

841 Federal Office Building
Memphis, Tennessee 38103
June 21, 1968

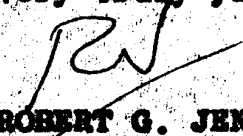
Mr. Phil M. Canale
District Attorney General
Shelby County
Memphis, Tennessee

Dear Mr. Canale:

Enclosed herewith is a single copy of a report prepared by Special Agent Joe C. Hester at Memphis, Tennessee, dated June 10, 1968.

This report is being furnished you in view of the murder indictment outstanding against subject James Earl Ray. It should be understood that this report and the contents thereof are not to be disclosed outside your agency except for purposes of prosecution.

Very truly yours,


ROBERT G. JENSEN
Special Agent in Charge

Enclosure

1 Addressee
① Memphis (44-1987)
RGJ:BN
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6/21/68

AIRTEL

AM

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

Reference Bureau Airtel to Memphis and Birmingham 6-20-68.

Enclosed for Birmingham is one copy of the prosecutive summary report of SA JOE C. HESTER dated 6/10/68 at Memphis. In accordance with Bureau instructions, this report should be delivered to the U. S. Attorney at Birmingham.

Also enclosed for Birmingham is one copy of a letter by which Memphis furnished a copy of this report to Mr. PHIL M. CANALE, District Attorney General, Shelby County, Tennessee.

2 BIRMINGHAM (Enc. 2)
1 MEMPHIS

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DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

6/20/68

SAC, ALBANY (44-493) (P)

MURKIN

(OO: Memphis)

RICHARD TOMKINSON, 97 Union Avenue, Saratoga Springs, New York, President of the Delaware Corporation, a small vending machine company, advised SA DANIEL V. HOGAN that he has an acquaintance named NELSON SCHAUB of Saranac Lake, N.Y. SCHAUB, according to TOMKINSON, is a coin dealer, recently convicted of smuggling gold into the United States, who is always looking for a chance to make big money. SCHAUB told TOMKINSON that he had an idea which might make a lot of money for both of them. SCHAUB said that the United States Government was offering a reward of \$100,000.00 for JAMES EARL RAY, killer of MARTIN LUTHER KING. SCHAUB was aware that there was a far right group in Lake Placid, N.Y., which included many prominent local people. This group included doctors and lawyers. It had recently sponsored a speech at the Lake Placid Arena by a former member of the "Green Berets", the Army Special Services Force. That speech and the talks of those who introduced and thanked the speaker, was very critical of United States policy in Vietnam.

SCHAUB had heard some people in Lake Placid discuss the death of MARTIN LUTHER KING and he felt they were not unhappy at KING's death and said they felt he had probably had his appearance changed and was out of the country.

He told TOMKINSON that if the United States Government would investigate this group which he believed to be a John Birch Society group, the Government might obtain information regarding the KING killing and SCHAUB and TOMKINSON could share in the reward money.

The Albany Office indices indicate that NELSON RAYMOND SCHAUB is a former PCI operator by SA EDWARD A. MC SHANE, Jr., while SCHAUB operated a coin exchange at Plattsburgh, N.Y. This case was closed when SCHAUB was arrested by the U. S. Treasury Department and convicted of gold smuggling in 1966. SA MC SHANE determined that SCHAUB has since been involved in a \$30,000 swindle in the Tupper Lake, N.Y. area; is the subject of outstanding warrants for bad checks in the

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2-Memphis (44-1987)
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Boyle

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AL 44-493

Saranac Lake, New York area, and is heavily in debt.

Local and New York State Police in the Saranac Lake and Plattsburgh areas characterize SCHAUB as a "con-man", of absolute unreliability.

SCHAUB was located and interviewed by SA EDWARD A. MC SHANE, Jr. on 6/7/68, at which time he stated that he had absolutely no reason to suspect anyone or any group in the Lake Placid, N.Y. - Saranac Lake, N.Y. area of involvement in the King Killing, but feels that such a group might be responsible for KING's death.

In view of SCHAUB's poor character, and history of unreliability, no further action is being taken.

DN 157-203
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RE: Witnesses In Unsolved Bank Robberies

During the period from April 23 1967 - April 4, 1968 Denver experienced three bank robberies which are presently unsolved in which witnesses are available.

It is noted that there are no unsolved bank burglaries in which eyewitnesses are available.

Photographs of JAMES EARL RAY were shown to the witnesses who advised that RAY is not identical with the bank robbers.

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Chister *qth*

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RE: Unidentified Deceased
Persons

On May 16, 1968, Mrs. VERA WOODS, Colorado State Department of Public Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Denver, Colorado, advised Investigative Clerk ROLLO J. TRUMBULL, JR. that her files for 1968 contain no record of an unknown deceased male who would be identifiable with JAMES EARL RAY.

On May 17, 1968, Mrs. HELEN WILLMSCHEN, Bureau of Vital Statistics, State of Wyoming Health Department, advised Special Agent ROBERT C. GUSTAFSON that her office maintains death certificates on unidentified persons, however, there have been no such deaths since April 5, 1968. She stated that in each death in the state, each county coroner is required to submit a death certificate to her office within ten days. In the event a person dies and his identity is unknown, it is the responsibility of the county coroner and the sheriff to establish his identity. She stated that if any death certificates are received for unidentified bodies she will notify the Denver Office.

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Chester *gjt*

DN 157-203
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RE: FRED GLASS
GUNNISON, COLORADO

By communication dated May 20, 1968, the San Antonio Office of the FBI advised that a long-distance call was placed from a public telephone bearing telephone number 379-9059, which was located on Highway 90 or Interstate Highway 10 in Texas. The call was placed to telephone number 641-1586, Gunnison, Colorado on December 17, 1967.

On May 23, 1968, Mr. and Mrs. FRED GLASS, who live west of Gunnison, Colorado, advised Special Agent RAY M. HICKMAN that they have telephone number 641-1586 and that they have many relatives in the San Antonio, Texas area from whom they usually receive telephone calls rather than letters. Mrs. GLASS stated that she has a niece who had been having marital troubles during December, 1967 and that the niece had called her on several occasions from San Antonio. She could not recall the specific dates, but was sure that the calls were around the 17th of December.

Mr. GLASS stated that he is a contractor and that he receives many calls from all over the country. He stated that most of the time, calls are made to his office but occasionally a call will come to his home. He keeps no record of such calls and it is his belief that the call in question came from some relative of his wife.

Both Mr. and Mrs. GRAY stated that they do not know JAMES EARL RAY and that they had never heard of him prior to the publicity concerning the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING. They stated that they had never seen anyone identical with the person pictured on the Identification Order of the FBI.

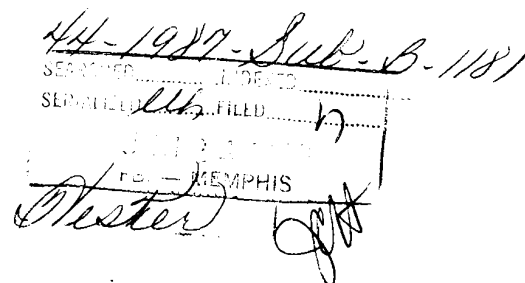
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Chick *gk*

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RE: Check of Salvation Army and Other
Charitable-type Missions

The Citizen's Mission, 1617 Larimer Street; the Baptist Mission, 1616 Larimer Street and the Denver Rescue Mission, 1818 Larimer Street, all Denver, Colorado, were previously contacted regarding the whereabouts of JAMES EARL RAY.

On May 22, 1968, the Salvation Army, Harbor Lights Center, 1736 Larimer Street; the Salvation Army Installation at 1200 Larimer Street and the Mile High Club, 2206 Larimer Street, Denver, were contacted for this same purpose by Special Agent G. HOWARD CARTER. None of the persons contacted were able to identify RAY with anyone they had seen and each expressed his willingness to be on the lookout for the subject.



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(1)

RE: EDGAR EUGENE BRADLEY ✓

On May 23, 1968, REX H. BASINGER, 1416 Downing, Apartment 2, Denver, Colorado, advised Special Agent BOYD D. ADSIT that he received a collect call from EDGAR EUGENE BRADLEY in Tulsa, Oklahoma about 1:00 PM, May 17, 1968. BASINGER stated that he grew up with BRADLEY in Rudy, Arkansas and attended school with him in Alma, Arkansas. He stated that BRADLEY left high school to join the Navy in 1933 and that he has seen him once since, which was in December, 1963 or January, 1964, in Dallas, Texas. He stated that he accidentally met him in a tavern in Dallas.

BASINGER described BRADLEY as 5'11" tall, stocky build, blond hair, freckles, unknown tattoos, 180 pounds and 51 years of age. He stated that BRADLEY has a mother in Rudy, Arkansas, whose name may be Mrs. JOE "JAKE" FINE.

BASINGER claimed that during the call on May 17, 1968, BRADLEY appeared to be drunk and to be calling from a tavern. He thought that perhaps BRADLEY had relations in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He stated that BRADLEY indicated he might be passing through Denver sometime in the near future.

During the conversation, BRADLEY asked BASINGER if BASINGER had seen him on CBS TV and indicated that he was one of those indicted by District Attorney GARRISON of New Orleans, who GARRISON claims to be involved in the JOHN F. KENNEDY assassination conspiracy. BRADLEY commented that "we famous people run together" and stated that he had been living in Tulsa with ERIC GALT for about a week. BASINGER stated he asked BRADLEY who GALT was and BRADLEY replied by asking BASINGER if he had heard of JAMES RAY. When BASINGER stated he had not heard of RAY, BRADLEY reportedly said that he was the one who "knocked over KING, JR.".

BASINGER stated he tried to determine where BRADLEY was staying, but was unsuccessful. He believed that BRADLEY was once on the West Coast possibly in San Jose, California, where he preached as a non-denominational preacher. During the conversation, BRADLEY indicated that he might be returning to the West Coast.

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On May 23, 1968, BASINGER advised that he had received another telephone call from BRADLEY at 7:10 AM that morning. He stated that the telephone call was cut off for an unknown reason, but was not a collect call. BASINGER believes that the call was charged to someone in Fort Smith, Arkansas, from where it originated. During the conversation, BASINGER said that BRADLEY indicated he had been eating at the Old South Restaurant, 714 Towson Avenue, Fort Smith, Arkansas, which restaurant is run by a cousin of BASINGER, Mrs ELBA BASINGER THOMPSON. BASINGER was of the opinion that the call had been placed from that restaurant. BASINGER said that BRADLEY indicated he had traveled to Fort Smith to see the results of a recent tornado in that area and that he planned to head west after leaving Fort Smith.

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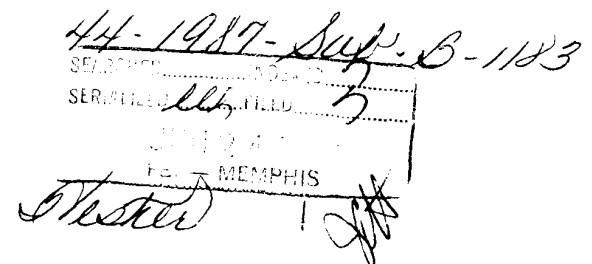
RE: WILLIAM MOLLETT

On June 2, 1968, Mrs. ETHEL T. GEORGE, 1922 Grant, Denver Colorado, the address of the Grant Hotel, telephone number 623-4461, advised Special Agent FREDERICK M. VOLZ that she is assistant manager of the Grant Hotel and resides in Room 2. She stated that she has a private telephone, which has the telephone number 623-4461. She stated the only other telephone is listed to the Grant Hotel.

She stated that WILLIAM MOLLETT stayed in Room 24 by himself for two months and moved out approximately six weeks ago to herd sheep, possibly in Montana. She did not know his employment while in Denver.

She advised that MOLLETT used her telephone to call his brother or sister in Kentucky and she exhibited a telephone bill showing that a call was made to Melvin, Kentucky, telephone number 606-938-2468 on April 5, 1968. The bill was \$1.35, which Mrs. GEORGE said MOLLETT paid to her in cash. She recalls that the conversation was about relatives and that some relative had died. She stated that this was the only time that MOLLETT used her telephone.

She described MOLLETT as 5'5" tall, slim build, approximately 55 years old, with grey hair. She was shown a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and she advised that MOLLETT is definitely not RAY.



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RE: Robert Edward Byrne

On May 24, 1968, during the interview of Mrs. HOMER LANE BIGELOW, 4331 East Mexico Street, Denver, Colorado, Mrs. BIGELOW made available 102 colored photographs which she stated were pictures taken during their trip to Acapulco. Among the photographs was a full view of the yacht ULTIMA II, and a close-up view of a portion of the yacht with a reddish-mahogany speedboat tied to it. No crewmen were visible in either picture.

On May 24, 1968, the following Police Department record, number 53936, FBI number 909511A, was obtained from the Denver Police Department, Denver, Colorado, by SA THOMAS H. WISEMAN. This record relates to ROBERT EDWARD BYRNE, and shows that on October 1, 1954; August 3, 1956; August 24, 1957; and October 16, 1964, BYRNE was arrested for drunkenness and was fined \$10.00 in each instance, the first three fines being suspended. On June 1, 1966, he was arrested for investigation of Driving under the Influence, which charge was changed to violation of Colorado State Code 6107. This charge was dismissed on April 5, 1967, and was reduced to a charge of reckless driving, for which BYRNE paid a \$75.00 fine. The record further reflects that on January 27, 1968, he again was arrested but the charge and disposition is not recorded.

The Police Department record indicated that BYRNE is a white male, 6'5" tall, 198 pounds, born on [REDACTED] in New York City, New York. The record contained a letter from Detective Sergeant C. M. MYERS, New Jersey State Police, mailed on August 15, 1956, which indicated that on October 23, 1951, BYRNE was charged with Atrocious Assault and Battery, but the charge was dismissed in court in Egg Harbor Township, Bargain Town, New Jersey.

The record also contained a letter from Mr. FRANK E. SULLIVAN, Atlantic City, New Jersey, Police Department, post-marked August 15, 1956, which indicated that on April 23, 1949, BYRNE was charged with investigation of Assault and Battery, which charge was dismissed April 25, 1949, in Municipal Court.

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Chester T. [Signature]

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On May 24, 1968, the Master File Section, Motor Vehicle Division, Department of Revenue, Denver, Colorado, was checked by SA THOMAS H. WISEMAN, and the driving history for ROBERT EDWARD BYRNE, under driver's license number Y924, indicated traffic violations on October 29, 1964; December 18, 1964; April 4, 1965; and June 1, 1966. Fines were paid in each instance, running from \$9.00 to \$75.00.

Records of the Retail Credit Men's Association, Denver, Colorado, were checked on May 23, 1968, by SA THOMAS H. WISEMAN, concerning ROBERT E. BYRNE. The records showed that BYRNE was a graduate of Cornell University, and was in the U. S. Marine Corps for five years. He was listed as self-employed in the oil business since college and claimed earnings of \$23,000.00 per year as of December 17, 1956. The file indicated that an Internal Revenue Service lien was filed against him in January, 1963. The file contained several bad credit reports and indication of suits having been filed against BYRNE.

On May 29, 1968, Mrs. ELDORAH HOLM, Records Department, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, advised SA BOYD D. ADSIT that there was no arrest record on file concerning ROBERT EDWARD BYRNE or JAMES WILLIS HEYER.

On May 23, 1968, Mr. BUEL O'LOUGHLIN, Identification Division, Denver Police Department, advised SA THOMAS H. WISEMAN that JAMES WILLIS HEYER has Denver Police Department number 148418. HEYER was arrested March 7, 1968, for disturbance, interference with police officer, and using filthy language. The case is presently pending. Mr. O'LOUGHLIN advised that no record was on file concerning HAL HALE, BERNICE PAULSEN, RAY RYAN, or Mr. or Mrs. HOMER LANE BIGELOW.

Files of the Denver Office indicate that JAMES WILLIS HEYER, born [redacted] at Denver, Colorado, was Assistant U. S. Attorney in Denver, Colorado in the mid-1950's, and was later a Municipal Judge, Denver, Colorado.

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On May 24, 1968, the Master Files Section of the Motor Vehicle Division, Department of Revenue, Denver, was checked by SA THOMAS H. WISEMAN concerning JAMES WILLIS HEYER. The driver history record under driver's license S332493 indicates that HEYER was cited for various traffic violations on seven occasions between October 26, 1964, and February 2, 1968. Fines were paid in each instance, ranging from \$5.00 to \$25.00.

Files of the Retail Credit Men's Association, Denver, as checked on May 23, 1968, by SA THOMAS H. WISEMAN concerning Mrs. HOMER LANE BIGELOW, indicated that Mrs. BIGELOW has an unsatisfactory credit standing in the community and has numerous department stores indicating that her accounts are being handled very slowly.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date June 6, 1968

Mr. FRANK F. BACHELLER, Bacheller Real Estate, 666 Sherman Street, Denver, Colorado, advised that he has known ROBERT EDWARD BYRNE for approximately fifteen years, and that he has no reason to believe that BYRNE is involved in any criminal activity, syndicate or otherwise. He stated he has never indicated to him or in his presence that he has ever killed anyone or is a professional killer. He commented that BYRNE does drink a lot and does make rather wild statements while drunk. On one such occasion, he recalled that BYRNE made some mention of a plane crash while he was a Marine pilot. Mr. BACHELLER said he has no reason to think that any of BYRNE's associates in the oil business, such as HAL HALE or BUD SIMMONS, are in any way connected with criminal activities. He advised that BYRNE has never mentioned the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING, as far as he knows.

He stated in his opinion, anyone attempting to connect BYRNE with KING's death is spreading the most far-fetched story he has ever heard of.

Mr. BACHELLER stated he is not really well acquainted with Mrs. HOMER LANE BIGELOW, and that any judgment he would make of her would be superficial, but if she was the source of this information, he would have considerable reason to question her emotional stability. He stated that since learning of BYRNE's intention to marry GENEVIEVE BYRNE, she has indicated a vindictive attitude and has become emotional at times. He stated this was very evident when he found her at BYRNE's apartment recently at the time he stopped by to take BOB BYRNE to lunch. He stated she alleged that she knew something about BOB and would fix the marriage. He said there was no mention made by her of killing BOB and herself while he was present, but he later learned from someone, whose identity he cannot now recall, that she had made the statement.

He said that to attempt to calm her down, he stopped by her house later in the afternoon, just to let her talk.

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Wickster

On 5/31/68 at Denver, Colorado File # Denver 157-203

by SA BOYD D. ADSIT:pmb Date dictated 6/6/68

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During her conversation, she claimed that BYRNE had been with a syndicate for twenty years and was a hired killer. He stated she made no mention of his being connected with MARTIN LUTHER KING's assassination. He told her at the time that she had to be out of her mind. He said she is not in the same social group with him and he has purposely avoided her ever since.

BACHELLER said he recalled the trip to Acapulco, Mexico, and he is of the belief that it was a vacation trip which they took with Mr. and Mrs. HAL HALE. He also recalled seeing pictures of the trip after their return, but cannot recall specific pictures.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 6, 19681

Mr. HAROLD B. MOTT, 684 Ogden Street, Denver, Colorado, advised that he has known ROBERT EDWARD BYRNE since at least high school days in New York. He stated that he has absolutely no reason to think that BYRNE is connected with any criminal activity, syndicate or otherwise. He stated that it was common knowledge among the group that knew BYRNE that he was in Lubbock, Texas, at the time of the death of MARTIN LUTHER KING for the purpose of settling the estates of his recently deceased mother and brother.

He advised that he knows that Mrs. BIGELOW is upset because BYRNE has started running around with another woman. He believes that Mrs. BIGELOW is rational but upset, and "ought to have her skull examined." He stated that undoubtedly the allegations concerning BYRNE came from her and he considers them ludicrous.

MOTT stated that BYRNE is inclined to kid a lot if he has been drinking and if he made any statements at all, he is sure that it was because of his drinking. He knows that BYRNE is not motivated by any racial feelings.

He stated BYRNE has never made any statements to him which could in any way be interpreted as connecting him with any criminal syndicate, any gun-running activity, or with MARTIN LUTHER KING's death.

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Heister *glt*

On 5/31/68 at Denver, Colorado File # Denver 157-203

by SA BOYD D. ADSIT:pmb Date dictated 6/6/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date June 10, 1968

Mrs. HOMER LANE "KIRK" BIGELOW, 4331 East Mexico Street, Denver, Colorado, advised she was born HELEN LOUISE COYKENDALL on [redacted] New York City of MARY E. and SAMUEL ADAMS COYKENDALL, 170 Chilean Avenue, Palm Beach, Florida. She stated that she is the mother of three children who reside with her and that she has been married five times, her last husband, to whom she had been married once before, having committed suicide in Denver, Colorado in March, 1963.

Mrs. BIGELOW stated that she met ROBERT EDWARD BYRNE, an independent oil broker in March or April, 1967. She stated that Mrs. KATHY RAHEL, who presently lives at 624 Ogden Street, Denver, Colorado, a thrice married divorcee, moved in next to her in about April, 1967 and lived there until November, 1967. She stated that she and Mrs. RAHEL had mutual friends and soon became acquainted. Mrs. RAHEL threw a party at which BOB BYRNE was present. She learned that BYRNE was born in Shanghai and lived in South Africa as a boy. His father was in the export-import business in New York. She stated that BYRNE moved to Garden City, Long Island, New York when he was in his early teens and went to school with one HAROLD MOTT, who later married KATHY RAHEL and lives in the same apartment building on Ogden Street as does RAHEL.

Mrs. BIGELOW stated that BYRNE was a part of a "partying group", which included KATHY RAHEL; HAROLD MOTT; JAMES W. HEYER, a Denver attorney; KEVEN MC CARTHY, a Singer Sewing Machine executive; JOHN and ELVA THOMPSON, who are not married but live together in an apartment two doors removed from Mrs. BIGELOW; and RENEE and KEN MC LAUGHIN, an attorney. She stated that none of these people are considered to be substantial people by her. She advised they like wild parties and lots of drinking. She said that the group usually meets at KATHY RAHEL's apartment.

Mrs. BIGELOW stated that she and her children were in the East for the summer of 1967 returning to Denver on the Labor Day weekend. She stated that she immediately saw

On 5/24/68 at Denver, Colorado File # Denver 157-203

by SA PAUL E. BUSH and BOYD D. ADSIT BDA/sip Date dictated 6/3/68

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BOB BYRNE again at the THOMPSON's apartment and a romance between them started at that time "hot and heavy". She said it progressed to the point where they frequently slept together. During their association, she met a close acquaintance of BYRNE by the name of HAL HALE. She stated that HALE is in the oil business and has several oil holdings. He is married and lives in California, but has an office in a house located in the 500 block of Gilpin Street in Denver, Colorado, which office is maintained by a bookkeeper. She stated that HALE is originally from Ashdown, Arkansas. She advised that she first met HALE in September or October, 1967 and that he is not a member of the partying group to which BYRNE belongs.

Mrs. BIGELOW described BOB BYRNE as 43 years of age, 6'4½ - 5" tall, dark hair, scars on his legs, which he claims he obtained from wounds received while in the Marine Corps as a pilot during World War II. She stated that he is a graduate of Cornell University and has a degree in Hotel Management. She said that BYRNE was married once after he came to Denver about 15 years ago, but is now divorced. His ex-wife is now Mrs. JAMES S. (LYNN) ROBB and lives at 12534 West Virginia Avenue, Lakewood, Colorado. She recalled that BYRNE's ex-wife presently has BYRNE in court either for non-support or in connection with attempts on the part of her and her new husband to adopt the three children of the first marriage.

Mrs. BIGELOW stated that BYRNE does not appear to have money, but that he has refused to accept cash from her in the past. She believes, however, that he has accepted money from another girl friend, BERNICE PAULSEN, who resides at 1010 Clarkson, Denver and who is a secretary for a law firm.

She stated that BYRNE had a twin brother, JOSEPH BYRNE, who was killed March 13, 1968 while on a flight over Laos. JOSEPH BYRNE was a Lieutenant Colonel in the Air Force, whose wife's name is GENEVIVE and whose family consisted of six children, all residing with their mother at 4704 29th Street, Lubbock, Texas, telephone Swift 2-1182. She stated that he has two other brothers, WILLIAM BYRNE, in

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insurance at 119 Underhill Road, Ossining, New York and DONALD BYRNE in the oil business in Kansas City, Missouri.

She stated that BYRNE is a "heavy, two fisted drinker" who does most of his talking when he has been drinking. She said that he is probably not an alcoholic as he never seems to forget anything he says, but that he is capable of drinking one to two bottles of liquor a day for four or five days and then will go without drinking for a like period.

Mrs. BIGELOW claimed that BYRNE started intimating that he was in some type of organized crime syndicate about a month after their romance started; but that he never became specific as to members of the syndicate or its activities. She said he also told war stories about his life in the Marine Corps during combat and he claimed he had killed many men. She was never sure whether the killings were while he was in the Marines or were in connection with the syndicate; but later she learned from other sources that he was never in combat.

She claimed that he once told her that he was a professional killer and also that after World War II, he was engaged in a gun running business in which he flew guns to Cuba in a light airplane prior to take over by CASTRO. She said that she gained the impression that he was in the employ of one RAY RYAN, while gun running and he described RYAN as "Mr. BIG", who spent part of his time in Kenya, Africa, where RYAN is a member of the Mt. Kenya Safari Club. She said according to BYRNE, RYAN supposedly cannot return to the United States as there is a "contract" out on him and he would be killed the minute he set foot on American soil. She also said that BYRNE mentioned another name which she cannot recall of a man who was big in the underworld and who lives on an island between Miami and Miami Beach. This man is supposed to have been connected with RAY RYAN and a financier of the gun running operation. BYRNE also reportedly referred to HAL HALE as "Mr. BIG" and inferred that HALE was involved in the criminal activity.

BIGELOW stated that in late November, 1967 BYRNE

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told her he had been invited to Acapulco, Mexico by HALE and his wife DEE and that she was invited as well. BYRNE told her that it was a business trip, but not connected with oil. She said that she paid for the trip for the two of them and that they left Denver on December 28, 1967 and returned to Denver, January 12, 1968. She said that they met the HALEs at a house named Casa Josette in the Las Brisas area of Acapulco. The HALEs were accompanied by BILLIE and LOUIS FAWCETT of Ashdown, Arkansas. The HALEs and the FAWCETTS left Acapulco two or three days before BYRNE did.

Mrs. BIGELOW stated that she gained the impression the three men attended meetings during the mornings although no one specifically so stated, and that the meetings related to criminal plans. She did not know who else might have been present at the meetings, although HALE once commented that he had seen RAY RYAN on the Street in Acapulco. She said that BYRNE returned to the house one day upset. After dinner he and she went to a club and started drinking, however, BYRNE was sober when she tried to draw him out. She asked him what it was all about and she claimed that she knew that he was supposed to meet RAY RYAN. BYRNE reportedly said "they want me to do a job. I don't want to do it. As you know, I have been trying to get out of this for three years, but they need a technician." She said that BYRNE claimed that "they" had threatened to harm Mrs. BIGELOW's children and that "this is the only way they could get to me". She stated that BYRNE claimed to be frightened, said he was not going to do "it", and for her not to worry. He was not going to let "them" harm her or her children.

Mrs. BIGELOW stated that shortly after the group's arrival in Acapulco a yacht, the Ultima II, anchored in the harbor. They learned that it belonged to CHARLES REVSON, head of Revlon Cosmetic Company. She said she gained the impression that REVSON was not aboard. After lunch one day BYRNE wanted to take a small sailboat out on the harbor so she accompanied him and the operator of the boat. She stated that they circled the yacht and took pictures of it while some of the crewmen were at the yacht's rail. They waved and the crewmen waved back. She said that she had heard that RAY RYAN was aboard and thinks that it was HALE who mentioned it. She felt that BYRNE wanted to circle the yacht because of that. She said that BYRNE

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later told her he rented the sailboat because he was supposed to identify the crewman and the crewman was to identify him. She stated that the next day or so, all the party took a speedboat trip and on the trip they again circled the yacht. More pictures were taken of the yacht and its crew.

On the trip to Acapulco Mrs. BIGELOW stated that she took seven rolls of pictures with 20 pictures to the roll. When they returned to Denver, she had them developed at a nearby drug store and BYRNE picked them up paying about \$35.00. She stated that she saw them at that time, but BYRNE stated he was going to keep them since he had paid for them and would have prints made for her. She recalls that they later showed them to JAMES HEYER, the attorney friend of BYRNE. In March, while at BYRNE'S apartment, BYRNE passed out from over drinking according to Mrs. BIGELOW. She said that she took the pictures and the negatives and left his apartment. She thinks that she must have lost the negatives and some airline tickets out of her purse when she stepped out of her car at her apartment. She discovered the loss the next morning and later noticed that all the pictures of the crewmen of the yacht were missing.

She stated that after returning to Denver she tried to discuss BYRNE'S comments in Acapulco. He reportedly told her "for God sake don't bring that up". They eventually had words and did not see each other from January, 26, 1968 to February 9, 1968. Due to the need to talk to someone she went to her attorney, TOD BAKER, Denver, Colorado, shortly after their return to Denver and discussed the matter briefly with him. She said he laughed and said that it was impossible, but if she was worried, he would make one telephone call and would find out what it was all about.

She claimed that BYRNE knew she had seen her attorney the very next day and told her that she was in deep trouble. That was the day that they picked up the pictures from the drug store and took them over to JAMES HEYER. She said that they all drank a lot, but no one was drunk. After HEYER'S wife went to bed, both BYRNE and HEYER started questioning her as to why she went to her attorney and telling her that she was going to get herself, her kids and

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(6)

BYRNE killed.

She said HEYER told her that her house was "bugged" and that they knew of all her conversations. He said that he and BYRNE had to make a call to Dallas in order to get BYRNE out of trouble as a result of her talking. She said they asked her to go to the car and wait while they made the telephone call. She did and when she returned, they both continued to lecture her and obtained her promise not to talk further. Afterwards, HEYER again called Dallas, according to Mrs. BIGELOW and BYRNE handled the call out of earshot of Mrs. BIGELOW.

Mrs. BIGELOW stated after their fight on January 26, 1968, she next saw BYRNE on February 9, 1968 at another party given by KATHY RAHEL. She and BYRNE made up and no mention was made of past events until after BYRNE returned from Lubbock, Texas in early March where he had gone to be with his mother, who was having an operation. She claimed that BYRNE was tense when he returned and told her that he had his problems and did not know what to do about them. He said, cryptically that he had to do it and he did not want to. She said that he would not say what it was he had to do, but in response to her probing did say that "it" was going to happen soon, would make national headlines and would be just about as big as KENNEDY's death.

Mrs. BIGELOW said that on March 10, 1968 BYRNE'S mother died and as he was getting ready to go to New York, where the funeral was to be held, he received a call from his sister-in-law GENEVIVE on March 13, 1968, telling him that his twin brother, her husband, had been killed overseas. She said that he immediately went to Lubbock, Texas, where she called him frequently asking when he would be returning to Denver. From these calls, she learned that he and GENEVIVE had gone off somewhere for a week. The night of the day on which MARTIN LUTHER KING was assassinated while others were at her house, she again called him. She said that he was at his sister-in-laws and was "absolutely, out of his mind, drunk". She said he yelled at her for having a "nasty mind" regarding GENEVIVE. In subsequent calls, he was reportedly calmer and indicated that he had a lot

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to do in connection with the two estates.

She stated that BYRNE returned to Denver on May 14, 1968 and was at her apartment that night "fairly drunk" by 9:00. Before they retired she told him she was scared and asked him if he had had a hand in KING's death. She said he replied "what do you think, of course". She asked him if JAMES EARL RAY did the shooting and he replied asking her what made her think RAY did it. She said she indicated RAY was probably dead and that BYRNE said he was not. She said she asked him if "that had been a picture of RAY on the yacht she had taken", and he replied that it was. She said she asked BYRNE where the pictures were and he replied "you don't think I would leave them around do you?" He ended the conversation by saying he would never let "them" harm her. The next night, according to Mrs. BIGELOW, while they were out with KATHY RAHEL and her friend MOTT, BYRNE told her that he was going to marry GENEVIVE in that he thought he ought to be a father to her six children. Mrs. BIGELOW said that she walked out on the group and walked home, but that she has seen BYRNE a few times since.

She stated that on May 22, 1968 she received a telephone call from JAMES HEYER who wanted to contact BYRNE. He asked her to try to locate BYRNE as it was an emergency. She was to give BYRNE the message "emergency teacup" and BYRNE would know what it meant. She said BYRNE did call later and she gave him the message. She stated that he had her repeat it three times, swore and commented "I wonder if mine will be as big as the other's". She felt the message frightened BYRNE and she has not seen nor heard from him since.

Mrs. BIGELOW stated that she started making notes concerning this situation about April 18, 1968. She stated that she has thought about it many times and finally decided that if BYRNE was going down to Lubbock, Texas to marry GENEVIVE perhaps he ought to be stopped. She stated that she probably would not have called the FBI except for the fact that BYRNE plans to marry GENEVIVE. She stated that she realizes she has no proof of her allegations and she figures she will harm BYRNE by furnishing the information.

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She advised that up to the time of MARTIN LUTHER KING's death there was no mention of KING in any of her conversations with BYRNE.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 6, 1968

Mr. ROBERT EDWARD BYRNE, 1234 Clarkson Street, Apartment #7, Denver, Colorado, advised at the outset of the interview that he felt interviewing Agents were contacting him because of comments made by Mrs. HOMER LANE BIGELOW, known to him as "KIRK," with whom he had been going for the past several months and who was attempting to make trouble for him ever since he had informed her that he was going to marry GENEVIEVE BYRNE, the wife of his deceased twin brother. He stated that in his opinion, KIRK BIGELOW is a "very sick" woman emotionally, and, as the "woman scorned," is determined to do all she can to upset his marriage to GENEVIEVE. He stated that she is too late as far as his marriage is concerned because over the past weekend, he married GENEVIEVE in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and they were presently honeymooning at the Broadmoor Hotel there. He stated that he had returned to Denver, Colorado, with GENEVIEVE for the purpose of appearing in court in Jefferson County with his attorney, JAMES HEYER, for two reasons: 1) for the purpose of contesting the attempts of his ex-wife, who is now Mrs. JAMES S. ROBB, who with her new husband is attempting to secure the adoption of their three children; and 2) for the purpose of packing his furniture and belongings for the trip to Lubbock, Texas, where he intends to take up residence. He stated that he and GENEVIEVE were leaving for Lubbock, Texas, via the Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs in the next few minutes.

Mr. BYRNE categorically denied that he was in any way involved in or had knowledge of MARTIN LUTHER KING's assassination. He stated he had been in the Marine Corps for five years as a pilot and while he saw no combat duty, he was at one time stationed in Cuba. He stated that he was in no way involved in any gun-running operation to Cuba at any time.

Concerning RAY RYAN, he stated that RYAN is a very wealthy individual who is one of the charter members of the Mount Kenya Safari Club in Africa, and who has financial interests in several oil ventures. He said as far as he

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On 5/28/68 at Denver, Colorado File # Denver 157-203

by SA FREDERICK M. VOLZ;
SA BOYD D. ADSIT:pmb Date dictated 6/6/68

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.

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FMV & BDA:pmb
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knows, RAY RYAN is in no way connected with any criminal activity. He recalled that some years ago, RYAN was the victim of a proposed kidnapping plot on the West Coast and because of that, he could have mentioned that his life and safety was still in danger. He stated that he worked in affiliation with RYAN and with another wealthy oil promoter, HAL HALE, when RYAN and HALE were partners in the New Drilling Company, Denver, Colorado, a few years ago.

BYRNE advised that he knows HAL HALE quite well and has frequent business dealings with HALE in the field of oil. He stated he does not believe that HALE is in any way involved in any criminal activity.

He stated there is another wealthy individual who lives on an island between Miami and Miami Beach whose name is JIMMY BREUILS (he was not sure of the spelling of BREUILS' name), and BREUILS is also in the oil business, and is known to RAY RYAN and HAL HALE. He said as far as he knows, BREUILS is not involved in any criminal activity.

BYRNE continued by stating that last fall and winter, he and HALE were responsible for drilling several oil wells in Kansas and during this period of time, HALE invited him and Mrs. BIGELOW, BYRNE's girl friend, to accompany the HALEs on a vacation to Acapulco, Mexico. He said that in late December, they did make the trip, meeting the HALEs and Mr. and Mrs. FAWCETT of Ashdown, Arkansas, at a vacation house in Acapulco which HALE had rented. He emphasized that the trip was a vacation trip but, of course, he and HALE, who were associated in oil dealings, did discuss some business on the trip. He denied that any meetings were held where criminal activities were planned. He recalled that during one business discussion with HALE, a slight argument developed about an oil deal wherein HALE wanted him to handle it in a way that he did not desire. He stated that he did mention to Mrs. BIGELOW that he had a problem, but he did not go into detail as to what the

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problem was because he made it a practice to avoid talking business with her since she fancied herself as an investor and a business woman, which she is not, and he did not want her becoming involved in any of his business dealings.

He also recalled that she brought up the subject of marriage which she had discussed on previous occasions and in the conversation, indicated that if he did not marry her, her daughter JENNIFER would be hurt. He said he told her he did not want to hurt JENNIFER, but he was not going to marry her.

BYRNE stated that the yacht ULTIMA II arrived during the early part of their stay in Acapulco, and it came up in conversation among the vacationing group on more than one occasion. He understood from HAL HALE that RAY RYAN was supposed to have arrived in Acapulco aboard the yacht and that HALE had seen RYAN on the street in Acapulco on one occasion. He said he had no specific knowledge that RYAN was present inasmuch as he never did see him. He stated that he and Mrs. BIGELOW did take out a sailboat and did circle the yacht, taking a few pictures. He said to the best of his recollection, only two pictures of the yacht were taken--one of a full view of the yacht and the other a close-up of a section of the yacht, showing a red speedboat tied to it. He stated that upon his return to Denver, the pictures were developed and when he picked them up, he observed that only these two pictures of the yacht were in the group.

Concerning the pictures, BYRNE stated that he once had possession of all the pictures and negatives, but on some occasion, Mrs. BIGELOW took both the pictures and the negatives. He stated that he kept none of them.

Later, after Mrs. BIGELOW was informed by him that he was going to marry GENEVIEVE, she came to his apartment and left three of the pictures and each of these pictures were of Mrs. BIGELOW, BYRNE, and a sailfish that he had caught. On this

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occasion, Mrs. BIGELOW was greatly distressed at his intention to marry GENEVIEVE, and according to BIGELOW, she stated that "in no way was he going to get to marry GENEVIEVE; that she was going to kill him and then herself." He stated that during the time she was in his apartment, a friend of his, FRANK F. BACHELLER, arrived at the apartment to take BYRNE to lunch and would know of Mrs. BIGELOW's upset condition.

BYRNE recalled the visit to the residence of his attorney, JAMES HEYER, on which he and Mrs. BIGELOW took the pictures of the Acapulco trip to show HEYER. He also recalled that he and HEYER were at that time working on a mining deal which involved individuals in Dallas, Texas, and during the evening, they contacted their business associates in Dallas. He stated because he did not want Mrs. BIGELOW becoming involved in the deal, he asked her to leave the room so they could hold their conversations on the telephone in privacy. He commented that the business proposition "never jelled."

He stated that all of his activities in Texas were in connection with his mother's illness and death, and in connection with his brother's death. He stated that several meetings were held with Air Force officials at Reese Air Force Base, near Lubbock, and he and GENEVIEVE found it necessary to travel to the headquarters of the Air Force at Randolph Air Force Base, near San Antonio. He said on that trip, they stayed with Colonel SAM KYLE, in San Marcus, Texas, a friend of GENEVIEVE's deceased husband, and who did them the courtesy of checking into the details of JOE BYRNE's death. He recalled that while he was in Texas, Mrs. BIGELOW frequently called and wrote to him. He stated it was obvious from her state of mind during the calls that she was mentally disturbed. In both the telephone calls and letters she accused him of immoral activities with GENEVIEVE. He stated he destroyed the letters immediately upon reading them.

BYRNE stated he has known Mrs. BIGELOW since approximately last summer and met her through KATHY RAE and HAROLD

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FMV & BDA:pmb

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MOTT. He stated he has known MOTT since the fifth grade. He stated that he is extremely sorry he ever made her acquaintance because of her emotional instability. He said she tells people that she is worth millions when, in fact, she is not. He learned that prior to taking up with him, she dated and occasionally lived with one GUS NYBURG, a dishonest individual with whom BYRNE had had dealings in the past, and who took money from Mrs. BIGELOW, according to her.

BYRNE stated that at least most of the events that were brought up by interviewing Agents did take place, such as the trip to Acapulco, Mexico, his trip to Lubbock, Texas, and the visit to JAMES HEYER's residence, but that incorrect information had been added to what took place during the events. He stated that he is willing to assist the FBI in any way to clear the matter up, and that in the future, he can be reached at 4801 - 29th Street, Lubbock, Texas.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM : *Wm* SAC, DENVER (157-203)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 6/20/68

Enclosed for Memphis are 15 copies of FD 302's reflecting interviews with Mrs. HOMER LANE BIGELOW, Mr. FRANK F. BACHELLER, Mr. HAROLD B. MOTT and Mr. ROBERT EDWARD BYRNE. Also enclosed are 15 copies of insert regarding BYRNE.

Also enclosed is one copy each of six inserts containing results of investigation to locate RAY, which investigation no longer has pertinence to the case. Inserts are being furnished OO for record purposes and one copy of each being retained by Denver.

2 - Memphis (Encls. 81) *Wm*
1 - Denver

BDA/sip
(3)

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FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hunter *CH*



5010-108-02

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

June 25, 1968

PERSONAL

Mr. Donald Broton
Textile Marking Machine Company
2204 Erie Boulevard East
Syracuse, New York 13224

Dear Mr. Broton:

I want to express both my appreciation and that of my associates in our Albany Office for the cooperation you recently extended in a case which is of vital interest to us.

It is most heartening to receive aid from citizens who are in a position to offer it, and I have learned that your assistance was given at the expense of your personal convenience. We wish to thank you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

1 - Albany (44-493)

① - Memphis (44-1987)
Re Albany letter dated 6-18-68.

44-1987-Sub-B-1190

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FBI - MEMPHIS	

Baugh

F B I

Date: 6/25/68

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

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
 FROM: SAC, NEWARK (44-854) (P)
 SUBJECT: MURKIN
 (OO:MEMPHIS)

Re Memphis teletype to Bureau dated 6/18/68.

On 6/23/68, PCI LILLIAN DICKINSON, 2420 Arnold Street, Camden, N.J., landlady for PCI MARJORIE LOUIS FETTERS advised SA JOHN E. OTT she received a telephone call from JERRY RAY. He said he was calling from the home of his sister in St. Louis, Mo. where he said he was staying. In response to a question from DICKINSON he said the subject has not made an attempt to contact him since his arrest.

Because FETTERS was not home when he called he left telephone number 314-645-9152 with DICKINSON so FETTERS could return his call.

RAY told DICKINSON he was soon going to go to Memphis, Tenn, "to see what is going on there". He also said he might visit his son in Whitesburg, Tenn.

On 6/23/68, FETTERS telephonically contacted JERRY RAY at the indicated number. He said he was planning during the first part of this week on traveling to Whitesburg, Tenn, to visit his son and also on going to Memphis, Tenn. if his employer in Illinois did not require his return to work.

JERRY RAY said if he makes the described trips he might try to earn some money by selling interviews of himself to the various forms of mass media located along the route of his travels. FETTERS received the impression JERRY RAY is enjoying the attention and publicity he is receiving as a result of instant matter.

②-Memphis
 2-St. Louis
 5-Newark

(1-137-6826)
 (1-137-6829)

JE0/mbm

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

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Bug 173

NK 44-854

JERRY RAY told FETTERS he would like to see her again. She is of the opinion, he is still seriously interested in her. He did not try to make specific plans for a meeting during this conversation, however.

In response to a question by FETTERS, JERRY RAY said to the best of his knowledge the subject has not tried to contact him since his arrest.

6/26/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, CHICAGO
FROM: SAC, CLEVELAND (44-565) (P)
RE: MURKIN

Re Savannah airtel to CV, 6/20/68.

Enclosed for CG is one Xerox copy of Savannah airtel to CV, 6/20/68 along with the enclosed FD 302 of Pvt. WILLIAM DENNIS HARRY, dated 6/18/68, concerning the possibility of JAMES EARL RAY being a passenger aboard United Airlines Flight #396Y from Atlanta, Ga., to CV, O., on 4/6/68.

Service Representative, ED PAYNE, United Airlines, CV, advised this date that the Passenger list of the above flight is now available in CG in care of JOHN HUDSON, Supervisor, Revenue and Accounting, Ticket Lift Reports - EX, telephone 625-1400, Ext. 2200. Mr. PAYNE advised that he had telephonically contacted Mr. HUDSON who stated he would make flight records available to a representative of the FBI.

LEAD

CHICAGO:

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Will contact JOHN HUDSON and check passenger list of Flight 396 Y, United Airlines on 4/6/68 to determine if any of the passengers on that flight were traveling under the name or known aliases of JAMES EARL RAY.

2 - Chicago (Enc. 2)
2 - Cleveland

① - Memphis (Info) (44-1987)
1 - Savannah (Info) (44-1768)

MPM/jsj
(4)

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Bayle B

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DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

6/26/68

SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (173-65)(RUC)

MURKIN
CIVIL RIGHTS

OO: MEMPHIS

San Francisco is placing this case in an RUC
status.

2 - Bureau (RM)
2 - Memphis (44-1987)(RM)
1 - San Francisco
MTG/sms #11
(5)

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FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle *GB*

F B I

Date: 6/26/68

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

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, LAS VEGAS (157-133)(P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Las Vegas airtel to Memphis, 6/3/68.

COST DATA - LAS VEGAS DIVISION
MONTH OF JUNE, 1968

1. Number of man-hours:

(A) SA - regular	15
SA - overtime	6
Total	21
(B) Clerical - regular	4
Clerical - overtime	0
Total	4

2. Total mileage traveled by Bucars used on case estimated at 65 miles.

3. There were no unusual or out-of-ordinary costs.

4. Peak number of SA's working on this case during June - 4.

② - Memphis
1 - Las Vegas
CT/dll
(3)

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Boyle *AP*

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

DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

6/26/68

SAC, SEATTLE (44-371) (P)

MURKIN
OO: MEMPHIS

Re Memphis airtel to Seattle, 5/16/68.

On June 13, 1968, Mr. JOHN V. CLARK, Corporate Manager, Security Section, The Boeing Company, 7755 E. Marginal Way S., Seattle, Washington, referred SA CHARLES N. GIESE to Mr. CHESTER ALFRED DAHL, Boeing Supervisor in Organization 6-7900, who has a Secret Clearance. DAHL resides at 23024-99th W., Edmonds, Washington and according to CLARK he had information pertaining to a remark made by Mr. JOHN FREDERICK GRACE, a Boeing chemist in Organization 6-3020, who also has a Secret Clearance and who lives at 1009 Tenth Place S., Edmonds, Washington.

ALL MEMBERS OF THE DAHL FAMILY WHO WERE INTERVIEWED REQUESTED THAT THEIR IDENTITIES REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL.

Seattle Indices are negative concerning the DAHL family members and the GRACE family members.

On June 14, 1968, DAHL was interviewed at work; and he advised his daughter, DEBBIE DAHL, is a friend of DEBBIE GRACE, who is the daughter of GRACE above. The summation of Mr. DAHL's information was that DEBBIE DAHL learned from DEBBIE GRACE that three days prior to the KING assassination, GRACE had remarked that KING would be shot. Further, GRACE has attended many John Birch meetings "and others", types unknown. GRACE reportedly has a violent temper.

On June 14, 1968, DEBBIE DAHL, who is 17, was interviewed at her home in the presence of her mother. DEBBIE DAHL related the substance of the information outlined above and added that GRACE is "violently" anti-Communist.

2 - Bureau
② - Memphis (44-1987)
2 - Seattle
CNG/djz
(6)

44-1987-Sub B-1195

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FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle
Hester

SE 44-371

On June 25, 1968, GRACE was interviewed at work by SA GIXSE who prefaced the interview by stating merely that it had been reported to the Seattle FBI Office that GRACE reportedly had advanced information that KING would be shot.

GRACE stated that it was his feeling that since KING had been so much in the public eye and since some people were opposed to what he had been doing, he would not have been surprised if KING were shot. GRACE stated that he may have passed this remark to someone but he could not recall to whom or when. He said that he most certainly did not have any foreknowledge that KING would be shot although he was not surprised that it did happen for the reason stated above; but he deplored the shooting. GRACE said he most certainly did not have anything to do with the shooting itself, and he remarked that he has heard other persons remark that they would not be surprised if KING were shot in the connotation noted above.

The Seattle Division is forwarding this for the information of the Bureau and the Memphis Division but does not contemplate any further action in this specific instance.

6/27/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-10673)

MURKIN
CR

OO: Memphis

Re Birmingham airtel, 6/21/68, which set forth results of interview with AUBRY DEE CHANDLER, Scottsboro, Ala., together as an enclosure a pamphlet application with the Palmer Writers School, Minneapolis, Minn.

OSCAR J. KELLER, District Manager, Inspectors of Petroleum, 8139 Oleander, New Orleans, La., advised SA EDWARD J. CARNEY, JR., as follows on 6/25/68:

DEREK ALBERT WAUGH is currently an employee of the Inspectors of Petroleum Co., and is in training as a petroleum inspector.

WAUGH, born 1/5/34, at Belfast, Ireland, is a British citizen and is in the United States as a non-resident alien. WAUGH was recommended for employment with the Petroleum firm by a Petroleum firm employee who had met WAUGH in Panama. WAUGH by profession is a radio officer and prior to entering the United States, sailed on tankers under the flags of different countries out of England.

WAUGH has been employed by the Inspectors of Petroleum Co., since 1/1/68 and when he arrived in New Orleans, he took a room in a rooming house at 2928 Tulane Ave., New Orleans. KELLER recalls that WAUGH lived at

3 - Bureau
2 - Memphis
1 - Birmingham (Info)
2 - New Orleans
EJC/bnk
(8)

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Boyle 1973

NO 157-10673

this address because on one occasion KELLER drove WAUGH home at the end of a day's work.

KELLER advised that WAUGH is a promising trainee and that because of his alien citizenship, he was encouraged by the company to participate in correspondence courses such as handwriting in order to better equip himself as an employee. KELLER had no specific knowledge that WAUGH may have enrolled in a commerce handwriting course.

KELLER described WAUGH as being 5'11", 165 pounds, reddish hair, cut short.

R. J. GONZALEZ, 225 South Salcedo, New Orleans, La., on 6/26/68, advised that he is the owner of the residence at 2928 Tulane Ave., New Orleans. GONZALEZ advised as follows:

During early 1968, he ran ads advising of the availability of rooms for rent at 2928 Tulane Ave., which neighborhood is a low class transient type area.

WAUGH telephonically contacted GONZALEZ in response to one of these ads and advised that he was from England, was learning the oil business, and needed a room. GONZALEZ met WAUGH at the 2928 Tulane Ave., address and WAUGH rented Apartment #3 at that address. The effective day of rent was on February 19, 1968 and WAUGH remained at that address until 4/19/68 when he moved elsewhere with a forwarding address not known to GONZALEZ.

GONZALEZ displayed his rental book and it disclosed that DEREK A. WAUGH was a renter from 2/19/68 through 4/19/68.

GONZALEZ described WAUGH as a pleasant individual, who was about 30, 6', 175 pounds, slender build, and blond hair.

He stated that WAUGH furnished no information about his background other than to indicate he would probably be working in Baton Rouge, La., from time to time in connection with the oil business. (KELLER mentioned that WAUGH had taken some training in Baton Rouge for his company).

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Both KELLER and GONZALEZ viewed photographs of JAMES EARL RAY with negative results.

New Orleans will review the INS file in the name of DEREK A. WAUGH for further background information, conduct credit and criminal checks and advise Bureau, Birmingham and Memphis.

On the basis of investigation conducted thus far, it does not appear that subject RAY rented any facilities at 2928 Tulane Ave., during March, 1968.

Conf Informant

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discretion of Memphis as to the manner in which this background information on MC GOWAN is to be reported. In this regard Miami notes Memphis teletype to Bureau and Miami dated 4/8/68, and Miami teletype to Bureau, Memphis and Jackson dated 4/9/68.

With regards to IRA DAVID HAWTHORNE (former MM 1081-R) and WILLIAM SUMMERSETT (former MM 607-R), who furnished information regarding EARL LINDER and one GILBERT which was set forth in a Miami teletype to the Bureau dated 4/29/68, an airmail copy of which was furnished to Memphis, it is being left to the discretion of Memphis as to the manner in which the information contained therein is to be reported.