

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC MEMPHIS

DATE: 4/7/68

FROM : SA ROBERT T. MORAN

SUBJECT: MURKIN CASE

RE: RICHARD KIRBY RAGAN
JACKSON, TENN. PD #5616

There is attached hereto the following items regarding Ragan.

- 1 set of major case prints taken by Lt. R.W. Dailey (NA), Jackson PD. This includes the regulation fingerprint card.
- 2 Xerox copies of the regulation fingerprint card on Ragan.
- 1 Xerox copy of police dept. report on arrest of Ragan.
- 1 photo of Ragan.

The prints of Ragan should be compared with any of value developed in this case.

If deemed necessary, the photograph may be shown to witnesses.

Edwin Alderson (NA), Chief of Dets., Jackson, Tenn. PD advised on 4-7-68 that on 4-6-68 Negroes in Jackson ~~held~~ held an orderly ~~demonstration~~ march in the vicinity of the Madison County Courthouse. The only arrest made was of Ragan. Officers spotted him and determined he had a .22 pistol concealed on his person. A .22 rifle with telescopic sight was observed in his car and seized. He was turned over to the state on felony charge of CCW. Alderson stated Ragan is the "wild talker" type. He could not connect Ragan with the death of King but suggested him only as a suspect in view of the above mentioned arrest and possession of firearm. Ragan is being held under \$1,000 bond and is in the Madison Co. Jail.

Alderson advised that Ragan ~~drives~~ drives about a 1965 or 1966 dark blue Oldsmobile F-85 with a whip aerial type antennae and a confederate license plate on front. This ~~car~~ car has Tenn., plates, license # not known to Alderson.

Alderson ~~advised~~ advised that he would appreciate the FBI at Memphis, making him 2 Xerox copies of the attached major case prints for his file and stated we could keep the originals.

Note that the Memphis Div. has a ~~157~~ 157 or 170 file on Ragan.

RTM: rtm

(3)

1-Murkin Case
1-157 or 170-Ragan

*Prints sent to Bu
4/9 by airtel with
request to eliminate*

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED <i>lll</i>
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APR 9 1968	
FBI — MEMPHIS	

glt

44-1987-Sub-61



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/9/68

FROM : SA JOE C. HESTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN;
CR

Attached are a Missing Persons Case Report and a Supplementary Offense Report received from the Memphis Police Department.

On the evening of 4/8/68 Mr. ANDREW JAFFE, a reporter for "Newsweek," contacted this office and advised that he had picked up information regarding one RODNEY W. LINK who was reported missing on the evening of 4/4/68. JAFFE indicated that he suspects LINK may have been involved in this murder and he believes - no reason given - that LINK's alibi as given to the police is false.

LEAD

Will consider RODNEY W. LINK a possible suspect and attempt to eliminate him.

*Missing Persons
Case Report +
Supplemental
Offense Report
one in 1A envelope*

JCH:mjh
(2)

mjh

44-1987-Sub-62

SEARCHED <i>llh</i>	INDEXED <i>llh</i>
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Lead to Fitzpatrick



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

DEPARTMENTAL COMMUNICATION

ASD 94

TO: Captain Cochran, Homicide

1968 MAR 7 PM 1:20

SUBJECT: Information

FROM: Lt. Talley, GA.

C.I.D.

DATE: 4-7-68

Howard 1700 sailors

At 1:05PM, received a phone call from a Mr. O'Rourke, 386-4358, Works for the City of Memphis, City Hall, Room # 2 B., and he stated that he was giving some information that he thought we should have, and that he wanted it to be as confidential as possible. He stated that he heard from three friends after church that the person whom we were looking for was a possible a JOHN WILLARD GRIFFIN, MW, SHELBY, MISSISSIPPI, as he fitted the description that was given in the paper to a T, and he had been involved in that mess before he thought with James Meredith on the Mississippi March before. He stated that should you want to contact him later, he would be at the Service at Crump Statidum, and then he would return home.

I told him someone would contact him about this information.

*His source is
Mike Sacco
Millington Quality Parts
51 No*

*527-6611
Ex 328- Blue Print*

*Call Mr. O'Rourke,
identify Griffin and
set out lead to Jackson*

44-1987-Sub-63

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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FBI - MEMPHIS	

Kearney

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

FROM : SA JOHN E. ROGERS

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

DATE: 4/7/68

On 4/7/68 CALVIN STOCKARD, 611 Youngs Lane, Nashville, Tennessee, telephone 227-2492, employed as bell captain Ramada Inn, James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, Tennessee, telephonically contacted the Nashville RA and advised as follows:

At approximately 1:00 p.m., on the day MARTIN LUTHER KING was killed, 4/4/68, he took three or four pieces of luggage out to the car of an individual who was checking out of the Ramada Inn. This individual carried a rifle and upon asking the what type of rifle the individual told him it was a .30-06 gauge rifle. He recalled only that the individual drove a light or white automobile believed four door. He believes license plate was white with red lettering and possibly from Indiana. He recalls the individual told him he was a gun salesman and told him he would be returning to Nashville in about a month. He recalls the individual asked him the directions to Memphis, Tennessee, and he told the person how to get to I-40. He recalls this person was alone.

He described this individual as being a white male; 30 to 35 years; 6'; 200 pounds; short blond hair (not crewcut); with a midwestern accent. He believes the individual was wearing a suit and a brown turtle neck sweater. He recalls that the .30-06 rifle did not have a scope and had the bolt open. He cannot describe the individual, car, luggage or rifle further. He recalls the gun was in plain sight and not covered.

He recalled the individual stayed in a room on the motel mezzanine south wing, west side, believed to be Room 253. He knows that the individual was checked into the motel on 4/3/68 at about 5:00 p.m., by bellboy THYRONE KELLY.

JER:raj
(2)

raj

*Reassign
get*

44-1987-Sub 64
SEARCHED..... INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED *lee* FILED *h*
APR 9 1968
FBI - MEMPHIS
[Signatures]



5010-106

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

LR 44-1987

On 4/7/68 RAY LOVELACE, Manager, Ramada Inn, advised the south wing of the mezzanine would include Room 253. He produced motel registration card for Room 253 which showed the following:

Registration number	32137
Room	253
Occupant	<u>JOSEPH A. FARRAR</u>
Address	1476 Staunton Drive, South Haven, Mississippi
Registered on	4/3/68
Checked out	8:24 a.m., 4/4/68
Car	1965 Chevrolet
License	Tennessee FJO 118
Employment	Westinghouse, 845 or 8115 North Main, Memphis, Tennessee

FARRAR registered alone.

THYRONE KELLY, student, Tennessee A & I, residing 3909 Alameda, Apartment 14, Nashville, advised he checked in an unknown white male carrying a rifle into the motel on the evening of 4/3/68. He could not recall the room or car, but stated the individual was a white male; approximately 30 years old; 6'1"; 190 pounds, reddish hair, medium length. He advised that the man told him he was with Westinghouse and was at the motel in connection with a meeting being held therein and that the rifle was part of his demonstration.

JOSEPH SMITH, 1813 Elliott Avenue, Nashville, employed as a waiter, Ramada Inn, advised he recalled going to the Room 253 to deliver a sandwich and coke on the night of 4/3/68 and observing therein a rifle and what appeared to be a tape recorder. He stated he did not recall seeing any other items in the room and does not recall the individual therein other than the fact he appeared to be a white male.

MEMPHIS

Attempt to locate and interview JOSEPH A. FARRAR, 1476 Staunton Drive, South Haven, Mississippi, and interview regarding instant matter.

SAC (62-0)

4/9/68

SA FRANKLIN L. JOHNSON

UNSUBS (2)
INFORMATION CONCERNING
MRS. RUBY W. GUESS - COMPLAINANT

On 4/9/68 Mrs. RUBY W. GUESS, 2754 Sharendale, Memphis, Tennessee, telephone 363-2957, telephonically advised as follows:

Several days prior to the murder of Dr. KING and possibly on Monday, 4/1/68, she was in Katz Drug Store, Airways and Lamar, and observed two Negro males who in her opinion were acting suspiciously. She observed them to go to the postal window in the drug store and to remain there for several minutes under circumstances which led her to believe they were about to rob the postal clerk. After they left, she went up to the postal clerk, telling the clerk she was afraid the two Negro males were about to rob her, and the clerk stated that the two persons did act very suspiciously to her.

The postal clerk told Mrs. GUESS that the taller of the two Negro males purchased a \$100 money order, giving her a \$100 bill plus change to pay for the money order. Immediately after this person purchased the \$100 money order, he asked the postal clerk to cash the money order, but when the clerk attempted to give him his \$100 bill back, he did not accept his \$100 bill and insisted on smaller bills.

Mrs. GUESS stated that she attempted to get the postal clerk to report this incident but the postal clerk would not do so. She stated that after Dr. KING was killed, she recalled this incident and thought it might have something to do with the murder of Dr. KING, adding that she read in the newspaper that the suspect was a tall white man, and she noticed that the taller of

1-6200
1-66-1687-Sub - Dissemination File
1-44-1987 (MURKIN)(INFORMATION ONLY)
FLJ:wp
(3)

44-1987-Sub 65

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED... <i>all</i>
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Hester *gcl*

ME 62-0

these two Negro males had extremely light skin and might be mistaken for a white man. She furnished no other basis for believing that these two persons had anything to do with the KING killing.

Mrs. GUESS described the two Negro males as follows:

No. 1: (the taller one)

Race	Negro
Sex	Male
Age	32 to 35
Height	6'3" to 6'4"
Weight	175
Build	Slender
Hair	Black
Complexion	Very light, almost white
Dress	Dressed in attractive jacket having orange front and dark otherwise, dark slacks, neat in appearance

No. 2: (the shorter, darker one)

Race	Negro
Sex	Male
Age	30 to 35
Height	5'7" to 5'8"
Weight	155 to 160
Build	Medium
Dress	Not recalled.

In view of the possibility that these individuals might have disposed of a counterfeit \$100 bill, Mr. MAURICE HELLER, U. S. Secret Service, was furnished the above information.

Since there appears to be no relationship whatever between this information and the KING case, it is suggested that no further action be taken but a copy of this memo is being routed to that file for information only.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

FROM : SA JACK D. VAHRENWALD

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

DATE: 4/9/68

Re memo of SA EUGENE G. DOUGLASS dated 4/6/68.

The position of where Mrs. FOXALL was parked on 4/4/68 (first legal parking place on West side of Main Street, North of Fred P. Gattas Distributors, 387 South Main) was observed by SA JACK D. VAHRENWALD on 4/9/68. From her location she could have seen signs indicating rooms available, on, over or near the doors for 382½, 386½ and 390½, all South Main. The most logical of these would have been 382½ South Main as this door was nearest to where she was parked and the others are at such a distance that it would be difficult to read any sign indicating rooms for rent.

In the next block there are two doors with signs indicating rooms at 420 South Main and 422½ South Main. It is extremely doubtful that Mrs. FOXALL could have seen these signs as they are over 150 yards from the place she was parked.

Mrs. FOXALL could have been referring to any of the three addresses in the 300 block of South Main because the saddle shop she indicated she was going to (Saddlery) is located at 396 South Main and she probably walked past each of the three rooming houses on the side of the 300 block of South Main.

Lois FOXALL

JDV:raj
(2)

raj

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gls



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/9/68

FROM : SA MAHLON I. PRICE

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Miss Betty Willis, 2509 Ketcham, Apartment 5, phone 743-2005, phoned this date and stated she previously furnished information concerning TOM DAVIS of New Albany, Miss. She furnished information on him as a possible suspect in captioned matter.

She further related that her purpose in calling this time was to advise that she received a phone call from TOM DAVIS yesterday. He told her that he had been interviewed by FBI Agents, that she might be interviewed and that she should tell the Agents that TOM DAVIS was with her from 8:00 PM to 1:30 AM 4/3-4/68.

In answer to the question she stated he was actually with her for that period of time, and he was merely prompting her to tell the Agents what was a fact. In addition she stated he was not aware that she had informed on him.

For information.

MJP/rd

*44-1987-231, P2
reflects his prints
were checked and he
has been eliminated.*

44-1987-Sub-67

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JLS

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, Memphis (44-1987)

DATE: 4/9/68

FROM : ASAC C. O. HALTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Supervisor DICK LONG telephonically communicated with me at approximately 5:45 PM, 4/9/68, at which time he made the following requests:

- (1) Obtain soil samples from the area in which the gun and bag were dropped. This needed in connection with soil or dirt on bedspread.
- (2) Submit separate teletype dealing with descriptive data and background data on RALPH MEREDITH CARPENTER, the employee at York Arms who handled the sale of the binoculars. This needed in connection with searching name through Bureau files.

COH:ME
(2)

me

*Leads -
tell them in
summary tonight
no soil in area
recovered on*

*Sample obtained 4-11-68
& sent to Lab. RFL*

44-1987-Sub-68

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Tiewer RFL



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, Memphis (44-1987)

DATE: 4/7/68

FROM : SA DON C. BIRDWELL

SUBJECT: UNSUB; aka. John Willard;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS

OO: ME

At approximately 11PM, 4/5/68 writer was advised by Van M. Sledd, 67 W. Bel-^{aire} Drive, Clarksville, Tenn. that he had just observed the sketch of the murderer of Mr. King on Channel 5 TV from Nashville and noticed the sketch was very similiar in appearance to EDWARD JEROME TONIS, who escaped from Tenn. State Prison, Nashville on 7/7/66 and is believed to still be a fugitive.

Mr. SLEDD advised he is employed as a guard at the prison and that TONIS escaped from him personally. He recalled Tonis has Tenn. State Prison no. 58185.

Above information was supplied SA DARRELL HAMER, Nashville on AM, 4/6/68 with the request that Tonis' photograph be secured from the State prison and forwarded to ME for display to witnesses.

2 - ME

DCB

*Leak
no get his
prison #
or FBI #
& submit
to Bureau
for search
of photos
in the
case*

44-1987-Sub-68A

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Hamer

Hamer

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC(44-1987)

FROM : SA MAHLON J. PRICE

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4/9/68

Mr. C.E. Harris, 3111 Linden Drive, Memphis, phone 363-3489, called the Memphis Office. He advised as follows;

He works at the Velsacol Chemical Co, and one of his co-employees is a (FNU) BREWER. BREWER is 30-35 years old and originally came from Jackson, Tennessee. Brewer told him ~~XXXXXXXX~~ that his wife is the Manager of the motel where the killer stayed.

Brewer has been drinking of late, and missed much work. In addition he felt Brewer ~~XXXXXXXX~~ fitted the description of the killer.

For information.

MJP/rd

*Nothing
True*

44-1987-Sub-68B

lll lll

R

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC(44-1987)

DATE: 4/9/68

FROM : SA MAHLON J. PRICE

SUBJECT: MURDKIN

Sergeant Bill Prince, of the US Army stationed at the Defense Depot, and who resides with his wife at 1113 Haledale, Whitehaven phoned this date and advised as follows;

On 4/4/68 he reported to the MEPD that around 6:18 PM he was driving on Riverside Drive. As he approached Beale Street entrance to the drive he noticed a white car, possibly a Chevrolet or Pontiac Sedan, 1963 vintage, turn onto the drive at a high rate of speed. It was followed by a Police car, with the blue flasher on, which appeared to be following it. However, the white car was going too fast and as far as he saw the police car never caught up with it. He could remember nothing more about the car.

This PM he and his wife were watching the Walter Kronkite Show on TV. An artist's conception sketch was shown of the murder. His wife said from the way it looked to her, it could have been the killer.


If anyone wants to interview his wife she is at home after 4:00 PM.

For information.

MJP/rd

*No action
J*

Memphis lead

44-1987-Sub-680 
see see

Hester H J



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

SAC (26-NEW)

4/10/68

SA JOSEPH M. BREWI

UNSUB; 1968 Chevrolet,
1968 Tennessee License Tags JU 5572
ITSMV

(OO: Richmond)

Re Richmond telephone call 4/10/68.

SA JAMES MC ANDREW, Richmond Division, called and advised captioned car, which is 4-door and dark green in color, has been recovered abandoned and in running condition by the Henrico County, Va., Police Department. Car has keys in it and has been abandoned since 4/7/68. Police Department advised MC ANDREW the car had body No. BW02689; they did not get VIN. MC ANDREW also advised the Tennessee tag has Hamilton on it and the car has a Chattanooga, Tenn., City Sticker No. 8220.

MC ANDREW suggested car may be connected with MURKIN case.

MC ANDREW was advised that there was no stolen report at THP, Memphis, on JU 5572, after THP Dispatcher L. C. BAKER was contacted; but that DMV, Nashville, could not be contacted until office hours on 4/10/68.

He was also advised that when the car is processed, if any latents are found, Richmond could have them compared with MURKIN case latents.

LEAD:

MEMPHIS

AT NASHVILLE, TENN.

Check DMV records.

2 - 26-NEW
2 - 44-1987 (MURKIN)
JMB:guh
(4) *gmb*

*calls notified
4/10/68
[signature]*

44-1987-Sub-69

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[signature]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987) (P)

DATE: 4/10/68

FROM : SA JOSEPH M. BREWI

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

OO MEMPHIS

SA BILL MARTINDALE telephonically advised at approximately 6:30 a.m., 4/10/68 that in connection with the registration card from the Rebel Motel previously sent to the Bureau it will be necessary to obtain elimination fingerprints from all Rebel Motel employees who handled it.

He further advised that he noted when the motel room was dusted for latent fingerprints 25 latents were developed. He added in view of this it will be necessary to obtain elimination fingerprints from all motel employees who conceivably could have left fingerprints in this room, including such employees as maids, etc. He further advised that it will also be necessary to determine the identity of former guests in this room who occupied it since it was last thoroughly cleaned and to contact these former guests and obtain elimination fingerprints from them.

JMB/ngm

②

ngm

*Lead
re latents
at motel*

44-1987-Sub-69A

APR 10 1968
FBI - MEMPHIS
Hester



5010-108

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

Brewer

ME 44-1987

FLJ:wp

1

On April 5, 1968, Mrs. HELEN WYNNE, who operates a rooming house at 390 $\frac{1}{2}$ South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee, which address she stated is known to some people as the Wynne Hotel, furnished the following information to Lieutenant J. D. HAMBY, Homicide Bureau, Memphis Police Department, and SA FRANKLIN L. JOHNSON:

Since she merely operates a rooming house, she does not maintain any records of her guests. However, she is personally acquainted with GENE CRAWFORD, who has stayed at her rooming house perhaps four or five times in the past and whose father was formerly a permanent guest at her rooming house. As best she can recall, GENE CRAWFORD first appeared at her rooming house around 2:00 p.m., April 4, 1968. At the time he checked in, she cannot recall his having any luggage except a small brief case or attache case. She is certain that he had no large luggage or large package of any kind. She cannot recall seeing a radio or a cardboard box which he may have had with him. She is under the impression that he spent most of the afternoon in his room. She does not know when he went out to eat. She does distinctly recall, however, that sometime during the afternoon CRAWFORD told her that he was very tired and sleepy, that he had some telephone calls to make around 6:00 p.m., and requested her to wake him about 5:50 p.m. She would estimate that it was perhaps 3:30 p.m. when he made this request of her.

~~In accordance with~~

In accordance with his request, he was awakened about 5:50 p.m. and he went out. She does not know where he went or what time he returned.

Sometime after she learned that Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING had been shot, she recalls that CRAWFORD was in his room and had opened the door and was talking with some of the other roomers about what had occurred. She stated that she considered this unusual since ordinarily he has very little to say to anyone but usually keeps to his room.

Mrs. WYNNE pointed out that she does not have a pay telephone at her rooming house. She stated that if CRAWFORD had asked her for the use of her telephone in her own apartment, she would have let him use it but he did not ask to use her telephone, although he had specifically mentioned that the reason he wanted

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ME 44-1987

FLJ:wp

2

to get up was in order to make some telephone calls.

She stated that she is certain that he remained in his room on the night of April 4, 1968, after the time she recalls his talking with some other roomers during a radio broadcast concerning the shooting of Dr. KING. She stated that he left on the morning of April 5, 1968.

Mrs. WYNNE stated that she was very fond of CRAWFORD's father, who is now deceased, and as a result of her fondness for his father, she has also felt very kindly toward GENE CRAWFORD. She stated that he never drinks, smokes or curses, or causes any problem, but is always neat, clean, and very much of a gentleman. She stated that she knows little or nothing concerning his family life, employment or activities, and CRAWFORD made no comment of any kind to her to indicate why he was in Memphis or where he was going when he checked into her rooming house.

Mrs. WYNNE stated that she has absolutely no reason to suspect that WYNNE is involved in any kind of trouble or that he had anything to do with the shooting of Dr. KING or that he was in a position to have any knowledge concerning the shooting of Dr. KING. She only knows that he was awakened around 5:50 p.m., following which he left the rooming house, ostensibly to make some telephone calls.

Mrs. WYNNE advised that she could furnish no other information which might be of assistance in connection with the shooting of Dr. KING. She stated that she did not hear any shots around 6:00 p.m. on April 4, 1968, and she knew nothing about any shooting until after she had heard the police sirens and heard news broadcasts on television concerning the shooting. She stated that there were no suspicious guests in her rooming house and she has not seen or heard anything which she thinks would be of assistance.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/10/68

FROM : SA FRANKLIN L. JOHNSON

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

RE: GENE PEARSON CRAWFORD
32-B WESTWOOD GARDENS
JACKSON, TENNESSEE

Submitted herewith are the following:

(1) An insert reflecting that CRAWFORD was stopped as a general suspect by the police on the morning of 4/5/68;

(2) FD-302 showing interview with CRAWFORD.

In substance, according to Lt. J. D. HAMBY, Homicide Bureau, Memphis Police Department, some of the employees in Jim's Restaurant, located just north of Canipe's Amusement Company, 424 South Main, pointed out CRAWFORD as a stranger who was eating sausage, eggs, and iced lemonade in that restaurant sometime prior to the shooting on 4/4/68 and uniformed officers at the scene referred CRAWFORD to Lt. HAMBY for interview. Lt. HAMBY stated that CRAWFORD had been stopped on the street by uniformed officers, at which time he was carrying an attache type case and a cardboard box containing a new portable radio.

As will be noted from the FD-302 of CRAWFORD, his presence near the scene around the time of the shooting, coupled with an obvious emotional instability and the contents of a diary in his possession, in which diary he made reference to being a fugitive and made reference to murder, indicated the desirability of his being questioned as a general suspect. After a brief interview at the scene, Lt. HAMBY had him taken to ~~the~~ headquarters for further interview, and he was released, the Police Department feeling that he did not meet the description available concerning the Unsub, and his

① 44-1987

2-to accompany FD-302 stencil (TO BE DESTROYED)

FLJ:wp

(4)

wp

44-1987-Sub B-69C

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llh

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5010-108

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

ME 44-1987

presence in a rooming house other than the one from which the shots were made, having been established.

ACTION:

As of the present time, it is not recommended that any further action be taken with respect to CRAWFORD with the exception of the fact that his name and Navy Serial No. will be furnished to case agent in order to have CRAWFORD's prints compared with those available in this case as one more step in eliminating him as a suspect. In sending in names and identifying data concerning general suspects, his name should be included. it being noted that he is a white male, born [redacted] at Jackson, Tennessee, who stated that he served twice in the Navy under Navy Serial No. [redacted] and was convicted USDC, Memphis, for grand larceny and embezzlement (arising out of charges while he was in military service) in 1952, sentenced to 7 years, served in USP, Terre Haute.

Memphis, Tennessee
April 11, 1968

MEMORANDUM TO ALL RESIDENT AGENTS:

RE: MURKIN
CIVIL RIGHTS

Among articles recovered at scene of shooting, apparently abandoned by Unsub, were a pair of undershorts and jockey T-shirt bearing cloth laundry tags. These tags were made by a thermo seal marking machine manufactured by the Textile Marking Machine Company, Syracuse, New York. Tags are 1/4" wide and 1-1/16" long, red in color, and bear marking which appears to be "02B-6" or "D2B-6." Only a portion of the first character is present on each tag, and this character is cut on a slight bias. No other visible laundry marks found on either garment.

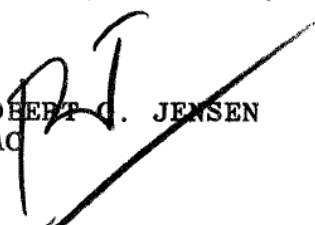
Bureau has directed all offices to immediately telephonically contact all laundries in each field division to identify laundry using this code and tags.

LEADS

(1) Will expedite telephonic contact with all laundries in your territory and determine if use thermo seal marking machine and above code.

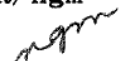
(2) If thermo seal marking machine used, will obtain sample of tape with above code reflected on it.

ROBERT C. JENSEN
SAC



44-1987-Sub-70

ME 44-1987
GMR/ngm



SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED llh
INDEXED _____
FILED llh

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : FILE (44-1987)

DATE: 4/11/68

FROM : SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN

SUBJECT: MURKIN

MORRIS CLARK, FBI Laboratory, called this date and advised that in connection with an inquiry regarding the blue zipper bag the Laboratory had learned the following:

A manager of a store in Washington, D. C., identified this blue zipper bag as "Tel-Star" type baggage which is manufactured in Japan. This is a 20" bag which sells in the \$5.95 to \$6.95 price range in Washington, D. C. This is a discontinued line in Washington, D. C. in the store of the man who identified it. He advised the Laboratory that the importer or jobber for this type bag is the United Products Corporation, 2500 Genessee, Kansas City, Missouri, 64141.

The manufacturer's representative who is located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is JOSEPH PECHTER, 821 Wellens Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19141, Tel. #GL5-4016.

In connection with the transistor radio which appears in the photograph, WILLIAM GRIFFITH of the Laboratory advised that the transistor is of Japanese origin, appears to be relatively common, but of possible interest in making identification of owner he stated there were five numbers "00416" scratched into the case. According to GRIFFITH there appeared to have been efforts made to remove these numbers. GRIFFITH would not venture a guess as to the significance of these numbers other than to say they appeared to have been placed thereon subsequent to manufacture.

These numbers were also discussed with CLARK, who said he knew they were there but he did not have any additional details but did advise that the wording "Hong Kong" appeared on the radio transistor.

I requested that CLARK furnish this office a confirming teletype and a Laboratory report as quickly as possible.

RGJ:BN
(1)

Teletype sent to Bureau, KC Phila, hA 4/11



5010-108

44-1987-Sub-71

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>llh</i>	FILED <i>llh</i>
APR 11 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

FROM : SA MELVIN E. DE GRAW

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4/11/68

INDEX GARRISON

At 1:44 p.m., this date Lt. S. T. MC CACHREN, Homicide Division, Memphis Police Department, telephonically furnished the following information:

At around 1:30 p.m., this date, WILLIAM H. GURVICH called Lt. MC CACHREN from New Orleans, La., stating he has been a private investigator in New Orleans for 22 years. GURVICH has been assisting JIM GARRISON in the investigation of the Kennedy assassination. GURVICH furnished his business address as 610 Pologdras, Office 308, Phone No. 887-4258, residence Phone No. 525-7111.

An individual by the name of CEDRIC VON ROLLESTON, FBI No. 844 183, New Orleans PD No. 54099, described as a white male, height 5'9" to 5'10," weight 200 pounds, born [redacted] has been known to GURVICH as being previously associated with LEE HARVEY OSWALD. VON ROLLESTON has a history of mental disturbances and was recently interviewed and photographed in GURVICH's office in New Orleans.

GURVICH advised MC CACHREN that VON ROLLESTON has been in Memphis, Tennessee, for 7 to 10 days now. In view of the assassination of Dr. KING, GURVICH thought it would be appropriate to furnish this information to the Memphis Police Department.

After receiving this information from GURVICH, Lt. MC CACHREN in turn thought it would be appropriate to relate this matter to the Memphis FBI office.

A review of Memphis indices reflects numerous references on CEDRIC YOUNGER VON ROLLESTON, ME 44-1514, entitled, "CEDRIC YOUNGER VON ROLLESTON, aka Arthur Bean Swift - VICTIM; ONEDA PRESLEY VON ROLLESTON - VICTIM, CR," Bufile 44-23969.

MED:gmh

(2) gmh

Job

*Sae RN
Info //*

44-1987-Sub-12

SEARCHED	llh
SERIALIZED	llh
APR 11 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

gjh



5010-108

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

ME 44-1987

In this case the Bureau indicated by airtel dated 4/19/65 that VON ROLLESTON served four years in Federal custody from 1939-43 following conviction on an Extortion violation as a result of a letter he had written to Father FLANAGAN of Boys Town, Omaha, Neb.

Indices also indicate under Memphis file 73-158 that VON ROLLESTON was the subject of an Application for Pardon after Completion of Sentence (APACS) investigation with a report being written at Savannah, 3/17/53. This report described VON ROLLESTON as follows:

Sex:	Male
Race:	White
Born:	<input type="text"/> Leeds, England
Height:	5'8"
Weight:	185 lbs.
Hair:	Brown
Eyes:	Blue
Education:	9th grade
Occupation:	Artist
Residence (2/4/53):	New Vidalia Hotel, Vidalia, Georgia.

Lt. MC CACHREN also advised after relating the above information that the Memphis Police Department has been expecting some type of information to come from JIM GARRISON's office in New Orleans, regarding the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., and in the event other information of this type is received from New Orleans, the Memphis FBI Office will be advised.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/11/68

FROM : SA JOSEPH H. KEARNEY, JR.

SUBJECT: MURKIN

The following is submitted to reflect numerous telephone calls to the Memphis Office on 4/8/68 which were received by the writer. These calls require no further action.

Mrs. THELMA GATLIN, 47 Avon Road, Memphis, Tenn., advised that it was her opinion that the murderer of Dr. KING left Memphis in a private airplane. She stated that this was a theory based on the fact that he could not have gotten away in a car or other normal method of transportation. She stated that she furnished the same information to law enforcement agencies when President KENNEDY was killed and that evidently they did nothing about her theory.

C. A. WYATT, 2315 Byrn Road, Memphis, Tenn., advised that he wanted to point out that according to newspaper publicity the man who is believed to have shot Dr. KING had a "silly grin" on his face when he rented the room at 422½ South Main Street. He stated that this indicated to him that this grin was merely for the purpose of disguise, and indicated that the subject had been in the rooming house previously.

CHARLES WILLIAMS, 586 Pontotoc, Memphis, Tennessee, advised that he had received information from other Negroes in the South Main Street area that there have been two Negro firemen assigned to the fire station on South Main. He stated that on Wednesday night, April 3, and Thursday morning, April 4, these two Negro firemen had unexpectedly been re-assigned to fire stations in other areas of the city. He stated that these were the only Negro employees at the fire station, and it indicated to him that the white firemen at the station probably know more about the shooting than they have indicated and were interested in getting the Negro firemen away from the station.

JHK:jap

(2)

jap

44-1987-Sub-73

APR 11 1968

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

ME 44-1987

Mrs. R. H. LUEBS, 610 North Oak Grove, Memphis, advised that it was her theory that RALPH ABERNATHY contracted with someone to have Dr. KING killed. She stated that she thought the killer was hired by ABERNATHY. She stated that she was also worried about the safety of Mayor LOEB and FBI Agents.

On April 8 and again on April 10, 1968, EWART G. BACON, 2482 South Bellevue, Memphis, Tenn., and 4262 Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, Ill., came to the office to furnish information regarding ERNEST HEATH, operator of the A & A Interiors, 2400 block of South Bellevue, as a suspect. Mr. BACON pointed out that he wanted to be considered for any possible reward. His only basis for suspicioning HEATH was that HEATH's business is normally open every day but was closed for several hours on Wednesday and was closed all day Thursday, April 4. BACON stated that on Friday he talked with HEATH but that HEATH was very uninformative as to his whereabouts the previous day but made a statement regarding the death of KING that "I am even accused of getting him." He stated further that several months ago HEATH made a trip to New England to buy antiques and also bought some old rifles. BACON noted that these guns are no longer in HEATH's shop and HEATH claims to have sold them.

BACON described HEATH as a white male, 34 years of age, 5'10", 165 pounds, hair thin on top, medium build, fair complexion, gray eyes.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, Memphis (44-1987)

DATE: 4/11/68

FROM : ASAC C. O. HALTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

BOB GILBERT, who is with the Associated Press, Nashville, Tenn., but was in Memphis on special assignment, 4/9/68, furnished the following information while in the Memphis Office, 4/9/68:

GILBERT has received information from a confidential source, the identity of which he would not disclose, that JEFF BOGAN, a former Marine Captain and an Alabama native, is supposed to have been in Memphis about two years. He is supposed to be employed as a salesman of stock on a commission basis. He has the reputation of being an expert rifleman and recently purchased a white Mustang. He may have some segregationist tendencies. Reportedly, BOGAN may have engaged in conversations in which threats were made by BOGAN against KING.

GILBERT has located a JEFF M. BOGGAN listed in the Memphis Telephone Directory as residing at 1378 Jefferson Avenue. The Memphis City Directory lists JEFF BROGGAN as a clerk for E. F. HUTTON & Co. This BROGGAN also is supposed to reside at 1378 Jefferson, Apt. 12. *278, 4572*

BOB GILBERT did not have any basis for furnishing the above information other than he is supposed to have obtained it through a newspaper source, the identity of whom he would not disclose. GILBERT does not have any further information in his possession regarding this man.

- L E A D S -

In connection with the project on running down general leads, some inquiry should be made regarding the alleged JEFF BOGAN.

COH:ME
(2)

ME

*Contact on negative info
5/18/68*
*Research
12/17/68
Fitzpatrick
rec'd 5/18/68*

44-1987-Sub-74

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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MAY 11 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Lead to McLaughlin



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Inspector J. A. SULLIVAN

DATE: 4/11/68

FROM : ASAC C. O. HALTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

The afternoon of April 11, 1968, Mr. L. LEIBSTER, who operates a drive-in grocery at 1587 South Parkway East, Memphis, Tenn., telephonically furnished the following information:

Two or three days ago, Mrs. QUEENIE GRIFFIN, 1980 Quinn, Memphis, Tenn., Telephone 274-4292, stated she observed Tenn. License AP 9623 on an automobile which appeared to be some model Pontiac under unusual conditions on the date KING was shot. She supposedly reported it to the FBI or the police but she wanted Mr. LEIBSTER also to report the matter.

I asked Mr. LEIBSTER if he had any further information as to why Mrs. GRIFFIN considered this license number important to the investigation. He stated he did not have any further information and preferred that the FBI contact Mrs. GRIFFIN. He wanted to know if he should inform Mrs. GRIFFIN that he had telephoned the FBI. I told him this is a decision he would have to make.

COH:ME
(2)

me

44-1987-Sub-75

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED <i>lll</i>
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gsk



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : FILE (44-1987)

DATE: 4/11/68

FROM : SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On this date, JOHN SPENCE, Civil Rights Commission, Memphis, contacted me and advised he had received some information from ELBERT HAYNES, an elderly Negro male who is affiliated with MAP South. HAYNES has Telephone #526-8596, and can be located at MAP South Headquarters on South 4th Street. Reportedly HAYNES has information regarding the KING murder. SPENCE said HAYNES had furnished the information to two other so-called private investigators, HARRIS and KEITH, who supposedly had some association with Reverend LAWSON.

In view of the fact that people affiliated with Reverend LAWSON have interviewed HAYNES, there is a good possibility this information will reach the press and other sources. It is therefore incumbent on us to have HAYNES interviewed as quickly as possible to avoid information, if pertinent, being furnished to other sources.

RGJ:BN
(2)

138 3

Joseph Sullivan

44-1987-Sub-76

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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APR 11 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester *gfs*



5010-108

Lead To Bauer *JWB*

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/11/68

FROM : SA FRANCIS W. NORWOOD

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

Re: Telephone call from SA Thomas O. Ronan this date.

Mrs. Porter Baker, Registration Section, Motor Vehicle Div., Tennessee Department of Finance, advised that there is no record of a license No. GS-2032 being issued. She stated that all G series are reserved from general issue and for Government Service vehicles. She stated that numbers in the GH area are the only ones issued to date.

FWN:

44-1987-Sub-77

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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Ronan



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (62-0)

DATE: 4/11/68

FROM : SA JOE W. PHILLIPS

SUBJECT: MARTHA TERRY
INFORMATION CONCERNING

MARTHA TERRY, Anchorage Apartments, Building 7830, Apt. 12, Millington, Tenn., personally appeared at the Memphis Office this date and was interviewed by me.

Mrs. TERRY advised she at one time had a small book which was in code and which was concerned with a national plot involving murders. She said it foretold murders as long as 30 years ago and in the recent past she has been able to break the code in the book to the extent that she has realized the book foretelling the 8 murders in Chicago by SPECK, a murder in the east about two years ago of a school-teacher named GALL and of the recent murder in Memphis of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

Mrs. TERRY advised she exhibited that book to the prosecutor at Ft. Wayne, Ind., and to the FBI in Ft. Wayne. She said they made copies of the book, but she has heard nothing further from them concerning it. She said those who know about the book are continually after her to kill her and obtain the book, and after she showed it to the prosecutor and FBI at Ft. Wayne, she destroyed it except for a few bits of pages which she kept.

Mrs. TERRY exhibited to me seven bits of paper which she said were from that book and which referred to the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. It was noted those seven bits of paper had been taken from the standard King James version of the Bible. One bit of paper was from the 27th chapter of Ezekiel and in verse 14 there appeared the word "mules." Mrs. TERRY said that referred to the mules which carried the casket of Dr. KING at his funeral. Six of the other bits of paper were taken from the book of First Samuel in the Bible and in places referred to King David. Mrs. TERRY said the word "king" referred to Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

It would appear that Mrs. TERRY suffers from an extreme persecution complex, as she continually talked about

44-1987-Sub-78

JWP:LF
(1)

Hester

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

ME 62-0

persons after her to kill her.

No further action is being taken. This memo is prepared in the event Mrs. TERRY again contacts this office.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS

FROM : SA JOHN E. RODGERS

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

DATE: 4/11/68

On 4/11/68, DON SWITZER, student, Vanderbilt Law School, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, advised he attended high school in Crossett, Arkansas with a JOHN WILLARD. He stated WILLARD lived on either Oak or Elm Street in Crossett, Arkansas. He stated he has neither heard from nor seen this individual for the past five years.

He stated WILLARD five years ago was approximately 6'1", 170 lbs., had sandy hair, and was rather thin.

SWITZER stated that on hearing the news that the Memphis PD was interested in an Arkansas car he suddenly remembered his high school acquaintance JOHN WILLARD from the State of Arkansas, and thought there might possibly be a connection.

JER/vtp
(2)

vtp

Willard

Jab

44-1987-Sub-79

SEARCHED	<i>lee</i>
ST. No. <i>all</i>	<i>n</i>
APR 11 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	
<i>Boyle JB</i>	



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

DATE: 4/11/68

FROM : SA Joseph M. Brewi

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

Lt. Glynn King, Memphis PD, called and advised Ass't COP Bill Price had a man call, no name given, and say that the picture of the unsub. looked like one Jerry Buchannon who was employed as a cook at a duck camp in Wynne, Ark. a out two years ago. King added that the caller also advised that Buchannon may have left yhe camp for St. Petersburg, Fla., and that he may have been hired by the duck camp through Guy Glass of the Delta Refining Co., Memphis, Tenn.

King advised that he was checking into this matter further.

Lead Memphis at Memphis, Tenn.

Contact Lt. King for further details.

*No action on
this picture
JMB*

JMB/jmb

44-1987-Sub-80

llh	llh
llh	llh
APR 11 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

JMB

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

DATE:

FROM : SA JOSEPH M. BREWI

SUBJECT: MURKIN; CR

RE MEMPHIS TELETYPE TO ATLANTA, BALTIMORE, BIRMINGHAM, CHICAGO, CLEVELAND, JACKSON, LOUISVILLE, MOBILE, NEW ORLEANS, KNOXVILLE, SAVANNAH, AND ST. LOUIS, 10:30 pm, 4/10/68.

All offices above were contacted and requested to correct Eric S Halt in first line to Eric Starvo Galt.

Knoxville was requested to cover lead set out for Mobile at Vacation Lodge Motel, Pigeon Forge, Tenn. (page 4)

Atlanta was requested to change the name Earl Galt in their lead on page 3 to Eric Starvo Galt.

gjb

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gjb

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

DATE: 4/11/68

FROM : SA JOSEPH M. BREWI

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

*NEXT
AM*

On 4/11/68, Mr. W. H. BOWENS, 433 South 12th Street, West Memphis, Arkansas, telephone RE5-4527, a high school teacher at Mildred Jackson High School, Hughes, Arkansas, telephonically contacted the Memphis Office. Mr. BOWENS advised that on last Friday, 4/5/68, he saw a man at approximately 6:15 - 6:30 a.m. at a coffee shop and filling station on the west side of Clander, Arkansas, located on Highway 79 West, in a white Mustang with Arkansas tags which began with the letters ACE. He added that this man went into the coffee shop section of the coffee shop and filling station combination and when he departed he headed west on Highway 79 at a high rate of speed. Mr. BOWENS advised this coffee shop of which he spoke and the filling station are located on the right-hand side of Highway 79 just before a bridge on the west side as one leaves Clander.

He advised that the man he observed was alone and he described him as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	6'1"
Age	29 - 30
Hair	Yellowish-orange color
Suit	Dark.

JMB:cjs
(2)

*Xerox copy
and furnish LR*

44-1987-Sub-82

SEARCHED	lll
APR 11 1968	h
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Reaney



White Mustang. ARK

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Inspector J. A. SULLIVAN

DATE: 4/11/68

FROM : ASAC C. O. HALTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Asst. Director AL ROSEN telephonically communicated with me at approximately 1:35 PM, 4/11/68, at which time he requested that the following information be obtained:

- (1) Was an autopsy performed on Dr. KING? If so, obtain copy of any written report. *Requested by letter -*
- (2) Did doctors who attended Dr. KING at St. Joseph Hospital make a written report concerning cause of death? If so, obtain copy of report.
- (3) From which place in Dr. KING's body was bullet removed? Did bullet actually sever spinal cord?

If written reports have not been prepared and will not be prepared in future, obtain oral statement from responsible authorities as to official cause of death. *Done*

Answers to above should be furnished by teletype and followed with transmittal of written reports by mail.

Memphis teletype to the Director, 4/5/68 (Ser. 20) in this case contained the following statements:

"Drs. J. N. BARRASSO and FREDERICK GOIA, St. Joseph Hospital, informed that KING was pronounced officially dead at 7:05 PM, April 4 last. They state death caused by bullet tearing major neck vessels and severing spinal cord at the root of the neck."

SA's ROBERT F. BOYLE and HOWARD D. TETEN have been requested to obtain answers to above immediately.

COH:ME
(2)

me



5010-108

*Being handled
TJH
sent 4/12/68*

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SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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MAY 11 1968	
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Halter

Boyle RB

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM : IC JAMES WILLARD BRADY

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CIVIL RIGHTS

DATE: 4/12/68

Re Memo of SA EUGENE DOUGLASS dated 4/6/68.

On 4/11/68, Mrs. HAZEL GODWIN made available Auto Registration Records beginning with prefixes of initial B. All combinations of these prefixes were reviewed and one license number BE 4447 reflects a 1965 Mustang, 2-door hardtop registered to JAMES R. REID, 531 Sharon Drive, Memphis. This record was the only registration issued for a Mustang of any model or type.

LEADS

THE MEMPHIS DIVISION:

AT MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE:

Will contact JAMES R. REID in an effort to obtain any information that he might have regarding an individual talking on a citizens band type radio, and also determine if REID was the individual in a white Mustang in North Memphis shortly after the shooting of KING.

JWB/bbs
(2) *[Signature]*

[Handwritten note:]
no action -
Reid is former Bureau
club, now employed by
Press Scimitar

44-1987-Sub-870

SEARCHED	ll
SERIALIZED	h
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[Signature]



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

FROM : SA FRANKLIN L. JOHNSON

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

DATE: 4/12/68

*See Suggested
Assignment -
WORK MEMO*

**RE: INVESTIGATION AT FIRE STATION
AND VICINITY**

Lt. W. S. SCHULTZ, Homicide Bureau, Memphis Police Department, who was contacted by this Agent on 4/10/68 in an effort to identify the Deputy Sheriff who was described by three witnesses at Canipe Amusement Company as being the first person to walk south on Main Street after Unsub departed from the vicinity of Canipe's, advised that there were a number of officers on duty and physically located at the fire station, Main and Butler, at the time of the murder of Dr. KING. All of the officers at the fire station immediately came outside and a number of them ran out of north exits to the fire station, then running east, over a fence and down about a 10' concrete retaining wall which is located on the west side of Mulberry Street.

A number of these officers continued running to the scene of the shooting at the Lorraine Hotel. However, after the first group of officers arrived and received information indicating that the shot had probably been fired from the rear of one of the buildings on the 400 block of Main Street, the officers on the scene began to point and shout to the general location of the rooming house at 422½ South Main Street, and thereafter other officers who had started to the scene of the shooting at the Lorraine Hotel, some of whom were already in the vicinity of the above-mentioned concrete retaining wall, turned around, ran west to Main Street, then north on Main to the vicinity of Canipe Amusement Company and the rooming house.

One of these officers, VERNON VERNARD DOLLARHITE, white male, age 23, who has been a Deputy since January 1967,

44-1987-Sub 25

FLJ:wp
(3)

wp

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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APR 12 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Pitpatrick



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

ME 44-1987

has been interviewed by this Agent. In substance, he jumped over the above-mentioned fence, scaled down the concrete retaining wall, ran to the Lorraine Hotel, then after other officers were on the scene he continued running from the Lorraine Hotel in a counterclockwise manner to Main Street, stepped inside Jim's Grill momentarily, then proceeded to the vicinity of Canipe's, walking past Canipe's at first and later returning to the doorway at Canipe's, then stationed himself on the west side of Main Street opposite Canipe's.

Officer DOLLARHITE advised that when he first passed Canipe's walking south, he met at least two uniformed officers of the Memphis Police Department and immediately thereafter a number of other officers arrived in the area around Canipe's.

In view of the proximity of the fire station to both the Lorraine Hotel and the rooming house and Canipe's, and the possible relevance of the movements and activities of the officers and others at the fire station, it is suggested that we have a separate project for reporting the activities of this group of men.

There are several points which may be entirely cleared up by reviewing the police statements and where necessary conducting additional interviews with this group of men, including:

1) One person located in U. S. Fixtures has reported seeing a young white male wearing a brown jacket, running south on Main Street past U. S. Fixtures within a couple of minutes after the shooting. I know of no other witnesses who have reported a man running south on Main right after the shooting, and the possibility exists this might be an officer. Witnesses at Canipe's definitely place a uniformed detective (undoubtedly DOLLARHITE) as the first pedestrian to appear in the vicinity of Canipe's after the Unknown Subject dropped the package.

2) KING's chauffeur, according to information received at the conference 4/12/68, has reported seeing an individual with some type of "hood" up on the bank west of the Lorraine Motel, which individual then walked or ran west toward Main Street.

ME 44-1987

3) It still has not definitely been established whether the Mustang had pulled away from a point just south of Canipe's prior to the time Officer DOLLARHITE arrived on the east sidewalk of Main Street at Huling or whether there is some possibility that the Unsub came out of the rooming house, dropped the package, got in the Mustang and drove off during the time that Officer DOLLARHITE had stepped into Jim's Grill to tell all those present to remain there until officers interviewed them. With regard to this point, however, the best judgment at this time is that the Unsub had left the area before DOLLARHITE ever arrived on Main Street.

In going through the copies of police statements which have been sent to this office, we have located copies of statements of 14 officers who were at the fire station. On 4/12/68 Lt. SCHULTZ advised that he still has some interviews to conduct with persons who were at the fire station, including some firemen.

He stated that his interviews to date, however, indicate that there were a number of officers who had proceeded from the fire station toward the Lorraine Motel, but after seeing that other officers were already at the scene or after learning that the shot had come from the rear of one of the buildings on Main Street, turned west, going back to Main Street. He stated he was also of the opinion that the dress of the officers may have varied considerably, as he noticed that when he interviewed them, some of them were wearing light colored upper clothing and of course some of them were wearing helmets. He stated that he had gained the impression that within a couple of minutes after the shooting was reported, the tactical units in the area had sealed off the entire area around the scene of the shooting and the rooming house. He stated that none of the officers had reported seeing any pedestrian traffic other than those individuals grouped around KING's body at the Lorraine Motel. No officer reported seeing any pedestrian walking or running in the vicinity of the rooming house. He therefore is of the opinion that the Unknown Subject had come out of the rooming house and left the area before the first officer ever arrived on the scene.

ME 44-1987

SUGGESTION:

It is suggested that the investigation at the fire station be made the subject of a separate project and that the Agent assigned to this, work with Lt. SCHULTZ.

Attached hereto are copies of 14 statements taken by the Police Department from the following named officers:

- AD 302*
- 1) VERNON VERNARD DOLLARHITE
MW, 23
Patrolman, SO
3330 Dawn Drive, Apt. 12
358-8067
 - 2) J. E. GHORMLEY
MW, 40
Lieutenant, SO
4124 Bonnie
386-6034
 - 3) W. J. BERRY
MW, 32
Patrolman, SO
1544 Rebecca
323-7112
 - 4) CHARLES ELVIN STONE
MW, 24
Fireman, City of Memphis
584 Orchard
358-3571
 - 5) W. A. DUFOUR
MW, 37
Patrolman, SO
3044 Coleman Ave.
452-2416
 - 6) RONALD WESLEY MALEY
MW, 23
Patrolman, SO
4683 Montgomery, Millington, Tenn.
872-3524

ME 44-1987

*FD 302 William Bishop King
1776 West Lloyd Circle - Freeman*

*FD 302 George W. Loeniche
1390 Smythe - Freeman*

- 7) CARROLL D. DUNN
MW, 31
Patrolman, Memphis PD
4946 Teal
363-3645
- 8) *FD-302* WILLIAM E. GROSS ✓
MW, 39
Patrolman, Memphis PD
4728 Tutwiler
683-0463
- 9) *FD-302* TORRENCE N. LANDERS ✓
MW, 33
Patrolman, Memphis PD
4085 Reenie
386-5206
- 10) R. N. BAKER
MW, 24
Patrolman, SO
53 North Humes
324-9934
- 11) EMMETT E. DOUGLASS
MW, 31
Patrolman, Memphis PD
1236 Inman Cove
324-3026
- 12) JASON CARL MORRIS ✓
MW, 23
Patrolman, Armour Station Patrol
2251 South Parkway East, Apt. 3
458-5226
- 13) *FD-302* BARNEY G. WRIGHT,
MW, 39
Patrolman, Emergency Squad, Memphis PD
4264 Dunn
327-6477
- 14) a PD "Supplement" #3 by Lt. T. H. SMITH
and Detective R. R. DAVIS, who arrived
on scene about 6:13 p.m. and conducted
some preliminary interviews.

It is suggested that at this time there is no basis for reinterviewing in detail every one of these officers, but that rather in reporting on the activities emanating from the fire station, the Agent coordinating the matter could attribute to Lt. SCHULTZ information as to the complete name, position, department, address, etc., of each person he has interviewed, with a very brief summary (few lines) as to what that officer did and where he went after the shooting, thus accounting for these officers in this manner unless there is some reason to go back and conduct a more detailed interview with them. DOLLARHITE, it is to be noted, has already been reinterviewed and this Agent will submit the FD-302. There are other officers that the Agent may desire to reinterview, such as TORRENCE N. LANDERS (see attached statement), who climbed up into the lot or grassy area behind the rooming house (possibly the man with the "hood" described by the chauffeur); Lt. J. E. GHORMLEY (see attached statement), who started toward the Lorraine Motel but turned around and ran back toward Main Street, then proceeding to the front of Canipe's; and WILLIAM E. GROSS (see attached statement), whose movements were similar to those of Officer GHORMLEY's.

In interviewing these persons, among other points which should be covered are:

- 1) Identity of the very first officer seen by them to be at or near Canipe's.
- 2) How each of the interviewees was dressed and whether there were other officers wearing any type of upper garments which might be described as white or light colored and which would resemble the "hood" as mentioned by KING's chauffeur.
- 3) Whether there was any officer (besides Officer DOLLARHITE) who ran on Main Street past U. S. Fictures moments after the shooting; if so, how that officer was dressed.

On 4/12/68 I discussed with Lt. SCHULTZ the need to clarify some of the above points, and he stated he would be most happy to assist an Agent in clarifying the above information and in recontacting where necessary any of the above-mentioned persons he has interviewed. Noted that he still has several interviews to conduct.

*e.g. in uniform
or some special
upper garments,
helmet, light jacket
etc*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

DATE: 4/12/68

FROM : SA JOE W. PHILLIPS

SUBJECT: MURKIN

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:

Since the landlord of the rooming house in Birmingham, Alabama, where ERIC STARVO GALT stayed until October, 1967, reported that after GALT left the rooming house a blue envelope came for him but was returned to the Birmingham Post Office, and since inquiry at the Birmingham Post Office developed that dead letters from Post Offices in Alabama are deposited in Memphis, Tennessee, inquiry was made at the Memphis Post Office.

On 4/11/68, Mr. L. L. SIMS, Postmaster, and Mr. ANTHONY PERA, Superintendent of Postal Services, U. S. Post Office, Memphis, Tennessee, advised SAS JOE W. PHILLIPS and VINCENT H. LAMMERS that the dead letter mail at Memphis covers a three state area, including Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee. They explained that when a piece of mail cannot be delivered because the addressee has moved and left no forwarding address, and where the return address on that piece of mail is legible, it is always returned to the sender by the Post Office handling it, and it is never considered as a dead letter piece of mail. They stated the only mail which is then considered dead letter mail is first class mail in which the addressee has moved and the name of the sender on the envelope is missing or is illegible. They stated in that instance they get such first class letters from Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee. They said they open such mail within one or two days after they receive it, and it is never more than one week before they open it. They said after they open the mail they try to determine an address of the sender from the contents but if they cannot find such an address to return the letter, they destroy it immediately, unless the letter contained something of value, in which instance they keep it for one year. They stated they keep those dead letters which contained something of value in boxes month by month, and they have found that a box size 6" x 8" x 12" usually contains one months receipt of such dead letters. All such dead letters for the months of October, 1967, through March, 1968, were examined but no letter addressed to anyone named GALT or any similar name was found.

2 - Memphis (44-1987)

JWP:JWP

(2)

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JWP

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/11/68

FROM : SA WILLIAM M. H OBBS, JR.

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

The following investigation was conducted at Nashville, Tenn. on 4/11/68 by the writer and IC ROBERT M. CALK:

A check of the records of the following agencies failed to disclose the names of JAY or JEROME WALLIS VERNON, HARVEY LOMEYER, HARVEY LOWMYER, ERIC STARVO GALT :

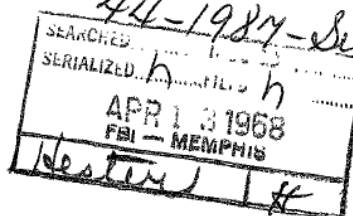
Davidson County Election Commission, ~~VOTER~~ Voter Registration,
Davidson County Tax Assessor's Office
Tennessee Driver's License Bureau
Credit Bureau of Nashville
Nashville Police Dept.
Nashville Electric Service
State Selective Service Headquarters
War Records Office
Tennessee Bureau of Criminal Identification
Tenn. Dept. of Employment Security

Records of the above agencies were reviewed from 1952 through 1968.

In addition, city directories of Nashville were reviewed for the years from 1953 through 1968.

Records of the Dept. of Employment Security contain reference to FRED VICTOR LOHMEYER, FRANK LOHMEYER, FRED WILLIAM LOHMEYER, and JULIAN ANFRED LOHMEYER, all with the address of 835 NO. Willett, Memphis, Tenn.

WMH:



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

FROM : SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE

SUBJECT: MURKIN;
CR

DATE: 4/13/68

On 4/12/68 ME 337-S advised writer that on night of 4/11/68, he ate in the Rendezvous Restaurant in the alley behind Radio Station WMPS, about twenty feet north of Union Avenue, said alley running parallel between Main Street and Second Street; that he has eaten in there on different occasions and has in the past traded antique guns with the owner, CHARLES VERGOS, and has developed a reasonable acquaintance with the head waiter JEFF (last name unknown), a 27 - 28-year-old Negro who has worked at this establishment for some time.

He stated that JEFF is a semi-militant type of Negro, very self assured, and that informant, VERGOS and an elderly waiter named CLARENCE, age about 65, and JEFF were talking and during the conversation JEFF commented that he was no lover of the late MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. He further commented that KING had one of the finest looking Negro girls in Memphis in his room immediately prior to his assassination. JEFF seemed to be somewhat jealous in making this statement, stating that he had tried to date the girl and several other Negroes in Memphis had tried to date her but had been unable to do so. He concluded his comments by saying that at least KING probably left the world in a happy frame of mind. At no time did JEFF make mention of the alleged girl's name.

Circumstantially, the girl could have been EDWINA JEANETTA HARRELL, female Negro, student, Memphis State University, residence - 2418 Gentry, who according to information furnished by ME 338-R ghetto on 4/3/68, was staying at the Lorraine Motel with some of the Memphis Black Power Group, known as the Black Organizing Project.

Further, on or about 4/30/68 Lt. E. H. ARKIN, Memphis, Tenn., Police Department, Inspection Bureau, advised that their best source using code name MAX had been at the Lorraine Motel during this period and had told them that it was his understanding

WHL:mjh

(3)

mjh

① - 44-1987

1-134-452-SUB

1-157-1070-EDWINA JEANETTA HARRELL

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5010-108

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

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that Reverend JAMES ORANGE of the SCLC Staff had spent all or part of one night with EDWINA HARRELL at the Lorraine Motel during this period.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC(44-1987)

FROM : MAHLON J. PRICE, SA

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4/13/68

Supervisor Dick Long, Division 6, SOG called at 10:50 PM. He wanted Inspector Sullivan to know that none of the soil samples sent to the Laboratory matched.

He mentioned that he had the MURKIN Summary Teletype before him and there was no problem with anything.

For information.

MJP/rd

44-1987-Sub-88

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (137-2327)

DATE: 4/10/68

FROM : SA LAWRENCE M. MANDYCK

CI SI R (Prob)

SUBJECT: ME 329-C

PCI PSI R

Dates of Contact 3/23/68; 4/2/68; 4/5/68		
Titles and File #s on which contacted		
LESTER VESTAL BENNETT; FUDE	42-8926	
UNSUBS; Woodbine Branch, 1st American	91-4435	
MURKING	44-1987	
Civil Disturbance, Nashville 4/4-	157-1168	
Racial Situation, Nashville	157-127	
Purpose and results of contact		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE <input type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE <input type="checkbox"/> STATISTIC		
Case Agents re negative info advised by R/S.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating Excellent	Coverage Same

1 - 137-2386 1 - 157-127
 1 - 44-1987 LMM/lmm
 1 - 157-1168 (4)

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC , MEMPHIS (137-2543)

DATE: 4/11/68

FROM : SA LAWRENCE M. MANDYCK

CI SI R (Prob)

PCI PSI R

SUBJECT: THOMAS HENDERSON DAVIS

Dates of Contact <u>3/11/68; 4/5/68</u>		
Titles and File #s on which contacted		
<u>GEORGE DEWAYNE COLEY; Community Federal</u>	<u>91-3609</u>	
<u>RUFUS HUNTER; Home Federal</u>	<u>91-3610</u>	
<u>MURKING</u>	<u>44-1987</u>	
<u>Civil Disturbance, Nashville 4/4-</u>	<u>157-1168</u>	
<u>Racial Situation, Nashville</u>	<u>157-127</u>	
Purpose and results of contact		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE <input type="checkbox"/> STATISTIC		
<p><u>157-127; 157-1168</u> On 4/5/68 informant advised he does not believe the disturbances occurring the night of 4/4/68 were planned disturbances but merely a reaction to the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING. Informant advised he would immediately contact the writer if he hears anything involving a planned disturbance or demonstration.</p> <p>Case Agents re negative info advised by R/S.</p>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.	Rating Good	Coverage Same

1 - 137-2543 1 - 157-127
 2 - 44-1987 LMM/lmm
 1 - 157-1168 (4)

44-1987-Sub-88B

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[Signature]