

LA 44-1574

PAGE TWO

PLIERS ASPECT

INVEST I ON THIS DATE AT ROMPAGE HARDWARE COMPANY, FIVE FIVE FOUR TWO HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, DISCLOSES COMPANY EMPLOYEES POSITIVE DUCK-BILLED PLIERS IN COLOR PHOTOGRAPH IS PART OF A ONE TIME SHIPMENT THEY RECEIVED OCTOBER SIXTY SIX. PRESENT MANAGER BELIEVES TWELVE SUCH PLIERS IN SHIPMENT. BUREAU AGENT OBTAINED THE LAST ONE FROM "BARGAIN BIN" NEAR FRONT DOOR OF STORE. IT APPEARS IDENTICAL WITH PHOTO AND BEARS SAME LABEL EXCEPT THAT STORE CODE IS FAINTLY VISIBLE IN UPPER LEFT AND UPPER RIGHT CORNER SHOWING INVENTORY DATE TEN - SIX.

ALL PRESENT SALES FORCE HAVE NO RECOLLECTION OF ANY SALE OF THIS ITEM. MANAGEMENT ADVISED APPROXIMATELY EIGHTY FIVE - NINETY PERCENT OF BUSINESS IS CASH SALE. CREDIT INVOICES FOR ALL SALES SINCE OCTOBER SIXTY SIX TO PRESENT BEING CHECKED TO DETERMINE IF SUBJECT PLIERS POSSIBLY PURCHASED ON CREDIT.

ONE CREDIT ITEM REFLECTING SALE OF ONE DOLLAR NINETY EIGHT CENTS PLIERS, TYPE UNKNOWN, LOCATED. PURCHASER WILL BE INTERVIEWED. REVIEW OF VOLUMINOUS CREDIT SALES CONTINUES.  
END PAGE TWO

LA 44-1574

PAGE THREE

IDENTITIES AND ADDRESSES OF FORMER EMPLOYEES WHO CEASED  
EMPLOYMENT SUBSEQUENT TO OCTOBER SIXTY SIX OBTAINED. INTERVIEWS  
BEING CONDUCTED. MANAGER OFFERED POSSIBILITY OF THEFT BY SHOP  
LIFTER AS HE HAS SUFFERED SUCH LOSSES IN PAST.

INVESTIGATION CONTINUES.

END

DND

FBI MEMPHIS

X

F B I

Date: 4/8/68

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

Via TELETYPE URGENT  
(Priority)

TO DIRECTOR AND MIAMI  
FROM MEMPHIS (44-1987)  
MURKIN, CR.

RE JACKSON TELETYPE TO BUREAU AND MEMPHIS APRIL FIVE,  
LAST, QUOTING BOB MC GOWAN BELIEVED TO BE AN INFORMANT OF  
THE MIAMI OFFICE.

BOTH WHITE MALE ATTENDANTS, AND OWNER AND MANAGER, AT  
ESSO SERVICE STATION, SOUTHEAST CORNER OF HIGHWAY SIXTY ONE  
SOUTH AND BROOKS ROAD INTERVIEWED.

ONE ATTENDANT, FREDERIC ALVIN DORRIS, DOB

AT MEMPHIS, STATED HE WAS ON DUTY WHEN A WHITE  
OVER GREEN CUTLASS OLDSMOBILE, SIXTY EIGHT, WAS GASSED AND  
WASHED AT THIS SERVICE STATION ON AFTERNOON OF TUESDAY,  
APRIL TWO, LAST. ADMITS HE MADE TELEPHONE CALL AT THAT TIME  
AND THAT HE WALKED ALONE TO NEARBY RESTAURANT AND BROUGHT  
BACK FOOD. STATES HE WAS TALKING TO GIRL FRIEND AND DENIES  
ANY KNOWLEDGE OF DYNAMITE, BURNING OF CHURCH, VICTIM KING,  
ANY WHITE MUSTANG AND ANY RED DODGE PICKUP TRUCK AND ANY  
PERSONS AS DESCRIBED BY MC GOWAN. BELONGS TO NO ORGANIZATION

- 1 - Jackson (AM) (Info)
  - ① - Memphis
- CFB:raj (2)

SEARCHED \_\_\_\_\_ INDEXED \_\_\_\_\_  
SERIALIZED \_\_\_\_\_ FILED \_\_\_\_\_  
APR 10 1968  
FBI - MEMPHIS  
44-1987-247

Approved: R Jensen  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent 9 37 M Per BJ  
Wash. DC. 9 44 P

F B I

Date:

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ME 44-1987

PAGE TWO

EXCEPT CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL WHICH HE ATTENDS REGULARLY.  
DORRIS IS NERVOUS AND SHAKY, SUFFERING FROM BIRTH DEFECT  
WHICH CAUSES INVOLUNTARY TREMORS.

OTHER ATTENDANT, PERRY SWEATMAN, DOB [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AT DUMAS, MISSISSIPPI, ARMY SERIAL NUMBER

[REDACTED], STATES HE WAS  
PRESENT ON AFTERNOON OF WEDNESDAY APRIL THREE, LAST,  
WHEN BLACK VINYL OVER GREEN CUTLASS OLDSMOBILE, SIXTY EIGHT,  
BEARING FLORIDA LICENSE, WAS GASSED AND WASHED. HE TALKED  
TO OWNER OF CUTLASS WHO WAS FINISHING A PINT BOTTLE  
OF WHISKEY. OWNER TOLD HIM THAT HE WAS ON HIS WAY  
BACK TO FLORIDA, THAT HE HAD BOUGHT A MUSTANG FOR HIS  
DAUGHTER AND HAD WRECKED IT ON THE WAY TO TENNESSEE. THIS  
ATTENDANT DESCRIBED OWNER OF THE CUTLASS AS WHITE MALE,  
AGE FIFTY FIVE, FIVE FEET FIVE INCHES, ONE HUNDRED NINETY  
FIVE POUNDS, WITH DARK HAIR, WEARING KHAKI TROUSERS, AND  
SHIRT, BLUE JACKET AND GOLF CAP. SWEATMAN DENIES ANY  
KNOWLEDGE OF THINGS CLAIMED BY MC GOWAN.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
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Via \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

**ME 44-1987**

**PAGE THREE**

**GIRL FRIEND OF DORRIS CORROBORATED RECEIVING TELEPHONE CALL WHICH CONCERNED SUNDAY SCHOOL MATTERS. OWNER OF SERVICE STATION DENIES KNOWLEDGE OF ANY SUCH CARS OR PERSONS MENTIONED BY INFORMANT, STATES DORRIS IS ONLY EMPLOYEE WHO HAS ANY PHYSICAL DISABILITIES SIMILAR TO PALSY.**

**MIAMI REQUESTED TO IMMEDIATELY FURNISH ESTIMATE OF RELIABILITY OF BOB MC GOWAN, THE INFORMANT.**

**AIRMAIL COPY MAILED JACKSON FOR INFORMATION.**

**PENDING.**

**END.**

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI CHICAGO

946PM URGENT 4/8/68 RSM  
TO DIRECTOR, ATLANTA AND MEMPHIS  
FROM CHICAGO (44-

MURKIN, OO: MEMPHIS.

ANONYMOUS FEMALE COMPLAINANT TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED  
CHICAGO OFFICE THIS P.M. WOULD NOT GIVE NAME. SHE  
SAW A SKETCH IN PAPER OF REPORTED KILLER OF MARTIN LUTHER  
KING AND WAS SHOCKED BY RESEMBLANCE OF HER EX-HUSBAND,  
JESSE WILLARD EDWARDS. COMPLAINANT STATED  
EDWARDS EXPERT MARKSMAN, OWNS THREE, THIRTY ZERO SIX,  
ONE, THIRTY THIRTY, ONE, THREE ZERO EIGHT AND ONE, TWENTY-TWO  
RIFLE AND HAD A PROFOUND HATE FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING AND  
JOHN F. KENNEDY. SHE SAID EDWARDS HATED EVERYTHING WHEN  
DRINKING TO EXCESS AND WOULD BEAT HER. SUCH TREATMENT  
CONTRIBUTED TO HER DIVORCE FOUR YEARS AGO FROM EDWARDS.  
SHE DESCRIBED EDWARDS AS WHITE MALE, FORTY -- EIGHT YEARS,  
BORN IN GEORGIA, FIVE FT. EIGHT OR FIVE FT. NINE INCHES,  
ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE LBS., HUSKY BUILD, RECEDING  
END PAGE ONE

*Atlanta  
leads*

44-1987-248

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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APR 8 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

*Hester*  
*Kearney*

PAGE TWO

GRAY-BROWN HAIR, FULL FACE WITH DEEP IMPRINTS IN BOTH CHEEKS, SIMILAR TO DIMPLES, WALKS WITH LIMP AS LEFT LEG IS SLIGHTLY SHORTER THAN RIGHT. ESXXX EDWARDS REPORTEDLY A STEEL WORKER AND FORMER MERCHANT MARINER, HAS BEEN ARRESTED BY COLUMBUS, GA. PD ON ASSAULT AND DRUNK CHARGES. LAST KNOWN TO DRIVE NINETEEN SIXTY-FOUR JEEP REGISTERED IN GEORGIA. COMPLAINANT LAST SAW EDWARDS APPROXIMATELY ONE YEAR AGO THOUGH HER SON IN CHICAGO, ILL. RECENTLY RECEIVED A VALENTINE CARD POST-MARKED SEATTLE AND AN EASTER CARD POST-MARKED HOUSTON, TEXAS.

CHICAGO INDICES NEGATIVE.

ATLANTA IDENTIFY EDWARDS THROUGH COLUMBUS PD,  
OBTAIN PHOTO AND FORWARD SAME TO MEMPHIS.

OBTAIN PRINTS AND FORWARD TO BUREAU.

ALSO IDENTIFY EX-WIFE AND SON FOR INTERVIEW AT CHICAGO.

END

DND

FBI MEMPHIS

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FBI MEMPHIS

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FBI ST. LOUIS

954PM URGENT 4-8-68 JLS

TO BUREAU AND MEMPHIS

FROM ST. LOUIS (44-775)

MURKIN

*INDEX*

GENE CANTARELL (PROTECT IDENTITY) SIKESTON, MO., PHONE GR ONE EIGHTEEN ZERO ONE TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED SL DIVISION THAT HE IS ACQUAINTED WITH CHARLEY ROBERTS WHO LIVES IN MEMPHIS TENN AND WORKS AT FIRESTONE TIRE CO. THERE. HE LAST SAW ROBERTS IN SIKESTON MO. TWO MONTHS PRIOR AT WHICH TIME ROBERTS SAID HE HAD RECENTLY PURCHASED A THIRTY ZERO SIX RIFLE TO KILL MARTIN LUTHER KING. ROBERTS LAST KNOWN TO BE DRIVING A WHITE MUSTANG, YEAR UNKNOWN. ACCORDING TO CANTARELL, ROBERTS HAS PRIOR ARREST RECORD WITH MEMPHIS PD FOR ASSAULT. HIS PRESENT WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN; DESCRIBED AS WM, AGE TWO THREE, MEDIUM HEIGHT AND BUILD, LIGHT BROWN HAIR, GREEN EYES, SILLY GRIN.

MEMPHIS CONSIDER AS SUSPECT AND OBTAIN IDENTIFYING DATA FOR ELIMINATION PURPOSES. P.

END

878HB END?

END

DND

FBI MEMPHIS

*Memphis lead*

44-1987-248A

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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APR 8 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

*Hester*  
*Pearny*



F B I

Date: 4-8-68

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

Via TELETYPE URGENT  
(Priority)

TO MOBILE

FROM MEMPHIS (44-1978) P

MURKIN. CR

RE MOBILE TELETYPE SEVEN TWENTYTHREE PM, APRIL EIGHT.

PREVIOUS INSTRUCTIONS FURNISHED YOUR OFFICE THAT MURKIN  
CAPTION SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR ANY INVESTIGATION OTHER THAN THAT  
DEALING WITH INVESTIGATION OF MURDER OF DR. KING. DATA RE VARIOUS  
RACIAL INCIDENTS AND OTHER MATTERS ARISING OUT OF ASSASSINATION  
SHOULD BE REPORTED UNDER APPROPRIATE RACIAL MATTERS CAPTION.

END

RGJ:BN

(1) *[Signature]*

SEARCHED \_\_\_\_\_  
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INDEXED \_\_\_\_\_  
FILED llh

44-1987-249

Approved: *Rafens* Sent 10<sup>18</sup> M Per *[Signature]*  
Special Agent in Charge