

U. S. Department of Justice

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HISTORICAL VALUE,
NATIONAL ARCHIVES

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HISTORICAL VALUE
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FEDERAL BUREAU

10024539



ENTIRE FILE REVIEWED
FOR HISTORICAL
DECLASSIFICATION

VOL. 7

INVESTIGATION

Bureau File Number 44-38861

DO NOT DESTROY -
PRESERVE FOR SELECT
COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

See also Nos.

~~DO NOT DESTROY~~
~~PENDING LITIGATION~~

ENTIRE FILE REVIEWED
FOR HISTORICAL
DECLASSIFICATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/13/01 BY SP1-cep/mde

RUC (12-10-69)

A-Hearn 11-19-69

Ser. 1176-1399

44-1574

Volume Number

Rotor 1

11-9-8
772

FBI

Date: 5/8/68

Transmit the following in PLAIN
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
SAC, INDIANAPOLIS
SAC, DALLAS

FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

MURKIN

REBUTEL TO LOS ANGELES APRIL TWENTY SIX LAST, LOS
ANGELES TEL TO BUREAU MAY ONE LAST.REBUTEL ADVISED HAROLD J. THOME, MENTAL CASE, HAD BEEN
ATTEMPTING TO HAVE AUDIENCE WITH MARTIN LUTHER KING IN
ATLANTA IN NOVEMBER LAST. THOME REPORTEDLY THREATENED
NEIGHBORS IN PAST WITH SHOTGUN. BUREAU INSTRUCTED ALTHOUGH
RAY HAD BEEN IDENTIFIED AS ASSAILANT, INVESTIGATION SHOULD BE
CONDUCTED TO DETERMINE IF THOME IMPLICATED AS CONSPIRATOR.LOS ANGELES FILES REFLECT IN SEPTEMBER LAST, SON
STEPHEN THOME STATED FATHER HAD WRITTEN PRESIDENT JOHNSON
AND POPE NUMEROUS OCCASIONS OPPOSING WAR IN VIETNAM AND HAD
BEEN ARRESTED FOR PULLING GUN ON POLICE OFFICERS. FORMER1 - Birmingham (44-1740) (AM)
1 - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
LDJ/met
(3) metSEARCHED
INDEXED
SERIALIZED
FILEDApproved: W. J. [Signature]
Special Agent in ChargeSent DL 8 10 P M Per OK

44-1574-1176

F B I

Date:

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

LA 44-1574

PAGE TWO

WIFE CONSIDERS THOME ALCOHOLIC IN ADDITION TO MENTAL PROBLEMS.

SECRET SERVICE, LOS ANGELES, ADVISED SEPTEMBER LAST THOME INVESTIGATED FOR WRITING LETTER TO PRESIDENT JOHNSON STATING HE WAS "IN GRAVE DANGER", AND OPPOSING WAR IN VIETNAM. THOME INCARCERATED TWICE CAMARILLO STATE HOSPITAL AS SCHIZOPHRENIC PARANOID. THOME ARRESTED MARCH, NINETEEN SIXTY SIX FOR THREATENING NEIGHBOR WITH GUN AND IN JUNE SIXTY SEVEN FOR DRUNK DRIVING, WHEN HE HAD UNLOADED SHOTGUN IN CAR.

SON, STEPHEN J. THOME, GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA, STATED APRIL TWENTY NINE LAST FATHER HAD BEEN TRAVELING THROUGHOUT UNITED STATES SINCE LATE SIXTY SEVEN. PRESENT WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN, BUT FATHER HAD CALLED HIM COLLECT IN MARCH OR APRIL FROM UNKNOWN LOCATION.

THOME ADVISED MAY EIGHT INSTANT THAT FATHER WOULD HAVE HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH ASSASSINATION AS VERY SYMPATHETIC TO NEGRO CAUSE.

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

F B I

Date:

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

LA 44-1574

PAGE THREE

INVESTIGATION ESTABLISHED THOME WAS IN ATLANTA JANUARY FIFTEEN LAST. CREDIT INVESTIGATOR ADVISED THOME BOUGHT GASOLINE ON UNION OIL CREDIT CARD MARCH EIGHT OR NINE LAST FOR NINETEEN SIXTY FOUR PONTIAC, CALIFORNIA LICENSE KDT SIX FIVE FOUR, REGISTERED TO JAMES E. SIMS, TWO FIVE FOUR AND ONE EIGHTH CORONADO STREET, LOS ANGELES.

MISS KAREN VANDERFORD, AT CORONADO STREET ADDRESS, ADVISED MAY SEVEN LAST SIMS HER STEPFATHER, WHO HAD BEEN IN TEXAS, AND HAD SOLD PONTIAC POSSIBLY IN HOUSTON. SIMS AND WIFE RESIDING FOR TWO WEEKS AT TWO TWO THREE FOUR EAST MICHIGAN, NUMBER THREE, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

RECORDS, PACIFIC TELEPHONE COMPANY, REFLECTED MAY SEVEN LAST PUBLIC TELEPHONE COLLECT CALL TO STEPHEN THOME ON APRIL TWELVE LAST FROM ARLINGTON, TEXAS.

INDIANAPOLIS INTERVIEW MR. AND MRS. SIMS, DETERMINE WHEREABOUTS PONTIAC SOLD IN TEXAS AND IF THEY KNOW THOME.

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

F B I

Date:

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

LA 44-1574

PAGE FOUR

FURNISH RESULTS LOS ANGELES AND APPROPRIATE TEXAS OFFICE
TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW THOME.DALLAS CHECK CREDIT, CRIMINAL AND GENERAL DELIVERY
AT ARLINGTON TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW THOME.

THOME ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

BIRMINGHAM AND MEMPHIS ADVISED AIR MAIL.

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

F B I

Date: 5/8/68

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

TO SAC MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM SAC LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

MURKIN.

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT INFORMANT TODAY CLAIMED
FEMALE DRIVING SIXTY EIGHT CHEVROLET TUDOR, TENNESSEE LICENSE
LP SIX ONE FOUR THREE, HAD DATED RAY WHILE IN LOS ANGELES AREA
AND WAS NOW AT MOTEL NEAR WESTERN AND SANTA MONICA, LOS ANGELES.
INVESTIGATION THAT AREA REFLECTS NO SUCH CAR.

MEMPHIS ASCERTAIN REGISTERED OWNER AND WHERE LOCATED IN
LOS ANGELES.

Do Not Send

Information furnished to SA WILLIAM JOHN NOLAN by Lt. BOWSER,
Special Investigations Unit, LAPD, per instruction of Deputy
Chief HOUGHTON. Investigation in area done by SA GEORGE AIKEN.
LAPD advised and will recheck their informant.

WJN:CM
(1)

SEARCHED
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SERIALIZED
FILED

Approved: WJN
Special Agent in Charge

Sent 8 23/10 MPer ORC

44-1574-1177

F B I

Date: **May 8, 1968**Transmit the following in PLAIN
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

TO SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-10673)
FROM SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)
MURKIN

RE PHOENIX TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR MAY THREE, LAST; NEW ORLEANS TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR MAY FOUR, LAST; AND NEW ORLEANS TELETYPE TO LOS ANGELES MAY SEVEN LAST.

INVESTIGATION AT ONE FIVE ZERO EAST ONE ONE PLACE, LOS ANGELES, CALIF., TO LOCATE ARNOLD P. THOMAS, JR. DISCLOSED THIS NON-EXISTENT ADDRESS.

INVESTIGATION THIS DATE AT ONE FIVE ZERO EAST ONE ONE ONE PLACE, LOS ANGELES, DISCLOSED THIS ADDRESS OF JOHNNIE HAMM WHO HAS RESIDED THERE FOR PAST THREE YEARS.

NEW ORLEANS SHOULD RE-CONTACT ARNOLD AND ISABELLE THOMAS, THREE FIVE TWO THREE HAMBURG ST., NEW ORLEANS, TO ASCERTAIN CORRECT ADDRESS FOR ARNOLD P. THOMAS, JR.

AIRMAIL COPIES MEMPHIS, PHOENIX AND EL PASO

1 - Memphis
1 - Phoenix
1 - El Paso
BDH/bdh
(4)

SEARCHED
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0

Approved: *WJH*
Special Agent in Charge

Sent 9⁴⁵ M Per NLB **44-1574-1178**

5/4/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, SACRAMENTO (100-427) (P)

MURKIN

CR

(OO: MEMPHIS)

Re Los Angeles teletype to Director, 5/3/68.

RE: LOCAL SWINGER CORRESPONDENCE CLUB

Investigation was instituted 5/4/68 to locate and interview individuals, Sacramento Division, who were listed as individuals on correspondence list:

CONNIE RIAL, 339 Roosevelt, Manteca, Calif.;

PATRICIA TEVES, 244 Oak St., Chico, Calif.;

CHRISTINA RIVERS, 1137 Tuoline, Fresno, Calif.;

JEAN SLATON, 2827 W. Clinton, Fresno, Calif.

AT MANTECA, CALIFORNIA:

Mrs. MARIAN MELLIGREN, aka. Connie Rial, 339 Roosevelt, advised that sometime in 1966 letters began

- 3 - Bureau (RM)
 - 1 - Memphis (44-1987) (RM)
 - ① - Los Angeles (44-1574) (RM)
 - 1 - San Diego (RM)
 - 1 - San Francisco (RM)
 - 2 - Sacramento
- JRB:sab
(9)

44-1574-1179

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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FBI - LOS ANGELES	

[Handwritten signatures and initials over the stamp]

arriving at her home and have been coming to her home since; however, she denies having participated in this correspondence in any way. She has saved all letters received and displayed them for review. None of the letters viewed were from RAY under any of his known aliases. She claimed she was not acquainted with RAY or any of his known aliases. She was left a copy of the I.O. on RAY and advised she would immediately contact the FBI if she received any contact from RAY or anyone with a picture resembling him.

AT CHICO, CALIFORNIA

Owner of dwelling at 244 Oak St., Chico, advised has owned dwelling at this address since January, 1965, and does not recall PATRICIA TEVES. A neighborhood resident remembers name of TEVES; however, possesses no information. The 1964 Chico "Polk's City Directory" lists a GERALD and PATRICIA TEVES at 419 West 6th St., Chico. Occupation listed as U. S. Army. Subsequent directories negative re TEVES family. U. S. Post Office, Chico, has no address in records under TEVES name. Forwarding addresses cleared every two years by U.S. Post Office, Chico. No record Chico PD re TEVES family.

It would appear PATRICIA TEVES would not have received correspondence from "Swinger Correspondence Club" in view of U. S. Post Office clearing forwarding addresses every two years and Sacramento contemplates no investigation re TEVES.

AT FRESNO, CALIFORNIA

CONSUELO RIVERA, 1137 Tuolumne Avenue, Fresno, sister of CHRISTINA RIVERA, advised CHRISTINA has been married 3 years and previously belonged to Swinger Correspondence Club and all mail received from club during past 3 years destroyed by CONSUELO at CHRISTINA's request since CHRISTINA has a jealous husband and mail was vulgar in content. CONSUELO does not recall any correspondence from GALT or ERIC and added all mail received was destroyed without attention to sender. She advised no mail was forwarded to CHRISTINA and CHRISTINA has no knowledge of contents of mail.

SC 100-427

JEAN STATON, aka. Jean Slaton, 1184 N. Marks Avenue, Fresno, advised she formerly resided in trailer court at 2827 W. Clinton. She advised she may be listed as member of club but never signed up for membership. She has, however, received a quantity of mail as result of joining two other clubs. She stated most of mail vulgar in content and she could recall no correspondence with anyone named ERIC or GALT and photograph of GALT not familiar to her. A review of correspondence in her possession failed to reflect any correspondence from ERIC or GALT.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574) (P)

DATE: 5/9/68

FROM : SA FREDRICK E. BECKER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re complaint form of complainant JEWELL BROWN received 5/8/68.

On 5/8/68 complainant JEWELL BROWN was interviewed at her residence at 840½ Alta Vista Boulevard, Los Angeles, California. Mrs. BROWN was interviewed regarding her belief that a renter of hers who moved out of the apartments she manages resembled the photograph of JAMES EARL RAY which was published in the Los Angeles newspapers on 5/8/68.

The insuing interview of Mrs. BROWN revealed that GUS P. STRAGELOS, caucasian, age middle 40's, was a tenant of Mrs. BROWN's in apartment 836 Alta Vista Boulevard, Los Angeles from November 1967 until April 10, 1968. Mrs. BROWN further advised that STRAGELOS drove a late model Lincoln automobile which had a white bottom and a black top. She stated that STRAGELOS was employed with the Lytton Savings and Loan at 2620 Bronholly Street, Los Angeles. She further stated that Mr. STRAGELOS wore glasses. Mrs. BROWN was shown numerous photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and she advised that STRAGELOS only appeared to be similar in appearance but not identical.

44-1574-1180

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FBI — LOS ANGELES	

(1) 44-1574
FEB:feb

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

FROM : SA ALAN W. MURDOCH

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE:

Re complaint form dated 5/2/68 setting forth information from RUSS BROUSSARD.

RUSS BROUSSARD, the complainant, was re-contacted by the writer at 7:40 pm at the Red Coach Cocktail Lounge, North Hollywood. He stated that the man who resembled JAMES EARL RAY and the woman he met in the lounge departed in the red Mustang (ROE 880) about five minutes after he had called the office.

Mrs. RICHARD MOHAN, 16848 Hiawatha St., Granada Hills, advised on 5/3/68 that the 1965 red Mustang (ROE 880) is registered to her husband and that she had it on the evening of 5/2/68. She met CHARLES GOLD, who is in the Product Evaluation Department of Lockheed Aircraft, and who is family friend of over twenty years standing, at the Red Coach Cocktail Lounge at about 7:00 pm that evening.

Mrs. MOHAN was then informed of the reason for the inquiry and was shown photographs of RAY. She stated that GOLD was not identical and in no way resembled ~~XXXX~~ RAY.

See Ser 1078

2 - 44-1574

44-1574-108

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FBI - LOS ANGELES	

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-)

DATE: 5/9/68

FROM : SA WILLIAM P. CRAWFORD

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On above date Officer FUNK, West Los Angeles Division, Los Angeles Police Department advised he had received a telephone complaint in which the caller stated that he saw a man who he thought resembled JAMES EARL RAY. Officer FUNK advised he would dispatch a unit to interview the caller. After approx. 45 minutes the writer received a call from Officer D. WILSHANS, serial number 11569, who advised he had interviewed a Mr. STEEL, 2223 Barrington, Los Angeles, Calif. WILSHANS stated that STEEL advised that while he was in the bar known as "Mr. ROBERTS" he noticed a man who he thought resembled JAMES EARL RAY, in the company of two unidentified white males. STEEL further stated that he began shooting pool with the look alike and the men with the look alike. STEEL stated that the look a like told him his name was "WILLIAM; however STEEL advised that he heard the look alike tell others in the bar that his name was "CLYDE" and "MILLER". STEEL advised that he visits the above mentioned bar frequently and that he is sure he has seen the look alike in there before. STEEL advised that one of the two men with the look alike left the bar with a tall white female and got into a 1967 green mustang fast back bearing Calif. lic. INF-. STEEL stated he was unable to get the complete lic. STEEL advised the look alike had a small mustache.

776 wpc

WPC/wpc

44-1574-1182

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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MAY 9 1968	
FBI — LOS ANGELES	

FBI LOS ANG.

1020AM AM URGENT 5-9-68 JDG

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861)

LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM: ST. LOUIS (44-775)

MURKIN

RE LOUISVILLE TEL MAY EIGHT LAST RE TELEPHONE BOOTH,
ST. FRANCIS HOTEL, LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

ON MAY NINE INSTANT MRS. LONELLE HENAGER, EIGHTYSIX SIXTY-
EIGHT MORAN PL., ST. JOHNS, MO., ADVISED BROTHER, A.F. COOK,
JR., AKA BUD, TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED HER FEBRUARY TWENTYTWO
LAST FROM UNKNOWN BAR IN LOS ANGELES. SAID EMPLOYED AT AUTO-
MOBILE AGENCY, POSSIBLY OLBSMOBILE.

MRS. HENAGER CLAIMS SHE DOES NOT KNOW HIS ADDRESS OR
EMPLOYMENT. SUGGESTS CONTACT WITH HIS LAST WIFE, CATHY, WHO
IN NINETEEN SIXTYFIVE RESIDED SIXTEEN FIFTYONE RUTFORD ST.,
COVINA, CALIF., TELEPHONE TWO ONE THREE-NINE SIX SIX-SIX ONE
ONE NINE.

44-1574-1183

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
MAY 9 1968
FBI - LOS ANGELES

SL 44-775

PAGE TWO

LOS ANGELES ENDEAVOR TO LOCATE COOK THROUGH CATHY.

LOUISVILLE ADVISED BY AIRMAIL.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

P

ENDSMS

FBI LOS ANG.

F B I

Date: 5/7/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via A I R T E L _____
(Priority)

TO: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)
FROM: SAC, SAN DIEGO (44-387) (P)
MURKIN

ReLAairtel to San Diego dated 4/30/68.

The following investigation was conducted by SA HENRY
A. WEBB at Tijuana, B.C., Mexico, on 5/2/68:

See 948
The Tijuana jail log was reviewed by Detective Sergeant
RAMON DIAZ NEGRETE, but no arrest record was located for MANUEL
CENICEROS. NEGRETE also reviewed arrest records of the Tijuana
Police Department, but again located no arrest record for
MANUEL CENICEROS.

ARNOLD FITCH, American Consulate, Tijuana, B.C.,
Mexico, advised that he makes a daily check of the Tijuana jail
and interviews all Americans in custody. He advised that he
did not recognize the name MANUEL CENICEROS and had no record
indicating that CENICEROS was ever in the Tijuana jail.

② - Los Angeles
2 - San Diego

AWO:mel
(4)

see 948

44-1574-1184

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MAY 8 1968	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

Brady

Approved: *2/8/68* Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

DATE: 5/9/68

FROM : SUPERVISOR WILLIAM JOHN NOLAN

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 5/9/68 Sergeant RUSSELL, Fugitive Detail, Room 309, Los Angeles Police Department, telephonically requested copies of the latest photograph of JAMES EARL RAY.

Six copies of the photograph were immediately hand delivered to Sergeant RUSSELL by SA FREDRICK E. BECKER.

WJN:CM
(2)

44-1574-1185

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1968	
FBI — LOS ANGELES	

5/7/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
ATTN: FBI LABORATORY

FROM: SAC, DENVER (157-203) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Denver airtel and teletype 5/4/68.

Re CARL RAY and HERMAN J. SCHMACKER.

Enclosed for FBI Laboratory are two originals of Frontier Airlines Transportation Receipt bearing signature of CARL RAY in upper left corner of each, and original of Frontier Credit Application which CARL RAY reportedly filled out and signed. Also enclosed are three originals of Frontier Transportation Receipts, each bearing signature of HERMAN J. SCHMACKER in upper left corner.

The Laboratory is requested to compare handwriting of CARL RAY and SCHMACKER with handwriting of JAMES EARL RAY. The Laboratory is also requested to compare the handwriting of CARL RAY with that of SCHMACKER to determine if CARL RAY and SCHMACKER could possibly be one and the same person.

3 - Bureau (Enc. 6)
1 - Memphis (44-1987) (Enc. 1)
① - Los Angeles (44-1574) (Enc. 1)
2 - Denver
BDA/can
(7)

44-1574-1186

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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FBI - LOS ANGELES	

Benton

BN 157-203

One copy of referenced Denver airtel is enclosed for Memphis and one copy of instant airtel is being furnished Los Angeles Office, which office is presently attempting to locate CARL RAY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

5/7/68

EN CODE

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: BUREAU (44-38861) AND MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAN DIEGO (44-387)

MURKIN

RE LOCAL SWINGER CORRESPONDENCE CLUB.

RELATEL TO BUREAU, MEMPHIS, SACRAMENTO, SAN DIEGO AND SAN FRANCISCO, MAY THREE LAST.

MRS. RUBY KELLY, FOUR ZERO ONE NINE WILSON AVENUE, SAN DIEGO,
CALIFORNIA, ON MAY SEVEN INSTANT ADVISED ABOUT TWO YEARS AGO
SHE JOINED THE CUPID CLUB IN NEW YORK CITY DESCRIBED BY MRS.
KELLY AS A CORRESPONDENCE CLUB.

SINCE JOINING, SHE HAS CORRESPONDED WITH FOUR OR FIVE
MALE INDIVIDUALS, NONE NAMED ERIC S. GALT, NOR HAS SHE RECEIVED
ANY CORRESPONDENCE FROM GALT.

FURTHER ADVISED ABOUT A MONTH AGO SHE RECEIVED A LETTER
FROM A PERSON IN WEST HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA, REQUESTING HER TO
CORRESPOND WITH HIM, STATING HE OBTAINED HER NAME FROM THE
SWINGER CORRESPONDENCE CLUB.

44-387

① Los Angeles (44-1574) (Info) (AIRMAIL)

AWO:mel
(2)

44-1574-1187

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SD 44-387

PAGE TWO

MRS. KELLY DENIED EVER JOINING THE SWINGER CORRESPONDENCE CLUB AND BELIEVED HER NAME MIGHT HAVE BEEN OBTAINED BY THEM THROUGH HER JOINING THE CUPID CLUB, NEW YORK CITY.

PHOTO OF SUBJECT DISPLAYED TO MRS. KELLY WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

RECORDS USPO, POSTAL INSPECTOR'S OFFICE, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, INDICATE P. O. BOX TWO ZERO ONE EIGHT THREE, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, ASSIGNED RICHARD BROMAN, TWO FOUR SIX ONE GREYLINE DRIVE, SAN DIEGO. NO LISTING FOR JANE PARSON.

RECORDS P. O. BOX ONE FOUR SEVEN FOUR, SAN YSIDRO, CALIFORNIA, ASSIGNED KATHLEEN H. TOOLEY, MEXICAN GOSPEL DENTAL CLINIC, VIA SAN VICENTE, EJIDO KENIA, BAJA CALIFORNIA, MEXICO. NO LISTING QUOTE LA JUNE BROWN END QUOTE.

RICHARD BROMAN INTERVIEWED ADVISED HE HAS HAD CORRESPONDENCE FROM SWINGER CORRESPONDENCE CLUB FOR PAST TWO YEARS APPROXIMATELY EVERY SIX MONTHS. HE ADVISED RECENTLY MAIL CAME ADDRESSED TO HIS P. O. BOX UNDER NAME JANE PARSON FROM SWINGER CORRESPONDENCE CLUB. THIS MAIL CONSISTED OF APPLICATION FORMS.

SD 44-387

PAGE THREE

BROMAN ADVISED HE HAS RECEIVED NO CORRESPONDENCE FROM ERIC S. GALT AND, UPON BEING SHOWN PHOTOS OF GALT, DENIED ANY KNOWLEDGE OF HIM.

INVESTIGATION BEING CONDUCTED IN BAJA CALIFORNIA, MEXICO, CONCERNING P. O. BOX ONE FOUR SEVEN FOUR, SAN YSIDRO, CALIFORNIA.

LOS ANGELES ADVISED BY AIRMAIL.

A&D. P.

FBI LOS ANG.

P

FBI DALLAS

1100AM URGENT 5-9-68@LMB

TO DIRECTOR (44-33861) AND LOS ANGELES
FROM DALLAS (44-2649) 1P

MURKIN.

REBUTEL TO LOS ANGELES, APRIL TWENTYSIX LAST; AND LOS ANGELES
TEL TO BUREAU, MAY ONE LAST.

RE : HAROLD J. THOME

FOLLOWING INVESTIGATION MADE TODAY:

CREDIT CHECKS ARLINGTON AND FORT WORTH, TEXAS, NEGATIVE.
CRIMINAL CHECKS AT ARLINGTON AND FORT WORTH PDS, AND SO, FORT WORTH,
NEGATIVE.

POSTMASTER R. O DEWS (PROTECT), ARLINGTON, TEXAS, STATES NO
RECORD GENERAL DELIVERY FOR HAROLD J. THOME AND POSTMASTER HAS ALERTED
ALL HIS CLERKS FOR ANY MAIL THAT MIGHT BE RECEIVED BY THOME. IF
SUCH MAIL RECIEVED, DEWS WILL IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY FORT WORTH RA.

MEMPHIS ADVISED AM. P

END

NJZ

FBI LOS ANG.

44-1574-1188

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FBI - LOS ANGELES	

[Handwritten signature]

FBI LOS ANG

②

FBI NEW ORLS

2-45 PM URGENT 5-9-68 MMW
TO LOS ANGELES 44-1575
FROM NEW ORLEANS 157-10673

MURKIN

RE PHOENIS TELETYPE TO BUREAU MAY THREE, LAST, NEW ORLEANS
TELETYPE TO BUREAU MAY FOUR, LAST AND LOS ANGELES TELETYPE
TO NEW ORLEANS MAY EIGHT, LAST.

ARNOLD AND ISABELLE THOMAS, THREE FIVE TWO THREE HAMBURG
STREET, NEW ORLEANS, ADVISED THEIR SON ARNOLD P. THOMAS, JR.,
RESIDES ONE FIVE ZERO EAST ONE ONE SIX PLACE, LOS ANGELES,
CALIF., ZIPP CODE NINE ZERO ZERO SIX ONE. THOMAS ADVISED HIS
OTHER SON, CHARLES THOMAS, RESIDES FIVE ONE FIVE ZERO SOUTH
GRAMERCY PLACE, LOS ANGELES, CALIF., ZIP CODE NINE ZERO ZERO
FOUR SEVEN, TELEPHONE THREE NINE FOUR - NINE NINE NINE ONE

LOS ANGELES WILL INTERVIEW THOMAS, VERIFY PHONE CALL FROM
ELPASO TO NEW ORLEANS, AND SHOW PICTURES OF SUBJECT RAY TO
DETERMINE IF THOMAS HAS EVER SEEN THIS INDIVIDUAL BEFORE.

AIRMAIL COPIES MEMPHIS, PHOENIX AND ELPASO.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

SMS

FBI LOS ANG

*included in
5/10/68 summary
teletype JPP*

44-1574-1189

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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MAY 9 1968	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

[Handwritten signatures and initials over the stamp]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES

FROM : SUPERVISOR ROBERT E. KERTIN

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 5/9/68

FRED FIMBRES, Chief of Detectives, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, advised on 5/9/68 that his Department received information from GARY GILMER, 4300 South California, Burbank, California, telephone 845-3641, that he resided with JAMES EARL RAY at 1117 South Prairie, Inglewood, California, as of October, 1967.

*Gilmer in
murk in
1967*

He stated that he knew RAY as JOHN EDWARDS and that the pictures that appeared in the "Los Angeles Times" on 5/8/68 were pictures that made him feel certain that his former roommate, JOHN EDWARDS, was JAMES EARL RAY.

He said that EDWARDS had several guns in their residence and he considered him to be a "nut." He also stated that he believed the FBI questioned EDWARDS concerning his efforts to purchase a bazooka and bazooka ammunition.

FIMBRES stated that he had no additional information concerning GILMER or EDWARDS and was furnishing this data for whatever action was deemed appropriate by the Los Angeles Division.

LEAD

LOS ANGELES

AT BURBANK, CALIFORNIA: Contact GARY GILMER, 4300 South California, telephone 845-3641, and determine if EDWARDS is identical with RAY.

REK/rb
(2)

Call Burbank
Lead
Contact & memo
44-1574-1190
SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
1968
FBI - LOS ANGELES
J. McNeil

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1574)

DATE: 5/7/68

FROM : ~~XXXXXXXX~~ J.R. SULLIVAN

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Memo SA WILLIAM J. REHDER, 4/30/68, received 5/2/68

On 5/2/68 SAs ALBERT HUSTEDT & J. ROBERT SULLIVAN contacted Mrs. BESSIE BEAR, 4219 Rio Hondo Parkway, Rosemead, at which time she advised that JAMES MERCER, neighbor residing at 4225 Rio Hondo P'way, does not resemble the photograph of the subject, JAMES EARL RAY. She states that MERCER is employed by a police department or sheriff's office, address not known. She states that Mrs. MERCER is usually home during the day.

Attempts were made to contact Mrs. MERCER on 5/2, 3 and 6 without success.

On 5/7/68 Mrs. MERCER advised that the general shape of the face of RAY might possibly resemble the shape of her husband's face but the similarity ends there; she states her husband is much heavier but only 25 years of age; further he is employed by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office in the Hall of Justice - day shift - jail detail;

See Ser 943

44-1574-1191

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[Handwritten initials and marks]

F B I

Date: 5/7/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-33861)
FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)
SUBJECT: MURKIN ,
OO: Memphis

Re San Diego airtel to Bureau 4/30/68 and Los Angeles airtel to Bureau 5/2/68.

RE: LEWIE RAYMOND DOWDA

For the information of Bureau, Office of Origin, and Atlanta, Mr. ROBERT E. GRAHAM, uncle of DOWDA's wife, advised on reinterview 5/3/68 that he had consulted his wife concerning the particulars of the DOWDA's visit to the GRAHAM residence during the Thanksgiving Season, 1967.

GRAHAM stated that LEWIE DOWDA and Mrs. DOWDA arrived at the GRAHAM residence, 5419 Diversity Drive, Palos Verdes, California, driving a Volkswagen automobile bearing Georgia license plates the date prior to Thanksgiving, 11/28/67, as he recalled. After having Thanksgiving dinner with the GRAHAMS, the DOWDA's left in their Volkswagen at approximately 4:00 p.m. to see a friend of DOWDA's who allegedly worked in a hospital, believed in Santa Barbara, California. DOWDA also expressed his consideration of seeking employment at this hospital.

3 - Bureau
2 - Atlanta
1 - Memphis
② - Los Angeles

GEA/dmr
(8) *[initials]*

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SERIALIZED
FILED
[initials]

Approved: *[signature]* Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

OFFICE COPY

44-1574-1123

LA 44-1574

The DOWDA's returned to the GRAHAM residence on Friday, 12/1/67, and immediately upon arrival, Mrs. GRAHAM telephoned GRAHAM at his office telling of the DOWDA's arrival from Northern California.

DOWDA advised that he had lost his wallet in Santa Barbara, California, while swimming and GRAHAM had to loan or give DOWDA sufficient funds to drive back to Atlanta. The DOWDA's left the GRAHAM'S residence on Saturday, 12/2/68, enroute to Atlanta via San Diego, California.

GRAHAM stated that he knew DOWDA by first name "WHITEY". DOWDA stated he was a dietician and had attended three years college in the State of Missouri, perhaps the University of Missouri.

GRAHAM stated that he was of the opinion that DOWDA was prone to stretch the truth and he, GRAHAM, personally doubted his veracity for the short period of time he was acquainted with him.

The above information is furnished to Atlanta in slight variation of re Los Angeles airtel to Bureau.

GRAHAM stated that the information furnished in this communication was more nearly correct as to exact dates inasmuch as he had contacted his wife and the two of them had more accurately pinpointed the times and dates in question.

AT 44-2386

JTB:bjc

1

On April 24, 1968, SAs JAMES RICHARD FLICK, JOSEPH G. SHEA, and JACK T. BEVERSTEIN interviewed LEWIE RAYMOND DOWDA, an inmate at the Cobb County Jail, Marietta, Georgia. DOWDA advised he was formerly incarcerated at the Missouri State Prison, Jefferson City, Missouri. He stated while at the Missouri State Prison, he was acquainted for approximately three years with JAMES EARL RAY, a fellow inmate. DOWDA advised he was released from the Missouri State Prison on December 23, 1966, and JAMES EARL RAY was still incarcerated. He stated he had been the chief cook at the Missouri State Prison and RAY worked as a bread slicer.

DOWDA advised RAY was the type person the other inmates did not "mess with." He described RAY as a "loner" who usually initiated the conversation if he wanted to talk to anyone. He stated that RAY spoke in a mild, low tone and when angry would speak even softer. He stated he had never known RAY to become excited and shout. To his knowledge, he has never known RAY to smoke. He stated RAY had a fair complexion, which was blotchy, having pimples around the lower portion of his face. He stated RAY had a rash on the right side of his head during the entire time he had known RAY and RAY would scratch this rash. He stated this rash was very noticeable due to the type of haircut in the Penitentiary and RAY put some type of salve on this rash. He stated RAY's hair was lightly streaked with gray. He advised the only scar he can recall which RAY had was a large burn scar on his forearm, side unrecalled. He stated this scar was located near the wrist. He stated RAY had dingy teeth.

DOWDA advised RAY always talked about "running around" in St. Louis, Missouri. He normally talked about two girl friends, one of these he had met at the Gaslight

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44-387-187

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SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 30 1968	
FBI - SAN DIEGO	

Price 1003

829 5.182

AT 44-2386

JTB:bjc

2

(a bar) located in either St. Louis or Kansas City. DOWDA stated the other girl was a girl RAY had met around the college at Columbia, Missouri, and it was his impression this girl had worked in a tavern there.

DOWDA advised RAY, while in prison, wore a ring on his left hand which was made at the Penitentiary, having been made from white metal with raised initials. He stated RAY never smiled, but when he smiled, it looked like a smirk. He advised RAY was clean and not sloppy in his dress. He described RAY as an avid reader and considered RAY to be intelligent. He advised RAY participated in softball games as a pitcher and would watch all of the baseball games at the Penitentiary, however, he had never heard RAY speak of professional baseball.

DOWDA stated that some time in 1966, a group of Black Muslims had petitioned for the right to have their own religious services. He stated the Muslims would congregate in groups and that a subsequent search of the Negro prisoners had uncovered a large cache of weapons. DOWDA stated the white prisoners then armed themselves and there was a riot at the prison. DOWDA stated three Negro prisoners were killed. DOWDA stated he would not say RAY had knifed these Negro prisoners, but did say that if RAY had not knifed them, he definitely knew who had killed them.

DOWDA stated RAY definitely was a racist and hated Negroes. He stated RAY had made the statement and firmly believed that all the Negro prisoners inside the Penitentiary should be killed. He stated RAY had on several occasions made the statement that if the price were right, he would kill MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DOWDA stated he does not recall ever hearing anything which would indicate a "contract" was out for the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING.

AT 44-2386

JTB:bjc

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DOWDA advised he would not be surprised if JAMES EARL RAY was the murderer of MARTIN LUTHER KING, however, he does not believe RAY would have killed KING without being paid for it.

DOWDA stated approximately four months before he, DOWDA, was released RAY had attempted to escape from the Missouri State Prison by going out of the prison behind the ovens in the prison bakery. He stated RAY was apprehended and RAY had broken his arm in this escape attempt. He stated RAY had talked about escaping from the Penitentiary prior to this. DOWDA advised he does not believe RAY returned from maximum security confinement prior to DOWDA's release from prison.

DOWDA stated while in prison, RAY was particularly interested in Western music. He stated he does not recall RAY ever mentioning anything about dancing. He stated that during this period a number of orchestras from the Lake of the Ozarks had played at the State Prison and RAY would never miss these performances. He stated RAY often talked about planning to go to the Lake of the Ozarks when he got out of prison. DOWDA stated he would have no idea who RAY would contact at the Lake of the Ozarks, but stated if he were to look for RAY there, he would first find out who was selling dope and through this person, locate RAY. He stated RAY had talked about being on dope prior to being in the Missouri State Prison. He advised RAY had to have an outside source of income while in prison inasmuch as RAY's dope habit was costing RAY \$35 to \$40 a week for shots and RAY appeared to be well fixed, never wanting for anything.

DOWDA estimated RAY spent \$15 to \$20 a week for personal conveniences. He stated RAY, while in prison,

AT 44-2386

JTB:bjc

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used amphetamine, taking the shot in the "main line." He stated RAY would take two to three shots a day. He stated RAY never lacked for money, but had no idea of RAY's source of income. DOWDA stated he is certain RAY was not selling amphetamine to other prisoners, stating he has known RAY to give free amphetamine to prisoners who needed a shot. DOWDA denied that he himself had ever taken any shots, but admitted he has taken pills. DOWDA claimed he and RAY were not engaged in the sale of amphetamine at the Missouri State Prison.

DOWDA stated that HAROLD SCHAEFER, Guard on the gate in the kitchen of the Missouri State Prison, was very close to JAMES EARL RAY and it was DOWDA's understanding that SCHAEFER was RAY's source of amphetamine. He stated BENJAMIN O. GOODIN was a civilian in charge of the kitchen and he is certain GOODIN was not connected in any way with the bringing of amphetamine into the prison. He stated while GOODIN was friendly with RAY, he understands it was GOODIN who had disclosed RAY's hiding place when RAY had attempted to escape in 1966.

DOWDA advised one NEIL ABBY (phonetic) was RAY's closest friend in the Missouri State Prison and was responsible for bringing RAY into the kitchen. He stated ABBY at this time was chief cook at the prison. He believes ABBY was serving time for breaking into a drug store and he does not know that dope was connected with ABBY's offense. He stated ABBY had a detainer on him as he was an escapee from the State of Texas. DOWDA does not know whether or not ABBY is presently in custody but does not believe he is presently in the Missouri State Prison.

He stated RAY had another friend, one DONALD DEAN RIGGER. He stated RIGGER was from California and RIGGER's wife was a psychiatrist at the Napa State Hospital, which

AT 44-2386

JTB:bjc

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is located north of San Francisco, California.

DOWDA advised that RAY and other inmates that might have DOWDA's address would have a Route 1, Sanford, Florida, address, and would not know that he is presently in Marietta, Georgia. He stated his father, STEVEN C. DOWDA, presently resides at 110 South Chandler Street, Deland, Florida, and that anyone inquiring for him at Sanford, Florida, would be sent to Deland, Florida. DOWDA claims he has not been contacted by RAY and has heard nothing to indicate RAY has attempted to contact him. He stated RAY had talked about traveling over all the United States, but had never mentioned anything which would indicate RAY was associated with anyone in the Atlanta, Georgia, area. DOWDA stated the only other prisoner he knew who was from the State of Georgia, who was an inmate at the Missouri State Prison was one JERRY WHITE from Calhoun, Georgia. He advised WHITE had a Federal detainer against him and believes WHITE is still incarcerated at the Missouri State Prison.

DOWDA advised he had made a trip to California in November of 1967, and that he and his wife had spent Thanksgiving Day visiting her uncle, BOB GRAHAM, who resides at Palos Verdes, California. He stated GRAHAM is Regional Manager for IEM in that area. He stated that he and his wife had stopped at Jefferson City and while there, contacted a Missouri State Prison guard, Mr. "PETE" PETRIE. He stated he had not made any inquiry concerning RAY and was not aware that RAY had escaped. He stated he had not made any inquiry concerning inmates inasmuch as his wife did not know he was a former inmate of the Missouri State Prison. He stated he had stopped in the Kansas City, Missouri, area and attempted to locate PAUL ALVIN LAIL, JR., who had been in the Missouri State Prison as PAUL ALVIN CARTER. He stated LAIL had been released approximately a year before he had and that they had agreed to attempt to get together

ME 44-2386

JTB:bjc

6

after their release from prison. He stated LAIL worked in the license shop at the Missouri State Prison and although he was acquainted with RAY, he did not believe LAIL was a particularly good friend of RAY. He stated after his return from California, he was contacted by PAUL ALVIN LAIL, JR. He stated LAIL owns a home at 34 Barbodos Drive, Palm Springs, West Palm Beach, Florida, Telephone Number 965-4221. He stated LAIL in February of 1968 was out of a job and had come to Marietta, Georgia, looking for employment. He stated LAIL had come to Marietta, Georgia, with his wife and a small baby and had resided with DOWDA for approximately one and one-half weeks, leaving approximately two or three days after DOWDA was arrested, DOWDA having been arrested on March 4, 1968.

DOWDA advised he could recall nothing else concerning RAY which might assist in his location, but in the event he remembered anything additional, he would contact the FBI.

F B I

Date: 4/25/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

(OO: MEMPHIS)

Re Atlanta teletype summary to Bureau, 4/24/68.

Enclosed for Bureau are three copies of insert reflecting interview with LEWIS RAYMOND DOWDA.

One copy of above insert being furnished to Miami and Memphis for information. Two copies of insert furnished to St. Louis and San Diego. Six copies of insert furnished to Kansas City.

In addition to leads previously set out in retel, the following offices are requested to conduct the following investigation:

LEADSKANSAS CITY

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. 3)
- 6 - Kansas City (Enc. 6)
- 1 - Memphis (Enc. 1)
- 1 - Miami (Enc. 1)
- 2 - San Diego (Enc. 2)
- 2 - St. Louis (Enc. 2)
- 2 - Atlanta

JTB:lcc
(17)

44-387-168

44-1574-1195

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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FBI - LOS ANGELES	

Price

Assign lead 123

Case assigned

Continuing lead. LA

handling per

4.30

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

AT 44-2386

At Jefferson City, Missouri:

- 1) Will, at Missouri State Penitentiary, determine from medical records type rash JAMES EARL RAY had on side of head and medication prescribed for RAY.
- 2) Check correspondence file to determine if RAY has any approved correspondence which may identify girl friends RAY talked about.
- 3) Attempt to determine supplier of narcotics to RAY while RAY in prison and attempt to develop information concerning RAY's outside source of income, as RAY may now attempt to contact these persons.
- 4) Ascertain present whereabouts of inmate JERRY WHITE,
- 5) Through sources at prison, evaluate information furnished by DOWDA.

At Kansas City, Missouri:

Attempt to locate bar known as Gaslight, to determine if subject RAY is known there and attempt to determine identity of girl RAY met there.

At Columbia, Missouri:

Contact bars in vicinity of college and determine if subject RAY known as well as attempt to learn identity of girl RAY had met in this area.

At Lake Ozark, Missouri:

Will, through sources, attempt to identify narcotics pushers and through them determine if subject has been in this area.

SAN DIEGO

At Palos Verdes, California:

Will locate BOB GRAHAM and interview concerning DOWDA's visit Thanksgiving 1967; determine if DOWDA made any remarks concerning contact with RAY or anyone else in California.

AT 44-386

ST. LOUIS

St. Louis, Missouri:

Will attempt to locate bar known as Gaslight to determine if RAY is known at this bar and identity of RAY's girl friend.

4/30/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-33861)
FROM: SAC, SAN DIEGO (44-387) (P)
MURKIN
(OO: Memphis)

Re Atlanta airtel to the Bureau 4/25/68.

Enclosed for the Los Angeles Division are two Xerox copies of referenced communication. Also enclosed are two Xerox copies of results of an interview with LEWIE RAYMOND DOWDA, an inmate at the Cobb County Jail, Marietta, Georgia, on 4/24/68.

Los Angeles Division is requested to conduct lead at Palos Verdes to locate and interview BOB GRAHAM since that city is in their territory.

- 3 - Bureau
- 2 - Los Angeles (Encs. - 4)
- 1 - Memphis
- 1 - Atlanta (44-2386)
- 2 - San Diego

AWO:bef
(8)

Handwritten: 44-1574-1196

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Handwritten: 44-1574-1196

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)(P)

DATE: 5/7/68

FROM : SA GEORGE E. AIKEN, JR.

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re San Diego airtel to Bureau, 4/30/68

On 5/2/68 Mr ROBERT E. GRAHAM, 5419 Diversity Drive, Palos Verdes Peninsula, Los Angeles, California, was telephonically contacted by the writer, at which time he advised as follows:

He stated that LEWIE RAYMOND DOWDA married his brother's daughter, and as best he could recall DOWDA and his wife visited the GRAHAM family during the Thanksgiving Holidays, 1967, exact time of their visit as to day they arrived and departed, unrecalled.

He stated that the DOWDAs left the GRAHAM residence, after perhaps a two day visit, enroute to Monterey, California. Approximately a day to a day and a half, they returned, and DOWDA advised that he had lost his wallet in the Monterey, California area. GRAHAM stated that he gave DOWDA sufficient money for him and his wife to return to Atlanta, Georgia, in their Volkswagon.

GRAHAM stated that he could recall nothing further about the DOWDAs visit and that during the evening of 5/2/68, would consult his wife about the visit and would advise the writer the following day of anything pertinent that his wife could remember.

GRAHAM was interviewed at his place of business, 16005 Sheman Way, suite 102, Van Nuys, California, on 5/3/68, by the writer and SA DAVID R. PENDER, at which time GRAHAM advised as follows:

He stated that he had talked with his wife the previous evening, and she reminded him of the following pertinent facts relative to LEWIE RAYMOND DOWDA's visit during the Thanksgiving Season, 1967.

H advised that the DOWDAs arrived at the GRAHAM residence the day prior to Thanksgiving Day, on 11/28/67, as he recalled. They had Thanksgiving Dinner with the GRAHAMS, and left the GRAHAM Residence at about 4:00 PM Thanksgiving Day to see a friend in Santa Rosa, California, who was working in a hospital in that city. DOWDA was considering seeking employment in the same hospital that this friend, name unrecalled, was working.

1-44-1574
GEA/ga

44-1574-1197

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GRAHAM stated that after talking to his wife about the visit, that he recalled that it was odd that a man and his wife would drive all the way across country to have Thanksgiving Dinner with a relative, and then leave immediately after the dinner.

GRAHAM stated the DOWDAs returned to the Los Angeles Area on Friday afternoon, 12/1/67, and immediately called him at his office, advising him that DOWDA had lost his wallet while swimming in the Monterey, California.

The DOWDAs left Los Angeles, California, after again visiting the GRAHAMs on Saturday, 12/2/67.

GRAHAM stated that he believed that DOWDA was untruthful with him on several occasions during their visit. He told GRAHAM that he had attended three years college at the University of Missouri, which GRAHAM discounted, because he did not think that the demeanor of one who had attended college. He also told GRAHAM that he was a dietitian, but he had little knowledge about how to prepare foodstuffs and the caloric content of various foods.

GRAHAM stated that he knew DOWDA as Whitie.

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The following investigation was conducted by

SA Vincent J. O'Neill:

At Oxnard, California

On 4-21-68 Mr. Leslie A. Thomas, 1041 W. Olive, advised that he has been very upset since the ~~xxx~~ murder of Rev. Martin Luther King, and that on the day of the funeral he was stopped by a male, individual who asked for ~~6~~ six cents. Mr. Thomas refused and the man walked North on A street in downtown Oxnard. He estimated that this incident occurred on 4-9-68. Subsequently when he observed newspaper photographs of ERICK GALT ~~an~~ and saw his photo on television on 4-21-68 Mr. Thomas felt the man who asked him for money on 4-9-68 resembled GALT very closely. He described that individual as follows:

Name: Unknown
Sex: Male
Race: White
Hgt: 5'9"
Wgt: 165 lbs
Hair: Brown
Age: 44
Clothing: Tan sports jacket & slacks with tie
Employment: Stated he had worked at Mel's Restaurant in Oxnard, hurt his ~~hand~~ and was now unemployed.
Peculiarities: Right hand wrapped in gauze; carried an overnight bag and coat over his arm.

Frank Lewis, owner.

44-1574-1198

See 1064
On 4-22-68 Mr. ~~Frank Lewis, owner.~~ ~~Frank Lewis, Manager,~~ Mel's Restaurant, 1041 S. Oxnard Bld., was interviewed and determined from a record check and contact with employees that JOHN BEVINS had been employed as a cook for a total of 23 hours from 4/5 - 7/68 and injured his hand and was laid off. The only ~~thing in~~ information in the records disclosed his residence as 1191 Skeel Drive, Camarillo, Mr. Lewis advised that BEVINS did not resemble the photograph of ERIC GALT.

Calif., with Social Security Number

At Camarillo, Calif.

On 4-22-68 Mrs. MYRTLE LINGG, 1191 Skeel Drive, was interviewed and she stated she is the sister of JOHN BEVINS, and that he lived with her ~~and~~ until 4-15-68 when he left to take up residence with his brother, BAILEY BROWN 4418 Avery St., Detroit, Michigan. She advised that BEVINS lived with her from 4-9-68 and prior to that date was living c/o general delivery, Seattle, Washington, for one year. She described JOHN BEVINS as follows and furnished a snapshot of him:

NAME: JOHN BEVINS
Sex: Male
Race: White
DOB: Age 42, born in Kentucky
Hgt: 6'
Wgt: 145 lbs
Hair: Blond, thinning
Eyes: Brown
Marital Status: Married, separated from wife,
MARIE BEVINS, Seattle, Wash.
Health: Rheumatic heart condition

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

FROM : SA DENNIS C. LEMASTER *ac*

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 5/9/68

Re Los Angeles memo of SA H. LA MARR GUNN dated 4/20/68.

On 4/22/68, 4/25/68, and 5/3/68, attempts were made to contact GEORGE SHAW. On the latter date, he was contacted at his residence, Apartment 4, 120 East Kelso Street, Inglewood, California. Throughout the interview the individual appeared emotionally disturbed. His comments, at times, were very irrational and disconnected. SHAW was shown photographs of JAMES EARL RAY. He said that the individual that he saw in San Diego, California, on 4/10/68, did not look at all like the individual in the photograph.

Several telephone calls were initiated to locate SHAW through the telephone number that he provided on 4/20/68. It was determined that this telephone number was that of his mother, who does not reside with SHAW.

DCL/kaf
(2)

See Ser 552

44-1574-1199

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)

FROM : SA DENNIS C. LEMASTER *del*

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 5/9/68

Re Los Angeles memo of SA ORLEY A. LEESON, JR.,
dated 4/20/68.

GERALD G. ~~TEESTA~~ and MAUREEN ~~TEESTA~~, husband
and wife, managers of the Millridge Apartments, 15636
Valerio Street, Van Nuys, California, were shown photographs
of JAMES EARL RAY. Both of them advised that these
photographs were unfamiliar to them. They said that
no tenants of the apartment house complex or any visitors
that they have seen at the apartment house complex resemble
the photographs.

They advised that there are 14 apartments in
the complex, each of them occupied by young married
couples or single people.

DCL/kaf
(2) *ky*

44-1574-1200

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4/30/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861) AND SAC RICHMOND
FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703)

MURKIN

RE BUREAU TEL APRIL TWENTYNINE LAST.

RE: TELEPHONE BOOTHS, ST. FRANCIS HOTEL, LOS ANGELES.

JAMES EARL RAY RESIDED IN HOLLYWOOD AREA, LOS ANGELES, FROM NOVEMBER NINETEEN, SIXTYSEVEN, THROUGH MARCH SEVENTEEN LAST, APPROXIMATELY. NOVEMBER NINETEEN UNTIL APPROXIMATELY JANUARY TWENTY RESIDED NEAR ST. FRANCIS HOTEL AND JANUARY TWENTYONE TO MARCH SEVENTEEN RESIDED THERE. TOLL NUMBERS FROM TELEPHONE BOOTHS AT THE HOTEL BEING ANALYZED FOR POSSIBLE CALLS BY SUBJECT. TOLL CALL MARCH TWO LAST, WDC, SEVEN FIFTYONE PM, THREE THREE SEVEN DASH FIVE THREE ONE FIVE. LISTED TO COLONIAL PARKING, INC., TWO ONE FOUR ZERO PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, WDC. CALL RECEIVED AT TEN FORTYSEVEN PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME BY ANSWERING SERVICE

2 - Bureau
2 - Teletype Unit
① - Los Angeles (By Mail)
1 - Memphis (By Mail)
1 - Kansas City (By Mail)
2 - WFO
BBA:tab
(9)

Peter [unclear] 44-1574-1201

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Rayson *BR*

WFO 44-703

pPAGE TWO

FOR COLONIAL. CALL FROM PETER HOLDEN, TWO TWO ZERO ZERO MILLS ROAD, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA, LOS ANGELES: PHONE TWO ONE THREE DASH SIX SIX ZERO DASH ZERO FIVE ONE NINE, RESIDENCE SEVEN SIX EIGHT DASH NINE SEVEN SEVEN FOUR.

HOLDEN LEFT NO MESSAGE BUT SAID HE WOULD CALL BACK AT ONE AM. NO SECOND CALL RECEIVED BY COLONIAL'S ANSWERING SERVICE. COLONIAL BELIEVES HOLDEN CALLED ABOUT HIS ONE HALF TON BLACK PICKUP CHEVROLET TRUCK WITH WHITE TOP AND VIRGINIA LICENSE TAGS. TRUCK PLACED IN STORAGE TEN FOURTEEN SIXTYSEVEN; TAKEN OUT OF STORAGE MARCH TWENTYSEVEN LAST. PLACED IN STORAGE ON MARCH TWENTYEIGHT LAST. REMOVED FROM STORAGE ON APRIL EIGHT LAST. AREA CONTACT LISTED AS AUTO DRIVENAY, JOHN RICHMOND, TELEPHONE THREE FOUR SEVEN DASH THREE FOUR FOUR FOUR. TWO MEN NAMES NOT KNOWN CAME TO COLONIAL STORAGE LOT ON APRIL FOUR, FIVE OR SIX LAST TO REMOVE SOME SPRAY PAINT EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES FROM TRUCK IN STORAGE TO A HEIGE ONE HALF TON TRUCK WITH RACKS FOR CARRYING LADDERS AND VIRGINIA LICENSE TAGS. ONE MAN WHOSE

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FATHER MAY OWN TRUCK IN STORAGE SAID DRIVEWAY SERVICE WANTED TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS TO DRIVE TRUCK IN STORAGE TO CALIFORNIA, DESCRIBED AS WHITE MALE TWENTYFIVE YEARS TO THIRTY YEARS, FIVE FEET EIGHT INCHES, ONE SEVENTYFIVE TO ONE EIGHTYFIVE POUNDS, REDDY COMPLEXION, BLOND HAIR, STOCKY BUILD WEARING ONE PIECE LIGHT TAN COVERALL. OTHER MAN WITH HIM DESCRIBED AS WHITE MALE THIRTY TO THIRTYTHREE YEARS OLD, SIX FEET ONE INCH, ONE NINETY POUNDS WEARING DARK GABARDINE JACKET. BOTH HAD SOUTHERN ACCENTS AND WORE EXPENSIVE SHOES LIKE ALLIGATOR STYLE LOAFERS WITH MEDIUM POINT. THEY HAD PICKUP TRUCK TUNED UP FOR TRIP TO CALIFORNIA. ON APRIL EIGHT LAST ANOTHER MAN DROVE TO COLONIAL PARKING LOT IN MUSTANG AND PLACED PACKAGE BELIEVED TO HAVE CONTAINED CLOTHES AND A TWENTYTWO CALIBER RIFLE IN CAB OF TRUCK IN STORAGE. THESE WERE PLACED BEHIND DRIVER'S SEAT. A BOX OF AMMUNITION WAS PLACED IN GLOVE COMPARTMENT OF TRUCK. HE SAID HE WAS A DRIVER FOR DRIVEAWAY AND WAS GOING TO DO SOME HUNTING WHILE EN ROUTE WITH THE TRUCK TO CALIFORNIA. HE IS DESCRIBED AS WHITE

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MALE IN LATE THIRTY'S, SIX FEET ONE TO TWO INCHES, ONE SEVENTY-FIVE TO TWO HUNDRED POUNDS, BROWN HAIR WITH GRAY AND REDDISH TINT. AFTER PUTTING ABOVE ITEMS IN TRUCK HE DROVE AWAY IN MUSTANG AND RETURNED IN A TAXI TO DRIVE PICKUP TRUCK AWAY. WFO INDICES NEGATIVE RE PETER HOLDEN.

IN VIEW OF PERIODS TRUCK USED BY HOLDEN, RICHMOND FURTHER DETERMINE HOLDEN'S ACTIVITY.

AIRMAIL COPIES TO LOS ANGELES, MEMPHIS AND KANSAS CITY.