

4/8/68

AIRTEL

AM

TO: SAC's CINCINNATI (157-1893)
LITTLE ROCK (157-1215)

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P

MURKIN

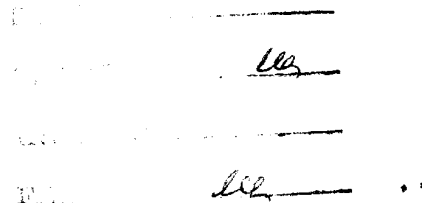
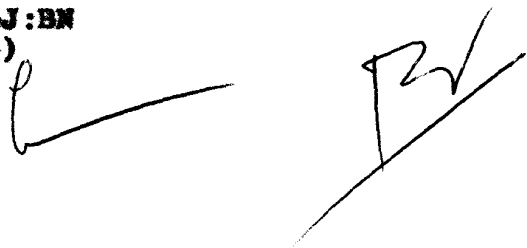
Cincinnati furnished Memphis by mail copy of teletype sent to Bureau under caption "Assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., RM," which dealt primarily with Racial Matters in Cincinnati area. There is no information in instant teletype which has any bearing on the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING which is handled by Memphis Division under caption "MURKIN." This investigation deals only with an effort to locate the murderer of Dr. KING.

The various Racial Matters and disturbances which are outgrowths of the assassination of Dr. KING are of no specific interest to Memphis unless they have a bearing on the identity of the suspect in instant case.

Little Rock submitted under caption "UNSUB; ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING," 4/4/68, Memphis, Tenn., RM;" OO: ME, an Airtel which dealt primarily with marches in memory of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING in Little Rock and Fayetteville, Arkansas. The Memphis Office has no specific interest in Racial Matters in Little Rock territory unless they have a specific bearing on the solution of the murder of Dr. KING.

2 CINCINNATI (AM)
2 LITTLE ROCK (AM)
1 MEMPHIS

RGJ:BN
(5)



44-1987-Sub B-33

4/8/68

AIRTEL

AM

TO: SAC, CHICAGO
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1978) P
MURKIN

There is enclosed for your office one copy of a self-explanatory memorandum from SA HARLEY E. GYLFE to the SAC, Memphis, 4-6-68.

For your information, leads have previously been set out for the Boston Office to consider VINCENT PAUL DePALMA as a suspect in this case and to attempt to eliminate him.

You may wish to interview the complainant, Mr. ED BUMGARDNER, for information in his possession concerning the "Minutemen."

2 CHICAGO (Enc. 1)
① MEMPHIS

JCH:BN
(3)

enc - 44-1987-Sub-45

SEARCHED

SERIALIZED

INDEXED

FILED

lls

lls

44-1987-Sub B-34
JCH

F B I

Date: **4/8/68**

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

Via **Airtel** _____
(Priority)

To: SACs, Memphis (Enclosures - 15)
Birmingham (Enclosures - 3)
✓ From: Director, FBI

MURKIN

Enclosed for Memphis will be the following:
three color photographs of green and brown cloth, six
photographs of beer can bearing Mississippi tax paid
printing, six photographs of items containing price tags.

Enclosed for Birmingham are three copies of
a photograph of brown and green cloth.

44-1987-Sub B-34A

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

[Handwritten signatures and initials over the stamp]

Sent Via _____ M Per _____

4/9/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
ATTN: IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P

MURKIN

Enclosed for the Bureau is a fingerprint card and set of major case prints obtained by the Jackson, Tennessee PD from one RICHARD KIRBY RAGAN, born [redacted] in Dyer County, Tennessee, and who was arrested 4-7-68 by that Department for carrying a concealed weapon.

It is requested that the Bureau search RAGAN's prints against latents obtained in instant case and attempt to eliminate him as a suspect. These prints may be retained or destroyed as the Bureau sees fit.

A & D.

3 BUREAU (Enc. 5)

① MEMPHIS

JCH:BN
(4)

[Handwritten signature]

[Faint stamps and handwritten marks]

[Handwritten initials]

44-1987-Sub-B-35

F B I

Date: 4/8/68

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

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS
 FROM : SAC, SAVANNAH (44-1768)
 RE : MURKIN

Re Savannah tels, 4/8/68.

Enclosed for Memphis is a photograph obtained from Mrs. GEORGE B. SHEAROUSE, 2808 Second Street, Thunderbolt, Ga., of TERRY MC REE, his wife, MARY ELLEN, nee Schofehouse (phonetic); HANK GERCAN (phonetic); and Mrs. JOHN DAVENPORT. Mrs. SHEAROUSE requested that this photograph be returned to her.

MC REE is individual standing in photograph, wearing dark colored shirt and holding paper cup. Mrs. MC REE is dark-haired woman sitting, holding cup.

MEMPHIS, exhibit photograph of MC REE to witnesses, instant case. Return photograph to Savannah when no longer of value.

② Memphis (Encl. 1)
 2- Savannah

TDW:ehr
 (4)

4-12-68
 Computer
 reflects photo
 Photo to show
 to return
 to SV later
 Ken

44-1987-Sub B-36

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 9 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Heckle qts

Approved: _____
 Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____
 Lead Goodwin

F B I

Date: 4/8/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM: SAC, LITTLE ROCK (157-1215) P

RE: UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
ASSASSINATION OF DOCTOR
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.,
APRIL 4, 1968,
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE
RACIAL MATTERS

OO MEMPHIS

(INDEX)

Re Springfield teletype to Little Rock, 4/5/68.

The following investigation was conducted at Marion, Arkansas, by SA GEORGE B. STEWART:

Mrs. RUTH WALKER, Manager, Westlane Motel, Marion, Arkansas, advised on 4/5/68, that she recalls that approximately two or three weeks ago when it was first reported that MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., was coming to Memphis, Tenn., a motel guest discussed KING with her. He stated that he was from Chicago and was a former police officer in that city. He remarked that someone ought to shoot KING and that after the trouble he had caused last summer in Chicago that if he returned to Chicago, someone would probably shoot him.

Mrs. WALKER advised that this man was a guest at the motel for one night and that from a check of her registration cards she could not determine his name. She stated that he was a retired man approximately 70 years old and that the above remarks were made in general conversation and were not construed by her as a threat on the life of KING.

2 - Memphis
2 - Little Rock
GBS:lrc
(4)

44-1987-Sub-B-37

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 9 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Stewart *qst*

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

LR 157-1215

She denied that she had remarked to anyone that, "A Chicago police officer told her he had come down here to shoot MARTIN LUTHER KING."

Mrs. WALKER pointed out that during the height of the racial violence in Memphis, a number of people had remarked that KING ought to be shot, but that these remarks were made in general conversation and could not be contrued as threats on KING's life.

4/9/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, ST. LOUIS
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) -P-
RE: MURKIN

On the evening of the above date Mr. DOUGLASS JOHNSON, Route 2, Box 83A, Decatur, Alabama, phone 355-4255, who described himself as a Vice-President of a manufacturing company, phoned the Memphis Office. He had the call charged to his own phone. He advised as follows:

Around 1:30 p.m., 3/30/68, he stopped at a liquor store on Old Highway 61 between Steele, Missouri and Blytheville, Arkansas. This store is about 10' inside the Missouri line. The young man who sold him a bottle of whiskey resembled the artist's sketch of the killer of KING. He had a long pointed nose and was using a lot of rough talk in talking about Negroes.

LEADS:

ST. LOUIS DIVISION

AT STEELE, MISSOURI

Will conduct appropriate investigation to identify or eliminate the young man as the slayer of Dr. KING.

Airtel _____
Teletype _____
A.M. _____
A.M.S.D. **2 - St. Louis**
2 - Memphis
Spec. Del **MSP/vtp**
(4)
Reg. Mail _____
Registered _____

FILED _____

44-1987-Sub B 39
no lead here
act

4/9/68

AIRTEL

AM

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

MURKIN

Enclosed for the information of Birmingham are two Polaroid copies of artist's conception of UNSUB this case based on description furnished by witness RALPH CARPENTER, salesman, York Arms Co., Memphis, Tennessee, 4-9-68.

2 BIRMINGHAM (Enc. 2)
1 MEMPHIS

RGJ:BN
(3)

44-1987-Sub B-39

llh

llh

Qlt

File—Serial Charge Out
FD-5 (Rev. 6-17-70)

GPO : 1970 OF-400-586

File 44 44-1987-SUB-B Date _____
Class. Case No. Last Serial

☐ Pending ☐ Closed

Serial No. Description of Serial Date Charged

SERIAL 40 SAME AS SERIAL 39

Employee

RECHARGE

Date _____

To _____ From _____

Initials of Clerk { _____

Date { _____

Date Charged

Employee

Location

F B I

Date: 4/7/68

PLAINTEXT

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

Via AIRMAIL

URGENT
(Priority)

INDEX

TO: DIRECTOR AND MEMPHIS
 FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)
 MURKIN

ATTN: FBI IDENTIFICATION
 DIVISION AND LATENT
 FINGERPRINT SECTION

Reference Birmingham Summary teletype this date.

Agents conducting investigation in connection with customer's in Aeromarine 3/29/68, identified one JOHN WEBSTER DE SHAZO, member of National Rifle Association and avid gun enthusiast. DE SHAZO advised Agents that Unsub handled three rifles while in Aeromarine while shopping for a rifle. DE SHAZO stated that these were expensive guns and he was certain no one else would buy these guns and he could locate these guns in Aeromarine. ~~4/10/68/P/M/~~

At 10:30 P.M., this date Agents located owner of store and accompanied by DE SHAZO, went to Aeromarine and located guns referred to by DE SHAZO. They are identified as follows:

One Browning Safari Grade, Caliber 243, bolt action rifle, SN 3700Z5;

One Remington Model 700 Heavy Barrel Varmint 243, Winchester Rifle, SN 266009;

One Remington Model 788, caliber 30-30, bolt action rifle, SN 020726.

(3)
 JHG:rmb

1 - with Package

44-1987-Sub B-41

INDEXED	FILED
APR 9 1968	FBI - MEMPHIS

Pester

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

PAGE TWO

A preliminary inspection of these rifles indicates what appears to be full set of latent fingerprints. Owner indicates he has serious doubts these weapons have been handled by anyone else since handled by Unsub, 3/29/68.

Latent Fingerprint Section is requested to examine these rifles and conduct appropriate comparison and search. Sutel results Memphis and Birmingham.

Weapons are being hand carried to Identification Division by SA RALPH J. BUTLER, this date.

F B I

Date: _____

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

Via _____
(Priority)

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

4/9/68

AIRTEL

AM

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

There are enclosed two Polaroid copies of artist's
conception in this case as of this date.

3 BUREAU (Enc. 2)
1 MEMPHIS

RGJ:BN
(4)

l

*Hand
carried
via AA*

*This
sent with
registration
& songs*

44-1987-Sub B-42

Post

4/9/68

AIRTEL

AM

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

Submitted herewith for assistance of Bureau is the original registration card received from Miss KELLY, Resident Manager, Rebel Motel, 3466 Lamar Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee. Suspect in instant case did in his own handwriting fill out this registration card. It is his writing that appears after the word "Name," after the word "State," and after the word "City."

Mrs. HENRIETTA HAGEMASTER, Assistant Manager, Rebel Motel, with whom this guest registered, stated that the numbers appearing under car license, the "Ala" appearing under "State", and the make of car "Mustang" were also written in by the guest. Mrs. HAGEMASTER stated the other writing in the lower portion of this card is her own. The writing on the reverse side of the card is also Mrs. HAGEMASTER's. This card was received by SAC JENSEN from Miss KELLY, Resident Mgr., on April 9, 1968.

It is requested that the Document Section compare writing on this registration card with handwriting which appears on material submitted by the Birmingham Division.

Also submitted herewith for assistance of the Laboratory is one bar of Cameo toilet soap which is the brand used by the Rebel Motel. Laboratory is requested to confirm that this is identical with what appears to be one bar of Cameo soap in photograph previously submitted to Memphis reflecting contents of blue bag submitted in this case.

3 BUREAU (Enc. 2)
1 MEMPHIS
RGJ:BN
(4)

Hand carried
SA J. J. Patterson
aka to AA
RAJ
to Capt C M Vickers
all 7:45 PM
lv me 6:45 PM
arr DC Hall 9:29 PM

44-1987-Sub B-43

9/8

4/9/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

INDEX

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, *Memphis* ~~LITTLE ROCK~~ (44-1987) (P)

ATTN.: Latent
Fingerprint
Section

MURKIN
CR

OO: ME

Enclosed herewith are 25 lifts of latent fingerprints taken from inside room # 34 of the Rebel Motor Hotel, 3466 Lamar Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee, on 4/9/68. This room was occupied by ERIC S. GALT on the night of 4/3/68.

Bureau is requested to compare enclosed latent fingerprints with latents found on evidence previously submitted in this case.

Reg. # 71288m en

3 - Bureau (Enc. 25) (RM)

② - Memphis

RFB:raj

(5)

144

*Prints
taken
by SA Teter*

TW

44-1987-Sub B-44

Hester

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/8/68

Mrs. KATHLEEN WEST, Personnel Clerk, Personnel Department, Day Brite Lighting, Incorporated, South Green and Day Brite Drive, Tupelo, Mississippi, made available the time card of JOHN H. WILLARD for the current work week. This card revealed that WILLARD is employed in department number 332, clock number 193, and that on Thursday, April 4, 1968, he checked in at 6:46 A.M. and checked out at 3:32 P.M.

44-1987-Sub B-45

On 4/5/68 at Tupelo, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA JOHN S. CASTLES
SA FRANCIS G. HONAN/JSC:bls

Date dictated

4/5/68
APR 10

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/8/68

BILLY GLEN DOWDY, 115 Warren Street, Pontotoc, Mississippi, was interviewed at the Day Brite Lighting, Incorporated, South Green and Day Brite Drive, Tupelo, Mississippi.

Mr. DOWDY advised that he works in the same department at Day Brite's Lighting, Incorporated, as does JOHN WILLARD and they are in the same car pool together. He advised that on April 4, 1968, he and WILLARD punched out about the same time and got into WILLARD's 1968 Ford pickup Deluxe, yellow and white, and drove to the Union Hall located on North Spring Street, Tupelo, Mississippi, and attended a meeting of local 1028, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. He said the union meeting ended shortly before 5:00 P.M. on April 4, 1968, after which time the two of them got into WILLARD's truck and drove to Pontotoc, Mississippi, where WILLARD let him out at his home around 5:10 or 5:15 P.M. and WILLARD left his home en route to his, WILLARD's, residence located on Highway 6 west of Pontotoc, Mississippi.

On 4/5/68 at Tupelo, MississippiFile # Jackson 157-9586by SA JOHN S. CASTLES
SA FRANCIS G. HONAN/JSC:blsDate dictated 4/5/68 *llh*
APR 10

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

llh
llh
plk

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/8/68

Mr. WATSON MARLIN, Supervisor, Line 1, Day Brite Lighting, Incorporated, South Green Street, Tupelo, and Day Brite Drive, Tupelo, Mississippi, stated that he had occasion to immediately supervise JOHN H. WILLARD on Line 1 in the Day Brite factory on April 4, 1968. Mr. MARLIN stated that he recalls JOHN H. WILLARD being on the line during the entire working period which consisted of the period of time from 7:00 A.M. until 3:30 P.M. MARLIN stated that the only period of absence he could recall would have been from 11:45 A.M. until 12:15 P.M. during which time WILLARD would have been on his lunch break.

Mr. MARLIN stated that he could not verify the exact time that WILLARD punched in to work on April 4, 1968, nor could he verify the punching out at 3:30 P.M.; however, he stated that in WILLARD's absence the entire assembly line would have been closed down and this was not done.

44-1987-Sub B-45B

On 4/5/68 at Tupelo, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA DONALD H. GREENE/bls

Date dictated 4/5/68 *llh llh*

APR 10

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

glt

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/8/68

JOHN HUBEART WILLARD, after being advised of the nature of the inquiry and the identity of the interviewing agents, was given a form entitled "Your Rights" and after reading the form and signing the "Waiver of Rights" section of the form, furnished the following information concerning his activities. On April 4, 1968, he stated that he arrived at his place of employment, the Day Brite Lighting, Incorporated, plant located at South Green and Day Brite Drive, Tupelo, Mississippi, shortly before 7:00 A.M. He said that he was at the plant all the day long and punched out several minutes after 3:30 P.M. on April 4, 1968. He related after leaving the plant he and BILLY GLENN DOWDY went to the Union Hall located on North Spring Street, Tupelo, Mississippi, and attended a union meeting of local 1028, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. This union meeting lasted until shortly before 5:00 P.M., after which time he and DOWDY got into his 1968 Ford pickup Deluxe, yellow and white, having no license plate, and drove to the home of DOWDY located on Warren Street, Pontotoc, Mississippi, where he let DOWDY out of the truck and then he proceeded to his home located west of Pontotoc, Mississippi, on Highway 6, approximately five miles.

WILLARD stated that when he arrived at his home around 5:30 P.M. on April 5, 1968, his wife, BARBARA NELL, and their son, RANDY JOE, were already at home. He said he did not leave his home after arriving home and retired for the evening around 8:30 P.M. He stated that prior to his evening meal, he started mowing the lawn.

WILLARD stated he did not go to Memphis on April 4, 1968, and has not been to Memphis in approximately a month, at which time he had visited a brother who resides in Southaven, Mississippi. WILLARD further stated that he has no knowledge of the individual or individuals responsible for the shooting of Dr. KING, stating that the only information he has is what he

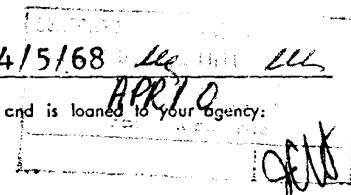
On 4/5/68 at Tupelo, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

SA JOHN S. CASTLES

by SA FRANCIS G. HONAN/JSC:bls

Date dictated 4/5/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.



JN 157-9586

2

learned while viewing television.

The following description of WILLARD was obtained through interview and observation:

Name:	JOHN HUBEART WILLARD
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Date of Birth:	
Place of Birth:	Pontotoc County, Mississippi
Height:	5 feet 11 inches
Weight:	160
Eyes:	Blue
Hair:	Brown - normally wears crew cut but now hair growing out
Education:	9th grade, Hurricane School, Pontotoc County, Mississippi
Military Service:	None
Selective Service Board:	Pontotoc County, Pontotoc, Mississippi
Marital Status:	Married
Wife:	BARBARA NELL WILLARD, nee DAY, Route 5, Pontotoc, Mississippi, employed Credit Bureau, Oxford, Mississippi
Children:	One, son RANDY JOE WILLARD, 4th grade student, Thaxton School, Pontotoc County, Mississippi
Parents:	Mr. and Mrs. ENIS D. WILLARD, Hurricane Community, Pontotoc County, Mississippi, mailing address Route 1, Thaxton, Mississippi
Brothers:	KENNETH D. WILLARD, 28

Dudley Street,
Southaven, Mississippi,
employed Mengle Box
Company, Memphis,
Tennessee
SHIRLEY QUAY WILLARD, 22
Pontotoc, Mississippi,
employed Brookwood
Manufacturing Company,
Pontotoc, Mississippi
LINDER WILLARD, 36,
Route 1, Thaxton,
Mississippi

Sisters: Mrs. W. K. (BILLY JOYCE) WILLIAM
street address unknown,
Southaven, Mississippi
Mrs. PETE (JUNE) BLACK,
street address unknown,
Southaven, Mississippi
Mrs. KENNETH (FRANCES) FRANKLIN,
street address unknown,
Southaven, Mississippi
Mrs. GARDNER (JEAN) BULLINGTON,
street address unknown,
Southaven, Mississippi

Admitted arrests: 1958 - offense occurred
Pontotoc County, Mississippi,
but arrested in Memphis,
Tennessee, three years
probation; 1966 - public
drunk, Pontotoc, Mississippi;
several traffic violations

Previous residences: Pontotoc County, Mississippi,
except a period of residence,
1958, at 1850 Jefferson
Street, Memphis, Tennessee

Social Security Number:

Occupation: Assemblyman, Day Brite
Lighting, Incorporated,
Tupelo, Mississippi, five
years

JN 157-9586

4

Vehicles: 1968 Ford pickup
Deluxe, yellow and
white, no license
plates, owned approximately
two weeks; white 1968
model Volkswagen used by
wife for transportation
to Oxford

WILLARD voluntarily consented to be photographed
and photographs obtained.

JOHN WILLARD stated he knows of no other person
named JOHN WILLARD and he knows of no reason why anyone
might use his name. He stated he owns a Remington Semi-
Automatic .22 caliber rifle and a very old .410 shotgun.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586) (P)

DATE: 4/8/68

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Enclosed for the Memphis Division are 20 copies
of the following FD-302s:

JOHN HUBEART WILLARD, dated 4/5/68.
WATSON MARLIN, dated 4/5/68.
BILLY GLEN DOWDY, dated 4/5/68.
Mrs. KATHLEEN WEST, dated 4/5/68.

Boyle handling Willard

- ② - Memphis (44-1987) (Encls. 80)
2 - Jackson (157-9586)
JLP/bls
(4)



5010-108-01

44-1987-~~Sub B-67~~ 45D

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>llh</i>	FILED <i>llh</i>
APR 10 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester *gma*

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

4/6/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703)

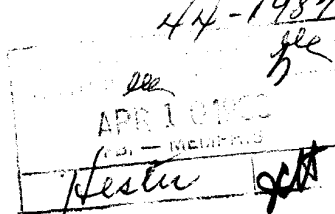
ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER
KING, JR.
CIVIL RIGHTS
(OO:ME)

Mrs. MARJORIE ULEN, 1515 Ogden Street,
N.W., telephone 291-6320, advised SA JEROME E.
VEIGLE on 4/6/68 that she worked in Congressman
GEORGE RYDER's office during 1965 - 1966, when the
Congressman was defeated. Congressman RYDER repre-
sented the Ninth Congressional District of Tennessee.

Mrs. ULEN advised that during the period
she worked in the Congressman's office she recalls
that on a regular basis they received "hate cards"
from one J. C. WILLARD, 3454 Chelsea Street, Memphis,
Tennessee. Mrs. ULEN noted that she read that one
WILLARD was named in a local newspaper as being a
suspect in the assassination of KING.

She stated that Congressman RYDER's office
records are now housed at the Memphis State University
Library at Memphis.

3-Bureau
2-Memphis
1-WFO
JEV:dan
(6) AIRTEL



Willard

Memphis
Lead
to be
checked
out

Lead Vahrenwald

WFO 44-703

This is furnished for the information of the Bureau and Memphis and for whatever action the office of origin may desire to take.

F B I

Date: 4/8/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL (Priority) *Handwritten signature*

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1978)⁸⁷
 FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)(P)
 RE: MURKIN
 CR
 OO: Memphis

INDEX

Reurtel, 4/8/68, reporting that ROSCOE SMITH, while visiting Bonds Welding Supply Company, Memphis, became unduly excited after name of victim had been mentioned.

Check of following records at Birmingham, 4/8/68, revealed no prior arrest record and no photograph available:

Recorders Court

Record Clerk, Birmingham Police Department

Identification Bureau, Jefferson County
 Sheriff's Office, Birmingham

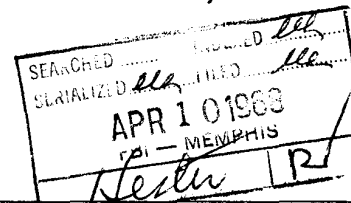
Merchants Credit Association (MCA) records reflect a file on ROSCOE CONKLIN SMITH, JR., maintained since 1948, after submission of report by Nashville Credit Bureau, 9/3/48. SMITH, a former resident of Nashville during 1948, was confined at Veterans Hospital in Nashville, for several months with blood clot in vein.

All information MCA, Birmingham, since 1948, is highly favorable. His wife, BETTY RUCKER, is member of well known Birmingham family. They have two children and are purchasing home at 2200 Marian Street, Shades Crest Estates, near Birmingham.

2 - Memphis
 2 - Birmingham

HAS:jbt
 (4)

no further action



44-1987-Sub B-47

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

BH 44-1740

SMITH has a 1965 Buick, four-door Electra 225, registered with Alabama License 1-85182. Besides representing Vulcan Binder and Cover Company, he has also been a sales representative of Ebsco Industries, Birmingham, since 1963. He was born [redacted] at Knoxville, Tennessee, served in Armed Forces from 1942 to December, 1945, honorably discharged. All credit payments have been prompt. No suits and no derogatory information.

In view of above, UAC, no further action, and SMITH will not be contacted.

4/8/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
ATTN: CENTRAL RESEARCH DESK

FROM: SAC, SAN ANTONIO (44-1242)(P)

RE: MURKIN
CR

OO: Memphis

AL KUETNER, Senior Editor Pace Magazine, 833 S. Flower St., Los Angeles, California, 4/5/68, telephonically contacted SA THOMAS W. CRAWFORD, San Antonio Office, from Chicago, Illinois, where he was on a writing assignment.

Mr. KUETNER for ten years or more Chief of the Atlanta, Georgia, UPI Bureau and thereby well acquainted with MARTIN LUTHER KING's career, advised that many of the highlights or crises of KING's life seemed to coincide with critical points in proceedings in the United Nations, or in the general area of International tensions where the dark-skinned world was in contest with the western or white world in which the United States holds pre-eminence.

Mr. KUETNER cited the fact that at the point when President JOHNSON was to embark for Hawaii with predictable raising the USA's image, KING was murdered and the President detained due to domestic turmoil.

Mr. KUETNER stated, along these lines, that when MEDGAR EVERS, closely allied in KING's endeavors, was murdered, the United States was involved in critical debate in the U.N. over issues in Africa, Asia or both, lands

3 - Bureau
② - Memphis
② - SA
TWC:fes
(7)

[Handwritten signature]

SEARCHED <i>llh</i>	INDEXED <i>llh</i>
SERIALIZED <i>llh</i>	FILED <i>llh</i>
APR 1 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester *[initials]*

44-1987-Sub B-4D

SA 44-1242

predominantly non white.

The crisis in Birmingham coincided with a serious debate in the U.N. between the white and non-white powers, and so on.

Mr. KULTNER stated that, in the limited time permitted over long-distance telephone, he was unable to develop the above suggested thesis. He said he felt that such thesis might have some bearing in development of the suspect or suspects in this case.

The above is furnished the Bureau and Memphis for information.

4/8/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
(Attention: FBI Laboratory)

FROM: SAC, BOSTON (157-644)

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
(OO: Memphis)

Re Boston teletype to Bureau 4/8/68.

Enclosed for the Laboratory are four pieces of paper each containing laundry marks on red tape which were obtained from four separate thermo-seal machines manufactured by Textile Marking Machine Co., Inc., Syracuse, N. Y., and a partial roll of unused red tape, furnished by PAUL CAMPBELL, President and General Manager, Superior Laundry Co., Inc., 625 Concord Ave., Cambridge, Mass.

For the information of the Laboratory, CAMPBELL advised that his machines print six digit numbers. He advised that his company prior to 9/67 or 10/67 used a code whereby all six digits were used as follows:

First three digits would be numbers;
then two dashes;
followed by a letter.

His company presently uses a code of six digits as follows:

3 - Bureau (Enc. 5)(RM)
1 - Memphis
2 - Boston
WJM:mar
(6)

*Laundry
Tapes*

44-1987-Sub-B-49

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 10 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester

Ramsey

BS 157-644

first two digits are numbers;
then a dash;
then one number;
then a dash; and
then a letter.

CAMPBELL viewed a photograph of laundry tape which was on the tee shirt and undershorts, the color photograph made available to Boston, and CAMPBELL said this tape definitely is not his marking.

FBI Laboratory is requested to make comparisons of the enclosed sample tapes with those found on the under-clothing of unsub in Memphis, Tenn.

4/8/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: SAC, MOBILE
FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)

MURKIN
CR

INDEX

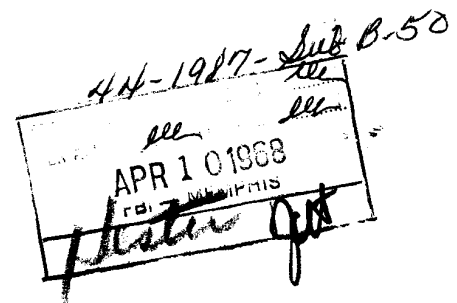
Re telcall ASAC RALPH J. RAMPTON, Birmingham, to SAC ALEXANDER, Mobile 4/8/68, furnishing contents of Cleveland tel to Birmingham and Memphis same date.

Attached is copy of reftel for completion of Mobile file.

For information Memphis and Cleveland, Alabama license 3-34652 is Montgomery County license in Mobile territory. Mobile will cover.

2 Mobile (enc-1)
1 Cleveland (44-565)
① Memphis (44-1978)
2 Birmingham (44-1740)

RJR:fc
(6)



4/9/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: BIRMINGHAM

FROM: LOUISVILLE (44-947)

INDEX

MURKIN

RE NEW YORK TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR APR. NINE INSTANT.

INVESTIGATION HARLAN, KY., RELATIVE TO JOHN H. WILLARD,
REVEALS THIS INDIVIDUAL, RESIDENT OF IVY HILL SECTION OF HARLAN,
A RETIRED M.D. FORMERLY ASSIGNED DANIEL BOONE CLINIC, HARLAN.
BEARS EXCELLENT REPUTATION AND PRACTICED FOR OVER TEN YEARS IN
HARLAN AREA PRIOR TO RETIREMENT. IVY HILL SECTION MOST
EXCLUSIVE RESIDENTIAL AREA OF HARLAN. JOHN H. WILLARD DESCRIBED
SIXTYFIVE YEARS, FIVE FEET EIGHT INCHES TO FIVE FEET NINE INCHES,
ONE SEVENTY TO ONE NINETY POUNDS, HEAVY BUILD, RECEDING HAIRLINE,
GRAY HAIR, MOUSTACHE.

IN LIGHT OF ABOVE, NO FURTHER EFFORT BEING MADE TO IDENTIFY
JOHN H. WILLARD IN CONNECTION WITH INSTANT CASE.

BUREAU AND MEMPHIS NOTIFIED AIRMAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY.

1- BUREAU (44-38861) (AMSD)
①- MEMPHIS (44-1987) (AMSD)
CAK/PAM
(3)

44-1987-Sub B-51

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 10 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester *RV*

F B I

Date: 4/8/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via Airtel _____
(Priority)

TO: SAC, Memphis (44-1987)
FROM: Director, FBI
SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka JOHN WILLARD;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS

Reference phone call SAC Jensen to Bureau, 4/6/68.

The numbers impressed on the tax stamps on tops
of both the Q52 and Q53 beer cans were found to be 03 over
158.

*Evidence
Beer
Cans*

44-1987-Sub-B-52

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>ll</i>	FILED <i>ll</i>
APR 10 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester *qld*

Sloan *✗*

Sent Via _____ M Per _____

4/9/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, MIAMI (44-1854) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re teletype to all continental offices from Bureau,
4/8/68.

Miami Office indices, credit and criminal records, city directories, telephone directories, driver's license records, automobile registration records, voter's registration records, court records, property owner's records, tax records, and utility company records throughout Miami Division checked this date with reference to the names of LOWMEYER, LOWMYER, HARVEY LOWMEYER, HARVEY LOWMYER, and all checks met with negative results.

3 - Bureau
2 - Birmingham
② - Memphis
1 - Miami
BRJ/kms
(8)

*Miami
negat
records
checked*

Lowmeyer

Job

44-1987-Sub B-53
~~44-1854-404~~

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>lls</i>	FILED <i>h</i>
APR 10 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester | *H*
Boyle RB

4-8-68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, RICHMOND (44-657) -P-
SUBJECT: MURKIN
CRF

Pursuant to Bureau instructions on 4/8/68, the color photograph of the clothing showing the laundry marks were displayed to Mr. JOSEPH A. YOUNG, Manager, Bonnie Bright Laundry, 3800 South Four Mile Run, Arlington, Va., by SA JOHN W. PFAFF, JR. Mr. YOUNG advised that Bonnie Bright Laundry uses the thermo seal marking tape similar to that shown on the clothing, however, his company has never used a marking code similar to the one on the clothing. His company has always used a marking code consisting of 4 alphabetic letters, a dash and then a number. Mr. YOUNG advised the R. E. Frank, Company, 725 11th Street, N.W., Washington, D. C., telephone number 628-2851 is the area distributor from whom they buy their seal marking tape. Mr. YOUNG advised he knew of no laundry in the Northern Virginia area using a marking code similar to or identical with the code used on the clothing in the photograph.

Bureau telephonically advised of results of interview on 4-8-68.

3 - Bureau
② - Memphis (44-1987)
2 - Richmond
JWP:jll
(7)

Laundry tag

JWP

44-1987-Sub-B-54

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 10 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Ramsey

4/9/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
(ATTN: FBI LABORATORY)

FROM: SAC, ALBANY (44-493) (P)

RE: MURKIN
CR

(OO: Memphis)

Re Albany teletype to Bureau 4/8/68.

Enclosed for the FBI Laboratory are three tapes from Thermo-Seal Machine, Model #H5K1, Serial Number 31358, which were returned to Textile Marking Machine Co., Syracuse, N.Y., on 3/15/68, by Superior French Laundry, 1284 W. Grand Ave., Oakland, California.

The Laboratory is requested, in accordance with Bureau instructions, to compare the enclosed tapes with tapes on T-shirt and shorts recovered on 4/4/68, and to furnish results of Memphis.

4-Bureau (Encs. 3) (RM)
2-Memphis (44-1987)

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

2-Albany

RSR:ad

(8)

Laundry tag

44-1987-Sub B-55

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>ll</i>	FILED <i>b</i>
FBI — MEMPHIS	

Ramsey

4/11/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

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

RE: MURKIN
CR

OO: ME

Re JN tel to Bureau, etc., 4/8/68.

Referenced teletype indicated that one ROBERT OWEN SHERIDAN was arrested by local authorities at Holly Springs, Mississippi on 4/8/68 on vagrancy charge.

When interviewed SHERIDAN advised that he had arrived in Millington, Tennessee on Thursday, April 4, 1968, and was currently registered at the Rip Van Winkle Motel in that city. SHERIDAN advised that he had gone to Holly Springs, Mississippi, on 4/7/68 and had registered at the Holly Inn Motel because he was unable to make long distance telephone calls from Tennessee as all the phone lines were tied up.

Investigation at Memphis indicates SHERIDAN registered at Rip Van Winkle Motel 4/6/68 and was still registered on 4/8/68. Registration card at Rip Van Winkle Motel indicates subject driving 1966 Cadillac with Illinois License HJ 167. Miscellaneous clothing, a polaroid camera and one U. S. Royal Laredo tire 900x15 had been removed from his room by the manager and was being kept in the manager's office.

Airtel
Teletype
3 - Bureau
1 - Chicago (Info)
1 - Jackson (157-9586) (Info)
2 - Memphis

WHD/vtp
(7)
Hester
Telen
h

44-1987-Sub B-56

ME 44-1987

Referenced teletype indicates SHERIDAN photographed and fingerprinted and fingerprints submitted to Bureau.

Bureau is requested to compare fingerprints of SHERIDAN with those previously submitted in this case.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

4/11/68
PLAINTEXT

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
Attention: IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

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

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

OO: ME Re Memphis airtel to Bureau, 4/8/68.

A review of the Klan files in the Memphis Division reveals the following to be a list of names of persons who have been reported to be associated with the Ku Klux Klan.

The Identification Division is requested to compare fingerprint cards on names submitted with any latents obtained in captioned case.

Name	JOHN DAVID ACUFF
ME file	157-710
Race	White
Sex	Male
DOB	
Only known SN	USMC SN 1547947
FBI #	71086F

Name	ROBERT PITTMAN GENTRY
ME file	157-648
Race	White
Sex	Male
DOB	
FBI #	807162E

A.M. _____
A.M.S.D. _____
2-Bureau
2-Memphis

Spec. Del. _____
RF:PEH
(5)

Reg. Mail _____

44-1987-Sub B-57

llh

llh

ME 44-1987

Name EMMETT HENDERSON RUCKER
ME file 157-642
Race White
Sex Male
DOB [REDACTED]
Only known SN Army SN 34379392

Name DAVID ERBY MC CALEB
ME file 157-638
Race White
Sex Male
DOB [REDACTED]
FBI # 108236C

Name MARSHALL PEARCE BAILEY
Race White
Sex Male
DOB [REDACTED]
Only known SN Army SN 08460700

Name LEE BAILEY MARTIN
ME file 157-866
Race White
Sex Male
DOB [REDACTED]
FBI # 716 634 D

Name JAMES ALBERT PEDIGO
ME file 157-864
Race White
Sex Male
DOB [REDACTED]
FBI # 460625
Washington PD # 24736

Name THOMAS E. PATTERSON
ME file 157-863
Race White
Sex Male
DOB [REDACTED]
Ft. Pillow, Tennessee,
State Farm # 47206

ME 44-1987

Name
ME file
Race
Sex
DOB
Only known SN

LEON HOLMAN
157-605
White
Male
[REDACTED]
Army SN 25292958

Name
ME file
Race
Sex
DOB
Only known SN

ROBERT MELVIN KELLY
157-859
White
Male
[REDACTED]
U. S. Army Engineers
during World War II,
Marine SN 34428604

Name
ME file
Race
Sex
DOB
Only known SN

WILLIAM EDWARD HOUGHINS
157-91
White
Male
[REDACTED]
Marine SN 1295590

Name
ME file
Race
Sex
DOB
Only known SN

HARVEY DWIGHT BRIDGES
157-831
White
Male
[REDACTED]
Navy SN 6880271

Name
ME file
Race
Sex
DOB
Only known SN

EVERSON FERRELL AUTRY
157-826
White
Male
[REDACTED]
Army Air Corps SN 34476447

Name
ME file
Race
Sex
DOB
Only known SN

JOHN BASCOLM MAYFIELD
157-700
White
Male
[REDACTED]
Army SN ER53061802

ME 44-1987

Name	VERNON DOYLE ELLINGTON
ME file	157-701
Race	White
Sex	Male
DOB	[REDACTED]
Only known SN	Army Reserve SN ERL4742113

Name	JOHNNY W. JONES
ME file	170-204
Race	White
Sex	Male
Birth date	Unknown
Only known SN	Navy SN 7758760

Name	LESLIE LLOYD HASH
ME file	157-740
Race	White
Sex	Male
DOB	[REDACTED]
FBI #	W03718A

Name	BILLY RAYMOND MORPHIS
ME file	157-738
Race	White
Sex	Male
DOB	[REDACTED]
Only known SN	Army National Guard SN NG25364039

Name	ROBERT EDWARD LEE MC CAMPBELL
ME file	157-796
Race	White
Sex	Male
DOB	[REDACTED]
Only known SN	Air Force SN 14575853

Name	CARL STANLEY GODWIN
ME file	157-795
Race	White
Sex	Male
DOB	[REDACTED]
Only known SN	Army SN RA14749001
Shelby County, Memphis, Tenn., SO#	33347

ME 44-1987

Name
ME file
Race
Sex
DOB
Only known SN

WILLIAM A. ADCOCK
157-776
White
Male
[REDACTED]
Army SN 36928740

Name
ME file
Race
Sex
DOB
FBI #

JAMES ROBERT HOWARD, JR.
157-772
White
Male
[REDACTED]
348279E

Name
ME file
Race
Sex
DOB
Only known SN

WILLIAM GARFIELD SNOW, JR.
157-771
White
Male
[REDACTED]
Army SN 34732794

Name
ME file
DOB
Race
Sex
Only known SN

RAYMOND ADAMS
157-771
[REDACTED]
White
Male
Army SN 24906537

Name
ME file
Race
Sex
DOB
Only known SN

EDWARD LEE HOUSLEY
157-768
White
Male
[REDACTED]
Army SN 14211758

Name
ME file
Race
Sex
DOB
Only known SN

GEORGE HOWELL, JR.
157-265
White
Male
Not known
Army SN RA53305195

ME 44-1987

Name	DONALD WILLIAM BRANCH
ME file	157-212
Race	White
Sex	Male
DOB	[REDACTED]
FBI #	1083956
Name	WILLIAM J. SIMMONS
ME file	157-237
Race	White
Sex	Male
DOB	[REDACTED]
Only known SN	Navy Reserve 6445261
Name	DARRELL CROOK
Race	White
Sex	Male
DOB	[REDACTED]
ME file	157-164
Only known SN	Army SN 53243556
Name	KENNETH LEE WHEELER
ME file	157-714
Race	White
Sex	Male
DOB	[REDACTED]
Only known SN	Army SN RA44061240
Name	EMMETT L. BAKER
ME 157-711	[REDACTED]
DOB	[REDACTED]
Race	White
Sex	Male
Only known SN	Marine SN 1012408
Name	VICTOR EDWARD JENNINGS
ME file	157-726
Race	White
Sex	Male
DOB	[REDACTED]
Dyersburg, Tenn. PD #	8066

ME 44-1897

Name JAMES ANDREW MAULDIN
ME file 157-725
Race White
Sex Male
DOB [REDACTED]
Chicago, Illinois,
County Jail # 202139
Only known SN Army SN 34936979

Name BOBBY RAY MC BROCK
ME file 157-805
Race White
Sex Male
DOB [REDACTED]
Nashville, Tennessee,
State Prison # 45055
Dyersburg, Tennessee,
PD # F9799

Name JAMES EDWARD BROWN, SR.
ME file 157-802
Race White
Sex Male
DOB [REDACTED]
Only known SN Army SN 34913711

Name EDWARD LINDSAY HUGHES
ME file 157-76
Race White
Sex Male
DOB [REDACTED]
Only known SN Navy SN 3481597

Name WELDON HERBERT ADAMS
ME file 157-735
Race White
Sex Male
DOB [REDACTED]
Tennessee Bureau of Criminal
Identification # 125889
Fingerprint 11 S 9 U T-A
Classification S 2 A T-A

ME 44-1987

Name
ME file
Race
Sex
DOB
FBI #

WILLIAM EDMOND MILLER
157-719
White
Male
842801 A.

DIRECTOR, FBI

4/10/68

SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

MURKIN
CIVIL RIGHTS

Enclosed for the Bureau are copies of newspaper
clippings from daily newspapers at Memphis, Tennessee,
dated April 5, 1968.

2 - Bureau (Enc-46)
2 - Memphis

JCH/acp

(4)

King

44-1987-Sub B-58

llh

llh

JCH

DIRECTOR, FBI
Attention: FBI Laboratory

4-8-68

SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386) (P)

MURKIN

Re Atlanta teletype to Bureau, Memphis and Albany,
dated 4/8/68.

Transmitted herewith are five sample laundry tapes
bearing Code # 02B-6.

Enclosed sample tapes were obtained from from Thermoseal
tape machine, Serial Number 31973, Model H5L1, owned and operated
by Blum's Individual Laundry and Dry Cleaning Co., 463 Cotton
Avenue, Macon, Georgia.

Investigation at Blum's revealed this establishment does
not use a code similar to Code #02B-6. Their code consist of
1- through 99 for lot number, a letter for week and last two
digits for bundle numbers running -1 through 20. Red tape is
used by Blum's for special work. They do not ordinarily place
a tape on small items such as shorts unless the work only consists
of two or three items. Blum's machine has only five characters.
The tape is cut one and one eighth inch long and there is no
indication that the machine has malfunctioned in the past causing
tape to be cut one and one sixteenth inch long.

FBI Laboratory is requested to compare enclosed sample
tapes with tape from suspect's shorts previously submitted by
the Memphis Office.

3 Bureau (AMSD) (Encls. 5)
✓ 1 Memphis (Info)
1 Albany (Info)
2 Atlanta (44-2386)
TLL/tl
(7)

Supls

44-1987-Sub B-58A

~~44-1987-Sub B-58B~~

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 10 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester

Ramsey

LAUNDRY TAPES.