

FBI NEW HAVEN

6-12PM URGENT 6/6/68 RJC

TO DIRECTOR, BIRMINGHAM, MEMPHIS AND MOBILE
FROM NEW HAVEN (157-813)

UNSUB; MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM. CR.

REURTEL TODAY AND TEL CALL AND NH TEL CALL TODAY.

STANLEY LEXEBURG, VICE PRESIDENT, LIGGETT-REXALL, STAMFORD,
CONN. FURNISHED FOLLOWING AS OUTLETS OF LIGGETT-REXALL DRUG,
ALABAMA.

• STORE NO. ADDRESS, CITY AND STATE TEL. NO. MANAGER

1909 7714 EASTWOOD MALL, BIRMINGHAM, ALA. 592-8149 CARLOS CANAS

1911 1931 FIRST AVE., BIRMINGHAM, ALA. 254-3249 AMOS STEPHENS

1912 AGRICOLA S/C 301 D. NORTH 12TH ST, GADSDEN, ALA 542-4987

LEON LEVENS.

1921 ROEBUCK PLAZA S/C 9142 S. 4TH AVE., BIRMINGHAM, ALA. 833-7681

ROBERT LOVE.

1922 5 POINTS WEST S/C 2205 BESSEMER RD., BIRMINGHAM, ALA. 785-4141

WILLIAM WEED.

END PAGE ONE

*Nothing
here*

44-1987-77

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APR 6 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester *Act*

Sloan *A3*

PAGE TWO

FOLLOWING AGENTS FOR LIGGETT-REXALL DRUGS.

STORE NO. ADDRESS AND CITY

9470 2029 CENTER POINT RD., BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

9520 26 MIDFIELD PARK PLACE, MIDFIELD, ALA.

9536 1 DWIGHT SQUARE, GADSDEN, ALA.

9554 1021 SOUTH 20TH ST., BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

9588 324 WEST FIFTH ST., ATALLA, ALA.

END

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

X

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI ST LOUIS

618PM URGENT 4-6-68 JLS

TO MEMPHIS

FROM ST. LOUIS (44-775)

~~XXXXXX~~ UNDUN WILL CALL BACKX

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI ST LOUIS

618PM URGENT 4-6-68 JLS

TI MEMPHIS

FROM ST. LOUIS (44-775).

UNSUB, AKA JOHN WILLARD; MARTIN LUTHER KING - VICTIM; CR

THE FOLLOWING TEL WAS SENT TO BUREAU, LITTLE ROCK AND OKLAHOMA CITY ON FOUR SIX SIXTYEIGHT

ON APRIL SIX, INSTANT, AN ANONYMOUS MALE TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED THAT ON APRIL THREE, LAST HE CASUALLY MET A MAN IN THE OKLAHOMA CITY GREYHOUND BUS TERMINAL WHO IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS CLIFFORD SCOTT FROM FT. SMITH, ARK. DURING THEIR CONVERSATION SCOTT MENTIONED THAT HE HAD BEEN IN A HOSPITAL AND INCLUDED MENTION OF NORMAN, OKLA., ALTHOUGH THE CALLER DID NOT SPECIFICALLY RECALL THAT HE SAID THIS WAS THE LOCATION OF THE HOSPITAL THAT HE HAD BEEN IN; THAT SCOTT ALSO CLAIMED TO BE A GI; TO BE AN EXPERT ON GUNS AND THAT SCOTT EXPRESSED HATRED OF NEGROES. SCOTT WAS DESCRIBED AS A WHITE MALE, ABOUT THIRTYFIVE YEARS OLD, FIVE FOOT ELEVEN, ONE SEVENTYFIVE TO ONE EIGHTY LBS., TATTOO OF SOME KIND ON RIGHT FOREARM. NO OTHER DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION.

END PAGE ONE

44-1987-78

Right

Kearney

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SL; 44-775

THE CALLER SAID HE WAS ADVISING THE FBI BECAUSE HE BELIEVES THERE IS A MENTAL HOSPITAL IN NORMAN, OKLA. AND WHEN SCOTT LEFT HIM HE SAID HE HAD TO GO SOUTH FOR AWHILE; THAT HE HAD A JOB TO DO WHICH WOULD UPSET A LOT OF PEOPLE; THAT SCOTT WAS NOT RIDING A BUS BUT CLAIMED HE WAS DRIVING A CAR (NOT SEEN BY CALLER) AND HE MAY HAVE BEEN THE ASSASSIN OF DR. KING. THE CALLER SAID HE DID NOT WANT TO FURNISH HIS NAME AND ADDRESS AS HE HAS THREE CHILDREN AND DOES NOT WANT TO JEOPARDIZE HIS FAMILY.

LITTLE ROCK AT FT. SMITH, ARK.: WILL THROUGH AVAILABLE SOURCES DETERMINE IF ONE CLIFFORD SCOTT IS A RESIDENT OF FT. SMITH AND IDENTIFY.

OKLAHOMA CITY AT NORMAN, OKLA.: WILL CHECK HOSPITALS IN NORMAN, OKLA. FOR ANY RECORD OF A PATIENT NAMED CLIFFORD SCOTT. WILL ALSO CHECK AVAILABLE SOURCES TO DETERMINE IF ONE CLIFFORD SCOTT WAS A PAST RESIDENT OF NORMAN, OKLA.

LITTLE ROCK AND OKLAHOMA CITY WILL SET OUT LEADS TO CHECK MILITARY RECORD OF ANY CLIFFORD SCOTT IDENTIFIED.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THRDE

44-775

FOR INFORMATION OF MEMPHIS OC HAS ADVISED THE FOLLOWING HOSPITALS AND AGENCIES WERE CHECK AT NORMAN, OKLA., WITH NEGATIVE RESLTS RE CLIFFORD SCOTT; CENTRAL STATE MENTAL HOSPITAL, PER JAMES DUNN; MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, PER MARY JACKSON; CLEVELAND COUNTY SO, BLANCHE GIDDENS; NORMAN PD, PER COP BILL HENSLEE; OKLA. UNIV. PD AND INFIRMARY PER CHIEF HAROLD BERNEIR; NORMAN WATER WORKD AND CITY DIRECTOR PER SHERIFF BILL PORTER.

AT VINITA, OKLA., RECORDS OF EASTERN STATE MENTAL HOSPITAL CHECKED WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS PER HENRY O'BRIEN.

OC INDICES AND OC PD NEGATIVE.

UACB NO FURTHER INVESTIGATION BEING CONDUCTED.

END

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI SAVANNAH

618PM URGENT 4/6/68 SPT

TO MEMPHIS (44-1937)

FROM SAVANNAH (44-NEW) 1P

UNSUB, AKA JOHN WILLARD; MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM,
CR, OO, MEMPHIS.

RE MEMPHIS PHONE CALL TO ATLANTA AND ATLANTA PHONE CALL
TO SAVANNAH INSTANT DATE.

J. D. HAILE, PRESIDENT, J AND H PROPERTIES, INC., WHICH
CORPORATION HAS OPERATED SAVANNAH MOTOR LODGE, HIGHWAY SEVENTEEN,
SOUTH, SAVANNAH, GA., SINCE APRIL ONE LAST, ADVISED FORMER
OWNER, D.R. ANDERSON, WAS AFFILIATED WITH FRIENDSHIP INNS OF
AMERICA. HAILE MADE AVAILABLE REGISTRATIONS FOR SAVANNAH MOTOR
LODGE FROM MARCH ELEVEN LAST THROUGH APRIL FIVE LAST.
EXAMINATION OF THESE REGISTRATIONS LOCATED NO RECORD OF JOHN
WILLARD, HARVEY LOWMEYER OR WILLIAM J. LEHMEYER.

END

ME...CF CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

*Friendship
for summary*

44-1987-79

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FBI — MEMPHIS	

Hester

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI NEW ORLS

632PM URGENT 4/6/68 OLP

TO DIRECTOR, CHARLOTTE AND MEMPHIS
FROM NEW ORLEANS (157-10673)

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. RM. OO: MEMPHIS.

RONALD BARDIN SIMPSON, WHITE MALE, BORN

HALFAX, N.C., USAF NO. ONE FOUR SEVEN TWO THREE

FOUR TWO SIX, IN LOCAL CUSTODY, LAKE CHARLES, LA., ON
VAGRANCY CHARGE. HE IS UNABLE TO GIVE ACCOUNT OF WHEREABOUTS
FOR PERIOD OF APRIL FOUR LAST. HIS APPEARANCE MATCHES AN
ARTIST'S CONCEPTION PUBLISHED IN BEAUMONT ENTERPRISE
NEWSPAPER. SIMPSON CLAIMS HE IS ON CHRISTMAS LEAVE FROM THE
VA HOSP., DURHAM, N. C., AND HAS GENERAL APPEARANCE AND
DEMEANOR OF A MENTAL CASE.

BUREAU ADVISE IF SIMPSON WANTED.

CHARLOTTE CONTACT VA HOSP AT DURHAM TO DETERMINE STATUS.

NEW ORLEANS AT NEW ORLEANS, WILL SUBMIT MAJOR CASE PRINTS.

MEMPHIS INFORMATION.

INFO FURNISHED BY SA WRIGHT, LAKE CHARLES.

END

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

X

Eliminated

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Hester

Kearney

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI KNOXVLE

636PM DEFERRED 4/6/68 DCK

TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS, CHICAGO, AND JACKSONVILLE
FROM KNOXVILLE (157-1298) RUC

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. RM.

RE JACKSONVILLE TELETYPE TO BUREAU APRIL SIX, INSTANT.

KATHLEEN BAKER, FOREE HOSPITAL, ATHENS, TENN., RECALLS
INDIVIDUAL ANSWERING DESCRIPTION AS OLAF (PH) WEBB IDENTICAL
TO WEBB COOK. COOK EMPLOYED FOREE HOSPITAL FOR APPROXIMATELY
FIFTEEN YEARS. COOK DIED TWO YEARS AGO AFTER HAVING BOTH
LEGS AMPUTATED DUE TO A DIABETIC CONDITION. ESTIMATED IF
COOK WERE ALIVE TODAY, HE WOULD BE ABOUT FIFTYFIVE YEARS
OF AGE. BAKER HAD NO INFORMATION CONCERNING COOK SEEKING
EMPLOYMENT WITH CHICAGO PD OR GOING TO CHICAGO TO WORK FOR
PD.

END

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

Whead

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Hester *qtk*

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI DENVER

645PM URGENT 4-6-68 JRW

RO MEMPHIS AND JACKSON

FROM DENVER 157-203

INDEX

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. RACIAL MATTERS.

DOYLE MAY, SALES MANAGER JOHNNIE HARPER FORD, WHEATRIDGE, COLORADO, ADVISED DRAWING OF ASSASSIN OF KING CLOSELY RESEMBLES ONE BEN LYNN HART WHO RESIDES AT CANTON, MISSISSIPPI. HART DESCRIBED AS WM, AGE THIRTYTWO, FIVE FEET TEN, ONE SEVENTY LBS., BLACK HAIR WHICH IS RECEDING AND COMBED STRAIGHT BACK. HART IS SHARP DRESSER, OWNED LOTS OF GUNS AND FORMERLY HAD A HARDWARE STORE BUT IS NOW A FARMER. MAY STATES HART WAS ALWAYS ROUGH WITH NEGROES AND IS FORMER KLANSMAN. JACKSON CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION.

END

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

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U

*Jackson
lead
FW*

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FBI MEMPHIS

FBI BIRMGHAM

702 PM URGENT 4-6-68 SSP

TO DIRECTOR AND SACS MEMPHIS ATLANTA
FROM SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)

MURKIN.

RE BH TELCALL TO ATLANTA THIS DATE.

RECORDS DELTA AIRLINES, BIRMINGHAM, SHOW THAT ON MARCH TWENTYSEVENTH, LAST, ONE W.J. LEHMYER PURCHASED TICKET ON DELTA AIRLINE FLIGHT FIVE NINE FIVE, DEPARTING BIRMINGHAM SIX TWO THREE P.M. EN ROUTE MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, ARRIVING AT SEVEN ZERO SEVEN P.M. HE HAD SPACE ON DELTA FLIGHT NINE THREE TWO LEAVING MEMPHIS AT EIGHT FOUR FIVE P.M. EN ROUTE CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, AND THEREAFTER SPACE ON NORTHWEST AIRLINE FLIGHT TWO THREE NINE FROM CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, TO MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA. AIRLINE PERSONNEL, BIRMINGHAM, UNABLE TO STATE IF LEHMEYER TRAVELED TO MINNEAPOLIS, HOWEVER DID VERIFY LEHMEYER DEPARTED BIRMINGHAM TO MEMPHIS INASMUCH AS TICKET WAS COLLECTED AT GATE.

ATLANTA IMMEDIATELY CHECK RECORDS DELTA AIRLINE TO DETERMINE WHETHER LEHMEYER LEFT MEMPHIS MARCH TWENTYSEVENTH LAST EN ROUTE TO MINNEAPOLIS. CHECK DELTA AIRLING RECORDS TO DETERMINE ANY PRIOR OR SUBSEQUENT TRAVEL OF LEHMEYER TO DATE. DETERMINE METHOD OF PAYMENT, SELLER OF TICKET, AND OBTAIN ORIGINAL TICKET.

END

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

No Memphis leads

44-1987-83

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Hester
Boyle *19/3*

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI EL PASO

734 PM 4-6-68 URGENT RPC

TO DIRECTOR AND MEMPHIS

FROM EL PASO (157-186)

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

MR. LEONARD BARKSDELL, ENGINEER, SOUTHERN PACIFIC RR OBSERVED SKETCH OF ASSASSIN ON FRANK MCGEE, TV NEWS REPORT. STATED THE LIKNESS FOR PERSON OBSERVED AT VALENTINE, TEXAS, CAFE, THIS MORNING APPEARED TO BE IDENTICAL WITH UNSUB ASSASSIN SKETCH.

BARKSDELL REPORTED HAVING BREAKFAST AT VALENTINE, TEX, APPROX. EIGHT FORTYFIVE AM CST, THIS DATE, WHEN OBSERVED THIS PARTY ALSO EATING. STATED HE HAD SHORT CONVERSATION WITH PERSON WHO MENTIONED HE HAD DRIVEN FROM WEST VIRGINIA AND WAS ENROUTE TO FORT HUACHUCA, ARIZONA AND HAD TO BE THERE BY NIGHT OF APRIL SIX AND WAS GOING TO VISIT FRIEND AT EL PASO ENROUTE.

BARKSDELL DESCRIBED PERSON OBSERVED AS WHITE MALE, ABOUT FORTY FIVE YEARS, FIVE FEET TEN INCHES, TWO HUNDRED TO TWO ONE ZERO LBS, STOCKY BUILD, RECEDING HAIR, WEARING LIGHT BLUE SUIT, WHITE SHIRT, NO TIE. OBSERVED THIS PERSON FROM LEFT PROFILE. PARTY SEEMED VERY NERVOUS AND SMOKED FOUR CIGARETTES WHILE EATING. BARKSDELL REPORTED OBSERVED VEHICLE OUTSIDE CAFE WHICH WAS BELIEVED TO BE ABOUT NINETEEN SIXTY MODEL DESOTO OR CHRYSLER. HE NOTED LARGE TAIL FINS. LICENSE PLATE UNKNOWN. CAR WHITE TOP WITH CREAM COLOR

END PAGE ONE

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Leahy *qut*

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EP (157:186)

PAGE TWO

BOTTOM.

BARKSDALL REPORTS THAT PERSON WAS ALSO OBSERVED BY FIREMAN A.A. PETERSON ALSO OF EL PASO AND POSSIBLY BY A DEPUTY SHERIFF WILLIAMS OF VALENTINE AND UNIDENTIFIED SP BRAKEMAN OUT OF SANDERSON, TEXAS.

EL PASO HAS NO DESCRIPTIVE DATA RE UNSUB ASSASSIN OF KING AND IN NO POSITION TO EVALUATE THIS INFORMATION. ABOVE BEING FURNISHED FOR INFO OF BUREAU AND MEMPHIS.

BUREAU ADVISE IF FURTHER INQUIRY DESIRED.

END.

. CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

X

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI CHICAGO

745PM URGENT 4-6-68 TAB

TO: DIRECTOR MEMPHIS KNOXVILLE JACKSONVILLE
FROM: CHICAGO (P)

MURKIN

RE JACKSONVILLE AND KNOXVILLE TELS THIS DATE CAPTIONED
ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

SEARCH OF RECORDS OF PERSONNEL DIVISION AND BUREAU
OF RECORDS AND COMMUNICATIONS, CHICAGO PD THIS DATE
FAILED TO DISCLOSE ANY EMPLOYMENT OR ARREST RECORD
IDENTIFIABLE WITH OLAF WEBB OR WEBB COOK.

UNLESS ADDITIONAL IDENTIFYING DATA OR MORE DEFINITE
INFORMATION AS TO WHEREABOUTS OF WEBB CAN BE FURNISHED
CHICAGO, NO FURTHER ACTION BEING TAKEN.

ENDCAF

FBI MEMPHIS

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*Eliminated
44-1987-64*

*Chicago
lead
re Webb*

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Hester ght

Kearney

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI JKSN MISS

740 PM URGENT 4-6-68 REM

TO MEMPHIS

FROM JACKSON (157-9586)

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., RM.

RE TELCALL SAC JENSEN, MEMPHIS, APRIL SIX INSTANT.

THE FOLLOWING MOTELS AFFILIATED WITH FRIENDSHIP INN CHECKED
THIS DATE FOR PERIOD IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO APRIL FOUR LAST FOR
NAMES OF JOHN WILLARD, HARVEY LOWMEYER AND WILLIAM J. LEHMEYER, WITH
NEGATIVE RESULTS: COLUMBUS MOTEL, COLUMBUS, SOUTHERN MOTEL, GORINTH,
GILHARA MOTEL, GREENVILLE, NAAMAN MOTEL, GREENWOOD, DUMAS MOTEL,
HATTIESBURG, TOWNHOUSE MOTEL, TUPELO, MARSHALL MOTEL, ALL MISSISSIPPI.
END

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

X

*in Bureau
summary
tonite
FW*

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Hester *Qst*

FBI ATLANTA

812 PM URGENT 4-6-68 ARK
TO MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM ATLANTA (44-NEW)

MURKIN.

RE MEMPHIS TEL FOUR SIX LAST.

DETERMINED THAT THERE ARE FOUR FRIENDSHIP INN AFFILIATED
MOTELS IN GEORGIA. ONE IS SAVANNAH MOTOR LODGE, SAVANNAH, GA.
SAVANNAH TELEPHONICALLY INSTRUCTED TO COVER. OTHER THREE MOTELS
IN GEORGIA ARE COLONIAL MANOR, PERRY, GA.; TRAVELER'S HAVEN,
MARIETTA, GA., AND TOWN AND COUNTRY, LA GRANGE, GA.

HERBERT MOORE, OWNER AND OPERATOR COLONIAL MANOR MOTEL,
U. S. HIGHWAY FOUR ONE, SOUTH PERRY, GA. ADVISED COLONIAL MANOR
IS RECENT AFFILIATE OF FRIENDSHIP INN CHAIN. HAS NOT YET
PURCHASED OR UTILIZED CASHMERE BOUQUET BAR SOAP OF FRIENDSHIP INN
IN MOTEL OPERATION. PERTINENT NAMES, BELIEVED OF SIGNIFICANCE,
NOT REGISTERED FROM THREE TWENTY TO FOUR THREE SIXTYEIGHT.
NAMES, WHITE MUSTANG AND ARTISTS CONCEPTION FROM NEWS SOURCES ALL
ARE UNFAMILIAR TO MOTEL OWNER MOORE AND HAVE NO SIGNIFICANCE
END PAGE ONE

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Hester *qst*

PAGE TWO

AT 44-NEW

TO HIM.

FRANK MILLER, OWNER AND OPERATOR TOWN AND COUNTRY MOTEL
LA GRANGE, GA., A FRIENDSHIP INN AFFILIATE USES ONLY
PALMOLIVE SOAP WITH WRAPPER ADVERTISING TOWN AND COUNTRY MOTEL,
U. S. # TWENTYSEVEN NORTH, LA GRANGE, GA. NAMES OF GUESTS
REGISTERED FROM THREE SEVENTEEN TO FOUR FOUR SIXTYEIGHT CHECKED
AND NONE FOUND SIMILIAR TO THOSE BELIEVED PERTINENT THIS MATTER.
NO WHITE MUSTANGS UTILIZED BY ANY GUESTS THIS MOTEL DURING
PERIOD CHECKED.

DEWIGHT STEWART, OWNER AND OPERATOR TRAVELERS HAVEN MOTEL,
MARIETTA, GA., ADVISED MOTEL USES SMALL BARS OF SOAP WITH
FRIENDSHIP INNS WRAPPER, BUT SOAP IS "SWEETHEART" MANUFACTURED BY
PUREX. PERTINENT NAMES CHECKED IN REGISTRATION FROM MARCH ONE
TO DATE NEGATIVE. NO RECORD OF WHITE MUSTANG AND NONE RECALLED
BY OWNER. RECORDS OF CAR RENTAL AGENCIES NOT CHECKED AS NONE
OF MOTELS ATLANTA TERRITORY LOCATED IN MAJOR CITIES OR NEAR
AIRPORTS. /

END.

CF CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

X

6
FBI NEW HAVEN

3-14PM URGENT 4/6/68 RJC
TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS AND PHOENIX
FROM NEW HAVEN (157-818)

ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. RM.

RENHTEL INSTANT DATE.

DETECTIVE HUGHES, WEST HARTFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT, ADVISED
WILLIAM LESLIE WILLARD, FBI NUMBER THREE ZERO NINE NINE NINE G,
TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED HIM AT FOUR ZERO FIVE PM TO STATE HE HAD
RETURNED FROM YUMA, ARIZONA, TODAY AND VOLUNTARILY COMMITTED
HIMSELF TO NORWICH STATE HOSPITAL, A MENTAL INSTITUTION, AT
NORWICH, CONN.

HUGHES VERIFIED SAME WITH HOSPITAL AUTHORITIES AND LEARNED
WILLARD WILL BE AT HOSPITAL FOR MINIMUM OF THREE TO FOUR DAYS.

FOREGOING FOR INFORMATION.

END

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

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Hester JH
Boyle AB

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI WASH DC

822PM URGENT 4-5-68 MXS

TO MEMPHIS 44-1987

FROM DIRECTOR 4P

UNSUB.; AKA. JOHN WILLARD; MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.,
VICTIM; CR.

REURAIRTELS APRIL FOUR.

SERIAL NUMBER ON RIFLE BOX WHICH ORIGINALLY
CONTAINED BROWNING RIFLE DETERMINED TO BE FOUR SEVEN FOUR
FOUR Z FIVE.

BULLET FROM VICTIM IS POINT THIRTY CALIBER METAL-
JACKETED SOFT POINT SPORTING TYPE BULLET OF REMINGTON -
PETERS MANUFACTURE. BULLET IS IDENTIFIABLE IN ALL
REMAINING PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS TO ONE FIVE ZERO GRAIN
BULLETS IN FIVE LOADED CALIBER POINT THIRTY - ZERO SIX
SPRINGFIELD REMINGTON - PETERS CARTRIDGES IN SUBMITTED
PETERS CARTRIDGE BOX WHICH ALSO CONTAINED FOUR U.S.
MILITARY CARTRIDGES OF REMINGTON MANUFACTURE CONTAINING
FULL-METAL JACKETED BULLETS.

END PAGE ONE

*We have
more leads
due
- Hald*

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Hester

PAGE TWO

BASED ON GENERAL RIFLING IMPERSSIONS, BULLET FROM VICTIM COULD HAVE BEEN FIRED FROM POINT THIRTY - ZERO SIX SPRINGFIELD CALIBER REMINGTON GAMEMASTER RIFLE, MODEL SEVEN SIX ZERO, SERIAL NUMBER FOUR SIX ONE FOUR SEVEN SIX. DUE TO MUTILATION OF BULLET, INSUFFICIENT MARKS OF VALUE FOR IDENTIFICATION REMAINING AND NOT POSSIBLE TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT BULLET FIRED FROM SUBMITTED REMINGTON RIFLE.

NO RECORD NSPI OR NCIC OF REMINGTON RIFLE; OF A BROWNING POINT TWO FOUR THREE WINCHESTER CALIBER RIFLE, SERIAL NUMBER FOUR SEVEN FOUR FOUR Z FIVE; OF A REDFIELD TELESCOPIC SIGHT, SERIAL NUMBER A ONE SEVEN THREE FIVE ZERO; OR BUSHNELL BINOCULAR, SERIAL NUMBER D Q FOUR ZERO EIGHT SIX SIX FOUR.

FINE SMEARS AND DEPOSITS OF SILTY SOIL FOUND ON LARGE GREEN AND BROWN CLOTH SUITABLE FOR COMPARISON PURPOSES. SPECIFIC ORIGIN OF SOIL CANNOT BE DETERMINED BY LABORATORY EXAMINATION.

BROWN AND GREEN CLOTH FOUND WHITH RIFLE IS BEDSPREAD
END PAGE TWO

MEASURING ONE ZERO SIX AND ONE-FOURTH INCHES BY EIGHT FIVE AND ONE FOURTH INCHES. BEDSPREAD COMPOSED OF SEVENTYFIVE PERCENT COTTON AND TWENTYFIVE PERCENT RAYON AND SIMILAR TO THOSE USED IN HOTELS AND MOTELS. NO MARKINGS FOUND TO INDICATE ITS SOURCE OR MANUFACTURER.

BROWN COTTON FIBERS, GREEN COTTON FIBERS AND GREEN RAYON FIBERS LIKE THOSE COMPOSING BEDSPREAD FOUND ON RIFLE AND IN DEBRIS FROM RIFLE BOX.

SUITCASE, BLUE IN COLOR, CONTAINED NUMEROUS TOILET ITEMS, MAPS, PAPER BAGS AND OTHER ITEMS. TOILET ITEMS ARE ALL COMMON BRANDS. OF INTEREST ARE TWO CANS OF SCHLITZ BEER, EACH BEARING TAX STAMPS INDICATING THEY WERE PURCHASED IN MISSISSIPPI. NEW PAIR OF BINOCULARS, CASE AND CARTON FOR BINOCULARS FOUND IN SUITCASE. CARTON INDICATED BINOCULARS SOLD FOR THIRTYNINE NINETYFIVE AND COMPUTED ON CARTON WAS THIRTYNINE NINETYFIVE PLUS ONE SIXTY, TOTALING FORTYONE FIFTYFIVE. A GRAY BAG OF YORK ARMS COMPANY, MEMPHIS, WITH COST REGISTRY RECEIPT IN AMOUNT OF FORTYONE FIFTYFIVE INSIDE INDICATES BINOCULARS PURCHASED AT YORK ARMS COMPANY HAVING FOLLOWING THREE LOCATIONS IN MEMPHIS: DOWNTOWN - ONE SIX
END PAGE THREE

PAGE

FOUR

TWO SOUTH MAIN; EAST - POPULAR PLAZA AND SOUTH - WHITEHAVEN
PLAZA.

NUMEROUS BROWN HEAD HAIRS OF CAUCASIAN ORIGIN
FOUND ON BEDSPREAD, TOWEL AND HAIRBRUSH FOUND IN SUITCASE
AND LOOSE IN SUITCASE. HAIRS SUITABLE FOR COMPARISONS.
NUMEROUS BROWN TO BLACK BEARD FRAGMENTS OF CAUCASIAS
FOUND ON TWO SAFETY RAZORS FROM SUITCASE WHICH ARE SUITABLE
FOR COMPARISONS.

NO NEGROID HAIRS FOUND.

TRADENAME "HOMESTEAD" ON LARGE PAPER BAG WHICH
CONTAINED BEER REGISTERED TO GRAHAM PAPER COMPANY,
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

SMALL RADIO SUBMITTED BEARS SCRATCHES INTERPRETED
TO READ "T ZERO FOUR ONE FIVE" OR "T ZERO FOUR FOUR FIVE."
ANY SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS UNKNOWN. RADIO WILL BE RE-EXAMINED
AFTER LATENT EXAMINATION.

NO WRITING OR SIGNIFICANT INDENTED IMPRESSIONS ON
OTHER BAGS, MAPS, NEWSPAPER AND BINOCULAR BOX.

LATENT RESULTS AND COMPLETE LABORATORY REPORT
BEING FURNISHED SEPARATELY.

CORR PAGE FOUR LINE 6 LAST WIR WORD SHD BE CAUCASIAN
END AND ACK FOR 2 PLW
BKS RECEIVED TWO

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI KNOXVLE

832PM URGENT 4/6/68 DCK

TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS, DALLAS AND NEW ORLEANS

FROM KNOXVILLE (P) 157-1298

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. OO MEMPHIS.

RE NEW ORLEANS TELETYPE TO BUREAU TODAY.

JAMES JOHNNY HALL, BORN [REDACTED]

BROOKHAVEN, MISS., ARRESTED WITH DANIEL EARL KELLUM APRIL TWO, NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT BY BUREAU AGENTS KINGSFORT, TENN., AND CHARGED WITH BANK ROBBERY. BOTH STILL IN CUSTODY. SUBJECTS WERE IN CUSTODY WHEN KING ASSASSINATED.

END

CAF

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Hester *qk.*

Kearney *[Signature]*

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI WASH DC

841 PM URGENT 4/6/68 GFH

TO MEMPHIS 44-1987 BIRMINGHAM
FROM DIRECTOR 3P

UNSUB, AKA JOHN WILLARD; MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., DASH VICTIM. CR.

REMEAIRTELS APRIL FOUR, DELIVERY OF EVIDENCE APRIL FIVE BY
MEMPHIS SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK AND BIRMINGHAM SA NEIL P. SHANAHAN.

ALL EVIDENCE EXAMINED FOR LATENT PRINTS WITH FOLLOWING RESULTS:
MEMPHIS EVIDENCE

ONE FINGERPRINT SIDE OF REMINGTON MODEL SEVEN SIX NAUGHT RIFLE,
Q TWO.

ONE FINGERPRINT REDFIELD TELESCOPIC SIGHT ON RIFLE, Q TWO.

ONE PALM PRINT ON BLACK BOX, Q ONE, FOR RIFLE. (THIS PALM
PRINT IDENTIFIED AS PALM PRINT BIRMINGHAM STORE CLERK DONALD F. WOOD).

ONE FINGERPRINT ON BINOCULARS, Q ONE FOUR, FROM BLUE ZIPPER BAG.
(THIS LATENT IDENTICAL LATENT ON Q TWO RIFLE).

ONE FINGERPRINT ON MEMPHIS COMMERCIAL APPEAL NEWSPAPER, Q ONE
NINE, FOR APRIL FOUR, SIXTYEIGHT, FROM BLUE ZIPPER BAG.

END PAGE ONE

~~Boyle~~
~~Boyle~~

Boyle

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Boyle RB

PAGE TWO

ONE FINGERPRINT ON GILLETTE AFTER SHAVE LOTION BOTTLE, Q TWO FOUR, FROM BLUE ZIPPER BAG.

ONE FINGERPRINT ON SCHLITZ BEER CAN, Q FIVE THREE, FROM BLUE ZIPPER BAG.

BIRMINGHAM EVIDENCE

THREE FINGERPRINTS ON FEDERAL CARTRIDGE BOX.

THREE FINGERPRINTS AND THREE PALM PRINTS ON REMINGTON MODEL SEVEN NAUGHT NAUGHT RIFLE BOX. (THESE LATENTS ALL IDENTICAL PRINTS OF STORE CLERK WOOD).

FIFTEEN FINGERPRINTS ON TWO INVOICES FOR PURCHASE OF RIFLES. (FOURTEEN OF THESE LATENTS IDENTICAL PRINTS OF STORE CLERK WOOD AND REMAINING LATENT IDENTICAL FINGERPRINT OF AGENT RECOVERING INVOICES).

BOTH RIFLES DISASSEMBLED AND COMPLETELY EXAMINED FOR LATENTS.

LATENTS NOT IDENTICAL FINGERPRINTS OF JOHN HUBBARD WILLARD, FBI NUMBER NINE THREE FOUR FOUR FIVE FOUR C; HERMAN H. DANIELS, FBI NUMBER ONE SIX NINE THREE THREE FIVE C; EUGENE SMITH MANSFIELD, FBI NUMBER THREE NAUGHT TWO FOUR FIVE FIVE B; SAMUEL HOLLOWAY BOWERS, FBI NUMBER EIGHT THREE SEVEN ONE FIVE ONE E; THOMAS A. TARRANTS, FBI NUMBER NINE NINE TWO FIVE EIGHT TWO E; BYRON DE LA BECKWITH, FBI NUMBER FIVE FOUR ONE TWO ONE SIX E; WILLIAM J. LEHMEYER, ARMY

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

SERVICE NUMBER THREE SEVEN SEVEN NINE FIVE SIX FOUR EIGHT; HARVEY E. LOHMEYER, FBI NUMBER SEVEN THREE NAUGHT NINE SEVEN NINE A; WILLIAM ARTHUR LOHMEYER, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI POLICE NUMBER SEVEN SIX NAUGHT EIGHT FIVE DASH FOUR; OR WILLIAM ALBERT LOHMEYER, PATTERSON, NEW JERSEY COUNTY FXX JAIL NUMBER THREE EIGHT FOUR TWO SEVEN.

LATENTS ON MEMPHIS EVIDENCE NOT IDENTICAL ELIMINATION FINGER-PRINTS OF GUY WARREN CANIPE, BORN [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] IN LUFKIN, TEXAS; NEVELYN ECDRAY ZACHARY, BORN [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] IN ROBBS, MISSISSIPPI; SA ORVILLE VERNON JOHNSON OR SAC JENSEN.

THREE LATENTS ON BIRMINGHAM CARTRIDGE BOX NOT IDENTICAL ELIMINATION PRINTS OF STORE CLERKS WOOD AND V. L. MATHEW BAKER OR SA NEIL P. SHANAHAN.

LATENTS COMPARED EACH OTHER BUT NO ADDITIONAL IDENTIFICATIONS EFFECTED.

LABORATORY REPORT AND DISPOSITION OF ALL EVIDENCE SEPARATE.

END

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

X

DECODED COPY

☐ Radio

☒ Teletype

1239 AM URGENT 4-6-68 HEP

TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS, MINNEAPOLIS
FROM BIRMINGHAM

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., RACIAL MATTER.

RECORDS SOUTHERN AIRLINES, BIRMINGHAM, SHOWS THAT ONE W. J. LEHMEYER MADE TELEPHONIC RESERVATION AT BIRMINGHAM FOR TRAVEL ON MARCH TWENTYSEVEN SIXTYEIGHT FROM BIRMINGHAM TO MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA. HE WAS TO CHANGE PLANES AT MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE AND AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, HOWEVER, LEHMEYER NEVER APPEARED FOR FLIGHT AND GAVE PLACES OF CONTACT BIRMINGHAM AS PARLIAMENT HOUSE AND AIRPORT MOTELS. INVESTIGATION AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE AND AIRPORT MOTELS FAILED TO LOCATE W. J. LEHMEYER AS GUEST. RECORDS DELTA AIRLINES, BIRMINGHAM, SHOWS THAT ON MARCH TWENTYSEVEN SIXTYEIGHT W. J. LEHMEYER PURCHASED TICKET ON DELTA AIR LINE FLIGHT FIVE NINE FIVE DEPARTING BIRMINGHAM SIX TWENTYTHREE P.M., ENROUTE MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, ARRIVING AT SEVEN ZERO SEVEN P.M. HE HAD PASSENGER SPACE ON DELTA FLIGHT NINE THREE TWO LEAVING MEMPHIS AT EIGHT FORTYFIVE P. M., ENROUTE CHICAGO, ILLINOIS AND THEREAFTER SPACE ON NORTH WEST AIRLINE FLIGHT TWO THREE NINE FROM CHICAGO

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

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☐ Radio☐ Teletype

PAGE TWO

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA. AIRLINE PERSONNEL BIRMINGHAM UNABLE TO SAY IF LEHMEYER TRAVELED TO MINNEAPOLIS BUT CAN STATE THIS INDIVIDUAL DID PASS THROUGH GATE FOR FLIGHT TO MEMPHIS INASMUCH AS HIS TICKET WAS COLLECTED AT GATE. IN VIEW OF UNSUB HAVING USED NAME HARVEY LOWMEYER IN PURCHASE OF ASSASSINATION WEAPON AT BIRMINGHAM AS WELL AS THE SIMILARITY IN THE LAST NAMES OF LOWMEYER AND LEHMEYER IT IS FELT THAT MEMPHIS SHOULD DETERMINE IF LEHMEYER DEPARTED MEMPHIS ON DELTA FLIGHT NINE THREE TWO ON THREE TWENTYSEVEN SIXTYEIGHT NOTING FURTHER THAT HIS RESIDENCE NOR CONTACTS COULD BE ESTABLISHED AT BIRMINGHAM. IT IS ALSO NOTED THAT UNSUB AT TIME OF PURCHASE OF WEAPON MADE STATEMENT THAT HE WAS GOING HUNTING IN THE STATE OF WISCONSIN WHICH IS IN THE SAME GENERAL AREA AS MINNEAPOLIS.

MEMPHIS HANDLE.

MINNEAPOLIS CHECK INDICES AS WELL AS OTHER PUBLIC SOURCES OF INFORMATION TO IDENTIFY LEHMEYER.

END.

DGB

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI MILWAUK

348PM IMMEDIATE 4/7/68 PJR
TO MEMPHIS, BIRMINGHAM AND JACKSON
FROM MILWAUKEE (44-388)

MURKIN; CR. OO MEMPHIS.

JOHN BREMPPELL, STANDARD SERVICE STATION ATTENDANT, TWO SEVEN ZERO FIVE W. CLYBURN, TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED THAT MAN ANSWERING NEWSPAPER DESCRIPTION AND ARTIST'S CONCEPTION OF UNSUB APPEARED AT ABOVE STATION AT SEVEN FORTY PM TODAY DRIVING LIGHT BLUE SIXTYSIX OR SIXTYSEVEN FORD BEARING MISSISSIPPI LICENSE TWO F F FIVE ONE FIVE. BREMPPELL DESCRIBED DRIVER AS WM, TWENTYSEVEN TO THIRTY, SIX FEET, ONE SIX ZERO LBS., LONG NOSE AND CHIN, SANDY HAIR, DRESSED COWBOY BOOTS, BLUE JEANS, CHECKERED COAT.

JACKSON IMMEDIATELY CONDUCT LICENSE CHECK, DETERMINE IF SIGNIFICANT AND FURNISH PERTINENT DATA TO INTERESTED OFFICES. P.

END

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

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Heck *qkt*

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI LOS ANG.

9:14PM URGENT 4-6-68 REF

TO DIRECTOR AND MEMPHIS

FROM LOS ANGELES (44-1987)

MURKIM

RE MEMPHIS TEL AND BUREAU TELEPHONE CALL FROM
SUPERVISOR LONG APRIL SIX INSTANT.

INTERVIEWS AT ROMPAGE HARDWARE COMPANY, FIVE FIVE FOUR
TWO HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, WITH ALL
SALES PERSONS WHO COULD HAVE SOLD NEEDLE NOSED PLIERS
REVEALS NONE CAN RECALL ANY SALE OF PLIERS TO ANY PERSON
PRIOR TO APRIL FIVE LAST.

ROMPAGE HARDWARE DOES LARGE VOLUME OF BUSINESS AND
WHEN PHOTOGRAPHS OF PLIERS ARE RECEIVED, THEY WILL BE
DISPLAYED.

APPEARS ONLY POSSIBILITY OF CONNECTING PURCHASER WITH
PLIERS IS IF THEY WERE PURCHASED ON CHARGE ACCOUNT. STORE
CLOSED SUNDAY.

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

Q'D

*When
Pictures
come
send to LA*

44-1987-93A

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Hester

PA
HOLD PLS CORR LINE TWO PAR ONE SECOND WORD SHOULD
READ SUPERVISOR LONG.

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

X

X

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI CHARLT

918 PM URGENT 4-6-68 JMC

TO DIRECTOR, NEW ORLEANS (157-10673) AND MEMPHIS
FROM CHARLOTTE (157-5300)

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. RM.

RE NO TELETYPE DATED APRIL SIX, INSTANT.

HARRY PROPST, NIGHT ADMINISTRATIONS OFFICER, VETERANS
ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL, DURHAM, N.C., ADVISED HOSPITAL
RECORDS REFLECT RONALD B. SIMPSON BORN [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] USAF NO. ONE FOUR SEVEN TWO THREE FOUR TWO SIX, FIRST
ADMITTED TO VA HOSPITAL OCT. NINE, SIXTYSEVEN, DIAGNOSIS SCHIZOPHRENIA
SIMPSON RELEASED ON LEAVE NOV. ELEVEN, LAST AND RETURNED
NOV. TWENTYFOUR, LAST. RELEASED ON LEAVE AGAIN DEC. TWENTY,
LAST, FOR RETURN DEC. TWENTYSEVEN, BUT GRANTED EXTENSION TO
JAN. NINE, LAST AND AGAIN EXTENDED WITHOUT RETURN TO HOSPITAL
TO FEB, NIN, LAST. HOWEVER, PRIOR TO TERMINATION OF THIS
EXTENSION, SIMPSON DISCHARGED JAN, TWELVE, LAST, FOR MAXIMUM
HOSPITAL BESEFITS. THIS WAS ONLY RECORDED ADMISSION FOR
END PAGE ONE

Eliminated

New Orleans lead
PH

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Hester *gpk*
Kearney *PH*

157-5800

PAGE TWO

SIMPSON AT HOSPITAL. HIS HOME ADDRESS WAS IN CARE OF SISTER, MRS. I. D. WHITE, THREE ONE ONE JACKSON ST., ROANOKE RAPIDS, N.C. HOSPITAL RECORDS FURTHER REFLECT SIMPSON NEVER MARRIED.

FILES, CHARLOTTE OFFICE, REFLECT SIMPSON ARRESTED DEC. NINETEEN, SIXTYSIX, BY EL PASO COUNTY, TEX., SO. CHARGED WITH VAGRANCY. HAD NO DRAFT CARD, HAD NO WALLET AND ADVISED HAD NOT REQUESTED DUPLICATE REGISTRATION. RECORDS LOCAL BOARD, HALIFAX, N.C., REFLECT SIMPSON CORRECTLY AND PROPERLY REGISTERED, CLASSIFIED FOUR DASH A FOR PRIOR MILITARY SERVICE. END.

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

X

FBI MEMPHIS

9:32 URGENT RSB

TO: DIRECTOR, WASHINGTON FIELD, AND MEMPHIS
FROM: RICHMOND

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CIVIL RIGHTS.

REFERENCE WASHINGTON FIELD TELETYPE THIS DATE RE. CECIL
WILLARD.

INVESTIGATION, ROANOKE VA. VERIFIES JOHNNY SAUNDERS WILLARD ✓
CURRENTLY INCARCERATED ROANOKE CITY JAIL SINCE MARCH TWENTYSEVEN
LAST. IN VIEW OF THIS, NO FURTHER INQUIRY RE WILLARD BEING
MADE. UACB.

END

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

IND. EX

eliminated
in

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Hester JMT
Boyle RB

F B I

Date: 4/6/68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)TO: DIRECTOR, FBI; CHICAGO, MINNEAPOLIS,
and BIRMINGHAM

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

MURKIN

FOR INFO OF CHICAGO AND MINNEAPOLIS INVESTIGATION
CONDUCTED BIRMINGHAM DIVISION SUGGESTS INDIVIDUAL BY NAME OF
WILLIAM J. LEHMEYER MAY BE OF INTEREST IN THIS CASE.

BIRMINGHAM HAS ADVISED THAT INQUIRIES IN CONNECTION
WITH MARCH TWENTYSEVEN RESERVATION, SOUTHERN AIRLINES,
APPARENTLY WERE NOT FILLED. BIRMINGHAM INVESTIGATION
DISCLOSED THAT CONTACT POINTS OF PARLIMENT HOUSE AND AIRPORT
MOTEL HAD NO RECORD FOR WILLIAM J. LEHMEYER.

INDIVIDUAL WHO PURCHASED GUN OF INTEREST IN INSTANT
CASE DID USE NAME OF LOWMEYER IN BIRMINGHAM. SIMILARITY OF
NAMES WARRANTS ADDITIONAL INQUIRIES.

MEMPHIS INVESTIGATION DISCLOSED THAT WILLIAM J. LEHMEYER
DID PASS THROUGH GATE DELTA AIRLINES, MEMPHIS, EN ROUTE TO
CHICAGO, FLIGHT NINE THREE TWO, DELTA AIRLINES, DEPARTING
MEMPHIS EIGHT FORTYFIVE P.M. MARCH TWENTYSEVEN. THIS
CONFIRMS SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION FURNISHED BY BIRMINGHAM
INVESTIGATION.

RGJ/acp
(1)Approved: RC Jensen
Special Agent in ChargeSent BH 10¹⁵ M Per (B)

44-1987-96

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via _____
(Priority)**ME 44-1987****PAGE TWO**

BIRMINGHAM INVESTIGATION SHOWED THAT LEHMEYER REPORTEDLY HAD TICKETS ROUTING HIM FROM BIRMINGHAM THROUGH MEMPHIS TO CHICAGO WITH SUBSEQUENT STOP IN MINNEAPOLIS.

PLANE ON WHICH LEHMEYER ARRIVED IN MEMPHIS LANDED AT SEVEN O SEVEN P.M. AND DEPARTED EIGHT FORTYFIVE P.M. AIRPORT IN MEMPHIS IS APPROXIMATELY TWENTYFIVE MINUTE DRIVE EACH WAY FROM AREA IN WHICH MURDER TOOK PLACE. THIS ALLOWS APPROXIMATELY FIFTY MINUTES IN WHICH THIS PERSON, IF SUBJECT OF INTEREST, COULD HAVE CANVASSED AREA FOR FUTURE USE.

REQUEST THAT MINNEAPOLIS MAKE APPROPRIATE ~~DISCREET~~ INQUIRIES WITH CONNECTING AIRLINES FROM CHICAGO ON MARCH TWENTYSEVEN ON WHICH WILLIAM J. LEHMEYER MIGHT HAVE ARRIVED. IN MINNEAPOLIS. THEREAFTER CONDUCT SUFFICIENT DISCREET INQUIRIES TO ESTABLISH BACKGROUND OF WILLIAM J. LEHMEYER AND ASCERTAIN HIS WHEREABOUTS AS OF APPROXIMATELY SIX P.M. ON EVENING OF APRIL FOUR. CONDUCT SUFFICIENT INVESTIGATION TO ELIMINATE IF THIS CAN BE DONE.

INQUIRY AT MEMPHIS DISCLOSED THAT WILLIAM J. LEHMEYER REPORTEDLY HAD FLIGHT FROM CHICAGO VIA NORTHWEST AIRLINES, FLIGHT TWO THREE NINE.

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

F B I

Date:

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

Via _____
(Priority)

ME 44-1987

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**CHICAGO OFFICE REQUESTED TO MAKE APPROPRIATE INQUIRY
TO DETERMINE WHETHER WILLIAM J. LEHMEYER DID TAKE FLIGHT
TO MINNEAPOLIS. P END.**

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

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI CINCINTI

10:10 PM

URGENT 4-6-68 DHV

TO MEMPHIS

FROM CINCINNATI (157-1893)

INDEX

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. RACIAL MATTER.

TOWN MARSHALL, CARL REISINGER, CLARKSBURG, OHIO, FORMER ROSS COUNTY DEPUTY SHERIFF, ADVISED EVENING OF APRIL SIX INSTANT THAT DESCRIPTION OF KING'S UNKNOWN ASSAILANT WHICH APPEARED IN LOCAL PAPERS IS SIMILAR TO THAT OF FORMER HOODLUM OF CHILlicothe AREA. HOODLUM IS DAVID ARLEN HATMACHER (TRUE NAME), WHO MARRIED FORMER MRS LARRY HARDIN, AND MOVED TO HER PARENTS WITH HATMACHER IN MEMPHIS TENNESSEE WITHIN LAST FEW YEARS.

MRS HATMACHER'S PARENTS ARE MR AND MRS J. W. SISSON WHO LIVED IN OR NEAR MEMPHIS TENNESSEE AT PLACE CALLED WHITEHAVEN.

HATMACHER BELIEVED TO BE BARBER IN MEMPHIS AREA. HAS ALSO BEEN A GAMBLER.

HATMACHER DESCRIBED AS WHITE MALE, DOB [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] ONE SEVENTY SIX - ONE EIGHTY POUNDS, FIVE FEET ELEVEN,
ONE HALF INCHES, BROWN HAIR AND EYES.

INFORMATION ALSO OBTAINED HATMACHER MAY HAVE RECENTLY BEEN WORKING IN CINCINNATI NIGHT CLUB.

END PAGE ONE

*Leads
for Memphis
Handle
night away*

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Hester *glt*

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WIFES' NAME PRIOR TO MARRIAGE TO HARDIN WAS JO JENNIGAN.

HATMACHER BELIEVED TO BE WITH WIFE AT PRESENT TIME, EXACT WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN.

REISINGER STATES THAT HATMACHER HAS LONG SHARP NOSE, NORMAL EYES, SQUARE CHIN, THICK HAIR AT FRONT, RECEDED ON EACH SIDE AND WOULD POSSIBLY COMMIT MURDER FOR MONEY. HE HAS PRIOR CRIMINAL REPUTATION OF BURGLARY, FORGERY AND CON SCHEMES AND HAS BEEN BR SUSPECT, BUT IS NOT KNOWN TO BE A RACIST.

FAYETTE COUNTY SO, WASHINGTON COURT HOUSE, OHIO HAVE PHOTO OF HATMACHER TAKEN JUNE SIXTY-FIVE WHICH THEY ARE FORWARDING DIRECT TO MEMPHIS FBI OFFICE AMSD.

SUSPECT HAS FBI NUMBER FIVE NINE SIX SIX TWO FIVE D AND ALIASES OF DAVID A. HATMAKER AND JULIAN ROSE.

HATMACHER IS KNOWN TO CARRY A KNIFE AND POSSIBLY A GUN.

A R M E D A N D D A N G E R O U S .

END

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI BIRMGHAM

LOLO XXX 19XX 10 10 PM DEFERRED 4-6-68 DLR
TO CLEVELAND AND MEMPHIS
FROM BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)

MURKIN

REURTEL TODAY.

NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT ALA. LICENSE FOUR SEVEN DASH
FIVE ONE SIX FIVE ISSUED TO JOSEPH SVESTKA, SIX THREE
TWO DAWSON HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA, FOR SIXTYSEVEN OPAL.

INQUIRIES SIX THREE TWO DAWSON DETERMINED SVESTKA
CURRENTLY ATTENDING CASE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY GRADUATE
SCHOOL, CLEVELAND, OHIO, WHERE HE REPORTLY RESIDES IN DORM.

CLEVELAND SHOULD CONDUCT APPROIATE INVESTIGATION,
TO ELEMATE SVESTKA AS UNSUB.

END

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

X

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Hester JMS

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI DENVER

1017PM URGENT 4-6-68 JRW
TO MEMPHIS
FROM DENVER 157-203

ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. RACIAL MATTERS.

LOUIS J. HUNT, EMPLOYEE, PHYL LONG FORD DEALER, COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO ADVISED SIXTYSEVEN YELLOW FALCON, TENNESSEE LICENSE JR FIVE ONE NINE EIGHT, OCCUPIED BY WHITE FEMALE, NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED AND WMA, AGE TWENTY TO TWENTYFIVE, HEIGHT FIVE FEET ELEVEN INCHES, ONE HUNDRED NINETY-FIVE LBS., BLOND HAIR RECEIVED REPAIRS TO WATER PUMP ON CAR AT LONG AGENCY TODAY. CAR CONTAINED LUGGAGE AND HUNT OBSERVED LUGER PISTOL ON FLOOR OF CAR. AFTER REPAIRED CAR WITH THE TWO OCCUPANTS LEFT FORD AGENCY HEADING WEST. HUNT ADVISED OWNER OF CAR LISTED AS HELEN GETTINGS, THREE ZERO TWO ZERO ESTES, MEMPHIS, TENN. ✓
HUNT SAID WMA RESEMBLED PUBLISHED SKETCH OF KING ASSASSIN.

ABOVE FOR APPROPRIATE ACTION BY MEMPHIS.

END

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

CLR

*No action
here
PL*

44-1987-99

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Hester

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI BALTO

1042PM URGENT 4-6-68 LLF

TO DIRECTOR, WFO, BIRMINGHAM, AND MEMPHIS
FROM BALTIMORE

MURKIN; SUSPECT EMIL MATALIK.

SUSPECT ARRESTED BY BALTIMORE PD AS LOOK ALIKE AFTER PD
OBSERVED ARTISTS CONCEPTION OF ASSASSIN IN BALTIMORE NEWSPAPER
TODAY. MATALIK, WHITE MALE, BORN [REDACTED] HIGHLAND
WISCONSIN, FIVE FEET TEN INCHES, ONE HUNDRED SIXTY POUNDS,
RUDDY COMPLEXION, HONORABLY DISCHARGED FROM USAF SERIAL NUMBER
AF ONE NINE THREE FOUR ZERO SIX EIGHT FIVE, ADVISED UPON INTERVIEW
ARRIVED BALTIMORE TODAY FROM WASHINGTON, D.C., WHERE HE LIVED
FOR PAST MONTH AT FOUR THREE ZERO K STREET, N.W., IN ROOMING
HOUSE. CLAIMS TO LIVE ON DISABILITY PENSION AND TO HAVE BEEN
CONFINED TO ST. ELIZABETHS HOSPITAL WASHINGTON, D.C., IN
NINETEEN SIXTY THREE. ALSO CLAIMS ARREST BY GAME WARDEN DOUGLAS
COUNTY, WISC., NINETEEN SIXTY ONE OR SIXTY TWO FOR CARRYING GUN.
MATALIK FOR MOST PART UNCOOPERATIVE DURING INTERVIEW. PER BUREAU
INSTRUCTIONS TWO SETS OF TEN PHOTOS OF MATALIK ARE BEING FORWARDED
END PAGE ONE

*See 44-1987-157
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eliminated maybe?
Photos shown
not ident*

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Hearney
AK

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BA 157-

MEMPHIS BY PILOT AMERICAN AIRLINES FLIGHT NUMBER FIVE NINE NINE
LEAVING BALTIMORE ONE FIFTY FIVE AM APRIL SEVEN NEXT ARRIVING THREE
FORTY ONE AM MEMPHIS TIME.. MEMPHIS REQUESTED TO FORWARD ONE SET OF
THESE PHOTOS TO BIRMINGHAM. WFO ATTEMPT VERIFY D.C. RESIDENCE AND
LOCATION PAST SEVERAL DAYS. BALTIMORE WILL FOUR SEVEN NEXT HAND
DELIVER TO BUREAU AND WFO PHOTOS OF MATALIK ALSO FINGER AND
PALM PRINTS TO IDENT DIVISION.

MATALIK BEING HELD BY BALTIMORE PD FOR INVESTIGATION,
LOCAL CHARGE ANTICIPATED RELEASE APRIL SEVEN NEXT.

END

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI BIRMGHAM

11 00 PM URGENT 4-6-68 DLR
TO DIRECTOR, MEMPHIS
FROM BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)

INDEX

MURKIN

ON THIS DATE COSBY E. MANSFIELD, FATHER OF EUGENE SMITH MANSFIELD, ADVISED THAT EUGENE MANSFIELD QUIT HIS JOB AT RELIANCE STEEL COMPANY, COTTONDALE, ALABAMA, APPROXIMATELY THREE WEEKS AGO AND LEFT THE TUSCALOOSA AREA AND HIS PRESENT WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN. HE ADVISED THAT HE RECEIVED PHONE CALL FROM EUGENE THE FIRST OF LAST WEEK AND EUGENE STATED HE WAS IN MISSISSIPPI (CITY NOW GIVEN).

RECORDS OF RELIANCE STEEL NOT AVAILABLE UNTIL A. M. APRIL EIGHT, AND RECORDS WILL BE REVIEWED FOR ASSOCIATES AND POSSIBLE FORWARDING ADDRESS. EUGENE MANSFIELD DOES NOT GET ALONG WITH HIS FATHER AND RELATIVES AND DOES NOT KEEP THEM ADVISED OF LOCATION AND IS A DRIFTER.

[Handwritten mark]

END

CAF

FBI MEMPHIS

X

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Hester
Hearney

F B I

Date: 4/6/68

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

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
MURKIN.

THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF TODAY'S ACTIVITIES.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF EUGENE SMITH MANSFIELD AND BYRON DE LA BECKWITH EXHIBITED TO CLERK AT YORK ARMS, BUT NO IDENTIFICATION MADE.

REGARDING W. J. LEHMEYER WHO ARRIVED MEMPHIS SEVEN ZERO SEVEN P.M., MARCH TWENTYSEVEN LAST ABOARD DELTA AIRLINES FLIGHT FIVE NINE FIVE, IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT LEHMEYER PASSED THROUGH GATE AT DELTA AIRLINES, MEMPHIS, EN ROUTE TO CHICAGO ON SAME FLIGHT DEPARTING MEMPHIS EIGHT FORTYFIVE P.M., MARCH TWENTYSEVEN. LAYOVER OF NINETYEIGHT MINUTES WOULD HAVE BEEN SUFFICIENT TIME TO HAVE OBSERVED LORRAINE HOTEL.

SUSPECTED ALIASES OF UNSUB WERE SEARCHED THROUGH ALL AIRLINES MAINTAINING RECORDS AT MEMPHIS AND NOTHING OF INTEREST FOUND FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING SIX P.M., APRIL FOUR AND EXTENDING THROUGH APRIL FIVE.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF JOHN WILLARD FURNISHED BIRMINGHAM FOR EXHIBITION TO WITNESSES THERE.

JCH/acp
(1) *inf*

SEARCHED *ll*SERIALIZED *ll*INDEXED *ll*FILED *ll*Approved: *R. A. Jensen*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent *11:07*Per *CRA*

F B I

Date:

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Via _____
(Priority)

ME 44-1987

PAGE TWO

SAVANNAH, JACKSON AND ATLANTA OFFICES HAVE CONTACTED
FRIENDSHIP INNS LOCATED THEIR TERRITORY BUT HAVE DISCLOSED
NOTHING OF INTEREST REGARDING NAMES POSSIBLY USED BY UNSUB.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF DR. KING AT HOSPITAL SECURED AND
SUBMITTED THIS DATE, TOGETHER WITH WINDOW SILL SECURED FROM
BATHROOM WHERE MURDER SHOT BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN FIRED.
ALSO LATENTS TAKEN BY MEMPHIS POLICE DEPARTMENT IN VARIOUS
AREAS WHERE SUSPECT STAYED AT ROOMING HOUSE IN MEMPHIS.
SHORTS AND T SHIRT WHICH WERE ORIGINALLY IN BLUE BAG SUBMITTED
FOR APPROPRIATE LABORATORY EXAMINATION THIS DATE ALSO.

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SENIOR RESIDENT AGENT, ONI, MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, ADVISED HIS AGENCY RECEIVED INFORMATION FROM PFC MICHAEL STEVEN SLOAN, AGE NINETEEN, MARINE PFC AT MILLINGTON, TENNESSEE, TO EFFECT THAT WILLIAM FREDERICK TATROE, JR., PFC, USMC, MILLINGTON, MSN TWO THREE EIGHT ONE EIGHT SEVEN THREE, HAD TOLD HIM THAT HE SUSPECTED THAT HIS COUSIN HAD KILLED MARTIN LUTHER KING. PFC TATROE ON INTERVIEW ADVISED HE HAS COUSIN NAMED GARY JOE MC MILLON (PHONETIC), AGE NINETEEN, WHO LIVES IN HAZLET, MICHIGAN WITH WIFE AND SMALL BABY. MC MILLON CLAIMS TO BE EMPLOYED AS A PRIVATE DETECTIVE, WAS ARRESTED AT LEAST ONCE AS CAR THIEF AND HAS TOLD TATROE THAT HE HAD PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT IN USMC. ALSO STATED HE ONCE OWNED THIRTY OUGHT SIX RIFLE SEVERAL YEARS AGO. TATROE SAW MC MILLON ABOUT THREE WEEKS AGO, WEEK ENDING MARCH FIFTEEN, WHEN MC MILLON WAS IN ROUTE TO FLORIDA CARRYING BRIEFCASE AND FORTYFIVE CALIBER AUTOMATIC PISTOL. MC MILLON THEN SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO BE A PROFESSIONAL ASSASSIN, THAT HE HEARD THERE WAS GOOD MONEY IN IT; NOTHING SPECIFIC. AT THAT TIME ON HEARING REVEREND KING MENTIONED ON RADIO SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO "SHOOT THAT SON OF A BITCH." AFTER MC MILLON LEFT MILLINGTON, HE

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CONTACTED TATROE TELEPHONICALLY ABOUT MARCH TWENTY ASKING IF TATROE WOULD LIKE TO COME TO FLORIDA FOR A COUPLE OF HOURS ON A JOB FOR "ABOUT TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS." TOLD TATROE HE WOULD FLY UP AND GET HIM. TATROE AGREED BUT IMMEDIATELY DECIDED NOT TO GO. RECEIVED FURTHER CALL ABOUT TEN P.M. THAT NIGHT FROM MC MILLON WHO SAID HE HAD BEEN DELAYED, AND TATROE THEN REFUSED TO GO. TATROE HAS NOT HEARD FROM MC MILLON SINCE MARCH TWENTY.

ON MORNING AFTER KING WAS SHOT IN MEMPHIS, TATROE SAID HE TOLD SEVERAL FRIENDS HE WOULD NOT "PUT IT PAST MY COUSIN. HE MIGHT HAVE SHOT HIM. HE'S GOT A THIRTY OUGHT SIX." TATROE NOW STATES THAT HE THEN BELIEVED IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT MC MILLON SHOT KING BECAUSE OF ABOVE INFORMATION AND BECAUSE MC MILLON IS A YOUNG WHITE MALE WITH BLACK HAIR WHICH FITS THE DESCRIPTION OF THE KILLER WHICH HE HEARD OVER THE RADIO. STATES NOW BELIEVES STORY TOLD HIM BY MCMILLON WERE PURE FABRICATIONS.

MC MILLON IS WHITE MALE, AGE NINETEEN, FIVE FEET EIGHT INCHES, WEIGHT ONE HUNDRED FIFTYFIVE, BLACK HAIR, HAS TATTO OF RABBIT OR ROAD RUNNER ON STOMACH.

P END.

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Date: 4/5/68

Transmit the following in ~~TELETYPE~~
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TO: DIRECTOR

FROM: MEMPHIS (44-1987)
*CHANGED:*UNSUB, AKA JOHN WILLARD, HARVEY LOWMEYER, MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -
VICTIM; CIVIL RIGHTS. 00, MEMPHISRE MEMPHIS TELETYPE EIGHT NINETEEN PM THIS DATE AND BUREAU TELEPHONE CALL THIS DATE. *TITLE CHANGED TO ADD ALIAS HARVEY LOWMEYER* CORRECTED FIRST PAGE FOLLOWS:UNSUB USING NAME HARVEY LOWMEYER ON MARCH TWENTY NINE LAST PURCHASED CALIBER TWO FORTY THREE W *BROWNING* REMINGTON RIFLE FROM AERO MARINE SUPPLY COMPANY, BIRMINGHAM, ALA. AT TIME OF PURCHASE LOWMEYER HAD A TWO X - SEVEN X VARIABLE POWER REDFIELD SCOPE MOUNTED ON RIFLE.ON MARCH THIRTY LAST LOWMEYER RETURNED TO AERO MARINE SUPPLY COMPANY AND TRADED FIRST REMINGTON RIFLE FOR A REMINGTON THIRTY-ZERO SIX, MODEL SEVEN SIXTY PUMP RIFLE. REDFIELD SCOPE WAS REMOUNTED ON SECOND REMINGTON RIFLE. LOWMEYER ALSO TRADED ONE BOX TWO FORTY THREE CALIBER ~~CALIBER~~ CARTRIDGES FOR ONE BOX OF THIRTY-ZERO SIX CARTRIDGES. TWENTY CARTRIDGES PER BOX.

REMINGTON RIFLE HAS SERIAL NUMBER FOUR SIX ONE FOUR SEVEN SIX. HARVEY LOWMEYER NOT KNOWN AT ADDRESS IN BIRMINGHAM GIVEN

MJP/rd

SEARCHED

END

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all 44-1987-102

Approved: *[Signature]*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent 12:40 A M

Per *[Signature]*

4-6-68

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BY HIM AT TIME OF PURCHASE.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL RETAIL HARDWARE ASSOCIATION, INDIANAPOLIS, IS ATTEMPTING TO IDENTIFY SALES OUTLET FOR NEEDLE NOSE PLIERS FOUND IN SUITCASE ABANDONED BY SUBJECT IMMEDIATELY AFTER SHOOTING.

BINOCULARS FOUND IN ABANDONED SUITCASE DETERMINED TO HAVE BEEN PURCHASED LATE AFTERNOON APRIL FOUR LAST FROM YORK ARMS, ONE SIX TWO S. MAIN ST., MEMPHIS. SALES CLERK DESCRIBED PURCHASER AS WM, AGE TWENTY SIX TO THIRTY TWO, FIVE FEET ELEVEN INCHES, ONE SIXTY - ONE SEVENTY FIVE LBS., MEDIUM BUILD, DARK BROWN OR BLACK HAIR COMBED STRAIGHT BACK AND WITHOUT A PART, NEAT APPEARANCE, WEARING DARK COAT AND TROUSERS, WHITE SHIRT AND STRIPED NECKTIE.

YORK ARMS DOES NOT MAINTAIN RECORDS OF SERIAL NUMBERS OF BINOCULARS SOLD BY THEM. INVESTIGATION AT LOS ANGELES REFLECTS NO RECORD KEPT OF SERIAL NUMBERS BY MANUFACTURER OF BINOCULARS. HOWEVER, SALESMAN STATES HE CAN IDENTIFY BOX IN WHICH BINOCULARS PACKED BECAUSE HE WROTE PRICE OF PURCHASE AND TAX ON ONE SIDE OF THE BOX.

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THERE ARE THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY SEVEN FRIENDSHIP INN MOTELS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, A NUMBER OF WHICH ARE LOCATED IN THE AREA IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO MEMPHIS. NOT ALL OF THESE USE BARS OF SOAP BEARING FRIENDSHIP INN WRAPPER, BUT SOAP IS AVAILABLE TO ALL AND NO RECORD KEPT AS TO WHICH INNS USE IT.

SAC, JACKSON, HAS STATED EUGENE SMITH MANSFIELD, FBI # THREE ZERO TWO FOUR FIVE FIVE B, SHOULD BE CONSIDERED SUSPECT AS HE IS REPORTEDLY BEING HIDDEN OUT IN MISSISSIPPI BY ONE L. E. MATTHEWS, PROVINCE GIANT, WKKKK. SAC, JACKSON, IS FURNISHING PHOTOGRAPHS OF MANSFIELD AND OF BYRON DE LA BECKWITH.

NEIGHBORHOOD INVESTIGATION AT SCENE OF SHOOTING HAS DISCLOSED SEVERAL PERSONS WHO BELIEVE A WHITE MUSTANG, LICENSE UNKNOWN, WAS SEEN TO LEAVE THE AREA SHORTLY AFTER SHOOTING. DMV RECORDS FOR TENNESSEE, ALABAMA AND MISSISSIPPI ARE NOT FILED IN SUCH A MANNER AS TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO DETERMINE OWNERS OF WHITE MUSTANGS. MV RECORDS FILED ONLY BY NUMBER. OTHER MEANS OF OBTAINING LIST OF WHITE MUSTANGS BEING EXPLORED.

SUSPECT IN MEMPHIS PD IDENT FILES WHO HAD IDENTICAL NAME AND LIVED IN PONTOTOC, MISS., AREA, INTERVIEWED BY JACKSON AGENTS. HE CURRENTLY RESIDES TUPELO, MISS., AND HAS BEEN

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