

INVESTIGATION

NOT DESTROY-PRESERVE FOR SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS 388E Bureau File Number <u>ട</u>

Volume Number

Serials

FBI WASH DC
2 56PM URGENT 4-7-68 SAA
TO ALL CONTINENTAL SACS
FROM DIRECTOR 1P

THIS IS THE CAPTION FOR THE CIVIL RIGHTS INVESTIGATION
TO IDENTIFY PERSON OR PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., IN MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, ON
APRIL FOUR LAST.

ALL INVESTIGATION MUST BE HANDLE UNDER THE PERSONAL DIRECTION OF THE SAC. LEADS ARE TO BE AFFORDED IMMEDIATE, THOROUGH IMAGINATIVE ATTENTION. YOU MUST EXHAUST ALL POSSIBILITIES FROM SUCH LEADS AS ANY ONE LEAD COULT RESULT IN THE SOLUTION OF THIS MOST IMPORTANT INVESTIGATION. SAC WILL BE HELD PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY FAILURE TO PROMPTLY AND THOROUGHLY HANDLE INVESTIGATIONS IN THIS MATTER.

ENL

MI.JSM

FBI MILWAUK

IP.WJA

FBI INDAPOLS

CI.WRH

FBI CINCINTI

LS.JMR

FBI LOUISVLE

CG . RSM

FBI CHICAGO

TU CLR

3:03 PME SEARCHED TINDEXED GO SERIALIZED ON FILED TO APRIL 1968 FBI-LOUISVILLE

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FBI WASH DC 2 56PM URGENT 4-7-68 SAA TO ALL CONTINENTAL SACS FROM DIRECTOR 1P

MURKIN

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ALL INVESTIGATION MUST BE HANDLE UNDER THE PER-SONAL DIRECTION OF THE SAC. LEADS ARE TO BE AFFORDED IMMEDIATE, THOROUGH IMAGINATIVE ATTENTION. YOU MUST EXHAUST ALL POSSIBILITIES FROM SUCH LEADS AS ANY ONE LEAD COULD RESULT IN THE SOLUTION OF THIS MOST IMPORTANT INVES-TIGATION. SAC WILL BE HELD PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY FAILURE TO PROMPTLY AND THOROUGHLY HANDLE INVESTIGATIONS IN THIS MATTER.

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L.S. . JMR

FBI LOUISVLE

CG. RSM

FBI CHICAGO

SAC Baken SA Aledgeo "I walch p. SERRAL SERRAL SERVEN

Bulky Exhibit - Inventory of Property Acquired as Evidence FD-192 (Rev. 10-6-65)	Date
Title and Character of Case	
Murkin	
CR	
Date Property Acquired Source From Which Property Acqu	uired
4/22/66 4 Cheurolet Inp. Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit Reason for Retenti	ALA VIN 418477247629 on of Property and Efforts Made to Dispose of Same
Bulk Exists Room / Lucities A Description of Property or Exhibit and Identity of Agent Submitti	,
1- REAR VIEW MIRROR	
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SEMIANNUAL INVENTORY CERTIFICATION TO JUST	IFY RETENTION OF PROPERTY (Initial and Date)

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FBI WASH DC

1005PM URGENT 4-4-68 MXS

TO ALL SACS

FROM DIRECTOR 1P

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER RING, JR., RACIAL MATTERS,

IN VIEW OF POSSIBILITY OF RETALIATORY MEASURES TAKEN
AS RESULT OF THE ASSASSINATION OF KING, IMMEDIATELY ALERT
ALL SOURCES (RACIAL, SECURITY, AND CRIMINAL), WHO ARE IN
POSITION TO POSSIBLY LEARN OF INFORMATION OF THIS NATURE.
ANY PERTINENT INFORMATION DEVELOPED SHOULD RECEIVE EXPEDITIOUS
DISSEMINATION, BOTH LOCALLY AND TO BUREAU.

END

MI...PJR

FBI MILWAUK

I P . . . GWK

FBI INDAPOLS

XI... CI...WRHK'\FBI CINCINTI

L S . . . AJD

FBI LOUISVLE

CG...RFJ

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HISA HAVELES

SERIALIZED FILED

FBI—LOUISVILLE

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FBI

Date: April 5, 1968

Transmit the following in		
	(Type in plaintext or code)	
ViaAIRTEL	AIR MAIL	
	(Priority)	

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM:

SAC. LOUISVILLE (157-630)(P)

SUBJECT:

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER

KING, JR.,

RACIAL MATTERS.

On 4/5/68, source advised that the West Community Council, Louisville, Kentucky, a group whose announced purpose is to improve living conditions in the West End of Louisville and prevent it from becoming an all-Negro neighborhood, has made reservations to charter three Greyhound buses, each having capacity of 37 persons, for Louisville people to attend Dr. KING's funeral. The buses are tentatively scheduled to depart Louisville at 2:00 p.m. on April 7, 1968, arriving in Atlanta, Georgia, at the Greyhound Bus Station approximately 10:00 p.m. on the same date. No stops en route are planned and participants are to take box lunches as scheduled routes will bypass the towns of Nashville and Chattanooga, Tennessee.

The above three buses are scheduled to depart at the Atlanta, Georgia, Greyhound Bus Station at 7:00 p.m. on April 9, 1968, and return directly to Louisville, Kentucky.

- Bureau (RM) 2 - Atlanta (RM)

1 - Memphis (157-1092)(RM)

M - Louisville **72-157-new**)

(1-100-4883) (WECC)

(1-100-3346) (Carl Braden)

(1-100-3533) (Anne Braden)

(1-100-197) (SCEF)

(1 - 157 - 628)

(Sanitation Strike

WLW:pab

(13)

Approved: .

Serialized. Per Indexed

Searched

LS 157-630

Major PRIEST FRY, Chief of Detectives, Louisville, Kentucky, on 4/5/68, advised that a confidential source of the police department had advised that CARL and ANNE BRADEN (SI subjects, Louisville Division) planned to attend Dr. KING's funeral in Atlanta, Georgia.

CARL and ANNE BRADEN are leading figures in Southern Conference Educational Fund, (SCEF) at Louisville. Mode of travel by the BRADENS is not known.

Police source further advised representatives of SCEF in Louisville had indicated that they were planning to have some of their representatives, identity not known, travel to Memphis in the immediate future by private automobiles.

For information of Atlanta, CARL and ANNE BRADEN are described as follows:

CARL JAMES BRADEN Name Race White Sex Male DOB 6/27/14 POB New Albany, Indiana 5'9" Height Weight 170 pounds Build Stocky Hair Greying Grey - green Eyes Medium Complexion 731 855 B FBI Number

Name
ANNE MC CARTY BRADEN, Aka.
Mrs. CARL JAMES BRADEN
Race
White
Sex
Female
Height
5'6"
DOB
7/28/24
POB
Louisville, Kentucky

LS 157-630

Weight
Complexion
Hair
Social Security No.
FBI Number
Louisville PD No.

114 lbs. Sallow Brown 153 778 D

100062

Bureau, Atlanta and Memphis will be advised of any additional pertinent data received.

ADDENDUM:

First source later advised that a RICHARD COLLINS, who stated he represents the Louisville Federation of Settlements on April 5, 1968, reserved a Greyhourd bus, capacity 37, to depart from 1921 W. Broadway, Louis ille at 2:00 PM, April 7, to take participants to Doctor KINE's funeral in Atlanta, Georgia, which COLLINS says has now been set for 1:00 PM, 4/8/68. This group scheduled to arrive Atlanta at Greyhound Bus Station approximately 10:00 PM, 4/7/68, and depart Atlanta for Louisville approximately 4:00 PM, 4/8/68. The source stated that apparently COLLINS is acquainted with the fact that 3 buses are reserved for the WECC to go to Atlanta, as he commented his group could not afford to stay in Atlanta until 4/9/68, and would depart Atlanta, 4/8/68.

Louisville indices contain no identifiable data regarding COLLINS or Louisville Federation of Settlements.

FBI LOUISVLE

FBI TAMPA

830 PM URGENT 4/5/68 ALS

TO DIRECTOR, ATLANTA, CHICAGO, DETROIT, LOUISVILLE, AND MEMPHIS FROM TAMPA (157-3231)

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., RM.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE HEADQUARTERS, FT. MC PHERSON, GA.

FURNISHED MI, ORLANDO, FLA. THIS DATE, A TELETYPE, THE TEXT OF WHICH
IF AS FOLLOWS: "BLACK LEAGUES IN LOUISVILLE. BLACK LEAGUES AND
OTHERS INLOUISVILLE ARE PLANNING TO BURN DOWN LOCAL A & P AND
KROGER STORES IN SYMPATHY WITH MARTIN LUTHER KING. THEY ALSO PLAN
TO SHUT DOWN LOCAL UNIONS FOR TEN MINUTES TOMORROW TO DEMONSTAR
THEIR ANGUISH. NINE CARLOADS OF SYMPATHIZERS FROM THE UNIVERSITY
OF KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON, AND ONE CAR WITH CALIFORNIA PLATES HAVE LEFT
FOR MEMPHIS TO LEND SUPPORT TO THE RIOTS THERES. THE SUPPORTERS ARE
I DENTIFIED AS MEMBERS OF THE LOUISVILLE PEACE COUNCIL, KENTUCY
CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, AND 'BULD' OF LOUISVILLE. MRS. A. D. WILLIAMS
KING, SISTER-IN-LAW OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, KAREN MULLOY AND MARY
HITTON ARE PRESENTLY ATTEMPTING TO ORGANIZE RIOTING IN LOUISVILLE,
CHICAGO, MEMPHIS AND DETROIT 'LIKE WATTS WAS' ".

END PAGE ONE

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

PAGE TWO

TP 157-3231

ABOVE FOR INFORMATION OF BUREAU AND OFFICES DESIGNATED,

SAM E FURNISHED TAMPA OFFICE BY MI. ORLANDIO. NO FURTHER DETAILS

KNOWN.

CORR PAGE ONE LINE ELEVEN WD FOUR SHD BE "BULDXXXX BULK"

END

JBR

FBI LOUISVLE

Х

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI LOUISVLE

1218 AM DEFERRED 4-6-68 AJD

TO DIRECTOR AND MEMPHIS

FROM LOUISVILLE (157-630)

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., RM.

RE BUREAU TELEPHONE CALL EVENING APRIL FIVE, LAST.

SPECIAL AGENTS C. L. LUTES, JAMES J. STANTON, O. J. HOLBROOK,
AND STENOGRAPHER BETTYE STARK AND ONE BUREAU AUTO EXPECTED TO

ARRIVE MEMPHIS APPROXIMATELY FOUR P.M. CST APRIL SIX, INSTANT.
FOR SPECIAL.

? END

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

WASH. DC. 1215/Am - BBM

Searched Serialized Indexed Filed H4-947

sent the 1218 pm. for an

FBI LOUISVLE:

105 PM URGENT 4-6-68 JBR

TO DIRECTOR, CHICAGO, DETROIT, MEMPHIS, ATLANTA AND TAMPA.

FROM LOUISVILLE (157-630)

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., RM.

RE ATLANTA TEL THIS DATE.

INFO IN RETEL WAS FURNISHED LOUISVILLE EARLY TODAY BY
MEMPHIS AS HAVING BEEN RECEIVED FROM MILITARY INTELLIGENCE,
ORLANDO, FLA. INFO RESOLVED WITH MILITARY INTELLIGENCE, LOUISVILLE
AS BEING "WITHOUT SOUND BASIS" AND NOT INTENDED FOR DISSEMINATION
OUTSIDE OF MILITARTY INTELLIGENCE BECAUSE OF DOUBT AS TO RELIABILITY.
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE, LOUISVILLE, IS NOW THROUGH MILITARY
CHANELS SENDING MESSAGE INDICATING THAT INFO WAS BASED UPON
SPECULATION BY SOURCE OF HIGHLY QUESTIONABLE RELIABILITY AND
SUBSEQUENT DEVELOPMENTS DO NOT SUPPORT ANY OF THAT SPECULATION.

UACB, NO FURTHER ACTION LOUISVILLE.

END

DE. . . LPS

FBI DETROIT

CG...GMU

FBI CHICAGO

CLR

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BUREAU advised 120/pm OD

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44-947-6

4/6/68 URGENT PAM TO ATLANTA FROM LOUISVILLE (157-630)

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. RM.

LOUISVILLE PD ADVISED INSTANT DATE THAT CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE OF PD ON NIGHT OF APR. FIVE LAST ADVISED THAT A BARBARA FLYNN, CONNECTED WITH SCEF, LOUISVILLE, ON NIGHT OF PAR. FIVE LAST WAS DISCUSSING ARRANGEMENTS RE A MEETING IN ATLANTA, G., ON APR. EIGHT NEXT. PURPOSE OF THE MEETING NOT KNOWN, BUT MAY RELATE TO COURSE OF ACTION BY ATTENDING GROUPS IN VIEW OF ASSASSINATION OF DR. KING. PARTICIPANTS MAY INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES FROM SCEF, SNCC, SCLC, SDS, AND CORE. cK

PD SOURCE ADVISED POSSIBILITY FLOYD MC KISSIG OF CORE WILL BE PRESENT.

TIME OF ELTING NOT KNOWN, BUT PLACE OF MEETING REFERRED TO AS "ITC" OR "P 370" (PHONETIC) MOTEL IN ATLANTA.

SUBMITTED FOR APPROPRIATE ACTION.

END

Serialized.

FBI MEMPHIS 752PM URGENT 4/7/68 CAF TO ALL SACS . FROM MEMPHIS (44-1987) 2P

MURKIN; CR. OO MEMPHIS.

RE BUTEL TO ALL SAC'S APRIL SEVEN, NINETEEN SIXTY EIGHT. FOR INFO ALL OFFICES, PERTINENT PERIODS IN INVESTIGATION ARE MARCH TWENTY NINE AND THIRTY IN BIRMINGHAM, ALA., AND APRIL FOUR, SIXTY FIGHT, IN MEMPHIS, TENN.

IN EVENT ANY DATA DEVELOPED RE SUSPECTS, IF INTERESTED OFFICES CAN ESTABLISH WHEREABOUTS OF SUSPECTS ON DATES ABOVE, THIS MAY ELIMINATE SUSPECT. IF THIS CANNOT BE DONE, EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE TO SECURE PHOTOGRAPHS OF SUSPECTS IN QUESTION AND FORWARD PHOTOS TO MEMPHIS AND BIRMINGHAM FOR POSSIBLE ELIMINATION. PERTINENT DESCRIPTIVE DATA SHOULD BE INCLUDED WITH PHOTOS.

IF UNABLE TO ELIMINATE ON BASIS OF ESTABLISHED WHEREABOUTS IN PERTINENT PERIODS, INTERESTED OFFICES SHOULD MAKE EFFORTS TO SECURE FINGERPRINTS OF SUSPECT IN QUESTION AND SUBMIT SAME TO BUREAU FOR ELIMINATION.

COMPOSITE DESCRIPTION, BASED ON DATA DEVELOPED N BIRMINGHAM AND MEMPHIS, IS AS FOLLOWS:

END PAGE ONE

sup leters

PAGE TWO

SUSPECT MALE WHITE, AGE TWENTY SIX TO FORTY YEARS, HEIGHT FIVE FT. EIGHT TO FIVE FT. ELEVEN INCHES, ONE HUNDRED FIFTY TO ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY LBS.; DARK BROWN OR SANDY HAIR, COMBED STRAIGHT BACK. EYES BLUE OR GREEN; MEDIUM RUILD; COMPLEXION AVERAGE, SMOOTH. GENERAL PHYSICAL APPEARANCE; NEAT.

POSSIBLITY EXISTS SUSPECT IS NON-SMOKER. INDICATIONS WERE THAT SUSPECT RENTED ROOM BETWEEN THREE AND THREE THIRTY PM,

APRIL FOUR, LAST, AND DEPARTED ROOM SHORTLY AFTER SIX PM. NO

MATCHES OR CIGARETTES FOUND DURING THAT PERIOD, WHICH SUGGESTS

SUSPECT MAY BE NON-SMOKER.

RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION MUST BE PROMPTLY FURNISHED BUREAU.
MEMPHIS AND BIRMINGHAM. P.

ENL

DE. . . RJT

FBI DETROIT

CV . . . SLO

FBI CLEVELAND

CI...DHV

FBI CINCINTI

L S. . JBR

FBI LOUISVLE

TU CLR

752PM URGENT 4/7/68 CAF
TO ALL SACS
FROM MEMPHIS (44-1987) 2P

MURKIN; CR. OO MEMPHIS.

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END PAGE ONE

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A 1968
FBI—LOUISVILLE

PAGE TWO

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RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION MUST BE PROMPTLY FURNISHED BUREAU, MEMPHIS AND BIRMINGHAM. P.

END

DE. . RJT

FBI DETROIT

CV . . . SLO

FBI CLEVELAND

CI...DHV

FBI CINCINTI

L See JBR

FBI LOUISVLE

TU CLR:

${\it Memorandum}$

TO

SAC. LOUISVILLE (157 630)

DATE:

4-7-68

FROM

SPC. JAMES BYRON RILEY

SUBJECT:

ASSASINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. RACIAL MATTERS,

INFORMATION CONCERNING.

During weekend of 4/6-7/68 this office received numerous anonymous calls regarding Dr. King's assassination and associated disturbances (riots) throughout the U S. Most calls could be placed under one or more of the following subjects:

CRITICISM OF FBI FOR ENTERING CASE. Many callers ask what grounds the FBI was using as basis for investigation of Dr. King's murder.

Callof PEOPLE WHO CLAIM THEY SAW MAN FITTING DESCRIPTION OF ASSASSIN AS GIVEN IN THE NEWS PAPER. This type call wasn't as numerous as that above, however, several were received. Most would just say that they saw a man fitting the description of suspect. When ask just what the man looked like, the average answer was "Well....you know...like the description given in the paper/" No caller cared to leave his name for further contact. In no instance did office receive information that could be checked out by investigation. Most just said they saw a man and could furnish nothing else.

CALLS COMPLAINING ABOUT THE FLAGS BEING FLOWN AT HALF STAFF AS MEMORAL TO DR. KING. Many callers compalined about the flags flying at half staff, stating the occasion did not warrant such a moe. Veterans, calling this office, stated that they did not fight in World War II and Korea protecting the flag for it to be used for such an occassion. Many complained because the flag covered the casket of Dr. King.

CALLS WANTING THIS OFFICE TO CHECK THE WHEREABOUTS OF RELATIVES LOCATED IN RIOT AREAS. Of all the calls received during period, this type was most numerous. Many people called wanting the FBI to use its facilities to contact relatives in riot torn cities and establish their well-being. Also many wanted this Bureau to use its influence with the Airlines in connection with passenger list. Many callers when told of the FBI's jurisdiction in personal and domestic matters, became very angry and threatened to write the president to see if "something con't be done about you people.'

Ather type calls, too numerous to mention, along EMGHES ame ere received. JBR/jbr

SERIALIZED OF ELLED. 1958

LOUISVILLE

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

SPC. JAMES BYRON RILEY

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Ather type calls, too numerous to mention, along the same lines, were received.

JBR/ibr

Memorandum

TO : SAC, LOUISVILLE (157-630) DATE: April 7, 1968

FROM : SPC. JAMES MICHAEL RAY

SUBJECT: MURKIN

At approximately 3:02 P.M., this date, a Mr. Leonard Dalton, (PROTECT), Route # 1, Reynolds Station, Ky., telephone number 233-5269 telephonically contacted this office and advised the writer of the following.

Mr. Dalton stated that he has a personal friend who fits the description of Martin Luther King, Jr. 's, assassin. Dalton advised that his' friend's name is ARNOLD WATSON. Dalton stated that herand WATSON work together and on 4/3-4/68 last WATSON went to Tennessee supposedly to visit a girl friend.

Dalton advised that he and WATSON work with a group of men and on various occasions have talked about the Civil Rights Movement and Martin Luther King, Jr. and because of WATSON's previous remarks on the Civil Rights question and because he travelled to Tenn., on 4/3-4/68 Dalton believes that ARNOLD WATSON is King's assassing

Dalton advised that ARNOLD WATSON is white male, 31 years of age, Black hair, brown eyes, and weighs about 150-165 lbs. Dalton advised that WATSON drives a Plymouth automobile but however his girl friend might own a Mustang.

Dalton advised that he possesses a photograph of WATSON and will give this to the FBI for investigative assistance.

Supervisor Peters, SA Walsh, and SA Hedges advised telephonically of the facts contained in this memo.

> LEAD: AT REYNOLDS STATION, (OHIO COUNTY), KY. (assigned to SA Hedges)

Interview LEONARD DALTON Re: ARNOLD WATSON.

44-947

purposes only.

JMR/JMR (3)

This memo is being submitted for information

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INDEXED

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Paydel

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

ro : sac, Louisville (157-630)

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(assigned to SA Hedges)

Interview LEONARD DALTON Re: ARNOLD WATSON.

This memo is being submitted for information 44-942/6 purposes only.

JMR/JMR (3)

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

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APR 7 1968
FBI—EOUISVILLE

6774 CM NO. 10 MAT *** :ePION GLA FF 27 CFR) 101-11.6

UN: OD STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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JMR/JMR (3)

APR 7 1968

APR 1968

FBI—LOUISVILLE

SEARCHED

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



Memorandum

TO :SAC, LOUISVILLE (157-630)

DATE: April 7, 1968

FROM :SPC, JAMES MICHAEL RAY

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. RACIAL MATTERS

At approximately 12:22P.M., this date, a Mr. George Serals of Route # 1, Box 481, St. Charles, Illinois telephonically contacted this office and advised the writer of the following.

Mr. Serals stated that he and his' family were on vacation and were traveling from Miami, Fla., to Chicago, Ill. Mr. Serals advised that while traveling through Tennessee on I-24 as he approached Mount Eagle, Tenn., he noticed a White Mustang parked on the side of the road.

Mr. Serals stated that according to the newspapers MARTIN LUTHER KING's assassin escaped in a white Mustang. Serals advised that as he approached this vehicle he recorded the license number. Serals advised that the license number was 1968 Louisiana Tag # 8L794.

Mr. Serals stated that this vehicle was being driven by a W/M and the only outstanding features about him was his' large protruding nose and his' sandy colored hair.

Mr. Serals stated that he called the FBI to advise of this incident and for possible investigative assistance in the apprehension of KING's assassin.

The writer telephonically contacted Supervisor Robert E. Peters and advised him of the foregoing facts and after receiving instructions from Sup. Peters the writer also telephonically contacted the Memphis Division and advised them of the pertinent facts, contained herein.

This memo is being submitted for any appropriate action deemed necessary.

JMR/jmr (2)





MAY INL ... GBA FPKH .

101-11.5

UNIT TATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO

SAC, LOUISVILLE (157-630)

DATE:April 7, 1968

FROM SPC, JAMES MICHAEL RAY

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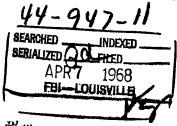
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JMR/jmr (2)



Bury U.S. Springs Banks Hogerhate on the Prevent Surings Plan

Memorandum

TO

: SAC LOUISVILLE

DATE: 4/8/68

FROM

: SPC STEPHEN K. TACKETT

SUBJECT: MURKIN;

CR

Mr. Robert H. Herndon, 325 Hummingbird, Lexington, Ky., Telephone 278-1908 related to this office that he might have some information leading to the identity of Dr. Martin Luther King's murderer.

The subject fit the general description of the murderer and been in a considerable amount of trouble with the law. He had also spent six months in the Narcotics Hospital in Lexington, Ky.

Mr. Herndon also mentioned that the subject, whose name he couldn't recall at the moment, had mentioned something about going to Tennessee.

For the information of the desk.

SKT/skt
(2)

SERIALIZED FILED

APR 1968

FBI LOUISVILLE

APR 1968

SAC LOUISVILLE

4/8/68

SPC STEPHEN K. TACKETT

MURKIN; CR

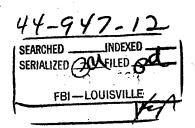
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FBI

Date: APRIL 8, 1968

änsmit	the following in	CODE			
	10110111119 111			(Type in plaintext or code)	•
TELETYPE		URGENT			
<u> </u>			<u> </u>	(Priority)	

TO:

SAC. ATLANTA

...

FROM:

SAC, LOUISVILLE (157-630)

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. RACIAL

MATTERS.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS ORIGINATING WITH REFERENCED

LOUISVILLE ED SOURCE REFLECTS REFERRED TO MEETING TO BE HELD

CLASSROOM ONE ZERO TWO, INTERDENOMINATION THEOLOGICAL CENTER,

ATLANTA AT SEVEN P.M., FOUR EIGHT SIXTY-EIGHT. AROUND TWENTYFIVE

PERSONS MAY ATTEND AND GROUP MEETING SAID TO BE THE "COMMITTEE

AGAINST REPRESSION," REPORTEDLY FORMED SEVERAL MONTHS AGO BY

ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS CORE, SNCC, SCLC, ETC. GROUP MEETING MAY

DISCUSS RE (1) END WAR IMMEDIATELY; (2) AMNESTY TO ALL PROSECUTIONS,

1.E., RAP BROWN, ETC; (3) A PROMISE OF MASSIVE PROGRAM OF MONEY

FOR THE POOR. CARL BRADEN, LOUISVILLE SI SUBJECT SCHEDULED TO

ARRIVE ATLANTA VIA DELTA AIRLINES FIVE ELEVEN P.M., FOUR EIGHT

1-LS 157-630 44-947

44-947

1-LS 157-630 44-947 cc: 1-LS 100-197 1-LS 100-3346 WLW/JMR (3)

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Valsh Infe

Approved: /.

Special Agent in Charde

Sent 1

Per O

1 0 % A Hufford

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

F B I

Date:

4/6/68

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

TO:

SAC, LOUISVILLE

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

NURKIN

In connection with murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., Memphis Office receiving various leads which may or may not be of pertinence.

On 4-6-68, Lt. McCACHERN, Homicide Squad, Memphis, Tenn. PD, advised this office as follows:

He stated he received call from ROBERT LEONARD of Louisville, Ky., who in turn informed him that a RUSSELL of Shepherdsville, Ky. closely resembles picture of UNSUB which appeared in local newspaper. He stated PEACOCK is an active racist in the Louisville area and reported to be member of the KKK. He allegedly has been leader of several burnings and arrested several times in connection with these by the Louisville PD. Memphis indices negative.

Louisville requested to make appropriate inquiry at Louisville PD for any record regarding RUSSELL PEACOCK; search its own indices for information of pertinence, and thereafter estab lish whereabouts of RUSSELL PEACOCK on 4/4/68, it being pertinent to note that Dr. KING was murdered at approximately 6 p.m. on 4-4-68.

A & D

MEMPHIS

RGJ:BN (3)

Approved: .

Spécial Agent in Charge

AIRTEL

ÀΜ

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FROM:

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A & D

2 Louisville

1 MEMPHIS

RGJ:BN

See M. J. De 32

AGAL RINIV

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

OF THE JEFFERON COUNTY

NO RECORD IN THE FILES

OLARCHED O OLINGER DIME SERIAL (FD) WILLED DIME FBI—LOUISVILLE

Memorandum

TO

: SAC, LS(

ATT: SAUP RVISOR PETERS

DATE: 4/7/68

FROM

: SA FLSUM G. HEDGES

SUBJECT: UNSUB;

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTTUR KING

Attached hereto is photo of ARNOLD WATSON secured 11/7/68 (helow)

On 1/7/68 LEOMARD DALTON, Route 1., Reynolds Station, Tentucky, furn's'ed the following information:

He furnished xxx a photo of ARNOLD WATSON taken during the summer of 1967 and described him as follows: white male; 31 years of age; 5' 10"; 157 pounds; very dark hair and eyes; drives 1965-66 green Plymouth Fury II, license junknown but probably entucky; lives in house trailer alone semewhere in Greenville, entucky; is tower crone operator for Custodis Construction Company under supervision of DAVID HERRON in construction of cooling tower for at TVA, Paradise, K_{ϵ} ntucky(for past 15 months); member of Operator's Union which he believes is part of Teamsters with Local headquarters being at Evansville, Indian; divorced from first wife who has four of his children somewhere in Tennessee; is divorcing second wife who is pregnant and school teacher at Greenville, Kentucky; usually wears cowboy boots; at only time seen not in working clothes wore jacket, tight fitting pants and cowboy boots; education unknown but intelligent; claims military service during Korean war, proably in U.S. Air Force in flight crew; no arrest record known; weapons, if any, not known: no organization known other than above union; believes originally from somewhere in Tennessee and reared by father's brother; works from 8:00 A.M. to about 4:BO PM.

DALTON advised 'e telephoned the FBI about WATSON as a possible suspect in this matter merely because he generally met the description of UNSUB and WATSON missed work at TVA on 4/3 and 4/68, stating he was going somewhere in Tennessee because his girlfriend was having an operation. An artist's sketch of UNSUB from the UPI article on Page A-5 of the Louisville Courier Journal, 4/6/68, was ex'ihited to DALTON. He said WATSON's nose is not like that in the sketch and is not as large and long. WATSON has never exhibited any animosity teward MARTIN LUTHER KING, to his knowledge, or any proments type the regarding racial matters. He said his identity same to the said the source of this lead and he knows of no one else where where and he knows of no one mentioned his destination on last Wednesday and Phuraday They work together)

2-LS(encl. 1) EGH



Letter with the state of the st



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2-LS(encl. 1) FGH

FOI-LUUISVILL

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

4/8/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO:

DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM:

SAC, LOUISVILLE (44-947) (P) Port

服服:

MURKIN

CR

OO: MEMPHIS

He Memphis teletype 4/7/68.

Enclosed for Memphis is one photograph of ARNOLD WATSON, Greenville, Ky.

On 4/7/68, LEONARD DALTON (Protect - per request), Reynolds Station, Ky. furnished ARNOLD WATSON, Greenville, Ky. as possible suspect. DALTON, co-worker of WATSON at construction site of TVA Cooling Tower, Paradise, Ky. for past 15 months, states WATSON generally fits Unsub description and was absent from work 4/3-4/68. WATSON told DALTON he was going to Tennessee 4/3-4/68 because his girl friend was having an operation. WATSON has never exhibited animosity toward MARTIN LUTHER KING or any propensity for violence concerning racial matters.

ARNOLD WATSON is described as a white male, 31 years, 5'10", 157 lbs., very dark hair and eyes. WATSON drives a 1965 or 1966 green Plymouth Fury II, license unknown, probably Kentucky license. WATSON, who resides in a house trailer alone at Greenville, Ky. is tower crane operator for Custodia Construction Company, under supervision of DAVID HERRON and is member of Operators Union, believed part of Teamsters Union. WATSON, who is

3 - Bureau (RM)

2 - Birmingham (RM)

2 - Memphis (Enc. 1)(RM)

2 - Louisville

200 68-215 t

18 44-947

divorced from first wife, who has four of his children somewhere in Tennessee, is divorcing second wife who is pregnant and a school teacher at Greenville, Ky. WATSON usually mean in work clothes, has worn tight-fitting pants and cowboy boots. Education of WATSON unknown but is intelligent. He claims Korean War service, probably in U.S. Air Force Flight Crow. Whether WATSON has arrest record or possesses weapons is not known. DALTON believes WATSON originally from Tennessee place unknown, and was reared by uncle.

Photo of ARNOLD WATSON furnished by LEONARD DALTON and wishes photo returned. Since it is only photograph available, Memphis should forward photograph to Birmingham if Memphis does not eliminate WATSON as a suspect.

LEAD

LOUISVILLE

Will conduct investigation to establish wherezhouts of WATSON on pertinent date. Will also attempt to secure fingerpriate of WATSON and submit same to Bureau for comparison.

4/8/68

AIRTEL.

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DIRECTOR, FBI

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LS 44-947

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OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1982/EDITION
MAY 1982/EDITION
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

то

44-947 File 157-360

DATE: April 8, 1968

FROM

SAC, Louisville

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

At approximately 10:15 PM, 4/5/68, personnel officer JIM ADAMS, SOG, called me with the request that we provide three Special Agents, one stenographer and one automobile to assist the Memphis Division in this investigation. These personnel should arrive at Memphis on the afternoon of 4/6/68.

SA LUTES will be in charge of this group and SA HOLBROOK, Lexington, and SA STANTON, Louisville, and Miss BETTY STARK will proceed to Memphis in Bucar #22.

I confirmed this with the Bureau and Memphis by deferred teletype evening of 4/5/68.

cc - Per. File SA LUTES
SA HOLBROOK
SA STANTON
Miss STARK

PMB:ww (5) ~ ~

and star fill

SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED OF FILED APR = 8 1968

FBI — LOUISVILLE



Memorandum

TO

ALL AGENTS (68-215)

DATE: 4-8-68

FROM:

SAC, LOUISVILLE (44-947)

SUBJECT:

MURKIN

OO: WEMPHIS

Captioned matter is the civil rights investigation to identify the person or persons responsible for the killing of WARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., in Memphis, Tennessee, on 4-4-68.

The Bureau has instructed that all investigation must be afforded immediate, thorough, imaginative attention: that all possibilities from any leads must be exhausted as any one lead could result in the solution of this most important investigation.

In view of the importance of this case, every lead in the Louisville Division must be handled at once and must be given priority over any other investigative matter. Similarly, results of any investigation must be furnished at once to the Bureau. Memphis (their file 44-1987), and Birmingham, as well as any office which will conduct additional investigation based upon our results.

For your additional information, pertinent periods in this investigation are 3-29-68 and 3-30-68 in Birmingham, Alabama, and 4-4-68 in Memphis.

In the event any data is developed regarding suspects, if the whereabouts of such suspects can be determined on the dates mentioned above, this may eliminate the suspect. If this cannot be done, efforts should be made to secure photographs of suspects in question and forward photographs to Memphis and Birmingham for possible elimination. Pertinent descriptive data should be included with photographs. If unable to eliminate suspects on the basis of established whereabouts during the pertinent periods, efforts should be made to secure fingerprints of a suspect and submit to the Bureau for elimination.

- Bach Agent 1- 15 44-947 1- 15 66-52 JON: bmg

(67) mg

SERIALIZED ON FILED ON FBI — LOUISVILLE

LS 44-947

Based upon information developed in Birmingham and Memphis composite description of principal suspect is as follows:

> Sex: Race:

Age: Height:

Weight:

Hair:

Eyes: Build:

Complexion:

Appearance:

Male White

26 - 40

5'8" - 5'11"

150 lbs. to 170 lbs.

Dark brown or sandy (combed

straight back) Blue or green

Medium

Average smooth

Weat

Memphis has advised that suspect is possibly a nonsmoker. Indications were that he rented a room between 3:00 and 3:30 P. M., 4-4-68 and departed from that room shortly after 6:00 P. M., same date. No matches or cigarettes found during that period which suggest he may be a nonsmoker.

I want to repeat and cannot overemphasize the importance of this investigation. Due to this importance, Agents assigned leads in this matter should handle such leads in accordance with above instructions.

FBI CHARLT

6:03PM 4-8-68 URGENT CPO

TO DIRECTOR, LOUISVILLE, AND MEMPHIS

FROM CHARLOTTE /44-1365/ 1P |

MURKIN.

TODAY, J. LEWIS MOSS, ONE ZERO TWO LINCETTA ST., YORK,
S. C., TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED THE CHARLOTTE OFFICE THAT AT APPROXIMATELY THREE P.M. TODAY, HE STOPPED AT THE SINCLAIR SERVICE
STATION ACROSS FROM THE PEPSI COLA PLANT, ROCK HILL, S. C., TO
PURCHASE GAS. WHILE THERE, AN INDIVIDUAL DRIVING A SIXTY-FIVE
WHITE THUNDERBIRD, BEARING SIXTY-EIGHT KY. LICENSE TWO NINE SEVEN
SIX FIVE THREE, PULLED INTO THE STATION, AND DRIVER PURCHASED
GAS BY USE OF CREDIT CARD. MOSS ADVISED THE DRIVER OF THIS
CAR FIT THE DESCRIPTION AND COMPOSITE PHOTOGRAPH OF THE
INDIVIDUAL WHO SHOT KING.

LOUISVILLE, THROUGH KY. DMV, DETERMINE TO WHOM LICENSE ISSUED AND DETERMINE HIS WHEREABOUTS OF PERTINENT DATES.

AIR MAIL COPY TO COLUMBIA FOR INFORMATION.

Harrand Porchaster

END.

LS..?NOX

FBI LOUISVLE

THIS IS CHARLOTTE DID

JMR

FBI LOUISVLE

July Polone Musell St.

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FBI—LOUISVILLE

FBI CHARLT

6:03PM 4-8-68 URGENT CPO
TO DIRECTOR, LOUISVILLE, AND MEMPHIS
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END.

LS. . ?NOX

FBI LOUISVLE

THIS IS CHARLOTTE DID

JMR

FBI LOUISVLE

Sup 34 and sold

SEARCHED WILLIAMS

BI POUISVILLE

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FBI WASH DC
722PM URGENT 4/8/68 GJM
TO ALL CONTINENTAL OFFICES
FROM DIRECTOR 44-38861 2P

MURKIN

THIS IS THE CASE INVOLVING THE MURDER OF MARTIN LUTHER NG, JR., ON APRIL FOUR, LAST, IN MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD ANYONE BE TOLD THIS NUESTIGATION IS IN CONNECTION WITH CAPTIONED MATTER.

IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT A RIFLE ABANDONED NEAR SCENE OF CRIME WAS PURCHASED BY INDIVIDUAL UING THE NAME ARVEY LOWMEYER OR LOWMYER.

LOWMEYER OR LOWMYER IS GENERALLY DESCRIBED AS WHITE MALE, THIRTYSIX YEARS OLD, FIVE FEET EIGHT INCHES TALL, ONE UNDRED FIFTY - ONE HUNDRED SIXTY POUNDS, BLACK OR DARK BROWN AHR.

IN VIEW OF THE UNUSUAL NATURE OF THE NAMES LOWMENTER

IN LOWMER, ALL OFFICES SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CHECK YOUR

INDICES ALL CITY DIRECTORIES ALL TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES COVERING

OWR TERRITORIES, ALL DRIVERS LICENSE RECORDS, ALL AUTOMOBILE

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SERIALIZED MATLED APR 8 1968

2025 RELEASE LINDER E.O. 14176

PAGE TWO

REGISTRATION RECORDS, VOTER REGISTRATION RECORDS, AND

CREDIT AND CRIMINAL RECORDS ON THE SURNAMES LOWMEYER

AND LOWMYER, IN VIEW OF THE UNUSUAL NATURE OF THE NAMES,

OD NOT CONFINE YOUR CHECK TO HARVEY LOWMEYER AND LOWMYER

ONLY. ANY INDIVIDUALS IDENTIFIED AS BEARING THESE SURNAMES

HOULD BE IMMEDIATELY CHECKED OUT COVERING THE PERTINENT

PERIOD. YOU SHOULD ALSO APPROPRIATELY CHECKOUT ALL

BOMBING SUSPECTS IN YOUR TERRITORIES.

HANDLE IMMEDIATELY AND GIVE TOP PRIORITY ATTENTION.

BUFILES CONTAIN NO INFORMATION IDENTIFIABLE ON HARVEY LOWMEYER OR LOWMYER.

END

WJA

FBI INDAPOLS

MI...PJR

FBI MILWAUK

CI, RLH

FBI CINCINTI

LS. .. AJD

FBI LOUISVLE

CG...RFJ

FBI CHICAGO

TU CLR

FBI WASH DC
722PM URGENT 4/8/68 GJM
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FBI - LOUISVILLE

44-947-

PAGE TWO

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AND LOWMYER, IN VIEW OF THE UNUSUAL NATURE OF THE NAMES,
OD NOT CONFINE YOUR CHECK TO HARVEY LOWMEYER AND LOWMYER
ONLY. ANY INDIVIDUALS IDENTIFIED AS BEARING THESE SURNAMES
HOULD BE IMMEDIATELY CHECKED OUT COVERING THE PERTINENT
PERIOD. YOU SHOULD ALSO APPROPRIATELY CHECKOUT ALL
BOMBING SUSPECTS IN YOUR TERRITORIES.

HANDLE IMMEDIATELY AND GIVE TOP PRIORITY ATTENTION.
BUFILES CONTAIN NO INFORMATION IDENTIFIABLE ON
HARVEY LOWMEYER OR LOWMYER.

END

WJA

FBI INDAPOLS

MI . . . PJR

FBI MILWAUK

CIsseRLH /

FBI CINCINTI

L.S. . AJD

FBI LOUISVLE

CG. . . RFJ

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FBI LOUISVLE

FBI SAVANNAH
421PM URGENT 4/8/68 MFH
TO LOUI SVILLE
FROM SAVANNAH /44-1768/ 31

MURKIN. 00: MEMPHIS.

. RE SAVANNAH TEL TO MEMPHIS APRIL SEVEN LAST.

RETEL TO MEMPHIS SET FORTH NEGATIVE CHECK OF ALL CAR RENTAL AGENCIES IN SAVANNAH UNDER THE NAMES JOHN WILLARD, HARVEY LOWMEYER AND WILLIAM J. LEHMEYER.

THOMAS E. BRENNAN, MANAGER, HERTZ RENT-A-CAR, SAVANNAH, GA,
SUBSEQUENTLY ADVISED THAT WHILE HIS RECORDS CONTAINED NO
INDICATION OF A RENTAL UNDER THE ABOVE MENTIONED NAMES, HE WAS
SUSPICIOUS CONCERNING A WHITE MALE, APPROXIMATELY AGE FORTY, NEAR
SIX FEET, BLOND RECEDING HAIR, USING THE NAME WILLIAM A. REUHN,
WHO RENTED A NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT GOLD CHEVROLET IMPALA TWO-DOOR
HARDTOP, SIXTYSEVEN GEORGIA LICENSE THREE J ONE EIGHT FIVE NINE
FOUR, VIN ONE SIX FOUR EIGHT SEVEN EIGHT D ONE ONE TWO FIVE NINE
SIX, ON MARCH TWENTYONE LAST. HE SAID THAT THIS INDIVIDUAL
END PAGE ONE

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PAGE TWO.

HAD RENTED INSTANT CAR WITH A PHILLIPS SIXTYSIX NATIONAL CREDIT
CARD GIVING AN ADDRESS OF NINE ONE ONE ZERO GAYLE DRIVE, LOUISVILLE,
KY., AND CLAIMED TO BE STAYING AT THE BLUE TOP MOTEL, HIGHWAY
SEVENTEEN SOUTH, SAVANNAH, GA., AND EMPLOYED BY THE FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT IN THE VICINITY OF BEAUFORT, S. C. MR. BRENNAN SAID
THAT HE PERSONALLY RENTED THE CAR AND INADVERTENTLY FAILED TO
LIST THE RETURN DATE BUT IS CERTAIN THAT THE RENTAL WAS FOR A
FEW DAYS ONLY AND THAT THE CAR HAS NOT BEEN RETURNED TO DATE.

MR. BRENNAN SAID HE DID NOT WISH TO EMBARRASS KEUHN BUT FELT THAT AFTER THE INQUIRY ON THE EVENING OF APRIL SIX LAST THAT HE SHOULD BRING THE ABOVE INFORMATION TO THE ATTENTION OF THE SAVANNAH OFFICE.

LOUIS VILLE WILL IMMEDIATELY ESTABLISH IDENTITY OF KEUHN
AND VERIFY EMPLOYMENT AND WHEREABOUTS DURING PERTINENT PERIOD AND
A DVISE SAVANNAH SO INTELLIGENT EVALUATION CAN BE MADE CONCERNING
THE ABOVE SINCE THE INFORMATION DOES NOT GENERALLY APPEAR TO
RELATE TO INSTANT CASE.

RECORDS BLUE TOP MOTEL DISCLOSE KUEHN AND AN L. TRACY, PO BOX END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

TWO TWO EIGHT, FT. KNOX, KENTUCKY CHECKED INTO MOTEL MARCH TWENTY AND CHECKED OUT APRIL TWO LAST. REGISTRATION CARD FAILS TO NOTE 'BUSINESS, EMPLOYMENT OR AUTOMOBILE INFORMATION. KUEHN AND TRACY, DESCRIBED AS MALES UNKNOWN TO MOTEL OWNER AS PRIOR GUESTS.

CORRECTION NAME KEUHN SHOULD BE SPELLED KUEHN THRU-OUT TEL/

END. BAW

FBI LOUISVLE

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