

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

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FEDERAL BUREAU

of ~~X~~ DO NOT DESTROY
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NATIONAL ARCHIVES

FILE STRIPPED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

INVESTIGATION

DATE 6/18/03 BY SP1clh/rs

Bureau File Number 44-38861

ENTIRE FILE REVIEWED
FOR HISTORICAL
DECLASSIFICATION

See also Nos. 157-1298
1A section

DO NOT DESTROY
RESERVE FOR SELECT
COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

see 197-1-1

Fleming
4/7/68

CLASSIFICATION NO.
44-696

Volume Number
132-326

Serials

F B I

Date: 4/19/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AM
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: SAC, ALBANY

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P

MURKIN

At about 6 p.m. on 4/4/68, while standing on the second floor balcony outside Room 306 of the Lorraine Motel, 406 Mulberry Street, Memphis, Tennessee, Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. was struck in the right side of the face by a single bullet fired from a 30-06 rifle. The bullet severed KING's spinal cord and death was almost instantaneous.

This investigation, predicated upon a specific request from the Attorney General of the United States, disclosed that the fatal shot had been fired from the bathroom of a cheap rooming house located at 422½ South Main Street, Memphis, which bathroom was located at the rear of the rooming house, and had a window overlooking the Lorraine Motel.

At about 3 p.m. on 4/4/68, an individual using the name JOHN WILLARD had rented Room 5-B in the rooming house at 422½ South Main Street and had paid one week's rent. After hearing the rifle shot at about 6 p.m. on that same day, other tenants in the rooming house observed a man presumably identical with WILLARD, fleeing from the rooming house carrying a large package which was subsequently abandoned by him on the sidewalk in front of the Canipe Amusement Co., 424 South Main Street, Memphis. A neighborhood investigation in the vicinity of 424 South Main Street disclosed that the subject had fled from the scene in a white Mustang.

Found abandoned in front of 424 South Main Street was a 30-06 Remington model 760 rifle which was determined to have been

2 ALBANY

2 ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES

1 MEMPHIS

RGJ:BN
(111)

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

ME 44-1987

sold to one HARVEY LOWMEYER on 3/30/68 by Aeromarine Supply Co., Birmingham, Alabama.

Investigation at Memphis disclosed that an individual had purchased a set of binoculars at the York Arms Company in Memphis on 4/4/68. These binoculars were among the material abandoned with the rifle and recovered in Memphis. Also recovered was a brown and green herringbone bedspread. The items abandoned in Memphis were all wrapped in this bedspread. The blue bag which was inside the bedspread contained numerous items, among which were the binoculars and a set of underwear consisting of a T-shirt and shorts. The T-shirt and shorts are those on which appears the laundry mark which has been a matter of interest in this case.

A search of motel records in the Memphis area disclosed that an individual using the name ERIC S. GALT had spent the night of 4/3/68 at the Rebel Motel, Memphis, Tennessee, and was driving a 1966 white Mustang bearing Alabama License 1-38993. Investigation at Birmingham disclosed that this automobile had been purchased by ERIC S. GALT on August 30, 1968, from a private person in response to a newspaper ad. He paid a total of \$1995 cash. While in Birmingham he furnished the address of 2608 South Highland Avenue, Birmingham. This is also the address which appeared on a driver's license issued to him by the State of Alabama. The driver's license identifying data listed his birth date as [redacted], his height as 5'11", his weight as 170 and his eyes blue and hair brown.

The automobile in question, the white Mustang bearing the Alabama tags mentioned above, was recovered in Atlanta on 4/11/68 and determined to have been abandoned there prior to 9 a.m. on 4/5/68.

In connection with the evidence submitted by Atlanta, Birmingham, and Memphis, identifiable latent prints were recovered. It was on the basis of these latents that identification was made of JAMES EARL RAY. In handling future leads, all offices should be particularly interested in securing an identifying number, military, police, or FBI, in connection with suspects so that the necessary check can be made through the Identification Division.

On 4/17/68, AUSA R. MACEY TAYLOR, Birmingham, authorized the filing of a complaint charging ERIC STARVO GALT with a conspiracy to violate Section 241, Title 18, U. S. Code, and

ME 44-1987

recommended bond in the amount \$50,000. On that same date, SAC JOSEPH H. GAMBLE filed a complaint before USC MILDRED F. SPRAGUE, Birmingham, and warrant was issued that same date.

For further information re JAMES EARL RAY, all offices are directed to press release furnished them by the Bureau on 4/19/68.

ARMED & DANGEROUS.

F B I

Date: 4/19/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: SAC, ALBANY
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN - COST DATA

ReButel to ME 4/17/68.

For information of all offices, the Bureau by retel requested of the Memphis Division as follows:

"Please furnish following information on above matter compiled or estimated through 4/30/68, and thereafter submit cumulative totals through the end of each month until further notice:

- 1) Number of man hours spent on case broken down as to regular hours, overtime hours, and total man hours by following employees (separate figures for each class of employees shown):
 - A. Special Agents
 - B. Clerical Employees
- 2) Total mileage (estimated or actual) traveled by Bucars used on case. Include mileage for cars traveling to and from other field offices on special assignment and any personally-owned cars.
- 3) Any unusual or out-of-ordinary costs, such as cost of chartering airplane, rental of special office space, leased telephone lines, etc. These should be itemized and cost of each item shown.

① - Each Office KX
2 - Memphis
HEG:LF
(59)

P T - at make table 44-1987-133 K

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

F

ME 44-1987

- 4) Peak number of Special Agents working on case during month for which report is submitted.

 You should promptly request all Bureau offices involved in this case to furnish information requested herein to you and it should be included in your report."

Each office is requested to expeditiously furnish the Memphis Division with the above designated data within two work days after the close of each month. Secondly, each office is also requested to advise the Memphis Division even in the event each category is zero or no work is performed on this case during the month.

F B I

Date: 4/19/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO : ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES
FROM : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
CIVIL RIGHTS
(OO: ME)

Re Albany airtels 4/10/68 and 4/11/68, setting forth concerns who purchased Thermo-Seal marking machines, and Bureau teletype to Memphis, 4/12/68.

The FBI Laboratory advised that pillowcase and bed sheet were found in trunk of 1966 white Mustang registered to ERIC STARVO GALT, which was located at Atlanta 4/11/68. These items contain Thermo-Seal laundry tapes of approximately same size as tapes on items previously recovered, but are yellow in color and contain code, "2OR-3." In opinion of Textile Marking Machine Company, Syracuse, New York, the tapes were produced by a different machine than previous tapes since the first three characters are 15 point type and the last two characters are 18 point type,

The Textile Marking Machine Company suggests the twenty in above code would be the lot number, the R may mean that this was a return of a batch of laundry, and the three is the bundle number.

LEADSALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES

Will recontact laundries determined to be operating Thermo-Seal Marking Machines in an effort to locate laundry using the code, "2OR-3."

2 - All Continental Offices
2 - Memphis
GMR:jms (118)

Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

FI-COLUMBIA

FBI ATLANTA

1052 AM EST URGENT 4-20-68 MJJ

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), COLUMBIA (44-299) (26-2192)

FROM ATLANTA (44-2386) 1 PAGE

MURKIN. CR.

RE COLUMBIA TELETYPE TO BUREAU, THIS DATE.

INFORMATION IN POSSESSION OF ATLANTA INDICATES GEORGE WILBURN STRENGTH COMPLETELY UNRELIABLE. HE HAS ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS IN THE PAST FURNISHED FALSE INFO. IT IS NOTED CURRENT ARREST OF STRENGTH AT GREENVILLE, S.C., BASED ON BENCH WARRANT ISSUED IN ATLANTA WHICH BENCH WARRANT WAS OCCASIONED BY STRENGTH JUMPING BOND. NOTHING IN ATLANTA FILE INDICATES STRENGTH IS RELIABLE IN ANY RESPECT.

MAIL COPIES TO KNOXVILLE AND MEMPHIS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P

END

PXB

FBI-COLUMBIA

SAA
FBI WASH DC

44-299-135
K 2
Fleming JH

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-696)

FROM : SA GEORGE F. ZOGRAFOS

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4/22/68

On 4/4/68 KX 1006-R was contacted to determine if he had received any information concerning the identity of the individual responsible for the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING. Informant stated that he could suggest the name of no one whom he would suspect of being responsible for this crime. Informant advised that when the crime occurred the members of Maryville Klavern No. 1 of the UKA, Inc., KKKK, were holding their regular closed meeting at the Klan Hall in Maryville, Tennessee. Informant stated that when news came to them that KING had been assassinated all members seemed rather shocked and some commented that it was not surprising because KING had been making a lot of people mad by his statements that this summer he was advocating mass civil disobedience throughout the United States. Informant advised that the following members of Maryville Klavern No. 1 were present on 4/4/68 when KING was assassinated:

RAYMOND R. ANDERSON
W. H. ANDERSON
BILLY A. BAKER
J. C. BAKER
SANDERS LEEPER
REID LINDSEY
BUD LAWSON
R. D. MOODY
TOM PACK, JR.
ANDREW HERBERT PAYNE

Informant stated that Klansman W. H. EFFLER was in Columbia, Tennessee, visiting with his son-in-law

1 - 170-6A
1 - 170-196A
1 - 170-228A
1 - 170-7
1 - 170-188

44-696-136

K

GFZ:lmh
(7)



5010-108

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

Henry H4

KX 44-696

(FNU) ALLISON. Informant added that in the event he receives any information regarding the person responsible for this assassination, he would immediately contact the writer.

On the dates indicated the following informants were contacted regarding any information they may have concerning the identity of the person responsible for the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING. They all stated they had no information and were unable to suggest anyone whom they would believe responsible for this act:

KX 1024-R, contacted 4/5/68;
KX 1027-R (PROB), contacted 4/5/68;
KX 1012-R (PROB), contacted 4/5/68;
KENNETH C. HICKS - R (PROB), contacted 4/5/68.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-696)

DATE: 4/22/68

FROM : SA JAMES F. POLATTIE

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 4/5/68 and 4/6/68, KX 212-C, KX 162-C, and KX 243-C were all contacted in an effort to determine whether or not they had received any information indicating racial unrest and any contemplated riots or trouble as a result of the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING. All stated on both occasions that nothing concrete concerning any trouble had come to their attention indicating any trouble in the City of Knoxville or vicinity of Knoxville. All stated that they would be especially aware of any contemplated trouble and would immediately contact the writer if they heard any rumors that appeared to be any basis of fact.

① - 44-696
1 - 137-15
1 - 137-1426
1 - 137-2340
1 - 157-289

JFP/pjw
(5)

44-696-137

K

Herning J4



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-696)

FROM : SA JAMES H. RIKE

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4/22/68

On 4/16/68, Sheriff M. B. GIBSON, Sevierville, Tenn., advised there were no dancing schools in Sevier County.

On 4/16/68, Mrs. SARAH OWEN, Van Metre School of Dance, Alcoa Plaza, at Gill Street, Alcoa, Tenn., advised that the only dancing school in Blount County is operated by her and this school is for children only taking ballet. No adult males are in this school.

① - 44-696

JHR:cc

W

44-696-138

Fleming *JA*



5010-108

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

**CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY
INTERSTATE FLIGHT - ROBBERY**

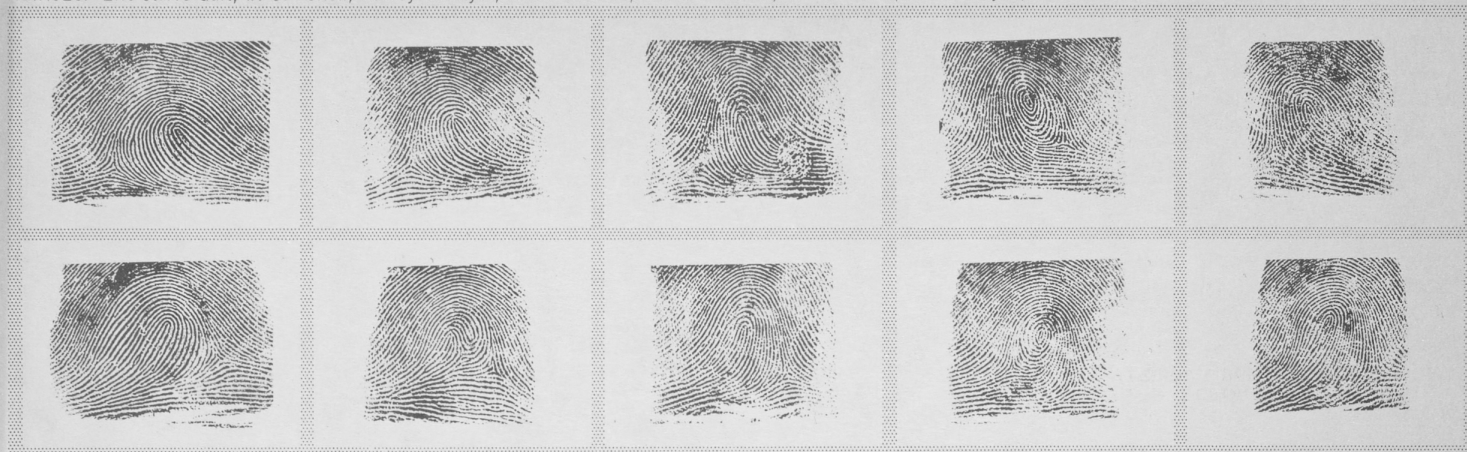
I. O. 4182
4-20-68

WANTED BY FBI

JAMES EARL RAY

FBI No. 405,942 G
16 M 9 U 000 12
M 4 W 101

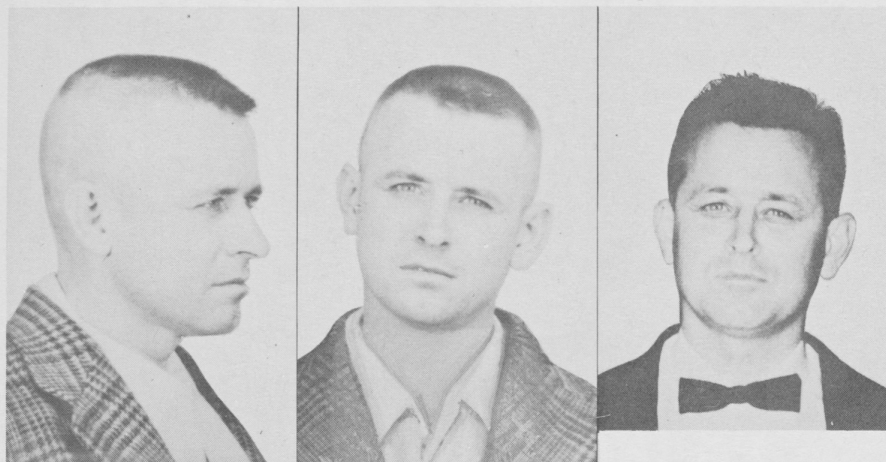
ALIASES: Eric Starvo Galt, W. C. Herron, Harvey Lowmyer, James McBride, James O'Conner, James Walton, James Walyon, John Willard, "Jim"



Photographs taken 1960

Photograph taken 1968
(eyes drawn by artist)

James Ray



DESCRIPTION

AGE: 40, born March 10, 1928, Alton, Illinois
HEIGHT: 5' 10"
WEIGHT: 163 to 174 pounds
BUILD: medium
HAIR: brown, possibly cut short
OCCUPATIONS: baker, color matcher, laborer
SCARS AND MARKS: small scar on center of forehead and small scar on palm of right hand
EYES: blue
COMPLEXION: medium
RACE: white
NATIONALITY: American
REMARKS: noticeably protruding left ear; reportedly is a lone wolf; allegedly attended dance instruction school; has reportedly completed course in bartending

CRIMINAL RECORD

Ray has been convicted of burglary, robbery, forging U. S. Postal Money Orders, armed robbery, and operating motor vehicle without owner's consent.

CAUTION

RAY IS SOUGHT IN CONNECTION WITH A MURDER WHEREIN THE VICTIM WAS SHOT. CONSIDER ARMED AND EXTREMELY DANGEROUS.

A Federal warrant was issued on April 17, 1968, at Birmingham, Alabama, charging Ray as Eric Starvo Galt with conspiring to interfere with a Constitutional Right of a citizen (Title 18, U. S. Code, Section 241). A Federal warrant was also issued on July 20, 1967, at Jefferson City, Missouri, charging Ray with Interstate Flight to Avoid Confinement for the crime of Robbery (Title 18, U. S. Code, Section 1073).

**IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS PERSON, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL FBI OFFICE.
TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND ADDRESSES OF ALL FBI OFFICES LISTED ON BACK.**

Identification Order 4182
April 20, 1968

J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C. 20535

44-696-139

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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

(1/12/68)

Located at:	Building	Telephone
ALBANY, New York 12207	502 U. S. Post Office & Ct. House	465-7551
ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico 87101	4303 Federal Office Bldg.	Chapel 7-1555
ANCHORAGE, Alaska 99501	Room 204, Federal Building	272-6414
ATLANTA, Georgia 30303	275 Peachtree St., N. E.	Jackson 1-3900
BALTIMORE, Maryland 21202	408 U. S. Post Office Bldg.	Lexington 9-6700
BIRMINGHAM, Alabama 35203	Room 1400 - 2121 Bldg.	322-7711
BOSTON, Massachusetts 02203	John F. Kennedy Federal Office Building	Richmond 2-5533
BUFFALO, New York 14202	400 U. S. Court House Bldg.	856-7800
BUTTE, Montana 59701	400 Thornton Building	792-2304
CHARLOTTE, North Carolina 28202	1120 Jefferson Standard Life Bldg.	333-4126
CHICAGO, Illinois 60604	Room 905, U. S. Court House & Federal Office Building	431-1333
CINCINNATI, Ohio 45202	415 U. S. Post Office & Court House Building	421-4310
CLEVELAND, Ohio 44199	3005 Federal Office Building	522-1400
COLUMBIA, South Carolina 29201	1529 Hampton Street	252-1911
DALLAS, Texas 75201	Room 200 - 1810 Commerce Street	Riverside 1-1851
DENVER, Colorado 80202	Room 18218, Federal Office Bldg.	222-5981
DETROIT, Michigan 48226	913 Federal Building & U. S. Court House	Woodward 5-2323
EL PASO, Texas 79901	202 U. S. Court House Bldg.	533-7451
HONOLULU, Hawaii 96813	206 Dillingham Building	59546
HOUSTON, Texas 77002	6015 Federal Building & U. S. Court House	Capitol 8-1414
INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana 46207	1221 North Pennsylvania Street	632-6415
JACKSON, Mississippi 39201	Room 800 - First Federal Savings Building	948-5000
JACKSONVILLE, Florida 32202	414 U. S. Court House & Post Office Building	355-1401
KANSAS CITY, Missouri 64106	707 U. S. Court House Building	Baltimore 1-6100
KNOXVILLE, Tennessee 37902	617 Walnut Street, Southwest	524-2721
LAS VEGAS, Nevada 89101	Room 2-011 Federal Office Bldg.	385-1281
LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas 72201	215 U. S. Post Office Bldg.	FR 2-3157
LOS ANGELES, California 90017	1340 West 6th Street	Hubbard 3-3551
LOUISVILLE, Kentucky 40202	Room 701, Bank of Louisville Bldg.	583-3941
MEMPHIS, Tennessee 38103	841 Federal Office Bldg.	525-7372
MIAMI, Florida 33137	3801 Biscayne Boulevard	379-2421
MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin 53202	735 U. S. Post Office, Customs & Court House Building	276-4684
MINNEAPOLIS, Minnesota 55401	392 Federal Building	Federal 9-7861
MOBILE, Alabama 36602	520 Federal Building	438-3674
NEWARK, New Jersey 07101	U. S. Post Office & Court House Building	622-5613
NEW HAVEN, Connecticut 06510	510 The Trust Company Bldg.	787-1217
NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana 70113	701 Loyola Avenue	522-4671
NEW YORK, New York 10021	201 East 69th Street	Lehigh 5-7700
NORFOLK, Virginia 23510	420 U. S. Post Office & Court House Building	625-1631
OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma 73118	5104 N. Francis Street	Victor 2-7471
OMAHA, Nebraska 68102	1010 Federal Office Bldg.	348-1210
PHILADELPHIA, Pennsylvania 19107	500 Widener Building	LOCust 3-5300
PHOENIX, Arizona 85013	244 West Osborn Road	Crestwood 9-5511
PITTSBURGH, Pennsylvania 15222	1300 Federal Office Bldg.	471-2000
PORTLAND, Oregon 97205	423 U. S. Court House Bldg.	224-4181
RICHMOND, Virginia 23220	200 West Grace Street	644-2631
SACRAMENTO, California 95814	2020 J Street	441-1275
ST. LOUIS, Missouri 63103	2704 Federal Building	Chestnut 1-5357
SALT LAKE CITY, Utah 84111	3203 Federal Building	Elgin 5-7521
SAN ANTONIO, Texas 78206	433 Federal Building	CA 5-6741
SAN DIEGO, California 92103	3211 Fifth Avenue	297-3361
SAN FRANCISCO, California 94102	450 Golden Gate Avenue, Box 36015	552-2155
SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico 00917	Pan Am Building	765-6000
SAVANNAH, Georgia 31405	255 Ponce de Leon Avenue	354-9911
SEATTLE, Washington 98104	5401 Paulsen Street	354-9911
SPRINGFIELD, Illinois 62701	1015 Second Avenue	Main 2-0460
TAMPA, Florida 33602	421 South Sixth Street	522-9675
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535	Room 610, Federal Office Bldg.	228-7661
	506 Old Post Office Building	393-7100

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

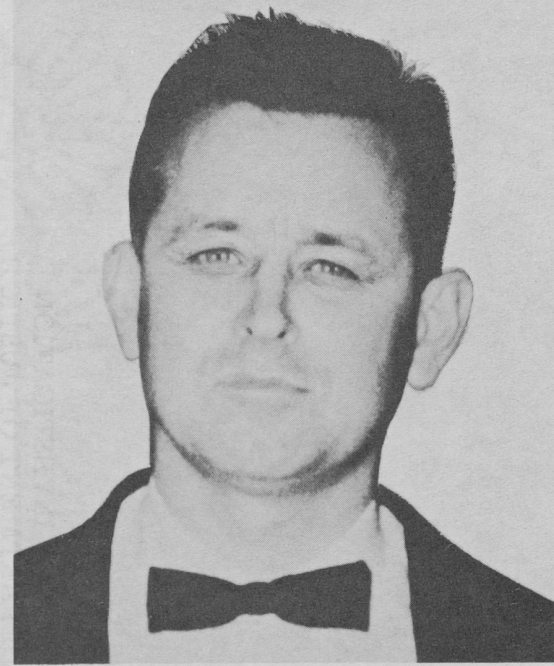
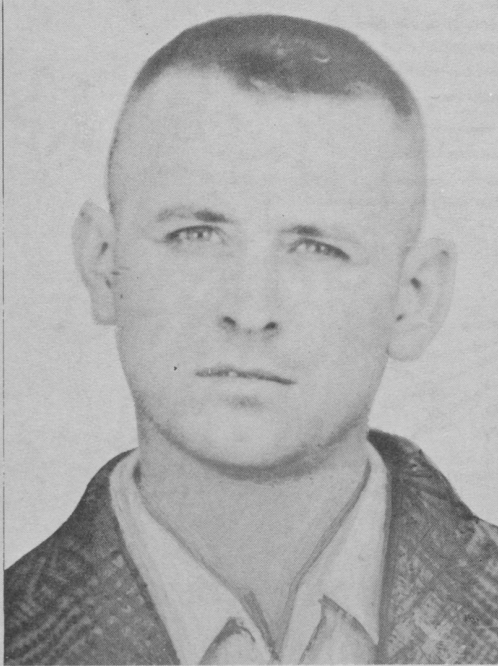
BUSCADO POR EL FBI

DERECHOS CIVILES - CONSPIRACION FUGA INTERESTATAL - ROBO JAMES EARL RAY

Nº de FBI 405,942 G



Fotografías tomada en 1960



Fotografía tomada en 1968
(Los ojos son dibujados por un artista.)

También conocido por: Eric Starvo Galt, W. C. Herron, Harvey Lowmyer, James McBride, James O'Conner, James Walton, James Walyon, John Willard, "Jim."

DESCRIPCION

Edad: 40 años, nacido el 10 de marzo de 1928 en Quincy o Alton, Estado de Illinois (fecha y lugar de nacimiento no confirmados por documentos)

Estatura: 5'10" (175 cm.)

Peso: de 163 hasta 174 libras (73 - 79.5 kg.)

Complexión: Mediana

Cabello: Castaño, posiblemente corto

Profesión: Hornero, cotejador de colores para igualarlos, jornalero

Cicatrices y Otras Señas: Pequeña cicatriz en el centro de la frente y pequeña cicatriz en la palma de la mano derecha.

Rasgos Característicos: La oreja izquierda sobresale perceptiblemente. Alegan que es persona de índole solitaria. Se dice que frecuentó cursos de baile. Se dice también que completó un curso de "barman" (cantinero).

Ojos: Azules

Tez: Mediana

Raza: Blanca

Nacionalidad: Norteamericana

Clasificación Dactiloscópica: 16 M 9 U 000 12

M 4 W IOI

ANTECEDENTES CRIMINALES

Ray ha sido condenado por escalamiento, robo, falsificación de giros postales de los EE. UU., robo armado, y manejo de vehículo de motor sin el consentimiento del dueño.

PRECAUCION

SE BUSCA A RAY EN RELACION CON UN ASESINATO EN QUE LA VICTIMA MURIO DE UN BALAZO. SE LE DEBE CONSIDERAR ARMADO Y SUMAMENTE PELIGROSO.

Una orden Federal de arresto se emitió el 17 de abril de 1968 en Birmingham, Estado de Alabama, acusándose a Ray, bajo el nombre de Eric Starvo Galt, del delito de conspiración para interferir con un Derecho Constitucional de un ciudadano (Título 18, Código de los EE. UU., Sección 241). Otra orden Federal de arresto se había emitido el 20 de julio de 1967 en Jefferson City, Estado de Missouri, acusándose a Ray de fuga interestatal para evitar encarcelamiento por el delito de robo (Título 18, Código de los EE. UU., Sección 1073).

SI TIENE ALGUNA INFORMACION RELACIONADA A ESTA PERSONA, TENGA LA BONDAD DE NOTIFICARME O DE PONERSE EN CONTACTO CON LA OFICINA LOCAL DEL FBI (BURO FEDERAL DE INVESTIGACIONES). EL NUMERO DE TELEFONO Y DIRECCION DE TODAS LAS OFICINAS ESTAN ANOTADOS AL DORSO.

Requisitoria 442-A
Abril 19, 1968

J. Edgar Hoover
DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535
TELEPHONE, NATIONAL 8-7117

CITY	BUILDING	TELEPHONE
ALBANY, New York 12207	502 U. S. Post Office and Court House	518 465-7551
ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico 87101	4303 Federal Office Building	505 CH 7-1555
ANCHORAGE, Alaska 99501	Room 204, Federal Building	272-6414
ATLANTA, Georgia 30303	275 Peachtree Street, N. E.	404 JA 1-3900
BALTIMORE, Maryland 21202	408 U. S. Post Office Building	301 LE 9-6700
BIRMINGHAM, Alabama 35203	Room 1400 - 2121 Building	205 322-7711
BOSTON, Massachusetts 02203	John F. Kennedy Federal Office Building	617 RI 2-5533
BUFFALO, New York 14202	400 U. S. Court House Building	716 856-7800
BUTTE, Montana 59701	400 Thornton Building	406 792-2304
CHARLOTTE, North Carolina 28202	1120 Jefferson Standard Life Building	704 333-4126
CHICAGO, Illinois 60604	Room 905, U. S. Court House & Federal Office Bldg	312 431-1333
CINCINNATI, Ohio 45202	415 U. S. Post Office & Court House Building	513 421-4310
CLEVELAND, Ohio 44199	3005 Federal Office Building	216 522-1400
COLUMBIA, South Carolina 29201	1529 Hampton Street	803 252-1911
DALLAS, Texas 75201	Room 200, 1810 Commerce Street	214 RI 1-1851
DENVER, Colorado 80202	Room 18218, Federal Office Building	303 222-5981
DETROIT, Michigan 48226	913 Federal Building & U. S. Court House	313 WO 5-2323
EL PASO, Texas 79901	202 U. S. Court House Building	915 533-7451
HONOLULU, Hawaii 96813	206 Dillingham Building	59546
HOUSTON, Texas 77002	6015 Federal Building & U. S. Court House	713 CA 8-1414
INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana 46207	1221 North Pennsylvania Street	317 632-6415
JACKSON, Mississippi 39201	Room 800 - First Federal Savings Building	601 948-5000
JACKSONVILLE, Florida 32202	414 U. S. Court House & Post Office Building	904 355-1401
KANSAS CITY, Missouri 64106	707 U. S. Court House Building	816 BA 1-6100
KNOXVILLE, Tennessee 37902	617 Walnut Street, Southwest	615 524-2721
LAS VEGAS, Nevada 89101	Room 2-011 Federal Office Building	702 385-1281
LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas 72201	215 U. S. Post Office Building	501 FR 2-3157
LOS ANGELES, California 90017	1340 West 6th Street	213 483-3551
LOUISVILLE, Kentucky 40202	Room 701, Bank of Louisville Building	502 583-3941
MEMPHIS, Tennessee 38103	841 Federal Office Building	901 525-7373
MIAMI, Florida 33137	3801 Biscayne Boulevard	305 379-2421
MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin 53202	735 U. S. Post Office, Cust. & Ct. House Bldg.	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 Building	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 Building	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 Building	412 471-2000
PORTLAND, Oregon 97205	423 U. S. Court House Building	503 224-4181
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Telephone or telegraph the Special Agent in Charge at the above address.

(4-17-68)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

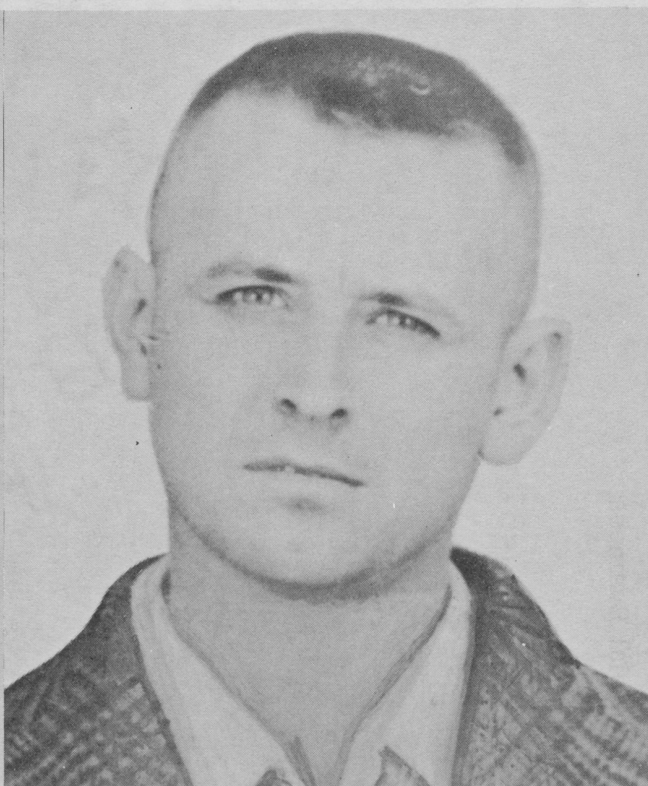
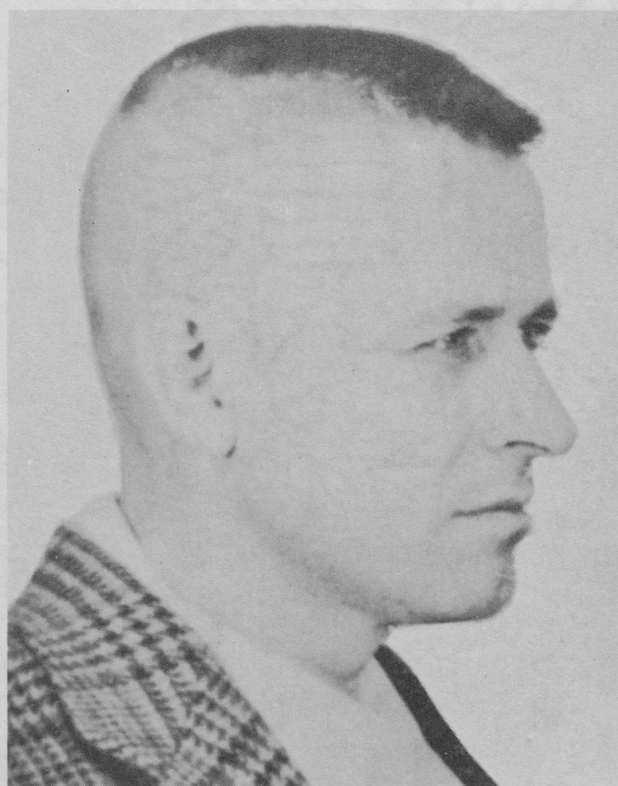
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WANTED BY THE FBI

CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY INTERSTATE FLIGHT - ROBBERY JAMES EARL RAY

FBI No. 405,942 G



Photographs taken 1960

Photograph taken 1968
(eyes drawn by artist)

Aliases: Eric Starvo Galt, W. C. Herron, Harvey Lowmyer, James McBride, James O'Conner, James Walton, James Walyon, John Willard, "Jim,"

DESCRIPTION

Age: 40, born March 10, 1928, at Quincy or Alton, Illinois (not supported by birth records)
Height: 5' 10"
Weight: 163 to 174 pounds
Build: Medium
Hair: Brown, possibly cut short
Eyes: Blue
Complexion: Medium
Race: White
Nationality: American

Occupations: Baker, color matcher, laborer

Scars and Marks: Small scar on center of forehead and small scar on palm of right hand

Remarks: Noticeably protruding left ear; reportedly is a lone wolf; allegedly attended dance instruction school; has reportedly completed course in bartending.

Fingerprint Classification: 16 M 9 U 000 12

M 4 W IOI

CRIMINAL RECORD

Ray has been convicted of burglary, robbery, forging U. S. Postal Money Orders, armed robbery, and operating motor vehicle without owner's consent.

CAUTION

RAY IS SOUGHT IN CONNECTION WITH A MURDER WHEREIN THE VICTIM WAS SHOT. CONSIDER ARMED AND EXTREMELY DANGEROUS.

A Federal warrant was issued on April 17, 1968, at Birmingham, Alabama, charging Ray as Eric Starvo Galt with conspiring to interfere with a Constitutional Right of a citizen (Title 18, U. S. Code, Section 241). A Federal warrant was also issued on July 20, 1967, at Jefferson City, Missouri, charging Ray with Interstate Flight to Avoid Confinement for the crime of Robbery (Title 18, U. S. Code, Section 1073).

IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS PERSON, PLEASE NOTIFY ME OR CONTACT YOUR LOCAL FBI OFFICE. TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND ADDRESSES OF ALL FBI OFFICES LISTED ON BACK.

J. Edgar Hoover
DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535
TELEPHONE, NATIONAL 8-7117

Wanted Flyer 442-A
April 19, 1968

CITY	BUILDING	TELEPHONE
ALBANY, New York 12207	502 U. S. Post Office and Court House	518 465-7551
ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico 87101	4303 Federal Office Building	505 CH 7-1555
ANCHORAGE, Alaska 99501	Room 204, Federal Building	272-6414
ATLANTA, Georgia 30303	275 Peachtree Street, N. E.	404 JA 1-3900
BALTIMORE, Maryland 21202	408 U. S. Post Office Building	301 LE 9-6700
BIRMINGHAM, Alabama 35203	Room 1400 - 2121 Building	205 322-7711
BOSTON, Massachusetts 02203	John F. Kennedy Federal Office Building	617 RI 2-5533
BUFFALO, New York 14202	400 U. S. Court House Building	716 856-7800
BUTTE, Montana 59701	400 Thornton Building	406 792-2304
CHARLOTTE, North Carolina 28202	1120 Jefferson Standard Life Building	704 333-4126
CHICAGO, Illinois 60604	Room 905, U. S. Court House & Federal Office Bldg	312 431-1333
CINCINNATI, Ohio 45202	415 U. S. Post Office & Court House Building	513 421-4310
CLEVELAND, Ohio 44199	3005 Federal Office Building	216 522-1400
COLUMBIA, South Carolina 29201	1529 Hampton Street	803 252-1911
DALLAS, Texas 75201	Room 200, 1810 Commerce Street	214 RI 1-1851
DENVER, Colorado 80202	Room 18218, Federal Office Building	303 222-5981
DETROIT, Michigan 48226	913 Federal Building & U. S. Court House	313 WO 5-2323
EL PASO, Texas 79901	202 U. S. Court House Building	915 533-7451
HONOLULU, Hawaii 96813	206 Dillingham Building	59546
HOUSTON, Texas 77002	6015 Federal Building & U. S. Court House	713 CA 8-1414
INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana 46207	1221 North Pennsylvania Street	317 632-6415
JACKSON, Mississippi 39201	Room 800 - First Federal Savings Building	601 948-5000
JACKSONVILLE, Florida 32202	414 U. S. Court House & Post Office Building	904 355-1401
KANSAS CITY, Missouri 64106	707 U. S. Court House Building	816 BA 1-6100
KNOXVILLE, Tennessee 37902	617 Walnut Street, Southwest	615 524-2721
LAS VEGAS, Nevada 89101	Room 2-011 Federal Office Building	702 385-1281
LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas 72201	215 U. S. Post Office Building	501 FR 2-3157
LOS ANGELES, California 90017	1340 West 6th Street	213 483-3551
LOUISVILLE, Kentucky 40202	Room 701, Bank of Louisville Building	502 583-3941
MEMPHIS, Tennessee 38103	841 Federal Office Building	901 525-7373
MIAMI, Florida 33137	3801 Biscayne Boulevard	305 379-2421
MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin 53202	735 U. S. Post Office, Cust. & Ct. House Bldg.	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 Building	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 Building	402 348-1210
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PHOENIX, Arizona 85013	244 West Osborn Road	602 CR 9-5511
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Telephone or telegraph the Special Agent in Charge at the above address.

(4-17-68)

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FB KNOXVLE

FBI ATLANTA

410 403PM URGENT 4/22/68 GJM

TO ALL SACS RELAY MESSAGE PLAN

FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861 1P

MURKIN

YOU ARE REMINDED THAT ALL LEADS IN THIS CASE MUST BE COVERED WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS, AND ALL LEADS MUST BE SET FORTH BY TELEPHONE OR TELETYPE. ALL BORDER OFFICES COVERING ENTRY INTO MEXICO AND CANADA AND EXIT THEREFROM SHOULD INSURE THAT APPROPRIATE STOPS ARE MAINTAINED RE SUBJECT AND ALL NAMES KNOWN TO BE USED BY HIM AT RESPECTIVE OFFICES OF U. S. IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PATROL. YOU SHOULD ALSO INSURE THAT PREVIOUS STOPS PLACED WITH ANY FACILITY SHOULD INCLUDE ALL NAMES USED BY THE SUBJECT.

DISTRIBUTE SUFFICIENT QUANTITIES OF WANTED FLYERS AND IO'S TO NARCOTIC INVESTIGATIVE AGENCIES IN ORDER THAT THEIR INFORMANTS MAY BE CONTACTED. YOU SHOULD CONTACT ALL CRIMINAL INFORMANTS AND APPROPRIATE RACIAL AND SECURITY INFORMANTS. LEGATS OTTAWA AND MEXICO CITY BEING ADVISED SEPARATELY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

IHC

FBI KNOXVLE

@

SAC *WR*

*Original name and agents
include all aliases*

44-696-142

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FBI - KNOXVILLE	

Fleming

S P E C I A L

FBI KNOXVLE

FBI BIRMGHAM

618 PM URGENT 4-22-68 GDM

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), ATLANTA, MEMPHIS (44-1987) AND KNOXVILLE
FROM BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

MURKIN; CR; OO: MEMPHIS.

CONTACT TODAY WITH POSTAL INSPECTOR'S OFFICE, BIRMINGHAM,
RESULTED IN TELEPHONIC CONTACT BY THAT OFFICE WITH T. P. DALY,
POSTAL INSPECTOR IN CHARGE, AND K. G. CAWOOD, DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT,
BOTH CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE, WHO IN TURN CAUSED CHECK OF ALL CASES
INVOLVING THE CASHING OF STOLEN POSTAL MONEY ORDERS IN ALABAMA, SINCE
APRIL, ONE NINE SIX SEVEN, WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. CHECK WAS MADE
BY USING TRUE NAME AND KNOWN ALIASES OF SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY.

KNOXVILLE REQUESTED TO CONTACT INSPECTOR IN CHARGE DALY AND
SUPERINTENDENT CAWOOD, AND ASCERTAIN IDENTITIES OF ALL POSTAL
INSPECTOR REGIONAL OFFICES AND STATES COVERED BY THESE RESPECTIVE
OFFICES. ALSO ASCERTAIN FEASIBILITY OF HAVING SIGNATURES ON ALL
STOLEN POSTAL MONEY ORDERS STOLEN AND CASHED SINCE RAY'S ESCAPE
FROM CONFINEMENT (APRIL TWO THREE, SIXTYSEVEN), COMPARED BY POSTAL
INSPECTORS WITH KNOWN HANDWRITING OF RAY. RAY'S HANDWRITING IN
END PAGE ONE

Doc advised 8:50 pm
4/22/68 pusm

Chatt lead
WR

44-696-143

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Stamps

PAGE TWO

POSSESSION OF POSTAL INSPECTORS FOLLOWING HIS CONVICTION FOR
FORGING POSTAL MONEY ORDERS FOR WHICH HE SERVED PRISON SENTENCE AT
LEAVENWORTH FEDERAL PRISON. THIS IS BEING REQUESTED SO THAT
BUREAU CAN GIVE CONSIDERATION TO HAVING ALL REGIONAL POSTAL
INSPECTORS IN CHARGE CONTACTED TO DETERMINE IF RAY IS IDENTICAL
WITH ANY UNKNOWN SUBJECT CASES WHEREIN STOLEN MONEY ORDERS HAVE
BEEN CASHED DURING PERTINENT PERIOD, AND WITH VIEW TOWARDS
IDENTIFYING RAY'S SOURCE OF INCOME AND WHEREABOUTS SINCE HIS ESCAPE.

END

SER

FBI KNOXVLE

@

F B I

Date: 4/12/68

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

TO MEMPHIS (44-1987), ~~NEW ORLEANS, JACKSON AND KNOXVILLE~~
FROM RICHMOND (44-657)

MURKIN - CR, OOMEMPHIS

IRA GLENN WISEMAN, ROANOKE, VA., ADVISED APRIL ELEVEN LAST, HIS BROTHER-IN-LAW, JAMES HENRY SHORT, ONE SEVEN TWO TWO TULLAMORE ST., ALEXANDRIA, LA., CLAIMS TO HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF PERSON WHO KILLED KING. SHORT DISAPPEARED FROM HIS HOME TEN DAYS AGO AND WHEREABOUTS NOT KNOWN UNTIL APRIL ELEVEN LAST WHEN HIS WIFE JACQUELINE RECEIVED INFORMATION SHORT PASSED INS CHECKS HOLIDAY INN, RONAOKE, VA.,

WISEMAN LOCATED SHORT AND TOOK HIM TO HIS HOME. SHORT INFORMED WISEMAN HE WAS IN MEMPHIS DAY KING WAS KILLED AND COULD IDENTIFY KILLER BUT NOT BY NAME.

SHORT INTERVIEWED AND FURNISHED FOLLOWING: HE SERVED SEVEN YEARS IN USAF, NO. AF ONE THREE SEVEN ZERO FIVE FIVE ONE SIX, UNDESIRABLE DISCHARGE NOV. THIRTY, SIXTYSEVEN. EMPLOYED BY AFCO SCHOOL EQUIPMENT CO., ALEXANDRIA, LA. WIFE AND TWO CHILDREN RESIDE THERE.

CLAIMS ASSOCIATION WITH A COMMUNIST EUGENE BATTLE, NEGRO MALE, FIVE SEVEN TO FIVE EIGHT, ONE HUNDRED FIFTY TO ONE HUNDRED SIXTY, BLACK KINKY HAIR, SPECIALIST E-FOUR ASSIGNED TO SAME AF UNIT,

END PAGE ONE

1 - RICHMOND (44-657) - TAH/vlr

1 - New Orleans
1 - Jackson
1 - Knoxville

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

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PAGE TWO

RH 44-657

THREE ONE NINE TH AIR COMMANDO SQUAD AT ELGIN AFB, FLORIDA. HOME ADDRESS, LITTLE ROCK, ARK.

SHORT DENIES MEMBERSHIP IN CP OR UKA, KKKKK.

SHORT CONTACTED TELEPHONICALLY MONDAY EVENING, APRIL ONE, LAST BY UNKNOWN MAN, WHO STATED HE WAS WANTED ON A "JOB" AT MEMPHIS, BETWEEN TWO THIRTY AND THREE PM, APRIL FOUR LAST. HE WAS INSTRUCTED TO COME TO ROOM ONE TWO SIX AT THE DOWNTOWNER MOTOR INN, MEMPHIS, TO GO ~~XXX~~ THROUGH JACKSON, MISS., EN ROUTE AND PICK UP A MAN NAMED DICK COLLINS AT THE HOLIDAY INN, JACKSON, ON APRIL THREE LAST.

SHORT PROCEEDED TO JACKSON IN HIS SIXTYSEVEN TWO DOOR BLUE BOTTOM VINYL COMET, ARRIVING AT HOLIDAY INN ABOUT MIDNIGHT APRIL THREE LAST. HE CHECKED IN USING HIS RIGHT NAME. COLLINS, A WHITE MALE, CONTACTED HIM ABOUT ELEVEN THIRTY AM, APRIL FOUR LAST, AND THEY DROVE TO MEMPHIS, ARRIVING ABOUT FIVE THIRTY PM. THEY FOUND THREE WHITE MEN AND ONE NEGRO MAN IN ROOM ~~XXXXX~~ ONE TWO SIX OF THE DOWNTOWNER MOTEL. NO. ONE, A WHITE MALE, EARLY FIFTIES, SIX FT. ONE, TWO HUNDRED THIRTY LBS., BLACK HAIR, TURNING GRAY, APPEARED TO BE LEADER. HE WAS IMPATIENT WITH SHORT FOR BEING LATE AND

END PAGE TWO

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PAGE THREE

RH 44-657

POINTED OUT A YOUNG NEATLY DRESSED WHITE MAN HOLDING WHAT APPEARED TO BE A GUN CASE AND STATED HE DROVE FROM NEW ORLEANS AND WAS THERE ON TIME.

NO. ONE STATED THEY WOULD HAVE TO HURRY BECAUSE KING WAS STAYING IN A MOTEL ABOUT ELEVEN BLOCKS AWAY. HE NEVER MENTIONED KILLING KING BUT INSTRUCTED SHORT, COLLINS AND THE OTHER THREE MEN THEY WERE TO GO TO THE MOTEL AND CREATE A DISTURBANCE IN THE VICINITY SO AS TO DISTRACT THE ATTENTION OF ANY SECURITY GUARDS. THE GROUP LEFT THE DOWNTOWNER MOTEL. COLLINS AND THE NEGRO ENTERED A LIGHT COLORED LATE MOTEL BUICK OR OLDS. NO. ONE AND THE OTHER TWO MEN ENTERED A LATE MODEL CHRYSLER. SHORT DROVE HIS OWN AUTOMOBILE AND ON WAY TO MOTEL DECIDED HE DID NOT WANT TO BE INVOLVED IN A DISTURBANCE AND PROCEEDED TO KINGSPORT, TENN. HE WAS DRIVING ON INTERSTATE TWO FOUR ZERO WHEN HE HEARD OF THE ASSASSINATION BY RADIO.

SHORT CHECKED INTO THE HOLIDAY INN AT KINGSPORT, TENN., AT ONE THIRTY AM, APRIL FIVE LAST. HE CONTINUED TO ROANOKE, VA., NEXT MORNING AND CHECKED INTO HOLIDAY INN, NO. TWO, AT ONE FORTYFOUR AM, APRIL SIX LAST.

END PAGE THREE

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Special Agent in Charge

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RM PAGE FOUR

RH 44-657

HE STAYED THERE UNTIL FOUND BY WISEMAN. THIS VERIFIED BY MOTEL RECORDS.

NO. TWO WHITE MALE, APPROXIMATELY THIRTY, MEDIUM BUILD AND COMPLEXION, WELL DRESSED.

NO. THREE WHITE MALE, THIRTY - FORTY, LIGHT HAIR, SLENDER BUILD, SIX FT. FOUR IN., ONE HUNDRED EIGHT LBS.

NO. FOUR, NEGRO MALE, LATE TWENTIES, OR EARLY THIRTIES, FIVE FT. ELEVEN IN., ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY LBS., LIGHT COMPLEXION, BLACK HAIR, CUT CLOSE, WELL DRESSED.

COLLINS, WHITEMALE, MIDDLE THIRTIES, MEDIUM BUILD AND COMPLEXION WELL DRESSED, DARK HAIR.

SHORT, WHITE MALE, BORN [REDACTED], CHARLESTON, WEST VA., FIVE FT. NINE, ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY LBS., DARK BROWN WAVY HAIR, BROWN EYES, MEDIUM COMPLEXION AND BUILD, DRIVING SIXTYSEVEN COMET, LA. LICENSE TWO FOUR E NINE NINE THREE.

SHORT ADMITTED HE WAS DRINKING NIGHT HE RECEIVED TELEPHONE CALL BY CLAIMS WAS NOT DRUNK. ADMITS HAVING ISSUED EIGHT INS FUNDS CHECKS. HE PAID MOTEL BILL AT HOLIDAY INN OF ONE HUNDRED THREE DOLLARS WITH GULF CREDIT CARD, NO. ONE THREE ONE FIVE SEVEN EIGHT THREE FOUR - FOUR.

END PAGE FOUR

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

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Date:

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PAGE FIVE

RH 44-657

BEFORE ANY CREDENCE IS PLACED IN THIS STORY, IT IS SUGGESTED THAT MEMPHIS ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY AND VERIFY THE INDIVIDUALS AND INFORMATION FURNISHED BY SHORT PERTAINING TO THE DOWNTOWNER MOTEL. NO LEADS ARE BEING SET FORTH ^{For} AT JACKSON, NEW ORLEANS OR KNOXVILLE AT THIS TIME TO VERIFY OTHER PORTIONS PENDING RECEIPT ^{of} FROM INFORMATION FROM THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN AS TO WHETHER THERE IS ANY AUTHENTICITY TO THIS STORY.

MAIL COPIES TO NEW ORLEANS, JACKSON AND KNOXVILLE.

END.

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-696)

DATE: 4/23/68

FROM : ASAC THOMAS W. KITCHENS, JR.

SUBJECT: MURKIN

SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN, at 10:35 AM this date, called in reference to Knoxville teletype to Memphis, same caption, dated 4/19/68. According to this teletype, TOM DALY, Postal Inspector in Charge, Chattanooga, exhibited to SA M. JAY HAWKINS a letter addressed in handprinting to Mr. ERIC S. GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, which was postmarked in Chattanooga on 4/16/68. There was no return address. Inspector DALY stated that this letter would be forwarded to the dead letter office in Memphis, where it would be opened. It appeared that the letter contained a religious tract. SAC JENSEN stated that the letter was returned to Inspector DALY before the office could examine its contents.

SAC JENSEN desires that Inspector DALY be immediately contacted concerning this letter, and that if possible it be determined who sent the religious tract to GALT at 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, and that the religious organization which printed the tract be contacted to determine if it sent the letter and, if so, how it happened to obtain GALT'S name and address. All other information in the possession of the religious organization concerning GALT should be obtained.

This information was furnished to SA DONALD L. STOUT with instructions that this matter be handled immediately.

TWK/wsw
(2)

check lead Stout

44-696-145

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<i>Fleming</i>	<i>JAT</i>



5010-108

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

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 11, 1968

JOSEPH Y. CATES, Safety and Security, University of Tennessee (U-T), advised that he had determined through Mrs. CHARLOTTE COX, French Instructor, University of Tennessee, that WILLIAM VAUGHAN WILBURN has a class in Intermediate French, Course 302, which meets from 1:15 PM to 2:15 PM, Monday, Wednesday and Friday. He stated that Mrs. COX ' records reflect that WILBURN attended this class on March 29, 1968, but was not present for the class on April 5, 1968. She stated that although he was not in the class, he was on the campus at the time and was contacted by Mrs. COX in the Humanities Building a few minutes after the class ended.

On 4/9/68 at Knoxville, Tennessee File # KX 44-696 - 144

by SA JOE H. ROBERTS *JR* cyp Date dictated 4/10/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 11, 1968

Miss SHARON BRADLEY, 1845 Terrace Avenue, was contacted at Karns Drug Store, Cumberland Avenue at 19th Street, where she is employed as a cashier.

She advised she was working on the night of April 4, 1968, when she heard the radio report of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING's death. She recalled discussing this matter with WILLIAM V. WILBURN, who accompanied SA JOE H. ROBERTS to the drug store at the time Miss BRADLEY was interviewed. She indicated that she is not acquainted with WILBURN, but does recall having seen him in the drug store and is positive that she discussed the shooting of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING with him. She stated that it appeared to her that he first learned it when she told him that she had heard it on the radio.

On 4/8/68 at Knoxville, Tennessee File # KX 44-696 -147
by SA JOE H. ROBERTS *JHR* cyp Date dictated 4/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 11, 1968

WILLIAM V. WILBURN accompanied SA JOE H. ROBERTS to the Cole's Drug Store, Cumberland Avenue at 17th Street, where Miss MARTHA MYNATT was interviewed. Miss MYNATT stated that she is a cashier at the drug store and his acquainted with WILBURN. She stated that on Thursday, April 4, 1968, shortly after she got off duty at 1:30 PM, she recalled seeing WILBURN in the drug store. She stated that she had a conversation with him at this time. During the interview it was also determined that Miss MYNATT also got off duty at 1:30 PM on Friday, April 5, 1968, after which she stated that it could have been Friday when she was contacted by WILBURN.

It was determined during the interview with MARTHA MYNATT that the other employee in the conversation involving WILBURN was Mrs. ELEANOR DAVENPORT.

On 4/7/68 at Knoxville, Tennessee File # KX 44-696 -148
by SA JOE H. ROBERTS *JHR* cyp Date dictated 4/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 11, 1968

ELEANOR DAVENPORT, employee, Cole's Drug Store, Cumberland Avenue and 17th Street, recalled a conversation with MARTHA MYNATT and WILLIAM WILBURN on April 4, 1968. She stated that she felt that it was Thursday even though it was pointed out to her MARTHA MYNATT also was off duty at 1:30 PM on Friday. Mrs. DAVENPORT stated that she had no way to definitely establish that this conversation with WILBURN was on Thursday, but continued to express the opinion that it was April 4, 1968.

On 4/7/68 at Knoxville, Tennessee File # KX 44-696 - 1019
by SA JOE H. ROBERTS cyp Date dictated 4/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 11, 1968

WILLIAM VAUGHAN WILBURN was interviewed at his apartment, 2112 Highland Avenue.

WILBURN advised that he is a graduate student at the University of Tennessee (U-T), working toward a Ph.D and attends class on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

When asked the question regarding his whereabouts on April 4, 1968, he stated that he was at Knoxville but pointed out that he would not have been in class that day because it was Thursday. He recalled that he awoke about 8:00 AM and spent the morning at the U-T Library. He stated that he either ate lunch at Byerly's Cafeteria or Evans' Cafeteria on the way from the library back to his apartment, where he checked his mail and may have taken a nap. During the afternoon, approximately 2:00 PM, he walked to Cole's Drug Store located at the corner of Cumberland Avenue and 17th Street where he purchased some vitamins. He recalled having a conversation with MARTHA MYNATT, a cashier, at the drug store. He stated that they were at the fountain or lunch counter and he was talking jokingly with Miss MYNATT about her drinking habits when another employee made the comment that Miss MYNATT did a better job when she was drinking.

Mr. WILBURN stated that he took his laundry to the One-Hour Cleaners directly behind the Cole's Drug Store, either Thursday or Friday morning. He stated that he does not know the name of the employee on duty when he left the laundry but recalled that she agreed to have it ready on Monday.

After leaving Cole's Drug Store during the afternoon, WILBURN stated that he returned to his apartment where he took a short nap and then studied in preparation for a French examination to be taken during the following week.

At about 7:00 PM on April 4, 1968, WILBURN was in Karns Drug Store, which is located on Cumberland at 19th Street, which is in the same neighborhood where he resides. The cashier, whose name WILBURN could not recall, told him that Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING had just been shot in Memphis, Tennessee. According to WILBURN, this cashier is on duty daily at the store and works during the evening and night.

On 4/7,8/68 at Knoxville, Tennessee File # KX 44-696 -100
by SA JOE H. ROBERTS cyp Date dictated 4/9/68

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

KX 44-696

At one point in the interview Mr. WILBURN stated that he did not desire that this investigation be brought to the attention of anyone in the Sociology Department at U-T since he felt it would hurt his reputation. He also stated that he had previously been in trouble with school officials at the University of Chattanooga where he taught Anthropology during 1964-1965. According to WILBURN, he used scientific findings concerning the size of the brain in Negroes, along with the instances of delinquency, crime, illegitimacy and disease in connection with his classes. This also got him into trouble at the University of Richmond where he was Associate Professor of Sociology during 1965-1966. He stated he incurred the wrath of Dr. E. W. GREGORY, JR., who caused him trouble until he left the school.

It was determined that Mr. WILBURN's car is a 1960 white Comet, 2-door, six cylinder, with radio antenna missing. It bore Knox County, Tennessee, license CK-2907.

During the interview with Mr. WILBURN he stated that he had an arrest record at the Knoxville Police Department for drunkenness during 1963 and passing a stop sign in 1964. He stated that he paid \$5.00 fine for passing the stop sign and the drunkenness charge was dismissed. He also advised he had been arrested for drunkenness at Clarksville, Tennessee.

WILBURN advised that he was at Knoxville on March 29-30, 1968, and was positive that he had attended a class on March 29, 1968, as this date was on Friday.

The following information concerning WILBURN was obtained at the time of interview:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of Birth	
Place of Birth	Washington, D. C.
Height	5'10"
Weight	162
Build	Medium, athletic

KX 44-696

Characteristic
Eyes
Complexion
Military Service

Left-handed
Blue
Medium
U. S. Air Force, July, 1954-
December, 1957, SN
AF 13491637;
U. S. Army, 101st Airborne,
February, 1958 to December,
1960, SN RA 13491637
Mrs. CLAUDE S. WILBURN,
Nathalie, Virginia, Route #3

Mother

It is to be noted that WILBURN's hair is dark brown and that he is bald on top. His hair was parted on the left and combed over the top to cover the baldness. It is further noted that he has had hair transplanted, making a new hairline in the front and the transplanted hair is very thin and is combed back, but does not hide baldness.

WILBURN agreed to accompany SA JOE H. ROBERTS to Cole's Drug Store, One-Hour Cleaners and Karns Drug Store to locate the people who could substantiate his statements. It was determined that both the One-Hour Cleaners and the Karns Drug Store were closed on April 7, 1968.

On April 8, 1968, Mr. WILBURN again accompanied SA JOE H. ROBERTS to the Karns Drug Store, at which time Miss SHARON BRADLEY was interviewed.

On April 8, 1968, Mr. WILBURN advised that he was attending French class at U-T from 1:15 to 2:15 PM on March 29, 1968, and again on April 5, 1968.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-696)

DATE: 4/22/68

FROM : SA STANFORD E. WIDENER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Per memo 4/15/68

RE: ERIC STARVO GALT

There are no dancing schools in Carter County or Johnson County, Tennessee.



5010-108

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

44-616-151

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 22 1968	
FBI - KNOXVILLE	

Henry *JH*

Memo: SAC
From: SA Don Rizer

4/22/68

Kx 44-6968

Murkin

It is noted there are no dancing schools in Morgan, Scott or Campbell Counties, Tennessee, according to the most recent available directories for those areas.

44-696-152

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 22 1968	
FBI - KNOXVILLE	

[Handwritten signature]

SAC, WFO

4-22-68

SAC, Memphis (44-1987) (P)

MURKIN
CR

Re Knoxville letter to Memphis dated 4-11-68.

Enclosed herewith for WFO is one copy of referenced Knoxville letter as it appears that the information contained therein has no significance in regard to MURKIN but will be of interest to the WFO. This letter pertains to ALLEN WELCH, who allegedly was National Secretary of the American Nazi Party several years ago.

2- Washington Field (enc. 1)
1- Knoxville (44-696) (info)
1- Memphis
JHK:FJ
(4)

44-696-153

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 23 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	
[Signature]	

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-696)

DATE: 4/23/68

FROM : SA GEORGE C. WELBORN

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re memo to SAC, Knoxville dated 4/18/68 of
WILLIAM T. BECKLER.

Hamilton County License No. CO-1130 is listed as being registered to A. RODNEY RUCKS, 813 Young Avenue, for a 1965 Ford. A. RODNEY RUCKS is personally known to SA GEORGE C. WELBORN and does not resemble the photograph of ERIC STARVO GALT. RUCKS is a very slender individual and would not weigh over 140 pounds.

On 4/19/68, Mrs. A. RODNEY (PHYLLIS) RUCKS, 813 Young Avenue, Chattanooga, Tennessee, advised SA GEORGE C. WELBORN that she has a 1965 Ford Mustang, white in color, with Hamilton County License CO-1130. On 4/19/68, this car had both of the above license plates attached to it.

Mrs. RUCKS stated that A. RODNEY RUCKS, her husband, is currently working as a salesman traveling in the State of North Carolina. He returns on Fridays by U. S. Highway 64 and would have had an occasion to be in the vicinity of the 3 Bears Trading Post near Ducktown, Tennessee on Friday afternoon, April 12, 1968. She stated RUCKS was working in her 1965 white Mustang during the week ending April 12, 1968.

Based on the above, no additional investigation is being conducted concerning this particular lead.

① - 44-696

GCW/pjw
(1)



5010-108

44-696-154
2 12

Fleming MA

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-696)

DATE: 4/23/68

FROM : SA KENNETH G. POLLARD

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re: Contact with Dancing Schools
in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Mrs. HELEN JONES, owner, Helen Jones School of Dancing, 725 Oak Street, Chattanooga, Tennessee, on April 16, 1968, advised that she does not teach ballroom dancing and that her students are those individuals who receive instruction primarily in ballet. Mrs. JONES advised that the name ERIC STARVO GALT is not familiar to her nor any of the other aliases used by this individual.

Mrs. HELEN WILSON, owner of Helen Wilson School of Dancing, 723 McCallie Avenue, Chattanooga, Tennessee, on April 16, 1968, advised that she does not teach ballroom type dancing and the instruction at the school consist primarily of ballet. She also advised that the name of ERIC STARVO GALT is not familiar to her and she does not recall ever having this individual as a student. She further advised that the name HARVEY LOWMYER and JOHN WILLARD are also unfamiliar to her.

Miss VELDA DUGGER, Instructor and Secretary, Arthur Murray Studios, Dome Building, Chattanooga, Tennessee, on April 16, 1968, advised that she has been instructing at this dance studio since 1965. She stated that she does not recall anyone of the name ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER, or JOHN WILLARD having taken dance instructions. Miss DUGGER searched the records of the studio and advised that there is no reference whatsoever to the name of GALT, LOWMYER, or JOHN WILLARD. Miss DUGGER further advised that she is positive that she would recall if any individual had taken dance instructions at this studio using the name of GALT, LOWMYER, or WILLARD.

① - 44-696

KGP/pjw
(1)



5010-108

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

44-696-15
E *ms*
Fleming *AT*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-696)

DATE: 4/23/68

FROM : SA KENNETH G. POLLARD

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re: JAMES C. GALT

JAY BOLDS, representative of the Associated Press, Chattanooga, Tennessee, advised on the night of April 14, 1968 that he recalls attending college with one JAMES C. GALT of Richmond, Virginia. According to BOLDS, GALT's mother had advised that JAMES C. GALT is presently employed with the DuPont Company and is in the process of moving from Richmond, Virginia to Chattanooga, Tennessee. He is a white male, age 37, with date of birth of [REDACTED]. His height is 5'11", weight 175 pounds, blue eyes, and brown hair.

JAMES COLQUHOUN GALT was interviewed at his residence 201 Sunnybrook Trail, Signal Mountain, Tennessee, on April 15, 1968 by SAS KENNETH G. POLLARD and DONALD L. STOUT. During the course of the interview, GALT advised that he has been with the DuPont Company for approximately 10 years and has only recently been transferred from Richmond, Virginia to Chattanooga, Tennessee. He stated that he is moving into his residence at 201 Sunnybrook Trail on April 15, 1968, further that he has been between Richmond and Chattanooga during the past month primarily at Chattanooga. According to GALT, he was employed at the plant in Chattanooga on April 4, 1968, the date of the death of MARTIN LUTHER KING.

ARNOLD STULCE, Personnel Supervisor, DuPont Company, advised that JAMES C. GALT is an employee of the DuPont Company and was so employed at the company on April 4, 1968. GALT attended a conference held at the DuPont Company on this date.

During the course of contact with GALT, he advised that he has a cousin, first name unknown, but the last name would be GALT and that this individual's father is THOMAS C. GALT of Raleigh, North Carolina. A communication has been sent out concerning the possible contact of this individual. An FD-302 is being submitted concerning the interview with JAMES GALT.

① - 44-696

KGP/pjw
(1)



5010-108

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

44-696-156
Fleming 74

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

4/23/68

SAC, KNOXVILLE (44-696) (P)

MURKIN
CR
(OO:MEMPHIS)

Re Birmingham airtel to Knoxville dated 4/10/68.

The Dixie Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc. has only one active klavern this being located at 2523 Glass Street, East Chattanooga, Tennessee.

The Knoxville Division has 4 active racial informants who attend the meetings regularly of the DK, KKKK, INC., East Chattanooga, Tennessee, and are familiar with the members and leaders of this organization. Photograph of ERIC STARVO GALT and composites of GALT were displayed to these 4 racial informants. All advised they did not know anyone resembling this individual who is a member or has been a member of the DK, KKKK, INC. These informants are familiar with the former friends and associates of JACK WILLIAM BROWN, now deceased. None of these informants could recall any individual who associated with JACK WILLIAM BROWN that resembles the photograph, composites, and the general description of GALT.

Informants contacted were:

KX 1004-R, 4/18/68
KX 1016-R, 4/17/68
KX 1023-R, 4/17/68
KX 1025-R, 4/17/68

No additional investigation being conducted regarding the specific lead set forth in Birmingham airtel to Knoxville dated 4/10/68.

2 - Memphis
1 - Birmingham (44-1740)
② - Knoxville

GCW/pjw
(5) *pjw*

44-696-157

SEARCHED *h*

SERIALIZED *h*

INDEXED *h*

Thermy *h*

SAC (157-846)

4/22/68

SA GEORGE F. ZOGRAFOS

GEORGE H. COFFIN
RACIAL SOURCE
LIAISON GROUP

On 3/6/68 COFFIN was contacted concerning any comments he may have regarding the racial situation in Blount and Sevier Counties, Tennessee. Also, whether there was any indication of racial trouble. COFFIN stated at this time nothing had come to his attention to indicate any racial difficulties. He said to his knowledge race relations in both counties at the present time were good and he did not anticipate any problems.

On 3/26/68 COFFIN was recontacted concerning Knoxville file 157-1218, entitled "BLACK NATIONALIST MOVEMENT; IS-BN." COFFIN was asked if he knew of any individual or individuals whom he would classify as militant Black Nationalists residing in Blount or Sevier Counties, Tennessee, and who traveled extensively throughout the United States. COFFIN stated he knew of no one whom he would place in this category. He advised that there are some young Negroes in the Alcoa, Tennessee area who feel that the older Negroes are not moving fast enough and not making enough demands, however, he did not feel this group was any threat at the present time. He said they have no organization and that they are just young Negroes who want to move faster.

COFFIN was also contacted at this time regarding Knoxville file 157-1279, entitled "WASHINGTON SPRING PROJECT (WSP); RM." COFFIN stated that he knew of no individuals or groups from the Maryville-Alcoa, Tennessee area who had planned to travel to Washington, D.C. during April, 1968, and participate in the massive demonstration that is to occur in Washington, D.C. headed by MARTIN LUTHER KING. He said if he learned of any such units or groups planning to travel to Washington for this purpose, he would advise the writer.

1 - 157-1279
1 - 157-1218
1 - 44-696
GFZ:lmh
(4)

44-696-158

[Handwritten signature] *[Handwritten initials]*

KX 157-846

On 4/4/68 COFFIN was contacted to determine if he had any knowledge that there may be demonstrations or riots in Sevier or Blount Counties, Tennessee, as a result of the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING. COFFIN stated that when the assassination occurred, he was working at the Aluminum Company of America and did not return to his own residence until a few minutes after 10:00 P.M. in the evening. COFFIN advised that from his observation, most of the Negroes in the Maryville-Alcoa, Tennessee area were in a state of shock as a result of the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING and that he did not hear any rumors or statements which would indicate there was anyone planning to riot or demonstrate as a result of the assassination. COFFIN stated he did not believe there would be any difficulties in this area, however, if he received any information of the possibility of a demonstration or riot, he would immediately contact the writer.

COFFIN was asked if he could suggest the name of anyone whom he would suspect of having committed this crime and he stated he knew of no one whom he would suspect of assassinating KING.

SAC (157-845)

4/22/68

SA GEORGE F. ZOGRAFOS

WILFRED WARREN
RACIAL SOURCE
LIAISON GROUP

On 3/6/68 the above-captioned source was contacted concerning racial conditions in the Maryville-Alcoa, Tennessee area. WARREN advised at this time race relations in Blount County, Tennessee, were good and that he did not anticipate any difficulties in the near future.

On 3/26/68 WARREN was recontacted concerning Knoxville file 157-1218, entitled "BLACK NATIONALIST MOVEMENT; IS - BN." WARREN at this time was asked if he knew of any individuals in the Maryville-Alcoa, Tennessee area whom he could classify as militant Black Nationalists. Also, whether or not he had any knowledge that individuals whom he may consider in this category are traveling extensively. WARREN stated that to his knowledge he knew of no one in his area who could fit into this category.

WARREN was also contacted concerning Knoxville file 157-1279, entitled, "WASHINGTON SPRING PROJECT (WSP); RM." WARREN advised that he knew of no groups or individuals in his area who planned to travel to Washington, D.C. during April, 1968, to attend the demonstration planned by MARTIN LUTHER KING.

On 4/4/68 WARREN was contacted concerning Knoxville file 44-696, entitled "MURKIN." At the time that WARREN was contacted, he was listening to the radio concerning the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING when the announcement was made that KING had died. WARREN stated that he knew of no one in the Maryville-Alcoa, Tennessee area whom he would suspect of having assassinated MARTIN LUTHER KING.

1 - 157-1279
1 - 157-1218
1 - 44-696
1 - 157-291
GFZ:lhv
(5)

44-696-159
J PS

Slerring JH

KX 157-845

He added he would immediately contact the writer if anyone came to his mind or was suggested to him. WARREN was asked if he believed there would be any trouble such as demonstrations or rioting in the Maryville-Alcoa, Tennessee area as a result of the assassination of KING. WARREN advised he did not believe there would be, however, there are some "hot heads" who are unpredictable and that he could not say what they may do. He stated that if he received any indication of a demonstration or riot he would immediately contact the writer.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-696)

DATE: 4/23/68

FROM : SA JOSEPH L. FLEMING:

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CIVIL RIGHTS
OO: MEMPHIS

By airtel dated 4/19/68 Memphis advised that a pillowcase and bed sheet found in the trunk of 1966 white Mustang registered to ERIC STARVO GALT located Atlanta 4/11/68. This pillowcase and bed sheet contain Thermo-Seal laundry tapes, yellow in color, containing the code "20R-3". In the opinion of the Textile Marking Machine Company, Syracuse, New York, the tapes were produced by a different machine than previous tapes since the first three characters are 15 point type and the last two characters are 18 point type.

Places of business who have Thermo-Seal Machines in the Knoxville Division are as follows:

Lays - Knoxville;
Velda Rose; Knoxville
Molloy Laundry and Dry Cleaning - McMinnville;
Bristol Cleaners and Furriers - Bristol;
Brainard Martinizing - Chattanooga had previously owned a machine, but it was destroyed by fire.

LEADS:

KNOXVILLE DIVISION:

AT KNOXVILLE:

Contact Lays Cleaners and Velda Rose

AT MC MINNVILLE:

Contact Roy Moore Molloy Laundry and Dry Cleaning Company, 207 North Spring Street

(5)
JLF:pjb



5010-108

McMinnville - Brainard
Bristol - Furriers
Chatt - Martinizing

Knoxville

Leads Fleming

*William
checking this out*

44-696-160

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

KX 44-696

AT BRISTOL:

Contact Jack Bear, Plant Superintendent, Bristol Cleaners and Furriers, 1233 West State Street.

At above inquiries, attempt to determine whether the code 20R-3 could have originated at these plants.

Att. Gen. Ramsey Clark
Memphis, Tenn.

44-68-72-662
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
1 APR 17 1968
R.A.O.
CRIMINAL-GEN. CRIME SEC.

Dear Sir;

The Enclosed Composite drawing and profile matches a man known by my wife, in Kingsport, Tenn. She dated this man, before our marriage, about 4 years ago. He was teaching Welding at the Johnson City Vocational school, part time and working at Lynn Eastman in Kingsport, Tenn. His name is "Curtis Neely", About 30, slightly dark complexioned, receding reddish hair near 6 ft. in height. He told her he was a Counter-agent for the "Communists", and she later reported this to the local F.B.I. She stated to me she recognized this profile drawing at once, but did not wish to become involved. He is a teacher in the vocational education system of practical Nursing.

I worked for 34 years at the Post Office Dept. in Johnson City, Tenn., and am presently in the process of disability retirement.

Res. Add.: R.# 1, Watanga, Tenn.
Add.: Box 683, Elizabethton, Tenn.

44-696-161
INDEXED
APR 23 1968
SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
FILED

Edward D. Thompson

enc

INICLE® EVENING

Phone 928-2141

2 Sections — 28 Pages

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Prime suspect

Here is an artist's composite drawing of the sandy-haired, dark-complexioned white man who is being sought as a prime suspect in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (UPI Telephoto)

For King assassin . . .

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

E. D. Graybeal

Box 683

Elizabethton, Tenn.

37643