

F B I

Date: 4-23-68

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

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, RICHMOND (44-657) -P-
MURKIN
CR

Re Atlanta teletype to Bureau, Memphis and Richmond,
4-22-68.

Sub B-406
For information WFO, retel advised individual as NORM PERRY took Delta flight #106 from Atlanta, Ga., on 4-6-68 en route to London, England, with stop-over Dulles International Airport. Gave Georgia phone number 462-2382. Atlanta unable to verify phone number.

On 4-22-68, JERRY TIERNEY, Passenger Service Representative, Pan American Airlines, Dulles International Airport, Chantilly, Va., advised that a review of his manifest sheet for Delta Airlines flight 106 for 4-6-68, revealed one PERRY (no initials) emplaned at Atlanta, Ga., en route to London, England. PERRY was flying economy class. He advised the flight originated New Orleans, La., with stop at Atlanta and Dulles. At Dulles, the Delta crew was relieved by Pan American crew for continuation of the flight. He stated it was not necessary for the passengers to deplane at Dulles for Customs check.

- 3 - Bureau
 - 2 - Atlanta (44-2386)
 - ② - Memphis (44-1987)
 - 2 - WFO (44-703)
 - 2 - Richmond
- SEL/lmm
(11)

44-1987 Sub E-677

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

Boyle RB

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

RH 44-657

Mr. TIERNEY advised more information re PERRY might possibly be available at the Pan American Computer Center, 16th and K Sts., NW, Washington, D. C., phone RE 7-8900.

He advised Pan American crew members for the flight were as follows:

- ~~-Capt. W. W. HESTER;~~
- ~~-Co-pilot D. D. ECKER;~~
- ~~-Flight Engineer J. J. BUTLER;~~
- ~~-Navigator F. W. RAPPETOE, all based Kennedy International Airport, New York~~

The pursor was J. P. BOT

Stewardesses were:

- ~~-T. X. RANDERS;~~
- ~~-C. A. HEGARDT;~~
- ~~-C. MIRANDA;~~
- ~~-K. B. TALLROTH and~~
~~L. B. SIGBE, all based Dulles International Airport.~~

LEAD:

WASHINGTON FIELD

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Contact Pan American Computer Center, 16th and K Sts., NW, for any identifying data re NORM PERRY.

All of the above data, plus the lead, was telephonically furnished directly to WFO by Alexandria RA.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI ATLANTA

8:21 PM URGENT 4/30/68 LBN
TO DIRECTOR, WFO, MEMPHIS
FROM ATLANTA (44-2336)

*sub E-677
B-406
44-1987-790*

MURKIN

*44-1987-750
790*

norm

RE WFO TEL APRIL TWENTY SIX LAST.

CHECK DELTA AIRLINES RECORDS REGARDING NORM OR NORMA
FERRY ON DELTA FLIGHT ONE ZERO SIX OF APRIL SIX LAST REFLECTS
THIS PASSENGER BOOKED BY PAN AMERICAN AIRLINES, THEIR BOOKING
P & R NUMBER PA FOUR SIX TWO TWO THREE EIGHT TWO.

WFO HANDLE.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

DSB

FBI MEMPHIS

44-1987-Sub E-677A

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

Boyle *BB*

5/8/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703) (P)

MURKIN

*44-1987-750
WFO-677A*

ReATteletype to Director, WFO and Memphis 4/30/68.

Miss HANNAH FORD, Supervisor, Pan American World Airways, Washington, D. C., advised on May 8, 1968, that Pan Am had no record concerning a NORMA PERRY on Flight 106 of 4/6/68. She advised that Number PA 4622382 is not a Pan Am number and that there is no PERRY listed on the pre-flight or flight manifest for Flight 106 of 4/6/68.

No further investigation is being conducted by WFO re PERRY.

- 3 - Bureau
- ② - Memphis
- 1 - WFO

RSP:nir
(6)

AIRTEL

44-1987-Sub-E-677B

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 10 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

[Signature]

4/24/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, INDIANAPOLIS
FROM: SAC, LOUISVILLE (44-947) (P)
RE: MURKIN

On 4/23/68, ALVIN D. MASON, 4017 West Broadway, Louisville, Kentucky, telephonically contacted the Louisville Division advising that in the morning of Saturday, April 13, 1968, while driving in a southerly direction on Highway 62 near Jeffersonville, Indiana, he observed a white male whom he thought resembled the picture of ERIC STARVO GALT depicted wearing a bow tie as appearing in the local newspapers as well as appearing similar in a side view to the artist's conception of the alleged murderer of DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING. This individual was driving an older model black Oldsmobile approximately 1960 vintage which bore Indiana license plate 1G1120.

The individual he observed had short cropped dark hair and was wearing what appeared to be dark plastic rimmed glasses. He observed this individual while stopped at a red light at which time the party seemed rather nervous and tried to cover the side of his face with his hand. This occurred near the Youngstown Shopping Center. MASON further related that the Oldsmobile proceeded from a side street onto Highway 62, near a group of apartments on the north side of Jeffersonville, Indiana.

2 - Indianapolis
② - Memphis (44-1987)
2 - Louisville
HRE/hrs
(6)

44-1987-Sub E-678

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>h</i>	FILED <i>J</i>
APR 26 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle 10/13

LS 44-947

The above information telephonically furnished to SA SEAMAN JONES of the Jeffersonville Resident Agency by SA EDWIN H. HILERS.

LEADS

INDIANAPOLIS

AT JEFFERSONVILLE, INDIANA.

Will ascertain registered owner of car bearing Indiana plate 10A1120 and thereafter attempt to resolve the identity of the party driving this vehicle as related by HADGW.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

F B I

Date: 5/14/68

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

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority)

TO SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM SAC, INDIANAPOLIS (44-563)

MURKIN

OO: Memphis

Re Louisville airtel 4/24/68, concerning information furnished by ALVIN D. MASON.

On 4/23/68, Sgt. JOSEPH HOCHADEL, Jeffersonville, Indiana PD, advised SA SEAMANS J. JONES that Indiana License 10A 1120 is issued to JAMES W. PARISH, 1224 Mosswood Court, Jeffersonville, for a 1960 Oldsmobile 4-door sedan, VIN 608M7923. HOCHADEL stated he does not know PARISH and there is no arrest record for him in the PD files.

On 4/24/68, ALBERT DANNER, President of Danco, Inc., 1317 Skyline Drive, Jeffersonville, advised he is well acquainted with JAMES W. PARISH, 1224 Mosswood Court. He stated PARISH purchased his house two years ago from Danco and is employed as a chemical operator at Girdler Catalyst, Louisville, Kentucky. DANNER observed a photo of RAY and stated PARISH is definitely not identical with this photo.

On 4/26/68, JAMES W. PARESH, 1224 Mosswood Court, was interviewed by SA SEAMANS J. JONES. It was observed he is not identical with the photo of RAY. A 1960 black Oldsmobile 4-door bearing Indiana License 10A 1120 was observed parked in front of the PARISH home. Mr. PARISH stated he is the only person who drives this car except his wife and daughter. He has not loaned this car to any other man and it has not been driven by any other man. Mr. PARISH stated he was born and reared in Jeffersonville, Indiana.

- 2 - Memphis
- 1 - Louisville (44-947) (Info.)
- 2 - Indianapolis
- (5)

44-1987-Sub E-678A

SEARCHED	INDEXED <u>2</u>
SERIALIZED <u>7</u>	FILED <u>7</u>
MAY 16 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle RB

Approved: *J. M. [Signature]* Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

IP 44-563

It should be noted that PARISH resides in Northaven Subdivision constructed and sold by Danco, Inc. This subdivision is located on State Road 62 north of Jeffersonville, Indiana, and it would be normal procedure for PARISH to enter State Road 62 from the side road along which are numerous apartment buildings and proceed toward Jeffersonville to the stop light located at 10th and Main Streets at Youngstown Shopping Center. It was noted that PARISH does bear some slight resemblance to the photo of RAY about the nose. However, he is much smaller and his hair rather than being short cropped, is very thin and appears short cropped. He has been listed in the Jeffersonville city directory since 1960, as an employee at Girdler Catalyst.

4/24/68

PLAIN
TELETYPE URGENT

TO: SEATTLE
FROM: PORTLAND (157-180)(P)
MURKIN.

RE SUSPECT ALVIN A. JOHNSON.

ON APRIL TWENTYTHREE LAST GLENDORA SMITH, POSTMISTRESS, BRASS VALLEY, OREGON, STATED SUSPECT JOHNSON CAME BY POST OFFICE SEEKING TO OBTAIN LETTER WHICH HE HAD WRITTEN FROM WINTERHAVEN, CALIFORNIA, CARE OF GENERAL DELIVERY, TO A FRIEND OF HIS. SHE BELIEVED JOHNSON RESEMBLED SUBJECT RAY. HE APPEARED TO HER TO BE SUSPICIOUS; CONSEQUENTLY, SHE CALLED SHERIFF OF SHERMAN COUNTY.

SHERIFF LEO ROBERTS, SHERMAN COUNTY, OREGON, STATED HE STOPPED OLD CHEVROLET PICKUP TRUCK AND CHECKED JOHNSON OUT ON APRIL TWENTYTHREE LAST. ACCORDING TO SHERIFF, JOHNSON HAD PROPER IDENTIFICATION FOR THE VEHICLE WHICH BEARS WASHINGTON LICENSE G O G DASH ZERO SEVEN TWO. THE SHERIFF, WHO HAS IDENTIFYING DATA CONCERNING SUSPECT RAY, STATED THAT JOHNSON DID NOT RESEMBLE RAY BEING ONE HUNDRED FIFTY LBS., BLACK GRAYING

1 - Memphis (44-1987)(AM)
1 - Portland

WBS:lam
(2)

44-1987-Sub E-679

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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FBI - MEMPHIS	

1/R

PD 157-380

PAGE TWO

HAIR, ABOUT FORTY YEARS OLD, HAZEL EYES. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF IMPORTANCE OF THIS MATTER, SEATTLE IS REQUESTED TO DETERMINE REGISTERED OWNER OF WASHINGTON LICENSE G O O DASH ZERO SEVEN TWO. IN THE EVENT JOHNSON IS REGISTERED OWNER, DETERMINE IF VEHICLE WAS REGISTERED TO JOHNSON PRIOR TO APRIL NINETEEN SIXTYSEVEN, THE MONTH WHICH RAY ESCAPED FROM CONFINEMENT.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. ESCAPE PROPENSITIES.

4/24/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861)
FROM BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)

MURKIN

RE UNKNOWN MALE, CATEMACO, VERA CRUZ, MEXICO, MARCH NINE,
NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT.

MR. GEORGE J. BRADLEY, OFFICIAL, REICHOLD CHEMICAL CO., ADVISED
TUSCALOOSA RESIDENT AGENT THAT ON A.M. OF MARCH SIX, SIXTYEIGHT,
WHILE HE AND WIFE VACATIONING AT HOTEL CON BUNGALOWS, PLAYA AZUL,
CATEMACO, VERA CRUZ, MEXICO, HE RECALLED SEEING WHITE MALE, FIVE FT.
ELEVEN INCHES TO SIX FT., ONE SIXTY TO ONE SEVENTY LBS., THIRTYTWO
TO THIRTYSEVEN YEARS, HAVING BREAKFAST ALONE IN HOTEL DINING ROOM.
HIS ATTENTION ATTRACTED SINCE SUSPECT WAS ALONE, WHEREAS ALL GUESTS
WERE COUPLES OR GROUP PARTIES. SUSPECT DROVE LIGHT-COLORED MUSTANG
OR CORVAIR. BRADLEY CANNOT POSITIVELY IDENTIFY RAY'S PHOTOS, BUT
DOES NOT RULE OUT POSSIBILITY. IN EVENT INFORMATION DOES NOT PLACE
RAY IN CALIFORNIA ON ABOVE DATE, SUGGEST BUREAU ADVISE LEGAT, MEXICO
CITY. AIR MAIL COPY TO MEMPHIS.

1 - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
1 - Birmingham
HAS:mfl
(2)

44-1987-Sub E-680

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 26 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle RB

4/24/68

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO DIRECTOR

FROM MIAMI (9-New) (P)

UNSUB; EDITOR, ^D "MIAMI NEWS", MIAMI, FLORIDA; ^{VICTIM} EXTORTION -
RACIAL MATTERS; OO: MIAMI.

THIS DATE, "MIAMI DAILY NEWS" MADE AVAILABLE A
HANDPRINTED UNSIGNED U.S. POSTCARD POSTMARKED MIAMI,
FLORIDA, APRIL TWENTYTHREE, LAST, ADDRESSED EDITOR,
MIAMI NEWS, MIAMI, FLORIDA, STATING:

"DOCTORS TELL ME I HAVE SIX MONTHS TO LIVE. I
AM GOING TO HELP AMERICA.

"I KILLED KING. NEXT I WILL SHOOT POWELL, BROWN
CARMICHAEL, ABERNATHY.

"GOOD LUCK F.B.I."

LOCAL PD, ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH N.I. GROUP AND

- 1 - Atlanta (AM)
 - ① - Memphis (AM) - info re MURKIN
 - 1 - New York (AM)
 - 1 - WFO (AM)
 - 1 - Birmingham (AM)
 - 1 - 44-1854 (MURKIN)
 - 1 - 44-3685 (ABAM CLAYTON POWELL)
 - 1 - 9-New
- MVH:klj (8)

44-1987-^{Sub E-681}~~755~~

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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APR 25 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Wester

E

4/24/68

PAGE TWO

SECRET SERVICE ADVISED.

AS OF APRIL TWENTYTHREE, LAST, ADAM CLAYTON POWELL
WAS UNDERGOING EXAMINATION AT JACKSON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL,
MIAMI. WHEREABOUTS OF OTHERS NAMED IN CARD UNKNOWN
MIAMI DIVISION.

IN VIEW ALL PERSONS NAMED CONSIDERED CONTROVERSIAL
BUREAU REQUESTED TO INSTRUCT APPROPRIATE FIELD OFFICES
WHETHER THEY WANT THESE INDIVIDUALS ^{AND OTHERS} NOTIFIED OF THIS
POSTCARD. SEPARATE COMMUNICATION FOLLOWS TRANSMITTING
POSTCARD TO FBI LABORATORY FOR EXAMINATION. CLOSING
REPORT WILL BE SUBMITTED.

AM COPIES ATLANTA, MEMPHIS, NEW YORK, WFO AND
BIRMINGHAM IN VIEW OF THEIR INTEREST IN PERSONS NAMED
AND MURKIN INVESTIGATION.

4/22/68

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, SAN ANTONIO (44-1242)
FROM: SAC, DALLAS (44-2649) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
OO-MEMPHIS

At approximately 6:30 AM, 4/20/68, AUBREY SMITH, Mesquite PD, telephonically contacted this office concerning JAMES EARL RAY, aka Eric Starvo Galt. She reported that they had a report of JAMES EARL RAY driving a 1964 - 65 white Cadillac with Texas license JGJ 866, proceeding north on Gross Road from Highway 60. It was also reported that he had a female passenger.

The following investigation was conducted by SA JAMES J. SHERMAN on 4/22/68:

AT DALLAS, TEXAS

Telephonic contact with Department of Public Safety, Austin, Texas, disclosed that 1968 Texas license JGJ 866 is registered to REX B. BLEDSOE, 137 East Quince Avenue, McAllen, Texas, for a 1960 Cadillac, VIN 60K141586.

BRYAN CLARK, Office Manager, NATB, Dallas, advised his organization has no record of instant vehicle.

LEADS

SAN ANTONIO

AT MC ALLEN, TEXAS. Determine if person in possession above car on 4/31/68, is identical to subject this ca. v.

2-San Antonio
2-Dallas
WDH:nc
(4)

44-1987-Sub E-682

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

Boyle RB

F B I

Date: 4/24/68

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

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS

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

RE: MURKIN

OO: MEMPHIS

Re Dallas airtel to San Antonio 4/22/68, copy of which is enclosed for Memphis.

Investigation, McAllen, Texas, 4/23/68, determined REX BENTON BLEDSOE, wife BARBARA, and three children have resided at 137 E. Quince since 7/15/65; previously resided Weslaco and Alamo, Texas.

BLEDSOE, WMA, born Charleston, Texas, [redacted], 5'7", 160 lbs., brown hair, hazel-brown eyes, has several arrests at McAllen PD and Hidalgo Co. SO at Edinburg, Texas, in 1950, 1960, 1962, and 1963 re traffic violations, disturbing the peace, and drunk. Never photographed or fingerprinted.

BLEDSOE, formerly employed as used car salesman, has been employed as electrician for Rowe Electric Co., McAllen, Texas, past five to six years.

On 4/23/68 Mr. BILL ROWE, Rowe Electric Co., McAllen, advised that BLEDSOE made trip past weekend to Dallas, Texas, to trade 1960 Cadillac, 1968 Texas JGJ-866, for another Cadillac. ROWE stated BLEDSOE has not missed day of work in past several months.

San Antonio discontinuing re BLEDSOE.

- ② - Memphis (Enc. 1)
 - 1 - Dallas (44-2649)(Info)
 - 2 - San Antonio
- LDW:kfh
(5)

44-1987-Sub E-669A

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

Boyle

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

F B I

Date: 4/24/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via A I R T E L _____
(Priority)

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
 FROM: SAC, RICHMOND (44-657) - P -
 SUBJECT: MURKIN
 (OO: MEMPHIS)

Re Philadelphia teletype to Richmond, 4/22/68.

AT CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA.

The following investigation was conducted by
 SA JOHN G. MC CARTHY:

Records of the DMV for the State of Va., reflect that Va. License T146395 was issued for 1968 Ford pick-up truck registered to owner WILLIAM H. SMITH, 913 Montrose Ave., Charlottesville, Va.

Neighborhood inquiry in vicinity of 913 Montrose Ave., on 4/23/68 determined WILLIAM H. SMITH, his wife, and one child, have resided at that address for approximately 12 years. SMITH is employed as a carpenter with the Van Lear Construction Co. He owns a 1968 Ford pick-up with a camper top for the truck. He also recently reportedly took a vacation to Kansas City, Mo.

On 4/23/68, Mrs. GRACE SMITH, nee Kent, 913 Montrose Ave., Charlottesville, advised that her

- ② - Memphis
 1 - Philadelphia (INFO)
 2 - Richmond

JGM:vsr
 (5)

44-1987-Sub E-683

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

Boyer RB

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

RH 44-657

husband is employed by the Van Lear Construction Co. as a carpenter and has been so employed for the past ten years. She has resided at her present address for twelve years. Mrs. SMITH advised that her husband recently took a vacation to Kansas City, Mo., visiting a friend from the Army, a CHARLES DON WATSON, having left Charlottesville on Friday, 4/12/68.

Mrs. SMITH advised that her husband had been in Charlottesville and was employed by Van Lear Construction Co. during the week of the KING murder and in fact, had been working nights for Sgt. ELWOOD CASON of the Charlottesville, Va. PD at CASON's residence. SMITH also pointed out that her husband has two fingers missing from his left hand and stated that her husband's presence in Charlottesville at the time of the KING murder could be easily confirmed.

On 4/23/68, Sgt. ELWOOD CASON, Charlottesville, Va. PD, advised that he is well-acquainted with WILLIAM H. SMITH, having known him for a period of several years as a resident at 913 Montrose Ave., Charlottesville. CASON pointed out SMITH has two fingers missing from his left hand and that although he does have the same physical build as JAMES EARL RAY, including some close physical facial attributes as with the photograph distributed on RAY, he does not have a scar in the center of his forehead. CASON also pointed out that SMITH had been doing some carpentry work at CASON's residence for a period of several weeks, working every night, including the night of 4/5/68, at which time he had been paid by CASON for completion of the work.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- 2* -

F B I

Date: 4/24/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via A I R T E L _____
(Priority)

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
 FROM: SAC, RICHMOND (44-657) - P -
 SUBJECT: MURKIN
 (OO: MEMPHIS)

Re Cleveland teletype to Bureau and Richmond,
 4/22/68.

AT CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA:

The following investigation was conducted by
 SAs FRANKLIN R. WASHBURG and JOHN G. MC CARTHY:

On 4/22/68, MERVIN L. MC ALLISTER, Arthur's Grill, East Main St., Charlottesville, Va., advised that he is the owner and operator of the restaurant. MC ALLISTER advised that he is the only male Caucasian employed at the grill and that he most frequently operates as the counter-man. MC ALLISTER was observed to have the same physical stature of JAMES EARL RAY, but did not possess any of the facial, physical attributes of RAY and did not have any scar on the center of his forehead or on the palm of his right hand.

MC ALLISTER stated that his lifelong residence is Charlottesville, Va., and had opened Arthur's Grill in 5/67.

Judge ALLEN SPITZER, Municipal Court Judge, Charlottesville, Va., a patron in the restaurant at the time, advised that he has known MC ALLISTER as a local

② - Memphis
 1 - Cleveland (44-565) (INFO)
 2 - Richmond
 JGM:vsr

(5)

44-1987-Sub E-684

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

Boyle BB

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

RH 44-657

resident for many years.

On 4/23/68, Assistant COP C. O. DURHAM, Charlottesville, Va. PD and Deputy Sheriff M. W. SANDRIDGE, Albemarle Co. SO, Charlottesville, Va., both advised that MERVIN L. MC ALLISTER, owner of Arthur's Grill, has been a life-long resident of Charlottesville, Va. and has operated the restaurant on East Main St. for a period of about one year.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- 2* -

F B I

Date: 4/25/68

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

Via AIRTEL _____ AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)
FROM: SAC, INDIANAPOLIS (44-563) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Records of United States Post Office, Indianapolis, Indiana, reflect that JAMES M. RAY, formerly of 848 South Belleview Place, now residing 5214 East 11th Street, has been in continuous employment as a carrier since 1960. RAY's date of birth is .

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

② - Memphis
1 - Indianapolis
TJC:cdv
(3)

44-1987-Sub E-625
SEARCHED.....INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED 5.....FILED.....
APR 26 1968
FBI - MEMPHIS
Boyle 372

Approved: J. S. [Signature] Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

APRIL 26, 1968

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: SAC, CHARLOTTE
FROM: DIRECTOR FBI (44-38861)
MURKIN. OO: MEMPHIS

THE MAIN BUREAU FILE ON KING WAS REVIEWED AND THE FOLLOWING THREATS WERE NOTED:

IN CHARLOTTE TEL MARCH TWENTY-FIVE SIXTY FIVE, IT WAS REPORTED THAT JACK MAYNARD RAY, EIGHTEEN FOURTEEN VALE STREET, DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA, FBI # EIGHT SIX FOUR-SIX EIGHT FOUR, CLAIMED HE WAS APPROACHED TO SHOOT KING AND JAMES FARNER BY GEORGE MC LANE, WHO IS REPORTEDLY PRESIDENT OF THE DURHAM CITY COUNCIL. JACK RAY REPORTEDLY IS KI-COM AND POSSIBLE ALCOHOLIC.

Sub E-685

IN CHARLOTTE FILE ONE FIVE SEVEN-ONE ONE THREE FOUR CONCERNING JAMES W. COLE, AKA., CATFISH, GRAND WIZARD, NORTH CAROLINA KNIGHTS OF THE KKK, ALLEGEDLY GAVE A WRITTEN STATEMENT ON JUNE NINE SIXTY SIX, TO A NEWSPAPER REPORTER STATING THAT HE, COLE, WAS GOING TO MISSISSIPPI FOR THE PURPOSE OF KILLING KING. HE INDICATED HE HAD FUNDS TO FINANCE THE VENTURE AND WOULD DIE HAPPY IF NECESSARY. THE REPORTER WAS IDENTIFIED AS A.P. REPRESENTATIVE BRYAN SEYMOUR, KINSTON, NORTH CAROLINA.

44-1987-Sub E-685A

2- MEMPHIS

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 29 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	
<i>Boyle</i>	

TELETYPE SAC, CHARLOTTE
RE: MURKIN. OO: MEMPHIS

ALTHOUGH SUBJECT RAY HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS THE AS-
SAILANT, YOU SHOULD CONDUCT INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE IF
ANY OF THE ABOVE MIGHT BE IMPLICATED AS A CONSPIRATOR.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

MEMPHIS ADVISED BY MAIL.

4/29/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, CHARLOTTE (44-1365) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Sub E - 625A

Re Bureau teletype to Charlotte 4/26/68.

RE JAMES W. COLE

On 5/10/66, Associated Press representative in Charlotte, N. C., reported that BRYAN SEYMOUR, a free-lance reporter, Kinston, N.C., received a call from JAMES WILLIAM "CATFISH" COLE on 6/9/66 and met with COLE at his request. At that time, COLE had a prepared written statement in which he stated he was going to Mississippi for the purpose of killing MARTIN LUTHER KING. In the statement he said that he would go alone and did not need any help for the job.

On 6/10/66, COLE was located and interviewed at Kinston, N.C., and after being advised of his rights, he refused to furnish any statement concerning the press release he had issued to BRYAN SEYMOUR. He refused to discuss his statement to SEYMOUR or the contents of the statement. He advised he had no plans to leave North Carolina and that he had never planned to go to Mississippi.

On 6/10/66, BRYAN SEYMOUR was interviewed concerning the press release. He advised at that time that COLE did not identify any of his supporters and would not give any details as to when he would leave Kinston.

- 3 - Bureau
 - ① - Memphis (44-1987)
 - 2 - Charlotte
- CFW/jb
(6)

44-1987-Sub E-625B

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SERIALIZED <i>5</i>	FILED <i>6</i>
MAY - 1 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle

CE 44-1365

On 7/27/67, COLE was killed in an automobile accident near Greensboro, N. C.

Inasmuch as no information was developed in 6/66 indicating that COLE had any supporters in his alleged intention to go to Mississippi for the purpose of killing KING, and due to the fact that COLE was killed in 7/67, no further action is being taken regarding COLE.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

AT 44-2386

JTB:bjc

1

On April 24, 1968, SAs JAMES RICHARD FLICK, JOSEPH G. SHEA, and JACK T. BEVERSTEIN interviewed LEWIE RAYMOND DOWDA, an inmate at the Cobb County Jail, Marietta, Georgia. DOWDA advised he was formerly incarcerated at the Missouri State Prison, Jefferson City, Missouri. He stated while at the Missouri State Prison, he was acquainted for approximately three years with JAMES EARL RAY, a fellow inmate. DOWDA advised he was released from the Missouri State Prison on December 23, 1966, and JAMES EARL RAY was still incarcerated. He stated he had been the chief cook at the Missouri State Prison and RAY worked as a bread slicer.

DOWDA advised RAY was the type person the other inmates did not "mess with." He described RAY as a "loner" who usually initiated the conversation if he wanted to talk to anyone. He stated that RAY spoke in a mild, low tone and when angry would speak even softer. He stated he had never known RAY to become excited and shout. To his knowledge, he has never known RAY to smoke. He stated RAY had a fair complexion, which was blotchy, having pimples around the lower portion of his face. He stated RAY had a rash on the right side of his head during the entire time he had known RAY and RAY would scratch this rash. He stated this rash was very noticeable due to the type of haircut in the Penitentiary and RAY put some type of salve on this rash. He stated RAY's hair was lightly streaked with gray. He advised the only scar he can recall which RAY had was a large burn scar on his forearm, side unrecalled. He stated this scar was located near the wrist. He stated RAY had dingy teeth.

DOWDA advised RAY always talked about "running around" in St. Louis, Missouri. He normally talked about two girl friends, one of these he had met at the Gaslight

44-1987-Sub B - 676

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Boyle RB

AT 44-2386

JTB:bjc

2

(a bar) located in either St. Louis or Kansas City. DOWDA stated the other girl was a girl RAY had met around the college at Columbia, Missouri, and it was his impression this girl had worked in a tavern there.

DOWDA advised RAY, while in prison, wore a ring on his left hand which was made at the Penitentiary, having been made from white metal with raised initials. He stated RAY never smiled, but when he smiled, it looked like a smirk. He advised RAY was clean and not sloppy in his dress. He described RAY as an avid reader and considered RAY to be intelligent. He advised RAY participated in softball games as a pitcher and would watch all of the baseball games at the Penitentiary, however, he had never heard RAY speak of professional baseball.

DOWDA stated that some time in 1966, a group of Black Muslims had petitioned for the right to have their own religious services. He stated the Muslims would congregate in groups and that a subsequent search of the Negro prisoners had uncovered a large cache of weapons. DOWDA stated the white prisoners then armed themselves and there was a riot at the prison. DOWDA stated three Negro prisoners were killed. DOWDA stated he would not say RAY had knifed these Negro prisoners, but did say that if RAY had not knifed them, he definitely knew who had killed them.

DOWDA stated RAY definitely was a racist and hated Negroes. He stated RAY had made the statement and firmly believed that all the Negro prisoners inside the Penitentiary should be killed. He stated RAY had on several occasions made the statement that if the price were right, he would kill MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DOWDA stated he does not recall ever hearing anything which would indicate a "contract" was out for the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING.

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DOWDA advised he would not be surprised if JAMES EARL RAY was the murderer of MARTIN LUTHER KING, however, he does not believe RAY would have killed KING without being paid for it.

DOWDA stated approximately four months before he, DOWDA, was released RAY had attempted to escape from the Missouri State Prison by going out of the prison behind the ovens in the prison bakery. He stated RAY was apprehended and RAY had broken his arm in this escape attempt. He stated RAY had talked about escaping from the Penitentiary prior to this. DOWDA advised he does not believe RAY returned from maximum security confinement prior to DOWDA's release from prison.

DOWDA stated while in prison, RAY was particularly interested in Western music. He stated he does not recall RAY ever mentioning anything about dancing. He stated that during this period a number of orchestras from the Lake of the Ozarks had played at the State Prison and RAY would never miss these performances. He stated RAY often talked about planning to go to the Lake of the Ozarks when he got out of prison. DOWDA stated he would have no idea who RAY would contact at the Lake of the Ozarks, but stated if he were to look for RAY there, he would first find out who was selling dope and through this person, locate RAY. He stated RAY had talked about being on dope prior to being in the Missouri State Prison. He advised RAY had to have an outside source of income while in prison inasmuch as RAY's dope habit was costing RAY \$35 to \$40 a week for shots and RAY appeared to be well fixed, never wanting for anything.

DOWDA estimated RAY spent \$15 to \$20 a week for personal conveniences. He stated RAY, while in prison,

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used amphetamine, taking the shot in the "main line." He stated RAY would take two to three shots a day. He stated RAY never lacked for money, but had no idea of RAY's source of income. DOWDA stated he is certain RAY was not selling amphetamine to other prisoners, stating he has known RAY to give free amphetamine to prisoners who needed a shot. DOWDA denied that he himself had ever taken any shots, but admitted he has taken pills. DOWDA claimed he and RAY were not engaged in the sale of amphetamine at the Missouri State Prison.

DOWDA stated that HAROLD SCHAEFER, Guard on the gate in the kitchen of the Missouri State Prison, was very close to JAMES EARL RAY and it was DOWDA's understanding that SCHAEFER was RAY's source of amphetamine. He stated BENJAMIN O. GOODIN was a civilian in charge of the kitchen and he is certain GOODIN was not connected in any way with the bringing of amphetamine into the prison. He stated while GOODIN was friendly with RAY, he understands it was GOODIN who had disclosed RAY's hiding place when RAY had attempted to escape in 1966.

DOWDA advised one NEIL ABBY (phonetic) was RAY's closest friend in the Missouri State Prison and was responsible for bringing RAY into the kitchen. He stated ABBY at this time was chief cook at the prison. He believes ABBY was serving time for breaking into a drug store and he does know that dope was connected with ABBY's offense. He stated ABBY had a detainer on him as he was an escapee from the State of Texas. DOWDA does not know whether or not ABBY is presently in custody but does not believe he is presently in the Missouri State Prison.

He stated RAY had another friend, one DONALD DEAN RIGGER. He stated RIGGER was from California and RIGGER's wife was a psychiatrist at the Napa State Hospital, which

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JTB:bjc

5

is located north of San Francisco, California.

DOWDA advised that RAY and other inmates that might have DOWDA's address would have a Route 1, Sanford, Florida, address, and would not know that he is presently in Marietta, Georgia. He stated his father, STEVEN C. DOWDA, presently resides at 110 South Chandler Street, Deland, Florida, and that anyone inquiring for him at Sanford, Florida, would be sent to Deland, Florida. DOWDA claims he has not been contacted by RAY and has heard nothing to indicate RAY has attempted to contact him. He stated RAY had talked about traveling over all the United States, but had never mentioned anything which would indicate RAY was associated with anyone in the Atlanta, Georgia, area. DOWDA stated the only other prisoner he knew who was from the State of Georgia, who was an inmate at the Missouri State Prison was one JERRY WHITE from Calhoun, Georgia. He advised WHITE had a Federal detainer against him and believes WHITE is still incarcerated at the Missouri State Prison.

DOWDA advised he had made a trip to California in November of 1967, and that he and his wife had spent Thanksgiving Day visiting her uncle, BOB GRAHAM, who resides at Palos Verdes, California. He stated GRAHAM is Regional Manager for IBM in that area. He stated that he and his wife had stopped at Jefferson City and while there, contacted a Missouri State Prison guard, Mr. "PETE" PETRIE. He stated he had not made any inquiry concerning RAY and was not aware that RAY had escaped. He stated he had not made any inquiry concerning inmates inasmuch as his wife did not know he was a former inmate of the Missouri State Prison. He stated he had stopped in the Kansas City, Missouri, area and attempted to locate PAUL ALVIN LAIL, JR., who had been in the Missouri State Prison as PAUL ALVIN CARTER. He stated LAIL had been released approximately a **year** before he had and that they had agreed to attempt to get together

AT 44-2386

JTB:bjc

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after their release from prison. He stated LAIL worked in the license shop at the Missouri State Prison and although he was acquainted with RAY, he did not believe LAIL was a particularly good friend of RAY. He stated after his return from California, he was contacted by PAUL ALVIN LAIL, JR. He stated LAIL owns a home at 34 Barbodos Drive, Palm Springs, West Palm Beach, Florida, Telephone Number 965-4221. He stated LAIL in February of 1968 was out of a job and had come to Marietta, Georgia, looking for employment. He stated LAIL had come to Marietta, Georgia, with his wife and a small baby and had resided with DOWDA for approximately one and one-half weeks, leaving approximately two or three days after DOWDA was arrested, DOWDA having been arrested on March 4, 1968.

DOWDA advised he could recall nothing else concerning RAY which might assist in his location, but in the event he remembered anything additional, he would contact the FBI.

F B I

Date: 4/25/68

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

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386) (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN
(OO: MEMPHIS)

44-1987-717DP2

Re Atlanta teletype summary to Bureau, 4/24/68.

Enclosed for Bureau are three copies of insert reflecting interview with LEWIE RAYMOND DOWDA.

One copy of above insert being furnished to Miami and Memphis for information. Two copies of insert furnished to St. Louis and San Diego. Six copies of insert furnished to Kansas City.

In addition to leads previously set out in retel, the following offices are requested to conduct the following investigation:

LEADS

KANSAS CITY

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. 3)
 - 6 - Kansas City (Enc. 6)
 - ① - Memphis (Enc. 1)
 - 1 - Miami (Enc. 1)
 - 2 - San Diego (Enc. 2)
 - 2 - St. Louis (Enc. 2)
 - 2 - Atlanta
- JTB:lcc
(17)

44-1987-Sub-6-686A

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

Boyle *ONB*

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

AT 44-2386

At Jefferson City, Missouri:

- 1) Will, at Missouri State Penitentiary, determine from medical records type rash JAMES EARL RAY had on side of head and medication prescribed for RAY.
- 2) Check correspondence file to determine if RAY has any approved correspondence which may identify girl friends RAY talked about.
- 3) Attempt to determine supplier of narcotics to RAY while RAY in prison and attempt to develop information concerning RAY's outside source of income, as RAY may now attempt to contact these persons.
- 4) Ascertain present whereabouts of inmate JERRY WHITE,
- 5) Through sources at prison, evaluate information furnished by DOWDA.

At Kansas City, Missouri:

Attempt to locate bar known as Gaslight, to determine if subject RAY is known there and attempt to determine identity of girl RAY met there.

At Columbia, Missouri:

Contact bars in vicinity of college and determine if subject RAY known as well as attempt to learn identity of girl RAY had met in this area.

At Lake Ozark, Missouri:

Will, through sources, attempt to identify narcotics pushers and through them determine if subject has been in this area.

SAN DIEGO

At Palos Verdes, California:

Will locate BOB GRAHAM and interview concerning DOWDA's visit Thanksgiving 1967; determine if DOWDA made any remarks concerning contact with RAY or anyone else in California.

AT 44-2386

ST. LOUIS

St. Louis, Missouri:

Will attempt to locate bar known as Gaslight to determine if RAY is known at this bar and identity of RAY's girl friend.

FBI MEMPHIS

FBI JACKSVLE

431 PM URGENT 4/26/68 MMH
TO ATLANTA AND MEMPHIS
FROM JACKSONVILLE /44-789/ 1P

MURKIN.

44-1987-717DP2

RE ATLANTA TELETYPE APRIL TWENTYFOUR LAST.

RE LEWIE RAYMOND DOWDA.

FATHER OF DOWDA SAID DID NOT KNOW SUBJECT RAY BY NAME OR KNOWN ALIASES AND FURTHER HAD NOT SEEN ANYONE WHO EVEN VAGUELY RESEMBLED RAY'S PHOTOGRAPH. HE EMPHASIZED IN EVENT WERE TO HAVE CONTACT IN ANY MANNER WITH SUBJECT RAY, HE WOULD IMMEDIATELY CONTACT FBI.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

MCP

FBI MEMPHIS

44-1987-Sub E-686B

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

Boyer *BB*

4/26/68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, SAN DIEGO (44-387) (P)
MURKIN
(OO: Memphis)

Sub E-166

Re Atlanta airtel to the Bureau 4/23/68.

Enclosed for the Los Angeles Division are two Bureau copies of referenced communication. Also enclosed are two Bureau copies of summary of an interview with LEWIS RAYMOND BROWN, an inmate at the Cobb County Jail, Marietta, Georgia, on 4/24/68.

Los Angeles Division is requested to conduct lead at Jules Verne to locate and interview BOB CRAMER since that city is in their territory.

- 3 - Bureau
- 2 - Los Angeles (Enc. - 4)
- ① - Memphis
- 1 - Atlanta (44-3886)
- 2 - San Diego

APB:lqg
(8)

44-1987-Sub E-166

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>7</i>	FILED <i>5</i>
MAY - 2 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyer *167*

F B I

Date: 5/2/68

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

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-33861)
FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)
RE: MURKIN

OO: Memphis

Re Atlanta airtel to Bureau, 4/25/68; and
San Diego airtel to Bureau, 4/30/68.

RE LEWIE RAYMOND DOWDA:

Sub E-686
0

On 5/2/68, Mr. ROBERT E. GRAHAM, an employee of
IBM, 16005 Sherman Way, Van Nuys, California, was
interviewed by SA GEORGE E. AIKEN, JR.

Mr. GRAHAM stated that his brother's daughter
was the wife of LEWIE RAYMOND DOWDA, who is currently
incarcerated in the Cobb County Jail, Marietta, Georgia,
and was interviewed regarding association with JAMES EARL
RAY by Buagents on 4/24/68.

Mr. GRAHAM stated that LEWIE RAYMOND DOWDA arrived
at his residence at 5419 Diversity Drive, Palos Verdes,
California, the day prior to Thanksgiving, 1967. This

- 3 - Bureau
- ① - Memphis (info)
- 2 - Atlanta
- 2 - Los Angeles

GEA/pjc
(8)

44-1987-Sub E-686D

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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MAY - 6 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle

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

LA 44-1574

visit lasted until the day after Thanksgiving, 1967, at which time DOWDA, driving his wife's Volkswagen, bearing Georgia license plates, departed with his wife en route to Monterey, California.

Mr. GRAHAM stated that approximately one and a half days later, DOWDA and his wife returned to the GRAHAMs' residence claiming he had lost his wallet in Monterey and was without funds. GRAHAM advised that he gave DOWDA sufficient funds to drive back to Atlanta, Georgia.

GRAHAM, after consulting a 1967 calendar, recalled that DOWDA arrived at his residence on 11/22/67, and stayed through a portion of the day 11/24/67. He left en route to Monterey on that date and returned to Los Angeles from Monterey approximately 11/26/67.

DOWDA should be reinterviewed about his activities during the period of time when he left Los Angeles, California, allegedly going to Monterey, California.

GRAHAM advised that he would consult with his wife on the evening of 5/2/68, and would be available for reinterview on 5/3/68.

Los Angeles will reinterview GRAHAM 5/3/68, and will advise results.

LEAD

ATLANTA

AT MARIETTA, GEORGIA: Reinterview LEWIE RAYMOND DOWDA, an inmate at the Cobb County Jail, concerning his alleged trip from Los Angeles, California, to Monterey, California, and the facts surrounding the loss of his wallet while in Monterey, California.

FBI

Date: 5/7/68

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

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-33861)
FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (44-1574)
SUBJECT: MURKIN
OO: Memphis

Sub E-686D
44-1987-832P 3,2
-813
-8
Sub E-686
8-527
E-686D

Re San Diego airtel to Bureau 4/30/68 and Los Angeles airtel to Bureau 5/2/68.

RE: LEWIE RAYMOND DOWDA

For the information of Bureau, Office of Origin, and Atlanta, Mr. ROBERT E. GRAHAM, uncle of DOWDA's wife, advised on reinterview 5/3/68 that he had consulted his wife concerning the particulars of the DOWDA's visit to the GRAHAM residence during the Thanksgiving Season, 1967.

GRAHAM stated that LEWIE DOWDA and Mrs. DOWDA arrived at the GRAHAM residence, 5419 Diversity Drive, Palos Verdes, California, driving a Volkswagen automobile bearing Georgia license plates the date prior to Thanksgiving, 11/28/67, as he recalled. After having Thanksgiving dinner with the GRAHAMS, the DOWDA's left in their Volkswagen at approximately 4:00 p.m. to see a friend of DOWDA's who allegedly worked in a hospital, believed in Santa Barbara, California. DOWDA also expressed his consideration of seeking employment at this hospital.

- 3 - Bureau
- 2 - Atlanta
- ① - Memphis
- 2 - Los Angeles

GEA/dmr
(8)

44-1987-Sub E-686E

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MAY 10 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle *187*
Hester

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

LA 44-1574

The DOWDA's returned to the GRAHAM residence on Friday, 12/1/67, and immediately upon arrival, Mrs. GRAHAM telephoned GRAHAM at his office telling of the DOWDA's arrival from Northern California.

DOWDA advised that he had lost his wallet in Santa Barbara, California, while swimming and GRAHAM had to loan or give DOWDA sufficient funds to drive back to Atlanta. The DOWDA's left the GRAHAM'S residence on Saturday, 12/2/68, enroute to Atlanta via San Diego, California.

GRAHAM stated that he knew DOWDA by first name "WHITEY". DOWDA stated he was a dietician and had attended ~~three years~~ college in the State of Missouri, perhaps the University of Missouri.

GRAHAM stated that he was of the opinion that DOWDA was prone to stretch the truth and he, GRAHAM, personally doubted his veracity for the short period of time he was acquainted with him.

The above information is furnished to Atlanta in slight variation of re Los Angeles airtel to Bureau.

GRAHAM stated that the information furnished in this communication was more nearly correct as to exact dates inasmuch as he had contacted his wife and the two of them had more accurately pinpointed the times and dates in question.

5/17/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-33861)

FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (44-2386)

**MURKIN
OO: MEMPHIS**

Sub E-686

Re Los Angeles airtels to Bureau 5/2 and 7/68.

RE: LEWIS RAYMOND DOWDA

On 5/16/68 LEWIS RAYMOND DOWDA, 108 Orchard Road, Bayona, Ga., was re-interviewed and advised that he and his wife drove their 1966 Volkswagen to California to spend the Thanksgiving holiday 1967 with his wife's uncle, ROBERT GRAMM, Palos Verdes, Calif.

Robert E. Sub 686 -686E

DOWDA advised he and his wife arrived at Palos Verdes the day before Thanksgiving 1967, spent Thanksgiving Day at the GRAMM residence and left about 9 or 10 a.m. the following morning with \$45 or \$50 to go to Santa Rosa, Calif., to see if they could locate DON RIGGERS. DOWDA advised they left Palos Verdes and drove directly to Monterey, Calif. DOWDA advised they took the coast highway all the way to Monterey and arrived around midnight on the day following Thanksgiving. DOWDA stated on the way to Monterey they stopped on the beach to have a picnic for a couple of hours. He stated other than that they did not stop except for routine purposes until they arrived at Monterey. DOWDA advised they stayed at Monterey for only a couple of hours to rest and never did get a motel or any other kind of accommodations. He stated while there, in evaluating their finances, they realized they did not have sufficient funds to go on to Santa Rosa and, therefore, decided to return to Palos Verdes. DOWDA advised while they were in Monterey he did not lose his wallet nor any money or anything else that he could recall. He stated the only money that he did lose during the

- 1- Bureau
 - 1- Los Angeles (Info)
 - 1- Memphis (Info)
 - 2- Atlanta
- JRP:jhs
(7)

E

44-1987-Sub E-686^F

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MAY 20 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyer RB

AT 44-2386

whole trip to California was \$200 at the Grand Canyon, the money apparently falling out of his pocket. DONDA advised that they arrived back at Palos Verdes the following day and later borrowed some \$75 from MR. GRAHAM in order to get back to Georgia. DONDA advised he did lose his wallet around 12/67 or 1/68 while visiting his father in Deland, Fla. He advised he could provide no additional details re this loss of his wallet.

DONDA stated no other events transpired during the time he and his wife traveled to Monterey and they left the GRAHAM residence the day after they returned from the Monterey trip.

4/25/68

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, DALLAS (44-2649)(P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

OO-MEMPHIS

Re Oklahoma City teletype 4/23/68, re individual using name RICHARD BURNES.

Investigation conducted by Dallas on 4/22-24/68, by SA MALON L. JENNINGS identified RONNIE E. ISENBERG, Grandview, Texas, employed as traveling salesman for ~~Rayco~~ Manufacturing Company, Cleburne, Texas, as using the name and registering on 4/9/68, as RICHARD BURNES at Quo Vadis Motor Hotel, Ponca City, Oklahoma. ISENBERG formerly owned 1967 Thunderbird, 1968 Texas License FCL 712, and now owns 1967 Thunderbird, 1968 Texas License FWH 453, observed at instant motel, Ponca City.

RICHARD A. BURNES, 106 Johns Terrace, formerly residing at 3000--8th Avenue, Fort Worth, stated he lost driver's license, has not been to Oklahoma for several months, and does not fit description of JAMES EARL RAY. BURNES stated an individual has been using his name at a Fort Worth motel, where there was a skip on the bill, and the motel was trying to collect from BURNES.

GEORGE ELLIOTT, Manager, Roadway Inn, Fort Worth, advised an individual registered as RICHARD A. BURNES, 3000--8th Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas, on 4/6/68, and departed on 4/8/68. His employment was listed with firm of Heco Corporation, 1321 Circle Drive, Dallas, Texas, car license FCL 712. Belliboy states two individuals

3 - Bureau
2 - Memphis (44-1987)
1 - Oklahoma City (44-686)(Info)
2 - Dallas
MLJ/jc
(8)

44-1987-Sub E-687

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FBI - MEMPHIS	

Ray B.B.

DL 44-2649

occupied room, there were visitors, and none fit description of JAMES EARL RAY. Bellboy heard name of RONNIE while delivering food to room; also obtained car license of 1967 Thunderbird, which was FDH 453. ELLIOTT advised he canvassed other motels and found that at the Holiday Inn, midtown, the same individual with the same car registered as JAMES A. GOODMAN and registered at the Green Oaks Inn as JACK KENT. Registration cards at the Roadway Inn and Green Oaks Inn were hand printed. At all three motels bills were left unpaid. Two or more individuals occupied rooms at all three motels.

ISENBERG admitted registering in Roadway Inn Motel as BURNES and Green Oaks Inn Motel as JACK KENT. A friend, KARL NORBERG aka Earl Perry, 8524 Gibbs Drive, Fort Worth, registered at the Holiday Inn and accompanied ISENBERG. NORBERG admitted participating with ISENBERG in renting motel rooms for weekend and then skipping out on bill. NORBERG knows ISENBERG registered as BURNES at Roadway Inn.

ISENBERG has had financial problems according to his employer and recently has passed several hot checks.

ISENBERG stated that he registered as ROBERT BURNES at Ponco City Motel because he tried to cash a check at a local bank and was turned down. He did not have enough money to pay his motel bill and intended to skip the bill, and for that reason registered in the name of BURNES instead of using his true name.

No further investigation being conducted re BURNES matter.

4/25/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703)

MURKIN

RE NEW YORK TELETYPE TO BUREAU APRIL TWENTY-FOUR LAST.

RE: ALLEGED ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR BET ON DR. KING'S LIFE.

ROBERT ROULSTON, ⁴⁴⁻¹⁹⁸⁷⁻⁷¹³⁻⁷⁸⁰ CITY MANAGER, AMERICAN AIRLINES, NATIONAL AIRPORT, PRESENTLY MOVING FROM CHICAGO AREA TO WASHINGTON, D.C., AREA. HE WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW ON APRIL TWENTY-NINE NEXT. WFO WILL HANDLE. AIRMAIL COPY TO MEMPHIS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

3 - Bureau
① - Memphis (44-1987) (AM)
1 - WFO

JJC:acd
(5)

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APR 26 1968
FBI - MEMPHIS

Boyle 11/3/68

4/29/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, WFO (44-703)

*Sub E-687
-146
44-1987-415
-280*

MURKIN

RE WFO TELETYPE APRIL TWENTYFOUR LAST, RE ALLEGED ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR BET ON DR. KING'S LIFE.

ROBERT ROULSTON, CITY MANAGER, AMERICAN AIRLINES, NATIONAL AIRPORT, SAID ON APRIL TWENTYNINE INSTANT THAT HE MADE A ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR BET WITH HENRY O'NEILL, CITY MANAGER, AMERICAN AIRLINES, NASHVILLE, TENN. THAT DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING WOULD BE DEAD BY MAY FIRST, NEXT. ROULSTON SAID HE MADE THIS BET AT A DINNER ATTENDED BY OTHER AMERICAN AIRLINES OFFICIALS IN TULSA, OKLA. HE ADDED HE THOUGHT AN ATTEMPT MIGHT BE MADE ON DR. KING'S LIFE IN CONNECTION WITH THE PLANNED MARCH ON WASHINGTON IN NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT. HE ADDED THERE WAS NO SIGNIFICANCE TO MAY FIRST, NEXT DATE. HE DID NOT HAVE ANY

2-Bureau
2-Teletype Unit
① Memphis (AM)
2-WFO

RDA:bap (7)

TELETYPE

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SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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FBI - MEMPHIS	

Boyle

WFO 44-703

PAGE TWO

INFORMATION ON WHICH TO BASE HIS BET. HE ADDED HE HAD SEVERAL MARTINIS AT THE TIME HE MADE THE BET AND LATER FELT IT HAD BEEN FOOLISH TO MAKE SUCH A BET. HE ALSO SAID HE DID NOT COLLECT THE MONEY AND REPEATED THE BET WAS BASED ON HIS ANALYSIS OF PREVAILING CONDITIONS. HE WAS SURPRISED THE ASSASSINATION OCCURRED IN MEMPHIS, TENN., RATHER THAN SOMEPLACE LIKE WASHINGTON, D.C.

AIR MAIL COPY TO MEMPHIS FOR INFO.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/29/68

1

ROBERT ROULSTON, City Manager, American Airlines, National Airport said he bet \$100.00 Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING would be dead by May 1, 1968. ROULSTON said he placed this bet with HENRY O'NEILL, City Manager, American Airlines, Nashville, Tennessee. ROULSTON added he made the bet with O'NEILL at a dinner attended by a number of American Airline officials in Tulsa, Oklahoma. ROULSTON said he made bet after having several martinis and he feels it was foolish to make such a bet. He added the bet was made due to his feeling and analysis of conditions. ROULSTON said he was surprised it happened in Memphis as he had thought such an assassination possible in connection with the planned Poor Peoples' March On Washington. He also said there was no significance to the date of May 1, 1968 mentioned in the bet.

44-1987-Sub E-687C

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JUN 10 1968	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

Hester

On 4/29/68 at Washington, D. C. File # WFO 44-703

by SA ROGER D. ASHLAND:RDA:rd Date dictated 4/29/68

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