

5

PK 44-371
ME 44-1987
EJVL/gle

HARRELL in September, 1952, at Lake Village, Arkansas, and had lived with him for one year, separating from him in September, 1953. She said that in December, 1953, she gave birth to a daughter who is now 14 years of age. She stated that following separation, she has heard that her ex-husband had been in prison and she stated that as a matter of fact he had been arrested by the Flagstaff Sheriff's Office and sent to the Arizona State Penitentiary, Florence, Arizona, for non-support in connection with their child. She said this is the last she had seen of him, but that she understood that he had later returned to Arkansas and had obtained a divorce.

Mrs. WILSON advised that she and DAVID WILSON were married in January or February, 1965, and that that summer they went to Idaho. She stated that while they were in Idaho "JIMMIE" HARRELL came to Flagstaff, Arizona, and was out to the house of her sister, TILLIE HERNANDEZ, looking for her, EDNA WILSON. She stated that HARRELL was not given any information as to her whereabouts, however, at that time.

Mrs. WILSON advised that HARRELL was about 40 years of age, 5' 9-10" tall, 150 to 160 pounds, small boned, brown hair and brown eyes. She said that he was born in Mississippi, but that he was brought up in Lake Village, Arkansas. She stated that HARRELL's parents resided in Lake Village, Arkansas, and that she believed his father's first name was EMMETT. She further stated that HARRELL has a married sister, FANNIE (last name unknown), at McGee, Arkansas.

Mrs. WILSON advised that HARRELL had had various relatives in Flagstaff, Arizona, principally an aunt and uncle, but she believed that they probably no longer reside in Flagstaff. She said also in Flagstaff he had had a cousin, PAUL HARRELL, who had married a Mexican girl named MOLLY.

Mrs. WILSON stated that she had no recent information concerning HARRELL. She recalled, however, that on the night her husband had taken her to Flagstaff, Friday,

6
PX 44-371
ME 44-1987
EJVL/gle

April 12, 1968, her husband DAVID WILSON had picked up some of the children at the show and then had gone by the Snack Shack in Flagstaff to see if RONNIE HERNANDEZ, the 17-year-old son of her sister TILLIE HERNANDEZ, wanted a ride home. She said that RONNIE declined the ride and later mentioned that some guy or guys in the Snack Shack had questioned him after DAVE had left concerning the identity of DAVE, apparently eliciting the information that he was married to her, EDNA WILSON. RONNIE was also asked where DAVE WILSON had obtained the car he was driving, which Mrs. WILSON said was a rental vehicle, and that RONNIE told the inquirer that he had paid cash for it. Mrs. WILSON stated that HARRELL used to go to the Snack Shack and that it might just be possible that he could have been there and questioned RONNIE or overheard someone else questioning RONNIE.

Mrs. WILSON advised that she had never heard her husband say anything indicating he had any knowledge of the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

1
PX 44-371
ME 44-1987
EJVL/mcl

The following investigation was conducted by
SA KENNETH J. VAN LOON:

AT PHOENIX, ARIZONA

On April 22, 1968 FLOYD L. MINARD, Identification Bureau, Phoenix Police Department, advised that a search of his records failed to locate any information concerning DAVID WILSON, born [redacted], or one CLARENCE CLARK, described approximately in his forties, five feet one or two inches tall, 135 to 140 pounds.

Mr. MICHAEL F. GROOM, Supervisor, Drivers License Records, Motor Vehicle Division, Arizona Highway Department, advised IC LESLIE SANDERLIN, JR. on April 22, 1968 there is no record of a driver's license issued to DAVID BELL WILSON of either Phoenix or Flagstaff, Arizona.

By communication dated April 22, 1968 the Dallas Division reported that T. L. MAULDIN, Records Clerk, Federal Correctional Institution (FCI), Texarkana, Texas, advised that the records of that institution show that DAVID L. WILSON, FCI Number 12591, was received on November 7, 1961 and was transferred to the Federal Correctional Institution, Tallahassee, Florida on January 12, 1962.

Mr. MAULDIN further advised that one CLARENCE JAMES CLARK, age 38 in 1956, FCI 11353, was serving a sentence for White Slave Traffic Act violation at FCI, Texarkana, until he was transferred to the Federal Hospital, Springfield, Missouri on July 17, 1961. He was scheduled for release in 1961, exact date not given, with time off for good behavior. CLARK would then have been on conditional release for 336 days. CLARK was shown as being from Lake Charles, Louisiana. CLARK and WILSON were not at the FCI, Texarkana, Texas at the same time, according to these records.

By communication dated April 22, 1968 Jacksonville reported that the records of the Florida State Prison, Raiford, Florida, reflect that DAVID L. WILSON, Inmate Number 6474747, FBI Number 792242C, was received November 21, 1966 to serve two years for escape from Pasco County, Florida Jail where he was originally convicted on a robbery charge.

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 1 8 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	
Hester	QHA

44-1987-Sub-B-708

2
PX 44-371
ME 44-1987
RJVL/mcl

WILSON was released April 6, 1968 upon expiration of sentence. No record of a CLARENCE CLARK was located at the Reiford Prison, based on the information available. Examination of records of the Florida Division of Corrections, Tallahassee, Florida, failed to locate a further record on WILSON, or any record for CLARK.

Records of the FCI, Tallahassee, show that DAVID WILSON was received from Texarkana, Texas on January, 1962, and was paroled September 4, 1962. FCI, Tallahassee, had no record on CLARK.

By communication dated April 23, 1968 the Kansas City Division furnished information concerning CLARENCE JAMES CLARK, U. S. Penitentiary Number 76195-L, described as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of Birth	
Place of Birth	Mountain Park, Oklahoma
Height	5 ft. 9½ inches
Weight	160 pounds
FBI Number	4750341

In view of the physical description of this individual it would not appear that he is identical to the CLARENCE CLARK previously referred to by DAVID L. WILSON.

A review of the Identification Records of DAVID LINDSEY WILSON, FBI Number 792242C, as of April 23, 1968, and JAMES EARL RAY, FBI Number 405 942 G, as of April 22, 1968, fails to indicate that these two individuals were ever incarcerated in a common institution at the same time.

By communication dated April 22, 1968 the Houston Division advised that CLARENCE EUGENE BRIZENDINE, Elm Springs, Arkansas, interviewed at Houston, advised that in the summer of 1967 he and DAVID L. WILSON were on a cross-country run for Shaw Company when their truck was stopped at Lebanon, Missouri by the police while WILSON was driving. WILSON was charged with drunk driving, BRIZENDINE having been asleep in the truck bunk at the time and was not taken into custody. BRIZENDINE stated that he spent that night in the truck cab and the next morning, without an extra

3
PX 44-371
ME 44-1987
EJVL/mcl

driver. He returned to the point of origin. BRIZENDINE stated that he has not seen WILSON since that time and that he does not know WILSON's whereabouts. He learned that WILSON was fined \$100.00 and had called his employer for the fine payment. BRIZENDINE stated he knew very little of the background of WILSON as he had made only one previous road trip with WILSON. He described WILSON as "odd" and possibly an alcoholic. He said WILSON indicated that his family was at Flagstaff, Arizona. He said he recalled no conversation with WILSON concerning racial problems and he had been unaware of any prison confinement for WILSON.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/30/681

PATRICIA HERNANDEZ, 2 Woodland Circle, Flagstaff, Arizona, advised that she is the daughter of TILLIE HERNANDEZ who is the sister-in-law of DAVID L. WILSON. She said she has known WILSON since his marriage to her aunt, EDNA, in 1965. She said that during this time the WILSONs have been irregular but frequent visitors to her home and seemed to have a great deal of personal problems. She said she is fond of DAVID WILSON who has always been kind to her and the other HERNANDEZ children, but knows very little about his personal life prior to his marriage to EDNA.

Miss HERNANDEZ advised that, during her acquaintance with DAVID WILSON, he has never brought a personal friend or acquaintance to her home other than local people with whom she was already acquainted. She advised that she can recall no acquaintance with anyone associated with WILSON who speaks with a Southern accent. She said she has never heard the name CLARENCE CLARK and it means absolutely nothing to her.

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <u>h</u>	FILED <u>h</u>
MAY 13 1968	
FBI — MEMPHIS	

Hester *gmk*

On 4/22/68 at Flagstaff, Arizona File # PX 44-371
by SA C. RICHARD WARNER, JR./pd Date dictated 4/25/68
44-1987-Sub B-709

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

Date 4/30/681

JOE HERNANDEZ, 2 Woodland Circle, Flagstaff, Arizona, advised he has known DAVID L. WILSON for approximately four years, most of this period as the husband of his wife's sister, EDNA. During this period his association with WILSON has been only as a host on numerous weekend visits. He is aware that WILSON has spent considerable time in prison, but WILSON did not ever go into detail concerning these experiences. He does not consider himself in any way close to WILSON, although he does like him and feels sorry for him for the difficulty he seems to have with his personal life. He can add very little to the statement given by his wife as his own relationship with WILSON has been far more limited.

On Friday, April 19, 1968, he returned from work late at night. He was awake at the time WILSON arrived at his home from Phoenix, but spoke to him only briefly before retiring for the night. He was not awake during WILSON's second visit that night and he was away from the house working all day Saturday.

He is absolutely certain that none of WILSON's former friends or associates have ever visited his home during the period of his acquaintance with WILSON. He is unacquainted with the name of CLARENCE CLARK and has never met anyone by that name. WILSON was alone when he arrived at his home on Friday night.

He, HERNANDEZ, was at home during the late afternoon of Saturday, April 20, 1968, when WILSON returned in the company of a policeman. He observed WILSON's behavior at that time and described it as "very unusual." WILSON kept to himself and cried alot. He did not discuss the details of the afternoon, nor his conversation with the FBI or the policeman.

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <u>h</u>	FILED <u>h</u>
MAY 13 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester *OK*

On 4/22/68 at Flagstaff, Arizona File # 44-1987-Sub B-710
by SA C. RICHARD WARNER, JR./pd Date dictated 4/25/68
FX 44-371

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

1

Date 5/1/68

Mrs. **TILLIE HERNANDEZ**, 2 Woodland Circle, Flagstaff, Arizona, advised as follows:

She is the sister of **EDNA WILSON**, wife of **DAVID L. WILSON**. **WILSON** married **EDNA** in January, 1965, at Williams, Arizona. She knows no details of **WILSON**'s prison record prior to his marriage to **EDNA** but is aware of the fact that he has spent time in a number of prisons. **WILSON** has not been in trouble with the law, to her knowledge, since his marriage to **EDNA**.

She can think of no former friends or associates of **WILSON** who have visited her home in Flagstaff, even for a brief period of time, during her acquaintance with **WILSON**. The only associates of **WILSON** who have been to the house are local people of Mexican-American descent with whom she is personally acquainted. Her sister has never mentioned visits by personal friends of **WILSON** during her marriage to him nor any personal distaste she may have for these associates.

On the evening of Friday, April 19, 1968, **WILSON** arrived at her home at approximately midnight. He had just driven from Phoenix, Arizona, in a rented car in order to see his wife and children who were temporarily staying in Flagstaff with various relatives. **EDNA** was not at her house at this time but at the house of their mother, Mrs. **JUANITA CASADON**, 219 Pine Street, Flagstaff. Upon his arrival, **WILSON** was alone and made no reference to having driven anyone else from Phoenix to Flagstaff. She has never met anyone by the name of **CLARENCE CLARK** nor has she ever heard the name mentioned by either **WILSON** or **EDNA**. After his arrival on Friday night, **WILSON** ate some enchilidas and visited with her briefly. He appeared to have been drinking although was not heavily intoxicated. He left her home shortly after 1:00 a.m. and went to the home of her mother to see **EDNA**. He said he wanted **EDNA** to return to Phoenix with him.

WILSON returned to her home about one-half hour later and told her that **EDNA** had refused to return to Phoenix with him giving her medical treatment by the local family

On 4/22/68 at Flagstaff, Arizona

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 13 1968	
FBI - MESA	

Reste *IC*

by SA C. RICHARD WANNER, JR. / wpj Date dictated 4/22/68

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.

44-1987-Sub B-711

PX 44-371

CRW/wpj

2

physician as her reason. He said he had given EDNA some money with which to purchase bus tickets for her and the children in order for them to join him in Phoenix later in the week. WILSON drank some coffee then again departed the HERNANDEZ home shortly after 2:00 a.m. At the time, he said he was planning to return to Phoenix. She learned the next day from EDNA that he had not returned to Phoenix but had returned, instead, to the CASADOS house where he spent the remainder of the night with her.

On Saturday, April 20, 1968, WILSON returned to her home with EDNA and the children to visit. Shortly after their arrival, she had to leave to keep a beauty shop appointment. She later learned from her brother, ALBERT CASADOS, that shortly after her departure he (CASADOS) accompanied WILSON with all the children to a nearby Dairy Queen for ice cream. According to her brother, when they returned, they spotted the car of the interviewing agent in the HERNANDEZ driveway. According to her brother, upon sighting the car WILSON stated "That's a cop car, I have got to get out of here." According to her brother, they drove around the block and waited a while until the FBI car disappeared, then returned. WILSON returned to the HERNANDEZ house and let off ALBERT CASADOS and all children. He then re-entered his car and disappeared for several hours. He re-appeared in the late afternoon and was joined shortly thereafter by a policeman whose car he entered and with whom he drove away. She recognized the policeman but does not know his name.

Mrs. HERNANDEZ advised that her sister's marriage to WILSON has been a strain on both she and her husband and the entire family at large. She said WILSON is generally pleasant and friendly but drinks heavily, frequently lapses into despondency, and has difficulty holding a job. She said that, on the occasions when he is out of work, the family is forced to support EDNA and the children. She said that since EDNA's marriage to him, he has abandoned her twice. She said that shortly after their marriage EDNA

PX 44-371

CRW/wpj

3

left Arizona with WILSON and travelled through various Eastern states in search of work. She said that after several months absence, EDNA telephoned from Jamestown, Tennessee, in a state of near hysteria, saying she was destitute and WILSON had abandoned her. She said the family chipped in and sent EDNA bus fare back to Flagstaff. She said that upon her arrival, EDNA discovered she was pregnant and just before the birth of their first child, WILSON re-appeared without notice. She ^{said} EDNA and WILSON reconciled and again took off for Idaho and Utah where he worked at several mining jobs. She said they returned to Arizona and WILSON again found work as a miner in Superior, Arizona.

Mrs. HERNANDEZ advised that, during the late spring of 1967, WILSON again disappeared in search of work, leaving EDNA behind. She said that at this time EDNA was again pregnant with twins born in November, 1967. She said WILSON stayed away through the summer of 1967 and the only contact from him that she recalls was while he was in jail in a small town in Missouri. She said she recalls that he was working as a truck driver at the time. She said she does not know any of the details of this confinement but was certain it was not in connection with a felony.

Mrs. HERNANDEZ advised that upon his return from the FBI interview on Saturday, WILSON behaved peculiarly. She said he was withdrawn, uncommunicative and wept off and on. She said he made a telephone call to his sister, DOROTHY MEYER, in Saline, Michigan. She said she does not know the results of this phone call but received a phone call herself from MEYER on Sunday night, advising that she had sent WILSON some money in order for him to bring the family to Michigan where they could stay with her.

Mrs. HERNANDEZ advised that she was not awake when WILSON returned from his second FBI interview early Sunday morning. She said she saw him later in the morning as he and EDNA spent the rest of the night with her family. She said that WILSON and EDNA and the children left Flagstaff from her home before noon on Sunday, bound for Phoenix.

PX 44-371

CRW/wpj

4

She said that after their departure, a man named HARVEY WALD, who identified himself as WILSON's employer, arrived at the house by prearrangement with WILSON in order to pick up WILSON's rental car. She said WALD was visibly annoyed at not having been told that WILSON was returning the car himself.

Mrs. HERNANDEZ advised that earlier today she had a telephone call from her sister, EDNA, who said she and WILSON had vacated their residence at 2129 West Lincoln, Phoenix, and that WILSON had lost his job at the body shop and had spoken of mysterious threatening phone calls at work. She said EDNA told her that WILSON had received some money from his sister and was planning to disappear as he felt that he and the family were in danger. She said EDNA, WILSON and the children will be returning to Flagstaff via bus this evening. She said she has absolutely no idea where WILSON is or of what he is afraid.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

4/30/68

Date

1

Lieutenant ROBERT JACKSON, Flagstaff Police Department, Flagstaff, Arizona, was re-interviewed by SA WARNER at the Flagstaff Resident Agency. Lieutenant JACKSON was reminded of the serious nature of the interview and the importance of clarifying every statement made to him on April 28, 1968 by DAVID WILSON after WILSON fled from the interview room in which a tape recording of the voice of an anonymous telephone caller was being played. JACKSON advised as follows:

En route to the HERNANDEZ home from the Sheriff's Office in Flagstaff, WILSON wept and trembled. He stated that JIMMY RAY did not assassinate MARTIN LUTHER KING and that the real killer was still in Atlanta. He stated JIMMY RAY was presently hiding in Fajera (phonetic), Mexico, after fleeing from the assassination conspiracy in which he was designated as the original trigger man.

WILSON recognized the voice on the recording as that of an ex-convict with whom he had done prison time in Kansas. This man's identity was known to WILSON but he would not divulge it. WILSON said the assassination conspiracy consisted of a group of four or five ex-convicts, all sworn to secrecy, of which the man on the recording was one. WILSON said the voice on the recording was not that of CLARENCE CLARK with whom he had driven from Phoenix to Flagstaff the previous night. The identity of the voice on the tape, WILSON said, would not be unknown for long as he would be found dead within a few days after it had been learned he had been talking.

Lieutenant JACKSON advised that these were direct and unequivocal statements by WILSON and definitely were not the result of his own interpretation.

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 13 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester *OK*

On 4/22/68 at Flagstaff, Arizona File # PX 44-371

by SA C. RICHARD WARNER, JR./pd Date dictated 4/25/68

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.

44-1987-Sub B-712

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/24/68

DAVID L. WILSON, 2129 West Lincoln, was interviewed at the FBI Office, Phoenix, Arizona, concerning his knowledge of JAMES EARL RAY, who was being sought for the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

WILSON advised that he has been in Phoenix since November, 1967, except for a brief period around Christmas and New Years when he was in Flagstaff, Arizona, and worked for Southwest Lumber Company. He said that he began working for the Continental Body Shop in Phoenix in November, 1967, and that he worked there until he went to Flagstaff briefly and that he has worked at the Continental Body Shop since his return from Flagstaff in January, 1968.

WILSON stated that he married his wife EDNA WILSON in 1965 at Flagstaff, Arizona, and that they have five children. He said that his wife and the children have been in Flagstaff visiting his wife's parents, Mr. and Mrs. LOUIS CASABOS.

WILSON stated that he knew JAMES EARL RAY, about whom he had earlier been questioned at Flagstaff, Arizona, where he had gone to pick up his wife and return her to Phoenix. He said that the last time he had seen RAY, whom he referred to as "JIMMIE", was during the previous summer, namely the summer of 1967. He said that he saw RAY at some little town in Missouri where he had been arrested while driving a truck. He stated he believed the name of this town was Lupton or Lufton, Missouri. WILSON related in this regard that at the time he was in the company of GENE BRISINDINE (phonetic) of Elm Springs, Arkansas, a truck driver for William Shaw of ELM SPRINGS, Arkansas. WILSON said that he and BRISINDINE had been drinking and that BRISINDINE was out flat on his back. In order to protect BRISINDINE, he, WILSON, got behind the wheel and, upon being arrested, was thus charged with "DWI." He said that he was fined an unrecalled amount, possibly \$50, \$100 or \$150 and that he had no money to pay this fine. He stated that his sister sent him some postal money orders from Salina, Michigan, but that something went wrong and he never did

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 13 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester *EX 44-1987-Sub B-713*

On 4/20 & 21/68 at Phoenix, Arizonaby SA C. RICHARD WALKER,SA WALTER E. PEYER &SA HENRY J. VAN LOONEVL/gloDate dictated 4/23/68

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.

2

PK 44-371
ME 44-1987
EJVL/glo

get the money. He said that he is still negotiating with the government concerning the money he was supposed to get through these postal money orders. He stated that as a result he remained in jail for three or four weeks until the money due him came from the trucking company and when it arrived, he was able to pay his fine and secure his release from jail.

WILSON stated that when he got out of jail, which he said was certainly a county jail, he went into a bar, name unrecalled, about four blocks from the jail. He said he went in this bar to use the telephone and that while in the bar he was approached by RAY who recognized him, saying "You're WILSON, aren't you?" WILSON stated that he replied that he was and that he knew he had seen RAY before someplace, and RAY told him that they had "done time" together. He said that he told RAY that he was broke and the latter gave him \$50 with which he got a motel room that night in some motel with the word "Shady" in the name, and on the next day bought a ticket to return to Flagstaff by bus. WILSON stated this was the last time he saw RAY and when questioned as to when he had seen RAY previous to that, he could not specify an occasion or a place but stated that he knew he had seen him before.

WILSON stated that he had served a term in the Florida State Prison at Raiford, Florida, in 1958. He said that this was for escape, his having been previously held locally for Theft of Mail and Robbery. While being held on these latter charges he had escaped and was then sentenced to the State Prison. In 1961 he received a Federal sentence for Mail Theft and was imprisoned at Texarkana, Texas, and later at Tallahassee, Florida. WILSON stated he never had served time in the Missouri State Penitentiary but that he had been at the Federal prison, Springfield, Missouri, while being transferred during the serving of his Federal term. He said he was there only briefly, that he was not there for any psychiatric treatment or the like and that he was there merely pending transfer.

3
PX 44-371
MH 44-1987
EJVL/gle

The following photographs, all of which had identifying data covered, were shown to DAVID L. WILSON:

RICHARD JAY LEU, Federal Prison Center (FPC),
Florence, Arizona, No. 9966-F

JAMES EDGAR GRANNIGER, Maricopa County
Sheriff's Office (MCSO) No. 82267

JACK CUZICK, MCSO No. 102408

JERRY EDWIN JOHNSON, FPC No. 9763-F

JOHN LEANDER ARMSTRONG, Phoenix Police
Department (PXPd) No. 283542

A. D. ALLISON, PXPd No. 381374

JAMES EARL RAY, Missouri Department of
Corrections No. 00416

WALTER T. RIFE, Kansas City Sheriff's
Office No. 29636

From the foregoing, WILSON selected the photograph of RAY and the photograph of RIFE as being photographs of RAY. He said that the photograph of RAY indicated the face to be too broad and that the photograph of RIFE was the best likeness of RAY.

WILSON was also shown a combination photograph of two men in overcoats, identified as JAMES EARL RAY on the left and WALTER T. RIFE on the right, and indicated to have been taken March 28, 1955. WILSON stated that the individual in the picture on the right (namely RIFE) was RAY. He referred to the person on the left side of the photograph (namely RAY) as having two lean a face for RAY.

WILSON advised that RAY was probably younger than himself and he stated that he was 36 years of age. He said RAY would be 5' 6-7" tall, 160 pounds. He also stated that RAY continually changed his hair style and when asked about scars or marks, he said that RAY had a scar someplace in

4
PX 44-371
ME 44-1987
EJYL/gle

the forehead area. He picked up the above-described photograph of WALTER T. RIFE and examined it for a scar but said he could not observe any.

WILSON denied that he had made any recent trip to Memphis, Tennessee, from Phoenix, Arizona, and he stated that his employment records would bear this out. He stated that the last time he was on an airplane was sometime prior to November, 1967, at which time he had been visiting his sister in Michigan and he flew from Michigan to Florida. He stated he has not been on an airplane since then.

WILSON denied that he had any information concerning the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., or of a plot on the part of ex-cons to assassinate KING. He denied that he told Lieutenant JACKSON of the Flagstaff Police Department that he had such knowledge or that RAY had been the original triggerman but had backed out the day before and the others involved in the plot pinned it on RAY because RAY was already a wanted person. He further denied that he told Lieutenant JACKSON that the real killer was still in Atlanta and that RAY was presently hiding in any specific place in Mexico. WILSON stated that the only thing he said to Lieutenant JACKSON to that effect was that if he, WILSON, were RAY, he would be in Mexico.

WILSON stated that prior to his contact by the FBI in Flagstaff earlier on April 20, 1968, he had been completely unaware of any publicity by way of newspaper or radio implicating RAY in connection with the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. He stated that he had not read the paper on Friday.

WILSON listened to a tape recording of a male voice saying in substance that DAVID WILSON, the husband of a Mexican girl from Flagstaff, was an ex-convict and an associate of RAY, also known as Galt, and that WILSON had made a trip to Memphis, Tennessee, via Nashville, Tennessee, a day or two prior to the killing of KING, at which time RAY allegedly was also in Memphis. During the running

5
PX 44-371
ME 44-1987
EJVL/gle

of this tape, WILSON stated on several occasions "That's dirty." After listening to the tape, WILSON stated that he did not know the person on the tape who was giving the information partly in a telephone call. When asked if he had any idea as to the identity of the caller, he replied merely that he did not know who it was. He repeatedly gave this answer. He was asked whether the caller was CLARENCE CLARK and he stated it was not. Also, he denied that he had told Lieutenant JACKSON of the Flagstaff Police Department that the caller was another ex-convict from Kansas City. He insisted that the caller was not CLARK while he agreed that CLARK was the only person outside of his family that he could think of who knew he was in Flagstaff at the time.

WILSON related that on Friday, April 19, 1968, he had worked at the Continental Body Shop in Phoenix until approximately 5:30 p.m. and, of course, was in the presence of the boss, JACK BENCHAM, a Mexican fellow named FELIX and a young helper named MIKE. He said that after work he took a bus to 24th Street where he rented a car from the Rite Rate Rent-A-Car. He said he guessed this was possibly about 6:30 p.m. when he rented the car. He said he did not yet have his check cashed and the man let him take the car without putting any money down, but he then went to Keaton's Market on West Van Buren and cashed his check. Following that he shopped briefly at Keaton's and also at Fry's Market. Next he went to pay his rent at an address that he could not recall. He explained that he had telephoned the Green Realty and had been told to go to a certain individual's house to pay the rent, which was \$26. He said he did this but he cannot recall where the house was.

WILSON advised that after he paid the rent he went to McGoo's, a bar on West Van Buren, at about 19th Avenue. He said that at McGoo's he had only one beer and was not there more than ten minutes. Upon leaving, he met CLARENCE CLARK, who asked him for a ride downtown. He said he had seen CLARK previously in Florida and they had done time together in the Florida State Prison at Raiford, Florida. He said he believed CLARK was in prison for safes. He described CLARK as a man in his 40s, 5' 1-2", 135 - 140 pounds,

6

FX 44-371
ME 44-1987
EJVL/gle

little and thin build, gray hair. He advised that he took CLARK with him and they went back to the Rite Rate Rent-A-Car where he paid the man for the rental of the vehicle. After that he went home and picked up his clothes and drove to Flagstaff, Arizona, with CLARK accompanying him. He said that CLARK was going to go on to Denver, Colorado, after he dropped CLARK off on the street at the college in Flagstaff. He said he thought this was about 9 p.m., and he then went on to the house of his sister-in-law, TILLIE HERNANDEZ. He stated that he recalled watching television at the HERNANDEZ residence but that he could not recall for how long. He said he also drank coffee at TILLIE's and he would guess it was about 1 a.m. when he went to bed. He said there were no visitors who came to the house while he was there.

WILSON stated that the following morning he took the "kids" to get some ice cream at a Dairy Queen and that after he returned home, he learned that FBI Agent WARNER had been there looking for him. He said he dropped the kids off and left immediately, driving around and finally drove to Truck City. There he waited until his wife found out what the FBI wanted him for. He stated he then contacted Lieutenant JACKSON and arranged to meet him and talk with the FBI.

1
ME 44-371
ME 44-1987
CMB/gls

On April 20, 1968, SA COLIN E. DUNNIGAN and SA WILLIAM A. KENNEDY interviewed HARVEY WALD, owner, Continental Body Shop, 812 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona. Mr. WALD, after checking his employment records, advised that during the week April 1 - 5, 1968, DAVID WILSON was employed at the body shop and completed a full week's work on Friday, April 5, 1968.

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED 4	FILED 5
MAY 13 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	
Hester	OK

44-1987-Sub B-714

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 5/1/68

Within an hour after his departure from the Coconino County Sheriff's Office (SO), Flagstaff, Arizona, with DAVID L. WILSON, Lieutenant ROBERT JACKSON telephonically contacted SA C. RICHARD WARNER, JR. and related the following information concerning statements made to him by WILSON on their ride home to the HERNANDEZ residence at 2 Woodland Circle, Flagstaff:

WILSON wept and trembled throughout the ride home and intermittantly blurted, "They're trying to pin it on me." He stated that JIMMY RAY did not assassinate MARTIN LUTHER KING, that the real killer is still in Atlanta, Georgia. He said the KING assassination was the result of a plot involving four or five ex-convicts, originally intended to include RAY as the trigger man. He said RAY "chickened out" at the last minute, abandoning the conspiracy and fleeing to Mexico where he is presently hiding at Fajera (phonetic).

WILSON said he immediately recognized the voice on the tape as that of an ex-convict with whom he had done time in Kansas. He said this voice was definitely not that of CLARENCE CLARK whom he earlier stated had ridden from Phoenix to Flagstaff with him Friday night. He declined to identify the voice on the tape but said it was that of one of the conspirators. He told JACKSON that he would soon know the identity of the voice as, when it became known that he had been talking, he would be found dead. He said the voice on the tape belonged to a man from Kansas City.

According to JACKSON, WILSON told him he would like to relate all he knew but was afraid to do so. He said WILSON told him he was in danger of being killed if he talked.

JACKSON advised that, in his conversation with WILSON, WILSON gave him the impression that RAY had come to Phoenix after the assassination, borrowed money from either WILSON or other associates in Phoenix, then proceeded to Mexico. He said WILSON gave him the impression that he had inadvertently become involved with this information against

SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 13 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

On 4/20/68 at Flagstaff, Arizona 610-10-371

by SA C. RICHARD WARNER, JR. / wpj Date dictated 4/26/68

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.

44-1987-Sub B-715

PX 44-371

CRW/wpj

2

his will. He said the foregoing impressions were not stated directly by WILSON but merely implied through their conversation.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5/1/68

DAVID L. WILSON telephonically contacted SA C. RICHARD WANNER, JR. at the Flagstaff, Arizona Resident Agency. He advised that he just learned that the Federal Bureau of Investigation was attempting to locate him and inquired as to the reason. WILSON was advised that the matter could not be discussed on the telephone and urged to make himself available. He declined to do so for several minutes then finally agreed on the condition that Lieutenant ROBERT JACKSON, Flagstaff Police Department, a personal friend, could be present throughout the interview. This condition was agreed to and WILSON said he would contact JACKSON and have him escort him to the FBI office.

Approximately 30 minutes later, the same date, WILSON appeared at the Flagstaff SA with Lieutenant ROBERT JACKSON. It is noted that at the time of his appearance WILSON was unkempt, withdrawn, evasive and apparently fatigued. His eyes were red and swollen and he had the appearance of a man suffering from hangover symptoms following intoxication. He did not appear to be intoxicated at the time.

WILSON advised as follows:

He arrived in Flagstaff from Phoenix, Arizona, at about midnight the previous evening. He made this trip in a rented car and was accompanied by one CLARENCE CLARK, a former prison mate whom he had run into at Magee's Bar in Phoenix the previous evening. Upon arriving in Flagstaff, he let CLARK out near the Northern Arizona University campus in Flagstaff and proceeded to the home of his sister-in-law, Mrs. FILLIE HENNINGER. CLARK did not accompany him to the HENNINGER home as he said he was bound for Denver, Colorado. CLARK is a former safe cracker with whom he had done time in the state penitentiary at Raiford, Florida. CLARK is described as a small man, approximately 120 pounds, 5' 3" or 5' 4", thin honey face, approximately 40 years of age, and noticeable southern drawl. As far as he knows, CLARK had no other means of transportation from Flagstaff and was on foot when he was last seen.

He is acquainted with JAMES EARL RAY, known to him

On 4/20/68 at Flagstaff, Arizona

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 13 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester File # 44-371

by SA C. RICHARD WANNER, JR. / wpc Date dictated 4/26/68

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.

44-1987-Sub B-716

PX 44-371

CRW/wpj

2

as JIM. He first met RAY in prison, although he does not recall which one or at what time. He does know that RAY was, at one time, part of a Florida safe-cracking ring. He does not know whether CLARK and RAY are acquainted. He would describe RAY as an "excellent" safe cracker. He last saw RAY during the summer or early fall of 1967. At the time he was driving a truck for Willis Shaw Transport Company, Elm Springs, Arkansas. He had a brief encounter with RAY at a bar in a small town in Missouri. He does not recall the name of the town but knows it began with an L. At the time of his encounter, he had just been released from the local city jail where he had served several days in connection with a charge of driving while intoxicated. At the time of the encounter, he was almost "broke" after having paid his DWI fine. Because of their previous acquaintance, RAY loaned him some money with which to travel home. He (WILSON) has served prison terms at Texarkana, Texas; Springfield, Missouri; Leavenworth, Kansas; Tallahassee, Florida; Dade City, Florida and Raiford, Florida. He has never served time at Atlanta. He was not with RAY when RAY broke out of prison in Missouri. He does have a recollection of RAY in connection with a prison hospital. It seems to him that RAY was regarded as escape prone and, because of this, was personally escorted to the hospital by the prison warden. He has some recollection of RAY attempting to escape from a prison hospital but this memory is not clear.

At this point, WILSON was advised of the complete nature of his interview and told that the previous night, an anonymous telephone caller, with a southern accent, had named him as a close associate of JAMES EARL RAY who had flown from Phoenix to Memphis, Tennessee, two days prior to the MARTIN LUTHER KING assassination. WILSON advised that this allegation was impossible as employment records at the Continental Body Shop, Phoenix, where he is employed, will verify his presence on the job throughout the critical period. He was asked if he had any idea who would attempt to make trouble for him by telephoning the authorities with such an untrue story. He said he had no idea. WILSON was advised that the telephone call had been recorded on tape and asked

PX 44-371

CRW/wpj

3

if he would listen to it in an effort to help identify the anonymous caller. He agreed to do this and accompanied SA WARNER and Lieutenant JACKSON to the Coconino County Sheriff's Office, Flagstaff.

In a private room at the Sheriff's Office the tape recording of the anonymous telephone call made the previous night was played in the presence of SA WARNER, WILSON and Lieutenant JACKSON. Within a few seconds of play, WILSON's face flushed, his eyes filled with tears and perspiration broke out upon his forehead. He shook his head violently, stated "That's dirty", said that the voice was definitely not CLARENCE CLARK, then fled from the room. WILSON became extremely distraught, unmanageable, and refused to discuss the matter further. He wept sporadically and begged to be taken home. He was escorted home by Lieutenant JACKSON and the interview was terminated.

PX 44-371
ME 44-1987
CHV:rm
- 1 -

The following investigation was conducted by
SA C. RICHARD WARNER, JR., on April 20, 1968, at
Flagstaff, Arizona:

Records of the Flagstaff, Arizona Police Department reflected that DAVID L. WILSON, 304 North Leroux, Flagstaff, was arrested March 30, 1965, for Drunk and Disorderly, and on April 1, 1965, for Disturbing the Peace. Flagstaff Police Department records described WILSON as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Place of Birth	Westburn, Tennessee
Date of Birth	
Height	6'3"
Weight	190 pounds
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Brown
Complexion	Ruddy
Scars and Marks	2" scar left arm
FBI Number	720-242-C

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED 5	FILED h -
MAY 13 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester

A review of the Flagstaff City Directories and telephone books from 1965 through the present failed to reflect any listing for DAVID L. WILSON.

LINDA MOON, Credit Bureau of Flagstaff, advised that she has a file on DAVID L. WILSON with several collection notices, the largest and most recent of which is from Seaboard Finance Company, Flagstaff, for an unsettled balance of \$653.00. The record reflects that WILSON is a miser by occupation and lists previous addresses as Superior, Arizona, Idaho, and Florida. The file lists three dependents and contains notice of suit for divorce filed in Coconino County in November of 1967 by his wife, EDNA. The file also reflects an unexplained attempt to locate him at 2 Woodland Circle, Flagstaff, and lists a previous employer as Union Carbide, Bishop, California, until October, 1966. The file also notes that he has a prison record but explains no further.

JIM NOLAN, Assistant Manager, Seaboard Finance Company, Flagstaff, advised that his office has a closed file

44-1987-Sub B-717

DE 44-371
ME 44-1987
CEN:rs
- 2 -

on DAVID L. WILSON which was closed recently after extensive unsuccessful efforts to locate him. The file lists relatives as follows:

Father	MAYNARD WILSON Box 64, Route 3 Dade City, Florida
Sister	DONOTHY MEYER Hiland, Michigan City, Indiana
Brother	FRED WILSON McDill Air Force Base Tampa, Florida
Wife	EDNA WILSON, formerly EDNA WARELL, nee EDNA CANADON

The Seaboard file lists JOE and TILLIE HERNANDEZ as personal references in loan application, address 2 Woodland Circle, Flagstaff, Arizona. Inquiry developed that WILSON was an escapee from Dade City, Florida, City Jail where he was sentenced in October, 1958, to two years for robbery. The Seaboard file also lists previous employers as Magna Copper Company, Superior, Arizona, November 22, 1965; Sunshine Mine, Kellogg, Idaho; and Florida Refrigeration Service, Dade City, Florida, February of 1967.

On April 20, 1968, an attempt to locate EDNA WILSON was made at 2 Woodland Circle, Flagstaff, Arizona. SA WARNER was advised by Mrs. JUANITA HERNANDEZ, mother of EDNA, that EDNA and DAVID WILSON had left town a year ago, headed for Florida, address unknown. She was evasive and finally referred the Agent to EDNA's sister, TILLIE HERNANDEZ, at a downtown beauty shop.

On April 20, 1968, Mrs. TILLIE HERNANDEZ was located and advised that her sister and WILSON had left Flagstaff on January 9, 1968, headed for the Phoenix area, address unknown. She said she received a postcard from her sister in mid-March, 1968, postmarked Avondale, Arizona.

Mrs. HERNANDEZ advised that her sister married

PX 44-371
ME 44-1987
CHW:rs
- 3 -
-

WILSON at Williams, Arizona, in January of 1965. She said WILSON has left her sister for extended periods since that time without explanation. She said his most recent absence was between May and November, 1967, while EDNA was pregnant with twins, born in November, 1967. She said EDNA filed for divorce in November, 1967, in an effort to obtain welfare aid for the birth of her children. This action was dissolved upon WILSON's sudden reappearance after Thanksgiving, 1967. WILSON was employed locally for a few weeks at Southwest Forest Industries Saw Mill and then he, EDNA, and the children departed suddenly after the first of the year. She does not know WILSON's present whereabouts.

Later, on April 26, 1968, Mrs. TILLIE HERNANDEZ telephoned the Flagstaff Resident Agency and asked to be recontacted at 2 Woodland Circle. Upon arrival of SA WARNER, she presented EDNA WILSON and stated she had lied when questioned earlier. She and Mrs. WILSON accompanied SA WARNER to the Flagstaff Resident Agency where Mrs. WILSON was interviewed.

EDNA WILSON advised that she arrived in Flagstaff over a week ago to undergo medical attention from the family physician. She said her husband, DAVID, was residing in Phoenix at an unknown address and was employed at Continental Body Shop, telephone 233-5383. She said her husband was at work today and had been in Flagstaff last night. She said he was driving a rented car and left money for her to rejoin him in Phoenix when she was ready. She said he left Flagstaff shortly after 1 AM. She said their last address in Phoenix was 2128 West Lincoln.

Mrs. WILSON advised that, after leaving Flagstaff in January of 1968, she and her husband resided briefly in Avondale, Arizona. She said that in this time, her husband has not been away from over night with the exception of one night when he was in Phoenix City Jail on a disturbance charge. She said her husband's employment at Continental could be verified for the period covered through the last week in March and the first week in April, 1968.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5/2/68

Coconino County Deputy Sheriff RAY STOCK, Flagstaff, Arizona, advised that at 2:20 AM, he received a telephone call from a male who reported that he had some important information to give to the FBI but declined to furnish his name. Deputy STOCK stated that at the outset, when the caller indicated the call was important, he immediately cut a tape of the conversation and made available the tape, a transcription of which is set forth below.

Deputy STOCK also stated that during the call and immediately thereafter, he dispatched deputies to truck stops on the outskirts of Flagstaff in an effort to locate the caller who indicated he was having a steak which was getting cold while he talked. This investigative effort developed two license numbers of cars, which later turned out to belong to local people, and failed to locate any place that was serving or had served a steak at the pertinent time.

The above tape is transcribed as follows:

Caller: "On this guy WILSON from here in Flagstaff - and - he married a girl from Flagstaff, a Spanish girl, and I happen to know that this guy was in Memphis, at the time. He bought a plane ticket from Phoenix to Memphis at the time, and him and this RAY, FAY RAY, the guy that was, the FBI was - eh, I don't know exactly about what the story was on that, but those guys did do time together, in the Federal penitentiary and also in the state. He's from Florida, I guess originally, I think - I'm not for sure whether he is from Florida or not, but I know he done time there in the state of Florida, and also in the Federal. And I do know that this guy did buy a plane ticket to Memphis, Tennessee. I am pretty sure it was either the day before or two days before the time that MARTIN LUTHER KING was shot, and they did do time together."

Officer: "You say this WILSON married a Mexican - "

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 13 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	
<i>Hester</i>	<i>DPK</i>

On 4/20/68 at Flagstaff, Arizona

File # FX 44-371

ME 44-1987 - Sub B-718

by SA C. RICHARD WANNER, JR.

/rs

Date dictated 4/26/68

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.

-2-

PX 44-371

ME 44-1987

CRW:rs

Caller: "He married a Mexican girl from around Flagstaff and I don't know what her name was for sure. I think that I was out there one time to their place - it's out in the south part of town - out - "

Officer: "Are you at liberty to tell me who you are, sir, or would you rather tell me - "

Caller: "No, I would rather tell the FBI, but I would rather not tell period, but - "

Officer: "Well, let's say this - if you could hold on - are you in Flagstaff right now, sir?"

Caller: "No, I'm not right here in Flagstaff."

Officer: "Well, I'm not trying to inquire or anything. If you could hold the phone a second I'll try to reach Mr. PELTON and explain the situation to him - could you hold on, sir?"

Caller: "No, I'm afraid I couldn't because - I can call you back in a few minutes."

Officer: "Okay, if you could. I'll have Mr. PELTON - why don't we say 30 minutes. Call this office again - Mr. PELTON doesn't live far from here. Perhaps if you could call back, possibly he will be here at this time, okay?"

Caller: "Well, I can call you back - I just happened to hear the news on the radio there - At the time I didn't know what the deal was or nothing, except that - "

Officer: "Do you know this Mr. WILSON's first name?"

Caller: "Oh, yeah, DAVID - DAVID WILSON - I know his first name. He's from Dade City, Florida."

Officer: "Date?"

-3-

PX 44-371

ME 44-1987

CRW:rs

Caller: "Dade or Date City, Florida - Yeah - I know his first name. I done time with him in Federal, in Texarkana."

Officer: "You say he was also a buddy of this RAY and served time with him also?"

Caller: "Yeah, he did serve time. Yeah, they served time in Atlanta or in - - where in the heck was they - I don't know for sure, but I know they was together. And I do know that he did make a statement that he would get even with him one way or the other - and I do know that he did go to Memphis about that time - the day before - or two days before."

Officer: "Two days before KING was shot?"

Caller: "Right."

Officer: "Who said they would get even with who?"

Caller: "With RAY."

Officer: "WILSON said he would get even with RAY?"

Caller: "Yeah - he told me that quite before. He's - I know he hates niggers - I know that and he doesn't - I don't know that the deal was for sure - but some kinda trouble they had in the joint - see, and I don't know what the deal was - I don't know except - "

Officer: "You say you know for sure WILSON bought a ticket out of Phoenix?"

Caller: "He did - he did - he did get a ticket into Memphis. He did go to Memphis."

Officer: "This was approximately two days before KING was shot?"

-4-

PX 44-371
ME 44-1987
CRW:rs

Caller: "Right - right. I know that. And at the time - so I found out later why GALT - or RAY - GALT is his name, going under GALT, he was also I guess in Memphis at the time - supposedly. But I don't know whether he was or not, I mean I couldn't say, I mean I just happen to know that WILSON was there. And you know - so I thought I'd pass it along."

Officer: "Now when I get Mr. PELTON down here and you do call back - what type of information - you don't have to give this to me now if you don't feel at liberty to - but do you know the whereabouts of either DAVID WILSON or Mr. RAY at this time?"

Caller: "Well, WILSON's here in Flagstaff - right here."

Officer: "You think he's here now?"

Caller: "I hear he is. His wife is here."

Officer: "You know his wife's name don't you?"

Caller: "No, her brother - or her sister is HERNANDEZ - I think it's her brother or her sister - I don't know for sure."

Officer: "Do they live in town proper or do they live out rural?"

Caller: "No, they live here somewhere in Flagstaff - I mean I've been out to their place - its south Flagstaff - but I don't know where it's at. So - what time do I call back - five minutes - ten minutes."

Officer: "Well, I'll have to call Mr. PELTON."

Caller: "I've got a steak over here getting cold."

Officer: "Okay, well, you go on back to your steak and I'll get a hold of Mr. PELTON on the phone."

-5-

PX 44-371

ME 44-1987

CRW:rs

Caller: "Okay."

Officer: "You call back in a few minutes."

Caller: "Okay."

Officer: "Say about 30 minutes, okay, sir."

Caller: "Okay."

Officer: "I'm sure he would be happy to hear from you. I know that any lead possible they could get on this since it is nationwide - "

Caller: "Well that's what I thought. I was just passin' through and I gotta be in Salt Lake at 12 o'clock tomorrow."

Officer: "Okay, well, I take it you're also familiar with quite a sum of money being offered for reward on this, too."

Caller: "No, I hadn't heard about that."

Officer: "I know there's several hundred thousand dollars reward."

Caller: "Is that right?"

Officer: "Yes."

Caller: "Yeah?" How much, do you know?"

Officer: "I'm not sure - the last I heard it was about \$150,000 or \$200,000."

Caller: (Whistles) "Yeah?"

Officer: "yes." So I'm pretty sure they're anxious - they're/that anxious, of course, because it is national."

-6-
PX 44-371
ME 44-1987
CRW:rs

Caller: "Well, I did hear there was some money on it - but I didn't know how much."

Officer: "Well, like I said, sir, that was the last figure I heard. It may have gone up more than that by now $\frac{1}{2}$ this was a couple of weeks ago. If you do call back in about 30 minutes, sir, or so, I shall have Mr. PELTON here to talk with you."

Caller: "Okay - the reason I did know that WILSON did get a - see I did time with him also - and the reason I do know that he did go at that time is because I went to Detroit along at the same time - I got a sister there. And I met him on the plane and that's the reason that I do know that he did go, and of course I never did meet GALT - I mean I never have - but I have met WILSON, and I do know that he did go to - I'm pretty sure that he got the ticket to Nashville, Tennessee. I'm pretty sure that he did - to Nashville."

Officer: "Do you know just off hand how long it's been since Mr. WILSON and Mr. RAY have seen each other?"

Caller: "Well, not for sure - he's not been out too long hisself."

Officer: "WILSON hasn't?"

Caller: "No - he's not been out of the pen too long. He just got out of the Federal penitentiary not too long ago."

Officer: "Was that Missouri?"

Caller: "No - no - I'm not for sure where he got discharged from. Whether it was Atlanta or - I'm not for sure. No - it might have been Springfield - I don't know - Missouri. Maybe - yeah."

-7-
PX 44-371
ME 44-1987
CRW:rs

Officer: "How long has it been since you've seen Mr. RAY yourself?"

Caller: "Oh, since I've saw him it's been about - it's been about a year ago now."

Officer: "Oh, you were in with him in Missouri?"

Caller: "Yes."

Officer: "You were there when he took off?"

Caller: "No- no - no - no, you mean when he escaped?"

Officer: "Yes."

Caller: "No - he escaped someplace else."

Officer: "He didn't escape out of Missouri?"

Caller: "I don't know whether he did or not - no. No, see I done time with him in state before that. No - I don't know. I don't even know for sure when he left. I've not seen him. But I have seen WILSON, and I seen him, you know I told you, but I don't know when RAY left for sure - so - well, my steak's getting cold. I'll call you back in a minute."

Officer: "Sure enough - you have our number."

Caller: "Yeah."

Officer: "2523."

Caller: "yeah."

Officer: "Thank you, sir."

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
ATTN: IDENTIFICATION DIVISION,
Latent Fingerprint Section
SAC, PHOENIX (44-371) (P)

5/19/68

MURKIN

OO: ME

re: DAVID LINDBERT WILSON, FBI #702 342 C;
RICHARD BURNHAM HANDELL, FBI # 751 195 A

With reference to investigation conducted on WILSON and HANDELL, there are enclosed for Memphis the following inserts and 302s (nine copies each), arranged in logical sequence:

302 of Deputy Sheriff RAY STUCK on 4/20/68

Insert of investigation by SA C. RICHARD
WANNER, JR., on 4/20/68

302 of DAVID L. WILSON on 4/20/68

302 of Lt. ROBERT JACKSON on 4/20/68

Insert of investigation by SA COLIN H.
BURNIGAN on 4/20/68.

302 of DAVID L. WILSON on 4/20 and 21/68

302 of Lt. ROBERT JACKSON on 4/20/68

302 of Mrs. TILLIE HERNANDEZ on 4/22/68

302 of JOE HERNANDEZ on 4/22/68

3 - Bureau
2 - Detroit (44-388)
2 - Memphis (44-1987) (Enc. 210) *Wigner*
1 - Phoenix

RJVL/glc
(8)

44-1987-Sub B-719

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 13 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Heck *Wigner*

FX 44-371
KJW/glc

302 of PATRICIA HERNANDEZ on 4/22/68

Insert of investigation by SA ERNEST J. VAN LOON
on 4/22/68

302 of EDNA WILSON on 4/22/68

302 of Mrs. DAVID WILSON (EDNA) on 4/23/68

Insert of investigation by SA C. RICHARD
WASHER, JR., on 4/23/68

Insert of investigation by SA HENRY F.
GRADY on 4/23/68

Insert of investigation at Little Rock, etc.,
on 4/23/68 etc.

302 of Mrs. TILLIE HERNANDEZ on 4/24/68

302 of JOE HERNANDEZ on 4/24/68

302 of BONNIE HERNANDEZ on 4/24/68

Two 302s of Mrs. EDNA WILSON on 4/24/68

302 of Mrs. DOROTHY MEYER, 4/24/68

Investigation by SA C. RICHARD WARKER, JR.,
on 4/25/68 on insert

Insert of investigation at St. Louis, Missouri,
on 4/25/68

It will be noted that the foregoing enclosures
do not include the Identification Records of WILSON and
MARKELL which were previously furnished directly to Memphis
by the Identification Division.

Memphis and Detroit will note that remaining in-
vestigation concerning WILSON is requested in FX airtel
5/6/68 and consists of efforts to identify WILSON's voice
with that of the anonymous caller who first introduced WILSON's
name into this investigation and in a request for comparison

**FX 44-371
EJVL/gle**

of WILSON's fingerprints with any unidentified latents available in this case. It is anticipated that Detroit, the Laboratory and the Latent Fingerprint Section will report on these efforts directly to Memphis.

The Latent Fingerprint Section is hereby requested to compare the fingerprints of RICHARD BURNHAM MARRELL, FBI #751 195 A, with any unidentified latents available in this case.

In the event the above fingerprint comparisons are negative, Phoenix does not contemplate further investigation regarding WILSON or MARRELL, SAC.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

5/13/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
ATTENTION: ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN - COST DATA

Re Bureau teletype to Memphis, 4/17/68.

The following information concerns cost data of captioned matter as furnished by all Bureau offices for the period, 4/4/68, through 4/30/68:

	<u>Regular Hours</u>	<u>Overtime Hours</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. A. Special Agents	60,529 3/4	19,113 1/2	79,643
B. Clerical employees	11,722	1,535	13,257
	<u>72,251 3/4</u>	<u>20,648 1/2</u>	<u>92,900</u>

2. Total mileage traveled by Bucars on this case -
332,849 miles

3. Unusual or out of ordinary costs:

a. Per diem	\$6,498.00
b. Communications	2,332.46
c. Photography expense	797.44
d. Hotel room expense	59.48
e. Plane fares	807.00
f. Miscellaneous - Xeroxing - \$119.36 Paper 9.50	128.86
Total	\$10,532.74

Airtel _____

Teletype _____

A.M. _____

A.M.S.D. _____

Spec. Del. 3 - Bureau
2 - Memphis

Reg. Mail (5) *mjh*

Registered _____

SEARCHED _____

SERIALIZED h

INDEXED _____

FILE h

44-1987-Sub B-719A

ME 44-1987

4. Peak number of Special Agents working on this case during month of April, 1968 - - - 3075.

The above expenses do not include certain expenses such as additional long distance telephone calls, teletype expense and photography expenses for the Memphis Division which have not been billed to the office but which will be included in the succeeding cost data communication.

It should be noted that the per diem and plane fares of Inspector JOSEPH A. SULLIVAN and Illustrators MORACE HEAFNER and GEORGE C. MURFORD of the Exhibit Section, Administrative Division, have not been included in the above calculations since these figures are available only at the Bureau.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

5/13/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
ATTENTION: ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN - COST DATA

Re Bureau teletype to Memphis, 4/17/68.

The following information concerns cost data of captioned matter as furnished by all Bureau offices for the period, 4/4/68, through 4/30/68:

	<u>Regular Hours</u>	<u>Overtime Hours</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. A. Special Agents	60,529 3/4	19,113 1/4	79,643
B. Clerical employees	11,722	1,535	13,257
	<u>72,251 3/4</u>	<u>20,648 1/4</u>	<u>92,900</u>

2. Total mileage traveled by Bucars on this case -
332,849 miles

3. Unusual or out of ordinary costs:

a. Per diem	\$6,498.00
b. Communications	3,332.48
c. Photography expense	797.44
d. Hotel room expense	59.48
e. Plane fares	807.00
f. Miscellaneous -	
Xeroxing -	\$119.36
Paper	9.50
Total	<u>128.86</u> <u>\$10,744.72</u>

SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED 7
INDEXED _____
FILE h

Airtel _____

Teletype _____

A.M. _____

A.M.S.D. 3 - Bureau

2 - Memphis

Spec. Del. REG:mjh

(5) mjh

Reg. Mail _____

Registered _____

[Handwritten signature]

44-1987-Sub B-719A

ME 44-1987

4. Peak number of Special Agents working on this case during month of April, 1968 - - - 3075.

The above expenses do not include certain expenses such as additional long distance telephone calls, teletype expense and photography expenses for the Memphis Division which have not been billed to the office but which will be included in the succeeding cost data communication.

It should be noted that the per diem and plane fares of Inspector JOSEPH A. SULLIVAN and Illustrators HORACE HEAFNER and GEORGE C. MUMFORD of the Exhibit Section, Administrative Division, have not been included in the above calculations since these figures are available only at the Bureau.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

5/13/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) -P-
RE: MURKIN
CR

Re LA tel to ME, 5/8/68, received ME 8:23 p.m., concerning Tennessee License LP-6143.

Tennessee License LP-6143 determined to be a 1968 Pontiac Le Mans Coupe, VIN 237378P227804 registered to DARRELL W. BAKER, 4406 Delaware Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee.

On 5/13/68, DARRELL W. BAKER, permanent home 4406 Delaware Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee, advised SA HENDERSON HILLIN, JR. as follows:

He is the registered and legal owner of 1968 Pontiac Le Mans, bearing Tennessee License LP 6143. This vehicle is cream colored with a black vinyl top. BAKER is temporarily residing at 740 S. Hobart Blvd., Los Angeles, California, Apartment 3. He is attending college at the Pasadena Nazarene College.

BAKER left California for a short visit to Nashville on 5/6/68 and left his car with his friend WESLEY WELLMAN, son of the Nazarene preacher at Baker's church, The First Church of the Nazarene. BAKER's minister's name is WENDEL WELLMAN and resides at 4424 Gainsborough Avenue, Los Angeles, California, telephone 664-7407. BAKER talked with the WELLMAN family on

Airtel

Teletype

A.M.

A.M.S.D. 2 - Los Angeles
2 - Memphis

Spec. Del. HH/vtp
(4)

Reg. Mail

Registered

44-1987-Sub B-719B
SEARCHED

SERIALIZED

INDEXED

FILED

ME 44-1987

Wednesday night, 5/8/68, and no one mentioned anything of any problem concerning his vehicle. He assumes his car is with the WELLMAN family and that both license plates are intact. He advised that he has been in California for only one month and that he has not allowed any girls to use his car. He has only had one blind date during his stay in California. He advised he does live somewhere near Western Avenue and believes it is two blocks off Western Avenue. He advised that he knows nothing about JAMES EARL RAY or anything relating to the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. He stated that he does not know anything about a 1968 Chevrolet, two-door which might have his license on it.

BAKER is a white male, 6', 19 years of age; 190 pounds.

BAKER advised that he is leaving Nashville, Tennessee on 5/14/68 to return to Los Angeles, California, at approximately 12:30 p.m. via American Airlines Flight 285Y.

LEADS:

LOS ANGELES DIVISION

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Will contact WENDEL and WESLEY WELLMAN and determine who may have utilized BAKER's car in his absence from California.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

5/13/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) -P-
RE: MURKIN
CR

Re LA tel to ME, 5/8/68, received ME 8:23 p.m., concerning Tennessee License LP-6143.

Tennessee License LP-6143 determined to be a 1968 Pontiac Le Mans Coupe, VIN 237378P227804 registered to DARRELL W. BAKER, 4406 Delaware Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee.

On 5/13/68, DARRELL W. BAKER, permanent home 4406 Delaware Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee, advised SA HENDERSON HILLIN, JR. as follows:

He is the registered and legal owner of 1968 Pontiac Le Mans, bearing Tennessee License LP 6143. This vehicle is cream colored with a black vinyl top. BAKER is temporarily residing at 740 S. Hobart Blvd., Los Angeles, California, Apartment 3. He is attending college at the Pasadena Nazarene College.

BAKER left California for a short visit to Nashville on 5/6/68 and left his car with his friend WENLEY WELLMAN, son of the Nazarene preacher at Baker's church, The First Church of the Nazarene. BAKER's minister's name is WENDEL WELLMAN and resides at 4424 Gainsborough Avenue, Los Angeles, California, telephone 664-7407. BAKER talked with the WELLMAN family on

Airtel

Teletype

A.M.

A.M.S.D.

Spec. Del

Reg. Mail

Registered

2 - Los Angeles
2 - Memphis

HH/vtp
(4)

SEARCHED

SERIALIZED

INDEXED

FILED

44-1987-Sub B-796

Boyle BB

ME 44-1987

Wednesday night, 5/8/68, and no one mentioned anything of any problem concerning his vehicle. He assumes his car is with the WELLMAN family and that both license plates are intact. He advised that he has been in California for only one month and that he has not allowed any girls to use his car. He has only had one blind date during his stay in California. He advised he does live somewhere near Western Avenue and believes it is two blocks off Western Avenue. He advised that he knows nothing about JAMES EARL RAY or anything relating to the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. He stated that he does not know anything about a 1968 Chevrolet, two-door which might have his license on it.

BAKER is a white male, 6', 19 years of age; 190 pounds.

BAKER advised that he is leaving Nashville, Tennessee on 5/14/68 to return to Los Angeles, California, at approximately 12:30 p.m. via American Airlines Flight 285Y.

LEADS:

LOS ANGELES DIVISION

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Will contact WENDEL and WESLEY WELLMAN and determine who may have utilized BAKER's car in his absence from California.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

5/13/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, CHICAGO
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

ReAirtel to Bureau dated 5/10/68.

Enclosed for Jackson and Chicago is one Xerox copy of retel containing background information.

IC ROBERT E. GALE on 5/13/68 determined from Mrs. EVA WHITFIELD, Supervisor, Motor Vehicle Division, Title and Registration Sections, Nashville, Tenn., that Tennessee Title # 18381924 was issued to JOHNNY E. SMITH, 3807 Lamar Ave., Memphis, Tenn., with a lien by Continental Investment Corp.

Mr. JOHN OWENS, Madison Ave. Office, Continental Investment Corp., Memphis, advised SA THOMAS O. BOWMAN on 5/13/68 that the Old Republic Life Insurance Co., 307 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill., paid off the loan under their policy # 11500 based on the death of JOHNNY E. SMITH on 11/27/66.

Records, Credit Bureau of Memphis, as checked on 5/13/68 by IC JAMES V. BRADY, reflect JOHNNY E. SMITH was listed as deceased 11/28/66.

Bureau of Vital Statistics records reflect SMITH died and was buried at Hermosa, Minn. He reportedly had a brother as next of kin.

Teletype _____

A.M. 2 - Chicago (Enc. 1) (AMSD)
2 - Jackson (Enc. 1) (AMSD)
2 - Little Rock (INFO) (187-1216)
A.M.S.D. 2 - Memphis

TOR:LF

Spec. Del. (7)

Reg. Mail _____

Registered _____

44-1987-Sub B-792

SEARCHED	_____
SERIALIZED	h
INDEXED	h
FILED	h

ME 44-1887

LEADS

CHICAGO DIVISION

AT CHICAGO, ILL.

Will contact Old Republic Life Insurance Co., 307 N. Michigan Ave., to identify next of kin and set forth leads for them to be interviewed to identify the individuals who purchased Arkansas trailer licenses.

JACKSON DIVISION

AT HERNANDO, MISS.

Will review records of Bureau of Vital Statistics to locate next of kin of JOHNNY E. SMITH who died 11/27/66 at Hernando and set forth leads to identify individual resembling photograph of JAMES EARL RAY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

5/13/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, CHICAGO
FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

ReLrtel to Bureau dated 5/10/68.

Enclosed for Jackson and Chicago is one Xerox copy of retel containing background information.

IC ROBERT M. CALK on 5/13/68 determined from Mrs. EVA WHITFIELD, Supervisor, Motor Vehicle Division, Title and Registration Sections, Nashville, Tenn., that Tennessee Title # 10391924 was issued to JOHNNY R. SMITH, 13597 Lamar Ave., Memphis, Tenn., with a lien by Continental Investment Corp.

Mr. JOHN OWENS, Madison Ave. Office, Continental Investment Corp., Memphis, advised SA THOMAS O. RONAN on 5/13/68 that the Old Republic Life Insurance Co., 307 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill., paid off the loan under their policy # 11380 based on the death of JOHNNY R. SMITH on 11/27/66.

Records, Credit Bureau of Memphis, as checked on 5/13/68 by IC JAMES W. BRADY, reflect JOHNNY R. SMITH was listed as deceased 11/28/66.

Bureau of Vital Statistics records reflect SMITH died and was buried at Hernando, Miss. He reportedly had a brother as next of kin.

Airtel

Teletype
2 - Chicago (Enc. 1) (AMSD)
2 - Jackson (Enc. 1) (AMSD)
A.M. 1 - Little Rock (INFO) (157-1215)
A.M.S. 1 - Memphis
FOR: LF
Spec. Del. (7)
Reg. Mail ef
Registered

44-1987-Sub B-719C
SEARCHED
SERIALIZED h
INDEXED h
FILED h

ME 44-1987

LEADS

CHICAGO DIVISION

AT CHICAGO, ILL.

Will contact Old Republic Life Insurance Co., 307 N. Michigan Ave., to identify next of kin and set forth leads for them to be interviewed to identify the individuals who purchased Arkansas trailer licenses.

JACKSON DIVISION

AT HERNANDO, MISS.

Will review records of Bureau of Vital Statistics to locate next of kin of JOHNNY R. SMITH who died 11/27/66 at Hernando and set forth leads to identify individual resembling photograph of JAMES EARL RAY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

5/13/68

Attn: Identification Division

Latent Fingerprint Section

SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386)(P)

MURKIN

(OO: MEMPHIS)

Enclosed for the Latent Fingerprint Section are 15 unidentified latent fingerprint lifts developed by the Rome, Georgia, Police Department in their crime scene investigations subsequent to the time of JAMES EARL RAY's escape from prison.

It is requested that any identifiable latents contained on the lifts be compared with the available fingerprints of JAMES EARL RAY, I.O. #4182.

The lifts should be returned to the Atlanta upon completion of examination for return to the Rome Police Department.

2 - Bureau (Enc. 15)(RM)

② - Memphis

2 - Atlanta

JWW:lcc

(6)

44-1987-Sub B-720

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>h</i>	FILED <i>h</i>
MAY 1 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyer *BB*