received April 26, 1963, from Jackson County on charge of Robbery 1st Degree 2 charges, to serve a two year sentence. He was paroled on September 5, 1967.

Cell assignments at the MSP:

April 26, 1963 - 1-F;  
April 26, 1963 to May 31, 1963 - 1-F;  
May 31, 1963 to January 7, 1966 - F-89;  
January 7, 1966 to January 8, 1966 - A Hall  
January 8, 1966 to May 31, 1966 - A-51  
May 31, 1966 trans to Moberly

His FBI No. is listed as 397 852 A.

The emergency address is listed as Father, CLARK LAMPHERE, 626 1/2 S. Grant, Ft. Collins, Colorado.

JAMES HUGH CARPENTER, MSP #01761, was last received at the MSP, November 23, 1960, from St. Louis City to serve a ten year sentence on charge of Robber 1st Degree b/m of a Dangerous and Deadly Weapon; Assault with Intent to Rob (With Malice). He was discharged on May 1, 1967.

CARPENTER is described as a white male, born [redacted], at Jonesboro, Arkansas, 5'9", 150 pounds, gray hair, blue eyes, slender build, medium complexion, occupation - cook, FBI No. 230-243, Social Security No. [redacted], Army Serial No. 67393144. He is listed as being an alcoholic.

Relatives listed are:

Brother

EARL CARPENTER, Jonesboro or Nuttleton, Arkansas (Emergency Address)

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Half-Brother	JOHN WATERS, California
Half-Brother	NATH WATERS, Jonesboro, Arkansas
Half-Brother	BUD WATERS, Kennett, Missouri
Half-Brother	VERNON WATERS, California
Half-Brother	GLEN WATERS, Jonesboro, Arkansas
Friend	EULA HOWELL, 2102 Lafayette, St. Louis, Missouri;
Nephew	DON DEETER, 2201 Park Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri

Violation reports reflect:

January 12, 1959, Sodomy  
August 25, 1959, Assault Officer  
May 4, 1960, Eating on Main and Short Lines

His Cell assignments under last number are as follows:

December 22, 1960 to January 13, 1961 - F-35  
January 13, 1961 to February 7, 1962 - C-68  
February 7, 1962 to May 31, 1962 - C-90  
May 31, 1962 to August 9, 1962 - C-96  
August 9, 1962 to February 8, 1963 - E-228  
February 8, 1963 to July 10, 1963 - B-35  
July 10, 1963 to April 18, 1964 - B-75  
April 18, 1964 to August 28, 1964 - C-46  
August 28, 1964 to September 1, 1964 - K-62  
September 1, 1964 to December 11, 1964 - CB-8  
December 11, 1964 to December 29, 1964 - K-68  
December 29, 1964 to January 27, 1965 - K-125  
January 27, 1965 to April 30, 1965 - K-83  
April 30, 1965 to February 17, 1966 - K-67  
February 17, 1966 to March 18, 1966 - E-122  
March 18, 1966 to April 15, 1966 - C-15  
April 15, 1966 to April 28, 1966 - K-178  
April 28, 1966 to July 26, 1966 - K-69  
July 26, 1966 to August 8, 1966 - CB-28  
August 8, 1966 to May 1, 1967 - F-41

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RAYMOND LOUIS CURTIS, also known as RAYMOND CURTIS, was received at the MSP, May 15, 1962 from Oregon County, to serve a ten year sentence on charge of robbery. He was paroled June 27, 1966. He was given a new number 12347, which sentence is to be deferred until completion of parole on number 04849. The subsequent sentence resulted in an escape conviction in 1964.

Relatives listed in this file are as follows:

Mother	J. W. CURTIS, Box 21, Tunnel Hill, Georgia
Brother	JACK CURTIS, Box 21, Tunnel Hill, Georgia
Sister-in-law	BETTY CURTIS, same address
Brother-in-law	ANTHOR SCHODROF, 12442 S. Fairview, Blue Island, Illinois
Sister-in-law	GLORIA SCHODROF, same address
Wife	VIOLET CURTIS, 9609 Marion Avenue, Oak Lawn, Illinois
Brother	HERMAN CURTIS, Route 2, Box 18, Juneau, Wisconsin
Brother-in-law	KENNETH MARTIN, 3538 W. Columbus Avenue, Chicago, Illinois

CURTIS is described as a white male, born [redacted] at Dalton, Georgia, 6'3", 176 pounds, brown hair, blue eyes, slender build, medium complexion, numerous tattoos on arms.

Cell assignments previously furnished.

JERRY WILLIAM RYAN, MSP #71354, was received at the MSP July 21, 1956, to serve a five year sentence on charge of Armed Robbery; Breaking Jail (5,2) from Adair County. He was paroled August 1, 1958.

Records reflect that RYAN was previously incarcerated in the State Penitentiary, Menard, Illinois, to serve a two-five year sentence on charge of larceny.

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He is described as a white male, born [redacted] at Quincy, Illinois, 5'10 1/2", 146 pounds, dark brown hair, brown eyes, medium complexion, FBI No. 862 651 A, occupation - Spray painter.

Relatives listed in this file are as follows:

Mother	LUCILLE RYAN (RAY marked out) 701 1/2 Washington or 307 1/2 Kentucky, Quincy, Illinois
Father	JERRELD (LNU), no address
Sister	CAROL RYAN, 701 1/2 Washington or 307 1/2 Kentucky, Quincy, Illinois
Grandmother	MARY MAHER, same address as mother
Uncle	WILLIAM MAHER, 1118 E. 7th, Alton, Illinois
Brother	JOHN RYAN, #23401, Menard Branch, Illinois State Penitentiary

At the time of RYAN's parole from the MSP there was a detainer on file in favor of Division of Supervision of Paroles, Springfield, Illinois.

KC 44-760

WCM:jlh'

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

On April 19, 1968, Missouri Motor Vehicle Department,  
Driver's License Section records were checked for operator's  
license issued in the name of JAMES EARL RAY and known aliases.  
There is no record on file that appears to be identical with  
RAY.

44-760-1512

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JAB:cm

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The following investigation was conducted by SA  
JAMES ALLEN BENBROOK:

Mr. WILLIAM R. RUDDELL, Postal Inspector, Kansas City, Missouri, related that WILLIAM KENNETH KNIGHT is not known to him as a fence, that it is his belief that JAMES EARL RAY and his partner, WALTER TERRY RIFE, when apprehended in 1955 were passing postal money orders and not fencing them, and also that RAY and RIFE were probably those persons who actually burglarized the post office in Illinois from where the postal money orders were obtained although they stated they had purchased these money orders from an unknown individual.

Mr. RUDDELL said he knew of no fence handling money orders in 1955 in the Kansas City area who RAY or RIFE may have contacted.

44-760-1213

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WCM:jlh

1

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

On April 19, 1968, Missouri Motor Vehicle Department,  
Driver's License Section records were checked for operator's  
license issued in the name of JAMES EARL RAY and known aliases.  
There is no record on file that appears to be identical with  
RAY.

44-760-114

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*WCM*

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 29, 1968, Missouri State Penitentiary  
(MSP) file #73896, was reviewed regarding GEORGE WILLIAM  
RUSSELL, incarcerated from May 5, 1958 and released  
December 9, 1966, for cell assignments:

January 14, 1960 to September 20, 1961 - C-23;

September 20, 1961 to December 12, 1962 - C-104;

December 12, 1962 to June 28, 1963 - E-77;

June 28, 1963 to February 4, 1964 - C-57;

February 4, 1964 to February 11, 1964 - C-37;

February 11, 1964 to March 28, 1964 - G-17;

March 28, 1964 to November 9, 1965 - C-127

November 9, 1965 to Renz Farm and Moberly,  
discharged December 9, 1966.

44-760-1215

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
AUG 15 1968	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	

(121)

KC 44-760

WCM:bjc

1

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

AT JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI:

On April 29, 1968, the Identification Record  
of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI# 306 443 A was reviewed. There is  
no record of him being in the Missouri State Penitentiary  
prior to March 17, 1960.

*44-760-1816*

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
AUG 15 1968	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	

*157*

KC 44-760

1

The following investigation was conducted by SA RAY HOMESLEY:

At Kansas City, Missouri:

Kansas City, Missouri City Directory and Telephone Directory reveals no listing for Robby's Bar, 1964 to present, and there is no Taylor Street in Kansas City, Missouri. A City Directory for Kansas City, Kansas reveals a Taylor Avenue, but the numbers begin with the 1200 block and there are no bars listed on the street.

JOHN HAMMER, Liquor Control Board, 414 East 12th Street, Kansas City, advised on April 26, 1968, that he had reviewed his files on individuals of the last name COLE, but did not locate anyone, having worked for Robby's Bar, or a bar with a similar name sounding like Robby's.

HAMMER advised one MARY L. PORTER applied for clearance on March 27, 1964, for work as a waitress. She was born [redacted] and resided at 4835 Brooklyn, Kansas City, Missouri in 1964. HAMMER stated he does not have any current information regarding PORTER and that his file is in storage.

1967 Polk Directory for Independence, Missouri, shows MARY L. PORTER, waitress, Mark Go, Kansas City, Missouri and residing at 2332 Scott Avenue, Independence, Missouri. Kansas City, Missouri directory shows MARY L. PORTER, waitress at Mark-Ninety Drive-In, residing Independence, Missouri. The Mark Ninety Drive-In is located at 8950 Wornall Drive, telephone number EM 1-3902.

Contact of this drive-in revealed PORTER works evenings, coming in at about 4:30 PM.

MARY L. PORTER was contacted April 26, 1968, at Mark Ninety-Drive-In, and she stated she has never been married, and has no information regarding a MARY PORTER formerly married to ROBERT DALE PORTER.

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
AUG 15	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	
121	

44-760-1217

KC 44-760

2

CLARA LE VAN, Office Manager, Waitress Union Local 503, 216A West 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri, advised on April 26, 1968, she has no record of a MARY PORTER currently working as a waitress. One MARY LOUISE PORTER, 5025 Michigan, Kansas City, Missouri, worked at the Wishbone and La Louisiana Restaurants in 1965, but has not paid dues since that time and therefore is not an active member.

HELEN DONLEY, Credit Bureau of Greater Kansas City, 1110 Grand, advised on April 26, 1968, that records reveal a credit report dated September 24, 1965, for ROBERT DALE PORTER and wife, MARY PORTER, 3819 Wyandotte, Kansas City, Missouri, which reveals MARY PORTER has been employed for four or five months at the Town Topic Sandwich shops, 6648 South Benton, owner, CLAUDE J. SPARKS, telephone number GR 1-5018. The record shows he is age 37 and in the U.S. Army for approximately 10 years, stationed at Amarillo, Texas. No credit established. The record shows a divorce was filed in Kansas City on May 17, 1966.

Circuit Court records, Jackson County Courthouse, Kansas City, Missouri, reveal under number 678415, that MARY MARTHA PORTER, 3315 Baltimore, Kansas City, Missouri, filed a petition for divorce May 16, 1966. She was represented by Attorney CHRIS KAHMANN, 432A Altman Building and the petition shows MARY MARTHA PORTER and ROBERT DALE PORTER of the Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP), were married February 27, 1964, at Maysville, Missouri. That ROBERT PORTER has wholly disregarded his duties as a husband, being convicted of a felony at Cameron, Missouri in March 1964, and being sentenced to a seven year sentence at MSP. Also MARY MARTHA PORTER learned after marriage that PORTER had been convicted on seven or eight occasions in various states. A degree of default was granted to MARY MARTHA PORTER on June 21, 1966.

LEE CHAPMAN, Clerk, Kansas City, Missouri Police Department, furnished an arrest record regarding ROBERT DALE PORTER, number 102954, FBI No. 590 482, which shows he was arrested Kansas City, Missouri on September 3, 1963, on investigation of armed robbery and was released to the Clinton County Sheriff's Office, Missouri. Police Department records show PORTER has an arrest record dating back to 1946. No record was located for MARY MARTHA PORTER.

KC 44-760

3

A check on April 26, 1968, of the address at 3819 Wyandotte, Kansas City, Missouri, reveals that this address is now a parking lot.

The 1967 Polks Directory lists MARY M. PORTER at telephone number LO 1-6749, and one ~~JOHN F. COATES~~, JE 1-3719. A telephone call was made to each of the numbers and it was determined the numbers are no longer listed to this individual.

A check was made on April 26, 1968, of the address 608 East 9th Street, Kansas City, Missouri, and it was determined that the Emery Hotel has been demolished and a new building housing the Langley Optical Company is at that address.

KC 44-760

PGM:per

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On April 25, 1968, records of the Credit Bureau of Greater Kansas City showed that the last known address for STERLING JUNIOR HILL was 101 North Rogers. Other addresses shown in the file were 2716 Troost; 1521 South Magnolia Avenue, Los Angeles, California; 3008 Forest and 3129 Campbell. There was a bulletin report dated August 14, 1962, showing an additional address of 11316 Ditman. This referred to an irregular slow account handled by Securities Investment Company, 2830 Mc Gee Trafficway, Kansas City, Missouri. Another bulletin report dated November 7, 1962, showed HILL as a skip owing \$359.86 to City National Bank and Trust Company, which amount was charged to the Dealer's Reserve Account. HILL was married, on June 11, 1959, to GEORGIA ALLEN AHART of Bolivar, Missouri.

Another bulletin report dated August 2, 1962, from Jone's Store repeated the address 11316 Ditman and a former residence of Bolivar, Missouri. This report indicated HILL, age 22, with a wife and two children, was employed as a die maker at Solar Tool and Die Company, 2113 Harrison.

Other accounts were mentioned in the file with Household Finance Corporation, Waldo; Securities Credit Company, Olathe; SIC Company, Waldo.

44-760-1218

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
AUG 15	
FBI — KANSAS CITY	
	(M)



KC 44-760

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On April 25, 1968, LLOYD HILBURN, Chief of Police, Jackson County Jail, Kansas City, Missouri, advised that STERLING JUNIOR HILL under their file #42721, had been held there for the Missouri State Prison until April 22, 1968, when he was dismissed by the State of Missouri. This advice concerning this dismissal came from the Circuit Clerk's Office, Criminal Division, Judge JENSEN. The file indicated HILL was born [redacted] in Bolivar, Missouri, with residence on the date of arrest, December 13, 1962, at 3129 Campbell. On the date of December 19, 1962, HILL was charged with robbery first degree, along with JOHN EMMET WARRINER, following which HILL was found guilty and sentenced, on February 26, 1963, to 25 years by Judge BUZARD. HILL is 5'3" and weight was shown as 115 pounds. A photograph of STERLING JUNIOR HILL dated October 29, 1963, was obtained from HILBURN.

44-760-1819

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
AUG 15	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	

KC 44-760

RH:rmb

1

The following investigation was conducted by  
Special Agent RAY HOMESLEY:

Mrs. BEATRICE ROWE, 453 Highland, Kansas City, Missouri, advised on April 29, 1968, that she has resided at this address for over two years, and FRANCES STOKER JAMISON is unknown to her.

ROBERT W. LANG, Executive Director, Riverview Housing Authority, 239 Paseo, Kansas City, Missouri, stated his records show FRANCES JAMISON and three children reside at 453 Paseo, Kansas City, Missouri, where they have rented an apartment for a number of years. He said records show she has worked for Continental Grain Co., Box 36, Kansas City, Missouri, and the E. F. Selby Company, 1725 Linn, North Kansas City, Mo. He said records also show she has been separated from WILLIAM HOWARD JAMISON for two years. They were married January 23, 1960, by Reverend ROBERT B. WALLACE in Los Angeles, California.

Mrs. FRANCES STOKER JAMISON, 453 Paseo, Kansas City, Missouri, was contacted on April 29, 1968, at her place of employment, E. F. Selby Company, 1725 Linn, North Kansas City, Missouri. She advised she has been legally separated from her husband, WILLIAM HOWARD JAMISON, for about three years. Mrs. JAMISON said her husband has been extremely religious since he got out of prison, and in her opinion is "sick", but would not harm anyone. She said he was still in Kansas City, Kansas, at the time of Dr. KING's murder, and was residing at 906 Ohio, Kansas City, Kansas. Mrs. JAMISON stated she just received a letter on April 29, 1968, from her husband, in which he indicated he was an evangelist with Gospel Wings, 1948 Clinton, Los Angeles, California.

Mrs. JAMISON advised she does not know of any threatening statements her husband made regarding MARTIN LUTHER KING, but he might have made threatening statements during the six months he was in the John Birch Society. She said he has not associated with the John Birch Society since he was released from prison.

44-760-1220

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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AUG 15 1968	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	

*[Handwritten initials]*

KC 44-760

RH:rmb

The following investigation was conducted by  
Special Agent RAY HOMESLEY:

AT KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, AND INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI:

On April 24, 1968, Mr. LONNIE LANE, Private  
Detective, 122 South Liberty, Independence, Missouri, telephoned  
the Kansas City FBI Office and advised he had information  
concerning an individual who drives a light tan 1966 Mustang  
and recently purchased a rifle. He indicated this individual's  
whereabouts was unknown around the time of MARTIN  
KING's murder.

LONNIE LANE and FRANK BRADY, Private Detectives,  
122 South Liberty, Independence, Missouri, contacted on April  
24, 1968, and advised they had been hired by Mrs. WACO HAVNER,  
405 Marcela, Independence, Missouri, to determine the activities  
of her husband.

LANE advised that HAVNER is a strong segregationist  
and has actively supported GEORGE WALLACE until recently.  
He also advised HAVNER drives a light tan 1966 Mustang and  
was gone without explanation for a period of time around the  
date of MARTIN LUTHER KING's assassination. LANE stated  
HAVNER's description is similar to the published description  
of "JOHN WILLARD", who was registered at Brewer's Rooming  
House, Memphis, Tenn. He also stated HAVNER purchased a  
rifle recently.

LANE advised WACO HAVNER was born [redacted]  
[redacted] ht 5'10", weight 133 pounds, brown hair, brown eyes. He  
stated HAVNER has been employed for Hallmark Cards for  
approximately fifteen years and has a part-time job at Fowler  
Envelope Company.

On April 24, 1968, LEE CHAPMAN, Clerk, Records  
Bureau, Kansas City, Missouri, Police Department, advised he  
could locate no record concerning WACO HAVNER.

On April 24, 1968, KEITH BRADLEY, Personnel Office,  
Hallmark Cards, Kansas City, Missouri, advised that WACO  
HAVNER has been employed in the Warehouse Division since  
about 1951. BRADLEY stated he had checked with HAVNER's  
foreman and that HAVNER has not been off any days during  
March and April of 1968.

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
AUG 15 1968	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	

KC 44-760

2

LONNIE LANE, Private Detective, 122 South Liberty, Independence, Missouri, advised by telephone on April 27, 1968, that Mrs. WACO HAVNER has told his office to drop their investigation and to burn their file. He said Mrs. HAVNER said she was afraid for her life, and did not want the police called in because this involved her husband and all his friends. LANE stated Mrs. HAVNER had "practically admitted" that her husband was involved in the KING murder, but LANE could not furnish any specific statement made by Mrs. HAVNER.

LANE stated he had no information that HAVNER had been outside the Kansas City area during March or April, 1968. He furnished the names of associates as JAMES RIFE, a trucker, ROBERT S. EVANS, employee of Arkansas Best Freight Lines, HOWARD HAGGER, Kansas City, Missouri, Police Department Patrolman, and his employer, CLIFF FORCUM, at Fowler Envelope Company, 5th and Central, Kansas City, Missouri. To his knowledge HAVNER has no associates outside the Kansas City area. LANE did not desire that HAVNER, his wife, or associates, be interviewed at this time since they would have a good idea who furnished information to the FBI. LANE was advised that it did not appear that the FBI has any interest in HAVNER since the murderer of KING has been identified, and also because there is no indication that HAVNER has been out of the Kansas City area.

8/19/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760)  
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)  
SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR

OO MEMPHIS

If not already done, Kansas City should advise Missouri State Penitentiary officials to lodge their warrant with Shelby County SO, Memphis, Tenn., and Kansas City should thereafter request dismissal of the UFAP process now outstanding. Kansas City is requested to advise Memphis when this has been done.

② - Kansas City  
2 - Memphis  
JCH/ngm  
(4)

44-760-1222

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 21 1968	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	

150

F B I

Date: 8/19/68

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

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

**TO: SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760)**  
**FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)(P)**  
**SUBJECT: MURKIN**  
**CR**

**OO MEMPHIS**

If not already done, Kansas City should advise Missouri State Penitentiary officials to lodge their warrant with Shelby County SO, Memphis, Tenn., and Kansas City should thereafter request dismissal of the UFAP process now outstanding. Kansas City is requested to advise Memphis when this has been done.

Airtel \_\_\_\_\_

Teletype 2 - Kansas City

A.M. 2 - Memphis

JCH/ngm

A.M.S.D. (4)

Spec. Del. \_\_\_\_\_

Reg. Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Approved: R. Jensen  
Registered \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent handle 107 M Per Ayers

44-760-1222

SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED _____	FILED _____
AUG 21 1968	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	

Optional Form No. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT  
MEMORANDUM

TO : ALL SPECIAL AGENTS

DATE: 8/26/68

FROM: *(W)* SAC (44-760)

NO. 68-122

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
COST DATA

Each Agent is requested to submit to SA THOMAS J. CANNOLLY by COB 8/30/68, via routing slip, number of hours spent on the MURKIN case in the month of August, broken down as to regular and overtime hours, total mileage estimated or actually driven in Bucars on the case and any unusual or out of the ordinary costs in connection with this case.

cc - 66-232

TJC:B

SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED <i>/</i>	FILED <i>/</i>
FBI - KANSAS CITY	

Searched \_\_\_\_\_  
Serialized \_\_\_\_\_  
Indexed \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed \_\_\_\_\_

44-760-1223

8/27/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)  
FROM: SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) -P-  
SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR

OO: Memphis

Re Memphis airtel dated 8/19/68.

Kansas City has advised Missouri State Penitentiary officials to lodge their warrant with Shelby County Sheriff's Office, Memphis, Tennessee. Kansas City advised Memphis in letter dated 7/24/68 that on 7/22/68, U. S. Commissioner W. C. SHELEY, Jefferson City, Missouri, advised SA RAYMOND B. HOWE that he had dismissed the complaint against JAMES EARL RAY on that date.

2 - Memphis  
② - Kansas City  
RBH:lw  
(4)lw

44-760-1224

147

Searched	_____
Serialized	_____
Indexed	_____
Filed	_____



8/27/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)  
FROM: SAC, KANSAS CITY (44-760) -P-  
SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR

OO: Memphis

Re Memphis airtel dated 8/19/68.

Kansas City has advised Missouri State Penitentiary officials to lodge their warrant with Shelby County Sheriff's Office, Memphis, Tennessee. Kansas City advised Memphis in letter dated 7/24/68 that on 7/22/68, U. S. Commissioner W. C. SHELEY, Jefferson City, Missouri, advised SA RAYMOND B. HOWE that he had dismissed the complaint against JAMES EARL RAY on that date.

2 - Memphis  
② - Kansas City  
RBH:lw  
(4) *lw*

*[Handwritten signature]*

44-760-1224

*[Handwritten mark]*

Searched \_\_\_\_\_  
Serialized \_\_\_\_\_  
Indexed \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed \_\_\_\_\_

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Witness in Ray Case Wants His Freedom

Memphis (AP)—Charles Quitman Stephens has an air-conditioned private room, three meals a day, a television, radio and telephone and plenty of newspapers, books and magazines.

But the 57-year-old World War II veteran says he is unhappy.

So unhappy, in fact, that he has fired his public defender and hired two lawyers in an attempt to gain his release from the Shelby County penal farm.

Stephens was not sent to the farm because he committed a crime. He is being held in place of \$10,000 bond as a material witness in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King, jr.

Harvey L. Gibson and Jay Fred Friedman, Stephens's new attorneys, consider themselves bound to silence under a court order issued by Judge Preston Battle, the jurist who will preside in the trial of James Earl Ray. Ray is charged with murder in King's slaying.

But a source close to Stephens said Stephens is determined to get, if not complete freedom, "at least some of the amenities other free American citizens are guaranteed by the Constitution."

The district attorney general's office said Stephens was placed in protective custody to insure his safety and to assure his presence when needed to testify.

Stephens was a resident of the rooming house where police say the sniper fired the bullet that killed King April 4. He has told officers he saw a man fleeing the scene.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

4B Kansas City Star

Kansas City, Mo.

Date: 8/13/68  
Edition: Final  
Author:  
Editor: Richard B. Fowler  
Title: MURKIN

Character: CR  
or  
Classification: 44-760  
Submitting Office: Kansas City

Being Investigated

44-760-1205

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
AUG 13 1968	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	

*ky*





F B I

Date: 5-27-68

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

To: SAC, Jacksonville

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

ReBuairtel to Jackson, Dallas, Jacksonville, and Memphis dated 4-25-68; Dallas airtel to Bureau, Jackson, Atlanta, and Memphis dated 5-1-68; Atlanta airtel to Bureau, Jackson, Jacksonville, and Memphis dated 5-8-68; Jackson airtel to Bureau, Atlanta, Birmingham, Charlotte, Columbia, Dallas, Kansas City, and Memphis dated 5-15-68 and Bureau telephone call to Jacksonville on 5-22-68, all pertaining to Donald James Nissen and an alleged offer of \$100,000 by the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi to anyone who kills Martin Luther King, Jr.

Upon completion of a thorough review of referenced Jackson airtel dated 5-15-68, Kansas City is instructed to interview Leroy McManaman for all information he possesses concerning any offer by anyone of \$100,000 to kill King.

- 3 - Jacksonville (encl. 6)  
(1 - 76-1108)
- 3 - Atlanta (encl. 4)  
(1 - 76-2876)
- 3 - Houston (encl. 8)
- 3 - Las Vegas (encl. 8)
- 2 - Memphis
- 3 - Phoenix (encl. 6)  
(1 - 76-2865)

44-1987-Sub B-294

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 29 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

44-760-1227

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 26 1968	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	

Home 12011

Airtel to SAC, Jacksonville  
RE: MURKIN

For the information of the recipient offices, Donald Nissen is currently the subject of the case "Donald James Nissen - Fugitive; Parole Violator," office of origin, Phoenix, Phoenix file 76-2865, Bureau file 76-30305.

Enclosed for Atlanta, Houston, Jacksonville, and Las Vegas are two copies each of Bureau letter dated 4/29/68, captioned "Donald James Nissen - Fugitive; PV" and Board of Parole Warrant Application dated 4/2/68.

Enclosed for Houston, Jacksonville, and Las Vegas are two copies each of referenced Jackson airtel dated 5/15/68.

Enclosed for Houston and Las Vegas are two copies each of referenced Atlanta airtel dated 5/8/68.

Enclosed for Phoenix are two copies each of referenced Dallas airtel dated 5/1/68; Atlanta airtel dated 5/8/68; and Jackson airtel dated 5/15/68.

Should Nissen be apprehended by any recipient office, he should be interviewed to determine if he has obtained any additional information since last interviewed on 6/2/67, regarding any offer to kill King.

LEADS:

Atlanta, Georgia. Continue appropriate investigation to locate and apprehend Nissen.

Houston at Corpus Christi, Texas. Referenced Atlanta airtel 5/8/68, indicates Nissen in December, 1967, may have obtained employment with the Americana Encyclopedia Company, Corpus Christi, Texas. Conduct appropriate investigation to locate and apprehend Nissen.

Jacksonville at Panama City, Florida. Conduct investigation requested in referenced Atlanta airtel dated 5/8/68, in an attempt to locate and apprehend Nissen.

Airtel to SAC, Jackson  
RE: MURKIN

Las Vegas at Reno, Nevada. Referenced Atlanta airtel 5-8-68, indicates Nissen possibly is in the Panama City, Florida, area selling a product known as the Auto Safety Control. The company that manufactures this device is reportedly located at Reno. Nissen's written monthly report to the Parole Board for December, 1967, listed employment with the American Auto Safety Corporation, Atlanta, Georgia. It is possible the home office of this company is located in Reno, Nevada, area. Conduct appropriate investigation to locate and apprehend Nissen.

1  
SL 44-775  
CBB/leh

DONALD JAMES NISSEN, FBI Number 607 320 A, was a parole violator in case in which Phoenix was origin. He had previously made telephonic contact with SA G. WAYNE MACK of the Phoenix Office and made arrangements to surrender himself to agent MACK at St. Louis on August 5, 1968.

On the morning of August 5, 1968, NISSEN called the St. Louis Office from the Municipal Airport at St. Louis stating he had just arrived by plane from Tampa, Florida, and desired to surrender to the FBI. He was subsequently taken in custody by SA CLETIS B. BIDEWELL and SA G. WAYNE MACK and upon interview furnished the following information:

NISSEN has remarried and his wife, who is pregnant, is living and working in Tampa, Florida. NISSEN has been working as a salesman for a book company which he declined to name and stated he has been doing very well financially. Until around the first of December NISSEN was living and working in the Atlanta, Georgia, area. Around the first or second of December, 1967, as he was leaving the Federal Building in Atlanta after having made his regular contact with his probation officer, he was hailed on the steps of the Federal Building by an individual, unknown to him. This person asked if he was DON NISSEN and when he replied in the affirmative, this individual stated he had a message for him from MAC. NISSEN understood MAC to be LEROY MC MENAMAN, who had advised him while they were fellow inmates at Leavenworth Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, that \$100,000 had been offered by the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi to be paid to anyone who would kill MARTIN LUTHER KING.

The person accosting NISSEN on the steps of the Atlanta Federal Building then stated that apparently somebody had done some talking and NISSEN assumed he made reference to information that he had furnished to the FBI in Sherman, Texas, in April, 1967. Before any more conversation transpired, the individual who had transported NISSEN to the Federal Building called to him from across the street and the unknown individual immediately walked away from him. It was NISSEN's assumption that this person thought the individual calling him might be an FBI agent or police officer and did not desire that his identity be learned.

44-760-1228

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
AUG 6 1968	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	

Shawne [Signature] [Signature]



SL 44-775

NISSEN described the individual accosting him as a white male, age 30-35, 5'10", 165-170 pounds, blond hair, cut medium short, and slightly wavy. He stated he was extremely well dressed in obviously expensive clothes.

NISSEN went on to state the more he thought about this incident, the more alarmed he became and left the vicinity of Atlanta shortly thereafter and obtained other employment. The only other incident which served to arouse his suspicion were telephone calls made for him to his place of employment in which the individual calling declined to reveal his identity. NISSEN stated he considered relating above facts to his parole officer at Atlanta but resolved against it since he did not trust his parole officer too much and was afraid his parole might be revoked automatically. He also considered contacting the FBI Office in Atlanta but decided against this also. According to NISSEN he felt uncomfortable and worried in the Atlanta area in view of the information he had furnished in connection with the bounty on MARTIN LUTHER KING and the fact that the Ku Klux Klan was reportedly strong in that area. He stated it was his understanding that the Deputy United States Marshal, name unknown to him, who went to work about the time he started reporting to his parole officer at Atlanta was supposed to be a member of the Ku Klux Klan.

With reference to information furnished him by LEROY MC MENAMAN while at Leavenworth Penitentiary, NISSEN stated that in one conversation, MC MENAMAN told him that if, after his arrival at Atlanta, he could find out MARTIN LUTHER KING's travel route and itinerary, he could earn \$100,000 for himself.

8/21/68

airtel

To: SAC, Memphis Enc.

From: Director, FBI

DONALD JAMES NISSEN  
PAROLE VIOLATOR

MURKIN

Enclosed for Memphis is one copy of investigative insert reflecting interview of subject by Agents of the St. Louis Office on 8/5/68. It is noted that Nissen claims that he absconded and therefore violated his parole because he possesses information concerning the Martin Luther King, Jr., assassination and therefore fears for his life. Nissen has apparently made this claim to his probation officer who in turn has furnished same to the U. S. Board of Parole.

Memphis is requested to prepare letterhead memorandum for dissemination to the U. S. Board of Parole outlining the results of the interview of Nissen by St. Louis Agents on 8/5/68. Also include in the letterhead memorandum other information bearing on Nissen's claim. In this regard if investigation has not substantiated the alleged contact by individual allegedly representing Leroy McMenaman, same should be clearly set out in the letterhead memorandum. Handle promptly and furnish to Bureau by airtel.

1 - St. Louis  
1 - Phoenix

44-760-1329

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....	SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....	SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
AUG 26 1968		FBI - MEMPHIS	
FBI - KANSAS CITY		Howe	