

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

DATE: 4/24/68

FROM : SA HARLEY E. GYLFE

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR

OO: MEMPHIS

Re Bureau airtel to Memphis dated 4/17/68.

Referenced communication concerns an anonymous letter received at the Bureau which was postmarked 4/13/68 at Chicago, Illinois. The letter is dated 4/12/68 and indicates in part "about the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING, it is not a white man (person). It was a colored person who is now hiding out at Hall of Motels in Memphis, Tennessee, on Fealder Street."

A review of a street guide for the Memphis metropolitan area does not list a street named Fealder. A review of a list of all the motels in the Memphis metropolitan area does not list a motel by the name of Hall of Motels.

A review of a street guide does not indicate a street in the Memphis metropolitan area that is similar in spelling or pronunciation to Fealder. The list of motels does not indicate a name anywhere similar to that of the Hall of Motels. None of the motels listed are located on a street with a name anywhere similar to that of Fealder.

Inasmuch as no information was developed as to the existence of a motel named Hall of Motels nor a street named Fealder, no further investigation is being conducted.

HEG:tjm  
(2)

*tjm*

44-1987-Sub-133  
SEARCHED  
SERIAL

h

h  
B

✓

SAC (137-2494)

4/24/68

SA GARY M. RAMSEY

LINDA GAYE BUTLER  
PCI

BUTLER was contacted 4/22/68 for information concerning MURKIN with negative results.

1 - 137-2494

1 - 44-1987

GMR:jap  
(2)

*jap*

*44-1987-Sub-134*

*h h*

*RJ*

SAC (137-2574)

4/24/68

SA GARY M. RAMSEY

JOE LEE BURNS  
PCI

BURNS was contacted on 4/16/68 for information concerning MURKIN, with negative results.

1 - 137-2574  
① - 44-1987

GMR:jap  
(2)

*jap*

*44-1987-Sub-135*  
*h h*  
*R*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC(44-1987)

DATE: 4/25/68

FROM : SA MAHLON J. PRICE

SUBJECT: MURKIN

At 9:15 PM above date Mrs Huelon Finnie, Route 3, Box 7, Somerville, phone 465-3398 phoned the Memphis Office. She advised as follows;

She works at the East Street Cafe in Somerville. A man who fits the description of the killer in the Murkin case and whor esembles the photos came into the cafe yesterday. He wanted to leave his suit-cases at the cafe. This man mentioned that he plans to put up a chicken shack across the street from the cafe.

This man is a white man with a big nose and his height, weight and appearance resemble the killer. She did not know his name, or the name he was using. As of this date this man was working at Chenault's Liberty Grocery Store in Somerville.

LEAD

MEMPHIS  
AT SOMERVILLE

Will locate and eliminate the aforementioned man as being identical with JAMES EARL RAY.

MJP/rd

*5/26 COP E. L. House  
Somerville Tenn  
advised Finnie talking  
of FNU Johnson - butcher  
at Chenault's store. Been  
there 2-3 yrs. no resemblance.  
RJK*

44-1987-Sub-136

|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| SEARCHED            | INDEXED <i>4</i> |
| SERIALIZED <i>5</i> | FILED <i>5</i>   |
| APR 25 1968         |                  |
| FBI - MEMPHIS       |                  |

*Boyle*



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) -P-

DATE: 4/25/68

FROM : SA JOHN W. BAUER

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR

Re BA tel to Bureau and ME, 4/11/68, (Sub E-119).

On 4/24/68, JOHN HOOTEN, owner, Hooten's Texaco Service Station, 5071 Summer Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee, advised SA BAUER that JAMES GANN had been employed by him on and off for approximately 3 weeks starting sometime in the last week of March until April 11, 1968. HOOTEN stated that while GANN was working for him he lived somewhere on Wilburn Avenue in Memphis, and that GANN stated that he was originally from Marked Tree, Arkansas. He stated that GANN did not look anything like the photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and could not have been involved in the KING killing because he was working at the service station on 4/4/68 up until 6:00 p.m.

HOOTEN stated that on 4/11/68, GANN came around to the service station with his wife and their car loaded with their family possessions and filled the car with gas and stated that he was going to St. Louis. HOOTEN added that this was GANN's second wife and that he had been previously married and divorced and was having some type of problem with his first wife over either alimony or child support payments.

A check of Memphis PD and Shelby County SO records do not reflect a record for the name of JAMES GANTS, JAMES GANTZ or JAMES GANN.

JWB/vtp  
(1)

*JWB*

*Tell  
Bureau + BA  
of elimination  
LHM SENT  
JWB*

44-1987-Sub-137

|               |         |
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| SEARCHED      | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| APR 25 1968   |         |
| FBI - MEMPHIS |         |

*Hester*



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987) (P)

DATE: 4/25/68

FROM : SA ROBERT T. MORAN

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Reurmemo to all agents 4-22-68.

The following sources and informants were contacted re this case. None possessed any information. x Ray's ~~ph~~ wanted flyer was displayed to them and none thought that they had ever seen Ray or knew him:

4/24/68 PCI C. E. WENTWORTH  
4/24/68 PCI R. L. WESSON  
4/24/68 PCI W. V. BLACKWELL  
4/25/68 S OF I (RACIAL ) EUGENE REID  
4/25/68 PCI QUINTON FORREST  
4/25/68 ME-262-C

Results of above negative contacts will be recorded in the individual files on the above sources and infnts.

RTM:rtm  
(1)

44-1987-Sub-138

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| APR 26 1968         |                |
| FBI - MEMPHIS       |                |

*Boyle RB*



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/25/68

FROM : SA EUGENE A. MEDORI

SUBJECT: MURKIN;  
CR

On 4/16/68 Mr. WILLARD H. RUNDQUIST, Vice-President, Wabash, Inc., 1217 Florida, Memphis, Tenn., was contacted in regard to a letter which he had given to a friend of his, Mr. FRED GATTAS, owner, FRED T. GATTAS Distributing Company, Inc., 387 South Main St., Memphis, Tenn., and which letter was later turned over to the FBI. He stated that he had written this letter and in it he had mentioned the name of a former employee of WABASH who he thought might possibly be involved in the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. He stated that he furnished this information to Mr. GATTAS because he, himself, had no connections with local authorities but Mr. GATTAS was well known in Memphis and might know what should be done with it.

Mr. RUNDQUIST stated that neither he nor GATTAS felt this information had much value but he felt it should be brought to the attention of the persons investigating the death of Dr. KING. He stated that his only reason to suspect JERRY PAUL MC CARTER is because he believes that MC CARTER drives a cream-colored Mustang and that he has heard MC CARTER on a number of occasions speak against Negro people. He stated this is not unusual, however, because he has heard many other Southerners say such similar things. Mr. RUNDQUIST made available the personnel file on JERRY PAUL MC CARTER, which reflected that his home address while employed at Wabash was 4085 Palm St., Memphis, Tenn., Social Security No. [redacted], date of birth [redacted] place of birth - Corinth, Miss., height - 5'11", weight - 178 lbs., married, no children. RUNDQUIST stated that he did not believe MC CARTER had ever served in the Armed Forces because he had overheard him mentioning the possibility of being drafted shortly prior to his departing Wabash.

On 4/17/68 Mr. PAUL MC CARTER, 2152 Layton Ave., Memphis, Tenn., was contacted at his home and he advised that he has been employed for the past nine weeks with the Triangle Distributors, Inc., Tupelo, Miss., as a salesman working the Memphis, Tenn., area. Mr. MC CARTER stated that on Thursday,

EAM:mjh

(2) *mjh*



5010-108

44-1987-Sub-139

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| APR 25 1968         |                  |
| FBI - MEMPHIS       |                  |

*R*

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

ME 44-1987

April 4, 1968, he worked from approximately 7:30 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. in the afternoon in the Collierville and Germantown areas and that he returned home that afternoon and he and his wife worked in his yard. He stated that he did not know that Dr. KING had been killed until his brother, EVERETT BAKER, 3824 Overton Crossing, Memphis, Tenn., called about 7:00 P. M. that evening and told him. He stated that he has never made any statements in regard to Dr. KING which could be construed as threatening statements and that he would never kill anyone, regardless of his personal feelings. He stated that he had no information to furnish in regard to this matter.

The following description of MC CARTER was obtained through observation and interview:

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Name                  | JERRY PAUL MC CARTER   |
| Sex                   | Male   |
| Race                  | White  |
| DOB                   | [REDACTED]   |
| POB                   | McNairy County, Tenn.  |
| Height                | 5' 10"   |
| Weight                | 205 lbs.   |
| Eyes                  | Brown  |
| Hair                  | Black  |
| Complexion            | Ruddy  |
| Present Address       | 2152 Layton Avenue, Memphis, Tenn.   |
| Prior Addresses       | 3628 Galloway, Memphis; 4053 Palm St., Memphis   |
| Marital Status        | Married, wife - BILLYE JOYCE MC CARTER   |
| Employment            | Triangle Distributors, Inc., Tupelo, Miss., as a salesman  |
| Prior Employment      | Wabash, Inc., 1217 Florida, Memphis, Tenn., from 1961 through February, 1968.  |
| Social Security No.   | [REDACTED]   |
| Selective Service No. | [REDACTED]; classified 5-A as of 7/22/66, Tennessee Local Board No. 59, Selective Service System, McNairy County, Selmer, Tenn., 38375 |
| Arrest Record         | None admitted.   |



ME 44-1987

Mr. MC CARTER advised that he and his wife own two automobiles and that one of them is a 1966 Ford Mustang. He made available State of Tennessee Owner's Identification Card which reflected that a 1966 Ford Mustang, Title No. 11427832, Vehicle Identification No. 6F07T397001, was registered in the name of PAUL MC CARTER, 2152 Layton, Memphis, Tenn., lien in favor of the Union Planters National Bank, Box 131, Memphis.

Mr. MC CARTER stated that this Mustang is blue in color and this fact was verified by reporting Agent.

In view of the above, it is suggested that no additional investigation be conducted in this matter.

4/17/68

Mr. FRANCIS J. RUGRAFF, Manager, Delta Warehouse, Inc., 553 Plum Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee, furnished the following information:

He advised that he has been acquainted with an individual named JOHN E. GALT since about 1949 or 1950. He stated that GALT is a self employed cotton and linen broker and salesman with an office at 800 N. Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois. He stated that GALT resides somewhere in the Chicago area, but does not have a residence address for him.

He further stated that GALT is covered under the Delta Warehouse, Inc., group life insurance policy and that his number is 332901 and that he has been so covered since August 26, 1958. He advised that GALT has been in the cotton business all of his life or almost 50 years. RUGRAFF stated that he last saw GALT during a Delta convention at the Conrad Hilton Hotel in Chicago, Illinois, between March 9 and March 12, 1968, and recalls that he and GALT had been discussing how bad business had been this year. RUGRAFF furnished the following description of GALT.

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Name           | JOHN E. GALT   |
| Sex            | Male   |
| Race           | White  |
| Date of Birth  | <input type="text"/>   |
| Height         | 5' 9"  |
| Weight         | 160 - 180 pounds   |
| Eyes           | Blue or gray   |
| Hair           | Balding with gray  |
| Complexion     | Fair   |
| Marital status | Single (GALT has never been married and to RUGRAFF's knowledge has no children)          |
| Relatives      | RUGRAFF believes GALT may have a sister residing somewhere in the Atlanta, Georgia, area |
| Health         | GALT has a heart condition and an ulcer  |
| Characteristic | Wears glasses.   |

4/15/68

Memphis, Tennessee

44-1987-Sub-140  
Memphis 44-1987

SA STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON  
SA EUGENE A. MEDORI, JR./EAM/ngu

|                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
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| FBI - MEMPHIS   |              |

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ME 44-1987

2

RUGRAFF also stated that GALT has been in failing health for the last three or four years and he has had extensive hospital treatment for a heart condition and ulcer. He also stated that he believes GALT's sister, whose name he does not know, is approximately the same age as GALT.

RUGRAFF stated that he is fairly certain that GALT does not have any children and has never heard of any relation of GALT named ERIC STARVO GALT.

*Sub E-235*

4/19/68

1

J. H. COFFEY, 7898 Raleigh-Millington Road, examined artists conceptions 1, 2 and 3, and the photo of ERIC STARVO GALT, and advised that none of them were (First Name Unknown) CRAVENS. COFFEY feels that CRAVENS is a reputable businessman and has no reason to suspect that he is involved in any way with the assassination of DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING other than he looks very much like the artists conception that first appeared in the newspaper.

CRAVENS is employed by Cravens Fabric and Supply Company, Little Rock, Arkansas, and has visited COFFEY 3 times in the last year. He comes to exhibit various fabrics to COFFEY, who is an upholsterer.

*44-1987-Sub-141*

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| APR 29 1968                |                       |
| FBI - MEMPHIS              |                       |

*Kearney*

**STENCIL**

4/18/68

Millington, Tennessee

ME 44-1987

SA JACK D. VAHRENWALD /bbs

4/19/68

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (137-2471)

DATE: 4-22-68

FROM : SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK

CI  SI  R (Prob)

PCI  PSI  R

SUBJECT: RUBEN BOLTERMAN

|  |                       |                                 |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Dates of Contact<br><b>4-15-68, Attempted contact 4-5-68</b>   |                       |                                 |
| Titles and File #s on which contacted  |                       |                                 |
| <b>MURKIN</b>  | <b>44-1987</b>        | <b>CR</b>                       |
| <b>UNSUB; AKA MELVIN J. DOBBINS</b>  | <b>EX-70-1187</b>     | <b>CGR</b>                      |
| <b>UNSUB; NIKON 35 MM CAMERA SN</b>  |                       |                                 |
| <b>6764285, TVA # 257369 from TVA</b>  |                       |                                 |
| <b>MUSCLE SHOALS, ALA.</b>   | <b>52-2839</b>        | <b>TGP</b>                      |
| Purpose and results of contact   |                       |                                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>NEGATIVE</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> <b>POSITIVE</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> <b>STATISTIC</b> |                       |                                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.            | Rating<br><b>Good</b> | Coverage<br><b>CR, TGP, CGR</b> |

1-137-2471 (1-44-1987 (Hester))  
1-70-1187 (Boyle)  
1-52-2839 (Boyle)

44-1987-Sub-142

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| SEARCHED..... | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED 5  | FILED 5      |
| APR 23 1968   |              |
| FBI - MEMPHIS |              |

Hester

THE MEMPHIS OFFICE  
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

MEMORANDUM TO ALL PERSONNEL

RE: MURKIN - COST DATA

Bureau by teletype dated April 17, 1968, requested as follows:

"Please furnish following information on above matter compiled or estimated through April 30, 1968, and thereafter submit cumulative totals through the end of each month until further notice:

- (1) Number of man hours spent on case broken down as to regular hours, overtime hours, and total man hours by following employees (separate figures for each class of employees shown):
  - A. Special Agents
  - B. Clerical Employees
- (2) Total mileage (estimated or actual) traveled by Bureau cars used on case. Include mileage for cars traveling to and from other field offices on special assignment and any personally-owned cars.
- (3) Any unusual or out-of-ordinary costs, such as cost of chartering airplane, rental of special office space, leased telephone lines, etc. These should be itemized and cost of each item shown.
- (4) Peak number of Special Agents working on case during month for which report is submitted.

You should promptly request all Bureau offices involved in this case to furnish information requested herein to you and it should be included in your report."

HEG:tjm  
4/24/68  
44-1987  
66-31 *APD*

44-1987-Sub-143

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ME 44-1987

Each employee in the Memphis Division is requested to furnish SA HARLEY E. GYLFE a routing slip at the close of each month (until notified to the contrary) with the information the Bureau desires, for completion of this survey.

The information specifically requested is the regular hours worked, the overtime hours worked and the total mileage traveled in connection with this case.

ROBERT G. JENSEN  
SAC

SAC (170-DEAD)

4/25/68

SA WALTER R. HAPPELL

WISTER J. HAYES, aka  
"Dub" Hayes;  
RI

At 3:50 P. M., 4/24/68, an individual identifying himself as CARROL WYLIE, TV Sales, Telephone 275-2381, telephonically contacted the Memphis Office and advised he desired to furnish the following information as being possibly of value in the investigation of the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING:

WISTER J. HAYES, aka DUB HAYES, white male, age 45, 6', 185 lbs., currently employed as salesman for Zayres on Summer Avenue and believed residing on Paulus, was formerly employed by WYLIE. HAYES is originally from Louisiana and was formerly employed by Goodyear or Goodrich in the Lake Charles, La., area but has been in Memphis for the past three and one-half years. HAYES hates Negroes, is a member of the Klan and a "radical" who is always "causing controversy." WYLIE said HAYES is an "extremist" and a "psycho," whom he did not believe would shoot anyone, but who would be sympathetic to and assist anyone who might shoot a Negro. WYLIE said sometime ago HAYES was trying to raise money for the defense of the white men involved in the "Civil Rights Case," and made several trips in his efforts.

Efforts were made to obtain more specifics concerning the information furnished but WYLIE repeatedly said he had no such information and repeated he had no knowledge HAYES was involved in the shooting of KING but thought the FBI should be made aware of HAYES.

A review of the current Memphis City Directory discloses the following pertinent listings:

CARROL WYLIE, 3865 North Watkins

ALVIN C. WYLIE, TV Sales Co., 3865 North Watkins

WRH:mjh

(4) *mjh*

2 - 170-DEAD

② - 44-1987-MURKIN

44-1987-Sub-144

|                 |              |
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| SEARCHED.....   | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED..... | FILED.....   |
| APR 25 1968     |              |
| FBI - MEMPHIS   |              |

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ME 170-DEAD

WISNER J. HAYES, wife - BERTA, 1780 Dellwood Ave.,  
Telephone No. 358-4842, salesman - Zayres.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

841 Federal Office Building  
167 North Main Street  
Memphis, Tennessee 38103  
April 25, 1968

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is material on James Earl Ray,  
Identification Order No. 4182, who was added  
to the FBI's list of "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives,"  
Saturday, p.m., April 20, 1968.

Very truly yours,

ROBERT G. JENSEN  
Special Agent in Charge

Enclosures

- 1 - Each outlet on Memphis Office "Top Ten" Mailing List.
- 1 - Memphis (44-1987)

RGJ:ME  
(25)

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44-1987-Sub-144A

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

ROUGH DRAFT

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/25/68

FROM : SA WILLIAM M. HOBBS, JR.

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR

Reurmemo dated 4/22/68.

The following informants have been contacted at Nashville, Tenn. but unable to furnish information of value in this case:

|          |           |         |
|----------|-----------|---------|
| ME 196-C | Contacted | 4/19/68 |
| ME 228-C | "         | 4/25/68 |
| ME 222-C | "         | 4/25/68 |

WMH:

44-1987-Sub-145

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| SEARCHED.....     | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED 5..... | FILED.....   |
| APR 26 1968       |              |
| FBI - MEMPHIS     |              |

*Hester*



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/26/68

FROM : SA LAWRENCE J. OLSON, SR.

SUBJECT: MURKIN

The following investigation was conducted at Nashville, Tennessee, by SA LAWRENCE J. OLSON, SR.:

On 4/25/68, unsuccessful efforts were made to locate HENRY O'NEILL, Manager, American Airlines, Nashville, Tennessee. At American Airlines, Nashville, it was ascertained that Mr. O'NEILL was not working that date; however, he would return to work the following morning.

On 4/26/68, Mr. O'NEILL was contacted, at which time he advised that during the period 2/19-21/68, he was attending an American Airlines conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and one evening during the conference, and during the cocktail hour, the conversation turned to the possible racial situation in the U. S. during the summer of 1968. Mr. O'NEILL advised at that time he was rather pessimistic relative to renewed rioting breaking out during the coming summer at various places in the U. S. He said he had stated at that time that it was almost certain that Chicago would have difficulty this summer, in his opinion. Another person at the party took exception to this statement and a \$5 wager was made, with O'NEILL wagering that a riot would break out in Chicago the summer of 1968.

As the party went on, the conversation continued along this line and ROBERT ROULSTON of American Airlines, Washington, D. C., indicated he felt that the racial situation was deteriorating and that chances are that MARTIN LUTHER KING would be killed sometime prior to May 1, 1968. He, O'NEILL, took exception to this remark and a \$100 wager was made. He bet that MARTIN LUTHER KING would not be killed before May 1, 1968, and ROULSTON bet that KING would be killed.

O'NEILL said the conversation was rather a frivolous one at the time the wager was made and he did not take the conversation seriously and is sure ROULSTON did not either; however, on 4-4-68 while en route to vacation in Panama City, Florida, he learned that MARTIN LUTHER KING had been assassinated. He was quite shocked and felt obliged to fill out a check in the amount \$100, remembering the wager. He sent this to ROULSTON who replied by note indicating that

EJO:BN

(1)



44-1987-Sub-146

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| FBI - MEMPHIS   |              |

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

ME 44-1987

the check had been torn up as he felt it was a "bad bet" and he felt quite badly about having even suggested a wager along these particular lines.

Mr. O'NEILL advised that he has no information whatever regarding the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING; however, any information that does come to his attention in this regard, or regarding any other matters of investigative interest, will be immediately brought to the attention of the FBI.

MEMPHIS DIVISION  
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

MEMORANDUM TO ALL AGENTS:

RE: MURKIN

The Bureau has advised that all offices are to maintain contact with all mass communications media to insure that there is frequent reference to RAY and to his connection with this case. All Agents, particularly all resident agents, should be alert to all possibilities to obtain publicity in this matter and should make every effort to cooperate with the news media and to encourage them to carry photographs and articles concerning the subject.

All resident agents should make certain that appropriate fingerprint stops have been placed with those departments in the resident agency territory which have fingerprint files.

Nashville Resident Agency should insure that all possible stops are placed against the possibility of the subject obtaining a driver's license or automobile registration.

The Bureau has also advised that investigation should be conducted at all "hippie" rooming houses and similar establishments to obtain any information whatsoever concerning RAY. In those resident agencies where such rooming houses exist, the senior resident agent should consider it his responsibility to make assignments to insure that investigation is conducted in these areas. All Agents in their daily contacts in rooming houses of any nature should make certain that the subject's photograph is shown to persons managing such houses and if believed advisable, identification orders should be left on the premises for the assistance of the rooming house operator.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

ROBERT G. JENSEN  
SAC

ME 44-1987  
1 - 66-31 (Office Memo File)  
JCH:mnr  
4/26/68

*mnr*

44-1987-Sub-147

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : File (44-1987)

DATE: 4/26/68

FROM : ASAC C. O. HALTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

*NORMENT, JR*

Supervisor ROY J. JEVONS of the FBI Laboratory telephonically communicated with me at 2:42 PM, April 26, 1968, at which time he furnished the following information:

Bureau Airtel was sent to Memphis under date of 4/25/68, authorizing the return of those items of evidence obtained from the Memphis PD to the Memphis PD. The Airtel reflected the items were being forwarded Registered Mail. This has been changed. SA JIM ~~NORMENT~~ (or ~~NORMAN~~) of the Washington Field Office will bring the evidence to Memphis, 4/26/68, via American Airlines Flight 789, which will leave Washington, D. C., 5:00 PM and arrive Memphis, 6:43 PM.

An Agent of the Memphis Division is to meet SA NORMENT with a Bureau car so that the evidence may be transmitted to the Memphis Office.

After the evidence has been checked to determine definitely those items obtained from the Memphis PD, the items should be returned to the Memphis PD, taking care that the chain of evidence is maintained.

Comments should be made to the Memphis PD that at some time in the future it may be necessary to request the return of the evidence to the Laboratory for additional examinations.

COH: ME  
(2)

*me*

*Delivered 9 BOXES  
8:45 PM CST  
rec'd by SAC*

*44-1987-Sub-147A*

|                            |                      |
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| SEARCHED.....              | INDEXED.....         |
| SERIALIZED... <i>5</i> ... | FILED..... <i>ff</i> |
| APR 26 1968                |                      |
| FBI - MEMPHIS              |                      |

*Halter* *gjt*

*All 9 boxes held by me*



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC 137- 626

DATE: 4/26/68

FROM : SA VERNE D. GAUBY

CI  SI  R (Prob)

PCI  PSI  R

SUBJECT: ME 283-C

|  |           |               |
|--|-----------|---------------|
| Dates of Contact   |           | 4/24/68       |
| Titles and File #s on which contacted  |           |               |
| MURKIN; CR   |           | 44-1987       |
| LARRY D. BRAY, ASN US53908222; FUDE  |           | 42-9332       |
| Purpose and results of contact   |           |               |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE Re 44-1987: CI was unable to furnish any information of value.<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE<br><input type="checkbox"/> STATISTIC<br><br>Re 42-9332: CI advised that he is acquainted with AMOS BRAY, Sparta, Tenn., subject's father. He recently heard that one of AMOS' sons, probably the subject, had had some kind of an accident and was in a Nashville, Tenn. Hospital. He didn't know if the boy was still there, nor did he know the name of the hospital. He advised he would attempt to get in touch with persons at Sparta to ascertain where the subject is. (Case ass. to the writer) |           |               |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.  | Rating    | Coverage      |
|  | Excellent | Same as prev. |

1- 137-626  
①- 44-1987

44-1987-Sub-148

|                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| SEARCHED.....   | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED..... | FILED.....   |
| APR 29 1968     |              |
| FBI - MEMPHIS   |              |

12

Hester [Signature]



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC 137-2595

DATE: 4/26/68

FROM : SA VERNE D. GAUBY

CI  SI  R (Prob)

PCI  PSI  R

SUBJECT: BILL ROBINSON

|   |        |                        |
|---|--------|------------------------|
| Dates of Contact  |        | 4/19/68                |
| Titles and File #s on which contacted   |        |                        |
| MURKIN; CR  |        | 44-1987                |
| Purpose and results of contact  |        |                        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>NEGATIVE</b> PCI unable to furnish any information of value re above<br><input type="checkbox"/> <b>POSITIVE</b> 44 case.<br><input type="checkbox"/> <b>STATISTIC</b>               |        |                        |
| <p>General criminal conditions in and around White Co. were discussed with PCI, although no specific cases were mentioned. PCI appeared cooperative and again indicated that he would assist the FBI if he could do so.</p> |        |                        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.   | Rating | Coverage               |
|   | Good   | General criminal area. |

44-1987-Sub-149

|                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| SEARCHED.....     | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED...5... | FILED...5... |
| APR 29 1968       |              |
| FBI — MEMPHIS     |              |

Hester

1- 137-2595  
1- 44-1987

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/29/68

FROM : SA HENDERSON HILLIN, JR.

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re St. Louis teletype to Memphis, 4/23/68 (Serial Sub E 612), requesting Memphis to check out 1964 green Chevrolet bearing 1968 Tennessee License BG3013.

On 4/29/68, Mr. CHARLES HOLMES, Supervisor, Title and Registration Section, Division of Motor Vehicles, Nashville, advised IC ROBERT M. CALK that Tennessee License BG3013 is listed to LOTTIE O. DOUGLAS, 4230 Hill Dale, Shelby County (Memphis), Tenn., for a 1966 Pontiac GTO, VIN 24216K139019.

On 4/29/68, Mr. HERBERT POPE, Room Clerk Manager, Ansley Hotel, 614 Broadway, Nashville, advised SA HENDERSON HILLIN, JR., that there is no address of 618 Broadway. He advised that he could not identify the name of MERLE HAGGERTT as a current resident of his hotel. He searched all registrations for the past 2 months and could find no registration for a HAGGERTT. Mr. POPE viewed WF #442-A for JAMES EARL RAY and stated that he could not identify the photographs thereon as anyone who had stayed at the Ansley Hotel.

The above Wanted Flyer was exhibited to employees of Tootsie's Orchid Lounge, 5th and Broadway, Nashville, on 4/29/68 by SA HENDERSON HILLIN, JR. Tootsie's Orchid Lounge is the favorite hangout for persons connected with the country music field and more particularly with the Grand Ole Opry. The following individuals advised they could not identify the photographs of JAMES EARL RAY:

PETE ROBNETT;  
MARGUERITE LEWIS;  
JAMES MAXWELL.

HH:jap  
(2)



5010-108

*4/16/68  
4/17/68  
4826*

*POPE*

*Memphis  
orig leads to Ramsey*

*44-1987-Sub-158*

APR 29 1968  
FBI - MEMPHIS

*Boyle RB*

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

ME 44-1987

On 4/29/68, VIVIAN JACKSON, employee of the Sho-Bud Guitar Company, advised that MERLE HAGGARD is an outstanding country music artist. His wife is BONNIE OWENS, and he currently works out of Bakersfield, California. She advised that HAGGARD in no way resembles the photographs of JAMES EARL RAY.

LEADS:

AT MEMPHIS Contact LOTTIE O. DOUGLAS, 4230 Hill Dale, and determine who was utilizing her car at St. Louis County, Missouri, as indicated in Serial E-612.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987 Sub G)  
Attention: SA ROBERT F. BOYLE

FROM : IC ROBERT M. CALK

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR

DATE: 4/29/68

Re Atlanta airtel dated 4/22/68 regarding this matter.

On 4/26/68, IC CALK reviewed Tennessee Highway Patrol (THP), Nashville, messages from 4/4/68 through 3 P.M., 4/26/68, and the following information was obtained:

*Knoxville*

Message dated 4/6/68, Knoxville THP #683KGJ637, THP message 6817, Anderson County SO, requested Georgia State Police (SP) to furnish data and stolen information re 1968 Georgia license 17J5126. THP #6818 reveals that Georgia replied that 1968 Georgia license 17J5126 is not in file.

*Knoxville*

THP, Madisonville, Tennessee, Nashville THP #679KGJ637, Nashville THP message 6777, dated 4/6/68, requested data and stolen information re Georgia dealers license 12676 and 1967 Georgia license 69A230 and "DIS60STANIDQZ32P544965."

*Monroe Co.*

*Atlanta*

Nashville THP #6779, dated 4/6/68, message from Georgia SP revealed 1967 Georgia dealers license 12676 is listed to Denton and Gerner Used Car dealer, McCaysville, Georgia. 1967 Georgia license 69A230 is listed to J. R. RITCHIE, McCaysville, on 1960 Mercury, ID 0232P544965.

*Knoxville*

THP #395K1E946, Bradley County SO, Nashville THP #7004, dated 4/8/68, requested data and stolen information from Georgia SP re 1968 Georgia license 17J5301, 1962 Ford, ID 2763W135562, abandoned at Truitts Garage, Cleveland, Tennessee. On 4/9/68, Georgia SP advised 1968 Georgia license 17J5301 is not in file.

RMC:peh  
(3)

*Cal*

*set out info*

*44-1987-Sub-151*

APR 29 1968  
FBI - MEMPHIS  
*Boyle RB*



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

ME 44-1987 Sub G

*knopville  
atlanta*

THP #793KGJ637, Madisonville, Tennessee, SO, Nashville THP #8107, dated 4/24/68, requested data and stolen information from Georgia SP, Atlanta, re 1968 Georgia license 15J4423 and 1960 Ford Thunderbird, VIN H6YA117024. Nashville THP #8135, dated 4/24/68, message from Georgia SP, Atlanta, revealed 1968 Georgia license 15J4423 was issued to LEWIS S. SHEPPARD, JR., 808 Enden Avenue, Rossville, Georgia, for a 1953 Chrysler two-door. No stolen report is reflected. The notation "Tag displayed improperly on 1960 Thunderbird in your message" was shown. No record was located under the VIN.

Lt. ROY TODD, Nashville THP, advised IC CALK that he would continue to furnish information regarding cars stolen in Georgia and located in Tennessee until advised to do otherwise.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

FROM : SA LAWRENCE A. POLTROCK

SUBJECT: MURKIN;  
CR

DATE: 4/29/68

Re memo to all Agents dated 4/22/68.

On 4/24/68 the following individuals were contacted and advised they had no information whatever concerning any of the incidents surrounding the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING:

|                      |           |
|----------------------|-----------|
| ME 309-C             | 137-2172  |
| PCI JERRY CLERK      | 137-2551  |
| MILES EDWARD SHANNON | 137-2560. |

② - 44-1987  
1 - 137-2172  
1 - 137-2551  
1 - 137-2560

LAP:mjh

(5) *mjh*

44-1987-Sub-152

|                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| SEARCHED.....   | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED..... | FILED.....   |
| APR 29 1968     |              |
| FBI - MEMPHIS   |              |

*Poltrock*



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4/29/68

FROM : SA HARLEY E. GYLFE

SUBJECT: MURKIN;  
CR

Re Minneapolis teletype to Memphis dated 4/17/68  
regarding EDWARD GEORGE WILSON.

Referenced communication concerns a letter received in Minneapolis indicating that ED WILSON of Memphis, Tenn., previously worked in Excelsior, Minn., but returned to Memphis two years ago and presently works on a ship on the Mississippi River. On the day of KING's death, a JEROME JOHNSON of Excelsior and former partner of ED WILSON, was overheard telling his mother, "I'll bet ED did that."

Mrs. JOHN ATWELL, 1363 Whitewater Road, Memphis, advised on 4/23/68 when finally located that her son, GEORGE E. WILSON, of this address is employed as a deck hand for an unrecalled firm on a boat on the Mississippi River. Mrs. ATWELL stated that her son left approximately two weeks ago and will be gone at least another two weeks. She stated that he obtained his employment through the National Maritime Union at Paducah, Ky., and the NMU will know her son's current whereabouts. She said that she did not recall where her son was during the early part of April, 1968.

A review of the Memphis City Directories indicate that GEORGE E. WILSON is employed by the Mississippi Valley Barge Line.

On 4/24/68 Mr. DON AUBREY, General Manager for the Mississippi Valley Barge Line, 1836 Dock Street, Memphis, Tenn., advised that the name GEORGE E. WILSON is not familiar to him. He stated that he will check with the main office in St. Louis, Mo., to determine if WILSON is employed by this firm.

HEG:mjh  
(2)

*mjh*

44-1987-Sub-153

|               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| SEARCHED..... | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED 5  | FILED 5      |
| APR 29 1968   |              |
| FBI - MEMPHIS |              |

*[Signature]* *[Initials]*



5010-108

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

On 4/25/68 Mrs. NOMA PRINTUE, Secretary - Receptionist, Mississippi Valley Barge Line, advised that she talked Mr. CATLETT, Payroll Clerk for the parent company in St. Louis, who keeps a roster of all personnel, and he does not have a record of GEORGE E. WILSON being employed by that firm. She stated that she did not check with Mr. CATLETT to determine if he had an employee by the name of EDWARD GEORGE WILSON or if the firm ever employed a person by the name of GEORGE E. WILSON or EDWARD GEORGE WILSON. She stated that she will recontact him.

On 4/26/68 Mrs. PRINTUE advised that Mr. CATLETT informed her that his records indicate that GEORGE E. WILSON of 1363 Whitewater Road, Memphis, Tenn., Telephone No. 683-2632, was employed by that firm, the Mississippi Valley Barge Line, out of Memphis from 9/14/65 to 9/29/67 as a tow-boat employee. She stated that his previous employment was listed as Federal Barge Line in Memphis, Tenn., and the Union Barge Line, Memphis; no dates of employment were indicated. Mrs. PRINTUE advised that he is described as follows:

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Name                | GEORGE E. WILSON   |
| Address             | 1363 Whitewater Road,<br>Memphis, Tenn.                                |
| Telephone No.       | 683-2632   |
| Race                | White  |
| Sex                 | Male   |
| DOB                 | <input type="text"/>   |
| POB                 | Not indicated  |
| Height              | 5' 10"   |
| Weight              | 160 pounds   |
| Eyes                | Blue   |
| Hair                | Blond  |
| Social Security No. | <input type="text"/>   |
| Parent:             | Mrs. CONNIE ATWELL, mother,<br>1363 Whitewater Road,<br>Memphis, Tenn. |

30

On 4/27/68 inquiry at Federal Barge Line, Inc.,/Union Avenue, foot of Union Avenue, and at Union Barge Line, Inc., 1133 Channel Avenue, Memphis, failed to indicate a current employment at either firm for GEORGE E. WILSON. Separate communication being prepared to determine WILSON's current employment and whereabouts on April 4 last through contact at NMU at Paducah, Ky.



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

FROM : SA WILLIAM M. PERRIGAN

SUBJECT: MURKIN;  
CR

DATE: 4/29/68

On 4/26/68 the following informants were contacted by the writer but could furnish no information regarding this matter:

|                    |          |
|--------------------|----------|
| ME 194-C           | 137-242  |
| PCI GENE WILKERSON | 137-2590 |
| PCI HERMAN HICKMAN | 137-2487 |
| PCI P. O. DOUGLAS  | 137-243  |

2 - 44-1987  
1 - 137-242  
1 - 137-2590  
1 - 137-2487  
1 - 137-243

WMP:mjh  
(6)

*mjh*

44-1987-Sub-134

|                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| SEARCHED.....   | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED..... | FILED.....   |
| APR 29 1968     |              |
| FBI - MEMPHIS   |              |

*Hester*



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, Memphis (44-1987)(P)

DATE: 4/30/68

FROM : SA Francis M. Cristina

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR

Reference sub E serial 314 re Edward Gerst.

The following investigation was conducted by SA Francis M. Cristina at Clarksville, Tenn., on 4/29/68.

The following agencies in Clarksville were contacted regarding Gerst and no information was found that was identifiable with him. These agencies are as follows:

Credit Bureau of Clarksville - Mrs. Betty Sawyer.  
Montgomery Co. Criminal & Circuit Court - H.W. Smith, clerk  
Montgomery Co. Sheriff Office - Dep Sheriff Jim Bowles  
Clarksville PD, Misdemeanor Files - J. Dyce  
Clarksville PD, Felony Files - Bill South

No further investigation regarding Gerst is contemplated at Clarksville. ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~

1 - 44-1987 (sub E)

44-1987-Sub-155

|                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| SEARCHED.....     | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED...5... | FILED.....   |
| MAY 1 1968        |              |
| FBI - MEMPHIS     |              |
| Hester            | JH           |



5010-108-01

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, ME (137-727) -P-

DATE: 4/26/68

FROM : SA ROBERT F. BRUNNER

CI  SI  R (Prob)

PCI  PSI  R

SUBJECT: ME 320-C

|   |   |                          |
|---|---|--------------------------|
| Dates of Contact<br><b>4/25/68</b>  |   |                          |
| Titles and File #s on which contacted   |   |                          |
| <b>MURKIN</b>   |   | <b>44-1987</b>           |
| <b>UNSUB; K-25 employees Fed Cred Union, Etc.</b>   |   | <b>91-3509</b>           |
| <b>GORDON JOSEPH McCOLLOM, aka - Fug.</b>   |   | <b>115-105</b>           |
| <b>CHARLES GARRETT</b>  |   | <b>26-new;1957 Chev.</b> |
| Purpose and results of contact  |   |                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE   | ME 320-C was contacted re MURKIN advising that he had received no information re this matter, and knew only what he had read in the newspapers. Concerning 91-3509, he advised that the name of the individual in Celina, who allegedly has guns brought there from Indiana is HAROLD COLLINS. (THP Trooper DAVE GRISSOM was subsequently contacted re COLLINS, advising he would attempt to obtain serial numbers from these guns, if COLLINS had them in his possession.  |                          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE  | Re 115-105 ME 320-C advised that he had no info re the location of the Subject or any of his associates.  |                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STATISTIC  | ME 320-C further advised that CHARLES GARRETT of Celina, Tenn. brought a 1957 Black Chevrolet to his mothers house in Celina from Indiana, and the auto is presently at Mrs. GARRETT's residence in a non-mobile state. CHARLES's brother GERALD tried to sell the auto to FRED WHITE of Celina, but WHITE could not get it registered. The GARRETT boys reputations are questionable and ME 320-C believes that the car may have been stolen in Ind. (The Chev. was subsequently examined and a new 26 case was opened.) |                          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact. | Rating<br><b>Very good</b>  | Coverage<br><b>same</b>  |
| A neg R/S was submitted to the case agent<br>Re 115-105.<br>91-3509 is assigned to the writer.                                    |   |                          |

1 - 137-727  
1 - 44-1987

44-1987-Sub-155A

|                     |                |
|---------------------|----------------|
| SEARCHED _____      | INDEXED _____  |
| SERIALIZED <u>5</u> | FILED <u>6</u> |
| APR 30 1968         |                |
| FBI - MEMPHIS       |                |

Hester

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) -P- DATE: 5/1/68

FROM : SA JOHN W. BAUER

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR

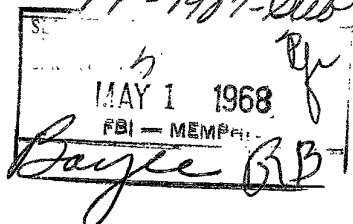
Re Baltimore tel to Bureau, 4/11/68.

JAMES GANN referred to as JAMES GANTS in retel has been eliminated as suspect. GANTS employer states that he was at his place of employment at the time KING was killed and he in no way resembles the photographs of JAMES EARL RAY.

JWB/vtp  
(2)



5010-108



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987) (P)

DATE: 5/1/68

FROM : SA JACK D. VAHRENWALD

SUBJECT: MURKIN  
CR

OO MEMPHIS

Re Columbia teletype to Memphis 4/18/68.

On 4/22/68 Mrs. CHRISTINE SANIDAS, Cashier, Limbros Restaurant, 86 North Main, Memphis, was shown a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and advised that she cannot remember seeing him at any time in the restaurant. She advised that she has no idea who the individual may have been that MARY PEARL LOYNES saw that she thought resembled RAY.

On 4/24/68 SHIRLEY ANNE LESO, 3327 Bowen, Memphis, advised that she is a waitress at Limbros Restaurant, 86 North Main, Memphis. She was shown a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and advised that she had never seen him in the restaurant. She has no idea who the individual is that MARY PEARL LOYNES felt resembled RAY.

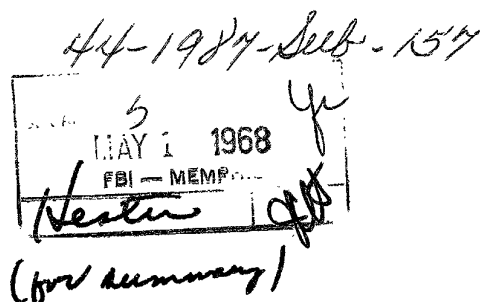
JDV/ngm

(2)

*ngm*



5010-108



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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

DATE: 4/30/68

FROM : SA Eugene A. Medori, Jr.

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Repeated attempts to contact PCI Clarence "Hooker" Hood in order to ascertain if he could furnish information in MURKIN case were unsuccessful. PCI's wife advised on number of occasions that her husband was out of town in connection with his auto racing activities and that he had been away from home an unusual amount of time during the last three weeks in April.

On 4/30/68, PCI contacted re information on captioned matter and advised he could furnish no information. He also stated that he had been out of town quite a bit recently due to his competing in racing events in Arkansas, Mississippi, Texas, West Tennessee, etc.

1- 44-1987  
1- 137-1349

44-1987-Sub-134

|               |         |
|---------------|---------|
| SEARCHED      | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED    | FILED   |
| MAY 1 1968    |         |
| FBI - MEMPHIS |         |

Hester [Signature]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 4-22-68

FROM : SA ROBERT F. BOYLE

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 4-22-68 the following named Informants were contacted re captioned matter with negative results:

ME 348-C  
Sylvia Marie Willey, PCI  
Ann Brigance, PCI  
Amos Baynes, PCI

A&D

RFB  
(1)

44-1987-Sub-159

|                     |                |
|---------------------|----------------|
| SEARCHED.....       | INDEXED.....   |
| SERIALIZED <i>h</i> | FILED <i>h</i> |
| APR 24 1968         |                |
| FBI - MEMPHIS       |                |

*[Signature]*



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM : SA CHARLES W. DRAPER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 5/2/68

Re Birmingham teletype to Bureau, 4/9/68,  
serial 44-1987-278.

WILLIAM E. BIRDSONG, 3656 Dunn Avenue,  
Memphis, was interviewed this date at which time he  
stated he registered at the Avon Motel, 1512 20th  
Street, Birmingham, Alabama, the afternoon of 4/1/68.  
He stated he was accompanied by his wife LINDA and  
two children. He stated he was in Birmingham on  
behalf of his company, Raiford and Company, which  
business operates shoe stores in the Birmingham area.  
He stated he was in Birmingham through 4/2/68 after  
which he returned to Memphis. He stated he was  
driving a 1968 Chevrolet, Tennessee license JP 8387.

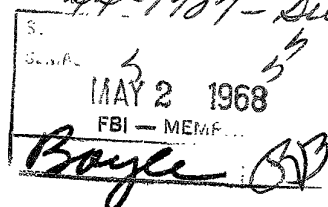
BIRDSONG stated he at no time used the name  
WILLIAM BUDING during his stay in Birmingham.

BIRDSONG is described as follows:

|                  |                        |
|------------------|------------------------|
| Race             | White                  |
| Sex              | Male                   |
| DOB              | <input type="text"/>   |
| POB              | New Orleans, Louisiana |
| Height           | 5'7"                   |
| Weight           | 210                    |
| Hair             | Brown                  |
| Eyes             | Brown                  |
| Arrest record    | None admitted          |
| Military service | None.                  |

✓ CWD:peh  
(2)

*cel*



5010-108

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



**Complaint-Form**  
FD-71 (Rev. 4-19-63)

Note: Hand print names legibly; handwriting satisfactory for remainder.

Indices:  Negative  See below

|  |                            |   |   |      |            |  |  |  |
|--|----------------------------|---|---|------|------------|--|--|--|
| Subject's name and aliases<br><br>MURKIN |                            |   | Address of subject  |      |            | Character of case<br><br>CR  |  |  |
| Complainant<br><br>IZZIE EBER            |                            |   | Complainant's address and telephone number<br>1639 Monroe Ave.<br>Memphis, Tenn<br>274-0698 |      |            | Complain. received<br><input type="checkbox"/> Personal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Telephonic<br>Date 5/3/68 Time 3:30 p.m. |  |  |
| Subject's Description                    | Race                       | Sex<br><input type="checkbox"/> Male<br><input type="checkbox"/> Female | Height  | Hair | Build      | Birth date and Birthplace  |  |  |
|  | Age                        |   | Weight  | Eyes | Complexion |  |  |  |
|  | Scars, marks or other data |   |   |      |            |  |  |  |

**Facts of complaint**

EBER stated that two men reside in Apartment 307, 1639 Monroe Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee. In the opinion of EBER, one named FNU MEEGAN resembles JAME EARL RAY. He described him as a white male, Age 32, 5'11", weight 175, hair- yellow streak in front and dark in the back, dresses very neatly. According to EBER, this person will hardly speak to other tenants and definately will not enter into a conversation with them. This person has resided about one month at this address with another man named FNU BUTLER. When MEEGAN first arrived EBER believes he was driving a Red Mustang, but has not noticed him in an automobile recently. Both BUTLER and MEEGAN leave the apartment in the morning hours and do not return until about 5:30 p.m.

EBER described BUTLER as a white male, age 35-36, 175 pounds, black hair, BUTLER drives a Tan Chrysler. EBER obtained a telephone number left by BUTLER with the manager of the building and upon checking it determined it is a number listed to BUTLER's parents at Corinth, Mississippi. The number is 287-1481.

EBER requested that his name not be disclosed to BUTLER or MEEGAN in event they are contacted by the FBI.

*assign lead to Wahrenwald*

44-1987-Sub-160

|                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| SEARCHED.....     | INDEXED..... |
| SERIALIZED 5      | FILED 5      |
| MAY 3 1968        |              |
| FBI - MEMPHIS     |              |
| <i>Wahrenwald</i> |              |

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Action Recommended | Contact MEEGAN to determine if he is identical with RAY.<br>Burl F. Johnson<br>(Agent) |
|--------------------|--|

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 5/2/68

FROM : SA WILLIAM M. HOBBS, JR.

SUBJECT: MURKIN

ReSanDiegotel dated 5/1/68.

A review of public sources failed to disclose a "Greibers Motel" in Nashville, Tenn.

MRS. J.H. GRIDER, Grider's Motel, 715 Murfreesboro Rd., Nashville, Tenn., advised that records maintained by her for the motel disclose that on 3/10/68, G.B. GERLT, 6540 State Ave., Kansas City, Kansas, checked into the motel driving a truck bearing Kansas license. There were four people in the party and GERLT listed his occupation as an employee of Jerry's Nursery.

Mrs. GRIDER recalled GERLT and his family and stated that GERLT informed her that he was enroute to a nursery in McMinnville, Tenn. She added that GERLT spent only one night at the motel, departing on the morning of 3/11/68.

WMH:  
(2)

44-1987-Sub-160A

|                     |                  |
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| MAY - 3 1968        |                  |
| FBI - MEMPHIS       |                  |

*Hester*

*(for summary)  
In 5/3*



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : FILE (44-1987)

DATE: 5/3/68

FROM : SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN

SUBJECT: MURKIN

At approximately 9 a.m. on 4/29/68, I discussed the evidence I had on hand with Director of Fire and Police FRANK C. HOLLOMAN, Memphis, Tennessee. HOLLOMAN stated that since he had not received the letter from the FBI Laboratory as yet he would appreciate the FBI holding the evidence until such time as the letter was received by the Memphis PD.

On the afternoon of 5/2/68, Inspector N. E. ZACHARY, Memphis Police Department, telephonically contacted me and advised that the Memphis Police Department had received the transmittal letter from the FBI Laboratory regarding the evidence in this case. I asked him if he would be interested in coming and picking up the evidence on that afternoon. He requested the evidence be held and stated he would be over to secure the evidence on the morning of Friday, 5/3/68.

As of 9 a.m., 5/3/68, the nine boxes, unopened, were delivered into the custody of Inspector ZACHARY. I told Inspector ZACHARY that there was a possibility that a request might be made later for additional examinations in connection with the evidence. Inspector ZACHARY said he was aware of this and as a result thereof he planned to deliver all evidence to the office of the State Attorney General and that the State Attorney General would assume custody of the evidence and place it under lock and key.

Inspector ZACHARY also stated it was at this time the intention of the State Attorney General to present the material to a Grand Jury on May 7, 1968. Inspector ZACHARY stated they anticipate requesting a first degree murder warrant for JAMES EARL RAY. He also said there is a possibility the State Attorney General's Office might want a representative of the FBI to testify in connection with this evidence.

The above information was furnished to Assistant Director ROSEN on 5/3/68.

RGJ:BN  
(1)



5010-108

44-1987-Sub-162B

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*Hester* | *qst*

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

FROM : ASAC C. O. HALTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 5/3/68

Supervisor DICK LONG on the evening of 5/2/68 telephonically instructed that copies of the summary being prepared for all Offices also be forwarded to all Legats. He also cautioned that this summary should contain complete details of all local process and all Federal process outstanding against RAY.

COH:ME  
(1)



44-1987-Sub-1600

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| MAY 3 1968          |                |
| FBI - MEMPHIS       |                |

*Halter*



5010-108

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 5/4/68

FROM : SA EUGENE A. MEDORI, JR.

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re memo of SA HARLEY E. GYLFE 4/6/68.

On 4/15/68 THELMA GALLIN or GALTIN was contacted by Bureau Agents at 47 Avon Road, Memphis, and advised that this was both her place of employment and residence. She stated she is a full-time live-in maid for the WILLIAM D. JIMISON, JR. family, above address. She stated that she did not wish at this time to be interviewed at length while in the home of her employer, but she would furnish the following information:

She stated that she had previously called Rev. L. A. HAMBLIN, Golden Leaf Baptist Church, Memphis, concerning the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. She stated that it was her opinion that there was some connection between the killing of Dr. KING and the assassination of President KENNEDY in Dallas, Texas. She was unable to furnish any specific information in this regard, but stated she felt that a conspiracy was involved in both of these killings. She spoke in a rambling, almost incoherent, manner, and was unable to substantiate her opinions in any manner.

She stated her employer, Mr. WILLIAM D. JIMISON, JR., owned a private plane and did a considerable amount of flying around the country and she felt that this activity was somewhat suspicious. She stated that maybe he has some knowledge or information concerning the KING killing. She repeatedly stated she did not feel free in speaking to Agents at this time and that she would come to the FBI Office the following morning and furnish additional information.

On 4/15/68 Mrs. WILLIAM D. JIMISON, JR., advised that THELMA has been employed by her for a number of years and that she considers her to be a capable employee. She stated, however, that she has a tendency to exaggerate things and that THELMA has spoken often of her belief that a conspiracy was involved in the killing of Dr. KING.

EAM/acp  
(2) *mg*



5010-108

44-1987-Sub-161

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

ME 44-1987

Mrs. JIMISON further stated that her husband is presently in Colorado on a business trip and that he is not employed by the U. S. Government in any capacity. She stated he is the President of the Mid-Continent Corporation, a real estate company, with offices at 16 North 3rd St., Memphis, and also is Vice President of the W. D. Jimison and Sons Company, 2306 South Parkway East, Memphis, Tenn. She stated her husband does own a private plane and does fly a great deal in connection with his business and on vacation. She stated her husband attended a convention of the Sportsman Pilot Association in Litchfield, Arizona, during the week of April 6-13, 1968. She stated she and her husband have three children, a son and 2 daughters, WILLIAM JIMISON, age 16, student at Memphis University School; LEE JIMISON, age 19, student at William Woods College, Fulton, Missouri, and GAY JIMISON, age 12, student at Hutcheson School, Memphis, Tenn. She also stated her family has lived in Memphis for approximately 20 years.

THELMA GALLIN or GALTIN has not appeared at the FBI Office, and repeated efforts to contact her have been unsuccessful. On 4/25/68 Mrs. JIMISON telephonically advised that THELMA had been gone for about 2 weeks attending a funeral in West Tennessee. She stated THELMA left without saying exactly where she was going or if she would return. Mrs. JIMISON stated she will contact the FBI should she return.

5/6/68

JEWELL J. WILLIAMS, Moss Alley, Savannah, Tennessee, advised that he was released from the Federal Penitentiary in Springfield, Missouri, in July 1967. He returned to Savannah, Tennessee, where his mother ANNIE DOWNING operates a used clothing store at 913 Clay Street.

WILLIAMS stated that in September 1967 at approximately 8:00 p.m., an individual who strongly resembles JAMES EARL RAY came to his residence, 912 Clay Street, located directly across the street from the above-mentioned used clothing store. This individual wanted to know who owned the store and if he could buy some used clothing.

WILLIAMS advised that he told this man the store was closed but he would open the store for him. This individual told WILLIAMS that he was an FBI man and he was investigating gun running between Tennessee and Mississippi and needed used clothing to assist him in his work. He advised that he sold this individual two shirts and two pair of pants for 50 cents each and that this person changed from a sport shirt and pants into the old clothes. WILLIAMS advised that he laughed at this individual and told him he looked like "a local hillbilly." He added that the individual got mad at him and began berating him for making fun of him.

Mr. WILLIAMS further advised that he knew the man was not an FBI Agent because he had been in too many prisons to be fooled by such a story. He stated that he was suspicious of this individual and memorized the license number of the car he was driving. He stated he later wrote this information on the wall of the house where he was living. He recalled that this person was driving a 1965, 1966, or 1967 white Chevrolet bearing either Alabama or Mississippi license. He recalled that he attempted to charge this man \$1 apiece for the shirts and pants but they became engaged in an argument and the

5/2/68

Savannah, Tennessee

Memphis 44-1987-Sub-162

SA WILLIAM M. PERRIGAN:wp

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unknown individual stated that he had traveled all the way from Iuka, Mississippi, to get the clothing and that he could have bought it for 50 cents each in Iuka. WILLIAMS stated that he sold the man the clothing for 50 cents each.

Mr. WILLIAMS described this individual as follows:

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Race           | White  |
| Sex            | Male   |
| Age            | In his 30's  |
| Height         | 5'10"  |
| Weight         | 165 pounds   |
| Hair           | Dark brown (locked dyed)                                 |
| Complexion     | Light  |
| Characteristic | Wears size 15 or 15½ inch shirt and 32 inch waist pants. |

Mr. WILLIAMS recalled that the individual left in his white Chevrolet at a high rate of speed and that is the last time he has seen or heard from him.



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5/6/68

Mrs. JAMES HARDY, 912 Clay Street, Savannah, Tennessee, consented to the Agent examining the left side of the wall in her front room. It was noted that there was writing on this wall. A careful check of the pencil notation on the wall revealed the following: 1964 or later Chevrolet, white, 70 4699, and the date 9/28.

Mrs. HARDY advised that she has lived in this house for approximately three months and the writing was there when she moved in. She could furnish no information regarding the person who made the notation on the wall.

5/2/68

Savannah, Tennessee

Memphis 44-1987-Sub-113

SA WILLIAM M. PERRIGAN:wp

5/3/68

W. M. PERRIGAN  
F. B. I. - MEMPHIS

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (44-1987)

DATE: 5/6/68

FROM : SA HOWELL S. LOWE

SUBJECT: MURKIN

(OO: Memphis)

At 2:45 p.m., this date, Captain JEWELL RAY, Inspectional Bureau, Memphis Police Department, advised that he had just received an anonymous telephone call from a person who identified himself as CHARLIE who stated that JAMES EARL RAY's body will be found between the 15th and 18th of May in an area 50 miles south of where the individual from Baltimore, Maryland, was arrested by the Mexican police a couple of weeks ago. According to this anonymous caller RAY was paid \$50,000 to kill KING but was only able to spend approximately \$10,000. This money according to the caller passed through some 12 people's hands before reaching RAY and that arrangements had been made at least three years ago to assassinate KING. The anonymous caller stated that the individual who arranged KING's death and who paid the \$50,000 desired that RAY's body be found. Caller stated that RAY departed Memphis immediately upon assassinating KING, was out of town within 12 minutes, traveled to Atlanta, Ga., subsequently traveled from Atlanta and returned to Birmingham, thereafter traveling from Birmingham to Las Vegas, to Phoenix, Arizona, and down into Mexico.

Captain RAY stated that the identical information has been received by two other police officers within the past thirty minutes, from the same anonymous source.

HSL:gmh

(2) *gmh*

*44-1987-Sub-164*

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| FBI - MEMPHIS   |              |

*Hester*



5010-108

*For summary today*

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